



# the Wire

“ HONOR BOUND TO DEFEND FREEDOM ”

Volume 3, Issue 13

Friday, February 28, 2003

## Alpha/2-116 sharpening 11B skills

By Spc. Lisa L. Gordon

It's only a matter of seconds before the ground drops out from beneath you. As you struggle to kick your feet, you quickly realize that your boots are weighing you down and it's difficult to keep your head above the salty water.

Swimming for 200 meters while lugging a 40 pound poncho raft is challenging, but it was just one of many training tasks completed by the infantrymen of Alpha Company, 2nd Battalion of the 116th Infantry Regiment during their training cycle last week.

The training cycle which takes place every three weeks is used by Alpha Co. as a useful opportunity for soldiers to maintain the infantry skills which they cannot practice during their regular missions here. Last week the soldiers of Alpha Co. trained on a wide variety of



Spc. Alan Knesek

(Front to back) Army Pfc. Joshua Rountrey and Spc. Rodger Cheadle practice the proper procedure for entering and clearing a room during last week's training.

infantry tasks including movement to contact, hasty ambush, mortar training, waterborne operations and MOUT training (military operations in urban terrain).

"It's imperative that we do the training because this is what we do for a living. If we don't do the training we're not going to be able to perform, and if we can't perform while training with blanks, then we

won't be able to perform if they send us into a live environment. Repetition and practice makes perfect and doing it over and over again is how we get it right," explained Sgt. Tommy Morton, who has been with the company for five years.

The training tasks were made particularly realistic by soldiers who were identified to play the role of "the enemy" during many of the exercises.

Blank rounds were also used to give the soldiers a sense of realism while engaging "the enemy."

During exercises such as movement to contact and hasty ambush, the infantrymen practiced their skills sizing up and dealing with the enemy in a tactical environment. During the hasty ambush drill, the patrolling soldiers came up on an enemy who they did not anticipate seeing. In this scenario, the soldier has spotted the enemy without the enemy's knowledge. To avoid being spotted the soldiers quickly use whatever they can find to provide themselves cover and concealment. From there, they lie in wait until they can successfully take the enemy out.

As Morton explained, movement to contact is basically a "search and attack" exercise in which the infantry-

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**JTF Guantanamo  
Joint Task Force CSM  
CSM George L. Nieves**

## MESSAGE FROM CSM GEORGE L. NIEVES

This week I would like to talk about LEADERSHIP and how it plays an enormous role within Joint Task Force Guantanamo. Leadership is defined as influencing people by providing purpose, direction and motivation-while operating to accomplish the mission and improving the organization. Leading troopers in JTF Guantanamo is hard work, consisting of long hours, often dangerous, and under some grueling conditions here. We will continue to win the war on terrorism because of the tough and dedicated leaders we have in JTF Guantanamo and in the military services worldwide.

In JTF Guantanamo we have leaders from all branches of services, both officer and enlisted who are doing a tremendous job gaining the respect and confidence of their troopers by demonstrating technical and tactical proficiency and by caring for their well being. This means training them to standard, not to time. It means ensuring they know their individual skills. It's looking troopers in the eye and

telling them they have not met the standard, or rewarding them for superior performance. It means helping them through problems, both personal and professional. Above all, it means leading by example. All these actions create in your troopers the determination to win and that determination is essential to accomplishing the difficult mission here.

I ask all senior leaders to develop their young leaders. Empower them to be innovative, agile, and aggressive. Mentor them to seek initiative and not be afraid to make a mistake. Theodore Roosevelt once said, "The only man who never makes a mistake is the man who never does anything." One of the keys to leadership development is giving young leaders the opportunity to gain experience.

Good leadership throughout JTF Guantanamo is the glue that holds us together. Be proud you are a leader; strive to be one of the best!

## OPSEC CORNER

For purely informational purposes, CNN is the king of news. Everyday, we can simply tune in to the television and view the state of world affairs. Iraq, North Korea, and the United Nations seem to be the most discussed topics each day. However, every once in a while, we see stories on our mission here at Guantanamo Bay. How does our mission end up on a global news network? I'm sure you may have many answers, but the bottom line is that information leaks are the primary source. News interviews, outdated footage, rumors, and second hand information are all part of how pieces of the mission are gathered and then constructed to create a news story. However, we have the upper hand over our adversaries. We can, and must, control the critical and vital infor-

mation that pertains to the details of our important mission. Each one of us is a key link in securing and protecting this information. We've all signed disclosure statements outlining the seriousness of leaking or broadcasting this critical information and the repercussions to the individual and mission if it's violated. Remember that our mission, even though it doesn't receive the daily CNN reviews as other top stories, is as crucial to the Global War on Terrorism as any other mission. Your presence here and participation in it is absolutely necessary and required. Continue to do your part to maintain our OPSEC posture.

