



# the Wire

“ HONOR BOUND TO DEFEND FREEDOM ”

Volume 3, Issue 19

Friday, April 11, 2003

## Civilian skills benefit JTF Guantanamo

**Story & photo by  
Sgt. Erin Viola**

Many Joint Task Force Guantanamo troopers use not only their military training, but also their civilian skills and talents to contribute significantly to the success of the mission here. In many cases, these Reserve and National Guard service members use their civilian skills to enhance both their regular duty performance and off duty volunteer work.

The 2-116th Infantry Regiment is lucky enough to have among them a highly skilled and thoughtful - albeit humble, soldier who has used his civilian skills and his own free time to make things better for his fellow soldiers and JTF Guantanamo.

Spc. John Fuqua of Headquarters, Headquarters Company, 2-116th Infantry owns his own concrete construction company back home and has a lot of experience working with construction materials and heavy machinery. Using those skills, Fuqua has performed a variety of tasks



*Spc. John Fuqua of Headquarters, Headquarters Company, 2-116th Infantry volunteered his time to create what he calls, "The Monument." Using his civilian skills in construction to make the structure, Fuqua says he hopes it serves as a motivator for the soldiers of 2-116th Infantry.*

beyond his normal duties, from building defensive positions and making trails safe for the dismounted patrol mission to creating a 2-116th monument for the rock garden in Camp America.

Fuqua's primary duty is to be the driver for Lt. Col Thomas Wilkinson, commander of 2-116th Infantry. He puts in a lot of extra hours to help out any way he can.

"I'll give a person the shirt off my back. I know this is a rough deployment for a lot of the soldiers. I was on the line for six years and I can relate to the long hours and hard days. I feel like anything I can do to make it easier, more enjoyable, more relaxing and safer for the soldiers, I will try my best to do it," said Fuqua.

Fuqua, with the assistance of an officer and several non-commissioned officers from 2-116th, built four defensive positions around the perimeter of Camp Delta. "They originally requested to

**See SKILLS, page 5, 6 & 7**

### Inside the Wire...

**MPs take on MOUT**



**Page 3**

**Civilian skills at work**



**Page 6**

**Here's dirt in your face!**



**Page 11**

## From the Top



**CSM George L. Nieves**  
Joint Task Force CSM  
JTF Guantanamo

Joint Task Force Guantanamo consists of many highly trained personnel with different backgrounds and knowledge that allow JTF Guantanamo to be successful each day. Seventy percent of our troopers in

JTF Guantanamo come from the Reserve or National Guard component; the skills they bring to the fight from their civilian profession add another level of expertise to the organization. Our military has long benefited from the ideas, skill, maturity and energy brought by Reserve and National Guard component troopers with their dedicated spirits and can-do attitudes.

Many of our successes in JTF Guantanamo are the results of the expertise they bring from their civilian jobs. JTF Guantanamo has many troopers with correctional backgrounds that fit right into the skill sets needed to conduct our detention mission. We also have personnel that possess an enormous amount of computer

---

***“The Active component could not accomplish their mission without the support of the Reserve and National Guard component.”***

---

skills that make it faster to analyze and distribute information. Not only do they improve the way we do business, they also make it more cost efficient. From developing blueprints for future detention facilities to automating the way we share information, Reserve and National Guard component troopers add fresh ideas to the way JTF Guantanamo does business.

There are many more examples of the Reserve and National Guard contributing to the success of JTF Guantanamo. From

the Seaside Galley where our food service personnel have improved the quality and appearance of the meals we eat, to the Tax Center in Camp America where volunteers are giving their time and knowledge to help us file taxes. Let us not forget those who work in the staff who improve the quality of life in JTF Guantanamo with their vast experience in logistics.

I'd be remiss if I did not comment on the commitment and dedication our Reserve and National Guard component troopers display towards our military and nation. I admire the way you balance two careers. The Active component could not accomplish their mission without the support of the Reserve and National Guard component. In these trying times, our nation is fortunate to have a Reserve and National Guard component with such dedicated troopers and their spouses and family members who support them. I'd ask all of us to look around and learn from one another.

**Honor Bound!**

## From the Field

### *How can I take advantage of the 4-Day Special Pass to Puerto Rico?*

The Four-Day Special Pass to Puerto Rico is given as a reward for outstanding performance of duty and is issued by your unit or section commander. Everyone in the JTF is eligible. To qualify, all you have to do is perform above and beyond what is regularly expected of JTF Guantanamo members.

Hey Leaders!!!! Since many JTF troops meet these standards, there should be a lot more soldiers, sailors, airmen, Marines and Coast Guards-

men being recommended for this pass. For more information, see the COS Memorandum dated 5 March 2003 on this subject.

*“From the Field” is a weekly feature addressing questions from service members on policy, procedures and other topics of interest to Joint Task Force Guantanamo. If you have a question for “From the Field,” submit it to [pao@jftgmo.southcom.mil](mailto:pao@jftgmo.southcom.mil) or call The Wire at 5239.*

### JTF-GTMO Command

**Commander:**

MG Geoffrey D. Miller

**Joint Task Force CSM:**

CSM George L. Nieves

**Public Affairs Officer:**

Lt. Col. Barry Johnson

**Deputy PAO / 362nd MPAD Commander**

Maj. Paul J. Caruso

**Command Information Officer / Editor:**

Capt. Linda K. Spillane

**Circulation:** 2,100 copies

### The Wire Staff

**The Wire NCOIC & Layout Editor:**

Staff Sgt. Stephen E. Lewald

**Staff writers and design team:**

Sgt. Erin P. Viola

Spc. Delaney T. Jackson

Spc. Lisa L. Gordon

Spc. Alan L. Knesek

Spc. George L. Allen

**Contact us:**

5239/5241 (Local phone) 5426 (Local fax)

Joint Information Bureau/HQ Annex

**Online:**

<http://www.nsgtmo.navy.mil/jftgmo>

*The Wire is produced by the 362nd Mobile Public Affairs Detachment assigned to the Joint Information Bureau at Joint Task Force Guantanamo. This publication is printed under the provisions provided in Army Regulation 360-1 and does not reflect the views of the Department of Defense or the personnel within.*

## 344th MPs training today for tomorrow's missions

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

The door slams open and light floods into the room. Four armed soldiers storm in, ready to take control. The room is cleared and the soldiers hold their positions.

