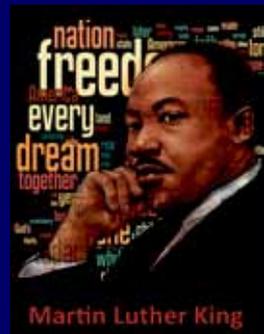


# CROSSROADS

Rated #1 Best Web-Based Publication in the U.S. Air Forces in Europe

Vol. 18, No. 4 February 1, 2013

Lajes Field, Azores, Portugal



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

FY 2013



466  
SORTIES

4,517  
LODGED



2,84 M  
gallons  
FUEL ISSUED

## Popular Numbers

### Medical Appointment:

Base: 535-3261  
Off base: 295-573-261  
Base Alt: 535-1089  
Off base Alt: 295-571-089

### Emergency:

Base: 911  
Off base: 295-571-911

### Lajes Against Drunk Driving:

Fri & Sat: 295-57-5233

### Sexual Assault Response Coordinator:

24/7: 535-7272  
Off base: 966-677-266

## Weekend Weather Forecast

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

Cloudy / Partly Cloudy  
Wind NE 17 - 23 mph  
ENE 12 - 17 mph  
HIGH 17C / 62F  
LOW 12C / 53F

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

Partly Cloudy / Mostly Cloudy  
Wind E 14 - 21 mph  
ESE 14 - 21 mph  
HIGH 17C / 62F  
LOW 13C / 55F

## Lajes Airmen offload 220K gallons of fuel, keep mission going



(l-r) Senior Airman Michael Jurkovic, 65th Civil Engineer Squadron water and fuels system journeyman, Julio Martins, a contractor with Oceanica, and Paulo Barbosa, 65th CES water and fuels technician, reposition the spill boom around a fuel tanker prior to the crews offloading 220K gallons unleaded gasoline at Praia Bay, Azores, Jan. 29. (U.S. Air Force photo by Tech. Sgt. Chenzira Mallory)

By Tech. Sgt. Chenzira Mallory  
65th Air Base Wing Public Affairs

Members of the 65th Logistics Readiness Squadron, Civil Engineer Squadron and civilian contractors, worked together to offload 220K gallons of unleaded fuel that is vital to ensuring the effectiveness of Lajes Field's aircraft refueling mission at Praia Bay, Jan. 29.

When the Madeiro Valleta fuel tanker pulled in to Praia Bay, base logistics, engineering and supporting units assisted to ensure that this shipment went as planned. Each fuel shipment to the world's only mid-Atlantic airfield is crucial because Lajes Field only receives three scheduled shipments of fuel each year – one for each grade – unleaded, diesel and jet fuel.

The shipment of unleaded fuel enables Team Lajes to continue supporting aircraft transiting the Atlantic ocean by ensuring that the LRS fleet of vehicles is ready to refuel fighters and tankers with jet fuel, said Master Sgt. Tracy Ford, 65th LRS fuels operations section chief.

"We help ensure fuel trucks are fueled to get to the flightline to support transiting aircraft. Today's shipment of unleaded fuel will support the military vehicles through the military service station," said Ford.

For Lajes Field service members, there's an added benefit to this shipment, said Ford.

"It also supports privately owned vehicles through the Army Air Force Exchange Service station here on the island," said Ford, who's responsible for the fuel received and stored here at Lajes.



After the ship arrives to the harbor, and with safety and protecting the environment in mind, a finely-orchestrated offloading process begins.

"Once the tanker has been docked, the civil engineers place a spill boom around the ship," said Ford, who is also the responsible officer for this shipment. "The fire fighters also get ready while I climb aboard the ship to ensure the

To see more on "Fuel" see page 4



# Lajes migrates to AFNet, 65th CS continues in the fight

By Lt. Col. Mark Miller  
65th Communications Squadron  
commander

With the migration of Lajes Field to the AFNet, Lajes users and the 65th Communications Squadron will experience change.

For our users, they now utilize services on an enterprise network that includes the entire service. This means that you, as a user, will never again submit a request for a network account. You will keep the same email address throughout your career. You will have access from any location in the world where there is an AFNet presence.

