



# WINGSPREAD

JOINT BASE SAN ANTONIO-RANDOLPH

No. 31 • AUGUST 7, 2015

## Air Force sharpens its Talons

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Photo by Airman 1st Class Stormy Archer



Photo by Harold China

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## COMMENTARY

# Separated but not alone: Help is available

By Senior Airman Lauren-Taylor Levin  
366th Fighter Wing Public Affairs  
Mountain Home Air Force Base, Idaho

As the dawn broke over the mountains, I woke up to the sun peeping through my window. Once I got up, I went straight to the kitchen to make my family breakfast. Yet, in the back of my mind, all I could think about was, "How am I going to manage taking care of my children, dogs and work life."

Just the thought of knowing I'll have twice the amount of things to do at home all while balancing my military work, made my heart sink.

Growing up as a military child, I knew separation could be extremely hard and hit at any time. Looking back, I now know how alone my mother felt whenever my father went on deployments. It seems like an eternity waiting for your loved one to return home so you aren't carrying all the weight on your shoulders.

There are dozens of base agencies to make these separations easier, but I was not aware of them yet.

After three days of being with my children and trying to balance everything, I felt like the world was crashing down on me. It was as if I was a first-time mother trying to figure out if I was doing anything right and becoming completely overwhelmed. My co-workers were starting to notice a change in my attitude and how quickly I became agitated at otherwise insignificant events.

A co-worker and I decided to get together once a week to discuss everything that was on our minds. Although it was nice to vent and get some relief, it only went so far with reducing my stress.

Unfortunately, because of the hours my husband worked, I could only see him for an hour or two each day on Skype. That usually occurred after I put the children down to sleep for the night.

A week went by and I was picking up my children one afternoon when I was stopped by a staff member at the child development center.

She asked, "Is there anything going on in your household?"

I explained that my husband was currently on temporary duty and I had

*Even when you feel there's nowhere to turn for help, there's always someone who cares and can guide you in the right direction. There are other resources on base to support you in times of need, such as the Military & Family Readiness Center, key spouse groups, first shirts and mental health.*

been dealing with a lot of stress.

Shortly after my explanation, she informed me that my son wasn't acting like himself either. I was so consumed with my own problems I hadn't even noticed how my family was doing.

The caregiver said, "Your son is starting to become anti-social, not eating as much food and becoming a bully at daycare."

I felt as if I was failing as a mother and I had to get help, not only for my son, but myself as well. The only problem was, I had no idea where to start.

The caregiver gave me a pamphlet about dealing with separation and inside was a card. I called to make an appointment to talk to the counselor about how I could help my son and myself through this time of separation.

As I met with the counselor, we discussed my everyday routine. Not only did I find out I wasn't failing as a mother, but I felt some kind of comfort.

The counselor explained that regardless of a child's age, they can tell when a family member is gone or stressed. Although you may think it won't rub off on them, it does.

As we continued our conversation, he recommended I try some exercises with my children and observe how they reacted.

One exercise in particular was the 1-2-3 method, also known as the "count to stop behavior" method. If a child happens to have a tantrum or isn't listening, this is a great exercise to try.

This exercise helps a child to learn, think and take responsibility for their actions. Doing this gives the message that parental authority is non-negotiable and choices come with consequences. The consequence doesn't necessarily have to be a big thing. It can simply be redirecting your child toward doing something else, like assisting you with putting items away

or reading a book with them.

He explained the more I get involved with my children's life, the better. I should replace that sense of separation with love and care, helping to distract that feeling of loneliness.

Once we finished discussing how I could help my children, the counselor asked, "How are you handling all this?"

Just as I was starting to talk, my face turned bright red because I knew everything I was carrying on my shoulders was finally about to be lifted off of me.

I began to discuss my struggles of trying to make sure everything was the same as it was before my husband left. I was so focused on trying to make sure everything was perfect I became overwhelmed and stressed, not only myself, but my kids too.

The counselor later explained that no matter how much I want things to be the same, they weren't. All I could do was make the best of each situation. Not only that, but I should take time to help myself relax by finding a hobby to diminish the stress.

I really took what he said to heart. My son is no longer being antisocial; he's eating more and being a lot nicer. I still have to deal with his "terrible-two" moments and my 1-year-old daughter joins him sometimes, but with some redirection, they're back to normal.

Even when you feel there's nowhere to turn for help, there's always someone who cares and can guide you in the right direction. There are other resources on base to support you in times of need, such as the Military & Family Readiness Center, Key Spouse group, first shirts and mental health providers.

Whether it's a friend, family member, counselor or even just writing a journal, there are always avenues for help.

You're not alone.

## WINGSPREAD

Joint Base San Antonio-Randolph

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# Tuskegee Airman celebrates 90th birthday with 99th FTS

By Senior Airman Alexandria Slade  
Joint Base San Antonio-Randolph Public Affairs

Dr. Granville Coggs, a documented original Tuskegee Airman, celebrated his 90th birthday in the skies during a "fini" flight and ceremony with the 99th Flying Training Squadron July 30 at Joint Base San Antonio-Randolph.

"Dr. Coggs is an American hero and a pioneer," Lt. Col. Oliver Johnson, 99th FTS commander, said. "This is a huge day for the 99th FTS and 12th Flying Training Wing. We get to celebrate with Dr. Coggs, one of approximately 150 Tuskegee Airmen pilots left out of the 992 pilots originally trained in Alabama, all while showcasing our mission."

In regard to spending his 90th birthday in the air, Coggs said he had "no words for his excitement."

"I am impressed and challenged the more I associate with the 99th FTS," he said. "I am impressed that the actions of the Tuskegee Airmen during the war years are credible enough that the 99th FTS has chosen to model themselves after them."

Following his flight, Coggs was presented with 99th FTS memorabilia and had his name badge "retired" during a ceremony in his honor.

An all African-American pursuit unit of the U.S. Army Air Corps established in 1941 and based in Tuskegee, Ala., the Tuskegee Airmen included pilots, navigators, bombardiers, maintenance and support staff, instruc-

tors and others who kept the flying mission running.

After joining the Tuskegee Airmen, Coggs was trained as an aerial gunner in 1944, commissioned as a bombardier and flew a B-25 Mitchell bomber, but finished training too late to be deployed into war.

"I hope Americans remember the Tuskegee Airmen as a group of role models, that this group will inspire young people to know they can accomplish anything and overcome any obstacle," Coggs said.

