

the Wire

"Honor Bound to Defend Freedom"

Volume 3, Issue 2

Friday, December 13, 2002

Buffett rocks Guantanamo's downtown lyceum

By Spc. Lisa Gordon

The legendary Jimmy Buffett treated hundreds of military personnel and civilians alike to an unusually intimate performance last Saturday night. As most devoted Buffett fans know, getting the highly coveted tickets is usually an exercise in patience, and often times, futility. While it's not at all unusual for fans to pay more than a hundred dollars for a seat where the star of the show is little more

than a dot on the horizon, this time around tickets weren't even sold. Attending the free concert was simply a matter of finding one's way to the Downtown Lyceum. Buffett explained that the concert was a "return of a favor" for his appreciation to service members defending the United States and its ideals.

Within a day the Downtown Lyceum was transformed from a sparsely decorated outdoor movie theater to a "Buffett-style tropical paradise." As is typically the case with any

first on scene, arriving at 9 a.m. to secure the closest seats possible. Despite their early arrival, spirits remained high throughout the day and members of the PSU passed the time playing cards and getting ready for the big event. The 307th exemplified Buffett's philosophy "you work hard, you play hard."

Those who arrived early enough were treated to a three song sound check which included the rarely performed but highly appropriate song, "The Tiki Bar Is Open." After the sound check, Buffett jumped on his bike and peddled into the parking lot to spend some time socializing with concertgoers. Fans had time to get autographs, have their picture taken with Buffett, and some even shared a meal with him. Army Sgt. 1st Class Dan D'Eon, Staff Sgt. Ralph Cropley, and Spc. Brian Blair of the 344th MP Co. showed off their barbecuing skills and prepared a cheeseburger (in paradise) for Buffett.

The show was a remarkably intimate event, considering the view from the last seat in the back of the bleachers was incredibly close to the stage by conventional concert standards. The formula for the concert was simple. Buffett played acoustic guitar with his collaborator Ralph MacDonald on percussion. There were no fancy bells and whistles. Fans old and young sang along with traditional favorites such as "Come Monday," "Changes in Latitudes, Changes in Attitudes," and "Boat



Photo by Army Spc. Alan L. Knesek

Naval Station NC1 Erika Stead meets Buffett at Bulkeley Landing upon his arrival, Friday.

Jimmy Buffett concert, fans went all out with tropical decorations and tailgating. Some donned pirate hats, others wore their best Hawaiian shirt, and plastic parrots were aplenty. Full coolers and smoking grills were also common sights throughout the parking lot. Members of the 307th Port Security Unit (PSU) were the

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Photo by Army Spc. George Allen

Deputy Commander of Operations, Brig.
Gen. James Payne

Message from Brig. Gen. James Payne

I am honored to be here and to be a part of Joint Task Force-Guantanamo. So many positive things have happened since my arrival just a few weeks ago. From the very moment we set foot on this island, the task force and the Guantanamo community has made us feel a part of this team.

As Deputy Commander for Operations, I'll be executing and applying Maj. Gen. Miller's philosophy and intent for the operation of the overall task force. This will include both our current missions with detention and interrogation, as well as developing young leaders and building units as they come through JTF-Guantanamo. We want to make sure that every service member that is assigned to JTF-Guantanamo leaves here enriched with a better experience, better equipped for their wartime mission, and more prepared to support our country in our national security strategy.

There is tremendous opportunity here for service members to learn, to train, and to grow as leaders. It is also an excellent opportunity

for units to become more cohesive.

JTF-Guantanamo is a composite of a lot of units, a lot of government agencies; all the components of our military services pulling together as one team in one common cause: supporting our country's war on terrorism. The mission we have here, the work that the service members do here is critically important to our on-going military strategy; it directly impacts the safety and security of our country and our citizens. Everyone should be extremely proud of this mission and the long-term freedoms it will provide.

Moving forward we have several goals in mind for the success of JTF-Guantanamo. We will build and standardize a transition plan and an introductory training plan. We will build young leaders and strong units. And we will make the JTF-Guantanamo experience a rewarding and enriching one, where everyone who takes part will leave feeling good about their contribution.

OPSEC Corner

OPSEC is a systematic process designed to deny potential adversaries information about our capabilities and intentions by identifying, controlling, and protecting critical information.

OPSEC gives us a picture of our operation as perceived through the eyes of an adversary. Through those eyes, the foe is looking for information needed for him to defeat us or undermine our operation.

The Normandy (D-Day) landings in June 1944 included highly detailed plans for thousands of American, British, and Canadian troops, however, our use of OPSEC, and some

deception, duped the Germans into believing we would land at an alternate location.

General Eisenhower used this to our advantage because it denied critical information the Germans needed to impact our intent.

At Inchon, Korea in September 1950, General Douglas MacArthur executed the same feat as U.S. Army Infantry and U.S. Marines stormed a beach thought to be unable to support an amphibious landing.

We were able to deny the North Koreans the vital information required to defend against our landing through the expert use of OPSEC and deception.

The North Koreans were completely surprised by the location and intensity of the amphibious assault and the end result was our ability to re-capture the South Korean capital, Seoul.

Both operations were successful for many strategic, operational, and tactical reasons, however, our ability to secure our true operational intentions was as critical as the landings.

Bottom Line: Releasing, reporting, or otherwise inadvertently discussing the technicalities, intent, and focus of our military tasks can negatively impact mission accomplishment.

Although we currently operate inside a protected fence line at JTF-GTMO, our adversaries continually search for information that could compromise our mission.

You must never underestimate the enemy's willingness, ability, and creativity to defeat our operation. Remain mission vigilant and do your part to protect our operational information.

Think OPSEC

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"A battle sometimes decides everything; and sometimes the most trifling thing decides the fate of a battle."

- Napoleon Bonaparte

Chaplain's Corner

Submitted by CH Bush from the NavBase chapel

"Pray for Simplicity This Advent" by Whitney Hopler, contributing writer for crosswalk.com

The beauty and power of Advent often gets lost amid the bustling activity that fills the Christmas season. But it doesn't have to be that way. If you seek a simpler lifestyle during Advent, you'll discover a host of surprise gifts that simplicity will help you receive and enjoy. Those gifts are more valuable than the most prized Christmas present under any tree, because they're gifts that will enrich your spirit. Here are some ways you can pray during Advent for simplicity and all that it entails:

Pray for attentiveness to what truly matters, without being distracted by trivial things.

