

NATO SKYWATCH

Volume 22, No. 21

NATO Air Base Geilenkirchen

17 November 2006

'Who let the dogs out?'

Text and photos SMSgt. Johan Hijmenberg

The pop tune 'Who let the dogs out?' sounds out over the fields of the Swiss Army in Wangen an der Aare. It accompanied the 160 participants during the last few meters of the canine biathlon 22 October. The 'Swiss Open', is the largest dog handler's competition in Europe. The best the military, police and security forces have to offer compete against each other in this two-day event.

It took seven hours by car to get from Geilenkirchen to Wangen an der Aare, including two stops to take care of the dogs and provide them with refreshment. More than 400 participants from 17 nationalities were present at the contest including a two-person team from the E-3A Component that participated in the biathlon. Marcel Brassé and Hein Schots competed against 160 colleagues while coach Wim Peeters guided them. All three belong to the Civil Guard.

The 400 handlers with their dogs competed against each other in five different disciplines. Besides the biathlon the teams could enter the following search dog competitions: drugs, catastrophe or explosives, as well as a mock criminal attack contest.

With the 'Swiss Open' the nearest event like it is a horse-jumping show where obstacles have to be taken by horse and rider. The same is the case with a canine biathlon; the track is set up with obstacles and the dog handler runs together with his dog.

For safety reasons, the teams do a mandatory walk-through of the 10-km track. "Even though it isn't mandatory, it's self-evident for yourself and the dog to do a reconnaissance", says Brassé. "Track builder Ulli Bühler invents a different track every time. To avoid surprises and to make decisions about how to approach each obstacle it's necessary to do the reconnaissance."

Walking through the natural reserve 'Wiedlisbach', a hilly country, the course builder provided an explanation at each obstacle. In total 15 natural or artificial obstacles had to be traversed



Wet to their skins dog handler Marcel Brassé and his dog Aaron creep through a tunnel, just one of the obstacles that had to be completed.

by the handler and his dog on a leash. Pistol shooting, a 400-meter bicycle ride accompanied by the dog, traversing pools and ponds and hindering the flight of a mock criminal, were some other challenges for the biathlon team.

"Special attention is given to the obstacle where we have to load the dog in a wheelbarrow, walk a distance with it, and unload the dog again. Because the dog gets nervous and wants to jump out, which costs you a penalty, the biggest challenge is to keep your dog calm," explains Brassé.

"Especially to hinder the flight of the mock criminals is something extra for the dogs", says Schots. "Then Cailo, my dog, and the other dogs get the chance to bite. They like that!"

Additionally, the track is very dog friendly; maltreatment of the dogs is out of order and results in disqualification. Also the dogs can have a break when the handler is doing his

shooting after they finish a steep hill.

"Further Bühler used many water obstacles", adds Brassé, "during those moments the dogs have the possibility to refresh themselves."

A canine biathlon is a cross-country run for dog handlers and their comrades. Both have to participate as a team and succeed in a contest in which they must conquer several obstacles. The handler keeps his dog's comfort foremost in his mind and does not blame the animal for mistakes that it makes. Indeed, the handler may even provide an alibi for the dog and shoulder more blame than necessary to keep his dog in a good light.

"Sh... I overran myself on the track", shouts Schots, kneeling exhausted on the ground, annoyed after he passes the finish line. Despite the reconnaissance the day before he missed a corner on the track. The do more than one run a year. Like Brassé with his dog Aaron, Schots with Cailo finishes two to three canine biathlons a year. They also run marathons and half marathons.

The 160 canine biathlon competitors were divided in four (age) categories: up to 32; 33-42; 43 and up; and female. The individual scores were comprised with the sole running time minus time penalties for faulty shots, obstacle faults by handler or dog, and for non-seizure of mock criminal. For the pistol shooting, they had to fire four shots on a target.

Schots, 48 and Brassé, 49, placed themselves in category 3. Despite the overrun Schots ranked 18th place out of 27 participants with a time of, 1 hour, 19 minutes, 5 seconds and Brassé ranked 7th with a time of 1 hour, 4 minutes, 44 seconds.

