



the Wire

“HONOR BOUND TO DEFEND FREEDOM”

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Friday, April 9, 2004

Infantry soldiers work toward Expert Infantry Badge

By SGT Jolene Staker

Many infantry soldiers of the 1st Battalion, 181st Infantry Regiment will attempt to earn the Expert Infantry Badge (EIB) during April.

“It is a badge of honor, quite clearly,” said MAJ Francis Magurn, battalion executive officer.

In 1944 the Army established that the EIB would be awarded to infantryman who “attained the standards of proficiency awarded by the War Department.”

“This was the start of the process which we continue today,” said MAJ George Harrington, battalion operations officer. “A process to foster pride and esprit de corps.”

Soldiers trying for the EIB have already met strenuous prerequisites, including scoring 210 on their physical training test, scoring expert with



Photo by SGT Jolene Staker

SFC James Sypher, C Co., EIB instructor of 1st Battalion, 102nd Infantry Regiment out of Connecticut, shows soldiers the correct way to prepare the M136 (AT4) Launcher for firing and perform misfire procedures.

their personal weapons, performing a 12-mile ruck march and passing both night and day land navigation courses. Mortarmen also have to score expert on the gunner’s exam.

In addition to scoring a 210 on their physical training test, soldiers must ensure that they get a minimum of 70 in each event.

The ruck march is performed while carrying a 35-pound rucksack, wearing LBV, protective mask and Kevlar. To pass, soldiers must complete 12 miles in under three hours, which requires a faster pace than the JTF ruck march for twice the distance.

For the day land navigation course, soldiers receive grid coordinates that they must first plot on the map, walk the lane and find the posted sign and write down the numbers.

See Badge on page 4

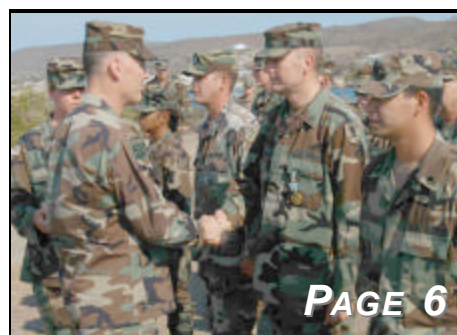
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Trooper to Trooper

Challenges remain for JTF GTMO 4

Our activity level has increased ten-fold in the past few weeks and you can expect it to maintain the same momentum in the months to come. Our new command team is now in place. BG Hood brings a wealth of experience and knowledge to the command and CSM Febles is the epitome of a senior NCO. Under their leadership and guidance we can expect the Joint Task Force to continue to flourish. In the near future we will begin a new rotation. I was pleased to welcome my replacement BG Tom Sullivan last week and introduce him to the Joint Task Force. BG Sullivan is assistant division commander for support, 42nd Infantry Division. His experience and knowledge will significantly compliment the command team.

We also need to concentrate upon individual training activities. CTT, weapons qualification and APFT are a few that come to mind. Remember, these are requirements not suggestions. Every first line leader needs to take charge and insure that their troopers have completed these requirements. Once completed to standard, the focus will shift to decompression, health screening and right seat/left seat ride.

Many of us are watching with interest the troopers of the 1st Battalion, 181st Infantry Regiment as they begin their quest for the Expert Infantry Badge. This grueling event is preceded by a qualification round consisting of APFT, weapons qualification, land navigation and a 12-mile ruck march. (See cover



BG Mitch LeClaire
Deputy Commander
JTF GTMO Operations

story) The requirements are enormous and the dedication necessary to earn the EIB is extraordinary. Not for the faint of heart this award is prestigious and represents performance to the highest standard. Good luck to our infantry brethren.

The importance of providing continuity is now evident. Preparing our successors to assume their responsibilities will be critical.

Although we anticipate a smooth transition it is important that we don't lose focus with the mission set at hand. There remains much work to be done and not paying attention to detail during these critical times can result in disaster. The final stages of GTMO 4 are fraught with opportunities for things to go wrong. So, stay focused leaders!

Honor bound.

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Federal income taxes due Thursday

A help center in Camp America has a talented staff of tax preparers who are doing tax returns for troopers. Most troopers are done in a half hour and see their refund in less than 10 days. The service will continue through April 19.

For more information on the tax center or other legal issues, call 3561.

Brothers unexpectedly reunited for JTF mission



Photos by SGT Jolene Staker



SSG Freddie Greene (above) of the 258th Military Police Company runs on the treadmill in Bulkeley Hall gym.