These four soldiers and the rest of the 344th MP Co. trained in MOUT exercises (military operations in urban terrain) instructed by the 2-116th Inf. Regt.

"We're showing real basic techniques of a four-man entry. We stack on a door. Everybody moves into the room and everybody has certain sectors of fire they will deal with and certain positions they will move to within the room that gives them full coverage of the room," said 1st Lt. Kevin Berger, 2-116th Infantry Regiment, officer in charge of the MOUT training.

The MOUT training consisted of one day of classroom exercises and briefings followed by a second day of building

clearing in Camp Bulkeley. The MPs were grouped into four-man teams and practiced basic entering and clearing building techniques.

OPFOR armed with paint ball guns,



(left to right) Sgt. Anthony Sivos, Spc. Angel DeJesus, Sgt. Matthew Pellicone and Sgt. Joseph McFarland practice building clearing during MOUT training.

simulated weapons malfunctions, wounded soldiers, and unknown terrain added layers of difficulty and realism to the training.

"We need to keep training like this ... it

coordinates team work at this level. It keeps morale high and helps teamwork develop," said Spc. Paul Guarino, 344th MP Co.

This training taught the MPs what to expect if they ever find themselves in an urban environment during battle. It became very real for these soldiers, as they saw what could happen when simple mistakes are made.

"This type of training is important. We don't know what could happen next, what could happen when working in the camp, or when we're done with our deployment here. We could be sent to Afghanistan or Iraq where we would have to face this kind of fighting in the cities," said Pfc. Adam Bryda, 344th MP Co.

Whether or not the 344th MPs put to use their MOUT tactics training during this deployment or the next, they will be prepared to get the job done anywhere, anytime. The training they do today will help them during real world missions tomorrow.

## For JIG soldier, attitude is everything

**Story by Spc. Lisa L. Gordon**

She's a soldier first, but she wears many other hats: wife, mother, and grandmother are just a few of them.

In an effort to protect the identity of this Joint Interrogation Group soldier, she will be referred to as Sgt. 1st Class Melanie Paulson. Since arriving at Guantanamo Bay in December 2002, Paulson has known that there was a distinct possibility of being extended from a six month to a yearlong deployment.

Although the extension affects all soldiers and families differently depending on their individual situations, a positive attitude is the cornerstone of Paulson's outlook and she is not allowing the news of the extension get her down. "I've never seen a bad attitude help anything. It makes no sense. You don't want to compound your situation, make it harder, worse, or more difficult ... Attitude is your choice, it's how you look at things," Paulson said.

Although it may be easier for some soldiers to accept the extension than others, for Paulson the extension means missing her only daughter's wedding. Even though

she knew she would be home in time for the wedding had the deployment only lasted 179 days, Paulson said she didn't count on not being extended. Although it may sound blasé to some, her laid-back attitude comes from years of life experiences in both the civilian and military worlds.

"I've been in (the military) 20 years ... one of the things about the military is that it's always subject to change. Life in general is subject to change ... It's planning for things to change, and that's what I've tried to tell the soldiers that came along with me," explained Paulson. "You see home when you see it ... It was a mindset I came with."

In addition to her daughter's upcoming wedding, Paulson is looking forward to getting back to her husband, her six adult children, and her grandchildren. Although it's not easy for her to be away from family, Paulson keeps her schedule as packed as possible and surrounds herself with positive people in order to keep the time moving. She draws strength from her family back home. Despite her absence, they con-

tinue to be supportive of her contribution to the Global War on Terrorism. Paulson said, "One thing I do know is that if you surround yourself with positive people, you're more likely to have a positive attitude."

Paulson compares her military coworkers to a family and said that they are helping one another to keep busy and keep motivated. "We do physical training as a section, we train Monday, Wednesday, Friday, and Saturday ... so we're active. Everyone in the section will tell you they don't remember the days, but they only see the weeks flying by. If you're busy, active, and productive, those weeks are going to fly by," said Paulson.

It may seem like she has the ideal attitude, but it comes from a lot of experience and it's something that many less experienced soldiers can learn from. As Paulson stated, "Use everything as a learning experience ... set personal, professional, and military goals. You should get off this island in better shape, in some way, than when you got here."

# JTF Health Source

## Preventing ankle sprains

**By Navy Lt. Cmdr. Fred Schmitz  
Physical Therapist, Certified Orthopedic Physical  
Therapy and Sports Physical Therapy**

*If you have questions, comments, or ideas for a future article please contact him at the Naval Hospital PT Department: 7-2940 or email at [fdschmitz@gtmo.med.navy.mil](mailto:fdschmitz@gtmo.med.navy.mil)*

Ankle sprains are one of the most common and annoying injuries, and anyone who has turned or twisted an ankle can attest to their tendency to recur during the recovery process. There is a wide range of injury, but an ankle sprain is basically the body's failure to activate the right muscles at the right time, and therefore the underlying ligaments that support the joint come under strain. Some injuries are not easily avoidable - the basketball player that lands on another's shoe when coming down from a jump, or the person that steps in a hole while walking in the dark can't do much in advance to prevent the injury, short of avoiding sports or remembering to bring a flashlight (hmm). But there is something everyone can do to help the body improve the use of the muscles to protect the ligaments.

Practicing your balance is the key. Proprioception - defined as the ability to sense a joint's position, coupled with motor learning results in improved stability, and this can be improved with practice. Try standing on one leg with the other raised up like a stork. Establish your balance, and then try repeatedly bending your knee a bit or rising up on your toes. Easy? Try it with your eyes closed now (you might want to practice in a doorway where you can grab hold if needed, or at least remember to put your other foot down and open your eyes if you start to fall). There are three systems that contribute to your ability to balance on a single leg: your inner ear, your eyesight, and your proprioception. Eliminating one of them will make the other two work harder. There is excellent evidence that training single leg stance and other drills can contribute to a decrease in ankle sprains. I have athletes that I work with try to brush their teeth or shave on a single leg - adding another task is also challenging. For everyone walking around in the gravel, the best thing to do would be practice in the shoes you normally wear, and practice (discreetly and carefully) in the gravel as well, training for the environment that you operate in. Charlie Papa!

