

NATO SKYWATCH

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NATO Air Base Geilenkirchen

29 March 2005

Component faces Consolidated Inspection

By Capt. Robert A. Firman

The Force Commander announced recently the schedule for the next Consolidated Inspection (CI) of the E-3A Component. Set for 30 May through 10 June, the CI will be conducted by a team of about 60 inspectors from Force Command and SHAPE.

Different from a Tactical Evaluation which focuses on how a unit functions in war or crisis situations, a Consolidated Inspection focuses on day-to-day processes. According to Component Commander Brig. Gen. Axel Tüttelmann, it will be a lot of work getting ready for the CI, but it is also an opportunity for the Component to improve how it does business.

"The idea of this inspection is twofold: First, the implementation status of higher headquarters policies, directives, orders and manuals will be verified. Second, the inspection will identify areas where process improvements can or should be achieved," said Gen. Tüttelmann.

To ensure a well-organized effort to prepare for the inspection, Gen. Tüttelmann asked the Plans and Programs office (PPC) to create a working group with representatives from around the Component. The team is working to review issues from previous inspections, as well as to help prepare Component members for the next one.

In an effort to improve the information flow, the team created a special web site on the WISE page. According to Maj. Glenn Whittingham,

WISE provides all necessary information to prepare yourself for CI 2005.

Canadian Air Force, the deputy chairman of the CI preparation team, the WISE page has important information all Component members need to be aware of.

"We tried to make the site as user friendly as possible and everyone should pay special attention to the self-inspection checklist," said Maj. Whittingham. "If someone goes through that, they will be a long way towards succeeding in the actual CI."

The CI team has already identified several areas important as the Component prepares. According

to Brig. Gen. Tüttelmann, the most important areas are awareness and commitment of all individual Component members to make the CI a success.

"It is critical that everyone on the Component be aware that this evaluation is going to happen and that each one of us will play an important role in how well the Component does", said the commander.

According to Maj. Whittingham, individual preparation is the key to success. "We've seen in the past that most write-ups during a CI can be avoided, some even easily avoided.

A good example is making sure publications are not outdated. A little bit of time invested now can make a big difference later."

All Component members with access to the WISE page are encouraged to review the CI section. "We've all been through inspections and evaluations before and I know that we will pull together as we always do", concluded Brig. Gen. Tüttelmann. "Let's show the CI team and NATO the first class, professional team that we are."

German NCO Association donates to social institutions

By A1C Daniel Houben and Mr. Eric Ciesielski

On 9 March E-3A Component Commander Brig. Gen. Axel R. Tüttelmann and Base Support Wing commander Col. Reinhard Mack hosted the ceremony handing over a €15,000 donation from the German NCO association to social institutions in Geilenkirchen and surrounding area. The ceremony took place at the Frisbee

Club and representatives of the NCO association, the social institutions and the local media took part.

The Association's representative, MSgt. Norbert Tryb, gave a short speech. Then Brig. Gen. Axel R. Tüttelmann praised the effort.

"I'm happy that some nations do more work than necessary on their own and are able to help social

institutions to give youth a better education."

The donations were given to 29 institutions, mostly schools, Kindergartens and institutions for disabled people. The money will be used to buy new toys, music instruments, or for the modernization of buildings and computer systems. Especially today during difficult economic times, it is very important

that private organizations help such institutions.

As they received the donations from the E-3A Component commander, a representative from each organization took the time to say "Thanks" and to tell about the institution and how they would use the donation.

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8 April
Submissions due by:
31 March**

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N1 returns to Seattle
See page 3.

**Dallas Cowboys cheerleaders
join Aerobathon**
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DONATION

Continued from front page

The €15,000 was raised through the 'Oktoberfest 2004'. It was the 22nd Oktoberfest the German NCO association organized and each year they have donated the income. In spite of strong competition, like 'Kaiser-Karl-Fest' in Übach-Palenberg and some other events, more than 3,500 guests came last September to Hangar 2 to enjoy the event.

