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Lajes Field, Azores, Portugal

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

FY 2013



1166
SORTIES

11,542
LODGED



6,62 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 prove readiness during major accident exercise



65th Civil Engineer Squadron firefighters extinguish an aircraft fire during a major accident response exercise Aug. 23, 2013, at Lajes Field, Azores. The exercise tested the ability of the U.S. and Portuguese Air Force to respond jointly in the event of an aircraft accident. Military readiness is a 65th ABW focus area. The wing uses monthly exercises and training days to ensure that Lajes Airmen are prepared to deploy, respond to emergencies or operate in a contingency situation. (U.S. Air Force photo by Guido Melo/Released)

U.S. civilian supplies CE operations, improves quality of life

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

It's not a glamorous job, but Dan Callens' job is essential to keeping his base in the fight.

Callens is a 65th Civil Engineer Squadron material control supply technician, and is in charge of ensuring all materials are procured so that civil engineers can sustain Lajes Field's mission. Overall, Callens is in charge of ordering supplies for approximately 800 base facilities, as well as approximately 10,000 items valued at \$1.3 million.

A retired Air Force master sergeant with 24 years of supply experience, Callens once served in the same position at Lajes as a technical sergeant from 2005 to 2008. Now a civil servant, Callens understands and takes much pride in his mission essential job.

"I enjoy the satisfaction of getting materials to help the wing and helping the base continue to operate on a normal basis," he said. "Being on a small island, sometimes it's hard to get certain items, so for us to be able to work with

vendors in the states, as well as vendors locally to obtain those items, and to ensure that the craftsmen of all the CE shops are able to do their jobs is very rewarding and satisfying."

A backbone of CE operations according to unit leadership, Callens is responsible for procuring all supplies to meet CE operational needs, be it lumber, air conditioners, sheet metal, concrete, nails or screws; essentially anything that keeps the base functioning from a CE standpoint.

"We support the (civil engineer squadron) with whatever they need to accomplish the job or fix whatever is broken," said Callens. "We make sure things get ordered. The CE planners create a work order, then we do the research and make orders from our prime vendor or from the local economy."

Callens assumed his current position in September 2012. He was charged with accomplishing the material control mission after the staff sergeant previously in charge of the program deployed.

For more on "U.S. civilian" see page 4





Bridging the generational gap

By Master Sgt. Diane M. Strohm
65th Medical Operations Squadron

Have you ever noticed the age difference in your work centers? Today, four generations are working side-by-side in the workplace. People are living longer and working longer; often well into their retirement age. Because each generation has a separate set of values and beliefs, these differences in generations can be detrimental to interpersonal relations in one's work place if not well understood. Generational differences can affect how people communicate, leading to misunderstandings. Similarly, generational differences sometimes lead to high employee turnover and difficulty in achieving employee commitment. In order to close these generational gaps, we need to understand the perspectives, motivations and attitudes of each generation. The generations found in today's workforce include: Traditionalists, Baby Boomers, Generation X and Generation Y.



The Traditionalists, also known as the Veterans, were born between 1927 and 1945. In the workplace, Traditionalists are generally hardworking, loyal and cherish their jobs. Many have only worked for one employer their entire adult life. They are great team players and get along well with others. Traditionalists are less tech savvy and prefer face to face interaction to emails and technological gadgets. And they don't mind long lectures and their meetings are usually video conference and web-based free. They want to make a lasting impression on or contribution to their employer. Remember, some of these traditionalists may have served in two world wars and survived the Great Depression. They know what it means to work hard.

Baby Boomers, born between 1946 and 1964, have well-established careers and hold positions of power and authority. Baby Boomers equate salaries and long hours with success and commitment. They value face time at the office, and are not big on work flexibility or work/life trends. To motivate this generation, give them high levels of responsibility, perks, praise and challenges. Baby Boomers are constantly thinking about where they have been and where

they want to go. Baby Boomers want more balance in life, as many of them experience single parent households, growing kids, aging parents and retirement.

Born between 1965 and 1980 are the people known as Generation X. They place a higher premium on family time and value a work/life balance than do Traditionalists or Baby Boomers. They prefer flexible work schedules and work-from-home options. They thrive on diversity, challenge, responsibility and creative input. They value freedom and autonomy and will achieve their goals if left to work alone. They dislike meetings and don't require face time. Generation X believes in building a repertoire, skills or experiences that they can take with them onto the next job opportunity. They want career security, not job security.

