



Force Protection



Current FPCON: Alpha
Threat Level: Low

65...
IN THE FIGHT
CY 2010
(as of Aug. 15, 2010)



1,301
SORTIES

20,377
LODGED



4.81 million
FUEL ISSUED
(gallons)

Weekend Weather Forecast (Lajes Weather Flight)

Friday

Showers
High 75
Low 68
Wind SW 25 mph



Saturday

Showers
High 73
Low 67
Wind SW 30 mph



Sunday

Mostly Cloudy
High 74
Low 69
Wind SW 20 mph



Lajes' Staff Sgt. promotees



Forty of Lajes Field's Staff Sgt. selects were honored in a release promotion party presented by the Lajes Field Rising VI at the Top of the Rock Club, 65th Air Base Wing, Lajes Field, Azores, Aug 20, 2010. Lajes Field's staff sergeant selection rate is 60 percent, which is 13 percent higher than the Air Force average. The newly selected Non-Commissioned Officers will be expected to manage personnel and resources effectively to ensure that the 65th Air Base Wing is able to provide essential aid as an en route support base for worldwide deployments of U.S. and allied forces. (U. S. Air Force photo by Tech. Sgt. Chyrece Campbell)

Alexander, Janay
Ashton, James
Barnhill, Jacob
Bolden, Erinn
Broomfield, David
Cail, David
Connors, Thomas
Crowley, Lacey
Cunning, David
Duplantis, Tyisha
Engle, Derrick
Ettedgui, Jeremy

Frierson, Donald
Garcia, Ronald
Gonzalez, Santiago
Graham, Ashley
Greene, Angelo
Haycox, Dustin
Heimbecker, Adam
Hughes, Kyle Lamar
Johnson, Chelsea
Johnson, Derek
Krotchie, Richard
Lemaster, Zachery

Leon, David Elijah
Luft, Brian Alan
Madrid, Samantha
Martin, Vanessa
McCullough, Joseph
McNally, Thomas
Moreno, Jaclyn
Nutter, Joseph
Ostasiuk, Mark
Palmer, Gregory
Pospisil, Joshua
Ramirez, Angelica

Ramon, Hortencia
Rendueles, George
Rinehart, Cori
Sayas, Erron
Sherry, Tara
Shoppell, Matthew
Starr, Kara
Strange, Mark
Wescott, Christophe
Wilson, Justin

2011 retraining program in full swing

By Jon Hanson

Air Force Personnel Center Public Affairs

Airmen have almost a month remaining to voluntarily retrain in Phase I of the 2011 NCO Retraining Program before the program's involuntary Phase II begins Sept. 20.

Air Force officials identified 1,061 opportunities for Airmen to retrain out of their current career field under NCORP. Airmen can volunteer during Phase I for career fields meeting Air Force specialty code and grade requirements listed in the implementation message. Applications are processed on a first-come, first-served basis. However, those selected

under Phase II will be placed into AFSCs based on the needs of the Air Force.

So far, 198 of the 640 staff sergeants and 106 of the 421 technical sergeants needed have volunteered and been approved to retrain out of their overage AFSCs.

"Historically, we are on track for total approvals at this point," said Senior Master Sgt. Deron Warman, the superintendent of the Air Force Personnel Center's enlisted skills management branch. "NCORP always starts slow as Airmen watch their AFSC and their standing within it prior to submitting an application. Those who are eager to retrain or want to retrain

To read more on "Retraining," see page 4



Why would anyone ever invest in the Thrift Savings Plan (TSP)?

By Jim McDaniel
AFRC Financial Consultant

Who would ever invest in the TSP? You should consider investing in the Thrift Savings Plan if you want to save tax dollars today and grow your investments sheltered from taxes into an investment nest egg to fund your retirement years. The TSP provides the easiest and cheapest option for building and owning a tax-sheltered, diversified portfolio of stock and bond funds for your retirement. For many young Airmen, retirement seems to be too far in the distant future to worry about. The earlier you start planning for retirement, the easier it is to reach your financial goals. Almost without exception, if you plan and invest regularly for your retirement future, you will be rewarded with financial security and peace of mind, and not have financial anxiety or regret for not having planned and taken action.

