OSI leadership, left to right, Command Chief Master Sgt. Karen F. Beirne-Flint, Individual Mobilization Augmentee to the Commander Col. Douglas Hassebrock, Commander Col. Kirk B. Stabler, Executive Director Mr. Jeffrey D. Specht and Vice Commander Col. Terry L. Bullard, sign the OSI 2018 Strategic Plan Oct. 15 at OSI Headquarters, Quantico, Va.

(See Cover Story, page 4)
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Col. Kirk B. Stabler
OSI Commander
Ms. Linda Card
Chief, Public Affairs
Mr. Wayne Amann
Editor
On Dec. 6, 2018, I was excited to announce the rollout of our first OSI Strategic Plan in eight years. This will be our guiding document over the next five years to ensure we’re meeting Air Force and Department of Defense strategic priorities.

I’m more excited than ever in anticipation of how this roadmap will be incorporated at all levels of our unique organization to reflect those priorities.

How are we unique? Of the 18,000 law enforcement agencies across the U.S., we’re the only one employing both military and civilian members who execute criminal and counterintelligence investigations. Conducting these investigations within the framework of our strategic plan will be our focus moving forward.

The foundation of the Strategic Plan is returning to our federal law enforcement roots. A large part of that is developing a “hunter” mindset. I want our people, special agents and professional staff alike, to switch from a gatherer mentality to a more aggressive, proactive approach toward getting their respective jobs done.

We need to have a much larger thirst for aggressively running cases and performing support operations. If we don’t, we’re missing the boat as far as what the Air Force expects of us, either as Special Agents or professional staff.

With the “hunter” mindset comes risk. We have to be comfortable taking risks, which translates into leadership at all levels trusting our people. With this shift, I expect leadership oversight, not micro-management.

How we perform will always matter as we move forward. That’s why we need to own our successes and failures, and learn from our past experiences. Understanding what our limitations are, as well as our capabilities, is the only way we can succeed.

We must continue to recruit and retain a diverse workforce. Given what we do in our various missions and the global footprint of OSI, we will always further the belief that equality for all is our standard. We will respect our differences, but at the same time ensure we instill every member of this organization with a sense of belonging.

By meshing the strategic priorities of the Secretary of Defense and the Secretary of the Air Force, the new OSI Strategic Plan streamlines our mission, focused on achieving effects and results that support the needs of our national security.

Finally, I cannot tell you how proud I am to serve with each and every one of you. I’m honored to lead OSI as its professional stature continues to grow with our customers and fellow agencies in the law enforcement and intelligence communities.
Getting back to ‘LE roots’

By Wayne Amann
AFOSI Public Affairs

Citing a need to change its culture, the Air Force Office of Special Investigations rolled out its first Strategic Plan in eight years in December 2018.

The latest version provides a five-year roadmap OSI will use to focus internally and externally, incorporating its capability objectives and goals, to mesh with those of the secretary of the Air Force, secretary of Defense and the president of the United States.

“As an agency, we need aggressive, proactive, personnel with hunter mindsets, and we need visionary leaders who trust their people to get the job done,” wrote OSI Commander, Col. Kirk B. Stabler, in a command-wide email announcing the Strat Plan rollout. “This is the foundation of our plan, getting back to our true federal law enforcement roots. I recognize this shift in culture and thinking will not happen overnight, but this plan is our first step in the right direction.”

The plan reflects the OSI mission, focusing on achieving effects and results supporting the requirements and needs of the national security environment. The plan details the strategic environment in which OSI operates, OSI tenets, the OSI mission environment and the command’s Lines of Effort (LoEs) supporting the defense secretary and SecAF.

Headquarters OSI leadership signed off on the new Strategic Plan Oct. 15, 2018, making it the official way ahead. Subsequently, Col. Stabler and Command Chief Master Sgt. Karen F. Beirne-Flint recorded a 30-minute video explaining what the plan means and where the command is headed. On Dec. 14, 2018, the video was played command-wide to foster constructive discussions at all levels. Hard copies of the plan were also distributed to all OSI units worldwide.

“The one thing I need every Airman, military and civilian, in OSI to take away is how OSI meshes with our senior leadership,” Col. Stabler said in the video. “This is critically important.”

OSI Airmen will be able to seamlessly mesh with senior Air Force leadership and the Air Force moving forward by following the five Lines of Effort providing a clear, attainable vector for the agency.

The LoEs are: Develop an Exceptional Force, Restore Readiness, Cost-Effectively Modernize, Drive Innovation, and Strengthen our Partnerships. Each LoE has goals accomplished via objectives to reach a desired end state.

Developing an Exceptional Force is the central guiding Line of Effort critical to achieving the remaining LoEs.

“The number one weapon system OSI uses to get its mission done is our people,” Command Chief Beirne-Flint said in the video. “A force that’s resilient is ultimately the foundation of what we do. The challenge is when Airmen come into our units, we’re able to focus on their personal, professional and technical development so when they leave our units they’re stronger, faster, more competent, confident and more resilient than when they arrived. They’ll have the sustainability to finish the job.”

See STRAT PLAN ROLLOUT, page 28
As the Air Force Office of Special Investigations, Investigations, Collections, and Operations Nexus (ICON) and AFOSI 7th Field Investigations Region have matured and evolved the last several years, there were compelling indicators that merging these two units would create a more efficient organization to enhance AFOSI mission effectiveness.

Headquarters Air Force agreed. And in a Jan. 3, 2018, memorandum Air Force Vice Chief of Staff, Gen. Stephen W. Wilson, officially approved the merger and activation of the AFOSI ICON Center.

A “center” is an official type of Air Force unit. Organizationally, it’s typically above a wing but below a Field Operating Agency.

“There were many moving parts to ensure a successful rollout, like merging the phenomenal specialists in Region 7 with the tremendous capabilities and talent in the ICON for improved synergistic support to the field,” said Col. Scott M. Kieffer, Commander, AFOSI ICON Center. “Our goal was to have enough in place for the Center to declare initial operational capability by May 3, 2018, and full operational capability by Fall 2018.”

Several key advantages of this merge are that it:

• Aligns analysts and specialists into one organization that supports AFOSI investigations and operations around the world
• Unifies command, control and oversight of AFOSI’s strategic Offensive Counterintelligence, Cyber Threat Pursuit and Anti-Terrorism Specialty Team missions
• Eliminates redundant staffing needed for each to separately oversee these missions
• Affords leadership of this merged structure full awareness of all (tactical to strategic) matters affecting the execution of these missions as well as the impact they have on larger national security priorities
• Builds a deeper/stronger bench of AFOSI agents and analysts with better knowledge of and greater experience in working with senior Air Force leadership and national counterpart agencies
• Enhances the AFOSI commander’s ability to provide senior Air Force leadership with a synchronized, integrated and comprehensive assessment of criminal and counterintelligence threats to the Air Force

Accordingly, a team was chartered to assess the optimal structure of this new unit and the results were briefed to the AFOSI Corporate Council in September 2015. While the details of the AFOSI ICON Center were being drafted, the intent was to have:

• Most (but not all) of the Region 7 squadron structure stay intact
• The Region 7 staff merge with the ICON staff
• The ICON “Desk” structure re-align under five Associate Directors: Counterintelligence, Law Enforcement, Threat Response, Strategic Counterintelligence and Cyber Threat Pursuit

“The primary purposes of the Center are to ‘inform’ senior leaders and AFOSI of significant and relevant criminal, terrorist and foreign intelligence threats, ‘execute’ operations to exploit and neutralize strategic, multi-domain threats, and most importantly, ‘integrate’ analyst and specialty support in order to enhance AFOSI investigations around the world,” said Col. Kieffer.
Nov. 5, 2018, marked the one year anniversary of the mass shooting in Texas by former Airman Devin Kelley who shot and killed 26 people and wounded 22 others at the First Baptist Church of Sutherland Springs.

A Department of Defense Inspector General investigation of the shooting, released Dec. 10, 2018, concluded the Air Force could have prevented Kelley from legally buying a weapon used in the mass shooting, had its investigators followed proper protocol and established a criminal history record (indexing) for Kelley based on his criminal arrest and subsequent court-martial conviction.

Criminal ‘indexing’ involves the submission of a record of arrest for qualifying offenses (one meeting criteria for criminal indexing) to Next Generation Identification (NGI) for inclusion in the Interstate Identification Index (III) database. An indexing submission establishes a record or adds to a person’s criminal history and consists of fingerprints, biographical data, criminal charges, arrest information and subsequent legal action or disposition data related to the charges.

Shortly after the shooting, the Air Force Office of Special Investigations stood up an internal National Crime Information Center (NCIC) Indexing Task Force to review all investigative case files from 1998-2017. Its mission is to review all cases with a qualifying offense to ensure the subject of the investigation was indexed correctly, if required. It is also tasked to identify cases with criminal indexing errors and correct them.

OSI’s Indexing Task Force split the review process into two phases, with recent cases being the top priority.

During Phase 1, AFOSI personnel reviewed and indexed subjects with qualifying offenses in all investigative files from 2002-2017. Reviewers determined if probable cause existed to index subjects in the III database. If probable cause existed and there was no criminal history record, the reviewer indexed the subject with the correct charges and dispositions if fingerprints were available. When a criminal history record contained erroneous information, the reviewer submitted changes to the Criminal Justice Information Services (CJIS) to ensure the record reflected the correct information.

