



GLOBAL RELIANCE





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Printed edition only: Special Annual Awards insert.

Family Highlight

Special Agent Randy Kitzmiller and his wife, Danielle became proud parents of their first child, Jackson Kitzmiller November 14. He weighed in at 7 lb. and 9 oz.



Editor's Corner

In case you missed our note earlier this year, the Global Reliance will now be made available on the OSI public website at www.osi.af.mil. The only exception will be the annual awards pages, so for those of you accessing the Global Reliance through the website, you'll see a magazine missing 16 pages. Also, I will no longer be located at OSI HQ. If you need to get in touch with me, contact me at James.Dillard@ogn.af.mil.

Thanks for all you do. It's my pleasure to be your editor.

James C. Dillard, Editor



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Brig. Gen. Kevin Jacobsen
AFOSI Commander
Mrs. Linda Card
AFOSI Public Affairs Chief
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Editor

On The Cover



OSI celebrates 65 years of supporting the Air Force.



The Global Reliance is a funded Class II Air Force magazine for the Office of Special Investigations. Opinions expressed herein do not necessarily represent those of the U.S. Air Force. The editor reserves the right to edit or cut articles to fill requirements for clarity or space.

by Brig. Gen. Kevin J. Jacobsen
OSI Commander

► For 65 years, the men and women of the Air Force Office of Special Investigations have served, both in peace and war, at locations all across the world.

Over this period, OSI developed from a fledgling investigative service to an internationally-recognized agency of choice, working across the full spectrum of operations. Despite being created in the wake of a procurement fraud scandal, the combined scope of our lines of operation provide not only acquisition integrity, but also strong partnerships, neutralized criminal activity, enabled force engagement, secured technologies and information, global situational awareness, and a protected force.

These effects don't come easily and would be impossible without our people. Our people, who for 65 years, have continued to defend the Nation, serve justice, protect the integrity of the Air

Celebrating 65 Years and Recognizing Performance

Force, and find the truth.

We recognize our outstanding performers every year with our annual awards; this year, we focused on how their performance on the job enhanced the mission and elevated the status of our organization.

Our heritage shows us that resiliency and innovation is our competitive advantage; we will continually employ new techniques and exploit technology to remain relevant.

As champions of performance, our annual award winners have clearly internalized these principles. They have demonstrated excellence and have set the standard for us all.

The efforts of this year's award winners and of those who came before them give me great confidence that our organization is well prepared to meet future



General Jacobsen

challenges. Together, as one team, we will build tomorrow's OSI: A full spectrum, adaptive, and resilient force! **GR**

OSI Agent Selected for 2013 AFA Civilian Award

by Mr. James C. Dillard
OSI Public Affairs

► Special Agent Ryan Schilcher was selected as the 2013 Air Force Association Outstanding Air Force Civilian of the Year, Civilian Program Specialist Category.

"Described as a 'Cyber MacGyver' by his leadership, SA Schilcher has elevated the professional stature of OSI within the cyber community," said Brig. Gen. Kevin J. Jacobsen, OSI commander, in an email to the command.

Jacobsen noted that Schilcher's efforts have been mentioned in reports to Congress, he has been requested by international partners to attend strategic conferences, and his innovative opera-

tions have left him regarded as a pioneer and subject matter expert by OSI's domestic counterparts.

Schilcher said it means a lot to him to receive the award.

"I think the most important thing is that it's not only a nice validation of my work, but also for my former co-workers at the 4 FIS," he said. "This recognition is good for OSI and for our cyber program as well."

Schilcher attributed his receiving the award to hard work and dedication to the OSI mission, but there was someone else who supported his spending long hours in the office.

"I would also be remiss if I didn't give credit to the unbelievable patience, understanding and support of my fiancée,



Special Agent Ryan Schilcher

Kelly. I'm sure she'd much rather be out with me instead of wondering why in the world I'm in the office on a Saturday night."

This is one of only four annual awards AFA presents to recognize the achievements of Air Force civilian

► “Lost in translation” is when a phrase loses its original meaning due to differences in context, grammar, or cultural nuances when translated into another language. This phrase underscores the importance of accurate translation as not only a useful means of getting things done, but in building relationships and cultural bridges in the places we work.

