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Bioenvironmental flight aims for AFMC CBRN team

by Senior Airman Julius Delos Reyes
95th Air Base Wing Public Affairs

11/10/2008 - **EDWARDS AIR FORCE BASE, Calif.** -- The 95th Aerospace Medicine Squadron staked their reputation as the 2007 best bioenvironmental engineering team in Air Force Materiel Command as they participated on a Chemical, Biological, Radiological and Nuclear Challenge Nov. 3 to 7.

CBRN Challenge tests AFMC bases' bioenvironmental flights on their CBRN detection and identification capabilities.

"We test their ability to respond on various CBRN contaminants," said Patrick Cowhey, CBRNE analyst with the Alliance Solutions Group, contractor company for the AFMC challenge. "They have to undergo five scenarios. In each scenario, we tested the different aspects of their CBRN response."

The four-day long event included training on sampling and detection equipment and responding on five scenarios for the challenges. Some of these scenarios include suspicious package in the mailroom and biological contamination inside a car.

"They have to figure out the best way to respond to a CBRN incident and give recommendations on the protection level, proper protective equipment requirements and hazardous material assessment," said Master Sgt. DeShanta Richardson, 95th AMDS bioenvironmental flight chief.

To prepare for the challenge, the team has been constantly practicing many scenario exercises related to CBRN, Sergeant Richardson said.

Once all AFMC bases have competed, a flight will be selected to compete for the Air Force CBRN Challenge at Brooks-City Base, Texas, in March.

The bioenvironmental team includes Capt. Andrew Wagner, Staff Sgts. Halder Hernandez and Amanda Lublin, Senior Airmen Anthony Particini and Shannon Stewart.

"They are the best," said Lt. Col. Dave Cohen, 95th AMDS commander. "Each of the members of the team have specific jobs. They put this team together for this challenge. It shows how deep our bioenvironmental flight is. This team did a good job."



Staff Sgt. Amanda Lublin, 95th Aerospace Medicine Squadron bioenvironmental flight industrial hygiene technician, identifies a "contaminant" Nov. 6 as part of a scenario for a Chemical, Biological, Radiological and Nuclear Challenge. The challenge tests all AFMC bases' bioenvironmental flights on their CBRN detection or identification capabilities. (Air Force photo by Senior Airman Julius Delos Reyes)