

Exclusive Photos Of The F-117 Stealth Aircraft Currently Taking Part In Exercise ‘Sentry Savannah’



The F-117 released to Savanna ANGB. (Image credit: Misael Ocasio Hernandez)

One F-117 Nighthawk is participating in an Air Dominance Center workout at Savannah.

Sentry Savannah is the Air National Guard’s biggest 4th and 5th generation counter-air, large-force workout, held yearly at the Air Dominance Center, Savannah Air National Guard Base, Georgia. Among 4 Combat Readiness Training Centers in the United States, the Air Dominance Center (ADC) carries out Air-to-Air Combat Training Missions for 4th and 5th generation reservist and active-duty fighter pilots.

Running from May 2– 15, Sentry Savannah permits fighter Units from throughout the nation concerned Savannah to train together on integrated strategies such as ground training,

offensive/defensive counter air objectives, cruise rocket defense and weapon drop training on the variety.

The most current model of the drills collected over 1300 Airmen, supporting a force made from 55 airplane from several systems throughout the nation. In specific, the Air National Guard systems and airplane participating in the workout are: 192 nd Fighter Wing Virginia ANG with the F-22; 159 th FW South Carolina ANG with the F-16; 325 th FW Florida ANG with the F-22; 117 th Air Refueling Wing Alabama ANG with the KC-135; 190 th ARW Kansas ANG with the KC-135; 157 th ARW New Hampshire ANG with the KC-46 and the 117 th Air Control Squadron. The active service 325 th FW from Tyndall AFB, Florida, with F-22 and T-38 is likewise participating in Sentry Savannah, in addition to the Reserve's 419 th FW from Hill AFB, Utah, that is participating in the drills with the F-35 A.

But, a lot of intriguing, together with the authorities individuals, there's another one whose existence has actually not been revealed yet: the F-117 Nighthawk from Tonopah Test Range. One F-117 A (thought to be part of a system understood as the "Dark Knights") has actually released to Georgia (and, to our understanding, this is the very first time the Stealth Jet releases to the East Coast) and is presently taking part in Sentry Savannah.

The F- 117 released to Savannah for Sentry Savannah workout.(Image credit: Gherardo Fontana/ @gfontana767)

The airplane, registration84 -0828, in addition to the ' TR' tail code sports a40 years of operations logo design on both tails: it's the very first time we identify a symbol that commemorates the40 th anniversary because the first flight that happened on Jun.18,1981

Close up on the logo design sported by the F-117(Image credit: MIsael Ocasio/ @epicaviation 47 ng)

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Close up on the logo design sported by the F-117(Image credit: Gherardo Fontana/ @gfontana767)

According to our sources, 2 F-117 s were at first prepared to participate in the drills, however among the 2 airplane ultimately made the journey from Nevada to Georgia. The other Nighthawk, is set up to stay in Savannah and contribute in Sentry Savannah throughout the very first week of the workout just. For the minute, the " Wobblin Goblin" is flying 2 sorties daily.

As discussed in numerous short articles, while a few of the F-117 s that were retired in2008 and at

first kept in a "Type 1000" storage at Tonopah Test Range have actually now been dismantled and moved to museums around the U.S., F-117s have actually continued to fly. We have actually reported sightings in 2018, in 2019, 2020, 2021 and 2022. The F-117s are not totally retired, rather the contrary.

As of January 2021, the U.S. Air Force had 48 F-117s staying in its stock. The service is getting rid of roughly 4 airplanes each year, implying that +40 need to still be readily available. The jets fly the enemy stealth function permitting U.S. squadrons to carry out DACT (Dissimilar Air Combat Training) versus a LO (Low Observable) assailant and are likewise thought to imitate radar-evading cruise rockets throughout numerous workouts. The Nighthawks are most likely likewise associated with the advancement and screening of stealth or counter-stealth innovations and techniques, as some photos revealing a minimum of one airframe sporting a mirror-like finishing comparable to the one used to 2 F-22s (one that has actually appeared rather just recently) and to an F-35, appear show.

Few weeks earlier, the renowned stealth jets have actually coordinated with the U.S. Marine Corps' F-35 Lightning IIs associated with the Lightning Carrier demonstration incorporating with the F-35B Lightning II airplane connected to Marine Fighter Attack Squadron (VMFA) 122 operating from the flight deck of amphibious attack ship USS Tripoli (LHA 7). Formerly, the Nighthawks had actually performed DACT with the F-35Bs of the Marine Fighter Attack Squadron (VMFA) 225 "Vikings" of Marine Aircraft Group (MAG) 13, 3rd Marine Aircraft Wing, U.S. Marine Corps, released to MCAS Miramar from MCAS Yuma.

Along with the TR tail code, the F-11784-0828 sports a fascinating brand-new logo design that commemorates the 40 years of operations. (Image credit: MIsael Ocasio/ @epicaviation 47 ng)
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One last remark.

We spoke about the Air Dominance Center in 2018, when we published a shot revealing a Chengdu J-20 Mighty Dragon reproduction parked in front of the ADC at Savannah: a couple of days later on, we got the verification from the Col. Emmanuel Haldopoulos, Commander of the Savannah Air Dominance Center, that the airplane, was "a complete scale reproduction and stayed at the Air Dominance Center for a brief duration throughout the week of 4-6 Dec[2018]. The USMC is moneying

and directing the training goals of this gadget[...].

The J – 20 reproduction ultimately made its method to Marine Corps Auxiliary Landing Field Bogue, or “Bogue Field”, an airfield that works as a Marine Corps’ East Coast website for Field Carrier Landing Practice (FCLP) and provider certification: the Chinese stealth fighter mock-up might be plainly seen parked on the left border of the northern apron of Bogue Field in a satellite image dated March 12,2019

We do not understand what sort of visual or sensing unit training it was expected to support over there: it might have been some type of night/day attack jet or helicopter pod use or long-range targeting in a simulated attack on an opponent airfield. Still, fascinating.

A huge H/T to our buddies Misael Ocasio Hernandez and Gherardo Fontana for the F – 117 images you can discover in this post. Make certain you follow them on Instagram for more impressive photography.



David Cenciotti is a self-employed reporter based in Rome, Italy. He is the Founder and Editor of “The Aviationist”, among the world’s most well-known and check out military air travel blog sites. Given That 1996, he has actually composed for significant around the world publications, consisting of Air Forces Monthly, Combat Aircraft, and numerous others, covering air travel, defense, war, market, intelligence, criminal activity and cyberwar. He has actually reported from the U.S., Europe, Australia and Syria, and flown numerous battle airplanes with various flying force. 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 added to a lot more ones.

Source: [Exclusive Photos Of The F – 117 Stealth Aircraft Currently Taking Part In Exercise ‘Sentry Savannah’](#) .