

# The WIRE

An award-winning  
JTF journal

Full of holiday spirit  
with Operation  
Stocking Stuffer

Phone for you:  
President Obama  
calls MSST

Happy New Year!  
JTF's 2011 photo gallery



# COMMAND CORNER

CMD. MASTER CHIEF REYNALDO TIONG

COMMAND MASTER CHIEF, JOINT TASK FORCE GUANTANAMO

Happy New Year! As 2011 comes to a close and we prepare to welcome 2012, many of us will take time to do personal "After Action Reviews" in preparation for making New Year's resolutions. If you are like me, the tendency will be to look at all the things we want to change and base our resolutions on those things. But I have a new resolve.

"Why are you only looking at the things that need to change?" a friend recently asked me. "Why not include those things that you want to sustain as well?"

The idea to include "sustains" with my New Year's resolutions is a new one for me, but I like it. I've already identified things I need to improve: one of them is taking advantage of the transition services available to servicemembers. Those of us retiring or getting out of the military soon must realize it time for a change. Therefore, I will start planning for my retirement now.

As for the challenge to identify "sustains," I can happily look back at decisions I've made in the last year that I will continue to perform. I increased the amount of time and distance that I'm running and have improved my overall cardio health. I had also made the decision to start doing core exercises (something I hadn't done before), and that decision also has improved my overall fitness level.

So not only will I plan ahead for transitioning out of the Navy, I will continue to maintain my running and core workout schedules which have served me well.

Are there things we can improve here at Joint Task Force Guantanamo as a whole? Sure. But all of you here at JTF Guantanamo have done an outstanding job this year and I, along with the rest of the Command Staff, believe you will

continue to put your best foot forward as we embrace 2012.

Today, rather than focus on what needs to change, let me encourage you to sustain all the good things you have been doing. Many of you have been involved in many, many volunteer programs over the last year including cleaning the trails, participating in holiday events, helping stuff stockings and then taking the time to hand them out.

I've seen Troopers walking rather than riding to the Seaside Galley to add a little extra fitness to their busy schedules. I even saw one of them picking up trash as he went. Troopers took it upon themselves to weed the front of the IOF because they saw the need.

You have maintained diligence in your military occupational specialties in spite of the distractions that all the recent holidays could have caused. You conducted yourselves in a professional manner and maintained your military bearing throughout the commissions in October. You presented your best selves as the International Committee of the Red Cross wrapped up their last visit of the year earlier this month and inspired their comment that this was "the best assessment experience we have had yet."

Make your changes to diet and exercise if you need to, and cut back on alcohol consumption or tobacco use if that is your resolve. But I want to encourage you to embrace your success from the past year too, not just focus on what needs improvement.

Find those things which have made you successful this year and remember this quote from the well-known entertainer and entrepreneur, Oprah Winfrey:

"The more you praise and celebrate your life, the more there is in life to celebrate."



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Cover: Volunteers for Operation Stocking Stuffer, including Army Sgt. Veronica Arquette of the 193rd Military Police Company, put together stockings for fellow MPs coming off shift on Christmas Day.

-photo by Army Sgt. Saul Rosa

# NEWS FROM THE BAY

## Officials and scorekeepers wanted

Become an official or a scorekeeper for 2012 sports leagues and tournaments! Scorekeepers must be at least 16 years old and officials must be over 18.

For more information, contact Alana Morrison at 2113 or email [alana.morrison@usnbgmto.navy.mil](mailto:alana.morrison@usnbgmto.navy.mil)

## Interview training

Stop by the Fleet and Family Support Center, building 2135, from 9:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. on Jan. 3 for lessons on interview skills. Attendees will be instructed on proper ways to dress for an interview, what questions are normally asked as well as inappropriate interview questions and how to respond to them.

For more information or to register, call 4141 or 4153.

## Update official passports

Is your passport about to expire? If so, go to Bulkeley Hall, Suite 220 Tuesdays and Thursdays from 9 a.m. to 11 a.m. For more information or to make an appointment, contact Chief Robert Pagtakhan at 4812 or [Robert.Pagtakhan@usnbgmto](mailto:Robert.Pagtakhan@usnbgmto).

## Winter softball begins Jan. 17

Get your softball team together and register for the Guantanamo Bay men's and women's leagues. Registration ends Jan. 3 by 7 p.m. Players must be 16 years of age or older.

For more information, call 2113.



## New USPS mailing/shipping prices

Effective Jan. 22, the United States Postal Service will update shipping prices:

First class stamp	\$0.45
Priority flat rate regular envelope	\$5.15
Priority flat rate small box	\$5.35
Priority flat rate medium box	\$11.35
Large APO/FPO/DPO box	\$13.45
Priority flat rate large box	\$15.45

## Erick Baker concert

Come to O'Kelly's Irish Pub tonight at 9 p.m. for a concert by acoustic musician Erick Baker. Baker blends rock, pop, soul, blues, country and folk to make his self-dubbed genre of "American music."

For more information, call 4882.

## Edwin McCain concert

Head to Downtown Lyceum Sunday at 7 p.m. to see Edwin McCain in concert. McCain, singer of "I'll Be" and "I Could Not Ask for More" will perform for the Guantanamo Bay community on New Year's Day.

For more information, call 4882.

## 'Real' golfers need not apply

Play Whacky Putt Putt Golf Dec. 31 at 6 p.m. The mini-golf course is located next to Denich Gym. Come out for a funny good time! Sodas, water, and snacks will be provided.

For more information, call 2113.



## Kickball and indoor volleyball tournaments

MWR will host a dual kickball and volleyball tournament. Pick a tournament, call 2113 and register your team by Jan. 3 at 7 p.m. These tournaments are open to anyone 16 years of age and older. There is a coaches' meeting at Denich Gym, Jan. 10 at 6:30 p.m. for both tournaments.

For more information, or to register, call 4141 or 4153.

## New Camp Bulkeley Gym hours

Effective Jan. 7, the Camp Bulkeley gym will be open until 9 p.m. on weekends.

## Corn Hole tournament

A country twist on ye olde beanbag toss: Tierra Kay Liberty Center will hold its annual Corn Hole tournament Jan. 6 at 6 p.m.

For more information, or to register, call 2010.

