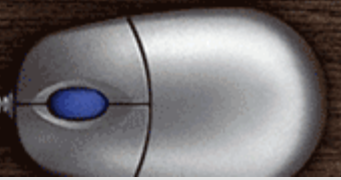




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Israel is mulling a U.S. alternative to the Arrow anti-missile, shown during a test launch. (Archive)

Last update - 10:30 02/01/2007

Israel may opt for U.S.-made missile over own Arrow system

By [Shmuel Rosner](#) and [Aluf Benn](#), Haaretz Correspondents

In recent months Israel and the United States have discussed the possibility of an Israel acquiring the American-made missile defense system THAAD, instead of developing a new generation of the indigenous Arrow defense missile.

Israeli decision-makers will have to make up their minds in the coming year whether to commit to acquiring the American weapon system or invest in the development of a more advanced Arrow.

The American THAAD (Theater High-Altitude Area Defense), developed more than a decade ago, and whose mission is similar to that of the Arrow, failed in initial testing and the timetable for the completion of its development has been delayed on a number of occasions. However, in 2006 the system passed a number of critical tests, including the interception of targets simulating enemy missiles.

The system includes components and technologies that are not part of the current generation of the Arrow, which is in operational service with the Israel Air Force.

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The United States will be able to provide Israel with THAAD missiles by 2009, at which time the maker of the system, Lockheed Martin, will have completed development and testing,

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Israel may replace Arrow with U.S.-made missile
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Bradley Burston: If Ariel Sharon were with us now
Responses: 67

Legendary Jerusalem mayor Teddy Kollek dies at 95
Responses: 44

Moshe Arens: Don't talk with Syria if there's a gun at your head
Responses: 76

Gilad Shalit's father: One call from Assad can free my son
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Rosner's Domain

* Will Israel choose to replace the Arrow with THAAD?

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Washington sources say.

The same sources added that Israel will be able to purchase THAAD with American military funding assistance, and have in its arsenal the same advanced missile system that will be used by U.S. armed forces.

However, the American missile system still suffers from a number of technological bugs that have not yet been resolved.



The discussions over the acquisition of the missile were held on the professional level, among experts in missile defense technologies. The final decision will be made by the political echelons.

American sources said that Israel's decision will have to be made "fairly soon."

Israel's dilemma revolves around both the costs of continuing the development of the Arrow system and issues of technological and operational independence.

When Ehud Barak was chief of staff, he opposed the development of the Arrow and the creation of the "Homa" anti-ballistic defense system, arguing that the cost of independent development was too high and that it would be wiser to acquire THAAD.

Rabin decided otherwise

Prime minister Yitzhak Rabin decided otherwise, explaining that the Americans would only agree to transfer to Israel the advanced technologies included in THAAD if they are convinced that it can develop its own independent capabilities and compete with the American industry.

Funding for the development and production of the Arrow came mostly from American aid sources.

Some of the components of the missile are produced in the Boeing plants in Mississippi and Alabama, in cooperation with the prime contractor in the Arrow project, Israel Aircraft Industries.

In recent years, Congress voted in favor of significantly higher financial contributions to the Arrow project than originally requested by the administration.

Production of the Arrow is continuing as planned, and preparations have been completed for holding another test in the near future.

At this stage there has been no significant effort to export the Arrow. In any case, American involvement in the Arrow's development limits Israel's ability to offer the system to various countries.

The presence of American technology in the missile allows the Defense Department to veto the transfer of technology to third countries.

To date, the U.S. has opposed efforts to export the Arrow to India, which expressed interest in the defensive system, and to other countries.

This opposition means that Israel has less available funding for the independent development of next generation Arrow missiles.

alone

20:13 MK Sneh: PM lagging on vow to reinforce schools near Gaza

21:42 Legendary Jerusalem mayor Teddy Kollek dies at age 95

21:49 Judge slaps gag order on Katzrin teen murder case

21:08 Tax Authority chief faces remand extension in bribery probe

20:07 Accountant-General Zelekha: I am being persecuted, threatened

17:12 Teddy Kollek played key role in forging the CIA-Mossad alliance

17:47 Lebanon PM unveils reform plan to seek foreign financial assistance

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State of the art

Amitai Mendelson, the man in charge of local art at the Israel Museum, has a vision.



