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THE WIRE



**JOINT TASK FORCE
GUANTANAMO**

Honor Bound To Defend Freedom

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Friday, Dec. 31, 2004

Soaring Into 2005

*A Continued Legacy
To Defend Freedom*

By Senior Airman Neo Martin

The transformation of JTF-GTMO

By Brig. Gen. Jay W. Hood

JTF-GTMO Commanding General

From the day detainees first arrived here, Joint Task Force-Guantanamo Bay (JTF-GTMO) has undergone a remarkable transformation.

Understanding where we came from as an organization, where we are today and where we expect to be in the future is key to our collective success in the role we continue to play in the Global War on Terrorism (GWOT).

Where we were

In January 2002, the first elements of JTF 160 arrived with the mission to conduct detention operations. Within weeks, the first group of detainees arrived, representatives from the International Committee of the Red Cross were on hand

to monitor their treatment and living conditions, and military medical professionals set up the detention medical facility.

A month later, JTF 170 began its intelligence-gathering operation. Construction also began at Camp Delta, and the following April all detainees were moved into that newly completed facility.

In late 2002, the tent city across from Camp X-Ray that housed Troopers gave way to more permanent facilities in other areas on the base, and the detention and intelligence-gathering operations were joined as JTF-GTMO.

Where we are

Now, in the two years since the creation of JTF-GTMO, we have achieved many noteworthy accomplishments, including:

- Safe detention of nearly 800 enemy combatants since operations began.
- Intelligence collection that has produced tangible results in fighting terrorism worldwide.
- Provision of the highest quality medical care for detainees and Troopers.
- Construction of state-of-the-art detention and intelligence-gathering facilities.
- Development of operational SOPs (standard operating procedures) that incorporate lessons learned.

- Vast improvement of quality of life for Troopers in the way we live, eat and enjoy recreation.

Where we expect to be

We've come a long way in the execution of the mission and development of JTF-GTMO, but we're not through. Although there are unknowns about the future of operations at Guantanamo, we will continue to move forward with our mission, improve facilities and at the same time find new and better ways to do business.

We will continue to conduct detention in a safe, humane manner, and we will continue to refine intelligence gathering in support of the GWOT.

The most important part of our plan for the future, however, involves taking better care of Troopers. We will continue to improve the quality of life here at JTF-GTMO, to include housing, transportation, and communication, and continue to provide opportunities for Troopers' training and professional development.

Over the coming months, we will say farewell to great, dedicated Americans who have performed admirably in their mission here. I'm quite confident the lessons they learned and the experiences they take with them will make them better service members, better citizens and better people.

We look forward to the official welcoming in early 2005 of the 525th Military Police Battalion, who will be a critical part of the continued success of our mission. There will be other active-duty and Reserve units from all the services who will join us as well, and I expect those Troopers who will be leaving us soon to continue to exceed the standard to their very last day.

I appreciate your individual contributions to the success of JTF-GTMO. You have built upon the foundation put in place by your predecessors and raised the bar for those who will follow. Together we made 2004 a great year, and I know you will make 2005 even better.

Good luck and honor bound! ■



Photo by Spc. Jody Metzger

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N.J. Congressional delegation, ANG Chief visit Guantanamo Bay

By Senior Airman Neo Martin

JTF-GTMO Public Affairs Office

Three Congressmen, the Adjutant General and Army National Guard (ANG) command staff from New Jersey visited Troopers at Guantanamo Bay on Dec. 23.

During the pre-holiday tour, the visitors met with several New Jersey ANG Troopers and spoke about issues concerning ANG members and their families.

One of the group's stops was an open forum at Club Survivor where Maj. Gen. Glenn Rieth, New Jersey Adjutant General, talked about the state's part in the Global War Against Terrorism (GWOT).

"(Troopers) from New Jersey play a big role in GTMO," the major general said. "Right now, N. J. ANG members can be found in the full spectrum of military operations here. It is critically important our whole team, regardless of what job, stays ready to fight."

U.S. Senator Jon Corzine D-N.J., a former Marine, was on hand for the tour. Corzine spoke to the Troopers about the importance of their missions, citing the difficulties faced by deployed service members during the holiday season.

"I'm extraordinarily grateful for your sacrifices for all of us," Corzine said. "I know it's tough to be away from your families—but our freedom is protected."

"I'm extraordinarily grateful for your sacrifices for all of us."

—U.S. Senator Jon Corzine, D-N.J.

Keying in on family issues, Rieth said, "I'm proud to work in support of your families. We are all together, we are family, and we're willing to do what's right for (your families) back home."

Reith said there were no immediate plans to redeploy the 2nd Battalion, 113th Infantry Regiment, but the GWOT is a fluid environment and things can change. "This is a different war than the Cold War," he said. "We face a global threat with no clear front lines. We must be flexible."

