

# THE WIRE

An Award Winning  
JTF Journal

Happy Holidays  
JTF Troopers!

**DADT Repealed**

*DOD Finalizing  
Implementation*

**Do You  
Parrandas?**

*The Puerto Rico  
National Guard Does!*

# Trooper to Trooper

## featuring Army Sgt. Maj. Harold Bodenschatz

Senior Enlisted Leader, J3



Courage, according to the dictionary is as follows:

“Mental or moral strength to resist opposition, danger or hardship. Courage implies firmness of mind and will in the face of danger or extreme difficulty.”

I believe courage has many meanings and uses to different Troopers. The ability to work hard all your life, to build a family and plant roots, to raise children. The same individual then feels a sense of duty and joins the military. Thus this Trooper has the courage to do all the normal stuff we do, but is also willing to put his/her life on the line if called to do so. There is courage in the spouse and families at home who are willing to stand by their Trooper and support them no matter how many times their country calls for them to leave. There is also the courage of all our fellow battle buddies that come home who have wounds that have changed their lives forever. Courage is the ability to keep going and make the best of what you have and live life to the fullest every day.

But most of those types of courage you all are quite aware of and live with every day. I want to focus on a challenge we all face every day of our lives. I am talking about the courage to do what is right when no one is looking. Courage is the ability to muster up the will to not take the easy way out or look the other way when you shouldn't.

Personal courage is what I have been talking about, the stuff that makes us all leaders or followers. If one is willing to go along with the flow or just do what everybody thinks you should do, how can they be a leader? As leaders you must be able to decide what is right and follow through on it. You must have the courage to stand up and say “this is wrong” and you will not just follow along, you will ensure the right thing is done. This is not always easy. You will find many who don't have what it takes to do this. You will not al-

ways be liked or the popular person on the block but you *will* be a leader. You will be able to earn the respect of most. Best of all, you will respect yourself.

Courage is hard to live with. It demands of those who say they have it to perform a self examination of their convictions everyday. It demands that we put a mirror up in front of us to see who we really are. Sometimes we don't like what we see. Do you have the courage to change and do what is right? Most of us know what right looks like.

As long as you give it 100 percent and you stand up for what is right and ensure that you were not just a follower of the mob; then you should like what you see in that mirror.

# Don't Ask, Don't Tell Repealed - Now What?



President Barack Obama signs a repeal act in Washington, D.C., Dec. 22, 2010, officially overturning the Don't Ask, Don't Tell law that he said required gay servicemembers to serve in secrecy and isolation. White House photo by Chuck Kennedy

Karen Parrish  
American Forces Press Service

President Barack Obama signed the Don't Ask, Don't Tell Repeal Act of 2010 into law at a signing ceremony in Washington, D.C., Wednesday.

“We are not a nation that says, ‘Don't ask, don't tell,’” the president said at the signing ceremony. “We are a nation that says, ‘Out of many, we are one.’”

“We are a nation that welcomes the service of every patriot,” he added. “We are a nation that believes all men and women are created equal. Those are the ideals that generations have fought for. Those are the ideals that we uphold today, and now it is my honor to sign this bill into law.”

The act repeals Section 654, Title 10, of the United States Code, which barred people who are openly gay, lesbian or bisexual from serving in the U.S. military. Today's signing, as the president pointed out, begins a process that will culminate in full repeal over the coming months.

The old policy remains in effect until Defense Secretary Robert M. Gates, Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff Navy Adm. Mike Mullen, and the president certify the military's readiness to implement the repeal, the commander in chief said. “It's especially important for servicemembers to remember that,” he added.

The president said he has spoken to all of the service chiefs, and all are committed to implementing the change swiftly.

“We are not going to be dragging our feet to get this done,” Obama said. “As commander

in chief, I am certain that we can effect this transition in a way that only strengthens our military readiness. People will look back on this moment and wonder [why it was] ever a source of controversy in the first place.”

