

Canadian Ambassador to NATO visits Component

Text and photo by Capt. Gareth Carter

On 3 March, Ambassador Jean-Pierre Juneau, Canada's Ambassador and Permanent Representative to the North Atlantic Council paid a visit to the component from Brussels. Accompanying him was Canadian Forces Vice Admiral Glenn Davidson, Canadian Military Representative to NATO.

Both visitors had the opportunity to sit down with the senior leadership of the Canadian Contingent and discuss issues such as Canada's role in NATO today and for the future and the focus of the NATO Board of Directors.

After the Canadian meeting, the VIPs paid a courtesy call to the Component Commander, Brig. Gen. Tüttelmann.

The trip was highlighted with Ambassador Juneau and VAdm Davidson going on a short AWACS flight with Flying Squadron Two.

On board, VAdm. Davidson remarked that the NATO Component is a "model [of cooperation] for the rest of the NATO organization". He further commented on the component's ability to integrate thirteen participating

nations into an effective operational team.

Ambassador Juneau echoed that sentiment saying that the component was an excellent example in cooperation to the rest of the NATO nations. When asked about the difference between what was the old perception of NATO and the role of NATO today, he drew from the old Cold War Image. "NATO used to be an organization waiting for something to happen with the old Soviet Union. Today we are training partners". He also commented on how Canada can be favorably compared to any of the NATO nations in this new viewpoint.

After the flight the Ambassador and the Admiral joined the CC-NAEWF members and spouses at an informal reception at the Officers Club. Here, both the Ambassador and the Admiral thanked those present for the hard work and support that the Canadian Contingent plays in the everyday operations that makes up NATO AWACS.

Ambassador Juneau concluded his address with the following comments: "We hear from time to time, 'does NATO have a future?' Now, more than ever, people are more committed to the new NATO".



Ambassador Jean-Pierre Juneau (left) and Vice Admiral Glenn Davidson expressed their thanks for the support of the family members of the Canadian Contingent that normally remain behind the scenes but require recognition nonetheless.

Springtime - Triptime IYA goes to Phantasialand

Text and photo by A1C Daniel Houben

As part of the Spring Break program, the International Youth Activities (IYA) went to Phantasialand on 30 March with a group of 50 kids and adults leaving the base at 08:00 hours in the morning.

This was not IYA's first trip to Phantasialand, every year they go there twice, first in the Spring and a second time during the hot summer months.

After a one hour and fifteen minutes bus-tour to Cologne-Brühl, the weather was not as nice as everybody hoped, but it didn't rain like in Geilenkirchen, so the kids were happy.




One of the Phantasialand mascots joking with the youth in the park's China town section.

Upon arrival, they were divided in groups of three to seven kids with at least one adult for each group so they could enjoy the attractions in the park.


Not only the attractions like "Roller coaster", "River Quest", "Freefall tower" and other rides were well visited by the kids, there were also nice shows, like "Beat of the Bronx" and "Unforgettable", a musical on ice.

The bad weather on this Wednesday had one advantage: The waiting time was really short for every attraction, so that at least after 10 minutes everyone was sitting in a wagon of a Roller coaster, or sitting in a boat, or somewhere else. For the adults it was sometimes hard to keep up with the enthusiastic children running from one to the next attraction.

For the children it was a nice trip with lots of fun and they're waiting for the next events planned by the IYA for the summer.





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Freude am Fahren



On behalf of all staff members and former staff members
of the NATO Airborne Early Warning and
Control Programme Management Agency,
we mourn the passing of

+

**Brigadier General (GEAF)
Lothar Dietmar Amme**

Who died on 25 March 2005
after a long period of severe illness.

In deep respect for Gen. Amme and in sincere appreciation
for his leadership on the NATO AWACS Programme,
we will keep him in lasting remembrance.

Our sympathies are with his family
and those who were close to him.

Clark Wigley
Deputy General Manager

Dietmar Weidenfeller
*Chairman of the
NAPMA Staff Association*

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In Memoriam



It is with deep regret that the NAEW & CF E-3A Component announces the sudden death of Master Sergeant. Teddy Holzer, GEAF, on 22 March 2005 at the age of 32.

