

JBSA

LEGACY

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JOINT BASE SAN ANTONIO

NOVEMBER 19, 2021



Reserve Citizen Airmen with the 26th and 74th Aerial Port Squadrons secure a fuel delivery truck to the floor of a C-5M Super Galaxy cargo aircraft during a training event Nov. 7 at Joint Base San Antonio-Lackland.

COURTESY PHOTO BY TECH. SGT. JOHN SHUE

433rd AW, 502nd ABW Airmen train to move cargo safely

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Brooke Army Medical Center offers COVID-19, flu vaccines

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802nd FSS helps Space Force personnel receive CACs

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Army to extend temporary promotion policy for all NCO ranks

By Staff Sgt. Michael Reinsch
ARMY NEWS SERVICE

Sgt. Maj. of the Army Michael A. Grinston announced the Army will expand its temporary promotion policy to all non-commissioned officer ranks, giving Soldiers more time to complete required training schools.

“Our goal is to develop every leader for promotion,” Grinston said during a media roundtable Nov. 8. “This select, train and educate promote system is still the right way to do that.”

The program expands the existing temporary promotion policy, which gives eligible Soldiers up to a year to complete professional military education or enter proof of graduation into the service’s backend personnel system.

Beginning in January 2022, the policy will include all NCO ranks between sergeant and master sergeant, said Sgt. Maj. Mark Clark, the Army’s senior enlisted

advisor for personnel. There will be no change to the existing temporary promotion policy for non-resident Sergeants Major Academy students.

The promotions will use the order of merit list, or OML list, to determine which Soldiers will be promoted first, if there is a need.

“You may not even have to catch up too much,” Grinston said at the Association of the U.S. Army Annual Exposition and Meeting last month. “We’re also going to increase the slots and authorizations so we can get ahead of the OML so that you will get to school, and we don’t have this issue in the future.”

In September, Grinston said a high number of NCOs were passed over on the OML for promotion to master sergeant. A closer study found that some Soldiers did not qualify for promotion because they were never scheduled for their required professional military education courses.

The temporary promotion requires the promoted NCO to complete professional military education within one year to fully qualify at the higher grade. Unit leaders are still responsible to ensure that Soldiers are ready for their military education courses, Grinston said.

Soldiers who do not complete their professional military education before the one-year deadline will revert to their original rank. They will not be required to pay back any pay or allowances earned during that time.

“Each year you will get your records looked at,” Grinston said. “We will publish a new OML, and then based on where you are at on that year’s OML, based off the requirements we need for the Army, this would apply.”

This policy will be in place for one year before it is re-examined in September 2022 to assess the need to continue it.

“We have to see how many

people come in the Army; how many people get out of the Army in those ranks,” Grinston said.

After the initial year and assessment of the program, Grinston said the Army can look at its need for additional training but explained that is not the only way to bolster the program.

“Right now, we believe because of the work we did a few years ago, that we could meet the capacity issues of the school slots,” he said. “But there are also other things we could do. We could add more school slots across the year if we’re not meeting those requirements.”

More instructors could be brought into the professional development courses if the need is there, he added.

“Our goal is still to select, train, and then educate and promote,” Grinston said. “The whole reason why we have this policy is that we wanted NCOs to have the education and the training for the job they are doing right now.”

DFAS launches new kind of myPay account for military gray-area retirees

Defense Finance and Accounting Service

A new kind of myPay account is now available from the Defense Finance and Accounting Service for Air National Guard and Air Force Reserve “gray-area retirees” awaiting age 60 to receive retired pay.

The new type of account was created to help these individuals stay connected and informed between the time they stop drilling and the time

they start receiving military retired pay.

Gray-area retirees are service members who served in the Guard or Reserve, qualified for retired pay, have retired from their service (stopped drilling), but are not yet at the age where they can start receiving retired pay. The time between retirement from service and the date when they are eligible to begin receiving retired pay is known as the “gray area.”

The “gray area” moniker

applies even if the member is in the Retired Reserve.

A Guard or Reserve member is generally not eligible to start receiving retired pay until they reach age 60; however, some periods of active duty or active service can reduce the age requirement below 60 years of age.

In the new basic myPay account, gray-area retirees can confirm or update their email and mailing addresses to stay informed about news related to their upcoming retired pay.

Additionally, when they apply for retired pay and have a current email address in their account, DFAS will email them notifications about the status of their application.

To find out more, gray area retirees are encouraged to visit <https://www.dfas.mil/grayarea>.

DFAS offers myPay as a pay management portal. It is used by approximately 5 million military members, federal civilian employees, and military retirees and annuitants.

JBSA LEGACY

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Published by EN Communities a private firm in no way connected with the U.S. Air Force under exclusive written contract with the 502d Air Base Wing and Joint Base San Antonio. The editorial content of this publication is the responsibility of the 502d Air Base Wing Public Affairs Office.

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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 using the subject line "Feedback Fridays."

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

Q: My question concerns plans at each installation to install electric vehicle, or EV, charging stations for public use at all JBSA bases.

Although small, the use of EVs among retirees and employees is ever-growing and we respectfully request infrastructure expansion. All government buildings should



COURTESY GRAPHIC

have a number of EV charging stations proportionate to the number of employees working within. The Exchanges, commissaries, theaters, golf courses and other services could

offer EV charging stations.

