

# Missile Defense Advocacy Alliance

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**To:** Members of the Hawaiian Congressional Delegation  
**Date:** April 25<sup>th</sup>, 2011  
**From:** Missile Defense Advocacy Alliance  
**Re:** Missile Defense and the State of Hawaii



## **Economic Impact**

Missile defense is important to the economic strength of Hawaii. The Pearl Harbor Naval Shipyard, where six Aegis Ballistic Missile Defense (BMD) ships are based, is the number one source of industrial employment in Hawaii. A single Aegis BMD Destroyer brings \$32.6 million into the Hawaiian economy annually and a single Aegis BMD Cruiser brings in \$48 million. The Pacific Missile Range Facility (PMRF) is the number one high tech and third highest overall source of jobs on the island of Kauai. PMRF provides \$135 million a year annually to the economy of Kauai and each missile defense test held there brings in approximately \$2-3 million extra.

## **Threat Facing Hawaii**

The most pressing threat to Hawaii is North Korea and its Taepodong-2 intermediate range ballistic missile (IRBM) capability, continued development of long-range ballistic missiles and their nuclear weapons. Their mobile and hidden launch complexes for these missiles are also of concern. North Korea's most recent missile test was the launch of a Taepodong-2 missile in 2009. Flashes of the instability that may be caused by the transition of leadership can be seen in recent aggression from North Korea.

## **Missile Defense Assets in Hawaii**

Pearl Harbor is the home port for six U.S. Navy Aegis (BMD) ships, two Cruisers and four Destroyers. These ships are under Pacific Fleet command and sail with the 7th Fleet in the Pacific Ocean and Sea of Japan off of North Korea and the 5th Fleet in the Indian Ocean and Persian Gulf off of Iran. A seventh Aegis BMD Ship is projected to be based at Pearl Harbor next year.

Fort Shafter is home to the 94th Army Air and Missile Defense Command (94th AAMDC). The 94<sup>th</sup> AAMDC is in charge of the Army's missile defense assets in the U.S. Pacific Command (PACOM) area of operations, in coordination with Admiral Robert Willard, Commander, PACOM. These assets include the Patriot Advanced Capability-3 (PAC-3) Batteries based in South Korea and Japan, the forward-based AN/TPY-2 radar operating in Japan and the command and control for missile defense in the Pacific Rim Region at the Air and Space Operations Center (AOC) at Pearl Harbor-Hickam Air Field in Honolulu.

The base of operations for the PMRF, which expands over millions of square miles of land and sea, is located in Barking Sands, Kauai. This invaluable facility provides safe testing and telemetry information for the development of the Aegis BMD system, SM-3 missiles, Terminal High Altitude Area Defense (THAAD) missile defense system and the coordination between Patriot, AN/SPY-1 and AN/TPY-2 missile defense radars. The PMRF also hosts foreign countries that are missile defense allies. Japan is the most notable having tested all of its Kongo class destroyers at the PMRF over the last three years.

The PMRF will be home to the new Aegis Ashore missile defense system that will be fully operational in Romania (2015) and Poland (2018) under President Obama's Phased Adaptive Approach (PAA) for the protection of Europe. This system will test and develop the SM-3 Block IB missiles with the advanced Aegis processors at the PMRF. The Aegis Ashore at the PMRF has the potential to not only be a testing facility but also have the dual operational capability of protecting Hawaii. Ground breaking is expected to take place this summer, with the system installation by 2013 and flight tested in 2014. The new Aegis Ashore missile defense system will bring additional jobs and revenue to Kauai and Hawaii.

Pearl Harbor has also been home to the Sea-based X-band Radar (SBX), nicknamed the "Giant Golf Ball" by locals. The SBX is the primary fire control sensor for the defense of the U.S. homeland. Deployed in 2009 to defend the United States during the North Korean long-range missile test this highly functional radar has been involved with the testing of the Ground-Based Interceptors (GBI) and supplementing tests out of the PMRF. The SBX is currently being moved to Everett, Washington but remains instrumental in the protection of Hawaii.

## **Future**

The future threat from entities and the growing missile proliferation of the Pacific Rim countries could threaten the Hawaiian Islands and the security of Pearl Harbor. A robust, fully integrated missile defense capability centered in Hawaii involving all current missile defense systems in full operation to defend the islands of Hawaii from all missiles, land or sea based would provide permanent security to the Hawaiian public and our military deployed there as some countries in the Pacific Rim will threaten the United States in the future.