

W7 The WIRE

57TH PRESIDENTIAL INAUGURATION

MLK MARCH ON GTMO

TROOPER FOCUS: COASTIE READY TO
LEAVE WATER FOR AIR

COMMAND CORNER

SGT. MAJ. SCOTT SMITH

SERGEANT MAJOR, JOINT TASK FORCE GUANTANAMO

For all of the various reasons why you joined the military, at some point you realized that you had made a promise to the American people that you would give your life in the defense of our nation. For an 18 or 19 year old, although not realized at the time, this is a serious undertaking. To be willing to give your life so that others may live and enjoy all the freedoms that we share is a monumental feat.

Our nation must have individuals like you who are willing to step forward and protect our way of life even when some of those of whom you protect do not care or appreciate what you do. Nowhere in the two tenants of leadership (mission accomplishment and troop welfare) does it state that members of the U.S. military are required to be liked or appreciated. So, as I often do when I write the Command Corner, I take the opportunity to expound on my point by utilizing the writings of others, and this week provides me another chance to do so. The following is a great analogy of why we serve but more importantly the need for us to serve.

The following is an excerpt from On Sheep, Wolves and Sheepdogs by retired Army Lt. Col. Dave Grossman.

One Vietnam veteran, an old retired colonel, once said this to me:

"Most of the people in our society are sheep. They are kind, gentle, productive creatures who can only hurt one another by accident." This is true. Remember, the murder rate is six per 100,000 per year, and the aggravated assault rate is four per 1,000 per year. What this means is that the vast majority of Americans are not inclined to hurt one another. Some estimates say that two million Americans are victims of violent crimes every year, a tragic, staggering number, perhaps an all-time record rate of violent crime. But there are almost 300 million Americans, which means that the odds of being a victim of violent crime is considerably less than one in a hundred on any given year. Furthermore, since many violent crimes are committed by repeat

offenders, the actual number of violent citizens is considerably less than two million.

Thus there is a paradox, and we must grasp both ends of the situation: We may well be in the most violent times in history, but violence is still remarkably rare. This is because most citizens are kind, decent people who are not capable of hurting each other, except by accident or under extreme provocation. They are sheep.

I mean nothing negative by calling them sheep. To me, it is like the pretty, blue robin's egg. Inside, it is soft and gooey, but someday it will grow into something wonderful. But the egg cannot survive without its hard blue shell. Police officers, Soldiers, and other warriors are like that shell, and someday the civilization they protect will grow into something wonderful. For now, though, they need warriors to protect them from the predators.

"Then there are the wolves," the old war veteran said, "and the wolves feed on the sheep without mercy." Do you believe there are wolves out there who will feed on the flock without mercy? You better believe it. There are evil men in this world and they are capable of evil deeds. The moment you forget that or pretend it is not so, you become a sheep. There is no safety in denial.

"Then there are sheepdogs," he went on, "and I'm a sheepdog. I live to protect the flock and confront the wolf."

If you have no capacity for violence, then you are a healthy, productive citizen, a sheep. If you have a capacity for violence and no empathy for your fellow citizens, then you have defined an



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JOINT TASK FORCE GUANTANAMO

SAFE • HUMANE • LEGAL • TRANSPARENT

NEWS FROM THE BAY

10-mile trail run

Runners, are you looking for something a little more challenging than a 5K? Morale, Welfare, and Recreation is hosting a 10-mile trail run on Jan. 26. Runners will start and finish at Christmas Tree Hill and the rest of the route will be given the morning of the run. Awards will be given to category winners. Pre-register at the Denich Gym.

No photos

As beautiful as this island is, there are places that cannot be photographed on base. Photos cannot be taken on JPJ Hill, no pnaoramic shots of the base, no photos of restricted or classified areas, no photos of the desalinization plant. Remember your OPSEC at all times. If you are unsure about a photo, contact the OPSEC office at ext. 8506.

COMMAND from page 3

aggressive sociopath, a wolf. But what if you have a capacity for violence and a deep love for your fellow citizens? What do you have then? A sheepdog, a warrior, someone who is walking the hero's path. Someone who can walk into the heart of darkness, into the universal human phobia, and walk out unscathed.

