



the Wire

“HONOR BOUND TO DEFEND FREEDOM”

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Friday, May 21, 2004

50th Infantry Brigade headquarters arrives

By SGT Jolene Staker

Members of the Headquarters Co., 50th Infantry Brigade from New Jersey arrived to a warm welcome from those in the JTF.

“Arriving here at Guantanamo the reception was wonderful,” said 1SG Jose D. Crespo, who will be the new JTF HHC first sergeant. “Everyone has done an excellent job of showing us where we will be, making us comfortable, telling us what we will need and where to get it.”

Unit members will be replacing 177th Military Police Brigade members who have been the support backbone of the JTF Headquarters.

This is a chance for Headquarter members to make history for the 50th Infantry Brigade.

“We have not been deployed overseas since World War II so we are indeed making history,” said SFC Steve Katkics, headquarters office manager.

Dispersing to the many offices that they will be supporting during their deployment, headquarters members were introduced to the unique working condi-

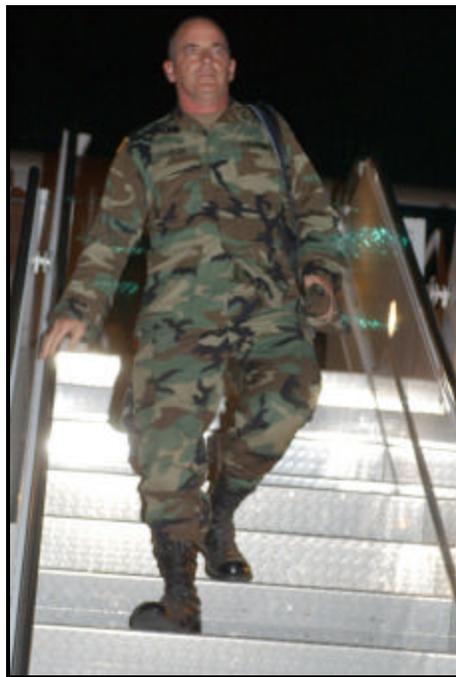


Photo by SGT Jolene Staker

LTC Royce Lawler, Inspector General, was the first off the plane when he arrived with the Headquarters Co., 50th Infantry Brigade. He is attached to the unit for this mission.

tions of being part of the JTF.

“A lot of people are being put in positions they are not familiar with, but everyone is stepping up to the plate, being extremely flexible and picking up the task at hand,” said MAJ David Moses, who is taking over the J-3 deputy position.

The company had three other companies join them when first mobilized to fill in vacancies.

“The transitional period went great,” said Crespo. “We’ve worked good together. We [have] become like a family.”

The unit members ability to form a cohesive team so quickly has impacted their training time.

“Our counterparts have commented on the cohesion and integrity of this unit just in the short time they have been dealing with our unit,” said SGM Anthony Cahill, J-3 operations sergeant major. “They have noticed how close the whole unit is – which is spectacular considering many of us have only been together for a short amount of time.”

The headquarters company commander,

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661ST ENDS TOUR



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TIMBY, HOSPITAL STAFF HONORED



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15 MINUTES OF FAME



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Trooper to Trooper

Rotation in full swing now

Seems the transition from GTMO 4 to GTMO 5 is now in full swing.

For the GTMO 4 troopers who are preparing to depart, I offer thanks for a job well done. I get to spend most of my days around troopers from the 177th Military Police Brigade. BG LeClaire and his unit have performed in a superb manner. I think that goes the same for the other military police, infantry, transportation, medical, military intelligence and signal units from GTMO 4.

I would ask three things of GTMO 4 troopers as you prepare and depart for home. First, don't lean for the finish line too soon. Ensure you are safely and properly packed, loaded and administratively prepared for your de-mobilization. Ensure your awards and evaluation reports are complete. Remember, because our military maintains an expeditionary mindset we have to be ready to deploy fight and win anywhere, at any time. Second, make sure that your replacements are fully prepared for their JTF missions. Take the time to think through your first contact with new troopers and units – first impressions are lasting ones. You know what right looks like. Ensure that you pass on your experiences to your replacements. Ensure you cover SOPs, battle drills, safety considerations, and critical information requirements. Take care of the new folks, and stress effective communication, high standards, competency, leadership, and dedication to troopers and the mission. Make sure they are set up for success. As BG Hood has stated in the past - your GTMO 4 job ends when your replacement has been trained and you leave the island. Last, prepare for your homecoming, and be ready to tell the JTF story. Most folks have been away for quite a while; families and friends have adjusted to your absence. Think through how you intend to re-integrate yourself into your home environment and family. And know that you will shortly be our ambassadors to the world. Understand what you can and can not talk about regarding our mission here. The JTF story is a great tale, be proud of what you have done for the JTF, and for our country.



COL Timothy Lynch
JTF Guantanamo
Chief of Staff

For the GTMO 5 troopers that have just arrived and are in the middle of assuming the JTF mission, I offer a warm welcome. I have already gotten to know many of the troopers from the 50th Infantry Brigade and 491st Military Police Company. I like the attitude and demeanor of the new units, and look forward to them enthusiastically joining the JTF.

