



By: TA | AP Brief

Air defense missiles among weaponry US is withholding from Ukraine



The Trump administration will hold back delivering to Ukraine some air defense missiles, precision-guided artillery and other weapons as part of its **announced** pause to some arms shipments amid U.S. concerns that its own stockpiles have declined too much, officials said.

The details on the weapons in some of the paused **deliveries** were confirmed by a U.S. official and former national security official familiar with the matter.

They both requested anonymity to discuss what is being held up as the Pentagon has yet to provide details.

The pause includes some shipments of Patriot missiles, precision-guided GMLRS, Hellfire missiles and Howitzer rounds.

Elbridge Colby, Defense Department undersecretary for policy, said the decision to halt some weapons comes as Pentagon officials have aimed to provide Trump "with robust options to continue military aid to Ukraine, consistent with his goal of bringing this tragic war to an end."

"At the same time, the department is rigorously examining and adapting its approach to achieving this objective while also preserving U.S. forces' readiness for administration defense priorities," Colby added in a statement.

Pushback from Republican and Democratic boosters on Capitol Hill

The decision was greeted with some pushback from Republican and Democratic boosters on Capitol Hill.

Rep. Brian Fitzpatrick, R-Pa., in a letter to Trump on Wednesday requested a briefing from the White House and Pentagon to explain the pause. Fitzpatrick is a co-chair of the Congressional Ukraine Caucus.

"We must build up our own defense industrial base here in the U.S. while simultaneously providing the needed assistance to our allies who are defending their freedom from a brutal invading dictator," the Pennsylvania representative **said** in a post on X. "To not do both is unacceptable."

Ohio Rep. Marcy Kaptur, another co-chair of the Ukraine Caucus, blasted the move that came just days after Russian forces **launched** one of the biggest air assaults on Ukraine since it launched the war more than three years ago.

"U.S. made air defense systems, including the Patriot platform, are the centerpiece of Ukraine's defenses against Russian strikes. They work. They save lives every day," the Ohio Democrat said. "But there are no parallel defensive alternatives for Ukraine if the U.S. stops supplying these vital munitions."

One of the officials said other weaponry being held up includes the AIM-7 Sparrow — a medium-range radar homing air-to-air missile — as well as shorter-range Stinger missiles and AT-4 grenade launchers.

The Pentagon review that determined that stocks were too low on some weapons previously pledged comes just over a week after Trump helped forge a **ceasefire** between Israel and Iran to end their 12-day conflict.

The U.S. has provided provided air defense support to Israel, Qatar and other Mideast neighbors. It's unclear if that **conflict** had any impact on the Trump's move in Ukraine.

The U.S. deployed air defenses systems as it knocked down an Iranian ballistic missile assault last month launched on the Al-Udeid Air Base in Qatar.

The retaliatory strike from Tehran against the U.S. military installation came days after Trump ordered a barrage of strikes on three key Iranian nuclear sites.