

■ **FAIRFORD** The need for NATO to wield the big stick against Belgrade once more brought Fairford the unexpected bonus of another 2ndBW B-52H detachment on 21st February. Seven aircraft arrived non-stop from Barksdale AFB, LA that day as follows: **60-0010**/LA rd (named "*Instigator*" with nose-art), **60-0020**/LA bl "20 BMS" (named "*The Mad Bolshevik*" with nose-art), **60-0022**/LA rd (no name), **60-0049**/LA bl (no name), **60-0059**/LA rd "96 BMS" (no name), **61-0016**/LA gold (POW-MIA nose art) and **61-0031**/LA gold "2 BW" (named "*Ol' Smokey*" with nose-art). They came in as "*Havoc 02/04/01/05/03/07/08*" respectively, supported by 60thAMW C-5B's 84-0060 bk/bl ("*RCH 4060*") and 87-0028 bk/bl ("*RCH 7028*"), both of which also came in from Barksdale. The next day saw the arrival of training-configured B-52H **60-0016**/- ("*Havoc 11*", completely unmarked) which has subsequently flown several missions using the same callsign. As we closed for press a 509thBW B-2A was expected to make a brief appearance here on 10th March.

■ **FAIRFORD** Unlike the previous B-52H detachment, the current one (see F118) carried out regular training sorties before the aircraft were called up for action on 24th March. Not only did the 'trainer' fly solo missions (it carried out a diversion to Brize Norton after one during the evening of 3rd March) but the others were involved in sorties *en masse* as well.

All eight aircraft took off for the first operational mission on 24th March and seven (all except for '059) did so again two days later, although on the latter occasion four of them (**60-0016**, **60-0022**, **60-0049**, **61-0031**, "*Havoc 14-17*") returned home instead of landing back at Fairford. This was the start of a rolling change-over programme, fully-armed B-52H's arriving to replace those which had expended their weaponry. New arrivals up to the end of March comprised **60-0014/-** (2ndBW), **60-0033/MT rd/yw** (5thBW) and **61-0020/LA rd** (2ndBW) which came in from Diego Garcia as "*Laser 12/13/11*" during the afternoon of the 27th, **60-0052/LA rd** and **61-0023/LA bl** (both 2ndBW) which followed from Barksdale early on the 28th as "*Artic 12+11*" and **60-0009/MT rd/yw**, **60-0044/MT rd/yw** and **60-0051/MT rd/yw** (all 5thBW) which arrived from Fairchild AFB, WA as "*Edwin 11/22/33*" during the afternoon of the 29th (Fairchild AFB is apparently where Minot's ALCM's are stored). Additional departures to the USA comprised **60-0014** and **60-0033** on 29.3 ("*Havoc 12+11*"), **60-0010** on 30.3 ("*Amuse 11*") and **60-0051** on 1.4 ("*Lundy 11*"). For the purposes of Operation '*Noble Anvil*' the B-52's at Fairford are assigned to the 2nd Air Expeditionary Group which reports to Mildenhall's 100th Air Expeditionary Wing.

The arrival from Ellsworth AFB, SD of 60thAMW C-5B's **84-0062 bk/gd** ("*RCH 6042*"), **85-0006 bk/gd** ("*RCH 5006*") and 366thWg KC-135R **61-0277/MO gn** ("*Aspen 11*") on 31st March heralded the following morning's deployment here of five 28thBW B-1B's, comprising **85-0073**, **85-0075**, **85-0083**, **85-0091** all 'EL' bk/yw 77thBS *War Eagles* and **86-0102/EL bk/gd** 37thBS *Tigers* (call-signs "*Razor 01-05*", tie-ups unconfirmed). Two of them flew their first mission that evening.

The promised 509thBW B-2A turned up as planned during the morning of 10th March and remained on the ground for just over an hour for an engines-running crew-change and to pose for the TV cameras before returning to Whiteman AFB, MO. Flown in both directions by crews from the 393rdBS, the aircraft involved was **82-1067/WM** "*Spirit of Arizona*" which came in as "*Czar 11*" and left as "*Czar 12*". Once again it was escorted in and out of UK airspace by a pair of 493rdFS *Eagles* although these accompanying fighters were not visible beneath the cloud cover at Fairford. Incidentally, two B-2A's ("*Czar 41+42*") carried out a round-trip training flight to Europe from Whiteman on 12th February. Another pair ("*Darth 71+72*") was involved in the first NATO strike on 24th March and they also operated from/to Whiteman.

