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Typhoon fighters scrambled from RAF Lossiemouth to intercept two Russian Tu-160 bombers on Syrian bombing mission

- **Typhoons scrambled from RAF Lossiemouth in Scotland last night after Russian aircraft flew close to UK airspace**
- **UK jets met two Russian Tu-160s capable of carrying 16 nuclear missiles which took an unusual route to Syria**
- **The Russians made an 8,000-mile trip around Norway, Britain and Gibraltar as they headed to the Mediterranean Sea**
- **After launching missiles to their target in Idlib, they flew over the Syrian city before returning home their normal way**

By Ashley Collman for the Associated Press and Daily Mail Reporter
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Britain was forced to scramble its Typhoons after two Russian bombers, on an unusual route to Syria, came close to entering UK airspace. The jets were sorted up from RAF Lossiemouth in Scotland to intercept the Tu-160 aircraft over the Atlantic last night.

The Russian aircraft were on around 8,000-mile trip round Europe on their way to a bombing mission in Syria.

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Incident: Britain was forced to scramble Typhoons after two Russian bombers came close to entering UK airspace last night. Pictured is a Russian bomber dropping missiles from the Mediterranean Sea

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Russian jet force Tu-160 bomber, right, is escorted by an Su-35BM over the Mediterranean Sea, on a combat mission against an ISIS refugee in Syria

The Tu-160 Blackjack bombers departed from Chengiz-na, in the Kola Peninsula and made their way westbound, coming close to Norwegian and British airspace, where they were met by the RAF.

Once intercepted by Britain's Typhoons, they made their way over the Atlantic Ocean and headed back east to Gibraltar, before firing their missiles from the Mediterranean Sea.

After flying over Syria, they took the usual route home, over Iran and the Caspian Sea, according to **The Aviationist**.

The Tu-160 - known as the 'Black Jack' bomber - can travel at twice the speed of sound and carry 16 nuclear missiles.

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UK Defence secretary Michael Fallon said: "Our highly skilled RAF pilots have once again demonstrated their skill and professionalism. This is another reminder that 24 hours a day, seven days a week they are ready at a moment's notice to protect our skies."

These Cold War era planes are usually escorted to the Baltic or towards the Arctic, but on this occasion they were taken south as they made their way to launch missiles at Syria.

A Ministry of Defence spokesman said: "Typhoon aircraft sent up from RAF Lossiemouth to intercept two Russian Tu-160 aircraft flying in Britain's area of interest in international airspace over the Atlantic and rendered with them until they left the area.

"At no time did the Russian military aircraft cross into UK sovereign airspace."

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Revenge: Video posted online by the Russian Defence Ministry also shows a message being written by an air force technician saying 'For Qaiu'

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Solidarity: A Russian ground crew member writes 'For Paris' on the side of a bomb destined for Syria

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Attack: Russia launched 16 missiles from ships in the Caspian Sea Nov1 at seven targets across Syria. Pictured, Russian navy ships launch cruise missiles at targets in Syria

Russia and France have been heavily bombing ISIS targets in Syria this week following the Paris terror attacks and after Moscow confirmed that a bomb-attack brought down a Russian passenger jet over Egypt last month, killing all 224 people on board.

Russian President Vladimir Putin has ordered his military to work with the French military and Syrian's military as 'allies'.

The French duo sent its largest warship, the Charles de Gaulle, to the Mediterranean Sea, to join the attacks.

Today, Russia unleashed cruise missiles from warships in the Caspian Sea in a separate attack at targets across Syria.

Moscow fired 16 missiles from ships at seven targets in the Raqa, Idlib and Aleppo provinces, according to Defence Minister Sergei Shoigu.

French President Francois Hollande will travel to Washington and Moscow next week for talks on joint military action against ISIS.

The RAF has been forced to scramble 13 times in 2015 - on eight occasions it involved the Russians nearing UK airspace.

In January, Britain summoned the Russian ambassador to explain a similar episode when Russian bombers flew over the English Channel, forcing Britain authorities to divert civil aircraft.

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alfie3 Tamworth, Canada, 2 days ago
so clearly from the map these jets didn't enter british airspace not even your military zone around the uk, also it's inconsequential all of russia, so it can launch cruise missiles from its own airspace, so what is the point of this article, russia is not allowed to enter our airspace, so what is the point of this article, russia is not the cold war, russia is not a threat, russia is not a threat, russia is not a threat

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