

The Signature

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Naval Air Station Sigonella, Sicily

Friday, July 5, 2002

Eight years later; DEFYing expectations

By JO1 Phil Beaufort

Contributing writer

Ask ten different people at what age you should start teaching children about drugs, and chances are you'll get ten different answers. If you ask parents with children who've graduated from the Navy's Drug Education for Youth (DEFY) program, many of them will tell you to start teaching drug awareness between the ages of nine and twelve.

The DEFY philosophy is simple; get to kids before they're exposed to drugs, teach them the truth about how drugs and alcohol effects the body and most importantly, have fun doing it.

Since its inception by the Navy in 1993, DEFY has steadily gathered converts. In 1999, the U.S. Air Force, having studied the program themselves, decided to set up DEFY sites at many of their major installations. While research is still ongoing, the initial findings are so positive that the Department of Justice has taken over administrative control and are funding over 100 DEFY programs across the United States.

According to Jerry Philbin, DEFY camp director at Naval Air Station Sigonella, while the program varies at each location they are essentially the same. The 11-month program begins with summer camp. The children are broken into small groups with at least two counselors per group. Four major topics are emphasized, Self-management, Drug Resistance/Information, Social Skills and Physical Fitness.

Most of the lessons aren't taught in a classroom type environment. "Unless you keep a child's interest you're wasting your time, interaction is the most important aspect of the program," Philbin says they use everything from field trips to theater to get the kids involved. "Skits are a great way for children to express themselves and learn."

Philbin said last year they had kids acting out real-life scenarios. "We put them in situations they could encounter on their own, like how to deal with someone offering drugs or how to deal with peer pressure, this gives them tools to work with later in life."

But it's not just the children attending DEFY who are benefiting. According to Sigonella's DEFY program coordinator, Barry Bender, the children are taking what they learn and passing it along.

"I learned about the program from my son Blake. He

really surprised me with the amount of knowledge he gained from the program."

Bender said perhaps the most successful aspect of the program is that the children involved in the program take what they learn and pass it along to their friends and school-mates. "We all remember what school was like. There were all kinds of cliques, jocks, nerds, preppies... you name it. At that age there's a lot of pressure to belong. What we're hoping is to establish is a core group of kids who really understand how drugs and alcohol effects the body and can offer support to the kids who don't want to get involved with them."

DEFY still has opening for a few counselors. Interested participants will under go screening and service members must be command sponsored.

The 11-month program begins July 8, with a mandatory five-day training session for counselors, the two-week DEFY Camp begins July 22.

Active duty volunteers receive no-cost TAD orders to DEFY for a minimum of three weeks. The program is completed funded by the Department of Justice and free to the families of the children participating. After the two-week camp the DEFY team will meet monthly for a variety of activities.

For more information or to sign up, contact camp director, Jerry Philbin 624-5944, or program coordinator, Barry Bender 624-6880.



Photo by Jerry Philbin

After a day of class, the DEFY students went to Nicolosi for an afternoon of ice skating.

Sig Cycle class takes off



Photo by SN Michelle Watkins

A motorcycle safety class was recently held to heighten riders' awareness of motorcycle rules and regulations. Common issues discussed were speeding, wearing proper equipment such as helmets, gloves, shatterproof glasses, clothing, and shoes. The purpose of the class was to keep accident rates to a minimum and prevent fatalities. For information concerning the Motorcycle Safety Course contact the Safety Office at 624-5630. Additionally, the Italian Traffic Authorities approved a few new regulations that will impact all of Italy, including Sigonella:

- All motorcycles must have their headlights and parking lights on at all times while traveling on every roadway.
- All cars must have their headlights on when traveling on all roadways during times of low visibility.
- Riders and drivers also need to be aware that the new BAC level for DUI's is .05 instead of .08.

SAWS in need of helping hands

By STG2 Dave Teets

Contributing writer

Sigonella's Animal Welfare Society (SAWS) is a humane society formed to enhance and broaden the scope of the work already being done by the Stray Animal Facility (SAF) and the Vet Clinic. One mission of SAWS is to reduce the incidents of feral (wild) cat diseases, death, unnecessary cat pregnancies and destruction of goods that cost the base thousands of dollars.

SAWS also seeks to educate the public as to the local and government laws regarding privately owned animals and strays within the community. In addition, we seek to educate the public regarding infectious diseases, adoptions, PCS moves and statistics on the benefits of a successful (Trap-Neuter-Release) TNR program.

The mission of SAWS helps benefit the community in several ways:

- Providing services and support for both the stray, feral and abandoned animals in the community as well as those people who provide such services and care for these animals.
- Providing community outreach programs that teach humane principles in the com-

munity, preventing animal cruelty and suffering.

- Assisting the local SAF and Vet Clinic.
- Creating a comprehensive adoption program for Sigonella's homeless animals.

Numerous people, individually, contribute to these animals on a daily basis, usually we are fighting the sheer numbers of repopulation of feral animals.

Through SAWS, individuals collectively can perform a greater service to the animals and community of NASSIG by joining together in a common effort to maintain a proper population control without the use of euthanasia.

Structured properly, SAWS, can attain this goal and many other goals that need to be addressed easily with a bit of pride in our community, enjoyment in our deeds, and satisfaction in our aspirations.

Priority #1: Putting volunteers to use in the most efficient and effective way to benefit the community and animals of NASSIG. Primarily by matching tasks with skilled people committed to the project.

SAWS has many volun-

SAWS continued on page 6

Free college degree program for U.S. Military

By John Whitney

Federal Children's Scholarship Fund

WASHINGTON D.C-- FEDscholarships.org recently announced that every member of the military can now obtain a college education in the information technology or engineering technology fields from a fully accredited college free of charge, thanks to a new program from Grantham College of Engineering, a leading distance education institution of higher learning.

John Whitney, Executive Director of Federal Children's Scholarship Fund (FCSF), said "This is an amazing program! It's designed to help members of our military receive their college degrees for free! Grantham College has even granted FCSF some full scholarships for the children of the Military Community. This is a wonderful program!"

Grantham College, which celebrated its 50th anniversary last year, is offering an unlimited number of scholarships to all of the nation's soldiers, sailors, airmen and members of the other uniformed services.

Edouard R. Quatrevaux, president of Grantham College, stated "Grantham has long planned to do something to show our gratitude for the service of military men and women and had received approval in August of this year for the military scholarship program. Grantham College is especially proud to be able to announce the scholarship now, at a time when

our uniformed men and women are putting their lives on the line to protect the rest of us."

Quatrevaux explained that the amount of the scholarship - which includes not only tuition, but also all books and software — is calculated to make Grantham College completely free of cost to military personnel.

