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in the Air Force for 2011

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# Crossroads



Vol. 17, No. 16 April 20, 2012

Lajes Field, Azores, Portugal

## Force Protection



Current FPCON: Alpha  
Threat Level: Low

"6-5...  
**IN THE FIGHT!"**  
FY 2012

 635  
SORTIES

10,622  
LODGED 

 3.2 M  
gallons  
FUEL ISSUED

In a real-world  
emergency, call the  
Public Affairs Straight  
Talk Line, **535-3542**.

Don't drink and drive; call  
LADD: 295 57 LADD

**Medical Appointment:**  
Base: 535-3261  
Off base: 295-573-261  
**Emergency:**  
Base: 911  
Off base: 295-571-911

**Weekend Weather  
Forecast**  
(21st Operational Weather  
Squadron)

**Saturday (a.m. / p.m.)**

Mostly Cloudy  
Wind NW 10 - 20 mph  
W 5 mph

HIGH 19C / 66F

LOW 12C / 54F

**Sunday (a.m. / p.m.)**

Mostly Cloudy / Partly Cloudy  
Wind NW 10 mph  
W 5 mph

HIGH 19C / 66F

LOW 13C / 55F



Tech. Sgt. Timothy Emeott, 65th Contracting Flight Infrastructure Support section chief, was recently awarded the 2011 Air Force Outstanding Contracting Enlisted Member of the Year. (Photo by Lucas Silva)

## Lajes contracting NCO wins AF award

By Staff Sgt. Erica Horner  
65th Air Base Wing Public Affairs

On a tiny island in the middle of the Atlantic Ocean, there's a tiny base that is doing big things.

Team Lajes, comprised of less than 2,600 members, has won a number of Air Force level awards to include the 2011 Air Force Fuels Civilian Technician of the Year, 2011 Air Force Outstanding Mental Health NCO of the Year, and, most recently, the 2011 Air Force Outstanding Contracting Enlisted Member of the Year.

"To receive this award was truly an amazing moment in my life," said Tech. Sgt. Timothy Emeott, the Infrastructure Support Section Chief from the 65th Contracting Flight. "I was shocked and amazed, and I honestly don't know how to top it from here. I have worked and still work among some great NCO's. I never thought for a second, that I would stand a chance at USAFE, let alone Air Force level."

Emeott, who is a month shy of his ten year mark in the Air Force, manages and reviews all construction, services, and commodity actions that have to do with the infrastructure of the base. He's married, the father of two girls, is pursuing his bachelor's degree in Business Administration, and has recently returned from a deployment last year.

He is also the "go-to-guy" in the 65th Air Base Wing Contracting office.

"Sergeant Emeott, day in and day out, epitomizes the word dedication," said Maj. Taona Enriquez, 65th Contracting Flight commander. "His work ethic is unmatched and begs the question of its commencement. Surely, the caliber of professionalism that he displays is indeed internal and warrants to be made an example for

peers and mentees to follow."

Emeott is without a doubt an NCO who fuels himself on mission accomplishment, utilizing the Air Force core values to guide his path to that target, she added. A dedicated family man and enlisted professional, Emeott is an uncontested "win" for the contracting community, 65th ABW and the United States Air Force.

Emeott's achievements spanned across 2011. It has included many projects he's completed on Lajes Field, as well as while he'd been deployed.

He finalized \$7.1 million in runway repair for the first-ever US/Portuguese Air Force cost share which finished two months earlier than expected.

Emeott also aided in the upgrade of eight water wells which Lajes uses for drinking water. Prior to his help, there were two wells that were not usable and in order to check water levels a member had to go there and physically check them each day. Now, all wells are up and running, and an electronic monitoring system has been installed that can be checked from several sources on base.

While deployed, he constructed seven District Centers for the Afghanistan Security Forces worth \$3.5 million that created jobs, boosted the local economy, and aided in troop withdrawal. Emeott also won several awards as the lead contracting officer over three other CO's and managed 63 forward operating bases, two hundred and twenty-three accounts, and \$57 million in actions.

Emeott's future goals are to finish his bachelor's and begin working on his masters degree, obtain his International Sports Science Association training certification and make the rank of senior master sergeant.



# Commander's Action Line: Series of explosions explanation

**Question:**

Sir, It seems since Easter there have been a series of explosions happening daily. They seem to happen with no notice and sometimes several times a day, usually atleast two at a time.

I was hoping there might be a short article explaining why the explosions are happening, what they represent or are for and when they may be stopping.

