AEDC’s Precision Measurement Equipment Laboratory

60-years plus of uninvited mission support into the future and beyond

By Philip Lorenz III

Dr. Ed Kraft, AEDC Chief Technologist, said the AEDC’s PMEL is not only unique, but has an excellent reputation for a good reason. “The PMEL is responsible for assuring all the critical instruments we use in the test facilities are calibrated to be consistent with the NIST (National Institute of Standards and Technology) and that’s the whole foundation of assuring we have quality data in our test facilities,” said Kraft. “One [factor] is the nature of the measurement instrumentation such as voltage, temperature and pressure measurements and dew-point standards at the appropriate intervals to ensure measurements that are traceable to the NIST. These are standards exceptional nationwide. Certified by the Air Force Metrology and Calibration (AFMETCAL) program facility in Health, Ohio, PMEL has even led the way in setting measurement standards for the military.”

Dale West, ATA’s supervisor of the mechanical labs at the PMEL, said, “The measurements we make at AEDC in our test cells, wind tunnels, turbine cells and our space chambers, we want those to be the same measurements that would be made anywhere else in the country. We’re providing traceable measurements that are made at AEDC.” West said, “Our PMEL provides that traceability back to a national standard which is the National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST).”

“From left to right, Dr. Saeed Zadeh, AEDC Test Systems Sustainment Division’s chief of acquisitions; Kirk Rutland, technical director of the Test Systems Sustainment Division at AEDC; Britt Covington, AEDC executive director; Rosemary Matty, AEDC’s program manager for the Advanced Large Military Engine Capability (ALMEC) program; Dan Flanigan, ATA project manager; Col. Patrick Tom, AEDC Test Division director; and Lt. Col. Brent Peavy, AEDC’s Turbine Engine Ground Test Complex director, take part in a ribbon-cutting event marking the completion of the ASTF C1/C2 Temperature-controlled Cell Cooling project. (Photo by Rick Goodfriend)
This is how we do...NCOs

Commentary By Chief Master Sgt. Michael Warner

"NCOs realize leadership is a gift given by those that follow. Being in charge and being a leader are not the same thing. We know the difference and we know it is us who determines where we stand." – Col. Raymond Toth

R ight here, I’m driving home from work. On the radio, a commercial came on about Mountain Dew. I turned to my singer, "This is how I do..." then went on to explain his philosophy. Later I use a commercial with another music star that was advertising for Crest牙膏, and I heard them say, "This is how I do..." It’s a way of explaining what we do as NCOs. In essence, "This is how we do..."

This is how we do...the Arnold Engineering Development Chief Staff Gsn, Mark Welsh III said, "No one cares how well you will take care of your people if you lose the next war." NCOs understand the priorities of our mission, our commander, our wing and our squadron. We know that we must continually educate our Airmen on the mission at hand and that we are driving toward an end state...and we do so instrumentally in getting that mission done.

This is how we do...believe, and we do so. We believe, "believe — standards, core values, ERP, CERFP, N-Myer, N-accreditation. When something needs to be done..." NCOs make it happen. If someone has earned recognition, NCOs make it happen. NCOs go out, they go with the flow, be silent, listen. NCOs believe, because we stand up for what we believe, mistakes are not part of our behavior.

This is how we do...leadership. First, NCOs know that leadership is hard work. For every one leader, there are 1,800 critics. This doesn’t deter us. Hard work is expected; hard work is good. And we do it with the passion at which we do it. NCOs lead proactive teams. Being an NCO is a tough job, but it would be a waste if we didn’t embrace the promotion because our focus is not to become a professional Airman. This is how we do: priorities. NCOs know what is important. People are what is important. What is going on in their lives is important to NCOs. Our NCOs are important. Discipline and its proper application and impact. Honest, direct feedback and honest leadership. Leadership is a gift by everyone who follow. Being in charge and being a leader are not the same. NCOs know the difference and we know it is us who determines where we stand. NCOs embrace leadership. It is a responsibility. Standards — "stand to" is the way to do..." NCOs say it because we care about them.

This is how we do...the team. The Arnold Engineering Development Center Antiterrorism Tip is on recognizing surveillance operations and actions to take if you suspect something suspicious. Time and date of the incident. Name and address of the location involved. Description of the incident. Physical characteristics of vehicles involved.

