



the Wire

“HONOR BOUND TO DEFEND FREEDOM”

Volume 4, Issue 28

www.nsgtmo.navy.mil/jtfgtmo

Friday, March 26, 2004

BG Hood assumes command of JTF Guantanamo

By SGT Jolene Staker

“A change of command is a special day in any military organization,” said General James Hill, U.S. Southern Command commander. “It not only marks the change in leadership but it also allows us to reflect and recognize the accomplishments of the past and renew our commitment to the future.”

BG Jay Hood, incoming JTF commander, assumed command Wednesday evening in front of troopers proudly displaying their colors.

“I am truly excited – nobody should mistake that – excited to be here and excited, honored, humbled, in fact, to be able to serve each and every man and woman in this task force and each and every American in Guantanamo Bay,” said Hood.

Hood comes to the JTF



Photo by SGT Jolene Staker

MG Geoffrey Miller, former JTF commander (left); General James Hill, U.S. Southern Command commander; and BG Jay Hood, incoming JTF commander, salute while the National Anthem is played during the change of command ceremony.

highly recommended.

“Your new commanding general, Jay Hood, is an outstanding leader who is fully qualified for this unique command opportunity,” said Hill.

“He brings a diverse background in leadership positions both in operations and the international arena.”

Hill cautioned Hood of challenges that he will face.

“This will be a unique leadership opportunity for you with new challenges,” said Hill. “Many you can plan and prepare for; many you simply cannot.”

“I look forward to it and I look forward to the challenges,” said Hood.

“I’m confident that his [Hood’s] leadership and extensive operational experience will arm him with the necessary skills to respond to the challenges of JTF GTMO,” said Hill.

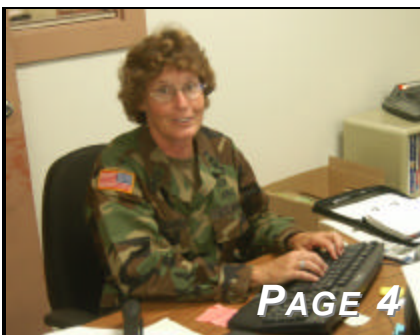
“I’ve had the enormous pleasure to watch Jay Hood command and lead for 20 years. This is an extraordinary leader,” said MG Geoffrey Miller. “There is no one I know who is better qualified or excited about coming down to be a part of this fight.”

Hill challenged Hood to take

See Command on page 3

Inside the Wire ...

STEARNS ‘JUMPS’ INTO WORK



PAGE 4

ON PATROL WITH THE INFANTRY



PAGE 10

CHALOUX IN THE SPOTLIGHT



PAGE 12

Trooper to Trooper

BG Jay Hood joins JTF GTMO

**JTF Troopers,
To MG and Mrs. Miller:**

I would like to extend my thanks to MG and Mrs. Miller for their leadership of the JTF and all their help during our transition. Lynne and I wish them all the best in their future endeavors and remind them that we are here for them if they need us.

To the men and women of Joint Task Force Guantanamo:

I am glad to be a member of such a great joint team. The Soldiers, Sailors, Marines, Airmen, and Coast Guardsmen of this Joint Task Force demonstrate the highest of standards in everything they do every day as they contribute to victory in the Global War on Terrorism. I look forward to serving with each of you and our intra-agency and naval base partners in this critical mission.

And I know that each of us is committed to the sacrifices necessary to defeat the enemies of freedom so that our nation, our families, and our loved ones remain safe. In that mission, we will always remain,

Honor Bound to Defend Freedom.

BG Jay Hood

BG Jay W. Hood, a distinguished military graduate of Pittsburgh State University, was commissioned in the field artillery in 1975. After attending airborne school and the Field Artillery Basic Course, his initial duty assignment was with 1st Battalion, 75th Field Artillery in Bamberg, Germany. Following graduation from the Field Artillery Officers Advanced Course at Fort Sill in 1979, he began his first tour with the 82nd Airborne Division as a fire support officer for 2nd Battalion (Airborne), 508th Infantry, and then served as commander, Battery A, 2nd Battalion (Airborne), 321st Field Artillery.

In 1981, Hood returned to Europe to command Battery D, 1st Battalion (Airborne), 509th Infantry in Vicenza, Italy. He served first as an assistant Secretary of the General Staff at Headquarters, United States Army Europe and Seventh Army, and was later selected as Aide de Camp to CINCUSAREUR.



BG Jay W. Hood
Commander
JTF Guantanamo

Upon his return to the United States in 1987, Hood attended the Army's Command and General Staff College. Hood served at Fort Bragg as the 82nd Airborne Division Artillery S-3 during Operations Desert Shield and Desert Storm, and then as Commander, 3rd Battalion, 319th Airborne Field Artillery Regiment.

Hood then attended the Naval War College in Newport, R.I., earning a master's degree in strategic studies and national security affairs. He then was assigned to the United States Central Command, Plans and Policy Directorate, MacDill AFB, Fla. Following this assignment, he assumed command of the 82nd Airborne Division Artillery in June 1997. In June 1999, Hood assumed duty as chief of staff for the 82nd Airborne Division. Upon promotion to Brigadier General, he assumed duty as chief of staff, operations, for KFOR in October 2001. Hood assumed duties as the assistant division commander (Forward), 24th Infantry Division (Mechanized) and deputy commanding general (South), First United States Army on 23 August 2002.

