



THE WIRE



Honor Bound To Defend Freedom

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15 Minutes of Fame, pg. 11

Distinguished visitors improve opinion

By Spc. Timothy Book

JTF-GTMO Public Affairs Office

Guantanamo Bay has been very much in the spotlight this year.

“Arguably, no detention facility in the history of warfare has been more transparent or received more scrutiny than Guantanamo,” said Secretary of Defense Donald Rumsfeld at a Pentagon news briefing June 14.

From January to June, 37 reporters from 32 media outlets have visited and toured the camps here. In the past month media visits have increased by three-fold.

During the media visits, journalists are given an opportunity to speak with some of the leadership here. During these tours, members of the congressional delegations have also taken the opportunity to share lunch and converse with Troopers from their districts. During one of those visits, on June 15, a reporter asked about the negative press GTMO was receiving.

Army Col. Mike Bumgarner, commander of Joint Detention Group, said that wasn't his expertise, but added, “I would gladly invite the world to see what we're doing here. I am proud, and I think every American would be also, of the professionalism these guards show every day.”

Recently, many members of Congress have visited Guantanamo Bay and more are scheduled to visit in the near future. Leaders from many different areas of expertise brief the visitors on operations here. They tour the different camps and observe interrogations, when possible. They are given a firsthand look at day-to-day functions in regard to the JDG.

Those that visit GTMO usually leave with a more positive opinion of the facility. In a June 29 press release, Representative Duncan Hunter, chairman of the House Armed



Photo by Spc. Timothy Book

Congressman Tom Price meets with Troopers at the Café Caribe during a recent visit to Guantanamo Bay.

Services Committee (HASC), described his visit.

“This past weekend I had the opportunity to lead a bipartisan delegation of 16 Members of this body, including 6 Republicans and 5 Democrats from this committee, to Guantanamo to examine firsthand the treatment of detainees there. What we saw was not the ‘gulag of our times.’ Instead, we saw a world-class detention facility where detainees representing a threat to our national security are well fed, given access to top-notch medical facilities and provided an opportunity to obtain legal representation.”

Representative Joe Wilson, a member of the HASC said on the floor of the House June 27, “In the extensive briefings by Brig. Gen. Jay Hood with representatives of JAG, Naval Medicine, the FBI, and interrogators,

I am convinced we have patriotic professionals conducting a humane mission to protect American families in the War on Terror. The detainee's meal was as good as any I had in my 31 years of Army Guard service, and I can see why the prisoners this year gained five pounds over last year.”

Representative Jim Ryun, HASC member, stated in a press release July 12, “I was most impressed with the professionalism of our soldiers stationed there, and I am now more confident than ever that the operations at Guantanamo are being conducted in a humane and necessary manner. Guantanamo allows us to secure dangerous detainees without the risk of escape, while at the same time providing us with valuable intelligence information on how best to proceed in the war against terror and prevent future attacks.” ■

What It All Means

By Col. John Hadjis

JTF-GTMO Chief of Staff

Today, as my year in your ranks comes to a close, I bid you farewell. It has been a privilege to serve with each of you. Every day, you are honorably executing a vital mission that is preserving our nation's security and guaranteeing the future of free people. Twelve months on the island has given me some perspective. So if you'll indulge me, I'll share with you what it all means.

Simply stated, you are a warrior in a ring, locked in a death struggle, with people who aim to kill you, your family and friends. You might hear or read people describe it as something else: a clash of civilizations, an expression of religious extremism or a response to disenfranchisement in the Arab world. Academically, all three may be correct, but for you, at the point of the spear, none of that really matters.

You are here for one of three reasons. You are providing for the safe, humane, custody and control of detainees, so they can't strike our allies or us, or you are conducting intelligence gathering from those detainees to prevent future attacks, or, like me, you are assisting the folks in the first two groups.

Each of us is making an important contribution, even those whose duties do not involve detention or intelligence gathering. The Troopers in the Joint Visitors Bureau and the Public Affairs Office help tell our story to our elected officials, our military superiors, the press, our fellow troopers and the people back home. The troopers at Roosevelt checkpoint protect the force and ensure that only authorized personnel have access to the Camps or our living areas. The folks working in our administrative offices ensure that our efficiency reports and awards are timely, and that we are getting credit for helping execute a national mission. Make no mistake; serving at GTMO will separate your file from the rest of the pack when you go before a board.

We have all seen or heard some of the outrageous things some folks have said or written about GTMO. What are you to do about it? Just let 'em yap. I think one of our Navy NCOs said it best when asked that very question by his Congressman the other day at lunch. His response was, "Sir,



I don't much like it, but I don't let it bother me. I know I'm doing an important mission for the nation, and I know that I'm doing it honorably." The last time I called my family, my spouse related a story. She had taken my daughters to shop at a department store in New York City, and it just so happened that a group of folks were demonstrating about the mission on the sidewalk in front of the store. The demonstrators were parroting a lot of the nonsense we've all heard, and what they were saying about her daddy left my 13-year-old daughter in tears.