Congressman Rush Holt also participated in the tour. Holt, New Jersey's 12th dis-



Photos by Army Sgt. Scott Faddis

▲ Major Gen. Glenn Rieth, New Jersey Adjutant General, speaks with U.S. Senator Jon Corzine during a recent visit to Troopers at Guantanamo Bay.

trict representative, was present when the 2nd Battalion, 113th Infantry Regiment mobilized at Fort Dix, N.J. earlier this year.

During his visit to GTMO, Holt suggested if any ANG Troopers from New Jersey had any family related concerns to e-mail their congressmen. "We are behind you and your families," he said.

Congressman Bob Menendez, New Jersey's 13th district representative, said this of his visit: "It's been an interesting day. As members of the congressional delegation committee, we are proud of you."

He continued, "We understand the sacrifice. We understand the consequences. The way we honor and support you is during and after your service is by providing healthcare and benefits."

After the delegation members spoke, Troopers were given Christmas gifts donated by community members and 1,200 telephone calling cards were also given to the crowd.

At the conclusion of the visit, the major general and members of the congressional delegation committee talked with Troopers and posed for photographs. ■

Reach Senior Airman Neo Martin at 3594.



▲ U.S. Senator Jon Corzine answers a question for a Trooper at Club Survivor during the Congressional delegation visit.



Photos by Army Sgt. Scott Faddis

USCG Commandant visits GTMO

By Army Staff Sgt. Cavett Ishihara

JTF-GTMO Public Affairs Office

The Coast Guard's top officer and enlisted man visited Guantanamo Bay this week.

Admiral Thomas Collins (equivalent to a four star general) and Master Chief Petty Officer of the Coast Guard (MCPO CG) Frank A. Welch visited with both the Maritime Safety and Security Team New Orleans assigned to the Joint Task Force, and crewmembers of the Coast Guard cutter *Dallas*.

Seated at the Leeward Ferry Landing for a question and answer session, more than two-dozen MSST members heard firsthand how their work here contributes to the Coast Guard's expanding role in the Global War on Terrorism.

MCPO Welch said that immediately after Sept. 11, 2001 the president and Congress demanded more from the Coast Guard. The immediate response was simple. "Aye aye, Sir! We are going to do the best we can with what we have," he said.

The growing MSST mission is one action based on that response. "Though fiscal year 2004, the Coast Guard has created 13 Maritime Safety and Security Teams," said Admiral Collins. "These teams go where the risk is, go where the threat is, to provide waterfront security under certain conditions and events." The MSST mission will remain with the Coast Guard until the Department of Defense assumes the port security mission, he added.

The MSST's duties here are not far different than its normal ones. Outside the JTF-GTMO mission, Coast Guard duties include escorting, boarding and securing commercial vehicles during high-risk transit operations, as well as providing key waterfront protection. "The JTF mission here is an absolute perfect fit," he said.

With expanding roles like the task force mission, growth opportunities come for Coast Guard personnel. This growth also brings better training, new equipment and promotion opportunities. Both leaders acknowledged however that these opportunities do come at a sacrifice for service members.

"The sacrifices made by the Coast Guard are the same sacrifices made by every man and woman in uniformed service of our country," said Command Master Chief Welch.

"Whether you're Army, Marines, Navy, Air Force; active duty, National Guard or Reserve, sacrifice is sacrifice. We all give of our time freely. We all serve our country by choice, and we all make our country our No. 1 priority."

The leadership toured and met with the crew of the Coast Guard cutter *Dallas*. According to the Coast Guard website, *Dallas* (WHEC-716) is a 378-foot high endurance cutter with a crew of about 175. *Dallas* was commissioned in 1967 and is the sixth to bear the name of Alexander J. Dallas, treasury secretary under President James Madison. ■

Reach Army Staff Sgt. Cavett Ishihara at 3383.



▲ Admiral Thomas Collins talks with Joint Task Force Troopers during a recent visit to Guantanamo Bay.

New GTMO phone service

Guantanamo Bay has a new phone service provider providing long distance service to the USA for 9 cents a minute.

Satellite Communications Services Incorporated (SCSI) is already providing certain services to customers of LCN. Additional services will be available sometime in January or February, said Mario Flores, manager.

Rates to other countries have also changed, Flores said. Calls to Jamaica and the Philippines are 50 cents a minute.

SCSI will be selling prepaid calling cards at 9 cents a minute at the Navy Exchange atrium, Gold Hill Towers lobby and Radio Range phone center, said Flores.

In the future, friends and family members of Troopers in the USA can also purchase calling cards from SCSI online and call Troopers here for 20 cents a minute. The website where Troopers families can purchase these cards is not yet operational, but will most likely open Jan. 5, Flores said.

SCSI is also taking over dial-up internet service. "We're already seeing a steady increase in users," Flores said. Current dial-up

account users simply need to change their information to begin using the service now. The new dial up number is 2927. To log on, users should use their existing user name and the new password nsgtmo2004.

