

Design Characteristics of South Africa's Ballistic Missiles and Rockets

Last update: August 2011

	RSA-1 ¹	RSA-2 ²	RSA-3 ³	RSA-4 ⁴
Length (m)	8	15	17.65	17.65
Diameter (m)	1.3	1.3	1.3	2.4
Projected Warhead Weight	1,500kg	1,500kg	Approx. 340kg	700kg
Projected Range (km)	1,100	1,900	1,800	400km Orbit
Actual Range	1,100	1,900	1,450	NA
Propellant	Solid	Solid	Solid	Solid
Status	Discontinued	Discontinued	Cancelled Mid-1994	Cancelled in Design Stage

Sources:

[1] "RSA-1," Astronautix, www.astronautix.com.

[2] "RSA-2," Astronautix, www.astronautix.com.

[3] "RSA-3," Astronautix, www.astronautix.com.

[4] "RSA-4," Astronautix, www.astronautix.com. Allegedly, the RSA-4 space launcher "was built around the same engines that power Israel's Jericho-II missile and its 'Shavit' space launcher." "South Africa's Nuclear Autopsy," Wisconsin Project, Risk Report, January-February 1996, www.wisconsinproject.org.

Related content is available on the website for the Nuclear Threat Initiative, www.nti.org.



This material is produced independently for NTI by the James Martin Center for Nonproliferation Studies at the Monterey Institute of International Studies and does not necessarily reflect the opinions of and has not been independently verified by NTI or its directors, officers, employees, or agents. Copyright © 2012 by MIIS.