



ALI TIMES



January 27, 2006

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Front Page photo

Staff Sgt. Preston, 407th Expeditionary Security Forces Squadron, Bravo Flight marksman, takes aim with his M24 at Ali Base, Iraq. (Last name has been removed for security reasons.)

Photo by Senior Master Sgt. Jessica D'Aurizio

Mindset and Attitude Equals Success

By Master Sgt. Mark Hamrick

407th Expeditionary Services Squadron Superintendent

One thing that I have learned from supervisors and mentors, over the past 22 years of service to include nine deployments, is that in order to accomplish the mission at hand you need to focus on two important things. First, get yourself in the right frame of mind to accomplish the mission, second have a positive attitude toward the mission.

Before I enlisted in the Air Force, my wife and I discussed the issue. I wanted to make a change somehow, someday in my life, but did not know exactly what to do.

After also discussing the issue of enlisting in the Air Force with my father, I will never forget his words. He

paused for a moment and said, "have you thought this through," and I replied "yes I really want to do this."

His advice was to always focus on having my head in the game and knowing where I was at. Your military instructors will ride you hard and they need to, to help mold you into a productive part of the Air Force and to ensure quality personnel are available to complete the mission.

This is where the mindset comes in; prepare yourself, make sure you have all the information available. The

more information you have and the more you prepare will keep you focused on business at hand.

Also, the positive attitude plays a big role; it's surprising how far a positive attitude can take you in today's Air Force.

I have come across instances where a negative attitude can disrupt and destroy unit cohesiveness from the

inside out. Before long the unit suffers and of course the mission will suffer.

We, as supervisors and mentors, must instill in the young airman the importance of getting in the right frame of mind to deploy and to maintain a positive attitude. This is the key to accomplishing mission goals when forward deployed.

Preparation to complete our wartime mission on this AEF started early. We made sure that everyone was trained, had all their equipment, and they knew how to use it.

Throughout the deployment preparation I noticed that everyone had a fairly good attitude towards the concept of deploying. As time passed and deploying grew closer, I noticed a significant positive change in attitude.

In the end, we need to make sure we approach life and the mission with the correct mindset and a positive attitude. These factors are key to the development of our young troops and future leaders. Within time our troops will be our replacements as supervisors and leaders.



Master Sgt. Mark Hamrick

Take advantage of lifes opportunities

By Senior Master Sgt. Jessica D'Aurizio

407th Air Expeditionary Group Public Affairs

In 1980, at age 16, Senior Master Sgt. Earon Bolton, 777th Expeditionary Airlift Squadron Maintenance superintendent at Ali Base, Iraq, quit school because he felt it was not teaching him anything useful.

"I saw nothing wrong with it (quitting) because my father and older brother had done the same thing," said Sergeant Bolton. He was living in South Houston, Texas, at that time, and started doing odd jobs at different businesses, but none...promised a stable future.

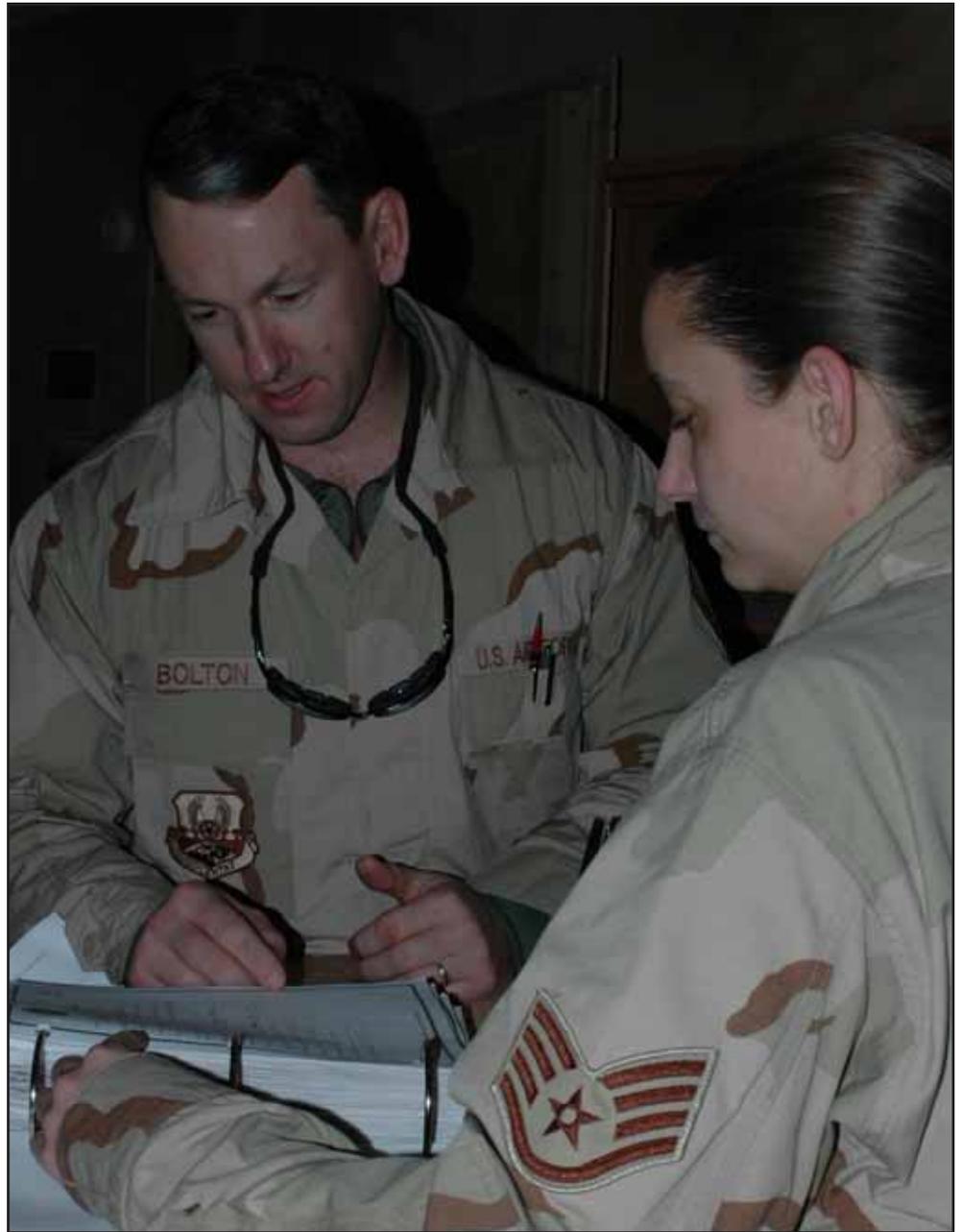
"I did not want to be a janitor or fry cook all my life," said Sergeant Bolton. "I had had several encounters with local law enforcement...and after visiting my brother in a medium security prison facility at Huntsville, Texas, I quickly decided it was time to leave Houston." Always having the dream of becoming a pilot, he decided to check out the Air Force in 1981.