I would ask three things of GTMO 5 troopers as you prepare for and assume tasks that support the JTF-GTMO mission. First, get the most out of your changeover time with your GTMO 4 counterparts. This is a demanding assignment. Spend the time now ensuring that you understand every facet of your job. Don't be afraid to ask questions. Ensure you understand the standards for your part of our mission here. Second, understand the team's mission as a whole, and where you fit. To do this you must understand each part of the team and how the team works together to accomplish our mission here. That will take a while, and you can only do this if you get out and meet folks from all the units. Third, take some time to enjoy yourself. Naval Base Guantanamo has quite a bit to offer. Be safe, and enjoy.

So, to the outgoing GTMO 4 troopers – mahalo nui loa for all you have done to make the JTF a success. I wish you all fair winds and following seas. To the incoming GTMO 5 troopers – we are all glad to see you. Welcome, buckle your chin strap, and prepare for a great ride.

Honor Bound!

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491st Military Police Company arrives at JTF GTMO

Newest rotation hits ground ready for action

By AF Staff Sgt. Joshua Gorman

The 491st Military Police Company from Mesa, Ariz. arrived at Joint Task Force Guantanamo May 13.

“We’ll be working inside Camp Delta and our sole purpose will be to look after the detainees,” said 1SG Frank Rose, 491st MP Co.

The 491st MP Co. is a very diverse unit, said 1SG Rose, adding that the unit has a range of ethnic backgrounds and people from California, Washington, New York, Arizona, and Texas.

The 491st MP Co. was established 10 months ago and was activated on Apr. 14.



Photos by Sgt. Jolene Staker

(Left) Capt. Willie Triplett, 491st Military Police Company commander, and Capt. Donald Woodley, 661st MP Co. commander step onto the ferry after the 491st MP Co. arrival May 13.



SPC Charles Pax, 491st MP Co., steps onto the bus as it prepares to depart to inprocessing meetings.

1SG Rose said one thing some troopers will be accomplishing here is graduation from the 31E course.

In his civilian life, 1SG Rose was a maintenance manager, however, he resigned his position a year ago to accept a mission at an MP school and then he followed on by volunteering for the assignment here.

In his free time, 1SG Rose said he was planning on taking up scuba diving around Guantanamo Bay.

One of the troopers arriving with the 491st MP Co. is SSG Cyrus Collier.

“I’ve been in the unit since it began 10 months ago,” he said. “We’re here in support of the JTF mission, and to do whatever is needed.”

At home, SSG Collier works as a contractor, and here he’ll be involved in mission support.

“It’s beautiful here. I’m looking forward to learning scuba and just enjoying the area,” he said, adding his wife is hispanic, so he’d like to learn to be able to talk to her in her native language before he returns home.



(Bottom to top) SGT George Espinoza, SGT Aaron Graessley, SFC Jon Elliot, CPL Scott Shard, SGT Michael Hanna, and PFC Lisa Walden, 491st Military Police Company step down the aircraft after arriving here May 13. The 491st MP Co. is replacing the 661st MP Co.

Headquarters from page 1

CPT Thomas Brooks, brings with him the experience of being the Battalion S-1 for Noble Eagle II homeland security mission where he was responsible for force protection issues for four different bases. He was also the National Guard Bureau liaison officer for the Joint Task Force for the Olympics.

"I am personally excited and ready for the challenge," said Brooks. "To take my experience and combine it with this mission, it is an excellent opportunity."

The company has served on homeland security missions since the terrorist attacks on 9/11. Unit members provided airport security immediately after the attacks and have guarded the bridges and tunnels going from New Jersey to New York, both right after the attacks and anytime there is an elevation in homeland security or force protection conditions.

The unit has also been part of brigade and division war fighter exercises. This has given them the Joint Operation Center aspect of augmenting a brigade size headquarters.

"I think this experience will help this unit and the JTF overall," said Katkics. "They end with an extensive after action review that highlights the lessons learned. This has improved communication skills and given members the experience of working in a joint environment."

The unit belongs to a brigade whose rich heritage goes back to the New Jersey Rifle Corps at New Brunswick, N.J., organized in 1923.

The infantry brigade has a rather complicated history to trace to keep all the changes and transitions clear, but the history they are making here at Guantanamo Bay as part of the JTF is clear.

"There is a lot of enthusiasm, excitement and motivation within the unit for this mission," said CPT William Bono of the Headquarters Co. "Unit members are doing their share in the war on terrorism."

They are doing this by coming together and working efficiently as a team.

"The unit has melded together and function as though they have worked together forever," said Cahill.

By working together and learning from the 177th MP Bde. members, the Headquarters Company plans to help take the JTF to the next level.

"It's our goal to always go one step higher than those before us," said Crespo. "We will accomplish our mission successfully."