In the total ranking of 160 Brassé ranked 32nd place and Schots 72nd place. The winner of the biathlon was a Czech colleague with a time of 47 minutes, 26 seconds. The fastest female, from the Swiss police, completed the course in 1 hour, 4 minutes, 17 seconds.

"Proud is the word", says coach Peeters. "Proud on Marcel and Hein, proud on Aaron and Cailo. Great teams, great runs, great results." They really let the dogs out.

**Next NATO Skywatch:
1 December
Submissions due by:
23 November**

Also in this issue:

NATO SecGen outlines six steps to counter instability

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Christmas Colouring Contest

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Six steps needed to counter instability

In a major speech in Brussels, NATO Secretary General Jaap de Hoop Scheffer outlined six steps NATO needs to take in order to defend its members against global threats.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

"Global NATO: Overdue or Overstretch", that's an interesting combination of words – another Gilles Merritt classic! It is obviously intended to provoke – and, I admit, it works. So let me focus on the theme of the conference, and offer you my views on both the terms "global" and "overstretch".

I have said it on many occasions, and I will say it again here today: we don't need a global NATO. That is not what our transformation is all about. The kind of NATO that we need – and that we are successfully creating – is an Alliance that defends its members against global threats: terrorism, the spread of weapons of mass destruction and failed states. To counter these threats, NATO doesn't need to become a "gendarme du monde". What we need is an increasingly global approach to security, with organisations, including NATO, playing their respective roles.

But doesn't such a demanding job description invite the danger of "overstretch", as the conference theme implies. Is the need for NATO to defend against global threats an invitation to get entangled in ever more demanding engagements, yet with limited means?

Clearly, coping with an ever-increasing set of demands will remain a constant challenge. Right now, more than 50,000 soldiers are serving under NATO command in operations and missions on three continents. We have never seen our resources stretched like this before. And since the demand for NATO will not diminish, but certainly

grow further, we must make sure the Alliance is able to deliver. And I believe that means we should concentrate on six key areas.

Number one, we need to continue to build up our capabilities. At our Riga Summit in three weeks' time, we will bring together key strands of NATO's work in that area, including missile defence, air-to-ground surveillance, terrorism-related work, and defence against weapons of mass destruction. 13 NATO-nations and one partner will sign a Memorandum of Understanding on the collective use of C-17 strategic transport aircraft. And the NATO Response Force should reach its Full Operational Capability.

This demonstrates the tremendous progress we have already achieved. But

the challenges we are most likely to face tomorrow. We need a planning process that is even more capabilities-based, even more tailored to the specific needs of individual Allies, and even more adaptive to deal with potential shortfalls.

My second point: We need to share risks and burdens more equitably. One glaring example is the question of caveats and national restrictions on in theatre use of our forces. When it comes to sending their soldiers into operations, some NATO nations still insist on all kinds of restrictions. This limits the usability of their forces – and it inhibits our commanders' flexibility. In recent months, we have made progress in removing some of those caveats, yet we need to make an even greater effort. Today, NATO needs to

me, this is almost a lottery, not a funding arrangement for an Alliance built on solidarity.

For this reason, I have proposed to extend common funding for a trial period for short-term NRF deployments, particularly to the strategic airlift element. Obviously, this is matter under discussion. But if it works, it would significantly enhance the NRF's credibility and give it the catalyst role we want it to play for our force transformation. At the very least, it would take away national alibis for not committing.

My third point: We need to coordinate better with other actors. A key lesson from the Balkans and now Afghanistan is the need to work more closely with other international organisations – governmental and non-governmental. Security and development go hand in hand, we all know that. But we don't always act as if we do. There is still too much separation between those who provide security and those who provide development.

