



the Wire

“HONOR BOUND TO DEFEND FREEDOM”

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Friday, Oct. 29, 2004

Firefighters Burn SEA Huts in “Live Fire Exercise”

By Spc. Jody Metzger

Guantanamo Bay Fire Department firefighters set fire to buildings at Camp America last week.

Firefighters with a propane torch deliberately burned Southeast Asian (SEA) huts.

Not a normal tactic for a department dedicated to extinguishing flame, yet the effect was just as they had planned.

This “live fire exercise” was designed to teach and revisit firefighting procedures and safety tactics.

By applying classroom techniques to real-life fires, firefighters got hands-on experience.

“It’s important to conduct these training burns because in the classroom we teach as much as we can, but in the middle of the night things look a lot different,” said Fire Chief John Mabbitt.

The four days that began Oct. 22 and ended Oct. 25 not only presented a good training opportunity but was also an event



Photo by Senior Airman Neo Martin

the Department of Defense requires. The annual live fire training is part of firefighters’ certification.

The department is manned by civilians

employess, many of whom are foreign nationals who came here for the opportunity

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Trooper To Trooper

Military Commissions: Security



Photo by Army Pfc. Chris Gardner

By Brig. Gen. Martin J. Lucenti

As military commissions once again initiate activities on McCalla Hill, we all must be increasingly vigilant.

Security for everyone and everything, including information, needs our close attention and careful scrutiny. When and where we can be helpful to our visitors, let's do just that.

The eyes of the world are on us as we conduct a vital part in the Global War on Terrorism. We strive to do it right and we accomplish that by showing to the world that we make right look right.

Many of our visitors will not be familiar with the Naval Base and the safety and security measures that are necessary in our environment because of our mission.

When opportunities exist to explain these safety and security measures take a few moments and inform them of why we take steps to secure all the assets that we use in the conduct of our Joint Task Force mission. Enhanced security measures have been emplaced to ensure

the safety and welfare of all.

JTF Troopers are all well-trained, motivated and at the top of their game. The rehearsals that have been conducted in preparation for the upcoming events have considered many contingencies, but don't be complacent. Be vigilant and keep an eye open for a better way and don't walk past something that isn't right. This is one team and one fight and what you do matters to all of us.

Operational security is always an area of command interest. The visitors to the Naval Base will be inquisitive and interested in the

things they see. While being helpful, also be careful that you do not divulge information or provide access to areas that can compromise the security of our operations. Generally, once informed, our visitors will appreciate and understand our concerns and will comply with our safety and security requirements.

Remember—the safety of our guests and the security of our assets is every Trooper's responsibility. If you see something that doesn't look right get involved and bring your concerns to the attention of the appropriate organizations or individuals.

Keep in mind that while you are on this island and when you leave, you will always want to proudly look yourself in the face and say, "We did the right thing, and we did it the right way at GTMO when no one was looking."

Let's give these folks a GTMO Welcome and make their stay a pleasant one. As I travel the base I am impressed by the military dress and courtesies of our Troopers. They will be too.

Let's remain: *Honor Bound!*

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Live Fire: Troopers Let Off Rounds for First Time



Photo by Airman 1st Class Jon Ortiz-Torres

By Airman 1st Class Jon Ortiz-Torres

Troopers are familiar with the idea of training for the real thing and those stationed here in Guantanamo Bay (GTMO) are doing their jobs on a daily basis in a real world mission.

Still, every job in the military has multiple aspects and while deployed Troopers see a greater emphasis on some areas and less focus on others.

Joint Task Force (JTF) Troopers had a taste of live-fire training here when they hammered away at floating targets outside GTMO during an exercise Tuesday morning.

This exercise was designed to give Troopers a bit more familiarity in an area that isn't a primary part of the job in GTMO.

For members of Delta Company, 2nd Battalion, 113th Infantry, this was their first live-fire exercise since their arrival in June.

Shortly after sunrise, thousands of rounds combed the bay from various machine-guns small arms nested along the coastline.

At first, a few scheduling delays and minor weapons malfunctions dampened their attitude, but not after former weapons training came into play.

Once the open-fire command was given, Troopers brought their arms to bear on their drifting marks, reducing them to flotsam and jetsam, while onlookers in the background yelled "get some".

"They performed phenomenally," said

Sgt. 1st Class Thomas Longacre, mortar round sergeant and exercise range safety sergeant. "They had some hiccups earlier, but then engaged the targets properly following all doctrine.

"This training allows Troopers to stay proficient with their weapons and to test their weapons to make sure they are mechanically sound."

If it were a real world incident, he expects his troops to get it right.

"We would rather have them fail when we practice than when we need them," Longacre said.

Infantry assigned to GTMO constantly train to maintain and upgrade basic Soldier skills. The live fire training is geared toward increasing both their familiarity with and working knowledge of the weapons systems.

For Army Capt. Jonathan Price, senior battle officer and fire support officer, the unique experience and training in GTMO is vital to his unit.

"Back at home," Price said, "we train in an environment we're comfortable in. Here, we know we're

performing a real-world mission."

Not only does the 113th Infantry secure Camps Delta and America, but they play an important role in the entire JTF as well. Infantry units are responsible for the entire area surrounding the base, including the coastline.

"Our training helps to validate our portion of the integrated defense base plan giving Troopers time to practice with their weapons and create a realistic sense of training to counter any type of attack," Price said.

After unloading 1,000 rounds with a machine gun, Spc. Dave Lenze, an infantry scout, said he understands the significance of the exercise and its role in the mission.

"Marksmanship is one of the most important skills in the infantry," he said. "You need to be proficient with your weapon. If you can't hit it, you can't kill it."

Lenze said the camaraderie among Troopers is the best part about serving and he is proud of his unit's role in the Global War on Terrorism.

Longacre agrees, "We went from training and seeing each other about 48 hours a month (before being activated). Now we're training and living together 24-7.

"We're learning more and more about each other. Our unit cohesiveness has grown and keeps growing."

