



# the Wire

“ HONOR BOUND TO DEFEND FREEDOM ”

Volume 3, Issue 14

Friday, March 7, 2003

## Bravo Co. trains to own the night

By Sgt. Erin Viola

Some say seeing is believing. But, to an infantryman seeing is surviving.

For infantrymen performing night missions in the field, the ability to see the enemy can mean the difference between life and death. Today, not only do infantrymen use a compass, the moon and the stars to guide them at night, but they also use modern technology in the form of night optical devices to detect the enemy, among other things.

“One of the principles we are working under here, something that MG Miller has asked us to do is to train to own the night,” said Capt. Michael Peterson, Bravo Company commander, 2-116th Infantry Regiment.

To own the night, one must

be able to see at night. So, this past week Bravo Co. received hands-on training on a sophisticated night tracker system that can detect the presence of anything that radiates heat, for example, the human form or a vehicle. This is accomplished through thermal imagery technology. The tracker can be used in a variety of capacities, one of which is to simply mount it onto a Humvee for patrolling.

Soldiers of Bravo Co. also honed their skills with night vision goggles, using two different systems, one that can be worn helmet mounted or held up like a pair of binoculars, and one that can be mounted on the front of an M-16 rifle.

“As a light infantry battalion, a lot of our combat is

See NIGHT, page 5.



Photo by Sgt. Erin Viola  
Spc. Eric Gibbons (right) instructs Spc. Matthew Woyansky (left) on how to use a night tracking system that uses thermal imagery to detect the presence of the human form. The night tracking system is part of the tube launched optical wire guided weapon system, otherwise known as TOW.

### Inside the Wire...





**JTF-Guantanamo Commander  
Army MG Geoffrey D. Miller**

“Believe in your own professional judgments. But, always be willing to listen to others.”

-Frank Wanatabe

## MESSAGE FROM MG MILLER

Our team here at JTF Guantanamo has a critical mission to play in the war on terrorism. It is a tough and important mission. We owe it to ourselves, to those we lead, and to the people of our great nation to be at the top of our game. Our greatest responsibilities as the JTF leadership is to keep our troopers trained and ready and to keep own skills honed to a fine edge so we can lead from the front, anywhere and any time.

We have come a long way as a Team during the past months. Leaders and troopers have worked hard on the many parts of our JTF Mission - joint live fire exercises that demonstrate what we can achieve together when we combine all our unique capabilities – Navy, Coast Guard, Air Force, Army, and USMC. These missions are the graduation exercises for a month of hard work. It is training that not only helps us master individual soldier skills but also builds on our strengths and works on our areas that need improvement so we get better every day. By conducting tough and realistic training, we continue to grow as one team and as leaders – we build the bench of high performing winners.

To win on the battlefield takes more than bullets. It takes planning and organizing at every level to ensure the right people are at the right place at the right time. It is administra-

tion, logistics and medical care. It is a thousand moving parts, coming together for a single purpose – to defeat the enemy. We must train every component of our force. We have done this in a number of ways – sending our interrogation Tiger Teams to Tiger Team University, working with the Joint Readiness Training Center patrolling trainers who provided enormously valuable training to 2-116th Infantry troops, and having the Battle Staff School from Fort Bliss here to help refine staff planning procedures. We have even had the Marine Expeditionary Command help improve our Joint Operations Center ability to command and control using state of the art technology to paint a clear tactical picture of the battlefield, including ground, air and surface ship assets. We owe all these great professionals for helping make a difference in how we do our warfighting missions.

Training is all about being ready. Where we take our training in the months to come is only limited by our imagination. I challenge every leader at every level to push the envelope and find new ways to keep our troopers trained and ready. We must be masters of our trade. Those we lead deserve the best and I am confident you are committed to giving them your best to make it happen.

HONOR BOUND!

## OPSEC CORNER

If you're an observer of CNN, you no doubt realize the seriousness of the situation in Iraq and North Korea. I find myself waking every morning to see if we've begun any operations. Yesterday, I watched CNN as Wolf Blitzer interviewed a 'Defense Analyst' regarding our operations in Iraq and the difficulty with securing a

base in Turkey. Blitzer asked many questions, some detailed, and even asked the same questions in a slightly different tone and structure. However, the analyst stuck to his guns and stated that he couldn't answer a question because it might violate operational security. Just from watching CNN, or Fox News, or any other news agency,

you can glean information about our upcoming military role in the Middle East. But, the interviewee or the individual with the knowledge of critical information holds the trump card. You, as an individual in JTF-Guantanamo, are key. You may find yourself on the receiving end of an interview while on tour here, but you can always screen what you say. Operational security is absolutely critical to our Army mission, but especially crucial in our part of the Global War on Terrorism. Our adversaries have well developed methods of collecting valuable information about our daily activities. Never underestimate the adversaries' capabilities, intent, or methods for collection. Stay vigilant, focused, and continue to be the ultimate OPSEC monitor. You're the key to the lock of securing operational information.

