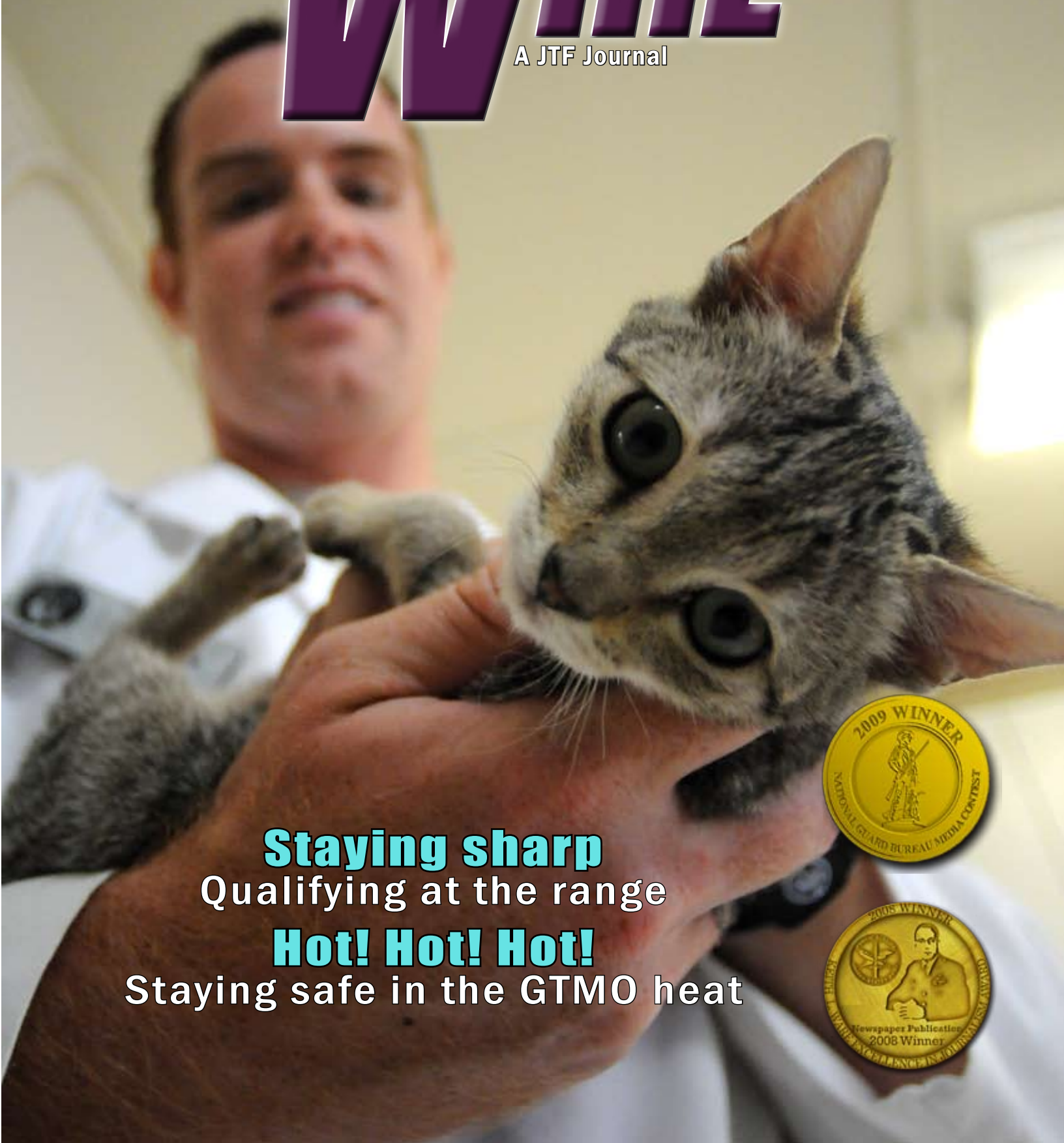


# THE WIRE

A JTF Journal



**Staying sharp**  
Qualifying at the range

**Hot! Hot! Hot!**  
Staying safe in the GTMO heat



# Knowledge is power



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### COVER:

**Army Capt. Todd French examines a cat at the base Veterinary clinic, July 14.** - JTF Guantanamo

photo by Navy Mass Communication Specialist 3rd Class Joshua Nistas





# A day at the range

**Army Spc. Juanita Philip**  
JTF Guantanamo Public Affairs

Several Joint Task Force Guantanamo Troopers, including Soldiers from the 786th Combat Sustainment Support Battalion, recently reported to the Granadillo Range for annual weapons qualification and familiarization training on the Marine M9 service pistol qualification table.

After a safety brief by Marine Corps Security Force Company personnel, who were conducting operations at the range, the 786th personnel donned their protective gear and got on the fring line.

"All of the officers who were scheduled to train that day were afforded the opportunity to fire and the option to qualify," said Marine Corps Gunnery Sgt. Jose L. Mercado, the JTF Guantanamo J-3 operations non-commissioned officer-in-charge.

