



F-35 Lightning II Program

Public Affairs Release – 2012 12 12

F - 35 B A C H I E V E S M I L E S T O N E F L I G H T

NAVAL AIR SYSTEMS COMMAND, PATUXENT RIVER, Md.

– Marine Corps test pilot Maj. C. R. Clift flies BF-1 on a short take off and vertical landing mode mission, Dec. 7. The flight marked the 1,000th developmental test flight for the F-35B Lightning II in the program's system development and demonstration phase. The F-35B is the Lightning II variant designed for the U.S. Marine Corps as well as F-35 international partners in the United Kingdom and Italy. The F-35B is capable of short takeoffs and vertical landings to enable air power projection from amphibious ships, ski-jump aircraft carriers and expeditionary airfields. The F-35B is undergoing flight test and evaluation at NAS Patuxent River, Md., prior to delivery to the fleet.



Marine Corps test pilot Maj. C. R. Clift flies BF-1 on a short take off and vertical landing mode mission, Dec. 7. (Photo courtesy of Lockheed Martin)