Not only is this a morale boost, but for businesses, it attracts additional customers. The cost can be offset by the lesser number of loud polluting vehicles, which our

dedicated Security Forces will not miss, to zero-emission and near-silent vehicles.

I still drive my 2011 EV and am still waiting for a place to plug in on base. Will JBSA installations lead the way?

A: Thank you for the feedback. Our team at CE is committed to providing a resilient and energy-efficient installation and culture.

Typically, energy initiatives such as charging stations are installed during the new construction of facilities, or as a commercially-provided contracted pay-for-use service.

We are supportive of these types of initiatives, particularly when they target community gathering spaces such as the Exchange and commissary.

We will recommend to the Army and Air Force Exchange Service and Defense Commissary Agency that they consider these initiatives as they make capital improvements to their facilities.

Thank you for your commitment to energy efficiency!

SkillBridge updates impact Airmen, Guardians

Secretary of the Air Force
Public Affairs

Effective Oct. 1, the Department of the Air Force implemented two significant changes to the execution of the Department of Defense's SkillBridge program that impact Airmen and Guardians preparing for retirement or separation.

The program is an opportunity for service members to gain valuable civilian work experience through specific-industry training, apprenticeships or internships.

"The SkillBridge program is available for all Airmen and Guardians to apply," said Russell Frasz, the director of Force Development. "We want members to have the skills they need to successfully transition to civilian employment and this is a great opportunity for them."

Commanders may approve, disapprove or modify applications based

on mission requirements.

The two specific program changes are:

► The application processing and approval will now be completely automated through the Air Force Virtual Education Center.

► Department of the Air Force members can now only use DOD-approved SkillBridge providers or joint base-approved cohort programs.

"Standardizing the provider criteria at the DOD level and creating one

consolidated resource from which military members can select training opportunities will save our military members time," said Michelle Marinelli, the voluntary education business process owner at the Air Force Personnel Center.

Using DOD-vetted programs will assist Airmen and Guardians to participate in SkillBridge programs that are routinely reviewed. Members have access to a DOD database of more than 1,100 organizations with training

opportunities at more than 2,220 locations. The DAF no longer vets or approves new providers as of Oct. 1.

Employers can apply to be a DOD-approved partner at <https://skillbridge.osd.mil/>.

For more information about the DAF SkillBridge program or the changes, members can review the two-page DAF SkillBridge document, visit the DoD SkillBridge website or contact their local education office.



D O D SKILLBRIDGE

COURTESY GRAPHIC

FORT SAM HOUSTON

BAMC receives national recognition for surgical quality

By Lori Newman

BROOKE ARMY MEDICAL CENTER
PUBLIC AFFAIRS

The American College of Surgeons National Surgical Quality Improvement Program has recognized Brooke Army Medical Center for achieving meritorious outcomes for surgical patient care for three years running, ranking the hospital among the top 10 percent of participating hospitals for surgical care.

“Earning meritorious recognition three years in a row clearly shows the dedication and expertise in BAMC that drives perpetual improvement of the quality surgical care delivered by the San Antonio Market,” said Air Force Col. Patrick Osborn, Surgeon-in-Chief, San Antonio Military Health System, and BAMC Deputy Commander for Surgical Services.

BAMC is one of 90 ACS NSQIP participating hospitals across the nation that have achieved meritorious recognition for surgical patient care and is the only one in San Antonio. Additionally, BAMC was among 71 hospitals on its “High Risk” Meritorious list, and the only Army military treatment facility.

As a Level I Trauma Center, “BAMC is unique within the Department of Defense,” Osborn said. “This was particularly true in 2020 when we provided this exemplary level of care while also supporting pandemic missions across the nation and military missions around the world.

“This amazing team also increased support to our community by accepting additional trauma patients,” he added. “Not only did we provide superb surgical care to our beneficiaries and civilian



JASON W. EDWARDS

Members of the 555th Forward Surgical Team operate on a simulated trauma patient during training with the Strategic Trauma Readiness Center of San Antonio at Brooke Army Medical Center, Joint Base San Antonio-Fort Sam Houston May 28, 2020.

patients, but this team was also instrumental in sustaining the regional trauma and emergency response system for Southwest Texas.”

Achieving meritorious recognition means that BAMC ranks in the top 10 percent of more than 706 hospitals on this composite surgical quality score.

“We are very proud of this outstanding accomplishment,” said Brig. Gen. Clinton Murray, BAMC commanding general. “It is a testament to the ongoing commitment our entire staff has to provide safe, quality care for our patients.”

Osborn agrees. “The recognition of excellence for ‘High-Risk’ patients exhibits the unique knowledge and skills institutionalized within the San Antonio Market. I am proud and elated that this

comprehensive care team garnered the recognition they deserve,” he said.

“At each step in their treatment, our patients, military and civilian, receive the best surgical care DOD and this community offer,” Osborn added.

As a participant in ACS NSQIP, BAMC is required to track the outcomes of inpatient and outpatient surgical procedures and collect data that directs patient safety and the quality of surgical care improvements.

The ACS NSQIP recognition program commends a select group of hospitals for achieving a meritorious composite score in either an “All Cases” category or a category that includes only “High Risk” cases.

