

## Welcome aboard 6.5

By Spc. Jeshua Nace

JTF-GTMO Public Affairs Office

It's time for the Navy Camp Delta guards to return to their duty stations all over the world and for the new rotation to take the reins.

According to Navy Captain Tom Beall, the new Commander, Navy Element, JTF-GTMO, the new rotation aptly named "GTMO 6.5" will slowly be taking control of operations inside Camp Delta throughout this fall.

How long the Naval Provisional Guard will be here is unknown, but for GTMO 6.5 several changes will be made to increase efficiency inside of "The Wire" such as extending their stay. Much like the 525<sup>th</sup> Military Police Battalion, some of the new rotation will be staying here as a permanent stationing for one year.

For the Navy, this is a much different mission than they are trained for at master-at-arms school, though.

"Most Navy master-at-arms do one of three things: they perform base security, they function as corrections in Navy briggs or they perform master-at-arms work on board Naval vessels as internal security. The mission here at Guantanamo is closest to corrections, but it is not like anything they have done before," said Beall.

To get them up to date, the Navy rotations undergo one week of outfitting and pre-deployment training at the Navy Construction Battalion Center in Gulfport, Miss. After that, they fly to Fort Lewis, Wash. to receive three weeks of Army detention operations training.

The Naval Provisional Guard is comprised of individuals from many units across the globe. People volunteer from commands such as Japan, Pearl Harbor, vessels at sea, all over Europe and the United States.

"The Sailors are uniformly enthusiastic about the mission, and they take it very seriously," said Beall.

Beall is looking forward to the challenge. In the past, Beall has commanded a ship, so working in this environment is a big change.



Photo by Spc. Jeshua Nace

**A Trooper watches over the camp from above as the new guards of GTMO 6.5 train inside.**

"The mission is completely different from my experience. "I am a Surface Warfare Officer. I'm a ship driver." Doing detention operations is something completely new for me. One of the great things about being in the service is there is always something new and you're constantly being challenged to learn how to do something new and perform a different mis-

# Welcome new arrivals



Photo by Spc. Timothy Book

**By CSM Angel Febles**

JTF-GTMO Command Sgt. Major

Several weeks ago, we began the welcoming and transition process (reception and integration) for the sailors and leaders of GTMO 6.5 Navy Provisional Guard Force (NPGF) and bid farewell to the sailors and leaders of NPGF 6.0. It is important to mention that, in a very short time, the US Navy volunteered to provide a provisional force, (equivalent to a battalion), trained and deployed a large force comprised of professionals across the entire Navy. In essence, it is an excellent sample of our great Navy.

The NPGF performed with great honor and distinction, and did so under very challenging and difficult conditions. They succeeded because they trained to

standards, were led by superb leaders, and lived and enforced the standards. I wish Capt. Nygard, Master Chief Petty Officer Padilla, and all their great sailors, "fair winds and following seas." The NPGF 6.5 (led by Capt. Beall and Command Master Chief Giroux) is two-thirds "on board" and performing their duties very well, and like their predecessors, are conducting detention operations in a humane, safe and secure environment. I have no doubt they will also achieve success on a daily basis --- welcome aboard.

In addition, we also welcomed two other GTMO 6.5 arrivals, the Military Intelligence Detachment (Navy), assigned to the Joint Intelligence Group, and individual augmentees from the U.S. Air Force. All are already on board and engaged in their day-to-day missions.

Today is the 58<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the United States Air Force... Happy Birthday! Thank you for your service to our nation and JTF-GTMO; you're an important part of our integral mission and success; again, congratulations. Today is also POW/MIA Remembrance Day and we have honored those brave Americans, who have not made the journey back home, with a ceremony at 8 a.m. at the POW/MIA Memorial site.

**"YOU ARE NOT FORGOTTEN."**

I never miss the opportunity to say thank you to all who serve, partner, or support JTF-GTMO. Everyone is doing a superb job. We are all one team, serving a very important mission, and on behalf of the command team, I'd like to say thank you for what you do on a daily basis.