Everyone has been given a gift in life. Some people have a gift for science, and some have a flair for art. And warriors have been given the gift of aggression. They would no more misuse this gift than a doctor would misuse his healing arts, but they yearn for the opportunity to use their gift to help others. These people, the ones who have been blessed with the gift of aggression and

Liberty events

Looking to try new things? Meet new people? Maybe just have some fun? Check out the Liberty program's GTMO Life calendar. They provide a variety of fun activities for unaccompanied service members each week. Upcoming events include a Texas Hold'Em tournament, dominoes tournament, a kayaking trip, and more. For more information or to sign up for an event call ext. 2010.

Arts and crafts

Need a way to unwind? Why not try the arts and crafts shop? They are open Tuesday through Friday from 4 p.m. to 9 p.m. and Saturday and Sunday from noon to 8 p.m. They offer crafts from pottery to woodwork. For more information call ext. 74795.

a love for others, are our sheepdogs.

The sheep generally do not like the sheepdog. He looks a lot like the wolf. He has fangs and the capacity for violence. The difference, though, is that the sheepdog must not, cannot and will not ever harm the sheep.

Any sheepdog who intentionally harms the lowliest little lamb will be punished and removed. The world cannot work any other way, at least not in a representative democracy or a republic such as ours.

So, sheepdogs, I ask that you remain committed to protecting the sheep from those wolves that exist in this world and in whatever mission that you are tasked.

Lastly, continue to take care of each other and do the right thing, even when no one is looking.

Fitness classes

Is getting in shape one of your New Year's resolutions? MWR Navy Fitness can help. They are offering a variety of classes at the Marine Hill Fitness Center. Some of the classes available are zumba, cardio kickboxing, group cycling, and many more. For fun new way to get in shape, contact MWR Navy Fitness at 77262 or 2285 or 2113. Check your GTMO Life calendar for the complete list of fitness classes.

Gold Hill reopens

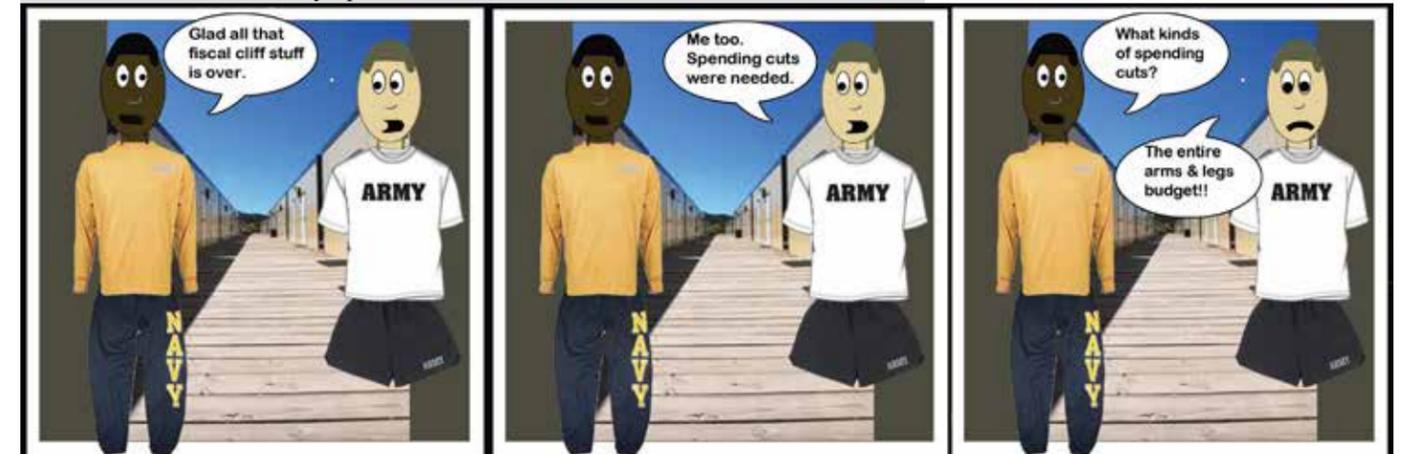
The wait is over! Renovations are finished and the new flooring is in. Gold Hill Galley will reopen on Monday, January 28th. The new and improved galley will be serving all meals.

