

# JBSA

# LEGACY

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JOINT BASE SAN ANTONIO

SEPTEMBER 3, 2021



JOSE E. RODRIGUEZ

The U.S. Army Medical Test and Evaluation Activity, known as USAMTEAC, conducted a customer test for the ARAI Scopolamine Auto-injector at the Deployable Medical System Equipment for Training site at Joint Base San Antonio-Camp Bullis Aug. 17.

## New scopolamine auto-injector tested at JBSA-Camp Bullis

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# Defense Secretary mandates COVID-19 vaccinations for service members

By David Vergun

DOD NEWS

Secretary of Defense Lloyd J. Austin III issued a memorandum Aug. 24 directing mandatory COVID-19 vaccinations for service members, a Pentagon official said Aug. 25. John F. Kirby, Pentagon press secretary, said only Food and Drug Administration-approved vaccines will be mandatory.

The secretary has determined — after careful consultation with medical experts and military leaders and with the support of the president — that mandatory COVID-19 vaccinations for service members are necessary to protect the health and readiness of the force, Kirby said.

On Aug. 23, the FDA gave full approval to the Comirnaty

vaccine — previously known as the Pfizer-BioNTech vaccine — for individuals 16 years of age and older. Before Aug. 23, the vaccine was available for use through an FDA emergency use authorization.

Kirby said vaccines other than Comirnaty will not be made mandatory, but that could change if the FDA issues full approval for others.

The memo directs the secretaries of the military departments to immediately begin full vaccination of all members of the department on active duty or in the Guard or Reserve who aren't yet fully vaccinated against COVID-19.

Service members who are actively participating in COVID-19 clinical trials are exempt from mandatory vaccination until the trial is complete to avoid invalidating clinical trial results, the memo

states.

The secretaries are also directed to “impose ambitious timelines for implementation and to report regularly on vaccination completion using established systems for other mandatory vaccine authorization,” the memo states.

“The secretary has communicated to the military departments to execute this mandatory vaccination program with, obviously, skill and professionalism, which we always do, but also with a measure of compassion,” Kirby said.

Service members with preexisting conditions who are advised against being vaccinated by their doctors would be exempt from mandatory vaccinations, Kirby said, adding there may also be possible exemptions on religious grounds.

Service members outside

those two categories who still object will be offered a chance to sit down with a physician and have that physician communicate to them the risks that they're taking by being unvaccinated, Kirby said.

They'll also be offered a chance to sit down with those in their chains of command to talk about the risks that their objection will impose on the unit and on the force and on their teammates, he added.

“Commanders have a wide range of tools available to them to help their teammates make the right decision for themselves, for their families, and for their units, and the secretary expects that the commanders will use those tools, short of having to use the UCMJ,” he said, referring to the Uniform Code of Military Justice.

## Additional COVID-19 vaccination dose recommended for immunocompromised

Brooke Army Medical Center  
Public Affairs

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention are recommending that people whose immune systems are moderately to severely immunocompromised, receive an additional dose of mRNA COVID-19 vaccine at least 28 days after a second dose of Pfizer-BioNTech COVID-19 vaccine or Moderna COVID-19 vaccine.

People who have weakened immune systems are more at risk of serious, prolonged illness. The CDC does not recommend additional doses or booster shots for any other population at this time.

The San Antonio Market is now offering an additional dose of the Pfizer-BioNTech COVID-19 vaccine for immunocompromised beneficiaries and immunocompromised staff members based on the following criteria:

- ▶▶ Been receiving active cancer treatment for solid tumors or cancers of the blood
- ▶▶ Received an organ transplant and are taking medicine to suppress the immune system
- ▶▶ Received a stem cell transplant within the last 2 years or are taking medicine to suppress the immune system
- ▶▶ Moderate or severe primary immunodeficiency (such as DiGeorge syndrome, Wiskott-Aldrich syndrome)
- ▶▶ Advanced or untreated HIV infection
- ▶▶ Active treatment with high-dose corticosteroids or other drugs that may suppress your immune response

For more information, visit <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/vaccines/recommendations/immuno.html>.

If you have additional questions or feel you meet the criteria, but your condition is not listed, please contact your provider team.

To receive the additional dose:

Beneficiaries can make a same-day appointment on TRICARE Online or by calling the appointment line at 210-916-9900, or stop by without an appointment during weekly walk-in hours: Tuesdays from 10 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. or Wednesdays from 8 a.m. to 3 p.m. at BAMC's COVID-19 vaccination site located in the Training Support Center on the main post Joint Base San Antonio-Fort Sam Houston, building 410, 2536 Garden Avenue. At this time, additional doses will ONLY be administered at the Training Support Center on Fort Sam Houston.

Staff members who are immunocompromised but are not beneficiaries are welcome to stop by during the designated walk-in hours.

As a reminder, widespread vaccination is a critical tool to help stop the pandemic. If you haven't received your COVID-19 vaccination yet, it's not too late to vaccinate!

JBSA LEGACY

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# Feedback Fridays

**Brig. Gen. Caroline M. Miller**  
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 [jbsapublicaffairs@gmail.com](mailto:jbsapublicaffairs@gmail.com) using the subject line "Feedback Fridays."

Questions will be further researched and published as information becomes available.

**Q: I am currently in the process of transitioning from the Air Force to the Space Force. I am having an issue though with clarification on how to receive my new ID card for the Space Force and have been given a lot of different information. Could you please help me out with this?**

**Thanks for your assistance with this matter.**

**A:** I am happy to assist you!

The Military Personnel Flight's Force Support Squadron Customer Service Section plays a key role for

continuing ID card issuance operations, particularly among our Guardians who transferred from the U.S. Air Force to the U.S. Space Force.

The Air Force Defense Enrollment Eligibility Reporting System, or DEERS, program office and Air Force Personnel Center Field Support team will be reaching out to the FSS/MPF regarding the need to issue new Common Access Cards (CAC) to Space Force members.

The FSS/MPF will be provided a list from AFPC of Guardians they service that require new cards and the MPF will be asked to schedule CAC issue times with those members and their dependent family members. This list will be updated every couple of weeks and names to be scheduled should come only from this list.

Once those times have been set, the MPF will notify AFPC to ensure the transfer of records within DEERS from USAF to USSF is executed before the CAC is issued. Once the record is transferred within DEERS, the MPF will have 48 hours to issue the new Space Force CAC and dependent family member ID card.

