

NATO SKYWATCH

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NATO Air Base Geilenkirchen

20 October 2006

By
Maj. Rick Moxley, PPCM
and
CWO Alain Gingras, PPCM

In the first half of September, the NATO Mid-Term (NMT) aircraft made its first deployment to Forward Operating Base Konya to participate in exercise Anatolian Eagle (A.E.). This marked the first time the Component has deployed the NMT aircraft to an airfield other than Geilenkirchen and was also the first significant participation of NMT in a large-scale NATO exercise.

The Component's ability to deploy to A.E. was the result of more than a year of effort by test-team members from Operations, Training, Logistics, and Information Technology Wings.

"Exercise support was a success, but even more importantly, we brought many lessons learned to better operate this system," said Lt.

Col. Doug Kieser, Operations Wing test director. At the outset of their first mission, the system improvements of NMT were immediately put to use by the crews to enhance their battle management tasks.

"Just having the extra consoles allowed us to diversify and have more controllers handling the complex weapons jobs," said MSgt. Demario Alcaez, one of the weapons controllers. Additionally, the improved man-to-machine interface, the auto-identification feature, and the superior tracking capabilities of NMT led to much higher situational awareness and decreased mission crew workload.

The exercise proved that the NMT will provide increased capability as the Component prepares to meet its NATO Response Force taskings. An Anatolian Eagle package commander said the new

The support to Exercise Anatolian Eagle was a success. Also many lessons learned to better operate the system were brought back to Main Operating Base Geilenkirchen.

Photo courtesy Maj. Rick Moxley/CWO Alain Gingras



NATO Mid-Term deploys to FOB Konya

aircraft provided a lot more information than normal and he liked the additional control positions available.

"From a maintenance perspective, the amount of work put forth by the Logistics Wing allowed for a very smooth deployment... we've proven that this aircraft is deployable," said Mr. Leo Lauvenberg, deployed communications specialist.

"After some initial adjustments of the system and a few new techniques that we're working on, the system ran wonderfully... a testament to all the hard work from the OT&E and FOT&E test teams," said Sebastian Dietz from the Information Technology Wing.

This exercise was also a hallmark event that signified the start of the Component's transition from testing and development to system difference training and employment development.



The testing and development phase spanned a period of more than nine years as numerous Component personnel participated in more than 58 sorties and 400 flying hours at Boeing Field and the Component.

To commemorate this transition and to recognize the sustained efforts by test-team members who have been with the program for a significant period of time, the Component Commander Brig. Gen. Stephen D. Schmidt, on 13 October, presented them with certificates of recognition and Component coins for their dedicated and selfless contributions to the project.

Photo Andrea Hohenforst

Halloween



Frisbee Club
Tuesday
31 October
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Next NATO Skywatch:
3 November
Submissions due by:
26 October

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Last flight for
Colonel Ballhausen
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Clubs offer a myriad of opportunities

By Ms Janina Tschiersch, PIO Intern

The Frisbee NCO Club, a place with many hidden charms

Once you start exploring the Frisbee Club background you will be pleased by how much this facility really has to offer...

For instance you are able to enjoy an elegant bar and restaurant area from Monday through Friday. The Frisbee Club personnel look forward to serving you breakfast, lunch or dinner at fair prices in a cosy atmosphere. Children are always welcome to join their parents and have great fun on the Club's playground.

Some of the special features the Club has to offer include: the two-lane-Kegelbahn (traditional German bowling) and line-dance Training and Fun group meeting every Monday at 1930. Please, do not hesitate to visit the Club at this date and time by yourself since most dances are meant to be single dances.

Another great opportunity as a Frisbee Club member is to use the Frisbee party rooms for private events. If you are planning a wedding or an award banquet etc. they are able to support up to 300 persons with no problem.

A special mark should be set on events, which are often planned by the Frisbee Club management, such as the upcoming Halloween party. You will be able to watch a terrific snake dancer or meet the fortune-teller.

If you became curious, there is a lot more to explore. For further information visit the official NATO website or feel free to visit the Frisbee Club right away.

With nice weather the Frisbee Club patio is an excellent place to have your lunch.