Twenty minutes later when my family came out of the department store, the demonstrators were gone. Ponder that for a moment the next time you are on an eight hour shift on the blocks in 98 degree heat, or it's midnight and raining while you are conducting your mounted patrol, or it's Sunday afternoon and you are working a hot mission for our higher headquarters. All those people who have never been here, yet claim to know so much about you and your mission have such dedication and purpose that they can't even stand a half an hour in the sun on behalf of their cause.

You have helped avert terrorist attacks. You have helped break up terrorist cells. You are helping your nation win the most important conflict it has been in since the Cold War, a fight that will determine the kind of world your grandchildren live in. Be proud of what you are doing and remain Honor Bound to Defend Freedom. That's what it all means. ■

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Stay out of the storm

By Chief Warrant Officer Mike Roulier

JTF Safety Officer

In case you haven't noticed, it rains here at Guantanamo. Now, if you are from the part of the country I live in, Oregon, you are quite used to the rain. In fact, we don't have rain storms per say; it just starts raining in September and doesn't stop until about April or so.

But one thing we do have here at GTMO, that I don't often deal with at home, is cumulonimbus (aka "cumulogranite" when I was a working aviator), more commonly called "thunderbumpers" or just plain thunderstorms. Even when hurricanes aren't coming through our little island paradise (a rare occurrence these days), we have regular confrontations with these highly perilous weather conditions.

Each year, nearly 400 individuals in the United States are struck by lightning while working outside, at sports events, on the beach, mountain climbing, mowing the lawn or doing other outdoor activities. About 67 people are killed and several hundred more are left to cope with permanent

disabilities. Consider the following:

- All thunderstorms produce lightning and are dangerous
- Lightning often strikes as far as 10 miles away from any rainfall
- You are in danger from lightning if you can hear thunder
- Lightning injuries can lead to permanent disabilities or death
- Look for dark cloud bases and increasing wind
- Blue skies and lightning: Lightning can travel sideways for up to 10 miles. Even when the sky looks blue and clear, be cautious. If you hear thunder, take cover. At least 10% of lightning occurs without visible clouds overhead in the sky.

Outdoors is the most dangerous place to be during a lightning storm. When you see or hear thunder or observe dark clouds, quickly move indoors or into a hard-topped vehicle and remain there until well after the lightning storm ends.

A good rule to use, when visibility is good and nothing is obstructing your view

of the thunderstorm, is the 30-30 Rule. When you see lightning, count the time until you hear thunder. If that time is 30 seconds or less, the thunderstorm is within 6 miles of you, and you are in danger. Seek shelter immediately. Remember that the threat of lightning continues for a much longer period than most people realize. Wait at least 30 minutes after the last clap of thunder before leaving shelter. Don't be fooled by sunshine or blue sky!!

The famous golfer, Lee Trevino, was once asked what a golfer should do in the event he was caught on the course during a thunderstorm. His response was, "Hold up your one-iron. Not even God can hit a one-iron." He gave this advice prior to being struck by lightning one day, of course, and I'm sure his answer would not be so flippant today. Respect these storms and follow the common sense guidelines given above. You will ensure that you won't have to spend the rest of your life hoping that "lightning never strikes the same place (or person) twice." ■

Troopers lock in their sights



Photo by Staff Sgt. Angelo Almodovar

◀High speed Troopers from C Troop 1-18 Cavalry Regiment, Pfc. William Meyers, Staff Sgt. Aaron Wentworth and Sgt. Jesus Castillo displayed various weapons sights. These sights greatly improve the shooting accuracy of our 18 CAV troopers. With the supervision of Staff Sgt. Wentworth, Charlie Troop's supply sergeant, Sgt. Castillo and Pfc. Meyers demonstrated how to properly install the day and night sights on different weapon systems, to include crew service and individual weapons. The M145 telescope sight on a crew service or individual weapon is a vast improvement to an already impressive weapon. Soldiers of Charlie Troop can't wait to get to the next live fire range to test the new sights.

GTMO's old man at the sea

By Spc. Timothy Book

JTF-GTMO Public Affairs Office

Among the Troopers at Guantanamo Bay is an ancient mariner. A man who has served the country on and off since 1967.

Coast Guard Petty Officer 1st Class Donald Fried, who works for the Port Security Unit 311 engineering department, enlisted in the Navy Sept. 4, 1967. His first assignment was as a signalman on the ship USS Brinkley Bass.

He did his first tour in Vietnam on the Brinkley Bass. On the way back to the U.S., he inquired about serving another tour, but was told there was no chance of him doing another tour. That didn't stop Fried.

"I wrote a nice long letter stating that I want to be put on (river patrol boat) duty," he said. "We got back and it wasn't even two weeks later before they sent me back."

On that second tour, Fried was on PBR (patrol boat river) and LST (landing ship tank) duty on the Mekong Delta. Instead of flying back from his second tour, Fried was asked to return on the LST 902 Luzerne County, which was to be decommissioned.