Every year the Oktoberfest is a great event carried out by the German NCO Association, their relatives, friends, 'THW Übach-Palenberg' and 'IKV Teveren'. The IMP, Civil Guard, Fire Brigade and Medical Squadron made the event secure. This entire team helped give a number of young people a chance for better education and quality of life.

The expectation is that the Oktoberfest this year will be as well attended as last year's and that the donation will be similar.

Vacancy announcement

Applications are invited for the following post:

Senior Assistant (Personnel), AGK CPC 0060, Advertisement Number 05011, NATO Grade B-4, assigned to the NATO Civilian Personnel Section, Civilian Personnel Branch, Personnel Division, E-3A Component Headquarters. This post is due to be filled as soon as possible.

Closing date: 5 Apr 2005.

Senior Assistant (Maintenance Plans), post number AGK LXN 2080, advertisement number 04060, NATO grade B-4. This post is assigned to the Plans, Scheduling & Documentation Branch, Maintenance Control Division, Logistics Wing, NAEW&CF E-3A Component. The post is due to be filled as soon as possible after 31 May 2005.

Note: This is a re-advertisement necessitated by minor changes to the job description. Applicants who have applied based on the previous advertisement will still be considered and do not need to re-apply.

Closing date 4 April 2005.

For further details, please visit the Component Information Portal (WISE) under Headquarters, PEC, Recruitment/Services Section or review the advertisement posted in Building 8.

Note: Only applications of qualified personnel will be considered.

NATO Mid-Term aircraft returns to Seattle

By Capt. Robert A. Firman

After 16 days at Geilenkirchen and several flights in the crowded airspace of central Europe, the NATO Mid-Term Program aircraft, known as N-1, went back to Boeing Field in Seattle, Washington on 15 March.

The Euro deployment of the Mid-Term aircraft provided Boeing the opportunity to test the new systems on the aircraft in the dense airspace environment of central Europe.

This was the first time since the aircraft left Germany in 2003 that it has been back in Europe to test the new systems. According to the Component's Program Manager, Maj. David Gaedecke, Component support for the complex Euro deployment went exceedingly well.

In addition to the support from various Component organizations, the tests required coordination and support from Force Command, the NATO AEW&C Program Management Agency, and the Electronic Systems Center at Hanscom Air Force Base in the U.S.

"It took the cooperation and hard work of many people to make sure this all came together," Maj. Gaedecke said. "Members from each Wing in the Component pitched in to support the program and Boeing during these 2 weeks. It was a quite an undertaking and the entire Component team did a great job."

During the deployment, the Mid-Term jet flew five times in an effort to demonstrate interoperability in the European airspace. Two of the flights were used to support Boeing test

requirements. The other three flights were operational assessment opportunities flown by Lt Col Doug Kieser's "bunker" test crew.

The aircraft completed tests with various European ground agencies, exchanging data and communications with NATO Air Operations Centers, worked with British fighters, and established links with other Component E-3As.

According to Maj. Gaedecke, despite serious lingering problems with system stability, the tests were a step forward.

"We're still working with the team to identify and solve some problems with the system. However, we've come a long way and are looking forward to the [Operational Test and Evaluation] phase scheduled to happen later this year."

In addition to the flight testing, the visit to Geilenkirchen included a mandatory mid-phase inspection of the aircraft by the Logistics Wing.

"Because of the compressed schedule, [the Log Wing's Mid-Term rep], Mr. Jos Meertens worked with his leadership to have people on duty during the weekend to complete the phase inspection" said Maj. Gaedecke. "This was a huge effort and they were successful at getting the jet back in the air and keeping the program on schedule."

The schedule calls for the Mid-Term aircraft to return to Geilenkirchen in August for the Operational Test and Evaluation. After NATO officially signs tail 453 back into the fleet in Seattle this summer, more than 80 personnel from the Component will participate in test activities.



