

# The WIRED

An award-winning  
JTF journal

Down came  
the rain...

Torrential rains break  
63-year-old record



The Hangover: Part 2  
The Wolfpack is back!

Shutterbugs  
GTMO launches new  
photography club

# Trooper to Trooper

featuring

## Command Master Chief Jason Wallis

NEGB Command Master Chief

The “power of positive” leadership is an initiative created to support growing a positive culture throughout the military. In all situations we are confronted with in life, there is a perceived positive or negative impact. How you approach each of these situations can determine how you learn from, adapt to or overcome these challenges.

Never forget positive leadership is infectious. Also, always keep in mind negative leadership is just as infectious. Leadership matters – how you lead will be reflected in those you lead.

**The Mission - to encourage everyone to understand the importance, use and demonstration of positive leadership traits. At each level of leadership, we must understand our leadership expectations.**

**The Vision - to create a culture in which we grow professionally and personally due to positive leadership and the example we project.**



### Guiding Principles

1. Power of Positive
2. Passion with Compassion
3. Pride Projection
4. Empowerment
5. Projecting a Positive Attitude
6. Success Education
7. Understanding Influence

**Principle 1: Power of Positive:** Always remember those who have supported you through positive leadership and provided you mentorship, enabling your success. Bring this leadership trait forward by ensuring juniors are afforded the same opportunities through effective leadership, education and communication

**Principle 2: Passion with Compassion:** Exercise positive leadership by showing others how they are valued. Always display a passion for what you do as a leader by educating others on positive leadership traits. Develop in them today what they will need for success in the future.

**Principle 3: Pride Projection:** Read books on your heritage, then discuss them with your peers. Make sure they understand how proud you are of your heritage and they will emulate what they see.

**Principle 4: Empowerment:** Our juniors seek the approval of you as their leader. It is important to provide each of them the opportunity to lead. As you show confidence in them, you are growing a very valuable tool – our future leaders. As they see you developing their confidence, they will develop professionalism and loyalty.

**Principle 5: Projecting a Positive Image:** Always be proud of who you are and ensure your peers and juniors see this. On bad days, seek out a peer or a mentor to discuss problems. Maintain both your physical and mental health so your people see the power of your positive attitude.

**Principle 6: Success Education:** Educate others by using success stories to show them how they can achieve success. If only the negatives are discussed, that is all they will understand. If you want them to emulate a positive behavior, you have to show them success to emulate.

**Principle 7: Understanding Influence:** As you grow future leaders, ensure you are also supporting those who you work for so they, too, will grow. Followership is also an important leadership trait to exhibit for others. You must first understand the importance of following if you are expected to lead others through your influence.

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**COVER: As rain continues to pour on Guantanamo Bay, a Joint Task Force member takes the plunge in a dodge pick-up truck through a huge area of flooding next to Camp Delta, June 7. In the past three days, more than ten inches of rain fell forcing Troopers to break out their rain gear. -photo by Mass Communication Specialist 2nd Class Maddelin Angebrand.**

The WIRE is the official news magazine of Joint Task Force Guantanamo. It is produced by the JTF Public Affairs Office to inform and educate the Troopers of JTF Guantanamo through news, features, command guidance, sports and entertainment. The WIRE seeks to provide maximum disclosure with minimum delay with regard to security, accuracy, propriety and policy. This DoD news magazine is an authorized publication for the members of the Department of Defense. Contents of The WIRE are not necessarily the official views of, or endorsed by, the U.S. Government, the Department of Defense, or Joint Task Force Guantanamo. It is printed by the Defense Logistics Agency Document Services with a circulation of 1,000.

# As more U.S. troops die in Iraq, end of the mission there remains unclear

Kevin Baron  
Star and Stripes

U.S. officials say there is no sign Iraqi leaders are closer to asking Americans to extend their stay beyond Dec. 31, even as Monday's triple rocket attack that killed five U.S. soldiers in Baghdad punctuated a recent increase in violence.

"I couldn't tell you the internal state of deliberations in the Iraqi government, but we have not gotten that request," Col. David Lapan, a Pentagon spokesman, said Monday.

With the deadline less than seven months away, 46,000 U.S. troops are dividing Iraqi Security Forces and hoping to be home by New Year's Day are left waiting for politics in Baghdad and Washington to determine their fate.

This spring, Defense Secretary

Robert Gates, Joint Chiefs of Staff chairman Adm. Mike Mullen and U.S. Forces-Iraq commander Gen. Lloyd Austin began publicly pronouncing that U.S. troops could assist Iraqi Security Forces for years to come, but said Baghdad needs to ask quickly.

"There is sufficient flexibility in the plan should a request emerge from the Iraqis, but that flexibility diminishes over time," a senior defense official told "Stars and Stripes" on Monday.

Last month, Iraqi Prime Minister Nouri al-Maliki said he would decide by August whether to support a U.S. extension if a majority in parliament agreed. But it would require he break from some of the supporters who kept him in power after last year's elections. With no Iraqi defense or interior minister yet appointed to facilitate any security recommendations to parliament, it's unclear how that recommendation process would play out.

"I don't think the Iraqis are any closer to asking for an extension," said retired Army Col. Peter Mansoor, who served as Gen. David Petraeus' executive officer in Iraq and is now a professor of military history at Ohio State University.

Mansoor sees little confidence in

Washington that Iraqis will come together in time.

"I think if there is going to be a deal, it's going to be a very last-minute thing," he said.

The U.S. needs about two months to complete a total withdrawal of bases and equipment, Mansoor estimated. By the end of October, if no request has come, he said, "then I think we're into the final stages of the termination of the mission."

Convincing Iraqis to let Americans stay,

at them in the context of where we've been in recent years, the trends are very, very positive."

Yet on Monday, in addition to the U.S. troops killed 13 Iraqis died in a suicide car bombing in Tikrit. On Friday, 19 people were killed there when suicide bombers hit a mosque and then detonated another explosion in the hospital treating the victims. On May 19, a triple bombing at a Kirkuk police station killed 27 more, following five roadside bombings there in the previous 10 days. Police also have

been attacked in Mosul.

Buchanan identified the three biggest threats in Iraq as al-Qaida and terrorists; militias and their illegal arms; and crime. Yet, most military assistance the U.S. suggests could help to Iraq's 200,000 defense ministry forces and 450,000 interior ministry forces is largely aimed at external threats.

Austin has stressed that Iraqis need specific training such as combined artillery and tank warfare, air-to-air capabilities and maintenance. The defense ministry provided just 10 percent of the estimated necessary equipment maintenance over the last two years, Buchanan said.

Additionally, Iraq has virtually no independent intelligence, surveillance and reconnaissance support.

If more attacks come, it could become harder for al-Maliki to plead for American help and for President Barack Obama to break his campaign promise to bring troops home.

"On both sides, the politics are pretty dicey for an extension," Mansoor said. "The cost of the mission plus the occasional casualty, as we saw today, and the lack of support in Iraq coupled with the lack of support among the American people make this pretty problematical. Even if, strategically, it makes sense to stay."

Privately, some Pentagon officials also believe Iraq's request will come at the last minute. Meanwhile, they are trying to determine what Iraqis need, what Iraqi laws allow, and what the U.S. wants to happen.



**Soldiers from the 17th Fires Brigade and 2nd Brigade Combat Team, 4th Infantry Division arrive by air and convoy to assist the Iraqi Army provide urgent humanitarian assistance to the citizens of Faddaahryah and Bahar in Basra Province.**  
- photo by Spc. Maurice A. Galloway

he said, may require the U.S. to complete the pullout, then wait for Iraqis to realize they need additional security assistance, before asking Americans to return in limited roles.

That idea may give U.S. logisticians headaches, but it highlights the uncertainty permeating the increasingly dangerous final months of the eight-year mission, during which 4,459 American troops have died, according to iCasualties.org.

Until recently, Shiite militias this year have targeted mostly Iraqi government centers and hospitals. While some attacks also have targeted Americans at outposts in southern Iraq and elsewhere, none have been as brazen as Monday's truck-mounted direct assault on the joint U.S.-Iraqi Forward Operating Base Loyalty, near Baghdad's Sadr City.

U.S. officials frequently downplay such violence as desperate, infrequent episodes unable to spark sectarian chaos of years past and rarely directed at U.S. forces.

"We do still have violent actions, or violent activities through the country, and sometimes they're very heinous," said USFI spokesman Maj. Gen. Jeffrey Buchanan in a May 27 conference call with reporters. "But overall when you look

# News from the Bay

Stories and reporting by Mass Communication Specialist  
2nd Class Maddelin Angebrand

## 'Tang Soo Do' - Martial Arts classes to start

Morale Welfare, and Recreation's presents "Tang Soo Do" Martial Arts classes starting Tuesday at the Marine Hill Group Exercise building.

Classes will be held on Tuesdays and Thursdays at 8 p.m. for adults ages 16 and up with youth class starting at 7 p.m. Cost is \$80 for adults and \$60 for youth.

For more information call about the martial arts classes, contact x77262.