"After it was decommissioned, I got out (of the navy), he said. Fried broke from the Navy Sept. 4, 1970." "I really liked the Navy, but I just wanted to go home."

Fried stayed out of the service for a while, until a friend helped to change his mind.

"I had this friend who was



Photo by Spc. Timothy Book

Coast Guard Petty Officer 1st Class Donald Fried discusses maintenance issues with another PSU-311 member.

a petty officer and kept bugging me to come in as an engineer for the Coast Guard," said Fried. Eventually, he told his friend, "Well, I was an E-5 in the Navy. If I can be an E-5 in the Coast Guard, I'll do it."

He was required to take the tests to make the rate, and in 1986, he joined the Coast Guard Reserve as a machinery technician 2nd class. In September of 1989, Fried was called to active duty again.

"They called me on a Wednesday evening at about 9:00, and they said to report to Buffalo, N.Y. Saturday morning," Fried said. "Next thing I know, I'm in the Persian Gulf."

This marked Fried and his unit as the first Port Security Unit deployed in the Gulf War. During the Gulf War,

Fried started as a crewman, then worked his way up to a coxswain.

"It was boring, but a lot of work. We weren't outfitted for anything. They dropped us off in this huge parking lot. There was nothing there, just a big slab of concrete. That is where we lived," he said. "We used to go to all the ships and we made a little village out of all the wood we scrounged from all the ships. We set up camp, and then we kept borrowing stuff from everyone," he said. Eventually, the Army gave them a 40-foot freezer and a generator.

While there, Fried experienced some hair-raising moments.

"The port was one-mile long, a half-mile across and this is where all the ordinance came in," he said. "One night

we had scud alert, and a scud landed just six feet from where all the armaments were. I was told that if it hit just 50 feet the other way, it would have left a hole about eight miles deep."

In 2002, Fried was again called to active duty with PSU-311 and spent time at the Kuwaiti Navy Base.

"A SEAL team came in and took over the oil platforms, then we secured them. That's where we lived for 82 days," Fried said. "We came back and I thought I would retire, but next thing I know, we're in Cuba. I don't know where we'll go next."

Fried plans to retire after this deployment. "My wife tells me I'm getting too old to play games," he said. "It's still fun. I should be able to retire in December, unless I get called up again." ■

BOOTS ON THE GROUND

Spc. Seth Myers asked Troopers around
JTF-GTMO...

“Who would you like to visit GTMO?”



◀“My Dad’s band, the Jeffery Smith band. They play at a lot of Army bases.”

—Navy Petty Officer 3rd Class
Chris McClintock

▶“One of my congressmen. I am from Hawaii and they haven’t come here yet. I want them to know what is going on here.”

—Army 1st Lt. Seiha Hul



◀“Venus and Serena Williams. I have a lot of respect for them as players, and they are some of the greatest.”

—Army Sgt. Jesse Jones

▶“WWE Stars. There are a lot of wrestling fans down here. I think they do tours for the military too.”

—Army Pfc. William Meyers



Photos by Spc. Seth Myers

Mosquitoes: Fight the Bite!

Story and photo by Army Capt. Alyson McInerney

JTF-GTMO JDG Preventive Medicine Officer

Last week we learned all about how to protect *ourselves* from mosquito bites. So, you may be wondering, “OK, so what are *you* doing to control the mosquito population?” Well, rest assured that your friendly Preventive Medicine Department is hard at work to reduce the number of mosquitoes on GTMO to a tolerable level.

Every week, our entomology section conducts mosquito surveillance by counting the number of mosquitoes that are caught in our traps. We use two different types of traps: the Mosquito Magnet and the CDC Light trap. Both traps release carbon dioxide (which attracts the mosquitoes) and then pull them into the collection net by use of a fan. Once we capture more than 18 female mosquitoes within 24 hours in any one trap, we initialize control operations.



Navy Petty Officer 3rd Class Andrew Wells and Army Sgt. Amanda Wolfe from the U.S. Naval Hospital. Preventive Medicine Department set up the CDC light trap to catch mosquitoes.

Here on GTMO, Del-Gen currently handles the contract for pest control. Upon our request, they quickly respond by applying pesticides in two different forms. You may have seen the trucks driving around your housing areas releasing a cloud of pesticide. They are releasing Biomist®, a pesticide containing permethrin, which has a rapid knockdown capability. Biomist® is the least toxic product registered with the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) for adult mosquito control. When applied in accordance with the rate of application and safety precautions specified on the label, Biomist® can be used to kill mosquitoes without posing unreasonable risks to human health or the environment. The pesticide targets the adult mosquitoes during their most active times: dawn and dusk. Biomist® is also effective in the control of Black flies and biting and non-biting midges.

By far, the most effective means of mosquito control, however, is larvacide treatment. This pesticide is sprayed into bodies of standing water and targets mosquito larvae before they can hatch into adults.

Because of the climate, the mosquito season is year-round at Guantanamo Bay. We will continue to battle mosquitoes heavily until around November when their populations will naturally reduce due to a lack of rainfall and colder temperatures. Until then, continue to wear a repellent with DEET and remove all standing water sources around your home.

