# United States to Expedite Air Defense Missiles to Ukraine, Diverting Shipments from Allies



The United States will expedite the delivery of air defense interceptor missiles to Ukraine by diverting shipments originally intended for other allied nations, the White House announced on June 20, 2024. This decision aims to address the urgent need for enhanced air defense capabilities in Ukraine amidst intensified Russian missile and drone attacks targeting Ukrainian energy facilities.

White House National Security Spokesman John Kirby revealed that the U.S. will reroute shipments intended for foreign military sales, prioritizing Ukraine's immediate requirements. While the specific countries affected by this shift were not disclosed, Kirby assured that deliveries to Israel and Taiwan would remain unaffected. The redirected shipments could involve hundreds of Patriot missiles and will continue over the next 16 months.

President Joe Biden had hinted at this course of action during the recent G7 meeting in Italy, stressing the immediate need in Ukraine. Kirby noted that other nations have broadly understood the necessity of this realignment as the conflict between Ukraine and Russia escalates, challenging both energy infrastructure and military resilience.