



## Force Protection



Current FPCON: Alpha  
Threat Level: Low

"6-5...  
**IN THE FIGHT!"**  
FY 2012



102  
SORTIES

1,907  
LODGED



577K  
gallons  
FUEL ISSUED

In a real-world  
emergency, call the  
Public Affairs Straight  
Talk Line, **535-3542**.

Don't drink and drive; call  
LADD: 295 57 LADD

### 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  
Wind NW 25-35 mph  
S 10-20 mph  
High 63F / Low 61F

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

Mostly Cloudy  
Partly Cloudy  
Wind NW 15 mph  
S 10 mph  
High 63F / Low 61F

## Tops in Blue thrills Lajes audience



Tops in Blue performs for Airmen and families Nov. 27 at Lajes Field, Azores, Portugal. (Photo by Guido Melo)

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

Tops in Blue brought "Rhythm Nation" to the Air Base 4 hangar of Lajes Field, Azores, Nov. 27, filling the night with various styles of music and lots of crowd-pleasing entertainment.

Drummers opened the show on the ground floor, drawing in the audience with a drumline cadence and similar acts as seen in the 2002 film, *Drumline*.

Players of brass instruments, guitars and drums lined the stage balcony as the performers danced and sang through a number of musical genres from the early 1900s all the way into today's hit music – swing, jazz, disco, pop, rhythm and blues, etc.

Rock and roll legends Elvis Presley, Buddy Holly, Chuck Berry and Little Richard took over the stage as the women of Tops in Blue dressed in 1950s outfits acted as excited fans of the artists.

With hands in the air, the crowd rocked from side to side to a fast-paced rendition of the 1965 hit "Sugar Pie, Honey Bun."

"I love this song," said retired Chief Master Sgt. Cynthia Burney of the 1974 international hit single "When Will I See You Again?" Ms. Burney is a member of the 65th Force Support Squadron.

Performers serenaded and danced with members of the audience to songs, such as "At This Moment," which was first recorded in 1981, and "On the Floor" by artist Jennifer Lopez, released in 2011.

"The show is high energy and loads of fun," said Senior Airman Kristina Overton, a Tops in Blue vocalist from Malmstrom AFB, Mont. "There's something in it for absolutely everybody watching and participating with us."

"We bring the show to everybody around the world,"

she said. "Our job is to lift morale and do whatever we can to bring families and people throughout the installation together and boost morale wherever we go."

Tech. Sgt. Derek Breaux from the 65th Air Base Wing Command Post and his wife, Jenny, said they enjoyed the show very much.

Breaux said, "The drums in the beginning of the show were probably the best part because it was something different than all the other shows."

"And we've been to at least 16," his wife chimed in. "The whole show was great."

"It was almost like a pep rally where you get the drums out and then just start going," Sergeant Breaux said.

Twelve-year-old Kayla Rock had the opportunity to dance with a Tops in Blue member that night.

Her father, Tech. Sgt. Mack Ream from the 65th Operations Support Squadron, said, "Loved it! It's the first time in five years I've been able to enjoy it with my family; I've been deployed every other year."

According to Staff Sgt. Mark J. Linquist, a male vocalist from Hickam AFB, Hawaii, the team will travel to a total of 140 different locations across the world this year.

"My favorite part of the show is always the audience's response; it's exciting to see the smiles of the people all over the planet," he said. "Some Portuguese were in the audience tonight, and, of course, some American personnel as well. Music transcends any barriers that exist between languages and countries... It's exciting to be here at Lajes, see how the Portuguese work with the Americans and how the Americans can exist on foreign soil."

At the conclusion of the event, Col. Dave Parr, 65th ABW vice commander, thanked Tops in Blue for venturing out into the middle of the Atlantic Ocean to put on a great show for Team Lajes.



# Have you had your M & Ms this month?

By Senior Master Sgt. David Harvatin  
65th ABW Career Assistance Advisor



Have you ever passed out candy and watched the smiles on people's faces? What motivates you to do it? You might say you do it to make people happy or to have an impact on someone's day, even if it's for a short time. One candy that can have that effect is M & Ms. Just like M & Ms, it is our job as Senior NCOs and NCOs to develop and have impact on the junior ranks so they can replace us when the time comes. Effective mentoring is one way of having an impact on someone's day even if it is for a short time. But what exactly is mentoring? Mentoring is a relationship where a person with more experience and wisdom guides another person's development, both personal and professional. Mentoring benefits the individual by helping someone reach his or her full potential. It provides a time when principles, traditions, shared values, and lessons of our profession can be passed on.

