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# ADA ONLINE

## JUNE 2009

Editor ~ Kathleen M. Doyle

Archived monthly issues of Air Defense Artillery Online can be accessed through a link at the bottom of this section.  
(Archives begin with the March 2009 issues.)

### [ADA UNFURLS ITS COLORS AT FORT SILL DURING TRANSFER OF AUTHORITY CEREMONY](#)

Soldiers and civilians gathered to witness the posting of the colors and "stand up" of the U.S. Army Air Defense Artillery School and the 6<sup>th</sup> ADA Brigade with its three battalions at their new home at Fort Sill, Oklahoma, on 23 June 2009.  
(By Kathleen M. Doyle, Staff Editor)



### [NEW PATCH, INSIGNIA AND COLORS FOR THE 357<sup>TH</sup> ARMY AIR & MISSILE DEFENSE DETACHMENT](#)

It is a proud day for the Commander, Colonel Rodney X. McCants, and Soldiers of the 357<sup>th</sup> Army Air & Missile Defense Detachment (AAMD-D), as they will be sporting their own distinctive unit insignia (DUI) and shoulder sleeve insignia (SSI) while mustering around their own unit colors.  
(By Kathleen M. Doyle, Staff Editor)



### [ADA TODAY](#)

Updated Links to Air and Missile Defense Articles From News Media Website

~ NOTICE ~

We apologize for delays caused by BRAC requirements.  
Please be patient.

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Friday  
19 June 2009

### [US in Good Position if North Korea Launches Missile Toward Hawaii](#)

(U.S. News & World Report)  
U.S. defense officials say that the military has deployed missile interceptors and radar to safeguard Hawaii from a potential North Korean missile test expected around July 4. The announcement comes as tensions between the two countries escalate over North Korea's controversial nuclear-weapon program.

[Line of Defense](#)  
(Honolulu Star)



**Office, Chief of ADA**  
 Access ADA MOS &  
 Force Structure  
 Information



**ADA In Action**



**ADA Regimental System**

**AVENGER Photos**

**UNITED STATES MILITARY ACADEMY  
 SUPERINTENDENT VISITS CADETS  
 DOWN RANGE**

Lieutenant General Buster Hagenbeck, United States Military Academy (USMA) Superintendent, and Rich Ellerson, Head Coach of the USMA football team, visited C Battery, 1st Battalion, 43rd Air Defense Artillery's (C/1-43 ADA) Patriot tactical site in the Central Command (CENTCOM) theater of operations on 4 June 2009.  
*(By Sergeant Alexander Burnett, 11th ADA Brigade, Fort Bliss, TX)*



**A SENIOR NCO's PERSPECTIVE ON LEADERSHIP**

If the basic doctrine that governs how all troops, batteries, and companies conduct business is the same, why then, aren't all units equally exceptional? The answer is because exceptional "leaders" are what make a unit great and not the doctrine.  
*(By Sergeant Major Frank C. Cota, Jr., ADA Test Directorate, Operational Test Command, Fort Bliss, Texas.)*



**ARE ADA OFFICERS REALLY NEEDED FOR THE ADAM CELLS?**

When Air Defense and Airspace Management (ADAM) Cells were first brought online our military leaders thought they were a great idea -- but the reality of "the needs of the Army" come first and is far greater to many brigade commanders.  
*(By Captain James D. Cooper, Operations Group, Bronco Team, National Training Center, Fort Irwin, California.)*



Pacific forces are ready to react should North Korea fire a missile.

**Air Defense Exercise to Test NORTHCOM Response**

Months of planning and preparations will soon be tested as Airmen, Soldiers and Sailors gear up for a major U.S. Northern Command air defense exercise. Exercise Amalgam Dart '09 is one of several North American Aerospace Defense Command and USNORTHCOM exercises under the Ardent Sentry '09 exercise series.

**Unproven Missile Shield System Sent To Hawaii, Countering Potential North**

**Korean Threat**  
 (Popular Science)  
 The Pentagon has decided to rush the still-in-development Army Terminal High-Altitude Air Defense missile systems and the SBX X-Band Radar into action. Although the technology has existed for many years it may finally get its first test in real-world conditions.

