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LACKLAND TALESPINNER

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Leading the way

Photo by Senior Airman Lynsie Nichols

A trainee receives his dog tags from his military training instructor during a ceremony at Basic Expeditionary Airman Skills Training, here at Joint Base San Antonio-Lackland, March 6. This particular ceremony is significant because this BEAST class of 1,069 trainees consisted of the last 8.5 week and first 7.5 week BMT classes. The 7.5 week graduates will go on to be a part of the first transition week, called Capstone, in which they will cover topics such as ethical decision making, wingmanship, resiliency, respect and sexual assault prevention and response. The graduation parade scheduled for March 20th is expected to be one of the largest ceremonies yet with both of these classes scheduled to graduate.

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Women's History Month: Remembering the past, looking toward the future

By Senior Airman Matthew Lotz
Aviano Air Base, Italy 31st Fighter Wing Public Affairs

During the early 1900s, answering phone calls, maintaining records and providing minor health care were some of a few roles women who served in the military were permitted to fill. Jobs left open because men left for war gave women the opportunity to step up and volunteer on the home front.

A century later, women across the Department of Defense carry responsibilities from maintaining multi-million-dollar aircraft, leading troops through battlefields and serving in higher leadership positions.

Women's History Month honors the hard work and contributions made in the past and present.

"Those women paved the way for me to be able to serve as a U. S. Air Force firefighter," said Senior Airman Chelsea Westfall, a 31st Civil Engineer firefighter. "Because of them,
I can come to work and feel like I belong. Women are no longer seen as the outsiders."

Knowing the efforts of women in the past allow for today's women to prevail and make their own history, not defined by their gender.

"We celebrate Women's History Month to remember the struggles women went through to get the equalities we have today," said Chief Master Sgt. Dorothy Olson, the 31st Operations Group chief. "We have achieved what our ancestors worked so hard for."

Today, in the U.S. military, there aren't many jobs women cannot volunteer for.

Serving as a testament to this, John McHugh, the secretary of the Army, announced that women, for the first time, will be eligible to participate in U.S. Army Ranger School.

"Physically, there may be things that women might not be able to do," Olson said. "But technically or academically, we are the same. The Air Force offers everyone the same opportunities. That's the best part about being in the military – no one has to worry about whether or not a woman will be able to accomplish a task."

Individuals like Col. Linda McTague, the first female fighter squadron commander and Sheila Widnall, the first appointed secretary of the Air Force, have led by example and proven women can perform in non-traditional jobs.

Technical careers, equal pay and voting rights were merely dreams for women in the past, but now those dreams are constitutional rights.

"If you're a technical sergeant, you get paid as a technical sergeant. If you want to make chief master sergeant during your career, with hard work, you are eligible to make chief," Olson said.

According to the Air Force Personnel Center, more than 58,000 women serve in the Air Force. They have the opportunity to ensure the empowerment given to them is carried on to the next generation.

"In an ideal world, people wouldn't focus on our gender, rather how we can be better together," Westfall said. "We go through the same training as men. If I'm wearing a duty badge on my uniform, you should know without hesitation that I belong. We are strong women who fought to be here and we aren't going anywhere."

Our Air Force – diverse in thought, word and deed

By Gen. Darren W. McDew
Commander Air Mobility Command

The Air Force has a rich heritage built on the pillars of diversity and innovation. After African American History Month comes to a close and we look on to honor women's history this month, I'd like to reflect on the word "diversity."

Diversity is often equated to minority, but it's more than that – diversity is a reflection of what makes us unique and it fuels our Air Force and our nation.

As the Chief of Staff of the Air Force General Mark Welsh says, "Every Airman

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• JBSA-Fort Sam Houston: 466-4630
• JBSA-Lackland: 671-6397 • JBSA-Randolph: 652-7469

JBSA Sexual Assault Prevention and Response

JBSA SEXUAL ASSAULT HOTLINE • 808-SARC (7272)
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Deadline for story submissions is noon Wednesday the week prior to publication.

News in Brief

ATTENTION ALL PERSONNEL

The 59th Medical Wing Commander regrets to announce the death of Master Sgt. Sheilah Player, assigned to 59th Medical Operations Squadron, Joint Base San Antonio-Lackland, who passed away Feb. 12. To settle the estate of the deceased, Capt. Evan Smith, assigned to 59th Medical Operations Squadron, JBSA-Lackland, has been appointed as summary courts officer. Anyone having a claim for or against the estate of Player should call 292-5647 or email evan.smith.4@us.af.mil.

502ND AIR BASE WING COMMANDER'S CALLS

March 24: 10 a.m. at the Joint Base San Antonio-Fort Sam Houston Academic Support building.

March 27: 10 a.m. at the JBSA-Lackland Arnold Hall.

March 30: 1 p.m. at the JBSA-Randolph Fleenor Auditorium.

TXDOT, JBSA PARTNER ON TRAVEL OPTIONS STUDY

The Texas Department of Transportation and Joint Base San Antonio have partnered on a study of employee commute preferences to better understand regional congestion patterns. The Active Travel Demand Management Travel Options Study is sponsored by TxDOT to promote travel option programs to employers, employees and other stakeholders along the most congested corridors in the San Antonio area. The goal is to describe the benefits, both for employers and employees, of alternative scheduling such as telecommuting, flextime, compressed work weeks, and ridesharing options such as carpooling, vanpooling and using public transportation. The project team will document strategies already in place, and provide recommendations and a framework for the travel options that will work best for employees. The commuter survey portion of this study is a means of understanding individual commute patterns, such as how long it takes and how individuals go about meeting their travel needs on a daily basis. As congestion increases in the San Antonio metro area, the TxDOT and JBSA are interested in learning about what other options you might be interested in. Input from customers is the foundation of the study and will also let us know how we can better support our employees. The survey is anonymous and only takes a few minutes to provide valuable feedback. The survey link is http://tinyurl.com/JBSAcommute. Call 652-3477 or 652-5307.*(Source: 502nd Logistics Readiness Squadron)*

AF leaders seek relief from sequestration-level funding

By Staff Sgt. Torri Ingalsbe
Secretary of the Air Force Public Affairs Command Information

Secretary of the Air Force Deborah Lee James and Air Force Chief of Staff Gen. Mark A. Welsh III discussed the damaging effects of sequestration with members of the House of Representatives Committee on Appropriations' Defense Subcommittee Feb. 27.

"Your Air Force is working hard to meet the combatant commanders' most urgent needs," James said. "But a budget trajectory that results in sequestration simply will not allow us to sustain this pace. We will either break or we won't be able to execute the Defense Strategic Guidance. We cannot do it."

Sequestration-level funding will force the service to divest fleets of aircraft, to include the KC-10 Extender. Total force flying hours will be cut, as well as weapons systems sustainment, ranges, simulators and high-end training exercises like Red and Green Flags.

To avoid some of these cuts, the Air Force has proposed a fiscal year 2016 budget that is about $10 billion more than current funding levels, which will allow the Air Force to meet combatant commander requirements while investing in the service's top priorities.

"Even if we get that (additional funding), it doesn't solve every ill," James said. "There's a lot of good in our budget, but there's also hard choices."

Some of those hard choices include divesting the A-10 Thunderbolt II fleet, slowing the growth of compensation and requesting another round of Defense Base Realignments and Closures.

Photo by Scott M. Ash

Secretary of the Air Force Deborah Lee James and Air Force Chief of Staff Gen. Mark A. Welsh III testify before the House of Representatives Committee on Appropriations' Defense Subcommittee Feb. 27 in Washington, D.C. The two leaders met with the House members to discuss the Air Force's Fiscal Year 2016 President's Budget Request.

"The most pressing issue of all (is) more than half of our combat Air Force is not sufficiently ready for a high-end fight," she said.

To balance the readiness of today with the modernization of tomorrow, the Air Force's proposed budget requests an increase in end strength to 492,000 active-duty, guard and reserve Airmen. The extra dollars will also be invested in mission-critical infrastructure; intelligence, surveillance and reconnaissance; vital space programs; cyber teams; the nuclear enterprise; the KC-46 Pegasus, F-35 Lightning II and the Long-Range Strike Bomber.

"My pride in this Air Force and the Airmen who give it life hasn't changed," Welsh said. "My concern has. The capability gap that separates our Air Force from others is narrowing, and as it does the asymmetric advantage that airpower provides the United States military is shrinking."

