

Guantanamo Bay Gazette

PCU USS San Diego (LPD 22) Visits GTMO On Maiden Voyage

photo illustration by MC2(SW/AW) Justin Alles



USS San Diego (LPD 22) visits Naval Station (NS) Guantanamo Bay, Cuba during her maiden voyage in transit to her future homeport and namesake, San Diego, California. NS Guantanamo Bay is the first official port visit for USS San Diego since her delivery to the U.S. Navy from Huntington Ingalls shipyard. Upon arrival at her homeport, USS San Diego will continue equipment installation, training and maintenance prior to her official commissioning ceremony in May 2012.

MC(SW/AW) Justin Alles

Gazette Editor

The future USS San Diego (LPD 22) visited Naval Station (NS) Guantanamo Bay during her maiden voyage, Mar. 19-21.

The pre-commissioned unit (PCU) San Antonio-class amphibious transport dock ship was in port for water and supplies as she transits to her future homeport and namesake, San Diego, Calif.

"NS Guantanamo Bay has provided normal services for the San Diego during her visit," said Lt. Cmdr. Shawn Ware, NS Guantanamo Bay Port Operations Officer. "The installation has also facilitated the movement of ship personnel for American Red Cross and medical evacuation (MEDEVAC) reasons."

San Diego's keel was laid May 23, 2007, at Northrop Grum-

man's Ingalls shipyard in Pascagoula, Miss. She launched on May 7, 2010, and was christened on June 12, by sponsor Linda Winter, wife of former Secretary of the Navy Donald C. Winter.

"GTMO is San Diego's first official port visit since her delivery to the U.S. Navy from the shipyard," said Chief Mass Communication Specialist Holly Boynton, USS San Diego Public Affairs Officer. "After arriving in San Diego, the ship will continue equipment installation, training and maintenance prior to her official commissioning ceremony in May."

While in port, San Diego hosted ship's tours for more than 100 base personnel and their families. San Diego is the fourth ship named for the city and the sixth ship in the San Antonio class. The ship features many new systems and features, both for mission effectiveness and crew comfort.

Transition Benefits: ERB Affected Sailors Can Transfer Post 9/11 GI Bill Benefits

MC3 Andrea Perez

Navy Personnel Command Public Affairs

Eligible Sailors separating due to the Enlisted Retention Board (ERB) may qualify to transfer their Post 9/11 GI Bill benefits to dependents, officials said March 21.

The Post-9/11 GI Bill provides financial support for education and housing to individuals with at least 90 days of aggregate service after September 10, 2001, or individuals discharged with a service-connected disability after 30 days. Sailors must receive an honorable discharge to be eligible for the Post-9/11 GI Bill.

"If you are selected for separation by the ERB and have ten years of qualifying service, before your separation date, you will be allowed to transfer your benefits to your eligible dependents," said Paul Wilder, the Navy's GI Bill program manager.

Under the current Post 9/11 GI Bill policy, qualified Sailors may elect to transfer all or a portion of their benefits to a spouse or child enrolled in the Defense Eligibility Enrollment System (DEERS). For transferability, Sailors must have served at least six years in the Armed Forces and agree to serve an additional four years, in most cases.

An exception to the additional four-year service obligation is outlined in NAVADMIN 203/09 and states that Sailors who elect to transfer benefits must have served at least 10 years in the Armed Forces and if either Navy, DoD policy or federal statute restricts the member from committing to four additional years, members must agree to serve the maximum amount of

time allowed by that policy or statute.

"ERB Sailors without ten years of qualifying service must affiliate with the Reserves and commit to serving four years as a drilling Reservist to transfer their benefits," said Wilder. "There are no waivers for those who do not meet the ten year requirement or for those with less than ten years who choose not to become a Reservist."

Additional Post 9/11 GI Bill benefits for all eligible Sailors or dependents under transferability include:

- All public school in-state tuition and fees.
- Up to \$17,500 a year for private or out-of-state school annual tuition
- Entrance exam fee reimbursement.
- Monthly housing stipend for non active-duty students enrolled at least part-time.
- Annual book & supplies stipend of \$1,000 paid proportionately based on enrollment.

"Approximately 100 ERB affected Sailors have already been approved for a transfer of their benefits," said Wilder. "Sailors who wish to transfer their benefits must do so before their separation date, so it's very important that they do not wait to apply."

More information on transferability can be viewed on the Post 9/11 GI Bill website at http://www.gibill.va.gov/benefits/post_911_gibill/transfer_of_benefits.html and Sailors can apply for transferability of benefits at <https://www.dmdc.osd.mil/TEB>.

