



Force Protection



Current FPCON: Alpha
Threat Level: Low

LUCI



Days remaining
until
Lajes Field's
Limited Unit
Compliance
Inspection

Weekend Weather Forecast

Friday

Mostly Cloudy
High 63
Low 59
Wind SE 10 mph



Saturday

Rain Showers
High 61
Low 57
Wind E 10 mph



Sunday

Mostly Cloudy
High 63
Low 57
Wind ESE 12 mph



Street bullfights begin May 1

By Eduardo Lima

65th Air Base Wing Public Affairs

Traditionally, the street bullfight season starts every year on May 1 and continues through Oct. 15, which is the last official day of the event.

This characteristic type of bullfighting is a very old local tradition. Though its exact origin is unknown, some historians believe it began with the tournaments and jousts noblemen held during special occasions.

Street bullfights have become a well-liked cultural event and an important part of the summer festivals around the island. It's still an event that attracts hundreds, sometimes thousands of people to a single village.

The bulls, usually four, are transported in boxes from ranches in the center of the island where they are raised, to the village where the bullfights will be held. A motorcade of villagers who travel to the ranch to observe the selection of the bulls usually precedes the truck carrying the bulls.

When it's time for the bullfight to begin, usually at 6 or 6:30 p.m., a blast that sounds like fireworks lets every-

one know that it's time for the first bull to be released and warns those who don't want to play bullfighter that they should look for a safe place behind wooden barriers, high walls or balconies along the streets where the bullfight is to be held.

After the bull is released, eight men dressed in white shirts and grey pants - known as "pastores" (rope handlers) - control the distance the bull can travel by holding on to a rope attached to the bull's neck as he pursues those who dare to harass him or stand in his way.

After the men in the crowd tease the bull for about 30 minutes, the rope handlers pull the bull back into his box for a well-deserved rest - both for the bull and the men. Two blasts let everybody know it's safe to walk or drive down the street again, but only for about 10 minutes, which is how long it takes the pastores to place the rope around the next bull's neck. This routine continues until all four bulls are released into the street and the bullfight ends.

The street bullfights also feature another old tradition related with the island's culture and local food, which are

To read more on "Bullfights", see page 4

Air Force-wide social media access begins

By Peterson Air Force Base Public Affairs

Air Force officials began a two-week phased opening April 26 of access to social media sites Air Force-wide.

Pacific Air Forces bases gained access to social media sites earlier in April, serving as the test-bed prior to the Air Force-wide initiative.

Air Force Space Command, Air Education and Training Command and Air Mobility Command bases will begin getting access to social media sites April 26. Air Combat Command, Air Force Reserve Command, Air Force Materiel Command, Air Force Global Strike Command, Air Force Special Operations Command and United States Air Forces in Europe will get access beginning May 1. During the final phase, Air National Guard bases will get access beginning May 6.

It will take up to five business days to open up every base in each major command because technicians in the

Integrated Network Operations and Security Centers responsible for opening social media access must account for the different major command network infrastructures. They also must allow members of the Air Force Computer Emergency Response Team to provide required services to each MAJCOM as they are granted access.

"Twenty-Fourth Air Force (officials) determined the best way to implement access to Internet-based capabilities was to follow the standard practice of allowing the 624th Operations Center, working in conjunction with the INOSCs, to determine who gets the upgrade first based on mission requirements," said Brig. Gen. David B. Warner, AFSPC communications and information director and chief information officer. "The INOSCs have the most in-depth knowledge of the network infrastructures within each MAJCOM and thus can initiate changes in the most

To read more on "Social media", see page 4

Lajes wins AFAF Group 1 campaign

Lajes Field recently earned kudos for emerging as one of the winners of the Air Force Assistance Fund Group Leader Competition for Group 1 campaign, which was conducted from Feb. 8 to Mar. 19.

Lajes Field scored big with a whopping 149.35 total points as it blew past its installation goal of \$10,080 by 249.35%, and having a 47.7 percent active-duty participation.

Congratulations Team Lajes and all AFAF key workers!



