

## Component deploys to Idaho for Mountain Roundup

By Bill de Koning

From Oct. 1 to Oct. 11, one of our planes participated in a realistic large, force-employment exercise called Mountain Roundup. This yearly event is conducted at Mountain Home Air Force Base, Idaho.

Usually in October, the Fighter Weapons Instructor Course (FWIC) of the German Air Force trains its Tornado aircrews at Holloman AFB, New Mexico. These jets and crew also deploy to Idaho and accomplish the mission employment (ME) phase of their course.

With availability of about 7,700 sq. miles of associated airspace, a variety of scenarios of modern air warfare are displayed during the missions inside the Mountain Home range-complex, and its two air-to-ground ranges.

Since the first Mountain Roundup was held in 2005, the exercise has developed into a unique training opportunity for the U.S. Forces, working closely with the Fighter Weapons School of the Luftwaffe.



Photo by Ulrich Metternich

A NATO AWACS from the E-3A Component and several fighter jets fly over southwestern Idaho Oct. 11, 2013, during exercise Mountain Roundup.



## Dutch Medal parade at GK's E-3A Club

From E-3A Component Public Affairs Office

importance in our Air Force," General Schnitger said.

On Oct. 18, 2013, the E-3A Component Commander, Maj. Gen. Andrew M. Mueller, together with the Commander of the Royal Netherlands Air Force, Lieutenant-General Schnitger, presented 64 Dutch Air Force members with the ISAF-medal, OUP-medal, the Inauguration-medal and/or the Veteran insigne during a medal parade at the E-3A Club.

This ceremony was unique because two of the three Dutch aviators, who received their well-earned Wings, were in Masar-E Sharif and participated in the parade via a direct video link under the watching eye of Lieutenant-General Schnitger.

"The awarding of medals and wings to personnel working for the Force is very important to me, especially doing this together with the Component Commander," the general said.

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# NATO E-3A Component celebrates 10,000 Flight Hours in support of Afghanistan Operation



From E-3A Component Public Affairs

On Saturday 26 October the NATO E-3A Airborne Warning and Control System (AWACS) Component reaches a significant milestone of 10,000 flight hours. This is a remarkable accomplishment reflecting almost 1,000 missions in two and a half years. The E-3A Component supported International Security Assistance Force (ISAF) during this period without any critical air or ground related incidents.

This incredible achievement traces roots back to January 15, 2011 which was the first operational flight for Operation Afghan Assist. NATO AWACS deployed in support of ISAF to provide Air Command and Control, airspace deconfliction, communications relay and radar coverage in the Afghan airspace, aerial refuelling flow management and civil/military aircraft deconfliction. AWACS provided enhanced situational awareness for both air and ground commanders. It enables control of Close Air Support (CAS) assets, surveillance

and communications support to ground operations including Medical Evacuation (MEDEVAC) Operations and Personnel Recovery.

"After almost 1000 missions completed, the E-3A Component can be proud of a remarkable accomplishment in support of NATO's ISAF mission in Afghanistan, said Supreme Allied Commander Europe, General Breedlove. "The Component's NATO AWACS aircraft have logged more than 10,000 flying hours under Operation Afghan Assist (AOO), while operating out of Mazar-e Shariff for the past 2 and a half years. Their crews have flawlessly and consistently provided critical mission contributions often in direct support of land forces engaged in contact or conducting medical evacuation operations. Congratulations to the whole team for maintaining such excellence watching over the skies of Afghanistan," he said.

As a matter of fact, Mazar-e-Sharif (MeS) became synonymous with long missions from Turkey to Afghanistan and back, after

only a few days on the ground. Unavailability of accommodation, lack of aircraft parking space, and the need to underline the non-permanent character of our use of MeS were some of the main reasons for the long missions. Fortunately, that changed when the Component was able to upgrade its footprint in MeS to a permanent solution. Our crews were finally able to deploy to MeS for the full duration of their deployment rotation. While this reduced the individual number of flying hours, it increased the duration of the deployment cycle.

Nevertheless, to date a high mission accomplishment rate has been achieved thanks not only to the valuable efforts of our maintenance and mission crews, but also to the support of many Component organizations back in Geilenkirchen as well as the hard work of the advanced echelon (ADVON) and administrative teams in theater.

"And I recognize it", said NATO Airborne Warning & Control Force Commander, Major General Jochen

Both. "I'd like to congratulate all the hard working men and women from the NATO Airborne Early Warning and Control Force Command who made this momentous occasion possible. 10,000 flying hours - contributing significantly to the joint ISAF mission without any critical air or ground related incidents - is a remarkable achievement that illustrates not only NATO's resolve to support operations anywhere in the world, but also the exemplary professionalism and discipline by each individual Component member deploying into theatre.

Many of you and your co-workers have deployed far away from their families and loved ones and many of you have done this several times. But, know your efforts have not gone unnoticed. The daily contributions this Force makes to this ISAF mission is recognized throughout the NATO nations and is demonstrated by the constant appreciation of forces on the ground and in the air.

As this mission continues, avoid complacency and maintain the high





standard you've set with all your hard work and dedication. Thank you for your all sacrifices, contributions and your continued service and many Happy Landings," he added.

In many ways these ongoing E-3A Component operations supporting the NATO International Security and Assistance Force in Afghanistan mark the evolution within the E-3A Component to meet the demands

of NATO Commanders. What was envisioned as a Force focused on Air Defense, is now an Airborne Command and Control capability essential to NATO operations today. Component aircrews are conducting operations in support of ground and Special Operation Forces (SOF) a role never envisioned when the Component was started in 1982. The E-3A Component has also adapted an expeditionary mindset, sustaining a

very high mission effectiveness rate from a Deployed Operating Base.

