

NORTHROP GRUMMAN CORP /DE/
Form S-3
January 18, 2002

As filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission on January 18, 2002
Registration No. 333-

SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION
Washington, D.C. 20549

FORM S-3
REGISTRATION STATEMENT
UNDER
THE SECURITIES ACT OF 1933

NORTHROP GRUMMAN CORPORATION
(Exact name of Registrant as specified in its charter)

Delaware 95-4840775
(State or other jurisdiction of (I.R.S. Employer
incorporation or organization) Identification No.)

1840 Century Park East
Los Angeles, California 90067
(310) 553-6262
(Address, including zip code, and telephone number, including area code, of
Registrant's principal executive offices)

John H. Mullan, Esq., Corporate Vice President And Secretary
NORTHROP GRUMMAN CORPORATION
1840 Century Park
East Los Angeles, California 90067
(310) 553-6262
(Name, address, including zip code, and telephone number, including area code,
of agent for service)

Copies to:
John D. Hussey, Esq.
Sheppard, Mullin, Richter & Hampton LLP
333 South Hope Street, 48th Floor
Los Angeles, California 90071
(213) 620-1780

Approximate date of commencement of proposed sale to public: As soon as
practicable after this registration statement becomes effective.

If the only securities being registered on this Form are being offered
pursuant to dividend or interest reinvestment plans, please check the following
box.

Edgar Filing: NORTHROP GRUMMAN CORP /DE/ - Form S-3

If any of the securities being registered on this Form are to be offered on a delayed or continuous basis pursuant to Rule 415 under the Securities Act of 1933, other than securities offered only in connection with dividend or reinvestment plans, please check the following box. [X]

If this Form is filed to register additional securities for an offering pursuant to Rule 462(b) under the Securities Act, please check the following box and list the Securities Act registration statement number of the earlier effective registration statement for the same offering. []

If this Form is a post-effective amendment filed pursuant to Rule 462(c) under the Securities Act, check the following box and list the Securities Act registration statement number of the earlier effective registration statement for the same offering. []

If delivery of the prospectus is expected to be made pursuant to Rule 434, please check the following box. []

CALCULATION OF REGISTRATION FEE

TITLE OF EACH CLASS OF SECURITIES TO BE REGISTERED	AMOUNT TO BE REGISTERED (1) (2)	PROPOSED MAXIMUM OFFERING PRICE PER UNIT (2)	PROPOSED MAXIMUM AGGREGATE OFFERING PRICE (1) (2)	AMOUNT OF REGISTRATION FEE

Debt Securities, Preferred Stock, \$1.00 par value, Common Stock, \$1.00 par value (3) (4), Warrants to Purchase Debt Securities, Warrants to Purchase Equity Securities, Stock Purchase Contracts and Stock Purchase Units of Northrop Grumman Corporation.....			\$2,000,000,000	\$184,000 (6)
Capital Securities of Northrop Grumman Corporation.....	(5)	(5)	(5)	None

(1) In no event will the aggregate initial offering price of the Debt Securities, Preferred Stock, Common Stock, Warrants to Purchase Debt Securities and Warrants to Purchase Equity Securities, Stock Purchase Contracts and Stock Purchase Units issued under this Registration Statement exceed \$2,000,000,000 or, if any securities are in any foreign currency units, the U.S. dollar equivalent of \$2,000,000,000, and if any securities are issued at original issue discount, such greater amount as shall result in an aggregate offering price not to exceed \$2,000,000,000.

(2) Not applicable pursuant to General Instruction II D to Form S-3.

(3) Includes Preferred Share Purchase Rights ("Rights"). Prior to the occurrence

Edgar Filing: NORTHROP GRUMMAN CORP /DE/ - Form S-3

of certain events, the Rights will not be exercisable or evidenced separately from the Common Stock.

- (4) The aggregate amount of Common Stock registered hereunder is limited to that which is permissible under Rule 415(a)(4) of the Securities Act.
- (5) In addition to any Preferred Stock or Common Stock that may be issued directly under this Registration Statement, there are being registered hereunder an indeterminate number of shares of Preferred Stock or Common Stock as may be issued upon conversion or exchange of Debt Securities or Preferred Stock, as the case may be. No separate consideration will be received for any shares of Preferred Stock or Common Stock so issued upon conversion or exchange.
- (6) Pursuant to Rule 457(p) under the Securities Act, \$51,450 of the filing fee paid with respect to Registration Statement No. 333-73484 filed by the Registrant on November 16, 2001 is offset against the currently due filing fee.

The information in this Prospectus is not complete and may be changed. We may not sell these securities until the Registration Statement filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission is effective. This Prospectus is not an offer to sell these securities and it is not soliciting an offer to buy these securities in any state where the offer or sale is not permitted.

PROSPECTUS

Subject to Completion, Dated January 18, 2002

\$2,000,000,000

Northrop Grumman Corporation

Debt Securities
Preferred Stock
Common Stock
Warrants to Purchase Debt Securities
Warrants to Purchase Equity Securities
Stock Purchase Contracts
Stock Purchase Units

You should read this prospectus and any supplement carefully before you invest.

This prospectus describes debt and equity securities that we may issue and sell at various times:

- . Our prospectus supplements will contain the specific terms of each issuance of debt or equity securities.
- . We can issue debt and equity securities with a total offering price of up to \$2,000,000,000 under this prospectus.
- . We may sell the debt and equity securities to or through underwriters, dealers or agents. We also may sell debt and equity securities directly to investors.

Our common shares are listed on the New York Stock Exchange under the trading symbol "NOC." We will not sell any of the securities being offered

Edgar Filing: NORTHROP GRUMMAN CORP /DE/ - Form S-3

without delivery of the applicable prospectus supplement describing the method and terms of the offering of such series of securities being offered. Any common stock sold pursuant to a prospectus supplement will be listed on the New York Stock Exchange, subject to official notice of issuance.

Neither the Securities and Exchange Commission nor any state securities regulator has approved or disapproved of these securities, or determined if this prospectus is truthful or complete. Any representation to the contrary is a criminal offense.

This prospectus is dated _____, 2002.

TABLE OF CONTENTS

ABOUT THIS PROSPECTUS.....	2
WHERE YOU CAN FIND MORE INFORMATION.....	3
FORWARD-LOOKING STATEMENTS AND IMPORTANT FACTORS.....	4
NORTHROP GRUMMAN CORPORATION.....	6
USE OF PROCEEDS.....	8
RATIO OF EARNINGS TO FIXED CHARGES.....	8
DESCRIPTION OF DEBT SECURITIES.....	9
DESCRIPTION OF PREFERRED STOCK.....	15
DESCRIPTION OF COMMON STOCK.....	18
DESCRIPTION OF WARRANTS.....	19
DESCRIPTION OF THE STOCK PURCHASE CONTRACTS AND STOCK PURCHASE UNITS	20
PLAN OF DISTRIBUTION.....	21
VALIDITY OF THE DEBT AND EQUITY SECURITIES.....	22
EXPERTS.....	22

ABOUT THIS PROSPECTUS

This prospectus is part of a registration statement that we filed with the SEC using a "shelf" registration process. Under this shelf registration process, we may sell any combination of the debt and equity securities described in this prospectus in one or more offerings for total proceeds of up to \$2,000,000,000. This prospectus provides you with a general description of the securities we may offer. Each time we sell securities, we will provide a prospectus supplement that will contain specific information about the terms of that offering. This prospectus supplement may add, update or change information contained in this prospectus. It is important for you to consider the information contained in this prospectus and any prospectus supplement together with additional information described under the heading, "Where You Can Find More Information."

Edgar Filing: NORTHROP GRUMMAN CORP /DE/ - Form S-3

References to "Northrop Grumman" refer to Northrop Grumman Corporation. Unless the context requires otherwise, references to "we," "us" or "our" refer collectively to Northrop Grumman and its subsidiaries.

You should rely only on the information incorporated by reference or provided in the prospectus or a prospectus supplement. We have not authorized anyone else to provide you with different information. Neither we, nor any other person on behalf of us, are making an offer to sell or soliciting an offer to buy any of the securities described in this prospectus or in a prospectus supplement in any state where the offer is not permitted by law. You should not assume that the information in this prospectus or a prospectus supplement is accurate as of any date other than the date on the front of the documents. There may have been changes in our affairs since the date of the prospectus or a prospectus supplement.

2

WHERE YOU CAN FIND MORE INFORMATION

Northrop Grumman and its subsidiaries have filed annual, quarterly and current reports, proxy statements and other information with the SEC. You may read and copy any such report, statement or other information at the SEC's public reference rooms at 450 Fifth Street, N.W., Room 1024, Washington, D.C. 20549, and Citicorp Center, 500 West Madison Street, Suite 1400, Chicago, Illinois 60661. You may obtain additional information about the public reference rooms by calling the SEC at 1-800-SEC-0330. In addition, the SEC maintains a site on the Internet at <http://www.sec.gov> that contains reports, proxy statements and other information regarding issuers that file electronically with the SEC. You may also read such reports, proxy statements and other documents at the offices of the New York Stock Exchange at 20 Broad Street, New York, New York 10005.