Photo Andrea Hohenforst



The Officer's Club offers facilities to host events, like the celebration of the Italian Republic Day.

Photo MSgt. Mark Boggess



The Officers' Club, an elegant dining venue

Entering the Officers' Club visitors are charmed by the inviting and elegant atmosphere the facility has to offer. Friendly personnel welcome guests and their excellent service ensures that every visitor feels comfortable. Membership includes some special features for each club member to enjoy.

From Monday through Friday lunch and bar service is offered. You can choose from four different menu's but since the list of options changes everyday you are always able to experience a new meal. On Sundays you are kindly invited to a families brunch, which alternates between the Officers Club and the Frisbee NCO Club. While sitting on the terrace enjoying their coffee, parents can be assured their kids are having fun on the playground... so do not be afraid to bring your children.

The main bar, open from Monday to Friday till 2300, is always a nice opportunity to join the Tuesdays and Fridays Happy Hour from 1700 to 1800 with reduced beverage prices and free pizza or free snack. Also Officers' Club Members can use Frisbee Club for breakfast, dinner and Sunday brunches!

Another benefit is the conference rooms are available at NO CHARGE! Up to 70 persons can be seated in these rooms that are furnished with a beamer, an overhead projector, a laptop, a screen, a flip chart, a microphone and a podium. Use of these amenities is also free! Private parties can also be held in these rooms, which are always set up very nicely with attention to detail.

If you became interested you are able to visit the Officers' Club website on the official NATO website or feel free to contact the clubs management right away on the base phone: 4990/1.

Hosedown Colonel Ballhausen

By Capt. Lutz Paikert

Only a few days before his retirement, Colonel Gerhard Ballhausen, Assistant Chief of Staff Operations of the NATO Airborne Early Warning & Control Force Command (NAEW&CF), choose NATO Airbase Geilenkirchen for the last flight of his career of almost forty years.

After more than 4,000 flying hours, mainly in fighter aircraft, he landed safely last week, Friday, 13 October on the runway of the E-3A Component.

Col. Ballhausen joined the German Air Force in 1967. After completing officers training (1967-1969) and flying training (1969-1971) he served as a fighter pilot. Initially he flew the F-104G Starfighter and later the F-4F Phantom units in the Air Defence Role.

His operational flying tours included an exchange with the UK Royal Air Force, as Squadron Commander of 711 Squadron, Fighter Wing 71 'Richthofen' and Commander of Fighter Wing 74 'Mölders'.

He also served as a staff officer in various Operational Branches of the German Air Force Command and the Ministry of Defence. From October 2000 until September 2001 he was the Deputy Division Commander and Chief of Staff of the 2nd Air Division. The last five years he held the position of Assistant Chief of Staff Operations of the NAEW&C FC in Mons, Belgium.



Photos Andrea Hohenforst.



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International Youth Activities

Further information and registration at the IYA Office in Bldg 95, ext. 4955; office hours Monday-Friday, 0815-1300.

Christmas Moonlight Family Steam Train Ride

Santa Claus and his elf are already planning to join the traditional International Youth Activities' Moonlight Ride for international Component children and their parents on the historic Selfkant Steam Train.

On Friday, 8 December, at 1900 we will get on the train at Gillrath Station, and travel to Schierwaldenrath in the restored antique wagons built between 1889 and 1956. There will be one short stop on the way, though, when our two special passengers arrive in a carriage drawn by a horse.

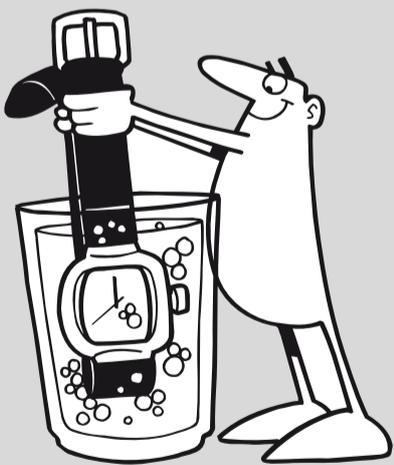
Santa and his elf will welcome all the children and present them with a bag of Christmas goodies on the journey to Schierwaldenrath. There everybody has the opportunity to enjoy refreshments in a heated tent listening to Christmas songs, before returning to Gillrath.

