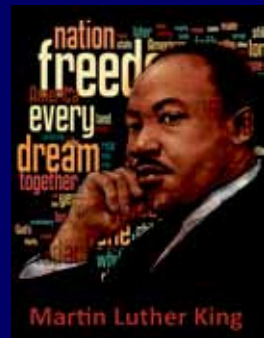


CROSSROADS

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Vol. 18, No. 3 January 25, 2012

Lajes Field, Azores, Portugal



"6-5...
IN THE FIGHT!"

FY 2013



405
SORTIES

4,044
LODGED



2,58 M
gallons
FUEL ISSUED

Popular Numbers

Medical Appointment:
Base: 535-3261
Off base: 295-573-261
Base Alt: 535-1089
Off base Alt: 295-571-089

Emergency:
Base: 911
Off base: 295-571-911

Lajes Against Drunk Driving:
Fri & Sat: 295-57-5233

Sexual Assault Response Coordinator:
24/7: 535-7272
Off base: 966-677-266

Weekend Weather Forecast

Saturday (a.m. / p.m.)
Mostly Cloudy / Partly Cloudy
Wind SW 29 - 40 mph
NW 17 - 29 mph
HIGH 17C / 63F
LOW 14C / 58F

Sunday (a.m. / p.m.)
Mostly Cloudy / Partly Cloudy
Wind NW 17 - 29 mph
SW 17 - 29 mph
HIGH 17C / 62F
LOW 12C / 53F



The Martin Luther King Committee chairperson, Capt. Lateasa Reed, 65th Medical Operations Squadron, presents Maj. Lawrence Wyatt, Jr., 65th Security Forces Squadron commander, with a token of appreciation for serving as the Martin Luther King Luncheon guest speaker Jan. 18. (U.S. Air Force photo by Lucas Silva)

King's 'life of purpose'; Airmen encouraged to lead purposeful life

By Staff Sgt. Angelique N. Smythe
65th Air Base Wing Public Affairs

Martin Luther King, Jr., Day, a federal holiday, was observed Jan. 21. Team Lajes celebrated the life of Dr. King Jan. 18 with a luncheon and program to celebrate his significant accomplishments.

After a dance performance to "We Shall Overcome" by the Lajes Praise in Motion, Staff Sgt. Claude Hunter, 65th Communications Squadron, recited an excerpt from King's "I Have a Dream" speech which was delivered Aug. 28, 1963, on the steps of the Lincoln Memorial.

Maj. Lawrence Wyatt, Jr., 65th Security Forces Squadron commander, served as the guest speaker.

With the Department of Defense's annual theme "Remember, Celebrate, Act! A day on, not a day off!" Wyatt reminded the audience that King did not live a day on, but, rather, he lived a life on – a life of purpose.

He began by singing the song, "Put your eyes on the prize," then reminisced how during this time of year his teachers would show movies which included that song, news clips about civil rights, and lessons of the fight,

courage and purpose.

"Webster defines purpose as the reason for which something was created or exists," Wyatt said. "I think Dr. King would say that each of us has a reason that we were created or exist. We all have a purpose. We all have a reason for being here. Dr. King found his purpose through pain."

Wyatt spoke of the night before King was assassinated in Memphis, Tenn., in 1968. Although he'd received death threats for approximately 15 years, his friends and family were more concerned this time around and urged him not to go to Memphis, but King insisted on marching because he had a purpose.

On this night King gave the "I've Been to the Mountaintop" speech in which he ended by saying, "Like anybody, I would like to live a long life. Longevity has its place. But I'm not concerned about that now. I just want to do God's will. And He's allowed me to go up to the mountain. And I've looked over. And I've seen the Promised Land. I may not get there with you. But I want you to know tonight, that we, as a people, will get to the Promised Land."