“I also want to commend our military leadership,” he said. “Ending Don't Ask, Don't Tell was a topic in my first meeting with Secretary Gates, Admiral Mullen and the Joint Chiefs. We talked about how to end this policy; we talked about how success in both passing and implementing this change depended on working closely with the Pentagon. And that's what we did.”

Obama praised his defense and national security leaders for their oversight of the change. “The courage and the vision of Secretary Gates, of Admiral Mike Mullen, who spoke from the heart and said what he believed was right, of General James Cartwright, the vice chairman of the Joint Chiefs, and Deputy Secretary William Lynn ...,” he said, “also the authors of the Pentagon's review, Jeh Johnson [defense general counsel] and General Carter Ham [commander, U.S. Army Europe], who did outstanding and meticulous work – and all those who laid the groundwork for this transition.”

The president said he has “every confidence” of the professionalism and patriotism of U.S. military members as repeal moves forward.

“With any change, there's some apprehension,” Obama said. “Just as [servicemembers] have adapted and grown stronger with each of the other changes, I know they will do so again. I know that Secretary Gates, Admiral Mullen, as well as the vast majority of servicemembers themselves share

this view ... based on their own experiences, including the experience of serving with dedicated, duty-bound servicemembers who are also gay.”

Gay servicemembers who will gain the right to serve openly when repeal is fully implemented, Obama said.

## Puerto Rico National Guard Helo Crashes; 3 Dead, 3 Missing

AP News Service

Authorities said Wednesday they have recovered three bodies from the crash of a Puerto Rico National Guard helicopter that went down with six people aboard. Three others remain missing.

A body found Tuesday was identified as that of prosecutor Francisco Mujica de Leon.

Also aboard the helicopter were prosecutor Mario Torres Marin, Col. Victor Torres Rodriguez, who was second in command of the Puerto Rico National Guard, pilots Hector Ramirez and Carlos Acevedo, and Sgt. Jose Omar Sostre.

The UH-72 Lakota helicopter was headed toward Vieques when it disappeared late Monday. Officials say they do not know what led to the crash. Two other helicopters on the same mission reported no problems.

*Editors Note: The JTF Guantanamo leadership and all Troopers express our deepest condolences to members of the Puerto Rico National Guard and everyone whose life was touched by this tragedy.*

## US Preparing to Hold Some Guantanamo Inmates 'Indefinitely'

VOA News

Officials in Washington say the U.S. government is preparing to detain indefinitely nearly 50 alleged terrorists now held at the Guantanamo Bay detention center.

An executive order being prepared for review by President Barack Obama says that Guantanamo Bay prisoners kept in “prolonged detention” will not be put on trial. Each case will be reviewed periodically, U.S. officials said late Tuesday, and the detainees are expected to be able to mount legal challenges to their incarceration.

A White House official told VOA Tuesday night that the plan under consideration will have clear, lawful and fair procedures, and a thorough review process, “so that any prolonged detention is carefully evaluated and justified.”

Of the 174 prisoners still held at Guantanamo, a U.S. Navy base in eastern Cuba, U.S. officials are said to have decided that at least 48 should be held indefinitely. No prisoners' identities were released.

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COVER:

Happy Holidays JTF Troopers! –photo illustration by Mass Communications Specialist Second Class Elisha Dawkins/The Wire

BACK COVER:

The 51st Public Affairs Detachment of the United States Virgin Islands Army National Guard was given a teary farewell Saturday as their year-long deployment came to an end. The incoming Wire staff wishes all of them safe and speedy travels and thanks them for their hospitality. –photo by Mass Communications Specialist First Class David P. Coleman/The Wire

# JTF Guantanamo Top Brass Addresses Troopers

New fire suppression systems to be installed at Tierra Kay housing complex soon.

Army Staff Sgt. Benjamin Cossel  
JTF Guantanamo Public Affairs

Troopers living in the Tierra Kay housing complex will soon see a series of changes. That was one of the messages delivered by JTF Guantanamo Commander Navy Rear Adm. Jeffrey Harbeson during a recent series of all-hands meetings.

Harbeson said work is nearly complete on the mini-NEX in the Tierra Kay housing area, with completion expected by late winter or early spring.

