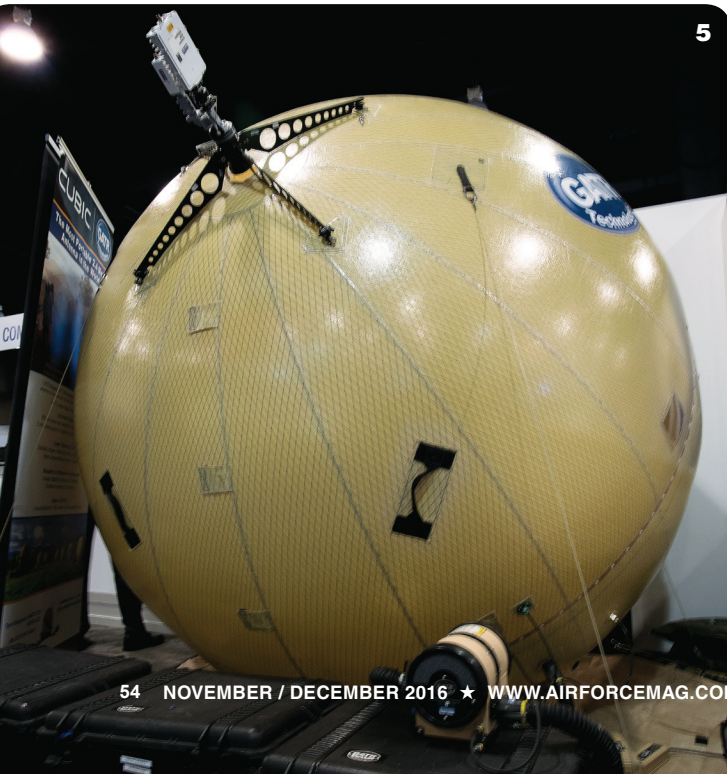
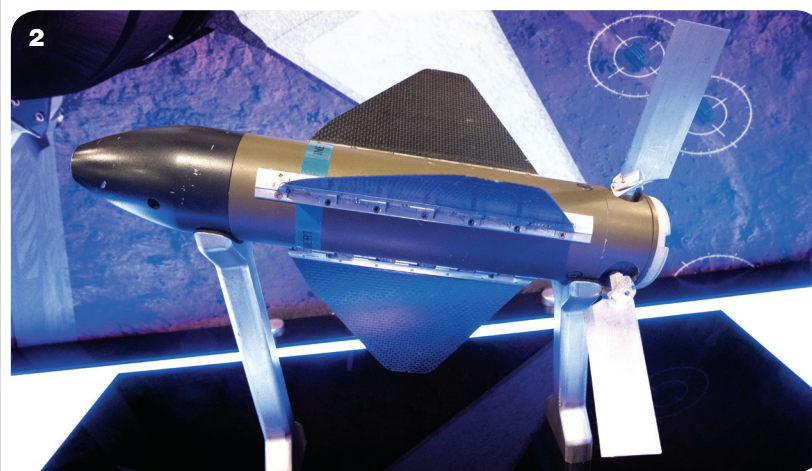




Visitors thronged the technology exposition at AFA's 2016 Air, Space & Cyber Conference. Among them were Air Force Secretary Deborah Lee James and other civilian USAF leaders, service four-stars, visiting foreign Air Chiefs, and dozens of USAF general officers—all inspecting industry's best ideas for meeting current and future Air Force needs.



LEFT PAGE: 1. Lockheed Martin's booth proclaimed its status as USAF's fighter builder, adding its T-50A T-X trainer hopeful—at bottom in the photo—to a large-model formation of an F-16 at left, F-22 at top, and F-35 at far right. 2. Orbital ATK's Hatched miniature glide weapon is one candidate for a new class of very small, precise munitions. 3. The Air Force Research Laboratory displayed a demonstrator-simulator of its Automatic Ground Collision Avoidance System. Deployed on F-16s, Auto-GCAS has already saved several lives. 4. CMSAF James Cody shares a light moment with US and foreign airmen. 5. A full-size Cubic GATR Technologies portable, inflatable communications terminal was an expo eye-catcher.

THIS PAGE: 1. CMSgt. Melvina Smith, top NCO of the 509th Bomb Group at Whiteman AFB, Mo., takes a turn in a T-50A trainer demonstrator, assisted by Lockheed Martin's Kenn Cooper. 2. Elbit Systems displayed this full-size dual-mode JDAM bomb. Elbit makes the laser guidance system. 3. Models of America's two strategic missiles—an Air Force Minuteman III and a Navy Trident D-5 missile—displayed by BAE Systems. The company hopes to earn work on the new Ground-Based Strategic Deterrent missile. 4. Textron promotes its 12-foot-wingspan Aerosonde remotely piloted aircraft as a multimission system having more than 14 hours' duration. 5. Rockwell Collins' F-35 helmet has been described as head-mounted "work space."