## Closings on Jan. 2

The following locations will be closed in accordance with the federal holiday:

- Bayview Restaurant
- Rick's Lounge
- Jerk House
- Goat Locker
- Ceramics and Wood Hobby shops
- Youth/Teen Centers
- Child Development Center
- Clipper Club (Leeward)
- Auto Skills Center
- Paintball Field

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# Trooper to Trooper

## setting an example through leadership

SENIOR CHIEF JUSTIN HANSON

JTF GUANTANAMO MARSECDET

Being in today's military requires that you be not only a manager, but a leader. Managers plan, coordinate and organize resources to achieve a desired end state, while leaders inspire and motivate others to do it on their own. We have all known successful managers, who were horrible leaders. Being successful at both requires an endless supply of tools in your tool bag with special emphasis on preparation, hard work, and learning from mistakes. As Gen. Norman Schwarzkopf said, "The truth of the matter is that you always know the right thing to do. The hard part is doing it."

As an E-6, I was frustrated with the quality of recruits that we were receiving at operational units and asked a company commander why we were getting less than stellar products out of boot camp. It turned out that these recruits knew the right thing to do, but were learning bad habits upon arrival at their first duty station. As leaders, it is our responsibility to ensure the bad habits are stopped and corrected on the spot so that they do not perpetuate. This is why it is critical that everyone leads by example, particularly senior personnel, as every action is closely watched by junior personnel. Taking shortcuts and not following procedures will only be amplified as it trickles down the ranks. That is when mishaps occur. Conversely, if we continuously hold ourselves to the highest standards and correct those around us if they happen to make a mistake, junior personnel will do the same. At the Coast Guard Maritime Safety and Security Team, we live by the simple motto "Quiet Professionalism,"



which means that we always ensure that we conduct ourselves to the highest standard as we are defined primarily by our actions.

You may be thinking, "I'm only an E-4, what can I do?" Just remember that leadership skills are independent of rank. There will always be opportunities to take the initiative and motivate all those around you. For a senior leader, this should already be a natural instinct, as you are responsible not only for the troopers subordinate to you, but in many cases, those who are senior to you. You are obligated to ensure the right thing is done all the time every time. There is never an excuse for anyone to walk by a problem.

Junior enlisted Troopers and officers depend on senior enlisted leaders for guidance and confirmation of action. They rely on the fact that senior leaders can provide assistance at a moment's notice and also help groom them into being better leaders themselves. Getting to know your people, being involved and productive with mentoring will help develop junior personnel and align them for success as the future of the armed services and representatives of the United States. As Gen. Dwight D. Eisenhower once said about leadership, "Motivation is the art of getting people to do what you want them to do because they want to do it."



### OPSEC is everyone's responsibility!

Do your friends and family know about OPSEC? It is easy to assume that what we do here at Guantanamo Bay just affects us. What some of us may not know is that it also affects our loved ones back home, who may potentially become targets. Teaching them simple techniques like updating security settings on social sites and varying their day-to-day routines are just a few examples of how they can protect themselves as well as you. Practicing good OPSEC is not just the responsibility of service members, but your family and friends as well. USE OPSEC!

STUDENT OF  
THE GAME

## Can King James finally take his throne?

By Army Sgt. Landis Andrews

I wrote a letter to the North Pole a couple of months ago that went like this:

Dear Santa,

All I want for Christmas is for AFN to stop playing second-rate college football games every night.

That's it.

Sincerely,

Landis

Kris Kringle (or Arthur Christmas) delivered, because Christmas Day was filled with exciting National Basketball Association competition. If the initial slate of games is a preview of this lockout-shortened season, we are all in for a gift.

But the biggest present might be reserved for Akron's own LeBron James and the Miami Heat. James led all scorers with 37 points in a 105-94 Christmas Day rout over the defending champs, the Dallas Mavericks, in a game that wasn't as close as the box score appears.

This could be the year that LeBron takes his talent to the fourth quarter and wins not one, not two, not three but four games in the NBA finals to get his first championship ring.

This offseason, Erik Spoelstra, head coach of the Heat, spent time with Chip Kelly, the head coach of the Oregon Ducks college football team. Known for their wide offensive set and speedy players, the Ducks ran their way to the Rose Bowl with that approach. Spoelstra said he was motivated by the Ducks and integrated the "space and pace" offense into the Heat's plan.

This new offense, which looks like the "seven seconds or less" offense Mike D'Antoni ran in Phoenix and now teaches in New York, but with much more firepower,



Do the Miami Heat and LeBron James have what it takes to go the distance this time? —photo courtesy Miami Heat

might be the difference between the Heat's championship let down and the first in a string of promised rings.

When the lockout ended, the NBA announced it would be playing a shortened season. With 66 games in 124 days, teams will play back-to-back-to-back games with few days for practice and rest. If the Heat can continually run this fast-paced style of play, their opponents will not be physically or mentally able to keep up.

The rigors of this condensed season means battered bodies won't have normal recovery time. Benches will have more impact on a team's success than ever before and Miami has players coming off the bench that could start on many other teams in the league.

Last year, the Heat's regular season nemesis was the Chicago Bulls. Shooting guard Rip Hamilton joined forces with last year's most valuable player Derrick Rose to try to stay a thorn in the side of Miami's trio. But, is Chicago's defense going to be able to stop this offense that is already averaging more than 100 points?

There is no doubt the road to the 'ship will have to go through Los Angeles, but will it be the slow-start Lakers or newly signed Chris Paul and the Lob City Clippers? The Portland Trailblazers, Oklahoma City Thunder and Denver Nuggets shouldn't be slept on, either. All these teams could possibly give the Heat fits.

Do the Heat have what it takes to go the distance this time? You make the decision.

# TROOPER FOCUS

By Mass Communication Spc. 2nd Class Louis Batchelor

Petty Officer 2nd Class John Ellson loves his job and loves his home. The California native enjoys seeing the world, but revels in his roots.

"I have been stationed in different locations around the world, such as the Arabian Gulf and Alaska, but I have also had the pleasure of being stationed at home in California," Ellson said.

Ellson believes it is imperative to converse with family and friends often and advises Troopers to keep in touch with their loved ones on a frequent or regular basis.

