

Events leading up to loss of Flight MH17



Approximate area controlled by pro-Russian separatists

9K37 BUK MISSILE SYSTEM

NATO codename: SA-11 Gadfly

*Medium-range surface-to-air missile system,
entered service with Soviet Union in 1979*

Missiles: Four carried side-by-side, mounted on turntable that traverses 360°. System can be set up and ready to fire in five minutes

9M38 missile
Guided to target
by ground radar.
Length: **5.5m**
Warhead: **70kg**
Speed: **850m/s**

Radar: Can track targets at altitude of up to 22,000m

Mobile launch vehicle. Length: 10m



Malaysia Airlines Boeing 777

Jun 20: Ukraine **President Petro Poroshenko** declares week-long ceasefire

1 Jun 21: Pro-Russian separatist insurgents attack Ukrainian base at **Aydiivka**, which houses surface-to-air missiles (SAMs)

■ Jun 29: Russia's **ITAR-TASS** and Kremlin's main television network **Vesti**, quote separatist **Donetsk People's Army** claiming it has seized control of **Buk missile system**.
Ukraine Defence Ministry denies that any SAM system has fallen into rebel hands

2 Jul 14: Ukrainian Antonov-26 (AN-26) military transport – flying at 6,500m – is shot down over *Izvaryne*.

Poroshenko warns that government forces are facing new Russian missile system

3 Jul 16: Ukrainian Sukhoi Su-25 shot down near *Amyrosiivka*

4 Jul 17, early morning: Launcher similar to Buk missile system is seen by journalists near rebel-held town of **Snizhne**

5 14.15GMT: Radar contact with *Malaysian Flight MH17* lost as it flies over Ukraine at altitude of 10,000m

В контакте ← Сводки от Стрелкова Игоря Ива...

Сводки от Стрелкова Игоря Ивановича

17.07.2014 17:50 (мск) Сообщение от ополчен...

■ 14:50GMT (17:50 local): **Igor Strelkov**, (above), leader of rebel Donetsk People's Army posts comment on **VKontakte** – Russia's most popular social media site – claiming his troops have shot down a second Ukrainian AN-26

15:00GMT. Comment is deleted after reports of loss of Flight MH17

Jul 17, evening: Security Service of Ukraine (SBU) releases intercepted mobile conversations in which a rebel commander confirms to Russian GRU intelligence that they have downed MH17