

# JBSA

# LEGACY

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JOINT BASE SAN ANTONIO

NOVEMBER 1, 2019



From left: Army Spec. Abdiel Santos-Soto, Air Force Maj. Julia Nuelle and Air Force Capt. Tayt Ellison harvest bone to perform a fibular bone graft Sept. 19 during a Medical Readiness Exercise in Tegucigalpa, Honduras,

**Exercises provide invaluable surgical, training opportunities** *Page 6*



**U.S. Army South hosts Colombian Sergeants Major**  
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**Pilot Training Next collaborates with NASA**  
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# New options available for spouse employment, relicensing

By Devon Suits  
ARMY NEWS SERVICE

The Department of Labor recently launched a website to help military spouses that possess an occupational license and need to transfer their credentials to another state.

Through the Veterans.gov website, military spouses can review each state's law concerning specific licensed occupations, said Kristopher Rick, assigned to the DOL's veterans' employment and training services.

Spouses can then arm themselves with information about a state's licensure portability laws, Rick said during a family forum at the Association of the U.S. Army Annual Meeting and Exposition Oct. 15.

In 2019 alone, 13 states have implemented changes to legislation to support military spouses who have credentials. Through the website, spouses can easily navigate an interactive map of the country and receive a short synopsis of each legislation.

The website also features a "CareerOneStop License Finder," providing users the ability to access information on a state's occupational licensure board. Further, spouses can review the necessary requirements to transition their license into that state, he added.

"More importantly, the site provides a point of contact information," Rick said. "Spouses can now build a roadmap on how to engage ... when preparing to move to a new location."

The Army will also reimburse up to \$500 in relicensing costs, said Krista Simpson Anderson, Army Emergency Relief military spouse ambassador. If expenses exceed the allotted reimbursement amount, Soldiers and spouses could receive up to \$2,500 in Army Emergency Relief support.

Spouse relicensing support is a needs-based program and not designed to reimburse military families, she said. Regular Army, National Guard, and Reserve spouses can receive assistance up to 180 days after they move to a new duty station.

The intent of the program is "to relieve distress, promote resiliency and overall financial readiness of Army families," Anderson added.

Spouses with occupational licenses slated to move should

review the "License Recognition For Military Spouses resource guide," Rick said. Users can find a downloadable version of the guide on the Veterans.gov website, or click on the related link below.

Spouses who are looking to start a career search, or in the process of transitioning to a new field, can turn to Military One Source for support.

"It's important to know that career assistance, resume help, and mock interview sessions are available when spouses are available," Kelley said.

Starting in November, spouses will have access to a 90-second career assessment tool that will provide insight into their career strengths, she said. This is one example of how Military One Source is evolving to meet emerging needs.

## 2019 TRICARE, Federal Benefits Open Season starts next month

### TRICARE Communications

Did you know that the TRICARE Open Season and Federal Benefits Open Season happen only once a year? Unless you experience a Qualifying Life Event, open season is your only chance to enroll in or make a change to your enrollment for the participating programs.

TRICARE Open Season applies to anyone enrolled in or eligible for a TRICARE Prime or TRICARE Select health plan. Federal Benefits Open Season is for enrollment in a Federal Employees Dental and Vision Insurance Program dental and vision plan. Both the TRICARE and FEDVIP open seasons will run from Nov. 1 to Dec. 9. The enrollment choices that you make during this period will take effect on Jan. 1, 2020.

"Get a head start on open season by reviewing your benefits now," said Mark Ellis, chief of the Policy and Programs Section of the TRICARE Health Plan at the Defense Health Agency.

### TRICARE Open Season

If you're eligible to participate in TRICARE Open Season, you have three choices for your 2020 health coverage:

► **Do nothing.** If you want to stay in your current TRICARE health care plan, you don't have to take any action. You'll continue in your current health plan through

2020 or as long as you're eligible.

► **Enroll in a plan.** If you're eligible for a TRICARE Prime option or TRICARE Select but not enrolled, you can enroll in a plan now.

► **Change plans.** If you're already enrolled in TRICARE Prime (including the US Family Health Plan) or TRICARE Select, you can switch plans and switch between individual and family enrollment.

TRICARE Open Season doesn't apply to TRICARE For Life. TFL coverage is automatic if you have Medicare Part A and Part B. It also doesn't apply to premium-based plans:

- TRICARE Retired Reserve
- TRICARE Reserve Select
- TRICARE Young Adult
- Continued Health Care Benefit Program

As described in the TRICARE Plans Overview, you can purchase premium-based plans any time.

### Federal Benefits Open Season

Eligible TRICARE beneficiaries may purchase dental and vision coverage through FEDVIP during the Federal Benefits Open Season. If you're already enrolled in a FEDVIP dental or vision plan and you don't want to make a change, your enrollment will continue in 2020. If you wish to make changes to your existing plan, you must do so during open season.

You may choose between multiple vision

and dental plans and carriers. Compare 2020 plans and rates using the FEDVIP plan comparison tool.

FEDVIP dental coverage is available to:

- Retired service members and their eligible family members
  - Retired National Guard and Reserve members and their eligible family members
  - Certain survivors
  - Medal of Honor recipients and their immediate family members and survivors
- FEDVIP vision coverage is available to:
- Active duty family members
  - National Guard and Reserve members and their eligible family members enrolled in TRS or TRR
  - Retired service members and their eligible family members
  - TFL beneficiaries

To enroll in a FEDVIP vision plan, you must be enrolled in a TRICARE health plan or have TFL coverage.

Adult children enrolled in or eligible for TYA aren't eligible for FEDVIP. This also applies to ADSMs and beneficiaries enrolled in the Transitional Assistance Management Program or CHCBP.

Don't miss this important opportunity. Sign up for email updates about open season on the TRICARE website. Take command of your health and prepare now for this year's TRICARE Open Season and Federal Benefits Open Season.

## JBSA LEGACY

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# Feedback Fridays

By Brig. Gen. Laura L. Lenderman

502D AIR BASE WING AND

JOINT BASE SAN ANTONIO COMMANDER

Feedback Fridays is a weekly forum that aims to connect the 502d Air Base Wing with members of the Joint Base San Antonio community. Questions are collected during commander's calls, town hall meetings and throughout the week.

If you have a question or concern, please send an email to [RandolphPublicAffairs@us.af.mil](mailto:RandolphPublicAffairs@us.af.mil) using the subject line "Feedback Fridays." Questions will be further researched and published as information becomes available.

## Personnel Issues

**Q.** When will those with VA ID cards be able to use the Base Exchange and Commissary on JBSA-Lackland and other local bases?

**A.** Perfect timing! The directed implementation date for this system to go into effect is Jan. 1, 2020. This provision is in the John S. McCain National Defense Authorization Act of 2019 and is a great opportunity to give back to those veterans that have disabilities and their caregivers.

Right now, we are awaiting additional official guidance and direction from the Department of Defense. From there, each uniformed service will add their specific guidance and it will be passed down to our installations so we may develop our implementation plan and advertising campaign. You should be hearing more in the near future!

## Installation & Facilities

**Q.** I have a few concerns regarding the vehicles and supplies for CE. First, the CE plumbers are using 10- to 15-year-old vehicles when supervisors seem to be getting new vehicles every 2-4 years.

Second, the supply here at JBSA-Randolph refuse to get supplies while JBSA-Lackland and JBSA-Fort Sam Houston are well supplied.

Lastly, can CE get reserved parking spaces? We have to carry tools and parts, and it would be more efficient to be immediately in front of the building/work area.

**A.** Thank you for your concern.

Regarding the vehicles, the 502nd LRS is responsible for assessing vehicle usage and conditions on an annual basis. These assessments are based on the overall condition of the vehicle and the odometer readings.

When vehicles are no longer considered operational, they are removed from the inventory and replaced. If your vehicles are reaching their end-of-life or are no longer in working condition, please contact the 502nd LRS Vehicle Operations Center so they can re-assess and determine if newer vehicles are needed.

Regarding the cross flow of supplies, the 502nd CES has a JBSA enterprise-wide perspective, with emphasis on ensuring all locations are equally supported. CE will begin to address your concern by assessing the issue of supply crossflow to identify any barriers and determine the way ahead.

Lastly, our 502nd CES team conducts periodic assessments of reserved parking spots to ensure they are driven by mission needs. To further help with our assessment, please reach out to 502nd CES leadership for any specific requirement for CE work vehicle reserved parking spots. Thanks again for bringing this concern forward, and please continue to provide feedback!

**Q.** When will law enforcement crack down on people driving and texting and walking and texting? I have seen numerous people at JBSA-Fort Sam Houston violate these policies.