The explosions are a bit distressing for my children and pets, especially the ones that happen at night that wake my children up. Right now all there seem to be are vague rumors or parties, religious ceremonies and just plain people are celebrating. Someone even told me it was a BASH cannon going off but the explosions seem to be happening far away

enough from the base and flightline that even that doesn't make much sense.

**Response:**

The explosions mentioned are the sound of fireworks that are part of several century-old Holy Ghost celebrations, which started on Easter Sunday and will continue through June 3.

Additionally, these fireworks will continue through mid-October as they are part of the street bullfights and island festivals which are enjoyed by many Americans stationed here.

I understand these blasts may be a bit distressing for children and pets but they are part of a culture and local tradition here in the Azores. I appreciate your question and the opportunity to shed some light on local customs and traditions.

**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

**Col. Jose Rivera**  
Commander, 65th Air Base Wing

## Meet Master Sgt. Travis Chaney 65th Security Forces Squadron First Sergeant

**What motivated you to join the Air Force?**

Aviation has always been a passion of mine. When I was little, I dreamt of growing up and flying aircraft. I remember daydreaming about flying helicopters and fighters as I intently watched the events of Operations Desert Shield and Desert Storm unfold on CNN. I could hardly wait until I was old enough to enlist. I idolized those heroes that I saw on TV, and I wanted to be one of them. As soon as I was out of high school, I had my parents sign the release form so that I could enlist as an Aircraft Armament System Specialist when I was 17.

**What was previous assignment?**

28th Test and Evaluation Squadron, Eglin AFB, Fla.

**Where is your hometown?**

Decatur, Ill.

**When did you decide you wanted to become a first sergeant?**

July 14, 2004. I volunteered to be an F-15 Armament Systems Instructor at Sheppard AFB, Texas. I began to realize the concept of "Developing Airmen" shortly after I began teaching. I have been hooked ever since.



*To read more on "First Sergeant" see page 4*



*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.*

*This Air Force funded newspaper is an authorized weekly publication for members of the U.S. military services overseas.*

*Contents of the Crossroads are not necessarily the official views of, or endorsed by, the U.S. Government, the Department of Defense or the Department of the Air Force.*

*All photographs are Air Force photographs unless otherwise indicated.*

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# Earth Day – Let’s talk about water

Submitted by the  
65th Civil Engineer Squadron Environmental

When you walk down the water aisle in any grocery store or convenience mart, the varieties of bottled water available are exceeded only by the brands of cereals. We can choose from bottles of spring water, mineral water, sparkling bottled water, artesian well water, purified water, and flavored water. The packaging – almost all of it in plastic bottles – is designed to convince you that, a) “Our water is from a natural spring,” and b) “Our water is from the best natural spring.” But did you know that water can be labeled “spring water” even if it comes from a well that’s adjacent to a spring?

One company decided that “zero” would be an enticing marketing approach even though its water is bottled with antioxidants and vitamins, plus your choice of fruit flavor. This must be in case you really don’t like the taste of water and only drink it because you’re supposed to.

And how much water are we supposed to drink? We’ve all heard the “8 by 8” rule of thumb, which is eight glasses of water per day. According to the Institute of Medicine ([www.iom.edu](http://www.iom.edu)), an adequate intake for men is roughly three liters (about 13 cups) of total beverages a day, and for women it’s 2.2 liters (about 9 cups) a day. And by the way, this is “beverages,” which can be fluids that contain water.

So now let’s go back to those plastic bottles. AllAboutWater.org states, “It is hard to argue the fact that waste management has become a large problem in the world, with landfills growing to enormous sizes and recycling rates remaining dismally low. The number of plastic bottles produced by the bottled water industry and subsequently discarded by consumers has only exacerbated this problem.”

In 2006, researchers from the Pacific Institute in Oakland, California, estimated the production of bottles that hold the 31.2 billion liters of water that Americans consumed required more than 17 million barrels of oil. Besides the energy consumption, this production created more than 2.5 million tons of carbon dioxide. And these figures don’t include delivering the bottles to stores around the world.

AllAboutWater.org recommends that we use filtered water. Filters, which are inexpensive (about \$20), and easy to install on faucets (even in your office), “remove more dangerous contaminants than any other purification method,” including cryptosporidium, which bottled water companies have not yet been able to do.

We’re in an on-the-go era, so bottled water is the only convenient way to consume those eight glasses per day. After all, have you seen many working water fountains lately? But at home there’s a much more economical way to ensure the water we drink is as free as possible from impurities: a simple water filter. Just say “no” to plastic (as much as possible). The earth will thank you for it.

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## Lajes observes Holocaust Days of Remembrance

By Staff Sgt. Angelique N. Smythe  
65th Air Base Wing Public Affairs

A 5K Run in which participants ran in remembrance of the victims of the Holocaust took place at Lajes today. Each runner carried names of the victims in support of the theme “Choosing to Act: Stories of Rescue.”