**Q: The water fountains at the Air Force Personnel Center at JBSA-Randolph were all upgraded to the filtered fountains with the**



COURTESY GRAPHIC

**water bottle spouts.**

**I was curious if we're going to receive those at Air Education and Training Command as well, especially in building 399's first and second floors, since we are the front line of what new employees and families coming for IDs see when they enter employment with us.**

**The fountain on the second floor shoots water onto the floor, so rather than repair it, it would be nice to just receive a replacement.**

**A:** Thank you for bringing this to our attention.

Our Civil Engineer technicians will correct the problem with the current fountain shooting water onto the floor.

Regarding replacing current style water fountains with bottle fillers, during this time of constrained resources we are not automatically changing the fountains.

However, as fountains are in need of replacement we install a bottle filler fountain when requested by the customer.

## Commissary, AAFES offer convenient new choices for customers

### 50nd Air Base Wing Public Affairs

Customers of the commissary and Army and Air Force Exchange Service food concessions at Joint Base San Antonio-Fort Sam Houston now have new choices to help make their lives a little easier and more convenient.

Whether it's lunch or dinner, AAFES and DoorDash have teamed up to bring door-to-door meal delivery service, helping to serve up convenience service members and their families. The new service began at JBSA-Fort Sam Houston on Aug. 25.

"The Exchange is all in to strengthen the quality of life support at JBSA-Fort Sam Houston," said Fort Sam Houston Exchange general manager Eddie Devlin. "We are looking forward to making food delivery a success as evaluation of opportunities to expand food delivery service to

other installations continues."

DoorDash will offer delivery from Fort Sam Houston Exchange restaurants including Charley's, Burger King, Subway (except Installation Management Command location), Popeyes, Taco Bell, Slim Chickens, Qdoba and Arby's. Diners can place an order on [doordash.com](http://doordash.com) or via the DoorDash app for iOS or Android.

On Sept. 7, the Fort Sam Houston commissary will debut the Defense Commissary Agency's online ordering and curbside pickup program called Commissary CLICK2GO. Commissary shoppers will now be able to get groceries without leaving the safety of their vehicles.

They now will be able to place their order online, select a pickup time and call the commissary when they arrive. Their commissary team will do all their shopping and, for a limited time, the \$4.95 service fee has been waived.

"We've learned a lot about what our customers want during our initial u-store rollout the past two years, and thanks to recent innovations to our e-commerce platform we've made tremendous service and user-interface improvements that customers expect in today's retail environment," said Bill Moore, director and CEO of the Defense Commissary Agency.

Information on how the service works and the rollout status is found on [commissaries.com](http://commissaries.com) with dedicated sections such as "How CLICK2GO Works." First-time customers will need to create an account.

"Commissary CLICK2GO builds on the vital benefit we deliver exclusively for our military community and their families," Moore said. "With it, patrons can plan, order and pay for their purchases online and simply swing by the store to get them."

# FORT SAM HOUSTON



JOSE E. RODRIGUEZ

*A Soldier with the U.S. Army Medical Test and Evaluation Activity, known as USAMTEAC, simulates a customer test on another Soldier for the ARAI Scopolamine Auto-injector at the Deployable Medical System Equipment for Training site at Joint Base San Antonio-Camp Bullis Aug. 17.*

## New scopolamine auto-injector tested at JBSA-Camp Bullis

**By Jose E. Rodriguez**  
U.S. ARMY MEDICAL CENTER OF  
EXCELLENCE PUBLIC AFFAIRS

The U.S. Army Medical Test and Evaluation Activity, known as USAMTEAC, conducted a customer test for a scopolamine auto-injector at the Deployable Medical

System Equipment for Training site at Joint Base San Antonio-Camp Bullis Aug. 17.

USAMTEAC, formally called the Army Medical Department Board, is part of the U.S. Army Medical Center of Excellence at JBSA-Fort Sam Houston and provides independent operational

testing and evaluation of medical and medical-related materiel and information technology products in support of the Army's Department of Defense acquisition processes.

The test was conducted for the Joint Program Executive Office for Chemical,

Biological, Radiological and Nuclear Defense, or JPEO-CBRND, to test the effectiveness of the auto-injector in a simulated battlefield environment with the test players wearing Level 4 Mission Oriented Protective Posture, or MOPP, protective gear.

Test players came from across MEDCoE, along with Brooke Army Medical Center and U. S. Army Regional Health Command-Central.

Results and data of the auto-injector will be sent to JPEO-CBRND for their evaluation and possible future fielding throughout the Army.

# JBSA Army team participates in Forager 21 exercise

By David DeKunder

502ND AIR BASE WING  
PUBLIC AFFAIRS

The U.S. Army Medical Center of Excellence at Joint Base San Antonio-Fort Sam Houston, or MEDCoE, and the Army Capability Manager-Army Health System, or ACM-AHS, participated in the Forager 21 exercise in the Pacific supporting Army components from July 9-Aug. 6.

Two teams, consisting of both MEDCoE and ACM-AHS personnel, deployed for the exercise, which focuses on rapidly deploying a force to protect Guam, a strategic site in the Pacific as part of the U.S. Indo-Pacific Command.

Forager 21 is one of two annual supporting exercises, along with Pacific Iron, supporting Defender Pacific, a large-scale effort to align the U.S. with partner nations in the Pacific.

More than 4,000 service members, including those from JBSA, participated in the three-week exercise. MEDCoE was one of seven commands to support Forager 21.

The Army components supported by the deployed JBSA Army medical teams in Forager 21 included the 18th Medical Command Operational Command Post in Guam, the principal medical operations headquarters in the Pacific, and the Multi-Doman Taskforce, which is tasked with defeating a potential enemy's capabilities within the U.S. Indo-Pacific Command region.

Maj. Beatrice Kearney, Army Capability Manager for Army Health System patient administration officer, said the MEDCoE and ACM-AHS teams' performance in the exercise in supporting Army components were based on the



COURTESY PHOTO

*From left: Maj. Beatrice Kearney, Army Capability Manager for Army Health System patient administration officer; Cmdr. Greg Suckles, U.S. Coast Guard commander; and Col. Joselito Lim, Army Capability Manager for Army Health System director, take a break during the Forager 21 exercise July 27 at Naval Base Guam.*

framework of the Army Health System, a set of interdependent and interrelated systems requiring continual planning, coordination and synchronization in effectively and efficiently clearing the battlefield of casualties, while still providing a high standard of care to wounded or ill troops.