We must bridge that gap. We need to coordinate much more closely with the UN, the EU, the NGOs – and not just in the field, but also at the strategic level. Nowhere is this more evident than in Kosovo and Afghanistan. In Afghanistan, under NATO's lead, ISAF has now created a window of opportunity for development. It has to be exploited – fully and quickly. NATO is doing a lot, but we are neither a relief organisation nor a reconstruction agency. Now is the time for the international community to step in and help push Afghanistan further in the right direction.

Fourth, we need to further develop our partnerships. The strategic value of NATO's partnership policy is now beyond doubt. A NATO without partners has become truly unthinkable. But even good things can be made even better. In particular, we need to make our various partnership frameworks more coherent. To this end, we hope to make the tools from our Partnership for Peace programme available for other partnership frameworks, such as the Mediterranean Dialogue and the Istanbul Cooperation Initiative. We will also look at ways to exploit NATO's expertise in training other countries' security forces, notably in the Middle East.

And, last but certainly not least; we are going to deepen our ties with countries in the Asia-Pacific region. This is a most timely development.



NATO Secretary General Jaap de Hoop Scheffer visits the GK-troops during exercise Steadfast Jaguar at Cape Verde in June this year. Photo PIO archive

I believe that even more needs to be done beyond Riga. We also need a much clearer NATO framework for training and employing Special Forces. That's why the Riga Summit will not be an end point, but merely a stepping-stone in our continuing military transformation process.

Of course, having the right capabilities means more than having the right hardware. It also includes having the right defence planning system. That's why we are currently in the process of fine-tuning our defence planning process, based on the Comprehensive Political Guidance to be published in Riga. This is the framework, which sets out the sort of Defence Capabilities we need to tackle

cover the full spectrum of operations, from combat to peacekeeping. That's why putting caveats on operations means putting caveats on NATO's future. At Riga, I will convey this message to our Heads of State and Government, loud and clear.

Another important element of burden sharing is the reform of our funding arrangements. Just look at the NATO Response Force. According to our current rules, "costs lie where they fall", which means that nations pay their own way in Alliance operations. If the NRF is deployed, only those nations who are in the Force at the time of its deployment have to pay. In other words, if you're not in the NRF at that time, you don't pay. You're lucky. To

Global NATO: Overdue or Overstretch?

See SIX STEPS on page 4



Volume 22, No. 21 17 November 2006

NATO Skywatch is an authorized, unofficial commercial enterprise newspaper published under exclusive written agreement with the NAEW & CF E-3A Component by Pollaert Mediacenter, Postbus 1234, 6040 KE Roermond, +31 (475) 370 280. Opinions expressed by contributors are their

Commander
Brig. Gen. Stephen D. Schmidt
Chief, Public Information Office
2Lt. Jolene Bottor
Editor
SMSgt. Johan Hijmenberg

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SIX STEPS

Continued from page 3

Australia and New Zealand are already involved with us in Afghanistan. Japan and South Korea have also shown a willingness to shoulder a greater share of the international security burden. We all face the same threats and it is in their interest, as well as our own, that we come closer together.

Again, as I said at the beginning of my remarks, we don't need a global NATO. And I do not believe that anyone has suggested extending NATO's membership to Asia. Such notions are a diversion. The real issue is this: in dealing with "globalised insecurity", it matters less and less where a country sits on the map. What matters more is its mental map – its willingness to engage, together with others, to make a difference. That is the logic of NATO's global partnerships. It is simply a reflection of our transition from a geographical approach towards a functional approach to security.

Point Number Five: We need enhanced political dialogue. Given the complex nature of our security environment, we can no longer look at NATO exclusively through the prism of capabilities. Again, Afghanistan is a

case in point. To make a difference there, you've got to have sufficient military power, but you also need to have reconstruction and development, counter-narcotics policies, and democracy-building. In other words, Afghanistan demonstrates very clearly that we need to look at security in a more comprehensive fashion.



Such a holistic view requires, first and foremost, dialogue. It requires that we look at NATO not just as a force generation device, but also as a forum for a much more forward-looking discussion on future threats and challenges. In particular, we need to have an enlightened discussion on issues that require a clearer definition of what NATO's role should – or should not – be.

