



Force Protection



Current FPCON: Alpha
Threat Level: Low

"6-5...
IN THE FIGHT!"
FY 2011



788
SORTIES

15,095
LODGED



4.2 million
gallons
FUEL ISSUED

In a real-world emergency, call the Public Affairs Straight Talk Line, **535-3542**, or visit the Lajes Facebook page for instructional information.

Appointment:

Base: 535-3261

Off base: 295-573-261

Emergency:

Base: 911

Off base: 295-571-911

Weekend

Weather Forecast
(Lajes Weather Flight)

Saturday (a.m. / p.m.)

Mostly Cloudy / Partly Cloudy
Wind NW 10 mph

High 72F / Low 63F

Sunday (a.m. / p.m.)

Mostly Cloudy / Cloudy
Wind W 5 mph

High 72F / Low 59F



Members of Lajes Field's 65th Civil Engineer Squadron put booms in place to control a simulated fuel spill during a spill-response exercise in Praia da Vitoria Bay, June 15, 2011. (Photo by Lucas Silva)

By Staff Sgt. Olufemi Owolabi
65th Air Base Wing Public Affairs

What would Lajes do if more than 10,000 gallons of fuel spilled in the local sea port?

The 65th Civil Engineer Squadron team put this scenario to test during a training exercise between Airmen and the Portuguese port authority at the Praia Port June 15.

During the scenario, an oil spill occurred in the Portuguese marina sea port, and Lajes Airmen and their host nation's partners had to respond on time to keep the slick from nudging to the beaches.

The training was part of a week-long Fuel Spill Response Exercise, in which the Lajes team brought in oil-spill experts and trainers from the continental United States. Bill Tageson, a certified trainer who was part of a Gulf of Mexico spill response team last year, led the training exercise.

The exercise, attended by more than 40 U.S. and host nation's emergency response personnel, brought members

together in a classroom setting during a table-top exercise and hands-on scenarios.

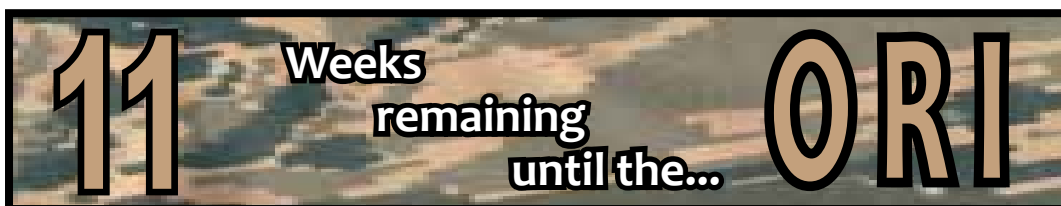
The 65th CES personnel responded as they would in a real-world spill, meaning Lajes could deploy a spill team from the 65th CES, augmentees from other squadron, and other first responders. According to the exercise operations manager, Master Sgt. James Mason, if there were a need for more helping hands to contain the spillage, more trainers and response teams could be called upon to participate.

In this response exercise, Lajes had a strategy.

"We are practicing a scenario which involves the spillage of about 5 to 10 percent of Lajes fuel capacity going out the drain and spilling into the marina," said Vitor Berbereia, 65th CES spill prevention and response program manager. "We deployed booms, and we developed containment and recovery strategies for this operation."

The 65th CES environmental flight was able to showcase some capabilities of its equipment such as

To read more on "spill exercise" see page 4





Happy 4th of July, Lajes!

By Col. Jose Rivera
65th Air Base Wing commander



As we get ready to celebrate the 235th anniversary of our independence, April, Sofia and I would like to thank our great community for making our experience at Lajes one to cherish forever.

The ideals that sparked a group of citizens to pursue liberty 200-plus years ago are as relevant now as they were then. In 1774, shortly after the Boston Tea Party, Patrick Henry said, "The distinctions between Virginians, Pennsylvanians, New Yorkers, and New Englanders are no more. I am not a Virginian, but an American!"

A conscience of an independent nation was taking shape, where individuals came together to pursue an elusive dream. This dream—the right to live life to its fullest and to pursue one's aspirations as deemed fit—had been unheard of to common men and women for centuries. Our revolutionary war was, and still is, one of the most important turning points in the history of the world. The nation and institutions that were created in its wake have withstood the test of time and often addressed many of the salient issues of their day.

Our history is filled with examples of challenge and growth. Our system is one of friction and struggle, of laws and not of men. And even as we fought for liberty 200-plus years ago, our job was not complete and our journey



has led, rightfully so, to collectively extending these inalienable rights to all Americans. Liberty and justice are imprinted in our DNA as a people.