**Hawaii Anti-Missile Move a Safeguard**

(Washington Post)  
 A new anti-missile system ordered for Hawaii is partly a strategy to deter North Korea from test-firing a long-range missile across the Pacific and partly a precaution against the

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ADA Command Sergeant Major's Professional Development Website for ADA NCOs

[Antiaircraft Journal Archives](#)[Coast Artillery Journal Archives](#)[ADA Heroes](#)

Medal Citations Attest to the Bravery of ADA Soldiers Under Fire

[ADA Distinguished Service Cross Recipients](#)[ADA Silver Star Recipients](#)[News Media](#)[ABC News](#)[ADA ONLINE ARCHIVES](#)[March 2009](#)[April 2009](#)[May 2009](#)[June 2009](#)[July 2009](#)[August 2009](#)[September 2009](#)[October 2009](#)[November 2009](#)[December 2009](#)

unpredictable regime, military officials said Friday.

[Gates Orders Hawaii Missile Defense Against North Korea](#)  
(SmartBrief)

US Secretary of Defense Robert Gates ordered additional missile defense assets for Hawaii, signaling the US might consider preventing a successful missile test launched at or near Hawaii -- as it seems North Korea is preparing to do.

[Russia Wants US to Reject Space-Based Missile Defense](#)

(Global Security Newswire - Washington,DC,)

U.S. lawmakers in October signed off on funds for a study on placing missile defense technology in space.

Meanwhile, Russia has pressed to include a prohibition on space-based weapons in a new nuclear arms control deal being negotiated with the United States.

[Schwartz Wants to Work With MDA on Air-Launched ICBM Interceptors](#)

(Inside Defense)

Norton Schwartz wants the service to partner with the Missile Defense Agency to study the possibility of using fighter jets, bombers and drones to intercept ICBMs.

[Defense Officials to Press China on North Korea](#)

<a href="#"><u>Army Magazine</u></a>
<a href="#"><u>Army Times</u></a>
<a href="#"><u>Boston Globe</u></a>
<a href="#"><u>CBS News</u></a>
<a href="#"><u>CNN</u></a>
<a href="#"><u>Fox News</u></a>
<a href="#"><u>Jerusalem Post</u></a>
<a href="#"><u>Los Angeles Times</u></a>
<a href="#"><u>Lucianne News Forum</u></a>
<a href="#"><u>Military Review</u></a>
<a href="#"><u>MSNBC</u></a>
<a href="#"><u>National Review</u></a>
<a href="#"><u>Newsweek</u></a>
<a href="#"><u>New York Times</u></a>
<a href="#"><u>Parameters</u></a>
<a href="#"><u>Time Magazine</u></a>
<a href="#"><u>Wall Street Journal</u></a>
<a href="#"><u>Washington Post</u></a>

(Bloomberg)  
U.S. defense officials will urge Chinese leaders next week to step up action in support of international penalties against North Korea and to reveal more of their military plans and intentions.

**Gates Says Budget Cuts Don't Leave Alaska, Hawaii**

**Vulnerable**

(The State)

Mark Begich, said the administration intends to focus on perfecting missile defense technologies.

(CONTINUED FROM ADA TODAY SECTION, BLUE COLUMN AT RIGHT)

Thursday, 18 June 2009

**North Korea May Fire a Missile Toward Hawaii** (*The Associated Press*) North Korea may fire a long-range ballistic missile toward Hawaii in early July, a Japanese news report said Thursday, as Russia and China urged the regime to return to international disarmament talks on its rogue nuclear program.

**Defense System Has Been Successfully Tested at Barking Sands** (Honolulu Advertiser) Defense Secretary Robert Gates said today that the US military was sending a ground-based mobile missile defense system to Hawaii. The system, called THAAD, is designed to destroy short- to medium-range ballistic missiles at high altitudes, even outside the atmosphere.

**Senators Question US Missile Defense Strategy** (Global Security Newswire) Lawmakers yesterday questioned the Obama administration's seeming hesitation to pursue deployment of missile defense assets.

[Fort Bliss May Receive A Big Check From Government](#) (KFOXtv.com - El Paso,TX) Today, the US House Armed Services Committee approved just under \$800 million dollars for the growth and expansion of Fort Bliss.