“What I need to know from you now is what sort of things we need to populate the new mini-NEX with,” Harbeson said.

Harbeson also used the opportunity to speak about a new fire suppression system being installed at the TK complex. Harbeson said contractors would work block-to-block during the installation process, requiring Troopers living in impacted units to temporarily relocate for up to three weeks.

“We are looking into several different options for the relocation,” Harbeson said, noting the Bay Hill area was one of the options being considered.

“This is not a perfect situation but it’s the right thing to do,” he said.

In addition to the efforts underway at the TK, Harbeson said a new Club Survivor, an MWR facility, near the Seaside Galley is in the works and all of the sea huts on Camp America are scheduled to be taken down. Harbeson said both projects should be complete in the Spring of 2011.

Following the updates, the Admiral talked about some of the distinguished visitors coming to the island in the near future.

“They value the feedback you provide them,” said the Admiral. “So don’t be shy if they ask you any questions.”

In the nearly nine years since the formation of JTF Guantanamo, the island has been host to several congressional delegations, along with a slew of high-ranking dignitaries anxious to visit their Troopers working with the task force.

Harbeson took the opportunity to also answer one of the common questions he hears following VIP visits.

“How come the detainees seem to have it better than the Troopers working here?” is one of those things I often hear,” he said, pointing out facilities for many of the detainees include video game systems, high definition television and other amenities.

Harbeson answered the question by noting the unique status of those detained at Guantanamo.

“Of the 174 detainees here, three have been convicted,” the Admiral said. “With one having charges against him. That’s the truth of the situation.”

Harbeson said he was proud of the work done by his Troopers and he would put his operations up against any other facility in the world.

“We maintain the gold standard with our operations here,” Harbeson said. “There are those out there who would make accusations I would say to them, come here and see our operations — we maintain the highest standard in the world.”

Moving on to address a series of rumors concerning possible changes to the face of the task force, Harbeson

said there were several discussions ongoing with Southern Command, the higher headquarters of the JTF.

“We are reviewing several possible course of actions,” said Harbeson. “Nothing has been decided or approved by Gen. Fraser (Gen. Douglas Fraser, Commander, U.S. Southern Command) and we continue to discuss opportunities.”

Harbeson answered several questions concerning mold conditions at the TK housing area as well as increasing capacity at laundry facilities in the Cuzco Barracks area. Harbeson said he and his senior leadership would look into the issues presented during the meeting.

**“This is not a perfect situation but it’s the right thing to do.”**

*JTF Commander Rear Adm. Jeffrey Harbeson commenting on possible Trooper relocations.*



Rear Adm. Jeffrey Harbeson, Joint Task Force Guantanamo commander recently addressed the Troopers of the task force in a series of all-hands meetings.

# Motor pool helps keep things running

Senior Airman Gino Reyes  
JTF Guantanamo Public Affairs

The 525th Military Police Battalion motor pool repairs 525th vehicles for use in accomplishing the Joint Task Force Guantanamo mission.

There are only six Troopers running the shop and they stay pretty busy.

“As a team there is no task we cannot accomplish,” said 525th MP Battalion vehicle mechanic Spc. Jose Ramos.

The motor pool performs both weekly and monthly scheduled maintenance on all vehicles. When broken vehicles come in, there is a six-step process performed. The vehicle is inspected on the initial turn in. After that primary inspection, problems are verified and the troubleshooting begins. If needed, parts are ordered. Once

all the repairs are complete, vehicles are dispatched back for duty. The entire process is documented and filed, tracking work quality and production.

Fixing vehicles is not all these Troopers bring to the mission. They also instruct classes on tactical vehicle operation. The approximately 40-hour program consists of basic concepts and maneuvering. Instructors ensure operators have full control of vehicles and an understanding of driving concepts before issuing a license, said Ramos.

“If any operator receives a license and causes an accident, injury or even death the instructors will be part of the blame,” he explained.

The 525th MP Company motor pool is a diverse group of Troopers from all around the company.