Without proper training and practice, foreign language translation can be a frustrating endeavor. Communicating in the foreign language is not enough; understanding the culture is equally (if not more) important. For example, in the Middle East, discussing politics and religion is as much a part of a casual conversation as what is for dinner. In America, we are taught to refrain from these exact topics.

Where is the consensus? Knowing what to expect and how to react when asked questions like this can strengthen future relationships with host-country counterparts regardless of how well the individual speaks the language. Knowing and using a foreign language is therefore as much about culture as translation.

Air Force Office of Special Investigations special agents can often accomplish the mission without knowing a foreign language; however, the relationship between the agents and their foreign counterparts will likely influence the level of success in their operations. For this very reason, foreign language and cultural understanding is crucial.

Because of the over-arching career path within OSI, agents

Translating the Culture

OSI members participate in the Foreign
Language and Culture program

by Ms. Randa Yassine



Photos provided by Ms. Randa Yassine

do not tend to specialize in a single language or AOR for an entire career. However, language capability is a significant enabler for each one of OSI's lines of operations, providing access to information not otherwise available via liaison at the tactical, operational, and strategic levels in foreign countries. Moreover, being the Air Force's sole federal law enforcement liaison agency, our bilateral relationships are and should continue to be a top priority to enhance the Air Force's ability to operate globally.

OSI established the Foreign Language and Culture program in 2010. Special Agent Mo Hanners has already seen some of the program's benefits.

"OSI's FLC program has been crucial to mission success during my posting to FPD Morocco," Hanners said. "Despite my previous studies in Arabic, French, and Romanian, I find the need, as with any acquired skill, for continuing training. The FLC program has helped me to do just that through its ever increasing training opportunities.

"Through its support of the FLC program, I feel that the command acknowledges the importance of these perishable skills to OSI's global mission and my professional development. I consider the FLC program's attention to detail, willingness to receive feedback and suggestions, and personalized yet corporate sensitive approach of the program a benchmark of excellence in the command."

In 2011, the FLC program began sending special agents to refresher language courses and overseas immersions through its enhancement program. In 2012, the FLC program sent more than 60 agents, professional staff, and analysts to courses spanning the globe to countries such as, France, Turkey, Japan, Italy and Morocco. The enhancement program focused primarily on agents who were assigned to a language designated position;

however, adhering to its priority list, the FLC program was able to allow other OSI professionals, skilled in a foreign language, to participate in the program.

"The [immersion] program dramatically improved my speaking and comprehension in Spanish," said Special Agent Kevin Michael. "By studying and living the language, the rate at which I learned and improved was much faster than when I originally learned the language through a university program."

“

I consider the FLC program's attention to detail, willingness to receive feedback and suggestions, and personalized yet corporate sensitive approach of the program a benchmark of excellence in the command.

- Special Agent Mo Hanners

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(Opposite page) Special Agents Michael Connelly (left) and Christian Rivera pose with the mountains of Peru in the background. (Above) Ms. Randa Yassine (left) and Special Agent Cristin O'Malley walk down the stairs at an ancient Roman amphitheater in Jordan.

In 2011, the FLC program took over management of the Jordanian Directorate of Military Security Exchange program in cooperation with AFOSI Region 2 Operating Location-A and Force Protection Detachment Jordan. The Jordanian DMS exchange program focuses on strengthening the strategic relationship between OSI, the Naval Criminal Investigative Service, and DMS through enhancement of individual OSI special agent language and cultural capabilities, while simultaneously providing direct insight into the operations of a professional Arab security service in the Middle East.

The program was established in 2009 by the OSI-led FPD at the U.S. Embassy in Amman, Jordan, via a signed memorandum of understanding between OSI, NCIS, and DMS. Now in its third year of execution, the exchange program continues to flourish beyond anyone's expectations due to the outstanding coordination and liaison efforts of Special Agent Ashraf Abdelhak.

See FLC on page 7

FLC continued from page 5

“My involvement in the DMS Exchange Program increased my understanding of the unique relationship we have with the Jordanian military,” Abdelhak said. “Through examining the differences and similarities between OSI and DMS, I was actually able to learn a new way of thinking. I have no doubt that this new level of understanding will help hone my skills as an investigator in a way that can have a global impact.”

