

JBSA LEGACY

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JOINT BASE SAN ANTONIO

JANUARY 21, 2022



CESAR RODRIGUEZ

Biomedical equipment technician course instructor Tech. Sgt. Timothy Bilbrey of the 382nd Training Squadron pins Airman Alexis Myers during the initiation of the Orange Rope program at the Medical Education and Training Campus, Joint Base San Antonio-Fort Sam Houston, Texas, Dec. 17, 2021. The orange rope symbolizes leadership in innovative thinking and process improvement.

59th Training Group initiates Orange Rope program

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Trainees experience first-ever nighttime combat simulation

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341st TRS opens third specialized MWD training lab

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Ask the Doc: What is the MHS GENESIS Patient Portal, what does it mean to me?

TRICARE News

DEAR DOC:

I have a few friends in the military medical community and I keep hearing them talking about this "MHS GENESIS Patient Portal" thing and how much easier it's going to make their job. I know a little bit about what it is but, not being in the health care field, what I would really like to know is what it means to me as a patient.

Do you know anyone that could provide a little more insight into what the Patient Portal is all about?

Thanks Doc!

-Patient Portal Perplexed

DEAR PPP: I realize there are a lot of changes going on out there with all the military medical treatment facilities transitioning to the Defense Health Agency.

Things like MHS GENESIS and the Patient Portal are essentially the electronic side of that transition and just one more thing that we hope will make your life easier as a beneficiary.

I contacted Air Force Lt. Col. John DaLomba, the health informatics support team lead and solution owner for the Patient Portal at DHA headquarters at Falls Church, Virginia, and here's what he had to say about it:

"Let me start with MHS GENESIS. That will help the Patient Portal make more sense.

MHS GENESIS is the new electronic health record for the Military Health System and the Department of Defense. The rollout started in 2017 in the Pacific Northwest, and it's been working its way, more or less, west to east across the country since then.

MHS GENESIS will replace the



CHAD ASHE

Army Maj. Cynthia Anderson, chief nursing information officer for General Leonard Wood Army Community Hospital, oversees the in-processing of trainees into MHS GENESIS, April 24, 2021.

existing outpatient and inpatient electronic health record systems - what we call 'legacy' systems - so that, eventually, all outpatient and inpatient documentation will take place within MHS GENESIS.

You are probably familiar with TRICARE Online. Your local military medical treatment facility will eventually transition from TRICARE Online to the MHS GENESIS Patient Portal, if it hasn't already.

So ... what does this mean to you, the beneficiary?

The secure communication with your primary care team, appointment scheduling and ability to review information about your appointments and medical records will still be there, but there are a variety of improvements that will come along with the new system.

The secure messaging piece of the Patient Portal allows for what we call 'asynchronous communication' with your providers. Beneficiaries can upload attachments of up to 25 MB, which is about 30 seconds of high-quality video and most pictures. In addition, patients are not limited to communicating just with their primary care team. They

can communicate with specialty clinics as well.

You can log in to the MHS GENESIS Patient Portal and look up, print out or download clinical notes from a visit you've had with health care providers within the MHS. You can share that information with a civilian provider if needed. You can also view lab results and radiology reports. There's a health library that's available, too, so you can look up conditions and medications.

Once MHS GENESIS comes online at your MTF, you should also be able to make appointments online shortly thereafter.

Additionally, we've recently made changes to COVID-19 test results. They're available immediately and readily accessible in the Patient Portal. We also have the option to complete an e-visit if a patient suspects they have COVID-19. Once complete, a secure message is sent to their primary care manager so that team or that person can take appropriate action.

Another nice thing about this is that the DOD and the Department of Veterans Affairs are using

similar systems. They're essentially speaking the same language when it comes to electronic health records. If you're an active duty service member, or in the Guard or Reserve, this is going to help facilitate the transition from active duty status to veteran status.

We spend a lot of time working with our VA colleagues. The interfaces of both patient portals should look and function about the same. Once we have this product up at all of our basic training facilities, an individual's medical documentation will happen on the same electronic health record system from in-processing to separation or retirement and beyond.

And don't worry about losing TRICARE Online immediately. It's not going anywhere for a while. You and your provider will still be able to go into TRICARE Online and retrieve any information that's there. Once we're completely transitioned to MHS GENESIS, then we'll start to phase out the old system.

We hope to have MHS GENESIS, and along with it the Patient Portal, 'live' at all MTFs by the end of 2023 or the beginning of 2024."

PPP, There you have it. It sounds to me like MHS GENESIS and the Patient Portal are designed to revolve around you, the patient. Keep an eye and an ear out for when it will be arriving at your local MTF if it's not there yet. I, for one, would encourage you to use it to its fullest capacity if you can.

Additionally, as we head into 2022, I would like to send out a special thanks to Lt. Col. DaLomba and all of the other experts that truly make Ask the Doc work. Without them, I quite literally couldn't do it.

And to our readers, as always ... take care out there!

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 using the subject line "Feedback Fridays."

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

Q: I am a resident in base housing with my wife and three children on of JBSA-Chapman Annex. For the past year and two months, we have dealt with speeders and semi-reckless drivers on a regular basis.

I've contacted Security Forces and received the "It's privatized housing and we can't do anything" response. I've contacted housing and received the "You need to contact Security Forces" response. I've put up my own "slow down" signs in front of my house, only to be told by Security Forces I'm not allowed to do this because it's a hazard to first responders.

I post multiple videos on the local Facebook Medina Residents page of these violators with no action. Just yesterday, I had a female technical sergeant driving at a fairly high rate of speed that passed my eight-year-old son and two of his friends while holding a cellphone on her steering wheel in front of her face. When I asked her to slow down, she got out of her car, in uniform (I didn't get the name, unfortunately), and yelled at me.

On Halloween, we had a white 4Runner speed



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and move around kids (not an exaggeration). My neighbor, a retired sergeant major asked her "slow down please" and the driver locked up her brakes and then sped off. Security Forces told her to not drive like that again and she laughed and again drove off.

Just a few days ago, we had a white SUV run the four-way stop at Clay Loop and Maysey, while kids were getting on the school bus for Lackland ISD. A parent yelled at the driver and the driver just yelled something incoherent back. This is a regular thing at least once a day here on JBSA-Chapman Annex housing even with the terrible roads.

Simple patrols twice a day and an email once a month aren't cutting it. I'm truly afraid a child is going to be injured without command intervention. Anything to help protect our residents would be much appreciated, from lowering the speed limit to 10 MPH, to permanent or temporary flashing speed signs, to

even having walking Security Forces patrols with radar guns to issue citations.

Like I've said, I've tried the routes I thought should address this situation to no avail. Ma'am, as a concerned resident in JBSA- Lackland Housing, I am asking now for your assistance. Thank you.

A: Thank you for bringing this to our attention.

Based on the information you provided, we understand your frustrations and the 802d Security Forces Squadron is actively looking at additional measures.

The 802d SFS is dedicated to Air Base Ground Defense, Installation Security, and Law Enforcement functions. They diligently serve to protect and defend the JBSA-Lackland complex.

Currently, they have Ground Tasking Orders, or GTOs, for conducting randomized patrols utilizing radar and stop sign selective enforcement to deter illegal driving behaviors on a daily basis. Similar to off-base communities, patrols are unable to be present at all times, in all locations.

The 802d SFS will work with Civil Engineering, the JBSA-Lackland Housing Office, and the Installation Traffic Safety Working Panel to assess the most effective use of additional speed-reducing measures, such as speed bumps, speed tables and flashing speed signs.