On a **SAFETY** note, I've been observing many of the JTF troops conducting organized and individual physical fitness, and it is very important to stay fit. However, I've been making on-the-spot corrections of troopers running on the road, with headphones, and no reflector system. As a reminder, please ensure headphones are only used while using the sidewalk. It is also important everyone uses their individual water hydration system to avoid potential heat injuries. Bottom line, exercise, but do it in a safe manner.

Lastly, I want to extend my congratulations to the new Chief Petty Officers who received the coveted rank during a pinning ceremony today. ■

**Honor Bound!**

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# Camping at GTMO

By Spc. Dave Lankford

JTF-GTMO Public Affairs Office

A tent, food, drinks, the night air and the warmth of the fire's glow-- it doesn't get any better than this.

Most people have run into a situation in their lives when things just weren't working the way they should be. Odds are they were told by a friend or mentor to relax and "go back to the basics." Sometimes the stresses of life are all around, and it feels as though the world is closing in on you. The same "basic" advice could work wonders.

What could be more basic than a tent, campfire, food and drinks?

Camping can be one of the best ways to relax, but before anyone runs off to the wooded area adjacent to Camp America, pitches a tent and lights up a campfire, there are a few things everyone should know. There are specified areas designated for camping, regulations for campfires and, most importantly, the right way to go about it.

There are six designated camping areas at GTMO, ranging from rustic to all the comforts of home, or at least Camp America.

The most basic camping areas are Hospital Cay and Hidden Beach Leeward. These areas offer seclusion but not much else. The advantage is campers will not be

tempted to bring the TV, DVD player, Xbox and surround sound with them. If you find yourself loading all of this and a generator into a truck for a weekend out, maybe camping's not for you.

The next step up is Chapman Beach. This site offers the comfort of restrooms and showers without the temptation of electricity. Chapman Beach also offers the convenience of a phone. This is handy for ordering pizza if your fire-starting skills fail you.

Then there are the areas for those who consider Camp America roughing it. Cable Beach and Ocean View both offer restrooms, showers, phones and electricity. If you choose Ocean View, though, leave the six-pack of Bud at home; it's an alcohol-free beach. Phillips Park, on the other hand, does not have showers or phones. It does, however, have an ice bin and no policy against alcoholic beverages.

Finally, anyone intending to have a campfire will need to call the Fire Administrator at 4598 to arrange a permit. In addition, the security department must be notified 48 hours in advance if you are camping out overnight, with or without a fire. Failure



Photo by Spc. Dave Lankford

to follow these instructions, as laid out in NAVBASEGTMOINST 1710.10J, can result in up to 10 points assessed against your record for each violation, thereby causing more stress than you started out with.

Camping should be basic and simple. Rather than lugging along a portable TV, take a book. They are much lighter and take up less room in a backpack. Instead of bringing the whole kitchen and trying to cook a seven-course meal, bring sandwiches in baggies or prepared meals and snacks in disposable containers. Keep it simple, but most of all...relax. ■



▲Comic by W.C. Pope.

◀Comic by Charles F. Wolf Jr.

# Soldiers come first

By Spc. William R. Soronen

1/18th Cavalry Regiment B-Troop

1<sup>st</sup> Sgt. Scott Courtright of B-Troop, 1/18<sup>th</sup> Cavalry Regiment, made a promise to his Soldiers at Fort Lewis, “I’m going to take some shifts on this deployment to give people a break.” While it may have taken longer than he planned, he kept that promise -- giving a Soldier a day off and braving the blistering heat and humidity. He stood post for a day, first on a dusty, barren, hot hilltop, then on roving patrols in a Humvee that would better serve as an oven.

“I always thought of myself as a working NCO,” he said, “I consider myself to be a ‘Soldier’s Soldier’. I am not afraid to get down and dirty with my troops,” Courtright said. A veteran of three deployments over 23 years, Courtright is anything but a garrison leader. He served with the 1/4<sup>th</sup> Cav during Operation Desert Shield/Storm as an E-5 Bradley commander.

“As a young Soldier I was wary, but knew I had a job to do,” said Courtright. “I made certain we had no losses of equipment or personnel. We were in a few fire-fights; one night we even captured over 2,000 enemy Soldiers who were on foot.”