Johnson said he and other members of the 99th FTS are proud to uphold that heritage.

"It is the greatest honor of my life to be part of the history and heritage of this squadron," he said. "Every time I come to work I'm humbled to know what they did to blaze a trail, overcome adversity and they refused to fail. They knew the criticism they would face and still fought to fight for their country."

Consistently athletic throughout his life and a multiple gold medalist at the Texas State Senior Games in the 400 meter run, Coggs said his "sprinting days are past."

"I regret that I'm not the physical specimen I was 10 or 20 years ago, but I'm glad I got to where I am now," he said. "I'm still doing everything I can."

For more than 30 years, Coggs worked as a diagnostic radiologist, focusing on breast cancer detection and inventing two ultrasound devices.

Coggs lives in San Antonio with his wife, Maud.



Photo by Harold China

Dr. Granville Coggs, documented original Tuskegee Airman, speaks to members of the 99th Flying Training Squadron July 30 at Joint Base San Antonio-Randolph.

# Heat-related injuries prevalent, yet easily avoided

By L.A. Shively

Joint Base San Antonio-Fort Sam Houston Public Affairs

Many people succumb to heat-related illnesses and even death due to inexperience with extreme summer temperatures and humidity or a lack of caution outdoors. Military personnel in the San Antonio area are especially vulnerable to heat-related injuries because of exposure during training or duty requirements.

“Since the start of the fiscal year we have had 5,694 heat-related injuries across Joint Base San Antonio,” said Staff Sgt. Jerome Montoya, non-commissioned officer in charge of the Environmental Health Section at Brooke Army Medical Center on JBSA-Fort Sam Houston.

A majority of the reported injuries were due to dehydration or a lack of electrolytes, Montoya said; but a plethora of other types of heat injuries such as sunburn and photokeratitis – a painful sunburn of the cornea of the eyes – were also reported that could have easily been avoided.

Montoya advised that although no heat-related deaths have been reported and the majority of injuries were a result of improper hydration or drinking alcohol, once a person has had a heat-related injury, he or she may be more susceptible to another heat injury that could lead to death.

“Once you have become a heat casualty you are deemed high risk, because not all casualties recover completely from the initial injury,” Montoya explained.

The sergeant pointed out that first heat injury may result in the body’s susceptibility to a follow-on injury especially during a repeat of the previous situation, such as inadequate hydration during training.

Adequate hydration translates to consuming both the proper amounts and types of fluids. So what is the proper intake of fluids?

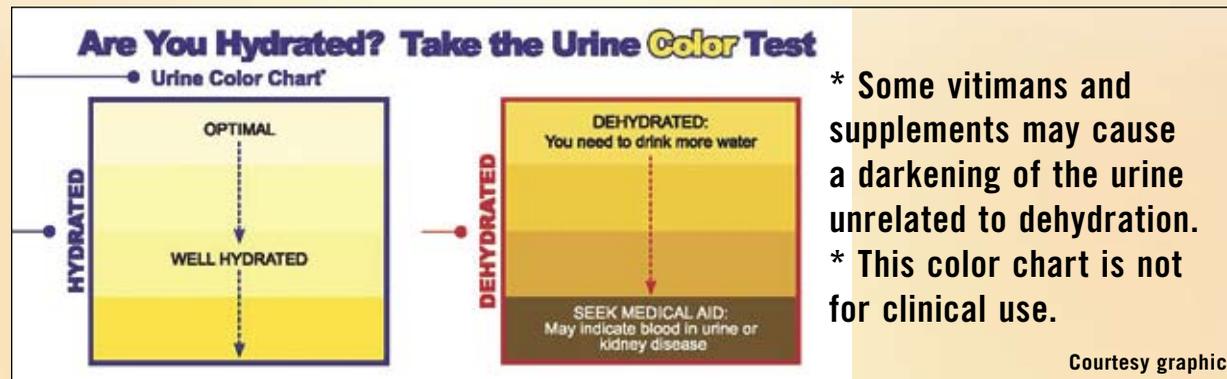
In an online article (<http://www.mayoclinic.org/healthy-lifestyle/nutrition-and-healthy-eating/in-depth/water/art-20044256>), Mayo Clinic staff say studies have produced varying recommendations over the years, but that an individual’s water needs depend on many factors including health, activity level and location.

The Institute of Medicine determined that adequate intake for an average, healthy male is roughly about 13 cups or 3 liters of fluids a day. Adequate intake for an average, healthy female is about nine cups or 2.2 liters of total fluids per day.

Total fluids includes water, sports drinks, juice, milk and soup but not sugary, caffeinated or alcoholic beverages.

“People who are more active should drink more water to sustain the amount of water they lose while sweating,” Montoya recommends. “The best way to remember the amount is the ‘8-by-8 rule’ which is drink 8 eight-ounce glasses a day, which equates to 1.9 liters.”

Drinking too much water may also be hazardous to one’s health.



- \* Some vitamins and supplements may cause a darkening of the urine unrelated to dehydration.
- \* This color chart is not for clinical use.

Hyponatremia, also known as water intoxication, is caused by the failure to maintain correct levels of sodium in the body that is lost through sweating.

The signs are similar to dehydration such as nausea, disorientation, muscle cramps and mainly occurs during competition in events lasting for several hours, Montoya explained. He said drinking sports drinks or a simple glass of salt water prevents this injury from occurring.

Alcohol should be avoided during hot weather because it alters mental status. Generally, an individual consumes alcohol to quench thirst, which lowers water intake and actually creates dehydration.

Playing sports during summer barbecues while drinking is a common scenario where heat injuries from lack of hydration occur Montoya said. He added that although caffeine and sugary drinks served at parties don’t alter mental status, they are diuretics which increase urine production ultimately reducing the amount of water in the body and should be avoided as much as possible.

Training or duty risks for military personnel outdoors are mitigated via the Wet Bulb Globe Temperature Index, a tool used to prevent heat injuries. According to the WBGT Index, 5 degrees Fahrenheit should be added to the environmental temperature if a member is wearing a rucksack or body armor and 10 degrees Fahrenheit if in Mission Oriented Protective Posture, or MOPP, 4 gear.

The WBGT Index is a heat stress indicator used to gauge the relative severity of environmental temperature on the human body by measuring humidity, wind speed or wind chill and visible and infrared radiation, or sunlight, and then compositing the information into an actual temperature experienced by personnel.