Risk-adjusted data from the

July 2021 ACS NSQIP Semiannual Report, which presents data from the 2020 calendar year, was used to determine which hospitals demonstrated meritorious outcomes.

Each composite score was determined through a different weighted formula combining eight outcomes. The outcome performances related to patient management were in the following clinical areas: mortality, unplanned intubation, prolonged ventilator use, renal failure, cardiac incidents including cardiac arrest and myocardial infarction; respiratory illness such as pneumonia; surgical site infections-superficial and deep incisional and organ-space; or urinary tract infection.

ACS NSQIP is the only

“We are very proud of this outstanding accomplishment. It is a testament to the ongoing commitment our entire staff has to provide safe, quality care for our patients.”

**Brig. Gen. Clinton Murray,
BAMC commanding general**

nationally validated quality improvement program that measures and enhances the care of surgical patients. This program measures the actual surgical results 30 days postoperatively as well as risk adjusts patient characteristics to compensate for differences among patient populations and acuity levels.

The goal of ACS NSQIP is to reduce surgical morbidity, which is infection or illness related to a surgical procedure, and surgical mortality, which is death related to a surgical procedure, and to provide a firm foundation for surgeons to apply what is known as the “best scientific evidence” to the practice of surgery.

“BAMC is committed to providing our patients the best quality surgical care every step of the way,” Murray said. “These results exemplify that commitment.”



Staff Sgt. Brenda Collins (left), medical specialist from Carl R. Darnall Army Medical Center, administers the COVID-19 vaccination to a patient during the phase one process Dec.15, 2020 at Fort Hood, Texas.

STAFF SGT. DESMOND CASSELL

BAMC offers COVID-19, flu vaccines at JBSA-Fort Sam Houston Vaccine Site

Brooke Army Medical Center Public Affairs

Brooke Army Medical Center is offering the COVID-19 and flu vaccinations at the Joint Base San Antonio-Fort Sam Houston Vaccine Site, located in the Training Support Center on main post-Joint Base San Antonio-Fort Sam Houston, building 4110, 2536 Garden Avenue.

COVID-19 vaccine

Beneficiaries ages 7 and up are invited to get their COVID-19 vaccine at the JBSA-Fort Sam Houston COVID-19 Vaccine Site by making an appointment through TRICARE Online or calling 210-916-9900 weekdays.

Walk-in hours for the COVID-19

vaccine are Tuesdays from 10 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. and Wednesdays from 8 a.m. to 3 p.m. As of Nov. 15, the JBSA-Fort Sam Houston Vaccine Site hours are Monday, Wednesday and Friday from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. and Tuesday and Thursday from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.

Outpatient Clinic options

Beneficiaries 5-11 years old are invited to get their COVID-19 vaccine by appointment only at BAMC's General Pediatrics by calling 210-916-9900 on weekdays.

All beneficiaries within this age group, regardless of empanelment to General Pediatrics or Family Medicine, may

receive their vaccine at General Pediatrics. General Pediatrics is the only BAMC clinic administering the vaccine to 5- and 6-year-olds.

Beneficiaries 12 years old and older enrolled to Capt. Jennifer M. Moreno Clinic (at JBSA-Fort Sam Houston), Schertz Medical Home, Spc. Taylor J. Burk Clinic (at JBSA-Camp Bullis), and Westover Medical Home are invited to get their COVID-19 vaccine on a walk-in basis Monday-Friday from 8 a.m. to noon.

Beneficiaries ages 12 and up enrolled in the Adolescent/Young Adult Medicine Clinic can get their COVID-19 vaccine as of Nov. 17.

Vaccines will be offered by

appointment only. Call the clinic at 210-916-3160, option 3, then option 3 again during business hours or send a message via TRICARE Online Secure Messaging to your PCM to schedule a COVID-19 vaccine appointment.

Vaccinations will be offered Wednesdays from 8 a.m. to noon and Fridays from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. by appointment only.

San Antonio Metro Health

The Pfizer COVID-19 vaccine is being administered to children ages 5-11 as of Nov. 10 at the Alamodome and at vaccine pop-up clinics throughout the community.

LACKLAND



PHOTOS BY TECH. SGT. JOHN SHUE

Reserve Citizen Airmen with the 433rd Airlift Wing load a fuel delivery truck onto a C-5M Super Galaxy cargo aircraft during a total force training event Nov. 7 at Joint Base San Antonio-Lackland.

433rd AW, 502nd ABW Airmen train to move cargo safely

By Master Sgt. Kristian Carter
433RD AIRLIFT WING PUBLIC AFFAIRS

More than 40 Reserve Citizen Airmen from several units in the 433rd Airlift Wing and the 502nd Air Base Wing assembled to train on cargo airlift preparation and loading procedures at Joint Base San Antonio-Lackland Nov. 6 and 7.

Airmen from the 26th and 74th Aerial Port squadrons, 68th Airlift Squadron, 433rd Contingency Response Flight, 733rd Training Squadron and 502nd Logistics Readiness Squadron prepared the cargo Nov. 6.

This included conducting a joint inspection, which is where aerial port representatives and the cargo owners inspect the items for airworthiness together. During this inspection, special cargo handling personnel verify the cargo containers and vehicles are properly prepared and meet the standards for transportation on military aircraft.