He has a fond memory that stands out among all the horror he witnessed in Desert Storm. “One night, a farmer brought a box of fresh tomatoes to my Bradley. With tears in his eyes, the farmer described how Sadaam had taken his eldest son from him and how grateful he was for our presence because now he knew his 6-year-old son would be safe.”

Courtright paused and looked out to sea. “Those were the best tomatoes I have ever eaten,” he said quietly.

Courtright is not the only member of his family who is 100 percent committed to the military. His wife felt a calling to do more for her country and became the unit’s family support coordinator for his troop while he was mobilized

for Operation Noble Eagle 3 at Tooele, Utah. “My troop commander saw something in her eyes during a troop function,” related Courtright. “He immediately ‘volun-told’ her that she was now the FSC for the unit.”

Such was her passion for helping to keep families close and cohesive, that within two years, she became the FSC for the 40<sup>th</sup> Infantry Division. She also volunteers every summer for the “Teens of the National Guard” summer camp, as well as monthly “teen” functions.

When asked what Courtright considered the toughest part of his deployment in GTMO, he said, “Going from the day of mobilization to full-time status. It’s a whole different mindset, working 30 days a year versus 365. On the other side, though, this gives me a chance to evaluate Soldiers’ personalities and work ethics on a whole new level.”

“The biggest challenge still ahead for

our troops is complacency,” he added. “Though it’s not evident at the moment with six months to go, we need to watch for complacency and nip it in the bud before it rears its ugly head.”

With that in mind, Courtright recommended taking advantage of all the MWR opportunities at GTMO. “I’m in the Captain’s Cup bowling league which runs for 20 weeks. It’s winding down now, but then I’ll be playing in the Holiday Softball tourney and I do some snorkeling as well.”

“Sure Soldiers complain,” he related, “They have since the first Soldiers in the first Army. Complaints are going to happen, but this deployment is what you make of it.

Bottom line. Don’t be a barracks rat. Get out when you can and take advantage of what GTMO has to offer.”

*Editor’s note: Spc. Soronen is the B-Troop unit public affairs representative. ■*



Photo by Spc. William R. Soronen



Photo by Spc. William R. Soronen

# BOOTS ON THE GROUND

*Spc. Jeshua Nace asked Troopers around the JTF, "Have you been affected by Katrina?"*



◀“I think the hardest part about hurricane Katrina was the not knowing if your family member was dead or alive. On the morning Katrina hit, I was talking to one of my family members on the phone, and she told me she had to go because water was coming into the house. That was the last time I talked to my family, until six days later when I found out they were in Baton Rouge, La. There was something my mother said to me last night that I keep close to my heart, and that is “God will make a way out of no way out.”

— Army Sgt 1<sup>st</sup> Class Eddie King

▶“I have a brother that is stationed at a Naval station in Gulfport, Miss. Due to the quick response of the Navy, my brother and his family were out of harm’s way well before Katrina made landfall. Hurricanes are predictable, unlike earthquakes and forest fires. Everything is moving forward, slowly but surely. I think in response to potentially devastating natural disasters that can be predicted, the government should act upon them before, not after. The storm’s path was predicted over a week in advance.”

—Army Sgt. Nicholas Gibson



◀“In spite of the loss and suffering, I know there were Good Samaritans there whose selfless and often heroic acts helped friends, even perfect strangers.”

—Army Lt. Col. Stephen Molnar

Voluntary organizations are seeking cash donations to assist victims of Hurricane Katrina. Cash donations are helpful to victims as they allow volunteer agencies to issue cash vouchers to victims so they can meet their needs. American Red Cross 1-800-HELP NOW. Humane Society of the United States 1-888-259-5431. Salvation Army 1-800-SAL-ARMY.

More information can be found at: <http://www.opm.gov/cfc/>.



Photos by Spc. Jeshua Nace

## Military Continues Hurricane Katrina Support



DoD photo by Master Sgt. Scott Reed, U.S. Air Force

The more than 72,000 active and reserve component troops were continuing their support today for Hurricane Katrina relief operations through air, sea and ground operations, defense officials reported.

