

First Look

Shuttle exercise

Portuguese Air Base 4 and 65th Air Base Wing personnel are conducting an exercise Monday from 10:30 a.m. to about 3 p.m. This will involve the Portuguese search and rescue squadron and many emergency personnel including fire, police and medical support.

LES candy grams

The Lajes Elementary School's Student council is selling Valentine candy grams for \$1 during all lunch periods today - Wednesday. The grams will be delivered within the school Feb. 13. Parents can send a gram to their child by sending an envelope to the school's secretary with the money, child's name, teacher, and a short message.

Candy grams

The men of Jacob Lodge #86 are selling Valentine candy grams to be delivered Feb. 13 to base personnel. The grams are \$2 each and include wrapped candy and a personal message on construction paper hearts. To buy a gram or for more, call Tech. Sgt. Ronald Brook at 2-6316 or Senior Airman Kristopher Johnson at 2-3851.

New at AAFES

Patrick Riordan, new AAFES general manager, arrived at Lajes last week. Mr. Riordan invites compliments, questions or concerns about AAFES operations at Lajes to be directed to him at 2-3209 or email riordan@aafes.com. The OceanView BX is having new carpet installed, and hours are extended to 8 p.m. on Thursday, Friday and Saturday for a three-month trial.

Preflight

- Days since last DUI 57
- DUIs since Jan. 1 None
- Current AEF ... Silver (5 & 6)
- Current FPCON Alpha
- Guest DJ Staytune!
- Strong Patriot Feb. 13
- Combat Nighthawk: **Capt. Darin Lerew**, 65th Medical Operations Squadron; **Capt. Joseph Ludwig**, 65th Operation Support Squadron; **Master Sgt. Roger Alves**, 65th Air Base Wing; **Master Sgt. Larry Boxley**, 65th Civil Engineer Squadron

New AFN channels

By January 2005, AFN Lajes will eliminate its microwave transmission system and replace it with coaxial cable buried underground. Page 7.

Combat Proud



Tech. Sgt. Mark Oren, Master Sgt. Mike Lake and Isidro Borges, all from the 65th Civil Engineer Squadron, repair some leaks in the roof of the powerplant Tuesday. (Photo by Ted McGinley)

Recognition shows appreciation

Chief Master Sgt. Gary G. Coleman
USAFE Command Chief
Master Sergeant

RAMSTEIN AIR BASE, Germany - Regardless of rank or time in the Air Force, recognizing a member for outstanding performance plays a huge part in individual and unit morale. Most of us simply want to know that what we do is appreciated.

Whether recognizing someone informally with a simple pat on the back, or through more formal channels like the quarterly and annual awards programs, acknowledging a member's hard work is an outstanding motiva-

tional tool that builds confidence, fosters growth and encourages the learning process. It also helps the subordinate to see the big picture — how their job contributes to the success of the organization and the overall unit mission - laying the path for future success.

In addition, providing outward and sincere recognition inspires others to do well. It creates an exponential effect with other members' setting higher goals so that they too can be recognized. And, great performers enhance unit effectiveness.

All Air Force leaders are responsible for creating a work environment that inspires trust, teamwork, quality and pride.

While there are many different levels and aspects to this responsibility, providing encouragement through recognition is the foundational building block. It's a duty that seems so simple, yet is often forgotten.

Every U.S. Air Forces in Europe member plays a vital role in our overall mission. Supervisors, take the time to recognize the hard work of your subordinates. Get involved. Know your people and their accomplishments, and when warranted, reward their efforts.

Highlighting a job well done today will produce better leaders tomorrow - it's our responsibility.

Focus Notes

Graduates

During the Customer College graduation Jan. 30, **Staff Sgt. Cecilia Range**, 65th Security Forces Squadron and **Tatjana Vickmark**, 65th Service Squadron, were recognized as the distinguished graduates. Other graduates were: **Luis Baltazar**, 65th Logistics Readiness Squadron; **Lee Brothers**, 65th Civil Engineer Squadron; **Staff Sgt. Kristie Clifford**, 65th Medical Operations Squadron; **Airman Sarah Gossell**, 65 SVS; **Senior Airman Kristopher Johnson**, 65th Operations Support Squadron; **Jose Lima**, 65 CES; **Senior Airman Lisa Massey**, 65 LRS; **Jose Ourique**; **Capt. James Palmer**, 65 CES; **Master Sgt. Randy Phillips**, 65th Missions Support Squadron; **Tech. Sgt. Aubrey Posey Jr.**, 65th Air Base Wing; **Sandra Sousa**, 65 SVS; **Emanuel Vieira**, 65 LRS.

Sweetheart challenge

The Xbox challenge is at 1 p.m., Feb. 15, at the community activity center. Sweethearts and friends need to register by Feb. 14 to play. Players must be at least 17. Players can vote on what games are played. Fun prizes and refreshments are provided. For more, call Sheryl Bush or Marco Rocha at 2-4135.

Super Bowl Challenge



Staff Sgt. Matt Kaczor, 65th Services Squadron, plays Madden 2004 against Senior Airman Derrick Woodard, 65th Communications Squadron, in the Playstation 2 Super Bowl Challenge and Tailgate party Jan. 30 at the Community Activity Center. (Photo by Guido Melo)

New project for safety

by Col. Scott Adams
U. S. Air Forces in Europe
Director of Safety

Project SMART "Smartly Managing Awareness, Risk, and Threats" is one of the newest Combat and Special Interest Programs.

The goals of Project SMART are to help people emphasize and incorporate a "smart" way of doing things into their lives and emphasize risk management and reduction at the personal and organizational level. These goals are consistent with current safety programs.

Project SMART will allow commanders to reinvigorate already strong safety programs and remind individuals to use the question, "Is this the right way to do this?" Leaders at all levels must judiciously apply Operational Risk Management principles, even in routine tasks. They must also make sure their people know how to use ORM in day-to-day operations, on and off duty, 24/7, 365 days a year. Bottom line — everyone must act when they see something that needs to be fixed.

Project SMART emphasizes U.S. Air Forces in Europe's focus on safety that starts with everyone

being smart about everything we do and doing everything the right way. In one of his first policy letters, Gen. Robert H. "Doc" Foglesong, USAFE commander, challenged everyone in the command to "take a fresh look at the way they do business and see if there are not smarter and safer ways to work." USAFE's emphasis on safety has traditionally been strong, but watch for Project SMART to really focus that emphasis on safety beginning in February.

February's emphasis will be on fire safety, Fire Smart. Examine your daily routine to minimize unplanned fires in whatever you burn. USAFE recently suffered two facility fires, one resulted in a total loss of a building and an important community-eating establishment. Lt. Col. Brian Mullin, a former USAFE Flight safety officer, recently received an Airman's Medal for risking injury while putting out flames on a person who didn't consider the risk while filling plastic gas cans in his pick-up truck bed. Be smart about fire — once there are flames, it's usually too late.

Project SMART: Be smart enough to know what's right and do what's right. Safely manage your awareness of risk and actively combat the threats you face.

Blind volleyball



Players from the 65th Communications Squadron volley the ball during a co-ed blind volleyball tournament Jan. 30 at the Chase Fitness Center. This was a Project CHEER and Combat Fitness event. (Photo by Guido Melo)

Parents get comp time from kids

by 1st Lt. Yvonne Levardi
Chief of Public Affairs

An Air Force Aid Society program at Lajes gives parents a few hours away from parenting one Friday a month.

The "Give Parents a Break" program funds child care for some active duty Air Force parents of children six weeks to 12 years, from 6-10 p.m., the last Friday of each month, at the Child Development Center and the Lajes Youth Center.

"The idea is to give parents a small break from the challenges of parenting," Master Sgt. Margaret Jett, family readiness and Air Force Aid officer said.

Parents who are eligible include those:

- whose spouse is deployed or on a remote tour
- whose spouse is on an extended temporary duty
- families with sudden changes such as the birth of a new baby, serious or extended illness of a family member, death in family or similarly stressful situation
- whose child has special needs
- whose spouse works extensive extended shifts

"This isn't free child care," Sergeant Jett said. "Rather, it's a program for base officials to use in helping out families who could benefit from a night away from the kids."

Sergeant Jett said parents can be referred to the program by their squadron commander or first sergeant, chaplain, doctor or other medical professional, family advocacy or family support center personnel, CDC program director, LYP director or family program support flight chief.

"I also issue the certificates to all members who out-process the family support center for temporary duty or deployment if they have children," Sergeant Jett said.