Think OPSEC!

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"For a people who are free, and who mean to remain so, a well-organized and armed militia is their best security."

- Thomas Jefferson:  
message to Congress,  
Nov. 1808

# Chaplain's Corner

**By CH (LTC) Raymond Bucon  
Joint Task Force Guantanamo  
Deputy Chaplain**

For reasons of convenience or necessity many of our deployed service members secured a special power of attorney so that family and friends back home could act on their behalf and take care of financial concerns or transact necessary business.

I think that our Creator gave each human being a special power to act on His behalf. Our ability to think and reason is present so we can be co-creators with God. We are free to act on God's behalf and bring love and compassion into everyday situations. We are free to listen to God's wisdom or to reject it.

Every morning I ask God to bring peace into the world and every evening I ask myself whether I've cooperated well enough with God's grace to be a channel of His peace for others. Every prophet and apostle chose to work in deep partnership with God and act as his designated agent. We, in our humanity, can make the same choice. Or not. God lets us decide.

Next Wednesday is known as Ash Wednesday in the Catholic Church and

marks the beginning of 40 days of reflecting on the message of Jesus and how well Christians are putting it into practice. This period of time is known as the liturgical season of Lent and ends with the celebration of Holy Thursday, Good Friday, and Easter Sunday.

Lent is a time for spiritual exercises, penitential liturgies, pilgrimages as signs of penance, voluntary self-denial such as fasting and almsgiving, and fraternal sharing. Ashes will be distributed at the NAVBASE Chapel on Ash Wednesday Mar. 1 to mark the beginning of this season of charity. I will be away from the island on this special day but know you will be in my prayers.

## *World Wide prayer for peace*

The JTF Guantanamo Unit Ministry Team will sponsor a special day of prayer on Monday, Mar. 3. All individuals on the island are encouraged to pray according to the dictates of their faith. The Unit Ministry Team will lead a short prayer service in the wooden chapel (building 3203) at Camp America at noon. Call 3202 for more info.

## New software system improves morale calls

**By Sgt. Erin Viola**

Starting in approximately two to three weeks, a new automated morale call system will be installed that will make placing a morale call easier for Joint Task Force Guantanamo troopers.

With the new system, callers won't need to make an appointment to make a morale call. Nor will they need the assistance of a Local Communications Network Inc., (LCN) operator. Instead, JTF Guantanamo troopers can make the call right from the phones in their living areas at any time.

This new system will allow JTF Guantanamo troopers to make two morale calls per week. The calls will last 15 minutes each. Callers will be given a 30 second warning before their 15 minutes is up,

according to Guy Bunkley, Manager of the Base Communications Office.

The new system will include 18 additional phone lines, which will be used to connect the caller to a Defense Switched Network line closest to their home. This brings the total lines up from six to 24.

Troopers who want to make morale calls will be assigned a Personal Identification Number by their command. The PIN will be used to monitor how many morale calls have been made by that trooper each week, basically making sure only two calls are made. More details about the exact PIN procedure will be available in a few weeks.

More information about the new morale call system will be given to JTF Guantanamo troopers as soon as it becomes available.

## Worship Services

### Catholic

#### Main Chapel

Daily	6:30 a.m.	Mass Cobre Chapel
Wed.	5 p.m.	R.C.I.A. Cobre Chapel
Fri.	5 p.m.	Rosary
Sat.	4:30 p.m.	Confession
	5:30 p.m.	Mass
Sun.	9 a.m.	Mass

#### Camp America

Sun.	10:45 a.m.	Mass Wooden Chapel
	5 p.m.	Mass Wooden Chapel

### Protestant

#### Main Chapel

Wed.	7 p.m.	Men's Bible Study*
Thurs.	7:30 p.m.	Youth Fellowship*
Sun.	9:30 a.m.	Adult Bible Study
	5 p.m.	Bible Study*
	6:30 a.m.	Praise and Worship Service

\* Fellowship Hall located in Chapel Complex

#### Camp America

Wed.	7 p.m.	Service Wooden Chapel
Sun.	9 a.m.	Service White Tent
	7 p.m.	Service Wooden Chapel

### Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints

Sun.	9 a.m.	Sanctuary A
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### Islamic

Fri.	1 p.m.	Classroom 12 ChapelComplex
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### Jewish

Fri.	8 p.m.	Fellowship Hall
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#### Camp America Church Bus schedule:

Sun.	8 a.m.	Windward Loop
	8:15 a.m.	Tierra Kay

The bus will return immediately following worship.

## INFANTRY, from page 1.

men must decide if the enemy element is small enough in size to engage.

