

The Component's 30 Year Jubilee needs YOU!



Photo by Staff Sgt. R. Michael Longoria

Volunteers, Master Sgts. Markus Lehmann and Ingo Senft, put up posters in Übach-Palenberg on May 21 to help promote the upcoming 30 Year Jubilee.

By Maureen Geraets-Head

Only three weeks until the E-3A Component's 30 Year Jubilee festivities start! So far, roughly 15,000 tickets have been sold during the pre-sale.

The Jubilee Committee together with many agencies on base, including the National Support Units, are working hard to turn these two days into a spectacular event.

More than 40,000 visitors are expected for this event, it is obvious that a lot of support is needed from Component personnel.

"Volunteers are one of the most visible aspects in such an event," says Leon Koolen, the Information Manager of the 30 year Jubilee event. "I'd like to see it as a teambuilding event, an opportunity to get to work together with colleagues in a role that

is often totally different from your normal work. What strikes me most since I was pulled on board of this project is the enthusiasm, creativity and willingness to take the extra step to turn "impossible" to "yep, we can".

There are still some 80 volunteers needed to make this 30 Year Jubilee a success! The tendency is that one always thinks "others will volunteer." That's a misconception; you could volunteer, too!

Mr. Jo Collaris from the Base Support Division signed up as volunteer, "It is my personal opinion that when this base organizes such a major event, it is without question that I support. I like to refer to the expression "Many hands make light work".

You, as a volunteer, can assist during the spotters event, provide

assistance for static display crews, be a driver, sell tickets at the day ticket sale desk, assist as stage crew, be one of the narrators, help with the children's entertainment, or sell MWA merchandizing.

Mrs. Heather Hubner, a staff assistant at Budget and Finance Division, "I have been volunteering for as long as I can remember. I find that volunteering has given me the chance to be a part of a team where I can donate my skills, interact with the community and experience diverse cultures. The single reason why I volunteer is because I find it to be fun and rewarding and that is why I want to help with the 30 year Jubilee."

The volunteers get an access pass for the event area and for the timeframe that they are scheduled for. Free food and beverages will be available for this work force.

A list with duties and timings can be found on the WWS Portal page under the 30 Year Jubilee logo, section Volunteer corner.

A briefing for all volunteers is scheduled for 30 May, 10:00 a.m. in the Training Wing Auditorium. All volunteers and candidate volunteers are welcome to attend.

Koolen continues, "You can sign up from Wednesday, June 13, at 2 p.m. until Monday, June 18, to assist for half a day or just for a couple of hours. If you are available for three hours and the slot asks for four hours, no problem, that can be arranged. There is maximum flexibility".

Your dependants are welcome to assist provided they are at least 16 years old. Your support will always be highly appreciated, even if you are only available for a couple of hours.

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Rain could not keep children away from fun

By OF-2 Sen Yusuf

The 24th International Children Festival (ICF) was celebrated May 5, it was a rainy and chilly day. The question we, the organizers, had in the beginning was whether or not the rainy weather would cause children to stay at home and not come to the Festival.

However, we all took a deep sigh of relief as the Mass Briefing Facility was packed with children and their parents for the official opening ceremony.

The first to speak was Brig. Gen. Burkhard Pototzky, the E-3A Component commander. He emphasized that children of today are

grown-ups of tomorrow, and that the Component realizes their importance by sponsoring the ICF every year. The commander continued his speech with his appreciation for the personnel who worked for ICF.

General Pototzky's speech was followed by the Turkish Senior National Representative, Lt. Col. Veysel Kavak, who highlighted the history of ICF and expressed his appreciation for everyone who participated in the preparation of this organization.

The winners of the painting contest were extremely happy and excited as were their parents. During dance performances by the IYA, the stage was lit up by the flashes of parents' cameras. IYA ballets were very happy because for the first time this year they received great presents, contributed by NATEX.

IYA was followed by the colorful performances of other groups including the Turkish Folk Dance, Zumba, Portugal Folk Dance, the International School Cheer Leading Team and Heerlen Dance Group.



Courtesy photos

Indoor performances ended with a very pleasant show by the magician.

The activities outside were even more vibrant. In addition to a number of toys, the children and their parents took the NATO Train around the base, enjoyed riding the pony, and had flowers painted on their faces by the IYA face painting team. It was worth seeing how happy the children were watching the animals of the mini zoo. As usual, the Static Display was the highlight of the day for many people.