■ FAIRFORD Movements for February:

21	60-0010	LA rd/bk	B-52H	96thBS	2ndBW	"Havoc 02/Amuse 11"	F/t USA (dep 30th Mar)
	60-0020	LA bl/bl	B-52H	20 BMS	2ndBW	"Havoc 04/Borg 11"	F/t USA (dep 9th Apr)
	60-0022	LA rd/bk	B-52H	96thBS	2ndBW	"Havoc 01/Havoc 15"	F/t USA (dep 26th Mar)
	60-0049	LA bl/bk	B-52H	20thBS	2ndBW	"Havoc 05/Havoc 16"	F/t USA (dep 26th Mar)
	60-0059	LA rd/bk	B-52H	96 BMS	2ndBW	"Havoc 03/Hoyle 12"	F/t USA (dep 17th Apr)
	61-0016	LA gd/bk	B-52H	11thBS	2ndBW	"Havoc 07"	From USA
	61-0031	LA gd/bk	B-52H	11thBS	"2 BW"	"Havoc 08/Havoc 17"	F/t USA (dep 26th Mar)
	84-0060	bk/bl	C-5B	22ndAS	60thAMW	"RCH 4060"	USA-Mildenhall
	87-0028	bk/bl	C-5B	22ndAS	60thAMW	"RCH 7028"	From/to USA (dep 22nd)



22	60-0016	-	-	B-52H	2ndBW	(no marks)	"Havoc 11/Havoc 14"	F/t USA (dep 26th Mar)
25	84-0112		bl/yw	C-21A	76thAS	86thAW	"Spar 93"	F/t Ramstein (d 26th)

Visitors during **March** comprised:

5	N96			BAe125	FAA		"FLC 96"	From/to Mildenhall
10	82-1067	WM	-	B-2A	393rdBS	509thBW	"Czar 11/Czar 12"	From/to USA
22	XV103			VC-10	C.1K	10 Sqdn	"RRR 844"	Brize-Lyneham
23	84-0111		bl/yw	C-21A	76thAS	86thAW	"Spar 86"	From/to Mildenhall
27	60-0014	-	-	B-52H	2ndBW	(no marks)	"Laser 12/Havoc 12"	D.Garcia-USA (d 29th Mar)
	60-0033	MT	rd/yw	B-52H	23rdBS	5thBW	"Laser 13/Havoc 11"	D.Garcia-USA (d 29th Mar)
	61-0020	LA	rd/bk	B-52H	96thBS	2ndBW	"Laser 11/Borg 21"	D.Garcia-USA (d 10th Apr)
28	60-0052	LA	rd/bk	B-52H	96thBS	2ndBW	"Artic 12"	From USA
	61-0023	LA	bl/bk	B-52H	20thBS	2ndBW	"Artic 11/Borg 13"	F/t USA (dep 9th Apr)
29	60-0009	MT	rd/yw	B-52H	23rdBS	5thBW	"Edwin 11"	From USA
	60-0044	MT	rd/yw	B-52H	23rdBS	5thBW	"Edwin 22/Binge 21"	F/t USA (dep 17th Apr)
29	60-0051	MT	rd/yw	B-52H	23rdBS	5thBW	"Edwin 33/Lundy 11"	F/t USA (dep 1st Apr)
31	61-0277	MO	gn/yw	KC-135R	22ndARS	366thWg	"Aspen 11"	From/to USA (dep 1st Apr)

31	84-0062	bk/gd	C-5B	21stAS	60thAMW	"RCH 4062/JGO 16"	USA-Taszar (dep 2nd Apr)
	85-0006	bk/gd	C-5B	21stAS	60thAMW	"RCH 5006/JGO 17"	USA-Taszar (dep 1st Apr)

Along with 61-0016 from the original arrivals in February, B-52H's 60-0009 and 60-0052 were still here at the end of April.

