

SACEUR visits FOB Trapani

By Capt. Wilko ter Horst
Photos MSgt. Edouard Bocquet

On 19 April 2011 the Supreme Allied Commander Europe (SACEUR), U.S. Admiral James Stavridis, visited the Forward Operating Base (FOB) Trapani in Italy.

He was welcomed by Force Commander Maj.Gen. Stephen D. Schmidt, accompanied by Forward Element Commander Col. Jocelyn Boucher, FOB Commander Lt.Col. Mauro Montagnino and Detachment Commander Lt.Col. Fred Akkerman. SACEUR is responsible to NATO's Military Committee, the highest military authority within in NATO. He accomplishes the overall direction and conduct of military operations for NATO. SACEUR, always a general officer under the United States flag, is dual-hatted as Commander U.S. European Command. His command is exercised from Supreme Headquarters Allied Powers Europe (SHAPE) at Casteau in Belgium.

After the welcoming ceremony and a visit to the Command Post, SACEUR addressed the FOB personnel. In his speech Admiral Stavridis emphasized the excellent cooperation of everyone involved in Operation Unified Protector (OUP) and the importance of this mission. This operation was



U.S. Admiral James Stavridis, Supreme Allied Commander Europe (third from left), during his visit to FOB Trapani, accompanied by FOB Commander Mauro Montagnino, Italian Chief of Defence Gen. Biagio Abrate and Wing Commander Col. Mauro Gabetta.

launched at the end of March 2011 to protect civilians and civilian-populated areas under threat of attack in Libya.

"You are all doing an exceptionally good job within OUP. You had a smooth transition from Operation

Active Endeavour into a full NATO operation. The past of all the AWACS effort comes together in the two most visible operations today. I am proud to be here in front of you all," declared SACEUR.

At the end of his speech SACEUR

took a moment to sign the FOB guest book with the following dedication: 'Well done on OUP. You bring order out of chaos'.

At the end of his special visit he presented coins to personnel with outstanding performance.

Force Commander Maj.Gen. Stephen D. Schmidt talking to SACEUR.

U.S. Admiral James Stavridis in discussion with the Italian Chief of Defence Gen. Biagio Abrate.

SACEUR Stavridis holding a speech in front of the FOB personnel.

SACEUR handing over a coin to Lt.Col. Fred Akkerman for his outstanding performance.





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VIP visit on base in April 2011

By Janina Bien

Gen. Manfred Lange, Chief of Staff of the Supreme Headquarters Allied Powers Europe (COS SHAPE), visited the E-3A Component on 15 April 2011. He was accompanied by his Military Assistant (MA), Lt.Col. Michael Mensching, and his Aide de Camp (ADC), Capt. Thomas Doll. They all were warmly welcomed by Brig.Gen. Burkhard Pototzky and Force Commander Maj.Gen. Stephen D. Schmidt, who also invited the guests to sign the guest book. The guests received an overview briefing about the Component, followed by a flight deck and mission simulator demonstration as well as the opportunity to tour an E-3A after the meeting.

Gen. Manfred Lange, Force Commander Maj.Gen. Stephen D. Schmidt and Brig.Gen. Burkhard Pototzky (from left to right).

Photo by Andrea Hohenforst



In memoriam

We deeply regret to announce the death of Lt.Col. Knuth Rathmann on 3 April 2011 after a short and serious illness.

Knuth Rathmann was a valuable member of Plans and Programs Division, serving as Chief of Modernization. He worked at our Component from 1990 until 1995 and from 1999 until April 2006. His experience from working in Force Command Requirements Division from April 1990 to November 1995 ensured that the Component had more than the necessary expertise to work successfully with the NATO Airborne Early Warning & Control Programme Management Agency (NAPMA) and all contractors associated with the Mid-Term Modernization Program. He worked tirelessly to ensure that the Component's interests were served during the implementation of the Mid-Term Program.

He was well respected by all his colleagues, and he often made the difference in resolving some of the thorny issues associated with the Mid-Term Program. Most importantly, all of us remember his slight smile and eyes full of fun when he was joking with us. Also we can't forget how thoughtful Knuth Rathmann was to bring in cakes very often to help ease the stress, often a part of life in Plans and Programs Division. We were all very happy to see him enjoying his retirement so fully, and the news of his early death saddens all of us who knew him.