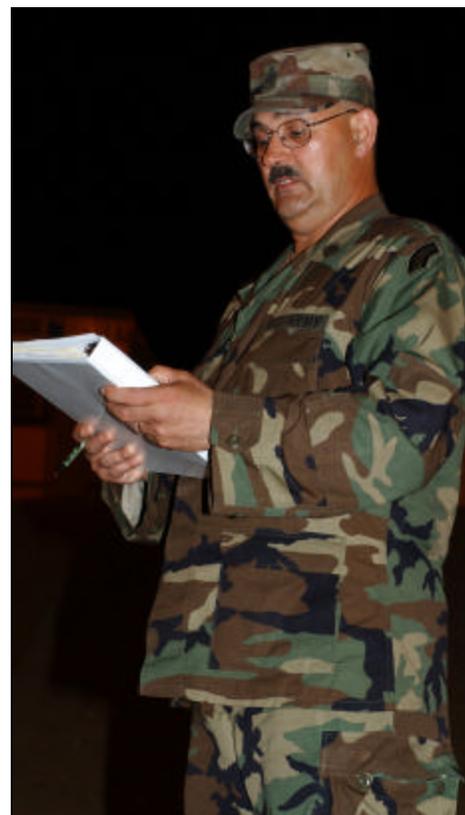


Photos by SGT Jolene Staker

Above: (from left) SFC John Raimondi of Headquarters Co., 50th Infantry Brigade, is welcomed right after coming off the plane in the reception line by LTC Stephen Feehan, JTF staff chaplain.

Below left: SGT Nolan Harris of Headquarters Co., 50th Infantry Brigade, unloads company luggage off the back of a 5-ton truck.

Below right: 1SG Jose D. Crespo of Headquarters Co., 50th Infantry Brigade, holds a formation with the company to tell them where they will be billeted.



Celebrating America's heroes: the history of Armed Forces Day and National Military Appreciation Month



By SPC Katherine L. Collins

As one among America's vast array of traditions, honoring our military heroes is core to our nation's identity as "the land of the free and the brave." Armed Forces Day and National Military Appreciation Month are two nationally recognized periods of celebration during which Americans from Maine to California exemplify our deep sense of pride and patriotism. We express appreciation for and a desire to better understand the nature and role in civilian life of the missions and sacrifices of our men and women who fight to protect this nation's freedom and way of life we so dearly love.

Armed Forces Day was established on Aug. 31, 1949, by the effort of President Harry S. Truman to combine the previous independent holidays of the Army, Navy, Marines, Air Force and Coast Guard. The single-day celebration developed from the unification of the Armed Forces under one department – the Department of Defense. Celebrating this day of pride, appreciation and community on the third Saturday in May, civilians gather to honor and learn about America's Armed Forces by participating in such activities as parades, open houses, receptions and air shows. Many military bases offer public tours of their facilities, ships, planes and other military assets. Sometimes the military also conducts public demonstrations such as parachute jumps and aircraft fly-bys. In addition, the military generally

displays its state-of-the-art equipment to the civilian population.

In an effort to further educate the community about the U.S. Armed Forces, the U. S. Congress passed a bill in 1999 designating May as National Military Appreciation Month. Founder and current "executive director," Alice Wax felt that many families are neither aware of nor do they value or understand the service given by those of the "Greatest Generation." She also learned that those military events turning the course of history — events like Normandy, Pearl Harbor and San Juan Hill — were rapidly losing their significance to the general American population, particularly the youth. Wax, widow of a businessman who kept close ties with the military after departing his own military service, because it was the "greatest experience of his life," also believed most holidays commemorating historical military events have become little more than three-day weekends lacking focus on their original purpose.

Using appropriate means to establish incentives for federal, state and local governments and private businesses and organizations, Wax strove to use this month as a time to encourage everyone to sponsor and participate in programs nationwide expressing their appreciation for our military and learning more about its history and the history of our nation. Wax felt that if we ask our nations' servicemembers to willingly risk their lives on a moments notice, should we not willingly celebrate their contributions and sacrifices as well?

Trooper on the Street

By SPC Katherine L. Collins

This week's question: If you could offer only one piece of advice to your replacement, what would it be?



Navy
Petty Officer 3rd Class
Chuckeen Redd,
warehouse

"Keep busy, taking advantage of all you may not experience at home, such as meeting people from all over the country and different branches of service, all the water sports and taking college classes."



SPC
Kenneth Pierce,
A Co. 1-181st Inf. Bn.

"Get into the positive side of this place – positive people and activities, and look at the ways you can grow here, especially spiritually; it will benefit you when you return home as well as now."



PFC
Mike Williamson,
384th MP Co.,
armory

"Respect all the branches of service in the Joint Task Force. We are one team fighting to destroy terrorism."



Airman 1st Class
Natalie Gonzalez,
JIG

"Just serve the mission one day at a time, and keep in mind that life at home can be tough too – there are difficulties and pros and cons everywhere. Make the most of the pros here."



PFC
Matthew Ferrari,
B Co. 1-181st Inf. Bn.

"When the job seems tedious, keep in mind that you're still doing an important mission."



661st Military Police Company



The 661st Military Police Company (MP Co.) began its legacy as the first line unit activated in the Virgin Islands National Guard (VING) on the island of St. Croix, U. S. Virgin Islands. It was created and federally recognized on Oct. 19, 1973, then reorganized and redesignated in 1976, 1989 and 1998, creating and sustaining a detachment unit on St. Thomas. Operation Enduring Freedom's JTF Guantanamo mission is the company's first mobilization to active duty.