Hood's awards and decorations include the Bronze Star Medal, Defense Meritorious Service Medal, four awards of the Army Meritorious Service Medal, Army Commendation Medal, Southwest Asia Service Medal with campaign stars and the Master Parachutist Badge.

He is married to Lynne Hood. They have two children.

JTF-GTMO Command

Commander:

BG Jay W. Hood

Joint Task Force CSM:

CSM Angel Febles

Public Affairs Officer:

LTC Leon H. Sumpter

Deputy PAO:

LCDR Robert W. Mulac

70th MPAD Commander:

CPT David S. Kolarik

Command Information Officer / Editor:

CPT Tracy L. Saucy

Circulation: 2,100 copies

The Wire Staff

The Wire NCOIC:

SSG Patrick Cloward

Editor:

SPC Rick Fahr

Staff writers and design team:

SGT Jolene Staker

AF Staff Sgt. Joshua Gorman

SPC Katherine L. Collins

SPC William Ingram

Contact us:

From Guantanamo:

5239/5241 (Local phone)

5426 (Local fax)

From CONUS:

Com: 011-53-99-5239

DSN: 660-5239

Public Affairs Office

Online:

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

The Wire is produced by the 70th Mobile Public Affairs Detachment assigned to the Joint Information Bureau at Joint Task Force Guantanamo. This publication is printed under the provisions provided in Army Regulation 360-1 and does not reflect the views of the Department of Defense or the personnel within.

the JTF to the next level.

“Take this great unit and make it even better,” said Hill. “They deserve it and American people expect nothing less.”

Chaplain Feehan prayed for Hood at the beginning of the ceremony.

“As General Hood takes command, give him a vision for Joint Task Force Guantanamo, empower him with every trait he will need to lead these great troopers to a worthy goal,” said Feehan.

Hood shares with troopers that he will continue to follow the chart that General Miller set.

“That chart is based on two things,” said Hood. “accomplishment of every mission assigned this joint task force and taking care of one another. We will do both together.”

During his final remarks Miller addressed the troopers.

“Troopers on the field you look great,” said Miller. “We can’t predict the future, but it is our privilege to defend it. Thank you for letting me be your coach. Honor bound!”

Hill also had words of encouragement for troopers.

“To the men and women who make up

the Joint Task Force Guantanamo, stand tall and stand proud,” said Hill. “You are on the frontline of defense in the war on terror and you are performing that role magnificently.”

Hood shared final thoughts with JTF Troopers.

“Each one of you should be extraordinarily proud of the professionalism that you demonstrate in this most critical mission for our nation every day,” said Hood. “I look forward to serving with you. Thank you for every thing you do and every day you do it. Honor bound!”



Photos by SGT Jolene Staker, SSG Patrick Cloward, SFC Tom Guminsky

Colors play an important role in the rich tradition of the change of command ceremony

(Below, left) MG Geoffrey Miller, former JTF commander, passed the JTF colors to General James Hill, U.S. Southern Command commander, which signified his relinquishment of command. Hill then passed them to BG Jay Hood, incoming JTF commander, charging him with responsibility of mission accomplishment and welfare of his forces. Hood then passed them to CSM Angel Febles signifying his acceptance of command responsibilities and continuation of the mission.

(Above and below, right) JTF Troopers stand proudly with their colors which show the diversity of the JTF while also showing unity and loyalty.



J-4 supply MSG 'jumps' into her work

By SSG Patrick Cloward

If anyone ever said that MSG Cheryl Stearns has her head in the clouds, they might just be right.

Stearns is an airline pilot ... flying Boeing 757/767s and was originally part of the Army Parachute Team with the United States Special Operations Command. She currently works at the J-4 supply warehouse as the supply first sergeant. Working for the JTF as an augmentee, Stearns considers her six-month deployment as her "Caribbean vacation."

"I've been flying and jumping out of planes for 32 years without a break," Stearns said of her career as the 21 time US women's skydiving champion. "[My duty here] will be rewarding because I'm accomplishing something, but it's a different sort of challenge. None of this is work for me. I can't believe they're paying me to do this."

Stearns describes her life as

one goal after another. But she takes the most pride in being a role model for other women who want to achieve something that might not have been open to them in the beginning. She is the consummate example of what you can do, given enough drive and determination.

Cheryl Stearns is the most decorated skydiver in the world and holds the record for most jumps in 24 hours of any woman in the world. She is the U.S. and world record holder in women's accuracy parachuting and has broken 30 world records. She has more jumps than any other woman in the world; and has held four different world records simultaneously – a feat no man or woman has ever matched.

"Thirty years ago the doors weren't open for competitive skydiving for women," Stearns said. "Of course over the years a lot of things have changed because of what I did and what I was," Stearns said of the tremendous persistence and patience she needed to finally

be accepted on the Army's parachute team, The Golden Knights. "It takes six weeks for tryouts," she said. "Mine was two years long. During the process you have to be selected among 100 people and there were only five slots that year. I had to break barriers and convince people to be on the team. But I didn't just want to be on the team. I came there to be a world champion."

Since winning her first world championship of Style and Accuracy Skydiving in 1978 at age 23, Stearns proved she was still the world's best by repeating as women's champion at the biannual championship 16 years later. Along the way she has also won the overall women's title at the military world championships in 1991, 1995, and 1996.

Stearns is the most successful competitive skydiver in the world.