## Seasons open for disc golf, sand volleyball

Sign up now for the upcoming summer outdoor sports leagues – disc golf and sand volleyball.

Meet new people, exercise and have a good time every Thursday at the disc golf course, located across the street from the Lateral Hazard Golf Course. The golf shop also provides discs for free and sells new ones for those interested.

Sand volleyball league registrations take

place now until Tuesday at the Denich Gym. Get your team of four players together for either the men's or women's division.

A coaches meeting is scheduled for June 16, the league officially starts June 20. Season first and second place teams will receive trophies.

For more information call Alana Morrison, MWR sports director, at x2113.

## Performances of Prometheus in Prison

The Joint Task Force Guantanamo Joint Stress Mitigation and Restoration Team present performances of "Prometheus in Prison" June 22 starting at 7:30 a.m. at the Camp Buckley Lyceum. Another performance titled "Theater of War" will take place June 23 at 7:30 p.m. at the Camp Buckley Lyceum.

Attendees will witness scenes from "Prometheus Bound" – an ancient play about an angry and rebellious prisoner in solitary confinement – as a catalyst for town hall discussions about the challenges of supervising detainees and maintaining order within the camps.

The "Theater of War" performance will depict scenes from "Ajax" and "Philoctetes,"

two historic plays displaying wounds of war as a way of introducing a discussion about challenges faced by servicemembers, veterans and their family members.

Following each performance, local community members will help facilitate the town hall style audience discussions about challenges military members face during war.

For more information contact JSMART at x3566.

## Listen to the Chicken - local band at Tiki Bar

Enjoy free, live music performed by Guantanamo Bay's local band "Sounds Like Chicken" every Wednesday at the Tiki Bar starting at 9 p.m.

A tropical rock band, 'Sounds Like Chicken' performs a mix of originals as well as cover songs by Jack Johnson, Jimmy Buffet, Train, Barenaked Ladies and more.

"The songs they cover have their own tropical flare to it," said Cory Geiger Morale, Welfare and Recreation outdoor activities coordinator. "They are really good at interacting with the crowd and very laid back."

## Who are you rooting for in the NBA Championships?



"I'm rooting for Miami. I like LeBron, even though no one wants to see him win."

Equipment Operator  
1st Class Mark Kelly



"I'm going with Dallas because I'm not a big fan of LeBron."

Coast Guard Boatswain's  
Mate Chief Scott Braithwaite



"I have no idea, I don't follow basketball. The only dribbling I do is when I'm eating."

Army Staff Sgt.  
Gordon McCall



"Let's get it Miami!"

Spc. Roshanda  
Figgers

## Boots on the Ground

# TROOPER FOCUS

## Navy Counselor 1st Class Jonathan Dingler

Spc. Kelly Gary

When he joined the Navy twelve years ago, Navy Counselor 1st Class Jonathan C. Dingler was searching for direction. Drawn into enlisting by the promise of attaining an education, he is well on his way to getting his master's degree in human resource management. Dingler, command career counselor for Naval Expeditionary Guard Battalion, takes full advantage of the Navy's education benefits and is now on his fourth enlistment. Dingler said being able to counsel and assist Sailors in their job progression is a rewarding experience.

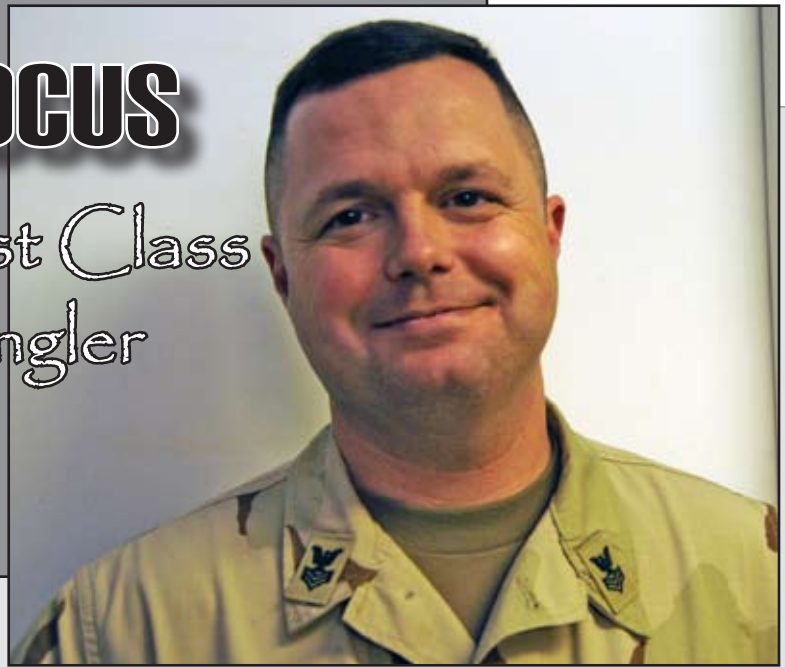
"My reasons for coming in the Navy and staying in the Navy are completely different," said Dingler.

Dingler originally enlisted as an Aviation Ordinanceman. After becoming the department career counselor for the rate however, he decided helping Sailors was his calling. He transferred to his current rate while staying on the USS Kitty Hawk (CV 63). Dingler was the last command career counselor on the ship before it was decommissioned. Now on his first deployment on shore, Dingler helps Sailors at Guantanamo Bay in many aspects of their careers.

"I love my job," Dingler said. "I love being able to help out as many people as I can."

Dingler not only enjoys what he does, he is good at it as well. In addition to being devoted to his Sailors, Command Master Chief Jason Wallis, command master chief for NEGB, said Dingler proves himself each day to be dedicated to his command and the Navy.

"He is squared away," said Wallis. "He



does what he can to take care of the Sailors which is exactly what we want in a Navy counselor."

Even though Dingler does what he can to help each Sailor, ultimately it is up to the individual to advance. He said getting Sailors to realize how they are part of a whole is an obstacle for his position.

"If people don't understand why we work these hours or why we are on this mission, I use that opportunity to hopefully make them realize what their part is in the big picture," he said.

One of his personal obstacles is being away from family. Even though the absence of his children is a source of melancholy, he said they also serve as a source of inspiration.

"[My] kids, they inspire me to do what I do," said the father of two. "I want to be the best role model I can be for them."

Dingler has shown to his command he is, indeed, a good role model and he tries to lead by example.

"He exemplifies what it means to be a leader," Wallis said. "As far as the mentorship portion, he always wants to talk to Sailors no matter what their issues, even if they are not related to the NC world."

When he is not helping Sailors with their evaluations or advancement exams, Dingler

### Bullet Bio

**Time in service:** 12 years

**Hobbies:** playing guitar

**Pet peeves:** bad coffee

**Next goal:** get master's degree

**Advice to junior Troopers:**  
"Keep yourself informed."

likes to play guitar but said most of his free time goes toward getting his degree. In addition to attaining his master's, pinning on chief is a goal also close at hand.

"I see him putting on anchors," said Wallis. "I would take him in my chief's mess any day."



OPSEC MITIGATES RISK, PROTECTS THE MISSION!

## OPSEC ALERT

### What am I willing to risk?

What level of risk are you willing to accept? Because there is risk in everything that we do, we prioritize what is acceptable and what is not. Some people choose not to wear their seat belt, even though it's the law. They risk a getting a ticket or being injured in a crash. Some people choose to post information online about themselves, their families, even about their job. With OPSEC, what risk are you willing to take? With today's technology, small pieces of information have never been more dangerous. So mitigate the risk. Protect your information.



Construction continues behind Denich Gym, June 4, after breaking ground in March for a new gymnasium and additional fields in the Cooper Field Sports Complex. Workers are laying foundation for the gym and flattening out land for the fields. Plans for the Denich Gym (below) include a complete internal renovation, with more free weights, larger cardio area, updated locker room facilities and more.

## Denich gym construction scheduled to complete in 2012

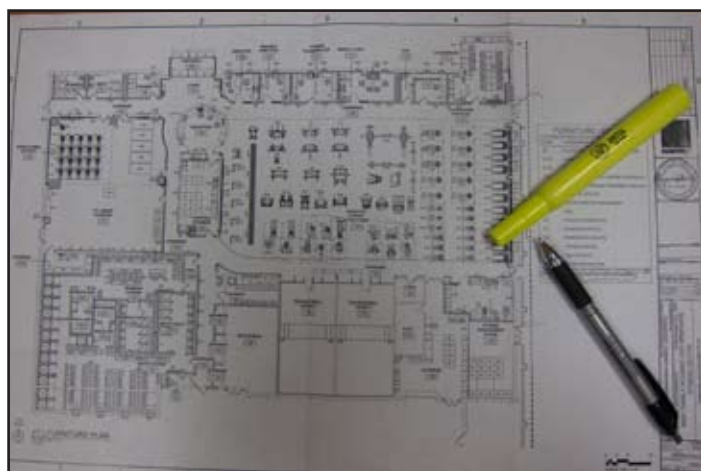
Story and photos by Mass Communication Specialist 2nd Class Jason Tross

Dirt is being moved, cement is being laid and Denich gym is entering the first phase of a nearly two-year expansion and renovation process, taking the aged facility into the 21<sup>st</sup> century.

