‘No way to hide’
380 AEW&C SQ – The eyes of Hellenic Air Force

By Lt. Col. Savvas Hirmbilidis

Editor’s Note: This article is provided as a look at developments in the realm of Airborne Early Warning and Control within NATO. The author is a former Component member from the Hellenic Air Force.

A new Era for the Hellenic defence system in battle management is airborne, as the Hellenic Air Force (HAF) strengthens technologically and significantly improving the air defence system, integrating the ERIEYE/EMB-145H Airborne Early Warning & Control System - ‘ASEPE’. This historic step of the HAF marks the future and meets the needs of both airborne surveillance and command and control (C2) functions for air tactical defence forces.

In July 1999, the Ministry of Defence (MOD) announced its decision to purchase an advanced airborne early warning (AEW) system and a final several million contract for four ERIEYE/EMB-145H AEW&C aircraft was signed.

Ericsson, as prime contractor, headed an international team of Swedish, Brazilian, French and Italian firms in the development and production. The basic combination is an Embraer’s jet airplane EMB-145 and an Ericsson’s Radar (Phased Array type).

HAF selected an electronically scanned array Radar, a new technology, which promises a lot and the advantages fulfill the operational requirements of air defence system. In October 2004 the first aircraft landed in Hellas.

The Main Operating Base (MOB) of the Squadron is the 112 CW in Elefsis, 15 km west of capital Athens, and the new Squadron was named 380 AEW&C SQ, which main mission is to provide early warning (RAF-RASP) and control of aircraft in order to support National and NATO air and naval operations.

Moreover, during peacetime the squadron carries out a great number of important missions, which emphasize its social role. Missions such as search and rescue, peacekeeping and humanitarian aid, etc in the framework of NATO or UN.

The personnel of the squadron is composed of flight crew, mission crew, technicians and personnel of other specialities and is designed and organized to fulfil the worldwide known operational requirements of an AWACS squadron.

The internal layout is fixed in two distinguishable departments: the Flight Deck and the Mission Compartment. The flight deck of the aircraft is similar to the commercial version jetliner and managed by two-flight crew.

The mission compartment, in the right side of the aircraft, accommodates five multi-function Mission Consoles in line. The mission crew operates the C2 system through multi-function mission consoles furnished with colour touch input displays LCD 22 and 10,5 inches.

See 380 AEW&C SQ on page 4
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Defence Ministers discuss boosting NATO’s capabilities

Meeting at NATO HQ on 9-10 June, NATO Ministers of Defence have discussed new ideas for further transforming the Alliance’s capability to take on 21st century military operations where and when necessary.

Ministers agreed that a number of changes are necessary, including in the way the Alliance’s operations are financed, a collective approach to logistics, better intelligence sharing, improving the predictability of how many forces can be deployed, and a more comprehensive focus on post-conflict stabilization.

Speaking to reporters, NATO Secretary General Jaap de Hoop Scheffer stressed however that this was not “a short-term discussion”, but one that will need more time.

Looking at the nuts and bolts

The importance of closer cooperation with other international organisations was also discussed. “We had a good look at the nuts and bolts of how this organization works,” Mr. De Hoop Scheffer said.

The Ministers reviewed the state of play regarding existing initiatives and commitments aimed at improving the usability and deployability of NATO countries’ forces. This included the cutting-edge NATO Response Force, which is the engine of NATO’s transformation and is due to achieve full operational capability in October 2006.

Ministers also discussed the way ahead for NATO’s operations in Afghanistan, Kosovo and the Mediterranean, its mission in Iraq and the details of NATO’s assistance to the African Union for Darfur.

Co-operation with partner countries in defence reform, the fight against terrorism, and the contribution of partner countries to NATO-led operations and missions was discussed in meetings of the NATO-Russia Council, the NATO-Ukraine Commission and the Euro-Atlantic Partnership Council.

Green light for NATO support to African Union for Darfur

NATO announced on 13 June that it would help the African Union (AU) expand its peacekeeping mission in Darfur by airlifting additional AU peacekeepers into the region and assisting with training.