The 65th ABW has a program to provide general mentoring to the entire enlisted ranks twice a month. The program was developed by a 15-person Tiger Team and surveys sent to the entire base enlisted populous. Utilizing the team's inputs and the responses from the survey, the theme of "M & Ms" was created, along with the phrase "Come and Get Your M & Ms at Lunch and Learn!" It means come and get your Monday mentorship at lunch and learn.

It's a brown bag lunch hour held at the Education Center Auditorium to provide some of the basic mentoring tools you as either a mentor or protégé might need. Some of the subjects covered are: How to be a good Mentor or Protégé, Goal Setting, Time Management, How to Overcome Test Anxiety, Conflict Resolution in the Work Place, Communication and Assertiveness and Building Resiliency.

According to AFI 36-3401 para 2., mentoring helps prepare people for the increased responsibilities they will assume as they progress in their careers. Mentoring is not a promotion enhancement program. Protégés normally seek out mentors who are highly driven and intrinsically motivated. Mentors get Airmen to pursue excellence and believe hard work pays off. Mentors must be good motivators with a gift of verbal persuasion and along with their protégés, must set obtainable, yet demanding goals. They should develop a strong rapport which involves trust and confidence on both ends. A good mentor charts a course, gives direction and develops the social and psychological environment to help his or her protégé along. The Team Lajes Mentorship Enhancement Program is designed to improve your mentorship skills; if you're not doing what was listed above, it will assist to improve your supervisory skills, increase self-confidence, and encourage ethical and exemplary leadership behavior. For more information, contact your wing Career Assistance Advisor and come get your M & Ms at lunch and learn!

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  
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.

Submissions can be e-mailed to 65abw.pa@lajes.af.mil or faxed to 535-6326 and are due the Thursday prior to the required publication date. Call 535-6161 for more details.

This Air Force funded newspaper is an authorized weekly publication for members of the U.S. military services overseas.

Contents of the Crossroads are not necessarily the official views of, or endorsed by, the U.S. Government, the Department of Defense or the Department of the Air Force.

All photographs are Air Force photographs unless otherwise indicated.

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Airmen, Ramsdell took a three-year break. "The most memorable thing is making a difference in young Americans' lives," Ramsdell said. "I've had trainees in BMT who literally had nothing to go home to. Others had mouths to

To read more on "Former TI" see page 4

# Former TI uses knowledge to shape Airmen at Lajes

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



Going back to Air Force Basic Military Training is not something everybody gets a chance to do often. An Airman here has been there twice after his initial enlistment.

Master Sgt. Christopher Ramsdell, 65th Logistics Readiness Squadron's fuels management flight Superintendent, returned to BMT because of his passion to help make a difference, but this time as an instructor.

According to Ramsdell, after attending BMT as a trainee, he saw the potential in Air Force BMT.

"I like the structure of BMT...a hard-core environment," said Ramsdell. "When I was a young recruit I was impressed by everything the MTIs did. They were intense, professional, energized and dedicated. They can turn a gaggle of unmotivated civilians into a dynamic and cohesive team."

The MTIs ability to transform what once looked like a herd into a disciplined formation attracted Ramsdell to join this team of Air Force trainers.

Ramsdell decided to become an MTI in 1999, and was assigned to the 321st Training Squadron. After spending five years shaping



# Operation Pumpkin Patrol



Portuguese children line up en masse outside the Nascer do Sol gate of Lajes Field base housing, Oct. 31, 2011. Every Halloween night at Lajes Field for the past 50 years, approximately 1,800 Portuguese local nationals and a thousand members from the base populace participate in this joint trick-or-treating event. (Courtesy photo)

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

There are few holidays celebrated by both Portuguese and U.S. citizens together. Although Halloween isn't traditionally a Portuguese holiday, every Oct. 31 at Lajes Field for the past 50 years, approximately 1,800 Portuguese local nationals and a thousand members from the base populace participate in a joint trick-or-treating event within base housing.

Not only is it a host nation celebration for the 2,800 children involved, but it takes a dual team of U.S. and Portuguese members to make sure it all runs safely.

"There were roughly 60 volunteers, made up of the 65th Security Forces Squadron, Portuguese security forces, the Esegur Security Company and base volunteers," said Master Sgt. Nikki Drago, 65th SFS, of the "Operation Pumpkin Patrol" event.