The types of training conducted are often completed in smaller components. For this exercise, several units with different specialties



and skill sets were pulled together, combining these smaller training components into a larger scenario.

According to Tech. Sgt. John Shue, 26th Aerial

Port Squadron ramp services supervisor and one of the lead planners for this exercise, the resulting training more closely resembles what Airmen will encounter in real-world missions and allowed the crews to gain experience preparing them for upcoming deployments.

“This event focused on specialized cargo we don’t normally have access to here,” Shue said. “By working with these other units, we can work with the types of cargo we will see downrange.”

On Nov. 7, 68th Airlift Squadron aircrew members joined the training to practice loading the cargo and vehicles onto a C-5M Super Galaxy cargo aircraft. Airmen practiced driving vehicles and securing the cargo inside the aircraft to prevent movement during flight.

The training event allowed Airmen to gain experience prior to being tasked to deploy.

“We have people who have never deployed before, this is a good experience for them to get ready,” Shue said. “This is some of the best hands-on training we can offer to our Airmen to prepare them for their deployment.”

AFSFC initiatives modernize Total Force Defenders

By Joe Bela

AIR FORCE INSTALLATION AND MISSION
SUPPORT CENTER PUBLIC AFFAIRS

When it comes to equipping more than 38,000 security forces members across the Total Force, the Air Force Security Forces Center seeks to give Defenders every advantage over their adversaries. The AFSFC Logistics Directorate is charged with making sure it happens.

AFSFC, a primary subordinate unit of the Air Force Installation and Mission Support Center at Joint Base San Antonio-Lackland, relies on the directorate to acquire and deliver the latest, technically advanced personal gear and equipment to security forces members around the world, including those from U.S. Space Force, Air National Guard and Air Force Reserve.

The directorate accomplishes the work with a staff of experts from various security forces and related functions, ranging from individual requirements and equipment to deployable equipment, weapons management and ground munitions.

“AFSFC’s deliberate strategic plan to modernize and standardize security forces’ equipment across the Total Force serves as a catalyst in achieving superior agility and lethality in a battlefield environment,” said AFSFC Commander Col. Aaron Guill. “Our logistics folks, with their knowledge and expertise, are one of the reasons we are successful.”

A recent initiative called the Model Defender Kit is one example of how the AFSFC team is modernizing the force.

“It’s a long-term initiative that standardizes the gear ensemble issued to every Defender across the security forces enterprise,” said Master Sgt. Derek Walton, individual equipment manager in the Logistics Directorate. “Our responsibility is to put an acquisition strategy in place once the testing and final solutions are made on the composition of the standardized gear ensemble.”

Replacing individual equipment with new technology involves stringent research, testing and evaluation processes. Walton and other members of the team manage the process from cradle to grave. After decisions are made, they purchase samples of equipment from various vendors and send them to several bases for testing and evaluation.

“Upgrading the 23 standard

individual equipment items issued to every Defender takes time, but we’re committed and our efforts are producing positive results,” Walton said.

High-Speed Ballistic Helmet

High-speed ballistics helmets are one such example. Now the standard issue for security forces, the new high-cut helmets provide superior comfort and feature a built-in rail system to accommodate accessories such as night-vision goggles and tactical communications equipment. More than 27,000 of the 28,934 helmets purchased by AFIMSC are already in the field. The remainder should arrive at units by late December.

Female Body Armor

In 2020, the AFSFC committed to a Total Force purchase of body armor developed specifically for women in security forces. The new armor is lighter and a better fit than previous body armor. It also improves mobility and provides better protection of vital organs. The initial 7,688 vests were distributed across the Total Force.

Modular Scalable Vest

In 2021, AFSFC began testing and evaluating a new modular scalable vest at several bases. The latest tactical body armor features additional padding for the shoulders and hips, and a pouch designed to prevent armor plates from shifting. The vests can be configured for different levels of protection based on mission requirements. Today, Defenders are equipped with more than 8,100 of the new vests.

Another branch of the Logistics Directorate, the Weapons and Munitions Division, is furthering AFSFC’s commitment to accelerate change by integrating and delivering innovative solutions that modernize security forces weapons and ground munitions systems. The division also supports and advocates for all user communities across the Air Force enterprise, not just security forces.

“Our unit validates and approves all requirements for weapons systems and munitions that enable Defenders across the Total Force to sustain a safe and secure operating environment,” said Randy Roth, deputy chief for the division.

The division has enhanced lethality by making significant contributions to several recent weapons

modernization initiatives.

M18 Modular Handgun

AFSFC began shipping the M18 modular handgun systems to security forces units in early 2019. The M18 modular design and ergonomic features improve target acquisition and accuracy, outperforming the bulkier M9, which had been in use for more than 30 years. The M18 can also be customized with small, medium or large handgrips. AFSFC managed the purchase of 48,860 and the fielding of 38,708 M18s.

M4A1 Carbine Rifle

Another recent acquisition is the fully automatic M4A1 carbine rifle, an upgrade to the semiautomatic M4, which fires only a three-round burst. Defenders are currently transitioning to the new weapon. For security forces, the M4A1 will be equipped with the direct view optic that magnifies at a 1:6 ratio.

“It’s going to increase defender lethality by improving observation, identification and target accuracy,” Roth said. AFSFC managed the purchase of 50,000 DVOs and will begin shipping them to units in the first quarter of 2022.