Pray for opportunities to learn something new regularly.

Pray for discernment of how God would like to set your priorities and the ability to focus on them consistently to fulfill His purposes in your life.



What's up Doc?

"We're culicoides, not mosquitoes"

By Chief Aquiles Faustino, Preventative Medicine Technician, US Naval Hospital

Biting midges of the genus Culicoides are affectionately known in Guantanamo as "flying teeth", "no-see-ums", and other less politically correct names. They are minute insects (1/25-1/10 inch long) that can go through screen doors. Unlike mosquitoes, which have a needle-like proboscis (feeding tube) which pierces the skin, the biting midge has blade-like mouth parts that cut into the skin causing

Pray for the grace to be able to rest, become aware of God's presence and enjoy it.

Pray for strong relationships with other people in the bond of loving community.

Pray for peace in all situations, not matter what the circumstances.

Pray for an enlivened imagination that helps you contribute to the world in creative ways.

Pray for freedom from all that burdens you-past mistakes, fears, destructive habits, hurts other people have inflicted, and more.

Pray for joy and a sense of humor.

Pray for confidence in God's love for you and trust in His power to work things out for the best in your life.

Pray for a clear mind and the ability to clearly communicate what you value to others.

Pray for purity so you can grow as a person and encounter God more fully.

Pray for a genuine awareness of God's grace in your life and the humility to extend grace to others.

Pray for a passion to pursue justice.

a painful bite (weal) which can last for days.

Adult biting midges like to feed at dusk and dawn, similar to some species of mosquitoes. This may cause confusion that there is a high mosquito population. The ideal breeding site for many species of biting midges is salt-marsh habitats or wet, damp areas high in organic matter. The inaccessibility of some breeding areas in Guantanamo creates a high population level of midges. As a result, chemical control difficult, if not useless.

Wearing long sleeves, long pants and insect repellent offers the best protection from biting midges. Charlie Papa!!!

Worship Services

Catholic

Main Chapel

Daily	6:30 a.m.	Cobre Chapel
Weds	5:00 p.m.	Rica Cobre Chapel
Friday	5:00 p.m.	Rosary
Sat	4:30 p.m.	Reconciliation
	5:30 p.m.	Mass
Sun	9:00 a.m.	Mass

Protestant

Main Chapel

Weds	7:00 p.m.	Men's Bible Study*
Thurs	7:15 p.m.	Youth Fellowship*
Sun	9:30 a.m.	Adult Bible Study
	11:00 a.m.	Service
	6:30 p.m.	Bible Study*
	7:30 a.m.	Praise and Worship Service

* Fellowship Hall located in Chapel Complex

Camp America

Weds	7:00 p.m.	Service
Sun	8:00 a.m.	Service
	6:00 p.m.	Service

Islamic

Fri	1:00 p.m.	Classroom 12 Chapel Complex
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Jewish

Fri	8:00 p.m.	Fellowship Hall
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Bus transportation is provided for services at Camp America.

Buses run at:

Sun	7:00 a.m.	Winward Loop
	7:15 a.m.	Tierra Kay

Bus will return immediately following worship.

This week in history

Battle of the Bulge begins December 16, 1945. It was the largest World War II battle that the U.S. was in.

Adolf Hitler ordered a massive attack against the western Allies by three German armies. The German counterattack out of the densely wooded Ardennes region of Belgium took the Allies entirely by surprise. The allies kept up a fierce resistance, even after their lines of communication had been broken.

Fighting was particularly fierce in the town of Bastogne, where the 101st Airborne Division and part of the 10th Armored Division were encircled by German forces. But the allies held on.

On Dec. 22, the German commander besieging the town demanded that the Americans surrender, or face annihilation.

U.S. Maj. Gen. Anthony McAuliffe replied:

"To the German Commander:
Nuts!

From the American Commander."

The Americans who delivered the message explained that it translated to "go to hell!"

Heavy fighting continued, but the 101st held on.

Germany's last major offensive cost them 120,000 men, 1,600 planes, and 700 tanks.

The battle ended January 28, as Gen. Patton's 3rd Army relieved the 101st Airborne Division.

Burn, baby, burn!

Story By Army Sgt. Erin Viola
Photos By Spc. Delaney T. Jackson

Need to clear out your sinuses? Well, then perhaps you might be interested in a little Oleoresin Capsicum training. If you don't mind some burning to the eyes and skin, a slight tightness to the chest, secretion of excess mucus, and the involuntary extension of your hands to your face, then perhaps you can save a little cash on the usual antihistamine. What would you choose?

Unfortunately, for a small group of Military Police at Camp America, choice was not an option when they participated in some serious non-lethal weapons training this past weekend. The highlight...getting sprayed in the forehead and eyes, known as the primary zone, from 36 inches away, with OC.

To add to the misery, instructor, Army Staff Sgt. Robert Robinson warned that the burn is more severe in a warm humid environment because your pores are open and the OC gets into your skin more quickly.

Some may know OC as pepper spray, which is a non-lethal tool used by the military to subdue. The spray is predominantly comprised of about twenty species and some 300 different varieties of pepper plants. The Oleoresin is the industrial extraction of the dried ripe fruits of capsicums and contains a complex mixture of highly potent, but non-lethal organic compounds.

Following a safety briefing, some classroom instruction, and a written test, MPs from the 300th, 303rd, 344th and 785th put their knowledge to use. After

succumbing to the spray, each MP had to make their way through five 15-second battle stations to include knee strikes, blocking against multiple attackers, punching, horizontal and vertical knee kicks, and subduing an attacker into the prone position. Decontamination was the last station where each MP with the aid of their coach received a thorough eye and face rinse.