We are very sad for his family, especially his wife Margret and his daughters Inga and Svea, and we want them to know that he will be missed by many people here at the Component.

NATO and Libya

Operational update as of 1 May 2011

Mission

NATO took control of all military operations for Libya under United Nations Security Council Resolutions 1970 & 1973 on 31 March 2011. The aim of Operation Unified Protector is to protect civilians and civilian-populated areas under attack or threat of attack.

The mission consists of three elements: an arms embargo, a no-fly-zone and actions to protect civilians from attack or the threat of attack.

Air Operations

Since the beginning of the NATO operation (31 March 2011, 0800) a total of 4,728 sorties, including

1,924 strike sorties have been conducted. Strike sorties are intended to identify and engage appropriate targets, but do not necessarily deploy munitions each time.

Arms embargo activities

19 ships under NATO command are actively patrolling the Central Mediterranean. A total of 751 vessels have been hailed, 25 boardings and five diversions have been conducted since the beginning of arms embargo operations.

International humanitarian assistance movements as recorded by NATO

Total of humanitarian movements:

152 (air, ground, maritime)
Some humanitarian movements cover several days.

Command and control

NATO's operational commander for Operation Unified Protector is Lt.Gen. Charles Bouchard of the Canadian Air Force. His office and staff is located at the Joint Force Command in Naples.

For more information on Operation Unified Protector (OUP) please visit the following websites:
www.jfcnaples.nato.int
www.manp.nato.int
www.nato.int/libya

Source www.nato.int

100th Mission Flight OAA

On 29 April 2011 the 100th mission flight on Operation Afghan Assist (OAA) in support of ISAF was successfully accomplished. Thank you to all Component members who contributed to this success.

Photos SMSgt. Jean Gauthier

Force Commander Stephen D. Schmidt and Mr. Klaus L. from Electronic Maintenance Squadron cutting the celebration cake.

Royal visit on base

By Janina Bien and
Maureen Geraets-Head

On 15 April 2011 Her Majesty Queen Beatrix of the Netherlands, together with her son Crown Prince Willem-Alexander, Prince of Orange, and his wife Princess Máxima visited NATO Air Base in Geilenkirchen and were warmly greeted by Component Commander Brig.Gen. Burkhard Pototzky and Dutch Senior National Representative Col. Ton van Happen.

During their official four-day visit to various regions in North Rhine Westphalia, the Royal Family was accompanied by Mrs. Hannelore Kraft, who is Minister of the German State of North Rhine Westphalia.

Two little Dutch girls, daughters of a Component member, presented a nicely illustrated book with drawings. The drawings were specially made by them and their classmates for Princess Máxima. They asked her to show it to her little princesses at home. Another young daughter of a member of the Dutch National Support Unit presented a beautiful

little bouquet of flowers to Her Majesty Queen Beatrix.

Before returning home, the Royal Family and Mrs. Kraft personally thanked every policeman for providing special escort during their visit to Germany. After passing through an outstanding guard of honor, Queen Beatrix and her family boarded the Fokker 70 jet that brought them back to the Netherlands.

Photos CMSgt. Claus Cohnen,
Andrea Hohenforst and André Joosten



Prince Willem-Alexander talking with German Minister Hannelore Kraft.



Her Majesty is welcomed by Brig.Gen. Burkhard Pototzky and Dutch National Representative Col. Ton van Happen on base.



Princess Máxima receiving the nice self-made illustrated book.



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Maj. Mário Cavaco and his colleagues from Sq. 2.



My 50th birthday during a NATO mission

Text and photo
Maj. "Super" Mário Cavaco

If in the past someone would have told me that I would celebrate my 50th birthday far away from my family and that I would be participating in a real operation, my reply would certainly have been "In your dreams, pal!!!"

However, reality was different from what I expected. Since this 50th anniversary is a milestone in everyone's life, I was expecting to celebrate this day with my family and friends.

That being said, I became aware before Christmas that everything would be different, – what a gift – and at the beginning of January, I was informed that, being in ROTO 0, I was scheduled to deploy mid January to support ISAF.

As a soldier and an officer with a code of conduct that I promised to comply with 30 years ago, I prepared myself and the family for this period of time. I informed my family about this deployment and the expected period of time that I would be on this mission, which would coincide with my and even my son's birthday.

