

“If we lose the war in the air we lose the war and lose it quickly.”

– **Field Marshal
Bernard Montgomery**

News in Brief

PME selection

Congratulations to Capt. (Major select) William Lockhart IV, 47th Operations Group T-1 chief of standards and evaluations, who has been selected to attend Air Command and Staff College.

Toughman contest

By order of the 47th Flying Training Wing commander active duty military members are prohibited from participating in the toughman competitions being held Saturday and Sunday.

Change of command

Lt. Col. Kathryn Hall will relinquish command of the 47th Medical Operations Squadron to Maj. Robin Squellati at 8 a.m. today at Club XL.

For more information, call 298-6309.

Clinic closure

The 47th Medical Group will be closed from 3 to 5 p.m. today.

For more information, call 298-6462.

Mission status

(As of Jan. 17)

Days ahead or behind with
mission capable rate

T-37	-1.35	81.5%
T-1	-1.00	87.6%
T-38	-1.10	74.8%
T-6	N/A	83.8%

AETC commander returns to Laughlin



Photo by Rob Poteat

Gen. Donald Cook, Air Education and Training Command commander, congratulates a soon-to-be graduate of pilot training class 03-04 at the graduation retreat ceremony Jan. 16.

Former wing commander speaks to SUPT graduates, airmen

Compiled from Staff Reports

Although a primary reason for his visit was to speak with Laughlin's most recent Undergraduate Pilot Training graduates, the commander of Air Education and Training Command took full advantage of his recent three-day trip to Laughlin to tour facilities and speak with troops at all levels in the wing.

Air Expeditionary Force deployments and training initiatives were Gen. Don Cook's favored topics during his visit Jan. 16-18. Having served as 47th Flying Training Wing commander here from 1991-1992, he offered a unique and credible perspective.

“We must all be prepared and understand the fundamentals of an expeditionary force in a deployed operation,” said the general. “We also need to instill in all our members, especially our new airmen and junior officers, that they will likely experience time away from home.”

Even in times of conflict or war, General Cook pointed out that AETC's mission remains constant: to train airmen. Over the past few years, however, AETC has expanded its contribution to the AEF construct by more than doubling the number of forces committed against AEF taskings.

See 'Cook,' page 6

Laughlin competes for AF Hennessy award

By 2nd Lt. Lindsay Logsdon Chief of internal information

Laughlin's contract food-service team, SelRico Services, is vying for the best single-facility award in the Air Force's 47th Annual Hennessy Trophy competition.

A four-person team will arrive at Laughlin Wednesday and over the next two days will look closely at areas such as management, food quality and employee and customer relations. The Hennessy evaluation program reflects the dedication, pride

and partnership between the civilian food service industry and the Air Force to improve the Air Force quality of life.

Laughlin is competing for its first award against the best from all major command winners.

The 47th Services Division is looking to put its best foot forward and set the standard since Laughlin is the first base in the competition to be evaluated. “We don't want the inspectors to have to go any farther than here,” said Master Sgt. Mike

Evans, 47th Services Division food services superintendent.

In November, Laughlin earned the Air Education and Training Command Hennessy Trophy and received a \$10,000 award. The additional money has been put to good use for this upcoming evaluation.

“We have been able to upgrade the interior of the dining facility and we have ordered new equipment,

See 'Award,' page 6

Rewind, stop, play: the color blue

By Lt. Col. Ron Hatfield

32nd Flying Training Squadron

VANCE AIR FORCE BASE,
Okla. — <Rewind> <Stop> <Play>
The color blue.

Two men in service dress, 7 in the morning, I'm on vacation ... hotel room. Doesn't make sense. Blink hard, shake the sleep away. Check again, peephole fish eye view. The color blue ... two men in service dress outside the door. Not a dream. Icy flush, blood turns cold. Can't breathe, weak knees, shaking. Not a dream. Wait, mistake ... can't be. Not a dream. Dina, get up. Check again. The color blue. Open door, chaplain's cross, solemn voice.

"Are you the parents?"

"Yes we are."

"On behalf of the secretary of

the Air Force, I regret to inform you ..."

Not a dream. "... died from injuries." Muted scream. "... sustained during an aircraft training accident near Silver Hills, Ala." Sign the form ... notified.

Dina's muted mantra echoes mournful. Ron, what does it mean, what does it mean? Pacing ... heart racing, lost. What does it mean? Wife's ashen face cradled in my hands. Mother's eyes, fearful, tearful, bleeding, pleading ... what does it mean? What to say, no soft words ... Dina, Alex is dead. Not a dream. <Pause>

Sept. 28, 2000, Beau Rivage Hotel, Biloxi, Miss.

This is how my wife, Dina, and I started our day. Our son, Alex, was dead four months into his Air Force career. He was a second lieutenant in the initial stages of strike-fighter navigator training at Pensacola Naval Air Station, Fla.

We had just spent three wonderful days with him, the reason for our vacation. Little did we know when we said goodbye two days earlier it would be the last time we would see him. Alex loved flying ... my fault. We passed countless hours swapping stories and sharing dreams. He was

almost done with the familiarization phase of his program, the hands-on flying phase ... a mini pilot training, if you will. He had his check ride and a night flight left before he moved to the back seat of the T-34C for navigator qualification. He never made it to the night flight.

On that terrible afternoon of Sept. 27, the weather was cool and crisp with light winds ... not a cloud in the sky with light winds. Dina and I were checking out porpoises in the Gulf. Alex and his instructor had no clue of the events about to unfold. I imagine they stepped to the jet full of anticipation and jazzed about the chance to turn jet fuel into noise.

The course rules for Alex's check ride called for pattern work followed by aerobatics and area

work. The pattern work and aerobatics appear to have gone well. Then came the spin.