We are "incorporating by reference" information into this prospectus. This means that we are disclosing important information to you by referring you to another document that has been filed separately with the SEC. The information incorporated by reference is considered to be part of this prospectus. Information that is filed with the SEC after the date of this prospectus will automatically modify and supersede the information included or incorporated by reference in this prospectus to the extent that the subsequently filed information modifies or supersedes the existing information. We incorporate by reference our future filings with the SEC under Section 13(a), 13(c), 14 or 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 until we complete this offering.

The following documents filed with the SEC by Northrop Grumman are hereby incorporated by reference:

- . Quarterly Reports on Form 10-Q for the fiscal quarters ended March 31, 2001, June 30, 2001 and September 30, 2001;
- . Current Reports on Form 8-K and Form 8-K/A filed April 17, 2001 and June 14, 2001, respectively; Current Reports on Form 8-K filed November 14, 2001, November 16, 2001, November 21, 2001 and December 14, 2001 and Current Report on Form 8-K/A filed January 14, 2002; and
- . Form 8-A registering our common stock under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, filed on March 28, 2001.

The following document filed with the SEC by Northrop Grumman Systems Corporation (SEC File Number 2-26850) is hereby incorporated by reference:

Edgar Filing: NORTHROP GRUMMAN CORP /DE/ - Form S-3

- . Annual Report on Form 10-K/A for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2000.

The following documents filed with the SEC by Litton Industries, Inc. (SEC File Number 1-3998) are hereby incorporated by reference:

- . Annual Report on Form 10-K for the fiscal year ended July 31, 2000; and
- . Quarterly Reports on Form 10-Q for the fiscal quarters ended October 31, 2000 and January 31, 2001.

You may request a copy of any of these filings at no cost by writing to or telephoning us at the following address and telephone number: John H. Mullan, Corporate Vice President and Secretary, 1840 Century Park East, Los Angeles, California 90067, telephone (310) 553-6262.

We maintain an Internet site at <http://www.northropgrumman.com>. The information contained at our Internet site is not incorporated by reference in this prospectus, and you should not consider it a part of this prospectus.

Any statement made in this prospectus concerning the contents of any contract, agreement or other document is only a summary of the actual document. You may obtain a copy of any document summarized in this prospectus at no cost by writing to or telephoning us at the address and telephone number given above. Each statement regarding a contract, agreement or other document is qualified in its entirety by reference to the actual document.

3

FORWARD-LOOKING STATEMENTS AND IMPORTANT FACTORS

This prospectus and the information incorporated by reference in it contain forward-looking statements within the meaning of the Private Securities Litigation Reform Act of 1995. These statements concern our plans, expectations and objectives for future operations. These include statements and assumptions with respect to expected future revenues, margins, program performance, earnings and cash flows, acquisitions of new contracts, the outcome of competitions for new programs, the outcome of contingencies including litigation and environmental remediation, the effect of completed and planned acquisitions and divestitures of businesses or business assets, the anticipated costs of capital investments, and anticipated industry trends. We base these statements on assumptions and analyses we have made in light of our experience and our historical trends, current conditions and expected future developments as well as other factors we believe are appropriate in the circumstances. Our actual results and trends may differ materially from the information, statements and assumptions as described, and actual results could be materially less than our planned results.

Important factors that should be considered in connection with an investment in our securities and that could cause our actual results to differ materially from those suggested by the forward-looking statements include:

- . We depend on a limited number of customers. We are heavily dependent on government contracts many of which are only partially funded; the termination or failure to fund one or more significant contracts could have a negative impact on our operations. We are a supplier, either directly or as a subcontractor or team member, to the U.S. Government and its agencies as well as foreign governments and agencies. These contracts are subject to each customer's political and budgetary constraints, changes in short-range and long-range plans, the timing of contract awards, the congressional budget authorization and

Edgar Filing: NORTHROP GRUMMAN CORP /DE/ - Form S-3

appropriation processes, the relevant government's ability to terminate contracts for convenience or for default, as well as other risks such as contractor debarment in the event of certain violations of legal and regulatory requirements.

- . Many of our contracts are fixed price contracts. While firm, fixed price contracts allow us to benefit from cost savings, they also expose us to potential cost overruns. If our initial estimates used for calculating the contract price are incorrect, we can incur losses on those contracts. In addition, some of our contracts have provisions relating to cost controls and audit rights and if we fail to meet the terms specified in those contracts then we may not realize their full benefits. Our ability to manage costs on these contracts may affect our financial condition. Lower earnings caused by cost overruns and cost controls would have an adverse effect on our financial results.
- . We are subject to significant competition. Our markets include defense and commercial areas where we compete with companies of substantial size and resources. Our success or failure in winning new contracts or follow on orders for our existing or future products may cause material fluctuations in our future revenues and operating results.
- . Our operations may be subject to events that cause adverse effects on our ability to meet contract obligations within anticipated cost and time parameters. We may encounter internal problems and delays in delivery as a result of issues with respect to design, technology, licensing and patent rights, labor or materials and components that prevent us from achieving contract requirements. We may be affected by delivery or performance issues with key suppliers and subcontractors, as well as other factors inherent in our businesses that may adversely affect operating results. Changes in inventory requirements or other production cost increases may also have a negative impact on our operating results.
- . We must integrate our acquisitions successfully. Acquiring businesses is a significant challenge. If we do not execute our acquisition and integration plans for these businesses in accordance with our strategic timetable, our operating results may be adversely affected. We acquired several businesses in 2000 and we acquired Litton Industries, Inc. and Newport News Shipbuilding Inc. in 2001. We believe our integration processes are well-suited to achieve the anticipated strategic and operating benefits of

4

these acquisitions, but if we do not perform our plans as intended, or if we encounter unforeseen problems in the acquired businesses, or problems in those businesses develop subsequent to acquisition, our operating results may be adversely affected. Among the factors that may be involved would be unforeseen costs and expenses, previously undisclosed liabilities, diversion of management focus, and any effects of complying with government-imposed organizational conflicts of interest rules as a result of the acquisitions.

- . We rely on continuous innovation. We are dependent upon our ability to anticipate changing needs for defense products, military and civilian electronic systems and support, and information technology. Our success is dependent on designing new products which will respond to such requirements within customers' price limitations.

Edgar Filing: NORTHROP GRUMMAN CORP /DE/ - Form S-3

- . We have significant foreign operations and sales, and are therefore subject to the additional risks associated with international activities. These risks include currency fluctuations, devaluation, regional political instability, acts of international terrorists, compliance with foreign laws and U.S. laws affecting the activities of U.S. companies overseas, expropriations, antitrust and export/import controls, taxation, extended span of managerial control, economic conditions, governmental policies requiring inward investment as a prerequisite to transacting business on the government level, practical requirements and restrictions in retaining representatives and consultants in connection with sales efforts, uprisings, acts of war, embargoes and cultural and ethical differences. One or more of these or other international risks could result in an adverse effect on our sales and operations.
- . We assume that any divestiture of non-core businesses and assets will be completed successfully. Our performance may be affected by our inability to successfully dispose of assets and businesses that do not fit with or are no longer appropriate to our strategic plan. If any sales of such businesses or assets can only be made at a loss, our earnings will be negatively impacted.
- . We are subject to environmental and other liabilities. Our performance may be affected by known environmental risks, pending litigation and other loss contingencies, if not resolved within the parameters of our internal plans, and by unanticipated environmental or other liabilities.
- . Our pension income may fluctuate. Pension income, a non-cash item which is included in our earnings, is based on assumptions of market performance and actual performance may differ. If an event causes us to revalue our pension income during the calendar year, the portion of our earnings attributed to pension income could vary significantly.
- . Our indebtedness, primarily incurred in connection with the Litton and Newport News acquisitions, is approximately \$4.229 billion higher at November 30, 2001 than our indebtedness at December 31, 2000. The increase in debt will increase demands on our cash resources.
- . A substantial portion of our employees in the Ship Systems and Newport News sectors are represented by labor unions, and unions represent some of our employees in other sectors as well. If we are unable to maintain satisfactory relations with the unions, our productivity and profitability may suffer. Union representation can involve various activities and tactics, including work stoppages, to achieve negotiated terms in collective bargaining agreements. A negative impact on timely deliveries occasioned by a work stoppage could result in problems with our governmental and other customers and consequently affect operating results in an adverse manner.
- . Our recorded goodwill is no longer being amortized and is subject to annual impairment tests. In June 2001, the Financial Accounting Standards Board issued SFAS No. 142 - Goodwill and Other Intangible Assets. SFAS No. 142 changes the accounting for goodwill from an amortization method to an impairment-only approach. Effective January 1, 2002, we ceased amortizing goodwill, including goodwill recorded in past business combinations. An initial impairment assessment of goodwill must be performed and annual impairment tests must be performed thereafter. We have acquired several businesses for which we have recorded goodwill. We are currently evaluating the effect that SFAS No. 142 will have on our results of operations and financial position. If we determine that some portion of our recorded goodwill has been impaired, our earnings could be adversely affected.

