NEWS NOTE

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B61-12 LEP – Radar Drop Test

August 15, 2013 — Sandia National Laboratories, Tonopah Test Range
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Successful Radar Drop Tests Completed

The B61-12 Systems Group (2120) successfully performed two Radar Drop Tests (RDT) at the Tonopah Test Range.

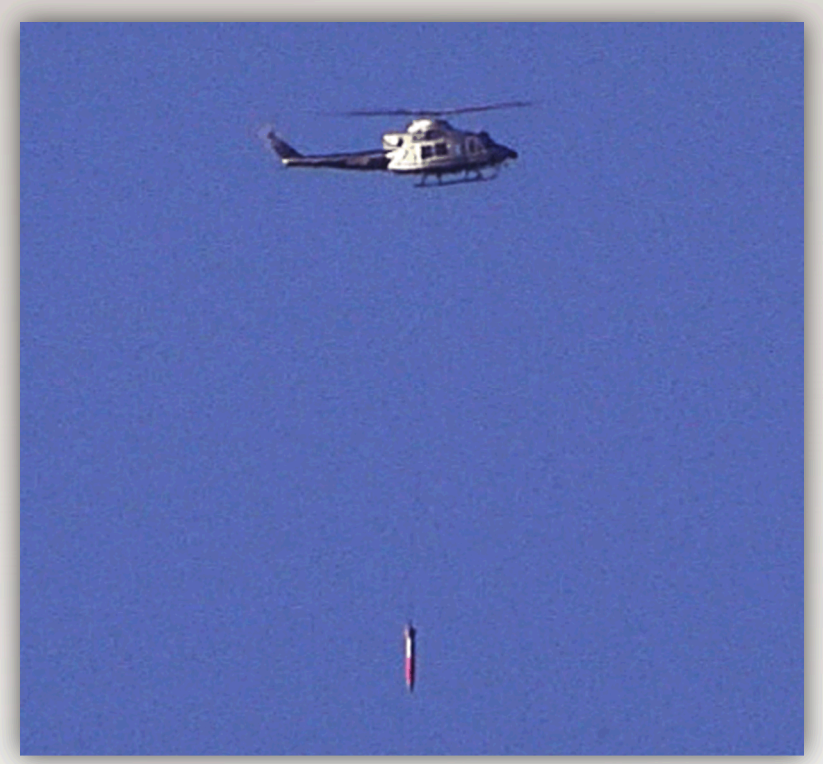
The tests were conducted in partnership with the Tonopah Test Range (2915), NW Arming and Fuzing Group (5350), the Sandia National Laboratories/California Telemetry Team (8130), Safety Engineering Department (4122), and the National Security Technologies (NSTec) flight crew from the Remote Sensing Laboratory (RSL) from Nellis Air Force Base in Las Vegas, Nevada.

The Radar Drop series is intended to demonstrate the radar performance in the B61-12. To achieve this, test units equipped with B61-12 radar and a data telemetry system are lifted and released. During the decent, the radar will transmit and receive while the telemetry system transmits radar data to a ground-based receiver.

After a successful mock test on 13 August 2013, the RDT2 test was successfully executed on 14 August 2013 at 6:22 a.m. The RDT1 drop was successfully completed on 15 August 2013 at 6:56 a.m.

Early review of the data suggests two successful drops in drop execution, ground data collection, and radar performance. Detailed data analysis will continue in the coming week to compare all data and assess performance.

The photo shows the RDT2 unit suspended with a 75-ft Samson® tether from the RSL Bell 412 Helicopter.



Radar Drop Test, Unit Suspended Beneath Helicopter

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