“Since we stood up the NCIC Task Force, we’ve employed more than 300 of our professional staff and active duty, civilian, and reserve agents to rotate through the task force,” said OSI Commander Col. Kirk B. Stabler. “Our deadline from the Secretary of the Air Force was July 31, 2018. I’m proud to report we completed our (Phase 1) reviews on July 25, 2018.”

During Phase 1, the Indexing Task Force reviewed 47,129 files and identified 6,978 files with no OSI criminal history record; 5,607 were corrected by establishing a criminal history record for the subject through submitting fingerprints. The remaining 1,371 files are awaiting correction based on fingerprint availability from military entrance processing. This is an on-going process and the figures change daily.

Phase 2 is focused on cases from 1998-2001. “Due to the low-tech nature of these earlier files, progress is slower than in Phase 1,” Col. Stabler said. “However, we’re making significant headway toward indexing compliance.”

As of January 11, 2019, the Indexing Task Force reviewed 8,651 files in Phase 2, of which 304 were discovered to have indexing discrepancies. Of those, 108 files were corrected and the remaining 196 are awaiting fingerprint availability. The Indexing Task Force is projected to complete Phase 2 by the end of September 2019.

A significant amount of logistics are involved in the overall undertaking.

See INDEXING, page 28
Innovative tutorial paves way for OSI, LE partners

By Wayne Amann
AFOSI Public Affairs

Innovation has various definitions and a thread connecting them all is innovation can come from anyone, anywhere, at any time.

Enter Air Force Office of Special Investigations Special Agent Argent Palumbo, Detachment 631, Kunsan Air Base, Korea, whose creative thinking improved a process integral to military law enforcement.

SA Palumbo developed a tutorial to help co-workers understand Livescan Management Software (LSMS) functionality. LSMS integrates biometric identification data into a file that can be submitted to a local, state or federal law enforcement agency’s Automated Fingerprint Identification System or Automated Biometric Identification System.

“Since the tragic shooting in Sutherland Springs, Texas, we have significantly invested in upgrading (AFOSI’s) fingerprint and indexing capabilities with the introduction and fielding of LSMS,” said AFOSI Commander Col. Kirk B. Stabler. “With new technology often comes a steep learning curve. SA Palumbo’s tutorial was so well done, it was subsequently incorporated into Headquarters AFOSI’s own publication.”

The tutorial was shared with Air Force Security Forces, Army Criminal Investigation Command and Naval Criminal Investigative Service partners who all praised its thoroughness and value.

“It’s great to see it helps our sister services as well,” SA Palumbo said. “I received emails from friends and past co-workers, which made me realize I wasn’t the only one who ran into issues.”

SA Argent Palumbo

When SA Palumbo began formulating his tutorial guide in November 2018 he did not have a background in software development, but he did have some experience as a former Air Force weather forecaster/observer in writing standard operating procedures.

“Weather taught me a good deal about what types of guides people preferred,” the special agent said. “Almost every time, it was something with pictures. I didn’t come into OSI with a law enforcement background, so I wanted to make it as user friendly as possible and save others from the time spent and pitfalls I ran into. This will be a way to streamline the booking process and hopefully prevent another Sutherland Springs incident from happening in the future.”

In true Wingman fashion, SA Palumbo credits others who contributed to the tutorial’s success.

“I have to especially thank SA (Dennis) Hopwood, (Det. 631, Kunsan AB, Korea), for the long hours he spent helping me with it, and SA (John) Schoth, (Headquarters AFOSI Strategic Programs and Requirements) for all the work he added,” SA Palumbo said.

From a big picture perspective, the new tutorial showcases Lines of Effort presented in the AFOSI 2018 Strategic Plan and echoed in the strategic priorities of the Air Force, specifically Drive Innovation and Strengthen Our Partnerships.

“I firmly believe ownership and engagement play vital roles in the future of our command’s direction,” Col. Stabler said. “SA Palumbo’s proactive efforts and creative thinking will serve to enhance the command’s practices and partnerships for years to come.”

“This is a perfect example showing that innovation and problem solving are not always headquarters driven processes,” he added. “As in this case, great ideas and solutions usually originate in the field!”
Mission accomplished

By Wayne Amann
AFOSI Public Affairs

(Editor’s Note: “If you talk to a man in a language he understands, that goes to his head. If you talk to him in his own language, that goes to his heart.” – Nelson Mandela)

The global footprint of the Air Force Office of Special Investigations is made possible, in large measure, by the ability of its Special Agents to communicate in a myriad of foreign languages and adapt to their cultural surroundings.

An SA’s job is inherently challenging to begin with; language and cultural barriers only add to that challenge. That’s where the AFOSI Language Regional Expertise and Culture Program comes in.

The LREC Program is designed to support the AFOSI worldwide mission through the development of language skills, cross-cultural competence and regional expertise. Its mission is to develop, sustain and enhance a language skilled AFOSI force that enables a global presence with the necessary cultural knowledge to protect Air Force, Department of Defense and United States interests abroad.

AFOSI Special Agent Jon Maldonado, Special Assistant for International Programs and Government Affairs, exchanges a business card with his Egyptian counterparts. (AFOSI photo)

Without cultural intelligence and language capability, we lose an intrinsic connection with our international partners,” said Ms. Randa Yassine, LREC Program Manager. “When we can ‘read the air’ and communicate effectively across borders we have a better opportunity to development necessary relationships.”

Language training opportunities depend upon an agent’s language skills, aptitude, availability, assigned position and leadership support. LREC trains through: in-residence courses via DoD programs and/or commercial vendors; local tutoring; virtual training; and language immersions.

Immersion was a productive method employed by a Special Agent in Germany who requested anonymity. His Advanced Language Intensive Training Event (LITE) earlier this year was designed to broaden his German vocabulary relating to legal jargon and complex terminology. For two weeks he worked with state- and district-level court judges observing legal proceedings, reading case files and conversing with judges in German about the differences between the German and American court systems.

“The impact of this experience cannot be overstated and far exceeded my expectations,” the SA said. “I feel better equipped to handle complex discussions about investigations and legal proceedings and act as a more fluent liaison between AFOSI and our host nation counterparts. I briefed my fellow colleagues to help our communal understanding of the German legal system, because our work often intersects with it. What I learned from this immersion could not have been equally attained elsewhere.”

SA Cory Marion learned the fundamentals of French at the Defense Language Institute, Foreign Language Center. He later improved his proficiency through self-study and French immersion. As a mem-
ber of the 25th Expeditionary Field Investigations Squadron, Ramstein Air Base, Germany, he’s employed his French speaking ability to support an array of missions across the African Continent and Europe.

While deployed to Ouagadougou, Burkina Faso, he enlisted a local teacher to help him learn the prominent regional language, Moore, to a proficiency level that rivaled his French capability. This ultimately aided his efforts to leverage professional connections during his deployment.

“Learning Moore demonstrated my interest in and appreciation of Burkinabe culture beyond what westerners typically display,” SA Marion said in his presentation to the 2018 LREC Symposium at the Air University, Maxwell AFB, Ala. “Strangers were more approachable and counterparts more obliging. I left with a deeper understanding of Mossi culture and authentic relationships resulting from a modest attempt to learn a regional language.”

SA Helen Marino, Commander, AFOSI Det. 523, Izmir, Turkey, grew up appreciating languages, coming from a multi-lingual family. She realized how critical language nuances and meanings were following 9/11. Looking for more linguistic and cultural context she learned Arabic and Farsi in college while taking Islamic Studies. SA Marino has leveraged her Arabic, Farsi, Italian, French and Spanish language skills, managing and participating in strategic engagements in AFOSI Regions 2 and 5.

She worked with counterparts across the Middle East, most notably during a month-long exchange program with the Jordanian Directorate of Military Security. While deployed to Afghanistan and Iraq she spoke Farsi and Arabic to partner forces. While assigned to the 25th EFIS, she presented seminars on counter-terrorism strategies and defense methodology to AFOSI partners in France, Italy, Burkina Faso, Niger, Tunisia and Uganda using local language and cultural familiarity to help pave the way.

“Communication is the foundation of what we do as Special Agents,” SA Marino said. “It’s imperative we demonstrate not only some level of linguistic capability, but also a willingness to exchange information with attention to local politics, history and culture. When I see my fellow OSI agents in overseas assignments leveraging their foreign language abilities, I’m proud my organization recognizes the importance of this skillset. I’m lucky to be afforded professional opportunities to use my foreign language knowledge and hope the relationships I’ve helped build will pay dividends toward common security goals.”

SA Helen Marino, center, while assigned to the 25th Expeditionary Field Investigations Squadron, interacts with security partners in Burkina Faso. (AFOSI photo)

SA Abdalla Tawfik was born in Cairo, Egypt, and immigrated with his family to Wheaton, Ill., in 1992. During his career in the Navy he was assigned to Naval Air Station Sigonella, Italy, where he assisted the Naval Criminal Investigative Service with high level investigations. He then taught Arabic at the U.S. Naval Academy and became a full time Adjunct Professor in its Department of Language Studies. After separating from the Navy he became a contract linguist for AFOSI Det. 2411, Joint Base, Balad, Iraq.