Energy security is a case in point. There are some who feel that this is not an appropriate subject for NATO, but others who believe just the opposite. My view is that the issue of energy security, to use a mixed metaphor, is

coming down the pipeline, and that we need to look at what NATO's added value could be. As Secretary General, I will continue to stimulate serious thinking on this and other vital issues – in NATO's capitals as well as through debate among its member nations.

My final point: We need to break the deadlock in the NATO-EU relationship. This relationship is currently suffering from "understretch" rather than overstretch. Indeed, given the magnitude of today's security challenges, it is remarkable how narrow the common agenda of both institutions remains. All this despite many efforts, including by the SDA, to bring NATO and the EU closer together.

I am under no illusion about the time it will take to overcome the well-known formal obstacles to our cooperation. But this does not mean that we are condemned to inaction. NATO and the EU need a sustained dialogue about harmonising their military transformation, notably the NRF and the EU Battle Groups. They also need a sustained dialogue on Kosovo, where smooth cooperation between NATO and EU will become ever more important in the months ahead.

Our organisations also need to get away from replicating each others' initiatives. If NATO or the EU has come up with a worthwhile project, the

other institution should not seek to create a similar initiative, but rather support the one that exists. NATO and the EU are in the business of security, not engaged in a beauty contest.

So, even if NATO-EU relations are not figuring on our Riga agenda, they should continue to figure prominently on our "to-do-list" in the months ahead. Because they are key to developing a truly holistic approach to security.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have laid out six steps that NATO needs to take in order to deliver security in new ways and in new places. Some of these steps will be taken at Riga others will take longer. After all, there will most probably be another Summit in 2008. And given NATO's 60th anniversary in 2009, we may well have yet another Summit opportunity.

This tight sequence of Summits will maintain some healthy pressure on moving NATO's transformation forward – and that is just as well. Because in a world of global challenges, institutions are no longer judged by what they represent. They are judged by what they actually achieve.

Thank you.

Dear GK Community,

I'm writing to say thank you because I have so much to be grateful for and many people at GK to thank. As many of you know, I suffered a stroke on 8 July. Before that, I had the privilege and honour to serve with you as Chief of Public Information for two short years.

I was at home with my family near Heinsberg on a normal Saturday morning when the stroke happened. By that night, my whole life had changed and my wife was wondering if she would have to go back to the U.S. to plan a funeral while I lay in the University Clinic in Aachen. Thanks to God and the fantastic medical care at Aachen, I survived. Even though the stroke itself was a terrible experience, it has provided me with many opportunities. Perhaps the greatest of them has been the opportunity to see the love, concern, and generosity of the entire Geilenkirchen community.

Although I have learned many things from this experience, being pulled suddenly away from the GK community has made me realize even more deeply how special a place it is. As with any new experience, when I first arrived there it took me a while to figure out how things work in NATO and how Geilenkirchen fits into the larger picture. Those lessons eventually sank in (sort of), but what's even more