No one knows

for sure, but it would have been next in the profile and the radar tapes have a classic spin signature. From spin entry to ground impact was just under a minute. With no ejection seat, the minimum altitude for bailout in the T-34C is 5,000 feet. That gave Alex and his instructor pilot 25 seconds from entry to the decision to get out. With no cockpit voice recorder, no one knows why the spin recovery attempts were unsuccessful. Post crash investigation showed the aircraft systems to be working normally at ground impact. The decision to jump was delayed too long.

The IP bailed out 1.2 seconds from impact and Alex followed 0.5 seconds later. The arming lanyard for his parachute never reached its full six-foot extension. He died from blunt force trauma associated with ground impact.

Alex had 13 hours in the T-34C, counting his last flight. Dina and I will never know in this lifetime what really happened on that airplane on that day. The one thing I do know is no one planned it that way.

Students sometimes brief me that

we don't need to check local NOTAMs because we aren't planning a full stop. Wrong answer. Stuff happens. Things change.

The Army has a great saying: "No plan ever survives first contact with the enemy." We have, in our business, a lot of enemies: the weather, complex systems that pick the absolute worst time to get cantankerous, birds with an "AMRAAM wannabe" complex, busy airfields, you name it. For me, my worst enemy watches me shave every morning. I am absolutely terrified of my own weaknesses and work hard to eliminate them on a daily basis.

As a brand new lieutenant, I read a lot of aviation books. One of them had a quote that has colored my approach to flying for 25 years, "I am not afraid of the known ... it is the unknown that scares me for, in the end, it is the unknown that will kill me ... which is why I strive to know everything there is to know about my airplane."

You will play to the level you practice, and every mission should be practice for the day you have to play ... for real. Teach your students the same lesson.

The least important thing we teach is the hands-on aspect of flying. That will, in most cases, fully develop given enough jet fuel and time.

The most important thing we do is take civilians and make them military aviators, our future replacements. That involves a state of mind and approach to the demands of our unique profession. Perfection is not possible, but that doesn't mean it isn't a worthy goal. Have your "A-game" on every day, I beg you. You never know when you will need it.

<Fast forward> <Stop> <Play> Honor guard, unfurled flag. Snap, fold. Snap, fold. Blue triangle, white stars. Slow salute, white gloves. "On behalf of a grateful nation ... ready, aim, fire." Twenty-one reports break the silence. Haunting wail of taps, not a dream. Left to right, four jets fly by. Only three remain. One climbs, lifting higher. Bright sun, autumn sky ... the color blue. <Stop>



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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.conde@laughlin.af.mil.

Time to get troops ready for deployment

By Master Sgt.
Glenna Thompson

14th Contracting Squadron

COLUMBUS AIR FORCE BASE, Miss. – Deployments have become a bigger part of our lives these days. Many of us have deployed in the past, and some of us are more familiar about certain places.

Lately, the places we are deploying to are new to us – places we aren't even sure we can find on a map, let alone try to spell.

Consider the things that go through people's minds when they are first handed a deployment notifica-

tion. If they're deploying for the first time, they may either be excited to travel to a new place they've never been before or worried sick trying to figure out what to do next. Anxiety and fear of the unknown are some emotions most of us have to take into consideration when deployments are handed out.

The last deployment I went to was Slavonski Brod, Croatia. I'd heard of this country before but wasn't sure of its exact location.

To find out more about the deployment, I gathered as much information as I could find about the area,

working conditions, culture and language. My list was very long, and it grew longer as I continued my preparations. I would be on my own, living on the local economy, and I would be working with a team of engineers from different NATO countries, such as Norway, Turkey, Austria, Hungary and the Netherlands.

That deployment was challenging, but rewarding. My preparation was the most important key to the success of that deployment.

Before one of your troops takes off somewhere, take the time to talk to them. Share experiences you've

had. Lessons you have learned are valuable in making these folks more efficient during a deployment.

There are a lot of tools available. Deployment training and briefings are important; ensure people get these briefings.

Get all the required training out of the way as early as possible. Order those required items for a specific deployment ahead of time. Most important, make sure these people are ready to do the job they are being sent to do.

Deployment is a part of what we do. Let's do it well, and let's get our folks ready.



Col. Dan Woodward
47th Flying Training
Wing commander

Actionline

Call 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 at-

tempt 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.

AAFES	298-3176
Accounting and Finance	298-5204
Civil Engineer	298-5252
Civilian Personnel	298-5299
Commissary	298-5815
Dormitory manager	298-5213
Equal Employment Opportunity	298-5879
FWA hotline	298-4170
Hospital	298-6311
Housing	298-5904
Information line	298-5201
Legal	298-5172
Military Equal Opportunity	298-5400
Military Personnel	298-5073
Public Affairs	298-5988
Security Forces	298-5900
Services	298-5810

Housing inspection

Comment: I just finished out-processing my house on base. The housing inspector along with civil engineering people and my cleaning lady were present during the inspection. The CE people pointed things out to the inspector, and the inspector had things taken apart to show my cleaning lady that it wasn't done correctly. I did not appreciate that the inspector and the CE people spoke Spanish back and forth. This is not a white glove inspection

anymore. Why did the inspector ask the cleaning people to take care of these things?

Answer: You are correct – it is not the intent of the Air Force to conduct white glove inspections and appliances should not be disassembled for inspection purposes. The standards are outlined in a checklist provided to housing occupants during the pre-inspection. The final inspection should involve the military member and the housing representative only. In your case, CE maintenance was mistakenly scheduled to be there

at the same time. I understand the housing officer was able to resolve your issues and have since conducted training with the inspectors to clarify procedures.