Army Sgt. Jose Llave (top, left) and Spc. Steven Ervin wait for the "open-fire" command during a live-fire exercise here Tuesday morning. The Troopers are assigned to Delta Company, 2nd Battalion, 113th Infantry. Shooting a machine gun out of a foxhole (below) aimed at floating targets outside Guantanamo Bay, Troopers took turns firing with more than 1,000 rounds fired.

Photo by Airman 1st Class Jon Ortiz-Torres



Controlled Burn Provides Intensive Training

Continued from Page 1

to learn how to fight fires.

Working in teams of 17, the firefighters all got a chance to participate in the live fire exercise by rotating the teams every day, said Assistant Fire Chief Ben Miller.

Burning four structures in four days, the firefighters began highly intensive training.

To get the most out of the SEA huts, they conducted the live fire training in two or three separate revolutions during each day, until the structures were identified as being unsafe, at which point they were burned down to the ground.

“The firefighters start by suiting up with ‘bunker gear,’ a 62 pound suit including boots, pants, jacket, gloves, helmet and self-contained breathing apparatus (SCBA),” said Training Officer Donald Norton. “We sweat like crazy.”

With handheld torches they ignited each SEA hut and waited patiently as the flames licked higher and the smoke gathered in heavy, suffocating clouds.

Teams of three rushed in with a large water-filled hose supplied by the fire utility truck, the fire crews worked diligently to extinguish each fire.

The firefighters fought the torturous heat with the practiced techniques of: protection exposure, interior firefighting, ventilation practices and basic water supply and hose handling.

Mabbitt said the Guantanamo firefighting team has carried out about 1,500 runs each year, dealing with fires or emergency-related issues.

Photo by Spc. Jody Metzger



Photo by Senior Airman Neo Martin

Heat and dry climate contribute to many of the fires here, causing an average of 66% of wildland fire, said Mabbitt. “We have no mutual aid,” he added. “When we go on a fire we are on our own. If it takes two days, we will still be on our own.”

This exercise was done to help reduce another risk of Guantanamo, the abandoned buildings in Camp America.

Normally the Public Work Department (PWD) demolishes the buildings. But this opportunity gave the fire department good training and saved money.

“The risks of fires are higher as the buildings get older,” Mabbitt said.

And even though the situation was staged, the fire was real.

For firefighters who brave the dangerous mission of walking into burning buildings, the challenge is tough. Bringing fellow firefighters together and working as a team is a necessity for the success of the operation as well as the safety of everyone. A tight group, the firefighters shared camaraderie with each conversation and pat on the back.

Photo by Senior Airman Neo Martin



Lurking in the Shadows: Urban Legends Exposed

By Army Pfc. Jessi Stone

A high school friend claimed he once gave a ride to a dead girl.

His story went something like this: He went to a party in the mountains. As the night went on, the party began to get a little out of control. Predicting a police visit, he decided to leave before any real trouble. As he was driving the infamously curvy Deer Creek Canyon Road, he rounded a curve and saw a girl walking. A two-lane road cutting through a narrow ravine isn't exactly the safest place to be walking in the middle of the night, so he decided to stop and offer the girl a ride.

She jumped in, thanking him and giving him directions to her house. He was surprised to learn she lived only a few blocks from him and wondered how it was he had never seen her before. She was very talkative and explained she had always attended private schools and spent summers with her father, which was why they had never met. As he dropped her off, she said she would see him around the neighborhood and waved goodbye.

The next day he noticed she had left her jacket in his car. When he brought the jacket back to her house, her mother opened the door and before he could say anything she snatched the jacket out of his hands. "Where did you find this?" she cried, and tears welled up in her eyes.

"Your daughter left it in my car last night when I gave her a ride home," my friend replied.

The woman stared at him blankly for a moment. "That's impossible: My daughter died in a car accident on Deer Creek Canyon Road 10 years ago."

We've all heard them. In one variation or another, we have listened to, perhaps believed and told them. Some of them have been told for centuries. Others have been widely accepted as fact. They are urban legends, and though they can surface anytime, Halloween seems to be when we most enjoy hearing them.

Urban legends can be eerie tales of ghosts and the supernatural, very realistic sounding warnings or humorous tales of unusual circumstances. They are reflections of our core beliefs, playing off our fears, anxieties, ethics and weaknesses. They are meant to frighten, shock, entertain and, ultimately, teach.

Most urban legends have a moral or are a metaphor for a value, and some, like the one previously mentioned, are meant purely to provoke thought. Others are purely hoaxes, meant to inspire fear and sometimes hysteria. One such urban legend is that evil people out there are randomly poisoning Halloween candy and giving them to trick-or-treaters.

This rumor has been in circulation for more than 30 years. The fact is that no cases of random Halloween candy poisonings have been recorded, according to a report written by Paul Best, a professor of sociology from California State University. Of the cases initially identified as random Halloween candy poisonings, all were discovered to have been either targeted attacks, accidents parents attempted to cover up, or naturally occurring deaths and illnesses. Despite this, the rumor of poisoned Halloween candy persists.

Though cases of needles and razors being inserted into candy have been recorded, most of them were pranks committed by friends or siblings of the child. These pranks were probably committed without thought that someone may get hurt. Still, only a few reports of people being hurt by needles or razors exist, and none of the injuries have been more severe than a scratch or a prick.

Urban legends appear everywhere; there are many military urban legends. One military myth is the three items contained in a truck. A truck, or the ball on top of a flagpole, is said to contain three items that vary

the purpose of the items is the same. There is something inside to destroy the flag, such as a razor or a match, in case the post should be overrun by the enemy. There is something to symbolize an ideal of America or its military, such as a penny to represent America's wealth, or a grain of rice to sustain the last man standing on the post, symbolizing that American Troopers are strong enough to survive on almost nothing. The last item is always some sort of weapon, either a revolver or a single bullet, to battle off as many of the enemy as possible or for the Trooper to kill himself rather than let the enemy take him. Some versions of this story say the items are buried at the base of the flagpole.