Denich Gym is just part of the overhaul. Plans for more sports fields and courts in the Cooper Field Sports Complex are also in the works. This first phase is expected to be completed later this year, said Morale, Welfare and Recreation Sports Director Jen Norton.

Joint Task Force Guantanamo Troopers can expect to start enjoying these updates and changes in the fall of this year, when the current basketball/volleyball courts become the new free weight and cardio area with increased capacity and new equipment. These improvements will come at a brief inconvenience for current gym users.

“It won’t look like what people



are used to during the transition, but we’re sure it will be worth it in the long run,” said Norton. “This improvement is due. The buildings are old. If you just take a quick walk around this facility, you’ll notice things are pretty out of date.”

More than 2,000 JTF Troopers use the Denich gym and Cooper Field Sports Complex facilities. That number does not include families, government contractors or Naval Station Guantanamo

personnel.

“This improvement affects a lot of people,” said Norton. “Right now, every field we have is reserved Monday through Friday – between command PT and sports games, we’re fully booked, but that’s what we want. This expansion means we can support even more activity.”

The renovation and expansion plan also includes new fields – a youth baseball field, renovated tennis courts and multi-purpose

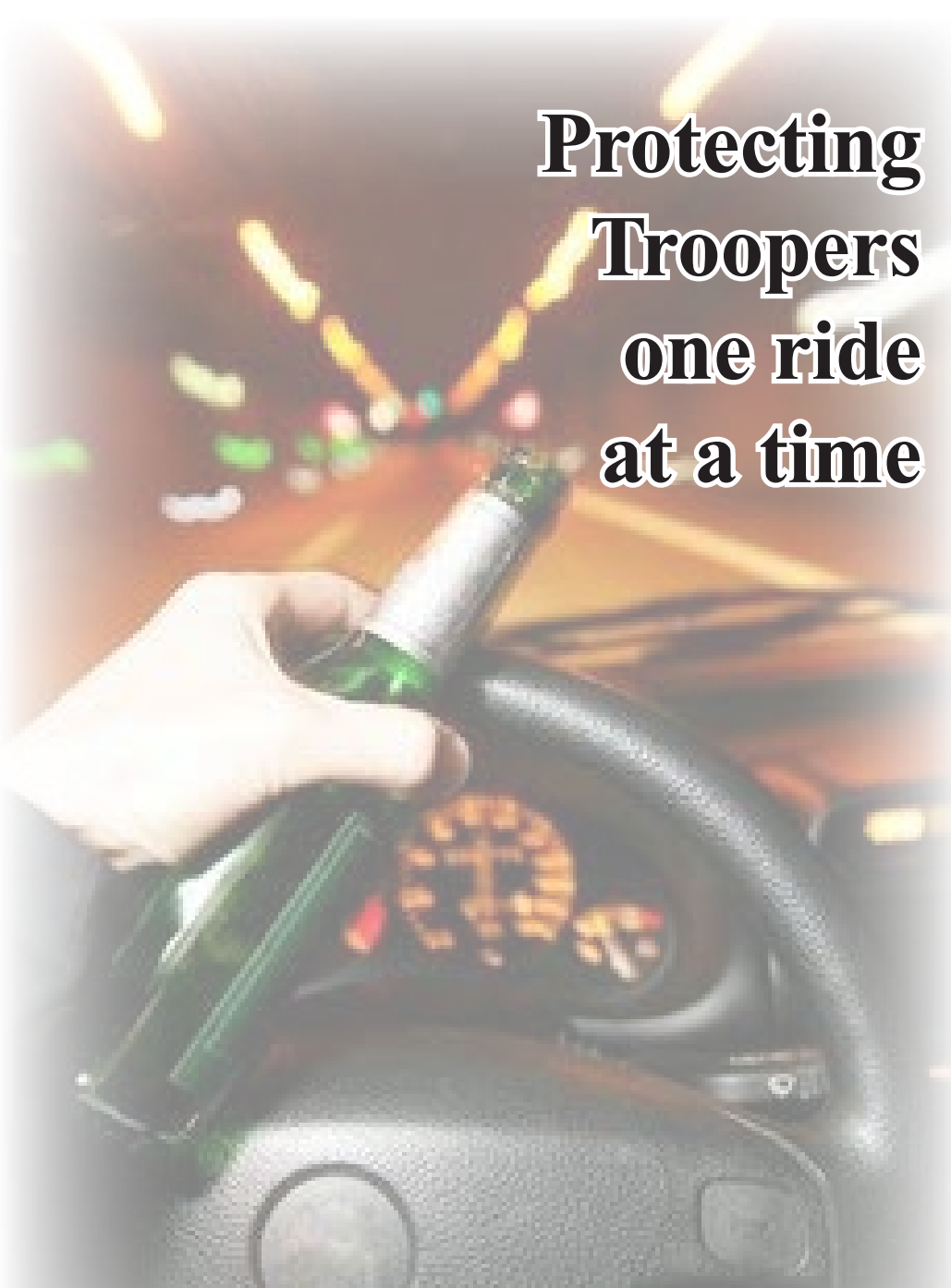
field. Norton and MWR hope the new field will help free up the football field and some of the softball fields, which are often reserved for command PT or other sports that don’t require a specific type of field.

“Our goal is to make this [Cooper Field Sports Complex] a one-stop fitness center,” said Norton. “Most people here are unaccompanied. Rather than going back to their rooms and doing whatever they do there, we have something going on over here every night. And now we’ll have even more!”

While the first phase of construction should end and new spaces become operational this fall, the entire renovation project is scheduled to be completed around October 2012. Norton advises of minor inconveniences, but hopes gym users remember the long-term benefits.

“We’re not going to have everything we normally do here for a bit, but we know it’s going to be great in the long-run,” said Norton. “I’m excited about it!”

# Protecting Troopers one ride at a time



Story by Mass Communication Specialist  
2nd Class Maddelin Angebrand

In an effort to keep Troopers and others here on Guantanamo Bay safe, Joint Task Force Guantanamo is encouraging members to use the Courtesy Patrol Safe Ride program to get home after a night out with friends.

The program was created to reduce drinking and driving and also replace the old taxicab service, which Troopers had to pay for.

Safe Ride is free and operates seven days a week from 10 p.m. to 12 p.m. Sunday through Thursday and from 10 p.m. to 2

a.m. on Friday and Saturday.

Army 1<sup>st</sup> Sgt. Kevin Stapleton, a member of JTF's J3 department, coordinates the program watchbill, which requires each JTF unit to participate in the program.

"The Courtesy Patrol protects the Troopers by giving them a ride from a club, bar or beach," said Stapleton. "This ensures the Trooper gets back to their living quarters safely without a DUI."

Although senior enlisted members are not required to be on the courtesy patrol watchbill, Stapleton steps up and takes the patrol on certain nights. He said some people are surprised to see him on patrol.

"I feel if a first sergeant can do the Courtesy Patrol/Safe Ride, everyone should try it once to see what goes on during a weekend," shared Stapleton. "My main purpose, and first responsibility, is taking care of Troopers. Being on Courtesy Patrol shows I care to take the time out of my weekend to make sure they are safe."

The program is also supported by the Naval Expeditionary Guard Battalion command Drug and Alcohol Programs Advisor, Chief Damage Controlman Darrick Hayes, who said there is no reason for anyone to get behind a wheel and drive after drinking alcohol.

"It is up to us to be responsible and monitor our intake of alcohol," said Hayes. "If we do see a shipmate or battle buddy that has drunk too much, we should take care of them, try to prevent them from consuming more and get them home safely. It is easy to do with resources like Courtesy Patrol/Safe Ride."

Hayes also assured Troopers there is help for those who think they may have a problem with drinking.

"Anybody who feels they are not capable of drinking responsibly should quit drinking altogether and talk to someone to see if maybe they need help," said Hayes. "Nobody ever gets in trouble for getting help before something bad happens."

Stapleton advised Troopers to have a plan when going out, adding Courtesy Patrol or Safe Ride is not just a free ride - it is also a consistent way of monitoring the bars and nightlife. Safe Ride drivers cruise around base, making their presence known among the crowds and offering free rides to Troopers leaving bars or events.

Troopers on patrol each have a cell phone to take calls and communicate back and forth between the two vans, which have magnetic signs on either side that read, "Free Safe Ride Courtesy Patrol."

To make a smart choice, call Safe Ride at x84781. To volunteer for patrols, contact Stapleton at x84799.

# CHASING THE STORM

dangerous wind gusts.

“Flooding in the access ways of these beaches wouldn’t allow you to get out if you did enter,” Lloyd explained. “Additionally, coastal beaches in this weather create many dangers and make rescue efforts more difficult.”

Guantanamo Bay’s typical climate includes June as one of the hottest months of the year, calling for rain in the later months of the year.

“GTMO hasn’t seen this much rain in a long time,” said Corless. “I remember a lot of rain last September, but it didn’t last near this long.”