Congress established the Days of Remembrance, April 15 to 22, as an annual commemoration of the Holocaust, and Holocaust Remembrance Day was observed on April 19.

“I think it’s important for us to remember the individuals who needlessly died just because of who they were,” said Staff Sgt. Lora Begley, 65th Medical Group Education & Training NCOIC. “I think it’s very important we remember these individuals and what they had to go through. It also brings about the awareness of what humans are capable of, and that we can do whatever we can as individuals and as a military to help prevent things like this from ever happening again in the future.”

On April 16 Team Lajes had a Candlelight Remembrance at the base chapel which allowed Airmen to have moments of silence or even say a prayer in honor of victims of the Holocaust.

A movie night at the Community Activities Center April 18 featured “The Boy in the Striped Pajamas,” which is a 2008 film that explores the horror of a World War II extermination camp through the eyes of two 8-year-old boys – one, the son of the camp’s Nazi commandant and the other, a Jewish inmate.

“It was a very hard movie to watch, but it definitely brings about the reality of the Holocaust,” Begley said.

On Holocaust Remembrance Day, April 19, from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m., Team Lajes gathered together to read out loud the names of 5,000 Jewish and non-Jewish victims who were murdered by Nazi Germany

and its collaborators between 1939 and 1945. The victims’ names were organized either by country of origin or place of death.

This very small sample out of millions of names of victims of the Holocaust were compiled for the Name Reading Ceremony from archival documents at the Holocaust Memorial Museum.

“We also had a display of books and DVDs about the Holocaust available at the Lajes library for anyone willing to check out,” Begley said. “Also, Mr. Jim Norman, who’s a big collector of antiques, has displayed some of his personal WWII items there as well.”



*A Candlelight Remembrance took place April 16 in the base chapel. The Holocaust Days of Remembrance, April 15 to 22, honored the memory and sacrifice of the many lives lost during the Holocaust in World War II. (Photo by Lucas Silva)*

The memorabilia on display at the library were period authentic items of the Third Reich Nazi Germany, beginning with Hitler’s assumption to power and then the fall of the Third Reich in 1945.

“I wanted to tie in some authentic items of the Holocaust so people could see a period of history that had taken place, and maybe have a clearer understanding,” said Norman, 65th Force Support Squadron fitness director. “There are items from the Third Reich German, armbands, flags, medals, things that would have been worn during the time by high ranking German officials. They’re all from the Third Reich period, except for some newspapers. The papers are from the spring of 1945 – the end of the war.”

There is also a copy of a Life magazine from May 7, 1945, that

has an article about the Holocaust to give people a general idea of what happened.

“I collect anything that’s interesting in history,” Norman said. “Having a piece of history in your hand has more of an impact on me, personally, than just reading something out of a textbook from that period. It’s important to remember what happened in history, especially such dramatic events as the Holocaust. I think people should always look back and remember what happened to avoid something like that from ever happening again.”

**"First Sergeant" from page 2**

**What's an aspect of being a first sergeant or about being a part of the 65th SFS that would be interesting for other people to know?**

Defenders are Lajes' ambassadors to the U.S. Air Force. They are the first ones you see when you come to the base, the first to volunteer, the first to protect, the first in and the last out. Let's not forget that they are our Defenders 24/7/365. They are a proud, professional group that I am glad to be a part of.

**Could you list one or two main highlights of your Air Force career?**

I deployed in support of Operation Allied Force in February 1999. My F-16 squadron was the first to begin air strikes on the Yugoslavian military. We loaded our jets with a slew of heavy weaponry, and launched them out just before dusk. I can still feel the pride that I felt as I watched 18 fully loaded F-16's take-off to carry out our nation's business.

**How would you say Lajes differs from other bases you've been assigned?**

Lajes is what many other places are not – a family. Everyone stationed here tries very hard to foster that. This is what makes

Lajes an awesome place, so cherish it while you can. Concentrate on the many positive aspects that the Lajes community has to offer and then turn around and give it back. Lajes is the way the Air Force should always be.

**What's one piece of advice you could give to young Airmen?**

Take every opportunity to lead. Leadership does not mean being the highest ranking so that you can bark orders at others, and you don't have to be in charge of hundreds of people to be an effective leader. Don't wait until you get to that level to be an effective leader. It starts when you take that Oath of Enlistment. Everything from saluting a staff car, volunteering for Honor Guard duty, studying to get a 95 percent on your end of course test, or just giving 100 percent every day at work is an example of leadership. Leadership is setting the example for your Air Force, your unit, your family and showing it.