He became an AFOSI Special Agent in 2011 and is now assigned to Force Protection Detachment, Amman, Jordan, often in a liaison role with host nation security services to further OSI’s mission. His language skills in Arabic, Spanish, Italian, French and English enable him to effectively communicate command expectations, establish rapport and earn his

See LANGUAGE, page 30
Four times a year a cadre of Air Force Special Investigations Academy instructors conduct a unique two-day anti-terrorism course called the Senior Leader Security Seminar at Montross, Va., to ensure the safety and survivability of Air Force general officers, Senior Executive Service civilians, senior field grade officers and select senior enlisted advisors who travel in medium to critical threat areas.

The training focuses on weapons familiarization and driving skills which collectively left a lasting impression on the 18 attendees April 30-May 1, 2018. “The foundation of our Air Force is the lethality of our training and this OSI course is absolutely outstanding,” said Maj. Gen. Thomas A. Bussiere, Commander, Eighth Air Force, and Commander, Joint-Global Strike Operations Center, Barksdale Air Force Base, La. “Advanced weapons was useful because of the ability to rapidly go from different types of weapons and produce effective fires. Plus, the ability to blend in offensive and defensive driving skills into your tool kit is very useful.”

Attendees begin their training with a short classroom lecture on the terrorist attack cycle, situational awareness, surveillance and surveillance detection and other security concepts. They then participate in a surveillance detection exercise en route to the training venue designed to give attendees a better understanding of how surveillance works and what it takes to be vigilant while driving.

“Our senior leaders need to be prepared on any front,” said AFOSI Special Agent, Advanced Training Division Superintendent and SLSS Instructor Dustin McLeod. “While they may not in their current rank and position warrant a protective service detail, we need to keep them safe because they’re helping keep the Air Force safe.”

Once at the training site attendees are given an equipment demonstration and a demo on the effective use of cover and concealment. The rest of the day is devoted to safe firearms familiarization on various weapons systems including the AK-47 assault rifle, MP-5 sub-machine gun, M-4 carbine and 9mm pistol.

“The varied weapons we fired, gaining confidence with them, is invaluable training,” said Maj. Gen. Randall A. Ogden, Commander 4th Air Force, Air Force Reserve Command, March Air Reserve Base, Calif. “This outstanding course, taught by fabulous instructors, will much better prepare you to survive in a high threat environment.”

Learning to recognize and analyze attack indicators to predict and prevent attacks is the training emphasis for day two’s instinctive driving instruction. It includes accident avoidance, high speed driving skills, attack recognition and evasive tactics.

Attendees practice vehicle handling while performing braking and turning exercises, high-speed driving, skid control, driving on an unimproved roadway and more, all designed to build on each other as attendees gain confidence in their abilities.

“They’re a lot of the skills you hope you never need, but I feel much more confident knowing I can pull them out of my bag of tricks,” said Chief Master Sgt. Chad T. Welch, Command Chief Master Sergeant, 932nd Airlift Wing, Scott AFB, Ill. “I’m only the third enlisted troop to attend this course so a big shout out goes to Chief (Chief Master Sgt. of the Air Force Kaleth O.) Wright for opening that door for us.”
SLSS has been taught, in various iterations for 15 years, and in its present format for a little more than a decade. As threats change the training evolves. SLSS has adjusted some course objectives to meet the needs of its attendees.

OSI couples with the O’Gara Group, a contractor which provides products and services, to more effectively protect and preserve lives and assets. They are part of the total team effort presenting the quarterly SLSS training.

“It takes a lot of moving parts, a great team communicating and coordinating, to put this course together,” said SA and SLSS Course Director Aaron Moyer. “Course preparation starts at the end of the previous iteration, four times a year, capitalizing on lessons learned. Sixty days out we reach out to the O’Gara Group and hotel staff, then 30 days out we have a list of attendees we send the reporting instructions to.”

SLSS officials work with the Air Force General Officers Group, the Colonels Group and Chiefs Group (for Commands Chiefs). They rack and stack who needs to attend the course based on their position, where they’re at and where they’re projected to go.

Each leader selected comes away from SLSS saying they had fun learning, which is a by-product of the course.

“In the end the overall goal is to make sure they get the key aspects of the course,” said SA and SLSS Course Manager Dwayne Harris. “We make sure to balance the raw information by making it fun. When you’re having fun, those are the tactics you remember if you have to use them later.”

Attendees recommend SLSS.

“If you’re a senior leader in the Air Force you need to consider attending this phenomenal course,” General Bussiere said.

“I highly recommend this course. It’s great training!” General Ogden said.

“This should be a required course for all Command Chiefs going to the AOR,” Chief Welch said.

**Attendees demonstrate high-speed skid control during instinctive driving training at the Senior Leader Security Seminar.**

**An attendee fires an AK-47 with the guidance of AFSIA Instructor Special Agent Dwayne Harris during weapons familiarization training at the Senior Leader Security Seminar.**
It's no surprise the Air Force Office of Special Investigations is replete with exceptional performers. Its ranks of special agents and professional staff members have exhibited the competence and confidence to handle any situation to a successful conclusion throughout the command’s storied 70-year history.

One particular group who works behind the scenes, but plays a vital role in enabling and supporting OSI field agents all day, every day, is the AFOSI Investigations Collections Operations Nexus Center Global Watch Controllers.

“The Watch Controllers are our unsung heroes,” wrote SA Aaron Yardley, AFOSI ICON Center director to OSI leadership. “They truly believe in the Air Force and taking care of fellow Airmen. We are fortunate to have them on our OSI team!”

Watch Controllers are responsible for:
- Immediate and factual command/control in support of global criminal and counterintelligence operations,
- Initiating checklists and conducting investigative inquiries in response to crisis situations worldwide,
- Maintaining and implementing AFOSI operating instructions and recall/duty rosters for emergency situations,
- Coordinating casualty notifications worldwide and acting as the communication nucleus for AFOSI leadership.


On Jan. 16 Koeller and Gaytan were involved in separate life-saving scenarios.

Koeller received an urgent request for assistance from OSI Detachment 206, Nellis Air Force Base, Nev., regarding an Airman threatening to commit suicide. He immediately contacted the Nellis command post requesting a health and wellness check for the distressed Airman.

The Airman’s First Sergeant immediately responded to the Airman’s residence where he found her unresponsive next to an empty prescription pill bottle. The Airman was taken to the local hospital where life-saving measures ensured her recovery.

While his prompt actions and concern for his fellow Wingman were instrumental in saving the Airman’s life, a modest Koeller felt he did not do anything above and beyond.

“Responding to a phone call from someone worried about an Airman was my duty, both as an OSI Global Watch Controller and an Airman,” said Koeller. “I just used the tools available to me to get the Airman found before anything permanent happened. I am glad the OSI Special Agent who saw her Facebook posts took them seriously, and used the Watch to get help. I hope the Airman got help and makes it through whatever trouble she was experiencing. We only have one life, and I would hate for hers, or anyone else’s, to needlessly end prematurely.”

Meanwhile, Gaytan received an urgent request for assistance from a concerned woman who reported her ex-boyfriend, an Airman, intended to kill himself. Gaytan isolated the Airman’s location based on the information she provided.

See UNSUNG HEROES, next page
He took immediate action by contacting the local Security Forces Squadron requesting a health and wellness check on the Airman who was found in a highly distressed state, but still alive. The Airman’s First Sergeant took him to receive medical care and evaluation.

His quick actions and humanitarian regard for fellow Wingmen aside, Gaytan felt privileged to be working that night so he could assist.

“The first step was to locate the Airman through a series of checks,” Gaytan said. “I passed the address to the law enforcement desk at their duty station who stopped the Airman before he followed through with his plans. Knowing he gets a second chance is inspiring and humbling. Bystanders can change a person’s life if we’re vigilant enough to recognize when someone needs help. Airmen are not alone. I hope they realize there are many people willing to help relieve whatever burden is causing their pain and sorrow.”

Fast forward to March 6, when Touma fielded an urgent request from OSI Det. 327, Little Rock AFB, Ark., to help locate a distressed Airman who planned on killing himself. The Airman was involved in an extramarital affair resulting in an unplanned pregnancy. Following an altercation with his wife, he stormed out of the house with plans to commit suicide.

Touma rallied the joint forces within the Watch floor to simultaneously engage the veteran Affairs Crisis Line, the local Jacksonville, Ark., police department and the Airman’s cell phone provider to conduct an urgent search to locate him. Touma coordinated the joint response and after several cell phone attempts walked the local authorities and detachment agents to the troubled Airman, who was headed back to the base looking for his First Sergeant. The local police and agents safely took the Airman into custody at the base gate and escorted him to the hospital where he was placed under observation and a 72-hour hold.

Touma’s poise and leveraging ability kept the situation from turning into a tragedy.

“As soon as I answered the call from Little Rock, I could feel the urgency in the agent’s tone and felt how greatly my assistance was needed,” Touma said. “I remember thinking, ‘from this moment every move I make could determine whether an Airman lives or dies.’”

This particular situation did not have pre-set procedures in place.

“My limits were tested and I was forced to think outside the box,” she said. “I was relieved when the Airman was found safe and grateful I was working that evening. I was privileged to render aid to our field agents which gave me pride in my job and in OSI.”