For more information contact the Naval Hospital Preventive Medicine Department at 7-2990. ■

MI CASA ES SU CASA

By Spc. Jeshua Nace

JTF-GTMO Public Affairs Office

Being away from home is always hard. What can ease that pain is making your area more comfortable and unique. There are many ways one can achieve this. A lamp here, maybe some pictures on your wall there, can go a long way. The more time you put into your room, the more satisfaction you get out of it.

For the people who are spending four months here, this isn't as important as it is for those people who are here for a year or more. I advise the people who are staying for a year to dig in your foxhole and prepare for a long stay. The more you think of this as your home and the more you get involved with your room, the faster and easier this deployment will become.

The first thing you should do, after getting everything unpacked, is start setting your things up. Put those family pictures up. Get with your roommates and arrange the room in a way you all can agree on.

The second thing that you should do is get to the main Navy Exchange (NEX). Don't buy anything yet, unless you really need it. Just check prices and see what items they have.

Don't buy everything you want now because if you're arriving, that means another unit is leaving. When units leave, the departing Troopers are going to have plenty of things they aren't going to take home with them.

Some of the things my roommates and I have bargained for were a couch, a leather reclining chair, lamps and a couple of televisions. Not everyone wants money,

though. Some people just need to get rid of their extra stuff and will give away things for free.

If you plan on going scuba diving, try to buy equipment from a person who isn't taking their stuff with them. Scuba equipment can get extremely expensive and buying it from another person can save you a lot of hard earned cash.

Another resource to find used items for sale is the Gazette. The Gazette, a paper produced by Sailors on the Navy side of GTMO, has classified ads for all types of items such as cars, playstations, games and televisions.

Besides the NEX, there is a furniture store here. It is located next to the gas station and the lyceum. The furniture store, which is open from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m., has a variety of couches, sofas, desks and bunk beds.

"[Troopers] like to come in and buy mattresses and love seats. People from the camps like to get small entertainment centers and computer desks," said Kenville Ashpole, a store supervisor at the furniture store.

"Right now, we have a variety of carpets, and we just got them in. They range from \$34.99 to \$119.99. The \$34.99 carpets are 9 feet by 12 feet," said Ashpole.

The furniture store also has bunk beds that have office space where the bottom bed would be. By replacing the standard bed the JTF provides with this bed, the active space is doubled. Then, you can take your extra bed and bunk it with one of your

roommates. The extra bed can be used to store things. Plus, if you stuff a blanket under the mattress on the top bunk and let it hang down, you can create what I call a "cave."

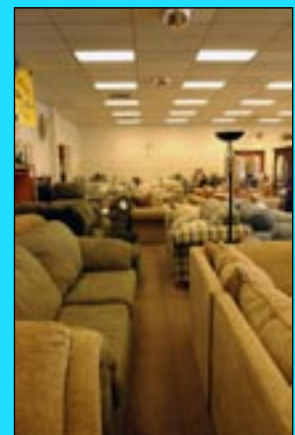
When you live with roommates that have a rotating schedule, it's a good idea to create yourself a "cave." That way, if someone needs to turn on the lights in the room, you won't be bothered, as long as you have a blanket over all the sides of the bed.

At the NEX, a good item to pickup is a fuzzy bathroom rug. You can stand on the rug and be comfortable while changing. This also helps one avoid getting athletes foot from the cement floors. Plastic containers are great to put inexpensive items away and are also available for purchase at the NEX as well as some yard sales.

Televisions are pretty cheap at the NEX, but if you want to spend a little extra money, you could get a LCD TV. LCDs are small enough to be stored in your closet or even chained to the wall. EBay has a large selection of LCD TVs that can be used as computer monitors.

Since we don't have a large selection on the island, a smart idea would be to buy off of websites like Amazon, AAFES and EBay. However, to get something shipped to Cuba can take around two weeks.

One of the biggest things that has been passed down from cycle to cycle is the shower curtain. With a little time and elbow grease any Trooper can set up a little privacy with five-fifty cord, 100 mile-an-hour tape and several shower curtains.



Photos by Spc. Jeshua Nace



Trooper makes use of his limited space.

Photo by Army Sgt. Todd Lamonica

10 TIPS TO IMPROVING YOUR SPACE

By 1st Lt. Angela King-Sweigart

JTF-GTMO Public Affairs Office

1. Cleanliness-Not only is it hygienic, but a clean space looks and feels much larger than one with clothing strewn about and empty food containers lying around.

2. Color-Think cool colors such as green and light blue. These colors reflect more light, which fools the eye into thinking the space is larger than it is. The worst colors to use are black, navy blue, or dark green.

3. White-White has its own category. It is not a color, but always makes a space feel larger particularly when used on ceilings. It lifts a space. If you have shower curtains, make them all white.

4. Theme-Keep everything matching. If you have shower curtains, make them all match. For your personal space, if you enjoy sports, consider choosing sports related bedding and hanging some of your equipment on the wall. Or consider a beach theme with light blue bedding and some of the shells you collected on your scuba or snorkeling trip. Or simply have everything in your space (bedding, towels, throw rugs) one color.