"It is important to keep up with your family and friends back home," Ellson explained. "You have to understand that most times people you leave behind are just as unaware about your welfare and conditions here as you are about what is going on back home. But it's a joy to hear a familiar voice every now and then."

According to Maritime Safety and Security Team supervisor Petty Officer 1st Class Mike Pearsall, Ellson has proven himself valuable to his department by being multifaceted. A

machinery technician, Ellson works primarily in the MSST's 3-M department conducting routine maintenance on the department's assets but is also a part of the boat team's roving watches on the perimeter of JTF's waterfront.

"My job here is to help maintain the boats, vehicles, generators and other equipment to help us keep going," Ellson said. "My favorite part of the job is having the opportunity to work on various types of equipment out here."

Ellson's love for his family and pride in his work are driving factors in his success. The 12-year veteran hopes to achieve several different goals while stationed here, including reaching a higher level of physical fitness and college, but also values the time he has to himself.

"Advancement is definitely at the top of my priorities here," Ellson said. "I am also training to run a marathon when I get back. Other than that, I am pretty low-key and keep to myself."



## BULLET BIO

**Time in service:** 12 years

**Hobbies:** Surfing, golf, free diving, motocross and other outdoor activities

**The boss says:** "He is a hard worker who is very versatile. He wears more than one hat for us."

**Advice to junior Troopers:** "Learn your job, and learn it well, but most importantly, learn to love it!"

## What did you get for Christmas?



"I received a stocking from the chapel when I got off watch."

Petty Officer 2nd Class  
Amy Ball



"I got a nice pair of Vans."

Petty Officer 2nd Class  
Miguel Romero



"My son was born!"

Pfc.  
John Hale



"I got a diamond tennis bracelet."

Spc.  
Sheanean Golson

## BOOTS ON THE GROUND

# Regional Contracting Office wins RCO of the Year



Team Chief Paula Claudio (right) and Air Force Master Sgt. Jan-Pierre Malboeuf hold the 2011 RCO of the Year award. Claudio praised the efforts her team made to improve the Regional Contracting Office Guantanamo Bay. -photo by Army Sgt. Saul Rosa

by Army Sgt. Saul Rosa

The Naval Station Guantanamo Bay Regional Contracting Office (RCO) has won RCO of the Year for 2011.

Awarded by the Army's active component 410th Contracting Support Brigade, RCO Guantanamo Bay provided exceptional service and made significant contributions to the mission performance.

The RCO's mission is to evaluate and approve or deny unit supply requests. RCO processes both the naval station's and Joint Task Force's requests.

For the RCO to win the award, Team Chief Paula Claudio submitted a packet to the 410th for consideration.

"My work would be not successful without the customer's work, so we engage them into this process," said Claudio.

She said that the RCO Guantanamo Bay

developed a better working relationship with Joint Task Force by training organizations on acquisition planning, performance work statements, quality assurance plans, contract administration and contract monitoring.

The RCO also developed the first consolidated annual report to raise awareness of the organization and provide the Joint Task Force commander situational awareness.

Many improvements to the RCO helped the office win. One improvement is the increase in Contract Office Representatives (COR).

Claudio explained that before the adjustment, customers often sent requests unassisted.

"Now the office has more CORs to help customers," Claudio said "These are the guys who are outside checking all the work and coordinating contracts."

Another improvement Claudio and the office made was the creation of an intranet application offering downloadable templates.

"A lot of the forms were inconsistent, because customers were looking online for examples," said Claudio. "Now we have a web page that makes things more efficient for the customer and us."

The RCO has made many improvements to earn the RCO of the Year award, but the award isn't the reason to celebrate. According to Claudio, the improvements to the system and the relationship between the JTF and RCO are the real success.

"Just with the comments from the community I was satisfied," said Claudio. "That's why I wanted to extend the celebration to the JTF because their part as the customer was very important, so this award is for JTF too."

# MSST San Diego Coast Guardsmen receive surprise phone call from President Obama



Left: Petty Officer 2nd Class Derek Weatherly chatted with President Barack Obama Christmas morning about football and past deployments.  
Below: Petty Officer 1st Class Gilbert Zepeda also took the President's phone call Dec. 25, and updated him on the weather and the unit's progress.  
—photos courtesy United States Coast Guard

By Petty Officer 2nd Class Michael Anderson

Two Joint Task Force Guantanamo Coast Guardsmen received a special holiday phone call on Christmas morning from President Barack Obama. Petty Officer 1st Class Gilbert Zepeda and Petty Officer 2nd Class Derek Weatherly, both currently deployed with Maritime Safety and Security Team San Diego, answered the president's calls.

"It was an honor," Weatherly said. "A person could go 10 lifetimes and never talk to the president. He took time out of his very busy life to call, thank us for our service and wish us a merry Christmas."

Obama thanked them and the other Coast Guard men and women for their sacrifices far from home during this holiday season.

"The president was very down to earth," Zepeda said. "We talked about when we're getting home and the weather."

While overseas, Zepeda, a gunner's mate, is responsible for maintaining MSST San Diego's armory including the unit's weapons, ammunition and pyrotechnics. He also supervises weapons training. Due to operational needs, Zepeda deployed with eight days notice for the extended overseas deployment.

During Weatherly's call with the president, they discussed his previous deployments, the current deployment, returning home and the NFL playoffs.

"We talked a lot of football," Weatherly said. "The Raiders' overtime win and other NFL games from Saturday."

Weatherly, a San Francisco Bay Area native, is an avid Oakland Raiders fan.

"He thanked us for our service and asked us to tell our shipmates that he appreciates everything we do for our country," Weatherly said.

Weatherly, a machinery technician, is a tactical boat crewmember in the waterside section and provides on-water, anti-terrorism force protection for Joint Task Force Guantanamo Bay.

While assigned to Joint Task Force Guantanamo, Zepeda, Weatherly and all of MSST San Diego form the Maritime Security Detachment Guantanamo and are responsible for securing the port and waterways around the base. They also provide landside security mission while commissions for detainees are underway.

Cmdr. Eric Cooper, MSST San Diego's commanding officer, was in the room when Zepeda and Weatherly took the phone call.