## TK population grows, quality of life improvement planned

**Story by Spc. Jared Mulloy**

Soldiers from the 344th Military Police Company that were living at Camp America and service members living in housing at Windward Loop filled Tierra Kay's newly renovated buildings recently. Some of the improvements to the renovated houses are newly installed washers, driers, and microwaves. The move began on Monday and soldiers were given until Friday to complete their move. For many, this was a vast improvement over living at Camp America. Now service members will be living closer to the many amenities

that Guantanamo Bay has to offer.

Due to the growing number of service members moving to Tierra Kay, many new conveniences will be arriving. Joint Task Force Guantanamo Morale Welfare and Recreation Officer Army Capt. Juan Gonzalez says, "A Navy Exchange Trailer will be up and running in the heart of Tierra Kay within one to one and one-half weeks." He also stated that a volleyball court would be built on one of the playgrounds within Tierra Kay. There's also a possibility that more computers will be made available for those living there.

Construction of an addition to the exist-

ing gym at Camp Bulkeley is in the planning stages. "The reason we're planning the addition to the Camp Bulkeley gym is because of the increase in troop population and increased usage of the gym, and because additional equipment is going to be coming in," said Gonzalez.

As for the next housing move, Air Force Capt. Brian Dewey of J-4 Current Operations stated that, "There's no set date for the next move, but if anyone is moved ... it will most likely be soldiers from the 984th Military Police Company."

### Correction to last week's "From the Field" question:

*For planning purposes, approximately when can I expect to leave Joint Task Force Guantanamo?*

Departure dates for infantry and military police units is the August/September 2003 time frame. For the military intelligence soldiers, the departure date is the November/December 2003 time frame. For individual augmentees, the departure date

is approximately 11 months on the ground which is adjusted for terminal leave, de-mob and home station time. It's possible for individual augmentees to depart earlier if they have replacements from their services. At this time, the 365-day tour only applies to Army, however it may extend to all services in the near future.

**SKILLS, from page 1.**

have the positions built by the Navy Seabees, but they were too busy to provide support," said Fuqua. Fuqua stepped up to the plate and said, "If you can get the materials, I know we can do this."

"It took us roughly two days to construct each position. This included two full days of drilling, setting timbers, and back filling," said Fuqua. Even though he was confronted with some construction challenges, Fuqua came up with solutions to overcome every obstacle and the project was a great success.

Having a high regard for the safety of his fellow soldiers, Fuqua also got involved with fixing up some of the trails where the infantry conducts their dismounted patrols. The deep washed out gullies on these trails created severe trip-

ping hazards, especially at night. Fuqua is skilled in operating a backhoe, so he made it a priority to get out there and fix the trails. He says maintaining the trails during hurricane season will also be a priority.

---

***"We use our civilian skills to take care of each other and this is just one way in which I can help out," said Fuqua.***

---

One of Fuqua's favorite projects was building what he calls "The Monument," which was recently erected in the rock garden in Camp America.

"I wanted to do something for the troops that would be motivational, that's the main reason I made the monument. It is for the good of all," said Fuqua.

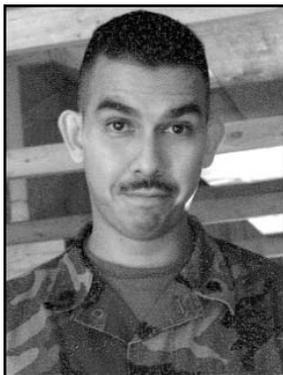
Fuqua designed the six-foot diameter

monument as well as the platform on which it stands. "Brown and Root helped me out with materials and supplies, such as concrete and the forming. I poured the concrete, stamped the lettering and painted it," said Fuqua.

When Fuqua was thinking of ideas for the monument, his main priority was to build something that would really stand out and that could not be painted over; hence the recessed lettering.

"Each one of our soldiers is unique in their own way. They all have something to bring to table. We've got accountants and lawyers ... a variety of fields. We use our civilian skills to take care of each other and this is just one way in which I can help out," said Fuqua. "But what I do is small. The line guys are out there busting their butt day-in and day-out and all I try to do is make things a little easier for them."

## Citizen-troops caught in the spotlight



***Spc. Andrew Rios, Mailroom Clerk*** - Spc. Rios is a member of the 806th Postal Detachment and he brings not only his military postal experience to JTF Guantanamo, but civilian experience as well. As a civilian, Rios works full time as a mailroom clerk for Experian Information Solutions, a large credit report company that services approximately 1,200 to 1,400 employees. Rios says that in terms of volume, he handles a lot more mail in his civilian job, and that most of the tasks he handles at home are similar to what he does for the JTF troops of Guantanamo Bay. Here and at home, Rios must sort, receive, and process mail. At his civilian job Rios said he mostly handles letters, whereas here, he is constantly handling packages for troops. Rios said he volunteered to deploy to Guantanamo Bay because he wanted to do his part to support the troops combating the Global War on Terrorism. Rios said, "I love what I do ... I think for me, the part I like most about it is supporting the troops ... Who wouldn't want a letter from their parents or their loved ones or their friends?"



***Petty Officer 3rd Class David Sanabria, Police Officer*** - Petty Officer 3rd Class Sanabria is a Master at Arms for the Mobile Inshore Undersea Warfare Unit 212. He serves as the line coach for the MIUWU 212. He helps his fellow sailors understand their weapons and improve their marksmanship. He also coaches them on accuracy, and zeroing their weapon. Sanabria says when it comes to security, he uses his civilian police officer skills here daily. "My training as a police officer helps me to stay focused, it helps me look for things out of the ordinary, doing vehicle searches, keeping an eye out for suspicious people, keeping an eye out for things that shouldn't be where they are," said Sanabria.



