

F-35 Lightning II Program

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F-35 Integration Demonstrated in Live Fire Test

An unmodified US Marine Corps F-35B successfully demonstrated integration with the Navy's Aegis Combat System in a live fire missile test Monday at White Sands Missile Range, N.M. Acting as an elevated sensor, the F-35 detected an over-the-horizon threat and relayed data to a ground launch facility, which accurately fired on the target. The aircraft is based at the Marine Operational Test and Evaluation Squadron (VMX-1) at Edwards AFB, Fla .

The exercise demonstrated the advanced sensor capabilities of the F-35 as well as its ability to partner with existing systems. "This test represents the start of our exploration into the interoperability of the F-35B with other naval assets," said Lt. Col. Richard Rusnok, VMX-1 F-35B detachment officer in charge, in a press release. "We believe the F-35B will drastically increase the



Test of Navy's Aegis engagement with US Marine F-35B successfully demonstrated ...

situational awareness and lethality of the naval forces with which it will deploy in the very near future," he added.