



WINGSPREAD

JOINT BASE SAN ANTONIO-RANDOLPH

No. 9 • MARCH 8, 2013



New AETC command chief tours JBSA

INSIDE ... BRONZE STAR RECIPIENT, P4 ... DRIVING SAFE, P8 ... STEP CLASS, P10 ... BUDGET CRISIS, P11

COMMENTARY

KEEPING IT SIMPLE

Getting back to basics can save lives

By Bill Parsons

Kirtland Air Force Base, N.M.
Air Force Chief of Ground Safety

In the stressed, overworked and strained operations tempo environment of today's Air Force, safety sometimes ends up pushed to the back burner.

While cutting back on safety precautions is one solution to our over-filled plates, it is the most dangerous, with literally, life-threatening consequences. However, there is another option that can be lifesaving, and it has to do with our safety professionals getting back to the basics of our jobs, although I suspect many will not be happy with this solution.

We must reset our safety priorities because, frankly, things aren't going very well when it comes to on-duty fatalities. In my not-so-humble opinion, four on-the-job fatalities in the Air Force so far this fiscal year – more than all of last fiscal year – is four too many. On-duty fatalities occur in a controlled environment and are preventable. Therefore, each of the four fatalities we've experienced this year was preventable.

The Air Force has the very best safety and health professionals and the most well-developed and managed occupational safety and health program in the world. We have more than 650,000 Air Force military and civilian personnel working worldwide. These men and women receive the very best of occupational safety and health training. A single fatality is an indicator of a weak link in our program. What is the link?

Every injury or death is a failure; likely the failure of one or more of these groups: the commanders, the supervisors or the safety professionals. This trio must work to protect our Airmen from hazardous exposure, hazardous environments and/or poor decision making. One of the roles of the safety professional is the "boots on the ground" function; this could be our weak link. That function

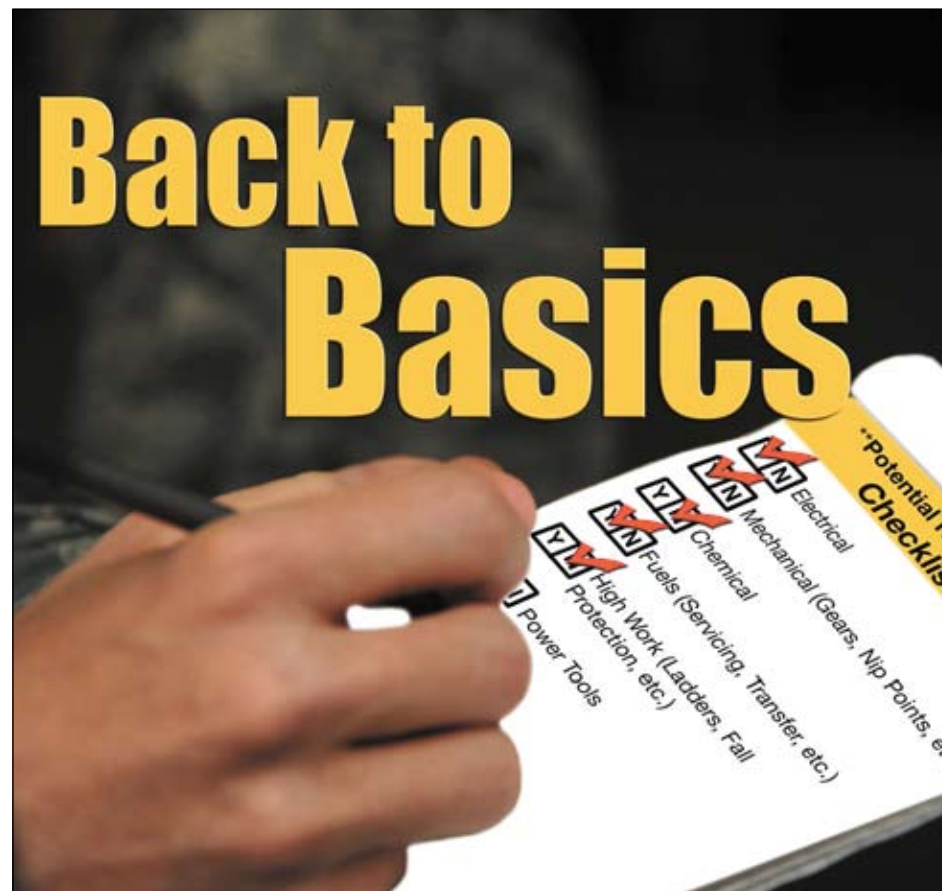


Photo illustration by Felicia Hall

is a basic part of our job where we are out in the field making sure everyone is doing their part in protecting our Airmen. Our safety program must make spot inspections, workplace visits and Air Force Instruction enforcement a priority. Out of those inspections and visits come priceless educational opportunities for skilled safety professionals to ensure every Airman has the necessary knowledge to create and maintain the safest possible work environments.

When safety professionals put their "boots on the ground" as often as possible, relationships develop that foster an environment focused on protecting Airmen and, by extension, preserving all combat capabilities. And let's not lose sight of the vital importance each on-site visit provides as the perfect

educational tool for use by all participants in the visit. Airmen will learn instantly if there is something that needs attention, while safety professionals hone their skills in being able to apply safety concepts as well as AFI requirements.

The only bad part of our job as safety professionals is that we seldom know when we're successful, but we always know when we fail. Failure is not an option. I encourage all safety professionals to work diligently with commanders and supervisors toward our goal of zero on-duty fatalities. No one group can do it alone. Remember: commanders, supervisors and good safety professionals, do what it takes to keep all our military and civilian personnel safe.

ON THE COVER

Air Force Chief Master Sgt. Gerardo Tapia, Air Education and Training Command command chief, tours Joint Base San Antonio locations Feb. 20.

Photos by Joel Martinez

WINGSPREAD

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Hagel vows to ensure well-being of service members, families

By Jim Garamone

American Forces Press Service

New Defense Secretary Chuck Hagel promised Feb. 27 to always be frank with the men and women of the department and said he expects all to be direct in return.

Hagel spoke to the Pentagon workforce and a worldwide audience on the Pentagon Channel just after taking the oath as the nation's 24th defense secretary.