"When I see my single parents stressed, I ask them if they want a break," Master Sgt. Donna Maler, 65th Operations Support Squadron first sergeant said. "If an active-duty member is on temporary duty, I'll talk to the spouse and see if they need a break. Our folks are out fighting the fight, and spouses need to regenerate themselves on the home front too."

Master Sgt. Christopher Moore, first sergeant for the 65th Civil Engineer and Security Forces squadrons, agreed with the benefits of the program.

"I'd definitely refer someone to this if they just got back from an extended deployment and needed a little time," Sergeant Moore said.

Sergeant Maler said the program works.

"Once, I had a single mom who needed a break from her 'itty bits' during Christ-

mas," She said. "Being a single parent with two young boys, I could understand her need for a break."

According to AFAS guidelines, a referral certificate needs to be filled out and issued by the referring person listing recommended length of eligibility. The parent then calls the CDC at 2-3188 or the youth center at 2-3237, depending on the age of the child, to make reservations by the Wednesday before the 'break' Friday.

First-time users need to take the referral certificate, child's shot records, birth certificate and passport to the CDC or LYC and fill out and Air Force Form 1181. The CDC keeps the certificate on file there, and at the LYC the parent will fill out a Lajes Youth Program membership form. CDC and LYP officials require a cancellation to be called in by noon of that day.

"This is a very important program, especially for Lajes," Sergeant Maler said. "Being on an island with no place to 'run' means sometimes parents just get stressed out and need a break."

Sergeant Jett reminds parents to be responsible about the use of the program.

"If you pick your child up late, you will lose the program privileges for three months," Sergeant Jett said. "So, be on time!"

For more, call Sergeant Jett at 2-1185.

Dental month educates, eases children

by 1st Lt. Yvonne Levardi
Chief of Public Affairs

Making trips to the dentist better, preventing tooth decay and encouraging dental care are the focus points of this year's National Children's Dental Health Month.

Started Feb. 3, 1947 as a one-day event, the recognition month now focuses on increasing dental awareness of parents and children.

"We want everyone, especially children, to feel comfortable when they come to the dental clinic," said Capt. (Dr.) Chad Raper, a dentist here. "If you have a negative attitude before the appointment starts, you probably won't have a positive experience. A bad childhood experience can affect us as adults, too."

Staff Sgt. Sarah Drinkard, a dental hygienist here, said a dentist, hygienist and technician will demonstrate proper

brushing and flossing techniques to children at the library 3-4 p.m., today and Feb. 13; and the child development center 2:30-3:30 p.m., Feb. 19. Capt. (Dr.) Steven Pinto, another Lajes dentist, and Sergeant Drinkard will go from room to room at the schools 10 a.m.-noon, Feb. 23-27, showing a video on oral hygiene and handing out toothbrushes.

For most children, dental care can become an easily-learned routine, Sergeant Drinkard said.

"Supervise your child until you're satisfied they are brushing and flossing properly," Sergeant Drinkard said. "Children should be able to brush alone

by age seven. If you need any guidance, your dentist or hygienist can show you proper brushing and flossing techniques."



The challenge, she said, can be the visit to the dentist.

"There are ways to make dental visits more enjoyable for your child and you," Sergeant Drinkard said.

Some tips are:

- Schedule the appointment for when the child usually feels rested and cooperative.
- Avoid nap and mealtimes if possible.
- Don't share or let others tell the child "scary" dentist stories.
- Don't show the child any personal anxiety about going to

the dentist.

—Avoid using bribes to get the child to the appointment.

—Never use a dental visit as a punishment or threat – try and make it an enjoyable outing.

—Set the example by having good personal oral hygiene and health.

Dr. Raper said parents should bring their children to the dentist around age 4, or earlier if their teeth show signs of decay.

"A trip to the dentist can be a good experience for the child," Sergeant Drinkard said. "By keeping their teeth clean and eating healthy, visits can be stress-free and easy."

"It can be hard to tell to children why oral care is important, but by explaining that their teeth can get 'sick' too and they need to get a filling to make to tooth healthy again, it will help them understand why they need to make sure their teeth stay healthy," Dr. Raper said.

AFN switches channels in 2005

by 1st Lt. Aaron Wiley
65th Air Base Wing Public Affairs

The method that American Forces Network television signals are brought into homes and workplaces on and off base will change boosting broadcast capability for the station and viewers.

AFN Lajes will eliminate its microwave transmission system and replace it with coaxial cable buried underground. The project is slated for completion by January 2005, according to Master Sgt. Roger Warner, the project manager.

Col. Barbara Jacobi, 65th Air Base Wing commander, introduced the project to the wing during her commander's calls Jan. 26-27.

"This quality of life project will eventually allow AFN to expand the amount of channels it offers to the base and military housing areas," she said.

Master Sgt. John Tway, AFN Lajes operations manager, said the detachment is pursuing five additional channels: the Pentagon Channel, the AFN Program Guide as well as AFN Family, Korea and Movie.

Warner said there will be other benefits as well.

"We've been talking with Cabo TV (a local satellite television provider) about offering Portuguese satellite programming through the new cable connection on base," the 65th Communications Squadron NCO said. "If approved by HQ Armed Forces Radio and Television Ser-

vice, viewers could subscribe to a commercial package of 36 basic and eight premium channels."

The costs for this service will be determined after the channels are approved.

Cabo TV and other satellite television services are available to Americans living off base. The base exchange also sells satellite dishes and decoder boxes for Lajes people to receive AFN channels.

The change is driven by an agreement with the Portuguese government. The microwave frequencies used by the U.S. to carry the networks must be returned, according to Chief Petty Officer Charles Britt, U.S. Forces Azores frequency manager. Portugal's Authority of National Communication had given the U.S. the frequencies to use on a temporary basis.

"Lajes was authorized to install and operate the current transmission network to broadcast on channels 36-40 in 1998," Chief Britt said. "However, the authorization was granted on a temporary basis due to commitments already established for the assigned frequency band."

Off-base residents who pick up the television channels using the multipoint, multichannel distribution system will lose that capability as well, Sergeant Warner said.

"They won't lose total access to AFN, however. If they're within range, they'll still have access to AFN Atlantic on VHF channel 8," he said.



Bruno Viveiros from Cabo TV (Açores Cabos), mixes the cement his coworkers use to construct underground conduits outside Bldgs. T-144 and 143, for the coaxial cable that will replace AFN's aerial broadcasting system. (Photo by 1st Lt. Aaron Wiley)

DOD has buyout, retirement authority

by Tech. Sgt.
David Jablonski
Air Force Print News

WASHINGTON — The Department of Defense now has permanent authority to offer civilian employees voluntary early retirements and buyouts (voluntary separation incentives) without having to get Office of Personnel Management approval each year.

The voluntary early retirement and voluntary separation incentive programs are similar to other programs the Air Force has used since 1993. They allow the Air Force to offer employees up to \$25,000 to leave the Air Force, and/or take a voluntary early retirement. By exercising these authorities, the Air Force will be able to take reductions in their civilian workforce while minimizing reductions in force, personnel officials said.

These permanent authorities came as part of the new National Security Personnel System.

"These programs may be used to reduce the number of personnel or to restructure the workforce to meet mission objectives," said Sara Bonilla, chief of the Air Force NSPS project management office. "Because the authority is now permanent, it allows managers greater flexibility in long-range planning. In addition, NSPS included a limit on the total number of VSIPs that can be used in DOD and our allocation this year is 5,873. This does not imply we are downsizing 5,873 civilians or that we must use all of the VSIPs. It just means that, if needed, we could offer up to that number."

There are no limits for using voluntary early retirements.

"Buyouts allow the Air Force to decrease (its) workforce without resorting to reductions in force, or reshape it without requiring the loss of positions," Ms. Bonilla said. "In addition to offering a separation incentive to employees eligible for early or optional retirement, it can be also used for resignations."

Employees who accept a buyout, or an early retirement must leave government service in the same fiscal year.

Both the early retirement and buyout programs have other requirements.

For early retirement, the employee:

- Must have at least 20 years of federal service and be at least 50 years old. Younger employees may be eligible if they have 25 years of federal service.

- Must have worked for DOD continuously for at least

one year.

For buyouts, the employee:

- Can receive a maximum of \$25,000 before taxes and deductions.

- Must be a U.S. citizen.

- Must be serving under an appointment without time limitation.

- Must have been employed by DOD for a continuous period of at least 12 months.