Seeing the happy faces of children was enough satisfaction for those that helped make this organization a success.



NATO delivers at Chicago Summit

NATO leaders reached agreements in Chicago that will enable the Alliance to provide security for the decade to come and beyond.

At their first working session, NATO Heads of State and Government approved a concrete package of multinational projects that will allow Allies to share the burden of security as they share the benefits.

They agreed to embrace a new culture of cooperation, with Smart Defence at the heart of the new approach.

"Smart Defence is a vital principle. We have agreed to make it the new way NATO does business, and we are putting it into practice. Today, we approved a robust package of more than 20 multinational projects, to provide the capabilities we need, at a price we can afford", the Secretary General said.

NATO leaders agreed to find new ways to cooperate more closely towards modern, tightly connected forces that are equipped and trained, so that they can operate together and with partners in any environment. They agreed to step up exercises, training and education and to

preserve the skills mastered in operations.

"Our goal is NATO Forces 2020 – an Alliance that deals with today's economic challenges, and is prepared for the security challenges of the future," the Secretary General said. "These decisions show that despite the economic challenges, Allies are committed to acquire, develop and maintain the capabilities and the skills we need to ensure that our Alliance remains fit for purpose and fit for the future."

At their meeting in Chicago, NATO leaders also declared an interim missile defence capability, that will allow the Alliance to respond to missile threats in a coordinated way and that will link together missile defence assets from different allies.

"This is true trans-atlantic teamwork: the United States and European Allies investing in our common security. And it is an excellent example of the renewed culture of cooperation which we call Smart Defence: countries working together to develop capabilities



Courtesy photo

The Prime Minister of the United Kingdom, David Cameron, US President Barack Obama, NATO Secretary General Anders Fogh Rasmussen and the Secretary of the NATO Council, Ted Whiteside during the working dinner of Heads of State and Government.

which they could not develop alone", the Secretary General said.

NATO Heads of State and Government also approved the results of the review of the Alliance's overall posture in deterring and defending against the full range of threats to the Alliance, as decided at the Lisbon Summit in 2010. Taking into account the changes in the evolving international security environment, the review has shown that NATO currently has the appropriate mix

of capabilities to meet the security challenges of an unpredictable world. At the same time, Allies agreed that NATO will continue to adjust its strategy and capabilities in line with trends in the security environment.

At the Alliance's Summit in Lisbon in 2010, NATO leaders outlined an ambitious agenda including creating a NATO-based missile defence system. And at the Summit in Chicago, NATO leaders are delivering on what they set out to achieve.



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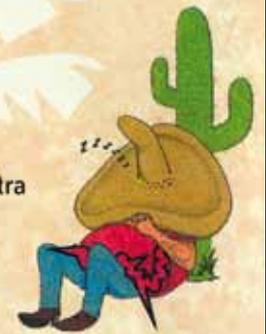
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One of the highlights for the upcoming 30 Year Jubilee

The upcoming 30 Year Jubilee on June 16 and 17 at NATO Air Base Geilenkirchen will feature numerous musical acts in addition to a variety of other entertainment options.

One of the bands participating in the E-3A Component parade is the Crossed Swords Pipe Band.

The Crossed Swords Pipe Band is a European Pipe Band, led by the British Army. The band was formed in 2007 on the initiative of Major General Melvin and his personal piper David Moir.

The Band is based at JHQ Rheindahlen. They have already performed in a smaller formation at the NATO Music Festival in Mönchengladbach and at the British Military Music Show.

Following the change in command to Major General Caplin, the Band has continued to be supported and has further expanded.

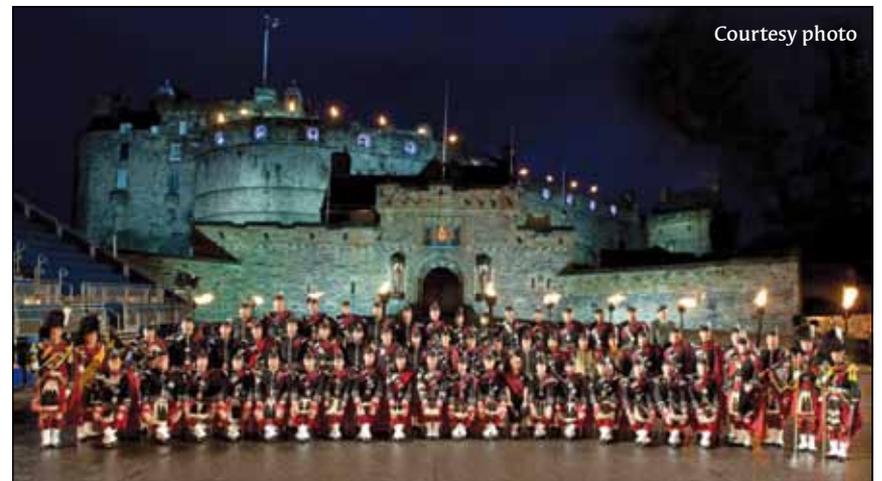
The Band has grown to its present strength under the Musical Director, Pipe Major David Johnston, late of Irish Guards, Queens Royal Irish Hussars and Royal Irish Regiment.