As Major General Both remarked earlier this year, throughout this evolution there has been an enduring constant – the people. The professionalism of the men and women who represent their nations by serving in the NATO AWACS program is extraordinary and has carried the E-3A Component forward

for thirty years. In many ways, the over 20,000 people who have been assigned to the Component, have enabled this remarkable achievement in Operation Afghan Assist today.

The E-3A Component stands as an excellent example of the capability which can be delivered by through cooperation among airmen from 16 nations working as a team under the umbrella of the NATO Alliance.



# COMMANDER'S CORNER

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## Sustaining a Safety Conscious Culture

On November 15, the E-3A Component will conduct the second safety day of 2013. As with previous Safety Days, my intent is to provide everyone the opportunity to focus in on safety and what you and your fellow Component members are doing to sustain a safe operating environment across every aspect of our operation. Safety days are longstanding events in the Component and I am convinced they play an important role to help all of us sustain a safety conscious culture.

A key part of our safety conscious culture is recognition that safety is everyone's responsibility. Safety must be inherent in every task we take on in the Component. Be certain, the profession of aviation demands an operational culture which places safety at the forefront of every action. Our profession also demands adherence to rules and regulations to enable all of us to work an organization which operates in the safest possible manner. As

professionals we simply can't tolerate actions which disregard established procedures and needlessly place equipment at risk or individuals in danger.

Equally important, our profession also demands the open discussion and assessment of the risk we are willing to accept before we start any task. Risk management principles must be an integral part of everything we do. Identifying the risks associated with an activity and taking positive action to mitigate this risk is an important part of a safety conscious culture. Each of us must be willing to raise issues regarding safety and equally important, discuss the procedures and in place which enable all of us to operate in an environment which gives the highest regard to safety. No facet of our operation is so important that we cannot take time to do it safely.

As your Component Commander I am working to improve the timely sharing of information related

to safety reporting. Certainly, we can all learn from each other and past events. The timely sharing of information from safety reports should allow all of us to learn from the facts, rather than to speculate on the rumors which, unfortunately, always persist. It is important to note that continued improvement in this area will be realized only if we all take the time to report and discuss incidents where safety may be comprised or equally important, the level of risk accepted for the given task was simply too high.

As the winter season approaches it is important to familiarize yourself with the Component winter operations procedures. There are some unique challenges to conducting operations in the dark days of winter and the procedures established are proven means to accomplish our mission while mitigating the risks associated with the snow and ice - which always seem to prevail during this time of year. Further, it is important to

familiarize yourself with the risk of driving your automobile in the winter season. Take the time to prepare - so the first snow of the year comes as a pleasant surprise - rather than a slippery reminder of the things you still need to do to be ready to counter old-man winter.

Safety days are an important part of our mission. Sustaining a safety conscious culture within our Component is an important part of my duty as your Commander. I look forward to continue to ensure our operational environment remains safe - and one which supports your involvement in sustaining a safety conscious culture across every aspect of our E-3A Component.



MAJ GEN ANDREW M. MUELLER

## Change of Command at German NSU

At a military ceremony on Sept. 25, 2013, the Senior National Representative for Germany, Col. Werner Nemetschek, transferred command of the German Support Group contingent at the NAEW&CF E-3A Component from Lt. Col. Holger Kunkel to Lt. Col. Volker von dem Bach.

Lieutenant Colonel Kunkel commanded the Support Group for two years and was also permanent deputy to the Senior National Representative Germany. Colonel Nemetschek thanked him for his

excellent work and wished him all the best in his new assignment. In October 2013, Lieutenant Colonel Kunkel will commence his duties at the Federal Ministry of Defence in Bonn as assistant branch chief for strategic equipment planning.

In a previous assignment, Lieutenant Colonel von dem Bach served at the E-3A Component as commander of the Services Squadron from 1998 to 2001. Colonel Nemetschek welcomed him back and wished him every success in his demanding new function.