To read more on "Purpose" see page 2

Today's Fight—Airmen and Families—Host Nation Relationship—Future Challenges



The downside of being the best

By Maj. Justin Walworth

65th Air Base Wing, Chief of Wing Safety

As I was sitting in the theater in-brief at the beginning of my last deployment, the operations group deputy commander asked how many of us had been to that location more than 5 times. After several of us raised our hands, he stated "you guys are who we worry about—you get complacent." Over the course of 12 deployments, I have heard a lot about complacency and started to wonder if we were more susceptible than the "average Joe" – G.I. or not.

For more than a decade, the Air Force has been involved in combat operations around the world. From Operations Northern and Southern Watch, Enduring Freedom and Iraqi Freedom, to Odyssey Dawn and Unified Protector, many Airmen have deployed from one operation to the next with little or no reconstitution period. We've become very experienced with, and very good at, employing combat air power. With this experience comes the danger of becoming complacent.

The Air Force attracts a certain type of person. We tend to see confident individuals who are looking for above-average challenges joining our ranks. Once they become Airmen, most seek to master the challenges presented to them. Our final core value, Excellence in all We Do, makes this attitude prevalent in our culture. It is not uncommon to hear the phrase "been there, done that, have the T-shirt." While mastering challenges and achieving excellence are desirable goals, we must also ensure that complacency doesn't rob us of our core combat skills.

During hundreds of combat missions, I've seen firsthand the challenge of keeping focused and ready for a quiet night that turns into "all hell breaking loose." The challenge of fighting complacency and staying focused is not only



present on deployments. Due to our ability to act quickly worldwide, the Air Force is called on early to respond to conflicts and natural disasters. Just over a year ago, I was in Bangor, Maine on a Coronet, moving fighters back to Europe. When we arrived at the squadron for our brief, we were handed the classified OPLAN for Operation Odyssey Dawn—we'd be refueling the first B-2's to strike Libya.

The success of combat operations in Iraq and Afghanistan has pushed terrorist organizations to other locations around the world. The threat posed by these organizations has also become harder to predict and therefore defend against. We have also witnessed an increase in instability within the Middle East—the so called Arab Spring. Our recent successes in Iraq, Afghanistan and Libya, while admirable, must not lull us into believing we are prepared to respond to future threats.

Today's Airmen must be ready to meet the challenges of tomorrow's conflicts. We likely won't have the benefit of advanced training time to prepare for those challenges. The USAF's involvement in the Libyan civil war started just two days after the United Nations Security Council passed Resolution 1973. Two of our six distinctive capabilities, Global Attack and Rapid Global Mobility, ensure that Airmen will have a front row seat in future conflicts and natural disaster responses.

Not so long ago, I awoke on a Tuesday morning for a "vanilla" air refueling training flight with a Navy TACAMO aircraft. Hours later, we were supporting a combat air patrol over Los Angeles. The date was September 11, 2001. Stay vigilant.

Maj. Justin Walworth is a C-37 and KC-135 Stratotanker senior pilot with more than 5,000 flight hours.

daughter, Mariah, when a drunk driver hit her and her two friends as they walked down a sidewalk. McCarthy founded a non-profit organization called Mariah's Challenge which gives scholarships to teenagers who pledge not to drink. He, too, was an example of someone who turned pain into purpose.

"Have you ever felt pain so deep that nobody could understand?" Wyatt asked. "Have you ever felt something in your spirit, something you felt you should be doing, reasons for being but you just haven't acted on it? That pain you have, that suffering you've lived through – that's purpose. Use that. Somebody needs to hear your story. Let that energize you."

Wyatt encouraged Team Lajes members to not just observe a day on, but to live a life on, determine their own purpose and spend time encouraging others, even if it's the person within the next cubicle.

"Purpose" from page 1

"Purpose comes from pain," Wyatt reiterated. "It doesn't come from fulfillment. Dr. King said, 'As my suffering mounted I realized there were two ways in which I could respond to my situation – either to react with bitterness or seek to transform the suffering into a creative force. I decided the latter.'"

Wyatt gave several examples of people who found their purpose through pain.

One was Wanda Butts who dropped the phone and screamed when she heard her son, Josh, had drowned. African American children were three times more likely to drown than white children. Butts founded The Josh Project and trained over a thousand African American children in Ohio to swim. She used pain and made it into a purpose.