Today, more than ever, the ideals postulated by our forefathers resonate. In an era of prolonged conflict and uncertainty, let us pause and rejoice in our journey as a nation. I'm proud to stand with you as we serve our great Air Force. Happy Birthday, America!!

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. Jose Rivera

Col. Jose Rivera
Commander, 65th Air Base Wing

Lajes A&FRC services for members, families

By Staff Sgt. Olufemi Owolabi
65th Air Base Wing Public Affairs

Especially during a time of permanent change of station, some members might be searching for family-related information, or a unit offering family-oriented activities.

Look no further than the Lajes Airman and Family Readiness Center. The center offers many programs for military members and their families.

The A&FRC is one of your first stops upon arriving Lajes Field, Azores.

One of the programs all new members will have an opportunity to be part of as soon as they arrive here is "Right Start," sometimes referred to as the newcomers' orientation.

The Lajes A&FRC provides information, support and services to help servicemembers and their families balance the demands of family and the military lifestyle while stationed at Lajes, or when getting ready to deploy or PCS.

For members who are getting ready to PCS to another duty station, the A&FRC center holds "smooth move," a seminar that helps increase knowledge and skills needed by military, DoD civilians and their families to accomplish a successful and stress-free move.

All the services provided by the A&FRC are geared towards improving the quality of life for military members and their families.

The A&FRC is located in building T-126 opposite the base chapel and adjacent to the military personnel service building.

The following are some of the programs available through the Lajes A&FRC:

RIGHT START (Newcomers' Orientation) – The next one is scheduled for July 5 and July 19 from 7:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.

PUBLIC SPEAKING MADE EASY (Presented by: Military Family Life Consultant) – Scheduled for July 8 from 3 to 4:30 p.m. This program gives members practical tips to help them write a successful speech or learn how to speak up in a group.

SMOOTH MOVE – The next "smooth move" is scheduled for July 11 and 25 from 2 to 4 p.m.

PRE-SEPARATION COUNSELING – This is held every Thursday from 10 to 11 a.m.

SPONSORSHIP TRAINING – This is conducted via the new eSponsorship Application & Training (e-SAT) on-line website. The link can be viewed at the following Url: <http://apps.mhf.dod.mil/esat>.

PRE-DEPLOYMENT BRIEFING – This is held every Wednesday at 2 p.m.

More A&FRC programs can be viewed by visiting the 65 FSS website at <http://www.lajesfss.com>.

For more information about the programs and services offered by the Lajes A&FRC center, call 535-4138.



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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Graciosa tour--worth your time!

By 1st Lt. Mara Title
65 Air Base Wing Public Affairs

On a brisk Saturday morning in June, I was one of over 40 people who showed up in downtown Praia da Vitoria to board a boat heading to the Azorean island of Graciosa. I was excited to see one of the smaller, less commercialized islands on a tour provided by Top Atlantico through Outdoor Recreation, and I got more than I bargained for.

Once we arrived to the island, a local guide was there to greet us, and led the way to a comfortable coach bus. As we headed to the town of Santa Cruz, the scenery was very similar to Terceira, only even more remote. Our first stop was in the town's center square, which is the largest of all the islands. It contains two small man-made lakes, surrounded by beautiful Norfolk pines and elm trees. After a bit of coffee and a local favorite pastry (Queijadas da Graciosa) at a nearby shop, we boarded the bus and headed toward the next stop, Ponta da Barca lighthouse.

As we pulled up the narrow road toward the entrance, majestic rocks rose on both sides from down below. On one side was the Baleia (Whale) Islet, named because of its likeness to a giant whale, and on the other was a huge opening to a cave. The sites were truly picturesque, and came as quite a surprise next to the rolling green landscape. After several minutes to gawk and take pictures, it was time to board the bus again toward our next destination--lunch.

Hotel Graciosa's newly renovated modern façade stands out like a sore thumb amidst surrounding traditional buildings. With glass windows and a cement exterior, it almost seemed out of place, but its contemporary glow was intriguing. Hotel Graciosa's hosts greeted us inside the foyer and led us all to a beautiful lunch buffet, with various salads, bread, chicken, fish, vegetables, and desserts in the main dining area. A table nearly 50 feet long was set for the entire tour group with a luxurious white linen table cloth, linen napkins, wine glasses and nice china--but the best part was the incredible view overlooking the ocean. No wait--the best part was it was included in the price of the tour!

After the meal, some chose to relax outside on the chaise lounge chairs near the hotel pool. I sat in the lobby area on one of the many big, white comfortable couches, and had a chance to get to know some of the other tour guests. It was a wonderful way to unwind from a busy week.