Photo by Hay Janssen



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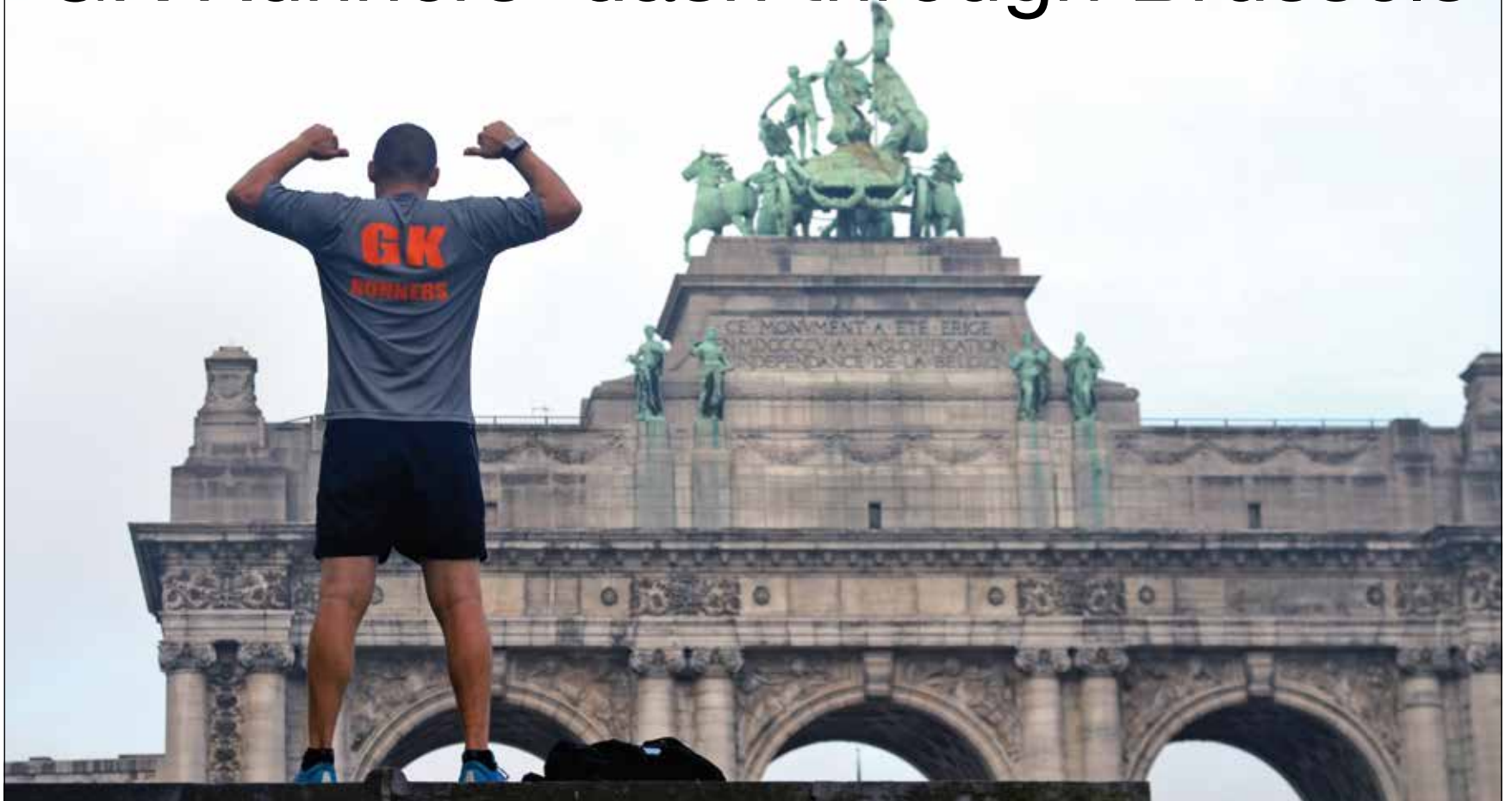
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# 'GK Runners' dash through Brussels



Courtesy Photo

Staff Sgt. Nathan Ortiz, NATO International Military Police, poses for a photo Oct. 6, 2013, in front of the Atomium structure in Brussels, Belgium, prior to competing in a half-marathon. The Tulare, Calif., native finished the race in 1 hour and 43 minutes.

By Staff Sgt. R. Michael Longoria

The city of Brussels hosted its annual marathon and half-marathon, an event that [www.runabroad.com](http://www.runabroad.com) listed as part of the "101 races to run before you die," on Oct. 6, 2013. In 2013, more than 14,000 runners joined in the day's events, which took place in the center of the Belgian capital. Included in this record number of participants were several members of the E-3A Component.

Ten 'GK Runners', a running group, which recently started up at NATO Air Base Geilenkirchen, Germany, made the one and a half hour drive to

compete in the half-marathon race. The 'GK Runners,' who completed the 21 kilometer (13.1 mile) race were:

Staff Sgt. Daniel Hammonds, NATO Squadron 2; Lt. Col. Patric Wurmbach, NATO Squadron 2; Staff Sgt. Nathan Ortiz, NATO International Military Police; Tech. Sgt. Brandon Hilley, NATO Logistics Wing Electronic Maintenance Squadron; Billielee Hilley, dependent; Master Sgt. Jason Bouchard, NATO Information Technology Wing; Master Sgt. Michael Reimers, NATO Information Technology Wing; Tech. Sgt. Jon Gibson, 470th Medical Group; Master Sgt. Francisco Perez Colon,

NATO Aircraft Maintenance Squadron; Korporaal Chef Carlo Lentini, Belgian National Support Unit; and Staff Sgt. Brian Bogue, NATO Squadron 2.

With a time of 1 hour and 34 minutes, Sergeant Hammonds was the first 'GK Runner' to cross the finish line at the Grand-Place of Brussels.

Also, two children from the air base, Colonel Wurmbach's sons, Maximilian and Vincent, partook in the Chiquita Kids Run, a one-kilometer dash through the Cinquantenaire, with approximately 600 fellow young, running enthusiasts.

The event was held to raise money for charity, an estimated 150,000 Euros was collected. While the officially recognized AWACS Runners Clun is in the process of being dissolved, the 'GK Runners' are taking part in all major European running events and occasionally meet for group runs.

The group is always looking for new running enthusiasts regardless their fitness level. For more information, e-mail [pwurmbach@e3a.nato.int](mailto:pwurmbach@e3a.nato.int) or search 'GK Runners' on Facebook.

*Editor's Note: Lt. Col. Patric Wurmbach contributed to this article.*

## Spanish general visits the Component

On Sept. 23, 2013, Brig. Gen. (Spanish Air Force) Miguel Ángel Martín Rodríguez, Spanish, Chief of NAEW&C Program and Board of Directors representative, visited the E-3A Component at NATO Air Base Geilenkirchen, Germany.