**A.** Thank you for this important safety-related question.

We take these events very seriously, and we actually created a local policy last year that states if an individual is caught driving non-hands free or is texting while driving, Security Forces can issue an instant, pre-signed 30-day notice of suspension/revocation of base driving privileges (per JBSA supplement to Air Force Manual 31-116, dated October 15, 2018).

I know this policy is being continually enforced thanks to our Defenders' public awareness campaigns, and from the reports of cell phone violations captured in the Security Forces Police Blotter that I read daily. Regarding walking and texting, both the Air Force and Army allow this in limited cases (i.e., emergencies and official business) with the rendering of customs and courtesies having precedence above all else (per Air Force Instruction 36-2903, paragraph 6.3.3.2, and Army Regulation 670-1, section 3-6.a.(d)).

Violations are handled with on-the-spot corrections and unit



COURTESY GRAPHIC

commander administrative action vs. being ticketed by Defenders and police. Thank you for your concern of our JBSA personnel, and please continue to provide feedback.

**Q.** I noted Brig. Gen. Lenderman's response to a Commander's Call suggestion to designate one lane for base entry for those not having CAC cards. The suggestion was apparently rejected because of a traffic study indicating it would require unsafe lane changes as people read the sign on the gate, then maneuvered to get into the lane applicable to them (CAC or non-CAC).

I have a simpler suggestion applicable only to JBSA-Lackland and really only on Thursdays and Fridays. The 37th Training Wing, in the material they send out to Basic Military Training parents, should instruct families of trainees to use the right lane only when entering the gates.

Then, the 37th TRW should let the rest of the base know that they have informed the families of this new rule. The rest of us are then free to use the left lane(s) as normal. Part of the delay associated with the BMT families is the extra time it takes to check a non-CAC holder's ID and paperwork.

A bigger part of the delay — and normally longer when it occurs is from a driver receiving (& trying to understand) directions from a gate guard.

If this suggestion proved helpful, all mission partners at each installation of JBSA where there is more than one entry lane could be instructed to: (1) tell their visitors to use the right hand lane (at least if they don't have a CAC card); and (2) send their visitors directions before they arrive at the gate.

**A.** Thank you for your suggestion on optimizing traffic flow during the weekly BMT graduations. Our SF planners work closely with the 37th Training Wing to find new and

innovative ways to expedite the incoming traffic in a safe and secure manner, such as new signage, pavement markings and square "QR" barcodes you can scan with your smartphone.

Your suggestion of a dedicated right-hand lane may further exacerbate traffic stacking and delays outside of our perimeter; however, that is what is statistically in effect today. Ninety-nine percent of BMT families use the middle and right lanes at the Luke East Gate.

We continue to stress use of alternate reporting hours and installation access points by our permanent party personnel, especially on Thursdays and Fridays.

Thank you for your suggestion! This kind of feedback is what allows our amazing Defenders to continue to do a great job in vetting and checking 4,000 to 6,000 visitors weekly, while ensuring all attending family members of our Trainees receive the pre-arrival information they need to best navigate the base and minimize questions and authentication time at the gate so they can enjoy their loved ones' entry into the world's greatest Air Force!

**Q.** I would like to address the subject of the new one-way spiked speed bumps that were installed at several gates at JBSA-Lackland.

I drive a Honda Goldwing motorcycle and every time I go over them, I bottom out and hit the underside of my bike. It is also hard to navigate because they have so many bumps so close together.

I am afraid my motorcycle is going to be damaged by this continuous bottoming out. Is there anything we can do to fix this?

**A.** Thank you for this question, as all motorcycleists should know about this. The new speed bumps and their spacing are required by recent updates to the

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## FEEDBACK FRIDAYS

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Department of Defense policy for military construction and sustainment, called the “Unified Facilities Criteria.”

These additional devices and their size are mandated to help better protect all DOD installations and the workforce against high-speed vehicles that don't have to negotiate barriers at slow speed when driving through the inbound and outbound lanes at the gate.

I would encourage all riders to deliberately lower their acceleration as they maneuver over the speed bumps as they exit the installation. While this is inconvenient for commuters, we can expect to see more of these in the future where there are only single bumps in order to meet the DOD standards.

Thank you for your patience and cooperation with these needed security measures to keep JBSA safe!

**Q.** I believe that it would be very beneficial to consider installing some yield signs or stop signs throughout the JBSA-Randolph Base Exchange and Commissary parking lot. I see drivers darting out from the various Commissary and Base Exchange parking lot areas into the main horizontal road that stretches from the gas station to the rear of the Base Exchange Garden Shop.

Many times, the drivers don't even look when they pull out in front of you from the parking lot areas onto the main horizontal road. The drivers just expect you to stop for them. I believe some yield or stop signs would help solve this ongoing problem.

In addition, I believe more pedestrian cross walks should also be provided across the main road that runs horizontal between the Base Exchange and Commissary Building. I see pedestrians jaywalking and darting out in front of traffic hoping that the drivers will see them and stop for them.

**A.** We appreciate your question concerning the JBSA-Randolph Base Exchange and Commissary Parking lot area as personnel safety is one of the 502 ABW's top priorities.

The BX/Commissary parking lot has six defined access points, two off of New B Street and four off of 3rd Street West. The main roadway that's referenced is a two way access aisle for the parking lot area and not a designated street.

Parking lot areas are not subject to Texas Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Device requirements with regards to signs and pavement

markings. To provide a safe walkway for pedestrians, a designated central crosswalk from the BX to the Commissary was established.

Regardless, the JBSA-Randolph Traffic Safety Coordination Group will present this at our next meeting and look at all legal means to protect the safety of motorists and pedestrians alike.

In the meantime, motorists and pedestrians should pay special attention in these highly congested areas on JBSA-Randolph. Pedestrians need to use crosswalks, always look both ways before entering a crosswalk, and don't step into a crosswalks until the approaching vehicle stops.

Motorists, drive slow and anticipate that the pedestrian, especially young children, may step out in front of your vehicle whether in a crosswalk or not so be prepared to stop. Everyone should eliminate any distractions while driving or walking in these areas as well, (i.e. put phone down).

For all future traffic safety concerns, we encourage personnel to address them with each location's Safety Office:

► JBSA-Fort Sam Houston/JBSA-Camp Bullis, 210-221-5239, usaf.jbsa.502-abw.mbx.safety-office@mail.mil;

► JBSA-Lackland, 210-671-5028, 502abw.se.jbsa-lak@us.af.mil; or

► JBSA-Randolph, 210-652-1842, 502abw.olb.gound.safety@us.af.mil.

**Q.** I wanted to bring to your attention the parking issue at the mini-mall on the corner of William Hardee Road and Williams Road at JBSA-Fort Sam Houston.

It seems that during working hours, the mini-mall parking lot is always full. This is odd because when you walk into the mini-mall, especially late in the afternoon, there are not that many folks in the entire mall. The amount of cars in the parking lot would not even equal all of the workers in the building plus customers.

I've asked some of the workers there why the parking situation is so bad and they have told me that the military instructors and others that work nearby are parking in the mini-mall parking lot instead of utilizing their designated parking lots (which I am assuming is farther away).

I would hope that you agree that military instructors should not be utilizing mini-mall parking ALL DAY because they don't want to use their own parking lots that may be farther away. This takes away from mini-mall customer parking and ultimately mini-mall sales.

I can tell you that if the parking lot is

full, I will just keep driving and go somewhere else. Folks end up parking across the road in a parking lot that is supposed to be for dorm parking. Not only does this take up dorm parking, but then folks have to walk further across the busy road (in the heat and traffic with no cross walks) to get to the mini-mall. They also park in the grass and other non-designated parking spaces.

The instructors taking up mini-mall parking are causing a domino effect on mini-mall customers just so that they can park closer to work.

As an individual with a disability, I cannot find a regular parking spot during peak or even non-peak hours, let alone find handicap parking. There is a large area behind the mini-mall that has absolutely nothing there. Do you know if there are any plans to expand the parking at all?

Also, would you be able to speak to security forces to see if they can prevent the military instructors from using mini-mall parking as their all-day parking spaces.

**A.** Thank you for highlighting this concern. Parking is a challenge across all of JBSA, to include in this specific area on JBSA-Fort Sam Houston.

The Civil Engineer team, along with the JBSA-Fort Sam Houston Executive Agent, has been actively working to address this issue. The challenge with this area is there are many competing users, and limited space for parking growth due to topography and security stand-off distances.

The specific concern regarding handicap parking has been looked at, and it has been determined that there are an adequate number spaces in those lots. However, because Texas law allows for disabled veteran parking in these spaces, there is no way to restrict such usage often causing non-availability to meet the demand.

Our CE team has identified some potential growth and restriping opportunities, however, this will not provide a major increase for that area, and execution is dependent on funds. There is adequate parking in the general area of these facilities, however, it does require walking a greater distance to workspaces, and workers in that area are encouraged to use these other parking areas to help ensure access to service facilities such as the Shoppette.