For the Communications Squadron, it means that base control of the network is curtailed. Rather than the base Communications Focal Point (CFP) responding to work orders, the Enterprise Service Desk (ESD) becomes the direct support for network computer problems. If ESD can't resolve the issue, then they will send the ticket to the CFP.

The Communications Squadron will continue to provide support when touch (physical) maintenance is required.

In many users' minds the Communications Squadron's mission is primarily the network. Many may be wondering what the Communications Squadron will do after this change. However, we have many traditional missions which we will continue.

First, we will continue to provide airfield systems to support flight safety at Lajes Field. This includes navigation aids, weather sensors, RADAR and facility accreditations for those systems.

Secondly, we will provide publications, forms and records management just as we do today. We currently have more than 205 cubic feet of records in our staging area. These vital records are governed by law, support effective decision making and protect the legal rights of the service and its members.

Third, we will continue to provide outstanding postal services. Lajes Field was recognized as having the Best Small Post Office for 2012 in USAFE/AFAFRICA.

Fourth, we will continue to provide radio systems whether for the airfield, land mobile radio or HF global systems. A mission which provides the communications squadron's slogan: "The Voice of the MidAtlantic."

Fifth, we will continue to provide planning and implementation for all of the above systems—including the AFNet presence at Lajes.



The Communications Squadron managed over \$27 million in project funds over the last two years to support the integrity, reliability and sustainability of systems at Lajes.

Additionally, we will continue to provide Cyber Assurance services which are as important as dollars to ensuring the integrity and reliability of our mission systems.

Security programs such as COMSEC, COMPUSEC and EMSEC will continue.

Although we have lost some of our control of the network, our technicians will still maintain the network systems that are here locally. They will provide any maintenance on your computers, laptops, phones and printers that require physical touch.

We will also handle all of the network cable installation both inside your facilities as well as connecting your building to the network for long haul communications. We also will still maintain the Network Control Center, the servers, routers and network switches that tie us to the global AFNet.

Likewise, just as today, we will maintain antennas for your communications needs.

Finally, we will continue to provide telephone service to your units.

These mission areas, under the new Commander's Inspection Program (CCIP), represent a whopping 36% of the wing's inspectable items. That may seem like a lot for such a small unit, but even with the projected Lajes Field transition, the communications mission will not change at here.

Relying on professional, technically adept Airmen, the 65th Communications Squadron will continue to provide every service present today at Lajes Field and will do so with the same high level of compliance to policy.



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. Chris Bargery

Col. Chris Bargery  
Commander, 65th Air Base Wing



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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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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# Airmen get opportunity to influence COLA

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

The 65th Comptroller Flight is conducting a Living Pattern Survey in mid-February, giving Lajes Field servicemembers the chance to make their voices heard when it comes to influencing Cost of Living Allowances.

The Living Pattern Survey is a tool used in the Cost of Living Allowance decision-making process. It offsets the higher prices on the market for non-housing goods and services. The survey is computer-based and takes approximately 30-minutes.

Officials from the 65th Comptroller Flight said the survey helps balance higher costs often associated with living overseas.

"In order for people to buy the same types of goods they would get in the states, the Living Pattern Survey helps to offset the higher costs in other locations," said Tech. Sgt. Maria Hudgeons, 65th CPTF Financial Services Section chief. "This survey shows where people are actually spending their money and what are they purchasing."

Servicemembers can expect questions asking for the primary and secondary locations at which they spend money on things such as groceries, appliances, phone services, household goods, hair salons, daycare and restaurants.

Once they have completed the survey, 65th CPTF professionals then visit the shopping areas indicated to collect data and the prices of each item, producing a Retail Price Schedule.

"These surveys determine how much COLA we should get, so every year we compare it to what we documented the year before," said Hudgeons. "For example, if we bought the Green Giant green beans, we would need to compare it to the price in 2011 or 2012, then submit the data for it."

The information received from the Living Pattern Survey is then used by the Defense Travel Management Office, which manages the program, to create a cost of living index for Lajes Field.

"Here, locally, we just gather the data," said Master Sgt. Michelle Verica, 65th CPTF superintendent. "We don't make any recommendations; we don't control the findings; we just collect data. DTMO makes the final decisions."

