

# DESERT EAGLE

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## “Riggerous” Work

See page 5 for an Arabic translation



# DESERT EAGLE

Volume 10, Issue 22

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All photographs are Air Force photographs unless otherwise indicated.

Commentaries and Warriors of the Week are scheduled according to a squadron rotation. Unit commanders and first sergeants are the points of contact for submissions.

For more information, call 436-0107.



Army Sgt. Anthony Hopkins (left) tosses a pack of water to Spc. Patrick Vinzani to be loaded onto a pallet here May 19. Both Soldiers are 824th Quartermaster Company, Det. 9, parachute riggers. (U.S. Air Force photo by Senior Airman Kasey Zickmund)

# What you make of it

By Capt. Ben Hild

Company Grade Officers Council president

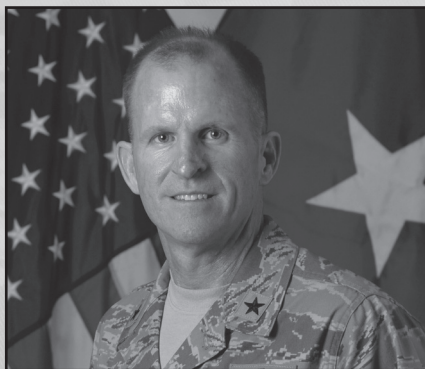
For many, this is not the first, or the last time visiting here

Many embrace deployments with goals and determination to make this

place a better environment with a sense of accomplishment. Others come here to do their time and return home to loved ones.

Brig. Gen. Stephen Wilson, 379th Air Expeditionary Wing commander, has spoken to us all on the future of

SEE DEPLOY ON PAGE 3



## Commander's Action Line

**Q:** I just wanted to leave a comment about customs and courtesies. This is a really big part of military life. I have seen a few times, mostly at night, when enlisted personnel walk past an officer and don't render the proper salute. And I know I am correct when I say that PT gear is considered a military uniform, and we still salute while in that uniform. This kind of gets too me because the salute signifies respect between enlisted personnel and officers. And when it happens, the officer doesn't bother to stop and let them know the standards for saluting. I have seen it a few times, and I think the next time I do, I will have to say something about it. I just wanted to let you know, and I wish we could change this, but it's always going to happen no matter where we are. I always show respect to anyone who is of a higher rank than me, and I just wish everyone else would think that way, but I can't change the attitudes of everyone in the military, even though I would like too.

**A:** You will see occurrences, like this, many times while deployed. Most of the time it is not due to lack of respect, the individual simply does not recognize someone is an officer. Many times it is too dark in certain areas to properly recognize someone's rank until they've passed. The majority of officers understand this and do not take it as a sign of disrespect.

You are correct on saluting in PT uniform. AUABI 36-2903, 4.1.12 Proper military customs and courtesies honoring the flag during reveille/retreat will apply (this means coming to full attention and rendering the proper military salute when outdoors). Personnel wearing the PTU/IPTU will salute officers in uniform or officers they recognize. When actively participating in a physical training activity that does not allow free movement of the right arm, saluting is not required.

If you do see mistakes in customs and courtesies, or someone not following the standards, it is your duty to say something. The rank of the offender, or the one noticing the violation, makes no difference. The correction should be made respectfully, as most times it is an over-sight by the offender and they will happily correct themselves.

-Master Sgt. David Meacham

379th Air Expeditionary Wing First Sergeant

**- The Action Line is your direct link to Brig. Gen. Stephen Wilson, 379th Air Expeditionary Wing commander.**

**- Use it if you have questions or comments about the base that cannot be resolved by your chain of command or base agencies.**

**- Each question will be reviewed, answered and may be published on a case-by-case basis. E-mail 379aewactionline@auab.afcent.af.mil.**

# Safety Snapshot



The **speed limits** are **designated** for a **reason**.  
It doesn't hurt to **drive slower, to conditions**.

## FROM DEPLOY ON PAGE 2—

the base and his vision of transforming infrastructure, processes and mindsets from expeditionary to enduring.

Several of you are probably reading this wondering what this has to do with you, well it all does. How the base evolves will be a result of our focused actions and how we collectively choose to spend our precious time.

Your attitude and perspective go a long way in determining whether your deployment is the best of times or the worst of times. Have a positive attitude and bring the fight to the enemy with a determination and an undeniable positive attitude.

It is very easy to get set into a routine and not break away from the monotony of our daily mission accomplishment.

As this environment evolves into a more enduring atmosphere, opportunities abound to get involved on base or in the local community. How many other deployed locations are you able to give back to the community by volunteering at the local schools, or get a massage or take a trip downtown and experience what our locale offers?

It's easier to believe, on some days more than others, but we have a lot to be thankful for here.

I remember my first deployment here, more than five years ago. I was so excited about deploying and defending my country with honor – then I got here. Wow, was I ever nervous, stepping off that airplane in the middle of the night looking at the glittering lights, brown buildings and never-ending desert.

There I was, thousands of miles from home and ready to take on the world. What happened next? Well, I got caught in the comfortable fly--crew rest--fly routine and did not accomplish the goals I set out to achieve.

It was easy to do because I was in a new environment and did not know what to expect. I waited a few weeks until I was settled in and decided if I was going to be the best I could, I had to pave a new personal path and set some goals.

As Robert Frost said, I chose my own "path less traveled" and that made all the difference.

