

AGM-183A Air-Launched Rapid Response Weapon (ARRW)



In FY25, the Air Force's AGM-183A Air-Launched Rapid Response Weapon (ARRW) program conducted lethality data analyses from flight tests that were accomplished in FY24, which concluded the rapid prototyping Increment 1 program. The Air Force utilized the results of the ARRW Increment 1 program to inform decisions regarding potential procurement as well as potential further developmental areas to deliver improved warfighter capability. In July 2025, DOT&E removed ARRW from oversight, as the program has completed Increment 1 of rapid prototyping T&E.

SYSTEM DESCRIPTION

ARRW is a conventional, air-launched, boost-glide, hypersonic weapon consisting of a solid rocket motor booster, a glider protective shroud, and a glider vehicle containing a kinetic energy projectile warhead.

MISSION

The Air Force will employ units equipped with ARRW to provide an offensive, high-speed strike capability to destroy high-value, time-sensitive, land-based targets in anti-access/area-denial environments. Launched from bomber aircraft, ARRW provides standoff capability to prosecute targets in a timely fashion.

PROGRAM OVERSIGHT HISTORY

ARRW used the rapid prototyping Middle Tier of Acquisition pathway, leveraging technology and lessons learned from the Defense Advanced Research Projects Agency (DARPA)'s Tactical Boost Glide program. DOT&E placed the ARRW program on oversight for operational and live fire testing in

July 2018. The program completed its Critical Design Review in February 2020. In FY21 – 22, the Air Force conducted a series of booster test flights, followed by a series of All Up Round (AUR) (including live warhead) test flights (ATFs) from FY22 – 24. In August 2023, DOT&E approved the ARRW Integrated Master Test Plan, and in February 2024, DOT&E approved the Ops Demo test plan. The Air Force used the ATF results to inform the way ahead for the technologies developed in the ARRW program. In July 2025, DOT&E removed ARRW from oversight, as the program has completed Increment 1 of rapid prototyping T&E.