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Robert Hewson, an IHS Jane's air power analyst, predicted Israeli prowess would prevail in Syria while cautioning that the S-300 would be the most formidable air defense system it had ever faced. "Israel has had nasty surprises from these things before," he said, noting its steep losses to the Soviet anti-aircraft missiles used by Syria and Egypt in the 1973 war.

So the good news is that the IAF has seen this threat coming for a long time and has been preparing for years. The bad news is that no one knows for sure if whatever they've got cooking will actually work. It's always foolish to bet against the Israeli military, but the problem here is even bigger potentially than a nuclear Iran: If the S-300 proves effective against Israeli air assets, it could be smuggled by Iran to Syria and Lebanon, where Hezbollah could use it to threaten passenger jets flying into Tel Aviv.

To boost your spirits, here's footage of the S-300 in action. I'm pretty sure it works better than this most of the time. Exit question: Would Obama share American technology to counter the S-300 with Israel to support an IAF attack? Assuming Israel doesn't already have it, I mean.

<https://youtu.be/1s77cqabHsM>