Visitors during **April** included the following:

1	85-0073	EL bk/yw	B-1B	77thBS	28thBW	"Razor ??/Razor 11"	F/t USA (dep 26th Apr)
	85-0075	EL bk/yw	B-1B	77thBS	28thBW	"Razor ??/Razor 11"	F/t USA (dep 11th Apr)
	85-0083	EL bk/yw	B-1B	77thBS	28thBW	"Razor ??"	From USA, detached
	85-0091	EL bk/yw	B-1B	77thBS	28thBW	"Razor ??"	From USA, detached
	86-0102	EL bk/gd	B-1B	37thBS	28thBW	"Razor ??"	From USA, detached

[the B-1B's arrived as "Razor 01-05" but individual tie-ups remain unconfirmed.]

2	87-0040	bk/gd	C-5B	21stAS	60thAMW	"RCH 7040"	From/to USA (dep 3rd)
	87-0044	bk/gd	C-5B	21stAS	60thAMW	"RCH 7044"	From/to USA (dep 3rd)
4	84-0111	bl/yw	C-21A	76thAS	86thAW	"Spar 94"	From/to Ramstein
6	84-0087	bl/yw	C-21A	76thAS	86thAW	"Spar 94"	Ramstein-Cervia
7	1 x unidentified		MH-53J	21stSOS	352ndSOG	"Pave 99"	From/to Mildenhall
8	85-0074	- -	B-1B	28thBW	(no marks)	"Razor 01"	From USA, detached
	70-0453	- -	C-5A	436thAW?	(no mks)	"RCH 411/RCH 0453"	Incirlik-USA (dep 9th)
9	60-0011	LA gd/bk	B-52H	"11 BMS"	2ndBW	"Jambo 52/Gamut 11"	F/t USA (dep 18th Apr)
	60-0016	- -	B-52H	2ndBW	(no marks)	"Doom 51/Hoyle 11"	F/t USA (dep 17th Apr)
	85-0002	bk/bl	C-5B	22ndAS	60thAMW	"RCH 412/RCH 486"	F/t Incirlik (dep 11th)
11	87-0028	bk/bl	C-5B	22ndAS	60thAMW	"RCH 413/RCH 414"	From/to Incirlik
12	87-0028	bk/bl	C-5B	22ndAS	60thAMW	"RCH 414/RCH 7028"	Incirlik-USA (dep 13th)
	83-0500		C-20A	76thAS	86thAW	"Spar 66"	From/to Ramstein
	61-0277	MO gn/yw	KC-135R	22ndARS	366thWg	"Bobby 51"	From Souda, detached
15	62-3572	MO gn/yw	KC-135R	22ndARS	366thWg	"Aspen 21"	From USA, detached
16	59-1498	MO gn/yw	KC-135R	22ndARS	366thWg	"Blue 12"	From Lajes, detached
	62-3513	MO gn/yw	KC-135R	22ndARS	366thWg	"Gold 03"	From Lajes, detached
	63-8004	MO gn/yw	KC-135R	22ndARS	366thWg	"Blue 11"	From Lajes, detached
18	87-0036	bk/gd	C-5B	21stAS	60thAMW	"RCH 337/RCH 7036"	From/to USA (dep 20th)
	92-0375		C-20H	99thAS	89thAW	"S 20375"	USA-Mildenhall
23	N95		BAe125	FAA		"FLC 95"	From/to Mildenhall
24	86-0097	EL bk/yw	B-1B	77thBS	28thBW	"Razor 05"	From USA, detached
25	87-0037	yw/rd	C-5B	436thAW		"RCH 7037/RCH 205H"	USA-Ramstein (dep 26th)
29	60-0345	yw	KC-135T	97thARS	92ndARW	"Earl 81"	From USA
	64-0645	yw/bk	C-141B	756thAS	459thAW	"RCH 4645"	From USA

The B-1B's sent to Fairford have all undergone a hurriedly-completed software update which gives their defensive avionics package the latest information on the identification of (and countermeasures to be used against) enemy radars. The 53rd Wing at Eglin AFB, FL developed and tested the update in less than a week prior to the 1st April deployment. There was a munitions incident at Fairford during the morning of 8th April when a bomb was accidentally dropped while being loaded aboard one of the B-1B's. Roads around the base were sealed off for several hours but the device was made safe and no damage was caused. B-1B 85-0073 made a diversion to Brindisi, Italy during the early hours of 24th April and returned here on the 25th as "*Chisel 12*" before being flown home the next day. The 366thWg KC-135R detachment which took up residence mid-April flew its first operational missions on the 18th.