**Spc. Mario Veliz, General Construction/Carpentry** - Spc. Veliz is a member of the 300th Military Police Brigade and works as a general mechanic for Joint Task Force Guantanamo's J4/Maintenance Section. In addition to having mechanic skills, Veliz is proud to say that he has 11 years of experience in general construction and carpentry and is more than happy to offer those talents to the JTF mission. Veliz spent four years in the Marine Corps as a heavy equipment operator and after that he continued the same line of work as a civilian, which is where he picked up his carpentry skills. The additional work he has done over and above his daily duties as a mechanic is extraordinary. He has done everything from making plaques for fellow troops to constructing tables and work benches. "Even though we are here for vehicle maintenance, there's a lot of extra tasks that need to get done ... that helps out a lot around here," said Veliz.

---



**Spc. Charles Bonifield, State Trooper** - Spc. Bonifield graduated from the Illinois State Police Academy just before deploying to Joint Task Force Guantanamo and is a member of the 438th MP Co. He has been a military police officer for four years. Skills that Bonifield learned as an Illinois State Trooper have helped him with his work in Camp Delta. Bonifield says that "control procedures" he uses as a State Trooper when apprehending a suspected criminal come into play when working in Camp Delta. Interpersonal communication skills are also important. "Basically everything you learn in the academy applies as an MP, it's the same as what you're taught at MP school," Bonifield said. A lesson that Bonifield will take back to his civilian job is that officer safety is always a key factor. Bonifield says that the work he is doing here will improve his skills in dealing with people in both his military and civilian careers.

---



**2nd Lt. David Dabbs, Quality Assurance Director** - 2nd Lt. David Dabbs has been in the military for 11 years, six as a hospital corpsman in the Navy, and five in the Army. As director of quality assurance for a biopharmaceutical company back home, he applies Occupational Safety and Health Administration standards to his workplace, which deals with blood and plasma products, and implements preventative health measures, such as hepatitis immunizations for employees. Here, Dabbs is the environmental health officer for Joint Task Force Guantanamo. His section performs housing and galley health inspections, and tests our water supply for chlorine and bacteria. They contribute to the force protection of the JTF by testing MP units for tuberculosis, and updating their hepatitis shots. "I'm always looking at worst case scenarios, such as 'what would happen if someone came down with a live hepatitis case' - that's where my background in quality assurance would help guide me into solving a problem here," said Dabbs. "So it (my civilian experience) has allowed me to be more focused and more detailed here."

---



**Sgt. 1st Class Michael Riley, Police Officer** - Sgt. 1st Class Riley brings 23 years of police work experience to the JTF. Riley has also been a military police officer in the Army for 25 years and is a member of 438th MP Co. He places a lot of importance in developing people skills as a police officer and as an MP. Over the years, Riley has learned to patiently listen to people, regardless of the situation. According to Riley, it's important to process information and then think about what to do before taking action. In police work, you do not want to make a snap judgment. A lot of times you can escalate situations unless you take the time to analyze things and let them soak in, said Riley. Treating people fairly, and keeping a level head in tough situations are skills that are honed in civilian police work and have proven to be beneficial within the wire also. "A policeman should be the calm in the storm ...," Riley said. When you are confronted with a tough situation, you should keep a level head.



**Sgt. Aljady Soto, Corrections Officer** - Sgt. Soto is a member of the 240th Military Police Company and has been an MP and a corrections officer for the past 17 years. Soto works in Camp Delta and says he uses his civilian job skills on a daily basis here. "The skill I use the most is staying focused and keeping my composure in emergency and/or stressful situations. This simply comes with years of experience," said Soto. Leading by example, Soto serves as a mentor to the younger MPs working in Camp Delta. "I try to teach the younger soldiers how to stay focused, take control of situations, and have respect for each other. If you give respect, you get respect," said Soto. As a seasoned corrections officer, over the years Soto has pretty much seen it all. One of the most important skills he brings to the table from his civilian job is to play it cool. "Don't try to be a hero. Assess the situation and maintain your composure," said Soto.

---



**Sgt. 1st Class Luis Munoz, Computer Systems Analyst** - Sgt. 1st Class Munoz is a member of the 240th Military Police Company and serves in a supervisory position as a non-commissioned officer in charge. Over the years, Munoz has received extensive management training from his civilian company. He has been in supervisory positions often and has gained a lot of experience in project management, which requires excellent people skills. Additionally, Munoz has received motivational training from his job back home. "I use a lot of that management training and my motivational skills from my civilian job, in Camp Delta. Sometimes soldiers get a little stressed out and it is important for me to keep those people focused. I have the skill to do that because of the many people and projects I have managed over the years at my civilian job," said Munoz. Munoz uses his motivational skills on his troops before every shift. "I make everyone shake hands. It creates a bond for us before we start our work. It's very motivational and it is our way of saying to each other that we work as a team and we will be watching out for one another," said Munoz.

---



**Spc. Jeffrey Berry, EMT** - Spc. Berry is a member of Headquarters, Headquarters Company, 2-116th Infantry and works at the Joint Task Force Joint Aid Station as a medical specialist. His daily routine here includes assisting the Physician Assistants with sick call, routine assessments of patients, and taking vital signs, among other things. In civilian life, Berry has been an EMT Cardiac Technician for the past 13 years, where he has gained much experience in dealing with civilian emergencies. Berry says the most important thing he has learned in his civilian job is how to 'read people.' "Sometimes when people aren't feeling well, they are not in the right frame of mind and you need to know how to put them at ease. I use that skill a lot here," said Berry. "My military job and my civilian job actually both complement each other. The important thing in both jobs is to work well together as a team. No one can do this job alone."