The general explained modernization isn't an option – it must be done, and he and the secretary asked Congress to help by lifting sequestration.

"Our short-term readiness recovery will stall; our long-term infrastructure investment will remain a dream; we'll be forced to recommend dramatic fleet reductions, and modernization will be further delayed, allowing our adversaries to be able to further close that capability gap," he said. "You understand it's an ugly picture – we just want to make it clear."

The Air Force recognizes the financial strain on the U.S. government, and has cost savings throughout the proposed budget to alleviate the strain.

"We get it in the United States Air Force that we have to treat the American taxpayers' money as precious and we can't afford to waste a single dollar of it," James said. "We're working hard to make every dollar count."

The Air Force is driving steadily toward auditability, and it's taken a 20 percent reduction in funding at headquarters levels. The Airmen Powered by Innovation initiative has also turned up savings, and the Air Force is still looking for the best ideas from Airmen who do the job every day.

"We understand that we must be part of the nation's solution to the debt problem and we're ready to do that," Welsh said. "We need your help in some areas — so that we can be ready for today's fight and still be able to win in 2025 and beyond."

Both James and Welsh agree America's Airmen are what makes the Air Force what it is today and they have been performing to the highest level, but they are being spread too thin. The operations tempo, coupled with decrease to critical infrastructure that gets Airmen and units combat ready, have taken their toll on Airmen and their families.

"If sequestration remains the law of the land, it will get worse," James said. "Sequestration needs to be lifted permanently for the whole of government."

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has a story."

Today's Air Force is a product of all of your stories – your unique experiences, perspectives and ideas – and we are stronger because of it. Diversity is more important than ever, as the success of our Air Force hinges on bold leadership and innovation to overcome complex fiscal and operational realities.

When I think of leadership and diversity, I think of the Tuskegee Airmen. These Airmen embodied sacrifice, respect and a commitment to excellence, building a legacy and heritage that continues to shape our force. They have been an inspiration to me and to us all. I think of retired Gen. Benjamin O. Davis Jr., the leader of that historic group, who went on to become the first African American to be promoted to the rank of brigadier general in our Air Force.

I also think of retired Gen. Daniel "Chappie" James Jr., who was not only a Tuskegee Airman, but also a fellow mobility Airman as the vice commander of the Military Airlift Command, the precursor to AMC. He rose to become the Air Force's first African American four-star general.

You will also find bold, innovative leadership in the example set by Maj. Gen. Jeanne M. Holm, the first woman to attend Air Command and Staff School at Maxwell Air Force Base, Ala., and the first female Air Force brigadier general. She was a catalyst and pioneer who paved the way for women in our Air Force.

Today, female Airmen make up approximately 19 percent of the Air Force and we lead the way in the Department of Defense with 99 percent of our available positions open to women. From the Secretary of the Air Force Deborah Lee James, to Gen. Janet Wolfenbarger, our service's first female four-star general; to Col. Jeannie Leavitt, the first Air Force fighter pilot, Women's History Month is a time to remember the importance of valuing our Airmen for who they are and celebrating what's unique in all of us.

African American History Month and Women's History Month give us an opportunity to reflect on how far we've come.

To fully leverage the strength of our diversity, we must respect all of our fellow Airmen as members of an inclusive team, embracing all the experiences and expertise that our Airmen bring to the table. We all have a part to play in shaping the future of our Air Force, the Department of Defense and our nation.

Although barriers to inclusiveness still exist, I am confident the current and future generations of Air Force leaders – each and every one of you – will continue to find new ways to incorporate the strengths of our individual Airmen to make us a better team.

Diversity is part of our DNA. America's strength is even greater than the sum of its parts. Our best qualities as a nation shine through when we embrace different cultures, backgrounds and ways of thinking.

Our Air Force is, and will continue to be, the premier fighting force in the air, space and cyberspace – and it's because of what our Airmen bring to the mission. To all our diverse Airmen: thank you for your service. Our Air Force is great because of you.

Joint Base San Antonio-Lackland is on Instagram

Share your JBSA-Lackland photos by tagging us @JBSALackland

GLOW IN THE PARK EVENT DRAWS THOUSANDS

Photo by Terrye Heagerty

The first Glow In the Park 5K was held at Joint Base San Antonio-Fort Sam Houston Saturday, starting at the MacArthur Parade Field. More than 3,400 participants of all ages from across JBSA participated, including military students from JBSA-Lackland and the Medical Education and Training Campus at JBSA-Fort Sam Houston, as well as families with children of all ages. Participants wearing costumes and glow lights made it a festive event, which started with a pre-run party including music, zumba, dancing, limbo and hula hoop contests. A post-run party completed the event with food, costume contests, music and dancing.

Putting face on prevention training

By Tech. Sgt. Joshua Strang
Air Education and Training Command Public Affairs

The Air Force recently changed its annual suicide prevention training from a computer-based course to face-to-face training.

The new, in-person training, which went into effect Feb. 11, replaces the annual computer-based training for active-duty and Reserve Airmen, while civilians have the option to attend the face-to-face training or complete the CBT.

The goal is to have all Airmen attend face-to-face training by the end of 2015.

"The Air Force Community Action Information Board and the Air Force Learning Council directed this change in format to enhance the effectiveness of suicide prevention training," said Lt. Col. Mitzi Thomas-Lawson, Mental Health Branch Chief for Air Education and Training Command. "The desired outcome is to provide Airmen an opportunity to discuss suicide prevention concepts."

In a message located in the Suicide Prevention Training Facilitator Manual, Lt. Col. Kathleen Crimmins, Air Force Suicide Prevention program manager, explained the need for the change in training.

"Our previous computer-based training was a good way to standardize the information and make it readily available," wrote Crimmins. "But it missed an opportunity for leaders and their Airmen to address the problem on a personal level."

The new training, which is outlined in detail in the facilitator manual, is designed to provide for good discussion and give each member a chance to talk openly.

"The face-to-face training is an hour in length which includes a 24-minute vignette-based video," said Thomas-Lawson. "Discussion groups should have between eight and 20 members and should not exceed 30 participants."

Training facilitators are chosen within individual units and Crimmins' message states that commanders should choose their best mentor-leaders and supervisors to lead the small group discussions.

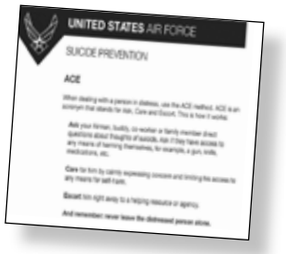
A recent training attendee here, Tech. Sgt. Katrina Rollins, medical administrator, AETC Medical Services and Training, said the facilitator-led interaction was much more beneficial for her than the CBT.

"With the CBT, you kind of just sit there and click through some slides," said Rollins. "Being part of a group discussion, seeing how everyone perceives the issues and having the facilitator bring up more discussion really changes the training for the better."

Similar to the CBT, the face-to-face training will be an annual mandatory requirement and, according to Thomas-Lawson, the goal for AETC is to have 95 percent or more active-duty Airmen trained using the new format by May 26, 2015. Once complete, training will be documented by unit training managers in the Advanced Distributed Learning Service.

All training, to include the facilitator manual and training videos, can be accessed by going to the Wingman Online website at http://wingmanonline.org.

Photo by Tech. Sgt. Joshua Strang
Maj. Jennifer Tomlinson, deputy chief, Air Education and Training Command Medical Readiness Division, serves as facilitator during the AETC Medical Services and Training Directorate annual Air Force Suicide Prevention training at Joint Base San Antonio-Randolph, Texas, March 4. The face-to-face training replaced the computer-based training which began Feb. 11.



Courtesy graphic
The ACE card is one of multiple downloadable resources available to facilitators and training attendees for the annual suicide prevention training. The card can be downloaded on the suicide prevention training website at http://wingmanonline.org

Red Flag at 40: ISR, coalition integration at its best

By Wayne Amann
25th Air Force Public Affairs

This year marks the 40th anniversary of Red Flag - the United States Air Force's premiere air-to-air combat training exercise.

For the last four decades, it's evolved and today continues to hone the skills of its participants to meet current and future real world adversarial challenges.

That evolution ramped up in 2013 when the Air Force introduced real-time intelligence, surveillance and reconnaissance for the first time, making the scenario environment at the Nevada Test and Training Range the most realistic to date.

That success set the stage for Red Flag in 2014 and another first for the then Air Force ISR Agency headquarters and 526th Intelligence Squadron team of professionals.