MSgt. Teddy Holzer was a valued member of the Information Technology Wing, where he had worked since 13 August 2001. He started in the Configuration Control Branch as an assistant data base administrator and later changed to the Radar Software Branch as a programmer. He had established himself as a very reliable and responsible member of the NATO community. His supervisors and colleagues always regarded him as an honest and straightforward man who was hard working and dedicated to his duties.

MSgt. Holzer being respected and liked by everybody was always willing to help his colleagues and many friends. Everyone who had the pleasure of knowing him and working with him will sorely miss him.

The Component extends its sincere condolences to his family.

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



A memorial service was held on 1 April 05 at the E-3A Component.
Photo by MSgt. Mark Boggess

Component hosts memorial for General Manager

Brigadier General (GEAF) Lothar D. Amme was born on 21 Nov 1947 in Luedenscheid, Germany.

He joined the German Air Force on 3 Jan 1967. After officers training he received further training as SAM and Intercept Controller and served several years in the Signal Regiment 33, becoming a Master Controller in 1972.

From 1979 to 1981 he joined the 24th course for General Staff Officers at the German Federal Armed Forces Command and Staff College in Hamburg. There he wrote a study on "The Air Defence in Germany in view of the future ACCS Programme and NATO Airborne Early Warning".

The following years were filled with various national and international positions, (Div Head A6 at 1st Air Division in Messstetten, Senior Planning Officer at the ACCS-Team in Brussels and CIS expert/Deputy Branch Chief at the German Air Force Staff).

One of the most challenging positions was in 1990 as Commanding Officer of the Tactical Air Control

Battalion 23, CRC Lauda.

He was promoted to the rank of Colonel in 1993, being the Section Chief of the CIS Division at SHAPE in Belgium.

After that period he served at the German Armed Forces Staff, MOD Bonn, as Branch Chief for all policy aspects of CIS for the GAF and all NATO CIS aspects including tasking authority for the German representatives to the NC3 Board and sub-structure.

In 1998 he became Chief of Staff of the GAF Tactical Command South in Messstetten and from there he moved again to Cologne as Commander of the GEAF Communications and Information System Command. During this time he was promoted to Brigadier General. As CO, he was responsible for the re-organization and finally dis-establishment of the Command at the end of his tour of duty.

In 2001 he was called to Berlin as Deputy Commander of the 3rd GEAF Air Division where he was directly involved in the implementation of the

new GEAF structure No 5. On 1 April 2003 he took over the position as General Manager of the NATO Airborne Early Warning and Control Programme Management Agency (NAPMA) in Brunssum, the Netherlands, where he wholeheartedly supported the transition phase of the NATO AWACS fleet to cover future operational needs. He also was actively engaged in the accession of new NATO countries into the AWACS family.

Brigadier General Lothar D. Amme died on 25 Mar 2005, after a long period of severe illness.

The German Minister of Defence honoured his capacity and achievements with the German Armed Forces Cross of Honour, in Silver and Gold.

The German Air Force and NAPMA lost an excellent officer with great vision, a true leader, a good comrade and a dedicated friend.

(Courtesy NAPMA)

Hellenic Independence Day



Photo courtesy Greek NSU

Every year Greece celebrates the independence gained on 25 March 1821. Greeks after four hundred years of occupation upraised under the motto "Freedom" or "Death" and the genuine desire for independence and human dignity. After seven years of fighting the Greeks finally re-established democracy and their rights to their homeland.

The E-3A Component Greek community celebrated the Hellenic Independence Day on 17 March. A Te Deum took place at the base Chapel, followed by a reception at the Officer's Club.

Amongst the guests were the Greek General Consul in Köln, the Orthodox Bishop of Aachen and members of the German-Greek communities of Aachen and Heinsberg and military authorities in Belgium, The Netherlands and Germany also attended the reception.



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Commander
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Orcas hand out 2004-05 awards

By Mr. Yves Aubuchon, Orcas President

The Orcas international swim team held their traditional end of the year award banquet on 12 March at the Frisbee Club, where more than 120 swimmers, families, and friends were present. The 18th anniversary banquet's primary goal was to award the club swimmers for their performances and achievements throughout the 2004-05 competitive season.