"I'll never ask anyone to do anything I wouldn't do," the secretary said. "I'll never ask anybody to do more than I would do. That's the story of your lives. I wouldn't be worthy if that was not the case."

Army Sgt. 1st Class John Werth, a native Nebraskan and combat veteran of Iraq and Afghanistan, introduced the new secretary. He said Hagel already had held the most important job in the department: that of a combat infantryman. Hagel served in Vietnam as a young enlisted Soldier and was wounded twice.

This is a defining time for the world, Hagel said.

"It's a difficult time. It's a time of tremendous challenge, but there are opportunities," he added. "I think it's important that we all stay focused, obviously, on our jobs, on our responsibilities, which

are immense, but not lose sight of the possibilities for a better world."

Service members should not forget that America is a force for good in the world, he said.

"We've made mistakes. We'll continue to make mistakes. But we are a force for good," he said. "And we should always keep that out in front as much as any one thing that drives us every day."

The military needs to deal with the budget realities, the geopolitical challenges, cyber issues and the threats of terrorism, Hagel noted.

"We've got ahead of us a lot of challenges," he said. "They are going to define much of who we are – not this institution only, but our country, what kind of a world our children are going to inherit. That's the bigger picture of the objective for all of us."

Facing these challenges is difficult, the secretary said.

"But it's also pretty special," he added. "When you think about ... how many generations have had an opportunity to be part of something great, as difficult as this is ... we can really do something pretty special for our country."

The secretary promised service members he will do everything he can "to ensure the safety, the well-being, the future of you and your families."

"Now, I've got to go to work," he said.



U.S. Defense Secretary Chuck Hagel

NEWS

Captain earns Bronze Star, Army Combat Action Badge

By Staff Sgt. Clinton Atkins
Air Education and Training Command Public Affairs

Bronze Star, Army Combat Action Badge, contracting officer; three things the average service member probably hasn't seen in the same sentence, but those three things are true about a particular member of Air Education and Training Command.

A conference room filled with family, friends and co-workers honored the achievements of Capt. Collin Christopherson, who humbly accepted the awards presented by AETC Commander Gen. Edward A. Rice Jr., Feb. 27.

"I've had the honor of officiating a number of ceremonies in this room and I don't think we've ever had a larger crowd, so I think it's really indicative of the work he's done and what he's meant to all of us here," said Rice, during the ceremony.

After the Bronze Star and Army Combat Action Badge were presented, the crowd erupted with applause, which was followed by an emotional acceptance speech.

During his stay, the base was attacked many times by indirect mortar fire, rocket fire and even a vehicle-borne improvised explosive device.

According to the citation, Christopherson earned the Bronze Star Medal by leading "five Soldiers and Airmen to defensive positions to protect six unarmed civilians and contractors while also securing the breach in the

FOB perimeter. Christopherson led his Soldiers, Airmen and civilians through 86 indirect fire attacks and one direct attack in which insurgents utilized a vehicle-borne IED to breach the FOB perimeter."

"In fighting season, there were days when we wore our gear all day long and couldn't get off the ground or out of the ditch or out of the bunker back to the office to even start working before the sky would start falling in on us again and we'd just catch rockets," he said.

Christopherson experienced many harrowing moments during his deployment, but rather than coming back defeated, he came back reinvigorated. He was on the frontlines on the combat operations in Afghanistan and saw firsthand the immediate impact his team's contracting support had on the war-fighting efforts.

Oftentimes, contracting appears to be further back on the chain, but that's just not true, he said.

For six months, Christopherson managed \$133 million dollars and 11 contracting professionals who provided construction and services support for the 173rd Airborne Brigade Combat Team at Forward Operating Base Shank in a mountainous region of Southeast Afghanistan. Christopherson was deputy chief for Regional Contracting Center Shank, Central Command Joint Theater Support Contracting Command.



Photo by Joel Martinez

Capt. Collin Christopherson receives a Bronze Star Medal from Gen. Edward A. Rice Jr., Air Education and Training Command commander, Feb. 27 at Joint Base San Antonio-Randolph.

"I left more charged up about the Air Force and about Air Force Contracting after living in tents and using (portable toilets) with the Army for six months and allowing them to take the fight to the bad guys," said Christopherson.

Cyber Threats: Are You Secure?

Cyber threats are an ever-increasing issue in today's technological environment – both at home and at work. Adversaries are constantly and tirelessly looking to capitalize not only on vulnerabilities in our computers and networks, but also in our vigilance to protect them and the information contained therein.

All users must maintain an ongoing awareness of cyber threats and exercise basic cyber security best-practices.

As a reminder, the following are actions needed to maintain a safer cyber environment:

- Always have physical control of Common Access Cards.
- Create secure passwords and never write them down.
- Do not reveal any personal information or passwords

over email or to websites linked through email.

- Do not click on embedded links in emails unless you are sure where they are going.
- Do not misuse government computers – no viewing or downloading pornography, gambling or loading unauthorized software.
- Do not use thumb drives or connect any unauthorized USB devices (e.g. E-readers, iPods, etc) to government computers.
- Label CD/DVDs to avoid accidental cross-network contamination.
- Do not use government-approved external devices at home and do not use home-use devices on government computers.
- Use caution on social networking sites. Do not post sensitive information; use strong passwords; be cau-

tious of who you accept as friends and their possible affiliations.

- Exercise extreme caution when using Web mail (e.g. Gmail, Hotmail, Yahoo, etc). Using Web mail can expose your system to viruses and malware.

For more information on cyber security, visit the Information Assurance tutorial on the Advanced Learning Distribution Service site <https://golearn.csd.disa.mil> or contact your Information Assurance Office or local Communications Squadron.

- On Joint Base San Antonio-Fort Sam Houston, call 295-0534.
- On JBSA-Lackland, call 671-9881
- On JBSA-Randolph, call 652-3360

(Source: AETC Computer Systems Squadron JBSA-Randolph)

Joint Base San Antonio cancels 2013 air show

Joint Base San Antonio has cancelled plans for a November air show at JBSA-Randolph in which the U.S. Air Force Thunderbird aerial demonstration team was scheduled to headline and numerous other military aircraft were slated to fly or participate as a static display aircraft. Effective March 1, Air Force aviation support to public

events has been cancelled to save flying hours to support readiness needs. This includes the cancellation of support to all air shows, tradeshow, flyovers (including funerals and military graduations), orientation flights, heritage flights, F-22 demonstration flights and open houses.