Security Forces will adjust tactics where they can to increase presence in problem areas based on trend analysis and will continue to do so while balancing their response requirements to critical infrastructure and resources across the installation.

Please continue to report these incidents immediately to the Base Defense Operations Center, or BDOC, at 210-671-3030. Thank you again for helping us make every effort to make our JBSA community a better, safer place.

SAPD, Army CID still seek help with Army NCO's unsolved murder



COURTESY PHOTO

Army Staff Sgt. Jessica Ann Mitchell

San Antonio Police Department Public Information Office

The San Antonio Police Department's Homicide Unit and the Army's Criminal Investigations Division at Joint Base San Antonio-Fort Sam Houston continue to ask for the public's help in identifying a vehicle possibly connected to the Jan. 1, 2021, murder of Army Staff Sgt. Jessica Ann Mitchell.

The vehicle, believed to be a red SUV, was seen driving behind Mitchell's vehicle northeast on Wurzbach Road around 2:08 a.m. Jan. 1, 2021.

Through their investigation, detectives discovered red paint on Mitchell's white Dodge Charger.

On Friday, Jan. 1, 2021, Mitchell was celebrating New Year's Eve with friends at the 4th Quarter Sports Bar located at 8779 Wurzbach. Sometime after 2 a.m., Mitchell left the bar in her 2019 white Dodge Charger alone.

She was traveling eastbound on IH-10 and just passed the Vance Jackson exit when the SAPD believes someone in a

red vehicle opened fire and struck the driver's side of her vehicle. Mitchell may have swerved into the red vehicle causing minor damage and paint transfer.

Mitchell was shot several times. She was transported to the hospital, where she passed away at approximately 3:21 a.m.

SAPD homicide detectives are asking for the public's help in identifying the red vehicle captured on surveillance video.

There is a \$30,000 reward for information leading to the arrest and conviction of the suspect in Mitchell's murder.

People can remain anonymous. Anyone with any information on this vehicle or the case are urged to call Crime Stoppers at 210-224-STOP, reference case SAPD 21-000072, or the JBSA-Fort Sam Houston CID office at 210-221-2136 or <https://www.cid.army.mil/report-a-crime.html>.

Note: The video clip of the vehicle has been posted to SAPD's social media platforms on Facebook at @SanAntonioPD, on Twitter at @SATXPolice, and on YouTube at www.youtube.com/SAPDMSVC.

San Antonio Market: Telemedicine options

San Antonio Market

Dear San Antonio Market Military Families:

I trust that you have already heard about our upcoming transition to a new electronic health record, or EHR.

On Jan. 22, 2022, our existing record AHLTA, will be turned off and our new record MHS Genesis will be turned on. Rest assured that none of your existing medical information will disappear. We will still have access to all of your prior records of care. While this will initially be disruptive, in the end, medical documentation, coordination of care, our ability to track preventive screenings, and our ability to track your health outcomes will be improved.

In the coming years, as the Department of Veteran Affairs rolls out their new EHR, called Millennium, we will be able to link the systems and offer a seamless transition from military medicine to the VA with your electronic records intact and following you into their system. We are committed to ensuring you are cared for during this temporary transition and want to be your place of care for the long term.

Starting Jan. 3, 2022, we began reducing the number of appointments we offer daily by approximately 50%, across all specialties, so we can continue training our staff and work with them to become proficient in the new EHR system.

It is going to take some time as this system is very different from our current system, and appointment reductions will continue to a lesser extent into February and March as we build up proficiency in the system. We wanted to let you know what to expect during this time and how to access healthcare while we are going through this transition.

For primary care needs, we will predominantly see patients with chronic medical conditions or those needing preventive health screenings in our military clinics. We will have some same-day access for acute or urgent needs but will be deferring most to the TRICARE network.

New telemedicine options are here!

We at Humana Military are always evolving and discovering different and innovative ways to help you in your healthcare journey. Our new telemedicine options allow you to receive necessary services through interactive audio/video technology. See your provider in a convenient, cost-effective and private setting without ever having to leave your home!



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To access primary care services we ask you to first call our Central Appointment Management Office (CAMO) at 210-916-9900 to check if your Primary Care Manager, or PCM, has an available appointment that fits your needs. During this period, you will be unable to make appointments online. If your need is for acute or urgent care, and there are no available appointments, you have several options to choose from:

- ▶ Ask the CAMO agent to send a secure message to your PCM team.
- ▶ You can send a secure message to your PCM team through TRICARE Online (until the end of the day on Jan. 21, 2022) or the MHS Genesis Patient Portal (starting Jan. 22, 2022).
- ▶ Seek care at one of our pre-screened Urgent Care Clinics in the TRICARE Network:
 - Any MedPost Urgent Care Clinic
 - Any Little Spurs Urgent Care Clinic (Pediatric only)
 - Fast Tex Urgent Care in Cibolo
- ▶ You can always go to any Urgent Care Clinic of your choosing. The above are preferred sites that have agreed to support us during this period.
- ▶ Contact the Nurse Advice Line (NAL) at MHSNurseAdviceLine.com or call 1-800-TRICARE, option 1 or through our CAMO phone tree.
- ▶ Utilize the Humana Military Doctor on Demand Tele-Urgent Care Service by registering at <https://doctorondemand.com/microsite/humana>

military/ or using their mobile app.

TRICARE Prime family members and retirees do not require a referral to go to Urgent Care Centers, or UCCs, in the network, however, active duty patients do. Active duty patients must obtain a referral for Urgent Care in the network either from their PCM team or by calling the NAL.

As a reminder, Urgent Care Clinics are not Primary Care. Appropriate reasons to seek care at an Urgent Care Clinic include, but are not limited to: cold, flu, or allergy symptoms; non-chronic cough; nausea, vomiting, or diarrhea; new bone, muscle, or joint pain or concern; and minor cuts, bumps, or bruises. These clinics will not be able to refill chronic medications nor order lab work for chronic conditions or preventive screening services. Please continue to work with your PCM team for those.

For specialty care, you still require a referral from your PCM. However, capacity within our specialty care clinics will also be reduced so there is a greater likelihood that you will be deferred to one of our TRICARE network partners. During this time we will be allowing patients to book initial specialty care visits out 60 days in an attempt to keep more of your care within our facilities.

The processes to access Behavioral Health care will remain largely unchanged, but they too will have a reduction in the number of appointments.

Non-active duty TRICARE Prime patients may opt to use the new Humana Military Telemynd Tele-Behavioral Health service by contacting them at 1-866-991-2103, option 1, or telemetrynd.com/humana-military.

As always, if you are in a crisis or feel you or a loved one needs immediate help, please contact the National Suicide Prevention Hotline at 1-800-273-TALK (8255), option 1, or seek care in your nearest Emergency Department. The Telemynd service requires a referral for active duty patients to use. We are still working with Humana to streamline that process so it is as seamless as possible for our active duty patients.

We empathize with you regarding the disruptiveness to come in the next few months with this transition. This change is needed and will allow us to provide you with better, more efficient, and safe care across the entire care continuum.

We apologize to those of you who will have to seek care in the network during this time but want to assure you that we are committed to maintaining your care during and through this transition and beyond. We appreciate your patience through this time and please keep checking our social media pages for updates on our progress.

Editor's note: The San Antonio Market is one of 20 large health care markets that report directly to the Defense Health Agency.

Army launches annual housing tenant satisfaction survey

U.S. Army Public Affairs

The Army began its annual housing tenant satisfaction survey Jan. 11 to gather feedback about living in Army housing. Survey results will guide the decisions the Army makes about future housing.

