

Public Affairs, Volume 64, Number 22

KC-46A Pegasus undergoes testing in anechoic facility

By Kenji Thuloweit

412th Test Wing Public Affairs

A KC-46A Pegasus has entered the Benefield Anechoic Facility for the first time.

The new aerial refueling tanker is undergoing tests to demonstrate that it meets Federal Aviation Administration certification requirements and DOD electromagnetic environmental effects requirements for systems. These tests include shielding effectiveness, emission control and high intensity radiated fields. The tests are to confirm that the KC-46A systems do not suffer performance degradation that would prevent mission completion when subjected to the external radio frequency environment and that undesirable emissions are controlled.

The tests are being conducted in the BAF to provide an electromagnetically controlled environment suitable for critically sensitive radio frequency measurements.

The BAF, operated by the 772nd Test Squadron, is the largest anechoic chamber in the world and can fit most aircraft inside. It provides a free space so electronic warfare tests can be conducted without radio frequency interference from the outside world. The chamber is filled with polyurethane and polyethylene pyramids designed to stop reflections of electromagnetic waves. The size of the pyramids, which are painted dark blue or black, varies depending on the particular frequency and test procedure being conducted. Aircraft systems



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can be tested and verified that they work properly prior to actual flying.

"It also provides efficient testing that requires a large amount of high power RF radiation whereas outdoors this would be very restrictive, typically limited to shorter nighttime test operations," said Delia Reyes, 772nd TS project lead engineer.

Participants in the test include Boeing, 772nd Test Squadron, 418th Flight Test Squadron and the Naval Surface Warfare Center Dahlgren Division. See KC-46, page 2

Innovation for dummies pays off for parachute testing



Trever Bush, 412th Operations Support Squadron Parachute Test Team, demonstrates the operation of the Remotely Piloted Parachute System he designed and built. The RPPS is designed to save time and money in recovery and dummy repair costs during parachute testing. (U.S. Air Force photo by Christopher Ball)

By Christopher Ball

412th Test Wing Public Affairs

Two teams collaborated for the first-ever test of a remotely piloted parachute system on the range at Edwards Air Force Base May 23.

The 412th Operations Support Squadron Airdrop Research

and Development Parachute Test Team and the XCITE innovation team worked together to develop a low-cost, locally-built guidance system to support unmanned parachute tests.

Before a new parachute is ever used by humans, it is dropped using dummies specifically designed for parachute testing. Once clear of the aircraft, the dummies are typically at the mercy of the winds. The remote system is designed to manipulate the toggles – the parachute's control handles – much the same way a live jumper would, allowing some control over the descent of the test article.

Trever Bush, 412th OSS Parachute Test Team, designed and built the guidance system using off-the-shelf parts like electrically operated servos and a radio control system much like one for a model airplane.

"This system gives us more control," Bush said. "The servos pull the toggles and steer the parachute."

Bush said the dummies can sometimes land more than a mile from the test team, which means they have to take extra time to search for and recover the dummies and the chutes. Uncontrolled drops can also lead to damage to the dummies.

"These dummies are pricey," Bush said. "We already (own these) and we're trying to preserve them."

Follow-on options to Airmen who volunteer for deployment

By Kat Bailey

Air Force Personnel Center Public Affairs

Airmen, both officers and enlisted, who volunteer for an extended 365-day deployment can apply for one of two assignment options: either an advanced assignment or a two-year deferment from a permanent change of station, if eligible.

"If an Airman signs the notification stating their intent to accept the deployment, they can provide preferences for an advanced assignment, provided they meet the time-on-station requirements, or apply for a return to home station with a twoyear PCS deferment," said Jeff Gatcomb, the 365 Deployment policy program manager at the Air Force Personnel Center.

To qualify for an advanced assignment, Airmen must have at least 24 months TOS as of their projected redeployment date and have at least 36 months TOS before the PCS departure.

Airmen are eligible for short tour credit as long as they complete at least 300 consecutive days on the extended deployment. Officers may also be eligible for joint duty assignment credit if they are working in a joint environment, Gatcomb explained.

Officers who believe their duties qualify for joint credit have a year from their return to formally apply for credit.

