



Photo by Andre Joosten

Prepping for its final flight

Technicians from the Component Propulsion Shop replace three of the four engines on aircraft 449 as part of the retirement project. See pages 8 and 9 for a complete story on the 449 retirement project.

Every day is safety day

By Maureen Geraets-Head

"Safety is the foundation of our success, it is an important aspect in everything we do here", said Maj. Gen. Andrew Mueller during his opening words at the E-3A Component's Safety Day, organized by the Safety Office.

On April 27, 2015, during two separate 2.5 hour morning sessions, personnel received briefings on important safety aspects of the Component's mission.

The briefing's topics were focused on recognizing fatigue and how to prevent it; participating safely in traffic on and off base; recognizing and dealing with hazardous materials, and lessons learned from the demolition of building 216.

Safety recognition awards were given to Capt. Sascha Espig, Capt. Lars Berge, Master Sgt. Rui Rego and Capt. Robert Hunnum for preventing a runway incursion, and to Mr. Hans Scherer for preventing foreign object damage on the flightline.

General Mueller answers a question from the crowd during Safety Day.

Photo by André Joosten



www.facebook.com/NATOE3AComponent



www.twitter.com/E3AComponent



www.youtube.com/NATOE3AComponent



www.flickr.com/photos/e3acomponent

NATEX

EXPERIENCE THE DIFFERENCE

It's Coming!

natex-fest

THURSDAY 11
FRIDAY 12
SATURDAY 13
SUNDAY 14

JUNE 2015



GLEN GARIOCH 12 YEAR OLD
SINGLE MALT WHISKY
REG. 41.95 / 1L

29³⁵ Save 30%

GLEN GARIOCH
FOUNDER'S RESERVE
SINGLE MALT WHISKY
REG. 38.95 / 1L

27²⁰ Save 30%

LAMADORO PRIMITIVO
IGP PUGLIA
REG. 4.50 / 750ML

3³⁵ Save 25%

MASI ROSA
DEI MASI ROSÉ
REG. 7.50 / 750ML

5⁶⁰ Save 25%

MASI PINOT
GRIGIO MASIANCO
REG. 6.95 / 750ML

5⁵⁵ Save 20%

SALE DATES

FRIDAY 29 MAY –
THURSDAY 25
JUNE 2015



you asked we did it!

**NEW OPERATING HOURS
STARTING MONDAY 01 JUNE**

CONVENIENCEPLUS

Monday – Friday 07:30 – 18:00 hrs.

Saturday 10:00 – 17:00 hrs.

Sunday 11:00 – 17:00 hrs.

RETAILPLUS

Monday – Friday 10:30 – 18:00 hrs.

Saturday 10:00 – 17:00 hrs.

Sunday 11:00 – 17:00 hrs.



**WE'RE BRINGING
STARBUCKS
TO YOUR COMMUNITY!**

**GRAND
OPENING**

THURSDAY 11 JUNE
RIBBON CUTTING
AT 09.00 HRS.

See you there!

COMMANDER'S CORNER

MEN ÷ WOMEN OF THE
E-3A COMPONENT TEAM!



Professionalism, Perseverance and Pride!

This month, as chronicled in this edition of the SKYWATCH, aircraft LX-N 90449 was removed from the operational aircraft inventory in preparation for its final flight to Davis-Monthan Air Force Base in the United States. 449 will be transferred to the Aerospace Maintenance and Regeneration Group and placed into long-term storage.

There was nothing wrong with LX-N 90449; in fact, the last mission it flew was an assurance mission along the eastern border of the NATO Alliance. It completed this mission as tasked and landed Fully Mission Capable – ready for more.

Nevertheless, the retirement of 449 is just the next step in a series of changes which the E-3A Component will undergo over the next year to posture the NATO Airborne Early Warning and Control force for sustainment to 2035.

By far, the number one question I get asked regarding all of the planned changes to the E-3A Component is why – or why now?

There is no easy answer here as there are numerous combinations of national decisions, program direction from the NAPMO nations and overarching NATO strategic guidance which can all be used to tell the story.

No one decision stands out as the overarching reason for this reduction in force. However, taken in combination these decisions direct the reduction in both the size and capability of the E-3A Component – direction the E-3A Component followed with the retirement of aircraft 449.

If the current path for re-organization is maintained, by the end of 2017 the NAEW Force will be operating from a single international Headquarters located here at NATO Airbase Geilenkirchen. The E-3A Component will maintain operations with 14 aircraft and approximately 1,600 personnel.

To be clear, our Component will remain the second largest Airborne Command and Control Unit in the world, second only to that maintained by the United States. In addition, increased Airborne Early Warning and Control capability within the NATO alliance, in nations such as Turkey, Greece and Italy, offer the potential to provide NATO a larger AEW&C force in the future.

Unfortunately, the path to change here at NATO Airbase Geilenkirchen is neither clear nor easy, particularly when it comes to downsizing civilian personnel. There is no good way to couch the provisionally redundant notices which went to over 160 NATO civilians last month. Each NATO civilian plays an important role in our E-3A Component and each departure will require the transfer of substantial years of experience and knowledge to the remaining workforce. This is not a simple task – and something which will require everyone's sincere effort.

In my three years as your Component Commander there are three qualities embodied within all of you which give me confidence the E-3A Component will see through this period of change.

Professionalism, each day I witness the operations of the E-3A Component conducted by individuals who know the importance of their role to our overall mission and who possess the self-discipline to accomplish their duties following established procedures.

This is the hallmark of professionalism, something I count on each day to know the mission will get done in a safe and effective manner. Maintaining this professionalism through the upcoming change is key to sustaining our success in the E-3A Component.

The second quality I see in action each day is perseverance. Regardless of the challenges presented, time and time again the personnel in the E-3A Component adapt and overcome to sustain our mission. Nowhere is this more evident than in the realm of personnel changes.

Implementation of the Forced Review results in the third PE change in ten years in the E-3A Component. Despite the constant uncertainty created by all this change the E-3A Component sustained the mission.

In 2014 we concluded a 4 year mission in Afghanistan while seamlessly and simultaneously transitioning to the

important assurance measures mission. Perseverance certainly enabled our success.

Finally, as I walk around the E-3A Component I am still struck by the incredible sense of PRIDE I find in each work section.

This pride is an incredible reflection on your professionalism – but equally telling of the character of the personnel embodied within our Component. The pristine condition of aircraft 449 is just the latest example of the PRIDE we all hold in the E-3A Component.

