



Photo by André Joosten

## Lucky Number 27

The E-3A Component hosted the 27th International Children Festival (ICF) on April 18, 2015, at NATO Air Base Geilenkirchen, Germany. This festival is celebrated annually and organized by the Turkish Community with sponsorship from the MWA, IYA and the NSU's. For more information and pictures, see pages 8 and 9.

# Airfield Services Squadron makes the mission happen with hard work

By Lt. Col. Siegfried L. Czorny and Chief Master Sgt. Thomas Nemitz

On March 25, 2015, Maj. Gen. Andrew M. Mueller, the E-3A Component commander, accompanied by the Operations Wing Commander, Col. Arturo di Martino, presented a certificate of recognition for the Aeronautical Information Service (AIS) of the Airfield Services Squadron to Lt. Col. Siegfried Czorny, commander of this Squadron.

According to General Mueller, it was the first time an entire office and not an individual was awarded with a certificate of recognition from him.

AIS received this recognition because of the high professional competence, the permanent readiness and the personal commitment by each single member of this section.

Although understaffed for more than three years, AIS supported the Component's worldwide operations with dedication and enthusiasm. Personal interests were set back; short notice shift changes were taken as unavoidable without complaints.

Thereby, the operational readiness of the component was ensured without any limitations and airfield operations at all locations used by the component's aircraft remained at a very high level of reliability.

As a silver lining on the horizon, AIS expects four newly trained team members to finish their final training by the end of this year.

Additionally, General Mueller handed over a letter of appreciation to Colonel Czorny, and his team, in gratitude for the tremendous support



Photo by Wiel Borghans

by all members of the Airfield Services Squadron, which allowed the Component to seamlessly transition to the SACEUR Assurance Mission

tasking and for finding innovative ways to always make the mission happen.

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## Safety is the foundation for our success

Twice a year, the E-3A Component takes a day to focus in on safety. These safety days are important for every member of the Component and I am convinced, that sustaining a safety conscious culture within the E-3A Component has been the foundation of our success over the past 33 years. As the summer period approaches, the Component Safety Office uses safety days to focus your attention on several potential hazards the summer season presents to all of us.

Heat stress is a real hazard in the summertime - even here in Geilenkirchen. So as temperatures rise, take action to prevent heat stress before it starts. Pay attention to yourself for the signs of heat stress and keep an eye on your fellow Component members for indications of overheating. Never hesitate--step in immediately and take action to treat the symptoms of heat stress.

Outdoor sports activities are another potential hazard here at the Component. I was surprised to learn almost 50 percent of injuries to Component members which result in lost work days are caused by sports related injuries. Don't let this happen to you - play within your own ability.

As always, vehicle operations demand your attention each time you take to the road. Be alert during your travels this summer and don't let things like texting, cell phones or alcohol creep into your driving routine. Plan your trips well in advance and make extra time for travel so the occasional "Stau" does not ruin your holiday.

An important goal of our Component safety program is to sustain an environment which promotes reporting to highlight incidents or areas of concern. The

benefit of operating in this type of environment is realized through the ability to learn from the experiences of each other. Through this learning, it is possible to decrease our chances of repeating mistakes which infringe on safe operations and increase our consistency in repeating sound practices which promote successful operations.

To achieve this goal requires everyone to recognize the importance of utilizing the incident reporting process in the safety office. I encourage each of you to review the situations which require an incident report and then take the time to initiate a report when necessary.

In addition, anytime a situation arises which may comprise safe operations - report it! Give everyone the opportunity to avoid encountering the same hazards again.

Over the past year, the E-3A Component has delivered more than 300 E-3A sorties supporting the Assurance Measures directed by SACEUR in support of the larger objectives of the NATO Alliance.

I continue to be impressed by the professionalism and pride each of you display in promoting and sustaining our safety conscious culture to enable our sustained mission success, supporting the NATO Alliance.