The consoles of the N1 show a Windows display.

Photo PIO archive



NATO ready to deepen partnership with Ukraine

Meeting with President Viktor Yushchenko at NATO on 22 February, NATO leaders expressed support for Ukraine's reform agenda and agreed to strengthen cooperation with the country.

At the special NATO-Ukraine Summit, President Yushchenko outlined to NATO Heads of State and Government his plans and priorities for

the reform process in Ukraine. Alliance leaders, who expressed support for Ukraine's ambition of Euro-Atlantic integration, welcomed these.

Strong support

'NATO is ready to work with you', NATO Secretary General Jaap de Hoop Scheffer said at a joint press conference with President Yushchenko. The Secretary General said that NATO stands ready to 'sharpen and refocus' the existing cooperation, carried out in the framework of the NATO-Ukraine Action Plan, to support the President's priorities.

The need to make full use of the existing mechanisms was stressed by President Yushchenko. "Ukraine has made its position clear about joining the Membership Action Plan", he told

reporters, "At the same time it means that our country will be also using the possibilities that are provided by the existing instruments for cooperation, meaning the Action Plan between NATO and Ukraine."

As an expression of its determination to enhance cooperation, NATO has launched a project to help Ukraine deal with the dangerous legacy of old ammunitions and small arms and light weapons stockpiles. This 25-million euro initiative is the largest of its kind ever undertaken in the world.

The Secretary General also paid tribute to the people of Ukraine, saying they had shown the way to democracy. This was the highest-level meeting between NATO and Ukraine since the 2004 presidential election in the country.



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Commander
Brig. Gen. Axel R. Tüttelmann
Chief, Public Information Office
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Dallas Cowboys Cheerleaders highlights Component's first Aerobathon

By A1C Daniel Houben and Mr. Eric Ciesielski

The first 'Aerobathon' took place on 15 March at the New Gym and a big highlight of the event was the visit of the Dallas Cowboys Cheerleaders, who took time to provide everybody around with an autograph on a poster, a conversation, or a photo.

Sponsored by the Services Squadron Sports Department, the 'Aerobathon' was an Aerobic Marathon and featured a mix of different aerobics like step aerobic, floor aerobic, or total-body-fitness, indoor-cycling and kickboxing. There was also a chance to win a free Swedish massage from the massage therapist Aida Prazak from the Wellness Centre.

More than sixty participants joined the Aerobathon and every contributor got a free T-Shirt. Free drinks and fruits were also available during the

participants changed rooms to take part on different training-lessons with one of the instructors.

Training was hard and demanding, but the coaches motivated the participants to go to their personal best. Amn. Maximilian Stahl said: "For me it is great fun to try a lot of different Aerobics, but I didn't expect that it will be so demanding. Spinning and Thai Bo is most fun for me because

Gym under loud applause.

The Dallas Cowboys Cheerleaders tour with the United Services Orgnization, visiting U.S. forces around the world. They dedicate their performances to those who have given the free world the "gift of freedom and to bring a special 'Touch of home' to all personnel far away from home". This was the 56th USO tour the Cheerleaders have participated in.



Warming up with sport instructor Bert Hendriks. Photo MSgt. Marc Bogges



Aerobathon activities to get new energy for the demanding training. Tombola with lots of prizes like free dinner coupons at the Frisbee- or Officer's Club were open to all participants as well. The event was held in three rooms, one for step aerobics and massage, one for cycling and the last one for different aerobics and kickboxing. Every 25 minutes

Military from all ranks and civilians from small to tall used the opportunity to pose with the cheerleaders.

Photos A1C Daniel Houben and Eric Ciesielski

I did Taek Won Do for several years". That's why most of the participants were happy with a little break when the cheerleaders arrived in the New



The International Tennis Club

While the weather is getting better and better, the new tennis season will start in a few weeks. The International Tennis Club is founded many years ago on the E-3A Component. The club has 4 clay courts, next to the Officers' Club, and 2 hard courts next to the Frisbee Club.

