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Crossroads TRA

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Lajes Field, Azores, Portugal

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

 **849
SORTIES**

**13,752
LODGED** 

 **4.2 M
gallons
FUEL ISSUED**



**Don't drink
and drive
call
295 57 LADD**

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



**Weekend
Weather
Forecast**

Saturday (a.m. / p.m.)
Mostly Cloudy / Rain
Wind SW 20 - 30mph
NW 10 - 20 mph
HIGH 29C / 79F
LOW 21C / 70F

Sunday (a.m. / p.m.)
Mostly Cloudy
Wind NE 10 mph
E 10 - 15 mph
HIGH 24C / 75F
LOW 19C / 66F

419th LRS trains with Lajes



Reservists with the 419th Logistics Readiness Squadron landed at Lajes Field June 8 to complete annual training. The 65th Air Base Wing capitalized on their arrival to exercise the wing's force reception capabilities. (Photo by Lucas Silva)

Lajes exercises reception capabilities

By 1st Lt. Mark Graff
65th Air Base Wing Public Affairs

Reservists with the 419th Logistics Readiness Squadron arrived at Lajes Field, Azores, June 8 as part of a cooperative effort with the 65th Air Base Wing.

Members of the 419th LRS will complete annual training during their temporary duty stay at Lajes, while the 65th LRS exercises its ability to receive forward-deploying forces.

Force reception is one mission of the 65th Air Base Wing.

"I've never been on a TDY where I've had this type of reception," said Chief Master Sgt. Glenn Bair, 419th LRS superintendent. "Everybody is here to help us out. Everything is lined up. You couldn't ask for a better reception."

The 419th LRS, part of Hill Air Force Base's 419th Fighter Wing, will focus on training here, but the reservists also intend to assist their active duty counterparts at every turn.

The training is a confidence booster, said Capt. Andrew Moisan, 419th LRS commander's representative.

"It gives them confidence that they know how to do their job so that when they go down range, they have confidence

in their abilities," Moisan, a Stratham, N.H. native, said. "It also gives the active duty personnel the opportunity to see that reservists can do the job and do it well."

For Lajes Field logisticians, the arrival of the 419th validates the 65th LRS' ability to receive and bed down forces.

Though the 419th's stay is temporary, the total force integration at Lajes Field will be mutually beneficial for the units, said Lt. Col. Scott Hopper, 65th LRS commander. "I can tell you that it's a win-win relationship. Both squadrons are going to gain from this relationship."

While training on all facets of the LRS mission, the 419th will also be devoting some time to ensure that their active duty counterparts with the 65th are also in compliance with logistics regulations.

"It's a two-way street here," said Bair, a Logan, Utah resident. "We want to leave Lajes with an invite to come back because we were able to help Lajes' personnel accomplish their mission."

This cooperative relationship between the reserve and active duty unit is really about the bigger picture, Bair said.

"We've got to prepare the Airmen to support the combatant commanders out in the field," he said. "Lajes seemed like the place to come to get the training our Airman need."



Information is Power

By Col. Dave "Bogey" Parr
65th Air Base Wing vice commander

I have attended hundreds of events this year at the Top of the Rock Club, the Community Activities Center, the Airman and Family Readiness Center, the Chapel and even off-base. Almost inevitably, a few days after the event, I'll be discussing how great the event was when I hear someone say, "I didn't even hear about that... I would have attended if I knew that event was scheduled!" The old adage remains truer today than ever before... Information is Power.

If you are one that repeatedly misses out on 40 cent wings at the Club, free hot dogs at the Summer Kick-Off, or you miss the unaccompanied dinner at the Chapel, then this article is for you. This information is now just a few clicks away.

The problem with today's ever more intrusive technology is we are often spammed with information we don't want and yet we often miss out on critical information we need. With today's internet access, there is a simple solution to this ever frustrating dilemma. The solution is to get into the habit of "pulling" information from select, concise web locations instead of waiting for someone to "push" you information that you may or may not need. The Lajes Public Affairs office has taken this transformation to task but it



will only be successful if we all get into the habit of "pulling" information when needed. Equally important, knowing where to look is the key to pulling the information you need.

There are millions of websites to search. In fact, when you Google "Lajes" in the search engine, you get no less than 5.7 million sites to choose from. To streamline your future searches, bookmark a few key sites starting with www.lajes.af.mil. Additionally, the Lajes Facebook page titled "Lajes Field, Azores," the 65th Force Support Squadron website (www.lajesfss.com) and Facebook page, which can be found as "65th Force Support Squadron," are invaluable. Public Affairs has linked a number of key websites to the Lajes Field official webpage where you can also find weekly updated announcements, the 65th FSS Week e-News, links to helpful agencies and other organizations' social media websites.