While the retail price schedule is accomplished annually, the Living Pattern Survey is conducted every three years, so servicemembers are highly encouraged to participate this year.

"The Living Pattern Survey gathers the data of where people shop," said Verica. "Here on Lajes we don't have new supermarkets being built all the time. People

are going to continuously shop at the base commissary or off-base at Modelo's, but the annual Retail Price Schedule shows how much things have cost in those places from year to year."

In February a link will be sent to the base populace from the 65th CPTF. Leaders are encouraged to reiterate the importance of this survey to their units.

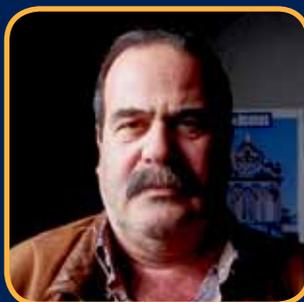
At any time Airmen may visit the DTMO website to see COLA index changes at <http://www.defensetravel.dod.mil/>.

For more information, contact the 65th CPTF at 535-CASH (2274).



## LAJES WARRIORS OF THE WEEK

**Name:** Mateus Diniz  
**Rank:** LWG-10  
**Unit:** 65th CS/SCOW  
**Hometown:** Praia da Victoria, Terceira  
**Duty Title:** Cable Technician  
**Accomplishments:** Sr. Diniz is responsible for providing base continuity for the fiber and copper cable infrastructure for Air Base 4. His continual contact and experience also helps to maintain the work clearance request for the base and Antenna sites on the host nation farm lands. In his duties as a cable technician, Sr. Diniz is an advocate for manhole security and cable theft prevention and responds to all communications outages on the island. Sr. Diniz's tireless efforts were vital in the verification of a \$37k contract to install locks on all base manholes and at six off-base sites.



**Name:** Mark Nelson  
**Rank:** Technical Sergeant  
**Unit:** 65th CS/UDM/SCXX  
**Hometown:** Mudlake, Idaho  
**Duty Title:** NCOIC, Force Development  
**Accomplishments:** TSgt Nelson wears many hats within the Communications Squadron. An Airfield Systems Craftsman by trade, he broadened his scope by serving as the Unit Deployment Manager.



Additionally, TSgt Nelson is the alternate Unit Training Manager. Aside from his primary duties, he also acts as the Unit Fitness Program Manager and the Unit Security Manager. TSgt Nelson is the epitome of doing more with less and his efficient multi-tasking causes his programs to excel. When not buried in paperwork, he enjoys weightlifting and family life in his spare time.



# Behind the Scenes: 65th CS Cyber Transport

By Master Sgt. William Bowers  
65th Communications Squadron

There is a reason why cyberspace has been added as a domain equal to that of air and space in the Air Force's mission to Fly, Fight, and Win. Simply put, work centers cannot operate without the support of a communications squadron.

To use an analogy, communications operations are a lot like water flowing out of a faucet. Of course, no one appreciates that it works until the water stops flowing! When describing what the cyber transport section of a communications squadron does, I like to think of a housing addition being built and workers getting water to the houses using pipes.

Water obviously has a source; groundwater, rivers, lakes or even the ocean. That water is gathered and put into a water treatment plant where it is filtered, sanitized and tested to ensure it is safe for distribution. From the water treatment facility, water is pushed out through water mains to various pump houses. From the pump houses, water flows to each of the houses and once inside the house, water is filtered and heated before branching off to sinks, toilets, faucets, showers and bathtubs.

When you're thinking about communications think of the data as water.

The data comes into the tech control facility/network control center where it is analyzed, filtered and sanitized to ensure it is safe for distribution. This would be the treatment plant phase of the process. Then the data is directed to the appropriate Information Transfer Node (pump house) and then into the communication closet of your building (house) where an end building switch filters the data again.

From the communications closet in your building, the data is pushed out your phones, printers, computers and fax machines using the appropriate internet protocol (IP) address.

That is how cyber transport warriors contributes to the mission of any given military installation!