---



**Petty Officer 2nd Class Anthony Boudreaux, Mechanic** - Petty Officer 2nd Class Boudreaux has been a member of the Mobile Inshore Undersea Warfare Unit 212 for seven years. Boudreaux serves the MIUWU 212 as an Engineman (Mechanic), where he conducts a lot of trouble shooting on the unit's vehicles. It is his primary responsibility to make sure all the vehicles are in working order and that all necessary parts that are needed to maintain the vehicles are ordered. He works on three-quarter ton trucks, two and one-half ton trucks, and one and one-quarter ton pick-up trucks. Additionally he has to maintain generators and the air conditioner units attached to the generators. At home, Boudreaux has worked as a mechanic for the past 20 years. His years of experience as a civilian mechanic have paid off when troubleshooting the military vehicles. He can assess the problems quickly and accurately. "My civilian job has helped me in a lot of ways here. For example, just looking at the way the tires wear on a vehicle would give you an indication that maybe the steering is off, or the bearings are loose," said Boudreaux.

## Correctional officer shares his knowledge with fellow soldiers

**Story & photo by  
Spc. Lisa L. Gordon**

When he was a young man of 18, his future didn't look very bright. He worked in a factory and the best he could hope for was to avoid layoffs and factory closures.

Seventeen years later, Elbert Johnson is a staff sergeant with the 132nd Military Police Company and a correctional officer at Evans Correctional Institution, a maximum-security prison in Bennettsville, S.C.

The path Johnson's life was taking changed by chance when one day, some 17 years ago, he saw an ad for the Army National Guard in his local newspaper. He was drawn in by the Army's "Be All You Can Be" slogan and decided to take the Armed Services Vocational Aptitude Battery. Johnson started his military career as a mechanic, but it wasn't long before he found his niche as a member of the military police.

While his military career was beginning to flourish, Johnson's civilian career was still floundering. Unsure of what to do or where to go to make a full time career for himself, Johnson continued working in the factory. While low wages and little to no job security made him want to leave the factory, Johnson stayed for 13 years before finally calling it quits.

Call it fate or call it luck, while reading the newspaper four and a half years ago, Johnson happened upon an advertisement for correctional officers wanted at Evans Correctional Institute, a maximum-security prison in Bennettsville, S.C. Motivated by his desire to leave the factory, Johnson applied for the job and was hired that same day. By this time, he had been in the National Guard for 13 years and Johnson said it was his military career that secured the corrections job for him.

"In the ad, it said 'law enforcement or

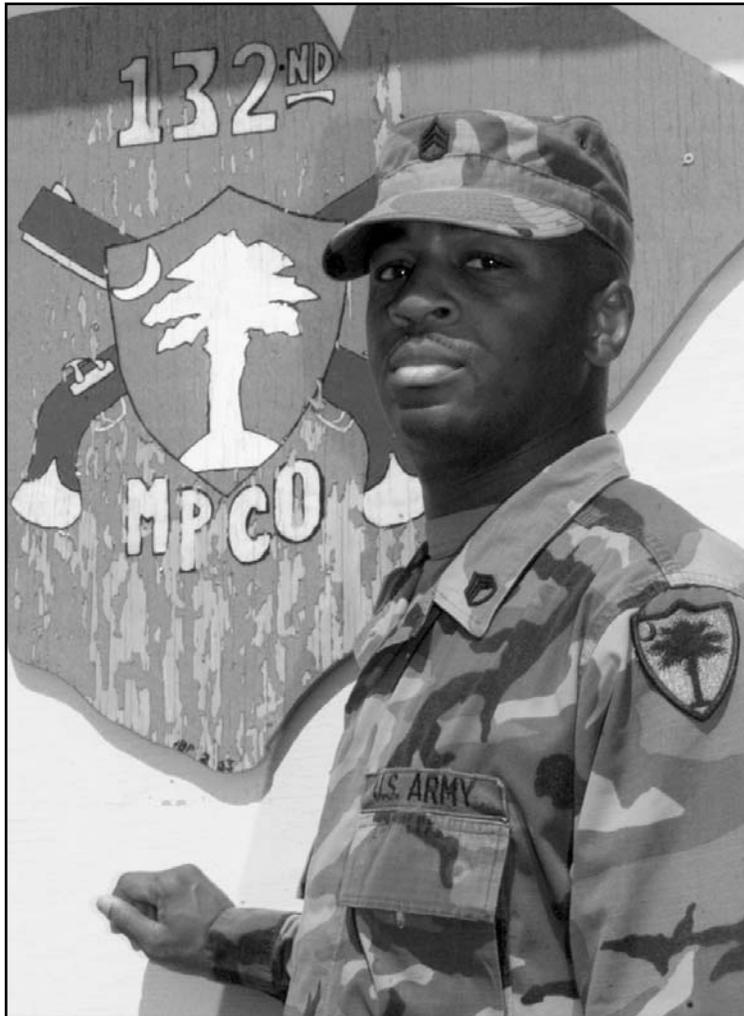
military background required.' My military background was in security, custody, and control ... I had to turn in my 201 file, and it helped me start out with top pay," Johnson said. More than just getting the job, his military experience has also helped him advance his career. Johnson explained, "I made sergeant in about a year

He said his years of experience prepared him for what he would face once inside Camp Delta, the potential situations that could arise, and the appropriate methods of dealing with those situations.

"Both jobs consist of basically the same thing: security, custody, and control," Johnson said, "It helps you be more professional because you're already aware of a lot of things that could happen. You know how to deal with a lot of those situations versus someone that doesn't have any experience at all."

Johnson's civilian experience as a prison guard doesn't just benefit him either. Being a staff sergeant, he supervises 10 soldiers and only two of the 10 have civilian law enforcement backgrounds. In addition to letting his past experiences act as a guide for his own behavior inside Camp Delta, Johnson has been able to share his knowledge with his soldiers. "The ones (soldiers) I have to lead, I've taught them that it's good to be firm, fair, and consistent. Whatever you did today, do the same thing tomorrow ... Respect that person the same way as if it were you ... I haven't had any problems since I've been here because I treat people the way I would want to be treated ... It's all about respect," said Johnson.

This is not to say that working in Camp Delta day in and day out is an easy job; far from it. However, the positive outlook that Johnson has developed, due in large part to his experiences as a civilian prison guard, has improved the working situation for soldiers at Camp Delta. One soldier's outlook appears to have a ripple effect. His ability to cope with situations inside Camp Delta and his knowledge of how to react has made the days less problematic not only for him, but for the other soldiers working at Camp Delta.



