



the Wire

“HONOR BOUND TO DEFEND FREEDOM”

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Friday, January 9, 2004

463rd MP Company excels at Guantanamo Bay

By SrA. Thomas J. Doscher

The sun was just beginning to rise Dec. 30 when a yellow bus came to a stop near Windward Range's pistol range and members of the 463rd Military Police Company piled out, beginning to set up ammunition tents and weapon cleaning areas.

The 463rd MP Co., from Fort Leonard Wood, Mo., one of only two active-duty MP companies assigned to JTF Guantanamo, were taking advantage of their training cycle to take part in weapons qualification.

“Just another day in the Army,” said SSG Thomas Johnson, 2nd squad leader. “Like any other day.”

Everyone has a job to do and a role to play. Some set up tents while others load 9mm ammunition into magazines. Some set up targets, and some, like SGT Jason Scoggins, team leader, set up the 463rd's OE-254 field antenna.

“It's something greatly different,” Scoggins said of his deployment to Guan-



Photo by SrA. Thomas J. Doscher

SGT. Juanita Rico, 463rd Military Police Company, reloads her 9mm pistol during weapons qualification at Windward Range Dec. 30.

tanamo Bay. “Ninety percent of my career I've been a garrison soldier. It's definitely a learning experience.”

One difference Scoggins has noticed is how the unit pulls together.

“The camaraderie is much higher than

in a garrison unit,” he said. “We have to rely more on each other.”

The final touch comes when 1LT Sean Burleson, 3rd platoon leader, plants the

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Inside the Wire ...

REGISTERING YOUR CAR



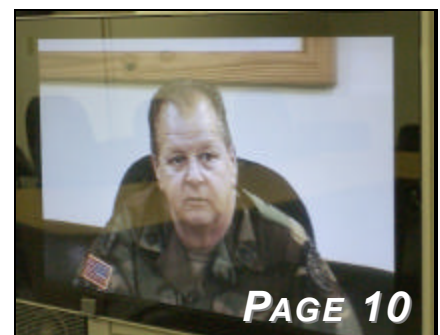
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J-4 ROLLS ALONG



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YOU'RE ON GTMO CAMERA



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Trooper to Trooper

JTF GTMO's 2-year anniversary a time for recommitment

This month marks the two-year anniversary of the detainee operation in Guantanamo. Every day, JTF Troopers are making a difference in the Global War on Terrorism - gathering intelligence from enemy combatants, providing security for Camp America and Camp Delta, and ensuring the JTF has the necessary equipment, supplies and personnel to keep winning.

The Global War on Terrorism has changed the way we live as a country and the way we fight as a military. It has challenged us to reinvent the way we do business and we have risen to that challenge. We must be at the top of our game every day, taking the responsibility to stay trained and ready.

Our JTF team is stronger than it was three months ago. We have gotten better day by day at everything we do. I have watched as this group of Troopers has developed into a powerful, winning team that continues to meet every mission - that is the hallmark of a unit and Troopers who know what right looks like.

Take each day this year as a new challenge. We must be one step faster than the enemy - your part of winning is to push yourself and your Troopers to run a little faster and push a little harder. Pay greater attention to detail in you daily duties. If you notice something that needs fixed, make it happen. Leaders and Troopers of the JTF do not walk by mistakes without fixing them.

I want each of us to stride into this year



MG Geoffrey D Miller
Commander
JTF Guantanamo

with a renewed sense of commitment. Commitment to serve your country, commitment to get the job done, commitment to improve yourself personally and a commitment to get home safely to your family and loved ones.

Great units win by making excellence the standard in everything they do and taking the responsibility for winning. I want you look at your buddy and commit to helping him get better. Support your leaders and commit to helping them accomplish the mission because it is the right thing to do. Look to your family and loved ones and commit to thanking them daily for supporting you - they make a sacrifice that allows us to keep the Nation safe. But most of all, I want you to look in the mirror and commit to making yourself stronger, more motivated and even better at what you do. And thanks for making a difference as we serve this great Nation.

Honor bound.

JTF-GTMO Command

Commander:

MG Geoffrey D. Miller

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CSM George L. Nieves

Public Affairs Officer:

LTC Pamela L. Hart

Deputy PAO

LCDR Robert W. Mulac

70th MPAD Commander:

CPT David Kolarik

Command Information Officer / Editor:

1LT Tracy L. Saucy

Circulation: 2,100 copies

The Wire Staff

The Wire NCOIC:

SSG Patrick Cloward

Editor:

SPC Rick Fahr

Staff writers and design team:

SGT Jolene Staker

SrA. Thomas J. Doscher

SPC William D. Ingram

SPC Katherine L.. Collins

Contact us:

From Guantanamo:

5239/5241 (Local phone)

5426 (Local fax)

From CONUS:

Com: 011-53-99-5239

DSN: 660-5239

Public Affairs Office

Online:

<http://www.nsgtmo.navy.mil/jtfgtmo>

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JTF Guantanamo OPSEC message of the week

"If common sense were common, everyone would have it."