How much should you invest? My answer is, "How much do you want or need to have, and when do you plan to start using the money?" The earlier you start, the easier it is to reach your goals due to money compounding over time. In 2010, you can invest as much as \$16,500 in the TSP, and if over 50 years old, another \$5,500 per year.

What are the options for investing in the TSP? The TSP has 5 basic funds and 5 Life-Cycle funds. The G Fund is the "safest" because it invests only in U.S. Government Securities. The F Fund offers the opportunity to earn rates of return that exceed those of money market funds over the long term (particularly during periods of declining interest rates),

with relatively low risk. The C Fund offers the opportunity to earn a potentially high investment return over the long term from a broadly diversified portfolio of stocks of 500 large and medium-sized U.S. companies. The S Fund offers the opportunity to earn a potentially high investment return over the long term by investing in about stocks of about 4,500 small and medium-sized U.S. companies. The I Fund offers the opportunity to earn a potentially high investment return over the long term by investing in the stocks of companies in 21 developed countries outside the United States. In general, the safer an investment is (G Fund), the lower the potential return, while the stock funds (C, S, and I) have the potential for greater rate of return over time, but also a higher risk of loss. There is a risk of loss in all of the funds, except the G Fund, but the G Fund has its own drawbacks and risks.

The L (Life-Cycle) Funds provide you with a convenient automatic way to diversify your account among the G, F, C, S, and I Funds, using professionally determined investment mixes that are tailored to different time horizons. Your "time horizon" is the date that you think you will need the money in your TSP account when you retire after age 59 1/2. Because it is important for each L Fund to maintain its target investment mix, the TSP will automatically rebalance each L Fund daily. Then, each quarter, the investments in each L Fund will shift to a slightly more conservative mix.

What funds should you invest in? This depends upon your age and risk aversion but generally speaking the younger you are, the higher the percentage of stock funds (C, S, I).

Lights, camera, action

By Tech. Sgt. Chyrece Campbell
65 ABW Public Affairs

"Yeah! Great Job!" screamed Heather Castro, mother of Quinten Castro, 12, who played Pinocchio in the play "Pinocchio." With a room full of more than 200 Team Lajes members, one would have believed that this was a Broadway production.

Instead it was a play hosted by the youth center along with four actors and directors, Annie Fletcher and Brandon Price, from the Missoula Children's Theater.

With just five days of preparation time and after only 20 hours of practice, Lajes Field's youth organized a full musical play of "Pinocchio" at the community activity center Friday, Aug. 20 at 9 p.m.

"It was a great success with more than 45 children participating with the play, from acting to making the set to back stage directing," said Mrs. Patty Gill, youth center teen/preteen

coordinator.

"The crew and children really enjoyed it," said Gwen McGirt, child and youth program assistant.

"The children are still running around the youth center singing the songs," added Mrs. McGirt.

The Missoula Children's Theater has visited military bases for more than 20 years. The tour team develops the personal and professional skills and goals of Lajes' youth through performing arts.

The youth center provides a drama club that meets every Friday from 3:30-4:30 p.m. to provide an opportunity for Lajes youth who are interested in theater to participate in all aspects of play production. Children can join the Lajes drama club to help develop their skills in preparation for when Missoula Children's Theater returns to Lajes next August. For more information contact the youth center at 535-3273.