There is an urban legend to be found wherever you look and on every aspect of life. This Halloween it may be fun to look back on all the stories and legends that have frightened, shocked, and entertained us through the years, and perhaps discover a few new ones. Who knows what legends may lurk in the shadows right here in Guantanamo Bay.

www.snopes.com and www.urbanlegends.com contributed to this report.



Photo manipulation by Army Sgt. Scott Griffin

The Legend Of The CHUPACABRA!

A Design of Dread by
Army Sgt. Scott Griffin



**A Tale of Terror by
Sgt. 1st Class
Steve Segin**

To some Troopers assigned to the Joint Task Force, thinking about the strange and unusual is limited to Saturday nights at the Windjammer.

But being stationed here in Guantanamo Bay offers access to two of the more unusual unexplained stories of the paranormal: The Bermuda Triangle and El Chupacabra.

Monsters. This one word has been used to explain a bump in

the night, a shadow in the forest or a scream in the night. Abominations like Sasquatch, Loch Ness Monster and Jersey Devil are a part of the monster cult, which is popular in Western culture. As Halloween approaches, we sometimes revisit the monsters of childhood and allow our minds to wonder, as we think about what lurks in the margins of everyday life, under the sea and in the basement.

One monster that is thought to inhabit Latin America, and the Caribbean (including Cuba) is El Chupacabra, which is Spanish meaning the goat sucker.

Witnesses describe this creature as a small half-alien, half-dinosaur, tailless vampire with quills running down its back; others have seen a panther like creature with a long snake-

like tongue; still others have seen a hopping animal that leaves a trail of sulfuric stench. Although there is much debate about what the creature looks like, there is even more controversy as to its origin.

Some believers are convinced the wounds on animals whose deaths have been attributed to the Chupacabra indicate an alien presence. However, they do not attribute the mutilations to the aliens themselves but to one of their pets or experiments gone awry. Such creatures are known as anomalous biological entities [ABEs] in UFO and Star Trek convention circles.

This small, yet powerful creature is a new addition to the who's who of monsters. According to www.elchupacabra.com the creature was first spotted in Puerto Rico in 1994.

Does this suggest a recent alien introduction? The existence of El Chupacabra is unknown, but the next time you think it is a banana rat digging in the Dumpster, look again.

The next time you are staring out the window of the rotator, think about this. About 20 minutes into your flight you are flying in the Bermuda Triangle.

The Bermuda Triangle (also called The Devil's Triangle) is a large three-sided segment of the Atlantic Ocean bordered by Bermuda, Puerto Rico and Fort Lauderdale, Fla.

Although reports of strange and unusual behavior go back over 400 years, the Bermuda Triangle did not get its most famous

nickname until 1964.

One of the most famous and unusual stories to come from the Triangle was the disappearance of Flight 19.

On December 5, 1945, five Navy Avenger torpedo bombers mysteriously vanished while on a routine training mission, as did a rescue plane sent to search for them--six aircraft and 27 men, gone without a trace.

The ill-fated flight consisted of trainees in their final stages of flight training along with their instructor, Lt. Charles Taylor. The five pilots had recently transferred from Miami Naval Air Station. Lt. Taylor knew the Florida Keys well but had no knowledge of flying over the Bahamas, which was the direction Flight 19 was headed.

Their mission that day was for practice bombing at Hens and Chicken Shoals 56 miles away. Once that was accomplished, the Avengers were to continue eastward for another 67 miles, then head north 73 miles. Following that, they would turn southwest and head for home. In other words they were flying a triangular flight path through what would be called the Bermuda Triangle.

At 3:50 p.m. a pilot and his flight instructor, Lt. Robert Cox were about to land at Fort Lauderdale. They overheard a radio transmission addressed to someone named Powers. Powers replied, "I don't know where we are. We must have got lost after that last turn."

A little later on, Cox managed to establish radio contact with another pilot of the lost Avengers out at sea. Speaking with Lt. Taylor he was informed that Taylor's compasses were not working and he was sure that they were in the "Keys", meaning Florida Keys, and that

he didn't know how to get to Fort Lauderdale. Cox urged him to fly north toward Miami, "If you are in the Keys."

Taylor was completely lost. His location was in the Bahamas and by taking Cox's advice and flying north he would only go further out to sea. Efforts by Cox and others to establish the location of Flight 19 were hampered by poor communications. At one point Taylor was urged to turn over control of the flight to one of the students, though apparently he did not do so.

As dusk slowly approached Fort Lauderdale realized with great horror that Lt. Taylor and his Avengers had no idea of where they were, they were completely lost. The atmospheric interference with the radio signals worsened at sunset and communication was almost impossible with Flight 19.

At 5:15 p.m., a broken radio signal was heard.

"We are now heading west," exclaimed Taylor. "If one of us runs out of fuel, we will all go down together."

Taylor's last transmission was heard at 7:04 p.m. By this time, the planes were out of fuel.

Within an hour of the last transmission, dozens of aircraft joined in the search. One flight, a Martin Mariner (Training 49) failed to make its scheduled

rendezvous and did not answer radio calls. At 7:50 p.m. the crew of a nearby ship reported seeing an enormous sheet of fire caused by the explosion of an aircraft.

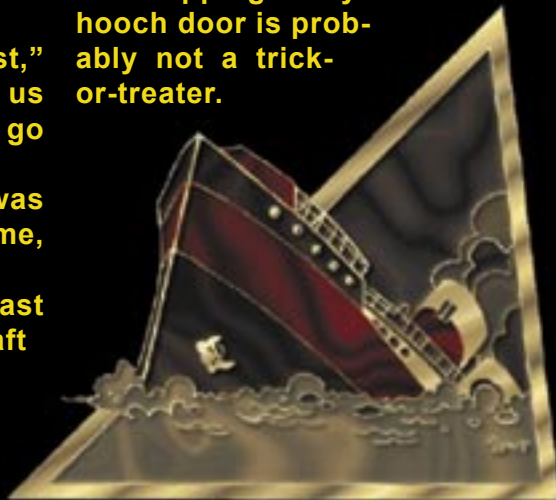
The ship reported of passing through a large pool of oil soon after and not finding any survivors or bodies of the crashed aircraft. They did not try to retrieve any debris from the ocean as weather conditions were rapidly deteriorating.

