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NEWSLETTER OF THE 52ND FIGHTER WING

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A-10 Thunderbolt II attack aircraft assigned to the 81st Fighter Squadron take off for the final time May 17, 2013, from Spangdahlem Air Base, Germany. The squadron officially inactivates in June. Several A-10s are to be reassigned to Davis-Monthan Air Force Base, Ariz. (U.S. Air Force photo/Airman 1st Class Gustavo Castillo)

Last A-10s in Europe depart for US

Airman 1st Class Gustavo Castillo
52nd Fighter Wing Public Affairs

The last four A-10 Thunderbolt II attack aircraft from the 81st Fighter Squadron left Spangdahlem May 17, 2013.

Twenty-one aircraft relocated to the United States over the past few months due to the deliberate and comprehensive restructure planned by the U.S. Air Force that has led to the inactivation of the 81st in June.

The loss of A-10s is a significant event for the United States here in Europe.

"Saying farewell to the 81st makes today a sad day, but it is just another chapter in the life of a fighter squadron," said U.S. Air Force Lt. Col. Clinton Eichelberger, 81st commander from Annapolis, Md. "We are proud to be standing here and we are going to safely move

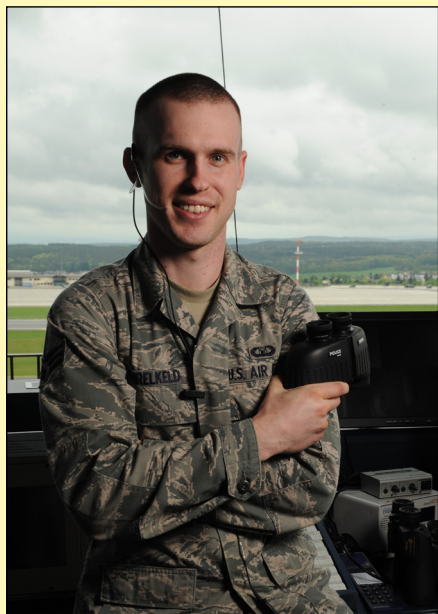
these aircraft back to the United States."

After flying over the next few days, the aircraft will land at Davis-Monthan Air Force Base, Ariz., where they will continue supporting operations employed as a combat aircraft.

Although the A-10s have left Europe, Spangdahlem will continue to support the U.S. Air Forces in Europe – Air Forces Africa and NATO mission as an integral part of the U.S. Air Force. The 52nd Fighter Wing will maintain a relevant combat capability, as it is a critical mobility hub and enduring USAFE installation.

"Today is a significant event and an emotional day for the base. The A-10s have a proud heritage with a lasting legacy in Europe," said Col. Joseph McFall, 52nd vice commander.

Read the entire article at <http://www.spangdahlem.af.mil/news/story.asp?id=123349025>.



SUPER SABER PERFORMER

U.S. Air Force Senior Airman Phillip Threlkeld, 52nd Operations Support Squadron air traffic control journeyman, is the Super Saber Performer for the week of May 22-29. Read the entire article at <http://www.spangdahlem.af.mil/news/story.asp?id=123349744>. (U.S. Air Force photo by Airman 1st Class Kyle Gese/Released)

The Heat is Back On!

The 52nd Civil Engineer Squadron is turning the heat back on in the Bitburg and Spangdahlem family housing areas due to the chilly Eifel forecast in the upcoming week.

115th FW Airmen train with Polish air force



Members of the 115th Fighter Wing, Wisconsin Air National Guard, arrive at Lask Air Base, Poland, for Aviation Detachment Rotation 13-2, May 9, 2013. More than 100 Airmen will be working with the Polish air force for the first F-16 fighter aircraft rotation and second overall this year. The first rotation took place at Powidz Air Base with the C-130J Super Hercules from the 37th Airlift Squadron, Ramstein AB, Germany. (U.S. Air Force photo by Tech. Sgt. Kenya Shiloh/Released)

Tech. Sgt. Kenya Shiloh
52nd Fighter Wing Public Affairs

Nearly 100 Airmen assigned to the 115th Fighter Wing, Wisconsin Air National Guard, arrived at Lask Air Base, Poland, to train in a joint theater security cooperation event with the Polish air force.

This event, hosted by the U.S. Aviation Detachment 1, is geared toward enhancing the skills of U.S. and Polish F-16 Fighting Falcon fighter aircraft pilots as they conduct simulated air combat scenarios with other aircraft to include MiG-29s and Su-22s.

"We brought six F-16s here to work on a partnership-building opportunity with the Polish air force," said U.S. Air Force Lt. Col. Brian Parker, 176th Fighter Squadron commander assigned to the 115th FW.