5. Light- Lighting in SEA huts is terrible. Consider buying an additional light with an incandescent bulb rather than relying solely on the florescent lighting. More light always makes a space look larger; think of a church compared to a cave.

6. Clutter-Minimize clutter. With minimal space excess personal things left lying around distract your eye and take away from the appearance of the room. Put excess items in your wall-locker or drawers. Consider leaving a few surfaces with nothing on them to give your eye a place to rest.

7. Containerize-If you really have a lot of stuff (see above) and you don't have enough space to store it in, put it in containers. These can be as simple as an empty shoebox, or you could invest in some plastic containers from the NEX. Personal hygiene products look much neater when stored in a container than when spread out over the top of a dresser. Use under the bed storage boxes for excess items that you do not use on a regular basis.

8. Accessorize Properly-If you decide to go with a theme- group items in odd

numbers and in different heights. If you have collections, such as a large number of DVDs in your common area, stack all the cases on the shelf like books for visual impact.

9. Furniture Arrangement- The best furniture arrangement for small spaces is matching pairs. Matched sets are ideal, but if you don't have them, match two chairs of similar style and scale. Have your TV as a base upon which to base your furniture arrangement. Put two matching chairs on one wall and then two matching chairs or sofa at a right angle facing the TV. You enter the arrangement thru the opening of the L.

10. Mirrors and Shiny Surfaces-Mirrors make a space look larger. A light placed behind a mirror will reflect additional light back into the room. Remember, whatever a mirror reflects is the most important thing.

Happy Decorating!

Editors Note: In her civilian job 1st Lt. Angela King-Sweigart works as an interior decorator and is a Certified Interior Decorator (C.I.D.) ■

Labor issues: somebody finally gets it right

Commentary by Army Staff Sergeant Jeremy Patterson

JTF-GTMO Public Affairs Office

Having been a sports fan virtually my entire life, I've been through my fair share of highs and lows. When Oakland won the World Series in 1989, there was no greater feeling in the world for me, even though I was only 11 at the time. The Michigan Wolverines winning the NCAA Football National Championship in 1997 was a major morale booster for a young private first class deployed to Bosnia. And the consistent play of the Miami Dolphins and Phoenix Suns always gave me something to root for, year in and year out. But over the last year, one thing has brought me tremendous joy in sports: somebody finally getting the labor negotiations right.

About 11 years ago, my world virtually came to a halt when the baseball players went on strike, canceling the World Series. Thankfully, only a few months were lost to the work stoppage, and 10 years later, baseball proved they learned their lesson, avoiding another potential disaster last season by reaching an agreement at the deadline. How have the fans reacted? Attendance and TV ratings are at an all time high, merchandise sales are through the roof and baseball is once again the great American pastime. Baseball is back folks, stronger than ever.

The National Football League has been in great condition for years now, so I don't have much to say about them. New and exciting players rise up each year and surprises abound with any game you watch. Popularity is expanding around the world, and the future, as always, is bright.

A league that has had labor issues in the last decade, the National Basketball Association, also learned its lesson, coming to an agreement to avoid what would have been its third stoppage in 10 years. Coinciding with such young stars as LeBron James, Amare Stoudamire, and Dwayne Wade, interest in the NBA is skyrocketing, with no end in sight. All this leads me to my main point...

The National Hockey League is dying, plain and simple. The first sport to ever cancel a full season due to labor related issues, hockey was already hurting before all this took place. Being a union steward at my civilian job, I can somewhat relate to what goes on in labor relations to a much smaller degree having been involved in contract negotiations. Knowing what I know, I relate with union workers not wanting a cap on what they can make. But with players making millions of dollars every year, how much more do you really need? The owners are not excluded from any blame. They are just as selfish and greedy as the players and are also one of the reasons hockey fans were kicked to the curb this past winter, wondering what their beloved sport was thinking.

Finally, a few weeks ago, the two sides agreed (in prin-

iple) to a salary cap system and are supposedly close to an agreement on all other issues. Just when it looked like everything was coming into place, Philadelphia Flyers all star center Jeromy Roenick made some very disparaging remarks about the fans who considered the players greedy, selfish, etc., telling them to kiss his you-know-what. Now, I may be wrong in saying this, but maybe he should be the one puckering up here. The sport was hobbling around before the lockout and is in dire straits now. Roenick is only alienating more fans that pay his overpriced salary and if he doesn't want me in the arena when they play again, fine by me. I'm sure a lot of other fans share this opinion. I feel sorry for the ones whose teams will have to fold due to financial repercussions leveled by the stoppage.