MAJ GEN ANDREW M. MUELLER

### In Memoriam of Major (Ret.) Olav Kaspersen



It is with sadness, that we must announce the death of a former colleague and long serving member of the E-3A Component, retired Maj. Olav Kaspersen. Olav passed away peacefully, surrounded by his closest family, in his home in Henningsvær, Norway on the Feb. 2, 2015, after fighting a serious illness for some months.

Olav was a very experienced officer and after more than ten years of service in different positions in the Royal Norwegian Air Force, he joined the E-3A Component as operations officer at Forward Operating Location (FOL) Ørland in 1985. He held

this position until 1994 when he was appointed as commander at FOL Ørland. He was the FOL commander from 1994 until 1998.

From 1998 to 2001, Olav continued his service in the E-3A Component, now at the MOB in Geilenkirchen, as a surveillance controller. He became both instructor and evaluator in his field and it is safe to say that Olav, with his experience and skills, quickly became very popular both as instructor and evaluator. After two years as a staff officer in the Royal Norwegian Air Force, Olav returned to MOB Geilenkirchen in 2003, this time as branch chief in

the Intelligence Branch. He held this position until 2007.

In 2007, Olav returned to Norway and was granted early retirement from the Royal Norwegian Air Force. He then embarked on his civilian career as head of Human Resources in the administration of his home municipality. He continued in this job until he was struck by the illness.

Olav will be remembered, not only for his experience, skills and professionalism but most of all as an inspiring leader with genuine warmth and interest for the people he met on his way.



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**Commander**  
Maj. Gen. Andrew M. Mueller

**Chief, Public Affairs**  
Maj. Johannes Glowka

**Editor**  
Tech. Sgt. R. Michael Longoria

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# Tail number 449 retires in Arizona

By Maureen Geraets-Head

Last month, a site survey team from the E-3A Component's Logistics Wing visited the 309th Aerospace Maintenance and Regeneration Group at Davis-Monthan Air Force Base in Tucson, Arizona, USA, to coordinate and plan the arrival of NATO E-3A 70-0449. This NATO E-3A aircraft will be the first aircraft of NATO's E-3A fleet to retire and is scheduled to be flown from Geilenkirchen, Germany, to Arizona, USA, by the end of June. Tail number 449's last destination will be this boneyard for excess military and government aircraft. It will be parked next to the former NATO Trainer Cargo Aircraft, tail number 19997, which retired in August 2010. AMARG takes care of more than 4,400 aircraft, which makes it the largest aircraft storage and preservation facility in the world.



*This sandy area will be NATO E-3A 70-449's future parking spot.* Photo courtesy of Thomas Roskam and Willie Sluijsmans

## Moving cargo

*Tech. Sgt. Adam Burgdorfer, NCO in charge of Cargo Movements, puts a MRSP (maintenance, readiness and spare parts) kit on to a k-loader April 8, 2015, in preparation of loading the pallet on a Boeing 757-200 COMBI at NATO Air Base Geilenkirchen, Germany.*



Photo by Tech. Sgt. R. Michael Longoria



## Protecting your NATO Credentials

By Capt. Henry Rivera

Sharing an account login and password isn't just a bad idea; it is a violation of NATO security

regulations. A password is more than just a key that unlocks an account; to the network, your login ID and password represent your identity. Letting another person use your account is equivalent to letting someone pretend to be you. The digital forensic "fingerprint" left on every system log will belong to you.

When sharing a password you are granting permission to every resource you have access to, not just what you intend to share. All of your personal files and, more importantly, sensitive E-3A Component data could be compromised with your identity.

The other person could even change the password and prevent you from using your own account! If you give away your credentials, you could be held responsible for the actions of another person and the damages they have caused.

There is never a requirement to share personal account credentials. If anyone asks or insists for permission to use your account, decline and contact the Information Security office at [ofciwa6infosec@e3a.nato.int](mailto:ofciwa6infosec@e3a.nato.int).

Ignorance is not an excuse and convenience is never a justification.