We will explore the option of adding 15-minute parking spaces to limit full-day parking. Fortunately, if parking is not available, there are other AAFES services available on JBSA-Fort Sam

Houston to utilize, with major improvements currently underway for our main AAFES plaza on JBSA-Fort Sam Houston.

**Q.** Recently, I approached the Valley Hi Gate at JBSA-Lackland and the traffic was backed up as usual, but the left lane seemed to be moving faster so I assumed it was open.

As I got closer to the gate, I realized only the right lane was open. I sat in the left lane waiting for someone to let me in for over five minutes. In frustration, I began angling my car towards the right lane and was finally let in.

There were three Security Forces troops on duty, one checking IDs, the other two standing idle, except one left the gate to stop traffic so a car could exit the Visitor's Center.

When I reached the SF troop he took my ID and asked if there was a reason why I pushed my car into the right lane traffic. I responded truthfully although I did not “push” my way into the lane; there was never a risk of me hitting another car.

The SF troop then proceeded to counsel me to remain in my lane until all traffic cleared. While understanding that limited manning has resulted in only one lane being open it should also be acknowledged that the situation at that gate is beyond inconvenient — with troops walking on/off base, VIA buses blocking lanes, and cars entering/exiting businesses, the situation is hazardous and it is surprising there are not more accidents.

My questions are: 1) Is there a way to alert incoming traffic which lane is open because it seems to change every week. I would not have got in the left lane had I known the right lane was open. 2) If more than one SF member is at the gate, can traffic be directed, i.e. take turns letting each lane go just like the troop stopped traffic to allow the car the Visitor's Center to exit. 3) Can we open two lanes briefly just until the traffic clears?

**A.** Thank you for your questions and suggestions on how to best flow traffic through our gates during special evening events. Regarding your suggestion on alerting incoming traffic, our Defenders have had conversations with Civil Engineers about installing the “green arrow - red X” signs at each gate.

We have yet to reach a solution because the overhead cover is a canopy and not a structure, which does not easily accommodate electrically-lit signage.

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# AF announces new officer developmental categories

**Secretary of the Air Force Public Affairs and Air Force Reserve Command Public Affairs**

In an effort to enhance the officer talent management system and enable tailored and agile development, the Air Force is expanding the single Line of the Air Force promotion category into six distinct developmental categories, senior officials announced Oct. 21.

"This is an important step forward in the way Air Force leaders are developed," said Secretary of the Air Force Barbara M. Barrett. "The team has done exceptional work to get us to this point and I look forward to implementing this together."

Over the summer, Air Force officials traveled to more than a dozen bases to hold 42 town hall sessions. They talked with more than 3,700 Airmen about the proposed developmental categories change and captured feedback.

The Line of the Air Force category will be expanded into six categories: Air Operations and Special Warfare, Nuclear and Missile Operations, Space Operations, Information Warfare, Combat Support, and Force Modernization. Categories for judge advocates, chaplains and medical personnel will remain unchanged. For the regular Air Force, the change will take effect in March 2020 with the lieutenant colonel promotion board.

"This change is about ensuring we maintain a winning team," said Air Force Chief of Staff Gen. David L. Goldfein. "The existing Line of the Air Force category has served our Air Force well and molded the excellent leaders we have today. As we look to the future of warfighting, we must have an agile system that allows for a wider range of development paths to ensure officers have the needed skills and expertise to fight and win. This sets us on that path."

"Our Air Force Reserve is following lock-step with our regular Air Force teammates," said Lt. Gen. Richard Scobee, chief of the Air Force Reserve and commander of Air Force Reserve Command. "This is not just about promotion boards. It's about developing our officer corps with more transparency and a better understanding of what is expected of them."

"Tailoring our promotion boards for officers to more precisely meet our needs at the next higher level is a large part of this change, but this is more. It is about the agility of our mentors, career field managers and developmental teams who can now use this to tailor career paths and expectations."

The Reserve's plan is to implement these new categories with its lieutenant colonel selection board scheduled for June 2020.

Before the change, the Line of the Air Force category was comprised of more than 40 different officer Air Force Specialty Codes and accounted for about 80 percent of the officer corps. The Line of the Air Force category has remained virtually unchanged since the establishment of the Air Force as a separate service in 1947.

Now, rather than competing for promotion against 40 different career fields with varied job requirements, officers will compete against officers in other fields that have similar progression milestones, experiences and mission area focus.

The new categories will allow each career field the freedom and agility to better tailor officer development to meet job demands without compromising competitive position at a promotion board.

A list of the new developmental categories and associated Air Force Specialty Codes is available on the MyPers website.



**It's time to "Fall Back."**  
**Set your clocks back one hour**  
**at 2 a.m. this Sunday, Nov. 3.**



# FORT SAM HOUSTON

## Honduran readiness exercises provide invaluable surgical, training opportunities

By Lori Newman

BROOKE ARMY MEDICAL CENTER  
PUBLIC AFFAIRS

Brooke Army Medical Center personnel participated in two separate medical readiness exercises in Honduras recently.

These exercises, known as MEDRETEs, help U.S. military personnel maintain readiness by allowing them to train in the delivery of medical care in austere conditions. They also promote diplomatic relations between the United States and the host nation, and provide humanitarian and civic assistance.

"MEDRETEs play a critical role in the training and readiness of our military medical personnel," said BAMC Commanding General Brig. Gen. Wendy Harter. "These exercises allow our doctors, nurses, and medics to practice vital skills in austere environments – conditions that closely mirror what they may experience while deployed -- while also fostering relationships with partnering nations."

A team of 19 military medical personnel from BAMC and other military treatment facilities participated in an orthopaedic and hand mission in Tegucigalpa, Honduras from Sept. 14-27.

"This was the first time many of us have participated in a MEDRETE," said Army Lt. Col. Lori Tapley, the mission's executive officer.

The team from BAMC met up with their counterparts from the other MTFs at the



ARMY LT. COL. LORI TAPLEY

From left: Army Spc. Abdiel Santos-Soto, Air Force Maj. Julia Nuelle and Air Force Capt. Tayt Ellison harvest bone to perform a fibular bone graft Sept. 19 during a Medical Readiness Exercise in Tegucigalpa, Honduras.

airport before flying into Honduras.

"Some of the others who had been there before were able to fill us in about what to expect when we arrived," Tapley said.

When they arrived at Hospital Escuela, the team hit the ground running. The hospital, which normally has 22 operating rooms, is currently undergoing renovation, leaving them with only nine functioning ORs.

"As a result, the hospital was at full capacity with inpatient trauma patients," explained Air

Force Maj. (Dr.) Julia Nuelle, chief of Orthopaedic Hand and Microvascular Surgery at BAMC, and the officer in charge for the mission. "They actually had patients staying in the emergency room, because there were no inpatient rooms available on the floors. A lot of the work we did was operating on these patients who have been there for several weeks."

The first day, the team went through the entire hospital accessing the patients, viewing multiple sets of X-rays, organizing the information,

and creating a planning schedule for the following weeks.

Nuelle led a team to care for the hand and upper extremity injuries, while Army Lt. Col. (Dr.) David Gloystein, chief of Spinal Reconstructive Surgery at Eisenhower Army Medical Center at Fort Gordon, Georgia, led another team to care for the lower extremity injuries.

"Currently in Honduras the main mechanism for upper extremity injury is likely a machete attack, and we saw a lot of those patients," said Air

Force Capt. (Dr.) Tayt Ellison, one of the residents who was on the mission.

The teams treated several patients who had multiple tendon and nerve injuries.

"Not just on the flexor or the extensor side, but the machete cut both sides," Nuelle said. "There were several severe polytrauma patients we took care of with injuries that were several weeks old. That made the cases much more challenging than if they had been taken care of within the first week or two."

Both teams worked long hours, rotating shifts to best utilize the space and equipment needed to perform the complex procedures. Even though the team brought the supplies and equipment they needed, they were faced with a myriad of challenges, including power surges, power outages, no air conditioning in the ORs and the threat of a water shortage.

"We were also using instruments and equipment we don't commonly use in the U.S. because we have different options," Nuelle said. "For instance, typically when we are drilling for screws, we use a power drill, but to sterilize our power drills in Honduras it took several hours, so if we had multiple cases, we actually used hand crank drills to put the screws in. It required a lot of coordination between the teams to make sure we were utilizing our supplies and equipment the optimal way."