Additionally, conversations taking place during your inspection should be conducted in English. If a member of the inspection party does not speak English, a translation should be given as the conversation takes place. I apologize for any inconvenience this may have caused during your final outprocessing, and our inspectors have been briefed about this requirement.

Border Eagle commentaries

The Border Eagle encourages base members to take part in their paper. Anyone wanting to write a commentary for the Viewpoint pages 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 and should be submitted to the Public Affairs Office, Bldg. 338.

The deadline to submit a commentary is close

of business each Thursday, the week prior to publication. Public Affairs reserves the right to edit all submissions for length and clarity.

For more information, guidelines or help, call 298-5393.

Leaders announce new core competencies

By Master Sgt. Scott Elliott
Air Force Print News

WASHINGTON – The Air Force's senior leaders debuted the service's new approach to describing its core competencies last week.

Secretary of the Air Force Dr. James G. Roche and Air Force Chief of Staff Gen. John P. Jumper made this announcement in two separate messages to all airmen. Dr. Roche released his first "The Secretary's Vector" Jan. 14, while General Jumper's latest "Chief's Sight Picture" was published Jan. 15.

The competencies are developing airmen, technology-to-warfighting and integrating operations. According to Dr. Roche, these three elements are fundamental to how the Air Force views itself, how it is viewed by leaders and colleagues, and how the service develops its capabilities for joint warfighting.

"These unique institutional qualities set the Air Force apart from the other services and every other military force in the world," Dr. Roche said in The Secretary's Vector. "By identifying and keeping these competencies foremost in our vision, we can more effectively advance these unique capabilities, as well as the ultimate effects we provide to the nation."

These core competencies are not new, General Jumper said in the

Chief's Sight Picture.

"Rather, they are the unique institutional qualities inherent in everything we've done and continue to do," he said.

Core competencies form the foundation upon which the Air Force organizes, trains and equips, and form the cornerstones of the service's strength as a military service, Dr. Roche said.

Previously, the service had distilled its areas of expertise into the following six distinct capabilities and labeled them core competencies: air and space superiority, global attack, rapid global mobility, precision engagement, information superiority and agile combat support.

According to the secretary and chief of staff, the Air Force's very nature of developing and delivering air and space power are at the root of the need to recognize these core competencies.

"Our systems may change, our threats may vary, our tactics may evolve and our people may come and go, but these three core competencies remain the constants that define our Air Force and enable us to fight

and win America's wars," General Jumper said.

Of the three air and space core competencies, the secretary and chief of staff said developing airmen is the heart of combat capability.

"The ultimate source of combat capability resides in the men and women of the Air Force," Dr. Roche said. "The values of strategy, technology and organization are diminished without professional airmen to

leverage their attributes."

Technology-to-warfighting involves the tools of combat capability.

"We combine the tremendous technological advancements of stealth, global communications connectivity, global positioning, and more, to put cursors on targets and steel on the enemy," General Jumper said. "It is our unique ability to apply various technologies in unison so effectively that allows us to translate our air and space power vision into decisive operational capability."

They believe integrating operations means maximizing combat capabilities.

"Innovative operational concepts and the efficient integration of all military systems – air, land, mari-

time, space and information – ensures maximum flexibility in the delivery of desired effects across the spectrum of conflict," Dr. Roche said.

According to General Jumper, victory in the 21st century belongs to those who can most quickly collect intelligence, communicate information and bring capabilities to bear against targets around the globe.

"This is precisely what our Joint and Combined Air Operations Centers achieve," he said. "The result, integrated operations, is our unique ability to ... bring effects on the enemy at times and places of our choosing."

By continually striving toward the air and space core competencies, they said, the Air Force will realize the potential of its capabilities.

"We can achieve success in these six distinctive capabilities only if we're first successful in our three (air and space) core competencies," General Jumper said. "Only then do we bring the decisive effects of air and space power into joint warfighting."

"Collectively, the air and space core competencies reflect the visions of the founders of airpower ... and serve to realize the potential of air and space forces," Dr. Roche said.

"Our continued focus on and nurturing of these core competencies will enable us to remain the world's greatest air and space force," he said.

"Our continued focus on and nurturing of these core competencies will enable us to remain the world's greatest air and space force."

**– Dr. James Roche,
Secretary of the Air Force**

Chapel nursery

The chapel is now offering a volunteer-run nursery at the 11 a.m. Protestant worship service for children two and under.

For more information or to volunteer to help, call 298-1224 or 298-2244.

OSC scholarship

The Laughlin Officers' Spouses Chub is offering academic and vocational scholarships to graduating seniors of an accredited high school, spouses of United States military members, dependent children and E-4s and below. An additional scholarship is sponsored by First Command to a high school senior. The deadline for the scholarships is April 12.

Newslines

Contact the Base Education Office, base library, local area high school counselors' offices, local colleges or the website www.geocities.com/parkluag/OSCatLaughlinscholarship.doc for eligibility, guidelines and application forms.

For more information, call Toni Kubiak, scholarship chairman, at 298-7595.

Firearm registration

Laughlin housing residents are required to register all personally owned firearms on base by March 15. Air Force Form 1314, Firearms Regis-

tration, can be obtained from www.e-publishing.af.mil. The form should be addressed ATTN: 47 SFS>SFOSS and must be signed by the firearm owner's commander. Return the form to the security forces law enforcement desk.

For more information, call 298-5248.

Commissary scholarships

The deadline for applications for the \$1,500 2003 Scholarships for Military Children is Feb. 21. The topic for this year's essay is "how has being the child of a military service member influenced your educational goals?" Applications and criteria for the program can be found at www.commissaries.com or www.fisherhouse.org or can be picked up at any commissary customer service office.