The band's calling is that of European Unity. Consequently members from as far afield as Ireland, Scotland, England, Wales, Luxembourg, Netherlands, USA, Austria, Denmark and Germany are to be found in its ranks.

A highlight for the Band was an invitation to the Military Music Show, Spasskaya Bashnya in Moscow

2010. The Crossed Swords put up a convincing performance on Red Square among military orchestras from Bahrain, Israel, France, USA, Germany and Kasachstan.

Especially impressive for the Band were the joint performances with renowned Russian Military Bands and the sight-seeing attractions of the Russian capital.



Operation Eagle Assist Draws to a Close

From the Skywatch Archives

Editor's Note: *This story was featured in Skywatch Volume 18, Number 7. This story is re-printed how it was published on May 24, 2002.*

After more than seven months of supporting the airspace defence of the United States, all NATO Airborne Warning and Control System aircrews and support personnel have returned home to NATO Air Base Geilenkirchen, Germany.

This official ending of Operation Eagle Assist was marked by ceremonies last week at both the deployed location of Tinker Air Force Base, Okla., and the component's main operation base.

In a ceremony at Tinker May 15, Brig. Ben T. Robinson, 552nd Air Control Wing commander, and others bade farewell to the NATO troops and thanked them for their selfless sacrifice at such a critical time in the nation's history.

Since arriving at Tinker on Oct. 9, 2001, NATO AWACS aircraft, and crewmembers and support personnel from 13 nations provided direct support to the 552nd ACW by flying more than 360 sorties and logging more than 4,300 flying hours.

The ceremony at Geilenkirchen May 16 was hosted by E-3A Component Commander Maj. Gen. Gary A Winterberger and attended by a virtual "who's who" of NATO leadership along with every on-duty member of the component.

NATO Secretary General Lord George Robertson was the first guest to take the stage, expressing his appreciation for the efforts of the component throughout the operation.

"Like the invocation of Article 5, this mission was an historic first for NATO," he said. "The transatlantic bond has grown even stronger as a result of your efforts. And, as a result of this renewed sense of common purpose; we have been able to deal the scourge of terrorism a major blow.

"The planes you fly and the skills you possess are unique," he added. "You are indispensable – which means that we will continue to count on you."

Next, U.S. Ambassador to NATO R. Nicholas Burns read a letter from the President of the United States George W. Bush.

Finally, Supreme Allied Commander Europe Gen. Joseph Ralston took the stage to congratulate the component on this most recent success.

"America was in need of help, and you came through with flying colors," he said. "You showed us all the way it is supposed to work. And you showed the American people what the Alliance is all about.

"I want to say thank you to all men and women, military and civilian who supported Operation Eagle Assist," he continued.

"You can all be tremendously proud of what you have accomplished. You did far more than give substance to NATO's historic declaration of Article 5. You kept America safe."

The Chairman of the NATO Military Committee Adm. Guido Venturoni also attended the ceremony but did not give a speech.

In an unexpected departure from the program, the distinguished guests took about 15 minutes after the speeches to mingle with the crowd and meet the component members personally, a gesture that was extremely well received by those in attendance.

With that, the ceremony concluded, and the distinguished visitors attended a reception with the component leadership and senior national representatives before departing.

Letter from
U.S. President George W. Bush
(as read by Ambassador Burns)

Dear Mr. Secretary General,

On behalf of the American people, I thank you and the members of the North Atlantic Treaty Organisation for the deployment of airborne early warning aircraft over the United States as part of Operation Noble Eagle.

