

The IGUANA

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November 1, 2002



Photo by Spc. George Kyriakeas

Sgt. 1st Class Maxima Holmes, 1st Battalion, 228th Aviation Regiment, paints curtain rods to allow patients some privacy in the outpatient clinic.

Volunteers head to La Paz

By Spc. George Kyriakeas
JTF-Bravo Public Affairs Office

Volunteers from all sections of Joint Task Force-Bravo came together and descended like locusts on Hospital "Roberto Sauzo Cordova" in La Paz Oct. 19.

The mission was not destructive in nature however, the volunteers came to spend a Saturday fixing up the outpatient clinic and playground areas of the hospital.

Maj. Selina Williams, Medical Element, started the project to assist the hospital. "I went on a local MEDRETE to La Paz and when I was taken on a tour of the hospital I saw some areas where we could help to improve," she said.

The soldiers and airmen involved in the project removed unsafe playground equipment, repainted and installed new swings and a slide and painted the walls in the playground area and six outpatient clinic rooms, said Tech. Sgt. William Johnson, AFFOR.

The work done was not just cosmetic, Williams said. Volunteers made curtains and built curtain rods and holders to hang on the windows of the outpatient clinic rooms to provide patients with privacy. Sinks were also installed in these rooms. Prior to this, the doctors had to walk to the end of the outpatient area to wash their hands before seeing each patient. These rooms also lacked adequate lighting and volunteers worked to remedy that situation as well.

"Apparently the providers were trying to provide health care with no lighting. Tech. Sgt. James Scarborough (AFFOR) came out twice and got all the

lights working in six rooms of the outpatient clinic," said Williams.

Support for this project came from all over. Money was donated by the Honduran Charity Organization, ARFOR, the Airmans Association and MEDEL as well as the New Jerusalem Church of God in Christ in North Pole, Alaska.

Much remains to be done at the hospital and, while Williams is leaving, the work will continue.

"The incredible work Maj. Williams has done while she has been here, we want to continue that legacy," said Johnson.

Have a comment or question? E-mail: George.Kyriakeas@jtfb.southcom.mil



Photo by Spc. George Kyriakeas

Sgt. Chris Buterbaugh, Medical Element, adds a little color to a painting on the walls surrounding the playground.

ouch

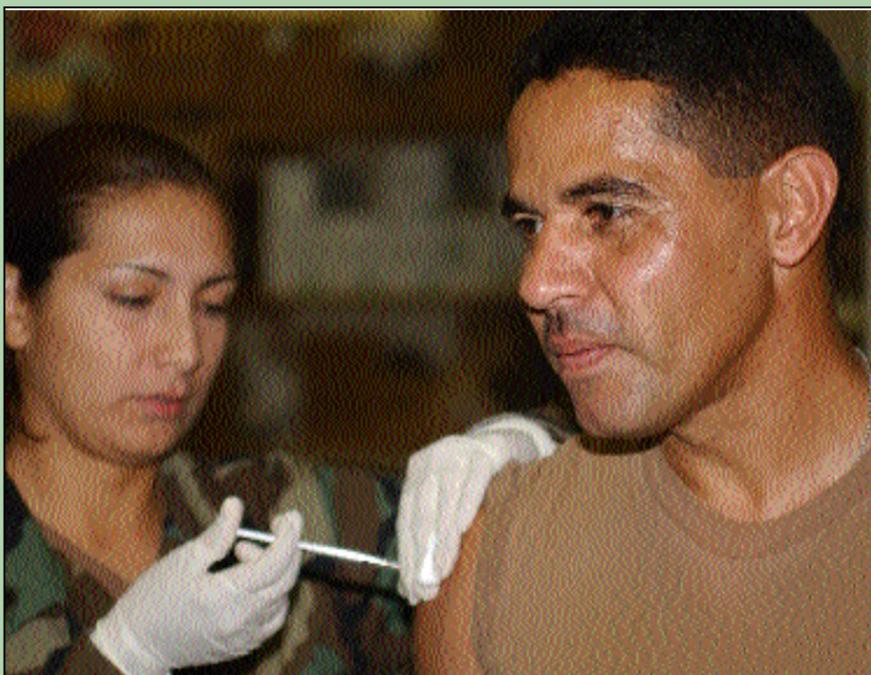


Photo by Spc. George Kyriakeas

Sgt. 1st Class Ibrahim Rosado receives an influenza shot from Spec. Monica Sifuentes Oct. 22. The injections will lessen the severity of the flu.

A day in the life of Soto Cano

By Master Sgt. G. A. Volb
JTF-Bravo Public Affairs

Hundreds of photojournalists crisscrossed the globe Oct. 22 in support of a HarperCollins Publishing project entitled "A Day in the Life of the U.S. Armed Forces."

While not every location currently playing "home" to U.S. service members was covered, Soto Cano and Joint Task Force Bravo was one of the locations selected. More than 120 photographers were used in the process.

Respected photojournalist Lynsey Addario, based out of Mexico City, Mexico, spent nearly 19 hours in an effort to provide publishers with photographic synopsis of the JTF-Bravo mission.

The finished product, in the form of a coffee table book, will be a compilation of the best photos taken that one day and published in the spring.

"We wanted to capture the daily life, the sacrifices and rewards, the faces and the hopes and dream of the men and women in the U.S. armed forces," said

Peter Goggin, assignment editor for HarperCollins Publishers. "Our goal is to produce a portrait, in indelible images and eloquent words, of those who wear the uniforms of the Army, Navy, Air Force, Marines and Coast Guard."

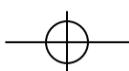
Here, Addario spent the day and night covering everything from early-morning Army physical training to medical readiness exercises and an orphanage visit.

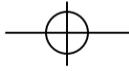
One of the highlights of the day, according to Addario, was the search and rescue exercise. Her unique brand of photography - going without a flash the entire time and relying on a 14mm wide angle lens - offered a unique look at the men and women of Soto Cano.

Goggin added that the book will be enhanced by a television special, a museum-quality photographic exhibition and a website.

Shots taken here will be scrutinized by editors at HarperCollins for possible inclusion in the book.

Addario currently freelances for the New York Times and Newsweek among others.