To read NAVADMIN 203/09 or for more information on benefits and eligibility requirements, read BUPERSNOTE 1780 on the NPC website at <http://www.npc.navy.mil/CAREER/EDUCATION/GIBILL/Pages/default.aspx>, or call the NPC customer service center at 1-866-U-ASK-NPC.

Transition benefits are elements of the continuum of service area of the 21st Century Sailor and Marine initiative which consolidates a set of objectives and policies, new and existing, to maximize Sailor and Marine personal readiness, build resiliency and hone the most combat-effective force in the history of the Department of the Navy.



YEOMAN 3RD CLASS
**NICHOLAS
PEREGRINA**

■ **Job/department:** Schedule Clerk/Air Operations

■ **Age:** 21

■ **Home State:** California

■ **Hero:** Clint Eastwood

■ **Quote:** "Judge each day not by the harvest you reap, but by the seeds you plant."

■ **Favorite sports team:** San Francisco 49'ers

■ **Favorite hobby:** Golf

■ **Favorite book:** Of Mice and Men

■ **Favorite movie:** The Prestige

■ **Favorite GTMO restaurant:** Jerk House

■ **Favorite musician:** Tommy Emmanuel

■ **Favorite TV show:** Chopped

■ **Greatest passion:** Guitar

■ **Currently working on:** Being a better human

■ **How the NAVY has improved his life:** The Navy has given me the opportunity to travel to some incredible places that I would have never gotten to see as a civilian

■ **Sailor of the Week because:** The one Sailor who holds the Aviation side of Air Ops together. Intelligent, mature with a decision making ability far above his paygrade. Selected for his efforts in preparing for our NATOPS inspection which resulted in zero discrepancies.



GTMO Field Calibrations Activity Complete Capability Evaluation

MC2(SW/AW) Justin Alles

Gazette Editor

Field Calibrations Activity personnel at Naval Station (NS) Guantanamo Bay participated in the Calibration Capability Evaluation, Mar. 12-16.

Held every two years, the evaluation encompasses a review of the Field Calibrations Activity personnel qualifications, equipment readiness, laboratory environmental stability, documentation administration, and measurement capabilities.

"Any audit of a program or facility is important to ensure standards are being enforced, new instructions are implemented properly and to ensure technicians do not lose their proficiencies by complacency or loss of knowledge," said Electronics Technician 1st Class Rolando Roblesnavarro, NS Guantanamo Bay Air Operations Department Leading Petty Officer. "When we do our jobs correctly we are assured that other technicians have accurate and precise measurements when they do their jobs. Their equipment can then operate within parameters in a safe and efficient manner."

During the evaluation, Calibration Laboratory techni-



Lead Auditor Charles Cockrell inspects calibration operations during the Calibration Capability Evaluation at GTMO's Field Calibrations Activity, Mar. 15. The Lab is comprised of James Motley, Willie Riley, ET2 Larry Alexander, ET2 Christopher Whitlow, ET1 Rolando Roblesnavarro, and ETCM Michael Callaway.

cians demonstrated technical proficiencies in calibration procedures, administration of customer inventories, and proper maintenance of laboratory equipment standards to exhibit the laboratory's capabilities.

"Through an added demonstration to this inspection, we are now able to show proficiency in calibrating some of our own laboratory standards," said Roblesnavarro. "The lab will no longer have to send some of the standards out to a higher facility to be certified. This translates to a fiscal savings of about \$15,000 a year."

According to Roblesnavarro, calibration is entrenched in every facility or operation at NS Guantanamo Bay.

"We serve 44 sub custodians from NS Guantanamo Bay, Joint Task Force Guantanamo Bay, and several other tenant commands with calibration of their physical, dimensional and electronic measuring devices," said Roblesnavarro. "Some of our largest customers are the installation's Port Operations with gages on the ferries, Air Terminal with weight scales, and the galleys with thermometers. Without a certified calibrations facility on the island, all equipment would have to be sent to an outside activity. This would lead to longer turn-around times, possible damage of sensitive equipment in shipping, and significantly higher accrued cost. We also provide calibration services for any U.S. Coast Guard or U.S. Navy ship who port here. They often pull in only for the weekend so we find ourselves working throughout the weekend to ensure a timely turn-around. In addition, we also offer the fleet our technical knowledge as Electronic Technicians to help troubleshoot the ship's communications, radar equipment and perform mini and micro repair when casualties are encountered."

