

Article from Offutt AFB "Air Pulse" newspaper, Thursday Nov. 29th



The first of three RC-135 Rivet Joint aircraft lands at Royal Air Force Waddington, England, on Nov. 12. The historic occasion is the culmination of a 2010 agreement between the Department of Defense and the U.K. Ministry of Defense for the RAF to purchase three RJs. As the sole provider of Rivet Joint initial qualification training, the 55th Wing has trained more than 140 aircrew and ground maintenance personnel from the RAF at Offutt Air Force Base, Neb., since the programs initiation in 2010. (courtesy photo)

RAF ALCONBURY, United Kingdom -- The U.S. Air Force's 95th Reconnaissance Squadron and 488th Intelligence Squadron will relocate its RC-135 RIVET JOINT mission from RAF Mildenhall to RAF Fairford as part of the European Infrastructure Consolidation.

Approximately 530 military personnel and 740 family members will move to the areas around RAF Fairford. The relocation enables U.S. Air Forces in Europe-Air Forces Africa to reduce excess capacity without any loss of operational capabilities.

The move is expected to begin in 2023 and be complete by 2024.

All RC-135s are permanently assigned to the 55th Wing, Air Combat Command, Offutt Air Force Base, Nebraska. They will use RAF Fairford as a Forward Operating Location and will deploy as required from the U.S. as they currently do at RAF Mildenhall. The 95th RS and 488th IS provide intelligence collection, analysis and dissemination capabilities.

For more information on the RC-135, please visit the Air Force's fact sheet here: <https://www.af.mil/About-Us/Fact-Sheets/Display/Article/104608/rc-135vw-rivet-joint/> .
