

# A Dozen U.S. F-35A Lightning II Have Deployed To Germany To Beef Up Support Of NATO's Defenses



F-35A Lightning IIs from the active task 388th and Reserve 419th Fighter Wings taxi out for launch from Hill Air Force Base, Utah, Feb. 15,2022 (U.S. Air Force image by Capt. Kip Sumner)

## The F-35s from Hill Air Force Base have gothere at Spangdahlem Air Base, Germany.

Twelve F-35A Lightning II jets belonging to the 34th Fighter Squadron from Hill Air Force Base, Utah, have gothere at Spangdahlem on Feb. 16, 2022, to “bolster preparedness, improve NATO’s cumulative defense posture and evenmore boost air combination abilities with Allied and Partner countries.”

The release, collaborated with the German federalgovernment includes pilots, maintainers and assistance

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workers from the active responsibility 388th and Reserve 419th Fighter Wing, which, in overall, run 78 F-35A stealth airplane at their homebase at Hill AFB.

“Our Airmen and airplane were prepared to go. I’m happy for their tough work, and all of the assistance we got from Hill Air Force Base to get out the door,” stated Col. Craig Andrlle, 388th Fighter Wing leader in a public release. “This implementation shows we can supply our Air Force the abilities of the F-35A anywhere in the world quickly.”

“The implementation of U.S. F-35As to Spangdahlem Air Base increases the protective posture of the NATO Alliance and improves our capability to run together,” stated Gen. Jeff Harrigian, Commander U.S. Air Forces in Europe and Air Forces Africa and Commander Allied Air Command. “We are dealing with a vibrant environment and this release substantially boosts our assistance to NATO’s defenses.”

“A group of Reserve F-35 pilots and maintainers have signed up with our active task equivalents in a implementation to the area and stand prepared to assistance increased security for our NATO allies,” stated Col. Matt Fritz, 419th Fighter Wing leader. “We train particularly for minutes like these to response the country’s call in brief order.”

This is the 2nd time the Hill AFB’s F-35s deploy to Spangdahlem. In 2019 5th generation airplane and members of the 421st and 466th Fighter Squadrons released to Europe (operating from Aviano AB, Italy; Spangdahlem AB, Germany and Powidz, Poland, amongst the others) where they ran for a number of weeks going to workouts and incorporating with other Europe-based airplane as part of a TSP (Theater Security Package). Previously, in 2017, the 34th Fighter Squadron ran from RAF Lakenheath, UK, in what was the very first “European Tour” of the 388th FW and 419th FW, that jointly are the USAF’s initially battle coded system flying the Lightning II.

European TSPs are regular long-planned rotational existences of U.S. military properties in the European theater “capable of hindering foes and ensuring partners and allies of U.S. dedication to local security.” The reality that this most current implementation is not linked with a pre-planned TSP verifies that it was commanded as a effect of the raising stress with Russia around Ukraine.

The crisis has currently led to a considerable accumulation throughout the Old Continent, that consists of a U.S. airplane provider in the Med Sea (with some Super Hornets released to Aviano); 8 F-15Es from the 336th Fighter Squadron, 4th Fighter Wing, Seymour Johnson AFB, N.C., released to Lask, Poland, and 6 KC-135 Stratotankers from the 100th Aerial Refueling Wing, RAF Mildenhall, U.K., released to Ramstein Air Base, Germany.

Already in Europe and flying long objectives throughout the area and beyond are the 4 B-52 that have showed up at RAF Fairford last week.



David Cenciotti is a freelance reporter based in Rome, Italy. He is the Founder and Editor of “The Aviationist”, one of the world’s most popular and read armedforce airtravel blogsites. Since 1996, he has actually composed for significant aroundtheworld publications, consisting of Air Forces Monthly, Combat Aircraft, and numerous others, covering airtravel, defense, war, market, intelligence, criminal offense and cyberwar. He has reported from the U.S., Europe, Australia and Syria, and flown numerous battle airplanes with various air forces. He is a previous 2nd Lt. of the Italian Air Force, a personal pilot and a graduate in Computer Engineering. He has actually composed 5 books and contributed to lots of more ones.

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