By Navy Petty Officer 2nd Class
Jim Brown
JTF-GTMO Public Affairs Office

Guantanamo Bay’s newest chief petty officers were “pinned” at the Windjammer Friday here. Sixteen first class petty officers with ratings as varied as Master-at-Arms to Navy Diver took center stage to assume the duties of Navy chief following weeks of the mentally and physically strenuous “Season of Pride.”

The time-honored tradition of making the transition from petty officer first class to the senior enlisted leadership position of chief petty officer, was begun with the chief selectees marching and singing “Anchors Aweigh.” The Selectees wore no indication of rank on their new khaki uniforms as their new chief petty Officer combination covers awaited to be bestowed to them from a side table.

After the colors were paraded and retired and the Sailors’ Creed was recited, the guest speaker, Naval Station Guantanamo Command Master Chief Petty Officer Larry Cairo addressed the crowded ballroom and chief selects. “You might call this their coming out ceremony,” Cairo said of the event. “The purpose of ‘season of pride’ is to turn these 16 into one team,” Cairo explained of the transition process.

The training process included studying programs and policies of the Navy. Additionally, physical training was a big part of the five week-long “Season of Pride.” To assume the mantle that is inherent in the rank of chief petty officer, the training procedures were also designed to allow the new chief petty officers to face the challenges they will meet in their duties. The number 16 is seemingly small, in fact it is an elite group. “Only 7% of the Navy is allowed to be chief petty officers,” Cairo stated.

The rank, “chief petty officer,” is relatively new to the U.S. Navy. Although, “chief,” was unofficially used for certain rates prior, such as Boatswain’s Mate and Gunner’s Mate, it officially became a Navy-wide rank in 1893.

The Fiscal Year ’07 chief petty officer selectees were individually called forth from the stage to have the fouled anchors of their rank pinned on their collars and receive their new covers by family or friends. The new chief petty officers were then introduced to the cheers and claps of the audience and then piped “aboard” as chief petty officers.

After the reading of the chief petty officer creed, singing of “Anchors Aweigh” and the benediction, the ceremony ended. Perhaps with a degree of relief but definitely a sense of pride, GTMO’s newest chief petty officers were prepared for the questions that will arise after a young Trooper is told, “Ask the Chief.”
Navy Master Chief Teague introduces Navy Command Master Chief LeVault

By Navy Command Master Chief Petty Officer Benjamin Teague

For the past six weeks it has been my distinct honor and privilege to serve as the interim Command Master Chief for the Joint Task Force. This position was left vacant when Command Master Chief Joseph Campa was selected to be the Master Chief Petty Officer of the Navy (MCPON) and following the transfer of Command Sergeant Major Febles to his next duty assignment. I want to thank everyone for the support and assistance I have received during this short period of time.

I now have the pleasure of introducing Command Master Chief (SW/AW/NAC) Brad LeVault to the outstanding professionals of the JTF. Command Master Chief LeVault will arrive at Guantanamo on September 23 and will serve as the JTF’s Command Master Chief for the next two years.

An accomplished and seasoned leader, Command Master Chief LeVault is uniquely qualified to lead the men and women of our important and special joint organization. With an impressive and diverse career history, his operational experience spans tours of duty with aviation squadrons, aircraft carriers, and destroyers. A few of his shore assignments include assignments to an overseas Tactical Support Center, as a Recruit Training Company Commander and with the Naval Air Development Center.

Master Chief LeVault is a graduate of the United States Army Sergeant’s Major Academy in El Paso, Texas, where he later served as an instructor. He received a Bachelor of Science degree from Excelsior College and recently earned a Master’s degree in National Security and Strategic Studies from the College of Naval Warfare at the Naval War College, Newport, R.I.

Navy Command Master Chief Petty Officer Brad LeVault

The Command Master Chief’s wife and four children will join him in Guantanamo in the near future.

On behalf of the men and women of the JTF, I offer an enthusiastic greeting and “Welcome aboard!” to Master Chief LeVault and his family. “Honor Bound!”
U.S.A.F. Birthday—Flying High for 59 Years

By Navy Petty Officer 2nd Class
Jim Brown
JTF-GTMO Public Affairs Office

On September 18, the United States Air Force celebrated its 59th birthday. The cake-cutting ceremony took place at the Seaside Galley here. With a sword in hand, U.S. Air Force Senior Airman Jennifer Hilley cut the ceremonial cake as Troopers of all services looked on during the birthday of the youngest U.S. Armed Force.

