

#### Exceptional and remarkable service medal for Mr. Hyde

By SMSgt. Johan Hijmenberg

A very special medal, the NATO Meritorious Service Medal, approved by the Secretary General himself, was handed out on 13 December 2004 by E-3A Component commander Brig. Gen. Axel R. Tüttelmann to Mr. Robert Hyde for an outstanding job performance. The North Atlantic Council established the medal in 2003 to award military and civilian personnel who have been commended for providing exceptional or remarkable service to NATO.

Mr. Hyde, who since June 2001 has served as Administrator, Logistics Plans & Management Division, has provided exceptional and remarkable service to NATO by managing 16 international military and civilian personnel, a €45 million Operational & Support budget, and €1.8 billion in modernization programs for 17 E-3A aircraft.

According the medal citation, "With his human resource management skills, unmatched in the wing, Mr. Hyde possesses a rich balance of diplomacy, tact, and directness everyone appreciates.



The NATO Meritorious Service Medal is made of metal in silver and bears on the obverse the NATO star set in a wreath of olive leaves, on the reverse the words "in service of peace and freedom". It's suspended from blue and white ribbons and shows gold and silver threads.

His foresight was key in developing a combined Aircraft Maintenance squadron to maximize use of wing facilities, personnel, and equipment with the Component's new Peacetime Establishment structure, eliminating 79 military and civilian manning overages.'



Mr. Robert Hyde receives the NATO Meritorious Service Medal for outstanding job performance from E-3A Component commander Brig. Gen. Axel R. Tüttelmann.

Photo Andrea Hohenforst

Additionally, in January 2002, his dedication to wing excellence led Mr. Hyde to establish a new overtime tracking system and, for the first time he secured 30 temporary hire personnel to fill essential positions within the Logistics Wing until

permanent fills could be made.

As well he showed outstanding leadership during the preparation end execution of the OPEVAL and is a critical element of the Logistics Wing staff.



#### End of year message

by NATO Secretary General, Jaap de Hoop Scheffer

It's time to look back over the past year. It has been a good year for NATO, I think.

We brought seven new democracies into the Alliance. We brought more security to Afghanistan and helped their democracy to grow. We successfully concluded the SFOR Operation in Bosnia-Herzegovina and helped to keep the peace in Kosovo.

We defended against terrorism in the Mediterranean and we began helping Iraq and the Iraqi people to train and equip their Forces. And, last but not least, we began building stronger relations with countries to

the south including in the Mediterranean region and the Gulf.

So I think in all, in 2004, NATO did its job to help bring greater peace, greater security to the Euro-Atlantic community and beyond, and we will do more in 2005. Usually it is presidents, prime ministers and secretaries general who make the evening news but the people doing the most difficult and dangerous part of NATO's work are the men and women in the field—military and civilian.

So let me, on behalf on the Alliance and personally, thank them for their contribution. And I would also like to thank their families and loved ones who support them while they are in the field and who are carrying the burden while they are gone.

You should know that your efforts and your sacrifices are greatly appreciated and you're also making a difference and for all that, NATO thanks you. And to all of you reading this message let me wish you, on behalf of NATO, a safe and secure 2005.



ISAF Quick Reaction Forces evacuate a wounded colleague in Afghanistan.

Photo NATO

#### NATO celebrates 10th anniversary of Mediterranean Dialogue

A historical meeting of NATO Foreign Ministers and their counterparts from the Mediterranean Dialogue countries on 8 December in Brussels celebrated 10 years of the security Dialogue.

This was the first ever meeting at Ministerial level between NATO and Mediterranean countries and reflects their mutual desire to enhance the political and practical dimensions of

the Mediterranean Dialogue.
Launched by the Foreign Ministers of the Alliance in December 1994,
NATO's Mediterranean Dialogue has successfully contributed to achieving a better mutual understanding, building confidence and cooperation between NATO and its seven Mediterranean partners: Algeria, Egypt, Israel, Jordan, Mauritania, Morocco and Tunisia.