M110A1 Squad Designated Marksman Rifle

The M110A1 is replacing the M24 precision rifle, which has been in use since security forces established the close precision engagement program 20 years ago. The new weapon comes with the same scope as the M4A1 and has a bullet drop compensator for 7.62 mm ammunition. It will be fitted with a 3:24 magnification optic that increases maximum effective range and enhances surveillance. The system also has military standard rails to allow the attachment of accessories, such as a clip-on night sight. That was not an option with the M24. The M110A1 provides semi-automatic fire to increase engagement speed when encountering multiple targets. AFSFC managed the purchase of 1,464 M110A1s. Deliveries to units will start in the first quarter of 2022.

Polymer Cased 50-Caliber Round

The Center is also replacing 50-caliber rounds with heavier brass shells with a polymer-based alternative. “Just recently approved by the Nonnuclear Munitions Board, the new light-weight polymer-based shell casings are ideal for agile Helo rescue units,” Roth said.

Alamo Wing senior leaders, honorary commanders, serve up Thanksgiving meal

By Senior Airman
Brittany Wich

433RD AIRLIFT WING PUBLIC AFFAIRS

The 433rd Airlift Wing's senior leaders and honorary commanders served a Thanksgiving meal to military service members at the Live Oak Dining Facility at Joint Base San Antonio-Lackland Nov. 6.

The "Serve our Airmen" event included the 433rd AW honorary commanders and senior leaders taking shifts in serving food, welcoming service members, and clearing trays from tables. This event is a way for the Alamo Wing to kick off the holiday season.

"I've been with the 433rd for a number of years and have done the Thanksgiving meal before. It's always great to be down here to see all the familiar faces and young people with the Air Force serving their country. It warms my heart being able to give back," said Clay Richmond, 433rd AW Honorary Commander.

The 433rd AW Honorary Commanders Program assigns a civic leader with a senior wing leader for two years, inviting the community to experience the military's mission. The program's purpose is to bridge the gap between the local community and the wing's Reserve Citizen Airmen while creating a deeper understanding of the wing's mission.

Col. Nikhil Patel, 433rd AW vice commander, said it was an awesome experience to build upon relationships with the San Antonio community and engage with future Air Force leaders.

After serving food, Patel sat down and had lunch with the 433rd AW Development and Training Flight, who were also at the dining facility, and gave insight into the wing. The D&TF program educates incoming Air Force members on military customs and connects them with the unit to help them transition from civilian to military service.

"The D&TF program is important to the future of the wing and the Air Force Reserve, allowing us to meet with Airmen before they begin their journey as Citizen Airmen," Patel said. "I was encouraged by our conversations and the questions presented by this group, and I look forward to seeing them settle into the wing and beginning their careers."



PHOTOS BY SENIOR AIRMAN BRITTANY WICH

Andrew Camplen, 433rd AW honorary commander, and Col. Nikhil Patel, 433rd Airlift Wing vice commander, serve food to an Air Force service member at the Live Oak Dining Facility Nov. 6 at Joint Base San Antonio-Lackland.



Chief Master Sgt. Takesha S. Williams, 433rd Airlift Wing command chief, serves a meal at the Live Oak Dining Facility at Joint Base San Antonio-Lackland, Texas, Nov. 6 during the "Serve our Airmen" event.



Col. Terry McClain, 433rd Airlift Wing commander, prepares a plate of food during the "Serve our Airmen" event Nov. 6 at Joint Base San Antonio-Lackland.

Special Warfare Training Wing first Air Force organization to host Special Operations Forces Training ‘Shura’

By 1st Lt. Xiaofan Liu

SPECIAL WARFARE TRAINING WING
PUBLIC AFFAIRS

The Special Warfare Training Wing is the first U.S. Air Force organization to host a Special Operations Forces Training “Shura”, a gathering of senior leaders from SOF-generating commands under U.S. Special Operations Command and its allied counterparts around the world held Nov. 2-4, 2021 at Joint Base San Antonio-Lackland.

Over the years, senior leaders of SOF-generating commands have routinely held SOF Training “Shuras” to cross-pollinate best practices and to build lethal SOF warriors capable of solving the nation’s most complex problems in austere environments.

For the SWTW, hosting this iteration of the SOF Training “Shura” represents a natural evolution stemming from decades of its predecessor organizations training Special Warfare Airmen for service in special operations around the world, a critical mission set that has not stopped and is now more important than ever in the age of strategic competition.

“Our relationship with the special

operations community is important for the SWTW,” said Col. Mason Dula, SWTW commander. “A third of our graduates are destined for service inside a USSOCOM component, and learning from our SOF-training counterparts helps reinforce the imperative that our Special Warfare graduates will be expected to seamlessly interoperate with joint special operations forces, the day they graduate from our pipelines.”

Members attending the SOF Training “Shura” discussed a wide variety of topics affecting the SOF world, including pre-accessions, recruiting and development, training pipeline standards and more, while reinforcing partnerships to ensure a unified approach towards the USSOCOM SOF Operating Concept 2030, aimed at preparing SOF operators for the future fight.

Two widely discussed topics included the various Assessment and Selection models that different SOF-generating commands utilize and the integration of human performance technology as SOF warriors of the future are built — both of which the SWTW has been accelerating change in since its inception in October 2018.