Special Agent Adam Ball also had the opportunity to participate in the Jordanian Exchange Program.

“The program was a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity,” Ball said. “Not only did I witness the priorities and procedures of a foreign, Middle Eastern security service, but I was able to utilize and develop my Arabic, and experience a completely unique culture that benefited me in my language, liaison, and rapport abilities.

“I cannot stress enough how the insights I gained from this exchange will undoubtedly be some of the best, most influential of any in my career.”

Special Agent Steven Torres, an Arabic graduate of the Defense Language Institute and a Middle East Foreign Area Specialist, was the fifth OSI agent to participate in the DMS exchange.

“This program is an excellent utilization of OSI resources and personnel as it directly supports the OSI pillars of elevating the professional stature of AFOSI, and building capabilities in depth,” Torres said. “My Arabic skills certainly improved, but so did OSI’s relationship with DMS—which is undoubtedly an important aspect in how things get done in the region.”

In 2012, the FLC program sent its first female agent, Special Agent Cristin O’Malley, to participate in the program. She impressed the Jordanians so much with her language skills and cultural sensitivity that they not only asked her to extend time in Jordan for two weeks, but also allowed her to observe several operational activities and interviews.

In addition to O’Malley participating in the exchange program, the FLC Program Manager, Ms. Randa Yassine, joined the exchange team and completed an operational assessment.

The relationship between OSI and DMS has been a very beneficial one and has flourished with the help of the OSI FLC program.

Most recently, DMS hosted Col. Terry Bullard, Commander, 24th Expeditionary Field Investigations Squadron and SA Angelina Montecalvo, Superintendent, 24 EFIS on a visit to some key DMS offices/locations in Jordan.



Special Agent Alani Robles was sent to Rio, Brazil for her language immersion experience.

The visit was a success and included a liaison dinner with several key DMS Leadership representatives, along with Special Agents Abdelhak, O’Malley, Torres and Andrew Schad, who previously led FPD Jordan. Bullard and Montecalvo met with DMS representatives Brig. Gen. Mahjoub Al Maharmeh and Col. Hussein Al Harasis at DMS HQ at the end of their visit to extend their gratitude.

The Jordanian and OSI relationship is one that has grown very strong over the past few years with the help of the FLC program and will no doubt continue to benefit both organizations in the years to come.

From foreign delegation visits to criminal cases that need OSI foreign language-enabled members, the FLC program continuously builds its database of skilled agents, thus making it the focal point of operational surge requests.

In 2012, Special Agent Helen Stewart supported a French delegation visit within an hour’s notice. She was listed as a French speaker in the FLC database and was immediately able and willing to support.

In the same year, after coordination with the FLC program, Abdelhak was

identified to support a high-priority case interview where a fluent Arabic speaker was needed. He said he sees the need for cultural understanding through programs like FLC.

“We use language every day to speak; however, exchanges and immersions afford our agents the ability to understand a culture and its nuances, enabling them to communicate ... thereby becoming better leaders, collectors and special agents in various parts of the world,” he said. **GR**

➔ Inside the Story

The Jordanian Directorate of Military Security Exchange program was established in 2009 by the OSI-led FPD at the U.S. Embassy in Amman, Jordan, via a signed memorandum of understanding between OSI, NCIS, and DMS. Now in its third year of execution, the exchange program continues to flourish beyond anyone’s expectations due to the outstanding coordination and liaison efforts of Special Agent Ashraf Abdelhak.

AFOSI AROUND THE WORLD

Photo provided by Mr. Dan LaVergne



Special Agent Shane Sailer and his wife, Vanessa, are proud parents of fraternal twin daughters, Karlie and Natalie. Vanessa is holding Karlie and Agent Sailer is holding Natalie. The girls were born March 21. Agent Sailer is assigned to Det. 320's crim and fraud section at Grand Forks AFB, N.D.

Photo by Mr. Mike Hastings



Special Agent Julie Lecea demonstrates how agents utilize an alternate light source to identify if biological evidence is present at a crime scene. The children were at the OSI headquarters in Quantico, Va., for a "bring your kid to work day" held in April.



