

Crossroads

www.lajes.af.mil



Vol. 15, No. 43 • November 5, 2010

Lajes Field, Azores, Portugal

Force Protection



Current FPCON: Alpha
Threat Level: Low

"6-5...
IN THE FIGHT!"
CY 2010
(as of Nov. 1, 2010)



1,522
SORTIES

23,914
LODGED



5.82 million
gallons
FUEL ISSUED

Weekend Weather Forecast (Lajes Weather Flight)

Friday (a.m. / p.m.)

Mostly Cldy / Partly Cloudy
Wind NW 25-35 mph
High 63
Low 54



Saturday

Mostly Cloudy
Wind NW 20-30 mph
High 66
Low 57



Sunday

Mostly Cloudy
Wind NW 17 mph
High 68
Low 57



A new F-16 Fighting Falcon touches down during its transit at Lajes Field, Azores, Oct. 26, 2010. The aircraft and its crew were on their way to Pakistan to deliver the Fighting Falcon to the country's air force. During the stopover at Lajes, the aircraft and its crew were supported by the Airmen of 65th Air Base Wing. (Photo by Guido Melo)

65 ABW scores "Excellent"

By Capt. Naomi Evangelista
65th Air Base Wing Public Affairs

The 65th Air Base Wing scored an excellent on the Air Traffic System Evaluation Program (ATSEP) Inspection which took place at Lajes Field Oct 16-21.

The inspection evaluates the ability of air traffic systems, which includes base operations and weather and air traffic, to meet standards and operational requirements for both military and civilian users.

The ATSEP analyzed and evaluated Airfield Operations, Airfield Management, Civil Engineering, Air Traffic Control and Landing Systems Maintenance for safety, adequacy and compliance with regulatory guidance.

"The wing did a phenomenal job," said Senior Master Sgt. Jack Henry, 65th Operations Support Squadron chief controller of the ATC complex. "Our superb bilateral relationship with the Portuguese and enthusiastic leadership were mentioned several times."

Air Traffic Control had three evaluators who assessed air traffic systems, interviewed key personnel from wing organizations and adjacent airports, and reviewed local airfield procedures and documentation.

"The primary purpose of the ATC system is to separate aircraft to prevent collisions, to organize and expedite the flow of traffic and to provide information and other support for pilots when able," added Sergeant Henry. "Duties include but are not limited to separating aircraft to and from the airfield, issuing weather and safety alerts

and coordinating with other base and ATC agencies."

However, the air traffic system is not limited to the control tower or base operations of the 65th OSS. The 65th Communications Squadron provided Communications support in the way of connectivity to the inspectors' home station as well as logistical support.

"We provided logistical support by securing the team a comfortable workspace to conduct meetings and generate their reports," said Master Sgt. Thomas Loyd, ATC systems section chief. "We also provided the team with alternate capability means for comm access allowing them reach back capabilities," he added.

Twenty-two members of the communications squadron here provided hands-on support, and the squadron was also inspected in their radar maintenance, airfield systems maintenance and quality assurance and communications focal point areas, in which they all contributed to the overall Excellent rating for the wing.

The communications squadron had two of the four 'Outstanding Performers' namely identified by the inspection team as Senior Airmen Richard Krotchie and Johnathan Parker.

Additionally, the 65th Civil Engineer Squadron, supporting airfield maintenance, was inspected as part of the overall evaluation where they provided airfield barriers and electrical support on the airfield.

The ATSEP inspection was a team effort by the 65th ABW and was evidence of the superb services provided here at Team Lajes.



Leadership lessons from history

By Lt. Col. David Easley
65th Air Base Wing Inspector General

In a previous Crossroads article, I wrote about how Lajes warriors can learn valuable and relevant leadership lessons by studying the great military leaders and battles of previous historical conflicts such as the American Civil War.

A much more recent conflict that is both highly worthy of study for its insights into airpower, and has important direct ties to Lajes Air Base, is the Arab-Israeli conflict of 1973 often referred to as the October War.