Top: SSG Freddie Greene (left) of the 258th Military Police Company and SGT Kenneth Piggee of the 216th Military Police Company play a game of dominoes. This is just one of the many ways that they like to spend the extra time they get. Piggee credits Greene with motivating him to join the military and ultimately making it possible for them to have their reunion. Both brothers agree that having each other has made this deployment easier and more meaningful.



SGT Kenneth Piggee of the 216th Military Police Company shines his boots in preparation for his shift in the wire.

By SGT Jolene Staker

After a ten year span, two brothers reunited at Fort Dix, N.J., while preparing to come to Guantanamo.

SSG Freddie Greene of the 258th Military Police Company and CPL Kenneth Piggee of the 216th Military Police Company make an effort to maximize the time they have together while at Guantanamo.

"I spend as much time with my brother as I possibly can," said Piggee.

The brothers spend their time together listening to music, watching movies, playing card games and dominoes and cooking out.

Greene laughs when telling the story of their reunion.

The brothers had been at Fort Dix for a week, living in barracks across the street from each other and eating in the same dining facility, without running into one other.

It wasn't until Piggee and some friends happened to stop by Greene's barracks to visit someone that the two brothers ran into each other.

Piggee was the first to recognize his brother.

"He was looking at me like I owed him money," said Greene. Piggee had told someone else that Greene was his brother. That person then took Piggee's identification card and read his name out loud.

After hearing that, Greene said, "That's my brother."

It took less than two minutes for them to find out that they were both coming to Guantanamo Bay, Cuba.

Finding out that his brother would be with him on the mission changed Piggee's whole perspective.

"At first I thought, if we've got to do it, let's do it and get done with it," said Piggee.

"After finding out my brother would be with me, my attitude became much more positive, and I came to the mission saying 'I can do

this,'" said Piggee.

One of the first things Greene did after seeing Piggee was to call their mother. The family had not seen Piggee in almost 10 years.

"I was preoccupied," said Piggee. "I went to live my own life and then ran into a few snags, but I got it together just in time."

Piggee arrived at Guantanamo first, and the first thing Greene did when he landed was to find him. "It's fun having him here," said Piggee. "I miss my wife and kids, but my brother helps with that. It makes it easier to cope because I've got someone I can talk too."

Greene and Piggee agree that they got busy with life and work while living in separate states and lost touch with what was important – family. With a total of nine siblings in the family, it can be quite a task to keep up with the five brothers and four sisters, but the brothers have agreed to do a better job.

Greene said, "I met his wife over the Internet, and I introduced her to my wife. They e-mail each other and are making plans to get together."

The brothers say they are thankful that they've had this opportunity to reunite and reconnect.

Piggee credits his brother for inspiring him to join the military.

"I joined the military because of my brother," said Piggee. "He would come home on leave happy, because he'd found something he liked doing that meant something."

This is not the first time these brothers have been reunited through the military. Two brothers, one sister and two uncles were reunited during tours in Germany. They were all located in different places, but they managed to get together.

Greene also ran into another younger brother and was stationed with him for almost a year at Fort Carson, Colo.

Badge from page 1

The night land navigation course is more difficult. Soldiers are given only a direction and distance to navigate in the dark. They do not use night vision goggles, and they are not allowed to use a map, which means they cannot use terrain association.

“The EIB cannot be achieved without a certain amount of commitment – both physical and mental – by the soldier to take everything a step beyond,” said Magurn.

Soldiers must complete a checklist of 33 tasks, including providing first aid, employing various weapon systems and reacting to a chemical/biological attack.

“Soldiers are not allowed many mistakes,” said MSG Martin Litwiller, battalion intelligence sergeant and EIB NCOIC of Headquarters Company, 1-181st Inf. Regt. “Tasks are timed and have to be done in sequence and almost perfectly.”

“The testing standards are above what would be considered [Common Tasks Training] standards,” said Magurn. “It shows that not only is this soldier tactically and technically proficient, but he also has a certain amount of heart or a certain degree of will that carries him above and beyond the standards that other soldiers perform.”

SFC James Sypher, C Co., EIB instructor of 1st Battalion, 102nd Infantry Regiment out of Connecticut, does not apologize for the tough standards that he ensures at his stations.

“It’s not an average infantry badge, it is an Expert Infantry Badge,” said Sypher. “It takes someone special who can manage his anxiety and perform under stress. ... These guys need to know how to act under stressful situations. When they are called to fight, they will have to think under pressure.”

Those who pass the EIB will be recognized by the long rifle above their U.S. Army patch on their uniform. Many who see that will at least recognize those soldiers are infantryman, but those who understand the EIB will know it represents more.

