



OUR MISSION: To assist in the development of Christian leaders in the armed forces of the world and in the establishment and growth of military Christian fellowships.

VISION BUILDING IN BARBADOS



In April, ACCTS staff members Dean and Lois Mills led the first ACCTS Exploration Program (AEP) trip since before the pandemic, with eight US Air Force Academy cadets traveling to Barbados during their Spring Break. The group was hosted by the commander of the Barbados Defense Force, the Barbados Cadet Corps, and AMCF Vice President for North America, Wilbert Kirton (CDR, Barbados Defence Force, Ret.).

ACCTS' exploration trips help US military cadets gain an understanding of and vision for international military

ministry by learning about the military and cultures of other nations and building relationships with international military personnel. During this visit, the US team spent the week with seven members of the Barbados Cadet Corps, which added a wonderful element of interaction and relationship-building to the trip.

The week was a mix of official meetings with military leaders and some time for tourist activities. The group was honored to be addressed by the Barbados Chief of Staff for a 20-minute discussion of Barbados and its defense force,

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followed by a tour of the main garrison. Additionally, the group was able to:

- Tour the Barbados Coast Guard station and go out to sea on one of their largest vessels.
- Attend church at a Barbados Defense Force parish church in Bridgetown, which was led by Rev. Hugh Sandiford, who previously attended ACCTS' International Chaplain Training program.
- Take a six-to-seven-mile hike to the highest elevation of the island with the Cadet Corps and logistical support across beautiful terrain.
- Tour the Regional Security System's (RSS) air wing with a briefing from the Air Wing Commander and tour of their aircraft.
- Be guests of honor at an official reception, which was attended by the U.S. Ambassador, two U.S. military liaison officers, and dignitaries from Barbados.

“The U.S. cadets and the Barbados Cadet Corps youth enjoyed interacting with each other and hearing about their lives and upcoming careers,” staff member Dean Mills reports. “We also had time for a service project, as we painted the house of a widow of a military veteran.”

Dean and Lois Mills incorporated ACCTS' ministry pillars into discussion times so the cadets understood ACCTS' vision for international military ministry. They discussed the concepts of inductive Bible study, Pray and Plan, conversational prayer, military ethics, and developing one's personal testimony.

“ACCTS' goal in these trips is to expose young military personnel to what is going on internationally and expand their horizons to see what God is doing around the world,” Dean concludes. “The USAFA cadets enjoyed meeting people in another



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country who face some of the same struggles they do, as well as different struggles. Our hosts in Barbados did a fantastic job in creating an unforgettable opportunity for the US cadets and we deeply

appreciated their time and efforts. Pray with us that the USAFA cadets and the Barbados youth who participated will continue to consider Jesus and His role in their lives and future careers.”



Ministry-Expanding Vision in Mongolia



In April an ACCTS team of five people went to Mongolia to teach conversational English and help further relationships between the Mongolian armed forces and the Mongolian military Christian fellowship, the Centurions. ACCTS staff member Ed Ward and volunteer Paula Halvorson taught National Emergency Management Agency (NEMA) troops in the Dundgovi province, while in the capitol, Ulaanbaatar, staff member Nancy Jackson and volunteer Robert Johnston taught the Police Forensics Division, with staff member Rick Jackson teaching the Ministry of Defense Newspaper Division and the Defense University cadets.

To develop stronger relationships between the Centurion MCF and the Mongolian forces, at least one Centurion staff member attended each class session. This helped the Centurion staff members with their English and provided good opportunities with the other Mongolian attendees. It was exciting to see five cadets join the Centurion staff member in online gaming as the classes progressed, showing relationships developing!

In addition to conversational English classes, the group attended MCF meetings for senior officers, NCOs, cadets, and junior officers. Testimonies and Bible teaching on the book of James and finances were presented during these meetings.

“It was so exciting to see the vision the senior officers have for starting 75 new churches all around Mongolia to meet the military needs,” Rick Jackson concludes. “One junior officer has started a business and asked how he can honor God with the finances from his business. It was a great encouragement for our team to see the excitement generated by the Centurion meetings. God is good!”



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Interested in volunteering? This program was so well received that each recipient organization requested another team come next year. There were more opportunities to teach conversational English than we had people to meet the need, and next year we hope to take a team of 8-10 people. If you are interested in volunteering to teach conversational English in 2024, contact the ACCTS office at accts@accts.org for more information.



Why English Language Programs?

English language training is a valuable ministry tool for ACCTS and indigenous military Christian fellowships (MCFs) around the world. Multiple MCFs have seen the value of using English language programs as an outreach and ministry to their nation's armed forces and ask ACCTS to help them with curriculum and teachers. While these programs focus on teaching English, in nations where it is allowed the MCFs also discuss with participants who Jesus Christ is and share testimonies of what Christ has done in the lives of MCF members and English teachers. Many military personnel worldwide are eager to increase their English language skills as it helps them both personally and professionally, since English is used as a global language among many nations' armed forces. Knowing English can enhance their careers, and these free English programs are very welcomed by them. Additionally, learning English increases their access to information since a significant amount of information and resources are available in English. These programs provide opportunities for their growth and development while also providing MCFs and ACCTS the chance to share Christ and His redeeming love.



Celebrating a New MCF in the Middle East



“The Holy Spirit was at work throughout the conference and lives were changed,” reports ACCTS’ ministry partner, MMI (mmi.org.uk) after an April conference for Middle Eastern military and civilian Christians. The conference was organized and led by MMI with financial assistance from ACCTS and included important teachings on forgiveness and trauma healing. Four years ago, MMI had no contacts in Lebanon, but at this confer-

ence the recently-formed MCF of Lebanon was formally welcomed into the AMCF (amcf-int.org) family. *“It really was an extraordinary gathering with so much goodwill, and a huge groundswell of excitement,”* MMI concludes. Praise God for how He is moving in the Middle East and the work He has allowed us to be a part of. Please continue praying with believers in this region so that the Good News of the Gospel will spread in every nation!



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