In new developments, nine mortuary affairs teams from the 54th Quartermaster Company at Fort Lee, Va., are preparing to deploy to the region to perform all aspects of the mortuary affairs mission until a new civilian contractor is identified. Another nine teams from the company are on an alert status and ready to deploy, if directed, officials said.

Defense Secretary Donald Rumsfeld approved the Federal Emergency Management Agency’s request that the military perform the mortuary affairs mission.

In addition, almost 1,800 Army Corps of Engineers workers are supporting relief operations, focusing on pumping water from flooded areas, removing debris, restoring power and reopening affected waterways to navigation.

Officials reported these ongoing operational highlights:

- 72,614 troops - 22,439 of them active duty, 45,871 National Guard and 1,895 reserves - are serving on the ground or aboard ships in the region;
- 19 U.S. Navy ships are in the area;
- 346 helicopters and 68 airplanes are supporting the operation;
- 259 sorties were flown during the past 24 hours, bringing the total to date to more than 12,000;
- 2,037 DoD medical personnel are serving in the area;
- 7 installations are serving as transportation staging areas for ice, water, food and medical supplies;
- 16.7 million meals, ready to eat have been delivered, with 1 million of them diverted to Virginia and Georgia to support Hurricane Ophelia response, if required;
- 789 beds are available in field hospitals at Louis Armstrong New Orleans International Airport, the 14th Combat Support Hospital, and aboard USS Bataan, USS Iwo Jima and USS Shreveport;
- 119 nations and 12 international organizations have offered assistance, with Little Rock Air Force Base, Ark., serving as the central collection point for supplies donated by foreign countries;
- 19,056 cubic square feet of water is being pumped out of Louisiana’s New Orleans and Plaquemines parishes by the Army Corps of Engineers as part of Task Force Unwater;
- 12 interim repairs have been completed on New Orleans’ levee system, with Army Corps of Engineers identifying a total of 27 levee breaches, 19 of them attributable to Hurricane Katrina; and
- 390,487 cubic yards of debris, of the estimated 77.5 million cubic yards that require moving, have been removed by the Army Corps of Engineers. ■

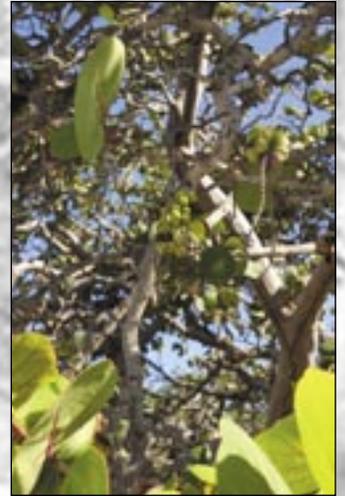
--American Forces Press Service

# Flora and fauna

▼There are many species of cacti flourishing in uncultivated portions of the base. 1500-1800 species are known to exist. Some grow to great size and produce spines and flowers.



▲Poinsettia also called the flame leaf flower; in nature they can grow ten feet tall. 90 percent of all Poinsettias are exported from the United States.



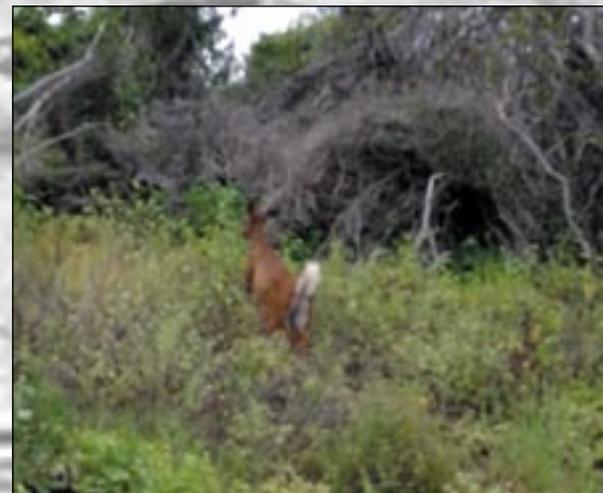
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▲Saw-scaled curly-tailed lizard; they eat insects and small animals, roaming around sea huts at Camp America.