In 2007 Leo McCarthy lost his 14-year-old

Commander's Action Line

535-4240

65abw.actionline@lajes.af.mil

The Commander's Action Line is your link to the commander for suggestions, kudos and as a way to work problems or issues within the 65th Air Base Wing for which you can't find another solution.

Your chain of command should always be your first option – but when that's not the answer, call or e-mail the Commander's Action Line at 535-4240 or 65abw.actionline@lajes.af.mil.



Col. Chris Bargery

Col. Chris Bargery
Commander, 65th Air Base Wing



The 65th Air Base Wing Public Affairs staff prepares all editorial content in the Crossroads.

The Public Affairs Office (Unit 7710, APO, AE 09720) is located in Bldg. T-100, Room 240.

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65 FSS: MilPDS upgrade still on, Airmen should complete personnel actions by Feb. 15

By Tech. Sgt. Steve Grever
Air Force Personnel Center

Air Force officials are encouraging active duty Airmen who are eligible to reenlist, extend their current enlistment, retire or separate in March to complete these personnel actions through the myPers website and their base military personnel sections by Feb. 15 to avoid processing delays and military pay issues.

Airmen need to accomplish these actions because the Air Force is upgrading and transferring the Military Personnel Data System to the Defense Information Systems Agency's Defense Enterprise Computing Center in March. The upgrade project is scheduled to take about 23 days to complete, during which time, MilPDS will not be available.

MilPDS is the records database for personnel data and actions that occur throughout every total force Airman's career. MilPDS is also used to initiate Airman pay actions, maintain Air Force accountability and strength data. MilPDS also supports a host of interactions with other active duty, Air Force Reserve and Air National Guard systems and processes that rely on this personnel data.

Reenlistments and enlistment extensions

Reenlistment-eligible Airmen or Airmen with Permanent Change of Station or retraining orders should contact their base MPS and initiate their reenlistment or enlistment extension paperwork by Feb. 15.

"Airmen who accomplish their reenlistment or enlistment extension by Feb. 15 should not experience interruptions in their pay because their servicing MPS can process all appropriate transactions prior to the MilPDS upgrade," said Michael McLaughlin, Air Force Personnel Center reenlistments branch chief. "Getting these personnel transactions completed and into the Defense Finance and Accounting Service system are the fastest means to update an Airman's pay and entitlements, which will reduce the need for DFAS to correct an Airman's pay record."

Airmen can reenlist or extend their enlistment during the upgrade in March, but they may experience additional delays in processing these transactions to DFAS if their date of separation expires during the MilPDS upgrade period.

The Air Force processes more than 60,000 reenlistments and enlistment extensions annually.

Active duty retirements and separations

AFPC officials are also encouraging active duty Airmen who are

eligible to apply for retirement or request a voluntary separation in March to initiate these personnel actions through the virtual Military Personnel Flight application on the myPers website at <http://mypers.af.mil> as soon as possible.

"While a short-notice separation or retirement can be processed manually, we would like Airmen to be proactive and apply as soon as possible to process their request," said Maj. Michael Meek, AFPC retirements and separations branch chief. "Typically, Airmen can apply for voluntary separation or retirement up to one year out."

Airmen will notice minimal processing delays if they initiate their retirement or voluntary separation applications before March. Processing these applications early will help base MPSs reduce their backlog of transactions to process after the MilPDS upgrade is completed. Airmen who intend to voluntarily separate or retire can have their approved dates of separation updated and potentially avoid being selected for a deployment or assignment.

Air Force Reserve and Air National Guard members

The above actions will not require Guard and Reserve members to take any immediate actions unless they are notified by their MPS. MPSs will receive specific instructions on critical personnel and pay processes related to accessions, unit training assemblies and participation, mobilizations, activations and casualties. These processes will continue to function during the upgrade. Other personnel and pay processes will be held during the cutover period and processed once the upgrade is complete. Servicing MPSs will notify their affected members as soon as possible of any required personnel actions. Airmen need to comply with their requirements to avoid delays in processing their requests and/or any potential military pay related issues. More information is available on the myPers website at <http://mypers.af.mil> and also the Air Reserve Personnel Center website at <http://www.arpc.af.mil>.