Members of the military are eligible to take college courses at a reduced rate through a partial tuition assistance program of the Department of Defense. Normally, individual service members have the burden of paying 25 percent of the tuition plus the cost of textbooks and software. The newly announced scholarship program from Grantham College covers those expenses the military student normally would have to pay, so the cost of attending Grantham College is zero, or "free" to the service member.

"The purpose of these scholarships — besides helping military students surmount barriers to higher education," said Mr. Quatrevaux, "is to express our gratitude, and Grantham College is proud to provide this program as part of our mission to make an accredited college degree available to every qualified student."

For more information on Grantham's Military Scholarship Program and to download an application just go to <http://www.grantham.edu/fed.htm>

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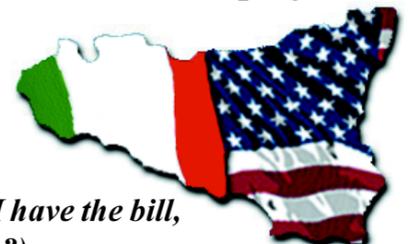
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Italian phrase
of the week...

Posso avere il conto, per favore?



(Can I have the bill, please?)

SECURITY BLOTTER



Helping make the community aware

CRIME STOPPER'S HOTLINE 624-6389

June 24 - June 30

The following incidents were reported and categorized as follows:

Traffic accidents without injuries - 9

Traffic accident with injuries - 2

Car break-ins - 0

DUI - 0

DUI's 2002 - 13

DUI's 2001 - 33

The

Signature

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Direct Line

Capt. Tim Davison, NASSIG
Commanding Officer



It is sometimes hard to believe that we have enjoyed freedom for two hundred and twenty six years now. Freedom is a concept that we didn't really think about all that often because we haven't had to. After Sept. 11, our country changed and we as Americans changed. Our freedoms, liberties and devotion to self-preservation took on new meaning. Our American spirit and pride was renewed.

This Independence Day weekend is not only one of celebration, but one of reflection. As the Secretary of Navy stated in his Independence Day message, "Today, the United States serves as a beacon of hope around the globe. Our nation's strong and decisive response to the terrorist attacks of Sept. 11 has demonstrated to the entire world, America's patriotism and devotion to duty. Nowhere is that duty to country more evident than in our

Navy and Marine Corps. Through your service and sacrifice, our nation and our allies will win the war on terror."

We here at NASSIG are part of that beacon. Our mission of fleet support helps carry the torch of freedom worldwide. By providing top quality shore to ship logistics, round the clock airfield operations, aircraft maintenance, security and a number of other activities, know that we are making a difference. We are helping to combat terrorism.

I encourage everyone to celebrate our independence over the four-day weekend. Celebrate knowing you are part of a great mission, a great Navy and great community. It takes a team to carry out the mission and to win a war as much as it takes a team to maintain a home. Strive to work together in all aspects of your life. Fight the enemy, not your friends, shipmates or loved ones. Be smart out there. Play it safe and look out for each other.

I would also like to welcome our new Executive Officer, Capt. Ken Bitar and his family. He hails from the Navy Leadership Command in Newport, RI where he served as the director. Welcome Aboard!

Fair Winds and Following Seas to Capt. Juno Jamison and family. We wish you the best of luck at your next assignment at BUPERS in Millington, TN.

The Pulse

Immunizations and the Military

By Lt. Don Taylor, MC, USNR

Needles. Sharp, painful needles. No one likes them, including me. The thought may even make you feel a little lightheaded. You walk into medical for your annual medical screening and to your disbelief... "Another shot? I know I just had that one!" So why does the Navy seem to torture us with these evil objects? The simple truth is to protect you and to safeguard the mission. The illnesses these immunizations protect us from can be serious and debilitating. Not only is it possible you won't be able to fulfill your role in accomplishing the overall mission of your unit, but you could become very sick and possibly die.

We all received multiple immunizations when we first entered military service. Pleasant memories. Unfortunately, the protection is not always life long, so we need to repeat some shots periodically to maintain immunity. The frequency of these shots varies depending on the type of immunization. Each member of the U.S. Military is required to be current on certain immunizations. Below are descriptions of three diseases we immunize against to insure your good health and safeguard the mission.

Typhoid. Every two years. The immunization protects against Typhoid fever caused by a bacteria. The disease is spread from an infected human's waste that contaminates food or water supplies. It is found in most developing countries. There is actually a current epidemic occurring in Afghanistan. If you become infected you develop high fevers, constipation, delirium, and a tender abdomen. The disease usually resolves after three weeks but severe complications are possible such as intestinal bleeding. The first step to avoiding Typhoid fever is remaining current on your immunizations and avoid possible contaminated food and water sources. Drink from bottled water. Avoid ice, uncooked foods, and street vendors.

Tetanus. Every ten years. The immunization protects against Tetanus, or more commonly 'LockJaw'. This is also a bacterial disease. It affects the nervous system. You become infected when an open wound or cut becomes contaminated with the bacteria. The bacteria are found throughout the entire world in soil, dust, and manure. You cannot get Tetanus from another person. First signs of infection are headache, muscular stiffness in the jaw (lockjaw) followed by generalized muscle spasm, difficulty swallowing, fever, and possibly death by suffocation. Approximately 30 percent of cases are fatal. Receiving your tetanus shot every 10 years ensures protection against this disease.

Yellow Fever. Every ten years. This shot protects us from a virus transmitted by mosquitoes. Yellow Fever is only found in certain areas of Africa and South America. It is a severe, life-threatening disease that starts with a sudden onset fever, headache, muscle aches, and light sensitivity, symptoms much like the flu. Unfortunately the disease progresses to problems with the liver, kidneys, and heart. This leads to shock. Death is common. There is no treatment for this disease once you are infected. You cannot spread it from person to person. To protect yourself maintain your immunizations and use proper anti-insect precautions (repellant, clothing, netting).

These are but a few of the different immunizations we require as part of our 'Medical Readiness' as U.S. military members. We cannot always predict where our country may deploy us: Africa, Afghanistan, South America, South Asia. But we need to be prepared by staying up to date on our immunizations. And although no one likes to receive a shot, it is certainly much better than getting seriously sick and being unable to fulfill your role in the mission.

You can find out more about immunizations at the NAS I Hospital, Navy Environmental Preventative Medicine Unit, Flight Line Clinic, and the Center for Disease Control Website.

Letters to the Editor

Dear Editor,

Much has been written recently about the new distinct SDS schools for next year—a couple of examples are the email below and the principals' messages in the June *Jaguar Journal*. I certainly do not know all of the details, but I do know that this progress is not without significant cost. With the new alignment, Lynn Sobey concentrates on her elementary school responsibilities and SDS loses the driving force behind what has become a hugely successful annual theatrical musical production.