Derived from a combination of temperatures from three thermometers – wet globe for humidity, black globe for solar factor, and dry bulb for ambient levels – the WBGT is a unit set on a tripod in full sunlight.

The index consists of five color-coded categories with associated temperature information derived from the WBGT and specifies fluid intake requirements and work allowed. Flags with corresponding colors are flown to indicate current heat-work conditions.

Black is at the bottom of the index and signals hazardous working conditions.

“Most training may be restricted during black flag conditions, based on commander directives,” said Ken Talley, an industrial hygienist with the 559th Aerospace Medical Squadron/Bio-Environmental Engineering.

Talley explained that a WBGT is located at Joint Base San Antonio-Lackland Bioenvironmental Engineering and the Lackland Basic Expeditionary Airman Skills Training, or BEAST – the Airmen recruit training site on Joint Base San Antonio-Lackland.

“We record temperatures on an hourly basis and transmit the information via a call to the command post,” Talley said. “The command post sends an email notifying units of the flag condition.”

A WBGT is located at the 359th JBSA-Randolph clinic building, explained Airman 1st Class Tyler Brantley, 359th MDG bioenvironmental technician.

Brantley said that readings are taken continuously, especially during the “101 Critical Days of Summer” where 91 degrees Fahrenheit, based on the WBGT reading, occurs daily and is a black flag condition.

The 101 Critical Days of Summer traditionally begins the Memorial Day weekend and ends Labor Day weekend and supports commands’ focus on safety in hot weather.

“Each flag category has work-rest cycles and everyone has to have thermal stress training if they work outside,” Brantley said, adding that training is familiarizing personnel with the WBGT work-rest cycles and fluid intake requirements.

At JBSA-Randolph, flags are flown on the flight line and at the fitness centers as well as any place people are working outside as well as near unventilated hangars.

“You’re basically outside because those hangars can get really hot,” Brantley explained. “Some people have the black pirate flag flying – the Jolly Roger – in place of the regular black flag, it’s pretty funny.”

“JBSA-Fort Sam Houston relies on command post information for WBGT readings and flag conditions,” explained Mark

Magalski, chief of 502nd Air Base Wing Operations, “but units training downrange at JBSA-Camp Bullis are required to take their own readings.”

Safety is paramount for JBSA personnel, Montoya said, stressing that heat accidents are preventable and ensuring everyone is aware gives commanders another tool to ensure the safety of their people.

## Joint Base San Antonio-Randolph News Briefs

### **New Joint Base San Antonio website**

The Joint Base San Antonio website has a new look and easier access to resources. Visit the new site at <http://www.JBSA.mil>.

### **Air Force Military Ambassador Program accepting applications**

Two articulate, self-confident Air Force, Air Force Reserve or Air National Guard members are needed to serve as military ambassadors at community events to represent Joint Base San Antonio in 2016.

One male and one female ambassador are chosen each year to represent the Air Force at many community events and promote the military's commitment and relationship with the local community around South Texas. All E-4 to E-7 Air Force members who are 21 years old and older and assigned to Joint Base San Antonio are eligible to apply to be a military ambassador. Nomination packages will be distributed to public affairs offices across JBSA Sept. 1.

Once nominated, candidates appear before a selection board of chief master sergeants and former Air Force ambassadors. The selection panel reviews applications, conducts interviews and selects the ambassadors. Nomination

deadline is Oct. 16.

For more information, call 808-0002.

### **Westover Medical Home opens**

The Westover Medical Home on the Northwest side of San Antonio is open.

TRICARE beneficiaries who want to enroll or move to the new Westover location can visit <https://www.humanamilitary.com> or call 800-444-5445. For beneficiaries age 65 or older, call 808-2721 for more information. People are encouraged to call soon as enrollment opportunities are limited.

Beneficiaries who sign up for care at the new clinic will need to see their provider at the Joint Base San Antonio-Fort Sam Houston Clinic or the Taylor Burk Clinic at JBSA-Camp Bullis until the clinic opens. The 12,500-square-foot community-based medical home will house 13 board-certified providers with varied backgrounds and a multitude of experience to serve their patients. People will also have the benefits of on-site laboratory capabilities and a drive-through pharmacy. The address is 10010 Rogers Crossing, which is located off State Highway 151 and Westover Hills Boulevard.

# Air Force Academy cadets visit JBSA-Randolph

By David DeKunder  
Joint Base San Antonio-Randolph Public Affairs

A group of cadets from the U.S. Air Force Academy got a firsthand glance at life as commissioned officers during a visit to Joint Base San Antonio-Randolph this past June and July while on their summer break.

While here, the cadets toured several squadrons, visited with Air Force service members and had the opportunity to fly in the T-38C Talon aircraft as part of a program on Air Force careers.

“Operation Air Force” requires USAFA cadets stay at an Air Force installation for two weeks in the summer before the start of their junior year to familiarize them with typical missions and careers, said Capt. Kelly Wolter, 559th Flying Training Squadron flight commander.

“We wanted to give them a broad spectrum of careers,” Wolter said. “They are seeing the possibilities the Air Force is offering them.”

Each year, Wolter said JBSA-Randolph hosts two groups of the Operation Air Force cadets. The first group of 18 cadets stayed at the installation from June 23-July 9, while the second group of 14 cadets was on the base from July 15-29.

Wolter said the cadets toured squadrons in the 12th Operations Group, 902nd Security Forces Squadron,

**See CADETS P13**



Major Erin Shay (right) and Capt. Kelly Wolter, 559th Flying Training Squadron flight instructors, brief Air Force Academy cadets on the T-6 Texan II aircraft July 28 at Joint Base San Antonio-Randolph.

# Air Force sharpens its Talons, propels pilot training into future

By Airman 1st Class Stormy Archer  
Joint Base San Antonio-Randolph Public Affairs

A major milestone for the Pacer Classic III T-38 Talon structural modification program was celebrated during a ribbon cutting ceremony July 31 at Joint Base San Antonio-Randolph.

The Pacer Classic III program, run by Air Force Materiel Command, represents the largest single T-38 structural modification ever undertaken and involves

removing and replacing 185 structural parts and assessing the serviceability of up to an additional 155 parts on the aircraft.

These modifications will ensure the structural airworthiness of 150 T-38s and maintain the T-38 fleet viability until 2029.