To volunteer for an extended deployment, enlisted Airmen should review EQUAL Plus, where positions are normally advertised for at least 10 days. Officers should contact their functional assignment team.



A 380th Expeditionary Logistics Readiness Squadron Airman guides the forklift driver as he removes cargo from its pallet in southwest Asia. Airmen who volunteer for a 365-day deployment can choose between an advanced assignment or a two-year permanent change of station deferment, if eligible. (U.S. Air Force photo by Senior Airman Maynelinne De La Cruz)

Stay informed on the most current information by visiting the deployment page on <u>myPers</u> or visit the <u>365-Day Extended</u> <u>ed Deployments</u> page on the AEF Online website.

For more information about Air Force personnel programs, go to myPers. Individuals who do not have a myPers account can request one by following <u>these instructions</u>.

Air Force civilian hiring resumes after freeze lifted

By Richard Salomon

Air Force Personnel Center Public Affairs

The Air Force Personnel Center is partnering with customers with the goal of resuming normal "first-in, first-out" operations since the government-wide hiring freeze ended in early April 2017.

Based on Air Force priorities, AFPC personnel are first working all pending firm job offers where tentative offers have already been made and actions where selections have been made but no tentative job offer has been issued. They are currently working more than 12,000 requests for personnel action.

"We are continuing to work with leadership from the major and combatant commands regarding critical hires and actions already in the works here at AFPC," said Christine Armstrong, the AFPC's civilian sustainment and transitions programs division chief.

In addition to the lifting of the hiring freeze, an Office of Management and Budget memorandum directs each government agency to develop a reform plan as part of a broader effort to reform the government and reduce the size of the federal civilian workforce. As a result, Air Force leaders have been directed to scrutinize recruitment actions that are being sent to AFPC to make sure the positions accurately reflect mission needs.

To explore jobs with the Air Force civilian service, go to <u>www.afciviliancareers.com</u>.

For more information about Air Force personnel programs, go to <u>myPers</u>. Individuals who do not have a myPers account can request one by following <u>these instructions</u>.

From KC-46, page 1



(U.S. Air Force photo by Christopher Okula)

Three specialized, high-power electromagnetic radiating trailers are being used for the tests.

The Air Force's KC-46A tanker modernization program is among the Air Force's highest acquisition priorities. Being able to refuel military aircraft in the air is critical to the U.S. military's ability to effectively operate globally. The Air Force initiated the KC-46 program to replace about a third of its aging KC-135 Stratotanker fleet, according to the Air Force.

The KC-46A is designed to provide improved capability, including boom and drogue refueling on the same sortie, worldwide navigation and communication, airlift capability on the entire main deck floor, receiver air refueling, improved force protection and survivability and multi-point air refueling capability.

412th Force Support Squadron upcoming events

Force Support Squadron 275-3826

Summer Bash 2017 will be held July 4, from 4-10 p.m. at Wings and Roberts Fields. The annual event is open to the entire Edwards AFB community. Celebrate Independence Day with live music, food booths, water fun and carnival rides. The television show "The Voice" Season 11 winner, Sundance Head, will be performing at 8 p.m. before the fireworks show at 9:45 p.m. Plus, enter to win a two-night stay at the Stratosphere in Las Vegas and Knott's Berry Farm Tickets. Sundance Head is brought to Edwards by Air Force Entertainment.

Airman and Family Readiness 277-0723

Women, Infants and Children Program is June 5. The event is open for both walk-ins and appointments; closed for lunch from noon-1 p.m. For an appointment or voucher information, call toll free 866-327-3074.

Pre-Separation Counseling is June 7 from 8:30-11:30 a.m. This is a required prerequisite for the five-day Transition Assistance Program. Spouses are highly encouraged to attend.

Department of Labor 5-day Transition Assistance Program (TAP) is Monday-Friday, June 19-23, 7:15 a.m.-4 p.m. The TAP workshop is required for all separating and retiring military members; spouses are welcome and encouraged to attend. Completion of the pre-separation counseling briefing is a mandatory prerequisite for this workshop.

Club Muroc 275-CLUB

Kid's eat free on Saturdays! Purchase one adult meal and receive one free kid's meal (under 12). Dine-in only.