Surgeon general issues suicide prevention tools

By G.W. Pomeroy

Air Force Surgeon General Public Affairs

WASHINGTON – The Air Force's surgeon general has developed two new tools as part of its community-based Air Force Suicide Prevention Program designed to aid all airmen in the ongoing effort to prevent suicides.

Lt. Gen. George Taylor Jr. announced the "Air Force Guide for Managing Suicidal Behavior: Strategies, Resources and Tools" and the Air Force Suicide Prevention Program Web site as part of the service's strategy to provide innovative tools to help prevent suicides in the Air Force.

"Suicide prevention is the responsibility of the entire Air Force community," said Lt. Col. Rick Campise, program manager. "Suicide isn't prevented in the hospital emergency room. It's prevented in the unit by addressing quality of life concerns on a daily basis."

The 46-page clinical guide does not represent a mandate or requirement, he said. Rather, it is a set of recommendations that are intended to assist mental-health professionals in assessing and managing suicidal behavior.

"Mental-health professionals at our military installations are at the front lines assisting unit commanders and first sergeants in the care of personnel," said Brig. Gen. Gary H. Murray, commander of the Air Force Medical Operations Agency at Bolling Air Force Base, D.C.

"They face immense pressures when [suicide] is part of the clinical picture," Murray said. "It's essential that Air Force mental-health professionals have current in-

formation, applicable skills and the best resources for managing suicidal patients."

The guide is organized within eight topical chapter headings, which include: Assessment of Suicide Risk, Documentation Strategies, Ensuring Continuity of Care and Links Within the Community. The guide also has a 42-page appendix that contains examples of procedures, forms and program products.

"Experts within and outside the Air Force recognize the guide as state of the art, a product without equal in the military or civilian community," Murray said.

Though the guide is geared toward clinical use, the Web site is designed to provide information and tools to the entire Air Force community.

The site, which is dot-mil restricted, features a wealth of information, including an overview of the prevention program; how to implement a local program; links to relevant Defense Department and Air Force policies, instructions and other publications; and senior leader memos and links to other existing program products and agencies in and out of the Defense Department, which provide answers to frequently asked questions.

In calendar 2002, there were 29 suicides among active-duty airmen. That rate, 8.3 per 100,000 people, is the second lowest in the Air Force in 20 years.

From 1991 to 1996, the Air Force active-duty suicide rate was 14.1 per 100,000. From 1997, the year in which the suicide prevention program was fully implemented, through 2002, the annual average was 9.1 per 100,000.

'Award,' from page 1

which will allow us to give a better product to our customers," said Sergeant Evans.

"Civil engineering has really supported the dining facility improvements," said Lynel Council, SelRico Services project manager. "Electricians, painters, welders and outside maintainers

have all helped upgrade the dining facility in a very short period."

Some of the improvements came from ideas generated when 2nd Lt. Monica Mahoney, Laughlin food services officer, and Sergeant Evans visited Keesler Air Force Base, Miss.

"Keesler was a former multi-

facility winner and we were able to bring back some good ideas from their operation," said Sergeant Evans.

Services also plans to use the information gained during the team visit to improve their operations in the future.

"The inspection will give us a snapshot of now, but we want to keep improving past the inspection."

**– Master Sgt. Mike Evans
47th Services Division food services superintendent**

"The inspection will give us a snapshot of now, but we want to keep improving past the inspection," said Sergeant Evans.

All dining facility employees wear a button that says, "Go Hennessy, Chicago Bound in 2003."

If Laughlin earns the Air Force Hennessy Trophy, the National Restaurant Association will present the award to 47th Services Division representatives at ceremonies in Chicago in May.



Photo by Airman 1st Class Timothy Stein

Class, this is a T-6

Bruce Pattison, Lear Siegler Services Inc. instructor, shows 2nd Lt. Kevin Murray, 85th Flying Training Squadron student pilot, the cockpit of the T-6 Thursday. Lieutenant Murray is a student in Specialized Undergraduate Pilot Training class 04-04, the first Laughlin class to train in a T-6.

'Cook,' from page 1

"The Air Force that you joined is a deployable Air Force," said the general.

Two years ago during the first AEF cycle, there were 7,000 AETC troops committed to AEF. Last year, there were 13,000 and later this year there will be 20,000 airmen who will be prepared to deploy at any given time.

"That keeps us connected with what's going on in the large scheme of the Air Force," explained General Cook, noting those who conduct training will bring greater credibility to the job if they have deployed to the field for a real-world operation.

In addition to AEF, General Cook focused on recruiting and retention initiatives.

Recruiting in 2002 was the best it's been in 15 years. This can, in part, be attributed to the effects of Sept. 11, but also is the result of a boost in the number of recruiters on the street, according to the general.

Today, the Air Force has more than 1,600 enlisted accessions recruiters located in more than 1,100 recruiting offices across the United States and in six foreign countries, compared to only 1,200 in 2001.

With additional recruiters in the field, the Air Force is looking for an increase in recruits this year. In 2002, about 43,000 enlisted trainees passed through the Basic Military Training squadrons at Lackland Air Force Base, Texas. The goal

for 2003 is 47,000.

AETC has also concentrated recruitment efforts on those with technical and mechanical skill sets, General Cook said. In 1999, the service faced the possibility of missing its recruiting goal. To compensate, recruiters targeted individuals with administrative talents because of the generous selection available with those skills. As a result, the technical and mechanical fields were under-recruited or filled with people with the wrong skill sets.

"We still have shortages in five or six key career fields," General Cook said. "We're trying to shift some of our personnel, but we must be sure not to create another shortage somewhere else in doing that."

Once the recruitment goal has been met, the next challenge lies in getting airmen through basic and technical training.