Each MP was cheered on by the others waiting to have a go of it. Meanwhile coaches guided vigilantly, and instructors screamed, "Strobe the eyes! Strobe the eyes!" One slightly anxiety ridden MP said just before his turn, "I'm either going to turn into a three-year-old girl or a suicidal maniac." Luckily, neither occurred and he made it through the course like a true soldier.

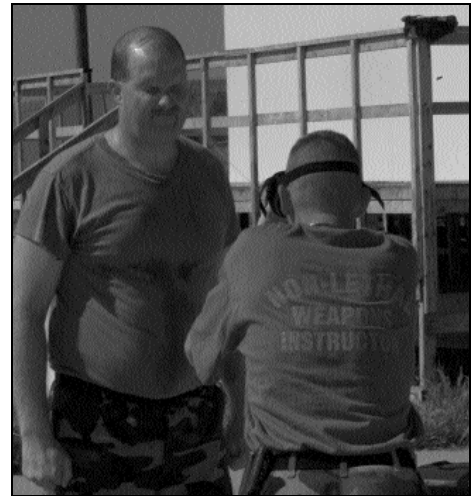
A few OC veterans, who endured the same course weeks before, stopped by to watch, cheer, laugh a little and welcome the newbies to the elite group of OC survivors.



Army Capt. Jeffrey Sarem, 303rd MP, right, throws a powerful punch despite blurred vision, while Army Sgt. Thomas Newton, 344th MP, left, and Spc. Brian McDaniel, 785th MP, block.



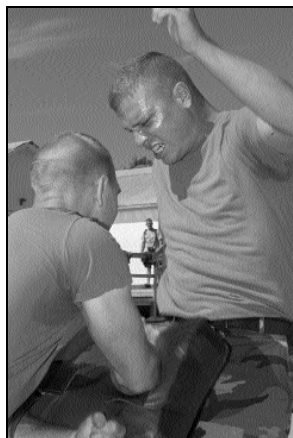
Spc. Gary Tetreault, right, dressed in a 'Fist' suit, takes in-step shin kicks delivered by Spc. Christopher Bird, 344th MP.



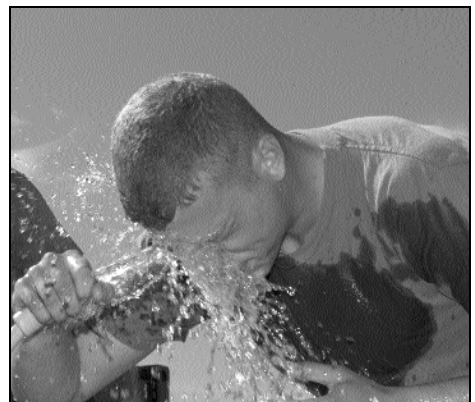
Army Staff Sgt. James Hermes, 785th MP, right, gives Sgt. 1st Class Steve McNulty 303th M.P., a shot of OC across the face.



Army Sgt. 1st Class Jacqueline Swanton defends herself against multiple attacks from Staff Sgt. Lance Marr, left and Sgt. Albert Lamont. All are with the 785th MP.



Spc. Jeremy Heckman (l) absorbs knee strikes delivered by Spc. Benjamin Cote, both with 785th.



Spc. Benjamin Cote, 344th MP, attempts to wash the pain away.

Top notch team leader



Photo by Army Spc. Delaney T. Jackson

Army Sgt. Marc Gagnon of the 344th heads toward Camp America for a normal duty day.

By Spc. Alan L. Knesek

Army Sgt. Marc Gagnon, team leader, of the 344th Military Police Company, New Haven Connecticut, arrived at Guantanamo on November 15th, 2002. Gagnon's job has been one of long days and even longer nights, but here on GTMO he and his team of five have pulled together to get the mission done and put to use their years of training as Military Police Officers.

Gagnon joined the 344th MP Co. in 1997 after four years of active duty assigned to the 2/2nd Artillery at Fort Sill Oklahoma. "Going from just shooting versus being in a position of real authority, it took a little adjustment. . . , but the 344th has taken care of me," said Gagnon. "The unit is good about making it feel like home," added Gagnon, the 344th has a birthday pot where they save the money to buy a card and

cake for their soldiers on their birthdays.

Before this deployment to Guantanamo, Gagnon's service obligation with the Army was coming to a close. The events of September 11th, 2001, changed Gagnon's mind to re-enlist and continue his service to his country.

"We were sitting there and the next thing you know the Trade Towers were getting attacked...every body came down after that," said Gagnon. Gagnon could only ask, "What can I do to help?" Shortly after Sept. 11th he extended his contract for another two years of service in the army. In January, 2002, his unit was alerted and told they would be mobilized for Operation Enduring Freedom.

"A lot of us have been in the unit for years and never actually got deployed any

see Leader, page 9

The key to success: adapt and overcome



The 144 soldiers of the 571st MP Co. at Guantanamo Bay, Cuba.

Photo by Army Spc. Lisa L. Gordon

By Spc. Lisa L. Gordon

From the beginning of their military careers, most soldiers are taught to "adapt and overcome". This is precisely what the 571st Military Police Company did in order to meet the challenges of their mission here. Made up of 144 active duty soldiers from Ft. Lewis, Washington, they are getting ready to demobilize. The general consensus among the group seems to be that the mission was quite successful because of the group's ability to adapt their skills to a mission that is quite different from the one they were used to back home.

Back at Ft. Lewis, the primary mission of the 571st was "law enforcement and combat support" said Sgt. 1st Class Lawrence Altamirano. He explained that this deployment was a big adjustment for the company because here the focus of the mission is corrections. Once they arrived

here, the MPs were responsible for maintaining a maximum custody facility. Altamirano said, "It's more intensive than law enforcement because they're dealing with detainees everyday, they have hands on personal contact with the detainees, and the stress level gets high." In addition to the change of responsibilities, the MPs also had to cope with the communication barrier between themselves and the detainees.

Soldier after soldier cited pre-deployment preparation as key to the company's success. Prior to coming here, the 571st trained with the 704th MP Battalion at a medium custody facility at Ft. Lewis. There they received a variety of new training including: riot control training, unarmed self defense training, and interpersonal communications classes. It was during this training that the 571st became familiar with the custody and control part

of the mission and how a correctional facility operates.

