



the Wire

“HONOR BOUND TO DEFEND FREEDOM”

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Friday, January 16, 2004

JTF has come a long way and going further

By SGT Jolene Staker

The first rotation of troops in support of Enduring Freedom landed on Guantanamo on January 6, 2002. The second anniversary finds a mission that has grown, adapted and overcome many obstacles.

CPT Ken Niles, Aide de Camp for The Adjutant General of the Rhode Island National Guard, was here from April to December of 2002 with the 43rd Military Police Brigade.

He recently had the chance to return for a visit with the 169th Military Police Company out of Rhode Island.

“Things have improved drastically since I was here,” Niles said. “Most of our meals were MREs.”

He noted changes in how the mission was carried out.



Photo courtesy of JTF archives

SPC Douglas England helps SPC Kurt Ellestad up one of the many ridges they trek through on a dismounted patrol one year ago. Teamwork such as this has come to symbolize the troopers of Joint Task Force Guantanamo.

“The equipment has been upgraded,” he said. “When I was here Camp X-Ray was still

“The quality of life has improved here dramatically,” Niles said. “We ate in a hot, dirty tent and later they finished the Seaside Galley while we were here.”

Troopers can identify changes and improvements that have occurred in their time on the mission.

“This place is a work in progress from Cafe Caribe to how we do our mission,” said SSG Robert Cook of the 384th Military Police Battalion.

Troopers appreciate the efforts made by the chain of command to make their lives in Guantanamo as enjoyable as possible.

“My room is comfortable,” said SPC Robert Batchelder of B Co., 1st Battalion, 181st

See JTF, page 4

Inside the Wire ...

COMPANY C, COMPANY DO



PAGE 3

HAPPY ANNIVERSARY



PAGE 4

KICKBOXING FOR YOUR HEALTH



PAGE 11

Trooper to Trooper

Two years in and still doing great

With the approaching anniversary of JTF Guantanamo, we as troopers have a great opportunity to reflect on the changes of the past year. We have made enormous progress in such a short amount of time. Our mission to help win the global war on terrorism began two years ago this month when the first detainees arrived at Camp X-Ray and has continued with each succeeding rotation.

We have improved how the JTF 'fights' in support of the nation. We added Camps 3, 4 and Echo to improve our detention mission. Our Tiger Teams are recognized as the best in the Department of Defense, producing high value intelligence each day. Our infantry task force is on point to ensure the defense of the JTF remains rock solid. Your efforts have made our JTF a valuable part of our nation's fight against terrorism.

We continue to make investments in the quality of life and living conditions of our people. In Tierra Kay, the new Joint Aid Station will soon be open to give better care for troopers. Those working inside the wire can now enjoy hot meals in the cool air of Café Caribe. The move into Camp America North will open up housing for our NAVBASE neighbors while we continue to achieve our JTF mission. This is a gesture that will keep us on top of our game and show our flexibility and adaptability to our ever-changing roles.

Recently, the 1st Battalion, 119th Field Artillery arrived as the first of Rotation Five to assist in detainee operations. They have shown the willingness to work hard on their part of the JTF Mission, showing what we can achieve together when we combine all our unique capabilities and our adaptability to new ones based on the need- Navy, Coast Guard, Air Force, Army, and USMC.

In order to stay adaptable, our troopers are staying trained and ready. We must be masters of our trade. The Troopers of the JTF Guantanamo Team play a critical part



MG Geoffrey D Miller
Commander
JTF Guantanamo

in helping our nation win the war on terrorism. Each of us has the responsibility to stay trained and ready and to keep our skills as honed as a new saber so that we can fight and win anywhere, any time. We are getting better as a team, winning our part of the fight everyday.

Just like the 119th, others will come to carry on the mission when it is time for those here now to leave. But nothing could have been accomplished in these two years by one person alone. It has been accomplished by extraordinary individual efforts within the framework of a team. And that is how we will approach this challenge: with the team coming together to provide every individual the tools he or she needs to finish the mission and then to return home with honor. When things run smoothly here in Joint Task Force Guantanamo, we don't always see the intense behind-the-scenes work that our service members and NAVBASE personnel put into ensuring that the JTF succeeds here.

THANKS FOR YOUR GREAT EFFORT AND COMMITMENT.

We know that you are making a difference every day and that I appreciate the time you have invested in defense of your country. You represent the willing hearts and broad shoulders of what America stands for – do what is right no matter what the sacrifice.

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A team of value, a team of vision: C Co. 1-181st Inf. Regt.