Generation Y, also known as the Millennial, are in their 20s and just entering the work force. This generation is highly tech savvy, unlike our Traditionalists and is smart, creative, optimistic and achievement-oriented. They seek out supervisors and mentors who are highly engaged in their professional development. They are excellent multi-taskers and prefer electronic communication over face to face. Like the Generation X, they too demand a balance between work/life. Try to impose structure and stability to cultivate a team-oriented environment with this generation. Immediate feedback, praise, frequent communication and reassurance will help keep this generation motivated.

Balance seems to be a commonality in all four generations but balance is perceived differently among each generation. As a commander, flight chief or NCOIC, ask yourself what motivates your organization and what level of balance individuals need to succeed. Knowing how to communicate with different generations can eliminate misunderstandings in the workplace.

Master Sgt. Diane Strohm is the Lajes Field functional manager for medical technicians. Strohm is studying human relations while pursuing a master's degree and has studied generational gaps and how they affect the workplace.



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



The 65th Air Base Wing Public Affairs staff prepares all editorial content in the Crossroads.

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Lajes Field news, information going all-digital

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

Beginning Sept. 30, the 65th Air Base Wing Public Affairs office will suspend printing of the wing's newsletter, the Crossroads, in favor of all-digital news and information platforms for the wing.

Lajes' PA office will adopt all-digital operations, with the base's public website, Lajes Link, www.lajes.af.mil, becoming the messaging, news and information focal point.

The move is a cost-saving measure resulting from budgetary constraints across the Air Force, said Capt. Mark Graff, 65th ABW Public Affairs chief. Suspending printing of the Crossroads will save the wing approximately \$25,000 annually.

"As the Air Force operates amid fiscal challenges and budgetary constraints, Airmen are looking for cost-saving measures in all areas," Graff said. "We remain fully committed to meeting our mandate in informing the public and base community about Lajes Field operations. Fortunately, this change is a win-win for everyone; we're cutting costs, yet still informing our audiences."

Declining Crossroads readership numbers also led to the change in wing PA operations. Lajes officials studied readership patterns and tracked the amount of left-over copies weekly since November 2012. On average, 35 percent of the 650 Crossroads printed each week went untouched and subsequently, were recycled.

Aiming for increased readership, the PA office re-designed some Crossroads elements and altered delivery routes. However, attempts to stimulate readership yielded similar results.

The downturn in newsletter readership may be a sign of the times, Graff noted, saying that many civilian print publications have faced similar challenges recently.

"Our statistics reinforced the hard-truth that many reputable print publications have discovered in recent years: audiences are increasingly turning to the internet for news and information," he said, mentioning a notable example, Newsweek magazine, which adopted all-digital operations this year.

"When you combine that fact with our mandate to remain effective and efficient with information, it's clear that the wing should focus its energy towards online content."

Though typically used to communicate with external audiences, increasing audience convergence make Air Force websites a valuable tool to reach Lajes Field personnel and their families, Graff said.

A robust social media presence on Facebook, YouTube and Flickr will continue bolstering the wing's communication with internal audiences as well.

"The Air Force continues to leverage social media at all levels because it's so effective," Graff said. "Social media affords the wing the ability to release information quickly, inform thousands of people at once and, most importantly, interact with our audience, which makes make the information actionable."

Continued partnership between the PA office, American Forces Network-Lajes and 65th Force Support Squadron Marketing will ensure the local audience remains informed.

"Our 'Info Team' partnership is so strong here, which is great for the Lajes Airman," the captain said, referring to the three communication functions. "A lot of credit goes to AFN and Marketing for their efforts in supporting our PA programs."

Ultimately, the move to all-digital PA operations is a change in method, not mission.

"PA remains an essential element of military operations at Lajes Field," Graff said. "What we will communicate will remain the same; how we communicate is being modified."

The Crossroads is the third English-language newsletter in Lajes Field's history, said Manny Martins, 65th ABW PA graphic designer.

Originally published in 1959, the Crossroads' first edition was printed on July 1. Crossroads was preceded by The Diplomat, an American



The first edition of the Crossroads newsletter was printed on July 1, 1959. At its inception, the Crossroads was the third English-language newspaper in the Azores. The previous American newspaper at Lajes Field was The Diplomat, which was preceded by a British newspaper, the Atlantic Echo. The final edition of the Crossroads will be published on Sept. 27, 2013, after which production of the newsletter will cease. All news and information published by the 65th Air Base Wing Public Affairs Office will be released internet and social media. The base's public website, www.lajes.af.mil, will become the focal point for all base news and information. (U.S. Air Force file photo)

newspaper, and the Atlantic Echo, a British newspaper.