The additional responsibilities and new environment gave the soldiers of the 571st opportunities to showcase their capabilities both as individuals and as a team. Sgt. Shawn Manshum said, "I see a lot of people problem solving. They're faced with a lot of different problems everyday. You never know what to expect when you go inside the facility and people are able to make decisions and stick to them. It's a credit to them as far as being able to think on their feet, handle these situations, and take care of them immediately."

The soldiers of the 571st exude camaraderie and a team unity that was described by Altamirano when he said, "We have cohesion within the unit. The platoons are tight and the platoon leaders have done an outstanding job keeping their platoons squared away."

Buffett

Buffett, from page 1



Photo By Spc. Alan L. Knesek

Command Master Chief Ellen Mustain Welcomes Jimmy Buffett to Guananamo Bay at Bulkeley Landing on Dec. 6.

Drinks.” During “Cheeseburger in Paradise,” Buffett asked for female volunteers to fill in for his absent backup singers known as “The Coral Reefer-ets”. The volunteers who took the stage and nearly stole the show for the song, assumed the name “The GTMO Reefer-ets”. Songs such as Son of a Sailor and Christmas in the Caribbean seemed particularly appropriate considering the makeup audience and time of year.

When the music was over, a small and informal ceremony was held onstage to thank Buffett for the performance. Among the gifts presented were a large conch shell from Naval base commander Capt. Robert A. Buehn on behalf of NAVBASE, a

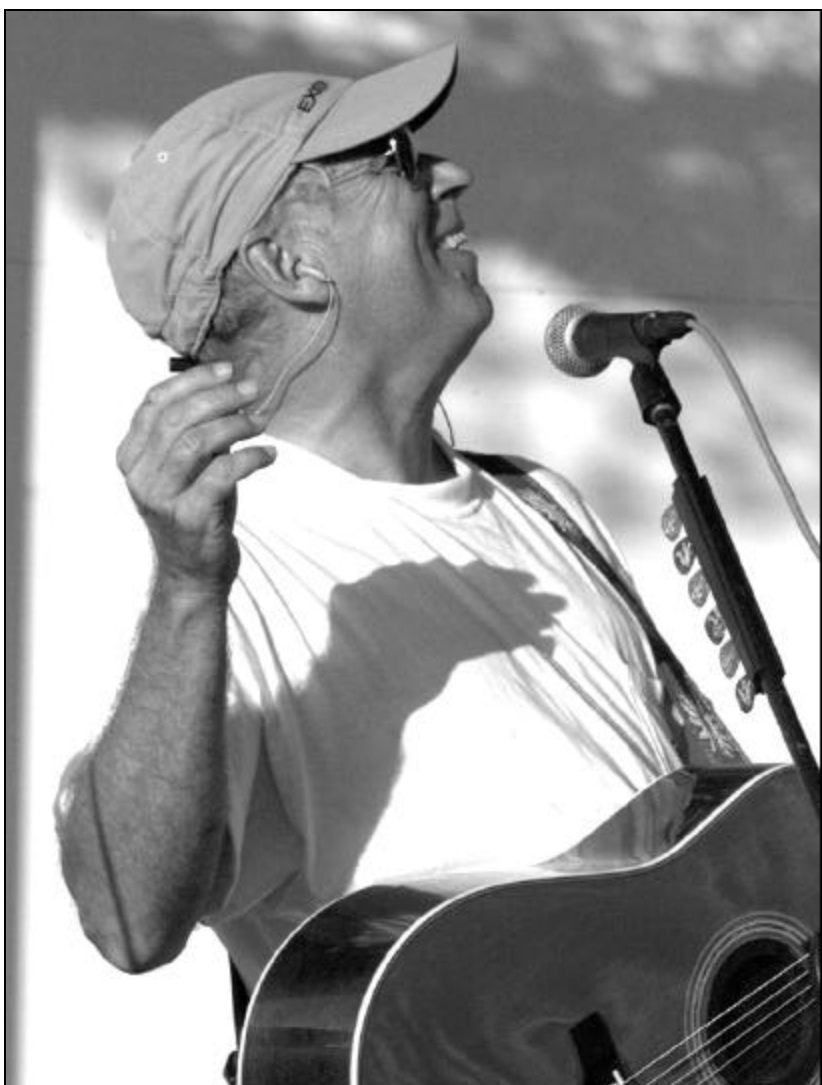


Photo By Spc. Alan L. Knesek

Buffett warms up early during his mike check at the Downtown Lyceum



Photo By Spc. Alan L. Knesek

Buffett looks on as the audience began singing 'Why Don't We Get Drunk' during his performance on Dec. 7.



Photo By Spc. Alan L. Knesek

Juan Gonzales, of MWR Shows, stands out of the crowd during Buffett's performance at the Downtown Lyceum.

plays for Guantanamo Bay

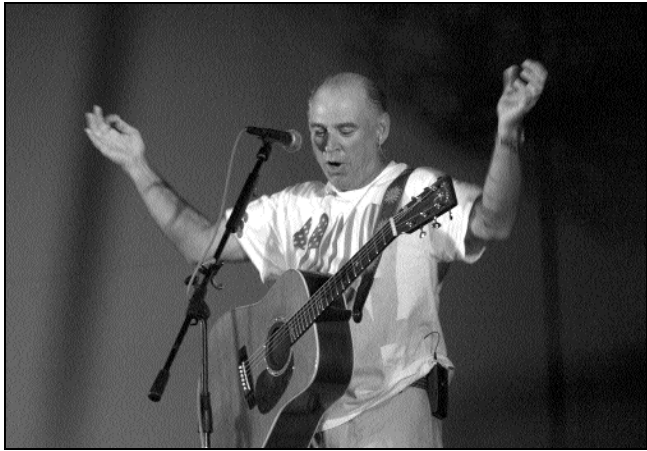


Photo by Spc Lisa L. Gordon

Buffett, the son of a sailor, banters with crowd after singing 'Volcano'.



