

THE WIRE

A News Magazine

HONOR BOUND TO DEFEND FREEDOM

Joint Task Force
Guantanamo's
Finest News Source



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with Army Maj. John Cockerham

The Human Dimension

By Army Sgt. Maj. Oscar Diaz

JTF-GTMO Public Affairs Sgt. Maj.

Just when you think you know Private/Seaman/Airman “Snuffy,” you realize your journey in learning his intricate ways have just launched you into another expedition into his multi-faceted persona.

Having served thirty years in this great institution, if there is one thing I continue to learn and thrive on, it is dealing with the different people I encounter on a daily basis. Each one having their own individual spirit, will, needs, interest, desires and abilities.

Private/Seaman/Airman Snuffy, as do you and I, has many weaknesses and faults but also has many strengths. As a leader, it is very challenging at times, but very rewarding helping those in our charge to grow and become better Troopers, and more importantly better people.

How do we do this, you might ask? By maintaining and continuing to develop good interpersonal skills. Knowing your job technically and tactically in accomplishing the mission is very fundamental. Interpersonal skills are imperative. Some refer to this skill as “people skills.” Communicating with others is a people skill you must have in order to be an *influential* leader. Army Field Manual 6-22 states, “Leadership is the process of *influencing* people by providing purpose, direction, and motivation while operating to accomplish the mission and improving the organization.”

Effective communication will allow you to become the leader that can lead, counsel, mentor and maintain the true pulse on your people. Leaders are committed to open, candid communication with those they lead and serve. When you know there is a problem, get involved, keeping a mild mannered and controlled attitude in the process. Leaders pay attention and *listen* to the needs and struggles of



those around them. They understand that emotions left un-vented can be explosive and toxic or could very well stifle the efforts of the rest of the team.

In communicating we usually think of speaking, talking and transmitting a message. A very important part of communication is *listening*. This is where we earn our money as leaders. Communication truly is an art and listening is a skill in which most of us have not received any formal training in. Active listening can be difficult, but it is key since leaders need to understand before they respond. Listening actively involves making good eye contact and giving the speaker your full attention. Being aware of the content of the message and listening carefully to the words, inflection, and emotions expressed by others is also a very important part of active listening. Taking mental notes is preferred over taking written notes while the person is speaking.

Have you ever been speaking to someone and before you were done with your thought, you realized that they really weren't listening to you? Part of the reason could be that they were already formulating a response in their mind. Or they could be upset and in total disagreement with what you were saying. These are obstacles which, if not overcome, will prevent you from hearing what is actually being said. ■

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The Wire

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Commercial: 011-53-99-3651

DSN: 660-3651

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The 305th Press Camp Headquarters, Joint Task Force-Guantanamo, produces *The Wire*, which is printed under the provisions of Department of Defense Instruction 5120.4.

Holiday mail hustle



By Army Spc. Dustin Robbins

JTF-GTMO Public Affairs Office

Worried about when you should send those holiday gifts or greetings? The Joint Task Force Guantanamo Bay Postal Service provides us with advice to help relieve some of that holiday stress.

According to the U.S. Postal Service, over 20 billion pieces of mail are delivered between Thanksgiving Day and Christmas. If you'd like to have your parcels included in this figure, follow the helpful guidelines provided by the GTMO postal service.

"The most important thing to know is when to send your mail out so that it makes it to its destination on time," said Navy Petty Officer First Class Stanley Robinson, the non-commissioned officer in charge of the Camp America Post Office.

As far as bottle-necking is concerned, the amount of mail leaving GTMO is not as much of a problem as the massive amount of incoming mail, but it's always good to plan ahead and mail parcels sooner rather than later, said Navy Petty Officer 3rd Class Jason Guenther, a postal clerk for the Camp America Post Office.

Before picking out that gift to send to a loved one, you should know what you can and cannot mail back to the states.

"Items like alcohol and even some perfumes are prohibited," noted Robinson. "Aerosol cans are also prohibited because they may explode under pressure."

See the Camp America or Naval Station Post Offices for a full list of prohibited items that may not be mailed.

Proper packaging is also important to consider when sending your holiday mail.

"Poorly packaged items cannot be insured, so make sure all parcels are securely packaged," Guenther suggested.

Lastly, Troopers should know that the Camp America Post Office only accepts cash when mailing out items, while the Naval Station Post Office may accept other forms of payment such as credit, debit or money orders. ■

Mailing Tips Provided by the USPS

Preparing Packages

- Print addresses clearly.
- Include all address elements (apartment numbers, suite numbers, directional information for streets, etc.).
- Include both "to" and "from" information on packages - and only on one side; no extra writing; tape parcel with shipping tape or tape that won't come off in transit; cushion contents appropriately.
- Never guess a ZIP Code - no ZIP is better than the wrong ZIP!