Operation Nickel Grass, dramatically re-confirmed the value of Lajes as an instrument of strategic air power. Overall, the U.S. Air Force shipped 22,325 tons of tanks, artillery, ammunition, and supplies to Israel in C-141 and C-5 transport aircraft between October 14 and November 14. Most of that vital military cargo moved through Lajes. Over 30 aircraft per day were transiting the base. To accommodate this mission, Lajes instantly grew to house an extra 1,300 people who were billeted in improvised housing and hastily reactivated World War II barracks. Could such a dramatic surge happen again today, and are we as a Wing prepared for a similar eventuality?

Thus, the first lesson I draw from my study of the 1973 conflict is that the unique geo-strategic location of Lajes has been a key asset to American Air Power in the past, and we should

prepare ourselves as to the greatest extent possible for whatever contingency might affect the base in the future.

The reason Operation Nickel Grass spun up so rapidly was because of a series of major leadership miscalculations, the war was going badly for Israel and was threatening to expand into a larger and more dangerously widespread international conflict. The two fundamental mistakes made by Israel were that they were overconfident in their ability to detect and preemptively stop any possible surprise attack by their Egyptian and Syrian opponents and that leaders did not account for major developments in military technology that would dramatically impact the 1973 war. The lesson from the first mistake is simple: Don't be overconfident in your own abilities, and likewise, do not underestimate your opposition (or any other leadership challenge you might face).

The lesson from the second mistake can be summarized as "Don't get caught fighting the last war." In 1967, Israeli airpower had been key to their victory in the Six-Day War. Ironically (considering what would happen just six years later), in a surprise attack, Israel destroyed much of their enemies' air capability on the ground. Subsequent Israeli losses from traditional anti-aircraft artillery and existing Surface to Air Missiles (SAMs) were minimal, and Israel was able to use their air supremacy to

To read more on "Leadership", see page 6

Breakfast with Angra officials

By Capt. Naomi Evangelista
65th Air Base Wing Public Affairs

Members of the 65th Air Base Wing met with more than 30 members from the Angra Chamber of Commerce for a business breakfast to promote economic opportunities for local businesses with the base Oct. 28.

Describing the meeting as "very positive," participants on both sides were excited to strengthen the friendship and mutually beneficial relationship between the United States and Portugal's Azores Autonomous Region at Lajes.

"This meeting was a step in building the already strong partnership between the 65th Air Base Wing and the local economy and community," said Maj. Jason Whittle, 65th Contracting Squadron commander. "Representatives from the base business organizations (contracting, force support squadron, Defense Commissary Agency, the base exchange and public health) met with members of the chamber to discuss business opportunities and our business processes."

In 2009, the base had a total annual economic impact of more than 62 million Euros (\$86 million) to the local economy in the Azores, and over the past years, the wing has increased its local purchases of smaller items, such as office supplies, to more than 50 percent from local



Members of the Angra Chamber of Commerce and the 65th Air Base Wing pose for a group photo following a business breakfast to promote economic opportunities for local businesses. (Photo by Guido Melo)

businesses, with local sales increasing every year.

"Also of note, for fiscal year 2010, 79 percent of the base's contract dollars were spent locally, which includes mainland Portugal. That's the most the base has ever spent," Major Whittle said.

"The meeting was very successful, with nearly forty local business attendees and very positive feedback. Many of the base organizations have already made contacts as a result of the

To read more on "Chamber visit", see page 6

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



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 two Thursdays prior to the requested publication date. Call 535-6161 for more details.

This Air Force funded newspaper is an authorized weekly publication for members of the U.S. military services overseas.

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.

Editorial Staff

- Col. Jose Rivera
Commander, 65th Air Base Wing
- Capt. Naomi Evangelista
Chief, Public Affairs
- Staff Sgt. Olufemi Owolabi
Editor
- Mr. Eduardo Lima
Community Relations Adviser



Space-A flights at Lajes

By Maj. Robert Sweeney
65 OSS Director of Operations

The 65 ABW has worked with the 37th Airlift Squadron at Ramstein, Germany to fly a C-130J to Lajes quarterly to conduct their over-water training and also to pick up Lajes Airmen who would like to fly Space-A to Ramstein.

The first of these flights will be arriving at Lajes Friday, November 5 and heading back to Germany on November 6 (Saturday). The plan will be for the aircraft to leave Lajes to go to Germany Saturday, November 6 and return to Lajes 1 week later, on Friday, November 12.