In an effort to develop airmen with an AEF mindset, the fifth week of basic military training has been designated "Warrior Week." Instituted in 1995, the program puts trainees "in the field" for seven days of exposure to the expeditionary lifestyle. They live in tents, eat from deployed kitchens, and learn self-aid and buddy care, law of armed conflict and chemical and biological warfare protective measures, which includes going through a chamber filled with tear gas.

In terms of technical training, General Cook pointed out that more than 500 class seats went vacant in 2002. His goal is to reduce that number

to less than 200 in 2003.

On the officer side, the Air Force has been highly successful in pushing maximum numbers through its primary commissioning source, college ROTC detachments. However, once cadets graduate and take their commissioning oaths, the Air Force has only 60 days to get them on active duty.

The result is, "there are too many new lieutenants and not enough school seats," the general said. "Many of our new officers may wait six months for a class seat. This isn't productive for them or for the Air Force."

In some form or fashion, the recruiting, training and education programs conducted by AETC touch each of the 364,041 Air Force members.

"The effects of what we do are felt throughout the Air Force, so it's important that we get it right on the front end," the general said.

While the general's focus for the command is planted solidly in the future, a trip to Laughlin would be incomplete without a little reflection on the past.

In the decade since General Cook commanded the 47th FTW, many new structures and improvements have surfaced on Laughlin soil. Despite the physical changes, one thing remains constant – new Air Force pilots earn their wings here.

"When you drive on the base, there's absolutely no doubt about what goes on here," said General Cook. "There are no distractions from this very important mission."

Bush says U.S. will keep pressure on Iraq

By Jim Garamone

American Forces Press Service

WASHINGTON – The United States will continue to put pressure on Saddam Hussein, President George W. Bush said Tuesday.

President Bush, speaking to reporters following a meeting with economists at the White House, said the one thing that is sure is that Saddam “is not disarming.” He accused the Iraqi dictator of playing “hide and seek” with U.N. weapons inspectors.

“It’s important for the American citizens and the citizens around the world to understand that Saddam Hussein possesses some of the world’s deadliest weapons. He poses a serious threat to America and our friends and allies,” he said.

The president said all nations, including the French, who have vowed to block a new resolution in the United Nations, must come together and insist that Iraq disarm.

President Bush said the Iraqi dicta-

tor is using tactics he used in the past. “It appears to be a rerun of a bad movie,” the president said. “(Hussein) is delaying, he is deceiving, he’s asking for time, he’s playing hide-and-seek with inspectors. One thing is for certain: He’s not disarming. And so the United States of America, in the name of peace, will continue to insist he does disarm and we will keep the pressure on Saddam Hussein.”

The president reiterated that time is running out for Hussein. President

Bush said that in the interests of peace, Iraq must disarm or the United States would lead a coalition of the willing to disarm him.

The president stated that Hussein wants to focus the attention of the world on U.N. weapons inspectors. “This is not about inspectors,” he said. “This is about a disarmed Iraq.”

The president said Hussein doesn’t need more time to show the world he is serious about disarmament.



Exercise, exercise, exercise:



Photo by Airman 1st Class Yvonne Conde

Airman Sheila Fey, 47th Medical Support Squadron logistics apprentice, tightens her mask in a chemical warfare training exercise Jan. 16. The trainees are required to correctly don their masks within nine seconds of hearing, "gas, gas, gas."

By Airman 1st Class Yvonne Conde

Staff writer

You're in an austere environment, when your wingman becomes severely wounded. As a medic or not, you're trained to improvise with the equipment at hand to treat your troop's injuries.

As part of an annual readiness requirement, the 47th Medical Group recently conducted a medical readiness training exercise in a remote, wilderness location on base to simulate the given scenario: Korea.

All medical personnel received two days of practical and classroom training. Hands-on exercises included training in night operations, land navigation using a compass, racing through a confidence course with an "injured" patient on a stretcher and practicing chemical warfare gear procedures. Classroom lectures consisted of self-aid and buddy care; nuclear, biological and chemical training and their medical effects, precautions to take against terrorist activity; and understanding force-protection conditions and security.

According to Maj. Nina Watson, 47th Aeromedical Dental Squadron Health and Wellness Center flight commander and medical readiness officer, the area was chosen to provide real-world environment. "We don't have all the conveniences here that we normally would [have] in a medical center," she said. "It gives us an environment to get ready for war."

Major Watson coordinated the training to allow all medi-



Photo by Maj. Nina Watson

Medical personnel work together to tug along an "injured" patient through a low-crawl exercise of the confidence course. Several similar exercises were involved in the course.

Medical group launches local training to save money, build camaraderie, readiness

cal group members to train together locally rather than sending each individual to Wilford Hall Medical Center in San Antonio on temporary duty. "Since everyone requires this training, we'll save over \$30,000 annually in TDY funds," she added. "Plus, it allows us all to work together and build camaraderie."

The 47th Civil Engineering Squadron assisted with the site layout while the 47th Security Forces Squadron conducted lectures on land navigation, anti-terrorism, force-protection conditions and security. The 47th CES Readiness division provided chemical warfare training.

Medical personnel divided into two groups with each group attending two days of classroom and hands-on training.

Although the exercise was accomplished to satisfy annual training requirements, it was very informative, said Major Jeffrey Lawson, 47th Aeromedical Dental Squadron flight surgeon and exercise trainee. The scenario was complete with cold weather and some people were even speaking Korean. "You can always use more training," he said. "There's always something you can find and perfect. Even as an Air Education and Training Command base, we're all in the [deployment] bucket at one time or another."



Photo by Maj. Nina Watson

Medical personnel carry the "injured" patient throughout the entire confidence course. These exercises ensure personnel are capable of treating patients under extreme circumstances.