Air Force officials will continue to release additional information and guidance to the Air Force's manpower, personnel, services and pay communities and total force Airmen to continue to educate them on how the service will perform critical personnel and pay tasks during the MilPDS upgrade. For more information about the MilPDS upgrade, visit the myPers website at <http://mypers.af.mil>.

For local questions or concerns, e-mail the 65th Force Support Squadron PSM organization inbox at lajes.psm@lajes.af.mil.

LAJES WARRIORS OF THE WEEK

Name: Maria Nunes
Rank: LGS-4
Unit: 65th ABW/Safety Office
Hometown: Fontinhas, Terceira
Duty Title: Clerk
Accomplishments: Maria is the center of the wing safety office. She schedules the annual inspections for all buildings on base, processes the reports, tracks the discrepancies, and schedules the follow-up inspections. She is also responsible for organizing the Environmental, Safety, and Occupational Health Council to brief wing leadership on crucial safety topics. On the training side, she conducts Unit Safety Rep training, schedules and assists with the Experienced Rider motorcycle course, and oversees the rider database to ensure that all Air Force requirements are met. She also tracks all mishap investigations at Lajes. Outside of work, she is finishing her certification as an EU Safety Technician.



Name: Bruno Nogueira
Rank: LGS-09
Unit: 65th ABW/Safety Office
Hometown: Fontinhas, Terceira
Duty Title: Ground Safety Manager
Accomplishments: Bruno leads the ground safety program at Lajes Field. He expertly inspects all building and work centers on base, ensuring the safety of all Lajes personnel. He briefs all incoming Airmen on local safety policies and hazards unique to living on Terceira during Right Start. He was also elected as a primary member of the CRT, representing Lajes local national workforce. As a Civil Engineer, he advises on and inspects base construction projects for safety hazards. Off duty, he manages a girl's semi-pro volleyball team, is a player on Praia's semi-pro volleyball team ranked #1 in the Azores, and is the entertainment coordinator for Praia Fest.



On the job: 65 CS Cyber Transport

Feature



Airman 1st Class Eric Mount, 65th Communications Squadron Cyber Transport technician, works on a phone server which tracks phone calls on the telephone billing system.

Teresa Pereira, 65th CS clerk, manages the telephone billing system for Lajes and the accounting program for the cyber transport section.

Arnaldo Candido, 65th CS Telephone Switch manager, teaches Airman 1st Class Jonathan Hecky, 65th CS Cyber Transport technician, how to properly install a card on the MSL-100 Telephone Switch.

Airman 1st Class Eric Mount, 65th CS Cyber Transport technician, and Staff Sgt. David Allen, 65th CS Cyber Transport supervisor, prepare to activate and configure network ports for VoIP, NIPR or SIPR use by Lajes customers.

(Photos by Guido Melo)



"6-5... IN THE FIGHT!"

Feature



Staff Sgt. Claude Hunter, 65th Communications Squadron, profoundly recites an excerpt from the "I Have a Dream" speech delivered by Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., on the steps of the Lincoln Memorial Aug. 28, 1963, during a luncheon in celebration of his life and accomplishments Jan. 18. Martin Luther King, Jr., Day, a federal holiday, was observed Jan. 21. (U.S. Air Force photo by Lucas Silva)



Yvette McKenzie, a retired U.S. Air Force chief master sergeant and Department of Defense Dependents School teacher, hugs Staff Sgt. Claude Hunter, 65th Communications Squadron, Jan. 18 during the Martin Luther King Luncheon after he intensely recited an excerpt from the "I Have a Dream" speech delivered by her uncle, Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., on Aug. 28, 1963. (U.S. Air Force photo by Lucas Silva)