Ms. Sobey, along with her husband Tony Waldbillig, have produced, designed, directed, adapted and edited (even built sets and sewn costumes) four wonderful plays—the *Wizard of Oz*, *Annie*, *the Sound of Music*, and last month, *Oliver*. All were hits, each bigger and better with more students involved every year. Everyone was enriched by their productions, including the students, staff, parents, and the entire community, and we owe them a huge thank you!

As Dr. Eldrige Groomes says in his Principal's Potpourri page of the *Journal*, "There is an air of excitement..." at SDS, and I know my child is looking forward to next year. Alas, for me there is also an air of sadness, knowing that next spring the Music Man is not going to be bringing a little piece of Iowa to Sicily.

Progress is sometimes defined as two steps forward and one backward. I hope that our "two steps" forward—the two schools—fulfill the promise of improved education, because the loss of the musical productions seems a large step backward.

—Gary Anderson

Dear Editor,

Although the "Signature" is the weekly newspaper of the Sigonella community, it contains very little community news.

On June 11, I submitted an article on the Sigonella Community Scholarships, which I had awarded on June 5. Due to lack of space in the "Signature," the article will not be published until July 5. In the interim, several of the scholarship recipients left the Sigonella community before seeing their names in the "Signature." It is equally unfortunate that it has taken so long to thank and recognize the many community organizations and individuals who contributed to the scholarship fund.

Very little of the space in the "Signature" is devoted to community news. Over half of the paper contains ads. Most of the remaining pages contain weekly "features." Local community news is squeezed into the remaining two pages of this 12-page publication. I urge you to either expand or redesign the "Signature" so that our community newspaper has more room for community news.

—Lt. Cmdr. M.A. Montopoli

Lt. Cmdr. Montopoli,

On behalf of the *Signature* staff, I appreciate you addressing your concerns regarding the amount of community information that appears each week in our base newspaper. There are a number of things the newspaper staff must take into consideration when it comes to article selection and available copy space. Our newspaper is a Civilian Enterprise or CE paper. It is paid for solely by advertisements and provided at no cost to the Navy or our Sigonella community. The amount of ads sold for any given week determines the amount of space we have to print articles, photos and community information.

Each year, we conduct a readership survey to determine what our community likes and dislikes, what they would like to see more of, or in some cases, less of. We strive to offer a variety of news to the community that is both national and local, military and civilian oriented, and balance it with submissions received from the community, whether those submissions are news notes, articles or photos. Due to the volume of submissions we receive, not everything makes it into the newspaper. The submission may be too long, not timely enough, or regrettably, is accidentally overlooked. We appreciate all submissions and feedback from the community in order to serve you better.

—Lt. Amy Derrick, NASSIG PAO

S.A.F.

Dogs: 4

Cats: 2

Puppies: 0

Kittens: 11



Call 624-3200 for the Stray Animal Facility if you are looking for a particular animal (ie. Breed, size, color or age).



From the Fleet

When every minute counts

By Gail Cleere
Office of Naval Research Public Affairs

ARLINGTON, Va. (NNS) — A razor nick during a much-too-close shave 10 years ago may result in hundreds of thousands of lives saved in the future.

Scientist Frank Hursey was working with absorptive materials back in the late 80's when he cut himself shaving. He picked up a volcanic mineral he'd been studying and decided to try it on his bleeding wound. The product worked so well as a coagulant that Hursey set to work doing further testing.

After three patents and 10 years of testing and development in universities, hospitals, the U.S. Marine Warfighting Lab, the Marine Corps Systems Command, and the Office of Naval Research (ONR), "QuikClot" is trademarked and now ready for prime time. It is a granulated material packaged for individual use that can be poured directly into a profusely bleeding wound to effect coagulation within seconds. Tests conducted for ONR by Dr. Hasan B. Alam at the Uniformed Services University of the Health Sciences were so impressive that the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) cleared the product earlier this month.

Acquisition by the Marine Corps seems imminent, and there is also interest in the product at Joint Staff, Army and Special Forces. The product is already on the ground with U.S. troops in Afghanistan.

"The exact nature of QuikClot is proprietary," said Bart Gullong of Z-Medica in Newington, Conn., makers of the product. "But, the basic ingredient is found in cosmetics and non-dairy creamers. It is chemically and biologically inert, and is non-botanical, so it offers no inherent risk of disease transmission and is non-allergenic."

QuikClot rapidly absorbs all the liquid in the blood, and leaves behind the clotting factors, which then get to work immediately.

The material itself is indestructible (it is

heated to 800 F during preparation) and costs roughly \$20 per unit. It has an extended shelf life, and remains viable in extreme temperatures. It can stay in the body until the injured person is removed to medical care, and, since it is mineral in nature, it changes neither in size nor consistency, when wound fluids are fully absorbed, rendering it easily irrigated and/or aspirated. A version of the product is also being developed for home and veterinary use.

QuikClot comes in 3.5-ounce packets that can be easily opened and self-applied with one hand, or buddy-applied. "The simplicity, stability and cost will allow combatants to carry a pouch in their pack for self or buddy use, and that is the plan once manufacturing capability is up to speed — about 100,000 units per month," said Gullong.

"This is a major advance in casualty care," said Lt. Cmdr. Dave Street of the Office of Naval Research. "Battlefield deaths due to massive blood loss remain at around 50 percent — a statistic that has not changed since the Civil War. Anything that changes this will represent a greatly increased chance of survival for the wounded."

Move Over, Buck Rogers...

By Gail Cleere
Office of Naval Research Public Affairs

ARLINGTON, Va. (NNS) — Move over, Buck Rogers. Soon there may be a war-time battlefield where nary a human combatant is in view, but one in which swarms of unmanned, unattended and untethered drones on the ground, in the air and underwater are doing everything that is normally seen in a hostile combat zone: surveillance, strike, perhaps even capture and detention. Imagine hundreds, or thousands of vehicles — perhaps robotic flies or birds — all armed and dangerous, and best of all, doing the dirty work.

Now imagine this network as mobile — made ready in a matter of minutes — and modified for use in a massive search and rescue scenario, the likes of which we saw for instance, sadly, on September 11.

This is the aim of Allen Moshfegh at the Office of Naval Research (ONR). His envisioned scenario goes beyond autopilot. It goes beyond preprogramming. His vision involves a 'commander' giving a broad operational order to thousands of drones and other vehicles — or agents as he likes to call them — but does not

require that same commander having to manage all the minute details of the particular operation he has ordered. In fact, the agents will know exactly what to do, and just how to do it even if things go terribly wrong, as they so often do in war.