Upon General Martín's arrival, he was greeted by the Spanish Senior National Representative and Information Technology Wing Commander, Col. Juan Ramón del Río Nieto, along with other senior staff members.

E-3A Component Commander, Maj. Gen. Andrew M. Mueller welcomed General Martín for an office call to discuss current NATO commitments and future operations.

During his visit, General Martín received a tour of the E-3A Information Technology Wing to include both, Flight and Mission simulators.

Furthermore, General Martín received a briefing at E-3A Squadron 2, from Colonel Del Río covering a detailed update on Component's structure, ongoing operations, contribution of the Spanish Air Force, and E-3A upgrade programs.

In addition to his visit, General Martín had the opportunity to speak during lunch with the members of the Spanish Contingent, addressing their concerns, and encouraged them to continue their outstanding effort and contribution to the Component's mission success.



# For the Cure: Tri-border community raises money for breast cancer research

By Staff Sgt. R. Michael Longoria

A group of non-commission officers, Geilenkirchen's Team 5/6, held the fourth annual "Tri-Border 5k Fun Run/Walk" on Oct. 11 at NATO Air Base Geilenkirchen, Germany, to raise money for Breast Cancer Awareness Month (BCAM).

BCAM is an annual international health campaign, which takes place every October with events are held around the world to raise awareness of the disease and to collect funds for research into its cause, preventions, diagnosis, treat and cure as well as offering information and support to those affected by breast cancer.

The base's BCAM event had more than 130 participants. Team 5/6 was able to collect 1,702 euros, approximately \$2,295, to give to Breast Cancer Aid and Research Institute, which gives 99 percent of the money donated directly to the cause.

In addition, educational material was handed out to all participants to encourage exams for early detections and prevention of breast cancer.



# A combined task for NATO AWACS

Covering Operation Active Endeavour and Malta International Air Show



Photos by Maureen Geraets-Head

With the city of Malta in the background, Component personnel welcomed visitors aboard a NATO AWACS, which was parked between two other highlights of the air show, the Hawk T1s of the RAF Red Arrows Aerobatic Team, pictured, and the Qatar Emiri Air Force's C-130J known as the Super Hercules.

Story by Maureen Geraets-Head

NATO AWACS has been patrolling the Mediterranean Sea on a regular basis in support of NATO's Operation Active Endeavour (OAE) since December 2009.

OAE is part of NATO's multi-faceted response to current terrorist threats. The mission is to conduct maritime operations in the Mediterranean Sea and the Strait of Gibraltar to actively demonstrate NATO's resolve to help defend and protect against terrorism by deterring and disrupting it.

Earlier this month, it was Squadron Two's turn to cover the assigned sectors of the Mediterranean Sea.

When doing so, NATO AWACS collects valuable information which helps build the maritime surface picture for NATO commanders.

This time, the OAE had an out-of-the-ordinary Op-Stop on September 28-29 in Malta, a island-state located south of Sicily. The reason: participation in the 2013 Malta International Air Show with the E-3A on static display.

NATO AWACS is always one of the highlights at air shows and on this particular occasion visitors were willing to wait hours to see the interior of the NATO AWACS and get explanations from the crew. This 21st edition of the Malta Air Show attracted some 26,000 visitors.

The second part of the OAE mission started with an early show time on Monday for the Squadron Two crew. The E-3A aircraft is well equipped for these missions with its radar tuned to maritime mode, the Automated Identification System, and CHAT capability in place. The information collected by NATO AWACS is transmitted directly to the Allied Maritime Command Headquarters in Northwood, UK, where data from various contributors are fused into a recognized maritime surface picture.

Major Charles Riffou, the Tactical Director and Deployment Commander, explains, "The data that we collect during these missions completes the picture of ship movements in the Mediterranean Sea and the Strait of Gibraltar. Together with the information obtained from our other onboard sensors, we can plot the location, heading and speed of unidentified vessels in our area of responsibility and take appropriate action such as vectoring other assigned flying assets to take a closer look.

The mobility of the E-3A allows enhanced coverage in areas less visited by allied forces. Our contribution significantly reduces the possibility of a maritime-based surprise."

Surveillance Operator Senior Master Sgt. Daniel Obers explains, "It is our task to identify ships. If our system detects a vessel but cannot identify it, and we don't get a positive reply, we ask NATO assets to visually go check the situation. It is exciting to know that they actually go out on a rubber boat and approach the unidentified ship that we have discovered".

The navigator on the flight deck performs an important function in this.

During this mission it is navigator Lt. Col. Patric Wurmbach who explains, "I operate the navigation systems and solve navigation problems if they occur. I'm coordinating constantly with the mission crew and the aircraft commander about the route of the flight and whether it is in line with the mission tasking. Fuel availability, alternate and emergency airfields and weather updates are also tracked."

Since December 2009, the E-3A Component has flown more than 2,000 hours in support of NATO's OAE.



Tactical Director, Maj. Charles Riffou (right) and Fighter Allocator, 1st Lt. Warren Stirgus discuss mission data during the OAE mission.



# Oh, Zapft is





## DUK hosts 31st Annual Geilenkirchen Oktoberfest

By Staff Sgt. R. Michael Longoria

The German NCO Association (the Deutsche Unteroffizierkameradschaft or DUK) held the 31st Annual Geilenkirchen Oktoberfest during the last weekend of September in Hangar II at NATO Air Base Geilenkirchen, Germany.

The event began in 1982 and had a mere 300 guests. Fast forward to 2013, the event has grown into one of the biggest Oktoberfest celebrations in the region.