Since its creation, the 661st MP Co. has focused on preparing for a federal call to duty, while training to meet that goal through its numerous territorial missions. In 1974 the unit participated in the VING's first call to duty when torrential rains resulted in widespread flooding throughout the islands. The 661st MP Co. has further mastered its rescue and evacuation, communication, medical and security skills through this local mission and missions aiding the civilian populace during hurricanes, government

strikes, fires, threats of violence and to augment the Virgin Islands Police Department.

Among its achievements, the unit received the Best Unit Award for its participation the Military Police Prisoner of War Exercise "Golden Pistol 78." In addition, the Commander Army Readiness Region IV awarded it a certificate in 1982 for participating in the 14th Annual Phillip A. Connelly Awards for Food Service Program for excellence in food service in the Reserve Component Field Kitchen Category. Finally, among its recognitions, the 661st MP Co. was granted the Governor of the Virgin Islands Meritorious Unit Citation for outstanding performance in Exercise Ocean Venture 82.

Today, the citizen soldiers of the 661st MP Co. continue to carry on the proud traditions of those who served before them, and they stand ready to answer the call to defend the nation or provide emergency services to the residents of the Virgin Islands.



Photos by SPC Katherine L. Collins

Training to preserve freedom

“OF THE TROOPS, FOR THE TROOPS”



JOB WELL DONE

You accepted the challenges of this mission with vigor. We are unique for this rotation in that we had to integrate a total of three units from significantly different cultures than our own. You did this as most of you adjusted to being on active duty for the first time. I saw many of you develop into competent leaders on this mission. Some of you haven't realized it yet, but you have. As you continue to develop, consider this: I know it will carry over on our return to our home station. Your dedication to duty ensured the successful completion of this mission.



**CPT Donald W. Woodley
Commander
661st Military Police
Company**



As your commander, I say this: It is and will continue to be an honor and a pleasure to serve with a unit as professional as you.

“Honor Bound, to defend freedom”



In dealing with the responsibilities of everyday life and the daily trials of this mission it is easy to lose sight of the bigger picture. We are part of the history of the Virgin Islands and the United States. When children of the future or even soldiers of the future read about the "Global War on Terrorism" they will see your names listed among the ones who chose to fight the war rather than read about it. The experience gained during this mission should serve to make the 661st MP Co. a fighting force to be reckoned with and give each of us a deeper appreciation of our rights and freedoms as citizens of the greatest country on this planet.



**1SG Emil A. James
First Sergeant
661st Military Police
Company**



Honor Bound!



Photos by SPC Katherine L. Collins



Hospital personnel honored for work; Timby earns Star

Photos by SPC Rick Fahr



Navy HM3 Paul Burnstein (left) receives a Joint Service Achievement Medal during a recent ceremony.



Navy CDR Jefferey Timby receives a Bronze Star from BG Jay Hood, JTF Guantanamo commander, for his work in Iraq during Operation Iraqi Freedom. Timby led a hospital contingent who successfully treated more than 100 in jured personnel during fighting last year.



JTF Guantanamo Commander BG Jay Hood presents commander's coins to Navy personnel at the Detention Hospital. Among those receiving coins were (from left) HN Garrett Clark, HM2 Trejuan Sutherland and HM3 Matthew Wynn.

Sports highlights

Rookie James added to 2004 'Dream Team'

Compiled by SPC Rick Fahr

The 2004 version of the U.S. Olympic basketball team is getting younger by the day.

Rookie sensation **LeBron James** has signed on, joined most recently by **Amare Stoudemire**, **Stephon Marbury**, **Richard Jefferson** and **Shawn Marion**.

Players who won't be traveling to Athens include **Kobe Bryant** and **Ray Allen**.

Others already on the team are **Karl Malone**, **Jason Kidd**, **Tim Duncan**, **Allen Iverson**, **Jermaine O'Neal**, **Tracy McGrady** and **Mike Bibby**.

However, reports indicate that some of those players might not actually make the trip.

Among those left off the current roster is **Carmelo Anthony**.

Dale Earnhardt Jr. won his

third race of the year under the lights Saturday night, holding off **Jimmie Johnson** and **Bobby LaBonte** to win at Richmond, Va.

Earnhardt gambled late in the race by opting not to make a pit stop with about 50 laps left. In the end, he won by nearly a second and a half.

"It was a great race car, just had a great long-run setup on it," he said. "I passed (Johnson) on the outside. I don't know where that came from. I told him that I felt like my daddy for five minutes."

Earnhardt leads Johnson by 40 points in the Nextel Cup Standings.

Smarty Jones kept its perfect streak intact Saturday, winning the second leg of horse racing's triple crown in record form.

The 3-year-old dominated the

Preakness Stakes field by 11.5 lengths. By winning the Preakness and the Kentucky Derby, all that remains for the first triple crown winner in a quarter-century is for the horse to win the Belmont Stakes on June 5.

It's nearly June, and most things seem fairly normal in the world of Major League Baseball.

Randy Johnson looked like the "Big Unit" of old, hurling a perfect game Tuesday night. Of course, it was against the hapless **Atlanta Braves**, who couldn't hit water if they fell out of a boat.

The **New York Yankees** sit atop the American League East, and **Tampa Bay** is pulling up last place.