No trace of the Mariner or Avengers was ever found.

Was this just a case of pilot error, or was something more sinister at work?

Bigfoot, UFO's and things that go bump in the night continue to fascinate us. This Halloween, take some time and think about the strange and unusual things of our world.

And tonight, long after everyone is asleep, the soft rapping on your hooch door is probably not a trick-or-treater.



The Mysteries Of The **BERMUDA TRIANGLE!**

Information from www.bermuda-triangle.org
and www.elchupacabra.com contributed to this report.

The Wire's Top 13 Horror Movies for Halloween

By Army Cpl. Simon Cropp

No. 13. *Children of the Corn* (1984): A young boy comes to a small town and convinces the children to murder their parents. A young couple try to unravel the mystery of what holds the children.

No. 12. *The Omen* (1976): An American ambassador finds that his son is actually the antichrist in this cult classic. The kid gets started on the road to evil by killing off those who love him.

No. 11. *An American Werewolf in London* (1981): A young American backpacking across Europe finds himself on the bad end of a werewolf attack and becomes a wolf. Clever and funny, with special effects that hold up even today.

No. 10. *Dawn of the Dead* (1979): The sequel to the original *Night of the Living Dead*, some consider it superior to the original. The movie takes place mostly in a mall with a small group of survivors while the rest of the world is ravaged by zombies. Considered a social commentary and a little deeper than most horror movies with some decent effects for the time.

No. 9. *The Exorcist* (1973): The devil possesses a girl and her mother turns to the help of the Catholic church in the form of an old priest. Graphic, offensive and scary. Not many movies ever created such a large reaction from the rest of the world.

No. 8. *Nightmare on Elm Street* (1984): People seem to think that a movie about a demon who murders people in their dreams is scary. Johnny Depp's hair was scary in this movie but a demon with razors on his hand? This was the first movie in Wes Craven's long running series that reportedly

scared the socks off some people in the early 80's.

No. 7. *Psycho* (1960): A young man lives under the controlling shadow of his murderous mother. This is the best Alfred Hitchcock movie. There is no blood or gore, only a foreboding sense of something terrible and a great twist ending.

No. 6. *Phantasm* (1979): Two brothers battle for their lives when a mysterious undertaker comes to their small town and raises the dead. An international hit but widely forgotten in the wake of the '80s slasher run, this movie brought us the Tall Man, a horror icon, and the little metal sphere that drills into people's heads.

No. 5. *Evil Dead* (1982): Five college students go to the mountains for a week-end of fun but instead are besieged by the forces of evil. Bruce Campbell stars for the first time in the role of Ash—zombie slayer.

No. 4. *The Shining* (1980): Jack Nicholson takes his family up to an empty hotel for a winter and soon finds the place is still populated with ghosts that drive people mad, though he seemed pretty mad when the movie started. He's a pretty scary guy when he's chasing around after his family with a big old ax.

No. 3. *Halloween* (1979): Michael Myers breaks free of a mental institution and returns to his hometown for some unfinished business that involves Jamie Lee Curtis running around screaming. A great horror movie, loved by fans and critics alike, that started the slasher genre of the '80s.

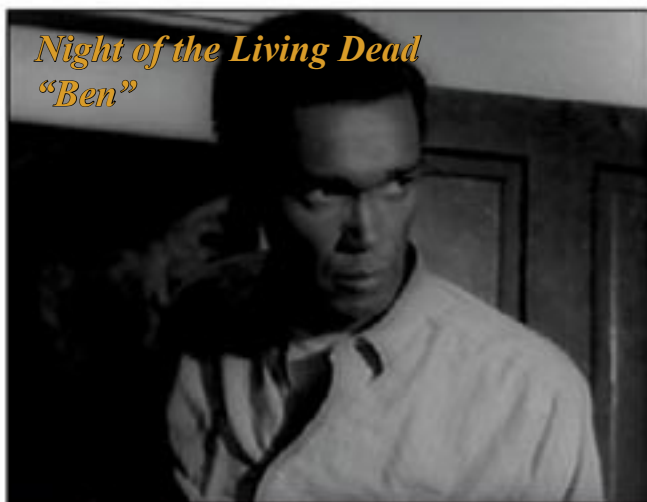
No. 2. *Rosemary's Baby* (1968): Rosemary's having a baby but all her neighbors and husband seem to be acting kind of funny. Her doctor too. And she's



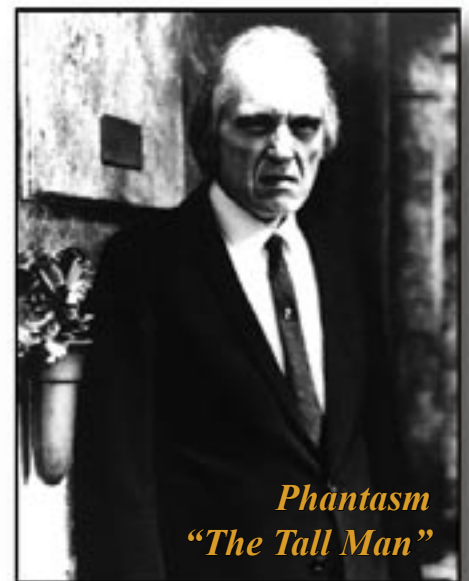
The Exorcist
"Father Merrin"

having some pretty bad dreams. Is her baby the spawn of the devil? This movie ushered in a wave of devil-centered horror movies and is still considered by many to be the best.

No. 1. *Night of the Living Dead* (1968): A small group of people hide in a house as the world around them is overrun with the undead. Black and white, tragic and years ahead of anything done up to that point, this is still one of the scariest horror movies of all time. Copied, remade, sequels, but never equaled. The protagonist, named only Ben, tries to keep the small group of survivors from destroying themselves while the undead slowly close in around them. Ultimately a scary good time with a lot more depth than most horror movies.



