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## C4ISR JOURNAL RECOGNIZES NRO

C4ISR Journal awarded the National Reconnaissance Office (NRO) two of its annual Big 25 Awards, recognizing the 25 most influential Intelligence, Surveillance, and Reconnaissance programs at their annual conference on October 28, 2011 in Crystal City, Va.

The first award honored the NRO Office of Space Launch, U.S. Air Force launch operations, and United Launch Alliance for successfully launching five rockets in seven months during NRO's 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary year in 2010-2011. C4ISR credited NRO's most aggressive launch campaign in 25 years with carefully coordinated range schedules, pre-launch checks, and mission management at Vandenberg Air Force Base, Calif., and Cape Canaveral, Fla., and the enhanced viability of NRO's satellite constellation. For information on NRO's entire 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Launch campaign, see www.nro.gov/about/launches/index.html.

The second award recognized the Communication Externals Geo-Fusion System (CEGS), an innovative processing system developed by NRO to map the signal environment and tip activity to theater imagery and signals sensors. The award highlighted CEGS' success earlier this year in thwarting an impending ambush on Coalition troops in the U.S. Central Command Area of Operation. CEGS rapidly provided the location of the potential attack, enabling the timely arrival of reinforcements who enlisted Close Air Support before the ambush could occur.

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

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