The Air Force will cancel the Thunderbirds' entire 2013 season beginning April 1. The elimination of military aviation support and the current budget shortfall were the primary considerations driving the decision to cancel this year's event. The Thunderbirds last performed in San Antonio at JBSA-Lackland's 2010 air show.

New simulator targets hypoxia symptoms

By Robert Goetz
Joint Base San Antonio-Randolph Public Affairs

Members of the 359th Aerospace-Medicine Squadron Aerospace Physiology and Operational Flight have a new tool to help aircrews combat the effects of hypoxia, and they are poised to take their knowledge to other bases.

The hypoxia familiarization trainer is a multiple-airframe simulator that, used in conjunction with a reduced oxygen breathing device, allows aircrew members to recognize and respond to the symptoms of hypoxia due to changes in altitude. Hypoxia, an oxygen deficiency, results in a range of symptoms, from dizziness and fatigue to nausea and mental confusion.

One of the advantages of the hypoxia familiarization trainer is that it offers an alternative to the altitude chamber, Tech. Sgt. Andre Scott, 359th AMDS Aerospace and Operational Physiology Flight craftsman, said.

"We decrease the risk of pilots getting decompression sickness," he said. "They're no longer exposed to that environment."



Scott said the hypoxia familiarization trainer is also "more realistic for them than an altitude chamber.

"This actually simulates what they'd be doing," he said.

According to Air Force Instruction 11-403, the reduced oxygen breathing device, which is integrated into the hypoxia familiarization trainer, produces normobaric hypoxia by delivering a precise mixture of nitrogen and reduced oxygen from pressurized cylinders.

Using the reduced oxygen breathing device control interface, instructors choose the appropriate training profile to control the altitude and concentration of oxygen in the gas mixture that will be delivered to aviators' oxygen masks.

"The reduced oxygen breathing device's altitude limit is 34,000 feet, but we stop at 25,000 feet for the hypoxia demonstration," Scott said.

Sitting in the "cockpit" of the hypoxia familiarization trainer, pilots are able to experience the symptoms of hypoxia and meet other AFI 11-403 objectives, including the performance of "aircraft-specific emergency procedures" and the demon-