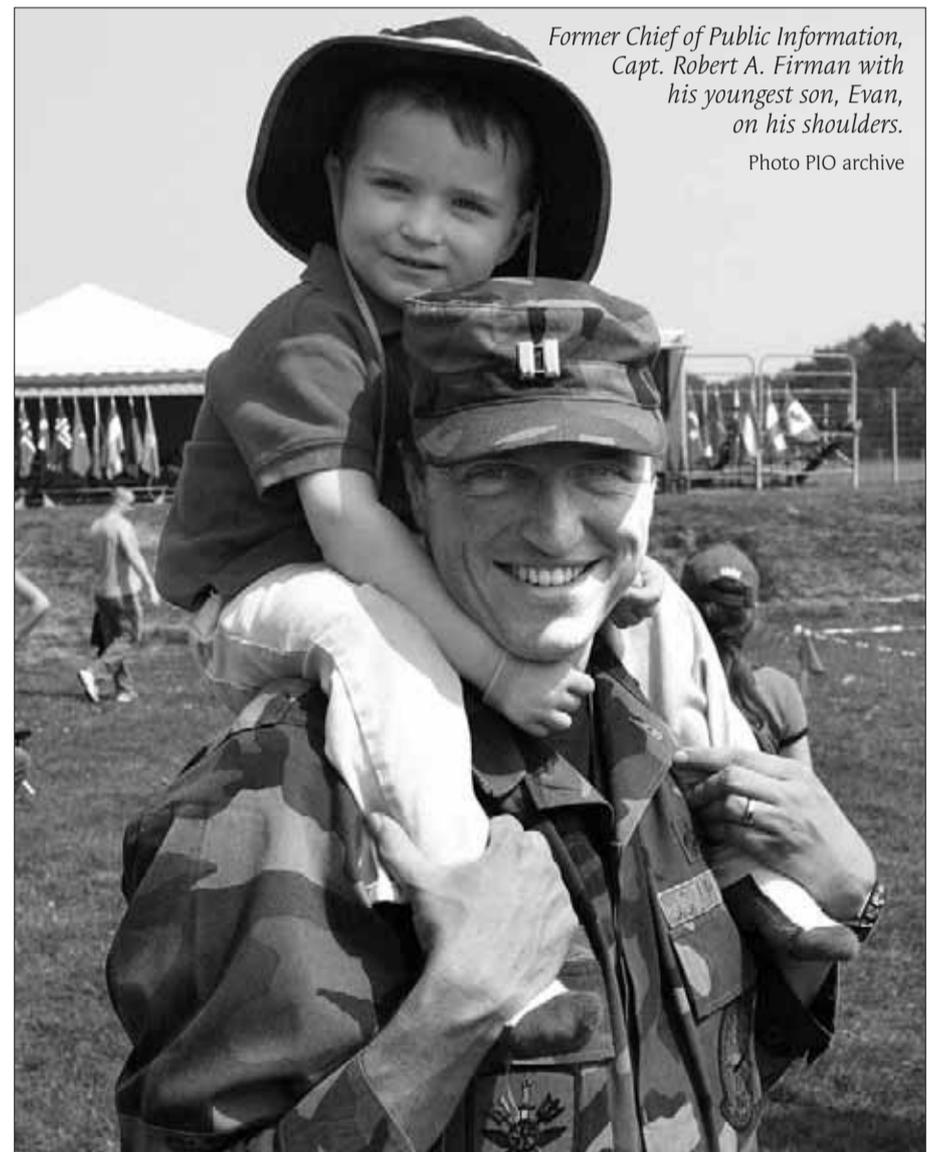
important than the mechanics of how we things get done is the way we all got along—14 nations, one mission. I knew when I was there how special that was, but it has sunk in even more now.

Nowhere else on earth does such an organization exist and I'm grateful and proud to have been a part of it. Even though it can be difficult there at times with the blending of so many different styles and backgrounds, never forget the most important part: it works. And 'Geilenkirchen Teamwork' is a symbol for all of NATO that we, as an Alliance, can make a difference together. It's an important example and one I can vouch for.

But what's most important to me personally, and what I'm most grateful for, is the GK Teamwork and care we received during this difficult time – especially my wife, Kitty, and our two boys. The outpouring of love and concern has been enormous and we are enormously grateful for it. The support for us began literally within minutes of the stroke and continues to this day.

Today I'm very happy to report that my rehabilitation has gone very well! In July, with my right side completely paralyzed, I expected to be in a wheelchair for the rest of my life. I thought long and hard about what I would do out of the Air Force and how I would do it.

Today I'm thinking instead of how I'll repay such a debt of gratitude as I go on with my Air Force career. Even though the doctors at Walter Reed and Aachen still have no idea why I had a stroke, I have been blessed to have almost completely recovered. Today I'm working on getting completely back to normal and I'm running in a 5Km fun-run in late December as a 'graduation from therapy' event. After that, I'll be



Former Chief of Public Information, Capt. Robert A. Firman with his youngest son, Evan, on his shoulders.