In closing, information is only powerful and useful if the person needing it has it in time to make it useful. With today's technology, information should always just be a few clicks away. See you all at the upcoming Air Force Ball in September or the Lajes Goodness Celebration on June 29, but you'll miss both of these events if you don't spend a few minutes each day "pulling" information from your favorite Lajes websites.

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

Inspiring Airmen

By Tech. Sgt. Durrell Edwards
65th Air Base Wing Chapel

As many of you know, Chaplain (Maj.) Hector Colon, the past Wing Chaplain, departed a few weeks ago. If you knew him, you knew he had an infectious personality — a kind of get-in-your-face smile, and he would try to inspire you to have a great day. Well, I am going to take something from his book.

When you see someone going through something in the Wing, and they're having a hard time — whether it be their career, family life, separation issues, or just island fever — inspire them. It does not have to be anything extensive or a counseling session; just be genuine. You may never know just how much your words mean to them.

In 2001, I was a disgruntled senior airman. But, someone took the time to inspire me to pursue greatness. I am proof that you can

rebound into something better than which you were in the past. That master sergeant simply was honest and genuine, and he demonstrated to me that he was someone I could count on. If it were not for him, I would not be in the Air Force or the technical sergeant some of you look to for help.



Photo by Lucas Silva

So I say, be that person someone can count on, and doing this may be the stepping stone to greatness for the lowest to highest ranking "A"irmen of Lajes. Then, after you have been helped, repay the person who helped you and do the same for someone else. If we continue to do this throughout the Wing, there will be an abundance of people pulling together in something we all go through at some time or another.

Remember, we all have one thing in common — we are on an island in the middle of nowhere — so let us make Lajes just a little better.

In the words of Chaplain Colon, "Blessings, my beloved!"



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.

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Preparation is Key for Successful Claims

From the 65th Air Base Wing Legal office

This summer promises to be a very busy moving season for Airmen scheduled for a permanent change of station. Help alleviate any potential loss or damage to household goods by learning the rules under which household goods are moved and by preparing for a potential moving claim.

Before the Transportation Service Provider (TSP) arrives, take stock of possessions and their condition. Take digital photos or a video of high value items, family heirlooms and also consider moving these items personally.

Having a professional appraisal done on any antique furniture is also a good idea, not just for any potential moving claims, but it can come in handy in the case of a home fire or theft. A professional appraisal establishes the value of the item and can be used in the claims process to help establish any loss in value should the item arrive damaged from the move.

When goods are packed up by the TSP, some high value items may be placed on the high value/high risk inventory. This special inventory supplements the household goods inventory and is used by the TSP to protect these high value items such as currency, coins, jewelry, silverware and silver sets, crystal, figurines, furs and objects of art.

There are very specific rules regarding the use of this special inventory and movers should inquire with the TSP or the Air Force Claims Service Center (AFCSC) regarding these rules.

Although members are not prohibited from shipping currency and jewelry, the AFCSC strongly discourages this and recommends members move these items personally.

Unfortunately, damage does occur. Those that do suffer damage should be aware that property is covered under the provisions of the Full Replacement Value (FRV) legislation enacted by Congress in 2006. This means that TSPs are required to pay the full replacement value on any items missing or destroyed during a move or replace the item. TSPs are required to repair any item that can be repaired, as well. They are also responsible for contacting a repair firm, unlike pre-FRV moves when the member was responsible for tracking down a repair firm.

The FRV program is an important benefit for Airmen and comes with some recent changes to the process. First, most Airmen will be

required to use the Defense Personal Property System (DPS) for the claims process. DPS can be accessed online at www.move.mil.

Also, the FRV program requires Airmen to deal more directly with the TSP. For example, the Loss/Damage Report that lists damages and losses Airmen discover after the TSP has completed delivery goes directly to the TSP through DPS.

If DPS is not available for the move, those PCSing can also file a Loss/Damage Report through the AFCSC website at <https://claims.jag.af.mil>.

Remember that filing a Loss/Damage Report is not the same as filing a claim. The Loss/Damage Report simply puts the carrier on notice that an Airman has discovered additional damage or loss since delivery. The Loss/Damage Report must be received by the carrier within 75 days of delivery. Failure to meet the 75 day deadline could result in no reimbursement for loss or damage to those items not noted at the time of delivery.