"I readily admitted my ignorance of the Air Force to the recruiter," said Sergeant Bolton. Not having a high school diploma, much less a college degree, he quickly learned that his dream was not a reality. He opted for what he called the second best thing...to take his General Education Degree and study for the Air Force entrance exam.

"I joined the military to change myself," said Sergeant Bolton. "I felt the Air Force would give me a chance to learn a trade and escape the problems of living in a large city." His father was adopted and never knew his family which was not the life he wanted. Instead he desired to see the world and feel good about himself for what he could do.

The Air Force was a go and on his second assignment he ran into someone he couldn't bring himself to live without.

"I met my wife when she was



Senior Master Sgt. Earon Bolton, 777 EAS, reviews squadron inprocessing information with Staff Sgt. Jill Watts, 777 EAS Information Management.

16...when I found out her age I immediately panicked, looking for a way to back out of our conversation," said Sergeant Bolton. "Several days passed and I just couldn't get her out of my mind. We dated for six months and one day before I asked her to marry me." Despite Yvonell's father and mother not being happy about it at all, they knew how stubborn she was and gave in to the idea.

"Looking back I can definitely agree with them, especially after having a daughter of my own" said Sergeant Bolton.

Now their daughter is in the Air Force. She is Airman 1st Class Ashleigh Bolton and is an Airborne Systems Engineer on the KC-135. Strangely enough, she is also deployed in support of the same Air

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OPPORTUNITIES

Security Forces Squadron Brave Flight Provide Eagle Eyes in Iraq

By Staff Sgt. Preston Staley

407th Expeditionary Security Forces Squadron

In hot spots where the defense of Air Bases is crucial, the Air Force has brought out a few of its elite security forces marksmen who have been trained to function as sharpshooters. These security forces members are professional, disciplined, and first rate marksmen. The men and women of the AF Close Precision Engagement corps are held to a higher marksmanship standard than mainstream troops and are expected to serve as role models. The CPE team at Ali Base, Iraq is comprised of half-dozen men from Nellis AFB, Nev., and Sheppard AFB, Texas. The CPE section has no limits and takes every challenge as an opportunity to excel.

CPE members must possess certain attributes. Persistence and patience are two important qualities. The CPE section not only takes pride in protecting their military personnel and aircraft, but they are now playing a pivotal role in the war against terrorism. These troops are forward observers, psychological operating units, blocking forces and marksman trained units. CPE teams are canny, precise and must decide where to position themselves. They must also know how to get to their position, what to take with them, how to camouflage, and what to do if something goes wrong.

If a candidate possesses the necessary qualities, prerequisites and gets selected to attend Close Precision Engagement Course, he or she will find out quickly if they have the guts to become a CPE marksman. CPEC instructors are a few of the best in the business. Instructors must eliminate the weak and determine whether the student can handle the intense

three week course, because if they can't handle the course, they can't handle a real-world mission. The instructors push students to the limit, putting both mental and physical endurance to the test. The 16-hour days in training are intensive and time is never wasted. Chigger bites, ticks, cuts, bruises, training in extreme weather conditions, and pushing yourself to the limits, are all circumstances that must be accepted to become a CPE graduate.

Once a person graduates, he or she is attached with one or two other personnel, depending on the mission requirements. All persons on the team are advanced marksmen and trained observers. The observer is the most experienced person on the team. The observer determines target selection, where to place the shot



Airmen 1st Class Jacob, 407th Expeditionary Security Forces Squadron marksman, with his sniper weapons system at Ali Base, Iraq.

and when to execute the shot. The enemy is unaware of the presence of the team and information being annotated. Surveillance of a specific target may last a few hours or even many days. Detecting the enemy and passing on crucial information to patrols is the most important job to ensure mission success.

CPE teams are specially trained and gather information about

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EAGLE EYES

EAGLE EYES

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407 ESFS Close Precision Engagement team at Ali Base, Iraq.

enemy forces utilizing state of the art equipment. The team also spends tireless days mastering range estimation. CPE is part of the overall intelligence collection process. Long-range surveillance provides the Defense Force Commander and Intelligence with timely information that does not need lengthy processing and analysis. They augment and complement other collection systems that are more vulnerable to limitations such as weather, range, terrain and enemy countermeasures.

The employment ranges for CPE missions depend on intelligence, operational tempo, and support considerations. In a fast-paced battlefield environment, the depth of CPE employment is greater because the area of interest is larger. CPE detachment teams operate forward of fire teams in the area of interest. The duration of a CPE mission depends on equipment and supplies the team must carry, movement distance to the objective area, and resupply availability. The teams can operate up to three days without resupply depending on terrain and weather. They may be deployed longer in special cases. Noise, light, litter,

and odor discipline must be maintained at all times. The team curbs movement (day and night) and talks only in whispers. Arm-and-hand signals are the normal mode of communication; however, if dictated by distance and vegetation, a messenger or radio communication device may be used.