"Army Capability Manager-Army Health System and MEDCoE played an important role in identifying capability gaps across the domains of doctrine, organizations, training, materiel, leadership and education, personnel, facilities and policy during observation of the Forager 21 exercise, in order to improve and develop future capabilities of units

assigned to missions within the U.S. Indo-Pacific Command region," Kearney said. "The assessment was critical in order to assess how the 18th Medical Command is postured to fight as the theater medical command in large scale combat operations."

In addition, Kearney said the teams focused on five functional areas during Forager 21, including command and control, evacuation, medical logistics, treatment and Force Health Protection, which encompasses measures in preventing sickness and injury among troops on the battlefield.

Col. Joselito Lim, Army Capability Manager for Army Health System director, said what the ACM-AHS and

MEDCoE teams learned during the Forager 21 exercise will help the Army and Army medicine in future conflicts.

"As the users' representative for capability development across the domains of doctrine, organizations, training, materiel, leadership and education, personnel, facilities and policy, Army Capability Manager-Army Health System support to the exercise is so vital for force modernization efforts," Lim said.

"The assessments and observations at Forager 21 are critical for Army Capability Manager-Army Health System to understand and be the honest broker for the user throughout the process of capability development," Lim added. "As MEDCoE

**"The assessment was critical in order to assess how the 18th Medical Command is postured to fight as the theater medical command in large scale combat operations."**

**Maj. Beatrice Kearney, Army Capability Manager for Army Health System patient administration officer**

progresses with force modernization for Army Medicine and the Army, the capability being developed accounts for the user and ensures our medical force is trained, manned, and equipped to win our nation's wars in the future fight."

ACM-AHS was previously aligned under MEDCoE, a subordinate unit to the U.S. Army Training and Doctrine Command, or TRADOC, as the TRADOC Capability Manager.

As of Nov. 1, 2020, ACM-AHS was realigned with operational control to the Army Futures Command, still co-located with MEDCoE at JBSA, with administrative control remaining with TRADOC. On Oct. 1, 2021, ACM-AHS will complete the transition to the Futures and Concepts Center, Army Futures Command.

# JBSA 5G program hosts San Antonio mayor

By Rob Strain

502ND AIR BASE WING  
PUBLIC AFFAIRS

The Office of the Undersecretary of Defense for Research and Engineering facilitated a meeting with San Antonio Mayor Ron Nirenberg at the program's testing and research facility at Joint Base San Antonio-Fort Sam Houston Aug. 13.

The JBSA 5G Program Management office and 502nd Air Base Wing hosted the meeting at the JBSA 5G facility. Deb Stanislawski, executive director for the OUSD R&E 5G Tranche 1 and two 5G experiment programs, acted as the master of ceremonies for the meeting.

The program began when the OUSD (R&E) director of 5G operations tasked Defense Systems Technical Area Tasks, or DS TAT, to develop, implement, experiment, and

document procedures for managing 5G insertion into the Department of Defense and military services. The OUSD (R&E) 5G is the Congressionally appointed directorate within the OUSD (R&E) modernization program, responsible for planning and managing execution of the 5G to Next G initiatives.

Joint Base San Antonio 5G is the largest 5G experiment site under the OUSD R&E 5G experiments, with two large programs. The first is for 5G in telemedicine and Medical Training. The second is focused on 5G Core Capabilities and 5G Security.

Mike "Apollo" Lovell, JBSA Electromagnetic Defense Initiative and 5G executive director, and Jody Little, JBSA 5G executive program manager and director of the Program Management Office, co-hosted the top-level meeting along with

Stanislawski. Dr. Brian Kelley, Ph.D., JBSA 5G's principal investigator, Dr. Patti Geppert, Ph.D., JBSA 5G's executive for Data Analytics, Dr. Paul Young, MD, JBSA's executive for Telemedicine, and Dr. Clarence Huff, Ph.D., presented various advanced 5G demonstrations and overviews of the two programs during the visit.

Mayor Ron Nirenberg, City Councilman Clayton Perry, and a number of city staff members visited the 5G site to better understand the Department of Defense-led program and how it can facilitate technological improvements for both military and civilian purposes.

"We know how critical 5G is, not just for DOD, but for our own civilian infrastructure," Nirenberg said.

The OUSD R&E and JBSA teams provided the visitors with a demonstration of advanced 5G capabilities, which included live

video broadcasts by 502nd Air Base Wing and U.S. Army North (Fifth Army) personnel through Cell on Light Trucks, or CoLTs, which connected team members across the city and country together, to include staff members at OUSD R&E in Washington D.C.

While OUSD R&E has multiple 5G research and experimentation projects ongoing across the country, the JBSA program's focus is on 5G core security and telemedicine, especially following a natural disaster — when normal communications networks may be saturated or inoperable.

Overall, 5G-mobile-internet will allow portable computing devices to analyze vast quantities of information for real-time services in highly mobile scenarios, having a profound effect on military functions while also contributing greatly to business, industry and American

citizens.

Innovation in the area of communications does not end with 5G though.

"We can't just look at 5G as the stop — once and done," Stanislawski said. "We're looking at next-gen communications."

And, the JBSA 5G team plans to continue that endeavor with OUSD R&E, testing and refining communications avenues into the future.

During the visit, Brig. Gen. Caroline Miller, the 502d Air Base Wing and JBSA commander, said that she is excited for both the progress and potential of the JBSA 5G program.

"When I came here 14 months ago — this was kind of an idea on a napkin. It's amazing how much it's grown," she said. "We're leading the way here in San Antonio for the Department of Defense, and I think it's going to continue to grow."



Dr. Clarence Huff, Ph.D. (left), Joint Base San Antonio 5G program manager, briefs San Antonio leaders, including Mayor Ron Nirenberg and City Councilman Clayton Perry, about the progress and capabilities of the JBSA 5G program Aug. 13 at the JBSA 5G research and testing facility.

# Ceremony celebrates legacy of President Lyndon Baines Johnson

By Kathleen Salazar

502ND AIR BASE WING

PUBLIC AFFAIRS

“President Lyndon Baines Johnson’s service to this nation was invaluable,” said Army Col. Bryan L. Logan, Joint Base San Antonio Deputy Commander and 502nd Air Base Wing Vice Commander, during a private wreath-laying ceremony Aug. 27 at the Johnson Family Cemetery in Stonewall, Texas.

Johnson worked as a high school teacher and as a congressional aide before being elected to the U.S. House of Representatives in 1937 and won election to the U.S. Senate from Texas in 1948. He became vice president in 1960 and was sworn in as the 36th President following the assassination of John F. Kennedy Nov. 22, 1963, and then won by the popular vote as U.S. President in 1964.

