

DAWN'S EARLY LIGHT

Boeing Joint Direct Attack Munitions, or JDAMs, are ready to be loaded on a B-1B Lancer bomber in late March by airmen from the 28th Aircraft Maintenance Squadron at Ellsworth Air Force Base in South Dakota. The bomber, a ghostly image in the night floodlights, was being prepared for a mission in support of Operation Odyssey Dawn in Libya. This year alone, Boeing received multiple contracts valued at nearly \$190 million to supply the U.S. military with 7,500 JDAM tail kits and 700 new Laser JDAM sensors to convert existing unguided free-fall bombs into precision-guided weapons. In May, Boeing reached the 250,000 mark for precision-guided munition orders since the JDAM program started in 1998. PHOTO: U.S. AIR FORCE



Quotables

“She’s got a lot of life left in her, but that’s not meant to be.”

– NASA launch director Mike Leinbach, as quoted in a Reuters story about the final flight of Space Shuttle Endeavour on May 16. NASA’s shuttle fleet is being retired. For more on this remarkable program that spanned some four decades, see stories and photos beginning on Page 16.

“The WTO has rendered its final verdict, and now Europe must comply within six months.”

– Boeing Executive Vice President and General Counsel J. Michael Luttig in a May 18 Boeing news release about the final World Trade Organization ruling on illegal aircraft development subsidies.