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# Chaplain's Corner

By CH (Lt. Col.) Herbert Heavner  
JTF-Guantanamo Command Chaplain

Have you ever noticed that our lives seem to be full of milestones? Sometimes we make note of those milestone's celebrations. For example, my birthday was this week. I am not ashamed to admit that I turned 55. That marks a milestone in my life. I celebrated that milestone by talking to my wife on the phone in Michigan. I heard my two-year-old grandson, Keegan, say Happy Birthday, Grandpa! Both his dad, my oldest son, and my younger son also helped remind me that I had reached this milestone in my life. Even my older brother remembered it was my birthday and sent me an email message. Actually, my wife reminded him of the day so he wouldn't forget, but that's ok. I was able to get past this particular milestone because my family helped me to celebrate.

Each of us here at JTF-GTMO have reached a milestone in our mobilization. We have been here for a certain period of time. Those of us who arrived at more or less the same time in November realize that we are near the milestone of being nearly to the halfway point of our "scheduled" rotation date of 179 days. The prob-

lem is that we don't feel much like celebrating because of all the uncertainties that surround our mission. Even if you have been here longer than us, or have just arrived you are looking for the word on when you get to go home.

The fact of the matter is that in the long run the precise determination of our return to home station does not matter-as long as we stay focused on what we are doing and how we react to what takes place around us. It is possible to stay positive. It is possible to find the means to deal with the stress and the growing tension that seems to be in the air around the island. It is possible to do this, and more as each of us learn how to better depend on the power and strength of the Almighty. God can help you to deal with the tension in your office or in your platoon. God can help reduce the level of stress in your life, whether it is attributed to life on the island, or to problems back home. God can help you celebrate every day as a milestone, because it is one more day to be alive, and one more day to make the very best out of what He has given each one of us. Look to Him for help today, He will not disappoint you!

## Ephedra banned!

### Policy Letter #20, Ephedra Ban

*This is excerpted directly from MG Geoffrey D. Miller's policy letter number 20, dated 11 February 2003:*

This memorandum prescribes the policy governing the ban of Ephedra products. It is applicable to all service members assigned to the Joint Task Force Guantanamo, Guantanamo Bay, Cuba, and is effective immediately.

Ephedra containing products are advertised as performance enhancers or dietary supplements. Service members use these products to improve their athletic performance and to reduce fat while maintaining muscle mass.

Due to the increasing number of adverse events and deaths related to use of Ephedra, the Navy Exchange has removed all Ephedra containing products from its

shelves. At Guantanamo these side effects can be exacerbated by dehydration, a common result of the tropical heat. Physicians here have found Ephedra contributing to a variety of problems seen in the emergency room, including heat exhaustion and kidney stones.

Accordingly, I am prohibiting the use of all Ephedra containing products by JTF members.

The attached listing of products may not be exhaustive. Additionally, new products containing Ephedra may come to market. The use of Ephedra containing products, whether identified on the attached list or not, is prohibited. (See the policy letter for listing.) If there is any question about whether a product contains Ephedra, it is the duty of the member to inquire of the JTF Surgeon prior to use.

MG Miller's contact for this memorandum is Capt. Shimkus, JTF Surgeon, x 5085.

## Worship Services

### Catholic

#### Main Chapel

Daily	6:30 a.m.	Mass Cobre Chapel
Wed.	5 p.m.	R.C.I.A. Cobre Chapel
Fri.	5 p.m.	Rosary
Sat.	4:30 p.m.	Confession
	5:30 p.m.	Mass
Sun.	9 a.m.	Mass

#### Camp America

Sun.	10:45 a.m.	Mass Wooden Chapel
	5 p.m.	Mass Wooden Chapel

### Protestant

#### Main Chapel

Wed.	7 p.m.	Men's Bible Study*
Thurs.	7:30 p.m.	Youth Fellowship*
Sun.	9:30 a.m.	Adult Bible Study
	5 p.m.	Bible Study*
	6:30 a.m.	Praise and Worship Service

\* Fellowship Hall located in Chapel Complex

#### Camp America

Wed.	7 p.m.	Service Wooden Chapel
Sun.	9 a.m.	Service White Tent
	7 p.m.	Service Wooden Chapel

### Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints

Sun.	9 a.m.	Sanctuary A
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### Islamic

Fri.	1 p.m.	Classroom 12 ChapelComplex
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### Jewish

Fri.	8 p.m.	Fellowship Hall
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### Camp America Church Bus schedule:

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

The bus will return immediately following worship.

# Communicate, connect, it's a cinch for Mr. Fix it

**Story and photo by  
Spc. Lisa Gordon**

For the most part he's a behind the scenes kind of guy, but for Joint Task Force personnel who encounter a malfunctioning piece of equipment while standing watch, Information Systems Technician 2nd Class Leslie "Lee" Crowson of the Mobile Inshore Undersea Warfare Unit 212, is the man with the answers.

Crowson is responsible for ensuring that all equipment at the MIUWU's watch sites is kept in proper working order. "My primary job is communications ... Keeping the equipment functioning and properly tuned to program to communicate between different sites; also to connect to the main Atlantic Fleet through satellite communications in case there's some kind of emergency," Crowson explained.

Of the MIUWU watch sites located on Guantanamo Bay, all are radar equipped and communications equipped. The watch standers use a wide variety of equipment including radar receivers, mobile radars, portable radios, base radios and various other gear to facilitate communication among sites. Good communication between personnel standing watch at the different sites ensures effective coverage of the area being monitored. The communication part of the equation relies heavily on personnel, but properly functioning equipment is essential as well. This is why Crowson's job is so significant.

