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NATO marks 50 years since the 1961 Berlin Crisis

Fifty years after the erection of the Berlin Wall, NATO has released hundreds of formerly classified documents that shed light on how the Alliance and its member states managed the fallout of that event and the wider crisis surrounding Berlin.

A key concern of France, the United Kingdom and the United States, and of the Atlantic Alliance as a whole, was to keep access to West Berlin free under all circumstances, while avoiding tensions from escalating into a wider conflict. To this end, the three Western Allies, as well as NATO, began to develop contingency plans and other measures.

In the night of 12 August 1961, the Cold War took a turn for the worse, extending the Iron Curtain into the very heart of a divided Europe. This move by the government of the German Democratic Republic (GDR) to stem the large-scale exodus of East Germans to the Federal Republic of Germany through Berlin was not an isolated event. It was part of a broader plan to foster East-West tension in and around Berlin.

In 1948-1949, the Soviet Union had first tried to force a change to the Berlin four-power status agreed with France, the UK and the US at the Potsdam conference in 1945. Its attempt to blockade the city failed and in 1958, USSR leader Nikita Khrushchev made another attempt to force the

Western Allies to withdraw their forces from Berlin's Western sectors and accept the demilitarization of the city. The Soviet Union now threatened to sign a separate peace treaty with East Germany and change the city's status unilaterally and irreversibly, while keeping the pressure on through the threat of force.

Coordinated and coherent planning

In 1948-1949, Allies were unprepared and had to resort to a challenging yet successful air bridge to break the Soviet blockade and re-supply West Berliners. In 1961, however, Allies were much better prepared to confront the Soviet ultimatum. Created in April 1959, a trilateral – France, UK and US – secret contingency planning staff codenamed *LIVE OAK* had worked on developing military measures to keep the road, rail and air corridors between the Federal Republic of Germany and West Berlin open at all times.

LIVE OAK was then led by Gen. Lauris Norstad as NATO Supreme Allied Commander, Europe (SACEUR) and Commander-in-Chief of the United States European Command (USCINCEUR).

In 1961, *LIVE OAK* moved from its original headquarters at US European Command in St-Germain-en-Laye near Paris to NATO's Supreme Headquarters Allied Powers Europe (SHAPE)

near Rocquencourt. That same year, West German military personnel joined *LIVE OAK* in a liaison capacity.

The move to the SHAPE compound aimed to ensure that *LIVE OAK*'s tripartite planning was synchronized with that of NATO's own planning (Berlin Contingency or BERCON Plans and associated Maritime Contingency (MARCON) Plans).

It was also intended to facilitate a transfer of command responsibility from *LIVE OAK* to NATO, should a crisis over Berlin escalate into a wider conflict in Central Europe. Following France's withdrawal from NATO's integrated military command in 1966, *LIVE OAK* and SHAPE moved to Mons in Belgium.

Political oversight

Both the *LIVE OAK* and NATO contingency plans were developed under strict political control and remained under the close supervision of the ambassadors exercising that control on behalf of Allied capitals. The Washington Ambassadorial Group (WAG) oversaw *LIVE OAK* plans and the North Atlantic Council (NAC) supervised NATO's plans. Contingency plans were complemented with political, economic, psychological and public diplomacy measures designed to convey Western resolve and deter hostile action.

This close supervision by political authorities helped to

ensure that any threatening moves by the Soviet Union or the GDR would be responded to firmly, but prudently. It also ensured that the interests and prerogatives of all Allies would be protected, not just the four *LIVE OAK* nations if tensions escalated or conflict ensued.

What declassified documents reveal

To mark the 50th anniversary of the 1961 Berlin crisis, NATO has declassified and released to the public some 370 documents from this period, many formerly classified at the highest level – *Cosmic Top Secret*. These documents shed light on the protracted and sometimes tense exchanges of view among NAC ambassadors on the hypothetical circumstances under which the Alliance as a whole would have had to take over the protection of Western access to West Berlin from *LIVE OAK*.

It is a testimony to the prudence and firmness embedded in the *LIVE OAK* and NATO contingency plans that Berlin never became the trigger of a general conflict in Europe. The Berlin Wall came down on 9 November 1989 and the Cold War came to a peaceful end. *LIVE OAK* was disbanded on 2 October 1990 on the eve of Germany's reunification. All the arrangements and plans for the protection of Western access to, and for the defence of, West Berlin ceased to exist.