If you witness suspicious activity, call 454-5622 or 454-HHELP (4357).

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PMEL includes 18 different measurement work areas throughout the lab, including pressure flow, dimension, and vibration, as well as AC and DC voltage electrical measurement services. It also calibrates pressure and temperature sensors, and can adapt to the rapidly changing instrument requirements of today’s Air Force and future requirements.

“This AEDC PMEL is well positioned to meet the upcoming calibration challenges of today’s Air Force and future requirements,” Sandlin said. “We have the calibration standards needed to meet the requirements of the state-of-the-art instrumentation that is used in the test cells at AEDC.” Holcomb said: “The engineering and management support for the PMEL is always forward and seeking funding. We have done so in the past,” Sandlin said.

The Rotary Rocket Playground project was recognized for its accomplishment and was used in competition from projects from 65 other Rotary Clubs in the Rotary District. It will go on to the 2013 district competition.

“AEDC PMEL Instrument Technician Barry Benson adopts a capacitance diaphragm gauge using an automated vacuum gauge calibration system. (Photo by Rick Goodfriend)
By Sr. Airman Joan King
3rd Maintenance Group

F-22's success is more than 'skin deep'

The Air Force announced an award fee rating of 94 for the Arnold Engineering Development Complex's (AEDC) operating contractor, Aerospace Testing Alliance (ATA), for the period April 1, 2012 through Sept. 30, 2012. The award fee determination official, Randall Culpepper, gave the contractor high marks with excellent ratings in each of the six functional areas evaluated.

In a note to workforce, ATA General Manager Steve Pearson said, "Congratulations on earning an award fee score of 94 for Period 18. Your performance is the reason we earned an excellent overall rating, and we truly appreciate the work each employee has performed in support of AEDC’s mission.

Pearson said the company will continue to share the award fee money with employees in accordance with its policies.

ATA received more good news today. The Air Force extended the company’s contract through fiscal year 2014. The company must continue to achieve an average award fee score for two periods to be 90 or above and meet specific requirements.

ATA was awarded the center support and testing contract (Period 20) on June 30, 2003. The operating contract is for up to 12 years and worth potentially $2.7 billion. ATA currently employs more than 1,865 people from 15 Tennessee counties and four states.

ATA is a joint venture of Jacobs Engineering, Computer Sciences Corp. and General Physics Corp. For more information about AEDC, visit the center’s Website at www.ar- nold.af.mil.

By Kathy Gillis
ATA Public Affairs

As an Air Force Civilian, Where Can I Find Help?

We all face challenges, but we don’t have to face them alone.

IF YOU NEED HELP WITH... TRY THESE AGENCIES & THEIR RESOURCES

Health & wellness planning
AFMC Wellness Support Center www.afmcwellness.com
Health screenings & education
Civilian Health Promotion Services (931) 454-6440
Work, personal or family issues
Employee Assistance Program (800) 222-0364
Mental health & substance abuse
Centerstone (931) 461-1300
Unplanned pregnancy
Crisis Pregnancy Assistance Center (931) 728-6440
Suicide prevention
National Suicide Prevention Lifeline (800) 273-8255
Sexual assault & victim advocacy
Sexual Assault Response Coordinator (931) 581-7494
Crime victim advocacy
Victim Witness Assistance Program (931) 454-4657

Don’t freeze up! WINTER STORMS AND EXTREME COLD CAN BE VERY HARD TO HANDLE!

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Don’t freeze up! WINTER STORMS AND EXTREME COLD CAN BE VERY HARD TO HANDLE!
Deployed Airmen setup remote connection to thank Ohio students

By Master Sgt. Russell Martin
451st Air Expeditionary Wing
Public Affairs

KANDAHAR AIRFIELD, Afghanistan – It’s not uncommon for deployed military members to receive boxes of goodies and letters from organizations and schools back in the United States.

Letters of thanks are also common but the connection forged by the 361st Expeditionary Reconnaissance Squadron Airmen was a little out of the ordinary.

Above and beyond one might say.

Senior Master Sgt. Jeffrey Taylor, 361st Expeditionary Reconnaissance Squadron superintendent, received a personalized letter from an American History class at Mason High School in Mason, Ohio. The package was part of a Support the Troops initiative by Katie Hicks, Mason High School social studies department.

The package contained snacks, supplies and a personalized letter to the Airmen serving at KAF.