Photo PIO archive

going back to work at the Pentagon.

As I've gone through this long period of rehab, I have reflected much on my time in PIO, and I have so many fond memories and have learned so many valuable lessons. Although my time there was cut short, my gratitude to everyone and my pride in having worked there will go on for a very long time.

Thank you all, especially to all of you who reached out so selflessly to help us this summer. We love and miss you all,

but you can be sure we'll be back. And thank you also for the important work you're doing for NATO and for each other.

Trust me... in big and small ways; you really do make a difference.

Rob

Robert A. Firman, Capt., USAF
Former Chief, Public Information
NATO Air Base Geilenkirchen

Note: PIO will be collecting notes and cards to be delivered to the Firman family for the holidays. Please drop them off at PIO no later than 15 December 2006 and we will ensure they are delivered to the Firman family by Christmas. No packages please. For more information, please contact PIO or Lt Col Casey in CSE at ext. 2031.

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Young artists of all nationalities are invited to join this year's colouring contest. There are three age groups: 3-5 years, 6-8 years and 9-12 years. Simply colour your picture, but do not use glitter, stickers or cotton.

Send your completed pictures to IYA/SWPY, Mail Stop 34, or hand-carry them to the IYA Office in Building 95 by 8 December.

The three best pictures in each age group will win a prize. The winners will be announced during the IYA Christmas Party at the E-3A Component Officers Club on 13 December.

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Component hosts visit by NATO Assistant Secretary General

By Mr. Mark L. Beauchamp

On 8 November the E-3A Component was honoured to host a visit by NATO Assistant Secretary General Douglas L. Dempster. Dempster is the Assistant secretary general for executive management (ASG/EM) and as such he is tasked with effectively running the NATO HQ International Staff (IS). His responsibilities include ensuring that NATO's IS staff has the means to work efficiently. He does this by providing support to all elements operating at NATO HQ, including NATO's human and financial resources, information systems management and HQ support services.

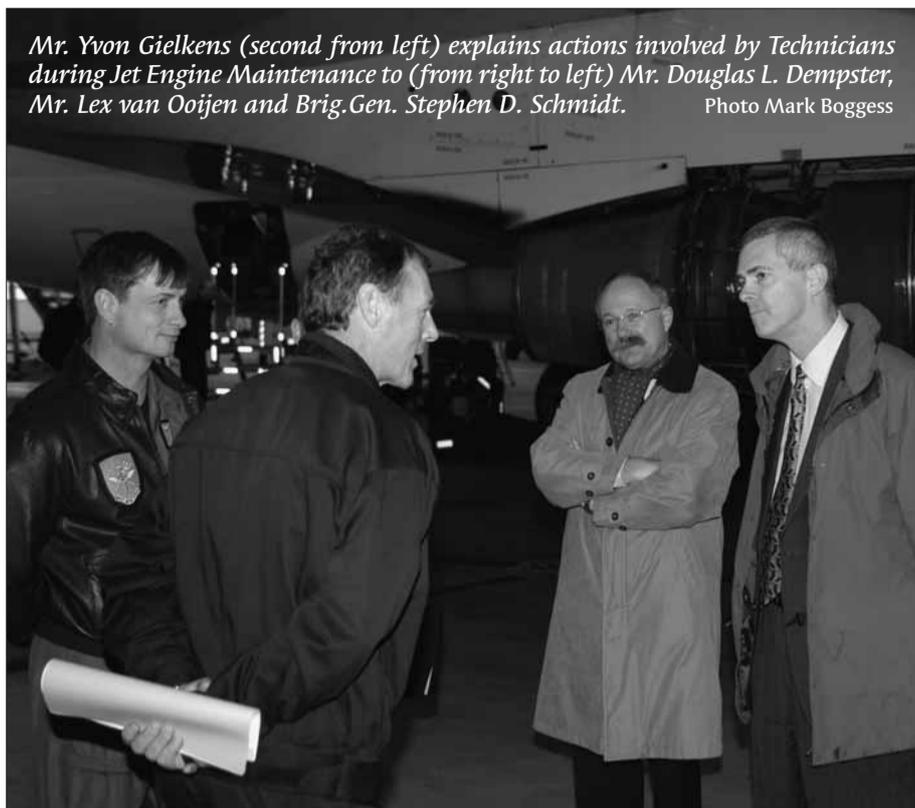
Dempster represents the secretary general in meetings and policy boards in order to manage the wide variety of civilian personnel issues for the more than 5,000 NATO civilians serving worldwide. Accompanying him was his Deputy, Mrs. Virginia I. Keener, and Mr. Turner who serves at NATO