50 years! It was for sure a different day, away from family and friends, but the bottom line was that I had support from my friends who were deployed with me. First thing was the cake. Being at FOB Konya I did not know who to ask and where to request it. Fortunately the manager of the dining facility offered his

help and supported me. I printed a beautiful picture taken in Trapani and I asked if it would be possible to have that on the cake. One thing for sure I have learned about Turkey is that everything is possible as long we just give them time.

That evening in the MWA I had my friends with me, all of them distinguished guests and also the FOB and Anatolian Eagle Commanders and Lt.Col. Cornelis Pauw. It was a mix of sadness and joy – sadness due to the absence of my family and at the same time joy due to the presence of all of those that showed up at the party.

With regard to the mission itself the E-3A Component made history and in the Early Warning Community the Component must be in the headlines.

I am proud to serve in the Component and to support this mission as a Surveillance Controller, contributing my knowledge and experience to its success. As a Surveillance Controller I am part of a team and I support them regarding the radar picture provided. I also delegate to the Surveillance Operators regarding links and identification, backing them up as much as possible. It is a long mission and inside the plane we work as one: everyone is an important tool for the success of the mission. As a Portuguese and being part of a small community that only consists of eight colleagues, I feel proud that we are supporting this mission with 62% of our manpower and once again, like in the past, being part of

NATO's history. I believe that the motto "*Primus inter pares*" ("First among equals") is appropriate for the Component.

Although this anniversary was

a different kind of day, I have a lot of good memories and I am really happy and blessed to serve in this multinational environment. Thanks to all, and like I usually finish my messages "See 'A!"

Book and DVD donation campaign - Thank you!



The wonderful contribution by NAPMA for our deployed personnel.

By Belinda Vogel-Smith

There has been a generous response to this campaign from Component members, the Thrift Shop and the E-3A Component Library with many donations of books, magazines and DVDs. In addition the NATO Airborne Early Warning & Control Programme Management Agency (NAPMA) kindly donated 50 kilos of care packages with snacks galore, PC games, DVDs, magazines and toiletries. This was accompanied by a framed plaque, as you can see

on this photo. In response a letter expressing sincere appreciation was sent to NAPMA by the Chief of Staff, Col. Werner Nemetschek.

Thank you everyone for supporting this campaign. Although the first boxes have already been flown out, the campaign is still ongoing. Donations can be handed in at the Central Registry, Bldg. 5, or forwarded through the internal mail. All donations are then carefully boxed, labeled and dispatched through OW4 Flight Booking to the Deployment Commander.

Photo Andrea Hohenforst

Official opening of the Rotodome terrace

By Janina Bien

On 14 April 2011 the official opening of the new Rotodome terrace took place. This terrace is located on the south side of the Rotodome alongside Cinchan Avenue. A ribbon cutting ceremony was performed by Brig. Gen. Burkhard Pototzky, attended by Col. Ton van Happen, Lt.Col Uwe Schulz from Base Support Division, Mr René Peeters from the Rotodome, and Maj. Peter Gerisch from Services Branch to officially open the new Rotodome terrace. On that day free ice-cream was served to all guests and since then this new area has greatly contributed to the pleasure of all Rotodome guests, especially on these nice sunny spring days.

Lt.Col Uwe Schulz, Brig.Gen. Burkhard Pototzky, Mr. René Peeters, Col. Ton van Happen, Maj. Peter Gerisch officially opening the new Rotodome terrace (from left to right).

Photo Andrea Hohenforst



Photo Andrea Hohenforst

By CMSgt. Claus Cohnen and Jim Simon

The AWACS Runners Club Geilenkirchen was established at the MOB as an official MWA Club in 2006.

Membership is open to all E-3A Component personnel and to everybody who is interested in joining our club. It is also open to people who would just like to learn more about us. Please feel free to attend the next Annual General Membership (AGM) meeting on 11 May 2011, 1030, at the Rotodome.

The club's goal is to foster international camaraderie, cultural awareness, friendship and fitness by offering various types of running exercises and events to enhance physical fitness and overall health. We realise that the probability of maintaining a long-term commitment to exercise is directly related to the enjoyment received

from that kind of sports, so our motto is to "Run for Fun". We meet at the "old" Gym for casual group runs of varying lengths, not to exceed 1 hour, every weekday at 1130.

In addition, we organize and participate in numerous running events, competitions and marathons in the local region and elsewhere in Europe, providing fun-filled opportunities to train, compete or to just simply enjoy visiting and socializing at event locations as a runner or spectator.