When a piece of equipment malfunctions, a call is placed to the MIUWU's main site for a repair request. Crowson then visits the site to assess the problem and make a determination about whether the equipment can be fixed on site or needs to be collected for a more extensive repair. When a vital piece of equipment, such as a radio, needs to be removed from the watch site for repair, Crowson will replace the faulty device with a standby until the original is returned in full working order.

Crowson didn't join the Naval Reserve until he was 27-years-old and draws some of his experience from his civilian job as a category management analyst and systems specialist. In his civilian job, and like-



*Information Systems Technician 2nd Class Leslie "Lee" Crowson inside the Mobile Inshore Undersea Warfare Unit's Headquarters at Joint Task Force Guantanamo.*

wise, with his job in the Naval Reserve, Crowson handles a lot of technical equipment. As for why he chose a job in the Navy so similar to his civilian occupation, Crowson said it "just made sense" because it meant going through an abbreviated period of training. For Crowson, this meant less time not only away from his job, but from his wife and two sons.

Joining the military with an already well established career and a family to take care of was no easy feat, but Crowson said that his family's support is what gives him the strength to be able to serve his country. Crowson said of his family, "We talked about it before I joined and she (his wife) understood my commitment to what I was doing ... They'd obviously rather have me be at home, but they're proud of the fact that I'm in the service and I'm working to defend the freedoms they enjoy back home ... She supports me, which is good, because this would be very hard if she wasn't supportive. So even though it's hard, it's not as hard as it could be."

Crowson seems pleased with his decision to join the Naval Reserve, and it appears that he has found his niche within the MIUWU. In the four years since he

joined, he has been in three different units, the MIUWU being the third. At home station in Gulfport, Mississippi the MIUWU has their own facility and all their own equipment. Crowson describes the MIUWU as a very active unit that spends more time in the field than in the office.

"Seaward security and surveillance is what our unit does, so we have to be near the water. We use radar and sonar and that sort of thing to actually find out what's going on out there and keep people from sneaking up on us or whatever we're protecting. So when we go in the field in Mississippi, usually we go down to the beach and set up tents and set up our equipment and spend the night out in the tents ... It's just like we're on a real mission, except we're tracking ski boats and such instead of enemy zodiacs," Crowson said.

Although time in service can be an important factor in gaining experience, Crowson demonstrates that time alone isn't everything. Rather, a lot depends on an individual deciding to get as much as possible from an experience. Clearly, Crowson is getting the most he can from his military experience.

# Cuba revisited ... 41 years later

By Sgt. Erin Viola

Most Americans never get the chance to visit Cuba even once in a lifetime, let alone twice. But one particular Joint Task Force Guantanamo trooper is here for the second time, and he's got a story to tell.

It was back in October 1962 during the Cuban Missile Crisis. At the time, he was a young trooper, 18-years-old, in the Marine Corps, just six months out of basic. Stationed on the USS Boxer as an enlisted landing signalman, his ship was running a mission just off Guantanamo Bay. One evening, the young trooper was asked at the last minute to gear up and get onto a HOK helicopter.

His platoon sergeant gave him two .45 pistols, 10 magazines of ammo, a K-Bar knife, and two flashlights. Aside from the pilot and co-pilot, the young Marine was the only trooper flying out. He didn't know where he was going or what his task was, but he knew he was ready to do whatever was required of him.

The HOK took off, and was just at the point of barely hovering over the flight deck when the pilot said, "Mission scrubbed," and he set the helicopter back

down.

Momentarily, a colonel came running over to the helicopter and said to the young Marine, "Thanks for volunteering for this most dangerous mission."

Of course, the young Marine had no idea what the colonel was taking about and inquired, "Volunteering for what?"

The young trooper was then informed that if the mission had not been scrubbed, his life expectancy would have been 35 to 45 seconds. The plan was to land the young Marine on the beach in the dark and have him signal the next wave of aircraft with his flashlights. Basically he would have been a target. Since he was the best shot in the squadron, his command figured he had the best chance to survive long enough to get the job done.

The young Marine was never told any other details about the mission or why they would send someone out to do such a job. But needless to say, when he found out that he was going to serve his country by being a sitting duck, he wasn't too happy about it. The colonel calmed the young trooper down by allowing him to keep the K-Bar as a token of appreciation. That Marine still has that K-Bar today.

Forty-one years later, that Marine is back in Cuba, but this time as a member of the Joint Interrogation Group for Joint Task Force Guantanamo.

Since his last visit here, he transferred from the Marines to the Army and has a treasure chest full of war stories and amazing experiences.

He originally joined the Army to become a helicopter pilot. He completed the training at the Warrant Officer Flight School, but he decided it wasn't exactly what he wanted to do.

Just prior to a tour in Vietnam, he was assigned to burial detail for a month in Texas. He said it was really rough, especially talking to the mothers and wives of fallen service members.

"I only served one tour in Vietnam. I got diverted three times to train other people," he said.

"I flew the OV1-D Mohawk, which is an aerial surveillance (fixed-wing) aircraft, as a right-seater. I was the navigator because I was good at navigation, and I flew over 300 combat hours," he said.

See CUBA, page 9.

## NIGHT, from page 1.

going to be performed at night.

A lot of potential enemies of the United States, do not have the night vision capabilities that we do. So we can cloak our soldiers in darkness, making them harder to detect and harder to hit with a weapon if they are detected. If we can move through that darkness with ease and familiarity, we have a combat advantage over potential enemies. And it is our night vision devices our thermal trackers that give us this advantage," said Peterson.