“As president, he was many things ... including a fighter,” Logan said. “He fought for what he believed in. So much so, after taking office he declared a ‘war on poverty.’”

He launched a set of domestic programs that would expand civil rights, public broadcasting, Medicare, Medicaid, rural development, aid to urban education and public services and the arts.

“President Johnson lived a life of public service and called on all of us to stand together as one nation. His irrepressible efforts continue to inspire us toward a better life today,” Logan added. “His vision was for a great society, a society with an unquenchable desire for liberty and justice for all.

“Today, we commemorate that vision with this wreath ceremony,” Logan added. “And tomorrow, we continue



KATHY SALAZAR

*(From left) Park Ranger Carol Holmson; Col. Bryan L. Logan, Joint Base San Antonio Deputy Commander and 502nd Air Base Wing Vice Commander; Superintendent Justin Bates, Lyndon B. Johnson National Historical Park Services, and guests pay tribute to the late former President Lyndon B. Johnson during a small private wreath-laying ceremony Aug. 27 at the Johnson Family Cemetery at Stonewall, Texas.*

to work toward that vision: a society that lives and breathes and holds its very existence in ways that always empower liberty and justice ... for all.”

The Johnson cemetery is part of Lyndon B. Johnson National Historical Park. Located about 50 miles west of Austin in the Texas Hill Country, the park protects the birthplace, home, ranch and where LBJ spent about 25 percent of his time in office there. The ceremony took place on what would have been Johnson’s 113th birthday.

The keynote speaker at the

event was LBJ’s lifelong friend and author, Neal Spelce, who noted there is another legacy Johnson left to those who are fortunate to call this area home-his family.

“All of us in this great part of the country have benefitted — and are still benefitting — from the example and great works of this giant of a man and his inspiring family.”

“Look at Lady Bird Johnson and all she accomplished for people in Central Texas,” Spelce said. “There’s the development of a downtown Austin park-and-trail

alongside the lake and the establishment of an internationally known botanic garden at the University of Texas, the Lady Bird Johnson Wildflower Center.

“Luci Johnson, his youngest daughter, has made a home in Austin and she is involved in many charities, especially in the healthcare area.”

“We have to renew our commitment to improving our society,” said Luci Baines Johnson Turpin. “I always wanted to be like my father, to be a healer for social justice.”

“LBJ’s granddaughter, Catherine Robb, has taken leadership roles in many endeavors that enhance the lives of people,” Spelce added. “LBJ set an example of service to people. One of his four favorite quotes etched on a pylon in the LBJ Library reads ‘The Great Society asks not how much, but how good; not only how to create wealth, but how to use it; not only how fast we are going, but where we are headed. It proposes as the first test for a nation: the quality of its people.’”

# JBSA-Fort Sam Houston Child Development Center temporarily relocating operations

**David DeKunder**

502ND AIR BASE WING  
PUBLIC AFFAIRS

Children enrolled at the Joint Base San Antonio-Fort Sam Houston Child Development Center, or CDC, are being relocated to other child care facilities on the installation or in the community as the building is scheduled to undergo major repairs starting in September.

“The health, safety and welfare of the children and staff is the number one concern,” said Brian Roush, 502nd Force Support Squadron director.

Properly addressing that concern will require the temporary closure of the facility for 18 to 24 months, starting in early September, once alternate childcare accommodations have been made for the families affected by the closure.

JBSA's CDC staff are working with each of the families directly affected by this closure to provide alternate childcare options and specific implementation dates utilizing other Child & Youth Services facilities on JBSA-Fort Sam Houston or JBSA-Randolph or in the community, said Roush.

The 68 staff members who currently work at the JBSA-Fort Sam Houston CDC will continue providing the same high-level child care at the alternate duty locations on JBSA-Fort Sam Houston or other programs across JBSA, said Melissa Wesley, JBSA Child and Youth Services chief.

Furniture and equipment from the main JBSA-Fort Sam Houston CDC are being moved to the temporary locations, which have been reconfigured to accommodate the children.

Roush said parents and guardians of the children being relocated to other child care facilities were notified in July of



ANDREW C. PATTERSON

*Repairs to the JBSA-Fort Sam Houston Child Development Center, located in building 2530 off of Funston Road, will require the temporary closure of the facility from 18 to 24 months.*

the upcoming changes and he is grateful for their support, cooperation and understanding. He said the parents, as well as the JBSA community, will be updated periodically on the progress of the CDC repair and replacement project as it progresses.

Lt. Col. Brian Strickland, 502nd Civil Engineer Group deputy commander, said the repairs and replacements being made to the roof and HVAC system at the JBSA-Fort Sam Houston main CDC are long overdue. He said the roof,

which leaks during rainstorms, had significant problems during Winter Storm Uri in February.

“It’s time for these two building systems to be replaced,” Strickland said. “These systems were at the end of their usable life and Winter Storm Uri sped up the need to do the demolition and replacement of these systems.”

Strickland said the multimillion-dollar repair and replacement project will be conducted in phases. The first phase will be temporary repairs of the roof to stop the

**“It’s time for these two building systems to be replaced. These systems were at the end of their usable life and Winter Storm Uri sped up the need to do the demolition and replacement of these systems.”**

**Lt. Col. Brian Strickland,**  
502nd Civil Engineer Group  
deputy commander

the water infiltration, which will make it much more comfortable inside of there, with more regulated temperature and humidity control,” he said. “Fixing the roof and the HVAC, those two systems combined, are your two primary systems that control temperature, water infiltration and humidity.”

Strickland acknowledges the renovation and repair project will be an inconvenience for children and families who depend on the JBSA-Fort Sam Houston CDC for child care services, but he said the result will be worth it.

“We have a 30-year-old facility and the infrastructure needs to be updated,” Strickland said.

Strickland added that he understands the renovation is a disruption to JBSA families, however, the renovated facility will provide a far better environment for the children of JBSA service members, and more peace of mind for parents and guardians.

current leaks. After the roof is fixed, the next step in the project is the replacement of the entire roof system. The following phase will replace the fire alarms, sprinklers and the mass notification system. The final phase will replace the HVAC system.

Once the project is finished, Strickland said it will make for a better, more comfortable environment for children and staff members when they are able to return to the main JBSA-Fort Sam Houston CDC building.

“[The repairs] should stop

# LACKLAND



*Maj. Gen. Michele Edmondson (right), Second Air Force commander, uses the flight simulator with the assistance of Eric Wilkinson, specialized English instructor, at the Defense Language Institute English Language Center's Aviation Language Training Center.*

SPENCER BERRY

## New Second Air Force commander tours Gateway Wing

By **Christa D'Andrea**

37TH TRAINING WING PUBLIC AFFAIRS

The Gateway Wing recently had the opportunity to showcase its mission and people last week to provide the new Second Air Force commander a close-up and in-depth look into the 37th Training Wing mission.

