

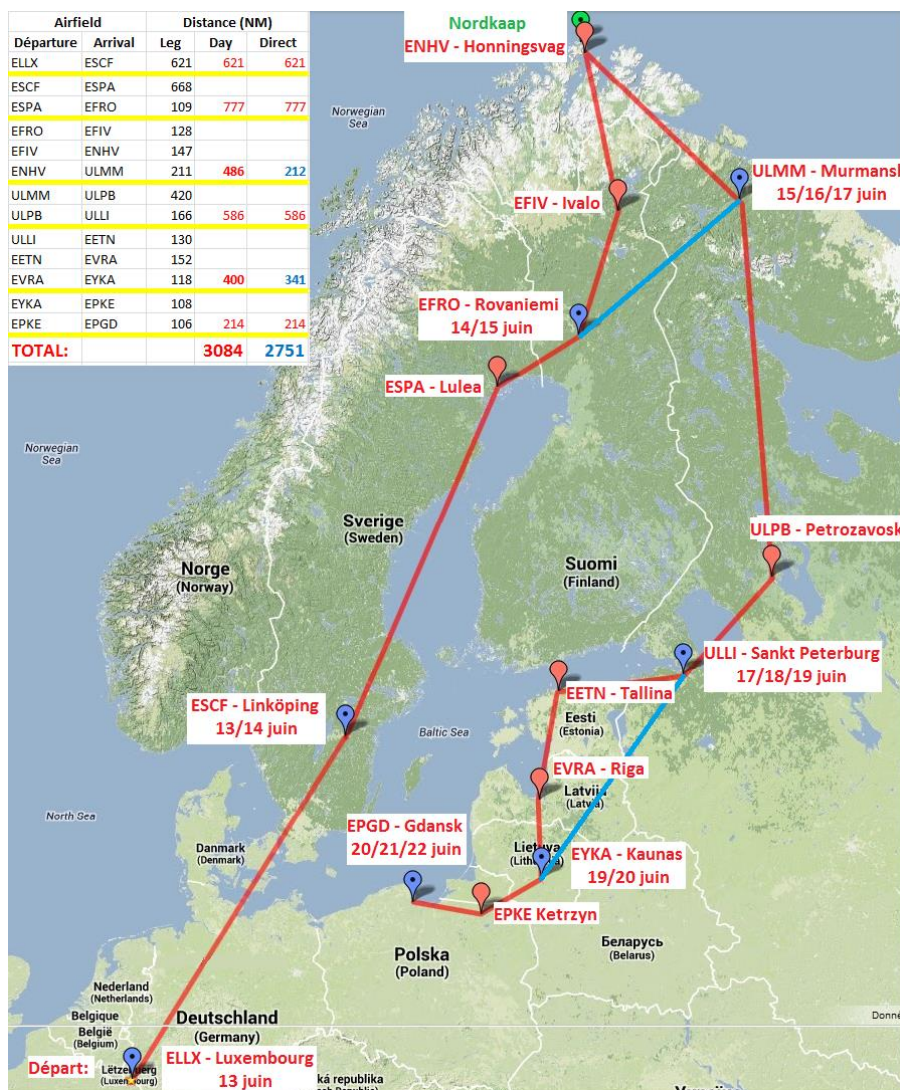
GAC report by Jean Birgen

Long Range Rally – Memorial Flight Hans Gutmann 2014

Already In December 2013 I started the preparation of the 2014 version of the rally (cf. map A). It brought about many problems. I received few answers only on my queries and bad news from Russia such as exaggerated navigation, handling and landing fees in Murmansk (430€) and St Petersburg.

At that point, only 4 teams had registered (2 x LX, 1 x FI and 1 x PL).

This led me to shorten the rally (cf. map B). In St. Petersburg many problems remained nevertheless. Good news was that the registrations increased to 7 teams for the shortened version (4 x LX, 1 x FI, 1 x PL and 1 x SE).



Unfortunately, 10 days before departure, I broke my wrist during a rally in Greece. Upon return to Luxembourg the doctor prescribed a cast and he grounded me for medical reasons. Consequently I had to cancel the rally considering that it was impossible to organize and monitor a large rally that took place a few thousands kilometers away from home, involving 7 teams consisting of 20 pilots.