Source www.nato.int



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22 September 2011
Annual Terry Fox Run for cancer research

You are invited to join the fight against cancer. A donation is appreciated! All proceeds will be donated to the German Cancer Society (*Deutsche Krebshilfe e.V.*).

This year the run will be held at the NATO Base Geilenkirchen. You can run, walk or bike a 5 km or 10 km route, which extends around the airfield on 22 September.

Registration will begin at the Canadian National Support Unit (NSU), building 98 from 1200-1300 followed by a warm-up and kick-off. See the main page of the E-3A

Windows SharePoint (WSS) to pre-register! All participants are invited to a BBQ at the Canadian NSU following the run, where hamburgers, bratwurst and soft drinks will be sold.

"A Single Dream. A World of Hope."

For more information or to volunteer, please contact MSgt. Marlene Shillingford, ext. 2458, or Capt. Blair Barthel, ext 4416.

This year the run will be held at the NATO Air Base Geilenkirchen!



Volume 27, No. 15 26 August 2011

NATO Skywatch is an authorized, unofficial commercial enterprise newspaper published under exclusive written agreement with the NAEW&CF E-3A Component by HOUX DIGIPRINT, Arendstraat 3, 6135 KT Sittard, +31 (0)46 4582111. Opinions expressed by contributors are their

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The TCA celebrates history

Photos pages 1 and 4 courtesy TCA Squadron



By Lt.Col. Andres F. Gamboa

Once upon a time in the late 1988's, the participating NAEW&CF nations provided the E-3A Component with three additional support aircraft, called Training Cargo Aircraft (TCA), to augment the E-3As for training and operation.

At that time, the responsibility of the TCA operations and training was assigned to the Operations Wing Trainer Cargo Division (OWTC).

The TCA Squadron - as it is known today - was formed on 20 March 2000. Designated as Squadron 5, the TCA Squadron became an integral part of the NAEW&CF, supporting both the E-3A and E-3D Components.

Now the TCA Squadron and jets are approaching their end at the NATO E-3A Component, taking advantage of the 'summer time' (which seems more like fall) and mainly before all Squadron personnel slowly

start to leave the Component, the TCA squadron organized a farewell party in July. All present and former members gathered and all had time to share their experiences, proving that the TCA spirit lives on.

The first TCA with tail number 19997 was phased out on 9 August 2010, when it was flown to Davis-Monthan Air Force Base near Tuscan, Arizona, and taken to the Aerospace Maintenance and Regeneration Center (AMARC) often referred

to as 'the bone-yard' in the desert.

The second TCA is scheduled to be phased out by the end of next month to go to Manching, and the third and last one will leave the Component beginning of December.

The TCA will be replaced by an aircraft of TNT Airlines S.A. from Liège, Belgium, which was awarded a five-year contract to provide cargo and passenger service beginning 1 January 2012.

Chile and Easter Island Tour organized by SHAPE and NATO HQ

Discover the magic at the other end of the world. Come to Chile, the fascinating destination in South America, from 10 to 26 November 2011. Escorted tour from Brussels with English-speaking guide.

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Price for the travel package: €3,984 including international flights from Brussels to Santiago de Chile. All national flights with very good, charming hotels, meals as indicated in the program and all visits are conducted by English-speaking guides.

Booking details: deadline for booking is 11 September 2011. If you are interested, please book as early as possible. The number of places is limited.

For more information, program and booking, please contact Veronique Leroy by email to 730725@gmail.com. This tour is organized especially for all SHAPE and NATO HQ personnel, members of other international HQs and organizations, and their families and friends.

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Yellow-black striped neighbors

Text and photos Lt.Col. Antje Kalka

They have a bad image: wasps. During summer time they are considered as an aggressive, nasty, poisonous pest that needs to be defeated.

In my opinion, wasps are beautiful and fascinating. In the past weeks, I have had the chance to learn a lot about wasps after an animal had dug up a wasps' nest located under a hedge in front of my office. The wasps were a bit irritated but immediately started to repair the comb structure of their nest, creating a paper-like substance by chewing wood fibers.

'Our' wasps belong to the species '*vespula germanica*'. You easily can distinguish them from other species because they have one to three black points on their yellow forehead.

Head of the wasp colony is the queen. Her 'royal household' consists of one or more fertile male wasps and a lot of sterile female workers, primarily responsible for the construction of the nest. In autumn, however, most of the wasps die away. Only the young mated queen(s) hibernate for the winter.