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The WIRE is the official news magazine of Joint Task Force Guantanamo. It is produced by the JTF Public Affairs Office to inform and educate the Troopers of JTF Guantanamo through news, features, command guidance, sports and entertainment. This DoD news magazine is an authorized publication for the members of the Department of Defense. Contents of The WIRE are not necessarily the official views of, or endorsed by, the U.S. Government, the Department of Defense, or Joint Task Force Guantanamo. It is printed by Defense Logistics Agency Document Services with a circulation of 1,200.

ONLY AT GTMO by Spc. Brian Godette





By Army Staff Sgt. Michael E. Davis Jr.

It's great that Morale, Welfare and Recreation offers free movies to Troopers and families here at Naval Station Guantanamo Bay. One of the great things about free movies is that you don't feel like you've wasted your money if you've seen a horrible movie.

However, I wish I can say the same about this movie. I didn't waste my money after seeing "Cirque du Soleil: Worlds Away," but I do feel like I've wasted an hour and 31 minutes of my life. I mean, I was really upset after seeing this movie. I wouldn't even call this movie a movie. It was a 'showcase.'

I get really excited about any new movie that comes to GTMO, but I was really anticipating this one because there was so much talk floating around the island about how the live show is so "amazing" and so "wonderful" and how "it must have been the greatest live show they have ever seen." The live show might have been "amazing," but the movie was far from it. After viewing the film, and the unprofitable gains I expect to occur in the box office, I hope producers and big time studios like Paramount, realize that not everything is fit to be made as a film.

"Cirque du Soleil: Worlds Away" is about a young woman who is entranced by an aerialist and travels through different tents in a dreamlike world of Cirque du Soleil to find him.

The movie starts off with the young woman walking into a circus and walking around as if she is a little amazed, but she

mostly looks lost by the dead facial expressions she gives for the camera. I guess the screenwriter, and everyone else who read the script, thought it was okay to NOT give us a back story as to who this female is and why she is even going into the circus.

And not being able to see any previews of this film from the lack of civilian commercials the Armed Forces Network offers, and the great internet reception us GTMO residents have here, I don't think 'the fans' and everyone else really knew what type of movie this was going to be.

Starting with the first scene, all we know is that there is a lost young woman walking in a circus and has no clue about what she wants to see or do. However, this all changes when a mime "talks" her into seeing someone who he obviously thinks is amazing. She takes one look at the guy in the flyer, which eventually becomes the identifiable main object of the movie, and quickly becomes enamored.

She really falls in love with this aerialist when she sees him performing his flying act in person. As typical as it is in most movies, he falls in love with her too – just enough to get distracted, miss his trapeze and fall into the world of Cirque du Soleil.

Are you interested yet? Are you interested in envisioning more of the film? If not, just wait, here comes the good parts.

In attempt to help her new "soaring" lover, she tries to save him but falls into the sinking sand as well. Now she's in a different world, same lost look on her face, but has a new motive – find the aerialist!

The movie has an "Alice in Wonderland" and a "Wizard of Oz" feel to it but just without any talking in it. Other than the little dialogue in the beginning of the film by one of the guys who works in the circus, the only other two words that were spoken were "Help!" and "Ahhh!" Now, I have nothing against silent films. I love most of Charlie Chaplin's work, but at least his films had a storyline to them and involved a decent plot. Films with little to no dialogue can still be done, just look at "The Artist," but they have to have an interesting plot to keep the audience engaged.

Maybe the plot was about her finding the aerialist or them finding each other, but the majority of the film just 'showcased' different performances that had no relevance to the main plot. One minute, a clown is helping her find her flying guy, but all of a sudden they run into different kinds of gymnasts, splashing synchronized swimmers and

Asian contortionists.