“By responding to the survey, every resident will have a voice in how the Army and its partners continue to maintain and improve the quality of our housing,” said Lt. Gen. Jason Evans, Deputy Chief of Staff of G-9, which provides policies, programs, resources and expertise for services and installation infrastructure to enable total Army readiness. G-9 is the sponsor of the survey.

An online survey link was emailed from CEL & Associates, Inc. — an independent, third-party company — on Jan. 11, 2022, to more than 110,000 tenants living in privatized, government-owned and government-leased housing on Army installations across the globe. Completing the confidential survey takes about 10 minutes, and tenants have 45 days (until Feb. 24, 2022) to do so.

Army privatized, government-owned and government-leased housing tenants can rate their satisfaction with services, property and the overall housing experience through the online survey. Feedback will be used by the Army to help maintain a high quality of life for service members and their families.

The Army is investing billions of dollars into

U.S. ARMY

TENANT SATISFACTION SURVEY
11 JAN - 24 FEB, 2022

Your opinion can make a **BIG DIFFERENCE** in the quality of life for Army families.

Your Army Wants to Hear from You!

Give your input on the steps taken to improve our families' housing quality and help to shape ongoing investment in Gov't-owned housing units.

**Completely confidential*

COURTESY GRAPHIC

transforming barracks and on-post housing at installations across the globe to provide Soldiers and their families with quality, safe and secure housing and a better quality of life. The Army has fully implemented the Tenant Bill of Rights, ensuring privatized housing tenants receive quality housing and fair treatment.

Housing tenants who do not receive the survey notice email from ArmyHousingSurvey@celassociates.com should contact their local garrison housing offices. The Tenant Satisfaction Survey is Office of Management and Budget approved: OMB Control Number 0704-0553; OMB Expiration Date 03/31/2022.

Air Force unveils action plan to 'Develop tomorrow's enlisted Airmen'

Secretary of the Air Force Public Affairs

As the service continues to refine what is needed to develop the Airmen required to fight and win our future wars, Air Force officials announced the implementation of the Enlisted Force Development Action Plan, located at www.af.mil/Portals/1/images/news-2022/EFD-Action-Plan.pdf.

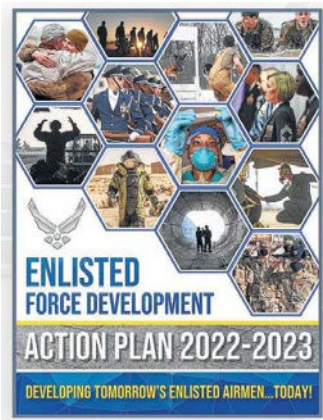
With a goal to complete 28 force development objectives in the next two years, the plan and a corresponding "Blueprint for Enlisted Force Development," releasing in the spring, is aligned with the Air Force chief of staff's action orders and is focused on investing in and empowering Airmen for the future fight.

"The fight for tomorrow has already begun and it will undoubtedly be fought by many Airmen who are serving today," said Air Force Chief of Staff Gen. Charles Q. Brown Jr. "As we continue to focus on our readiness against strategic competitors, specifically China and Russia, our Airmen will need to be prepared to defeat the speed and complexity of threats we face around the globe each day. This plan is designed to do just that."

Deliberate development of the enlisted force, which represents more than 75% of the Air Force's military personnel, means a culture of teamwork that integrates everyone's diverse abilities, talents, and ideas is essential to maximize and deliver meaningful results.

"An environment focused on developing and managing the talents of our Airmen is key for their ability to thrive and reach their full potential," said Chief Master Sgt. of the Air Force JoAnne S. Bass. "Deliberate development of the enlisted force is a mission imperative and must be a top priority for anyone who is expected to lead — from front-line supervisors to commanders."

Soon to accompany the plan is "The Blueprint for Enlisted Force Development." This document will serve as a living foundational resource that links all enlisted development from entry to departure, including key concepts to connect enlisted Airmen to the Profession of Arms.



COURTESY GRAPHIC

"The blueprint serves as a focal point to create a shared understanding of our Air Force journey," Bass said. "This will provide every Airman a roadmap that highlights pathways, resources and opportunities to be successful."

The premise of the action plan is centered on six areas that align with Air Force priorities and the CSAF Action Orders, with quarterly report cards to the force for accountability and transparency on updates and progress on each area.

Competition-Focused Force

Supporting Action Orders Airmen and Competition, this area consists of objectives tied to developing a highly trained, educated and adaptable Airman ready to operate in a joint environment and to dominate the competition.

Initiatives include updating the "Little Blue Book," Air Force Core Values, and "Little Brown Book," Enlisted Force Structure, along with the creation of a "Purple Book" that includes the values, capabilities, and warfighting concepts of the Joint Force team.

Front-Line Leader Development

Supporting Action Orders Airmen, Competition and Design, this area is focused on deliberate leadership development for Airmen as they take on the increased responsibility of

caring for others.

Initiatives include "The Blueprint for Enlisted Force Development," developing validation processes for new supervisors, elevating the value placed on experience and creating a standardized Air Force writing guide.

"Saying 'you'll figure it out' to new supervisors can't be our default approach," Bass said. "We must be more deliberate — especially when it comes to people."

Teaming to Solve Problems

Supporting Action Orders Airmen and Competition, this focus area is centered on teaming with the ability to operate and survive in all domains.

Initiatives include training and developing Airmen at all levels to foster inclusion and value diversity, cultivate the problem-solving capabilities inherent within our people, and enable command teams to better engage with community partners and develop exercise models to increase confidence to operate under Mission Command.

"Embracing a multi-capable mindset to operate beyond traditional specialties toward the commander's intent while decisively executing with speed, discipline, and confidence is key to the vision of the 2030 force," Brown said. "At the same time, operating as part of a collaborative team requires Airmen to bring their unique and diverse perspectives to meet mission objectives in seizing the competitive advantage."

Resilience is Foundational to Readiness

Supporting Action Order Airmen, this focus area supports the understanding that well-being enhances resilience and builds ready Airmen.

Initiatives include instituting "Airmen's Time" at units to elevate connections and prioritize the well-being of Airmen, further development of wellness education programs, better utilization of Resilience Training Assistants and Master Resilience Trainers, as well as financial fitness and Transition Assistance programs tailored for each tier.

"Airmen and families who are resilient

and ready are the foundation of everything we do as an Air Force," Brown said. "Prioritizing our readiness in the human domain mitigates the threats we face and keeps our enlisted force primed to compete."

Force Development Ecosystem

Supporting Action Orders Airmen, Competition, and Design, this area is focused on opening development opportunities beyond traditional classes, courses, and schools - to provide the right content at the right time.

Initiatives include creating an Air Force-wide development plan and framework for enlisted competency progression, re-imagining enlisted professional military education to address historical gaps over a career, curating quality content, and professionalizing a larger cadre to connect development objectives to base levels.

"In order to succeed in the 21st Century fight, Airmen need an interconnected development system that supports continuous growth," Bass said. "We have to do this by harnessing the modern capabilities that exist in the Information Age to build greater connections between initial skills, technical, and on-the-job training, education, and experiences."

Systems to Match Values

Supporting Action Orders Bureaucracy and Design, this area is focused on reducing systems, processes, or practices that unnecessarily robs Airmen of time or stand in the way of achieving Air Force priorities.

