



# F-22 MISSION BRIEF

**F-22 Mission Brief is a monthly report on the F-22 Program**

**<http://www.f22-raptor.com>**

## **F-22s participate in Combat Hammer at Hill AFB**



*F-22 Raptors from Holloman AFB, N.M., fly over Hill AFB, Utah during Combat Hammer May 7. U.S. Air Force photos by Senior Airman Michael Means and Capt. Christopher Johnson (inset).*

In a recent *Denver Examiner* article, Lt. Col. Dean Ostovich, 86th Fighter Weapons Squadron commander at Eglin AFB said, "The addition of the F-22 to the Combat Hammer exercises is a 'game changer' ... two F-22s

savaged the defending 'enemy' forces despite being overwhelmingly out-numbered."

Combat Hammer is a Weapons System Evaluation Program (WSEP) for air-to-ground weapons.

Sixty-five percent of the Combat Hammer operations are performed at the Utah Test and Training Range (UTTR).

There are 18 to 20 Combat Hammer events per year at either Hill AFB or Eglin AFB, Fla. The Combat Hammer exercise at Hill AFB is the larger of the two, with up to six

units participating over the course of three weeks.

In the future, there may be combined WSEPs where the Combat Archer air-to-air evaluation and the Combat Hammer air-to-ground evaluation would be merged. One such combined event has already taken place at Eglin AFB.

### **Flying Highlights**

(through April 30)

**Pilots Trained: 256**

**Sorties Flown: 46,036**

**Flight Hours: 65,129**

**Operational - 55,481**

**Test - 9,648**

### **Production & Delivery Highlights**

**Final Assembly**

**4147 – 5/26**

**4146 – 5/8**

**Delivery (DD250)**

**4142 – 5/26**

**4141 – 5/12**

## It's a "hat trick" . . . Raptors 4138, 4139, 4140 declared zero defect!



Raptor 4138, shown above, prepares for takeoff. Raptors 4138, 4139 and 4140 left Lockheed Martin in Marietta in a three-ship ferry to Elmendorf AFB, Alaska on May 7. All three of the aircraft were declared zero defect on May 23. Twenty-five F-22 Raptors have been declared zero defect by the U.S. Air Force. Lockheed Martin photo by Eric Sollinger.

### 94th Fighter Squadron heads out on their first overseas deployment

By 2nd Lt. Georganne Schultz



The 94th FS, along with members of the Virginia Air National Guard's 192nd Fighter Wing, are deploying to Kadena Air Base, Japan, as part of a theater security package being sent to the Western Pacific.

"This deployment is an excellent avenue to en-

sure that all facets of our unique brand of air power are able to perform at a moment's notice," said Lt. Col. Adrian Spain, 94th FS commander.

"Many of our pilots and maintainers have not experienced this type of deployment with the Raptor, so it will be an opportunity to prove our ability to respond anywhere, anytime."

This is the first overseas deployment for the 94th FS since transitioning to the F-22 Raptor. As part of their preparation for the deployment, the squadron worked with the

27th FS, who returned from their deployment to Kadena in April.

"They captured all of their lessons learned and passed them on to us to help make sure the Spad deployment is even better," said Lt. Col. Pete Fesler, 94th FS director of operations.

Specifically, the squadron learned what type of cargo and spare parts to bring to ensure the jets are working at their optimum performance, said Lt. Col. Fesler.

They also prepared for the type of training they

will conduct during the deployment. The 94th FS plans to train with and against the F-15 Eagles based at Kadena, as well as the Japan Air Self Defense Forces and the U.S. Navy's F/A-18 Super Hornets. The squadron will be able to practice the way they would fight - as part of a coalition or joint team.

"We've been working for a long time toward this deployment," said Fesler. "It's a great opportunity for the Spads to throw their hat in the ring."