Other AL division leaders are **Minnesota** and **Anaheim**.

In the National League, the Central Division has only five games separating all six teams,

with **Houston** and **Chicago** tied for first.

The surprising **Los Angeles Dodgers** are ahead out West, while the defending champion **Florida Marlins** lead the East. Cellar-dwellers? The Curt Schilling-less **Arizona Diamondbacks** and ever-moving **Montreal Expos** have combined to win five games more than the Dodgers alone.

The young Spaniard, **Sergio Garcia**, outlasted two challengers Sunday to win the EDS Byron Nelson Classic in a playoff.

Garcia, who hadn't won on the PGA Tour in two years, beat **Dudley Hart** and **Robert Damron** to take the \$1,044,000 first-place check.

By the way, **Tiger Woods** finished one shot off the lead.

Compiled from www.espn.com.

Computers linking troopers with worldwide wacky web

By SPC Rick Fahr

Now that there is no handy PC-to-phone software on the computers in MWR labs, troopers are using those computers for the weirdest thing – surfing the Internet.

Used to be that in a room full of Web-active computers, the only Internet sites that were getting called up were the various language sites of the phone company. Alas, no more.

I'll acknowledge that I spend my share of time sitting in front of those monitors, 20 minutes at a clip, and I've found some interesting sites.

■ www.allpopupadsallthetime.com. This site cuts to the chase. There is no pretext of any sort of content other than popup ads for real estate opportunities, weight-loss drugs and "enhancement" potions.

■ www.colormegullible.com. Not many people admit to going to this site, but plenty do. This is where you can hook up

FAHR GAME

with a number of Nigerian government officials who need you to share \$25 million, no strings attached, of course.

■ www.touchingstory.org. I'm not sure who runs this site, but the "true" stories are heart-warming. You know the ones – some young person is sick and has a last wish of receiving mail from a million strangers or someone was in line at the grocery store and made some great speech about patriotism or some dog saved a kid from a well and on and on and nauseatingly on.

■ www.itbeatsrealitytv.com. This site is nothing more than a blank screen that changes color every half hour, but, hey, watching that does beat reality TV. ("And tonight on Fox, see who gets voted off the planet and hurled into outer space on a giant bottle rocket!")

OK. OK. OK.

Those aren't real sites, but they could be, couldn't they? There is everything under the sun out there on the Internet. It's unbelievable. And that's the problem. Lots of things out there aren't believable. Yet, folks take things found on the Internet as written-in-stone truths. Proof?

I subscribe to a political newsletter/gossip mill/rap sheet that comes straight to my e-mailbox. One of the items yesterday was supposedly a news release about abducted contractors in Iraq. The release indicated that the contractors' employer was going to dock their pay for the work they missed while being held captive.

Of course, the release was a joke. It first appeared at "The Onion," but someone actually thought it was true and forwarded it so that other people could get outraged.

That leads me to think I should create my own site – www.buymyswampland.com.

Air Force personnel make great contribution to JTF

By SGT Jolene Staker

It is almost time for another rotation of Air Force Personnel in the JTF.

This rotation is based on the Expeditionary Action Force (EAF) plan put in force by the Air Force in 1999.

"The plan is intended to give Air Force personnel some stability," said MAJ Lee Nelson from Seymour Johnson Air Force Base out of N.C.

According to the EAF plan, Active Duty Air Force personnel will deploy for a three month rotation and then have at least a year at their home stations.

This plan also gives the JTF stability. While the faces do change frequently, there are always Air Force personnel supporting JTF operations in areas such as supply, transportation, maintenance, food service, public affairs, communications, intelligence personnel and the command element.

Like any military unit the Air Force rotation brings a varied amount of experience.

Tech Sgt. Donald Gonsalves from a detachment of Bolling Air Force Base in Chumsford, Mass. has been in the Air Force almost 19 years and has been on nine deployments to include Egypt, Kuwait, Saudi Arabia, Iraq and South America.

How are the Air Force personnel able to perform successfully during a three month deployment?

"We are trained in our specific technical job and we pretty much have to hit the ground running," said Gonsalves.

The task force is unique enough that some Air Force personnel have found themselves in somewhat uncharted territory.

"Our training applies at a macro level, but in the detail level of what I do it is actually

quite different than what I would be doing in an Air Force supply job," said Nelson.

"I've only been in public affairs career field since March 2003, so I've had to learn a lot really fast," said Staff Sgt. Joshua Gorman of RAF Lakenheath, United Kingdom. "This deployment has given me the opportunity to develop my skills to a higher level."

Being in a task force has given many Air Force personnel a unique experience.

"I had the opportunity to work with the rest of the Armed Forces," said Staff Sgt. Dale Lisel from Eglin AFB out of Fla. "It was a learning experience."

"I have had a very positive experience working with different services – especially in my office, the Joint Personnel Reception Center, where Navy, Army and Air Force form one team," said Air Force 2nd Lt. Crystal Rowley out of McChord AFB in Washington. "From the moment we got here we combined as a team and were able to do remarkable things because of that."

Staff Sgt. Luis Vela from Davis-Monthan AFB out of Tucson, Ariz. has also deployed many places and this is the first mission that did not support aircraft, but it included training Army personnel on fixing civilian vehicles.