SCSI will accept new dial-up accounts on Jan. 5. Troopers living in Tierra Kay housing will be able to sign up.

"It's about time that they finally woke up and realized that people down here for so long need to make phone calls home instead of just a few minutes here and there," said Coast Guard Petty Officer 3rd Class Ben Reeves, a crew member for harbor patrol.

SCSI will also be providing cell phone service to everyone on base. Cell phones will cost \$200 and service will cost \$49 a month. Troopers can use the cell phones to call the United States for the same rate of 9 cents a minute and will have unlimited calling on base. The cell phones should be available sometime in January or February.

--Army Pfc. Jessi Stone



Sound off!

The Wire welcomes letters from Troopers for publication. Letters must: Have no more than 350 words. Be signed by the Trooper. Include the Trooper's unit and contact information. *The Wire* reserves the right to edit letters for length, clarity, possible OPSEC (operational security) violations and to eliminate libelous or tasteless material. We will do our level best to answer questions posed in letters by contacting the appropriate subject-matter expert.

If you would like to see your writing in *The Wire*, bring your letter to *The Wire* office at building 4106, a SEA hut near the Chaplain's Office in Camp America.

MRW Photo entries needed

Joint Task Force Troopers get a chance to test their photography skills in the upcoming Guantanamo Bay (GTMO) photo contest, a great opportunity for any Trooper who has an eye for GTMO scenery.

Like all contests, there are rules in place, but most important, the entries need to be photographs of GTMO. Any picture a Trooper sees fit will work fine, and a Trooper can submit up to three entries for the contest.

Images submitted must be in good taste and not violate OPSEC (operational security).

This gives the opportunity for Troopers to do something creative with their surrounding environment. They can present GTMO to fellow Troopers, things they see every day and add an artistic slant to the same old stuff.

So dust off those cameras and get out there. The categories are black and white and color. The sub-categories are military, nature, extreme and patriotic. Show the world what you can do and get those extreme upside down point-of-view shots of banana rats scavenging through the garbage and iguanas battling it out for reptilian supremacy.

—Army Cpl. Simon Cropp

DecorSpirit



Photo by Spc. Jody Metzger

A special thanks and award ceremony was held Dec. 29 for those who decorated their Tierra Kay houses for Christmas. First place winners received certificate of job well done, Brig. Gen. Martin Lucenti's coin and a three-day pass. Proud of the effort to spark the holiday spirit, Lucenti gave thanks. "Getting out there as a team," said Lucenti, "you really elevated the holiday spirit."

Photography Contest

Entry deadline: Jan. 21.

Rules: Three entries per person; GTMO-specific; 8-inch by 10-inch maximum size prints, 5-inch by 7-inch minimum; mount photos; photos taken since January 2002 eligible; open to active duty, retired and Department of Defense civilians; black and white or color.

Categories: Military, nature, extreme, patriotic.

Take entries to: Jessica Carroll at the Bayview or Lisa Dula at MWR Media & Marketing.

For more information: Call Jessica Carroll at 5604 or Lisa Dula at 5225.

Electric breeze

STORY AND PHOTOS BY

ARMY PFC. JESSI STONE

JTF-GTMO PUBLIC AFFAIRS

Oil, coal and even hydroelectric power are looking archaic at Guantanamo Bay, where windmills are being constructed on ridgelines to provide a new source of energy.

Four three-bladed wind turbines tower on John Paul Jones Hill.

"Huge doesn't begin to do justice to these structures," said Navy Lt. Cmdr. Jeffery Johnston, director of public works. "The towers stand 185 feet tall, and the blade diameter is 177 feet, so the blade tip at the top of its rotation is almost 275 feet above John Paul Jones Hill, which is already the highest point on the base. "The turbines have become the singular architectural detail of the base."

The system will be the largest stand-alone hybrid wind/diesel power system in the world, Johnston said, producing 25 megawatts of electricity.

Construction was no easy task, said Bill Keenan, project manager. Because of limited space on the top of John Paul Jones Hill, a special crane had to be brought in to build the windmills.

The wind turbines are designed to provide 25 percent of the base power, reducing the consumption of diesel fuel here by 25 percent, Johnston said. Each windmill will generate 950 kilowatts

of electricity, save 650,000 gallons of diesel a year and cut air pollutants and greenhouse gas emissions by 13 million pounds annually.

Johnston said expected savings from the windmills will be in the range of \$1.5 million annually.

Taxpayers will not feel the burden of the \$13 million project. Johnston said a special program will cover the cost. "It allows contractors to propose energy-saving projects at Navy bases, then to install them at their cost, and receive the energy cost savings, plus a fair profit, until the projects are fully paid off. In this case, NORESKO, Inc. proposed to erect the wind turbines and swap out some of our older diesel generators with newer, more efficient ones. The project is costing them in excess of \$13 million, and they expect to get that back in cost savings in less than 12 years. After that, the Navy will get to keep all the savings."

Johnston said he expects to see the turbines turning by the end of January and fully operational by early March.