Win a Designer Handbag Bingo! is June 17 at 3 p.m. Pre-registration is required. Call for entrance fees. 9 cards, 9 games, 9 prizes! *Delivery Service* — Did you know that the club delivers to base housing? Call Monday-Friday from 5-8 p.m. to place your order!

Arts and Crafts Center/Auto Hobby 275-ARTS/AUTO

Beginner Cake Decorating is June 10 from 1-3 p.m. Open to everyone 14 and older. Sign up by June 9 at 2 p.m. Participants will be decorating cakes in an Elmo theme. Participants are to bring two layers of cooled, baked cake. All icing and other supplies will be provided. Spaces are limited.

Kids Crafts For Dad is June 13, 1-3 p.m. Open to all ages. Sign up by June 9 at 2 p.m. The class will be making superhero bookmarks and cozies for dad. All supplies will be provided. Spaces are limited.

String Art Class is June 14 from 5:30 p.m.-7:30 p.m. Class is open to ages 16 and older. Please sign up by June 13 at 2 p.m. Participants will be making "I (Hearts) USA" string art. Participants will get to hammer nails in and wind string to make their design. All supplies will be provided. Spaces are limited.

Patriotic Wreath Making will be held June 29 from 5-7 p.m. Open to ages 14 and up.Sign up

by June 28 at 2 p.m. Patriotic rag wreaths will be the project. All supplies will be provided. Spaces are limited so sign up now.

Instructors Needed! If you're creative, we need you. Arts and Crafts is seeking out instructors of all types. Come and share your creative knowledge with a diverse group of students looking for painting, photography, drawing, scrapbooking and other craft/art related instruction.

Aero Club 275-AERO

R4R Single Airman Orientation Flights run May-Sept. Discounted price for eligible personnel! One-hour flights will originate and end at the Aero Club on South Base. Single Airman are U.S. active duty or Air Reserve component personnel permanently assigned to an Air Force installation or Air Force-led joint base without a spouse.

Learn to Fly — The sky is the limit at the Edwards Aero Club. Experience the thrill of piloting an aircraft. Your local Aero Club provides many stages of flight training, from your first introductory flight through solo, then on to private, commercial and instructors' ratings. The choice is yours. Whether your aim is recreational or a career path, your Aero Club will train you to the highest standard with safety always foremost.

Information, Tickets and Travel 275-TRIP

ITT Pricelist and Other Events — To see the current ITT price list for events, parks, hotels and discount information, visit edwardsfss.com/ wordpress/travel/itt.

Armed Forces Vacation Club — Let us find your dream vacation rental! Forget cramped quarters, get access to Space-A resort rentals worldwide for one low weekly price! Spread out in family-sized (2-8 people) resort accommodations, many of which include on-site recreational facilities, living rooms, kitchens, washer and dryer, kids' activities, and onsite pools. Start your search today, you've earned it! Cruise Crazy — Have you ever wanted to take a cruise but didn't think you could afford it? Now is the time to get your sea legs in gear and get over to the Information, Tickets and Travel office because the prices are lower than sea level. Call the ITT office today so we can show you that you don't have to sink to swim!

Oasis Community Center 275-CNTR

Reduced Rate Music Lessons are available for piano, guitar and bass, with kinderfiddle lessons for children. Reduced rates available for only deployment-affected personnel and their dependents. To get more information please contact the Oasis Community Center.

Musical Instrument Classes are Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday. Instruents taught include piano, guitar, drums and kinderfiddle (beginning Violin). Call for lesson prices.

Zumba is available on Mondays 11 a.m.-12 p.m. and at 5-6 p.m. On Tuesdays, classes are 4:30 -5:30 p.m. Zumba is also available on Wednesdays from 11 a.m.-12 p.m. Price discount for advanced purchase of 10 classes. Call for more info. For more information about 412th FSS offerings, visit www.edwardsfss.com/wordpress

> Library 275-BOOK

Summer Reading Program: "Reading by Design" runs June 2–Aug. 11. Sign-ups begin June 2 and will continue throughout the program. Children of all ages are welcome to participate. Join the base library staff every Friday at 10 a.m. for a special Summer Reading Program event. Coffee and Coloring is every Tuesday from 11 a.m.–2 p.m. Enjoy a cup of coffee or tea while coloring designs created for adults. Call or e-mail the library for more information.