It was a unique training experience for Vela who doesn't get to work on tactical vehicles. For some it has been a lesson in vocabulary.

"It is interesting because the different branches have different terms for the same thing," said Nelson. "We have to make sure we are talking about the same thing."

"I learned to say Hooah," said Staff Sgt. Zar Manabat from McChord AFB.



Photos by SGT Jolene Staker

Top: Staff Sgt. Luis Vela works on a military vehicle. He brought a lot of experience to the mission having served in Saudi Arabia, Korea, Jordan, Kuwait, Iraq and Qatar.



Center: (left to right) Maj. Lee Nelson and Staff Sgt. Dale Lisel go over an invoice in the J-4 supply warehouse.

Below: (left to right) 1SG George Davis, J-3 rotation NCO, Staff Sgt. Zar Manabat and Navy Petty Officer 2nd Class Ashley Weekly work in processing the new units coming into the JTF.

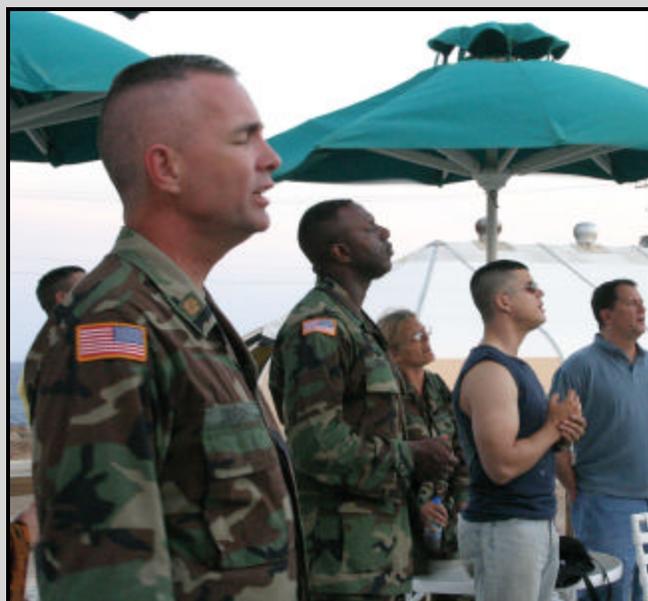


Chaplain's Corner



Club Survivor

(Above) SGT Christina Kowalski and SGT Jamie Bourgault sing along with CH (LTC) Steve Feehan and his wife Joan at Soul Survivor. (Right) CH (MAJ) Daniel Odean and SGT Johnnie Ebron join in the singing and prayer before listening to CH Odean's preachings on Jehovah Shalom, which means peace.



Photos by AF Staff Sgt. Joshua Gorman

Padre's Corner

By CH (LCDR) James Dowds

We human types love to label, measure, judge, distinguish, compare, rate, and make all kinds of infallible pronouncements about other people, especially if those "other people," do not look like WE look, think like WE think, or believe what WE believe.

We seem to thrive on thinking and acting this way in most aspects of our lives. In the Gospel of John 17:20-26 from the Liturgy of last Sunday, Jesus prays so "that they all may be one..."

Ultimately the prayer of Jesus can not be frustrated. The question we might ponder is whether we help or hinder in making all one in Christ!

Chapel Services and Programs

Alpha Course

A discussion forum designed to answer questions about Christianity. Held at Camp America North, room L001, every Tuesday at 7 p.m.

Soul Survivor

Listen to contemporary Christian music and dynamic preaching by CH Odean. Held at the Club Survivor deck every Wednesday at 7 p.m. Refreshments available also.

Thursday Ticket

Each week a contemporary movie is played and afterwards viewers discuss the morals and ethics shown in the film. Held at Camp America North, room L001, every Thursday at 7 p.m.

Heavenly Bits and Pieces

By CH (MAJ) Daniel Odean

Is God your steering wheel of your spare tire?

It is a shame when people only call on God when they need Him. God doesn't just want us to come to Him when one of life's "tires" goes flat! He wants to lead and guide us through life, to acknowledge Him in all our ways. Proverbs 3:5 & 6 says, "Trust in the Lord with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding; in all you ways acknowledge him, and he will make your paths straight."

Chapel Bulletin

Following the Sunday protestant service there will be a brunch at the Bayview club as a farewell to chapel members leaving and a welcome to those who have just arrived.

Women's Bible Study

"Becoming a vessel God can use"

<><

Join us in fellowship and the study of God's word.

The Bible study will be held at Fellowship Hall every Thursday at 6:30 p.m.

Note: Bible study will not be held the fourth Thursday of each month

For more information, or if transportation is needed, call Joan at ext. 5700

15 Minutes of Fame...

With SPC Ofari Benjamin, 661st MP Co.

By SGT Jolene Staker

SPC Ofari Benjamin of the 661st Military Police Co. joined the Army National Guard so that he could do both what he found exciting, law enforcement, and what he loves, computers. Here at Guantanamo he has been able to play a vital part in the JTF mission combining both his military and civilian training. He has even found time to continue his civilian education.

Q: How long have you been in the military?