According to an article in the October issue of *Popular Science* titled "Wind Power Reconsidered," the United States currently has wind farms (fields full of wind-

mills built to generate electricity) in 30 states, and they are only the beginning of practically boundless resources.

Currently only 1 percent of the nation's electricity is provided by wind power, but the U.S. Department of Energy says there's enough harvestable wind to light up the whole country.

Popular Science reported that technology such as more efficient turbines that use multiple generators and strong, lightweight carbon fiber or carbon-glass-hybrid rotor blades mean even mild winds can be harnessed.

According to the *Miami Herald*, sporadic winds make it impossible for the base to ever become entirely independent of fossil fuel, but the windmills will help to clean up the energy output on base.

"We can only use wind power for about 25 percent of our requirement," Johnston said. "If we use more than that, it becomes difficult to keep the system in alignment. So unless our power requirement gets a lot larger, which no one wants to see happen, we've reached our limit." ■

Reach Army Pfc. Jessi Stone at 3499.

A truck seems small alongside the 177-foot-diameter blades that will harness the wind at Guantanamo Bay, cutting the cost of providing power to the base by an estimated \$1.5 million each year.

se



► A crane lifts the blades into place on one of the new windmills that are scheduled to provide 25 percent of Guantanamo Bay's electrical needs when they become operational in 2005.



Running up scores to beat the record: the Peyton Manning story

By Army Cpl. Simon Cropp

JTF-GTMO Public Affairs Office

A historic moment came Sunday afternoon.

After a season of running up scores on poor defenses, after a season of ripping teams into pieces, dominating the game in points and still throwing long bombs to the in-zone in the last minutes of play, Peyton Manning finally beat Dan Marino's touchdown record.

It was a tough road, a struggle! It's like when a guy sits down and plays *Madden 2005* and sets the difficulty level as low as possible to see how many touchdowns he can throw in a single game. Manning made it, and now he's on the list of legendary players.


Still, no one can take away the fact that it took exceptional talent on the parts of both Manning and his receivers to beat that record.

The AFC play-off picture has not changed too much except down in the wild card area.

Once a four-way tie for the last wild card spot between the Jacksonville Jaguars, Baltimore Ravens, Denver Broncos and Buffalo Bills, has now changed to a two-way tie, the Broncos and the Bills. The Jaguars suffered a humiliating shutout last week against the Houston Texans, and the Ravens of course got beat by the Steelers.

NFL legend Reggie White died this weekend at the age of 43. The cause of death is speculated to be related to a respiratory disease from which he suffered. Once an all-time leader in sacks, White played the defensive end position with dominance during his entire career and contributed to the Green Bay Packers last Super Bowl win in 1997 with his intense defense.

Guess what? The Rams took out the Eagles on Monday! There is speculation that the Eagles, with nothing to lose, played not to hurt themselves. But an even deeper-seeded speculation lies in the subconscious of sports fans everywhere. Where is Terrell Owens, the superstar wide receiver who helped to bring the team this far? Could his absence have anything to do with the



Army Cpl. Simon Cropp's lengthy OJT (on-the-job training) as a CSWTW (contributor and sports writer for *The Wire*) has extended for more than six months now.

loss? Of course not, right? Well, the Eagles only scored minimal points in the Monday Night game.

With the injury of Terrell Owens, the NFC picture has been shaken up. The Falcons still look strong with an inconsistent Vick, stronger than the Owens-less Eagles, maybe! It's just a testament to the horrible status of the NFC this year.

Thundor must be angry.

Many playoffs are just around the corner and—luckily for all JTF Troopers—those are prime time games and we should all get a steady dose of the best. ■

Reach Army Cpl. Simon Cropp at 3589.

WorldWire

Dec. 22: *The Washington Post* buys *Slate* online magazine.

... Teen illegal **drug use** declining. ... **294 million** live in USA; South, West grow fastest. ... **Economy** grew 4 percent in third quarter. ... **Bird flu** crosses to humans in Japan. ... **Maytag** among companies actively hiring former Soldiers; employers value discipline, skills, obedience, attention to procedures. ... Household chemicals linked to **asthma** increase, British study finds. ... **Little Nicky**, a kitten delivered to a Texas woman, is first cloned-to-order pet in the USA. ...

Dec. 23: President Bush to renominate 12 federal appeals

court candidates.

Dec. 24: Defense Secretary Donald H. Rumsfeld visits Iraq troops. ... 1-in-45-chance **asteroid** could hit Earth in 2029. ... Ten service members worldwide get **Christmas calls** from President Bush. ... Martin Scorsese/Leonardo DiCaprio movie **Aviator** gets good reviews. ...

Dec. 25: David Letterman among celebs with Iraq troops. ... Comair cancels all **flights**, U.S. Airways separates thousands from luggage, feds threaten investigation. ...