Employees who accept buyouts may not take another position with the federal government, directly or via contract, for at least five years or they will be required to repay the buyout. Additionally, employees may not return to work for the DOD for at least one year unless they receive a waiver from the secretary of defense.

The cost of the buyout is funded by the organization offering it.

Leave active duty early

RANDOLPH AIR FORCE BASE, Texas (AFPN) — There is good news for thousands of airmen considering leaving active duty who thought they couldn't because of existing service obligations.

An effort dubbed "force shaping" is opening the exit doors to officers and enlisted servicemembers in select career fields and year groups by waiving some active-duty service commitments previously incurred for events like government-funded education, permanent changes of station and promotion.

Force shaping includes opportunities to transition to the Air Force Reserve or Air National Guard, and can relieve some people of their active-duty service commitments.

Rules for leaving active duty early will be the least restrictive for anyone wanting to transfer to the Guard or Reserve through the Palace Chase program.

Some bonus payback requirements may also be waived, officials said. Applications for any of the force-shaping early release programs must be made through local military personnel flights by March 12.

More than 16,000 additional people — 12,700 enlisted and 3,900 officers — currently projected to leave will be allowed out to help the service return to its authorized active-duty force size by Sept. 30, 2005. The goal is to get within authorized end strength while avoiding "extreme measures" that "wreak havoc" with mission and morale, officials said.

Active-duty airmen wanting to transfer to the Reserve or Guard will be able to apply for a waiver of an active-duty service commitment regardless of their career field.

"We're a total force, and for our active-duty airmen who would like to separate early and still retain a connection to their Air Force, the Palace Chase program provides the perfect vehicle to preserve operational capability while reducing active-duty end strength," said Maj. Gen. John Speigel, the Air Force's director of personnel policy at the Pentagon.

"We're focusing a big part of our efforts there because it keeps (servicemembers) and their expertise in the total force, while allowing them increased stability and a chance to continue working toward a military retirement," the general said.

Some applications may not be approved. Because of manning shortages, 29 officer and 38 enlisted specialties will not qualify for many of the waivers. Among those are pilots, navigators, air battle managers, aerial gunners, fuels specialists, nurses and first sergeants. The complete list of "stressed" career fields that are excluded from many of the waivers is posted at www.afpc.randolph.af.mil/retsep/shape.htm

"We don't want to break any career fields during our force-shaping efforts or create problems in future years similar to

Split-second shot



MOUNTAIN HOME AIR FORCE BASE, Idaho — Capt. Christopher Stricklin ejects from the Air Force Thunderbirds number six aircraft less than a second before it impacted the ground at an air show at Mountain Home Air Force Base, Idaho, Sept. 14. Stricklin, who was not injured, ejected after both guiding the jet away from the crowd of more than 60,000 people and ensuring he couldn't save the aircraft. This was only the second crash since the Air Force began using F-16 Falcons for its demonstration team in 1982. The ACES II ejection seat performed flawlessly. (Photo by Staff Sgt. Bennie Davis III)

the ones caused by the downsizing in the early 1990s," said General Speigel.

"Approval authority for miscellaneous enlisted separations will rest at the personnel center, to centrally review applications and ensure compliance with manning needs," said Maj. Dawn Keasley, chief of retirement and separation policy at the Air Staff.

Examples of efforts to "shape" the force go beyond waivers. They include procedures where those who fail to complete technical schools only will be allowed to leave the Air Force or to reclassify into short-manned career fields. In addition, high-year-of-tenure extensions will only be granted to those in specific shortage career fields or for personal hardship reasons.

Program highlights include:
— The chance to transfer to the Guard and Reserve for those with at least 24 months time in service, incurring a 2-for-1 service commitment (not less than 1 year or greater than 6 years).

— Enlisted waivers of active-duty service commitments associated with technical training and bootstrap programs.

— Potential service commitment waivers of up to 18 months for permanent-change-of-station moves.

— Potential service commitment waivers for officers of up to 24 months for Air Force Institute of Technology doctoral education and Education With Industry.

— Up to 12-month waiver of intermediate and senior developmental education commitments for officers.

— Possibility of ROTC commissioning

directly into the Reserve or Guard.

— Aviator Continuation Pay, Uniformed Services University of the Health Sciences scholarships, and AFIT fellowship, scholarship, and grant commitments will not be waived.

According to officials, force shaping is designed to return the Air Force to its authorized uniformed population, or "end strength," while shifting some airmen to fill positions in specialties that need more people of their rank.

The Air Force brought in thousands of people since the late '90s to build up to end strength, with limited consideration for the skill mix, officials said. But more people came into the service and fewer than expected left, leaving the force with more people than are authorized to be on active duty.

To reduce the total number of active-duty people in uniform, the Air Force is continuing efforts like retraining people into careers where they are needed more, outsourcing jobs to private industry, and converting some jobs from military people to Air Force civilian workers. However, these new force-shaping tools are being offered because still more needs to be done, officials said.

Details and career counseling are available from unit career assistance advisors at each base. People can also call the Air Force Contact Center at DSN 665-5000 or toll-free (800) 616-3775 for more information. (Courtesy of Air Force Personnel Center News Service)

Ready to fight and win

by Col. Barbara Jacobi
U.S. Forces Azores and
65th Air Base Wing commander.

With every new year one should review priorities and seek ways to improve. We have used this opportunity to focus on what we do, how well we do it and how we can perform our mission even better. As a result we have recently made adjustments to our mission statement, vision and goals. The objective was to better reflect the way Lajes fits into the USAFE and Air Force mission, and how we can support that mission better than anybody else. One thing never changes: our people are the key ingredient to our success. Let me give you the perspective behind our new mission statement, vision and goals:

Lajes Mission.

"Proudly providing world-class service and people to enable, bed down and posture expeditionary forces – Ready to Fight and Win."

For many years, Lajes' primary mission was one of en route support for transiting aircraft, and as a forward deployed location for tankers and other forces. As a result of the increase in the operational tempo and the Global War on Terrorism the Air Force has become more expeditionary and Lajes has too. The 65th Air Base Wing went from having 5 people postured for deployment annually to having nearly 320. That's a big jump for Team Lajes. Although we all aren't deployable this increase number confirms that we remain part of the active expeditionary Air Force while still having the responsibility of providing a place for folks like the Tanker Task Force to bed down at Lajes.

Bottomline: We pride ourselves in getting iron to and from the fight—whether from here or from deployed locations.

Lajes Vision.

"Premier enabler of United States and allied expeditionary forces."

During Operation IRAQI FREEDOM, Lajes was host to the 492nd Air Expeditionary Group – almost 500 people and 18 KC-135s, and in 2003 overall Lajes supported more than 4,000 DoD aircraft, 40,000 passengers and

4,000 short tons of cargo to and from the fight. Lajes also provides support for joint/total force and allied aircraft transiting the Atlantic such as F-15s, F-16s, F-18s, C-5s, C-9s, C-17s, C-40s, C-141s, and Special Operations Command C-130s.

But Team Lajes doesn't only support US military forces. We're an alternate landing site for the space shuttle, and aircraft flying through here in support of the foreign military sales program. Along with our Portuguese hosts, we service about 500 allied aircraft that come through Lajes Field annually, including Egyptian, Greek, Italians, British, Dutch, Israeli, French, Turkish and even Albanian aircraft. Now that really is world class support!

Lajes Goals.

Goal 1: Provide the best support for expeditionary airpower.

Since Team Lajes already provides outstanding support to our transit customers, there was only one thing to do – improve on the best. We do this by making sure we have the right people in the right jobs with the right training. As supervisors we need to make sure our people get the training to be proficient, stay current, and learn new things. We must continually hone customer service skills, and practice our reception and contingency plans. We must efficiently use and maintain our resources. Our combat and special interest programs help to ensure our focus and keep our saws sharpened. From the best looking base in the Air Force to the most proactive Customer College in USAFE it is clearly evident we provide great support to all the expeditionary forces whether they are just passing through or are here to stay for a while.

Goal 2: Enhance strong Portuguese partnership and seek improved integration.

We believe we have a strong partnership with our Portuguese hosts and our mission proves we are already well integrated. But like every relationship there is always room for improvement. Just ask the folks in security forces, our tower or airfield management and they'd tell you they couldn't do their jobs without their Portuguese counterparts. I have to give those three units a lot of

credit because it is their professionalism and day to day interaction that is the foundation to our strong partnership. Many other offices interact with officials at Headquarters Azores Air Zone on a routine basis too and it is through all these efforts we have developed strong communications and relationships.