“As the superintendent, I want through the box to see what I could distribute to my Airmen,” Taylor said. “There were so many goodies and things that I was kind of overwhelmed.

What really got me was the personalized letters expressing the students’ support for troops. One letter was from Katie, the class teacher, so I did some research and reached out to her to let her know we got the package and to thank her for thinking about us.”

From there, the two formulated a plan to introduce students at Mason High School to an Airmen currently serving in Afghanistan. What started out as a small act of thanking America’s Airmen became an opportunity for the Airman to give students a real-life look into the deployed environment.

Since Veteran’s Day fell on a Sunday, Taylor and Hicks coordinated five video teleconference sessions using Skype to talk with the students when school would be back in session Sept. 12. Each 20 to 45 minute session enabled the students and handful of Airmen to talk about anything from the food deployed service members eat to the sports teams they support.

Skype is a software application that uses a voice-over-Internet protocol to enable computers and mobile devices to perform video teleconferencing.

Taylor’s initiative led to a cross section of Airman taking part in teleconference sessions, from active duty to Air National Guard, officers to enlisted, and pilots and maintainers to administrative personnel.

They all had one thing in common: the chance to talk with the next generation of Americans.

The experience left a positive impression on the students and faculty alike.

“This was certainly a memorable teaching day as we got to see the kid’s truly engaged and excited about learning from all of you,” said Hicks about the student’s talk with Airmen.

“We all came back up to our classrooms and just commented on so many aspects of the day.”

Some of the students were texting and taking pictures during the sessions to convey to the Airman and Hicks has already received emails from students’ parents expressing how inspired their children were after talking with real service members serving in Afghanistan.

“I think there will be some great conversations around dinner tables tonight in Mason thanks to all of you,” Hicks said. “As wives and husbands and parents it just makes us all the more thankful and appreciative of the time we have with our families. As Americans it makes us proud and helps us feel secure to know that we are protected by a first-class military with such talented, smart people.”

A common theme during the sessions was how time had little presence while deployed. Once Airmen establish a routine, each day seems the same as the day before, according to Lt. Scott Ball, 361st ERS; (back from left) Capt. Otto Gerdeman, 361st ERS; (front from left) Capt. Otto Gerdeman, 361st ERS; and Capt. David Helipog, 361st ERS taking a break with some students at Mason High School in Mason, Ohio. Nov. 12, 2012. (U.S. Air Force photo/Master Sgt. Russell Martin)

“Even though we miss family and friends, it’s something you get used to,” Hicks said. “It definitely wasn’t just another ‘Groundhog Day.’ It’s a day that I will remember for a long time.”
Operations. “Even better, activities to potential insider on everything from illegal prevent crime. engage the Air Force com- communicated with those methods to capitalize on SMS text message. abroad,” said Special Agent those personnel traveling and complete briefings for phone application or by tigations using a mobile applications. Office of Special Inves- directly to the Air Force be anonymously reported – Suspicious or possible with mobile app – the app to submit a tip, a file number is created for re- the app to submit a tip, a file members, sexual assaults, and the OSI,” says Oliver, superintendent of AFOSI to review the data the foreign environment before, during and after a threat. Members are required to complete a foreign travel pre-brief survey before they travel abroad and identify each country they intend to visit. Thetsa report 8 • American Forces Press Service

AFOSI strives to protect networks against cyberattacks By Donna Minea

Transcom strives to protect networks against cyberattacks

The Air Force Office of Special Investigations (AFOSI) has streamlined the travel pre-brief survey any time they travel abroad. The Air Force Office of Special Investigations (AFOSI) has streamlined the travel pre-brief survey any time they travel abroad.

AFOSI strives to protect networks against cyberattacks

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Anonymous crime tips now possible with mobile app

**QUANTICO, Va. (AFNS) –** Suspicious or illegal activities can now be anonymously reported directly to the Air Force Office of Special Investigations (AFOSI) by using a mobile phone application called “AFO SI” and the tip to 274637 (CRIMES). The program was developed by an OSI agent and, with industry assistance from the private sector, made it as easy as possible for military and government personnel to report suspicious or illegal activities to the OSI.