New MSG Commander shares goals with team

By Col. Arch Brunns

65th Mission Support Group Commander

There are certain moments in an Airman's career that easily stand out...taking command of the 65th Mission Support Group is right up there with the best of them! It is with great pride, excitement and humility that I join the Lajes Team.

This article serves as a means of introducing myself and provides an opportunity to pass on my main goal while stationed at Lajes Field...which is to ensure the 65 MSG is fully mission capable and ready to lead the way in facing existing and future challenges while also setting the bar for other mission support groups to emulate. We will do this by working together and developing innovative solutions and best practices.

I'm a big advocate of "benchmarking" things or ideas that make sense and especially those that follow the golden rule. Along those lines...there are numerous versions of "Life's Leadership Lessons" that can be found and are shared by successful leaders. As the MSG Commander, I intend to share mine with the group; however, for those that don't get to hear the full version, I have something just as

good. In my tenure at HQ EUCOM, I became aware of the philosophy passed on by Adm James Stavridis (Commander, USEUCOM and SACEUR). His list is clear, concise, and exactly in line with what I would like to think is my leadership style. For those that have not heard or seen it before...it includes:

Civility: Be kind, share credit and keep your sense of humor!

Quiet Confidence: Be calm and steady always. Do not let ego stand in the way of progress.

Creativity: Be a sparkplug. Always ask, "How can I do this better?"

Teamwork and Collaboration: Work together. No one person is smarter than an entire organization working together.

Determination: Never, never, never give up!

Honesty and Integrity: Never violate the law or regulations. Tell the truth unflinchingly.

These principles should give you a better picture of what you can expect of me as a leader and my command philosophy. I truly believe that by working together we can achieve new heights. I look forward to meeting and working with each of you in the coming future.

Commander's Action Line
535-4240
65abw.actionline@lajes.af.mil

The Commander's Action Line is your link to the commander for suggestions, kudos and as a way to work problems or issues within the 65th Air Base Wing for which you can't find another solution.

Your chain of command should always be your first option — but when that's not the answer, call or e-mail the Commander's Action Line at 535-4240 or 65abw.actionline@lajes.af.mil.



Col. Peggy Poore

Col. Peggy Poore
Commander, 65th Air Base Wing

APO mail delivery put on hold

By U.S. Air Forces in Europe
Public Affairs

Icelandic volcanic ash spewing into the atmosphere over central and northern European airports continues to impact military mail coming into and leaving Europe.

No military mail has flown in or out of commercial airports in Benelux, Germany, Italy, the Netherlands, or the United Kingdom since a temporary ban on flights in 10 European nations was imposed April 15. Commercial airports in Europe are essential hubs for moving military mail in and out of countries where U.S. servicemembers and their families are stationed.

A temporary flight restriction remains in effect until Eurocontrol, the European Union's version of the U.S. Federal Aviation Administration, lifts the ban, according to Tech. Sgt. Lee Swan, 2nd Air Postal Squadron Mail transportation manager.

Military Post Office managers at Ramstein, Kapau and Sembach notified personnel April 19 that they will no longer accept packages temporarily for delivery outside Germany.

The 2nd AIRPS here manages and tracks military mail transportation for U.S. Air Force in Europe. Squadron officials said Frankfurt International Airport is dealing with a backlog of 26 tons of outbound mail for worldwide destinations.

Another critical mail control activity, London Heathrow Airport, which receives all mail for air bases in the UK, has a back log of 1.5 tons. The U.S. Postal Service has a backlog of 91 tons and 12 tons waiting to be dispatched from stateside hubs to Frankfurt and London, respectively.

Military mail hubs in Madrid, Spain, and Istanbul, Turkey, remain unaffected by the volcanic ash.

Air Force Post Office patrons will see very little, if any, mail delivered for at least the next week, Sergeant Swann said. However, surface mail (truck and ship) is unaffected by airport closures and will continue to flow normally.

According to officials familiar with postal operations at Ramstein, postal staffs throughout the APO system make every effort to ensure mail is delivered as quickly as possible. The mail backlog could take four to five days to process once airport commercial flights and the air mail transportation network resume. Storage capacity at APOs and the supporting aerial mail terminals dictate ability to accept outgoing mail.