Each year it takes a lot of coordination to prepare for the sheer number of people who come out, including interaction between the 65th Air Base Wing and Portuguese Air Base No. 4.

"We had multiple meetings with wing leadership, and I met with the host nation security forces and Esegur (housing security company) to discuss posting requirements to cover the housing area and what we were allowed to do in the event of an emergency or disorder," said Drago. "We also covered what gates to keep open and closed

to provide the best entry and exit procedures, and determined a parking area that would keep the local nationals safe and away from the main road."

Some protective measures implemented this year by 65th SFS were using all-terrain vehicles (4 x 4s) and bike patrols. According to Drago, this allowed for speedy response in case of emergency, and they could cover a lot of open areas quickly.

"It was nice to have additional patrols out there to help with the crowd control," said Donna Maler, 65th Air Base Wing Protocol, who's participated in the Lajes trick-or-treating event several times during the past ten years. Along with numerous other Lajes Field members, Maler considers the occasion to be a very unique experience.

"Hundreds of children all at one time--you just don't see that in the United States," said Maler.

According to Drago, the secret to making it all come together is the seamless cooperation between the U.S. and Portuguese security forces teams. He said that Operation Pumpkin Patrol helps to solidify the bond between the two groups.

"Also, without the base populace assisting us with this event, it would be very hard to cover all the open areas off base and in housing," said Drago. "These 30 volunteers are very important to the success of this event," he said.

And that success can be seen in the smiles on the children's faces--both Portuguese and American.



## 100% PT Test

Capt. Michael Bingham, 65th Medical Operations Squadron, performs sit-ups during a physical training exercise at the Lajes Field Track, Oct. 31. Bingham recently scored 100 percent on his Air Force PT test. (Photo by Lucas Silva)



"Former TI" from page 2

feed and had lost a home. Some were spoiled brats; they were all the same once they entered my world."

According to him, each time the trainees endured the training to become Airmen, he was always excited. "I'd tell them how proud I was of them, that they succeeded in becoming a member of the most elite team in the world," he added. "And instead of thanking me, I'd tell them that they needed to get out there and pay it forward. Then I chased them onto the bus, and it was time for a new herd."

With these memories Ramsdell needed no encouragement when he returned again to BMT in 2007. After leaving the job this year for an assignment at Lajes, the former MTI is still making a difference and building warrior Airmen.

"I never knew the impact I had on anyone's career until returning to Fuels after leaving the MTI Corps," said Ramsdell. "I had a couple (of Airmen) who are now officers. Five Airmen have informed me they were promoted to senior airman below-the-zone, and they thanked me for all I did for them. I've had four former trainees become MTIs and I've inspired two Fuelies to do so. Upon my return to the MTI Corps for my second tour I ended up teaming with a former dorm chief in one of my flights during my first tour. I was proud to see that he was almost as scary as me."

Apart from being able to help build future Airmen, for Ramsdell the job of a MTI has its personal rewards. The job helps in every aspect of an Airman's career, he said. "I have much experience in time management, team building, dealing with adversity, counseling, leading and motivating Airmen," Ramsdell added. "The activities I performed on a daily basis and the knowledge I gained in various areas, such as dress and appearance, drill and ceremonies, speaking in front of people, and the ability to exploit individuals' talents to form a better cohesive and dynamic team, are instrumental outside of BMT."

To some Ramsdell might not appear as a people person, but his



Master Sergeant Christopher Ramsdell, 65th Logistics Readiness Squadron, leads his flight during a Basic Military Training parade ceremony at Lackland AFB, July, 2008. (Courtesy photo)

caring attitude definitely surpasses his social outlook. "I care deeply and have a passion to take care of those entrusted to my charge," he said. "They don't just work for me, I work for them. Being a MTI has given me a successful Air Force career that I would not change."

He attributes his success as a MTI to having a can-do attitude and confidence. He also said having a supportive family is another reason for his great TI and military career.

Rising early and arriving home late are some of the things TIs and their family encounter. But, with wife, Cecilia, Ramsdell had the peace of mind that allowed him to go for a second term as an instructor. Ramsdell credited his wife for bearing the entire burden during his MTI career. "The impact of an MTI duty is immensely tough on a family," he said.