"If it's one squad you don't want to take on anything larger than about three men. So, if we find one to three people, I'll tell my squad to solve the objective and take it out. If it's too many people I may hit it and run, or if it's excessively large, I would call back to headquarters and have them assess the situation," Morton said. There are a number of different scenarios that could arise during a movement to contact exercise, but all involve the soldiers being able to think on their feet and successfully assess the enemy in order to avoid taking casualties.

During mortar training, a specialized section of Alpha Co. practiced their ability to quickly and effectively set up an 81 millimeter mortar. Their ability to do so, speaks volumes about Alpha Co.'s readiness because most of the soldiers are part of rifle squads and not specialized mortar men. The mortars are extremely important for infantry units because it is the mortar men who stay in the rear to cover the advance of the rifle squads during a mission. Alpha Co. will continue to intensify their training on the mortars and will eventually conduct a live fire exercise sometime next month.

The exercise that appeared to be a favorite of many of Alpha Co.'s soldiers was MOUT training. "I love doing MOUT. I think it's the biggest rush the infantry gets to have and I think it's one of the hardest (tasks) to perfect. It takes a lot of experience and a lot of training to perfect," said Spc. Jesse Presson.

Perhaps the reason soldiers enjoy the MOUT training so much is because it is fast paced and so realistically applicable to what they may face should they be deployed again in the future. Since MOUT training is geared to being ready for battle in "urban terrain," Alpha Co.'s soldiers practiced the procedure for entering and clearing a room. This involved the soldiers' approach to the building, their entrance through the initial doorway, movement throughout the room, contact with the enemy once inside, and movement as a team throughout the building. A high intensity, often exciting exercise for the infantrymen, MOUT training has special significance for today's soldiers.

"MOUT training is training for combat



Spc. Lisa Gordon

(From left to right) Spc. Caled Marden, Army Pvt. Jeremy Fortner, and Army Sgt. Michael Hebrown make their way around a building where they will burst through a door and clear a room during MOUT training.

in an urban terrain and mostly what we're looking at is probably what Saddam Hussein's defenses will be in the city of Baghdad. It would take very few people for him to defend a very large terrain in a city environment. So, in order for him to level the playing field, he would probably try to defend in a MOUT scenario instead of out in the field," said 1st Lt. Chris Samulski, executive officer.

Although they appear to enjoy MOUT training, it is both mentally demanding and physically strenuous. In describing training soldiers for battle in urban terrain, Samulski said, "It's one of the most difficult (tasks) because it is a perishable skill. It all relies on speed, and speed is something that if you don't practice a lot, you can lose it. Here we're just trying to teach them the right techniques and build the initial speed that we want them to operate at so they can continue to get faster and faster because the violence of action is very important when you're doing MOUT ... It's how quick they can get in the door and away from the door that determines their success."

The training conducted last week was not only challenging, but helped soldiers to fine tune their skills, and in some cases, even overcome their fears. Last Friday, Alpha Co. finished their training week with waterborne operations at Windmill Beach. The soldiers performed a few different drills in the open water, one of them being an exercise where pairs of soldiers swim a full 200 meters in full battle dress uniform and boots while toting a poncho raft weighing roughly 40 pounds. Once

the soldiers swam out 50 meters, they stopped to tread water and practiced making a flotation device out of their BDU blouses. After completing that task to standard, the pair of soldiers dragged their poncho raft 100 meters parallel to the beach and then 50 meters back in to the shore. For the soldiers who were either poor swimmers or non-swimmers, this task was particularly difficult, but all of the soldiers rose to the challenge and completed the task.

For Alpha Co. soldiers, training isn't just about getting a break from routine; it's about sharpening the skills they need to conduct successful missions and operate to full capacity at all times. Maybe it is because they always seem ready for whatever task they are given, or maybe it is the enthusiasm with which they greet a challenge. Whatever it is, the infantrymen of Alpha Co. are the kind of soldiers that make up the back bone of the United States Army. As Presson pointed out, it's all about accepting a challenge and rising to the occasion. "When I first joined (the Army), I said, what's the hardest thing the Army has to offer. They said the infantry, so I picked that," Presson said.

Whether they're in their training cycle or doing their day to day mission here at Guantanamo Bay, the infantrymen of Alpha Co. have an attitude that demonstrates their ability to lead the way and set the example for all troops.

*See pages six and seven for more photos!*



Photo by Sgt. Erin Viola

Navy Capt. Robert A. Buehn, Commander, U.S. Naval Base Guantanamo Bay (right) salutes during the National Anthem at a ceremony last Friday, celebrating the 100th anniversary of the lease agreement between the governments of the United States and Cuba - 1903 to 2003.