The soldiers of Bravo realize how important this kind of training is. "It's very good training. It is necessary for the missions that we are trying to accomplish and it deals directly with the infantry tasks that we need to do," said Spc. Jason Hanna, who has been with Bravo for two years.

Not only is training week good for learning new things, but it is also a great way for soldiers to reconnect on a personal

level and build camaraderie.

Pfc. Robert Barkley said, "Developing team work among the people that we work with is one of the best things about this training. I'm National Guard, so I don't get to see these guys everyday. When we work, we don't necessarily work together (as a group) either. We are usually in twos or threes. So when we do this type of training, we are working as a squad we would operate with."

Peterson said that night training is strongly emphasized by the Joint Task Force Guantanamo command, and that 50 percent of their training is to be at night.

Soldiers well trained in nighttime operations have a significant advantage over the enemy.

"By being able to move at night it enhances our ability to stay alive and defeat the enemies of this country. I know not a lot of people want to talk about that, but this kind of training will keep these men alive and will add to the success of our missions," said Peterson.

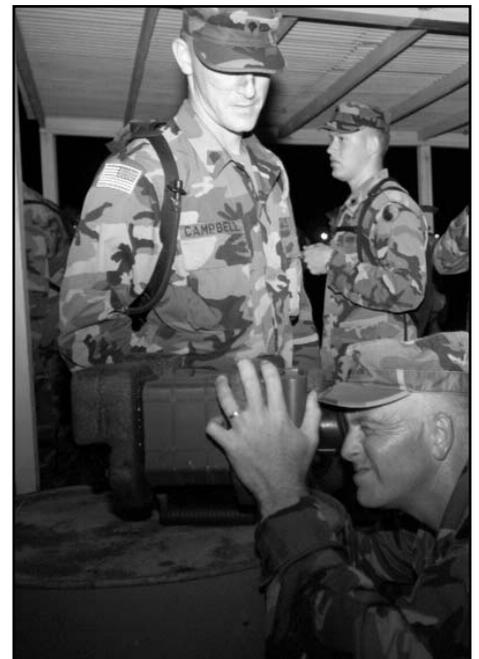


Photo by Sgt. Erin Viola  
Spc. Benjamin Campbell (left) looks on, along with other members of Bravo Co. 2-116th Infantry Regiment, while Staff Sgt. Kerry Kothbauer (middle) takes a look through the night tracker system.

# The 'Vibe' of Mardi Gras

**Story and Photos**  
by Spc. Alan L. Knesek

Metallic masks, beads, top hats, noise makers and feathered head pieces covering the faces of so many party revellers brought Fat Tuesday to life at Guantanamo Bay.

The spirit of Mardi Gras radiated as musical guest 'Vibe' kicked off Friday night's performance at The Windjammer with slow jams. The party picked up with the reggae beats and a dance floor full of masked Mardi Gras goers who kept the party going until the late hours of the night.

'Vibe,' a band with a fresh take on reggae music came from the Mecca of country music, home of the Grand Ole' Opry and Dolly Parton; Nashville, Tenn. It was not country music which they brought to the stage, but instead, 'Vibe' introduced service members to a world of underground music which is rapidly emerging from the city of Nashville.

"Right now we're doing some old school Stevie Wonder, Michael Jackson, some Earth, Wind and Fire and a little Bob Marley," said Craig Carter, electric bassist and vocalist.

With covers of Bob Marley's "No Woman No Cry," The Jackson's "Don't



Melody Chambers looks on as Sharif Williams jams out on the electric guitar during Stevie Wonder's "Superstition" at The Windjammer's Friday night Mardi Gras festival.

Stop Till You Get Enough" and Stevie Wonder's "Superstition" the band brought some of the classics back to center stage and brought out the Mardi Gras in everyone.

Melody Chambers is one of the vocalists, along with Jennifer Potter, Sharif Williams, who electrified the stage with his guitar work and Carter, who jammed a

tasty groove with his bass guitar.

Keeping the rhythm on drums was Richie Pena and tickling the ivory was Ziggy Diaz. Together the vibe that these six musicians let loose at The Windjammer got the crowd on their feet and onto the dance floor all night long.

This being the second stop of their tour, the band was very happy to be giving back to the service members around the world. 'Vibe's' tour started off in Puerto Rico, then made its way to Guantanamo Bay. They make their way to the Bahamas next, then West Palm Beach, Fla., and will finish up in Honduras. The tour is sponsored by the Department of Defense and will last three weeks.

"We're here to give you (service members) two hours of some good music and some fun; to take your mind off it (being away from home). Groove, jam, get crazy, do what ever you want to do. We're here to give you guys some entertainment to show a little appreciation because we appreciate what you guys do for us," said Williams.

With the support of the DoD, The Windjammer and 'Vibe,' Bourbon Street Mardi Gras celebrations were brought to Guantanamo Bay for all service members to enjoy.



(left to right) 'Vibe' band members Craig Carter, Jennifer Potter, Melody Chambers and Sharif Williams get the crowd singing during their cover of Bob Marley's "No Woman No Cry" at Friday's Mardi Gras celebration.