The U.S. Army Air force began as Aeronautical Division, U.S. Signal Corps on August 1, 1907. The service developed into the Air Corps and then Army Forces on June 20, 1941. Following World War II, the Department of the Air Force was born on September 18, 1947 based on the content of the National Security Act of July 26 of that year.

The role of air power was initially demonstrated with the use of dirigibles and airplanes for bombing and has continued with the use of supersonic aircraft and the potential use of land-based missiles as a deterrent to war from the Cold War until today. The Air Force has grown from an arm of the U.S. Army to become the dominant air power in the world, performing in every major theater of war for the past 100 years. Happy Birthday, Air Force!

Security bulletin: Social Security Numbers

By Frank Perkins
JTF-GTMO Special Security Office

The social security number was created in 1936 as a nine-digit account number assigned by the Secretary of Health and Human Services for the purpose of administering the social security laws. The issuance of a single, unique number to Americans raises the risk that the SSN will become a de facto national identifier. This risk is not new; it was voiced at the creation of the SSN and has since been raised repeatedly. SSNs were first intended for use exclusively by the federal government as a means of tracking earnings to determine the amount of social security taxes to credit to each worker’s account. Seventy years later, SSNs are now used for purposes unrelated to the administration of the social security system.

Large amounts of personal information, including tax information, banking and credit information, security clearance information, school records, insurance and medical records, is keyed to your social security number. Because this data is often sensitive, you should keep it private. The widespread use of the SSN as an identifier and an authenticator has led to an increase in identity theft. Identity theft now affects between 500,000 and 700,000 people annually. Victims often do not discover the crime until many months after its occurrence. Victims spend hundreds of hours and substantial amounts of money attempting to fix ruined credit or expunge a criminal record that another committed in their name. Your security clearance can be adversely affected during this process.

Don’t give out your SSN. Try to bargain with businesses that request it by giving an alternative identifier, such as a driver’s license number. Ask the following questions before releasing the SSN: Why is my number needed? How will my number be used? What happens if I refuse? What law requires me to give my number?

The point of contact for this information is Frank Perkins at ext. 9824. Remember, mission first, security always!
American Legion Post at GTMO

By Navy Petty Officer 2nd Class Jim Brown
JTF-GTMO Public Affairs Office

On Sep. 26, there will be an “interest and organizational” meeting regarding the establishment of an American Legion Post at Naval Station Guantanamo Bay, Cuba. The meeting will be held at 11:30-1:30 at the Acey Deucey Club. All personnel who are currently Legionnaires or are interested in becoming members are asked to attend. The Naval Station command has only recently approved the establishment of the organization here.

To become a member one must have served at least one day of active duty service in one of the U.S. Armed Forces during one of these dates:

If you served during one of these periods or have been honorably discharged, you are eligible for membership in this organization.

The organization was started in 1919 and is chartered by Congress. It is a war-time veterans group that focuses on community service. Almost three million male and female veterans make up the membership of nearly 15,000 posts throughout the world. The national organization employs roughly 300 staff-members who work with the thousands of volunteers.

If you are interested in joining what will be the start of a ground-breaking post, please attend the meeting. For additional information, please call Navy Capt. William E. Vaughan at ext. 5259.

Network News

Computer Security Parallels Airline Security

By Air Force 1st Lt. Jim Northamer
JTF-GTMO Information Assurance Officer

Over the course of the last few years, we’ve all experienced and accepted increased security measures at airports across the globe. Many items that most of us would consider harmless have now been deemed unsafe for carrying onto airplanes. Despite the inconveniences caused by these security procedures, we have all accepted that in order to get onto these planes, we must be willing to play by the new rules. As security threats evolve, so do the measures airlines take to mitigate these threats. Our government-owned information systems face similar, albeit less newsworthy threats.

Many seemingly harmless hardware and software devices pose an unacceptable threat to our computer networks. This is why all hardware and software loaded onto the computer network is closely monitored and controlled. Many “harmless” devices and programs have been proven to introduce vulnerabilities to our computer networks. In addition to these known threats, new threats and vulnerabilities are identified every day. As these threats are identified, countermeasures must be adopted to neutralize the threat. Neutralizing this threat is part of the JTF-GTMO Information Assurance (IA) Office’s mission.

