



Force Protection



Current FPCON: Alpha
Threat Level: Low

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

 **926
SORTIES**

**18,911
LODGED** 

 **5.03 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 NE 10 mph
N 10 - 15 mph
High 81F / Low 72F

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

Mostly Cloudy / Partly Cloudy
Wind NE 5 mph
N 10 - 15 mph
High 79F / Low 72F

Lajes pharmacist saves 8-year-old Portuguese girl

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

"I believe fate put me in the place I needed to be that day."

This is what Thomas McKendrick said regarding his presence at the scene of an incident, where he helped save the life of an 8-year-old Portuguese girl on Terceira Island, Azores, Aug. 7.

Mr. McKendrick, a U.S. civilian pharmacist assigned to the 65th Medical Support Squadron, saved Marta from an untimely death after she fell about 20 feet off a platform of the pool onto the large rocks below, hitting her head.

Mr. McKendrick was accompanying his neighbor's children to a swimming hole in the local area. That day, according to him, the children were trying to decide which of Terceira's swimming holes they would go to. As fate would have it, they finally decided to go to Quatro Ribeiras.

While enjoying the afternoon, Mr. McKendrick was alerted by Leticia, one of his neighbor's children, he was needed immediately. She simply told him to hurry, and that someone needed help.

"When I arrived there, Marta's mother was crying and holding her," said Mr. McKendrick. "Everyone was just looking."

But Mr. McKendrick, who had worked in an emer-

gency room, had Emergency Management Training, and gone on many emergency runs when he was a volunteer with the Fire Department in Statham, Georgia, knew exactly what to do.

Realizing that any delay could be disastrous, he quickly responded, after gently parting his way through the bystanders.



(Far right) Thomas McKendrick, 65th Medical Support Squadron, visits 8-year-old Marta in Angra hospital Aug. 16 while Marta's father, Eduino Raposo, looks on. Mr. McKendrick saved Marta from an untimely death after she fell about 20 feet off a platform of the pool onto large rocks below, hitting her head. (Photo by Lucas Silva)

When he arrived at the scene, he noticed that Marta's lips were turning blue, and she was losing consciousness. "No one was trying or recognized what was happening to her," he said.

"When I got to Marta, she had a large cut on the head and was going into shock," he added. "I worked with her for about 15 minutes before the local ambulance got to her. I applied an emergency neck brace with a towel reversed around the neck. I

poured some water on the head wound to wash out the dirt and pieces of rock. I helped stop the bleeding on the child's forehead, and stayed with the child until the paramedics arrived."

Mr. McKendrick collected some towels and wrapped Marta up.

"I started rubbing her lower extremities to bring the blood back up," Mr. McKendrick said. "I just did not want her to go into shock."

According to Marta's mother, Sandra Raposo, if Mr.

To read more on "pharmacist" see page 4





Perspective

By Lt. Col. Shawn Cotton
65th Operations Support Squadron
commander

Over the past several weeks, I've had the pleasure of visiting individually with several Proud Bulls as they've finished their assignments at Lajes. During our chats, we discussed successes and challenges they experienced during their time here. Each provided astute observations about our squadron's daily operations. They identified areas where we are particularly strong, and with some prompting, they also offered insightful suggestions of ways we could improve. It was valuable conversation. But we talked about other topics too, such as art. Excuse me? Art? I must be kidding, right? Not kidding at all. We discussed paintings, to be more specific. Let me explain.

Have you ever looked at a very large painting, perhaps in a museum? If you get very close, you get a certain perspective. You can see each individual brush stroke, every detail. The paint may appear almost random. Or, there may be a pattern to it, even if indiscernible. If you move to another part of the

canvas, you may see a seemingly unrelated set of elements. The intent of the artist isn't even evident from such a close vantage. But the miracle happens as you back away to a distance from which you can recognize all of the elements coming together to form a masterpiece. You see the proverbial "big picture."