For the first time, coalition partners worked closely with the U.S. to plan and execute ISR. Together, they exploited raw intelligence.

Fast forward to this year's Red Flag 15-1, from Jan. 26 to Feb. 13. The newly designated 25th Air Force teamed with 526 th IS to raise the real world bar yet again.

"Big picture, this third iteration of ISR integration and support to Red Flag showcased how the 526th IS continues to drive 'first-ever' events to improve the overall exercise," said Lt. Col. Byron Birotte, 526th IS commander.

Among the coalition "firsts" were:

- Royal Australian Air Force ISR participation: The team developed a workaround through the network operations center ensuring all players received the Australian P-3C aircraft chat tool.
- Three RAAF ISR Distributed Ground System mission operation commander participants were newcomers to the exercise
- Australian ISR geospatial intelligence analysts make their exercise debut
- An Australian ISR imagery mission supervisor made an initial appearance

Plus, numerous RAF CROSSBOW elements were employed. CROSSBOW is a collaborative U. S. Air Force and United Kingdom Royal Air Force program making it easier for the two services to share information collected via ISR systems.

"This year we worked alongside our United Kingdom and Australian counterparts at an unprecedented level of ISR integration," said Maj. Gen. John Shanahan, 25th Air Force commander. "Learning from our allies and they from us is critical to the readiness of our ISR enterprise for any future crisis or contingency. As commander of 25th Air Force, I will continue to advocate for Red Flag to be the venue that uniquely trains its units be combat ready in a contested, degraded and operationally limited environment in a way they cannot do on their own."

Other ISR-related advances at this year's Red Flag featured improved datalink fusion, tactical and adversary studies element normalization and the first successful integration of advanced geospatial intelligence.

Additionally, ISR participants are now a full-fledged part of the training at Red Flag, as opposed to a Combat Air Forces-only target training audience.

"The importance of ISR integration and training at Red Flag, with respect to contested, degraded, and operationally limited environments, cannot be overstated," Birotte said. "We're not where we want to be yet, but [this year's] execution shows we've come a long way. The 526th IS is postured to support multiple Red Flag events each year now and we expect to see significant ISR integration growth going forward."

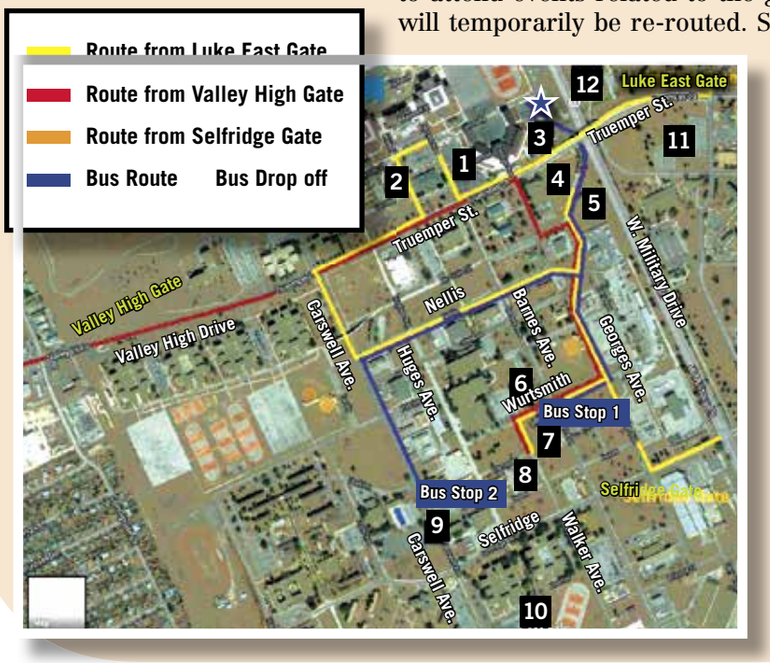
The ISR professionals from the 526th IS, Nellis Air Force Base, Nev., shared the 40th anniversary Red Flag stage with fellow Silent Warriors from the 9th Reconnaissance Wing, Beale Air Force Base, Calif., and the 55th Wing, Offutt Air Force Base, Neb., to name a few. Some showcased their skills piloting reconnaissance aircraft such as the MQ-1 Predator, RQ-4 Global Hawk, RC-135 and U-2.

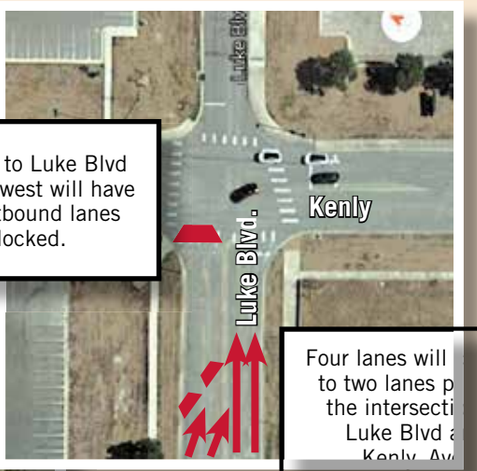
"Whether flying ISR aircraft, operating sensors, exploiting collected information, or building targeting solutions,

See RED FLAG Page 17

JBSA-LACKLAND TEMPORARY TRAFFIC RE-ROUTE FOR MARCH 19 & 20

Due to the larger-than-average number of trainees scheduled to graduate March 19 and 20 and the number of friends and family members expected to attend events related to the graduation, traffic flow will temporarily be re-routed. See maps for instruction.

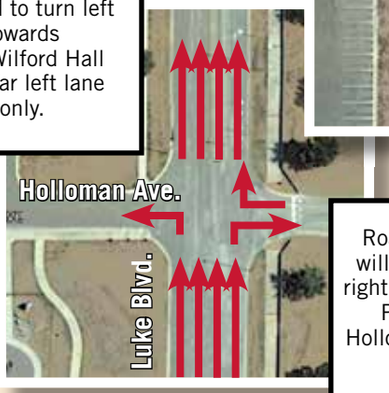




Access to Luke Blvd heading west will have two outbound lanes blocked.

Four lanes will vert to two lanes p to the intersecti f Luke Blvd a Kenly Av

Personnel will be allowed to turn left towards CDC/Wilford Hall from far left lane only.



Road to Parade Field will be allowed to turn right onto Holloman Ave. Personnel exiting Holloman onto Luke can only turn right.

JBSA Air Force Assistance Fund campaign kicks off March 23

The 2015 Air Force Assistance Fund Campaign at Joint Base San Antonio locations kicks off March 23 and will run until May 1. Air Force bases worldwide are participating in this fundraising event which raises money for four Air Force charities – Air Force Aid Society, Air Force Enlisted Village, Air Force Villages Charitable Foundation and the General and Mrs. Curtis E. LeMay Foundation.

• The Air Force Aid Society: Provides Airmen and their families worldwide with emergency financial assistance, education assistance and various base-level community enhancement programs.

• The Air Force Enlisted Village: Supports Teresa Village in Fort Walton Beach, Fla., and Bob Hope Village in Shalimar, Florida, near Eglin Air Force Base. The fund provides homes and financial assistance to retired enlisted members' widows and widowers who are 55 and older. It also supports Hawthorn House in Shalimar which provides assisted living for residents, including 24-hour nursing care.

• The Air Force Villages Charitable Foundation: Donations support independent and assisted living needs for retired officers and their spouses, widows or widowers and family members. Communities are located in San Antonio, Texas.

• The General and Mrs. Curtis E. LeMay Foundation: Provides rent and financial assistance to widows and widowers of officer and enlisted retirees in their homes and communities through financial grants of assistance. Air Force officials are using a three-campaign grouping where all Air Force bases are assigned to one of the following three six-week campaign periods New this year is an updated Air Force Assistance Fund website at http://www.afassistancefund.org which features information about all of the affiliate charities, a link to the donation forms, videos, assistance stories and FAQs.

Everyone is encouraged to check out the site and learn more about how your donations help the Air Force family. Whether active duty or retired, officer or enlisted, Air Force Assistance Fund is there for the Airmen, by the Airmen to take care of our own.

"Air Force mission partners on JBSA need to assign a unit project officer and provide the point of contact to the location specific installation project officer listed below."

