



# NATO TIGER MEET NTM 2011

TIGER NEWS N°7  
18 MAY 2011

50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary

## THE WORD OF THE DAY

LIEUTENANT-COLONEL LUIS "FRITZ" MORAIS,  
COMMANDER OF THE PORTUGUESE 301 SQUADRON



*Colonel, could you introduce us the Portuguese detachment that you command?*

I manage a group of 51 people. In this group, there are 12 pilots from the 301 Squadron, which I head. We deployed six F16 MLU from Monte Real airbase, a town located halfway between Lisbon and Porto.

*Monte Real will welcome the next Tiger Meet. Could you give us details about the airbase?*

This military base is situated near the Atlantic coast. It is far smaller than Cambrai airbase. It hosts two F16 squadrons

dedicated to the air defense, it is one of the major installations of the Portuguese defense system.

*Could you give us a foretaste of what next year's participants to the Tiger Meet should await?*

The exercise will take place from May 28th to June 8th, 2012. We already began to prepare it and we try to take into account the specific needs of each squadron. We want to provide the best conditions possible for this exercise. We would also like to show the best side of Portugal, proving our capacity to welcome such a big event.

## ON THE FRONT COVER

PROTECTION FORCES KEEP AN EYE ON THE TIGERS

Day and night, they ensure the security of the Tiger Meet. But who are they really? They are the 120 air force commandos of Cambrai AFB protection squadron (EP). Their role? To preserve the aircraft capacity, to guarantee the screening at the base entrance, to carry out dynamic patrols... All that around the clock! Captain Guibert, commander of the protection squadron argues "The exercise demands us to adapt our protection system."

Twenty people, dispatched up into several areas are permanently on watch. With the Tiger Meet exercise, the airbase is in the limelight, particularly during Spotter Days. We must make sure that this greater curiosity isn't malicious." In order to achieve this mission, the protection squadron benefited from the efficient support of the air police brigade, especially for the parking on the airbase. They keep us in complete safety.



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LES NOUVELLES  
TIGER NEWS





# THE WORD OF THE EXPERT

## THE GROUND-BASED AIR DEFENSE (GBAD) IN THE SPOTLIGHT

In the town of Laires, in the Pas-De-Calais, 90km away from Cambrai Air Base, a "Crotale NG" weapon system has been quietly set in the countryside. Its action is organised by an anti-aircraft coordination center, placed on an agricultural field a few kilometres farther. It is in this rural context that the GBAD part of the NTM exercise takes place. The GBAD detachment is composed of 36 people divided into several tasks: the post of command, the anti-aircraft coordination center, a Crotale NG weapon system and a watch out network.

In spite of the distance, they play a major role. Captain Stéphane Gantheil, the head of the detachment explains:

"We thoroughly take part in the exercise. We have been associated right from the preparation phase in order to make the training the most realistic".

Thanks to important means of communication, the information collected on the field is transferred in real time to the leading team of the exercise. The Captain adds "We can contact the detection and control center of Cinq-Mars-la Pile through the Liaison 11,

which provides us with an overview of the air situation."

The aircraft of the exercise which carry out their missions in the North of France must take this GBAD threat into account. The Crotale NG is a formidable weapon system, with its VT1 missile cruising at a speed of 3.2 Mach, for a maximum interception distance of 12km. Its features make it much feared by all aircraft. Even the Tigers!



## IN THE TIGER'S EYE



Tuesday, May 17<sup>th</sup> - At the edge of the runway, the 900 spotters present on the airbase didn't miss any stripe of the Tigers.

## THE NUMBER OF THE DAY

# 450

It is the volume (in m<sup>3</sup>) of fuel distributed to the aircraft on Thursday, May 12<sup>th</sup>. This number represents the daily consumption peak since the beginning of the exercise.



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# BONUS

# LES NOUVELLES THE NEWS