Commander's Corner

Our role as diplomats and our role in national defense

By Lt. Col. Richard Hilburn
MEDEL Commander

Often, Americans are baffled as to why so many people in so many foreign countries dislike us. Why would anyone hate us enough to execute an attack like 9-11? Why are there so many people all over the world who sympathize more with the attackers than with the innocent victims of that mass murder?

Americans are baffled because we are poor students of honest history and because our media is focused on sensational stories that will sell ads rather than big-picture, in-depth journalism that educates us about past and current affairs. The current media focus on the sniper attacks in Northern Virginia and Maryland is a case in point: It's almost impossible to get anything else at all on American news channels. Yet, we are only 280

million of 6.6 billion people on the earth and while the sniper attacks are significant in our culture, these episodes shouldn't overwhelm attention to other events of much more global impact and much more lasting importance.

One consequence of our slanted media is that we misbelieve ourselves to be the most generous and involved benefactors of emerging third world countries and of the United Nations. The fact is though, that many countries give far more international aid to emerging nations than we do and our contribution to the U.N., even in terms of troops and equipment, is of a much smaller proportion than that provided by a number of other members. In fact, non-government organizations, some of which are global despite our misconception that they are uniquely American, are more engaged than our government.

Another consequence of our slanted media is that we often don't know the grief we have caused our global neighbors through international bullying with our monetary might and industrial prowess. In Central America for instance, American businesses for decades, brutalized the country sides, scalping forests, gouging out mines without regard for erosive consequences and capitalizing on cheap labor without putting back into the host nations, a fair proportion of the profits generated. During the Iran-Contra affair, in violation of our own constitutional laws, we exercised unilateral activity that caused conflicts to spill over into more than one country. As a result, populations with whom we had no quarrel, sometimes had to fight to defend their borders. Their citizens died because of conflicts we fueled.

The real question is why anyone gives us a second

See **COMMANDER'S CORNER** page 3

The Chaplain's Corner

"A UNIVERSAL PROBLEM"

By Chaplain (Capt.) Patrick R. Basal
JTF-Bravo Chaplain

"For all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God." Romans 4:23

Sin is a common denominator in the human condition.

It's a problem that we cannot ignore. The word sin comes from the Greek word, hamartia, which means to miss the mark. It is an archer's term, used by the Greeks to describe the distance between the bullseye on a target and the actual place where the arrow landed.

As this Scripture reminds us, the Bible uses the word "sin" to describe our falling short of God's glory.

Sin is the term used to show our failure to live up to God's perfect standard. Each one of us has broken God's law, His standards, by thought or by deed. When faced with the evidence, we must each admit that we are sinners, by nature and by choice.

God is so pure and so righteous that He cannot have sin anywhere near Him.

There is no sin in heaven. And, there is the crux of our problem. If we are going to live in heaven with God, our Father, something is going to have to happen to our sin.

We cannot take it with us to heaven. And, it will not go away on its own.

Sin is a terminal illness. In fact, the Bible is very clear that left alone, the outcome of the sin in our lives will be eternal death.

Sin is mankind's universal problem. But, God

loves us so much He provides a solution. Christians know the answer.

It's through His son, Jesus.

Despite its Christian heritage, the United States leads every other nation in the industrialized world in the percentage of single-parent families (23 percent), abortion rate (22.9 per 1,000 women aged 15-44), sexually transmitted diseases (syphilis rate is 6.3 per 100,000 and gonorrhea rate is 149.5 per 100,000), teenage birth rate (42 per 1,000 girls aged 15-19), use of illegal drugs by students (44.9 percent using in 1998), and the size of the prison population (327 per 100,000).

Our rate of child poverty (20 percent) is likewise abysmal.

- Source: "Lost in America" by Tom Clegg and Warren Bird

"We're suffering from only one disease in the world. Our basic problem is not a race problem. Our basic problem is not a poverty problem. Our basic problem is not a war problem. Our basic problem is a heart problem. We need to get the heart changed, the heart-transformed."

- Billy Graham

To learn more about God's solution and His answer to this universal sin problem join us each Sunday morning at 0945 as we study and take an in-depth look at the book of Romans. It will truly help you transform your heart and mind into something pleasing and acceptable to God. Hope to see you there.

PAX DOMINE
(The Peace of the Lord)

SUBMISSIONS

The Iguana is always looking for submissions. Any articles, photos or letters to be submitted to The Iguana can be sent to the PAO at george.kyriakeas@jtfb.southcom.mil or delivered to the Public Affairs Office, bldg. D-06. If you have any questions regarding possible submissions call ext. 4150 or 4676.

The IGUANA

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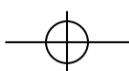
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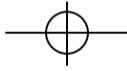
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There's more to patriotism than meets the eye

By Lt. Col. Rich Cordell

8th Expeditionary Air Mobility Squadron Commander

PRINCE SULTAN AIR BASE, Saudi Arabia – I've always considered myself a patriot, but recently I've come to realize there's more to patriotism than wearing red, white and blue.

Let me set the scene for my awakening.

The cell phone rang; it was the boss. He began, "Rich, it's Todd. I've got good news and bad news."

Taking the bait, I replied, "Go ahead, give me the bad news."

His tone changed and became serious, "I'm pretty sure you've got a command, but it's not a flying command and it's a remote."

My world came crashing down. I was devastated and angry. What did I do to deserve this?

Then I arrived at Prince Sultan Air Base, Saudi Arabia, where the men and women of the 8th Expeditionary Air Mobility Squadron, known as the Mighty 8th, and the 363rd Air Expeditionary Wing taught me the true meaning of patriotism.

It was during the Mighty 8th's early morning bus ride to work. Airmen talked of birthdays and weddings missed and of anniversaries that would be delayed; but not with the bitterness or anger I felt when I got the news

from my boss that I was headed here.

Instead, I saw a true patriotism flowing from their hearts, and I continue to see it every day.

Most of these men and women volunteered to be activated, knowing full well they'd find themselves thousands of miles from loved ones; missing all those once-in-a-lifetime events that will happen during their rotation.

They talk of things they'll miss and of the love of their life. Bob's daughter is sick. The infrequent news he receives provides little reassurance.

Miguel and George speak of their daughters' sweet 16 parties. The girls say they understand and they grudgingly accept the cost of their fathers' patriotism.