Under the FRV program, movers are required to file the claim directly against the TSP. This claim must be made within nine months of delivery of household goods in order for someone to receive FRV. Those that miss the nine month deadline can still file a claim up to two years from the delivery date, but would receive only a depreciated valuation.

Those not happy with how the claim processing is proceeding can transfer the claim to the AFCSC 30 days after filing against the TSP, for any reason or no reason whatsoever. Additionally, those that are negotiating with the TSP and would like someone within the Air Force to assist should contact the AFCSC for support.

Anyone who receives an offer from the TSP that is believed to be unfair can transfer the claim to the AFCSC, as well. The AFCSC can only pay depreciated valuation in most situations. However, after paying the claim, the Air Force will file an FRV claim against the responsible TSP and may be able to pay an additional award recovered from the TSP. The AFCSC currently has a 98 percent recovery rate against responsible TSPs.

The AFCSC is available to assist Airmen through the claims process. There is never any long voice mail menu. Call DSN 986-8044 or 1-877-754-1212 and press 1 to talk to an expert, email AFCSC.JA@wpafb.af.mil, visit <https://claims.jag.af.mil> or search for "Air Force Claims Service Center" on Facebook.

2012 Air Force Climate Survey

Take time to complete the 2012 Air Force Climate Survey before June 22. All U.S. military personnel and U.S. civilians are strongly encouraged to participate. To access the survey, draft an email to surveysupport@us.af.mil and include the subject line, "Need an invitation to 2012 Air Force Climate Survey".

Once you've received the invitation, complete the survey to ensure that your voice is heard.

The survey takes approximately 20 minutes to complete. Only U.S. military and U.S. civilians are eligible to participate; local nationals and contractors, while valued team members, are not eligible to participate in this survey due to external circumstances. Invitations to complete the climate survey were originally sent out in May.



Graphic by Manuel Martins

"By speaking today, you can shape tomorrow."



Lajes' Media Machine Tells Your Story

By 65th Air Base Wing Public Affairs

Many members at Lajes, especially new arrivals, often wonder where to go whenever they need information about base events or who to contact if you need publicity for an event.

Three organizations here, namely the Public Affairs office, American Forces Network (AFN), and the 65th Force Support Squadron Marketing department, are the focal point for Lajes publicity and coverage of newsworthy events. They work hand-in-hand with a mission to advertise, publicize and inform Lajes members through various mediums.

To ensure that your information is communicated effectively and in a timely manner, you should know a few things about each organization.

For information you'd like to have displayed on Lajes Field's official website, www.lajes.af.mil, or in the "Crossroads Xtra," Lajes' newsletter, contact Public Affairs. Public Affairs documents "hard news", events and human interest or feature stories in order to tell Lajes' story – your story!

Public Affairs is also responsible for photographic and video documentation of all-things-Lajes. The Public Affairs staff is available to document your event and provide a professional visual product. Many of these photos and videos of mission-related activities and other base events are displayed on the 65th Air Base Wing's official Facebook site. Look for the "Lajes Field, Azores" fan page for the latest in social media content.

When it comes to radio coverage on Island 96.1 or 1503 The Bull, American Forces Network Lajes is the place to go. AFN Lajes is responsible for communicating command information, or information that is pertinent to the 65th Air Base Wing's military, family and other audiences.

In addition to radio broadcasts, AFN Lajes produces a number of high-quality, informative and entertaining video pieces. You'll find AFN Lajes videos all over base via the Commander's Access Channel, or CAC, and other television mediums.

AFN Lajes also has a significant social media footprint on Facebook. Look for "AFN Lajes Defense Media Activity" and "Like" their fan page for the latest updates.

The CAC, a 65th Force Support Squadron marketing product, is a prime way to inform the community about events, special functions and public announcements.

The CAC is a great way for Lajes members to advertise their special events because it reaches everyone on base with a TV. It creates buzz



Graphic by Manuel Martins

because of its interesting content like local videos, movie trailers, Air Force news, AFN news, and over 50 Lajes community announcements in the CAC flyer zone.

The FSS marketing department also has "LAJES NOW," a local TV talk show videoed "Live" at the Café Bean. It is a relaxed, talk show format that is recorded, then broadcast via the CAC.