The current condition is considered thunderstorm condition two, meaning the storm is either within 25 minutes of base or six miles off the coast. Condition one is more severe and is used to identify a much faster-moving storm.


Fortunately, the recent weather is not considered a tropical storm or hurricane activity, said Corless.

“The rain and thunder is a result of a large low pressure area to the west of us, which is dragging in the rain and wind gusts,” he explained.

Joint Task Force member Richard Sode works in the J2 department and monitors the weather to assist in planning JTF operations. In Sode’s eight years of living here, he is most surprised at the timing of the current rainfall, noting it usually comes around September and October.

“This seems a little early in the year for this much rain and it makes taking the dog out quite the chore,” said Sode. “I try to find a place with no mud holes. I take him to the park where there’s grass, but the first thing he does is find a puddle to jump around in!”

Back at the weather station, Corless receives multiple phone calls from base residents wondering when they can run again and go to the beaches. The good news, Corless said, is the storm is expected to move out Sunday.



Several access roads were closed Monday and Tuesday as pounding rains continued to assault Naval Station and Joint Task Force Guantanamo Bay.

Sunny Guantanamo Bay lost its shine this week due to record-breaking rainfall, causing flooded streets, muddy walkways and wet boots.

The last drenching rainfall for the month of June was recorded in 1948 with a hefty total of 17.56 inches, said Will Corless, a weather reporter stationed at the Guantanamo Bay weather office. This Monday and Tuesday alone, Guantanamo Bay logged over 10 inches of rainfall for June.

The downpour caused low visibility and difficult driving conditions. Naval Station Security also closed a section of Sherman Avenue due to excess debris, gravel, mud and

branches blocking the driving area.

“When the weather is worse, drive slower,” cautioned Chief Master-at-Arms James Lloyd, Naval Station Security operations chief. “The speed limit is set for dry, sunny weather, so people need to tone down their driving. Watch closer for pedestrians and give yourself more time to get to work.”

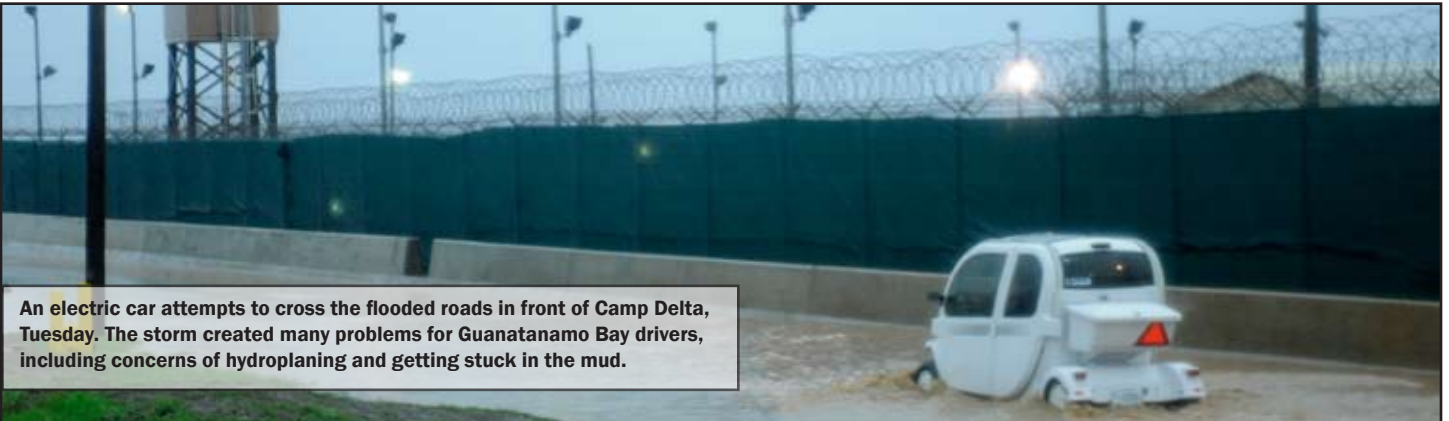
Naval Station Security requires all patrolling security members report safety hazards caused by heavy rainfall, such as falling debris, downed power lines and rising waterways.

These safety hazards also affect the beaches, which are currently closed until further notice due to flooding concerns and





A determined Trooper rucks in the rain, Tuesday morning, as Guantanamo Bay residents experience the worst downpours in more than 60 years.



An electric car attempts to cross the flooded roads in front of Camp Delta, Tuesday. The storm created many problems for Guantanamo Bay drivers, including concerns of hydroplaning and getting stuck in the mud.

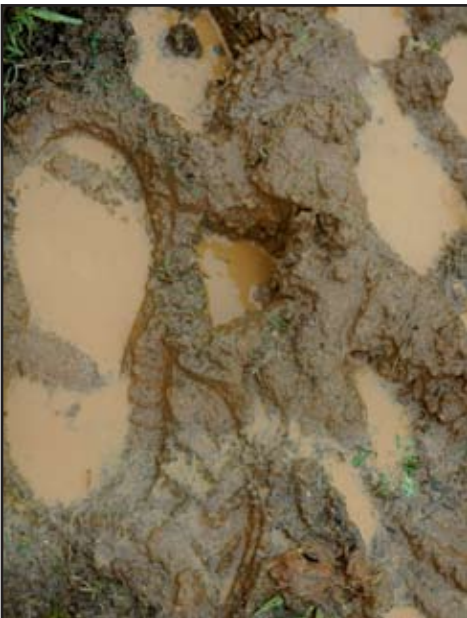




Photo by Heidi Lowery

©Heidi Lowery

Photo by Brian Margavich



# CAPTURING CUBA

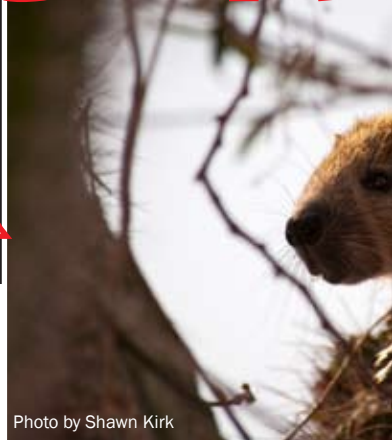


Photo by Shawn Kirk



Photo by Heidi Lowery

New photography club sees GTMO through the lens.

Story by Mass Communication Specialist  
2nd Class Maddelin Angebrand



Photo by Brian Margavich



Photo by Heidi Lowery

Photo by Heidi Lowery



**Heidi Lowery, Army Sgt. Shawn Kirk (middle) and Boatswain's Mate 3rd Class Andre Jackson discuss camera functions at the most recent Photography Club meeting, June 4. - photo by Mass Communication Specialist 2nd Class Maddelin Angebrand**

*"I gaze at the sunset with the woman I love and think, F/8 at 1/250 of a second."*

These are the words displayed in the foreground of a breathtaking orange-hued sunset on a Canon advertisement for their EOS 40D camera.

To some Troopers, this quote might not make sense, but to the newly formed Guantanamo Bay Photography Club the numbers in this quote ring true to the basics of photography. Otherwise known as aperture and shutter speed, these are two of the key elements photographers use when exposing a photograph.

The club started out as photography class in January this year and was taught by a resident working on the Naval Station. It has now become a haven for photography lovers here on Guantanamo Bay to include members of the Joint Task Force.

Army Sgt. Shawn Kirk, a member of JTF logistics, joined the club a few months ago when it was still a class and said he enjoys photographing wildlife and nature.

"The club is a great resource," said Kirk. "Others interested in learning more about their camera and how to get certain effects should join and meet other photographers as a way to improve their photography skills."

Club president Heidi Lowery, a Naval Station resident and photography lover, said she was the kid hanging out the bus window with a camera. She has been studying photography ever since.

"We try to do something once a week as a group," said Lowery. "It gives you something to do and we're enabling each other to take interesting pictures."

Lowery met with the base legal office to get the club approved. It is now an official Guantanamo Bay organization and does not require dues or other obligations to become a member.

"All we ask is that you have some sort of interest in photography," Lowery suggested. "We want to help each other become better photographers - with more people the more knowledge we can share."

The club has designed a logo, made access badges and plans to order T-shirts in the near future. The badges will be worn by members shooting an event to show they were given permission or requested to be there as an official photographer.

Lowery has also made contact with Morale, Welfare and Recreation, "The Gazette" and the Youth Center to offer the club's willingness to provide photography coverage for events and social gatherings.

"It gets us that experience and helps them out as well," said Lowery. "If I get a request, I offer it to all the members and if they want to cover it they go."

The club currently has seven active members and invites all who are interested to join. They meet at the Youth Center the first Saturday of every month at 2 p.m. For more information contact Lowery at [heidilowery@atouchofmagicphotography.com](mailto:heidilowery@atouchofmagicphotography.com).