International Military Staff (IMS).

During his nearly day-long visit, Brig.Gen. Stephen Schmidt, component commander and Col. Jelle Zijlstra, deputy commander, provided a detailed briefing of the Component mission. The briefing focused on a number of specific civilian personnel issues and Component recommendations for the future of those issues.

The briefing was followed by tours and demonstrations by the Fire Brigade and Logistics Wing personnel and a static display of the E-3A. Several Logistics Wing technicians were on hand to discuss the physically demanding nature of the duties that are part of their specialties, including internal fuel-tank maintenance.

The visit tried to provide an in-depth view of the civilian personnel situation here at the Component and Dempster indicated he was impressed by what he saw. He said to Gen Schmidt that the personnel he met were, "...articulate, thoughtful, and demonstrated their dedication."



Mr. Yvon Gielkens (second from left) explains actions involved by Technicians during Jet Engine Maintenance to (from right to left) Mr. Douglas L. Dempster, Mr. Lex van Ooijen and Brig.Gen. Stephen D. Schmidt. Photo Mark Boggess

CCAF ceremony honours graduates



Photo courtesy Education Office

The 2006 Community College of the Air Force (CCAF) Graduating Class was formally recognized during a ceremony at the Frisbee club 9 November 2006. The graduates earned an Associates Degree that required 64 credit hours in various classes, depending on their job specialty. The credits can be put towards earning their Bachelors degree.

"The CCAF Graduation Ceremony was planned to honour the graduates and their families," said Dennis

Jones, 470th ABS education services officer. "These students have diligently worked to complete all the required coursework necessary for achieving their Associates Degree and we wanted to pay tribute to them for all of their hard work.

"The attendance and participation of so many of the senior leaders and supervisors just added additional reinforcement to the Air Force encouragement for airmen to attain their educational goals while supporting our nation," said Jones.

Trick or Treat

Brig. General Stephen D. Schmidt handed out candy to Geilenkirchen Elementary students participating on 31 October in the annual "Storybook Parade". During this event students dressed up in their Halloween costumes and "trick-or-treated" around the base to participating organizations.



Photo 2Lt. Jolene Bottor

Auditions for The Alliance Players

By Annia Wyndham

A 'Panto' is a typical British tradition in musical stage theatre, where the audience is welcome to participate by singing along, yelling comments, booing and cheering the actors on stage. It keeps the actors on their toes and makes for a unique - and often hilarious - show every single performance.

The Alliance Players are holding auditions for the upcoming production of 'Snow White - The Panto', due to open in March 2007.

Auditions are open to adults and children of all ages and are held on Monday, 20 November and Wednesday, 22 November at 1800 at the Alliance Theatre, JFC HQ Brunssum.



Halloween 2006
A wonderful witches party

Photos Capt. Khaled EL Seweify

International Youth Activities

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

Christmas Party

On Wednesday, 13 December, 1500 to 1730, the IYA is offering a Christmas Party for all international Component children at the E-3A Component Officers Club. Children under the age of 6 have to be accompanied by an adult; parents of older children are also

very welcome to attend. Play seasonal games, win a prize at the wheel of fortune, enjoy seasonal refreshments, and meet Santa - he even has a little gift for you. Bring your camera: children and families can have their photo taken with Santa at no cost. During the party the winners of this year's Christmas Colouring Contest will receive their awards. There is no fee. Please call ext. 4954/5 to sign up. Children enrolled in the December IYA Afternoon Club are automatically registered.