Moshfegh has pulled together a remarkable collaborative team from academia (notably Mario Gerla and John Villasenor of UCLA's School of Engineering and Applied Science), industry and federal government to develop his Autonomous Intelligent Network and Systems (AINS) initiative. His team includes electrical and chemical engineers, biochemists and computer specialists, as well as neurobiologists and cognitive neuroscientists.

Why these latter? Because Moshfegh sees the similarities and parallels between the way our brains convert decision to intent to action — not neuron by neuron, but only as a coordinated effort between hundreds of neurons. He wants to get his agents to perform in much the same way.

Networking a very few autonomous vehicles and performing an operation successfully is already possible. Moshfegh's intent differs in that it involves whole battalions of these vehicles working and communicating and operating together. But, this can only happen if these vehicles can, after a fashion, think for themselves, and if the inherently prickly problems of such a system can be overcome.

What are those prickly problems? Consider mission planning and decision making with what is essentially an army of brainless hardware. Then include distributed signal processing, stored sensory information, distributed computing, mobile internetworking and wireless communication, monitor and control, variance in available bandwidth, hardware engineering difficulties, fault tolerance (the adaptive ability to protect and heal itself from the environment as well as from attack), not to mention demanding wireless communication networks (what Allen calls "Internet in the Sky") needed by all these vehicles (some moving at 300 mph).

"As always, the 'devil's in the details,'" notes Moshfegh. "But this will work. We've seen it on a small scale already in the war in Afghanistan."

NJP Results



An E-5 was found guilty of assault and was awarded 10 days restriction, 10 days extra duty, and reduction to the next inferior pay grade (suspended six months).

An E-3 was found guilty of unauthorized absence and was awarded 45 days restriction, 45 days extra duty, reduction to the next inferior pay grade, and forfeiture of \$619 pay per month for two months.



Mediterranean Chicken and Pasta Salad

Bea Cook

Contributing writer

½ pound Penne pasta
¼ cup olive oil
2 tablespoons white wine vinegar
½ teaspoon garlic minced
2 tablespoons basil, chopped
2 medium tomatoes, diced
½ cup Feta cheese, crumbled
½ cup black olives, pitted
8 cups spinach, rinsed and stemmed
1 ½ pounds chicken (boneless) breast, grilled and diced
Mandarin orange slices

Cook and drain the pasta, set aside. Whisk together the oil, vinegar, garlic and basil. Toss with the pasta. Add the tomatoes, feta and olives. Chill for one hour. Arrange the spinach on four plates. Top with the pasta salad. Add the chicken. Garnish with more feta, sliced red onions and mandarin orange slices.



Driver Improvement Course

The next Driver Improvement Program (DIP) class is being held July 27. If you are Traffic Court appointed or if you desire to take this class please sign up as soon as possible. The class can hold 30 members and there is approximately 10 members on the sign up list already. The location of the class is TBD right now. In order to sign up for this class please contact MA2 Poole at x2776 or e-mail poolee@nassig.sicily.navy.mil .

Sure Start Applications

Sure Start applications for four year olds are now being accepted for the 2002/03 school year. Applications must be submitted to the Stephen Decatur Elementary School registrar no later than Aug. 14, for consideration. If you have previously applied, a current LES needs to be re-submitted to the Stephen Decatur Elementary School registrar. Students enrolled in the Sure Start Program are selected by the Sure Start Steering Committee which includes school and base services personnel. Considerations for enrollment include one or more of the following conditions:

- Child in a family with E-1 to E-4 income
- Child of low birth weight - under 5 pounds 8 ounces
- Child has a parent whose primary language is not English
- Child has a parent who was a teenager when child first born
- Child is in a family headed by single parent
- Child has three or more siblings close in range
- Child has an older sibling with a severe disability
- Child has a parent on remote assignment for 3 or more months
- Child has a parent who has not graduated high school.

In order to keep this program consistent with DoDDS kindergarten enrollment dates, children considered for Sure Start must be four years old on or before Oct. 31. Four year olds whose sponsor is equivalent to E-4 or below have first priority for enrollment in Sure Start. For more information, please call the school's main office at 624-4281.

AFRTS's role as information and entertainment

By JO1 Phil Beaufort

Staff writer

Just prior to WWII a couple radio stations started up on military installations in Panama and Alaska. No one's really sure which one began first as the U.S. military didn't technically admit their existence, but they were very popular. After America's entry in to the war, General Douglas MacArthur had his staff set up radio stations on Bataan and Corregidor in the Philippines.

The benefits were obvious and immediate. Local commanders could instantly get the word out to troops in the field and as a bonus; it had a very positive effect on morale. Less than a year later, May 26 1942, the War Department officially established the Armed Forces Radio Service. At the height of WWII there were about 300 AFRS radio stations worldwide, providing information and entertainment to Americans serving overseas.

Flash forward 60 years and the Armed Forces Radio and Television Services continue to provide information and entertainment to forward deployed military members, their families and DoD employees. While the general service, reaching the troops, remains basically the same, technology has radically altered how music and entertainment are delivered.

Today, AFRTS uses seven satellites to provide multiple television and audio services to military audiences in 177 countries, U.S. territories, and on board U.S. Navy ships.

All of these signals originate from the AFRTS Broadcast Center (AFRTS-BC), at March Air Reserve Base near Riverside, California. America's movie and music industry supplies the armed services with their products at no cost, but the entertainment industry does have a couple stipulations. First, the Broadcast Center is required to replace all commercial advertising with public service announcements or command information.

The reason for that is fairly straightforward, money. Advertisers pay a lot of money to insert their commercials in popular programming. Another requirement is that programming remains unedited. Affiliates, like the local AFN outlet, are not allowed to alter network programming.

There are certain windows through out the programming day, which can be covered up with local news and command information, but the content of the satellite feeds can't be changed.

So how do you program one radio and television station with entertainment and news that will please everyone? According to Senior Chief Tom Updike, AFN Sigonella officer in charge, you don't. "The Department of Defense has spent a lot of money over the years,

"...as my morning DJ rolls into a top ten song off the popular charts, another listener wishes country music was programmed. We do our best to meet all our customers needs..."

running surveys, arranging focus groups and talking to the civilian broadcast industry to target the right programming at the right time to the right audience. Unfortunately, we are not able to make everyone happy all the

time. When ER is on, someone else wants to see CSI, and as my morning DJ rolls into a top ten song off the popular charts, another listener wishes country music was programmed. We do our best to meet all our customers needs, and I encourage everyone in the Sigonella community to give us direct feedback so we are more aware of our customer's needs."