So it is with our daily contributions to the mission. It doesn't matter if we are active duty, civilian, local nationals or family members. Whatever our individual role, we each contribute vital functions that collectively become a work of art. If any element is missing, the painting is incomplete. Together, we form squadrons and a wing that accomplish a vital mission. On a grander scale, we provide for the defense of a nation and the principles of freedom and justice. We cannot overestimate the importance of what we do.

As we continue to execute the day-to-day mission while steadfastly preparing for an outstanding ORI, we must each keep our brushes busy. But we cannot forget that our contributions are part of something much bigger. So, from time to time, take a few steps back and look at what we're creating together. And what a masterpiece it is!

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

The relevance of OPSEC

By Maj. Robert Sweeney
65th Operations Support Squadron

During the Vietnam War, a special team was established to address the alarming number of pilot casualties and aircraft lost from enemy attacks. The team, known as "Purple Dragon," was established to take a critical look at operational tactics and mission planning. What the team eventually discovered was a host of "open source" information that linked aircraft call signs to mission related activities [or indicators]. Since the call signs were easily intercepted via radio transmissions, and behaviors were neither random nor cleverly concealed, enemy insurgents were able to accurately predict what, where, when and how missions would unfold.

Operations Security (OPSEC) became the moniker and the program established processes to protect key assets and critical information. The goal is to prevent competitors or adversaries from accurately deducing or predicting critical or sensitive information. The process includes not only identifying critical information, but analyzing threats and vulnerabilities to determine associated risks, and develop effective countermeasures to negate viable risks. It focuses on information or activities that require protection and assists in understanding how someone might attempt to acquire that information.

OPSEC is an important part of any successful organization. Blending OPSEC into everyday activities is important to satisfying mission requirements and accomplishing organizational goals. This is why the leadership at Lajes is reminding everyone here--servicemembers and civilians--to be mindful of any information

There are a million reasons to use OPSEC....



Some are real killers.

THINK BEFORE YOU SPEAK

that might violate OPSEC. What happens when OPSEC is violated? Omission of any OPSEC element results in a security program liable to provide inadequate protection or require unnecessary or expensive protection measures.

At the basic level, a combined definition of critical information can be summed up as, "a collection of absolutely necessary facts and data about a specific subject." An indicator can be defined as, "something observed or calculated that is used to show the presence of a condition or trend." The old World War II advertising

To read more on "OPSEC" see page 4



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

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Get to Know your School Liaison Officer *Feature*

By Laurie Salafia
Lajes Field Elementary/High School

Students from military families have a mobility rate of about 31 percent—nearly three times higher than the average American family. Sometimes moving produces negative academic and social pressure due to frequent relocations and the demands of military life, according to Department of Defense Education Activity reports.

Because of these statistics, there's a huge advantage of having a School Liaison Officer available to families. Also known as the "SLO," these resource personnel provide a vital connection between military families, school districts, DoDEA schools, and other community partners to promote quality education and academic support for military children and youth.

I serve the Lajes Field community in my role as a SLO, working as an advocate for the educational needs of our military children. I am the point of contact for military families seeking assistance with school-related matters—networking and partnering with the school, families and community to support school-aged children in their

educational experiences.

This program can be helpful to military families in transition and beyond. I work closely with other SLO's in USAFE and I am able to find resources that families might need, covering a wide array of services, such as transitions, deployment, and health and wellness.

One of the most important aspects of my work is my connection to local military commanders. Knowing the SLO is linked not only to the base commander but also to senior leadership, creates a foundation knowing we're working together to solve concerns—not only at the school level but at our community level as well.

Any Lajes Field family seeking more information about education opportunities or concerns that may impact their child's education, may contact me at: DSN 535-5711 or e-mail: lajesfield.slo@lajes.af.mil. My office is located in Building-T112.

The Department of Defense recognizes that education is a crucial key for many servicemembers who factor their child's educational opportunities into the equation when considering whether to accept an assignment.

