



FACT SHEET Bomber Task Force

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The Cornerstone of America's Defense



Shown from left to right are pictures of a B-52H Stratofortress, a B-1B Lancer, and a B-2A Spirit.

Bomber Task Force deployments are strategic air missions overseen by Air Force Global Strike Command - Air Forces Strategic-Air.

Bomber Task Force missions involve the regular and routine deployment of AFGSC's bomber forces worldwide that are designed to allow the Department of the Air Force to support National Defense Strategy objectives. BTF missions demonstrate that the United States is committed to working alongside its Allies, Partners, and the Joint Force in strengthening deterrence and promoting peace and stability by providing safe, secure, and lethal combat-ready forces for nuclear and conventional global strike, anytime and anywhere.

The three types of bomber aircraft comprising AFGSC's fleet are the B-52 Stratofortress, the B-1 Lancer, and the B-2 Spirit; with plans for the B-21 Raider to first supplement, and then eventually replace, the B-2 beginning in the mid-2020s. While all three bombers are capable of delivering conventional payloads, only the B-52 Stratofortress and the B-2 Spirit are nuclear-capable.

While the missions for each BTF may vary, the overall goal remains the same:

Assure allies and deter adversaries.



Shown from left to right are pictures of U.S. Airmen and French Air Force military personnel standing together in front of a U.S. B-52H Stratofortress; U.S. Airmen and Swedish military personnel standing in front of a U.S. B-1B Lancer and two Swedish Saab JAS 39 Gripens; and military personnel from the U.S. Air Force and the Republic of Korea Air Force posing for a group photo in front of a U.S. B-52H Stratofortress.

Before the BTF mission was created, the DAF utilized the Continuous Bomber Presence construct in allied and partner nations. The CBP strategy had been in place since 2004 and included the rotation of heavy bombers through the Western Pacific Island of Guam, undertaking the Bomber Assurance and Deterrence mission in 2014, until it was discontinued in 2018. In its place, the BTF mission was implemented with the intent to develop Dynamic Force Employment for the DAF.

The development of the BTF mission has allowed the Department of Defense to demonstrate its ability to command and control bomber forces anywhere in the world while increasing its agility. The 23rd Expeditionary Bomb Squadron assumed the first BTF mission in January 2018. During that mission, four B-52s were deployed to RAF Fairford, United Kingdom, from Minot AFB, N.D. In the same year, additional BTFs rolled out, integrating the USAF bomber forces with allied nations and partners.

As allied and partnering nations continue to look to the United States for mutual cooperation, the U.S. conveys its commitment to security and rules-based order in accordance with international law. BTF missions play a huge role in demonstrating that commitment, while also advancing overall readiness for itself, Allies, Partners, and Joint Forces. Recent missions display the effectiveness of the DAF's efforts as well as the importance of AFGSC's BTF mission.