As Keri and I depart the E-3A Component next month be certain we are leaving with this an incredible sense of PRIDE – Proud to be a part of a one of a kind, multi-national organization which for 33 years has stood as an excellent example of what is possible through multi-national cooperation under the umbrella of NATO.

We wish you the best of luck in the coming years and leave knowing that your professionalism, perseverance and pride will sustain the mission success in the E-3A Component for years to come.


Maj Gen Andrew M. Mueller

Skywatch 

Volume 31, No. 5

29 May 2015

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 own and do not necessarily reflect the official views of, or endorsement by, the North

Commander
Maj. Gen. Andrew M. Mueller

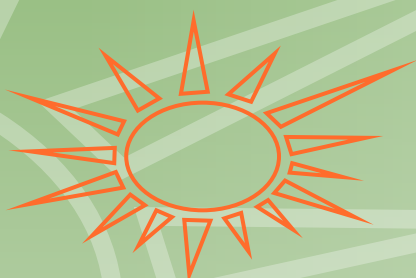
Chief, Public Affairs
Maj. Johannes Glowka

Editor
Tech. Sgt. R. Michael Longoria

Atlantic Treaty Organization. The appearance of advertising in this publication, including inserts or supplements, does not constitute an endorsement by NATO of the products or services advertised. Submissions are due seven days before publication and may be edited for style and space. Email articles and classified advertisements to pao@e3a.nato.int.

For paid advertisements call Hub Durlinger Media at +31 (0)46 4529292, cellphone +31 (0)6 5472 6473, hub@durlingermedia.nl or Houx Digiprint at +31 (0)46 4582111, verkoop@houxdigiprint.nl

Articles may be reproduced after permission has been obtained from the editor, provided mention is made of NATO Skywatch. To read the NATO Skywatch online visit www.e3a.nato.int



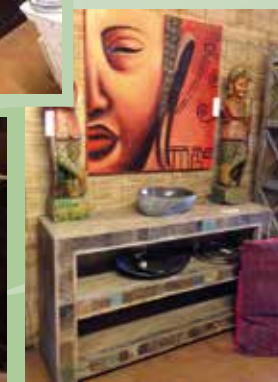
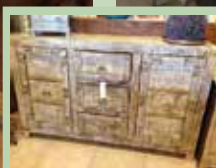
Gielen Sfeer Interieur

Furniture and Decoration

Suzanne Gielen

OPEN EVERY SUNDAY

We accept VAT-papers



www.gielen-sfeerinterieur.com

Open:

Monday - Friday 0900-1800 hrs

Saturday - Sunday 1000-1700 hrs

Maastrichtersteenweg 138 3770 Vroenhoven-Riemst Belgium Phone +32 (0)12 452483

**Antique Market
Tongeren**

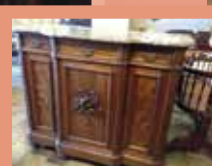
Mobile +32 485560011

DOLF Vlieggen

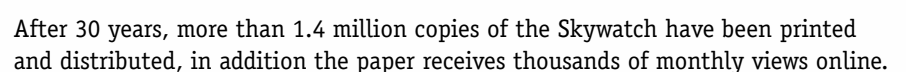
PACKING AND WORLDWIDE SHIPPING



Open every Sunday



Maastrichterstraat 122 3700 Tongeren | Tongersesteenweg 182 3770 Millen/Riemst | Belgium



Karin's Guesthouse

Offering 8 fully equipped, family & pet friendly quality accommodations



Complimentary Cars & Airport Shuttle Service



Experience quality Temporary Living Facilities with a warm family touch, all located within 15 minutes of NATO Airbase Geilenkirchen, JFC Brunssum & AFNorth. Our family-run Guesthouse has been accommodating and assisting NATO Members and their families for nearly 15 years.

Contact us now for reservations or inquiries.

We hope to see you soon!

Phone: +49(0)2451-72015
Cell: +49(0)178-4140855

Web: www.karins-guesthouse.com
Email: service@karins-guesthouse.com



www.facebook.com/KarinsGuesthouse



Conen GmbH



! YOUR AUTHORIZED HONDA & ACURA PARTNER !
(ONLY 15 MINUTES FROM GK !)

Service & parts for american & european spec. HONDA & ACURA
Glass exchange & chip sealing
Bodyshop & paint shop
car detailing
TAX FREE

Conen GmbH - Erkelenzer Str. 76 - 52525 Heinsberg-Dremmen
Call Erik Thönnissen at +492452951018
e-mail erik@honda.ps

Airport Shuttle Service

City 6000

Phone: +49 (0)2452 - 7777

Also reservations by www.city6000.de

ANIMAL HOTEL ABDISSENBOSCH



**D
A
Y
C
A
R
E**

New cat-place where your cat can move freely. Roomy outside place, playgrounds, central heated. Grooming salon, also Do-It-Yourself wash salon for pets.

Opening hours:
Monday-Saturday 08:00-12:00 and 16:00-19:00 hrs.
Sundays and holidays closed for bringing in or picking-up.

FOR 37 YEARS THE ADDRESS WHERE YOUR PET FEELS AT HOME

Vogelzankweg 230 • NL-6374 AH Landgraaf • phone +31 (0)45 5317217
www.dierenhotelabdissebosch.nl (also in English und auch im Deutsch)

KOHL

Immer in Bewegung

Best service guaranteed!

Our special offer:

If you bring us your BMW or MINI for service and maintenance you have the possibility for a testdrive until your car is finished.

We guarantee the best service for your BMW or MINI in our region.

Be welcome!

KOHL automobile GmbH

Filiale Heinsberg
Industriestraße 53
52525 Heinsberg
Tel. +49 (0) 2452 / 91 35 0

www.kohl.de



V I P V I S I T S

Photos by Visual Media Services



The National Military Representatives



Chief of Staff, Joint Force Command Brunssum,
Lt. Gen. Janusz Adamczak



General Counsel of the U.S. Department of the Air Force
/Chief Legal Officer & Chief Ethics for the Air Force
Mr. Gordon O. Tanner



Deputy General Counsel for Intelligence,
International & Military Affairs, Office of the Air
Force General Counsel, **Mr. Craig A. Smith**

The VIPs below landed at NATO Air Base Geilenkirchen and then transitted to Aachen for the Charlemagne Prize Ceremony.