Whether you are a seasoned, casual or beginner runner or interested in becoming a runner, feel free to join us at our AGM on 11 May and find out more about our club and the fitness, friendship and fun it offers.

For further information, please visit our page on the E-3A WSS portal under COS/BSD/Services Branch (BPB)/Clubs & Societies/WADU Runners Club.

What is non-verbal communication?

By Capt. Wilko ter Horst

Every month we will present on a form of communication. Therefore we will focus this month on non-verbal communication.

Non-verbal communication

Not so very long ago someone asked what kind of job I do. I told him I work in communications. After a moment of quiet reflection, he replied: "You're in the most difficult profession. People can't communicate. We think, but animals don't. That's why they're much better at communicating than we shall ever be!"

That reply gave me something to think about for a while. Animals don't speak, but they do make sounds. As these are noises, not spoken words, they are a kind of non-verbal communication, which is communication involving no use of language, either spoken or written.

People can also interact without using words and are very similar to animals in that respect, so it seems they can communicate that way too. Or maybe not? In both cases

we are dealing with non-verbal communication. In the case of an animal the message is always clear. But this true of people too?

There is some truth in this. Here is an example:

Situation 1

A dog of Belgian Shepherd (Malinois) type, as used for guarding military airbases, is standing in front of you with his upper and lower fangs bared. The only question that will occur to you at that moment is how you can escape from this precarious situation without needing 12 stitches in your left or right buttock.

Situation 2

You, of male human type, an experienced air force serviceman, are standing at the till in your local supermarket, baring your upper and lower teeth at the cashier. The only question that will occur to the cashier at that moment is when you last visited your dental hygienist.

The dog's message is clear. Stop or I'll bite you. You can interpret

the non-verbal signal immediately and without referencing anything else. But your message in the supermarket is not clear. The cashier does not know how to interpret what you mean. From her point of view your intention is unclear. At worst, it's scary.

These two situations both show non-verbal communication. They also show the complexity of communication between one human being and another. The fact that we think, feel, put matters into perspective and experience emotions means that our non-verbal communication is different from the way it is used by animals. We use non-verbal communication in approximately 65% of all cases (Schultz, 1978). Even if we don't think we're communicating, we're still doing so. 'Not communicating' is something we cannot do. We communicate with our posture, attitude, look, intonation or clothing. This is how we try to let people know what we are thinking, in the hope that the message comes across to them. But do we always ask for feedback? No! Sometimes we make a

statement just by dressing differently, for example.

Unlike with animals, human beings' non-verbal communication can definitely lead to misunderstandings. A shrug can be wrongly interpreted as indicating a lack of interest, a wave of the hand can be seen as rudely dismissive, or a sigh as showing irritation. What we really meant was: 'I don't know', 'It's lying over there' or 'I'm feeling tired'. Communication can be so difficult.

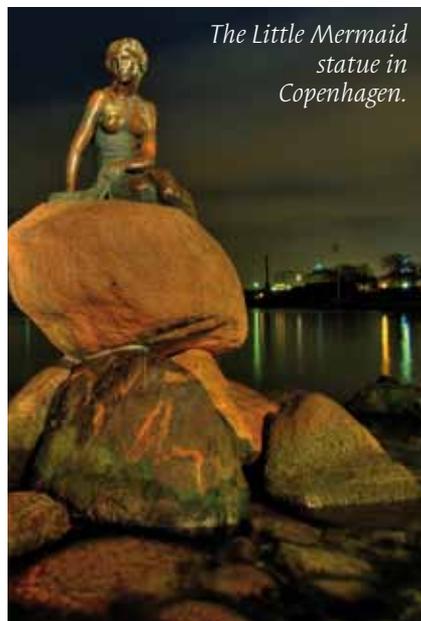
What is important is to make sure that the meaning of our non-verbal communication is clear. This means that the way in which we communicate our message non-verbally has to truly reflect what we want to say. So our posture and attitude are important too. And often we're not aware of that.

Keep a lookout for the Belgian Shepherd dog this week as you walk around the base. He certainly won't blink if you bare your teeth at him.

Communication means..... Misunderstanding each other as little as possible.

Geilenkirchen looks at Europe: 2011 Kingdom of Denmark

Danish event on 27 and 28 May 2011



The Little Mermaid statue in Copenhagen.