The number of seats available right now are 30. The flight to Ramstein in a 130 is about 5 hours.

Children are allowed to fly but Ramstein needs to know how many so they can bring the appropriate number of flotation devices for children. The C-130J only has 4 child flotation devices, but they can get more if needed. If you intend to bring children on the aircraft, please let Maj. Sweeney, 65 OSS director of operations, know and he will forward the request to Ramstein.

One more reminder about children on a C-130: there is no sound proofing and it is very loud. Hearing protection will be needed.

Please be advised that these are Space-A flights and are subject to re-tasking. Operational missions/poor weather may come up that may not bring the C-130J back to Lajes on the specified date or at all. But as of right now, the plan is to pick Lajes Airmen up on November 6 and bring them back on November 12. These flights will be conducted quarterly. Look for the specifics for these flights at the AMC Terminal, on the Commander's Access Channel (CAC), and also feel free to contact Maj. Sweeney.

Also as a reminder, there is a quarterly Space-A flight to and from Mildenhall, UK. The flight date for the fourth quarter is still being worked. Small children are also allowed on these flights.

There are plenty of seats still available so if you want to sign up or have any questions, please contact Maj. Sweeney with any questions at DSN 535-4169 or Robert.Sweeney@lajes.af.mil.

Military Family Month

Courtesy of American Forces Press Service

President Barack Obama signed a proclamation designating November as Military Family Month.

Here is the text of the president's proclamation:

We owe each day of security and freedom that we enjoy to the members of our armed forces and their families. Behind our brave service men and women, there are family members and loved ones who share in their sacrifice and provide unending support.

During Military Family Month, we celebrate the exceptional contributions of our military families, and we reaffirm our commitments to these selfless individuals who exemplify the highest principles of our nation.

Across America, military families inspire us all with their courage, strength, and deep devotion to our country. They endure the challenges of multiple deployments and moves; spend holidays and life milestones apart; juggle everyday tasks while a spouse, parent, son, or daughter is in harm's way; and honor the service of their loved ones and the memory of those lost.

Just as we hold a sacred trust to the extraordinary Americans willing to lay down their lives to protect us all, we also have a national commitment to support and engage our military families. They are proud to serve our country; yet, they face unique challenges because of that service.

My administration has taken important steps to help them shoulder their sacrifice, and we are working to ensure they have the resources to care for themselves and the tools to reach their dreams. We are working to improve family resilience, enhance the educational experience of military children, and ensure military spouses have employment and advancement opportunities, despite the relocations and deployment cycles of military life. Our historic investment to build a 21st-century Department of Veterans Affairs is helping to provide our veterans with the benefits and care they have earned.

We are also standing with our servicemembers and their families

as they transition back into civilian life, providing counseling as well as job training and placement. And, through the Post-9/11 GI Bill, our veterans and their families can pursue the dream of higher education.

However, government can only do so much. While only a fraction of Americans are in military families, all of us share in the responsibility of caring for our military families and veterans, and all sectors of our society are better off when we reach out and work together to support these patriots.

By offering job opportunities and workplace flexibility, businesses and companies can benefit from the unparalleled dedication and skills of a service member or military spouse.

Through coordination with local community groups, individuals and organizations can ensure our military families have the help they need and deserve when a loved one is deployed. Even the smallest actions by neighbors and friends send a large message of profound gratitude to the families who risk everything to see us safe and free.

As America asks ever more of military families, they have a right to expect more of us -- it is our national challenge and moral obligation to uphold that promise. If we hold ourselves to the same high standard of excellence our military families live by every day, we will realize the vision of an America that supports and engages these heroes now and for decades to come.

Now, therefore, I, Barack Obama, president of the United States of America, by virtue of the authority vested in me by the Constitution and the laws of the United States, do hereby proclaim November 2010 as Military Family Month. I call on all Americans to honor military families through private actions and public service for the tremendous contributions they make in support of our service members and our nation.

In witness whereof, I have hereunto set my hand this twenty-ninth day of October, in the year of our Lord two thousand ten, and of the independence of the United States of America the two hundred and thirty-fifth.