President of Germany,
Joachim Gauck



Prime Minister of Croatia,
Zoran Milanovic



King of Spain,
Felipe VI



President of Switzerland,
Simonetta Sommaruga



President of France,
François Hollande



King of the Hashemite Kingdom
of Jordan, **Abdullah II**



President of the Republic of Lithuania,
Dalia Grybauskaitė

A historic event - First NA



By Maureen Geraets-Head

Soon, the last entry will be made into NATO E-3A 70-0449's logbook and it will close, forever. Aircraft 449 is about to make history, becoming the first NATO E-3A to officially retire, scheduled to leave the E-3A Component on June 23, 2015.

Lieutenant Colonel Gerald Probst, Deputy Logistics Wing (LW) Commander and Main Operating Base's (MOB) project officer for the Retirement Aircraft 449 Project explains, "The fleet reduction was decided by the NAPMO nations and the main reason why aircraft 449 was selected to retire was a Depot Level Maintenance (DLM) inspection scheduled for mid-July 2015. DLM is performed on a six-year cycle and costs roughly 15 million Euros. Not performing this inspection means that the aircraft is no longer allowed to fly."

Three Phases

Colonel Probst continues, "This aircraft was in service until May 13, 2015. On May 18, 2015, the equipment testing started, followed by dismantling equipment and parts. This project is being performed in three phases. Phase one started here, at MOB Geilenkirchen, leaving all flight-essential equipment in place necessary for 449's final flight to Tucson, Arizona, USA. Once it lands in the USA, phase two will kick in for roughly three weeks." The purpose of phase two is to maximize reclamation of aircraft parts using MOB resources.

"The retirement of this aircraft involves a lot of planning and preparations. A working group has been established, consisting of highly motivated personnel who closely cooperate with Force Command Logistics (FCLE) and NATO's Supply and Procurement Agency (NSPA). All these qualified individuals work as a team, doing their utmost to bring this task to a successful end," Probst adds.

Mr. Willy Sluijsmans is the team leader of the 449 retirement project. "The parts that we are going to recover have a total value of 40 million US dollars. Once these parts are removed they will be assessed, re-certified and put back on the shelves in a serviceable condition," he says. "Some parts are no longer on the market or have now become very expensive, making them extremely valuable to the Component. But first, before any specific part is removed, it will be tested to make sure it is still usable," he says.

Mr. Thomas Roskam, also a member of the 449 retirement working group, adds, "This working group consists of personnel from the Electronic Maintenance, Aircraft Maintenance and Supply Squadrons, and the LW staff. We have developed a work card system for phases one and two, with workflow diagrams listing each and every part to be removed in a given order. By using this card system we can track and control all the work necessary for this project."

Arizona

Phase two starts once the aircraft



The complete crew of the Flight and Mission deck of 449's last mission poses after having flown an Assurance Mission.

Photo by Hay Janssen

lands in Arizona. A LW team of 10 persons will be available upon arrival of 449 to defuel the E-3A, tow it to the assigned parking spot, and further prepare the aircraft for reclamation storage. 449 will be parked next to an old family member, one of NATO's former Trainer Cargo Aircraft (TCA). In August 2010, this TCA with tail number 19997 retired and was flown - just like 449 now - to this aircraft boneyard used for surplus military and government aircraft.

After 449's arrival in Arizona, another 13 technicians will also be flown out there. The two LW teams will work together, removing as many parts as possible until end of July. Roughly 30,000 lbs. of parts are being removed during phases one and two. For the time being, the prominent rotodome with a diameter of 9.1 meters will remain on the fuselage.

Component carpenters have constructed special wooden crates for transporting parts such as mission and flight control equipment from Arizona to Geilenkirchen. The dismantling in Arizona is going to be a tough job because the aircraft will be situated in the middle of the desert. Performing intensive manual labour in extremely hot temperatures without any air-conditioning is unpleasant for the technicians, also because rattlesnakes live in this area.

Phase three will start after all identified remaining parts have been dismantled by Component LW personnel. The jet will then be handed over to the Aircraft Maintenance and Regeneration Group (AMARG). This unit is contracted to store 449 for three years. Upon request by Force Command the AMARG can still remove parts and ship them to the E-3A

NATO E-3A aircraft to retire



The base's Fire Fighter trucks gave a perfect double hose down to 449. Photo by Hay Janssen

Component when needed. After three years, this NATO E-3A aircraft will be scrapped.

449's Last Flight

"For this 'one leg' flight - a flight without any operational stops - we have a fully qualified flight deck crew flying 449 from Geilenkirchen, across the Atlantic Ocean, in the direction of Bangor, USA, passing the New England area where it will be air refuelled, with final destination Davis-Monthan Air Force Base, near Tucson, in Arizona," explains Lieutenant Colonel Frank Boshoff. He is an Evaluator Pilot and Head Flight Deck Branch in the Standardization and Evaluation Division.

The flight deck crew for this flight will consist of an aircraft commander,

two additional pilots, a flight engineer and a navigator, plus a communication technician.

Lieutenant Colonel Ekkehard Heinichen, Safety Officer and navigator for this flight says, "All flight equipment must remain in place when the technicians start the dismantling process.

All flight deck controls have to stay valid and legal. This also applies to the communication section, all electronic equipment, air-conditioning, galley and toilet."

Boshoff adds, "The removal of mission deck equipment will change the weight, and this affects the behavior of the aircraft. It is therefore important to perform a confidence flight prior to the cross- Atlantic flight, to verify that everything works according to technical orders, staying in a legal condition to fly."

449's Career

During 449's NATO career between August 19, 1983 and May 13, 2015, the airframe gathered 22,206.29 flight hours, operating out of 21 different countries: Afghanistan, Belgium, Canada, the Czech Republic, Djibouti, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Italy, Malta, the Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Spain, Turkey, the United Kingdom, and the USA. Also, it flew over Europe, North America, Asia and Africa in support of NATO operational activities.

Aircraft 449 contributed to the success of operations such as the very recent Operation Afghan Assist, flying 152 missions and 1,533.75 flight hours, mainly from Mazar-e Sharif, Afghanistan. In support of Assurance missions, aircraft 449 flew 25 missions and 205.7 flight hours. In January 2015, the aircraft participated in its last overseas exercises: one

called COMPTUEX, in Virginia, USA, followed the February-March exercise Red Flag, in Las Vegas, Nevada, USA.

The last maintenance work was done on May 12, 2015, when one tire and a brake had to be exchanged.

On May 13, 2015, 449's last mission, an 11.5 hour Assurance Mission, was flown by an international crew consisting of 10 different nationalities. Upon landing, five crew chiefs performed the inspection.



