

U.S. to deploy missile shield vs. North Korea

The Pentagon says it is deploying a missile defence system to Guam, a U.S. territory, to strengthen the Asia-Pacific region's protections against a possible attack from nuclear-armed North Korea

TERMINAL HIGH ALTITUDE AREA DEFENSE (THAAD)

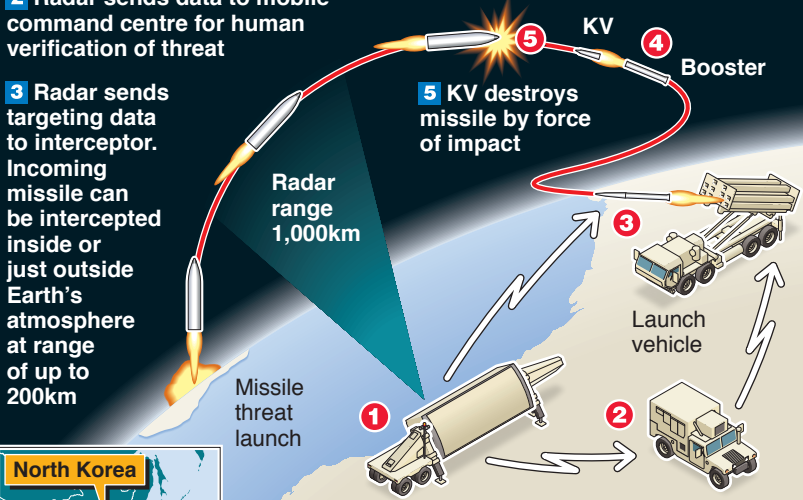
1 Radar antenna scans horizon for missile threats

2 Radar sends data to mobile command centre for human verification of threat

3 Radar sends targeting data to interceptor. Incoming missile can be intercepted inside or just outside Earth's atmosphere at range of up to 200km

4 Interceptor's kill vehicle (KV) separates from booster, homes in on missile using infrared seeker

5 KV destroys missile by force of impact



THAAD COMPONENTS

Launcher
Carries eight interceptors

Interceptor

M1075 truck

AN/TPY-2 radar
System includes X-band antenna, plus electronic, power and cooling equipment

Mobile command centre: Computers in hardened shelters mounted on Humvees