“We come together and get the job



done,” said 525th MP Company vehicle mechanic Sergeant Jose Parra.

With a constant flow and timely completion of work coming in, the 525th motor pool helps the Joint Task Force mission running smoothly.



Spc. Jose Ramos and Spc. Antonio Carter perform maintenance on a mule Nov. 17. Ramos and Carter are members of the 525th Military Police Company motor pool. - photo by Senior Airman Gino Reyes/The Wire



# National Guard Imports Holiday Sounds From Puerto Rico

Army Spc. Meredith Vincent  
JTF Guantanamo Public Affairs

VIPs are no strangers to Guantanamo Bay, Cuba. A familiar sight around the base is groups of journalists, politicians or officials. Rarely seen however, was the jubilant performance put on by such a group at the Trooper Chapel Monday afternoon.

Maj. Gen. Antonio J. Vicens, Adjutant General of the Puerto Rico National Guard, visited Guantanamo in hopes of seeing some of the 200 Soldiers from Puerto Rico stationed here. He brought with him a group of retention and recruiting personnel that also happened to be pretty good with a beat.

"A group of our recruiters are acting as parrandas," Maj. Paul Dahlen, public affairs officer for the Puerto Rican National Guard explained. "Parrandas are basically carolers with a Puerto Rican twist."

As the musicians entered the Trooper Chapel, it was clear these were not the Christmas carols most people grew up with as children. What filled the chapel that afternoon was a mix of African, Spanish and Native American sounds accompanied by an eclectic mix of drums, guitars, tambourines and maracas.

"This is traditional music from Puerto Rico," said Master Sgt. Lorna Jimenz, recruiting and retention non-commissioned officer in charge. "We wanted to bring our Christmas music to our guys who are stationed over here."

The group was asked to accompany Vicens to bring some holiday cheer to the Puerto Rican Soldiers away from their homes this season.

"He (the general) thought it would be a good idea to bring some of the island spirit over here to them, since they are so far away," said Sgt. 1st Class Gregorio Quinones, marketing NCO for the Puerto Rican National Guard.

Quinones' own daughter is stationed in Kosov and he explained this trip was a healing experience for him as well.



Army Sgt. Maj. Jose Padilla (center) and staff with the Puerto Rico National Guard, Recruiting and Retention Battalion, perform a special holiday caroling assembly at the Trooper Chapel in Camp America. -photo by Mass Communication Specialist 2nd Class Elisha Dawkins/The Wire

Joint Task Force Army Sgt. 1st Class Alcides Heredia plays a guitar during a song with the Puerto Rico National Guard Recruiting and Retention Battalion. -photo by Mass Communication Specialists 2nd Class Elisha Dawkins/The Wire



Army Sgt. 1st Class Gilberto Rivera with Puerto Rico National Guard, Recruiting and Retention Battalion leads Troopers with hometown music. -photo by Mass Communication Specialist 2nd Class Elisha Dawkins/The Wire



"It was nice for me to come over here and bring some music to them, because I appreciate how special it is," he said sadly. "It's something good for them, but also me."

Quinones put on an inspired and joyous performance, along with his fellow musicians. The energy was palpable as people danced, clapped and sang along. Even Rear Adm. Jeffrey Harbeson, Joint Task Force Guantanamo commander, picked up a tambourine and got into the spirit. Dahlen believes that their visit made the lasting effect they were hoping for.

"We wanted to let them know that we care about them," he said after the festivities. "We're thinking about them and we wish them all a very merry Christmas and a wonderful Happy New Year."

(below) Army Soldiers with the Puerto Rico National Guard, Recruiting and Retention Battalion, sing and play instruments while being transported to Naval Station Guantanamo Bay on a Navy Utility boat, Dec. 20, 2010. -photo by Mass Communication Specialists 2nd Class Elisha Dawkins/The Wire



JTF Guantanamo Commander, Rear Adm. Jeffrey Harbeson, speaks with Army Maj. Gen. Antonio Vicens, the Adjutant General for Puerto Rico National Guard at the Trooper Chapel. -photo by Mass Communication Specialists 2nd Class Elisha Dawkins/The Wire

Naval Station Guantanamo Bay residents begin the Jingle Bell fun run, Dec. 18, 2010. The run included a guest visit by Santa and dog treats for all the four-legged participants. -photo by Army Sgt. Mathieu Perry/The Wire



# Jingle Bell Fun Run

Army Sgt. Mathieu Perry  
JTF Guantanamo Public Affairs

The Jingle Bell 2 Mile Fun Run was a great way to kindle the holiday spirit, start a tradition and make new memories.