"Most women [who are parachuting now] aren't at the age I've been in the Army," said Stearns

"Through my military career, I've mostly been on special duty assignments including serving in the National Guard and Reserves."

When she first joined the Army her original skill was working as a photography lab technician, but most of the military has done away with chemical developing.

So for now she works in supply. "They ask why don't I get commissioned," said Stearns. "The bottom line is that all I want to do is jump and give myself back into opening more doors for those who follow me. I want to figure out how to get back on the parachute team as a reservist. So that's why I stayed enlisted, because I wanted to finish my career jumping."



Photo courtesy of www.stratoquest.com

MSG Cheryl Stearns superseded her own lifetime achievements by completing the HALO (High Altitude, Low Opening) World Record Skydive, free falling from 130,000 feet.

Stearns seems far from finishing anything.

A fitness fanatic, she has described an average "jumping day," where she runs five miles, jumps out of planes eight to ten times, does a 30-mile, two-hour outdoor bike ride and then lifts weights for fifteen minutes. If the weather is bad, she works out indoors for at least two hours.

"If I can find a great gym while on the road, I'll work out for three hours if I have nothing else to do," she says. "Of course, I'd prefer to be outside hiking and biking all day, but I'd be a happy camper to just work out all day too."

During her deployment, the JTF benefits from her constant vitality.

"I'm doing a job I've never done in my entire life," said Stearns. "This job has been challenging because there were some difficulties with the way things were done. I came in to fix a broken system and get a working system in place so it can continue on after I leave. I always find something that makes it more challenging."



Photo by SSG Patrick Cloward

MSG Cheryl Stearns, the first woman to compete with the Army parachute team, works as an augmentee for J-4 supply.

NGB CSM visits, encourages JTF troopers



Photo by SPC Katherine L. Collins



Photo by SPC Katherine L. Collins

National Guard Bureau command sergeant major, CSM A. Frank Lever III (left) addresses the JTF's newest graduating Primary Leadership Development Course class. He stressed the importance of shadowing the Army's excellent experienced NCOs and living out the Army values and Soldier's Creed to all service members they lead and with whom they serve. Lever, and (right, standing) Massachusetts Army National Guard state command sergeant major, CSM Richard Belanger, briefly visit with a selection of soldiers from the 1-181st Infantry Regiment. Lever spoke with (left to right, sitting) SPC Brian McCarty,

SGT Scott Boutell, SGT Ronald Bozsar and SPC Christopher Cunningham, focusing on pre-mission training, mission goals, successes and concerns; family and employer support and the unit's redeployment. He encouraged them to closely assess all they have learned from this mission, conducting individual after action reviews when they depart Guantanamo Bay. He also related the challenges they will likely face in regards to their families and employers when redeploying, offering advice on how to overcome them.

Trooper on the Street

By SPC Katherine L. Collins

This week's question: Which line of the Soldier's Creed means the most to you and why?



SGT
M. Todd Wheat,
217th MP Co.

"I am a guardian of freedom and the American way of life.' We must preserve these for the next generation so my daughter can grow up with the same opportunities I've enjoyed."



SPC
Juan Disen,
14th Finance Det.

"I will never accept defeat.' If we gave up so easily, we wouldn't be the free and strong nation we are today, serving as an example to the world."



1LT
David Cox,
216th MP Co.

"I am an American soldier.' It encompasses the rest. When people think of us every line of the creed should come to mind, identifying who we are and all we stand for."



SPC
Scott Menard,
169th MP Co.

"I am a guardian of freedom and the American way of life.' Our sacrifices protect our nation's freedoms for future generations to bear."



SGT
Joseph Ciaramitaro,
384th MP Bn.

"I will never accept defeat.' This mindset has caused our nation and its service members to never give up throughout America's history, making it all it is today."

Febles assumes JTF CSM post



Photo by SPC Rick Fahr



Photo by SFC Tom Guminsky

CSM Angel Febles (at right) assumed responsibility as command sergeant major of JTF Guantanamo at a ceremony Wednesday morning. (Above left) Transferring responsibility to Febles was CSM Stephen Short (left) and MG

Geoffrey Miller (center), former JTF commander. Febles joins the JTF after serving as command sergeant major of the Joint Readiness Training Center at Fort Polk, La.



Photo by SPC Rick Fahr

Mull honored

LTC Henry Mull receives the Defense Meritorious Service Medal from BG Mitch LeClaire, JTF GTMO deputy commander of operations. Mull was the director of intelligence for the JTF.

Chaplain's Corner

The Importance of Little Things

By CH (LTC) Steve Feehan

Sometimes we get the feeling that we are only involved in little things. Someone else accomplishes the big projects. The great opportunities of service are given to someone else. We are left to do the little things.

Never underestimate the importance of little things. As the old saying goes: For lack of a nail, a horseshoe was lost. For

lack of a horseshoe, a horse was lost. For lack of a horse, a leader was lost. For lack of a leader, a battle was lost. For lack of a battle, a war was lost. For lack of a war, a country was lost. All for the lack of a nail.

We need only to be faithful in the things that are ours to accomplish.

Heavenly Bits and Pieces

By CH (MAJ) Daniel Odean

Why not stop trying to figure God out and start trying to figure Him in?

We hear a lot of talk about God and trying to explain Him. The human intellect cannot fully explain God, but, when you surrender your life to Him, then life all of a sudden makes complete sense.

The problem is, we have trouble letting go and letting God in. It's time to surrender.

