

News story: Royal Air Force playing major role in world's premier air combat exercise

Based at Nellis Air Force Base, Exercise Red Flag pits 'Blue' coalition forces against hostile 'Red Force' aggressors, mirroring real-life threats in air-to-air, air-to-ground, space and cyber warfare.

Red Flag's live element takes place over the US Air Force's premier military training area in Nevada; over 15,000 square miles of airspace and 2.9 million acres of land – an impossible scale to achieve in Europe.

Speaking about the Exercise, Defence Secretary Sir Michael Fallon said:

The RAF is playing a major role alongside our greatest ally in the world's leading aerial combat training exercise.

Britain's pilots and aircrews will receive unparalleled training and an opportunity to sharpen the combat skills they are demonstrating every day in the fight against Daesh.

Training alongside our US partners and other nations shows how the UK is stepping up internationally, ensuring maximum interoperability with our allies, and in doing so helping keep Britain safer and more secure.

Typhoon jets, from 6 Squadron, RAF Lossiemouth, are operating in a swing-role capacity, fighting their way into hostile airspace, launching precision strikes on ground targets and fighting their way out again.



Typhoons taking on fuel from a RAF Voyager tanker during Exercise Red Flag.

Working with the US Air Force (USAF) F-35A Lightning II for the first time, and with USAF F-22 Raptors; the exercise has been a hugely rewarding exposure to 5th Generation aircraft for RAF crews ahead of the F-35B's introduction into the RAF's combat inventory in 2018.



US Air Force aircraft on take off at Nellis Air Force Base in Nevada USA during Exercise RED FLAG, 2017.

This is also the first time the RAF's Voyager is taking part in the exercise. The Voyager is providing key air-to-air refuelling capability during the exercise, while a Sentinel and Rivet Joint are gathering intelligence and other mission-critical information.

Speaking from the exercise, Group Captain Graham Pemberton, RAF Detachment Commander said:

Red Flag replicates truly challenging, high-end warfare, from realistic aerial combat to emerging cyber and space threats. It's as close as we can get to the real thing.

Testing ourselves against highly capable enemy aggressors is hugely beneficial and improves and readies our personnel, from pilots to those in crucial support roles, for real world operations.

It's a privilege for us to work with our US Air Force and Royal Australian Air Force counterparts and to cement our relationships with them at an exercise of this scale.

The exercise will run until early February and marks the start of three months of RAF Typhoon activity in the USA.

Press release: Planned roadworks in Central Southern England: weekly summary for Monday 30 January to Sunday 5 February 2017

The following summary of planned new and ongoing road improvements over the coming week is correct as of 27 January but could be subject to change due to weather conditions or unforeseen circumstances. All our improvement work is carried out with the aim of causing as little disruption as possible.

M3 junctions 2 (M25) to 4a Farnborough, Hampshire: Smart motorway improvement

Work to reduce congestion and improve journey times continues this week with narrow lanes a 50mph speed limit in place on both carriageways between junctions 2 and 4a, with a free recovery service operating 24 hours a day.

The southbound carriageway between junctions 2 and 4 including the M25 clockwise slip road and anti-clockwise link road to the M3 southbound, junctions 3 entry slip and junctions 3 and 4 exit slips will be closed overnight between 8pm and 5.30am, on Monday 30 January for four nights and between 8pm and 7am on Friday 3 February and Saturday 4 February.

A clearly signed diversion will be in place via:

- M3 southbound junction 2 to M25 junction 13 via A30 to A331 to M3 junction 4
- M25 clockwise junction 13 via A30 to A331 to M3 junction 4
- M25 anti clockwise junction 13 via A30 to A331 to M3 junction 4

The northbound carriageway between junction 4 and 2 including junction 4 and 3 entry slips, junction 3 exit slip and junction 2 northbound clockwise link road and anti-clockwise slip road will be closed overnight between 8pm and 5.30am, on Monday 30 January for four nights and between 8pm and 7am on Friday 3 February and Saturday 4 February. A clearly signed diversion will be in place via: M3 junction 4 to A331 to A30 to M25 junction 13 to M3 junction 2 northbound.