Atlantic Echo was the first English-language newsletter in Portugal and was created during the Royal Air Force's tenure at Lajes Field from 1943 to 1946. Atlantic Echo was sold for one escudo, a former Portuguese coin, but could not be sold to Portuguese citizens, Martins said.

Both the Crossroads and The Diplomat were printed by the company that owns the local newspaper Diario Insular.

"We're proud of the heritage of Lajes Field public affairs and news operations. However, with the changing times, we must adapt to what audiences want and need as far as information goes," said Graff. "The decision to go away from a newspaper-based operation to all-digital operation was calculated and viewed from many angles. It was a tough decision, but one that needed to be made."

For more information or for PA coverage of your mission or unit event, contact the Public Affairs office at 535-6161 or 65abw.pa@us.af.mil, or visit the Public Affairs page on Lajes Link at <http://www.lajes.af.mil/units/publicaffairs/index.asp>.



AF leaders cite Airmen as bedrock in new core mission document

Air Force Press Services

The Air Force released a new document explaining how the service provides airpower for America - titled "Global Vigilance, Global Reach, Global Power for America."

The paper follows the January release of the Air Force's Vision, "World's Greatest Air Force - Powered by Airmen, Fueled By Innovation," which focuses on Airmen.

Building upon the vision, this paper explores the Air Force's five enduring core missions -- air and space superiority; intelligence, surveillance, and reconnaissance; rapid global mobility; global strike; and command and control -- and explains how innovative Airmen bring them together to provide Global Vigilance, Global Reach and Global Power for America.

"You're the foundation of our success," said Air Force Chief of Staff Gen. Mark A. Welsh III. "We will remain the world's greatest Air Force because you'll make sure we do, and that when challenges arise you'll figure out smarter and better ways to get the job done... you always

have and I know you always will."

Welsh introduces the document and emphasizes that the core missions of the Air Force have not changed since 1947, but what has changed is how the Air Force performs these missions.

"We now fly faster, farther, and higher than ever before using aircraft and spacecraft that no one could have imagined at the time of our Service's creation," he said.

But the effectiveness of these core missions comes directly from the power of Airmen.

"You do them better than anybody in the history of warfare," Welsh said. "Thank you for who you are, thank you for what you do, and thank you for how well you do it."

Welsh ends his message with a call to Airmen to find themselves in the text, "This document is intended to tell you about what your Air Force does, but more importantly it's "intended to let you see where you fit in it -- an incredibly critical role that you play."

To find out more about the document and how to tell your story, check out: <http://www.af.mil/airpower4america>.

AF announces PT test enhancements to start Oct. 1

Staff Sgt. David Salinitri
Secretary of the Air Force Public Affairs

Air Force senior leadership announced enhancements to the Air Force's Physical Fitness Assessment program, to be implemented Oct. 1.

In a letter to Airmen Aug. 20, Air Force Chief of Staff Gen. Mark A. Welsh III explained the results of the comprehensive review, highlighting the strength of the program and the need for slight improvements.

"We have a tremendous program that has fundamentally changed the Air Force's overall fitness level over the past few years," Welsh said. "The PFT itself is not going to change. But even the best program can be improved upon, so we are making changes in four different areas to enhance the overall program."

Of the changes coming Oct. 1, the most significant is to the abdominal circumference portion of the test. The AC assesses an Airman's body composition.

Since the Air Force implemented the newest fitness program guidelines in October 2010, only .03 percent of Airmen have failed the AC portion of the test and passed the other three components with a composite score of 75 or higher.

"In the future, if an Airman fails the AC portion of the test, and passes

each of the other three components, we'll measure that Airman using the Body Mass Index taping guidance in DoD instructions," Welsh said. "If the Airman meets the DoD BMI standard, they pass the PFT."

Because AC measurement is integrated into the testing procedure, the Air Force is currently the only branch of the Department of Defense not required to have a separate weight management program.

The other program modifications include realigning the fitness appeal process back to wing commanders, adjusting passing standards for Airmen who can only test on one component of assessment, and changing and simplifying the walk test.

