

CROSSROADS

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Lajes Field, Azores, Portugal

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

FY 2013



968
SORTIES

9,975
LODGED



5,44 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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Deployed Lajes Airmen are "In the fight"



Staff Sgt. Kristopher Jaime operates the water tank and pump generator during PyroLance training, June 4, 2013, at the 379th Air Expeditionary Wing in Southwest Asia. This tool gives crews access to engine bays, cabins, cargo holds or anywhere fire breaks out. Jaime, a 65th Civil Engineer Squadron firefighter, is deployed as a 379th Expeditionary CES firefighter. For the full story, visit Lajes Link - "PyroLance: Water with firepower". (U.S. Air Force photo/Senior Airman Benjamin Stratton)

Security forces promote crime prevention

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

Even though Lajes Field is generally a safe base, it's important for all personnel to adopt crime prevention as a way of life.

The 65th Security Forces Squadron has taken steps to keep residents secure by hiring new contracted security guards, as well as educating each resident on preventative measures.

Master Sgt. Keith Morales, 65th SFS Operations superintendent, and Tech. Sgt. Benjamin Mercado, 65th SFS first sergeant, said the contracted security team provides surveillance and response 24/7 throughout base housing.

"They do base housing perimeter checks, gate (identification card) checks, as well as walk-arounds to assess the area for unauthorized individuals, cuts in our perimeter fencing and things of that nature," said Morales. "Base housing is our number one priority because our personnel live there."

Even with contracted security in place, base housing

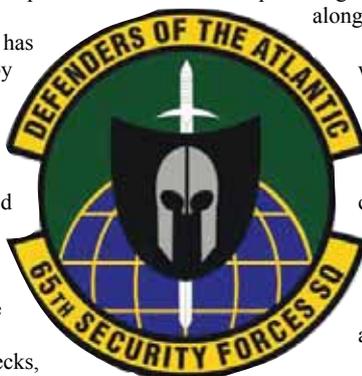
residents might still see some security forces members patrolling the area.

"We continue to do additional checks in base housing," said Mercado. "We do walking patrols and ID checks. We're providing a more visible Security Forces Squadron along with our security contractors."

The Portuguese Air Force also works with the 65th SFS in preventing crime on the installation.

"We work very closely with the Portuguese Air Force," said Maj. Lawrence Wyatt, 65th SFS commander. "There's a strong partnership with PoAF. We work with them every minute of the day, and they are just as interested in preventing crime on this installation and in helping Americans as we are."

In building crime prevention awareness, the 65th SFS has also made strides to brief the base populace by doing wing and squadron commanders' calls, visiting housing residents to brief them on crime prevention, as well as providing pamphlets with



To read more on "Crime Prevention" see page 3

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



Lajes Airmen adopting new inspection attitude

By Capt. Mark Graff
65th Air Base Wing Public Affairs

In years previous, getting close to inspection season meant Airmen drastically ramping up before the inspector general's visit.

However, Lajes Field Airmen are refocusing on inspections in general and are adopting a new inspection attitude ahead of the 65th Air Base Wing's September unit effectiveness inspection.

Now, Airmen are maintaining their current operations tempo leading up to the inspection, but still preparing through increased emphasis on unit self-inspection. 2013's UEI still serves as an opportunity to demonstrate the 65th ABW's effectiveness and capabilities, but without much of the furious administrative overkill of the past.

Gone are the days of filling three-ring binders full with standard operating procedures and appointment letters.

Inspection mindsets encouraging "Welcome IG Team" pep rallies showcasing wing spirit are history.

Beautifying lawns and primping base grounds – also known as "painting rocks" – to impress the inspectors are a thing of the past.

Instead, Maj. Joe Okasinski, the 65th Air Base Wing's officer-in-charge of UEI preparations, said that getting ready for this inspection is actually part of an Air Force-wide reshaping of

inspection mentalities.

"The idea is that we're being given tools that allow us to maintain constant awareness on our compliance," said Okasinski, referring to the management internal control toolset, or MICT. MICT is an electronic self-inspection tool enabling units to track requirements and record and develop action plans to correct discrepancies.