The 2003 Atlantic Summit was a primary example of our teamwork and strong partnership – they were integral to making that a first-class event praised by both countries' leadership. And don't forget our joint efforts during OIF which showcased both our militaries' skill and support for aircraft coming through Lajes Field.

Our hosts are also significant when it comes to contingency operations and we rely on them for our search and rescue support. We know we can count on their round-the-clock commitment during exercises or for operational contingencies and for that we are very appreciative. We'll continue to work together and I look forward to every opportunity to strengthen our already strong relationship.

Goal 3: Provide leadership, resources and the environment for people and families to be their best.

Our people are our most important resource. To ensure you are at your best, Lajes and the Air Force work hard to ensure you and your family have the best possible facilities, programs and services for work and play.

Right now the most visible means of support are the new housing units under construction but we also have our Combat and Special Interest Programs. These programs provide and help ensure leadership, support, training, education, family and spiritual care, safety, activities and recognition to all of Team Lajes.

And really, what it all boils down to is that we are a team, and that Team Lajes takes care of its own.

The men and women of Team Lajes can build upon a tremendous heritage. Our contribution to "Enabling Expeditionary Forces" is impressive. We have the opportunity to build upon this legacy and to ensure Team Lajes truly is the best.

Together, we'll keep Team Lajes Ready to Fight and Win!



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Misunderstanding the point

by Lt. Col. Mark Burns
332nd Expeditionary Operations
Support Squadron commander

BALAD AIR BASE, IRAQ (AFPN) — Is flexibility the “key” to airpower? Does thinking “out-of-the-box” really solve problems?

I have heard these two phrases quite often since my entry into the Air Force.

Being an Army brat, I appreciate and take great pride in the adaptability of the Air Force and the creative solutions we find to problems.

As much as I have tried to practice these clever ideals of flexibility and out-of-the-box thinking in my Air Force career, I have become increasingly concerned with the misunderstanding that often surrounds them.

Too often “flexibility” means compensating for poor planning and even worse initial execution. At times “out-of-the-box” thinking is demanded when the solution is not readily apparent at the inception of a problem.

At Balad, we are undertaking an immense task: starting a new base of operations. If we misunderstand the meaning of these two phrases, which we hear so often, we just might make the job a little bit harder.

Flexibility comes from knowing the basics of your job well and from the confidence gleaned from having practiced the basics again and again until they become second nature. It does not come from trying to accomplish new and different things every time you train. You will never see every possible permutation of a problem.

If you take the time during the planning phase to prepare a solid base for execution, any left turns thrown your way can be overcome. You gain flexibility by nailing down

as many variables as possible with good planning. Good execution allows you to stay ahead of the new wrinkles you will be forced to adapt to. Frequently, practicing the basics can give you the confidence to plow ahead and fix unforeseen problems.

The same is true for thinking out-of-the-box. There are not many solutions to problems that we can think up that have not been thought of and tried before. We just weren't aware of the history of the “new” solution, when we thought it up.

If our basis of good experience and practice is supplemented by a thorough quest for more knowledge of our job, then we have a ready encyclopedia of possible solutions to any problem. I will bet that often the out-of-the-box solution you come up with is catalogued in the continuity book that is catching dust in your bookcase. The problem may be slightly different, but that old solution still works with a few minor changes.

For more than a decade, the Air Force has been doing rotations to the Middle East. Many of you have had the pleasure of doing them more than once. There are many lessons to be learned from the problems faced by these previous rotations, which will help today in what we are doing. Share your experiences. What was true then is probably still valid right now.

Wherever you are, be flexible for rapid changes, but use the time to prepare well a solid foundation for those that will follow you. You will never solve all of the problems, but you can those who come behind you on the right track to finish what you have started. Be open to out-of-the-box solutions to these problems that we face, but remember “out-of-the-box” may mean “dust one off” from previous experiences.



Everyday Hero

Heidi Day

Duty Title: Volunteer

Job description: Quilt Teacher, AWANA Leader, past vice-president of the Officer Spouses Club, 729th Air Mobility Squadron booster club member, substitute teacher, PTSA, team mom, classroom volunteer

How long have you been a part of the military: 13 years

Time at Lajes: 15 months

What's the best aspect of your job: Being involved and helping in the community.

How are you associated with the Air Force: I married an Air Force brat who chose the Air Force as his career.

What are your career goals: To continue to teach quilting and eventually re-enter the public relations career field.

Life goal: To be the best person and mom I can be.

Best Air Force Experience: Traveling the world and meeting people.

Hometown: Andover, New Hampshire

One word to describe you: Perky

Hobbies: Quilting, knitting, skiing, walking, reading and gardening

Favorite food: Seafood

Pet peeve: Being put on hold.

No one knows I'm: a crossword puzzle fanatic.

Question : What are the rules regarding who may enter and roam freely around base housing areas? Because it's not on the base, can anyone come into the neighborhood? What about the school's soccer field, which has a lock on it and a sign that says it's government property?

Answer: The 65th Security Forces Squadron, wing leadership and other housing residents share your concerns about residential security. Only U.S. personnel (active duty and dependents), their sponsored guests, U.S. Government employees and approved contractors are authorized access to our military housing areas. If you see any suspicious people, immediately notify the Security Defense Coordination Center. The SDCC can be reached by phone anytime, day or night, at 295-573-222 or 295-571-911. These notifications play a huge role in preventing crimes for Team Lajes. As always, secure your houses, vehicles and all property in order to deter a would-be culprit. Also be advised that our security forces, the Portuguese Air Police and local law enforcement have stepped up efforts to deter crime, particularly bicycle thefts, in housing areas. Be on the lookout for a bicycle registration program in the near future and increased patrols by our joint security police. If you see anything or anyone who looks out of place, call it in!



The Action Line is your means of addressing a problem, concern or challenge to me about something in the 65th Air Base Wing or J.S. Forces Azores.

I however, your chain of command should always be your first option. When that's not the answer, then call the Action Line at 2-4240 and I'll address it quickly and with care. Thank you!

Col. Barbara Jacobi
65th Air Base Wing commander

A critical lift for a new life *Elmendorf C-130 crew helps save infant*

by 1st Lt. Amy Hansen
3rd Wing Public Affairs

ELMENDORF AIR FORCE BASE, Alaska - When a newborn child hovered between life and death, an Elmendorf C-130 and its crew made the difference.

Capt. Dave Meier, 517th Airlift Squadron aircraft commander, and his crew recently flew to Misawa Air Base, Japan, to pick up a critically ill infant. After the pick-up, the crew delivered the baby boy to Kadena AB, Japan, for an operation that saved his life.

The Elmendorf C-130 was in Fukuoka, Japan, conducting a routine Pacific Command support mission when the crew received a call requesting help from the Pacific Air Forces Air Mobility Operations Control Center.

While they were in the middle of loading cargo, the crew heard that the emergency medical evacuation was being set up, Captain Meier said.

The PACAF AMOCC initially asked the crew how quickly the C-130 could be airborne and the estimated flight time to Misawa AB and then Kadena AB.

"We began flight planning and

stopped our upload in case we got the new mission," Captain Meier said. "We were ready to go when AMOCC called back 15 minutes later, and were airborne about 15 minutes after that, heading for Misawa AB."

According to Lt. Col. Eric Stone, 35th Medical Operations Squadron commander, KC-135s are normally used for medical evacuations from Misawa AB, but they are poorly suited for the special demands of neonatal transport.

"When the Theater Patient Movement Requirement Center notified us that Misawa AB had a newborn that needed immediate transport to Kadena AB for an operation, I immediately called down to Fukuoka," said Mr. Stefan Wenska, AMOCC airlift planner. "I spoke with Captain Meier about the re-route, and he and his crew were all over it.

"They made it up to Misawa in record time, waited for the medical crew, loaded the patient, and extended their duty day to fly that baby to Kadena AB," he continued.

The entire mission, from notification to final landing, took less than 14 hours, said Captain Meier.

The Elmendorf C-130 carried the

infant, his parents and a special neonatal transport unit from Misawa AB to Kadena AB in less than five hours.

The newborn made it in good shape, and is now off life support and doing well, said Colonel Stone.

"It was good to see everything come together to help out this family," said Captain Meier. "We were glad to be in the right place to be part of it."

"This was the most rewarding mission I've ever done," said 1st Lt. Carrick Yaws, 517th AS copilot.