Photo provided by Lt. Col. Douglas S. Garavanta

Det. 602 participated in the inaugural 736th Security Forces Squadron sponsored "Memorial Day Murph" workout on Andersen Air Force Base, Guam. The crossfit workout is in honor of Navy SEAL Lt. Michael Murphy, who perished in Afghanistan during an OEF firefight, resulting in him being awarded the Medal of Honor. The workout consists of two 1-mile runs, 100 pull-ups, 200 push-ups, and 300 squats, all while wearing 20 lbs. of body armor, which was Murphy's preferred training workout. "This workout was dedicated to all the men and women of the armed forces who have made the ultimate sacrifice in defense of this great nation," said Lt. Col. Douglas Garavanta, Det. 602 commander.

Remembering the Fraud Dawg

OSI says goodbye to an agent who served his country for 40 years

by Special Agent David Harper
Chief, ICON Economic Crimes Desk

► The OSI family lost a legend and a dear friend, when retired Special Agent Richard “Dick” C. Smith passed away May 5 at his home in Merlin, Ore., with his family at his side.

Dick’s life can be summed up as a life of selfless service and devotion to his nation, his community, America’s youth and most importantly, his wonderful wife, Nancy, his children, Kathleen, Bridget and Judith, their husbands, Jim, Mike and Terry, his nine grandchildren, Heather, Melissa, Sean, Jamie, Jenna, Jonathan, Mary, Shannon and Timothy, and two great-grandchildren, Brayten and Callie and finally, his sister, Judith Baillargeon.

Dick honorably served his country both in uniform on active duty and as an Air Force civilian for 40 years. He served as a special agent for 27 of those years. He enlisted in the United States Air Force on Jan. 4, 1954 and then served as an Air Policeman in Korea, South Carolina, Alabama, Alaska and Washington.

He joined OSI in December 1966 and was first assigned as a special agent to Det. 1301, Forbes Air Force Base, Kans., then on to District 42 Clark Air Force Base, Republic of the Philippines, and later to Mather Air Force Base, Calif., before retiring in August 1975.

Dick soon returned to OSI in June 1976, as a civilian agent, serving at Det. 1905, McClellan AFB, Calif. and in 1980, he became the chief, Fraud Division, Dist. 19, Travis Air Force Base, Calif. While there, his division was named “Best in AFOSI” for 1983.

He was instrumental in the establishment of the “Seven PROS” concept of investigative support for the Air Force Plant Representative Offices – a successful concept that continued even after the AFPROs merged with the Defense Contract Management Agency until the program terminated in 2005.

In 1985, he became the chief, Operations Division, Dist. 19. The Operations Division consisted of the Reserve Unit, Fraud, Crime and Source Branches. That same year he was selected as OSI’s first Civilian Special Agent of the year. This would be just one of many awards recognizing his contributions.

Dick has many accomplishments as an agent and leader in AFOSI. In the late 1980s, he was part of a team that traveled to Randolph Air Force Base, Texas, to develop a civilian upward



Photos provided by SA David Harper

Special Agent (ret.) Richard Smith at the former OSI District 19 headquarters at Travis Air Force Base, Calif.

mobility plan for OSI’s fraud agents. The team’s collective efforts resulted in the development of 14 GS-14 and seven GS-15 positions. The Departments of Transportation and Labor later adopted this plan for their fraud agents.

His accomplishments continued to unfold in 1989 when he was selected as the first GS-15 Special-Agent-in-Charge of Det. 1958, San Francisco, Calif., and then was later selected to be the first civilian SAIC of Det. 1858, Los Angeles Air Force Base, Calif.

Dick had and still has the reputation of being one of the great visionary leaders in OSI’s fight against fraud. He is unmistakably a legend within the OSI fraud circle and beyond. He is the creator of the Fraud Dawg character and emblem every fraud agent has embraced and has found its way on challenge coins, tie pins, patches and stationary.

Dick’s imprint on OSI didn’t stop with fraud; in 1981 he was

given the job of Reserve Mobilization Officer, for Dist. 19 and built a reputation amongst OSI Reserve agents as a strong advocate for the program and incorporated them into the everyday part of the mission.

He held annual Reserve training conferences and was personally instrumental in obtaining awards, decorations and promotions for the Reserve agents.

He also ensured Reservists had the opportunities to attend senior NCO and officer schools, as well as specialized investigative training.

