

MRBM Launched & Intercepted

The conflict escalated to a new level today. [Yemen just launched](#) a Medium Range Ballistic Missile (MRBM) against Israel, requiring the **FIRST OPERATIONAL USAGE** of the Israeli [Arrow 3](#) interceptor system.

Israel on Tuesday said it used its Arrow ballistic missile defense system for the **first time** during this war, **intercepting a medium-range ballistic missile (MRBM)** launched from the “Red Sea region.”

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It was Israel's ***first-ever operational use of the Arrow system*** for intercepting ballistic missiles since the war began.

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Israel's Iron Dome interceptor system is in constant use against short-range missiles. The Arrow 3 system is required to intercept an MRBM following a trajectory outside the atmosphere, similar to an ICBM.

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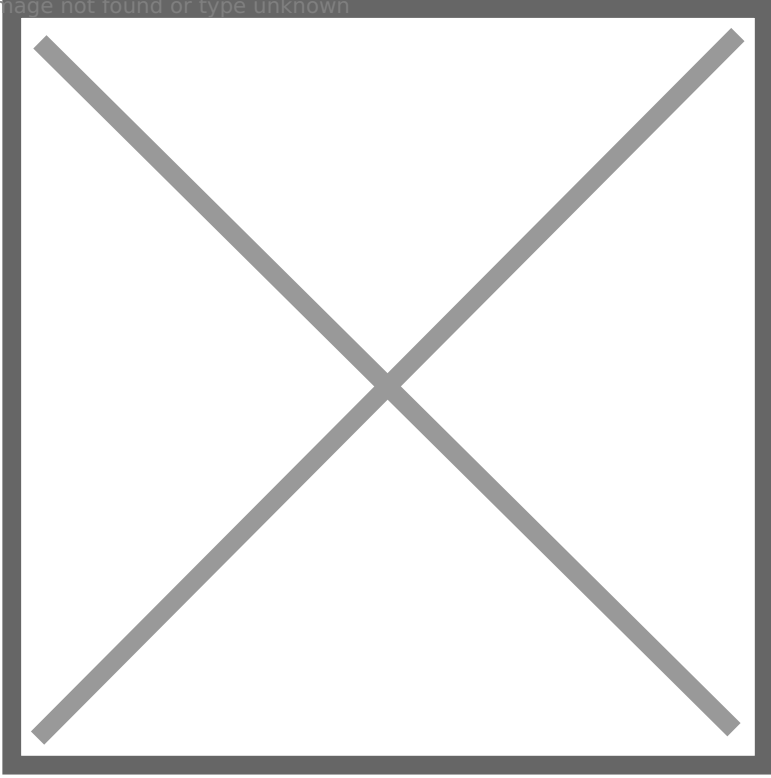
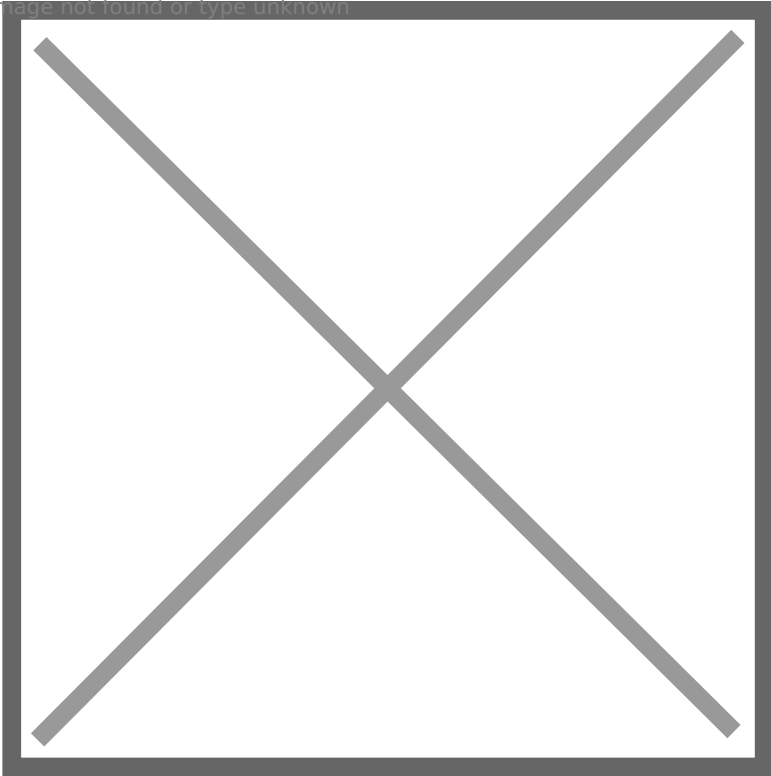
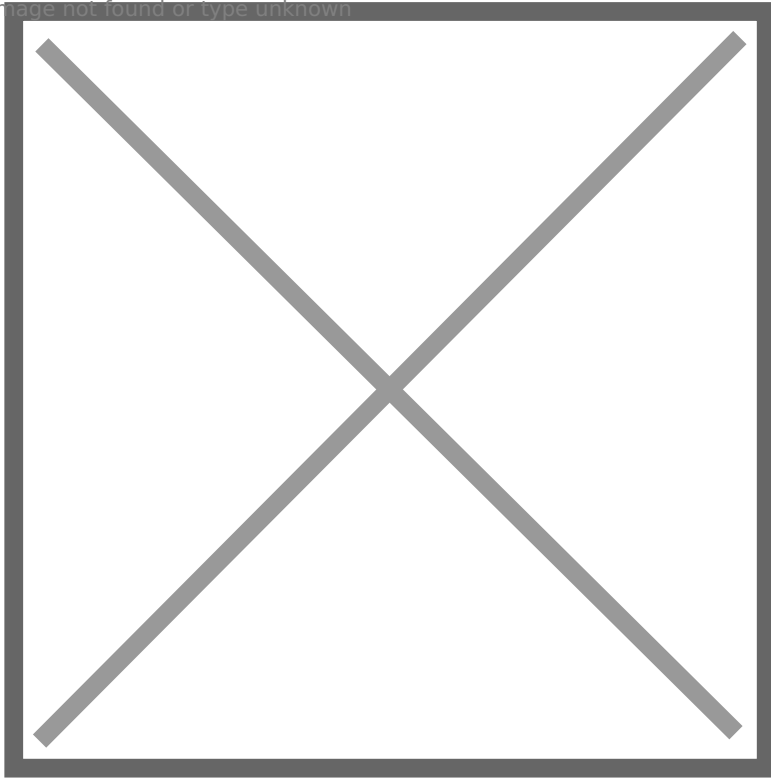


