



MY TURN

Take action by submitting your comments

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Peaceful Skies Coalition has learned that Holloman Air Force Base near Alamogordo is currently a candidate to train pilots of friendly foreign countries, as well as U.S. pilots, to fly the loud F-35 bomber.

Other candidates are Air Guard Stations in Boise, Idaho, and Tucson, Ariz., both connected to commercial airports, as well as Luke AF Base, also in Ariz.

Why should this concern us? If Holloman wins the new mission, its current available practice air space is approximately 130-by-120 miles or 15,600 square miles. At its maximum speed of Mach 1.6 (equivalent to the speed of sound — expect sonic booms!), an F-35 could cross 130 miles in 6 minutes!

Wouldn't Holloman soon be joining Cannon Air Force Base in claiming it needs the skies of the proposed 94,000 square miles of Northern New Mexico air space connected to southern Colorado air space that comprises the Pentagon's "51st State" to practice in?

The fact that foreign pilots must come to the U.S. to learn to fly the F-35 because it's too crowded where they live should tell us right there that the world is too small for war!

I don't want to find out that U.S. arms sales reps sweetened the F-35 deal (\$200 million each) by promising, "You buy these F-35s, and don't worry; it's O.K., you can come to my house to learn to fly them."

Take action by submitting your comments (deadline March 14) to the Draft Training Basing Environmental Impact Statement: aetc.a7cp.inbox@us.af.mil.