Every day the entire team had to collectively decide which sets of instruments each team

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# San Antonio honors Navy's 244th birthday

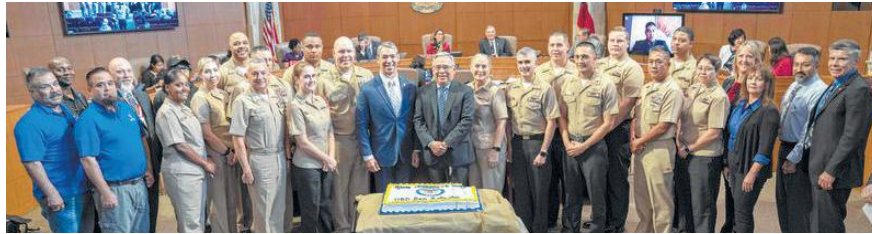
By Petty Officer 1st Class  
David Kolmel

NAVY MEDICINE EDUCATION,  
TRAINING AND LOGISTICS COMMAND  
PUBLIC AFFAIRS

Members of Navy Medicine Education, Training and Logistics Command, or NMETLC, and Navy Medicine Training Support Center, or NMTSC, gathered at the San Antonio City Hall during a City Council meeting Oct. 17 to celebrate the Navy's birthday.

The celebration honored the Navy's 244th birthday with a traditional cake cutting, the singing of "Anchors Aweigh" and recognizing the Navy's active, Reserve and veterans in attendance.

"Honoring the Navy during a City Hall meeting symbolizes the strong partnership between the city and the military," said retired Marine Corps Maj. Gen. Juan Ayala, the city's director of military and veterans affairs. "City Hall is the 'peoples'



MASS COMMUNICATION SPECIALIST 1ST CLASS DAVID KOLMEL

*Sailors from Navy Medicine Education, Training and Logistics Command; Navy Medicine Training Support Center; Navy veterans and retirees; San Antonio Mayor Ron Nirenberg and city council members honor the Navy's 244th birthday during a city hall meeting.*

house,' and council meetings are conducted publicly by representatives elected by the entire city. It is appropriate to honor our Navy at City Hall because it symbolizes the entire community of San Antonio coming together to thank the Navy for their service, and to let the public know that city leadership recognizes the importance of that service."

Long recognized and referred to as "Military City USA," the City of San Antonio recently

trademarked the name, making it official. The city sponsors and participates in multiple military recognition events throughout the year. This includes birthday cake-cutting ceremonies for each of the five military services.

San Antonio is known for its massive Army and Air Force presence. It is home to four large Army and Air Force installations, several Army and Air Force headquarters commands, and Air Force basic

military training and flight training.

What many don't know is San Antonio is also home to 10 Navy commands, detachments and units, including the "A" and "C" schools for the Navy's two largest enlisted career fields, Hospital Corpsman and Master-at-Arms. There are more than 10,000 Navy students, active and reserve Sailors, Navy civilian employees, and Navy family members living and working in

San Antonio.

Capt. Elizabeth Montcalm-Smith, NMETLC acting deputy commander, spoke on behalf of those 10,000-plus, commending Military City USA residents and elected officials for their support of the Navy and of all military members and their families living and working in the area.

"I believe the men and women of your United States Navy have served and continue to serve, in part, because of the strength they gain from the support they are given by communities across our nation," Montcalm-Smith said. "I can think of no community that supports and nurtures their men and women in uniform as does this community. The name Military City USA proclaims it, and your actions demonstrate it. On behalf of the men and women of your United States Navy, I thank you."

## Thousands turn out for JBSA-Fort Sam Houston Oktoberfest

By Steve Elliott

502ND AIR BASE WING PUBLIC AFFAIRS

Taking advantage of a beautiful Texas autumn afternoon, thousands of people took part in the annual Joint Base San Antonio-Fort Sam Houston Oktoberfest celebration, enjoying live music, arts and crafts, children's activities, food and a few adult beverages Oct. 19.

The U.S. Air Force Band of the West's Warhawk band got the music going early with a wide variety of rock and dance tunes and the Beethoven Dance Band took it from there with authentic German music, complete with a full brass section. In between the two musical acts, Maj. Gen. David P. Glaser, Deputy Commanding General-Operations, U.S. Army North (Fifth Army), helped tap the ceremonial keg.



PHOTOS BY STEVE ELLIOTT

*The wurst here is the best as tasty German treats are doled out during the JBSA-Fort Sam Houston Oktoberfest celebration Oct. 19.*



*These gentlemen stay hydrated at the 2019 Joint Base San Antonio-Fort Sam Houston Oktoberfest celebration Oct. 19.*



*Attendees at the 2019 Joint Base San Antonio-Fort Sam Houston Oktoberfest celebration enjoy the music of the Air Force Band of the West's Warhawk band Oct. 19.*



# Updated legal news for Soldiers taking Rx meds

By Jim Tripp

U.S. ARMY SOLDIER LEGAL SERVICES

*Editor's Note: The information that follows is based on Army policies and applies to Soldiers. Military members from other services should consult a judge advocate for analogous service-specific information.*

The list of drugs available for doctors to prescribe continues to grow, and now includes Dronabinol, an FDA-approved synthetic THC, or tetrahydrocannabinol, the chemical responsible for most of marijuana's psychological effects.

Dronabinol, known by the brand names Marinol or Syndros, is approved to treat or prevent nausea and vomiting caused by cancer medication or HIV/AIDS-induced anorexia. Some healthcare professionals, including those who work at Department of Defense healthcare facilities, have also prescribed Dronabinol to treat chronic pain.

The problem? Dronabinol shares the same psychoactive component found in marijuana, so if a Soldier ingests Dronabinol and then undergoes a urinalysis, he or she will test positive for THC.

Normally, if a Soldier tests positive for a prescription drug, a medical review

officer, or MRO, will review the matter to see if the use was legitimate. If the use was not legitimate – meaning an authorized health care provider did not prescribe the medication – then the matter will be referred to the Army's Criminal Investigation Command for investigation.

However, when a Soldier tests positive for THC, the current default position in the Army is that the use was illegitimate, so a MRO evaluation is not conducted prior to the test result being reported to the chain of command as evidence of illegal drug use. This is because the vast majority of THC positive test results in the services are, in fact, due to the use of marijuana, as opposed to Dronabinol.

The positive test result for THC is referred to CID and the Soldier is "flagged," which suspends the Soldier from receiving any favorable personnel actions such as awards, promotions, attendance at schools, etc.

In addition, there will likely be a report of derogatory information to the DOD Consolidated Adjudication Facility, or CAF, which is the agency that evaluates personnel for access to classified information. Soldiers who test positive for THC will likely be subject to a security

clearance revocation procedure, which can lead to a Soldier's administrative separation from the Army.

So what can a Soldier do when a healthcare professional recommends a medication like Dronabinol (Marinol or Syndros)? The answer is to be informed and proactive.

Soldiers should begin by considering the risks associated with taking Dronabinol and the potential consequences to their careers.

Even when legitimately prescribed, Dronabinol will likely make a Soldier non-deployable. In addition, chronic use of Dronabinol or a prolonged non-deployable status may lead to a Soldier being referred to a medical evaluation board for possible separation from the Army.

Finally, understand that Dronabinol can cause effects such as dizziness, drowsiness and thinking problems. Like many states, Texas has a driving while intoxicated, or DWI, statute, which prohibits operating a vehicle while under the influence of any substance (including illegal and prescription drugs) that impairs the normal use of mental or physical faculties.

In addition to being charged by Texas authorities, Soldiers who drive while intoxicated could face adverse actions by the Army, such as nonjudicial punishment, a General Officer Memorandum of Reprimand, and separation from the Army.

Soldiers should avoid seeking Dronabinol from non-DOD civilian healthcare providers, and instead should discuss the risks and benefits with their military medical provider, including whether other forms of therapy would be more effective.

If a Soldier and military medical provider feel that Dronabinol is an appropriate medical option, the Soldier should notify his or her commander and provide a copy of the prescription. When providing a urine sample during a drug test, the Unit Prevention Leader, or UPL, should be notified as well.

If a commander knows that a Soldier who tests positive for THC has a prescription for Dronabinol, the commander should promptly notify the Drug Testing Coordinator, provide a copy of the prescription, and request a MRO review. Failure to act quickly may lead to a CID investigation and other consequences.



# ARSOUTH hosts Colombian Sergeants Major

U.S. Army South Public Affairs

Members of the Ejército Nacional de Colombia Sergeants Major Academy observe U.S. Army Medical Center of Excellence Combat Medic training at Joint Base San Antonio-Camp Bullis during PISAJ 12 Oct. 24.

PISAJ, or Programa Integral Sub-Oficiales-Alta-Jerarquia-A Comprehensive Program for Senior NCOs, is a U.S. Army South-hosted, semi-annual, engagement between the U.S. and Colombian armies designed to increase capacity and regional collaboration.