Staff Sgt. Elbert Johnson stands beside the 132nd Military Police Company logo.

and a half. My military skills helped me get that rank ... I wasn't there long enough to get promoted, but because I had so many years of military experience in that same field, it gave me enough time (in service to the department of corrections) to do that."

While his military career has certainly facilitated the development of his civilian profession, it has in no way been a one-way street. Johnson says that four years of walking the blocks in maximum-security civilian institutions has helped him effectively carry out his mission at Camp Delta.

## 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
<u>Camp America</u>		
Sun.	10:45 a.m.	Mass Wooden Chapel
	5 p.m.	Mass Wooden Chapel

### **Protestant**

#### Main Chapel

Mon.	7 p.m.	Prayer Group Fellowship*
Wed.	7 p.m.	Men's Bible Study*
	7 p.m.	Spanish Group 390-Even's Pt
Thurs.	6:30 p.m.	Home Group Nob Hill 5B
	7:15 p.m.	Youth 7-12 Fellowship*
Sun.	6:30 a.m.	Praise and Worship Service
	9:30 a.m.	Sunday School
	11 a.m.	Service/Sunday School
	5 p.m.	Bible Study*

\* Fellowship Hall located in Chapel Complex

#### Camp America

Wed.	7 p.m.	Service
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
------	--------	-------------

### **Islamic**

Fri.	1 p.m.	Classroom 12 ChapelComplex
------	--------	-------------------------------

### **Jewish**

Fri.	8 p.m.	Fellowship Hall
------	--------	--------------------

### **Camp America Church Bus schedule:**

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

The bus will return immediately following worship.

## Chaplain's Corner

**By CH (LTC) Raymond Bucon  
Deputy Command Chaplain  
Joint Task Force Guantanamo**

In a Joint Task Force environment your chaplain ministry teams are known as "Religious Support Units." Today I've been asked to examine how my civilian ministry influences my military one.

I define ministry as bringing the Good News to the point of people's needs. This is what I try to do for the 1,400 families I pastor at St. Priscilla Catholic Church in Livonia, Mich. This definition of ministry also applies to the military realm for each service member has important needs, desires to hear good news, and is a receiver of all that life has to offer.

Parish life has taught me to be flexible in my approach to people and their problems. Listening skills are sharpened in parish ministry, as is the ability to get to the source of a person's concern and the root of their problem. Communicating a vision and offering hope are daily activities for most pastors. Parish life contains measures of teaching, organizing, writing, and administrating. All of these skills are used by chaplains of Religious Support Units while ministering to JTF members.

Pastors and chaplains assist people in interpreting events in their lives and making good decisions. We provide pastoral counseling, spiritual counseling, and guidance counseling. We help when people are at a crossroads in life and don't

know which way to turn or which path to follow. We help people discover new ways of thinking and acting and coping with the many challenges of life.

Every person journeys through life with a changing set of values. Chaplains aid people in discovering and articulating these values, adopting new ones, and reprioritizing them when necessary. We foster the ideas that growth is desirable, change is possible, and forgiveness is necessary.

As leaders of prayer, pastors and chaplains minister in a variety of ways. Prayers can be formal and liturgical, memorized or spontaneous, written and complex or simple and from the heart. Praying aloud or silently, at a hospital bedside or a cemetery graveside, this sacred activity helps put into perspective the life we are given to use for only a finite number of days. May we use our lives well in our ministry to others.

Finally, the wise pastor gives God all the credit for all the good that is accomplished each day. We realize we are instruments of his love and compassion, cooperating with his grace and direction, inspired by his presence and action in our lives. Bringing God's good news to people in their need is the privilege of every pastor and chaplain. The motto on the chaplain crest summarizes our mission: Pro Deo et Patria ... For God and Country.

### **Special Announcement for the Catholic Community**

All Catholic religious services during Holy Week will take place at the NAVBASE Main Chapel. This will enable the entire Catholic community at Guantanamo Bay to come together for these sacred celebrations.

Holy Thursday	5:30 p.m., April 17
Good Friday	3 p.m., April 18
Holy Saturday	8:30 p.m., April 19
Easter Sunday	9 a.m., April 20

Please remember to abstain from meat on the Fridays of Lent. Also remember that Good Friday is a day of fast and abstinence.

# NATIONAL SPORTS

## In the headlines.....

The **Syracuse Orangemen** and **Connecticut Huskies** were crowned as the men's and women's **National College Basketball Champion's**. Fab freshmen Carmelo Anthony led the Orangemen to an 81-78 victory over **Kansas**. Anthony was voted Most Outstanding Player with 20 points, 10 rebounds, and seven assists. University of Connecticut, led by Diana Taurasi, beat the **Tennessee Volunteers** 73-68. Taurasi scored 28 points, four rebounds and one assist, and was named the Final Four's Most Outstanding Player.

**New York Yankee** slugger Hideki Matsui rounded the bases after hitting his first major league home run this week. Just one game into his Yankee Stadium career, he made team history. Matsui became the first Yankee to hit a grand slam in his debut at Yankee Stadium, leading the New York Yankees to a 7-3 win over **Minnesota**. Now that the **Boston Red Sox** have exercised Pedro Martinez's \$17.5 million option for 2004, Pedro would like to finish his career with the Sox. The 31-year old right-hander said he was willing to take less money to get an extension done. "I sacrificed a lot to remain in Boston," Martinez said. "If I bring out the numbers, you'll be shocked, but we decided to keep it private and we are going to stick to our word. They already picked up my option, which tells me that they are trying, so I'm just going to let it go. But the same offer is not going to be there in November." Darryl Strawberry was released from a **Gainesville Correctional Facility** after serving 11 months of an 18-month prison term. Strawberry, an eight time all-star, was described as a model inmate.