Additional information with respect to risks and uncertainties in our business is contained in our SEC filings, including, without limitation, Northrop Systems' Annual Report on Form 10-K/A for the year ended December 31, 2000 and our Quarterly Reports on Form 10-Q for the quarters ended March 31, 2001, June 30, 2001 and September 30, 2001. We intend all forward looking statements that we make to be subject to safe harbor protection of the federal securities laws as found in Section 27A of the Securities Act of 1933 and Section 21E of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934.

Accordingly, you should not rely on the accuracy of predictions contained in forward-looking statements. These statements speak only as of the date of this prospectus, or, in the case of documents incorporated by reference, the date of those documents. We cannot undertake any obligation to update our forward-looking statements to reflect events, circumstances, changes in expectations or the occurrence of unanticipated events occurring after the date of those statements.

NORTHROP GRUMMAN CORPORATION

We are a leading global aerospace and defense company providing a wide range products and services in defense and commercial electronics, systems integration, information technology and nuclear and non-nuclear shipbuilding and systems. As a prime contractor, principal subcontractor, partner, or preferred supplier, we participate in many high-priority defense and commercial technology programs in the United States and abroad.

We are aligned into six business sectors: Electronic Systems, Information Technology, Integrated Systems, Newport News, Ship Systems and Component Technologies.

Electronic Systems designs, develops and manufactures a wide variety of defense electronics and systems, airspace management systems, precision weapons, marine systems, logistic systems, space systems and automation and information systems. These include fire control radars for the F-16 fighter aircraft, the F-22 air dominance fighter and the Longbow Apache helicopter. Other key products include the AWACS airborne early warning radar, the Joint STARS air-to-ground surveillance radar sensor, the Longbow Hellfire missile and the BAT "brilliant" anti-armor submunition. This sector also provides tactical military radars and countrywide air defense systems, as well as airborne electronic countermeasures systems intended to jam enemy aircraft and weapons systems. Electronic Systems is an international leader in airspace management as a producer of civilian air traffic control systems. The sector also makes sophisticated undersea warfare systems and naval propulsion and power generation systems, as well as postal automation, image processing, material management, asset track and trace and data communication systems. In addition, this sector designs, develops and manufactures inertial navigation, guidance and control, IFF (identification friend or foe) and marine electronic systems, and provides electronic warfare systems and integrates avionics systems and shipboard information and communication systems.

Information Technology is a leader in advanced information technologies, systems and services. Information Technology includes our information systems businesses, which design, develop, integrate and support computer-based information systems and provide information technology and services primarily for government customers. This sector is the prime contractor with the General Services Administration ANSWER and Millennia programs. Information Technology is also part of a team working with the Internal Revenue Service to modernize

Edgar Filing: NORTHROP GRUMMAN CORP /DE/ - Form S-3

the U.S. federal tax system. Information Technology has extensive expertise in command, control, communications, computers, intelligence, surveillance and reconnaissance (C4ISR). It is a key management support element for major weapons systems, such as the U.S. Navy's AEGIS class destroyer as well as mission planning for the U.S. Navy, Air Force and Special Operations Command. Information Technology provides base operations support for NASA's Kennedy Space Center, Cape Canaveral Air Station and Patrick Air Force Base, among others. In addition, this sector provides information technology services to commercial customers and to our other sectors.

6

Integrated Systems is a leader in design, development and production of airborne early warning, electronic warfare and surveillance and battlefield management systems. Integrated Systems is the prime contractor for the Joint STARS advanced airborne targeting and battle management system and the U.S. Air Force's B-2 Spirit stealth bomber. It has a principal role in producing the U.S. Navy's F/A-18 Hornet strike fighter. The sector also is upgrading the EA-6B Prowler electronic countermeasures aircraft and produces the E-2C Hawkeye early-warning aircraft. We have a principal role in the Global Hawk program, a development stage integrated unmanned aerial vehicle for reconnaissance and surveillance. We are also a principal member of the Lockheed Martin Joint Strike Fighter Team.

Newport News is the largest non-government-owned shipyard in the U.S., as measured by each of revenues, size of facilities and number of employees. Its primary business is the design, construction, repair, maintenance, overhaul, life-cycle support and refueling of nuclear-powered aircraft carriers and the design, life-cycle support and construction of nuclear-powered submarines for the U.S. Navy.

Ship Systems is engaged in the building of large multimission non-nuclear surface ships for the U.S. Navy as well as other government and commercial customers and is a provider of overhaul, repair modernization, ship design and engineering services. Key products include amphibious assault ships (WASP LHD 1 Class, San Antonio LPD 17 Class), destroyers (Arleigh Burke DDG 51 Class), sealift transport ships (T-AKR Ro/Ro) and double-hulled oil tankers. In addition, the new Full Service Center, a standalone business within the sector, offers its customers a full range of ship-related services, which cover the entire spectrum of an acquisition program, as well as a worldwide network of fleet support services.

Component Technologies is a premier international supplier of complex backplanes, connectors, laser crystals, solder materials, specialty products, oxygen generating systems and other electronic components used primarily in the aerospace, telecommunications, industrial and computer markets.

Northrop Grumman is a holding company formed in connection with our acquisition of Litton in April 2001. Our principal executive offices are located at 1840 Century Park East, Los Angeles, California 90067 and our telephone number is (310) 553-6262.

7

USE OF PROCEEDS

We will use the net proceeds from the sale of the debt and equity securities for general corporate purposes. These purposes may include repayment of debt,

Edgar Filing: NORTHROP GRUMMAN CORP /DE/ - Form S-3

working capital needs, capital expenditures, acquisitions and any other general corporate purpose. If we identify a specific purpose for the net proceeds of an offering, we will describe that purpose in the applicable prospectus supplement.

RATIO OF EARNINGS TO FIXED CHARGES

The following table sets forth our ratios of earnings to fixed charges for each of the fiscal years ended December 31, 1996 through December 31, 2000 and for the nine months ended September 30, 2001 and 2000.

Nine Months		Year Ended December 31,				
Ended September 30,						
2001	2000	2000	1999	1998	1997	1996
2.32	5.32	5.26	3.78	2.11	2.68	2.50

For purposes of computing the ratios of earnings to fixed charges, earnings represent earnings from continuing operations before income taxes and fixed charges, and fixed charges consist of interest expense, the portion of rental expense calculated to be representative of the interest factor, amortization of discounts and capitalized expenses related to indebtedness, and preferred stock dividends. The ratios should be read in conjunction with the financial statements and other financial data included or incorporated by reference in this prospectus. See "Where You Can Find More Information."

8

DESCRIPTION OF DEBT SECURITIES

As used in this prospectus, "debt securities" means the senior and subordinated debentures, notes, bonds and other evidences of indebtedness that we issue and a trustee authenticates and delivers under the applicable indenture. We will describe the particular terms of any series of debt securities, and the extent to which the general terms summarized below may apply, in the prospectus supplement relating to that series.

We will issue senior debt securities under an existing indenture between Northrop Grumman and JPMorgan Chase Bank, as trustee. We will issue subordinated debt securities under a separate indenture between Northrop Grumman and JPMorgan Chase Bank, as trustee. We have summarized the material provisions of the indentures on the following pages. We filed the senior indenture and the form of the subordinated indenture as exhibits to this registration statement and you should read the indentures for provisions that may be important to you. If you would like more information on these provisions, see "Where You Can Find More Information" on how to locate the indentures.

If we use another trustee or another indenture for a series of debt securities, we will provide the details in a prospectus supplement. We will file the forms of any other indentures with the SEC at the time we use them.

Terms

The indentures provide for the issuance of debt securities in one or more series. A prospectus supplement relating to a series of debt securities will

Edgar Filing: NORTHROP GRUMMAN CORP /DE/ - Form S-3

include specific terms relating to the offering. These terms will include some or all of the following:

- . the title and type of the debt securities;
 - . whether the debt securities will be senior or subordinated debt securities and the terms of the subordination provisions;
 - . any limit on the total principal amount of the debt securities;
 - . the person who will receive interest payments on any debt securities if other than the registered holder;
 - . the price or prices at which we will sell the debt securities;
 - . the maturity date or dates of the debt securities;
 - . the rate or rates, which may be fixed or variable, per annum at which the debt securities will bear interest and the date from which such interest will accrue;
 - . the dates on which interest will be payable and the related record dates;
 - . whether any index, formula or other method will determine payments of principal or interest and the manner of determining the amount of such payments;
 - . the place or places of payments on the debt securities;
 - . whether the debt securities are redeemable;
 - . any redemption dates, prices, obligations and restrictions on the debt securities;
 - . any mandatory or optional sinking fund or purchase fund or analogous provisions;
 - . the denominations of the debt securities if other than \$1,000 or multiples of \$1,000;
 - . the currency of principal and interest payments if other than U.S. Dollars;
 - . any provisions granting special rights if certain events happen;
 - . any deletions from, changes in or additions to the events of default or the covenants specified in the indenture;
- 9
- . any trustees, authenticating or paying agents, transfer agents, registrars or other agents for the debt securities if other than JPMorgan Chase Bank;
 - . any conversion or exchange features of the debt securities;
 - . whether we will issue the debt securities as original issue discount securities for federal income tax purposes;
 - . any special tax implications of the debt securities;

Edgar Filing: NORTHROP GRUMMAN CORP /DE/ - Form S-3

- . the terms of payment upon acceleration; and
- . any other material terms of the debt securities.

