

Britain's RAF Scrambles Jets to See Off Russian Bombers

May 15, 2015



A Russian Bear aircraft.

LONDON — British Royal Air Force (RAF) Typhoon fighter jets were scrambled to intercept two Russian long-range bombers near UK airspace north of Scotland, Britain's Ministry of Defence has said.

Intercepts of Russian aircraft by NATO have increased over the last year amid heightened tensions between the West and Moscow over the Ukraine crisis.

"The aircraft were identified as Russian Bear aircraft which were escorted by the RAF Typhoon fighters until they were out of the UK area of interest. At no time did the Russian military aircraft cross into UK sovereign airspace," a Ministry of Defense spokeswoman said in a statement on Thursday.

Original url:

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