Touma said she gained a new perspective on what it means to be a Wingman and believes no matter what someone’s role is in the mission, it plays a vital part in the big picture.

**OSI member a Good Samaritan**

By AFOSI Public Affairs

Staff Sgt. Randy “Chase” Mullins, an 86th Security Forces Squadron member assigned to AFOSI Detachment 501, Ramstein Air Base, Germany, as a driver on COMUSAFE’s protection detail, was driving up to Wiesbaden to play golf May 13, 2018.

He saw an overturned truck in the middle of the autobahn. Mullins locked his brakes to avoid hitting the truck. He and the driver of another vehicle pulled over to the side of the road and ran to the wrecked truck.

Mullins and the other driver pried the mangled truck door open using their hands. They determined the driver was alive but unconscious, wedged under the steering wheel and having trouble breathing.

Mullins ran back to his vehicle for his multi-tool which they used to cut the driver’s seat belt free and pulled him clear of the wreckage.

The severely injured driver was flown via Medevac helicopter, to the Accident Clinic in Ludwigshafen.

The truck was transporting food for a hospital in Bad Kreuznach. Thanks to being promptly informed, the hospital was still able to ensure the food was salvagable. (Photo courtesy Worrstadt (ots))
SAs team to save Wingman’s life

By Special Agent In-Charge Matthew Veltri
AFOSI Detachment 322

This is a prime example of Airmen taking care of another Airman who was not only a complete stranger, but one in desperate need of help.

On April 24, 2018 Air Force Office of Special Investigations rookie Special Agent Charles Woomer of Detachment 322, Fairchild Air Force Base, Wash., discovered a posting on the Reddit.com social media message forum, where someone was asking about how their Serviceman’s Group Life Insurance would pay out should “something” happen to them before they separated from the military in about a week.

The person wanted to make sure his family would be set up comfortably. The post had a concerning tone that SA Woomer was keen to pick up on as did others.

SA Woomer acted by bringing this information to detachment leadership. With SA Justin Collins’ guidance, SA Woomer coordinated with both the Reddit and Google law enforcement services to positively identify the Airman who made the original post.

Tracking the Airman down proved to be more difficult than just dialing a phone number. April 25, 2018, was a non-duty day for the Airman’s unit. SAs Woomer and Collins made approximately 25 phone calls before finally getting in contact with the superintendent who immediately notified his First Sergeant and went to the Airman’s residence.

The Airman was taken to Dwight D. Eisenhower Medical Facility, Ft. Gordon, Ga., to receive the appropriate treatment.

The Airman’s superintendent contacted the Airman, who was scheduled to separate from the Air Force April 28, 2018. When the superintendent confronted him about the post, the Airman confirmed he was the one who made the post and was in fact intending on hurting himself before the end of the week.

The Airman was previously diagnosed with depression and prescribed medication for it. He also made suicidal ideations in the past. He recently ran out of his medication which apparently caused him to revisit the idea of ending his life.

The Airman’s spouse and command expressed their gratitude to SAs Woomer and Collins for intervening.

It’s safe to say that SA Woomer’s and SA Collins’ efforts were directly responsible for saving this Airman’s life. The Airman would have left behind a spouse and two children, ages 9 and 4.

Daughter receives cystic fibrosis treatment vest

By Stacey Geiger
88th Air Base Wing Public Affairs

Full of smiles and giggles, five-year old Aubrey Inman, acts like any other soon to be kindergartener. Until it’s time for her take one of her daily treatments, you would never know this little spunky red head has cystic fibrosis.

In 2012, Tech. Sgt. Aimee Inman, Air Force Office of Special Investigations 1st Field Investigations Region, Wright-Patterson Air Force Base, Ohio, NCOIC of Administration, and her husband Bryan, were thrilled to be expecting their first child. However, the excitement was short lived when at four month’s pregnant, they received devastating news that their daughter carried a mutation for cystic fibrosis.

“Once we found that out, we immediately started researching information to understand as much as we could,” said Aimee. “We learned that the symptoms for cystic fibrosis vary from person to person and in Aubrey’s case, she is pancreatic sufficient so it mainly affects her lungs.”

See VEST, next page
Five-year old Aubrey Inman watches TV during a cystic fibrosis treatment. (U.S. Air Force photo/Stacey Geiger)

According to the Cystic Fibrosis Foundation and American Lung Association, cystic fibrosis is a progressive genetic disorder causing persistent lung infections and limits the ability to breathe over time. Cystic fibrosis affects a specific protein called Cystic Fibrosis Trans-Membrane Regulator that controls the normal movement of sodium, chloride, and water in and out of the cells. People with cystic fibrosis have too little or abnormal CFTR causing the mucus to thicken.

The mucus can affect the lungs, pancreas, and more. In the lungs, the mucus clogs the airway and can trap bacteria causing infections, extensive lung damage and eventually respiratory failure. More than 30,000 people are living with cystic fibrosis in the United States and the predicted survival age is close to 40.

In January and March, 2015, Aubrey was hospitalized for Pseudomonas, a bacterial infection in the lungs that is the major cause of lung infections in people with cystic fibrosis. Aubrey had to undergo an intensive antibiotic therapy for two years to treat the infection.

“At the time of Aubrey’s hospitalizations, I was pregnant with our second child and my husband was working a rotating schedule as an air traffic controller. We were scared and didn’t know what was going to happen to Aubrey,” said Aimee. “Bryan and I would tag team taking shifts at the hospital but that was not conducive for our family. We made the decision that Bryan would separate from the Air Force for the betterment of our family.”

Aubrey receives treatments twice (and up to four times) a day depending on her health condition. Her daily treatment routine includes taking several medications, using a nebulizer and wearing a vest that fills with air and pulses around the body to shake up the lungs to help break up the mucus.

And at every vest treatment, Aubrey’s “wing-girl,” three-year old sister Adalyn, will pull up her chair and keep her sister company until Aubrey is done.

The Inmans are dedicated to making Aubrey’s life as normal as possible.

“It’s very important to us that Aubrey lives her life,” said Aimee. “We do not want to keep her in a bubble, whatever is going to happen will happen and we will figure it out; always have, always will,” said Aimee. “We want her to have a good life and enjoy her childhood.”

Aubrey said she likes to draw, swim and ride her bicycle. Her favorite food is “pasgetti” and added that she eats five bowls and her sister eats three. Her favorite color is rainbows and she wants to be a dancer when she grows up.

While reading a cystic fibrosis support group page, Aimee learned about a non-profit organization created by former NFL player and Bachelorette contestant, Colton Underwood. The Colton Underwood Legacy Foundation provides resources and support to people living with cystic fibrosis so they can achieve dreams and goals regardless of their diagnosis.

The foundation started the Legacy Project which awards AffloVests to one person with cystic fibrosis in each state. An AffloVest is a cordless treatment vest giving the user mobility during the 30 minute treatment and is much lighter and quieter. Regular treatment vests weigh about five pounds and are connected to heavy tubes that are operating from a noisy machine.

“I figured why not, what was the worst that could happen?” said Aimee. “So I filled out an application and I described how Aubrey’s red hair matched her smart, feisty and bold personality. About a year later, I was notified that Aubrey would be Ohio’s AffloVest recipient.”

On August 12, 2018, The Colton Underwood Legacy Foundation hosted a Bicycle and Bootcamp for Cystic Fibrosis event at the University of Dayton’s Welcome Stadium where Aubrey and her family were presented an AffloVest.
Ukrainians make historic visit
Col. Andrii H. Orynovych, Military Attaché, Embassy of Ukraine, Washington, D.C., visited Headquarters OSI accompanied by Col. Volodymyr Humeniuk, PhD., Air Attaché, May 24, 2018. Their visit, hosted by Mr. Jeff Specht, OSI Executive Director, marked the first time officials of Ukraine have visited HQ OSI. OSI and Ukraine’s Ministry of Defense and Security Service have a long-standing relationship. OSI previously led a Force Protection Detachment in the country’s capital, Kyiv. The meeting was part of OSI’s strategic engagement program and directly supports Air Force and Defense Department equities in the region. (U.S. Air Force photo by Mike Hastings)

Strengthening Colombian partnership
OSI Special Agent Daniel Schweizer, Force Protection Detachment Colombia, 2nd Field Investigations Region, Operating Location B, escorted a delegation from the Colombian Air Force Cyber Security and Defense Directorate to Joint Base San Antonio-Lackland, Texas, for a Subject Matter Expert Exchange with U.S. Air Force cyber professionals hosted by the Inter-American Air Forces Academy, Aug. 14-16, 2018. The Director (Commander), Vice Commander, and Director of Operations for the COLAF Cyber unit exchanged information with IAAFA, 33rd Network Warfare Squadron/24th AF, AFOSI 3rd Field Investigations Squadron and others. (Photo submitted by SA Schweizer)

OSI, Poland foster relationship
Director Maciej Materka, Polish Military Counterintelligence Service – Sluzba Kontrwywiadu Wojskowego (SKW), Warsaw, Poland, led an SKW delegation during their visit to Headquarters AFOSI, Quantico, Va., Jan. 17, 2019. The visit, hosted by AFOSI Commander Col. Kirk B. Stabler, featured an OSI mission brief and a round table discussion, followed by a gift exchange between the two leaders. Left: Col. Stabler presents Director Materka with an OSI plaque after Director Materka presented Col. Stabler with a ribbon in appreciation for OSI’s continuing support. (Photo by Wayne Amann, AFOSI/PA)
TIG tours Region 5 dets, promotes international relations


In Rome, General Harris met Vice Inspector Stefano Marin of the Gendarmes of the Vatican City State.