But before long, we were headed to one of the best stops on the tour, the Furna do Enxofre cave. After driving approximately 15 minutes from the hotel, the bus stopped on the side of a road, surrounded by tall hills covered in trees. Once off the bus we walked toward a path spiraling down some steps to an isolated building with

glass walls. The building contained information about the cave, and had restrooms and vending machines.

From here, we descended into the caves through a winding stairway

To read more on "Graciosa" see page 4



One of the sites visited on the Graciosa tour, The Baleia (Whale) Islet, named because of its likeness to a giant whale. (Courtesy photo)

California Representative visits Lajes

Col. Arch Bruns, 65th Mission Support Group commander, briefs Representative Devin Nunes on Lajes Air Field's South Tank Farm's fuel capabilities in Praia da Vitoria, Azores, Jun 26, 2011. Rep. Nunes is the U.S. Representative for California's 21st congressional district, serving since 2003. The 21st district, located in the San Joaquin Valley, includes all of Tulare County, as well as much of eastern Fresno County. Rep. Nunes is originally from the Azores, and paid a visit to Team Lajes members during a trip home. (Photo by Tech. Sgt. Chyrece Campbell)



Team Lajes welcomes newest member!

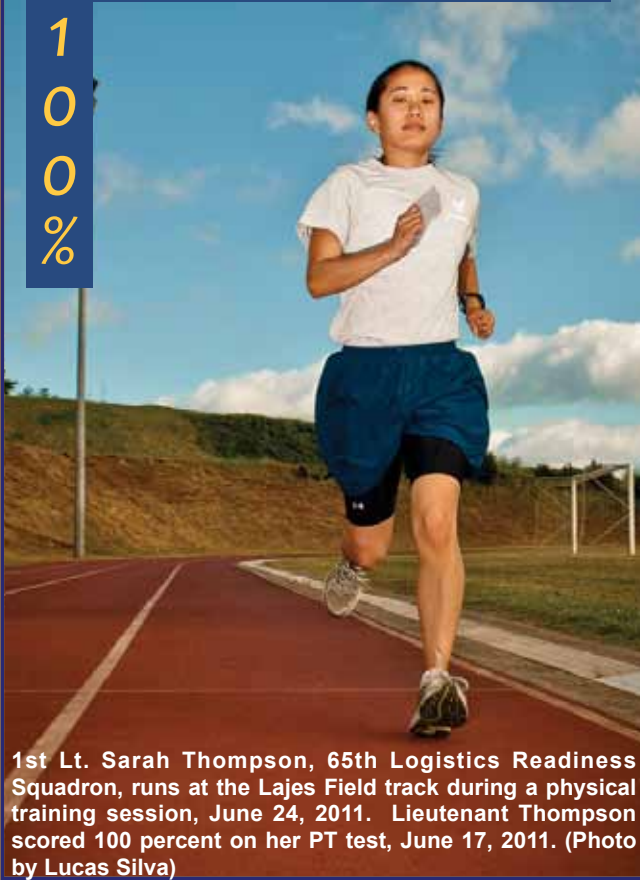
Zachary Riley Alvord was born the 14th of June to Capt. Michael Alvord and his wife, Vanessa.

Congratulations!



1st Lt. Sarah Thompson

100%



1st Lt. Sarah Thompson, 65th Logistics Readiness Squadron, runs at the Lajes Field track during a physical training session, June 24, 2011. Lieutenant Thompson scored 100 percent on her PT test, June 17, 2011. (Photo by Lucas Silva)

"spill exercise" from page 1

booms, pumps, skimmers, and boats.

The environmental flight manages about 14,000 feet of booms, which hold fuel at the surface of water, and various skimmers, such as the weir and drum skimmers.

Mr. Berbereia said a drum skimmer is capable of gathering more fuel from the spillage than other skimmers. The drum skimmer collects about 2 percent of water, making it more efficient because it collects fuel at a higher rate than the weir skimmer, he added.

To protect the beach area, the team used 3,000 yards of boom, two skimmers, several containers, and four boats.

One of the most important parts of the training was to test how well the team could work together, communicate and respond in the early hours of a spill to help save marine life, and other resources.

"The mission of the base is the fuel," Sergeant Mason said. "This (a spill) could actually happen, so we have to be prepared to actually contain everything. The only way we can actually be able to contain it is to practice and practice. And this practice was able to bring all the agencies together."