By SPC Katherine L. Collins

Tenacious, tight-knit and well-trained, C Company 1st Battalion 181st Infantry Regiment exceeds the mark in Guantanamo.

The company arrived in Guantanamo ready to succeed, drawing on its unit cohesion, deployment experience and skill mastery.

"Most of our unit has trained together for years, and each person has moved up through the ranks," said C Co. commander, CPT Robert Michaud. "This has provided us with unit cohesion which is a definite asset to any mission. The experience of working together on another mission enabled us to know each other's [leadership] style."

In addition, the company's deployment experience also prepared the unit well to succeed in Guantanamo. According to Michaud, about 85-90 percent of the company has previously been deployed in some form.

While here, C Co. continues training as often as it can. The unit strives to ensure its squad and team leaders are tactically and technically proficient in the company METL by conducting the tasks at the squad level.

"It's really a good way to develop your NCOs. Plus we also try to incorporate our E-4s, the people who will be the next team leaders," said Michaud. "We want to just give them a taste of it when we can help them out. We want to further develop them so they are ready when we need them to step into that E-5 position."

The company also conducts live fires as much as it is able, whether it be individual



Photo by SPC Katherine L. Collins

SGT Sean Sweeney (gunner) and SGT Johnny "Hollywood" Saldana (instructor), C Company 1st Battalion 181st Infantry Regiment, fire a Squad Automatic Weapon during weapons training.

marksmanship shooting or team live fire exercises. It also continually conducts familiarization with various weapon types.

"As long as we have the ammo, we shoot it," said Michaud. "We're much less restricted here as far as ammo as opposed to home."

Well-prepared and training-focused, C Co. found motivation as its greatest challenge in Guantanamo.

"Coming here we were well trained and experienced, having just served overseas in 2001. Now we're deployed again," said Michaud. "So we are well-equipped, but we must remain focused and motivated."

"Motivating the troops when they must work long hours, conducting 12-hour shifts

and physical training on top of that is a necessity and our top challenge," commented C Co. first sergeant, ISG Donald Philpot. "These guys are smoked by the end of each day."

"We try to protect the guys' down time as much as we can. They really enjoy themselves relaxing together as a unit in a safe environment and manner. Squads do other things together too," said Philpot. "Guys will go fishing or rent a boat or go snorkeling. They enjoy the beach and each other. These guys are a pretty tight knit group."

"More importantly," said Philpot, "C Co. strives to stay motivated by focusing on the importance of the mission at hand and the company's role in it. We tell the guys that they have to look at the bigger picture and see that if they weren't here, the area would be considered a high value target because of the individuals being contained here. Even just having an infantry presence here is important. Keep that in mind and do the right thing when you're out there standing at the guard posts or doing the ranger or mounted patrols, we tell them."

For some C Co. troopers, the mission is about hard work and training to defend freedom now and in the future, but it also has its elements of mere enjoyment.

"I've made a bunch of new friends and found pride because I can say I did something great in my military career. I am from a long line of veterans in my family. It's great to carry on the tradition," said SPC Michael Ferrera.



Photo by SPC Katherine L. Collins

A member of C Company, 1st Battalion, 181st Infantry Regiment, sights his Squad Automatic Weapon.

From JTF, page 1

Infantry Regiment. "It's nice to have an air-conditioned place to relax and sleep in when I'm not working."

Even troopers just arriving can recognize the effort that goes into improving the quality of life in the JTF.

"I love it so far," said SFC William Switzer of Charlie Battery, 1-119th Field Artillery. "It's far more than I have expected. The guys have already figured out a way to call home on the computer."

ISG Terry Geer of Bravo Battery, 1-119th FA said, "There are obvious efforts by the command to make things better for the troopers. Without even being here long I can see that. The little NEX is outstanding."

Troopers have moved from Freedom Heights, the tent city across from Camp X-Ray, to Camp America and Camp Bulkeley and now to Camp America North, Tierra Kay and Tierra Kay East.

Detainees moved from Camp X-Ray to Camp Delta in April 2002.

Each and every day something is improved upon in the JTF.

"Average is not good enough," said MG Geoffrey Miller welcoming the 1-119th FA. "We have to commit to getting better every day."

Troopers are told that they play a part in the JTF improving.

"Share your good ideas," said Miller. "We'll get better by the collective brain power we all bring to the fight."

When MG Michael Dunlavey arrived in Guantanamo in March of 2002 he had 28 people, a folding table and a laptop computer.

Marines established Camp X-Ray in January of 2002 with Army reservists arriving in April of 2002.

