

U.S. to fund new Israeli rocket shield

President Obama has approved an extra \$205 million in special aid to help Israel build 10 control centres for a new short-range rocket defence system. The Iron Dome is designed to shoot down rockets from Gaza or South Lebanon with guided interceptors

Katyusha:

Range of 25km

System to counter Qassam and Katyusha rockets with range of up to 70km

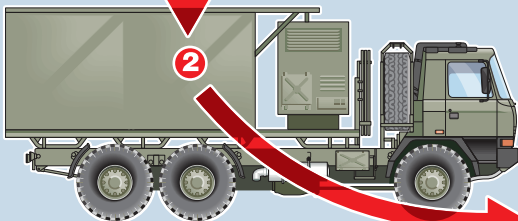
Critics claim each Iron Dome interceptor costs \$45,000 while a Qassam costs just \$200



Gaza: 25km range
Lebanon: 70km range

1 Radar:

Detects target and monitors trajectory



2 Control centre:

Calculates intercept point and commands launch

3 Launcher:

Contains 20 *Tamir* missiles equipped with proximity warheads

Tamir interceptor

Length: 3m

Weight: 90kg

