

USAF Paints F-16 Jet with Russian Color Scheme for ‘Training Purposes’

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Nellis Air Force Base’s Facebook page published a video of a General Dynamics F-16 Fighting Falcon Friday belonging to the 64th Aggressor Squadron in a new paint scheme that resembles Russia’s fifth-generation stealth fighter, [reported The War Zone](#).

“A new adversary has arrived. The GHOST is here! Be afraid!” Nellis Air Force Base Facebook said.

The new color scheme was chosen through a crowdsourced competition on the 57th Wing Commander **Brigadier General Robert Novotny’s** Facebook page, with followers submitting many sophisticated designs and voting on each one, ending with the winning design: a Russian stealth jet color scheme.



The Aggressors Squadrons F-16 copied paint schemes, markings, and insignias of the Sukhoi Su-57, a single-seat, twin-engine multirole fifth-generation stealth jet, flown by the Russian Air Force.



F-16



SU-57



Here is the video of the F-16 being painted from beginning to end:

The purpose of the redesigned color scheme for the F-16 is to start training American fighter pilots against Russian fifth-generation combat aircraft, and or even, China's Chengdu J-20 or Shenyang FC-31. If the scheme works out, there could be more jets from the 64th Aggressor Squadron painted with Russian colors.

Photos emerged on a [Turkish website](#) Saturday of a McDonnell Douglas F/A-18 Hornet belonging to Fighter Squadron Composite Twelve (VFC-12), a US Navy Reserve fighter squadron based in Virginia Beach, sporting the same Russian Su-57 color scheme.

The new Russian paint designs on American fighter jets shows just how serious military commanders are about training pilots to identify and engage fifth-generation fighter from Russia and or China.

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