



## **National Reconnaissance Office Release**

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
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### **NROL-61 Lifts Off on July 28, 2016**

A National Reconnaissance Office (NRO) payload was launched successfully aboard a United Launch Alliance Atlas V rocket from Space Launch Complex-41, Cape Canaveral Air Force Station (CCAFS), Florida, at 8:37 a.m. EDT, on July 28, 2016.

“The successful launch of NROL-61 is another tremendous achievement in a series of accomplishments we have had so far this year. This launch — and the launch last month of NROL-37 also from the Cape — would not have been possible if it weren’t for the hard work, dedication, and teamwork of our people and our Air Force and industry partners. This was a very good day for America and for our national security interests,” said Colonel Clint Hunt, USAF, NROL-61 Mission Director, NRO Office of Space Launch.

NROL-61 is the third of four launches for 2016. The next NRO launch is scheduled for December, from Vandenberg Air Force Base, California.

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