The U.S. Air Force’s B-2 Spirit stealth bomber is the flagship of the nation’s long-range strike arsenal, and one of the most survivable aircraft in the world. Its unique capabilities, including its stealth characteristics, allow it to penetrate the most sophisticated defenses and hold at risk high value, heavily defended enemy targets. The B-2 has demonstrated its capabilities in several combat scenarios, most recently during Operation Iraqi Freedom.

The B-2 is the only U.S. aircraft that combines long range, large payload and stealth in a single platform, giving it the ability to project air power anywhere in the world. It can fly more than 6,000 nautical miles unrefueled and more than 10,000 nautical miles with just one aerial refueling.

Northrop Grumman, the B-2 prime contractor, leads an industry team that is working with the Air Force to modernize the B-2 to ensure that it remains fully mission capable against evolving worldwide threats.

The B-2 fleet consists of 21 aircraft, 20 of which are based at Whiteman Air Force Base, Mo., home of the 509th Bomb Wing. One aircraft is assigned to flight-testing at Edwards AFB, Calif. to validate software and weapon systems upgrades.

**SPECIFICATIONS:**
- Type: Strategic, long-range, multi-role bomber
- Crew: Two (pilot and mission commander)
- Wingspan: 172 ft
- Length: 69 ft
- Height: 17 ft
- Top Speed: High subsonic
- Combat Ceiling: 50,000 ft
- Range: 6,000 nm (unrefueled)
- 10,000 nm (1 refueling)
- Payload: > 40,000 lbs
- Gross Takeoff Weight: 336,500 lbs