

GBU-27A/B Paveway III GPS/LGB [BLU-109/B] (USAF)

Guided Weapon

Type: Guided Weapon

Weight: 984.0 kg

Length: 4.24 m

Span: 1.68 m

Length: 4.24 m

Diameter: 0.46

Generation: None

Properties: Weapon - INS w/ GNSS Navigation, Uses GPS

Targets: Surface Vessel, Land Structure - Soft, Land Structure - Hardened, Runway, Mobile Target - Soft, Mobile Target - Hardened

Sensors / EW:

- Laser Spot Tracker (LGB) - (Paveway II CCG, Fixed and Mobile) Laser Spot Tracker (LST), LST, Laser Spot Tracker, Max range: 0 km

Weapons / Loadouts:

- GBU-27A/B Paveway III GPS/LGB [BLU-109/B] - (USAF) Guided Weapon. Surface Max: 14.8 km. Land Max: 14.8 km.

OVERVIEW: The GBU-27A/B Paveway III is a laser and GPS guided bomb (LGB).

DETAILS: The GBU-27A/B Paveway III is intended for precision bombing against hardened targets. Intended for low-level delivery, it uses a mid-course autopilot and a more sensitive seeker than earlier Paveway I and II. The Paveway III consists of a bolt-on gimballed seeker head and Computer Control Group (CCG) and a stabilizing tail airfoil assembly attached to a conventional BLU-109/B penetrating bomb. This converts the BLU-109/B into a laser-guided weapon that homes in on a reflected laser beam transmitted from a ground or air-based laser designator. Unlike the earlier Paveway I and II series, the Paveway III-series bomb uses a microprocessor to provide proportional control to the control surfaces, giving smaller control surface deflections and a smoother flight path, resulting in a significant increase in range over its predecessors. Reported accuracy is 9 meters CEP. The GPS receiver allows employment of the GBU-27A/B in all weather. The BLU-109/B is capable of penetrating 4-6 feet of reinforced concrete.

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NOTES: The GBU-27 is a GBU-24 modified for delivery by the F-117. First combat use in 2003.

SOURCES: Jane's Air Launched Weapons "Paveway (GBU-10/11/12/16/17/24, January 01, 1997 ; Friedman, Norman. The Naval Institute Guide to World Naval Weapon Systems, 1997-1998 Annapolis, Md: Naval Institute Press, 1998, pg. 253-54 ; Laser Guided Bombs (LGB) | NAVAIR - U.S. Navy Naval Air Systems Command - Navy and Marine Corps Aviation Research, Development, Acquisition, Test and Evaluation. (n.d.). Retrieved from <http://www.navair.navy.mil/index.cfm?fuseaction=home.displayPlatform&key=8ABEF0AFF-CF7B-4649-A502-38E4E0A42F37> ; Raytheon Paveway III. (n.d.). Retrieved from <http://www.designation-systems.net/dusrm/app5/paveway-3.html> ; BLU-109 / I-2000 / HAVE VOID - Dumb Bombs. (n.d.). Retrieved from <http://www.globalsecurity.org/military/systems/munitions/blu-109-specs.htm> ; EGBU-27 Paveway III. (n.d.). Retrieved from http://www.deagel.com/Bombs-and-Guidance-Kits/EGBU-27-Paveway-III_a001151006.aspx