After the doors opened on Sept. 28, 2013, the hangar filled with more than 3,000 people, who enjoyed an evening of delicious food, live entertainment and special 'Festbier,' of which approximately 10,000 liters was served. The celebration formally started when the Force Commander, Maj. Gen. Jochen Both and tapped the first "official" barrel of beer and announced "O' zapft is".

An addition of a wine bar, shooting gallery and a candy stall had the hangar set-up with a typical Oktoberfest atmosphere. With drinks flowing and live music playing, the party lasted until 3 a.m.

After eight hours, the hangar was open again on Sunday for the traditional 'Frühschoppen,' which featured plenty of entertainment for the children.

While having a good time is what the Oktoberfest celebration is all about, the money raised by the DUK during the event is donated to help needy families in "uncomfortable" situations and to support associations near the base.

In the past 31 years, the DUK has donated more than 250 million euros to schools, kindergartens, military-social associations, sport clubs and charity

organizations in the Geilenkirchen and Heinsberg area.

In the end, this year's party was yet another success and it brought a German tradition to the Component's international community.

### History of Oktoberfest

Crown Prince Ludwig, later to become King Ludwig I, was married to Princess Therese of Saxony-Hildburghausen on October 12, 1810.

The citizens of Munich were invited to attend the festivities held on the fields in front of the city gates to celebrate the happy royal event. The fields have been named Theresienwiese ("Theresa's fields") in honor of the Crown Princess ever since, although the locals have since abbreviated the name simply to the "Wies'n".

Horse races in the presence of the Royal Family marked the close of the event that was celebrated as a festival for the whole of Bavaria. The decision to repeat the horse races in the subsequent year gave rise to the tradition of the Oktoberfest.

In 1811, an added feature to the horse races was the first Agricultural Show, designed to boost Bavarian agriculture. The horse races, which were the oldest and - at one time - the most popular event of the festival are no longer held today. But the Agricultural Show is still held every three years during the Oktoberfest on the southern part of the festival grounds.

In the first few decades, the choice of amusements was sparse. The first carousel and two swings were set up in 1818. Visitors were able to quench their thirst at small beer stands which grew rapidly in number.

In 1896, the beer stands were replaced by the first beer tents and halls set up by enterprising landlords with the backing of the breweries.

The remainder of the festival site was taken up by a fun-fair. The range of carousels etc. on offer was already increasing rapidly in the 1870s as the fairground trade continued to grow and develop in Germany.

Today, the Oktoberfest is the largest festival in the world; some 6 million visitors from all around the world converge on the Oktoberfest each year.

And since the Oktoberfest is still held on the Theresienwiese, the locals refer to the event simply as the "Wies'n". So "welcome to the Wies'n" means nothing other than "welcome to the Oktoberfest"!

*Editor's Note: Text for the History of Oktoberfest was retrieved from <http://www.muenchen.de/int/en/events/oktoberfest/history.html>.*



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Photo by Staff Sgt. R. Michael Longoria

## Group tours AWACS as part of political education trip

Chief Master Sgt. Michael Möller, E-3A Component public affairs specialist, leads a 43-person group from the Europa-Union Deutschland, Kreisverband Nürnberger Land e.V through Hangar IV Oct. 15, 2013, during a tour of NATO Air Base Geilenkirchen, Germany. The group came to the base as part of a political education trip, which also visited the Supreme Headquarters Allied Powers Europe in Mons, Belgium.

# Our IMAGO is our AMIGO

By Capt Wilko ter Horst, PAO

*Dear friends and colleagues,*

*This is my last communication story; I'm leaving the Component for a new job in the Netherlands Air force after a little more than three years here. I met beautiful people, made great friends and even as important, I had the best time of my life! Never was a placement so intense, but I enjoyed every second of it.*

*I crossed the globe, discussed three years trees and noise, 21 media flights OUP, was on the very first OAA flight, had hundreds of interviews from local to high level international media, wrote many texts and flew nearly 770 hours of which 510 in the E-3A.*

*All the media success we had was because of your support as Component Colleagues and the support and trust of the Component's leadership. There has never been a no or can not do. You all made a difference to the Component's success and its image across the world.*

*Thank you all and especially my PAO team for the friendship, support and collegiality! You have become an important part of my life. An ever-*

*lasting memory on which I can proudly look back. Thanks!*

As I said before, you all made a difference to the Component's success and building its image, a good reason to write something about this important communication subject.

Our identity is who we want to be and who we are to the out side world and the image is how we want others to see us internally and externally.

Let me explain. Over the years many different definitions emerged of the concept of corporate identity. A good corporate identity is in my view correct orchestration of all direct and indirect communication expressions of a company. Under correct I mean a consistency in e.g. visual appearance, resulting from a balanced company or organization's philosophy that both the public and stakeholders can identify and identify to.

The corporate image can be described as the image of an organization such as this arises, lives and develops in its various public groups. Hereby the corporate identity plays a steering role and is therefore

of paramount importance that the difference in what an organization wants to carry out and what the audience experiences is as small as possible. The image is also created by direct or indirect experience with an organization. Even when the corporate identity is implemented to its full extend, if a disaster breaks out with e.g. an aircraft or negative media attention, this will have far-reaching consequences for the corporate image of an organization and many corporate communications efforts are needed to regain confidence again. You break down in 5 minutes, what was carefully built up in a lifetime!

