

## Bleak Future for Long-Range Strike

America's ability to conduct large-scale, long-range strike operations has long given it a military edge. It's now in danger, warns the Center for Strategic and Budgetary Assessments. CSBA says, "The Department of Defense's current program of record is insufficient to sustain the US military's long-range strike strategic advantage." Among the problems: The bomber force has minimal power to penetrate high-threat

air defenses; carrier wings lack range, persistence, and survivability; aircraft aren't able to strike large sets of mobile, relocatable, hardened, and deeply buried targets; longer-range cruise missiles are getting old; and airborne electronic attack platforms lack needed range and survivability. As seen here, LRS forces face a bleak future in three of four areas. For more information, see "Washington Watch," p. 8.

### Problems With the LRS Program of Record



"Source: "Sustaining America's Strategic Advantage in Long-Range Strike," report and briefing by Mark A. Gunzinger, Center for Strategic and Budgetary Assessments, Washington, D.C., Sept. 14, 2010.