# Traveling trainers teach tactics

**Story and Photo  
by Spc. Alan L. Knesek**

Three instructors from the Joint Readiness Training Center, Fort Polk, La., observed and presented infantry tactics classes to the 2nd Battalion – 116th Infantry Regiment.

The instructors; Sgt. 1st Class Tommy Hooten, Staff Sgt. Thomas Luciano and Staff Sgt. Rene Martinez, observed and taught class for five days, observing mounted patrols, dismounted patrols, shift changes in Camp Delta and soldiers at observation points. Classes included such topics as warning orders, operation orders, formation order of movement (FOOM), pre-combat inspections, zone recon and react to contact to name a few.

“We have been teaching 20 different classes ... we have attended 12 or 13 patrols and these guys are doing a good job. Our hats are off to them,” said Luciano.

A majority of the training was spent in the classroom, using diagrams of troop movement and discussions on what



*Army Staff Sgt. Thomas Luciano instructs soldiers of B/2-116th Inf. Regt. and C/2-116th Inf. Regt. on Formation Order of Movement (FOOM), danger areas and security during movement.*

to do in certain scenarios.

Companies rotated their troops through the classes and then put their training to the test. Hooten, Luciano and Martinez then observed the soldiers during routine patrols, both mounted and dismounted.

The three were impressed with the knowledge and skill of the soldiers of the 2-116th Inf. Regt. Hooten had observed lower enlisted troops perform-

ing their tasks and leading patrols better than most.

“When these guys are doing their patrols, it is better than some active duty units out there. We’ve seen PFCs in charge of patrols doing better or as well as some E-6s,” said Hooten.

With classes being conducted day and night, troops were getting intense training in a short amount of time. Over

the five days, the soldiers of 2-116th Inf. Regt. were refreshed in warning orders, security during movement, react to indirect fire, after action reports and much more.

The three felt that the success of the soldiers was a direct reflection of the leadership of the 2-116th Inf. Regt. All three were impressed and wanted to make it known that the soldiers of the 2-116th Inf. Regt. have been and are running a “first class operation.”

The infantry soldiers have been training nonstop, keeping them prepared and enabling them to complete their mission for Joint Task Force Guantanamo.

The three instructors headed back to Fort Polk, La. with ambitions of returning to Guantanamo Bay, Cuba and continuing the training they established with the infantry.

“We are very glad to be asked down here. We hope to continue to come down here. It would be very beneficial (to the soldiers),” Hooten said.

## The Golden Mango Casino cashes in

**Story by Spc. Alan L. Knesek**

Double down, split, dealer breaks and black jack were some of the familiar sounds at The Windjammer Saturday night.

It was casino night, and Guantanamo Bay was out in full support of the fundraiser to help Guantanamo Bay High School students pay for college next year.

The Officer and Civilian Spouses’ Club generated over \$4,500 during this event. The Golden Mango Casino (The Windjammer) started the games off at 6:30 p.m. There were blackjack tables everywhere, as well as poker tables. What seemed to

draw the biggest crowd and make the most noise was the craps table.

Lucky ticket holders claimed door prizes and cash prizes. Tickets were acquired during the purchase of chips at the beginning of the night. People donated from \$5 to \$25 to receive tickets for the prizes and chips to gamble with. Another way to acquire tickets was at the end of the night when the big winners cashed in their ‘winnings.’ For every \$100 in chips cashed in, another ticket for the prizes was handed out.

After a few hours of beating the odds or losing to the house, the games came to an end and the fundraiser was over. Cash

prizes equaled over \$300. Several other door prizes were awarded to those with lady luck by their side.

No casino, not even the Golden Mango Casino, could let its patrons go home empty handed. Much like gambling, not everyone went home with a prize though, but all went home knowing they helped out the students of Guantanamo Bay, Cuba.

The casino night was a success for the students of the high school. It also gave the service members of Guantanamo Bay a different and entertaining way to spend their Saturday night on the island.

# Women's History Month: WAAC

## This Week In History

*In honor of National Women's History Month "This Week in History" will focus on women in the military.*

The Honorable Edith Nourse Rogers, Congresswoman from Massachusetts, introduced the first bill to establish a women's auxiliary in May 1941. May 14, 1942, Congress approved the creation of a Women's Army Auxiliary Corps (WAAC). Its first director was Oveta Culp Hobby.

The WAAC was created during World War II to enlist women as auxiliaries for noncombatant duty in the United States Army. Congress authorized WAACs the same pay as Army officers and enlisted men but not grade titles. In September 1943, "Auxiliary" was dropped from the Corps' title as Congress gave the Corps full military status and integrated the Corps into the Army of the United States. During World War II, WACs served as medical technicians, cartography clerks, secretaries, and the like in the United States and in all the theaters of war.

May 12, 1944, the first major contingent of WACs (526 enlisted women and 114 officers) arrived in Sydney, Australia, for duty in the Southwest Pacific Area. July 14, 1944, 38 days after D-Day, a large contingent of WACs moved across the English Channel to Normandy, France, and were assigned to the Forward Echelon, Communications Zone. On August 31, 1944, five days

after the Allies liberated Paris, a WAC advance party arrived in Paris.

November 9, 1944 Staff Sgt. Ella C. Wright, Kalama, Wash., was the first enlisted WAC to receive the Legion of Merit. The medal was presented to her by Lt. Gen. Joseph T. McNarney, commanding general, Mediterranean Theater of Operations, in recognition of her exceptional performance of duty as chief telephone operator for the Signal Corps Group in North Africa and Italy (February 1943 - October 1944).

