



content	new	all
<a href="#">articles</a>	12	1140
<a href="#">headlines</a>	78	5840
<a href="#">videos</a>	0	43
<a href="#">links</a>	0	246
<a href="#">users</a>	75	8974
<a href="#">blogs</a>	150	11694
<a href="#">forum</a>	233	16060
<a href="#">store</a>	*	*

**GNN'S IRAQ DOC OUT ON DVD!**

**BATTLE GROUND**  
21 DAYS ON THE EMPIRE'S EDGE

"A movingly human and many-sided portrait of the war." - NYT Magazine



[GNN STORE](#) ▶

Buy GNN's award-winning DVDs



[TRUE LIES](#) ▶

The GNN Book

"Inflammatory" - NY Observer

[Sign up for the GNN newsletter](#) to get the first word on video premieres and breaking news. ▶

[Check out the GNN 2.0 blog](#) to get the latest news about site updates and features. ▶

[Read the GNN FAQ](#) for information about the site, forum rules and other GNN 2.0 information. ▶

[Optimized for FireFox](#)

To download the Firefox web browser, [visit mozilla.com](#) ▶

# H09238

Headlines : Corporations

## Boeing unveils lightweight bomb for urban combat

Tue, 23 May 2006 08:32:20 -0700

**Summary:**

We've all heard this before: the military is developing more sophisticated weaponry that will dramatically reduce civilian casualties. This has been the U.S. military's standard line since Vietnam, but as long as the military arms itself with weapons like depleted uranium and cluster bombs, there will be massive civilian casualties.

[Posted By [senssensitivityr](#)]

By Associated Press  
Republished from [Associated Press](#)  
Company's defense unit will make 24,000 for Air Force

Boeing Co. on Monday unveiled a line of small, lightweight bombs that the U.S. Air Force will use in urban combat situations like the war in Iraq.

The small-diameter bombs weigh 250 pounds and can be used by all Air Force bombers, according to Boeing. By using the smaller bombs, planes can carry about four times as many bombs and fire them from farther away. A B-2 Stealth bomber can carry as many as 80 of the small-diameter bombs.

The bombs also will help limit civilian casualties during airstrikes in urban areas, Air Force Col. Richard Justice said at an unveiling ceremony. Boeing said its own tests show the bombs hit within 4 feet of their target.

Justice said Boeing's development of the bomb was one of the speediest and most successful weapons development in Air Force history. He said the bomb should be used in combat as early as this summer.

Boeing, based in Chicago but whose defense operations are based in the St. Louis area, said it will make 24,000 small-diameter bombs for the Air Force, which has contracted to buy them through 2015.

The small-diameter bomb contract is valued at about \$2.5 billion, but Boeing has only won the first phase of the whole project.

Last year, the Government Accountability Office – the investigative arm of Congress – found that Boeing's contract for the bombs had been influenced by an Air Force official who was sentenced to nine months in prison for giving Boeing preferential treatment.

Boeing tried to recruit Darleen Druyun for a job while she still oversaw military contracts with the company. Lockheed Martin Corp., Boeing's biggest competitor, complained that Druyun influenced the small-diameter bomb contract.

The GAO upheld that complaint and recommended the second phase of the contract should be opened up to bidding.

Winning the first phase of the contract has been good news for Boeing, which hasn't always benefited from changing war plans at the Pentagon. The company makes some military equipment that could get the ax as Pentagon planners shift priorities.

Boeing spokesman Steve Miller said the company might have to cut back production of its C-17 Globemaster III, a large transport plane. Miller said there is risk that Congress won't approve funding for more Globemasters in the 2007 budget.



Posted by [senssensitivity](#)

## ☰ RECENT COMMENTS

---

Well I for one applaud this latest innovation. It's about time someone did something to improve the working conditions of air force ground crew. I mean, 250 pounds is still a hefty load to hoist, but it's certainly an improvement from lugging those 500 pounders around – 'can you say lower back pain'?

And the icing on the cake? Increased job security! They're going to be making 24,000 of these little suckers. More bombs = more ground crew. (Unless of course they decide to outsource bomb loading to Bangladesh, but I can't see how they'd make it work logistically.)

[MarcheurDeCiel](#) @ 05/26/06 04:21:44

10000 pounds of bombs dropped will always do the damage of about 10000 pounds of bombs.

Split 40 ways in an urban setting? ” will help limit civilian casualties ”?

Well shock and awe

When you induce terror and leave them living does that make you a terrorist?

[mtnlungta](#) @ 05/26/06 05:49:40

All bombing is terrorism...no matter who does it.

[brujo](#) @ 05/26/06 08:54:24

Lets cut to the chase, exploding lollypops and candies are sure to bring down all medical facilities and demoralize any enemy. Cakes for big

wigs. Smart bombs disguised as pizza deliverymen. Yea keep working DARPA nerds, yer so smart guys I pee my pants.

[mikecimerian](#) @ 05/26/06 09:00:12

Truman on the number of lives saved by the bombings of Hiroshima and Nagasaki :

December 15, 1945: "It occurred to me that a quarter of a million of the flower of our young manhood was worth a couple of Japanese cities."

Late 1946: "A year less of war will mean life for three hundred thousand-maybe half a million-of America's finest youth."

October 1948: "In the long run we could save a quarter of a million young Americans from being killed, and would save an equal number of Japanese young men from being killed."

April 6, 1949: "I thought 200,000 of our young men would be saved."

November 1949: Truman quotes Army Chief of Staff George S. Marshall as estimating the cost of an Allied invasion of Japan to be "half a million casualties."

January 12, 1953: Still quoting Marshall, Truman raises the estimate to "a minimum one quarter of a million" and maybe "as much as a million, on the American side alone, with an equal number of the enemy."

Finally, on April 28, 1959, Truman concluded: "the dropping of the bombs...saved millions of lives."

END OF QUOTE

Source : Mickey Z [WMD American-Style](#) ( in which he reminds us that the reason the US MIC bombed Japan is to "impress" Russia).

[ubiquity](#) @ 05/26/06 11:53:39

What do you think? Is Dick Justice a great name for an air force colonel?

[ubiquity](#) @ 05/26/06 12:01:17

[View Full Thread](#) 

In accordance with Title 17 U.S.C. Section 107, this material is distributed without profit to those who have expressed a prior interest in receiving the included information for research and educational purposes. GNN.tv has no affiliation with the originator of this article nor is GNN.tv endorsed or sponsored by the originator. If you wish to use copyrighted material from this site for purposes of your own that go beyond 'fair use', you must obtain permission from the copyright owner.



user name \_\_\_\_\_

**GNN 2.0 Beta**

[Create your own GNN profile/blog page.](#)