A: 10 years.

Q: Have you deployed before?

A: We went to El Salvador for about a month to protect Navy and Air Force doctors who were providing medical attention in the villages as well as the Seabees who were drilling wells. Guantanamo is my first "real" deployment.

Q: Have any other family members served in the military?

A: My brother was in the National Guard for about eight or nine years. He's been out for around seven years now. I have two uncles that are Vietnam veterans.

Q: Why did you join?

A: It was something I wanted to do, and it was an opportunity for me to do something I like. I liked law enforcement, but I didn't want to be a police officer full-time. It allows me to do something exciting part-time and still do what I love full-time. I also joined for the educational benefits. I have used the educational benefits on this deployment by taking three online classes – a prerequisite introduction course, religion and philosophy.

Q: What type of degree are you working on?

A: Computer science. I have about six courses left to finish.

Q: What made you choose Computer Science?

A: This is my hobby as well as my full-



Photo by SGT Jolene Staker

SPC Ofari Benjamin of the 661st MP Co. rides a bicycle because of an injured knee. He is putting full effort into rehabilitating his knee so that he can do Officer Candidate School when he gets back to the Virgin Islands.

time career. I've been doing this since I was 13 years old. In my spare time I repair and build computers. My full-time job I am the MIS (Management Information Systems) director for the Virgin Islands Police Department. My background is networks – I am a certified Microsoft Certified Professional and a certified Cisco network associate.

Q: How have you used your computer experience here?

A: I have worked in the DOC. Here I have been able to use my computer background with my military police training to enhance operations.

Q: What knowledge have you gained from the JTF mission?

A: I have learned more about how the

Army works, particularly organizational skills and how teamwork comes into play. It's important to know your specific job and the overall mission.

Q: What has been your biggest adjustment in Guantanamo?

A: Not being able to go and move like I want to – being stuck at one place.

Q: What have you done to help adjust to being able to move less?

A: I go to the gym, go spear fishing, go to the movies and go bowling.

Q: What are your plans for your future military career?

A: I am going to do 20 years. Before this deployment I was seeking OCS (Officer Candidate School). I will pursue that again when I get home.

Q: What unique experience have you had during this deployment?

A: Getting to work with other branches of service. I got to see how the other services work and how we operate together as a whole.

Q: Who has been the most influential person in your life?

A: Both of my parents; they both have professional careers. I am following their footsteps. They taught me to try to be the best and love what I do. If you have to force yourself to go to work, that is not what you love to do.

Q: What motto do you live by?

A: I try to do the best at whatever I am doing. I make sure I love what I am doing and that I am putting my heart into it.

Q: What are your plans when you get home?

A: I plan on taking the full 90 days, relax and enjoy being with my son. I just want to spend a lot of time with him. Being here, I missed him learning to walk and his first words. I will take him to the beach and play ball with him – he loves sports.

The GTMO Guide: Answers to Your Questions

Who can help me? What's for lunch? What movie's playing? Where can I find that? How does this work?

Tae kwon do offers unique PT perspective

For a break from the regular physical fitness routine, try tae kwon do.

The martial arts program enhances cardio stamina, physical endurance and strength, flexibility, balance and coordination.

Adult classes are held Monday through Friday from 7 to 8 p.m. at the elementary school gym. The classes cost \$20 per month.

For more information, contact Matt Brittle at 7981.

Sirens indicate threat types

The base's warning siren tones have a specific meaning.

■ **Wail.** This is the general, non-emergency alert signal. A condition that could prompt the warning would include potential inclement weather. When officials sound the wail, troopers receive information on television or radio.

■ **Alternate wail.** This signal means take cover, return to quarters and remain there until further notice. Officials use this tone when they require all non-essential personnel to return to quarters and remain

Your guide to ...

Siren tests

there until they sound the all clear.

■ **Pulse wail.** This emergency signal indicates an immediate threat. Personnel should take the closet cover immediately.

■ **Pulse steady.** This signal tells the base recovery disaster teams to report to duty. Non-essential personnel should remain in quarters.

■ **Steady.** All clear.

Bus stop routes include the following stops. Not all stops are listed.

Sherman Avenue

First Street - :00; :30;
East Caravella - :03; :33;
Marine Hill - :05; :35;
Post Office - :10; :40;
Windjammer - :11; :41;
NEX - :14; :44;
Bulkeley landing - :17; :47;
Ferry landing - :21; :51;
Commissions Building - :23; :53;
Ordnance - :26; :56;
Bulkeley landing - :28; :58;
NEX - :32; :02;
Windjammer - :36; :06;
Post Office - :37; :07;
Marine Hill - :41; :11;
Hospital - :48; :18;
Windward Loop 1 - :52; :22.

Your guide to ...

Buses

Camp America/NEX

Camp Alpha - :00; :20; :40;
NEX trailer - :02; :22; :42;
Camp Delta 2 - :06; :26; :46;
TK 4 - :12; :32; :52;
TK 1 - :16; :36; :56;
Windjammer/Gym - :23; :43; :03;
NEX - :30; :50; :10;
Windjammer Gym - :35; :55; :15;
TK 1 - :40; :00; :20;
TK 4 - :46; :06; :26;
Camp Delta 1 - :52; :12; :32;
Camp Alpha - :00; :20; :40.