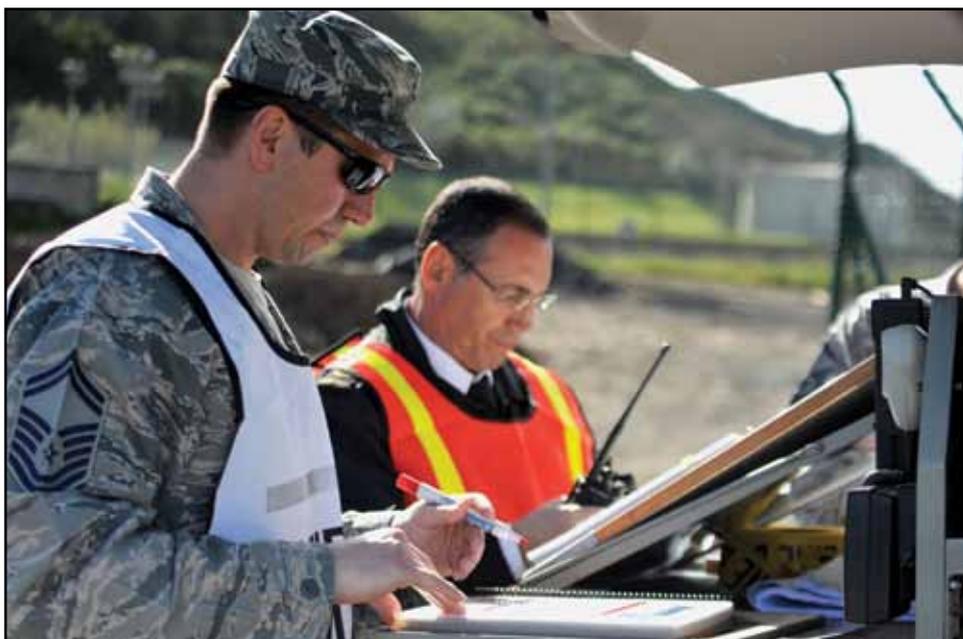


The old-school inspection mindset offered wings a chance to demonstrate excellent performance, but too often gave the Air Force an unrealistic view of unit readiness or capabilities.

"It has been recognized that in the past, inspections were a time of peak performance – that you got an extraordinary effort and a peak performance, but a peak, unsustainable performance," said Okasinski. "(Before) we would exercise and we would work compliance issues at a rate that is unsustainable in order to hit our peak numbers right as the inspection team showed up. Then as soon as they left, the programs fell apart again."

Moreover, the ramp up too often associated with previous Air Force inspections exhausted Airmen mentally and physically. Okasinski noted that such emphasis on perfecting a wing's image relied too heavily on Airmen and not enough on the resources and tools already at hand.

For more on "Inspection" see page 3



Senior Master Sgt. Brian Archuleta (left), 65th Civil Engineer Squadron fire department chief and Agostinho Simoes, fire department deputy chief set up a unified command center and plan their response following a simulated fuel spill during an exercise at the Lajes south tank farm during an April exercise. The 65th Air Base Wing regularly exercises scenarios testing Airmen's ability to respond to crises, work with local authorities or account for personnel. (Photo by Guido Melo/released)

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.



Col. Chris Bargery

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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Editorial Staff

- Col. Chris Bargery
Commander, 65th Air Base Wing
- Capt. Mark Graff
Editor-in-Chief
- Mr. Eduardo Lima
Community Relations Advisor
- Staff Sgt. Angelique Smythe
Editor
- Mr. Manuel Martins
Layout Designer



"Crime Prevention" from page 1

important crime prevention information and phone numbers.

Crime prevention is everyone's business though, so all residents, both on and off base, are encouraged to report any suspicious activity, as well as ensure that all property remains secure.

"Benjamin Franklin said, 'An ounce of prevention is worth a pound of cure,'" Wyatt said. "Secure your property, and if you see something suspicious, report it. Those two things go a long way."

Examples of crime prevention steps include keeping vehicles secure, removing all high-priced items from vehicles, ensuring house doors are locked, keeping areas around the home well-lit at night, or even trimming tall bushes so neighbors can see if something is suspicious.

"Don't make yourself a target by showing off all your high-priced items outside," Mercado warned.

He also suggested making an inventory of all high-priced items by serial numbers. Take pictures if there are no serial numbers. This document can be used for insurance purposes or even if these items are found in the future.

"I always recommend printing a copy of that list and placing it in a safe

location because we've had incidents where an individual's list was stored on a laptop but the laptop was also stolen," said Mercado. "Now they don't have anything to provide to us. So, print it out, and keep it in a safe location."

"Report" is one key word the 65th SFS would like everyone to remember.