The conditions of Guantanamo Bay allow joggers to take their running up a notch due to the numerous sidewalks, good trails and slow-moving traffic.

"I am a really avid runner," said Lt. j.g. Caitlin Quinn with the Maritime Safety and Security Team in Miami. "I love running and being here has presented me with the opportunity to really take my running to the next level."



"It's very safe here," said Quinn. "You are not going to get hit by anything going faster than 25 miles per hour. There are plenty of sidewalks and good trails with plenty of places to go and explore."

That has helped her take advantage and try to get some good mileage in. It has also helped her to mix up her routine and do things a little differently.

Community events like the fun run also help to bring out the holiday spirit and boost morale.

"It was really cool doing a Christmas-themed run in such a hot climate," said Quinn. "It was cool to be surrounded by the palm trees and the very green foliage and then, here comes Santa Claus coming down the lane with his jingle bells."

Quinn went on to explain she is originally from Falmouth, Mass. and has only been in Miami for the past year and a half.

"I really love New England and embrace the four seasons," said Quinn. "So I can really appreciate the snow and the cold climates that are usually associated with this time of year."

The spirit of the holidays is more than just a picturesque winter wonderland; it is a time for reminiscing with friends and family.

The holidays are about "people coming together and

Members of the Maritime Safety and Security Team-Miami pose with Santa prior to the Jingle Bell Fun Run. -photo by Army Sgt. Mathieu Perry/The Wire

Navy Petty Officer First Class Joshua Bright, a Master at Arms for the JTF Navy Expeditionary Guard Battalion and two MWR personnel help cool Rocky, an English bulldog and Mastiff cross after the jingle bell fun run. -photo by Army Sgt. Mathieu Perry/The Wire



Navy Petty Officer First Class Joshua Bright, cares for Rocky, an English bulldog and Mastiff cross. -photo by Army Sgt. Mathieu Perry/The Wire

celebrating," said Quinn, "Doing things that are really enjoyable and making memories."

Quinn added that is just what the MSST group did. Even though they are away from their families, she said, they will be able to

look back and think, "Oh yeah! I remember doing the Jingle Bell Fun Run in Guantanamo Bay around Christmas time with the guys from my unit."



Naval Station Guantanamo Bay residents run the Jingle Bell 2-mile Fun Run, Dec. 18, 2010. The Morale, Welfare and Recreation program held the annual event for everyone to enjoy their Christmas holiday and in support of the Navy's Fitness program. -photo by Mass Communications Specialist 2nd Class Elisha Dawkins/The Wire

# Is It Head Check Time?



Pfc. Leslee Fong holds a stress ball given to her by members of the Joint Stress Mitigation and Restoration Team (JSMART), Dec. 21, 2010. JSMART's mission is to provide outreach and stress prevention for all Troopers during their deployment. photo by Mass Communication Specialist 2nd Class Elisha Dawkins

Navy Mass Communication Specialist 2nd Class  
Elisha Dawkins  
JTF Guantanamo Public Affairs

Joint Task Force Troopers face challenges every day. Working in an unfamiliar joint-service environment can cause stress, which if not managed early can lead to anxiety, depression and other mental ailments.

There are both positive and negative stressors. Positive stressors involve achievement and success while negative stressors play a role in damaging one's self esteem and can impact mission accomplishment.

Navy Lt. Jason Duff, officer in charge, Joint Stress Mitigation and Restoration Team, said there are several indicators when negative stress may be impacting one's mental state. Duff said change in normal behavior, loss of sleep or lack of appetite are just a few signs that a Trooper should seek assistance.