"Today is a special day for Air Education Training Command, Air Force Materiel Command and the entire Air Force," Brig. Gen. Carl Buhler, Ogden Air Logistics Complex commander, said. "This team

worked tirelessly to get this first production aircraft back to operational flying status. Today we get to recognize the effort and work that started several years ago. More importantly for me is knowing that this team delivered on their commitment to the Air Force."

The program is scheduled to complete 125 aircraft with a total program cost of \$250 million, with the possibility of adding 25 additional aircraft at a cost of \$25 million.

"Without the Pacer Classic III modifications, the most severely flown T-38 aircraft would be forced to retire between now and 2023, leaving a significant aircraft availability deficit to Air Education and Training Command's pilot training," Robert Lewin, 575th Aircraft Maintenance Squadron director, said. "This double modification package will extend the service life of aircraft in the fleet for another 8,000 hours. Trainer X is slated to replace the T-38, but isn't anticipated to be fielded until 2023."

"Pilot training is something we have to do continually with in the Air Force," Buhler said. "As the life span of the T-38 has been moved to get the aircraft to the 2029 time frame, we had to accomplish this massive structural modification allowing the aircraft to sustain flight and recover from the corrosive environments that the aircraft has been in over the years."

The modifications were made by the members of the 575th AMXS, and required nearly 9,000 hours of scheduled work for every aircraft.

"Eight months ago, this squadron embarked on a journey never before seen in the life of the T-38," Lewin said. "Our task was a tall one. Take a 50-year-old aircraft, take it down to just a skeleton and rebuild it; better, stronger, safer. The men and women at the 575th AMXS are what make this possible."

The first production aircraft from the ceremony belongs to the 80th Flying Training Wing that hosts the world's only internationally manned and managed pilot training program, the Euro-NATO Joint Jet Pilot Training Program.

The T-38 is a twin-engine, high-altitude, supersonic jet trainer, first flown in 1959 with more than 11,000 aircraft delivered to the Air Force from 1961-1972.



Photo by Airman 1st Class Stormy Archer

The first completed T-38 Talon from the PACER Classic III program is unveiled July 31 at Joint Base San Antonio-Randolph. **ON THE COVER:** Brig. Gen. Carl Buhler, Ogden Air Logistics Complex commander, Hill Air Force Base, Utah, speaks during the unveiling of the first T-38 from the Pacer Classic III program July 31 at Joint Base San Antonio-Randolph.

# School starts soon – is your child fully vaccinated?

By Terri Moon Cronk  
DOD News, Defense Media Activity

School-age children, from preschoolers to college students, need vaccines. Making sure that children receive all their vaccinations on time is one of the most important things you can do as a parent to ensure your children's long-term health – as well as the health of friends, classmates and others in your community.

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention has online resources and tools to help parents and doctors make sure all kids are up to date on recommended vaccines and protected from serious diseases. Get your children to the doctor if you discover they need vaccines to protect them against serious diseases.

To keep children in schools healthy, your state may require children going to school to be vaccinated against certain diseases, such as pertussis (whooping cough). If you're unsure of your state's school requirements, now is the time to check with your child's doctor, your child's school, or your health department. That way, your child can get any needed vaccines before the back-to-school rush.

It's true that some vaccine-preventable diseases have become very rare thanks to vaccines. However, cases and outbreaks still happen.

The United States experienced a record number of measles cases during 2014, with 668 cases from 27 states reported to CDC's National Center for Immunization and Respiratory Diseases. This is the greatest number of cases since measles elimination was documented in the U.S. in 2000. From Jan. 1 to June 26, there have been 178 cases of measles and 5 outbreaks reported in the United States.

From Jan. 1 through July 10, almost 9,000 cases of whooping cough have been reported to CDC by 50 states, Washington, D.C., and Puerto Rico.

Outbreaks of whooping cough at middle and high schools can occur as protection from childhood vaccines fades. Those who are vaccinated against whooping cough but still get the disease are much more likely to have a mild illness compared to those who never received the vaccine.

Making sure your children stay up to date with vaccinations is the best way to protect your communities and schools from outbreaks that can cause unnecessary illnesses and deaths.

Getting every recommended dose of each vaccine provides children with the best protection possible.

## Vaccines for young children (newborns through 6 years old)

During the early years of life, your children need vaccines to protect them from 14 diseases that can be serious, even life-threatening.

Parents who choose not to vaccinate their children increase the risk of disease not only for their own children, but also for other children and adults throughout the entire community.

For example, vulnerable newborns too young to have received the maximum protection from the recommended doses of vaccines or people with weak-



Courtesy graphic

ened immune systems, such as some people with cancer and transplant recipients, are also at higher risk of disease.

Flu vaccines are recommended for kids in preschool and elementary school to help keep them healthy. In fact, all children 6 months and older should get flu vaccines.

Getting all of your children vaccinated – as well as other family members and caregivers – can help protect infants younger than 6 months old. Ask your family's doctor or nurse about getting flu shots or the nasal spray to protect against flu.

Parents can find out what vaccines their children need and when the doses should be given by reviewing CDC's recommended childhood immunization schedule at <http://www.cdc.gov/vaccines/schedules/easy-to-read/child.html#print>.

## Vaccines for preteens and teens (7 through 18 years old)

Preteens and teens need vaccines as well. As kids get older, they are still at risk for certain diseases. Before heading back to school, three vaccines are recommended for 11-12 year olds – Human Papillomavirus, Tdap (diphtheria, tetanus and pertussis) and meningococcal conjugate vaccine – for continued protection.

The HPV vaccine is important because it can prevent HPV infections that can cause cancer later in life.

For other diseases, like whooping cough, the protection from vaccine doses received in childhood fades over time. That's why 11–12 year-olds are also recommended to get the booster shot called Tdap to help protect them from whooping cough, tetanus, and diphtheria.

Meningococcal conjugate vaccine helps prevent two of the three most common causes of menin-

gococcal disease, which can be very serious – even life-threatening.

It's important to know that flu can be serious, even for healthy, young people. Preteens and teens are no exception. So older kids should get at least one flu vaccine (the shot or nasal spray for healthy kids) every year.

To learn more about vaccines for your preteens and teens, talk to your child's healthcare provider or visit the preteen and teen vaccine pages at <http://www.cdc.gov/vaccines/who/teens/for-parents.html>.