An example; Company X was one of the leading soup companies in the world with an average annual turnover of three billion and a fantastic corporate identity and image. Until one of the employees started systematically inject lead in the soup tins. More and more people became ill after eating soup from Company x. When the media published an article with big head lines that all soup might be poisoned, their turnover decreased with 90%. All soup was taken of the shelves, new control measurements

were taken and large scale image campaigns started to regain the trust from the buyers again. Two years after the incident, the largest soup company ever was declared bankrupt.

How ever good their image was to the out side world, it vanished as fast as the peoples opinion or behavior. At that very moment their global image changed dramatically. This shows the difficulties for an organization to rebuild their corporate image.

The Public Affairs Office protects and promotes, together with the visual media office, the corporate identity to create a corporate image in people's minds. These include managing negative media stories and actively promote positive stories and ensuring the use of correct visual appearance. It is a continuous effort not only from a PAO perspective, but for all Component members and their families.

Not so long ago Major-General Mueller stated during his Commanders Call a very clear message to all Component members. YOU ARE IMPORTANT! That also accounts for our image. As a Component member you are the Component's and NATO's ambassador and therefore important for the Component's and NATO's image. Not only at the Component, but everywhere we go across the globe!



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# Kicking off a new year of the IWC

By Rebecca Hendrickx

On Sept. 19, 2013, the International Wives Club (IWC) kicked off its 2013/2014 year with a Casino themed opening night! Wives, from a variety of different nations, gathered together to eat, drink, laugh, gamble, sing, meet new people but above all, have a great time.

Kicking off the night, new president, Linda Kolset, introduced the board members and welcomed everyone to this new season. Before indulging in poker, food, and karaoke, half of the raffle prizes were drawn much to everyone's excitement. It was then on to the finger foods, the bar and even a giant four sheet chocolate/vanilla cake decorated into a pink poker table!

Meanwhile, the karaoke machine was being turned on and pushed into high gear and poker chips distributed. The remainders of the raffle prizes were announced and folders with the karaoke song choices were handed out with requests and sign-ups flying in. Those brave enough to take the microphone, let loose and belted their hearts out with music choices ranging from rock to pop, classics to newer music, there was something for everyone. Two poker tables were set up with two seasoned poker players dressed to impress and ready to deal to both new comers to the game and ladies who had played a hand or two. Cheat sheets helped steer newcomers to poker in the right direction with our terrific dealers patiently helping and instructing. Amongst the laughter and light-heartedness, serious faces

took over during the hand only to give way to congratulations and words of encouragement when the winner of the hand was revealed! At the end of the night, the poker chips were collected from the ladies and counted, the lady with the most poker chips winning the prize!

Thank you to the members and guest who attended, and a very big thank you to everyone who helped create a great start to IWC year!

On Saturday, October 5th, the IWC participated in the AFNORTH Chili cook-off fundraiser in support of the Booster Club, with lots of delicious and unique chili's to choose from. Winning both the peoples choice award and the overall first place (judges choice), our very own Heather Englert won for the IWC with her delicious Chicken Chili recipe, taking home the trophy, a certificate and \$100 USD which we put back into the Booster Club. A very well done to all who participated in the Chili cook-off and congratulations again Heather!

Next up, it was the Canadian / American brunch on Oct. 10, which saw a wide variety of truly delicious breakfast foods from pancakes, to sausage, to blueberry muffins and pumpkin muffins, to maple syrup, coffee (with an optional shot of Bailey's) and much more.

Partaking in the event, the NATEX, who very kindly provided stalls with items for guests and members to purchase selected items, put together a fashion show highlighting the next



Heather Englert and Linda Kolset.

Courtesy photo

seasons trend; contrasts! Taking to the catwalk, NATEX employees and volunteer IWC members had a great time mixing and matching clothing and accessories (available from the NATEX Casual Mode and Retail store) giving us ladies great ideas for nights out at the club, lunch dates with the girls, and date nights with our spouses, through an array of color and pattern combinations.

The raffle prizes of the night consisted of Natex gift cards ranging from 20 euros to 70 euros and a collection of gourds displayed in a seasonal basket. There were groans of disappointment and shouts of excitement as the winning tickets were read and the ladies collected their prizes.

Along with the monthly raffles (tickets purchased on the night) was another chance to win prizes when we were all told to turn over our

place mats. The lucky winners whose place mats were stamped, were allowed to choose one of the table settings (decorative gaudy displays) as their prize. Gift bags for everyone who attended included samplers from NATEX Retail's perfume department, reusable Pandora shopping bags and discount gift cards redeemable for that day only!

Thank you to the ladies responsible for setting up this event, the NATEX and everyone who worked to make this a great event!

Next month, it's the Brit's turn! So please come join us on Nov. 21 at 10 a.m. at the E3A Club for some traditional British nosh and a few special extras.

Membership is 45 euros for the year, or to check it out, it is 10 euros on the day! We look forward to seeing you all there!