The Secretary General of NATO, Jaap de Hoop Scheffer, announced the decision at a meeting of NATO Ministers of Defence in Brussels, 9-10 June. NATO will airlift peacekeepers from African contributing countries into Darfur. It will also train AU troops in running a multinational military headquarters and managing intelligence.

Full transparency and complementarity

The co-ordination of the airlift will be done from Europe. A special AU air movement cell at the African Union’s Headquarters in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, will co-ordinate the movement of incoming troops on the ground in Africa. Both NATO and the EU will provide staff to support the AU cell, but the AU “has the lead” stressed the Secretary General.

No NATO combat troops will be deployed to Darfur. “The people in Darfur need help and the African Union is providing the help,” said Mr. De Hoop Scheffer. “NATO and the EU are doing everything we can to answer the request by the African Union.” The airlift and training will begin as soon as possible.

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Closing date: 29 Jul 2005.

Applications are invited for the following posts:

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Vacancy announcements

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A bid to end violence

The African Union is planning to boost its peacekeeping force in Darfur to about 7,500 in a bid to quench continuing violence in the region. On 26 April 2005, the African Union requested that NATO consider the possibility of providing logistical support to the operation.

NATO agreed on broad options for support to the African Union on 24 May. On 8 June, following further consultations with African Union, the European Union and the United Nations, NATO’s North Atlantic Council agreed on the detailed modalities and extent of Alliance support. The United Nations estimates that more than 2.6 million people are suffering in the conflict in Darfur and urgently need assistance.
The EMB-145H is a jet aircraft with two turbofan engines Rolls Royce Allison AE 3007 A1P. The main specifications of the aircraft are:

**Dimensions**
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  - The Identification Friend or Foe (IFF) system

**The Command & Control (C2) system**
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- The Tactical Data Link system
- The Electronic Surveillance Measures (ESM) system including the Self Protection System (SPS) system
- The Communications (COM) system

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**The Tactical Data Link system**
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**The Electronic Surveillance Measures (ESM) system**
- The Electronic Support Measures (ESM) system is composed of the ESM sub-system and the Self Protection (SPS) sub-system. The ESM sub-system is used to detect, analyse and identify electromagnetic signals through a network of receiving antenna (D/F and E-mode antenna) spread all over the airborne segment. The SPS sub-system is used to protect the airborne segment by allowing the decaying of air-to-air and ground to air threats with Chaff and Flare decoys ejected by dispensers installed on the airborne segment.
- The ESM system capabilities are:
  - 360° azimuth coverage
  - High sensitivity
  - Wide bandwidth
  - High accuracy
  - Radar warning
  - Self Protection System control/management

**The Communications (COM) system**
- The Communication system provides voice and data communications capabilities, during every phase of the mission with ground stations, navy ships or other co-operating aircraft, through HF, V/UHF & L-band transceivers and a data link interface processor.
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First NATO civilian starts at Component 25 years ago

By Maureen Geraets-Head

“With three typewriters - the kind that you’ll find in a museum today - a couple of tables, chairs and more than 20 boxes bulging with job applications. That’s how I started in Building 20, the former Life Support Tower, back then housing the Personnel Office,” Manfred Schlüter said as he thinks back about the good old days.

He was the first civilian to start working at the Component in the spring of 1980 followed by Mr. Wolfgang Weidner and Mr. Jacob Nieuwsma. This milestone was celebrated on 22 June 05 during the annual Civilian Staff Association’s (CSA) barbeque. Special attention was given to Component members retiring, the two with 25 years in NATO and a warm welcome to the newcomers. Component Commander Brig.Gen. Axel Tüttelmann presented the certificates of appreciation to the retirees and those celebrating their anniversary. The CSA chairman, Mr. Peter De Coster, presented the retirees with a golden AWACS pin and the 25th anniversary celebrators with a Frisbee Club dinner check.

25th NATO anniversary
Mr. Manfred Schlüter and Mr. Wolfgang Weidner.
Retirees
Mr. Klement Jaksche, Mr. Robert Goettgens, Mr. Peter Severijns, Mr. Jacob Nieuwsma, Mr. Hans Jansen, Mrs. Joanne DeRemer, Mrs. Anne-Marie Rettkow.