The Component employs a special login screen that displays the last time an account was used and any failed attempts that have been made.

Pay attention, and when the date & time displayed there doesn't match the last time you personally logged in, your credentials may have been compromised.

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# CIS Squadron Comm Chat

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# VIP VISITS



**Brig. Gen. Bernhard Schulte Berge**, Deputy Commander Air Operations Command, Kalkar, visited the E-3A Component on March 30, 2015.



**Peter J. Potochney**, Basing Director, Office of the Under Secretary of Defense (Acquisition, Technology and Logistics); **Allison R. Sands**, Assistant Director, Office of the Deputy Under Secretary of Defense (Installations and Environment); and **Paul D. Cramer**, Deputy Assistant, Secretary of the Army (Installations, Housing and Partnership), visited the E-3A Component on March 26, 2015.

All photos provided by Multimedia Services



**Angela Merkel**, Chancellor of the Federal Republic of Germany, made a short visit at NATO Air Base Geilenkirchen on April 16, 2015.

# International Ch

By Senior Master Sgt. Ersoy Soykan

The E-3A Component hosted the 27th International Children Festival (ICF) on April 18, 2015, at NATO Air Base Geilenkirchen, Germany.

This festival is celebrated annually and organized by the Turkish Community with sponsorship from the MWA, IYA and the NSU's.

This year once again hundreds of children came together from the base and local communities to celebrate their fest with free

activities including Turkish Folk Dance, E-3A Static Display, NATO Train ride, face painting, clown and magician, pony ride, various games, inflatable games, and more.

The Component received very good feedback during the event and no issues were reported. So all things considered, this year's ICF was a great success. All of the country's representatives on base contributed to the festival, either by arranging cultural activities and games, or help with ideas to organize a better festival.

Mustafa Kemal Ataturk, founder of Turkish Republic, was the one who started Children's Day. Ataturk loved children and he often said, "Children are a new beginning of tomorrow."

He even dedicated April 23rd to the children, which today is celebrated as Children's Day as well as the date when the first Turkish National Grand Assembly opened and thus ignited the national endeavor. In 1978, nationwide celebration of the fest extended beyond national borders, thanks

to UNESCO's adoption of the day as World Children's Day and provision of an international dimension.

April 23rd is also a message of peace from Turkey to the world. This great festival is dedicated, regardless of nation, religion, language, color and race, to children all over the world.

Bringing children together helps recognize diversity of talents and identities, kindle a spirit of friendship, promote peace and solidarity, and develop mutual respect and tolerance.



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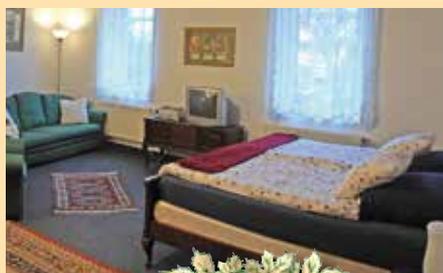


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# Component members turn Orange to celebrate King's Day

Text and photos  
Capt. André Bongers

Orange t-shirts, orange wigs, orange shoes, orange sunglasses.... these items could be seen everywhere in the E-3A club when the Dutch contingent celebrated King's Day.

Together with Component members from other nations everybody was having a great time.

King's Day is a traditional party where the Dutch people celebrate the birthday of King Willem-Alexander. The holiday started in 1885 on the day that Princess Wilhelmina was born.

The so-called Princess Day was changed in 1890 into Queens's day and it finally became King's Day in 2013 when the first King since 1890 was inaugurated. Normally King's Day is organized on April 27,

due to other activities the day was held already on April 21. During the King's Day party that was held on the Component everybody enjoyed the great music, played by Dutch DJ Sun and the nice food that was served.

Although the meal "blauwe hap" as Dutch call it has its origin in Asia, it's become a traditional menu in the Netherlands and especially the Armed forces. Other than this there was a flea market which can be found

in all the cities in the Netherlands during King's Day.