To play tennis you have to become a member. You become a member by paying the membership fees and fill out a membership application form. The fees for the 2005 season are as follows: Component member, single membership €35; component member, family membership €65; non-component member, single membership €65; non-component member, any further member of family €35; court key deposit €10.

You can pick-up the application form/court key by Mr. Rene Peeters, Officers' Club, ext. 4990, during office hours from 0800 to 1600.

The International Tennis Club is organizing a few tournaments during the season:

- Saturday, 7 May, opening of the tennis courts (weather permitting and if the courts ready in time).
- Saturday, 14 May, opening Tournament.
- Saturday, 25 June or 2 July, big summer tournament with BBQ.
- Saturday, 23 October, closing of the tennis courts.

We also plan to play against/with Rot Weiss Geilenkirchen. So come out to play tennis!

'Plaza Suite'

The Alliance Players presents 'Plaza Suite' by Neil Simon. If the walls of Suite 719 at the Plaza Hotel could talk... these are the hilarious stories they'd tell. Show times at the JFC HQ Brunssum Alliance Theatre are as follows: 28 April - Sneak preview charity night at 18 30 (all proceeds Goes to the International Red Cross); 29 April 2000; 30 April 1730 and 2030; 1 May 1600.

Tickets are €6 and will go on sale 1 April at the following locations: AT JFC HQ Brunssum: The HIVE - contact Jo McKerrel at +31 45 526 2891; at GK JVD Elementry School - contact Sandy Basset at +49 2452 15 6006.

Please visit us at www.allianceplayers.com for more information.

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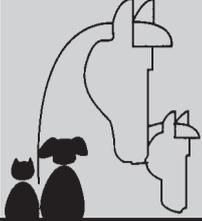
Enjoy a casino, entertainment, dancing and refreshments to include a sampling of food items from thirteen different nations at the International Inn, Brunssum on Friday, 15 April at 1900 for adults and youngsters from 16 years and over. Dress code: casual or as a nautical/cruise character. Entrance tickets €10. Tickets will be on sale in the NATEX Grocery Store from 1100-1400 on 1 April.

'Small World'

Lt. Col. Heinz Schumacher, Squadron 1, met briefly with his old flight instructor, the former Capt. Thomas Carr, USAF, at Bangor ANG base in Maine on the return flight from California in February. In 1969 both were stationed at Sheppard AFB. Lt. Cdr. Alex Carr is a Training Wing TD student and was the US Navy liaison to Point Mugu during Squadron 1's recent support of NATO Midterm testing.

Photo courtesy Lt.Cdr. Alex Carr





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The lucky ones picked the special eggs

Text and photos A1C Daniel Houben

On Monday 21 March International Youth Activities (IYA) organized the yearly Easter Egg Hunt. Over 150 children aged from 0 to 16 years collected the hidden eggs to fill their baskets as soon as possible. In less than a few minutes all eggs were collected

and the youngsters were exited with their trophies.

The IYA hid about 360 coloured hard-boiled eggs and more than 65 kg chocolate eggs and rabbits on the playground area. Also about 100 special eggs were hidden. For those who still had some empty spaces in their baskets

the Easter Bunny provided them with chocolate eggs, or chocolate rabbits out of his own basket.

For the lucky ones who picked up a special egg there was the chance to exchange the egg for a prize like a big surprise egg, a big chocolate bunny, or something else.

For those who weren't so lucky, they went to the game area where they could win a chocolate prize by playing one of the funny games like fishing, throwing rings or throwing sandbags into a rabbit's mouth, wheel of fortune and much more. The girls had chance for a face painting and the young boys had most fun on the bounce house.



Umpire or referee?

