

Maintenance Officer Association (MOA)

P.O. Box 2521 • Springfield, Virginia 22152

FEB 20 1985

Dear Member,

Mark 15-16 March on your calendar. On those two days, EUR MOA membership will finish what it set out to do in October's conference which is to submit recommendations to the national MOA meeting in Arlington VA, 22 - 24 March 85. (See attached minutes). Additionally, we need someone or several EUR MOA members go represent us all at the National Convention (due to a NATO TAC Eval 24 - 27 March, I, regrettably, can't go.)

The forthcoming EUR MOA workshop will be held in the Daedalian Room, Ramstein Officers Club and will consist of:

15 March

1400-1700, Registration, guest speakers and continuation of work groups.

1900-2100, Social with hors d'oeuvres, casual dress and open bar. (Approximately \$7.00 per person/\$10.00 per couple) Spouses are definitely invited.

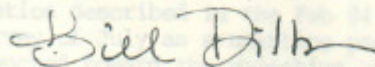
16 March

0700-0830, Breakfast at the Officers Club (optional).

0830-1200, Formalize recommendations.

Hope to see you in March! Please contact our workshop chairperson, Captain Ron Pincolini at Ramstein military 6670 or myself at RM 5624 or at home, 06371-57458, for reservations. Or, drop me a note at my APO box by 13 March.

Think about the National Convention. We need volunteers to go - it's permissive TDY. While in the states on permissive TDY, furlough rates apply for airline transportation.



BILL DILLON, Lt Colonel, USAF
Director

Eur MOA Conference Minutes

Our two day European MOA Conference 26 Oct - 27 Oct, drew 30 members or potential members with 46 folks attending the Friday night's social, including spouses. Members came from Belgium, Netherlands and, predominantly, Germany. Virtually all MAJCOMs with aircraft and munitions maintenance or logistics in Europe were represented - MAC, ATC, AFLC, SAC and USAFE. The conference's purposes were threefold: camaraderie, exchange of ideas, written recommendations to MOA National. The first day included formal presentations by Maj Gen Curtis, "Maintenance Perspectives"; Lt Col (GAF) Claus Niemeyer and Maj Dave Miller, "NATO AWACS"; Capt Guy Vanderman, "The Munitions Officer."

General Curtis' presentation on the qualities and career guidepoints for maintenance officers set the tone for the conference as one of open exchange of ideas. His emphasis on training, quality maintenance, officership and stewardship encapsulated our technical, moral and professional responsibilities. He shared some of his experiences from his duty on the Colonel's promotion board and underscored, once again, the importance of the photograph as making that first, personal impression on the board members. Lt Col Niemeyer and Maj Miller's presentation on NATO AWAC's was a positive testimony of a successful international military unit. It's DCM and assistant DCM representing both their national and NATO's only international operating unit, gave a "Huntley - Brinkley" pitch that underscored one of the reasons for its success - personal teamwork. The organization is run pretty much along the "old" 66-1 centralized approach overseen by a rather elaborate NATO and national structure. Capt Guy Vanderman's pitch about the munitions officer in the aircraft maintenance team pretty well summed up the problems of being a munitions "type" and inferred a solution of their central problem, a lack of TAF nuclear experience for the USAFE environment. Perhaps SAC could be the training ground for new officers in the career field. Friday ended with that night's informal social that went over an hour beyond its planned time because of the lively conversation and interaction. It's openness set the stage for Saturday and certainly fulfilled a major purpose of the conference.

Using the MOA constitution and the policy/objectives from the first MOA convention described in the Feb 84 Exceptional Release and the results of a Eur MOA survey of July as a starting point, the morning round of discussion were launched toward the objective of written recommendations to MOA National. The conference concluded, however, that some of the items needed further definition and presentation at the next European Conference scheduled for 15 - 16 March 1985 specifically for that purpose. The results of that workshop will be presented at the national conference 22 - 23 March 1985. Col Ross Schmoll USAFE/LGM will head up the agenda setting for the Mar meeting to include the U.K. representatives. Further, the European District was broken down into several subdistricts covering groupings of bases or specialties. Points of contacts were assigned for SHAPE/NATO, MUNSS, Saudi, Italy, specific bases in Germany (See attached list) Spain and we're still looking for volunteers in Turkey and Greece. The major purposes of the new organization were more personal communication and recruiting new members.

The major thrust of Saturday's discussions was the maintenance profession and how to strengthen it. One approach to giving predictability to the career field would be the elimination of peaks and valleys in its manning to ensure career progression. One specific recommendation would be a high priority in the personnel pecking order. The higher the priority the less likely maintenance would have to grab what manning it can get in the "fat" year. An approach to strengthen the profession would be to expand MOA to include other services and nations as well as contractors. At the same time, it was suggested that going too far afield could cost the focus necessary for a growing organization. But whatever tack is taken, we should not feel any qualms to either limit or open membership.

We all agreed that MOA was a growing organization and that organizational structure should precede its expansion. Thus, we have set up a membership committee and, as it was mentioned, a regional structure. Eur MOA will give a pitch at the USAFE DCM conference in January to advertize the association and push for new members. Also, that conference should help add substance to one of Eur MOA's objectives: to tell the Europe maintainer's story or as one member put it, "the localization of ideas to theaters." Ideas thus garbed should better influence top decision makers. Issue papers or bullet backgrounders exploring these ideas should be product of the March Eur MOA workshop for the National Conference. Another suggested forum was an article for the Air Force Association's Air Force Magazine describing the "MOA story" in general that would serve as an expansion of the short in the Air Force Times. All these ideas and more will be developed in our Mar meeting.

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Hostess Officer Association (MOA)

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FEB 14 1985

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