The icing on the cake was a lottery in which people could win a ride in a hot air balloon. The balloon, which belongs to the Royal Netherlands Air Force, was set-up on the soccer field. On the same evening it was launched with six lucky contestants who had the chance to see the beautiful surrounding of Geilenkirchen from above.



## Civil guard retires after two and a half decades of service

Civil guard Nico van de Weide retired at the age of 66 and four months. Nico started at the E-3A Component on Dec. 18, 1989. Nico is a very energetic person, so after a couple of months, he left the Component. As a former miner, it was too quiet for him; however, he came back after a short adventure as a truck driver.

From the first to the last day, Nico conducted his duty as a dog handler. He also participated nine times, as well as several times in France, Switzerland and the Czech Republic, for the Component biathlon team, with outstanding results. Nico was always in a good mood and had a positive impact on people.

So, on behalf of the civil guard and the Delta Flight... enjoy your pension, together with you wife, and stay healthy!

Courtesy photo

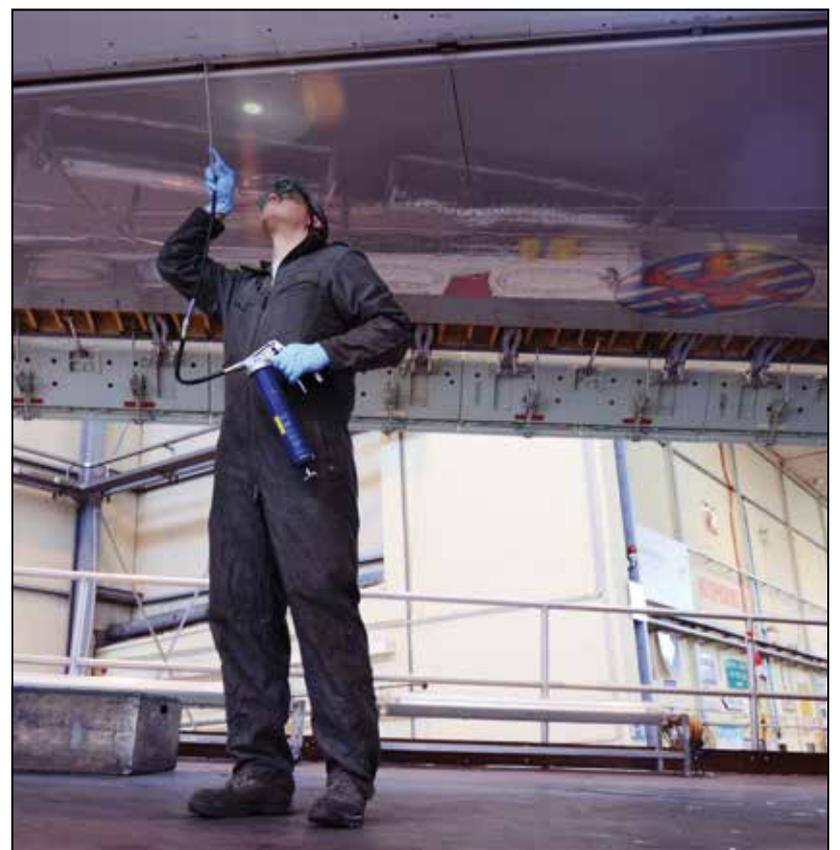


Photo by Tech. Sgt. R. Michael Longoria

## Maintaining the fleet

Tech. Sgt. Miciah Gutierrez, phase maintenance technician, greases joints on the wing of a NATO AWACS April 8, 2015, at NATO Air Base Geilenkirchen, Germany. Sergeant Gutierrez explained, "Without my job, critical aircraft maintenance wouldn't be accomplished and the aircraft wouldn't have the flying hours available to meet mission and operational requirements."