Night of the Living Dead
"Ben"



Phantasm
"The Tall Man"

The History of Halloween

By Senior Airman Neo Martin

Candies and costumes are in vogue this time of year, however, the history behind Halloween stretches eons into the past.

The root of the word Halloween is an combination of the term Hallow (Holy) Evening. Hallow Evening or Hallowe'en is the result of blending the Celtic-Druid New Year's Day with All Saints Day, a Christian holiday created in 601 A.D. by Pope Gregory the First, according to Pope Gregory's biography.

Hundreds of years ago, in what is now Great Britain and northern France, lived the Celts. The New Year, according to the Celtic calendar, began Nov. 1. It was celebrated every year with a festival of the dead and marked the end of the season of the sun and the beginning of the season of darkness and cold.

According to the Library Of Congress, rather than try to wipe out customs and beliefs of native people, the pope instructed his missionaries to use them, "If a group of people worshipped a tree, rather than cut it down, he advised them to consecrate it to Christ and allow its continued worship."

Therefore, All Saints Day, otherwise known as All Hollows, was declared to consecrate the Pagan holiday in Christ to help convert native people.

By assimilating the holiday, Halloween carried on many ancient Celtic traditions.

Halloween as it is currently celebrated with superstitions, costumes and trick or treating takes cues from this ancient Druid festival of Samhain.

During Samhain (pronounced sah-ween) the souls of people who died the previous year traveled into a spirit world. Samhain was the largest and most important holiday of the Celtic year. The Celts believed that at the time of Samhain, ghosts rose from their

graves and coexisted with the living for one night.

The legend was, on that day, ghosts, fairies, wraiths, specters ghouls and demons were out in the night. Then as the spirits drifted the roads and communities, the spirit of Samhain (which literally means summer's end in Gaelic) would appear to seek out the spirits to take them to the afterlife, according to <http://www.samhain.com>.

With the believed supernatural activity, people celebrated the holiday as a time of the wandering dead. To ward off the mischievous spirits and honor the benevolent ones, people gathered to sacrifice animals, fruits and vegetables. They also lit bonfires in honor of their dead ancestors, aiding them on their journey to the spirit world and guiding them away from the living. Many people also wore costumes made from the pelts and heads of animals, beginning the tradition of masquerade.

To avoid having tricks played on their homes, Celts gave the spirits (and their masked impersonators) gifts of food and drink. Over time the practice evolved and became know as trick or treat, according to <http://www.loc.gov>. American's inherited the Halloween tradition via Irish and Scottish immigrants in the 1800's.

Now children dress up as witches, ghosts, and their favorite characters and go "trick or treating" as adults adopted a more Mardi Gras style of Halloween celebration.

Throughout humanity people have their own unique rituals, rites and beliefs acknowledging their mortality. "Halloween, and its variations, serves to fill that specific need. In so doing, we are reaffirming death and its place as a part of life rather than suppress mankind's deepest fears," according to <http://cms.psychologytoday.com>.

Halloween Pop Quiz!

1. Why do so many black cats actually have a small bit of white fur?

- a) During the medieval period in Europe, pure black cats were considered consecrated to the Devil and burned alive, so the gene pool was drastically reduced for them.
- b) Pure black cats are considered unlucky so many of them are abandoned or killed.
- c) As witches' pets, pure black cats do not breed.

2. How did Halloween get its name?

- a) It's a derivative of Hollowing, from the custom of hollowing out pumpkins for jack-o-lanterns.
- b) It is the eve of All Saint's Day, November 1st, making it a hallowed evening or Halloween.
- c) It symbolizes the sound wolves make in the night to scare away evil spirits.

3. What holiday was the medieval Christian church trying to replace by celebrating Halloween?

- a) The Celtic festival of Samhain.
- b) The pagan German holiday of Osterlind.
- c) The Druid holiday of Paratica.

4. Why did the Celts light bonfires for their holiday?

- a) To provide light for the festivities that were expected to last until dawn.
- b) To honor of their dead ancestors, to aid them on their journey to the spirit world and to guide them away from the living.
- c) As a symbolic gesture representing the burning up and thus canceling out their sins for the year.

5. How did Halloween come to America?

- a) The pilgrims observed the standard Christian calendar of festivals, including Halloween.
- b) It was brought here in the early 1800s by Scottish and Irish immigrants.
- c) Since the British have Guy Fawke's Day, the Americans decided to celebrate Halloween instead as a statement of their independence.

6. Why are witches, goblins, black cats and ghosts associated with Halloween?

- a) Witches created the holiday originally and the rest of us have just jumped on the bandwagon.
- b) The Celts believed the goblins had to be placated by the flattery of being imitated.
- c) The Celts believed when the dead roam on Halloween, they were presumed to be in these other forms.

7. How did pumpkins come to be a symbol of Halloween?

- a) Originally, the Irish carved out large turnips to serve as lanterns at Halloween gatherings. In America, in place of turnips, Irish immigrants adopted pumpkins.
- b) The custom of carving out pumpkins originated with the Iroquois in New York and the white settlers liked the idea.
- c) It was thought that goblins lived inside and carved them from the inside out.

8. How did the tradition of bobbing for apples get started?

- a) It is an ancient Celtic divination.
- b) It was invented during the Irish potato famine as a very inexpensive yet festive party game.
- c) People got tired of bobbing for pumpkins and settled on the more manageable apple.

! WORLD WIRE

... News ... Sports ... Entertainment ...

Oct. 20: Observers fear a split in the **Israeli Army** over orders to forcibly remove settlers from Gaza; some rabbis have urged soldiers to disobey orders. ... An unprecedented number of **lawsuits** are already pending over the presidential election before it's even happened. ... A 47-year-old Vietnamese refugee has been stranded a month at **Los Angeles International Airport**, having lost his travel documents. ... British scientists are trying to **clone human embryos**. ... Sunshine makes men more **fertile**, study says. ... A **human rights group** urges the Russians to abandon hazing in their military that kills and traumatizes recruits. ... Thousands

of letters from British newspaper readers to voters in Clark County, Ohio, aimed at influencing the **presidential election** backfire when Americans are offended. ...