Initiatives include transforming the Airmen feedback process, revamping enlisted performance evaluations to align with Airmen Leadership Qualities, advancing promotion testing to include situational judgment application, formalizing the career-broadening program, including developmental special duties, and improving talent management systems to capitalize on them.

"This plan is about accountability and action ... not talk," Brown said. "While we can't do this all at once, we will not wait to begin developing the Airmen of 2030 today."

Need help finding a TRICARE network provider?

By TRICARE Communications

The new year has begun. It's a great time to renew focus on your health. Did you put off seeing a doctor in 2021? If so, now is your time to act. Regular checkups are critical to screening for diseases and preventing future health problems and TRICARE is here to help you find the right doctor.

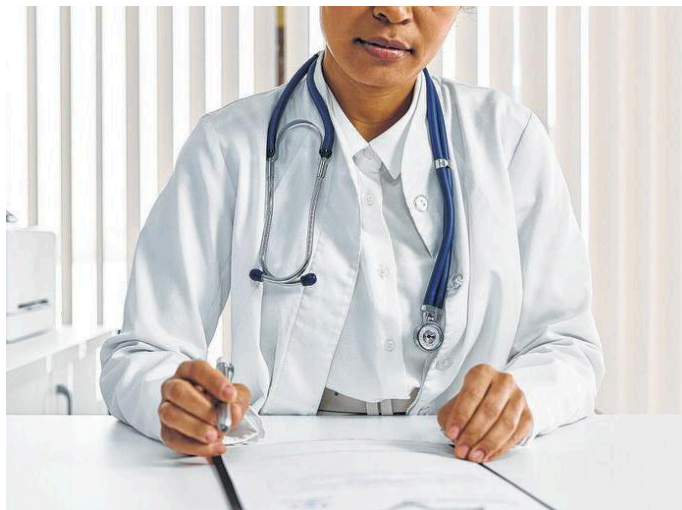
"With TRICARE, you may get care from a military hospital or clinic, or from a civilian TRICARE-authorized provider," said Curt Prichard, deputy chief of TRICARE Health Plan at the Defense Health Agency. "Your coverage enables you to visit different types of civilian providers, but a TRICARE network provider is your most cost-effective option."

Would you like to know more about network providers? Here are some helpful answers to questions you may have.

Q: What are some advantages of using a TRICARE-authorized network provider?

A: There are two types of TRICARE-authorized providers: network and non-network. If you're looking for medical care outside of a military hospital or clinic, you may have the option of visiting either provider. It all depends on your health plan and the type of care you need. But choosing a network provider may minimize your out-of-pocket costs. Network providers have agreed to accept the contracted rate as payment in full for covered health care services. Network providers will also file claims for you so you don't have to.

If you live overseas, network providers also have an agreement with the TRICARE overseas contractor. As outlined in the TRICARE Overseas Program Handbook, they agree to provide cashless and claimless services to those in TRICARE Overseas Program (TOP) Prime and TOP Prime Remote. But keep in mind, network providers don't have to file claims for those enrolled in TOP Select.



COURTESY PHOTO

It's a great time to renew focus on your health. Regular checkups are critical to screening for diseases and preventing future health problems and TRICARE is here to help you find the right doctor.

Q: How can I find a TRICARE-authorized network provider?

A: The TRICARE contractors have established provider networks in each region. You can use the "Find a Doctor" tool to find a provider. You can also go directly to your TRICARE contractor's network provider directory and search for a TRICARE provider in your area:

- East Region (Humana Military)
- West Region (Health Net Federal Services, LLC)
- Overseas Region (International SOS Government Services, Inc.)
- US Family Health Plan

Do you live or travel in the Philippines? If yes, use the Philippine Provider Search tool to locate a provider near you. Keep in mind, you must see a Philippine Preferred Provider Network provider or certified provider.

Q: How can I find a TRICARE-authorized mental

health network provider?

A: The TRICARE contractors have established provider networks in each region to include mental health providers. You can go directly to your TRICARE contractor's network provider directory to find a TRICARE mental health provider in your area:

- East Region (Humana Military)
- West Region (Health Net Federal Services, LLC)
- Overseas Region (International SOS Government Services, Inc.)
- US Family Health Plan

You don't need to get a referral or pre-authorization for any outpatient mental health (except psychoanalysis) and substance use disorder care. This includes services like therapy and counseling. If you choose a provider outside the network, you may pay higher costs.

Did you know that you have the option to use telemental health services as part of your TRICARE benefit? Your regional contractor has

a network of providers who provide telemedicine that you can choose from. Telemedicine can be done using live audio and video or audio-only services. You can search for a telemental health provider on your TRICARE contractor's network provider directory. Or, you can call to request telemental health services or other types of mental health services.

- In the East Region, call Humana Military at 1-800-444-5445.
- In the West Region, call Health Net Federal Services, LLC at 1-844-866-9378.
- Overseas, call International SOS Government Services, Inc. using your country-specific toll-free number.

Keep in mind, if you're an active duty service member and seek care in the TRICARE network, you must get a referral and pre-authorization. You don't need a referral or pre-authorization if you seek outpatient mental health services at a military hospital or clinic.

Q: What provider options do I have if I'm covered by TRICARE For Life?

A: Your provider options differ if you have TRICARE For Life (TFL). Remember that TFL coverage is automatic for beneficiaries age 65 and older, who have both Medicare Part A and Part B. With TFL, you may get care from Medicare participating, Medicare non-participating, or opt-out providers.

- To find a Medicare provider:
- Search the Medicare Provider Directory
 - Call 1-800-MEDICARE (1-800-633-4227)

As you search for a provider who meets your needs, remember you'll need to follow your plan's rules for referrals and pre-authorizations when seeking care. Some services may require a referral or pre-authorization depending on your health plan. To learn more about your coverage, visit the Health Plans page and choose your plan. If you have questions about your provider options, reach out to your TRICARE contractor.

Get this year off on the right foot by choosing a network provider and getting your checkup.

FORT SAM HOUSTON

Combat medic trainees experience first-ever nighttime combat simulation

By David DeKunder

502ND AIR BASE WING PUBLIC AFFAIRS

In December 2021, students in the Combat Medic Specialist Training Program, or CMSTP, at Joint Base San Antonio-Fort Sam Houston's U.S. Army Medical Center of Excellence were the first in the program's history to undergo training simulating nighttime combat conditions.

The nighttime simulated training was conducted Dec. 14-17, 2021, at the simulation lab at the Medical Education and Training Campus, or METC, located at JBSA-Fort Sam Houston. The simulation is part of the 16-week training course conducted for Army combat medics, otherwise known as 68 Whiskey combat medic specialists.

Most of the 369 students, part of MEDCoE's 232nd Medical Battalion, 32nd Medical Brigade, in the course participated in the simulation, which involved a chaotic, bloody scene at a Middle Eastern market square where an explosion occurred at night.

With gunfire and explosions in the background and blaring music playing, the student combat medics, wearing their gear, which included night-vision goggles, go about treating casualties laying around the square. Those casualties are simulated manikins of service members and civilians with traumatic injuries.

Capt. John Maitha, CMSTP Whiskey 3 team officer in charge, said students in the program already go through simulations mimicking a daytime explosion and attack in a market setting. He said the nighttime simulations will help prepare the combat medic specialists for combat scenarios they could encounter while deployed overseas.

"We're just modifying what's being taught slightly to better prepare troops for combat, giving them different scenarios and environments, making them think outside the box a little bit more," Maitha said. "Doing something during the daytime and doing something



TRISTIN ENGLISH

Students in the Combat Medic Specialist Training Program, or CMSTP, at Joint Base San Antonio-Fort Sam Houston's U.S. Army Medical Center of Excellence were the first in the program's history to undergo training simulating nighttime combat conditions.

at night is completely different."

