

As the interested and sober reader might remember today was supposed to be a day off.

Therefore probably it started with some new discussions about polar lows. Who cares? (I've started wondering: If we really have global warming, shouldn't we be chasing polar highs. That would be something for the future.) Our brave German friends had the day packed with repair work on the Lidars. As of now the saying is that both function well. Fingers crossed for tomorrow's flight. Astrid and I had our walk to Canossa after yesterday's close to arrest of the video team. Military regulations were repeated and interpreted in new and interesting ways.

At 11 the famous Kårebusen was ready at the parking lot. Due to the Lidar trouble and other unfortunate priorities half of the people had to skip our hastily prepared bustrip around the island. The rest of us had five unforgettable hours, the below list being just a teaser:

- * Three eagles, no moose (except the one we ate)
- * A closed coal mine (the only one on Norway mainland)
- * Dverberg octagonal church
- * A local soap maker
- * Astonishing nature
- * The salmon river Å
- * The wildlife center with an incredible elk soup (elgsådd)
- * A local gallery with paintings and jewellery
- * More astonishing nature
- * Local lamas and elephants
- * A petrified lady with a moneybag
- * The fishing cathedral at Nordmela
- * The sandy beaches at Bleik

Why don't the scientists measure stuff like this?

The afternoon was covered with new discussions of flight plans. Tomorrow will be a flight to Svalbard - some interesting perspectives, I believe. Even possible that the low up there will hit our campaign colleagues at KV Svalbard. Present barf bags!!

The day was filled with expectation. February 29th! Would any of the lovely ladies of the campaign propose to any of the brave men? This reporter has so far not been aware of anything of the kind, but the corridors of the rocket range are long and mysterious, so tomorrow might bring interesting stories.

Tragically enough The White Beauty was locked in her hangar all day, and had no opportunity to find an Orion knight to propose to. (Rumours are that there will be another Falcon at the air field the upcoming week. So perhaps a year from now we will have a couple of Falconettes.).

Today also turned out to be the birthday of the merry Christian of the DLR. This was celebrated in Die deutsche Küche with cakes and water of different colours and different effects. Later on also the aurora borealis sent its regards to the good boy with its enormous green bands threatening to swallow Mount Røyken (which sort of means the cigarette, so beware smokers). A very local tale says that northern lights on leap day will wake the cruel zombies, and some say that they saw something like that.

Today's disappointment was that our Danish newbie Birgitte turned out to be sort of petty thief, stealing Astrid's jacket, even if clearly it wasn't her colour at all. The misdemeanour cost the campaign crew several hours of search; more than any polar low so far has demanded. Penalty for her will be to give a lecture on the use of SAR in forecasting, tomorrow morning. I am afraid this will not function as behavioral therapy for her.

I apologize for being more and more talkative in this letters. This must come to an end. Some day.

Pics from today's trip and wild party are enclosed.

From the editorial desk at Andøya,
g-

Everybody's shooting



Eagle and weather radar



Dverberg church



The sect of laughing octagonal lutherans



Kårebussen ready to go



Cutting soap



Vanda(r) Woman aka The Desert Queen



Wolfie after elk soup



Bayerischer Elkfreyßer



Buksnes mountain



Say cheese



Two kings
– and Jón Egill is next?



Blackwater Security taking care



The Fishing Cathedrals with the smell of money



1 – 2 – 3



Bus rider no 1



Bus rider no 2



Bleiksøya bird reserve



Birthday boy



Scientist gone wild

