

## **NAVY AREA THEATER BALLISTIC MISSILE DEFENSE (NATBMD)**



The Navy Area Theater Ballistic Missile Defense (NATBMD) system is intended to protect amphibious assault forces and coastal cities from short-to medium-range ballistic missiles, while maintaining current Standard Missile capabilities against manned aircraft and cruise missiles. The NATBMD system consists of the following:

- Standard Missile-2 (SM-2) Block IVA, which incorporates an infrared (IR) seeker, a radio frequency adjunct sensor (RFAS), and a new autopilot to the proven Block IV airframe. Additionally, new predictive fuzing (forward looking fuze or FLF) algorithms provide highly accurate burst solutions well before intercept to place warhead fragments on the target.

Upgrades to the AEGIS Weapon System (AWS) to enable tracking and engagement of high-speed, low radar cross-section, theater ballistic missiles (TBMs).

Upgraded Link-16 message set that provides interoperability with Navy, other Service Theater Ballistic Missile Defense (TBMD) systems, and command and control systems.

### **BACKGROUND INFORMATION**

The NATBMD system entered Engineering and Manufacturing Development (EMD) in March 1997. The EMD test phase will examine performance against TBMs, aircraft, cruise missiles, multiple targets, and debris and countermeasure environments. NATBMD began EMD flight-testing in FY00 with two successful Control Test Vehicle (CTV) firings at the White Sands Missile Range (WSMR). In FY01, EMD ground and flight tests were hampered by problems with the integration of guidance section hardware and software components. These problems have resulted in a delay of over one year in WSMR flight-testing.

Because of the delays, the NATBMD program breached the majority of its cost and schedule parameters in FY01. Due to scope of this program breach, USD AT&L did not certify the program as required under Nunn-McCurdy legislation. The NATBMD program was terminated on December 14, 2001.