*Members of the Ejército Nacional de Colombia Sergeants Major Academy observe U.S. Army Combat Medic training at Joint Base San Antonio-Camp Bullis during PISAJ 12 Oct. 24.*



COURTESY PHOTO

## EXERCISE

From page 6

was going to use that day.

"Every day was a different problem and a different problem-solving situation," Ellison said.

Tapley, a family nurse practitioner, became a rotating OR nurse, and Ellison assisted in most of the trauma and upper extremity surgeries.

"We all stepped into roles we don't do on a regular basis, just like you would in a deployed environment," Tapley said.

In the end, the team completed 128 procedures, and Army Capt. Lina Ochoa, an occupational therapist who is fluent in Spanish, was able to hand-write therapy protocols for patients to follow after the team left.

In addition to the daily surgical regiment, some of the team members completed a lecture series with the Honduran plastic surgery department on advanced upper extremity surgical techniques.

"They were very receptive to having us there and working with them," Nuelle said.

The last day, the team finished their mission by visiting their patients and delivering toys and coloring books to the hospital's pediatric ward.

"This was the type of training that you can't get anywhere else," Nuelle said. "We dealt with things you don't

think about happening here in the U.S., but could certainly happen downrange."

"I thought it was a great experience," Ellison said. "The ultimate goal is to be in a situation where you are ready to be deployable."

In addition to the MEDRETE in Tegucigalpa, a separate team of 12 U.S. military medical personnel went to La Ceiba, Honduras, from Sept. 19-27.

The team consisted of two surgeons, two anesthesiologists, three OR technicians, one OR nurse, one emergency room physician assistant, a pediatrician, Army Maj. Jordan Guice, officer in charge, and Army Sgt. 1<sup>st</sup> Class Michael Foglio, noncommissioned officer in charge. Seven of the personnel were from BAMC.

"We were working in a government hospital, and they had a backlog of cases, so we were helping work through their backlog," Guice said. "Our mission initially was trauma, but it turned out to be more of a humanitarian mission."

This team worked alongside their Honduran counterparts completing 32 operations which included 10 gallbladder operations, 21 hernia repairs and one trauma case.

"This was my first time working in a hospital in a foreign country and the first time working in an austere and resource limited environment," Guice said. "Training here at BAMC, I'm used to having everything available."

During the trauma case, which was also a patient who had severe machete

wounds, the power went out.

"As we were suturing, the lights went out and we all had to grab our cell phones for light," Guice said.

The team anticipated the surgical cases, but they didn't anticipate a pediatric burn patient with second- and third-degree burns. The patient was from a remote area of Honduras and the family traveled three days by motorcycle to bring the child to the hospital.

Thankfully, Foglio had previous experience with burn care and pediatric patients.

"It was edifying for me to be able to take the skills that I have learned at BAMC and the U.S. Army Institute of Surgical Research 10 years ago and pass them onto our pediatrician, our OR tech and our combat medic," Foglio said. "I was also able to teach the patient's dad

how to do burn care."

The team heavily relied on Army Sgt. Luisa Rodriguez-Harmon, OR technician, because she was fluent in Spanish. Her family is from El Salvador, which is a neighboring country to Honduras.

"We share a lot of similarities," she said. "I have always liked helping people, especially people with language barriers; just helping translate and getting their point across. Going on this mission and having the ability to do that was a blessing."

Rodriguez said the people were very nice and welcoming.

"Every chance they got, they made sure we ate," she added. "They would bring their native plates. It was just really awesome. They were the sweetest people."

# JBSA-Fort Sam Houston researchers author paper on military dental emergencies

By David DeKunder

502ND AIR BASE WING PUBLIC AFFAIRS

Researchers at Joint Base San Antonio-Fort Sam Houston have authored a research paper analyzing data of dental emergencies and traumatic facial and head injuries among servicemembers that could be utilized in improving troop outcomes and mission preparedness.

The six-page research paper, “The Burden of Dental Emergencies, Oral-Maxillofacial, and Cranio-Maxillofacial Injuries in U.S. Military Personnel,” was published in the July/August issue of *Military Medicine*. Co-authoring the paper were Col. Tim Mitchener, U.S. Army Institute of Surgical Research public health dentist and oral maxillofacial injury epidemiologist; Dr. John Simecek, Naval Medical Research Unit San Antonio director of craniofacial health and restorative medicine; and Dr. Sylvain Cardin, Naval Medical Research Unit San Antonio chief science director.

A dental emergency is any oral or dental problem that requires a servicemember to seek treatment.

Simecek said the research paper reviewed 30 previous studies, both published and unpublished, covering reported dental emergencies and oral- and cranio-maxillofacial injuries of U.S. military personnel serving in combat environments, who were deployed, serving in stabilization operations and training exercises and those in garrison.

An oral-maxillofacial injury is an injury to hard and soft tissues of the oral cavity, the maxillofacial area and the orbital floor (eye socket), formed in part by the maxilla, and parts of the neck closest to the mandible (lower jaw). A cranio-maxillofacial injury is an injury to the head and neck.

The studies reviewed were published between 1955 and 2017, with data used in the studies collected between 1941 and 2014. From the comprehensive review of those studies, the paper compared the rate of dental emergencies and oral- and cranio-maxillofacial injuries among servicemembers in the late 20th century to those rates reported in the early 21st century. Studies reviewed in the paper covered World War II, the Vietnam War,



FERDINAND DETRES

*From left: Dr. John Simecek, Naval Medical Research Unit San Antonio director of craniofacial health and restorative medicine; Dr. Sylvain Cardin, Naval Medical Research Unit San Antonio chief science director; and Col. Tim Mitchener, U.S. Army Institute of Surgical Research public health dentist and oral maxillofacial injury epidemiologist, collaborated on a six-page research paper published in the July/August issue of *Military Medicine*.*

Desert Storm and conflicts in Iraqi and Afghanistan.

Simecek said the data reviewed in the paper determined that out of 100,000 servicemembers deployed, approximately 12,000, or 11.7 percent, are going to have a dental problem and will need to go to a dental facility. He noted that the Department of Defense has instituted measures to reduce dental emergencies, most notably the Individual Medical Readiness, or IMR, system established in 2006, which set up several medical requirements, including dental readiness, servicemembers must pass before they are classified as medically ready to serve.

“Since 2000, there was an emphasis on some policy changes to insure optimal readiness,” Simecek said. “One of our goals was to see if that actually improved or reduced the number of dental problems in the theater.”

Simecek said based on the data reviewed for the research paper, researchers noticed a decrease in the number of dental emergencies among servicemembers since 2000. But he said the researchers could not make a conclusion because the reason for the

decrease was unknown, as the data from each of the studies reviewed were collected in different ways.

He said to make a determination for the reason for the drop in dental emergencies among servicemembers since 2000, there needs to be a standardization for data collecting in future studies.

“In order to better evaluate some of these policy changes, you need the data to be standardized so that you could tell whether money or policy issues have made a difference,” Simecek said.

Cardin said the research paper can serve as a guide for military leaders to determine how and where dental resources can be utilized for the dental readiness of servicemembers.

“The idea is to produce data that will help the leadership for policy and clinical practice guidelines, learning from the lessons we have encountered, and guide the future of policy and clinical practice guidelines,” Cardin said. “That is the goal of this paper.”

Even if the military is enforcing the IMR, Simecek said dental emergencies among servicemembers will still occur in combat zones or in areas where troops

are deployed. He said the military will need to devote resources to serve the dental needs of servicemembers so as to avoid medically evacuating them if possible.

“You need to have dental capacity, dental support there,” he said. “If you don’t have it, you’re going to be medically evacuating these people when a dentist or oral-maxillofacial surgeon can usually take care of the problems.”

The researchers are continuing their research on dental emergencies and oral- and cranio-maxillofacial injuries by working on another paper that will find out how often servicemembers with dental emergencies and/or oral- and cranio-maxillofacial injuries are medically evacuated. Simecek expects that paper to be completed in a month and then sent for publication.

Simecek said the objective of that paper will be to determine if that medic or corpsman can be able to treat servicemembers with dental emergencies and, if so, determine what equipment they will need for treatment instead of having to medically evacuate the servicemember, if possible.

“The vast majority of dental emergencies can be treated quickly by a dental officer, medic or corpsman and the person returned to duty,” Simecek said.

Simecek said based on the findings from both papers the researchers will be able to come up with a recommendation to pass on to military policy makers on ways to treat servicemembers with dental emergencies while not having to medically evacuate them, and to provide the best treatment for oral- and cranio-maxillofacial injuries incurred during deployments.

Mitchener said treating oral-maxillofacial injuries and diseases is more complex than treating a dental emergency and that a servicemember with those type of injuries needs access to a trained surgeon.