## Black History Month: The Triple Nickles

*In recognition of Black History Month, here is yet another historical piece displaying the bravery and character of American troops, and how they have fought for our freedoms at home, as well as abroad.*

In the winter of 1943-44, soldiers and officer candidates traveling to and from Fort Benning, Ga., often saw the sky filled with white parachutes. Most assumed that the faces beneath the chutes were also white. The black soldiers they knew drove trucks, waited on them in mess halls or hauled their ammunition. They rode in the back of the bus to and from Columbus, Ga.; they gathered at their own separate clubs on the fort.

Some of the faces beneath those chutes, however, were black. As such they were pioneers, blazing trails for black soldiers to follow. It wasn't easy. A proud black lieutenant, sergeant or private with polished boots and paratrooper wings, still had to use the "colored" toilets and drinking fountains in the railroad stations, sit in segregated sections of theaters and go out of his way to avoid confrontations with racist police. Black officers continued to find post officers' club closed to

them. But they endured and proved themselves as airborne troopers--"as fine a group of soldiers as I have ever seen," in the words of the notoriously fussy General Ben Lear.

These black pioneers were exceptional men, specially selected for the task. They were former university students and professional athletes, top-notch and veteran noncommissioned officers. A major element in their success was that, unlike other black infantry units officered by whites, they were entirely black, from commanding officer down to the newest private.

The Triple Nicklers served in more airborne units, in peace and war, than any other parachute group in history.

Though combat-ready and alerted for European duty in late 1944, the changing tides of the war resulted in a different assignment--jumping over the blazing forests of the American northwest searching for Japanese balloon bombs, a job requiring exact skills and special courage. In this unusual role, the 555th also confronted a new dimension in warfare involving the use of biological agents that could destroy woodlands and crops, but not humans.

*Compiled from information from [www.triplenickle.com](http://www.triplenickle.com)*

# Alpha/2-116 Leading the way!



Photo By Spc. Alan L. Knesek

Army Pfc. Ryan Koniak, 2-116th Inf. Regt., leads his team into a training scenario where they must secure and clear a room.



Photo by Spc. Lisa L. Gordon

(left to right) Army Sgt. Phillip Kershner and Spc. Michael Irby, both with the 2-116th Inf. Regt., swim back to shore with their Poncho Raft, consisting of their TA -50, their wet weather bags (inflated) and their poncho on the outside.



Photo by Spc. Lisa L. Gordon

Army Pfc. Joseph Rubin, 2-116th Inf. Regt., covers the hallway as the next team advances to the next room during their 'clearing buildings' training.

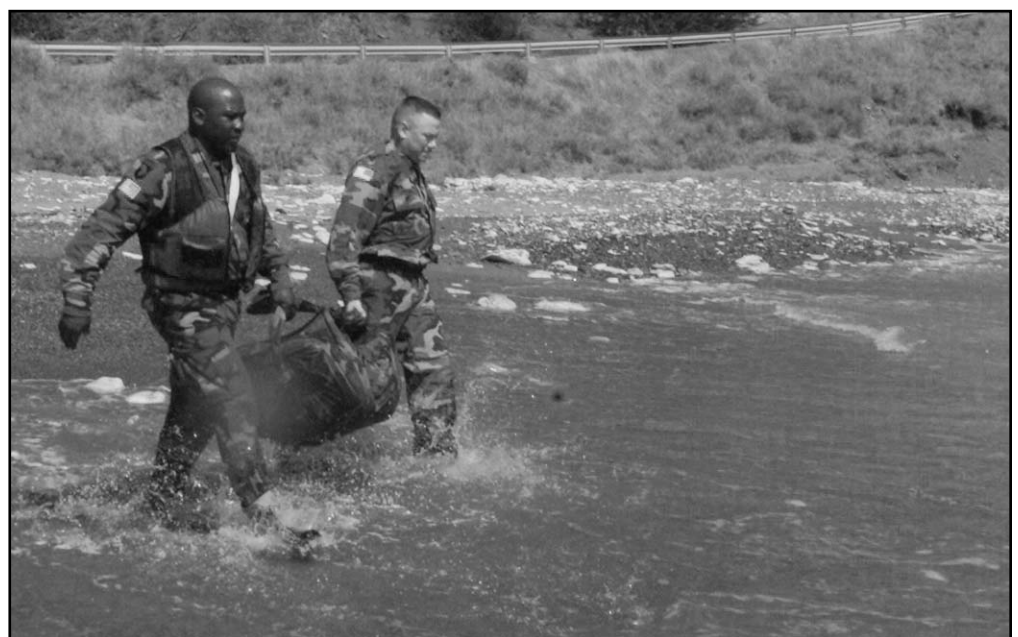


Photo by Spc. Lisa L. Gordon

(left to right) Army Staff Sgt. Eric Samuels and Army Staff Sgt. Christopher Perdue, both with the 2-116 Inf. Regt., enter the Caribbean Sea with their poncho raft during their water obstacle training at Windmill Beach.