Five years later, I am on my sixth

deployment here and have pushed myself to get involved. There's no better place and time to set goals and work on yourself. Every deployed individual is away from home and can set goals and work toward who they want to be.

My main deployment goal, like thousands before me, is to pay it forward and leave the base a better place than I found it.

I volunteered to be the Company Grade Officers Council president, and what an outstanding opportunity it has been to represent all of the hardworking lieutenants and captains. I have worked with officers and enlisted to bring a better environment to the base while experiencing the warmth of the local school culture.

Keep your ears fine-tuned and your eyes wide open to find these opportunities.

There are just so many different ways to make a difference. Opportunities are jumping out from everywhere to make yourself and our shared environment a better place. What path will you choose?

# Rapidly resupplying the AOR: A 'riggerous' job

By Staff Sgt. Kelly White  
379th Air Expeditionary Wing  
Public Affairs

"It's an early wake-up, formation, then we come here and work really hard," said Army Spc. Claudio Ortiz, 824th Quartermaster Company, Detachment 9 rigger.

Specialist Ortiz is one of about 20 Army Reservists deployed from Ft. Bragg, N.C., who arrived at the 379th Air Expeditionary Wing at the end of March. In their first month on the job, the unit built more than 1.6 million pounds of life-sustaining resupply loads air dropped to U.S. and Coalition troops in theater.

Their record of poundage consisted of 1,000 cargo delivery system bundles containing primarily food, water and fuel -- boiling down to each rigger on the team toting, assembling and securing well over a literal "ton of stuff" a day.

"It was an immediate trial by fire," said Chief Warrant Officer 2 James Tiddy, 824 QM Det. 9 commander. "To show up in country, and in the first month, have the most poundage ever to come out of a rigger shop in Southwest Asia, shows the caliber of Soldiers we have here now, and I am sure they will continue to show that level of work and motivation for the entire tour."



**Soldiers share a laugh while preparing pallets of water for an air drop mission here May 19.**

الجنود يشتركون في الضحك أثناء إعداد منصات الماء لمهمة إنزال جوية في موقع غير مفصّل عنه بجنوب غرب آسيا 19 مايو 2010، جنود فرقة التموين 824، وحدة تجهيز المظلات 9، يعدون منصات التزويد والمظلات للإنزال الجوي في العراق وأفغانستان.



**Army Spc. Carlos Rossi, 824th Quartermaster Company, Detachment 9 rigger, secures an A22 container on a water pallet for air drop mission here May 19.**

المتخصص. باتريك فيزاني لتحمل على منصة النقل في موقع  
هم من فرقة التموين 824، وحدة تجهيز المظلات 9، فرقة  
العراق وأفغانستان.

The purpose of their mission is sustainment of forces in Afghanistan, Iraq and the Horn of Africa – any place where troops on the ground need support because the terrain surrounding them is too rugged or dangerous for resupply via convoy.

"We build bundles, from the ground up, in an assembly line," said Sgt. Anthony Hopkins 824 QM Det. 9 rigger. "We add a parachute to each bundle, and at the end of the line, an air-load inspector goes through the whole load, from bottom to top, to make sure it's air-worthy."

On average, 70,000 pounds of equipment get dropped at a time.

"We don't drop just to drop," explained Warrant Officer Tiddy. "We drop so the Soldiers can have the commodities on the ground. There's no use dropping it if the load isn't going to arrive at its destination intact"

Making sure their effort isn't in vain means, in addition to a long day of vigorous activity, the team must also adhere to some rigorous building standards – something these riggers have already earned a reputation for doing exceptionally well, follow-

**SEE RIGGERS ON PAGE 10**

# إعادة التزويد العاجلة لمنطقة المسؤولية: عمل 'شاق'

بقلم الرقيب كليي هوايت  
الجناح الجوي 379 / الشؤون العامة



U.S. Air Force photos/Senior Airman Kasey Zickmund

Master Company, Det. 9, parachute rigger, set here May 19. The 824 QM CO prepares up deliveries to Iraq and Afghanistan.

رقيب الجيش. انثوني هوبكنز (يسار) يرمي حزمة من الماء إلى غير مفصح عنه بجنوب غرب آسيا 19 مايو 2010. كلا الجنديين التموين 824 تعد منصات التزويد و المظلات للإنزال الجوي في



An A22 container is secured to a water pallet by 824th Quartermaster Company, Det. 9, Soldiers here May 19.

إلى منصة المياه من قبل A22 يتم تأمين حاوية جنود فرقة التموين 824 ، وحدة تجهيز المظلات، 9 في موقع غير مفصح عنه بجنوب غرب آسيا 19 مايو 2010. فرقة التموين 824 تعد منصات التزويد و المظلات للإنزال الجوي في العراق وأفغانستان.

فعله هؤلاء المجهزون بشكل استثنائي جعل لهم سمعة جيدة باتباعهم لشعارهم "سوف نكون دائما على يقين!"

"نحن نعتد على خبرتهم لتحميل البضائع على الطائرات بسلامة" قال الرقيب في سلاح الجو جيف باترسون، جناح سرب النقل الجوي C-17 816 Globemaster III، مراقب التحميل. "نحن فريق واحد ونعمل معا لإنجاز المهمة" قال الرقيب، "ونقدرهم حقاً لاننا نعرف، من خلال جودة شحناتنا، بأنهم يبتذلون قصارى جهدهم."