"The Coast Guard is recognized worldwide for having some of the highest quality professionals in the nation and I am fortunate to have the cream of the crop here at MSST San Diego," Cooper said. "Petty Officers Zepeda and Weatherly are true professionals and I couldn't be prouder of the dedication and consistently high performance that they display every single day. I am particularly impressed with the outstanding job that they have done while supporting Joint Task Force Guantanamo."



FEATURE |



| FEATURE

photos by Joint Task Force Guantanamo Public Affairs



# Hail and Farewell 2011

photos by Joint Task Force Guantanamo Public Affairs

# OPERATION STOCKING STUFFER

By Army Sgt. Saul Rosa

With stockings filled to the brim, the Guantanamo Bay community greeted Troopers as their shifts ended Christmas Day.

The community implemented Operation Stocking Stuffer Dec. 25. The event is a community effort to fill stockings for Troopers on duty on Christmas.

"About 19 years ago, the chaplains got together and asked 'how can we bless the community and the military personnel deployed here, particularly around Christmas Eve and Christmas Day?'" said Navy Lt. Douglas Holmes, the naval station command chaplain.

Volunteers met on Dec. 23 to fill the stockings with candy, cookies, small gifts, and letters from listeners of a stateside radio show.

"The community really supported us," said Holmes. "When we were stuffing the stockings, there were people everywhere, coming from both the Joint Task Force and the naval station."

The letters were sent to Guantanamo Bay from the Atlanta-based Bert Show, which asked their listeners to send in letters of gratitude to servicemembers. The show sent 1,800 letters here.

"Over the past few weeks, listeners of the Bert Show have written letters to thank you and your fellow servicemen and women for your tremendous service to the United States of America," the show's cast said in a press release.

The Bert Show wanted to bring a little holiday

cheer to the servicemembers stationed overseas.

"We hope these letters bring you a smile and a little piece of home," the release added. "You are truly appreciated for your service. We all look forward to the day when you are back on American soil."

Community volunteers and off-duty Troopers met as the night shift ended on Christmas morning to hand out the stockings. The volunteers later returned to give stockings to the Troopers whose shift ended during that evening.

"I'm away from family and I thought I'd bring a little cheer to somebody and make them smile," said Air Force Staff Sgt. Lyneleanor Jackson. "It is hard being deployed during the holidays but to work on Christmas Day is even more difficult."

Off-duty volunteers from the 170th Military Police Battalion even dressed up as familiar holiday characters.

"I like making people smile and happy so I thought coming out here dressed up would bring a little holiday cheer," said Army 1st Lt. Andrew Sparks. "The Gingerbread Man was my favorite character from Shrek so I thought it would be really funny to dress up as him."

With more than 1,100 stockings distributed, the mission was a success and Troopers who were on duty received a small piece of home.

"It's a wonderful thing," said Holmes. "It lifts my spirits because I know that yes, the Troopers are remembered during Christmas."



Top: Joint Task Force Guantanamo commander Rear Adm. David Woods and Joint Detention Group Command Sgt. Maj. Mark Porrett hand out stockings with the volunteers Christmas morning.

Above: Sgt. 1st Class Nicholas Hoad and Spc. Marcel Dawson stuff stockings for Operation Stocking Stuffer Dec. 23.

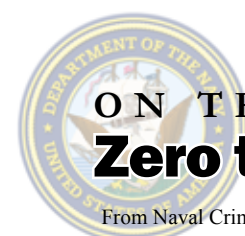
Right: Army Sgt. Linda Baez and Sgt. 1st Class Betty Goodlow select stockings to stuff during Operation Stocking Stuffer, a community effort to bring stockings to Troopers on duty during Christmas.

—photos by Army Sgt. Saul Rosa

Above: Dressed as Ralphie from "A Christmas Story," Army 1st Lt. Seth Porter hands a stocking filled with small gifts and a letter to a soldier finishing his shift Christmas morning.

Left: Volunteers dress as holiday characters to bring smiles to Troopers after their shifts.

—photos by Army Sgt. Saul Rosa



# Zero tolerance: NCIS aims to prevent sexual assault

From Naval Criminal Investigative Service

NORFOLK, Va. – In an effort to bring attention to the sexual assault prevention awareness campaign, the Naval Criminal Investigative Service (NCIS) issued important guidelines and tips on how individuals can report and prevent sexual assault crimes through NCIS' Crime Reduction Program Dec. 26.

The increased prevention awareness campaign is a proactive effort to reduce sexual assaults across the Department of the Navy.

Sexual assault is defined as sexual abuse of an individual by the use of force, threat, or intimidation. Rape, sodomy, sexual battery and attempts to commit these crimes are examples of sexual assault offenses.

Sexual assaults are more prevalent with those who recently enlisted or are away from

home for the first time. In many cases, the situations involve alcohol.

"Drugs and alcohol will impair a person's judgment and may increase sexual desire, therefore, a person's actions may be misunderstood when they are intoxicated," NCIS Special Agent Leatrice DeBruhl-Daniels. "Do what is right morally. If you violate a person's rights and have sex with them without their permission, you may be subject to charges under the Uniform Code of Military Justice (UCMJ) Article 120."

Under UCMJ Article 120, sexual act crimes, such as rape and aggravated sexual assault, carry very high penalties. Rape itself under the UCMJ can carry a death penalty and the maximum punishment for aggravated sexual assault is 30 years.

"When there is a report of sexual assault,

commands are required to report it almost immediately to NCIS," said Cmdr. Frank D. Hutchison, staff judge advocate.

Victims have a choice of reporting preference as either restricted or unrestricted. Victims who choose to use restricted reporting are only allowed to talk to a victim advocate, sexual assault response coordinator, chaplain or healthcare provider. This ensures that no one without confidentiality knows the details about the case, and it remains confidential until the case is reported to law enforcement, or NCIS, at which time it will automatically become an unrestricted report.

An unrestricted report allows victims to legally pursue the perpetrator. The command is restricted from conducting their own investigation on the matter, but they will be notified that the event occurred.



# Santa helps deliver fuel to remote bases in Afghanistan

By Staff Sgt. Nathanael Callon

379th Air Expeditionary Wing Public Affairs

SOUTHWEST ASIA – Santa Claus paid a surprise visit to the 816th Expeditionary Airlift Squadron Dec. 23 to assist in an airdrop delivery to remote forward operating bases in Afghanistan.