As a total art lover, I was really amazed and stunned by the exotic performances and thought the make-up and costumes were one of a kind, but how did they tie into the young woman trying to find the aerialist? I am aware that Cirque du Soleil is the world's biggest and best-known circus show, but director Andrew Adamson ("The Chronicles of Narnia: Prince Caspian") crossed a major boundary when he attempted to make it into a film. Every director and producer crosses boundaries whenever they try to adapt a play, a novel, or a circus show in this case into a film. Some can pull it off and others cannot.

A film consists of character development, plot points, suspense, special effects and a manipulation of time and space – all of which this movie lacks. This film has many great visual effects that were pleasing to the eye, but they were not supported by any unique camera work. There were some weird but unique fighting scenes, but show me more than just establishing shots. We're watching a movie, not a show from the nose bleed section. Give me some close-up shots so I can "connect" to the characters.

Speaking of characters, how do the main actors fall in love with each other so fast? Was she the type who stayed in the house most of her life and is now flabbergasted when she finally sees a man who soars? Was the aerialist the type of person who worked all day and night in the circus and never felt love before? I know this is a circus movie, but give me something I can believe.

I don't know how anyone who helped make this film got past the script. How can you read a story where there is not much dialogue and where one scene is set in the water and the very next scene is outside of a tent?

Maybe the tents should have represented different parts of the world. That's an idea that probably would have done the movie justice. As she traveled through the tents, she experienced different people with different nationalities and different cultures and saw a "world" with exotic people in it – a world that she maybe wasn't use to. There were Asian performers and Spanish performers, and it look like some performers were even from Native American decent, but they were placed in random scenes in the movie.

No conflict at all, so you know what happens at the end. I just watched a comedy called "Crazy, Stupid, Love," and even that film had me guessing whether the main characters were going to get back together.

I was totally disappointed in "Cirque du Soleil: Worlds Away," and I hope its "fans" are not in a depressed state of mind. Don't be too hard on yourself – speak to one of the chaplains here at GTMO if your depression gets more serious.

I give this movie two banana rats!



Marine Staff Sgt. Alfredo Hernandez reads a story on camera for his kids through the United Through Reading program. The program is hosted by the Joint Task Force Guantanamo Chaplain's Office.

Story and photos by Spc. Raechel Haynes

Deployments are hard, no matter where service members might find themselves. While Naval Station Guantanamo Bay is not the worst deployment, it can still be hard. Deployments are not just hard on Troopers, it is hard on their families, especially their children. Sometimes it can be very hard for families to stay connected especially for parents with younger children. Fortunately there are services to keep families connected.

The Joint Task Force Guantanamo Chaplain's Office provides a service to make deployments easier for Troopers and their families.

The United Through Reading program gives Troopers a chance to feel a little closer to home by giving them the chance to read stories to their children.

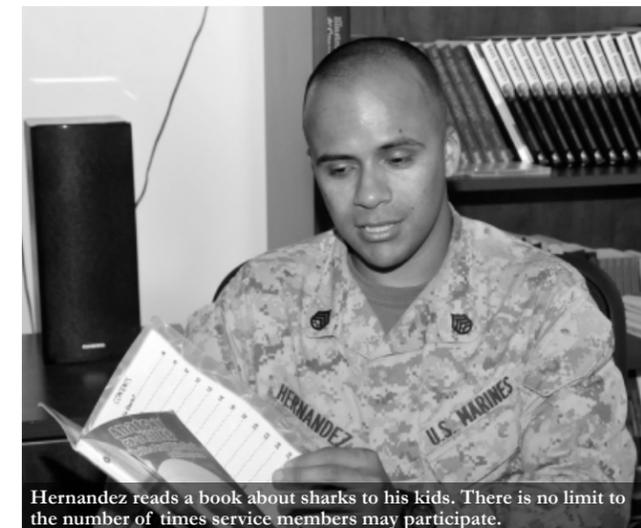
Participants in the United Through Reading program can schedule an appointment with the JTF Chaplain's Office. They can either bring a book to read or use a book provided by the chaplain's office then read as many stories as they want on camera. The video has been turned into DVD format, which Troopers can send home to their children.