Route of 449's flight to its final destination.

The removal of the first parts started on May 20, 2015, inside Hangar One.

Photos by Andre Joosten

Crew Chief Lars Boemer marshals in 449. He worked on aircraft 449 for almost 20 year.

Photo courtesy of F. Jordine & H. Hinz





2015

Thursday, 11 June

E-3A Component Sports Day

BREAKFAST WALK/NORDIC WALK/RUN
MOUNTAIN BIKE/RACING CYCLE TOUR
GERMAN SPORTS AWARD
 (3000M RUN, TRACK AND FIELD, SWIMMING)

TOURNAMENTS
 (SOCCER, VOLLEYBALL, TUG OF WAR, BOULES...)

INDIVIDUAL COMPETITIONS
 (BENCH PRESS, TENNIS, GOLF, DARTS...)

FAMILY FUN
 (BULL RIDING, BOUNCING CASTLE, COTTON CANDY...)

FITNESS CLASSES
BEAT THEM ALL
 (INDIVIDUAL FUN GAMES COMPETITION)

RECREATIONAL TIME
 (FOOD, DRINKS, LIVE MUSIC...)

MORE INFO AND REGISTRATION AT THE SPORTS WSS SITE OR EXT. 4946 OR EMAIL E3AGK OFC-8PWS-SPORTS CELL

Sports Day Road Bike Tour

By Geoff Bucknall

Just purchased that nice new eleven speed road bike, but hardly used it? Now is your chance to get some serious kilometres in. Over the recent years, it has become a common place for a road bike tour on the Component Sports Day, usually around 100 plus kilometres.

Component Sports day will be held on June 11. Initially, there were only three or four participants, with each year a few more. Last sports day there were 17 participants, maybe 20 plus this year?

The cycling region will be the Dutch, German and Belgium border region. In order to determine type of ride, thus hilly, flat, or a bit of both, a meeting will be held on June 9 at 1000 hours New Gym.

Depending on the number of participants, and the different levels, we can then decide on a single group, or two groups, with perhaps different distances (say 60km and 100km plus).



Please email and let me know your experience and preferences and whether or not you intend to participate, also, if you cannot make the meeting, pass on your preferences via email: gbucknall@e3a.nato.int or Geoffry.bucknall@gmail.com.

If you are interested in the 100km plus ride, there is still sufficient time to get some training rides in prior.

Only 9 miles from base and only 1 mile to the centre of Heinsberg.

School bus stop, indoor pool, playgrounds and jogging path, various shopping facilities and restaurants within walking distance.

Fully equipped modern kitchen, washer, dryer, SAT-TV, DVD- and CD Player, free high speed DSL Internet, babybed, highchair, toys, backyard, basket-ball.

Free weekly cleaning

Please ask for our special offer: free rental car and airport shuttle



Cosima's Lodge ****



Enjoy your transition in this independent guesthouse.

For further information or reservations please contact Mrs. Cosima Gödde at:

Gästehaus Cosima
Kuhlerstraße 71
D-52525 Heinsberg-Schafhausen

Tel.: +49 (0) 2452-930600 Mobile: +49 (0) 170-8066805
www.gaestehauscosima.de gaestehauscosima@t-online.de

RS auto cleaning bv

for your total car cleaning

- your car is being hand-washed with wax shampoo for only € 13,50
- car cleaning
- Permagard protective coating
- dent removal without repainting
- spot repair

DISCOUNT COUPON of **€ 10.00** valid on a total treatment of euro 125,-

Heerlen • Breukerweg 195 • Heerlen • +31 (0)45 - 522 59 00

This could have been your advertisement

We can tell you more about advertising:
admin@houxdigiprint.nl | hubdurlinger@hotmail.com

EL COMAL

MEXICAN RESTAURANT

BEST OF MEXICO
IN BRUNSSUM

- Exquisite menu with 120 choices
- Wonderful terrace. Seating under palm trees.
- Icecold Margheritas
- Complete vegetarian menu
- Friendly, delightful service and atmosphere
- Look for Mexican singers and Mariachi Orchestra

Open at 17.00 hrs from Wednesday to Sunday

Please call +31 (0)45 564 0158 for reservations

ALONA EN PETER WELCOME YOU

Rumpenerstraat 49 6443 CC Brunssum Phone +31 (0)45 564 01 58 www.elcomal.nl





Photo by Tech. Sgt. R. Michael Longoria

CHASING GREMLINS

The Electronics Maintenance Squadron (EMS) consists of five aircraft maintenance specialties with the mission to deliver precise, proactive, and responsive mission system and flight essential maintenance on the E-3A fleet. During the efforts to maintain the electronics aircraft systems the shops often face tremendous challenges that go beyond the scope of normal duties yet the specialists of EMS continually prove they can tackle any challenge and find technical solutions that have led to the Component's mission success. These challenges are sometimes described as "chasing gremlins" since electronic failures can be very elusive, yet our experts at EMS continually find the technical solutions. To read examples of "chasing gremlins," visit <http://dvidshub.net/r/r9ezen>.



Courtesy photo

Chief reaches aviation milestone

Chief Master Sgt. Michael Gerber (right) celebrates reaching 12,000 flying hours on May 4, 2015. As a flight engineer, Chief Gerber has flown 10,000 hours for the E-3A Component and another 2,000 hours for the Bundeswehr.

A trip down memory lane

Navy Cmdr. (retired) Gary Scott visited the E-3A Component on May 13, 2015. Commander Scott was stationed at NATO Air Base Geilenkirchen, Germany, from 1982 to 1986 as a tactical director in the Training Wing. One of the commander's most memorable moments was witnessing the arrival of the first AWACS on base. He also happily reminisced about the base Oktoberfest and other celebrations. "I enjoyed working here because it was different from all the other assignments in my career," the commander explained. "I got to work with people from so many different countries and background that it really made it an unforgettable experience."

Photo by Tech. Sgt. R. Michael Longoria



Altes Brauhaus

TEMPORARY
LODGING



FAMILY-FRIENDLY ACCOMMODATION
FOR SHORT OR LONG-TERM STAYS.