CDC provides a recommended immunization schedule for people ages 7 through 18 years (<http://www.cdc.gov/vaccines/schedules/easy-to-read/preteen-teen.html#print>) for parents and doctors to follow to protect preteens and teens from vaccine-preventable diseases.

If your preteens or teens haven't already gotten their vaccines, you should get them caught up as soon as possible.

Getting every recommended dose of each vaccine provides children with the best protection possible. If a child misses a shot, your child's healthcare professional can use the catch-up immunization schedule (<http://www.cdc.gov/vaccines/schedules/hcp/child-adolescent.html>) help get them back on schedule.

Keep in mind there are many opportunities to catch up on vaccines for your preteen or teen. Preteens and teens typically see their doctors or other health care professionals for physicals before participation in sports, camping events, travel, and applying to college. Beat the back to school rush and use these opportunities to get your preteen or teen vaccinated today!

More information is available at the CDC's vaccine website at <http://www.cdc.gov/vaccines/parents/index.html>.

(Source: Centers for Disease Control and Prevention)

# JBSA fuels flight keep aircraft airborne, motor vehicles moving

By Robert Goetz

Joint Base San Antonio-Randolph Public Affairs

Joint Base San Antonio's airfields hum with activity on a daily basis, supporting JBSA-Randolph's flying training mission and an array of aircraft at JBSA-Lackland, from transports such as the C-5 and C-17 to fighters and commercial airliners.

Such a bustling operation requires huge amounts of fuel and a well-coordinated effort to ensure the installation's aircraft – as well as its motor vehicles and visiting aircraft – are supplied with all the fuel they need.

That mission belongs to the 502nd Logistics Readiness Squadron Fuels Management Flight, which issues 20 million gallons of aviation fuel supporting 40,000 aircraft sorties annually and is the largest ground fuel operation in Air Education and Training Command, issuing more than 1 million gallons of ground fuel products each year.

"We have a uniquely different mission here," Larry Beward, 502nd LRS Fuels Management Flight chief, said. "We're the only fuels flight that operates two fuel accounts – one civil service at JBSA-Lackland and one Defense Logistics Agency-Energy contract at JBSA-Randolph."

Despite the accounting difference – and the physical distance between the two locations – the fuels flight's Department of Defense civilians and contractors "work well together as a team," Beward said.

"We share information that's important, and sometimes we share equipment," he said.

Beward said the flight covers the full spectrum of fuel management.

"We order, receive, test, store and issue fuel," he said.

The two locations' receiving operation is especially noteworthy, Beward said.

"We're the largest tanker truck receiving operation in the continental United States, safely offloading more than 2,800 tanker trucks each year," he said.

Once fuels reach the two JBSA locations, they are stored in large fuel tanks, Beward said.

JBSA-Lackland has two tanks, each capable of storing more than 970,000 gallons of aviation fuel; JBSA-Randolph also has two tanks – one that stores 820,000 gallons, the other 410,000 gallons.

"Aviation fuel is filtered as it is transferred into an R-11 refueling vehicle that holds 6,000 gallons," Beward said. "The refueling vehicle then is taken to the flightline where the fuel is filtered once again as it is transferred into an aircraft."

"The end result is the aircraft receiving the highest quality of aviation fuel," he said.

Ground fuel is stored at each military service station, Beward said, and the number of tanks or gallons each tank holds varies across JBSA.

"We operate five different military service stations and have a total of 13 tanks that store 120,000 gallons of ground fuel products," he said.



Photo by Joel Martinez

John Sistrunk, (left) Defense Contract Services, Incorporated International Logistics Group refueler, hands off the fuel hose to Brad Froh, 12th Flying Training Wing maintenance mechanic, as they prepare to fuel a T-38 aircraft July 27 at Joint Base San Antonio-Randolph.

The fuels infrastructures at JBSA-Lackland and JBSA-Randolph have their own distinguishing characteristics, including the number of military service stations they operate, Beward said.

The JBSA-Lackland component operates its own military service station and three other service stations at Medina Annex, JBSA-Fort Sam Houston and JBSA-Camp Bullis, offering unleaded gas, diesel, E-85, biodiesel and Jet A for Army tactical vehicles as part of the "single fuel on the battlefield doctrine," he said.

JBSA-Lackland's fuel fleet includes seven R-11 refueling vehicles, three R-12 hydrant servicing vehicles and three C-300 mobile service station vehicles.

JBSA-Lackland's operation is also distinguished by its Type-3 hydrant fuel delivery system featuring a system of underground pipes that go to 13 aviation serving pits, Beward said.

"That allows us to pump large quantities of fuel into the C-5 aircraft using a single fuels vehicle," he said.

The JBSA-Randolph component operates its own military service station, which offers gasoline, diesel, E-85 and biodiesel, Beward said.

JBSA-Randolph, which also supports the Seguin Auxiliary Airfield, has a fuel fleet of 11 R-11 refueling vehicles and two C-300 mobile service station vehicles.

Dennis Stewart, 502nd LRS Fuels Management Flight contracting officer representative, said the fuels flight contractors at JBSA-Randolph "play a vital role in the overall success of both the 12th Flying Training Wing and mission partners as well as the mission of the Air Force and other DOD military components."

"The fuels flight has the sole responsibility for the on-time delivery of clean and dry fuel to satisfy all aircraft mission requirements regardless of aircraft origin, including base aircraft, any DOD transient aircraft and, on occasion, foreign military and any other DLA-E-authorized customer," he said.

Stewart said the contractors' work at JBSA-Randolph results in "on-time, safe and environmentally sound delivery of petroleum and cryogenics products, facilitating on-time aircraft take-offs and speedy fuel recoveries to meet operations-planned pilot training missions."

Other components of the JBSA fuels operation are fuels laboratories, fuels control centers and environmental sections at JBSA-Lackland and JBSA-Randolph, Beward said.

"Both JBSA locations run a fuels laboratory that ensures the quality of fuel and safety of flight," he said. "Both locations also have a fuels control center to direct the fuels operations, and both locations have an environmental section."

Among the fuels flight's other duties are providing liquid oxygen for aviators and bringing fuel to 50 organizational fuel tanks.

Beward said the fuels flight is a "true example of total force."

"The fuels flight supports active duty – Army, Navy and Air Force – a Reserve wing, an Air National Guard wing, commercial aircraft as part of the Civil Reserve Air Fleet program and international aircraft," he said.

