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1. U.S INDOPACOM / Sep2t 8, 2021

<https://www.pacom.mil/Media/News/News-Article-View/Article/2791734/global-missile-defense-from-space-got-more-affordable-dod-official-says/>

**Global Missile Defense From Space Got More Affordable, DOD Official Says**

By DAVID VERGUN DOD NEWS

WASHINGTON -- The Defense Department hopes, within the decade, to **have a meshed network of low Earth orbit satellites — linked together and to warfighters — providing real-time global awareness of missile threats and the ability to respond.**  
However, that goal was once considered cost prohibitive, said the director of the Space Development Agency.  
  
Derek M. Tournear participated today in a Defense One virtual panel on the "State of the Space Force."  
  
**Now, the privatized commercial space industry has made that goal much more affordable, he said.**To put that in perspective, historically, each satellite has cost hundreds of millions of dollars, he said.  
  
Commercialization of space has brought these prices down. "We now have 20 of our transport satellites on firm fixed price contracts at $14.1 million apiece," he said. "That's unheard of, and we believe that price will continue to go down as commercialization keeps driving the price down."  
  
***Spotlight: Science and Tech***  
  
That's only one part of it, he said. The other part of it is that access to space has also been commoditized. Commercial industry has been driving down the price to get satellites in orbit.  
  
A few years ago, launches were hundreds of millions of dollars and now, they're tens of millions of dollars which is a huge difference when launching hundreds and hundreds of satellites that the DOD needs for spiral development, he said.  
  
The end game for the space-based architecture would be, for example, to track hypersonic glide vehicles, calculate a fire control solution and send that directly to a weapon to intercept and neutralize that threat, he said. "These are the missions people have wanted to do for a long time."  
  
Tournear mentioned the Missile Defense Agency, the Air Force Research Laboratory and the Defense Advanced Research Projects Agency, along with industry partners, in playing roles in that endeavor.  
  
Moderator Patrick Tucker, the technology editor for Defense One, added that 3D printed components and new breakthroughs in software have also brought costs down.  
  
**Tucker also pointed out that China and Russia also have access to the same technology and advantages that the U.S. has.**

2.U.S INDOPACOM / Sept 30, 2021

https://www.pacom.mil/Media/News/News-Article-View/Article/2794818/aukus-trilateral-security-partnership-joint-op-ed-by-uk-us-and-australia/

**AUKUS, Trilateral Security Partnership: Joint op-ed by UK, US and Australia**

# U.S. Embassy in Malaysia

# U.S. Embassy in Malaysia -- This op-ed is jointly authored by H.E. Dr Justin Lee, High Commissioner of Australia to Malaysia, H.E. Brian D. McFeeters, Ambassador of the United States of America to Malaysia and H.E. Charles Hay MVO, High Commissioner of the United Kingdom to Malaysia.

# Malaysia lies at the heart of Southeast Asia, the heart of ASEAN and the heart of the Indo Pacific. Malaysia is a key partner for Australia, the United Kingdom and the United States as we work to achieve a shared vision for the region – one that is open, stable and inclusive, in line with the ASEAN Outlook on the Indo-Pacific.

# Recently our three countries announced an enhanced trilateral security partnership – AUKUS – that will enhance our capacity to develop and share a range of emerging security and defence capabilities. This agreement does not change our ambitions for a peaceful and prosperous region, nor our support for inclusive ASEAN-centred regional architecture. It will strengthen our ability to work with regional partners like Malaysia to forge a secure and stable region and support the rules-based system on which our collective prosperity is built.

# It is the sovereign responsibility of every government to pursue the defensive capabilities it needs for its country. As a three-ocean nation dependent on seaborne international trade, Australia requires cutting-edge naval capabilities. For the partnership’s first initiative, we embark on a trilateral effort to seek an optimal pathway to support Australia in acquiring nuclear-powered submarines, leveraging expertise from the United States and the United Kingdom, both of whom have operated such submarines safely for more than 60 years. Nuclear-powered submarines will provide Australia with the capability it needs for its own defence and contribute to a durable strategic balance in our region.

# While these submarines will be nuclear-powered, they will not carry nuclear weapons. Australia has been clear that it does not and will not seek such weapons. Australia, the United Kingdom, and the United States remain steadfast in our support of the nuclear non proliferation regime and Non-Proliferation Treaty. Our commitment to non-proliferation is unchanged and we remain committed to upholding our global leadership in this domain.

