

Border Eagle

Vol. 51, No. 46

www.laughlin.af.mil

Nov. 21, 2003

Laughlin's ramp gets \$4.6 million makeover

By Airman 1st Class
Yvonne Clark
Staff Writer

Demolition of Laughlin's 45-year-old flight-line ramp began Saturday after a 1997 civil engineering site survey indicated its condition could increase foreign object damage to the aircraft here.

MKG Construction Company started the \$4.6 million-dollar, nine-month project to update the ramp and taxiway, which will be conducted in five phases to ensure portions of the ramp remain available for aircraft parking.

The first phase will include the replacement of the ramp from Anderson Hall to the fire station, a 35-foot-wide area near the inside taxiway and a new welcome T-pad.

"The apron [was] worn beyond reasonable repair capabilities," said



Photo by Airman 1st Class Timothy J. Stein

Jack Hoevel of Pieces Breaking Service out of St. Louis uses a guillotine concrete breaker to break up the ramp in front of Anderson Hall. The tear down of the ramp is the first phase of the five phase ramp project.

Robert Estrada, 47th Civil Engineer Squadron lead engineer. "Over time all pavements, such as highways, runways and aprons, begin to deteriorate due to wear and tear and the effect of environmental elements on them."

In addition to failures in the concrete, joints and sealants of the ramp, the depth of the concrete was 6 inches,

which limits heavier aircraft from parking on it.

"The new apron will have a concrete depth of 11 inches, which will allow heavier transient aircraft to park on it," said Mr. Estrada. "The high potential for FOD that currently ex-

See Ramp, page 4

Laughlin cops, working dog deploy

By Airman 1st Class
Yvonne Clark
Staff writer

Although deployments usually mean seeing new faces, 14 Laughlin security forces members and one military working dog will see familiar faces throughout their deployment.

The security forces members deployed as a group to defend a Middle East air base this week.

While eight of the members deployed for the first time, 23-year Air Force veteran, Master Sgt. Prince A. Smith, 47th Security Forces Squadron

operations superintendent, said deployments are nothing new to him.

"Being deployed before, you pretty much know what you need to do," said Sergeant Smith. "Deployments are basically the same, but they always bring new challenges. Every location has different criteria to carry out the mission."

Sergeant Smith said it's important to both take and bring back knowledge each deployment.

"[We] all have the basic knowledge of how to defend a base and employ weapons," he said. "I hope [those deploying for the first time] can take

the training they've had so far and apply it."

Airman 1st Class Boniface Sapno, 47th SFS reports and analysis section leader, said he looks forward to applying the training he has received.

"I haven't been on a deployment, so I want to be prepared to share my experiences with the younger troops once I become an NCO," he said.

Airman Sapno began two months ago, once he was notified of the deployment. He said asking questions of those who are experienced with de-

See Deploy, page 4

Newslines

Laughlin mourns death

The 47th Flying Training Wing extends its deepest sympathy to the family and friends of Graig Shipley, 47th Maintenance Directorate.

Substitute teacher workshop scheduled

The San Felipe-Del Rio Consolidated Independent School District is holding an employment information workshop for substitute teachers from 8:30 a.m. to noon Monday at the Family Support Center conference room.

Applicants will be able to fill out applications for para-professional/professional positions, undergo transcript reviews and determine the procedures for converting out-of-state teaching degrees to Texas credentials.

Participants with four-year non-teaching degrees will receive alternative certification information and undergo background checks.

For more information or to R.S.V.P., call 298-5620.

Cookie caper needs cookies

The Command Officers Spouses Club is seeking cookie donations for its annual cookie caper. People can drop off cookies Dec. 3 or 4 in the coolers at the end of the drives of 9019 or 9020 Arnold Boulevard or at the chapel's Fellowship Hall on the morning of Dec. 5 after 7 a.m.

Deployment stats

Deployed	Returning	Deploying
	30 days	30 days
55	11	2

Mission status

(As of Nov. 14)

Airframe	Days behind or ahead	Mission Capable Rate
T-37	-4.33	90.1%
T-1	1.91	82.0%
T-38	-0.53	81.4%
T-6	-4.53	89.6%

Tradition helps develop, define who we are

Holidays provide opportunities to reflect on service



Commander's Corner

By Lt. Col. Susan Baker
47th Medical Support Squadron commander

Tradition. Just one word, yet it sums up emotions, attitudes and actions that define some of what we do and who we are.

Thanksgiving is a traditional holiday, and Veterans Day is a traditional day of remembrance – I think those two days are my favorites of the entire year.

Veterans Day is an important day for me. Fifteen years ago, I spent my last Veterans Day at home after accepting an active-duty commission. My dad wasn't thrilled I'd decided to join the Air Force. He served during the Korean conflict and knew his "little girl" didn't need to be in the military.

So, on that Veterans Day, dad and I shared some beverages, and over the course of the afternoon and evening, we talked about why I wanted to run away to the military and what I hoped to gain from the experience.

That day, I learned about real heroes. My dad shared every one of his experiences ... from living near the Imperial Palace in Tokyo to sleeping under his line

truck outside of Seoul; from getting food and supplies the regular way to finding a local person who would sell a bushel of apples to some soldiers. He took me into his confidence, one warrior to another, and made me promise not to tell my mom. He said some of what he'd say would upset her. Now I know it would have.

He made me promise to call her every week. It's a promise I've kept. Interestingly though, he's usually the first one on the phone. He always asks two questions: "How's your buggy running?" and "Everything OK?" Then he'll tell me, "Give 'em heck, babe. Talk to your mom now." Tradition.

Thanksgiving holds the same type of memories for me. Thanksgiving is a casual holiday for us. Blue jeans, sweatshirts and enough food to have "planned overs" for a month.

Sometimes we are all around the table together, and sometimes we aren't together because of our schedules. The turkey may be done to perfection (thanks to my dad), or not cooked at all (just ask my sister). We may enjoy the meal in staggered shifts because some work days, others just got called to an emergency, and others are leaving soon to beat the traffic. But the air of celebration is still there, and Thanksgiving has always been an opportunity to remember just how good we have it. Tradition.

So, the weeks between Veterans Day

and Thanksgiving give me a chance to reflect on what I do, why I still serve, and what traditions I may someday leave my sons.

Thanks to those earlier heroes, we have enough to eat, my family has a safe place to sleep, and we can move around in relative freedom. Thanks to people who work on holidays, the electricity is on so we can cook and watch the game or the parade. Thanks to those who take on-call duties over the holiday, help is there when we need it. And, thanks to our heroes today, it will stay that way. Tradition.

Border Eagle commentaries

The Border Eagle encourages base members to contribute to their paper. Anyone wanting to write a commentary for the Viewpoints section of the paper is welcome.

Commentaries can be written about any aspect of Air Force life you find interesting. Commentaries should be 250 to 500 words in length. Public Affairs reserves the right to edit all submissions for length and clarity.

Commentaries for the Border Eagle should be submitted to the Public Affairs Office, building 338. The deadline to submit a commentary is close of business each Thursday, the week prior to publication. For more information, call 298-5393.

Border Eagle

Editorial Staff

Col. Dan Woodward
Commander

Capt. Dawnita Parkinson
Public affairs chief

2nd Lt. Sheila Johnston
Internal information chief

Airman 1st Class Timothy J. Stein
Editor

Airman 1st Class Yvonne Clark
Staff writer

The Border Eagle is published

every Friday, except the first week in January and the last week in December, by the Del Rio News-Herald, a private firm in no way connected with the U. S. Air Force, under exclusive written contract with the 47th Flying Training Wing, Laughlin Air Force Base, Texas.

This civilian enterprise Air Force newspaper is an authorized publication for members of the U.S. military services.

Contents of the Border Eagle 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. The appearance of advertising in this

publication, including inserts or supplements, does not constitute endorsement by the Department of Defense, the Department of the Air Force or the Del Rio News-Herald of the products or services advertised.

Everything advertised in this publication shall be made available for purchase, use, or patronage without regard to race, color or, religion, sex, national origin, age, marital status, physical handicap, political affiliation or any other nonmerit factor of the purchaser, user or patron.

Editorial content is edited, prepared and provided by the Public Affairs Office of the 47th Flying Training Wing. All photographs are Air Force

photographs unless otherwise indicated.