Military officials apologize for any inconvenience this natural event is causing and request that customers continue to monitor local communication channels and servicing APOs for updates.



The 65th Air Base Wing Public Affairs staff prepares all editorial content in the Crossroads.

The Public Affairs Office (Unit 7710, APO, AE 09720) is located in Bldg. T-100, Room 240.

Submissions can be e-mailed to 65abw.pa@lajes.af.mil or faxed to 535-6326 and are due the Thursday prior to the required publication date. Call 535-6161 for more details.

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All photographs are Air Force photographs unless otherwise indicated.

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Lt. Col. Jody Ocker, 65th Medical Operations Squadron Commander, is one of eight personnel from the 65th Air Base Wing to donate blood at the Angra do Herosimo blood drive last Thursday. The blood drive collected nearly eight pints of blood. (Photo by Guido Melo)

Contractors construct a concrete pad for a basketball court that will be built next to the running track, across from the dorms at Lajes Field. The courts are projected to be completed in mid-June. (Photo by Guido Melo)

Lajes leadership and annual award winners represent Team Lajes at the USAFE annual award ceremony. (Courtesy photo)



(Left to right) Col. Peggy Poore, 65 ABW Commander, Mrs. Trisha Dotson, Civilian Volunteer of the Year, Lt. Col. Rob Dotson, 65 OSS Commander, accepts the Volunteer Unit of the Year award. Tech. Sgt. Jose Vuittonet, Military Volunteer of the Year, and Mr. Dwayne Lanier, 65 FSS, Community Readiness Consultant, pose after receiving their Volunteer of the Year plaques on April 23. (Photo by Tech. Sgt. Rebecca F. Corey)



Children at Lajes Elementary School examine bugs on display in the school library during an Earth Day presentation on April 22. The 65th Civil Engineering Squadron conducted the presentation to educate children about the different types of bugs found on the island as part of the wing's celebration of Earth Day. (Photo by Tech. Sgt. Darrell I. Dean)



Mark your calendar



COMMUNITY FAIR April 30: To celebrate the "Year of the Air Force Family" and provide the best possible service to the Lajes community, the Integrated Delivery System (IDS) will hold a Community Fair, 30 Apr 10, Fitness Center B-Ball Court, from 1400-1700. Representatives from A&FRC,

SARC, Public Health, Family Advocacy, and Education Office (to name a few) will be there. For more information contact Staff Sgt. Stewart, HAWC, 535-1293/1035.

CPTS CLOSES FOR TRAINING: Beginning May 11, the 65th Comptroller Squadron will be closed from 8-10 a.m. every 2nd and 3rd Tuesday of the month for training. The office will open at 1000hrs for normal business. If you have any questions, please contact Master Sgt. Patricia Brooks at 535-5174.

COMMISSARY WILL OPEN MAY 1: The Lajes commissary will be open regular hours during Portuguese Holiday Labor Day, May 1st (Saturday).

LAJES CGOC MEETING MAY 11: The next Lajes Company Grade Officer Council meeting is scheduled for May 11 at 11:30 a.m. at the TORC. All CGOs are invited to attend.

ALCOHOL AWARENESS DAY (AAD) MAY 7:
1:30 p.m. Opening Ceremony/Arrival of Official Party
1:40 p.m. Opening Remarks
1:45 p.m. Alcohol Statistics

Attendees Released to attend activities.

AAD Activities include: Car Extraction, Team Quiz, Obstacle Course, Flag Fold Ceremony. There will also be information booths available. For details, please call Tech. Sgt. Diane Bebeau at 535-5177.

HALF MARATHON RUN/WALK: There will be a half-marathon and walk between the towns of Serreta and São Mateus on May 1. The run starts at 10 a.m. with sign up starting at 9 a.m. Participants must be 19 years old or older and must sign up by April 28. There will also be a three Euro fee to participate. Call Senhor João Valadão at 918 155 559 for further information.

AIR FORCE SERGEANTS ASSOCIATION (AFSA) MEETING: The next AFSA meeting is scheduled for Friday, April 30 at 3:30 p.m. in the TORC Dining Room. For questions regarding AFSA, please contact the President, Master Sgt. Tyrone A. McDougald at 535-6844.