Photo by Benjamin Faske

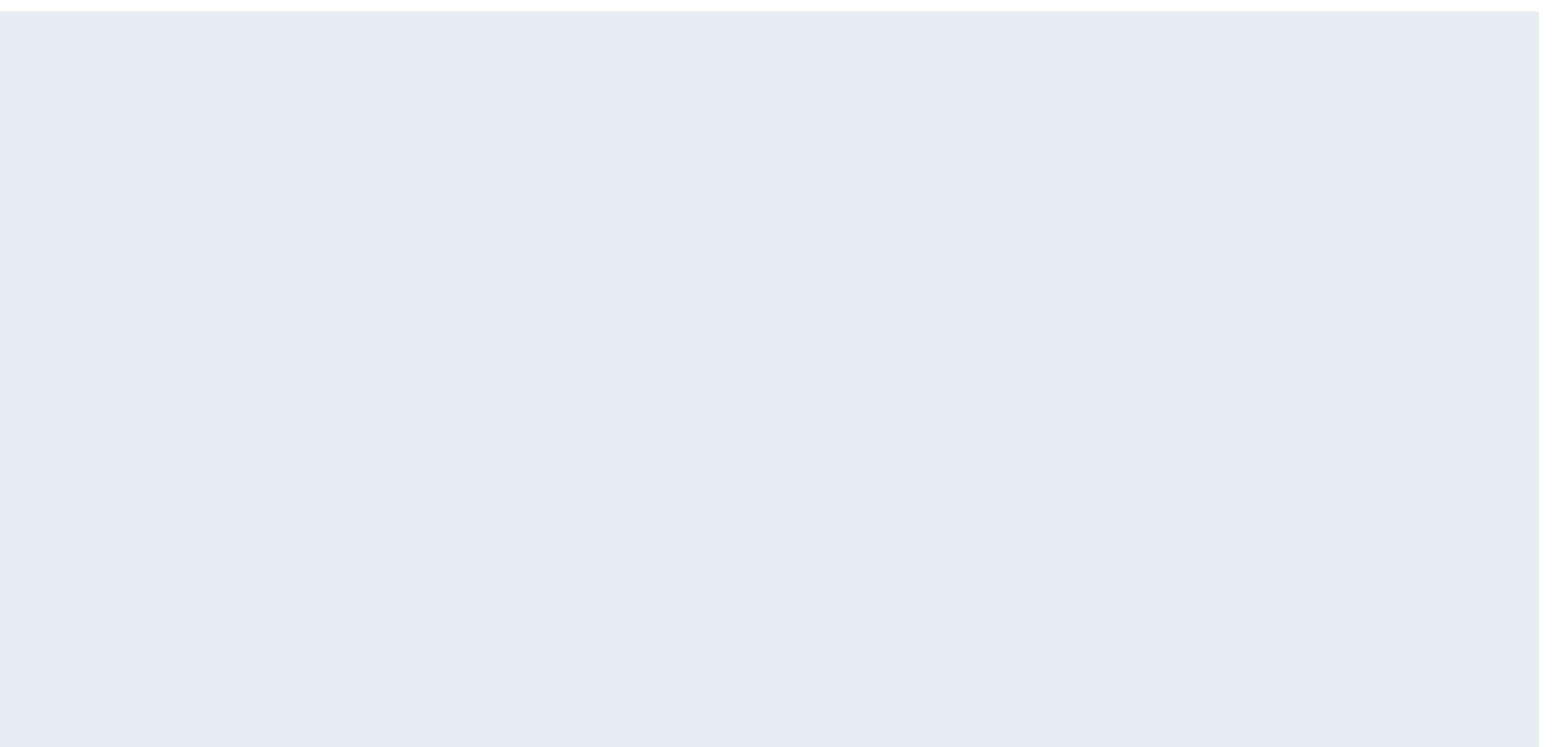
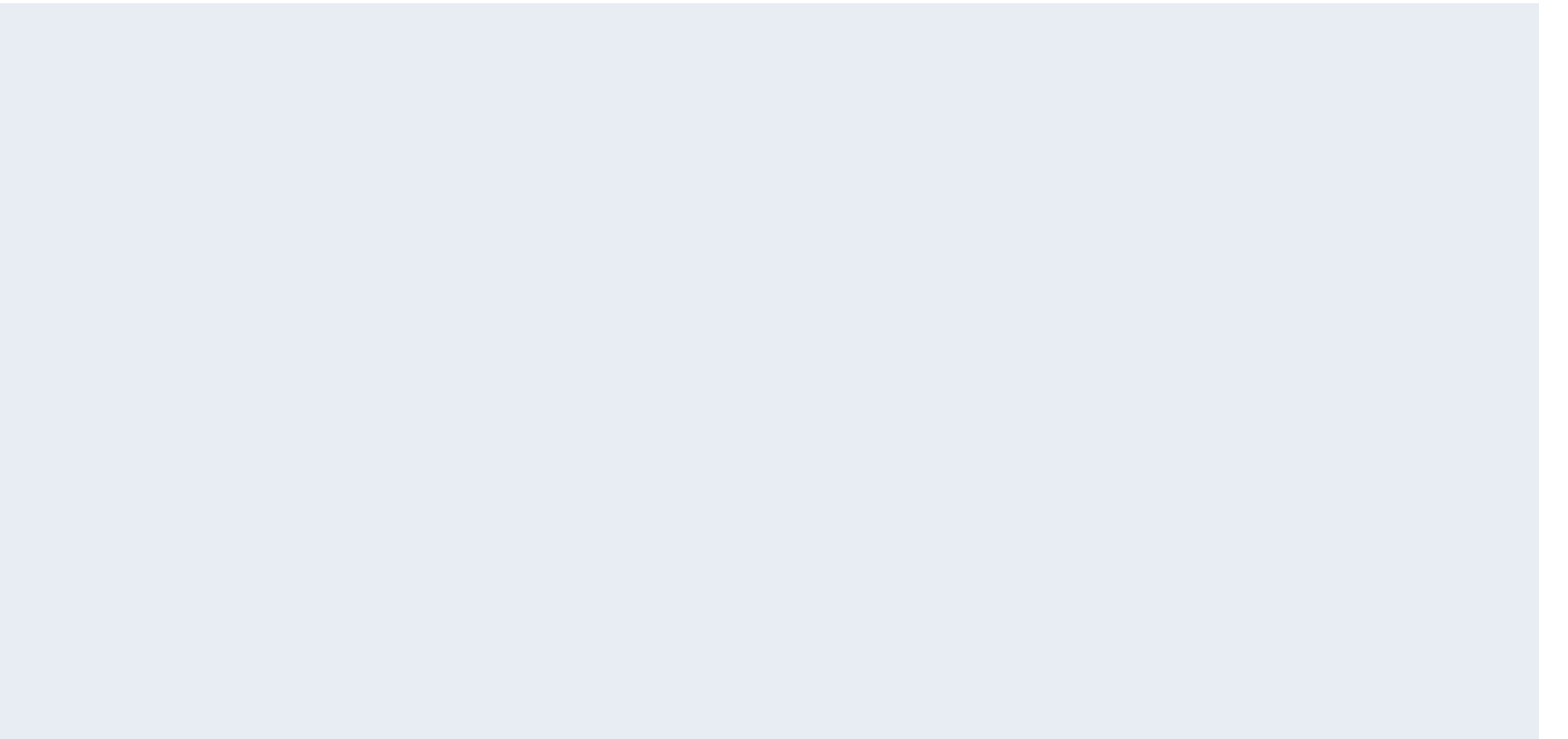
Air Force Staff Sgt. Jason Boyd and Tech. Sgt. Andre Scott, 359th Aeromedical Squadron Aerospace and Operational Physiology Flight craftsmen, conduct tests on the new hypoxia familiarization trainer Feb. 21 at Joint Base San Antonio-Randolph.