The JTF-GTMO IA Office manages the mitigation of computer threats by ensuring that as threats to our information systems are identified, appropriate countermeasures are taken. These countermeasures typically involve sending software patches across the network to those computers that are operating with known vulnerabilities. We try to make this as painless as possible for all computer users by requiring users to log off the network at the end of every day, but leave their computers powered on. Leaving the computer logged off but powered on allows the J6 community to patch these computers overnight with minimal user impact. Once the applicable patches have been pushed out and the computer has been “fixed,” it usually requires a reboot. If you are logged off the network when these patches are pushed, your computer should be patched, rebooted, and ready for you to log on. On the other hand, if you do not log off when these patches are pushed (sometimes these patches must be pushed midday), you will see a box telling you that your computer must be rebooted in order to complete these installs. Admittedly, these announcements and reboots always seem to come at inconvenient times. However, these reboots must take place in a timely manner to ensure threats to our network are mitigated in a timely manner. Until the computer is rebooted, these patches are not fully implemented and our computer systems are still vulnerable.

Similar to the “inconveniences” caused by the increased security countermeasures we face when traveling, we all must accept the inconveniences caused by automated security mechanisms on our information systems. The responsibility for making systems available to these automated tools must be accepted by every user to ensure our systems are secure. Logging off when you are away from your computer for an extended period of time and rebooting your computer when prompted are two simple things that assist us in securing our networks. With the cooperation of all “passengers” on our information systems, we can collectively mitigate the threats to our information systems.

If you ever have any questions or concerns about a computer security issue, please feel free to contact the JTF-GTMO IA Office at j6-ia@jtfgtmo.southcom.mil or x3333.
Troopers and personnel within the Joint Task Force are encouraged to wash their hands frequently to help keep themselves safe from a recent viral outbreak here.

Numerous viral gastroenteritis cases have been identified at the Joint Aid Station and the Naval Station Hospital here.

“The virus is easily spread in settings such as households, healthcare settings, schools, pools and during food preparations if hands are not thoroughly washed with soap and water,” said Army Capt. Melanie Smith, the Joint Detention Group preventative medicine officer-in-charge.

The virus causes symptoms such as nausea, diarrhea, low fever, headaches, muscle aches, chills and fatigue.

Hand washing is the most important way to prevent infection, said Smith.

Wash hands with soap and water:

- After using the toilet
- After having diarrhea or vomiting
- After touching any stool-soiled or vomit-soiled materials, toilets, or surfaces
- Before eating

Antibiotics do not treat viral gastroenteritis and will not help alleviate symptoms. Troopers should be allowed to remain away from duty for two days if diagnosed with the virus as it is very contagious according to the NAVSTA Hospital medical staff.

Symptoms of the virus usually begin suddenly in 12 to 48 hours after exposure, and last 24 to 48 hours; after which, the virus usually goes away without treatment.

For more information on this subject, contact Naval Hospital Guantanamo Bay, Preventative Medicine Department at ext. 7-2990.
A Navy chief pinning ceremony took place at the Windjammer Friday.

Sixteen chief selects marched into the Windjammer singing “Anchors Aweigh,” stood on stage and awaited their appointments to chief.

One by one, each chief select was called forward to receive their new rank emblem in front of a capacity crowd.

Each chief select had individuals pin their new ranks on them. Some had their family, while others had their fellow chiefs pin them.

The crowd cheered with standing ovations for each chief select as they were “pinned.”

By Army Spc. Philip Regina
JTF-GTMO Public Affairs Office
FEATURE STORY

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 22, 2006 | THE WIRE

AWEIGH

Photo by Navy Petty Officer 1st Class Terry Matlock
Photo by Army Spc. Philip Regina
Photo by Army Spc. Philip Regina
Photo by Army Spc. Philip Regina
Photo by Army Spc. Philip Regina
Photo by Army Spc. Philip Regina
Football season is upon us, and that can only mean the popular game of “Pigskin Picks” isn’t far behind.

The contest, which starts this week and runs for 21 weeks, will pit Joint Task Force-GTMO command team members against each other to see who gets the final bragging rights after the 21 weeks.

Picks will be sent out by email from Army Sgt. Maj. Oscar Diaz every Monday and team picks must be submitted back to Army Sgt. Maj. Oscar Diaz by noon on Wednesday. The winners will be announced in The Wire sports section the following Friday.

JTF command teams are asked to select the winners of 13 football games. The command team with the best win-loss record is declared the winner.

JTF command teams consist of: all JTF commanders and their senior enlisted (you must work as a team.)