The cyber transport section has one of the most diverse and important missions at Lajes Field to ensure voice and data traffic flows efficiently through our tech control facility (TCF), telephone operations and network management office.

In the cyber transport section, we manage the logical and physical NIPR/SIPR layout on base to give 3,000 network devices the pipe



Airman 1st Class Stephen Brew, 65th Communications Squadron Cyber Transport technician, and Staff Sgt. David Allen, 65th CS Cyber Transport supervisor, program a VOIP phone for installation. (Photo by Guido Melo)

they need to communicate within the base, and with the rest of the world. Specifically, we manage the tech control facility, which allows all Air Force long-haul communication on and off the island via two undersea cables that directly connect us to RAF Molesworth and then to the rest of USAFE and the world.

Cyber transport also manages the telephone switch assigning new numbers, DSN service and distributing voice capability to ensure every time a user picks up the phone they will have dial tone.

The final task of the cyber transport work center is to manage the physical and logical SIPR/NIPR network. We ensure that there is a physical pathway for the data to travel through 116 end building switches so that users can log on and support the mission in their own way each and every day.

Overall, "Comm" doesn't rest; we provide 24-hour, 365-day worldwide communications capabilities to more than two thousand Lajes Field users.

## "Fuel" continued from page 1

proper amount of fuel is received and sign the paperwork."

Contracting personnel from Oceanica and AFH Fuel Services then connect the hoses to the ship to begin offloading fuel. With all of these moveable parts connecting to a ship, necessary precautions have to be made.

Avoiding even the smallest oil spill or leak is a top priority, said Vitor Berbereira, 65th CES environmental engineer.

"We circle the tanker with a yellow spill boom that floats along top of the water to collect any oil that may spill into the ocean," said Berbereira. "This is necessary to keep our environment safe since this beach is used by Portuguese and U.S. personnel with their families."

The civil engineer, water and fuels maintainers also played a major role in the offload.

"We do the maintenance on the pipelines to make sure the pressures are holding and we have no leaks," said Staff Sgt. Angel Diaz-Berrios, 65th CES, NCOIC of water and fuels systems maintenance. "We want to ensure everything is operating the way it supposed to."

In fact, an early January CES repair to fuel piping proved essential to enabling this fuel shipment.

During a routine inspection of fuel piping, Lajes civil engineers discovered that a fuel pipe had corroded after years of use, and could become unsafe if pressurized during fuel offloading, said Lt. Col. Teri French, 65th CES commander.

After recognizing the potential problem, Lajes civil engineers replaced the pipe, ensuring that the fuel shipment would not be delayed.



Contractors from Oceanica and AFH Fuels Services, prepare to attach a hose to a fuel tanker at Praia Bay, Azores, Jan. 29. The fuel tanker delivered 220K gallons of unleaded fuel used to support military and privately owned vehicles. (U.S. Air Force photo by Tech. Sgt. Chenzira Mallory)

Basewide teamwork and preparation are key before and during the offloading of fuel tankers at Lajes, said Ford.

"With the CES personnel working with us out here, we can respond quickly in the event of an emergency," said Ford.



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

Feature



An A-10 Thunderbolt II attack aircraft from the 81st Fighter Squadron at Spangdahlem Air Base stop at Lajes Field for refueling during a recent mission. The A-10 has excellent maneuverability at low air speeds and altitude, and is a highly accurate and survivable weapons-delivery platform. (U.S. Air Force photo by Lucas Silva)



Chief Master Sgt. Reginald Murrell, 65th Mission Support Group superintendent, shoots a free throw during the basketball game Jan. 25. For more photos from the entire 3-on-3 basketball tournament and the game between wing leadership and Lajes High Schoolers, visit the 65th Air Base Wing Facebook and Flickr sites listed on Page 6 of the Crossroads. (U.S. Air Force photo by Guido Melo)



65th ABW leadership and the Lajes High School basketball team competed against each other to raise funds for the Lajes High School scholarship program and the End of Year Sports Banquet. (U.S. Air Force photo by Guido Melo)



Col. Chris Bargery, 65th Air Base Wing commander, searches for an open passing lane while being defended by Lajes High's Josh Case during the game Jan. 25. (U.S. Air Force photo by Guido Melo)

# LAJES ON THE WEB



## Lajes Field

6-5...  
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"Lajes Link" - [www.lajes.af.mil](http://www.lajes.af.mil)

Here are some of the latest web highlights from the 65th Air Base Wing on 'Lajes Link'

"Lajes Commits to Recycling" video supporting the "I've Bin Recycling" Program

Got a question? Need detailed information? There's a tab for that!