For further details, [visit the scheme website.](#)

M3 junctions 6 to 7 Basingstoke, Hampshire:

resurfacing

Work to improve journeys by resurfacing a section of the southbound carriageway takes place this week. The M3 southbound will be closed from junction 6 to junction 7 overnight, between 9pm and 6am, on Tuesday 31 January. A clearly signed diversion will be in place via Basingstoke.

M3 junction 8 Popham, Hampshire: bridge strengthening

Work to maintain journeys by undertaking bridge bearing and support replacement continues this week. Narrow lanes and a 50mph speed restriction are in place on the link from the M3 southbound to the A303 westbound 24 hours a day until May.

M3 junction 11 Winchester, Hampshire: safety barrier

Work to improve safety by carrying out repairs to the barrier along the southbound slip road continues this week. Lane closures will be in place on the southbound carriageway overnight, between 10pm and 6am, until Friday 24 February (Monday to Friday only).

M4 junction 6 Windsor, Berkshire: drainage

Work to ensure road user safety by maintaining the drainage asset at the junction takes continues this week. Lane closures will be in place on the east and westbound approaches to the junction overnight, between 9pm and 6am, until Monday 6 February (Monday to Friday only).

In addition, the westbound exit and entry slip roads at the junction will be closed overnight, between 9pm and 6am, from Thursday 2 February for 3 nights (Monday to Friday only). Clearly signed diversions will be in place via the adjacent junctions.

M4 junction 10 Wokingham, Berkshire: bridge reconstruction

Work to refurbish the bridge which carries the link roads over the M4 continues this week. Narrow lanes and a 40mph speed limit are in place on the slip roads and a 50mph speed limit is in place on the M4 carriageway until November 2017.

The slip road from the M4 eastbound carriageway to the A329(M) Wokingham bound carriageway will be closed overnight, between 9pm and 5am, on Monday 31 and Tuesday 31 January. A clearly signed diversion will be in place via junction 8/9 and return.

M4 junction 11 Reading, Berkshire: surveys

Work to improve journeys by carrying out surveys in preparation for converting the M4 into a Smart Motorway continues this week. Lane closures will be in place on the eastbound exit slip road at the junction overnight, between 9pm and 6am, from Monday 30 January for 5 nights.

M4 junctions 11 to 12 Reading, Berkshire: resurfacing, surveys and bridge joint

Work to improve journeys by replacing a bridge joint and resurfacing a section of the M4 westbound carriageway between Moto services and junction 12 starts this week. The westbound carriageway will be fully closed overnight, between 10pm and 6am, from Wednesday 1 February for 9 nights (Monday to Friday only). A clearly signed diversion will be in place via the A33 and A4.

Work to improve journeys by carrying out surveys in preparation for converting the M4 into a Smart Motorway continues this week. The eastbound exit and entry slip roads for Moto Reading Service Area will be closed overnight, between 10pm and 6am, on Thursday 2 February.

M4 junctions 13 Chieveley to 12 Reading, Berkshire: resurfacing

Work to improve journeys by resurfacing a section of the M4 eastbound carriageway starts this week. The eastbound carriageway will be closed overnight, between 10pm and 6am, from Tuesday 31 January for 5 nights (Monday to Friday only). A clearly signed diversion will be in place via the A4.

M4 junction 15 Swindon, Wiltshire: surveys

Work to improve journeys by carrying out surveys around junction 15 takes place this week. Lane closures will be in place on all approaches to the junction overnight, between 9pm and 6am, on Friday 3 February.

M27 junction 1 Cadnam, Hampshire: drainage

Work to ensure road user safety by maintaining the drainage asset at the junction takes place this week. Lane closures will be in place on the east and westbound approaches to the junction overnight, between 9pm and 6am, from Monday 30 January for 5 nights.