In January 2019, the SWTW instituted its very own 4-week Assessment and Selection (A&S) to carefully select potential Air Force SW operators based on character and attributes, replacing the previous Indoctrination course that focused primarily on physical attributes.

“Many people think that A&S is just about selection, when in reality, it promotes a learning culture,” said Col. Robert Taylor, Special Warfare Training Group commander. “A&S focuses our cadre, training, and operational forces as best we can on the core attributes of an individual.”

Interwoven in the A&S model of the SWTW and every other aspect of the wing’s imperative to build SW Airmen of the future is its Human Performance Support Group, the first of its kind in the Air Force, which fuses cutting-edge science and technology into each step of the process as SW Airmen are built from the ground up at the SWTW.

“We instill human performance principles that SW Airmen can apply throughout the duration of their careers and beyond,” said Col. George Buse, Special Warfare Human Performance Support Group commander. “Our team helps set the foundation for building

resilient warriors who are physically harder, mentally sharper, and spiritually stronger.”

At the end of the SOF Training “Shura,” all parties left with new knowledge that will go on to affect the kinetic battlespace of the future.

“Hosting the SOF Training ‘Shura’ is important for SW culture because we are a learning organization,” Dula said. “Like the operational forces inside Air Force Special Operations Command, the SWTW has a responsibility to ensure that we understand and anticipate changes inside the joint SOF community and adjust our training pipelines accordingly to produce graduates ready to execute the nation’s special operations immediately upon arriving to operating forces.”

Members of the Special Warfare Training Wing provide initial training for all U.S. Air Force Special Warfare training AFSCs, including Combat Controllers, Pararescue, Special Reconnaissance, and Tactical Air Control Party Airmen.

To learn more about SW Airmen or other U.S. Air Force Special Warfare career opportunities, go to <https://www.airforce.com/careers/in-demand-careers/special-warfare>.

SECOND AIR FORCE COMMANDER PARTICIPATES IN TACP TRAINING



U.S. Air Force Maj. Gen. Michele Edmondson, Second Air Force commander, fires an M240B machine gun during a visit to the 353rd Special Warfare Training Squadron to observe Tactical Air Control Party student training. The general also toured facilities at Joint Base San Antonio-Camp Bullis Nov. 2.

TEDx inaugural event at JBSA-Lackland spotlights collaboration

By Annette Crawford

37TH TRAINING WING PUBLIC AFFAIRS

An inaugural TEDx event here in October met the spirit of the gathering's theme — Together Toward Tomorrow — and showcased collaboration at its best, according to Dr. Elizabeth Rich, Chief, Faculty Development Flight, 37th Training Support Squadron.

"The inspiration for hosting a TEDx event came from wanting to provide the JBSA-Lackland community with an experience similar to the Air University Leadership Education Development eXperience, or LEDx," said Rich, who was the TEDx licensee and organizer. "The Air Command and Staff College at Air University hosts a unique type of leadership event, executed similar to a TEDx format, bringing together a diverse and lengthy list of military and civilian speakers, food trucks, and live music."

Rich said that when she applied for a TEDx license, she hoped to bring the same benefits to the JBSA-Lackland community because "I believe our community's greatest assets is its people and the innovative ideas they have."

After an official welcome by Col. Rockie K Wilson, 37th Training Wing commander, the day was full of guest speakers from a wide variety of backgrounds. Some of the presenters



AGNES KOTERBA

Some of the guest speakers from the TEDx inaugural event at Joint Base San Antonio-Lackland gather for a photo Oct. 4. From left are: Jason "JW" Womack, Dr. Shanita Williams, Lt. Col. Martin Salinas II, Capt. Zachary Bauman, Maj. Gen. Michele Edmondson, Capt. John Red, Staff Sgt. Julia Reyna, Lt. Col. Katherine Batterton and Maj. Jesse Johnson.

included Capt. Zachary Baumann, Air Force Gaming co-founder; retired Brig. Gen. Guy Walsh, executive director of the University of Texas at San Antonio National Security Collaboration Center; and retired Col. Jason Lamb, talent strategist for U.S. Space Force.

Rich credited the TEDx executive team with leading their planning committees to a successful event. The members were Senior Master Sgt. Matthew Scott, Master Sgt. Michael Galindo, Tech. Sgt. Jericamay LeCates, Staff Sgt. Ryan Jette, Kristin Baer, Javier

Peraffan, Aaron Deutsch, Christa D'Andrea and Agnes Koterba.

Several of the guest speakers posted positive comments on LinkedIn.

"Hats off to you and the team! You did an incredible job! It was an honor to be there and hear such inspiring messages!" wrote Dr. Shanita Williams, associate vice president, Talent Engagement and Inclusion, Southern New Hampshire University.

"It was incredible! We had a blast and learned a ton!!" wrote Capt. Oliver Parsons, Air Force Gaming

Founder/Leader, Air Force Services Center.

Rich said her goal was to bring together the community's innovative thinkers and doers to showcase the culture of continual adaptation and innovation, spark discussions on a wide range of topics, and contribute to solutions for local and global challenges.

"I loved how the conversations between attendees and speakers, as well as each other, happened organically, giving everyone opportunities to trade ideas, share how they were impacted by what they heard, and learn from one another," Rich added.