إن قدرة المجهزين على إنتاج شحنات من نظام حزم التوصيل عالية الجودة و على الدوام، فبها لميزة على كونهم جزءاً من فريق متماسك ، قال الرقيب هوبكنز والمتخصص أوريتز ، و فعالية قيادتهم - خاصة عندما يكون العمل منهك للغاية - بأخذ لحظة لتفكر الأشياء الجيدة التي يجب أن يتطلعوا إليها، في حين أنتشارهم هنا.

"نحن فريق متماسك جداً،" قال الرقيب. نحن نعلم بأننا سوف نقضي معظم وقتنا في هذه الوحدة ، ولهذا دائما نبقى معاً كجموعة..... نساعد بعضنا البعض حتى لا يتراجع إنتاج أحنا.

"نحن نفعل الكثير من الأشياء لنلهمنا هنا في الوحدة للحفاظ على روح معنوية عالية بالنسبة لبعضنا البعض." قال الرقيب. "إن المجهزين لديهم تقاليد فريدة في الاحتفال أو إدراك إنجازات زملائهم الجنود كأعياد الميلاد والترقيات، إن معظم المجهزين في جميع أنحاء العالم يدركون، يقدرون و يخافون وفقاً إلى أي نوع من الاحتفال لديهم.

الألفة عندما يكون الانتشار كوحدة تفيد الفريق أيضاً.

"سؤلت من قبل بعض الأشخاص ، قبل الانتشار، هل أنت خائف؟" قال المتخصص أوريتز. "كنت على معرفة بالأشخاص الذين قدمت معهم إلى هنا وكنت على ثقة تامة - أنه من غير المهم إذا كنا قد أرسلنا إلى هنا أو إلى أفغانستان أو العراق - إن الأشخاص الذين أتيت معهم والقيادة التي لدينا ..... رانعون."

"نعم ، حقاً انه من الصعب ان نكون هنا في وقت متأخر كل ليلة ، وسبعة أيام في الأسبوع ،" كما اضاف. "ليس لدينا عدة أيام إجازة لأن هناك طلب كبير ، ولكن من الجميل ان نعرف ان ما نقوم به يؤثر تأثيراً مباشراً على ما يجري في مسرح العمليات. وفي الكثير من الأحيان ، إن الأشخاص في مسرح العمليات ليس لديهم 90 في المئة من الامور التي لدينا هنا - الأشياء التي لا تفكر فيها حتى مجرد تفكير - الحمامات ، وأمكنة الاستحمام ووجبات الطعام الساخنة في كل الأوقات. إن المعرفة بأننا نقدم الإكتفاء لهؤلاء الأشخاص تبقينا مندفعين لما نفعله.

"الاستيقاظ في وقت مبكر، ثم الإستعداد، و من ثم نأتي إلى هنا ونعمل بجد"، قال عريف الجيش، كلاوديو أوريتز، فرقة التموين 824، وحدة التجهيز 9.

المتخصص أوريتز هو واحد من احتياطي الجيش المنتشرين من فورت براغ ، نورث كارولينا، والذي وصل إلى الجناح الجوي 379 في نهاية شهر مارس. في الشهر الأول من عملهم، قامت وحدتهم ببناء أكثر من 1,6 مليون رطل من حمولات تموين أساسية للبقاء على الحياة والتي أنزلت إلى القوات الأمريكية وقوات التحالف في مسرح العمليات.

إن سجلهم للوزن بالرطل قدرت بـ 1,000 شحنة من نظام حزم التوصيل والتي تحتوي في المقام الأول على المواد الغذائية، والمياه والوقود -- ينصب هذا الحمل على كل فرد من الفريق لتجميع وتأمين ما يزيد على "طن من الأشياء" في اليوم الواحد.

"لقد كانت تجربة فورية نارية" قال أحد كبار الضباط جيمس تيدي، قائد فرقة التموين 824 ، وحدة التجهيز 9. "في حال وصولك إلى بلد معين، وفي الشهر الأول، تقوم وحدتك و بأكثر من أي وقت مضى تأمين أكثر وزن في جنوب غرب آسيا ، هذا يظهر نوعية الجنود لدينا هنا الآن ، وأنا واثق من أنهم سوف يستمرون في إظهار هذا المستوى من العمل والحماس لطيلة فترتهم هنا."

إن الغرض من مهمتهم هي مساعدة القوات في أفغانستان والعراق ومنطقة القرن الأفريقي - أي مكان يتواجد فيه الجنود على الأرض وبحاجة إلى دعم ومن الصعب الوصول إليهم عن طريق القوافل و بسبب التضاريس الوعرة التي تحيط بهم.

"نحن نبني حزم، من الألف إلى الياء، في خط تجميع"، قال الرقيب انثوني هوبكنز، من فرقة التموين 824، وحدة التجهيز 9 "نقوم بإضافة مظلة لكل حزمة، وفي نهاية خط التجميع، مفتش الحمل الجوي يفحص الحمولة بأكملها من أسفل إلى أعلى، للتأكد من أنها صالحة للطيران."

بمعدل 70,000 رطل من المعدات يتم إسقاطها في كل مرة.

"اننا لا نقوم بعمليات الإنزال فقط لمجرد الإنزال"، أوضح الضابط تيدي. "اننا نقوم بإنزال هذه الحمولات حتى يتمكن الجنود من الحصول على السلع على أرض الواقع. لا نفع لإنزال الحمولات إذا كانت الحمولة لا يمكن أن تصل إلى وجهتها سليمة."