Naval Sea Systems Command (NAVSEA) Mayport, Fla., Southeast Regional Maintenance Center Lead Auditor Charles Cockrell served as inspector during the week-long review.

"The inspection of the calibration facilities in GTMO ensure that the laboratory is in technical compliance with various NAVSEA requirements," said Cockrell. "This inspection verifies that the community can have confidence that the calibrations laboratory is calibrating these items correctly and accurately."



Chaplain's Corner

Educate And Inspire

Chaplain Larry Jones

NS Guantanamo Bay, Cuba Chapel Services Deputy Chaplain

The month of March is Women's History Month and we've been celebrating and honoring women who have educated and inspired us. Although education can take place in many forms, I immediately thought about those early school days and the classic images of the teacher and the red apple. The blackboard that magically turned into a grayish color after all the writing in chalk was erased. For some I'm sure you can remember the ruler that seemed to smack the hand at just the right

time. The important thing to remember is that those times shaped and formed us into the fine people we are today.

I'm thankful for the sacrifice of the women who not only took time to educate me in certain areas of academia but who also invested time in educating me about life and reminding me that someday I will educate others, within the classroom and through my life story. We stand on the shoulders of great women who have pioneered not only in careers of education but also in politics, medicine, the military, athletics and the list goes on. The point I would like for us to remember is that we are all in positions to educate and inspire those around us. It is up to us to decide the lessons we want people to learn from our lives. You make the choice to educate and inspire!



GTMO MWR Hosts
Lucky Clover Trail Run
2012



More than 100 base residents compete in MWR Fitness Department's St. Patrick's Day Lucky Clover Trail Run, Mar. 17. Held at the installation's Ridgeline Trail, the more-than-four mile event promoted outdoor fitness during the holiday weekend.

The Morale, Welfare and Recreation (MWR) Fitness department at Naval Station (NS) Guantanamo Bay presented the St. Patrick's Day Lucky Clover Trail Run, Mar. 17.

Held at the installation's Ridgeline Trail, the more-than-four-mile event promoted outdoor fitness while providing a means for base residents to celebrate during the St. Patrick's Day holiday weekend.

"The Ridgeline Trail is a challenging but fun course," said Jennifer Norton, NS Guantanamo Bay MWR Fitness Director. "The trail is a great place to enjoy beautiful GTMO views, see wild-

life and enjoy the outdoors. This was an enjoyable way to get a fun workout in, and spread a little St. Patty's Day cheer."

More than 100 of the installation's runners/walkers participated in the event, with community member Katie Sutton finishing with the best time of 30 minutes and 27 seconds.

"This run was a true success," said Norton. "We've heard from those that had never been on the trail, and they enjoyed the event and are looking to explore the area even more. As always, I want to say 'thank you' to our volunteers. Without them, our events would not be possible."



CHECK IT OUT! A MOMENT WITH THE EDITOR**MC2(SW/AW) Justin Ailes**

Gazette Editor

Back in February, GTMO's Morale, Welfare and Recreation (MWR) Community Library held a poetry contest in the spirit of Valentine's Day. We here at the Gazette promised to print the winners of the contest. So to make good on our word, check out the poems below. They'll blow your mind. Congratulations to the winners, and all who participated in the event...but mostly congratulations to the winners. Enjoy.



My GITMO Valentine

by Paola Merrill

Shall I tell you about my GITMO Bay?
 For its rocky cliffs hold many memories,
 Shall I describe it on Valentine's Day?
 I can recall countless stories.
 The home of breathtaking sunsets,
 Tranquil oceans full of mystery,
 Where pairs of vultures sing duets,
 To the sun dressed in its yellow finery.
 A place that you can lose yourself,
 And learn to see the world in a new light,
 Put your worries and doubts on a shelf,
 And gaze at the glowing stars with delight.
 So today I celebrate my GITMO Valentine,
 And hope you all let your love shine.