[Gates: Missile Defense in Place for Hawaii](#) (The Associated Press) Defense Secretary Robert Gates says he's positioning defenses near Hawaii just in case North Korea fires a missile across the Pacific.

[Congress' Raptor Jet Revolt Could Mean Pentagon Budget Showdown](#) (Wired News – USA) So now the questions are: Will the extra money stick? What does this mean for the secretary's other cuts, to things like missile defense and hulking battleships? And would the president consider a veto, if Congress doesn't go along with Gates' plan?

[US Ready for Possible North Korean Missile Launch to Hawaii](#) (AFP) The defense secretary said he had approved the deployment of THAAD missile defense weaponry to the US state and radars "to provide support" in case of a possible North Korean missile attack. He also said that ground-based defenses in Alaska were also at the ready.

[US Lawmaker Urges Deployment of Missile Defense in Europe](#) (Voice of America – USA) A U.S. lawmaker is warning the Obama administration against delaying the deployment of a missile defense system in Europe, saying it could weaken the support of key allies and undermine the program.

**Wednesday, 17 June 2009**

[Army Challenges Older Recruits, and Vice Versa](#) A steady stream of older recruits have joined the ranks, pushing creaky muscles through road training, learning to appreciate — or at least endure — Army chow, and in some cases deploying to combat zones.

[Missile Defense Planning Guides Emerge](#) Much rides on the Pentagon's pending ballistic missile defense review, but a few core principles are emerging to guide the massive spending effort over the next several years, according to congressional testimony June 16 by top Defense Department officials.

[PEO Soldier Showcases Gear at Pentagon](#) "Whatever I'm operating, it will give me a live feed," said Staff Sgt. Bernard Arroyo with the Army Evaluation Task Force at Fort Bliss, Texas.

[Missile Defense Cuts Won't Threaten Security, Pentagon Tells Congress](#) The Pentagon on Tuesday reassured senators that cutting \$1.2 billion from the nation's missile defense budget wouldn't diminish the country's ability to defend against a rogue missile attack from North Korea or Iran.

[House Armed Services Committee Says No to Missile Defense Interceptors](#) The liveliest debate during the House Armed Services Committee's FY2010 budget for the Defense Department meeting today was over Congressman Turner's (R-OH) amendment to re-insert \$120 million to fund the remaining 14 ground-based interceptors.

[Missile Defense Reviews to Focus on Current, Long-Term Challenges](#) North Korea and Iran pose serious nuclear and missile proliferation concerns for the United States and other nations and will be major considerations in the U.S ballistic missile defense review.

[Russia Hopes "Down-to-Earth" Obama Drops Star Wars](#) Congress agreed a \$5 million study of a possible space-based missile defense last October, a potential baby step toward a "Star Wars" system.

[Fighter Jets Studied for Use in Missile Defense](#) Based on 2008 war games, Air Force Chief of Staff General Norton Schwartz has asked the Missile Defense Agency to study the feasibility of arming jets with two types of weapons -- one for taking out enemy missiles shortly after launch, and one for intercepting them at high altitude.



**Begich Stresses Need for Missile Defense Money** Mark Begich is appealing to the Senate Armed Services Committee to maintain money to expand the ground-based missile defense system at Fort Greely.

**China, Russia call for talks on Iran, North Korea** In a joint statement Chinese President Hu Jintao and Russia's Dmitry Medvedev made a thinly veiled attack on the United States, saying no country should base its defense on expanding military alliances and building missile defenses.

**Tuesday, 16 June 2009**

**Nuclear-Armed North Korea Labeled "Grave Threat"** Declaring North Korea a "grave threat" to the world, President Barack Obama on Tuesday pledged the U.S. and its allies will aggressively enforce fresh international penalties against the nuclear-armed nation and stop rewarding its leaders for repeated provocations.

**Lawmakers Question Obama's Missile Defense Cuts** Lawmakers are demanding to know why the president's proposed 2010 defense budget cuts missile defense by \$1.2 billion and does not provide any funds for the European missile defense shield as Iran and North Korea defy the international community with missile testing.

**Alaska Still Has Role in Nation's Missile Defense Program** The heart of the program in Alaska is at Fort Greely, where 16 interceptor missiles are sitting in silos waiting to take out a missile targeting the U.S.

