

## NATIONAL RECONNAISSANCE OFFICE

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## NRO SUCCESSFULLY LAUNCHES ABOARD MINOTAUR I

A National Reconnaissance Office (NRO) payload was successfully launched aboard an Orbital Sciences Corporation Minotaur I rocket from Space Launch Complex-8, Vandenberg Air Force Base, California, at 4:26 A.M. PST on February 6, 2011.

This is the fourth in a series of six launches scheduled to occur during the NRO 50th anniversary year in 2010–2011. "I commend everyone who made this launch successful. This mission is just one example of our ability to rapidly build and launch small spacecraft with on-orbit capabilities that increase the value of NRO systems to our Nation's future," said AS&T Director Robert A. Brodowski.

The NRO is a joint Department of Defense-Intelligence Community organization responsible for developing, launching, and operating America's signals, imagery, and communications satellites to meet the needs of our Nation.