

## A Visit To The Metropolis Of Manchong, EADS & Its Eurofighter

Once in a while, students get both a disconcerting sense of déjà vu and a strong feeling deep inside that makes them want to break away from it all. Particularly, from school bells, teachers and tests, and canteen food and its unbelievably exorbitant prices.

If things work out fine, they might find themselves in the shade of a palmtree on any Mediterranean beach, supported by a glass of wine in their hands and a cigarette in the corner of their mouths, in other words: they could emerge to be hip, cool, laid back, and trendy. If things don't work out fine, students might hit the ground with a bang in a place they call Manchong, home of a pretty martial device: the Eurofighter or "Eurofighter Typhoon". All of a sudden, and even before you could say Jack Robinson, they might find themselves standing in front of a military aircraft, obtainable at an unbelievably exorbitant price - do you remember? A very disconcerting sense of déjà vu, I said!!



Actually, the Eurofighter Typhoon Weapon System is the culmination of a four nation government and industry partnership. The nations involved in that aviation technology project are Italy, Spain, the United Kingdom, and Germany. This partnership was designed to come up with a multi-role fighter for the air forces of those four countries.

With its typical delta wings this combat aircraft is easily recognizable from the ground. The delta wing is a planform in the form of a triangle. It is named for its similarity in shape to the Greek uppercase letter delta ( $\Delta$ ).

This weapon system is commonly praised for its low risk and laudable affordability, but, strictly in confidence, it's only too obvious, you simply won't get such a thing for a song - nor for peanuts!

On our return home, we found we could consider ourselves lucky to be able to afford the good old canteen food at exorbitant prices!

(H. Vogel)