During the early hours of 1st May three more 2ndBW B-52H's arrived, comprising **60-0011**/LA gold '*11 BMS*', **61-0011**/LA gold '*11 BMS*' and **61-0023**/LA bl (as "*Tiger 01/11/21*", tie-ups unconfirmed). They were followed later in the day by **60-0020**/LA bl, **61-0002**/LA bl '*2nd OG*', **61-0020**/LA rd ("*Tiger 31/41/51*" respectively) and then 5thBW machines **60-0033**/MT rd, **60-0018**/-unmarked ("*Nappy 11/21*" respectively). **60-0062**/LA bl followed as "*Tiger 01*" on 3rd May.

■ FAIRFORD Updating last month's movements list for April (see AP334), we are pleased to be able to confirm that the five B-1B's on the 1st arrived as "*Razor 04/01/03/02/05*" respectively. At the end of the month the five 366thWg tankers were briefly joined by a sixth machine provided by the 92ndARW (**60-0345** "*Earl 81*" on the 29th) but this aircraft departed on a mission as "*Riyal 32*" on 3rd May and did not return, landing instead at Mont de Marsan in France. C-141B 64-0645 (29th) left for the USA as "*RCH 4645*" on the 30th, while further visitors on the final day of the month comprised 167thAW/West Virginia ANG C-130H 94-6703



("Herky 4159" from Aviano, to Ramstein) and 37thAS C-130E 64-0533/RS bl/wt ("Herky 748" from Aviano, to Ramstein during the first few minutes of 1st May). Visitors during May included the following:

