

CHECKSIX[®]

the military aviation journal

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AIRPOWER 22

Zeltweg / Austria

Thunder over Michigan

Willow Run Airport / USA

Airshow London 2022

London Int. Airport / Canada

Attack Helicopter Part I

Special feature: Boeing AH-64 APACHE

McDonnell Douglas F-4 PHANTOM II

in LUFTWAFFE Service

Coverstory:

U.S. Navy BLUE ANGELS

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This section is for you - our readers! Often we are asked about the camera gear, the settings we use, etc. Well, there are no secrets, just experience which we will share ...



BRIEFING

Actually it is incredible - CHECKSIX has been around for 25! years (as a pure online magazine) and now it is time for the next logical step - a real magazine, first as a download variant and in the future also in a printed version. With the first issue we have included several real bangers. Three of this season's best airshows paired with our cover story on the U.S. Navy Flight Demonstration Team BLUE ANGELS are a taste of what you can expect from us in the future. CHECKSIX will be published four times a year for the time being. I am looking forward to your feedback - if you like our magazine just send me a message at:

chiefeditor@checksix.de

check your 6

Robert Kysela

AIRPOWER 22



It was exactly 25 years ago when Hinterstoisser air base, located in Zeltweg, Styria, hosted its very first aviation event, this show was later to become known as AIRPOWER. Since then, its organizers, the Austrian Federal Army (Bundesheer), the Province of Styria and energy drink manufacturer RED BULL have conducted some of the best aviation events ever to have been held on European soil. This winning combination of organizers has managed to keep this popular event alive despite opposition efforts from green and leftist groups. Nevertheless, from 2-3 September 2022 the 10th AIRPOWER show was held. The Austrians have always been excellent at exploiting their central location in Europe, their neutral status and, as a result, their good relations in all directions.

story & images by Robert Kysela



U.S. Navy Flight Demonstration Team

Blue Angels

Amongst the world's many aerobatic teams, one team in particular stands



out above all - the U.S. NAVY Flight Demonstration Team, the BLUE ANGELS. Founded in 1946, the BLUES are amongst the world's top ten aerobatic teams and for good reason. The BLUES make full use of the extreme performance capabilities of their Boeing F/A-18E SUPER HORNETS - delivering performances that are correspondingly spectacular. In the USA, the BLUE ANGELS are surrounded by a popularity that is at best comparable to that of the FRECCIE TRICOLORI of Italy. In terms of flying and choreography, the BLUE ANGELS live up to their well earned reputation - hardly any other team are as spectacular - both on the ground or in the air. Unfortunately for many, the BLUE ANGELS are rarely ever seen outside of the USA and Canada, one more reason for us to take a closer look at them.

story & all images by: Rob Kysela



AH-64 APACHE

Combat proven, battle tested - this is Boeing's slogan for the latest variant of its APACHE attack helicopter (AH-64E, version 6). Boeing hits the nail on the head with this slogan - no other attack helicopter can boast a more intense operational career than the AH-64. At most, its counterpart, the Russian Mil Mi-24 (NATO code: HIND) can keep up to a certain point. The APACHE flew its first combat sortie in Panama in 1989. Missions during Operation Dessert Storm (Second Gulf War), the 2003 Iraq War (Operation Iraqi Freedom) and Operation Enduring Freedom in Afghanistan followed. The knowledge gained from these missions, both of a technical and tactical nature, has been incorporated into the ongoing development of this weapon system. The AH-64 has been in service with the U.S. Army since 1986. It is also in service with numerous armies and is certainly *the* benchmark for all current and future attack helicopter!

story & images by Robert Kysela



Technical Specs (Boeing AH-64E APACHE GUARDIAN):

Length:	58 ft 2 in (17,73 m)
Rotor diameter:	48 ft 0 in (14,63 m)
Empty weight:	11.385 lb (5.160 kg)
Payload:	23.000 lb (8.010 kg)
Max speed:	173 mph (279 km/h)
Ceiling:	20.000 ft (6.096 m)
Rate of climb:	2.800 ft/min (14,2 m/s)
Range:	300 miles (480 km)
Performance:	2 x GE T700-GE-701D rated at 1.491 kW
Armament:	1 x 30 mm M230 Chain gun 16 x AGM-114 Hellfire Anti-tank missiles or 4 x AIM-92 Stinger up to 76 x 2,75 inch unguided Rockets