Terceira Girl Scouts go on a journey



The Terceira-American Girl Scouts participate in their week-long summer camp at the Lajes Field base chapel, Aug. 12, 2011. (Courtesy Photo)

By April Legere
Terceira Girl Scouts Event Coordinator

The Terceira-American Girl Scouts held a week-long summer camp full of fun, education, and leadership activities. Nineteen Girl Scouts, ranging from Brownies to Cadettes, spent the week building their confidence and character while learning new ways to make the world a better place. The camp focused on the three keys of Girl Scouting: Discover, Connect, and Take Action. The camp was centered on a Girl Scout Journey; "It's Your World, Change It!" as defined by the Girl Scout Leadership Model. The Brownie Scouts theme focused on Brownie Quest, while the Junior Scouts theme was Agent of Change. Each group of girls had guest speakers, projects, and field trips specifically tailored to their level of learning. The highlight of the week was the closing awards ceremony, where the girls were able to showcase the

skills, songs, and projects they learned and completed during camp to their family and friends.

The Girl Scouts are also working on an international award called the Lady Baden Powell Award. The award encompasses developing lasting international relations with host nation scouts by making a change in our world.

Our service project during camp was to collect new or lightly used clothing articles for a local orphanage. This project helped us meet one of our LBP Award goals, which was, Take Action—planning and carrying out a community project that benefits the local community. In total, we collected over eight bags of clothing articles to be delivered, in conjunction with our Host Nation Scout Troop.

For more information on Girl Scouting at Lajes Field, feel free to contact Kristen Scharf or April Legere at: scharfk@aol.com or april.legere@gmail.com.



Do you know who these Wing Staff Agency members are?



1. Maj. Randall Schmedthorst, 65 ABW/Safety; 2. Maj. Russell Rowland, 65 ABW/Inspector General; 3. Maj. Hector Colon, 65 ABW/Chaplain; 4. Maj. Christina Jimenez, 65 ABW/Staff Judge Advocate; 5. Capt. Fred Doehle, 65 ABW/SARC; 6. 1st Lt. Mara Tittle, 65 ABW/Public Affairs.

In the event of an emergency, it's important to know who you can rely on.

"pharmacist" from page 1

McKendrick had not acted promptly, the child would have died on the way to the hospital.

"I am very thankful for the support and kindness of 'Doctor' Thomas for being there at the right time," Ms. Raposo said in Portuguese through a translator, Senhor Manuel Martins, 65th Air Base Wing.

Marta was taken to Angra hospital for treatment.

A few days after the incident (Aug. 11), Mr. McKendrick, with his neighbor, Paula, and two of her children, Letecias and Soraia, visited the young girl at the local hospital, where she was receiving treatment for other injuries sustained during the fall.

"We took her a Teddy bear and flowers," Mr. McKendrick said. "We discovered that Marta also had a lacerated liver and a broken left wrist, plus cuts and bruises all over her body. But she was alert and talking to me."

They also visited Marta Aug. 13, with a big bouquet of balloons. Ms. Raposo explained to them that Marta's right kidney wasn't working. Despite her tears, she was still saying "thank you" many times to the Lajes pharmacist for his heroic action, and for him taking his time to come back and see Marta.

"I was only Marta's angel for the day... I am not a hero," said Mr. McKendrick. "I only did what I have been trained to do, because God put me where I needed to be on that day."

"OPSEC" from page 2

campaign is simple, but true... "Loose Lips Sink Ships." OPSEC is everyone's responsibility; we must all do our part to manage our unit's critical information and adhere to the countermeasures in place to protect information or capabilities. Each unit has a developed listing of critical information (also known as a Critical Information List) along with associated countermeasures to manage their indicators. CILs present unclassified categories of information and should be easily accessible in each unit.

Whether in times of war or peace, we must all be careful to recognize what a unique role we all play for this wing and the U.S. Air Force. Each member of Team Lajes is an important brick in the foundation of

our mission. As such, when one of those bricks has compromised its mass or integrity, the foundation is no longer secure. When we operate under the old premise of "loose lips sink ships," we protect those men and women executing the tactical requirements at all levels, so they are free to operate in an uncompromised environment. The next time you are sitting at your terminal, engaging in friendly conversation locally or over the telephone, or posting something on Facebook, think critically about the information you convey. If someone was listening or watching, are you perhaps compromising or inadvertently divulging critical information? Disclosure by multiple areas or people can easily tear down the countless number of hours spent on managing information. Be careful, and most importantly, be aware.