By Lt.Col. Mikael Virklund Nielsen, Senior National Representative Denmark

Component members and their families are invited to Geilenkirchen's all-day special event "Geilenkirchen blickt auf Europa – Königreich Dänemark" on 28 May 2011 at the Market Place in the city of Geilenkirchen. The program will include a Tattoo and concert by the Royal Danish Navy Band, a parade featuring vintage and classic cars, entertaining performances by local schools and kindergartens, a concert with the SSB Big Band. It is also a unique opportunity to taste Danish beer and food as well as to get free tourist information about Denmark. The program starts at 1200 and ends around 2030 with public viewing of the Champions League final game.

As the event is all about Denmark and its immense cultural and historical heritage, the following information will bring Denmark closer to you.

Geography

Denmark shares a border of 68 kilometers with Germany to the south and is otherwise surrounded by a beautiful coastline. Since 2000 Denmark has been connected by the Øresund Bridge to southern Sweden. Denmark's most northern point is Skagens point, which is also known as the north beach of the Skaw.

Denmark consists of the peninsula of Jutland (Jylland) and 443 other islands, but only 72 of these are inhabited. Ferries or light aircraft connect people to the smaller islands. The capital of Denmark is Copenhagen, the cultural and economic heart of Denmark, a fantastic place to visit on a city trip.

Climate

The climate is temperate. The

winters are not particularly cold, with mean temperatures in January and February of 0°C. However, the summers are cool with a mean temperature in August of 15.7°C. Denmark has an average of 121 days per year of rain, with the wettest season in autumn and the driest in spring.

Demographics

Denmark's population consists of more than 5.4 million, with a population density of 129.16 inhabitants per square kilometer. The median age is 39.8 years. Despite the country's low birth rate, the population is still growing at an average annual rate of 0.33%. International studies show that the population of Denmark is the happiest of any country in the world. Danish is the official language and is spoken throughout the country; English and German are the most widely spoken foreign languages.

The history and legend of the Dannebrog

The name of the Danish flag, the Dannebrog, meaning 'the flag of the Danes' or 'the red flag', is first encountered in a Danish text from 1478 and in a Dutch text from 100 years before. In a Dutch armorial (Gelre) from 1370-1386 a red banner with a white cross is annexed to the coat of arms of Valdemar IV Atterdag.

According to legend, the Dannebrog fell from heaven during

a battle in Estonia; this legend is mentioned in Christiern Pedersen's Danish Chronicle from the beginning of the 1520s and by the Franciscan monk Peder Olsen 1527. This latter relates the event to a battle in 1219, and tradition has maintained that the flag appeared at Lyndanisse on 15 June 1219.

The legend presumably came into being around 1500 on the basis of the idea that the royal banner, which King Hans lost at his defeat in the Ditmarshes in Northern Germany in 1500 was the Dannebrog that had fallen from heaven. In 1559 Frederik II recaptured the banner and had it hung in Schleswig Cathedral in present-day northern Germany.

The Cross of the Dannebrog

A white cross with a red bordure was used by the Portuguese Order of Christ, founded in 1318 during a crusade against the Moors. The Portuguese gold coin featured the Cross of Christ and the words *in hoc signo vincis*, which means 'with this sign you will gain victory'.

From 1591, King Christian IV struck Danish coins with a similar cross, which quickly became associated with the cross of the Dannebrog.

The Queen

The Danish Monarchy can be traced back more than 1000 years. The Queen of Denmark, Margrethe II, is therefore able to count kings like Gorm the Old (deceased 958) and

Harald Bluetooth (deceased 987) among her ancestors.

Her Majesty Queen Margrethe II became Queen of Denmark in 1972. She was born on 16 April 1940 at Amalienborg Palace as the daughter of King Frederik IX (d. 1972) and Queen Ingrid, born Princess of Sweden. The Queen's motto is "God's help, the love of the people, Denmark's strength".

The Danes and their Queen

The Danes are proud of their Queen and their monarchy. Queen Margrethe is widely respected for her intellectual prowess and her artistic abilities, for example as an illustrator, set designer for the theatre and textile artist. Along with the Prince Consort, the Queen has translated French literary works into Danish and vice versa.

The role of the monarchy

Denmark has a constitutional monarchy, which means that the monarch cannot independently perform political acts. Although the monarch signs all acts of parliament, these only come into force when they have been countersigned by a cabinet minister. As Head of State, the monarch participates in the formation of a new government.