At Ramstein, General Harris experienced a protective service demonstration from Det 501, enroute to USAFE HQ where she and Chief Jones took part in a town hall dialogue with Special Agents. There TIG presented five annual awards and recognized nine other outstanding performers. She received an interactive demonstration from 4 FIS on the specialty support they provide to Region 5 and 24 EFIS.

At Aviano and Mildenhall, TIG received mission briefs from Dets. 531 and 512 showing the challenges Airmen face there. She coined Vice Brigadiare Mauro Fabrizio, AFOSI’s Italian counterpart, to highlight the importance of relationships with host nations. She also coined top OSI performers at both locations. Photo: Vice Inspector Marin presents TIG with the Crest of the Gendarmes in front of the statue of Charlemagne in Saint Peter’s Basilica. (Photo/SA Brittany Swift, 5 FIR)

OSI honors Turkish liaison officer

Col. Shan Nuckols, 5th Field Investigations Region Commander, presented a special lapel pin to Mr. Nurettin Anman, Liaison Officer, Det. 522, Incirlik Air Base, Turkey, honoring his 20 years of dedicated service to AFOSI during a ceremony Aug. 13, 2018. For two decades Anman has been the primary Liaison Officer between Turkish National Security Organizations and OSI personnel. Besides language assistance he is also a significant contributor as a cultural and political advisor for an area spanning 26 provinces in southeastern Turkey, promoting the partnership between the U.S. and the host nation. (Photo/AFOSI Det. 522)
NASA visits are FPD successes

By SA Daniel Jernstedt
Superintendent, AFOSI Det. 802

A month prior to The International Association of Chiefs of Police Conference in Orlando, Fla., Oct. 6-9, 2018, AFOSI Special Agent Mike Willoughby, Force Protection Detachment (FPD) Amman, Jordan, coordinated a visit to the Kennedy Space Center for his guest Brigadier General Mahmoud Ishdough, Director of Jordanian Military Security and his family.

The visit went so well that through word of mouth during the IACP Conference, the Bulgarian delegation expressed interest in a visit. Shortly thereafter AFOSI Det. 802, Patrick Air Force Base, Fla., received a request from SA Andy Covell, FPD Sofia, Bulgaria, for a visit by his guests: Director Georgi Kostov, Director Bulgarian Customs Agency, Sofia, Bulgaria; Chief Commissioner Hristo Terziyski, National Police Commissioner, Sofia, Bulgaria, and Mr. Georgi Ovcharov, Bulgarian National Police Representative, Washington, D.C.

During their visits each group enjoyed a private viewing of the Space Shuttle Atlantis big screen show; a tour of the Atlantis Shuttle Mission Zone, including the original Atlantis Shuttle and a 1:1 sized model of the Hubble Telescope; a private viewing of the Shuttle Launch Experience simulator ride and a meeting with an astronaut.

General Ishdough and his family met NASA Astronaut Sam Gemar, who flew on three NASA missions, while Director Kostov and Chief Commissioner Terziyski met NASA Astronaut Barbara Morgan who flew on one NASA mission.

The success of these visits bolstered the already strong relationships and communication between the regions and detachments thanks to all the AFOSI members involved.
LEISEP event mints Niger relations

By SA M. Helen Marino
25th Expeditionary Field Investigations Squadron


During two, two-day seminars, Special Agents and sixty Nigerien Gendarmerie and Nigerien National Police personnel, plus representatives from the Joint Central Service for the Fight Against Terrorism and Transnational Crime, exchanged methodology and best practices for major case management, evidence collection and preservation and crime scene documentation.

After discussing techniques and lessons learned, the Nigerien attendees practiced evidence collection techniques, including latent print collection. The program capstone was a team exercise in which they had to sketch, photograph, document and collect different types of evidence from a simulated crime scene set up by EDET 2503 agents.

“This exchange program provided a unique opportunity to engage with host nation security entities, and with personnel who do not always have the chance to interact with OSI,” said SA Jared Campbell, EDET 2503. “The host nation students became not only my professional colleagues, but also my friends.”

Events like the LEISEP are designed to build partnership capacity between AFOSI and host nation organizations, and prepare U.S. and Nigerien personnel to respond cooperatively to real-world criminal events. The LEISEP in Niamey represented the third OSI Strategic Engagement in Niger. A Security Exchange Seminar was hosted by EDET 2504 in Agadez, Niger, later in 2018.

Left: SA Josh Fortney supervises a fingerprinting exercise.

Above: SA Seth Wilson discusses the practical exercise with Nigerien counterparts. (Photos submitted by SA M. Helen Marino, 25 EFIS)
SAs get special promotion notice
Two AFOSI Special Agents from Region 8 should long remember how they were notified in May 2018 they got promoted to Master Sergeant. Secretary of the Air Force Dr. Heather A. Wilson presented E-7 stripes to SA Joseph Sheffer, Detachment 808, United States Air Force Academy, Colo., while Air Force Chief of Staff, Gen. David L. Goldfein did the honors for SA Alex Richardson, Det. 803, Peterson Air Force Base, Colo. (Photos submitted by SA Steven Torres, Commander, Det. 808)

TIG lauds OSI Command Historian
Lt. Gen. Stayce D. Harris, The Inspector General of the Air Force, joins Dr. Deborah Kidwell, Air Force Office of Special Investigations Command Historian at AFOSI Headquarters Nov. 1, 2018, to present Dr. Kidwell’s fourth consecutive Air Force Warren Trest Excellence in Annual History Award at the Field Operating Agency/Direct Reporting Unit level. The winner is selected based on a board assessment of accuracy, objectivity, comprehensiveness, consistency, balance, analysis, clarity and selection of supporting documents. (U.S. Air Force photo by Wayne Amann)

OSI SA joins elite marksmen
SA Robert D. Davis, 93rd Air Ground Operations Wing, Moody Air Force Base, Ga., did more than graduate from the prestigious Rogers Shooting School in Ellijay, Ga., June 1, 2018. He attained an Advanced rating in tactical handgun shooting, an award earned by less than 10 percent of graduates each year plus garnered an Intermediate rating in urban close range carbine shooting. The Rogers Shooting School started in the late 1970s to train Navy SEALS and elite law enforcement units. It’s recognized worldwide as the most difficult and comprehensive shooting course by any known standard. OSI agents have attended his courses, off and on, since 1980. (Photos submitted by SA Robert D. Davis)
Cinco Room dedicated to Fallen SA
AFOSI 4 FIR paid tribute to Fallen Special Agent Michael A. Cinco during a Named Dedication of the Robert D. Gaylor Professional Development Center’s Room 2, renaming it the Cinco Room at Joint Base San Antonio – Randolph, Texas, Oct. 12, 2018.
SA Cinco was one of six Airmen killed in action Dec. 21, 2015, while serving in Afghanistan supporting Operation Freedom’s Sentinel. In addition to SA Cinco’s family, the memorialization of the room was attended by leadership and personnel from eight AFOSI units across the JBSA area and members of the 902nd Security Forces Squadron and 802nd Force Support Squadron. The ceremony featured the presentation of a named plaque and a law enforcement memento provided by AFOSI’s 11th Field Investigations Squadron, SA Cinco’s unit for eight years, and culminated in a ribbon cutting by Col. Renae Hilton, 4th Field Investigations Region Commander, to officially open the newly named Cinco Room. Below: Lt. Col. Jeffrey Hall, 11th Field Investigations Squadron Commander, left, and Lt. Col. Jeremy Waller, 4th Field Investigations Region Vice Commander, right, present the named plaque of Fallen Special Agent Michael A. Cinco. (U.S. Air Force photo by Mr. Sean Worrell, 502 ABW/PA)

Defender awarded Purple Heart
Tech. Sgt. Flavio Martinez, 105th Security Forces Squadron, Stewart Air National Guard Base, N.Y., was presented the Purple Heart during a ceremony at the National Purple Heart Hall of Honor, New Windsor, N.Y., Oct. 14, 2018. He was recognized for wounds received in action Dec. 21, 2015, while conducting a routine outside the wire dismounted key leader engagement north of Bagram Air Field, Afghanistan. As lead element point-man, Sergeant Martinez’s patrol consisted of five fellow Security Forces Airmen, five Air Force Office of Special Investigations Special Agents and two linguists. His patrol was targeted by a Taliban terrorist operating an explosive-laden motorcycle. The suicide bomber detonated his explosive device, mortally wounding six Airmen and critically wounding five others. Despite being thrown from the blast Sergeant Martinez ran into the kill zone to successfully treat the most critically wounded until medical evacuation aircraft arrived, after which they eventually succumbed to their wounds. Following extraction, Sergeant Martinez ignored his personal safety and returned to the kill zone a third time to account for sensitive items and personal gear and provide perimeter security as Explosive Ordnance Disposal personnel conducted their assessment. Below: New York National Guard Director of Joint Staff, Brig. Gen. Timothy J. LaBarge, presents Tech. Sgt. Flavio Martinez with the Purple Heart (U.S. National Guard photo by Master Sgt. Lee C. Guagenti, 105th AW/PA)
In Hurricane Michael’s aftermath

Special Agents from AFOSI Det. 211 and Airmen from the 23d Logistics Readiness Squadron, Moody Air Force Base, Ga., responded Oct. 17, 2018, to Tyndall AFB, Fla., to assess AFOSI Det. 223’s facility and evacuate critical items. For two days they inventoried, secured, and packed up all the critical and accountable assets for transport back to Moody and safekeeping to ensure the continuity of the Tyndall Det operations.