“Heywood Guards” serving professionally to provide security for the JTF mission



Photo by SGT Jolene Staker

PFC Brian Major, B Co., 1/181st Inf. Regt. checks inside a van before letting it go into Camp America. He works hard at all his duties but admits that he enjoys riding in the turret of the Maverick behind the 50 Cal. the best.



Photo by SGT Jolene Staker

SPC Brian Hurd, of B Co., 1/181st Inf. Regt., searches under the van with a mirror before letting the vehicle proceed into Camp America.

By SGT Jolene Staker

Members of B Company, 1st Battalion, 181st Infantry Regiment are working every day to protect and provide security for the JTF mission.

“They’re doing it well, acting professionally and getting the job done,” said SSG Kevin Kneeland, 1st squad, 2nd platoon leader of B Co. 1/181st Inf. Regt.

B Co. has a rich history of service protecting and caring for those it serves. Their nickname the “Heywood Guards” comes from the original members of the unit. Many worked for the Heywood furniture factory and considerable money for the unit’s start-up in 1889 came from this factory.

Not able to rest on past accomplishments the unit has had to face the challenges of this deployment. “Our goal is to leave here a better unit than we came and get everyone home,” said SFC Clyde Sanger, B Co. 1/181st Inf. Regt. acting first sergeant.

1LT Luis Rodriguez, B. Co. 1/181st Inf. Regt. company commander, said he tells his men, “let’s be professional, do our mission, maintain discipline, follow the general orders and policy letters and go home.”

Rodriguez puts his family first. He has the picture of his niece and nephews up for everyone to see.

He works to make sure his men are taking care of their families. “If their family situation is messed up they can’t focus on the mission,” he said.

He credits having the “best family readiness group” with being instrumental in helping his men stay on top of things at home.

We’ve been able to participate in four Video Teleconferences (VTC) already and have another one planned for Valen-

tine’s Day.

“It works out well that Valentine’s Day fell on a Saturday so that the families can get to the VTC facility,” said Rodriguez.

“It’s not the same as being home, but it’s the best we can do for our soldiers here,” he said.

SFC Scott Sheridan’s wife has contributed much to keeping the families in contact with their soldiers.

“She’s phenomenal. She’s a godsend. I can’t thank her enough. I wish I could,” said Rodriguez.

In addition to organizing the VTCs she also has put a Bravo Company Family Readiness Group website up. It has a newsletter, chat room and message board.

“She helps me so much,” said Rodriguez.

When soldiers on the way back from leave to Guantanamo ran into problems with their flights, family members contacted Sheridan who emailed Rodriguez. The situation was resolved quickly without any soldier being AWOL due to her quick thinking and action.

Members of B Co. will continue to ruck the hills, do patrols, secure the gates and watch from the towers.

The FRG will continue to take care of each other and support their men.

B Co. is part of the infantry regiment that was founded as a militia back in the 1600s. Their incentive then was protecting their own towns and families.

The same is true today. Every day infantryman are making the sacrifice of being away from their families, working long and grueling schedules so that the JTF can continue the business of gathering information to fight terrorists groups all over the world.



Photos by SrA. Thomas J. Doscher

PFC David Melendez fires a Squad Assault Weapon during weapons practice at Grenadillo Range Dec. 31 while SGT Mark Trujillo monitors his progress.



PFC Jared Miller cleans his 9mm pistol after weapons qualification at Windward Range Dec. 30.

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platoon's guidon into the ground near the ammunition tent.

"You couldn't ask for a better group of soldiers in a demanding mission," Burleson said of his troops. "We've done some great things, met some demanding requirements and have been chosen for crucial missions in the wire."

The commander of the 463rd MP Co., CPT Michael Hunter, said the 463rd's efforts have an important impact worldwide.

"My soldiers make contributions daily that lead to breakthroughs in winning the war on terror," Hunter said. "My soldiers take this mission very seriously and have a solid understanding of why we do what we do."

Hunter's troops also feel their mission

is important.

"Some of the things that have come out of Delta have helped overseas," Scoggins said.

Scoggins said he thinks the mission at Guantanamo Bay is every bit as important as the one in Iraq.

"In importance they run about the same level," he said. "I've read in Army Times that GTMO's a vacation for soldiers. We're not getting shot at here like our fellow soldiers in Iraq, but there's still stress here."

2LT Sean Uchima, platoon leader, said one part of the Guantanamo Bay experience is conducting missions they never would have at their home station.

"What we do here is very much removed from anything we would ever experience back at Fort Leonard Wood," Uchima said. "This mission is a first in a

very long time."

Uchima said the company also benefits from working with other branches and military components.

"It puts us in a joint environment," he said. "Giving us exposure to how the other service branches operate and allows us to work hand in hand with our reserve component counterparts."