للتأكد بأن جهودهم لن تذهب أدراج الرياح، بالإضافة إلى نشاطاتهم الشاقة طوال اليوم، يجب أن يلتزم الفريق ببعض معايير البناء الصارمة - شيء قد

# 'Defenders' neutralize threat to Bagram Airfield

By Staff Sgt. Richard Williams  
455th Air Expeditionary Wing  
Public Affairs

**BAGRAM AIRFIELD, Afghanistan** - Members of the 455th Expeditionary Security Forces Squadron, with assistance from U.S. Army and Marine Corps personnel, proved their combat power May 19, repelling an early morning attack here.

The attack began with indirect fire which caused no significant damage, said Lt. Col. James Lowe, 455th ESFS commander.

Indirect fire, or IDF, is the use of rocket propelled grenades, mortars or other explosive devices to engage an area.

"We started receiving small arms fire and our perimeter security teams identified movement at several points along the perimeter fence," he said.

Once the Airmen gained positive identification on enemy positions, they engaged the enemy to neutralize any threats to the installation, he added.

Colonel Lowe, deployed from U.S. Air Forces Central Command staff, Shaw Air Force Base, S.C., said the base was attacked from several positions as small teams of enemy combatants began to throw grenades, launch rocket-propelled grenades and continued small arms fire towards the perimeter.

"I had just got on post in my tower," recalled Airman 1st Class Garrett Zeising, 455th ESFS. Once his changeover was complete, he assumed post and began a visual scan of the area.

Airman Zeising, deployed from Ramstein Air Base, Germany, explained, he had been in his tower on the south side of the airfield for about five minutes when he heard an explosion. "When I heard the explosion it was a small one and I thought it was an IDF attack."

He stepped onto the catwalk of his tower and began to scan the area to look for a point of origin but did not see the initial explosion. As he proceeded back into his tower to grab



**U.S. Air Force Airmen from the 455th Expeditionary Security Forces Squadron line up for guard mount at Bagram Airfield, Afghanistan, May 21.**

his radio, Airman Zeising noticed some suspicious personnel.

"Two individuals were walking along the perimeter in (Army combat uniforms)," he said. "As they were walking, one raised a rifle and began firing."

Once he saw the individuals firing, Airman Zeising proceeded out to engage them and noticed two more individuals in the distance. "Once I started engaging, they moved to a covered position out of sight. I ran inside, grabbed my radio and when I was trying to call in, they reappeared and began to shoot randomly and throw grenades."

As Airman Zeising engaged the enemy, a support element of 455th ESFS and Army quick reaction force personnel moved to his position in support.

He neutralized two enemy combatants and when the other units arrived, the other enemy combatants were eliminated.

On the western perimeter another enemy team was trying to breach security, said Colonel Lowe. "They engaged our towers trying to pin our Airmen down, while other individuals tried to come over the barriers."

"We received two indirect fire attacks and I felt my tower shake a little bit," said Airman 1st Class Keegan Donnelly, 455th ESFS. "We

then heard another area of the base was taking small arms fire and were told to do what we needed to do to neutralize any threats."

Airman Donnelly, located on the western perimeter of the airfield, began to scan the area around his tower and noticed two individuals behind barriers outside his location.

"I noticed the individuals about 50 meters off one of our other towers and I called it in," said Airman Donnelly, deployed from Luke AFB, Ariz. "One of our mounted patrols comes across the radio and says two Marines are going to walk along the inside of the wire and do a sweep."

Seconds after the radio transmission, the Marines came under fire. Airman Donnelly's tower also came under fire, as well as the area around his position. "I immediately dropped to a knee and began to return fire," said Airman Donnelly.

As Airman Donnelly and other servicemembers in the area were engaging enemy combatants, Joint Terminal Attack Controllers called in Army helicopters to engage enemy positions along the perimeter as well.

In the end, the joint defense effort, led by the 455th ESFS 'Defenders,' eliminated more than 16 enemy combatants with minimal injuries to U.S. forces, said Colonel Lowe.

**SEE DEFENDER ON PAGE 11**

## Tech. Sgt. Javier Bejar

379th Expeditionary Operations Group

Knowledge Operations NCO-in-charge

**Home station:** Davis-Monthan Air Force Base, Ariz.

**Arrived in AOR:** January

**Deployment goals:** To do my part to support the mission, ensure the frag gets flown and make sure my Airmen are taken care of.

**Best part of the deployment:** Seeing the results of the frag getting flown - and seeing my Airmen gain operational experience and mature.

**Hobbies:** Playing with my English bulldog

**Best Air Force memory:** Travelling the world.

*Nominated by Chief Master Sgt. Michael*

*Zimmerman: "Sergeant Bejar is the 'go-to' Commander's Support Staff member here in the 379 EOG, without equal. He stepped in to fill a void created by the early departure of our unit deployment manager, ensuring un-interrupted service to the operations group during the peak swap-out season, as well as continuing to supervise knowledge operations and mentor our young knowledge operations deployers."*



U.S. Air Force photo/Senior Airman Spencer Gallien

## Staff Sgt. Patrice Settles

379th Expeditionary Maintenance Operations Squadron

B-1 Maintenance Operations Squadron

**Home station:** Yokota Air Base, Japan

**Arrived in AOR:** January

**Deployment goals:** Before I arrived, I set three goals for myself - finish my 7-level end-of-course exam, get in better shape physically and learn something new about my job.