Member
Professional
Association
of Innkeepers
International

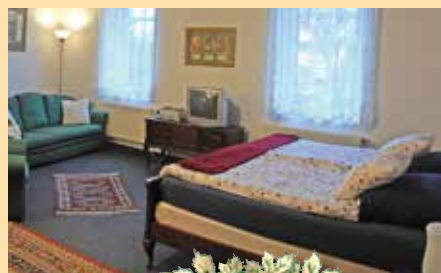


Special Promotion:

Book now and receive
FREE CAR RENTAL
with minimum 10-night stay*



* Visit
www.langbro.de
for details and restrictions



Apartments feature:

- With or Without Kitchen
- TV/DVD player and hundreds of titles
- English language programming with SKY Satellite
- Free wireless, local and international calling

Free washer & dryer
Sauna / Tanning Bed / Aerobics
Trainer/Weight Machine



Complimentary
coffee & tea bar

Brauereistraße 4
Gangelt-Langbroich
+ 49 (0)2454 936555
Brauhaus@langbro.de
www.langbro.de



Café Restaurant Partyservice
Haus Hamacher
52538 Gangelt • Am Freibad 10



English
spoken

We are the perfect start- or finish-
point for your hiking trips in the
nature park 'Rodebach'.

Now daily **asparagus!**
UNTIL THE END OF JUNE!



For reservations please call: +49 (0)2454 1414, or fax: +49 (0)2454 939301
All-Day Dining as of 1100 hrs • Reservation highly recommended

Phone +49 (0)24 54 - 14 14
Fax +49 (0)24 54 - 93 9301

www.Haus-Hamacher.de

50 years Culpeck Insurance Broker GmbH

We proudly introduce **Allianz** and welcome ALL NATIONALITIES.

Haihovenstrasse 11
D-52511 Geilenkirchen
Email: geilenkirchen@culpeck.com
Web: www.culpeck.com



Call 02451 2983

To place an advertisement in



contact

Hub Durlinger media

*Skywatch is the only authorized
NATO AWACS Base Newspaper.*

Phone +31 (0)46 4529292
Mobile +31 (0)6 54726473
hubdurlinger@hotmail.com

Heating oil



**low price
top service**

Shell

**SHELL
MARKEN
PARTNER**

Bischoff, Vliex & Schöngen, Pfennings GmbH & Co. KG

Berliner Ring 15-17

52511 Geilenkirchen

+49 (0)2451 68001

YOUR PATIENCE IS BEING REWARDED DISCOVER THE NEW VOLVO XC90 NOW

Dear NATO Customers,
We cordially invite you to the official introduction of
the new XC90 at Excellent Volvo dealer
Auto Kallen in Geleen (NL).
Thursday, 11 June from 15.00 to 21.00 hours
Please pre-register at www.autokallen.nl



Auto Kallen - Rijksweg Zuid 320 - 6161 BZ Geleen (NL) - T. +31 (0)46 4238686



**AUTO KALLEN
GELEEN**

GK Rod & Gun Club Shooting Competition

The MWA Sponsored NATO International Geilenkirchen Rod and Gun Club is alive and well. The club just hosted a Shooting Competition followed by a delicious BBQ on May 9, 2015.

Three competition shooting disciplines, Pistol, Rifle and Archery, were conducted. And, for the first time in the club's 25 year history, they had a direct shoot off between an Archer and a Rifle man.

More than 30 NATO ID Card holders and their families enjoyed this event's good weather, good sports and a wonderful BBQ.

The Club's Vice-President Mr. Dieter Brandt, assisted by Mr. Eugen Tolle, provided a safe and fair event for our club members and guests. Under their guidance, even first time shooters felt safe and comfortable shooting a 22 Cal. pistol and rifle for the first time.

The smooth hand of Mr. Frank Weber took first prize for 22 Cal. pistol shooting at 25 meters with 138 of 150 total points. Mr. Dennis Owens, the Club's president, took top honours with the 22 Cal. rifle shooting a 144 out of 150 total points.

His score went up against our legendary Archer Mr. Frits Boskma who

scored an amazing 148 out of a total of 150 points possible. Mr. Boskma walked away with both the top prizes winning in the Archery category and also Archery versus the Rifle.

The club is looking forward to bringing these three shooting disciplines back to the Component Sports Day on June 11!

Transportation will be provided every half hour from the New Gym to the Archery and Pistol range near the IDT area on the north side of the base.

Furthermore, all interested NATO ID Card holders are invited to become members of the club. Membership is only 25 Euros per year single and 40 Euros per year for family.

The range is open 11:30 to 13:00 on Wednesdays and Fridays as well as the first and third Saturdays of each month. Also, they offer 300 meter Swiss Army Rifle shooting in Niederheid once a month.

For information about the club or to become a member, please contact Mr. Dennis Owens at either dowens@e3a.nato.int or info@dennisowens.com, work ext. 3744.

The club can also be found on Facebook: GK Rod & Gun Club.

