



F-35 Lightning II Joint Program Public Release 2018 02 20

Successful F-35 drag chute test in Norway

Norway Ministry of Defense

ORLAND AIR FORCE BASE, Norway -- While the U.S. Air Force is completing another round of cold-weather testing of the F-35A at Eielson Air Force Base in Alaska, Norway completed a successful verification of the drag chute system at Orland Air Force Base in Norway February 16th.



Receiving the first three aircraft in November 2017 was a major milestone for Norway. The program delivers on all key criteria: Time, cost and performance. Through the verification of the production version of the drag chute on our production model of the F-35, the weapons system is expected to fully qualify for arctic conditions this spring, says Major General Morten Klever, Program Director for the F-35 program in Norway's Ministry of Defense.

The chute — unique to the Norwegian aircraft — is housed under a small fairing on the upper rear fuselage between the vertical tails. It is being added in order to rapidly decelerate Royal Norwegian Air Force F-35s after landing on the country's icy runways when there are challenging wind conditions. Other countries may adopt the system.

The Royal Norwegian Air Force had three aircraft delivered to Orland Air Force Base, Norway in November 2017. From 2018, Norway will receive six aircraft annually up until, and including, 2024.



Norway completed a successful verification of the drag chute on Norwegian F-35 February 16, 2018 at Orland Air Force Base, Norway. Photos courtesy of the Royal Norwegian Air Force