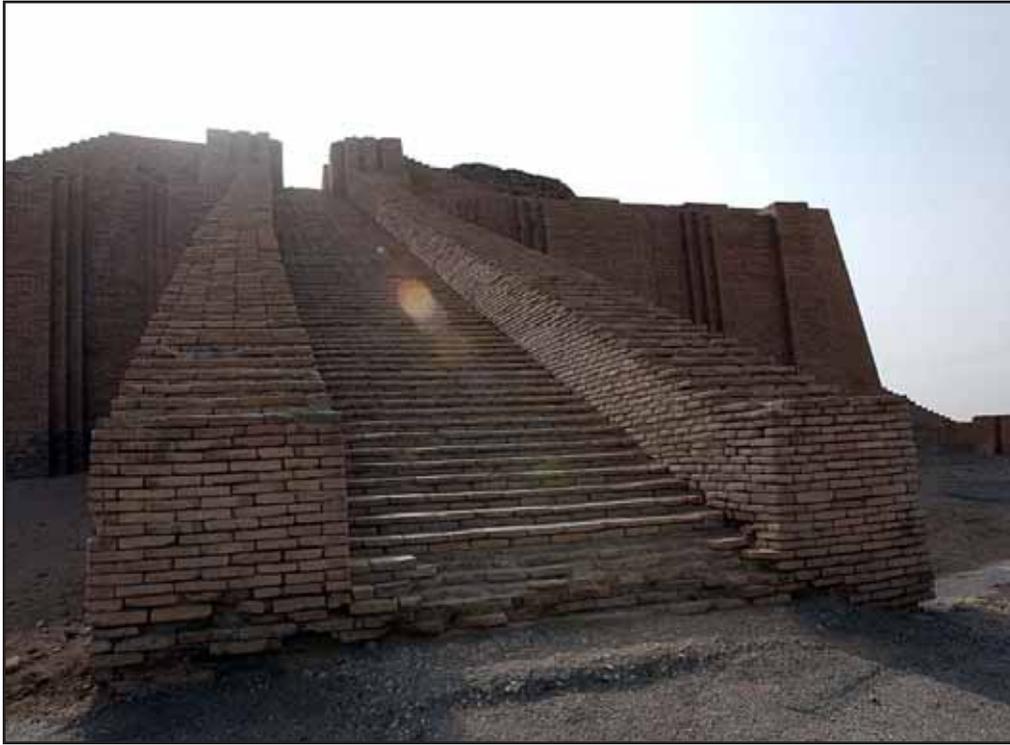
The CPE section at Ali Base is a living example of giving what it takes. The CPE team takes pride in how effectively it is protecting the base and providing real-time information of the battlefield to the DFC. The team will continue to show the capabilities of this program and provide Regional Training Centers with real-world information to stay ahead of our adversaries. Some of the team members hope to become instructors and train other people to continue the traditions of this unique corps and give the defense force commander another tool to face the enemy with.

Integrity first, service before self and excellence in all we do is what every Airman should abide by everyday. These are also the first traits an individual must have to become a Close Precision Engagement graduate.

History of the Ziggurat

By Master Sgt. Don Perrien

407th Air Expeditionary Group Public Affairs, AEF 1-2



The stairway of the Ziggurat reaches more than 40 feet to the top of the structure, which is more than 4,000 years old.

More than 4,000 years ago, worshipers of the moon god Nanna living near the ancient city of Ur constructed the Ziggurat monument, the most dominant landmark on Ali Base. Rising more than 40 feet above the ground, it is the best preserved structure of its type in the world.

The Ziggurat was built in three stages taking hundreds of years to complete. Its construction was begun by the ruler Ur-Nammu and completed by Shol-Gi of the Third Dynasty.

The structure was unearthed in the mid 1800s by British consul J. E. Taylor, who partly uncovered the Ziggurat. Unlike the pyramids of Egypt, the Ziggurat is a solid structure. There are no inner passages or chambers for burying former rulers. However, there is a nearby royal cemetery in the adjacent city of Ur which was later excavated in 1922 by Sir Leonard Wooley.

The Ziggurat has been restored several times, with the last known construction

work performed during the 1960's. Most of the exposed outer surface of the structure visitors see today is from work done just 40 years ago.

The first two layers of the Ziggurat are relatively well preserved; however, the upper level is no longer standing. Originally there may have been a small temple to the moon god on the upper level. Archeologists speculate the mound of rubble at the top of the structure may have resulted from the practice of destroying the temple annually and creating a new one each year.

The original purpose of the Ziggurat is lost in mystery. Recovered cuneiform tables describe rituals of prayer and sacrifice, but little is known about the religion as a whole.

The life of the Ziggurat is closely tied with the city of Ur

itself. The city is considered a cradle of civilization, playing a key role in defining urban culture and serving as an example for future city designs. Several thousand years ago, the path of the Euphrates River flowed very close to the city's walls. Because of its location, Ur became a hub for the development of commerce and the seat of political influence for the entire area.

The city's early history was marked by three separate dynasties in a single millennia, with the first occurring before 3,000 B.C. and the last ending around 2,000 B.C.

Excavations in the area dating from the Second Dynasty have shown the citizens of Ur were instrumental in discovering new methods to work metal, especially the mining and smelting of gold. Later

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Ziggurat



The city of Ur today as it sits alongside Ali Base in Southern Iraq.



Tips offered for tax season

By Army Sgt. Sara Wood

American Forces Press Service

1/20/2006 - **WASHINGTON (AFP)** — Tax season has once again arrived, and military personnel should know several things to make their returns easier and more beneficial, a military official said here yesterday.

One of the most notable changes to the tax code this year is the addition of provisions for victims of hurricanes Katrina, Rita and Wilma, said Army Lt. Col. Janet Fenton, executive director of the Armed Forces Tax Council.

The provisions for hurricane victims are lengthy and complicated, so servicemembers who were affected by the hurricane should seek advice from their installation tax center or the Internal Revenue Service, Colonel Fenton said. The provisions can include extensions for tax filing and help for those who lost homes or property, she said.

Servicemembers who spent time deployed have important things to keep in mind when filing their taxes, Colonel Fenton said. For example, Iraq, Afghanistan, Bosnia and Kosovo all qualify as combat zones where military income is tax exempt, she said. For enlisted servicemembers, all income earned in a combat zone is exempt, but for officers, income is excluded up to a certain limit. For 2005, the limit for officers' tax-exempt income was \$6,529 a month, she said.

Tax-exempt income is a great thing, but it has worked against

some servicemembers by exempting them from important credits, Colonel Fenton said. Two credits that military members often qualify for — earned income credit and child tax credit — require earned income to be claimed, she said. Starting this year, servicemembers can elect to include their combat zone income to qualify for these credits, she said. She stressed that this income will not be taxed, but will allow servicemembers to receive credits for which they qualify.

"Just because you think you didn't have earned income due to your combat zone time, it's worth your effort to go to the tax center and find out if you do qualify for these two important credits," Colonel Fenton said.

Servicemembers in a combat zone during tax season get an automatic extension to file their taxes, Colonel Fenton said. Servicemembers have six months from the time they leave the combat zone to file, she said. Servicemembers who are stationed elsewhere overseas have a two-month extension to file.

The colonel said almost every military installation offers a tax center for military, retired military and family members. Volunteers at the center are trained by the IRS and military legal office and can provide advice or assistance in filing taxes. Returns filed through the tax center are sent electronically, and people will receive their refunds within seven to 10 days, she said.

"The installations do serve a

great benefit to the military member who wants to go and make sure that they've gotten the best information they can. They've filed it, not only accurately, but taken advantage of any of the deductions and credits that they do qualify for and they may not be aware of on their own," she said.

Each installation determines its tax center's operating hours and whether people need an appointment to come in, Colonel Fenton said.