"My wife has compared my duty hours while I was an MTI to that of being deployed," said Ramsdell, who has also deployed multiple times despite his MTI job. "Although she saw me when I came home at night, I barely saw her. I would arrive well past dark, eat, shower, nap and rise while it was still dark and work seven days a week, sometimes months at a time. I heard MTIs say they can't imagine doing the job with a family. What's strange is I couldn't imagine doing it without mine to go home to. I owe at least half of my achieved glory and success to Cecilia Ramsdell."

He has further advice for those aspiring to be a MTI. "If you do it for the extra pay, a controlled tour in San Antonio, or to be near family or get that special-duty out of the way, you'll most likely regret it," Ramsdell said. "If you have the desire to work with the best across the enlisted corps, do it. Be prepared to dedicate four years of your career to BMT. The future success of the enlisted corps depends on that dedication. If you haven't started a family, wait. If you already have one, sit down with them first because it's a decision all of you must make. The idea is to give it all you've got for four years and move on, with your career and family intact."

# LAJES WARRIORS OF THE WEEK



**Name:** Cerese Holes  
**Rank:** GS-6  
**Unit:** 65th MSG Staff  
**Hometown:** Rapid City, S.D.  
**Duty Title:** 65th MSG Commander's secretary  
**Accomplishments:** Mrs. Cerese Holes is the secretary and glue of the 65th Mission Support Group. She performs office automation duties to support six squadrons with their

daily administrative requirements. She processes Exchange and Commissary passes, staff summary and fund raising packages, while coordinating and scheduling meetings within the 65th MSG and with the wing to ensure mission completion. Cerese stays involved in all aspects of the group, stepping up as ticket sales representative, organizing group golf tournaments, volunteering to work unit fund raisers, and going-aways for 65th MSG personnel and leadership. That is what makes Cerese Holes the backbone of the 65th MSG Staff.



**Name:** Melanie Gibson  
**Rank:** Senior Airman  
**Unit:** 65th MSG Additional Duties Cell  
**Hometown:** Lumberton, N.J.  
**Duty Title:** Addition Duty Cell Program Manager  
**Accomplishments:** Senior Airman Melanie Gibson hits the ground running and gets the job done! She has recently come from Lackland AFB,

and is assigned to the 65th MSG Additional Duties Cell, where she is in charge of multiple programs such as Defense Travel Service for MSG, and six other units. She also manages the OPSEC, Security Manger and Drug Demand Reduction programs for the group. She was a key player during the ORI for OPSEC; her achievements helped garner three strengths and "Excellent" rating for the 65th ABW. Her goals for this short tour are to complete her 7 level and CCAF degree.



A C-17 Globemaster III from the 305th Air Mobility Wing parks at Lajes Field flightline after transporting the Air Force entertainment band, Tops in Blue, which performed here Oct. 27. (Photo by Lucas Silva)



Heidi Angermeier, spouse of Timothy Angermeier, 65th Contracting Flight, runs a magic booth at this year's Fall Festival held at the CAC on Sunday, October 30th, 2011, Lajes Field Air Force Base, Portugal. Kids and adults dressed up to celebrate Halloween and participate in various activities, such as a bean bag toss, cake walk and costume contest. (Photo by Staff Sgt. Erica Horner)



Base members make their way into the 65th Civil Engineer Squadron's Haunted House that ran from Friday, October 28th to Sunday, October 30th, 2011. This year the haunted house raised over \$3,000 and funds will go towards future 65th CE charities. (Photo by Staff Sgt. Erica Horner)



Lajes' newest promotees pose for a photo after being presented their stripes at the Monthly Promotion Ceremony at the Community Activity Center, Oct. 31. (Photo by Lucas Silva)



## Mark your calendar

### PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT SEMINAR:

T-146 Education Center Auditorium at 11 a.m. Monday, Nov. 7 – Time Management Monday, Nov. 14 & 28 – Overcoming Test Anxiety (testing for promotion). The Professional Development seminar is a 45-minute to one-hour seminar designed to improve mentorship skills, supervisory skills, increase self-confidence, and encourage ethical and exemplary leadership behavior. For more information, contact SMSgt David Harvatin at 535-6197 or david.harvatin@lajes.af.mil.



### T-100 PARKING LOT UNDERGOING CONSTRUCTION:

Beginning Monday, Nov. 7, the front parking lot of building T-100 will undergo construction. Parking in the rear and the side of the building will still be available. The construction project is expected to last 90 days.

**MARTIN LUTHER KING BIRTHDAY:** The MLK Observance Committee will host a meeting in bldg T-202, EO/SARC classroom Nov. 8 at 10 a.m. to plan an event in observance of MLK's Birthday. All are welcome to bring ideas and suggestions.