Adopt me!

Sherlock is a wonderful guy with a chilled and laid-back personality. He's an eight-yearold basset hound and beagle mix. He's had a rough past, but it doesn't seem to phase him. He loves riding in the car, going for walks and is well behaved around other dogs, cats and kids. He's also potty trained, cute, and would make a great addition to any home! Call APET at 258-9525 today!

Outdoor Recreation 275-CAMP

Summer Pool Hours: Oasis Aquatic Center -Monday, Wednesday and Friday, 6-8 a.m. for lap swimming. Sonic Splash Pool - Wednesday-Friday, 1-6 p.m. Saturday and Sundays, 12-6 p.m. Muroc Pool Splash Night Fridays are 5-8 p.m.

R4R Bungee Jumping Trip is June 17, 7 a.m.-5 p.m. Sign up by June 14 at Outdoor Recreation. Super low price. Release your inner thrill seeker with this awesome bungee jump trip! Leap off a bridge of dizzying heights near Marina del Rey and live to tell the tale. Active duty members and dependents have sign-up priority. Food and beverages will be provided. Participants should bring sun screen. Alcohol is not permitted.

R4R Surfing Lessons is June 24, 7 a.m.-5 p.m. Sign up by June 21 at Outdoor Recreation. Join us as we head down to beautiful Santa Monica beach where we will meet up with instructors of the #1 Surf School in Southern California. All your gear will be provided, so bring your enthusiasm and spend the day with us as ODR takes you on a trip filled with fun, sun and surf! Active duty members and dependents have priority. Food and beverages will be provided. Participants should bring sun screen. Alcohol is not permitted. Private Parties - Rod & Gun, Paintball, and other Outdoor Recreation activities and facilities are available for squadron functions and private parties for a nominal fee. In addition to using our facilities, let us plan a recreational trip for you! Interested in going somewhere with colleagues or friends? Let us know the type of activity; number of people; where you want to go, and your budget limit; we will work with you!

Land Sailing Program — The land sailing program operates by private bookings only. Must be cleared with the flightline one week prior to the scheduled event. If you have any questions, call ODR at 275-2267.

High Desert Lanes Bowling Center 275-BOWL

Kids Bowl Free Program - Register your child for a spring and summer fun bowling pass and receive two free games of bowling a day this spring and summer (shoe rental cost not included). To register, go to www.kidsbowlfree. com/AirForce. All KBF members are invited to the KBF bowling parties May 30, June 27, July 25 and August 29 from 3-6 p.m. Enjoy unlimited bowling, shoe rental, two slices of cheese pizza and a 16 oz. drink for a reasonable price!

National Children's Day No-Tap Doubles Tournament is June 10, 2 p.m. at High Desert Lanes. Check-in starts at 1 p.m. Teams consist of one adult and one child. Ages 12 and under need to knock down seven pins to get a strike! Adults and kids ages 13 and up can knock down nine pins and get a strike! Price includes three games, shoe rentals and a hot dog lunch with chips and drink.

R4R Single Airman Glow Bowl Nights are Saturdays from now until Aug. 26; 8 p.m.-midnight. Single Airmen will receive unlimited games and shoes for free Glow in the Dark Bowling! There will be music and a fun atmosphere for all. Must show valid military I.D.

Midnight Meal at Strike Zone Snack Bar -

Swing into Summer Tournament is Saturday, June 17, beginning at 8 a.m. with a shotgun start. Entry fee includes green fees, cart fee, lunch and prizes! The format is 18-hole, four-person scramble. Limited to the first 18 teams to sign up. Must have an SCGA handicap. Sign up by June 12 at the MLGC golf shop. Wi-Fi is now available at the Muroc Lake Golf Course Clubhouse. Also, the pro shop offers special orders and yellow tag sales.

Youth Sports 275-5437

Youth Soccer registration is June 19-July 28. The season starts in September. Call for prices. Open to ages 5-14. All soccer teams will be coed. Youth Sports Programs is also looking for highly motivated volunteers to coach for youth soccer.