Packaging Tips

- Select a box that is strong enough to protect the contents. Leave space for cushioning inside the carton.
- Package contents with shredded or rolled newspaper, bubble wrap, or Styrofoam peanuts. Plain air-popped popcorn is also good for cushioning; it's inexpensive and environmentally friendly. Pack tightly to avoid shifting.
- Always use tape that is designed for shipping, such as pressure-sensitive tape, nylon-reinforced tape, paper tape, or glass-reinforced pressure-sensitive tape.
- Do not use wrapping paper, string, masking tape, or cellophane tape.
- Put the delivery and return addresses on only one side of the package.
- Recommendation: Place an index card inside the package that contains the sender's address and the recipient's address along with a list of the contents. This will help us re-pack boxes that were improperly wrapped and came apart during transporting and processing and help ensure that the package is either sent to its destination or back to the sender.
- Take packages that weigh at least 1 pound into the post office for mailing. Do not put boxes into your neighborhood mailbox or expect for your mail carrier to pick them up for you.
- Obtain Express Mail and Priority Mail boxes, envelopes, and tubes for free from your post office.

Prior to Mailing

- Stuff glass and fragile hollow items, like vases, with newspaper or packing material to avoid damage due to shock. When mailing framed photographs, take the glass out of the frame and wrap it separately.
- Remove batteries from toys. Wrap and place them next to the toys in the mailing box.

Overseas Service Ribbon eligibility revision for U.S. Navy Reservists

By Army Spc. Phil Regina

JTF-GTMO Public Affairs Office

A revision in the Secretary of the Navy Instruction 1650.1H has changed the eligibility for Navy Reservists to receive the Navy and Marine Corps Overseas Service Ribbon.

The OSR was originally only available to Navy Reservists who accrued either 30 consecutive or 45 cumulative days of active duty for training at overseas duty stations; with active duty personnel having to serve at least 365 days in an overseas shore base duty station get the medal.

Under these regulations, a Navy Reservist who was activated for deployment could only get the ribbon

if he was activated for a full year.

Currently, under the August 22nd, 2006 SECNAV Instruction revision, Navy Reservists who've served the reserve requirements since September 11th 2001, are now eligible for the OSR. Therefore, any Navy Reservist activated for longer than 30 consecutive or 45 cumulative days will be eligible for the initial OSR. All subsequent awards are earned by serving the full active duty requirement.

With this recent change, all Navy Reservists deployed here, that serve longer than 30 consecutive or 45 cumulative days, will be eligible for the OSR.

For the many Navy Reservists deployed to Guantanamo Bay, this is good news. As long as your deploy-

ment length is longer than 30 consecutive or 45 cumulative days, you are eligible for the OSR. ■



Security bulletin: What's the status of my clearance?

By Frank Perkins

JTF-GTMO Special Security Office

Getting a security clearance can take a year or more. It depends on several factors, and the type of investigation.

In the past three years, Department of Defense has had a significant backlog of security clearances and reinvestigations pending - especially for TOP SECRET level access. Currently, there are more than 500,000 background investigations pending for security clearance approval. According to a congressional audit released Oct. 30, delays, security risks and antiquated information-sharing plague the security clearance process.

In general, expect a CONFIDENTIAL or SECRET clearance to take between one and four months. CONFIDENTIAL and SECRET clearances are based on a National Agency Check (NAC), a Local Agency Check (LAC) and a review of your Credit Record.

A NAC is a computerized search of investigative files and other records held by

federal agencies such as the Federal Bureau of Investigation and Office of Personnel Management.

A LAC is a review of appropriate criminal history records held by local law enforcement agencies with jurisdiction over the areas where you have resided, gone to school, or worked. The cost expended for a SECRET investigation is \$192.

A TOP SECRET will probably take between four and 10 months. However, some individuals have been waiting for the results of their TOP SECRET investigation for more than a year. In general, the more there is to investigate, the longer the investigation will take. Expect the investigation to take longer if you've lived or worked in several geographic locations or overseas, traveled outside of the United States, have relatives who have lived outside of the United States, or background information that is difficult to obtain or involves issues that require an expansion of your case. The cost expended for a TOP SECRET investigation is \$3550+.

Remember, mission first, security always! ■

FY07 Basic Allowance for Housing changes

Story provided by Defense Finance and Accounting Service

The National Defense Authorization Act of Fiscal Year 2007 (NDAA FY07) Section 604, signed by the President on October 17, 2006, provides the military services authority to pay a second Basic Allowance for Housing (BAH) entitlement for certain Reserve members who are in support of contingency operations.

This legislation authorizes a second housing allowance for Reserve component members, who are without dependents and are called or ordered to active duty in support of a contingency operation for more than 139 days when government-provided housing is not available. When a member is authorized the second BAH at the gaining command, the first BAH would enable the activated Reservist to maintain their primary household during the time of mobilization, while the second BAH would enable the Reservist to establish a household at the gaining command.

This gives the military services the option to either pay per diem or Basic Allowance for Housing at the gaining command (member will be paid whichever is more advantageous). Prior to the current law, the services were required to pay Reservists BAH based on the location of their civilian residence as well as per diem at their duty location. Section 604 of NDAA FY07 was implemented to ensure Reservists who are in support of contingency operations are able to financially maintain two households.

In addition to the above legislative change, Section 605 of NDAA FY07 amends prior legislation to include surviving military spouses. The legislation enacted last year that allows surviving civilian spouses to continue receiving Ba-

Network News

Importance of Logging Off Workstations

By Air Force 1st Lt. Jim Northamer
JTF-GTMO Information Assurance Officer

New vulnerabilities in computer software are identified everyday. These vulnerabilities are usually some sort of flaw in the software that a determined hacker could exploit to access the computer the software is running on. Once a single computer is accessed, each device and network that computer is attached to is also accessible. For instance, let's say a JTF-GTMO computer is compromised. Anybody with access to a single computer at JTF-GTMO has access to all the files on that computer, all the public folders on the network and access to all websites that restrict access to .mil computers. The amount of data available from a single compromise is almost incalculable. Because these vulnerabilities are identified almost every day and the consequences of a compromise are potentially so severe, the J6 community fights a constant battle to keep our systems secure.