In addition to these efforts, senior leaders are reviewing how fitness performance is documented on performance reports as part of a larger effort to examine the performance report itself. Those results are expected in the near future.

Though senior leaders are looking to improve the current fitness program, Welsh said he is proud of the Air Force program, and the physically fit culture

it has helped to cultivate.

"I believe we have DoD's best designed, best run fitness program, and as a result, we have a force ready for any mission our nation asks us to execute," he said. "I'm extremely proud of how far we've come with our fitness culture."



Air Force senior leadership announced enhancements to the Air Force's Physical Fitness Assessment program, to be implemented Oct. 1, 2013. (U.S. Air Force photo illustration reformatted and cropped by Staff Sgt. Luis Loza Gutierrez)

"U.S. civilian" from page 1

"Dan has stepped up and taken over the 65th CES warehousing operations," said Stephen Day, 65th Civil Engineer Squadron deputy commander. "This is extremely important for us. The warehousing function manages all the parts, or bench stock, essential to maintaining the facilities and infrastructure here. Considering the challenges we have had with funding this year, he has been real silent hero in the CES."

Now, Callens is currently training a new assistant, Staff Sgt. Adam Culver. Culver, who's new to the supply technician duties, is actually a heat, ventilation and air conditioning craftsman.

"If Dan didn't do what he does, the base would fall apart because there would be no materials, no tools and stuff would break," said Culver. "He's

very important to us being able to get things done, fixed and upgraded."

To accomplish his mission, Callens works closely with the local national workforce in his unit.

"Most of the local nationals here have been doing this job for roughly 29 years," he said of the six Portuguese civilians in his unit. "Americans rotate in and out, but they stay here. They're a very important part of our operation, especially for the purpose of job continuity."

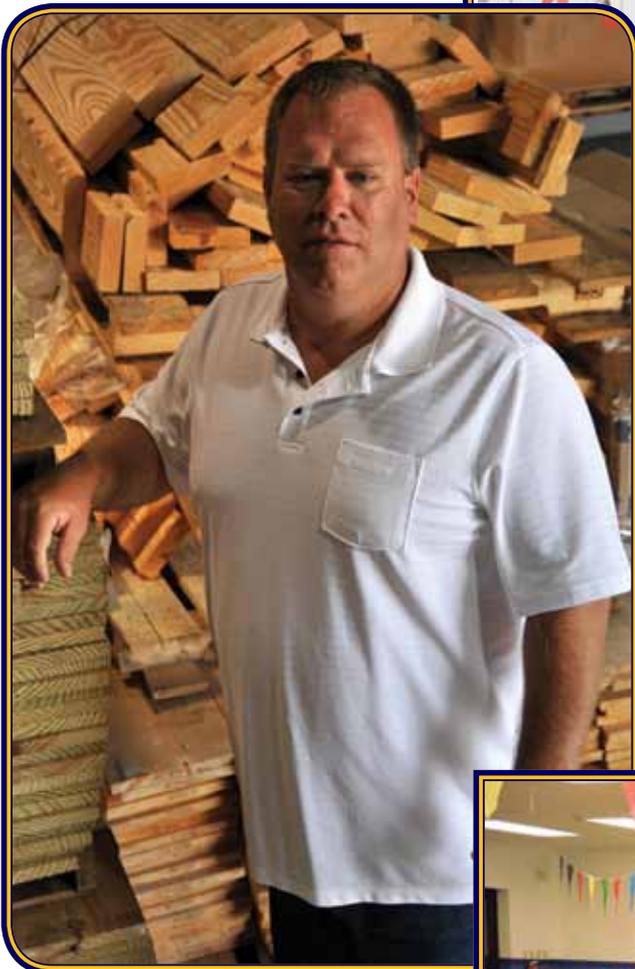
Despite the indiscreet, behind-the-scenes nature of Callens' job, his impact is felt across the base, Culver said.

"If materials weren't scheduled to come in on time, then the jobs wouldn't get done and things wouldn't be fixed," Culver said. "Quality of life here is upgraded because of what he does. It's pretty important."