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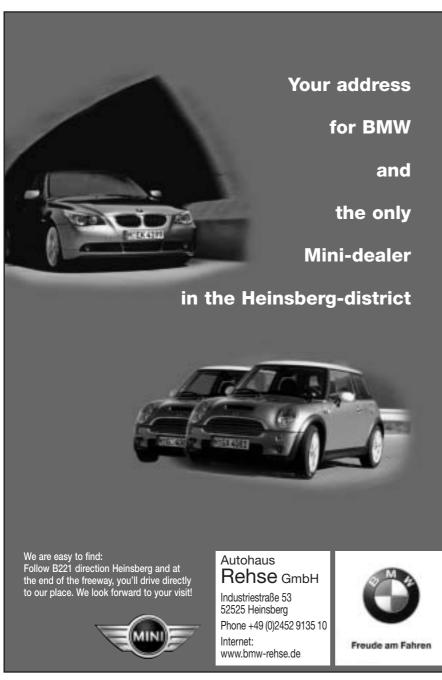
Next NATO Skywatch: 28 January Submissions due by: 20 January

Also in this issue:

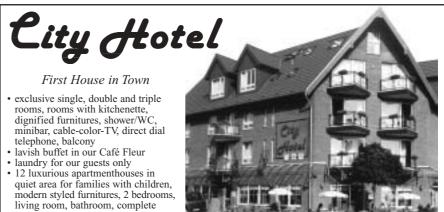
**St. Jozef children's home receives bikes, toys**See page 4.

2004 German sports award

See page 6.







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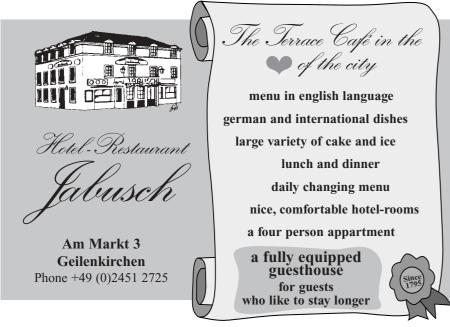
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#### **NATO**

#### **Continued from front page**

"Against this backdrop, it was only logical to set the bar higher and farther," said NATO Secretary General Jaap De Hoop Scheffer at the opening of the meeting.

#### Deepening the dialogue

At the working dinner, the Ministers discussed the follow-up to the decisions adopted by NATO Heads of State and Government at the June Istanbul Summit. They agreed to take the next step: from Dialogue to real, practical partnership.

The expanded and broader framework for the Mediterranean Dialogue will be achieved through enhanced cooperation in a number of practical areas such as: combating terrorism via effective intelligence sharing and maritime cooperation including in the framework of Operation Active Endeavour; contributing to the Alliance's work on threats posed by weapons of mass destruction and their means of delivery; promoting cooperation in areas where NATO can add value like, for example, in the field of border security.

"This is about finding practical ways of working together. Of sharing intelligence, of increasing the interoperability of our forces. Of the possibility for Mediterranean Dialogue partners of support Operation Active Endeavour in the Mediterranean, if they so wish," Mr. De Hoop Scheffer said during a press conference after the dinner.

#### **In Memoriam**

It is with deep regret that the NAEW&CF E-3A Component announces the death of Mr. Leonardus Bohnen, who

died on 16 December 2004 at the age of 59 after an illness.

Mr. Bohnen had been employed with the Component since 1 October 1981 as a Vehicle Maintenance Specialist at the Motorpool Squadron, Base Support Wing. He had established himself here as a very reliable and responsible member of the NATO community.

Mr. Bohnen was a dear colleague and his dedication to his work will be remembered by all who had the privilege of working with him.

Mr. Bohnen is survived by his wife Lia, his daughter Marlou and his son Ralph to whom the Component extends its sincere condolences.

Axel R. Tüttelmann Brig. Gen. GEAF Commander, NAEW&CF E-3A Component

#### COMMANDER'S

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To the members the E-3A Componen



#### **Thank You for Supporting Component Disaster Relief Effort**

I'm writing to express my heartfelt thanks for your support to our recent fundraising effort. All of us were deeply moved by the suffering and destruction in the regions around the Indian Ocean affected by the tsunami. Your contributions clearly reflect compassion and a willingness to help.