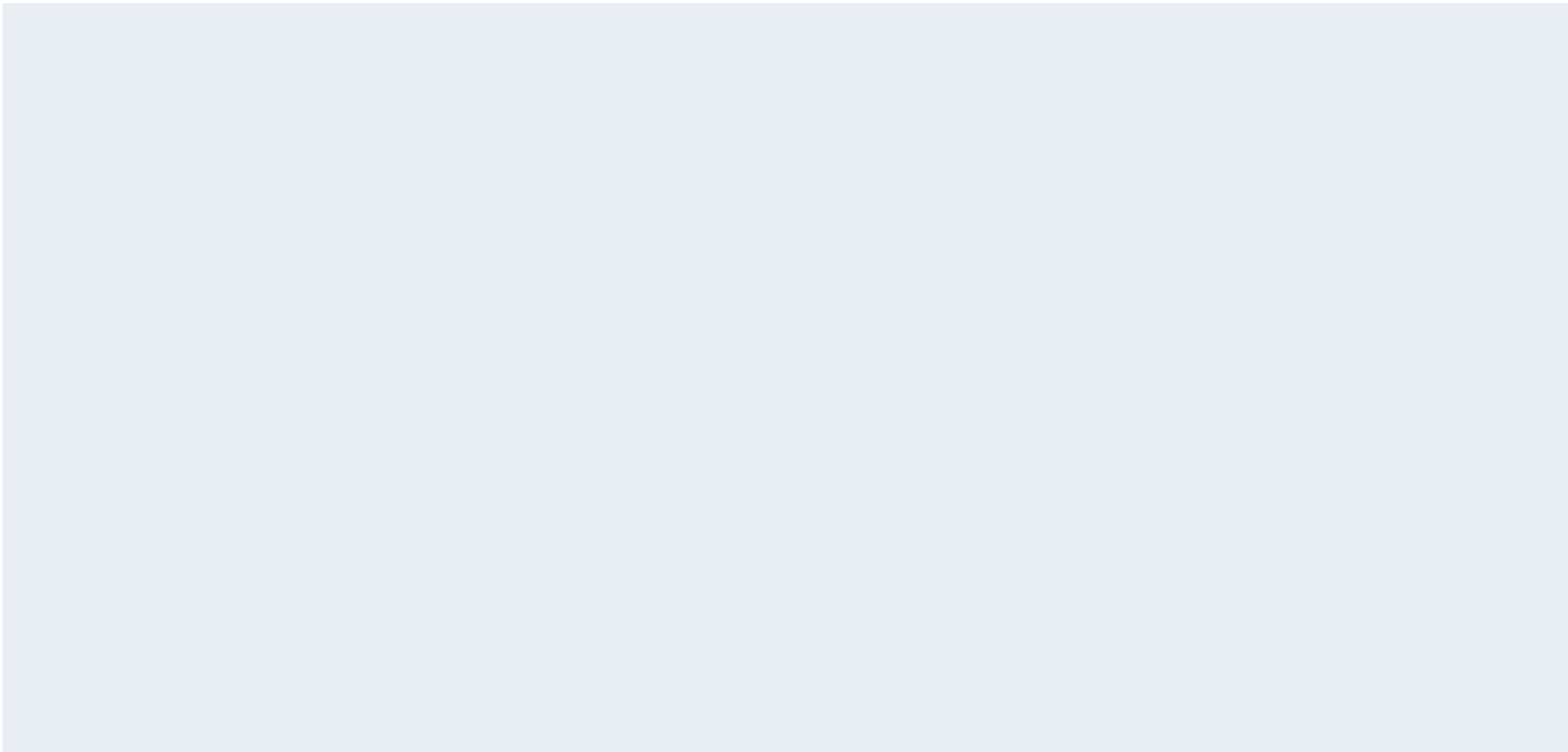
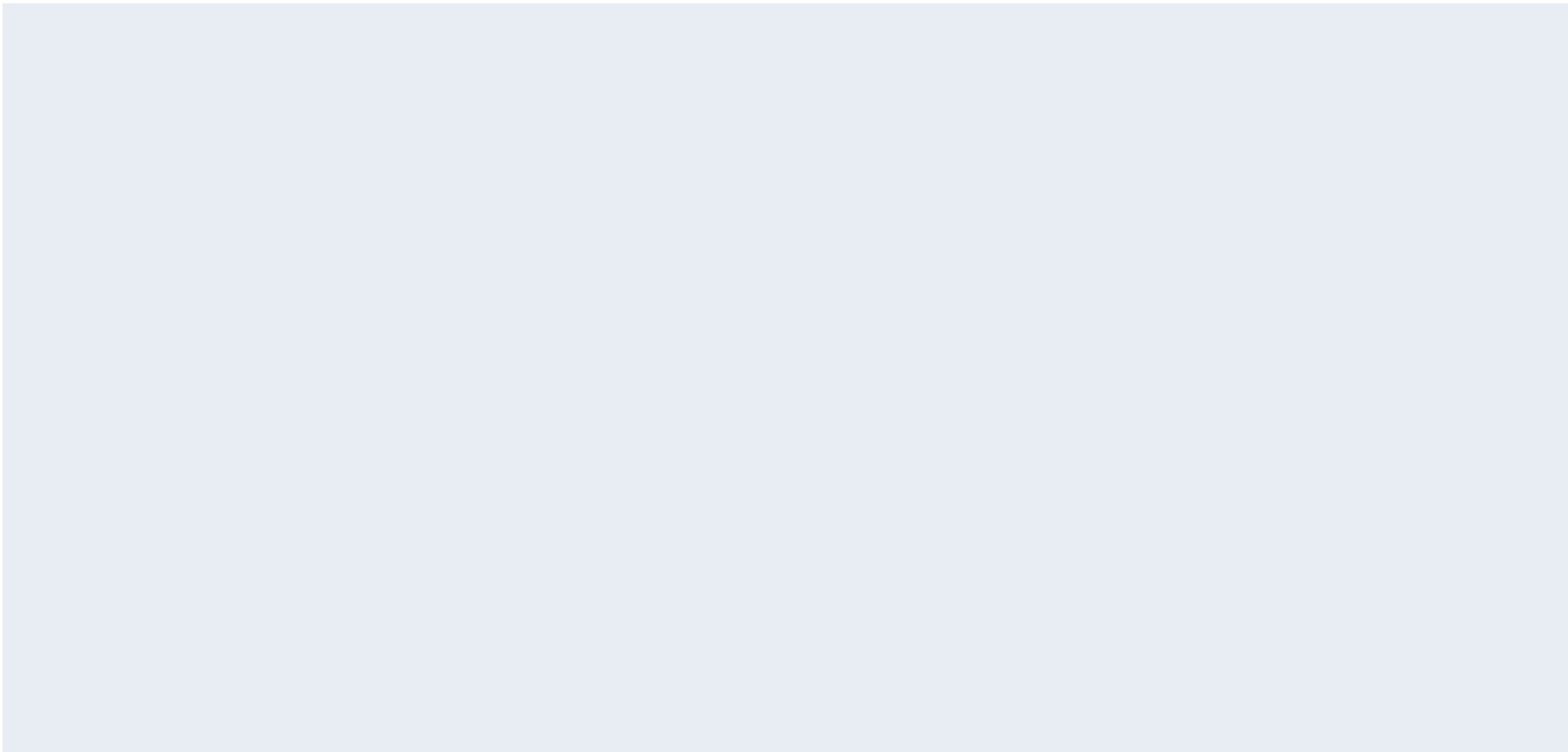
stration of the "correct positive pressure breathing technique during emergency oxygen activation."

Another benefit of the hypoxia fa-

miliarization trainer is that it can simulate every Air Force aircraft, Scott said.

See **HYPOXIA P9**





Texting while driving violations remain elusive target

By Robert Goetz
Joint Base San Antonio-Randolph Public Affairs



Strict traffic code enforcement at Joint Base San Antonio-Randolph is giving motorists pause before they talk on their cellphones, but they appear to be less averse to texting, Randolph security forces and safety officials said.

“Texting while driving is a growing problem,” Staff Sgt. Edward Grant, 902nd Security Forces Squadron police services NCO in charge, said. “Because of Randolph’s unique layout, it can be more dangerous for motorists. All it takes is one split second of not paying attention.”

Security forces members have been able to mitigate the problem of motorists talking on their cellphones because that action is more visible, Grant said, but texting is more difficult to catch.