Following the Japanese proverb

"a wasp stings the crying face"; I ignored all prejudices against the aggressive insects and took pictures close to the nest. No problem and not at all a heroic deed. Wasps are never interested in teaching a human being 'just for fun' a lesson with their venomous stings. They only sting when they feel threatened.

Wasps love everything with nectar or nectar-like substances. That is the reason why they are attracted by sweets such as cake, fruits or soft drinks. Just avoid offering them those delicious food sources. Also perfumes, hairspray and styling gel have sweet smelling ingredients – and it takes a certain time until a wasp recognizes that this is not the nutrition it is looking for ...

Therefore it is best to make yourself as less an attractive object as possible when there are likely to be wasps in the immediate environment – and the risk to be stung is effectively minimized.

And if a wasp is in your office, keep quiet. If you are brave, just take a mug or a tumbler when a wasp sits on a window pane, wait until the wasp has crawled in, cover the mug with a sheet of paper – and give your yellow-black striped neighbor the opportunity to fly away.



Vacancy announcement

Applications are invited for the following posts:

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For further details, please visit the E-3A Component (WSS) Portal under Headquarters/ A1/A1CP/A1CR / Recruitment, the official E-3A Component internet homepage at www.e3a.nato.int or review the advertisement posted in building 8.

Note: Only applications of qualified personnel will be considered.

What could go wrong?

By MSgt. Christopher Brown,
Safety Division

The World Health Organization (WHO) estimated that in 2008 there were four million unintentional deaths worldwide due to accidents. The majority of these accidents occurred during the summer months. With summer having started, the Safety Division hopes that you ask yourself one question "What could go wrong with what I am about to do?"

It's an unfortunate reality that after spending eight to twelve hours in an environment where rules, regulations and requirements dictate safe behavior, a transformation takes place after you exit the gate. The numerous safety briefings and discussions with leadership about being safe and applying risk management principles seem to be forgotten, or at least put to the side until the next duty day.

When on-base, individuals generally obey the 50 km/h speed limit and wear a seatbelt. Again, it's as if a transformation takes place when individuals might drive off-base because it's difficult to find anyone

actually going the posted speed limit or wearing a seatbelt 100% of the time. You have to ask yourself if they gave any thought to the possibility of something going wrong.

Do you think they thought about how excessive speeds in a vehicle make it more difficult to maneuver or stop if an obstacle gets in their way? Or how seatbelts save lives by allowing the individual to ride down the crash, instead of hitting the steering wheel at the vehicle's current speed. Do you think they thought about the fact that the leading cause of off-duty fatalities during the summer months is the result of private motor vehicle accidents? The answer is probably not.

Private motor vehicle hazards are just one in a list of hazards associated with spring and summer activities. Did you know one of the leading causes for fatalities during the summer months involves water sports and drowning? In 2004 64,379 deaths worldwide were from drowning. Do you think these individuals planned for what could go wrong? Probably not, in fact, one quarter of these drownings happen

to swimmers and in environments that were unsupervised (no lifeguards), or the individual had consumed alcohol and was not wearing a life vest.

Statistics show that accidents do happen. Using risk management, even when off-duty, is the key to accident prevention. Whatever you choose to do this summer, the Safety Division hopes each and every one of you will realize that you possess the ability to prevent accidents from occurring. As long as you understand that 'what can go wrong, usually does when you don't plan for it' and 'just because it didn't go wrong the first time or the hundredth time, doesn't mean that your luck won't run out eventually'.

Ask yourself, "What could go wrong with what I am about to do?", before something bad happens.

Let's practice a little risk management in our daily lives and enjoy the summer.

Sources www.nationmaster.com and from the International Life Saving Federation on www.ilsf.org

Service Desk hits 10,000 requests

By SMSgt. Dieter Schmitz and
Capt. Sam Denney

The IT Wing (ITW) reached a significant milestone on 27 June with the 10,000th incident in the Incident Management Tool (IMT). The legacy system became all but a distant memory. The dedicated staff of the Consolidated Service Desk (CSD)

has worked very hard to grow and professionalize customer access to the services that CIS provides.

The two primary goals over this past year were to provide customers with a friendly, knowledgeable, professional contact to help solve their IT-related issues and to provide a tool with which to create and track

these issues, and at the same time provide transparency to our customers using the IMT.