Other members of the crew included 2nd Lt. Dawn Carter, navigator, and Airman 1st Class Philip Martin, loadmaster.

Mr. Wenska sent a thank-you note to the 517th AS director of operations a day after the emergency airlift mission.

"Yesterday, a tragedy was averted by the above-and-beyond efforts of Captain Meier and crew ... Captain Meier should be proud of this humanitarian accomplishment - all of you should share in this success. Please pass on my heartfelt thanks to him and his crew for a job extremely well done." (*Courtesy of Pacific Air Forces News Service*)



Today: 7 p.m. "Stuck on You" PG-13. Cast includes Matt Damon and Greg Kinnear. Watt and Bob are conjoined twins, one of whom has dreams of making it big in Hollywood. When they arrive in town, they're cast on a television show starring Cher. She's bummed about being relegated to TV until, that is, her show becomes a hit. Rated PG-13 for crude and sexual humor, and some language. **10 p.m. "Love Don't Cost a Thing" PG-13.** Cast includes Nick Cannon and Christina Millian. Alvin stars as a brilliant but awkward teenager who seizes a golden opportunity when popular cheerleader Paris wrecks her parent's car and is strapped for cash. Alvin pays Paris to pretend to be his girlfriend with hopes of elevating his social stand-

ing. Little does he know, being popular isn't all it's cracked up to be. Rated PG-13 for sexual content and humor.

Saturday: 7 p.m. "Honey" PG-13. Cast includes Jessica Alba and Mekhi Phifer. Honey Daniels is an up-and-going choreographer who finds her career in jeopardy after she refuses to reciprocate the sexual advances of a music-industry bigwig. Determined to pick herself back up, Honey goes back to the inner-city of her youth with plans of starting a dance school. Rated PG-13 for drug content and some sexual references.

Sunday: 2 p.m. "Haunted Mansion" PG. 7 p.m. "Stuck on You" PG-13.

Tuesday: 7 p.m. "Love Don't Cost a Thing" PG-13.

Wednesday: 7 p.m. "Stuck on You" PG-13.

Thursday: 7 p.m. "Stuck on You" PG-13.

Dress and Appearance

BDU unit and morale patches

According to USFORAZ Instruction 1300.1, enclosure b.

Lajes Field Air Base Wing personnel shall wear the subdued USAFE patch on the right breast pocket. Air Force tenant units shall wear the appropriate major command subdued patch on the right breast pocket. Air Force units with an authorized unit patch shall wear it on the left breast pocket, unless entitled to and wearing an authorized specialty badge, i.e., Security Forces, Fire Department, and Missile badges. If an authorized specialty badge is worn on the left breast pocket, unit/wing patches will not be worn. Unit emblems must be approved per reference c before they can be worn. If a unit patch is not authorized, the subdued group patch shall be worn, if authorized. If neither unit or group patch are authorized, the subdued wing patch shall be worn. No item is authorized for wear above the right breast pocket (above the name tape) except the Honor Guard Duty Badge, for those currently serving as honor guard members, the Master Crew Chief patch and the Master Technician patch and the Air Force Command Insignia for those officers entitled to wear it. Morale patches, such as competition or recognition patches, are not authorized.

Sports briefs

Fitness Monopoly

Everyone's welcome to play at the fitness center when working out, by rolling the dice once a day and doing whatever the property landed on asks. For more, call Senior Airman Sarah Haylett at 2-6390.

Portuguese pro basketball

The 15th Cup of the Professional Basketball League of Portuguese Clubs on island is at 6:30 p.m., today, and at 3:30 p.m. Saturday and Sunday, at the Municipal Sports Pavilion in Angra. Tickets can be purchased at the door.

Trail run

The next trail run is Saturday. Everyone will meet at the fitness center at 8:45 a.m. for a 9 a.m. departure to Aqualva. This run leads through the hills of Aqualva and finishes back on the road and is approximately half trail and half road. The course is well marked and everyone meets at the finish. For more, call Capt. Dan Sweeney at 2-6206.

Paintball

Everyone is welcome to play 10 a.m.-2 p.m., Saturday and 21. Sign-ups are at outdoor recreation three days in advance. Eight to 25 people can play, participants must be at least 16, and it is \$20 a person. Price includes transportation, a Co2 cartridge and a full face mask. For more, call 2-4140.

Sailing trip

The trip is 10 a.m.-2 p.m., Feb. 14. Sign-ups are at outdoor recreation three days before the trip. It is \$55 per person, six-10 people can go and children must be at least 5. For more, call 2-4140.

Volleyball tournament

The co-ed tournament begins at 7 p.m., Feb. 13, at the fitness center. Four person teams need to be registered by 5 p.m. Awards will be given to the first place team. Players must be at least 18. For more, call Senior Airman Sarah Haylett at 2-6126.

Fishing trip

The trip is aboard the Catamaran "Tango," 8 a.m.-noon, Feb. 21 and 28. It is \$65 per person, for four-six people can go and children must be at least 8 years old. Sign up three days before the trip at outdoor recreation. For more, call 2-4140.

Taekwondo

Classes are 6:15-7:30 p.m., Tuesdays for 5-12 year olds, 6:15-7:30 p.m., Thursdays for 13 and up, and 10 a.m., Saturday, at the fitness center. For more, call Airman Joshua Clark at 2-6126.

Yoga

Classes are at 9 a.m., Saturdays, at the fitness center. For more, call Airman Joshua Clark at 2-6126.

Right on



Tony Hanshaw, 65th Logistics Readiness Squadron, prepares to throw a dart during an intramural match at the Top of the Rock Club Jan. 28. Intramural darts matches are played every Wednesday and Thursday at 6 p.m. at the TORC Enlisted lounge. (Photo by Tech. Sgt. Robert Valenca)

AFN weekend sports

Friday

AFN-Sports
NHL: Detroit Red Wings @ Colorado Avalanche, 1 p.m.
College Basketball: PAC-10 - Arizona @ California, 5 p.m.
PGA TOUR: AT&T Pebble Beach Pro-AM - Second Round, 7 p.m.

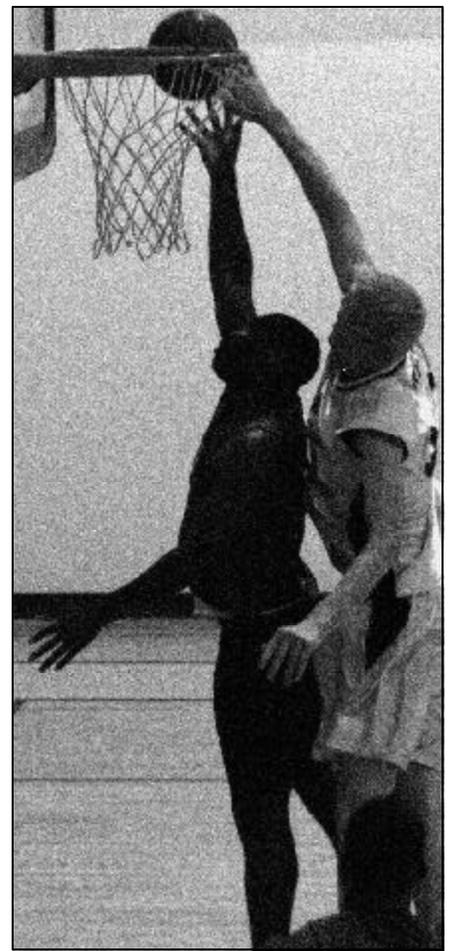
Saturday

AFN-Sports
NBA: Orlando Magic @ New Jersey Nets, midnight
Davis Cup Tennis Tournament - First Round, 2:30 a.m.
NBA: San Antonio Spurs @ Sacramento Kings, noon
College Basketball: Big Ten - Michigan State @ Ohio State, 4 p.m.
Atlantic 10 - Lasalle @ St. Josephs, 6 p.m.
Big XII - Texas Tech @ Kansas, 8 p.m.
CUSA - UAB @ Louisville, 10 p.m.
AFN-Atlantic
College Basketball: TBD, 5 p.m.
TBD, 7 p.m.
PAC-10 - Arizona State @ California, 9 p.m.
AFN-Pacific
NBA: San Antonio Spurs @ Sacramento Kings, 2 a.m.
College Basketball: ACC - North Carolina @ Wake Forest, 5 p.m.

Big East - Pittsburgh @ Notre Dame, 11 a.m.