“The EIB is a showcase for an infantry soldier. It shows he is able to do all infantry tasks proficiently and is in shape,” said CSM Gregory Hurlburt, command sergeant major of 1-181st Inf. Regt.

“The EIB represents that a soldier has mastered his chosen profession. His example inspires other soldiers to increase their knowledge of infantry tasks,” said Harrington.

“It’s a great hooah thing that we get a chance to do this in Guantanamo,” said Hurlburt.



Photos by SGT Solene Staker



Top: SPC Jeffrey Chartier of B Co., 1-181st Inf. Regt. qualifies on the M-16 range. Any soldier who wants to test for the EIB must qualify expert.

Center: SSG Keith Johnson of C Co., 1-181st Inf. Regt. completes his day land navigation course required to test for the EIB.

Bottom: (left to right) SPC Michael Burns, SPC Todd Collins, SSG Jeremy Bloniasz, 1LT Mark Gillen and SGT James Soto of A Co., 1-181st Inf. participate in a ruck march to help prepare them for the 12-mile ruck march required to test for the EIB.



Staying battle-focused takes work

By SPC Katherine L. Collins

Now that many JTF troopers are over the halfway point of their Guantanamo deployment, remaining mission focused is a greater challenge, but a task more important than ever. The keys are, first, aim to successfully complete the mission and return to a strong support system at home and, second, reduce deployment stress.

CSM Stephen Short, JTF camp commandant, offered guidance for anticipating mission completion while focusing on the goals and tasks at hand.

"To begin with, troopers need to start thinking about how they will train their replacements when they arrive. They may even want to start jotting down tips for carrying out their mission (not shortcuts, but the right way to do things)," he said. "By concentrating on the pleasant duty of training a 'replacement,' troopers stay mission-focused because they must re-energize their minds as to how best to fulfill their duties."

Short also warned against the dangers of becoming too lax, explaining that it can be more detrimental at the end of a deployment than the beginning and affect life beyond Guantanamo and even the military.

According to Lillie Johnson, a licensed social worker and counselor at the Fleet and Family Support Center (FFSC), a vital part of remaining mission-focused is effectively communicating with family, employers and unit command back home and chain-of-

command here, keeping them updated on your current status, needs and future plans.

"Knowing that you are communicating in those significant personal and professional relationships will help reduce the stress and, therefore, help you stay focused on the remainder of your mission," assured Johnson.

As for coping with stress, Johnson explained that the way to avoid being swallowed up by deployment pressure is to proactively "develop and maintain a stress management plan specifically tailored to your needs." Servicemembers should develop a plan prior to coming to or upon arriving in Guantanamo Bay. If they do not, they should develop one "as soon as possible," she said, for "things become more stressful as the time to leave this assignment approaches."

Johnson explained that some stress is experienced from living with the unknown during deployments. She offers suggestions for handling this uncertainty.

"Dealing with the unknown requires positive self-talk. You do not need to know everything in order to fulfill the mission. Stay positive. Tell yourself you will be OK," she said. "We cannot control the situation, but we can control our behavior, how we work through what comes our way, what we say to ourselves and how we manage ourselves."

Johnson also explained that one way to help manage stress is to address issues as they arise.

"Problems will not 'magically disappear' if ignored. Deal with issues appropriately and in a timely manner. Don't let them build up because a situation might get out of hand and, consequently, that will increase your stress level," she said.

Short suggested in regard to handling stress, "Troopers should continue their normal routine of work, physical training and relaxation, avoiding the temptation to be lulled into what I call 'senioritis.' Leaders are important here in maintaining the pace of excellence for their troopers." He added, "Our troopers must, at all costs, avoid the temptation of 'letting go.' An Article 15 action at the end of the tour can be just as damaging to one's career (if not more) than at the beginning of the tour."

Johnson also offered a few tips for how unit leadership can ensure troopers stay mission focused.

"If you see that one of your soldiers is having difficulties at home or within the unit, invest in his/her well being for the benefit of the soldier and the mission: Talk to the soldier and make arrangements for him/her to seek counseling; the sooner, the better," she said. "If they are facing financial hardship, relationship/communication problems, anger, unemployment or other issues, be aware of the assistance that is available to them."

For further guidance in remaining mission-focused or for other counseling call the FFSC at 4141, the combat stress team at 3566 or the JTF chaplaincy at 3202.