Teams of two to three students went through the simulations, which lasted 10 to 15 minutes, with each team having two simulations. Instructors shouted orders at the combat medic specialists, who had to assess and do interventions on the manikins, who are programmed to move and simulate breathing, bleeding and signs of shock and trauma.

"There are three different training scenarios," Maitha said. "Basically all the

casualties are in shock and they either have an airway problem, breathing problem or a hemorrhaging problem."

The combat medic specialists going through the simulation also utilized their night-vision goggles, the first time the students had worn them in training, to help them better assess and treat their casualties in the nearly pitch-dark market scene.

Maitha said the simulation helps instructors evaluate whether the

students can utilize the skills they have learned in the course to perform life-saving interventions, known as a combat trauma lane or combat casualty assessment, while in a combat-related scenario.

"That's how we validate a medic can perform his or her initial life-saving interventions before they graduate," Maitha said.

Pfc. Connor Ignozzi, 232nd Medical Battalion combat medic specialist, said the nighttime simulations gave him a feeling of being in a real combat scenario.

"It was definitely an experience I don't think I would be able to experience anywhere else," Ignozzi said. "The overall pressure of the simulator scenario, there's nothing you can compare to it other than doing the real thing. I mean we practiced. We go through the muscle memory, steps and everything, but once you get in there, it's a whole different thing."

Pfc. Katrina LaClair, 232nd Medical Battalion combat medic specialist, said working in a simulated nighttime combat environment compared to a daytime combat scenario was a bit of a challenge for her.

"You go in there and it's hard to see exactly where specific wounds would be," LaClair said. "They had the noise, gunshots and screaming and music and sirens to simulate real life. And on top of that, it's our first time using night-vision goggles. Getting used to looking through that lens was a little bit challenging."

"You have to adapt as quickly as possible for everything," LaClair added. "Count on your other senses like feeling, touch, and just knowing that our training will kind of lead us in the right direction, fall back on your training and know what you're supposed to do."

After completing their simulations, the students ended their training by going through a 72-hour culmination exercise at the Soldier Medic Training Site at JBSA-Camp Bullis. The combat medic specialists were scheduled to graduate Jan. 20.



ELAINE SANCHEZ

Brig. Gen. Clinton Murray (left), Brooke Army Medical Center commanding general, and Command Sgt. Maj. Thurman Reynolds (right), BAMC command sergeant major, present Inge Godfrey (center), BAMC's Fisher House manager, a keepsake of appreciation Dec. 10, 2021.

BAMC Fisher House matriarch retires after 29 years

By Lori Newman

BROOKE ARMY MEDICAL
CENTER PUBLIC AFFAIRS

After 29 years, Brooke Army Medical Center's Fisher House manager retired at the end of 2021.

Inge Godfrey has spent nearly three decades as the matriarch of the four Fisher Houses on the BAMC campus, providing thousands of families a place to call home while their loved ones heal.

In 1990, Zachary and Elizabeth Fisher began the Fisher House program, dedicating more than \$20 million to the construction of comfort homes for families of hospitalized service members.

With the establishment of Fisher Houses throughout the United States and in Landstuhl, Germany, the program has provided thousands of lodging days, saving families millions of dollars each year, a service invaluable to these Armed Forces families.

"When I started, back in 1992, there was only one Fisher House with seven rooms at BAMC," Godfrey said. "Today, we have four Fisher Houses with a total of 57 rooms."

Through the years, many families have come and gone from the BAMC Fisher Houses, but many have lasting memories of Godfrey and the time they spent there.

"I will never forget my time at the BAMC Fisher House," said Genette Burgess, who spent time at the Fisher House while her husband was recovering from injuries he sustained in Afghanistan.

"Inge did everything she could to help us in our time of need," Burgess said. "We didn't have a place to stay. She made sure we as a family had a place to heal together near the hospital and Center for the Intrepid. She kept us together and loved on my girls making sure they had everything they needed; whether that was a meal to eat that day, school

supplies or just fun at her kid's day festival."

Donna Lowery, a former patient at the CFI, agrees.

"Inge is a strong, compassionate, knowledgeable and warm person," Lowery said. "She always put Fisher House and the residents first, working very early in the morning to late in the day and coming in on her own time. She immersed herself into planning every event so it was perfect for the adults and children."

"Inge went out of her way to aid families or (non-medical attendees) with information to assist them," Lowery added. "She was kind and always looking for ways to make the residents stay more comfortable by providing boxed lunches and meals on a holiday or food so we could cook as a family. Because that's what Fisher House is, a home away from home with others in similar circumstances coming together to share a

place to eat and sleep. Inge is irreplaceable!"

Godfrey also carries special memories, such as her Children's Day events and the annual barbecues celebrating the birthday of Fisher House founder Zachary Fisher.

"It's always been a pleasure to come to work," Godfrey said. "Everything was special. I appreciated all the community support. There was never a dreary day."

"I definitely want to thank the BAMC staff — nurses, caseworkers, and the command," Godfrey added. "They were outstanding in supporting the Fisher House mission. I don't think there could be anybody better than BAMC people, and I thank them from the bottom of my heart."

When asked what her plans are for the future, she said she will probably do volunteer work, travel and visit family.

"I hope I will live a little longer to enjoy my retirement," she said laughingly. "That's the main thing."

Prescribed burn scheduled at JBSA-Camp Bullis until Jan. 26

502nd Air Base Wing Public Affairs

Joint Base San Antonio's Natural Resources Office, Fire & Emergency Services, and Air Force Wildland Fire Branch officials plan to conduct a prescribed burn of more than 1,700 acres of wildlands at JBSA-Camp Bullis until Jan. 26.

Residents near the northwest portion of JBSA-Camp Bullis, especially in the Dominion and Fair Oaks Ranch areas, may see or smell smoke while the burn progresses.

The burn is intended to reduce fuel loads, such as dead vegetation and thick brush, which will lessen the risk of future, potentially catastrophic, wildfires.

Joint Base San Antonio Fire Emergency Services personnel are coordinating with the Bureau of Land Management, the Fish and Wildlife Service, as well as fire departments in the surrounding areas to ensure the burn happens safely and remains fully contained throughout the scheduled period.

JBSA-Camp Bullis comprises more than 27,000 acres of ranges, training areas, and wildlands on San Antonio's north side and is a crucial training location for service members from Joint Base San Antonio.



Amid smoke and heat, a firefighter burns vegetation at Joint Base San Antonio-Camp Bullis during a controlled burn Feb. 23, 2017. Firefighters perform controlled burns in an effort to prevent wildfires from occurring. The controlled burns are a joint effort between the 502nd Civil Engineering Squadron at JBSA, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, JBSA Fire Emergency Services and area firefighters.

DAVID DEKUNDER

CHILEAN ARMY PARTNER NATION LIAISON OFFICER RECEIVES ARSOUTH AWARD



Col. Jorge Salinas (center), the Chilean Army partner nation liaison officer at U.S. Army South, receives an award from Maj. Gen. William L. Thigpen (left), Army South commanding general, during an award ceremony recognizing his two years at the command on Jan. 7.

DONALD SPARKS

LACKLAND

341st TRS opens third specialized MWD training lab

By Agnes Koterba

37TH TRAINING WING PUBLIC AFFAIRS

The 341st Training Squadron, home of the Military Working Dog program for the Department of Defense, opened its third specialized training lab at Joint Base San Antonio-Lackland Jan. 5, 2022.

