

CROSSROADS

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Lajes Field, Azores, Portugal

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

FY 2013



857
SORTIES

8,733
LODGED



4,87 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

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Lajes Airmen keep pushing 'iron to the fight'



65th Air Base Wing Airmen and units supported a CORONET movement of AV-8B Harrier aircraft recently, as the aircraft transited Lajes Field for refueling and base support. In 2013 alone, Lajes Field has supported more than 800 U.S., NATO, and other aircraft sorties and issued more than 2.25 million gallons of fuel. (U.S. Air Force photo by Lucas Silva/released)

New command chief focused on trust, Airmen's contributions to mission

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

Airmen of the 65th Air Base Wing at Lajes Field welcomed a new wing command chief in April. Chief Master Sergeant Alan Boling assumed the command chief position, and bringing his family to Terceira, as well.

Boling is the principal enlisted advisor to the commander and senior leadership on all matters affecting the mission effectiveness, training, readiness, professional development, health, morale and welfare of the wing's personnel and their families. As a liaison between the commander and the enlisted force, the command chief, ensures the commander's policies are known, understood and followed.

A Concordia, Kan. native, Boling was raised on a farm about 15 miles from the small, rural community. Boling notices parallels between the tiny, Kansas town and

the tight-knit, small community feel of Lajes.

"I feel like I fit right in at Lajes in this small-town environment," said Boling. "(Life on a farm) was a great life. I learned a lot about the importance of hard work and family. That's been a big part of my life."

After enlisting, Boling began his Air Force career in what was previously Strategic Air Command. As an airman basic, comprehending his role in the bigger picture was difficult, said Boling. But after 24 years in the Air Force, it's clear to the chief that each Airman makes a vital contribution to the overall mission.

"I started out in SAC at Offutt Air Force Base and I really didn't understand at the time the impact of what I did," said Boling. "It didn't take long being in the Air Force to realize that your contributions, although they may seem very small, in the big picture are very important contributions to the



To read more on "Command Chief" see page 3

Today's Fight—Airmen and Families—Host Nation Relationship—Future Challenges



Lean thinking about the budget

By Lt. Col. Loren Graham
729th Air Mobility Squadron Commander

The annual budget is a top problem facing our Air Force. The problem is simply solved: spend less. Sounds easy, right? If it is so easy to fix, then why does it remain a top Air Force issue?

It is my humble belief that common budgetary processes at all levels drive both good and bad behaviors making this problem so difficult to solve. Let's focus on unit and wing processes and how formal and informal unit processes exacerbate our Air Force's fiscal problems. Additionally, I recommend some simple actions that every Airman can take to save the Air Force money.

Take for example the concept that we've all heard when discussing funding, "If you don't spend it this year, you won't get it next year."

That saying may or may not be true, but it does drive the end-of-year purchasing behavior of assets such as new furniture, massive amounts of printer toner, office supplies and paper. I believe that most end-of-year unit purchases are approved in a rush during a torrent of spending. Once every dollar is spent, the unit pats itself on the back for another end-of-year well-done.

In fact, units that are able to spend quickly, often receive additional funds (formal process) prior to the end-of-year in order to make sure that every drop of taxpayer dollars is expended. This cycle leaves behind over stuffed supply closets exploding at the seams with excess products. Is this a unit trying to save money? Does this sound like your unit?

Okay, maybe some of you have not had the opportunity to watch a unit close out a budget. Let's look at it from a day-to-day, squadron-level view. Do simple squadron processes drive poor spending behavior?

How many times in your career have you been offered a new Gortex jacket or cold weather gear when in-processing a new unit? Or, how many pairs of government-furnished boots do you have in your closet that you may never wear?

Had I taken the jacket each time it was offered to me during a PCS, I would have cost the Air Force well over \$2,000. Multiply that cost by the total number of Airmen, and you can see how the cost-to-taxpayers could be well into the millions of dollars for jackets alone. This common practice is one of many at the unit level that ultimately cost the Air Force unnecessary funds.

So you might be asking yourself, what can I do to help? I've come to believe in five simple steps that promote more responsible spending behaviors.

First, know what purchases are absolutely critical to your section or unit's success. Ensure you are able to procure those assets as mission effectiveness is the top priority.

Second, get acquainted with the formal and informal processes that drive purchases and understand how these processes drive good and bad fiscal behavior. Third, discourage hoarding tendencies, a bad fiscal behavior, through streamlined and increased procurement and accounting cycles.

Fourth and perhaps most importantly, frequently walk through every work center that you are in charge of and put eyes on the resources that are being stored, used or unused. Finally, break down barriers that discourage sharing within your unit, group or wing and work to re-direct assets to ensure the readiness of mission critical capabilities.

Remember, every Airman plays a part in tackling one of the Air Force's priorities: fiscal responsibility.

I challenge every commander, superintendent, flight chief, supervisor and Airman to set the fiscal tone at the unit level through analysis and adjustments of the formal and informal unit processes. Focus on the processes that you control and improve them.