We may issue debt securities that are convertible into or exchangeable for our common stock or other securities, or the debt or equity of another company. If we issue these types of debt securities, we will provide additional information in a prospectus supplement.

We may sell debt securities at a discount below their stated principal amount, bearing no interest or interest at a rate that, at the time of issuance, is different than market rates. When we refer to the principal and interest on debt securities, we also mean the payment of any additional amounts that we must pay under the indenture or the debt securities, including amounts for certain taxes, assessments or other governmental charges which holders of debt securities must pay.

Denomination, Form, Payment and Transfer

Normally, we will denominate and make payments on debt securities in U.S. dollars. If we issue debt securities denominated, or with payments, in a foreign or composite currency, a prospectus supplement will specify the currency or composite currency.

We may from time to time issue debt securities as registered securities. This means that holders will be entitled to receive certificates representing the debt securities registered in their name. You can transfer or exchange debt securities in registered form without service charge, upon reimbursement of any taxes or government charges. You can make this transfer or exchange at the trustee's corporate trust office or at any other office we maintain for such purposes. If the debt securities are in registered form, we can pay interest by check mailed to the person in whose name the debt securities are registered on the days specified in the indenture.

As a general rule, however, we will issue debt securities in book-entry form. This means that one or more permanent global certificates registered in the name of a depositary, or a nominee of the depositary, will represent the debt securities. Only persons who have accounts with depositaries, which are known as participants, or persons that may hold interests through participants, can have beneficial ownership interests in global certificates representing a series of debt securities. The depositary will maintain a computerized book-entry and transfer system that keeps track of the principal amounts of debt securities held in the accounts of participants. Participants keep records of the interests of their clients who have purchased debt securities through them. Beneficial ownership interests in debt securities issued in book-entry form may be shown only on, and may be transferred only through, records maintained by the depositary and its participants. Some states require that certain purchasers receive securities only in certificate form. These state laws may limit the ability of beneficial owners to transfer their interests.

The Depository Trust Company, or DTC, frequently acts as the depositary for debt securities. DTC is owned by a number of its participants and by the NYSE, AMEX and the NASD. The information below regarding DTC, which DTC provides, is included informational purposes only. You should not treat it as a representation, warranty or contract modification of any kind. If we issue the debt securities of any series in book-entry form and the depositary is someone other than DTC, we will provide you with additional information in a prospectus supplement.

Edgar Filing: NORTHROP GRUMMAN CORP /DE/ - Form S-3

DTC holds securities that its participants deposit. Participants include securities brokers and dealers, banks, trust companies, clearing corporations and other organizations. DTC's book-entry system is also available to other organizations such as securities brokers and dealers, banks and trust companies that work through a participant. DTC electronically records the settlement among participants of their securities transactions in deposited securities. Issuers make interest and principal payments to DTC, which in turn credits payments to participants' accounts according to their beneficial ownership interests as reflected in DTC's records. In addition, DTC currently assigns any voting rights to participants by using an omnibus proxy. These payments and voting rights are governed by the customary practices between the participants and holders of beneficial interests.

DTC will be the sole owner of the global certificates. We, the trustee and the paying agent have no responsibility or liability for the records relating to beneficial ownership interests in the global certificates or for the payments of principal and interest due for the accounts of beneficial holders of interests in the global certificates. The global certificates representing a series of debt securities normally may not be transferred except by DTC to its nominees or successors in accordance with the indenture. A series of debt securities represented by global certificates will be exchangeable for debt securities in registered form with the same terms in authorized denominations if:

- . DTC notifies us that it is unwilling or unable to continue as depository or if DTC ceases to be a clearing agency registered under applicable law and we do not appoint a successor depository within 90 days; or
- . we decide not to require all of the debt securities of a series to be represented by global certificates and notify the trustee of that decision.

Events of Default

Unless we indicate otherwise in a prospectus supplement, the following are events of default under the indentures with respect to any issued debt securities:

- . failure to pay the principal or any premium on any debt security of that series when due;
- . failure for 30 days to pay interest on any debt security of that series when due;
- . failure to deposit any sinking fund payment on any debt security of that series when due;
- . failure to perform any other covenant in the indenture that continues for 90 days after we have been given written notice of such failure; or
- . the occurrence of certain events in bankruptcy, insolvency or reorganization.

An event of default for one series of debt securities does not necessarily constitute an event of default for any other series. The trustee may withhold notice to the debt securities holders of any default, except a payment default, if it considers such action to be in the holders' interests.

If an event of default occurs and continues, the trustee, or the holders of at least 25% in aggregate principal amount of the debt securities of the

Edgar Filing: NORTHROP GRUMMAN CORP /DE/ - Form S-3

series, may declare the entire principal of all the debt securities of that series to be due and payable immediately. If this happens, under a number of circumstances, the holders of a majority of the aggregate principal amount of the debt securities of that series can void the acceleration of payment.

The indentures provide that the trustee has no obligation to exercise any of its rights at the direction of any holders, unless the holders offer the trustee reasonable indemnity. If they provide this indemnification, the holders of a majority in principal amount of any series of debt securities have the right to direct any proceeding, remedy, or power available to the trustee with respect to that series.

11

Subordination

The subordinated debt securities will be subordinated and junior in right of payment to all our senior indebtedness to the extent set forth in the applicable prospectus supplement.

Conversion Rights

We will describe the terms upon which debt securities may be convertible into our common stock or other securities in a prospectus supplement. These terms will include provisions as to whether conversion is mandatory or optional. They may also include provisions adjusting the number of shares of our common stock or other securities.

Our Obligations Under the Indenture

Under the indentures, we will agree to the following:

Limitations on Liens. The indentures restrict our ability to encumber our assets and the assets of our restricted subsidiaries. If we, or any restricted subsidiary, pledge or mortgage any of our property to secure any debt, then we will, unless an exception applies, pledge or mortgage the same property to the trustee to secure the debt securities for as long as such debt is secured by such property. Restricted subsidiary means one of our subsidiaries that has substantially all of its assets located in, or carries on substantially all of its business in, the United States.

This restriction will not apply in various situations. We may encumber assets if the encumbrance is a permitted lien, as defined below, without regard to the amount of debt secured by the encumbrance. We may also encumber assets if the amount of all debt secured by encumbrances, other than some permitted encumbrances, does not exceed the greater of \$1,000,000,000 or 10% of our consolidated net tangible assets. Consolidated net tangible assets means our total assets, including the assets of our subsidiaries, as reflected in our most recent balance sheet, less current liabilities, goodwill, patents and trademarks. Permitted liens include:

- . liens on a corporation's property, stock or debt at the time it becomes a restricted subsidiary;
- . liens on property at the time we or a restricted subsidiary acquires the property;
- . liens securing debt owing by a restricted subsidiary to us or another restricted subsidiary;

Edgar Filing: NORTHROP GRUMMAN CORP /DE/ - Form S-3

- . liens existing at the time the indenture becomes effective;
- . liens on property of an entity at the time such entity is merged into or consolidated with us or a restricted subsidiary or at the time we or a restricted subsidiary acquire all or substantially all of the assets of the entity;
- . liens in favor of any governmental customer to secure payments or performance pursuant to any contract or statute, or to secure indebtedness we incur with respect to the acquisition or construction of the property subject to the liens, any related indebtedness, or debt guaranteed by a government or governmental authority; and
- . any renewal, extension or replacement for any lien permitted by one of the exceptions described above.

Limitations on Sale Leaseback Arrangements. Except under various circumstances, the indentures also restrict our ability and the ability of any restricted subsidiaries to enter into sale-leaseback transactions. Such an arrangement is permissible if we or our restricted subsidiary would be permitted to incur indebtedness secured by a principal property at least equal in amount to the attributable debt with respect to such arrangement. Sale-leaseback transaction means, subject to some exceptions, an arrangement pursuant to which we, or a restricted subsidiary, transfer a principal property to a person and contemporaneously lease it back from that person. Principal property means, with some exceptions, any manufacturing plant or facility located in the

12

United States which we or one or more of our restricted subsidiaries owns, except any plant or facility which our board of directors determines is not of material importance to our total business. Attributable debt for a sale and leaseback transaction means the lesser of the fair value of such property as determined by our board of directors or the present value of the obligation of the lessee for net rental payments during the remaining term of the lease.

The applicable indenture will not otherwise limit our ability to incur additional debt, unless we tell you this in a prospectus supplement.

Consolidation, Merger or Sale

We may neither consolidate with nor merge into another corporation nor transfer all or substantially all of our assets to another corporation unless:

- . the successor corporation assumes all of our obligations under the debt securities and the applicable indenture;
- . immediately following the transaction, no event of default and no circumstances which, after notice or lapse of time or both, would become an event of default, shall have happened and be continuing; and
- . we have delivered to the trustee an officers' certificate and a legal opinion confirming that we have complied with the applicable indenture.