Love: A Gift In It Of Itself; Even Better When Given

by K. Moore

A man understands her hands when she touches,
 The heart understands the plans, so it rushes,
 As the heat in her cheeks glow, the face blushes,
 Like a picture painted on a blank canvas with love brushes.
 Flames crackle in her eyes, passionate will (passion at will),
 With her hand rested on his heart, his waters are still.
 A ripple of regret for the thrill of the hunt, as the daybreak sun reflects his wants,
 Over the horizon of misguidance, and sensual defiance, the eyes of the two lock.
 Joyful in alliance, complying to be one over the course of the day,
 Only ending as the sun completely fades, shaking hands with his brother as he sinks into the water
 Solar power lending with illuminated barbers,
 A lunar phenomenon peaking through the clouds, a celestial celebration in the background.
 Nimbus eyelashes for the white eye watching, a star leaps,
 Midnight hop scotching, bounds of wishes pervade the planes, winds move the sands to etch their names,
 The tide rolls in to solidify the ground, footprints of laughter walk air bound.
 So be it this sketched memory in all of its imagery, of the sunset courship that outlasted centuries,
 And the power exchange of the sun and the moon, the only downside that they could presume.
 Whereas even in the eye of the lunar man, the stars reveal the steps of of an astronomical plan,
 What survived in her thighs bred of love and compassion, fell to the earth in a God-like fashion.
 Fitting the situation, vivacious, full of life.
 Divine atavism in the hands of the night, so even when the sky is relieved of its light,
 the moon makes sure to keep the children in sight.
 A king needs his queen to define his life, as the queen needs the king to call her 'wife,'
 Their lives form the 'ring,'
 An embodiment of the love they share, for life is impossible with absent care.

GTMO SHOPPER

E-mail classified ad submissions to **PAO-CLASSIFIEDADS@USNBGTMO.NAVY.MIL.** If sent to any other e-mail, it may not be published. Submit your ad NLT noon Wednesdays for that week's Gazette. Ads are removed after two weeks. **Re-submit** the ad to re-publish. The Gazette staff and NS Guantanamo Bay, Cuba, page. The Public Affairs Office has final editorial discretion on all content. Call MC2 Justin Ailes at 4520 with your questions or concerns.

VEHICLES

'03 Ford E-350 Transportation Van. Runs good, leaving island \$3000 OBO, '01 Ford E-350 Transportation Van. Runs good as well \$2,500 OBO, '09 6 seat Electric Gem car (gas saver) and '09 4 seat Electric Gem car (gas saver) Make me an offer I can't refuse! Call Virgil Howard at 76140, 90729 or 6144.

'09 Harley Davidson XL883 Low, black, less than 100 miles. \$6500 OBO. FMI, Call 84115

'07 Chrysler 300-Series, gray. Power everything, advanced climate control, power seat, cruise control, dual front airbags, keyless entry with alarm, am/fm radio with CD and mp3 capability and much more. \$11,800, email edwards_taylor@hotmail.com.

(2) '99 GTX Sea-Doo "Bombardier" Jet Ski's with double trailer. Need new batteries and some work. \$1000 OBO. Call Art DWH 4313 AWH 78137

'91 175hp Evinrude V-6 "Defender" Outboard motor. Runs great. \$1000 OBO. Call Art DWH 4313 AWH 78137

'10 Mercury Milan, 6,200 miles, excellent condition, available immediately. \$16,500 OBO. Call 77704 or 8244

18 ft. Hydra-Sport Center Console w/ 2008 Yamaha 115hp 4 stroke. Garmin GPS, Fish finder, 30 gal Bait well, Ski's, and Fishing Rods it all goes. \$12,000 OBO. Call 3424 or email jacob.allen@med.navy.mil

MISC

Brand new Mares Dragon BCD, Small \$450. Call 2240 or 84709

Cardio Dual Trainer. All in one - use as an Elliptical or Exercise Bike. \$175. Call 84947 or 77131

Brand New Electric Guitar, Epiphone SG-Special, with small Micro Amp, \$199, call-78470

Yamaha YPT-220 61 Key Personal Keyboard with AC Adapter, Excellent condition, \$70, call 78470

ELECTRONICS

Used Hewlett Packard Netbook, works great. Wireless, webcam, includes power cable. \$200 OBO. FMI, call 3998 or 78030

Numark NS6 4 Channel Midi Controller with Serato Itch, 3 months old \$850. NS6 is a 4-channel Digital DJ controller with complete built-in mixer and four decks of Software control. Serious inquiries only. Call 55105 or 4052

X-BOX 360 Elite 120GB, \$200. Call 75568

Unlocked Blackberry cell phone, Wi-Fi capable, 2 months old, like new condition, \$175 OBO. Call 3998

HOUSEHOLD GOODS

JVC 36 inch TV \$50 OBO, router and modem \$70 OBO, twin bed \$25, recliner \$25, wooden desk \$10, wood kitchen table (without chairs) \$70 OBO. Call 77314.