**Top General "90 Percent-Plus" Sure on U.S. Missile Defense** U.S. ground-based interceptor missiles stand a better-than-90-percent chance of thwarting a "rogue nation" ballistic missile attack on the United States in the next five years, the second highest-ranking military officer told Congress on Tuesday.

**U.S. Missile Defense in Europe 'One Option'** The United States has made no final decision on deploying a controversial missile defense system in central Europe, a senior defense official said Tuesday, saying it was only "one of the options" under consideration.

**U.S. Missile Defense Aircraft Undergoes Another Successful Test** The Airborne Laser system tracked another missile on Saturday, building on its success in a similar test the week before.

**Former Russian General Says Moscow's Missile Defense System is Dangerously Outdated** A former top Russian general has said Moscow's missile-defense technology is obsolete and incapable of effectively defending the capital from ballistic attacks.

**Pentagon: North Korean Missiles Could Threaten U.S.** At a morning Senate hearing on missile defense, Deputy Defense Secretary William Lynn pointed to Pyongyang's recent steps to accelerate its long-range weapons program and agreed with Sen. John McCain, R-Ariz., that the U.S. should be prepared for a "worst-case scenario" with North Korea.

**Monday, 15 June 2009**

**Gates' Pre-Summit Ploy** Speaking before the Senate committee Gates dropped a diplomatic bombshell. He claimed that Moscow has now admitted that the threat from Iran's missile program is near. If what Gates said is true, it would mean that the Kremlin will need to support the Pentagon's plan to create a global missile defense system to counter the imminent threat from Tehran.

**Obama's 2010 Defense Budget: Top Five Bad Choices for National Security** President Obama has submitted a defense budget request to Congress for fiscal year 2010 that, if implemented, will dramatically reshape America's military.

[Republicans To Oppose Missile Defense Cuts in Authorization Markup](#) Republican lawmakers hope to gain some ground -- at least politically -- on hot-button national security issues such as missile defense funding.

[Lockheed Martin Marks 25th Anniversary of World's First Hit-to-Kill Missile Intercept](#)

Lockheed Martin is celebrating the 25th anniversary of the world's first hit-to-kill intercept of a ballistic missile target outside the earth's atmosphere. Systems using hit-to-kill technology today include the US Ground-Based Midcourse Defense, the Sea-Based Aegis Ballistic Missile Defense, the Terminal High-Altitude Area Defense, the Patriot Advanced Capability-3 Missile, as well as the Medium Extended Air Defense System currently under development.

**Saturday, 13 June 2009**

[Fort Bliss Celebrates US Army's 234th Birthday](#) It was a big day at Fort Bliss as soldiers celebrated the US Army's 234th birthday and also held a Flag Day ceremony.

[South Carolina Unit Heads to Oregon for Missile Defense Test](#) "We will be integrating our Army Air Defense portion with the Air Force and the Navy," said Colonel Glenn Skawski, the most senior full-time officer with the South Carolina unit [263<sup>rd</sup> Army Air and Missile Defense Command (AAMDC)], in a telephone interview.

[Washington's Defense Gap: Missile Funding](#) Missile defense has been a political issue since President Reagan introduced his plan to win the arms race by rebuilding our arsenal while using technology to prevent a successful Russian nuclear attack against us.

[Pressure Grows on Obama to Engage Iran Directly](#) Senate Foreign Relations Committee Chairman John Kerry praised President Barack Obama's desire to have direct negotiations with Iran, but warned Tuesday that he must be prepared to do more than talk as Tehran forges ahead with its nuclear program.

**Friday, 12 June 2009**

[UN Imposes New Sanctions on North Korea](#) Resolution imposes tough sanctions on Pyongyang's weapons exports and financial dealings, and allows inspections of suspect cargo in ports and on the high seas. U.S. deputy ambassador Rosemary DiCarlo says move was a strong and united international response to North Korea's unacceptable behavior.

[U.S. Backs Off on Missile Defense Promises?](#) The Patriot rockets Poland was to receive this year from the US to beef up its air defenses as part of the missile defense deal, will not be armed. They are to be used for training purposes only.

[Smaller Aircraft Tests With ABL Eyed](#) The US Missile Defense Agency (MDA) wants to explore putting Airborne Laser (ABL) technology on a smaller aircraft than its current jumbo jet platform. The high-powered laser, designed to destroy an attacking missile shortly after launch during the boost phase, currently flies on a modified Boeing 747-400 freighter.