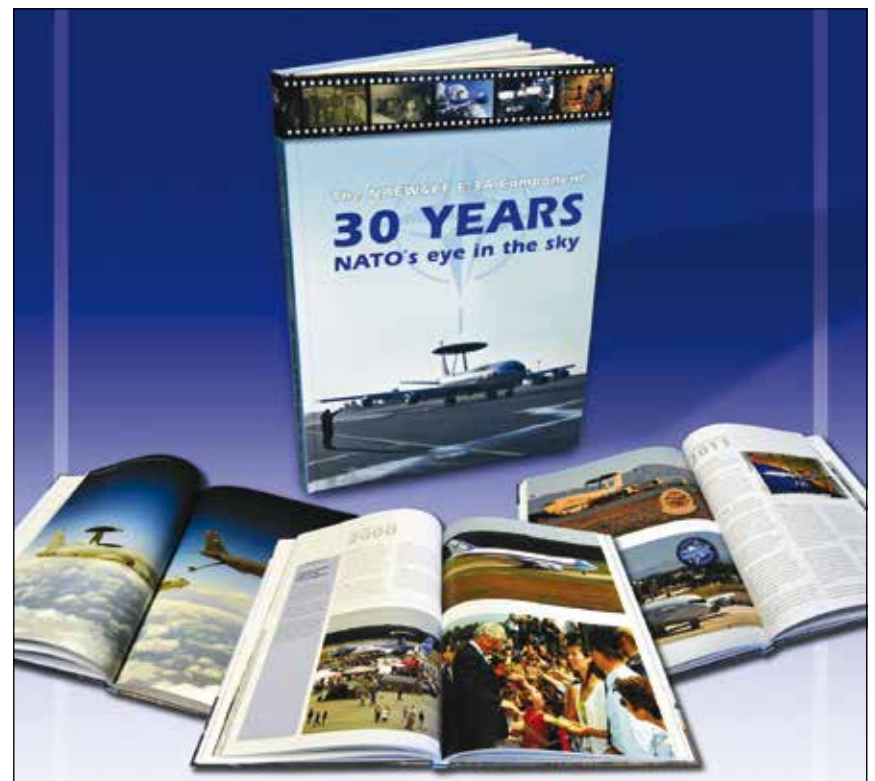
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*We are excited to welcome new and past vendors from all across Europe including a Glass Blower, Wood burning Plaque Artist, Polish Pottery, hand-painted ornaments, furniture, and so much more!*

*Private Organizations will be on hand as well, raising funds selling food items and cook books.*

*A portion of each purchase from our vendors is donated to educational scholarships benefiting members of the Tri-Border Community. Please come and support this amazing event!*

*If you are interested in volunteering, please contact us at [foggyfieldsbazaar@gmail.com](mailto:foggyfieldsbazaar@gmail.com) and you will be entered to win a door prize after you complete your volunteer pledge!!*



## Component History book available soon

A hard-cover, 135 pages, full color book with 30 years of Component history will be on sale soon. Watch the MWA flyer for details on sale date and price. The book gives a chronological historical overview of NATO Air Base Geilenkirchen with impressions of major events and milestones, illustrated with photos from the past 30 years of the E-3A Component.



# MWA INFORMATION November

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

## Upcoming Events & IYA Activities

(Open to all US and NATO identification card holders)

Points of contact: IYA Events: Mrs Neuhalfen, ext. 4954; Sports Events: Mr Stelten, ext. 4920; Food Services: Mr Peeters, ext. 4990.



### 26 OCTOBER: 2013 TRI-BORDER HALLOWEEN BASH- BRUNSSUM

2100 - 0300 Hrs on Brunssum ICC. Entry: Euro 25 includes Buffet and select beverages. For tickets stop by Building 25 Room E7 or call x3348

### 27 OCTOBER: FAMILY BRUNCH AT THE E-3A CLUB

Sunday, 27 October, 1100 - 1400 hrs. Family Brunch consists of breakfast, a variety of starters, main courses and dessert. MWA Card Holders: Euro 13.00 (Non-MWA Card Holders: Euro 17.00). Children 4 - 12 years half price. Please make reservations before Friday, 25 October, 1200 hrs. Tel. 02451-63-4990/1.

### 29 OCTOBER: BOULES ( JEUX DE BOULES, BOCCIA )

Softball Field 4, 14.30 - 16.30 hrs. Deadline Registration: 28 October.

### 31 OCTOBER: 2013 TRUNK OR TREAT - SCHINNEN

1730 - 1900 Hrs on Schinnen. Entry: USD 3/Euro 2 includes Trunk or Treat Trail, Haunted House & children's activities. Be sure to reserve a table or a space for your car at Schinnen's October 31 spooktacular Halloween event. You supply 400 individually wrapped pieces of candy and when you run out, FMWR will backfill your table or trunk with additional treats. To reserve your spot on the Trunk or Treat trail, stop by the Fitness Center or call 31(0)46-443-7561.

### 04 NOVEMBER: IYA MIXED MARTIAL ARTS COURSES START

under the experienced and certified instruction of Mr. Christian Ecklé at the Old Gym on Mondays and Wednesdays, 1700 to 1830 for ages 6 to 15, and 1830 to 2000 for ages 16 and up. Cost for a 1.5-months course, 4 November to 18 December, is € 37,50, with a € 3,75 discount for the second and each additional family member. The first class is free. Registration and further information at the IYA Office, x 4955.

### 06 NOVEMBER: HEINSBERG HOSPITAL TOURS

Touring the maternity/obstetrics ward of local hospitals is an important way for pregnant women to prepare for the big day. Tours address admitting procedures and your childbirth concerns. The meeting place is the Heinsberg Hospital lobby at 1800 hrs, 11 Sep and 09 Oct. For more information contact the New Parent Support Program at ACS. Call 31(0)46-443-7335.

### 08 NOVEMBER: INTERNATIONAL CROSS COUNTRY RUN

Start behind the New Gym, 11.00 hrs. Pre- Registration desired!!!  
Deadline Registration: 08 Nov 10.45 hrs Entry Fee for Component members: 3,00 €.