"We (JSMART) provide specific skills that we teach for depression, anger or anxiety (mitigation)," he said.

In a deployed environment adapting to change is a critical skill needed to complete the mission.

"Sometimes it takes that shipmate

or Soldier to open up, knowing that the people around will understand them," Duff said. "But if it [stress] starts to build up in an individual and becomes more of an issue, that's when we will jump in as mental health providers."

JSMART provides cognitive behavioral therapy, coping skills and relaxation techniques Troopers can use. Scheduled sleep, smoking cessation and anger management instruction are a few of the additional tools provided by JSMART.

"If someone has an anger issue, we use identification of early triggers and stressors," said Duff. "We teach them how to scan themselves and be aware of how much anger, irritability and frustration they are walking around with."

Duff said while self-awareness is key in identifying potential problems, the JSMART team also employ a batch of cognitive tools to assist Troopers.

"We look at the thought pattern," Duff explained. "How they perceive themselves, other people and how they respond to the events in the world around them. Sometimes that can be a big step forward."

Troopers needing assistance from the JSMART team can contact them at 3566.

## Helpful Tips from the JSMART Team

### Trouble Sleeping?

- Go to bed at the same time each day
- Write a sleep journal
- Use the bed only for sleep
- Turn off the television 15 minutes prior to sleeping,
- Do not work out one hour prior to bed time
- Reduce or eliminate caffeine.

### Need to Relax?

- Listen to calming music
- Try Yoga or meditation
- Take a series of long, deep breaths
- Visualize calming scenes

Navy Lt. Anthony Carr  
NEGB Command Chaplain

When we look for the meaning of Christmas many things may come to mind. It may be Christmas songs, food or presents under the tree. It could be the gathering together of family and friends for Christmas parties and lots of eggnog. Christmas might be a time to go to church for Christmas pageants, a living Nativity scene or a Candlelight Christmas Eve service. You may be on the road, traveling by car or plane, visiting family, or at the mall getting those last minute Christmas bargains. You might be hard at work in the kitchen preparing for all the guests who are coming over. Your family may not celebrate Christmas and it may be a day at the movies, a time to take a cruise or just another day at work.

But this Christmas might be like one you've had in Iraq, Afghanistan or in the middle of the ocean. Guantanamo Bay doesn't scream Christmas. Only very recently have those who live on the main island been able to celebrate the holiday. You may feel lonely, sad or it may seem like just another day with not much to celebrate. You may be planning a big Christmas bash with 50 people or a small, quiet get-together with friends. You might be spending your Christmas on watch, on guard or being served by the many civilians who are working this day.

Christmas might have you envisioning a babe in a manger or a jolly, large man in a red suit. You might be watching Rudolph or Frosty, Charlie Brown or the Grinch. You might watch A Christmas Carol or It's a Wonderful Life. You may spend your Christmas watching the Griswalds' in A Christmas Vacation or Ralphie in A Christmas Story.

You may balk at all the materialism of the season, make gifts or give to charity; your family may have fallen on hard times and decided not to exchange gifts this year. It might annoy you to hear "Happy Holidays" instead of "Merry Christmas" and you may strongly declare "Jesus is the reason for the season!"

With all the things Christmas means and all the images it may bring to mind, it really comes down to God keeping promises and an upcoming reality that peace will one day finally be on Earth and that good will be shown to all of humanity. I wish you and yours a very Merry Christmas, Happy Holiday Season and a blessed New Year.