[India Needs a Missile Defense](#) It is just a matter of time before China helps Pakistan to expand its nuclear arsenal and missile capabilities. Needless to say, this will pose a major threat to India, seen by China as its chief rival and by Pakistan as its chief enemy. In this context, it is important for India to build a missile defense.

**Thursday, 11 June 2009**

[Industry Pushes Back on Missile Defense Cuts](#) Major US contractors are resisting Defense Department funding cuts that would eliminate some missile-defense projects already in the works, Reuters reported.

**Disarmament Must Be Bilateral, Lavrov Says** "Unilateral steps are not expected from either the Russian Federation or the United States," Lavrov said during a news conference Wednesday. "And I hope that such a rejection of unilateralism will also be expanded to cover the sphere of strategic defensive systems, by which I mean missile defense."

**US Plans Defensive Steps on North Korea Defiance** To guard U.S. territory from a possible North Korean missile strike, the Defense Department is developing a missile- defense site in Alaska. Interceptor rockets in underground silos there would be launched against an incoming North Korean missile.

**Russia Snubs U.S. Call to Host Radar** Russia on Thursday spurned an offer from the United States to participate closely in its planned European anti-missile system, instead urging Washington to drop its proposals and start afresh.

**U.S. Defense Chief Doubts North Korea Military Action** North Korea is unlikely to launch military action in response to planned United Nations sanctions, although the possibility should not be completely dismissed.

**North Korea, Iran Joined on Missile Work** The Obama administration has asked Congress for \$7.8 billion for missile defense in fiscal 2010, down about \$1.2 billion from 2009.

**President Obama's Solution to Iran Requires Missile Defense** Deployed missile defense systems can produce a stable environment necessary for diplomatic efforts which will require a steady hand against increased rhetoric, belligerent behavior and military testing of missiles and nuclear technology.

**Russia Rejects Notion of Joint Missile System in Europe** Responding to remarks by Defense Secretary Robert M. Gates, a top Russian diplomat said Thursday that Russia would not collaborate with the United States on missile defense unless Washington scrapped plans to deploy elements of the shield in Poland and the Czech Republic.

**Israel Warns, Mousavi Win Wouldn't Stop Iran's Nuke Drive** As more than 46.2 million eligible Iranian voters choose their president in elections on Friday, senior Israeli defense officials who closely watch Iran stress that the outcome is unlikely to have any impact on Teheran's continued race toward nuclear power.

**Wednesday, 10 June 2009**

**Battelle Supports Successful Missile Defense Test**

Innovations from Battelle provided intercept detection instrumentation for the target missile that Lockheed Martin provided under the Targets and Countermeasures Prime Contract for the Missile Defense Agency. The instrumentation was used in a test of the Terminal High Altitude Area Defense (THAAD) system at the Pacific Missile Range Facility off the island of Kauai in Hawaii.

**Missile Defense Hit-to-Kill Technology Key Test Happened 25 Years** A quarter of a century ago the U.S. Army managed to accomplish what even Dr. Wernher von Braun had once thought impossible - the intercept of one missile's warhead by physically colliding another into its body - known as hit-to-kill missile defense.

**Obama's Defense Budget Gap** President Obama made perhaps his first significant mistake. It concerns the defense budget, where his plans are insufficient to support the national security establishment over the next five years.

**Government Demands Inventory of All VFW Weapons** An "Infowars" reader has passed along an email sent to VFW commanders by the Assistant Adjutant of the Department of Texas Veterans of Foreign Wars indicating the U.S. Army TACOM (Tactical Army Command) is demanding an inventory of all weapons held by VFW posts.

**Christine Schanes: A Sign of the Times: Homeless Veterans** We've all seen a homeless man on a street corner holding a cardboard sign that read something like, "Homeless Veteran... Can You Help?" We might have asked ourselves, "Could that sign be true?" The answer is yes!

[Army Emergency Relief Hoarded \\$117 Million Meant For Soldiers](#) As soldiers stream home from Iraq and Afghanistan, the biggest charity inside the U.S. military has been stockpiling tens of millions of dollars meant to help put returning fighters back on their feet, an Associated Press investigation shows.