▲Cuban Iguana largest of the Cuban lizards, most are seen crossing roads or navigating throughout Camp America. They are vegetarians and are an endangered species.



# Flora of GJM

Sea grape tree is a tree of 25 feet, with berries growing from it that are edible. They grow mostly along the beaches and have round circular like leaves.



▲The passiflora, commonly known as the passionflower. There are over 400 species.

◀Pyramid bush, a small slender shrub found in sandy or rocky soil. They reach 2 feet in size and require very little water.



and four to five inches in small lizards. Many are seen in Central America.



◀The Cuban deer similar in size to the Florida white tail deer. This animal is rarely seen here and images of it are far and few.



◀The coconut palm shown here at Windmill Beach. The widest-grown palm plant in the world. It thrives on sandy soil and requires an abundance of light.



# Man vs. Machine

Commentary by Spc. Ian Shay

JTF-GTMO Public Affairs Office

It was an historic U.S. Open. No. 7-ranked Andre Agassi battled his way through each stage of the U.S. Open against younger and more physical opponents. Meanwhile his opponent, No. 1-ranked Roger Federer, waltzed into the finals, barely dropping a set to any of his opponents. The two met on Sunday with Federer playing for his 2<sup>nd</sup> U.S. Open championship in a row and Agassi was playing for a whole lot more.

This U.S. Open meant a lot to Ameri-



Andre Agassi gave his all in the finals, but age took its toll.

cans this year, mostly due to Agassi's success. A 35-year-old Andre Agassi seemed to fall off before the open started. No one expected to see him in another final, especially during the twilight of his career. It's the typical American underdog story, and who doesn't love to cheer for the underdog.

Who else did America have to turn to this year? Venus took out her sister and lost the following round. Andy Roddick was humiliated and Lindsay Davenport grunted her way out of the quarterfinals, so it all rested on Agassi's shoulders. But there was just one problem, and his name is Roger.

Roger Federer is all a professional tennis player can ever hope to be. Fast and smooth, he is basically unbeatable on the hard-court in 2005 with an overall 71-3, a record unrivaled since John McEnroe's 82-3 in 1984. Federer also just beat Pete Sampras' record of 34 straight hard-court victories with 35. He is 6-0 in grand slam title matches and has now won his 10<sup>th</sup> tournament this year and his 32<sup>nd</sup> overall.

By defeating Andre Agassi, Federer took out the last American tennis icon and solidified himself as the new and improved standard. He is wired differently than other players; his programming is



Photo provided by google.com

Roger Federer's streak continues as the crowned king of tennis.

above and beyond the old versions. Players either have to step up and compete with Federer or just step out and retire. Barring any freak accidents or early retirement, Roger Federer should theoretically break most of, if not all of, men's tennis records.

Federer ended up the champion Sunday 6-3, 2-6, 7-6 (1), 6-1. He basically schooled Agassi the entire match, but Agassi managed to hang in till the fourth set and bow out graciously.

In women's tennis, Kim Clijsters defeated Mary Pierce 6-3, 6-1 on Saturday. Clijsters failed to take the final step on four previous attempts in various tournaments; she now sheds the image of the best female tennis player never to win and is now just one of the best. ■

## NFL Picks

Week 2

Shay vs. Lankford

Monday Night

Washington at Dallas

Shay

Dallas 24 over Washington 13

Lankford

Dallas 17 over Washington 13

Last Week

(7-9) Shay vs. Patterson (6-10)

Picks submitted by Spc. Ian Shay and Spc. Dave Lankford

Ravens	Baltimore at Tennessee	Ravens
<b>Bills</b>	Buffalo at Tampa Bay	<b>Bucs</b>
<b>Lions</b>	Detriot at Chicago	<b>Bears</b>
Colts	Jacksonville at Indianapolis	Colts
<b>Vikings</b>	Minnesota at Cincinnati	<b>Bengals</b>
<b>Panthers</b>	New England at Carolina	<b>Patriots</b>
Steelers	Pittsburgh at Houston	Steelers
Eagles	San Francisco at Philadelphia	Eagles
Falcons	Atlanta at Seattle	Falcons
<b>Rams</b>	St. Louis at Arizona	<b>Cardinals</b>
Packers	Cleveland at Green Bay	Packers
Jets	Miami at N.Y. Jets	Jets
Chargers	San Diego at Denver	Chargers
<b>Chiefs</b>	Kansas City at Oakland	<b>Raiders</b>
Giants	N.Y. Giants at New Orleans	Giants

Last weekend the NFL was thrown for a loop. Supposedly good teams lost many games to supposedly bad teams and upsets were the norm. This week, teams are going to bounce back and play like we expect them to, don't let week one's craziness scare you.

