

Interceptor Basing Areas

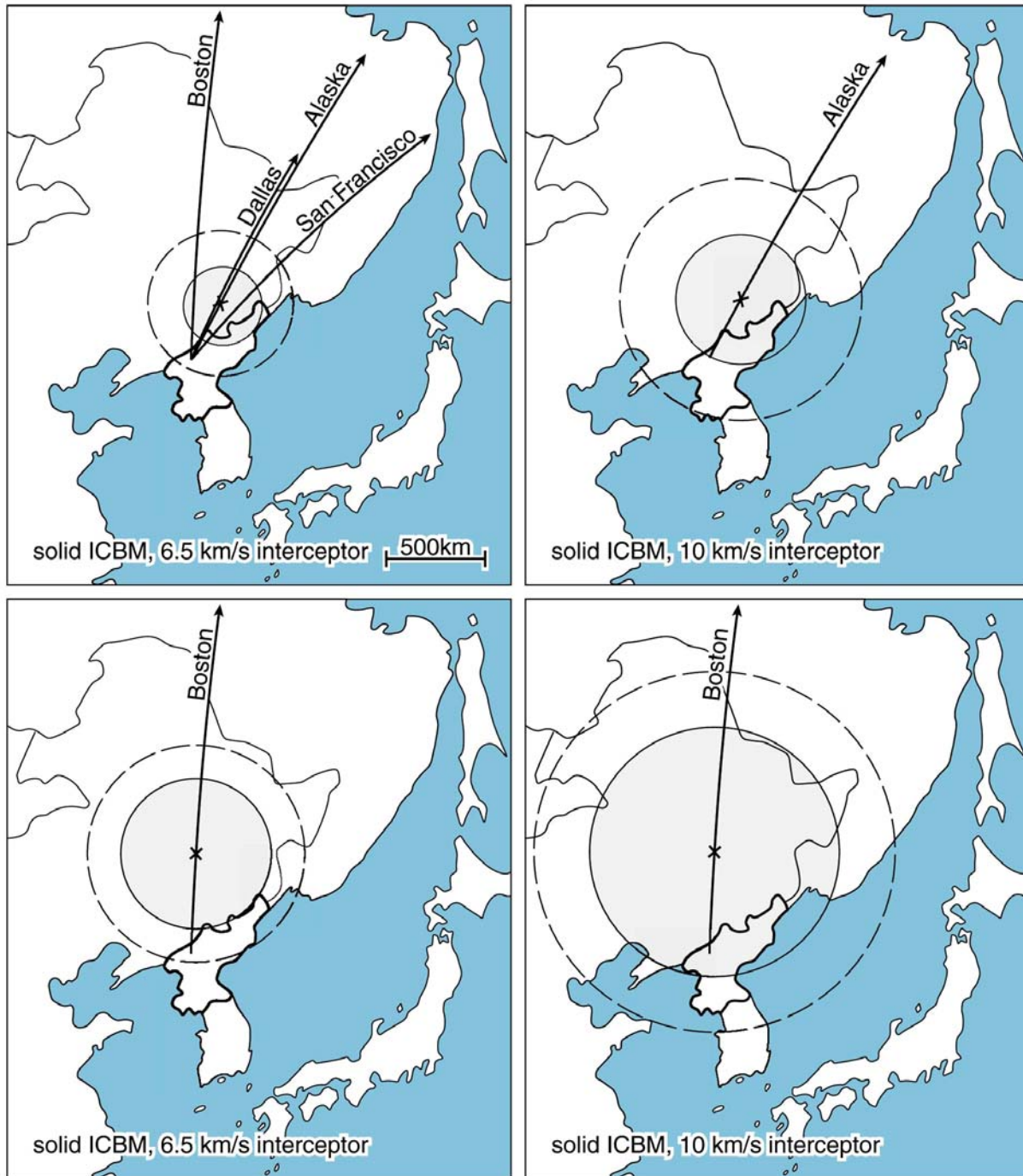


Figure 5.10: These figures show where an interceptor would need to be based to successfully reach a solid-propellant ICBM launched from North Korea. Missile trajectories for different targets in the United States are shown. The left hand figures show basing areas if the interceptors are capable of achieving speeds of 6.5 km/s. The right hand figures correspond to a hypothetical interceptor capable of 10 km/s, which is beyond current capabilities.

The solid inner circles indicate the required basing area if 30 seconds of decision time is allowed. The outer dashed circles show the basing area if interceptors are fired as soon as a firing solution is obtained, with no decision time. The crosses show the position of the last chance to intercept, in Chinese airspace in all cases.