One of the ways we fight this battle is by remotely deploying the patches that resolve these vulnerabilities over the network. Typically, in order to make this as

convenient as possible, we try to do this overnight, when the majority of network users are logged off the network. Because these patches will normally only load to computers that are powered on, but logged off, the JTF-GTMO IA Office depends on all users to log off of their workstation every day, but leave it powered on. If the workstation is powered on, it's connected to the network and these patches can be deployed. If it's not powered on or if a user is logged on to the workstation, these patches will not be effectively deployed.

This is a continuous battle to keep our network secure from continuously-discovered vulnerabilities. The only way we can secure every workstation on the network is if every user logs off every day. Please help secure our networks by remembering to log off your workstation every day. The security of the JTF-GTMO network and all the networks it's connected to depends on you.

If you have any questions or concerns about a computer security issue, please feel free to contact the JTF-GTMO IA Office at j6-ia@jftgtno.southcom.mil or x3333. ■

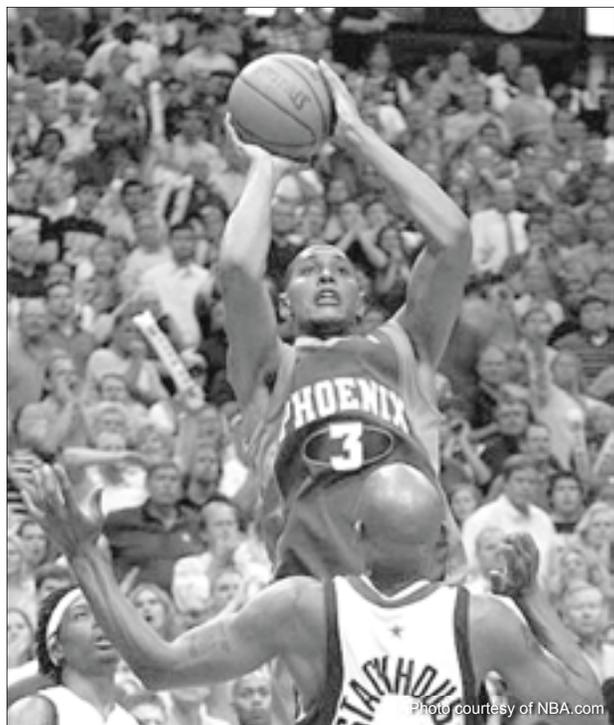
sic Allowance for Housing for up to 365 days when their military spouse dies while serving on active duty now allows the same for surviving military spouses.

The amendment will help the surviving military spouse during a difficult transition period and is consistent with the intent of the law to help surviving family members, whether civilian or military, recover from the immediate financial hardship associated with losing a portion of the household's income. ■

THE WIRE

As you've noticed, we've changed the design of *The Wire*. Questions or comments? Call Army Staff Sgt. Vince Oliver at ext. 3593. ■

The NBA standings: Utah dominates



Phoenix Sun Boris Diaw pulls up for a jumper over Dallas Maverick Jerry Stackhouse in recent NBA action. See the table for the latest NBA 2006-2007 season standings.

Eastern Conference

Atlantic:	W	L	PCT	CONF	DIV	HOME	ROAD
New Jersey	5	5	0.500	4-2	1-0	3-3	2-2
Boston	4	6	0.400	3-4	1-0	3-4	1-2
Philadelphia	4	6	0.400	3-3	0-1	2-2	2-4
New York	4	8	0.333	2-4	0-1	1-5	3-3
Toronto	2	8	0.200	2-2	1-1	2-2	0-6
Central:							
Cleveland	8	3	0.727	4-3	1-0	6-1	2-2
Indiana	6	5	0.545	6-4	2-1	3-2	3-3
Detroit	6	5	0.545	3-1	0-1	3-2	3-3
Chicago	3	8	0.273	3-2	2-1	2-1	1-7
Milwaukee	3	8	0.273	2-6	1-3	1-3	2-5
Southeast:							
Orlando	7	4	0.636	4-3	2-1	5-1	2-3
Atlanta	4	4	0.500	4-3	1-1	2-3	2-1
Miami	4	6	0.400	3-3	1-0	2-4	2-2
Washington	4	6	0.400	4-5	0-1	4-1	0-5
Charlotte	2	8	0.200	1-3	0-1	1-4	1-4

Western Conference

Northwest:	W	L	PCT	CONF	DIV	HOME	ROAD
Utah	10	1	0.909	6-0	1-0	6-0	4-1
Denver	5	4	0.556	0-2	0-1	2-2	3-2
Portland	5	7	0.417	4-5	2-1	3-2	2-5
Seattle	5	7	0.417	1-4	0-2	2-3	3-4
Minnesota	3	6	0.333	3-4	2-1	2-2	1-4
Pacific:							
L.A. Lakers	8	3	0.727	6-2	3-0	7-1	1-2
L.A. Clippers	6	3	0.667	5-3	1-2	6-0	0-3
Golden State	7	4	0.636	5-4	1-2	6-2	1-2
Sacramento	5	4	0.556	2-3	0-1	4-1	1-3
Phoenix	4	6	0.400	3-6	2-2	3-2	1-4
Southwest:							
San Antonio	9	2	0.818	5-0	2-0	3-2	6-0
New Orleans	8	3	0.727	1-0	4-0	4-3	7-3
Houston	7	4	0.636	2-3	2-2	3-1	4-3
Dallas	7	4	0.636	4-4	2-2	3-2	4-2
Memphis	2	9	0.182	0-6	0-3	2-3	0-6