Each week, I need Troopers to submit their names and football picks for the upcoming issue of the Wire. Submit your picks by Noon Monday to me via email on the global. If you cannot contact me via email, you can call my office ext. at 2171. Each week, one name will be picked to challenge my picks in the upcoming issue. If you beat me, you will receive a PAO challenge coin.

# Fishin' on the river

By Spc. Seth Myers

JTF-GTMO Public Affairs Office

One of the prime activities Troopers can enjoy here is fishing. The combination of the wide variety of quality fishing spots and the quantity of fish to be caught really makes the Guantanamo Bay area a prime fishing location. One of these places to fish here is the GTMO River.

Some people believe that fishing is not permitted in the GTMO River, but this is not true. The normal fishing regulations apply there, including daily limits and closed seasons, but there are some things one should be aware of when fishing in the GTMO River.

For one, the GTMO River is a No Wake Zone. In essence, this requires boats to slow to idle speed to the point where there is no "wake" behind the boat. A wake is that V-shaped wave created behind the boat by the hull displacing water as the boat moves quickly (refer to the previous article 'No Wake Zones' for more details). The river is a No Wake Zone for multiple reasons.

"The No Wake Zones we have in place are to protect manatees from being hit by boats and the river is a high-use manatee area. Boats traveling fast in the river will probably, not just might, hit a manatee. No Wake Zones are also for [Troopers] safety. The river is very narrow and curves frequently. If people are flying through there, someone could get hit," said Paul Schoenfeld, the GTMO Natural Resources



Photo by Spc. Seth Myers

## Troopers enter the GTMO River to do some fishing.

Manager. Wakes can also erode parts of the river shoreline.

This brings up another important rule for visiting the GTMO River. No one can enter the water. That means no swimming, no snorkeling and no diving. This rule is done partially because of the before-mentioned safety concern. It is also done because of the massive amounts of mangroves growing there. Mangroves are a kind of tree that grows in water. The roots are very thick, extend well beyond the base underwater and this could be a potential safety issue if one got in the water.

"You can get tangled into the roots. They protrude into the water. Somebody could easily get stuck," said Schoenfeld. Plus, sharks have been seen in the river before.

When going down the river, the bridge is the limit. Under no circumstances are you to cross under that bridge. This shouldn't be much of an issue because there is plenty of river before then.

Despite these restrictions, the river is a decent place to fish. Several kinds of fish can be caught there such as various snapper, cravelle jacks, barracuda, snook, and tarpon. Permit have been seen in the river too.

Other than the rules, there are other things people



Photo by Spc. Seth Myers

## This is one of the mangroves growing in the river.

should keep in mind when fishing on the river.

"Just be prepared. It can be very hot there. There is often no wind and the bugs can be horrible. Take sunscreen, bug repellent and lots of water," said Schoenfeld.

Hopefully when you go fishing on the river, you will come back with a nice catch. There are some rather desirable fish there, like the permit. Just stay out of the water, keep the boat at idle speed, stay hydrated, and in general, stay safe. Enjoy your time on the river. ■



Photo by Spc. Seth Myers

The GTMO River in all its splendor.

# Built for faith

By Spc. Jeshua Nace

JTF-GTMO Public Affairs Office

After not even 24 hours on the ground, Navy Lt. Cynthia Kane is rushed back and forth to meet new people, go to meetings and get the things she needs to be one of Joint Task Force Guantanamo's new Chaplains. What she really needed at the time was a cold bottle of water, but she won't let that faze her. She has just started her career as a Navy chaplain, and she has been looking forward to this for quite a long time.