**Tuesday, 9 June 2009**

[Tauscher in Hot Seat for Key State Department Post](#) If confirmed as Undersecretary of State for Arms Control and International Security, Representative Ellen Tauscher will become a leading adviser to President Obama and Secretary of State Hillary Rodham Clinton on a wide variety of conventional and nonconventional arms control and nonproliferation issues.

[Tokyo Struggles to Get Its Message Right](#) Japan is caught between a rock and a hard place. On the one hand, North Korea has increased tensions and put Japan on the defensive with its multiple missile tests and a nuclear test. On the other hand, the Japanese government is trying to make sense of its recent false alarms and other deficiencies in the government's ability to respond to external threats.

[Missile Defense Agency to Hold Industry Day Conference](#) The Missile Defense Agency (MDA) will hold an Industry Day Conference, 24 and 25 June in Huntsville, Alabama.

[U.S. Navy Needs Hawkeye for Anti-Missile Defense](#) The greatest threats to Navy ships in the years ahead come from missile proliferation and submarines, but the best defense starts in the sky with the E-2D Advanced Hawkeye.

[U.S. Missile-Defense Salvage Operations Underway](#) U.S. missile-defense contractors and their allies are pushing to salvage what they can of prized, multibillion-dollar programs that Defense Secretary Robert Gates is seeking to scrap or cut back.

[Airborne Laser Undergoes Successful Test](#) An advanced US missile defense system drew nearer to operational status after a successful test last weekend.

[Raytheon Awarded \\$49.6M Contract Change](#) The Missile Defense Agency has awarded a contract change to Tucson-based Raytheon Missile Systems for work on a version of the sea-based Standard Missile-3, the Department of Defense announced.

**Monday, 8 June 2009**

[Missile Defense: Worth the Wait](#) Despite recent "rogue state" missile tests, the Obama administration is still sitting on missile defense shield plans for Central Europe.

["Yes" to Bailouts, But "No" to Defense?](#) It's not safe to be cutting and slashing defense spending in the dark. For less than the cost of a major bailout, Obama and the Congress could assure proper funding of America's military and defense. Either way, it's less than what Washington has spent in less than a year on automaker bailouts.

[US Preps for Possible Showdown with Pyongyang](#) The U.S. military is stepping up training and reviewing target sets in case North Korea decide to go to war. Elsewhere, the Missile Defense Agency is boosting its sensor capabilities so decision makers will have more reaction time in the event of a missile launch or an actual attack.

[U.S. Mulls Placing North Korea Back on Terrorist List](#) Barack Obama on Saturday said he is now taking a "very hard look" at new and [tougher measures](#) against North Korea. "We are not intending to continue a policy of rewarding provocation," he said, alluding to recent North Korea nuclear and missile tests.

[Obama administration's Sound Thinking on Missile Defense](#) A central critique of the Obama administration's new defense budget proposal is that it

underfunds missile defense systems. The threat of ballistic and cruise missiles of all ranges is clearly a major potential danger to our troops under many plausible scenarios.

**Sunday, 7 June 2009**

**[Kremlin Downplays Hopes For Arms Deal With Obama](#)** The Kremlin is playing down hopes of a breakthrough on reducing nuclear arsenals ahead of a visit to Moscow by the U.S. president, linking arms cuts with U.S. plans to deploy a missile defense system in Central Europe.

**[Korean Launch Gives Ammo to Opponents](#)** The White House wants to shift funding to “theater defenses”: weapons systems that can protect U.S. forces deployed in South Korea — or U.S. allies in the Middle East — from short- and medium-range missiles.

**Saturday, 6 June 2009**

**[With Israel in Mind, Iran Produces New Anti-Aircraft Missile](#)** Fars, a semi-official news agency, said production of the Shahin (hawk) missile defense system was one of the "most important and complex projects" undertaken by Iran's defense industry after the country's 1979 Islamic revolution.

**[Alaskans Fired Up About North Korea's Missiles](#)** Alaskans are getting fired up over the prospect that North Korea is getting to test a long-range missile that could reach strategic targets in their home state. And they're not buying the Defense Secretary's assertion that the missile is not a threat to the United States. The US plans to store 26 ground-based missile interceptors in silos at the Missile Defense Complex (Fort Greely).