**Right:** SA Rasim Zimmer and Investigator Austin Dalrymple secure Det 223’s U.S Flag after a long day of scouring through hurricane debris. (Photo/Chief Master Sgt. Daniel Johnson, 2 FIR)

First time combined IMA DTs convene

AFOSI Individual Mobilization Augmentee officer and enlisted leaders from throughout the command comprised the CY18 OSI combined Development Teams at the Air Reserve Personnel Center, Buckley Air Force Base, Colo., May 21-24, 2018. Team members reviewed and scored Special Agent records for potential 2019 movement. They also vectored SAs for leadership candidacy and nominated those for advanced academic degrees or career broadening as needed. This marked the first enlisted IMA DT held for OSI.

**Left:** OSI DT members at work in the ARPC Force Development Conference Room. (Photo by SA Heather Beatty)

Joint crime scene processing training

Airmen from 100th Security Forces Squadron Intelligence and Investigations conducted crime scene processing training with AFOSI Detachment 512 and 100th Air Refueling Wing Public Affairs for the first time at RAF Mildenhall, UK, Aug. 1, 2018. The training used vignette-based scenarios, along with simulated evidence and corpses to produce a more realistic training environment.

**Right:** Senior Airman Kelly O’Connor, 100th Air Refueling Wing Public Affairs broadcast journalist, photographs a simulated dead body during crime scene processing training which included forensic photography and fingerprint collection. (USAF photo by Senior Airman Luke Milano)
OSI, FBI team to train Japanese partners
AFOSI Detachment 622, Tokyo, Japan, with support from Det. 621, Yokota Air Base, Japan, partnered with the FBI Legat Tokyo, to provide training for Japanese tactical teams, equivalent to U.S. Special Weapons and Tactics (SWAT), along with linguistic and logistical support, enabling Japan National Police to participate in Advanced Law Enforcement Rapid Response Training at Yokota, Sept. 27, 2018. ALERRT is an active shooter/ hostage situation scenario based program taught to U.S. law enforcement for more than a decade to counter increasing threats by providing tactical training to first responders.

Left: A Japanese tactical team during ALERRT training. (U.S Air Force photo by Senior Airman Dustin Payne, 374 AW/PA)

Addressing diversity gap at JWLS
AFOSI Special Agent Tara Lunardi spoke on closing the diversity gap as part of a panel presentation at the 31st Annual Joint Women’s Leadership Symposium in San Diego, Calif., June 21-22, 2018. JWLS is the largest gathering of women in uniform in the nation. The symposium is a preeminent professional development event, dedicated to women serving in the Defense Department.

Right: Panelist SA Tara Lunardi engages in the diversity gap discussion. (U.S. Air Force photo by 1st Lt. Annabel Monroe, 432nd Wing/432nd AEW/PA)

Most successful PAQ turnout at GMU
OSI recruiters teamed with volunteer Special Agents from Headquarters OSI and the National Capital Region to conduct the Annual PALACE Acquire (PAQ) Recruiting Event during the Fall Career Fair at George Mason University in Fairfax, Va., Oct. 4, 2018. The event, designed to recruit future civilian agents, signed in 169 applicants, the largest turnout of all OSI civilian hiring events to date. In addition to traditional civilian opportunities the OSI PAQ partners with the Air Force Personnel Center to hire Special Agents through its PALACE Acquire Program.

Left: Applicants line up to sign in at the OSI PAQ recruiting table. (Photo/AFOSI/DPR)
Determination fuels SA athlete

By Wayne Amann
AFOSI Public Affairs

When Air Force Office of Special Investigations Special Agent (Master Sgt.) Bill Lickman does his best, he answers to his toughest critic – himself.

The June 2018 Department of Defense Warrior Games at the United States Air Force Academy, Colo., gave SA Lickman another challenge to test his mettle, vying against teams representing the Army, Navy, Marine Corps and Special Operations Command plus the U.K. Armed Forces, Australian Defence Force and Canadian Armed Forces.

“The Warrior Games gave me a definitive, measurable goal to train for, knowing I needed to be at my best not only for myself, but for my team,” said SA Lickman, stationed at Tyndall Air Force Base, Fla. “When I train and compete my focus is on doing my best at the task at hand, and in that moment, all is well.”

All was not well for the Chesaning, Mich., native on 9/11 as a Security Forces member on the Joint Staff at the Pentagon. He received a Purple Heart for injuries he sustained that fateful day.

His chronology as a Wounded Warrior athlete began in the summer of 2016 when the Air Force enrolled him in its Wounded Warrior Program (AFW2), as part of a mass-enrollment of all active duty Purple Heart recipients.

Later that year, with the help of the local Recovery Care Nurse, who acts as the case manager for all active duty members enrolled in AFW2 at Tyndall AFB, and his assigned AFW2 Recovery Care Coordinator, Lickman re-started his specialized care and got involved with AFW2’s adaptive and rehabilitative sports programs.

His first AFW2 event was the Air Force Trials at Nellis AFB, Nev., in February 2017. The annual Paralympic style sports competition selects 40 primary and 10 alternates for the Air Force Wounded Warrior Team to compete at the Department of Defense Wounded Warrior Games later in the year.

The Trials feature between 120-to-150 wounded, ill, and injured athletes representing the Air Force, Army, United Kingdom military and Australian Defense Force.

Lickman’s injuries/illnesses as listed by AFW2 are: traumatic brain injury, post-traumatic stress disorder, tinnitus, vision, respiratory and rhabdomyolysis (a breakdown of skeletal muscle due to direct or indirect muscle injury).

“I didn’t have any real fitness training in the months leading up to the Trials and no experience at all in the few events I competed in for my injury classifications,” Lickman said.

However, his efforts (two silver medals in track for the 4x100 meter relay and 400 meter dash, 4th place in the 200 meter dash and 5th place in the 100 meter dash, 5th place in the standing air pistol; a credible

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showing in the one minute indoor rowing sprint; his sitting volleyball team finishing fourth in the bronze medal match) earned him a spot at the AFW2’s Warrior Games Training Camp at Eglin AFB, Fla., in April, 2017, as an alternate. At the camp Lickman trained for track, shooting and volleyball. Six weeks after camp broke, and three weeks prior to the DoD Warrior Games hosted by the U.S. Navy in Chicago, he was named one of the 40 athletes on the primary team, specifically to compete in track and volleyball where he continued to do well: a bronze medal for third place in the 400 meter dash, plus 8th in the 200 meter dash and 9th in the 100 meter dash; his volleyball team finished 4th in the bronze medal match.

Soon after, the focused Special Agent attended his first AFW2 Introduction to Adaptive and Rehabilitative Sports Camp, also known as a CARE event at Offutt AFB, Neb. CARE events place each AFW2 Warrior on a team led by a peer mentor. Each team spends a week together trying all the adaptive/rehabilitative sports found at the Trials and Warrior Games. The participants build relationships through the sports, find out what they’re capable of in each sport regardless of their injury and see how any sport would be helpful in their physical or mental recovery.

At the Offutt camp’s closing ceremony Lickman was presented the Sportsmanship Award.

“I returned home with a new network of fellow Warriors I knew I could lean on for support and guidance,” he said. “It gave me confidence I could be competitive in multiple sports if I put forth the effort to train, and the reaffirmation that I’m a good leader and mentor when given the right environment and support.”

In November 2017 his attention shifted to Recovering Airman Mentorship Program training and competitive team sports training at Andrews AFB, Md.

“RAMP training allows me to serve as a peer mentor to other AFW2 Warriors, serve as a sport mentor at CARE events and organize community service activities bringing AFW2 Warriors together outside the larger camps and competitions,” Lickman said.

During the team sports training he was among 15-20 athletes targeted for AFW2’s new “competitive track” for advanced training in sitting volleyball, wheelchair basketball and wheelchair rugby, while serving as sport mentors for non-competitive Warriors attending the Andrews CARE event.

Lickman was one of only two athletes selected to play all three sports. At the end of this training his Air Force team defeated a similarly-trained Marine team in all three sports. He also joined four other AFW2 Warriors during a competition in Baltimore, Md., to promote the 2018 Warrior Games in which the Air Force consistently defeated Army and Navy teams.

Just two days after completing a six-week TDY at AFOSI Headquarters, Quantico, Va., he returned to the February 2018 Air Force Trials at Nellis, where he continued to excel.

He garnered a gold medal and three silvers in track for finishing first in the 4x100 meter relay and second in the 400 meter, 200 meter and 100 meter dashes; in shooting he won a bronze medal for taking third in the standing pistol.

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Special Agents honor walking 1,000 miles

By Amy Rollins
88th Air Base Wing Public Affairs

Special Agents from the Air Force Office of Special Investigations, 10th Field Investigations Squadron, Wright-Patterson Air Force Base, Ohio, welcomed one of their own Aug. 28, 2018, as she walked 1,000 miles in support of American and British wounded warriors.