Retired Chief Master Sgt. Samuel Hagadorn, former 65th Air Base Wing command chief, holds up his honorary shadow box with Chief Master Sgt. Glen Robinson, during his retirement ceremony, at Lajes Field, June 16, 2011. (Photo by Tech. Sgt. Chyrece Campbell)

"Graciosa" from page 3

of 120 stairs, built long ago with funds from the Prince of Monaco. After exploring Graciosa's weather patterns and discovering the cave, the prince used a rope to climb down inside. He promised to provide money for a staircase to be built so others could see the mystery below. The cave is definitely a site worth seeing. Once inside, there is a lake with cold water called the Furna do Enxofre, containing carbon monoxide. There is an alarm nearby which will sound if the carbon

monoxide gets too strong.

After visiting the caves, some people on the tour went to some nearby natural pools and cake shops, while others decided to take a flight home. I was one of those who chose to fly, as it was only a 20-minute plane ride, compared to a 3-hour boat ride.

Visiting Graciosa was definitely a great way to spend time during my weekend, and I'd highly recommend the experience to anyone interested in seeing one of the other Azorean islands. Adeus!

LAJES WARRIORS OF THE WEEK



Name: Eric Hall
Rank: Senior Airman
Unit: 65th ABW Command Post
Hometown: Portsmouth, R.I.
Duty Title: NCO in charge of training and emergency actions controller
Accomplishments: Senior Airman Hall is one of the most competent and reliable controllers in the 65th ABW Command Post. During his short time after being appointed to Training Manager, he has completely

revamped the training program from the bottom up. One of his efforts includes sweeping changes being implemented in the command post career field. Airman Hall is responsible for the training and certifying the ten controllers assigned to the 65th ABW/729th AMCC combined command post.



Name: Richard Kelly
Rank: Senior Airman
Unit: 65th ABW Command Post
Hometown: Pataskala, Ohio
Duty Title: Emergency actions controller
Accomplishments: Although Senior Airman Kelly arrived at Lajes Field less than a month ago, he has distinguished himself as an integral member of the command post. On his first shift, he coordinated base support for

two U.S. Marine Corps P-3 aircraft transiting Lajes Field on a high priority mission to the Area of Responsibility. He is responsible for maintaining all the command post's communications equipment, including telephone, base wide alerting systems, and UHF/VHF radio capabilities.

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



Col. Arch Bruns, 65th Mission Support Group commander, passes the 65th Logistics Readiness Squadron guidon to the incoming commander, Maj. Scott Hopper, during a change of command ceremony, June 22, 2011. (Photo by Lucas Silva)



Gen. Jose Pinheiro, Portuguese Air Force Chief of Staff, cuts the cake during the 70th anniversary celebration of Air Base 4, June 22, 2011. (Photo by Guido Melo)



Senior Airman Phillip Sneed, 65th Operations Support Squadron, marshals a German C-160 on the Lajes flightline June 28, 2011. (Photo by Lucas Silva)



Capt. Heather Foster, 65th Medical Operations Squadron, briefs Bruno Nogueira, 65th Air Base Wing Safety, on the condition of the simulated injured patients during an exercise at Lajes Field, Azores, June 24, 2011. (Photo by Lucas Silva)



Fifteen Lajes technical sergeant selectees pose for a group photo during the Tech. Sgt. promotion party held at the Top of the Rock Club at Lajes Field, Azores, June 24, 2011. (Photo by Lucas Silva)



Mark your calendar

OFFICIAL ONLINE LAUNCH JULY 4TH! When you stream "Lt. Dan Band: For The Common Good" - one out of every four dollars will be donated to The Gary Sinise Foundation which honors our nations defenders by supporting the USO, Operation International Children, Snowball Express, and other such charities and efforts that support the military, first responders and their families. Thank you for helping us give back to those willing to give all! <http://www.ltdanbandmovie.com/>



GOVERNMENT JOB OPPORTUNITIES: For up-to-date information of government job opportunities available at Lajes, please see the online Weekly Bulletin. You can also contact the Airmen and Family Readiness Center for guidance at 535-4138, and the 65th Force Support Squadron website contains numerous sites on base for additional job information.

65th AIR BASE WING PUBLIC AFFAIRS STRAIGHT TALK LINE: In the event of an emergency, please call DSN: 535-3542, or commercial 295-57-3542, to hear the latest information for base personnel to follow. You will be given instructions for actions to take and the appropriate precautionary measures to adhere to.

65th MDG INTERACTIVE CUSTOMER EVALUATION (ICE): The 65th MDG wants to hear from you! Please go to <http://ice.disa.mil/> to evaluate the services provided by the 65th Medical Group. Your feedback is used to improve our products and services. Thank you for your feedback.