Beward said experience is one of the hallmarks of the JBSA fuels flight.

"Between the two operations, we have 1,000 years of fuels experience in the workforce," he said. "It's invaluable to have that much experience coming to work every day."

# Stage 1 water restrictions implemented across JBSA

By Benjamin Martinez  
Joint Base San Antonio utility manager

The 10-day average of the Bexar County index well J-17 reached 657 feet mean sea level as of Aug. 3, triggering Stage 1 water restrictions for all Joint Base San Antonio locations. Stage 1 goes into effect when J-17 dips below 660 feet.

The J-17 well is housed in a nondescript building on Fort Sam Houston, just off Harry Wurzbach and near the Fort Sam Houston National Cemetery and serves as the official well for recording groundwater elevations in the San Antonio Pool of the Edwards Aquifer, according to the Edwards Aquifer Authority website (<http://www.edwardsaquifer.org>).

The JBSA Base Civil Engineer declared Stage 1 water restrictions effective immediately in accordance with the current JBSA Critical Period Management Plan and Biological Opinion issued by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. The biological opinion limits JBSA's water draw from the Edward's Aquifer in order to protect eight endangered species which live in the aquifer and its associated springs. These species can only survive when aquifer levels and spring flows are adequately maintained.

The restrictions within Stage 1 facing base residents and personnel are substantial and all must comply with the JBSA Critical Period Management Plan.

All the Stage 1 restrictions in addition to Stage Normal water restrictions are in place:

- Continue Stage Normal water use measures except as noted or replaced by Stage 1 rules.
- Landscape watering with an irrigation system, sprinkler or soaker hose is allowed only once a week before 10 a.m. or after 8 p.m. on your designated watering day, as determined by your address or facility number.
- Reduce water consumption by any means available.
- New turf or landscaping may be watered as identified in Stage Normal until

adequate growth is maintained.

- Privately owned vehicle washing is allowed once per week on Saturday or Sunday as long as there is no water waste. A positive shutoff nozzle must be used with hoses to prevent water waste. Don't let water run into the street.

- All swimming pools must have a minimum of 25 percent of the surface area covered with evaporation screens when not in use. Inflatable pool toys or floating decorations may be used.

- Hand watering with a handheld hose, soaker hose, drip irrigation, bucket or watering can is permitted any time and any day.

- Washing impervious cover such as parking lots, driveways, streets or sidewalks is prohibited except in order to correct life, health or safety concerns.

- Irrigation of athletic fields is permitted only as required to maintain the turf viability/safety. Athletic fields continue Stage Normal water use measures.

- Landscape on golf courses are required to follow one day per week watering

- Use of fountains, waterfalls or other aesthetic water features outdoors or indoors is prohibited, unless a variance has been granted for 100 percent non-potable water use.

In Stage 1, the watering days are as follows if address/facility number ends in 0 or 1, Monday; 2 or 3, Tuesday; 4 or 5, Wednesday; 6 or 7, Thursday; and 8 or 9, Friday.

All water restriction measures and details are listed in the JBSA Critical Period Management Plan available online at [www.jbsa.af.mil/shared/media/document/AFD-130809-013.pdf](http://www.jbsa.af.mil/shared/media/document/AFD-130809-013.pdf).

JBSA personnel should not confuse the JBSA water restrictions with the SAWS restriction levels. The JBSA water restrictions are more stringent and begin sooner than SAWS restrictions.

Call 652-2392 to report water abusers. Those found not abiding with the JBSA Critical Period Management Plan may face potential disciplinary measures. Reports will remain anonymous.

#### Check us out on . . .

• Facebook: Joint Base San Antonio, JBSA-Fort Sam Houston, Lackland JBSA and JBSA-Randolph • Twitter: @JBSA\_Official, @JBSAFSH, @JBSALackland and @JBSARandolph • YouTube: Joint Base San Antonio



# Preteens explore technology at JBSA-Randolph summer camp

By Robert Goetz

Joint Base San Antonio-Randolph Public Affairs

An educational program July 27-31 at Joint Base San Antonio-Randolph Youth Programs gave a group of preteens an opportunity to immerse themselves in activities ranging from 3-D printing to video game design.

The students participated in the STEM-Maker Camp conducted by instructors from Geekbus, a program operated by SASTEMIC, a San Antonio nonprofit organization that is an advocacy group for science, technology, engineering and math.

“We try to get kids interested or find out if they are already interested in the different STEM areas,” Jason Culwell, SASTEMIC educational facilitator, said. “We focus on things that are easy for us to teach and are the most engaging for the kids.”

Each day brought a different activity for the 8- to 13-year-old participants – 3-D printing on Monday, stop-motion animation on Tuesday, robotics on Wednesday, computer programming and soldering on Thursday and video game design on Friday.

Students also spent time on the Geekbus itself, a mobile makerspace that came to the camp on Thursday. Inside the Geekbus are 3-D printers, robotics, electronics and a variety of materials for students to use in their STEM explorations.

“It’s a very hands-on experience for the kids,” Andrea Black, JBSA-Youth Programs coordinator, said of the STEM-Maker Camp. “This is the first time we’ve offered this camp; we’re starting to explore STEM more in youth programs.”

Davis Chancey, an 11-year-old sixth-grader, said he enrolled in the camp because his mother thought it would be interesting. It turned out she was right.

“I love it,” he said. “The best part was building a Lego robot. You program them and tell them what to do. It’s fun.”

Davis also enjoyed learning soldering techniques to make robot pins and looked forward to video game design on the last day of the camp.

“Video game design is my favorite,” he said. “I want to be a game designer.”

Culwell said each activity helps students in a variety of ways. He pointed



Photo by Melissa Peterson

to stop-motion animation as an example.

“It helps them with developing patience and gives them an eye for the placement of things,” he said. “It helps with spatial orientation.”

Luke Survis, who is assigned to the 502nd Force Support Squadron as part of the Career Broadener Program, said Geekbus’ educational facilitators keep the camp lively and make it more challenging each day.

“The facilitators are doing a good job making it entertaining for the kids,” he said. “Each day it takes more skill, and that holds their attention better.”

Culwell said the summer camp and Geekbus activities during the school year allow students to better understand STEM subject areas, but the hands-on experiences also help them decide if they’re interested in pursuing jobs in the technology sector.