2 Corinthians 5:17 - "Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation; the old has gone, the new has come!"

2004 Catholic Lenten and Holy Week Schedule

Every Friday of Lent

Stations of the Cross and Benediction
Feb. 27 to Apr. 2 from 6 to 7 p.m.

Tuesday Adult Christian Lenten Series

"How Does Christ Work in the World Today?"
Tuesday at 7 p.m.

Lenten Penance Service

Apr. 5 at 7 p.m.

Holy Thursday

Mass of the Lord's Supper
Apr. 8 at 7 p.m.

Good Friday

Good Friday Service
Apr. 9 at 11:30 a.m. and 7 p.m.

Holy Saturday

Easter Vigil Mass
Apr. 10 at 8 p.m.

Ecumenical Easter Sunrise Service

(Not a Mass)
Apr. 11 at 6 a.m.

Easter Sunday

Mass of the Resurrection
Apr. 11 at 9 a.m.

All services held at the Naval Station Main Chapel



Photo by Staff. Sgt. Joshua Gorman

Spiritual Growth

CH (LTC) Steve Feehan conducts the Sunday morning Protestant worship service here. Some things the service includes are: praise and worship, contemporary spiritual music and the pastoral prayer. The JTF Troopers Chapel Worship Services are held every Sunday with Protestant Worship at 9 a.m. and Catholic Mass at 7:30 p.m.

Women's Bible Study

"Becoming a vessel God can use" –

<><

Join us in fellowship and the study of God's word.

The Bible study will be held at Fellowship Hall every Thursday at 6:30 p.m.

Note: Bible study will not be held the fourth Thursday of each month

For more information, or if transportation is needed, call Joan at ext. 5700

Worship services and Programs:

Alpha Course

A discussion forum designed to answer questions about Christianity. Held at Camp America North, room L001, every Tuesday at 7 p.m.

Soul Survivor

Listen to contemporary Christian music and dynamic preaching. Held at the Club Survivor deck every Wednesday at 7 p.m.

Thursday Ticket

Each week a contemporary movie is played and afterwards, viewers discuss the morals and ethics introduced in the film. Held at Camp America North, room L001, every Thursday at 7 p.m.

GTMO bids MG and Mrs. Miller farewell

By SGT Jolene Staker

Guantanamo Bay residents bid farewell to MG Geoffrey and Pam Miller Tuesday at a luncheon for her and a farewell dinner honoring them both.

Mrs. Miller was recognized for her contributions to the Guantanamo Bay community.

She worked with the American Red Cross and served on its advisory council, the home-school education network, the Protestant Women of the Chapel, Civilian Spouses Organization, spouses seminar committee and was advisor and member of the Hospital Spouses Organization and advisor to the Officer and Civilian Spouses Organization.

On a weekly basis, Mrs. Miller delivered baked goods to the Camp America chapel, checkpoints, various offices and to each incoming JTF trooper.

People representing the NEX joked that they would miss Mrs. Miller's support more than anyone.

MG Miller was recognized for the leadership that he provided to the JTF troopers and civilians. MG Miller has made phrases such as "getting better everyday" and "fight's on" a daily part of JTF life.

Each organization under his command presented him with gifts and tokens of appreciation for the guidance and motivation that he provided while JTF commander.

On his next assignment, MG Miller will continue his part in the global war on terrorism, but those in the JTF assured him that all future accomplishments and successes of the JTF would be in part because of his leadership and the difference he made while serving as the JTF Commander.

Participants in the event said that both MG and Mrs. Miller will be missed at Guantanamo.



(Top) MG Miller and Mrs. Miller wear the "Texas" hats provided for them during the farewell and roast.

(Left center) MG Geoffrey Miller (standing) spoke during the farewell dinner promising that, while they may have to leave Guantanamo, he and Mrs. Miller will take those at GTMO with them in their hearts.

(Right center) Mrs. Miller cuts the cake at the luncheon held at the Bayview Club in her honor where she was recognized for her many contributions to the Guantanamo Bay community including but not limited to the JTF.

(Bottom) Navy Capt. Les McCoy, NAVBASE commander, thanks MG Miller for his service and jokes with him about having more time at sea than any Army general.



Photos by SGT Jolene Staker

Sports highlights

16 teams left in 'Big Dance'; Duke rolling

Compiled by SPC Rick Fahr

From 64 (OK, 65) down to 16, the NCAA Division 1 men's basketball tournament featured just what fans have come to expect from March Madness.

Perhaps the tournament's biggest upset to date came Sunday night as the **University of Alabama-Birmingham** squeaked past No. 1 seed **Kentucky**, 76-75.

Earlier in the day, another SEC power lost as well. **Xavier** dispatched No. 2 seed **Mississippi State** by 15 points, 89-74.

Staying with an SEC theme, **Vanderbilt**, edged No. 3 seed **N.C. State**, 75-73. The Commodores overcame a 10-point deficit with less than three minutes remaining. The Crimson Tide of **Alabama** ousted No. 1 seed **Stanford** on Saturday, winning 70-67.

Shaking things up in the St. Louis region was **Nevada**, which beat **Michigan State** in the first round and ended **Gonzaga's** run (91-72) to earn a berth in the Sweet 16.

Not all underdogs won.

No. 1 seed **Duke** has looked awfully strong, winning its first-round game by 35

and then downing **Seton Hall** by 28 to advance to the next round.