After going live on 1 June last year, IMT has become the prized asset for IT Wing CIS incident management. IMT allows the CSD to electronically store, route, assign and trace all issues or requests from Component customers from cradle-to-grave.

It gives each incident a unique number and gives users several ways to easily track the status of their incident. IT focal points, technicians and coordinators use it to solve CIS issues at a rate of 87% of calls per month. It is also possible to send incidents via e-mail to ofc-cis@e3a.nato.int.

More interesting is what ITW has planned for the future, as IMT inevitably evolves into the sole incident tracking tool for all Component IT-related issues.

Additionally, the integrated software producer *Ilias Solutions* will continue to add new features and functionality, including a Request For Change (RFC) module allowing requests for new equipment and network configuration changes to be automatically routed by the system to the appropriate action offices in the future. Modern technology, and a nice user interface, makes it effective and easy to use. All this helps our talented staff of technicians assist Component customers to ensure that their CIS equipment is functional and available for accomplishing the mission.

Congratulations to the outstanding CSD professionals in meeting this milestone!



SSgt. Sean Vogelaar and Mrs. Gerrie Savelkoul at their working places at CSD (from left to right).

Photo Andrea Hohenforst

ID 007 retires on 30 August

By Günter Diehm

007 And we are not talking about James Bond, it is Mr. Peter De Coster, Branch Chief Materiel Management Branch, Supply Squadron, Logistics Wing who retires on 30 August after 31 years of faithful, loyal and dedicated service to the E-3A Component.

Capt. (GEAF) Peter De Coster arrived here on 28 April 1980 as acting Chief Supply Branch (LOSM). With ID card number 007 he was one of the first key personnel in the Logistics Division. At that time he was one of the main players establishing support interfaces with the German forces by attending meetings with the German Ministry of Defense in Bonn and various other agencies.

At the same time he was deeply involved in reviewing the NAPMA Logistics Plan, the Operational Readiness Plan for Supply, the proposed supply concept for the E-3A Component, the draft REAL and the existing job descriptions. Fluent in both German and English, he taught supply classes for inventory management and warehouse procedures for the entire supply community in both languages.

After that early pioneer work he became a NATO Civilian A-2 on 1 February 1981 and afterwards Chief

Materiel Management Branch. In that position he attended a formal Supply Operations Officer training course at Lowry AFB, Denver, Colorado, and various other supply-related courses.

Peter was then promoted to NIC A-3 and served as the Chief Stock Control Section until summer 2010, when he again assumed the position of Branch Chief – Materiel Management Branch LWSG.

He is also well-known for various sporting achievements, especially as the unbeaten swimming champion of Supply Squadron, despite strong challenges from CMSgt. Warren Hayashi and the famous Ann Wood-Brown. Besides walking his favorite

hobbies also include the German 'Schafskopf' and the French card game 'Skat'.

Pete, all your colleagues, co-workers, supervisors and friends from both the Logistics Wing Supply Squadron and the entire E-3A family wish you and your wife Gerdi all the best, with many, many harmonious, healthy and interesting years to come.

Dangschee un pfiat di!
(translation
Bavarian-English:
Thank you and goodbye!)

Some impressions of Peter De Coster throughout his Component years.





This year's participants of the summer IYA football camp together with their supervisors and their briefers from Squadron 3 SMSgt. Jürgen Wiczarkowicz and MSgt. Mirco 'Howie' Hauschild – a special thank-you for the excellent explanations about the aircraft during the walkthrough as well as to our colleagues from the Fire Department.

Photo Andrea Hohenforst

Youth summer football camp

Young football fans participated in this year's camp

By Stephanie Chalmers and Jörg Halfenberg

The youth summer football camp, which was held from 8-12 August for the children of Component families and the youth of the soccer club Germania Teveren was, for the 4th consecutive year, a successful venture in 2011. A total of 36 children signed up, 19 of which were Component members' dependants, the remainder being from Germania Teveren.

For five days, the youth were given the chance to participate in two daily

training sessions of 150 minutes each. These sessions were organized to help the youth improve their technical and tactical skills while also working on their coordination, agility and running skills. The young football players were able to show what they had learnt and put their newly-acquired skills to use straight away in the many friendly games.