Photo by SGT Jolene Staker

Standing ready

Navy Lt. Tom Judy (left) and CPT Kraig Kvalevog are among the personnel at Kittery Beach and Camp America Joint Aid Stations who stand ready to help troopers with their medical needs.

Judy has a master's degree in sports medicine and primary care, and Kvalevog has a master's in emergency medicine and primary care.

For information on hours of operation, call 3496.



Troopers honored

Several JTF troopers were honored recently for their work and commitment. WO1 Rey Zuniga (above left) re-enlisted with the 258th Military Police Company. WO1 Renee Riley and CPT Stewart Robbins (above, right) received the Defense Meritorious Service Medal and Joint Service Commendation Medal, respectively, for their service to JTF Guantanamo. SGT Jeff Wells (at right, second from right) and SPC Mickey Miller (right) received the Joint Service Commendation Medal for producing the latest JTF "Faces of Freedom" video presentation. JTF Commander BG Jay Hood presented the awards at a ceremony Monday.



Chaplain's Corner

Giving as God Gives

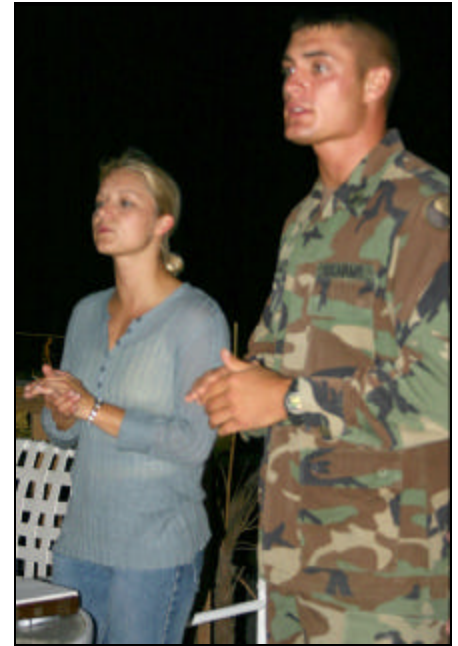
By CH (LTC) Steve Feehan

We are in the midst of the Easter season, a time when we remember the greatest gift ever given. It reminds me of O. Henry's marvelous short story, "The Gift of the Magi," that we normally tell at Christmas time.

You know the story, but it won't hurt to be reminded. There was a young couple named Jim and Della. They both wanted to share a special Christmas gift with each other. They loved each other dearly, but they were quite poor. Each had one unique possession. Della's hair was her glory. It was quite long and a beautiful shade of brown. Jim's prized possession was a gold watch passed on to him from his father. It

was the day before Christmas and Della had all of \$1.87 to spend. Out of love for her husband, she had her hair cut and sold it for \$20.00. She purchased a platinum chain for Jim's prized watch. In the meantime Jim sells his precious watch to purchase a set of expensive combs for Della's lovely hair. Each gives the other all he or she has to give. Each holds nothing back. Each gives, not out of a cold calculating sense of duty, but out of the extravagance of love--the same kind of love Jesus poured out on Calvary.

"Greater love hath no man than this, that a man lay down his life for his friends."
John 15:13



Photos by AF Staff. Sgt. Joshua Gorman

Heavenly Bits and Pieces

Faith honors God, and God honors faith

By CH (MAJ) Daniel Odean

Life is a walk of faith – everyday. We don't know what is in store for us any given day, but by living your faith and trusting in

God, you are pleasing God, and God in turn rewards and honors you!

Hebrews 11:6 - "And without faith it is impossible

to please God, because anyone who comes to him must believe that he exists and that he rewards those who earnestly seek him."

Chaplain Bulletins

Good Friday

Good Friday Service Apr. 9
Protestant service at 7 p.m., Catholic service 8:30 p.m. at Troopers Chapel

Easter Vigil Service

Apr. 10 at 6 p.m. at Troopers Chapel

Easter Sunrise Service

Apr. 11 at 6:30 a.m. between Seaside Galley and the sea

Resurrection Run

A 5-K fun run will be held Apr. 12, starting at 6:30 a.m. It begins at the base gym and ends at the Iguana Crossing Coffee House on Chapel Hill.

The first 100 participants to sign up will receive a t-shirt. For more information or to volunteer to help out, call 2323 or 2843.

Worship services and programs:

Alpha Course

A discussion forum designed to answer questions about Christianity. Held at Camp America North 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 moral and ethics introduced in the film. Held at Camp America North North, room L001, every Thursday at 7 p.m.

Sing-along

SGT Christine Kowalski and SGT Jamie Bour-gault sing along to the music at Soul Survivor on Wednesday.