"The non-reporting of suspicious activities is our Achilles heel," said Morales. "Our BDOC (Base Defense Operations Center) is a 24-hour control center. It could be the smallest thing, but it could be one of the most important pieces of information that we need to help us out with an investigation, so report anything you observe as suspicious."

Individuals can make a report by calling the BDOC at DSN 535-3222 or from a commercial phone at 295-57-3222.

Off-base residents can also call the BDOC to make reports, who in turn will notify Portuguese security police.

"As long as we get notified, we can notify PSP and provide interpreters to assist you because PSP has jurisdiction off-base," said Mercado.

The information provided to the BDOC will be kept for potential use in any future investigations history.

"We're here to help, assist and respond in any way," said Morales.



Jose Sousa, a base housing security contract manager, and Tech. Sgt. Isidro Mazuca, 65th Security Forces Squadron flight chief, checks the identification cards of individuals driving through the Biera Mar gate June 6. (U.S. Air Force photo by Staff Sgt. Angelique N. Smythe)



Staff Sgt. Madison Vaught and Staff Sgt. David Leonard, both from the 65th Security Forces Squadron, speak to a resident about completing a Crime Prevention/Force Protection survey in base housing. (U.S. Air Force photo by Staff Sgt. Angelique N. Smythe)

"Inspection" from page 2

"In the past, we would expect that through extraordinary effort, we get to the point where it all gets done. We're recognizing that that requires the personalities to do the job that the systems should be doing," said Okasinski.

Now, MICT is a system placed in every commander's toolkit.

But simply running through a MICT checklist and listing every item as compliant is not the goal, said the major. With added emphasis on the importance of honest self-inspection, recognizing discrepancies is a good thing.

"The new model is that we may not be fully compliant in everything, but we know what our problems are and we are working to get them resolved," Okasinski stated. "The first part is that acceptance that 'It's okay to have a problem.'"

Developing action plans to correct discrepancies is even better. This ensures that leaders know and understand their organization's true capabilities at any given time.

"(We want Airmen to) go out there, find what the problems are and then figure out why we're having problems," Okasinski said. "Is it lack of training, lack of programming, or funds? Is it equipment? Is it conflicting guidance in AFIs?"

Getting back to basics and studying the Air Force Instructions outlining unit operations is key. MICT checklists do not replace AFIs,

but help Airmen focus their look at operations, said Okasinski.

"If you have any questions about what's in MICT you always have the AFI to go back to and you may have four paragraphs that expand that single sentence or question from MICT. Once you get in the AFI, then you get your expanded guidance that the checklist may not provide," he said.

Ultimately, adopting and implementing a new inspection mindset may yield some tangible benefits according to Okasinski.

"The end result is that we should have a clearer picture of what our mission is and how to accomplish it," the major said.

Col. Chris Bargery, 65th ABW commander, said that with an inspection looming later this summer, Airmen can expect to pick up the pace with a renewed emphasis on the importance of exercises. Exercising the wing's capabilities to execute its core missions or respond to crises is only one benefit, the wing commander said. Promoting teamwork among new leaders is also important.

"With many new leaders coming into the wing in the coming months, exercising and testing our wing together will afford us an opportunity for strengthening the bonds of our leadership team," said Bargery.

"Our Air Force expects and deserves nothing less than an effective, functional and lethal 65th Air Base Wing. We continually show the Air Force that our professionals keep their nose to the grindstone each and every day, producing outstanding results. Lajes Airmen aren't geared to perform sometimes; they're geared to perform every time," he said.



Lajes motorcycle safety ride



The 65th Air Base Wing Safety Office hosted their annual wing motorcycle ride June 6 at Lajes Field. This event is designed to promote safety through mentorship and education.

Wing safety representatives outlined the Air Force's motorcycle safety requirements while wing leaders shared their perspective on avoiding unnecessary risks and knowing personal limits.

Lajes' Motorcycle Safety Foundation instructor, Ricky Baptista, briefed the local hazards unique to Terceira and reviewed general riding safety.

In addition to a scenic afternoon ride, participants fulfilled their annual pre-season motorcycle safety requirement.