Despite being one of the few active duty units in the JTF, Uchima said there is no working difference between the 463rd and any other MP company.

"While here at JTF-GTMO, we are no different than any of the guard force companies in Camp Delta," he said. "There are no distinctions here as far as the mission here is concerned."

Burleson said the active duty, Reserve and National Guard units work well together, and try to help each other out whenever they can.

"Sometimes the National Guard units come to us for guidance," Burleson said. "We work well with them."

Hunter said the 463rd could not have done a better job here than what they're doing now.

"By simply doing their job with a high degree of discipline and professionalism, my soldiers, who are my family, have met and surpassed all the expectations that I had," Hunter said. "They exemplify what Army soldiers are, and have made my job here very easy."



SGT Michael Strand sets up pistol targets before training at Windward Range Dec. 30.

Registering vehicles in Guantanamo Bay

By SPC Katherine L. Collins

Purchasing personal vehicles is increasingly popular in Guantanamo Bay. The Naval base offers a wide variety of new automobiles and "GTMO specials" as a means of commuting around the island each day. After purchasing your personal

set of wheels here, registering your vehicle is one central responsibility in owning that automobile, but a fairly simple one with just a few brief steps.

Within three days of obtaining a vehicle you, as a new owner, must apply for a transfer of the registration by presenting three basic items to the Motor Vehicle

Registration Office. First, you must show proof of ownership, such as a bill of sale or title, which is issued in your name. Second, you must display a valid driver's license in your name.

In addition, the law requires you provide proof of liability meeting the minimum coverage requirement of \$25,000 per person and \$50,000 per incident for personal injury and \$25,000 per incident for property damage.

If you are registering a motorcycle you must complete one further step, which is displaying a valid motorcycle safety card.

If you are the person relinquishing ownership of the vehicle, note that you must return the Guantanamo Bay license plate over to the registration office after the ownership transfer.

JTF troopers and personnel, if you plan on purchasing a personal vehicle here on the island please be mindful to register it in accordance with the listed requirements and timeframe following your purchase. You face the danger of seeing your personal transportation impounded.

If you have any questions regarding the registration procedure, please contact the Vehicle Registration Office at ext. 3730.



Photo by SrA. Thomas J. Doscher

A 1978 Datsun pick-up truck, one of the vehicles commonly referred to as a "GTMO Special." Within three days of obtaining a vehicle, the owner must apply for a transfer of registration. GTMO Specials frequently change hands as troopers leave the island and new personnel rotate in.

Caring for your family's holiday needs

By Air Force Lt. Col. Bruce G. Medaugh, Inspector General and SPC Katherine L. Collins

In the next few weeks families world-wide will be receiving bills for Christmas presents as well as the typically higher seasonal costs.

The Inspector General's office reminds all JTF troopers responsible for family support payments that this is an especially important time of year to care for your family's reoccurring needs. They encourage service members to fulfill financial responsibilities to families in full and on time. Your assistance may play a significant role in meeting the costs of your family's annual holiday celebration.

If your family needs support,

and you are not fulfilling your financial role, they may seek the help of the IG's office by filing a non-support complaint. The IG will work in conjunction with your commander to ensure you meet the standard agreed to by your family or the court and you.

The holiday season can be a joyous time for family, but also difficult when families are separated. As service members of a military family we know the importance of doing our part in the mission at hand. The role we each play in our own family's life bears equal honor. We must do all we can to ensure we still meet our responsibilities within that family framework while serving apart from our loved ones and those entrusted to our care.



Photo by SrA. Thomas J. Doscher

Lt. Col. Bruce Medaugh, JTF Inspector General.

If you have any questions about financial family support or any other matter you can't solve with your chain of command, please contact the IG's office at ext. 5399 or stop by Room 204 of the Commissions building, Monday through Saturday, or Building 7200 at Camp Amer-

ica, Tuesday from 9-10 a.m. and Friday 3-4 p.m.

Each IG team member is ready to assist you with any issue you may experience during this deployment. IG assistance is available anytime by appointment.

J-4 Maintenance keeps JTF mission rolling along



Photo by SGT Jolene Staker

(Above) SSG Chester Sanders (left) of the 217th MP Co. receives recognition from LTC Joseph Noonan, 1/181st Inf. Regt. battalion commander, and CSM Gregory Hurlburt, 1/181st Inf. Regt. command sergeant major, for his contribution in keeping the infantry vehicles mission capable.

(Right) Air Force Staff Sgt. Eric Resler out of Barksdale Air Force Base in Bossier City, La., changes the half shaft seal on the geared hub of an infantry Humvee.



Photo by SGT Jolene Staker

(Below) SSG Charles Nance of the 216th MP Co. is performing the annual maintenance of checking and changing fluids in the gear hub on an infantry Humvee.



Photo by SGT Jolene Staker

By SGT Jolene Staker

When JTF troopers get from one place to another in a military vehicle they can thank the J-4 Maintenance section.