	Army Col. Dennis Army Command Sgt Maj. Plemmons Joint Detention Group	Army Maj. Pearson Army Command Sgt. Maj. Vanwyngarden Joint Detention Group	Navy Cmdr. Winter Navy Command Master Chief Conley Joint Detention Group	Army Lt. Col. Tucker Army Sgt. Maj. Diaz Joint Task Force Public Affairs	Army Capt. Hughes Army 1st Sgt. Fitzgerald Headquarters, Headquarters Company
Last Week	9-4	12-1	11-2	8-5	10-3
Season	83-60	91-52	86-57	90-53	88-55
LSU at Arkansas	Arkansas	LSU	Arkansas	Arkansas	LSU
Georgia Tech at Georgia	Georgia	Georgia Tech	Georgia Tech	Georgia Tech	Georgia
Wake Forest at Maryland	Maryland	Wake Forest	Wake Forest	Wake Forest	Maryland
Purdue at Hawaii	Hawaii	Hawaii	Hawaii	Hawaii	Hawaii
Miami at Detroit	Detroit	Miami	Miami	Miami	Detroit
Tampa Bay at Dallas	Dallas	Dallas	Dallas	Dallas	Dallas
Denver at Kansas City	Denver	Denver	Kansas City	Kansas City	Denver
Cincinnati at Cleveland	Cincinnati	Cincinnati	Cleveland	Cincinnati	Cincinnati
Jacksonville at Buffalo	Jacksonville	Jacksonville	Jacksonville	Jacksonville	Jacksonville
New Orleans at Atlanta	Atlanta	Atlanta	Atlanta	Atlanta	New Orleans
Pittsburgh at Baltimore	Baltimore	Baltimore	Baltimore	Baltimore	Baltimore
San Francisco at St. Louis	St. Louis	San Francisco	San Francisco	St. Louis	San Francisco
Chicago at New England	New England	New England	New England	New England	Chicago

Newly ranked Hawaii hosts Purdue

Honolulu, HI (Sports Network) - Back in the AP Top-25 for the first time since 1993, the 25th-ranked Hawaii Warriors gear up for their final two regular season contests beginning with a date against the Purdue Boilermakers at home in Honolulu. Hawaii has won a school-record eight consecutive games and, were it not for a season-opening loss to Alabama by eight points and a seven-point setback versus nationally-ranked Boise State in the Western Athletic Conference opener, this group from the South Pacific could be undefeated at this point. Regardless, the Warriors have shown off one of the greatest offenses in the history of college football in recent months, scoring no less than 41 points during this current win

streak and coming up with a 54-17 victory over San Jose State last Saturday at home to finish league play with a record of 7-1. Depending on the outcome of the Boise State/Nevada contest, Hawaii could still claim a share of the WAC regular season title.

As for the Boilermakers, they like every other team in the Big Ten Conference have been watching Ohio State and Michigan run away from the rest of the league. At the moment the team is tied with Penn State for fourth place in the standings with a record of 5-3 in conference and 8-4 overall. Since being blanked by the Nittany Lions on October 28 by a final of 12-0 in West Lafayette, Purdue has run off three straight victories, including a 28-19 decision versus Indiana last Saturday. This game marks the first-ever meeting between these two programs on the gridiron.

Curtis Painter experienced the highs and lows of college football all in one afternoon last Saturday as he completed 18-of-32 passes for 260 yards and a touchdown, but was also picked off four times by the Indiana defense in Purdue's win. Clearly Painter would much rather put a tally in the win column than worry about his own personal stats, but one still has to wonder if he is up for the challenge again this week. Greg Orton reeled in six balls for 112 yards and a score, while Jaycen Taylor, Kory Sheets and Dorien Bryant each made it into the end zone on running plays as well. As well as Taylor and Sheets performed last weekend, the fact remains that the running game for the Boilermakers is far from their primary focus, especially with them averaging just 135.6 ypg on the ground. Sheets does have 11 touchdowns already and is averaging better than five yards per carry, but those numbers come after Painter has exhausted his options in the pocket where he has averaged 280.3 ypg passing to get the Purdue unit to first in the conference and sixth in the nation this week. In terms of total offense the Boilermakers are 10th in the country with 421.9 ypg, but all of that yardage still leaves them 46th in scoring at 26.8 ppg at the moment.

Every week people expect the Warriors to hit a wall on offense and every week the squad goes out and tears up opponents. Don't bet against Hawaii this weekend because non-conference visitors to the island generally have a hard time adjusting to the big change and the offensive attack.