Defeasance and Covenant Defeasance

Any series of our debt securities is subject to the defeasance and discharge provisions of the applicable indenture. Under those provisions, we may elect either:

Edgar Filing: NORTHROP GRUMMAN CORP /DE/ - Form S-3

- . to defease and be discharged from any and all our obligations with respect to those debt securities, except for the rights of holders of those debt securities to receive payments on the securities solely from the trust fund established pursuant to the indenture and the obligations to exchange or register the transfer of the securities, to replace temporary or mutilated, destroyed, lost or stolen securities, to maintain an office or agency with respect to the securities and to hold moneys for payment in trust ("defeasance"); or
- . to be released from our obligations with respect to those debt securities concerning restrictive covenants which are subject to covenant defeasance, and the occurrence of certain events of default with respect to those restrictive covenants shall no longer be an event default ("covenant defeasance").

To invoke defeasance or covenant defeasance with respect to any series of debt securities, we must irrevocably deposit with the trustee, in trust, money or U.S. Government Obligations, or both, which will provide money in an amount sufficient to pay.

As a condition to defeasance or covenant defeasance, we must deliver to the indenture trustee an opinion of counsel stating that holders of the debt securities will not recognize gain or loss for federal income tax purposes as a result of the defeasance or covenant defeasance and will be subject to federal income tax on the same amounts, in the same manner and at the same times as would have been the case if we did not elect the defeasance or covenant defeasance. We may exercise our defeasance option with respect to the securities notwithstanding our prior exercise of our covenant defeasance option. If we exercise our defeasance option, payment of the securities may not be accelerated by the reference to restrictive covenants which are subject to covenant defeasance. If we do not comply with our remaining obligations after exercising our covenant defeasance option and the securities are declared due and payable because of the occurrence of any event of default, the amount of money and U.S. Government obligations on deposit in the defeasance trust may be insufficient to pay amounts due on the securities at the time of the acceleration. However, we will remain liable for those payments.

13

Changes to the Indentures

Holders who own more than 50% in principal amount of the debt securities of a series can agree with us to change the provisions of the indenture relating to that series. However, no change can affect the payment terms or the percentage required to change other terms without the consent of all holders of debt securities of the affected series.

We may enter into supplemental indentures for other specified purposes and to make changes that would not materially adversely affect your interests, including the creation of any new series of debt securities, without the consent of any holder of debt securities.

Governing Law

New York law will govern the indentures and the debt securities.

Trustee

JPMorgan Chase Bank will serve as trustee under each indenture. It is the

Edgar Filing: NORTHROP GRUMMAN CORP /DE/ - Form S-3

trustee under our existing senior debt securities indenture. If we use a different trustee for any debt securities, we will let you know in a prospectus supplement.

14

DESCRIPTION OF PREFERRED STOCK

The following description discusses the general terms of the preferred stock which we have issued and may issue in the future. Our certificate of incorporation, as amended, the applicable certificate of designation to our certificate of incorporation and the prospectus supplement will describe the terms of the related series of preferred stock. We will provide you copies of these documents upon request.

General. Our Certificate of Incorporation authorizes our board of directors, from time to time and without further stockholder action, to provide for the issuance of up to 10,000,000 shares of preferred stock, par value \$1.00 per share. Our board of directors may authorize the issuance of preferred stock in one or more series and may fix the relative rights and preferences of the shares, including voting powers, dividend rights, liquidation preferences, redemption rights and conversion privileges.

There are 3,500,000 shares of Series B preferred stock, par value \$1.00 per share, outstanding as of the date of this prospectus. As of the date of this prospectus, there is no other series of preferred stock outstanding, and there are no agreements or understandings for the issuance of any other preferred stock, except for the issuance of Series A Junior Participating Preferred Stock in connection with preferred share purchase rights attached to our common stock. See "Description of Common Stock - Preferred Share Purchase Rights."

The shares of any series of preferred stock will be, when issued, fully paid and non-assessable and holders of preferred stock will not have preemptive rights.

General Terms of Preferred Stock

The following description discusses the general terms of preferred stock which we may issue in the future. You should refer to the prospectus supplement relating to the class or series of preferred stock being offered for the specific terms of that class or series, including:

- . the title and stated value of the preferred stock being offered;
- . the number of shares of preferred stock being offered, their liquidation preference per share and their purchase price;
- . the dividend rate(s), period(s) and/or payment date(s) or method(s) of calculating the payment date(s) applicable to the preferred stock being offered;
- . whether dividends shall be cumulative or non-cumulative and, if cumulative, the date from which dividends on the preferred stock being offered shall accumulate;
- . the procedures for any auction and remarketing, if any, for the preferred stock being offered;
- . the provisions for a sinking fund, if any, for the preferred stock being offered;

Edgar Filing: NORTHROP GRUMMAN CORP /DE/ - Form S-3

- . the provisions for redemption, if applicable, of the preferred stock being offered;
- . any listing of the preferred stock being offered on any securities exchange or market;
- . the terms and conditions, if applicable, upon which the preferred stock being offered will be convertible into our common stock, including the conversion price, or the manner of calculating the conversion price, and the conversion period;
- . the terms and conditions, if applicable, upon which the preferred stock being offered will be exchangeable into debt or equity securities, including the exchange price, or the manner of calculating the exchange price, and the exchange period;
- . voting rights, if any, of the preferred stock being offered;
- . whether interests in the preferred stock being offered will be represented by depositary shares;

15

- . a discussion of any material and/or special United States federal income tax considerations applicable to the preferred stock being offered;
- . the relative ranking and preferences of the preferred stock being offered as to dividend rights and rights upon liquidation, dissolution or winding up of the affairs of the company;
- . any limitations on the issuance of any class or series of preferred stock ranking senior to or on a parity with the series of preferred stock being offered as to dividend rights and rights upon liquidation, dissolution or winding up of the affairs of the company; and
- . any other specific terms, preferences, rights, limitations or restrictions of the preferred stock being offered.

Rank. Unless otherwise specified in the applicable prospectus supplement, the preferred stock will, with respect to distribution rights and rights upon liquidation, dissolution or winding up of the company, rank:

- (a) senior to all classes or series of our common stock and to all equity securities the terms of which specifically provide that such equity securities rank junior to the preferred stock being offered;
- (b) junior to all equity securities issued by us the terms of which specifically provide that such equity securities rank senior to the preferred stock being offered; and
- (c) on a parity with all equity securities issued by us other than those referred to in clauses (a) and (b) of this subheading.

Distributions. A prospectus supplement will describe the circumstances relating to distributions on our preferred stock. If our board of directors approves distributions, holders of our preferred stock of each series will be entitled to receive distributions out of our assets legally available for payment to stockholders. These distributions may be cash distributions, or distributions in kind or in other property. The prospectus supplement will

Edgar Filing: NORTHROP GRUMMAN CORP /DE/ - Form S-3

describe the rates of the distributions and the dates we will make distributions. Each distribution shall be payable to holders of record on such record date as shall be fixed by our board of directors. Distributions on any series of preferred stock, if cumulative, will be cumulative from and after the date set forth in the applicable prospectus supplement.

Redemption. A prospectus supplement may provide that the preferred stock will be subject to mandatory redemption or redemption at our option, in whole or in part. The prospectus supplement will describe the terms, the times and the redemption prices of the preferred stock.

Liquidation Preference. If we liquidate, dissolve or wind up our affairs, then, before we make distributions to holders of common stock or any other class or series of shares of our capital stock ranking junior to the preferred stock in the distribution of assets, the holders of each series of preferred stock shall be entitled to receive liquidating distributions out of our assets legally available for distribution to stockholders. We will make liquidating distributions in the amount of the liquidation preference set forth in the applicable prospectus supplement plus an amount equal to all accumulated and unpaid distributions. After payment of the full amount of the liquidating distributions to which they are entitled, the holders of shares of preferred stock will have no right or claim to any of our remaining assets.

If we liquidate, dissolve or wind up and we do not have enough legally available assets to pay the amount of the liquidating distributions on all outstanding shares of preferred stock and other classes of capital stock ranking equally with the preferred stock in the distribution of assets, then the holders of the preferred stock and all other such classes or series of shares of capital stock shall share ratably in any such distribution of assets in proportion to the full liquidating distributions to which they would otherwise be respectively entitled.

Voting Rights. Holders of preferred stock will not have any voting rights, except as set forth below or as otherwise from time to time required by law, or as indicated in the applicable prospectus supplement.

16

Under the Delaware General Corporation Law, holders of outstanding shares of a series of preferred stock would be entitled to vote as a separate class on a proposed amendment to the terms of that series of preferred stock or our certificate of incorporation if the amendment would increase or decrease the par value of that series of preferred stock or alter or change the powers, preferences or special rights of the shares of such class so as to affect them adversely, in which case the approval of the proposed amendment would require the affirmative vote of at least a majority of the outstanding shares of that series of preferred stock.