Just like in many other monarchies, a discussion of the role and function of the monarchy takes place in Denmark, but the general tone is much more subdued than has been the case in other kingdoms.



Haven in Copenhagen.

Photos courtesy www.sxc.hu



Wine tasting event

This year the Component is also very proud to present another event on base. Please mark your calendars for the wine tasting event at the E-3A Club on 27 May 2011, featuring a Danish wine and several others.

For this special evening the Component is proud to host the Royal Danish Navy Band (Søværnets Tamburkorps). Its founders started their military service in November 1963 and by October 1964 there were 33 musicians in the band.

In the old days it was normal practice for the Navy to use drums and flutes of different sizes on major naval ships. From 1857 to 1932 the Royal Danish Navy used musicians in other duties as well. For various reasons the Corps was put on hold in 1932, but fortunately it started again as part of the Defense Agreement of 1963. And

WINE TASTING EVENT AT THE E-3A CLUB
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Wine Tasting Party
 commencing on 27 May 2011 at 19:00 hrs at the E-3A Club.

PROGRAM:
 OFFICIAL OPENING BY
 E-3A COMPONENT COMMANDER, BRIG GEN BURKHARD POTOTZKY
 AND
 SENIOR NATIONAL REPRESENTATIVE, LT COL MIKAEL NIELSEN

WALK THROUGH OF AWACS E-3A AIRPLANE (for invited external guest only)
 WINE TASTING: 1 DANISH WINE AND 5 INTERNATIONAL WINES WITH DANISH CHEESE AND FINGER FOOD
 THE DANISH NAVY BAND FROM COPENHAGEN THE SHOW DANCE GROUP "REVOLUTION"

Tickets: EURO 15 PER PERSON. TICKETS WILL BE AVAILABLE AS OF 15 APRIL 2011 AND WILL BE SOLD AT:
 E-3A CLUB - MANAGERS OFFICE, AML PEETERS, EXT.: 4990
 MWA: DISBURSING/BLDG. 80, MRS. CAROLINE MCPADDEN, EXT.: 4917
 CITY OF GEILENKIRCHEN, (TOWN HALL), KULTURAMT, 4TH FLOOR, ROOM 412, (TEL: 629412)

NATEX

from that time onwards the Royal Danish Navy Band has traveled around the world to perform in all kinds of

events from military tattoos to royal weddings. So come and enjoy this special event on base.

Swimming pool season 2011

As of 4 May

Pool entry fees	normal	MWA
Daily single:	€ 3.00	€ 2.50
10+1 card:	€ 29.00	€ 22.50
Single season:	€ 45.00	€ 35.00
Family season: (up to 3 persons)	€ 85.00	€ 60.00
(more than 3 p.)	€ 97.50	€ 75.00

Please note that cards from previous years are no longer valid!

Opening hours swimming pool

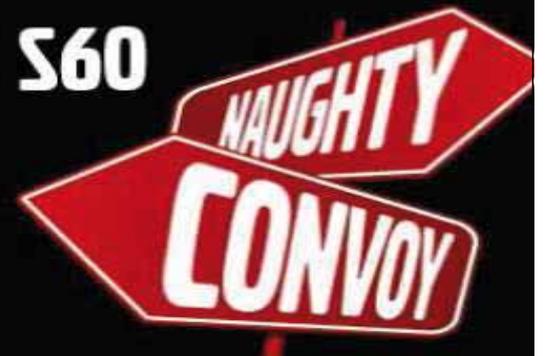
Monday-Friday 1100-1300
laps swimming only

Tuesday-Friday 1300-1900
public swimming

Saturday-Sunday 1100-1900
public swimming

If you would like to organize a private pool-party, please call Mrs. Suhr, ext. 4948.

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Visit the Services Branch WSS Web Page for the latest program information and upcoming events.

New souvenir items

The following new souvenir items are now available at the E-3A Club, both with the Component logo: tie clip for €4/pin for €2.80

Sports Department

Opening hours: Mo-Fr 0600-2100, on weekends 0800-2000

No Sports staff available at the New Gym from Mondays-Thursdays after 1700, on Fridays after 1430 and at weekends. Patrons wishing to check out equipment need to do so before the above mentioned times. Management apologizes for any inconvenience.