Oct. 21: A **typhoon** kills 66 people in Japan. ... **French** politicians and teachers react in outrage to an official call for all children to learn English. ... **Google** posts a \$52 million quarterly profit. ...

Oct. 23: Pop singer **Ashlee Simpson** is revealed to be lip-synching during a Saturday Night Live performance. ... Powerful **earthquakes** shake Japan, killing 13, injuring hundreds and derailing a bullet train. ...

Oct. 24: Gasoline tops **\$2 per gallon** in a

survey of 7,000 U.S. gas stations. ...

Oct. 25: Chief Justice **William Rehnquist** has thyroid cancer. ... The FBI says **Violent crime** fell 3 percent last year. ...

Oct. 26: Apple unveils a new **iPod** that allows users to view and share photos. ... **Siegfried & Roy** plan a memoir. ... Studies indicate there are 33 possible ways the **upcoming election** could end up in a 269-269 electoral college tie. ...

Oct. 27: **Overseas voters** are rushing to vote in the election ... including some right here at Guantanamo Bay. ...

Army Cpl. Jim Greenhill compiles the WorldWire from a variety of online news services.

... Faith ... Belief ... Counseling ...

WORSHIP WIRE

— The Spice of Life —

There is an old saying, "Variety is the spice of life."

This is certainly true in some areas, and not in others. Variety is good in foods, not in spouses! Baskin Robbins became famous and successful for offering 31 varieties of ice cream. Elizabeth Taylor became infamous for having a variety of husbands.

How about in religion? Is variety good or bad? America was founded upon the idea that religious variety was a good thing. In our Constitution we have the principle of religious freedom, tolerance and diversity stated in the words, "Congress shall make no law respecting an establishment of religion or prohibiting the free exercise thereof."

Religious freedom and diversity can only work if people have tolerance and respect for a variety of religious expressions. So far, the American experiment of religious freedom has been a great success, and has enabled America to be one of the few nations in the world where people of differing religious views can live, and work side by side in peace and harmony. Religious freedom and diversity are strengths of America, not weaknesses.

Many places in the world fail in practicing religious tolerance and freedom. They believe in only one flavor. Everyone must all be

the same if you want to live or work in these cultures. I once had a contractor come to my house who was on a work visa from Ireland. He was shocked that I was a Protestant minister, and my neighbor was a practicing Roman Catholic. Not only did we live next door, which was unheard of in his background, but we were friends! He simply couldn't understand, but by the end of the summer I think he developed an appreciation for the freedom and tolerance of religion we take for granted in the U.S.

In the Bible (Mark 9:38-40) we read an interesting story from the ministry of Jesus:

"Teacher," said John, "we saw a man driving out demons in your name and we told him to stop, because he was not one of us."

"Do not stop him," Jesus said ... "for whoever is not against us is for us."

This story shows that it is human nature to think only ones like us can be serving the Lord.

But Jesus said there were other people outside that group that were serving God too. It serves us well as a nation and as a people to remember that. God's people do come in many varieties, even more than Baskin Robbins!

—By Chaplain (Army Maj.)
Steven Herman

Padre's Corner

Read Luke 18, 9-14.

Jesus addressed this parable to those who were convinced of their own righteousness and despised everyone else.

It's a pretty sobering thought for those of us who consider ourselves to be people of faith; Jesus had the most trouble and resistance from the religious leaders of the day.

There is always a danger that religious people can fall into the trap of really believing they have arrived in the sight of God and others.

The fact is we are all creatures and the Book of Sirach reminds us that God is a God of justice who knows no favorites!

Perhaps this is a pertinent reminder to those of us in religion to leave the judging to God and recognize what a gift we have been given in and through the mercy of God.

That insight will enable us to be generous manifestations of God's goodness and love.

— Chaplain (Navy Lt. Cmdr.)
James Dowds

SPORTS WIRE

This Column Says Nothing About the Broncos' Loss



Photo courtesy nfl.com

By Army Cpl. Simon Cropp

Seven years ago, Bill Clinton was still president; seven years ago was the last time Army would get consecutive wins—until last week.

Army came away with a victory against South Florida a week after breaking the longest losing streak in college football history, now only to win two games in a row.

There was a time when Army ranked among the best college teams. In 1945, '46 and '47 they won national championships. Three Heisman winners, Don Blanchard in 1945, Glenn Davis in '46 and Pete Dawkins in '58—indeed there was a time when West Point included some of the finest young American athletes.

There is a long history of proud tradition when it comes to Army, but as with any long tradition of winning there will come a long tradition of losing. Hopefully Army can rebound and put themselves back on the list of premiere athletes (now that they've actually broken their losing streak).

Air Force still struggles as they try to find a rhythm this season and their record threatens to fall well short of expectations. Coming up Saturday they will play Wyoming, an old rivalry that they've rarely gotten the best of and Coach Fisher DeBerry seems mostly

withdrawn and melancholy when asked about the immediate future of his team.

Air Force is a good team and should probably rebound from this little downward spiral, hopefully with a win against Wyoming. Air Force, seven games into the season, is still searching for their defining game.

Navy moved to 6-1 last week and looks like another bowl game this year, the first time since 1996 they've gone to bowl games in consecutive years. Navy has played strong this year, though their coach gets a bit defensive when the notion they have a soft schedule is mentioned.

The Bengals beat the Broncos. The Patriots are still undefeated, and the Eagles struggled through a tough win against the Browns in OT last Sunday.