Deadlines, Advertising

News for the Border Eagle should be submitted to the 47th Flying Training Wing Public Affairs Office, Bldg. 338, Laughlin AFB, TX, 298-5262. **Copy deadline is close of business each Thursday the week prior to publication.**

Advertising should be submitted to the Del Rio News-Herald, 2205 Bedell, Del Rio, TX, 774-4611. Advertising should be submitted by 4 p.m. each Friday.

Submissions can be e-mailed to: timothy.stein@laughlin.af.mil or yvonne.clark@laughlin.af.mil.

AETC commander sends Thanksgiving greetings

By Gen. Don Cook
Air Education and Training Command commander

RANDOLPH AIR FORCE BASE – Thanksgiving is a unique American holiday. It is a special time for friends, family and neighbors to gather in fellowship, and to pause and give thanks for

the many blessings bestowed upon us.

We have much to be grateful for again this year: our families, our health, our good fortune and, most of all, our freedom.

It is the men and women in uniform, past and present, to whom we owe much thanks. As members of the armed forces, each of us is keenly

aware of the sacrifices it takes. We leave our families behind, missing first birthdays, 10th anniversaries and many special moments in our loved ones' lives. But, like our forefathers, we are comforted in knowing our contributions help protect this great nation.

I salute you and express my heartfelt thanks

for your continued service.

This Thanksgiving, many of our service members are once again far from home defending the very freedoms for which we are giving thanks. Let us keep them in our thoughts as we gather around the dinner table.

I also ask you to remember the families of

our deployed members, our students, our basic trainees, our single service members and those members who may not be traveling home this holiday weekend. Let us open our homes to them, as members of our extended Air Force family.

Diane and I wish you and your families a safe and joyous Thanksgiving celebration. God bless you all and thanks again for all you do.



Col. Dan Woodward
47th Flying Training Wing commander

Actionline 298-5351

This column is one way to work through problems that haven't been solved through normal channels. By leaving your name and phone number, you are assured of a timely personal reply. It's also very useful in case more information is needed in order to pursue your inquiry. If you give your name, we will make every attempt to ensure confidentiality when appropriate.

If your question relates to the

general interest of the people of Laughlin, the question and answer may also be printed in the Border Eagle.

Before you call the Actionline, please try to work the problem out through the normal chain of command or directly with the base agency involved.

Thanks for your cooperation, and I look forward to reading some quality ideas and suggestions.

Below are some useful telephone numbers that may be helpful when working your issue with a base agency.

AAFES 298-3176
Accounting and Finance 298-5204

Civil Engineer	298-5252
Civilian Personnel	298-5299
Clinic	298-6311
Commissary	298-5815
Dormitory manager	298-5213
EEO	298-5879
FWA hotline	298-4170
Housing	298-5904
Information line	298-5201
Legal	298-5172
MEO	298-5400
Military Personnel	298-5073
Public Affairs	298-5988
Security Forces	298-5900
Services	298-5810

Quiet hours

Question: I'm under the impression that quiet hours on base start at 10 p.m., yet recently I've heard unsuppressed T-1 engine runs on the south pad well after 10 p.m. and extending even later on non-night flying as well as night flying weeks. What exactly is the rule for quiet hours on base and can we address the fact that engine runs sometimes extend late into the evening and disrupt sleep for pilots as well as for their families?

Answer: I understand your concern and appreciate the opportunity to explain. The maintenance directorate makes all attempts to comply with the established quiet hours. On occasion, however, maintainers are required to

do engine runs after 10 p.m. That's because over the course of the day enough aircraft have "broken" or experienced system degradation that some aircraft must be repaired for the wing to accomplish its mission the following day.

While these conditions occur infrequently, we are sensitive to this issue and realize the only facility for T-1 engine runs is not far from the southern housing area. If engine runs are required after 10 p.m., the senior aircraft maintenance manager supervises the personnel involved in the process to ensure they expeditiously perform the requisite checks and terminate the operation when their work is done.

We apologize for any problems associated with the noise and appreciate your patience and understanding during those times the engine runs are necessary.

Cost of dump use

Question: I am a trailer park resident. I was wondering if anything could be done about the city dump. I found out today that since we don't have Moore Services doing our garbage anymore, we now have to pay to unload at the dump. I was wondering if the base could do anything to help with this.

Answer: The base recently changed refuse contractors and now uses Knox Services. The new contract allows for extra pickups for excess trash or oversized items (normally done on Wednesdays). To arrange an extra pickup of bulk items, residents simply need to call Tony Cantu, the 47th Civil Engineer Squadron quality assurance person (QAP), at 298-5275.

To use the city dump, residents who live outside Del Rio city limits (which includes Laughlin Air Force

Base) pay 1.5 cents per pound or \$24.83 per ton. This fee is new because the basic contract with Knox does not cover residential bulk-dumping fees, and Knox does not operate the landfill as the previous contractor (Moore Services) did. We hope the allowance of extra pickups is sufficient to meet your refuse needs without needing to go directly to the city dump. Please keep in mind that base people may use any dumpster on base at any time, although most base people use the dumpsters at the recycling center for disposal of excess refuse.

Detailed information on yard waste is provided in LAFB Pamphlet 32-4, which is issued to all housing residents when they are assigned to quarters. If you have any problems, please contact the housing office and your concerns will be forwarded to the QAP for action.

Ramp, from page 1

ists will also be negated.”

As with any construction in a highly active area, there are going to be some inconveniences, said Mr. Estrada.

“The obvious of these is less parking for the aircraft,” he said. There are also dump trucks and other [vehicles] bringing material and supplies to and from the job site adding to the traffic on base. However, we must keep in mind the reason for all this is to improve our apron rows, which directly benefits the flying mission here.”

With an improved ramp, free from cracks and breaks, the damage caused by FOD should go down significantly, Mr. Estrada said. Overall aircraft operations should run more smoothly and aircraft should spend less time in maintenance.

‘Got cans?’

Airman 1st Class Leslie Jones (left) and Senior Airman Anna Rodriquez, both of the 47th Maintenance Directorate, sort food items donated from Laughlin Air Force Base members as part of the dormitory airmen’s canned food drive. The items were delievered Tuesday to the Bethel Center in Del Rio to help the less fortunate. In total, 4,795 food items were collected.



Photo by Pat Watson

Deploy, from page 1

ploying helped relieve the anxiety.

“If I hadn’t asked around, I’d be nervous about going,” he said. “I’m ready, we’ve all been given everything we need.”

Airman Sapno’s deployment duties will be different

than the job he is used to here.

“My job is going to be an M249-gunner,” he said. “I’m qualified with the weapon, but we never actually take the weapon out [here]. As an M249-gunner, you provide cover for the riflemen while posted on a humvee or an elevated position. It’s something new.”

Airman Sapno said the three-day base exercise in October helped give those deploying the opportunity to work together in hostile conditions.

“We were all able to see how well we work together and the knowledge we all had as a team,” he said. “Our results from the exercise were

really good. People were really impressed. We’ll have a lot more to worry about [at the deployed location], so we’ll see how everybody works together.”

While the Laughlin security forces members mainly deal with law enforcement operations, Sergeant Smith said the troops have had suffi-

cient training to handle the operations they’ll be conducting.

“They’re going to show they’re capable of performing the mission there,” said Sergeant Smith. “I just want us to do the best job we’re capable of doing. Going as a team will also bring a personal additive to bolster morale.”

Volunteers needed

The Life Skills Support Center is looking for volunteers to become part of its Critical Incident Stress Management Team. The center is looking for people who are familiar with CISM and have had prior training.

The CISM team provides peer counseling to people who have been exposed to traumatic events, allowing them to cope more effectively with the stress related to that event. It is not professional counseling and only requires that team members have a genuine concern for a person’s well-being.

Refresher training will be provided in the clinic’s training room from 8 a.m. to noon Dec. 3.

Contact Tech. Sgt. Robert Lingley or Capt. William Moore at 298-6422 for more information or to volunteer for this opportunity to serve the base community.

Sponsor training set

The Family Support Center is holding sponsor training throughout the month of December in the FSC conference room. The training dates are Dec. 2, 9, 16 and 23. All training starts at 2 p.m.

For more information, call Carla Rincones at 298-5620.