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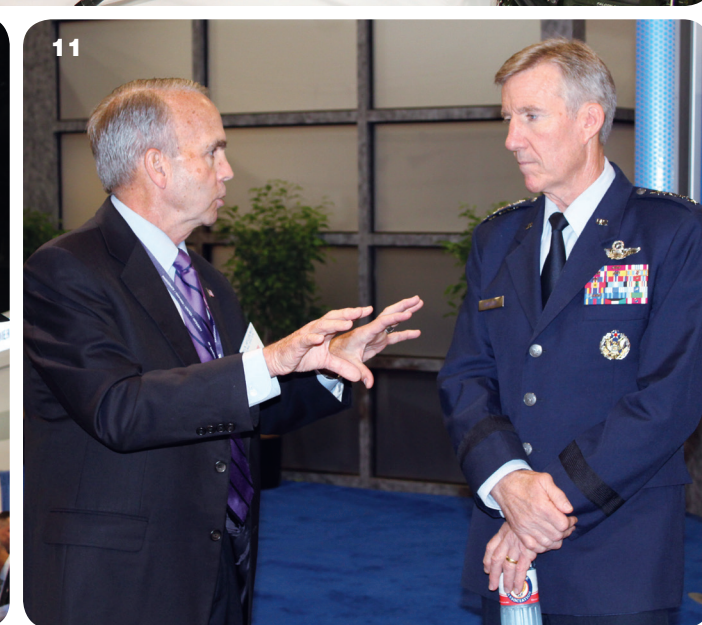
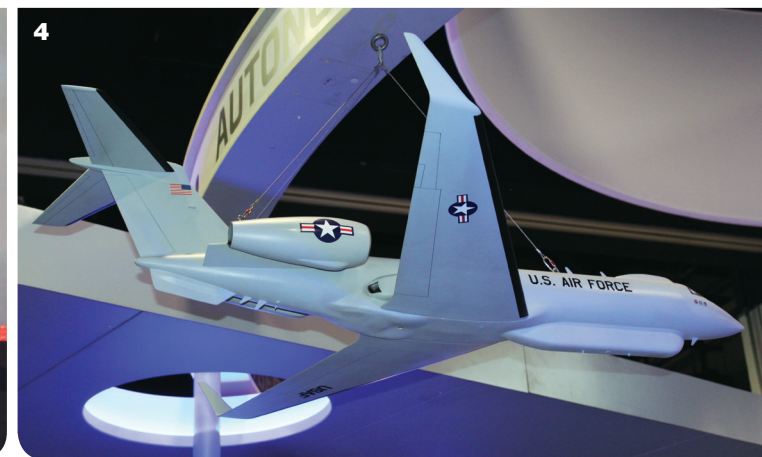
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LEFT PAGE: 1. Aircrew and battlefield airmen alike are getting more wearable tech to improve connectivity, survivability, and situational awareness. 2. As the T-X trainer competition reaches its climax, three competitors presented large models at the tech expo. Boeing rolled out its new-design T-X—model shown here—a week before the conference and brought a trailer with a simulator for VIPs to try. 3. Lockheed Martin's T-50A is a proven trainer that has served with the Republic of Korea Air Force for a decade. 4. The Raytheon T-100 T-X offering is based on the Alenia Aermacchi (now Leonardo-Finmeccanica) MB-326. 5. A General Atomics employee shows off a proposed cockpit-like Block 50 common ground control station for remotely piloted aircraft.

THIS PAGE: 1. This Lockheed Martin/Hawker-Beechcraft AT-6 is an armed version of USAF's T-6 trainer for a low-cost/permissive airspace close air support aircraft. 2. Jessi, of the Warrior Canine Connection, makes friends with SMSgt. Tiger Platt, a KC-10 boom operator trainer at JB McGuire-Dix-Lakehurst, N.J. 3. Bombardier's Global 6000 business jet is a candidate for the platform to carry the next version of the Joint Surveillance Target Attack Radar System. 4. The Bombardier jet shown by Lockheed Martin in its proposed JSTARS configuration. 5. Lockheed Martin displayed a hybrid wing concept for a future airlifter. The model had interchangeable propulsion systems.



1. Boeing presented models of intelligence, surveillance, and reconnaissance aircraft in anticipation of USAF modernizing its ISR fleet in the coming decade. All were based on the 737. Three shown were the Rivet Joint, 2. JSTARS, and 3. Compass Call. 4. Northrop Grumman's JSTARS recap would likely be hosted on the Gulfstream 550 business jet. 5. Subcontractors were well-represented at the expo. Among Marotta's products are control actuators. 6. Raytheon's Griffin is another small precision munition, touted as reducing collateral damage. 7. Capt. Michelle Kim explores a booth display using Microsoft's HoloLens 3-D imaging system. 8. Tactical Air Control Party gear on display included a portable satellite ground station. 9. The General Atomics Aeronautical Systems entrant in the Defense Advanced Research Projects Agency's Gremlins initiative. The system is a recoverable remotely piloted vehicle. DARPA's idea is to create a class of weapons that can be reused and built cheaply enough that some could be sacrificed without crippling the force structure. 10. A Lockheed Sikorsky HH-60 Combat Rescue Helicopter model in a menacing black paint job. 11. Chuck Heflebower, an AFA national director and Leidos executive, makes a point with Air Combat Command chief Gen. Hawk Carlisle.

Exhibitors agreed the expo was a great success, offering excellent opportunities for face-to-face exchanges with USAF's top leaders and to showcase innovative ideas to enhance the force. ✪