

Dark Eagle Hypersonic Missile

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Dark Eagle Hypersonic Missile Latest News

The United States recently deployed the Dark Eagle hypersonic missile in Guam for the first time.

About Dark Eagle Hypersonic Missile

- The Dark Eagle, also known as the **Long Range Hypersonic Weapon (LRHW)**, is a **non-nuclear, ground-launched** hypersonic missile system of the **United States Army**.
- It is the **United States Army's first operational hypersonic missile** system.
- The **missile component** of the LRHW is being **developed by Lockheed Martin and Northrop Grumman**.
- The weapon is designed to **strike heavily defended, time-sensitive targets**, including command centres, air defence networks, missile launchers, naval facilities, and logistics hubs deep inside contested territory.

Dark Eagle Hypersonic Missile Features

- It is designed to strike targets at distances of up to **3,500 kilometers**.

- It comprises a **mobile ground-based battery** equipped with **four Transporter Erector Launchers (TEL)**, supported by command and control elements, with each TEL capable of launching two missiles for a total of eight.
- At the core of the Dark Eagle system is the **Common Hypersonic Glide Body (C-HGB)**—a **boost-glide vehicle** capable of **exceeding Mach 5** while performing **high-G maneuvers** to evade enemy missile defenses.
- The missile is launched via a **two-stage solid-fuel booster** that **propels the glide vehicle into the upper atmosphere before it descends** toward its target on an unpredictable trajectory.
- The glide body is equipped with a **conventional high-explosive warhead**, optimized for kinetic strike effects and capable of neutralizing hardened or deeply buried targets.
- The **guidance system** incorporates a **precision inertial navigation system (INS)**, likely **augmented by GPS**-based corrections during the boost and glide phases.

News: FP

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