“There are a lot of high-tech jobs out on the market not being filled because we don’t have enough people with the right skills,” he said. “We help them develop those skills.”

They’re the future, and if we don’t have enough kids interested in STEM, they will grow up to be adults who aren’t interested and there won’t be enough adults to keep the world running at the level of technology we’re used to.”

From left: Davis Chancey, Miguel Heredia and Mason Chancey create a stop motion animation movie July 28 during Geekbus at the Joint Base San Antonio-Randolph Youth Center



# AF rolls out details to improve RPA mission

By Secretary of the Air Force Public Affairs

In response to a critical shortage of remotely piloted aircraft pilots, the Air Force rolled out more details of its plan to fix the problem in both the short and long term.

The most recent initiatives include creating bonuses for RPA pilots of \$15,000 per year beginning in fiscal year 2016; placing some newly minted pilots in RPA squadrons beginning in August; and investing more than \$100 million to buy more ground control stations, simulators and contract instructors.

"In a complex global environment, RPA pilots will always be in demand," said Secretary of the Air Force Deborah Lee James. "Remarkable Airmen have ensured the success of the MQ-1 Predator and MQ-9 Reaper programs. We now face a situation where if we don't direct additional resources appropriately, it creates unacceptable risk. We are working hard to put solutions in place to bring needed relief to our Airmen and ensure our actions show their value to our mission."

## **Bonus pay**

The Air Force is looking at special and incentive pays to enhance recruiting and retention, as well as recognize RPA pilot contributions to the mission, according to officials. Under this proposal, RPA pilots would be able to choose between a Critical Skills Retention Bonus of five years at \$15,000 per year or nine years at \$15,000 per year.

This bonus is similar in value and commitment to what has been offered to aviators in the past who have similar training and experience. Members who choose either the five- or nine-year option would also be eligible to receive 50 percent payment upfront.

"We will continue to maintain a persistent focus on this mission set and bring about the necessary relief to sustain operations responsibly," James said. "This is a high demand mission set. It is a national security imperative that we get this right."

## **Undergraduate pilot training graduates to RPA**

As another part of the solution, about 80 UPT graduates over the next 12 months will be assigned to RPA positions for one assignment tour to help alleviate growing pressure on overtaxed RPA crews. Air Force pilot training bases are at Columbus Air Force Base, Miss.; Laughlin Air Force Base, Texas; Vance Air Force Base; Okla.; and Sheppard Air Force Base, Texas.

The current plan is to only use the UPT pipeline for one year while the RPA-unique training pipeline increases from approximately 190 to 300 RPA pilot graduates per year. The last time the Air Force placed a UPT graduate directly into the RPA career field was 2011.

"The most critical challenge we face in this mission area is a shortage of RPA pilots and the UPT grads are the fastest way to address that shortfall without sacrificing mission capability in other platforms," said Air Force Chief of Staff Gen. Mark A. Welsh III. "Actions we take today will allow the Air Force to continue to provide world-class, strike-ready intelligence, surveillance and reconnaissance over the battlefield



Photo by U.S. Navy Specialist 2nd Class Brian Glunt

Airmen attached to the 324th Expeditionary Reconnaissance Squadron perform a preflight inspection on an MQ-1 Predator unmanned aerial vehicle Oct. 22, 2013.

and enhance overall combat capability."

As part of the get-well plan, the move to place UPT graduates as RPA pilots addresses a constant demand for real-time ISR in support of combatant commander needs. Those UPT graduates selected will get the requisite RPA training for the MQ-1B or MQ-9.

"Those selected for RPA duties will serve one tour and then be placed in manned aircraft if desired after completion of that tour," Welsh said. "This will help the Air Force achieve a healthy steady state for the RPA enterprise as soon as possible."

## **Additional RPA investments and improvements**

In addition to the initiative to place UPT graduates directly into the RPA enterprise, the Air Force increased the use of Guard and Reserve Airmen as well as contractors in order to bring relief to a community in high demand.

In April, Air Force leadership worked with the Defense Department to bring relief as the Secretary of Defense adjusted the number of required combat air patrols from 65 to 60 by October.

Air Force leaders are currently working reprogramming actions within the DOD and Congress to reallocate funding to critical areas like the RPA program.

The \$100 million is part of the omnibus and subject to congressional approval. The omnibus is a tool available to move funds to areas identified as critical mission need areas. Initiatives include buying six next-generation ground control stations, more training simulators and associated facilities, improved software tools, and accelerating the development of

automatic takeoff and landing capability.

"On average, an MQ-1 Predator and MQ-9 Reaper pilot flies up to 900 hours per year," James said. "In comparison, fighter pilots fly an average of 250 hours. Due to the demand for services, the MQ-1/9 enterprise is the second largest in the regular Air Force behind only C-17 Globemaster III pilots."

The Air Force is also turning its attention to ensure appropriate manning deficits are addressed in MQ-1/9 training and at the RPA schoolhouse. The Air Force will increase instructor pilot manning at the MQ-1B and MQ-9 Formal Training Unit from 61 to 100 percent due to the combat air patrol reduction and the Air National Guard assistance.

"We must fully man the MQ-1/9 schoolhouse in order to increase student throughput and replenish the force," Welsh said. "The current demand puts requirements for active-duty RPA pilots at about 300 per year, but our current active-duty training production output is only 180 pilots per year. We are projected to hit 3 million flight hours this fall. We have to get this right."

The first MQ-1 operation occurred in 1995. In August 2011, the Predator surpassed 1 million hours of total development, test, training and combat. In October 2013, the MQ-1 and MQ-9 RPAs accumulated 2 million flight hours. It took 16 years for the community to reach 1 million hours and a mere 2.5 years to double those flight hours. The Air Force expects the undergraduate RPA pilot pipeline to produce enough RPA pilots to sustain current operations by 2017.

# AF Personnel Center renovates for future

By Staff Sgt. Ian Hoachlander  
Air Force Personnel Center Public Affairs

Nearly 47 years after construction, the Air Force Personnel Center B wing is being torn down from its location on the historic AFPC Building 499 campus.

The AFPC campus includes five wings (A through E), each a separate building that houses most of AFPC's 2,700 Airmen who work to develop and deliver innovated, customer-focused Total Force support solutions to commanders, Airmen and families.