Teen Center 275-8336

Teen Art Camp is June 12-16, from 8 a.m.-12 p.m. at the Teen Center. Register by June 17. Teen Center members get in free with non-members needing to pay an entrance fee. Teens will have the opportunity to explore various mediums including oils, pastels, sketching and watercolors. They will also learn brushstroke technique, color mixing and other aspects of art.

Teen Mountain Adventure Camp is July 10-13 at Big Bear. This camp will feature four days and three nights at beautiful Big Bear, California. Activities will include zip lining, horseback riding, kayaking and the Great All-American Giant Squirt Gun fight. All for an amazing price. Don't miss it. There is no deadline to sign up for this camp but once it is full a waiting list will be formed.

Teen Leadership Camp is July 24-27 at Big Bear. This camp will feature four days and three nights. This camp is for teens that would like to learn or improve on their leadership skills. Teens will plan activities such as community service projects, fundraisers and career preparation. This camp is also for anyone interested in potentially joining the Keystone Club. Daytime activities include zip lining, a cooking class, kayaking and the Great All-American Giant Squirt Gun Fight. There is no deadline to sign up for this camp, but once it is full a waiting list will be formed

Keystone Club Meetings are every Wednesday at 2:15 p.m. at the Teen Center. The Keystone Club is a leadership club that performs community service projects around the base. The club also helps teens to maintain focus in high school, and graduate and prepare for college.

Rod & Gun 275-CAMP

"Big 50" Thursdays — The "Big 50" is an ATA Registered shoot in which each participant shoots 50 single targets, 50 double targets and 50 targets from their handicapped position. Call Outdoor Recreation for more information.

Rosburg Fitness Center 275-GYM1

The Rosburg Fitness Center is currently looking for certified personal trainers with at least 100 hours of individual fitness program experience. Please call the gym at 275-4961.

412th Security Forces Squadron issues speeding citations

The 412th Security Forces Squadron issued 31 speeding citations and processed one driving suspension from May 22 through May 28.

Driving privilege suspensions (current)

30 days0

60 days.....0

Citations	issued
-----------	--------

1 to 10 mph	
11 to 15 mph	
16 to 20 mph	
21 to 24 mph	
25+ mph	

90 days1 180 days (six months)1 365 days (one year).....16 730 days (two years).....0 1,095 days (three years).....0 Per AFI 31-218 and EAFBI 31-218, a DD Form 1408 Armed Forces traffic tickets (no-fine) are issued to military

members. Military members receiving 1408s are subject to Uniform Code of Military Justice action. A U.S. District Court Violation Notice (USDCVN) (a fine) is issued to all civilians, dependents and retirees. If issued a USDCVN, violators may be required to be present at Magistrate Court in Bakersfield, California, receive traffic violation points against their state-issued driver's license and potentially receive suspension of on-base driving privileges.

Announcements

The snack bar will now be open until 11 p.m.,

Monday-Saturday due to the dining facility ren-

ovations. Call-in orders encouraged! Call-in or-

ders taken up to 11 p.m. for pick up by 11:30 p.m.

Muroc Lake Golf Course

275-PUTT

Edwards boom operators win prestigious AF award

By Kenji Thuloweit

412th Test Wing Public Affairs

Edwards boom operators were recognized as the top air refueling section in the Air Force after being presented the Senior Master Sgt. Albert L. Evans Award at the 38th Annual Boom Operator Symposium held May 12-13 at Altus Air Force Base, Oklahoma.

Refueling squadrons across all major commands and refueling platforms compete for the prestigious award, which is given annually to recognize the most outstanding boom operator section in the Air Force based on the accomplishments and professional qualities of the assigned boom operators.

Aerial refueling operations at Edwards are a combined effort between boom operators from the 418th Flight Test Squadron and the 370th Flight Test Squadron.

"Winning the award is an honor," said Tech. Sgt. Adam Joachim, 418th FLTS boom operator. "To even compete against units that are deploying on a constant basis and flying global missions every day is extremely humbling. We're thankful for the recognition of our efforts in supporting the warfighter. All the booms in the 418th and the 370th have served in that capacity and we understand the operations tempo and impact the other tanker units around the Air Force are shouldering."