The J-4 Maintenance section is made up of mechanics from the 384th Military Police Battalion, 217th Military Police Company, 216th Military Police Company, 258th Military Police Company, 177th Military Police Brigade, 463rd Military Police Company, 273rd Military Police Company and Air Force Personnel.

J-4 Maintenance maintains regular services and repairs over 300 civilian vehicles as well as all of the military vehicles brought here by individual units.

The 1/181st Infantry Regiment has the most military vehicles here. Keeping them running is imperative for mission success.

“Without the support of the J-4 Maintenance to our vehicles we would be non-mission capable. They are vital to our success,” said LTC Joseph Noonan, Battalion commander of 1st Battalion, 181st Infantry Regiment.

Regular shop hours are from 7-6 p.m., but mechanics will work as long as it takes to ensure that vehicles are kept running.

“We stay as late as mission dictates,” said SFC Kenneth Sobecki.

Keeping the vehicles running can be challenging. “Some of our vehicles are over 19 years old,” said CSM Gregory Hurlburt, 1/181st Inf. Regt. command sergeant major. “If it wasn’t for the dedication of the J-4 Maintenance section we would not be able to do our mission.”

Each operator of a military vehicle has an important part to play in keeping the vehicles mission capable.

“It’s important to dispatch the vehicles properly so that the maintenance section can keep the services up-to-date,” said Sobecki. “They are supposed to be re-dispatched every two weeks.”

Two factors that play into J-4 Maintenance’s ability to keep the vehicles running is their experience and dedication.

“Knowing that I’m part of the team and that I’m contributing something to America is my favorite part of this mission. I’ve been in maintenance for 20 years.” said SSG Charles Nance of the 216th MP Co.

“I didn’t know what the assignment was, I just raised my hand to go wherever it was,” said Air Force Staff Sgt. Eric Resler.

Tammy Harper and Sandy Grajales would like to express their gratitude for all the support contributed by the following people listed below who made the ‘Waiting for Santa’ party happen:

- LCDR Frankie Hand
- MAJ Michael Nied
- MSG Randolph Hay
- CPT James Sharich
- MAJ John Kajander
- CPT Narciso Lopez
- MAJ James Rogers
- LTC Steven Westphal
- LTC Thaddeus Kozlowski

Elections are on the way

How to make your vote count

The 2004 elections are coming up fast and the JTF wants to make sure you have all the information you need to do your constitutional duty. For more information on voting, call SFC Ted Zaroff at 3564.

■ The 2004 elections officially begin with the District of Columbia Presidential Preference Primary Tuesday and the New Hampshire Presidential Primary Jan. 27.

■ Primaries are spread throughout the year. The 2004 Election Calendar has election dates for your state and is available in Appendices A and B of the 2004-05 Voting Assistance Guide which can be found at <http://www.fvap.gov>.

■ Internet voting will be available for some U.S. citizens and troops overseas using the Secure Electronic Registration and Voting Experiment. To find out if you are eligible, log onto the SERVE website at <http://www.serveusa.gov>.

■ The Voting Information Center is there to help and can be accessed toll-free from over 60 countries. The VIC can be reached at 1-800-438-VOTE or DSN 425-1343.

■ Voting assistance is available through email at vote@fvap.ncr.gov.

VOTE

**For information:
www.fvap.gov**

Trooper on the Street

By SPC Will Ingram

This week's question: **What is your New Year's resolution?**



**SPC James Polk,
J-4 Maintenance**

"My New Year resolution is to be a better soldier, grow mentally, physically and spiritually."



**SFC Zanny Bogan,
216th MP Co.**

"To keep the 216th Military Police Company on a positive note here at Guantanamo."



**Air Force
SSgt Arlene George,
J-4 Transportation**

"To better myself as an Airman and keep my soldiers motivated in J-4 Transportation."



**SPC Rafael Delgado,
1-65th Infantry
Regiment**

"My resolution is to be a better father, husband and to lose weight."



**SrA Bianca Acevedo,
J-4 Supply**

"My resolution is to take more advantage of my military benefits as in college."

A guide, a friend: JTF's newest chaplain



CPT Khallid Shabazz
Chaplain
JTF Guantanamo

By SPC Katherine L. Collins

JTF announces the expansion of its spiritual leadership as CPT Khallid Shabazz joins Guantanamo's joint task force as the chaplaincy's newest member.

"I accepted the call to serve in Guantanamo, and I anticipate being an asset to the mission in whatever way I can," said Shabazz.

Shabazz described his mission here as serving as an advisor to the JTF commander on Islamic and cultural affairs.

Furthermore, he explained that his mission is to serve all troopers and explained the nature of how he envisions serving them in a personal capacity.

"I am not just here to serve Islamic [troopers], but all military members who are looking for counseling and encouragement as they endure difficult life situations while here. I prefer to identify myself as a chaplain who happens to be Islamic rather than an Islamic chaplain. It's neither my personality nor my mission to talk just with Islamic [troopers]."