One of the special features of the camp is the mixture of different

cultures and nationalities it brings together. Many new friendships were formed between the youth, who were also able to work on their language skills, as the camp was conducted in both English and German. This contributed significantly to fostering intercultural relationships, one of the other objectives of the camp.

One of the highlights for the children was the walkthrough of an E-3A and the visit of the Fire

Department on Thursday. The parent/children games festival, which took place on the last day of the camp, was another special event.

Parents interested in football were given the opportunity to see what the camp is all about. The mothers and fathers were able to experience how their sons and daughters learned new technical and tactical elements of the game in a fun way, by playing against their children.

Belgian NSU celebrates national day

By CMSgt. Ronny Aerts

In the third week of July, a part of the parking space in front of building 83 was blocked for a few days. Many Component members were wondering why, but it all became clear on 20 July: On this day the Belgian National Support Unit (NSU) started building up a few tents for their national day event on 21 July.

21 July is an official national holiday in Belgium as Leopold of Saxe-Coburg took oath as the first king of Belgium. In Belgium, there are numerous ceremonies nationwide and a special military parade that takes place every year in Brussels.

Here, in Germany, it is a working day for the Belgians but every year we celebrate this holiday at

the Component. On this day, the Belgian NSU invites all Belgian personnel and former Component members and their families to celebrate together.

Since many years this event took place at the swimming pool area. This year, however, we decided to break this tradition and to do something different at the parking lot of the Belgian NSU. In the afternoon, we started with an E-3A walk-through, followed by a BBQ and a party in the evening.

For the kids there were several attractions, including a bouncing castle.

It is also famous tradition that newcomers are being 'baptized'. They are thrown into the pool with their clothes on. Since this year we didn't

celebrate at the pool, a small plastic children's pool suited well for the job.

The new formula was a big success since we had almost 100 participants, who were very pleased and said that they would like to come again next year.

I would like to take the opportunity to thank everybody who helped and supported us. For three people of the Belgian team, **SSgt. Marcel Delien, SrA. Fred Lebrun and SrA. Ronny Kreemers**, it was their last year here at the Component and I would like to especially thank them for all their hard work they did in the past and in this year.

So, if the parking area is blocked again in July 2012, everybody will know that it is time again for the Belgian national day BBQ party.

Largest open air restaurant

This weekend, Maastricht hosts the 30th Preuvenemint, the largest culinary event of the Netherlands, which takes place every last weekend in August at the Vrijthof in Maastricht. The name *Preuvenemint* is a combination of the Maastricht dialect word for tasting (*preuve*) and event (*evenemint*). This popular event gets each year more than 100,000 visitors.

Some 30 restaurants, catering services and others offer the possibility to taste their products varying from sate and baguettes to a selection of exclusive dishes such as lobster and exotic delicacies.

Instead of paying in euros, special bills can be bought for €2 each, the so-called *Preuvelappen*. The proceeds of these *Preuvelappen* will go to charity.

Open: 26 August from 1600-0200, 27 August from 1400-0200 and on 28 August from 1200-0200.

Medieval times in Gangelt

During the weekend of 10 and 11 September the medieval times return to Gangelt with a colorful medieval market atmosphere of archery, hatchet-throwing, battles, knights' tournaments and a fire-breather.

This amazing event is organized by the local association group 'Schildwächter', who act as tour guides and night watchmen for the town of Gangelt.

On the occasion of the official 'Monument Day' in Germany, the community of Gangelt would like to bring its history back to life for you and your family. You will be able to experience long-forgotten times where knights have their tournaments, jugglers demonstrate their tricks, real birds of prey perform and specialities of the middle ages are offered. Many knights and their companions in historical costumes will meet at the old city wall in front of Gangelt's gates to set up their camp and to present it to Gangelt and its visitors.

The grand opening of this unique event in the local region will

commence at 1100 on 10 September, officiated by Mayor Bernhard Tholen.

This year's program is full of interesting events for young and old alike, and with various attractions such as battle of the knights, a 'children's' zoo with donkeys, sheep and ponies, a bird show, handicraft objects, traditional music, jugglers, archery and axe-throwing. Culinary master pieces and special medieval drinks will complete this tremendous opportunity to experience the old historical way of living.

In former times the 'Schildwächter' were responsible for watching over of shields and weaponry, and the local association 'Die Schildwächter zu Gangelt' (Watchmen of Gangelt) will offer two guided tours during the medieval event.