Photo by Maj. Nina Watson

(From left) Tech. Sgt. Jason Hamelback, 47th Medical Group NCO in charge of family care flight; Staff Sgt. Jerry Dunn, 47th Aeromedical Dental Squadron NCOIC; and Tech. Sgt. Terry Patterson, 47th ADS NCOIC of expeditionary medical operations, pitch a tent for the training exercises.

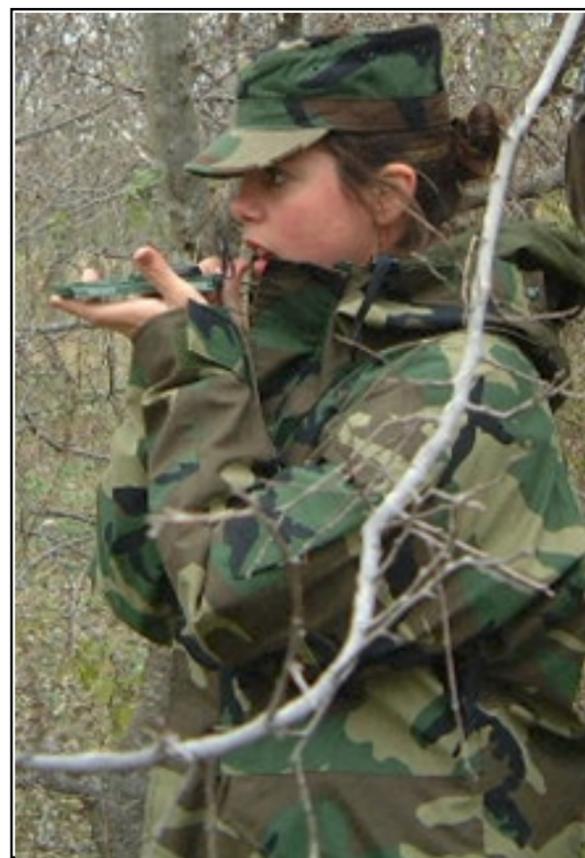


Photo by Maj. Nina Watson

1st Lt. Jaime Rivas, 47th ADS aerospace physiologist, uses a compass to practice her land navigation skills.

Bob Hope donates \$1 million for welcome center

By Cathy Landroche
Air Force Enlisted Foundation

SHALIMAR, Fla. – Bob and Dolores Hope have donated \$1 million to the Air Force Enlisted Foundation to build a facility here to honor retired Col. Robert W. Gates, a pilot on many of the comedian’s United Services Organization jaunts across the globe.

The 6,500 square foot welcome center will be built next to the Dolores Hope All Faiths Chapel, with a formal garden – the “Garden of Hope” – between the two buildings.

The new facility will house an auditorium, meeting rooms and a small kitchen. Completion is scheduled for October.

During a groundbreaking ceremony Jan. 6 for the Bob Gates Welcome Center/Auditorium, Kelly Hope spoke of his father’s friendship with the former commander.

“Colonel Gates has been a dear and good friend for 60 years plus,”

Hope said. “He was more than my father’s pilot; he’s been his closest friend, confidant and fishing buddy. At home, whenever Colonel

Gates’ name is mentioned, my father always smiles.”

And although his famous father couldn’t be there for the event, the younger Hope said his father

was there in spirit, and Bob Hope Village was one of the things of which he was most proud.

“(Bob Hope Village) started with a dream,” Gates said. “But we’re not going to stop there. The next thing we’re going to build is the assisted living facility so the residents can stay here with their friends forever,” referring to the project the foundation has been working on for several years, raising funds to build an assisted living facility on the Bob Hope Village campus.

For more information on the Bob Hope Village, the web address is: www.afenlistedwidows.org and the E-mail address is afef@afenlistedfoundation.org.

“(Bob Hope Village) started with a dream, but we’re not going to stop there.”

– Kelly Hope

Son of comedian Bob Hope

Chapel Schedule

Catholic

- Saturday ● 5 p.m., Mass
- Sunday ● 9:30 a.m., Mass
- Thursday ● 6 p.m., Choir
- Reconciliation ● By appointment

Religious Education

- 11 a.m. Sunday

Jewish

- Call Max Stool at 775-4519

Muslim

- Call Mostafa Salama at 768-9200

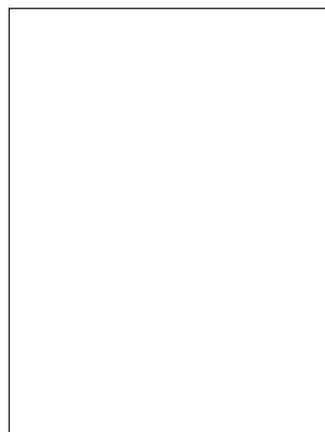
Nondenominational

- Sunday ● 6:30 p.m. Officer Christian Fellowship, call 298-2238
- Friday ● 7 p.m., Unity in Community Fellowship (activities for children)
- Monthly ● Women’s fellowship (call 298-1351 for details)

Protestant

- Saturday ● 9 a.m., Singles Bible study at the Chaparral Dining facility
- Sunday ● 9:30 to 10:30 a.m., Sunday school
- 11 a.m., General worship (blend of contemporary and traditional worship, nursery provided)
- Wednesday ● 10 a.m., Women’s Bible study
- 7 p.m., Choir at chapel

For more information on chapel events and services, call 298-5111.



Laughlin gives anthrax vaccine to those deploying

**By Airman 1st Class
Timothy Stein**
Editor

In keeping with the guidelines outlined by the Department of Defense in its recently resumed Anthrax Vaccine Immunization Program, Laughlin's 47th Medical Group has begun administrating the vaccine to members who meet the appropriate criteria.