Team Lajes celebrated the life of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., with a luncheon Jan. 18. The program included a spiritual dance performance by the Lajes Praise in Motion, a recital of the "I Have a Dream" speech by Staff Sgt. Claude Hunter, 65th Communications Squadron, and words of encouragement by guest speaker, Maj. Lawrence Wyatt, Jr., 65th Security Forces Squadron commander. (U.S. Air Force photo by Lucas Silva)



Col. Chris Bargery, 65th Air Base Wing commander, and Chief Master Sgt. Curtis Storms, 65th Air Base Wing command chief, award the 65th Civil Engineer Squadron the Commander's Cup for winning the most intramural sports competitions in 2012. (U.S. Air Force photo by Guido Melo)

Aisha Robins and Duarte Fainha, 65th Civil Engineer Squadron, and 65th Air Base Wing leadership show their commitment to Lajes Field's recycling program with "I've Bin Recycling. Have You?" signs at the headquarters building Jan. 15. These labels will be distributed throughout the installation as an effort to expand the base's recycling program. (U.S. Air Force photo by Lucas Silva)



LAJES ON THE WEB



Lajes Field

6-5...
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"Lajes Link" - www.lajes.af.mil

Here are some of the latest web highlights from the 65th Air Base Wing on 'Lajes Link'

"Keep Healthy Smiles With Good Oral Care" video by 65 MDOS Dental Clinic

Got a question? Need detailed information? There's a tab for that!

Lajes Link has 7 newly redesigned tabs that take you directly to information that you need and want. Check them out today!



See the latest Lajes Field videos online! Call Public Affairs at 535-3467 for video support.



Lajes Field, Azores

www.facebook.com/65abw.lajes

Lajes Field is one of the most popular Facebook pages in USAFE, with more than 4,200 fans!

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'Like' Lajes Field, Azores for the latest news stories, photos, videos and weather updates!



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We're posting event photographs online so that Airmen, civilians and family members can access the photos anywhere.



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ASK ED

A column that looks at the culture and history of the Azores

By Eduardo Lima, Community Relations Advisor



Portuguese song, "Fado," now UNESCO's World Intangible Cultural Heritage

As of Nov. 27, 2011, the most characteristic Portuguese song style, called Fado, was included in the United Nation's organization, UNESCO, as a World's Intangible Cultural Heritage.

Fado, is a type of music genre characterized by mournful tunes and lyrics that originated long time ago, according to some chronicles. The word "Fado" means fate or destiny and its music is the heart of the Portuguese soul.

Fado's origin is difficult to ascertain, but according to the Wikipedia encyclopedia, it probably comes from a mixture of the laments of the African slaves blended with the traditional music of Portuguese sailors and Arabic influence. Other theories relate the fado's origin to the music of the Brazilian slaves that could have been brought by sailors around 1820.

There are two main varieties of Fado: Those of the cities of Lisbon and Coimbra. The Lisbon style is more popular and with more rhythm, whereas the one from Coimbra has the characteristics of ballads and more romantic.

The modern Fado is still very popular in Portugal and has produced many renowned musicians and singers. Fado is usually sung by men or women and accompanied by the Portuguese guitar, a 12-stringed instrument and the classic guitar

Like other forms of music such as the American blues or the Argentinean tango, Fado cannot be explained; it must be felt and experienced. Fado has been often described as the Portuguese blues.

Portugal has had many famous Fado singers like Alfredo Marceneiro, Maria Teresa de Noronha or Amália Rodrigues. The latter was considered the diva of Fado, worshiped at home and celebrated abroad as the most famous representative of Fado. Some of the famous musicians included Carlos Paredes, Artur Paredes or Antonio Portugal.

The Fado music, although not as much celebrated now as some decades ago, is still very popular. Today, there is a new wave of Fado performers who have added a new style and brought international popularity to the traditional Portuguese music, such as Mariza, Mísia, Camané, Ana Moura, etc.

This form of music can be heard throughout the country, but especially in the city of Lisbon, where there are restaurants and night clubs that present exclusively Fado performers. Those are places where people can go and taste a good Portuguese traditional meal or just have a drink while listening to this unique form of Portuguese culture.