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512th Airlift Wing, Dover Air Force Base, Del.

Deployment exercise prepares Team Dover for inspection

Senior Airman Jacob Barreiro
436th Force Support Squadron

A deployment exercise, referred to as a DEPEX, is a large and complicated task requiring Airmen from a variety of career fields to work together to achieve a common goal: successfully simulating a deployment and redeployment.

These exercises may be difficult and frustrating to the people in them, featuring long days of confusing activity, jumping in and out of Mission Oriented Protective Posture gear, and processing through deployment lines. However, despite the challenges they present, these exercises offer a chance for Airmen to not only assess their mission readiness but to prepare them for real world situations.

The Airmen of Dover Air Force Base will be facing these challenges directly in a DEPEX, which starts today and ends Sunday.

The goal of the DEPEX is to go through the process of deploying people and cargo to see if they are prepared for the Operational Readiness Inspection in December, said David Johnson, deputy chief of exercises, evaluations and planning on base. The majority of the units on base will be participating, so the DEPEX should be a good indicator of where they stand.

The DEPEX will involve more than 600 personnel, said Richard Bowman, 436th Airlift Wing chief of exercises, evaluations and planning.

"This is a joint effort between the 512th Airlift Wing and the 436th Airlift Wing," said Mr. Bowman. "Our goal is to exercise the deployment machine. This involves the entire base."

With more than 600 personnel participating in the DEPEX there is a chance some base agencies may be affected, said Mr. Bowman. However, maintaining home station capabilities is a priority, and no base agencies should be closed for the DEPEX.

In addition to the possible effects on base agencies, personnel not participating in the DEPEX should be alert for exercise participants wearing MOPP gear and performing Personal Area Reconnaissance sweeps around the base. There may be personnel on the base in gas



Photo by Senior Airman Bhawan P. Singh

Senior Airman Ceasar Clyburn, 512th Airlift Wing Financial Management Office financial management technician, watches as Airman 1st Class Deonte Jackson, 512th Logistics Readiness Flight material management technician, processes paperwork during the deployment exercise here, Nov. 6, 2010. The base is hosting a DEPEX today through Sunday. The purpose of the exercise is to practice mobility processes and ensure wing readiness.

masks, but that is part of the exercise and should not be a cause for concern for non-participants.

The exercise is important to the base because it serves as a precursor to the ORI, said Mr. Bowman. The standards and expectations for the DEPEX will as high as they will be for the real thing.

"The first part of our mission is the deployment of our personnel," said Mr. Bowman. "The second part of it is maintaining home station capabilities. We will have a portion of the wing exercising and getting the grade for the whole wing, but we will still maintain the mission back

Tickets on sale for Wing picnic

The 512th Airlift Wing Picnic is Aug. 6 from 11:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. Families are welcome to attend. Tickets cost \$1 per person and \$3 per family. Tickets can be purchased from unit first sergeants and 512th AW Public Affairs.

Galaxy Adventure Aug. 6

The Galaxy Adventure Tour, hosted by 512th Airman and Family Readiness, of Dover Air Force Base, Del., is Aug. 6 at 7 a.m. It's for children and family members of reservists and is designed to show families what their loved ones do while in Reserve status.

To register, e-mail 512MSS.FR@us.af.mil or call 512th Airman and Family Readiness at (302) 677-3566.

Employer Day October 24

The 512th Airlift Wing Employer Appreciation Day is Oct. 15. Civilian bosses will be treated to a flight on a C-17 or C-5 and experience other Liberty Wing mission-oriented attractions.

Individuals who have questions regarding the 512th AW Employer Appreciation Day, should contact public affairs at (302) 677-3485 or by e-mail at 512aw.pa@us.af.mil.

To nominate an employer, fill out the form at <http://www.512aw.afrc.af.mil/shared/media/document/AFD-1100606-008.pdf>. The deadline for submissions is Aug. 21.

Don't forget to register for DBIDS

Defense Biometric Identification System registration is going on at the Visitor Center Thursday and Friday from 6 a.m. to 5:45 p.m. and Saturday and Sunday from 7 a.m. to 11 a.m. and noon to 2:30 p.m. DBIDS is a Department of Defense force-protection tool implemented to enhance security. DBIDS will verify and authenticate a DoD-issued ID card and ensure the individual is authorized to enter the installation. The system also keeps accountability of personnel entering the installation. Once fully implemented, members will be required to have their card verified and registered at the Visitor Control Center prior to being granted entry onto the installation.