“Many oral-maxillofacial injuries involve bone that support the teeth,” Mitchener said. “If the teeth do not properly function for the patient, the patient suffers a lower quality of life. The oral-maxillofacial surgeon is the one best trained to deal with that and make sure the teeth are properly placed and functioning.”



# LACKLAND

## TACP Formal Training Unit activates

By Andrew Patterson

502ND AIR BASE WING  
PUBLIC AFFAIRS

The Tactical Air Control Party Formal Training Unit officially activated during a ceremony at the Joint Base San Antonio-Lackland's Medina Annex Oct. 17.

The TACP FTU will synchronize, standardize and streamline training to ensure readiness of TACP maneuver and command and control force multipliers in order to meet the needs of the Air Force, joint force and coalition partners.

"It is evident that as the battlefield changes and our adversaries increase their capabilities, so must the TACP," said Capt. Daniel R. Hill, Det. 2, 6th Combat Training Squadron commander. "The activation of this unit will increase readiness and lethality of the air force special warfare TACP and optimize advanced skills training and education to ensure a full spectrum, high end and fully qualified focused force ready to meet combatant commander's requirements."

The new training unit will streamline training and foster unity and standardization throughout the TACP career field, increasing readiness and lethality of Air Force Special Warfare TACP Airmen. The demand for fully qualified Tactical Air Control Party personnel is increasing in the current combat environment and the demands of the future will require an increased level of qualification and proficiency to contribute effectively to the force we need.



SARAYUTH PINTHONG

*Lt. Col. James Kappes (left), 6th Combat Training Squadron operations officer, Camp Bullis, presents the Detachment 2, Combat Training Squadron guidon to Capt. Daniel Hill (right), incoming commander, during the activation ceremony Sept. 17 at Joint Base San Antonio-Medina Annex.*

The FTU achieves the future capability faster by reducing the training timeline from 18 months to 21 weeks. Operator production increases from 220 partially qualified to 270 fully qualified operators annually.

The unit will optimize training through a single

source that relieves operational units of initial qualification training, allowing for a significant savings in time and funding that can be reapportioned for combat readiness and Airman Proficiency.

"Ultimately this stand-up is

going to produce lethal and more survivable Joint Terminal Attack Controllers by the end of it for combatant commanders to make their decisions and be able to utilize in the future," said Lt. Col. James R. Kappes, 6th Combat Training Squadron operations

**"It is evident that as the battlefield changes and our adversaries increase their capabilities, so must the TACP."**

Capt. Daniel R. Hill, Det. 2, 6th Combat Training Squadron commander

officer.

This activation is critical to standardize advanced skills and mission qualification training of the TACPs to ensure a full-spectrum capable, high-end focused force. The future training construct will put all training and qualification at the front end to deliver fully qualified TACP Airmen ready to employ to meet combatant commander requirements.

Air Force TACP specialists imbed with Army and Marine units on the frontline and are responsible for directing air and artillery strikes from forward ground locations. These highly trained experts go through intense physical, mental and technical training in order to withstand the demanding conditions of battle and provide their team with the firepower they need for continued success on the battlefield.

# Army-AF-Navy medical partnership saves lives

## 59th Medical Wing Public Affairs

At any given time, there are over 100 medics deployed worldwide from the 59th Medical Wing, executing a Joint U.S. mission in support of global operations.

Air Force personnel assigned to Brooke Army Medical Center, the Department of Defense's only level 1 trauma center, are the core for trauma care readiness at the Role 3 facility, Craig Joint Theater Hospital in Bagram, Afghanistan.

Additionally, a close partnership with Army and Navy colleagues at home station extends to the deployed environment where tri-Service team members from BAMC are deployed throughout the trauma system delivering high quality trauma care.

In the deployed environment, the term "role" is used to describe the level of medical support based on capabilities and resources.

A Role 3 facility delivers a definitive level of care, provides full surgical repairs, and has the ability to hold patients until



TECH. SGT. NICHOLAS RAU

*Airmen work with members of the Extracorporeal Membrane Oxygenation team to save the life of a NATO troop at the Craig Joint Theater Hospital on Bagram Airfield, Afghanistan, Feb. 18.*

they are stable for medical evacuation.

Serving as the first Joint Trauma System chief under the Defense Health Agency governance, Col. (Dr.) Stacy Shackelford, has deployed to

Craig Joint Theater Hospital her last four rotations and was responsible for coordinating trauma care delivery for multiple Role 2 and 3 surgical facilities throughout Afghanistan.

"There isn't an Air Force, Army or Navy type of medical care," Shackelford said. "Delivering care along the continuum and passing it along from a Navy forward surgical team to an Army MEDEVAC to

an Air Force surgical hospital, it's all interrelated."

The Joint Trauma System collects data on all combat casualties to analyze and incorporate back into clinical practice guidelines, the foundation for training service members.

Medical personnel with varying surgical experience are deployed across the world, all equipped with pre-deployment and simulated training but not all having first-hand experience.

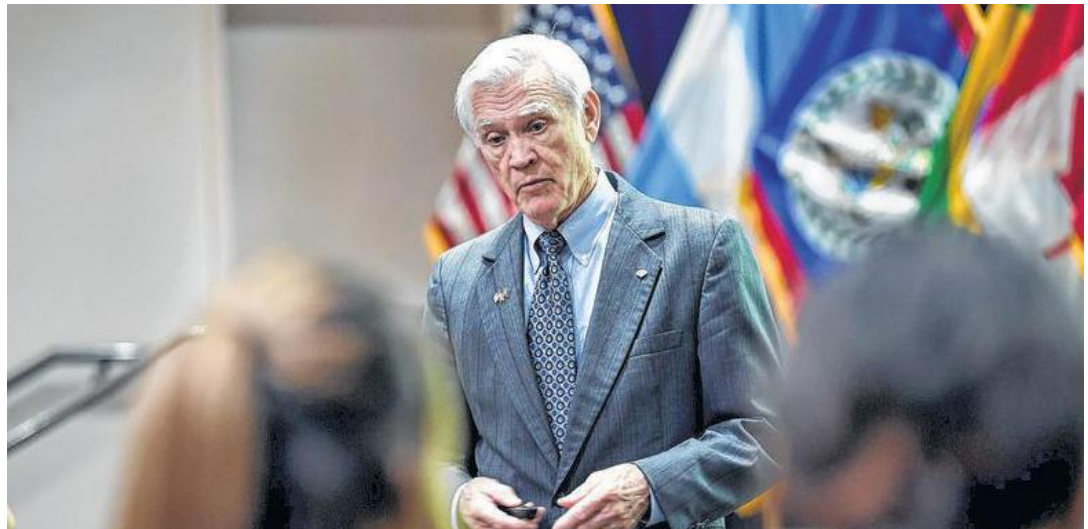
BAMC is comprised of Army, Air Force and Navy members working side-by-side providing outstanding care to wounded service members and the San Antonio community at large.

"The gap between treating civilian trauma patients and combat-related trauma patients can be narrowed by military-specific simulation training prior to deployment," Shackelford said.

The Bagram Role 3 is made up of more than 180 service members with over a third coming from the 59th MDW, extending the highest level of trusted care to the combatant command.

## Vietnam POW recounts his experience to 149th Fighter Wing members

*Members of the 149th Fighter Wing listen to guest speaker retired Air Force Lt. Col. Barry Bridger Oct. 22 as he recounted his experience surviving six years as a prisoner of war during the Vietnam Conflict. Bridger was shot down by a surface-to-air missile over a North Vietnamese city in January of 1967. Bridger shared with the audience what it was like to survive those six years in what he and his fellow American POWs dubbed the "Hanoi Hilton."*



COURTESY PHOTO



# 433rd AW's C-5M Super Galaxy living large at airshow

By Master Sgt. Kristian Carter

433RD AIRLIFT WING PUBLIC AFFAIRS

Aircrew with the 68th Airlift Squadron represented the 433rd Airlift Wing with a C-5M Super Galaxy static display at Ellington Airport Oct. 18-20 at the Wings Over Houston Airshow.

The airshow started Oct. 18 with a special show limited to an audience of physically and mentally challenged individuals and their families before the full shows Oct. 19-20.

Highlights of the show included the C-5M, a C-17 Globemaster III, several older cargo aircraft, experimental aircraft, a warbirds display, and many flying demonstrations. Each day, the airshow culminated with a performance by the U.S. Air Force Thunderbirds.

The C-5M is the largest aircraft in the U.S. military's inventory and one of the largest airlifters in the world.

"This is the first time since 2008 that we have one of the world's largest transport aircraft, the C-5M on display," said Everett "Hoot" Gibson, Wings Over Houston Airshow military czar. "The last time it was here, the public was thrilled with it. To see it first-hand and be able to walk through it and learn the capabilities is an educational experience for all."