Guided tours (in German language)

On 10 September, 1900, Mrs. Monika Tholen from the 'Schildwächter' will guide a tour through medieval Gangelt, wearing historical costumes and accompanied by the knights (starting point: historic market).

On 11 September, at 1400, she also plans a tour through Gangelt and the church of St. Nikolaus (starting point: town hall).

There is no entrance fee to this event and everybody is welcome!



Photos Karl-Heinz Hamacher



Jacobs automobile sales team looks forward to your visit:

(l. to r.w): Achim Käfferlein, Martin Deffur, Michael Wittwer, Gerd Caron, Lothar Herfs, Marcel Oellers, Markus Weber, Alfred Deffur, Michael Marx.

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| = Darlehenssumme | 14.255,60 € |
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| Nominalzins: | p. a. 2,41 % |
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Visit the Services Branch WSS web page for the latest program information and upcoming events

MWA card issuing office

MWA cards are being issued in building 80 (Services Branch Accounting Section), room 16. Office opening hours are as follows: Monday-Thursday from 0900-1130 & 1300-1500 and on Friday 0900-1130. A MWA card costs €60 for everyone for a period of twelve months – payment only in cash. As a MWA card holder you will receive a 30% discount on all food/beverage items purchased at the E-3A Club/Rotodome, and also on participation in all MWA programs on base. You will also receive the Food Services Newsletter and the weekly Rotodome menu per email, if you wish.

Shopping cards

All Component members and dependants with an ID card expiration date in 2013 are reminded to pick up their shopping cards in September 2011. Personnel who have not yet picked up their shopping cards from phases 1, 2 & 3 (ID expiry dates: 2014, 2015, 2016) should do so as soon as possible.

The shopping card is being issued free of charge at building 80, room 13, opening hours: Monday-Friday, 0900-1130.

Food Services System

Please contact Mr. René Peeters, ext. 4990 or email to rpeeters@e3a.nato.int

Rotodome

Opening hours: Monday-Friday: 0600-1900 serving breakfast, lunch and dinner along with a fast food line (i.e. pizza, hamburgers, etc.).

The Rotodome is the main MWA food facility open to everybody. Enjoy your meal or just a coffee or a cold drink sitting in the sun on our south-facing terrace.

Rotodome pizza

Please call ext. 4937 to pre-order pizza. During the busy lunch-time periods, we cannot guarantee the pizza will be available exactly at the requested time - pizzas are freshly made and require more preparation time. All pizzas are also available for take away.

Visit our Component's Food Services System WSS page for detailed information on menus and fast food items as well as prices. Customers wishing to receive the menu per e-mail, are requested to email to rpeeters@e3a.nato.int for being added on the automatic distribution list.

E-3A Club

Opening hours: Monday, Tuesday, Thursday & Friday from 1100-2200, Wednesday from 1100-1600. The Red Lion Bar will open earlier at 1600 for your convenience.

Coffee & cake (€3,55), toasties and bockwurst with salad are served every

MWA INFORMATION September

day as of 1100.

Coffee-to-go is also available.

Additionally, a small warm dish with bread is offered from 1100-1330.

Price for MWA members is €2,50 and for non-MWA members €3,50.

The E-3A Club is equipped to cater for all special functions, official dinners, conferences, meetings, etc., on a limited basis. Please contact Mr. Peeters, ext. 4990 to arrange details.

The Kegelbahn, located in building 60, is open for use on a rental basis. Please ask the Food Activity Manager for a free slot.

Special events

Friday, 2 September: Karaoke & Steak Night. There will be a Karaoke in the main bar of the E-3A Club, from 1600-2200. Additionally there will be a Steak Night in the Preveza room from 1700-2000.

Sunday, 4 September: Italian Brunch from 1100-1400

The brunch consists of:

- breakfast
 - variety of starters (Anti-Pasti, tomato with mozzarella)
 - main courses (Scaloppini, Lasagna, Tortellini, etc.)
 - desserts (Tiramisu, Panna cotta).
- Price: €16 for members, €8 for kids 4-12 years. Please make reservations before 2 September, 1200, ext. 4990/1.

Sports Department

Opening hours: Monday-Friday from 0600-2100 and on weekends from 0800-2000.

No Sports staff available at the New Gym from Monday-Thursday after 1700, Friday after 1430 and at weekends.