Tickets at €6,70 per child and €10,20 per adult include 'Brötchen' with coffee, Glühwein, or a soft drink at Schierwaldenrath, plus Christmas goodies for children, and can be purchased at the IYA Office starting 2 November.

Christmas Market Trip to Bad Münstereifel and Monschau

The IYA is offering a family trip to the traditional Christmas Markets of the beautiful Eifel hills on Saturday, 25 November, 0930-2000. Our first stop will be the picturesque old town of Bad Münstereifel, from where we will travel on to the splendid historic town of Monschau. There will be musicians in costumes at the famous Christmas Market, and a nativity play will be performed in the court of the castle. Point of departure and return is the parking lot outside the Front Gate. Cost is €8,50 per participant.

Winter hours!



Don't forget to set your clocks one hour back on Sunday, 29 October.

2006 Aluminium Butt Motorcycle Ride

By Capt. Stephen Costello

The weather was overcast, the distance was daunting. With that in mind, on Saturday, 23 September, eleven intrepid motorcyclists stepped up to their iron steeds, fired up the motors and began the very first Geilenkirchen Riders Association Aluminium Butt Rally.

The Aluminium Butt is based upon the Iron Butt competition done throughout the U.S.A., where riders are asked to cover distances in excess of 1,000 miles in a few days. To ensure the safety of the riders and allow them to enjoy our beautiful European countryside, the Aluminium Butt was organized to cover only 400 km through Germany and Belgium, following rivers and traversing grand forests.

Where the Iron Butt competition is timed, the Aluminium Butt rewarded a more leisurely pace, by penalizing fast riders, while rewarding the rider who enjoyed the trip, noticed some of the sights, and returned with a better knowledge of the area. It was no picnic however, as every participant soon came to realize that distance riding takes its toll on everyone.

After the last participant pulled up to the finish line and limped to the awards ceremony, all the points were tallied and the winner of this year's Aluminium Butt trophy was Lt. Col. Dave MacGillivray. Second place went to MSgt. Ed Penton. In the end, every

Vacancy announcement

Applications are invited for the following post:

Senior Technician (Fuselage), AGK LAT 2100, Advertisement Number 06029, NATO Grade B-4, assigned to the Fuselage Section, Aircraft Systems Branch, Aircraft Maintenance Squadron, Logistics Wing. This post is due to be filled as soon as possible.

Senior Technician (ESM), AGK LEE 1150, 1160 & 1180, Advertisement Numbers 06030-06032, NATO Grade B-4, assigned to the ESM Section, Communications/ESM Maintenance Branch, Electronics Maintenance Squadron, Logistics Wing. These posts are due to be filled as soon as possible.

Closing date: 14 November 2006.

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.



The Monk at the Leffe Abbey near Dinant, Belgium provided the participants with details about the region and its beer.
Photo Lt. Col. Dave MacGillivray

participant went away with something, with generous donations made by the Polo Motorcycle Shop of Aachen and El Greco Restaurant.

enjoying the European motorcycling experience.

In addition to sponsoring fun rides, we coordinate motorcycle safety courses, maintenance clinics and run two pick-up rides a month.

The Geilenkirchen Riders Association, the motorcycle club of the NATO component, sponsored the ride. All NATO members, regardless of nationality and type of motorcycle are welcome to join the club, or just come out to our open events. We promote camaraderie, motorcycle safety and

Meetings are held at 1200 the third Thursday of every month in the Sentry Club. If you have any questions about the club, please feel free to contact Stephen Costello at 02451 63 4416.

Halloween

2006



It's Halloween time again, an American tradition that has made its way to Europe. Service's Squadron Morale and Welfare Activities has extended the tradition in the past few years, with a Halloween party at the Frisbee Club on Tuesday, 31 October. Open to all Component ID Card Holders with no entrance fee.