Troopers have the option to send home the book or books that they read so that their children can read along with them. The chaplain's office sometimes has stuffed animals or toys to send home as well. The books and toys are usually donations from schools or other organizations.

"Service members don't have to read a

book. They can send personal messages too," said Petty Officer 3rd Class Deon Haynes of the Joint Task Force Chaplain's Office. "Sometimes people come in to send Valentine's messages home to their wives or husbands."

The program is not limited to reading stories nor is it limited to any specific service. "This is for anyone who is deployed, no



Hernandez reads a book about sharks to his kids. There is no limit to the number of times service members may participate.

matter what rank or service," Haynes said. "We even have some civilians that use the program. At the chaplain's office, we turn no one down."

Not only is no one turned down, the chaplain's office goes out of its way to make sure that service members have every opportunity to take advantage of the United Through Reading program.

"We are pretty flexible about work

United Through Reading brings families closer during deployment

schedules," Haynes said. "Sometimes, we'll come over on the weekends to do a video." Haynes has participated in the program himself and said his daughter loves having the United Through Reading DVDs available and that it helps her feel closer to her dad.

"This service is great because the children can just pop the DVD into the TV and

listen to their deployed loved one read them a book," Haynes said. "The main purpose of the United Through Reading program is to help the kids, who may not understand why their loved one has to be half a world away."

The United Through Reading program was started in 1989 by Betty Mohlenbrock, whose husband had been deployed during the Vietnam War. When he returned, their two-year-old daughter didn't know him. Mohlenbrock set out to find a way to keep families connected and encourage children's love of reading. Through this program, service members can interest their children in reading and stay connected to their

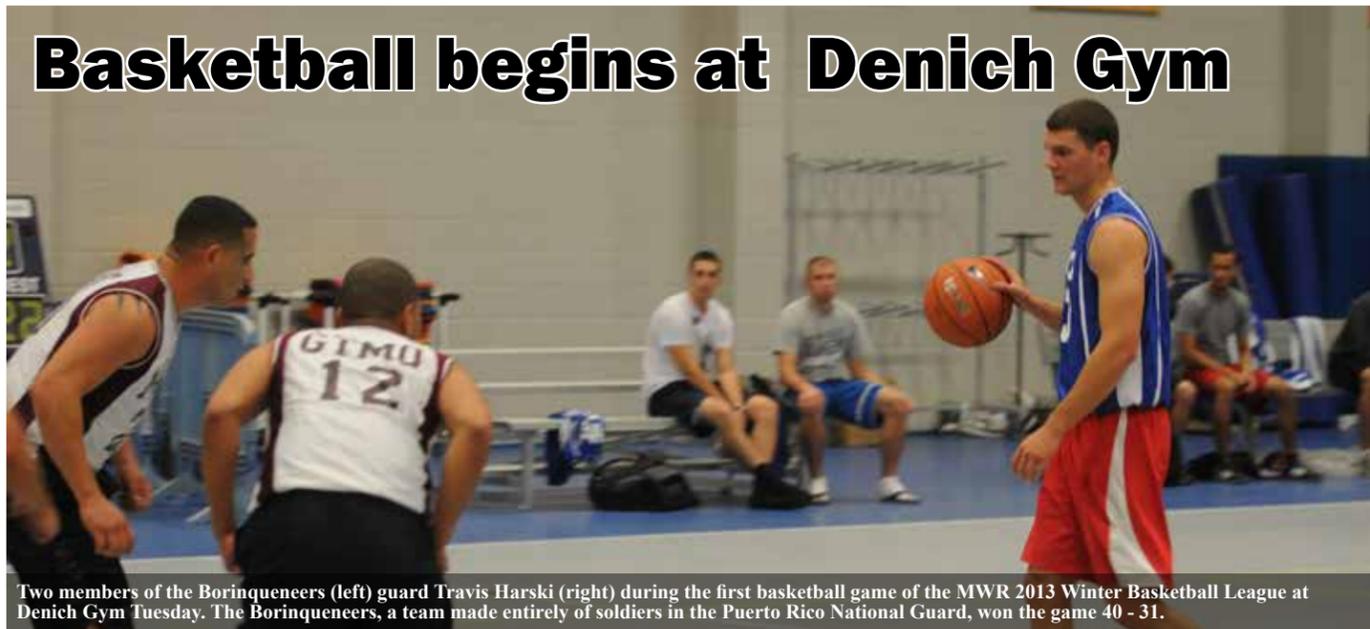
parents.