Dec. 26: Texas town of Victoria has **first white Christmas** since

1918; foot of snow. ... More than 100,000 die in **tsunami** after Asia earthquake. ...

Dec. 27: Viktor Yushchenko claims victory in Ukraine election re-run. ... Army **Chief of Staff** Peter Schoomaker visits Iraq troops. ... U.S. sending help to **tsunami** victims; a third of the dead are children. ...

Dec. 28: Susan Sontag, author and activist, dead at 71. ... Officials warn of **disease** after tsunami. ... Post Office blames airlines for delayed delivery of thousands of pieces of holiday **mail**. ... U.S. **Airways** asks employees to work for free over New Year weekend to avoid repeat of Christmas chaos. ... A 10-hour Northwest Airlines flight from Europe becomes a 28 hour nightmare for 300 passengers stranded at Seattle-

Tacoma International Airport. ...

Dec. 29: *Law & Order* star **Jerry Orbach** dies of prostate cancer at 69; played Detective Lennie Briscoe. ... World's biggest **humanitarian relief** effort swings into gear for tsunami survivors. ... **America will lead** global tsunami relief effort, President Bush says. ... Some **Canadian cattle** to be allowed into USA; Mad Cow scare halted imports. ...

Dec. 30: Tsunami **death toll** passes 114,000; world pledges \$260 million in aid. ... **Oil prices** decreasing. ... USA **unemployment claims** falling.

Army Cpl. Jim Greenhill compiles *WorldWire* from a variety of news services. Reach him at 3592.

JTF and JDOG work together to clean up Hospital Cay

By Army Spc. Jody Metzger

JTF-GTMO Public Affairs Office

More than 100 Troopers showed up Dec. 22 to clean and restore an island off Guantanamo Bay (GTMO).

The Troopers piled into a Navy J-boat. Awaiting them the other side of the ride was Hospital Cay.

Coral-ridden Hospital Cay served the British as a hospital during the mid-1700s. Now a GTMO recreation spot, the island offers a barren, tranquil place to get away.

Many have used the island for camping or just an outing. Some have left behind broken beer bottles and trash.

In response, Army Col. Brice Gyurisko, Joint Detention Operations Group (JDOG) commander and Army Captains David Melendez, Christopher Pacheco and Gregory Schultz decided to clean up the island.

With the aid of MWR (Morale, Welfare and Recreation) providing food and music and Navy Base operations providing transportation, the clean up was rewarding and fun, Troopers said.

"We are going to beautify the island," said Army Sgt 1st Class Wilfredo Ruiz. "We are trying to make this a fun event." Bringing music, soda, hamburgers and hot dogs, MWR ensured that although it was a clean up duty, it was a fun one.

Military details can be hard work with little enjoyment, but the barbecuing and music made this assigned duty a good one. Spc. Smith Brandon, 367th Military Police (MP) Company, said it was unique to be able to get out of the Wire and help out.

"It's a great service," Gyurisko said.

Giving something back, Gyurisko said is something that not only the Army can do for the Navy but to give something to the



Photos by Spc. Jody Metzger

▲ A Trooper scouts the trails of Hospital Cay while cleaning up trash. More than 100 Troopers policed the grounds in an effort to beautify the base's largest island, Dec. 23.

Troopers.

"It's Christmas time," he said. "Troopers want to be a part of something. It's good training. Everybody is smiling."

It was evident, said Army Staff Sgt. Randal Habick, 367th Military Police Company, "This hasn't been cleaned up in a long time."

Habick stated it was an honor to be able to be a part of the clean up team.

Troopers refurbished gazebos and picnic tables, picked up glass and built fireplaces. During breaks, some Troopers played football or swam.

Navy Chief Robert Cerda said, "It's a time to relax and have a good time."

In between the swimming and football, Troopers worked long and hard to rehabilitate the island. Troopers like Navy Petty Officer 2nd Class Dennis Fetter, attached to the 2nd MP, said they were excited about coming out to

the Cay again. Fetter, who plans on getting a boating license, said: "We are going to have to set up and come out here and enjoy some of it."

Enjoying the time out and introducing the people to Hospital Cay gave Melendez another incentive to helping rebuild one of the Navy's landmarks. As a gift to the Navy, Melendez said, "It's

a thank-you for the (Navy's) commitment to the Joint Task Force and Joint Detention Operations Group."

Near the end of the day, tanned and relaxed, Troopers rested at the gazebos, a job well done. ■

Reach Spc. Jody Metzger at 3499.

"It's a thank you for the (Navy's) commitment to the Joint Task Force and Joint Detention Operations Group."

—Army Cpt. David Melendez



▲ Troopers removed trash and other objects to smooth the grounds of Hospital Cay, Dec. 23.

Visit Hospital Cay

To visit Hospital Cay, rent a boat from the marina (license required) or call the water taxi at 2345.

Indulge!

Tonight is New Year's Eve, a time for celebration.