The new lab focuses on explosives detection and allows canines and their

handlers to train longer and reduce the risk of injury due to environmental conditions.

"This year is huge for our program. I've been here since 2009. We've been begging for training labs and let me tell you, if it were not for the folks here, we wouldn't be where we're at today," said John McKinney, 341st TRS MWD course chief, at the ribbon-cutting ceremony.



PHOTOS BY AGNES KOTERBA

Leaders from the 37th Training Wing and 37th Training Group tour the new Military Working Dog explosives detection lab at Joint Base San Antonio-Lackland, Texas, Jan. 5. The new lab, which falls under the 341st Training Squadron, provides more training space for military working dogs and their handlers.



Members from the 341st Training Squadron cut the ribbon for their third new training lab at Joint Base San Antonio-Lackland, Texas, Jan. 5.



Maj. Gen. Michele Edmondson, 2nd Air Force commander, tours the new Military Working Dog training lab at Joint Base San Antonio-Lackland, Texas, Dec. 9, 2021. Edmondson toured the lab ahead of the ribbon-cutting which was held Jan. 5. The new lab, which falls under the 341st Training Squadron, allows canines and their handlers to train longer and reduce risk of injury due to environmental conditions.



Maj. Michael Bruton, 341st Training Squadron commander, thanks mission partners from the 802nd Civil Engineer Squadron for helping develop and build the squadron's new training lab at Joint Base San Antonio-Lackland, Texas, Jan. 5.

59th Training Group initiates Orange Rope program

By Senior Airman Melody Bordeaux
59TH MEDICAL WING PUBLIC AFFAIRS

The 59th Training Group initiated the Air Force's Orange Rope program at the Medical Education and Training Campus at Joint Base San Antonio-Fort Sam Houston, pinning nine Airmen during a ceremony held Jan. 7, 2022.

Orange is the newest opportunity in the ropes program, the first of its kind in the Air Force. The focus of the program is to establish an innovative mindset for students early in their Air Force careers.

"Students will be trained on various innovative technologies and Air Force unique administrative policies for them to leverage," said Lt. Col. Catherine Bonhoff, 59th Training Group deputy commander. "Learning the Air Force's existing processes concerning innovation, funding, and acquisition while in technical training equips the students to have a major impact at their gaining stations and beyond. This has the potential to dramatically impact their respective career fields and the Air Force at large."

During technical training, Airmen have the opportunity to gain leadership roles among their peers. To symbolize these roles, Airmen wear various colored ropes on their left shoulder. The orange rope now symbolizes leadership in innovative thinking and process improvement.

In December 2020, Air Force Chief of Staff Gen. Charles Q. Brown Jr. wrote "We must move with a purpose — we must Accelerate Change or Lose..." in the CSAF Action Orders to Accelerate Change Across the Air Force. This set off a chain reaction throughout the Air Force empowering every Airman to challenge themselves to be more innovative and forward-thinking.

The goal to deliberately develop Airmen into problem-solvers and establish ownership in their environment is already in action. In line with the commander of the Air Education and Training Command, Lt. Gen. Brad Webb's priority to cultivate an environment of excellence, these students transformed the Acton Dorm student lounge, located on Joint Base San Antonio-Fort Sam Houston, into a



Airmen pose after being newly pinned with orange ropes, signifying leadership in innovative thinking and process improvement. Pictured at the Medical Education and Training Campus, Joint Base San Antonio-Fort Sam Houston Dec. 17, 2021, are (back row) Instructor Tech. Sgt. Timothy Bilbrey, Airmen 1st Class Maksim Chupakhin, Ashleigh Champagne, Dakota Richardson, Nathan Steyn, and Instructor Master Sgt. Brian Hermes. In the front row are Instructor Staff Sgt. Austin Jur, Airmen Mason Dowd, Jaime Lamus and Brett Lucas.

PHOTOS BY CESAR RODRIGUEZ



Tech. Sgt. Timothy Bilbrey, 382nd Training Squadron biomedical equipment technician course instructor, pins Airman Alexis Myers during the initiation of the Orange Rope program at Joint Base San Antonio-Fort Sam Houston Dec. 17, 2021.

curriculum enhancement room with various medical virtual reality training and dedicated study space. They are also requesting emerging technologies such as augmented reality and 3D printers.

"Although their primary job is to learn their trade," Bonhoff said. "They can absorb and practice the basic principles of innovation and process improvement while they are attending tech school, thus becoming the Airman Accelerators that the Department of the Air Force needs to shape its future."

Cervical cancer screening saves lives

59th Medical Wing Public Affairs

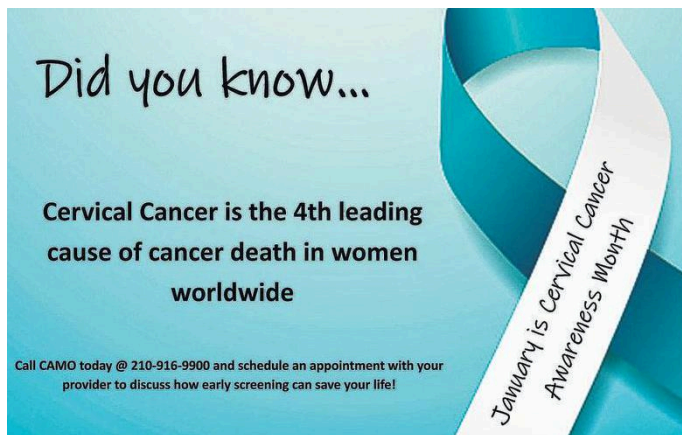
Cancer can start at any place in the body. Cervical cancer starts in the cervix. It starts when cells in the cervix grow out of control and crowd out normal cells. This makes it hard for the body to work the way it should.

The American Cancer Society estimated 14,480 new cervical cancer cases and approximately 4,290 deaths from this disease during 2021.

January is Cervical Cancer Awareness Month and the 59th Medical Wing wants women to know that cervical cancer can often be found early, and sometimes even prevented, by having regular screening tests. If detected early, cervical cancer is one of the most successfully treatable cancers.

However, cervical cancer is still the fourth-leading cause of cancer death in women worldwide. Human papillomavirus, or HPV, is the main cause of cervical cancer and is most commonly passed from one person to another during sexual intercourse.

Risk factors associated with cervical cancer include smoking;



COURTESY GRAPHIC

long-term use of birth control pills multiple sex partners, a family history of cervical cancer and other factors. HPV is often asymptomatic, therefore one can have it and not be aware of its presence.

The two important screening tests

for detection of and early intervention for cervical cancer are the Pap smear and HPV tests. The Pap test looks for cell changes on the cervix that may become cervical cancer if not treated appropriately. The HPV test detects the HPV which

causes cellular changes.

HPV is a common virus that can cause six types of cancer. While there is no treatment for HPV, there is a vaccine that can prevent it.

Parents of children between ages 9 and 12 should talk to their doctor about the HPV vaccine. Vaccinating your child at the recommended ages can help keep them healthy well into adulthood and is the best way to prevent HPV cancers later in life.

It is important to consult with your doctor or health care provider about getting essential vaccines during the COVID-19 pandemic.

Women ages 21-29 should receive the Pap screening exam every three years unless more frequent screening is recommended. Women ages 30-65 should receive the Pap screening and the HPV test every five years unless more frequent screening is recommended.

