



2015: A Year of Expansion



Mr. Riki Ellison is the Founder and Chairman of the Missile Defense Advocacy Alliance; a non-profit organization launched in 2002 with a singular purpose and mission to drive for the deployment, development and evolution of missile defense. Since its founding, the organization has grown to over 14,000 members across the world and has emerged as the top lay expert voice on missile defense in the world. Mr. Ellison has been in attendance of 28 U.S. missile defense tests, visited U.S. missile defense base and platform sites over 350 times and has advocated for missile defense in 46 states and 24 countries.

This was a pivotal year for U.S. and allied missile defense and MDAA's advocacy as we expanded our efforts to support these critical systems that have become more relevant, and more reliable, in our complex world. MDAA led the charge with relationship building and education to the public at large in advocating for increased deployment and greater investment in U.S. and allied missile defense systems across the globe. In 2015 MDAA significantly expanded its relationships around the world including Canada, Germany, Greece, Israel, Japan, Netherlands, Turkey, South Korea, and the UAE. MDAA had the honor of recognizing the excellence of leadership of U.S. and allied missile defenders around the world. We helped to enable a championship culture and team recognition with our eight Defender of the Year events in four countries recognizing seven allied militaries. MDAA engaged with key leaders in Congress and held seven Congressional Roundtable Discussions at the U.S. Capitol to build support and provide education on the need for integrated air and missile defense.

MDAA nearly doubled the number of major international and national advocacy events it was able to hold in 2015 compared to 2014. In 2015 MDAA hosted 27 events by the end of the year after hosting 14 in 2014. MDAA has strived to keep our advocacy priorities aligned with the best interest of our national security and the safety of the American public by making the world a safer place through our advocacy for missile defense.

MDAA expanded its geographic reach significantly. For the first time, MDAA hosted the Japan Defender of the Year Award Ceremony with the Japanese military and visited the NATO Missile Firing Installation in Crete as a guest of the German and the Greek governments. MDAA had the privilege of hosting or participating in missile defense advocacy events in a total of nine countries worldwide.

In terms of public advocacy for missile defense, MDAA continued to support the systems by issuing forceful and accurate responses addressing the value of these critical assets. MDAA also continued to develop public support after major world and national events on the threat and the missile defense systems being tested and deployed to address the threat. MDAA also produced system, country, and region briefs for congress and the general public on key newsworthy and relevant topics to provide background information and serve as a resource for future researchers on the subject.

Finally, we were honored this year to deliver the Keynote Address to the 2015 Israeli Air and Missile Defense Conference and host the Chairman of Senate Armed Services Committee, Senator John McCain, in his home state. We also had the opportunity to contribute to bipartisanship by attending the first primary debates that will help select the Democratic and Republican candidates for the 2016 Presidential Election.

MDAA significantly expanded its efforts in 2015 to educate the public and advocate for the critical need of missile defense. In 2016 we will continue our advocacy efforts and become more efficient and impactful as we drive the support for integrated air and missile defense capabilities that will allow us to stay in front of the pace and growth of the proliferating threats around the world.

Respectfully,
Riki Ellison

161 Congressional Meetings

MDAA holds meetings with Members of Congress and their staff to discuss key missile defense programs and provide expertise on this critical issue.

94 Alerts and Press Releases

MDAA's alerts and press releases keep the public informed on ballistic missile defense issues and threats, and provide up-to-date information on key tests of missile defense systems.

69 Press Interviews

MDAA provides interviews to a variety of news outlets sharing highlights of missile defense tests and discussing key aspects and benefits of various systems.

59 Base and Ship Visits

MDAA visits bases and ships across the globe recognizing the role the warfighter plays in defending against ballistic missile threats.

37 Speeches

MDAA publicly advocates for and informs audiences on the benefits and necessity of missile defense systems through speeches in the U.S. and around the globe.

27 MDAA Events

MDAA provides interviews to a variety of news outlets sharing highlights of missile defense tests and discussing key aspects and benefits of various systems.

18 States Advocated in

U.S. missile defense would not be possible without the contributions made by individual states. As such, we travel to many of these states visiting bases and missile defense and radar sites honoring the work of its citizens.

13 Troop Visits

MDAA visits U.S. and allied troops stationed around the globe praising their hard work and dedication to operating and maintaining missile defense systems.

9 Countries Advocated in

Many countries partner in various ways with the United States on developing or fielding missile defense systems and MDAA travels to a number of these countries to highlight contributions and advocate for continued cooperation and the face of ballistic missile threats.

7 Congressional Roundtable Discussions

MDAA established its Congressional Roundtable Discussion series in 2014 for the purpose of providing an educational forum on missile defense issues for congressional staffers. The program has been very well received and has welcomed a host of distinguished speakers.



Captain Gilberto Ortiz accepts his award at the Alaska Defender of the Year on May 16, 2015.



The MDAA German-U.S. Tactical Firing Awards were held on October 1, 2015 in Crete, Greece.

Missile Defender of the Year



January 9, 2015
Alexandria,
Virginia

**US NORTHCOM & NORAD Early Warning
and Missile Defender of the Year**



May 29, 2015
Colorado Springs,
Colorado

Korean Peninsula Defender of the Year



November 20, 2015
Seoul,
Korea

European Defender of the Year



April 17, 2015
Kaiserslautern,
Germany

**Pacific Theatre Air and Missile Defender of
the Year**



September 26, 2015
Pearl Harbor,
Hawaii

Okinawa Defender of the Year



November 24, 2015
Kadena AFB,
Japan

Alaska Defender of the Year



May 16, 2015
Anchorage,
Alaska

Japan Defender of the Year



November 18, 2015
Yokota AFB,
Japan

Guam Defender of the Year



November 26, 2015
Andersen AFB,
Guam

U.S. Seventh Fleet & Japanese Maritime Self Defense Forces Aegis BMD Recognition



February 23, 2015
Yokosuka, Japan

Arizona Reception of Champions with Senator McCain and Rep. McSally



April 10, 2015
Tucson, Arizona

Recognizing Excellence in the Partnership between Japan and the United States



May 28, 2015
Reagan Presidential Library - Simi, CA

Recognition Event for Aegis Ashore on Kauai



June 26, 2015
Kauai, Hawaii

Huntsville Breakfast of Champions



August 12, 2015
Huntsville, AL

Texas Reception of Champions



August 28, 2015
Fort Worth, TX

California Reception of Champions



September 14, 2015
Santa Clara, California

SBX 10th Anniversary



September 22, 2015
Honolulu, Hawaii

German - U.S. Tactical Firing 2015



October 1, 2015
NAMFI Crete, Greece



Homeland Missile Defense



February 5, 2015

BMD Sensors



March 17, 2015

European Missile Defense



May, 20 2015

Future BMD Systems



July 28, 2015

GCC Missile Defense



September 10, 2015

The Impact of Budget Uncertainty on Missile Defense Programs



October 28, 2015

Missile Defense in the Pacific



December 2, 2015

Mission Statement

MDAA's mission is to make the world safer by advocating for the development and deployment of missile defense systems to defend the United States, its armed forces and its allies against missile threats. MDAA is the only organization in existence whose primary mission is to educate the American public about missile defense issues and to recruit, organize, and mobilize proponents to advocate for the critical need of missile defense. We are a non-partisan membership-based and membership-funded organization that does not advocate on behalf of any specific system, technology, architecture or entity.