In summary, one thing is obvious: Professional hockey needs a miracle. Baseball had Mark McGwire and Sammy Sosa, and the NBA has a rash of young, talented athletes. Whether hockey can survive in America or not will be answered in the near future. One thing's for sure though, they are on life support, and the only ones that can bring the NHL back to life are the ones they've alienated; the fans. ■

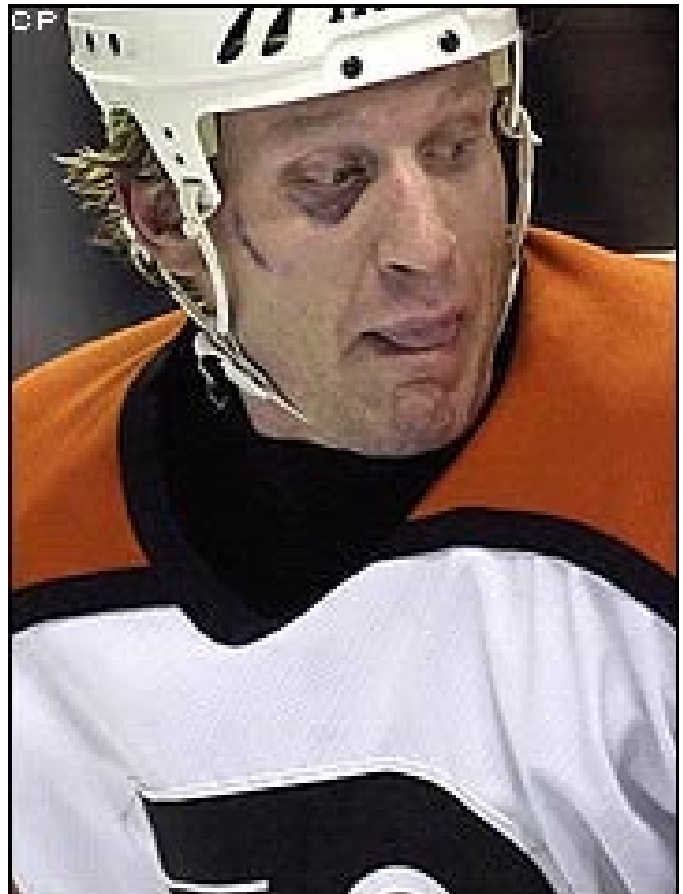


Photo found at tsn.ca.com

Jeromy Roenick is biting his tongue after his comments to the fans.

Supply and demand

By Army Sgt. Todd Lamonica

JTF-GTMO Public Affairs Office

Next time you pick up a bottle of water, use a pen or almost any item you can find in your office take a moment to think about how that item got here. Troopers working in the J4 supply warehouse are responsible for making those and many other items available to commands in the Joint Task Force.

Without their professional ability and commitment to the mission, things could be very difficult around here. Capt. John Hotek leads these J4 Troopers. He has over 10 yrs. in the business of logistics and supply as both a civilian and a Trooper.

His efforts are evident here at the JTF. He is in charge of providing 32,400 bottles of water for the JTF. On a weekly basis, he purchases hard to find items for detainee operations and keeps a 42 million dollar warehouse running strong. "We are a one stop shop for the JTF," said Hotek

His efforts would be fruitless were it not for his staff and the civilians who provide the muscle and knowledge to get the job done.

Two other offices, which are integral parts of the warehouse, are the Property Book Office (PBO) and the Headquarters and Headquarters Company supply (HHC). PBO is responsible for keeping track of almost any item that you can



Photo by Army Sgt. Todd Lamonica

Spc. Joshua Hawkins, HHC Supply NCO, is receiving an item from the lead warehouseman Ronald Bliang.

find in your office or workspace that the JTF owns.

Issuance and turn in of property, whether the item is broken or is being reissued, needs to go through the system here. These are some of the services that the PBO provides. "Whether a unit is just getting here or leaving, accountability of that property must remain intact," said Chief Warrant Officer Tom Clark, who runs the property book office assisted by Staff Sgt. Alberto Guterrez.

"We have the ability to see who has custody of a certain item by a push of a button," said Clark. Items have been known to disappear in the past. But with the new system, accountability is a lot better.

HHC supply is a separate entity within the J4 warehouse, but still is part of the team. Spc. Joshua Hawkins, a JTF HHC Supply NCO, runs this office and has 5 years of experience in this line of work. He is responsible for helping out with the accountability of all sensitive items in the HHC and keeping track of inventory and lateral transfers.

"You name it, from computers systems to cell phones, I keep track of it all," said Hawkins.

That's three different offices all functioning in the same building and working toward the same goal, to keep the JTF moving. ■

