

## News Briefs

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can be downloaded at <http://www.jbsa.af.mil/shared/media/document/AFD-120614.pdf>. Call 221-5453 for more information.

### Self-Help Service Unavailable at JBSA-FSH Visual Information

Due to budget constraints, Joint Base San Antonio-Fort Sam Houston Visual Information no longer offers self-help services. For a list of services provided, visit <http://www.jbsa.af.mil/library/multimedia.asp> or call 221-5453.

### Hip and Knee Replacements

The San Antonio Military Medical Center Orthopedic Service has hip and knee replacements available for all TRICARE beneficiaries, including patients over the age of 65. Ask your primary care provider for a referral to the SAMMC orthopedic clinic. For more information, call 916-6386.

### Security And Policy Review

Members of the 502nd Air Base Wing preparing a speech or document for public release on defense-related subjects must contact the Joint Base San Antonio-Fort Sam Houston public affairs office at 221-1099. The appropriate authorities must review material relating to the plans, policies, programs or operations of the Department of Defense or U.S. Government before presentation or publication. For JBSA-Lackland, call 671-2908 and for JBSA-Randolph, call 652-4410.

### Straight Talk Line

For current, automated information during a natural disaster, crisis or emergency, call the local Straight Talk Line at 466-4630 for Joint Base San Antonio-Fort Sam Houston, 671-6397 at JBSA-Lackland or 652-7469 at JBSA-Randolph.

### Commander's Action Line

The Commander's Action Line exists to address issues that have not been resolved through the chain of command or an appropriate agency. Leave a point of contact name and telephone number or email address. To submit, email the public affairs office at JBSA-Fort Sam Houston at [usaf.jbsa.502-abw.mbx.fsh-public-affairs-office@mail.mil](mailto:usaf.jbsa.502-abw.mbx.fsh-public-affairs-office@mail.mil); JBSA-Lackland at [502abw.paola.inbox@us.af.mil](mailto:502abw.paola.inbox@us.af.mil) and at JBSA-Randolph at [randolphpublicaffairs@us.af.mil](mailto:randolphpublicaffairs@us.af.mil).

# JBSA-Fort Sam Houston information technology community plans for infrastructure upgrade

By Lt. Col. Christopher Barry  
106th Signal Brigade

Joint Base San Antonio-Fort Sam Houston is about to undergo a first-of-its-kind information technology transformation.

The JBSA-FSH Network Enterprise Center, 106th Signal Brigade and Installation Information Infrastructure Modernization Program office presented a Rehearsal of Concept Drill at the Army Reserve Center Oct. 30 to demonstrate plans for a sweeping upgrade to the IT infrastructure.

JBSA-FSH will receive new IT network switches for all buildings, about 1,300 switches in total. These switches are the devices that bring the network services to the desktop for the majority of users on post.

The end result of this switch replacement will

be a tenfold increase in bandwidth and lay the ground work for a network which will allow for faster and more reliable video teleconferences and Voice Over Internet Protocol phone calls, among other high bandwidth-services.

JBSA-FSH is the first stop in this effort as the 106th Signal Brigade and the rest of 7th Signal Command (Theater) are about to install an information superhighway at all stateside Army installations which will be the largest effort of this type in more than a decade.

"It starts right here at Fort Sam and all eyes are on us," said. Col. Jay K. Chapman, 106th Signal Brigade commander, in explaining the importance of an integrated team between Brigade, NEC and JBSA-FSH mission partners. "The work we do here will inform



Photo by Lt. Col. Stephen E. Dawson

Lt. Col. Kevin Litwhiler, 106th Signal Brigade S-3, runs through scenarios to demonstrate response to specific challenges expected in the modernization.

all the other installations that follow."

The NEC invited chief information officer/G6 representatives from all major units on JBSA-Fort Sam Houston for the ROC Drill to show the IT customers the plan for the switch replacement, as well as give the representatives an opportunity to ask

questions.

"It was important to get the feedback from our customers," said Lt. Col. Kevin Litwhiler, brigade S-3. "They are the ones that are ultimately going to realize the impacts of our efforts. "We are intent on being sure that it is a positive experience for them."

Litwhiler said he

was appreciative of the participation of the IT community and its leadership as "they were able to make us better through their inquiries and suggestions."

"We have some of the most technically competent and flexible IT professionals in the industry involved in this project," said Dennis Garrison, NEC deputy director. "I am confident that - through our partnerships with the Army units on post, the 502nd Communications Squadron, I3MP and our brigade headquarters - we will be successful in laying the ground work for the future, to include making our networks more joint, faster and more secure."

Work began this month and should be completed by April 2014, Garrison said. For more information, call 466-2852.

## Joint Base San Antonio water restrictions now at Stage II

By Aaron Farmer  
502nd Civil Engineer Squadron

The Joint Base San Antonio Civil Engineer has declared Stage II water use restrictions in accordance with the current JBSA Critical Period Management Plan and Biological Opinion issued by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Nov. 6.

The biological opinion limits JBSA's water draw from the Edwards Aquifer in order to protect eight endangered species that live in the aquifer and its associated springs. These species can only survive when

aquifer levels and spring flows are adequately maintained.

All JBSA personnel are asked to continue to comply with the water conservation measures from Stage I in addition to the following:

- Landscape watering with an irrigation system, sprinkler or soaker hose is allowed once every week from 7-11 a.m. and 7-11 p.m. on your designated watering day.

- Irrigation of athletic fields is permitted only as required to maintain the turf viability and safety between the hours

of 3-8 a.m. and 8-10 p.m. once per week.

- Watering with drip irrigation is allowed from 7-11 a.m. and 7-11 p.m. on any day.

- Watering with a hand-held hose is allowed any time on any day.

- Government vehicles are allowed to be washed twice per month.

JBSA personnel should not confuse the JBSA water restrictions with those of the surrounding communities. Currently, the JBSA Critical Period Management Plan trigger levels are the same as those of

the San Antonio Water System and the Edwards Aquifer Authority, but both outside organizations often delay changing stages due to specific rules and regulations they follow.

There is a possibility that JBSA could re-enter Stage III or further reduce its restrictions to Stage I this fall or winter, but it will likely maintain Stage II water restrictions until the spring.

Continue to check the JBSA website, newspapers and other media outlets for updates to JBSA water restrictions.

It is everyone's responsibility to conserve water on JBSA and in the surrounding communities.

Water waste and leaks on JBSA should be reported to the local civil engineering customer service desk for action.

When in surrounding communities, report waste and leaks to the local municipal water utility.

For more information, the Critical Period Management Plan is available online at <http://www.jbsa.af.mil/shared/media/document/AFD-130809-013.pdf>