Photo by Spc. Lisa L. Gordon

(left to right) Spc. Donald Candage, Army Pfc. Jordan Hamilton and Army Staff Sgt. Kevin Hunt, all with the 2-116th Inf. Regt., set up a 81 mm mortar.



Photo by Spc. Alan L. Knesek

(left to right, all with 2-116th Inf. Regt.) Army Pfc. Ryan Koniak, Army Pfc. Joseph Rubin, Army Sgt. Twon Nguyen and Army Sgt. Glenn Rich prepare to enter and clear a room during their MOUT training.



Spc. Lisa L. Gordon

Spc. Caled Marden, Army Pvt. Jeremy Fortner, and Army Sgt. Michael Hebrown keep a watchful eye out for "the enemy" as they approach a building during MOUT training.



Photo By Spc. Alan L. Knesek

(left to right) Spc. James Shelton and Spc. Richard Erb, both A/2-116th Inf. Regt., cover their teammates as they clear the next room during their MOUT training.



Photo by Spc. Lisa L. Gordon

Army 1st Lt. Kevin Berger, OIC Instructor of the 'clearing building' training demonstrates with Army Pfc. Russell Gibson how one should cover your teammate during a weapons malfunction. (both A/2-116th Inf. Regt.)

# JTF HEALTH SOURCE



## What's up, Doc?

**By Navy Lt. Cmdr. Fred Schmitz  
Physical Therapist, Naval Hospital**

*Lt. Cmdr. Fred Schmitz is a Navy Physical Therapist, Board Certified in Orthopedic Physical Therapy and Sports Physical Therapy. If you have questions, comments, or ideas for a future article please contact him at the Naval Hospital PT Department: 7-2940 or email at fdschmitz@gtmo.med.navy.mil*

When my wife hurts herself, I tell her the same thing I tell all my patients, if you hurt yourself, ICE it.

That's right, ICE. We use a lot of acronyms in the military, but when I say ICE it, I don't mean an acronym, I mean use the frozen form of water. Ice is in many acronyms for dealing with injury such as RICE for acute injury (Remove from activity, Ice, Compression, Elevation) and ARISE for inflammatory injuries (Anti-inflammatory medication, Relative rest, Ice, Stretching Exercises). Notice these acronyms included ice not heat.

What can ice do for you? The benefits of ice are a result of decreased tissue temperature, which decreases blood flow and local tissue metabolism. After an injury, ice can decrease

bleeding and acute inflammation, and it can also prevent secondary tissue damage that might result from the pressure caused by swelling. Ice also reduces muscle spasm and elevates the pain threshold - you may not have to grit your teeth as much. Ice keeps the damage from injury from getting worse.

Ice from the freezer or ice machine in a plastic bag works great; you can wrap it in a wet towel to decrease the initial shock. Use care with commercial gel cold packs - you need to wrap these in a moist towel as they can reach temperatures below freezing. Ice can be applied over any large area for 10-15 minutes (back, shoulder, thigh, knee). Smaller areas may only need to be iced for 5-10 minutes (finger, elbow, toe). Once an area is numb the ice should be removed until the area returns to room temperature (10-15 minutes), and then you can then apply it again. You can expect ice to be cold, and it may burn or ache before going numb. Ice should not be applied over an area that doesn't have sensation (it's numb or tingly), an area of previous frostbite, areas of compromised blood flow or circulatory disease, or with a person with unusual cold-sensitivity or hypertension. Charlie Papa!

## MAN ON THE STREET

Compiled by Army Sgt. Erin P. Viola, Spc. Lisa L. Gordon, and Spc. Alan L. Knesek

**This week's question:**

***Who would you want to come to Guantanamo Bay for a USO show?***



Navy Petty Officer 3rd Class  
Shamara Perkins, J4

*"Goo Goo Dolls or Dave Matthews Band because they are great bands for all ages."*



Spc. Eric Wyrickseidl,  
303rd MP Co.

*"I would have Bob Hope come here, because he was one funny guy."*



Air Force Tech. Sgt.  
Vince Burns, JPRC

*"I would like to see a good live comedy show, the specific comedian doesn't really matter. I think many of the people here could use a good laugh to help relieve some stress."*



Army Staff Sgt. Jay Jernigan,  
785th Military Police Battalion

*"That's easy. The maestro, Barry White because he's internationally known and his music crosses all gender and age echelons. His music deals with love, and that's the international language."*



Army Staff Sgt. Milton DeJesus,  
240th MP Co.

*"There is a salsa group, Grupomania. They just won a Grammy for best merengue album. They would be great to see."*



# What time is it? Malanga time!

**Story and Photos by  
Spc. Alan L. Knesek**

It's a gorgeous, hot, sunny day on a remote island in the Caribbean. Waves crash on the beach, beckoning for anyone to jump into the temperate cerulean water. Bikinis, suntan lotion and fun in the sun abound. Envision volleyball, burgers sizzling on the grill and people dancing to the hypnotic rhythm of Latin music. You might say this sounds a bit like Beach Blanket Bingo Caribbean style. But, it's not. It's actually something better ... something much better. It's malanga time at Windmill Beach.