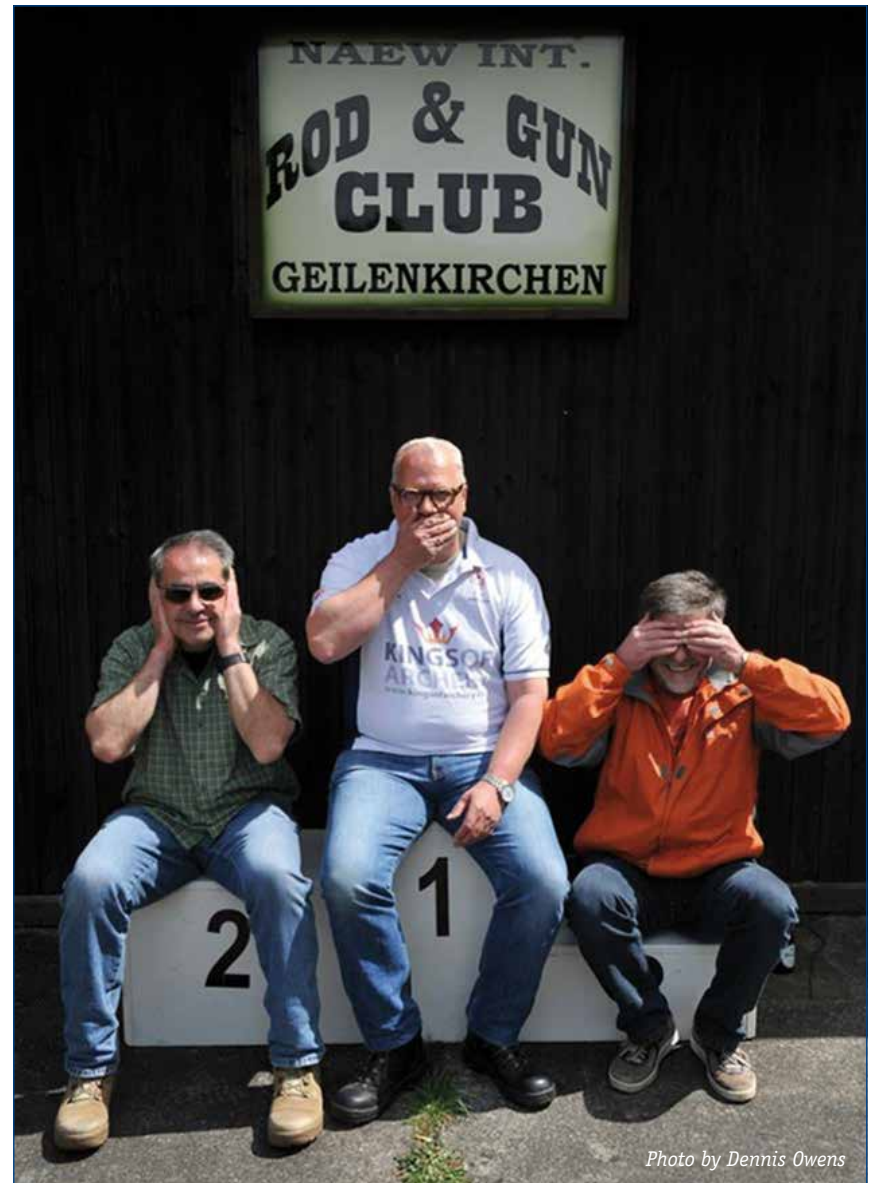


Photo by Dennis Owens

ISC ends year with Bingo Night

By Rebecca Hendrickx

On May 7, 2015, The International Spouses' Club bid farewell to another fantastic year which has seen membership almost double, bigger and better events and so much more. To finish off the year, the ISC board hosted the traditional members only Bingo Night with desserts provided by our very own board members and lots of raffle prizes.

After doors of the E-3A Club opened, the club quickly filled up with eager members looking forward to the chance of winning some amazing prizes. Once everyone found their seats, bought raffle tickets, received their bingo cards and pens, it was time for the opening announcements where all our current board members received a small token of appreciation for the work put into this past year. After this, our newly appointed board members announced. To get the Bingo underway, General Mueller announced the rules and the

progression of the rounds we were to play. Filled with lots of humor, he diligently called the Bingo numbers until, on each round, a winner called "Bingo!" The anticipation of winning was palpable with everyone quickly scanning their cards, crossing off the called numbers, praying that their final two or three numbers were called before someone else called 'Bingo'. After the two Bingo cards were played, the first of the raffle prizes were won. Ladies eagerly laid out their raffle tickets waiting for their numbers to be called and for the lucky ladies, they won some amazing prizes. Once a good portion of raffle prizes were called, it was back to Bingo where the next round of numbers were eagerly anticipated and with everyone, again, praying to be lucky enough to call BINGO!

With three cards and nine rounds of Bingo played, it was time for everyone to indulge in the delicious treats provided by our Board members, with a wide selection to choose from, there

was something for everyone! It was also time again for raffle prizes to be announced with lots of winners and big smiles from the lucky ladies whose numbers were called. Once everyone had the chance to finish their plates and almost all the raffle prizes were won, it was time again for the final round of Bingo.

With much anticipation, General Mueller set about calling the Bingo numbers with his the enthusiasm and wit, which

the ladies had enjoyed all evening. When the last round was played and the winner called "BINGO!" there was a collective sigh of disappointment from the ladies not so fortunate to win but who still had great fun playing. It was now time for the final raffle prize, a Pampered Chef deep covered dish donated by Pampered Chef rep, Heather Kidd, to be won and our customary nametag prize winner.

Continued on page 14, see ISC



Photo courtesy of ISC

MWA INFORMATION

UPCOMING EVENTS & IYA ACTIVITIES

(Open to all US and NATO identification card holders)

JUNE / JULY

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

POC: IYA Events: Mrs Neuhaufen, ext. 4954; Sports Events: Mr Stelten, ext. 4920; Food Services: Mr Peeters, ext. 4990



11 Jun: E-3A Component Sports Day

See page 10 for details.

Up until 18 June: Youth Spring Soccer League/Practice

Tue and Thu 1700-1800.

22 June - 14 Aug: IYA Summer Break Programme

for children of all nationalities aged 5 and older. Monday to Friday, 0745 to 1745. Enjoy fun games, exciting contests, swimming, field trips, arts & crafts, sports & hikes, free play, special projects, movies and much more. Rate for Monday/Tuesday/Thursday/Friday-package: € 56 with MWA Card, € 80 without. Daily rate: € 15, € 18 incl. lunch with MWA Card, without MWA Card € 22, € 26 incl. lunch. All fees include entrance to the swimming pool each day, and lunch on Friday. Registration and further information at the IYA Office in Bldg 95, x 4955.

25 June: Basketball Tournament

1100-1500 hrs. Participation for E-3A Component, JFC Brunssum, USAG Schinnen and ZVBW Niederheid. Register by contacting the Sport Department: ofc-bpws@e3a.nato.int or ext. 4946. Deadline Registration: 24 June.

26 June: Bavarian Breakfast at the Rotodome

01 July: IYA Trip to Zoom

Big modern zoo with playgrounds and attractions, for children aged 5 and older, 0800-1745, € 25 without MWA Card, € 17 with MWA Card. Registration and further information at the IYA Office, x 4955.

08 July: IYA Trip to Phantasialand

Big amusement park, for children aged 5 and older, 0800-1830, € 47 without MWA Card, € 32 with MWA Card. Registration and further information available at the IYA Office, 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 available at the IYA Office in Bldg 95, x 4955.

15 July: IYA Trip to Walibi

Big amusement park, for children aged 5 and older, 0800-1830, € 37 without MWA Card, € 25 with MWA Card. Registration and further information at the IYA Office, x 4955. Registration and further information available at the IYA Office, Bldg 95, x 4955.

15 July: BBQ Lunch at the Rotodome

22 July: IYA Trip to the Rursee

with cruise, hike and castle visit, for children aged 5 and older, 0800-1745, € 22 without MWA Card, € 15 with MWA Card. Registration and further information at the IYA Office, x 4955.

29 July: IYA Trip to Toverland

big amusement park, for children aged 5 and older, 0830-1830, € 37 without MWA Card, € 25 with MWA Card. Registration and further information at the IYA Office, x 4955.