Maj. Gen. Michele Edmondson assumed command of the Second Air Force, headquartered at Keesler Air Force Base, Mississippi, on July 30. She is responsible for the development, oversight and direction of all operational aspects of basic military training, initial skills training and advanced technical training of all Air Force enlisted members and support officers.

"I'm so excited to be back in this

world," Edmondson said during her opening remarks to 37th TRW leadership. "I love our Airmen and Guardians and to be a part of the missions and people that mold them. I believe we have the highest privilege and honor to do what we do."

The Gateway Wing was the first stop on the general's planned trips to visit her technical training installations, but it's not her first time here. The general previously served as the group commander for the 737th Training Group, Air Force Basic Military Training, in 2014-2015.

Her immersion provided an opportunity to rekindle her passion for training Airmen and Guardians as well as learn about changes implemented across the wing's four unique missions.

The Second Air Force command chief,

Chief Master Sgt. Adam Vizi, also traveled with her to meet and greet Airmen and Guardians across the wing.

Their immersion and introduction to the largest training base in the Air Force meant the Second Air Force command team had the opportunity to recognize a number of Airmen, Guardians and civilians at each location they visited.

The chief, who's been in the position since September 2020, described the 37th TRW mission as one that we have to get right.

"We develop the Airmen we need here," he said. "This is the initial stage of developing the foundational competencies, and building them [Airmen and Guardians] from the ground up, so we can continue to develop them through tech training."

The general also reviewed the Aug. 12 BMT graduation ceremony and administered the oath of enlistment to more than 640 Airmen and Guardians.

"You are less than one percent of the population that is willing to raise their right hand, don the fabric of your nation and serve this great country," she said to the graduating class and family members in attendance.

The 37th TRW trains and graduates more than 80,000 students annually from the Department of the Air Force, other military services, government agencies and coalition partners from more than 100 countries. Additionally, it operates schools at nine locations throughout the United States and is the Department of Defense executive agent for training military working dogs and handlers.

# 59th MDW: Microbiology students learn vital skills at WHASC

By Airman 1st Class Melody Bordeaux  
59TH MEDICAL WING PUBLIC AFFAIRS

Medical laboratory technicians from the 59th Medical Diagnostics and Therapeutics Squadron trains microbiology students about identifying bacteria at Wilford Hall Ambulatory Surgical Center at Joint Base San

Antonio-Lackland. The WHASC's clinical laboratory tests specimens to assist with treatment for various infections and tests more than 3 million samples each year in support of 715 providers.



A 59th Medical Diagnostics and Therapeutics Squadron medical laboratory technician analyzes bacteria at Wilford Hall Ambulatory Surgical Center, Joint Base San Antonio-Lackland.



PHOTOS BY AIRMAN 1ST CLASS MELODY BORDEAUX

Senior Airman Kyra Brabham, 59th Medical Diagnostics and Therapeutics Squadron medical laboratory technician, trains microbiology students about identifying bacteria at Wilford Hall Ambulatory Surgical Center, Joint Base San Antonio-Lackland Aug. 12.



A 59th Medical Diagnostics and Therapeutics Squadron medical laboratory technician utilizes immersion oil with a microscope to perform a complete blood count.

Tech. Sgt. Nadezhda Ayala, 59th Medical Diagnostics and Therapeutics Squadron medical laboratory technician, prepares saline solutions to test for antibiotic sensitivities at Wilford Hall Ambulatory Surgical Center. The WHASC's clinical laboratory gives providers results of which antibiotics work best for each patient.



Xiuli Sun, 59th Medical Diagnostics and Therapeutics Squadron medical laboratory technician, reviews a testing sample to confirm results at Wilford Hall Ambulatory Surgical Center. The WHASC's clinical laboratory tests over three million samples each year in support of 715 providers.

## Air Force invites community to serve as sponsors for international students

### 37th Training Wing Public Affairs

The Defense Language Institute English Language Center at Joint Base San Antonio-Lackland is inviting members of the community to join their AMIGO sponsor program.

Since its inception in the mid-1970s, the American Members of International Goodwill to Others has offered members of the local community the opportunity to interact with international military members from 110 countries and partake in their cultural immersion mission.

“The AMIGO program is vital to the success of our mission at DLIELC,” said Col. Joseph Schaefer, 637th Training Group commander. “It is a way for us to connect with members of the Alamo City and introduce our international partners and allies to the American way of life.”

There is no monetary obligation or time commitment to be a part of the AMIGO program. Interested sponsors will be invited to a monthly social designed to introduce them, and match them, to a student. Sponsors will be vetted through a background check.

From family events to sightseeing around town, sponsors are asked to immerse their students into the local culture to give them a flavor of what life in America is like, as well as help enhance their English-speaking skills.

The DLIELC is a world-renown institution in the field of English Language Training and security cooperation. The DLIELC teaches, monitors and conducts the Defense English



SPENCER BERRY

*International Military Students and their families interact with Defense Language Institute English Language Center staff and AMIGO sponsors at the picnic June 11 at Joint Base San Antonio.*

Language Program while providing a look into American culture. Nearly 12% of international military students who come to the states for training start their journey at DLIELC. An average of 80 partner nations are in residence each

day.

Anyone in the community interested in volunteering to be an AMIGO sponsor, contact the program manager, Dan Vega, at 210-671-7700, or email [daniel.vega.9@us.af.mil](mailto:daniel.vega.9@us.af.mil).

## Hurricane Hunters fly out of JBSA-Lackland to track Hurricane Ida

### 502nd Air Base Wing Public Affairs

The Air Force Reserve's 403rd Wing started relocating aircraft to Joint Base San Antonio-Lackland Aug. 27 as Hurricane Ida made its way towards the Gulf Coast.

The wing's two flying units, the 53rd Weather Reconnaissance Squadron and 815th Airlift Squadron, relocated their WC-130J and C-130J Super Hercules aircraft.

The 53rd WRS, better

known as the Hurricane Hunters, flew their first mission into then-Tropical Depression Nine Aug. 26 over the western Caribbean Sea.

The data they collected for National Hurricane Center forecasters showed the storm had strengthened to a tropical storm, the ninth named storm of the 2021 Atlantic hurricane season. The Hurricane Hunters will continue to fly storm taskings from JBSA-Lackland.



