159 OPERATIONS GROUP

MISSION
LINEAGE 159 Operations Group
STATIONS New Orleans, LA
ASSIGNMENTS 159 Fighter Wing
WEAPON SYSTEMS F-15
COMMANDERS LTC Matt Rippen
HONORS Service Streamers
Campaign Streamers
Armed Forces Expeditionary Streamers
Decorations
EMBLEM
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NICKNAME
OPERATIONS Louisiana Air National Guard F-15Cs flew to Graf Ignatievo AB, Bulgaria, earlier this month to

take part in Exercise Thracian Eagle alongside US and Bulgarian aircraft, officials announced.

"We are here to demonstrate our commitment and resolve to our NATO Allies," said Lt. Col. Matt Rippen, commander of the Louisiana ANG's 159th Operations Group, in a release. F-15Cs of the 159th Expeditionary Fighter Squadron, which is comprised of Florida and Oregon ANG aircraft, deployed on a six-month theater security package earlier this month. Eagles from Florida's 125th FW and Oregon's 183rd FW took part in exercise Frisian Flag at Leewarden AB, the Netherlands, and were slated to join exercises at Graf Ignatievo as well. Approximately 150 pilots, maintainers, and support airmen of the 159th Fighter Wing deployed from NAS JRB New Orleans, La., to fly alongside Bulgarian air force Mig-29 fighters and Su-25 ground attack aircraft April 16 to May 5, according to the release. 2015

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Sources

Air Force Historical Research Agency. U.S. Air Force. Maxwell AFB, AL. Air Force News. Air Force Public Affairs Agency.