This effort was certainly not your only means of donating and many of you have contributed in a variety of ways, to a variety of organizations. Nonetheless, as of Tuesday this week, we were able to raise over 14,000 Euros through the Component fund for

UNICEF, a remarkable effort. UNICEF, the United Nations Children's Fund, has hundreds of personnel working now in the region to provide affected children with essential care including provision of shelter, food, water and medicine.

According to some recent reports, children accounted for as much as one third of the deaths in the region. Many more have been left homeless and orphaned. UNICEF is working to ensure these children are placed in the homes of surviving relatives, given other shelter when necessary, and that they are provided basic care.

In the face of such an enormous disaster, it is natural for individuals to

feel powerless to help. However, as a team we have raised a considerable sum that will doubtless make a difference at least for some.

This is the same spirit of teamwork the E-3A Component has always been known for. Let us continue to work so well together in the future!



#### Indian Ocean Tsunami Wreaks Havoc

#### **Eyewitness accounts compiled from Internet sources**

"When the first wave came in, we were happy that we were seeing something that was really strange, but it was a very mild wave. Then the sea receded back, and we didn't know what that meant. It was like someone had pulled the plug on the ocean, and crags and outcroppings of rock inside the sea were visible for the first time in years.

"We just watched it, and I was taking photographs of it. Then came this massive wall of water. What did I do? I just sat and watched it. I just watched it and watched it

as it came in – it took maybe four seconds from the point when I was aware of it to the point when it hit the hotel."

"And this thing blasted through. I heard windows just bursting, not breaking, but bursting. It's a very special sound. It was like a movie. I just watched the whole thing. I watched it go – I watched it take so much away. I saw so much life terminating, that *I was seriously wondering what was more* difficult – whether to live watching death, or just to die."

"The door was suddenly pushed inwards by the force of water and I ran into the shower area at the back of the cabana hut. But the building collapsed, trapping me underwater. I am not sure how long I was under there for, maybe 30 seconds. I said my goodbyes. But somehow my head popped up to the surface. I was determined to live after that. I found myself in a raging torrent of water. But after a while I realized palm trees were holding back the bulk of the water."

#### **In Memoriam**

It is with great sadness that we must announce the death of one of our former long serving colleague, Mr René Houtman, as a

result of illness on 9 January 2005.

René, having been assigned as a member of the NLAF to SHAPE, Joined the international NATO Civilian personnel in 1972 when he took up employment with NATO HQ in Brussels as a Chief Clerk in the Registry for

Layout

Political and Economic Affairs. In 1975 he transferred to the AWACS Programme Office as Head of the Registry and Technical Library and in 1977 he moved back to SHAPE as a Chief Clerk in the Payroll Section of the Civilian Personnel Branch, beginning his career in personnel management. On 1 September 1980 he transferred to the E-3A Component as Principal Assistant (Personnel) and head of the Payroll Office, his post later being upgraded to that of Administrator, grade A2. Being one of the earliest members of the E-3A Component he contributed in establishing a new Headquarters which was not like any previously seen by the Organisation and he was extremely well

known and respected by the NATO Civilian staff. In 1998 René transferred from the Civilian Personnel Branch to the Manpower Management Branch where he had to learn a very different aspect of Personnel Management which related to posts and not people. He transitioned into this new role with ease and quickly became a valuable member of the E-3A Component's manpower team.

René left the E-3A Component on 31 August 2002 when his health prevented him from continuing to work.

The Component extends condolences to his two children, Daphne and Tom, and their families and to his fiancé, Hannie.



Volume 21, No. 1

14 January 2005

**Commander** Brig. Gen. Axel R. Tüttelmann Chief, Public Information Office Capt. Robert A. Firman **Editor** SMSgt. Johan Hijmenberg Maureen Geraets-Head

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# Airbase Canadians help local charity organization

Text and photo Capt. Gareth Carter

We all know that Christmas is a time for giving, and for Canadian Forces members stationed at NATO Air Base Geilenkirchen, it's a time to give to those less fortunate.