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. Jose Rivera
Commander, 65th Air Base Wing



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

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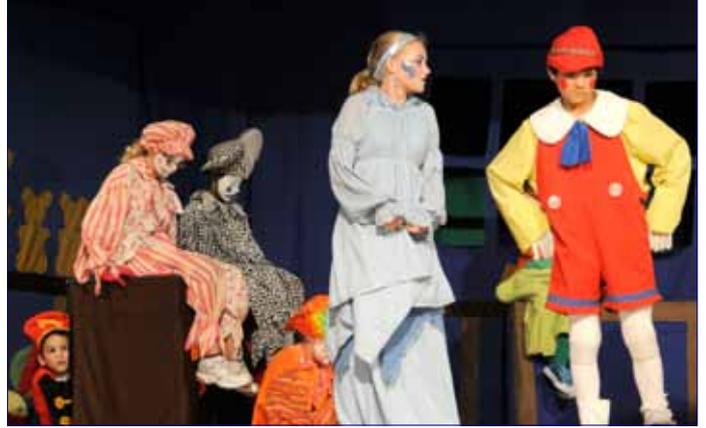


"65... IN THE FIGHT"

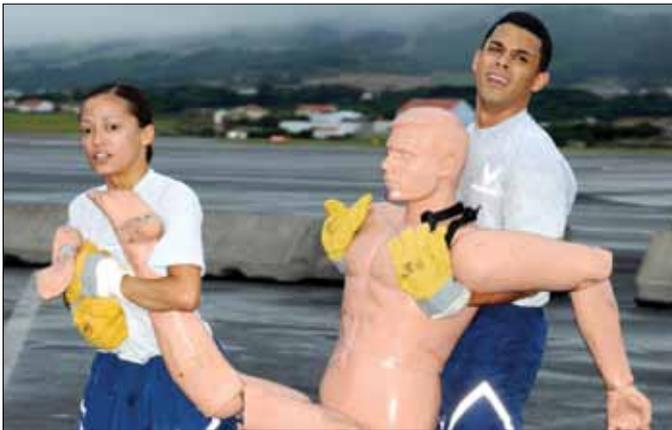
Feature



Captain James Eves, Deputy Staff Judge Advocate, and Staff Sgt. William Muffler, paralegal journeyman, review wing policy papers while Master Sgt. Kimberly Pfender, Legal office superintendent, evaluates the command and control process during a pyramid alerting system exercise at Lajes Field, Azores, on Aug 19, 2010. (U. S. Air Force photo by Tech. Sgt. Chyrece Campbell)



Lajes youth, with the help of the Missoula Children's Theater, cast members Annie Fletcher and Brandon Price performed the musical production "Pinocchio" at the Community Activity Center, Lajes Field, Azores, Aug 20, 2010. More than 45 children helped put the production together by making the set and working as stage-hands in playing various parts in the musical. (U.S. Air Force Photo by Tech. Sgt. Chyrece Campbell)



Staff Sgt. Yelida Kates and Senior Airman Yamal Gonzales, from the 65th Force Support Squadron, carry a 180-pound mannequin as part of one of the nine challenges during the Amazing Race, 65th Air Base Wing, Lajes Field, Azores, Aug 20, 2010. Each of the 17 four-person teams consisted of at least one female and one military member. Due to inclement weather and lightning warnings, the event was stopped with only a few teams finishing. The event is rescheduled for 7 a.m. Sept. 1, 2010 for all the teams who have yet to finish. (U. S. Air Force photo by Tech. Sgt. Chyrece Campbell)



Senior Airman Bradley Weng, Senior Airman Jacy Morey and Staff Sgt. Michael Clark (left to right), 65th Operations Squadron, re-power a KC-135 that transited through Lajes Field on its way back from a Red Flag exercise at Nellis Air Force Base Aug. 24. The KC-135 accompanied six Pakistani F-16 aircraft, also returning from the United States for the joint exercise. (U.S. Air Force photo by Guido Melo)

LAJES AIRMEN OF THE WEEK



Name: Capt. Trinette Flowers-Torres
Unit: 65 MDOS
Hometown: Tarboro, NC
Duty Title: Public Health Flight Commander
Accomplishments: Oversees all Public Health operations for Lajes Field including Community Health and Force Health Management. Captain Flowers-Torres directs the #1 Individual Medical Readiness program in the Air

Force. She is also the European Region Company Grade Officers' Council Executive Officer and editor of the European Region newsletter connecting 1,252 Company Grade Officers across USAF. Because of Capt Flowers-Torres, Team Lajes is a better place.