Dante Culpepper controlled his game last week, taking the Vikings to another win without the stellar aid of an injured Randy Moss. It sure seems like Culpepper has figured out the best way to manage his football team and when Moss comes back look for more amazing, statistically impossible games by this duo. Sometimes it seems like Culpepper doesn't have an arm at all but instead a surgically grafted cannon that launches the football so far down the field that no one has a chance of catching up to it—except of course Randy Moss who actually doesn't have legs, he's got wheels and a V8 engine. It's like a bad sci-fi movie with these two guys except as bad as the movie sounds it makes for some potentially record shattering football.

Jacksonville took it to the Colts last week, not only defying all expectations but also putting themselves in position to possibly win their division. No one ever imagined the Jaguars had even a possibility of winning this division—not after the way they played last year, but here they are. Byron Leftwich is playing well in his second year as a quarterback and this team's defense is getting it done. The Cardinals beat the Seahawks—the same Seahawks about which commentators

were raving early on in the season.

Emmitt Smith is good to go on the field with his 78th 100 yard rushing game, which breaks Walter Payton's record. Miami won their first game, too, against the Rams. And, speaking of Miami, it looks like Ricky Williams is trying to get back in the NFL. Everyone is pretty down on him right now (especially Miami) but once his suspension is lifted and he is eligible to play next year it's likely most teams will forget just what a flake this guy is and beg Miami for the trade. He is a great rusher after all.

The World Series is over, too. Boston sweeps and ends the curse of the Bambino!

Deion Sanders (top) is 37-years-old but flashes his old brilliance on both offense and defense for the Baltimore Ravens. The Bengals' Carson Palmer's (below) long bombs and Chad Johnson's quickness burned the shutdown power of Denver's Champ Bailey twice in Monday night's game. The Bengals came away with a big victory on their first Monday night appearance in more than 10 years.

Photo courtesy nfl.com



15 Minutes of Fame

... with Army Sgt. Rocco Albano, 50th HHC, J-4 Supply ...

N.J. Army Sergeant Moves from SWAT to GTMO

"I'm here in defense of my country. It is time well spent."

By Senior Airman Neo Martin

At home, Army Sgt. Albano is a police lieutenant in charge of patrolmen. He has also worked as a patrolman, Special Weapons and Tactics (SWAT) hostage negotiator and a police academy instructor. He is deployed as an Army National Guard member of the 50th Headquarters and Headquarters Company (HHC) from New Jersey.

The Wire: When did you begin your military career?

Sgt. Rocco Albano: In lieu of going to college, I joined the Air Force in November of 1973. I served in the Air Force on active duty for 10 years and had an 18-year break in service and re-joined the military as an Army National Guard member two weeks before Sept. 11, 2001.

Why did you rejoin the military after 18 years?

I have always missed the military lifestyle; the camaraderie, the travel, the sense of duty and commitment. After raising my four children, I talked it over with my wife and we thought this would be a good time to re-enter the military.

Where has your military career taken you?

I've been to Turkey, Italy and Spain when I was in the Air Force. This is my first deployment with the Army National Guard in support of the Global War on Terrorism.

What do you do here?

I work in J-4, purchasing. Basically, I supply Troopers with the necessary equipment to perform their missions.

Why is your job important?

Because I purchase items the staff and Troopers of the JTF need to perform their high risk and daily mission requirements.

What is the best aspect of the military?

In the military, people have a strong cohesiveness and commitment. We are all here to support a cause and we are all



Photo by Senior Airman Neo Martin

proud of what we do.

What is your favorite military experience?

I was stationed overseas for two years. While there, I was exposed to many opportunities to travel and learn about different cultures. The friendships I've made are also very important.

What was the toughest thing you've had to overcome in the military?

The separation from my family is difficult. I have a young granddaughter and I really miss her.

What helps you overcome the challenges?

I just try and stay focused on the mission and remember why we're here.

How does your family feel about your deployment?

My wife was upset at first, but she is proud of all of us. My family understands it and has accepted it as something I must do.

How do you feel about the opportunity to work for the Joint Task Force (JTF) here?

The mission here is vital and important. It feels great to be a part of the Global War on Terrorism (GWOT). I'm very proud to

be at Guantanamo Bay (GTMO). Also, the people I work with here at the J-4 Warehouse are the best.

Why do you think the GWOT is important?

I know the world will never be the same as it was pre-9/11, but at least we're doing our part to help keep the world safer and keeping the American dream alive for our children.

How do you like to spend your free time?

I like to run and go to the gym. I also like to barbecue with my friends and roommates and just hangout with other JTF members.

How do you feel about your time spent here?

I'm here in defense of my country. It is time well spent.

What are your plans for after GTMO?

Return to work and just be with my family. The longer I'm here, the more I realize how lucky I am to have the family and friends back home that I have. I told my wife I'd take her on a vacation, anywhere she wants to go. But the Caribbean is out of the question.

Camp America Barbershop

The Camp America Barbershop has new hours to accommodate Troopers. The shop is now open from 1 p.m. to 8 p.m., Monday through Saturday.

Participation is necessary to keep it running, so stop by and get your top chopped!

—Army Sgt.
Scott Griffin



BUSES

Chart shows bus stops and minutes after the hour when buses are scheduled. For example, the Sherman Avenue bus stops at East Caravella 03 and 33 minutes after the hour.

Sherman Avenue

First Street	00	30			
East Caravella	03	33			
Marine Hill	05	35	Camp Alpha	00	20 40
Post Office	10	40	NEX trailer	02	22 42
Windjammer	11	41	Camp Delta 2	06	26 46
NEX	14	44	TK 4	12	32 52
Bulkeley Landing	17	47	TK 1	16	36 56
Ferry landing	21	51	Windjammer	23	43 03
Commissions Bldg.	23	53	NEX	30	50 10
Ordnance	26	56	Windjammer	35	55 15
Bulkeley Landing	28	58	TK 1	40	00 20
NEX	32	02	TK 4	46	06 26
Windjammer	36	06	Camp Delta 1	52	12 32
Post Office	37	07	Camp Alpha	00	20 40
Marine Hill	41	11			
Hospital	48	18			
Windward Loop 1	52	22			