The IYA is desperately looking for volunteer baseball umpires and soccer referees for their upcoming spring season. The game season will run from May to mid June. The main age groups of the teams will be 10-12 years. Your help will be greatly appreciated. If you are interested in volunteering, please contact the IYA office at ext. 4955.

IDH, Officers', Frisbee and Sentry Clubs now on the BASS LAN System. Menu information under Public Folders/Base Support Wing/Services Squadron/Clubs or IDH. Also, check out the Services Squadron web page for programme information and upcoming events.

E-3A Component Clubs

- Sunday brunch will alternate between Officers'/Frisbee Clubs. Members from both clubs are eligible to attend. Regular prices brunch: Members €9.20, guests €10.70; lunch: Members €6.10, guests €7.65; children 4-12 years half price; reservations should be made NLT 1200 on the Friday before. Club cards are required. For additional information, please contact the Officers' Club, ext. 4990, or the Frisbee Club, ext. 4994.
- 3 American-style brunch at the Frisbee Club with live entertainment from 'Dixy Land' Band. Officers' Club closed.
 - 10 Family brunch at the Officers' Club. Frisbee Club closed.
 - 17 Sunday lunch at the Frisbee Club. Officers' Club closed.
 - 24 Italian brunch at the Officers' Club. Frisbee Club closed.

Officers' Club (SWPO/4990)

Operating hours bar Monday-Friday 1100-2300; restaurant Monday-Friday 1130-1330. Sunday 1100-1400 (alternating with the Frisbee Club). Reservations are required for Sunday brunch by 1200 on the Friday before. Club cards required when using the Frisbee Club (ext 4994).
Lunch at the Officers' Club: Monday-Thursday A la Carte menu served; Monday + Wednesday A vegetarian special also available; Friday Buffet Style lunch.
 Throughout the month membership appreciation; one time each month for each Officers' Club member, buy one drink of your choice and get an equivalent drink of your choice free of charge. Club cards required.
Tuesdays 1700-1800 Happy Hour,

MWA INFORMATION April

- free snacks available. Fridays 1600-1800 Happy Hour, free snacks available.*
- 7 Annual general membership meeting 1500 in the Konya Room.
 - 18-21 American specials during lunchtime.
 - 29 Candlelight dinner 1900, reservations required, watch for special flier.
Special Notes: The Officers' Club has rooms available for your conferences, meetings, presentations or Commanders' Calls. Make your reservations now.
 Officers' Club participation in Frisbee Club events: During Frisbee Club opening hours, Officers' Club members are eligible to utilise the Frisbee Club for breakfast, dinner and Sunday brunch (on an alternating basis between the Frisbee and Officers' Clubs). Club cards required when Officers' Club members are using the Frisbee Club.
Cancellations for Officers' Club events will be accepted up to two days prior to the event on ext. 4990. After this time, a cancellation fee of €5 per person must be charged for non-excused absences.

Sentry Club (SWPJ/4997)

As well as the daily special, the Sentry Club will now offer a weekend special comprising soup and a main course. The weekend special will be advertised in the Sentry Club and on the Component Web page.
The Sentry Club is also able to support conferences and meetings with coffee, soft drinks, brötchen or muffins.
 The 'off sale' operation can also provide Warsteiner Beer in 30 and 50 ltr containers, various soft drinks in 1 ltr bottles and tables, benches and other items to help in organising your party.

Please order in advance. Additional information on any of the above can be obtained from the Sentry Club Manager, ext. 4996.

Frisbee Club (SWPN/4994)

- Make a reservation today at the Frisbee Grill and enjoy the cosy atmosphere and good food! Remember - the Frisbee Club is open for breakfast and dinner to all Frisbee and Officers' Club members (club cards required).
 Throughout March Happy Hour Monday-Thursday 1700-1800; Friday with free snacks: 1700-1900.
- 5 SKAT.
 - 12 BINGO.
 - 14 Greek Night sponsored by the International Wives' Club.
 - 21 Schnitzel Night with live entertainment from Lou Muzzillo 1700-2100; €8 per person.
 - 26 Annual membership meeting at 1500.
 - 26 BINGO.