Sports Network Predicted Outcome: Hawaii 49, Purdue 31. ■



AP Photo courtesy Ronen Zilberman

Hawaii's quarterback Colt Brennan looks for an opening, during the second half of their college football game against San Jose State, at Aloha Stadium in Honolulu, Saturday, Nov. 18, 2006. Brennan passed for 402 yards and five touchdowns as Hawaii rolled to its eighth straight victory by beating San Jose State 54-17 on Saturday night. The Warriors face the Purdue Boilermakers this weekend.



FROM THE MUDDY BANKS OF THE CHICKAHOMINY RIVER

Story and photos by Army Sgt. Jonson Tulewa-Gibbs

JTF-GTMO Public Affairs Office

The Windjammer Club hosted the Chickahominy Tribal Dancers who performed for Joint Task Force Troopers Monday night.

Eagle feathers protruded from their headdresses and bells jingled from their ankles as the low constant drum beat drove their rhythmic dancing in front of the crowd.

“Dancing is a form of celebration,” said Army Command Sgt. Maj. Gerald Adkins, who dances with the group and is also with the JTF Inspector General’s Office. We have all types of dances, ground dances, corn dances and hoop dances, Adkins added.

Adkins’ own family played a big part in the celebration. “It is always an honor to dance with my son and brother and to carry on the traditions of our heritage and the Chickahominy Tribe,” said Adkins.

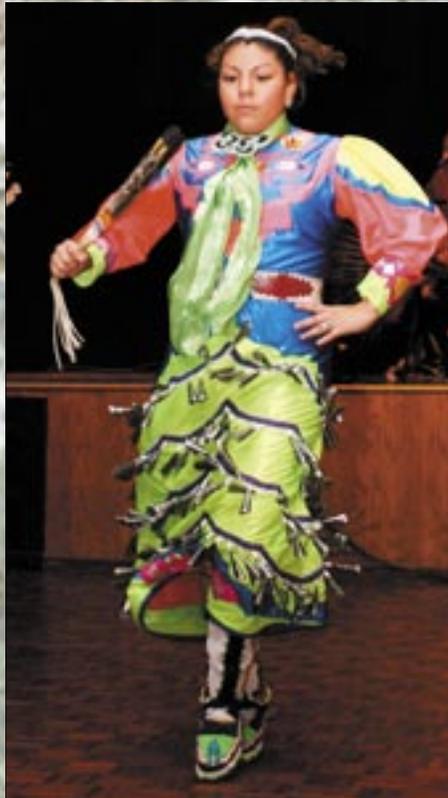
Adkins’ younger brother, James Redblood Adkins, was instrumental in gathering the dancers for the performance here at Guantanamo Bay.

“My brother is serving down here and it’s an honor to be here with him,” said the younger Adkins.

One of the songs was specifically about the Troopers who fought in Iraq, emphasizing that this performance was a direct message to service members. “It is always an honor to perform for America’s warriors and at all of the Pow-Wows [a council or conference of or with Indians] I have attended the veterans are honored with a dance,” said the elder Adkins.

“Tey che ka hee la la oo sho een, it means, I love you very much,” said the younger Adkins to the Troopers serving here. I will leave here with peace in my heart, the younger Adkins added. ■

The Chickahominy Indian Tribe was among those to witness the coming of the colonists in 1607. At that time, the Chickahominy lived in villages along the Chickahominy River from the James River to the middle of the current county of New Kent. The tribe, governed by a council of elders, was considered an ally of Powhatan and his paramount chiefdom.



Today this tribe has approximately 750 Chickahominy people living within a five-mile radius of the tribal center in Charles City County, and several hundred more living in other parts of the United States. Its 25,000-acre enclave includes a tract on state Route 602 that holds the Samaria Baptist Church, the former Samaria Indian school that has been remodeled and is now part of the Church, and a tribal center for meetings and recreation. The tribe hosts an annual fall festival in late September, as well as several other public events.

Additional information courtesy of the Virginia Council on Indians.



A brief history of tattoos

By Army Spc. Phil Regina

JTF-GTMO Public Affairs Office

The art of putting ink on skin is a deep rooted tradition of human society, a history etched on the skin of Polynesian princesses, Roman gladiators and seafaring sailors. This tradition continues on today, a living history etched on living canvas.

The word "tattoo" is traced from the Tahitian word *tatau*, meaning "to mark or strike" and the prevalence of the art in modern western society can be attributed to the interaction between 18th century European sailors and Polynesians.

Captain James Cook, the English sailor responsible for discovering the Hawaiian Islands, helped bring about a resurgence of interest in tattoos during the early part of the 18th century. As his sailors explored the Pacific, they began to adopt the Polynesian art of tattoo for themselves, taking home souvenirs on their skin.

It was from these roots derived from Polynesian culture that the classic "sailor tattoo" was born. Sailors would get tattoos for luck on the seas, the ports they've traveled, as well as to indicate their skill as a sailor.

A swallow would indicate 5,000 nautical miles traveled.

A dragon would indicate the sailor had been to a port in China.

A pig on the top of one foot and a rooster on the



Body art has become increasingly popular in the military. The history and traditions associated with tattoos are closely tied with the Armed Forces.

other is said to protect the sailor from drowning, since both of these animals cannot swim, it would allow the sailor to reach shore faster.