Conversion Rights. The terms and conditions, if any, upon which any series of preferred stock is convertible into common stock will be set forth in the applicable prospectus supplement. These terms will include the following:

- . the number of shares of common stock into which the shares of preferred stock are convertible;
- . the conversion price or the manner of calculating the conversion price;
- . the conversion date(s) or period(s);
- . provisions as to whether conversion will be at the option of the holders

Edgar Filing: NORTHROP GRUMMAN CORP /DE/ - Form S-3

of the preferred stock or at our option; and

- . the events requiring an adjustment of the conversion price and provisions affecting conversion in the event of the redemption of that series of preferred stock.

Transfer Agent and Registrar. EquiServe Trust Company is the transfer agent and registrar for our common stock and our Series B preferred stock. We currently plan to retain EquiServe Trust Company to serve as the transfer agent and registrar for any other series of preferred stock that we issue.

17

DESCRIPTION OF COMMON STOCK

We have authority to issue 400,000,000 shares of common stock, par value \$1.00 per share. As of December 31, 2001, 108,621,459 shares of common stock were outstanding. The number of shares of common stock outstanding does not include shares issuable upon exercise of outstanding awards under our stock compensation plans or a maximum of 7,796,310 shares that are subject to issuance under our outstanding equity security units. Our common stock is listed on the New York Stock Exchange and the Pacific Exchange.

Dividends. Dividends may be paid on the common stock and on any class or series of stock entitled to participate with the common stock as to dividends, but only when and as declared by our board of directors and only if full dividends on our Series B preferred stock and all other then outstanding series of our preferred stock for the then current and prior dividend periods have been paid or provided for. Holders of Series B preferred stock are entitled to cumulative cash dividends at a dividend rate per share \$7.00 per year.

Voting Rights. Each holder of our common stock is entitled to one vote per share on all matters submitted to a vote of stockholders and does not have cumulative voting rights for the election of directors. If accrued dividends on our Series B preferred stock are not paid for six quarterly dividend periods (whether or not consecutive), a majority of the holders of Series B preferred stock, voting separately as a class, will have the right to elect two directors. If such holders exercise their right to elect two directors to our board, the size of our board will be increased by two members until the dividends in default are paid in full or payment for the past-due dividends is set aside. In addition, the consent of two-thirds of the aggregate number of outstanding shares of the Series B preferred stock is required in connection with certain increases in authorized amounts of or changes in stock senior to our common stock.

Liquidation. If we liquidate, holders of common stock are entitled to receive all remaining assets available for distribution to stockholders after satisfaction of our liabilities and the preferential rights of any preferred stock that may be outstanding at that time. In any liquidation of Northrop Grumman, each share of our outstanding Series B preferred stock is entitled to a liquidation preference of \$100.00 plus accrued but unpaid dividends, whether or not declared, before any distribution may be made on the common stock or any other class or series of our capital stock which is junior to the Series B preferred stock.

Other Rights. Our outstanding common shares are fully paid and nonassessable. The holders of our common stock do not have any preemptive, conversion or redemption rights.

Registrar and Transfer Agent. The registrar and transfer agent for our

Edgar Filing: NORTHROP GRUMMAN CORP /DE/ - Form S-3

common stock is EquiServe Trust Company.

Preferred Share Purchase Rights. We have adopted a rights plan pursuant to which a preferred share purchase right is attached to each share of our common stock that is or becomes outstanding prior to October 31, 2008. The rights become exercisable 10 days after the public announcement that any person or group has (i) acquired 15% or more of the outstanding shares of our common stock, or (ii) initiated a tender offer for shares of our common stock, which, if consummated, would result in any person or group acquiring 15% or more of the outstanding shares of our common stock. Once exercisable, each right will entitle the holder to purchase one one-thousandth of a share of our Series A junior participating preferred stock, par value \$1.00 per share, at a price of \$250.00 per one one-thousandth of a share, subject to adjustment. Alternatively, under certain circumstances involving an acquisition of 15% or more of our common stock outstanding, each right will entitle its holder to purchase, at a fifty per cent discount, a number of shares of our common stock having a market value of two times the exercise price of the right. We may (i) exchange the rights at an exchange ratio of one share of our common stock per right, and (ii) redeem the rights, at a price of \$0.01 per right, at any time prior to an acquisition of 15% or more of the outstanding shares of our common stock by any person or group.

Some Important Charter and Statutory Provisions. Our certificate of incorporation provides for the division of our board of directors into three classes of directors, each serving staggered, three year terms. Our

18

certificate of incorporation further provides generally that any alteration, amendment or repeal of the sections of our certificate of incorporation dealing with the following subjects requires the approval of the holders of at least 80% of our outstanding voting power, unless such action is approved by a majority of our board of directors:

- . the election and classification of the board of directors;
- . liability of directors; and
- . the vote requirements for amendments to our certificate of incorporation,

If any of these changes to our certificate of incorporation are approved by our board of directors, the approval of a majority of our outstanding voting power is required to make these changes effective.

These provisions may have the effect of deterring hostile takeovers or delaying changes in control or management of the company.

We are subject to the provisions of Section 203 of the Delaware General Corporation Law. In general, the statute prohibits a Delaware corporation which has a class of stock which is listed on a national stock exchange or which has 2,000 or more stockholders of record from engaging in business combination with an interested stockholder (generally, the beneficial owner of 15% or more of the corporation's outstanding voting stock) for three years following the time the stockholder became an interested stockholder, unless, prior to that time, the corporation's board of directors approved either the business combination or the transaction that resulted in the stockholder becoming an interested stockholder, or if at least two-thirds of the outstanding shares not owned by that interested stockholder approve the business combination, or if, upon becoming an interested stockholder, that stockholder owned at least 85% of the outstanding shares, excluding those held by officers, directors and some

Edgar Filing: NORTHROP GRUMMAN CORP /DE/ - Form S-3

employee stock plans. A "business combination" includes a merger, asset sale, or other transaction resulting in a financial benefit, other than proportionately as a stockholder, to the interested stockholder.

DESCRIPTION OF WARRANTS

General. We may issue warrants to purchase our debt or equity securities. We may issue warrants independently or together with any offered securities and the warrants may be attached to or separate from those offered securities. We will issue the warrants under warrant agreements to be entered into between us and a bank or trust company, as warrant agent, all as described in the applicable prospectus supplement. The warrant agent will act solely as our agent in connection with the warrants of the series being offered and will not assume any obligation or relationship of agency or trust for or with any holders or beneficial owners of warrants.

The applicable prospectus supplement will describe the following terms, where applicable, of warrants in respect of which this prospectus is being delivered:

- . the title of the warrants;
- . the designation, amount and terms of the securities for which the warrants are exercisable;
- . the designation and terms of the other securities, if any, with which the warrants are to be issued and the number of warrants issued with each such security;
- . the price or prices at which the warrants will be issued;
- . the aggregate number of warrants;
- . any provisions for adjustment of the number or amount of securities receivable upon exercise of the warrants or the exercise price of the warrants;
- . the price or prices at which the securities purchasable upon exercise of the warrants may be purchased;

19

- . if applicable, the date on and after which the warrants and the securities purchasable upon exercise of the warrants will be separately transferable;
- . if applicable, a discussion of the material United States federal income tax considerations applicable to the exercise of the warrants;
- . any other terms of the warrants, including terms, procedures and limitations relating to the exchange and exercise of the warrants;
- . the date on which the right to exercise the warrants shall commence, and the date on which the right shall expire;
- . the maximum or minimum number of warrants which may be exercised at any time; and
- . information with respect to book-entry procedures, if any.

Edgar Filing: NORTHROP GRUMMAN CORP /DE/ - Form S-3

Exercise of Warrants. Each warrant will entitle the holder of warrants to purchase for cash the amount of debt or equity securities, at the exercise price as shall be set forth in, or be determinable as set forth in, the prospectus supplement relating to the warrants. Warrants may be exercised at any time up to the close of business on the expiration date set forth in the prospectus supplement relating to the warrants. After the close of business on the expiration date, unexercised warrants will become void.

Warrants may be exercised as set forth in the prospectus supplement relating to the warrants. When the warrant holder makes the payment and properly completes and signs the warrant certificate at the corporate trust office of the warrant agent or any other office indicated in the prospectus supplement, we will, as soon as possible, forward the debt or equity securities which the warrant holder has purchased. If the warrant holder exercises the warrant for less than all of the warrants represented by the warrant certificates, we will issue a new warrant certificate for the remaining warrants.

DESCRIPTION OF THE STOCK PURCHASE CONTRACTS AND STOCK PURCHASE UNITS

We may issue stock purchase contracts, including contracts obligating holders to purchase from us, and us to sell to the holders, a specified number of shares of common stock at a future date or dates, which we refer to herein as "stock purchase contracts." The price per share of common stock and the number of shares of common stock may be fixed at the time the stock purchase contracts are issued or may be determined by reference to a specific formula set forth in the stock purchase contracts. The stock purchase contracts may be issued separately or as part of units consisting of a stock purchase contract and debt securities, obligations of third parties, including U.S. treasury securities, securing the holders' obligations to purchase the common stock under the stock purchase contracts, which we refer to herein as "stock purchase units." The stock purchase contracts may require holders to secure their obligations thereunder in a specified manner. The stock purchase contracts also may require us to make periodic payments to the holders of the stock purchase units or vice versa, and such payments may be unsecured or refunded on some basis.