Airshows like this one provide an opportunity for the public to learn more about aviation and the



MASTER SGT. KRISTIAN CARTER

*An Air Force Reserve Command C-5M Super Galaxy assigned to the 433rd Airlift Wing at Joint Base San Antonio-Lackland sits on display at the Wings Over Houston Airshow at Ellington Airport, Houston Oct. 19.*

military.

Gibson, who is a retired NASA scientist and Commemorative Air Force flight engineer and loadmaster, talked about the role of these events.

"The goal of an airshow is very clearly to let the man or woman on the street see for themselves

where their tax dollars are going. The public should know what our military is doing. We have a responsibility to know where our tax dollars go, what they are used for, and see the assets that are used. They get first-hand opportunity to touch and feel the aircraft and talk to the crew. It is a great exchange of knowledge and education."

These events encourage attendees to spend time talking with military aircrews to learn about the organizations, which is effective in building relationships.

"One great thing for the 433rd Airlift Wing is the exposure to all aspects of what we do," said Maj. Nick Reinhardt, 68th Airlift Squadron pilot. "Not only just the mission so that people understand what we do with the C-5, how it is employed, and its capabilities, but also to really give Texans something to be proud of, and support the missions coming out of the state."

While airshows foster outreach between the military and community, they can also be an opportunity for former military members and families to reconnect and remember their service.

"We meet veterans who directly have experience with the C-5," Reinhardt said. "The stories they have from long ago about riding in one, or seeing one, or a family member who has a connection to the past, these are a proud legacy of something they or a family member belong to."

## 344th TS Airman recognized

By Allison Miller

502ND AIR BASE WING PUBLIC AFFAIRS

Staff Sgt. Mykal Tanner, 344th Training Squadron Military Handling Equipment instructor, was recognized as the Oxnard Chamber of Commerce's Air Force Active Duty Member of the Year in a ceremony Sept. 20.

Tanner, who is stationed at Naval Base Ventura County Port Hueneme, California, was recognized for his involvement in the Heavy Equipment Skills curriculum redesign where he implemented the use of electronic tablets into the program.

"It means the world to me to be recognized by my leadership not only here at the schoolhouse, but by our group commander (Col. Bailey)," Tanner said. "I was also recognized by civilian leadership in the state of California."

Integrating the use of electronic tablets and cutting out the use of paper packets has saved the command \$12,000 annually. The tablets are also more user-friendly for the students going through the course and sets them up for



ALLISON MILLER

*Staff Sgt. Mykal Tanner, 344th Training Squadron military handling equipment instructor, is recognized as the Oxnard Chamber of Commerce's Air Force Active Duty Member of the Year in a ceremony Sept. 20.*

future success in their career fields where similar technology will be utilized.

"I have always wanted to be a teacher since I was 15 years old," Tanner said. "The Air Force has given me a platform to enhance my goals especially with all the certificates that we have the privilege of earning."

# Sixteenth Air Force to streamline cyber weapon systems tools

By Tech. Sgt. R.J. Biermann  
SIXTEENTH AIR FORCE (AIR FORCES  
CYBER) PUBLIC AFFAIRS

Sixteenth Air Force (Air Forces Cyber) leaders recently launched an initiative to streamline its cyber weapon systems tools.

“12N12,” which launched July 1, aims to replace, reduce and consolidate the tools, systems and applications operators and analysts employ within the cyberspace security and defense mission area to approximately 12 by July 1, 2020.

“The goal is to reduce the number of applications in our cyber weapon systems, which in some cases are as many as 70, to about a dozen, and do so in 12 months or less,” said Col. Sean Kern, 26th Cyberspace Operations Group commander.

“But this is absolutely not just a technology initiative,” Kern continued. “It is about our Airmen and our ability to produce a highly trained and ready cyber force that possesses the appropriate tactics, techniques, procedures and tools, to gain and maintain operational access for core missions, and generate desired effects in and through cyberspace.”

According to Steve Barker, Sixteenth Air Force (Air Forces Cyber) director of requirements, “12N12” aligns with strategic initiatives focused on simplifying and improving full-spectrum weapon systems using agile methodologies to best prepare for future peer-adversary threats.

“12N12” will reduce the complexity of our systems, allowing Airmen to gain deeper expertise in the tools they use as well as posture our enterprise for future change,” he said.

The end state calls for replacing aged, single-purpose



TECH. SGT. R.J. BIERMANN

Airmen from the 33rd Network Warfare Squadron conduct cyber operations at Joint Base San Antonio-Lackland Aug. 27.

tools with newer, multi-purpose ones. One antiquated tool among many is the Security Information and Event Management tool.

“The SIEM scrubs through all the data we receive and presents it to the operator in a way that is easier to view,” said Staff Sgt. Trevor Daher, 33rd Network Warfare Squadron cyber operator. “It only allows us to manage the stream of information, and it was put in place in 1999. Of course it has been updated, but it is still a 20-year-old product.”

Some newer tools both manage information and respond to alerts.

“There is a tool called a SOAR, a Security Orchestration and Automated Response tool,” Daher said. “This tool reviews data and can be programmed to respond or react to individual alerts in different ways. You tell it what to do — it sees an alert and executes a checklist for

you.”

For the aviation enthusiast, an aircraft analogy may help to better understand an operator’s current workspace.

“Think of this from a pilot perspective,” said Chief Master Sgt. Michael Clutz, 26th COG superintendent. “If I had to press 40 different buttons to fire a missile, nobody would think that was ok. Our cyber Airmen currently have to carry that burden. We are trying to make life better for them through this initiative while taking it to the adversary. The number of applications a weapon system employs is the number of things the operators must be familiar with.”

The prospect of having to master fewer weapon systems tools is an encouraging future for Daher.

“Replacing our old tools with new ones would be amazing,” he said. “These tools have capabilities we don’t currently

have. Many of them can automate a decent portion of what we do, allowing us to spend more time investigating more malicious activities.”

Within the cybersecurity arena, time is one factor that separates winners from losers.

“In 18 minutes, 49 seconds, a foreign nation-state actor can gain initial access into a victim’s computer before moving laterally throughout its network,” Kern said. “That is our operational urgency, and if we don’t get cybersecurity and defense right, we will lose.”

Some operators process upwards of eight million alerts per day using common computer programs, when newer, automated applications are available.

“We look at an insane amount of data from across the Air Force to determine if something is malicious or not,” Daher said. “We have seen what cyber attacks can do, and the goal is to

**“We look at an insane amount of data from across the Air Force to determine if something is malicious or not. We have seen what cyber attacks can do, and the goal is to stop those types of things from happening.”**

Staff Sgt. Trevor Daher, 33rd Network Warfare Squadron cyber operator

stop those types of things from happening. To do that, we have to monitor our entire network. These new tools could change everything. Being able to better see data enables other Air Force missions to do what they need to do without cyber interruption.”

To keep pace with the goal date, a project team meets weekly to share updates and discuss obstacles and how to mitigate them. Additionally, Air Combat Command has adopted a new approach to cyber weapon systems development.

“The status quo will not work,” Kern said. “Air Combat Command’s efforts to implement agile methods will be critical to achieving our desired July 1, 2020 end state. “By next year, you can expect to see an Airman sitting at a single console, conducting cybersecurity and defense, and not having to move from system to system to do their job.”



# RANDOLPH

## Pilot Training Next, NASA team up

By Capt. Kenya Pettway

AIR EDUCATION AND TRAINING  
COMMAND PUBLIC AFFAIRS

Officials from Air Education and Training Command's Pilot Training Next have established a strategic partnership with NASA, focused on biometric data collection and the application of emerging technology into PTN curriculum that will innovate the student pilot learning environment.

AETC and NASA officials will collectively research the physiological and cognitive factors that contribute to optimal student pilot learning, and develop technologies related to eye-tracking data visualization and multi-modal human interfaces.

AETC and NASA first established their partnership December 2017.

"We're always interested in working with high-performing organizations that are facing the same challenges and pursuing technologies of mutual interest," said Frank Delgado, NASA-PTN project manager. "Since the Air Force and NASA are both interested in investigating the use of advanced, innovative technology to improve training and real-time operation support, it seemed fitting to develop a collaborative partnership."

Lt. Col Ryan Riley, Det. 24 commander, expounded on the partnership, stating that the foremost lesson learned from the previous two iterations of PTN is how to actually interpret individualized biometric data – an already-present proficiency at NASA.

"The principal lesson we're learning from NASA experts is how to draw inferences from



SEAN WORRELL

From left: Capt. Jay Pothula, Detachment 24 Pilot Training Next instructor, Derrick Ng, NASA aerospace engineer intern, and Alex Garbino, NASA extravehicular activities physiologist, monitor 2nd Lt. Gabe Cavender, PTN student, during a virtual reality sortie as part of the research agreement between AETC and NASA.

student-specific, biometric data," Riley said. "NASA is helping us become proficient at translating what the data means. We hope to optimize the flying training experience and enable instructors to provide student-specific feedback in real-time, enhancing recommendations for future training events at Pilot Training Next."