In addition to the CAC and other FSS print products, Lajes' marketing professionals have gained notoriety by leveraging a streaming video capability via the internet. Recent events, such as the Lajes High School graduation and the 2011 Freedom Fest were big hits with families back in the United States and elsewhere. If your event is a candidate for streaming video, talk with the marketing team at FSS.

In line with PA and AFN, 65th FSS has a well-known Facebook page where you can find plentiful information about upcoming events, tours and base activities.

For more information, you can contact these organizations at:

- Public Affairs – (314) 535-6161 or 65abw.pa@lajes.af.mil
- AFN Lajes – (314) 535-3497 for TV or radio-specific or lajes.news@lajes.af.mil
- Marketing – (314) 535-6324 or cac@lajestv.com

The three units work together in sharing the same goal of highlighting the Lajes mission. A joint account, which serves as a one-stop e-mail inbox for requests to publicize information, is available to send information to all three units. It is lajes.news@lajes.af.mil.

LAJES WARRIORS OF THE WEEK



Name: Durrell Edwards
Rank: Technical Sergeant
Unit: 65th ABW Chapel
Hometown: New Orleans, Louisiana
Duty Title: NCOIC, Chapel Operations
Accomplishments: Sgt. Edwards is responsible for ensuring the 65th ABW Chapel is ready to serve the Airmen of Lajes with their spiritual and religious needs. He supports the wing's 1st Amendment Right, by overseeing office management for a

staff of 11 personnel and 109 volunteers. He serves as a mentor to six Airmen and leader of 480 Airmen as the Rising 6 President. He also has intervened on eight counseling sessions ensuring members receive proper assistance and has completed more than 31 visitation hours throughout the wing. Through caring for Airmen, as well as overseeing a \$257K Chapel budget and Sgt. Edwards supports the spiritual needs of the wing.



Name: Jacinta Pires Melo
Rank: LGS-05
Unit: 65th ABW Chapel
Hometown: Santa Luzia, Praia da Vitória
Duty Title: Accounting & Budget Technician
Accomplishments: Sra Pires Melo is responsible for reconciling the chapel appropriated funds worth \$83K and Chapel Tithes and Offering worth \$174K. She also assists the

NCOIC in maintaining and supporting four CTOF cardholders, ensuring there are zero accounting errors before submission to the Chaplain Corps Accounting Center at Randolph AFB, Texas. She supports Chapel staff by completing administrative and office management needs for the chapel. Her support garnered the chapel an "In Compliance" for the section and an overall contribution to the wing's "Excellent" rating during the ORI. She has been a member of the Lajes team for 23 years and the #1 person for continuity on chapel history.



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

Feature



An A-10 Thunderbolt II from the 107th Fighter Squadron stationed at the Selfridge Air National Guard Base, Mich., visits Lajes for a refueling mission June 6 before deploying to Estonia for two weeks to support Saber Strike 2012, a multi-national exercise in Estonia and Latvia. (Photo by Lucas Silva)



Col. Jose Rivera, 65th Air Base Wing commander, speaks to Airmen during the Warrior Welcome & Send-Off gathering June 7. (Photo by Staff Sgt. Erica Horner)



Senior Airman Armand Boddie, 65th Logistics Readiness Squadron, lies on a gurney with a simulated twisted ankle as he is processed through an in-place patient decontamination tent during a 65th Medical Group exercise June 12. (Photo by Lucas Silva)



Chief Master Sgt. Curtis Storms, 65th Air Base Wing command chief, and Col. Jose Rivera, 65th Air Base Wing commander, with Lajes Airmen of Class 12-4 who graduated from the Kisling NCO Academy May 24. (Courtesy photo)



Maj. Raymond Castro, 65th Comptroller Squadron commander, receives the American Society of Military Comptrollers 2012 Comptroller of the Year unit level award June 1 in Anaheim, Calif. (Courtesy photo)



Col. Sergio Ferreira, Air Base 4 commander, passes the Portuguese flag to Lt. Pedro Resendes at the celebration for the 71st Anniversary of Air Base 4, June 12. (Photo by Guido Melo)



Mark your calendar

Hunger Games: The base theater will be hosting a Red Carpet Premiere for the movie "Hunger Games" June 15. It will begin at 9 p.m. For more information, call Tech. Sgt. Terence Corpening at 535-2232.

Single and Unaccompanied Members (S.U.M.)

Dinner: The S.U.M. Dinner will be June 18 at the Chapel from 5:30 to 7:30 p.m. It is hosted by the 65th Medical Group. For more information, call the Chapel at 535-4211.