The applicable prospectus supplement will describe the terms of the stock purchase contracts or stock purchase units. The description in the prospectus supplement will not necessarily be complete, and reference will be made to the stock purchase contracts, and, if applicable, collateral or depositary arrangements, relating to the stock purchase contracts or stock purchase units. Material United States federal income tax considerations applicable to the stock purchase units and the stock purchase contracts will also be discussed in the applicable prospectus supplement.

20

PLAN OF DISTRIBUTION

We may sell any series of debt or equity securities:

- . through underwriters or dealers;
- . through agents;
- . directly to one or more purchasers; or
- . directly to stockholders.

Edgar Filing: NORTHROP GRUMMAN CORP /DE/ - Form S-3

We may effect the distribution of the debt or equity securities from time to time in one or more transactions either:

- . at a fixed price or prices which may be changed;
- . at market prices prevailing at the time of sale;
- . at prices relating to such prevailing market prices; or
- . at negotiated prices.

For each offering of debt or equity securities, the prospectus supplement will describe the plan of distribution.

If we use underwriters in the sale, they will buy the debt or equity securities for their own account. The underwriters may then resell the debt or equity securities in one or more transactions at a fixed public offering price or at varying prices determined at the time of sale or after the sale. The obligations of the underwriters to purchase the debt or equity securities will be subject to various conditions. The underwriters will be obligated to purchase all the debt or equity securities offered if they purchase any debt or equity securities. Any initial public offering price and any discounts or concessions allowed or re-allowed or paid to dealers may be changed from time to time.

If we use dealers in the sale, we will sell debt or equity securities to these dealers as principals. The dealers may then resell the debt or equity securities to the public at varying prices to be determined by these dealers at the time of resale. If we use agents in the sale, they will use their reasonable best efforts to solicit purchasers for the period of their appointment. If we sell directly, no underwriters or agents would be involved. We are not making an offer of debt or equity securities in any state that does not permit such an offer.

Underwriters, dealers and agents that participate in the debt or equity securities distribution may be deemed to be underwriters as defined in the Securities Act of 1933. Any discounts, commissions, or profit they receive when they resell the debt or equity securities may be treated as underwriting discounts and commissions under that Act. We may have agreements with underwriters, dealers and agents to indemnify them against various civil liabilities, including certain liabilities under the Securities Act of 1933, or to contribute with respect to payments that they may be required to make.

We may authorize underwriters, dealers or agents to solicit offers from institutions whereby the institution contractually agrees to purchase the debt or equity securities from us on a future date at a specified price. This type of contract may be made only with institutions that we specifically approve. These institutions could include banks, insurance companies, pension funds, investment companies and educational and charitable institutions. The underwriters, dealers or agents will not be responsible for the validity or performance of these contracts.

Underwriters, dealers and agents may engage in transactions with us or perform services for us in the ordinary course of business.

VALIDITY OF THE DEBT AND EQUITY SECURITIES

Sheppard, Mullin, Richter & Hampton LLP, Los Angeles, California, will issue

Edgar Filing: NORTHROP GRUMMAN CORP /DE/ - Form S-3

an opinion about the legality of the debt and equity securities for us. Underwriters, dealers or agents, who we will identify in a prospectus supplement may have their counsel opine about certain legal matters relating to the debt and equity securities.

EXPERTS

The consolidated financial statements and related financial statement schedule incorporated in this prospectus by reference from Northrop Grumman Systems Corporation's Annual Report on Form 10-K/A for the year ended December 31, 2000 have been audited by Deloitte & Touche LLP, independent auditors, as stated in their report, which is incorporated herein by reference, and have been so incorporated in reliance upon the report of such firm given upon their authority as experts in accounting and auditing.

With respect to the unaudited interim financial information of Northrop Grumman for the periods ended March 31, 2001, June 30, 2001 and September 30, 2001 and Northrop Systems for the periods ended March 31, 2000, June 30, 2000 and September 30, 2000 which is incorporated herein by reference, Deloitte & Touche LLP have applied limited procedures in accordance with professional standards for a review of such information. However, as stated in their reports included in Northrop Grumman's Quarterly Reports on Form 10-Q for the quarters ended March 31, 2001, June 30, 2001 and September 30, 2001 and incorporated by reference herein, they did not audit and they do not express an opinion on that interim financial information. Accordingly, the degree of reliance on their reports on such information should be restricted in light of the limited nature of the review procedures applied. Deloitte & Touche LLP are not subject to the liability provisions of Section 11 of the Securities Act of 1933 for their reports on the unaudited interim financial information because those reports are not "reports" or a "part" of the registration statement prepared or certified by an accountant within the meaning of Sections 7 and 11 of the Act.

The consolidated financial statements incorporated in this prospectus by reference from Litton's Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended July 31, 2000 have been audited by Deloitte & Touche LLP, independent auditors, as stated in their report, which is incorporated herein by reference, and have been so incorporated in reliance upon the report of such firm given upon their authority as experts in accounting and auditing.

The audited financial statements of Newport News Shipbuilding Inc. incorporated by reference in this prospectus and elsewhere in the registration statement have been audited by Arthur Andersen LLP, independent public accountants, as indicated in their reports with respect thereto, and are incorporated herein in reliance upon the authority of said firm as experts in giving said reports.

22

[LOGO] Northrop Grumman

[LOGO OF NORTHROP GRUMMAN CORPORATION]

PART II

INFORMATION NOT REQUIRED IN PROSPECTUS

Item 14. OTHER EXPENSES OF ISSUANCE AND DISTRIBUTION.

Edgar Filing: NORTHROP GRUMMAN CORP /DE/ - Form S-3

The following table sets forth the expenses, other than underwriting discounts and commissions, expected to be incurred in connection with the offering or offerings described in this registration statement. All amounts are estimated except the Securities and Exchange Commission registration fee.

Securities and Exchange Commission registration fee	\$184,000
Trustee fees and expenses.....	20,000
Legal fees and expenses.....	175,000
Accounting fees and expenses.....	40,000
Printing and engraving fees and expenses.....	100,000
Rating agency fees.....	150,000
Blue Sky fees and expenses (including legal fees)..	20,000
Miscellaneous.....	15,000

Total.....	\$704,000
	=====

Item 15. INDEMNIFICATION OF DIRECTORS AND OFFICERS.

Section 145 of the DGCL, provides that a corporation may indemnify directors and officers as well as other employees and individuals against expenses (including attorneys' fees), judgments, fines and amounts paid in settlement in connection with specified actions, suits or proceedings, whether civil, criminal, administrative or investigative (other than an action by or in the right of the corporation--a "derivative action") if they acted in good faith and in a manner they reasonably believed to be in or not opposed to the best interests of the corporation and, with respect to any criminal action or proceedings, had no reasonable cause to believe their conduct was unlawful.

A similar standard is applicable in the case of derivative actions, except that indemnification only extends to expenses (including attorneys' fees) actually and reasonably incurred in connection with the defense or settlement of such action, and the statute requires court approval before there can be any indemnification where the person seeking indemnification has been found liable to the corporation. The statute provides that it is not exclusive of other indemnification that may be granted by a corporation's charter, bylaws, disinterested director vote, stockholder vote, agreement or otherwise.

As permitted by Section 145 of the DGCL, Article EIGHTEENTH of Northrop Grumman's restated certificate of incorporation, as amended, provides:

"A director of the Corporation shall not be personally liable to the Corporation or to its stockholders for monetary damages for breach of fiduciary duty as a director, except for liability (i) for any breach of the director's duty of loyalty to the Corporation or to its stockholders, (ii) for acts or omissions not in good faith or which involve intentional misconduct or a knowing violation of law, i(ii) under Section 174 of the General Corporation Law of the State of Delaware, or (iv) for any transaction from which the director derives any improper personal benefit. If, after approval of this Article by the stockholders of the Corporation, the General Corporation Law of the State of Delaware is amended to authorize the further elimination or limitation of the liability of directors, then the liability of a director of the Corporation shall be eliminated or limited to the fullest extent permitted by the General Corporation Law of the State of Delaware, as so amended. Any repeal or modification of this Article by the stockholders of the Corporation as provided in Article Seventeen hereof shall not adversely affect any right or protection of a director of the Corporation existing at the time of such repeal or modification."

Edgar Filing: NORTHROP GRUMMAN CORP /DE/ - Form S-3

II-1

Northrop Grumman has entered into an agreement with each of its directors and certain of its officers indemnifying them to the fullest extent permitted by the foregoing. Northrop Grumman has also purchased director and officer liability insurance.