Two of the three NATO civilian pioneers Mr. Manfred Schlüter (left) and Mr. Wolfgang Weidner (second from right) receive the certificate of appreciation for 25 years of faithful service to NATO from Brig.Gen. Axel Tüttelmann. Mr. Jacob Nieuwsma (right), the third pioneer, received the golden AWACS pin upon his retirement after 37 years of loyal NATO service.

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  - Do not use flammable liquids near live coals; an explosion or flash fire could result.
  - Do not use fuel other than the manufacturer's instructions. Always have the source of ignition (e.g., a lighted match) in position before turning the gas. Turn off burner valves and the supply valve on the LP gas cylinder when the grill is not in use.

**Liquid Propane (LP) and other gas grills**
Light the grill according to the manufacturer's instructions. Always have the source of ignition (e.g., a lighted match) in position before turning on the gas. Turn off burner valves and the supply valve on the LP gas cylinder when the grill is not in use.

**Fire safety**
- Do not leave a fire or hot charcoal grills unattended.
- Do not leave a grill unattended while in use.
- Only use barbecue grills outdoors.
- Indoors, they represent a serious fire hazard. Also, they produce toxic gases that can be lethal in enclosed spaces.

**Minimum distances for any outdoor use of fire (for BBQs, etc.) are**
- Buildings (except: designated barbecue shelters) 5 m (15 ft)
- Mowed/dried grass 25 m (75 ft)
- The forest 100 m (300 ft)

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Periodically check all fuel line connections for leaks by coating them with a solution of soapy water and watching for bubbles that indicate leaking gas. If your connections are not tight, have the unit serviced by a qualified specialist.

Never try to fix a malfunctioning propane grill, but have an experienced professional check it.

Never store an LP gas grill indoors.

**Charcoal grills**
The safest fire starters are chemicals in cake form or a charcoal electrical igniter (labeled by a testing laboratory, such as Underwriters Laboratories, Inc. or TÜV-GS). When you have finished with cooking, soak the coals with water. Make sure they are "out" before you leave. Smoldering coals that appear to be "dead" can re-ignite as much as a day later.

Only use barbecue grills outdoors. Indoors, they represent a serious fire hazard. Also, they produce toxic gases that can be lethal in enclosed spaces.

Outdoors, keep barbecue grills away from your facility and from combustibles, such as shrubs, brush, and piles of leaves. Watch fires and hot charcoal grills at all times. Never leave a fire or hot charcoal grill unattended.

**Learn not to burn, all through the year**

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**Civil Guards host 10th International Soccer Tournament**

By A1C Daniel Houben

As in the past ten years, the Civil Guard hosted their annual International Soccer Tournament at the Component.

On 2 July more than 30 teams from the Netherlands and Germany participated. There were a lot of teams from Aachen, Cologne and the area around Geilenkirchen from the Dutch and German side. There were teams like “Swisstaler Kicker 1982” from Cologne, Military Police of the German Army from Hilden and various teams from the Netherlands like GVC’t Stroeatje.

Weather conditions for this event were quite good, even if there was little rain during the day. Games were fair and participants had a lot of fun. Also for the children there was lots of fun with auto-scooters and a bouncy castle.

The teams were divided in four groups with eight teams each group. After this games the two best teams from each group arrived the quarterfinals to go on into half-finals and final games. The winner of the tournament was the team “2V Holz1”, second “Deportivolaca Bremen” and third “Sportsfreunde Boscheln”. Motto for this soccer tournament was Fair Play and so the team “GVC’t Stroeatje” was honored with the Fair Play prize.

The Natex and AAFES sponsored a number of prizes like bicycles and sports equipment for the participants. "We were very lucky about the helpers from the Component and outside who made the tournament a nice, well-organized and big event”, Mr. Hubertus Ackermans from Civil Guard said.

One of the volunteers wins a bicycle.

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**NATO AWACS Team wins International military competition**

By Capt.(Res) Günter Hellmann and A1C Daniel Houben

On 2 July the Component’s Team with four participants started at 0800 for the 22nd International Military Competition IMM in Rheindahlen.

The team leader was Capt. (Res) Günter Hellmann from Medical Squadron. Also part of the team were Capt. Tobias Plaschke from Security Squadron, the team’s woman TSgt. Sandra Dimter and Sgt. Dennis Amian, both from the Medical Squadron.