Park University accepting applications

Park University is now accepting applications

Newslines

for its Spring I semester.

Park University offers six online bachelor of science degrees and master’s degrees.

For more information, call 298-3061.

Promotion ceremony set

An enlisted promotion ceremony is scheduled for 4 p.m. Wednesday at Club Amistad.

Legion meeting set

The Del Rio-Laughlin American Legion Post 298 will hold its regular meeting at 7:30 p.m. Wednesday at the Legion Post Home, across the highway from Laughlin’s main gate. A membership drive is in progress. Discussion on the new post home and fund raising will be held. All active-duty military are eligible to join.

For more information, call Murry Kachel at 298-2097.

Right Start scheduled

A Right Start briefing is set for 7:30 a.m. Dec. 9 at Club XL.

For more information, call Carla Rincones at 298-5620.

Holiday trash pickup changes

Military family housing and trailer park residents who are scheduled for refuse pickup services on holidays such as Thanksgiving, Christmas or New Year’s should be aware that their refuse will be picked up the next day.

For more information, call Tony Cantu at 298-5275.

IDEA program reminder

The Air Force IDEA program is seeking innovative ways to help save costs and improve operations. People can even earn extra dollars for their approved IDEAs. The IDEA Program Data System is available at <https://ideas.randolph.af.mil/ipdswarn.html> and this will take you directly to the IPDS home page. Just follow the instructions to establish your username and password.

For any assistance, call Tech. Sgt. Thomas Mayo at 298-4355.

First-Term Airman Center graduation set

A First-Term Airman Center graduation is scheduled from 1 to 2 p.m. Monday at Club Amistad.

All base members are invited to attend.

FTAC is a two-week course first-term airmen attend to learn more about Air Force programs and way of life.

BRAC process, time line explained

The Department of Defense has received congressional authorization for a base realignment and closure round in 2005.

Called BRAC 2005, the program is a means to achieve several goals: eliminate excess infrastructure to maximize operational capability; optimize military readiness; transform the Air Force by realigning infrastructure with future defense strategy; and capitalize on opportunities for joint activity.

At a minimum, this BRAC round must eliminate excess physical capacity. In doing so, the program helps the Defense Department reduce waste, save money and free up resources to recruit quality people, modernize equipment and infrastructure, and develop the ca-

pabilities needed to meet 21st century threats.

All military installations will be equally evaluated, and all recommendations will be based on approved selection criteria and a force structure plan. Congress and the Air Force recognize military value must be the primary consideration in reducing or restructuring U.S. military bases.

Congress has authorized BRAC four times in the past: 1988, 1991, 1993 and 1995. A total of 22 Air Force bases have closed as a result of BRAC. Through 2001, BRAC actions have saved DoD approximately \$16.7 billion, with an estimated recurring savings of \$6.6 billion annually.

(Compiled from staff reports)

Timeline

- Dec. 31: Secretary of defense submits the selection criteria used to make recommendations. Once posted, there will be a 30-day public comment period.
- Feb. 16, 2004: Department of Defense publishes its final selection criteria.
- March 15, 2004: Congress approves or disapproves criteria. Disapproval requires a joint resolution.
- March 15, 2005: President nominates nine BRAC Commission members.
- May 16, 2005: After gathering information and completing a compre-

hensive analysis, the secretary of defense will submit recommendations for realigning or closing bases to the independent BRAC Commission.

- May 17 to Sept. 8, 2005: Commission review process.
- Sept. 8, 2005: The commission forwards its report on the recommendations to the president.
- Sept. 23, 2005: Date by which the president must accept or reject the recommendations in their entirety and forward to Congress.
- Nov. 7, 2005: Date by which Congress must act on the recommendations, if accepted. A joint resolution is required to disapprove.



Graduation



SUPT Class 04-02 graduates



Capt. Graham Hicks
C-17
McChord AFB, Wash.



Capt. Keith Jasmin
C-21
Peterson AFB, Colo.



1st Lt. Giorgio Bucci
Italy



1st Lt. Jason Goodale
C-5
Travis AFB, Calif.



1st Lt. Jason Helton
C-21
Wright-Patterson AFB, Ohio



2nd Lt. Brian Crum
F-16
Luke AFB, Ariz.



2nd Lt. Brian Cummings
C-17
Charleston AFB, S.C.



2nd Lt. Charles Eichner
T-1
Laughlin AFB



2nd Lt. Mark Fogel
T-38
Laughlin AFB



2nd Lt. Damen Forte
KC-135
McConnell AFB, Kan.



2nd Lt. Curt Haase
C-17
Charleston AFB, S.C.



2nd Lt. Charles Hagen
KC-135 (ANG)
McGuire AFB, N.J.



2nd Lt. Dennis Jackson II
KC-10
McGuire AFB, N.J.



2nd Lt. Daniel Keeney
KC-135 (AFRES)
Grissom ARB, Ind.



2nd Lt. Matt Kenkel
T-6
Laughlin AFB



2nd Lt. Robert Kline
KC-135
RAF Mildenhall, U.K.



2nd Lt. Benjamin Leestma
F-15C
Tyndall AFB, Fla.



2nd Lt. Mac McGilvray
F-16
Luke AFB, Ariz.



2nd Lt. Lance McPherson
KC-135 (AFRES)
Beale AFB, Calif.



2nd Lt. Earon Parker
KC-135
Robins AFB, Ga.



2nd Lt. Mark Saar
E-3
Kadena AB, Japan



2nd Lt. Matthew Vickers
F-16
Luke AFB, Ariz.



2nd Lt. Brian Vizzone
C-17
McChord AFB, Wash.



2nd Lt. Jeff Zurick
F-15C
Tyndall AFB, Fla.

Discrimination, harassment hot line available

RANDOLPH AIR FORCE BASE – The Air Force’s hot line for reporting unlawful discrimination and sexual harassment remains open for business.

The quickest method to resolve complaints is by visiting the local base military equal opportunity or the equal employment opportunity office, Air Force Personnel Center officials said.

“But the hot line is here for anyone who thinks they need to call, whenever they need to call,” said Greg Den Herder, the personnel center’s executive director.

“We take the Air Force’s zero-tolerance policy for sexual harassment and discrimination very seriously,” said Lt. Col. Lee Shick, chief of the center’s field activities.

The phone numbers are toll free (800) 616-3775, DSN 665-5000 or commercial (210) 565-5000. People overseas without easy access to overseas lines can e-mail contact.center@randolph.af.mil, visit www.afpc.randolph.af.mil to send Web mail, or chat live with a customer service representative. Letters also can be sent to the Military Equal Opportunity

office at HQ AFPC/DPSFOS, 550 C Street West Post K, Randolph AFB, TX 78150.

Officials said they accept calls from active-duty airmen, their family members, retirees, civilian employees and cadets at Air Force commissioning sources.

Callers with a discrimination or sexual-harassment concern are forwarded to a qualified military equal opportunity counselor. The counselor explains the options to pursue a complaint. All complaints are channeled to the proper authority, officials said.

Cases can be referred for investigation – in most cases to the local commander and MEO or EEO office officials.

Counselors take calls Monday through Friday, 7:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Central Standard Time. After-hours voice mail takes messages. Counselors return phone calls the following duty day, officials said. For emergencies, people should contact a supervisor, commander, command post or the police, officials said.

(Courtesy of Air Force Personnel Center News Service)

U.S. to move military forces from Seoul, DMZ

By Kathleen T. Rhem
American Forces Press Service

SEOUL, South Korea – The United States and South Korea have agreed in principle to move most American forces out of the capital city of Seoul and south from the demilitarized zone along the border with North Korea.

Defense Secretary Donald Rumsfeld is in the country's capital for the annual Security Consultative Meeting between defense officials from the two countries.

"As the U.S. and Korea look at the 21st century challenges and the new security environment we're in, we're working to transform our combined military posture to defend Korea and to strengthen security and prospects for peace on this peninsula," Secretary Rumsfeld said during a press conference Monday at the Korean Ministry of National Defense.

The secretary appeared with the Korean national defense minister, Cho Yung Kil, after the two held talks on a number of issues. Before the meeting of cabinet officials, Joint Chiefs chairman, Air Force Gen. Richard Myers, met with his Korean counterpart.