**LAJES BASE HOUSING FACILITIES EXCELLENCE:** Nov. 9 & 10 – 9 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

Visit the Self Help Store in Bldg T-521 for a few free items – bushes, shrubs, lava rocks, stepping stones, potting soil – as well as tools for loan, such as shovels, rakes, lawn mowers and pressure washers. (All Housing Self Help items and events are limited to on-base Military Family Housing residents.)

**HOLIDAY MAIL / PARCEL DEADLINE – POST OFFICE:** Members are advised to ship two weeks prior to the USAFE standard for the 2011 Holiday Season. Thursday, Nov. 10 – Space-available mail Tuesday, Nov. 22 – First class / Priority mail. For more information, contact Master Sgt. Michael Huston at 535-1205.

### FINANCIAL WORKSHOPS PRESENTED BY: PENTAGON

**FEDERAL CREDIT UNION:** T-126 Airman and Family Readiness Center at 9 a.m. Friday, Nov. 18 – Car Financing / Friday, Dec. 9 – Basic budget Friday, Dec. 16 – Car Financing. To register, call the AFRC at 535-4138.

**PING PONG TOURNAMENT:** There is a Ping Pong Tournament at the Solid Rock Oasis, Bldg T-307, Nov. 18 at 2 p.m. sponsored by the Solid Rock Oasis Airman Ministry Center. For more information, call 535-4019.

### COMMISSARY OPEN ON

**THANKSGIVING:** The commissary will be open from 10 a.m. to 7 p.m. the Monday prior Thanksgiving, Nov. 21, and from 10a.m. to 4p.m. on Thanksgiving Day.



## Phrase of the Week A LESSON IN PORTUGUESE



**ENGLISH:** Good evening. A table for four people, please.

**PORTUGUESE:** Boa noite. Uma mesa para quatro pessoas por favor.

**PRONUNCIATION:** Bohuh noit. OOmuh MAY sah PAR uh KWAR too pess OH ahsh, pohr fuh VOR.

## At the Movies



**7 p.m. Friday** - Closed

**7 p.m. Saturday** - The Debt

**4 p.m. Sunday** - Colombiana

**7 p.m. Sunday** - The Help

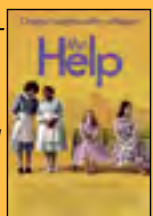
**The Debt:** In 1997, shocking news reaches retired Mossad secret agents Rachel and Stefan about their former colleague David. All three have been venerated for decades by their country because of the mission that they undertook back in 1966, when the trio tracked down Nazi war criminal Vogel in East Berlin. At great risk, and at considerable personal cost, the team's mission was accomplished - or was it? Rated R, 113 Minutes.



**Colombiana:** A young woman grows up to be a stone-cold assassin after witnessing her parents' murder as a child in Bogota. She works for her uncle as a hitman by day, but her personal time is spent engaging in vigilante murders that she hopes will lead her to her ultimate target - the mobster responsible for her parents' death. Rated PG-13, 103 Minutes.



**The Help:** Skeeter, a southern society girl who returns from college determined to become a writer, but turns her friends' lives - and a small Mississippi town - upside down when she decides to interview the black women who have spent their lives taking care of prominent southern families. Rated PG-13, 137 Minutes.



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



### Why are some of the chimneys seen on older Terceira Island homes A-shaped and what is the purpose of the rock walls that divide the fields?

To answer the first part of the question, the shape of some of the chimneys on Terceira Island, as in other islands, is related with the customs of architectural styles brought to the Azores by the first settlers.

Those settlers came from different regions of mainland Portugal and even France, whose architecture was influenced by other peoples who lived in the Iberian Peninsula, as is the case of the Moors in the southern province of Algarve.

In the case of Terceira, the chimneys look very similar to the ones in the mainland province of Alentejo. Some schools of thought have it that the first settlers who colonized Terceira came from that Portuguese region, hence the reason why the chimneys are shaped that way. However, there's no historical or any other kind of proof this is the case.

Addressing the second half of the question, the rocks that make up the stone walls obviously come from the ground.

As the first settlers were trying to clear up the fields to make them fit for crop growing, they removed the rocks from the ground surface they were tilling, and used them to divide the land. In the Azores, sometimes small portions of land belong to many land owners, and there's a need to divide the fields. The rock walls also make a good cover to protect the crops from the winds that sometimes blow hard, especially during the winter months.