Now the operation includes every branch of the military.

Two task forces were origi-

nally formed to handle the detention and interrogation missions.

In November of 2002, these two task forces officially became one, consolidating under one active duty, permanent-party commander, MG Geoffrey Miller.

During his first formation he showed his concern for the welfare of those under his charge.

"Ok, everybody in this formation, g'head and flex your knees a little bit and we'll get this ceremony over."

He has continued to be concerned with the welfare of his troopers since.

"The JTF, under MG Miller's guidance, has worked tirelessly to improve the quality of life issues for soldiers," said CSM Stephen Short, Joint Detention Operations Group command sergeant major.

"Club Survivor, Bulkeley gym complex, and the new Mini-Mart are but a few of great improvements for the troopers," said Short.

"That effort continues as new plans are being worked to upgrade Club Survivor, the Bulkeley gyms and athletic facilities," he said.

The two year anniversary finds the JTF an active and productive participant in the Global War on Terrorism.

"The amount of progress accomplished by the JTF over the past two years has been nothing short of phenomenal," said BG Mitchell LeClaire, JTF deputy commander.

"The intelligence information developed here has not only saved American lives but has given us an edge in the Global War on Terrorism," he said.

Emphasis is placed on making the troopers comfortable, because it is a grueling task before them. But they can rest assured that their efforts are paying off.

"The troopers who have served on duty here are a part of history and Americans are safer because of their efforts," said LeClaire.



Photo courtesy of JTF archives

Troopers disassemble Freedom Heights, the tent city that was located across from Camp X-Ray in July 2002.



Photo courtesy of JTF archives

Construction workers construct seahuts that were first used as living quarters and are now utilized as offices classrooms and storage.



Photo by SPC William Ingram

SSG Brian Moore unpacks boxes in one of the new barracks in Camp America North. Troopers share air-conditioned open bays. In addition to the sleeping quarters and wall lockers, they share a half bathroom, kitchenette area, and cable TV. Showers and laundry facilities are close by, and a small NEX is within walking distance.

Housing update: Time to move out

By SrA. Thomas J. Doscher

Pack your bags trooper, you're moving out, but you're going no further than a mile down the road.

The long anticipated move from Tierra Kay and Windward Loop housing to Camp America North starts Monday.

"The leaders are supposed to move first so they can welcome the soldiers as they move in," said WO1 Renee Riley, J-4 operations housing officer.

A list of move-in dates is being circulated through the chain of command, and J-4 Transportation will provide trucks to help troopers move their belongings.

"There will be trucks at TK and Windward Loop," Riley said. "Troopers will go to the housing office, turn in their old key and a get a new key."

The new quarters in Camp America North will house six troopers apiece and be equipped with a refrigerator, table and chairs, a microwave, a TV with

either a VCR or DVD player, bunks, wall lockers and foot lockers, but not all the furniture will be ready by the move-in date.

"The plan had changed and the wall lockers we had ordered were not adequate," Riley said. "So I found some furniture so close to what they're supposed to have."

Some pieces of furniture will be temporary until new units arrive on the Jan. 29 barge. Wall lockers and refrigerators will be used, and there will be no tables or chairs until the shipment arrives.

Riley said J-4 rose to the occasion and scrambled to get what furniture they could so that troops could move in on time.

"I researched it and found some furniture on base," she said.

Wall lockers were taken out of Windward Loop housing Tuesday to meet the requirements, and 52 used refrigerators had to be cleaned out.



Photo by SPC William Ingram

WO1 Renee Riley, J-4 operations housing officer, takes the styrofoam out of a new microwave in one of the new rooms in Camp America. The new rooms include new microwaves and TVs.

"Myself and five other soldiers had to clean them out," Riley said.

SSG Brian Moore, SSG Deneen Murray, SGT Kip Jones, SPC Michael Hall and SPC Sheryl Wilson donated their time to help Riley clean each refrigerator.

MG Geoffrey Miller, JTF

commander, inspected Camp America North and the Seaside Galley Friday to personally make sure they were ready for JTF troops to move in.

"Gosh, this is a success," Miller said, looking around Camp America North. "The contractors have done right by us."

What do Joe Friday and the IG have in common?

By Air Force Lt. Col. Bruce G. Medaugh, Inspector General

Recently on ABC, the popular TV police drama *Dragnet* was revived for fans young and old.

In the series, Lieutenant Joe Friday uses his persistence and sense of justice to filter out the facts from deception as he attempts to solve the case. The Inspector General team provides similar service to Joint Task Force Guantanamo personnel in the IG category called "assistance."