This year's iteration of the annual talks was significant because last month was the 50th anniversary of the security agreement between the United States and South Korea and because the United States is gearing up for a major reconsolidation of its forces on the peninsula.

"We may have had one of the most substantive meetings ever," Secretary Rumsfeld said.

The U.S. and Korean governments have agreed to move the majority of the 7,000 troop-strong American military presence out of the Seoul area to bases farther south.

Army Gen. Leon LaPorte, com-

mander of U.S. forces in Korea, said a small American presence is likely to remain in Seoul, but that numbers have not been agreed to.

Officials also have agreed to relocate American forces in the north of the country – primarily the Army's 2nd Infantry Division at Camp Casey – in two phases. First, they will be consolidated into a smaller footprint. Then they will be moved to the southern part of the country.

Eventually, officials explained, U.S. forces in Korea will be centered on two main "hubs" in the south.

This week Secretary Rumsfeld was in Korea on a six-day trip that included Guam and Japan. He met with South Korean President Roh Moo Hyun, attended the consultative meeting and a ceremony at Korea's National War Museum, and laid a wreath at the National Cemetery. He visited American service members at Camp Casey, Camp Humphreys, and

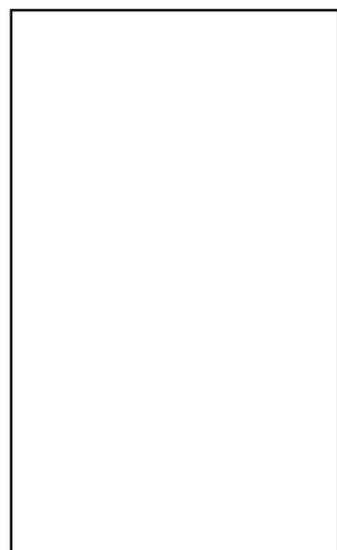
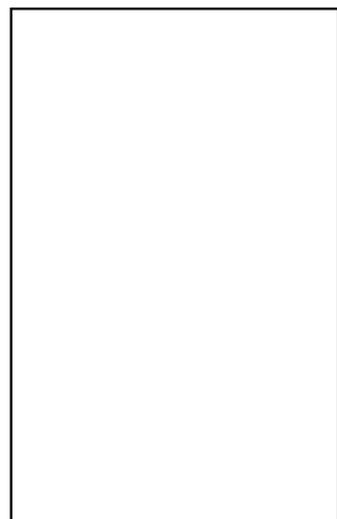
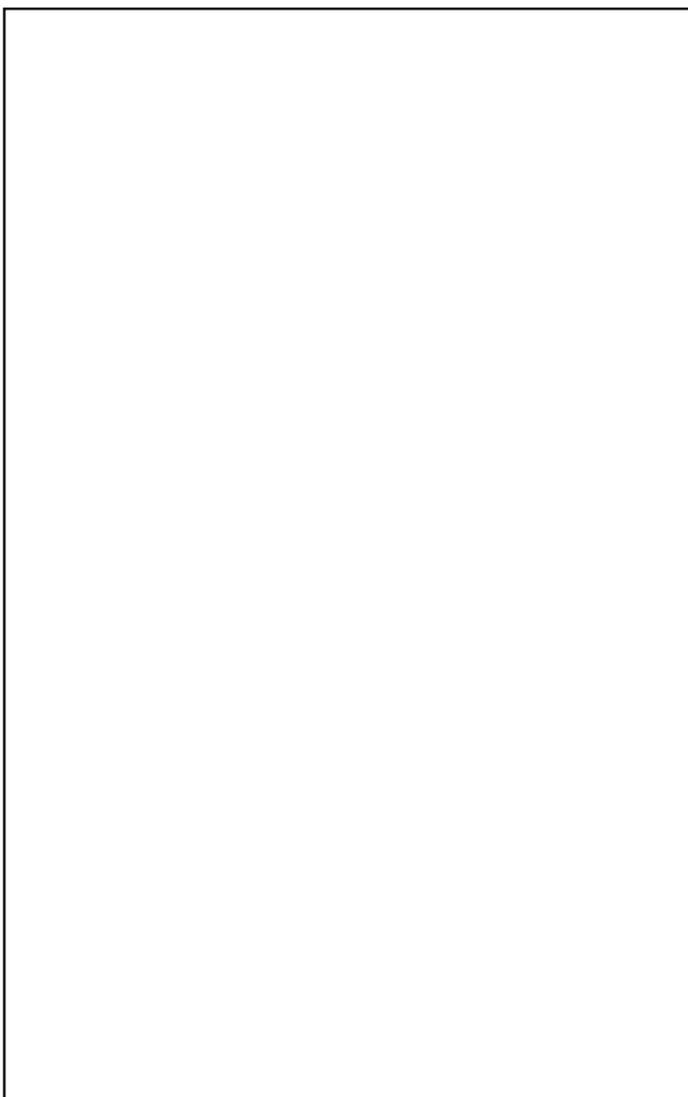
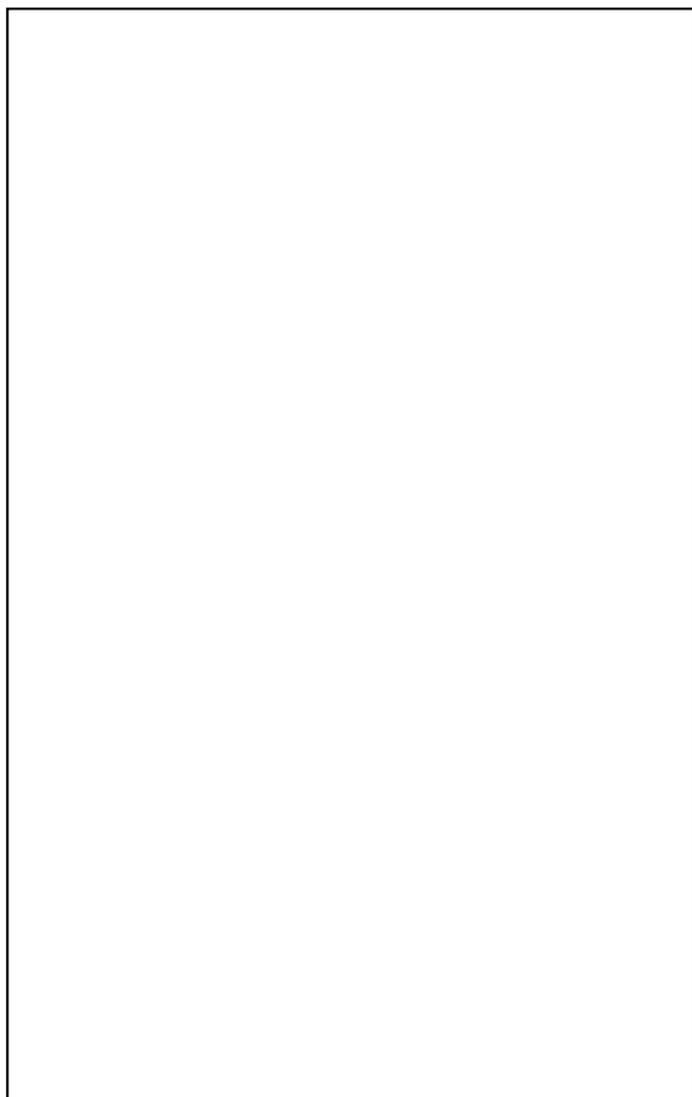
Osan Air Base Tuesday before returning to the United States.

In a joint communiqué issued after the consultative meeting, the secretary thanked South Korea for its commitment to send additional military forces to Iraq.

The country has already sent medical and engineering units to Iraq and Afghanistan. Local media put the number of added troops at 3,000 and said they'd be used in a humanitarian capacity.

Secretary Rumsfeld also reiterated a U.S. commitment to provide the Republic of Korea military with \$11 billion to enhance its capabilities.

The secretary also called on North Korea to "completely, verifiably and irreversibly dismantle its nuclear weapons programs and to cease the testing, development, deployment and export of weapons of mass destruction, missiles and related technologies."



U.S. presence in Iraq may continue after June

By K.L. Vantran
American Forces Press Service

WASHINGTON – U.S. military forces may remain in Iraq when full sovereignty is given to the Iraqi people in June and the Coalition Provisional Authority dissolves, Ambassador L. Paul Bremer III, CPA administrator, said in interviews from Baghdad, Iraq, broadcast on Sunday television talk shows.

