

# Classified US satellite launched from California after delay

January 13 2018

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A Delta IV rocket lifts off from Space Launch Complex-6 just after 2:11 p.m. PDT, from Vandenberg Air Force Base, Calif., on Friday, Jan. 12, 2018. The rocket is carrying a classified U.S. satellite. (Len Wood/The Santa Maria Times via AP)

A rocket carrying a classified U.S. satellite has blasted off from California.

The Delta 4 [rocket](#) lifted off from coastal Vandenberg Air Force Base at 2:11 p.m. Friday and headed toward orbit.

Its payload is a satellite dubbed NROL-47 for the National Reconnaissance Office.

The office is in charge of designing, building, launching and maintaining U.S. intelligence satellites.

The rocket was supposed to launch on Wednesday but [high winds](#) and then equipment problems caused several delays.

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