A person who is not able to solve a problem using their chain of command often comes to the Inspector General for help.

A trooper who contacts the IG office can expect an IG team member to listen carefully to their concern. But just like Friday, it's the trooper's responsibility to be accurate and truthful when they present their

problem. The IG then searches out and analyzes the facts that relate to the trooper's concern. Fact-finding requires the IG to gather pertinent documents, research regulations or conduct interviews.

Since the fact-finding process is time consuming the IG team member working with the trooper will explain that they should not expect an answer quickly. The IG's main concern is learning as much as possible about the problem.

Teamwork in the IG office contributes to the fact-finding quality. Throughout the fact-finding process the IG team discusses each case. This means that four experienced military members are sharing thoughts and perspectives to ensure all the important information is examined.

A major tenet of the IG world is the IG is not an advocate for the any of the persons connected to the matter being examined.

This means that the IG must be neutral and unbiased while gathering and analyzing the facts.

When the fact-finding process is complete the trooper will receive a final answer about their concern.

It is not uncommon for the fact-finding process to determine that the original concern didn't yield the answer the trooper wanted but because of the thoroughness of fact finding and attention to detail the IG is able to give the trooper information that will help him or her.

The IG phone number is 5399. You may visit the IG office in Room 204 of the Commissions building Monday – Saturday. The Camp America IG office is in Building 7200 and is staffed Tuesday from 9–10 a.m. and Friday 3–4 p.m. IG assistance is available anytime by appointment.



Photo courtesy of JTF archives

Former base chaplain LTC Raymond Tetreault gives early troopers a catholic service outside.

Troopers enjoy a new chapel for worship services and better facilities to keep in touch with loved ones at home.



Photo by SGT Jolene Staker

Troopers now have a permanent chapel in Camp America. There was a small wooden chapel used for some services and others were held in Seaside Galley.



Photo courtesy of JTF archives

(Above) SGT Steve Anronis of the 342nd Military Police Company calls home from the former MWR phone bank. Not only have the phones been updated but many troopers find it easier to communicate with loved ones at home by computer. (Below) 1SG Terry Geer of Bravo Battery, 1-119th Field Artillery is getting set up on the computer not long after arriving at Guantanamo. "The computer access for email is awesome," said Geer.



Photo by SGT Jolene Staker

Troopers enjoy a Catholic service from Father Francis Foley inside the air-conditioned clam shell facility. Improvements are still being made to the inside each service.



Photo by SGT Jolene Staker

Dining improves for JTF troopers

Troopers go from eating MREs to getting hot meals three times a day inside an air-conditioned building with running water.



Photo courtesy of JTF archives

Early troopers ate MREs for most meals and often ate them out in the sun.



Photo by SGT Jolene Staker

Troopers eat inside a mess tent located in Camp Delta. There was no running water, which limited what could be served and space was limited often making for cramped eating conditions.



Photo by SGT Jolene Staker

Later, troopers would wash their hands outside at wash stations. This was an improvement from eating MREs outside, but didn't allow for as enjoyable of a meal break as the new facility does.



Photo by SGT Jolene Staker

Troopers enjoy more space and a brighter atmosphere inside Cafe Caribe which opened on Thanksgiving Day 2003. Running water allows for more food items to be served as well as restrooms right in the galley.



Photo by SGT Jolene Staker

Now, Cafe Caribe's larger size and permanent facility allow for more space and more comfort for troopers as they take their meal breaks inside the wire.

New spiritual outreach for JTF's female troopers



By SPC Katherine L. Collins

Are you missing Mom's tasty cooking or your own touch of spice and craftiness and other feminine comforts of home? Or are you seeking the hugs and laughter found in close female friendships? Enjoy it all as you join other JTF women in a journey of spiritual empowerment through JTF's new support ministry, Protestant Women of the Chapel.

"PWOC is a comfortable door for ladies to enter to learn about Christianity and gain support for getting through life. It is a great source of strength, growth and weekly renewal for women, particularly those facing the challenges of military service away from home," said Joan Feehan, wife to JTF chaplain LTC Stephen Feehan.

Sponsored by the Army Chief of Chaplains and recognized by the leadership of each military branch, PWOC is a national Christ-centered and Spirit-led ministry. It serves as a resource network uniting, training and encouraging women in their spiritual growth through Christian fellowship, prayer, the study of God's word, praise and worship and stewardship.