Sunday

AFN-Sports
NHL: 2004 NHL Young Stars Game, midnight
2004 NHL Superstars Competition, 1 a.m.
NASCAR Nextel Cup Series: Budweiser Shootout, 4 a.m.
Davis Cup Tennis Tournament - First Round Doubles, 7 a.m.
PGA Tour: AT&T Pebble Beach Pro-AM - Third Round, 11 a.m.
NASCAR Nextel Cup Series: Qualifying, 4 p.m.
NBA: Seattle Supersonics @ Portland Train Blazers, 7 p.m.
Davis Cup Tennis Tournament - First Round Singles, 10 p.m.
AFN-Atlantic
College Basketball: TBD, 11 a.m.
NBA: Los Angeles Lakers @ Orlando Magic, 4:30 p.m.
NHL: Western Conference All-Stars vs. Eastern Conference All-Stars, 7 p.m.
NFL Pro Bowl: AFC All-Stars vs. NFC All-Stars, 11:30 p.m.
AFN-Pacific
College Basketball: TBD, 5 p.m.
NHL: Western Conference All-Stars vs. Eastern Conference All-Stars, 7 p.m.



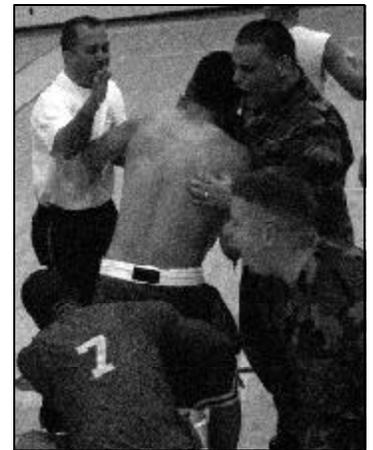
Left: The opening tip; Above: John-Paul Arre wipes the sweat off his nose with his jersey; Right: CES Fire's Phillip Burns II has a shot blocked by Comm's Jason Swartz. Comm tied the game with 3.3 seconds left. Then, Kaweo Andreas-Feeney buried a 42-foot three-point shot with 0.3 seconds left to send the 65th Civil Engineering Squadron Fire Department team to a 50-47 win.

A Fling and a Prayer

Firefighters win championship on Feeney's walkoff 3-pointer



Left: Feeney launches the game-winning shot; Above: CES fans go crazy over the wing; Right: Feeney (center) gets mobbed by fans and teammates. (Photos by Tech. Sgt. Jason Tudor)



PLANNER

Today

AAFES: Flight View BX: Open 10 a.m.-6 p.m.; Ocean Front BX: Open 10 a.m.-8p.m.; Shoppette: Open 9 a.m.-11 p.m.

Beauty Shop: Open 10 a.m.-6 p.m.
Bowling Alley: 10 a.m.-12:30 a.m.
Burger King: 7 a.m.-1 a.m.
Chapel: Catholic Rosary for Peace in the Word, 6:30 a.m.; Mass, 7 a.m.; Confessions 3-3:30 p.m.; CWOC

Mass (1st Friday of the month) 5:30 p.m.; Gospel Choir Practice, 7 p.m.

Child Development Center: 7 a.m.-5:30 p.m.

Community Activities Center: Open 10 a.m.-8 p.m.

Commissary: Open 10 a.m.-6 p.m.

Dining Hall: Breakfast 6-8:30 a.m., Lunch 11 a.m. - 1:30 p.m., Mexican Baked Chicken, Swiss Steak, and Stuffed Green Pepper; Dinner 4 - 7 p.m., Lasagna, Spaghetti with Meat Sauce, Italian Sausage. Midnight meal, 11 p.m.-1:30 a.m.

Dry Cleaners: Open 10 a.m.-6 p.m.

Fitness Center: Open 5 a.m.-midnight.

Gas Station: Open 10 a.m.-6 p.m.
Library: Open 10 a.m.-9 p.m.

Oceanview Island Grill: Lasagna, fries or salad and drink; Open 11 a.m.-11 p.m.

Outdoor Recreation: Open 10 a.m.-7 p.m.

School Lunch: All beef hot dogs on a bun, rice pilaf, baked beans, coleslaw, chilled peaches, milk.

Skating Rink: Open 7-11 p.m.

Skills Development Center: Open 10 a.m.-6 p.m.

Teen Center: Teen social, 9 p.m.-midnight.

Top of the Rock Club: Lunch 11 a.m.-1:30 p.m., seafood buffet. Dinner 5-9 p.m., Prime and Wine

Saturday

AAFES: Flight View BX: Open 10 a.m.-6 p.m.; Ocean Front BX: Open 10 a.m.-8 p.m.; Shoppette: Open 9 a.m.-11 p.m.

Beauty Shop: Open 10 a.m.-6 p.m.
Bowling Alley: 10 a.m.-12:30 a.m.
Burger King: 7 a.m.-1 a.m.

Chapel: Mass, 10 a.m.; Gospel Children's Choir Practice, 2 p.m.

Child Development Center: Closed

Community Activities Center: Open 10 a.m.-8 p.m.

Commissary: Open 10 a.m.-6 p.m.

Dining Hall: Brunch 7 a.m.-1 p.m., Crispy Baked Chicken, Cajun Meat Loaf, and Steak, Ribeye; Supper 4 - 7 p.m., Fish Almondine, Stir Fry Chicken w/ Broccoli, Pork Chops w/ Mushroom Gravy. Midnight meal 11 p.m.-1 a.m.

Dry Cleaners: 10 a.m.-4 p.m.
Fitness Center: Open 8 a.m.-7 p.m.

Gas Station: Open 10 a.m.-6 p.m.
Library: 10 a.m.-5 p.m.

Oceanview Island Grill: Open 11 a.m.-11 p.m.

Outdoor Recreation: Open 10 a.m.-7 p.m.

Skating Rink: Open 7-11 p.m.

Skills Development Center: Open 10 a.m.-6 p.m.

Teen Center: Teen social 8 p.m.-midnight.

Top of the Rock Club: Brunch 8:30 a.m.-noon. Huff and Fin dinner special 5-9 p.m.

Sunday

AAFES: Flight View BX: Open 10 a.m.-5 p.m.; Ocean Front BX: Open 10 a.m.-5 p.m.; Shoppette: Open noon-8 p.m.

Beauty Shop: Closed
Bowling Alley: 4-11 p.m.
Burger King: 7 a.m.-11 p.m.

Chapel: Traditional Protestant service, 9 a.m.; Catholic religious education, 9 a.m.; Fellowship, 10 a.m.; Mass, 10:30 a.m.; Religious Education, 10:30 a.m.; Gospel service & Fellowship, noon; Catholic choir rehearsal, 4 p.m.; Mass, 5 p.m.; Rosary and Adoration, 5:40 p.m.; PYOC/PTOC, 6:15 p.m.

Child Development Center: Closed

Community Activities Center: Open noon-5 p.m.

Commissary: Closed

Dining Hall: Brunch 7 a.m.-1 p.m., Tuna and Noodles, Sauerbraten, Chicken Breast Parmesan; Supper 4 - 7 p.m., Ginger BBQ Chicken, Fried Shrimp, Spinach Lasagna; Short Order: Cheese Pizza and Reuben Sandwich.

Dry Cleaners: Closed
Fitness Center: Open 8 a.m.-7 p.m.

Gas Station: 10 a.m.-5p.m. (Gas only)

Library: Open 10 a.m.-5 p.m.

Oceanview Island Grill: Open 11 a.m.-11 p.m.

Outdoor Recreation: Open 11 a.m.-7 p.m.

Skating Rink: Closed

Skills Development Center: Closed.

Top of the Rock Club: Bits & Bites menu, 4 p.m.

Monday

AAFES: Flight View BX: Open 10 a.m.-6 p.m.; Ocean Front BX: Open 10 a.m.-6 p.m.; Shoppette: Open 9 a.m.-11 p.m.

Beauty Shop: Closed
Bowling Alley: Closed
Burger King: 7 a.m.-11 p.m.

Chapel: Catholic Rosary for Peace in the Word, 6:30 a.m.; Mass, 11:30 a.m.; Women's Bible study, 7 p.m.

Child Development Center: Open 7 a.m.-5:30 p.m.

Community Activities Center: Closed

Commissary: Open 10 a.m.-6 p.m.
Dining Hall: Breakfast 6-8:30 a.m., Lunch 11 a.m.-1:30 p.m. Swiss Steak, Baked Chicken, Italian Sau-

sage; Dinner 4 - 7 p.m., Roast Turkey, Baked Ham, and Fish and Fries. Midnight meal 11 p.m.-1:30 a.m.

