



National Reconnaissance Office Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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NROL-79 Lifts Off on March 1, 2017

A National Reconnaissance Office (NRO) payload was successfully launched aboard a United Launch Alliance Atlas V rocket from Space Launch Complex-3, Vandenberg Air Force Base (VAFB), California, at 9:50 a.m. PST, March 1.

“I congratulate everyone who made this morning’s launch a success. Without the dedicated commitment from our government and industry teams, working together as one, it would not have been possible. All their hard work has contributed to providing superior vigilance from above for the Nation,” said Colonel Matthew Skeen, USAF, Director, NRO Office of Space Launch.

NROL-79 is the first of five 2017 NRO launches. The next NRO launch is on schedule for April, from Cape Canaveral Air Force Station (CCAFS), Florida.

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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.