

***MARINE AMPHIBIOUS ASSAULT:
SANTA CATALINA ISLAND
MAY 10, 2007***



***FROM THE HALLS OF MONTEZUMA
TO THE SHORES OF... CATALINA???***

Tip for Defense Tech?

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TO THE SHORES OF . . . CATALINA?



The Navy/Marine Corps team used their LCACs (Landing Craft, Air Cushion) in an unorthodox way during the recent brushfires on Santa Catalina Island, about 20 miles off the coast of Los Angeles. The military knew the quickest way to get vehicles over to the island was by LCACs from Camp Pendleton Marine Base down in San Diego County, so they offered their services to the local firefighters. Resultantly, they were able to quickly bring lots of fire equipment into the fight in a hurry.

All told, the sealift delivered close to 50 fire engines to the island (six per trip). Along with the air-tanker support (both fixed- and rotor-wing), the fire was just barely kept out of Avalon, the only town on the island.

(Gouge: MA)

-- [Ward](#)May 15, 2007 07:00 AM | [Jarhead Jazz](#) | [Discuss](#)

THE JASSM SPASM

Lockheed Martin, which builds the [Joint Air to Surface Standoff Missile](#), had some disappointing results during a test last week that raised even more difficult questions about the ongoing development program.

(Photo from Lockheed Martin)

From the [Orlando Sentinel](#):

Last week, the company confirmed that "anomalies were experienced" in four JASSM tests conducted at a missile range in Utah in early May.

Lockheed would not provide details or speculate on the cause, citing an ongoing inquiry into what went wrong.



Three missiles apparently missed the target area entirely and one hit pay dirt but failed to detonate properly.

"If you're a JASSM supporter, this could not have come out at a worse time," noted Christopher Hellman, a defense analyst for the Center for Arms Control & Non-

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