CINEMA

DOWNTOWN LYCEUM

FRIDAY

8 p.m. *The Cookout*

PG13 85 min

10 p.m. *Paparazzi*

PG13 85 min

SATURDAY

8 p.m. *Anacondas*

PG13 97 min

10 p.m. *Cellular*

PG13 94 min

SUNDAY

8 p.m. *Vanity Fair*

PG13 141 min

MONDAY

7 p.m. *Paparazzi*

PG13 85 min

TUESDAY

7 p.m. *Cellular*

PG13 94 min

WEDNESDAY

7 p.m. *Vanity Fair*

PG13 141 min

THURSDAY

7 p.m. *Hero*

PG13 99 min

CAMP BULKELEY

FRIDAY

8 p.m. *Friday Night*

Lights

PG13 118 min

10 p.m. *Hero*

PG13 99 min

SATURDAY

8 p.m. *The Cookout*

PG13 85 min

10 p.m. *Paparazzi*

PG13 85 min

SUNDAY

8 p.m. *Cellular*

PG13 94 min

MONDAY

7 p.m. *Vanity Fair*

PG13 141 min

TUESDAY

7 p.m. *Paparazzi*

PG13 85 min

WEDNESDAY

7 p.m. *Cellular*

PG13 94 min

THURSDAY

7 p.m. *Vanity Fair*

PG13 141 min

FOR THE RECORD

The Wire strives for accuracy. When we fail, we accept responsibility for our errors and correct them. Please call Sgt. Scott Griffin

at 3499 if you see an error in *The Wire*.



On the Road in GTMO

Every day I see Troopers jogging their hearts out here at Guantanamo Bay.

What impresses me is that they are doing it on their own time. That tells me they are serious and motivated about keeping in shape; and that's a good thing. It promotes good health and keeps them in the fight. Troopers are obviously trying to do the right thing.

What baffles me is when I see these same Troopers violating the regulations and local policies governing this activity.

Almost every day, I see people jogging without wearing reflective gear, running on the road when there is a sidewalk and wearing headsets while running on the road.

All Troopers refer to JTF-GTMO MEMORANDUM

from the Commander dated June 2, 2004, Para 8, as well as COMNAVBASEGTMO INSTRUCTION 1710.10, Para. 7.

These policies were implemented for your safety.

Wear reflective gear, use the sidewalk and don't wear your headset on the road. And oh, by the way, headsets are never authorized while wearing the Army PT uniform. See AR 670-1 Ch 1-4.

So go out there and continue to jog to your heart's content. But before you head out the door, do a mental checklist. Keep the rules of the road in mind. Safety is paramount, abide by the command driven rules. They are there for your protection.

—Navy Lt. Cmdr.
Mike Sowa

Gooey Pumpkin Cakes

Black cats, witches, goblins and bats—but no Halloween symbol is more ingrained into our minds than the pumpkin. In honor of Halloween, here is a tasty pumpkin treat. Any fan of traditional pumpkin pie will find these snacks a delight.

Ingredients

- 1 (18 1/4-ounce) package yellow cake mix
- 8 tablespoons melted butter
- 1 (8-ounce) package cream cheese, softened
- 1 (15-ounce) can pumpkin
- 4 eggs
- 1 teaspoon vanilla
- 8 tablespoons melted butter
- 1 (16-ounce) box powdered sugar
- 1 teaspoon cinnamon
- 1 teaspoon nutmeg

Directions

1. Combine cake mix, butter and one egg and mix well with an electric mixer. Pat the mixture into the bottom of a lightly greased 13 by 9-inch baking pan.
2. In a large bowl, beat the cream cheese and pumpkin until smooth. Add three eggs, vanilla and butter and beat. Next, add the powdered sugar, cinnamon, nutmeg and mix well.
3. Spread pumpkin mixture over cake batter and bake at 350 degrees for 40 to 50 minutes. Make sure not to over bake as the center should be a little gooey.
4. Serve with fresh whipped cream.

—Army Pfc. Jessi Stone

WORSHIP

CAMP AMERICA

Sunday	9 a.m.	Protestant Service	Troopers' Chapel
	6:45 p.m.	Catholic Mass	Troopers' Chapel
	7:30 p.m.	Protestant Service	Bldg. 3203
Tuesday	7 p.m.	Alpha	Bldg. L001
Wednesday	7:30 p.m.	Soul Survivor	Club Survivor
Thursday	7 p.m.	Thursday Night Ticket	Bldg. L001
Saturday	3 p.m.	Saturday Vigil Mass	Troopers' Chapel

NAVBASE CHAPEL

Sunday	8 a.m.	Pentecostal Gospel	Sanctuary C
	9 a.m.	Catholic Mass	Main Chapel
	9 a.m.	Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints	Sanctuary A
	9:30 a.m.	Protestant Sunday School	
	11 a.m.	Protestant Service	Main Chapel
Monday	1 p.m.	New Life Fellowship	Main Chapel
	5 p.m.	Pentecostal Gospel	Sanctuary C
Monday	7 p.m.	Prayer Group Fellowship	Fellowship Hall
	7 p.m.	Family Home Evening	Room 8
Wednesday	7 p.m.	Men's Bible Study	Fellowship Hall
Friday	1 p.m.	Islamic Prayer	Room 12
Saturday	5:30 p.m.	Vigil Mass	Main Chapel

For information on Jewish services call 2323

DINING

Today	Lunch	Barbecued Beef Cubes
	Dinner	Seafood Platter
Saturday	Lunch	Baked Fish
	Dinner	Chicken Parmesan
Sunday	Lunch	Roast Porkloin
	Dinner	Shepherd's Pie
Monday	Lunch	Peppered Steak
	Dinner	Roast Turkey
Tuesday	Lunch	Barbecued Chicken
	Dinner	Chicken & Beef Fajitas
Wednesday	Lunch	Pineapple Chicken
	Dinner	Cantonese Spareribs
Thursday	Lunch	Caribbean Chicken Breast
	Dinner	Salisbury Steak
Friday	Lunch	Parmesan Fish
	Dinner	Steamship Round of Beef