The regulations governing how AFRTS operates and what can and can't be played are very clear. According to DoD directive 5120.20-R all AFRTS outlets will "adhere to Armed Forces Information Service broadcast policy, which prohibits censorship, propagandizing, or manipulation, and which mandates that overseas DoD personnel and their family members are entitled to the same type of information and entertainment programming as their fellow citizens in the United States."

From the days of isolated radio stations, AFRTS has grown to a global, worldwide network, continuing to provide a "touch of home" to over 800,000 U.S. service members and their families assigned overseas.

By Alberto Lunetta
Community Relations

Italian News

SICILIAN CULTURE AND LIFESTYLE

Wine fest begins in Menfi

Plan to attend *Inycon*, the largest three-day wine event in Sicily. Enjoy a unique opportunity to sip fine wines, sample gourmet cuisine and listen to good live music. The Festa (feast) will be held in Menfi, a town in the south-west of Sicily near Agrigento which produces world-class wines. It will run from July 5 through 7, featuring food stands, seminars, wine tasting, visits to the local cellars, exhibitions, concerts and parades.

All events and tasting will take place daily from 7 p.m. to midnight in the mesmerizing courtyards, squares and roads of the city's historic center.

On July 5 at 10 p.m., a spectacular parade celebrating the wine tradition in Baroque Sicily will be performed along via della Vittoria and piazza Vittorio Emanuele. On the following days (July 6 and 7) at 10 p.m., an amazing performance with fire shows reenacting the ancient cult of the Vestals Virgins (priestesses of Vesta, the Roman goddess of the hearth) will also be held in the same area.

Menfi rises 110 meters above the sea level and is about three hours from Sigonella. It is situated on a hill in the southwest coastline of Sicily between the Doric Temples of Selinunte and the archeological area of Eraclea Minoa and can be easily reached from Agrigento by following directions for Sciacca and then Menfi.

The city, which features breathtaking natural landscapes, has a beautiful Baroque Chiesa Madre (main church) dating back to the 18th century and a 17th century baronial palace named Palazzo Pignatelli that is adjoining the ruins of an ancient medieval castle.

In 1658, Diego Tagliavia Aragona prince of Castelvetrano founded present-day Menfi rebuilding a city over an ancient Arab farmhouse called *Burgimilluso*.

In 1968, the town experienced damage caused by a devastating earthquake which struck the Valle del Belice (Belice Valley).

For more information about the festival contact the following numbers: 0925-470215 or 339-4486334, 328-8605219, 328-8605230.

Sigonella, Motta celebrate long-term friendship

On June 26, a delegation from NAS Sigonella took part in Friendship Day that was held in Motta. The medieval Motta castle, which dates back to the 11th century, was a magnificent backdrop for this event aimed at promoting friendship between the American community and the city that hosts the largest number of Sigonellans.

Maria Grazia Accordino, a teacher who is also the president of the Motta Tourist office, extended her welcome to the distinguished guests and participants and briefly presented the activities of the local tourist office. "We believe that the American and the Italian communities that live so close to each other should aim at enjoining a good cohabitation and strengthening the bonds of good relationships through the enhancement of both traditions and cultural heritage. I would also like to thank all tourist office members who worked voluntarily and tirelessly to keep this friendship alive," Accordino said.

Davison expressed his deep gratitude on behalf of the American community for the ongoing friendship and sympathy that the Motta community has shown to Sigonella throughout the years especially during times of national tragedy.

Salerno, who will soon leave Sigonella to be assigned to a prestigious assignment in Rome, highlighted that Sigonella has set a perfect example of integration between Ital-



Photo courtesy of Motta Tourist Office

Capt. Tim Davison, NASSIG Commanding Officer and Col. Claudio Salerno, Commanding Officer, Sigonella and Italian Air Force 41st Stormo, took part in a Friendship Day held in Motta June 26, at the magnificent medieval castle. The event aimed at strengthening the friendship between the American community and the city that hosts the largest number of Sigonellans. (At the center of the picture: Giovanni Tinnirello, the Motta mayor and Maria Grazia Accordino, the president of the Motta Tourist Office)

ian and American military forces since the 1950s.

During the event, attendees also observed a minute of silence in memory of the brutal Sept. 11 terror attacks.

New intercity bus line

As reported in *La Sicilia*, Catania Bus line 427 operating from the Catania Train and Bus station to the Zona Industriale (Catania Industrial Area) has extended its route to serve the Sigonella community.

The service is available daily from 4:50 a.m. to 11 p.m. The bus stops at a parking lot located right after the Italian gate NAS II.

For more information and detailed bus schedules call AMT (Catania City Bus Company) toll free line at 800-018696.

Open daily 8:30 a.m. to 7 p.m. Closed Sunday and on holidays.

It is advisable to call during the morning (until 12:30 p.m.) in order to get assistance from an English-speaking operator.



Week at a glance

Week at a glance

For information on community events call MWR at 624-5271.

HOROSCOPES

ARIES: Opportunities for romance will develop through group endeavors; however, the association isn't likely to last. First find out if they're married. Your generous nature could be taken advantage of. Overindulgence may be a problem.

TAURUS: You'll have problems with authority figures if you don't play by the rules. Secret enemies will be eager to spread rumors about you. Be prepared to neutralize any threats. Don't back down but don't ignite the situation. You will accomplish the most in the work environment this week.

GEMINI: Opportunities to meet new and exciting individuals will develop through attending lectures or signing up for courses of interest. Creative endeavors will give you somewhat of an outlet. Visit someone who hasn't been feeling well lately.

CANCER: There'll be difficulties if you spend too much. You don't need to pay out in order to have fun. Get involved in volunteer work that will bring you satisfaction, not an empty wallet. Your creative input will be appreciated by your boss. Don't let someone you work with put words in your mouth.

LEO: You can make major gains professionally by completing projects on time. You will have additional discipline that will aid you in your objectives. Your questions will help you ferret out secret information. Don't let your emotions interfere with moneymaking deals.

VIRGO: Jealousy may get in the way of a good relationship. Be sure that you have all the facts before you take action. Your tendency to overreact could get you into trouble. Socially, you need a fast paced form of entertainment.

LIBRA: Social activities that involve the whole family will be enjoyable. Take time to listen to children and help them with projects that seem impossible to them. Emotional matters may not be easy for you to handle. You don't like confrontations at the best of times; however, you may find them difficult to avoid.

SCORPIO: Travel in pursuit of pleasure and knowledge. You need some excitement in your life, and meeting new people in exotic destinations will certainly satisfy your desires. Travel will also be very informative. You may want to make changes in your home environment.

SAGITTARIUS: Romantic encounters will develop through colleagues. Minor health problems will cause set backs if you haven't taken proper care of yourself. You can pick up valuable information if you listen to those with more experience.