Quite some time indeed, Kane felt called to the ministry at the age of eight. Dedicated to pursue her dream as a Navy chaplain, she studied Music and Religious Studies. Later she earned a Master of Divinity in 1996.

"I felt called to the Navy chaplain service since I was a sophomore in college, which was almost 20 years ago. I called up a Navy recruiter and told them I was interested in joining the Navy. They were all ready to sign me up, except I wasn't 18 and I needed to get ordained. But they led me down the process to become a chaplain," said Kane.

After she was ordained from the First Parish in Bedford, MA, she worked for a hospital as a hospital chaplain. Chaplains aren't here to try and convert anyone, or promote their religious beliefs. Their job is to comfort people, said Kane.

"When chaplains work for a hospital or for the military, they serve everyone of every faith to facilitate their religious needs, but they need to be endorsed by a religion. I'm

ordained as a Unitarian Universalist minister," said Kane.

Becoming a chaplain requires integrity; people need to feel that they can trust a chaplain as their confidante, a person people can open up to.

"I live by two things that my parents would always say. My mother said, 'Best of all, to thine own self, be true' and my father would say, 'Remember your roots,'" said Kane.

Those words, she said, have helped her live her life the way she should.

As a Navy chaplain, Kane was attached to a Marine unit. The unit required that everyone learn the Marine Corps' Martial Arts program, even the chaplains.

Kane has several funny stories about learning martial arts. During her training she was learning to do chokeholds. While she was performing the move on an instructor, instead of applying pressure on his carotid artery, she put her forearm on his windpipe. The instructor was a bit surprised and made an unusual face, as the rest of the Marines started to laugh.

"As a chaplain, I'm a non-combatant, and the thing is, I've never even learned how to make a fist before. When we were learning to do uppercuts, I became so focused on protecting my face with my other arm, that I punched and knocked myself out. I made this beefy gunnery sergeant double over and laugh. I'm glad I did it [Marine martial arts], even after a bruised kidney and a broken rib," said Kane.



◀Navy Chaplain Lt. Cynthia Kane enjoying one of her first days on the island.

One of Kane's favorite hobbies is comical improvisation. She went to a school to learn how to do improv and she uses her acquired skills in her sermons.

"The fundamental principle of improv is to say, 'Yes, and...'. So someone gives me something, and I say, 'Yes, and...'. So if I said 'Hey specialist let's go fly a kite. Yes, and I can use Chaplain Palmer's bag

over there. Yes, and we can use that cord.' And that's actually how a scene will develop. If someone used 'no, but...', it wouldn't continue the positive relationship," said Kane.

Kane has much to offer the Joint Task Force. She is a musician and believes this deployment will bring back her love of performing music.

Welcome Chaplain Cynthia Kane to the GTMO family. ■

## CAMP AMERICA WORSHIP SCHEDULE

<b>Sunday</b>	9 a.m.	Sunday School	Troopers' Chapel
	10 a.m.	Protestant Service	Troopers' Chapel
	6:00 p.m.	Confessions	Troopers' Chapel
	6:30 p.m.	Catholic Mass	Troopers' Chapel
	7:45 p.m.	Protestant Service	Troopers' Chapel
<b>Tuesday</b>	7 p.m.	Bible Study	Building 3203
<b>Wednesday</b>	7:30 p.m.	Soul Survivor	Camp America North Pavilion

## NAVAL BASE CHAPEL

<b>Sunday</b>	8 a.m.	Pentecostal Gospel	Sanctuary C
	9 a.m.	Catholic Mass	Main Chapel
	9 a.m.	Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints	Sanctuary A
	9:30 a.m.	Protestant Sunday School	Main Chapel
	10 a.m.	Protestant Liturgical	Sanctuary B
	11 a.m.	Protestant Service	Main Chapel
	1 p.m.	Gospel Service	Main Chapel
<b>Monday</b>	5 p.m.	Pentecostal Gospel	Sanctuary C
	7 p.m.	Prayer Group Fellowship	Fellowship Hall
	7 p.m.	Family Home Evening	Room 8
<b>Tues. to Fri.</b>	12 p.m.	Daily Mass	Cobre Chapel
<b>Wednesday</b>	7 p.m.	Men's Bible Study	Fellowship Hall
<b>Friday</b>	1 p.m.	Islamic Prayer	Room 12
<b>Saturday</b>	4:30 p.m.	Confessions	Main Chapel
	5:30 p.m.	Vigil Mass	Main Chapel