M27 junctions 7 Hedge End, Hampshire: surveys

Work to improve journeys by carrying out carriageway surveys at junction 7 takes place this week. Lane closures will be in place on the westbound approach to the junction and on the roundabout overnight, between 9pm and 6am, on Thursday 2 February.

M27 junctions 7 Hedge End to 8 Bursledon, Hampshire: resurfacing

Work to improve journeys by resurfacing a section of the M27 eastbound carriageway finishes this week. The M27 eastbound carriageway will be closed from junction 7 to junction 8 overnight, between 10pm and 6am, until Tuesday 31 January. A clearly signed diversion will be in place via Charles Watts Way, Kanes Hill (A27) and A3024.

M27 junctions 9 Whiteley to 8 Bursledon, Hampshire: resurfacing

Work to improve journeys by resurfacing the M27 between Bursledon and Whiteley continues this week. The M27 westbound carriageway will be closed from junction 9 to junction 8 overnight, between 10pm and 6am, until Wednesday 22 February (Monday to Friday only). A clearly signed diversion will be in place via the A3051 Botley Road, Curdridge, A334 through Botley and Hedge End, re-joining the M27 at junction 7.

M27 junctions 11 to 12 Portsmouth, Hampshire: resurfacing

Work to improve journeys by resurfacing a section of the M27 eastbound carriageway near Port Solent continues week. The M27 eastbound carriageway from junction 11 to the A27 Eastern Road junction, and the M275 northbound link to the A27 eastbound carriageway will be closed overnight, between 10pm and 6am, until Friday 16 February (Monday to Friday only). Clearly signed diversions will be in place via the A27 for M27 traffic and the A3 Northern Parade for M275 traffic.

A3(M) junction 2 Horndean to Charlton, Hampshire: resurfacing

Work to improve journeys by resurfacing a section of the northbound carriageway takes place this week. The A3(M) northbound carriageway will be closed from junction 2 to Charlton overnight, between 9pm and 6am, on Friday 3 February. A clearly signed diversion will be in place via the old A3.

A3 Shackleford, Surrey: drainage surveys

Work to improve journeys by carrying out drainage surveys at the junction takes place this week. The northbound entry slip road will be closed overnight, between 9pm and 6am, from Monday 31 January for 2 nights. The southbound entry slip road will be closed overnight, between 9pm and 6am, from Wednesday 1 February for 3 nights. Clearly signed diversions will be in place via adjacent junctions.

A3 Hindhead Tunnel, Surrey: maintenance

Work to maintain journeys by carrying out tunnel maintenance takes place this week. The northbound tunnel will be closed overnight, between 9pm and 6am, from Monday 30 January for 4 nights. Traffic will be diverted through the southbound tunnel in contraflow under a 40mph speed limit.

A27 Hilsea to Bedhampton, Hampshire: safety barrier

Work to improve safety by carrying out repairs to the barrier along the A27 central reserve continues this week. Lane closures will be in place on the east and westbound carriageways overnight, between 9pm and 6am, until Friday 10 February (Monday to Friday only).

A34 Three Maids Hill (Winchester), Hampshire: surveys

Work to improve journeys by carrying out surveys of the A34 southbound carriageway takes place this week. The southbound exit and entry slip roads at the A272 Three Maids Hill junction will be closed overnight, between 9pm and 6am, on Monday 30 January. Clearly signed diversions will be in place via adjacent junctions.

A34 Bullington Cross to Sutton Scotney, Hampshire: resurfacing

Work to improve road user's journeys by resurfacing a section of the A34 southbound carriageway continues this week. The A34 southbound carriageway will be closed from the A303 (Bullington Cross) to the A272 (Three Maids Hill) overnight, between 10pm and 6am, from Friday 3 February for 5 nights (Monday to Friday only). A clearly signed diversion will be in place via the A303 eastbound carriageway, then south on the A33 Basingstoke Road.

