However, in this case it is necessary that the number of replacement protection elements coincides with the number of protection elements.

A design that is structurally advantageous, by virtue of being simple, provides that the replacement protection element is arranged behind the triggered protection element. When looked at in the direction of the threat, a kind of series arrangement of the protection elements is obtained. Firstly, the outer protection element is triggered, then the replacement protection element that is arranged behind the triggered protection element is transformed from an inactive state to an active state and can take over the function of the triggered protection element. A missile approaching the target once again from the same direction after the corresponding protection element has already been triggered can therefore be combated by the replacement protection element.

In this connection, it has also proven to be advantageous if the protection elements are fixedly arranged and the replacement protection element is movably arranged. The movable arrangement of one or more replacement protection elements makes it possible that various protection elements can be replaced by a replacement protection element after they have been triggered. The gaps produced by triggering the outer protection elements can be closed by the replacement protection elements arranged behind them, as it were in the second row.

In certain structural situations, a design that may be advantageous is one in which a number of replacement protection elements are provided, at least one of which is fixedly arranged and one of which is movably arranged. In regions of the protection arrangement into