

"Second To None"

Niederrhein-Weeze Airport celebrates its second Birthday

1. The Arrivals.



20/05/05: Niederrhein-Weeze Airport celebrates its second birthday. This year's airport festival was a lot bigger than last year, and has a huge fairground for the kids and a large static and flying display for the aircraft enthusiasts. In the first part of this report we take a look at the arriving

aircraft and to the opening of the festival. With a nice participation list we can expect some nice hardware back at Niederrhein-Weeze. Most important for us: The Royal Air Force back on German soil again!

We had polished our camera's and lenses and reported at "FL" (= Flugleitung) in the early morning. We had the opportunity to stand at the runway threshold during arrival. First aircraft to arrive was a German Army UH-1D "Huey". The morning was quite a boring one, the military hardware was all due in the afternoon.



A lot of nice aircraft came to Niederrhein-Weeze today, the weather conditions were acceptable. All aircraft were parked on the apron first, where they were refueled. After refuelling all aircraft were towed to the General Aviation Areas 1 & 2. The organizers had organized a socializing evening on

Friday, and the festivities were opened by a huge fireworks display. The show can begin...

All photo's: Ron Kellenaers



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2. The Airshow (Saturday and Sunday)

The Airshow part of the second birthday was planned for Saturday and Sunday in the afternoon. On both days the weather was superb for taking pictures of aircraft, and the first aircraft spotter were already taking their pics in the morning.

During the whole weekend more than 50.000 people were present to these birthday celebrations.

The Airshow-organisation had some nice demo's for the crowd. Not only in the air but also on the ground there were nice shows with rescue dogs and a "Storyteller" (a mime show around a boeing steerman). In the show we had the beautiful Display of Frank Versteegh with his Extra 300, a very cool demo of the B-25, and Mr. Gennady Elfimov flew some superb displays with a Yak52, to name some highlights.

The airshow-part of the daily programmes was a great one. Although the organisation had thought about a RAF Hawk and Jaguar on display. But they had to sympathise a bit with the local people, because of the noise. Niederrhein-Weeze Airport has still got a lot of trouble with people in

Winnekendonk (D) and Nieuw-Bergen (NL).

All Photo's: Ron Kellenaers and Rene Wilthof.



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3. Departure Day.



There always an end on a beautiful event.. On sunday most of the visitors to the Airport Festival allready went home. On monday we were able to photograph the departures of the remaining aircraft. We chose to stay in GAT 2 because Jimmy and Chris (the 2 Jaguar Pilots) promised us on saturday-

evening to wear their "Kuemmerling" hats. So we would not miss this photographic oppertunity! And they held their promise! Thanks Guys!!! Hope to see you again, low fast en hard in the Machynlleth Loop Area!!

Allthough the waether wasn't all that great on departure day, we still had some sunny spells to take good shots. Most of the pilots made a very low take off, especially the RAF aircraft made low take offs just how it has to be!!! The dutch PC-7 pilots did a very nice flyby!! Thanks Guys!! Of



course Airport Weeze does not work normally with fighter aircraft, so the guys from X-serv at Volkel were the helping hand here! Without them, things would not have gone so smoothly...



It's was strange feeling for us, former Spotting Group Laarbruch, now Niederrhein Aviation Society, to see all these RAF aircraft back again... It felt like spotting at Laarbruch in the "good old days" again. Who would have thought 15 years ago wenn we are lying against the fence, hoping that the

RAF Police wouldn't send us away, that we even have the oppertunity to park 3 RAF aircraft on the static display just the way we like it!!

Photo's by Ron Kellenaers and Rene Wilthof



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4. The Fun Page.





Hard working Spotter....



Spotters doing no hard work...



Those guys really need a ladder....



What is that card doing there??



Our youngest member, guarding the Hawk.



"Yak52 on fire"



This is THE solution for the noise complaints coming from the dutch town of Nieuw-Bergen!!!! Are there any companies that can move Winnikendonk???? Please email us!

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5. The Last Page

Niederrhein Aviation Society would like to thank the following people and companies for making this an event that we will never forget!

Airport Weeze Management, Solid Handling, Solid Executive, Rob De Man (without him the event could not be possible), Peter Esser (for organising al the stuff and taking us litterrally EVERYWERE!!), Hal Palmer (for the hot water showers and showing us the way to Building 13 while we were drunk), Airport Catering (for getting us drunk), The Guys at Pro:Niederrhein, Niederrhein-spotter (Thanks Maik), Yakkas Foundation (for their great displays and letting us set their yaks on fire), Rogier Buijs (for letting us share the Solid handling Office), Cross Servicing at Volkel Air Base, Luftaufsicht (for keeping a good eye at the safety), all the guys at Flugleitung (you guys really know how to party!!), all our forum-members that helped out on both days, Solid Air, The Rockband "Chaingang" (for playing 'Keep on Rocking in the free world again!'), that (still unknown) streaker, Maaike (you know why...), Ernst Van Den Berg (for lending us your office on fridaymorning), Airport Fire Department, Airport Technicall staff (for keeping the lighting work), The F-104 -KG101- display team Roger Seroo and Ton Van De Zweeuw, The F-104 -FX52- display team Dirk Bellens and Henk De Jongh (too bad you could not be with us henk!), Royal Air Force, Luftwaffe, Marineflieger, Koninklijke Luchtmacht, Globeground, B-25 crew (for a great show!), Warsteiner (you can never get enough of this stuff), Kuemmerling, Polizei, Jeroen Van Reijmersdal (for taking the very last picture!) and all other participants, people and companies that made it all happen.



Foto by: Jeroen van Reijmersdal

THIS WAS FUN!!!!!!

PER ARDUA AD ASTRA