

PrSM blooded in Iran strikes



The US Army's new long-range strike weapon – the Precision Strike Missile (PrSM) – has been blooded in .

US Central Command (CENTCOM) confirmed on 5 March that PrSM Increment 1 missiles were fired in combat for the first time, during the strikes on Iran known as Operation Epic Fury.

“In an historic first, long-range Precision Strike Missiles were used in combat during Operation Epic Fury, providing an unrivalled deep strike capability,” CENTCOM stated in the post.

“I just could not be prouder of our men and women in uniform leveraging innovation to create dilemmas for the enemy,” Admiral Brad Cooper, CENTCOM Commander added.

Few further details about PrSM's combat debut have been provided by CENTCOM since the initial announcement. In his fourth public update on 22 March, ADM Cooper did say that the Army had launched the longest field artillery strike in US Army history

ABOVE: A HIMARS launcher lets loose a PrSM Inc 1 round during the early stages of Operation Epic Fury. Image: US DoD

using PrSM: “The strike took out Iranian military infrastructure, demonstrating the US military's unmatched reach and lethality”.

Official video footage and photographs show PrSM being fired by M142 High Mobility Artillery Rocket Systems (HIMARS) in the desert, presumably from a Middle East nation in close enough proximity to Iran to fall within the 500km range of the Increment 1 missile.

HIMARS can fire two PrSM Inc 1 missiles using a new twin-round pod, which can be swapped out with the standard six-round pod firing 227mm Guided Multiple Launch Rocket System 227mm rockets.

Developed under the Army's Long Range Precision Fires program, PrSM Inc 1 will replace the in-service MGM-140 Army Tactical Missile System (ATACMS), only one of which can be launched by the HIMARS platform.

On 25 March, Lockheed Martin announced that it had entered into a framework agreement with the Department of War to accelerate the production of PrSM for the US military. The agreement builds on a previous US\$4.94 billion (AUD\$7.2 billion) contract award from the US Army in 2025 and together, these actions will quadruple PrSM production capacity, the company stated.

Lockheed Martin said it is “...mobilising the full might of its industrial and technological power to build the Arsenal of Freedom by dramatically accelerating production of this critical munition, leveraging next-generation technologies to build faster and better”.

- Staff Reporters