1	90-0532	yw/bl	C-17A	437thAW	"RCH 832P/RCH 532"	Incirlik-Ramstein
	64-0550	RS bl/wt	C-130E	37thAS 86thAW	"Herky 749"	Aviano-Ramstein
	96-1007	MN bl	C-130H	133rdAW/MN ANG	"JGO 05/Herky 05"	Aviano-Ramstein
	61-0011	LA gd/bk	B-52H	"11 BMS" 2ndBW	"Tiger 01/Area 51"	From/to USA (dep 9th)
	60-0011	LA gd/bk	B-52H	"11 BMS" 2ndBW	"Tiger 11"	From USA, detached
	61-0023	LA bl/bk	B-52H	20thBS 2ndBW	"Tiger 21/Racer 12"	F/t USA (dep 4th June)
	60-0020	LA bl/bk	B-52H	20thBS 2ndBW	"Tiger 31"	From USA, detached
	61-0002	LA bl/bk	B-52H	"2 OG" 2ndBW	"Tiger 41"	From USA, detached
	61-0020	LA rd/bk	B-52H	96thBS 2ndBW	"Tiger 51/Mity 08"	From/to USA (dep 20th)
	60-0033	MT rd/yw	B-52H	23rdBS 5thBW	"Nappy 11"	From USA, detached
	60-0018	-	B-52H	23rdBS 5thBW	"Nappy 21"	From USA, detached
2	84-0108	bl/yw	C-21A	76thAS 86thAW	"Spar 95"	From/to Ramstein
3	60-0062	LA bl/bk	B-52H	20thBS 2ndBW	"Tiger 01"	From USA, detached
4	60-0049	LA bl/bk	B-52H	20thBS 2ndBW	"Tiger 11/Speed 11"	F/t USA (dep 5th June)
	96-0003	yw/bl	C-17A	437thAW	"RCH 372"	From/to Lajes
	97-0041	yw/bl	C-17A	437thAW	"RCH 373"	From/to Lajes
5	90-0534	yw/bl	C-17A	437thAW	"RCH 374"	From/to Lajes
	92-3293	yw/bl	C-17A	437thAW	"RCH 375"	From/to Lajes
8	61-0039	LA gd/bk	B-52H	11thBS 2ndBW	"Tiger 01"	From USA, detached
	97-0047	yw/bl	C-17A	437thAW	"RCH 370"	From/to Lajes
	90-0535	yw/bl	C-17A	437thAW	"RCH 371"	From/to Lajes
	66-0201	rd/yw	C-141C	452ndAMW/AFRC	"RCH 6201"	From/to USA (dep 9th)
9	70-0458	flag	C-5A	433rdAW/AFRC	"RCH 0458"	Gander-Mildenhall
12	66-0196	bl/wt	C-141B	305thAMW	"RCH 6196"	Gander-Ramstein (d 13th)
	95-0104	yw/bl	C-17A	437thAW	"RCH 414"	From/to Ramstein
13	96-0002	yw/bl	C-17A	437thAW	"RCH 6002"	From/to Ramstein
14	86-0011	yw/bl	C-5B	436thAW	"RCH 6011"	From/to USA (dep 21st)
	62-3528	D mlti	KC-135R	100thARW	"Quid 01"	Mildenhall-Aviano
15	86-0129	bk/gd	B-1B	37thBS 28thBW	"Bone 11"	From USA, detached
16	58-0108	rd/bk	KC-135E	940thARW/AFRC	"Quid 40"	From/to Istres (d 19th)
	*90-0255	LN bl/wt	F-15E	492ndFS 48thFW	"Rage 11+12"	From/to Lakenheath
	*91-0303	LN bl/wt	F-15E	492ndFS 48thFW		
17	66-0152	yw/rd	C-141C	452ndAMW/AFRC	"RCH 6152"	Gander-USA (dep 18th)
18	60-0043	LA bl/bk	B-52H	20thBS 2ndBW	"Tiger 01"	From USA, detached
	63-8031	yw/bk	KC-135R	99thARS 19thARG	"Quid 41"	F/t Sigonella (dep 21st)
19	63-7808	gn	C-130E	61stAS 463rdAG	"Herky 748"	M'hall-Taszar (dp 20th)
	63-8082	gn/??	C-141B	62ndAW	"RCH 3082"	Gander-USA (dep 20th)
20	67-0167	bl	C-5A	105thAW/NY ANG	"RCH 7167"	From/to USA (dep 21st)
	84-0108	bl/yw	C-21A	76thAS 86thAW	"Spar 93"	Vicenza-Ramstein
23	58-0053	rd/bk	KC-135E	940thARW/AFRC	"Quid 41"	From Istres (dp same day)
24	84-0110	bl/yw	C-21A	76thAS 86thAW	"Spar 92"	M'hall-Aviano (dep 25th)
26	60-0037	-	B-52H	2ndBW (no mks)	"Tiger 01"	From USA, detached
27	85-0075	EL bk/yw	B-1B	77thBS 28thBW	"Razor 11"	From USA, detached
	165159	CW-159	C-130T	VR-54	"VV JM658"	From/to Sigonella
28	163840	-	UC-12M	Mildenhall	"VV JM258"	F/t Mildenhall (?)
29	86-0012	bk/bl	C-5B	22ndAS 60thAMW	"RCH 691/RCH 1475"	Prestwick-Aviano (d 30th)
30	61-0299	bl	KC-135R	91stARS 6thARW	"Quid 42"	F/t Sigonella (dep 31st)
31	62-3523	yw/bk	KC-135R	99thARS 19thARG	"Quid 43"	F/t Sigonella (dep 2nd)
	165160	CW-160	C-130T	VR-54	"VV JM788"	From/to Sigonella

The visiting 100thARW KC-135R on the 14th took the local detachment commanders to a conference in Italy and should have brought them back again later in the day but the aircraft diverted to Mildenhall on that occasion. Most of the other visiting tankers came in for maintenance work which involved them being hangared for a short while. 366thWg KC-135R 61-0277 was flown to Mildenhall for maintenance during the early hours of 29th May as "Quid 42" and it did not return until 7th June (the same tanker had also been absent at Mildenhall for washing between 21st and 23rd May, again being ferried there and back as "Quid 42"). The 22ndARS commander's

aircraft, **63-8875**/MO gn/yw, arrived from its home base as "*Aspen 11*" on 3rd June and replaced **63-8004** which returned to Mountain Home as "*Aspen 11*" on 6th June. The other three detached tankers from the 366thWg (59-1498, 62-3513 and 62-3572) were all still resident on 7th June.