Dry Cleaners: Open 9 a.m.-1 p.m.
Fitness Center: Open 5 a.m.-midnight

Gas Station: Open 10 a.m.-5 p.m. (Gas only)

Library: Open 4-9 p.m.

Oceanview Island Grill: Roasted Chicken or Meatball sandwich, fries or salad and drink; Open 11 a.m.-11 p.m.

Outdoor Recreation: Closed
School Lunch: Gourmet fish sticks, curly fries, coleslaw, orange quarters, tarter sauce, milk.

Skills Development Center: Closed

Top of the Rock Club: Lunch, 11 a.m.-1:30 p.m., Southern buffet.

Tuesday

AAFES: Flight View BX: Open 10 a.m.-6 p.m.; Ocean Front BX: Open 10 a.m.-6 p.m.; Shoppette: Open 9 a.m.-11 p.m.

Beauty Shop: Open 10 a.m.-6 p.m.
Bowling Alley: 4-11 p.m.
Burger King: 7 a.m.-11 p.m.

Chapel: Catholic Rosary for Peace in the Word, 6:30 a.m.; Mass, 7 a.m.; Lunch Brown Bag Series, noon; Confessions 3-3:30 p.m.; AWANA (3 yrs to 6 grade) 6 p.m.; Catholic Women of the Chapel (3rd Tuesday of the month), 7 p.m.

Child Development Center: Open 7 a.m.-5:30 p.m.

Community Activities Center: Open 10 a.m.-8 p.m.

Commissary: Open 10 a.m.-6 p.m.
Dining Hall: Breakfast 6-8:30 a.m., Lunch 11 a.m.-1:30 p.m., Onion-Lemon Baked Fish, Pork Schnitzel, and Yakisoba; Dinner 4 - 7 p.m. Paprika Beef, BBQ Beef Cubes, Chicken Fajitas. Midnight meal 11 p.m.-1:30 a.m.

Dry Cleaners: Open 10 a.m.-6 p.m.

Fitness Center: Open 5 a.m.-midnight

Gas Station: Open 10 a.m.-6 p.m.
Library: Open 10 a.m.-9 p.m.

Oceanview Island Grill: 16" pizza with 2 toppings and drinks; Open 11 a.m.-11 p.m.

Outdoor Recreation: Open 10 a.m.-7 p.m.

School Lunch: cheese Pizza, carrot and celery sticks, ranch dressing, chilled peaches, Rice Krispie bar, milk.

Skills Development Center: Open noon-8 p.m.

Top of the Rock Club: Lunch, 11 a.m.-1:30 p.m., Mexican buffet. Dinner 5-9 p.m.

Wednesday

AAFES: Flight View BX: Open 10 a.m.-8 p.m.; Ocean Front BX: Open 10 a.m.-6 p.m.; Shoppette: Open 9 a.m.-11 p.m.

Beauty Shop: Open 10 a.m.-6 p.m.
Bowling Alley: 9 a.m.-11 p.m.

Burger King: 7 a.m.-11 p.m.

Chapel: Catholic Rosary for Peace in the Word, 6:30 a.m.; Mass, 7 a.m.;

PMOC lunch/study noon; Confessions 3-3:30 p.m.; Catholic men of the chapel (2nd Wednesday of the month) 6p.m.; Traditional choir practice, 6 p.m.; Bell choir practice 7p.m.; Catholic choir rehearsal, 7:15 p.m.

Child Development Center: 7 a.m.-5:30 p.m.

Community Activities Center: Open 10 a.m.-8 p.m.

Commissary: Open 10 a.m.-6 p.m.

Dining Hall: Breakfast 6-8:30 a.m., Lunch 11 a.m.-1:30 p.m., Caribbean Jerk Chicken, Beef Porcupines, and Chicken Enchiladas; Dinner 4 - 7 p.m., Pita Pizzas, Country Style Steak, and Fried Chicken. Midnight meal 11 p.m.-1:30 a.m.

Dry Cleaners: Open 10 a.m.-6 p.m.

Fitness Center: Open 5 a.m.-midnight

Gas Station: Open 10 a.m.-6 p.m.
Library: Open 10 a.m.-9p.m.

Oceanview Island Grill: Fried shrimp, fries or salad and drink; Open 11 a.m.-11 p.m.

Outdoor Recreation: Open 10 a.m.-7 p.m.

School Lunch: Chicken patty sandwich, lettuce and tomato, seasoned potato wedge, seasoned peas, fresh fruit, milk.

Top of the Rock Club: Lunch, 11 a.m.-1:30 p.m., Italian Buffet. Dinner 5-9 p.m. Family Buffet

Thursday

AAFES: Flight View BX: Open 10 a.m.-6 p.m.; Ocean Front BX: Open 10 a.m.-8 p.m.; Shoppette: Open 9 a.m.-11 p.m.

Beauty Shop: Open 10 a.m.-6 p.m.
Bowling Alley: 9 a.m.-11 p.m.
Burger King: 7 a.m.-11 p.m.

Chapel: Catholic Rosary for Peace in the Word, 6:30 a.m.; Mass 7 a.m.; Confessions 3-3:30 p.m.; RCIA, 7 p.m.; Gospel Praise Team practice and Men's Bible study, 7 p.m.

Child Development Center: 7 a.m.-5:30 p.m.

Community Activities Center: Open 10 a.m.-8 p.m.

Commissary: Open 10 a.m.-7 p.m.
Dining Hall: Breakfast 6-8:30 a.m., Lunch 11 a.m.-1:30 p.m., Orange-Spiced Pork Chops, Liver with Onions, and Tempura Fried Fish; Dinner 4 - 7 p.m., Mr. Z's Baked Chicken, Pepper Steak, and Pasta Primavera. Midnight meal 11 p.m.-1:30 a.m.

Dry Cleaners: Open 10 a.m.-6 p.m.

Fitness Center: Open 5 a.m.-midnight

Gas Station: Open 10 a.m.-6 p.m.
Library: Open 10 a.m.-9p.m.

Oceanview Island Grill: 16" Pizza w/ 1 topping or Taco salad and drink; Open 11 a.m.-11 p.m.

Outdoor Recreation: Open 10 a.m.-7 p.m.

School Lunch: Soft shell beef taco, lettuce & tomato, spanish rice, chilled fruit mixed, cookie, milk.

Skills Development Center: Open noon-8 p.m.

Top of the Rock Club: Lunch, 11 a.m.-1:30 p.m., Oriental buffet. Dinner 5-9 p.m., 2-4-1 Steak Night

EVENTS

The deadline for announcements on this page is C.O.B. Monday for each week's paper. Submit announcements in normal text with the what, when, where, who, why and contact info in an email to news@lajes.af.mil. Dates and times should be in civilian format, and include full name of P.O.C.

Closures/Shifts

MPF facelift: The military personnel flight, Bldg. T-112 is being re-carpeted. The Housing flight temporarily moved to the main housing area, and the Civilian Personnel office moved into the main civilian personnel area. Non-appropriated funds is in the American Red Cross area, and DoDDS is in Bldg. T-100.

Commissary hours: The commissary will be open on Presidents' Day.

Veterinary clinic: The Veterinary clinic is open 3-8 p.m., Feb. 18. Appointments are first come first serve. For a parasite screening, bring a sample of the pet's stool to the appointment. To reserve a spot, call Staff Sgt. Troy Livingston at 2-3134.

AKA hours: Aqua Knights of Atlantis changed its hours to 5:30-7:30 p.m., Fridays. Call Tech. Sgt. Daniel Thompson at 2-1366.

Education

Graduate course: Adolescent Issues in Human Relations, an elective course for the University of Oklahoma's Master of Human Relations degree, is April 3-8. Enrollment deadline is March 5. For more, call Erika Golart at 2-3171.

Class registration: Embry Riddle's registration for Aircraft Accident Investigation will end Feb. 19. The course is taught onsite Feb. 25-March 2. For more, call Tina Lake at 2-3375.

NCO retraining: The Fiscal Year '04 NCO retraining program has begun. Retrain from Air Force Specialty Codes with NCO overages to AFSCs with NCO shortages. The voluntary phase of the program ends Feb. 23. If necessary, an involuntary phase will run Mar. 8-Apr. 26. Call Senior Airman Jennifer Parker at 2-5143 for details.