"PWOC is prevalent in the military because every time you move you need to connect with others," said Feehan. "When you first attend, it's like you've always known each other. Often I've

heard women give testimonies of how they never went to church growing up but that when they first went to PWOC they felt a warm welcome as if they were greeting family. Others have said, what I really first went for was a nice dinner but I found something in these women that I'd been missing. Then as women continue coming they more than recognize each other's names; they know what's going on in their lives. Women find a strong support group in each other."

Serving as a gender minority in the military away from home presents additional challenges to women. According to Feehan, current statistics show that the JTF consists of approximately 20 percent women. Feehan said she envisioned bringing PWOC to Guantanamo for all women, but she recognizes the many ways it can meet the special needs of JTF's female troopers.

Come join PWOC's first meeting on Thursday, Jan. 22, in Fellowship Hall at the chapel complex.

Dinner will start at 6:30 p.m. Future monthly dinners will be at the Naval base community center one Thursday per month.

Announcements will be posted. Weekly Bible study will be in Fellowship Hall on a day to be determined during the ministry's first meeting, in accordance with the schedule needs of those wishing to attend.

Begin and end your day with God.

JTF's Chaplaincy announces the start of a new Christian worship service. Join Chaplain Paul Minor this Sunday at 7:30 a.m. to renew your spirit through worship and fellowship after your day's labor or begin your day's walk with Christ early that you might enjoy a Sunday full of God's blessings and joy. <>

Worship Services

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)

Camp America

- Sun. 5 p.m. Mass
- 7:30 p.m. Mass

Protestant

Main Chapel

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

* Fellowship Hall located in Chapel Complex

Camp America

- Tues. 7 p.m. Alpha
- Wed. 7 p.m. Soul Survivor (Club Survivor)
- Fri. 7 p.m. Alpha

- Sun. 7:30 a.m. Christian Worship
- 9 a.m. Protestant

New Life Fellowship

Main Chapel

- Sun. 1 p.m. Service

Pentecostal Gospel

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

The bus will return following worship.

Need a spiritual lift?



Join Chaplain Daniel Odean and other JTF troopers for music and fellowship during Soul Survivor.

7 p.m. every Wednesday at Club Survivor.

Continuing a six-week series on Our Identity in Christ. Part three: "The Heirs of Christ"



Thursday Ticket

Seeking to help one another find moral direction in life? Join the Chaplain and fellow troopers on Thursday nights at 7:00 p.m. in Troopers Chapel at Camp America for the viewing and lively ethical discussion of a contemporary movie.

Continuing the "Band of Brothers" series

RECREATION & LEISURE



Club Survivor opens early on Saturday and Sunday for the NFL

playoff games. Join your friends watching the Colts vs. Patriots, and the 384th MPs vs. 1st Bn. 181st Inf. Regt. for touch football, as Indiana meets Massachusetts on the New England playing field. Everyone is invited to listen to the groans and the cheers this weekend at Club Survivor.

The Club opens early at 2:30 p.m. At game-time, which is around 3 p.m., munchies will be provided.

JTF Gets Ready for CUBAN-AMERICAN FRIENDSHIP

Members of the JTF are invited to participate in activities on Jan. 23 to celebrate continuing relations with our Cuban friends.

A **Friendship Relay Run Friday starts at 8 a.m. at the North East Gate.** Register with Lt. j.g. Janice White at 7439.

The celebration will continue at the Windjammer Club at noon with a delicious Cuban buffet for \$6.50, a guest speaker, Navy Cmdr Carlos Del Toro, and live music and dancing with a popular Cuban band. **Come join in celebrating 35 years of Cuban – American friendship!!!**