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## Keeping with tradition

Photo by Tech. Sgt. R. Michael Longoria

*In the last Skywatch, we ran a story about "Mustache March." Several members E-3A Component participated in this U.S. Air Force tradition. This year's partakers gathered to take a group photo on March 26, 2015.*

# Norwegian NSU hosts Viking Party 2015

By Capt. Espen Hantviet

This year saw the return of the legendary Norwegian biennial event, The Viking Party. The party was held in the E-3A Club on March 20, 2015.

Included in the ticket price was a serving of some traditional Norwegian food, mainly dried meat, smoked salmon, scrambled eggs and a special porridge based on sour cream. However, the main event for the almost 200 guests was undoubtedly the Viking Play. With the ground work being laid down in late 2014, it was the result of many late evenings re-writing scenes and dialogue, rehearsals, and gathering appropriate actors and props.

The cast was made up entirely by amateur actors from Norwegian Component members. For those who had been to one of the previous Viking parties, they probably recognized some of the scenes from previous years in this year's play as well, as some scenes in the play were reused from previous years, though with slight and hopefully improved modifications. Several scenes were completely revised and new for both the audience and the cast.

The main plot of the play is a tale of how a small group of Norwegian Vikings left their country, travelled

across the world and left their imprint on civilization as they went along. It is in no way meant to be historically correct, even though the Vikings did visit many of the countries depicted in the play.

The Viking Play is rather a journey through all the countries that are represented in the Component today, including a slight jab at those who have been here before, namely the Canadians. Without going into the details of every scene, suffice it to say that the play is very politically incorrect, which means the audience needs to grow a thick skin fast if they don't have one already. By the roaring response from the crowd, this did not seem to be a problem this year.

Among the topics covered, and made fun of, this year were the Germans' affinity for procedures, the Greeks' economic situation, the Italian fashion statements, and the American cuisine (if you can call it that), in addition to some well-known Component themes like the TNT transports.

As the play ended at around 2300, quite a few guests left after this. The crowd that stayed behind enjoyed tunes from the Component's very own DJ Cobra and refreshments served at the E-3A Club Bar until closing time at 0200. There are also



rumors about an after party at an undisclosed venue, but they remain largely unsubstantiated.

From a Norwegian perspective, it was definitely a successful party and, from the immediate response from the guests, it seems like the sentiments were shared by them

as well. Being a biennial event, it is unfortunately another two years until the next time, but that gives us time to prepare an even better event. We hope to see many of you attend in 2017. Until then...

Row! Row! Row! Skål! ...but first, let me take a Selfie!



# MWA INFORMATION

## May

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.



### IMPORTANT NOTICES!

#### E-3A Club CLOSED :

05 May: Due to Special Function  
07 May: Due to Special Function  
14 & 15 May: Official Holiday (Ascension Day)  
22 May: Due to Special Function  
25 May: Official Holiday (Whitsuntide)  
27, 28 & 29 May: Due to Special Function

#### Rotodome

Closed at 1330 hrs, Mon thru Friday, until further notice.

#### Component, Brunssum & Schinnen MWA Events/Activities

Tuesdays and Thursdays 1700-20.00 hrs  
Youth Spring Soccer League/Practice.

#### 07 May: Volleyball Tournament

1300-1545 hrs, New Gym. Deadline Registration: 06 May. Register by contacting the Sports Department: Email ofc-bpws@e3a.nato.int or call tel.ext. 4946.

#### 09 May: IYA Trip to Luxembourg

Saturday, 9 May 2015, 0730 – 2030. Discover the dramatically sited charming capital city with its skylines pierced by turrets and towers, quaint riverside quarters and spectacular views of deep valleys and sheer-sided gorges. Beside interesting museums and galleries you find great stores, markets, cafés, pubs and restaurants. Optional: you can join the tour guide on an orientation walk. Our luxury bus departs from outside the Main Gate. Cost: € 18 with MWA-Card, € 27 without MWA-Card. Registration and further information at the IYA Office in Bldg 95, x 4955.