Classes

Car buying: Free car buying class, 6-8 p.m., Thursday, in classroom T-126 at the family support center. For more, call 2-4138.

Quilting class: Flag Rag Quilt, 2-6 p.m., Feb. 14, at the community activity center, \$25. Register for classes at the skills development center, Bldg. T-308. For more, call 2-3909 or 2-5255.

Events

Diabetes group: The 65th Medical Group is forming a diabetes support group. To join or participate, call Maj. Aura Melendez at 2-5077.

AFSA meeting: Air Force Sergeants' Association general membership meeting is 4 p.m., Feb. 25, in the Top of the Rock club Summit room. For more, call Master Sgt. Tom

Dexter at 2-3423 or Master Sgt. Vincent Petroff at 2-6111.

ESC meeting: The Enlisted Spouses Club has a general membership meeting at 6:30 p.m., Feb. 10, at the Top of the Rock club Summit room. The theme will be "make it, bake it, grow it, buy it" and there will be sign-ups for secret pals. For more, call Linette Hollandsworth at 2-6110.

Fried catfish: The African American Awareness Committee has a Southern fried catfish fundraiser 11 a.m.-1 p.m., today, at the base chapel. Each plate has of two pieces of catfish, French fries, hushpuppies and a drink for \$5. Pre-orders and deliveries are available. For more, call Airman 1st Class Kara Boone at 2-6268.

Valentine's banquet: Protestant Women of the Chapel, 7 p.m., today, at the Top of the Rock club. For more, call Chaplain (Capt.) Matthew Franke at 2-4211.

Friday Mass: Catholic Women of the Chapel will attend the First Friday Mass in San Sebastian. Meet at the base chapel at 5 p.m., today, to carpool to Mass. Dinner at A Ilha restaurant to follow. For more, call Anne Birch at 2-4211.

SOTC breakfast: Singles of the Chapel breakfast is 9 a.m., Saturday, at the base chapel. For more, call Senior Airman Beth Turner at 2-3606 or Airman 1st Class Kara Boone at 2-6268.

"Room for Six": Every first Saturday of the month, six single or unaccompanied Lajes members are invited to a free home-cooked meal at a "home." Dinner is served at 6 p.m., Saturday. February's menu is spaghetti and homemade meatballs, garlic bread, salad, dessert and a beverage. To reserve a spot, call Danielle Posey or Tech. Sgt. Aubrey Posey at 295-549-825.

Burger King: Grand Opening Ceremony, 10-11 a.m., Wednesday, at the bowling alley, Bldg. T-169. Regular hours are 7 a.m.-11 p.m., Sunday-Thursday, and 7a.m.-1 a.m., Friday and Saturday. For more, call Burger King at 295-543-477.

Rock/Alternative night: 5 p.m.-1 a.m., every Wednesday, at the Top of the Rock club. Bits-n-Bites menu available. For more, call 2-3202.

Movie marathon: Doors open at 6:30 p.m., movies start at 8 p.m., Feb. 13, at the base theater. "Paycheck"—PG-13, "Mona Lisa Smile"—PG-13, and "The Last Samurai"—R. Tickets are \$10 and can be purchased in advance at the theater or the Ocean View BX's cashier's cage. For more, call Laura Hillebrand at 2-4100.

Valentine's dinner: 5-9 p.m., Feb. 14, at the Top of the Rock club. Dinner, served by candlelight, includes a New York strip w/a whiskey peppercorn sauce or whole main lobster, dessert and wine. To reserve a spot, call 2-1122/3202.

SOTC skating: 7 p.m., Feb. 15, at the skating rink. For more, call Senior Airman Beth Turner at 2-3606 or Airman 1st Class Kara Boone at

2-6268.

LYP lock-in: The Lajes youth program will lock-in six-12 year olds, 7 p.m.-7 a.m., Feb. 20, at the skating rink, for games, activities, food and skating. The deadline to sign up is Feb. 18. There must be 10-40 participants. A permission slip and a payment of \$15.75 must be provided by Feb. 18. For more, call Joanne Cozart at 2-1197.

Wine tasting: 7 p.m., Feb. 19, at the Top of the Rock club. Reservations are limited to the first fifty people. For more, call 2-3202.

Awards banquet: Annual awards banquet to celebrate the best of Lajes starts at 6 p.m. for cocktails, and 7 p.m. for dinner, Feb. 27, at the Top of the Rock club. The menu will be chicken cordon blue and peppered beef tenderloin with buttered corn and oven roasted potatoes. For ticket information contact a first sergeant after Feb. 13. The guest speaker is Sergeant Major John M. Mersino, Senior Enlisted Advisor of the United States European Command. For more, call Senior Airman John Tremblay at 2-3414.

Volunteers/Jobs

Volunteers needed: Volunteers needed at family services for postal collection, data input, advertising, administrative duties and keeping catalogs up-to-date. Free childcare provided by the Air Force Aid Society of up to 20 hours per week is available for volunteers. For more, visit bldg. T-125 or call 2-4146/4138.

AAFES theatre: US position available. Must be 18 yrs or older and able to work weekends and nights. Applications can be picked up at the theatre or at the Human Resources office in Bldg. T-800. For more, call Laura Hillebrand at 2-4100.

Family readiness: Family Readiness needs a volunteer assistant who enjoys talking to people, and has good organizational skills to help maintain a program dedicated to families of deployed troops. Requires a six month minimum commitment. Free childcare is available. For more, call 2-4138.

CAC attendants: Volunteers needed to work at the front counter checking ID's and parcels, distributing games and equipment, providing information to telephone and personal callers, booking party reservations, assisting patrons on the computer and in other areas of programming, running the snack bar and concessionaire room, performing office work to include working on the computer, filing, sorting and cataloging. For more, call 2-5216.

Skating rink: Volunteers needed to distribute skates to patrons, sell snack bar items, ring up sales on cash register, lead games on the rink floor, work the DJ booth, set up and clean up and perform other duties as assigned. For more, call Sheryl Bush at 2-5216 or 2-6143.

Airman's Attic: The Airman's

Attic needs a volunteer to accept donations, sort merchandise, keep the attic organized and provide customer service. Free childcare is available. Visit Bldg. T-125 or call 2-4146 or 2-4138.

Tumbling instructor: The Lajes Youth Center needs a tumbling instructor to teach ages 3 and up. For more, call Jolene Wilkinson at 2-1197, in the afternoon.

Tax volunteers: Volunteers needed from 8 a.m.-5 p.m., Monday-Friday, until June 15, at the Tax Center Bldg., T-426, room 104. Maturity, professionalism, communication skills, customer service skills and light administrative or basic office skills are required. No computer skills necessary. To volunteer, call Ivelysse Coronel at 2-1040 or 2-2420.

Charities committee: The "Chapel Charities Closet" open 11 a.m.-2p.m. on Saturdays in Bldg. T-426, helps meet the needs of base personnel and local nationals. Donated clothing for local orphanages and nursing homes is needed. To volunteer for the committee or get involved in the community and base chapel, call Silvia DeJesus at 295-549-430 or 2-1304, or the base chapel at 2-4211.

WICO position: Women, Infants, and Children Overseas part-time position opens July 1. Requires a Bachelors of Science in Nutrition, Dietetics, Nursing or Home Economics. Experience in prenatal, maternal or infant nutrition required. Registered dietician preferred, experience with WIC desirable. Must have current driver's license. Call Nora Blohm at 2-1440 or 295-549-465, or e-mail a resume, cover letter and a copy of applicable licenses to: edibiase@cmse.net or wicjobs@cmse.net, or fax to: 0039-0434-66-4640 or (210) 341-3455. Mail information to Choctaw Management Services Enterprise, Attn: WIC Overseas, 2161 NW Military Hwy, Suite 308, San Antonio, TX 78213, Ph: (210) 341-3336. For more information about job opportunities with WIC Overseas, visit www.cmse.net.

Substitute nurse: The Lajes Elementary School needs a substitute nurse. Visit www.oledodea.edu/pers/employment for more information and application materials. For more, call 2-3491.

PFCU position: Pentagon Federal Credit Union needs a branch service representative. Previous banking experience preferred and DEROS must be after June 05. Apply at Bldg. T-202 or call 295-513-221 for more.

Classified Ads

Ads must be submitted via e-mail to news@lajes.af.mil. Ads are due by COB, Monday.

For Sale: '89, blue Toyota pickup for sale \$900/ OBO. If interested, leave a message at Box 1403 - we have no phone.