Don't forget to "Lean" on your unit AFSSO21 representative as your process review and analysis expert. Disciplined spending starts with you and affects today's Airman and the future of our Air Force. So put your best foot forward and save where you can.



Col. Chris Bargery

Commander's Action Line
535-4240
abw.cc@us.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 abw.cc@us.af.mil.

Col. Chris Bargery
Commander, 65th Air Base Wing



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"Command Chief" from page 1

overall mission or command."

But contributing to and working within a team can be a big change for new Airmen, said Boling.

"When I became an Airman, the biggest adjustment to me was learning to work with a team, and understanding the importance of teamwork. (Before joining the Air Force) it was always just me and my dad, working on the farm together," said Boling.

More recently, Boling and his family just completed a second assignment to Offutt AFB, adding valuable perspective to the chief's career and view on how Airmen's individual roles and accomplishments complete the big-picture mission. There, Boling was the commandant for United States Strategic Command.

"Coming from STRATCOM, I can clearly see just how important every Airman is to the overall mission. The actions of every E-1 to E-4 and what they're doing for those commands, is vital," said Boling.

The command chief intends to spend much of his first few weeks on the job immersing himself in 65th ABW units and building relationships with his Airmen.

"To build trust, you've got to know each other... understanding each other's background and where you've been. That kind of sets the stage for a lot of what I believe in," said Boling.

Boling noted that one of the unique challenges he embraces as a command chief is learning the differences in Air Force specialty codes and career fields. Understanding the differences in AFSCs, while maintaining standards and discipline for all Airmen is key to 65th ABW success, said Boling.

"Every career field has their own informal developmental process. The way that the maintenance community develops and builds Airmen is a lot different than the medical group. In maintenance, Airmen focus on maintaining aircraft. In the medical career fields, there's more of an emphasis on caring

for human beings," said Boling.

Equally important to getting to know Lajes Airmen is emphasizing resiliency and whole-person fitness, foundational elements of Airmanship. Physical, spiritual, mental and social fitness are the building blocks of strong Airmen, said Boling.



Command Chief Master Sgt. Allan C. Boling
65th Air Base Wing, Command Chief

"Those are the first things we neglect whenever the mission and ops tempo reach a peak. But you can only sustain yourself and do well for so long without rebuilding your foundation," said Boling.

Part of resiliency is depending on fellow wingmen, and especially mentors. Boling described two Air Force mentors who impacted his development as an Airman.

As a junior non-commissioned officer, Boling looked up to a technical sergeant named Joe Collins, noting that the NCO's top priority was caring for subordinates and tackling their issues or problems with a sense of urgency.

More recently, Boling describes Army Sergeant Major Patrick Alston, the STRATCOM senior enlisted leader, as an influence due to the sergeant major's ability to balance the relationship-building aspect of leadership – motivating people, being approachable – with accomplishing the mission and supporting commanders.

Embarking on new responsibility as the 65th ABW command chief, Boling's first impressions of the base and wing are extremely positive.

"Lajes Field provides a great foundation for building warfighters and coaching future leaders. I've truly been impressed in my first

few weeks here," said Boling.

"My philosophy on leading Airmen always reaches back to what my parents taught me about humility in your actions and working towards a greater cause. In the Air Force, that greater cause is securing the freedoms our families enjoy every day, while supporting our teammates who help us get that mission done," said Boling.

LAJES WARRIORS OF THE WEEK

Name: Helena Reis
Rank: LGS-07
Unit: 729th Air Mobility Squadron
Hometown: Lajes
Duty Title: ATOC Monitor

Accomplishments: Mrs. Reis is an integral member of the 729 AMS team. Her skills are unmatched as an Air Terminal Operations Controller ensuring information on flights, airfield emergencies, and coordination between on base and off base agencies is flawlessly disseminated and executed. Her abilities are reflected in the enforcing of the \$2.7 billion commercial airlift contract inspection process ensuring 100% compliance with AMC standards and ensuring quality commercial airlift for Lajes Field personnel. Mrs. Reis's expertise is paramount in working with the NATO and Coalition forces aircraft bolstering international relations. Mrs. Reis enjoys volunteering with the primary school children and arts and crafts.



Name: Nathan Morningstar
Rank: Technical Sergeant
Unit: 729th Air Mobility Squadron
Hometown: Huntingdon, Pa.
Duty Title: NCOIC, Air Freight

Accomplishments: Tech. Sgt. Nathan Morningstar is responsible for the processing, inspecting and loading of all supplies, household goods and mail arriving and departing Lajes Field via airlift. Nathan manages a work force comprised of 10 military and 13 civilians who have ensured a 100% on time departure rate of aircraft, prompting the delivery of critical supplies to the Commissary, and the greatly anticipated mail to the post office. As the Squadron Safety representative, he has helped to lead us to an unprecedented 472 days without a safety incident. In addition to his primary duties, he is also the 729 AMS Booster Club Treasurer. His hobbies and interests include weight lifting and car audio.