2nd Lt. Yufang Zhang, 47th Aeromedical Dental Squadron public health flight commander, said the vaccine is being given to people about to deploy to high-threat areas for more than 15 consecutive days. While this isn't the only reason someone could receive the shot, so far it is the only criteria affecting Laughlin members.

Military members assigned to units with specialized warfighting missions, working in Department of

Defense research and those identified as early deployers could also receive the vaccine.

The vaccine is given in a series of six shots over the course of 18 months. The second vaccination is given two weeks after the first shot followed by another two weeks later. The next series begins at the six-month point, with additional shots given at 12 months and 18 months. Following the complete round of six shots, recipients should receive a yearly booster shot.

Once a member gets orders to deploy, they could get their first one, two or three shots here and continue the treatment at the deployed site, said Lieutenant Zhang.

"Anthrax as a bioweapon is a reality," said Gen. John P. Jumper, Chief of Staff of the Air Force. "The five Americans killed last fall are proof of this horror. Their deaths,

coupled with the knowledge that political regimes and terrorist groups hostile to this country are increasing their efforts to develop or obtain anthrax serve as a siren directing us to prepare for the risk of future attacks."

While the shot is safe, people receiving it may experience a local reaction or other side effects, said Lieutenant Zhang.

Soreness, redness, itching and swelling at the injection site are a few of the most frequent side effects, Lieutenant Zhang said. A lump at the injection site may also occur, sometimes lasting for a few weeks. Muscle and joint aches, headaches, rashes, chills, low-grade fever or nausea may also occur after the shot. These symptoms usually go away in less than a week.

Lieutenant Zhang said anyone who experiences any side effects after receiving the shot should see their

primary care provider to document the side effects.

In an effort to educate Laughlin members on the resumed program, unit commanders will conduct a briefing with all unit members sometime between now and the end of March. A Medical Group representative will also be on hand at the briefings to answer questions. Family members are invited to attend as well.

"It's very important that we educate our people about the facts of this program," said Col. Charles Hardin, 47th Medical Group commander. "This vaccine has proven to be incredibly safe and effective in over 500,000 administered doses. It is our number one weapon against the threat of anthrax and the best defense we can offer our people to protect their health and ensure we remain able to perform the mission."

The *XLer*

Hometown: Dallas, Pa.
Family: Wife, Diana and two dogs, saydee and Annie
Time at Laughlin: Three years
Time in service: 18 years
Greatest accomplishments: Marrying my wife and surviving brain surgery
Hobbies: Anything to do outdoors and weightlifting
Bad habits: Where do I start?
Favorite musician or band: Hank Williams Jr.
Favorite movie: Cowboy Way
If you could spend one hour with any person, who would it be and why? My parents, I've been away from them to long. They are my heros.



Photo by Airman 1st Class Yvonne Conde

Tech. Sgt. Michael Newell
47th Mission Support Squadron

CES downs LSI 69-54, in high scoring affair

By Airman 1st Class
Timothy Stein

Editor

The 47th Civil Engineer Squadron's basketball team outscored the Lear Sieglar Inc. squad 69-54 in intermural action Wednesday night at the XL Fitness Center.

Ray Dunklin lead the CES scorers with 34 followed by Brian Tonancour with 14.

CES started strong in the first half and never let up.

They scored 10 of the first 14 points and never trailed the entire game. LSI played strong but could not keep the CES offense away from the basket for any amount of time. The closest they could get to CES was a three-point margin, mid-way through the first half.

CES quickly called time when they felt the LSI surge. Taking the time-out worked for CES, who quickly took control of the game and led by 10 at halftime.

The second half went much the same way for CES. LSI, while trading basket for basket with CES, couldn't get a rally going. They couldn't get within 10 points of the lead.

CES finally won by the score of 69-54.

With the victory, CES goes to 2-1 and plays the 47th Security Forces Squadron next. LSI drops to 0-3 and plays the CCS squad.

Sportslines

Aerobics classes

The XL Fitness Center has a variety of aerobics programs available throughout the week at different times to suit all fitness levels.

Step, Spin, Cardio Kickboxing and Power Yoga classes are available for Laughlin people to attend.

All classes are free and conducted by well informed, certified instructors. For more information, schedules are available at the fitness center, or call 298-5251.

Bowl-off

The roll-off for the AETC Bowling Championship qualification is Monday through Wednesday. The two military men and two military women with the highest score from 12 games will go on to the championship. The 12 games can be played any time Monday through Wednesday.

For more information, call 298-5526.

Basketball standings

Eastern Conference

Team	Win/Lose	Points for	Points against
86th	2-0	76	61
87th Talons	2-0	87	64
OSS#1	1-1	66	65
84/85th	1-1	91	56
LCSAM	0-2	59	87
OSS#2	0-2	56	102

Western Conference

Team	Win/Lose	Points for	Points against
MED GP	3-0	158	130
Compt.	2-1	127	138
CES	2-1	171	155
SFS	0-1	47	54
CCS	0-2	62	97
LSI	0-3	135	165

Thinking about getting out?

Call the career assistance adviser at 298-5456 for guidance.



The Air Force rewards good ideas with money. Check out the IDEA Program data system at <https://ideas.randolph.af.mil>, or call 298-5236.

XL Fitness Center hours

Monday – Thursday:
5 a.m. to midnight

Friday:
5 a.m. to 8 p.m.

Saturday – Sunday:
9 a.m. to 8 p.m.

Community Calendar

24
FRI

Club XL is having a **Mongolian barbecue** from 5 to 8 p.m. Friday. Choose from a colorful selection of meats, vegetables, noodles and spiced oils to create your own stir fry combination. Club members pay 40 cents per ounce, nonmembers pay 40 cents per ounce plus \$3.