The event takes the form of an action-packed, costume party when the Club will be transformed into a dark and spooky bat cave. Bloodcurdling entertainment will be available throughout the evening with live music from the Ander Kovver Band, DJ Ronnie, an Arabian Magic show, body painting, and a fortune-teller, who will peer into her magic ball. The Frisbee Club resident vampires will run the (cocktail) bar from 1900 until 0200 and provide a ghoulish buffet from 1900 to 2300.

Tickets for food and drinks will be available at the cashier's desk. Additionally, in order to help with the problems experienced in hiring a taxi at the end, Services Squadron will provide a shuttle bus service throughout the late evening/early morning hours (2300-0300) to take guests home to local areas such as Teveren, Gillrath, Niederheid and Geilenkirchen.

Come and join in the fun! Of course, costume is not mandatory but it would be fun and The Frisbee Club staff recommends and encourages it. See you there!

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SKYWATCH

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Autos

BMW 325Ti Compact 3d, July 2001, metallic black, 192 PS, only 48,000 km, in top condition, BMW sport seats Monza (partly leather), maple wood interior (myrte), aut. climate control, BMW sport suspension, BMW radio with single CD, 17" alloy wheels and extra set of 16" winter tires and other accessories, BMW garage maintained, first owner, no smoking. Asking €10,500 o.n.o (tax free). Please call Harm Siegers at ext. 3697 or 3750 or home 02456-3973 or E-Mail: hsaviation@online.de

2000 Chrysler Neon 2.0i 16V LE, 4 doors, silver, all options + towbar, 115,000 km, great & reliable familycar. Asking €6,000, Dutch plates + APK (Aug). Call Bas Waanders at ext. 3726.

07/2003 Mercedes Benz E240 Avantgarde, 2.6 - V6, 177 HP, 6-speed, 1st owner, blue metallic, 99,000 km, beige leather, navigation, alarm-system, aut. climate control, sound system Harman Kardon, split rear seats, sport suspension, ABS, CBS, ESP, BAS, alloys with brand new tires etc., dealer

service/maintained, excellent condition, Euro specs, only €23,995 (negotiable). Call ext. 2451 or 02452 964161.

Need a small car? Mazda 323LXi, 1994, 135.000 km, in very good condition Asking price €1,500 obo. Call 06-25106774, 02456-508280, 02451-63-3669.

Motorcycle

1997 Suzuki Marauder, 800 cc, 12,900 miles, good condition, new back tire, leather saddle bags, windshield, comes with a maintenance stand/jack, \$3,000. Contact Wes at 02454 937 158, or email to yellowbike1997@hotmail.com with questions or for pictures.

House

Nice, totally equipped, house; living and TV room 3 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms (only shower), walk-in-dressing, cellar, air-conditioning, Jacuzzi, automatic garage door, large designed garden. Only 50 km from base. Please contact Ludo at 0032 89 351377.

Foggy Fields Bazaar

The Annual Foggy Fields Bazaar will be held in Hangar 4 at Geilenkirchen NATO Air Base, on Friday 17 November from 0900-1800, Saturday 18 November from 1000-1700, and Sunday 19 November from 1000-1600. The bazaar is open to all U.S. and NATO ID cardholders and their guests.

Vendors from around the world will be selling fabulous items such as Polish pottery, Turkish carpets, clocks, antiques, jewellery, tapestries, and much more. Many of your old favourites as well as many new vendors will be attending. The bazaar is hosted by the American Women of Geilenkirchen and all profits support programs in the military community.

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 €11.50; 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.

- 5 Family brunch at the Officers' Club. Frisbee Club closed
- 12 Lunch at the Frisbee Club. Officers' Club closed.
- 19 Lunch at the Frisbee Club. Officers' Club closed.
- 26 Xmas brunch at the Frisbee Club. Officers' 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 through Thursday, A la Carte menu served; Monday and Wednesday a vegetarian special also available, Friday Buffet Style Lunch.

Throughout the month membership appreciation, one time each month for each Officer's 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, free snacks available; Fridays 1600-1800 Happy Hour, free snacks available.

Notice: 1 November Club closed due to Component Holiday. Officers' Club restaurant/lunch CLOSED due to building

MWA INFORMATION

November

renovation from 11 until 19 November 2, main bar normal operating hours. New Year's Eve tickets on sale as off 5 November 2006. See special flyer!