"I just wanted to bring a little holiday cheer to the men and women of the 379th Air Expeditionary Wing and help out with a very special holiday delivery," chuckled Santa, portrayed by Tech. Sgt. Mike Morris, 816th EAS Loadmaster Flight NCO in charge and native of Charleston, S.C.

The delivery – 160 barrels of fuel – was loaded onto a C-17 Globemaster III aircraft under Santa's command.

The fuel will be used for generators, vehicles and heaters to keep service members warm in the frigid mountains of eastern Afghanistan, said Staff Sgt. Mike Folk, 816th EAS loadmaster and native of Frazeyburg, Ohio.

"This fuel is going to help keep them warm and let them continue to accomplish their mission," said Folk.

Santa's precision as a loadmaster comes from years of experience configuring loads for his sleigh rides across the globe to deliver presents.

"Santa is sometimes a little hard to work for," Folk added. "His operations are generally more large-scale, so his work ethic definitely reflects that."

The 816th EAS transported about three million pounds of cargo and personnel to forward locations throughout Southwest Asia last month.

"It's a huge part of what we do around here and it's important that we sustain the warfighters," said Senior Master Sgt. Kevin Kloepfel, 816th EAS superintendent and native of Sante Fe, N.M. "With the fuel, water, food and supplies that we drop off, we can sustain their mission."

The 816th EAS works with the U.S. Army 421st Quartermaster Company Parachute Riggers and the 8th Expeditionary Air Mobility Squadron to get the job done.

"The riggers build the pallets, the 8th EAMS brings the cargo to the plane, and we deliver the supplies," said Kloepfel. "It's truly a team effort to get the mission accomplished."



Santa Claus, portrayed by Tech. Sgt. Mike Morris, 816th Expeditionary Airlift Squadron Loadmaster Flight NCO in charge and native of Charleston, S.C., pushes a pallet of fuel onto a C-17 Globemaster III prior to a mission Dec. 23. –photo courtesy 378th Air Expeditionary Wing Public Affairs

## IN THE FIGHT

# Operation Noel: Marine helicopters spread Christmas spirit

By Staff Sgt. Christopher Flurry

2nd Marine Aircraft Wing (Forward)

CAMP LEATHERNECK, Afghanistan – Capt. Jeff Barnes isn't really Santa Claus, but don't tell that to the Marines in Afghanistan.

"We are doing a care package delivery to austere [forward operating bases]," explained Barnes, a UH-1Y Huey pilot with Marine Light Attack Squadron 369. "I think since there've been helicopters around – in Vietnam, in Iraq, here in Afghanistan – on Christmas Day, we've helped the guys on the ground enjoy the holiday."

So, early on Christmas morning, Barnes led a team of Marine Corps UH-1Y Huey helicopters from Camp Bastion in Afghanistan's Helmand province, en route to dozens of tiny combat outposts dotting the Helmand River.

"We're going to places you might have a squad, a company," said Barnes, a self-described 'Marine Brat,' whose family now lives in Las Vegas. "We picked places specifically because they're very austere. They don't get regular packages."

On a typical day, pilots like Barnes use their helicopters to provide close-air support for infantry Marines. The Marine Corps relies on Hueys and AH-1W Super Cobra attack helicopters to provide a watchful eye for the Marines patrolling through southwestern Afghanistan's villages and farms.

On Dec. 25, however, the Marine aviators' mission was different. Dubbed "Operation Noel," the Marine Corps Hueys lifted thou-

sands of pounds of Christmas spirit –items like socks and toiletries, as well as letters, cards and even candy – to the grunts who call these small outposts home.

"The Marines are excited to be supporting our brothers and sisters [in the Marine Corps] in a very different way than we normally do," said Barnes. "It's a big privilege to be able to do a mission like this that's outside the realm of normal."

Lance Cpl. Andrew Harris is a UH-1Y Huey crew chief with the light attack helicopter squadron. Harris, nicknamed 'the best door-gunner in the Marine Corps' by his fellow Marines, flew with Barnes on the Christmas Day mission.

"I think it's really cool, we're trying to boost morale," said Harris. "We're trying to keep the family of the Marine Corps together, especially during the holidays."

"It's still Afghanistan. We still have to be prepared for the threat. That being said, it happens to be the 25th of December," said Barnes. "It's about spending Christmas with your family – your Marine Corps family."

At Kandahar Airfield, the detachment of Marines who fly and maintain the KC-130J Hercules took a short break on Christmas Day. Santa passed out stockings and the Marines shared a Christmas dinner.

Ten years ago, the airfield was captured by the U.S. Marines of the 26th Marine Expeditionary Unit, becoming a foothold in efforts to rout the Taliban from Afghanistan.

Since December 2001, the airfield has become a metropolis – host to tens of thou-

sands of U.S. troops and their Afghan and coalition partners.

For the U.S. Marines, Kandahar is a central hub of fixed-wing aviation. Marine Corps AV-8B Harrier attack jets and KC-130J refueling and transport aircraft call Kandahar home, aircraft which launch daily to support combat operations in southwestern Afghanistan.

Gunnery Sgt. Charles V. Westall, the squadron gunnery sergeant for the detachment of aerial refueler transport Marines deployed to Afghanistan, said he believes taking time to remember the holidays is integral to keeping morale high for his Marines.

"It's important because celebrating holidays even when we are out here is a reminder why we do what we do," said Westall, deployed to Afghanistan with Marine Aerial Refueler Transport Squadron 152.

Westall, deployed from Okinawa, Japan, serves alongside Marines with Marine Aerial Refueler Transport Squadron 252, deployed from Marine Corps Air Station Cherry Point, N.C. Collectively, the Marines use the KC-130J Hercules – the Corps' largest aircraft – to provide aerial refueling, combat aerial resupply, and troop and cargo transport for the Marines in southwestern Afghanistan.

"It's a reminder of why we became Marines in the first place," Westall said. "So that our family and friends are able to celebrate the holidays – freely. It makes us happy to know they can, even if we are all the way out here in Kandahar, Afghanistan, away from our loved ones."

## COAST TO COAST



# Coast Guard interdicts 40 Cuban migrants, repatriates 37

By 7th Coast Guard District Public Affairs

MIAMI - The Coast Guard repatriated eight Cuban migrants Wednesday and 29 Cuban migrants Friday to Bahia de Cabañas, Cuba.

