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### Skunk Works Mailing List

## Re: SR-71 (968)

Date: Fri, 1 Oct 1999 02:50:09 -0400 (EDT)  
From: Mary Shafer  
Subject: Re: SR-71 (968)

On Thu, 23 Sep 1999 Xelex@aol.com wrote:

> A team from Worldwide Aircraft Recovery, Ltd. is in the process of  
> disassembling SR-71A (61-7968) at Edwards AFB South Base. It will be  
> transported to the Virginia Aerospace Museum in Richmond, Virginia for  
> display.

This is interesting because there's a very nice aerospace-oriented museum not far from Richmond in Hampton as well. I hadn't realized that Virginia had quite so many independent (i.e. not "official" in the sense of being sponsored by the military or a federal agency) museums. The F-106 that NASA Langley used for lightning research is in the Hampton museum (I can't remember its name, unfortunately), so the Langley Web site has a link to the museum's site.

It looks as if that's a target-rich environment for aviation museum visitors, starting just over the state line in DC with the NASM and going down I95 to Richmond for this SR-71A (eventually) and then over to Hampton. In addition, the ACC (formerly TAC) HQ at Langley AFB has some aircraft on display and the NASA Langley Visitor Center has some nice, informative displays, too (notice that Langley AFB and NASA Langley are

in Hampton/Norfolk, not Langley, VA, which is where the CIA is, up by DC; this is kind of confusing sometimes). I'd think it would be a very pleasant excursion, taking a few days to allow enough time to enjoy the museums.

And if you go just a little bit north from DC, you can visit the oldest continuously-operating airport in the US, in College Park, MD. I don't know that there's much to see at the airport, though, as it's a working airport, not an exhibition like Williamsburg.

Maybe in the spring, when the dogwoods are blooming...

Mary Shafer DoD #0362 KotFR shafer@ursa-major.spdccc.com  
"Some days it don't come easy/And some days it don't come hard  
Some days it don't come at all/And these are the days that never end...."

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