“Every indication we have in our discussions with the governing council (and) with the ministers suggests a strong desire from the majority of the Iraqi people to have the coalition forces stay until the situation is stabilized,” he said on “Fox News Sunday.” “We’re in a war against terrorism here, and a low-intensity conflict against former Baathists. We want to help the Iraqis win both of these wars.”

With recent attacks on coalition forces, the ambassador said it’s important to remember that 95 percent of these attacks are being conducted by a few thousand men in a small part of the country, posing no strategic threat to operations.

“They do obviously and unfortunately have the ability to impose casualties,” he added. Though he acknowledged some witness reports indicate ground fire was involved in the apparent collision of two Army helicopters in Mosul on Saturday, the ambassador said it’s too early to be sure about a cause.

“It’s hard to know at this point what happened,” he added. “The investigation is ongoing. It’s obviously a very great tragedy.” Seventeen U.S. soldiers were killed and five others were injured when the helicopters went down.

The ambassador said every precaution to protect coalition forces will be taken.

“Looking after the welfare of the men and women in the armed forces is ‘Job One,’” he said on ABC’s “This Week With George Stephanopoulos.”

Better intelligence, necessary to protecting coalition forces, is one advantage of having Iraqis involved in their own security, Mr. Bremer told Fox viewers.

“When we get Iraqi policemen and soldiers out there, we get a knowledge of the local terrain, landscape,

the customs, the rhythm of life,” he said. “We’re getting more information on the enemy (from the Iraqi people).”

Despite the attention commanded by attacks on coalition forces, the rebuilding of Iraq continues. With more than 15,000 projects completed in six months, the reconstruction is well under way, said Mr. Bremer.

“There is a lot of good news,” he added. “As reconstruction efforts move forward, and as we give Iraqis more responsibilities in political and military fields, I think we’ll find our security in a better place.”

The ambassador said he believes it would be a mistake to pull out of Iraq too soon.

“We have to find the right balance,” he said. “As the president has said, we will not cut and run. We’re here to get the job done, and we will stay until the job is done.

“It would be a mistake to rush turnover until Iraq has some kind of constitutional framework that guarantees individual liberties, guarantees the bill of rights, and guarantees freedom of worship,” he added.

The answer is an interim constitu-

tion that guarantees rights that didn’t exist for the Iraqi people under Saddam Hussein, said Mr. Bremer on ABC.

“We will write into that exactly the kinds of guarantees that were not in Saddam’s constitution. We’ll have a bill of rights. We’ll recognize equality for all citizens. We’ll recognize an independent judiciary. We’ll talk about a federal government.”

The interim constitution, Mr. Bremer said, also will provide time for a permanent constitution to be written, a process he said probably would take two years.

“What we’ve found here is a way to go forward (that is) consistent with the president’s objectives, but also allows the Iraqis to have their full independence in a reasonable time period – seven or eight months,” he said.

Mr. Bremer added he supports the negotiations with the new Iraqi government for continued U.S. presence in Iraq to help stabilize the country and keep it at peace with its neighbors.

“They have some pretty rough neighbors, and they’re going to need our support for quite some time,” he said on Fox.



Bowl-a-thon raises money for party

By Airman 1st Class
Timothy J. Stein
Editor

The Laughlin Command Spouses Officers Club held a bowl-a-thon Nov. 10 at Cactus Lanes to raise money for two wing holiday events.

About 80 people raised more than \$2,000 to help fund the wing's annual children's holiday party and cookie caper.

The cookie caper is an annual event when cookies are delivered to base members living in dorms. This year the cookies will be delivered Dec. 6.

Bowlers had people pledge money on how many pins they would knock down, number of strikes they made or just a flat rate.

Prizes will be awarded to the first-, second- and third-place fund raisers once all the money is collected.

"Services was great in helping getting this off the ground," said Tami Traster, wife of Col. Keith Traster, 47th Flying Training Wing vice commander, and project coordinator. "They came up with the idea and helped get everything going."

Mrs. Traster said she couldn't believe the participation the event received.

"Every organization on base participated," she said. "This exceeded all expectations. We expected to only raise around \$1,000. I want to thank the entire wing for their outstanding support."

While everybody did a great job, Mrs. Traster said she was amazed at one little boy. Six-year-old Levi Turner, son of Lt. Col. David Turner, 47th Operations Group deputy commander, and Rebecca Shaw, raised \$176.25, the most money so far.

"It is quite amazing when a child that young can raise that much money," said Mrs. Traster. "This money will go a long way to help pay for the children's holiday party."

The holiday party is scheduled for 5 p.m. Dec. 10. It will start at the base chapel for the lighting of the holiday tree. Then there will be a buffet diner at Club XL. At the party there will be craft projects, hayride caroling, a bounce castle, holiday videos and an opportunity for kids to get their photo taken with Santa.



Photo by Airman 1st Class Timothy J. Stein

Master Sgt. Timothy Henderson, 47th Operations Support Squadron commander's support staff superintendent, attempts to get a strike during the bowl-a-thon. Sergeant Henderson was just one of about 80 people who helped raise money during the bowl-a-thon.

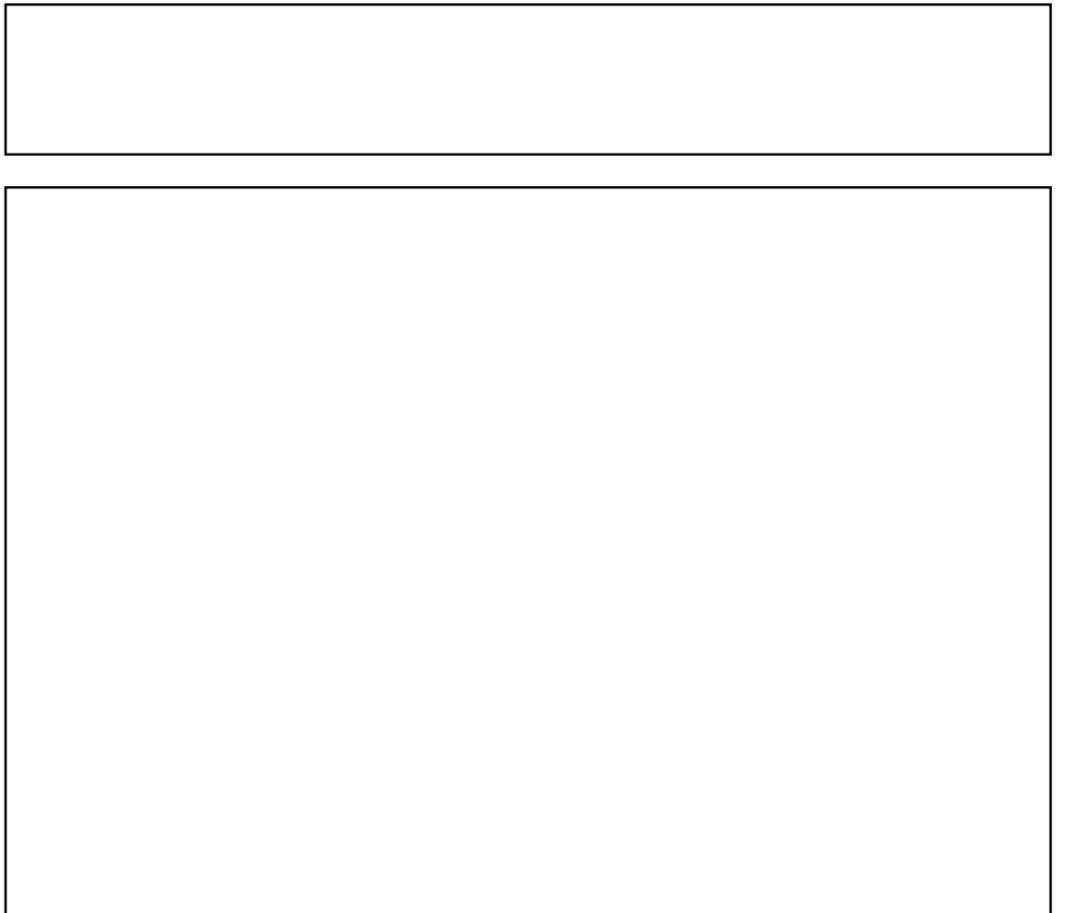
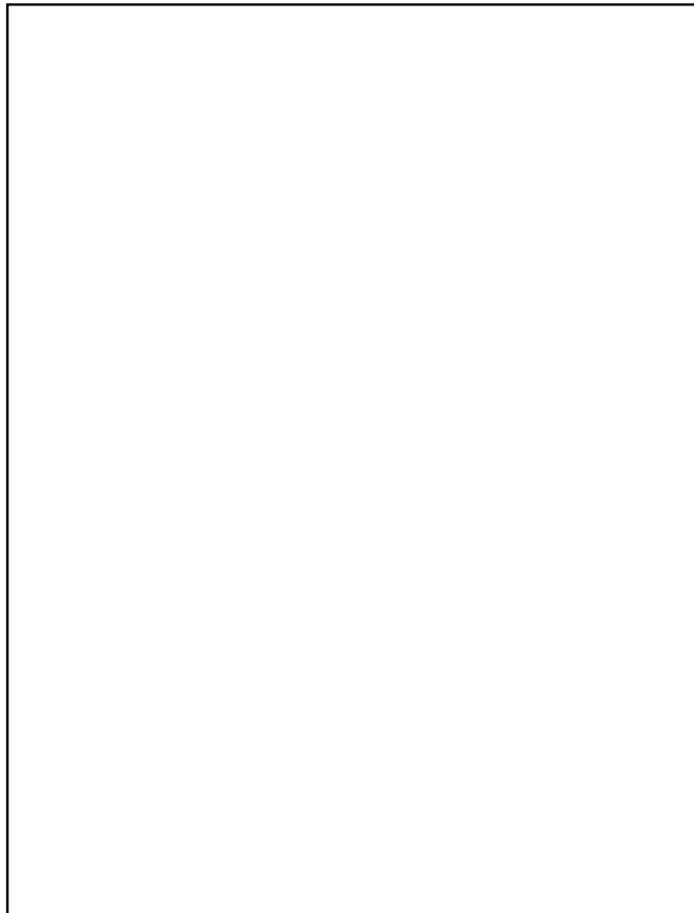