The season started in August 2004 for training three nights a week under the head coach leadership of Jes Sutton assisted by Joyce Clement and Michel Driessen together with a few volunteer parents. The team has hosted swim meet contests at their home pool, and has travelled to Kaiserslautern; Heidelberg; Rota, Spain; Stuttgart, SHAPE, Brussels and Munich for away competitions.

The Orcas hosted the teams from Berlin, Wiesbaden and Stuttgart to compete for the Rhineland Divisional Championship at the JFC HQ Brunssum pool last January. The Orcas took the second place, behind Berlin.

The European Forces Swim League (EFSL) 2004-05 season championship was held at the Munich Olympic pool in February where 24 swimmers from the Orcas qualified to participate. About half came back as medallists.

High Point Award

These awards are based on the total number of individual points earned by the swimmers who place in EFSL meets. Individual points are earned by meet placement, practice participation and meet participation. Presented to the boy and girl in each age group and to the boy and girl who earned the most points overall. Overall high point swimmer boy: Bob Driessen; girl: Marie-Pier Aubuchon.

Most Improved Award

This award will be based upon progression through time standards established by the ORCAS, awarding points for each accomplishment and determining winners by total point improvement. Awarded to a boy and girl in each age group and one to the

overall most improved boy and girl on the entire team. Overall most improved swimmer boy: Joel Huard; girl: Christine Solheim.

Outstanding Award

These awards go to the 8 & under swimmer (based on the total performance) and overall outstanding boy and girl who provide the greatest contribution to the team (determined by the head coach and the President) and attain the highest swimming standards. Outstanding 8 & under swimmer: Jamie Tomaszewski. Overall outstanding swimmer Girl: Marie-Pier Aubuchon; boy: Bob Driessen.

Lots of other presentations and awards were passed on that night! The Orcas, throughout the year run a Yearly Swim-O-Thon to raise money to help finance the club and to give half of its recipes to charity. This year two checks of three hundred Euros were presented to a German and a Dutch school for disabled children. Since an organization like this cannot exist without parents' support, a volunteer award presentation was on the program. Among all of those who received gifts (flowers, bottles of wine, small trophies), two important trophies were given. John & Deb Kelley were the recipients of the Parents of the Year Trophy, and Jean-Pol DeMeyer received the Founders Trophy.

The Orcas Executive Committee has undertaken a two-year commitment toward the EFSL as they accepted to take the lead in organizing the EFSL Munich Championship for the year 2006-07. This involves the team taking the EFSL Vice-presidency for the year 2005-06 and, thereafter, the Presidency for the year 2006-07.

The Orcas resumed their 10-week spring training program on 5 April at the JFC HQ Brunssum. The fees for the newcomers will be €50 per swimmer and for the swimmers who registered in the last competitive season will be €20. The 2005-06 competitive season will start on 23 August.



The Orcas 2004-05 team.
Photo courtesy Orcas president

Children's Festival



The 17th Children's Festival, organized by the Turkish Support Unit, will take place on 17 April at the Component's Astra Theatre from 1400 to 1700. An E-3A aircraft can be visited from 1200-1400.

Folk dance shows, children's chorus, jugglers and clowns take care for an enjoyable atmosphere. Also face painting is on the programme.

Refreshments and sandwiches are available and a free t-shirt can be taken home. During the afternoon the result of the painting contest will be announced.

AWACS supports Club of Madrid

By Mr. Jos Huntjens

On 9 March an E-3A and a TCA with maintenance crew were deployed to Zaragoza, Spain, as alert backup for the International Summit on Democracy, Terrorism and Security organized by the Club of Madrid. This Madrid summit was about the Global Strategy for Fighting Terrorism as announced by the Secretary General of the United Nations.

After a short flight of about two hours we landed at Zaragoza Air Force Base, Spain. The pallets with spare parts; tools, equipment and our luggage were unloaded in a small hangar belonging to fighter squadron ALU 15, Wing 15, who was our host for the period.