The remaining No. 1 seed, **St. Joseph's**, has earned a Sweet 16 berth, too, beating **Texas Tech** by five points in the second round.

Other than Duke, which team has looked like a Final Four candidate? Look no further than **Eddie Sutton's Oklahoma State Cowboys**, who have won their two games by a combined total of 36 points.

The tournament cranked up again Thursday, with games continuing through Sunday, at which point the Final Four will be set for San Antonio.

Today's games will pit **UAB** and **Kansas**, **Georgia Tech** and **Nevada**, **Duke** and **Illinois** and **Texas** and **Xavier**.

Basketball isn't the only sport hitting an exciting time.

Baseball's spring training is in full swing, with opening day just around the corner.

Who won't be around for the game?

Nomar Garciaparra of the **Boston Red Sox** may well miss some time with an Achilles tendon problem. Teammate **Trot**

Nixon is likely out until May with a herniated disk.

Baltimore Orioles' Mark McLemore will miss six to eight weeks after having surgery on his right knee.

Larry Walker of the **Colorado Rockies** aggravated a groin injury, and his status is uncertain.

St. Louis Cardinals' pitcher Rick Ankiel is still working on an elbow problem and won't be ready until perhaps August.

Not a who, but a what, **Veteran Stadium** in Philadelphia imploded in a cloud of dust Sunday, making way for a parking lot for new **Citizens Bank Park**.

On the racetrack, **Jimmie Johnson's pit crew** gave him an advantage late in the race, and the driver was able to withstand the charging **Bobby Labonte** to win the Carolina Dodge Dealers 400 at Darlington, S.C.

The win boosted Johnson into sixth place in Nextel Cup standings. **Matt Kenseth**, last year's champion, currently leads **Dale Earnhardt Jr.** by 21 points. **Tony Stewart** is third.

Compiled from www.espn.com.

Allegiance to chosen few comes at high cost to fans

By SPC Rick Fahr

FAHR GAME

As the nation watched Thursday night, the Duke Blue Devils demolished Alabama State, 96-61.

The game was the prime-time match-up on opening day of the NCAA Division 1 men's basketball tournament.

When the Blue Devils played on Saturday, their game was the first one to tipoff, and a captive audience endured another thrashing, as Duke thumped Sisters of the Poor or whoever it was.

Instead of the folks running CBS' tournament coverage switching to more competitive games, viewers had no choice but to watch every second of

Duke's games.

I don't have anything against Duke, but I, unlike television executives around the world, haven't sworn allegiance to the Dukies.

It's not just during this tournament — they might as well call it the Duke Invitational — that we're spoonfed a buffet of Durham blue.

Every one of Duke's regular season games seems to be on TV. I'm quite certain I've watched them practice on regional broadcasts. If a trio of Duke players are playing a game of H-O-R-S-E, they'll be

on the tube. OK, maybe ESPN2, but still ...

The Blue Devils aren't the only media darlings.

Baseball's New York Yankees have a similar stranglehold on TV broadcasts.

On a summer weekend with all sorts of intriguing games from which to choose, which game will viewers get to see as the national game of the week? The Yankees against the Tampa Bay Devil Rays. Can't you just cut the tension with a toothpick?

Then there is college football. Lots of networks and conferences have devised exclusive agreements, but one goes beyond making any sense.

The Notre Dame Broadcast

Corp., NBC, forces football fans to endure the Fighting Irish no matter their record (5-7 in 2003) or opponent (Stanford, Syracuse, Navy, Boston College).

On a Saturday when top 25 teams will be playing left and right, NBC stays with the Irish as they get shellacked by the few legitimate teams on their schedule (Michigan, 38-0; Florida State, 37-0).

I understand television networks hitching their wagons to successful programs, but that allegiance can go too far.

Broadcasting the final half hour of a Duke 35-point blowout while Texas Tech and St. Joseph's are battling tooth and nail is doing just that.

Walking more than a mile in infantry boots

By SGT Jolene Staker

It's one thing to do an interview to get information, but this week I had the opportunity to get firsthand experience of how the infantry performs their patrols.

I met members of B Co., 1st Battalion, 181st Infantry Regiment early one morning at their Command Post (CP). The soldiers had already drawn their weapons, and I had brought mine with me – my camera. SGT Scott Boutell, team leader in B Co., 1-181st Regiment ensured that everyone had water and all their equipment.

The patrol members took a few minutes to give me pointers on how to carry my equipment and to warn me of some of the terrain challenges I would be facing.

Boutell then explained the hand signals for the different formations the patrol would use and showed me where to stand for each one.

He gave me the quick rundown that their job was to notice anything that was out of the ordinary. This included boats on the water, airplanes in the sky and people in areas where they were not supposed to be.

We started on the patrol. Just as I was about to decide that patrolling wasn't that hard, I twisted my ankle. Twisted ankles are something the infantryman deal with on a regular basis because of the terrain. I was determined to finish the patrol. That's what an infantryman would do.

We would walk a distance and then stop. Each time we stopped, one patrol member would provide forward security and one would provide rear security. The patrol leader would get with the radio transmitter operator (RTO) and call in to the CP.

While walking, the infantryman diligently look and listen for anything out of the ordinary. If they come across something on the ground they look

at it, first to make sure that they didn't accidentally drop a map or other information and second that it is not evidence of someone being in the area who shouldn't be.