Photo by Spc. Lisa L. Gordon

NAVBASE Commander, Capt. Robert Buehn thanks Buffett for coming to GTMO and performing for all of the service members.

framed American flag from Maj. Gen. Geoffrey Miller on behalf of Joint Task Force Guantanamo, a Marine Hill t-shirt from Lt. Cmdr. Jim Bowman, and a Christmas card from Juan Gonzalez of Morale Welfare and Recreation. After the ceremony, Buffett took more time to meet fans, sign autographs, and have pictures taken. Despite his celebrity status, Buffett demonstrated that he is a performer that truly gives back to the people. He said, "I love my fans. Everybody here is just doing their job. I don't mind paying back. I'm about to hit my 56th year on the planet and never in my wildest dreams did I think I'd still be doing this. I just feel very lucky that people still appreciate what I do."

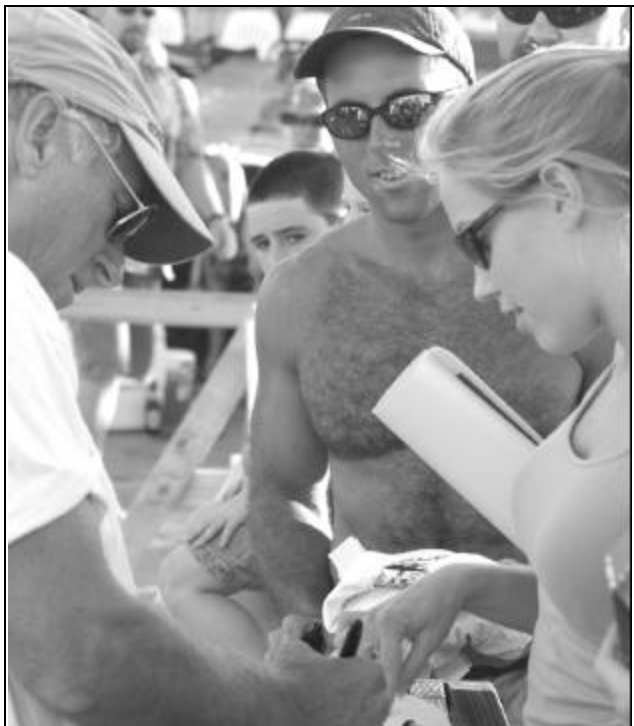


Photo By Spc. Alan L. Knesek

Buffett signs a book for High School student Rachel Johann after his mike check

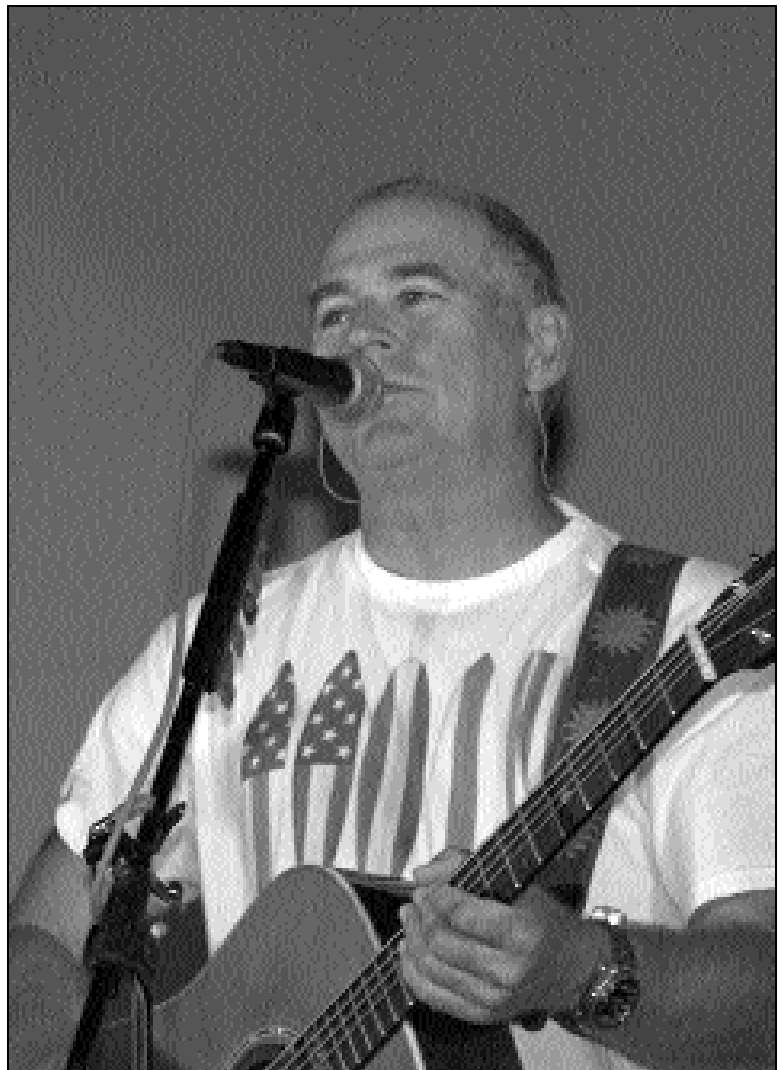


Photo by Spc. Lisa L. Gordon

Buffett entertains hundreds of service members with his acoustic guitar and soothing voice

Specialist X speaks out

By Spc. George Allen

How do you write about someone whose name, job, hometown, and whose life details you can't disclose? Well, this is an attempt. Specialist X works in the Joint Interrogation Group at Camp Delta. I met him earlier this week, after a half dozen phone calls explaining that this story could be written — without revealing identity or personal life.

Spc. X has been mobilized for a year now, and it's almost time for him to go home, wherever that is. His time has been well spent though - "I'm very proud of being deployed for Enduring Freedom, I volunteered for this deployment," he said. Having spent a year away from home, he's ready to go back and visit with friends and family for a while, "but I'm always ready to go on deployments, because it's good as far as personal growth, and you learn so many things that you can't learn in regular civilian life."

One of the things that Spc. X has learned from being deployed, is how important it is to take care of your teammates. "I think that's very important to

keep things going smoothly, because deployments are tough, especially if you're in hot spots," said X. "We're the only people there for each other."