**Friday, 5 June 2009**

**[Obama and Democracy](#)** In her first visit to China, Secretary Clinton elided human-rights concerns. America's "restart" with the Kremlin lets Vladimir Putin limit discussion to arms control and missile defense and gloss over a beleaguered civil society and Russia's threats to neighboring democracies.

**[The Answer to North Korea's Missile Test](#)** The answer is so simple that few have even thought of it. North Korea plans on another long-range test of a Taepodong-2 missile that could potentially hit the US. The answer is to shoot the Taepodong-2 missile down with our current missile defense system.

**[North Korean Nuclear, Missile Tests Stir US Debate](#)** Tom Scheber, of the National Institute for Public Policy, says military action is not necessary, as long as a strong missile defense system is maintained.

**[Russian General Links Arms Cuts to Missile Shield](#)** A top Russian general Friday called Russia's nuclear forces "sacred" and said that Moscow would not cut the number of nuclear weapons until U.S. intentions for missile defense in Europe are clarified.

**[Fort Sill Takes Step Closer to Realignment](#)** Fort Sill has announced a promotion related to the military installation's new responsibilities under the base realignment and closure process. Brigadier General Ross Ridge was promoted from Assistant Commandant to Commandant of the Field Artillery School as part of the realignment of the Air Defense Artillery School to Fort Sill.

**[Air Defense History: Project Nike](#)** The missiles were tested at Fort Bliss Texas. Training for Nike Soldiers was also done at Fort Bliss. The McGregor Range was where most of the live fires took place and to this day there are old discarded Nike parts still out there.

**Thursday, 4 June 2009**

**[Time to Recommit to Missile Defense](#)** (Commentary) North Korea's brazen act of aggression should strengthen our resolve for a tougher, smarter national security strategy that includes a multilayered missile defense system that protects our military personnel deployed in our country's defense as well as citizens here at home.

[Gates Cuts Back Projects to Bolster Iraq, Afghan Missions](#) Instead of more money for missile defense, future combat systems and bombers to prepare for a possible conventional war against Iran or North Korea, Gates' proposed budget calls for more helicopter crews, reconnaissance and surveillance.

[North Korea Missile Tests Don't Qualify as Terrorism](#) North Korea's missile launches don't qualify as acts that would allow the U.S. to return the communist country to a list of nations sponsoring terrorism, the State Department said.

**Wednesday, 3 June 2009**

[Army Nixes Brigades for Fort Bliss, White Sands](#) Defense Secretary Robert Gates said in April that he planned to cut the Army from a projected 48 brigade combat teams to 45, but he did not specify which units would be affected.

[Army Halts Adding BCTs in the States](#) The Army has decided to scrap plans to add brigade combat teams to three stateside bases, Army Secretary Pete Geren announced Tuesday, delivering a financial blow to the communities set to house those units.

[Raytheon Wins \\$14.7 Million Maintenance Contract](#) Wednesday Raytheon won a \$14.7 million contract from the US Army to continue providing maintenance services on missile defense systems in the US and overseas.

[Japan Plans Enhanced Space-Based Missile Alert System](#) Japanese lawmakers propose allowing Japan its own capability of attacking enemy bases under the joint missile defense program with its main ally the United States.

[Young Calls for More Defense Missiles in Alaska](#) U.S. Representative Don Young says Congress is being shortsighted by proposing cuts to the Missile Defense Agency as North Korea tests a long-range missile that could strike Alaska.

[Missile Defense Chief "Confident" of US Technology](#) The head of the Missile Defense Agency said Tuesday that recent tests prove the US has "dramatically" increased its ability to shoot down a North Korean missile.

[Raytheon Wins \\$15M Add-On to Army Deal](#) The Raytheon said Wednesday it received a \$14.7 million US Army contract for maintenance on its Patriot Air and Missile Defense System.

[Back Pedaling? Defense Secretary Gates Calls For 'A Unified Missile Defense Capability](#) Gates' backpedaling on behalf of the Obama Administration in the face of repeated missile tests in recent weeks by North Korea and Iran demonstrates the fundamental weakness and futility of the threats-based approach Gates uses to justify Obama's defense budget cuts.

