



NATO TIGER MEET NTM 2011

TIGER NEWS N°4
12 MAY 2011

50th Anniversary

THE WORD OF THE DAY

THE POLISH COMMANDER OF THE 6TH FIGHTER SQUADRON
LIEUTENANT-COLONEL KRYSZTOF ZIEC

Sir, this is your first participation in the Tiger Meet. Could you tell us how the story began?

One of our officers attended the last Tiger Meet in Holland as an observer. When he came back to the squadron, he was very enthusiastic about the prospect of the Polish participation in the next exercise. Knowing a lot about the traditions of it, he suggested many ideas to me to make the project realistic. The idea was eventually accepted and we started to get involved to it. On the practical level, the few difficulties related to the organisation have been quickly vanished

and a great dynamic took place among the motivated staff.

What are your expectations concerning the exercise?

I wish an excellent combined training for my squadron. This occasion could not have been possible forty years ago, but since then, our Air Force has accomplished tremendous changes. Our participation in the Nato Tiger Meet 2011 does not only prove that we are part of the Tiger Meet "community", but it also underlines our presence among the allied nations.



ON THE FRONT COVER FOCUS ON A COMAO



Every afternoon, Nato Tiger Meet participants carry out a COMAO (COMposite Air Operations). This is a complex device aiming at achieving multi targeted objectives by engaging different aircraft. Thursday, May 12th, the COMAO gathered all the nations participating in the exercise, involving about thirty combat aircraft, two refueling aircraft and one Awacs (Airborne Warning

and Control System). The target is to be coordinated in order to launch an air raid against a wide range of identified air to ground defence such as Crotale NG or sensitive spots on the ground. The Polish aircraft crew flying on F16 is taking over the commands of the operation by being the Mission Commander, which is the conductor of the air raid. Everybody must play his part in the sky. For instance,

the Air Defence aircraft are in charge of protecting the bombardiers on the area. Another team is responsible for the protection of the patrols against the possible ground to air attacks or the German Jet Lear's scrambling of the fighters' radars. Lastly, the Awacs gives a visibility of the tactical situation at the precise moment and is able to communicate with the other aircraft.



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LES NOUVELLES
TIGER NEWS



THE WORD OF THE EXPERT

THE MOC: A COMPREHENSIVE SUPPORT

By the runway, inside the former premises of the 2/12 fighter squadron, a dozen of airmen is working in order to coordinate and bring the necessary support to the aeronautical technical activity of the 17 mechanics crews of the Tiger Meet. These airmen are the "Maintenance Operational Center" (MOC). Every day, they rely on French mechanics crews, who really are Points Of Contact (POC) and perfectly master foreign languages. "For instance, a german-speaking mechanic was seconded to the German detachment, explains Major Damien Pettavino, assistant to the head of the MOC. It enables us to avoid



communication problems and to be more reactive." Through these POC, the foreign technical crews can express their needs or difficulties regarding support to the central cell. This cell defines the priorities, deals with requests according to their category (ground support equipment, fuel, towing tractor...) and activates the means of the base.

Long before the exercise begins, these specialists also worked to anticipate all the difficulties. "Each aircraft has its own specificities and every country has different working methods as well as different needs, underlines Major Pettavino. For example, the Tornado has a higher fin than our Mirage 2000 and couldn't get into our hangars. We had to adapt and find solutions."

Operational 24 hours a day if necessary, the MOC brings optimum support in favour of Tiger Meet's air activity.

THE NUMBER OF THE DAY

180

This is the amount of computers that were connected for the purpose of the exercise.

IN THE TIGER'S EYE



On Cambrai air base tarmac, a bonding moment between the tiger and the great lady...

AGENDA

14 MAI
TIGER GAMES

15 MAI
AIRSHOW OF NIERGNIES

16 MAI
SPOTTERS DAY



BONUS

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LES NOUVELLES THE NEWS