The Cuban migrants were interdicted at sea during two separate incidents since Dec. 17.

Three Cuban migrants are awaiting further disposition.

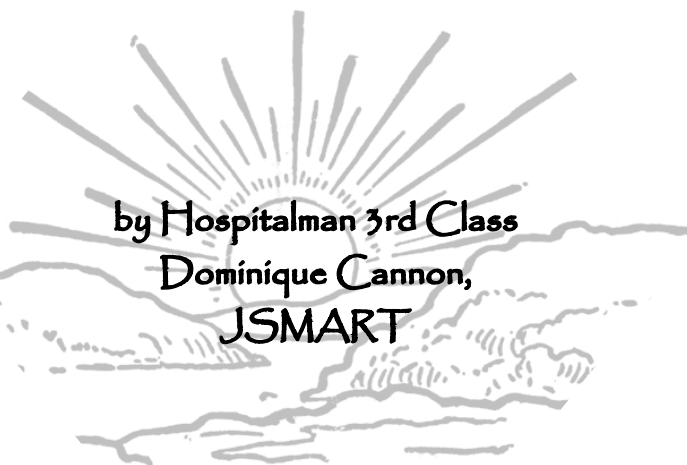
"The Coast Guard has a network of boats, cutters and aircraft ensuring border security and maintaining humanitarian responsibility to prevent the loss of life at sea," said, Cmdr. Kevin Lopez, 7th Coast Guard District assistant chief of enforcement. "The majority of

migrant vessels are dangerously overloaded, unseaworthy or otherwise unsafe. We continue to enforce federal laws and regulations prohibiting illegal entry, or bringing, or attempting to bring, undocumented migrants into the United States."

All migrants interdicted were provided with food, water, shelter and basic medical attention.

For more information on legal immigration, call U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS) at 1-800-375-5283 or visit the USCIS website at www.uscis.gov.





# Can't we all just get along?

The mission here at Joint Task Force Guantanamo depends not only on the individual but also on the larger decisions made by your leadership, peers, and subordinates; whether you work directly with detainees at the detention center or are seated at a headquarters cubicle. Navigating through the finely oiled cogs and gears of the U.S. military is a daunting task when you take into consideration the multiple factors which influence day to day operations. One of the most important factors to consider is the diversity of personalities we work with in our daily routines. In some cases, the unique character of even a single individual can create situations which detract from the mission. Sometimes the personality creating tension in the workspace may very well be your own.

Much like a finely choreographed play, life is full of characters complete with their own peculiarities, preferences, and agendas. As we grow, we learn new ways to interact with a dissimilar cast of people. We build compromise and long-lasting relationships with those select few individuals who share similar interests to ours, and we attempt to avoid those who possess traits that we cannot tolerate for more than a few minutes at a time. So what occurs when said disliked individual is your boss, your co-worker, or subordinate? What occurs when personal tastes and dissimilarities are too great to get the job done?

Workforce psychology probably has been a topic of research since the construction of the first cubicle. One might expect that as military members we would be able to avoid the same personality

conflicts present in the civilian setting; however, this is far from the truth. The workplace, no matter where you work, can be the ideal setting for the kinds of claustrophobia, tension and backstabbing that fuel reality shows. But in the military, our professionalism and mission orientation should come before petty differences.

Unfortunately, this is sometimes not the case. There are many types of personality conflicts, even in the military. Often, such conflicts are based on minor personality differences that don't affect a service member's professional capacity at all. For instance, different styles of humor can be funny to some or an irritant to others. Conversely, an extremely serious demeanor can inspire a few and be tiresome to everyone else. There are occasions when specific combinations of personalities don't settle with one another and the irritation between two people becomes friction, and the friction becomes a conflict.

Sometimes a personality conflict can become overt, even openly hostile – yet the players themselves still perform at their normal levels.

However, you must look closely to see if the battle has cast a shroud over the project team in any way. Often, the sarcasm and cutting remarks that sometimes accompany personal discord can bother other team members, and this irritation can become cumulative. If the conflict is affecting team morale, then someone should step in.

see JSMART next page

**Workforce psychology probably has been a topic of research since the construction of the first cubicle. There are many types of personality conflicts, even in the military.**

## ONLY AT GTMO by Mass Communication Spc. 1st Class Ty Bjornson



# ON THE GROUND New brace salvages limbs, mobility, morale

Army News Service

SAN ANTONIO – A wounded warrior limped into Ryan Blanck's office at the Center for the Intrepid one day with a plea for help.

The doctors at Brooke Army Medical Center had saved the service member's leg after a combat injury, but due to the pain, he couldn't walk comfortably, let alone run. Blanck, a leading prosthetist at the state-of-the-art rehab center, found himself in an unfamiliar position – at a loss.

"There wasn't a go-to option," he said, referring to devices for wounded warriors with lower leg injuries.

So Blanck designed the Intrepid Dynamic Exoskeletal Orthosis, or IDEO, a streamlined, energy-storing brace that delivers nearly instantaneous results. Now, most troops with salvaged limbs who wheel or limp into his office walk out a short time later, pain and limp-free.

"They're uncontrollably weeping," he said. "It's the first time they've walked without pain in two or three, or seven years in one guy's case."

Blanck's creation is a lightweight, streamlined carbon-fiber device that can be tucked under a pant leg and into a boot or sneaker.

The device is proving a "game-changer" for service members with salvaged limbs,

said Johnny Owens, a CFI physical therapist who is working hand-in-hand with Blanck in treating IDEO-fitted warriors. "We're seeing immediate changes we don't usually see."

Owens said the device also is single-handedly helping to turn the tide on a trend of wounded warriors opting for delayed amputations -- amputations several months after injury. He attributes the trend to the slow, and sometimes frustrating, recovery for troops with lower leg injuries.

"Prior to all this, limb salvage was a little bit of an unknown," Blanck explained. "You couldn't tell a patient, 'you're going to run.'"

Thanks to IDEO, these troops now have another option, he said, that enables them to not only walk, but run, sprint and jump.