**Are there any particular quotes you live by?**

Former Security Forces Airman and Chief Master Sergeant of the Air Force Robert D. Gaylor has it all figured out. Anytime he speaks, it's a quotable moment. I have had the pleasure of hearing him twice in person. One of my favorite quotes is: "The greatest power that you and I have is the power to control our own aptitude, motivation and attitude."

## Certification and Accreditation of DoD Information Systems

**Submitted by Tech. Sgt. Patricia Ridge**  
65th Communications Squadron

Prior to allowing any DoD information system to process government data, it must be approved by the Designated Approval Authority.

This approval can come in the form of an Authorization to Operate or an Interim Authorization to Operate.

ATO's are granted by a DAA for a DoD IS to process, store, or transmit information based upon all assigned IA controls being implemented with minimal risk to the mission.

ATO's may be issued for up to 3 years but require reaccreditation prior to expiration.

IA TOs are granted as a means to manage IA security weaknesses if changes are planned for a system.

IA TOs may be issued for up to 6 months but no more than 18 months. This allows the current version of the system to operate while IA controls are managed and additional measures are implemented in the near future.

To start this process or learn more about the AF Certification and Accreditation Program, contact your Unit Information Assurance Officer.

Further guidance can also be found in AFI 33-210.

If you have any questions, please contact the Wing Information Assurance Office at 535-2232.

## LAJES WARRIORS OF THE WEEK



**Name:** Kurt Megela  
**Rank:** Master Sergeant  
**Unit:** 65th Air Base Wing  
**Hometown:** Murrysville, Penn.  
**Duty Title:** Superintendent, Complaints and Inquiries  
**Accomplishments:** Sergeant Megela is responsible for the Inspector General Complaints Program which is a program to help individuals resolve issues affecting the Air Force mission promptly and objectively. Additionally,

he also manages the Fraud, Waste, and Abuse program, supporting 2.4K military and civilian members. He is also tasked with informing the 65 ABW/CC of matters indicating systemic morale problems impeding the Wing's efficiency and mission effectiveness. Sergeant Megela has been at Lajes for four months.



**Name:** Russell Rowland  
**Rank:** Major  
**Unit:** 65th Air Base Wing  
**Hometown:** Orange County, Calif.  
**Duty Title:** 65th ABW Inspectors General  
**Accomplishments:** As the Wing IG, Major Rowland is an advisor to the Wing Commander and is responsible for ensuring resolution of individual complaints from members of the Wing community pertaining to

Fraud Waste and Abuse, as well as investigating and responding to Congressional Inquiries. He is also the Director of the new Commanders Compliance Inspection Program which USAFE Wings are instituting this year at the direction of The Air Force Chief of Staff to put the "I" back in "IG." He is also the Crisis Action Team director. During the 2011 combined ORI/LCI, the CAT team demonstrated their exceptional skills and helped garner accolades for Excellent C2.



# "6-5...IN THE FIGHT!"

Feature



Lajes' Air Force Sergeants Association Chapter 1653 "The Rock of USAFE" was recently awarded the 2011 Division 16 (USAFE) Small Chapter of the Year.



Congratulations to Master Sgt. Daniel Guzman, 65th Logistics Readiness Squadron, who recently received two U.S. Air Forces in Europe awards - the Air Force Sergeants Association Division 16 2011 Recruiter of the Year and AFSA Division 16 2011 Chapter Member of the Year.



Congratulations to Chief Master Sgt. (retired) Cynthia Burney, 65th Force Support Squadron, for being awarded the 2011 U.S. Air Forces in Europe National Association for the Advancement of Colored People award. (Photo by Guido Melo)



Congratulations to Staff Sgt. Javona Tarpley, 65th Air Base Wing, upon recently receiving the American Legion Spirit of Service award. (Photo by Lucas Silva)



Chief Master Sgt. (retired) Yvette McKenzie gives a speech during the Month of the Military Child Dining Out that was hosted by the Youth Center April 14. (Photo by Tech. Sgt. Chyrece Campbell)



Transient alert members from the 65th Operations Support Squadron park twelve incoming A-10C Thunderbolts from the 442nd Fighter Wing on their way back to their home base after a deployment mission April 12. (Photo by Lucas Silva)



## Mark your calendar

**MULTI-AWARENESS FAIR:** Raise your awareness at the Multi-Awareness Fair today from 1 to 3 p.m. at the Community Activities Center.

**SUM DINNER:** This month's Single/Unaccompanied Members dinner will be April 23 at 5:30 p.m. The event is hosted by the 65th Civil Engineer Squadron Booster Club and sponsored by the Lajes Field Chapel.

