

Jackie and I affirm Resolved: Deployment of anti-missile systems is in South Korea's best interest.

We observe that short-term security must be the most important impact in today's round. If short-term security is not fulfilled, the nature of the North Korean threat means that South Korea's very existence is threatened.

[Bowden 2017](#) explains

The ability to rain ruin on the city is a potent existential threat to South Korea's largest population center, its government, and its economic anchor.

Any long-term impacts will not manifest themselves unless South Korea's existence is preserved in the short term.

Our sole contention is Winter is Coming.

Without anti-missile systems, an attack on South Korea is imminent for two reasons:

First, North Korea is getting desperate.

[Beauchamp 2017](#) explains

Pyongyang **[North Korea] is one of the world's poorest countries** [with a] GDP per capita is estimated at [of] about \$1,000, about 1/28th of South Korea's. **[and] It faces chronic shortages of food and medical supplies.** depending on Chinese aid to meet its citizens' basic needs. **There's a real risk that the Kim regime collapses under the weight of its own mismanagement.**

[Which is why Beauchamp continues,](#)

the impoverished North Korean regime is [so] deeply insecure, so worried about its own survival **that it is willing to go to dangerously provocative lengths to scare the United States and South Korea out of any potential attack.**

When you combine this insecurity with the opaque nature of the North Korean regime, you have a situation that could easily spiral into outright conflict in the event that one of North Korea's frequent military provocations (like the missile test) goes awry.

[Kyle Mizokami of the National Interest](#) corroborates in 2017

North Korea's limited options mean the only way to plan to use nuclear weapons is to use them first. before they are destroyed. **A preemptive nuclear attack,** unleashed against South Korean political and military targets and U.S. military targets across the Asia-Pacific, that stuns its enemies and promises further devastation upon retaliation. **is arguably the only way in which a nuclear North Korea can survive a conflict.**

Second, miscalculation will lead to a preemptive strike.

[Vox 2017](#) writes

A situation [like the one in Korea] where one side is constantly provoking the other is extremely volatile. There are lots of ways for things to go wrong, all of which stem from the fundamental insecurity of the North Korean

regime.

[Gilsinan 2017 explains](#)

Yet it's also the case that **uncertainty raises the risks of miscalculation on either side**—and, in a tense confrontation between two nuclear powers, the potential costs. **Threats of preventive strikes, or even leaks that such strikes could be under consideration, can prompt the other side to want to strike first.**

Anti-missile systems protect South Korea in two ways.

First, by providing a powerful deterrent effect.

[Goure 2017 explains](#)

Deterring North Korea means, first and foremost, denying it the effective use of its growing arsenal of ballistic missiles. To do so requires a mix of active defenses and passive measures such as hardening, camouflage, dispersal and redundancy. **Missile defenses,** particularly if employed preferentially to provide a high level of protection for a subset of all critical targets **[which] can present an almost insoluble problem to the attacker.**

Second, by providing a layered defense system. This can be done using several different anti-missile systems.

A. Patriot

South Korea currently has several PAC-3 batteries, which are anti-missile systems that defend from short range attacks.

[Alex Hempel in 2016](#) illustrates its effectiveness

The US Army tested the new Patriot equipment on a small scale **during Operation Iraqi Freedom, achieving nine successful intercepts out of nine attempts.**

[Tom Kington of Defense News](#) furthers in 2016

Raytheon has claimed **a Patriot anti-missile system used by Saudi Arabia has had a "100 percent success rate" in intercepting missile attacks by Yemeni rebels.**

B. THAAD or Terminal High Altitude Area Defense

[BBC 2017 reports](#)

Thaad, or Terminal High Altitude Area Defense, **halted a simulated, ballistic intermediate-range missile like the ones being developed by North Korea [in July].**

[Kazianis 2017 furthers](#)

THAAD has a 100 percent mission success rate in the last thirteen rigorous developmental and operational tests, including eleven for eleven successful intercepts.

C. Aegis

Aegis, utilizes interceptors placed on ships in order to take out attacking missiles.

According to Lendon 2017

The guided missile destroyers, USS Stethem and USS McCampbell, are equipped with **the Aegis ballistic missile defense system**, which **is able to track 100 missiles simultaneously and fire interceptors to take out an enemy's ballistic projectiles.**

D. Iron Dome

Iron Dome is an Israeli-developed anti-missile system that intercepts both artillery shells and short range missiles.

[Bermant](#) just 3 days ago explains that

South Korea has already expressed an interest in purchasing a version of the Iron Dome system.

[Berman of the American Enterprise Institute continues that](#)

Uzi Rubin, former director of the Israel Missile Defense Organization in the Ministry of Defense, called the Iron Dome a “game-changer.”^[1] **In the week after [Iron Dome’s first] intercept**, Rubin pointed out, **Palestinians “fired 100, 110 rockets... [yet] Not one Israeli was scratched**— we don’t have casualties.” Excited residents of southern Israel brought their children out to offer food to the Iron Dome battery and to watch the launches. “We will stay here an hour, an hour and a half, or until they launch for the first time,” gushed fourteen-year-old Neta Kramer. “I wish there was something now, I am dying to see it.

[Williams 2014 writes that](#)

Israel's **Iron Dome** interceptor **has shot down some 90 percent of Palestinian rockets it engaged during** this week's **[a] surge of Gaza fighting**, up from the 85 percent rate in the previous mini-war of 2012, Israeli and U.S. officials said on Thursday.

By using a layered defense system, [Elleman 2017](#) concludes that in the event of an attack, there is a 90% chance that not a single North Korean missile hits South Korea.

By protecting South Korea, the affirmative saves millions of lives that would be lost in the case of a North Korean attack.

[Beauchamp 2017 quantifies that](#)

There could be up to 2 million casualties in the first 24 hours of a conflict [in the Korean Peninsula].—North Korea’s mastery of nuclear technology — meaning both missiles and nuclear devices themselves — is steadily improving [In the case of conflict], North Korea gets far less public attention, but it is literally an existential threat to two of America’s closest allies, Japan and South Korea.

Thus, we affirm.