CAPRICORN: Secret love affairs may be enticing; however, you must be prepared for the restraints that will follow. Listen to the advice given by those with experience. Romance is likely if you can bring yourself to go out with friends.

AQUARIUS: Sudden changes regarding friendships are likely to occur if you have tried to change others. Get involved in sports groups or hobbies that attract you. Home improvement projects will enhance your residence and bring the family closer together. Expect to pay more than anticipated for entertainment or other purchases.

PISCES: Problems with your mate will develop if you don't let them have their way. You have two choices: Get out on your own, or bend to your mate's whims. Take care of the needs of elders in your family. Tie up your personal papers or push to have legal settlements completed.



THE MOVIE CONNECTION



Mr. Deeds (PG-13)

A young man from a small town inherits a controlling interest in a massive media corporation from his deceased uncle. An inheritance of 40 billion dollars along with the largest media company in the world, a football team, a basketball team, and a private helicopter ready to whisk him off to corporate America. He ultimately discovers what life is really all about and has to prove that money changes everything, but not everyone. Cast: Adam Sandler, Winona Ryder, Peter Gallagher.

About A Boy (PG-13)

A shallow, wealthy man in his mid-30s begins dating single mothers because they'll be momentarily grateful for the insincere "love," and thus be easier to dump down the road. But his plan hits a snag when he unexpectedly falls for his latest target and becomes a father figure to her 12-year-old son. Cast: Hugh Grant, Rachel Weisz, Toni Collette.

TRIVIA

Which Baseball Hall of Famer threw the last legal spit ball?
Johann Gutenberg, in 1455, had reportedly printed 200 copies of his famous 1,284-page bible. How many are known to exist today?
Which vaccine in 1976 caused more death and illness than the disease itself?
Which nut, harvested by squirrels, is poisonous to humans, and, if eaten, will cause kidney damage?
What do Aristotle, Sir Isaac Newton, Moses and Charles Darwin all have in common?
(Answers on page 6)

Best Sellers--Outdoor Fun

14' Trampoline Enclosure
Slip 'N' Slide Super Geysers
Laser Challenge Gotcha Extreme
Spalding Pro Serve Badminton Set
Six Flags: Cyclone Spin

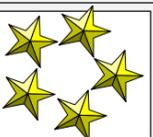


They did what?

Shafted!

A 23-year-old man who dropped his keys down a lift shaft was killed when he tried to retrieve them. The man was entering a lift with two work mates when he accidentally dropped his key ring. He asked his mates to hold the lift while he climbed out to retrieve it. He exited via the ceiling trapdoor, and was scrambling down the side of the lift when an adjacent car began to move. It wedged him so firmly against the lift wall that it took police rescuers 3 hours to extract the crushed man, and additional two minutes to retrieve his keys.

Off the Rack! Black Hawk Down



Based on a true story. In the early 90's the world was appalled to learn of the living conditions existing in Somalia. Over 300,000 people had died during the country's ongoing civil war, mostly due to starvation. United Nations Peacekeepers were ordered into the country to restore order and distribute food for the masses.

With this as a backdrop, Ridley Scott, director of *Gladiator*, *Blade Runner* and *Alien*, attempts to tell the story of 123 Army Rangers and Delta Force commandos tasked with capturing two lieutenants of the warlord Mohammed Farah Aidid.

After a successful insertion in to the city of Mogadishu, things go drastically wrong for the teams. First one, then a second Black Hawk helicopter are shot down in the middle of the city. What started as a "snatch and grab," quickly turns into a rescue mission, and then a fight for survival as the soldiers are hunted by thousands of local militia.

Hailed as one of the most realistic war films ever produced, *Black Hawk Down* received a lot of criticism for its lack of character development. In other words, it didn't have one or two stars saving the day. What those critics fail to recognize was the truth about war, but explained so eloquently by Eric Bana, who portrays Chopper, "When the bullet start flying it doesn't matter who sent us here or why. All that matters is the guy next to you and coming out alive."

After reading the script and serious negotiations, the Department of Defense felt justified in fully supporting the production of *Black Hawk Down*. Apart from images of a dead American pilot being carried by a mob, few people ever understood what actually occurred in Mogadishu or why we lost 17 soldiers. I think this film does an outstanding job of explaining why we were there and of honoring the men who lost their lives in the line of duty.

Due to the realism of the violence, this movie is not recommended for children. **By JO1 Phil Beaufort**

SIG SPORTS

Captain's Cup Standings

AIMD	192	HOSPITAL	101
COMSTA	182	ADMIN	83
SECURITY	130	PWD	66
SUPPLY	129	SEABEES	61
HC 4	125	NEPMU 7	48
OPERATIONS	119	EOD	33
VP	111	SPAWAR	12
TSC	102	MOMAU 5	4

Show your command spirit by participating in upcoming Captain's Cup fitness and sports events. We're about half way through the year so it's not too late to catch up. There are four more fun runs, a biathlon/triathlon, intramural flag football, intramural bowling, the Navy Europe Postcard Swim Meet, a wallyball tournament, an individual golf tournament and intramural basketball. Earn participation points just for showing up and having fun. Bonus points are awarded to the top three finishers. MWR will provide a BBQ picnic and the Commanding Officer will present the winning command with the giant "Captain's Cup" at the end of the year. For upcoming event information, pick up a 2002 Fitness & Sports Calendar at either Fitness Center. Stay Active!



SAWS

continued from front page

teer coordinator positions to fill. We need people willing to take charge of volunteers, fund-raising, media relations, educational outreach, scrap book, construction, housing surveys, feral cat surveying, trap-neuter-release (TNR), photographers, office support, and newsletter coordinator to name a few.

All names of titles are subject to change once things are up and running properly.

Many of these coordinator positions will be representing a group of individuals with the same interests and will be the main point of contact for these areas of interest. They will meet with the SAWS Board of Directors on a pre-scheduled basis to go over future goals, projects, events, ideas and decisions.

The Board Members are always excited about new ideas, thoughts, information, and recommendations you might have to improve how SAWS does business.

Donations are greatly appreciated, but unfortunately we're only able to accept individual contributions delivered to the NAS Sigonella Vet Clinic.

Please make checks payable to "Sigonella Animal Welfare Society." I know the money is within the NASSIG community so I'm not too concerned. At the moment money is not our primary concern - volunteers take precedence.

If anyone is interested in volunteering for SAWS, please email saws_02@yahoo.com with the subj. heading: "Interested in Volunteering." Include your full name, telephone number(s), PCS address, PRD, and area of interest.