## GTMO Religious Services

**Daily Catholic Mass**  
Mon. - Fri. 5:30 p.m.  
Main Chapel  
**Vigil Mass**  
Saturday 5 p.m.  
Main Chapel  
**Mass**  
Sunday 9 a.m.  
Main Chapel  
**Catholic Mass**  
Saturday 7:30 p.m.  
Troopers' Chapel  
Sunday 7:30 a.m.  
Troopers' Chapel

**Protestant Worship**  
Sunday 9 a.m.  
Troopers' Chapel  
**Islamic Service**  
Friday 1:15 p.m.  
Room C  
**Jewish Service**  
FMI call 2628  
**LORIMI Gospel**  
Sunday 8 a.m.  
Room D  
**Church of Christ**  
Sunday 10 a.m.  
Chapel Annex  
Room 17

**Seventh Day Adventist**  
Saturday 11 a.m.  
Room B  
**Iglesia Ni Cristo**  
Sunday 5:30 a.m.  
Room A  
**Pentecostal Gospel**  
Sunday 8 a.m.  
Room D  
**LDS Service**  
Sunday 10 a.m.  
Room A

**Liturgical Service**  
Sunday 10 a.m.  
Room B  
**General Protestant**  
Sunday 11 a.m.  
Main Chapel  
**United Jamaican Fellowship**  
Sunday 11 a.m.  
Building 1036  
**Gospel Service**  
Sunday 1 p.m.  
Main Chapel

**GTMO Bay Christian Fellowship**  
Sunday 6 p.m.  
Main Chapel  
**Bible Study**  
Wednesday 7 p.m.  
Troopers' Chapel  
**The Truth Project Bible study**  
Sunday 6 p.m.  
Troopers' Chapel

# Chiefs Hammer First Classes in Smack-talk Fueled Softball Matchup

photo by Staff Sgt. Benjamin Cossel/The Wire

**Army Staff Sgt. Benjamin Cossel**  
JTF Guantanamo Public Affairs

It might be a slight stretch to call Saturday's softball game between members of the Chief Petty Officers Association and the First Class Petty Officers Association a slaughter. Then again, calling it a slaughter would be closer to the truth than calling it a close game. After the dust settled and the FCPO's took their final hacks, the scoreboard stood at 26-16 with the CPO's standing tall.

The game within the game started early when, an oft-referred to, memo was fired off by an undisclosed member of the FCPOA. While representatives of WikiLeaks are still seeking details of the memo, *The Wire* has learned the contents of the memo tossed down the gauntlet with serious trash talk aimed squarely at the CPOs. In what is sure to be remembered as a fatal gambit, the Chiefs would use the contents of the memo to taunt the FCPO throughout the game.

At the onset, the First Classes seemed to want to make a game of things. The first four FCPO batters in the line-up reached base, drawing first blood before the defense of the CPO's turned an inning-ending double play. Heading into the bottom half of the opening frame, the Firsts were up 4-0. It would be the last time they would hold a lead.

A combination of shaky pitching and poor defense allowed the Chiefs to bring the scoreboard even and eventually go up by



photo by Staff Sgt. Benjamin Cossel/The Wire

Clockwise from above, First Class Petty Officer Josh Bright rounds third on his way to scoring a run. Aviation Ordnanceman 1st Class Robert Thomas slides into third base. Members of the First Class Petty Officers Association congratulate the Chief Petty Officers after a spirited softball game at Cooper Field, Dec. 18. A member of the Navy Expeditionary Guard Battalion drives the ball deep during the game.



photo by Mass Communications Specialist First Class David P. Coleman/The Wire



photo by Mass Communications Specialist First Class David P. Coleman/The Wire



photo by Staff Sgt. Benjamin Cossel/The Wire

Master at Arms Chief Petty Officer Bryan Roelike tosses the ball to first base securing the out during a match-up between the Chief Petty Officers Association and the First Class Petty Officers Association, Saturday, Dec. 18 at Cooper Field.

one run. Unlike the FCPO hitters who took CPO pitcher Bryan Roelike deep into the outfield, the CPOs played small ball, with a series of grounders that found holes in the mitts of the First Class defenders advancing the runners.

Down 12-4 opening the top of the fourth, FCPO bats sputtered to life with a series of hits resulting in three runs for the First Classes — but the Chiefs used their half of the frame to tack on an additional six runs.

There's some debate as to whether the Chiefs granted the First Classes an additional out for the last inning, but chatter by the defense of the Chiefs noted the First Classes could have had an additional three outs to the inning and still not even up the score.