Though he retired from OSI for the second time in 1994, his service to others was nowhere near complete; in fact, he would continue to serve his community as long as he lived. For instance, he spent much of his retirement years involved with the Boys and Girls Club of Rogue Valley, Ore., and the “Veteran’s Walk of Honor” at the Merlin Community Park, Merlin, Ore.

Supporting the Boys and Girls Club

Diann Gilbertson, Boys and Girls Club of Rogue Valley, Ore., knew Dick when he supported the Boys and Girls Club.

“Dick is a lot like my Dad and another very important man in my life,” Gilbertson said. “They are tough as nails on the outside, but get behind that suit of armor and they are just a cuddly teddy bear (or in his case a bulldog) who will hug you, protect you and give you a good swift kick in the you-know-what if you aren’t finishing the job.”

Her words summed up what many of Dick’s friends and colleagues also feel.

Dick joined the Board of the Boys and Girls Club in 1997 and immediately became deeply involved with the organization. According to Diann, he was passionate about organization and “quickly became the heart and soul” of the organization and led them through some difficult times and celebrated their successes.

For his leadership and dedication to the Boys and Girls Club, he was awarded two prestigious awards: The Boys and Girls Club of America “National Medallion” and the “Helping Hands Award.” She also said he will be awarded the honor of life membership.

Finally, Diann said that Dick believed in the youth and



Richard Smith’s first job in the Air Force was as an Air Policeman in 1954.

“knew the importance of developing youths into future leaders in our community.”

She recalled when Dick once said, “It’s our job to get these kids off the street, keep them safe and teach them to become good citizens.” She shared the great news that in honor of Dick’s vision for the youth, the club will be establishing the “Dick Smith Youth Leadership Development Program.”

Veteran’s Walk of Honor

Members of the community of Merlin decided it would be good to have a memorial to honor the veterans who served in wars. Dick volunteered to help lead the effort to establish a memorial in the community park.

He was selected as the Veteran’s Walk of Honor Committee Chairman, and was personally instrumental in the planning and

securing of funds from donors to make the park possible. He worked hard to ensure the memorial would be completed in time for a community ceremony on Veterans Day, 2005.

On Veterans Day, Nov. 11, 2005, the memorial was officially opened with a ceremony involving several youth auxiliary, such as the Young Marines and JROTC, for all of the community to admire.

More than 250 people gathered for the dedication. Dick wrote an article about the development of the memorial and it can be seen at: www.merlincommunitypark.org.

AFOSI Hall of Fame

For his many outstanding accomplishments, contributions and successes while working for AFOSI, Dick received the high honor of being inducted into the AFOSI Hall of Fame in 2005.

He was very proud of this moment and enjoyed the ceremony that brought him back to HQ AFOSI, to once again share in the memories with old friends and meet new agents that have continued to carry his vision to fight fraud.

Sentiments From Friends

Some of Dick’s former colleagues and friends took a moment to share a

memory or a thought about Dick.

Special Agent (ret.) Charlie Costa said that he first met

“

Dick is a lot like my dad and another very important person in my life. They are tough as nails on the outside, but get behind that suit of armor and they are just a cuddly teddy bear (or in his case a bulldog).

**- Ms. Diann Gilbertson
Boys and Girls Club**

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See **SMITH** on page 13



► Supporting Mission Readiness

Members of the Wolf Pack, Det. 613, Kunsan Air Base, Republic of Korea, recently displayed their dedication to the 8th Fighter Wing motto of "Defend the Base, Accept Follow-on Forces, and Take the Fight North," by excelling during the 2013 Pacific Air Forces Operational Readiness Inspection.

Det. 613 personnel hit the ground running; managing informant operations, responding to reports of suspicious activities, and providing valuable intelligence to the 8 FW leadership.

Their tactical abilities were put to the test defending their compound, even while donning their chemical protective suits and spending hours in Mission Oriented Protective Posture 4.

All their hard worked paid off as the Det garnered an overall "Excellent" rating for their support to the 8 FW and inspectors identified SA Suzanne Krasnow as an "Outstanding Performer" for her skill and demonstrated leadership.