Points of contact are as follows:

Joint Base San Antonio Project Officer
Master Sgt. LaTonya Parker, 808-1394

Installation Project Officers, JBSA-Fort Sam Houston
Capt. Enisa Derivisevic, 808-0169
Linda Green, 295-8516

Installation Project Officers, JBSA-Lackland
Master Sgt. Jacelyn Duvall, 925-5844
Master Sgt. Mason Wilson, 671-8272

Installation Project Officers, JBSA-Randolph
Capt. Eliot Peace, 652-7185
Master Sgt. Elmer Smith, 652-1646
(Source: Air Force Aid Society)

AFCEC assesses civil engineer positions for acquisition certification

By Jennifer Schneider
AFCEC Public Affairs

For years, acquisition has played a role in the workloads of many Air Force civil engineers. Now, through the efforts of a working group at the Air Force Civil Engineer Center at Joint Base San Antonio-Lackland, efforts are underway to formally recognize these positions with the appropriate acquisition certification, paving the way for educational training opportunities and better acquisition decisions.

"Historically, the Air Force has been underrepresented in the facility engineering acquisition career category when compared to the other services," said Suzanne Bilbrey, lead for the Air Force Facility Engineering Acquisitions Working Group and director of the AFCEC Environmental Directorate. "While Air Force civil engineers have been involved in acquisition activities for years, the positions had not been coded as such, so they did not have access to formal training and other benefits."

See AFCEC Page 15

Courts-martial, crimes and punishment in Joint Base San Antonio

The Joint Base San Antonio Judge Advocate General completed four Air Force courts-martial and one Army court-martial in the months of November and December 2014. The results of a court-martial are not final until the clemency and/or appeals process is completed.

All courts-martial are open to the public and upcoming courts-martial can be viewed at the U.S. Air Force Judge Advocate General's website at http://www.afjag.af.mil/docket/index.asp.

▶ Airman Albert Lopez, from the 802nd Security Forces Squadron at JBSA-Lackland, was tried by a summary court-martial Nov. 18, 2014. Lopez pled guilty to one charge and two specifications of being absent without leave in violation of Article 86 of the Uniform Code of Military Justice. He was sentenced to 15 days confinement, 30 days restriction to base, reduction to the grade of airman basic, forfeiture of two-thirds of pay for one month and a reprimand.

▶ Master Sgt. Russell Ware from the 802nd SFS at JBSA-Lackland was tried by a general court-martial consisting of a military judge from Nov. 17-20, 2014. Ware pled not guilty to one charge and two specifications of abusive sexual contact in violation of Article 120 of the UCMJ. Ware was found guilty of one specification of abusive sexual contact as well as a lesser included offense of assault and battery with respect to the second specification. Ware was sentenced to five months confinement, reduction to the grade of senior airman and the forfeiture of all pay and allowances.

▶ Master Sgt. Michael Squires from the 25th Air Force at JBSA-Lackland was tried by a general court-martial consisting of a military judge from Dec. 8-9, 2014. Squires was charged with one charge and one specification each of indecent recording, indecent viewing and indecent photographing in violation of Article 120c of the UCMJ. Pursuant to a pre-trial agreement, Squires was found not guilty of the offenses, but guilty of the lesser included offense of attempted indecent recording. Squires was sentenced to a bad conduct discharge, 24 months confinement and reduction to the grade of airman basic. Pursuant to the pre-trial agreement, the length of confinement cannot exceed six months.

▶ Tech. Sgt. Andrea Bell from the 322nd Training Squadron at JBSA-Lackland was tried by a special court-martial consisting of officer members from Dec. 16-18, 2014. Bell pled not guilty to one charge and two specifications of dereliction of duty for developing and conducting a personal, intimate or sexual relationship with two trainees. Bell was found not guilty of one specification and found guilty of one specification for developing and conducting a personal or sexual relationship with a trainee. He was sentenced to restriction to base for two months, hard labor without confinement for three months, reduction to the grade of staff sergeant and a reprimand.

▶ Army Staff Sgt. Victor M. Lopez of Headquarters Company, Headquarters Battalion, U.S. Army South at JBSA-Fort Sam Houston was tried by general court-martial consisting of a judge alone Nov. 21, 2014. Lopez pled guilty to three specifications of violation of Article 134 of the UCMJ for possessing and distributing child pornography and for adultery. The military judge accepted Lopez' plea. After considering all matters in aggravation and mitigation and listening to arguments by both government and defense, the military judge sentenced Lopez to 23 months confinement, reduction to E-1 and a dishonorable discharge. Lopez was subsequently transferred to a military confinement facility in San Diego, Calif., to serve the confinement portion of his sentence.

From November to December 2014, JBSA Air Force commanders administered 56 non-judicial punishment actions under Article 15 of the UCMJ.

The punishments imposed reflect the commander's determination of an appropriate punishment after considering the circumstances of the offense and the offender's record. Officers may not be reduced in rank as a punishment. A suspended punishment does not take effect unless the offender engages in additional misconduct or fails to satisfy the conditions of the suspension. The suspension period usually lasts for six months unless a lesser amount is specified.

JBSA-Fort Sam Houston (16)

The Article 15 actions include, but are not limited to:

Dereliction and damage of military property – An airman was drinking while underage with a Common Access Card with the data altered. The airman received 14 days restriction to base, seven days extra duty, a forfeiture of $100 and a reprimand.

Use of marijuana – An airman first class tested positive for marijuana and received a reduction to airman and a reprimand.

Dereliction – An airman first class visited with prior service personnel without receiving written approval and received a reduction in rank to airman and a reprimand. At the same location, an airman basic was caught drinking while underage with a prior service member without receiving written approval and received seven days restriction to base, seven days extra duty and a reprimand. Another airman at the location was caught drinking while underage and visiting members on a temporary duty assignment without receiving written approval and received a reduction to airman basic, restriction to base for seven days, seven days extra duty and a reprimand.

Dereliction and failure to go – Two airmen basic missed curfew and then one did not show up for an appointment. The airman basic who missed the meeting received 14 days restriction, seven days extra duty and a reprimand. The other airman basic received forfeiture of $357 and a reprimand.

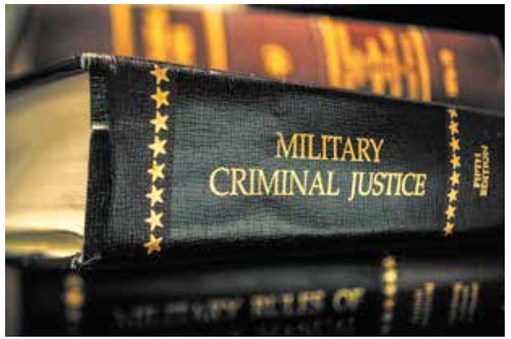
Larceny – An airman stole multiple items from the Army and Air Force Exchange Service on two different occasions and received a suspended reduction to airman basic, 14 days extra duty, forfeiture of $200 pay per month for two months and a reprimand.

Absent without leave – A technical sergeant was absent from the appointed place of duty for three days and received a suspended reduction to staff sergeant and a forfeiture of $1,547.

JBSA-Lackland (37)

The Article 15 actions include, but are not limited to:

Fraternization and dereliction – A captain engaged in an unprofessional relationship with a master sergeant. The captain received forfeitures of $1,000 pay per month for two months and a reprimand.



The master sergeant received forfeitures of $650 pay per month for two months and a reprimand.

Violation of lawful order and failure to obey – A technical sergeant failed to wear eye protection while operating a motorcycle and refused to dismount the motorcycle when ordered to do so by Security Forces personnel. The technical sergeant received a suspended reduction to staff sergeant and a reprimand.

Larceny – An airman basic was caught stealing items from AAFES and received 30 days suspended restriction to base and a suspended 30 days extra duty as well as forfeiture of $765 pay and a reprimand. Another airman basic was caught stealing from AAFES and received forfeitures of $300 pay with a second month of $300 forfeitures suspended and a reprimand.

Dereliction and false official statement – An airman basic was caught drinking while underage and lying about it and received 14 days restriction to base and extra duty, forfeiture of $330 and a reprimand.

Use of marijuana – An airman basic tested positive for marijuana and received 13 days restriction and extra duty, forfeiture of $357 and a reprimand. A senior airman tested positive for marijuana and received a reduction to airman first class, suspended forfeiture of $1,017 pay per month for two months and a reprimand.

Use of Adderall – A master sergeant tested positive for Adderall and received a reduction to technical sergeant and a reprimand.