Military personnel can also get help online with their taxes. The IRS provides a free file service on its Web site, which lists several tax preparation services, many of which provide free service to military members, she said. The Web site Military OneSource also provides free tax assistance to military members.

"The Internet's invaluable; it allows you to file your taxes from your own home, if you're comfortable enough to do that," Colonel Fenton said.

To prepare to file taxes, servicemembers should make sure they have their W-2 forms from the military and any other jobs they had in the past year, the colonel said. Servicemembers should also make sure they have Social Security cards for themselves and their dependents.

For active-duty servicemembers, W-2s will be available on MyPay starting Jan. 21, Colonel Fenton said. Retirees and Reservists already have the forms available.

Free Turbo Tax available to servicemembers

Beginning January 16, 2006, TurboTax is being made available at no cost to servicemembers by the Department of Defense at the [Military OneSource website](#). For more information and current updates, visit the [Military OneSource website](#). To access your 2005 W2 online, visit [myPay](#).

Reenlistment in the Air



Moments after crossing the Iraqi border aboard a C-130 aircraft, Capt. Robert Crable, 407th Expeditionary Logistics Readiness Squadron Operation officer, enlists Senior Airman Brian Shintaku, 777th Expeditionary Airlift Squadron Ammunition Fabrication Shop.

Ziggurat

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excavations dating from the Third Dynasty show the city developed into a cultural capital featuring works of sculpture and literature as the local rulers expanded their empire several thousand miles long across an area from the Near East to parts of Asia Minor.

The more commonly known name of the city for many people is the city's biblical name, Ur of the Chaldees, which refers to the Chaldeans, who settled in the area about 900 B.C. Passages in the Bible's Book of Genesis describe Ur

as the starting point of the migration westward to Palestine for the family of Abraham around 1,900 B.C.

During the Chaldean dynasty, King Nebuchadnezzar II ruled over another period of construction at the city of Ur. The last Babylonian king of the period, Nabonidus, who reigned from 556-539 B.C. appointed his eldest daughter high priestess at Ur. During this period, he and his daughter repaired and rebuilt many of the temples and entirely remodeled the Ziggurat.

Less than a century later,

Babylonia came under the control of Persia, and Ur began its decline. By the 4th century B.C., the city stood nearly barren and empty. Historians speculate the change was most likely due to a combination of continuing warfare in the area and a shift in the course of the Euphrates River, decreasing the city's value as a trade route.

While the original inhabitants of Ur have faded into history, the Ziggurat of Ur stands a remarkable window into humanity's past culture.



The future of security forces in combat

By Colonel Brad Spacy

U.S. Air Force Headquarters Security Forces & Force Protection

WASHINGTON — In the early morning hours of Jan. 1, 2005, the first combat patrols of Operation Desert Safeside left the northern perimeter of Balad Air Base, Iraq, and began an aggressive 60-day combat operation to kill or capture insurgents attacking the air base. This was a historic mission for Air Force security forces. It was bold, put Airmen at risk and the stakes were high. We knew the results of Operations Desert Safeside would have far-reaching implications on the future of Air Force security forces as a credible ground combat force.

Operation Desert Safeside was carried out by the men and women of Task Force 1041. Specially built around a squadron of the 820th Security Forces Group, TF 1041 was led by a young security forces lieutenant colonel named Chris Bargery, chosen for his reputation as an innovative combat leader. TF 1041's designated area of operations was one of the most violent areas in the region, roughly 10 kilometers wide and 6 deep, from the Balad perimeter fence to the Tigris River.

Throughout January and February 2005, Colonel Bargery led the men and women of TF 1041 in more than 500 combat missions that included raids, ambushes, and sniper operations aimed at taking back the initiative enjoyed by the enemy for more than two years.

TF 1041 did not disappoint. In just 60 days they captured 17 high value targets, eight major weapons caches, 98 other insurgents and reduced enemy attacks from their area of operations to nearly zero. And although TF 1041 endured numerous firefights, improvised explosive devices and indirect fire attacks, they sustained no injuries. Operation Desert Safeside was by all accounts an overwhelming success.

However, TF 1041's success on the battlefield had a larger effect than its immediate impact on the

areas around Balad AB. TF 1041 also showed the world that Air Force security forces are an exceptionally capable ground combat force. This is a key point as security forces transform from a Cold War industrial security force to a relevant ground combat force for the joint warfight in the 21st Century.

Although security forces have claimed the base defense mission since the 1960s, it has always been considered an Army responsibility. In 1985, this was formalized when the Army became officially responsible for defense "outside the wire" of a fixed base. It was an unwritten understanding that Air Force security forces would stay inside the base perimeter. This looked fine on paper, but faced numerous challenges in application, which endured through the Cold War and into the 1990s.

During Operation Desert Storm, the lines of battle were fairly well-defined with major combat at the "front" and air bases supposedly tucked safely in the rear area. The first widely publicized indications that the enemy was changing tactics was seen during the attack on Khobar Towers, but the full impact of these changes weren't fully exposed until operations Enduring Freedom and Iraqi Freedom. In combat operations in Afghanistan and Iraq our bases are not always in the rear and the enemy has attacked us from all sides with relative impunity, just like at Balad AB. The world in which we conduct Air Force operations is changing, and we need to adapt.

Early last year, when previous Air Force/Army agreements were dissolved, the Air Force was left with a tough problem; while security forces are eager to fight outside the wire, most are untested in the combat environment experienced by TF 1041. This situation is exacerbated by the fact

that security forces are spread thin conducting security missions and other tasks throughout the theater. This is where Security Forces Transformation comes in.

Security Forces Transformation will help the Air Force deliberately embrace the air base defense mission by addressing requirements in all areas, from doctrine to training and equipping, and even leadership preparation. Security Forces Transformation will also re-tool the organizational structure to ensure we have the number of troops available to take the fight to the enemy outside the wire. However, air base defense is a tough mission, and security forces can't do it alone. Effective air base defense requires an integrated approach.

The Air Force needs to truly embrace the "every Airman is a warrior" culture and enlist the whole force in defending an air base much like Sailors do an aircraft carrier in the Navy. All Airmen must be trained and equipped to man "battle stations," and leaders must be prepared to lead them in the ground fight. Security forces might be the ones outside the wire, but the whole Air Force team will have to ensure the base remains protected from penetrative attacks and insider threats, and be ready to respond when called upon. This is the reality of the world today.

I knew when I designed Operation Desert Safeside that the only way to stop the enemy from attacking our air bases was to go out and kill or capture him and take his weapons. I knew that security forces had the skills and courage to take on this mission and make it a success. The brave men and women of Task Force 1041 proved this to be true in dramatic fashion. Operation Desert Safeside provides a look at the future of Air Force ground combat, and Security Forces Transformation is the key to ensuring we're all ready to protect and defend.