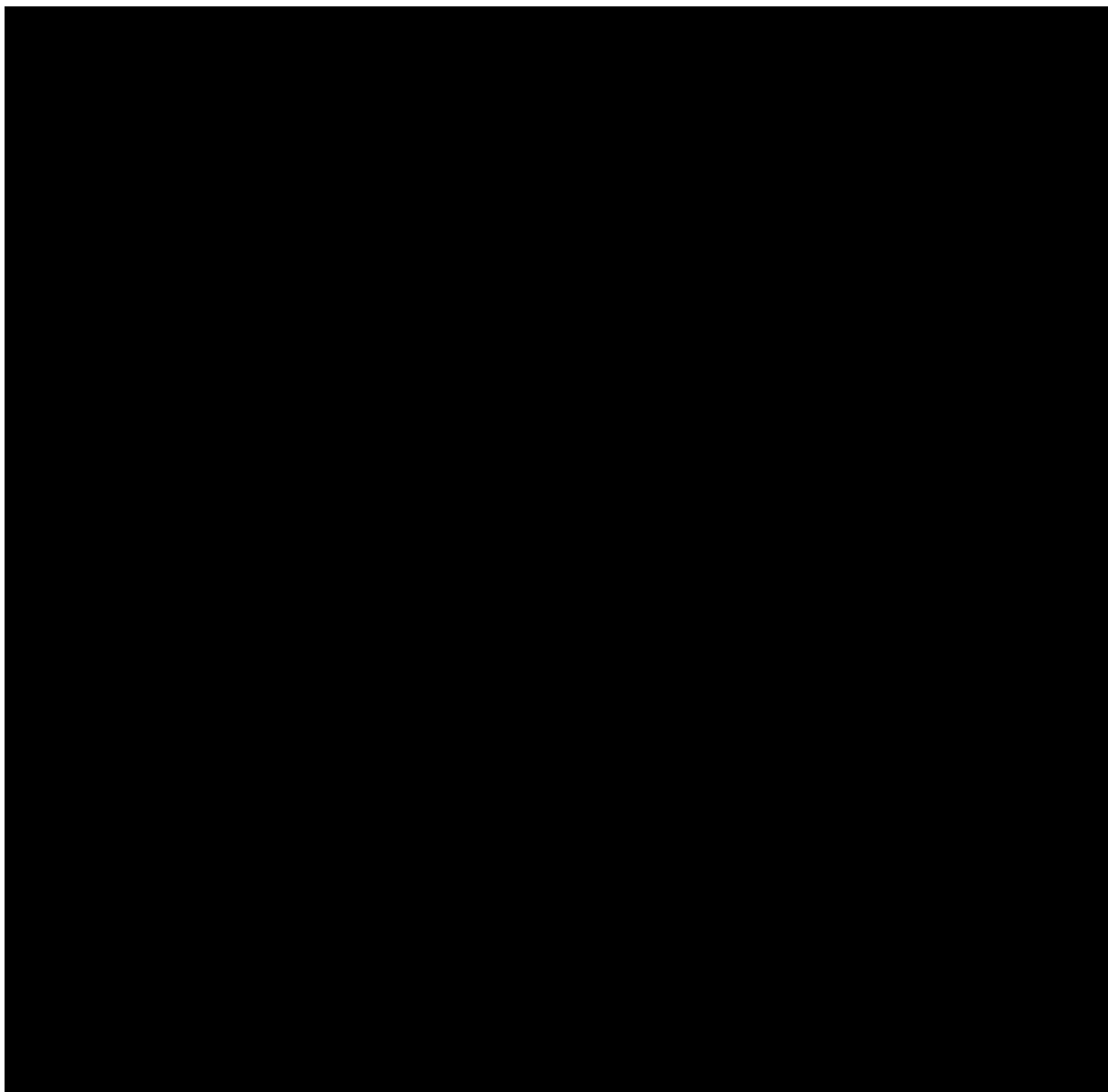


Trivia Answer

1) NY Yankees' Burtleigh Grimes, 1934 2) 47 3) Swine flu vaccine 4) Acorns 5) Each had a stuttering problem