"I am proud of all the hard work the Det put into preparing for this inspection and can rest easy knowing this caliber of warfighter will be at the forefront of the fight if hostilities escalate on the Korean peninsula," said SA Sammy Vuckovich, Det commander.

► Special Agents John Wright and Anitra Tull, assigned to the Det. 307 Special Missions Unit Rapid Deployment Force out of Joint Base McGuire-Dix-Lakehurst, N.J., attended a Transportation Security Administration Explosives & Explosive Effects (E&EE) Training Course in April.

The training supports joint and federal level cooperative training, and creates an environment where federal agents have a better understanding of potential threats.

The TSA describes the objective of the E&EE Training Course as a means to provide members of the federal, state, and local security, and first responder communities an opportunity to receive training and information in regard to the recognition of explosives, and explosive devices.

The course, held at the Naval Weapons Station Earle EOD Detachment in Colts Neck, N.J., also covered topics including terrorist trends, improvised explosives device componentry, construction and employment tradecraft, as well as best practice safety information in regard to explosives and explosive devices.

The instruction was delivered in both classroom and outdoor range settings. The classroom segment of the E&EE covered the various effects of an explosive detonation. Instructors reviewed IEDs, IED component recognition, bombing case studies, and bomb scene recommended tactics, techniques and procedures. Homemade explosives training was delivered by an FBI bomb technician.

Following classroom training, personnel moved to the explosives range where in depth instruction and hands on recognition of various explosives was conducted. TNT equivalent loaded reproductions of the Richard Reid shoe bomb, suicide vest, pipe bomb, letter bomb, and other historical terrorist devices were detonated. Various homemade explosives were also demonstrated. Witness targets (downrange) were rigged with ballistic armor and Kevlar



Photos provided by SA John Wright

An explosive is detonated during the Explosives and Explosive Effects training hosted by the Transportation Security Administration.

Explosives and Explosive Effects

OSI agents attend TSA explosives training course, receive Navy and FBI instruction

by Mr. James C. Dillard
OSI Public Affairs

helmets arrayed around devices to illustrate the destructive force explosives can deliver to both personnel and property.

The instructor-led explosives demolition range demonstration session exposed the students to a variety of commercial, military and improvised explosives and explosives devices.

TSA Newark's Explosives Operations Division hosted this training in coordination with federal, state and local bomb squads, as well as a U.S. Navy's Explosive Ordnance Disposal Detachment. **GR**

► Inside the Story

The objective of the Explosives & Explosive Effects Training Course is to provide members of the federal, state, and local security, and first responder communities the opportunity to receive training and information in regard to the recognition of explosives, and explosive devices. The course also covers topics such as terrorist trends and improvised explosive use.



► Operation New Horizons Belize

Special Agents Raquel La Barr and James Kielbasa participated in Operation New Horizons in the country of Belize in the Spring. The operation is a 12th AFSOUTH led humanitarian exercise. OSI support to this mission includes serving as the deployed forces' focal point to interface with U.S. and Belizean military, civilian law enforcement, counterintelligence and security service agencies; in order to identify, detect and neutralize enemy and terrorist to U.S. personnel and resources. The known area where most murders occur is in the "downtown" area of Belize City, Belize. Kielbasa and LaBar (above) pose outside of Belize City. La Barr (right) spends time with the local Belizean children.



Photos provided by SA Juan Duenas



Photo provided by SA John Wright

► Supporting Eagle Flag

Special Agents Nicholas Murphy (left), Anitra Tull (right) and John Wright supported two Eagle Flag exercises at Lakehurst Naval Air Station, N.J. The exercises were Chief of Staff directed and were designed to test the ability of a Joint Task Force Port Opening to set up an Aerial Port of Debarkation and Forward Distribution Node for contingency or humanitarian operations. "In supporting missions such as humanitarian aid, airfield assessments, mass cargo movement or other contingency operations, OSI's Rapid Deployment Force is responsible for providing threat information by conducting security liaison, with the purpose of providing commanders with the most information available," Wright said.