**22nd ANNUAL HALF MARATHON:** The 22nd annual half-marathon "Dos Bravos" will run between the towns of Serreta and São Mateus on May 1. Anyone interested in participating in this event can stop by the Lajes Fitness Center's front desk to sign up. For more information, contact Agostinho Silva at 968-475-649.

**1st QUARTER AWARDS BREAKFAST:** The 1st Quarter Awards Breakfast will be on May 3 from 8 a.m. to 9 a.m. at the TORC Ballroom. The uniform of the day will be ABUs for military and casual for civilians. The cost is \$11 for members and \$13 for non-members.

**NATIONAL PRAYER LUNCHEON:** Lajes Chapel will host the National Prayer Luncheon April 25 at 11:30 a.m. in the TORC Ballroom. The guest speaker will be Lt. Gen. (ret.) Richard Brown. For tickets or more information, contact unit first sergeants.



## Feature

### Phrase of the Week A LESSON IN PORTUGUESE



**ENGLISH:** Would you like anything else? No thanks. Only the check, please.

**PORTUGUESE:** Você deseja mais alguma coisa? Não, obrigado. Só a conta se faz favor.

**PRONUNCIATION:** VohSAY dehSEHza mosh aHGOOmah KOIza? Now, ohbreeGAHdoo. Soh ah CONtah Fosh FuhVor.

#### AFN Highlights:

You can see these AFN stories and more this week on AFN Atlantic on the following dates (All stories shown at these times: "News Update" at 1827 and 1857, and "Around the Air Force" at 1823.):

**April 23** - Water Conservation (A look at why it's important to conserve water on Terceira)

**April 25** - Voting Overseas (Getting information out about voting overseas during election year)

**April 27** - Bullying Awareness (Making kids and parents aware of how to prevent bullying)

#### My Lajes MEO

Live off base and disappointed you can't watch event videos shown on the Commanders Access Channel? Or, do you want to quickly find a video without watching the entire CAC loop? Now you can --- if you have MEO!

**Here's how:** Using your remote, click on the green button and insert the channel number 209700.

After a short ad, click the  button on your remote. Scroll down to Programação, and select the video you want to view. Enjoy!

For a list of current videos: <http://kanal.meo.pt/209700>



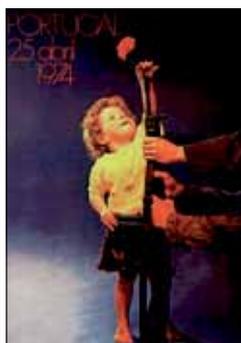
## ASK ED

A column that looks at the culture and history of the Azores.

By Eduardo Lima  
Community Relations Advisor



### Portugal celebrates Day of Liberty



The Portuguese people will commemorate one of their most meaningful holidays, the Day of Liberty, Wednesday.

This date commemorates the April 25, 1974, military coup that put an end to 47 years of right-wing dictatorship in the country as a group of Portuguese military officers overthrew the oppressor regime of Dr. Marcelo Caetano who had replaced Dr. Antonio Salazar in 1968.

The coup was known as the "Revolution of the Carnations" because the people placed carnations in the soldiers gun barrels and also because the revolution was marked by the absence of bloodshed or major violence. Only a small incident stained the coup when members of the secret police, General Security Directorate or International and State Defense Police, opened fire against civilian demonstrators causing a few casualties.

During the right-wing dictatorship period, the majority of the Portuguese people and military officials were discontent with the regime's political and economical situation at the time. Dissension grew worse with years of what some thought was a senseless war in the African colonies of Angola, Mozambique and Portuguese Guinea. Many people believed there were no possible solutions - political or military - at sight.

Consequently, a group of young captains planned the coup with the objective of restoring democracy, ending the overseas war and allowing the people of those Portuguese African provinces the right to become independent and carry out their own destiny.

In the early morning hours of April 25, 1974, a previously banned protest song, titled "Grandola, Vila Morena" was aired on a Portuguese radio station, giving the secret signal to the rebellious military to move toward the country's capital, Lisbon, and oust the government.

By the end of the day, the military, calling themselves the Armed Forces Movement, had defeated the forces loyal to the old regime and offered the country a much-anticipated democracy.

As news of the coup spread, large crowds gathered in Lisbon and other cities around the country, and applauded the military members who put an end to a decrepit regime giving hope for a brighter future.

The restoration of democracy, which had been taken in 1926 when the military dictatorship was instituted, opened the road to the independence of the former Portuguese colonies and also allowed the archipelagos of the Azores and Madeira to become autonomous regions and have their own governments, although respecting the national sovereignty.