**Best part of the deployment:** The strength and conditioning class I attend.

**Hobbies:** In my downtime, I enjoy working out and reading books.

**Best Air Force memory:** I can't pick one memory in particular, but some of my fondest memories include the great friends that I have made since joining the military.

*Nominated by Master Sgt. Travis Huckaby: "Sergeant Settles is a true all-star performer. She has excelled at numerous tasks as an analyst. In addition to this, she volunteered as the 379 EMOS Air Force Assistance Fund representative as well as the 379th Expeditionary Maintenance Group representative for the current Bone Marrow drive. In renovating an MOS facility, she has truly left the base better than she found it."*



U.S. Air Force photo/Senior Airman Kasey Zickmund

## Senior Airman Jose Huerta

379th Expeditionary Logistics Readiness Squadron

Receiving journeyman

**Home station:** Holloman AFB, N.M.

**Arrived in AOR:** January

**Deployment goals:** My deployment goals are to have a better understanding of the supply process and to make those around me better.

**Best part of the deployment:** The best part of the deployment has been meeting new people.

**Hobbies:** My hobbies include football and playing the drums.

**Best Air Force memory:** My best Air Force memory was when I was notified of a permanent change of station from Holloman AFB.

*Nominated by Master Sgt. Marvin Poindexter: "Airman Huerta's hard-work and dedication to the mission has set the tone for the work place. He is the Deployment and Distributions Flight's Airman of the Month for May. He also implemented changes to improve the work section and has shown qualities of an NCO. Supervisors consider him to be the go-to person to accomplish the mission."*



U.S. Air Force photo/Senior Airman Kasey Zickmund



U.S. Air Force photo/Senior Airman Kas

**TOP LEFT:** Tech. Sgt. Kevin Schetler, 379th Expeditionary Aircraft Maintenance Squadron hydraulics craftsman, pulls a cover on a KC-135 engine here, May 21.



U.S. Air Force photo/Tech. Sgt. Mik

**Members of the base gospel choir practice for Sunday's service here, Tuesday.**



U.S. Air Force photo/Tech. Sgt. Michelle Larche

**TOP CENTER:** Airman 1st Class William Lloyd, 379th Expeditionary Civil Engineer Squadron structures technician, cuts floor tile for the Desert Eagle Lounge remodeling project here, Tuesday.

**TOP RIGHT:** Senior Airman Robert Hartley (left) and Airman 1st Class Christopher Bratton, 379th Expeditionary Civil Engineer Squadron electrical power production technicians, replace an aircraft arresting support arm here, May 20.



U.S. Air Force photo/Tech. Sgt. Michelle Larche



U.S. Air Force photo/Senior Master Sgt. David Byron

**(l-r) Vinnie Mark, Richie Minervini and John Mulrooney, nationally-known comedians, shake hands and autograph show flyers for servicemembers following a performance of the "Locked, Loaded and Laughing Out Loud – The Incoming Comedy Tour" comedy show at the base theatre here, May 23.**



U.S. Air Force photo/Tech. Sgt. Michelle Larche

**Senior Airman Derek Oliver, 379th Expeditionary Communications Squadron cable maintenance technician, and Staff Sgt. Joshua Hall, 379th ECS technical control, conduct a fiber optic test here Tuesday.**

# Air Force family bikes together on two continents



**Lt. Col. Harlan Fangmeyer, 609th Air Operations Center Combat Plans Division deputy, rides in the "Tour de Cure" here while his family rides in Omaha, Neb.**

Story and photo by Maj. Chad Steffey  
U.S. AFCENT Public Affairs

Though more than 7,000 miles apart, one U.S. Air Force family spent May 23 riding together in a nationwide biking event raising awareness and providing support toward a cure for juvenile diabetes.

Lt. Col. Harlan Fangmeyer, Combined Air Operations Center Combat Plans Division deputy chief, rode 20 miles on a stationary bike at the Blatchford-Preston Fitness Center

here while his wife, two sons and daughter rode in the Tour de Cure in Omaha, Neb.

Fangmeyer's youngest son, Carter, was diagnosed with juvenile diabetes in 2009. Carter, age 10, rode the 10-mile course with his mother, Diane Fangmeyer. His older siblings, Hunter and Megan, rode the 20-mile course, which Fangmeyer simulated here.

The Tour de Cure, organized by the American Diabetes Association, attracts more than 40,000 bicyclists

to 80 different events around the U.S.

This was the first time any of the Fangmeyer family participated in the event. Carter said he was very excited that his dad was riding along.

"I'm just glad to make the connection in spirit," said Lt. Col. Fangmeyer as he pedaled.

Fangmeyer is deployed here from the 55th Operations Support Squadron at Offutt Air Force Base, Neb. This is his second deployment here, having served from 2006 to 2007.

## FROM RIGGERS ON PAGE 4

ing their motto, "I will be sure, Always!"

"We rely on their expertise to make uploading cargo onto aircraft go smoothly," said Air Force Staff Sgt. Jeff Patterson, 816th Expeditionary Airlift Squadron C-17 Globemaster III loadmaster.

"We're one team, working together on the mission," he added, "and really appreciate them because we know, by the quality of our loads, that they always do their best."