LAJES WARRIORS OF THE WEEK



Name: Michael Wence
Rank: Airman 1st Class
Unit: 65th Communications Squadron
Hometown: Enfield, Conn.
Duty Title: Radio Frequency Transmissions System technician
Accomplishments: This is Airman 1st Class Wence's first duty station. His professionalism and motivation have proven to be a key asset to the 65th CS squadron. He works in Com-

munication Operations Transmission, which provides High Frequency Global Communication for Distinguished Visitor and President of the United States aircraft in transit over the Atlantic Ocean, maintains the Mark IV B defensive Weather Satellite System, and maintains the Land Mobile Radio system for the 65th ABW. He was part of a select few Airmen that have presented mission briefings to USAFE DV's, including General Welsh. They are now recognized by leadership across USAFE.



Name: Lucas Silva
Rank: LGS-05
Unit: 65th ABW/PA
Hometown: Santa Luzia, Terceira
Duty Title: Photographer
Accomplishments: Sr. Lucas Silva started working with the Public Affairs office in April, 2011, and has been an extraordinary asset to the team. During his short time, he has provided expert photography coverage for 150+ shoots, including aircraft foot-

age, base ceremonies and events, photo appointments, etc. He is also a skilled graphic designer, and has produced layouts for the Crossroads Xtra newsletter. His in-depth technical expertise with video editing software (including Adobe and Avid), Photoshop, and InDesign, have also proved invaluable. The PA team is very happy to have him onboard, and looks forward to seeing his creativity flourish.

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



Chaplain (Maj.) Hector Colon, 65th Air Base Wing, describes to Team Lajes how Air Force chaplains notify family members of the deceased during a memorial service held at the base Aug. 15 to honor 30 Americans killed in the Aug. 6 crash of a CH-47 Chinook helicopter in eastern Afghanistan. (Photo by staff Sgt. Olufemi Owolabi)



Senior Airman David Johnson, 65th Civil Engineer Squadron, receives a name plate Aug. 2 from Col. Jose Rivera, 65th Air Base Wing commander, for scoring 100 percent on his physical assessment test. The name plate will be placed on the 100 Club Board, located in the base gym. (Photo by Lucas Silva)



The 65th Operations Support Squadron team poses for a photo at the Top of the Rock Club after being presented with the Intramural Softball League Championship and Post-Season Champs trophy by Col. Jose Rivera, 65th Air Base Wing commander and Chief Master Sgt. Curtis Storms, 65th Air Base Wing command chief, Aug. 12, 2011. (Photo by Lucas Silva)



A cultural group, Cultural Association Tajaraste from the Tenerife Island, Spain, performs a traditional dance as part of the 2011 Folklore Festival program at the Community Activity Center Aug. 9. (Photo by Lucas Silva)



An arctic C-130 Hercules from New York National Guard parked on the Lajes ramp Aug. 16, after transporting spare parts for another C-130 with an engine oil leak. (Photo by Lucas Silva)



Mark your calendar

SOCCER TOURNAMENT: The fitness center is hosting a soccer tournament, Aug 22-26 at the running track. You still have a chance to sign up--the registration deadline has been extended to Aug. 19, 2011. As of right now, there are five teams (CES, SFS, BA4, SMAC and COMM). Remember the tournament points garnered will count toward the Commander's Cup Program. For questions, call 535-2424.



SPOUSES' CLUB MEMBERSHIP DRIVE: The Lajes Spouses' Club is holding a membership drive Aug 23 from 6:30- 8:30 p.m. at the Warrior Park. Bring the whole family for carnival games, prizes, dunk tank and special leadership guests. If you are interested in becoming a member of the spouses' club, come on over and check us out.