Another thing Spc. X learned in the field was the true meaning of the Army Values. "Honor, Integrity, Personal Courage... they look good on posters, but when you're deployed in a tough situation, it's amazing how those abstract ideas take concrete form. Then you really feel them and it makes you proud to be doing what you're doing."

"I've totally changed as a person because of the Army, especially this past year," said X. Once a quiet introvert, the Army and deployment has opened him up to become much more talkative with other people, he said. "I've noticed changes in myself, and my friends even notice a big difference."

Spc. X joined the Army Reserve in 1996. "It's been getting better since then," he said. Over the years the Army has given more and better training in the monthly drills.

"I plan to work in the same field in my civilian life," he said. He joined the Army

because it sounded challenging, and it was one of the few places where he could get experience in the field he works in. "Lo and behold, I got a chance to do real life work in my field, so I've had an interesting time in the Army."

When he gets home, Spc. X plans on relaxing for a bit, and then pursuing a new job that uses his experience in the Army. Spc. X also plans on getting a good breakfast. "Usually I never go there when I'm home, but having been abroad for so long, I think I'd like to go to Waffle House."

While at Guantanamo Bay, Spc. X spent his time reading mysteries and books on current events, meeting people at the coffee house, and occasionally visiting the Tiki Bar. "I've been mobilized for a year, and compared to where I was previously, this (Guantanamo) is heaven. There are places to socialize, and this is a really good place to be. I like it."

"I want to thank all my friends here," said Spc. X. "Who knows, in this world, and in the field that I'm in we might run into each other again. That's always something to look forward to."

Man on the Street

Compiled by Spc. Alan L. Knesek

This week's question:

How will you spend your holidays at Guantanamo Bay, Cuba?



Petty Officer 3rd Class
Ryan Buchberger
Fleet Hospital

"I'll be hangin out with my friends here."



Marine Corporal
Mohamed Khattab
JTF Guantanamo

"I'll be getting together with friends and have a cook out and then exchange gifts."



Petty Officer 1st Class
Israel Rodriguez-Soto
NAVBASE Security

"I'm not going to be here, I'll be home with my family for good."



Army Major
Andy Wichers
JTF Guantanamo

"Running and Trying some snorkeling, I'll try to get my skipper's license too!"



Petty Officer 2nd Class
Watley Turner
Fleet Hospital

"I'll be sitting around with friends here."

MIUWU 204 sets sail for home



Fireman Robert Scarro from MIUWU 204 maintaining littoral surveillance.

By Army Spc. George Allen

"I got called on a Wednesday," said Navy Fireman Robert Scarro, a member of the Mobile Inshore Undersea Warfare Unit 204, "and I was at the mob station by Saturday... so it took a few days for things to sink in."

"Many of these reservists had less than 48 hours notice to report for duty," said Navy LCDR John R. Ray, Supply Officer for the 204th. Nevertheless, they trained up for the mission - seaward surveillance of Guantanamo Naval Base, which they began in June.

"We're the fourth fence line," said 204th Chief Quarter Master Doug Edwards. "The Marines have the land perimeter, and the Coast Guard takes care of the harbor. We watch the water."

Like an air-traffic-control of the sea, the MIUWU keeps track of all vessels in the 'sea lanes of approach', said Edwards. "where we gather and process the information. We identify if vessels are friendly, and if not, we tell whomever we have to, 'Hey, we have a threat,' and have them take care of it," said Edwards.

MIUWU is in close communication with the Marine Observation Posts, the Army, Air Force, and Coast Guard, and functions as a command center, said

Edwards. "We can have tactical control of aircraft or ships to have them identify or react to contacts."

"To use the World War II analogy, the Seals and Marine Recon would land on an island, then the Marines would storm the beach. Finally, we come in with the Seabees to setup a defense for the incoming main force," said Navy Lt. Brian Hillers, Vehicle Maintenance Officer for the 204th. "While more troops and supplies land, we watch out for the bad guys, keep track of our small craft, etc."

Despite being self-contained equipment-wise, the MIUWU works as part of the Joint Task Force. "When we first got here, we had to re-invent the wheel some," said Hillers. "In normal naval operations we were used to a certain pipeline - certain people talk to certain people, and get direction from certain people. Here it was a little different, we had to learn how to speak Army."

"The Navy is used to joint operations

and rapid deployments, though" said Hillers, "so after we learned the vernacular, things went smoothly."

The deployment has been a good experience for the unit, according to Hillers. "A lot of people got the chance to become cross-rated, which is a very unusual opportunity for the Navy."

Most of the 204th is from New York and New Jersey, and many of its sailors were directly impacted by the tragic events of September 11, said Ray. A sailor in the 204th, Gunners Mate 3rd Class Thomas Butler, a New York City firefighter in Squad One, answered the call of duty, and lost his life saving others from the falling World Trade Center towers. "The memory of his heroic efforts have inspired the members of MIUWU 204 to be ever vigilant while deployed in support of the war against terrorism," said Ray.



Sailors from the Mobile Inshore Undersea Warfare Unit 204 guard Guantanamo Bay's sea lanes of approach.

Leader, from page 5

where, So we were excited to actually go and do something, and put to work all our years of training," added Gagnon.

Gagnon and his team have been working and training along side one another over the years. "My team and I are very tight, we do everything together," said Gagnon. "It is kind of a joke in the company. Whenever you see one of us you know the rest of us are coming around the corner."

Having been to Guatemala twice for Annual Training he and his team have had the time to develop a very close relationship, this time together allowed his team to become familiar with each others routines

for work, making it much easier for Gagnon's troops and for him as well. "I know it's hard for people to distinguish between work and friendship, but we don't have that problem, because we know that we are here to do a job..." said Gagnon. "The team that I have, works so well together and we are good friends so it makes our job that much easier. Plus we've been working together for so long, so that I know what my troops are thinking and they know what I'm thinking," said Gagnon. "The 344th, we're kind of like a tight family, we've been through so many different things together, it makes us work well together."

Since this is the first deployment for most of the soldiers in his unit and a handful of are straight out of basic training,

Gagnon was a little worried. Many of the soldiers have never been on any Annual Training exercises or anything for that matter, but they have done a real good job and have done their best in support of their mission, added Gagnon.

