

Flypast on Bastille Day



Rafale takes off from BA Evreux (Alex van Noye)

Commemorating the French Revolution, an annual National Military Parade ('défilé') traditionally takes place in the French capital Paris on 14 July every year. The impressive military parade along the magnificent Champs Elysees includes marching columns, armoured vehicles and others, climaxed by a flypast over the parade.

The aircraft participating this year operated from various airbases, including from BA Orleans (C-130 Hercules), BA Orleans (A400M Altas) BA Avord (E-3F AWACS), BA Istres (C-135F), BAN Landivisiau (Navy Rafales), BAN Lahn-Bihoue (Navy support aircraft). In special cases, including for refueling purposes, airbases closer to Paris such as BA Evreux, BA Villacoublay, BA Creil are also made available.

In July 2019, BA Evreux was designated at the main airbase and in the morning, Rafales and Mirage 2000s took off from runway 04 alongside some foreign types such as Spanish and RAF Eurofighters, German Tornado and a Belgian F-16. Later, all French aircraft returned directly to their



Spanish Eurofighter at BA Evreux (Alex van Noye)



Luftwaffe Tornado takes off from BA Evreux (Alex van Noye)