The riggers' ability to perpetually produce high-quality CDS bundles is something both Sergeant Hopkins and Specialist Or-

tiz attribute to being part of a cohesive team, the effectiveness of their leadership and – especially when the job seems most grueling – taking a moment to appreciate the good things they have to look forward to, while deployed here.

"We're a pretty tight-knit team," said the sergeant. "We know we're going to spend the majority of our time in this shop, so we always stay together as a group...helping each other so no one gets behind."

"We do a lot of things to have fun here in the shop and keep each others' spirits high," he added.

"Riggers have a unique tradition of celebrating or recognizing our fellow Soldiers for accomplishments like birthdays and promotions, that most riggers around the world observe, appreciate and fear, according to what side of the celebration they're on."

The familiarity of being deployed as a unit also benefits the team.

"People asked me, before deploying, 'are you scared?'" said Specialist Ortiz. "I knew the people I was coming here with, and I was really confident – it didn't matter if we were sent here, or to Afghanistan or Iraq – the people

I'm with and the leadership we have are outstanding.

"And yes, it's hard to be here really late every night, seven days a week," he added. "We don't have many days off because there's a huge demand, but it's nice to know what we do directly affects what's going on downrange. A lot of times, people downrange don't have 90 percent of the things we have here – things we don't even think about – bathrooms, showers and hot meals all the time. Knowing we provide sustenance to those people keeps us motivated."

# The 'Art' of War

Submission 10-02



**"Painting this mural for my squadron is a lot of fun, plus it instills esprit-de-corps within my unit."**

-Airman 1st Class Sarai Benitez  
379th Expeditionary Logistics Readiness Squadron

Deployed artists interested in submitting squadron murals, barrier artwork, unit drawings, etc., e-mail [379aew.pa@auab.afcent.af.mil](mailto:379aew.pa@auab.afcent.af.mil), with a picture of your artwork and a quote by Wednesday each week to be considered for inclusion in "The 'Art' of War" section of the Desert Eagle.

**Airman 1st Class Sarai Benitez, 379 ELRS, paints a mural in the squadron's command section conference room. (U.S. Air Force photo/Tech. Sgt. Jeffrey Presson)**

## FROM DEFENDER ON PAGE 6

As the initial attacks on the perimeter began, many off-duty ESFS members began to gather, said Chief Master Sgt. Allen Graves. "The response was exceptional. Initially, we pushed around 20 defenders to areas along the perimeter. All told, we sent more than 90 off-duty Airmen out to support our Airmen in the towers and on patrol."

Chief Graves said they didn't even have time to recall anyone. "The Airmen knew what their responsibility was and showed up with the 'put me in coach' and 'where do you need me' mentality."

"Our Airmen executed the defense of the base with speed and discipline. They led the fight, working together with our sister services and Coalition forces to ensure the security of the airfield," said Col. Jack Briggs II, 455th Air Expeditionary Wing

commander.

Colonel Lowe praised the performance of his Airmen, "Exceptional," he said. "I would call it monumental. They met and defeated a large and well-equipped enemy, who were bound and determined to kill as many Coalition personnel as possible. My defenders served nobly and valiantly. They leapt into the fray and fought with vigor and courage."

"I didn't expect to see what I saw," said Airman Donnelly. "I am proud of everything we did. We have trained for these situations and when the time came, it all just kicked in, and I did what I had to do."

Colonel Briggs said, "I could not be more proud of our Airmen. I am lucky to be serving alongside our outstanding Airmen who accomplish extraordinary things every day, especially our defenders."

## Commander's Blog and 379 AEW Web site



Visit <http://379aew.dodlive.mil/> for inside access on base events, units and missions through the commander's perspective.

Visit [www.379aew.afcent.af.mil](http://www.379aew.afcent.af.mil) for up-to-date Air Force news, multimedia and features on Air Force and Southwest Asia events.

**Video stories added this week:**  
-French Coalition partnership

# French contingent m

By Senior Airman Spencer Gallien  
379th Air Expeditionary Wing  
Public Affairs

As efforts continue to progress in the U.S. Central Command's area of responsibility, Coalition partners continue to play a vital role in air operations in Southwest Asia.

A contingent of French airmen here have been managing all French Air Force assets used in Middle Eastern operations. The 10 French Airmen, ranging from officers to non-commissioned officers, perform jobs including liaison officers, legal advisors and information systems managers.

"We handle and coordinate all French missions going on throughout the AOR," said French Air Force Col. Jean-Pierre Duvoisin, Combined Air Operations Center-French senior officer. "Our interaction is very broad, we handle close-air support, aerial refueling, airlift operations, unmanned aerial vehicles – our scope is quite wide and takes a lot of coordination."

The group has been deployed for a few months and has already integrated itself with various Coalition forces here.

"From the day we arrived, we've felt very welcome," said Capt. Kevin Richard, CAOC-French legal advisor. "Any time we need anything, everyone here has been very helpful. I'd really like to thank the Americans for their help."

This has been the first time Colonel Duvoisin has been responsible for all French assets supporting the Global War on Terror.

"It's a very large responsibility," Colonel Duvoisin said. "We review the French rules of engagement, ensuring our assets are proceeding within the French regulations. We basically ensure our assets are doing the job properly."