Security forces transformation: More than meets the eye

By Senior Airman J. G. Buzanowski

Air Force Print News

WASHINGTON (AFPN) — As the Air Force continues to adapt for the future, changes to the security forces career field will affect the total force.

Brig. Gen. Robert Holmes, director of security forces and force protection, calls these transformations a “refocus” on how his people train and fight.

“We’re not in the Cold War anymore; we have to alter our mentality and our practices for today’s reality,” the general said. “Because of the nature of the threat, our Airmen are fighting the global war on terror on the front lines, and we owe it to them to provide training, equipment and resources to be effective.”

Essentially, security forces Airmen will focus on preparing for their warfighting mission at forward locations, as well as security at a fixed installation, General Holmes said.

As an example, he cited an Air Force Task Force that operated around Balad Air Base, Iraq, for two months last year. The unit patrolled the local towns and found weapons caches as well as individuals who posed a threat to the base.

“Our Airmen are going ‘outside the wire’ to conduct missions and are proving successful in keeping people safe,” Gen. Holmes said. “Not only for the folks stationed at the base, but people who live and work in the local area as well. This is very important in the present war on terror.”

Security forces Airmen must learn counter-insurgency techniques and in doing so, they’ll operate more effectively in joint operations, said Maj. Gen. Norman Seip, assistant deputy chief of staff for air & space operations.

“We need to be prepared for a full-spectrum of threats against an air field,” General Seip said. “That



Senior Airman Martin, 407 ESFS marksman, provides over-watch security for the Secretary of the Air Force during his visit to Ali Base, Iraq in December 2005.

means taking more responsibility for defense of our mission, so our sister services can concentrate on their own tasks. We need to understand how they operate, so we’re working closely with the Army to identify additional ways to train our Airmen.”

While security forces will focus more on their warfighting competencies, Air Force leaders are reviewing several options for installation protection duties, like entry control at home stations. Plans call for more DoD civilians, greater affiliation with Guard and Reserve and better use of technologies, General Holmes said.

The changes to the security forces career field will present the opportunity for other Airman to participate in installation security. While that doesn’t necessarily mean everyone will have a rotation checking identification cards at a gate, it does mean more comprehensive training, awareness and capability to respond and participate, he said.

“Will every Airman be a cop? No. But every Airman will be a warrior,” General Holmes said. “Every Airman needs to be trained in basic

force protection skills and must be prepared to defend an air base and themselves in the event of an attack. This means more than just qualifying with a weapon. We want Airmen to be comfortable with their duty weapon and to develop their shooting skills.”

While definitive plans have not been finalized, General Holmes also said one of the transformation goals is bringing security forces Airmen back in step with standard Air Force 120-day deployments.

“Right now our folks are going out for 179-day rotations,” he said. “Our Airmen need time to reconstitute and train, so it’s important to get them in line with the rest of the Air Force. We aim to do just that.”

Overall, General Holmes said the changes would make security forces Airmen more effective and relevant to Air Force needs in the face of the current changing nature of warfare.

“We want to make our Airmen more proficient, and to do that, we need to adapt,” Gen. Holmes said. “We’re going to change our training, our tactics and our procedures and the Air Force will be better for it.”

Right Start off to a new start

By Senior Master Sgt. Jessica D'Aurizio

407th Air Expeditionary Group Public Affairs



A Senior Airman tries to locate his bags after arriving at Ali Base, Iraq on Jan. 18 for a four month tour of duty. Below: A group of personnel arriving via C-130 disembark the aircraft on the Ali Base, Iraq flightline for AEF 9/10.



Getting life off to the right start at Ali Base will now be accomplished upon arrival at the base.

According to Captain Merrell Mobley, 407th Air Expeditionary Group PERSCO Team Chief, approximately 1,100 people from throughout the Air Force are swapping out from Air and Space Expeditionary Forces 7/8 into 9/10 at Ali Base, Iraq throughout the month of January. Most are here for approximately four months, but some are extended beyond the typical cycle such as security forces and a few flyers.

Captain Mobley said that the PERSCO shop is currently running 24 hours a day. One of the biggest challenges is effective and efficient communications at all levels. The incoming personnel need to know several key concepts about the base before proceeding forward from the Reception Control Center (at Ali Base) to the awaiting arms of their First Sergeant and/or sponsor.

Sitting through three hours of briefings for Right Start is a thing of the past. The 9/10 Air and Space Expeditionary Forces at Ali Base are trying a new approach. The senior leadership believes that much of the information given during the Right Start briefing doesn't need to wait for three to five days after the person has arrived on base.

"All aircraft dropping five or more personnel will now be immediately briefed on Right Start issues. Those with less than five personnel on the aircraft will be briefed by their First Sergeants," said Lt. Col. Elizabeth Borelli, 407th Air Expeditionary Group deputy commander.

The majority of newcomers contact the person they will replace in advance and already possess knowledge of the job and basic information about the base, according to Captain Mobley. They generally want to know: how safe is the base, what's the typical day like, where's the dining facility, Base Exchange, Shoppette, Chapel, etc.

"We try to provide the newcomers with the down and dirty in regards to what they need to know," said Captain Mobley. "General Order 1A, Alarm Conditions, some safety/health issues and customs and courtesies are some of the main things we cover initially."

"We just want it to be more efficient," said Chief Master Sgt. Charles Crisler, 407th Air Expeditionary Group Command Chief. "We'll make improvements along the way as we need them."



From the Safety Office:

Top ten safety violations that will kill or maim you

By Technical Sgt. John Hale

407th Air Expeditionary Group Ground Safety Manager

10. Electrical Cords used incorrectly in the tent. Check electrical cords and surge protectors in your tent and work place to ensure they are in good condition. They should not be smashed by furniture or concealed behind the wall, ceiling or floor. Inspect your smoke detector each week to make sure the battery works. Look for light bulbs resting against cloth or other combustible material.

9. Lack of proper personal protective equipment as required. Wear goggles and motorcycle type helmet in an all terrain vehicle, Polaris, Ranger or Gator, wear the Kevlar helmet in the HUMVEE or other tactical vehicles. Protect your eyes with approved face shields or eye protection. Supervisors will ensure the proper PPE is available and used. The requirements for PPE is mandated to protect your eyes, hands, face or body from specific hazards associated with the task.

8. Not reporting a near miss. Imagine a piece of equipment malfunctions; you are able to quickly fix it, but by not reporting the problem to your supervisor the same thing can happen again resulting in killing or maiming your fellow airman.