There were several changes to the bomber complement during May. Arrivals are dealt with in the movements, while departures have comprised B-52H **61-0011** which left for home on the 9th as "*Area 51*" (not indicative of its destination!) and **61-0020** which followed to Barksdale on the 20th as "*Mity 08*" (a contraction of the 8th Air Force nickname "*Mighty 8th*"). It is nice to see someone in the 2ndBW putting a bit of thought and humour into radio callsigns! Two further departures took place on the 27th when **60-0009** returned to Minot as "*Oscar 11*" and **60-0052** went home to Barksdale as "*Meyer 21*", while on the 28th **61-0016** left for Barksdale using the ingenious callsign "*Area 51*" once again! These last three were the final examples from the initial cruise missile detachment. The only B-1B departures were **86-0102** (on the 18th as "*Bone 11*") and **85-0083** (on the 29th as "*Razor 11*"), both of which returned home to Ellsworth. Present at the end of the month were:

B-1B	28thBW	37thBS	EL bk/gd	86-0129.
		77thBS	EL bk/yw	85-0075, 85-0091, 86-0097.
		(unmarked)		85-0074.
B-52H	2ndBW	11thBS	LA gd/bk	60-0011, 61-0039.
		20thBS	LA bl/bk	60-0020, 60-0043, 60-0049, 60-0062, 61-0002, 61-0023.
		(unmarked)		60-0037.
	5thBW	23rdBS	MT rd/yw	60-0033.
		(unmarked)		60-0018.

Subsequent changes up until we closed for press included the arrival from their respective home bases of B-52H's **60-0051**/MT rd/yw ("*Blues 01*") and **60-0046**/LA bl/bk ("*Tiger 01*") both on 3rd June and B-1B **86-0104**/EL bk/yw ("*Razor 11*") on 4th June and the departure to their respective home bases of B-52H **61-0023** ("*Racer 12*") on 4th June, B-52H **60-0049** ("*Speed 11*") on 5th June and B-1B **85-0074** ("*Razor 11*") on 6th June.

It is worth mentioning that 509thBW B-2A's have been used on '*Allied Force*' bombing missions on a regular basis since the start of the conflict although to date they have always carried out round-trip missions from their home base. During the night of 8th/9th May one example returning westbound as "*Nasty 81*" suffered a pressurisation failure and its crew were contemplating a diversion to Fairford although in the end they pressed on to Whiteman at a lower altitude.



■ **FAIRFORD** Correcting last month's movements, C-5A 67-0167 (20th May) belonged to the 439thAW/AFRC, not the 105thAW/NY ANG. Visitors during **June** included the following:

2	83-0501		C-20A	76thAS	86thAW	"Spar 66"	Brussels-Ramstein
3	60-0046	LA	bl/bk	B-52H	20thBS	2ndBW	"Tiger 01/Brock 19" From/to USA (dep 23rd)
	60-0051	MT	rd/yw	B-52H	23rdBS	5thBW	"Blues 01/Hazan 12" From/to USA (dep 23rd)
	63-8875	MO	gn/yw	KC-135R	22ndARS	366thWg	"Aspen 11/Adobe 73" From/to USA (dep 25th)
	165160	CW-160		C-130T	VR-54		"VV JM576" Bari-Sigonella
4	86-0104	EL	bk/yw	B-1B	77thBS	28thBW	"Razor 11/Razor 14" From/to USA (dep 24th)
9	96-1007	MN	bl	C-130H	133rdAW/MN	ANG	"Herky 735" Ramstein-Aviano
10	58-0049		yw	KC-135T	97thARS	92ndARW	"Beak 80" Mt de Marsan-US (d 12th)
13	96-1007	MN	bl	C-130H	133rdAW/MN	ANG	"Herky 160" Mildenhall-Mont de Marsan
	61-0300		yw/bk	KC-135R	99thARS	19thARG	"Quid 42" F/t Sigonella (dep 15th)
	62-3561	D	mlti	KC-135R	100thARW		"Mark 76/Quid 55" From/to Mildenhall
	62-4132	OF	gn	RC-135W	55thWg		"Tahoe 23/Happy 23" From/to Mildenhall
16	64-0620			C-141B	459thAW/AFRC		"RCH 4620" Gander-USA (dep 17th)