Real estate bubble?

Prices in the center of the country rose steadily in 2006 and are expected to grow.

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1.	Develop the Arrow	04:31	Robert	02/01/07
2.	Forget THAAD "delivered by 2009" promises	04:45	Dr. L. Brnd	02/01/07
3.	none of those will work against the	04:50	shia 4 ever	02/01/07
4.	The weakness of Israel	05:27	Shiloh	02/01/07
5.	The Saab Bofors Dynamics Bamse	05:32	Johnny	02/01/07
6.	Arrow vs THAAD	05:39	Jorge	02/01/07
7.	Cutting through the fuzz	06:06	Natalie Durson	02/01/07
8.	Stick with the arrow...End of story	06:10	rich	02/01/07
9.	rabin right. we must develop our own..remember de gaul..warsaw ge	06:32	ralph	02/01/07
10.	missile "defense" is a dangerous illusion	06:32	spyguy	02/01/07
11.	Oh boy, #7 and expert on ABM and mezuzas!	06:34	PPM	02/01/07
12.	The Arrow	06:56	Avi	02/01/07
13.	Re to #7	07:24	Kipperraes	02/01/07
14.	#12 - "quite successful" is NOT 100%	07:26	spyguy	02/01/07
15.	Critical decision in the hands of Israel's traitors	07:52	dave	02/01/07
16.	Anything US weakens Israel	07:54	BradL	02/01/07
17.	Missile defense is a good idea but offensive investment is better	08:04	Marwan مروان خوري	02/01/07
18.	all things being equal, and they never are	08:05	Cipora Julianna Kohn	02/01/07
19.	#14, spyguy	08:08	Cipora Julianna Kohn	02/01/07
20.	# 16...without the U.S. we would not have survived.	08:14	Sarit	02/01/07
21.	Never mind post #5	08:23	Johnny	02/01/07
22.	#17Marwan-Missile defense is necessary from distant enemies,Iran	09:02	Susanna/Shoshanah	02/01/07
23.	The decision making	09:03	S	02/01/07
24.	The most disturbing line in this article	09:06	Raymond from DC	02/01/07
25.	#17 Iran has heard your message	09:10	spyguy	02/01/07
26.	nuclear bombs and missiles for both Arabs and Jews	09:11	American diplomat	02/01/07
27.	I agree with most of the posters,develop the Arrow	09:13	Susanna/Shoshanah	02/01/07
28.	#14, Since in my opinion you can't negotiate with extremists...	09:18	Avi	02/01/07
29.	#19 I know of no published Arrow results	09:32	spyguy	02/01/07
30.	johnny - sweden made missile	09:40	oleh chadash	02/01/07
31.	#29, spyguy	09:50	Cipora Julianna Kohn	02/01/07