### 12 NOVEMBER: BASKETBALL TOURNAMENT

New Gym, 1300 - 1600 hrs.  
Deadline Registration 11 Nov.

### 15 NOVEMBER: BELGIAN SPECIAL LUNCH AT THE ROTODOME

### 15 NOVEMBER: STEAK NIGHT AT THE E-3A CLUB

Friday, 11 November, 1700 to 2030 hrs in the E-3A Club Preveza Room. Rump Steak (200 gr.): MWA Card Holder Euro 9.50 (Euro 13.00); Rump Steak (300 gr.): MWA Card Holder Euro 11.50 (Euro 15.00). Finish your steak off with one of the following sauces: green pepper, Bearnaise, or onions & mushrooms. Choice of side dish: French Fries, potato croquettes, market vegetables and salad bar. Reservations required.

### 15 NOVEMBER: CYSS PARENTS' NIGHT OUT

Enjoy a night out while CYSS takes care of your children. The next evenings are 1830 to 2330 hrs. 15 November. A light dinner will be served. Care is \$20 per child with each additional sibling at \$18. AFC benefits can be used. Care is located at JFC Brunssum. To sign-up contact PCS at least two days prior at 31(0)45-526-3121 or stop by to make your reservation. Open to CYSS Registered Children Infant-6th Grade. Fees are non-refundable.

### 19 NOVEMBER: BADMINTON TOURNAMENT

Old Gym, 1100 - 1400 hrs.  
Deadline Registration 15 Nov.

### 23 NOVEMBER: A DAY IN PARIS

Plan now for a fun day in Paris where you'll have 10 hours to shop, dine and take in the magnificent sights. Our coach departs Schinnen at 4 a.m. November 23 and returns 2 a.m. Sunday. Cost is \$75 for adults and children.

Trip is open to US/NATO ID cardholders and their guests. Contact us at 31(0)46-443-7561 or DSN 360-7561 or usarmy.schinnen.imcom-europe.list.schinnen-fc@mail.mil mailto:SchinnenFC@benelux.army.mil

Remember, you can charge it on your VISA/MasterCard.

### 27 NOVEMBER: SPECIAL THANKSGIVING LUNCH AT THE ROTODOME

On Wednesday, 27 November, a special Thanksgiving-style lunch will be served at the Rotodome. The menu will consist of: pumpkin soup, ham with pineapple sauce, turkey with gravy, mashed potatoes, sweet potatoes, stuffing, green beans, corn, salad bar, apple pie. Price for MWA Card holders: Euro 7.00 and non-MWA Card holders: Euro 10.00 (all inclusive) ( as both serving lines will be used to serve this special meal, there will be no fast food service until 1500 hrs on this day.

### 28 NOVEMBER: VOLLEYBALL TOURNAMENT

New Gym, 1300 - 1600 hrs.  
Deadline Registration 27 Nov.

### 29 NOVEMBER: BAVARIAN BREAKFAST AT THE ROTODOME

The Rotodome is hosting a Bavarian Breakfast on Friday, 29 Nov from 0700 - 1045 hrs. Bavarian Breakfast includes: Warm breakfast, "Weisswurst", sweet mustard and a Brezel. Price: Euro 5,00

### 30 NOVEMBER: IYA CHRISTMAS MARKET TRIP TO MAINZ

0800 - 2000. Enjoy the festive atmosphere between the enchanting Christmas booths on the historic squares against the backdrop of the medieval cathedral. Stroll through the romantic old city bathed in Christmas light offering you great shopping and wonderful places to eat and drink. € 22 without MWA-Card, with your valid MWA-Card pay only € 15. Registration and further information at the IYA Office, x 4955.

### 04 - 08 DECEMBER: CHRISTMAS MARKET TRIP ONLY 15 SEATS LEFT!

As every year, a Christmas markets trip has been planned for the E-3A Component community. This time we will visit Leipzig/Dresden/Coburg/Bamberg/Nürnberg and Würzburg over 5 days (04 to 08 Dec 2013).

Trip Itinerary and information on cost are attached. Currently there are 15 Seats unfilled on the bus. If you are interested, please get in touch with the organizer Werner Schumm, Ext.: 2477

### 13 DECEMBER: MOONLIGHT TRAIN RIDE WITH SANTA CLAUS

1900 - 2100. Santa will welcome all the children and present them with a bag of seasonal goodies on the way from Gillrath to Schierwaldenrath, where we will enjoy refreshments and Christmas music, before returning to Gillrath. Tickets at € 7,50 per child and € 12 per adult, including Brötchen with hot chocolate, coffee, Glühwein or a soft drink, can be purchased at the IYA Office, further information at x 4955.

### 14 DECEMBER: EXPRESS TRIP TO LONDON

We arrive in London at approximately 8 a.m. Saturday, December 14. First on the agenda is a city tour passing sights such as Big Ben, Tower Bridge, Trafalgar Square, the Horse Guards and Piccadilly Circus.

Our bus will be parked near the center giving you a minimum of nine free hours to explore. Cost is \$89.

Trip IS open to US/NATO ID cardholders and their guests. Contact us at 31(0)46-443-7561 or DSN 360-7561 or usarmy.schinnen.imcom-europe.list.schinnen-fc@mail.mil mailto:SchinnenFC@benelux.army.mil

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Email: Naples@pentagoncarsales.com

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**Vicenza**  
Viale Della Pace 254  
36100 Vicenza (VI)  
Tel: 0444 91 09 38

#### Spain

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Plaza Del Triunfo 6  
11520 Rota (Cadiz)  
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