

SABER E-HERALD

SPANGDAHLEM AB

NEWSLETTER OF THE 52ND FIGHTER WING

FEB. 23, 2012

FY2013 budget
cuts to impact
U.S. Air Forces
in Europe

Drive safely,
watch out for
black ice

Hot pits fuel
active Falcons

What FY13
budget means to
USAFE



FACE LIFT: LIBRARY REOPENS AFTER CARPET REPLACEMENT

Tech. Sgt. Lewis Isassi, 52nd Civil Engineer Squadron, reads a financial management book at the library here after the reopening Feb. 21. The library closed Jan. 30 for a \$117,321 carpet-replacement project. Contractors replaced the 30-year-old carpet because of general wear and tear. Base members may now use the facility, which offers hard-copy books, CDs, DVDs, movies, downloadable e-books, audio MP3 books, children's books, internet access and online databases for research. To see the rest of photos, visit <http://www.spangdahlem.af.mil/news/story.asp?id=123290945>. (U.S. Air Force photo by Senior Airman Christopher Toon/Released)

Force structure changes hit 52nd FW

Staff Reports 52nd Fighter Wing Public Affairs

Air Force Secretary Michael B. Donley and Air Force Chief of Staff Gen. Norton A. Schwartz announced detailed force structure changes to take effect in Fiscal Year 2013 at a press conference at the Pentagon Feb. 3.

The Air Force will cut 286 aircraft to include 123 fighters, 133 mobility aircraft and 30 intelligence, surveillance and reconnaissance platforms. Among the fighter aircraft that will be retired are 102 A-10 Thunderbolt IIs, and this reduction includes the A-10s of the 81st Fighter Squadron.

According to the USAF Force Structure Changes: Sustaining Readiness and Modernizing the Total Force white paper, [Air Force leadership] has accepted the risk in our Combat Air Forces by retiring or reclassifying aircraft from seven squadrons: five

A-10 squadrons, one F-16 squadron and one training/support coded F-15 Aggressor squadron.

"There are still going to be 246 A-10s left in the inventory," Schwartz said. "We are doing close-air support with B-52s, with B-1s, certainly with F-16s and F-15s and AC-130 gunships."

The bottom line, he said, is there are plenty of assets that can deliver pinpoint close-air support.

"The United States Army and the United States Marine Corps and our own battlefield Airmen can rely on having plenty of close-air support provided by the United States Air Force from above," the general said.

These force structure changes mean a reduction of 9,000 Airmen – 3,900 active duty, 5,100 Air Guardsmen and 900 Air Force Reservists. Officials expect all these reductions can be made voluntarily.

Read the entire article at <http://www.spangdahlem.af.mil/news/story.asp?id=123290491>.



SUPER SABER PERFORMER

Staff Sgt. Reginald Quince, 52nd Force Support Squadron manpower analyst, is the Super Saber Performer for the week of Feb. 23 – March 1. Read the entire article at <http://www.spangdahlem.af.mil/news/story.asp?id=123291109>. (U.S. Air Force photo by Airman 1st Class Matthew B. Fredericks/Released)



Above: Staff Sgt. Corey Hall, 52nd Security Forces Squadron patrolman, left, and Tammo Hassel, 52nd SFS police officer, clear a room during an active-shooter training exercise while an exercise evaluation team member looks on at Bldg. 103 here Feb. 17.

FW tests active shooter response



Above: A mock victim lies between two rows of chairs during an active-shooter training exercise at Bldg. 103 here Feb. 17.
Right: A suspect is handcuffed during an active-shooter training exercise at Bldg. 103 here Feb. 17.



Above: Senior Airman Christopher Deese, 52nd Security Forces Squadron, portrays an active shooter during a training exercise at Bldg. 103 here Feb. 17. The 52nd Fighter Wing conducted the exercise to test the Wing's response to an active-shooter situation. Training like this readies the base to respond to real emergency events protecting base members and U.S. government assets. To view more photos, visit <http://www.spangdahlem.af.mil/news/story.asp?id=123290958>. (U.S. Air Force photos by Airman 1st Class Matthew B. Fredericks/Released)



AFN Spangdahlem best station in Europe

**Senior Airman
Natasha Stannard
52nd Fighter Wing
Public Affairs**

American Forces Network Spangdahlem won the 2011 AFN Europe's station of the year award Feb. 8.

AFN Spangdahlem competed against 16 other AFNE stations and was recognized for overall excellence in engineering, operations and military readiness.

"The AFN Spangdahlem team is serving [the audience] with high quality, effective broadcast products and entertainment," said U.S. Army Col. Bill Bigelow, AFNE commander.

Bigelow said this station's excellence was exemplified in all areas when they moved their entire shop from Bitburg Annex to Spangdahlem AB with no loss of service in just five weeks -- a task the station chief estimated would take nine weeks.

This move included breaking down, transporting, reestablishing

and individually rewiring all radio, TV, computer and satellite systems and equipment in their new building, which houses a TV studio, radio automation room, video production room, on-air and production radio studios and a master control room. In addition to that, engineers also built two satellite systems from the ground up.

As the engineers moved and re-wired, the station's mission to deliver reliable and timely news couldn't stop, so the engineers also set up a remote station where broadcasters could broadcast news and command information.

"We had a eight-man team working approximately 12 hour shifts," said Staff Sgt. Modesto Alcala, Detachment 9 AFN Spangdahlem broadcast maintenance supervisor. "I hooked up about 2,500 wires - that's just what I did, and I only did the audio and part of the on-and-off air control rooms."