Once a month, Colonel Duvoisin and his legal advisor travel



U.S. Air Force photos/Senior Airman Kasey Zickmund

**The 609th Combined Air and Operations Center French Air Force Detachment manages all French Air Force assets used in Middle Eastern operations here Monday.**

throughout the USCENTCOM theater examining and evaluating French assets.

"Being in charge of the legal aspects of the French assets here in the AOR, I've been given the opportunity to travel with Colonel Duvoisin during his visits to French units in the Middle East," said Captain Richard. "When we're there, I brief aircrews on the legal aspects of air operations,

making sure French assets are used according to the French rules of engagement."

This is Captain Richard's first opportunity to serve as a legal advisor for air operations.

"At home, I handle administrative legal aspects," he added. "This has been a very good opportunity to exchange with crews on air operations – I've been very happy with my deployment."

# manages assets in AOR



**Col. Jean-Pierre Duvoisin, 609th CAOC French Air Force Detachment senior officer, reviews reports and prepares for the next day's missions here Monday.**

Colonel Duvoisin supported operations during the first Iraq war and in Bosnia, but this is his first time deploying here.

"I expected a very rich experience," said Colonel Duvoisin. "First, it's a great opportunity to work with many different people, from many different countries. Second, the operational phase of my job is a great experience. Being in the CAOC provides a complex work environment that I will learn a lot from."

"I am pleased to be here, supporting France and the Coalition."



**Maj. Christophe Dubart, 609th CAOC French Air Force Detachment deputy officer, prepares the next day's mission plan here Monday.**



## VICTORY CHAPEL

Open seven days a week,  
24 hours a day,  
"And overtime on Sundays"

## WORSHIP SCHEDULE

### Protestant Saturday

7:30 p.m., Contemporary, Chapel

### Sunday

9:45 a.m., General Protestant,  
CAOC 1st Floor conference room

9:45 a.m., Contemporary, Chapel

11:30 a.m., Traditional Service,  
Chapel

1:30 p.m., LDS Service, Chapel

4 p.m., Liturgical, Chapel

7:30 p.m., Gospel, Chapel

### Roman Catholic Mass

6 p.m., Monday-Friday

Blessed Sacrament Chapel

### Saturday Mass

6 p.m., Mass, BPC Mall area

### Sunday Masses

8 a.m., Victory Chapel

11 a.m., Mass, CAOC 1st floor  
conference room

6 p.m., Mass, Victory Chapel

Muslim  
Buddhist  
Orthodox  
Jewish

### Earth Religions

See Chapel staff or call 437-8811 for  
more information.

# Current Chapel Classes

The 379th Air Expeditionary  
Wing Victory Chapel is now offer-  
ing the following classes:

### Sundays

Rite of Christian Initiation of  
Adults: Have you considered be-  
coming Catholic? Are you already  
Catholic but want to know more  
about what the Church believes?  
Have you begun the RCIA process  
at an earlier time? Chaplain (Lt.  
Col.) Stephen Voyt will lead RCIA  
classes for those interested in  
making this faith journey, 9 a.m.,  
Chapel Conference Room.

The Truth Project: This DVD-  
based small group study is de-  
signed to equip participants with a  
comprehensive biblical worldview.  
Practically and personally, partici-  
pants will be reintroduced to the  
truth claims of God. Twelve, one-  
hour lessons detailing God's design  
for living out the Christian world-  
view in daily life. 6:30-8 p.m., CC  
Ministry Center, Building 10006.

No More Christian Nice Guy  
Study: 6:30 a.m., Chapel Confer-  
ence Room

Women's Study (A No  
Regrets Life): 3:45 p.m., Chapel  
Multi-Purpose Room

Women's Study (Stepping Up):  
5 p.m., Chapel Multi-Purpose  
Room

### Mondays

NOOMA Video Series: A series  
of short films exploring the world  
from the perspective of Jesus.  
6p.m., Victory Chapel.

Friends of Bill W. (A.A.): 4 p.m.  
at the CC Ministry Center.

### Tuesdays

Christian Discipleship Bible  
Study: Learn how to be an intimate  
follower of Christ. Through the use  
of scripture study, Bible memory,  
and prayer participants can learn  
and develop lessons to teach others.  
7:30-9 p.m. CC Ministry Center.

Spiritual Discipline (Men's  
Study): Spiritual disciplines can be

described as behaviors facilitating  
spiritual growth. Spiritual disci-  
plines, then, are spiritual exercises  
one engages in habitually which  
brings one closer to God and thus  
becomes more godly in character  
and behavior. 7:30 p.m., Chapel  
Multi-Purpose room.

Catholic Bible Study: "Igno-  
rance of the Scriptures is ignorance  
of Christ" -- St. Jerome. Vatican  
II called upon Catholics to know  
the Bible more profoundly so they  
may know Jesus, the Word of the  
Father. As the Year of St. Paul  
concludes, participants will delve  
into the Word of God. 7:30 p.m.,  
Chapel Conference Room.

How to Study the Bible: 6 p.m.,  
Chapel Conference Room

### Wednesdays

Latter Day Saints Men and  
Women's Study Group: 7-8 p.m.,  
CC Ministry Center.

Ephesians Bible Study: 7 p.m.,  
Chapel Conference Room

### Thursdays

Wild at Heart Study (Men):  
John Eldredge helps men redis-  
cover their masculine heart. Wild  
at Heart, a guide to understanding  
Christian manhood and Christian  
men, offers a refreshing new look  
at manhood. 7-8:30 p.m., Chapel  
Multi-Purpose Room.