32.	Strength can't be bought....its INDEPENCE!!!!!!!	10:02 Jerry	02/01/07
33.	#29spyguy,from my experience technology is very good	10:15 Susanna/Shoshanah	02/01/07
34.	How would Arrow defend against this?	10:35 spyguy	02/01/07
35.	Useless weapons, but nice little earners	10:37 Clickfool	02/01/07
36.	#29spyguy,in #25 you say Iran vastly improved Chines and Russsian	10:38 Susanna/Shoshanah	02/01/07
37.	#31,Cipora-don't trust spuyguy-I don't	10:42 Susanna/Shoshanah	02/01/07
38.	to # 29 Cipora Julianna Kohn. The effectiveness of Arrow should	10:46 Vittorio	02/01/07
39.	#25,spyguy-if Israel doesn't depend on better weapons then what?	10:47 Susanna/Shoshanah	02/01/07
40.	#32 Shoshanah your faith is misplaced	10:57 spyguy	02/01/07
41.	Shoshanah, Israel can NOT win an arms race	11:06 spyguy	02/01/07
42.	For Spyguy # 29, on the Blitz	11:12 Clickfool	02/01/07
43.	Shoshanah Not prayer, but negotiation	11:14 spyguy	02/01/07
44.	#38 What happens to your calculation	11:18 spyguy	02/01/07
45.	#38 Vittorio	11:18 Cipora Julianna Kohn	02/01/07
46.	For Spyguy # 41, on reliance on technology	11:27 Clickfool	02/01/07
47.	#42 Click, the unfortuate result of "security	11:29 spyguy	02/01/07
48.	Question for Cipora # 45	11:38 Clickfool	02/01/07
49.	spuyguy	11:49 Cipora Julianna Kohn	02/01/07
50.	to 17 [marwan] and all israel ppl	11:57 hezbollah soldier	02/01/07
51.	#35 thats what they said about the FIRSATR TANKS clikky	12:06 paul harris	02/01/07
52.	#44 SPYGUY GOOD TECHNICIAN LOUSY POLITICIAN	12:11 paul harris	02/01/07
53.	#7, as usual wrong	12:23 Danny - Israeli one	02/01/07
54.	spyguy,when did Israel ask for war?Iran wants to wipe out Israel	12:27 Susanna/Shoshanah	02/01/07
55.	is Israel becomming another Arab state?	12:28 Israeli Arab	02/01/07
56.	#25, eh?	12:31 Danny - Israeli one	02/01/07
57.	US missiels didn't saved you during Iraqi war in 1991.	12:45 dzone	02/01/07
58.	More than the arrow	13:01 Daniel	02/01/07
59.	THAAD Uses Arrow Technology - Unconvincingly	13:08 Ovadiah ben Avraham	02/01/07
60.	Arrow	13:26 TJ	02/01/07
61.	Susanna/Shoshana BTW you make Isreal sound like Ghandi	13:47 Tupac	02/01/07
62.	To hezbollah soldier, 50,	14:05 Jozef	02/01/07
63.	Typo in article	14:15 Shlomo Liberman	02/01/07
64.	#10 Spy Guy is 100% correct	14:24 Dr. Williams	02/01/07
65.	Kfir or the arrow	14:27 Rod	02/01/07

66.	So much Zionist propaganda from Susanna # 54	14:34 Clickfool	02/01/07
67.	ANYTHING AMERICAN WILL BRING ISRAEL`S DESTRUCTION	14:42 fathfull	02/01/07
68.	to #36	14:46 Go read up mate	02/01/07
69.	If it is only possible, and can be done in time,	14:48 Yonatan	02/01/07
70.	to #62 - read your press	14:53 Fence sitter	02/01/07
71.	Tupac,on the contrary,Saudis sponsored the 9/11 attack on U.S.	15:07 Susanna/Shoshanah	02/01/07
72.	G Dr Williams & spy guy-what a brilliant knew thought:best chance	15:12 Susanna/Shoshanah	02/01/07
73.	Good news for public consumption	15:18 albert amato	02/01/07
74.	Here we go again...	15:18 Shai	02/01/07
75.	#18 Here`s one way to be independent - no handouts!	15:22 Tim	02/01/07
76.	Uncle Sucker	15:26 Mike	02/01/07
77.	Klickfool and his Islamo-Fascist rhetoric	15:29 Susanna/Shoshanah	02/01/07
78.	#64 IT DIDNT WORK IN 1938 DR AND IT WONT WORK NOW	15:30 paul harris	02/01/07
79.	#44 spyguy	15:31 Vittorio	02/01/07
80.	#70 WHAT WAR ? A 30 DAY SKIRMISH IS WHAT IT WAS	15:34 paul harris	02/01/07
81.	America is a good ally of Israel and Israel is a good ally for US	15:34 Susanna/Shoshanah	02/01/07
82.	#69,lets face it-stealth missiles are hard to hit but retaliate	15:40 Susanna/Shoshanah	02/01/07
83.	stick with arrow dont go for second best to save moeny	15:54 zionist forever	02/01/07
84.	#62fence-sitter,Israel bombs empty buildings	15:56 Susanna/Shoshanah	02/01/07
85.	THUUD	16:01 Mark Lincoln	02/01/07
86.	response to #4	16:05 G.I. Joe	02/01/07
87.	hizballah soldier	16:15 mestrong	02/01/07
88.	Spyguy is taken seriously??	16:15 S	02/01/07
89.	hizballah soldiers	16:19 mestrong	02/01/07
90.	hizballah soldier	16:21 mestrong	02/01/07
91.	Yonatan # 69 I Agree	16:24 Jeff Northridge	02/01/07
92.	Background pt1	16:24 AE	02/01/07
93.	yonatan of kfar sava pipe dream	16:29 flashman	02/01/07
94.	Background Info pt2	16:39 AE	02/01/07
95.	#42 So the Ack-Ack guns in londonistan were like you	16:41 Ari ben Yisrael	02/01/07
96.	American aid kills Israels arms industry and cost jobs	16:48 zionist forever	02/01/07
97.	G.I.Joe #86	16:52 S	02/01/07
98.	zionist forever israel cannot afford all that	17:10 flashman	02/01/07
99.	Same mentality killed Lavi in 1986...	17:21 bat yam	02/01/07
100.	can anyone explain what is the LAVI project?	17:21 daniel	02/01/07
101.	Irreali Arrow and Thel Laser are possible combo	17:25 Mikhail	02/01/07
102.	Israel should change one useless crap for another	17:27 Sal	02/01/07
103.	Purchase???	17:34 Joe	02/01/07