**“This tool allows any- one to provide OSI with complete sharp details and information on anything from illegal drug operations to information activities to potential insider threats,” said Special Agent Daron Hamre, a Quantico Cyber Investigations and Operations branch supervisor. “The application uses an anonymous number, it works via text messaging and it’s easy for the user to use and the information they provide will be passed on to OSI investigators, who will make the call about what to do with it.”**

**“The tip process is simple. First, the user downloads the application and then types in the 10-digit number,” said OSI Detachment 116, Quantico, Airman 1st Class Christian提拔. “At the end of each phone call, the tipster can check back and see notes by an OSI agent and more information is provided.**

**“With the AFO SI, the user can send a tip to OSI, and OSI can determine if it is a tip that will be investigated.”**

**“We want to give Air- men a convenient, and most importantly, anonymous opportunity to de- member what is happening. With this system, they can expose or report what they see and know.”**

**“The tip is being sent 274637 (CRIMES),” said OSI Detachment 116, Quantico, Airman 1st Class Christian提拔. “At the end of each phone call, the tipster can check back and see notes by an OSI agent and more information is provided. With the AFO SI, the user can send a tip to OSI, and OSI can determine if it is a tip that will be investigated.”**

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AEDC’s Turkey Trot Day

Approximately 100 Arnold Engineering Development Complex (AEDC) team members recently participated in the 27th annual Turkey Trot benefiting Operation Stand Down of Nashville serving local veterans. The event was sponsored by the AEDC’s Company Grade Officer Council.

Winners
1. Eric Nelius - 17:52:00
2. 2nd Lt. Matt Karczewski - 19:49:00
3. Stephen Arnold - 20:16:00
While Air Force personnel work to recover missing MIAs, Vietnamese linguist prepares to return to his birth country of Vietnam for the first time in eight years.

Capt. Huy Tran was there to reunite with his own family or friends. His mission was to help search for and recover missing Vietnamese Air War personnel, a rewarding experience Tran says he won’t soon forget.

In cooperation with the Joint Prisoners of War/Missing in Action Accounting Command (JPAC), and the Language Enabled Airman Program (LEAP), Tran played a vital role as a Vietnamese linguist on a recovery mission to bring home service members missing from the Vietnam War Era.

LEAP is operated by the Air Force Culture and Language Center at Maxwell Air Force Base, Ala. It is run by individuals who have some existing language capability, and targets early-career Airman most likely to take full advantage of language learning, maintenance and advancement.

Tran, who speaks and writes Vietnamese fluently, said he wanted to participate in LEAP because he worked his way for a way to contribute his language skills to the war effort.

“LEAP has taken my language skills to another level and allowed me to utilize them to serve the Air Force,” said Tran, whose programs like LEAP are what make the U.S. military unique and none.

But Tran’s job does not conclude global search, recovery and laboratory operations to identify an accountable-for Americans who were captured, killed or missing. He leads his five-man team in the search for these lost Americans.

This mission had a special meaning for Tran, who was born and raised in Vietnam until he was 11.

“As a son and grandson of South Vietnamese veterans, this recovery mission is dear to my heart,” Tran said. “My father and grandfather were camp prisoners during the war. My grandfather survived five years, and my dad served four years in the prison camps.”

Following his father’s release from the prison camps, Tran and his family fled Vietnam and moved to the United States, where he pursue a new life in Rock Hill, S.C.

“I graduated from high school, I know I want to be in the military,” he said. “I never thought that being in the military one day bring me back to Vietnam to be a member. It’s completely changed from the time I left America, more how welcome now and the attitude and never a long time.”

Tran said he was excited when he found out he would be going on a recovery mission to search for his American counterparts.

“I was thrilled that I was finally able to use my special language skills to contribute and serve,” he said. “I wanted him to see the insight into what happened and how it happened. It made you realize the importance of the mission.”

The first leg of Tran’s journey with his team took him from Hawaii to Thailand, and finally to a rural area of Vietnam, where the objective was to locate a crew of American sailors who were missing during a flying mission in the conflict.

The opportunities offered through LEAP, coupled with those offered through JPAC, allowed Tran to use his special skills by translation with his team members and Vietnamese government officials and other local population.

“Would translate every single thing, including negotiating the areas where we can be, the want to know, the materials and how many workers we would need,” Tran said. “They need me for that everyday things, like buying equipment or do our work, or anything.”

One of the most vital tasks of Tran’s job as a Vietnamese linguist, however, was interviewing Vietnamese to help narrow down the location and the circumstances where the service members first went missing.