Shabazz arrived just prior to Christmas, but already Guantanamo has witnessed his finesse and sportsmanship on the basketball court and down-to-earth personality in the galley and on the street corner. Daily he interacts with troopers on a level of camaraderie, an aspect he sees as central to his ministry.

"Chaplains are friends, in the true sense of the word. That's what I'm here for," said Shabazz. "I serve my [troopers] by using my knowledge and experience in balance with just being myself as I relate to them. As people see me as a human being they will feel more comfortable in seeing me as a chaplain, not necessarily an Islamic chaplain."

Shabazz said of himself, "I love to laugh. I love to smile. I love people. I have to admit too, I also absolutely love sports. I love just getting out and interacting with the troops competitively and things of that nature."

He said the message he will strive to teach and exemplify to troopers is to "always seek to have inner peace."

See Shabazz, page 11

New Protestant morning service
JTF's Chaplaincy announces the start of a new collective protestant service. Join Chaplain Paul Minor this Sunday at 7:30 a.m. to renew your spirit through worship and fellowship after your day's labor or begin your day's walk with Christ early that you might enjoy a Sunday full of God's blessings and joy. <>

Worship Services

Catholic

Main Chapel

Wed.	5 p.m.	Holy Hour and Rosary
	6:00-6:25 p.m.	Confessions
	6:30 p.m.	RCIA (Chaplain's office)
Sat.	4:15 p.m.	Confession
	5:30 p.m.	Vigil Mass
Sun.	9 a.m.	Mass
	10:15 a.m.	Spanish Mass (Sanct. B)
M-Fri.	11:30 a.m.	Mass (Cobre Chapel)

Camp America

Sun.	5 p.m.	Mass
	7:30 p.m.	Mass

Protestant

Main Chapel

Mon.	7 p.m.	Prayer Group Fellowship*
Wed.	7 p.m.	Men's Bible Study*
	9:30 a.m.	Sunday School
	11 a.m.	Service/Sunday School

* Fellowship Hall located in Chapel Complex

Camp America

Tues.	7 p.m.	Alpha
Wed.	7 p.m.	Soul Survivor (Club Survivor)
Fri.	7 p.m.	Alpha

Sun.	7:30 a.m.	Collective Protestant
	9 a.m.	Protestant

New Life Fellowship

Main Chapel

Sun.	1 p.m.	Service
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Pentecostal Gospel

Sun.	8 a.m.	Service (Sanc C)
	5 p.m.	Service (Sanc C)

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 Chapel Complex
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Jewish

Call 2323 for more information

Camp America Church Bus schedule:

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

The bus will return following worship.



Join Chaplain Daniel Odean and other JTF troopers for music and fellowship during Soul Survivor.
7 p.m. every Wednesday at Club Survivor.
Continuing a six-week series on Our Identity in Christ. Part two: "The Workmanship of Christ"

Thursday Ticket

Seeking to help one another find moral direction in life? Join the Chaplain and fellow troopers on Thursday nights at 7:00 p.m. in Troopers Chapel at Camp America for the viewing and lively ethical discussion of a contemporary movie.

Continuing the "Band of Brothers" series

RECREATION & LEISURE

Ring in the New Year



Photos by SPC Katherine L. Collins

As part of the holiday festivities, JTF troopers relaxed to the live sounds of rock, blues and jazz while enjoying their favorite drink at Club Survivor. Dot Wilder and her band (above) returned to Guantanamo to grace the stage Jan. 1 with soothing melodies from such master jazz vocalists as Ella Fitzgerald and Billie Holiday. Playing a mix of rock tunes, Guantanamo's very own Least Worst Band (below) performed Dec. 30. Completing the holiday musical line-up, on Jan. 2 Dot Wilder and Wild Gypsy delivered other performances throughout Guantanamo Bay during their holiday tour.



Wild Gypsy (left) jammed a repertoire of blues numbers as well as popular songs by artists including John Mellancamp and Bryan Adams. One soldier added his own bit of talent and flare to the evenings. Local harmonica legend Sgt. Ronald Leger, A Company 1st Battalion 181st Infantry Brigade, (right) known to his friends and fans as "Blue," jams on his blues harp harmonica with Dot Wilder.