OUTDOOR REC

Pneumatic spear gun (CYRANO1100), slip tip, aftermarket line, some scratches (\$185), JBL Mini spear gun, bands (\$45), C8 LED light, black, used only twice (\$125), Hawaiian slings, different sizes (\$10 - \$20), bear bow (LIGHTS OUT) w/ 10+ carbon arrows (three need new vanes), extra vanes, tips, two releases, and more (\$285), set of golf clubs incl bag (\$90), DIMAGE Z5 digital camera, 6 years old (\$50), O'Neill wetsuit, EXPLORE 3.0mm (\$85). Email jaschmitt@dckww.com

Riffe C4 comp, Riffe Euro 120, Omer ET 130, and Omer ET Camo 95. Call for info, due to price changes depending on how you want them setup. Contact ND1 Kerr 84119

Diamondback Sport Mountain Bike, Blue, 26" wheels, \$200. Includes helmet. Email ggarciano@brgtno.com

YARD SALES

Come to Paola/Radio Point neighborhood on Sat., Mar. 24 for a Spring cleaning sale! Begins at 0700. Multiple families participating, with too many items to list. Great deals!



WATER CONSERVATION

All lawn watering at residences and car washing at the Lyceum is suspended until further notice.

JTF'S SAFE RIDE HOME.

To prevent drinking and driving, those out drinking can take a safe ride home. Those not drinking can walk. Call 84913 or 84781.

BASE PHONE DIRECTORY

Tired of not knowing the phone numbers for stuff? Well check it out friends!, There is a Base Telephone Directory available at BCO@usnbgtno.navy.mil or call x2500 to start your ring-a-ding-ding-dong today!

AMERICAN RED CROSS MONTH

March is American Red Cross Month. Show your support by participating in the community Ridge Line Trail hike, Mar. 24 at 0800. Hike starts at the beginning of Rideline Trail off of Sherman Drive across from the CBQ.

YOUTH CENTER FASHION SHOW

Mar. 24, Windjammer Ballroom, 1600-1900. Formal wear, casual wear, sports wear, and cultural wear. Only 200 tickets available! Pick up tickets at the CYP 1500-1800, or at the CDC 0600-1800.

INDOOR VOLLEYBALL LEAGUE

Men and Women's season starts Mar. 26. Register by Mar. 16. Coaches meeting Mar. 21 at 1730. Free to register at Denich Gym. Trophies for 1st and 2nd place teams. 3rd place teams get nuthin'. Open to all ages 16 and up. FMI, call 2113.

WOMEN'S HISTORY MONTH

The Multicultural Observance Committee is presenting Women's Education-Women's Empowerment, Mar. 27, NAVSTA Chapel, 1500-1600. Skits, Music, Dances, Speakers...Guranteed to teach you something new about women.

NATIONAL NUTRITION MONTH

March is National Nutrition Month. Next month isn't, though...I'll see you soon Oreos...I'll see you soon...Eat healthy this month.

WINDJAMMER WEEKEND LUNCH

The Windjammer Restaurant is open from 1200-1700 every weekend for pizza, beer and to catch your favorite games on their TV's. Sweet. FMI, call 75503.

INTERVIEW TRAINING

Learn 'How-To Techniques' to impress during your next interview. Beat the flop sweats and urges to cry during interviews by attending this class at FFSC Bldg. 2135, Mar. 27, 0930-1130. FMI, call 4153.

LIBERTY GTMO HISTORY HIKE

Apr. 1, Ferry Landing Beach, 0800. 10 miles of guided walk/hike of GTMO history. Water and snacks provided. FMI, call 2010.

EASTER DAY CHAMPAGNE BRUNCH

Apr. 8, Bayview, 1000-1400. Please make a reservation for groups of 10 or more. FMI, call 75604.

GTMO JOB HUNT

ADMIN ASSISTANT/BOOKKEEPER

Needed to provide administrative/accounting support, prepare confidential documents, maintain/setup filing systems, monitor and track projects, Allocate costs to projects. Handle accounts, prepare financial reports, assist with payroll, answer phones, Arrange travel, maintain calendars, process mail, prepare reports and coordinate/process general administrative work. Community College and 1-3 years experience; or High School diploma and 3-5 years experience. Also 2+ years of Bookkeeping/Accounting skills. Excellent communication/interpersonal skills required along with advanced knowledge of Microsoft Office and ability to maintain confidentiality at all times. Please apply on-line at <http://www.lakeshoretest.com/pages/careers>

SOCIAL SERVICES ASSISTANT

The International Organization for Migration (IOM) is hiring Social Services Assistants to work with the migrants, on one year fixed term UN system GS contracts. This is an exciting opportunity to work for a leading intergovernmental organization with a dynamic population! Must be fluent in Spanish. Please contact Kathi Diaz or Jodie Williams for more information at 74788.