For two years now, Cpl Claude Mourez, an aircraft maintainer technician in the AWACS maintenance division, and Cathy Cummings, a retired Sergeant instrument and electrics technician now working as a NATO maintainer, have teamed up to help the Caritas organization in the local area.

Caritas, a service organization run by the German Catholic church, sets up facilities for local children up to the age of 18 who may be troubled, battered or are unable to live at home for a variety of reasons.

This year, the manager of the NATEX sports store donated 15 second-hand bikes, from which volunteers from the Canadian Bicycle Club fixed up into nine working bikes. Mr Bill Thomson, president of NATEX, donated €150, which was used towards bike parts and donated gifts. The fixed-up bikes were then donated to the local St Josefs Childrens Home (Kinderdorf). St Josefs is home to just over a hundred children aged from under ten to eighteen.

Mr. Karl-Ernst Dahmen, the district manager for Caritas' Heinsberg region's twelve facilities was there to greet the bikes that were dropped off just before Christmas.

"These bikes are a wonderful gift" said Dahmen. "It's very hard to get bikes for the children and they have no way to buy their own".

Mr. Martin Fester, director for six of the twelve local facilities points out that kids are kids and when the home's current bikes sometimes come home broken, "nobody saw anything and we have a broken bike that we can't get fixed".

Some of the money donated by Natex will also go towards buying bike helmets to keep some young German heads safe.

But the giving doesn't stop at just a few bikes. Cummings and Mourez set up a small-change donation jar in the canteen of the hangar in which they work. One, three and five Eurocent pieces soon added up to €108 and with what remained of the Natex money, they bought another regional Caritas residence for younger women aged 12-18 a waffle iron and a new VCR that replaces the one in the home that recently broke.



A grateful Mr. Martin Fester (left) from St Josefs Childrens Home, Cpl Claude Mourez and Mrs. Cathy Cummings with the donated bikes.

# CSA Special Carnival Dinner Dance Night

The Civilian Staff Association invites all members and E-3A Component members and their guests to the ultimate party of the year 2005 to the 'CSA Special Carnival Dinner Dance Night' at the Officers' Club on Friday, 28 January at 1800. Carnival dress is highly desirable. As a tradition, the best costumes (male and female) will be awarded a prize during the evening.

The evening will start at 1800 with a complimentary cocktail and Carnival Music pur from Cologne with the group 'Solala', which will bring us into the right Carnival spirit. As of 1900, the 'Struwelpeter' Show band from Bavaria will play great International Dancing Music including some Carnival Music for you until at least 0200.

During the evening the 'Stolberg-Donnerberg Showdance Group', 'De Wenkbuelle' will visit us and perform. As a highlight from the Aachener Carnival TV show, the singing Underwear Salesman 'Guido Hoss' will entertain us and at approx. 2400 the 'Aachener Karnavalsgarde with Prinz Karneval von Bad Aachen, Dirk III' will enter the ball room as our special guests.

Tickets, guests too, €30 each; CSA members will receive two tickets for a CSA subsidized price of €25 each. The ticket includes an excellent international cold/warm buffet, which commences at approx. 1930, and also included are 3 bottles of wine per table of 12 people.

Special note: You and your guests must be identifiable at the Main Gate when entering the base, and should not be in possession of any toy weapons.

# Mandatory proof of identity in the Netherlands

Effective 1 January, proof of personal identity will be mandatory in the Netherlands for all persons aged 14 years or older. This law is being implemented to enhance the lawenforcement agencies' ability to combat crime and antisocial behaviour.

If you are a resident in the Netherlands you must provide proof of your identity at the request of any member of the Dutch police, the military police (Marechaussee), the customs authority or any other lawenforcement agency. You must do this by showing any of the following documents:

- A valid passport or personal identity card issued by a EU member state.
- A valid Dutch driving licence.
- A valid NL residence permit.

