France successfully tested its new long-range M51 missile today, in what may be seen as a possible warning message to states such as North Korea and Iran on their nuclear ambitions. The M51 is a submarine-based missile, with a range of over 3,250 miles and can carry up to six nuclear warheads.

**Quote:** *"The missile carried no nuclear weapon for the test flight, which was closely monitored by specialists at a test center in Biscarosse, in southwest France, as well as by the Monge missile-tracking ship, ministry spokesman Jean-Francois Bureau said. The M51 is designed to replace the M45 submarine-launched ballistic missile, or SLBM.*

North Korea , India , and most recently Iran , have tested their own long-range missiles, also capable of carrying nuclear warheads. French President Jacque Chirac warned at the beginning of the year that his country would be willing to use nuclear weapons in retaliation, if a terrorist attack was carried out on French soil.

Source YNet News