For more information, call 298-5374.

25
SAT

A **guided hiking tour** on the Galloway White Shaman Preserve is offered 12:30 to 2:20 p.m. every Saturday. It is a two hour tour into the Pecos River canyon. Tours are subject to cancellation. There is a fee and reservations are available but not required. For more information, call (888) 525-9907.

The Del Rio Council of the Arts is hosting a **Youth Art Exhibition** now through Feb. 20, at the Plaza Del Sol Mall.

The XL Fitness Center is holding a **10K walk/run** at 8 a.m. Saturday starting at the football field parking lot. For more information, call 298-5251.

26
SUN

Club Amistad is having **Superbowl party** at 5 p.m. Sunday. Admission is free and all ranks are invited. There will be door prizes. For more information, call 298-5374.

27
MON

Stop by for **Club Amistad Bingo** from 6 to 9:30 p.m. Monday. For more information, 298-5346.

28
TUE

A **transition assistance program seminar** is set for 7:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Tuesday through Thursday at the Family Support Center Conference Room. Topics covered include Veteran's Adminis-

tration Benefits, career assessment and planning, resume preparation and interviewing for success. Personnel are encouraged to attend this class one to three years prior to their separation or retirement. For more information, call 298-5620.

The South Texas Blood and tissue Center is holding a **blood drive** at 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Wednesday at the Fiesta Center. For more information, call 298-5495.

The **Del Rio-Laughlin American Legion Post 298** will hold its regular meeting at 7:30 p.m. Wednesday at the Barn, located across the highway from Laughlin's main gate. All active duty military are eligible to join. The American Legion is your largest military and veteran voice on Capitol Hill. For more information, call 298-2097.

Every Wednesday through Sunday a **guided tour through one of North America's oldest cave dwellings** is offered at Seminole Canyon State Historical Park. Start times are 10 a.m. and 3 p.m. There is a fee and reservations are not required. For more information, call (915) 292-4464.

Stop by for **Club Amistad Bingo** from 6 to 9:30 p.m. Wednesday. For more information, 298-5346.

30
Thur

Club XL features an **Asian-Pacific buffet** from 5 to 8 p.m. Thursday The all-you-can-eat menu includes lightly breaded sweet and sour pork, Hunan beef, Hawaiian-style Huli-Huli chicken, beef bulgogi, steamed white rice, stir fried Asian vegetables, pancit noodles, combination fried rice, tossed salad, baked rolls, fortune cookies, tea, lemonade and ice cream bar. The cost is \$8.95 per person. People who use their Members First discount pay only \$5.95. For more information, call 298-5374.

31
FRI

Stop by for **Club Amistad Bingo** starting at 5 p.m. Jan. 31. For more information, 298-5346.

1
SAT

The automotive skills development center is offering a **free tune-up class** from 9 to 11 a.m. Feb. 1. The class is available to the first eight students who sign up. For more information, call 298-5844.

2
SUN

The Black History Committee and the base chapel are hosting a **Gospel Fest** at 3 p.m. Feb 2 at the base chapel.

This will be a kick off event for Black History Month. Dinner will be served following the program. For more information, call 298-5111, 298-5422 or 298-5914.

3
MON

A **winter Texan social** will be held from 2 to 4 p.m. Feb. 3 at the Fiesta Community Center. All base personnel are invited. For more information, call 298-5474.

7
FRI

The base library will hold a **special story time** at 10:30 a.m. Feb. 7 in honor of National Children's Dental health Month. For more information, 298-5119.

The Fiesta Center and H.U.G.S. committees are planning a **Family Dining-Out** set for 6 p.m. Feb. 7 at Club XL. Tickets are \$10 and include dinner and a coin. Tickets are available until Jan. 31 and will not be available at the door. Dan Clark, author and motivational speaker, will be the guest speaker. The recommended age is ten years and older, though younger children may attend if parents feel they are mature enough to enjoy the event and participate. For more information, call 298-5419.

Services' briefs

NAF auction

Minimum bids for the nonappropriated funds auction must be turned into the NAF Resource Management Flight located in building 235 by 8:45 a.m. Feb. 21. The items include two pontoon boats, available for viewing from 1:30 to 2:30 p.m. Mondays through Thursdays in building 2022; a playground set and four golf carts, each available for viewing from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Mondays through Fridays in building 511.

The minimum bid for the boats and golf carts is \$25. Minimum bid for the playground set is \$600. Bids will be opened at 9 a.m. Feb. 21 in building 235. The auction is open to all military personnel, Department of Defense civilians and contractors.

For more information, call 298-5892 or 298-5911.

Premier Vacation Package Program

Club members in the Air Education and Training Command are eligible to win one of four vacation packages between Feb. 1 and March 31. Club members purchasing over \$2 in food from the club will automatically receive an entry form. The club will offer an additional five entry forms for each additional \$5 food purchase during Friday Night Dining events. Entry forms will be selected for weekly drawings including a \$100 cash prize and will be submitted in the grand prize drawing.

The grand prizes include four premier vacation packages. Each package allows the winner the opportunity to design their own vacation worth \$3,500 through the Information, Tickets and Tours office. Visit your club for details and entry forms.

For more information, call 298-5374.

This week at the movies

Saturday

Scooby Doo, G, 1 p.m.

Wednesday

Abandon, PG-13, 6:30 p.m.

Thursday

The Banger Sisters, R, 6:30 p.m.

For more information, call 298-5526.

For current information on all services activities, call the 47th Services Division Marketing Office at 298-5826, or visit our Web site at www.laughlin.af.mil.