According to, Joint Task Force Guantanamo Morale Welfare and Recreation Officer Capt. Juan Gonzales, "Malanga

time means party time." Sunday, many JTF Guantanamo troopers got the chance to experience malanga time first hand at the third JTF Guantanamo Special Social Event at Windmill Beach. It's basically a good time for all, and a great way for JTF Guantanamo troopers to de-stress and kick back for a few hours.

Gonzalez was the driving force behind the special event Sunday. The two events that preceded this one were a huge success according to Gonzalez, with more than 1,200 attending the last malanga time event.

"Last time we planned for 300 and about 1,200 showed up. It started with about 300 people with the first GTMO Special," said Gonzalez.

Activities like volleyball, tug of war, and dancing were



*Party goers get together on the dance floor and do the electric slide during Sunday's JTF Guantanamo special event.*

the main attraction of the day, not to mention the sunny beach and the turquoise waters.

The grill didn't stop all day, keeping the hungry crowd satisfied with its freshly grilled hotdogs, burgers and chicken. Plenty of beverages were also provided for the party goers.

Gonzalez estimated 1,200 people would show up for Sunday's event, but expected the

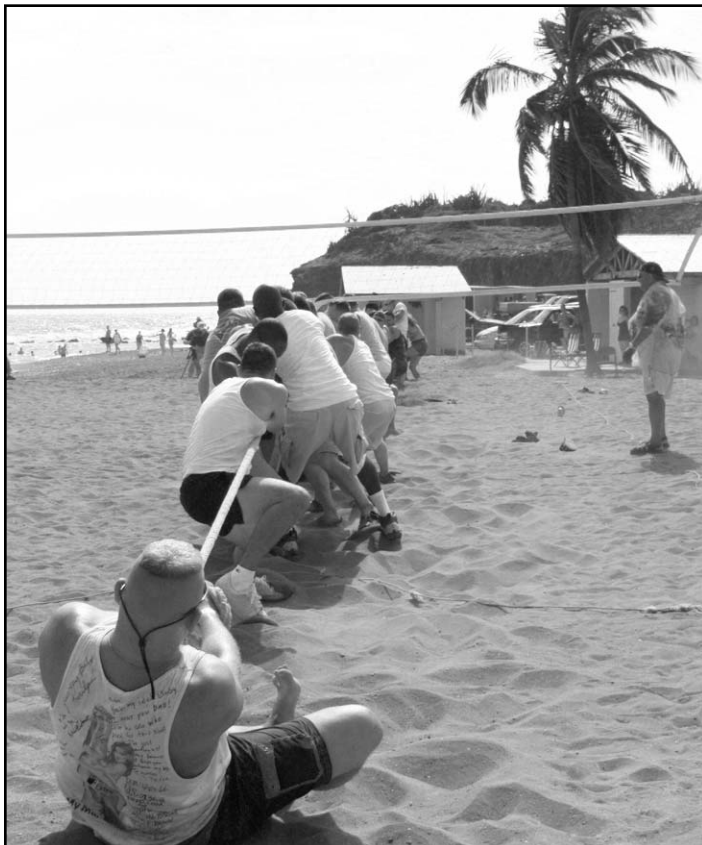
crowd would grow beyond that number. With a day like Sunday, there was no doubt that malanga time would be another success for Gonzalez and for Guantanamo Bay.

"We need to provide service members the best moments in life they can have at Guantanamo Bay," Gonzalez said.

Those who stopped by,

even if for only a couple of hours, left their daily worries at home and enjoyed a day at the beach with their fellow troopers from all the branches stationed here.

"We're looking for unity amongst JTF and the Naval Station. So that it is not JTF and Naval Station, it is Guantanamo Bay. It is GTMO," Gonzalez said.



*Capt. Juan Gonzalez, MWR officer of JTF Guantanamo looks on as party goers participate in a tug-of-war game in the volleyball court at Sunday's special event.*



*(left to right) Navy Petty Officer 3rd Class John Khalil looks on as Army Staff Sgt. Michael Poteat spikes the ball over the net during Sunday's numerous volleyball games at the special event.*

# JTF soldier and student

By Spc. George Allen

After four years in the Army, Army Pfc. Jill Thompson is in her first deployment.

