

OVERVIEW

- The 2022 MDR is nested within the 2022 National Defense Strategy to provide direction to U.S. missile defense strategy, policy, and capabilities. Emerging ballistic, cruise, hypersonic, and lower-tier threats such as uncrewed aircraft systems (UAS) pose an expanding and accelerating risk to the U.S. homeland, U.S. forces abroad, and our allies and partners. Adversaries are developing, fielding, and integrating more advanced air and missile capabilities into their strategies in order to favorably shape the course of a potential crisis or conflict. Some of these capabilities include new long-range space and missile systems capable of crossing regions, increasingly blurring the lines between regional and homeland defense and challenging existing integrated air and missile defense (IAMD) architectures.

CONTRIBUTING TO INTEGRATED DETERRENCE

- Adversaries increasingly seek to use missiles and UAS to project conventional and nuclear military power, making IAMD an essential “deterrence-by-denial” component within the broader integrated deterrence framework that weaves together all instruments of national power across warfighting domains, geographic theaters, the spectrum of conflict, and our global network of alliances and partnerships. Specifically, missile defenses: add resilience to our overall defense strategy; complicate adversary plans and induce doubt about the success of offensive missile use; raise the threshold for conflict by reducing incentives to conduct small-scale, coercive attacks; reassure allies and partners that the United States will not be deterred from fulfilling its global security commitments; and, in crisis or conflict, offer military options that may be less escalatory than employing offensive systems.

ADDRESSING NORTH KOREAN MISSILE THREATS TO THE HOMELAND

- As the scale and complexity of North Korea’s missile capabilities increase, the United States will continue to stay ahead of North Korean missile threats to the homeland through a comprehensive missile defeat approach, complemented by the credible threat of direct cost imposition through nuclear and non-nuclear means. Missile defeat includes whole-of-government activities to counter the development, acquisition, proliferation, potential, and actual use of adversary offensive missiles of any type, and to limit damage from such use. Within this framework, the United States is committed to improving the reliability of the Ground-Based Midcourse Defense system, and augmenting this active missile defense capability through the development and production of 20 Next Generation Interceptors as well as expansion of space and ground-based sensors.

ADDRESSING NEAR-PEER NUCLEAR MISSILE THREATS TO THE HOMELAND

- The United States will continue to rely on strategic deterrence- underwritten by a safe, secure, and effective nuclear arsenal- to address and deter large intercontinental-range, nuclear-capable missile threats to the homeland from the People’s Republic of China and Russia.



ENHANCING OUR PACIFIC POSTURE – MISSILE DEFENSE OF GUAM

- ▶ Guam is both an unequivocal part of the United States as well as a key power projection hub in the Indo-Pacific region.
- ▶ Any attack on Guam will be considered a direct attack on the United States and be met with an appropriate response.
- ▶ Guam’s defenses will include a variety of capabilities commensurate with its vital status, including active missile defense, that contribute to the overall integrity of integrated deterrence and U.S. operational strategy in the Indo-Pacific region.

REGIONAL INTEGRATED AIR AND MISSILE DEFENSE

- ▶ The United States will continue to pursue defenses for U.S. forces, and our allies and partners against all regional missile threats from any source.
- ▶ The United States will continue to develop active and passive defenses against regional hypersonic missile threats and pursue a persistent and resilient sensor network to characterize and track all hypersonic threats, improve attribution, and enable engagement.
- ▶ The United States will continue to seek and field technical counter-UAS solutions to address growing regional threats.

STRENGTHENING INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION WITH ALLIES AND PARTNERS

- ▶ The United States’ alliances and partnerships are among our greatest assets, and we will continue to work closely with select countries in North America, the Indo-Pacific region, Europe, and the Middle East to enhance our collective IAMD efforts in order to strengthen our common protection.

CRUISE MISSILE DEFENSE – HOMELAND

- ▶ As Russia has demonstrated through its indiscriminate use of thousands of cruise missile attacks in Ukraine, developing missile defenses against cruise missiles is increasingly vital.
- ▶ To deter attempts by adversaries to stay under the nuclear threshold and achieve strategic results with conventional capabilities, the United States will examine active and passive measures to decrease the risk of adversary cruise missile strikes against critical assets in the homeland.