Camp Bulkeley

Fri., Jan. 16

8 p.m. *The Tailor of Panama*

R - 109 min

10 p.m. *Men of Honor*

R - 129 min

Sat., Jan. 17

8 p.m. *Shaft*

R - 100 min

10 p.m. *Rules of Engagement*

R - 127 min

Sun., Jan. 18

8 p.m. *Gladiator*

R - 149 min

Mon., Jan. 19

8 p.m. *Mission Impossible 2*

PG13 - 126 min

Tues., Jan. 20

8 p.m. *Airborne*

R - 102 min

Wed., Jan. 21

8 p.m. *Romeo Must Die*

R - 118 min

Thurs., Jan. 22

8 p.m. *Eye of the Beholder*

R - 107 min

Movie Schedule

Downtown Lyceum

Fri., Jan. 16

7 p.m. *Radio*

PG - 109 min

9 p.m. *Mystic River*

R - 130 min

Sat., Jan. 17

7 p.m. *Scary Movie 3*

PG13 - 83 min

9 p.m. *The Lord of the Rings: The Return of the King*

PG13 - 201 min

Sun., Jan. 18

7 p.m. *Something's Gotta Give*

PG13 - 123 min

9 p.m. *Master and Commander: The Far Side of the World*

PG13 - 138 min

Mon., Jan. 19

7 p.m. *Love Actually*

R - 125 min

Tues., Jan. 20

7 p.m. *Dr. Seuss: The Cat In The Hat*

PG - 82 min

Wed., Jan. 21

7 p.m. *Looney Tunes: Back In Action*

PG - 90 min

Thurs., Jan. 22

7 p.m. *The Matrix Revolutions*

R - 138 min

MARTIN LUTHER KING DAY

Each year on the third Monday of January, schools, federal offices, post offices and banks across America close as we celebrate the birth, the life and the dream of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.

Members of the JTF can help celebrate by participating in the **Martin Luther King 5K Memorial Run** Jan. 19, 6:30 a.m. at the Base Gym. **The first 200 participants to sign up by January 18th will receive a free T-shirt.** Sign up at the Base Gym.



JTF SPORTS & FITNESS

Trooper picks

JTF personnel's predictions for this week's games

Games

Colt at Patriots in the AFC	Patriots	Colts	Colts	Colts
Panther at Eagles in the NFC	Eagles	Eagles	Eagles	Eagles
Super Bowl XXXVIII	Eagles	Eagles	Eagles	Colts
Overall record	77-49	77-49	86-40	82-44



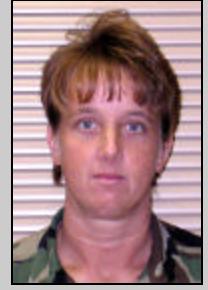
*1st SGT
Sandra Adams-Jones
273rd MP Co.*



*Craig Basel
MWR director*



*SSG
Deon Lee
216th MP Co.*



*SFC
Stephanie Nielsen
384th MP Bn.*

Sports highlights

The Football Season is almost over “Now Basketball”

Compiled by SPC William Ingram

The National Football League had some of the greatest games of playoff history this past weekend. The **St. Louis Rams** fell to the **Carolina Panthers** in a close game.

The Panthers led most of game. After blowing an 11-point lead with 2:39 left in the game, the Panthers won the game with a 29-23 in double overtime.

The **Tennessee Titans** lost a nail biting game to the **New England Patriots** 17-14. **Adam Vinatieri**, the hero of the 2002 Super Bowl victory for New England, was challenged again this game. His 44-yarder sailed through the uprights with 4:06 left in the fourth quarter securing the Patriots victory.

The National Football League's top two offensive teams went head to head.

The **Kansas City Chiefs** were put to a halt Sunday as the **Indianapolis Colts** were firing on all cylinders. This time the both teams came out fighting, but the Colts had the last laugh with a 38-31 victory over the Chiefs. The Colts were

coming off a 41-10 victory over Denver, but that did not stop them from focusing on the favored Chiefs, who were undefeated at home.

The **Green Bay Packers** saw their playoff hopes come to an end, as the **Philadelphia Eagles** proved to be the victors Sunday with an amazing 20-17 overtime victory.

With 1:12 in the fourth quarter, a 28-yard completion to **Freddie Mitchell** on a fourth and 26 help set up the game-tying field goal by Eagles kicker **David Akers**. Akers also kicked a 31-yard field goal to win the game.

With the **AFC** and the **NFC championship** games **January 18**, the final four teams are geared up for the **Super Bowl**. The Patriots versus the Colts in what could be a bitterly cold battle for the AFC Championship game.

The Eagles versus the Panthers in a grid locked battle for the NFC Championship Game.

After this Sunday, two teams will play for the Super Bowl. Which one will win?

The season of college basketball is on its way. So far several teams hold the number-one spot.

Which team will hold the number one spot the longest?

In college basketball there is not one dominant team.