With 75 aircraft in 15 different airframes, along with a multitude of test sorties being flown each week, the dynamic mission at Edwards keeps them constantly busy, aerial refuelers say. From taking part in testing of the new KC-46A Pegasus tanker, to completing aerial refueling certification of the fifth-generation F-35 Joint Strike Fighter, Edwards boom operators support top DOD acquisition programs along with the continual aircraft modernization programs the 412th Test Wing oversees.

The boom operators also supported multiple legacy tanker upgrade tests including the KC-135 Block 45 program, which base



Posing with the Senior Master Sgt. Albert L. Evans Award, from left to right: Master Sgt. Aaron Ray, 370th Flight Test Squadron; Master Sgt. Lindsay Moon, 418th Flight Test Squadron; Senior Master Sgt. Ernest Burns, 418th FLTS Detachment 1; Senior Master Sgt. Scott Scurlock, 370th FLTS; and Tech. Sgt. Adam Joachim, 418th FLTS. The Edwards AFB boom operators were presented with the award at the 38th Annual Boom Operator Symposium held May 12-13 at Altus Air Force Base, Oklahoma. (Courtesy photo)

leadership says provided a critical fix that enabled the full-rate production decision extending the life KC-135 fleet to 2040.

"Boom operators from the 418th along with the 370th put a lot of expertise, hard work and man hours to the planning and execution of tanker developmental test and test support," said Joachim.

The Senior Master Sgt. Albert L. Evans Award was established in memory of Evans who is described as a pioneer in the history of Strategic Air Command's air refueling operations. Online archives report Evans died along with four other KC-135 Stratotanker crewmembers during a crash at Castle Air Force Base, California, Sept. 19, 1979.

Being able to refuel military aircraft in the air is critical to the U.S. military's ability to effectively operate globally, according to the Air Force.



From Parachute, page 1 -

Chris Klug, 412th Operations Group technical adviser, was the XCITE Team sponsor for the project. He was instrumental in bringing Bush's idea to the innovation team and guiding Bush through the process.

"This innovation is about taking existing technology and applying it to an area it hasn't been used before," he said. He added that the annual savings is estimated at nearly twice what the initial investment on the system was.

"We're looking at a potential savings of \$3,000 per year, compared to the \$1,600 cost of the system," he said.

Bush added that this was only the cost of repairs to the dummies, and that this system could also prevent damage to the parachutes being tested, some of which can cost more than \$15,000.

Klug said the goal is to develop more test projects to evaluate the system and to acquire more of the systems in the future.



Trever Bush, 412th Operations Support Squadron Parachute Test Team, designed and built the guidance system using off-the-shelf parts like electrically operated servos and a radio control system much like one for a model airplane. (U.S. Air Force photo by Christian Turner)

This Week in Edwards Flight Test History

On May 30, 1972, the Northrop YA-9A Cobra specialized ground attack aircraft made its first flight. The airplane was flown by company test pilot Lew Nelson. The aircraft subsequently lost the A-X competitive prototype fly-off against the A-10 and never went into production. (Edwards History Office file photo)





Tech. Sgt. Coliell Washington, 412th Security Forces Squadron, receives a traditional Air Force congratulations for making master sergeant at a release party at Stripes Lounge May 24. (U.S. Air Force photo by Kyle Larson)

New master sergeants

Base personnel gathered at Stripes Lounge to congratulate and celebrate the base's newest master sergeants May 24.

"The good news is we promoted above the Air Force average," Chief Master Sgt. Todd Simmons, 412th Test Wing command chief. "I can say we have one of the largest master sergeant promotions for Edwards in at least five years. It's a testament of how impactful the work of test is to the Air Force mission. Our work is valued."

The 5,166 master sergeants selected Air Force wide represent a 25.61-percent selection rate of eligible technical sergeants. Selectees' average time-in-grade was 3.86 years and time-in-service was 14.36 years.

Master sergeant is the first of the senior noncommissioned officer ranks.

View all master sergeant selects at www.edwards.af.mil.



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