We are deeply grateful for your support. The attack on the United States of September 11, 2001, shocked our Nation, and the American people will always remember the friendship and support of our NATO allies at this difficult time.

For 220 days, NATO aircrews from 13 nations flew mission to help patrol the skies over the United States. They lived among us, worked with us, and helped protect us. They implemented, for the first time, the commitment to collective defence that binds us together as an Alliance of free nations.

As these aircraft now return home, I thank the crews and support personnel, their families, and all the men and women serving in the armed force of NATO countries for their dedication to our common defence and the cause of freedom. Thank you for your leadership.

Sincerely,
George W. Bush

30 Years E-3A Component Jubilee Event

Dear Component members, please mark your calendar for one of the highlights we all will face shortly.

On 16 and 17 June, the NATO E-3A Component celebrate its '30 Years Jubilee event'.

The 17 nations on base are looking forward to this weekend full of events that will have something interesting to offer for every person of every age.



Friday 15 Jun 2012

Spotter's Event (1000-1600 Hrs)

Location: Bldg 21
Further details will follow

Pool party (1400-2200 Hrs)

Main purpose: welcome party with visiting aircrew members participating in the static display.
Location: swimming pool (if renovation is timely completed), otherwise Frisbee Club. Free entrance for Component members & display aircraft crew.

Saturday 16 Jun 2012

Hangar party (2000-0500 Hrs), maximum 5,000 visitors

Tickets: 15 € (pre-sale)
Day ticket: 17,50 €
Minimum age: 18
• A top party band and DJ
• Firework @ midnight

Saturday 16 Jun 2012

Public day (1000-1800 Hrs), maximum 20,000 visitors

- Static display from several participating countries
- 3 E-3 (AWACS) aircraft will be accessible for the public
- All kinds of entertainment
- Children's activities
- "Nations corner" (food, drinks,.....)

Sun 17 Jun 2012

Public day (1000-1800 Hrs), maximum 20,000 visitors

- Static Display from several participating countries
- 3 E-3 (AWACS) aircraft will be accessible for the public
- All kinds of entertainment + a demo of the Belgian National Taekwondo Team
- Children's activities
- "Nations corner" (food, drinks,.....)

	Day Event Sat 16 Jun Day Event Sun 17 Jun 1000-1800 Hrs Max 20,000 tickets/day	Hangar Party Sat 16 Jun 2000-0500 Hrs Max 6,500 tickets	Spotter's Event 15 Jun 2012 1000-1600Hrs Max 250 tickets
Active duty Component members (excluding dependents)	Free access		
Non-Component members (Adults)	Pre-sale: 5 € Day ticket: 7.50 €	Pre-sale: 15 € Day ticket: 17,50 €	15 € (Tickets and registration only available via the Spotter's Clubs)
Non-Component members (Children)	< 6 years: free 6-13 years: 2,50 € As of 14 years: 5 €	N/A (Minimum age: 18)	
Parking	2 €	N/A	N/A

GOOD TO KNOW

Ticket sales will start 16 April 2012 and will be announced via multiple channels. The Component is not allowed to exceed the maximum number of visitors. We therefore expect that all tickets will be sold out well before the event.

The tickets are event-specific, i.e. separate tickets for

- the spotter's event on Friday 15 Jun
- the public day on Saturday 16 Jun (children/adults)
- the hangar party on Saturday evening (minimum age 18 !)
- the public day on Sunday 17 Jun (children/adults)

WHAT KIND OF ACTIVITIES/ ATTRACTIONS CAN I EXPECT DURING THE EVENT?

During the daytime event:

- A static display with numerous jets, helicopters and historical aircraft
- 3 E-3A aircraft will be open to the public
- All kinds of entertainment (bands, dance groups,...)
- On Sunday afternoon, there will be a demo by the Belgian National Taekwondo Team
- Nations corner with typical food and drinks
- A large children's entertainment area (> 500 m²)

During the hangar party:

- A top party band and DJ from 2000-0500 Hrs
- A spectacular firework show @ midnight

Further details can be found on the event web page on Sharepoint.

VISITORS

- The event will be open for Component members and non-Component members.
- Volunteer support will be critical for the success of the event. You are always welcome to send an e-mail to E3AGK OFC - 30 Year Jubilee, and we will work out a schedule with a good balance between working and enjoying the event.