Name: Carla M. R. B. Oliveira
Unit: 65 MDOS
Hometown: Angra do Heroismo
Duty Title: Dental Administrative Assistant

Accomplishments: Primary individual responsible for all out-processing and transfer of dental records. In this capacity she coordinated \$805,914 of Dental Care for 650 active duty personnel, 763 family members and 83 retiree's. She also volunteered to translate Oral Hygiene and Dental Anatomy to 319 Portuguese Students during National Dental Month. She is a valuable member of Team Lajes and is well respected by team members.



Mark your calendar



MDG CLOSURE AUG 27: The 65th Medical Group and the appointment line will be closed on Friday, 27 August 2010 for the USAFE Family Day and will reopen late on Monday, 30 August 2010 at 1000. As a reminder, the Medical Group and the appointment line will be closed on the 2nd Wednesday every month from 0800-1300 for unit training. Normal operations will resume at 1300 hours. The next training

Wednesday will be on 8 September 2010. TRICARE On-line (TOL) is always available as an option for appointment booking. All beneficiaries must register at www.tricareonline.com for an account. If you have any questions, please call 535-3261.

2010 AIR FORCE BALL: The 2010 Air Force Ball will be Saturday, Sept. 18, in the TORC Ballroom @ 6:30 p.m. Prices are \$20 for E-6 and below and \$30 for E-7 and above, including officers and civilians. Please contact your unit representative for ticket information. Dinner will include London Broil or Mediterranean Chicken with a vegetarian option available upon request. The dress code for military members is mess dress or semi-formal, and formal attire for civilians. For more information, call 535-3217.

TOMMY DAVIDSON: Comedian and actor Tommy Davidson, known to many as the face on "In Living Color", will be doing a stand-up at Lajes Saturday, Sept. 4 at 8 p.m. in the TORC Ballroom. This performance is free and open to all personnel ages 18 and over.

MOTORCYCLE SAFETY BRIEFING: On Friday, Sept. 3, the Safety office will be conducting an annual Motorcycle Safety Briefing, a mandatory event for all motorcycle riders, at 0800 at the Base Theater followed by a ride for everyone around the island with motorcycle coaches providing mentoring on the pitfalls and hazards of riding on Terceira. This event will be an alternate duty location and local national personnel are welcome to attend.

OCEANVIEW TEMPORARILY CLOSED: Oceanview grill will temporarily be closed on Wednesday, Sept. 1 from 7 a.m. to 11 p.m. The TORC will be open and serving until 10:30 p.m. Call 535-1122.

AAHC BACK PACK DRIVE: The AAHC is sponsoring a Back Pack Drive for the Santa Rita Hill Elementary School. We are asking Team Lajes to help us support our community children by purchasing a back pack and filling it with as many school supplies as you can afford. The drop off location will be in front of the BX on 3 Sep 10. If you have any questions or need further details please contact TSgt Kimberly Young at 535-3304.

INTRAMURAL BOWLING registration deadline is Friday, August 27. Contact your squadron Sports Rep and fill out the LOI. Fitness Center, 535-6126. The league is Tuesdays, 6 p.m. starting September 7. Receive Commander's Cup points!! League meeting is Tuesday, Sept, 6 p.m. in the Community Center.

BUILD A BOAT CONTEST: Friday, Sept. 10 at the base pool. Contact the Community Center at 535-5216 if you have questions or want to sign up.

WING PROMOTION CEREMONY: The 65 ABW will begin recognizing enlisted promotees at a wing-wide ceremony on the last duty day of every month. Our first Wing Promotion Ceremony will be Tuesday, 31 August 2010 at 1500 in the TORC Ballroom. Please come out and show your support for these individuals who have each deservingly reached another significant milestone in their career. As always, unit spirit is encouraged!