30 July: BBQ Lunch at the Rotodome

31 July: Bavarian Breakfast at the Rotodome

ISC, continued from page 13

All members agreed that the night was full of fun, laughter and sweet treats! A big thank you to General Mueller who did an excellent job calling the numbers all night, for keeping the ladies entertained and focused, and to Rene Peeters for checking all the winners numbers, handing out prizes and raffle prizes.

The board of the International Spouses Club would like to thank all those amazing women (and few men) who turned out to our monthly events and to the those who so graciously volunteered their time to help their nations create incredible nights filled with culture, delicious foods and fantastic entertainment.

We would also like to thank the staff of the E-3A Club for their continued and unfailing help and support both behind the scenes and on the night. Without them, our events would not be possible.

With so many members and board members leaving us for new and

exciting postings, we wish each and every one of you good luck for the future and hope that our paths will cross again. Introducing our new board members: President Malika Keval, Secretary Mary Leard, Treasurer Stavroula Kalaboka, Assistant Treasurer Ursula Rudzki, PR Elisabetta Montefferri (Skywatch articles and publicity), and Erin Meyer-Dill (Facebook).

From all of us departing board members, we wish the ladies taking on their new roles all the very best of luck!

The International Spouses Club will be back! The Board Opening night will be Sept. 17, 2015, at the E-3A Club. Doors open at 1800, starting at 1900. Please be advised that as of next year, attendance to all ISC events will be members only. Come along to opening night and sign up to enjoy a year full of fun. For more information about the upcoming changes and events, please keep an eye out on our Facebook page (search: ISC) for further questions or inquires please e-mail us via the Facebook or iscofgk@yahoo.com.



Photo Courtesy of ISC

ISC Spanish Night is huge success

On April 16, 2015, the Spanish ladies from the International Spouses' Club hosted a night full of traditional Spanish entertainment and food. The doors of the E-3A Club opened at 1800 where spouses' were presented with either a bracelet or key chain displaying the colors of the Spanish flag.

Adorning the walls of the E-3A Club were Spanish flags and maps presenting the theme for the evening; the Camino de Santiago, a legendary walk across northern Spain the spans many different terrains and that has attracted tourists for hundreds of years retracing the steps of the pilgrims.

Congratulations to all the Spanish ladies for putting on a night full of history and excitement.

IND. RESTAURANT

Original Indian Cuisine · www.tasteofindia.tv



Our Introductory Offer: 3-course Menu

- Papadam and Salad
- one Chicken, one Lamb dish with Basmati rice and original Tandoori Naan (bread)
- Dessert (specialty of the house)

20,90 €
(34,90 € p.2P.)

Also order all dishes for take-away.

10% rebate
on all dishes
Mon to Thurs

Two restaurants
under a roof –
shopping center
Tüddern

Grenzenlos Café & Restaurant

From 12 o'clock onwards
continuous warm kitchen

Schnitzel, steaks
and noodle items
German kitchen!



Hamburger
and french fries
Chef's Tip!



Mon to Sat
9 to 12 hrs
**breakfast
buffet
7,50 €**

www.grenzenlos-selfkant.de

In der Fummer 18 · Selfkant-Tüddern · Tel.: +49 (0) 24 56 - 508 72 80

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.



Our finance offer for you

Audi A1, 3-door, Attraction 1.2 TFSI 63 kW (86HP), 5-gear, basic price ex works (incl. VAT), **Color painting:** 'brilliant black', **interior:** black/ titan-grey. **Additional special features:** comfort drive package, depot package, air-conditioning (manual), middle armrest (front), heated seats (front), radio Chorus, side airbags (front), head airbag, electronic mirrors, ESP, electronic window lift, start/stop system, central locking with radio control, and much more.

Financing example:

Dealers' price is	15.379,00 €
+ overcrossing / registration document	597,99 €
- down payment 18,71%	2.990,00 €
= net amount of loan	12.986,99 €
+ interest rate	814,07 €
+ administration fee	454,54 €
= amount of loan	14.255,60 €
Contract period: 36 months	
Nominal interest rate	p. a. 2,41 %
Annual percentage rate	3,90 %
35 monthly rates	149,00 €
Ending rate with 10,000 km/year	9.040,60 €

**Visit.
Watch.
And discover.**

**The Audi specialist
in your region.**

Fuel consumption:
In town 6.2 l/100 km
Out of town 4.4 l/100 km
Combined 5.1 l/100 km

CO₂ emissions:
Combined 118 g/km

All prices incl. 19% VAT

* A special offer by Audi Bank.
Subject to the condition of
credit-worthiness.

JACOBS
automobile
Landstr. 48-50, 52511 Geilenkirchen
Telefon: 02451-987011
www.jacobs-gruppe.de



MILITARY DISCOUNT CENTRE



WHY BUY A QUALITY CAR?

- 1) QUALITY CARS ARE DESIGNED AND MANUFACTURED TO LAST MUCH LONGER
- 2) QUALITY CARS TRANSPORT YOU AND YOUR FAMILY IN THE SAFEST ENVIRONMENT.
- 3) QUALITY CARS HAVE EXCEPTIONAL RESALE VALUES
- 4) QUALITY CARS ARE RELIABLE
- 5) QUALITY CARS ARE A PLEASURE TO OWN

WHY BUY BMW, VOLVO OR MERCEDES?

- 1) BMW, VOLVO AND MERCEDES ARE YOUR QUALITY CARS
- 2) MASSIVE MILITARY DISCOUNTS (BUY QUALITY FOR THE PRICE OF AN AVERAGE CAR)
- 3) FREE HOME SHIPMENT TO THE U.S.A OR CANADA WHEN YOU RETURN HOME
- 4) FREE SERVICE AND MAINTENANCE FOR 3 YEARS (U.S. VOLVO MODELS)
- 5) FREE EUROPEAN BREAKDOWN/RECOVERY (INCL. HOTEL, FLIGHTS HOME, RENTAL CAR)
- 6) FREE 4 YEAR WARRANTY (3 YEAR EU MODELS)
- 7) FREE 12 YEAR ANTI CORROSION GUARANTEE
- 8) PURCHASE PRICE IN YOUR CURRENCY AND PROTECTED AGAINST PRICE INCREASES

WHY BUY FROM ROADCRAFT?