Photo by Airman 1st Class Timothy J. Stein

For the bird...

Staff Sgt. Frank Cantu, 47th Medical Support Squadron NCO in charge of information systems, tries for a birdie on the 9th hole during the Top 3 golf tournament Nov. 14 at the base's Leaning Pine Golf Course. The tournament raised \$1,400 for Operation Jingle, a program that provides money to base people who may not have enough to

purchase Christmas gifts for their families. The team of Master Sgt. John Bock, Master Sgt. Brian Lewallen, Frank Hurt and Rory Fleury took first place in the tournament, which was a four-person best-ball event. To make the tournament more interesting, there were holes where people had to tee off opposite handed and putt with a pool cue.

'One click, one call' customer service arrives for pay, personnel issues

RANDOLPH AIR FORCE BASE – A one-stop customer service phone number and Web page are up and running, linking several call centers and online resources Air Force people use when managing personnel and pay information.

A single phone number and a companion Web site now make it easier for Air Force active-duty and Reserve component military, as well as U.S. appropriated fund civilian employees to find what they need quickly, Air Force Personnel Center officials said.

Customers can find answers to questions by calling toll free (800) 616-3775 or visiting www.afpc.randolph.af.mil/cst. Until now the burden has been on Air Force people to determine which agency handles a particular issue before contacting customer service by phone or on the Web.

Customers will be able to access any of the following support services by using the new number and Web site:

- Air Force Contact Center for general military personnel inquiries, including discrimination and sexual harassment concerns and assistance in navigating the virtual military personnel flight application.
- Air Reserve Personnel Center in Denver for Air Force Reserve and Air National Guard personnel inquiries.
- Defense Finance and Accounting Service's Cleveland Contact Center for Air Force military pay inquiries and assistance with the myPay application.
- AFPC Technical Assistance Center for technical support for applications such as vMPF, assignment management system, AFPC Secure and PC-III.

■ AFPC Recruiting Service Center for civilian appropriated-fund job opportunities.

■ AFPC Benefits and Entitlements Service Team for civilian appropriated-fund benefits and entitlements.

This latest evolution in customer self-service is the product of revolutionary cooperation between different agencies inside and outside of the Air Force, officials said.

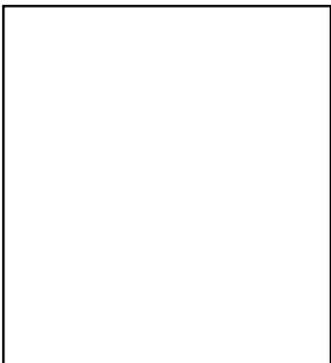
"A substantial partnership between military and civilian personnel, Air Force financial services (military pay), and Defense Finance and Accounting Service – years in the making – is making one-stop customer service possible," said James Short, the Air Force's deputy assistant secretary for financial operations.

Several of the linked call centers reside at the personnel center, where leaders have been facilitating the consolidation of Air Force customer-service operations.

"We are making sure that customer service is a lot more than a 1-800 number," said Maj. Gen. Tom O'Riordan, personnel center commander. "Our focus is making sure we meet the needs of the field and that we accelerate those changes that make life simpler for the commander and our airmen."

Customers calling from international locations and hearing-impaired employees should continue to dial the number they currently use to access support for personnel or pay matters, officials said. The new toll-free number should begin accommodating foreign area calls early next year, officials said.

(Courtesy of Air Force Personnel Center News Service)



The *XLer*

Ruth Kelly
47th Comptroller Flight

Hometown: Del Rio
Family: Daughter, Andrea; son, Jacob
Time at Laughlin: Twenty-three years
Time in service: Twenty-seven years
Greatest accomplishment: Raising two wonderful children
Hobbies: Reading, movies
Bad habit: Not going to lunch
Favorite movie: "Shawshank Redemption"
Favorite musician: Carlos Santana
If you could spend one hour with any person, who would it be and why? Jacqueline Kennedy. I admire her strength and courage.



Photo by Airman 1st Class Timothy J. Stein



Photo by Airman 1st Class Timothy J. Stein

Gobble dollars...

Eddie Ochoa, Veterans Boulevard HEB manager, gives Col. Dan Woodward, 47th Flying Training Wing commander, a check for \$600 to go toward turkeys for the base's Holiday Scramble golf tournament and the 5K Turkey Trot.

Chapel information

Catholic

Monday - Friday

- Mass, 12:05 p.m.

Saturday

- Mass, 5 p.m., Reconciliation, 4:15 p.m. or by appointment

Sunday

- Mass, 9:30 p.m., Religious Education, 11 a.m.

Thursday

- Choir: 6 p.m., Rite of Christian Initiation, 7:30 p.m.

Protestant

Wednesday

- Choir, 7 p.m.

Sunday

- General worship, 11 a.m., Contemporary worship, call 298-7073

Chaplain Staff

Wing chaplain:

Chap. (Lt. Col.) Joseph Lim, Roman Catholic

Senior Protestant:

Chap. (Capt.) Terri Gast, Presbyterian Church, USA

Protestant:

Chap. (Capt.) Alex Jack, Independent Christian Church

Protestant:

Chap. (1st Lt.) Kenneth Fisher, Evangelical Church Alliance

For more information on other denominations, chapel events or services, call 298-5111.



Legal Spotlight

JAG: Knowing when to see attorney important

By Terra Wade
Legal office

There are many reasons a person may need to meet with an military attorney.

Although most people would agree that an attorney's help is needed when an individual encounters major life changes or events like divorce, adoption, guardianship or death of a loved one, there are many other areas in which a legal assistance attorney may be helpful.

Base legal assistance is available during walk-in hours, every Tuesday between 3 and 4 p.m., and every Thursday between 8 and 9 a.m. on the second floor of the wing headquarters building. Only active-duty military members and their dependents, as well as

military retirees and their dependents, are eligible for legal assistance on base. Additionally, attorneys cannot provide legal assistance over the telephone.

