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Prepare for take-off: Ex-RAF jet fighters head for auction

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Proper, ex-terrain jet fighters are rarely seen for sale. On July 26, however, two former Royal Air Force jets, one of which includes a quasi-airworthy Harrier GR3, will go under the gavel at Silverstone Auctions' Silverstone Classic sale...



While the more modern 1988 Panavia Tornado F3, the last of the Cold War's multi-purpose bombers, is described merely as a static display piece (good luck explaining that one when you get home), the 1976 Hawker Siddeley Harrier GR3 jump jet allegedly *could* once again take to the skies. It's not currently airworthy but, owing to its superb condition, 'there is serious potential for a future return to flight project'. After retiring from service in 1990, the GR3, incidentally the most powerful of the first-generation Harriers, has been preserved in 'time-capsule' condition. It was even kept hydraulically and electronically live until last year. Inevitably, all weapons have since been removed. Boo. Both

aircraft will go to auction with no reserve – to estimate the market value of such objects, according to Silverstone Auctions, is virtually impossible.

Photos: Silverstone Auctions

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