



THE UNDER SECRETARY OF DEFENSE

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INFO MEMO

December 13, 2004, 10:00 AM

FOR: SECRETARY OF DEFENSE

FROM: Mr. Michael W. Wynne, Acting Under Secretary of Defense (AT&L)

DEC 17 2004

SUBJECT: Airborne Laser "First Flight" Post-Test Notification

- On December 9, 2004 the Missile Defense Agency successfully flew the Airborne Laser aircraft and fulfilled the objectives that remained after the "First Flight" of December 3, 2004.
- The purpose of this flight was to perform in-flight checks of production subsystems throughout a subset of the standard Boeing 747-400F flight envelope. The successful completion of this flight was necessary to allow the continuation of flight testing of those Airborne Laser subsystems integrated on the aircraft.
- The flight met all test objectives as planned. The Airborne Laser modifications to the aircraft had no appreciable effect on aircraft handling.
- A total of ten minor anomalies were noted during the flight. Of these, two must be corrected prior to the next flight: an air conditioning pack would not transition to high flow from auto, and a faulty behavior of the first officer's radio and oxygen mask combination. Overall characterization of the flight was "all tests went very well."
- The next flight is scheduled for December 17, 2004. A total of 16 flights are scheduled to complete the Low Power System Integration testing of the beam control/ fire control sub-systems.

COORDINATION: None

cc: DSD



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