7. Not sitting with your butt on the truck bed. Sitting on a wheel well or the side edge positions of the truck bed puts your body above the protection of the truck bed. When a person falls out of a truck even at 20 M.P.H. there is potential for severe injuries with a smashed skull or being ran over by the truck. Also don't lean against the tailgate it could give way and cause you to fall out.

6. Sloppy basketball games. Prevent Sports Injuries: Stretch and warm up before exercise and sports activities. Take breaks and know your limits.

5. Wrong tool for the job. Don't use a knife to turn a screw, if your hand slips it could severely cut your hand. Take the time to go and get the right tool. Follow the Air Force Instructions, Technical Orders or other procedures.

4. Tampering with Electrical or Mechanical Equipment/Panels: Only authorized Expeditionary Civil Engineers Squadron Electricians or Heating, Ventilation and Air Conditioning Technicians are permitted to work on or fix any mechanical problems with Environmental Control Units or electrical equipment/panels. Electrical equipment/panels are hazardous and tampering with this equipment could result in serious or fatal injuries or damage and service disruption to the equipment.

3. Not wearing the reflective belt. The fact that there is no street lights combined with heavy vehicle and pedestrian traffic make walking and jogging outside very dangerous. Outside Bedrock wear of the reflective belt is mandatory when wearing DCUs, flight suit or the Gortex jacket with the PT uniform. Use sidewalks where available, otherwise, face oncoming traffic.

2. Not wearing a seat belt. Always wear your seat belt; your life may depend on it. In a vehicle rollover your head becomes a sledge hammer breaking through the windshield. Passengers partially thrown from the vehicle get crushed to death by the weight of the vehicle.

1. Speeding and reckless driving. All roads on Ali Base are 20 mph / 32 kmh unless there is a posted speed limit sign. Stop at stop signs and beware of others who may run through the intersection. Trucks or HUMVEEs driving too fast for off-road conditions could easily flip over killing or maiming the passengers.

OPPORTUNITIES

from page 3

and Space Expeditionary Forces that her father is supporting.

"It is actually comforting to know that my father and I are going through this together," said Airman Bolton. "It helps us understand each other better and share something at the same time." She describes her personality to be much like her dad's and explained that he had a lot to do with her joining the Air Force.

According to Sergeant Bolton's wife Yvonell, it didn't surprise them when Ashleigh decided to join the Air Force. She says that her daughter is very bright and knows a good opportunity when it presents itself.

"It is difficult to be able to see each other. My father is stationed in Germany and I am in the United States

at Offutt AFB, Neb., so naturally...I can't just take a few days off and go home," said Airman Bolton.

This seems fine to her, because she knows that her being in the Air Force makes her dad happy and he feels she is well taken care of.

He is sure of retiring from the Air Force with more than twenty years in the bank, but she is on her first enlistment and still realizes there are many opportunities out there. She still insists that she loves to fly and that it is a strong possibility she will be in for the long haul.

"I've let them (my kids) know that the life I chose was not an easy one," said Sergeant Bolton. "I want them to take advantage of the opportunities in life."



Postal Information for Ali Base

By Staff Sergeant James Alexander

407th Expeditionary Communications Squadron

The Ali Base Postal Bulletin is published monthly as a means to provide you information about a wide variety of postal tips: new policy announcements, upcoming hours of operation changes and refresher information on existing policies. Please send all questions and comments to james.alexander@tlab.centaf.af.mil.

▪ **METHOD OF PAYMENT:** Unfortunately, Ali Base post office **only accepts cash**. Checks, credit cards or AAFES gift certificate coins are not accepted.

▪ **GOING HOME OR MOVING LOCATIONS?** It is **YOUR** responsibility to ensure you continue to receive your mail. Take the necessary steps to help the unit mail clerks and postal specialists get it to you. Please *provide your unit mail clerk with a valid forwarding address*. Mail received after the forwarding period has elapsed, will be returned to sender.

▪ **OFFICIAL MAIL:** What is Official mail? It is mail relating solely to the business of the United States Government. Postage is paid for with funds appropriated by the United States Congress. We provided this service here at Ali Base. It is for the movement of official articles (i.e., documents, materials, supplies). For additional information, contact your unit mail clerk; review DoD 4525.8-M (http://www.dtic.mil/whs/directives/corres/pdf/45258m_122601/p45258m.pdf) or Army Regulation 25-51 (http://www.army.mil/usapa/epubs/pdf/r25_51.pdf).

Official mail will only be accepted at the post office finance counter. As of 1 Feb 06, the hours will be extended from 8-9 a.m. to 8-11a.m. Monday – Saturday.

▪ **POSTAGE INCREASE:** As of 8 Jan 06, first class postage stamps increased to \$0.39. Still have \$.37 stamps? Stop by the post office and purchase \$.02 stamps. To view a complete listing of the new rates, visit <http://www.usps.com/common/category/postage.htm>.

▪ **REGISTERED MAIL:** Registered mail is the most secure service the USPS/MPS offers. It incorporates a system of receipts to monitor the mail's movement from the point of acceptance to delivery. In other words, it's secured and signed for everywhere it stops. It also provides indemnity coverage for loss or damage, and requires you pay the first class/priority/airmail rate and registry fees dependent on amount of insurance requested. If the article being sent is Secret, Top Secret, Classified, etc., **DO NOT** annotate this information on the item.

APO HOURS OF OPERATION FINANCE COUNTER

Monday – Friday - 8 a.m. - 5 p.m.

Saturday - 8 a.m. - 13 p.m.

Sunday - noon - 4 p.m.

AIR FORCE MAIL CALL (Unit Pick-up)

*** Monday – Sunday - 1 – 3 p.m.**

ALL OTHERS (Army, Contractors, etc.) MAIL CALL

*** Monday – Sunday – 1 - 4 p.m.**

* Only designated unit mail clerks can pick up mail. Mail clerks must have a DD Form 285 card and a valid military ID card to pick up mail. DD Form 285 cards will be issued at the Postal Classes held every two weeks at the Army Chapel across from the post office.

Questions or concerns may be addressed to **Staff Sgt. Alexander** (Air Force NCOIC) at 445-2228.

I identify This

Do you know what this is?



If you can identify the object, e-mail the paper at Ali.Times@t1ab.centaf.af.mil with "Identify This" in the subject block by 3 p.m. Thursday Feb. 2.

All correct entries will be placed in a box and three winners will be randomly selected at Combat Bingo (at the Big Top) at 7:30 p.m., Friday Feb 3.

Participants do not have to attend bingo to win.