- 1) ROADCRAFT GUARANTEE YOU THE LOWEST PRICE
- 2) ROADCRAFT GUARANTEE THE HIGHEST LEVEL OF SERVICE
- 3) ROADCRAFT DELIVER TO YOUR MILITARY BASE
- 4) ROADCRAFT HAVE OVER 30 YEARS EXPERIENCE SELLING TO MILITARY/DIPLOMATS
- 5) ROADCRAFT PROVIDE 24/7 LIFETIME SUPPORT- UNIQUE IN CAR SALES
- 6) ROADCRAFT DO NOT BELIEVE IN PRESSURE SELLING.

WE VALUE AND RESPECT OUR CUSTOMERS!

**OVER 20%
SAVINGS OFF
TAX-FREE PRICES**



WWW.MILITARYTAXFREECARS.COM / CEO@MILITARYTAXFREECARS.COM
DIRECT LINES: 0031 646855537

LEXUS MILITARY SALES

**UNIQUE
NEW
"CASH-BACK
PROGRAM"!!**

**LEXUS SPRING STOCK SALE!!
SPECIAL OFFERS ON SELECTED MODELS!!**

**STAY
FLEXIBLE!
YOU CHOOSE
HOW TO USE
TOTAL SAVINGS**



Model	Type	MY	Exterior	Interior	US Dealer Price	PCS Price	Military Savings	Spring Stock Sale Bonus	Total Savings
CT 200H	Hatch	15	Eminent White	Caramel	\$ 33,675	\$30,980	\$ 2,845	\$ 1,500	\$ 4,345
CT 200H	Hatch	15	Nebula Gray Pearl	Caramel	\$ 38,065	\$35,370	\$ 2,845	\$ 1,500	\$ 4,345
CT 200H	Hatch	15	Nebula Gray Pearl	Black	\$ 33,675	\$30,980	\$ 2,845	\$ 1,500	\$ 4,345
IS 250 AWD	Sedan	15	Silver Lining Met.	Black	\$ 45,660	\$42,280	\$3,380	\$ 2,300	\$ 5,680
IS 250 AWD	Sedan	15	Matador Red Mica	Light Gray	\$ 45,660	\$42,280	\$3,380	\$ 2,300	\$ 5,680
IS 250 RWD	Sedan	15	Ultra White	Black	\$ 43,865	\$ 40,670	\$ 3,195	\$ 2,000	\$ 5,195
IS 350 AWD	Sedan	15	Atomic Silver	Light Gray	\$ 48,875	\$45,230	\$ 3,645	\$ 2,500	\$ 6,145
IS 350 RWD	Sedan	15	Obsidian	Black	\$ 49,025	\$45,565	\$ 3,460	\$ 2,000	\$ 5,460
ES 350 FWD	Sedan	15	Obsidian	Black	\$ 45,010	\$ 41,715	\$ 3,295	\$ 1,800	\$ 5,095
ES 300H FWD	Sedan	15	Nebula Gray Pearl	Black	\$ 47,600	\$44,075	\$ 3,525	\$ 2,300	\$ 5,825
ES 350 FWD	Sedan	15	Nebula Gray Pearl	Black	\$ 45,010	\$ 41,715	\$ 3,295	\$ 1,800	\$ 5,095
ES 350 FWD	Sedan	15	Starfire Pearl	Black	\$ 45,630	\$42,335	\$ 3,295	\$ 2,200	\$ 5,495
GS 350 RWD	Sedan	15	Atomic Silver	Black (Walnut)	\$ 52,365	\$48,220	\$ 4,145	\$ 2,800	\$ 6,945
GS 350 RWD	Sedan	15	Riviera Red	F-Sport Black (Alu)	\$ 59,430	\$55,285	\$ 4,145	\$ 3,300	\$ 7,445
GS 350 RWD	Sedan	15	Liquid Platinum	Black (Walnut)	\$ 61,480	\$ 57,335	\$ 4,145	\$ 3,800	\$ 7,945
GS 450H RWD	Sedan	15	Deep Sea Mica	Light Gray (Bamboo)	\$ 67,665	\$62,490	\$ 5,175	\$ 4,500	\$ 9,675
RX 350 AWD	SUV	15	Nebula Gray Pearl	Saddle Tan	\$50,890	\$ 47,225	\$ 3,665	\$ 3,000	\$ 6,665
RX 350 AWD	SUV	15	Starfire Pearl	Parchment	\$50,890	\$ 47,225	\$ 3,665	\$ 3,000	\$ 6,665
RX 350 AWD	SUV	15	Silver Lining Met.	Light Gray	\$50,890	\$ 47,225	\$ 3,665	\$ 3,000	\$ 6,665
RX 450H AWD	SUV	15	Silver Lining Met.	Black	\$ 58,210	\$53,995	\$ 4,215	\$ 4,000	\$ 8,215

VISIT OUR WEBSITE TO SEE ALL CARS ON SPECIAL OFFER!

WITH OUR NEW **"CASH-BACK"** OPTION - YOU CHOOSE HOW YOU USE THE VEHICLE SAVINGS SHOWN ABOVE. TAKE THE LOWEST PRICE FOR YOUR SELECTED MODEL, OR TAKE THE VEHICLE SAVINGS AS A **"CASH-BACK"** BONUS, OR A COMBINATION OF THE TWO OPTIONS!! **IT'S YOUR CHOICE**

WE SERVICE WHAT WE SELL!
AUTHORIZED LEXUS SERVICE CENTER

SERVICE
CREDIT UNION
★★★★★

For the lowest rates around
check-out Service Credit Union



www.PentagonCarSales.com • sales@PentagonCarSales.com



Germany Ramstein

Kindsbacher Str. 47
66877 Ramstein-Miesenbach
Tel: 06371 61 39 90

Kaiserslautern

Kaiserstrasse 1
67661 Kaiserslautern
Tel: 0631 351 90 40

Wiesbaden

Ludwig-Wolker-Str. 14
55252 Mainz-Kastel
Tel: 06134 567 80

Spangdahlem

Im Kreuzgarten 1 A
54529 Spangdahlem
Tel: 06565 93 69 90

Italy

Aviano

Via Pordenone 48D
33081 Aviano (PN)
Tel: 0434 676 613

Vicenza

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

Our Cash-Back offer allows you to take the entire amount in the "Total Savings" column as a reduction on USMSRP, or as a Cash-Back amount. A combination of these two options may also be chosen - a price reduction on USMSRP and a Cash-Back bonus, but cannot exceed the specified "Total Savings" amount. If a Cash-Back is selected, please note that the payment will be issued together with the final Bill of Sales.