Camp Bulkeley

Downtown Lyceum

Fri., May 21

8 p.m. *The Prince and Me*
PG - 111 min

10 p.m. *Dirty Dancing: Havana Night*
PG - 87 min

Sat., May 22

8 p.m. *Scooby Doo 2*
PG - 87 min

10 p.m. *Van Helsing*
PG13 - 120 min

Sun., May 23

8 p.m. *Passion of the Christ*
R - 127 min

Mon., May 24

8 p.m. *The Prince and Me*
PG - 111 min

Tues., May 25

8 p.m. *Van Helsing*
PG13 - 120 min

Wed., May 26

8 p.m. *Dawn of the Dead*
R - 100 min

Thurs., May 27

8 p.m. *Taking Lives*
R - 103 min

Notice:
The Bulkeley Lyceum will be closed this week to make repairs on the projector.

Tobacco cessation class

June 7

4-5 p.m.

Staff Education/Training Bldg.

H-14

For more information, call

7-2733 or 7-2176

Seeing IG involves simple processes

By LTC Anthony Deskis

JTF troopers can help themselves and the Inspector General by following these guidelines when getting ready to visit the IG Office.

The first line of defense in solving problems in the military is the chain of command. Give your chain of command the chance to help you with your situation. They do want to help.

Be objective. Complete factual information ensures the most rapid resolution of any issue.

Remember that when you visit the IG, it will take time to deal with your concern. The IG works multiple issues everyday. You're always welcome to call if you have a question about the status of your issue.

IG does not make policy or direct command action. The IG assists by directing troopers to



the right resources. The answer you get may not be the answer you want, but you can be assured it is the correct answer.

If you have a question or any other matter that you can't solve in your chain of command, please feel free to contact the Inspector General.

You may visit the IG office in the Commissions Building Room 204 Monday through Saturday. The IG phone number is 5399. The Camp America IG office is in Building 7200 and the IG Section staff the office Monday, Wednesday, Friday afternoons and Tuesday, Thursday, and Saturday mornings. The Camp America Office phone is 3501. IG assistance is available anytime by appointment.

Troopers must wear kevlar when in tactical vehicles

Many of you have noticed that when you went to borrow your unit's HMMWV or camouflage Jeep Cherokee, that members of the 1-181st Inf. Regt. stopped you or refused to let you pass through the Camp America checkpoint. Well, it's now official.

Reference, FORSCOM Regulation 385-1, Forces Command Safety Program, revised in 2003

states: "Head protection (kevlar helmet or CVC as appropriate) will be worn by all personnel operating or riding as a passenger in Army tactical vehicles whenever they are outside the motor maintenance facility. This head protection requirement applies to all FORSCOM units, regardless of their installation of assignment or deployed status."

All JTF members deployed overseas have an automatic extension until June 15 to file their 2003 tax return. The Tax Center will be available to file your return until that date. Please call #3561 to set an appointment.



		Catholic <u>Main Chapel</u>
Wed.	5 p.m. 6:00-6:25 p.m. 6:30 p.m.	Holy Hour and Rosary Confessions RCIA (Chaplain's office)
Sat.	4:15 p.m. 5:30 p.m.	Confession Vigil Mass
Sun.	9 a.m. 10:15 a.m.	Mass Spanish Mass (Sanct. B)
M-Fri.	11:30 a.m.	Mass (Cobre Chapel)
		<u>Camp America</u>
Sun.	7:30 p.m.	Mass
		Protestant <u>Main Chapel</u>
Mon.	7 p.m.	Prayer Group Fellowship*
Wed.	7 p.m. 9:30 a.m. 11 a.m.	Men's Bible Study* Sunday School Service/Sunday School
		* Fellowship Hall located in Chapel Complex
		<u>Camp America</u>
Tues.	7 p.m.	Alpha
Wed.	7 p.m.	Soul Survivor (Club Survivor)
Sun.	7:30 a.m. 9 a.m.	Christian Worship Protestant
		New Life Fellowship
Sun.	1 p.m.	Service (Main Chapel)
		Pentecostal Gospel
Sun.	8 a.m. 5 p.m.	Service (Sanc C) Service (Sanc C)
		Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints
Sun.	9 a.m.	Sanctuary A
		Islamic
Fri.	1 p.m.	Classroom 12, Cpl. Complex
		Jewish
		Call 2323 for more information
		Camp America Church Bus schedule:
Sun.	8:15 a.m.	Tierra Kay
		The bus will return following worship.



Today:	Lunch – fried shrimp; Dinner – seafood platter.
Saturday:	Lunch – BBQ chicken; Dinner – pizza.
Sunday:	Lunch – fajitas; Dinner – chicken cordon bleu.
Monday:	Lunch – teriyaki beef; Dinner – baked chicken.
Tuesday:	Lunch – ginger pot roast; Dinner – roast turkey.
Wednesday:	Lunch – beef pot pie; Dinner – BBQ spareribs.
Thursday:	Lunch – baked chicken; Dinner – stuffed pork chops.
Friday:	Lunch – fish amandine; Dinner – prime rib.

