



NATO TIGER MEET NTM 2011

TIGER NEWS N°3
12 MAY 2011

50th Anniversary

THE WORD OF THE DAY THE CHIEF OF THE EXERCISE



The gathering of all the aircraft participating in the exercise on the same field definitely tastes like a "Flag". It does invest the Air Defense Command with an outstanding importance. This exercise takes entirely part in the operational preparation of our forces in providing the squadrons with a training of excellence, fit for the most experienced as well as for the young pilots. It offers a wide range of the missions of Combat aviation following realistic tactical scenarios. This training goes beyond the limits of the

cockpits since the benefactors are also the GBAD (Grand Based Air Defence), the air traffic controllers, or the technicians specialized in infrastructure, in information or in communication...

Though the Nato Tiger Meet has been organized successfully by the 1/12 "Cambresis" Squadron, it could not have been made real without the support of the Commands and the Chief of Staff of the French Air Force. As a Chief of the exercise, I will strive to adapt the means to the objectives and the expectations of our guests.

ON THE FRONT COVER

BEING A SPOTTER: A PASSION FROM HERE AND THERE

Hans and Peter, had their first Tiger Meet in 1986 in Cambrai.

"We came together from Holland. We grew up near Soesterberg, next to an extremely important airbase. When we were young, we were attracted to the combat aircraft that were leaving tracks on the sky. The airbase closed its gate in 2008 after 40 years of activity. When you think of it, this is similar to Cambrai airbase. What is the best day for a spotter? A wonderful weather and outstanding aircraft, like today!"

Michel, from Dijon. A spotter for a quarter of a century.

"From my earliest years, I remember watching the sky admiring the aircraft of the airbase. To me, being a good spotter means having a sound knowledge of the Squadrons. I can tell you the whole history of any of them, and speak about their aircraft. Which one is my favorite airplane? I would say the Mirage 2000, because this one belongs to my generation."



Yann, from The Czech Republic. A spotter for 15 years.

"As a former civilian air traffic controller, I have always been very fond of the aeronautical world. The operational aspect and the technological capacity of the aircraft are the most appealing to me."

Colin and Alan, two English spotters who are sensitive to this label.

"I am not a spotter, I am an enthusiast!"
"I do not keep an inventory of all the airplanes and their tail numbers. I admire them for what they are."



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LES NOUVELLES
TIGER NEWS



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THE WORD OF THE EXPERT

LINK 16 AT THE HEART OF THE EXERCISE

Next to the briefing rooms, a team of staff is getting busy. This is the team of the "Tactical Data Link", composed of a small group of experts belonging to the "CEAM" (the French air force military experimentation and trials organization) in



Mont de Marsan airbase. This cell is in charge of coordinating the good functioning of the Link 16 network for the duration of the exercise. Industrials and the Délégation Générale de l'Armement (Direction of the armament) are taking part of it. L 16 is a tactical data link which enables the exchange of information between the participants of the air operations. It contributes to speed the transfer of information between the equipped systems, to improve the flight security and to ease the debriefing of the missions. Nowadays, it is the modern standard of operations.



Nato Tiger Meet 2011 gives the unique opportunity to train the crews in a strikingly realistic environment and the omnipresence of the interoperability. This is partly due to the efficiency of the L16.

THE NUMBER OF THE DAY

900

is the number for this successful first spotter day. It drew 900 enthusiasts who are coming to dazzle their cameras.

IN THE TIGER'S EYE



Ready to jump forward, a tiger is lying in wait for two Tornados of the German Jagdbomberstaffel 31.

AGENDA

- 13 MAY**
CEREMONY OF THE 50TH TIGER MEET
- 14 MAY**
TIGERS GAMES
- 15 MAY**
AIRSHOW OF NIERGNIES



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BONUS

LES NOUVELLES THE NEWS