“Because of enforcement, a lot of people are more reluctant to talk on their cellphones, but they’re more prone to text,” he said. “It’s harder to catch someone who is texting due to limited visibility. When you’re texting, the cellphone is on your lap; when you’re talking, it’s up near your ear.”

An Air Education and Training Command supplement to Air Force Instruction 91-207, the U.S. Air Force Traffic Safety Program, prohibits vehicle operators and operators of government-owned vehicles from using cellphones “unless the vehicle is safely parked or unless they are using a hands-free device.” Statistics show 902nd SFS members issued citations for 26 cellphone violations last year, but Grant said those citations do not distinguish between talking on the cellphone or texting.

Cellphone violations can result in loss of driving privileges on Air Force bases, Grant said.

“Randolph and all other Air Force installations work on a point-based system,” he said. “If you are caught using your cellphone while driving, which includes talking or texting, you will be cited for operating a motor vehicle without a hands-free device and three points will be deducted from your base driving record. If you lose six points in six months, your base privileges will be suspended for six months, and if you lose 12 points in a span of 12 months, your base driving privileges will be suspended for one year.”

However, cellphone use, whether it’s talking or texting, can have even greater consequences, Grant said.

“It has affected so many lives,” he said. “It can result in serious injury or loss of life. That one time you text could be the one time when someone is crossing the street. All it takes is one time.”

Cellphone use is yet another distraction to pull drivers away from their task, Tech. Sgt. Connie Lowe, Randolph safety technician, said.

“Recent studies have equated cellphone use while operating a vehicle to having a blood alcohol content of 0.08,” she said. “It is incumbent upon every vehicle operator to not only adhere to the rules, regulations and traffic laws, but to also take the conscious step of removing additional distractions from their vehicle operating environment. This will ensure not only their safety, but the safety of all their fellow drivers.”

The 902nd SFS is “making it a point to constantly monitor traffic and see what individuals are doing inside their vehicles” to ensure safety, Grant said, because those lapses in attention apply to other situations as well.

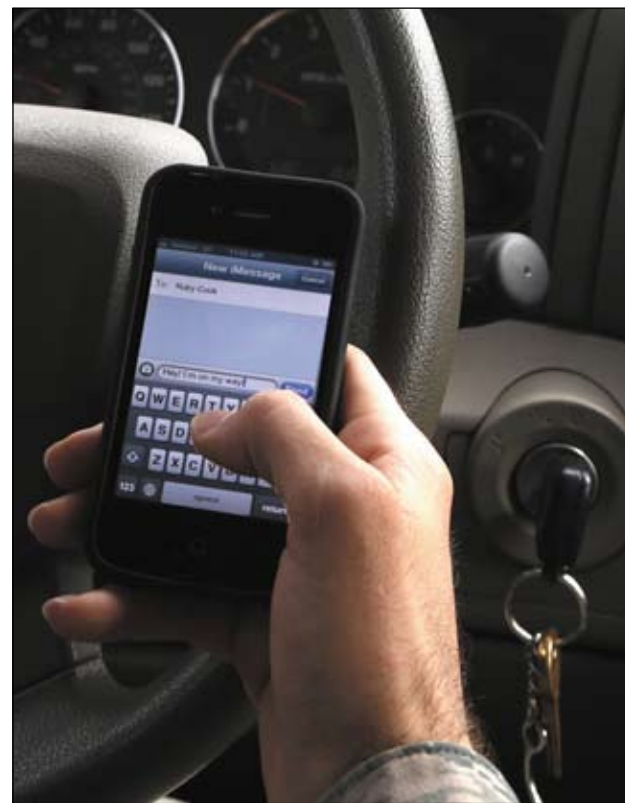


Photo illustration by Joshua Rodriguez

“We’re looking for anything out of the ordinary,” Grant said. “All it takes is for drivers not to use their turn signals or go a couple of miles over the speed limit to put themselves and others at risk.”

Drivers advised to follow Washington Circle’s traffic rules

By Robert Goetz
Joint Base San Antonio-Randolph Public Affairs



Washington Circle, the traffic roundabout directly north of the Taj Mahal, is one of Joint Base San Antonio-Randolph’s most unique features, but its design can also pose problems for motorists.

Some drivers are not following the traffic rules governing the circle, placing themselves and others at risk of an accident, a 902nd Security Forces Squadron member said.

“There have been accidents in Washington Circle due to people driving in the circle as though there’s no lane to stay in,” Staff Sgt. Edward Grant, 902nd SFS police services NCO in charge, said. “It’s an ongoing issue; we see it every day.”

Grant said navigating the circle correctly is especially important in the morning when active-duty members

and civilian employees are arriving for work.

“It’s critical to stay in the proper lane because of the volume of traffic,”

he said.

The roundabout travels one way only, counterclockwise to the right, whether a motorist is entering it from Harmon Drive or the other feeder roads, Grant said.

“When you enter the circle, if you plan on exiting the first or second exit, stay in the outside lane,” he said. “If you’re leaving the circle on the third exit or beyond, stay in the inside lane until you approach the exit.”

In addition, if two vehicles are side by side in the circle, the vehicle in the outside, or right lane has the right-of-way, and all traffic must signal for turns out of the circle.



Photo by Airman 1st Class Lincoln Korver

Some of the mistakes drivers make when they enter Washington Circle are changing lanes at random and not getting in the correct lane to exit, Grant said.

“We’ve even had people go in the wrong direction,” he said.

Education is one way to inform people about the traffic rules of Washington

Circle, Tech. Sgt. Connie Lowe, Randolph ground safety technician, said.

“The safety office accomplishes this through the newcomers’ orientation as well as publicity throughout the year when we talk to units about the proper protocols for negotiating Washington Circle,” she said.

JOINT BASE SAN ANTONIO-RANDOLPH

Professional Performers

The Joint Base San Antonio-Randolph Top Three Professional Performers Award program recognizes enlisted members for their outstanding professionalism in the performance of primary and additional duties, along with involvement in base and community events.



