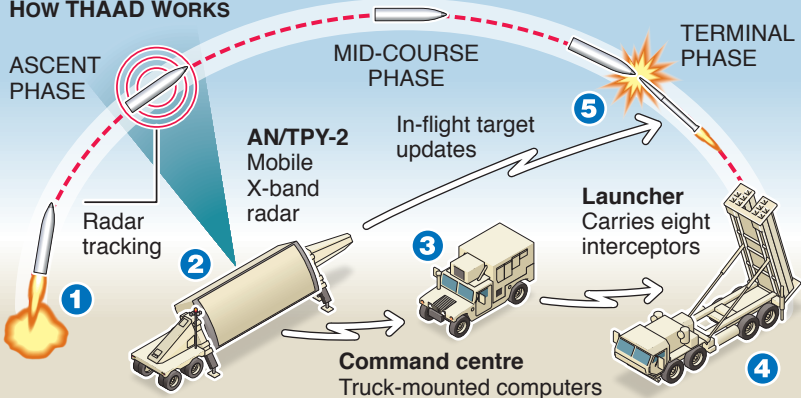


U.S. deploys THAAD to South Korea

The U.S. military has begun installing a controversial missile defence shield in South Korea. The Terminal High-Altitude Area Defense (THAAD) system is designed to protect against threats from North Korea

HOW THAAD WORKS



1 Missile threat launch: THAAD effective against short- and medium-range ballistic missiles in their terminal phase of flight

2 Radar: Scans horizon for threats. Hostile missile can be detected at reported range of up to 2,000km

3 Command centre: Receives radar data for human verification of threat

4 Launcher: Receives targeting data and launches interceptor. Hostile missile can be intercepted inside or just outside Earth's atmosphere at altitude of up to 150km

5 Interceptor: Homes in using infrared seeker and destroys hostile missile by force of impact

THAAD radar: Set up in "terminal mode" to cover North Korea instead of scanning deep into China