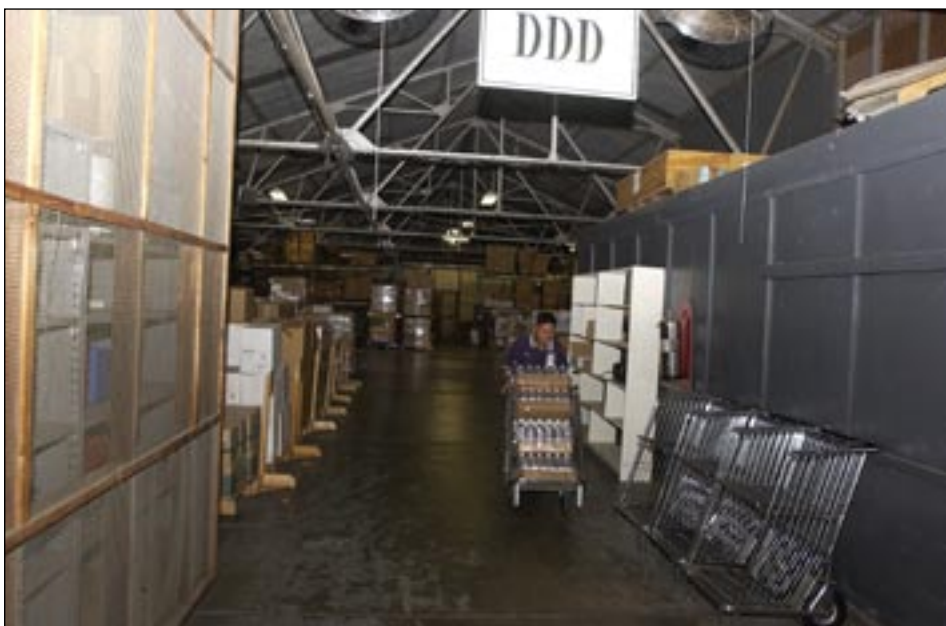


Photo by Army Sgt. Todd Lamonica

One of J4's warehouse workers fills out an order for a customer.

Patriotism

By Army Lt. Col. Chris Molnar

JTF Command Chaplain

Several years ago Gen. Fred Franks (USA, Ret.) wrote with Tom Clancy, INTO THE STORM, a narrative of the first Gulf War from his viewpoint, Franks said.

“Someone asked me a few years ago why I wanted to be a soldier. I thought a few seconds before answering. Then I said, ‘If you like what our country stands for and are willing to fight to protect those ideals, you ought to be a soldier. If the sound of the national anthem and the sight of our flag stir something inside you, then you ought to be a soldier. If you want to be around a lot of other people who feel the same way about all that as you do, you ought to be a soldier. If you like a challenge, are not afraid of hard work, and think you are tough enough to meet the standards on the battlefield, you ought to be a soldier. If you and your family are strong enough to endure the many separations, often on a moment’s notice, and can live that kind of life, then you ought to be a soldier. If the thought that at the end of your life you can say - or have said about you - that you served your country, if that appeals to you and you need no other reward than that, then you ought to be a soldier.’” (p.512) GEN Franks could just as well have

been talking about any member of the Armed Forces.

Patriotism is far more than a feel-goodism brought on by war stories. It is, however, a feeling in your gut that moves you to action when you would just as soon do nothing. Our founding fathers believed that the American form of government presupposes in its citizens a higher degree of virtue and self-discipline than any other form of government. (THE FEDERALIST PAPERS, #56) Many of our founding fathers were devoutly religious. They likely took to heart these words from the New Testament: “Remind the people to be subject to rulers and authorities, to be obedient, to be ready to do whatever is good, to slander no one, to be peaceable and considerate, and to show true humility toward all...” (Titus 3:1)

Maybe it’s just a symptom of getting older, but I need that great music, the passion of patriotism, to keep me going in the good fight for my Country, the Army and the JTF. It is good that the music and the memories water the eyes more quickly now than when I was younger. It takes heart to deal with the increase of responsibility, the prolonged separation from family and the pain in the bones that doesn’t go away as quickly as it once did. I have always believed that, besides all the strategy, discipline, equipment, and so on, when you get right down to it, soldiering has always been and will always be, a matter of the heart. My prayer for you all is that God, in His grace, will give you the heart to love your country and your service in the military.

Honor Bound! ■

✠ Padre’s Corner ✠ Responsibility

By Navy Chaplain (Lt. Cmdr.) S.J. Vanden Boogard

NAVBASE Chaplain’s Office

Many of us during our lifetime have been with a group on a camping trip or some other similar outing that extended over several days. Along with our enjoyment associated with such outings, there were probably certain assigned tasks handed out to each individual to perform for the group. Since these outings were away from “civilization,” the pleasure and convenience of the group depended on us accomplishing our assigned chores. There was no place to hide from responsibility, and no one to pass the buck to.

On our job in the military or in the community, it is easier to avoid our responsibilities or to “let Sam do it.” The outdoors person is self-reliant because they accept responsibility as being a part of life. Everyone, regardless of their job or station in life, has responsibilities to their employer i.e. the military, their family and to the community in which they live. Emerson once said,

“Man is a knot of roots, and his responsibilities lie in the proper nurture of those roots to produce the flowers of life”.

Success comes to those who do what they should, not by expecting others to do it for them. We need to bring our desires in line with our responsibilities, not try fitting our responsibilities in with our wishes.

Discipline is involved in responsibility, which involves the proper execution of the routine and even the unpleasant tasks. It involves confidence and judgment—to choose the best and to do the best. Most of us are careful about our personal appearance. Responsibility is the same care applied to our work, family, community, shipmates, battle buddies or wingmen.