Photo by Heidi Lowery



Photo by Alicia Peterman



©Heidi Lowery



Photo by Heidi Lowery

## Paratroopers commemorate D-Day anniversary

American Forces Press Service

WASHINGTON, – About 300 U.S. Soldiers, most of them combat veterans themselves, joined their British, French and German counterparts in Normandy, France, to honor the sacrifices of World War II veterans who conducted the D-Day invasion 67 years ago Monday.

The troops spent the last few days visiting key battle sites during the mission code-named Operation Overlord: the beaches 160,000 troops stormed on June 6, 1944, during the largest amphibious invasion in world history; and St. Mere Eglise, the first French village to be liberated by U.S. 82nd and 101st Airborne Division Soldiers, among them.

Throughout the visit, where they received briefings about the history of the sites and got a firsthand look at the tactical challenges Allied forces faced, the troops participated in D-Day commemorative ceremonies and met veterans of the invasion.

On Monday, they took part in ceremonies at Ponte du Hoc, the formidable cliff-top perch west of Omaha Beach that U.S. Rangers assaulted; and Utah Beach, the westernmost of the five D-Day landing beaches.

“Getting the chance to be here has been an amazing opportunity,” Capt. Ted Jacobs, executive officer for the Army Reserve’s 345th Tactical Psychological Operations Company in Dallas said by phone as he waited for the Utah Beach ceremony to begin. “Seeing what these veterans had to go up against – the terrain, the weather situation, the wet, the cold, being in fear of their lives all the time – it really does help you understand the challenges they had to deal with.”

Jacobs is among about 150 Army Reserve paratroopers with the U.S. Army Civil Affairs and Psychological Operations Command, with headquarters at Fort Bragg, N.C., participating in Operation Airborne Normandy, a mission that is bringing together U.S. and European forces for commemorations and interoperability training.

Other U.S. participants include active-duty Soldiers from the 82nd Airborne Division at Fort Bragg; 173rd Airborne Brigade Combat Team at Vicenza, Italy; 101st Airborne Division at Fort Campbell, Ky.; and riggers from the Army Reserve’s 824th, 421st and 861st Quartermaster Companies and U.S. Army Europe’s 5th Quartermaster Detachment.

One planned event, a combined jump involving more than 700 U.S., British, German and French paratroopers, has been canceled twice due to bad weather. Participants are hoping the event may take place tomorrow, conditions permitting, to enable every paratrooper who jumps with another country’s jumpmaster to receive that country’s jump wings.



An 82nd Airborne Soldier who participated in D-Day was presented with the French Legion of Honor in Ste. Mere Eglise, France, as part of this year's D-Day Commemoration. - photo by Donna Miles, American Forces Press Service

Meanwhile, the Soldiers called the chance to meet with veterans of the D-Day invasion the highlight of the visit.

“I feel honored to have the opportunity to come out here and meet them face to face and shake their hands and say thank you,” said Sgt. Nathaniel Bier, a veteran of Operation Iraqi Freedom serving with the 301st Psychological Operations Company. “That is one of the best things I will always remember about this trip.”

With two combat deployments in Afghanistan under his belt, Jacobs said, he gained a new appreciation for the odds the Allied forces – including his own father – faced during Operation Overlord.

Then-Sgt. Thomas Jacobs jumped into Normandy during the D-Day invasion, but has spoken little of the experience except to describe it as “godawful” until recent years.

“We grew up basically with the understanding that we didn’t ask questions about that,” his son said. “He was one of those veterans who just wanted to forget.”

Bier shares Jacobs’ personal connection to the D-Day visit: his great-grandfather, who died before Bier was born, took part in the invasion.

“My father really looked up to him,” Bier said of his great-grandfather. “So he was even more excited to hear that I was coming here than I was.”

Walking the beaches, seeing the formidable terrain and standing the ground his great-grandfather helped to liberate has given Bier a special appreciation of the magnitude of what happened in Normandy. Pausing to reflect on it, he admitted, “I had to stop myself from tearing up, because it’s so powerful just to be here.”

Bier said he’s been particularly struck by the courageous leadership the D-Day noncommissioned officers demonstrated in the face of adversity.

“I don’t know how some of those sergeants kept going, how they kept their people motivated as they were coming off the boats, and how they kept them moving forward,” he said. “My hat is really off to those sergeants.”

Jacobs said he, too, stands in awe of what the D-Day veterans accomplished, and declined to compare it with anything he has experienced in combat.

“I wouldn’t even dare to hold a candle to what those guys did,” he said. “Certainly, what we are doing in Afghanistan is at times very difficult and dangerous. But what these guys went through, there is no comparison. Ours is a counterterrorism fight, so there are brief moments of intensity, but nothing to even come close to the scale of events that happened here.”

Walking the hallowed grounds where many made the ultimate sacrifice “has given me a deeper appreciation for the legacy that has been left to us by the greatest generation by these Soldiers who came over here and did what they did,” Jacobs said. “It further solidifies the fact that I do not ever want to betray that kind of legacy, and want to continue to build it and maintain what they have carved out for us.”

A high school math teacher in the Dallas public schools in his civilian life, Jacobs said he intends to share the experiences he’s gained at Normandy, like those from Afghanistan, with his students.

“All these values from the military are just common core good-citizenship skills and behaviors that these children desperately need, particularly those from the inner city,” he said.

“What it means to serve instead of always looking out for yourself or putting yourself first, [and] thinking about putting others before yourself and service to the community and country,” he said. That is just a core theme in my classroom.”



Rear Adm. Sandra Stosz speaks during the change of command ceremony at the United States Coast Guard Academy June 3. Stosz relieved Rear Adm. J. Scott Burhoe and became the first female superintendent at any of the U.S. service academies. - photo by Petty Officer 2nd Class Patrick Kelley

## Coast Guard admiral makes history as first woman to lead a U.S. service academy

Petty Officer 2nd Class  
Patrick Kelley

The following blog was posted by Cmdr. Glynn Smith on behalf of Adm. Bob Papp.

Today is a significant waypoint not only in Coast Guard history, but in American history. This morning Rear Admiral Sandra Stosz assumed command as the United States Coast Guard Academy's first woman superintendent. This also makes her the first woman to command any U.S. service academy.

A 1982 Coast Guard Academy graduate and a surface operations officer with 12 years of sea duty, Stosz has plotted a course that includes many firsts for women in the military. Her performance in previous assignments as commanding

officer for recruit training at Coast Guard Training Center Cape May, N.J., the Director of Reserve and Leadership, and the commanding officer of two cutters, has demonstrated a commitment to building a diverse workforce without boundaries.

With this appointment, Stosz opens what I hope is one of the few remaining doors to women in uniform. This is a tribute not only to our country's rich history of dynamic leaders and trailblazers but also our Service's ongoing commitment to providing limitless opportunities for every man and woman who wears the uniform.

Stosz takes over a world class institution of higher learning and leadership development that continues to see increases in minority admissions. On June 27,

the class of 2015 reports aboard and will be the most diverse class in history. Of the 290 offered appointments, 33 percent will be from underrepresented minority groups and 32 percent will be women.

I have every confidence that Admiral Stosz's watch will continue in the finest traditions of Captain John Henriques—the first superintendent, and 38 others, including outgoing superintendent Rear Admiral Scott Burhoe. She will increase the prestige, quality of education and, most importantly, the character of the leaders who as commissioned Coast Guard officers will ultimately lead our Service while protecting the Nation from threats on the sea, protecting people who use the sea, and protecting the sea itself.

### 'Extreme Makeover' provides support for Year of the Coast Guard Family

Over the past eight years, Extreme Makeover: Home Edition has helped hundreds of people, including nearly two dozen military families, by transforming their homes in an effort to improve their lives. But the show's producers aren't stopping there. They are currently looking to provide a makeover for more military families.

"Extreme Makeover: Home Edition is more than a show, it's about recognizing deserving families and helping them to re-build their homes and their lives," said Ian Young, casting producer. "It is a show dedicated to volunteerism and helping your neighbor. It relies on the very moral compass that implores every one of our servicemen and women, who defend this country for perfect strangers just because it's the right thing to do. It is always a blessing to help military families, who support all of us day after day, year after year."

Previous seasons have included episodes highlighting military families from the other four armed services. In support of 2011 as Year of the Coast Guard Family, Extreme Makeover: Home Edition hopes to highlight a Coast Guard family for an entire episode.

Do you know a Coast Guard family that puts their own needs aside to help others and serve as role models in their community? Does their home need major alterations or repair that affects the quality of life of their family? If so, nominations are open until July 10, 2011. Click here to nominate a family and here for more information.



Marines and Sailors of 2nd Battalion, 7th Marine Regiment, arrive in Japan from California for deployment with the 31st Marine Expeditionary Unit as the new Battalion Landing Team, June 3. The battalion has now become the ground combat element of the 31st MEU, and is scheduled to embark aboard ships of Amphibious Squadron 11 on a deployment in support of Theater Security Cooperation in the Asia-Pacific region. - photo by Capt. Caleb D. Eames

## ‘War Dogs’ arrive to join 31st MEU

Capt. Caleb D. Eames  
31st MEU

KADENA AIR BASE, OKINAWA, Japan — The ‘War Dogs’ of Twentynine Palms, Calif., have begun arriving here to join the 31st Marine Expeditionary Unit as the new battalion landing team, with the first flight landing, June 3.