21	163840	-	UC-12M	Mildenhall	"VV JM635"	Mildenhall-Ramstein
22	.....	-	UC-12M	Mildenhall	"VV JM637"	Ramstein-Mildenhall
24	86-0011	yw/bl	C-5B	436thAW	"RCH 6011"	Prestwick-USA
	87-0035	yw/bl	C-5B	436thAW	"RCH 7035"	From/to USA (dep 25th)
25	67-0173	bl	C-5A	105thAW/NY ANG	"RCH 7173"	From/to USA (dep 26th)
	69-0006	flag	C-5A	433rdAW/AFRC	"RCH 9006"	From/to USA (dep 26th)
26	69-0023	bk/bl	C-5A	22ndAS 60thAMW	"RCH 9023"	Mildenhall-USA (d 27th)
	64-0550	RS bl/wt	C-130E	37thAS 86thAW	"Herky 765"	From/to Ramstein
28	69-0009	bl	C-5A	105thAW/NY ANG	"RCH 7040"	From/to USA (dep 29th)
29	69-0022	rd	C-5A	439thAW/AFRC	"RCH 9022"	From/to USA (dep 30th)
	85-0004	bk/bl	C-5B	22ndAS 60thAMW	"RCH 5004"	USA-Prestwick (dep 30th)
30	68-0215	bl	C-5A	439thAW/AFRC	"RCH 8215"	Mildenhall-USA

NATO suspended bombing missions on 10th June but the B-52's had already ceased flying by that date and carried out no further sorties until their departure. Some of the B-1B's flew local training sorties in the intervening period, but the tankers were kept occupied on 'Allied Force' missions until the early morning of 23rd June when 63-8875 landed as "Riyal 52", having completed the detachment's final trip to the tanker towlines over the Adriatic.

Having been amongst the first aircraft to be deployed to Europe at the start of the crisis in Kosovo, it stood to reason that the B-52's here would be included in the first wave of departures after the ceasefire. In the event all of the detached aircraft moved out over a three day period in late-June, no doubt much to the relief of the organisers of the *Royal International Air Tattoo* which will now go ahead as planned over the weekend of 24th and 25th July. There were no further changes to the detached bombers and tankers beyond those that we mentioned last month (refer to MY423) and the aircraft departed on 23rd/24th/25th June as follows, the B-52H's and B-1B's going to their respective home bases:

23rd	5thBW	B-52H	60-0051, 60-0018, 60-0033 as "Hazan 12/14/16".
	2ndBW	B-52H	60-0020, 60-0062, 61-0002, 61-0039 as "Brock 11/13/15/17".
			60-0011, 60-0046, 60-0043, 60-0037 as "Brock 18/19/20/21".
24th	28thBW	B-1B	85-0075, 85-0091, 86-0097 as "Bone 11/12/13".
			86-0104, 86-0129 as "Razor 14/15".
25th	366thWg	KC-135R	63-8875, 61-0277 as "Adobe 73/74" to Pease.
			62-3572, 59-1498, 62-3513 as "Adobe 75-77" to Gander.

All five B-1B's planned to use "Bone" as their callsign prefix and the first three departed as such although they had changed to using "Razor" by the time they entered Oceanic airspace. However, the last two, one of them delayed significantly due to maintenance problems, were instructed to change to "Razor" prior to getting airborne from Fairford. Accompanied by additional tankers out of Mildenhall and Frankfurt, the departing 366thWg KC-135R's were used to refuel the first wave of 49thFW F-117's returning home from Spangdahlem (see later).