2004 Catholic Lenten and Holy Week Schedule

Good Friday

Good Friday Service
Today 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

Iron Mike performs

Members of Iron Mike, an Army rock band from Fort Benning, Ga., performed several concerts this week in Guantanamo, including two events at Club Survivor. Band members are SSG Stephen Spohn, SGT Patrick Close, SGT Jeffrey Dudzienski, SGT Joseph Nagele, CPL Grant Henderson, SPC John Hanpadungvongs, SPC Alfonso James, SGT Rebecca Petrie and SFC Steven Baxter.

Photos by SPC Rick Fahr



LTG Inge visits

LTG Joseph R. Inge (second from right), commanding general of the First U.S. Army, recently visited JTF Guantanamo, where he met with troopers and JTF leadership.

Photo by SPC Katherine L. Collins

Sports highlights

Huskies take NCAA crown; baseball begins

Compiled by SPC Rick Fahr

The pollsters got one right.

Chosen as the top men's college basketball team in many preseason polls, the **Connecticut Huskies** dominated Monday night's NCAA championship game against **Georgia Tech**.

The 82-73 final score doesn't reflect the ease with which the Huskies cruised to the title. Standouts **Emeka Okafor** and **Ben Gordon** led the way for UConn.

Hounded by steroid allegations in the offseason, **Barry Bonds** found solace on the diamond this week as the 2004 Major League Baseball season began.

The **San Francisco Giants**

slugger homered on Opening Day, helping the Giants beat **Houston**, 5-4.

If Bonds is picking up where he's left off in prior seasons, **Boston Red Sox ace Pedro Martinez** may see his best years in his rearview mirror.

During Sunday night's opener, Martinez's fastball was virtually a middle-speedball, hovering at 85 mph instead of his usual mid-90s fire. Worse, his pitches had little movement, as evidenced by the fact that opposing batters swung at and missed a total of seven pitches in six innings.

Are the same people who voted in the basketball poll voting in the preseason baseball polls?

If so, look for the **Chicago**

Cubs to win the World Series.

Many experts have the Cubs slotted to represent the National League in the fall classic. Opinions vary regarding who might take the American League pennant, but the Red Sox have a number of media believers.

With playoff positioning in full swing for NBA teams, some of the names at the top of the power rankings come as surprises.

The **Los Angeles Lakers** have had all the hype for various on- and off-the-court issues, but they can manage only a No. 2 ranking. The top spot goes to the **San Antonio Spurs**, who have won more than two out of every three games this season.

In third are the **Detroit Pis-**

tons, followed by the **Indiana Pacers**, despite Indiana's better record.

Rounding out the top 10 are the **Minnesota Timberwolves**, **Sacramento Kings**, **Memphis Grizzlies**, **Dallas Mavericks**, **Denver Nuggets** and **Utah Jazz**.

With the NFL draft just around the corner, names at the top of many teams' wish lists have solidified.

Wide receiver **Larry Fitzgerald** seems a lock as the top pick, followed by quarterback **Eli Manning** and wide receiver **Roy Williams**. Rounding out the top five prospects are safety **Sean Taylor** and offensive tackle **Robert Gallery**.

Compiled from www.espn.com

Where do these alarm clocks come from? 'Wake the Dead Outlet?'

By SPC Rick Fahr

No, that was not a nuclear alarm siren going off at 3 this morning.

That was my roommate's alarm clock.

Yes, it did shake the hooch every seven minutes for nearly a half hour.

That's what that spiteful snooze button's for.

I'm not exactly sure where these alarm clocks come from. (Wake the Dead Clock Outlet? "If you sleep through this alarm, you must be dead!") Alarms that simulate pinging jet engines seem like overkill to me, especially when they're sending shock waves bouncing off the hooch walls in the middle of the night but failing miserably in their attempt to roust the object of their wailing.

Chickens probably fall off their perches when these things go off. "What the?" I can

FAHR GAME

almost hear them say or chirp or however it is chickens make noise when startled at 3 a.m.

How, you may ask, can anyone sleep through a grating noise that makes seismographs in Florida tick? I have no idea. I know I can't. But my roommates can, and they do. Maybe there is some weird subtraction by addition thing going on. The incessant beeping of the alarm drowns out someone else's snoring.

Of course, my roommates are not the only noise-impaired people on this island.

There are the folks next door, whose television apparently only has two volumes – "off" and "general quarters." Their CD player must have a similar setup.

