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(Neb.)-Ellsworth Airman Logs Record-Setting 5000 B-1 Hours



By: Chris Fankhauser Posted at: 07/16/2013 08:26 AM

RAPID CITY, S.D. (AP) - An Ellsworth Air Force Base airman has become the first in Air Force history to log 5,000 flight hours in a B-1 bomber.

Fifty-year-old Lt. Col Tim Schepper has been in the Air Force for 27 years. The amount of time he has spent in a B-1 is equivalent to more than seven months. About one-fourth of his flight hours have come during combat.

Schepper reached the 5,000-hour milestone on Monday after flying 19 hours from southwest Asia to the base.

Schepper, who grew up on a ranch near Vergas, Minn., says he plans to retire from the Air Force later this year.

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