- Barack Obama

Combined Federal Campaign progress thermometer

This thermometer is current as of Nov. 1. The Lajes Combined

Federal Campaign is still in progress. The current contribution is \$46,210.80. The 65th Air Base Wing's goal is \$80K. The last day to contribute is Dec. 4. Contact Tech. Sgt. Jeffrey Crawn at 535-3427.





WING EVENTS CALENDAR

Edited for public release

NOV 5-18

Feature

FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY
5 Goal Day	6 Pink Tie Gala (TORC) 6-10 p.m. Golf Clinic (Terceira Golf Course) 3-4:30 p.m.	7	8 Winter Olympics Blind Volleyball (Gym) 1-5 p.m.	9 Winter Olympics Blind Volleyball (Gym) 1-5 p.m. Cake Decorating Class (Arts & Crafts) 5:30-7:30 p.m.	10 Winter Olympics Blind Volleyball (Gym) 1-5 p.m. Teen Money Management (A&FRC) 4-5 p.m.	11 Veteran's Day Winter Olympics Blind Volleyball (Gym) 1-5 p.m. Veteran's Day Free Breakfast (TORC) 7-10 a.m.
12 Daddy Daughter Dance (CAC) 6-8:30 p.m.	13 National Gaming Day (CAC) 10 a.m. - 5 p.m.	14 Winter Olympics Week 3 Wallyball begins	15	16	17 Military Career Day (High School) 9 a.m. - 2 p.m. SUM Dinner (Chapel) 5-7 p.m.	18 Base Exercise Native American Heritage Month Activities (Library) 3-4 p.m.

Holiday Mailing Deadlines

If you plan to send items back to the U.S. and would like for them to arrive in time for the holidays, please follow the timeline below for mailing deadlines.

SAM PARCELS - Wednesday, 10 November 2010
PRIORITY PARCELS - Thursday, 25 November 2010
FIRST CLASS LETTERS and CARDS - Thursday, 25 November 2010

With increased mail deliveries during the holidays, the Lajes Field Post Office is looking for volunteers now through mid-January. If you would like to volunteer some of your time on Saturdays and Sundays, please stop by the Post Office or call 535-1203 to sign up.



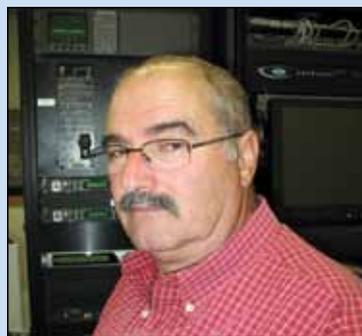
Four of the 65th Air Base Wing's Airmen completed First Term Airmen's Center course Oct. 29. From left to right, members are Chief Master Sgt. Francisco Rodriguez, FSS superintendent, Airman 1st class Jacob Kalenze, Airman Michael Baker, Airman 1st class Natasha Walker, Airman 1st class Joshua Wheeler and Master Sgt. Frances Jackson, career advisor. (Courtesy photo)

LAJES AIRMEN OF THE WEEK



Name: James Smith
Rank: Tech Sgt
Unit: AFN Lajes
Hometown: Ford Heights, Illinois
Duty Title: NCOIC, News
Accomplishments: TSgt Smith directs the production of TV news casts, news reports and command information to global, regional

and local audiences as well as editing scripts, shooting productions & conducting interviews. During a recent deployment, he led AFN-Afghanistan's 4 member radio team, aired more than 2,500 hours of live radio to more than 95K deployed warriors. Additionally, he recently oversaw the production of 94 TV news breaks, providing essential local information while promoting wing command team initiatives.



Name: Rui Costa
Rank: LGS-11
Unit: AFN Lajes
Hometown: Terra-Cha
Duty Title: Audiovisual production specialist
Accomplishments: Sr. Costa directs complex live and recorded TV programs such as news casts, news reports and commercials, as well as performing TV videography, editing, studio and field productions. He led a

team of five to preserve 20 years of AFN Lajes historical footage, ensuring Lajes Field history and legacy lives on. He used his expertise to design formal interview lighting for the TV studio, integrating the design into the automated system and saving unit 40+ man-hours annually.

