## F-35 Advantage CP

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### 1NC Shell

#### Text: The USFG should increase the funding of the F-35 Joint Strike Fighter program.

#### F-35 funding is on the chopping block now

Star Telegram, Budget cuts pare F-35, V-22 programs, 2.14.2012, <http://www.star-telegram.com/2012/02/13/3732076/budget-cuts-pare-f-35-v-22-programs.html>

Two big Fort Worth defense programs, the F-35 joint strike fighter and V-22 Osprey, face significant cuts in the proposed 2013 defense budget released by the Obama administration Monday. The proposed cuts have been telegraphed for weeks, if not months, and come as no shock to either Lockheed Martin or Bell Helicopter. It's unclear how much such reductions would affect either company's operations in Fort Worth or, in Bell's case, Amarillo. Pentagon officials, both to cope with rising costs and free up funds for other purposes, plan to order only 29 F-35s in 2013, two fewer than are budgeted for 2012 and 13 fewer than planned just a year ago. Overall, they plan to reduce orders by 179 planes over the next five years, the third straight budget plan that has scaled back F-35 orders.The budget would slash overall F-35 funding by $1.6 billion in 2013 and $15.1 billion through 2017, according to budget documents.

#### Severe cuts in the F-35 program could lead to its termination

Bloomberg News, Panetta Says Budget Cuts May Kill Lockheed’s F-35 Jet, 11.14.2011, http://www.businessweek.com/news/2011-11-15/panetta-says-budget-cuts-may-kill-lockheed-s-f-35-jet.html

U.S. Defense Secretary Leon Panetta told Senators John McCain and Lindsey Graham that defense budget cuts of as much as $1 trillion may lead to the termination of Lockheed Martin Corp.’s F-35 jet.In a letter today to the two Republican lawmakers, Panetta said reductions beyond the $450 billion, 10-year defense budget cuts already planned would reduce the “size of the military sharply.”If a special committee of lawmakers fails to reach agreement on U.S. deficit reduction, that would trigger a so- called sequestration. That would involve at least another $500 billion in defense cuts over a decade and reduce Pentagon programs in 2013 by 23 percent if the president exercises his authority to exempt military personnel, Panetta said.Panetta said such funding reductions might lead to termination of major programs such as Lockheed’s F-35 Joint Strike Fighter, major space initiatives, silo-based U.S. nuclear missiles and ground combat vehicle modernization.

### F-35 Solves For Heg

#### F-35 fighters are key to heg

**EnerGeoPolitics,** US geostrategic reach and capabilities are growing, not shrinking, 1.23.**2012,** http://energeopolitics.com/2012/01/23/us-geostrategic-reach-and-capabilities/

Daniel Drezner wrote this past weekend that “predictions about the death of American hegemony may have been greatly exaggerated.” Drezner points out that, among other things, the preponderance of US military power vis a vis China is even greater today than it was 20 years ago. And, with older weapons systems being phased out and newer, more advanced ones coming on line, that disparity is about to grow even greater. Key to that, and a primary threat to any Chinese designs on challenging US hegemony, is the F-35 Joint Strike Figher. Dr. Robbin Laird writing at US Naval Institute’s journal Proceedings details how, by combining the F-35 with existing (and developing) Aegis technology, the US is building a global, mobile defense network that will far outmatch anything any competitor can field: Originally designed as a Cold War tool to bolster fleet defense against a challenging Soviet Navy, the Aegis program has since the 1970s evolved and morphed. Among the factors that have exponentially increased the core program’s capabilities, the software and microelectronics revolution has played a major role. Targeting precision, C4ISR, and missile technologies have all developed, and today Aegis is a key element in global missile defense. Of central relevance not only to the program but to global security, Aegis coupled with the F-35 Joint Strike Fighter will provide unprecedented modular flexibility at sea for U.S. command authority and our allies as they shape responses to inevitable future crises. Aegis at-sea systems are a key element of sea-based defensive capability that has been provided with strategic mobility. Add the F-35Bs to the South Korean military, and now you can disperse force, complicate any North Korean attack, and add this capability to the country’s mobile naval force that currently is being rolled out. Deterrence of China is also enhanced, because mobility of operations from South Korea makes China’s thinking more difficult. For one thing, there is no single line of attack on U.S. forces. If the Chinese should target Guam, we would now have multiple bases from the sea and land from which the 360-degree-enabled F-35s coupled with Aegis and other systems would provide a troubling situation for our enemy, who would not be guaranteed success with a large-area single strike.

