

U.S. Did Not Alter Missile Shield for Russia, Kerry Says

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WASHINGTON — Secretary of State John Kerry has denied that the Obama administration has rolled back U.S. missile defense programs in Europe because of Russian objections.

In a joint appearance Monday with Polish Foreign Minister Radek Sikorski, Kerry was asked about the administration's decision in March to cancel a key part of its plans in Europe. The issue has been sensitive in Poland, which is hosting parts of the European missile shield and sees U.S. engagement in Eastern Europe as an important bulwark against Russia.

But the change in plans came amid a push for greater cooperation with Russia.

"The United States of America has made zero — zero concessions to Russia with respect to missile defense," Kerry said.

(AP)

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