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



Two U.S. KC-10 Extender aircraft fly into Lajes as part of a coronet of F-16s on their way to Pakistan. The KC-10 is an advanced tanker and cargo aircraft designed to provide increased global mobility for U.S. armed forces. (Photo by Guido Melo)



Andre Bradford, vice regional president of the Regional Government of the Azores, met with Portuguese employees from the 65th Air Base Wing at the Ramo Grande Auditorium in Praia da Vitoria Oct. 28. (Photo by Guido Melo)



Col. Jose Rivera, 65 ABW commander, and Senior Airman Dustin Haycox, 65th Civil Engineer Squadron, along with other officials, cut the ribbon to the National Test Center grand opening at the Lajes Education Center Oct. 25. (Photo by Guido Melo)



A NASA WB-57 prepares to depart Lajes Oct 29. The WB-57 is an aircraft that belongs to the NASA Johnson Space Center in Houston Texas and is used to support the high altitude research program. (Photo by Guido Melo)



Six of Team Lajes' members were promoted at the wing's monthly promotion ceremony at the TORC Oct. 29. Members from left to right are staff sergeants Luis Rivera, Brian Luft, Mark Ostasiuk Jr., Cori Rinehart, and Thomas McNally, and Senior Airman Daniel Griffith. (Photo by Guido Melo)



Staff Sgt. Jeremy Jackson, 65th Communications Squadron, receives handouts from Lerena Duarter, 65th Civil Engineering Squadron, in support of Energy Awareness Month Oct. 26. This event was one of several events in an effort to inform the Lajes community of ways Team Lajes can help conserve energy. (Photo by Guido Melo)



Mark your calendar

PINK TIE GALA: The third annual pink tie gala to fight breast cancer is Saturday, Nov. 6 at 6:30 p.m. at the TORC. If you have any questions, contact Staff Sgt. Angela Holden-Worth at 535-2325.

NATIONAL NATIVE AMERICAN HERITAGE MONTH: CDAC will be celebrating NNAHM the month of November. Contact Staff Sgt. Holden-Worth at 535-2325 for more details.

Nov. 8: Show & Tell @ the school

Nov. 10 or 17 (TBD): Native American Heritage Month SUM Dinner w/ video (1700-1900)

Nov. 18: Scheduled Reading/Activity @ Base Library for Children (1500)

Nov. 19: Healthy Cooking Class @ the HAWC: Blue Corn Mush Breakfast (0900-1000)

AIR FORCE CLIMATE SURVEY: The 2010 Air Force Climate Survey will be conducted Oct. 1 - Nov. 28, 2010. Members are encouraged to complete the survey when it is emailed to them. Contact the 65 FSS Manpower and Organization office at 535-1016 if you have any questions.

AFPC UPCOMING WEBINARS:

Nov. 18 - Retirements-101 for Officers

Dec. 9 - Navigating the vMPF to Submit a Retirement Application

Call FSS at 535-1075 for more information.

CORY SHEARWATER CAMPAIGN: The Cory Shearwater Rescue Campaign is ongoing until Nov. 15. The purpose of the campaign is to reduce the mortality of young Cory Shearwater during their first flights after leaving their nests. If you see a shearwater injured or strayed or for more information, contact Vitor Berbereia at 535-6558.

CHARITY ANGEL TREE: The Lajes Chapel is hosting the Charity Angel Tree Nov. 8. - Dec. 6 at the BX and Chapel. Interested members can choose an angel at the BX or Chapel, purchase the gift and return the bagged gift. For more details, contact the chapel at 535-4211.

FACILITIES EXCELLENCE: The Civil Engineer Squadron is proud to present the Fall 2010 Housing Facilities Excellence program. Beira Mar and Nascor do Sol residents are encouraged to stop by the Housing Self-Help store in building T-521 on Nov. 25 or 26 from 8:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m. to pick up items to help beautify your house. Please call the Housing Maintenance section at 535-6251 if you have any questions.

STATISTICS CLASS: University of Maryland University College is offering Introduction to Statistics this term on-site at Lajes! To sign up, contact Scott Erwin at 535-4187 or email serwin@europa.umuc.edu

WICO: The Women, Infants and Children Overseas program helps ensure your child's nutritional needs are met. Contact the Lajes WIC Overseas office and give your child the healthy start they deserve. Contact the Lajes WICO office at 535-1440.