The Journey through Airman Leadership School



Tech Sgts. Stephen DeGuzman, Airman Leadership School instructor, and Christopher Hiram, ALS commandant, conduct a uniform inspection with the students April 15, 2013, Lajes Field, Azores. Not only do the students learn how to lead Airmen and communicate effectively, they also learn how to be a military professional which includes learning to wear their uniform properly. (Photo by Lucas Silva/released)



Senior Airman Jacqueline Kennebrew, 65th Medical Operations Support Squadron emergency medical technician and student at Airman Leadership School, marches the flight during a formative drill evaluation. Each of the students receives a refresher in basic drill instruction and demonstrates what they've learned during formative evaluations. (Photo by Lucas Silva/released)



Senior Airman Jacqueline Kennebrew, 65th Medical Operations Support Squadron emergency medical technician, along with her fellow students of Airman Leadership School class 13-B demonstrate an 'open ranks' during a formative drill evaluation. (Photo by Lucas Silva/released)



The Journey through Airman Leadership School

Airmen Leadership School students test their physical endurance during a back pack challenge Apr. 23, 2013, Lajes Field, Azores. During a five week course Senior Airmen attend Professional Military Education where they learn how to be a combat leader, military professional and a frontline supervisor. (Photo by Lucas Silva/released)



(l-r) Master Sgt. Luther Holsonback, along with Tech Sgt. Christopher Hiram and his son Sam, perform push-ups during the back pack challenge. Hiram, the new ALS commandant took the reins from Holsonback, who taught more than 75 Professional Military Education classes during his tenure here. (Photo by Lucas Silva/released)



(l-r) Senior Airmen Jacob Williams, 65th Security Forces Squadron and Carlos Bryant, 65th Logistics Readiness Squadron, climb stairs during their Airman Leadership School back pack challenge. These Airmen completed five weeks of Professional Military Education preparing them to be frontline supervisors and successful noncommissioned officers. (Photo by Lucas Silva/released)

LAJES ON THE WEB



Lajes Field

6-5...
in the FIGHT!

"Lajes Link" - www.lajes.af.mil

Go to the Link for more on these events:

- Lajes Storytellers Event on May 14
- Lajes Field Police Week events from May 13-17

Got a question? Need detailed information? There's a tab for that! Lajes Link has tabs that take you directly to information that you need and want. Check them out today!



Lajes Field, Azores

www.facebook.com/65abw.lajes

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

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



Lajes Field Photos

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.

BULLFIGHT SCHEDULE



Remember: Airmen and families assigned to Lajes Field are not allowed to participate in bullfights. If you are viewing a bullfight, you must maintain a safe distance, be behind adequate barricades or located on/in a building. Contact Wing Safety at 535-6137 for more info.

- Saturday, May 11: 6:30 p.m. Ladeira Branca, Angra do Heroísmo
- Sunday, May 12: 6:30 p.m. Canada Nova, Santa Luzia, Angra
- Monday, May 13: 6:30 p.m. Pico da Urze, Angra
- Tuesday, May 14: 6:30 p.m. Posto Santo
- Saturday, May 18: 6:30 p.m. S. Mateus
- Saturday, May 18: 9:30 p.m. Arena bullfight, Angra do Heroísmo

ASK ED

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

By Eduardo Lima, Community Relations Advisor



Portuguese to celebrate 96th anniversary of the miracle of Fatima



The alleged miracle of Fatima happened May 13, 1917 when the Virgin Mary supposedly appeared before three little Portuguese shepherds, named Lucia de Jesus, Francisco and his sister Jacinta Marto, while they were tending a flock of sheep.

The appearance took place in a place called Cova da Iria, in the parish of Fatima, on mainland Portugal, therefore the Mother of Jesus is mostly referred to by the Portuguese as Our Lady of Fatima.

According to the three shepherds, Our Lady of Fatima told them in her first visitation it was necessary for them to pray the rosary everyday to achieve peace in the world and the end of the ongoing war at the time (World War I). She also asked the shepherds to go back to the same site at the same time on the 13th day of the following five months. The children did so and on the 13th day of June, July, August, September and October, Our Lady of Fatima

appeared to them and repeated not only the previous messages, but also told them about a secret that only a few people in the world, including the deceased Pope John Paul II, knew about.

The last appearance occurred in October of that year with about 70,000 people present, but only the three children could see and hear the Virgin Mary, although the people could perceive there was a strange phenomenon going on.

Since 1917, thousands of barefoot pilgrims travel to Fatima on foot to participate in the religious events on the evening of the 12th of May, where the statue of Our Lady of Fatima is carried on a wooden framework followed by the devotees carrying a lit candle.

At the site of the 1917 vision, there now stands the Sanctuary of Fatima, a large complex that includes the Chapel of Apparitions, the Basilica and the Holy Trinity Church. The Chapel of Apparitions was the first building to be constructed in Cova da Iria.

The best way to reach Fatima from Terceira Island is to fly Air Portugal to Lisbon and then take the bus to Fatima. This city is located approximately 120 kilometers north of Lisbon and has many hotels, bed and breakfast places as well as restaurants and souvenir shops. The bus ride takes approximately one hour and 45 minutes depending on traffic conditions.