In the latest **National Hockey League** news the **Florida Panthers** received first pick in this year's NHL entry draft thanks to the **Columbus Blue Jackets**. Because of a draft-day deal with

Columbus last year, the Panthers had the right to trade first-round picks with the Blue Jackets to ensure a greater lottery chance. The **Boston Bruins** have a big question to answer come playoff time. Who will be playing net when the playoffs begin? Jeff Hackett is coming off an injury and should be ready for the playoffs. Steve Shields has started six of the last seven games to close out the season. General Manager/Coach Mike O'Connell is not sure yet. O'Connell says it will probably be a game time decision.

Lebron James has not ruled out going to college just yet. James doesn't know yet when he will make his decision public, but after watching friend Carmelo Anthony lead Syracuse to a National Championship, there's room for speculation. Asked where he would go, should he decide to go to college, James replied, "Somebody might give me a scholarship, I hope." Michael Jordan helped build the **Chicago Bulls** into NBA champions once before. He doesn't seem to be in any hurry to try to do it again. Jordan said Tuesday that he has no interest now in replacing Jerry Krause, who unexpectedly resigned as Chicago's general manager because of health problems.

"I know what I can do and I know how hard I'm working to get back, I will play in 2003." That's what **Miami Hurricanes** star tail back Willis McGahee said in an interview with ESPN radio. McGahee tore three ligaments in his knee playing in the **Tostitos Fiesta Bowl** and was told his career might be over. His healing is ahead of schedule and doctors say he should be fully healed by this fall. McGahee has a workout scheduled with **New England** this week and other teams are in line. The **National Football League** Draft is April 26.

*Sports highlights compiled from ESPN.com.*

### Next Malanga Time is at the Windjammer Saturday, April 19, at 8 p.m. Performances by: Bryan V. Randall (Red Eyes), Melvin Rodriguez (Rappero Latino)

The Electric Slide & The Cha Cha Dance  
Swing, Salsa, & Merengue dance competition  
Comedy Interludes by Johnny Header's (Malanga) One trophy for each category, T-shirts, Surprises and much more.

**Master of ceremonies:** From New York USA Juana Lynn Gonzalez

**Cantina:** Open Throughout the event

**The music of:** DJ Jose Cruz, Otto and the latest hits of Radio & Video

*Come participate, be a fan, have the greatest time of your life right here in Guantanamo Bay, Cuba*

### Spring Break Extreme Rage Mountain and Road Bike Challenge

Saturday, April 12, 2003

Race begins at 7 a.m. at the Bike Shak

Mountain and Road Bike Courses

Trophies and T-shirts will be presented

Youth and Adult Divisions

*For more information call 2345*

### Hootie & the Blowfish in concert

Sunday, May 4, 2003

at 8 p.m.

Downtown Lyceum

# JTF SPORTS & LEISURE

## Softball season opens!!

By Spc. Mark Leone

Guantanamo Bay's Captain's Cup Men's softball season opened with a bang, as Joint Task Force, Naval Station and civilian teams battled each other for bragging rights and their first taste of victory. Game times are scheduled for 6 p.m., 7 p.m., 8 p.m., and 9 p.m. at the G.J. Denich Gym on fields two, three, and four.

On field two, JTF Headquarters matched up against the 344th MPs with JTF holding on to win 19-15. The 303rd MPs beat up on the JTF Icebreakers 21-8. On field three there were two forfeits as teams NMCB 21 and MIUWU 212 each won. Hospital beat up on the Marine Corps Security Force 12-2 and the Cleveland Steamers (PAO) fought back from six runs down in the top of the seventh to beat Transportation 18-15. On field four, Migrant Ops won by forfeit and W.T. Sampson outlasted team 36 Lima 12-8. In a battle of the bats, Security beat Public Works Department 23-17 and Naval Station beat up on team NEX 28-2. All Captain's Cup Men's softball games will be played on Monday, Wednesday, Friday, and Saturday.

A new schedule was released on Tuesday due to the fact that some teams did not show up.



Photos Spc. Alan L. Knesek



## Movie Schedule

Camp Bulkeley	Downtown Lyceum
<p><b><u>Fri., Apr. 11</u></b>                      8 p.m. <i>Road Trip</i>                      R - 97 min.</p> <p>10 p.m. <i>Timecop</i>                      R - 98 min</p> <p><b><u>Sat., Apr. 12</u></b>                      8 p.m. <i>Gone In 60 Sec.</i>                      PG13 - 113 min.</p> <p>10 p.m. <i>Predator 2</i>                      R - 108 min</p> <p><b><u>Sun., Apr. 13</u></b>                      8 p.m. and 10 p.m.  <i>Clear &amp; Present Danger</i>                      PG - 144 min</p> <p><b><u>Mon., Apr. 14</u></b>                      8 p.m. <i>The Fugitive</i>                      PG13 - 127 min</p> <p><b><u>Tues., Apr. 15</u></b>                      8 p.m. <i>High Fidelity</i>                      R - 114 min</p> <p><b><u>Wed., Apr. 16</u></b>                      8 p.m. <i>Double Jeopardy</i>                      R - 106 min</p> <p><b><u>Thurs., Apr. 17</u></b>                      8 p.m. and 10 p.m.  <i>Deuce Bigalow</i>                      R - 88 min</p>	<p><b><u>Fri., Apr. 11</u></b>                      8 p.m. <i>Bringing Down The House</i>                      PG13 - 105 min</p> <p>10 p.m. <i>National Security</i>                      PG13 - 90 min</p> <p><b><u>Sat., Apr. 12</u></b>                      8 p.m. <i>Biker Boyz</i>                      PG13 - 111 min</p> <p>10 p.m. <i>Darkness Falls</i>                      PG13 - 85 min</p> <p><b><u>Sun., Apr. 13</u></b>                      8 p.m. <i>How To Lose A Guy In 10 Days</i>                      PG13 - 118 min</p> <p><b><u>Mon., Apr. 14</u></b>                      8 p.m. <i>Shanghai Knights</i>                      PG13 - 107 min</p> <p><b><u>Tues., Apr. 15</u></b>                      8 p.m. <i>Darkness Falls</i>                      PG13 - 85 min</p> <p><b><u>Wed., Apr. 16</u></b>                      8 p.m. <i>How To Lose A Guy In 10 Days</i>                      PG13 - 118 min</p> <p>10 p.m. <i>The Recruit</i>                      PG13 - 105 min</p> <p><b><u>Thurs., Apr. 17</u></b>                      8 p.m. <i>Bringing Down The House</i>                      PG13 - 105 min</p>

(Top photo) Spc. Aaron J. Gajowiak, J4 maintenance team, plays catcher while Army Sgt. Terry M. Beck, J4 maintenance team, keeps his eye on the ball as it approaches home plate during practice. The J4 maintenance team and many other teams are practicing for softball season which began April 7. "We are determined to finish in the top five out of the 20 teams ... but we are here to have fun too," said Beck.