RESTRICTIONS

- For everyone's safety and security, a number of restrictions apply:
- All visitors will be searched when entering the event area.
- Bringing beverages (bottles, soft drinks) and bags onto the terrain is not allowed.
- Dogs & pets are not allowed.
- There will be a zero tolerance for vandalism, violence and inappropriate behaviour. Violators

will be turned over to the German Police and escorted off the terrain.

- Smoking is only permitted in clearly marked designated smoking areas.
- For safety reasons, barefoot walking or beach-type footwear (flip-flops) is not allowed during the hangar party (inside and outside).

TRAFFIC

- The Main Gate will only be used for vehicle traffic entering the base (4 lanes).
- The West Gate will only be used for vehicle traffic exiting the base.
- Pedestrians and bicyclists with a valid entrance ticket can enter via the main gate and proceed to the event area via the main road, using the access point near Bldg 217 (Hangar I area).

PARKING

Parking availabilities:

That depends on which part of the event you are visiting:

Visitors of the day events:

(Saturday/Sunday, 1000-1800 Hrs): Parking will be in the Northern area.

- All vehicles have to leave this parking lot before 2000 Hrs.

Visitors of the hangar party:

(Saturday, 2000-0500 Hrs):

- You can park in the vicinity of Hangar II (same parking concept like Oktoberfest).

Visitors of the day event and the Saturday evening hangar party:

- For the daytime event, you have to park in the Northern area, and you will have to remove your vehicle from that parking NLT 2000 Hrs. However, for your convenience, we offer the option to drive from the event parking lot to the Hangar II parking area (using the same route you would use coming back from the IDT area).
- Of course, there will be signs to route the traffic.

TAXIS

- All taxi companies in the local area have been informed that this event is taking place so they can schedule their capacity accordingly.
- Keep in mind that taxis will not be allowed to drive on base.
- During the hangar party, there will be NATO shuttle buses between the Main Gate and Hangar II.
- Additionally there will be shuttle busses between the bus station outside the Main Gate and the Geilenkirchen train station by the local bus company. The bus schedule is synchronized with the train schedules.

N A T O A W A C S





Photo by Hay Jansen

VIPs from Luxembourg

Members of the Luxembourg Foreign Affairs recently visited the E-3A Component at NATO Air Base Geilenkirchen, Germany. During the visit they took a tour of an AWACS and received a briefing from Component personnel.

Vehicle break-ins are on the rise

From the Provost Marshal

Over the past few weeks there have been an increased number of vehicle break-ins within the region.

Local police arrested one person who was responsible for approximately 42 break-ins alone in this area.

In order to safeguard yourself and your belongings, the following measures are being sent out as a reminder to everyone:

- Keep your vehicle locked, especially when away from your residence
- Keep all valuable belongings (GPS, cell phones, coins etc) out of plain sight
- Try to avoid leaving any military equipment in your vehicle, or conceal it from sight if you are going to be making stops
- Do not leave your NATO ID in your vehicle
- Do not keep NATO documents, pubs or information in your vehicle
- Remove the base parking pass from your front window

If you notice your car has been broken into or tampered with, contact the International Military Police as well as the local police, so we can continue to monitor this type of activity.

Think smart, be alert and stay safe!



Photo by Bridgette Longoria

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A member of the E-3A Component puts out a fire while the instructor Willem Hulshof looks on during fire extinguisher training at NATO Air Base Geilenkirchen.

Photo by Andrea Hohenforst

Fire, Fire, Fire

Did you know that only one drop of water can be able to enlarge 17-times more compared to its initial size?

This could happen when you put water in a heated pan after having cooked a delicious meal. The only important thing to remember is to switch off the electricity immediately and to cover the pan, if possible, with a cask cover or a wet piece of cloth, or even better a fire blanket, before giving a call to the fire brigade. Or did you know that a Christmas tree can burn completely within 30 seconds due to the very dry fir needles?

If not, it's time to attend one of the next trainings or refresh the knowledge on these important things as this can save lives. This and other important hints and tips you learn at the 'Fire Extinguisher Training' on base, organized and performed by the Fire Department.

Check the Component Bulletin for the next courses and locations or give a call to the Fire Department, ext. 4764, and note that there is a maximum of 15 positions per course.

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Class will start on June 4 and will take place from Monday through Thursday from 8:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. in Übach-Palenberg, Am Wasserturm 22.

If you are interested but still need more detailed information (example about the course and its costs) please contact Ulrike Thiele at +49 (0) 2451 915 97 21.