The program's success has one limitation: space. Between amputees and warriors with salvaged limbs, the CFI can get crowded at times. The pair would like to see a rehab center like the CFI, but devoted to wounded warriors with salvaged limbs. Owens noted that for every amputee, there are about 10 limb salvage patients.

"I never thought I'd come to work and get hugged by a 220-pound, 6-foot-4, Special Forces guy," said Blanck.

### JSMART cont.

There's a lot you can do to make coworkers your biggest asset. With a little effort on your part, your coworkers can become a source of information, insight, support, camaraderie and, sometimes, endless amusement. Of course, if you fail to handle yourself properly or aren't sensitive to others, they can make your work experience an unpleasant daily grind. Getting along doesn't really have to be that difficult; it just takes a little common sense, a bit of courtesy and sometimes compromise.

For anyone aspiring to work through personality conflicts in the office, here are some tips for success.

– Be respectful! During discussions with coworkers, listen as well as speak. A nod, eye-contact, and occasional verbal comment are important to communicate that you're really paying attention.

– Avoid controversial subjects. Politics, religion, and personal value topics should remain off-limits in the workspace. If you find yourself in a conversation that appears to be going in the direction of conflicting

viewpoints (which may lead to ruffled feathers), tactfully introduce a different topic or make a neutral statement to avert tensions.

– Respect diversity. Diversity is the key element in producing high performance since people make things happen. Do your part to be inclusive and respectful of all differences and lead the way by encouraging others to do the same.

Sometimes, workplace resolution can be a difficult task to wrangle. This is why JSMART offers dynamic professional services to address personality conflicts and provide education on how to cope with the stress of conflict while at Joint Task Force Guantanamo. JSMART is now located in a new building across from the Trooper Chapel entrance and near the Camp America Post Office. Our clinic is open Monday through Friday from 7 a.m. to 5 p.m. and closed on the weekends and federal holidays. The duty cell phone is manned 24 hours a day at 3566. And remember, you don't have to like everyone. You just have to work together and keep the peace!

# Kim Jong Il's funeral held in Pyongyang

Voice of America News Service

PYONGYANG, North Korea – Tens of thousands of weeping North Koreans bade a final farewell to longtime leader Kim Jong Il Wednesday as a black hearse carried his coffin through the capital city of Pyongyang.

Snow filled the gray skies as the funeral procession began early Wednesday. A black limousine with a huge portrait of the late leader led the procession through Pyongyang's snow-covered streets, followed by another limousine with Mr. Kim's flag-draped coffin resting atop on a bed of white flowers. Just behind it, a car carried an enormous wreath from his son and successor, Kim Jong Un.

The younger Kim walked on the street alongside the vehicle for at least a portion of the procession.

Bitterly weeping mourners lined the streets, many wailing and flailing their arms in grief as soldiers struggled to keep them from spilling onto the road.

Images broadcast on North Korea's state television showed Mr. Kim's son and successor, Kim Jong Un, dressed in a dark overcoat, hand raised in salute, walking alongside his father's hearse as it returned to the huge square of the Kumsusan Memorial Palace.

Walking behind him was his influential uncle Jang Song Thaek, senior party officials Kim Ki Nam and Choe Thae Bok, military chief Ri Yong Ho, armed forces minister Kim Yong Chun and senior military officer Kim Jong Gak.

Analysts say the proximity of the political and military officials to the young leader could provide clues to the make-up of his inner circle.

Since Kim Jong Il died of a heart attack on Dec. 17, state television has shown repeated scenes of extraordinary public grief throughout North Korea.

Foreign governments are watching events in Pyongyang closely because of concerns about the young Mr. Kim's rise in a country with a nuclear program, a large army and a history of deep animosity toward its neighbors.

Official media have been quick to declare Kim Jong Un as the "great successor," supreme military commander and chief of the ruling Worker's Party.

# Movie Review

## IN TIME

As I watched "In Time," I was reminded of Ray Bradbury stories of yesteryear, the kind you were assigned to read in junior high and/or high school. All those sci-fi "moral of the story" tales were similar in theme: an outlandish premise about an alternate future which is really a social commentary on caste cultures and the human condition.

This latest Justin Timberlake vehicle succeeds in taking those ingredients and borrowing contemporary social dilemmas straight from headlines to tell its story.

The film opens in the year 2161, where the human aging process has been stopped at age 25 for everyone. Each person has a glowing digital "lifeclock" visible in their left forearm tracking the time they have left before "timing out" to death. Time is distributed via tactile contact from person to person and from time boxes. Starting at age 25, people automatically have their clocks turned on with only one year to live. For a price you are able to live indefinitely. The well-to-do don't give this a second (pun) thought, as their wealth enables them to live years and centuries. They can even accrue and grow more time. The impoverished must work as drones in factories to earn minutes and days to add to their lifeclocks. The urgency of earning more time to maintain your life is, as one character puts it best, "You generally don't sleep in."

This makes for an attractive-looking society. People over the age of 100 are indistinguishable from people in their mid-twenties. Based on what I saw on the silver screen, I suspect the physical appearance of humans has been altered too. After all, everyone's mother and daughter all look like supermodels straight out of Victoria's Secret while the men all look like they should be on the cover of GQ Magazine.

Will Salas (Timberlake) is a working class joe who lives with his mother (Olivia Wilde) in the ghettos of Dayton. A personal tragedy sets Will's crusade in motion to bring down the system to change the status quo for all those in the lower class "time zones." Will's cause is further aided when he is inadvertently helped by a suicidal wealthy benefactor, who transfers over 100 years of life to Will before timing out.

Time is the only currency in their world. With it, people can buy whatever they can afford in days, weeks and years. Whether it is a hotel suite or high performance automobile, they pay with time. Will's

newfound fortune raises the suspicions of Timekeeper Raymond Leon (Cillian Murphy, "Inception") who believes Will is a thief and murderer.

Will escapes from his ghetto time zone to the wealthy time zone of New Greenwich in pursuit of a wealthy businessman (Vincent Kartheiser, TV's "Mad Men") who built his fortune by holding the keys to immortality. After romancing his daughter Sylvia (Amanda Seyfried, "Big Love") and eventually kidnapping her, Will returns to the ghetto to show Sylvia the plight of those less fortunate than her. Soon, Will and Sylvia are robbing timebanks and sharing hundreds of years with the working-class all while being pursued by Timekeepers with decade-long bounties on each of their heads.