Special notes:

The Officers' Club has rooms available for your conferences, meetings, presentations, lunches or Commanders' Call. Make your reservations now. For members living on base – if you like to watch TV and/or have a drink during the weekends while the club is closed – collect the key for the Officers' Club casual bar at the Pass/Visitors' Office, main gate.

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.

Visit the Officers' Club Web Page on the Component Information Portal, through Base Support Wing, Services Squadron, Clubs, for the latest information.

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). Every Monday night: Country Line Dance, at 1930 (6, 13, 20 and 27 Nov).

- 1 Closed, Component Holiday.
- 3 Closed, cleaning Halloween.
- 7 Bingo, 1900-2230.
- 7 Skat, 1800-2300.
- 16 International Wives Club,

- 21 Turkish Night. Bingo, 1900-2230. Every Monday-Thursday Happy hour 1700-1800; every Friday Happy Hour from 1700-1900, including snacks. Every Monday and Friday night Steak Night (normal Restaurant times): steak dinner only, normal steak €6, large steak €8. Due to the popularity of the Monday Steak Night, we will give it a try on Friday nights too (reservations required).

Sentry Club (SWPJ/4997)

Lindt 'Fioretto' and Christmas Praline Mixtures on sale for €5.50 per pack at the Sentry Club Souvenir Shop or at the Cashier's Cage. As of 1 July 2006 the Sentry Club main bar is closed at 2000, Monday through Friday; last call will be 1930.

Last Pizza order at 1930, Monday – Friday. In addition to the daily special, the Sentry Club will also offer a weekend special which will include a soup or dessert as well as the main course. The weekend special will be advertised in the Sentry Club and also on the Component information web page.

A variety of new pizzas are available now, i.e. Pizza 'Gyros', Pizza 'Calzone' and Pizza 'Spinach'. We also will add some new toppings. As soon as the preparations are finished, the details will be advertised on our Component information web page. We will also offer little rolls made from pizza dough with herb butter or garlic mayonnaise.

Take advantage of our new Salad Bar. Various types of freshly prepared salads available at a reasonable price. Do you need support for conferences or meetings? The Sentry Club can assist with coffee, soft drinks, half rolls or freshly prepared muffins. For more information, please contact the Sentry Club management. Need supplies for a party? The Sentry Club is your stop for Warsteiner Beer in 30 ltr and 50

ltr containers, various soft drinks in 1 ltr bottles and tables, benches and other items to help in organising your party. Please be sure to order in advance as certain items (e.g. tables, benches, beer wagons, etc.) must be ordered from the supplier. Visit the Souvenir Shop – a variety of nice new items have arrived! Additional information on any of the above can be obtained from the Sentry Club Manager, ext. 4996.

Sports Department (SWPT/4946)

- 2 Volleyball league, 1715, New Gym.
- 7 Volleyball league tournament, New Gym.
- 8 Table Tennis, one-day tournament.
- 9 Volleyball league tournament, New Gym.
- 10 International cross-country, international invitational run. Registration in the New Gym.
- 14 Volleyball league, last game day.
- 14 Basketball league/tournament, 1400, Sentry Club, coaches' meeting Q&Q room.
- 15 Squash tournament, start registration.
- 18 Volleyball tournament, post-season tournament.
- 24 Basketball league tournament, deadline registration.
- 29 Squash tournament, deadline registration.

International Library (SWPL/4956)

The new operating hours are 1100-1500, Monday through Friday. A fifth computer is now available for Internet – use of our patrons. Also, VCR tapes are on sale now for only €1 each.

International Pre-school (SWPS/4957)

- 1 NATO Holiday – no school, Thursday & Friday 2 & 3 November Art and Craft afternoon 'Lanterns' for parents and their children 1400-1700.
- 8 St. Martin's Parade in Teveren.
- 10 Teacher workday – no school
- 24 Thanksgiving feasts – parent's welcome! Registration for the new school year 2006/2007 continues. Afternoon slots are still available, however, there is a waiting list for the morning programs. For more information please call the Pre-school at ext. 4957.