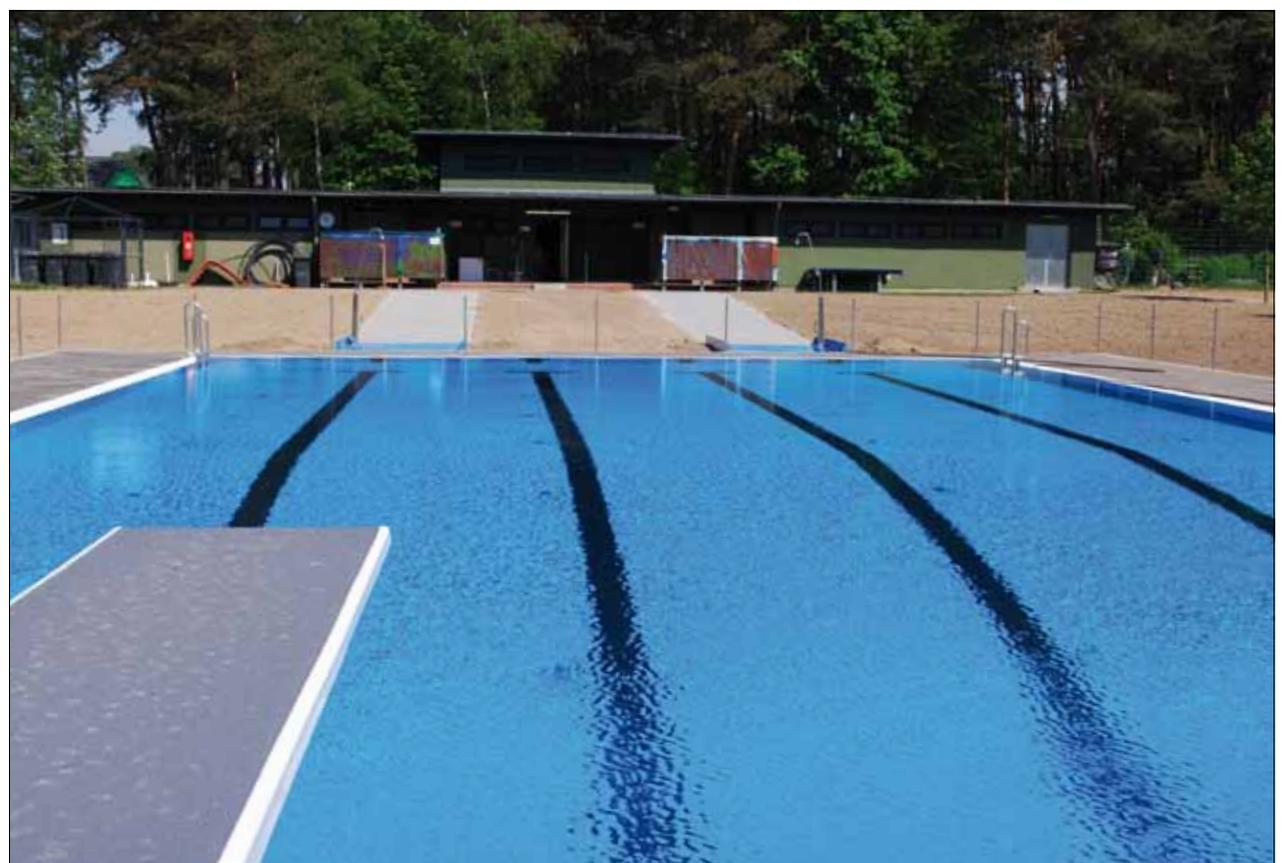


Photo by Janina Bien

Almost time to dive in

The newly renovated base pool is nearing completion. The pool now meets the European standard of a 25 meter basin and six lanes. The pool will be opened once all tests have been finished.



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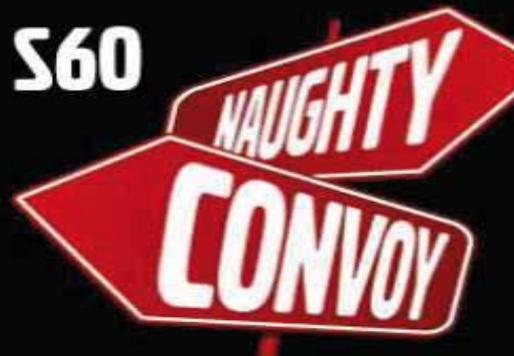
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