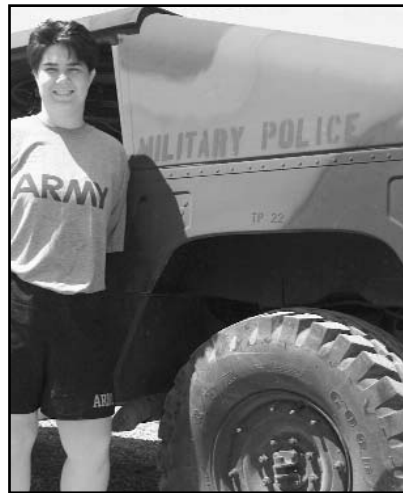
Thompson, a military police officer with the 132nd Military Police Company, from South Carolina, was in the middle of a semester, in her senior year of college, when she got deployed.

"I was upset ... I was supposed to be graduating in May," said Thompson. "But it was my duty. So I've put off graduating for a year or more."

Thompson was called to active duty just after September 11 to guard the Armory and do other missions in South Carolina. "I missed a whole week of school. That didn't bother me - I knew when I joined, that something might happen, I might go somewhere.

Thompson attends the University of South Carolina and majors in English, in hopes of becoming a high school teacher, then eventually getting her masters and doctorate, and becoming a professor.

She became an MP because she



Army Pfc. Jill Thompson, 132nd MP Co.

was thinking of becoming a police officer after high school. Thompson is also minoring in criminal justice at USC.

She's still considering law enforcement though, and she will have a head start in some police departments. In South Carolina some departments don't require you to go through the full academy, just the legal parts, so you know the laws applying to civilians, Thompson said.

### W2 tax statements online

All service members have the capability to view and print their 2002 W2 Tax Statements through the myPay website: <https://emss.dfas.mil/mypay.asp>

Reserve and National Guard service members' active and reserve pay information are contained on the same W2 statement. Block number 14 of the W2 statement shows the amount of active duty wages and is indicated by the letter "W".

For questions on your W2 statement or your myPay account, please contact J8 customer service at Extension 5204.

## Want to know your VA benefits?

A Veterans Affairs representative will visit the Guantanamo Bay Family Service Center March 13 - 17.

VA Briefing on Mar. 14 between 7 p.m. and 9 p.m. Call 4141 to reserve your seat.

## Movie Schedule

### Camp Bulkeley

#### Fri., Feb. 21

8 p.m. *Don't Say A Word*  
R - 110 min

10 p.m. *The Last Castle*  
R - 120 min

#### Sat., Mar. 1

8 p.m. *Stranger Than Fiction* R - 90 min

10 p.m. *The Rock*  
R - 129 min

#### Sun., Mar. 2

8 p.m. & 10 p.m.  
*Sniper* R - 137 min

#### Mon., Mar. 3

8 p.m. *Speed*  
R - 116 min

#### Tues., Mar. 4

8 p.m. *Memento*  
R - 113 min

#### Wed., Mar. 5

8 p.m. *Hamburger Hill*  
R - 112 min

#### Thurs., Mar. 6

8 p.m. & 10 p.m.  
*The Mexican*  
R - 128 min

### Downtown Lyceum

#### Fri., Feb. 28

7 p.m. *Solaris*  
PG13 - 99 min

9 p.m. *Daredevil*  
PG13 - 103 min

#### Sat., Mar. 1

7 p.m. *Drumline*  
PG13 - 119 min

9 p.m. *Shanghai Knights*  
PG13 - 107 min

#### Sun., Mar. 2

7 p.m. *Catch Me If You Can* PG13 - 140 min

#### Mon., Mar. 3

7 p.m. *Star Trek: Nemesis* PG13 - 116 min

#### Tues., Mar. 4

7 p.m. *Antwone Fisher*  
PG 13 - 113 min

#### Wed., Mar. 5

7 p.m. *Daredevil*  
PG13 - 103 min

9 p.m. *Shanghai Knights*  
PG13 - 107 min

#### Thurs., Mar. 6

7 p.m. *Catch Me If You Can* PG 13 - 140 min

### Tax centers available to assist service members

Camp America at bldg. 2300 ext: 3634 and ext: 3637

NAVSTA at bldg. 760 (MWR) ext: 4314

Mon.-Wed.-Fri. 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Thur. 10 a.m. to 7 p.m.

The 2nd Sat. of each month from 8 a.m. to 12 p.m.

Naval Hospital at ext: 7-2400

See Galley message board for hours

# JTF-SPORTS



## Softball JTF-Guantanamo vs. NAVBASE

Well, NAVBASE won, 30 - 20, and 18 - 8 but, it was a beautiful day at Camp Bulkeley, where the two teams played a best of three mini-tournament, and soldiers, sailors, and spectators alike had a good time.

NAVBASE players (dark shirts, below) received trophies for their win, and JTF players (white) received medals.

Left, the NAVSTA third baseman dives to tag out Army Sgt. Emanuel Mahand, 785th MP Bn.