Adele Loar, a retired Air Force master sergeant, OSI Special Agent and former Security Forces member who was wounded in Iraq, and two American and three British service members have been walking since June 2 from west coast to east coast as they raise awareness of wounded veterans’ mental health and other issues.

The walkers are supported by two nonprofits: Walk of America and the British organization Walking With The Wounded.

The walkers and support crew members were treated to breakfast at the Hope Hotel as their itinerary moved them that day from Cincinnati to Columbus and on to Pittsburgh.

Lt. Col. Andrea O’Connor, 10th Field Investigations Squadron commander, welcomed everyone in the group and said her organization was particularly enthusiastic about meeting Loar.

“This is huge for us. We’re a small career field so when you have the opportunity to reach out to a fellow Special Agent, it’s special,” she said. “They’re automatically family and someone you want to reach out to.”

“Anytime we have a survivor, a wounded warrior we can recognize and say ‘thank you’ to, we’re always appreciative of that opportunity,” said Col. Garry Little, 1st Field Investigations Region Commander.

In 2006 Loar suffered the loss of an eye, damage to a shoulder and a traumatic brain injury, and her partner Special Agent Daniel Kuhlmeier and driver U.S. Army Specialist Jesse Davila were killed. She now suffers from depression and post-traumatic stress disorder.

“It feels great to be back with my own,” she said. “I’ve never met any of them (the Special Agents) here, but you become embraced like you’re family.”

Walking this summer has been an experience she has welcomed.

“Every day is a new experience to enjoy, and the team I’m walking with, as well as the love and support we have received along the way, is amazing,” she said. “As much as I’m walking for Dan and Jesse, it’s also to bring awareness to mental health. I have a moderate brain injury, PTSD with depression, and struggle with suicidal thoughts and having a purpose in life. If it weren’t for nonprofit organizations helping me, I wouldn’t be alive today. That’s the real importance of the walk.”

See WALKER, next page

Adele Loar, standing sixth from right, is joined by fellow 1,000 mile walkers and support staff in tee shirts, 1 FIR and 10 FIS leaders plus other Special Agents during a break in the Wounded Warrior Walk. (Photo by 88 ABW/PA)
Loar has a tattooed “bracelet” around her right wrist with dog tags representing Kuhlmeier and Davila and a Purple Heart so she doesn’t forget them and stays motivated, she said.

After chatting with Col. Little, Loar said she was glad to hear changes the Air Force has made to assist Special Agents who may be struggling with injuries or issues resulting from being down range.

“It’s great to hear there are changes being made and more help for them,” she said.

She urges veterans who need help to seek it and not suffer in silence.

“There are so many organizations that can help you,” Loar advised. “Use your leadership if you are still in the military; if you’re out, go through the VA. They will be able to direct you to these organizations.”

Walk of America and Walking With The Wounded joining forces to raise awareness of veterans’ issues was a natural move, said Kate Sylvester, WWTW support crew member.

“The U.S. and U.K. have fought alongside one another and should heal together. We’re here to collaborate together to raise funds to support veterans in the best possible way on both sides of the Atlantic Ocean,” she said.

Editors Note: The walk finished Sept. 6, 2018, at the Queen Elizabeth II Memorial Gardens, via Ground Zero.

**OSI NCO reaches All-Star Armed Services title**

By Wayne Amann
AFOSI Public Affairs

Staff Sgt. Bobbi Robinson, NCO in-charge of Personnel Management for the Air Force Office of Special Investigations Office of Procurement Fraud and Office of Special Projects, Joint Base Anacostia-Bolling, Md., reached the inaugural All-Star Armed Services Classic Tournament Championship as a member of the Air Force National Capital Region co-ed softball team.

The title game, pitting the Air Force in a rematch with the Army, was the first major ballpark event of Major League Baseball’s All-Star Week at Nationals Park in Washington, D.C., July 13, 2018.

“I was excited, this is a once in a lifetime opportunity,” Robinson said in an interview with MLB.com. “When we got the chance to play on this team and to represent the Air Force we all jumped on it.”

Robinson and her 15 active duty teammates advanced to the championship game by posting the best record, 3-1, in the preliminary round-robin tournament against teams from the other four military branches. The Air Force edged the Army, 16-15, then routed the Coast Guard 25-10, June 2, 2018. A 19-17 win over the Marine Corps clinched their spot in the championship before the Airmen dropped their finale to the Navy June 23, 2018.

“We had a big tryout that was pretty competitive,” Robinson said. “It’s such an honor to be part of that and play for my branch and my organization.”

MLB and the Washington Nationals invited special government and military dignitaries to attend.

The Championship Game was streamed live on MLB.com. The All-Star Armed Services Classic is one of several events designed to honor the greater military community in Washington, D.C., during the 2018 MLB Midsummer Classic week.

“MLB is awesome. Without their support we wouldn’t have this opportunity to play in a major league stadium,” Robinson said. “Competing against players from the other services means a lot to each of us. We don’t have these opportunities very often because we all deploy.”

Editor’s Note: In the rematch the Air Force defeated the Army, 9-2, to take the championship.
LoE 1, **Develop an Exceptional Force**, is the linchpin for the other lines of effort.

“This is a building block,” said Col. Stabler. “If you don’t have LoE 1, I guarantee you’re not getting LoE 2 through 5. We’re very focused on Developing an Exceptional Force first. That’s why it’s LoE 1. Each successive LoE builds from it moving forward.”

LoE 2, **Restore Readiness**, goes beyond the traditional readiness in warfighting mindset. For OSI readiness means having the resources to do the job, both deployed and in-garrison. OSI Airmen must be fully-trained and equipped and able to do OSI’s primary job of conducting timely and unbiased investigations.

“That’s what the Air Force expects of us,” Col. Stabler said. “If we’re not ready, the Air Force is probably not going to be ready either.”

LoE 3, **Cost-Effectively Modernize**, takes a close look at OSI systems, and how they can be improved to deliver better capabilities to the OSI workforce. The modernizing perspective goes beyond technology, it’s also about policy and has to seamlessly span the structured military environment into the civilian sector.

“It’s incumbent upon us to think differently as an agency and be much more flexible than we’ve been,” Col. Stabler said. “When we succeed, we’ll have better business practices, our technology will be in a better place and our personnel will be in a better place.”

LoE 4, **Drive Innovation**, is essential to OSI’s survival and to keep the command relevant. Moving forward, OSI will continue to focus on developing and modernizing its reporting tools, and on incorporating new technologies across the full spectrum of mission sets, including cyber and forensics.

“We need to continue to adapt and change with the environment we’re living in,” Command Chief Beirne-Flint said. “That includes cultivating and enhancing agile cyber operations to ensure we’re not five years behind, when we should be five years ahead of our adversaries.”

LoE 5, **Strengthen Our Partnerships**, plays a key role domestically and internationally in the counterintelligence and law enforcement arenas. Fostering partnerships expands resources and spheres of influence via information and training exchanges, and enhances multi-agency collaborative efforts through global strategic engagements and joint tactical initiatives.

“Partnerships are critically important in moving the agency forward,” Col. Stabler said. “Those key relationships need to be in place across our mission areas so we can protect our Air Force and our Nation.”

### Indexing, from page 6

During the first six-week rotation, Nov. 20, 2017 to Jan. 5, 2018, special agents and professional staff from Headquarters OSI and OSI units in the National Capital Region were tasked to support the Indexing Task Force. OSI senior leadership selected Special Agent David Mahala, a senior non-commissioned officer with 17+ years of experience, to lead the task force. SA Mahala has led the task force from its inception.

Beginning in January 2018, the Indexing Task Force utilized 30-35 temporary duty agents from OSI units around the world. Each six-week rotation included active duty, reserve and civilian agents. Phase 2 rotations were reduced to 15 temporary duty personnel based on the low-tech nature of the reviews.

“Because of the importance of fixing criminal indexing and doing all that we can to prevent another tragic incident, we had field agents, (OSI) Region staff agents, Detachment Superintendents, Detachment Commanders, Special Agents-in-Charge and Squadron Commanders support the Indexing Task Force and take what they’ve learned regarding proper indexing back to their home units,” said SA Mahala. “Plus, our case review and indexing progress was briefed weekly to senior OSI leadership and monthly to OSI Region Commanders and Directorate leaders.”

Each Indexing Task Force member is assigned investigative case files with a qualifying offense to review. Task Force members are trained on indexing criteria based upon DoD instructions and how to conduct III records checks to confirm whether or not a subject has an OSI criminal history record.

“The standardized review process helps the reviewing agent determine if a subject needs to be indexed, was properly indexed during the OSI investigation, or was indexed as a result of the Indexing Task Force review,” SA Mahala said. “Indexing Task Force members also identify subjects who were improperly indexed and submit requests to have those criminal history entries expunged from the III database.”
The Indexing Task Force submits a subject’s fingerprints electronically via secure means directly to NGI to create the criminal history record in the III database. “Once the fingerprints are received by NGI, a comparison is made to fingerprints on file. If a match is found, the index is associated with the criminal history record on file; if no match is found, a new criminal history record is created based on the information submitted,” SA Mahala said. “All indexing in the III database on a particular subject is broken down by arresting agency and date of arrest.”

