

**Lockheed Martin statement to the *Daily Report*
on the Government Accountability Office's Report:
Defense Acquisitions: DOD Needs to Reassess Joint Cruise Missile Costs
before Starting New Production Phase, released Oct. 13, 2010.**

"The Joint Air-to-Surface Standoff Missile (JASSM) continues to be a critical weapon for our Forces and plays a crucial role in the US Air Force's long-term strategic plan and the national defense.

"The JASSM program has successfully undergone a Nunn-McCurdy certification in which no viable alternatives were found to meet the performance objectives at less or even similar pricing. JASSM was certified to the US Congress as 'essential to national security.' That finding was recently confirmed by the US Air Force.

"JASSM-ER provides a capability no other weapon in the inventory can match. JASSM-ER shares the same powerful capabilities and stealthy characteristics of the baseline JASSM, but with more than two-and-a-half times the range. This additional reach allows warfighters to deploy JASSM-ER against high-value, well-fortified, fixed, and re-locateable targets while remaining clear of highly defended airspace and long-range surface-to-air missiles.

"The JASSM-ER program remains a very good investment for our warfighters."