

**US Air Force statement released Dec. 4, 2009.**

"The United States Air Force is developing a stealthy unmanned aircraft system (UAS) to provide reconnaissance and surveillance support to forward deployed Combat Forces. The RQ-170 Sentinel, a low observable UAS, was built by Lockheed Martin's Advanced Development Programs (ADP). The fielding of the RQ-170 aligns with Secretary of Defense Robert M. Gates' request for increased intelligence, surveillance and reconnaissance (ISR) support to the Combatant Commanders and Air Force Chief of Staff General Norton Schwartz's vision for an increased USAF reliance on unmanned aircraft. The RQ-170 is flown by Air Combat Command (ACC), 432d Wing at Creech AFB, NV, 30th Reconnaissance Squadron at Tonopah Test Range, NV."