These screening exams can be scheduled by calling 210-916-9900. For more information, visit the American Cancer Society's website at <https://www.cancer.org/cancer/cervical-cancer.html>.

149TH MAINTENANCE SQUADRON MEMBERS PERFORM F-16 PHASE INSPECTIONS



Staff Sgt. Bryan Garza (left) and Tech. Sgt. Jacob Rocha (right), 149th Maintenance Squadron phase inspection members, review career-field guidance for the proper name for the screws being replaced on the F-16 Fighting Falcon at Joint Base San Antonio-Lackland Jan. 5. To keep the 149th Fighter Wing's F-16s airworthy, phase inspection team members perform detailed inspections from nose to tail of the aircraft. Repairing deficiencies can be as basic as inspecting screws on the airframe to as intensive as a complete landing gear swap.

MASTER SGT. MINDY BLOEM

Air Force Cyber Enlisted Airmen transition to operational AFSC

By 1st Lt. Jonathan Carkhuff

AIR COMBAT COMMAND PUBLIC AFFAIRS

Effective Nov. 1, 2021, all cyber enlisted Airmen have transitioned from the 3DXXX Cyberspace Support Air Force Specialty Code to the 1D7XX Cyber Defense Operations AFSC.

The one-to-one transition and implementation of the new AFSC for cyber enlisted Airmen is part of a multi-phased approach that will reclassify cyber to an operational capacity within the Air Force, moving beyond a traditional communications support role.

Changing the AFSC structure helps the Air Force adapt to changes within the cyber domain and will provide manpower to support the Air Force cyber mission by providing greater combat power, Cyber Capability Development and individual development for Airmen.

“Since 2012, more and more operational weapon systems rely on cyber capabilities,” said Chief Master Sgt. Jennifer Samson, 1D7XX Cyber Defense Operations MAJCOM functional manager at Air Combat Command. “The 3D AFSC is not agile enough to adapt to the constantly changing cyber environment. We need the right Airmen, with the right skills, at the right time for the right mission.”

The 1D7 AFSC combines 11 different AFSCs into one AFSC with nine shreds, giving the Air Force flexibility and agility to look at missions and capabilities and adjust manpower as necessary.

“Professional growth will be a foundation of this transition, said Maj. Henry Sims, chief of force development for cyberspace and information dominance at ACC. “Airmen will be generalists who can pivot based on mission demands and requirements; we can build on those cyber fundamentals with optimized, mission-focused, training content to effectively execute the mission.”

Phase I of the 1D7 transition is a reclassification effort. Airmen currently working in communications and cyber mission sets will not see an immediate change in their day-to-day work. Phase II, set to be implemented by December



STAFF SGT. JAYLEN MOLDEN

U.S. Air Force Staff Sgt. Brayton Jarvis, non-commissioned officer in charge of the mission defense team out of the 20th Communications Squadron, Shaw Air Force Base, South Carolina, sets up equipment during the Agile Combat Employment Command, Control and Communications Rehearsal at Joint Base Langley-Eustis, Virginia, Dec. 13, 2021.

2022, is when Airmen will see their roles change.

Leaders across the Air Force are encouraging cyber Airmen to participate in shaping the future of the cyber career field.

“We are taking a planned, deliberate approach to this transition and building up the capabilities within this new AFSC and in each shred,” Samson said. “We are establishing working groups, Airmen in the field doing the mission, to get the best ideas of what they’re seeing at the tactical level. We want Airmen to have a say during the mission analysis to shape the future of cyber.”

Transitioning to 1D7 is key to the long-term sustainability of the Air

Force cyber career field.

“We have talented enlisted cyber Airmen all across the Air Force,” Samson said. “As more and more mission platforms rely on the cyber domain, it’s absolutely critical to have our highly skilled cyber defense operations Airmen securing, defending and protecting these weapon systems to assure mission objectives. Future conflicts will be fought and won in cyber, and we need to develop and deliver a mission-ready cyber force armed for tomorrow’s fight. The capability of our cyber Airmen will be the deciding factor between mission success and mission failure.”

Air Force cyber leaders up and down

the chain of command recognize the current and future role that enlisted cyber Airmen will play in protecting the nation countering adversaries.

“Just as cyber and the threats are always changing, so must we. Just as technology is always advancing, so must we,” said Col. Heather Blackwell, director of cyberspace and information dominance at ACC.

“Our Airmen are our competitive advantage, conducting operations to get after our adversaries,” said Lt. Gen. Timothy Haugh, Sixteenth Air Force commander. “This operational transition further integrates cyber capabilities to create new, tailored outcomes for joint force commanders and for the nation.”

Defense Logistics Agency Energy Commander presides over BMT graduation

By Connie Braesch

DEFENSE LOGISTICS AGENCY ENERGY
PUBLIC AFFAIRS

“Are you ready to join the ranks of the world’s greatest air and space forces?” On a chilly Texas morning, Defense Logistics Agency Energy Commander Air Force Brig. Gen. Jimmy Canlas challenged the Air Force’s newest Airmen and Guardians during their military training graduation at Joint Base San Antonio-Lackland Jan. 6.

In a spine-tingling response, the nearly 500 trainees simultaneously shouted the U.S. Air Force’s motto “Aim High ... Fly-Fight-Win” as their loud response echoed throughout the large outdoor parade field.

“Today represents a new start in our new year and a start of a journey,” Canlas, the graduation reviewing officer, told them. “This journey will be hard and challenging, but anything worth doing always is. I can also tell you, it will be incredibly rewarding.”

Every Thursday, except three non-accession weeks, an average of 650 Airmen and Guardians graduate from basic training at Joint Base San Antonio-Lackland and officially start their Air Force or Space Force careers.

“You are joining an organization that values teamwork, dignity, respect, and inclusiveness,” Canlas said. “If this kid from the Philippines can make it to one-star general, I know the sky is the limit for you. I can’t wait to see where you will bring us in the future.”

Canlas graduated from high school overseas in the Philippines and was commissioned in 1992 as a distinguished graduate from the University of Texas at San Antonio. He earned his pilot wings in 1994 and is a command pilot with more than 4,400 hours in the C-21A, KC-135R and C-17A.

“The Air Force has been a huge, fun adventure that has been both personally and professionally rewarding,” Canlas said. “Each day, I have the honor of serving side by side with some of the finest citizens our country has to offer — people who are willing to pay the ultimate sacrifice in the name of freedom. This creates camaraderie and a sense of teamwork found nowhere else.”

Fifteen formations of “flights” performed a long-standing military



COURTESY PHOTOS

The flights perform a long-standing military tradition Pass in Review, proudly respecting Defense Logistics Agency Energy Commander Air Force Brig. Gen. Jimmy Canlas with an “eyes right” drill command salute during the Air Force Basic Military Training graduation at Joint Base San Antonio-Lackland Jan. 6.

tradition Pass in Review, respecting Canlas with an “eyes right” drill command salute, before returning to formation to receive their Airman’s Coin. The coin ceremony signifies the end of Basic Training and marks the official transition from trainees to Airmen.

The ceremony concluded with the Airmen singing the Air Force Song, reaffirming their Oath of Enlistment, and reciting the Airman’s Creed.

During his visit to JBSA-Lackland, Canlas met with the 37th Training Wing Commander Air Force Col. Rockie Wilson; visited the 320th Training Squadron and toured the Erwin Airman Training Complex; and visited the 344th Training Squadron, Career Enlisted Aviator Center of Excellence.