They all describe their children and families with love and admiration.

Morris is celebrating his 50th birthday here in the desert. What a milestone to miss sharing with your family.

Rich and Dave married their loves less than a week before they were activated. Some honeymoon.

John is rather quiet. He's trying to manage a difficult situation. He's served at PSAB for four months. When he returns to his loved ones, he'll have 30 days to prepare for a year remote in Korea. You have to wonder how his wife calculates the cost of their family's patri-

otism. Over 24 months they'll be separated for sixteen.

Death is a foe that follows us no matter where we go. Crystal has lost her aunt and can't be there for the funeral.

John has just returned from his two short weeks of emergency leave. He heard the bad news of his father's death on his dad's birthday.

Mike talks of his grandmother and of her passing. Instead of returning on emergency leave, he decided to remain here and serve with the PSAB team. He speaks warmly of her. She sounds like most of our grandmothers and reminds us all of how much we miss them.

Lew's wife has managed the sale of their home and the purchase of their new home all by herself. She has maneuvered around the lawyers and administrative nightmares and yet she assures Lew, "All's fine; the pregnancy is going well and the baby's fine."

As these incredible people have accepted the burden to serve, so have their families.

They seek no reward or favor, they do this for honor and God's higher purpose.

Just like you, they are true patriots and have taught me how selfish I have been.

Thank you and God bless you for your service to country and your patriotism.

One Team - One Fight.

Commanders Corner

From page 2

chance. One reason is that despite all of our faux pas, America is still the greatest land in the world. Our system of protected civil liberty is model and the success of our free enterprise system proves that given an equal chance, human beings can all find prosperity.

A second reason, is that Americans travel all over the world and our troops are all over the world and through these kinds of exposures, the citizens of other countries have first hand experience with our people. Most of the time, Americans are courteous, considerate and generous to a fault. We are wealthy enough such that few of us have to worry about adequate food or shelter and so when we recognize others struggling for basic things that we almost take for granted, our hearts are moved. We try to help.

It's important for all of us to realize that we're not the only ones so altruistically inspired. In Honduras, for instance, there is a robust mission from China, from Japan and from Germany. Other Hispanic countries are en-

gaged with mutual support. We have no monopoly on goodwill and we will be accorded respect according to our contribution.

It is said, "A bridge that falls makes a thousand times the noise, of the bridge that stands." For every serious mistake we Americans make in our interpersonal relationships overseas, it takes a thousand good deeds to offset the damage done. Every time one of us slanders another culture, discriminates against another race or religion, every time one of us leaves parentless offspring as orphans of selfish, shallow sex and every time we overlook American corporate or political usurping of host nation populations and lands, we abrogate our responsibility as citizens of the greatest country on the face of the earth.

It is our responsibility to be aware of how others see us; not how we see ourselves. It is our responsibility to know how American egocentricity hurts our relationships with other people, in other cultures. It is our re-

sponsibility to hold accountable, the officials whom we elect, to marshal our industrial and economic appetite so that we do not destroy hope that our children will be at peace with their neighbors on the earth as it fills with an exponentially growing population on a technologically shrinking planet.

All of us are diplomats for America; for our present and future progeny and for global peace. Every one of us is a critically important player by the way we live with our global neighbors and the way we vote and by the letters we write to newspapers, business leaders and our government officials.

Every single one of us has an opportunity to make a difference here. Many members of JTF-B will return to CONUS after their tour with the life-long gratification of knowing that they touched a little piece of a foreign land and left behind good memories and good feelings. This diplomacy is our best defense against enemies like the Al Qaeda.



Photo by Spc. George Kyriakeas

The JTF-Bravo Army 10-Miler team. From left, Back Row: Capt. Douglas Hutchinson, Col. Raymond Thomas, Sponsor Jim Smith, Lt. Col. William Sternhagen, Lt. Ruth Miller, Tech. Sgt. Alvarado Delgado. Kneeling: Sgt. 1st Class Ibrahim Rosado, Spc. David Baskin.

JTF-Bravo 10-miler team places 8th in Washington

PAO Staff Report

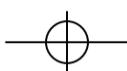
The Joint Task Force Bravo 10-miler team finished eighth out of 120 teams in the Military Open Mixed category of the Army 10-Miler race held Oct. 20 in Washington D.C. The Army 10-Miler is held every year in October in Washington. This year's race was the 18th running of the race.

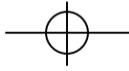
"This is why all true runners train year round, this is the ultimate Army running event," said Sgt. 1st Class Ibrahim Rosado, ARFOR.

The team had the backing of all of JTF-Bravo and the

local community, said Lt. Col. William Sternhagen, ARFOR Commander. The teams' uniforms were provided by Jim Smith, representing the Comayagua Veterans of Foreign Wars and C.J.'s Bar and Grill. "The team would like to thank the commanders, staff, supervisors and supporters for everything they did for the team. It would not have been possible without your support of the team and the runners," said Sternhagen.

The JTF-Bravo 10-miler team finished with a score of 4:10:04 in the Military Open Mixed category.





Firefighters complete EMT training course

Class saves Air Force money, increases response capabilities

By 2nd Lt. Carla Pampe
Public Affairs Director

Nineteen firefighters completed basic Emergency Medical Technician training Monday after completing an intensive four-week course that not only increased Soto Cano's emergency response capabilities, but saved the Air Force thousands of dollars.

The course was taught by Senior Master Sgt. Troy Basham, an Air Force Reserve individual mobilization augmentee assigned to the Fire Department at the 6th Civil Engineer Squadron, MacDill Air Force Base, Fla. Bringing Basham to Soto Cano TDY was a tremendous cost savings, said Master Sgt. Nick Campbell, deputy fire chief.

"The cost to bring SMSgt. Basham here is approximately \$2,000, and we are training/certifying 19 fire fighters," he said. "To send those Fire Dawgs out of here for the same training would run in the neighborhood of \$75,000-\$100,000 depending on location, because you have to figure almost 30 days TDY.

"Once you add up air travel, per diem, lodging, class registration and rental car for 19 personnel, the price grows rapid-

ly," Campbell added. "Also, not to mention, if we had to send that number of folks out of here our reduced staffing would limit our capabilities, something we cannot attach a dollar figure to."