I can't think of anything better to do on New Year's Eve than to indulge. What better time could there be? Ring out the old and ring in the new. And by all means—indulge! This is our last chance in 2004. And what better way to bring in the New Year than with indulgence?

For many, celebrating New Year's Eve is a time for indulging in alcohol. The biggest parties and greatest alcohol consumption are on New Year's Eve. It's a curious thing, though. Indulgence in alcohol invariably results in a terrible hangover—a crushing headache, unstoppable spinning rooms and gut-wrenching nausea.

Well, that's not quite the indulgence I have in mind. There's a better indulgence. There's an indulgence that doesn't leave you with a murderous hangover. No, I have in mind a much different indulgence.

Indulgence in alcohol is an attempt to escape reality. Whatever the surface reasons, drunkenness is an effort to get away from something. I want to encourage you to seek a very different indulgence. I want to encourage you to indulge in the most fabulous fact in all the universe, in all reality.

The most astounding fact in all reality is that sinners can find forgiveness for their sins through faith in the death and resurrection of Jesus Christ! Forgiveness. Renewed access to God. Renewed ability to worship and serve the Living God. Now that's good news!

I want to encourage you to indulge in the truth that your sins can be forgiven. Indulge by growing in the knowledge of how wide and long and high

and deep is the love of Christ. You and I could spend the rest of our earthly lives drinking from the fullness of God's love and never get to the bottom. God's love and mercy are infinite. There's no end. They just go on and on and on.

The only hitch is that we must first see that we're sinners. In fact, the path of indulgence in God's love is also the path of coming to grips with how thoroughly our hearts are filled with pride and selfishness. Do you want to know God's love? Then ask him to show you more of your pride. Ask him to tenderly show you all the ways in which you continue to rebel against him. As he shows us our sin, we also learn more deeply of his love. Actually, knowledge of our sin and knowledge of God's love is the same path. We can't learn of God's love without also learning of our sin.

Yes, this New Year's Eve, I encourage you to indulge! Indulge in the Bible. Bathe yourself in the luxuriant, overflowing waters of forgiveness.

Soak yourself in the certainty no evil can ever harm God's children. Fill yourself with assurance that God works all things for the good of those who love him. Saturate yourself with God's promise that if you will confess your sins and seek his forgiveness he will most certainly carry you to ultimate victory in heaven.

Yes, this New Year's Eve, throughout 2005, and the rest of your life: Indulge, but not in alcohol. Indulge in Jesus Christ—crucified, buried, risen and coming again! Indulge!

— **Chaplain (Army Maj.)
Graham Harbman**

Padre's Corner

On behalf of Chaplain Feehan and all of our staff chaplains, we wish you and your families the joy and peace that the birth of Christ promises.

We pray to remember that Christmas is not a day, or even a season, but a way of life.

The goodness, kindness, and beauty of Christmas which is so evident these days in prayer and song, gift-giving and food, and remembering past celebration, are tangible reminders that when we focus on the presence of the Lord who has come, who is here and who will come again there can be a profound transformation of the present moment.

The day after Christmas, the Catholic Church celebrates the feast of the holy family of Jesus, Mary, and Joseph. Even the son of God chose to be born into a human family and offer salvation and redemption in and through the mystery of God taking on human flesh.

In this New Year 2005, may we pay close attention to our call to be in relationship with God, others and ourselves.

We, too, are called to be members of a holy family!

— **Chaplain (Navy Lt. Cmdr.) James Dowds**

Worship Schedule

CAMP AMERICA

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

NAVAL BASE 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
Wednesday	7 p.m.	Prayer Group Fellowship	Fellowship Hall
	7 p.m.	Family Home Evening	Room 8
Friday	7 p.m.	Men's Bible Study	Fellowship Hall
Saturday	1 p.m.	Islamic Prayer	Room 12
Saturday	5:30 p.m.	Vigil Mass	Main Chapel

For information on Jewish services call 2323

NEW YEAR SERVICES

DEC. 31	6 P.M.	NEW YEAR'S EVE VIGIL MASS
	11 P.M.	WATCHNIGHT SERVICE
JAN. 1	9 A.M.	NEW YEAR'S DAY MASS



Photo by Spc. Jody Metzger

15 MINUTES OF FAME WITH LT. CMDR. MATT DIAZ

“This is probably the most interesting six months I have done.”

By Spc. Jody Metzger

JTF-GTMO Public Affairs Office

Navy Lt. Cmdr Matt Diaz left life on the street at 17 to join the Army. Starting with a General Education Degree (GED), he now is a lawyer working as a deputy staff judge advocate.

The Wire: Why enlist?

Diaz: I joined the Army when I was 17, and I wasn't going anywhere to get out of trouble.

How many years have you been in?

Over 18 years. I did eight years in the Army. I got out in 1991 and joined the Navy after I got

my law degree in 1994.

When did you start school?

I was a specialist, and I was trying to get promotion points to get my E-5. I started taking college courses. I got most of my bachelor's degree in criminal justice, and I decided that before I got out of the Army I would go to law school. It was the Navy after that.