Photo by Don Lindsey

Airman 1st Class Jason Rice

Airman First Class Jason Rice is a medical logistics technician assigned to the 359th Medical Group who consistently performs at a high level. He has mastered the process of ordering medical supplies using Sole Source of Supply contracts, government contracts, Blanket Purchase Agreements and a Government Purchase Card. This enabled him to execute 65 orders totaling \$765,000. His hard work and dedication helped the Pharmacy fill 19,000 prescriptions, which served 7,500 patients throughout five clinics. His persistence led to the arrival of 214 back-ordered items in less than 15 days; a feat that helped elevate his logistics flight to the No. 1 of 27 medical treatment facilities with a small logistics flight account. He was recently selected to serve as the squadron's unit fitness program manager, a position traditionally held by a seasoned NCO. He leads 10 physical training leaders and ensures fitness compliance for 67 Airmen. Under his leadership, the unit's pass rate increased from 91% to 97%.



Photo by Joshua Rodriguez

Staff Sgt. James Reese

Staff Sgt. James Reese is a client system technician assigned to the 902nd Communications Squadron. Reese coordinated 12 Flying Training Wing/Inspector General BlackBerry upgrades enabling critical mobile communications to more than 40 inspectors in limited time and facilitated virtual private network software upgrades for the 12th FTW Financial Management team by manually configuring profiles for all team members. His actions ensured access to the Air Force's network for these critical customers while they were on temporary duty assignments, allowing their continuous support to the 12th FTW training mission. While off duty, Reese volunteered as an usher at the Holiday in Blue concert, ensuring more than 40 distinguished visitors and their families were seated in a timely fashion and hosted with distinction.

JBSA-Randolph celebrates Women's History Month

By Alex Salinas

Joint Base San Antonio-Randolph Public Affairs



Three events remain in what is a busy Women's History Month campaign at Joint Base San Antonio-Randolph.

Along with the several health and fitness related events that jump-started March, the 20-person Randolph Women's History Month committee is sponsoring a women's shelter supply drive through Tuesday.

The shelter drive supports families in the Visitation House, a San Antonio shelter for single women with children under age 12. Laundry detergent, children's toothbrushes and liquid antibacterial hand soap are a few items requested for donation.

The committee is also coordinating a panel of various professional women to speak March 20 at Steele High School.

The speaker panel will celebrate women in science, technology, engineering and mathematics.

To conclude Women's History Month, the committee is hosting a JBSA-wide breakfast 8-10 a.m. March 29 at the Parr Club, featuring Brig. Gen. Theresa Carter, JBSA and 502nd Air Base Wing commander, as the guest speaker for the marquee event.

During the breakfast, winners for the Federal Women's Award will be announced, which is an annual recognition honoring the advancement of women in the workplace and community.

For those interested in nominating a woman who is on active duty, a civilian or spouse, it's not too late.

Submissions, which must cover leadership and job performance, significant self-improvement, base or community involvement, and efforts made to further the cause of women in the workplace or elsewhere should be emailed to cynthia.vice@us.af.mil and are due 5 p.m. Tuesday on an Air Force Form 1206.



The theme for this year's campaign is "Women Inspiring Innovation Through Imagination."

For more information, call Master Sgt. Cynthia Vice, Women's History Month chairman, at 652-2232.

HYPOXIA from P5

"That makes hypoxia training more realistic and compatible," he said.

Hypoxia training is designed for aircrew members who need refresher training, or about every five years, Scott said. That includes mission crew members such as loadmasters, boom operators, flight en-

gineers and linguists.

The aerospace physiology flight has had the hypoxia familiarization trainer since November, when a team from Luke Air Force Base, Ariz., assembled the equipment, Scott said. Maj. Dan Roberts, 359th AMDS Aerospace and Operational Physiology Flight commander, trained other flight members on the hypoxia familiarization trainer.

Two aircrew members have received

hypoxia familiarization training so far, Scott said, "but we will start using it more and more."

Roberts, Scott and other flight members are part of a mobile training team visiting other bases that have acquired hypoxia familiarization trainers. The presence of hypoxia familiarization trainers on bases throughout the Air Force will save the service money, Roberts said.

"The hypoxia familiarization trainer is cost-effective, especially by reducing temporary duty costs in locations that do not have an altitude chamber," he said.

Like Scott, Roberts noted that hypoxia familiarization trainers do not subject aircrew members to the risk of decompression sickness or having their ears or sinuses damaged. He also said hypoxia familiarization trainers provide more realistic training.

SPORTS - HEALTH - FITNESS

Exercise class participants 'step' up to better health

By Robert Goetz
Joint Base San Antonio-Randolph Public Affairs

Four days a week at the Joint Base San Antonio-Randolph Rambler Fitness Center, participants in a group exercise class literally take steps to improve their health.

The diverse group – which includes men and women, Airmen and retirees, spouses and other family members – burn calories and strengthen their heart during the center's step class, better known as step aerobics.

"Step aerobics is a cardiovascular workout," Claudia Peacock, group instructor and personal trainer, said. "It has many benefits. It burns calories, builds endurance and helps people lose weight. It's also great for toning, especially shaping up your legs."

Other benefits include reducing stress and promoting restful sleep.

An instructor at the center for nearly 20 years, Peacock said her step class has its share of "regulars," who have been working out there longer than she's been

teaching, as well as newer faces.

"This class is for everyone," she said.

Step aerobics is distinguished by its use of an elevated platform – a step – that intensifies the cardiovascular workout. Risers can be placed underneath the step to further that intensity and meet individual needs.

Not all participants have to use a step, Peacock said. People with knee problems can work out without the apparatus.

Peacock starts her 45-minute class with warm-up exercises before proceeding to the step workout – all of it choreographed and enhanced by dance music ranging from disco to Latin.

Class participants step up and down during the workout, using a variety of moves and arm movements. The speed and impact of the workout often vary, usually to meet the capabilities of the participants.

"The number of calories you burn depends on the intensity of the workout," Peacock said. "If you move your arms a lot, you burn more calories."

The workout generally follows a bell curve, she said, building up to a peak, then easing down to bring the heart rate down.

The class' routines vary, Peacock said.

"I try not to teach the same routine so people don't get bored and their muscles don't get used to the same workout," she said.

Mary Broughton, a Converse resident, is one of the class' regulars. She's been using the facility for 16 years.

"It's good for me," she said. "It keeps me young."

Broughton supplements her fitness center workouts with regular 3- or 4-mile walks in her neighborhood. Her approach mirrors that of people who attend several exercise classes at the center each week to address areas like cardiovascular health, weight training and flexibility.