No doubt, our hooches did-

n't exactly come with music studio soundproofing. That's why I can lie in bed and hear stereo broadcasts – our television in one ear and theirs in the other. It's confusing to hear Emeka Okafor driving for a dunk only to be attacked by "The Crippler" Chris Benoit, who hits him over the head with a folding metal chair.

Then there are the folks who don't quite grasp the fact that sound travels. A slamming door on one side of the hooch sounds pretty much like a slamming door on the other end. Odd, I know.

Could be that I'm just too sensitive to noise these days.

Maybe I'm getting too sensitive about other things, too.

Like ...

Roommates who buy rope, climbing spikes and rappelling equipment to climb over mountains of trash rather than dropping a bag or two off at the dumpster

they walk by every day.

Roommates who believe that Gatorade magically shows up in the refrigerator for them to consume at will or that toilet paper grows in the little holder thingy.

Roommates who somehow are under the impression that a housecleaning service will be by any day to sweep, mop and scrub the latrine.

Living conditions at Camp America North put six people in one room and in close proximity to dozens of others. No doubt, consideration of others is one personality trait that needs to be present in large quantities. If we all live that Army value of selfless service and think about others a little, daily life will be easier for us all.

And then if we could just figure out how to turn the volume down on some of those alarm clocks ...

JTF Headquarters completes ruck march



Photos by SGT Jolene Staker

JTF Headquarters troopers completed a six-mile road march last week as part of a team-building exercise. Among those participating were: (clockwise from top left) SGT Heather Best of the 177th Military Police Brigade and BG Mitchell LeClaire, JTF deputy commander of operations; SSG Kimberly Dawson of the 177th MP Bde.; Air Force Staff Sgt Dominic Hollingsworth (from left), Senior Airman David Magee and SFC Darren Park of the 177th Bde.; and SPC David Bracho of the 384th Military Police Battalion.



J1 staff provides JTF with administrative support

By AF Staff Sgt. Josh Gorman

Joint Task Force Guantanamo troopers spanning all the branches of the U.S. military, from all over the world, have joined together here in Guantanamo Bay to serve their country and perform their duty.

One section that supports JTF Guantanamo is J-1, or the headquarters and administrative and personnel section, which handles everything from leaves and passes to awards and decorations, and even the postal services supplied here.

Air Force 2nd Lt. Crystal Rowley, Chief of the Joint Personnel Reception Center said it is her team's responsibility to ensure 100 percent accountability of all JTF troopers.

"In addition, the Joint Personnel Reception Center runs the in and out processing actions for JTF personnel including, but not limited to: reception of service members, initiating replacement and/or extension actions, coordinating in-processing briefings, and the

distribution of meal cards," said Rowley.

Rowley is deployed here from McChord Air Force Base, Wash., where she serves as the chief of the personnel readiness unit.

The personnel readiness unit is responsible for obtaining individuals to fill slots for all deployment taskings received for the base, she said. It's also responsible for cutting all contingency, exercise and deployment orders for individuals deploying from the base.

In her free time here at JTF Guantanamo, Rowley said she tends to use the base fitness facilities more than anything else, adding that she has set some high fitness goals for herself while she is here.

In-processing of troopers is the initial part of J-1, however, the out-processing involves other J1 agencies services.

SGT Christine Kowalski, personnel services NCO for J-1, is assigned to the JPRC, which provides various services to troopers.



Photo by AF Staff Sgt. Joshua Gorman
Air Force 2nd Lt. Crystal Rowley looks over her daily report to ensure accountability of all JTF troopers here. Rowley is deployed here from McChord Air Force Base, Wash.

"I provide administrative support to the Joint Task Force by reviewing and processing evaluation reports for the Army, Air Force, Marine, and Coast Guard personnel when a report is required," she said.

There are more than 2,000 Joint Task Force personnel and the majority require a report before departing Guantanamo; evaluations are the prime focus of my duty day, she said, adding that evaluation management includes training JTF staff on evaluation regulations, policies, and procedures.

SGT Kowalski is an administrative specialist assigned to the 177th Military Police Brigade from Taylor, Mich., who has been deployed here since August 2004.

"My military job back home isn't all too different than it is here, with three exceptions," she said. "The population of service members to whom I provide support there is a whole lot smaller, it consists of Army personnel only, and the prime focus of my duty was

award review and processing, not evaluations."

In her spare time, Kowalski said she has taken a speech class with the City Colleges of Chicago, and enjoys cooking dinner, going to the beach, and watching movies with her family of friends here.

Among Rowley's JPRC staff is Air Force Staff Sgt. Zar Manabat, who deployed with her from McChord AFB.