Today, the tradition of tattooing continues to be written on the willing skin of modern day Sailors, Soldiers, Marines, Airmen and Coastguardsmen. However, in today's military, tattoo regulations have changed greatly since the tattooed sailors of old. If you're looking to be a part of the tattooed history of the military, remember to look up your services' specific regulations on tattoos before heading to the tattoo parlor. ■

Army ups referral bonus to \$2,000

By Daisy Bueno

Army News Service

Washington (Army News Service, Nov. 20, 2006) - Bonuses have doubled to \$2K for Soldiers and retirees referring future Soldiers to the Referral Bonus Pilot Program. Active-duty and reserve-component Soldiers, and Army retirees, are eligible for the referral bonus.

Soldiers working in the Hometown Recruiter Assistance Program, Special Recruiter Assistance Program, Active Duty for Special Work Program or the Future Soldier Training Program are also eligible if the prospective Soldier has not already met with a recruiter.

The bonus is not paid to Soldiers referring members of their immediate families, to include spouses, children, parents, step-parents and siblings.

Referrals should be made through the Army Referral System - Sergeant Major of the Army Recruiting Team Web site at www.usarec.army.mil/smart. An Army Knowledge Online user name and password are required to use the site, at which Soldiers must first establish a user account to make a referral. Users will be asked to submit such personal information as their social security number to facilitate payment.

Referrals may also be made at (800) 223-3735, ext. 6-0473. The bonus is paid in two lump sums. The first half is paid when the Soldier begins basic training, and the second half is paid after the Soldier graduates from One-Station Unit Training or Advanced Individual Training.

There are no retroactive provisions to the change. Sponsors who provided referrals before November 13 are only eligible for the \$1K bonus. ■

DoD official cites success of All-Volunteer Force

By **Jim Garamone**

American Forces Press Service

WASHINGTON, Nov. 20, 2006 – Citing the all-volunteer force's success, a senior Defense Department official said today that a draft would diminish the quality of U.S. forces and put more of the burden of service on the nation's poor.

"I think the draft is opposed by anybody who has given it serious thought," said Bill Carr, deputy undersecretary of defense for military personnel policy.

New York Rep. Charles Rangel – in line to be the next chairman of the powerful Ways and Means Committee in the House – said he will introduce legislation in the next session of Congress to reinstate the draft.

Carr said the draft is not cost-effective and would force the military to lower its standards for recruits. A Government Accountability Office report, he said, estimated that a draft would add \$4 billion in annual costs to DoD. Because draftees usually spend the minimum time they possibly can in the military, the services would have to pump more money into training and would get less return on their training investments than they do with the all-volunteer force, he explained.

One argument often put forward for reinstating the draft is that it would make the military more equitable. But Carr said such equity would lower the force's quality.

"I think that it would make the military more average, and the military is considerably above average today," Carr

said. "Two-thirds of our recruits are from the top half aptitude (range), whereas an average or equitable share would be only half. Moreover, we draw disproportionately from the middle class and the upper class. The underrepresented (in the military) are the poor. A draft would only shift the burden toward the poor."

Proponents for the draft say that the military cannot make the all-volunteer force work. This belies 33 years of experience, Carr said, noting that all services continue to make the recruiting goals and the recruiters continue to draw "above-average, exceptionally well-qualified young people."

Retention is the best it has ever been, Carr said. Under the draft, two-thirds of the military were in their first two years of service. Today, two-thirds of the men and women in the force have served at least six years.

As to whether there's enough Army for the jobs around the world -- the 3rd Infantry Division headquarters, for example, will begin its third year-long rotation to Iraq next year -- Carr said making the military larger has drawbacks.

"If you have a large number of rotations, you could stand to have a larger military," Carr acknowledged. "But, what goes up inevitably must come down. If we were to grow the military and find ourselves in a few years shrinking it, that is one thing military leaders fear, because of the bond we created with those who joined us."

If the Army temporarily needs more people, then the president can call up the reserve components, Carr said.

If the idea is to make the active duty Army larger, then the military would find itself shedding people in the future, he said. The services are working to make the most of their current ceilings on uniformed members by converting manpower authorizations that don't require a person in uniform to civilian positions, Carr said. This approach, he explained, puts more military people into uniquely military positions. ■



Photo courtesy of U.S. Army

Soldiers of 602nd Area Support Medical Company, 261st Area Support Medical Battalion, 44th Medical Command, marches towards Green Ramp Friday following a one year deployment. These Troopers, as well as those assigned to the Joint Task Force here, are part of the highly trained and motivated all-volunteer military that has served the nation for over 33 years.

A special Thanksgiving message from Adm. Stavridis

Inspired by the first Thanksgiving more than 300 years ago, Americans of all faiths now join together annually to express gratitude for the gift of life and for our many blessings. This year, let us pause to reflect not only on our individual blessings, but on the blessings we share as United States citizens.

Our nation's freedom and prosperity are the gifts of generations of Americans who sacrificed their comfort, and in many cases their lives, to ensure safety and liberty for us and our children. Those who serve the United States military know first-hand the sacrifices necessary to defend our country and support democracy worldwide. Wherever you are on this special day, know that our nation gives thanks for you and for your efforts to eliminate terrorism and preserve the peace we hold so dear.

My family and I give thanks this



year for all the blessings we enjoy as Americans and especially for the dedicated men and women of the United States Southern Command. We wish you and your loved ones a safe and Happy Thanksgiving holiday.