Ephesians Bible Study: 7 p.m.,  
Chapel Conference Room

Open Bible Study: 12p.m., Cha-  
pel Conference Room

### Fridays

The Case For Christ: Video  
study based on Lee Strobel's book.  
4:30-6 p.m., Chapel Conference  
Room.

NOOMA Video Series: A series  
of short films exploring the world  
from the perspective of Jesus. 7  
a.m., Victory Chapel.

Seek His Face Bible Study: 6:30  
a.m., Chapel Multi-Purpose Room

Names of God: 6 p.m., Chapel  
Conference Room

**Follow the happenings of the 'Grand Slam' Wing at <http://379aew.dodlive.mil>, on Facebook at '379th Air Expeditionary Wing' and on Twitter @379AEW**

### **235th Army Birthday 5K Run**

The 3-43 Air Defense Artillery unit is sponsoring a 5k-run in commemoration of the Army's 235th birthday. The event is scheduled to begin at 5 a.m. June 12, participants must sign-up prior to the event at 4:30 a.m. For more info, call Sergeant 1st Class Cristopher Cardina at 437-5161.

### **SGLI Premium Refund Update**

The SGLI Refund for December 2009 and March 2010 have been posted in affected members' paycheck in May 2010. However, due to a system glitch at DFAS, the SGLI refund for April did not get included for the May payroll. Deployed members in support of OEF/OIF who arrived in the AOR on or before April 1 and continue to serve thru May will receive two-months of SGLI credit in June for the contributions made in April and May.

DFAS is currently working on the on-going problems and are asking for servicemembers continued patience. SGLI refunds, also known as "SGLI Premium Reimbursement Allowance," only applies to servicemembers in the theater of operations for OEF/OIF who have SGLI coverage. This allowance has been in effect since 2006. To ensure proper amounts are credited, members are asked to monitor their LES.

For more information on SGLI refunds, contact finance office at 437-8686.

### **Lessons Learned**

As we learn valuable lessons on our assignment here helping to do our individual jobs or units' jobs quicker, better and safer, we should be collecting those hard learned lessons so the rest of the Air Force can benefit from our experiences. Get your lessons into the Air Force Joint Lessons Learned Information System at <https://www.jllis.mil/USAF> so you can help the rest of the Air Force learn from you. Visit the Web site, register and fill in the blanks. For more information or assistance with JLLIS, contact AFFOR A9 at 436-4256 or 436-4005 and speak with Mr. John Wallin or Capt. Heather Clapper.

### **Post-Deployment LES Review**

Redeploying members are encouraged to review their LES to ensure applicable taxes are once again deducted from their pay, and that all deployment-specific entitlements have stopped. For more information about entitlements or what to do once redeployed to home station, contact 379 ECPTS

Customer Service at 379ecptscustomerserv@auab.afcent.af.mil, or call 437-8686.

### **Vehicle Security**

When leaving vehicles unattended, make sure to secure the vehicle prior to leaving it. Lock all doors and roll-up all windows. Make sure no operations security material, CAC cards, line badges or other personal items are left unattended inside the vehicle. It is important for everyone to practice good OPSEC.

### **Wear of Sunglasses/Eyeglasses**

Conservative ornamentation on frames and lenses are authorized on non-prescription sunglasses or eyeglasses, frames may be black or brown material or gold or silver wire. Brand name glasses may be worn with small logo on frames or lenses. Conservative wrap-around sunglasses may be worn. Conservative, clear, slightly tinted or photosensitive lenses are allowed, faddish styles and mirrored lenses prohibited. Not worn around the neck or on top/back of head or exposed hanging on uniform. Eyeglasses/sunglasses will be worn in manner for which made. For more information, consult AFI 36-2903.

### **Uniform Disposition**

Individual accountability of military uniforms is a force protection issue. The local Air Force instruction for dress and appearance of Air Force personnel directs that unserviceable uniforms may be turned into base supply for proper disposal. Unserviceable duty and PT uniforms can be turned in via uniform collection boxes, located by Jack's Place, the Coffee Beanery in CC complex and outside of the BPC BX, or take them to the Transit Shipping Point, Building 3718, near the wash rack. For more information, call TSP at 437-2352.

### **CC Dorm Exterior Doors**

CC Dorm residents should ensure the exterior doors are not left open. When these doors are left open, outside air flows through the building causing nuisance alarms in the fire alarm panels. The smoke detectors in the hallways get clogged with dust, which sets them off.

### **FreeThought Association**

The Southwest Asia FreeThought Association is a private organization comprised of atheists, agnostics, secular humanists, freethinkers and other non-religious individuals. Meetings are held weekly. For times, locations or more information, e-mail Tech Sgt. Richard Hamelin or call 437-5111.

### **Running Rules**

Running on Enduring Freedom Road in Coalition Compound is prohibited. Runners and walkers should use the sidewalk along the trailers. Also, headphones or earbuds are not authorized while running or walking on base roads. Always run against traffic, in single file. Runners must yield to vehicles at all times.



**Lt. Col. Gregory Reese, 379th Expeditionary Security Forces Squadron commander, speaks during the K-9 Kennel ribbon-cutting ceremony here Monday. (U.S. Air Force photo by Senior Airman Kasey Zickmund)**