Manabat deals with replacement issues and strength accountability.

"We have visibility of every individual in the JTF," he said, adding, it means they know what peoples jobs were when they arrived here, so they know when they are supposed to leave.

The J-1 staff here brings incoming Soldiers, Marines, Sailors, Airmen, and Coast Guardsmen into the JTF environment, and ensures accountability while providing administrative and personnel support services until they return home to their families.



Photo by SGT Jolene Staker
SGT Christine Kowalski marches to turn in her weapon during Friday's ruck march. Kowalski is the personnel services NCO for the J-1 and is deployed here with the 177 Military Police Brigade from Taylor, Mich.

15 Minutes of Fame...

With SPC Kyle Mostad, J-1

By SPC Katherine L. Collins

Drawn to the military, in part, for its explosions and adventure, SPC Kyle Mostad has begun his own service with a bang. Joining the Army Reserves two years ago as a junior in high school under the split training option, he deployed to Guantanamo Bay just four days after returning from his advanced individual training. Mostad appreciates his JTF experience for its source of growth and pride.

Q: What inspired you to join the military?

A: The sounds I heard from the National Guard range behind my house first interested me in the military, along with my two uncles who served, especially the one that was a command sergeant major. I then joined the Army because it was also the only way I could afford to go to college.

Q: In what ways has your family supported you in your military service?

A: My parents were nervous at first in letting me join, worrying about me going somewhere like Afghanistan, but they signed the papers and have been behind me 100 percent ever since. They e-mail and write me a lot here, keeping me updated.

Q: What was your initial reaction when you learned that you were deploying to Cuba?

A: Going to Cuba was a shock. Aside from the four-day notice, I had never really heard of Guantanamo Bay. I was disappointed about deploying at first, because I was looking forward to starting college. I was nervous at first, too, not knowing what the mission, culture and people I served with would be like. I did adjust well to the experience here though, and I know now that it is good I am serving on a deployment that I can learn and grow from before starting college.

Q: How has this deployment impacted and molded you as a soldier and person?

A: It's made me much more confident and outgoing, and disciplined and responsible. I came right from high school to having responsibilities here, that a higher rank usually has, and that carry heavy fines and time



Photo by SPC Katherine L. Collins

SPC Kyle Mostad, works in J-1 with Montana's 747th Postal Detachment, rotating his services between the post offices at Camp America, where he serves customers, and McCalla Hanger, where he sorts mail, as seen here. He hopes to also perform the postal duties inside Camp Delta at least once for the experience.

in prison if not performed right. The mission's definitely made me more patient and independent. This is my first real time away from home, a small town where I've known everyone all my life.

Q: What has been your greatest challenge here in Guantanamo?

A: Living with all different personalities. You need to try to be yourself without offending others and have patience with letting others be themselves. You need to not take others and yourself so seriously. It's hard when you start out as strangers – from different types of backgrounds, such as north versus south and country versus city. I am from a small town with barely 2,000 people, and I went to school with the same people for 12 years. So life here was a shock and adjustment. It's great though to learn about people from all different cultures around the country – seeing how they talk and do things and what they do for fun. It's been a challenge but most rewarding too.

Q: What goals have you set for yourself while here?

A: I'd like to get in better shape and become more outgoing, being able to make friends no matter who they are. I want to

learn all I can from my leadership too, as a soldier and person. I also hope to prepare better for starting college and continuing my military career. This mission is making me more disciplined, and maybe I'll learn something that will guide me better as far as what I want to study in college and do in the Army.

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

A: At home I play paintball with my friends a lot, enjoy family dinners each week and pal around with my little brother. I hunt, and I fish with my dad and step-dad often, too – sometimes we all go. Cuba is a lot different from Montana. I wanted to learn how to scuba dive, but I really can't afford it. I have enjoyed learning to snorkel and kneeboard though. Other than that, I just relax, watching movies and stuff, or go to the gym.

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

A: After 9/11, putting on the uniform took on a whole new meaning. The pride and appreciation I see in people at home is great. I was the only person in my graduating class who joined the military. So, in a way, I feel like I represent my town. I also feel good knowing I'm securing a future for my two brothers. The older is real proud, looking up to me. On Halloween he dressed up as me in camouflage, wearing my nametag. That makes me proud.

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

A: Immediately, I plan to see all my buddies, hoping to visit one friend in Las Vegas and go to a NASCAR race there or in California. I'll also spend lots of time with my family and doing outdoor stuff. Long term, I want to start focusing on college. My plan is to obtain a degree in something general, like business, then apply to the FBI academy, unless something I experience inspires me to pursue another career. I'd really like to work with the Drug Enforcement Agency. I plan to continue my service in the reserves too, likely re-enlisting when the time comes. Joining, I wanted to be a helicopter mechanic, but no slots were available. Now I'm looking at maybe becoming an MP.