Tran and his team met with government officials to set up an area to camp, and an area to clear out some of the dense vegetation at the top of the mountain where the missing soldiers were thought to be.

“By going through the rice fields, dense jungles, and up the mountain, it helped me relate to the time during which they got shot down,” he said. “When we arrived at the crash site, we found aircraft parts lying everywhere.

That moment was so surreal. It sent chills down my spine seeing so many aircraft parts scattered on the ground. We

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Once those remains were recovered and proper location and the circumstances, Tran said he realized the importance of the mission.

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Master Sgt. Tracy Bennett, left, and her brother Staff Sgt. Alan Scobel, were both deployed while in the Air Force. They said as Airmen has helped them grow closer as siblings during the course of their military careers.

By Master Sgt. Russell Martin
312th Air Expeditionary Wing Public Affairs

"We started to get along, especially after a joint mission," he said. "I have no conflict of interest or revisions on my part, just trying to catch up to her. She's still a fast burner."

"When I was maybe six years old, she painted my nails pink, knowing we didn't have any nail polish for the kids. I had to go to school with pink nails. Our parents were sure I was going to want to have my nails painted," Scobel said.

"Joining the Air Force seemed to mature my sister," Scobel said. "The alliance is stronger now than ever before."

"I was slotted for a nice cupcake, but when I found out she was coming home, I immediately wanted to switch," Bennett said. "For those fortunate enough to be deployed with stationing with family, it truly makes you appreciate them. Although on opposite shifts, we try to see each other whenever possible, and although she is still beat him up."
to 2 p.m., Monday through
of your choice. Additional
dar cheese plus one topping
and comes with butter, sour
added to the menu for $5
of additional
limited quantities will be
the sausage and biscuits
Sunday from 8 a.m.
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of the  Pro Shop for your
are each and coffee is
opens at 10:30 a.m. during
and serves a full
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4-10 a.m.
F-35 begins integration phase of weapons testing

EDWARDS AIR FORCE BASE, Calif. (AFNS) – The F-35 Lighting II Joint Strike Fighter began the integration phase of weapons testing recently, when the F-35A Conventional Takeoff and Landing aircraft successfully completed the first in-flight test with an AIM-120 Advanced Medium Range Air-to-Air Missile.

It was the first time a weapon communicated with the aircraft during flight using a data link.

The program’s milestone rounded out a successful month of flight test for the program, which also included inert weapons separation tests of both the AIM-9AMRAAM and Joint Direct Attack Munition.

“In October, we were able to begin weapons separation testing with the JDAM and AMRAAM,” said Col. Redick L. Cregier, 412th Test Wing, F-35 program manager. “We proved we can carry them safely and that the shapes, which matched the exact mass properties of the real weapons, could separate from the aircraft safely. Now, with the integration testing, we successfully proved the aircraft can talk to the weapon and that the weapon can talk to the aircraft.”

Previously, mass models with no internal electronics were used during all F-35 weapons testing. The AIM-120 AMRAAM used during the integration test contained the same electronics as a full-up missile, but without the rocket motor.

“The program is doing very well in meeting its goals after it was rebaselined in 2010,” said Cregier. “I’m very proud of the team, even though testing was incredibly complex and difficult, the hard work of the team enabled it to happen relatively smoothly without any serious glitches that would delay the program. We just pressed on through with great success and we’re ready for the next phase.”

Successful integration testing, along with the safe separation releases in October, means that the F-35 Integrated Test Force can continue progressing towards the weapon delivery accuracy test phase and live fire testing scheduled to begin in early 2013.

“This was a very important milestone to get us over that hump, to move on to the next phase of the program, which is going to start very soon,” said Cregier. “This success was critical, now what we’re doing is putting the teeth into the F-35. It’s important that the jet can meet all the corners of its envelope, but what we’re really designing it to do is employ weapons.”

Starting in February and continuing through the end of April, the team is anticipating releasing roughly two weapons per week, said Cregier.

“This is going to be just the beginning of what I would characterize as the most ambitious weapons integration program in the history of tactical aircraft,” he said.

The F-35A is designed to carry a payload of up to 18,000 pounds using 10 weapon stations. The F-35A features four internal weapon stations located in two weapon bays to maximum stealth capability. The CTOL aircraft can also utilize an additional three weapon stations per wing if required.