As a testament to the success of the first event, Rich has already applied to renew the license and bring TEDxJBSALackland back in 2022.

"In addition, we plan to host TEDxJBSALackland Salon events which will be small monthly events that keep the TEDxJBSALackland community engaged between our annual events allowing the conversation to continue," she said, adding that the group hopes to launch their first Salon in January. "I can't thank the entire TEDxJBSALackland executive team enough for all the hard work and hours they voluntarily put into bringing this inaugural event to the JBSA-Lackland community."

ALAMO WING MEMBERS RECEIVE COVID-19, FLU VACCINATIONS

Master Sgt. Jevon King, 365th Airlift Squadron first sergeant, receives his annual flu shot from Senior Airman Mariah Moreno, 433rd Medical Squadron aerospace medical service technician, at Joint Base San Antonio-Lackland Nov. 6. Personnel from the 433rd Medical Group conducted the clinic with Airmen from the 433rd Airlift Wing and 960th Cyberspace Wing lined up for influenza and COVID-19 vaccines during the mass vaccination event. According to the Centers for Disease Control, seasonal flu vaccines are designed to protect against the influenza viruses that research indicates will be most common during the upcoming season.



STAFF SERGEANT MONET VILLACORTE

Commander, Navy Installations Command visits Naval Technical Training Center Lackland



PETTY OFFICER 2ND CLASS THOMAS NYGARD /

“It was a pleasure to host Vice Adm. Lindsey and demonstrate for him some of the training that goes into developing a Navy master-at-arms.”

**Cmdr. Damon Sumerall,
NTTC Lackland Commanding Officer**

Vice Admiral Yancy B. Lindsey (left), Commander, Naval Installation Command, and Naval Technical Training Center Executive Officer, Cmdr. Christopher Breckenridge (right), talk about vehicle inspection procedures that students undergo during Master-at-Arms Apprenticeship training.

**By Petty Officer 1st Class
Timothy S. Dejesus**

NAVAL TECHNICAL TRAINING CENTER
LACKLAND PUBLIC AFFAIRS

Vice Adm. Yancy B. Lindsey, Commander, Navy Installations Command, visited Naval Technical Training Center Lackland in San Antonio to see firsthand the new master-at-arms apprenticeship training Nov. 1.

“It was a pleasure to host Vice Adm. Lindsey and demonstrate for him some of the training that goes into developing a Navy master-at-arms,” said Cmdr. Damon Sumerall, NTTC Lackland Commanding Officer.

Lindsey toured the non-lethal weapons class, where students learn how to gain compliance from a threatening individual by employing baton strikes.

Throughout his tour, Lindsey took the time to speak with staff and discuss their role and the vital work they do every day to ensure the Fleet receives well-trained master-at-arms personnel who are watch-ready and capable.

Lindsey also observed students learning how to operate access control points and perform vehicle inspections. The training ranges from how to handle the penetration of an access control point,

surveillance, and bomb threats.

The admiral mentioned that training equipment is a priority, and it is necessary to make sure that staff and students have the right tools to succeed. Students need to process different scenarios that can happen while standing duty and know how to protect an installation or platform.

Lindsey also observed students demonstrating how to respond to an active shooter scenario. He watched students negotiate ladders wells and enter two different rooms to confront a mock active shooter.

The final venue was a tour of the 341st Training Squadron that provides the Department of the Defense with trained military working dogs and handlers. Lindsey toured the dog kennels and observed what is used to ensure the dogs receive top care. It was mentioned to the Admiral that it takes a lot to make sure the dogs eat correctly and that they are looked after around the clock.

The Center for Security Forces provides specialized training to more than 23,000 students each year. It has 14 training locations across the United States and worldwide that carry the motto “Where Training Breeds Confidence.”

RANDOLPH

New support agreement improves EMS response times, capabilities at JBSA-Randolph

By Lori A. Bultman

502ND AIR BASE WING PUBLIC AFFAIRS

A Blanket Intergovernmental Support Agreement between Joint Base San Antonio and the Alamo Area Council of Governments, and a resulting task order with the City of Schertz, Texas, is helping people at JBSA-Randolph get the medical care they need faster.

Under the Blanket IGSA between AACOG and JBSA, the City of Schertz will extend emergency ambulance response, ambulatory patient transportation, and emergency medical flight line care, with capability to address decompression sickness and injuries related to in-flight emergencies, on JBSA-Randolph for the next five years.

The extended EMS services will help protect military members, their families, federal employees, veterans, and military retirees, and will provide more comprehensive safety coverage for the base than previously available.

While the primary focus of the IGSA is the safety of flight operations and protection of human life on the installation, the Air Force will also reap the benefit of reduced costs and more availability of specialized equipment for emergency responses.

Maj. Alexis Edwards, 502nd Contracting Squadron director of operations, said the agreement is projected to help taxpayers realize a savings of 8.13% over the five years and will reduce the workload for JBSA EMS crews.

"Schertz has a proven EMS service that has six ambulances in the area adjacent to JBSA-Randolph which can be used for simultaneous calls on base," she said. "Their fleet also contains an AMBUS capable of transporting up to 20 patients in the event of a mass casualty incident on base."