Gagnon knows that his time here will be busy, but also knows that his wife at home is proud of him and happy that his unit is doing something for the country. "She's not scared because she has faith and she knows the commander and the rest of the guys I'm with here. She knows that we're all going to come back safe and sound."

Gagnon looks forward to seeing his wife again and looks forward to completing his mission with Joint Task Force Guantanamo Bay, but knows that while here he must put that extra effort fourth and do his

How To: Get a Boat Operator's License

By Spc. Jared C. Mulloy

"My boss is a fisherman, so I figured I should be one too," said Army Chaplain (Lt. Col.) Raymond Bucon, during his boat-driving test last Tuesday afternoon. The Chaplain and three Naval Facilities Engineer Service Center civilian contractors had their seaworthiness tested to acquire a boat operator's day license. Most never operated a boat before and were very excited to learn. The Marina employees will teach and license you for free!

The process is a little time consuming, but the end result is well worth it. First pick up a study guide at the Marina. Study it until you feel familiar with all the information. "I just read through it a couple times", said NFESC civilian contractor Rich Miller, who scored 100 percent on his written test. Then return to the Marina anytime Monday through Friday between 9 a.m. and 4 p.m. to take the written test. "It's fairly easy," admitted Donald Choms, a marina dockhand, "...but some don't have a clue." The test has 26 questions. Most are multiple choice, but there are some fill-in the blank and true or false questions. Normally, four incorrect answers is a fail, but the grading dockhand will go over the questions with you so you can learn from your mistakes. You may then re-take the test if needed. The written test should only take about twenty minutes of your time. Once you have passed the written test your name will be put in a log and you are ready for the driving test.

Driving tests are offered during the same hours as the written test, depending on the instructor's schedule. So don't walk-in during lunch. The best thing to do is to call the Marina and make an appointment. "Everyone needs to be patient," says Marina Instructor Shawn Lewis.

The driving test mostly consists of docking maneuvers. You must dock on your port side (Left), starboard side (Right), and off the bow (Front). According to Lewis taking your time is very important. "Don't slam the boat straight into the dock. I get tough on people who do that." After you've shown your ability to dock, the instructor will take you on a tour of the boundaries within Guantanamo Bay. This test may take a few hours depending on the amount of people testing and how quickly they pass.

Once you have passed the test, all the instructor needs to do is take your picture and have you sign your very own Non-military Vessel



Photo By Spc. Jared Mulloy

(Left to Right) NFESC Civilian Contractor Evan Buckhouse, NFESC Civilian Contractor Rich Miller, Marina Instructor Shawn Lewis, NFESC Civilian Contractor Renee Trombley, and Army Chaplain (Lt. Col.) Raymond Bucon take their boat test.

Operator's Day License! To get your nighttime license attend the class on Tuesday at 6 p.m. The night class is about an hour long and is very important, but it is also a relaxing cruise around the bay for free.

With your license you can rent Pontoon Boats, Bay Liners, Skiffs, Sea Chasers, Speed Boats, and Kayaks. For more information contact the Marina at 2345.

Movie Schedule

Camp Bulkeley

Fri., Dec. 13

8 p.m. *Last of the Mohicans*
R-120min

10 p.m. *Balistic: Ecks Vs. Sever*
R-91min

Sat., Dec 14

8 p.m. *Barber Shop*
PG13-96min

10 p.m. *Adevnture of Pluto Nash*
PG13-96min

Sun., Dec 15

8 p.m. *The Matrix*
R-135min

Mon., Dec 16

8 p.m. *Legend of Drunken Master*
R-101 min

Tues., Dec 17

8 p.m. *Blood Work*
R-111min

Wed., Dec 18

8 p.m. *The One*
PG13-86 min

Thurs., Dec 19

8 p.m. *Time Cop*
R-98min

Downtown Lyceum

Fri., Dec. 13

7 p.m. *Transporter*
R-92min

9 p.m. *Tuck Everlasting*
PG-90min

Sat., Dec 14

7 p.m. *Sweet Home Alabama*
PG13 -109min

9 p.m. *Red Dragon*
R -125min

Sun., Dec. 15

7 p.m. *Die Another Day* R

Mon., Dec. 16

7 p.m. *Jonah A Veggie Tale Movie*
G-83min

Tues., Dec. 17

7 p.m. *Die Another Day* R

Wed., Dec. 18

7 p.m. *Tuck Everlasting*
PG-90min

Thurs., Dec. 19

7 p.m. *Transporter*
R-92min

Sports

Beat Navy, (next year...)

By Spc. Mark Leone

Close games have become standard fare since the first Army-Navy game in 1890 with defense being the main theme. However, Navy junior quarterback Craig Candeto single handedly blew that tradition, to borrow a Navy phrase, right out of the water.

Candeto ran for six touchdowns, tying Dee Doves record for rushing touchdowns by a QB in a game, and also passed for a score to lead the Midshipmen to a 58-12 victory over Army in the 103rd meeting of the two storied academies.

"Craig did a great job," Navy coach Paul Johnson said. "The way we did the game plan, when we got down to the goal line, we had most of our stuff for him to carry the ball." Navy's 508 yards of total offense and 421 rushing yards are a game record.

Leading the run attack was Candeto

with 103 yards on 18 carries. Behind him was Michael Breman with 84 yards on 10 carries.

Things didn't start off well for the Black Knights as they lost five yards on their first possession. On the other side of the ball they failed to stop the Midshipmen's option running attack. Candeto racked up four touchdowns before halftime on runs of seven and 42 yards and two one yard runs.

The Midshipmen went into halftime with a commanding 28-6 lead. Army's place kicker Joe Riley accounted for their six points with field goals of 27 and 21 yards.

Navy came out in the second half and crushed any Army hopes of a comeback. Navy added three more touchdowns, two on Candeto runs, plus a safety, to pull away and secure their 47th win in the series. Army finally scored a touchdown early in the fourth quarter on a 10 yard run by

Bryce McDonald to make the final score 58-12.