WILLIAM WAGNER

*Capt. Garrett Black (right), an aerial weather reconnaissance officer with the 53rd Weather Reconnaissance Squadron out of Keesler Air Force Base, Mississippi, is interviewed by Morgan Burrell (left) with WOAI NEWS 4 San Antonio and KABB Fox News, in front of a WC-130J Hercules at the Joint Base San Antonio-Lackland airfield Aug. 28.*

# Air Force Gaming League's season two takes off

## Air Force Installation and Mission Support Center Public Affairs

The Department of Air Force Gaming League is back for another season with more games and prizes while expanding the community to include Air Force veterans and Wounded Warriors.

After an inaugural season in which more than 15,000 active-duty Airmen and Guardians competed, the Air Force Services Center is rolling out several initiatives to expand its egaming program.

"The Department of the Air Force Gaming League has now become the official gaming program for all Airmen and Guardians," said Col. Christopher Parrish, AFSVC commander. "It will be available to not only Airmen and Guardians at every military base, but to numerous groups across the Air Force."

The gaming league launched in 2020 to foster resiliency and retention through global e-sports events that bring Airmen and Guardians together in competitive leagues, said Parrish.

Now DAFGL is opening the competition pool to retired Air Force veterans; dependents and youth; wounded warriors; Reserve and Guard members; U.S. Air Force and ROTC



COURTESY PHOTO

*Tech. Sgt. Maurice Moyer, team captain for the Department of the Air Force Gaming Space Force team, gives a thumbs up to one of his teammates during a DAFGL Season 1 tournament.*

cadets; and all Department of Defense civilians. The league will also allow for wide-open participation in upcoming community events and weekend tournaments, Parrish said.

DAFGL season two will also introduce three of the world's most popular game titles: Call of Duty:

Warzone, Apex Legends and Super Smash Bros. Ultimate. These titles join the previous games Call of Duty: Black Ops Cold War, League of Legends and Rocket League.

"With more than 86% of Airmen and Guardians between the ages of 18-34 identifying as gamers, the community

has grown after just one season," said Col. Marc Adair, chief of programs for AFSVC. "With the expansion of the program to more groups in season two, this will certainly build on the more than 15,000 men and women connected through a shared love of video games."

During the first season, the initial rollout involved Air Force Global Strike Command as the pilot program to help with challenges, lessons learned and insight to Airmen participation in this new intramural sport. Airmen and Guardians from AFGSC formed teams to compete with each base in the command hosting playoffs before the final major command championship.

Registration for the new season is now open and closes Sept. 1. The program will move into regional league play with playoffs prior to a regional championship. Winners will receive prizes to include championship jerseys, DAFGL products and the chance to represent the Department of the Air Force as the official team in future public-facing events and competitions.

For more updates on the upcoming season or to join, Airmen and Space Professionals can visit [www.airforcegaming.com](http://www.airforcegaming.com). For more information about the official gaming hub for the Air Force and Space Force, visit their Facebook and Twitter.

## AFIMSC expands eLearning platform to Total Force

By Malcolm McClendon

AIR FORCE INSTALLATION AND MISSION SUPPORT CENTER

The Air Force Installation and Mission Support Center Directorate of Personnel team relaunched the RedVector eLearning platform recently, making it accessible to more Airmen and Guardians to provide broader support for job-mandated training requirements, professional credentialing and licensing.

RedVector offers close to 2,000 courses for professional skill development, continuous learning point credits, and continuing education and professional development units.

For those in the Installation and Mission Support community, it provides certifications for topics in the areas of National Fire Protection Association, Occupational Safety and Health Administration, Americans with Disabilities Act, Resource Conservation and Recovery Act, Environmental and Energy, Building and Design Codes, Project Management, Facilities, Contractor, Engineering, Architect, and HVAC.

"We continuously seek new options that enable us to further develop our installation and mission support professionals," said Robert Jackson, AFIMSC Personnel Director. "We've seen the success this platform had in a limited capacity, specifically with civil engineers and now we're making it available to the broader audience as we continue to pursue organizational excellence enterprise-wide."

The Air Force Civil Engineer Center originally tested the platform in 2012 for 20 students at Tyndall Air Force Base, Florida. After the initial pilot, AFCEC continued to grow the program until 2017, when AFIMSC consolidated all training programs under the Workforce Development Division.

Félix Colón, program manager, recognized RedVector's potential and introduced it to Headquarters Air Force Directorate of Force Development to maximize its capability and to close an Air Force-wide training funding gap.

"Every year we are required to do an annual training needs assessment and I saw an opportunity to expand this to a larger audience," Colón said. "I brought the idea to Vice Chief of Staff of the Air

Force as part of his Challenge Program, and he liked it. So AFIMSC and HAF (Directorate of Force Development) partnered under a new contract to further fund the program and make this a real Total Force training initiative."

Since its relaunch in April, RedVector has proven its value and provided costs savings to the Air Force. The average travel and per diem cost for students to attend training is \$4,700 per course, not including tuition. By offering the same courses online, RedVector saved the Air Force \$6.4 million in 2020 and another \$1.9 million since April, Colón added.

"With tools like RedVector, we are optimizing training opportunities to increase lethality, readiness and organizational knowledge across the Total Force," he said.

To register for RedVector and view courses offered, visit <https://afcec.redvector.com/lpe/course/search/b2b>.

Program managers ask enrollees to use work email when registering and to allow one week for confirmation. For any other questions regarding the platform please contact: [AFIMSC.DPD@us.af.mil](mailto:AFIMSC.DPD@us.af.mil).

# Modern-day pioneers at IAAFA lead way for gender integration

By Christa D'Andrea

37TH TRAINING WING PUBLIC AFFAIRS

Five women took the stage in front of an international, Spanish-speaking audience to take part in a Women's Peace and Security panel at the Inter-American Air Forces Academy at Joint Base San Antonio-Lackland Aug 3.

The IAAFA set the stage for these women to share their perspectives with International Military Students attending the Inter-American Non-Commissioned Officer Course.

Major Specialist Laura Yanet Gomez Lopez is a guest instructor at IAAFA. She has 21 years of service and is one of only 10 female officers in the armed forces of El Salvador.

The major, who is in the Air Force branch, explained that because she is one of the first women in the service, she never had female senior leaders as role models.

When asked about what characteristics make a good leader, she answered that it was discipline and leading by example.

Lopez described a situation she had as a lieutenant where she was in charge of students in infantry school.