By 1945, almost 100,000 had joined the WAC. Enlistment ended with the war's end, and rapid demobilization followed. But by 1946 the War Department asked for reenlistments to meet shortages in Army hospitals and personnel centers. On June 12, 1948 President Truman signed the Women's Armed Services Integration Act that permitted women in the Regular Army and the Organized Reserve Corps (later named the U.S. Army Reserve).

As a means of assimilating women more closely into the structure of the Army and to eliminate any feeling of separateness from it, the office of the Director, WAC was discontinued on April 26 1978. The Women's Army Corps as a separate corps of the Army was disestablished on October 29, 1978 by an Act of Congress.

*Compiled by Army Sgt. Erin P. Viola from: U.S. Army Women's Museum – [www.awm.lee.army.mil](http://www.awm.lee.army.mil), [www.historychannel.com](http://www.historychannel.com), and [www.armywomen.org](http://www.armywomen.org).*

## MAN ON THE STREET

Compiled by Army Spc. Delaney Jackson, Spc. Lisa L. Gordon, and Spc. Alan L. Knesek

This week's question:

**Who would you nominate for an award and why?**



Army Sgt. Bernard Meer  
303rd MP Company

*"I would probably say the MP platoon sergeants; because they've had to deal with the most stress down here. For what they've had to deal with, they've been doing a good job."*



Army Staff Sgt. Lanette Sadler,  
Joint Aid Station

*"Our team leaders for the Joint Aid Station for their support of the mission and their service to the soldiers."*



Coast Guard FN Mike Farrell,  
Delta Detachment

*"BM3 Rich Garcia, he's brought a lot of experience to the table, he has a positive attitude and sets a good example."*



Army Sgt. 1st Class Hilda  
Johnson, JAG

*"Spc. Theresa Persyn, she is truly my right and left hand. She is always available and ready to assist with a smile."*



Spc. Jeremiah Swathell  
300th MP Bde.

*"I would nominate Lt. Kerr. He's our unit commander and he helped to get us down here and has put in a lot of time to make sure we are taken care of."*

# JTF HEALTH SOURCE

## March is National Nutrition Month - So where's the pizza?

By Navy Lt. Donna M. Sporrer  
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This year's theme is "Healthy Eating, Healthy You." We'll start off by discussing pizza, one of America's favorite foods - miss it already? You have all probably had your fair share of "guessing" where pizza fits on the Food Guide Pyramid and I'm sure you were fairly accurate.

Mixed foods such as pizza contain foods from several food groups. Let's break it down. The crust of a pizza counts as a starch

providing carbs or energy. Depending on what else you put on your pizza, you're probably getting partial servings from the meat, milk and vegetable groups. The cheese counts as a milk (with extra fat of course). Meats such as pepperoni, sausage, hamburger or Canadian bacon contribute protein from the meat group. Tomatoes, green peppers, onions, etc. contribute vitamins and minerals from the vegetable group. None of these are bad if eaten in moderation. Most of the meats are high in fat and contribute extra calories. Having one slice of pepperoni pizza is no big deal - having half a pepperoni pizza is. Even plain cheese pizza will contribute a signifi-

cant amount of calories if you're eating a lot of it.

You can make pizza part of a balanced diet. Have one slice of pizza, a salad, a fruit and a beverage. If you're still hungry, go for another slice. When you're back in the comforts of your own home and order pizza from your favorite pizza joint, don't wait by the door drooling. Have an apple or a piece of your favorite fruit and a glass of water while you're waiting. When the pizza arrives, put one slice at a time on your plate and eat slowly. You may find that you're "comfortably" full without overdoing the calories. So yes, you can have your pizza and eat it too.



## What's up, Doc? Hydroids hit the beach

Submitted by Lt. Cmdr. G. Thomas  
Naval Hospital Public Health Officer

Hydroids and contact with the little critters has come early this year and it looks as though the beginning of the season is once again upon us. The Naval Hospital reports an increased number of emergency room visits related to hydroid stings. Windmill Beach seems to be generating the bulk of cases. For those unfamiliar with our waters, hydroids are free floating coral polyps which are released into the water by sea floor corals. They drift in shallow waters (less than 30 meters) in search of a new location to establish a colony. They are minute, but structurally related to the jelly-

fish and contain a nematocyst, a stinging cell. Unfortunate contact between divers/swimmers leads to discharge of the nematocyst and injection of toxin. Depending on the concentration of polyps in the water an individual may be bitten from just a few times to more than a thousand in a brief period of time. Polyps trapped between a wet suit, short, or shirt may be particularly angry and sting repeatedly nicely outlining your bathing gear.

Pain may vary from mild to severe, and the lesions are always very itchy. Usually reactions are local and while inconvenient are not life threatening. However, individuals with repeat exposure may develop systemic allergic symptoms. Any individual

with hydroid exposure and breathing or airway difficulty should be transported to the Naval Hospital ER immediately.

Treatment of routine hydroid exposure at the beach includes removing clothing, gentle washing of the skin, and avoiding further irritation. Generally minor stings are treated with oral antihistamines such as diphenhydramine (Benadryl) and topical steroids such as End Itch. Some individuals claim relief by putting meat tenderizer on the stings as well. More severe cases may be treated with oral steroids in addition to the previously noted medications.

