

# How was the RAF involved in the Cold War?

## Activities to try at the Museum

### Cold War Aircraft

Try to find the following objects and answer the questions below.

#### English Electric Canberra PR3

1952-72

Location: Hangers 3/4



What two roles did the Canberra PR3 play in the Cold War?

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Why might one of these roles be particularly useful when tensions between East and West escalated?

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.....  
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#### British Aircraft Corporation Lightning F6

1965-88

Location: Hangers 3/4



What made the Lightning a 'first' for the RAF?

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What was the main role of the Lightning?

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.....

#### Find the sign about the Korean War (1950-53)

Location: Hangers 3/4 (by the Lightning)

How many RAF pilots served in the Korean War in total?

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#### McDonnell Douglas Phantom FGR2

1968-92

Location: Hangers 3/4



What were Phantom aircraft exclusively used for in the RAF after 1977?

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What were they protecting, and what does it tell you about the atmosphere of fear during the Cold War?

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.....  
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**Panavia Tornado F3**

1986-2010

Location: Hangers 3/4



What was the intended role of the Tornado F3?

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The Tornado entered Squadron service with 29 Squadron. When was this Squadron declared 'NATO operational'?

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**Handley Page Victor K2 (Nose section)**

1958-93

Location: Hanger 5



What were Victor 2 aircraft designed and originally used as?

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**Hawker Siddeley Blue Steel**

(Mounted AEC Mandator )

1963-70

Location: Hangar 5



When did the Blue Steel missile first enter service with the RAF?

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What made Blue Steel a good weapon against the Soviet Union?

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What were the main problems with maintaining and handling Blue Steel?

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**Avro Vulcan B2**

1956-84

Location: Hangar 5



What were Vulcan aircraft used as for 15 years between 1954 – 1969?

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Why might nuclear deterrents have been used during the Cold War?

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## Want to know more?

RAF Museum Midlands is home to **The National Cold War Exhibition**, which is full of objects, aircraft and information about the Cold War period and its many dramatic events. To find out more visit: [www.nationalcoldwarexhibition.org/](http://www.nationalcoldwarexhibition.org/) or [www.rafmuseum.org.uk/midlands/](http://www.rafmuseum.org.uk/midlands/)

School workshops about the Cold War are also available at RAF Museum Midlands. Find more information and booking details here: [www.rafmuseum.org.uk/midlands/schools-and-colleges/on-site-workshops/](http://www.rafmuseum.org.uk/midlands/schools-and-colleges/on-site-workshops/)

The National Cold War Exhibition website is home to a range of **free learning resources** about the Cold War. Explore here: [www.nationalcoldwarexhibition.org/schools-colleges/](http://www.nationalcoldwarexhibition.org/schools-colleges/)



The National Cold War Exhibition at RAF Museum Midlands

Using these resources in your classroom? Let us know by sharing with us on Twitter @RAFMLearning