Following the drubbing, members of the CPO squad signed the game ball and presented it to the First Classes, a bittersweet reminder of the stinging defeat.

"There was a lot of back and forth for a while about playing this game," said First Class Petty Officer Josh Bright. "We finally set a date, challenged the Chiefs and got a team together."

Bright went on to say the game was always intended to be a good time with smack talk just part of the routine between the two organizations.

"Oh and by the way," Bright said. "Could you please not print the final score?"



photo by Army Sgt. Mathieu Perry/The Wire

Army Sgt. Mathieu Perry  
JTF Guantanamo Public Affairs

“The Tourist” is the story of an American (Johnny Depp) who visits Italy to mend a broken heart, but crosses paths with the femme fatale, Elise (Angelina Jolie).



Elise is a woman of secrets and mystery and – no surprise to viewers – finds herself being followed by the men and high tech gadgets of Scotland Yard.

The romantic outdoor cafés of Paris lend themselves well to the beauty, intrigue and affluent lifestyle of Elise. As she sits down at her favorite café, she receives a letter from Alexander Pearce, an old flame. After reading the cryptic message, she burns the evidence and boards a train to Venice with instructions to fool the police by picking out a man the police could believe is Pearce.

As she walks down the train, she sees Frank. She promptly sits with him and begins talking about spy novels. Frank is instantly attracted to Elise and curious about her. The train arrives and the two of them take a boat to Elise’s hotel.

Soon the tourist finds himself in a

whirlwind of intrigue and danger

By the numbers, “The Tourist” should be well received by audiences. It has one of the most beautiful women in the world working across from one Hollywood’s biggest heartthrobs. Throw in a script from two Academy Award-winning screenwriters under the direction of an Oscar-winning filmmaker and it sounds impossible to beat.

However, inevitably this action thriller, although set in Paris and Venice and

starring very attractive people, has all the passion and chemistry of a legal notepad.

It’s not exactly a challenge to make Venice and two of the best-looking people in the world look good. The scenery and stars are unmistakably stunning, but they don’t compensate for the movie’s slow, simple-minded plot or the lack of chemistry between Johnny Depp and Angelina Jolie. All in all, this is merely a high-end photo shoot with mild bouts of acting.

The plot is superficial and full of clichés. It is nothing more than a watered-down version of any action/espionage thrillers over the past 25 years. There is literally nothing original about the movie. While the plot is good, it is also highly predictable. Add to this pile of mediocrity several pieces of studio music that fail to match the scene and I rate this as two out of five banana rats.

**PG-13**

**103 minutes**

**Rating:** 

## What is your favorite Christmas carol?



“Santa Clause is Comin’ to Town’, because it brings back all the memories from childhood and because you always wanted to be good around Christmas time so you would get something other than a lump of coal.”

Marine Cpl. Lisa Graff



“O’ Holy Night’, because it reminds me of what Christmas is really about.”

Coast Guard Lt. Junior Grade Justin Gear



“Frosty the Snowman”

Hospital Corpsman 2nd Class Joshua Thomas



“This Christmas’ because the Temptations sang it and it has sentimental value.”

Army Staff Sgt. Vonterrell R. Frederick

## Boots on the Ground



## BEEF Ball

Base Emergency Engineer Force Air Force Master Sgt. Tom Parsley, engineering supervisor, removes the blind fold from Cpt. Dennis Adezas, an IT member with the Commissions Support Group, during a game of pin-the-Santa-hat-on-Garland-Claus, Dec. 17. – photo by Army Sgt. Mathieu Perry/The Wire

View Askew



Around the  
  
**JTF**



**Rear Adm. Jeffery Harbeson gets into the holiday groove with the Puerto Rican National Guard Monday at the Trooper Chapel.**  
-photo by Mass Communications Specialist 1st Class Elisha Dawkins/  
The Wire



**Petty Officer 3rd Class Damarea Hutton from the Navy Expeditionary Guard Battalion (NEGB) fire a 12-gauge shotgun at his targets during a firing range exercise at Windward Range, Dec. 17.** -photo by Senior Airman Gino Reyes/The Wire