**Tuesday, 2 June 2009**

[Gates Leaves Door Open For Additional Missile Defense Funding](#) U.S. Defense Secretary Robert Gates said yesterday his agency could channel additional funds to the missile defense budget if it perceives an increased threat from North Korea or any other country.

[Missile "Lobby" Fights Cuts](#) How do you persuade Congress that President Barack Obama is wrong to want to cut spending on missile defense?

[Army Truck Driver Training Moves to Fort Leonard Wood](#) If you're going to be a truck driver for the U.S. Army, you're now going to train in the Ozarks.

[Space Shuttle Atlantis Lands at Biggs Army Airfield](#) U.S. space shuttle Atlantis, riding atop a modified 747 shuttle carrier aircraft, landed at Biggs Army Airfield on Monday.

**Clayton Homes Buys Fleetwood's Military Housing Business For \$4.5 Million**

Clayton Homes, entered into new contracts with the military to complete current Trendsetter barracks projects at Fort Sam Houston and Fort Bliss, Texas.

**South Korea Deploys Warship as North Readies Missiles** North Korea is readying as many as three medium-range missile in the Anbyon region, northeast of the capital of Pyongyang, Yonhap News reported today. There are signs the North may also be taking steps to test-fire its second longer-range, ballistic missile since April, U.S. Defense Secretary Gates said yesterday.

**Raytheon's SLAMRAAM Demonstrates Ability to Intercept Unmanned Aircraft System (UAS)** This successful test brings the United States one step closer to the air and missile defense vision of an architecture linking any sensor to any shooter.

**Hold Apology: World Owes United States Thanks** Missile defense is a non-nuclear, entirely defensive system designed to protect not just America but the world from a catastrophic attack.

**Weapons Contract Halted: Northrop Grumman Dealt Setback** The Missile Defense Agency on 11 May 2009 issued a stop-work order on Northrop Grumman's \$4 billion contract for a missile-defense weapon. The entire Kinetic Energy Interceptor program was cut from President Barack Obama's 2009-2010 defense budget.

**US Improves Ability to Hit North Korean Missiles** The United States has fine-tuned its ability to shoot down long-range missiles that could be launched by North Korea based on a trio of tests mimicking such an attack.

**Defense Department Set to Launch Independent Study of MEADS Program** After a year of intense talk and close scrutiny, the multinational Medium Extended Air Defense System will undergo a United States-led, independent study to consider a possible dramatic restructuring of the program, according to industry sources.

**Monday, 1 June 2009**

**5-52 ADA Hammers Out Rail-Load Mission** Soldiers from 5-52 ADA, take a break from missiles and radars to get their equipment aboard rail cars.

**Gates Sees No Need for Korea Military Buildup** While worrisome, North Korea's nuclear and missile tests have not reached a crisis level that would warrant additional U.S. troops in the region.

**\$8.2M to Raytheon for HARM Missile Maintenance** The AGM-88 HARM is an air-to-surface tactical missile designed to seek out and destroy enemy radar-equipped air defense systems.

**Pentagon Official Touts US Missile Defense Capabilities** A high-level Defense Department official last week said that silo-based missile interceptors based in Alaska and California could probably bring down a North Korean missile heading toward the United States.

**Missile Buildup has US on Edge** Venezuela's recent weapons-buying binge has stoked U.S. fears that portable missile launchers could end up in the hands of Colombia's FARC rebels.

**Romney Criticizes Obama's Defense Cuts** Former Republican presidential candidate Mitt Romney said Monday the Obama administration's push for new social spending could hurt defense programs and endanger America's national security.

**United States 'Likely' Could Intercept North**

**Korean Missile** U.S. ground-based interceptor rockets would “likely” knock out a long-range North Korean missile before it could reach the American mainland, the Pentagon’s independent testing official said today.

**Defense Secretary to Visit Alaska**

US Senator Mark Begich (D-Alaska) says the tour of the missile defense system is important given what he calls the "escalating and unpredictable behavior of North Korea."

**Raytheon Receives \$30 Million for SLAMRAAM**

"SLAMRAAM represents a revolutionary step forward in the defense of our troops on the battlefield as well as our nation and allies," said Pete Franklin, vice president for Raytheon Integrated Defense Systems' National & Theater Security Programs.