Edwards said the City of Schertz EMS will also provide off-base ambulance transport for non-emergencies from the medical clinic on the installation, leaving the on-base



SEAN WORRELL

Community partners gather on the flightline at Joint Base San Antonio-Randolph Nov. 8 to recognize a new service being provided through an historic Blanket Intergovernmental Support Agreement between Joint Base San Antonio and the Alamo Area Council of Governments. Pictured are: Front row, from left to right, Arturo C. Olivarez, representative from the office of Congressman Henry Cuellar; Brig. Gen. Caroline M. Miller, commander, 502nd Air Base Wing and JBSA; Ralph Gutierrez, mayor of Schertz; and Diane Rath, AACOG executive director. Second row, Col. Chris Miller, representing the Deputy Assistant Secretary of the Air Force (Installations); Col. Matt Collins, vice commander, 12th Flying Training Wing; Col. Janet Blanchard, representing the 59th Medical Wing; Mark Browne, city manager of Schertz; and Steve Bonner, president and chief executive officer of SONRI, Inc.

military ambulance available for emergency calls.

The neighboring city government is looking forward to furthering their support to San Antonio's military community.

"The City of Schertz has a long-standing relationship with JBSA-Randolph and we are proud to be able to offer the services of our world-class Emergency Medical Services department to support our nation's military," said Ralph Gutierrez, Schertz mayor.

Diane Rath, AACOG executive director and the facilitator of the IGSA, said this is just another instance where

the local community can provide services to JBSA, saving the Federal government money and time.

"This is another step in using our historic Blanket IGSA for the Alamo Region to support the missions of JBSA. As we add services to this agreement, we are strengthening the ties between our community and the women and men, and their families, who serve our nation so selflessly," she said. "Our goal is to enable our local government members to provide more and more base operating support services for JBSA, freeing the military to focus efforts and resources on their mission, the defense of our nation."

"This is another step in using our historic Blanket IGSA for the Alamo Region to support the missions of JBSA. As we add services to this agreement, we are strengthening the ties between our community and the women and men, and their families, who serve our Nation so selflessly!"

Diane Rath, AACOG executive director and the facilitator of the IGSA



SENIOR AIRMAN TYLER MCQUISTON

U. S. Air Force Airman Roxanna Horjescu (left), 802nd Force Support Squadron customer support technician, hands a Space Force ID card to Lt. Col. Michael Graff, Air Education and Training Command Space Force recruiting branch chief, Sept. 14 at Joint Base San Antonio-Randolph.

802nd FSS helps newest Space Force personnel receive CACs

By Dreshawn Murray

502ND AIR BASE WING PUBLIC AFFAIRS

The 802nd Force Support Squadron is helping service members transition to the United States Space Force by issuing Space Force Common Access Cards at Joint Base San Antonio-Randolph.

JBSA-Randolph was selected as one of the initial BETA sites to test and create these cards. This allowed Air Force Personnel Center and Defense Manpower Data Center to acquire the necessary system information they need to formulate a smooth transition process for USSF members and their Defense Enrollment Eligibility Reporting System, or DEERS, profiles.

"AFPC identifies all Space Force members and notifies their servicing Military Personnel Flight to inform them about DEERS migration and coordinate to make an appointment," said Tech. Sgt. Bryan Tagaan, 802nd Noncommissioned Officer In Charge of

Customer Support. "Once appointments are made, these names are then filtered back to AFPC for DEERS profile migration."

When a profile is migrated in DEERS, the member will have 48 hours to get their USSF CAC before their current certificates expire.

As more members transition to USSF, the 802nd FSS is working diligently to ensure these cards are processed before the new deadline.

"As of right now, we are projected to have 12 more USSF personnel to issue their new CACs," Tagaan said. "All USSF members will have to be migrated in DEERS by Dec. 30, 2021."

Service members with dependents do not need to worry about the process of getting them a CAC.

"The process is the same for dependents," Tagaan said. "Once we migrate the USSF service member, their dependents will be issued USSF USIDs as well."

For Airman Roxanna Horjescu and Senior Airman Charleigh Townsend, 802nd FSS customer service technicians, challenges have shown up in the process but they have found ways to overcome those challenges.

"One of our biggest challenges is when a USSF member has not been migrated successfully. When the system fails, this causes an unexpected inconvenience for the member and their families," Horjescu said. "We remain as transparent as possible with the process to the members and are ready to assist the personnel when the migration is successful."

"Occasionally, there are station and system issues that cause issues," Townsend said. "But as trusted technicians of DEERS, we overcome these challenges by troubleshooting and performing maintenance."

For the team, helping personnel transfer from the USAF to USSF has both been exciting and a learning

experience for them.

"I always enjoy learning about what people do for work and with this opportunity, I have learned a little bit about the mission of the USSF which has intrigued me enough to consider a commission with them," Horjescu said.

"For me, doing this for the newest branch has been exciting because it is refreshing to hear the member's experience thus far and their new mission under the USSF," Townsend said.

The CAC serves as a standard identification card for active duty uniformed service personnel, Reserve, Selected Reserve, Department of Defense civilian employees and eligible contractor personnel.

It is also the principal card used to enable physical access to buildings and controlled spaces, and it provides access to DOD computer networks and systems. The DOD estimates more than 10,000 cards are made daily.