If you reside outside The Netherlands you must carry a valid passport or personal identity card or residence permit issued by a EU member state: this is already a requirement. Until now, in some countries children up to the age of 16 years could be entered in their parents' passports, but under the new regulations any child of 14 years or older must personally carry his/her

passport or an identity card or residence permit issued by an EU member state. This law also applies to children who attend the AFNORTH International School in Brunssum.

Proof of identity by NATO military personnel, whether stationed in the Netherlands or not. The Status of Forces Agreement specifies that a military ID card is sufficient means of identification for NATO military personnel in the country in which they are stationed. However, if they are travelling on official duty inside or outside that country, they must also carry a movement order. If they are travelling for private reasons (i.e. outside the country they are stationed in, and without a movement order), they must carry a valid passport or personal identity card issued by a EU member state.

If you are unable to show any of the mandatory documents, it is possible that you will be taken elsewhere for further investigation. Depending on individual circumstances, you can expect to be fined from €50 (juvenile €25) to €2,250. For information contact IMP, ext. 4820.

# Camille B. Lockhart No 68 distributes playthings

By Loretta Taylor

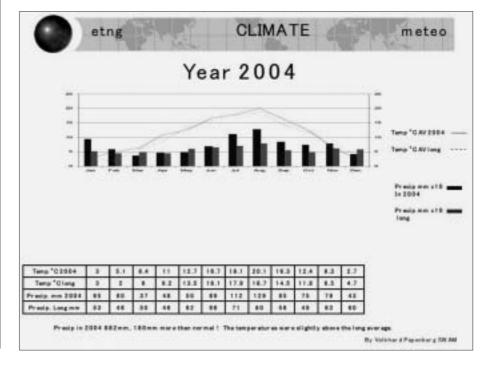
On 21 December, Camille B. Lockhart presented games and toys to St. Josef Kinderdorf, Dalheim, Germany. Most of the gifts were donations made from the Tri-border community. This is the season for giving, and to be able to give to someone less fortunate is a great feeling. The children of St. Josef were not only surprised to receive many gifts but were very grateful too.

We, the Camille B. Lockhart No 68 would like to send out many thanks for making this event such a great success. First to the ladies of the American Spouses club of the Netherlands, many thanks for their contribution, to the Triborder community for pulling together and contributing many of the toys received.

Special thanks to Mrs. Elke Mahr of the Services Squadron, for her time and for being our translator. Without her help the communication would have been difficult.

To our sisters and brothers of CBL, a job well done, this is just the beginning for us, keep up the good work and remember it is better to give then to receive.

Camille B. Lockhart is one of many chapters belonging to the Order of the Eastern Star, which is the largest fraternal organization in the world to which both men and women may belong. It is a social order of members with sincere and purposeful objectives.





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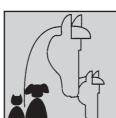
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### German Sports Award Winners 2004

On 8 December, at the E-3A Component Officers' Club, the Base Support Wing Commander, Col. Reinhard Mack, presented the German Sports Award to thirteen Component members.

Mrs. Gaby Kouchen (GE), SWPT, successfully completed the requirements for the first time and was awarded the bronze pin, patch and certificate. TSgt. Carsten Mengler (GE), SWPH, received the bronze award for the second time.

The gold award was presented to MSgt. Tanja Kaczmarzyk (GE), NSGEM, 1Lt Lutz Paikert (GE), OW3PC, and Jan Kompagne (NL), LWAMN, for the fifth time; to Mr. Werner Titlbach (GE), SWPJ, and Mrs. Brigitte Redgwell (GE), SWCL, for the sixth time; to Mrs. Carol John (UK), SWPC, Mrs Anne-Marie Rettkow (NL), SWCA, TSgt. Sandra Dimter (GE), NSGEM and 1Lt Marc Solle (GE), TWTD, for the eighth time; to Major Siegfried Czorny (GE), SWAT, for the sixteenth time and to SMSgt Claus Cohnen (GE), NSGE, for the twenty-second time.