Winners will receive a complimentary T-shirt or coin from the 407th Expeditionary Services Squadron. The winners selected from those correctly identifying the top of a light pole in the Jan. 13 *Ali Times* are: Technical Sgt. Jorge Garzaro, 407th Expeditionary Logistics Readiness Squadron, Staff Sgt. David Brodbeck, 407th Expeditionary Civil Engineers Squadron and Senior Airman Neil White, 407th Expeditionary Security Forces Squadron.



Jaxson Noah Galvan was born Dec. 30 to Senior Airman Jason Galvan, 407th Expeditionary Security Forces Squadron, from Dyess AFB, Texas, and his wife Amanda. Both are natives of Texas. He was born at 2:56 p.m. He was 20 inches long and weighed 6 lbs and 10 ozs at birth.

407th AEG

Warrior of the Week



Senior Airman Regan Ruiz

Unit:

407th Expeditionary Civil Engineers Squadron
Advisory Support Team

Duty title:

Power Production Journeyman

Home station:

60th Civil Engineers Squadron, Travis AFB, CA

Why other warriors say he's a warrior:

"Senior Airman Ruiz consistently performed above skill level as he rebuilt two fuel pumps and diagnosed and repaired previously out of service generators by installing three fuel injectors on a foreign generator with no manuals."

- Master Sgt. Terry Swartz, First Sergeant, 407 ECES

Most memorable Air Force experience:

"Definitely this deployment, my first one, and our team accomplishing everything set before us."

Hobbies:

Basketball and fast cars

Serenity in the sand

faith-based services schedule

Worship is at the 407th Air Expeditionary Group **Oasis of Peace** chapel, unless otherwise noted. The Oasis is open 24 hours a day for prayer and reflection.

For details on worship opportunities, or directions to worship locations, please call 445-2006.

Friday

- 1 p.m., Muslim prayer/ service: (temporarily unav.)
- 6 p.m., Weekday Mass: Oasis
- 6:30 p.m., Jewish Service: Army Religious Activities Center (ARAC)
- 7 p.m., Bible Study: ARAC
- 7:30 p.m., Gospel choir rehearsal: Army Post Chapel (APC)
- 8 p.m., Alcoholics Anonymous: ARAC annex

Saturday

- 5:30 p.m., Catholic Confession: Oasis Office
- 6 p.m., Catholic Vigil Mass: Oasis
- 7 p.m., Kick the Camel (quit smoking) club: ARAC

Sunday

- 7:30 a.m., Catholic Confession: Oasis Office; Traditional Protestant Service: APC
- 8 a.m., Roman Catholic Mass: Oasis; Church of Christ Service: ARAC
- 8:30 a.m., Contemporary Protestant Service: Sapper Chapel; Sunday School: APC
- 9:30 a.m., Traditional Protestant Service: Oasis
- 10 a.m., Contemporary Protestant Service: APC; , Latter Day Saints Service: ARAC
- 10:30 a.m., Roman Catholic Mass: Camp Cedar
- 1 p.m., Gospel Service: APC
- 7 p.m., Contemporary Worship Service: Oasis

Sunday (continued)

- 7:30 p.m., Contemporary Christian Service: Sapper Chapel
- 8 p.m., Alcoholics Anonymous: ARAC

Monday

- 6 p.m., Weekday Mass: Oasis
- 7 p.m., Protestant Bible Study: Sapper Chapel
- 7:30 p.m., Discipleship Bible study/fellowship: Oasis

Tuesday

- Noon, Alcoholics Anonymas: ARAC Annex
- 6 p.m., Weekday Mass: Oasis
- 8 p.m., Catholic Study: Oasis Annex; Combat Bible Study: ARAC

Wednesday

- 6 p.m., Weekday Mass: Oasis
- 7 p.m., Spanish Bible Study: ARAC; Midweek Service Discussion: APC
- 7:30 p.m., Protestant Evening Service: APC; Mens Bible Study: APC
- 8 p.m., Godly Marriage and Relationships: Oasis Annex

Thursday

- 6 p.m., Weekday Mass: Oasis
- 6:30 p.m., Ladies Bible Study: ARAC
- 7 p.m., Latter Day Saints Study: ARAC
- 7:30 p.m., Workmans' Fellowship: RAC; A Man and His World Bible Study: Oasis

CRICKET MOVIE THEATER

at the Hot Spot

Today's times and movie descriptions for the week

Shaft (2000), 1 a.m., *Samuel L. Jackson, Vanessa L. Williams*, action/crime/ thriller; **Corpse Bride** (2005), 3 a.m., *Johnny Depp, Helena Bonham Carter*, animation/comedy/family/fantasy/ musical/romance; **Curse of Were-rabbit** (2005), 5 a.m., *Peter Sallis, Ralph Fiennes*, animation/adventure/comedy/family/sci-fi **Into the Blue** (2005), 7 a.m., *Paul Walker, Jessica Alba*, action/ adventure/crime/thriller; **History of Violence** (2005), 9 a.m., *Viggo Mortensen, Maria Bello*, crime/drama/thriller **Bringing Down the House** (2003), 11 a.m., *Steve Martin, Gween Latifah*, comedy; **Big Momma's House** (2000), 1 p.m. *Martin Lawrence, Nia Long*, action/comedy/ crime **Gothika** (2003), 3 p.m. *Halle Berry, Robert Downey Jr.*, horror/ thriller/mystery; **Resident Evil** (2002), 5 p.m. *Milla Jovovich, Michelle Rodriguez*, action/thriller/horro/sci-fi **The One** (2001), 7 p.m. *Jet Li, Carla Gugino*, action/sci-fi/thriller **Racing Stripes** (2005), 9 p.m. *Bruce Greenwood, Hayden Panettiere*, comedy/drama/family/sport **Sky Capt. World Tomorrow** (2004), 11 p.m. *Gwyneth Paltrow, Jude Law*, action/adventure/mystery/sci-fi/thriller **Into the Blue** Big Top, Friday 9 p.m.; **The Curse of the Were-Rabbit**, Big Top, Sunday noon; **History of Violence**, Big Top, Sunday 2 p.m.; **Corpse Bride**, Big Top, Sunday 4 p.m.

Saturday

- Gothika 1 a.m.
- Big Momma's House . 3 a.m.
- Shaft 5 a.m.
- Bringing Down House 7 a.m.
- Corpse Bride 9 a.m.
- Curse of Were-rabbit 11 a.m.
- Into the Blue 1 p.m.
- History of Violence 3 p.m.
- Racing Stripes 5 p.m.
- Resident Evil 7 p.m.
- Sky Capt. Tomorrow... 9 p.m.
- The One 11 p.m.