Here are weekend scores from the AP Top 25:

- Stanford** over **Arizona** 82-72
 - Kentucky** over **Vanderbilt** 75-63
 - Cincinnati** over **DePaul** 90-65
 - Wake Forest** over **Clemson** 78-63
 - Saint Joseph** over **Duquesne** 78-61
 - Florida** over **Tennessee** 95-57
 - Louisville** over **South Florida** 85-40
 - Texas** over **Baylor** 79-57
 - Wisconsin** over **Michigan** 77-64
 - Purdue** over **Illinois** 58-54
 - Oklahoma State** over **Texas Tech** 83-62
 - Pittsburgh** over **Miami** 84-80
 - Gonzaga** over **Loyola Marymont** 74-60
 - Syracuse** over **Boston College** 96-73
 - Marquette** over **St. Louis** 61-59
 - Connecticut** over **Oklahoma** 86-59
 - Duke** over **Virginia** 93-71
 - Georgia** over **North Carolina** 103-88
 - Drake** over **Creighton** 78-67
- Compiled from www.espn.com*

Gear up for the St. Valentine's Day Massacre

By SSG Patrick Cloward

The **St. Valentine's Day Xtreme Biathlon** will commence Feb. 14. Two events: The 1.5 mile swim and the 20 mile bicycle ride are available for members of the JTF along with naval base members. Trophies will be awarded to five winners in three different age groups. This is a great time to start getting in shape and participate with other troopers. Call 2345 to register.

To help get you limbered up for the Xtreme race in February, MWR is sponsoring the **Martin Luther King Jr. 5K memorial run** January 19, 6:30 a.m. at the Denich Gym. The first 200 participants to sign up by January 18th will receive a free T-Shirt!

Other Fun Events

Every other Friday until April 23rd, troopers can enjoy 9 Pin, No-Tap Singles bowling at Marblehead Lanes. Men and women will compete in one division. Starting time is at 6 p.m. with an entry fee of

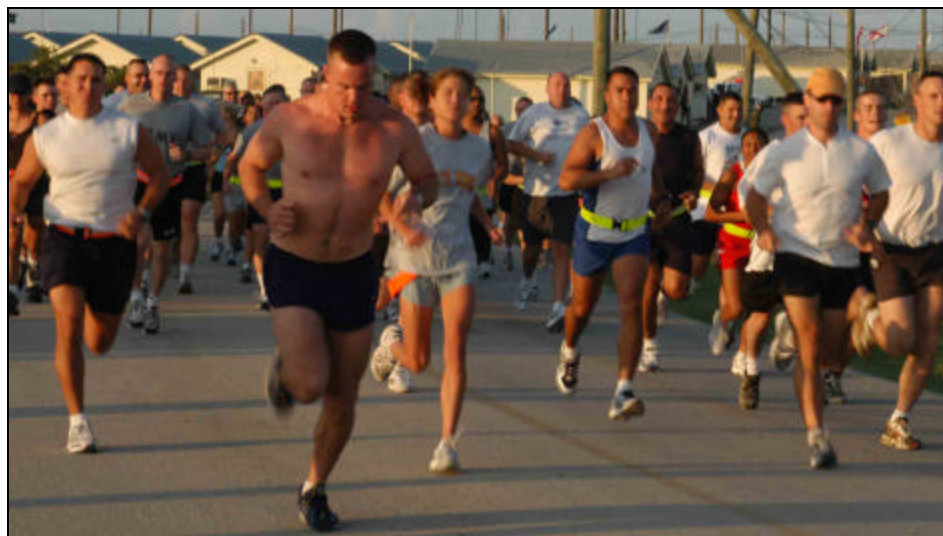


Photo by SGT Jolene Steker

\$12. Call 7147 for more information.

January 21-23, troopers can participate in an adult pottery class where you can learn how to throw your own bowls. The class is \$70 per person which includes all tools and supplies. To sign up call 4795.

For those into billiards, the Marine Hill Libery Center is sponsoring a nine ball pool tournament for single and unaccompanied troopers Jan. 20 at 7 p.m. There is no entry fee and trophies will be presented to 1st, 2nd and 3rd place finishers.

JTF troopers getting a kick out of fitness

By SrA. Thomas J. Doscher

Staying fit to fight is one thing, but fighting to stay fit is what some JTF troopers are doing thanks to a daily class at the Marine Hill aerobics room.

Cardio kickboxing class runs 5 - 6 p.m. Monday through Friday.

"It works the whole body, tones you and you lose a lot of weight," said Carl Heron, cardio kickboxing instructor.

The free class consists of a

mix of aerobics, dance and kickboxing and works on abs and glutes.

MSG Martin Litwiller, 1-181st Infantry Regiment intelligence sergeant, said he was looking for a kickboxing class since he arrived at Guantanamo.

"I do this back home," Litwiller said, "So when I got here I was looking to see what fit my schedule."

Litwiller said cardio kickboxing fits many of his physical training needs.

"It's a really intense workout for cardiovascular, strength and agility," he said. "There's a really good abs workout at the end."