In addition to biometric data, NASA is contributing eye-tracking data visualization technology that traces and records student pilots' eye movements during simulated rides, allowing instructor pilots to analyze the data in real-time

and post-flight.

Instructor pilots can retrieve the recorded eye-tracking data to deliver individualized, data-informed insights to student pilots on their ability to visually divide their attention, multitask and make decisive decisions in a highly complex environment.

"Briefs and debriefs are what we utilize in aviation to be able to understand how we learn and perform," said Capt. Michelle Sinagra, PTN chief of human performance. "But with objective data obtained via eye-tracking data visualization, instructor pilots will have an accurate reference of how the

students were conducting their crosschecks and build academic content on specific areas that need improvement, allowing students to perfect skills faster and build situational awareness."

As a part of the collaborative research agreement, NASA is also developing a machine-learning algorithm that will generate a comprehensive view of human performance to optimize the student pilot learning experience.

PTN version three student pilots will undergo simulated rides and provide a quantitative measurement of their cognitive workload, after which instructor

**"The principal lesson we're learning from NASA experts is how to draw inferences from student-specific, biometric data."**

Lt. Col Ryan Riley

pilots will deliver a tailored assessment of the students' performance. Along with the objective data normally collected from simulators via individual training profiles, NASA will refine the algorithm that will assist AETC officials in determining the ideal physiological and cognitive state for the learning paradigm.

However, PTN will not be the sole beneficiary of this partnership.

"We also get access to their pilots and instructor pilots to conduct different sorties," Delgado said. "The data collected as they're conducting sorties is very important and will be used to help augment and improve the cognitive workload determination systems that we're developing. The more data we collect and the more testing the systems undergo, the better the systems will perform."

With this strategic partnership between PTN and NASA, AETC officials can apply the latest technology to innovate the student pilot learning environment, helping meet and exceed the efficiency and performance standards expected of future aviators in modern battlespace.

# Classes explore resume writing for civilian, federal jobs

By Robert Goetz

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Those seeking a strong resume for civilian and federal jobs can learn more in classes set for Nov. 12 and 15 at the Joint Base San Antonio-Randolph Military & Family Readiness Center.

“Basic Resume Writing,” scheduled from 9:30-11 a.m. Nov. 12, is geared to those who need a one- to two-page resume for a job in the civilian sector, while “10 Steps to a Federal Resume for Spouses,” from 11:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. Nov. 15, provides military spouses seeking a federal job with a 10-step approach for preparing an effective resume and applying for jobs via usajobs.gov.

A resume is often called one of the most crucial steps in a job search, said Terry Wise,

JBSA-Randolph M&FRC community readiness consultant.

“Resumes are used to make a favorable impression on a prospective employer,” he said. “Your resume is often the first impression a potential employer has of you.”

One of the biggest mistakes people make when they compose a resume is not covering the basics, Wise said. “The goal of a resume is to best represent your relevant skills and accomplishments.”

It’s also important that prospective employers quickly understand an applicant’s work experience, Wise said.

“Format your experience as a list of short, scannable statements rather than writing out dense paragraphs,” he said.

“Numbers and data bring your work experience to life and help hiring managers envision the

potential impact you could have in their organization. When you can, back up your achievements with real data to boost your credibility and add informative detail to your resume.”

A job seeker’s credibility suffers if their resume has errors, Wise said.

“Unfortunately, a single typographical or spelling error is sometimes enough to get your resume discarded early in the game,” he said. “Proofread your resume multiple times, doing a thorough line-by-line, word-by-word edit. Reading content backwards – awkward and time-consuming though it may be – is a great way to catch minor mistakes that you might otherwise miss.”

Wise recommends getting an outside perspective on the resume.

“Ask a friend, mentor or family member to review your

resume for you before you begin submitting it to employers,” he said.

The same principles of resume writing are taught in both classes, Wise said, but the class for spouses also addresses Military Spouse Hiring Authority, EO 13473, a presidential executive order from 2008.

“This EO authorizes a hiring manager to select a military spouse candidate for a federal position without going through the full application process,” he said.

Wise, who facilitates the classes, said his best advice to attendees is to “do the work to get the work.”

“What I mean by that is you have to put forth effort composing your resume to ensure you are presenting yourself in the best possible light to a prospective employer,”

he said. “A resume is fluid and needs to be adjusted with each submission for an announcement.”

He also advises them to keep up with current technological trends.

“The fundamental principles of resume writing have remained constant for generations, but evolving technologies mean more aspects of the application and hiring processes take place online than ever before,” Wise said. “By staying up to date with current best practices, you’re better able to put your resume to work for you.”

The M&FRC is also offering related classes in the coming weeks: “Federal Resume/USAJOBS,” from 9-11 a.m. Nov. 21 and Dec. 19; “Salary Negotiations,” from 9-10:30 a.m. Dec. 6; and “Interviewing Skills,” from 9-10:30 a.m. Dec. 13.

## FEEDBACK FRIDAYS

From page 4

While it seems intuitive that two on-site Defenders means one for each gate, one Defender must always be ready to assist the other (e.g., handling an incident or search at the curb or rendering aid or relief to the other Defender), preventing the ability to dedicate the other Defender to a second gate.

Our Security Forces leadership regularly evaluate the usage of all gates, the manpower available to them, and special events such as yours, to provide the best balance of installation security and accommodation.

Please continue to provide this type of feedback, as it helps our leadership in their assessments on how to better help our JBSA personnel. Thank you!

### Miscellaneous

**Q.** When will the payroll site for NAF employees be fixed, or up and running?

**A.** I’ve recently received several questions regarding the same important topic, so hopefully I can address all those concerns here.

Unfortunately, the website,

<https://afsfms.afsv.net>, is only accessible from a computer on a government network. Both network access and system permissions will dictate an employee’s ability to access Discoverer, Oracle, MyMoney, view statements, and modify their W4 form. Per the AFSVC IT Office, there is a workaround that might help our employees on the .mil network: <https://afsfms.afsv.net/>.

If you are unable to connect to the above site with a .mil computer (spin of death), then:

- ▶ 1. Confirm SSL is unchecked and TLS are all checked
- ▶ 2. Ensure the URL (afsv.net) has been added to the Compatibility View Settings. If you still receive the error (Proxy, Server, etc.) that means that your base’s external IPs may be blocked.
- ▶ 3. Go to google.com and type in the search bar “What is my IP” (only from a .mil CPU). Open a MyPers ticket and attach/copy that IP to it.
- ▶ 4. Once AFSVC receives the ticket, the Network Team will action it to add the computer to the Access List, allowing connection to the network.

Another option that will be available soon is the <https://nafpay.afsv.net/> website, which will be accessible from home and/or a mobile device. When

active, users will be able to access LES and W2 information on this site. AFSVC will notify all customers when the site is operational. In the meantime, if the workarounds above are not effective, please let us know and we will reengage with AFSVC.

**Q.** I have noticed there are a lot of issues that come up with driving. Perhaps JBSA can do more to encourage multimodal transportation to alleviate traffic and problems.

To complement the wonderful Public Transportation Benefit Program that my colleagues and I use for vanpools and VIA Bus Passes, more can be done.

For example, vanpools can have designated parking spots closer to the entrance. Those who take the VIA bus also have to walk to the bus stop. Perhaps, they could be allowed a small cushion of time to make it to their pickup point.

Bicycling could also be encouraged. Bike parking should be installed with cover/roofing in areas closer to building entrances. Perhaps bicycle share stations could be installed so people could ride throughout base. Bicycling would be a healthy way for many to get around while alleviating parking issues.

**A.** Thank you for your feedback!

Unfortunately, allowing VIA buses onto the installation is a security concern for JBSA, much like our restrictions on Uber and Lyft drivers.

VIA has expressed openness in the past to adding stops, however that does not solve the issue of non-credentialed drivers and passenger access to the installation.

As it stands right now, we do not have the ridership during the weekdays to support an express-type shuttle that would only support DOD ID card holders. We recognize the great benefits that mass transportation has for employees who choose to utilize it, and we also understand that bus schedules may not always line-up with each person’s tour of duty.

Employees’ work hours will vary dependent on their work center and its need to fulfill the mission. If for some reason transportation schedules do not accommodate work schedules, I encourage everyone to work with their supervisors to try to make work schedule adjustments, i.e., adjust lunch periods, arrival or departure time, etc.

I understand the concern, and I appreciate you bringing this to our attention as we strive to make JBSA as accommodating as we can!