# This partnership will also enable Australia, the United Kingdom and the United States to deepen cooperation on a range of emerging security and defence capabilities, with an initial focus on cyber, artificial intelligence, quantum technologies, and additional undersea capabilities. Collaboration across these fields will strengthen the ability of each of our three countries to contribute to regional security.

# In working together to strengthen our capabilities, Australia, the United Kingdom and the United States are committed to supporting a region that places ASEAN at its centre and which aligns with the ASEAN Outlook on the Indo-Pacific. All members of AUKUS are ASEAN Dialogue Partners, and all are committed to complementing and strengthening the existing inclusive ASEAN-led regional architecture. AUKUS will also complement our networks of regional bilateral and minilateral partnerships in promoting regional peace, security, and prosperity.

# We want to live in a region where all countries are empowered to engage and prosper in a stable, rules-based environment, including the rules enshrined in the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea. We want to ensure that all nations in the region have the strategic space to make decisions in their sovereign interests. Our collaboration under AUKUS is guided by our commitment to these ideals, and ultimately to ensuring that we are all able to grow and thrive in an open, inclusive and prosperous region.

3. NEWS / Oct 6, 2021

# <https://www.thedrive.com/the-war-zone/42652/the-army-just-got-its-hands-on-its-first-dark-eagle-hypersonic-missile-launchers>

# The Army Just Got Its Hands On Its First "Dark Eagle" Hypersonic Missile Launcher

BY TOMA NEWDICK

**The U.S. Army is moving closer toward fielding its first Dark Eagle hypersonic missiles, also known as the Long Range Hypersonic Weapon**, with the recent delivery of prototype trailer-mounted launchers, as well as other key components of the complete weapon system. In doing so, the Army has also confirmed that Joint Base Lewis-McChord in Washington State is the home of the first unit intended to be equipped with these weapons, something the service has been very tight-lipped about in the past.

Joint Base Lewis-McChord's public affairs office posted a series of pictures online yesterday showing the arrival of the launchers, but the accompanying metadata says that they were all taken on either Sept. 14 and 15 of this year. A common caption attached to each one of the images says that there will be an official ceremony to mark the formal delivery of these trailer-mounted systems to the 5th Battalion, 3rd Field Artillery Regiment, tomorrow.

Though no actual missiles have been delivered to the unit, so far, the launchers and other equipment will allow soldiers to familiarize themselves with various aspects of the LRHW and the general operation of the weapon system. It will also help support the development of the tactics, techniques, and procedures (TTPs) needed to employ the missile in real-world scenarios.

(중략)

It was previously reported that the Army anticipated tests of its prototype LRHW battery to start in Fiscal Year 2022, which began this October 1. **The Army meanwhile plans to complete the fielding of a first operational battery, including live missile rounds, in Fiscal Year 2023.**

(중략)

In its statement on the prototype LRHW delivery, the Army says the weapon, **once fielded, will “provide a unique combination of speed, maneuverability, and altitude to defeat time-critical, heavily defended, and high-value targets**.” As far as speed is concerned, the Pentagon has previously said that the C-HGB will be capable of reaching a maximum speed of Mach 17. It also said it would be able to strike targets at a distance of at least 1,725 miles.

(중략)

**Earlier this year, the Pentagon submitted a plan to Congress outlining more than $27 billion in proposed spending over the next six years to bolster capabilities across the Pacific region to deter China. Fundamental to this Pacific Deterrence Initiative, or PDI, will be forward-deployed long-range strike capabilities. While these would include ground-based cruise missiles and ballistic missiles, hypersonic missiles — like LRHW – would be expected to play a central role.**

**The decision to base the first LRHW systems at Joint Base Lewis-McChord also speaks to the importance of this theater, the west coast location allowing the missiles to be rapidly positioned to contribute to future exercises or contingencies in the Pacific**, including via the base’s resident C-17 airlifter fleet. Furthermore, the base is also home of the first Multi-Domain Task Force, another concept created with Pacific operations in mind, and which is ultimately intended to include a Strategic Fires Battalion equipped with HIMARS launchers and “mid-range” missiles, as well as LRHW.