A and C wings, among the original wings, were constructed in the 1930s. B and D wings were constructed in the 1960s and E wing was added in the mid-1980s. Up until 2010, building 499 had never undergone a comprehensive renovation.

"In recognition of serious decline of the building, AFPC made renovation of building 499 a top priority, and so began a long-range master planning and phased renovation process," said Sharon Moore, AFPC facilities chief. "AFPC began this process by fully renovating A and C wings between 2011 and 2015. We then set our sights on B wing."

B wing was built in 1968 as a large main-frame computer facility. In 1985, the building was repurposed to house administrative activities like airmen assignments, retirements, awards and decorations, dress and appearance, develop-

mental teams and myriad other personnel programs. The building also housed the Boles Conference Center that was used for special events and ceremonies.

Many senior noncommissioned officers serving here today started their personnel careers in B wing working in Airman Assignments.

"I was a senior airman and a new personnelist when I first came to AFPC," said Chief Master Sgt. Rebecca Galambos, Assignments and AEF Operations superintendent. "B wing's long hallway was home to us on the assignments floor. Watching it being torn down over the last week brought back a lot of great memories for those that started their careers here."

Additionally, B wing was the first home of the Total Force Service Center and to the personnel who managed the myPers website, who strive to provide direct personnel services and support for all centralized personnel programs to total force Airmen and their families through a service center approach.

After nearly half a century, however, B wing showed evidence of building deficiencies including inadequate electrical power, high energy consumption and inefficient heating, ventilation and air conditioning systems.

By removing B wing, AFPC is able to eliminate substandard workspaces, and open up space between A and C wings to help bring natural light to the occupants.

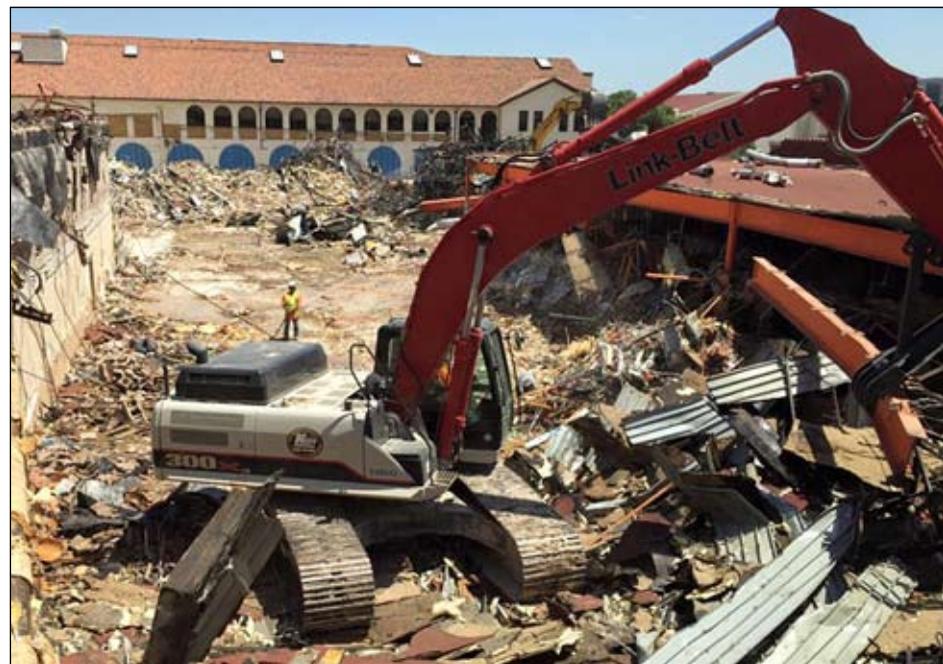


Photo by Michelle Pena

The Air Force Personnel Center B wing is torn down from its location on the AFPC Building 499 campus July 23.

Most importantly, removing B wing supports the Air Force goal of reducing its real property footprint to help cut maintenance and energy costs.

"As part of an ongoing restoration project, AFPC determined it was in the best interest of the Air Force to remove B wing since it was the No. 1 energy consumer on base," Moore said.

Demolition is projected to be complete by the end of August. AFPC will then use this area as a green space and gateway between the remaining wings.

AFPC's facility renovation focus will now turn to defining scope and obtaining funds for future projects that could include upgrades to Buildings 663 and 499 D and E wings.

## CADETS from P6

and the JBSA-Randolph Medical Clinic. Cadets also got the chance to play wheelchair basketball with wounded Soldiers at JBSA-Fort Sam Houston.

In addition, Wolter said several of the cadets went to JBSA-Lackland to observe special operations training, while two of the cadets visited the San Antonio Military Medical Center at JBSA-Fort Sam Houston.

Cadet Jordan Wessemann said the cadets learned about pilot training by operating simulators for the T-38, T-6A Texan II and T-1A Jayhawk aircraft, and got a glimpse into base operations by touring an air control tower.

Also, Wessemann said he observed the working dog program and less-than-deadly force training programs at the 902nd SFS.

One of the highlights of Wessemann's stay at JBSA-Randolph was talking to officers and pilots to get their perspectives on what it is like to serve

in the Air Force.

"We definitely have a better understanding of what the real Air Force culture is like, and we are definitely better for that," he said.

While he is considering becoming a pilot, Wessemann said the program has him considering other Air Force careers.

Cadet Andrew Butler said meeting the officers and pilots in the squadrons and going up in a T-38 has encouraged him to continue his plan of becoming a pilot.

"It has solidified my desire to be a pilot," Butler said. "I think being a pilot challenges you in different ways than other careers. I feel like you are learning a whole new skill; it seems like a really cool thing to do."

Cadet Mary Richards said she got to see how the operations at JBSA-Randolph are interconnected.

"What was interesting for me to see is the dy-

amic between how every process on the base is running to get planes in the air," Richards said.

Richards said she enjoyed the tour of the 559th FTS and the chance to see where combat airpower is born.

"It was really interesting to see the T-6s because that's where all of the pilot training really begins," she said.

Lt. Col. Jeremy Seals, 559th FTS commander, is a 1998 Air Force Academy graduate who participated in Operation Air Force when he was a cadet. He said Operation Air Force gives the cadets a chance to see what the Air Force is all about and how it works, outside of an academic setting.

"It's a very valuable program because it shows you what it's like on the outside," Seals said. "Getting out on an actual base, working with actual officers and seeing what they do every day is a hugely valuable experience for the cadets."