"Some people come to this class two to three times a week and go to other classes, such as yoga or Zumba," Peacock said. "They can get an overall workout."

The class is popular, typically attracting eight to 15 participants, she said.

Peacock compared it to dancing.

"It's a good, fun cardiovascular workout," she said.



Photo by Don Lindsey

Claudia Peacock, step instructor at the Rambler Fitness Center, conducts a motivational step class Feb. 15 at Joint Base San Antonio-Randolph.

Joint Base San Antonio-Randolph *Sports* BRIEFS

UFC event

UFC athletes are visiting JBSA locations Thursday through March 16. See schedule below:

Fort Sam Houston

Fitness Center at METC:
5:30-8:30 p.m. Thursday

Randolph

Rambler Fitness Center:
5-8 p.m. March 15

Lackland

Combative Lab: 1-4:30 p.m.
March 16

Skylark Community Center:
8 p.m.-12:30 a.m. March 16

Bowling special

A bowling special is offered at the Randolph Bowling Center 10 a.m.-4 p.m. March 11-15 and March 18-22. Bowl one game and get one game free. For more information, call 652-6271.

St. Patrick's Day 5K

Rambler Fitness Center patrons can celebrate St. Patrick's Day with a 5K run/walk 7:30 a.m. March 15 at Eberle Park. For more information, call 652-5316.

City plans military appreciation run

Members of the military community are invited to participate in the Military City USA 5K run/walk 8 a.m. March 23. The starting line is at the JBSA-Fort Sam Houston Aquatic Center parking lot, building 3300, Williams Road. Participants can sign up 30 minutes prior to the start time. The top male and female finishers take home prizes. This free fun run is open to all DOD ID card holders including children. No pets are allowed. For more information, call 808-5709.



Chairman commits to 'lead through' budget crisis

By Amaani Lyle
American Forces Press Service

In a video message to service members March 1, the chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff committed to leading through the effects of sequestration and encouraged dialogue about its impact.

Army Gen. Martin E. Dempsey said the military must continue to protect the nation, preserve defense readiness and ensure troops – especially those in harm's way – are well-trained, well-led and well-equipped.

"We're going to have to stretch our readiness dollars," Dempsey said, "and that means part of the force will be advantaged and part will be disadvantaged."

Still, he said, leaders including Defense Secretary Chuck Hagel and the service chiefs are well aware of the turbulence the fiscal crisis is causing.

"We are committed to leading through that ... and we're going to do it with your help," Dempsey told service members. "We understand the difficult position we're going to place you in; we understand the hardships you may have to suffer [and] we understand the uncertainty and the

anxiety that that can bring."

Dempsey acknowledged not knowing how long the fiscal uncertainty will last; noting elected officials may exercise their options over the next few weeks or months.

In the meantime, he said, he'd like to hear what is on the minds of service members.

"Stay in touch ... tell us the effect of the decisions we're making," Dempsey said. "I admire you a great deal for what you've done in the past, for what you're doing now and what we're going to ask you to do in the future."

Hagel notes sequester's 'particular pain' for civilians

By Karen Parrish
American Forces Press Service

Defense Department civilian employees will "particularly" feel the pain sequester will bring to the entire defense workforce, Defense Secretary Chuck Hagel said March 1.

In his first Pentagon press briefing, Hagel outlined the steps the Pentagon and the services will take as the budget mechanism known as sequester, which takes effect at midnight, trims roughly half a trillion dollars from defense spending over the next 10 years.

Along with cost-cutting actions by the services to curtail training and maintenance, the department has already announced it will furlough civilian employees beginning in late April, cutting their

work hours and pay by 20 percent for the rest of the fiscal year.

"Our number one concern is our people, military and civilian, the millions of men and women of this department who work very hard every day to ensure America's security," the secretary said. "I know that these budget cuts will cause pain, particularly among our civilian workforce and their families. I'm also concerned, as we all are, about the impact on readiness that these cuts will have across our force."

Deputy Defense Secretary Ash Carter joined Hagel for today's conference and shared his views about defense civilian workers.

"As you know, our civilian workforce is about 800,000 strong," Carter

said. "Those people, too, are dedicated to the defense mission." Nearly 90 percent of DOD civilians live outside of Washington, he noted, and nearly half of them are veterans.

"So they're dedicated to the mission, too," he said. "And as the year goes on, many of them will be subject to furlough."

Civilians make important contributions to the nation's defense, Carter said. "They

do real things that are really important to us. And they've had their pay frozen for years; now they're subject to furlough."

The deputy secretary said the reason civilians join the department, and the reason "I hope they'll stick with us," is because of mission.

"They're committed to what we do, which is defend the country and hope to make a better world," he said. "That's why they do it."

JBSA-Randolph Chapel Schedule

- **CATHOLIC**

Monday-Friday

11:30 a.m. - Chapel 1

Saturday

5:30 p.m. - Chapel 1

Sunday

8:30 a.m. - Bldg. 975

11:30 a.m. - Chapel 1

Confession

Saturday

4:30-5 p.m. - Chapel 1



- **PROTESTANT**

Traditional

Sunday Service

8:15 a.m. - Chapel 1

Contemporary

Sunday Service

11 a.m. - Bldg. 975

Joint Base San Antonio-Randolph NEWS BRIEFS

Shoppers find bargains

The Randolph Bargain Warehouse is open 8-9 a.m. Wednesday in building 1139 for pay grades E-1 to E-6 and 10 a.m.-2 p.m. for all other DOD ID cardholders. Only checks and cash are accepted as payment. A limited number of people will be allowed in the building at one time, so patrons should be prepared to stand in line. For more information, call 652-5142.

Road closures

Fourth Street East will be closed Monday through Friday and Third Drive East will be closed March 15-22. Traffic control measures should be expected and observed. For more information, contact Jerald Wieters at 652-2393 or jerald.wieters@us.af.mil.

Brief submission

To submit a brief, email all information to randolphpublicaffairs@us.af.mil.

Sequestration and furlough information

For news, information and frequently asked questions regarding sequestration and possible civilian furloughs, scan the

QR code or visit the

<http://www.jbsa.af.mil> home page and click the "Administrative Furlough Frequently Asked Questions" graphic.



Administrative Furlough
Frequently Asked Questions