104. US made missiles	17:39 Shmuelshachor	02/01/07
105. Mike # 76 Uncle Sucker	17:56 Jeff Northridge	02/01/07
106. #42 AND WAHT IS MORE CLIKKY THEY DID AS MUCH DAMAGE AS THE GERMAN	18:00 paul harris	02/01/07
107. stupid leadership	18:06 even	02/01/07
108. 100:LAVI...	18:10 bat yam	02/01/07
109. daniel	18:10 flashman	02/01/07
110. bat yam is too optimistic	18:12 flashman	02/01/07
111. #91 Jeff Northridge	18:12 Yonatan	02/01/07
112. ARROW US RUSSIA	18:16 FRENCHMAN	02/01/07
113. #13	18:20 american	02/01/07
114. 100 - daniel from Rehovot	18:21 zionist forever	02/01/07
115. 101 - Mikhail from Des Moines	18:29 zionist forever	02/01/07
116. Lavi	18:30 AE	02/01/07
117. Should depend on the threat, but Arrow preferred	18:30 Tosefta	02/01/07
118. israel's knowhow is best used together	18:39 flashman	02/01/07
119. # 53 Danny -israeli one	18:47 Kipperraes	02/01/07
120. Remember the Patriots.....	19:08 Ben	02/01/07
121. 110 Only someone who did not know...	19:09 bat yam	02/01/07
122. Dr. Williams, 64,	19:17 Jozef	02/01/07
123. STICK WITH THE ARROW SYSTEM	19:24 DANNY	02/01/07
124. BETTER TO REPLACE (N)ARROW Olmert with WISE & PEACFUL	19:25 j	02/01/07
125. RETO7	19:28 DANNY.	02/01/07
126. ALL THINGS BEING EQUAL	19:33 DANNY	02/01/07
127. For Susanna # 77	19:44 Clickfool	02/01/07
128. Thanks Natallie D and Clickfool. You are both spot on, as usual	19:45 Toronto's Finest	02/01/07
129. For Susanna on the relationship of Israel to America # 81	19:47 Clickfool	02/01/07
130. Independent	19:52 Mark M.	02/01/07
131. Caught between a rock and a hard place	19:52 Avrum	02/01/07
132. arrow system	19:54 jorge grosz md	02/01/07
133. TO HEZBULLAH SOLDIER	19:54 DANNY	02/01/07
134. Should depend on the threat, but Arrow preferred	20:34 Tosefta	02/01/07
135. Cickfool ,as far as i know Blair is American pappy	20:45 dzone	02/01/07
136. TO Sarit - ...without the U.S. we would not have survived	20:47 Steve Beikirch	02/01/07
137. Sal # 102 You've Got Start Somewhere	20:59 Jeff Northridge	02/01/07
138. Clickfool # 120 What Stolen Land?	21:27 Jeff Northridge	02/01/07
139. To spyguy Arms race	21:50 CM	02/01/07