Photo provided by Col. James Hudson

► Idaho Youth of the Year

Emily Stephens, daughter of Special Agent Monte Stephens, was selected as the Idaho Youth of the Year in the Military Category. Senator Pattie Anne Lodge of Idaho singled her out as being "an exceptional representative for military families." She received the 2013 Youth of the Year award at the Idaho State Capitol in Boise along with award winners in other categories. (Pictured, from left) Col Christopher Short, 366th Fighter Wing commander, Emily Stephens, SA Monte P. Stephens, Senior Master Sgt. Tracy J. Stephens and Chief Master Sgt. John Weimer, 366th FW command chief.

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Dick in the Philippines in 1969 and later worked for Dick in the District 19 Fraud Shop.

"Dick had a zeal for fraud that few could match and because of him District 19 had the best fraud program in OSI for many years," Costa said.

Special Agent (ret.) Terry Hudock also shared his sentiments, saying that Dick "was the kind of friend that stood by you no matter what."

He recalled his first day working for Dick.

"He took me under his wing, taught me the ropes and he and his family treated me as one of their own...even to this day," Hudock said. "I'll miss Dick's love for his wife and children, his kindness and sincerity, and his general belief that everyone is good and means well."

XRG Director, SA Kevin Poorman, shared a story when he was a new second lieutenant detachment commander at Castle Air Force Base, Calif., in 1981. Dick visited Castle shortly after Poorman's arrival and committed to helping the detachment build a successful fraud program. Dick visited the office several times over the next few months and each time he would give them "homework" to do before his next visit.

"Dick taught us that you don't have to know how to work fraud, you just have to follow his directions and he'll lead you to where you need to go to make touchdowns," he said.

In the words of Albert Einstein, "Only a life lived for others is a life worthwhile." If that is the truth, then Dick's life is a masterpiece of devotion to his fellow man.

The collective thoughts and prayers of the OSI family go



Special Agent (ret.) Richard Smith is pictured here with his wife Nancy. They lived in Merlin, Ore.

out to Nancy and the entire Smith family. We all share in your sadness and sense of grief at this time. May we all be comforted by the many wonderful memories etched in our hearts. OSI and the people of this country will be forever grateful for the many years of Dick's sacrifice and service to the Air Force and this great nation. **GR**

► OSI first began navigating the African continent in 2009. Throughout that first year, the liaison work of Maj. Seth Volk and SA Denny Wood proved to be instrumental in planting the OSI flag at 17th Air Force.

By the time SA Denny Wood's Reserve time came to an end in May 2010, Region 5's OL-A was ready to stand up. SA Keivan Faalzadeh, SA Jess Bidlack, Volk and Mr. Eric Lackey were tasked with paving the way for OSI operations throughout Africa.

Under the recent leadership of Maj. Randy Pendleton, OL-A has expanded its reach since 2010 and is now the permanent home to five OSI agents and one analyst.

In April 2012, with the dissolution of 17th Air Force and significant realignment of U.S. Air Forces in Europe, OL-A took on portions of the European Command area of responsibility, in addition to meeting the priorities of the Africa Command AOR.

Agents assigned to OL-A now travel to austere and remote locations throughout Europe and Africa to provide on-the-ground force protection support, author in-depth route, hotel and airfield assessments, give protective service operation support and provide training to host nation military and law enforcement, among other things.

In addition to directly providing in-country support, OL-A agents provide reach back analytical and administrative support to agents deployed throughout the African continent.



Photo provided by Lt. Col. Kristine Burnett

Special Agent Derek Wright meets with Malian forces as part of his liaison efforts in Africa.

African Nights

OSI's mission in Africa takes agents all over the continent in support of U.S. and allied forces

by SA Jen McLain
Region 5, OL-A

Without a doubt, OSI's forward leaning posture was in anticipation of changing missions and customers needs.

Pendleton has seen the evolution of OL-A firsthand. "It has been an eye –

opener to see Region 5 OL-A transform from a single OSI liaison position into a multi-faceted unit, responsible for providing host nation engagements and Counterintelligence and Force Protection support to

USAFE/AFAFRICA," he said. "We've worked extremely hard to demonstrate our capabilities and highlight our relevance to their missions and the hard work is paying off.

"USAFE/AFAFRICA leadership turns to OL-A first for the 'ground truth' regarding various threats throughout Africa and Eastern Europe."

Combined, OL-A agents spent more than 400 operational days this year out of the office, exploring Africa and parts of Eastern Europe. Mali, Senegal, Seychelles, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Uganda, Ethiopia, South Africa, Bulgaria, and Georgia.

