



News Release

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Target Missile Malfunction Halts THAAD Flight Test in New Mexico

The Missile Defense Agency was unable to complete a planned flight test of the Terminal High Altitude Area Defense (THAAD) system today due to a target missile failure at White Sands Missile Range, New Mexico.

An anomaly occurred shortly after the target missile was launched at 4:30 a.m. Mountain Daylight Time (6:30 a.m. EDT). The Hera target missile was destroyed by range safety officers approximately two minutes after it was launched. The THAAD interceptor missile was not launched due to the target failure. Program officials will analyze telemetry data from the target missile to determine the cause of the anomaly. A decision on rescheduling the test will be made after the mission review is completed.

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