Respectfully,

J. Stavridis, Commander, U.S. Southern Command

GTMO marathon

The GTMO Marathon will be held December 2, 2006. The race starting point will be from Denich Gym and will begin at 5:30 AM. Runners (Individual or Teams of 5) and cyclists are welcome. Those interested should sign up by November 30. The first 200 people to sign up and run/ride will receive a t-shirt. Participants are invited to attend a pre-run dinner on December 1st from 6:00-8:00 PM at Denich Gym for. For more information, contact Karissa at ext. 77262 or Audrey at ext. 78344. ■

WEEKEND WEATHER FORECAST

Weather forecast provided by www.weather.com

Saturday, Nov. 25

Partly cloudy with a stray thunderstorm. Highs in the upper 80s and lows in the low 70s.



Scattered T-Storms

Sunrise: 6:15 a.m.

Sunset: 5:20 p.m.

Chance of Rain: 60%

Sunday, Nov. 26

Partly cloudy, chance of a thunderstorm. Highs in the upper 80s, and lows in the low 70s.



Afternoon T-Storms

Sunrise: 6:16 a.m.

Sunset: 5:20 p.m.

Chance of Rain: 40%

Monday, Nov. 27

Partly cloudy, chance of a thunderstorm. Highs in the upper 80s, and lows in the low 70s.



Scattered T-Storms

Sunrise: 6:16 a.m.

Sunset: 5:20 p.m.

Chance of Rain: 60%



GTMO Movie Review Corner

with Navy Petty Officer 3rd Class Trevor Andersen's review of "The Black Dahlia"

I've always loved hard-boiled detective stories. The hero is always calm and cool, and the situations are realistic. Dashiell Hammett and Raymond Chandler started the wave, but hard-boiled detective novels, radio shows and movies faded over the years.

The Black Dahlia reminds me of those movies from Humphrey Bogart's era, mixed with a modern horror movie.

It's based on a true, unsolved mystery; the 1940s murder of Elisabeth Short, an aspiring actress known as the Black Dahlia.

Though this movie was reminiscent of those old stories by Hammett and Chandler, it

missed the mark with me. I liked the movie after I watched it, but after thinking about it a bit, I feel like I missed something.

The plot was so complicated I'm not surprised the real murder was never solved.

Please don't misunderstand, I didn't dislike this movie; it's not exactly terrible. In fact, the actors' performances were exceptional.

If you have nothing to do one evening and it's showing, it will probably hold your attention, but The Black Dahlia is not a "must see."

It's rated R for strong violence, grisly images, sexual content and language. ■

- The Black Dahlia -
Rating: ★★☆☆☆

Boots on the Ground:

"Which fast food restaurant would like to see here?"



"Burger King, they have really good fries."
 -Air Force Staff Sgt. Jennifer Hilley, JPRC



"Taco Bell."
 -Coast Guard Petty Officer 3rd Class Steve Nichols, PSU 312



"In-n-Out Burger."
 -Coast Guard Petty Officer 3rd Class Ute Kavanaugh, PSU 312



"Adelbertos."
 -Coast Guard Petty Officer 3rd Class Josh Leatham, PSU 312

WASHING WITH COLD WATER

By Army Chaplain (Lt. Col.) Ron Martin-Minnich

JTF Command Chaplain

I get impatient waiting for the water in the sink to finally turn hot so I can wash a few dishes. Sometimes I just throw liquid soap on them and use the cold water. However, it just isn't the same. The dishes just don't seem quite as clean as they do with hot water.

A man went to visit his 90-year old grandfather in a very secluded, rural area of Georgia. After spending the night, his grandfather prepared breakfast for him consisting of eggs and bacon. He noticed a film like substance on his plate and he questioned his grandfather, "Are these plates clean?" His grandfather replied, "Those plates are as clean as cold water can get them, so go on and finish your meal".

"It's when we are in hot water that the unnecessary elements of our life can be exposed and cleaned out."

That afternoon, while eating the hamburgers his grandfather made for lunch, he noticed tiny specks around the edge of his plate, and a substance that looked like dried egg yokes. So, he asked again, "Are you sure these plates are clean?"

Without looking up from his hamburger, the grandfather says, "I told you before; those dishes are as clean as cold water can get them. Now don't ask me about it anymore!"

Later that afternoon, he was on his way out to get dinner in a nearby town. As he was leaving, his grandfather's dog started to growl and wouldn't let him pass so he said, "Grandpa, your dog won't let me out."

Without diverting his attention from

the football game he was watching on TV his grandfather shouted, "COLDWATER, Go lay down!"

I never thought of a dog helping out for this dilemma but the problem still persists on the best way to clean dishes...hot or cold? You and I know its hot water. Hot water dissolves the grease and crusty food off the plates and pots much easier than cold.

The same applies to our lives. It's when we are in hot water that the unnecessary elements of our life can be exposed and cleaned out. We bring our best "soap" to the problems we face and find that the useless things we thought were so important to keep weren't much help and just cluttered up our lives. We then want to get ourselves straightened or cleaned out and get back to better living.

Also, I often remind myself to read Matthew 6: 25 – 34. It is part of the only recorded sermon preached by Jesus Christ in the Bible. This passage is often headed with the title, "Do Not Worry." Read it before you start each day and when you end each day - it helps "keep your faith real."

Cold water just can not get the job done as well as the hot water moments in life.