AFN Sigonella television schedule

CET	Friday, July 5	Saturday, July 6	Sunday, July 7	Monday, July 8	Tuesday, July 9	Wednesday, July 10	Thursday, July 11	Friday, July 12	CET
00:00	ESPN News	ESPN News	Saturday Night Live cont.	Sports cont.	ESPN News	ESPN News	ESPN News	ESPN News	00:00
00:30	MLB	Movie: <i>Ever After</i>	ESPN News	Sports Center	Movie: <i>Come On, Get</i>	Headline News	Movie: <i>The Lost World</i>	MLB	00:30
01:00			NASCAR	Headline News		ESPN News			01:00
01:30				Seinfeld		MLB All-Star Game			01:30
02:00				Spin City			Movie: <i>Dr. Quinn.</i>		02:00
02:30				Entertainment Tonight	Movie: <i>Remains of the Day</i>				02:30
03:00		Movie: <i>K-9</i>		WWF Superstars					03:00
03:30				America's Black Forum					03:30
04:00				Meet the Press		ESPN News		ESPN News	04:00
04:30	ESPN News				Headline News	Headline News	Headline News	Headline News	04:30
05:00	Headline News	Headline News		Headline News	ABC World News	ABC World News	ABC World News	ABC World News	05:00
05:30	ABC World News	ABC World News	Hour of Power	ESPN News	ESPN News	ESPN News	ESPN News	ESPN News	05:30
06:00	ESPN News	ESPN News	Creffo Dollar	Sesame Street	NBC Nightly News	NBC Nightly News	NBC Nightly News	NBC Nightly News	06:00
06:30	NBC Nightly News	NBC Nightly News	Coral Ridge Hour		Sesame Street	Sesame Street	Sesame Street	A Capitol Fourth	06:30
07:00	Sesame Street	Dragon Tales	Christopher Closeup	Harold and the Purple Crayon	Sagwa	Wheel of Fortune	Teletubbies		07:00
07:30		Dora the Explorer	Cafe Video	Wheel of Fortune	Wheel of Fortune	Oprah Winfrey	Wheel of Fortune	Wheel of Fortune	07:30
08:00	Teletubbies	Mary Kate & Ashley	Little Bear	Oprah Winfrey	Oprah Winfrey	Oprah Winfrey	Oprah Winfrey	Oprah Winfrey	08:00
08:30	Wheel of Fortune	The Odd Parents	Wishbone						08:30
09:00	Oprah Winfrey	Jackie Chan	Familiv Movie:	Port Charles	Port Charles	Port Charles	Port Charles	Port Charles	09:00
09:30	Port Charles	Lizzy McGuire							09:30
10:00	Guiding Light	Junkyard Wars		Guiding Light			Guiding Light	Guiding Light	10:00
10:30	General Hospital		Rugrats	General Hospital	General Hospital	General Hospital	General Hospital	General Hospital	10:30
11:00	Headline News	This Old House	Cinema Secrets	Headline News	Headline News	Headline News	Headline News	Headline News	11:00
11:30	Judge Judy	Motor Week	At the Movies	Judge Judy	Headline News	Judge Judy	Judge Judy	Judge Judy	11:30
12:00	Today	Entertainment Tonight	Headline News	Today	Judge Judy	Today	Today	Today	12:00
12:30			Army Newswatch						12:30
13:00		WWF Smackdown	MLB						13:00
13:30									13:30
14:00	Arthur	In Search of America		Winnie the Pooh		Hey Arnold	Rugrats	Arthur	14:00
14:30	The Proud Family			Wild Thornberries	Mighty Ducks	Recess	Happily Ever After	The Proud Family	14:30
15:00	7th Heaven		WWF Superstars	Horrible Histories	The Weekenders	Croc Files	Pokemon	7th Heaven	15:00
15:30				Brothers Gracia	In the Mix	Bonehead	Men in Black		15:30
16:00	Jeopardy!		Andromeda	Jeopardy!	Taina	Jeopardy!	Jeopardy!	Jeopardy!	16:00
16:30	Headline News			Headline News	Jeopardy	Headline News	Headline News	Headline News	16:30
17:00	CNN	Headline News	Tennis	ESPN News	Headline News	ESPN News	ESPN News	CNN	17:00
17:30	Headline News	Navy/Marine Corps News		Headline News	Headline News	Headline News	Headline News	Headline News	17:30
18:00	The Simpsons	Headline News		60 Minutes	Headline News	SteveHarvey	Friends	The Simpsons	18:00
18:30	Malcolm in the Middle	Tennis			7th Heaven	Bernie Mac	Titus	Malcolm in the Middle	18:30
19:00	The Bachelor			The West Winn		Dark Angel	Fraiser	The Bachelor	19:00
19:30							Scrubs		19:30
20:00	Alias			NYPD Blue		Boston Public	ER	Alias	20:00
20:30									20:30
21:00	Headline News			Headline News	Headline News	Headline News	Headline News	Headline News	21:00
21:30	Tonight Show w/ Jay Leno			Tonight Show w/Jay Leno	Tonight Show w/Jay Leno	Tonight w/Jav Leno	Tonight Show w/Jav Leno	Tonight Show w/ Jay Leno	21:30
22:00									22:00
22:30	Late Show w / Letterman			Late Show w/Letterman	Late Show w/Letterman	Late Show w/ Letterman		Late Show w / Letterman	22:30
23:00		Saturday Night Live							23:00
23:30				ESPN News	ESPN News				23:30



Customs warn of false conversion promises

By Robert Szostek,
USEUCOM Customs PAO

MANNHEIM, GERMANY – Americans in Europe must beware of foreign dealers who claim they can convert cars and motorcycles to U.S. standards. The Department of Transportation (DOT) and the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) only accept work done and warranted by expert companies in the United States. The agencies do not recognize the work of overseas companies or individuals. Fines, extra bonds and storage fees will ensue if you try to import a vehicle “converted” overseas. U.S. Customs simply checks the vehicle identification number on a computer to detect these fraudulent imports. Trying to recoup the money you paid the dealer is also not going to be easy.

It is nearly always cheaper for personnel moving stateside to sell their foreign-specification cars and motorcycles abroad and buy replacements later. “Shipping, paperwork, emissions work and safety conversion cost an importer at least \$6,500, and up to \$25,000 for more exotic vehicles,” said Michael L. Burkert, Director of the U.S. European Command’s Customs Executive Agency. “It is tempting to save some of that expense by doing work here in Europe,” he added. “But shippers must realize that conversion work done overseas is not licensed or inspected by U.S. agencies. Also, DOT work must be warranted for eight years and for a \$2,000 parts defect. Emissions conversions must be warranted for 50,000 miles or five years, whichever comes first. This kind of quality has its price.” Burkert explained that vehicles rebuilt by the original manufacturer to U.S. specifications are eligible for import with the proper documents. He added that vehicles made in the United States for export are not always built to U.S. specs and may also need conversion prior to import.

Under EPA regulations, nonconforming vehicles less than 21 years old may only enter the United States through an independent commercial importer. These vehicles must be tested and adapted to the emission standards in effect at the time of production. Vehicles that are 21 years old or older do not require tests or conversions. DOT requires shippers of nonconforming vehicles to sign a contract with a registered importer who must certify in advance that the model is convertible to U.S. safety standards. The owner must also post a bond for one and a half times the vehicle’s dutiable value. “Vehicles over 25 years old do not need conversion to U.S. safety, bumper and theft prevention standards,” Burkert added.

Get the “Importing a Car” pamphlet from a military customs office for more information on shipping foreign vehicles. Or consult the military customs Web site at www.hqusareur.army.mil/opm/cars.htm.

Cuban Cigars

By Robert Szostek,
USEUCOM Customs PAO

MANNHEIM, GERMANY – The revival of interest in cigars and cigar smoking underscores the need to remind the public of the prohibitions that have been in place for many years with respect to cigars of Cuban origin. The number of attempted importations of Cuban cigars into the United States is rising and because dealing in such cigars may lead to Treasury enforcement actions, the public should be aware of - and make every effort to observe - the prohibitions which are in effect.

Only persons returning from Cuba after a licensed visit there are permitted to bring Cuban cigars into the United States, provided the value of such cigars does not exceed \$100 US dollars and the cigars are for that individual’s personal use and not for resale. All other importations of Cuban cigars are illegal. All offers to buy or sell such cigars in the United States involve cigars that were imported illegally. Contrary to what many people may believe, it is illegal for travelers to bring into the United States Cuban cigars acquired in third countries (such as Canada, England, or Mexico).

It is also illegal for U.S. persons to buy, sell, trade, or otherwise engage in transactions involving illegally-imported Cuban cigars. The penalties for doing so include, in addition to confiscation of the cigars, civil fines of up to \$55,000 per violation and in appropriate cases, criminal prosecution which may result in higher fines and/or imprisonment.

These prohibitions are applicable to all goods of Cuban origin and are an important element of the comprehensive program of economic sanctions against the Cuban Government which have been in place since 1963. Those sanctions have had the support of the last seven Administrations.

The U.S. Treasury Department’s Office of Foreign Assets Control (OFAC), administers the embargo of Cuba. Suspected embargo violations may be reported telephonically to OFAC’s Enforcement Division at (202) 622-2430 or via facsimile at (202) 622-1657.