

Charleston Profile

Staff Sgt. Manuel Trejo, Jr. 1st Combat Camera Squadron

Trejo is a combat videography craftsman. He's one of five instructors who train aerial photographers and videographers on characteristics of the C-17 and the different methods of performing their duties while flying on the aircraft.

As a videographer, Trejo travels around the world documenting real-world and peacetime Air Force operations, such as contingencies, exercises and humanitarian relief missions. Last year, Trejo was part of a team of 11 who deployed to Aviano AB, Italy, for 135 days in support of Operation Allied Force. They documented daily operations of the air strike packages departing Aviano and flew tanker and fighter missions during the conflict, taking video footage and still photos.

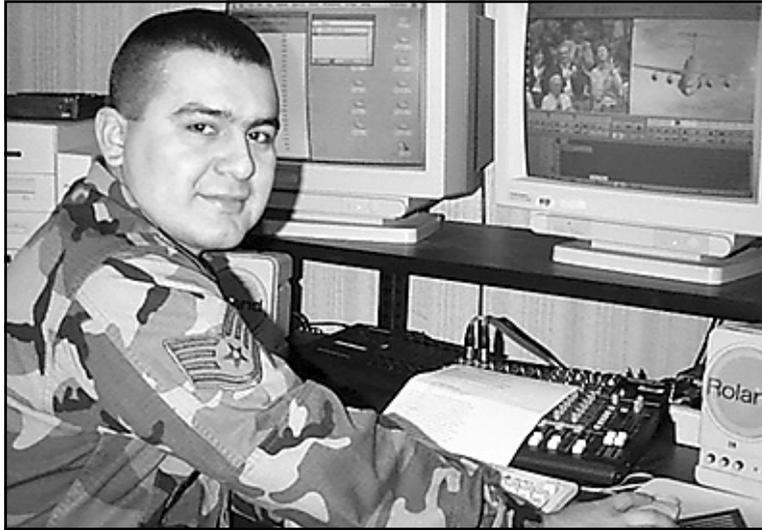
Trejo said he enjoys the travel involved with his job. "I've gotten to visit countries I never thought I'd have the chance to see, like South Africa, Tanzania, Uzbekistan, Kazakstan, Albania, Macedonia and Germany," he said. "The second thing I like about my job is that it's never the same," he added. "One day, we might be covering a hurricane disaster, the next week we're on a C-17 heading for the desert for a real-world contingency. Then, you might be in Washington, D.C. for a change of command. There are a lot of good experiences that come out of our job. We get to integrate with other commands and get to know Air Mobility Command's mission."

Trejo is a native of Chicago and joined the Air Force in 1993. He said he joined the Air Force to take advantage of the educational benefits. He holds a Community College of the Air Force associate's degree in visual information and is working toward an electrical engineering degree through the City College of Chicago.

Trejo and his wife, Alma, have three children - Melissa, five years old; Alejandra, two years old; and a six-month-old boy named Brandon.

In his spare time, Trejo enjoys watching TV and movies, reading and photography.

The best thing about Charleston, he said, is the weather. "It's comfortable, year round."



Staff Sgt. Michael Duhe

Spotlight

IA winners: As part of Air Force Information Assurance Month, Headquarters Air Force sent each installation IA medallions to recognize outstanding contribution to the overall base IA posture. After reviewing all base nominees, Charleston AFB awarded three IA medallions, presented by the 437 Airlift Wing commander, to the following IA professionals:

Master Sgt. Robert Yawn, 437th Communications Squadron/Information Systems Flight: Manages base-wide OPSEC, COMSEC, Security Awareness Training and Education; Wing Info Assurance superintendent

Barbara Bennison, Special Operations Division/437th Operations Group: Revived and revamped COMSEC program for entire operations group; CRO for 3 units and Wing Top Secret Control Officer

Tech. Sgt. Joey Topping, 437 Communications Squadron/Information Systems Flight: Unique expertise with wing certification and accreditation management; NCOIC Wing Info Assurance Office

Chiefs' Group: The CAFB Chiefs' Group will hold their monthly meeting March 16 at 11 a.m. in the Charleston Club. A representative from Heritage Trust Federal Credit Union will address the group and lunch will be provided. All chiefs (active duty, Reserve, retired) are invited and encouraged to attend.

Retirement ceremony: A retirement ceremony for Master Sgt. Veronica Robles will be March 10 at 3:30 p.m. at the Community Education Center. Dress is uniform of the day for military members, casual for civilians. All members of the base community are invited.