"In Time" isn't astonishing or great cinema, but it is a fun sci-fi popcorn thriller. The present day messages about social inequity ring true. In reality we have people in various social classes, in some cultures even castes, around the world struggling to make ends meet on a daily basis. These themes are as old as time. Does the movie clamor on the edge in the political arenas debating the redistribution of wealth? Is it



PG-13  
109 min.



By Mass Communication Spc. 1st Class Ty Bjornson

designed to generate awareness of global poverty? I'll leave that for the viewer to discern.

Originally, the release for "In Time" was nearly blocked by sci-fi author Harlan Ellison who alleged it was stolen from one of his short stories. Upon seeing this film, Ellison backed off, though he did receive a screen credit for "The Terminator" (1984) when he made a similar claim on that film. Like I said, "In Time" felt like those grade school dystopian fables we grew up with, so maybe there is no reinventing the wheel on how to dress up a message and make social statement. I'm sure Ellison or Bradbury were not the first writers to do so. Look at Shakespeare, he did it before those guys. How about that story about Oedipus? Shocking what Sigmund Freud said that was really about!

"In Time" is a nice evening at the movies. Not amazing, but pleasant and likeable enough to carry you through to its conclusion. There's some convincing acting, good action and it also works as a chase movie too. The film makes some relevant observations and is highly timely (pun). You can never have too many films that entertain you and make you think a little bit in the process. "In Time" does those things well.

### GTMO Quick Reference

**Bayview Club - 75605**  
Wed.-Fri. 11 a.m.-8 p.m.  
Sun. & Holidays 8 a.m.-5 p.m.

**Bowling Center - 2118**  
Mon.-Fri. 6-11 p.m.  
Fri. 6 p.m.-12 a.m.  
Sat. 1 p.m.-12 a.m.  
Sun. & Holidays 1-11 p.m.

**Caribbean Coffee - 77859**  
Mon.-Sat. 6 a.m.-10 p.m.  
Sun. 1-10 p.m.

**Jerk House - 2532**  
Sun.-Thu. 5-9 p.m.  
Fri. & Sat. 5-10 p.m.

**KFC and A&W Express - 75653**  
Daily 11 a.m.-10 p.m.

**MWR Liberty Centers - 2010**  
Mon.-Thu. 11 a.m.-12 a.m.  
Fri. 11 a.m.-1 a.m.  
Sun. 9 a.m.-12 a.m.  
Sat. & Holidays 9 a.m.-1 a.m.

**Library - 4700**  
Mon.-Sat. 8 a.m.-9 p.m.  
Sun. & Holidays 12-9 p.m.

**Pizza Hut - 77995**  
Mon.-Thu. 11 a.m.-9 p.m.  
Fri. 11 a.m.-11 p.m.  
Sat. & Sun. 12-9 p.m.

**Windjammer Cafe**  
Mon.-Thu. 11 a.m.-9 p.m.  
Fri. 11 a.m.-10 p.m.  
Sat. 5-10 p.m.  
Sun. 5-9 p.m.

**Windjammer Club - 77252**  
Fri. & Sat. 5 p.m. - 2 a.m.

**Windjammer Sports Bar**  
Mon.-Thu. 5-9 p.m.  
Fri. & Sat. 5 p.m.-2 a.m.  
Sun. 5-9 p.m.

**Safe Ride - 84781**

### NAVSTA Main Chapel

**Daily Catholic Mass**  
Tues.-Fri. 5:30 p.m.

**Vigil Mass**  
Saturday 5 p.m.

**Mass**  
Sunday 9 a.m.

**General Protestant**  
Sunday 11 a.m.

**Gospel Service**  
Sunday 1 p.m.

**Christian Fellowship**  
Sunday 6 p.m.

**Iglesia Ni Cristo**  
Sunday 5:30 a.m.  
Room A

**LDS Service**  
Sunday 10 a.m.  
Room A

**Pentecostal Gospel**  
Sunday 8 a.m. & 5 p.m.  
Room D

**Islamic Service**  
Friday 1 p.m.  
Room C

**United Jamaican Fellowship**  
Sunday 11 a.m.  
Room B

**Liturgical Service**  
Sunday 10 a.m.  
Room B

For other services,  
call the Chaplain's  
Office at 2323.

### GTMO Religious Services

**JTF Trooper Chapel**

**Protestant Worship**  
Sunday 9 a.m.

**Bible Study**  
Wednesday 6 p.m.

**Catholic Mass**  
Saturday 5:30 p.m.

For more information,  
contact the JTF  
Chaplain's Office  
at 2305.

	30 FRI	31 SAT	1 SUN	2 MON	3 TUE	4 WED	5 THU
<b>Downtown Lyceum</b>	Adventures of Tintin (NEW) (PG) 7 p.m. The Rum Diary (NEW) (R) 9 p.m.	Footloose (last showing) (PG-13) 7 p.m. New Year's Eve (PG-13) 9 p.m.	No movie: Edwin McCain performs at 7 p.m.	Girl with the Dragon Tattoo (NEW) (R) 7 p.m.	The Thing (last showing) (R) 7 p.m.	The Big Year (last showing) (PG) 7 p.m.	Mission Impossible (NEW) (PG-13) 7 p.m.
<b>Camp Bulkeley</b>	Sherlock Holmes (PG-13) 8 p.m. Girl with the Dragon Tattoo (NEW) (R) 10 p.m.	Mission Impossible (NEW) (PG-13) 8 p.m. The Rum Diary (NEW) (R) 10 p.m.	The Thing (last showing) (R) 8 p.m.	In Time (PG-13) 8 p.m.	The Big Year (last showing) (PG) 8 p.m.	Paranormal Activity 3 (R) 8 p.m.	New Year's Eve (PG-13) 8 p.m.

Call the movie hotline at 4880 or see the MWR GTMO Facebook page for more information.

**Rolling into**

# **2012 At Shutter Speed**

**Zoinks! have you seen the Mystery Machine and other creative vehicles around Guantanamo Bay? -photos by Sgt. 1st Class Jerome Grant and Mass Communication Spe. 1st Class Ty Bjornson**



**See you next year!  
- The Wire staff**