

ASM-135A ALMV (1985-1985, ASAT)

Guided Weapon

Type: Guided Weapon

Weight: 1180.0 kg

Length: 5.42 m

Span: 0.51 m

Length: 5.42 m

Diameter: 0.51

Generation: None



Properties: Anti-Air All-Aspect, Bearing-Only Launch (BOL)

Targets: Satellite

Sensors / EW:

- IR Seeker - (ASM-135A) Infrared, Weapon Seeker, Infrared, Dual Spectral IR, Max range: 18.5 km

Weapons / Loadouts:

- ASM-135A ALMV - (1985-1985, ASAT) Guided Weapon. Air Max: 463 km.

OVERVIEW: The ASM-135 Anti-Satellite (ASAT) is a solid fueled, three stage, air-to-space missile designed for destroying low-earth orbit satellites by kinetic energy.

DETAILS: The ASM-135 was designed to be launched from a modified F-15A in a supersonic zoom climb. The F-15's mission computer and heads-up display were modified to provide steering directions for the pilot. A modified Boeing AGM-69 SRAM missile was the first stage of the ASM-135 ASAT. An Altair 3 was the second stage of the ASM-135. The third stage Miniature Homing Vehicle (MHV) was spin-stabilized, and used an IR sensor to guide the MHV to the target. It used a ring of 56 solid propellant motors mounted on its periphery to adjust its trajectory during the attack phase. The MHV did not have a warhead. Rather, it used the kinetic energy of a direct impact with the target satellite to kill it.

NOTES: The low relative speed of the ASM-135 likely made it suitable only for "head on" engagements with a target satellite. The ASM-135 was successfully tested against a target satellite in 1985. Two additional flight tests were made using stars as targets. The program was cancelled in 1988.

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SOURCES: Wikipedia, the free encyclopedia. "ASM-135 ASAT." Accessed November 4, 2014.

http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/ASM-135_ASAT ; Jane's Strategic Weapon Systems, "ASM-135 Anti-Satellite System," 13 October 2011 ; Sven's Space Place. "F15 ASAT." Accessed November 4, 2014.

<http://www.svengrahn.pp.se/histind/ASAT/F15ASAT.html>.