"I had some NCOs that in reality were old enough to be my dad. And I was a lieutenant. So, when I would call them to formation, they did not want to listen to me," Lopez said. "I understood the reason for that was because I was a woman."

The major, who was the commander at the time, stated that she ended up leading the NCOs in a run and it was because she proved to them that she could run just as well as they could that their attitudes toward her changed immediately.

"Thankfully new policies have been created that have supported our success," she said. "We participate in the same form of promotion, physically, academically and evaluation. And our jobs are given to us by experience and competition."

U.S. Air Force Master Sgt. Katrina Gonzalez, IAAFA instructor, said that a challenge she has had to overcome is the perception that women are given more opportunities for simply being women.

"That's the hardest part for me because I have worked so hard for everything I have received in life," she



CHRISTA D'ANDREA

(From left) Sgt. Thania Morales, Mexican Army; Sgt. Karla Raquel Lopez, Mexican Army; Sgt. Noelia Garcete from Paraguay; Sgt. Yasmin Alvarez, Mexican Army; and Sgt. Yozelin Olivares, Mexican Army, attended the Inter-American Air Forces Academy's Inter-American Non-Commissioned Officer Course at Joint Base San Antonio-Lackland.

said. "A lot of times I have worked harder than those around me."

The five women on the panel, all of whom are married and/or have children, also talked about the struggles of balancing service to their country and their families, life in a tactical unit as a woman and how they've handled complicated situations throughout their careers.

In a sit-down interview following the panel, the discussion continued. When asked how they felt about being hand-selected to attend the I-NCO course, they collectively sat up a little taller in preparation to respond. The pride on their faces was evident.

Sergeant Karla Raquel Lopez, Mexican Army, is one of the eight women in the course. When the call went out from the army for women to attend as part of the "Gender Inclusion Program," she immediately raised her hand and said, "I would like to attend this leadership course; I want to be a part of this experience which is typically only for males."

Lopez submitted her package for consideration and was also required to take a series of tests on human rights, military legislation, culture, as well as a medical and physical fitness exam. She competed against more than 100 female applicants. Only four from Mexico were

selected. These four are the first enlisted women from Mexico to attend the IAAFA course in nearly 10 years.

The common message among the women in the room was that they felt they were pioneering the path for other women to follow, and they were being empowered to represent their country and the Mexican National Army's vision for gender integration.

"I can say I have learned a lot about the importance of teamwork," said Sgt. Yasmin Alvarez, Mexican Army. "I have learned this is essential for everyone to do a better job and for us to stand out together. To me, working as a team has been an enriching experience because I know now that anyone who will be a part of my team will stand out."

She added that she would like to be an example for her teammates [back home] because "it's not about how long you have been in the Armed Forces, it's about the hard work you put in within your institution."

The eight-week I-NCO course prepares non-commissioned officers for advanced leadership and management responsibilities. The course covers critical thinking, problem-solving, training and teamwork, feedback, time and stress management, public speaking and implementing quality concepts in the work area.

Sgt. Yozelin Olivares said attending the course has helped broaden the attendees' perspectives and open doors for others in their armed forces to attend courses such as this.

"It's amazing to see how we have been able to communicate with each other being from different countries and having different upbringings," she said. "I will bring the topics of leadership and negotiation back with me because this will help me within my institution with not only higher-ranking members, but also my subordinates."

She added that she will be able to better support the officers appointed over her as a result of the course.

The Mexican Secretariat of National Defense General Luis Cresencio Sandoval González is actively promoting female participation in the Mexican Army and Air Force. Since 2000, women have been allowed to volunteer for military service.

Each of the women talked about how they feel empowered, how grateful they are to serve, the knowledge they will take back to their home country organizations, as well as how they couldn't have succeeded without the support of their spouses and families back home.

Sergeant Noelia Garcete from Paraguay has been in the armed forces for 10 years. She stated the "unconditional support of her mother and husband" has allowed her to concentrate on her studies and succeed in the course.

Sergeant Thania Morales, Mexican Army, will reach her four-year service mark in September. She echoed Garcete's comments and talked about her appreciation for her mother who is taking care of her children back home.

She stated that family support was a critical aspect of being able to attend the course, and in the end, what matters most to her was that she wanted to "set the example for her daughters."

Since 1943, IAAFA has been providing military education and training to military personnel from the America's and other eligible partner nations.

*Editor's Note: The quotes in this story were extracted from a translated script of the women, peace and security panel and video captured of each of the interviews.*

# RANDOLPH

## National Preparedness Month: 'Prepare to Protect'

By Staff Sgt. Preston Cherry

502ND AIR WING BASE  
PUBLIC AFFAIRS

Each September, National Preparedness Month is observed to emphasize the importance of planning and preparing for emergencies that can impact our homes, families, and communities.

This year is no different as the U.S. official preparedness website, Ready.gov, shared this year's campaign theme of "Prepare to Protect."

Preparing for disasters is protecting everyone you love and the 902nd Civil Engineer Squadron's Emergency Management office wants the community to know why preparation is so important.

"Planning for emergencies is vital to ensuring you, your team, and your family are well prepared to cope with natural or human-made emergencies," said Willie Monroe, 902nd CES Emergency Management Office flight chief. "It provides the opportunity to put safeguards in place that may save lives, reduce damage, and prevent suffering."

Each week throughout September, the National Preparedness Month campaign focuses on different aspects of preparedness.

**WEEK 1, SEPT. 1-4** - Make a plan: Talk to friends and family about communication during and after a disaster. Make sure to update your plan based on the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention recommendations due to the coronavirus.  
**WEEK 2, SEPT. 5-11** - Build a kit: Gather supplies that will last for several days after a



Brig. Gen. Caroline Miller (center), 502nd Air Base Wing and Joint Base San Antonio commander, signs the 2021 National Preparedness Month proclamation Aug. 12 at JBSA-Randolph.

SEAN M. WORRELL

disaster for everyone living in your home. Don't forget to consider unique needs and pets. Update your kits and supplies based on recommendations by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.  
**WEEK 3 SEPT. 12-18** - Prepare for disasters: Limit the impacts that disasters have on you and your family. Know the risks in your area and check your insurance coverage. Learn how to make your home stronger in storms

and other common hazards. Act fast if you receive a local warning or alert.  
**WEEK 4, SEPT. 19-24** - Teach youth about preparedness: Talk to children about preparing for emergencies and what to do in case you are separated. Reassure them by providing information about how they can get involved.  
According to the Ready.gov website, many emergencies and disasters occur without any warning. Since you can't

predict disasters, it is important to have plans and supplies for the places you and your household are at regularly.  
Monroe says there are a number of disasters which you should always be prepared for in our own local area.  
"Our primary natural disaster concerns range from damaging winds, tornadic activity, heavy rain and flooding associated with severe storms, and possible winter storms as experienced

this past winter."  
He said other human-caused disasters which could affect JBSA include hazardous materials, train derailments and aircraft accidents.  
"Prepare, practice, and prepare again," Monroe said. "Lives may depend on it."  
For more information or questions about preparing for disasters and emergencies, visit Ready.gov, follow the JBSA Emergency Management Facebook Page, or call 210-652-3567 or 210-671-2260.