"We're doing things like air combat

maneuvers, basic fighter maneuvers and tactical intercepts," Parker said. "It's a building block approach so we'll start out with the basics and increase the tactics as we go through the two weeks; and then we'll go to doing individual ranges sets where we can see each other -- kind of 'dog fighting.'"

Operations, maintenance and support Airmen were able to start flying training sorties shortly after arriving thanks to the enduring presence of the 10 members of the 52nd Operations Group's Aviation Detachment 1 already in place before 115th FW's arrival.

"We have everything we need," Parker said. "The support structure is completely in place. Having an aviation detachment here that helps with the long term [coordination] of rotating fighter units like ours through here is set up to ... Read more online at <http://www.spangdahlem.af.mil/news/story.asp?id=123348755>.

Police Week

Remembering our fallen Defenders

See more photos [here](#).



U.S. Air Force Airman 1st Class Julio Villogas, 52nd Security Forces Squadron member from Fredericksburg, Va., paints a child's face at a security forces display booth May 15, 2013.

What's happening?

events in the Saber community

Summer Strike bowling

A summer strike bowling event takes place now until Aug. 15 at the base bowling center. People can play for just \$1 certain nights of the week and be entered to win prizes. The grand prize includes tickets to the NFL games in London, and the other prizes include winning up to \$1,000. For more information, call DSN 452-6217 or 06565-61-6217.

Baltic Sea fishing trip

A fishing trip to the Baltic Sea takes place May 24-26. The cost is \$175 and includes transportation, gear, one day on a large fishing boat and one over night in a pension-type hotel. Passports are required. For more information, call DSN 452-7170 or 06565-61-7170.

Spain trip

A trip to Ole, Spain, takes place May 24-27. The cost is 255 Euros per person in a double room, 325 Euros for a single room, 135 Euros for one child age 2-11 and 190 Euros for a second child. An extra seat on the bus to stretch out costs 130 Euros extra. The bus departs from Spangdahlem at 9:30 p.m. Passports are required. For more information, call DSN 452-6567 or 06565-61-6567.

Normandy trip

A trip to Normandy, France, takes place May 24-27. The cost is 335 Euros per person in a double room, 430 Euros for a single room, 200 Euros per child age 2-11. An

extra seat to stretch out on the bus costs an extra 170 Euros. The bus departs from Spangdahlem at 3:30 a.m. Passports are required. For more information, call DSN 452-6567 or 06565-61-6567.

Tier II Saber Sprint

The Tier II 5K obstacle course and mud run takes place May 24. The cost is \$100 or 80 Euro per team of five. Costumes are encouraged. A free barbeque takes place after the event. For more information, call DSN 452-7308 or 06565-61-7308.

Euro Disneyland Paris

A trip to Disneyland in Paris takes place May 25. The cost is 110 Euros per person and 100 Euros per child age 3-11. The bus departs Spangdahlem at 3:30 a.m. Passports are required. For more information, call DSN 452-6567 or 06565-61-6567.

Bake Sale

A bake sale takes place from 10 a.m. - 2 p.m., May 28 at the Exchange. All money raised will be donated to the Fisher House in Landstuhl. For more information, contact victoria.mcguire@us.af.mil.

360 Fit Boot Camp

A 360 Fit Boot Camp class takes place May 29-June 26. The classes take place 6 a.m., 9 a.m., 4p.m., and 5:15 p.m, every Monday, Wednesday and Friday at

the outdoor basketball court. The cost is \$135 per person. For more information, call DSN 452-6634 or 06565-61-6634.

Asian American, Pacific Islander Heritage Month

A cultural event takes place 11 a.m. - 1 p.m., May 29 at the Brick House. The event includes food tasting, a fashion show, cultural dancing and exhibits. For more information, call 452-2924 or 06565-61-2924.

Operation Warm Heart Silent Auction

A silent auction of sports apparel takes place 10 a.m. - 6 p.m., May 31 at the Brick House. The event is being held to raise money for Operation Warm Heart, a program that helps Airmen in financial emergencies. For more information, call DSN 452-7260 or 06565-61-7260.

Just Paris

A trip to Paris takes place June 1. The cost is 78 Euro per person. The bus departs from Spangdahlem at 2:30 a.m. Passports are required. For more information, call DSN 452-6567 or 06565-61-6567.

Heidelberg City with castle illumination

A trip to Heidelberg takes place June 1. The cost is 46 euro per adult and 39 euro per child ages 3-12. The bus departs Spangdahlem at noon. For more information, call DSN 452-6567 or 06565-61-6567.

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