Use of Oxycodone – A staff sergeant tested positive for oxycodone and received a suspended reduction to senior airman, forfeiture of $1,213 pay per month for two months and a reprimand.

False official statement – A staff sergeant submitted a false and forged document in an application for an award and lied about it. The staff sergeant received a reduction to senior airman, suspended forfeiture of $1,213 and a reprimand.

AWOL and false official statement – An airman left a physical training test before it was completed and falsified the remainder of the test form. The airman received a reduction to airman basic, 30 days extra duty, suspended forfeiture of $765 and a reprimand.

AWOL and drunk and disorderly – An airman basic did not show up for duty and was found drunk and disorderly in the dormitories. The airman received 45 days restriction to base and extra duty, forfeiture of $765 pay per month for two months and a reprimand.

Failure to obey – An airman first class trainee sent a military training instructor a Facebook friend request and received a reduction to airman, 20 days restriction to base and a reprimand.

Failure to obey and assault and battery – A master sergeant broke a no-contact order and unlawfully struck another person multiple times. The master sergeant received a suspended reduction to technical sergeant, forfeiture of $1,843 pay per month for two months and a reprimand.

Underage drinking and dereliction – An airman first class hid from Security Forces members who were searching for him after he was caught possessing and drinking alcohol while underage. The airman first class received a suspended reduction to airman, forfeiture of $858 and a reprimand.

Drunk on duty – A staff sergeant was drunk on duty and received a reduction to senior airman, 30 days extra duty and a reprimand.

Dereliction – A staff sergeant engaged in an unprofessional relationship with a subordinate and received a reduction to senior airman, suspended forfeitures of $1,213 pay per month for two months and a reprimand.

AWOL – An airman first class was late to duty on two separate occasions and received a reduction to airman basic and a reprimand.

Dereliction – An airman first class hid from Security Forces personnel while they were searching a dormitory room and received a suspended reduction to airman, 14 days restriction to base and extra duty and a reprimand.

Dereliction and failure to obey – An airman basic twice violated curfew and engaged in the unauthorized use of a government vehicle and received 45 days restriction to base and extra duty, forfeiture of $765 pay per month for two months and a reprimand.

Dereliction – A staff sergeant processed deployment orders with an approved date and received a suspended reduction to senior airman and a reprimand.

AWOL – A senior airman was late reporting for duty and lied about what time the duty began as well as when a briefing ended. The senior airman received a reduction to airman first class, 15 days extra duty and a reprimand.

JBSA – Randolph (3)

Incapacitation for duty – A second lieutenant was incapacitated for duty and received forced forfeitures of $500 for one month with a second month of forfeitures suspended and a reprimand.

Assault and battery – A senior airman unlawfully grabbed and slammed another person into an air mattress and received a suspended reduction to airman first class and a reprimand.

Violation of lawful order – A technical sergeant plagiarized a professional military education assignment and received a suspended reduction to staff sergeant, forfeiture of $1,547 pay per month for two months and a reprimand.

Information provided by the 502nd Air Base Wing Judge Advocate Office

Connect With Us!

JBSA-LACKLAND ON THE SOCIAL NETWORKING SCENE

Follow us on Facebook at: *Lackland-JBSA*

Go to our website at: *www.jbsa.af.mil* ***and look for social media.***

Follow us on Twitter at: *http://twitter.com/JBSALackland*

E-mail us at: *Lackland.jbsa@gmail.com*

Military medicine, Veterans Affairs ramp up sharing patients in San Antonio

Photo by Robert Shields

Vietnam veteran Stanley E. Thomas (right) works out at Brooke Army Medical Center's Center for the Intrepid with the help of physical therapy assistant Mike Okikawa. Thomas is one of a growing number of veterans being treated in Department of Defense medical facilities in San Antonio thanks to more work sharing agreements between Veterans Affairs and DOD facilities.

By Dewey Mitchell
BAMC Public Affairs

In a move that helps veterans and active-duty military patients and their families, local Veterans Affairs and military medical facilities have dramatically increased their work-share agreements over the past two years and they are seeking to add more.

Brooke Army Medical Center, the Air Force's 59th Medical Wing and the South Texas Veterans Health Care System currently have a combined 15 sharing agreements that give patients quicker access to health care by redirecting them to treatment facilities with convenient appointment slots.

Current agreements between BAMC and STVHCS cover a wide range of services, including equipment sterilization, medical services, surgical services, the Integrated Disability Evaluation System, transition services at the Center for the Intrepid, as well as ear, nose and throat surgery.

For BAMC, the most recently approved sharing agreement covers ENT surgical services, where the number of VA patients seen has increased dramatically since October 2013.

"The services provided and workload performed under these sharing agreements provides valuable wartime skill sustainment for Department of Defense medical professionals, fuels 37 graduate medical education programs and enhances access to care for VA beneficiaries while simultaneously optimizing federal funding," said Col. Evan M. Renz, BAMC commander.

Agreements cover surgical services including but not limited to general surgery, ear, nose and throat, gynecology and orthopedic surgery.

Similar agreements between the 59th MDW and STVHCS cover blood bank services, sterilization, IDES, radiation oncology, surgical supervision and medical services including, but not limited to, endoscopic ultrasound, sleep studies, dermatology laser treatments and dialysis treatments.

Patients with access to the 59th MDW's North Central Federal Clinic also benefit from the program.

"Work share agreements between the VA, BAMC and the 59th Medical Wing improve efficiency and effectiveness across a multitude of military healthcare services," said Maj. Gen. Bart Iddins, 59th Medical Wing commander.

"We are saving taxpayer dollars at a time when responsible stewardship of government resources is paramount. Appointment slots, that would otherwise remain vacant, are now filled," Iddins said. "Military medicine is focused on providing world-class, high quality, safe healthcare to our number one customer: the patient. We remain patient-centered in all we do, and work share agreements bolster this commitment."

Looking ahead, the San Antonio Military Health System, which integrates Army and Air Force health care services in the local area, is currently discussing several potential new agreements with local VA facilities.

These include expanded OB/GYN services; STVHCS is currently paying for newborn deliveries at civilian medical facilities. BAMC has the capacity to perform this work and the increased number of deliveries would be valuable for the OB/GYN residency program. With talks progressing, the organizations have agreed in principle and now must work out the details, draft the agreement and submit for approval.

Other areas being discussed for possible work-sharing include radiology services, vascular surgery, inpatient behavioral health and hyperbaric oxygen therapy.

"The South Texas Veterans Health Care System has a strong partnership with DOD and we look forward to pursuing other opportunities in the future to continue to provide the best health care possible to both VA and DOD beneficiaries," said Dr. Julianne Flynn, STVHCS chief of staff.

There are also discussions for sharing initiatives with the Texas Valley Coastal Bend Veterans Health Care System, which could potentially involve the provision of surgical and medical services to VA patients living south of San Antonio.

This VA system covers a large, mostly rural area with a shortage of civilian specialty and subspecialty providers. Talks are still in the early stages, but BAMC has agreed to take cases as space permits on a fee-for-service reimbursement method according to federal fee schedules.

Top AF senior enlisted leader testifies on AF quality of life

Photo by Scott M. Ash

Chief Master Sgt. of the Air Force James A. Cody testifies before the House's Committee on Appropriations Subcommittee on Military Construction and Veterans Affairs Feb. 25, in Washington, D.C. As part of his testimony, Cody spoke about the challenge of last year's force reductions and the impact of fiscal uncertainty on the force while facing global demands and geopolitical realities. In addition to Cody, the other witnesses were Sgt. Maj. of the Army Daniel A. Dailey, Master Chief Petty Office of the Navy Michael D. Stephens, and Sgt. Maj. of the Marine Corps Ronald Green.

By Tech. Sgt. Anthony Nelson Jr.
Secretary of the Air Force Public Affairs Command Information

The top enlisted leaders representing each service testified about quality of life issues in the military during a hearing of the House Appropriations Committee, Subcommittee on Military Construction and Veteran's Affairs Feb. 25 in Washington, D.C.

Chief Master Sgt. of the Air Force James A. Cody answered questions about current quality of life issues within the Air Force. The testimony focused on the looming possibility of sequestration and how it would affect Airmen and their families in areas such as health and wellness, benefits, infrastructure and the uncertainty of future recruiting and retention.

"We've had to let good Airmen go before their desired time," Cody said. "When I came in 30-plus years ago, when you were a good Airmen and you worked hard you had the opportunity to serve 20 years and you didn't have to worry about that. But today, there is the uncertainty in the future of their ability to serve. Today the Air Force is the smallest Air Force since our inception."