So, the next time you find yourself in hot water, be dog-gone glad you are and be ready to clean your plate. ■

CAMP AMERICA WORSHIP SCHEDULE

Sunday	9:00 a.m.	Protestant Service	Troopers' Chapel
	6:00 p.m.	Confessions	Troopers' Chapel
	6:30 p.m.	Catholic Mass	Troopers' Chapel
	7:30 p.m.	Evening Prayer	Troopers' Chapel
Wednesday	7:30 p.m.	Soul Survivor	Camp America North Pavilion

NAVAL BASE CHAPEL

Sunday	8:00 a.m.	Pentecostal Gospel	Room 13
	9:00 a.m.	Catholic Mass	Main Chapel
	9:00 a.m.	Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints	Sanctuary A
	9:30 a.m.	Protestant Sun. School	Main Chapel
	10:00 a.m.	Protestant Liturgical	Sanctuary B
	11:00 a.m.	Protestant Service	Main Chapel
Monday	1:00 p.m.	Gospel Service	Main Chapel
	5:00 p.m.	Pentecostal Gospel	Room 13
Tuesday	7:00 p.m.	Prayer Group Fellowship	Fellowship Hall
	7:00 p.m.	Family Home Evening	Room 8
Tues. to Fri.	12:00 p.m.	Daily Mass	Cobre Chapel
Wednesday	7:00 p.m.	Men's Bible Study	Fellowship Hall
Friday	12:30 p.m.	Islamic Prayer	Sanctuary C
Saturday	4:00 p.m.	Confessions	Main Chapel
	5:00 p.m.	Vigil Mass	Main Chapel

Jewish Shabbat Services held every second Friday at 7:30 p.m. in the Naval Base Chapel complex Room 11.

15:00 Minutes of Fame

Army Maj. John Cockerham

By Army Spc. Jonathan Mullis

JTF-GTMO Public Affairs Office

There is a proverb which says “much is expected from whom much is given.” However, even the greatest of expectations don’t always materialize. Many of us know people who started out with all the promise in the world and, for some reason or another, just weren’t able to get it together. However, not so many of us can readily think of folks who have started out with nothing and blossomed into a success or, in other words, went from rags to riches.

Nevertheless, this week’s “15 Minutes of Fame” features an account of just that. Joint Task Force Guantanamo Bay deputy director of J4 Army Maj. John Cockerham is a man born into a world void of promise and dubbed “not so likely to succeed.”

Raised in a small, backwoods town in Louisiana and being number 14 of 17 children meant that life for Cockerham was going to include a lot of struggle.

“My father owned a livestock farm so I spent my summer days working from sun up to sun down,” said Cockerham. “The farm served two purposes, one was to make money and the other was to provide food for us.”

Cockerham helped out around the farm as much as he could along with his siblings, however, school came first and when it was in session he attended.

“I went to the local school in Castor, Louisiana,” explained Cockerham. “It was pretty small, the graduating class had only 11 students and two of them were held over from the past year.”

Initially, Cockerham was placed into the Special Education program based mainly on the fact that he had a speech impediment. However, he by no



Photo illustration by Army Spc. Jonathan Mullis

Through trials of strength and spirit, Army Maj. John Cockerham has risen above adversity to become an officer in the United States Army and hero to the small Louisiana town where he was born.

means truly belonged there; and by the fifth grade it was his basketball talents that got him back to the regular classes.

“You couldn’t play basketball and be in the Special Ed. program at the same time. And since it was a small town, with a population of about 400, basketball was the only sport people really had,” explained Cockerham with a shy smile.

After finishing high school, Cockerham joined the Army as a Dental Lab Technician. And after earning a college degree, he then transitioned into the Cavalry as an officer and held two commands there; one of which brought him the “Commander of the Year” award.

“As a combat-arms commander you are only as strong as your weakest soldier,” explained Cockerham. “It’s your subordinates that make or break you as a leader.”

In 2003 Cockerham returned to his hometown from a deployment to the

Middle East as a local hero. He was celebrated and driven through town in the mayor’s Ford Model-T. “That was one of the most touching moments in my life; when I realized that my hardships had made me into the man I am today,” reflected a misty eyed Cockerham.

With a thoughtful look upon his face Cockerham conveyed that life isn’t always handed to you on a silver platter, but it’s the challenges and obstacles that stand to make us the people we become. No matter where we go in life our roots will always be with us and it’s important to know and remember where we come from. ■

15 Minutes of Fame

Know a Trooper worthy of being highlighted in “15 Minutes of Fame?” Call Army Staff Sgt. Vince Oliver at ext. 3593.

AROUND THE JTF



Photo by Navy Petty Officer 3rd Class Trevor Andersen

A christmas tree's lights are tested at the Downtown NEX, completing its setup for a display through the holiday season.



Photo by Army Spc. Jonathan Mullis

Navy Petty Officer 1st Class Robert Ivy reenlists at a ceremony held at the Camp Delta flagpole Monday.



Photo by Army 1st Lt. Anthony John

The lighthouse near Cable Beach stands silhouetted against a brilliant Guantanamo Bay sunset.



Photo by Army Lt. Col. Lora Tucker

Army Brig. Gen. Edward Leacock, deputy commander of Joint Task Force-Guantanamo, swims with a green sea turtle while diving in the waters of Guantanamo Bay, Cuba.