The 320th and 344th Training Squadrons are both subordinate units of the 37th Training Wing, which is the largest training wing in the U.S. Air Force. It consists of four training groups and graduates more than 80,000 students annually. JBSA-Lackland is referred to as the “Gateway to the Air Force.”



Defense Logistics Agency Energy Commander Air Force Brig. Gen. Jimmy Canlas served as the reviewing officer for the Air Force Basic Military Training graduation at Joint Base San Antonio-Lackland Jan. 6. Canlas led the nearly 500 trainees in reaffirming their Oath of Enlistment.

New facility provides DLA Energy Aerospace and Finance employees updated workplace

By Connie Braesch

DEFENSE LOGISTICS AGENCY PUBLIC AFFAIRS

A new operations center on Joint Base San Antonio-Lackland, Texas, will provide 104 Defense Logistics Agency Energy Aerospace and Finance employees a well-equipped space to manage the worldwide acquisition of missile fuels, liquid propellants and other bulk industrial chemicals and gases, and separately, their financial operations.

The health and welfare of the workforce is a top priority for the DLA Energy Commander Air Force Brig. Gen. Jimmy Canlas. During the Jan. 7 ribbon-cutting ceremony, the general emphasized the importance of the building.

“The new facility is half the size of the old building yet meets all customer mission requirements as well as complies with current building, security, health, and safety standards,” Canlas said. “It is designed with sustainable principles in mind by using the latest energy-efficient technologies incorporated into air conditioning, lighting, and insulation systems. Building design used high energy efficiency principles while providing ample use of natural lighting.”

The DLA Energy Finance and Aerospace team members previously occupied an old building on the former Kelly Air Force Base, closed under BRAC in 1995. Since the closure, the property was turned over to the Port Authority of San Antonio who leased the building to DLA.

“The building was more than 81 years old with high maintenance costs, code compliance challenges, and substantial quality of life and health related issues including mold,” said DLA Energy Aerospace Energy Director of Supplier Operations Doug Smith. “It is also now outside of the enclosure of a secure military installation, lacks required security features, and did not effectively optimize the use of space.”

An economic analysis of options for status quo, renovation, lease, and new construction was completed and



COURTESY PHOTOS

A ribbon-cutting ceremony officially opened a new Defense Logistics Agency Energy Aerospace Operations Center on Joint Base San Antonio-Lackland Jan. 7. Representatives from the teams who helped build and will occupy the new building are (left to right) of DLA Finance Energy Chief Retail Support Branch Steven Bocock, DLA Energy Aerospace Acting Deputy Director of Customer Operations McCoy Greer III, DLA Energy Aerospace Director of Customer Operations Steve Nichols, Deputy Commander of U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Fort Worth District Army Lt. Col. Roderick Forman, DLA Energy Commander Air Force Brig. Gen. Jimmy Canlas, DLA Energy Aerospace Energy Director of Supplier Operations Doug Smith, and DLA Energy Aerospace Energy Deputy Director of Supplier Operations Damon Moore.



A new operations center on Joint Base San Antonio-Lackland will provide 104 Defense Logistics Agency Energy Aerospace and Finance employees a well-equipped space to manage the worldwide acquisition of missile fuels, liquid propellants and other bulk industrial chemicals and gases.

validated that new construction was the most economical option to meet operational requirements.

The new 22,135-square-foot facility

construction was coordinated with an installation physical security plan including all physical security, antiterrorism, and cyber-security

measures.

Army Lt. Col. Roderick Forman, deputy commander of U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Fort Worth District, oversaw the military construction project and said it's about partnerships and creating world-class facilities.

“Thanks to your team, DLA and everyone for all the hard work you put in to bring this together,” Forman said during the ribbon-cutting ceremony.

Employees are expected to start moving into the new facility in late February after computers, printers and other information technology equipment are installed.

As the Department of Defense Integrated Materiel Manager for space and space-related products, DLA Energy Aerospace Energy provides centralized, cradle-to-grave contracting and logistics support for military and civilian customers worldwide. Support includes 28 different product sources from helium for aerostats, aviator breathing oxygen to fighter jets, and hydrazine used by NASA for its space launches, including its 2021 mission to Mars.

Special Warfare Training Wing hosts Aquatics Training Center Heritage Capsule Commemoration Ceremony

By 1st Lt. Xiaofan Liu

SPECIAL WARFARE TRAINING WING
PUBLIC AFFAIRS

The Special Warfare Training Wing hosted the Aquatics Training Center Heritage Capsule Commemoration Ceremony at Joint Base San Antonio-Chapman Training Annex Jan. 13, 2022.

The ceremony commemorates the construction of a new, modernized \$66.6 million aquatics training facility that will accommodate training for more than 3,000 Air Force Special Warfare trainees annually by incorporating a full range of special operations training scenarios.

"It was an honor to host all of our distinguished guests and show them our vision of how integrated human performance produces more lethal warfighters," said U.S. Air Force Col. Mason Dula, SWTW commander. "The consequences of our business, which can be measured by the names and faces memorialized on the walls of our buildings, are never far from our minds, and guide our commitment to building training pipelines singularly designed to prepare warriors for combat."

Distinguished visitors, including the command teams of Air Education and Training Command, Lt. Gen. Marshall "Brad" Webb and Command Chief Master Sgt. Erik Thompson, and Second Air Force Commander, Maj. Gen. Michele C. Edmondson and Command Chief Master Sgt. Adam Vizi, were invited to place an item of personal significance inside an M-249 ammunition can, which would be encased in the foundation of the aquatics training center, becoming a part of Air Force Special Warfare history.

The construction of the SWTW aquatics training facility is a collaborative effort between the SWTW, the 802nd Civil Engineer Squadron, the Special Warfare Training Support Squadron, the Air Force Civil Engineer Center and the Fort Worth District of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers.

"As most of you know, I became a lifelong fan of this Air Force Special



U.S. Air Force Lt. Gen. Marshall B. Webb (left), Commander, Air Education and Training Command, Joint Base San Antonio-Randolph, and former U.S. Air Force Chief of Staff Gen. David Goldfein (ret.) (right) seal the SWTW aquatics training center heritage capsule while standing in front of the future site of the Special Warfare Training Wing aquatics training facility, Jan. 13 at Chapman Training Annex, JBSA-Lackland.

Warfare community on May 2, 1999, when I got a ride home from a pretty bad place," said retired U.S. Air Force Gen. Dave Goldfein, the 21st Chief of Staff of the USAF and the SWTW Aquatics Training Center Heritage Capsule Commemoration Ceremony guest speaker. "So I thought about my contribution to the capsule and

brought a couple of things that fit together ... my name tag that I was wearing on the night I was shot down ... and the four stars I wore as Chief, which is a reminder of the great potential of those who are saved by members of this community."

The 76,000-square-foot aquatics training facility will consist of two

"The consequences of our business, which can be measured by the names and faces memorialized on the walls of our buildings, are never far from our minds, and guide our commitment to building training pipelines singularly designed to prepare warriors for combat."

U.S. Air Force Col. Mason Dula,
Special Warfare Training Wing
commander

enclosed, climate-controlled indoor swimming pools of varying depths geared to meet the training needs for the Air Force's global combat operations and is scheduled for completion in late 2023.

"We [the AFSPECWAR community] do not build facilities ... we build warriors," Dula said. "We build warrior Airmen who are experts in the application of violence, and we have been doing it for decades ... and if you would permit me a moment of unapologetic hubris, we're very good at it".

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 U.S. Air Force Special Warfare career opportunities, visit <https://www.airforce.com/careers/in-demand-careers/special-warfare>.