YOUTH SPORTS PHYSICALS DAY: The 65th Medical Group Youth Sports Physicals Day is scheduled for Aug. 24-25 from 7:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. All children planning on participating in youth sports this coming school year need to sign up by calling the medical appointment line at 535-3261, option 1. The last day to sign up is Monday, Aug. 22, 2011. Medical and school forms to be filled out ahead of time are available via email, at the Post Office or at the Medical Clinic check-in desk, Building: T-416. **VA BENEFITS TELECONFERENCE:** A VA Benefits teleconference is scheduled for Aug. 31 from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. for active-duty members who are one year from separating or two years from retirement. Open to all veterans, service members and their families. Call 535-4138 for details.

5-K RUN COMMEMORATING SEP. 11: On Sept. 9, there will be a 5K run; show time is 7:00 a.m. at the Fitness Center. Registration is required for military members to be eligible for awards. If you would like to be eligible for the awards given at the end, you must preregister with your unit's POC. Everyone else may register the day of the event. If you have any further questions, please call 535-5177.

9/11 REMEMBRANCE CEREMONY: A Sept. 11 Remembrance Ceremony is scheduled for 11 a.m. at the Base Chapel Friday, 9 September 2011. Uniform: UOD (Military) or Business Casual (Civilians) POC: Capt Mark Paine, DSN 535-6206.



Phrase of the Week A LESSON IN PORTUGUESE



ENGLISH: Do you have this item larger (smaller)?

PORTUGUESE: Tem este artigo num tamanho maior (mais pequeno)?

PRONUNCIATION: Tem eshtay arteego noom tahmon yo miegor (mash puhkenoo)?

At the Movies



- 7 p.m. Friday - Cars 2
- 7 p.m. Saturday - Bad Teacher
- 4 p.m. Sunday - Cars 2
- 7 p.m. Sunday - Bad Teacher



CARS 2: Star racecar Lightning McQueen and the incomparable tow truck Mater take their friendship to exciting new places when they head overseas to compete in the first-ever World Grand Prix to determine the world's fastest car. Rated G, 106 min.



BAD TEACHER: A comedy centered around a foul-mouthed, junior high teacher who, after being dumped by her sugar daddy, begins to woo a colleague -- a move that pits her against a well-loved teacher. Rated R, 92 min.

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

BULLFIGHT SCHEDULE



- Friday, Aug. 20: 6 p.m. Posto Santo
- Saturday, Aug. 20: 9:30 p.m. Port of São Mateus
- Sunday, Aug. 21: 6 p.m. Port of São Mateus
- Tuesday, Aug. 23: 6 p.m. São Brás
- Tuesday, Aug. 23: 6 p.m. Fonte do Bastardo
- Wednesday, Aug. 24: 6 p.m. São Brás
- Wednesday, Aug. 24: 6 p.m. Fonte do Bastardo
- Thursday, Aug. 25: 6 p.m. Fonte do Bastardo

ASK ED

A column that looks at the culture and history of the Azores.
By Eduardo Lima
Community Relations Advisor



Question: Is it true the Azoreans used to hunt whales, but it's now banned?

The Azoreans, especially from the central and western group of islands, hunted whales for many decades as a means of subsistence.

The ban on this activity in Portuguese waters was officially established through a decree in 1981 when Portugal ratified the International Convention for the Preservation of Wildlife and Natural habitats in Europe. However, the whale hunting activity continued in the Azorean waters until 1984.

The international ban on whale products, namely oil and scrimshaw, eventually helped to cease that type of activity, although with much reluctance from the local population.

Whalers were reluctant to accept the government's ban because it meant the loss of their business, and as form of protest they caught three sperm whales in 1987, which were the last whales hunted in the Azores.

Presently, whaling is totally non-existent in the archipelago. In 1992 the Regional Department for Tourism created the Whaler's Museum and a whale watching program in the village of Lajes on the Island of Pico, with the purpose of attracting tourists and to compensate the island's economy for the loss of the whaling activity.

The Whaler's Museum is a small building whose façade resembles an old whalers' tavern, and features a whaling boat, photos and videos as well as many tools used by the island whalers.

The whale watching in the Azores is now a profitable activity, which attracts many tourists to the islands, especially to Pico and Faial. These tourists come mainly from mainland Portugal and Europe to observe the different types of whales, as well as dolphins, which are also very abundant in these waters.