Sunday

- Corpse Bride 1 a.m.
- History of Violence 3 a.m.
- Curse of Were-rabbit . 5 a.m.
- Big Momma's House . 7 a.m.
- Shaft 9 a.m.
- Resident Evil 11 a.m.
- The One 1 p.m.
- Bringing Down House 3 p.m.
- Sky Capt. Tomorrow... 5 p.m.
- Into the Blue 7 p.m.
- Racing Stripes 9 p.m.
- Gothika 11 p.m.

Monday

- Into the Blue 1 a.m.
- Shaft 3 a.m.
- History of Violence 5 a.m.
- Curse of Were-rabbit . 7 a.m.
- Resident Evil 9 a.m.
- Sky Capt. Tomorrow. 11 a.m.
- Corpse Bride 1 p.m.
- Racing Stripes 3 p.m.
- The One 5 p.m.
- Big Momma's House . 7 p.m.
- Gothika 9 p.m.
- Bringing Down House 11 p.m.

Tuesday

- Resident Evil 1 a.m.
- Curse of Were-rabbit . 3 a.m.
- Into the Blue 5 a.m.
- History of Violence 7 a.m.
- Big Momma's House . 9 a.m.
- Gothika 11 a.m.
- Sky Capt. Tomorrow... 1 p.m.
- Shaft 3 p.m.
- Corpse Bride 5 p.m.
- Bringing Down House 7 p.m.
- The One 9 p.m.
- Racing Stripes 11 p.m.

Wednesday

- Brining Down House.. 1 a.m.
- Gothika 3 a.m.
- Racing Stripes 5 a.m.
- Corpse Bride 7 a.m.
- Curse of Were-rabbit . 9 a.m.
- Into the Blue 11 a.m.
- History of Violence 1 p.m.
- The One 3 p.m.
- Sky Capt. Tomorrow... 5 p.m.
- Shaft 7 p.m.
- Resident Evil 9 p.m.
- Big Momma's House 11 p.m.

Thursday

- Big Momma's House . 1 a.m.
- Brining Down House.. 3 a.m.
- Resident Evil 5 a.m.
- Racing Stripes 7 a.m.
- Gothika 9 a.m.
- The One 11 a.m.
- Sky Capt. Tomorrow... 1 p.m.
- Corpse Bride 3 p.m.
- Into the Blue 5 p.m.
- History of Violence 7 p.m.
- Shaft 9 p.m.
- Curse of Were-rabbit 11 p.m.



Bedrock and beyond...

activities to keep you fit, happy and hungry for more

Today

2:30 p.m., **Yoga**: Muscle Beach (DVD)
 5 p.m., **Tang Soo Do**: Muscle Beach (I)
 6:30 p.m., **Spin**: Muscle Beach (I)
 7 p.m., **Dominoes**: ACC
 7:30 p.m., **Bingo**: Big Top
 7:30 p.m., **Step Aerobics**: Muscle Beach (I)
 8 p.m., **Karaoke**: Sprung Center
 8 p.m., **Step Aerobics**: HOP

Saturday

2:30 p.m., **Yoga**: Muscle Beach (DVD)
 5:30 p.m. **Absolute Abs**: Muscle Beach (DVD)
 7 p.m., **5 Card Stud**: Big Top
 7 p.m., **Halo 2 Tournament**: ACC
 8:30 p.m. **Absolute Abs**: Muscle Beach (DVD)
 9 p.m., **Variety Night**: Big Top

Sunday

noon, **Tae Kwon Do**: Muscle Beach (DVD)
 2:30 p.m., **Pilates**: Muscle Beach (DVD)
 4 p.m., **Dodge Ball Tournament**: Muscle Beach
 5 p.m., **Tae Kwon Do**: HOP
 7 p.m., **Karaoke**: Big Top
 7 p.m., **Darts**: ACC
 8 p.m., **Country Swing**: Sprung Center

Monday

5 p.m., **Tang Soo Do**: Muscle Beach (I)
 6:30 p.m., **Spin**: Muscle Beach (I)
 7 p.m., **Ping Pong**: ACC
 7:30 p.m., **Step Aerobics**: Muscle Beach (I)
 8 p.m., **Ping Pong**: Big Top
 8 p.m., **Step Aerobics**: HOP

Tuesday

1 p.m., **Bench Press Competition**: Muscle Beach
 2:30 p.m., **Yoga**: Muscle Beach (DVD)

5:30 p.m. **Absolute Abs**: Muscle Beach (I)
 7 p.m., **Scrabble**: ACC
 7:30 p.m., **Tae Kwon Do**: HOP
 8 p.m., **9-Ball**: Big Top
 8:30 p.m. **Absolute Abs**: Muscle Beach (I)

Wednesday

8 a.m., **Health, Morale and Welfare Council**: Oasis Annex
 7 p.m., **Jeopardy**: Big Top
 7 p.m., **Spades TNY**: ACC
 7 p.m., **3 point Shoot Out Contest**: Basketball Court
 7:30 p.m., **Step Aerobics**: Muscle Beach (I)
 8 p.m., **Health, Moral & Welfare Council**: Oasis Annex
 8:15 p.m., **Step Aerobics**: HOP

Thursday

9:30 a.m., **Tae Kwon Do**: Muscle Beach (I)
 6 p.m., **Circuit Train**: Big Top (1)
 6 p.m., **3 on 3 Basketball**: Bedrock Courts
 6 p.m., **Cardio mix**: HOP
 7 p.m., **8-Ball**: ACC
 7:30 p.m., **Tae Kwon Do**: HOP
 8 p.m., **5 Card Stud**: Big Top
 8:30 p.m. **Absolute Abs**: Muscle Beach (I)
 8:30 p.m., **Salsa**: HOP

It's your base, so...

Call the 407th Services Squadron with ideas for activities: 445-2696; For information about the House of Pain, Army fitness center: 833-1709; For information about Army morale, welfare and recreation activities: 833-1745.

(I)—Instructor
 TNY—Tournament
 HOP—House of Pain, Army Fitness Center
 ACC—Army Community Center

AEF 9/10 Help Wanted: fitness and recreation instructors

Many of the classes offered at Muscle Beach are lead by volunteers from within the ranks of deployed Airmen. The 407th Expeditionary Services Squadron is looking for volunteers from AEF 9/10 to fill vacancies created when those from AEF 7/8 leave. Opportunities also exist to add activities to the events calendar if you are able to instruct or lead an activity not currently offered.

Please call Tech. Sgt. L.J. Kincade, 407th expeditionary services fitness director, at 445-2136, to talk about how you can make this a better deployment for everybody.