SOCIAL SERVICES ASSISTANT FOR FISHING RECREATION

Must be fluent in Spanish, must have MWR Captain's License. Part time position (1-2 weekend days per month). Flex. FMI, call 74788.

ELECTRICIAN U.S. hire, \$14.47 hr., FN hire, \$8.08 + .40 BA

COMPUTER TECH Flex, U.S. hire, must be CAC eligible

CHILD AND YOUTH PROGRAMS ASSISTANT Full time and Flex, U.S. Hire, \$12.21-\$13.71 hr. Must be CAC eligible

To apply for a job, call the Human Resources Office at 74121 or stop by NAF HR in Bldg. 760.

FLEX CDC CLERK Must be CAC eligible. \$8.71-\$17.97 approx. 20-30 hrs. per week

TRAINING AND CURRICULUM SPECIALIST Must be CAC eligible. \$40,000-\$55,000 annually. Submit applications M-F to the MWR Personnel Office

TELECOMMUNICATIONS MECHANIC SUPERVISOR LH112-010, WS-2502-10 (NCTAMS)

MOVIES DOWNTOWN LYCEUM

FRIDAY	MAR. 23
8 p.m.:	Joyful Noise (last) PG13 118 min.
10 p.m.:	Women in Black (new) PG13 96 min.
SATURDAY	MAR. 24
8 p.m.:	Big Miracle (new) PG 113 min.
10 p.m.:	Chronicle (new) PG13 84 min.
SUNDAY	MAR. 25
8 p.m.:	Act of Valor (new) R 101 min.
MONDAY	MAR. 26
8 p.m.:	Haywire (last) R 93 min.
TUESDAY	MAR. 27
8 p.m.:	Contraband (last) R 110 min.
WEDNESDAY	MAR. 28
8 p.m.:	Underworld Awakening R 89 min.
THURSDAY	MAR. 29
8 p.m.:	One for the Money PG13 91 min.

CALL THE MOVIE HOTLINE @ 4880

GTMO EOC, ITT Complete Solid Curtain Citadel Shield

MC2(SW/AW) Justin Ailes

Gazette Editor

Installation Training Team (ITT) and Emergency Operations Center (EOC) personnel at Naval Station (NS) Guantanamo Bay tested base security measures during exercise Solid Curtain-Citadel Shield (SC-CS) 2012, Mar. 20.

SC-CS is an annual week-long exercise held in coordination with U.S. Fleet Forces Command (USFF) and Commander Navy Installations Command (CNIC) to maintain a high level of force protection readiness for Navy installations. NS Guantanamo Bay participated in the exercise for one day.

"From a command and control standpoint, we tested our ability to identify, contain, and eliminate threats to the installation," said NS Guantanamo Bay Installation Training Officer

Kevin Robarge. "This requires clear and timely communications not only by the NS Security department, but also with Joint Task Force (JTF), Maritime Security Detachment, and Marine Corp Security Forces (MCSFCO). Forces were able to not only meet the primary threat, but identify possible secondary and tertiary threats across the installation."

A primary objective of SC-CS is to test the Navy's ability to rapidly establish heightened installation security and emergency management postures.

"The exercise included multiple threats; a suspicious package (IED), swimmers intrusion, and a small craft attempting to penetrate the bay with multiple requests for Fire and Emergency services," said Robarge. "Each exercise takes a lot of time, effort, and support. The scenarios must be balanced with other priorities and ev-

eryday requirements. For many of the personnel involved, this means adding additional hours to their work days, but with a fast paced turn-over rate and ever changing challenges, these actions allow the installation to better protect the residents."

According to Robarge, NS Guantanamo Bay's ITT and EOC's goal was to test current capabilities, identify shortfalls, evaluate those items, and and come up with the best possible solutions for proper preparation in the event of a "real-world" casualty.

"Overall, the exercise was a huge success, giving us great data and information that we will use to improve the installations overall readiness," said Robarge. "This is a cyclic process that is ongoing and without doing it, we may not be able to know the difference between what we believe we can do and what we can actually accomplish."



photo illustration by MC2(SW/AW) Justin Ailes

GTMO ITT personnel test base security measures during exercise Solid Curtain-Citadel Shield, Mar. 20. Among the multiple threats, the exercise challenged emergency response team member's ability to locate and dispose of an IED at the installation's Navy Exchange.