#### 12 May: Boules' Tournament

1430-1630 hrs, New Gym Area. Deadline Registration: 08 May. Register by contacting the Sports Department: Email ofc-bpws@e3a.nato.int or call tel. ext. 4946.

#### 21 May: Outdoor Soccer Tournament

1100-1500 hrs, Soccer Fields. Deadline Registration: 15 May. Register by contacting the Sports Department: Email ofc-bpws@e3a.nato.int or call tel. ext. 4946.

#### 27 May: Jogging Cross 3.5 km or 7.0 km

1130 hrs, New Gym. Deadline Registration: 27 May, 11.20 hrs. Register by contacting the Sports Department: Email ofc-bpws@e3a.nato.int or call tel. ext. 4946.

#### 29 May: Bavarian Breakfast at the Rotodome

#### 30 May: IYA Trip to Antwerp

Saturday, 30 May, 0800-2000. The pocket-size Belgian metropolis by the sea offers you magnificent architecture in sculpted streets, fashionable shop fronts, historic pubs and restaurant tables piled up with superb Belgian and multicultural food.

Home of the Flemish Baroque master Rubens it boasts a wealth of outstanding museums, picturesque galleries, dazzling monuments and inspired artwork. Optional: you can join the tour guide on an orientation walk. Our luxury bus departs from outside the Main Gate. Cost is € 17 with MWA Card, € 25 without. Registration and further information at the IYA Office in Bldg 95, x 4955.

#### 11 July: IYA Kayaking Trip to the River Lesse

Saturday, 11 July, 0730-2000. Discover the beautiful scenery along the Lesse during a unique descent of 21 km in two-seater kayaks. Spend an unforgettable day combining sport, nature and adventure at your own rhythm and in complete safety. You will pass castles, majestic rocks and two rapids.

Along the river there are plenty of opportunities to enjoy a picnic and purchase refreshments. Children aged 5 to 11 have to be accompanied by an adult. Cost is € 29,50 with MWA Card, € 39,50 without. Registration and further information at the IYA Office in Bldg 95, x 4955.



Photo by Tech. Sgt. R. Michael Longoria

## Looking to cool off?

The Base Pool officially opened for its public swimming season April 17, 2015, and will end on Sept. 27, 2015. Lap Swimming is Monday through Friday from 1100 to 1300 hrs. Public Swimming is Monday through Friday from 1300 to 1900 hrs and Saturday & Sunday from 1100 to 1900 hrs. Water temperature is always set at 26 degrees!

# Photography Workshop with Dennis Owens

## 13th & 14th June 2015

Take your photography to the next level and beyond with an information filled two-day photography workshop lead by Event and Studio Photographer Mr. Dennis Owens.

Subjects covered during this workshop will be...

- \* Know your Camera
- \* Really Understanding the Basics of Photography
- \* Proper Exposure
- \* Creative Exposure
- \* Rules of Composition
- \* Creatively Breaking the Rules of Composition
- \* Creative White Balance
- \* The Histogram, why is it important
- \* Use of Flash
- \* Use of Multiple Flashes
- \* Low Light Photography Techniques
- \* Creating Time Lapse
- \* Creating Hyper Lapse
- \* File Management of your Photos
- \* Editing your Photos in Lightroom
- \* and much more...

For information about this workshop and to **reserve a seat** please contact Mr. Dennis Owens at [info@dennisowens.com](mailto:info@dennisowens.com) or 0175 360-4353 to sign up. Price for this two-day workshop will be EUR125.00. Schedule will be 09:00-17:00 Saturday and Sunday the 13th and 14th of June 2015 at Kirchstr. 14 52511 Teveren, the Canadian Legion.

What to bring... Please bring your own lunch, camera, owner's manual for your camera, something to take notes with and an appetite to take your photography to the next level!

