



Ron Kunz and Linden Blue display an image taken by the Lynx Block 20 radar (photos by Dante Moran).



Participants at ESI's celebration of the delivery of the 100th Lynx radar gather next to a banner at top right, which was created by graphics illustrator Dante Moran.

GA-ESI Celebrates 100th Lynx Radar

GA Electronic Systems Inc. (ESI) celebrated a major milestone in early May, the delivery of the 100th Lynx® Block 20 Synthetic Aperture Radar (SAR). ESI delivered the radar system to GA-ASI's Reconnaissance Systems Group (RSG) in April.

Present at the May 1 commemoration were Mr. and Mrs. **Neal Blue, Linden P. Blue**, the company's Board of Directors, and many GA and GATC senior executives, as well as all employees of GA-ESI.

"The reason we are here today is to recognize and celebrate an achievement and accomplishment, in which all of you respectively have had a role to play," said Chairman Neal Blue. He told of the transition from the time when GA's radar was first

(Continued on Page 2)

Predator C Avenger Takes to the Air

Next Generation UAS — After much anticipation, the next generation aircraft in the Predator® unmanned aircraft system (UAS) series, Predator C Avenger®, premiered in early April. The first flight of the multi-mission, jet-powered Avenger occurred April 4 at GA-ASI's Gray Butte Flight Operations Facility in Palmdale, with subsequent flights successfully executed on April 13 and 14. "Following in the footsteps of the proven Predator B, Avenger adds yet another flexible and multi-mission capability to the Predator UAS series and is a testament to GA-ASI's practice of developing and delivering proven unmanned aircraft to military customers," said **Tom Cassidy**, President of ASI's Aircraft Systems Group (ASG). Avenger was designed and developed with the intent of making a UAS that was more survivable in higher threat environments and to provide the U.S. Air Force and other potential customers with an expanded quick-response armed reconnaissance capability.

The aircraft will have higher operational and transit speeds than current Predator-series aircraft, resulting in fast response and rapid repositioning for improved mission flexibility and survivability. Wide-area surveillance, armed reconnaissance, border surveillance, time-sensitive strike, and quick response capability missions for use against conventional and asymmetric threats (e.g. terrorists, pirates) are among its key missions. The test program for Predator C Avenger is ongoing.

River Flooding Monitoring — In late March and early April, U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP) diverted a Predator B aircraft from its typical border patrol mission out of Grand Forks, ND, to the Red River Valley to monitor and assess flooding and damage caused by heavy winter storms that followed a quick spring thaw. The aircraft's Lynx® radar imagery was disseminated to local, state and federal response groups. North Dakota Governor John Hoeven wrote that the

(Continued on Page 2)

GA Wins \$573M Contract For Production of EMALS

GA is being awarded a \$573,000,000 ceiling priced contract for the production of the Electromagnetic Aircraft Launch System (EMALS) CVN 78 Shipset. EMALS is the catapult launch system on CVN-78 class aircraft carriers, replacing the steam catapults used on prior generations of carriers. Work will be performed in San Diego, CA; Tupelo, MS; Mankato, MN; Waltham, MA; and various locations across the U.S. The work is expected to be completed in September 2015. The Naval Air Warfare Center Aircraft Division, Lakehurst, NJ, is the contracting activity.