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By Army Sgt. Maj Oscar Diaz
JTF-GTMO Public Affairs Sgt. Maj.
**Movie Summary**

By Navy Petty Officer 2nd Class Jim Brown

“*Miami Vice*”

This feature is writer/director Michael Mann’s 2006 restyling of the iconic 1980s television series. The two primary protagonists of the series are back in the form of Jamie Foxx (as Ricardo Tubbs) and Colin Farrell (as James “Sonny” Crockett). The action follows murderous drug lords who meet up with Miami undercover officers, Crockett and Tubbs, posing as boat racers and smugglers. The lives and loves of unconventional undercover officers in the world drug trafficking are portrayed with stylish fast-action in a South Florida setting. Starring Colin Farrell, Jamie Foxx and Li Gong. Rated R. 132 mins.

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Army Spc. Dustin Robbins asks, “What is your favorite thing about fall?”

- “My favorite thing about the fall is watching football.”
  - Army Staff Sgt. Tyrone Mackey, 193rd Military Police Company

- “I loved seeing the different colors of the leaves in autumn in Pennsylvania.”
  - Navy Petty Officer 2nd Class Jessica Ritterbusch, Camp America Post Office

- “It’d have to be watching the trees in the fall.”
  - Navy Seaman Apprentice Michael Freimuth, culinary specialist, Joint Task Force-GTMO logistics (Food Service)

- “I like the cooler weather that comes with the fall.”
  - Army Pvt. Mathew Ward, a Trooper with the 525 MP Battalion
The New Year is Coming!

By Army Chaplain (Capt.) David Meyer
525th Military Police Battalion Chaplain

The first of Tishri will mark the beginning of 5767, at least if you are following the Jewish calendar (on the Gregorian calendar, which most of us are much more familiar, it is September 23 this year). The Celebration of Rosh Hashanah marks the beginning of the Jewish year and leads in to one of the holiest of holidays for Jewish people, Yom Kippur. Unlike the traditional American New Year’s celebration which traditionally involves lots of festivities and a football game or two with a hangover, it is a time to begin reflection on one’s own weaknesses and shortfalls. Like the more familiar New Year holiday it is a time to be resolved to make improvements in a person’s life, a chance and a new beginning that is such a part of the reason for celebrating a new year. It is marked by blowing the shofar or ram’s horn trumpet.

The ten days beginning with Rosh Hashanah and ending with Yom Kippur are known as the Days of Awe or Yamim Noraim. This is a time of introspective contemplation—a time to look at a person’s own life and determine what needs to change there. It is also a time to look at relationships that are damaged and need to be repaired. It is a time to do good deeds for others in an effort to maintain as positive a relationship with the world as possible.

All of this is leading up to the holiest day of the Jewish calendar which is Yom Kippur or the Day of Atonement. This is the day when God calls people to judgment for their sins. In Biblical times there were two goats that were sacrificed on this day, one of them was killed and burned on the altar. The priest took the second goat and laid his hands on its head symbolically placing the sins of the people for the past year on that goat and then it was driven into the wilderness.

Today the day is spent at Synagogue in prayer and contemplation. It is a day of fasting, no food is to be eaten unless medically necessary, and humility—leather shoes are not worn and cosmetics and perfumes are not used and people do not engage in sexual activity.

It is a time focused on God and a person’s relationship with Him.

Whether or not we come from a Jewish tradition, there is tremendous value in learning what it is that others celebrate and how they celebrate. There is also tremendous value in a time of introspection and contemplation. Christianity takes this time during the season of Lent, Islam during Ramadan and other faiths do it at other times.

[The] Great suffer hours of depression through introspection and self-doubt. That is why they are great. That is why you will find modesty and humility the characteristics of such men.
Bruce Barton (1886 - 1967)

How can you work to heal your life and the lives of those around you?