Forecast / 01. – 05. July 2015

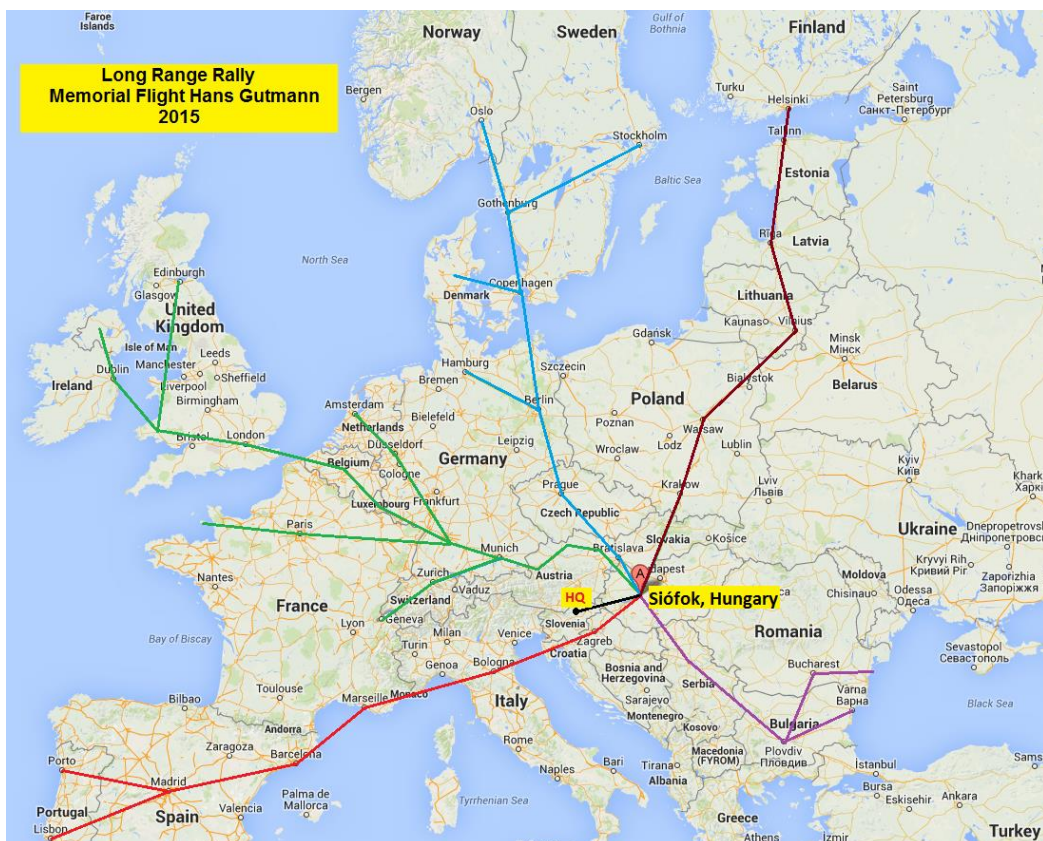
Long Range Rally – Memorial Tourist Flight Hans Gutmann 2015

Considering the low rate of participation of GAC pilots, I worked out a new concept for 2015 for the “Hans Gutmann Memorial Tourist Rally” to reduce the costs.

Flying time will be reduced, less airfields will be covered. The aim is to fly to airfields where low or no landing and handling fees will have to be paid. We will stay in 2 hotels preferably located on the airfield at the main destinations.

The program foresees an arrival from all over Europe in Siofok-Killiti LHSK located on the Lake Balaton or Jakabszallas LHJK in Hungary. Hotel is on the airfield or nearby.

No pilots, even those coming from north or south of Europe will have to cross the Alps. On the following day we will proceed to Slovenij-Gradec (HQ), which will be the main base for the rally. Hotel plus 2 restaurants will be available on the airfield as well as hangars, a pilot bar, touristic organisation and tennis fields. No landing and handling fees. *For info on our HQ (Headquarter of the Rally) see: www.aerodrom-sg.si*



Day trips will be organized to Austria, Slovenia, Croatia, Italy, Hungary, Slovakia etc., which allows us to return to the same hotel every day. In addition touristic and flying activities will be organized. Each evening festivities will be organized, including meals and drinks. Hans would certainly appreciate as he enjoyed such activities.

Jean Birgen,
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