Why the Navy?

I interviewed with all the branches, but the Navy was the first one to make a firm offer.

What do you like about being a lawyer?

I get to dabble in everything. I get involved with medical

issues, the criminal justice aspect obviously, and (I've been) a criminal defense attorney for four years. I liked helping out the Sailors in trouble. A lot of them did something wrong—not necessarily what they were charged with, but something. I still like to defend them the best I can. It's not just criminal stuff, I've helped commands, like here. I like helping out, being part of a team, just being involved.

Have you had a lot on your plate because of the commissions?

Not so much the commissions anymore, but the habeas litigation. The detainees are now allowed to have representation by their own attorneys. (I) arrange for the attorneys to come down here and make sure they follow the procedures laid out by the court.

Do you like your job?

I like it a lot. This is a great experience. Probably one of my better experiences in my whole career, including Army and Navy. In April it will be 19 total years in the service and this is probably the most interesting six months I have done.

What happens next?

I will go back to Great Lakes up until May as a defense attorney. Then I will rotate to Florida. I will be the senior prosecutor for my next assignment.

What were your high school years like?

My parents were divorced, and there were many custody battles. I went to a lot of different schools. When I got to high school I was running around doing bad things, getting into trouble. I gave up. I dropped out and started working as a dishwasher. Some of the adults in my life stepped in and said I need to do something with my life. My dad for one. He told me to get off the streets. I was in Southern California at the time, L.A. and gangs—pretty

bad. It was a good thing I got out of that. I joined the Army. They made me get my GED.

What does your family think of what you have done?

They are proud. They give me a hard time because everybody likes to joke about lawyers. My older brother tells me I did the right thing, I did good. That makes me feel good.

What do you like about Guantanamo?

I like the mission. For the most part everybody is trying to do the right thing, and I like being a part of that and contributing. My first love is doing the job and doing well at it. The camaraderie, everybody is in the same boat here.

Do you ever see yourself doing legal work outside the military?

Yes, I think that when I retire. If I make O5 I might stay in. A couple of my law school buddies are thinking about opening up a practice in Florida.

What is it like to defend criminals?

The vast majority are young kids that did stupid things. The majority have either been absent without leave (AWOL) or deserted. They just really needed some kind of guidance. It was good to be sort of a mentor to them. I know how hard it can be as a young enlisted person. The hard-core criminals were an eye-opening experience. Some of the rapes, attempted murderers, child or sexual abusers are the worst. I had a hard time defending them. I did the best I could for them. It kind of chipped at me, but I was able to get over it by justifying that we have a Constitution to live by, and I want to make sure they get their due process. ... Hard work pays off. Stay at it, focus on it and don't just take it for granted. I spent a lot of time studying, working and not eating, but it was worth it. ■

Reach Spc. Jody Metzger at



Photos by Sgt. 1st Class Gordon Hyde



Fine dining at Seaside

◀ Although far from home, Troopers in Camp America didn't have to look too far for good food and service as the Seaside Galley pulled out all the stops for a Christmas dinner here. Tanya Drummond, cashier and food service

worker, touches up the fruit-filled table that set the mood for the candlelit evening.

▼ With a stocking for everyone and holiday decorations abundant, Troopers crowded Seaside for holiday dining.



▶ A familiar face, Sam Yon Scott, facility manager, greeted Troopers during the Christmas dinner.

▶ Far right, prime rib served in style was among an assortment of traditional holiday favorites.



HIGH

AMC Travel FAQ's

Here is some clarification on AMC travel policies for Guantanamo Bay (GTMO) from the Joint Task Force Inspector General's office.

1. Priority of space-available (space-A) travelers. Policies and procedures for processing space-A passengers are governed by DOD instruction 4515.13-R, Air Transportation Eligibility. Passengers are processed for space-A by category, date and time of sign-up (and when the leave papers are received at the terminal). A person must be in a leave or liberty status to sign up for space-A.

2. Purchase of tickets. A waiver letter authorizes GTMO to sell tickets for leisure travel. Ticket prices are governed by U.S. government rate tariffs. Personnel Service Detachment (PSD) transportation at Bulkeley Hall will make a reservation up to 90 days in advance. If a passenger wishes to cancel his or her reservation and try to go space-A, PSD will cancel the reservation no later than 24 hours before the flight, usually at 10 a.m. the day before. All monies are collected the day of the flight during check-in at the air terminal. If a passenger with a reservation "no shows" the day of the flight, his seat will automatically be cancelled.

3. The reason why you get on the plane and there are still empty seats when personnel were refused space-A. AMC contracts the number of seats, usually 150. Most of the aircraft have 156 to 178 seats. Since the contract is for 150 seats, the carrier would be violating the contract if they carried more than the contracted amount.

4. Procedure to sign up for space-A travel. Passengers can fax leave papers to 6170. They must be checked out and be in a leave status prior to faxing paperwork to the air terminal.