"This is a way for service members to keep up with their families and keep morale up," Haynes said.

While it may not be exactly the same as curling up with your kids to share a story, it still sends the message that you love them. Even if you only send one, the children can watch it whenever they miss their parent.

"You'd be surprised how much the loved

Basketball begins at Denich Gym



Two members of the Borinqueneers (left) guard Travis Harski (right) during the first basketball game of the MWR 2013 Winter Basketball League at Denich Gym Tuesday. The Borinqueneers, a team made entirely of soldiers in the Puerto Rico National Guard, won the game 40 - 31.

Story and photos by Army Pfc. Chalon Hutson

With a minute and seven seconds left in the game, the Borinqueneers, who were up by only four points, wanted desperately to seal the game. They threw the ball down court for an easy layup, followed by two free-throws due to a foul. It was just enough for the team to run out the clock with their next possession, and win their first game of the season with a final score of 40 - 31.

The Morale, Welfare, and Recreation 2013 Winter Basketball League hosted its first games of the season at the Denich Gym here at Naval Station Guantanamo Bay Tuesday evening. Eight teams competed that night, but there are more than ten teams in the league altogether.

The Borinqueneers, who were victorious in the first game of the season over the Harski's, is made up of Soldiers from the Puerto Rico National Guard. The name comes from a Puerto Rico National Guard unit, the 65th Infantry Regiment, which has officially existed since 1920.

The unit is highly decorated and is remembered especially for its accomplishments during World War II and the Korean War. Wanting to honor the memory of this unit, this modern group of Puerto Ricans fought desperately in a close game against its opponents.

"It feels great to win this first game," said Spc. Walter Marrero, no. 21 on the Borinqueneers and an external security specialist with the Puerto Rico National Guard. "The team did a good job. Everything went great."

The team agreed its main strategy was to defensively double-team the point-guard and main scorer on the opposing Harski's.



The Borinqueneers played hard defense in the first basketball game of the MWR 2013 Winter Basketball League, assisting in their 40 - 31 victory over the Harski's.

It took group cohesion to work together to win the game.

"We had great motivation the entire game," Marrero said. "That is the reason we won the game. We had great teamwork."

The team used this time to improve unit morale and cohesion. This group has been here for eight months, and being a security force, they often work on different schedules.

This is the first time they have played in a basketball league here, and it gives them an opportunity to be together.

"When we are working, we don't often get to spend time together because we are working different shifts," said Spc. Carlos Morales, no. 24 on the team, also with external security in the Puerto Rico National

Guard. "We had a good time being able to represent our unit here."

During the next game, the Borinqueneers will play the Filipino Ninjas, which Morales believes will also be a challenge.

"They are very good and very fast," Morales said. "I'm glad that the MWR has given us the opportunity to participate in this league."

The Borinqueneers may have won the first game against a tough team, but they are still in for a challenging season ahead of them.

Each team will play a 20-game season from now until March. Four games a night are scheduled to be held at the Denich Gym, on Mondays, Tuesdays, Thursdays, and Fridays, between 6 and 10 p.m.

10 Mile Trail Run

NAVY FITNESS
STAY HEALTHY • STAY FIT • STAY NAVY

January, 26 2013 | 6 A.M.
Run will start & end at Christmas Tree Hill

MEDALS FOR TOP MALE & FEMALE FINISHERS IN EACH AGE GROUP

Register at Denich Gym

Trail will include: Ridgeline & Hartia Highway along with a few side trails.

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GUANTANAMO BAY
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FMI, call 2113

GTMO keeps dream alive

Story and photos by
Army Staff Sgt. Michael Davis Jr.

Uplifting songs of freedom were sung by Troopers, family members and civilians, as they marched alongside one another during a bright, sun-shining Monday morning here at Naval Station Guantanamo Bay.

