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Missile Defense Agency Conducts Successful Data Collection Flight Test

Air Force Lieutenant General Henry "Trey" Obering III, Missile Defense Agency Director, today announced a successful launch of a Critical Measurements and Counter-Measures flight test (FTC-02B). This test, the first in a series of two scheduled events, was conducted from the Kauai Test Facility at the Pacific Missile Range Facility, Hawaii on April13, 2006.

This test collected data for the design and improvement of missile defense interceptor and sensor systems. The missile system was powered by a two-stage SR19 rocket motor. Missile payloads included the deployment of complex countermeasures, a mock reentry vehicle, an on-board sensor package, and a number of missile defense related experiments, all of which were designed to collect radar and optical data addressing critical system level planned upgrades for missile defense elements.

The Critical Measurements and Counter-Measures Program is an integral part of MDA's test program that provides participants with the ability to reduce technical risk by testing against stressing, complex target scenes in a controlled environment. Test data from these missions, including lessons learned about complex countermeasures, will be used in the design of missile defense interceptor and sensor elements, across the Ballistic Missile Defense System, now under development.

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