A primary priority of the Air Force leadership is to take care of its people. The active-duty component saw a substantial decrease in end strength, dropping from 327,600 at the start of fiscal year 2014 to 312,980 at the start of fiscal 2015. At the same time, global demands and geopolitical realities made it clear the need to halt further force reduction initiatives.

"The Air Force faced a significant challenge last year as we went through a period of force drawdown," Cody said. "Yet despite the stress, our Airmen continue to serve proudly. We are committed to providing the best support possible to build and maintain ready and resilient Airmen and families.

Leveraging the enlisted core with continuing education -- both military and civilian – that implores strategic thinking was another topic among the service's senior enlisted leaders.

"Every Airman is an important investment," Cody said. "These developmental opportunities provide the foundation for robust recruitment and retention and solidify our Airmen's professional capabilities. Our focused efforts produce highly skilled and highly effective Airmen who are well prepared to contribute to our nation's defense and equipped for professional life after they've served our nation."

Cody then referenced the legislation the committee provides to protect and support Airmen and their benefits given to them by the Air Force such as the Air Force Airman and Family Care Program which offers financial planning, family readiness, support for exceptional family members, transition assistance and more.

"These programs directly support resiliency and readiness of our Airmen and their families." he said.

Another quality of life topic Cody highlighted in his written statement was the Air Force's need to improve infrastructure.

"The Air Force has dormitories that do not meet quality of life standards," Cody said. "If Congress supports the President's budget request, the Air Force will be able to invest $62 million to build new dormitories around the Air Force. We must keep faith in the American people by taking care of our Airmen."

Local Briefs

FRIDAY

IAAFA's 72nd Anniversary 5K

Event begins at 7:30 a.m. at the Inter-American Air Forces Academy Circle of Flags at the corner of Carswell and Selfridge, Joint Base San Antonio-Lackland. Registration is $10 before Tuesday, $15 after. For information, call 671-0215.

Single Parent Support Group

The Single Parent Support Group is a brown bag forum to connect single parents with one another and with base and community resources. It is designed as an informal no-threat forum to discuss the issues related to being a single parent. Freedom Chapel Fellowship hall at 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Interview with Confidence

Make the first 30 seconds of an interview the key to opening employment opportunities. Class will be hosted at Arnold Hall from noon to 2 p.m.

SUNDAY

Soldiers' 5K/10K Run

Check in is at 7:30 a.m., race begins at Texas A&M-San Antonio, One University Way, San Antonio, at 8:30 a.m. Cost is $30 online and $35 day of the race. To register online, visit http://www.alamoausa.org/osr. For details, email oursoldiers-run@gmail.com or call 385-8248.

TUESDAY

General Membership Meeting

The Joint Base San Antonio- Lackland Enlisted Spouses Club will host their next general membership meeting at the Balfour Beatty Community Center. Social time begins at 6:30 p.m. and the official meeting starts at 7 p.m. For details, look up the Enlisted Spouses Club on Facebook or email lacklandesc@yahoo.com.

Get Golf Ready

Get golf ready is designed to teach everything you'll need to play golf in just a few lessons. PGA professionals will show that there are lots of ways to play by combining fun, friends and fitness. Each session will focus on the various golf skills you will use while playing. In addition to learning the basics, you will be guided onto the golf course to put your skills into action in a casual, friendly setting. No equipment is needed. This will be a five- lesson course with classes on Tuesday, Thursday, March 24, 26 and 31st from 5:30 p.m. to 7 p.m. Call Gateway Hills Pro Shop at 671-3466 to sign up. Cost is $125.

AFCEA Monthly Luncheon

The Armed Force Communications and Electronics Association Alamo chapter sponsors monthly luncheons and other networking events designed to promote the free and ethical exchange of information between the uniformed military services, government civilians and private industry – with a particular focus on the cyber, medical IT, training and intelligence, surveillance and reconnaissance career fields. Luncheon will be Tuesday at 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. at the Gateway Club. Active Military and DOD civilians eat free. To register for the event, visit https://afcea.site-ym.com/events/event_list.asp.

WEDNESDAY

Initial Key Spouse Training

Training for spouses who have volunteered and been appointed by the unit commander as a key spouse will be held at building 1249 from 8:30 a.m. to 3 p.m. To register or for more information, call 671-3722.

THURSDAY

2nd Annual San Antonio Military Hiring Fair and Veterans' Information Village

The San Antonio Military Hiring Fair and Veterans' Information Village is a multi-faceted event combining a hiring fair, support services, education and information offerings for veterans and eligible family members.

The event is at Freedom Expo Hall A, 3201 E. Houston St., San Antonio from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. For details, call 259-9867.

MARCH 20

42nd Freedom Flyer Reunion and 18th Annual POW/MIA Symposium

The Joint Base San Antonio-Randolph 560th Flying Training Squadron will host the 42nd Freedom Flyer Reunion and the 18th Annual Prisoner of War/Missing in Action Symposium, March 20. The following events will take place to honor the 195 Air Force POW throughout the fellow services held during the Vietnam War:

Wreath-laying ceremony and Missing-Man flyby - 12:15 p.m. in Washington Circle

18th Annual POW/MIA Symposium - 1:30 p.m. in the Fleenor Auditorium

MARCH 25

SY 15 Mentor Training for Local Schools

During this class, participants will find out everything they need to know about being a successful mentor. At completion of this training and requirements, mentors will be placed in a school within the local area. Class will be at building 1249 from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m.

MARCH 26

EFMP-JBSA-Lackland Workshop-Healthy Sleeping Habits, Parent Support Group

This class is developed to learn possible healthy sleep habits for the whole family to include children with special needs. Class will be held at the CAMP Facility (next door to the Fisher House) from noon to 1:30 p.m.

MARCH 27

Parenting Order Legal Clinic

Class will be from noon to 2 p.m. at the Military and Family Readiness Center (building 693) at Joint Base San Antonio-Randolph.

CHAPEL SERVICES

—PROTESTANT WORSHIP SERVICES

Freedom Chapel – Building 1528

Contemporary Service	Sun.	9:30 a.m.
Religious Education	Sun.	11:00 a.m.
Gospel Service	Sun.	12:30 p.m.
Spanish Service	Sun.	3:00 p.m.

LITURGICAL SERVICE
Airman Memorial Chapel – Building 5432
Sun. 8:00 a.m

CHURCH OF CHRIST
New BMT Reception Center – Building 6330
Sun. 7:30 a.m. (Rm. 175)

SEVENTH - DAY ADVENTIST
Gateway Chapel – Building 6300
Sat. 12:30 p.m.

CHRISTIAN SCIENCE
New BMT Reception Center – Building 6330
Sun. 7:30 a.m. (Rm. 112)

—ORTHODOX CHRISTIAN

Airmen Memorial Chapel – Building 5432
Sun. 9:30 a.m.

—WICCA

New BMT Reception Center – Building 6330
Sun. 9:00 – 11:00 (Auditorium)

Freedom Chapel – Building 1528
Wicca Open Circle 1st Tues. 6 – 7 p.m.

—REFUGE STUDENT CENTER

Building 9122 (Tech Training & TDY Students)

Wednesday	6 – 8 p.m.
Thursday	6 – 8 p.m.
Friday	6 – 11 p.m.
Saturday	12 – 9 p.m.
Sunday	11 – 5 p.m.

—JEWISH

Airmen Memorial Chapel – Building 5432

Sabbath & Kiddush	Fri.	4:30 p.m.
Religious Education	Sun.	1:30 p.m.

—ROMAN CATHOLIC

Freedom Chapel – Building 1528

Religious Education	Sun.	9:00 a.m.
Mass Sat. 5:00 p.m.	Sun.	11:00 a.m.
Reconciliation	Sat.	4:oo – 4:45 p.m.
Daily Mass	Mon., Tues. & Thur.	11:30 a.m.

Note: Reconciliation(s) may be scheduled by appointment

—ISLAMIC

Global Ministry Center – Building 7452
Jumu'ah Prayer Fri. 1:30 p.m. – 2:30 p.m.

—BUDDIST

New BMT Reception Center – Building 6330
Sun. 10 a.m. (Rm. 175)

—ECKANKAR

Gateway Chapel – Building 6300
1st, 3rd, and 5th Saturdays 12:30 p.m.