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Concert by Collegium Concertante

To get into the Christmas mood, enjoy a concert of classical and Christmas music for the zither, played by the talented musicians Hans Krasser, Anna Christina Dols, Gisela Müller-Kopp and Jörg Jahn of Collegium Concertante. This is a real highlight in the series of Christmas concerts found locally, not only because of the enjoyable music and fun the musicians transmit to the audience, but also because of the beautiful setting in a white fairy-tale castle decorated in candles for the Christmas season.

The concert is on 9 December 06, starting at 1700 at Schloss Zweibrücken in Übach-Palenberg-Zweibrücken. An unforgettable treat at €10 per person. For ticket reservation, call Mrs. Dols, at NATO air base, 02451-632470. This concert is always very well attended, so it's best to reserve your seats early.

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 €9.2, 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.

- 3 Family brunch at the Officers' Club. Frisbee Club closed
- 10 Lunch at the Frisbee Club. Officers' Club closed.
- 17 Christmas 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 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 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, free snacks available; Fridays 1600-1800 Happy Hour, free snacks available.

Notice: 23 December to 1 January closed, except for New Year's Ball 31 December: New Year's Ball with live music from 'Take Off'; ticket sales already started. 2 January normal operation resumes.

Special Notes: The Officers'

MWA INFORMATION December

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)

Remember – the Frisbee Club is open for breakfast and dinner to all Frisbee and Officers' Club members (club cards required).

- 4, 11, 18 Country Line Dance, 1930
- 5 Bingo, 1900-2230
- 5 Skat, 18.00-23.30
- 14 International Wives Club, Italian Night
- 19 Christmas Bingo, 1900-2230 (Club will be closed at 2000)
- 23-1 January Club closed, except for New Year's Ball: New Year's Ball with live music from 'Silver Cats', ticket sales as of 4 December at the Manager's Office.

2 January

Normal operation resumes. Every Mon-Thu Happy hour from 1700 until 1800; every Friday Happy hour from 1700 until 1900, including snacks. *Every Monday and Friday night Steak Night (normal restaurant*

times); steak dinner only, normal steak €6, large steak €8. (Reservations required).

Sentry Club (SWPJ/4997)

As of 01 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. 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.

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.

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)

- 4 Squash tournament first game
- 12 Basketball tournament
- 20 Squash tournament finals

International Library (SWPL/4956)

The new operating hours are 1100-1500, Monday through Friday.

Come and visit your International Library at Bldg 96 and browse through all of the New York Times Bestsellers that are available to be checked out. New titles arriving all the time! We have books in German, French, Italian, Greek, Turkish, Danish and Norwegian languages at our International Library.

Five PC's with Internet access and one copy machine are available for our patrons. As every year, the International Library offers special CDs, DVDs, videos and a lot of books for the Christmas Season. So, come and see!

International Pre-school (SWPS/4957)

- 6 St. Nikolaus day activities
- 20 Christmas Train Ride with Santa and Party for children with their families. 1100 Morning Class; 1500 Afternoon Class
- 25-5 January Christmas Break – no school
- 8 January Back to school.

Happy Holidays to all our customers!

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.*

IYA (SWPY/4954/5)

Basketball season

The IYA basketball season for international boys and girls between 6 and 15 years is coming up. Children and teenagers of all nationalities are invited to learn and play this sport together in our international community. The season – full of fun-filled and exciting games and tournaments – will run from December to February. Fee for the season: € 25 per player. Registration until 1 December.

Volunteers

As usual the IYA can only offer its Basketball program with your dedicated volunteer help. Call ext. 4955 right now to get further information, and to sign up as coach, assistant coach or referee for any of our leagues!

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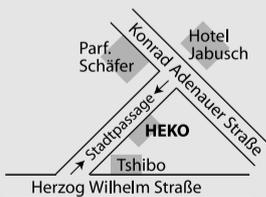
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