In the past, from 1957 until 1992, the base was divided in two parts; one Spanish, the other American. After 1992, the U.S. withdrew from Zaragoza AFB. Zaragoza AFB is also

used by NASA as an alternate recovery airfield for the space shuttle when it returns from orbit.

The flight crew from Squadron One and the maintenance crew were spread out over two hotels in the Centrum of Zaragoza. The maintenance crew was flown back on 11 March after the end of the Summit. Squadron One flight crew stayed another week, participating in an exercise together with the Spanish Air Force.

The four-day international conference in Madrid ended Friday after marking the one-year anniversary of the 11 March Al-Qaida train bombings in the capital that killed 191 people and wounded more than 1,500. It was attended by former heads of state and experts from some 50 countries and produced the 'Madrid Agenda', designed to help shape and coordinate world's counter terrorism efforts.

Make a trip

Keukenhof is a surprising and inspiring garden

Keukenhof in The Netherlands has been an exciting destination for visitors from all over the world for 56 years. Keukenhof's magnificent display of colour, created by more than 7 million tulips and other bulbs in bloom, gives you that springtime feeling and lifts your spirits. Part of the park has been redesigned for 2005.

Surprising and inspiring – brimming with ideas, trends and features that you can apply in your own garden. It's an experience you will never forget. Keukenhof is for young and old, gardening enthusiasts and people who just want a pleasant day out. More and more people are looking for fun and a pleasant atmosphere in a magnificent park setting. A holiday in which they can take the most beautiful photos.

History

The area now occupied by Keukenhof was covered in forests and unspoiled sand dunes in the 15th century, when the land belonged to Jacoba van Beieren. People hunted here and came to gather herbs for the castle kitchen, which explains how the area got its

name. Keukenhof can be translated as kitchen garden. Around 1830, the landscape architect Zocher was invited to design a garden. He was inspired by the English style of landscaping and he designed the basis for the present park.

Flower exhibition

The idea of holding an open-air exhibition of flowers as a shop window for the bulb industry originated in 1949 with a group of flower bulb growers and exporters. These 'Royal Warrant Holders', numbering 90 in total, make sure that the best and most beautiful flowers are exhibited, making this a display case for ornamental plant cultivation and flower bulbs in particular. The year 2005 is the 56th time the largest spring flower exhibition in the world will be organized.

Accessibility

The Keukenhof is located in the bulb-growing area between Amsterdam and The Hague. In and around the town of Lisse, the route to the Keukenhof is clearly signposted everywhere. You will find the Keukenhof at Stationsweg 166a in Lisse.

Admission for adults is €12,50; children aged 4-11 €5,50. Parking €4. Opening hours 0800 to 1930 from 24 March to 20 May.



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Trophies and medals for shooting

By Capt. Eric Jones

The AWACS USAF Shooting Team was founded in March 1986. Team members have travelled to ten European countries to compete 292 times with the service weapons of different military and police forces. During the past 19 years, 227 US Air Force and 51 service members of other NATO nations have attended these events as they have passed through NATO Air Base Geilenkirchen. These participants have racked up 75 team trophies and 12 team medals for first, second or third place wins.

The 2004 shooting season was no exception to this winning trend. In December, team members concluded a successful 2004 season in which they attended 21 competitions in five countries. As a group, the team placed in several events and came away with two first place wins. Eight team members also earned individual honours. Along with the opportunity to compete with the militaries of other nations, AWACS USAF Shooting Team members are treated to tours of many beautiful and historic sights.

Team members Lt.Col. Marshall Hugues, Maj. Don Little, Capts. Eric Tobias and Eric Jones accepting the first place rifle team trophy from Fernmeldesektor 124 Commander Maj Ron Metzger, in Lager Lechfeld, Germany.

Photo courtesy Shooting Team



The 2005 shooting season is already underway, with some events having taken place in January and March. The majority of the team's activity, however, is seen between May and October. Teams for competitions are typically comprised of three or four team members. Group composition varies from competition to competition based on each team member's ability to participate in a given event.

Three-day Competition in Czech Republic

The next scheduled competition will take place on 30 April 2005 in the Czech Republic. This will be a three-day event, as participants will enjoy a bit of sightseeing in addition to the rifle and pistol shoot. There is also an awards banquet following the competition, in which team members get a first-hand sampling of the Czech culture.