Although Army suffered a 46-point loss, the second largest in the history of the series, they still hold a slight overall lead over navy going 49-47-7.

Black Knights Quarterback Reggie Nevels, who completed 15 of 27 passes for 171 yards and a touchdown, was extremely disappointed about the lopsided loss.

"I'm hurt—embarrassed as a matter of fact. Losing a game like that has great impact on my pride. Losing a rivalry game like that to anybody hurts pretty bad." The loss brought Army's record to 1-11 to close out the season and boosted Navy's record to 2-10.

The game drew 80,000 fans at Giants stadium in East Rutherford, NJ to watch the two academies duke it out on the field for the 103rd time. The game was played on the 61st anniversary of the attack on Pearl Harbor.

PGA pros give Guantanamo, hole in one



Photo By Army Sgt. Erin Viola

Petty Officer 2nd Class Mike Bozydaj swings while buddies and PGA pro Billy Kratzert (far right) look on.

By Sgt. Erin Viola

Is the grass always greener on the other side? Well it depends on how you look at things. If you are golfing at Yatera Seca Golf Course in Guantanamo, then you might see a lot more brown than green. However, if you're golfing with four Professional Golfer's Association pros, and a new set of top-of-the-line golf clubs at Yatera Seca, the

five weeks, as an administrator for the Joint Task Force, he had the chance to meet many service members and to play some good golf here.

Heard said he really enjoyed playing at Yatera Seca last spring, but the supplies were slim pickins. "I just kind of knew that there was something that I could do. So I talked to the guys over at the pro shop. I thought about the guys back

jagged landscape might not bother you so much.

Last Friday, golf pros Mark Carnevale, Bob Dickson, Frank Lickliter, and Billy Kratzert were brought to Guantanamo as part of a morale visit spearheaded by Mike Heard. Service members teamed up with the pros for a leisurely, but challenging nine-hole match.

Last May, while Heard was working at Guantanamo for

home...I knew I was gonna hit them up and ask them for some clubs. I did and, it has just barrel rolled."

The first shipment of golf clubs were sent down a few months ago. But for the second round of donations, Heard thought it would be a great idea to deliver the goods in person and bring along his buddies. Over 600 pounds of golf clubs (about 20-30 sets) and more than 200 golf balls were donated.

Heard said, "This could be the first Guantanamo Bay Pro-Am.

Carnavale said he'd love to

come back. "It's great to be involved in this, as an American to show our support. We really appreciate what the military has done, not just here, but around the world, in protecting us as American citizens.

Vice President of the Yatera Seca Golf Association, Navy Chief Petty Officer Tim Valle, said the timing of this morale visit and donations couldn't have been better, as the association is in the process of planning a late winter golf tournament. For more information contact Valle at weather1@usnbgmto.navy.mil, or extension 4056.



Photo By Army Sgt. Erin Viola

Service members and PGA golf pros gather just before nine holes of fun in the Guantanamo Bay sunshine, at Yatera Seca Golf Course

15 Minutes of Fame...

with Lance Cpl. David Anderson,

Bravo Co. 1st Battalion, 23rd Marines

It's not *all* about being a tough guy

Interview and photo by
Spc. Lisa L. Gordon

Q: Are you a reservist or active duty?
A: Reservist.

Q: What do you do in your civilian life?
A: I do some graphic design, some computer design work, photography, and digital design. I go to college but I'm a perpetual senior.

Q: Where are you from?
A: Texas.

Q: How long have you been here at Guantanamo Bay?
A: About nine months but we're about to punch out.

Q: What do your duties here include?
A: I'm a post stander and a driver.

Q: So, what's a typical day like?
A: Depending on what schedule I've got, I'll get up, we'll go to post. It's basically just monitoring all the activity on the Cuban side of the fence line. We do that for eight hours then for 16 hours we come back and stay on call. We're still on duty but we're not on post... we're ready.

Q: What made you choose the Marines over the other services?

A: I looked at the Navy first but I had more fun with the Marines when I would go out with them to do their exercises and crawl around in the dirt and get all muddy. What it came down to was if you want to be infantry, then you've got to go to the Marines, and if you go to the Marines, then you've got to be infantry. The infantry Marine is sort of a pure concept. It's really simple, it's really direct, and it really works.

Q: What have you found to be the most challenging aspect of being a Marine?

A: Because I'm a reservist I'm used to running my own company and taking care of myself and then I come to the Marine Corps and I'm a Lance Cpl. so I have a lot less responsibility but I also have a lot more people that I have to answer to. It's a completely different way of living and the adjustment of going



Lance Cpl. Anderson, 1st Battalion, 23rd Marines, returns from standing his post on the fence line.

from civilian to Marine is probably the most difficult part.

Q: What one word describes you best?
A: Simple. I see things pretty directly and I don't really complicate matters anymore than I have to.

Q: Since you'll be going home soon, what's the first thing you want to do when you get back?

A: Eat real food...see some friends that I haven't talked to in a really long time, but I think food's the first thing.

Q: What's been your favorite thing about being stationed at Guantanamo Bay?

A: Hands down, the weather is awesome. I'm kind of sad we're leaving here in December. I almost wished we would've stayed here until maybe March. Texas isn't bad in the winter but this is just gorgeous. Plus it's kind of interesting to be here while all this is going on. We were here when Camp X-Ray was still up and we watched that whole thing transition to Delta. We've watched this whole base pick up and it's been really neat to see. More people coming in and more money coming in to

different things on the base.

Q: If you could be any animal what would you be?

A: A wolf. I've always had a fascination with them. Individually they're very strong and they can survive in any environment but they also have a pack mentality. It's a tight knit group and I can identify with that pretty easily.

Q: So you've got the Marine thing going on and you like wolves, but tell me the truth...do you walk around in a pair of fuzzy slippers when you're off duty?

A: You don't need them here. It's too hot. Back home where I have a concrete floor...they're not really "fuzzy" slippers. They're like lamb's wool.

Q: So you're not all about being completely hardcore then?

A: No. I believe in being complete, not one dimensional. So back home I can do photography and artwork and stuff like that but at the same time I can come here and be an infantry Marine and try to be good at both. Not just be one way or the other.