An attorney can help a person plan ahead by preparing estate-planning documents such as a will, living will and powers of attorney. This is especially important if people are expected to deploy in the near future. An attorney also can help people to determine if they need to make changes to an existing will. New wills require a will worksheet to be completed prior to meeting with an attorney. Will worksheets may be picked up at any time during regular business hours between 7:30 a.m. and 4:30 p.m.

Legal residency is a good

example of a frequent issue discussed during legal assistance. Many individuals from other states make the decision to become Texas legal residents. An attorney can provide the pros and cons of establishing residency in Texas and assist with the necessary steps for doing so if appropriate.

Attorneys also may prove useful in tackling consumer-affairs matters. If people feel they have been the victim of fraudulent business practices, or if they believe their consumer rights have been violated in some way, see one a base attorney for legal assistance.

Other legal-assistance services provided by the legal office include family member care, landlord-tenant issues, involuntary allotments,

residency and child support. Although the legal office cannot represent individuals in divorce cases or prepare divorce papers, attorneys can give guidance on the divorce process, discuss consequences of getting a divorce and provide a referral to a listing of local attorneys.

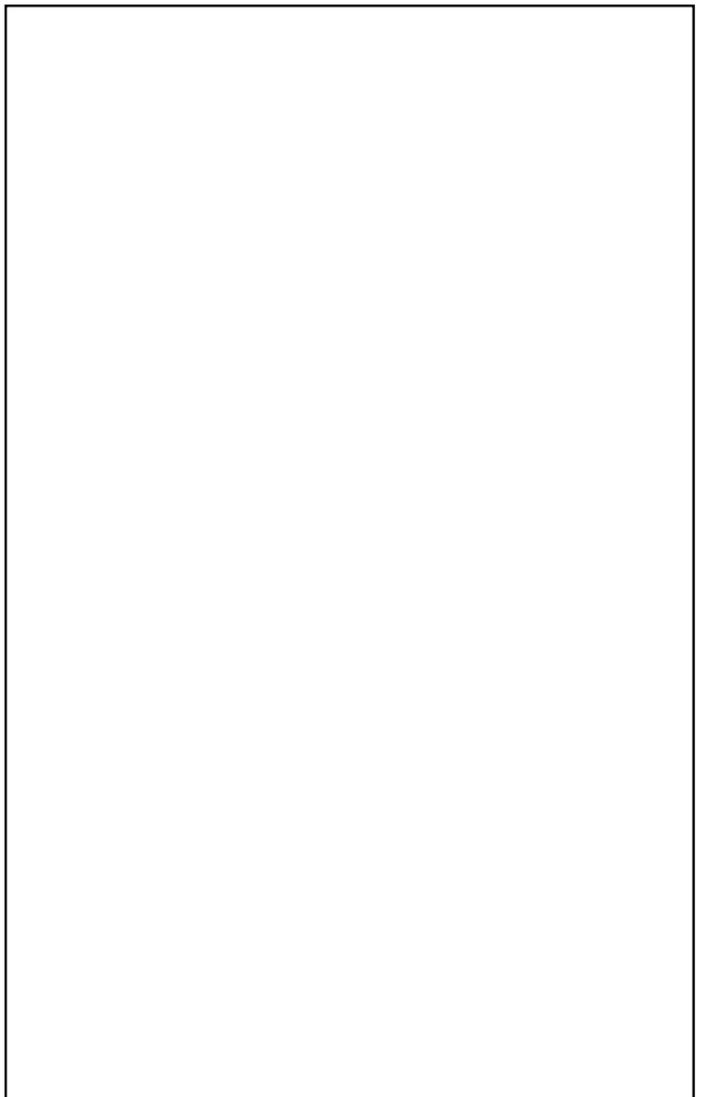
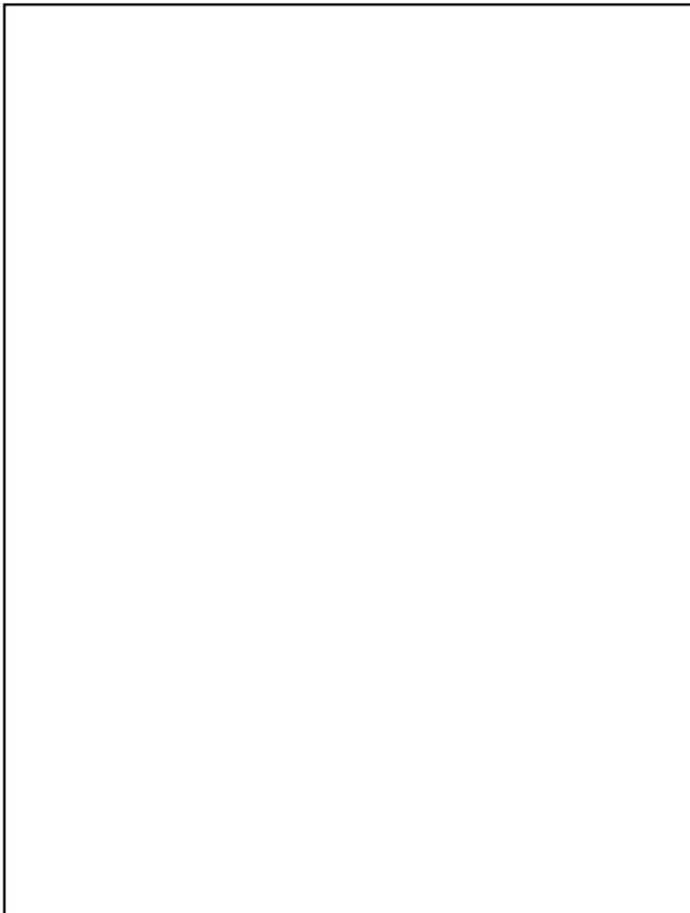
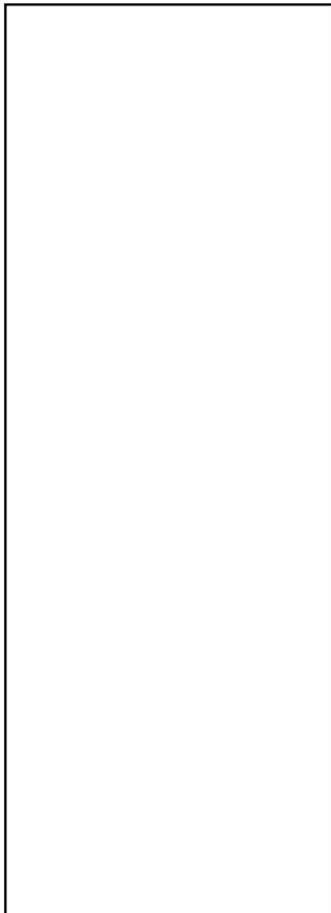
All legal assistance is subject to the availability of legal staff resources.

Base attorneys are prohibited from giving legal assistance on matters such as starting a home business, official matters in which the Air Force has an interest, legal issues raised on behalf

of another person, drafting or reviewing real estate sales or closing documents, reviewing divorce decrees, claims filed against the Air Force, criminal issues under the Uniform Code of Military Justice, any state or federal criminal issues or disciplinary or administrative board actions.

For criminal issues, members are directed to contact the nearest Area Defense Counsel Office, located at Lackland Air Force Base at (210) 671-2924 or DSN 473-2924.

For more information on base legal matters, call the legal office at 298-5172.



Medical group offers safe Thanksgiving cooking tips

By Senior Airman Erik Bell
47th Aeromedical-Dental Squadron public health journeyman

Thanksgiving is one of the most joyous times of the year. Family and friends share this time together to talk, cook, and catch up on what has been going on with their families.

It also can turn into one of the worst times of the year if people don't protect themselves and their family from foodborne illnesses. The biggest foodborne illness culprit is an improperly prepared turkey.

Before cooking a turkey, it must be thawed out. This is one of the most important steps when it comes to preventing foodborne illness.

Thawing in the refrigerator is the most preferred method, but may require thawing for two to four days

depending on the size of the turkey. Place the turkey on the lowest shelf in the refrigerator in a deep pan so raw juices will not contaminate other food items.

For those who are in a hurry, thaw the turkey in a clean sink, covered with cold water. Change the water every 30 minutes to keep it cool. Food officials, such as the United States Department of Agriculture, recommend immediate cooking upon completion of thawing, but don't forget to remove the neck and giblet package from inside and to wash the bird well, inside and out, with cold water before further preparation.