5. Reservations. A recurring scenario is individuals making reservations in advance for non-official travel (purchasing a ticket) and not canceling them when they do not use the ticket. For example, on Dec. 21, 32 people who had reservations failed to show. At noon, an announcement was made saying there were 50 seats available, 32 of which were reserved; now was the time for those travelers to purchase the reserved seats before they were put into the space-A pool. A Trooper that needs to get home will look at those odds and then spend the money vice take his chances getting home; had the reservations been cancelled, there would have been 50 seats available on the space-A list. Fourteen Troopers purchased tickets that day. Once the space-A call is made, space-A travelers can fill those remaining 18 seats. By not canceling a reservation, the Trooper is forced to spend money to secure a seat.

**--The Inspector General,
Army Lt. Col. Royce Lawler**

MWR

- Dec. 31:** New Year's Party (protocol), Bayview, 8 p.m.
New Year's Party (DJ), Goat Locker, 8 p.m.
New Year's Party (live band), Windjammer, 8 p.m.
- Jan. 14:** Male Softball Tournament, Cooper Field, 6 p.m.
- Jan. 15:** The GTMO Half Marathon that was scheduled for Cable Beach at 5:30 a.m. is POSTPONED.
- Jan. 19:** Male Softball League (start), Cooper Field, 6 p.m.
- Jan. 20:** Female Softball League (start), Cooper Field, 6 p.m.
- Jan. 22:** Fishing Derby, Marina, 5 p.m.
- Jan. 30:** North East Gate Tour, Camp America, 10 a.m.

CLASSES

Beginning Watercolor Class

When: Jan. 10, 17, 24 and 31 at the ceramics shop from 5:30 p.m. to 8 p.m. Space is limited.

To sign up: Go to the ceramics shop (#4795).

For more information: Call Heather Schwartz, instructor, at 7877.

DINING

Today	Lunch	Baked Cod Amantine
	Dinner	Boiled Crab Legs
Saturday	Lunch	Creole Pork Chops
	Dinner	Lasagna
Sunday	Lunch	Chicken Cordon Bleu
	Dinner	Roast Turkey
Monday	Lunch	Roast Beef
	Dinner	Chicken Adobo
Tuesday	Lunch	Baked Stuffed Pork Chops
	Dinner	Stuffed Flounder
Wednesday	Lunch	Turkey a la King
	Dinner	Sweet & Sour Pork
Thursday	Lunch	Sauerbraten
	Dinner	Scalloped Ham & Noodles
Friday	Lunch	Barbecued Beef Cubes
	Dinner	Seafood Platter

SAFETY

New guidance about reflective belts

The reflective belts worn while running on base roads must be worn diagonally across the torso, not around the waist.

A Trooper was recently observed running in a shirt large enough to completely cover the reflective belt, prompting the new rule.

Troopers are reminded headphones may only be worn on sidewalks when running. Headphones may not be worn when running, driving or cycling on the road.

And remember that moderation is the key to a happy and safe New Year's Eve. Choose a designated driver before drinking.

Alcoholics Anonymous New Year Meeting

AA offers a 12-hour meeting from noon on New Year's Eve to midnight in Room 4A at Chapel Hill. Anyone is welcome to drop by any time.

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

CINEMA

DOWNTOWN LYCEUM	CAMP BULKELEY
FRIDAY	FRIDAY
7 p.m. <i>Polar Express</i> G 90 min	8 p.m. <i>Incredibles</i> PG 115 min
9 p.m. <i>Alfie</i> R 106 min	10 p.m. <i>The Grudge</i> R 106 min
SATURDAY	SATURDAY
7 p.m. <i>Incredibles</i> PG 115 min	8 p.m. <i>Polar Express</i> G 90 min
9 p.m. <i>Seed of Chucky</i> R 98 min	10 p.m. <i>Alfie</i> R 106 min
SUNDAY	SUNDAY
7 p.m. <i>After the Sunset</i> PG 13 97 min	8 p.m. <i>Seed of Chucky</i> R 98 min
MONDAY	MONDAY
7 p.m. <i>Polar Express</i> G 90 min	8 p.m. <i>After the Sunset</i> PG13 97min
TUESDAY	TUESDAY
7 p.m. <i>Team America: World Police</i> R 98 min	8 p.m. <i>Polar Express</i> G 90 min
WEDNESDAY	WEDNESDAY
7 p.m. <i>Seed of Chucky</i> R 98 min	8 p.m. <i>Team America: World America</i> R 98 min
THURSDAY	THURSDAY
7 p.m. <i>After the Sunset</i> PG13 97min	8 p.m. <i>Seed of Chucky</i> R 98 min

ACCURACY

The Wire strives for accuracy. When we fail, we accept responsibility for our errors and correct them.

If you see an error in *The Wire*, call Army Cpl. Jim Greenhill at 3592.