Youth Jiu Jitsu class

Master Sgt. Josiah Sojot (purple belt), 65th Communications Squadron cable antenna maintenance section chief, demonstrates a 'Spider-Man' crawl to Charlie Ramage-White, 4, daughter of Capt. Matthew Ramage-White, 65th Air Base Wing Legal Office during a Jiu Jitsu class, June 8, 2013, Lajes Field. Sojot warmed the kids up with a series of jumps and crawls to prevent any injuries during the class. (U.S. Air Force photo by Tech. Sgt. Chenzira Mallory/released)



Master Sgt. Josiah Sojot (purple belt), 65th Communications Squadron cable antenna maintenance section chief, demonstrates an arm bar with Tech. Sgt. Adam Rozek, 65th CS NCOIC plans and programs, during a Jiu Jitsu class. Sojot, Rozek and Airman 1st Class Austin Jeanneret, 65th CS cyber systems operator, team up to teach Jiu Jitsu to kids and adults at the base fitness center. (U.S. Air Force photo by Tech. Sgt. Chenzira Mallory/released)



Stephen McCool Jr., 8, son of Tech. Sgt. Stephen McCool, 65th Communications Squadron, practices an arm bar move with Airman 1st Class Austin Jeanneret, 65th Communications Squadron cyber systems operator, during a Jiu Jitsu class. Jeanneret and his team of instructors not only demonstrated the technical aspect of the Jiu Jitsu moves, but also briefed the youth on the appropriate times to use the moves. (U.S. Air Force photo by Tech. Sgt. Chenzira Mallory/released)



LAJES ON THE WEB



Lajes Field

6-5...
in the FIGHT!

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

The 65th ABW Events Calendar is online! For a complete list of events, visit Lajes Link!

- 65th MDSS Change of Command, June 17 @ 10am - TORC Ballroom
- Single and/or Unaccompanied Members Dinner, June 17 @ 5pm - Chapel
- 729th AMS Change of Command, June 19 @ 10am - Building 709
- Dorm Resident's Free Lunch, June 19 @ 11:30am - Chapel
- 65th CS Change of Command, June 20 @ 10am - Warrior Park (behind TORC)
- ALS Class 13-C Graduation, June 20 @ 6pm - TORC Ballroom
- 5K Color Run, June 21 @ 7:15am - Chace Fitness Center
- Community Theatre - "Moving Forward" A Chapel-sponsored play, June 22, @ 4pm - CAC



Lajes Field, Azores

www.facebook.com/65abw.lajes

'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?

We post these photos on Flickr so Airmen, civilians and family can access them 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

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, June 15: 6:30 p.m. Doze Ribeiras
Saturday, June 15: 6:30 p.m. Canada do Parado, Feteira
Saturday, June 22: 6:30 p.m. Arena bullfight in Angra bullring

ASK ED

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

By Eduardo Lima, Community Relations Advisor



Know the meaning of the different colored flags flying at the beaches and swimming areas around the island

The different colored flags displayed at the beaches and swimming areas around the island indicate the swimming or wading conditions in those areas, namely a variety of hazards including strong waves or the presence of jellyfish in the water.

Green flags mean ocean conditions are favorable for wading and swimming and it's okay to do so. A yellow flag means that it's dangerous to swim, but it's still okay to wade, and the red flag means it's dangerous to wade or swim. A checkered flag indicates there are no lifeguards temporarily. During exceptional and emergency situations a checkered flag may also fly in conjunction with other flags. This indicates that you may swim at your own risk, but is not advisable.

In addition, some areas like Praia beach only have watchmen, who are not necessarily qualified as lifeguards. Some of them are hired only to watch over beach activities and to make sure users comply with the rules.

The following is a list of swimming areas on Terceira Island that can be enjoyed by residents and visitors:

- Praia Beach is the only sandy strip on the island and is located about five minutes from base.
- Porto Martins offers a natural swimming hole with a small sandy

area that can be used by children.

- Salgueiros is another nice setting for swimming, as well as picnics and camping. It is located about 5 minutes further on the same road as Porto Martins.

- Salga Bay, the location of the famous battle that opposed the locals against the Spanish armada 1562, also features a small natural swimming hole and a camping site nearby.

- Silveira is another well-known swimming area located on the west side of Mount Brazil in Angra.

- Negrito, a pleasant swimming area located next to the remains of an old 16th century fort in São Mateus.

- Cinco Ribeiras has a small sunbathing area located about five minutes past Negrito.

- Biscoitos is another highly popular swimming hole located about 30 minutes northwest of the base. It features unusual volcanic formations resulting from ancient eruptions and a large natural swimming hole, ideal for children.

- Quatro Ribeiras and Vila Nova swimming areas are each located in their respective towns and both are very peaceful and pleasant locations.