# Former 12th FTW command chief reflects on lifetime of service

By Benjamin Faske

12TH FLYING TRAINING WING  
PUBLIC AFFAIRS

“Service before self” is not just an Air Force core value to retired Chief Master Sgt. Robert Diehl, it’s how he’s lived his life for the last 60 years.

Diehl enlisted in the Air Force in 1961 and saw his distinguished Air Force career span 27 years, culminating with his final assignment in 1988 as the 12th Flying Training Wing command chief.

With his active duty life complete, Diehl continued his service at the U.S. States Air Force Academy, where he served as director of operations at the 34th Training Squadron. He was responsible for managing a \$4 million dollar cadet budget and in-processing more than 1,200 new basic cadets annually. His last Academy stop was in 2010 as the training resources chief.

From one command chief to another, camaraderie and selfless service are always a common denominator.

“It’s awesome to be able to share space with a predecessor, let alone someone with such an expansive resume,” said Chief Master Sgt. Joseph Stuart, 12th FTW command chief. “Being able to share experiences and stories is probably the best way we can maintain our heritage.

“Sure, the 12th Flying Training Wing has evolved over the years but our mission of training Airmen is just as crucial today as it was during his

tenure in the wing,” Stuart added.

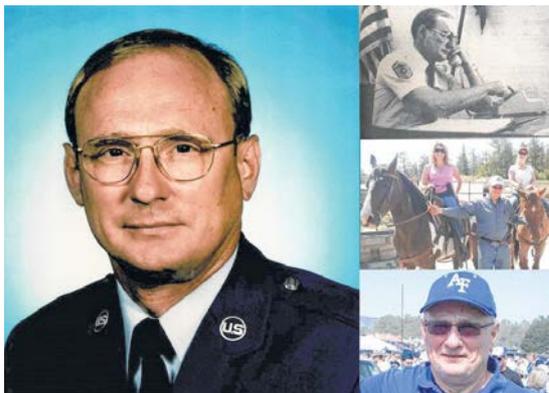
“Servant leadership has been studied a lot in recent years and Chief Diehl is a walking example of a servant leader. I’m proud to be a part of the same legacy and hope I’m still going strong when I reach the same point in my life”

Diehl continues to serve as he volunteers his time at the 502nd Air Base Wing legal office at Joint Base San Antonio-Randolph, serving as witness to the execution of wills each month on Retiree Will Day.

“Chief Diehl’s continued leadership and service have made an extremely positive impact on myself and the younger paralegals in the office,” said Master Sgt. John Bell, 502nd ABW law office senior enlisted leader. “It really shows that there are still people that truly care about the future of the United States Air Force and producing productive members of society.”

“Chief Diehl is a gem. He exemplifies service before self and taking care of Airmen,” said Lt. Col. Ja Rai Williams, 502nd ABW staff judge advocate. “We are extremely blessed to have him serve as a member of our team at the JBSA-Randolph legal office and as a mentor to all of us.

Diehl continues to volunteer with the Pine Valley Equestrian Center and is a member of the Academy’s Cadet Extracurricular Activities Board where he continues to do what he knows best, serve his community.



*Retired Chief Master Sgt. Robert Diehl is a former 12th Flying Training Wing command chief with more than 60 years of dedicated service to the U.S. Air Force.*

# Remembering old enlisted barracks of Randolph Field

By Stephen Arionus

PHD AIR FORCE PERSONNEL CENTER

In 2001, the National Park Service created the Randolph Field Historic District because of its role in early aviation history, its unique design, and the fact many of its buildings remained unchanged from their original 1930s-era construction.

Beyond war memorials, the NPS also designates certain landmarks or places as significant to American history. Such acts help to remind Americans that the past is always present. Mission Concepción, the Menger Hotel, the Majestic Theater, La Villita, or the Spanish Governor's Palace are among a few such sites one can visit locally.

According to the NPS, of the 398 buildings they evaluated for the National Register of Historic Places, only about 56 did not “contribute” to the project. In NPS terminology, “contributing” means the structure has not significantly changed since its original construction.

For the uninitiated, walking onto Joint Base San Antonio-Randolph for the first time might feel a bit like taking a step back in time. Most of the buildings share a similar design aesthetic called Spanish Colonial Revival. This popular early

20th-century architectural trend affected a style reminiscent of the era of Spanish conquistadors. The most iconic of all the buildings in this vein is JBSA-Randolph's main chapel, which remains virtually untouched since 1934.

Perhaps less well known is the fact that several buildings on AFPC's campus trace their lineage to the earliest days of the Army Air Corps. Buildings 499, 492, and 663 once served as barracks for enlisted personnel; however, due to extensive renovation over the course of the 20th century, only building 663 still contributes to the historic district designation.

During their time as barracks, each building housed at least 250 to 300 personnel. The first floor consisted of the squadron's administration section, a reception area, a chow hall, kitchen, and rooms for unmarried junior enlisted personnel. Unmarried noncommissioned officers lived on the second floor. One contemporary observer described the barracks as “clean and neat” with comfortable recreation rooms with their “club-like appointments.”

Adjacent to the barracks was a swimming pool for enlisted personnel. The earliest records list it as an “auxiliary water storage tank,” likely to disabuse Congress of the impression that the Army Air Corps was constructing a “country club.” Such ingenuity undoubtedly took the edge off San Antonio's hot and humid summers before the advent of air conditioning.

As we collectively begin to envision a “new normal” for the AFPC campus, it is good to pause for a moment and reflect on where we've been. The value we, as a society, place on landmarks comes not from the mere fact something is “old,” but usually because people left their imprint on those places in some way.

JBSA-Randolph has a storied lineage not simply due to its age, but because of the thousands of maintainers, aviators, instructors, support staff, personnelists, and countless others who passed through its front gate over the years. These women and men have and continue to work for the nation's defense and in so doing make history each day.



*During their time as barracks, each building housed at least 250 to 300 personnel.*

COURTESY PHOTO