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2015	Lexus IS 250 Sedan	Obsidian Metallic	Parchment NuLuxe w/Black Trim	Auto	\$37,810	\$35,330	<b>\$34,580</b>	<b>\$3,230</b>
2015	Lexus IS 350 Sedan	Atomic Silver Metallic	Black NuLuxe w/Silver Trim	Auto	\$48,070	\$45,325	<b>\$44,575</b>	<b>\$3,495</b>
2015	Lexus RX 350 AWD	Starfire Pearl	Saddle Tan Leather w/Esspresso Walnut	Auto	\$50,175	\$47,225	<b>\$45,975</b>	<b>\$4,200</b>
2015	Lexus RX 350 AWD	Nebula Grey Pearl	Black Leather w/Ebony Maple	Auto	\$50,175	\$47,225	<b>\$45,975</b>	<b>\$4,200</b>
2015	Lexus RX 350 AWD	Stargazer Black Metallic	Parchment Leather w/Esspresso Walnut	Auto	\$50,175	\$47,225	<b>\$45,975</b>	<b>\$4,200</b>
2015	Lexus RX 350 AWD	Fire Agate Pearl	Black Leather w/Ebony Maple	Auto	\$50,175	\$47,225	<b>\$45,975</b>	<b>\$4,200</b>
2015	Lexus RX 450h AWD Hybrid	Satin Cashmere Metallic	Black Leather w/Matte Bamboo	Auto	\$57,695	\$53,445	<b>\$52,195</b>	<b>\$5,500</b>
2015	Lexus RX 450h AWD Hybrid	Deep Sea Mica	Black Leather w/Matte Bamboo	Auto	\$57,695	\$53,445	<b>\$52,195</b>	<b>\$5,500</b>
2015	Lexus RX 450h AWD Hybrid	Obsidian Metallic	Parchment Leather w/Matte Bamboo	Auto	\$57,695	\$53,445	<b>\$52,195</b>	<b>\$5,500</b>
2015	Lexus GS 350 RWD Sedan	Nebula Grey Pearl	Black Leather w/Walnut	Auto	\$51,650	\$48,220	<b>\$46,970</b>	<b>\$4,680</b>
2015	Lexus GS 350 RWD Sedan	Starfire Pearl	Topaz Brown Leather w/Walnut	Auto	\$51,650	\$48,220	<b>\$46,970</b>	<b>\$4,680</b>
2015	Lexus GS 350 RWD Sedan	Starfire Pearl	Light Gray Leather w/Walnut	Auto	\$51,650	\$48,220	<b>\$46,970</b>	<b>\$4,680</b>
2015	Lexus GS 350 RWD Sedan	Liquid Platinum	Light Gray Leather w/Ebony	Auto	\$51,650	\$48,220	<b>\$46,970</b>	<b>\$4,680</b>
2015	Lexus GS 350 AWD Sedan	Deep Sea Mica	Light Gray Leather w/Walnut	Auto	\$53,750	\$50,120	<b>\$48,870</b>	<b>\$4,880</b>
2015	Lexus GS 350 AWD Sedan	Obsidian Metallic	Black Leather w/Walnut	Auto	\$53,750	\$50,120	<b>\$48,870</b>	<b>\$4,880</b>
2015	Lexus GS 350 AWD Sedan	Nebula Grey Pearl	Flaxen w/Ebony	Auto	\$53,750	\$50,120	<b>\$48,870</b>	<b>\$4,880</b>
2015	Lexus GS 350 AWD F Sport	Riviera Red Metallic	F Sport Black w/Aluminum	Auto	\$58,715	\$55,285	<b>\$54,035</b>	<b>\$4,680</b>
2015	Lexus GS 450h RWD Hybrid	Starfire Pearl	Light Gray w/Bamboo	Auto	\$66,920	\$62,490	<b>\$61,240</b>	<b>\$5,680</b>
2015	Lexus GS 450h RWD Hybrid	Obsidian Metallic	Light Gray w/Bamboo	Auto	\$66,920	\$62,490	<b>\$61,240</b>	<b>\$5,680</b>

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