The firefighters began their training Sep 26.

"This course was four weeks long. There are minimums for academics and teaching that must be attained, but more importantly we wanted to insure that the class had plenty of opportunity to absorb the material and learn the skills," Basham said. "As a result we exceeded the requirements. Most college EMT courses are three months long with three-hour classes meeting two nights a week. Clinical experience is obtained by additional hours riding on a street ambulance and working in an emergency room."

One of the firefighters taking the EMT course was Airman 1st Class Casey Doane.

"I decided to join this EMT class because it is very valuable training that I did not want to pass up," Doane said. "The biggest challenge by far was the amount of information that had to be learned in such a short time - everything

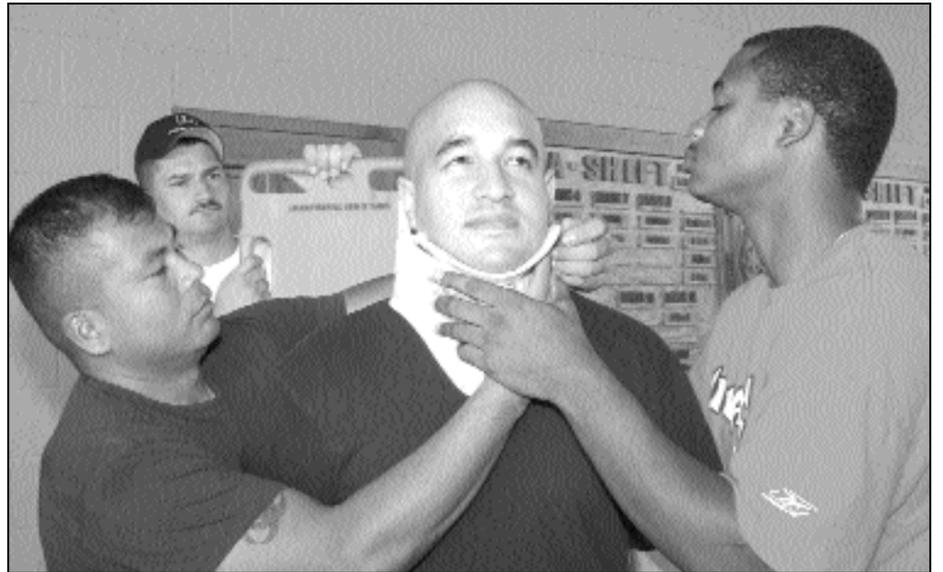


Photo by 2nd Lt. Carla Pampe
Staff Sgt. Mike Lumbreras (left) and Senior Airman Eric Watson (far right) stabilize the neck of their simulated patient, Tech. Sgt. Al Medina, as Airman 1st Class Steve Harwell readies the backboard during EMT training at the base fire station recently.

from legal liabilities and issues to human anatomy and patient care. It really was a challenge for all of us."

Doane said he and the other firefighters enjoyed working with Basham.

"Working with SMSgt. Basham has been a unique experience for all of us. He brings so much knowledge to the table," he said. "In my mind he teaches two classes at once - one class being out of the book - anatomy, legalities, medical

care, and so on, and the other class being what he calls his 'war stories.' These are real life incidents and experiences that he tells us about which give the students a good idea of what being an EMT is really like."

Campbell said having additional firefighters EMT certified will be a huge benefit to Soto Cano.

"Firefighters are called to respond to any and all emergencies. By certifying these guys to the EMT-B level it increases our department's capability in being successful each and every time we are called to duty," he said. "Although MEDEL is directly responsible for medical response on Soto Cano, this training will allow us to better support their mission. The National Registry certification ensures that both organizations are singing from the same sheet of music. The FD has personnel on-duty in the station 24/7. Our response time is 3-5 minutes anywhere on the base, ensuring prompt medical attention around the clock."

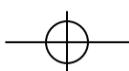
Doane feels the EMT training will also strengthen the relationship between the fire department and the medical element.

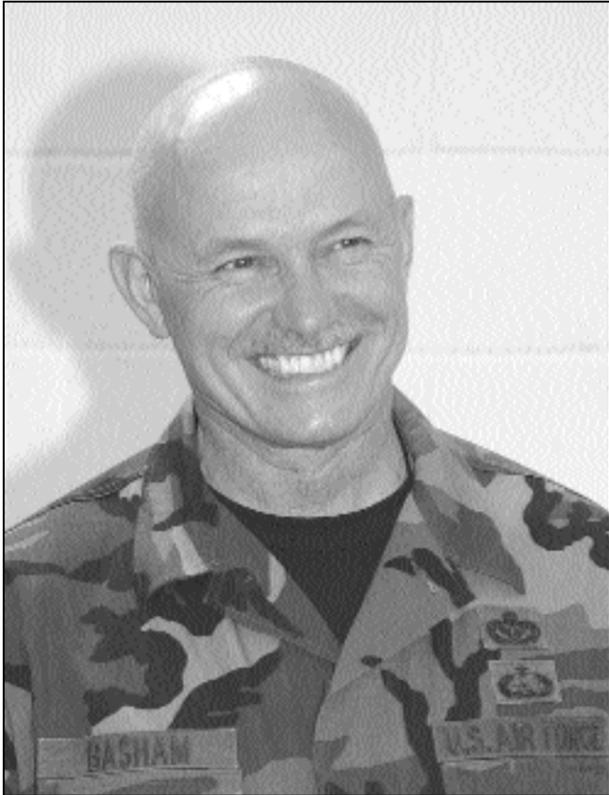
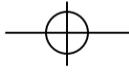
"Not only will our duties be enhanced but the efficiency of how we interact with other emergency response agencies as well," he said. "In certain emergencies, such as hazmats or motor vehicle accidents, firefighters are the most highly trained to work in those kinds of environments. Having EMT means that any patients will receive emergency medical care that much quicker, which in turn increases the effectiveness of advanced life support and hospital care."

Editor's Note: Although the Fire Dawgs have completed the EMT course, they will have to wait about six weeks for their tests to be scored by the National Registry in Columbus, Ohio.