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?

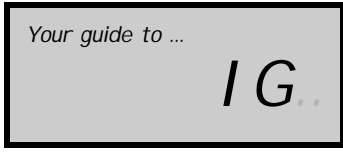
Inspector general procedures follow specific guidelines

There is a common misconception that when a trooper complains about another trooper the Inspector General will open an investigation.

An investigation or inquiry is based on an allegation that specific conduct by a specific trooper violated a specific standard. The IG will first conduct a preliminary analysis.

This process examines the grounds of the complaint and determines if the issue is appropriate for IG action. This process takes time and may involve checking many sources including federal law, the UCMJ, regulations, policies and SOPs. Once the preliminary analysis is complete, the IG will either tell the complainant the allegation is unfounded, refer the matter to the appropriate agency or command, or conduct an inquiry.

Very few matters that are brought to the IG result in an inquiry or investigation. This means that if you believe someone has filed an IG com-



plaint against you, the matter will be carefully examined before an inquiry is started.

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

Bulkeley Gym Closes for upgrades

The Camp Bulkeley Gym is closed for approximately five weeks. To accommodate for the closure, the G.J.

Denich Gym will extend its hours, beginning Monday, to be open from 0500 to 0100. Troopers can still workout in the two Camp Bulkeley cardio rooms, which are open 24 hours. Dumbbell and bench weights will now be available in those rooms.



Camp Bulkeley

Downtown Lyceum

Fri., April 9

8 p.m. *50 First Dates*
PG13 - 96 min

10 p.m. *Big Bounce*
PG13 - 89 min

Sat., April 10

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

10 p.m. *Against the Ropes*
PG13 - 111 min

Sun., April 11

8 p.m. *EUROTRIP*
R - 92 min

Mon., April 12

8 p.m. *Starsky & Hutch*
PG13 - 97 min

Tues., April 13

8 p.m. *Against the Ropes*
PG13 - 111 min

Wed., April 14

8 p.m. *EUROTRIP*
R - 92 min

Thurs., April 15

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

**Notice:
The Bulkeley
Lyceum
will be closed
this week to
make repairs
on the
projector.
Check with us
next week for
updates.**

Golfers needed

Troopers wishing to play in the Liberty Center's "Liberty Tee Time Golf Tournament" must sign up for the event prior to April 22. The event will be April 24. Participants may sign up at G.J. Denich Gymnasium or the Liberty Center. For more information, call 2010.

FFSC offering courses for JTF GTMO troopers

Throughout the month of April, the Fleet and Family Support Center will be offering various courses that JTF Guantanamo troopers may take advantage of.

■ April 20 – Employment: The Big Picture.

The workshop will focus on setting goals, exploring the job market and researching opportunities.

Participants will learn how to craft various types of resumes, how to write cover letters and the importance of completing an application package, including writing thank you notes.

One segment of the workshop will focus on state and federal employment and that



particular application process.

■ April 13-15, 20-22 and 27-29 – Deployment Cycle Support Program.

This mandatory program benefits out-processing JTF troopers by focusing on practical and emotional issues to better equip troopers to return home to their families, careers and friends.

The program includes presentations from various groups, including the Fleet and Family Support Center, Combat Stress Control Team, NAVSTA, Unit Ministry Team and the Red Cross.

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.

**Army-Navy softball game
 Today, 6 p.m.
 Cooper Field**



Your guide to ...

Worship

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
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)
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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
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Islamic

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

Call 2323 for more information

Camp America Church Bus schedule:

Sun.	8:15 a.m.	Tierra Kay
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The bus will return following worship.



Your guide to ...

Galleys

Today: Lunch – beef stroganoff; Dinner – T-bone steaks.
Saturday: Lunch – chicken pot pie;
 Dinner – Mexican lasagna.
Sunday: Lunch – chicken cordon bleu;
 Dinner – roast beef.
Monday: Lunch – swiss steaks with mushroom gravy; Dinner – parmesan fish.
Tuesday: Lunch – pork adobo;
 Dinner – salisbury steaks.
Wednesday: Lunch – lemon-baked fish;
 Dinner – jagerschnitzel.
Thursday: Lunch – steak ranchero; Dinner – roast turkey
Friday: Lunch – french fried shrimp;
 Dinner – seafood platter.