As with many things in life, prevention is the best medicine. The hydroid season should end sometime in June-July.

### CUBA, from page 5.

In terms of the mission here, he said he is very honored to serve his country in this capacity. "Our mission here is very important. The main focus is to gather intelligence and get as much information as we can in a humane manner," he said. Specific details on exactly what he does here at Joint Task Force Guantanamo cannot be revealed in order to protect his identity.

Married for 37 years, he has five children and 13 grandchildren. "The biggest challenge here, I think, for any of us is separation

from our families. With this in mind, we need to maintain our focus on why we are here and our purpose, and then accomplish the mission. If we can maintain that focus, then it will keep us occupied for the bigger share of the time," he said.

When asked why he joined the service, he said that both his father and uncle served in World War II, and it was just something that he had to do. Actually, he answered this same question for an essay contest for the National Guard, in the late seventies. He won first place and received a prize of a \$100 savings bond and a big bronze plaque of George

Washington at Valley Forge.

"Basically, I knew I always wanted to serve. My goal was to go in the Marine Corps, spend 20 years, retire and then travel. Here I am, 40 years later and I'm still in the service, still traveling, and very busy," he said.

When he retires, he plans to travel to Alaska, Saint Thomas and Puerto Rico with his wife. So after his time here in the nice warm tropics, he may be headed for glaciers and icebergs. The JTF mission will only add stories to his treasure chest.



Spc. George Allen

Seven Joint Task Force Guantanamo troops are in a three and one-half week Emergency Medical Technician-Basic class. Students who successfully complete the class on Mar. 6 will receive a Nationally Registered EMT-B certificate and will be able to work as an EMT-B in any of the 50 states or territories, as well as on any military base.

Are YOU stressed? irritable?  
depressed? Can't sleep?  
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# Movie Schedule

**Camp Bulkeley**

**Fri., Mar. 7**

8 p.m. *Crazy Nights*  
PG13 - 78 min

10 p.m. *Abandon*  
PG13 - 99 min

**Sat., Mar. 8**

8 p.m. *Ballistic Ecks vs Server R* - 90 min

10 p.m. *City by the Sea*  
R - 108 min

**Sun., Mar. 9**

8 p.m. *The Ring*  
PG13 - 115 min

**Mon., Mar. 10**

8 p.m. *The Ultimate Weapon R* - 110 min

**Tues., Mar. 11**

8 p.m. *Love and Action in Chicago R* - 91 min

**Wed., Mar. 12**

8 p.m. *The Collectors*  
R - 90 min

**Thurs., Mar. 13**

8 p.m. & 10 p.m.  
*The Cat's Meow*  
PG13 - 100 min

**Downtown Lyceum**

**Fri., Mar. 7**

7 p.m. *Roberto Benigni's Pinocchio G* - 100 min

9 p.m. *Just Married*  
PG13 - 95 min

**Sat., Mar. 8**

7 p.m. *Antwone Fisher*  
PG13 - 113 min

9 p.m. *A Guy Thing*  
PG13 - 101 min

**Sun., Mar. 9**

7 p.m. *LOTR: Two Towers*  
PG13 - 179 min

**Mon., Mar. 10**

7 p.m. *Catch me if you can* PG13 - 140 min

**Tues., Mar. 11**

7 p.m. *Daredevil*  
PG13 - 113 min

**Wed., Mar. 12**

7 p.m. *A Guy Thing*  
PG13 - 101 min

9 p.m. *Just Married*

PG13 - 95 min

**Thurs., Mar. 13**

7 p.m. *Shanghai Knights*  
PG13 - 107 min

## Want to know your VA benefits?

A Veterans Affairs representative will be at the Guantanamo Bay Family Service Center until March 11.

Call 4141 for more info.

## Yatera Seca Golf Club

Golf Scramble at the Yatera Seca Course  
Saturday, Mar. 9 at 8:30 a.m.

Donations: \$3 members, \$5 non-members

Awards will be presented to first, second and third place. For more information call Danny at 5692.

# JTF-SPORTS

## Captain's Cup Basketball

In Captain's Cup basketball action the 'Hospital' team took on the 785th MP Co. Friday night in a battle royal.

After 40 minutes of play, and more than a dozen fouls each, both teams were locked up with a score of 37 apiece sending the game into overtime. With less than a minute remaining in overtime 'Hospital' threw a go-ahead three-pointer giving them the lead. 'Hospital' squeaked by getting the win by a score of 45 to 43 and improved their season to 7 and 3, while the '785th' fell to 5 and 5 on the season.



Army Spc. Delaney Jackson  
Navy Dentalman E-3 Vernon Babb, Naval Hospital, dribbles past Army Spc. David Smith, 285th MP Co.