Sports Department (SWPT/4946)

- Throughout April outdoor soccer league.
- 8 Deadline to register for the summer schedule in the Old Gym, New Gym and Multi-Purpose Room.
 - 9 International invitational indoor soccer tournament in the New Gym 0900-1800.

International Pre-school (SWPS/4957)

- 4 Back to school from Easter Break.
- 15 Parent-Teacher Conferences 0800-1730.
 No regular school for children.
- 29 Photo session for children and family pictures.
Special notes: There are NO slots available for the current school year; registration for the new school year 2005/2006 will be on 13+14 June as of 0800. First

come, first served. For additional information, please call the Pre-school on ext. 4957.

International Library (SWPL/4956)

Monday-Friday operating hours 1100-1600.

Thrift Shop (SWPG/4919)

Tuesdays+Thursdays operating hours 1000-1400.

International Youth Activities (SWPY/4954/5)

Registration and further information at the IYA Office in Bldg 95, ext. 4954/5, opening hours Mon-Fri 0815-1300.

Trampoline

On 6 April the IYA will begin its Trampoline programme for boys and girls aged 5+ yrs under the experienced and certified instruction of Mr. Frank 'Balu' Schneising, official trampoline referee, Olympic Games 2004 at Athens, licensed by the German Sports Association. Classes will be held at the New Gym on Wednesdays from 1805 to 2000. Cost per month is €25 for the first child, €20 for the second, and €15 for the third and each additional family member.

Tumbling

The IYA will start a Tumbling programme for gymnastics and fun for boys and girls aged 4 years and up under the experienced instruction of Mrs. Carey Hicks at the New Gym Multi-purpose Room on 6 April. Instruction is on Wednesdays from 1500 to 1600. Cost per child per month is €14.

Family trip to the River Mosel with Castle Visit

The IYA will offer a family trip to the Mosel valley on Saturday, 23 April, 0800-2000. The first stop will be the huge historic castle Burg Eltz, from where they will travel on to the beautiful historic town of Cochem. A boat will then take everybody on to the medieval town of Beilstein. The point of departure and return is the parking lot outside the Front Gate. Cost is €22 for ages 16 and up, €17 for ages 4-15, and €8 for ages 3 and under.

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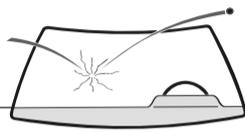
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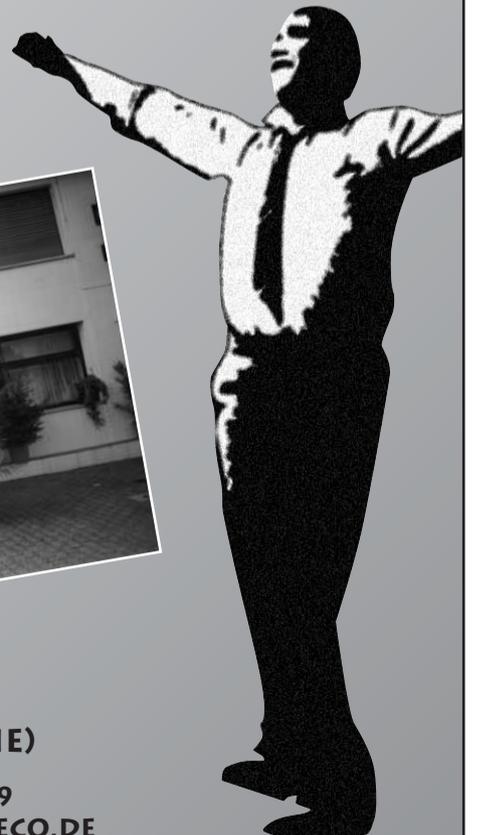


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