Forty teams from different countries like Austria, the Netherlands, Belgium, France, Poland and many others started to pass this strenuous International competition with a number of tests. Some of the tests were marching as a team, navigation using maps, sketches and compasses, shooting in the simulator, obstacle crossing, first aid, grenade throwing and more. After seven hours of marching, obstacle crossing and a lot of rain, the Component’s team arrived at the finish line. As result of the physical efforts, the Component’s Team was first from all teams with German active soldiers and also first of all mixed teams with German active soldiers.

And for the first time since the beginning of this competition, the Component’s Team was third of all 40 participating military teams in this strenuous competition.

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**Civil Guards soccer tournament**

**2006 Tournament**

Civil Guards soccer tournament 2006 will be on 3 July. Interested teams and players can call Hub Ackermans as coordinator for this event ext. 4815, or send him an e-mail hackerman@gk.e3a.nato.int

The Natex and AAFES sponsored a number of prizes like bicycles and sports equipment for the participants. "We were very lucky about the helpers from the Component and outside who made the tournament a nice, well-organized and big event”, Mr. Hubertus Ackermans from Civil Guard said.

One of the volunteers wins a bicycle.
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Component member joins Canadian team for Pakistan tournament

By Capt. Robert A. Firman

A member of the Training Wing will be conducting a different kind of “out of area operation” in late July as he travels to Karachi, Pakistan to participate in the second annual World Military Golf Championships sponsored by CISMA, the Conseil International de Sport Militaire.

Capt. Cameron Lowdon, a Fighter Allocator assigned to Training Wing Training & Development Branch, will be representing Canada for the ninth time in this prestigious international event, which brings together ten countries from around the world to compete in a competitive, yet friendly, three-day tournament from 25 to 30 July 05.

The first World Championships were held in 2003 at NAS Jacksonville, Florida and the Canadian team with Capt. Lowdon as a member finished with a silver-medal, trailing only the United States All-Service team. The U.S. team will not be competing at this year’s event.

Capt. Lowdon says that with the traditionally strong U.S. team not participating, the race for the gold medal will be wide open for this tournament.

According to Lowdon, “CISM is the world’s second largest sporting organization, trailing only the International Olympic Committee in scope and size. Golf is relatively new to CISM but is expanding in interest and hopefully will remain strong in the future.”

Lowdon added that the motto of CISM is “friendship through sports.”

“This year’s participating countries will certainly lend credence to that statement with Canada, Ireland, South Africa Switzerland, Argentina, Thailand, Pakistan and India confirmed to play. That is certainly about as wide a range of countries as you can ask for at a tournament like this.”

Lowdon also says that friendships fostered at tournaments like this are returned to the respective countries and support closer relations between the military members of the various countries.

To prepare for the heat and humidity in Karachi, a climate not normally found in Canada, the team will acclimatize in Thailand for a week prior to the event.

Who can join?
Open to all children age 6-19 of civilian or military personnel supporting the NATO mission at Geilenkirchen, JFC HQ Brunsum, Schinnen, and a limited percentage of children living on the economy are eligible.

Swimmers must be able to swim a minimum of 25 metres of a recognized competitive stroke before he/she can be accepted on the team. Acceptance of swimmer is subject to a professional assessment of the coaching staff during the first two weeks of the season. Parents and swimmers will be informed during the third week of the season if the swimmer is invited to be on the team. Late subscribers will be assessed within one week after registration.

Cost is €180 first child, €160 second child, €100 third child. For further information contact: Millie Huard at +31.45.526.2334 or demeyer_j@yahoo.com

European Forces Swim League Website: http://swimfuls.ritanet.nl

Sports Day 2005 final results

Overall results of the team competition contest

<table>
<thead>
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<th>Place</th>
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Results of individual team events

Basketball: 470th ABS
Softball: IT - Ops Wing
Soccer: HQ Bayern
Volleyball: NS Danish
Tug of War: Services Squadron
Badminton: Hans Grijnabch
Golf competition: Andy Grubbe
Archery: Marc Kouchen
Pistol: Michael Fabiszewski

Bench press competition

Women
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Men
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15 July 2005 NATO Skywatch 13

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