While OL-A certainly takes care of business while on temporary duty, they also have the opportunity to experience the unique things that make Africa such a sought after experience. They navigated the Nile and Congo Rivers, and experienced the local wildlife, such as lions, cheetahs, hyena and elephants.

They've eaten traditional food with tribal members in their mud homes and danced tribal dances; they've sat down in the homes of tribal kings and hiked to see the graves of their loved ones.

OSI has expanded its footprint with 13 additional billets dedicated to supporting the AFRICOM AOR. OSI has three agents assigned at Force Protection Detachments established at embassies in Uganda, Morocco and Ghana.

FPD Uganda is located in
See AFRICA on the following page.



Photo provided by Col. Kristine Burnett

► Looking For the Lost

The Joint POW/MIA Accounting Command routinely calls for volunteers to assist investigative teams searching for MIAs from WWII. JPAC currently has two missions in Germany. Lt. Col. Neil Clough (left), out of Ramstein Air Base, Germany, and his daughter Sybil (right) participated in work at a site near Spangdahlem Air Base in August 2012. Volunteers sifted through excavated dirt and assisted with sorting recovered items. Clough spent much of his time with a pick axe and shovel, while his daughter passed the days using a metal detector and working as the archeologist's assistant. They assisted in the identification of the remains of at least one Airman who was MIA since his aircraft was lost in WWII.

AFRICA continued from previous page

the center of Kampala, Uganda, a bustling city with a hint of modernization and natural beauty, coupled with the more traditional African huts, steel shacks, dilapidated structures and traffic jams comparable to rush hour in Los Angeles. DoD is currently performing several training and operational missions, which include active duty and Reserve components from each branch of the military.

In Rabat, Morocco, the FPD's primary mission is to detect and warn of threats to DoD personnel and resources in-transit within Morocco, a hub of DoD activity in North Africa. More than 3,000 DoD personnel find themselves in Morocco each year to participate in exercises, training and scientific exchanges, international military cooperation activities, conferences and



Special Agents Jess Bidlack and Jen McLain visit with the locals in an Ethiopian village.

language and culture immersion.

In Ghana, OSI works hand-in-hand with the Naval Criminal Investigative Service to provide antiterrorism, force protection and counterterrorism indications and warnings to the ambassador, country team, and DoD personnel to maintain superior situational awareness.

In addition to the three FPDs, OSI deploys 10 agents

from within Region 5, Det. 120 and 9 FIS to the AFRICOM AOR on four or six-month rotations to locations in East and West Africa. Deployed AFOSI agents are responsible for providing overt collection of counterintelligence and force protection information supporting deployed personnel and resources

Each of us who have represented OSI in Africa shares

the same sentiment; the work we, as agents are able to do in Africa, is an amazing, fulfilling experience and one that we'd all jump at the chance to have again.

Perhaps Special Agent Reid Legg summed up the OSI experience in Africa best when he said, "I really enjoy it here because it is unique compared to other OSI deployments. Two-man teams living among the people well outside of any wire. It's a 'wild west' type atmosphere and it really gets you back in touch with the fundamentals of CI in an FP role. You don't go around with a badge on your belt; instead you have to rely on your skills as a talker and listener. Sometimes in mainstream OSI it is easy to lose sight of the important role that we play in peoples' lives ... It reminds me that it is not what we are, but what we do that really matters." **GR**



AFOSI FINAL FRAME

Members of Det. 105, Robins Air Force Base, Ga. recently volunteered at the Warner Robins Rainbow House Children's Resource Center. The volunteers spent their Saturday conducting various clean-up activities including raking and bagging leaves, tree trimming, gutter cleaning, and flowerbed restoration. The center is dedicated to reducing the occurrence of child abuse and counseling abuse victims, and also serves as an interview location for abused and neglected children. Special Agent Darrell Davis, the chief coordinator of the Rainbow House project, said he was at the house for a child interview when he noticed the exterior of the property could use some maintenance. Det. 105 has now adopted the Rainbow House as an ongoing community service project and is awaiting final approval of a \$10,000 grant provided by a local business. The project will continue every two weeks at the outset for initial cleanup and then once a month thereafter or as needed.