Movie Schedule

Camp Bulkeley

Fri., Jan. 9

8 p.m. My Boss's Daughter
PG13 - 86 min
10 p.m. Underworld
R - 121 min

Sat., Jan. 10

8 p.m. The Fighting Temptations
PG13 - 123 min
10 p.m. Suddenly Naked
R - 105 min

Sun., Jan. 11

8 p.m. Beyond Borders
R - 127 min

Mon., Jan. 12

8 p.m. Runaway Jury
PG13 - 128 min

Tues., Jan. 13

8 p.m. Cold Creek Manor
R - 119 min

Wed., Jan. 14

8 p.m. Out of Time
R - 105 min

Thurs., Jan. 15

8 p.m. Mr. Bones
PG - 110 min

Downtown Lyceum

Fri., Jan. 9

7 p.m. Looney Tunes: Back in Action
PG - 90 min
9 p.m. Scary Movie 3
PG13 - 83 min

Sat., Jan. 10

7 p.m. Dr. Seuss: The Cat In The Hat
PG - 82 min
9 p.m. Something Gotta Give
PG13 - 123 min

Sun., Jan. 11

7 p.m. The Matrix Revolutions
R - 129 min

Mon., Jan. 12

7 p.m. The Lord of the Rings: The Return of the King
PG13 - 201 min

Tues., Jan. 13

7 p.m. Scary Movie 3
PG13 - 83 min

Wed., Jan. 14

7 p.m. The Last Samurai
R - 144 min

Thurs., Jan. 15

7 p.m. Love Actually
R - 135 min



JAS Announcement: Tierra Kay Joint Aid Station will close Jan. 10 in preparation for its move to the new Kittery Beach medical building. During the period of Jan. 10-16, all troopers requiring medical attention must seek aid at the Camp America North JAS. All sick call appointments are tentatively scheduled to revert to Kittery Beach JAS as of Jan. 17.



Join your friends this weekend at Club Survivor.

GI phone home

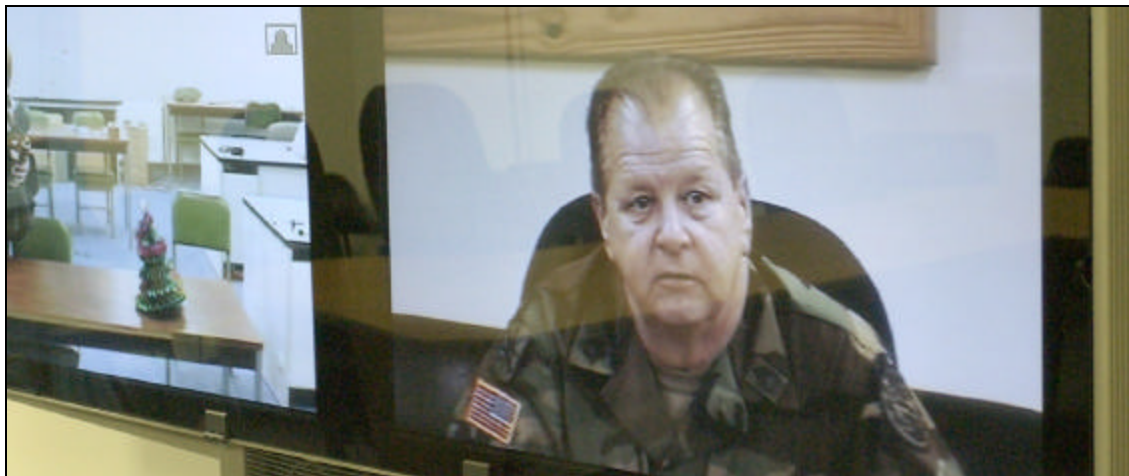


Photo by SRA. Thomas J. Doscher

Sgt. 1st Class Robert Hill, 177th Military Police Brigade, speaks with his wife (not pictured) through video teleconferencing available to members of the JTF. The service comes with no cost to the individual, but the base being called must have the ability to hold video teleconferencing. Units can make arrangements to use the Video Teleconference Center for morale calls by submitting a request through the JTF Guantanamo website at <http://www.jtfgtmo.southcom.mil>.

Sports highlights

Titans squeak by Ravens 20-17

By SPC Will Ingram

Football season is coming to an end. This season has been very up and down with teams losing big games and teams playing with all the heart of a lion and the soul of a dreamer.

The **Titans** squeaked by with a victory over the **Ravens**. NFC career scoring leader **Gary Anderson** kicked a 46-yard field goal with 29 seconds left after an injured **Steve McNair** gave the **Titans** a 20-17 victory Saturday in a wild card first round playoff game.

The **Panthers** ended the **Cowboys** and **Bill Parcells** season by picking apart the Dallas number one defense in a 29-10 victory Saturday night. The question will remain: Will Bill Parcells change the Dallas offense for next season with a new QB or running back? We will see!

The **Green Bay Packers** passed the **Seattle Seahawks** 33-27 Sunday in the first round NFC playoff game. Once again the **Packers** have proven themselves as a playoff team. Without the defense of **Al Harris** picking off **Matt Hassleback** pass, the overtime game would have gone bad for the **Packers**.

Peyton Manning had something to prove and that is what he did. He should have been the MVP and that is the FINAL word. The **Indianapolis Colts** 41-10 victory over **Denver** on Sunday continues the Colts playoff hopes. Manning was sending

out the message that he does have the ability to win the big game.