These systems and programs give broadcasters the capability to funnel timely local news and command in-

At a glance

The Armed Forces Network here competed against 16 other AFN Europe stations and won the AFNE 2011 station of the year award. This station was recognized for maintaining excellence in engineering, operations and military readiness all while moving locations and switching to a new broadcast format, AFN Eagle.

formation to the base through radio, TV and commercial services, which now reach a larger audience thanks to AFN's move from the smaller-populated annex to the more-populated base.

With this quick move also came other big changes as AFN Spangdahlem volunteered to adopt the Eagle radio format, becoming the first in the AFN team's region to provide the music-based service that delivers local information 24/7.

Before moving to Spangdahlem and switching to the AFN Eagle format, viewers and listeners here could only receive local commercials and

news from AFN Atlantic and they could only receive local information on 8 AFN channels at Bitburg Annex.

With the move and programming, the news team now reaches a larger audience and delivers more-timely information through live radio spots, live broadcasts, news spots and commercials to Spangdahlem.

The changes also increased the amount of channels the station provides local commercials and news on Spangdahlem from two to 10.

To read more, visit <http://www.spangdahlem.af.mil/news/story.asp?id=123291116>.



BITBURG, Germany – Maj. Julianna Piepkorn, 52nd Force Support Squadron individual mobility augmentee operations officer, dances with Joachim Kandels, Bitburg mayor, during Ladies Fasching Day celebrations at the Bitburg Town Hall here Feb. 16.



FASCHING LADIES OVERRUN BITBURG TOWN HALL

BITBURG, Germany – German women dance to kick off traditional Ladies Fasching Day celebrations at the Bitburg Town Hall here Feb. 16. Ladies Fasching Day is a German celebration where women "take over" the city for the day. Once the ladies have "taken over" the city hall, the celebrations begin with dancing and parading throughout the city. The traditional Fasching celebrations begin the Thursday prior to Lent at the 11th minute past the 11th hour, continue until Ash Wednesday and allow people to indulge before the Lent season. To view more photos, visit <http://www.spangdahlem.af.mil/news/story.asp?id=123290576>. (U.S. Air Force photo by Airman 1st Class Dillon Davis/Released)

What's happening?

Act Eifel play 'B.A.T.S.'

"B.A.T.S.," a free play, takes place 6 p.m. Feb. 25 and 3 p.m. Feb. 26 at the Brick House. "B.A.T.S." is a comedy about the wives of dead mobsters and former gangsters. For more information, call DSN 452-7260 or 06565-61-7260.

Ski Austria trip

Outdoor recreation is accepting reservations until Feb. 27 for a ski and snowboarding trip to Austria that takes place March 7 - 11. It includes four nights of lodging, breakfasts, dinners; a three-day lift pass; guide; and transportation. The cost per person in a single room is \$850 and the cost per person in a double room is \$750. Equipment rental is included for E-4 and below. Sign up early, as space and supplies are limited. The minimum age is 18 years old. For more information, call DSN 452-7170 or 065-65-61-7170.

Softball coaches needed

The sports department at the Skelton Memorial Fitness Center is accepting resumes for Saber and Lady Saber softball coaches until Feb. 27. Applicants must be able to commit to practice sessions and extensive weekend travel for the season, which is March through August. For more information, call DSN 452-6634 or 06565-61-6634.

Youth soccer training camp

Register now for a youth soccer training camp session with the School Age Program in Bldg. 427. The five sessions to choose from are March 3, 10, 17, 24

and 31. Sessions for children ages 3-6 cost \$17.50 and are from 10 - 11 a.m. Sessions for children 7 -18 cost \$35 for members, \$45 for non-members and are from 11 a.m. - 1 p.m. For more information, call DSN 452-9206 or 06565-61-9206.

OU graduate level course

The University of Oklahoma is offering a graduate-level course titled "Sexual Harassment" March 13-18 at the education center in room 217. This course will help students understand employee relations from the perspective of sexual harassment and develop appropriate policies, procedures and programs to deal with sexual harassment inside and outside the workplace. Non-OU graduate level students are welcome. Current OU students should sign-up via "OZONE" using CRN 21089. For more information, call DSN 452-7555 or 06565-61-7555, or email apspangdahlem@ou.edu.

Miss Universe meet, greet

Meet Miss Universe 2011, Miss USA 2011 and Miss Teen USA 2011 during a free meet and greet 5 - 6 p.m. March 13 at the Brick House. For more information, call DSN 452-7381 or 06565-61-7381.

Free breakfast

Club Eifel members can enjoy a free breakfast from 6:30 - 8:30 a.m. March 14, April 25 and May 23 at Club Eifel. For more information, call DSN 452-4633 or 06565-61-4633.

Air guitar competition

An air guitar competition takes place 5 - 8 p.m. March 17 at the Brick House. The event is free. The winner will be chosen by a special panel, who will award the winner a real guitar. For more information, call DSN 452-7381 or 06565-61-7381.

LoCash Cowboys concert

A free LoCash Cowboys concert takes place March 18 at the Brick House. Doors open at 6 p.m. and the concert starts at 7 p.m. For more information, call DSN 452-7381 or 06565-61-7381.

5K Fun Runs

5K Family Fun Runs take place 4 p.m. March 21, April 18, May 16, June 20, July 18, Aug. 15, Sept. 17, Oct. 31 and Nov. 14 starting at the Skelton Memorial Fitness Center. Participants of all ages can run or walk the 5K route along Perimeter Road. For more information, call DSN 452-6634 or 06565-61-6634.

Bench press competition

A bench press competition takes place 3:30 p.m. March 22 at the Skelton Memorial Fitness Center. Weigh-ins for the event begin at 3 p.m., and the weight classes for males and females include light weight, up to 175 pounds; middle weight, 175-200 pounds; and heavy weight, more than 200 pounds. Prizes are awarded for first, second and third place, and T-shirts are awarded to each participant. For more information, call DSN 452-6634 or 06565-61-6634.

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