NASA crews flew four Lockheed SR-71 airplanes between July 1991 and October 1999. They were used for research and to support the U.S. Air Force reactivation of the SR-71 for reconnaissance missions. The Air Force had retired the Blackbirds in 1990, but Congress reinstated funding for additional flights. SR-71A (61-7967) was flown by NASA crews only at Palmdale in 1995 and 1996 in support of USAF SR-71 reactivation.

**Flt. 01 / 28 AUG 95:** Low-speed Functional check flight (FCF). Edward T. “Fast Eddie” Schneider/Robert Meyer Jr. Max. Mach=0.95, Max. Altitude=26,000 ft.

**Flt. 02 / 06 SEP 95:** Attempted high-speed FCF, low speed and altitude only. Rogers E. Smith/Marta Bohn-Meyer. Max. Mach=0.92, Max. Altitude=24,000 ft.

**Flt. 03 / 13 SEP 95:** Attempted high-speed FCF, low speed and altitude only. Smith/Bohn-Meyer. Max. Mach=0.93, Max. Altitude=23,500 ft.

**Flt. 04 / 06 OCT 95:** First successful high-speed FCF. Smith/Bohn-Meyer. Max. Mach=3.01, Max. Altitude=70,200 ft.

**Flt. 05 / 25 OCT 95:** High-speed FCF, emergency landing at Nellis AFB, Nevada. Schneider/Meyer. Max. Mach=3.23, Max. Altitude=79,000 ft.

**Flt. 06 / 27 OCT 95:** Ferry flight from Nellis AFB to Palmdale, California. Schneider/Meyer. Max. Mach=0.88, Max. Altitude=28,000 ft.

**Flt. 07 / 15 DEC 95:** High-speed FCF. Smith/Bohn-Meyer. Max. Mach=3.15, Max. Altitude=74,100 ft.

**Flt. 08 / 09 JAN 96:** High-speed FCF. Smith/Meyer. Max. Mach=3.06, Max. Altitude=72,800 ft.

**Flt. 09 / 13 SEP 95:** Final high-speed FCF, aircraft released to Air Force. Smith/Bohn-Meyer. Max. Mach=3.22, Max. Altitude=78,300 ft.

Sources:
SR-71 program chronology by Mike Relja
DFRC Flight Operations Office Daily Logs
Monthly Aerospace Projects Update memoranda
Weekly Aerospace Projects Highlights