The RTO has the burden of carrying the radio so members of the patrol will switch roles throughout the patrol. This evens the workload as well as breaking up their routine.

I couldn't perform rear or front security since I did not have a weapon, but I was able to call in one time to the CP. I shadowed all positions during the patrol and tried to see through their eyes.

The infantryman already had my respect, but I understand more clearly now what they go through each day to ensure the safety of the JTF.

I went on one leg of the patrol which lasted for about three hours. This is just a small taste of what the infantry do every day.

My next patrol was a mounted patrol. I can't lie and say that I didn't think that the vehicle was a welcome sight.

While on the dismounted patrol infantryman can observe more, the mounted patrol has the advantage of moving faster and covering more ground.

"The challenge is to maintain vigilance and scan your sector," said SPC Robert Medeiros.

Communication is a key part of the patrol. If the patrol members see anything out of the ordinary they call it in to the CP. If the mounted patrol members see something questionable but can't get to it, the dismounted patrol members go check it out. All of the patrols work hand in hand.

Both patrols are also conducted at night. The advantage to these patrols is it is normally cooler at night, and the disadvantage is the lack of visibility.

SPC David Duhart, B Co. 1-181st Inf. Regt. summed up the infantry's mission when he said, "The road we walk is hard, but freedom requires our stride."



(Above) SPC Robert Medeiros of B Company, 1st Battalion, 181st Infantry Regiment is the gunner during a mounted patrol.



(Right) SPC Guillermo Rojas, B Co. 1-181st Inf. Regt. watches and listens during a dismounted patrol. "I like knowing that I am doing something for my country," he said.

(Below) SGT Robert Holmes, B Co. 1-181st Inf. Regt., pulls rear security while the dismounted patrol stops to call in to the command post. "I keep an eye out for anything that is not supposed to be going on," he said. Holmes volunteered out of food service to come to the JTF as an add-on to B Co.

Photos by SGT Jolene Staker



Long history accompanies 169th MP Co. to JTF

By SPC William Ingram

The 169th Military Police Co., founded in 1755, is the oldest unit in the Rhode Island Army National Guard.

Here with JTF Guantanamo, the company's members are maintaining their history of service.

Since its founding, the company has been activated eight times and has seen active service during seven wars. Until 1993, it was based in the town of Westerly but has since moved to Warren. The company was first chartered by the Rhode Island General Assembly during the January session of 1755. Its original name was the Artillery Company in the Towns of Westerly and Charlestown.

Although the unit was not activated during Operation Desert Shield/Storm in 1990-91, several of its members volunteered to serve with the military police units of the Rhode Island Guard that were mobilized.

Their service continues as of today, as unit members serve as augmentees in the global war on terrorism here and in Iraq and Afghanistan.

The 169th MP Co. members, attached to the 217th MP Co., work inside Camp Delta. Troopers of the 169th work beside several units in detainee operations as



Photo by SPC William Ingram

Sergeant Yvette Trapani verifies the flight schedules for upcoming flights for departing troopers.

block NCOs and block specialists. SGT Michael Peacock, a new NCO who just graduated from the Primary Leadership Development Course, received his new responsibility as a block NCO. After serving 13 years in the Army National Guard, Peacock became an MP after serving with the 133rd Engineer Battalion and also serving with the 3-16th Infantry Battalion with an 11-B MOS during his first four years in the military.

Peacock said that taking care of the troopers in his charge and ensuring their safety are his top responsibilities as an NCO.

Peacock takes his civil experience to work every day. That experience includes the ability to read individuals' personalities. He also said that respecting the detainees and expecting respect in return is important.

In his spare time, Peacock goes fishing and to the gym and also does his best to stay in contact with his family and friends.

SSG Yvette Trapani is serving here as part of an inspection team for the Joint Task Force.

As an inspector team member, she ensures that sensitive items are not removed from the island. Several members of the team served in different locations across the island, such as detainee operations inside the wire. The units consist of several detachments in the areas of Rhode Island, Maine and New Hampshire.

"Several augmentees served in Bosnia in 1996 as convoy patrol, ensuring the safety of all soldiers and ensuring law enforcement in Tulza, Hungary, in 2000," said Trapani.

SGT Stephen Dennis of the 169th and another new NCO graduate of PLDC at Guantanamo Bay, began his career in 1994, joining the Marine Corps as a customs inspector.

This is not his first deployment and probably not his last as a soldier for the Army National Guard.

In 1998, he became a transportation specialist. In the beginning of 2003, he went to MP school after the 169th found out he had civilian experience as a state police officer. Shortly afterward, he was deployed to Cuba.

Dennis said that the most important things to remember are to stay focused on the mission and task and to ensure the safety of everyone from detainees to troopers.

"My job is not to cause problems for my soldiers or myself; it is to run the block with professionalism," he noted.

In his spare time, Dennis likes to go to the gym and go fishing. Dennis said that he encourages his troopers to maintain their physical fitness.



Photo by SSG Patrick Cloward

SPC Anthony Wynands shakes hands with MG Reginald Centracchio, adjutant general of Rhode Island, during a recent visit.

15 Minutes of Fame...

With SGT Jason Chaloux, 169th MP Co.

By SPC Katherine L. Collins

SGT Jason Chaloux, of the 169th Military Police Company, enjoys in Guantanamo Bay the same military training and adventure that first appealed to him as a boy. He looks forward to applying his collection of new knowledge to his next 14 years of service as a citizen soldier in Maine.

