

LoFLYTE makes first flight in Mojave [AF press release]

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Subject: LoFLYTE makes first flight in Mojave [AF press release]

[From the Air Force News Service]

LoFLYTE makes first flight at Mojave Airfield, Calif.

WRIGHT-PATTERSON AFB, Ohio (AFNS) -- One day before the 93rd anniversary of the Wright brothers' 12-second flight at Kitty Hawk, N.C., a small, remotely-piloted model of a hypersonic flight vehicle made its maiden, 34-second flight on the opposite side of the country.

LoFLYTE, for Low Observable Flight Test Experiment, is a 100 inch-long replica of a vehicle that might fly at Mach 5.5. Its first flight Dec. 16 was from Mojave Airfield, Calif.

Managed by Wright Laboratory here in a partnership with NASA, the wedge-shaped LoFLYTE vehicle took off at about 11 a.m. PST, reached an altitude of about 150 feet, and made a 180-degree turn before experiencing some flight control anomalies causing its ground-based operator to land it "wheels up" on sand alongside the runway.

For remainder see:
http://www.dtic.dla.mil/airforcelink/news/Jan1997/n19970106_970018.html

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-- GC

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