A34 Speen, West Berkshire: resurfacing

Work to improve journeys by resurfacing a section of the northbound carriageway takes place this week. A lane closure will be in place overnight, between 9pm and 6am, on Monday 30 January.

A34 Didcot to Abingdon, Oxfordshire: surveys

Work to improve journeys by carrying out surveys of the A34 southbound carriageway takes place this week. Lane closures will be in place on both carriageways between the Marcham Interchange and Chilton junction overnight, between 9pm and 6am, on Tuesday 31 January and Wednesday 1 February.

A34 Oxford, Oxfordshire: resurfacing

Work to improve road user's journeys by resurfacing the A34 northbound carriageway around Oxford continues this week. The A34 northbound carriageway will be closed from the Hinksey Hill Interchange to the Botley Interchange overnight, between 10pm and 6am, until Friday 10 February (Monday to Friday only). A clearly signed diversion will be in place via the Oxford ring-road (A4142 Eastern-by-Pass, A40 Northern-by-Pass and A44).

A34 Weston-on-the-Green, Oxfordshire: resurfacing

Work to improve road user's journeys by resurfacing a damaged section of the A34 southbound carriageway takes place this week. The A34 southbound carriageway will be closed from the M40 junction 9 roundabout to Islip overnight, between 10pm and 6am, on Monday 30 January.

Clearly signed diversions will be in place via M40 junction 8a and the A40 (for motorway permitted vehicles) and via the A4095 and A44 between Bicester and Peartree (for non-motorway vehicles).

A303 Bullington, Hampshire: resurfacing

Work to improve journeys by resurfacing a section of the westbound carriageway takes place this week. The A303 westbound carriageway will be closed between the slip roads overnight, between 9pm and 6am, on Thursday 2 February. A clearly signed diversion will be in place.

A404(M) junction 9a Maidenhead, Berkshire: vegetation

Work to improve journeys by cutting back overgrown vegetation takes place this week. The southbound entry slip road at the junction will be closed overnight, between 9pm and 6am, on Friday 3 February. A clearly signed diversion will be in place via junction 9b.

General enquiries

Members of the public should contact the Highways England customer contact centre on 0300 123 5000.

Media enquiries

Journalists should contact the Highways England press office on 0844 693 1448 and use the menu to speak to the most appropriate press officer.

Primary schools encouraged to make 'Daily Mile' a runaway success

The initiative sees primary school children run, walk or jog for 15 minutes every day. It is inclusive, simple and free, with no equipment or set up required.

Minister for Social Services and Public Health, Rebecca Evans and Education Secretary Kirsty Williams have sent a joint letter to head teachers to encourage them to consider simple and innovative approaches to improve the health and wellbeing of children during the school day.

Minister for Social Services and Public Health, Rebecca Evans, said:

"We want to ensure children across Wales have good physical, emotional and social health and wellbeing. This is why we are encouraging to schools to take part in innovative schemes to help children be more active, such as The Daily Mile.

"The initiative builds upon the good work already taking place throughout Wales, such as the Welsh Network of Health Schools Scheme."

Education Secretary, Kirsty Williams, said:

"Creating more fun opportunities for young people to get moving is key to ensuring they achieve the recommended 60 minutes a day of physical activity.

"Engaging with The Daily Mile will support primary schools to implement the new curriculum, which puts a focus on making physical activity a more routine part of the school day."

Notice: DN40 2QW, Inter Terminals Immingham Limited: environmental permit issued

The Environment Agency publish permits that they issue under the Industrial Emissions Directive (IED).

This decision includes the permit and decision document for:

- Operator name: Inter Terminals Immingham Limited
- Installation name: Immingham East Terminal
- Permit number: EPR/LP3024XB/V004

Northeast to develop as favourite 'youth destination': Dr Jitendra Singh

Union Minister of State (Independent Charge) for Development of North Eastern Region (DoNER), MoS PMO, Personnel, Public Grievances, Pensions, Atomic Energy and Space, Dr Jitendra Singh said here today that the focus with which the Ministry of DoNER