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The SR-71B Blackbird Spy Plane comes to the Kalamazoo Air Zoo.

Kalamazoo, MI – After almost 40 years of flying at speeds in excess of Mach 3 and at altitudes above 85,000 feet, the SR-71B Blackbird is coming to rest at the Kalamazoo Air Zoo.

Earlier this month, the Air Zoo signed an agreement that will place the SR-71B on permanent loan from the U.S. Air Force Museum in Dayton, Ohio.

Developed for the USAF as reconnaissance aircraft, the SR-71 remains the world's fastest and highest-flying production aircraft. The SR-71 flew more than 2,300 miles per hour (Mach 3, three times the speed of sound or nearly 35 miles per minute), and at altitudes of over 85,000 feet.

The SR-71B that will be on display is the only remaining SR-71B in the world. The "B" model is the trainer version of the SR-71, and is distinguished by its raised rear cockpit. The aircraft, which is housed at Edwards Air Force Base in California, will be disassembled, loaded onto eight tractor-trailer trucks and brought to the Air Zoo in March. It will then be reassembled, and on public display in late April or early May.



The Kalamazoo Air Zoo is located at 3101 E. Milham Rd., Kalamazoo, MI 49002

For more information and press materials, please contact Renee Newman at 269.382.6555 or newman@airzoo.org