This season has had some unusual upsets. Kansas City's perfect season put an end to the **Bengals**. **Tampa Bay** will not be returning to the Super Bowl or even making the playoffs—ending the season with a record of 7-9. With the Super Bowl right down the road, does anyone know for sure who will win?

A very heart-felt college football season has finally ended.

Here are all the scores of the BCS bowl games.

Motor City, Bowling Green over Northwestern 28-24.

Insight Bowl, California over Virginia Tech 52-48.

Continental Tire, Virginia over Pittsburgh 23-16.

MasterCard Alamo, Nebraska over Michigan State 17-3.

EV1.Net Houston, Texas Tech over Navy 38-14.

Pacific Life Holiday, Washington State over Texas 28-20.

Silicon Valley Football Classic, Fresno State over UCLA 17-9.

Gaylord Hotels Music City, Auburn over Wisconsin 28-14.

Wells Fargo Sun, Minnesota over Oregon 31-30.

Axa Liberty, Utah over Southern Miss 17-0.

Mainstay Independence, Arkansas over Missouri 27-14.

Diamond Walnut SF, Boston College over Colorado State 35-21.

Outback, Iowa over Florida 37-17.

Toyota Gator, Maryland over West Virginia 41-7.

Capital One, Georgia over Purdue 34-27.

Rose, USC over Michigan 28-14.

FedEx Orange, Miami over Florida State 16-14.

SBC, Mississippi over Oklahoma State 31-28.

Chick-Fil-A Peach Bowl, Clemson over Tennessee 27-14.

Tostitos Fiesta, Ohio State over Kansas State 35-28.

Humanitarian Bowl, Georgia Tech over Tulsa 52-10.

New Orleans Bowl, Memphis over North Texas 27-17.

GMAC Bowl, Miami over Louisville 49-28.

Mazda Bowl, N.C. State over Kansas 56-26.

Plains Capital, Boise State over TCU 34-31.

Las Vegas, Oregon State over New Mexico 55-14.

Sheraton, Hawaii over Houston 54-48.

For the **National Championship** at the **Nokia Sugar Bowl**, LSU over the Oklahoma Sooners 21-14.

Compiled from www.espn.com

JTF SPORTS & FITNESS

MWR Provides New Year Fitness Programs

By SSG Patrick Cloward

The new year is here and it's time for those new year's resolutions to get back in shape.

For members of the JTF, getting in shape has been a primary focus since the start of the rotation to the island. Kittery Beach road has been so full of runners and walkers that sidewalks are being built to help keep traffic from backing up. Some of us have seen some great success in our effort to improve physically. But now that the new year has begun, the old routine just isn't as exciting as it was when we first started, and variety is essential to enjoying any physical exercise.

The Denich and Marine Hill gyms have been supplying JTF members a wonderful choice of organized activities for a change in routine. The Denich Gym, for instance, offers a spinning class Mondays through Fridays from 6:30 to 7:30 p.m. and at 6:15 to 7:15 a.m. Monday, Wednesday and Friday. This class is led by Rosa Mays, a very



Photo from JTF Archive

A great way to start out a new fitness program is to assess your physical needs with the Microfit evaluation.

energetic and fun instructor.

Aerobic kickboxing classes are held Monday through Friday from 5 to 6 p.m. at both the Denich Gym and the Marine Hill aerobics room, kitty-corner to the Liberty Center. Unlike competitive kickboxing, these classes focus more on the repetitive moves associated with the sport. Some have called it something similar to the recently popular Tae-Bo exercise program.

Though these are the more popular classes, step aerobics is also available at the Marine Hill aerobics room from 8:30 to 9:30 a.m., while Yoga classes are held four times a week, on Tuesday through Thursday and Saturday from 5:15 to 6:15 p.m.

One way to start out your exercise regimen is the Microfit evaluation, which determines which types of exercises you need for a more complete fitness program. So start anytime, but start soon for a more physically fit you.

Shabazz, from page 8

It is his mission to help foster that peace in troopers too, he said.

"Staying busy helps maintain inner peace," said Shabazz. "I can help the



Photo by SPC Katherine L. Collins

Chaplain Shabazz on the basketball court with members of the JTF.

troops maintain that inner peace by counseling them but also by encouraging them to stay active by staying active with them."

Shabazz's education and experience have prepared him well for his Guantanamo mission. He comes with 13 years military experience, four of which have been as a chaplain. Joining as an artilleryman, Shabazz served as an enlisted soldier in Germany from 1991-1995 and Fort Polk, La., from 1995-1997. He attended the Graduate School of Islamic and Social Sciences from 1997-1999. Shabazz graduated into the chaplain officer corps in 1997, when he completed the Chaplain Officer Basic Course. He is currently assigned to the 313th Infantry Battalion at Fort Jackson, S.C.

In addition to his military experience, Shabazz brings extensive religious knowledge allowing him to serve "dual-handed." In addition to his Islamic education, he studied at Jarvis Christian College and served as a Lutheran minister prior to his conversion to Islam. His years of training in Christianity provide him with the tools to counsel troopers in the Christian faith.