Item 16. EXHIBITS

- 1-1 Form of Underwriting Agreement relating to common equity securities (incorporated by reference to Form S-3 Registration Statement filed August 10, 2001).
- 1-2 Form of Underwriting Agreement relating to preferred equity securities (incorporated by reference to Form S-3 Registration Statement filed August 10, 2001).
- 1-3 Form of Underwriting Agreement relating to debt securities (incorporated by reference to Form S-3 Registration Statement filed August 10, 2001).
- 4-1 Amended and Restated Certificate of Incorporation, as amended (incorporated by reference to Form S-3 Registration Statement filed February 1, 2001).
- 4-2 Certificate of Amendment of Certificate of Incorporation (incorporated by reference to Form S-3 Registration Statement for the quarter ended March 31, 2001).
- 4-3 Certificate of Amendment of Certificate of Incorporation dated May 21, 2001 (incorporated by reference to Form 10-Q for the quarter ended June 30, 2001).
- 4-5 Restated Bylaws (incorporated by reference to Form S-4 Registration Statement filed February 1, 2001).
- 4-6 Rights Agreement dated as of January 31, 2001 between Northrop Grumman Corporation and EquiServe Trust Company (incorporated by reference to Form S-4 Registration Statement filed March 27, 2001).
- 4-7 Senior Indenture dated as of November 21, 2001 between Northrop Grumman Corporation and JPMorgan Chase Bank, as trustee (incorporated by reference to Form 8-K filed November 21, 2001).
- 4-8 Form of Subordinated Indenture (incorporated by reference to Form S-3 Registration Statement filed August 10, 2001).
- 4-9 Form of Warrant Agreement for Debt Securities (incorporated by reference to Form S-3 Registration Statement filed August 10, 2001).
- 4-10 Form of Warrant Agreement for Equity Securities (incorporated by reference to Form S-3 Registration Statement filed August 10, 2001).
- 4-11 Form of Certificate for Common Stock (incorporated by reference to Form S-3 Registration Statement filed August 10, 2001).
- 4-12 Form of Certificate of Designations of Preferred Stock (incorporated by reference to Form S-3 Registration Statement filed August 10, 2001).
- 5-1 Opinion of Sheppard, Mullin, Richter & Hampton LLP.
- 12-1 Computation of Ratio of Earnings to Fixed Charges.
- 15-1 Letter from independent accountants regarding unaudited interim accounting information.

Edgar Filing: NORTHROP GRUMMAN CORP /DE/ - Form S-3

- 23-1 Consent of Deloitte & Touche LLP with respect to Northrop Grumman.
- 23-2 Consent of Deloitte & Touche LLP with respect to Litton.
- 23-3 Consent of Arthur Andersen LLP with respect to Newport News Shipbuilding Inc.
- 23-4 Consent of Sheppard, Mullin, Richter & Hampton LLP (included in Exhibit 5-1).
- 24-1 Power of Attorney.
- 25-1 Form T-1 Statement of Eligibility and Qualification of Trustee under the Trust Indenture A

II-2

Item 17. UNDERTAKINGS

The undersigned registrant hereby undertakes:

(a) to file, during any period in which offers or sales are being made of the securities registered hereby, a post-effective amendment to this registration statement:

(i) to include any prospectus required by Section 10(a)(3) of the Securities Act of 1933;

(ii) to reflect in the prospectus any fact or events arising after the effective date of the registration statement (or the most recent post-effective amendment thereof) which, individually or in the aggregate, represent a fundamental change in the information set forth in this registration statement. Notwithstanding the foregoing, any increase or decrease in volume of securities offered (if the total dollar value of securities offered would not exceed that which was registered) and any deviation from the low or high and of the estimated maximum offering range may be reflected in the form of prospectus filed with the Commission pursuant to Rule 424(b) if, in the aggregate, the changes in volume and price represent no more than 20 percent change in the maximum aggregate offering price set forth in the "Calculation of Registration Fee" table in the effective registration statement;

(iii) to include any material information with respect to the plan of distribution not previously disclosed in this registration statement or any material change to such information in the registration statement;

provided, however, that the undertakings set forth in the paragraphs (i) and (ii) above do not apply if the information required to be included in a post-effective amendment by those paragraphs is contained in periodic reports filed by the registrant pursuant to Section 13 or Section 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 that are incorporated by reference in this registration statement.

(b) that, for the purpose of determining any liability under the Securities Act of 1933, each such post-effective amendment shall be deemed to be a new registration statement relating to the securities offered therein, and the offering of such securities at that time shall be deemed to be the initial bona fide offering thereof.

(c) to remove from registration by means of a post-effective amendment any of the securities being registered which remain unsold at the termination of the offering.

Edgar Filing: NORTHROP GRUMMAN CORP /DE/ - Form S-3

(d) that, for purposes of determining any liability under the Securities Act of 1933, each filing of the registrant's annual report pursuant to Section 13(a) or 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 (and, where applicable, each filing of an employee benefit plan's annual report pursuant to Section 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934) that is incorporated by reference in the registration statement shall be deemed to be a new registration statement relating to the securities offered therein, and the offering of such securities at that time shall be deemed to be the initial bona fide offering thereof.

(e) that, insofar as indemnification for liabilities arising under the Securities Act of 1933 may be permitted to directors, officers and controlling persons of the registrant pursuant to the provisions described under Item 15 above, or otherwise, the registrant has been advised that in the opinion of the Securities and Exchange Commission such indemnification is against public policy as expressed in such Act and is, therefore, unenforceable. In the event that a claim for indemnification against such liabilities (other than the payment by the registrant of expenses incurred or paid by a director, officer or controlling person of the registrant in the successful defense of any action, suit or proceeding) is asserted by such director, officer or controlling person in connection with the securities being registered, the registrant will, unless in the opinion of its counsel the matter has been settled by controlling precedent, submit to a court of appropriate jurisdiction the question whether such indemnification by it is against public policy as expressed in such Act and will be governed by the final adjudication of such issue.

II-3

(f) that, for purposes of determining any liability under the Securities Act of 1933, the information omitted from the form of prospectus filed as part of this registration statement in reliance upon Rule 430A and contained in a form of prospectus filed by the registrant pursuant to Rule 424(b)(1) or (a) or 497(h) under the Securities Act shall be deemed to be part of this registration statement as of the time it was declared effective.

(g) that, for purposes of determining any liability under the Securities Act of 1933, each post-effective amendment that contains a form of prospectus shall be deemed to be a new registration statement relating to the securities offered therein, and the offering of such securities at that time shall be deemed to be the initial bona fide offering thereof.

(h) to file an application for the purposes of determining the eligibility of the trustee to act under subsection (a) of Section 310 of the Trust Indenture Act in accordance with the rules and regulations prescribed by the Commission under Section 305(b)(2) of such Act.

II-4

SIGNATURES

Pursuant to the requirements of the Securities Act of 1933, the Registrant certifies that it has reasonable grounds to believe that it meets all of the requirements for filing on Form S-3 and has duly caused this Registration Statement to be signed on its behalf by the undersigned, thereunto duly authorized, in the City of Los Angeles, State of California, on this 18 day of January, 2002.

Edgar Filing: NORTHROP GRUMMAN CORP /DE/ - Form S-3

NORTHROP GRUMMAN CORPORATION

By: /s/ JOHN H. MULLAN

 John H. Mullan
 Corporate Vice President and
 Secretary

Pursuant to the requirements of the Securities Act of 1933, this Registration Statement has been signed below by the following persons in their capacities and on the dates indicated.

Signature -----	Title -----	Date -----
* ----- Kent Kresa	Chairman of the Board, Chief Executive Officer and Director (Principal Executive Officer)	January 18, 2002
* ----- Ronald D. Sugar	President, Chief Operating Officer and Director	January 18, 2002
* ----- Richard B. Waugh, Jr.	Corporate Vice President and Chief Financial Officer (Principal Financial Officer)	January 18, 2002
* ----- Sandra J. Wright	Corporate Vice President and Controller (Principal Accounting Officer)	January 18, 2002
* ----- John T. Chain, Jr.	Director	January 18, 2002
* ----- Lewis W. Coleman	Director	January 18, 2002
* ----- Vic Fazio	Director	January 18, 2002

S-1

Signature -----	Title -----	Date -----
* ----- Phillip Frost	Director	January 18, 2002
* ----- Charles A. Larson	Director	January 18, 2002
* -----	Director	January 18, 2002

Edgar Filing: NORTHROP GRUMMAN CORP /DE/ - Form S-3

Jay H. Nussbaum

*

Director January 18, 2002

Aulana L. Peters

*

Director January 18, 2002

John Brooks Slaughter

* By: /s/ JOHN H. MULLAN

John H. Mullan
Attorney-in-Fact

S-2

EXHIBIT INDEX

EXHIBIT
NUMBER

DESCRIPTION

5-1	Opinion of Sheppard, Mullin, Richter & Hampton LLP.
12-1..	Computation of ratio of earnings to fixed charges.
15-1..	Letter from independent accountants regarding unaudited interim accounting information.
23-1..	Consent of Deloitte & Touche LLP with respect to Northrop Grumman.
23-2..	Consent of Deloitte & Touche LLP with respect to Litton.
23-3..	Consent of Arthur Andersen LLP with respect to Newport News Shipbuilding Inc.
24-1..	Power of Attorney.
25-1..	Form T-1 Statement of Eligibility and Qualification of Trustee under the Trust Indenture 1939.