If you are interested in joining the above winners and competing to receive one of these awards, the

following information will help:

The 'Deutsches Sportabzeichen', a programme promoted by the Deutscher Sportbund (DSB) is an annual test for men and women to assess their general overall fitness within five different categories. It is open to all nationalities. Individuals have several choices of events within the categories, but basically they must achieve satisfactory results in swimming, throwing, jumping, a long distance run and a fast run (sprint), based on their age and sex. The only category without an option is the 200-metres swim which all must complete.

The times, distances, etc. needed to certify for the award are demanding, but can be achieved by the average person with some training. One calendar year (January – December) is available in which to complete the requirements. Individuals that successfully achieve the DSB award requirements will receive a bronze pin and patch for their first and second year achievements, silver for their third and fourth year and gold for their fifth year on.

For more information, practice and certification, please contact Fritz Stelten, Sports Department, Bldg. 206, ext. 4920 or per E-Mail.



The award winners with their new certificates.

Photo Andrea Hohenforst

#### 2004 German Sports Award results

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GE GE GE GE GE	IWNIS SWPT OW3TM LWSFO
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#### Volkshochschule Language Courses

The winter-spring session of Volkshochschule language courses is starting the week of 17 January. Classes are held in Bldg 141. Basic price: €84 for 30 mornings/evenings. Registration in class. Further information at ext. 4954. The following courses are offered:

#### German, Room 118, Basic Level I

**Beginners** – intensive courses, Book 1, Lesson 1, Mon & Wed, 1145–1315, instructor Annemie Schindler; Tue & Thu, 1900–2030, instructor Christine Mertens.

**Advanced** – intensive courses, Book 1, Mon & Wed, 0830 – 1000, instructor Annemie Schindler, starting with lesson 6; Mon & Wed, 1900 – 2030, instructor Christine Mertens, starting with lesson 5; Tue & Thu, 1730 – 1900, instructor Christine Mertens, starting with lesson 5.

#### **Basic Level II - Intensive Courses**

Book 2, Mon & Wed, 1000 – 1130, instructor Annemie Schindler, starting with lesson 1; Tue & Thu, 1000 – 1130, instructor Annemie Schindler, starting with lesson 6; Mon & Wed, 1730 – 1900, instructor Christine Mertens, starting with lesson 5.

#### **Certificate Level - Intensive Courses**

Book 3, Tue & Thu, 0830 – 1000, instructor Annemie Schindler, starting with lesson 6. This course directly prepares you for the Zertifikat Deutsch, an internationally acknowledged degree. You will have the opportunity to take this exam.

#### **English, Room 109, Basic Level I Beginners** – Intensive Course, Book 1, Lesson 6

Tue & Thu, 0830 – 1000, instructor Karen Branco.

#### **Intermediate Conversation Class**

Intensive Course Tue & Thu, 1000 – 1130, instructor Karen Branco. Improve your communication skills, grammar and vocabulary. Texts will be provided.

#### **Advanced Conversation Class**

Intensive Course Mon & Wed, 1000 – 1130, instructor Karen Branco. Increase your fluency by discussing current topics and interesting texts.

# Winners IYA Christmas colouring contest

The prizes for the IYA Christmas colouring contest were awarded at the IYA Christmas Party on 15 December. Again young artists of many different nationalities participated, and submitted beautiful pictures. These are the winners:

Ages 3 – 5: 1st place: Giuliana Fraschetti, 5, IT, and Justin Clayborne, 3, US 3rd place: Riccardo Oliva, 5, IT

Ages 6 – 8: 1st place: Christoffer Hansen, 8, DA 2nd place: Erdinc Kavas, 8, TU 3rd place: Azza El Mahdi, 8, AT, and Furkan Akkaya, 8, TU

Ages 9 – 12: 1st place: Victoria Griffith, 11, US 2nd place: Silvia Rao, 12, IT 3rd place: Jordan Rogers, 10, US, and Anna Maria Penton, 11, US

Congratulations!

#### Vacancy announcement

Applications are invited for the following two posts:

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Closing date is 19 January 2005.

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

#### Note:

Only applications of qualified personnel will be considered.

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