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X-47B Completes Cali Flight Testing, Moves to the East Coast

by JOHN REED on JUNE 14, 2012

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Anyone out there see a second UFO, I mean shrink-wrapped Northrop Grumman X-47B unmanned combat air system demonstrator (UCAS-D) being shipped across the country via flatbed truck this past week?

Remember how a small town in Kansas had a little UFO freak out in December as the first shrink-wrapped X-47B passed through it on its way from Edwards Air Force Base in California to Naval Air Station Patuxent River in Maryland? Well, small towns across America just had another opportunity to mistake the second X-47B for a flying saucer as it made its way from Edwards to Maryland this week, arriving at Pax River this morning (shown above).

That's because X-47B number two just completed its flight tests out at Edwards, ending the first major phase of stealthy jet's flight testing — dubbed air worthiness testing — meant to ensure the plane will fly as designed.

Both X-47Bs are now taking baby steps toward landing and taking off from an aircraft carrier, starting with flying carrier-like landing approaches, then landing on the outline of a carrier flight deck painted on one of PAX River's runways and finally landing on a carrier in 2013 using a version of [this technology](#). Oh, and in 2014, it will perform air-to-air refueling using [this tech](#).

Click through the jump to watch the video of Kansans reacting to the first X-47B going through their town.