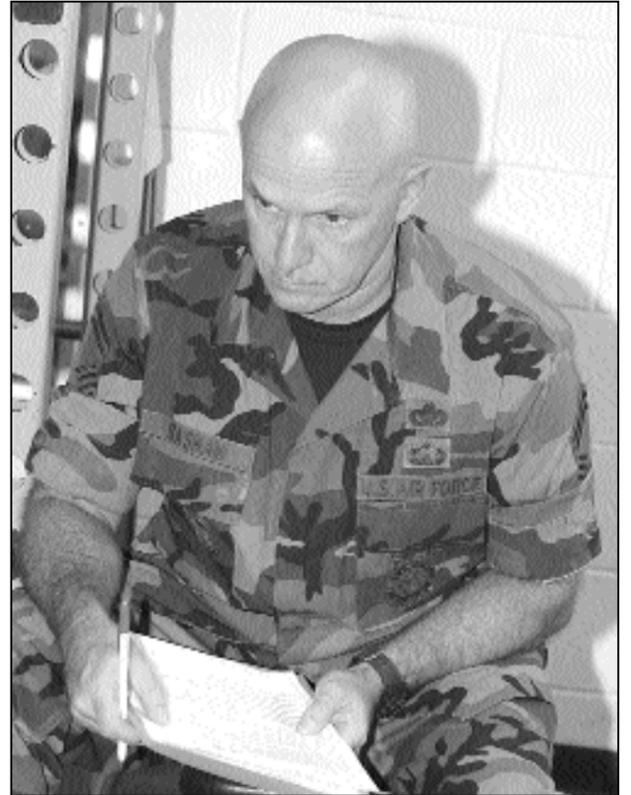
Photo by 2nd Lt. Carla Pampe
Airman 1st Class Randy Simeon stabilizes the neck of a simulated patient, Senior Airman John Navarro, as Airmen 1st Class Bobby Payne and Casey Doane simulate door removal during the rapid extrication portion of their Emergency Medical Technician course.





One -on- One

-with-
Senior Master Sgt. Troy Basham
Air Force Reserve Firefighter



(One-on-One is a forum designed to provide members of the Soto Cano Air Base community with snapshots of the many interesting and unusual people who live and work here. This week's interview is with Senior Master Sgt. Troy Basham, an Air Force Reserve Individual Mobilization Augmentee who is here TDY to teach an EMT course to the Fire Dawgs. A paramedic for 22 years, Basham has appeared on two television shows - "Paramedics," and "Trauma, Life in the E.R." The interview and photos are by 2nd Lt. Carla Pampe.)

TI: How many years have you been in the Air Force?
Basham: Since 1971 - 12 years active, 20 years Reserve plus Desert Storm and Enduring Freedom active duty stints.

TI: How many years have you been a paramedic?
Basham: Since 1980 - 22

TI: What other areas are you certified in (I remember you'd mentioned law enforcement as one)?

Basham: Firefighter, Paramedic, Law Enforcement, Aeromedical Crew, Tactical EMT Instructor, Lifeguard, Scuba Instructor-Trainer, HAZMAT Technician, SWAT Instructor, Airborne Rescue Operations, AMSAR, USAR, High Angle Rescue Trainer, Army Ranger Mountaineering -- I don't want to put any more.

TI: Out of all the skills you listed, what is your favorite thing to do?

Basham: All of the things I do revolve around one thing: saving lives. Whether it is fire fighting, tactical operations, air rescue, water rescue, rope, HAZMAT, counter terrorism, Weapons of Mass Destruction or whatever, the commonality is paramedic. I look at all else as just a means to get at those who need help. I have amassed a lot of technical knowledge towards that end. It enables me to go into a diversity of situations and render the most amount of help that I possibly can. That is what I live for.

TI: What made you decide to become a firefighter/paramedic?

Basham: While stationed in Incirlik Turkey, roomed with two doctors and we had a lot of opportunity to discuss medical matters, trauma and in general "saving lives." I was privileged to watch them in action. It be-

came obvious to me shortly thereafter that I was put here on earth to save lives and since then I have stuck my finger into every pie that I possibly can towards that end.

TI: When did you appear on the show Paramedics?
Basham: "Paramedics" that episode first aired in 1999 and is still being run, and "Trauma; Life in the E.R." in 1998.

TI: What was it like to be on a national TV show? Did your buddies tease you about it?

Basham: It was really fun. The crew rode with my street unit for three months and flew with me on the Aeromedical Helicopter at the same time. I got to meet

and know some really fascinating folks. It is a lot of fun to watch the show and re-live some of the moments. There was one subtle instance when we were responding to a call and it was raining. You have to look really close on the show but you can see that the truck was going sideways as he was filming from inside the cab. I felt compelled to say something cool on camera. So I tell my partner who was driving to gently let off of the gas and steer to the right. He looks at me and totally in character tells me that he knew what he was doing and a couple of other little things that caused his dialogue to be excluded from the show. There was a little teasing [from my buddies] but mostly they said how cool they found the show.

TI: Why did you agree to come down and teach this EMT class?

Basham: Because Master Sgt. [Nick] Campbell asked me, because I love to teach and because this is an undertaking that we have been trying to pioneer for some time. It is our hope that this will open some doors and eyes to the concept.

TI: Was it hard to take time off from your civilian job?

Basham: Yes, I have exhausted all of my military leave and annual leave for this CY. It was necessary for me to find replacements for my shifts. I will have to work 12 additional 24-hour shifts when I return.

TI: Is there anything you'd like to add or expand on?

Basham: In my encounters with the Fire Dawgs and MEDEL; I have this to say. If these two groups truly represent the cadre here at Soto Cano Air Base, then you have a 100 percent effective, professional and motivated force. My time here has been very rewarding, to meet the people of the base, see Honduras and have the honor of teaching the Dawgs a thing or two has been one of the high points of my military career.

TI: What have you enjoyed most about your time here at Soto Cano.

Basham: The Fire Dawgs, I have been a Firefighter for 30 years and in all of my encounters have never met such a consistently outrageous, hilarious, dedicated and motivated group of professionals. They are what I have enjoyed. It is one time that I can truly say it has been a pleasure teaching such a group of guys.

Bio Snapshot

Name: Troy A. Basham

Age: 49

Hometown: Tampa, Fla.