Around Lajes Field

Airmen from the 65th Air Base Wing and Portuguese Air Force load a mock victim into an ambulance during a major accident response exercise Aug. 23, 2013, at Lajes Field, Azores. The exercise tested the ability of the U.S. and Portuguese Air Force to respond jointly in the event of an aircraft accident. For more photos from this exercise, visit Lajes Link, www.lajes.af.mil. (U.S. Air Force photo by Guido Melo/Released)



Dan Callens is a 65th Civil Engineer Squadron Material Control supply technician, and is in charge of ensuring all materials are procured so that civil engineers can sustain Lajes Field's mission. For more photos from this story, visit Lajes Link, www.lajes.af.mil. (U.S. Air Force photo by Staff Sgt. Angelique N. Smythe)



Col. John Oliver, 65th Mission Support Group commander, talks with Lajes Elementary-High School faculty during a back-to-school breakfast Aug. 22, 2013, at Lajes Field, Azores. The school hosted a breakfast to introduce new teachers and welcome back personnel before the school year starts. For more photos from this event, visit Lajes Link, www.lajes.af.mil. (U.S. Air Force photo by Guido Melo/Released)

LAJES ON THE WEB



Lajes Field

6-5...
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"Lajes Link" - www.lajes.af.mil

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

- USAFE Family Day, August 30
- US Holiday, Labor Day, September 2
- First day of DoDDS school year, Kindergarten, September 4
- 65th Air Base Wing Unit Effectiveness Inspection, September 5 - 9, Basewide
- 65th Air Base Wing Training Day, September 10, Basewide (Some facilities closed - Medical Group)
- 9/11 Wing Formation Run, September 11
- Single, Unaccompanied Member Dinner, September 16, 5:30pm @ Chapel



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

<http://www.flickr.com/photos/lajesfield/collections>

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.

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, August 31: 6:00 p.m. Cabo da Praia
Wednesday, September 4: 6:00 p.m. Santa Luzia
Thursday, September 5: 6:00 p.m. Santa Luzia
Saturday, September 7: 6:00 p.m. Rua do Picão, Lajes
Sunday, September 8: 6:00 p.m. Estrada 25 de Abril

ASK ED

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

By Eduardo Lima, Community Relations Advisor



Island of Graciosa

The Island of Graciosa is approximately 31 miles northwest of Terceira and has a population of roughly 4,400 inhabitants. The island was given the nickname of Ilha Branca (White Island) due to its landscape, and that term is also evident in the names given to places such as a village called Pedras Brancas (White Stones) or Serra Branca (White Mountain).

Although small in size, Graciosa still has a lot to offer in terms of landscape, culture, festivals and food.

With a predominantly agricultural and fishing-based economy, for centuries Graciosa has traded most of its products with Terceira and other neighboring islands. Concentrating mostly on agriculture, livestock, wine and cheese production, the island has preserved its quiet, rural-island charm while supporting and participating in the progress of the Azores.

Santa Cruz is the island's most developed town and the site of most of the island's economic activity. This small, but interesting town features the Santo Cristo church, a museum, the cultural center and the Mount of Ajuda, where visitors can enjoy a beautiful view of the town.

Every year in August the town hosts the "Festival of Senhor Santo Cristo dos Milagres," a religious event that attracts people from the island, neighboring islands and emigrants from the U.S. and Canada.

Like Terceira, Graciosa has a "Town of Praia," the second most important suburb where the island's main harbor is located.



One of Graciosa's most visited and well-known attraction is "Furna do Enxofre" (Sulfur Cave), a volcanic cavern located in the middle of an inactive volcano crater and classified as a Regional Natural Monument. At the bottom of this cavern is a lake with sulfurous water where there is still volcanic activity. To reach the cavern, visitors must take a steep circular seven-story staircase and

be physically able to start the descent and ascent. After visiting the sulfur cave, visitors can walk around the crater and enjoy the beautiful scenery of the island's southwest side and the extraordinary view of the islands of Terceira, São Jorge and Pico.

The village of Carapacho located by the sea, is another site that deserves a special mention. This is where the island's campsite and thermal spa are located. This village resort is in great demand by island natives and tourists alike, especially during the summer months. The natural thermal spa offers sulfur-rich and alkaline waters, which are said to be good for rheumatism and skin conditions.

Other significant towns are Guadalupe, Luz, Pedras Brancas, Vitória, Fajã and Barro Branco. A common view in those villages is the old windmills that were used to grind wheat and corn. Graciosa has also become an attraction during the celebration of Carnival (Mardi Gras) because of its masquerade balls and parades in community centers and nightclubs.

The island is also served by the regional airline or ferryboats during the summer months.