All Component personnel are authorized to utilize the Sports facilities free of charge. However, participation in Sports classes with instructor, such as spinning, aerobics and dance classes, is restricted to personnel in possession of a valid MWA membership card. Dependents are required to be in possession of a valid MWA membership card to utilize the Gym. Daily checks will be conducted.

No Sports activities (jogging, walking, etc.) on the perimeter fence line and in any of the forest areas.

Summer utilization schedule started on 2 May for the Old Gym, the New Gym and the multi-purpose room.

Sports events

Outdoor Soccer League

Participation for E-3A Component, JFC Brunssum, USAG Schinnen and ZVBw Niederheid. Playing period: weeks 18-23 (4 May-8 June). Game days /times: Monday & Wednesday 1100 & 1200, two fields.

Softball league

Participation for E-3A Component, JFC Brunssum, USAG Schinnen Coaches meeting: 4 May, 1400, at the E-3A Club, deadline registration 20 May. Playing period: weeks 23-27 (7 June-7 July). Game days Tuesdays & Thursdays.

Base bike tour – 11 May

Deadline registration: 9 May, event time 1100-1300.

Jogging cross – 27 May

Different age categories, deadline registration: 25 May, time: 1130-1300.

Beach volleyball tournament – 8 June

Coaches meeting: 5 May, 1400 at the E-3A Club, deadline registration: 27 May.

Component Sports Day – 30 June

Coaches meeting 25 May, deadline registration 17 June.

Fitness classes

Come along and try out one of the many fitness classes offered at the Sports Department.

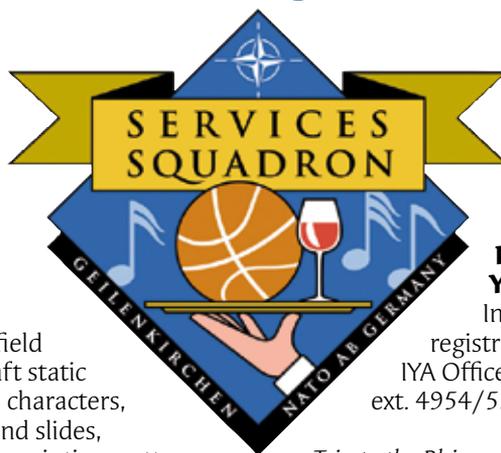
New: Zumba (see schedule on the Sports WSS page) and Tai Chi: Fridays, 1445 -1615 IYA (Bldg. 95, MPR).

Upcoming events

7 May: *International Children Festival*

MWA INFORMATION

May



2011

Saturday, 7 May, 1300-1800 at the NATO E-3A Component Astra Theatre and Cinchan Avenue.

Entertainment will include: airfield train ride, aircraft static display, cartoon characters, inflatable toys and slides, ballet show, face painting, cotton candy and popcorn, folk dance performances, drawing contest, pony ride, martial arts show, hockey and much more. Do not forget to bring a valid ID/passport.

For more information please call the Turkish NSU, ext. 2196.

08 May: Mother's Day brunch at the E-3A Club

Sunday, 8 May, 1100-1400. A delicious buffet will be served, consisting of breakfast, main courses and dessert. Price will be €14.50 for MWA card holders and reservations are required. For more information or to make reservations, please call the E-3A Club, ext. 4990. Please pay attention to Base access regulations.

15 May: Car boot sale

Sunday, 15 May, 1000-1400, at the JFC AFNORTH car park in the front of UKJSU, Bldg. 603; the alternate location will be the car park adjacent to Bldg. 603, depending on the number of stalls. Open to all NATO ID card holders. For more information, please contact JFC AFNORTH, Mrs Paula Murphy or Mr Rob Wheldon, to book a stall.

18-22 May: Berlin trip – book now! Last chance – only 18 seats left!

A Berlin trip is planned from 18 - 22 May 2011. 48 bus seats are available. Please take note of the below changes to the program/cost calculation: Unfortunately, the bus fare has been increased by €25 to €100 per person to cover the costs of empty seats. Moreover it was not possible to purchase reasonably priced tickets for the soccer final cup in Berlin. However, for those interested, the game can be seen on the large screen at the Berlin Postdamer Platz, in a good atmosphere with a few drinks. If you would like to participate, please contact Werner Schumm, e-mail: wschumm@e3a.nato.int.

20 May: Whisky tasting

A whisky tasting event, a nosing and tasting of 6 great malt whiskies from Scotland, presented by Mr Andy Holmes, will take place on Friday, 20 May, 1930. Price per person is €27.50 (€19.90 for MWA card holders) including finger food. Ticket sales only, limited seats available.