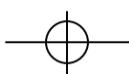
Education: Associate's Degree in Fire Science, and 160 Hours toward a Bachelor's Degree in Law Enforcement

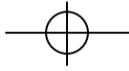
Family: Wife, ??; daughter, ??, 12; and son, ??, 7

Favorite pastime: Adventure racing

Favorite movie: Platoon

Biggest misconception about firefighters: "That they sit on their butts and play cards. Firefighters are a lot like military people. They are not paid to produce a menial service. We are paid to maintain the most expert state of readiness and to put our lives on the line when duty calls. Play cards? Yes. Play Volleyball? Yes. Workout and Train? You bet. Die in the line of duty? Just ask the families and friends of the numerous brothers and sisters who have gone before. Firefighters, solidiers, sailors and airmen, we are all in that brotherhood of service that says, 'We stand ready to make the ultimate sacrifice.'"





Special ops soldiers hear profiles of bin Laden, terrorism

By Spc. Kyle J. Cosner

US Army Special Operations Command Public Affairs Office

FORT BRAGG, N.C. — Perhaps best known for their work in combat zones, Army special operations soldiers spent some time in a school zone Oct. 7 during a renowned psychologist's presentation about global terrorism, Osama bin Laden and effective ways to defeat them both.

Dr. Jerrold M. Post spoke about the implications of terrorism to special operations students studying the Middle East at Fort Bragg, N.C.'s U.S. Army John F. Kennedy Special Warfare Center and School during his presentation, "Killing In The Name of God: Osama bin Laden, Al Qaeda and Radical Islamist Terrorism."

Post is the director of the Political Psychology program at The George Washington University in Washington, D.C., and a noted author.

Post detailed the definition and history of terrorism and stressed the importance of understanding its causes -- in this case, leaders like bin Laden who promote violent Islamist extremism.

"You really can't understand this destructive movement without understanding its leader," he said, "(and) in many ways, the leader is the creation of (his) followers."

In the late 1970s, Post helped developed profiles of Israel's Menachem Begin and Egypt's Anwar Sadat for then-President Jimmy Carter.

Acclaimed for his groundbreaking studies in terrorist psychology, Post characterized bin Laden not as a madman, but a sane and calculating leader obsessed with the misguided and extremist teachings of radical Muslim clerics.

Maj. Ken Gordon, officer-in-charge of the Regional Studies Detachment at 3rd Battalion, 1st Special Warfare Training Group (Airborne), asked Post to visit Fort Bragg to address special operations students in the Middle Eastern portion of the Regional Studies Course.

"Dr. Post was chosen because of his expertise in his field -- his topics addressed salient issues pertinent to the course," Gordon said. "It better prepared the students for their potential future work with the civilian communities in the Middle East."

During his presentation, Post portrayed bin Laden as

a hypocrite, who uses a peace-loving religion like Islam for his goals of death and destruction -- all while posing as a pious spiritual leader.

To make his point, Post read from portions of Al Qaeda documents believed to have been penned by bin Laden, in which he issued fatwas - rulings given only by Muslim religious leaders.

"This is blasphemy, as he is talking as a prophet," Post said.

"(Bin Laden) is a self-egrandizing distorter of the Koran," he said, because the Muslim holy book teaches that believers should "fight in the cause of God those who fight you, but do not transgress limits, for God loves not the transgressor."

He said bin Laden came into power by misrepresenting passages within the Koran and characterizing Western nations like the United States as dangerous enemies to young, impressionable Muslims. These young followers were then able to spread bin Laden's hard-line views throughout Muslim nations, meeting with great success in places like Afghanistan, Post said.

Post spoke to soldiers about the importance of understanding the psychology of terrorist combatants, and why he feels U.S. psychological operations may ultimately defeat the threat of global terrorism with a powerful weapon -- the truth.

"Strategic psychological operations are important (for countering terrorism)," Post said. "How (else) do we delegitimize Osama bin Laden as someone who corrupts Islam?"

Gordon said Post's inclusion of psychological operations in his presentation was especially pertinent to the audience.

"Many of (my soldiers) may find themselves deployed to the Middle East in the not too distant future as either psychological operations or civil affairs operators or planners," Gordon said.

Post said that in his opinion, the key to eradicating terrorist threats from extremist Muslims is a sophisticated, lasting PSYOP campaign that effects long-range changes within the Islamic world.

"One of the psychological operations...objectives is to attempt to modify the behavior and attitudes of a foreign target audience in support of U.S. foreign policy objectives," Gordon said after the speech. "You have to

understand the culture and worldview of the target audience in order to do that well. Dr. Post's presentation gave the students a better understanding of (where to start)."

Although he didn't speculate much about bin Laden's current whereabouts, Post said that in the end, it didn't matter.

"If bin Laden is killed or captured, leadership will pass seamlessly to (other Al Qaeda leaders)," Post said.

He downplayed the symbolic importance of bin Laden, and said he believed it would be better policy for the U.S. to concentrate on getting rid of the root causes of extremist Islamist terrorism instead of fighting a never-ending battle with the small Al Qaeda cells identified in 68 countries around the world.

"This is a war of hearts and minds," said Post.

Gordon agreed.

"One of our objectives at the Regional Studies Course is to teach about foreign cultures so that (soldiers) can be more effective at their jobs," he said.

Post also voiced criticism for members of the international media who assist terrorists in spreading their message to the public quickly and with little editorial review of the message's connotations.

"When the media is competing with other media outlets to get the message out there, they are doing the terrorists' job for them," Post said. "World opinion is (terrorists') audience. They care very much (about it)."

Though optimistic about the chances of destroying the Al Qaeda threat, Post highlighted the difficulty of ultimately defeating terrorism and speculated that it may never be fully suppressed.

He explained that active dissent is an important part of democracy and can be difficult to prevent from turning to violence - a bleak prospect for Americans who value a free society.

"You can't (fully) defeat terrorism without defeating democracy," he said.

Whether it's here to stay or not, Post said the current war on terrorism is not new or unique to the 21st century.

"(The war on terror) is ... a war that's been going on since the Garden of Eden in many ways," he said. "(Terrorism) is a very complicated species of political violence."