65th MDG TRAINING DAY & TRICARE ONLINE: The 65th Medical Group and the appointment line will be closed on the 2nd Wednesday every month from 0800-1300 for unit training. Normal operations will resume at 1300 hours. As a reminder, TRICARE On-line (TOL) is always available as an option for appointment booking. All beneficiaries must register at www.tricareonline.com for an account. Call 535-3261 for questions.

BULLFIGHT SCHEDULE

Saturday, July 2: 6:30 p.m. Largo São João, Fontinhas
 Saturday, July 2: 6:30 p.m. Fonte do Bastardo
 Saturday, July 2: 6:30 p.m. Largo Santo Amaro, Ribeirinha
 Sunday, July 3: 6:30 p.m. Largo São João, Fontinhas
 Monday, July 4: 6:30 p.m. Rua Longa, Biscoitos
 Wednesday, July 6: 6:30 p.m. Bairro São Pedro, Biscoitos



AFN LAJES
ISLAND 96
 CH. 40 (ON-BASE CABLE)
 CH. 7 (OFF-BASE SATELLITE & 96.1 FM)

Feature

Phrase of the Week A LESSON IN PORTUGUESE



ENGLISH: I am sorry but I have to leave now. Thanks for everything.

PORTUGUESE: Desculpe mas tenho que sair agora. Obrigado por tudo.

PRONUNCIATION: Deshculpeh mash ten-yo keh say-ir agohra obrigado poor todo.

At the Movies



7 p.m. Friday - Madea's Big Happy Family

7 p.m. Saturday - Something Borrowed

4 p.m. Sunday - Water for Elephants

7 p.m. Sunday - Madea's Big Happy Family

Madea's Big Happy Family: Madea jumps into action when her niece, Shirley, receives distressing news about her health. All Shirley wants is to gather her three adult children around her and share the news as a family. But Tammy, Kimberly and Byron are too distracted by their own problems. It's up to Madea, to gather the clan together and make things right the only way she knows how: with a lot of tough love, laughter. Rated PG-13, 106 min.

Something Borrowed: Rachel is a talented attorney at a top New York law firm, a generous and loyal friend and, unhappily, still single as her engaged best friend Darcy is constantly reminding her. But after one drink too many at her 30th birthday party, perpetual good girl Rachel unexpectedly ends up in bed with the guy she's had a crush on since law school, Dex, who just happens to be Darcy's fiance. Rated PG-13, 112 min.

Water for Elephants: Veterinary student Jacob meets and falls in love with Marlena, a star performer in a circus in a bygone era. They discover beauty in the midst of the world of the big top, and come together through their compassion for a special elephant. Against all odds-including the wrath of Marlena's charismatic but dangerous husband, August-Jacob and Marlena find lifelong love. Rated PG-13, 120 min.

Movie times and schedule are subject to change. Call 535-4100 for the latest update.

ASK ED

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

By Eduardo Lima

Community Relations Advisor



Different colored flags at the beaches and swimming areas around the island

The different colored flags displayed at the beaches and swimming areas around the island indicate the swimming or wading conditions in those areas, namely a variety of hazards including strong waves or the presence of jellyfish in the water.

Green flags mean ocean conditions are favorable for wading and swimming. A yellow flag means it's dangerous to swim, but it's still okay to wade, and the red flag means it's forbidden to enter the water. A checkered flag indicates the beach is temporarily unattended. During exceptional and emergency situations, a checkered flag may also fly in conjunction with other flags. This indicates that you may swim at your own risk, but is not advisable. The following is a list of swimming areas on Terceira Island for residents and visitors:

- Praia Beach is the only sandy strip on the island and is located about five minutes from the base.
- Porto Martins offers a natural swimming hole with a small sandy area for children. A separate sunbathing area includes a ladder into the open ocean water and a diving board. It is located approximately 15 minutes southeast of the base.
- Salgueiros is another nice setting for swimming, picnics and camping. It is located 5 minutes further on the same road as Porto Martins.
- Salga Bay, the location of the famous battle that opposed the locals against the Spanish Armada that tried to invade the island in 1562, also features a small natural swimming hole and a camping site nearby.
- Bay of Silveira is another well known swimming area located on the west side of Mount Brazil in Angra.
- Negrito, the remains of an old 16th century fort, is located off the main road in São Mateus, the town after Angra.
- Cinco Ribeiras has a small sunbathing area located about five minutes past Negrito.
- Biscoitos is another highly popular swimming hole located about 30 minutes northwest of the base. It features unusual volcanic formations resulting from ancient eruptions and a large natural swimming hole that is ideal for children.
- Quatro Ribeiras and Vila Nova swimming areas are each located in their respective towns and both are very peaceful, pleasant locations that offer a magnificent view of the ocean.