*Jewish Services held every third Friday at 7:30 p.m. in the Naval Base Chapel complex.*

*Hebrew classes are being offered at the Naval Base Chapel complex Thursdays 7-8 p.m. in Room 11.*

# 15 Minutes of Fame

## with Army Staff Sgt. Stephen Conner

By Spc. Jeshua Nace

JTF-GTMO Public Affairs Office

Taking care of Troops is one of the most important missions a non-commissioned officer (NCO) can do. Keeping Troopers safe and training them are important, but making sure Troopers get all their meals is a serious matter. For Army Staff Sgt. Stephen Conner, a food service NCOIC, his sole mission is to make sure the Troopers, who eat at Café Caribe in Camp Delta, get the service they deserve.

With the stress the guards go through during a normal day, Conner wanted to make their meal times more pleasant. He always makes sure there are suggestion cards so he knows what Troopers like and how they feel.

“When I first arrived, they didn’t have cold bottles of water for the Troopers inside the Café. I made sure they all had water when they passed through. I also play music they like while they eat,” said Conner.

There is more to a man than his work, though. Conner conducts himself with a reserved dignity that makes him very respectable. Beyond that, most people don’t see the man, not because of who he is, but because we tend to only see each other as Troopers.

Conner was born and raised in Michigan. Growing up in an urban area isn’t the easiest place to grow up, but he had his family to look up to, and guide him through life. “While growing up, the most important lesson I’ve learned was not to be selfish. My mother taught me that. It’s also helped my military career because I’ve learned how to be patient since things don’t always happen immediately,” said Conner.

Growing up Conner was in the streets a lot. Dealing with that kind of environment helped him to deal with occupied



Photo by Spc. Jeshua Nace

Iraq. He felt sympathy for the people since they were dealing with poverty and getting away from a horrible government. Every person who serves has a reason for joining the military. For some, it’s love of country. Others might want to learn some discipline or have the security of a government check.

“In 1988, I joined because it was something I always wanted to do, and then I just stayed in. My stepfather was in for a few years, then later I decided I wanted to get in,” said Conner.

So far Conner has served his country for 16 years and is planning to continue to serve for the next four years, then retire from the Army. In his 16 years of service, he has been deployed twice to Iraq, once in 1991 and again in 2003, where he fed Troops during war operations.

After deployment to Iraq, he continued to serve on active duty. Six months ago he was deployed to Guantanamo as the Café Caribe NCOIC.

Coming into an environment and making changes that benefit Troopers is a good way to be a leader. NCOs should

know what to do without always having to ask a lot of questions and complete their mission without being asked to do so several times. But most importantly, it’s about taking care of Soldiers said Conner.

When Conner isn’t thinking about how to improve things for others, he is trying to relax and enjoy the warm weather. He can’t wait to get back to working on his 1963 Chevy that he has been restoring for quite some time. He is also currently trying to get a degree so he can work as a computer technician when he retires from the Army.

“I just want to retire and have a wonderful life, and that’s pretty much it,” said Conner. ■

### 15 Minutes of Fame

Know a Trooper worthy of being highlighted in “15 Minutes of Fame?” Call Master Sgt. Stephen Miller at 3594.



Photo by Spc. Seth Myers

▲Troopers show Army Sgt. Maj. James Denington how earnestly they want him sunk by taking multiple shots at once.

# AROUND THE JTF



Photo by Spc. Seth Myers

▲Bravo Company of the Naval Provisional Guard 6.0 pose for their group photo.

▼This is one of the boats that were used by Cuban immigrants trying to seek asylum in the United States. It is Currently located at the Lighthouse Museum.



Photo by Army Sgt. Todd Lamonica

◀Gregory Hunter, a NEX employee shows off some of his unique bowling style at a tournament at Marblehead Lanes.