JCS program offers masters degree

By Tesia Williams

PERSCOM Public Affairs Office

WASHINGTON—Branch qualified captains selected to participate in the Joint Chief of Staff and the Secretary of Defense Intern Program will now attend Georgetown University for one year prior to their two-year internship and earn an executive masters degree in policy management.

Deadline for program applications is Dec. 2.

"The change to the JCS/OSD intern program will provide more graduate school opportunities to officers in the Operations Career Field," said Capt. Lisa Griffin, chief of civilian education, U.S. Total Army Personnel Command.

Officers will have the advantage of doing academic research prior to their internship, which will benefit them and their experience on the Joint Staff, Griffin said.

Georgetown University was chosen

over other Military District of Washington institutions because it offers a mid-career masters program that takes officers' leadership experience into consideration, although applicants still need a 3.0 grade point average to qualify, she said.

Since fiscal year 2003 is the first year a graduate degree is offered in conjunction with the JCS/OSD intern program, PERSCOM will select up to 40 officers for the program, PERSCOM officials said.

The PERSCOM selection board will determine the officer's assignment, she said.

The JCS/OSD program was established in 1981 to expose and involve officers in critical decision making at the highest levels within our military and the Department of Defense.

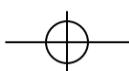
Branch-qualified officers interested in applying should contact their assignment officer or Capt. Griffin at (703) 325-3141.

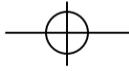
Turkey-Falcon



Photo by Tech. Sgt. Anna Hayman

OPERATION NORTHERN WATCH – Senior Airman Michael Solberg, an F-16 Fighting Falcon crew chief, waits to marshal his aircraft, flown by Capt. Kevin Menard, onto the taxiway at Incirlik Air Base, Turkey, prior to an Operation Northern Watch sortie.





BRIEFS

Gospel Service

Where: Soto Cano Base Chapel
When: Monday-Prayer 1900
Wednesday - Choir Practice 1900
Friday - Gospel Enrichment 1900
Sunday - Gospel Service 1300
For more information contact:
Maj. Selina Williams @ 4461/4412 or
Sgt. Maj. Ron Campbell @ 4320.

UMUC Seeks Instructors

The University of Maryland University College (UMUC) is looking for instructors in the areas of English and Computer Science. Candidates must have a master's degree in their particular field. For further information, contact Luis Ortiz, UMUC field representative, at Bldg. H-70, ext. 4557

PAE Self Help Center

PAE Self Help Center is pursuing activities and programs that make life easier for its customers while stationed here at Joint Task Force-Bravo.

The center is located next to the Self Service Supply Center in building G-04. It offers minor construction materials, tools and safety equipment.

Hours of operation are Monday through Thursday, 7 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.; Friday, 7 a.m. to 3:30 p.m., and Saturday, 7:30 a.m. to noon.

For more information call José Reyes, supervisor, at 4139, or Laura Recarte, clerk, at 4700.

Thrift Savings Plan

Participation in the Open Season for the Thrift Savings Plan is currently ongoing. The dates for participation are Oct. 15 - Dec. 31.

Participation is strictly on a volunteer basis. The TSP program is designed to help soldiers save money for their futures by investing part of their salaries in an account similar to a 401-K account that can earn interest over a long period of time.

Contributions are made on a pre-tax basis. This means that any monies contributed are not taxed until the member makes a withdrawal from their TSP account. Currently, members are authorized to invest up to 7% of their basic pay and all special pays earned. For calendar year 2003, the amount that can be contributed will be 8 percent. There is an information booklet that can be downloaded from the TSP website. This can be accessed at www.tsp.gov. Once at the website, select the prompt for members of the uniformed services. You will find the information as it applies to members of the uniformed services there. Additionally, there is updated information about the current TSP open season. If you have any questions concerning the TSP program or enrollment procedures, please call Sgt. 1st Class Byrd at 4678.

Tax forms to be available online soon

By Staff Sgt. Marcia Triggs
Army News Service

WASHINGTON – Defense Finance and Accounting Service is putting pay information at the fingertips of the military community.

Beginning in January, the 2002 W2 tax forms will be available online through DFAS' myPay system.

A personal identification number is needed to access personal accounts. Service members, retirees and civilian employees who do not remember receiving their PIN or do not remember the number can go to <http://www.dfas.mil/>, and click on myPay, which is under the "Money Matters" heading.

Due to security reasons PINs are mailed to the recipients, and it could take from three to seven days to get the number after the request has been made, said Catherine Ferguson, a DFAS spokeswoman.

"We decided to put the W2 form online because we get a lot of phone calls from soldiers who are deployed, have lost their originals or for some reason need another copy," Ferguson said.

Troops can concentrate on their mission when they are not worried about pay and benefits, said Dennis Eicher, Electronic Commerce, Military and Civilian Pay Services

director. That is why DFAS is providing innovative and reliable tools, he said. Troops can take charge of their pay accounts online, Eicher added.

Some of the other finance actions that can be performed online to date are: purchasing savings bonds, managing allotments, viewing and printing travel vouchers.

Reviewing leave and earning statements online as far back as three months and stopping the delivery of the hard copy is also an option, which can save the Armed Forces money, Eicher said.

If just civilians received their LES statements electronically the Department of Defense would save more than \$6 million annually, Ferguson said. It cost 34 cents every time a hard copy LES is distributed, she added.

Additional costs can also be avoided by eliminating customer service activities, Ferguson said.

"One of our goals is to allow customers to do online anything that they previously had to stand in line or wait on the phone to accomplish," Ferguson said.

MyPay was formerly known as Employee Member Self Service system. The system changed, but people don't have to change their PINs, Ferguson said.

Customers with questions about myPay can call customer support at 1(800) 3900-2348, Monday through Friday between 7 a.m. and 7:30 p.m. EST.

Air Force resumes anthrax vaccine program

By Tech. Sgt. Scott Elliott
Air Force Print News

WASHINGTON – The Air Force will resume administering the anthrax vaccine in the near future to airmen in, or deploying to, high-threat areas.

According to a July 25 message from Chief of Staff of the Air Force Gen. John P. Jumper, inoculations should commence within 90 days.

"Anthrax as a bioweapon is a reality. The five Americans killed last fall are proof of this horror," Jumper wrote in the message to major command commanders. "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."