—BAHA'I

Gateway Chapel – Building 6300
1st, 3rd, and 5th Sun. 11:00 a.m.

—THE CHURCH OF JESUS CHRIST OF LATTER-DAY SAINTS

Gateway Chapel – Building 6300

Religious Education	Tues.	6:30 p.m.
LDS Institute	Thurs.	6:30 p.m.
LDS Service	Sun.	1:00 p.m.

For more details, contact Freedom Chapel - 671-4208 • Gateway Chapel - 671-2911

JBSA-LACKLAND KEY FAMILY SUPPORT RESOURCES

Air Force Aid Society	671-3722
Airman & Family Readiness Center	671-3722
Airman's Attic	671-1780
American Red Cross	844-4225
Base Post Office	671-1058
Bowling Center	671-2271
DEERS	800-538-9552
Exceptional Family Member Program	671-3722
Family Child Care	671-3376
Legal Office	671-3362
Library	671-3610
Medical Appointment Line	916-9900
MPF ID Cards	671-6006
Outdoor Recreation	925-5532
TRICARE Info	800-444-5445
Thrift Shop	671-3608

Enlisted Spouses' Club	http://www.lacklandesc.org
Force Support Squadron	http://www.lacklandfss.com
Lackland ISD	http://www.lacklandisd.net
Officers' Spouses' Club	http://www.lacklandosc.org
JBSA Public website	http://www.jbsa.af.mil
My Air Force Life	http://www.MyAirForceLife.com

BMT HONORS

Congratulations to the following 68 Airmen for being selected as honor graduates among the 682 Air Force basic military trainees who graduated today:

320th Training Squadron
–Flight 141
Avery Brennen
Denver Coblentz
Ben Erdmann
Omar Hernandez
Christopher Hughes
Zachary Mosby
Tyler Mullikin
Dominic Stewart
–Flight 142
Justin Angles
Daniel Carpenter
Joshua Green

321st Training Squadron
–Flight 145
Mason Baumgartner
Christopher Mashek
Luke Sarafian
–Flight 146
Jakela Neal
Alyssa Riehl

322nd Training Squadron
–Flight 149
Matthew Gin
Byron Hobdy
Joseph Rantz
Michael Strand
–Flight 150
Tesla Henderson
Kelly Mann
Carolyn Rehbein
Tiandra Reid
Karly Thompson

323rd Training Squadron
–Flight 139
Aysatis Harris
William Knight
Michael Ward
Louis Zupi
–Flight 140
Franklin Angel
Tucker Hensel
Afam Ishakwue
Nathaniel Monroe
Richard Montgomery
Matthew Stemper
Hayden Thomas
Andrew Vinci
Joel Williams
–Flight 143
Cody Brown
Henry Herrera
Robert Oconnell
William Soto
Lancent Warren Jr
–Flight 144
Abigail Bartleson
Heidi Bergman
Allison Weinacht
–Flight 147
Matthew Briggs
Richard Charles
Sebastian Clark
Brandon Cline
Luke Crawley
Marquise Milton
Tahjae Valentine
Christopher Vechinsky
Bradford Yeomans
–Flight 148
Steven Krashefski
Nicolas Krueger
Jeffrey Novak

331st Training Squadron
–Flight 137
James Amadio
Peter Connolly
John Dashiell III
Kale Donahoo
CK Lewis
Samuel Ness
Benjamin Page
Zachary Pennington
–Flight 138
Lauren Cromie
Tiana Gray

Top BMT Airman
Michael Strand
322 TRS, FLT 149

Most Physically Fit
–Female Airmen
Cassandra Boyle
323rd TRS, Flight 144
Kiah Wilson
321st TRS, Flight 146
Nalani Quintello
322nd TRS, Flight 150
Victoria Leznik
331st TRS, Flight 138
–Male Airmen
Justin Zeedyk
331st TRS, Flight 137
Joshua Schwarting
323rd TRS, Flight 140
Hunter East
320th TRS, Flight 141
Denver Coblentz
320th TRS, Flight 141

–Female Flights
322nd TRS, Flight 150
323rd TRS, Flight 144
331st TRS, Flight 138
321st TRS, Flight 146
–Male Flights
331st TRS, Flight 137
323rd TRS, Flight 148
320th TRS, Flight 141
323rd TRS, Flight 140
320th TRS, Flight 142
323rd TRS, Flight 143
323rd TRS, Flight 139
323rd TRS, Flight 147
322nd TRS, Flight 149
321st TRS, Flight 145

Top Academic Flights
323rd TRS, Flight 147
323rd TRS, Flight 140
331st TRS, Flight 137
323rd TRS, Flight 139
323rd TRS, Flight 143
322nd TRS, Flight 149
320th TRS, Flight 141
320th TRS, Flight 142
321st TRS, Flight 145
323rd TRS, Flight 144
331st TRS, Flight 138
323rd TRS, Flight 148
321st TRS, Flight 146
322nd TRS, Flight 150

Be Responsible!
Seat Belts Save Lives!
Buckle Up And Wear Yours!

AFCEC from Page 9

Properly coding the positions helps the Air Force meet legal and Department of Defense requirements to properly identify positions involving acquisition activities, and also provides the opportunity to use expedited hiring authority and Defense Acquisition Workforce Development Funds.

The effort has been underway since 2010, when the Air Force Facility Engineering Acquisitions Working Group, comprising specialists across AFCEC, was created and charged with developing guidelines and strategies necessary to implement the coding across the facilities engineering career field.

The diversity of the career field has made the task particularly challenging, as it includes military and civilian personnel across seven categories: facility maintenance, facility engineering, environmental, housing and dorms, real property, emergency services and management positions.

The working group pulled together to determine requirements, develop processes and get the initial request to personnel in the field, said Michael Wilson, a real estate project manager within the AFCEC Installations Directorate.

"It was astounding to see our AFCEC team, our major command and base civil engineers, and our detachments all pull together," Wilson said. "This is about providing acquisition training and ultimately more credibility to our civil engineering community - and that's something we all want to see happen."

To date, the group has coded more than 70 positions across the CE enterprise, and is currently evaluating an additional 1,600 positions.

Positions under consideration undergo several rounds of approval, including supervisors, working group members, the Air Force facilities engineering acquisition program manager, and ultimately reaching the office of the assistant secretary of the Air Force for acquisitions for final approval.

While recoding the positions takes a lot of effort, the time spent now is far outweighed by the benefits.

"Better training equals better decisions," Bilbrey said. "Better decisions lead to less time and money spent on Air Force acquisitions."

Officials outline policy, posture in Middle East

Photo by Senior Airman Matthew Bruch

A pair of U.S. Air Force F-15E Strike Eagles fly over northern Iraq Sept. 23, 2014, after conducting airstrikes against Islamic State of Iraq and the Levant targets in Syria.

By Claudette Roulo
DOD News, Defense Media Activity

Defeating the Islamic State of Iraq and the Levant terrorist organization and preventing Iran from obtaining a nuclear weapon are the top two issues that must be addressed in the U.S. Central Command area of responsibility, the undersecretary of defense for policy told Congress March 3.

Speaking to the House Armed Services Committee alongside CENTCOM commander Army Gen. Lloyd J. Austin III, Christine E. Wormuth said new realities have forced the Defense Department to take a hard look at its near and long-term goals for engagement in the Middle East.

U.S Central Command's area of responsibility is today more volatile and chaotic than ever before, Austin said, "and the stakes have never been higher."

Forces of evil thrive in the region's poorly governed areas, the general said.

"It is essential that we be present and engaged and that we cultivate strong partnerships and continue to do our part to address emerging threats and to move the region in the direction of greater stability and security," Austin added.

In Iraq and Syria, the department is working with partners for a whole-of-government effort toward degrading and ultimately defeating ISIL, Wormuth said.

"At the same time," Austin said, "we've dealt with a number of difficult challenges in Yemen, Egypt, Lebanon and in a host of other locations throughout our area of responsibility."

As part of Operation Inherent Resolve, more than 2,600 U.S. service members are in Iraq working with the government and training Iraqi forces, and more than 60 countries are participating in the global coalition against ISIL, Wormuth said.

"This is going to be a long-term campaign and we need to be patient, but we are making progress," she noted.

"This barbaric organization must be defeated, and it will be defeated," Austin said.