### Commander's Cup Men's Basketball Scores

<b>W. T. Sampson</b>	<b>44</b>
<b>SeaBees</b>	<b>29</b>
<b>MCSF</b>	<b>30</b>
<b>Get Moers</b>	<b>40</b>
<b>JTFGTMO HQ</b>	<b>41</b>
<b>96th Trans</b>	<b>34</b>

### Commander's Cup Men's Basketball Schedule

**Mar. 1**

**6 p.m. W. T. Sampson vs. Get Moers**

**6:45 p.m. SeaBees vs. 96th Trans**

**7:30 p.m. MCSF vs. Security**

## Free tax assistance available Three tax sites now open

**By Army Maj. Jo Irby, Chief Legal Assistance/Tax Officer, Joint Task Force Guantanamo**

Free tax preparation assistance is now available for all military members, retirees, civilians, dependents (and others who may qualify for assistance). There are three tax centers located at Guantanamo Bay. They are located at the Old White House, the Naval Hospital (MID training center) and Camp America (bldg #2300) and are staffed by volunteers who have received special training on IRS software. People taking advantage of this service and file electronically, can expect to receive their refunds much faster than they would through the paper filing process.

All three tax centers operate on a walk-in basis, however appointments can be made for people who have special questions or require particular assistance. Joint Task Force Guantanamo service members and Naval Hospital personnel must use the tax center that has been designated for them. All other individuals must use the Naval Station for tax preparation.

Tax Centers hours of operation and contact number are as follows:

Naval Station (Old White House x 4314)  
Camp America (bldg #2300 x 3637)  
9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Monday, Wednesday and Friday  
10 a.m. to 7 p.m. Tuesday and Thursday  
8 a.m. to noon Feb. 8, Feb. 22, Mar. 8, Mar. 22, Apr. 5, and Apr. 12

Naval Hospital (MID training center x 72440)

Hours of operation and availability will be posted on the Galley's Message Board.

For the convenience of JTF GTMO personnel, a tax program representative will be assigned from each company and staff section. These representatives will provide helpful information on topics such as whether you must file, standard deductions, determining filing status, requesting an extension, EZ filing or paper filing and determining which form to use.

Each representative will schedule appointments, distribute requested state documentation and an interview sheet to individuals who request an appointment with a tax preparer. The interview sheet is a checklist of items that must be brought with the client on the scheduled date.

# 15 Minutes of Fame...

## with Spc. Orlando Perez 240th Military Police Company Meeting the challenge

### Interview and photo by Spc. Alan L. Knesek

**Q:** What is your job during this deployment?

**A:** I am a military police officer with the 240th Military Police Company here. I work down in the wire in Camp Delta. I do whatever I have to do to complete the job.

**Q:** Where is the 240th Military Police Company from?

**A:** Juana Diaz, Puerto Rico.

**Q:** What is your mission here?

**A:** Our mission here is to secure the detainees and make sure everything is done correctly. We work inside of the wire, making sure that the mission gets accomplished the right way.

**Q:** What is the best part about being an MP?

**A:** I have been to different places. I have been to Panama, the United States and now this is my first time to Cuba and all those years of experience everyday, every mission, you get more confidence in what you are doing. The best part of being an MP is you are the one that makes sure everything goes right. You are law enforcement, you are also combat support and right now here, we are guaranteeing to the nation that our freedom is set.



*Spc. Orlando Perez of the 240th Military Police Company is making sure the job gets done here.*

**Q:** What's the biggest challenge of this deployment?

**A:** The biggest challenge is being away from my family, but I can deal with that because the job has to be done, we are here do our job.

**Q:** What has been the toughest challenge of your military career?

**A:** Officer Candidate School. I entered phase one and hurt my ankle really bad. I am looking forward to getting back into OCS school after this mission. The course is 18 months, or you can go to the accelerated program which is 52 days, to get commissioned as a second lieutenant. I want to be an officer for the 240th MP Company.

**Q:** Why did you choose to join the Army?

**A:** I chose the Army because it is in my family, I have family members that have been in the army for 30 years and it's a challenge that I like to meet.

**Q:** What makes your unit unique?

**A:** Most of our soldiers are not young. Most of them are over the age of 30 and since we have so many soldiers over that age, there is a lot of experience.

**Q:** What is your civilian job in Puerto Rico?

**A:** I am a lifeguard supervisor. Being a lifeguard takes a lot of exercise. You have to swim a lot, 4,000 meters a day. On a daily routine here I swim 1,000 meters, to 2,000 meters.

**Q:** What do you do here during your free time?

**A:** If I have free time I go snorkeling, swimming or listen to music to relax me.

**Q:** What do you have to say about being deployed here?

**A:** You can't choose where you're going to be deployed, a mission comes, you have to go, but this deployment has been the best experience I have ever had.