Q: What inspired you to join the military?

A: I was always drawn to the military for the training and adventure it offers. I joined the Army National Guard right out of high school. That was seven years ago.

Q: Where have you deployed?

A: JTF Guantanamo is my first deployment. I volunteered to come, and I appreciate the training and adventure this mission provides.

Q: What do you recall as your best military experience?

A: In 1998, I was activated to help the state of Maine recover from the effects of a great ice storm in New England. The teamwork I witnessed during that mission was exciting to be a part of and watch.

Q: How has your military service impacted and molded you as a soldier and person?

A: It's taught me to think fast on my feet and to succeed at teamwork. Also, meeting all different kinds of people has tested and improved my ability to adapt.

Q: In what ways has your



Photo by SPC Katherine L. Collins
SGT Jason Chaloux, of the 169th Military Police Company, serves JTF Guantanamo in corrections, augmenting the 217th Military Police Co.

family supported you in your active service?

A: I've been married just a year and a half, so it's hard being away from family. My family often sends letters, keeping me updated with what's going on in the family and back home and saying that they're proud of me.

Q: What is your mission with JTF and your employment back home?

A: Here I work in the wire. Back home I am a guard in the county jail, working minimum to maximum security. My job in corrections as a civilian and as a soldier really compliment each other. What I learn from one I bring to the other.

Q: What goals are you trying to attain while in Guantanamo Bay?

A: Just to take all the knowledge and experience I can from this deployment, to apply to my future missions and to teach others in another time and place. I also hoped to accomplish all the basic soldier skill testing here, such as the ruck march, and to attend [the primary leadership development course]. I have completed all events with success, including PLDC. My other goal was to be promoted, and I did that too.

Q: What has been your greatest challenge here?

A: Just working inside the

wire, because not one day has been the same. Things can change real fast, so you have to be able to quickly adapt as situations change.

Q: What personal strengths do you find benefit you most in this mission?

A: My greatest strength is probably my good communication skills. That's important to have when dealing with those you are guarding and also with your co-workers and subordinates.

Q: What do you do to relax at home and here?

A: Here I usually just e-mail family, work out at the gym or go hang at someone's house to play PlayStation – anything to just get your mind off the day's work. I did try snorkeling a few times, too – that has been an adventure.

Q: What has been most rewarding about this mission?

A: Just knowing that I am serving the United States, protecting freedom.

Q: Looking back on your overall military experience, what makes you most proud to serve?

A: I'd have to say, all the support and encouragement I get from people back home.

Q: What are your plans for when you return home?

A: Initially I plan to relax for two weeks. Then I hope to take part in a state mission that may still be in progress. As for my military career overall, I plan to continue being an MP, and I hope to complete 20 years of service in the Maine Army National Guard.

The GTMO Guide: Answers to Your Questions

Who can help me? What's for lunch? What movie's playing? Where can I find that? How does this work?

Gold Hill Galley to serve troopers, other personnel

After five years of inoperation, Gold Hill Galley has reopened its doors.

Located at Gold Hill, across Sherman Avenue from McDonald's, the galley can accommodate 350 people and will have a separate dining area for senior enlisted personnel and officers. There is also a separate facility for families on Friday nights.

Navy Warrant Officer Ken-

Your guide to ...

Galleys

neth Nall led the effort to reopen the galley, which will replace Quick Hall at Marine Hill. The last meal at Quick Hall was Thursday night.

Starting today, Gold Hill will be serving four meals daily.

Equipment's condition rests with trooper responsibility

By LTC Bruce Medaugh

Computers, video cameras and headsets were identified in recent sensing sessions as an important quality of life issue among JTF troopers. Leadership has responded by installing additional equipment to meet that request. Now it is each trooper's turn to help maintain the equipment and be sure that it is available on an equal basis.

Here's what you can do:

Keep food and beverages away from the computers.

Sign in and respect the posted time limits.

Ensure that headsets and video cameras are handled with care and not removed from the computer room.

If you have a question or any other matter that you can't

Your guide to ...

IG

solve in your chain of command, please feel free to contact the Inspector General.

Each IG team member is ready to assist you with issues you may be experiencing during this deployment.

You may visit the IG office in Room 204 of the Commissions Building Monday through Saturday. The IG phone number is 5399. The Camp America IG office is in Building 7200 and is staffed Monday, Wednesday, Friday afternoons and Tuesday, Thursday, and Saturday mornings. The Camp America Office phone is 3501. IG assistance is available anytime by appointment.

Your guide to ...

Movies

Camp Bulkeley

Fri., March 26

8 p.m. *Scary Movie 3*
PG13 - 83 min

10 p.m. *The Human Stain*
R - 106 min

Sat., March 27

8 p.m. *Stuck on You*
PG - 112 min

10 p.m. *GothiKa*

R - 95 min

Sun., March 28

8 p.m. *The Last Samurai*
R - 144 min

Mon., March 29

8 p.m. *Crime Spree*
R - 99 min

Tues., March 30

8 p.m. *House of Sand & Fog*
R - 126 min

Wed., March 31

8 p.m. *Timeline*
PG13 - 116 min

Thurs., April 1

8 p.m. *Love Actually*
R - 125 min

Downtown Lyceum

Fri., March 26

7 p.m. *Catch that Kid*
PG - 92 min

9 p.m. *Torque*
PG13 - 81 min

Sat., March 27

7 p.m. *The Perfect Score*
PG13 - 93 min

9 p.m. *The Butterfly Effect*
R - 113 min

Sun., March 28

7 p.m. *The Big Bounce*
PG13 - 89 min

Mon., March 29

7 p.m. *Catch that Kid*
PG - 92 min

Tues., March 30

7 p.m. *The Perfect Score*
PG13 - 93 min

Wed., March 31

7 p.m. *My Baby's Daddy*
PG13 - 87 min

Thurs., April 1

7 p.m. *The Big Bounce*
PG13 - 89 min

Army wins hoops contest

Army beat Navy on Saturday in the St. Patty's Day Basketball Extravaganza at G.J. Denich Gymnasium.

