

## Israel says it can destroy Iran's missiles

by UPI

JERUSALEM - The head of the Israeli missile defense agency says the country has the capability to destroy any missile in the Middle East.

Arieh Herzog, in an interview with the Jerusalem Post, said Israel's Arrow has the capacity to intercept all the "currently operational" missiles in Iran.

He said Iran and Syria are spending record amounts of money on long-range ballistic missile capabilities and have all but given up building modern air forces.

"The Iranians are continually increasing the range of their missiles," he said. "They are buying technology and in some cases even complete systems from North Korea and other countries."

Having the capacity to intercept and destroy the short-range Katyusha missile would have greatly reduced the casualties in last summer's war with Lebanon, Herzog said. About 4,000 Katyushas fell on northern Israel.

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