SPC Cirra Turpin, 661st Military Police Co., said it was the best fitness class in Guantanamo.

"There's no better class on the island," Turpin said. "You

will be hurting. You'll be kicking your own butt."

Heron said the intensity of the workout shouldn't scare people away.

"The way I teach it, they don't have time to think about the pain," he said.

Litwiller said he was trying to get other members of his unit, particularly those who may have trouble with their PT scores, to attend.

"I brought one of my specialists," Litwiller said. "He couldn't do the run. A couple of weeks of this and he passed. It's a great workout."

Heron said all you have to do to participate is show up at the door and have a good time.

"It's a good class," he said. "It's fun."

For more information about cardio kickboxing, call Heron at 2193.



Photo by SrA. Thomas J. Doscher

SPC Cirra Turpin, 661st Military Police Company, punches during the aerobic warm-up at cardio kickboxing class Monday night.

15 Minutes of Fame...

With SPC David Meyer, C Co., 1-181 Inf. Regt.

By SPC Katherine L. Collins

Set out to defend his nation's way of life, build a future for himself and be a role model, SPC David Meyer joined the Massachusetts Army National Guard as an infantryman just out of high school. With the support of his parents, two older siblings and friends he finds great pride in his Guantanamo service and views it as a prime opportunity to learn, grow and just have fun.

Q: What inspired you to join the military?

A: "Growing up I'd often visit my grandfather, and he'd tell me his stories from WWII. That, along with the military's college benefits, interested me."

Q: In what branches, components and job fields have you served?

A: "I've always been in the Army National Guard as an infantryman. I wanted to serve in military intelligence, but I was only 17 when I joined, which was too young. I wasn't sure what other jobs I would like, so I picked infantry from among my other choices. I have about three and a half years to finish my initial enlistment. At that point I may switch to MI or some other field."

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

A: "During my AT at Fort Drum, N.Y., I was attached to A Company, and we did [urban operations] training, where we played war games. We had to defend our city against foreign intrusion. Soldiers from Britain and Trinidad trained with us. I think Trinidad fought against us."

Q: In what ways have your family and friends supported you in your active military career?

A: "Everyone's real supportive. My parents helped me get ready for deployment. My dad took care of some college paperwork and my car, and my mom helped by making sure he took care of it. She also made sure I did everything I



Photo by SPC Katherine L. Collins

SPC David Meyer joined the military to mold himself and his future, as well as serve his nation. He views his Guantanamo service as an opportunity to accomplishing just that and have a little fun and adventure too.

needed to do. My sister was all excited that I was going to Cuba.

My friends threw me a party before I left. They talk to me on-line by instant messages too."

Q: What career have you been pursuing since joining the military?

A: "I joined when I was a senior in high school. The September after I graduated, I went to basic training. So I took a year off from school, then I studied at Salem State College for one year. I was studying computer science, which I may switch from as a major but may also explore as a career field in the military. I'm not sure what I really want to study in school or do in the military yet."

Q: How do you feel your personal experiences have equipped you to succeed here professionally and personally?

A: "Really, my two [annual training periods] and my time at Fort Dix provided great training, and just working alongside experienced people prepared me well for Cuba."

Q: What do you find most rewarding about this mission?

A: "I was glad to deploy because it's part of why I joined. I'm defending my country here, and I get to do infantry stuff every day. Also, I got to know the other guys in my unit at my [annual training periods], but here I am getting to know them even better. I plan to keep in contact with some outside of drill when we get back. Some plan to go to UMASS Amherst. I might join them there too."

Q: What do you do to relax at home and on deployment?

A: "I like to play video games and sports like basketball and baseball."

Q: How do you think this mission will impact you as you leave Guantanamo and strengthen you to better succeed as a soldier and person?

A: "I think the time off from college is good for me. Having to focus on my mission each day will improve my focus for school. Having to live with a bunch of guys here is a help too, because I've always lived at home, but when I get back I'll probably be living with roommates somewhere. Also, I knew I'd deploy some time during my career. It's great to do it now. The veteran's status really helps. Now I can take the firefighters' or police officers' test, and now I won't be the only person at my unit without a veteran's license plate. Serving here is just a great life experience for many reasons. Pretty much everything about this deployment is new to me. So I'm walking away with a whole lot more than I came with."

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

A: "I'm glad to just fight for freedom for my nation and other countries around the world. I want to help protect our way of life. Also, it's a great way to be a role model. Like my grandfather did with me, I will be able to tell my nephews and nieces stories from my service too."