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The MRBM missile may have been a version of the Burkan-3, which has an approximate payload capacity of 250kg. Based on the chart below, a reasonable guess for damage radius from a conventional warhead might be about 0.5km, assuming an inverse-cubic decrease in damage radius proportional to a linear decrease in payload mass. The downtown area of Tel-Aviv has an approximate radius of 2km, so a direct hit in the center of Tel-Aviv by a Burkan-3 missile would cause horrific devastation. Whether or not the Iran-backed Houthis assumed it would actually hit anything, a new red line has just been crossed in the level of warfare they are willing to risk.

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Israel felt compelled for the **first time** to utilize their supply of Arrow interceptors, reserved for the most grave threats to national existence. This is equivalent to the United States activating Patriot interceptors, which are reserved as a deterrent against Intercontinental Ballistic Missile (ICBM) threats.

Imagine if this missile had been carrying an Iranian nuclear device. Since the Burkan series is based on the Scud-3 design, it may be compatible with the [Soviet design for 5-80 kiloton](#) thermonuclear warheads.

If [Iran is testing Israeli missile defenses](#) by proxy, then successful intercept demonstrations, like seen today, may cause Iran to give up on missile attacks and attempt to draw in a Russian and Turkish air assault on Israel -- The [Magog Invasion of Ezekiel 38 & 39](#).

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