

# Partners seek new U.S. fighter secrets

Australia, Britain and Norway could withdraw from the F-35 Joint Strike Fighter project unless the U.S. agrees to “technology transfers” required to maintain and upgrade the aircraft. London is also angry over the Bush administration’s plan to scrap an Anglo-American backup engine

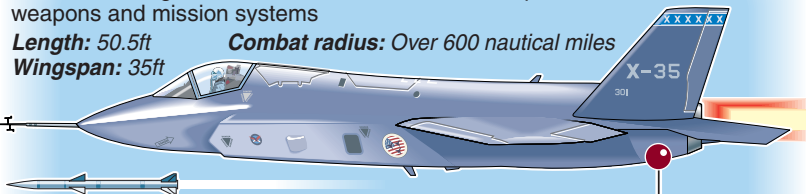
**F-35:** Stealth fighter with advanced radar, weapons and mission systems

Price per aircraft: **\$45-60 million**

**Length:** 50.5ft

**Combat radius:** Over 600 nautical miles

**Wingspan:** 35ft



**Weapons:** Two 2,000lb GBU-31 bombs, two AIM-120 air-to-air missiles and port-side 27mm cannon

**Backup engine:** Developed by General Electric and Rolls-Royce

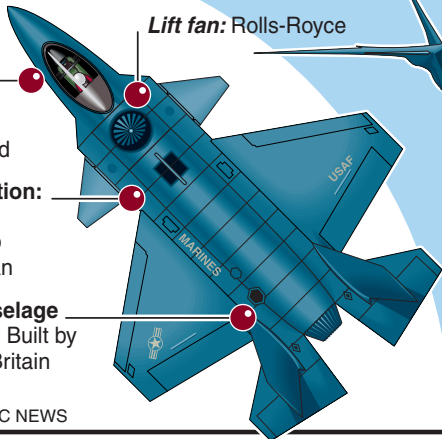
**Kit plane:** Built in “stuffed” sections, complete with all wiring and components

**Lift fan:** Rolls-Royce

**Front section:**  
Built by Lockheed

**Mid section:**  
Built by Northrop Grumman

**Rear fuselage and tail:** Built by BAE in Britain



Partners	Investment
United States	<b>\$256bn</b>
United Kingdom	<b>\$2bn</b>
Italy	<b>\$1bn</b>
Netherlands	<b>\$1bn</b>
Turkey	<b>\$175m</b>
Australia	<b>\$144m</b>
Norway	<b>\$122m</b>
Denmark	<b>\$110m</b>
Canada	<b>\$100m</b>