Lajes Link has 7 newly redesigned tabs that take you directly to information that you need and want. Check them out today!



See the latest Lajes Field videos online! Call Public Affairs at 535-3467 for video support.



## Lajes Field, Azores

[www.facebook.com/65abw.lajes](http://www.facebook.com/65abw.lajes)

Lajes Field is one of the most popular Facebook pages in USAFE, with more than 4,200 fans!

Each day, we're interacting with you, answering your questions, sharing your content and bringing you the latest news and command information from the 65th ABW.

'Like' Lajes Field, Azores for the latest news stories, photos, videos and weather updates!



## Lajes Field Photos

[www.flickr.com/photos/lajesfield/collections](http://www.flickr.com/photos/lajesfield/collections)

Looking for photographs from the latest promotion ceremony or Warrior Welcome?

Find us on Flickr to see all of the photos you've been looking for and more!

We're posting event photographs online so that Airmen, civilians and family members can access the photos anywhere.



### AFN LAJES Radio 96.1FM

- The Morning Wake Up Call: 0600-1000  
- The Double D MidDay Show: 1200-1300  
- The Afternoon Drive: 1400-1800

Request Line: 535-3121 or 295-57-3121

## ASK ED

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

By Eduardo Lima, Community Relations Advisor



### Portuguese holidays explained

The Azores, as well as mainland Portugal, observe several holidays throughout the year. Below is a list of those holidays and a brief description of their meaning. Until 2012, Portugal also celebrated four other holidays: two religious (Corpus Christi celebrated on a variable Thursday and All Saints Day on Nov. 11), and two non-religious (Foundation of the Republic on Oct. 5 and the Restoration of Independence on Dec. 1). The Portuguese Government has proclaimed the abolishment of these holidays due to the current financial situation of the country.

**New Years' Day** – Jan. 1- Religious holiday.

**Mardi Gras** – Variable Tuesday. Not an official holiday, celebrates the Fat Tuesday related with the Mardi Gras tradition on mainland Portugal, Madeira island and the Azores.

**Good Friday** - Variable Friday. Religious holiday observing the death of Jesus Christ.

**Day of Liberty** – April 25. National holiday that commemorates the 25 April 1974 military coup which ended 47 years of right-wing dictatorship in Portugal and restored democracy to the country.

**Day of the Worker (Labor Day)** – May 1. This holiday was first celebrated in Portugal in 1974, and observes the U.S. workers' demonstration in Chicago and Milwaukee on May 1 1886, to reduce the work day down to eight hours.

**Espirito Santo (Holy Ghost) Monday** - Variable Monday. This is the day the Azoreans celebrate the Day of the Azores or Day of Regional Autonomy. The day was picked in observation for the Holy Ghost celebration which is a tradition common to all the nine Azorean islands.

**Day of Portugal** – June 10. National holiday also known as the Day of Camões and the Portuguese communities – Camões was a renowned Portuguese poet who lived in the 16th century and traveled extensively throughout the Far East countries. He is still a symbol of the Portuguese conquerors.

**Angra Municipal Holiday** – June 24. Day of St. John the Baptist. It is celebrated in Angra County only during the island's largest festival called "Sanjoaninas."

**Praia da Vitória Municipal Holiday** – Aug. 11. This date commemorates an important naval battle that took place in Praia bay on 11 Aug. 1829 between two political factions, the Absolutists and the Liberals, ending with the victory of the Liberals. Due to Praia's support to the Liberals' cause the town was added the name "Vitória" (victory) in 1837. Celebrated in Praia County only.

**Assumption Day** – Aug. 15. Religious holiday.

**Immaculate Conception** – Dec. 8. Religious holiday.

**Christmas Day** – Dec. 25. It's also a religious holiday in Portugal.