



News Release

HOLLOMAN AIR FORCE BASE



49th Wing Public Affairs
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49TH WING USING CONTRACTED ADVERSARY AIR TO ENHANCE F-16 TRAINING, FREE RESOURCES

HOLLOMAN AIR FORCE BASE, N.M. – The 49th Wing received a new air-to-air training element for F-16 trainees and instructor pilots with the arrival of Mirage F-1 fighter jets Sep. 28, 2020, here.

The contract for adversary air (ADAIR) capability will provide more realistic air-to-air training for approximately the next four years at Holloman AFB. Airborne Tactical Advantage Company is providing six aircraft and 20 support personnel, pilots and maintainers, using a phased approach over the next three months.

“We’ve had other companies intermittently provide ADAIR training at Holloman on a short term, temporary basis, but this is the first time we’ve had a permanent bed down of aircraft to provide this type of training,” said Col. Ryan Keeney, 49th WG commander.

Additionally, the contract will free up resources within the unit and the F-1s will fly up to 1,558 annual training missions in support of the F-16 formal training unit. Prior to this new local capability, aggressor force roles were normally filled by 49th WG F-16 instructor pilots.

“Having dedicated adversaries to fly the aggressor role will allow our instructor pilots to fully focus on student training, ultimately helping us produce better combat ready Airmen for the U.S. Air Force,” said Keeney.



Photo caption: A Mirage F-1 taxis on the flightline, Sep. 28, 2020, at Holloman Air Force Base New Mexico. The aircraft are part of a new contract for adversary air support that will enhance air-to-air training for F-16 trainees and instructor pilots. (U.S. Air Force photo by Staff Sgt. Timothy Young)