Veterinary appointments in June: The veterinary officer will be on island to perform routine surgeries (dentals, neuters and spays) June 18 to 21 and on June 22 for appointments. Please call the VTF at 535-3134 to request an appointment or surgery. Spaces are limited. The technician will be unavailable July 5 to Aug. 18, so please coordinate your pets' medical needs accordingly. If you require medical care during this time, you will need to see another veterinary on island.

Vacation Bible School: Vacation Bible School is scheduled for June 25 to 29 from 9 a.m. to noon for ages 3 through 12th grade. VBS is sponsored by the Lajes Field Chapel Protestant Community.

Volunteers needed for Girl Scouts: The Lajes Field Girl Scouts is looking for volunteers in the following positions: Overseas Council Chair, Troop Leaders, and Board Positions. If you are interested, contact April Legere at april.legere@gmail.com.

Housing website: Visit www.Housing.af.mil to find your new home with the Air Force. This website serves as a one-stop shop for Airmen and their families to obtain information about the housing options and support services available to them at Air Force Bases world-wide.



Phrase of the Week A LESSON IN PORTUGUESE



ENGLISH: I need help. Please call the police!

PORTUGUESE: Eu preciso de ajuda. Por favor chame a polícia!

PRONUNCIATION: AYOO pruhSEEsOO deh azhoodah. POR fuhVOR SHAHmuh ah pohLEEseeah!

BULLFIGHT SCHEDULE

Saturday, Jun 16: 6:30 p.m. Corpo Santo, Angra
Saturday, Jun 16: 6:30 p.m. Largo São João, Lajes
Saturday, Jun 16: 6:30 p.m. Bicas Cabo Verde
Sunday, Jun 17: 6:30 p.m. Largo São João, Lajes
Monday, Jun 18: 6:30 p.m. Boa Hora, Terra Chã



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.):

June 18 - Navy Bound Graduate (A technical sergeant's son is joining the military, by way of the Naval Academy)

June 20 - Angra Fest (San Joaninas hits Angra this weekend)

June 22 - Scuba in the Azores (Hit the waters and learn to scuba in the Atlantic)



Lajes Against Drunk Driving 295-57-LADD (5233)

Every year the Air Force loses great Airmen to drunk driving. Please help save a life and your career by calling Lajes Against Drunk Driving. LADD is a base program that provides free rides for individuals who've had too much to drink. LADD will be available between the hours of 9:30 p.m. to 4:30 a.m. every weekend.

The LADD program is available to all Lajes Airmen, so if you are the one who ends up needing a ride this or any weekend, call LADD.

For more information, please contact your squadron representative.



ASK ED

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

By Eduardo Lima
Community Relations Advisor



Sanjoaninas Festival is June 22 to 30 in Angra do Heroísmo

The Sanjoaninas Festival will be celebrated June 22 to 30 in the city of Angra do Heroísmo. Dating back to the 16th century, this is the largest non-religious festival on Terceira and the Azores. However, the festival traces its history to a religious connection. Sanjoaninas honors St. John the Baptist and is a legacy of a secular tradition which has evolved over the years and now includes parades, concerts, arena and street bullfights, expositions, sports activities as well as other cultural events. Below are the festival highlights for June 22 to 25:

June 22

9:45 p.m. – Parade by the two marching bands from Angra (main street) 10 p.m. – Opening parade of floats (main street)
11:30 p.m. – Concert by the Angra Jazz orchestra (stage next to the marina)

June 23

11 a.m. – Body Combat's Master Class (area next to the marina) 9 p.m. – Parade of St. John's marching groups (main street)
1 a.m. – Concert by Portuguese pop band "Contrabanda" (Bailhão parking lot)

June 24

10:30 a.m. – Soap box derby race (Canada Nova/top of main street) 1 p.m. – Running of the bulls (top of main street)
3 p.m. – Climbing wall and rappel demonstration (next to the marina) 6 p.m. – Arena bullfight in the Angra bullring
11 p.m. – Concert by Portuguese pop singer star "Paulo Gonzo" (Bailhão parking lot) 11:30 p.m. – Concert by local rock band "Rock, Rhythm and Blues" (stage next to the marina)

June 25

6:30 p.m. – Arena bullfight in the Angra bullring 8 p.m. – Karate demonstration – Main square 9:30 p.m. – Ethnographic parade "A life's day on Terceira Island" (main street) 11 p.m. – Concert by Portuguese pop singer "Mickael Carreira" (Bailhão parking lot)