



# 1974

Although only a visit, it was a look at things to come when a SR-71 Blackbird made its first visit to RAF Mildenhall in September 1974. The trip between New York and London took only one hour and 55 minutes to cover 3,479.41 miles. To achieve the new record, the SR-71 flew more than three times the speed of sound. On September 13, 1974, the SR-71 departed RAF Mildenhall for a record-setting flight to Los Angeles, California. The trip took three hours and forty-seven minutes and covered 5,446.86 miles. Within five years, both the SR-71 and the U-2 operated from RAF Mildenhall.



*A front view of an SR-71 Blackbird  
being prepared for takeoff*