OLA CAR WASH: The Organization of Latin Americans will be having a car wash Saturday, Sept. 4 at the base Commissary from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Donations will be collected and will go toward the Hispanic Heritage night Oct. 16. The event will also include a Burger Burn, which OLA will also be accepting donations for. If you have any questions, please contact SrA Gonzalez or SSgt Natividad at 535-2305/5168.

CIVILIAN PERSONNEL OPEN HOUSE: The Civilian Personnel Staff would like to invite you to attend their Open House on Thursday, September 2nd, from 1400 – 1600. We are located in Bldg. T-112. Refreshments will be served.

BACK TO SCHOOL BASH: Friday, August 27, 7:30 p.m. at the TORC Warrior Park. Hot dogs and snacks. Bouncy Castles. Face Painting. Family games. watermelon eating contest. Prizes. Family movie 9:30 p.m. Bring blanket and chairs. For more Information call 535-3273.

Phrase of the Week A LESSON IN PORTUGUESE



ENGLISH: What time does the plane leave?

PORTUGUESE: A que horas parte o avião?

PRONUNCIATION: Ah kay orash part-uh ay-vee-ohm.

BULLFIGHT SCHEDULE

Friday, Aug. 28	6:00 p.m.	S. Bras
Friday, Aug. 28	6:00 p.m.	Fonte Bastardo
Saturday, Aug. 29	6:00 p.m.	Fonte Bastardo
Sunday, Aug. 30	6:00 p.m.	Vila Nova
Monday, Aug. 31	6:00 p.m.	Vila Nova
Monday, Aug. 31	6:00 p.m.	S. João de Deus, Angra
Tuesday, Sept. 1	6:00 p.m.	Rua das Pedras, Cabo da Praia
Tuesday, Sept. 1	6:00 p.m.	Santa Barbara
Tuesday, Sept. 1	6:00 p.m.	Vila Nova



At the Movies

- 7 p.m. Friday** - The Last Airbender (PG)
- 7 p.m. Saturday** - Eclipse (PG-13)
- 4 p.m. Sunday** - The Last Airbender (PG)
- 7 p.m. Sunday** - Eclipse (PG-13)



Movie times and schedule are subject to change. Call 535-4100 for the latest update.

"Retraining", from page 1

into a limited availability AFSC are normally first to apply."

AFPC officials have received 3,079 applications to date for retraining. Nearly half of the NCOs were ineligible because they either did not meet qualification requirements or were not in a retraining-out AFSC. In addition, many AFSCs had limited quotas available and they were already filled by the time the application arrived.

"As a reminder, there will be no message released implementing Phase II," Sergeant Warman said. "(Members) on the master vulnerability listing need to apply prior to the end of Phase I, which ends Sept. 17 or an AFSC will be selected for them in Phase II."

Airmen can find the master vulnerability list on the Virtual Military Personnel Flight website. Frequently asked questions concerning NCORP are available at <http://gum.afpc.randolph.af.mil> under the "Enlisted" button and then click on the "Retraining" tab. Airmen can apply for retraining on the vMPF as well as find the remaining retraining-in opportunities.

For more information about the fiscal 2011 NCORP, visit the AFPC personnel services website at <http://gum.afpc.randolph.af.mil>, contact your local military personnel section, or call the Total Force Service Center toll free at 800-525-0102.

"TSP", from page 2

and the closer you get to retirement, the more conservative (G & F), you should have. Each TSP participant has a choice of investing in each TSP investment fund or a mix of funds, and you should review the details of each fund to fully understand its potential risks and benefits.

If you would like to learn more about the TSP and how to use it as an option for reaching your retirement goal, call the A&FRC at 535-4138 and find out when the next class is scheduled, or request a class to be brought to your unit. You can also call for a one-on-one, or couple's session to discuss the TSP or any other financial topic.