The measure of our progress in life is our positive acceptance of our responsibilities. Many times it can involve assuming more obligation than we realize. ■

CAMP AMERICA WORSHIP SCHEDULE

Sunday	9 a.m.	Sunday School	Troopers’ Chapel
	10 a.m.	Protestant Service	Troopers’ Chapel
	6:00 p.m.	Confessions	Troopers’ Chapel
	6:30 p.m.	Catholic Mass	Troopers’ Chapel
	7:30 p.m.	Protestant Service	Building 3203
Tuesday	7 p.m.	Alpha	Building 3202
Wednesday	7:30 p.m.	Soul Survivor	Club Survivor
Saturday	3 p.m.	Saturday Vigil Mass	Troopers’ Chapel

NAVAL BASE CHAPEL

Sunday	8 a.m.	Pentecostal Gospel	Sanctuary C
	9 a.m.	Catholic Mass	Main Chapel
	9 a.m.	Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints	Sanctuary A
	9:30 a.m.	Protestant Sunday School	Main Chapel
	11 a.m.	Protestant Service	Main Chapel
Monday	1 p.m.	Gospel Service	Main Chapel
	5 p.m.	Pentecostal Gospel	Sanctuary C
	7 p.m.	Prayer Group Fellowship	Fellowship Hall
	7 p.m.	Family Home Evening	Room 8
	Tues. to Fri.	12 p.m.	Daily Mass
Wednesday	7 p.m.	Men’s Bible Study	Fellowship Hall
Friday	1 p.m.	Islamic Prayer	Room 12
Saturday	4:30 p.m.	Confessions	Main Chapel
	5:30 p.m.	Vigil Mass	Main Chapel

Jewish Services held every third Friday at 1930 in the NAVSTATION Chapel complex.

Hebrew classes are being offered at the Naval Base Chapel complex Thursdays 7:00-8:00 p.m. in Room 11.

15 Minutes of Fame with Jay Wojcik

By Spc. Timothy Book

JTF-GTMO Public Affairs Office

What is your position here at Guantanamo?

I am a training instructor for the naval base in regards to weapons and qualifications. I also work closely with the Army, since we support all the ranges here. We have five ranges here. There's two on this side and three on the leeward side. Two are 25-meter ranges; we can use M-16 or pistol. The others are crew-served ranges where we can use 50-caliber down to M-9's. Two ranges can use high explosives. Anything you can think of, we've shot.

How did you get this job?

I was actually already down here as active duty in the Navy. I came down here May 22, 2000. I was here for 30 months, and I separated from the Navy. Then they hired me to do the same job. I didn't even have to leave. I was separating, and I wanted to go to school. So, I figured I could do all that and have a job down here. I'm pretty active in school. I'm trying to complete my degree in general studies with an emphasis in management.

What is the most important part of your job?

Safety is definitely our

priority. We deal with this a lot because a Navy base is run different than an Army base. Army ranges are generally much more strict to safety, using the publications and creating an SOP. The Navy is a bit more relaxed. The Navy guys go through a school and are trained specifically on the ranges. In the Army, if you're an E-5 or above, you can run a range. But, they put more requirements on that non-commissioned officer. He has to produce more information to his commander before he can run a range. Down here, the Army does a great job running the ranges.

We also maintain the ranges, which can be a little hard. The shop here is pretty small, so we just try to do the best we can. We try to do as much range maintenance as possible. We have carpenters who build targets, barricades or whatever the JTF needs.

When a unit uses a range, do you have to be there?

We have a JQR, or job qualification requirement. An NCO has to fulfill those requirements and have them signed off by a qualified range safety officer before they can run a range. They have to go out to a range



Photo by Spc. Timothy Book

and be able to identify the safe barriers and firing lanes. Once they can identify all the safety issues, we give them a test and qualify them.

What do you like most about your job?

Being outdoors. I like being out at the ranges. We sometimes go out and cut the grass. I just have to be outside. I'd rather build a range than sit in an office. I don't know if I could handle being down here four or five years if I were stuck behind a desk, on the computer playing email tag with someone. Our ranges cover most of the base so there's always plen-

ty to do around here. I enjoy being outdoors. I enjoy training people to shoot. I like taking care of the ranges. I really like everything about my job. ■

15 Minutes of Fame

Know a Trooper worthy of being highlighted in "15 Minutes of Fame?" Call Sgt. 1st Class Sheila Tunney at 3594.



Photo by Spc. Timothy Book

▲Hurricane Dennis wreaked havoc elsewhere but caused little damage here.

AROUND THE JTF



Photo by Army Staff Sgt. Nfor Barthson

▲Lt. Col. Curt Salveson was “arrested” as a practical joke during Col. John Hadjis’ farewell roast.



Photo by Army Sgt. Todd Lamonica

▲Troopers from the JTF Headquarters pose for a group photo at the downtown Lyceum.



Photo by Spc. Jeshua Nace

▲Susan Davis, a congresswoman from California, reads a story in “The Wire” about Al Jazeera during her tour to see Camp Delta.