To ensure all future subjects of OSI investigations are properly indexed in criminal history databases, OSI instituted a comprehensive, command-wide three-tiered indexing review process. “The three tier process instills a robust system of checks at multiple levels, so all subjects of OSI investigations have criminal history records correctly initiated in the III database and their DNA is submitted into the Combined DNA Index System (CODIS),” said SA Robert Spencer, Air Force CJIS Computer Systems officer. “The first tier is the OSI Detachment-level which verifies a subject was indexed into III with all the proper offenses in accordance with DoD Instructions and with the proper dispositions in accordance with command actions.”

The detachment is responsible for fingerprinting and photographing the subject following the subject’s interview. After coordinating with the servicing Judge Advocate office, the detachment determines if probable cause exists to believe the subject committed an indexable offense and documents that determination. When probable cause exists, the detachment submits the subject’s fingerprints to the NGI to create a criminal history record in the III database.

Once command action is issued against the subject, the detachment submits the disposition to the CJIS to update the criminal history record and submits CODIS kits to the United States Army Criminal Investigations Laboratory for qualifying offenses. Only after extensive verification can detachment leadership close the file and prepare it for archiving. This includes a Tier 1 reviewer note in the OSI case management system indicating the review was complete and all required documentation verified. Once the detachment signals the file is ready for the archive, the second tier review requirement is triggered. Second tier reviews are accomplished by OSI Region-level leadership.

“The Regions complete a review of the electronic case files,” SA Spencer said. “Regions can institute additional checks at this stage, however they’re only required to verify the subject was indexed into III for all qualifying offenses where there was probable cause, ensure the appropriate dispositions are entered into III, and verify a CODIS kit was submitted and received.”

Once all administrative verification is completed at the OSI Region level and a Tier 2 reviewer note is documented in the OSI case management system, the detachment mails the case file to the HQ OSI File Room. Third tier validation is initiated upon receipt of the hard copy file. Special Agent assigned to Headquarters OSI completes the Tier 3 review, consisting of a review of the hard copy case file contents. The third tier was originally established to verify a subject was properly indexed in III, however, it quickly expanded to include additional verifications based on feedback from Indexing Task Force reviewers. The third tier now evaluates if subject photographs, fingerprints, disposition reports, command action documents and more are included in the hard copy case file. After the hard copy review, the agent reviews the OSI case management system and III directly to ensure the hard copy file has the most accurate information.

“All discrepancies are noted on a monthly report provided to (OSI) Region leadership for correction by their detachments,” SA Spencer said. “All corrections are forwarded to the file room’s the hard copy file.”

Since December 2017, the third tier review has processed more than 3,000 case files, identifying four subjects who required criminal history indexing, but were not indexed during the initial investigation. OSI correctly indexed one subject and the other three are awaiting fingerprint availability.

In November 2017, OSI obtained authority, on behalf of the Air Force, to enter qualifying individuals directly into the National Instant Criminal Background Check System (NICS) for firearms prohibitions. Since then, more than 9,700 prohibitions have been entered for the Air Force resulting in the prevention of 167 firearms purchases by prohibited persons.

To identify individuals who meet the qualifications for entry into the NICS indices, OSI strengthened their partnerships with Air Force Security Forces, the Air Force Judge Advocate, Drug Demand Reduction, the Air Force Medical Operations Agency and the Air Force Family Advocacy Program.
international counterparts respect and admiration for learning their language and culture. He was the linguistic and cultural bridge at a Counter Extremism Conference in Rome involving Jordanian guests, Italian hosts and U.S. federal agencies.

“No one can deny the importance of the human factor in the protection business,” SA Tawfik said.

“Speaking to someone directly in their own language is infinitely more effective than speaking through an interpreter. People will always appreciate and respect you for taking the time to learn their language, and for recognizing the value of learning their culture.”

SA Paul Sorci leverages his long-term liaison via his ability to communicate in Japanese, coupled with his expertise in martial arts, tactical law enforcement and cultural capabilities. This fosters lasting operational and strategic partnerships with his host-nation law enforcement and Self Defense Forces counterparts while gaining unfettered access to vital information for Seat of Government Det. 622, Tokyo, and OSI.

As the first and only foreign martial arts instructor at the Tokyo Metropolitan Police Department, SA Sorci leads the Jiu-Jitsu club, teaching control tactics, self-defense and competitive martial arts techniques. He did the same for 150 Japanese Special Forces members during a seminar at Japanese Self Defense Force Camp Asaka. He worked jointly with the FBI to increase Japanese tactical law enforcement capabilities by providing Advanced Law Enforcement Rapid Response Training to Special Assault/Special Investigations Team members Japan-wide. SA Sorci’s ability to directly eliminate language barriers allows OSI to lead the way in these unprecedented liaison opportunities.

“Here in Tokyo, being able to efficiently communicate with our Japanese law enforcement and JSDF counterparts makes all the difference, especially in a culture that traditionally takes significantly longer than most to develop trust,” SA Sorci said. “A proficient speaker has more meaningful, productive and more detailed discussions during subject matter expert meetings, analytical exchanges, office calls, liaisons and more. Using an interpreter changes the dynamic and conversation pace significantly. However, proficient language capability, combined with other OSI skill sets brought to the table, opens opportunities for relationship enhancement.”

Tactical Law Enforcement officers (SWAT equivalent) from police departments Japan-wide pause during Advanced Law Enforcement Rapid Response Training as part of a joint effort by OSI and the FBI. OSI SA Paul Sorci, Det. 622 Tokyo, Japan, is standing out of the driver’s door. (Photo by Det. 622)

Det. 531, Aviano Air Base, Italy, like so many AFOSI locations, has a busy operations tempo, making it difficult to lose language-billeted agents for extended language maintenance courses. But, due to the joint efforts of AFOSI LREC Program Manager, Ms. Randa Yassine, Det. 531 and the Vicenza, Italy, language training detachment, a 4-5 day per quarter language course came to fruition at Aviano. The instructor teaches two course levels. SAs in language designated positions train at the higher level with a cleared DLI instructor while other OSI members attend the lower level course as operations allow. This in-house immersion opens doors for AFOSI.

SA Erick Chavarria, 2nd Field Investigations Region, Operating Location-B, Davis Monthan AFB, Ariz., assisted fellow AFOSI agents at Joint Task Force Bravo, Soto Cano AB, Honduras, with an investigation into an alleged sexual assault occurring off base involving an Air Force subject and a Honduran national victim. Following initial coordination with JTFB leadership and the staff judge advocate, SA Chavarria and a fellow agent developed a way ahead to accomplish the remaining investigative steps which were predicated on their ability to converse in a foreign language.

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Without their communication skills and cultural expertise they would not have been able to successfully coordinate with the Honduran National Police and the Honduran Prosecutor’s Office or interview the victim and some of the key witnesses. Not having the Spanish background would have complicated coordination with the local government and interaction with the host country according to their customs and courtesies. Employing an interpreter could have complicated matters since they translate phrases based on what makes sense to them.

“In my job it’s necessary to gain the trust of those we interact with, speaking their language allows me to understand their emotions as these can’t be translated with an interpreter,” SA Chavarria said. “Speaking a foreign language helps me grow professionally. I get to learn slangs or dialects unique to specific locations. Speaking another language is the best part of my job.

This is just a handful of the many instances throughout the agency showcasing how AFOSI is transforming language and cultural understanding from a limiting factor into a critical enabler to accomplish the mission.

in archery he finished in the top eight compound bow archers only to drop the first round of the finals to the eventual gold medalist; in cycling he placed 10th overall in the men’s upright cycling 30K course; his sitting volleyball team earned the gold medal in the pool-play tournament while his wheelchair basketball team was defeated by the eventual gold-medal winners.

At the closing ceremony Lickman was named the Air Force Warrior Games team co-captain, responsible for conducting team management duties preparing for the Air Force Warrior Games Training Camp at Eglin and the DoD Warrior Games at the USAF Academy.

“Representing the Air Force at the DoD Warrior Games for a second year was an honor in itself, but serving as the team’s co-captain made it much more meaningful, especially with the Games being held at the Academy and team Air Force earning the DoD Championship with a record 165 medals,” he said.

Lickman contributed admirably to his team’s success. Of the eight events he competed in, he tallied silver medals in sitting volleyball and the 4x100 meter relay in track. He also recorded a bronze medal in the 400 meter dash plus 4th place finishes in the 200 and 100 meter dashes and in the 10 meter standing air pistol shooting event.

The rarefied air of Colorado’s Rocky Mountains had little, if any, effect on Lickman’s performance. “You would think coming from the Florida coast would make things worse, but I barely noticed the altitude,” he said. “Through fitness, constant hydration, electrolyte replacement, clean eating and no alcohol before and during the Games, I avoided the headaches and fatigue many people experience at altitude.”

Reflecting on his participation in the DoD Warrior Games the Special Agent says the experience far outweighs the medals.

“The relationships we built and the lessons we learned leading up to and through the Games are the true rewards,” Lickman said. “My teammates’ stories, struggles and successes are inspirational and I’m humbled to lead and compete alongside them. I’m grateful to AFW2 for seeing potential in me and giving me a chance to be part of a team again. I look forward to continuing as a mentor to other Warriors in the program and an ambassador to those outside of it.”