# 15 Minutes of Fame...

with HM2 Felipe Rodriguez

Joint Task Force Joint Aid Station

## Locked and cocked "Devil Doc"

### Interview and photo by Sgt. Erin Viola

*HM2 Rodriguez has been in the Naval Reserve for more than eight years and has been a civilian firefighter/paramedic for the past five years. His paramedicine and teaching skills have been of great benefit to Joint Task Force Guantanamo.*

#### Q: What is your job here?

A: I am a Naval Hospital Corpsman. I worked for the JTF JAS, and now I work in the Emergency Room at the Naval Hospital, where I work on the ambulance.

#### Q: What kind of training did you receive?

A: After basic training, I went to Hospital Corpsman "A" school for 14 weeks, where I learned basic medical care procedures such as assessment, cardiopulmonary resuscitation, oxygen therapy, bandaging wounds, splinting and some advanced skills like starting IVs and oral intubation. After "A" School I went to the Field Medical Service School with the Marines for eight weeks and became an 8404 "Devil Doc." There I learned how to treat field casualties such as bullet wounds, head injuries, IV fluid replacement, and all the trauma you can think of. It was definitely life or death hard-core medical training - that's how the Marines do it. I'm also certified as an Advanced Cardiac Life Support Instructor and a Basic Life Support Instructor. And, I also took an Emergency Vehicle Operator course here, so I can work on the ambulance.

#### Q: What is your civilian job like?

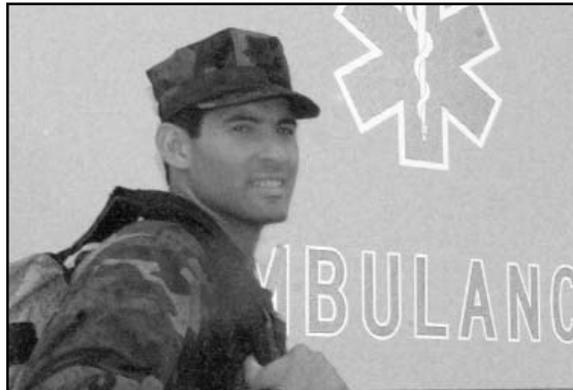
A: I'm a firefighter paramedic for the City of Stockton, Calif., Fire Department. It is a very busy fire department with a large variety of advance life support responses for medical trauma emergencies.

#### Q: In what situations would you use advance life support?

A: Some examples would be if someone had a heart attack or a diabetic emergency, shootings, stabbings ... things like that.

#### Q: Why did you become a firefighter?

A: I've always wanted to be a firefighter and always enjoyed helping people. When I was young, I would



*HM2 Felipe Rodriguez says he uses his civilian skills as a firefighter and paramedic on a daily basis here.*

see those big fire engines going down the street and I'd think that it was such an honorable job and it made me feel like I wanted to do that someday. So I did it and I worked really hard to get it.

#### Q: Do you think it takes a certain kind of personality to do your job?

A: You see a lot of interesting things in this field. Some good and some bad, but the personal rewards that come with the good are far greater than any of the bad things you see. You have to look at it as you are there to save the life of someone who is in a situation that you did not create. That is why you do it. As an emergency worker in the military ... the primary mission is people come first.

#### Q: How have your civilian skills benefited JTF?

A: I have used my civilian experience as a teaching tool for JTF medical personnel and for providing an advanced life support status for the ambulance. I teamed up with the Naval Hospital training staff and taught a nationally registered EMT-Basic course to 14 JTF and Naval Base personnel and an Advanced Cardiac Life Support course to 19 JTF and Naval Base personnel. I also got the chance to teach about the automated external defibrillator. I've worked in a busy fire department that runs 10-20 calls per day and have been able to pass the information I know to JTF personnel here at GTMO.

#### Q: You also taught a CPR class recently?

A: Last weekend I conducted the Heart Saver CPR classes at the Tierra Kay JAS and Camp America.

Several JTF people received the American Heart Association CPR card, which is good for two years. With just a few hours of training, the students received enough knowledge to make a difference in someone else's life, perhaps even save a life.

#### Q: How has this deployment benefited you and how have you made it better for JTF?

A: I was fortunate enough to be assigned to the JTF Joint Aid Station, where I learned from Army leaders how to bring medical care to the troops instead of having the troops try to find a place for care. I used the skills I brought from the fire department and teamed up with the

Navy corpsmen and Army medics to provide care for members of different branches, who support Operation Enduring Freedom. I've also had a lot of emergency experience as a fireman, especially with being in a busy city, and using real para-medicine. Because I have experience in reacting to certain kinds of traumas and taking control of emergency situations, I've been able to share this information with other medics here.

#### Q: Why did you join the Navy?

A: I became a Navy Hospital Corpsman to better train myself for the firefighter position. I tested for the fire department and luckily got picked up three years later.

#### Q: Anyone else in your family in the service?

A: I was the first person in my family to join the U.S. military. I've had relatives who have joined other services from other countries. My father's brother served in the Cuban military. Actually, my father came to the U.S. in the early sixties from a few miles up the road here in Cuba. My Step-Dad was in the U.S. Army and served as a postal clerk in Korea, during the war. After getting out of the Army he raised five boys, adopted three more from the church and then married my mom and raised my brother, my two sisters and me, after my dad died.

#### Q: What is the best advice you have received here?

A: Always do your best. It's so important to have the pride to stand behind what you are doing and to do the best job you can. I've definitely learned that through working for JTF and will take that home with me.