

Washington Threatens Russia: Poland Vows to Deploy U.S. Patriot Missiles in Early April

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WARSAW — Poland will deploy first U.S. Patriot missiles on its soil beginning in early April, a spokesman for the Polish Defense Ministry said.

“A first group of U.S. troops will be also dispatched along with the [Patriot] missiles at the military base in Morag,” Janusz Sejmej said.

Polish President Lech Kaczynski has ratified the [Status of Forces Agreement \(SOFA\) with the United States, laying out the conditions for the deployment of U.S. troops on Polish soil](#) on early Saturday.

[Poland said in late January it would deploy a battery of U.S. Patriot missiles to the town of Morag, just 100 kilometers \(60 miles\) from the border with the Russian exclave of Kaliningrad, rather than outside Warsaw.](#)

Patriot theater air defense systems, designed to counter tactical ballistic missiles, cruise missiles and advanced aircraft, were initially part of U.S.-Polish missile shield deal and Warsaw insisted on their deployment going ahead despite the change in Washington’s plans.

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