COMMANDER'S ACTION LINE: The action line is your link to the commander for suggestions or as a way to work issues for which you can't find another solution. Call the Commander's action line at 535-4240 or email: 65abw.actionline@lajes.af.mil.

"Chamber visit" from page 2

meeting," said Major Whittle.

As a result of this meeting, quality of life for members of Team Lajes will improve a great deal as the base works closer with the community.

"This meeting is just one step in a larger scale push to build our relationship with our host nation. When we buy our requirements locally, we get them more quickly than if they came from the states, plus we get much better customer service so it's really a win-win situation," said the contracting commander.

The base business organizations will continue frequent and regular communication with their local counterparts to improve the partnership and strengthen the community.

"Leadership" from page 2

effectively support major ground operations. Israeli leaders thought any future conflicts would follow the same pattern. They expected continued overwhelming air supremacy, so their military planning was predicated by the idea that their airpower would be able to compensate for relative disadvantages in the numbers of tanks and artillery. They assumed they would always have a dramatic overmatch in airpower that could rapidly stop any enemy ground attacks. The actual experience of the 1973 war would prove them almost fatally wrong.

Phrase of the Week A LESSON IN PORTUGUESE



ENGLISH: At what time does the restaurant close? The restaurant closes at eleven o'clock.

PORTUGUESE: A que horas fecha o restaurante? O restaurante abre ás onze horas.

PRONUNCIATION: Ah kay orash fay-sha oo resturahrnt? Oo resturahrnt ahbre ahs own-zay orash.

At the Movies



7 p.m. Friday - Resident Evil: Afterlife (R)

Saturday - CLOSED

4 p.m. Sunday - Resident Evil: Afterlife (R)

7 p.m. Sunday - The American (R)

Movie times and schedule are subject to change.
Call 535-4100 for the latest update.

Israel leadership did not account for the dramatic advances in SAM technology in the years between 1967 and 1973. The Arab forces fielded large numbers of new Soviet-supplied missile systems, particularly the mobile SA-6, and these weapons inflicted heavy casualties on the Israeli Air Force planes which were being so heavily relied upon to blunt the ground offensive. The Israelis had been caught trying to refight 1967, instead of looking forward to the dramatically different operational realities of just 6 years later.

The Israelis, managed to eventually adapt to the new combat environment, develop effective SAM suppression tactics, and turn the tide of battle, but it was a near-run thing. It is important to remember that the error of "fighting the last war" does not have to necessarily apply to such dramatic life-and-death operational considerations as the revolution in SAM technology. ANY Lajes leader will be more effective with regards to the completion of any task or process if they ensure they do not get too tied to the past and "the way things were done last time."

The last lesson I like to think I have learned through my study of the October war can be summarized as "Encourage ALL your Airmen to think outside the box." Another reason why the Israelis almost lost the war, was because their ground defenses along the Suez Canal were rapidly pierced by just such an example of "thinking outside the box." After the Six-Day War, Israeli combat engineers along the canal had constructed a massive artificial sand barrier supported by concrete, which was relatively impervious to conventional explosives or (considering defenders would fire on engineering teams) things like bulldozers. The Israelis believed any ground attack across the canal would be sufficiently mauled to prevent, or at least significantly delay, any advance.

The solution to this dilemma was simple, but nonetheless, ingenious. An Egyptian JUNIOR officer suggested the use of small, gasoline-powered high-pressure water hoses that could be ferried across the canal in inflatable rafts to blast through the sand barrier. A combination of five such pumps made it possible to clear a sizeable passage in only two hours. The Egyptian attackers literally hosed the Israeli defenses off the map. Armored units rapidly crossed the "un-crossable" Suez Canal and advanced deep into the Sinai. Again, it was a near-run thing for the Israelis. The lesson for Lajes leaders is clear: empower all your Airmen to think of innovative ways to solve problems.

I hope this article has again demonstrated the value of Lajes warriors studying military history to improve their ability to accomplish the many varied missions under their responsibility. The specific operational details are interesting, but not as important as the general leadership lessons. As we move towards our "Rendezvous with Destiny" (MASSIVE success in the October 2011 ORI), I encourage you to continue to add the study of military history to your "Airman's Toolbox."