While the course qualification is an annual requirement for all Marines who carry the 9mm pistol, the Army personnel used it for practice, said Mercado, who also is the JTF-GTMO Marine senior enlisted adviser.

"The Army is not required to use this course for their annual training; however, successfully completing and qualifying this course of fire will improve the shooter's marksmanship skills," Mercado said.

Unlike the Army qualifications, where the personnel remain stationary and fire

at pop-up targets ranging from 25 meters to 300 meters, the targets remained in one place and it is the Troopers who fire from a variety of distances, starting at 25 meters from the targets, moving up to seven meters, and finally back to 15 meters.

One of the officers who qualified, Army Lt. Col. Patricia Charles, deputy director of the J-4 section, had a total score of 319, which placed her in the qualification class of sharpshooter out of the three classes. There are three qualification categories: marksman, sharpshooter and expert.

"It gave me additional experience, due to the fact that we usually qualify on pop-up targets," Charles said. "This familiarization on the range will make our future training on the pop-up targets easier."

Mercado stressed that the range is open to all personnel.

"All enlisted members who are required to carry or use the M9 pistol are all invited to request a slot on any future ranges coordinated by the JTF-GTMO J-3 training section," he said.

"The coaching given by the Marines was beneficial to my qualification," said Charles. "They [Marines] were able to see where we were firing and provided tips to adjust the target acquisition."

The training, which is scheduled to take place throughout the month, will continue with designated personnel using the range one day a week until the end of July.



**Army Spc. Keith H. Chambers**



They arrive, just in time for Aang to rescue himself, and take him to safety. Their journey after that takes them to one beautiful place after another. M. Night Shyamalan may have completely ruined the movie, but the graphics people were on point.



# NEGB GUARDS SHOOT, QUALIFY



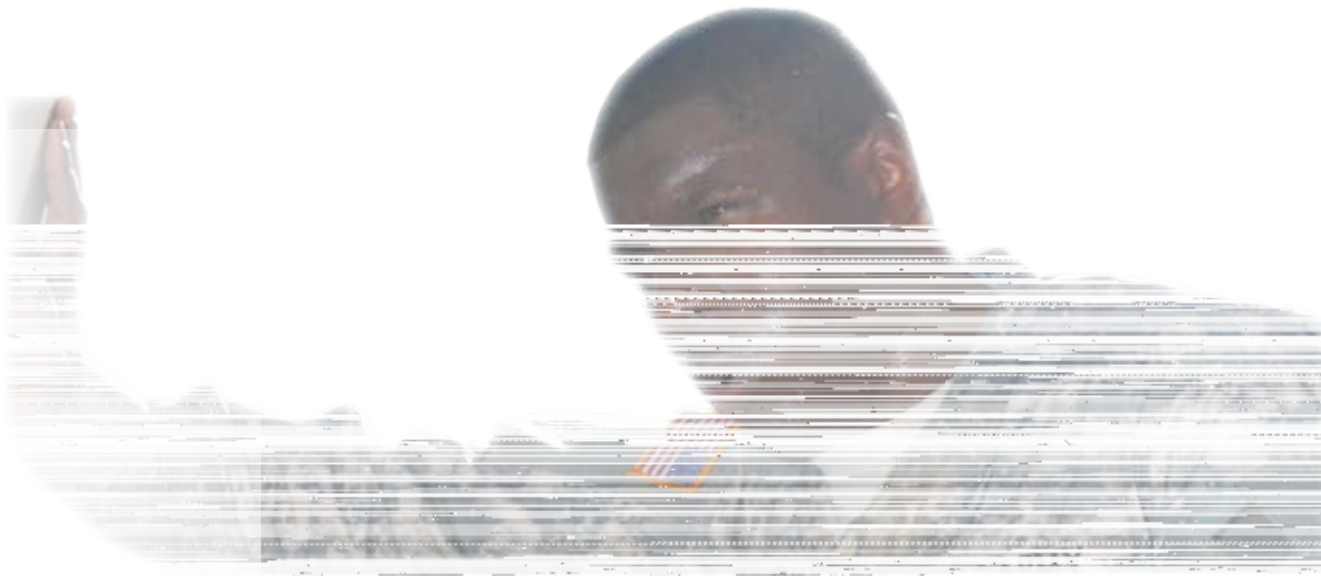
JTF Guantanamo photos by  
Navy Mass Communication Specialist 3rd  
Class Joshua Nistas



When all is said and done, the players just want to get together and play.

“Of course we want to win like everyone else, but our main goal is to have fun,” Corbitt said.

Although the Cool Guys have won their last three games—two actual games and one by forfeit—these players get together for











Army Sgt. Ardicio Galvao, animal care non-commissioned officer, does an eye exam

JTF

Airmen with the Base Emergency Engineering Force build a structure in support of Commission Support Group, July 14. - JTF Guantanamo photo by Marine Corps Lance Cpl. Justin R. Wheeler

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