Second Battalion, 7th Marine Regiment, known as the ‘War Dogs,’ based out of Marine Corps Air Ground Combat Center Twentynine Palms, Calif., is coming in with more than 1,200 Marines and Sailors. They now become the new ground combat element of the 31st MEU, and are scheduled to participate in the upcoming regular deployment to the Asia-Pacific region.

“We have had a lot of good training in 29 Palms and Camp Pendleton over the past months, all to get us ready to come out here to the MEU,” said Lt. Col. Donald Tomich, commanding officer, 2/7. “Our Marines have worked hard to get here and we are looking forward to the deployment with the 31st MEU.”

2/7 comes to the MEU with attached artillery, Amphibious Assault Vehicles, and Light Armored Vehicles, enhancing the ability of the MEU to conduct the wide range of missions assigned.

“This is the first time for a lot of our guys to get out of the United States, so we are

anticipating doing training with other nations’ militaries to gain shared experiences,” said Tomich. “We want to continue to contribute to the tradition of excellence that has gone before us here with the 31st MEU.”

2/7’s previous deployment with the 31st MEU was last year, and before then, the battalion was deployed to support Operation Enduring Freedom in Afghanistan.

The battalion’s deployed experiences will be put to good use as they have a busy schedule over the next several months preparing for a wide range of possible missions in every imaginable climate.

“There is a huge difference in the climate here,” said Sgt. Jacob Hawken, Personal Security Detail platoon sergeant, Headquarters and Service Company, 2/7. As soon as we got here it was raining. We just came from a very dry climate in 29 Palms, and as soon as we got off the plane we got soaked.”

The Marines and Sailors of 2/7 are expected to participate in exercises designed to enhance bilateral teamwork and build theater security cooperation, as well as conducting training together with partner nations in the Asia-Pacific region.

As the Marines of 2/7 travel and experience foreign environments, for many it will not be the first time abroad.

“I have been deployed with the 31st MEU

before, and I am looking forward to training with other countries again, new experiences and getting to know other the other nation’s militaries,” said Cpl. Jordan Layton, a cannoneer with Battery K, 3rd Battalion, 11 Marines, attached to 2/7 for the MEU deployment. “It is always good to train in different areas. 29 Palms is always dry and hot, and Okinawa or countries in Asia tend to be wetter and humid, so it is good to have those different environments to work in to always be ready for anything.”

About 20 percent of the battalion is combat-experienced, said Tomich, and those experiences will benefit the Marines by keeping them ready for any eventuality.

“I have deployed to Iraq before but have not been out on a MEU yet, so I’m pretty excited,” said Hawken. “There will be a lot of different countries to explore and a lot of good training with our partner nations in Asia.”

In addition to scheduled exercises, 2/7 is prepared, with the rest of the MEU, to respond to any humanitarian or contingency crises that may arise.

The Marine Corps is the nation’s sea-based crisis response force, and the 31st MEU and newly arrived 2/7 Marines represent power projection in the Western Pacific.

In the past 20 years, U.S. amphibious forces have responded to crises and contingencies more than 120 times, such as Afghanistan in 2001, Beirut in 2006 and Haiti in 2010. This rate is more than twice that of the Cold War period, according to Marine Corps Operating Concepts 2010.

The 31st MEU responded to four humanitarian crises in 2009 and 2010 alone, including operations in Taiwan, the Republic of Indonesia, and the Republic of the Philippines. Most recently the 31st MEU was sent to assist in mainland Japan in March and April of this year, after the 9.0 Great East Japan Earthquake and following tsunami devastated huge areas of the coast.

2/7 is replacing 2/5, whose Marines are now headed back home to Calif., after completing a successful spring deployment with the 31st MEU.

The deployment of 2/7 to Okinawa, Japan is part of the Marine Corps’ Unit Deployment Program, which was established by the Commandant of the Marine Corps in 1977 to provide for the deployment of units to the Western Pacific for periods of approximately six months.

The newly arrived battalion of Marines will begin training with the 31st MEU and integrating with other elements almost immediately in preparation for the upcoming deployment.

The Marines and Sailors of 2/7 leave behind family and friends as they deploy to Okinawa and the Asia-Pacific region to serve their nation.



## Officials release new selective re-enlistment bonus

Master Sgt. Scott T. Sturkol  
Air Mobility Command Public Affairs

RANDOLPH AIR FORCE BASE, Texas – Enlisted members now have 77 Air Force specialties from which they can receive a selective re-enlistment bonus.

Officials said this fiscal year’s program retains a heavy emphasis on retaining Airmen with 17 months to six years of service, and made adjustments in the 6 to 10 and 10 to 14 years-of-service zones. There were no adjustments in the 18 to 20 years-of-service zone.

“Balancing the enlisted force is a constant challenge; using SRBs is certainly one of the most effective retention tools the Air Force can employ to retain our number one priority ... our Airmen,” said Michael McLaughlin, the chief of Air Force re-enlistments at the Air Force Personnel Center here.

Officials added no Air Force specialty codes to the list and increased 13 AFSCs in at least one zone. Thirty-six AFSCs had a zone eliminated or decreased and 13 AFSCs were removed from the program.

All increases and additions went into effect May 16 and all decreases and deletions will go into effect June 15. Any re-enlistments or extensions of any length completed prior to the official message release will remain valid. Airmen who are eligible for re-enlistment and are affected by decreases or removals should re-enlist before June 14 to receive the previously approved bonus.

These bonuses do not apply to Air Force Reserve or Air National Guard members.

To determine eligibility for re-enlistment with an SRB entitlement, members should contact the career development element at their local military personnel section.

For a complete SRB listing and more information about the program, do a keyword search for “SRB” on Air Force personnel services website at <https://gum-crm.csd.disa.mil>.



Senior Airman Kathleen Brophy prepares an F-16 Fighting Falcon for flight May 26, during Max Thunder 11-1 at Kwangju Air Base, Korea. The exercise gave peninsula Airmen an opportunity to sharpen their ability to work together in a simulated war-time environment. – photo by Chuck Tintera

## U.S., Korean air forces rumble forward in joint, simulated war-time exercise

Senior Airman Benjamin Stratton  
8th Fighter Wing Public Affairs

KWANGJU AIR BASE, Republic of Korea – The South Korean and U.S. air forces hosted a joint exercise here recently to sharpen their ability to work together in a simulated wartime environment.

The exercise, held annually, provided bilateral training to more than 320 personnel from the 8th Fighter Wing at Kunsan Air Base and the 51st Fighter Wing and 7th Air Force at Osan Air Base. It is the largest on the Korean peninsula.

“Max Thunder is the only exercise we have on the peninsula that allows for both (Korean) and U.S. airmen to not only fly together, but plan, brief and debrief together,” said Maj. Bill Maclin, the 7th Air Force chief of training. “This really allows the alliance to grow stronger to enhance all of our operational capabilities as well as enhance the interoperability and communication among our air forces.”

“Over the last few years, the U.S. has really gotten used to hosting large force exercises like Red Flag,” said Maj. T.J. Lowe, 36th Fighter Squadron assistant director of operations at Osan AB. “Max Thunder allows ROKAF the experience in hosting international exercises.”

“They can see how the U.S. operates on a much bigger scale,” Lowe said. “It enhances our ability if we ever have to go north.”

Members of the Royal Australian Air Force attended to observe operations between the Koreans and Americans.

“We were invited to take a look at this world-class exercise hosted by the ROKAF,” said Sq. Ldr. Anthony D’Alessandro, the HQ RAAF Air Command exercise planning officer. “It’s excellent to see the exceptional interactions and high caliber of professionalism between the Air Force and ROKAF. It’s clear the process is similar to what we use back home.”

“Our mission here is to help them understand how to accept follow on forces,” said Master Sgt. Jerry Thomas, the 8th Aircraft Maintenance Squadron night shift production supervisor. “This gives them the best equipment and training to help them succeed. Though our mission is the same as back home -- to make sure jets are ready to launch at a moment’s notice.”

Working alongside their Kunsan brothers and sisters, Airmen from Osan AB assigned to the 621st Air Control Squadron said the exercise meant greater communication of operational capabilities and helped facilitate professional development and growth.

“I think it’s a great opportunity for ROKAF and Air Force personnel to practice exactly what we would do in case of a real world threat,” said Tech. Sgt. Michael Harris, the 621st ACS weapons director at Osan AB. “If we don’t practice together now it would be more difficult if a real world event were to happen.”



## Africa Partnership Station training hub visits Cameroon

Mass Communication Specialist  
2nd Class Gary A. Prill,  
Commander, U.S. Naval Forces Europe-Africa/  
Commander, U.S. 6th Fleet Public Affairs

DOUALA, Cameroon—Commander, U.S. Naval Forces Europe-Africa personnel kicked off the Africa Partnership Station 2011 training hub in Cameroon, with a ceremony aboard the Douala Naval Base, June 7.