"Since commencing our operations in early August – just seven months ago – we've killed more than 8,500 ISIL fighters and we've destroyed hundreds of its vehicles, along with tanks and heavy weapons systems," he said.

Coalition efforts have stalled ISIL's momentum, degraded its ability to mass and maneuver forces, pressured or eliminated its leadership cells and disrupted its command and control and supply lines, Wormuth said.

"In short, we've put ISIL on the defensive," the undersecretary said.

These successes would not have been possible without local partners in the lead, Wormuth noted. In Iraq, advise-and-assist teams began partnering with local forces last summer, and earlier this year training of these forces began at four different sites, she said.

"We are also working with our coalition partners in Syria, and we are also working to build the capabilities of the moderate Syrian opposition there," the deputy undersecretary said. Training of the first class of vetted opposition elements is expected to begin later this month, she added.

"Our forces in the region are strengthening our partners' ability to fight terrorism locally, but, ultimately, it's going to be Iraq forces and Syrian fighters who will secure the gains against ISIL and inflict a lasting defeat," Wormuth said.

"The president has made clear his top priority is preventing Iran from acquiring a nuclear weapon," Wormuth said.

The department hopes that continued "P5+1" discussions will result in a "comprehensive and verifiable agreement that will ensure the peaceful nature of Iran's nuclear program," she said. The P5+1 are the five permanent members of the United Nations Security Council – the United States, Russia, China, the United Kingdom and France – plus Germany.

But, the undersecretary noted, the Defense Department's job is to remain vigilant. "And we do that by helping to underwrite negotiations with our robust posture and capabilities in the region," Wormuth said.

"As the president has said publicly, we will do whatever's necessary to prevent Iran from acquiring a nuclear weapon – including the use of military force if necessary. And we're postured to do that in the region today," she said.

The president's budget request for 2016 supports the department's strategy for the region and enables the services to continue to address the nation's most critical needs, Wormuth said.

"If sequestration returns, however, in 2016 and beyond, the department's readiness would deteriorate markedly, which would harm our ability to respond promptly and efficiently when called upon," she said.

"We are constantly responding to unforeseen contingencies and facing multiple threats from a wide range of actors that include nation states and transnational extremist groups," Austin said. "We cannot afford to constrict our ability to do so effectively by maintaining across-the-board spending cuts that severely limit our flexibility and authority to apply critical defense resources based on demand and the current security environment."

"We are clear-eyed about the fiscal constraints that we're facing, but we believe it's necessary – even in the face of those constraints – to maintain our commitment to protect our interests in the region and to combat the threats that we face there," Wormuth said.

UPCOMING

INTRAMURAL SOFTBALL LETTERS OF INTENTS

Units looking to participate in the 2015 Joint Base San Antonio-Lackland Intramural Softball season must turn in letters of intent to intramural sports director Brett Cannon before March 26. Call 671-1880 more information.

COMBAT HAPKIDO

Combat Hapkido is a modern form of martial arts adapted from traditional Korean Hapkido. Students learn to engage in numerous unique movements crucial to self defense and use effective striking from the ground to dominate an attacker. The class starts at 6 p.m. Monday and costs $60 per month. For additional information, call 671-2016.

LUNCHTIME WORKOUTS

Pack a lunchtime workout in Total Body Toning class at 11:30 a.m. Monday, Wednesday and Friday. There also is a Standup Fighters class at 11:30 a.m. Tuesday and Thursday at the Gillum Fitness Center. Total Body Toning targets strength and cardiovascular fitness. Students go a few rounds and work a combination of mixed martial arts, basic boxing, Muay Thai and ground defense boxing techniques during Standup Fighters class. The classes are free. Call 977-2353 for more information.

TRX SUSPENSION TRAINING

The Gateway Fitness Center conducts TRX suspension training at 10 a.m. Tuesday and Thursday. The training leverages gravity and the user's bodyweight to accomplish exercises that develop strength, balance, flexibility and core stability simultaneously. Call 671-1348 for additional information.

Second perfect score for Airman

By Jose T. Garza III
JBSA-Lackland Public Affairs

Friday the 13th is considered a day of bad luck in Western superstition lore.

Tech. Sgt. Julian Carlos, 837th Training Squadron instructor for the Inter-American Forces Academy, wondered if the eerie day would bring misfortune and foil his chances of earning a second perfect score on his physical training test in three years.

"Before the run, I was thinking to myself that I could twist an ankle or trip on my final lap," he recalled.

Once Carlos took off from the starting point, thoughts of possible disaster flew from his mind.

The technical sergeant earned a perfect score after running six laps at a mile and a half for a time of 9 minutes, 35 seconds and performing 51 pushups and situps each in under a minute Feb. 13. Carlos last earned a perfect score in 2013.

Carlos became inspired to work out in 2011 after comments about his waistline made him realize he needed to make a healthy lifestyle change. He lost 35 pounds in six months.

With improved health, Carlos was set on achieving a perfect score on his PT test, a goal he set for himself when he entered the Air Force in 1998.

"You don't see a lot of people score 100 in the Air Force," Carlos recalled in a story published Jan. "I wanted to prove that I could get it done and prove to myself that anything is possible. The hardest part was losing weight. Now, I feel I can do anything."

With a second perfect score in his sights, Carlos needed a slight push to accomplish his goal.

Carlos acknowledged that he was hurting during the run portion of the test, but the support of his supervisor, Master Sgt. Pablo Martinez Jr., and co-workers inspired him to push through the exercise. Martinez, IAAFA flight chief, ran the last lap with his "wingman" to motivate him to achieve his goal.

"I wasn't going to let my wingman down," the master sergeant said. "I wanted to make sure that he got that 100 and broke his time."

Carlos is grateful for the support his fellow Airmen displayed during his test. On Tuesdays and Thursdays, he and his fellow squadron mates perform physical training workouts consisting of running, flag football, yoga and calisthenics.

"Unity is important," he explained. "Their support is an example of how close we are – if one of us is struggling or falling behind, we help each other out."

To ensure he would be fresh and ready for the test, Carlos said he walked on the treadmill at the gym and around his neighborhood and watched his caloric intake one week before.

The Guatemala City native revealed that he went to Cracker Barrel after the test to celebrate his achievement, and ate three pancakes, two over easy eggs, sausage, hash browns and a side of French toast with "no regrets."

"I worked hard for it so I had to enjoy it," he said.

Warhawks soccer coaches look for experienced, dedicated players

By Jose T. Garza III
JBSA-Lackland Public Affairs

A three-year Joint Base San Antonio-Lackland Warhawks men's varsity soccer head coach is looking for "experienced, dedicated and coachable" players to join the team.

The team conducts tryouts at 5:30 p.m. Tuesdays and Thursdays at the Warhawk Field, adjacent to the Warhawk Fitness Center.

The objective of the tryouts is to field a team in preparation of the annual Defender Cup Military Varsity Tournament, which takes place during Labor Day weekend at the South Texas Area Regional Soccer Complex located in Northeast San Antonio.

"We need serious and good players at all our practices," said Spencer Spriesterbach, an 802nd Force Support Squadron evaluations program manager, who also served as head coach from 2004-2006 and 2008-2011. "Players must be committed to training hard when it comes to gearing up for the Defender Cup."

Master Sgt. Nana Saahene, a player and associate coach on the team, added that players must enter tryouts with an open mindset.

"We need to get a good team chemistry going," said Saahene, the Air Force Post Graduate Dental School Prosthodontics Flight chief. "We want people who are teachable and listen."

In 2014, the Warhawks advanced to the second round of the Defender Cup for the first time since 2011. The team suffered a 4-1 defeat to the Laughlin Air Force Base, Texas, team.

Saahene remembers injuries playing a part in their second-round defeat.

"Five of our players got hurt, so it affected us big time," he said. "If we are able to have a healthy team together then we should go far this year."

The Warhawks have a 25-man roster that competes year-round in the San Antonio Soccer Association. Saahene said he is looking for players with at least five years of experience to join the tryouts and increase competition amongst players.

He aims to take a 25-player roster into the Defender Cup.

"We need people who know how to play and their skills have to come together to form a team," Saahene explained.

The tryouts are open to individuals with a Department of Defense identification card. For more information, call Saahene at 292-7115 for more details.

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25th Air Force Airmen are taking advantage of one of our Air Force's best training opportunities," Shanahan said. "It's important to recognize that providing Airmen their 'first 10 combat missions' is as relevant today to an ISR operator as it is to a fighter or bomber pilot."