All Component personnel are authorized to utilize the sports facilities free of charge. However, participation in fitness classes with instructor, i.e. spinning, aerobics, dance classes, etc. is restricted to personnel in possession of a valid MWA membership card. Daily checks will be conducted.

Sunday, 4 September: Last day of the swimming pool season

Monday, 12 September: Registration deadline for the winter schedule for the New Gym, Multi-purpose Room and the Old Gym
Monday, 19 September: Start registration for the Volleyball League/Tournament

19-22 September Fitness Week

Fitness classes

Come along and try out one of the many fitness classes offered at



the Sports Department. See schedule on the Sports Department WSS page.

International Library

Operating hours 1100-1500, Monday through Friday.

International Youth Activities

Information and registration at the IYA Office in Bldg. 95, ext. 4954/4955.

Trip to Waterloo and Brussels

Saturday, 17 September, 0800-2000. Visit the lively historical site where Napoleon's troops met those of Wellington and Bluecher. The fascinating attractions let you relive one of the greatest battles in European history. Enjoy the rest of your day in the center of Brussels with its famous Grand Place, the Cathedral, Manneken Pis Fountain, Belle Epoque Malls and thousands of stores and restaurants. Cost is €29 for ages 18 and up, €27 for ages 7 to 17 and €21 for ages 6 and under; with your valid MWA card pay only €21 for ages 18 and up, €20 for ages 7 to 17 and €15 for ages 6 and under, including Lion Hamlet Pass to Waterloo attractions.

Trip to Amsterdam

Saturday, 15 October, 0800-2100. Explore the historic center, take a canal cruise through its wealth of waterways along beautiful houses built by wealthy merchants during the Golden Age of the Netherlands. You can visit the Royal Palace, the Anne Frank House and famous museums with paintings by Van Gogh, Rembrandt and Vermeer; and you will find street markets and thousands of stores and restaurants. Cost is €23,50 per person, pay only €16,50 per person with your valid MWA Card.

Instructional classes for children

Ballet, Tap & Jazz, Mixed Martial Arts, swimming for beginners, Zumbatomic.

Thrift Shop

Opening hours 1000-1400 every Tuesday and Thursday, ext. 4919.

10 September: Park & sell flea market on base

The Park & Sell (flea market/garage sale type event) is held the second Saturday of every month from May through October. The next Park & Sell is on Saturday, 10 September from 0900-1300. It is located at the U.S. Dental Clinic Parking lot (next to the NATEX grocery store). Sellers show up and set up on the morning of the event,

no reservation required. Sellers pay a small non-refundable fee and must sign and agree to the Park & Sell rules of engagement. Items €25 and over may only be sold to E-3A Component blue ID card holders.

Interesting items and good bargains can be found there. It is especially good for incoming and departing personnel to buy and sell items unique to the area, for example, 220 volt items. Open to NATO ID card holders.

For more information please contact Greg Johnson, ext. 2258.

Events in Aachen

By Janina Bien

Wine Festival for connoisseurs

Visit the wine summer festival in Aachen until Sunday, 28 August. More than 20 vintners from the Rhineland-Palatinate will offer their tasty wines on the Katschhof square, between Aachen Cathedral and the City Hall. This year's focus is on presenting the various regions and famous wine-producing areas: Ahr, Central Rhineland, Moselle, Pfalz and Rhine-Hesse. More information can be found at www.weinsommer.de.

Festival opening hours are as follows: 26 August 1600-2300, 27 August 1100-2300, 28 August 1200-2200.

Kurpark Classix live

Mr. Marcus R. Bosch, Generalmusikdirektor of the city of Aachen, and the Aachener Sinfoniker invite you to this year's Kurpark Classix in Aachen. Enjoy fantastic open-air concerts featuring the most beautiful arias, ensembles and choirs, with compositions by Giuseppe Verdi, Richard Wagner, Franz Léhar, Giacomo Puccini, Leonard Bernstein, Cole Porter, etc.

The three famous sopranos Irina Popova, Jelena Rakic and Katharina Hagopian, the tenor Yikun Chung and other international guests will welcome you with their spectacular shows from 2-4 September.

- **A Night At The Opera**
2 September, 2000
- **Swing Symphony with Roger Cicero and band**
3 September, 2000
- **Classix for Kids**
4 September, 1100
- **Last Night**
4 September, 1930, with a fantastic fireworks display

Detailed information about this event can be found at www.kurparkclassix.de

Photo courtesy www.kurparkclassix.de





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