The Defense Department's resumed participation in the anthrax vaccine immunization program is a result of both the current threat and the Food and Drug Administration's final

approval to resume the manufacture and distribution of U.S.-licensed anthrax vaccine.

Manufacture of the anthrax vaccine was temporarily halted in January 1998. The FDA approved renovation of the BioPort Corporation's Michigan-based vaccine manufacturing facility in December 2001. The National Academy of Sciences affirmed the safety and efficacy of the vaccine in its March 2002 report.

"The anthrax vaccine is the most effective means available today to protect our forces," Jumper wrote. "Although antibiotics were used following the anthrax exposure last fall, they provide effective treatment only if exposure is known before symptoms appear."

"We do not always have the necessary warning, or the time, for antibiotics to work alone," he wrote. "Our men and women must be prepared to carry out their duties in defense of this country regardless of warning time."

To that end, the best currently avail-

able, round-the-clock protection is vaccination.

"Vaccination provides a critical layer of protection that may be augmented by antibiotics and other measures," Jumper wrote.

The Department of Defense will resume the AVIP as quickly as it can distribute adequate supplies and educate its members.

"Initially, we anticipate vaccinations (to) begin for personnel already deployed within designated areas," Jumper wrote. Next on the inoculation list are people scheduled to deploy to the designated areas. "To the extent feasible, vaccination should begin 45 days prior to deployment."

According to guidance from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, people whose six-shot anthrax vaccination series was interrupted do not need to restart the program; they simply resume the series from where they stopped.

For more information, visit the AVIP Web site

President signs bills to increase defense funding

By Staff Sgt. Marcia Triggs
Army News Service

WASHINGTON – President George W. Bush signed two bills that will give service members the resources they need to serve America at home and abroad during a ceremony Oct. 23 at the White House.

"We've asked our military to liberate a captive people on the other side of the Earth. We've asked our military to prepare for conflict in Iraq, if it proves necessary. We owe them every tool they need to fulfill their missions," Bush said.

The first bill signed was the Defense Appropriations Bill, which is nearly \$335 billion -- a \$37 billion increase from fiscal year 2002.

The defense bill will go toward a 4.1 pay increase, additional full-time support from the National Guard and Reserve and increased funding in research and development of weapon systems, Bush said.

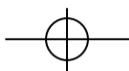
"This legislation begins development of the next generations of weaponry," Bush said. "We ended the Crusader artillery program, a program that was designed for a different era."

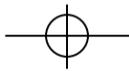
"Instead, we will fund new systems,

systems that will enable our military to do a more effective job at defending America and our freedoms. Systems such as the unmanned aerial vehicles like the Predator and the Global Hawk that we've used so effectively in Afghanistan."

The Military Construction Appropriations bill, the second one signed, adds \$10.5 billion for building and upgrading military installations and for military family housing.

"We're taking care of our people," Bush said. "We want the people who wear the uniform to know America appreciates their service."





MEDEL visits a hospital

By Spc. George Kyriakeas
JTF-Bravo Public Affairs Office

The operating room surgical team from the Medical Element here traveled to "Roberto Sauzo Cordova" Hospital in La Paz to lend their talents and technology in two surgical operations.

The MEDEL team consisted of Maj. Kyu Lund, certified registered nurse anesthetist, Maj. Leslie Smith, who was assisting in the surgeries, Capt. Kate Harrison, acting as circulator, and Spc. Lisa Brazuk, scrub technician.

Dr. Guillermo Saenz, liaison physician with MEDEL acted as an interpreter between the team and hospital staff.

The hospital's general surgeon, Dr. Blanca Luz Dermith performed the operations with the MEDEL team. Dermith was the first female general surgeon in Honduras, said Smith.

The team comes to the hospital twice a week for medical readiness and training exercises, better known as MEDRETEs, said Smith.

The first case for the team was a three-year old local Honduran with an inguinal hernia. A hernia is a weakening in muscle walls, said Harrison.

The surgical team made an incision, ensured that no organs were pushing through the muscle walls and repaired the damage, said Harrison.

The second case the team participated in was an operation to remove a mass from the armpit of a female patient.

The patient was experiencing pain as tissue in her armpits were swelling and receding, said Saenz.

The team made an incision and took out

the masses, which were extra mammary tissue, from each side, said Saenz.

The tissue was then sent to pathology for tests to ensure that they were not cancerous, said Harrison.

Both procedures went very well, said Harrison.

The most vital piece of equipment the MEDEL team brings is a Bovy electrocautery machine, said Smith. This machine dissects tissue and cauterizes veins so surgeries may be performed with a minimal loss of blood, she added. The hospital's Bovy machine is unavailable as it is in need of repairs, said Harrison.

The team also brings major and minor surgical sets and surgical materials like drapes, sutures and local medication.

In addition to providing equipment to the hospital, the MEDEL team also brings their training to the table, said Smith.

"I show them new procedures, new ways to do surgery with the materials that we have available to us," she added.

MEDEL's involvement allows La Paz's hospital to perform surgeries that are both faster and safer for the patient, said Smith adding, "I think it's great. It makes a big difference for them."

"We have an excellent OR team and I feel good about the work we provide these patients," said Harrison.

The impact that the local MEDRETEs have on "Roberto Sauzo Cordova" Hospital is such that the hospital will wait to schedule their bigger surgeries until they can confirm that the MEDEL team will be coming on those days, said Saenz.



Photo by Spc. George Kyriakeas

Maj. Leslie Smith, Medical Element, performs an operation to correct an inguinal hernia at "Roberto Sauzo Cordova" Hospital in La Paz.



Left: Spc. Lisa Brazuk, Medical Element, conducts a count of Raytex sponges while Capt. Kate Harrison, Medical Element, confirms the count. Equipment used is frequently accounted for throughout an operation to ensure that nothing is left inside a patient. MEDEL brings much of the equipment and supplies used on their local MEDRETEs. Right: (on left) Capt. Kate Harrison, and Maj. Kyu Lund carefully monitor Hector Hernandez, 3, while he recovers from general anesthesia after an operation to correct an inguinal hernia. "Roberto Sauzo Cordova" Hospital often waits to schedule their bigger surgeries until they confirm that MEDEL's OR section will be coming for a MEDRETE.

(Photos by Spc. George Kyriakeas)