After trailing at halftime, Army roared back in the second half to win 70-52.

Swim meet planned

Marine Hill Pool will host a swim meet April 3 at 10 a.m. Sign up day of the meet

For more information, call 2193

Have an event to announce? Contact The GTMO Guide

pao@jftgmo.southcom.mil

Run, race, fun scheduled

Upcoming 5k runs and bike races will give JTF troopers a chance to log some physical training time will competing against their comrades.

A bike race is set for May 2, with a fun ride planned for noon that day to conclude at Windmill Beach. The events will coincide with the quarterly JTF MWR social.

At the **Spring into Spring 5K** run, Todd Collins came in first with a time of 17:51. David Duplin was second, 21:48. Third was Tre Sutherland, 23:38. Amy Ruggero was top female runner.

Another run is set for late April.

Bus stop routes include the following stops. Not all stops are listed.

Sherman Avenue

First Street – :00; :30;
 East Caravella – :03; :33;
 Marine Hill – :05; :35;
 Post Office – :10; :40;
 Windjammer – :11; :41;
 NEX – :14; :44;
 Bulkeley landing – :17; :47;
 Ferry landing – :21; :51;
 Commissions Building – :23; :53;
 Ordnance – :26; :56;
 Bulkeley landing – :28; :58;
 NEX – :32; :02;
 Windjammer – :36; :06;
 Post Office – :37; :07;
 Marine Hill – :41; :11;
 Hospital – :48; :18;
 Windward Loop 1 – :52; :22.



Camp America/NEX

Camp America – :00; :20; :40;
 NEX trailer – :02; :22; :42;
 Camp Delta 2 – :06; :26; :46;
 TK 4 – :12; :32; :52;
 TK 1 – :16; :36; :56;
 Windjammer/Gym – :23; :43; :03;
 NEX – :30; :50; :10;
 Windjammer Gym – :35; :55; :15;
 TK 1 – :40; :00; :20;
 TK 4 – :46; :06; :26;
 Camp Delta 1 – :52; :12; :32;
 Camp Alpha – :00; :20; :40.

Combat stress ready to solve problems

The Combat Stress Team's main office is located at Building 3206 in Camp America. Hours are 8:30 a.m. until 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday, and 8 a.m. until 2 p.m. on Saturdays. KB JAS hours are 8:30 a.m. until noon, Monday through Friday.

Personnel are on call after duty hours by pager; dial 4084,

page 2337.

In an emergency, go to the NAVAL Hospital or to the JAS.

Combat stress services include walk-in consultations and triage, brief solution-focused therapy, crisis intervention, roommate contracting, anger management, command consultation and suicide awareness and prevention.

Deployment Cycle Support Program

is open to troopers within 90 days of redeploying.

The next class is April 6-9.

Supervisors should call J-3 at 5040

to sign troopers up.



Catholic

Main Chapel

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

Protestant

Main Chapel

Mon.	7 p.m.	Prayer Group Fellowship*
Tue.	7 p.m.	Men's Bible Study*
Wed.	9:30 a.m.	Sunday School
Thurs	11 a.m.	Service/Sunday School
	6:30 p.m.	Women's Bible Study*

* Fellowship Hall located in Chapel Complex

Camp America

Mon.	7 p.m.	Passion Study
Tues	7 p.m.	Alpha
Wed.	7 p.m.	Soul Survivor (Club Survivor)
Sun.	7:30 a.m.	Christian Worship
	9 a.m.	Protestant

New Life Fellowship

Sun.	1 p.m.	Service (Main Chapel)
------	--------	-----------------------

Pentecostal Gospel

Sun.	9 a.m.	Service (Sanc C)
	5 p.m.	Service (Sanc C)

Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints

Sun.	9 a.m.	Sanctuary A
------	--------	-------------

Islamic

Fri.	1 p.m.	Classroom 12, Chapel Complex
------	--------	------------------------------

Jewish

Call 2323 for more information

Camp America Church Bus schedule:

Sun.	8:15 a.m.	Tierra Kay
------	-----------	------------

The bus will return following worship.



Today: Lunch – BBQ beef cubes; Dinner – ribeye and crab legs.

Saturday: Lunch – fried catfish;
 Dinner – veal parmesan.

Sunday: Lunch – roast pork loin;
 Dinner – creole macaroni.

Monday: Lunch – lemon baked fish;
 Dinner – creole pork chops.

Tuesday: Lunch – beef pot pie;
 Dinner – chicken fajita.

Wednesday: Lunch – pineapple chicken; Dinner – beef stir fry.

Thursday: Lunch – Mexican baked chicken; Dinner – beef stroganoff

Friday: Lunch – fish almandine; Dinner – T-bone and lobster.