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Camp America Worship Schedule

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<tr>
<th>Day</th>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Service</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Sunday</td>
<td>9:00 a.m.</td>
<td>Protestant Service</td>
<td>Troopers’ Chapel</td>
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<td></td>
<td>5:45 p.m.</td>
<td>Confessions</td>
<td>Troopers’ Chapel</td>
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<td></td>
<td>6:30 p.m.</td>
<td>Catholic Mass</td>
<td>Troopers’ Chapel</td>
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<td></td>
<td>7:30 p.m.</td>
<td>Bible Study</td>
<td>Camp America North Pavilion</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wednesday</td>
<td>7:30 p.m.</td>
<td>Bible Study</td>
<td>Camp America North Pavilion</td>
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Naval Base Chapel

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<th>Day</th>
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<th>Service</th>
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<tr>
<td>Sunday</td>
<td>8:00 a.m.</td>
<td>Pentecostal Gospel</td>
<td>Room 13</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>8:15 a.m.</td>
<td>Confession</td>
<td>Main Chapel</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>9:00 a.m.</td>
<td>Catholic Mass</td>
<td>Main Chapel</td>
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<td></td>
<td>9:00 a.m.</td>
<td>Church of Jesus Christ</td>
<td>Sanctuary A</td>
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<td></td>
<td>9:30 a.m.</td>
<td>Protestant Sun. School</td>
<td>Main Chapel</td>
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<td>10:00 a.m.</td>
<td>Protestant Liturgical</td>
<td>Sanctuary B</td>
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<td>11:00 a.m.</td>
<td>Protestant Service</td>
<td>Main Chapel</td>
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<td>1:00 p.m.</td>
<td>Gospel Service</td>
<td>Main Chapel</td>
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<td>Mon. to Fri.</td>
<td>5:15 p.m.</td>
<td>Confessions</td>
<td>Main Chapel</td>
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<td>6:00 p.m.</td>
<td>Mass</td>
<td>Main Chapel</td>
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<td>Wednesday</td>
<td>6:30 p.m.</td>
<td>Men’s Bible Study</td>
<td>Fellowship Hall</td>
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<td>Friday</td>
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<td>Islamic Prayer</td>
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<td>Confessions</td>
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<td>Vigil Mass</td>
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<td>7:00 p.m.</td>
<td>Mass</td>
<td>PPI Chapel</td>
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Jewish Shabbat Services held every second Friday at 7:30 p.m. in the Naval Base Chapel complex Room 11.
For more information, call ext. 3202 or ext. 2323.
By Army Spc. Philip Regina
JTF-GTMO Public Affairs Office

Honduras, Nicaragua, Gambia and Somalia are not exactly a list of locales the average American girl can claim to have grown up in. The list reads more like the options on a Peace Corps application.

For Army 2nd Lt. Nathalie Conley, these locales are the lands of her youth and now she finds herself, yet again, on foreign soil.

Conley’s father worked for the State Department in foreign relations. The exotic locales of her youth are the result of her father’s job, as well as his wanderlust.

“My father served in the Army during Vietnam. His tour took him to Vietnam and Thailand. That experience influenced him to continue traveling after he finished college. He ended up volunteering for the Peace Corps and eventually got a job at the State Department,” explained Conley.

Conley’s upbringing away from the continental U.S. led to a very unique experience as a youth.

“With all the places I spent as a child, it allowed me to experience things that not a lot of kids have. I visited James Island in Gambia, a major site in the West African Slave Trade. I also got to learn a lot of different languages, I can speak Spanish, French and English,” added Conley.

Although her father only spent one tour in the military service, Conley opted to serve the nation in the military for a longer period. She was enlisted Army for 10 years, working her way up to the rank of Staff Sergeant. She then went on to become an officer.

“I decided to become an officer because I wanted to be involved in a higher echelon of service. I worked my way up from junior enlisted where you do what you’re told and senior enlisted where you do the telling. I wanted to be involved in the planning, I wanted to lead soldiers,” said Conley.

Conley has strong convictions of what it is to be a good leader.

“I believe that soldiers are entitled to excellent leadership and that leadership begins with officers who are truly committed and are ‘servants to the nation’ and embody what it means to lead from the front,” added Conley.

From her youth spent in Gambia to leading troops at Guantanamo Bay, Conley has made globetrotting a lifetime experience. Her current home, here in GTMO has brought new experiences, this being her first experience with a Joint Task Force.

“I’ve always wanted to work with the sister services, interact with them and to see how they operate. Being a part of the JTF has allowed me this opportunity,” said Conley. ■
Army Capt. Bryan Hughes took this picture of a Cuban Rock iguana swimming in the waters of Guantanamo to win this week’s photo of the week.

Army Sgt. Durville Singh and Contractor Jernie David position a conex shipping container, while crane operator Nathaniel Ferlaca lowers it to onto a truck behind Seaside Galley.

Joint Task Force-GTMO Deputy Commander Army Brig. Gen. Edward Leacock recognizes Navy Ensign Robert Rood as being the “Bull Ensign,” the senior Navy ensign within the JTF.