WOMEN'S SOFTBALL: The Lajes Women's Softball team will have a warm-up practice May 3rd and May 5th from 5:30 to 7:30 p.m. at the youth center softball fields. Everyone is welcome to come. Tryouts will be held the following week. Contact Jolee Berry at 535-3375 for more details.

"Bullfights", from page 1

the food stands called "tascas." In these portable stands people can find some of the island's best-known local wine, beer, sodas, as well as seafood and pork sandwiches called "bifanas."

All Americans are encouraged to witness a street bullfight while they are stationed at Lajes Field, though it is also important to remember that U.S. military members, civilians and dependents are prohibited from actively participating in any type of bullfighting on the island. This includes people here on temporary duty status or just passing through.

Local bullfights are certainly a tradition worth seeing, but not without keeping safety in mind. Bullfights can be dangerous if spectators don't take proper precautions. Always make sure to watch the bullfights from a safe place — a high place at least five or six feet from the ground offers the best protection.

Every year a few careless spectators and participants are gored or hit by the bulls, or burned by the rope and end up in the hospital with serious injuries. There have even been some fatalities in the past because people misjudged the bulls.

To better your chances of finding a safe place from which to view street bullfights it is good to arrive early. More importantly, be careful and use common sense while the bullfights are ongoing. If you are caught driving through a bullfight area, slow down and pay attention to the traffic. Also pay attention to the blasts that will let you know whether the bull is out in the street or inside the box again. But remember to venture out and enjoy this unique island tradition.

Phrase of the Week A LESSON IN PORTUGUESE



ENGLISH: I do not speak Portuguese, do you speak English?

PORTUGUESE: Eu não falo português, você fala inglês?

PRONUNCIATION: Ew now fah-low port-ou-geash, vo-say fa-la en-gleash?

BULLFIGHT SCHEDULE



1 May	6:30 p.m.	Cabouco, Fontinhas
1 May	6:30 p.m.	Arrebalde, São Sebastião
1 May	6:30 p.m.	Fonte, Ribeirinha
2 May	6:30 p.m.	Feteira
2 May	6:30 p.m.	Grota do Medo, Posto Santo
2 May	6:30 p.m.	Fontinhas
8 May	6:30 p.m.	Paúl (area next to South Tank Farm), Praia da Vitória
9 May	6:30 p.m.	Paúl, Praia da Vitória

At the Movies



7 p.m. Friday - Brooklyn's Finest (R)

7 p.m. Saturday - Green Zone (R)

4 p.m. Sunday - Brooklyn's Finest (R)

7 p.m. Sunday - Green Zone (R)

Movie times and schedule are subject to change.

"Social media", from page 2

efficient way possible.

"Due to the importance of allowing access to more Internet-based capabilities for communication and collaboration, we are working to strike a balance between maintaining a safe and tightly controlled network while allowing Airmen to have the access they need to get information and conduct business," General Warner continued. "We are diligently working with communications and information experts at 24th Air Force and the INOSCs to assure the mission, while ensuring a standardized roll-out and maintaining the appropriate level of security."

Providing access to social media sites from Air Force government computers meets the intent of Department of Defense Directive-Type Memorandum 09-026 -- Responsible and Effective Use of Internet-based Capabilities, issued Feb. 25.

"As we leverage these new technologies, it is imperative that all Air Force personnel practice safe online activity to protect the network," said Gen. C. Robert Kehler, Air Force Space Command commander. "The Air Force views the use of social media sites as a positive way to communicate and conduct business. Social media and other emerging technologies provide an increasingly important means of communication and collaboration. Providing more open access will allow the Air Force to communicate more effectively to all Air Force personnel, their families and external audiences."

Various Air Force and DOD regulations provide guidance for Airmen using social media on government networks. Personal use of social media sites must be of reasonable duration and frequency that have been approved by supervisors and do not adversely affect performance of official duties, overburden systems or reflect adversely on the Air Force.

Air Force personnel cannot post any classified or sensitive information and must follow the guidelines for appropriate social media and Internet use. The inappropriate posting of information on the AF network and any OPSEC violations are punishable under the Uniform Code of Military Justice.