
US Approves Sale of \$26.9M In Evolved Seasparrow Missiles to Thailand - State Department

WASHINGTON, October 29 (Sputnik) - The US State Department has given the go-ahead to a sale of a \$26.9 million Evolved Seasparrow Missiles set to Thailand, the US Defense Security Cooperation Agency (DSCA) said in a release. "The State Department has made a determination approving a possible Foreign Military Sale to Thailand of Evolved Seasparrow Missiles (ESSM) and associated equipment, parts and logistical support for an estimated cost of \$26.9 million," the release read on Thursday. The Thai government has previously requested the sale of missiles and other equipment for enhancing the country's missile program. The sale, DSCA noted, will help Thailand augment its defenses against naval threats and allow the country to use the missiles for "ship battlespace self-defense." "This proposed sale will contribute to the foreign policy and national security of the United States by increasing the ability of Thailand to contribute to regional security and improving interoperability with the US Navy," the release added. DSCA concluded the sale will not alter the basic military balance in the region nor will it have any serious impact on US defense readiness, according to the release.