#### The F-35 has great features that make it dominant in the air.

**GlobalSecurity**, F-35 Joint Strike Fighter (JSF) Lightning II, 3.6.**12,** http://www.globalsecurity.org/military/systems/aircraft/f-35.htm

JSF is a joint, multinational acquisition program for the Air Force, Navy, Marine Corps, and eight cooperative international partners. Expected to be the largest military aircraft procurement ever, the stealth, supersonic F-35 Joint Strike Fighter (F-35) will replace a wide range of aging fighter and strike aircraft for the U.S. Air Force, Navy, Marine Corps and allied defense forces worldwide. The program's hallmark is affordability achieved through a high degree of aircraft commonality among three variants: conventional takeoff/landing (CTOL), carrier variant (CV) and short takeoff/vertical landing (STOVL) aircraft. Innovative concepts and advanced technologies will significantly reduce weapon system life-cycle costs while meeting the strike weapon system requirements of military customers. Procurement is planned to continue through 2026 and possibly beyond. JSF aircraft may well stay in service until 2060 or longer. An internally mounted electro-optical targeting system (EOTS) is installed in the nose of the F-35, enhancing both air-to-ground and air-to-air capabilities. The EOTS will provide long-range, high-resolution targeting-infrared imagery; laser-target designation; and battle-damage-assessment capability. This system will provide pinpoint weapons-delivery accuracy for close air support and deep-strike missions.A distributed-aperture-infrared sensor system will provide full spherical infrared coverage around the aircraft. In addition to providing warnings of missile launches, information from the system can be displayed on the pilot's helmet visor, permitting the pilot to see "through" the airplane's structure in all directions, and eliminating the need for night-vision goggles. This system will dramatically increase the ability of the F-35 to conduct any type of mission at night.

#### The F-35 is more effective than most of the current fighters used today.

**GlobalSecurity**, F-35 Joint Strike Fighter (JSF) Lightning II, 3.6.**12,** http://www.globalsecurity.org/military/systems/aircraft/f-35.htm

The F-35 Joint Strike Fighter will be: Four times more effective than legacy fighters in air-to-air engagements Eight times more effective than legacy fighters in prosecuting missions against fixed and mobile targetsThree times more effective than legacy fighters **in** non-traditional Intelligence Surveillance Reconnaissance (ISR) and Suppression of Enemy Air Defenses and Destruction of Enemy Air Defenses (SEAD/DEAD) missions. About the same in procurement cost as legacy fighters, but requires significantly less tanker/transport and less infrastructure with a smaller basing footprint

#### F-35’s capabilities make it supierior to any enemy aircraft.

**Lockheed Martin,** F-35 Lightning II Defining the Future, 7.21.**11,**

http://www.lockheedmartin.com/content/dam/lockheed/data/aero/documents/f-35/collateral/f35\_brochure\_a11-34324e001.pdf

All-aspect, advanced stealth enables the F-35 to dramatically reduce the detection and engagement ranges of enemy defense systems or aircraft. The F-35’s shape, embedded antennas, aligned edges, internal weapons and fuel, and special coatings all contribute to its Very Low Observable (VLO) stealth capability. Next-generation avionics and sensor fusion give the pilot real-time access to battlefield information and an unparalleled ability to dominate the tactical environment. This unmatched situational awareness, along with the aircraft’s extreme agility, acceleration and stealth, provides a tactical advantage over all adversary aircraft.