



# NEWS RELEASE

## United States Air Force

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### **F-22A Raptor, T/N 02-4037 ACCIDENT INVESTIGATION COMPLETE**

**JOINT BASE SAN ANTONIO-RANDOLPH, Texas** – Air Force officials announced the results of an F-22A accident investigation today. The investigation into the May 31, 2012, F-22A Raptor mishap at Tyndall AFB, Fla., determined the mishap was due to pilot error.

The mishap pilot, assigned to the 325th Fighter Wing's 43rd Fighter Squadron, failed to advance power before he initiated gear retraction.

The Accident Investigation Board (AIB) president found clear and convincing evidence that the causes of the mishap were the pilot's failure to advance the aircraft's engines to military power and the pilot's premature retraction of the landing gear during a touch-and-go landing. Without sufficient thrust, the aircraft settled back to the runway, landing on its underside. The aircraft then skidded along the runway to a stop.

The pilot was able to safely exit the aircraft, suffering only minor injuries. There were no fatalities, significant injuries, or damage to civilian property. The estimated cost to repair the F-22A is approximately \$35 million.

The president of the Accident Investigation Board was Col. Richard M. Murphy. He is assigned as the Special Assistant to HQ AETC/CC at Joint Base San Antonio-Randolph AFB, Texas.