### Men's Captain's Cup Basketball Standings

<b>W.T. Sampson</b>	<b>4-5</b>
<b>Hospital</b>	<b>7-3</b>
<b>Security</b>	<b>7-3</b>
<b>96th Trans. Co.</b>	<b>5-5</b>
<b>Get Moers</b>	<b>7-3</b>
<b>Sea Bees</b>	<b>5-5</b>
<b>MCSF Co.</b>	<b>2-8</b>
<b>JTF GTMO HQ</b>	<b>4-6</b>
<b>NavSta</b>	<b>5-3</b>
<b>785th MP Co.</b>	<b>5-5</b>
<b>BR Bulldogs</b>	<b>10-0</b>
<b>PSU</b>	<b>1-9</b>

### Men's Captain's Cup Basketball Scores

Fri. Feb. 28  
Security 47--- NavSta 34  
Hospital 45---785th MP 43 OT  
BR Bulldogs 69---PSU 45

Sat. Mar 1  
W.T. Sampson 36---Get Moers 29  
96th Trans 45--- Sea Bees 28  
Security 60--- MCSF 28

Mon. Mar 3  
Hospital 58---JTF HQ 45  
NavSta 71---PSU 41  
BR Bulldogs 66---785th MP 33

### Command Climate Survey results to be published

You have spoken, and we have heard your message.

The Inspector General has finished reviewing the JTF GTMO command climate surveys, and is working on completing the analysis of the results.

Over 1,200 members of the JTF took the time to respond to the survey and provide their comments.

In an upcoming edition of The Wire, we will provide the survey results. We will also respond to specific concerns or trends identified within the comments of the survey.

Watch for the results of the command climate survey in an upcoming edition of The Wire.

### Basketball Schedule

7 March  
6 p.m. PSU Vs. MCSF Co.  
6:45 p.m. JTF GTMO HQ Vs. BR Bulldogs  
7 p.m. NavSta Vs. 785th MP Co.

8 March  
6 p.m. W.T. Sampson Vs. Security  
6:45 p.m. Hospital Vs. 96th Trans Co.  
7:30 p.m. Get Moers Vs. PSU

10 March  
6 p.m. Sea Bees Vs. BR Bulldogs  
6:45 p.m. MCSF Co. Vs. 785th MP Co.  
7:30 p.m. JTF GTMO HQ Vs. NavSta

12 March  
6 p.m. W.T. Sampson Vs. Hospital  
6:45 p.m. Security Vs. PSU  
7:30 p.m. 96th Trans Vs. BR Bulldogs

# 15 Minutes of Fame...

with Pfc. Latasha Weeks  
132nd Military Police Company

## It won't be long before you're calling her ma'am

**Interview and photo by  
Spec. Lisa L. Gordon**

*Weeks has been out of Advanced Individual Training less than a year and is already planning her military career. After completing the deployment at Guantanamo Bay, she hopes to join the Reserve Officer Training Corps. Once her first enlistment with the Army is finished, Weeks plans on becoming an officer in the Air Force Reserve.*

**Q:** How long have you been in the Army?

**A:** About a year and a half.

**Q:** What made you want to be in the military police?

**A:** Well, I felt that I wanted to serve my country. I really didn't want to be an MP at first. My first choice didn't come through, but that was my second choice, so I was pretty happy.

**Q:** What was your first choice?

**A:** 71 Lima, administration.

**Q:** Are you glad things turned out the way they did and you ended up becoming an MP?

**A:** Yes. It's a good learning experience.

**Q:** What do you like best about the job so far?

**A:** I guess it would be the adventure. You get to write tickets or do domestic calls and stuff like that, and that's what I was really looking forward to ... just to see what it feels like to be a police officer for a couple of years of my life and then move on.

**Q:** What can you say about your job as it relates to Guantanamo Bay's mission?

**A:** We're out there protecting people in the Camp (Delta). So we're there kind of like security guards ... to protect people, protect detainees from harming themselves, and



*Pfc. Latasha Weeks stands in front of the command post for the 132nd Military Police Company at Camp America.*

just trying to keep them in the right frame of mind. Our job is very important.

**Q:** What is the first thing you want to do when you get home?

**A:** Finish my bachelor's degree. That's the biggest thing. Finish that up and go ahead and get my master's. That's the biggest accomplishment I'm looking forward to.

**Q:** Were you in school when you received word that your unit was being deployed?

**A:** Yes. I'm a second semester junior at the University of South Carolina.

**Q:** What are you majoring in?

**A:** Administration information management. Hopefully I can be a computer networker or do web page design or something like that.

**Q:** Do you think you will stay in the military after your first enlistment is up?

**A:** When I finish this deployment I plan on

doing ROTC. I think it would be a good experience; being able to lead people in the right direction ... I plan on being in the Air Force. That's one of the biggest things I want to do. The Air Force is really where I want to be. If things go well there, then I'll probably make a 20-year-career out of the Air Force Reserve. If that doesn't work out, I may be active duty ... who knows?

**Q:** If you do end up in the Air Force, do you think you'll keep a job similar to that of an MP?

**A:** My military occupational specialty will probably change when I switch over to the Air Force because I want to do what I'm doing in civilian life in the military also.

**Q:** March is National Women's History Month. How do you feel about being a woman in the Army?

**A:** I feel honored to be a woman in the Army because at one point you couldn't be in the Army if you were a female. Now we have the opportunity to serve alongside with men, for our country and to keep our families back home protected.

**Q:** Do you feel that there are certain challenges involved in being a female soldier?

**A:** Mentally, no. Physically, sometimes. I do pretty well physically, but some things, when you go out in the field ... it's kind of challenging, but you just put your mind to it and you succeed. That's what I do.

**Q:** Has the deployment experience here at Guantanamo Bay taught you anything new?

**A:** Yes. It's taught me how to be a better person ... It teaches you to keep your head up and whatever people may say, and no matter what you go through, just to keep on moving.