Each shooting competition and accompanying cultural excursion is organized and guided by the team's manager Tom E. Esser, Lt Col GE A Res, NSUS ext. 2224.

Czech Republic shopping trip

Camilla B. Lockhart no. 68 is sponsoring a shopping trip to Cheb and Karlovary Vary in the Czech Republic. The chance to shop for crystal and clothing at the same time.

Departing JFC HQ Brunssum at 29 April, 2300. Returning 1 May, 0300. Cost €65 per seat (limited seating; passport is required). Info: call Kimberly Parks at ext. 4800.

Component skiers continue to dominate the slopes

Two members of the E-3A Component International Ski Club recently competed in their second leg at the U.S. Forces Europe Ski Championships, Garmisch-Partenkirchen, Germany, 5 to 6 March. CMSgt. John Roberto and Capt. Jeffrey Davis, members of the Logistics Wing, represented Geilenkirchen in the two-day competition consisting of a Giant Slalom and Slalom events.

On the first day of competition the Giant Slalom race was held. The snowboarders were the first ones to attack the course that was held on the "Krauzek" piste. Capt. Davis represented the men's military open category competing against 28 snowboarders and received a silver

medal. After the snowboarders came the skiers. CMSgt Roberto represented the men's military masters category competing against 25 skiers and captured a gold medal for his day's efforts.

The second day on the "Krauzek" piste was the Slalom competition. CMSgt Roberto completed his first run and was leading his category, also posting the second fastest time out of the entire field. After his second run, he ended up with a gold medal in his category and the third fastest time for the day out of 60 competitors. Overall it was a successful racing season for the pair, Capt Davis brought home a total of two silver medals and CMSgt Roberto racked up four gold medals.



John Roberto approaching the slalom race finish line resulting in a gold medal.
Photo Philip Abel

IYA

Registration and further information at the IYA Office in Bldg 95, x 4954/5, opening hours: Mon-Fri, 0815-1300.

Trip to River Mosel with castle visit

The IYA is offering a family trip to the Mosel valley on Saturday, 23 April, 0800-2000. Our first stop will be the huge historic castle Burg Eltz, from where we will travel on to the beautiful historic town of Cochem. A boat will take us on to the medieval town of Beilstein. Point of departure and return is the parking lot outside the Front Gate. Cost is €22 for ages 16 and up, €17 for ages 4-15, and €8 for ages 3 and under.

Mothers Day Trip to Keukenhof, Scheveningen Beach and Gouda

Join the IYA to enjoy famous Keukenhof Park with its colorful gardens and pavilions filled with tulips, daffodils and hyacinths on Sunday, 8 May, 0800 to 2000. In the afternoon we will travel on to Scheveningen, a popular Dutch seaside resort, and then visit the beautiful cheese city of Gouda with its historic buildings and picturesque canals. Point of departure and return is the parking lot outside the Front Gate. Cost is €19 for ages 12+, €14 per child aged 4-11, and €8,50 per child aged 0-3.

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Senior Clerk (Admin), Post Number AGK SAS 0070, Advertisement Number 04039, NATO Grade B-2, assigned to the Document Services Branch, Base Administration Division, Base Support Wing, NAEW&CF E-3A Component. This post is due to be filled as soon as possible.

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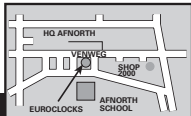
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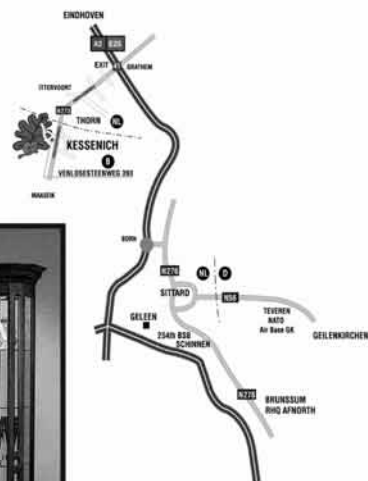
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