The Patriot Missile System was mostly successful with intercepting its targets during the First Gulf War. While deployed with the US Army, I witnessed a successful Scud hit over Dhahran/Al Khobar in 1991. The Patriot Missile System did fail at times... You may argue that Patriot wasn’t effective in the Gulf War but it was far from being completely ‘useless’. What many people don’t realise is that Patriot (PAC-1) was originally designed for anti-aircraft purpose. The PAC-2 (MIM-104C) only included software modifications to add tactical ballistic missile (TBM) defence capability over PAC-1. To them, the issue of ATBM defense was indeed far more than an academic debate. Scud attacks were also made into Israel on January 16, but Patriots were not deployed and operational there until four days later, on January 22.

Lessons of the Gulf War Experience

As Postol noted in this article, Les Aspin, then the Chairman of the House Armed Services Committee, had already indicated that Patriot’s failure rate in Israel was 56%. Postol. 135.

Postol, "Lessons of the Gulf War Experience." The Performance of the Patriot Missile in the Gulf War, Hearing before the Legislation and National Security Subcommittee of the Committee on Government Operations, U.S. House of Representatives. James W Carter. Recommended publications. Persian Gulf War, conflict (1990-91) triggered by Iraq’s invasion of Kuwait with the apparent aim of acquiring its large oil reserves, canceling a large debt owed to Kuwait, and expanding Iraqi regional power. A U.S.-led invasion ended Iraq’s occupation and required Iraq to divest of weapons of mass destruction. Estimates of the number of Iraqi troops in the Kuwait theatre range from 180,000 to 630,000, and estimates of Iraqi military deaths range from 8,000 to 50,000. The allies, by contrast, lost about 300 troops in the conflict. Remains of an Iraqi convoy near Kuwait city, Kuwait, during the Persian Gulf War. Remains of an Iraqi convoy near Kuwait city, Kuwait, during the Persian Gulf War. Tech. Sgt.