Tickets are now on sale at the E-3A Club, Manager's Office.

International Youth Activities

Information and registration at the IYA Office in Bldg. 95, ext. 4954/5.

Trip to the Rhine valley with cruise, 21 May, 0800-2000

Enjoy the magnificent scenery of the Upper Middle Rhine Valley, UNESCO World Heritage, with its enchanting historic castles and green vineyards on a panorama cruise from St. Goar to Koblenz on Saturday, 21 May, 0800-2000. You will have the opportunity to walk around the beautiful old town of St. Goar and visit the famous city of Koblenz with all its attractions, stores and restaurants at the confluence of the rivers Rhine and Mosel. Our luxury bus departs from outside the main gate. Cost including your ticket for the 2.25-hour cruise is €42.50 for ages 14 to adult, €27 per child aged 4 to 13, and €20 per child aged 0 to 3. With MWA card €32 for ages 14 to adult, €20 per child aged 4 to 13, and €15 per child aged 0 to 3.

Trip to Luxembourg, 28 May, 0730-2030

Discover the dramatically sited charming capital city with its skylines pierced by turrets and towers, quaint riverside quarters and spectacular views of deep valleys and sheer-sided

gorges. Beside interesting museums you find great stores, cafes and restaurants. Our luxury bus departs from the parking lot outside the main gate. Cost is €23.50 per person, €16.50 per person with your valid MWA card.

IYA swimming courses for beginners and advanced beginners

For children aged 5 and older at the Hallenbad Geilenkirchen on Tuesdays and Thursdays, 1645-1745. Our certified instructors speak English and German, and work with the children in groups according to the student's individual skill level. Cost for 12 lessons is €78.50, pay only €55 with your valid MWA card.

IYA mixed martial arts

Full contact martial arts under the experienced and certified instruction of Mr Christian Ecklé. Classes are held at the Old Gym on Mondays and Wednesdays, 1700 to 1830 for ages 6 to 15, and 1900 to 2030 for ages 16 and up. Cost per month is €25, with a €3.50 discount for the second and each additional family member. The first class is free.

Tri-Border Texas Hold'em Poker Tournament

A Tri-Border Texas Hold'em Poker Tournament will be held every 1st Friday of the month at the JFC Conference Center, 1900, cost per event is €20.

For further information, please call +31 45 526 2626/2592.

JFC HQ Alliance Theatre Program

7 May 2011, 1300, Gnomeo & Juliet
7 May 2011, 1600, Big Mommas: Like Father, Like Son
7 May 2011, 1900, Unknown
14 May 2011, 1600, Gnomeo & Juliet
14 May 2011, 1900, Hall Pass

IYA Easter egg hunt & games

A great event for children and families



By Ingrid Neuhalfen

The IYA Easter Bunny was delighted to welcome more than 200 children to the IYA Easter egg hunt & games event on 18 April. Staff and volunteers had been busy hiding traditional colored eggs and Easter candy in various areas designed for different age groups. At precisely 1435 hrs ages 4 to 6, 7 to 9, and 10 to 12 excitedly hurried off to search among playground equipment, in the grass and around trees. The

youngest participants up to the age of 3 took mom or dad along, while eagerly trying to find their goodies.

After the hunt the children enjoyed seasonal games, face painting and the bouncing castle. Parents took the opportunity to relax and talk to friends, while their children had fun in the games room and on the playground.

An ice cold summer offer!



Cheap summer ski cards

Summer cards	Children (up to 12 years) & OAP		Adults	
	Ski card	Gear card	Ski card	Gear card
Month card ¹	€ 55,00	€ 20,00	€ 75,00	€ 25,00
Holiday card ²	€ 75,00	€ 35,00	n.a.	n.a.
Summer card ³	€ 139,00	€ 100,00	€ 199,00	€ 125,00

- 1) **Month card:** valid for 1 month in between the 1st of May and the 30th of September, from Monday to Sunday, in Landgraaf and Zoetermeer.
- 2) **Holiday card:** (up to 16 years): valid from the 1st of July until 31st of August, from Monday to Sunday, in Landgraaf and Zoetermeer.
- 3) **Summer card:** valid from the 1st of May until the 30th of September, from Monday to Sunday, in Landgraaf and Zoetermeer.



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