Furthermore, Shabazz carries knowledge and wisdom from his education in counseling and from his own life experience. As a family-oriented husband and father, he acknowledges the challenges he himself faces as he serves away from his family. Serving actively, often apart from his wife and children, Shabazz has learned to cope with maintaining his own inner peace.

Shabazz expressed enthusiasm for his Guantanamo mission as a spiritual guide as he draws on his own inner peace and on each of his resources from his educational and life experience.

"I just want to let people know that I am here to help anyone. I hold great pride in being an American citizen and soldier and in being a chaplain. I view these roles very seriously," he said. "I came in during Desert Storm because I wanted to serve my country. I'm thrilled to still be doing the same thing today. I'm especially excited that I am serving in a capacity where I can help people from all walks in a personable way, since I just love people. I love to guide them, and just love to be a friend to them."

15 Minutes of Fame...

With SPC George W. MacMasters, B Co. 1/181st Inf. Regt.

Marine Corps veteran who swam the English Channel and teaches at Harvard answers the call to serve

By SGT Jolene Staker

SPC George MacMasters has been serving in the Army National Guard for just a little over a year. He served 10 years in the Marine Corps first as an enlisted man working as a jet engine mechanic with an attack squadron, and later as an infantry officer.

Family obligations caused him to leave the Marine Corps. Fifteen years later after the attacks on our nation on 9/11, he decided to go down to his local armory and volunteer as an infantryman. "Even though I'm a bit of an old man I believed I still had something to contribute and wanted to offer my experience to today's fight."

Q: Why did you join the Marines?

A: My father was in the Marine Corps during the Korean War so that influenced me. I was young and bored, looking for adventure and excitement. I found both in the Marine Corps. It was a great time. My son has also followed in our footsteps and joined the Marine Corps.

Q: Did your son share with you why he joined the Marine Corps?

A: I think he was looking for a little adventure also. I'm proud of him. My father, myself and my son all went through Parris Island. It's a rite of passage.

Q: Is it true you joined the National Guard after the terrorists' attacks on 9/11?

A: Yes, I was traveling in Central Asia when the 9/11 attacks happened. When I got home I decided to go down to my local National Guard Armory and volunteer.

Q: How has that worked out?

A: I've enjoyed myself immensely. It's great to see the young soldiers and their high motivation. In just the past six months I've seen our unit grow and mature.

Q: You actually serve with soldiers your sons' ages. How has that been?

A: A lot of them refer to me as MacDaddy or Daddy Mac. I am thrilled that they are really kind and encouraging to me. They seem to appreciate me being around. I



Photo by SGT Jolene Staker

SPC George MacMasters of B Company, 1st Battalion, 181st Infantry Regiment, stands at Wooster Gate to check vehicles entering Camp America.

was surprised at that. I thought they might be put out by a gray haired man hanging out in their squad, but they've been nothing but terrific. I get a kick out of them, and I think they get a kick out of me.

Q: What had you traveling in Central Asia?

A: I was there swimming the Caspian Sea. I do a lot of swimming—it's one of my hobbies and what I do as a living. I was traveling in Azerbaijan and Dagestan tracing some of the old silk trade routes.

Q: What do you do in your civilian career?

A: I am the aquatics director at Harvard University where I teach swimming and oversee the competitive water events – swimming, diving, water polo – and the lifeguard staff.

Q: What other interesting places have you been swimming?

A: I was fortunate to get across the English Channel in 1984. It took me 12 hours and 10 minutes to cross the 26 miles of rough, cold water. Also I swam in the World Championship down the Nile River and down the Suez Canal – which was a 30km race in 1995. I swam in China in the Anza Canal.

Q: What do you plan for your military career after Guantanamo?

A: I personally hope to be deployed to Iraq. I speak Arabic, and I would like to use my skills.

Q: When did you learn Arabic?

A: I've been studying comparative literature at Harvard for the past few years, and I've been studying Arabic for three of those years. I find it a fascinating language. As an undergraduate I studied Latin and Greek which were ancient languages. Arabic is also an ancient language. A lot of Latin and Greek texts were translated to Arabic during the dark ages and then retranslated into Greek and Latin so I thought it was only natural to study Arabic so I could work more in the field of comparative literature.

Q: Why so many different languages?

A: One of my professors said with every language you learn it's like another eye with which to view the world. If you want to understand another culture it's best to learn their language.

Q: What undergraduate degree did you obtain?

A: Bachelor of arts in philosophy and ancient languages from the University of Massachusetts. I'm working on my masters at Harvard.

Q: If people could only remember one thing about you during your time at Guantanamo, what would you want it to be?

A: That I always had a smile on my face and a word of encouragement for all soldiers. I've tried to live by my motto of 'when the going gets tough the tough gets going.'