APS is a multinational initiative developed by CNE-CNA and is comprised of 34 nations which aim to work cooperatively to enhance maritime safety and security on the African continent.

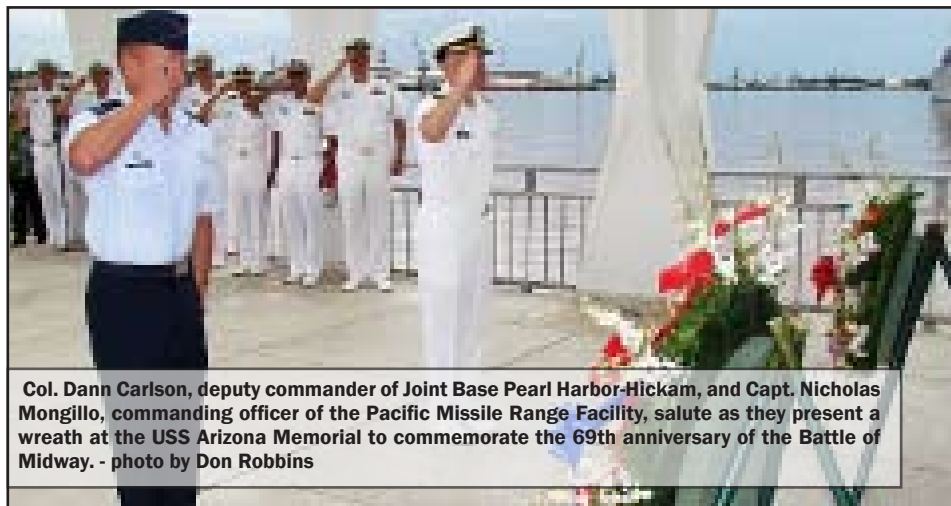
This APS hub will take place during the next 11 days and began with an opening speech by Capt. Lawrence Rollo, CNE-CNA maritime affairs officer.

“Welcome to APS 2011 Doula,” said Rollo. “I want to thank the government of Cameroon for hosting this hub, and the continued support of APS. APS was a concept instituted several years ago with the first engagement on USS Fort McHenry; it was an important first step. Now we have more hubs focused on more training, and international and multinational exercises at sea together.”

Following Rollo’s speech, Gen. Mohammad Sali, Cameroon navy chief of naval operations, shared a few words welcoming Italian, Somali, and American training teams, and requested the students to perform at their best during APS 2011.

“Its an honor for me to [be] presiding over the opening ceremony of APS 2011,” said Sali. “I would like to wish all of you, teachers and students from outside of Cameroon, a warm welcome to Douala. I am asking this group of students to make them selves available and be disciplined to profit from this program.”

APS brings together an international team of expert trainers in a variety of military capabilities, and a handful of civilian fields. This APS hub will focus on addressing cross-service training in law at sea, port security, maritime interdiction operations, small boat maintenance, medical training and more.



**Col. Dann Carlson, deputy commander of Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam, and Capt. Nicholas Mongillo, commanding officer of the Pacific Missile Range Facility, salute as they present a wreath at the USS Arizona Memorial to commemorate the 69th anniversary of the Battle of Midway. - photo by Don Robbins**

## Pearl Harbor remembers Battle of Midway at USS Arizona Memorial

Don Robbins, Commander  
Navy Region Hawaii Public Affairs

PEARL HARBOR – Representatives of Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam marked the 69th anniversary of the World War II Battle of Midway with a solemn wreath laying ceremony at the USS Arizona Memorial, June 3.

Capt. Lawrence Hill, deputy commander, Pearl Harbor Naval Shipyard & Intermediate Maintenance Facility, served as master of ceremonies, while Gary Jackson of the National Park Service also assisted with narration during the historical boat tour.

“As a representative of the hundreds of shipyard workers in 1942 who helped make USS Yorktown ‘fit to fight’ and win at Midway — and representing the many thousands of men and women who have served at Pearl Harbor Naval Shipyard in the years since, I am honored to serve as your emcee for today’s ceremony as we commemorate the 69th anniversary of the Battle of Midway,” Hill said.

In memory of the historic naval victory at Midway, Capt. Nicholas Mongillo, commanding officer, Pacific Missile Range Facility, Barking Sands, and Col. Dann Carlson, Deputy Joint Base Commander, Pearl Harbor-Hickam, 647th Air Base Group, presented wreaths.

As Mongillo and Carlson walked to offer the wreaths aboard the Arizona Memorial, Hill said, “These wreaths — and wreaths being presented around the world — are in honor of our Midway veterans. We pause

to remember and honor the spirit of the Midway victory in our Navy and our nation. We also pause to honor all those who have served and are serving with honor, courage and commitment.”

Navy bugler Musician 2nd Class Bryan Parmann played taps in memory of the veterans at the Arizona Memorial.

Rear Adm. Dixon R. Smith, commander, Navy Region Hawaii emphasized in his remarks that the Battle of Midway served as a turning point, perhaps the major one, in World War II.

“What makes this commemoration so special, compared with the dozens of related ceremonies held across the nation this week, is that we are here at Pearl Harbor, where the war in the Pacific started,” Smith explained.

Cmdr. Joe Rochefort and his team at Pacific Fleet’s Combat Intelligence Unit, Station Hypo, cracked the code, identified Midway as the target, and fooled the enemy.

Adm. Chester Nimitz had unimpeachable intelligence, exceptional ships and aviators, United States Marines and Army bombers, and superior leadership, Smith noted.

This year’s ceremony also significantly coincides with the Centennial of Naval aviation.

“In this centennial year of naval aviation, we remember that the Battle of Midway demonstrates our Navy’s flexibility and forward presence in a decisive victory,” Smith said. “We salute the warriors of the Battle of Midway of 1942. They helped us win the peace we preserve in 2011.”



# Transforming struggles into triumph: Chaplain Williams bids farewell

Air Force Lt. Col Marvin Williams  
Joint Task Force Command Chaplain

Over the past six months, I have written articles focusing on a variety of subjects dealing with the “course of life.” In those articles I outlined ways to chart a course for living successfully. Today I want to take a brief moment to reflect on a facet of life common to everyone – how we transform our struggles into triumph. By tackling this subject, I believe we can explore strategies for tapping into the secrets of life. As you have done throughout my tenure at the Joint Task Force, I ask that you journey with me down this road called life. Who knows, you may find exactly what you need to negotiate the next step along your path.

Let me start with a simple and very basic truth: life is full of struggles. No one is exempt from life’s struggles – they are not rank or gender specific and have nothing to do with socioeconomic status, family lineage or ethnicity. No matter what your religious persuasion is, no one can escape the nature of life. Even if religious devotion is not your cup of tea, you are subject to life struggles because it’s a human dynamic—part of a larger process for growth.

Struggles are struggles no matter how small or great. Everyone finds themselves struggling in life in one way or another. At times, some struggles seem more difficult than others. Certainly, there are moments I feel the struggles tugging at the very essence of my being.

Essential to navigating successfully through life is the recognition of at least two types of struggles: inner and outer struggles. To keep it simple, inner struggles tend to deal with the human soul and other spiritual ideas while outer struggles deal with things of a physical nature. It is possible to have both inner and outer struggles as one type impacts the other. Thus, inner and outer struggles are inextricably woven together. Whether the struggle is inner or outer, it is important to remember struggles are part and parcel of what it means to be human.

When struggling with situations in life, sometimes we are forced into tough decisions between poor alternatives. I really believe some decisions are not simply win-win or lose-lose. Life is far too complex to narrow it down to absolute categories. Some situations are so grave we have to make the best decision



for the moment and trust things will eventually work out in our favor. Some people call this level of trust “faith.” There are those who say trust is a matter of believing in yourself and your abilities, while others contend

trust means accentuating positive aspects of life. Perhaps the truth about trust lies in each view, because ultimately life is about

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## GTMO Religious Services

**Daily Catholic Mass**  
Mon. - Fri. 5:30 p.m.  
Main Chapel  
**Vigil Mass**  
Saturday 5 p.m.  
Main Chapel  
**Mass**  
Sunday 9 a.m.  
Main Chapel  
**Catholic Mass**  
Saturday 7:30 p.m.  
Troopers' Chapel  
Sunday 7:30 a.m.  
Troopers' Chapel

**Protestant Worship**  
Sunday 9 a.m.  
Troopers' Chapel  
**Islamic Service**  
Friday 1:15 p.m.  
Room C  
**Jewish Service**  
Friday 7 p.m.  
Chapel Annex  
**LORIMI Gospel**  
Sunday 8 a.m.  
Room D  
**LDS Service**  
Sunday 10 a.m.  
Room A

**Church of Christ**  
Sunday 10 a.m.  
Chapel Annex  
Room 17  
**Seventh Day Adventist**  
Saturday 11 a.m.  
Room B  
**Iglesia Ni Cristo**  
Sunday 5:30 a.m.  
Room A  
**Pentecostal Gospel**  
Sunday 8 a.m.  
Room D

**Liturgical Service**  
Sunday 10 a.m.  
Room B  
**General Protestant**  
Sunday 11 a.m.  
Main Chapel  
**United Jamaican Fellowship**  
Sunday 11 a.m.  
Building 1036  
**Gospel Service**  
Sunday 1 p.m.  
Main Chapel

**GTMO Bay Christian Fellowship**  
Sunday 6 p.m.  
Main Chapel  
**Bible Study**  
Wednesday 7 p.m.  
Troopers' Chapel  
**The Truth Project Bible Study**  
Sunday 6 p.m.  
Troopers' Chapel

# HANGOVER PART II



Spc. Meredith Vincent

It is a testament to the phenomenal drawing power of its three breakout stars that myself and dozens of other Guantanamo Bay residents sat through what can only be described as a torrential downpour to finish watching the final moments in “The Hangover: Part 2.” Even more impressive: it was worth every rain-soaked minute.

