GA-ASI Completes First Phase of Navy Support Contract for NMQ-1B RPA

General Atomics Aeronautical Systems completed the first phase of a maintenance contract for Navy NMQ-1B remotely piloted aircraft. Shown here is an Air Force MQ-1B. U.S. Air Force / Staff Sgt. Brian Ferguson

SAN DIEGO – General Atomics Aeronautical Systems, Inc. (GA-ASI) recently completed the first phase of a maintenance and operational support contract awarded by the Naval Air Warfare Center Weapons Division (NAWCWD), the company said in a Nov. 6 release.

The first phase of the contract provided for the maintenance of Navy NMQ-1B remoted piloted aircraft (RPA) located at Naval Base Ventura County, Point Mugu, California. The second phase will involve operational training support for pilots to operate the NMQ-1s, which will be used as targets in Navy training scenarios.

“We look forward to further collaboration opportunities with the U.S. Navy,” said Barton Roper, GA-ASI senior vice president of Strategic Development. “Our Predator-series RPA have a proven record of success as assets for military training and real-world operations.”

Phase 2 of the contract is expected to be executed in early 2021, culminating with a Navy NMQ-1B operational evaluation flight.