When cooking the turkey, its internal temperature should reach 180 degrees. People can check the internal temperature by inserting a meat thermometer into the thickest

part of the thigh muscle without touching the bone to get an accurate reading. The USDA recommends setting the oven temperature no lower than 325 degrees to prevent production of harmful bacteria.

Estimated cooking time for an unstuffed turkey is 15 to 18 minutes per pound and 18 to 24 minutes per pound for a stuffed turkey. Specific directions for cooking times are usually available on the wrapper of the turkey.

Don't leave the turkey sitting out at room temperature for more than two hours because it can produce bacteria. Once finished eating, take it apart and store the turkey in small containers inside the refrigerator or immediately freeze it. A turkey will generally stay safe to eat for three to four days in the refrigerator. Stuffing will last for

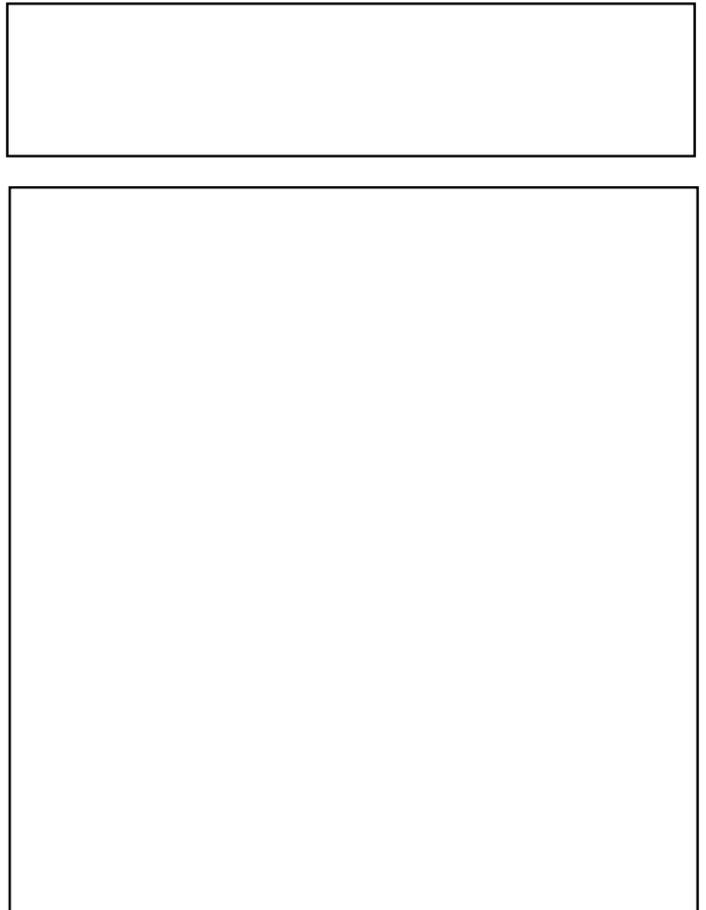
about two days. To reheat, slice breast meat (legs and wings may be left whole), and heat turkey pieces and side dishes to 165 degrees to kill bacteria that could grow in the refrigerator. Reheating the whole turkey is not recommended, per USDA guidelines.

For more information, please contact Public Health at 298-6380. People may also call the Department of Agriculture's toll-free, year-round meat and poultry hotline at 1-800-535-4555. The hotline is open 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Monday through Thursday. Additional information is available at USDA Web site <http://www.fsis.usda.gov/oa/news/2001/tbasics.htm>.

Using simple procedures, such as properly thawing, cooking and storing a turkey, can ensure a safe and happy holiday for all.

ONLINE news

Access breaking news at United States Air Force Online News, the official newspaper of the United States Air Force. A simple click to www.af.mil/news/ keeps you informed about events.



Rapcon controller picks 11, wins week

Last week, Staff Sgt. Andy Artieda, 47th Operations Support Squadron air traffic controller, took the weekly prize by picking 11 of 16 games correctly.

To enter the weekly contest, individuals can put their names

in contest boxes located at various Services locations for a chance to forecast winners of weekly NFL football games in the Border Eagle.

Five names are drawn each week to get an opportunity to pick games.

Drop boxes are located at Club XL, Club Amistad, Cactus Lanes, Silver Wings and the Chaparral Dining Facility.

Weekly winners may call Andrew Furman at Club XL at 298-5134 to claim their prize.



Staff Sgt. Artieda

Games:	Tech. Sgt. Stefan Wynn	Airman 1st Class Brenna Gorney	Airman 1st Class Mark Yeates	Airman 1st Class Mathew Rall	Airman 1st Class Michael Fronk
Sea. at Bal.	Baltimore	Seattle	Seattle	Seattle	Seattle
Ind. at Buff.	Indianapolis	Indianapolis	Indianapolis	Indianapolis	Indianapolis
Pitt. at Cle.	Cleveland	Cleveland	Pittsburgh	Cleveland	Cleveland
Car. at Dal.	Carolina	Carolina	Carolina	Carolina	Carolina
S.F. at G.B.	Green Bay	Green Bay	San Francisco	Green Bay	San Francisco
N.E. at Hou.	New England	New England	New England	New England	Houston
Det. at Minn.	Minnesota	Minnesota	Minnesota	Minnesota	Minnesota
Jax. at N.Y.J.	New York Jets	New York Jets	New York Jets	Jacksonville	New York Jets
N.O. at Phi.	Philadelphia	Philadelphia	Philadelphia	Philadelphia	New Orleans
St.L. at Ari.	Arizona	St. Louis	St. Louis	St. Louis	St. Louis
Chi. at Den.	Denver	Denver	Chicago	Denver	Denver
Tenn. at Atl.	Tennessee	Tennessee	Tennessee	Tennessee	Tennessee
Oak. at K.C.	Kansas City	Kansas City	Kansas City	Kansas City	Kansas City
Cin. at S.D.	Cincinnati	Cincinnati	Cincinnati	Cincinnati	Cincinnati
Wash. at Mia.	Miami	Miami	Miami	Miami	Washington
N.Y.G. at T.B.	Tampa Bay	Tampa Bay	New York Giants	Tampa Bay	Tampa Bay

Fitness program showing results

By Tech Sgt.
David Jablonski
Air Force Print News

MAXWELL AIR FORCE BASE – Airmen have been filling fitness centers and burning up running tracks in preparation for the new, tougher fitness-testing standard set to begin Jan. 1.

Direct, immediate feedback from the field says that airmen are taking the new fitness challenge seriously, said Air Force Chief of Staff Gen. John P. Jumper. He talked about fitness Monday, while participating in the Air Force Doctrine Summit IV here.

“We may be healthy, but we’re not as fit as we should be,” General Jumper

said.

Months before the change was formally announced, rumors about the new program encouraged airmen to get fit fast.

“Already, the feedback is overwhelming,” he said. “I’ve been very surprised so far from the positive e-mails. We’ve had a 30-percent increase in the use of our fitness centers in the last three months. We’ve also seen remarkable progress in the number of people who quit smoking in the last three months. The only complaint that I’ve gotten is that people (have) to wait in line to get onto the machines in the fitness centers.”

General Jumper said he has not only heard about the improvements

through e-mail feedback, he also has seen it firsthand.

“I’ve seen squadrons out exercising in the morning as units and people running as groups with their squadron banners flying,” he said. “I see people proud of what they’re doing.”

“These are the kind of results I’m looking for,” General Jumper said. “I want us to be a fit and healthy force ready to deploy, fit to fight.”

The new fitness plan puts commanders in charge of the fitness of their airmen rather than within the medical community. It also has been made more of an individual responsibility, officials said.

The new standard includes a 1.5-mile timed run, push-ups, crunches and waistline measurement.

Intramural flag football standings

Eastern Conference

Team	W-L
LCSAM	6-2
87th	6-2
86th	4-3
OSS	4-4
84th/85th	0-7 (out)

Western Conference

Team	W-L
MDG	8-0
LSI	4-5
CES	3-4
MSS	1-8

Fitness Fact:

Did You Know? Every hop, step, jump and stride you take exerts stress on the 26 bones, 33 joints, 107 ligaments and 19 muscles and tendons in your feet. The better you manage your weight, the less stress you will put on these joints.