Director Todd Philips once again assembles his wolfpack – the effortlessly rakish Phil (Bradley Cooper), repressed dentist Stu (Ed Helms), and, of course, unpredictable Allen (Zach Galifianakis) – sending them this time to exotic Thailand for Stu’s upcoming wedding.

The curious thing about this sequel is it is nothing but a mad lib of the first movie. It appears Philips simply filled in new verbs, animals and/or disfigurements to the original “Hangover” script. As Bangkok fills in for the former movie’s Vegas, a chain-smoking monkey takes the place of the pepper-loving tiger and instead of a missing incisor, Stu wakes up with a bleeding face tattoo. Even Mr. Chow, the outrageously over-the-top, metrosexual Asian gangster, is back for more (Ken Jeong with a slightly racist, all-out manic performance). You know those guys in college who don’t really have to have a reason for a party, they just make one up? That’s “The Hangover: Part 2.”

But oh, what a party! Refusing to let his friends throw him a bachelor party before he gets hitched to wife-to-be Lauren (Jamie



Chung), Stu settles for a quiet beach campfire. Lauren’s father wholly disapproves of her meek groom, preferring to dote on prodigal son Teddy, sixteen-year-old Stanford student and cellist to boot, who joins the wolfpack much to Allan’s obvious - and hilarious - displeasure.

As night falls and the camera goes into hyper speed, we know the fun isn’t seeing what happened in the wee hours of the night -- it’s watching our blitzed and blundering heroes attempt to piece it all back together. Waking up in a grimy motel room with no idea where they are, how they got there and missing Lauren’s golden child brother - oh wait, there’s his finger! - the three naughty

Stooges, once again, find themselves with a nasty case of amnesia.

Philips is a talented director, responsible for comedy classics “Road Trip” and “Old School.” He’s developed a mix of raunchy storytelling with a sweet, gooey center, making us choke on our popcorn with laughter, while at the same time feeling a deep, sentimental connection to the characters.

Philips real triumph in “The Hangover,” however, is his casting instinct. Cooper, Helms and the portly Galifianakis have developed a rare and true chemistry and it

see MOVIES page 19

	10 FRI.	11 SAT.	12 SUN.	13 MON.	14 TUES.	15 WED.	16 THURS.
<b>Downtown Lyceum</b>	Kung Fu Panda 2 (PG) 8 p.m.  Sucker Punch (PG-13) 10 p.m. *last showing*	X-Men: First Class (PG-13) 8 p.m.  The Hangover: Part 2 (R) 10 p.m.	Soul Surfer (PG) 8 p.m.	Lincoln Lawyer (R) 8 p.m. *last showing*	Pirates of the Caribbean: On Stranger Tides (PG-13) 8 p.m.	Thor (PG-13) 8 p.m. *last showing*	Arthur (R) 8 p.m.
<b>Camp Bulkeley</b>	Your Highness (R) 8 p.m.  Soul Surfer (PG) 10 p.m.	Kung Fu Panda 2 (PG) 8 p.m.  Lincoln Lawyer (R) 10 p.m. *last showing*	X-Men: First Class (PG-13) 8 p.m.	The Hangover: Part 2 (R) 10 p.m.	Sucker Punch (PG-13) 8 p.m. *last showing*	Arthur (PG-13) 8 p.m.	Pirates of the Caribbean: On Stranger Tides (PG-13) 8 p.m.

Call MWR at ext. 2010 for more information.

Movie Hotline - call 4880.

perseverance and the ability to push through the struggles we face. Whatever approach fits your decision-making paradigm, it is certain you will need to use trust as a vehicle to carry you through the process of negotiating the steps of life.

In thinking about the struggles we face, I want to share with you the purpose of struggles and how we can turn painful experiences into avenues of triumph. Struggles are not something we should seek to escape from, no matter how difficult the challenges. We have to work through them because therein lies the process of life – the keys to success.

Struggles do have a purpose in life. They enable us to understand ways in which we can achieve. Without struggles there are no achievements. For example, I struggle with relationships I have with family members, as we all do. Naturally, that pushed me into making some critical decisions about how I interface with my family. Of course, I cannot choose my family members or force them to support my efforts, but I can change my approach to life. I can find the way of struggling through those situations that will make my life more productive and satisfying, leading to happiness.

Furthermore, struggles impact the human spirit by producing perseverance, character and hope. With each struggle we find ourselves more equipped to handle life and ready to take the next step toward living abundantly. It is the struggle that shapes us and gives us a fresh perspective on how to develop the best practices for daily living. Without the struggles in life, there is no

personal growth. As we navigate through the hardships, we gain confidence in choosing the most productive path, if not the easiest. The purpose behind struggles, therefore, is not to experience failure but to help us tap into resources for achievement.

Before departing the island this weekend, I want to leave you with three steps toward achieving best practices in life. Following these steps will allow you to turn your struggles into triumph, and find that sense of purpose in life. Until our paths cross again!

### Step 1: Living by principles

Develop a set of principles by which to live. These principles will govern what you will or will not do. Don't compromise your principles to suit someone else's behavior. Always remain open to change and development.

### Step 2: Chart a path for success – be intentional

Success is intentional. Don't leave your success up to haphazardness or happenstance. Plan your life and develop strategies to accomplish your goals. Adjust that plan accordingly to fit your setting in life. You don't need a perfect plan – you need one that is practical and doable.

### Step 3: No regrets

Live without regrets. Life is too precious and short to spend time second guessing yourself. Plus, there's no need to beat yourself up – there will be plenty of people willing to beat up on you. Learn from bad decisions and make a concerted effort to live a life of transformation – that means always developing and growing.

elevates everybody's game. I've been a fan of Cooper since he was Jennifer Garner's lovesick second banana on TV's "Alias," (Which means, girls, I saw him first!) and am thrilled to see him achieve his rightfully-deserved leading-man status. As the frustrated but always amused Phil, Cooper is a true guy's guy – he's the dude other dudes want to be. Stu, meanwhile, is the guy most guys are. Neurotic and panicked with a dark, drunken tendency to fall for the wrong kind of stripper, Helms plays Stu with a constant look of desperate horror. As Lauren's father humiliatingly compares him to bland white rice during the rehearsal dinner, he merely manages a half-smile and sad stare. But as we trace the threesome's steps throughout the night, we come to learn Stu can be quite the instigator, and Helms plays the discovery of his inner demon with honest dismay.

And then there's Allen. I don't believe since 2004's "Napoleon Dynamite" have we seen such a universally loved, but ultimately socially and emotionally stunted character. Galifianakis ingeniously molds Allen from an amusing punch-line factory to a fully-realized, three-dimensional man child – still unstable, still riotously random but also with a genuine longing for kinship with his buddies. Galifianakis still brings to Allen what Johnny Depp's Jack Sparrow now lacks – the ability to startle the audience.

Expectations for a movie as highly-anticipated as "The Hangover: Part 2" can sometimes foster backlash and lead to its downfall, especially when said movie barely inches from its original formula. Philips and the boys manage to pull it off, however, as their second night of bullet-diving debauchery hits the sequel mark dead center. Because even as the rain and wind kicked into high gear and my popcorn turned soggy, I was still laughing.



# The JTF At Shutter Speed



## HAND SALUTE

Marines from the Marine Corps Security Forces Company salute during a wreath-laying ceremony, June 3, to commemorate the 63rd anniversary of the Battle of Midway. - photo by Mass Communication Specialist 2nd Class Jason Tross



## OPEN WIDE

Hospital Corpsman 3rd Class Dushan Hunter (right) passes a filling to Navy Lt. Nicholas Hamlin (left) before placing it in a patient's mouth, June 3. - photo by Mass Communication Specialist 2nd Class Jason Tross



## CHILI SHOWDOWN

Naval Station Guantanamo Command Master Chief J.D. McKinney dishes up chili during the Navy Ball Committee's Chili Cook-off, Saturday at the Windjammer. - photo by Boatswain's Mate 3rd Class Andre Jackson



## NOT QUITE A DOUBLE RAINBOW

A rainbow arcs over the sky behind the detention facilities at Camp Delta, May 3. No rainbows have been spotted recently, as the sky continues to shower on the base. - photo by Spc. Kelly Gary