

U.S. missile defense system to likely be deployed in Israel

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Last week [The Jerusalem Post reported](#) that the Defense Ministry was preparing for the possibility that the United States would decide to deploy missile defense systems in Israel.

Senior officials had told the *Post* that the United States might leave missile defense systems in Israel following a joint missile defense exercise the two countries will hold next month.

The Czech Prime Minister Jan Fischer says President Barack Obama has told him that the US is abandoning plans to put a missile shield in the Czech Republic and Poland.

Czech Premier told reporters in Prague on Thursday that Obama phoned him to say that Washington has decided to scrap the plan that had deeply angered Russia.

Fischer says Obama confirmed that Washington no longer intends to put 10 interceptor missiles in Poland and a radar system in the Czech Republic.

The Bush administration had said the missile shield was a strategic way to counter a threat from Iran or another rogue state in the Middle East. But Russia was deeply angered by the prospect of having US interceptor rockets in countries so close to its territory.

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