Organized by the Black Heritage Organization (BHO) here in GTMO, the march started at the NEX atrium and ended at the NAVSTA Chapel, in which a ceremony followed. From commanding officers to junior enlisted Troopers, everyone gathered together on a national holiday to remember and celebrate Martin Luther King Jr. Day.

"It's about love. It's about equality," said Navy Capt. John R. Nettleton, commanding officer of GTMO.

Nettleton couldn't have said it better, as he shared his thoughts on Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. during his opening remarks that preceded the march.

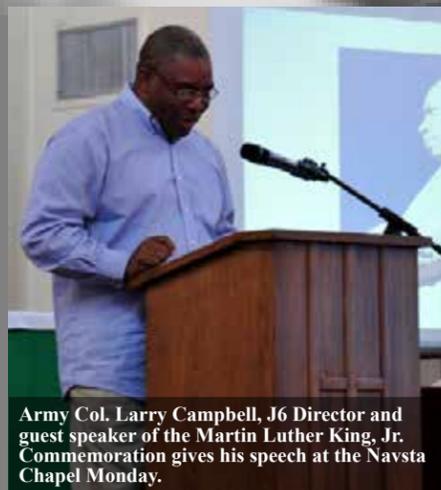
He also mentioned that his favorite quotes of King are "Darkness cannot drive out darkness; only light can do that," and "Hate cannot drive out hate; only love can do that."

As quotes were recited to set the tone for the gathering, there was no doubt that the

developed unity left no room for darkness nor hate as the bright sun shined down on the marchers singing songs such as, "Lift Every Voice and Sing," "We Shall Not Be Moved," "This Little Light of Mine," and "We Shall Overcome," just to name a few.

Smiles and laughter also made its way up to the Chapel.

BHO President Darrell "Sarge" Laborn, the master of ceremonies for the



Army Col. Larry Campbell, J6 Director and guest speaker of the Martin Luther King, Jr. Commemoration gives his speech at the Navsta Chapel Monday.

commemoration, thanked everyone for attending the event and started the ceremony by introducing the guest speaker.

"Remember! Celebrate! Act! A day on, not a day off!" proclaimed Army Col. Larry Campbell, J6 director for Joint Task Force Guantanamo.

He followed with mentioning a speech King gave in 1963 titled "Strength in Love." In regard to what African Americans faced during segregation and what King stood for, Campbell emphasized King's message that the ultimate measure of a man or woman is not where he or she stands in the moment of comfort and convenience but where he or she stands at the times of challenges and controversy.

The rest of Campbell's message was about King's biography and was aimed to motivate, encourage and inspire.

"He received a 'C' in his public speaking class," Campbell said. "That only shows us one must continue to work on one's craft."

One other relevant issue Campbell shared about King was related to a Sunday morning sermon he preached.

"He encouraged his congregation to seek greatness but to do so through service and love," Campbell said. "In the sermon, Dr.



Naval Station Guantanamo Bay community join and sing together in a march to celebrate and remember Martin Luther King Day on Monday morning.

King also states that the great task of life is essentially to transform our ego by redirecting our desires away from selfish, competitive goals and toward our spiritual growth and service to others."

Campbell closed his speech by saying that Dr. King's life was all about his dream and that his dream lives within each and every one of us.

Students at W.T. Sampson High School and Elementary School proved that King's dream even lives in the young children here at GTMO. Ahna Parker, a student at W.T. Sampson High School, won the essay contest that was organized by the BHO. The essay was read by the BHO Vice President Wanda Robinson. King's "I Have a Dream Speech" was then read by Isaiah and Janea Lezama, students at W.T. Sampson Elementary School.

In regard to the speech, there was a bond

that was displayed by everyone who attended the event from the very start of the march.

They marched to remember and celebrate the cause for "The Great March on Washington," which nearly 50 years ago was one of the largest political rallies for human rights in American history - civil and economic rights for all African Americans.

The march and King's historic "I Have a Dream Speech" that followed were credited with helping to pass the Civil Rights Act in 1964 and The Voting Rights Act in 1965.

King's dream about equality became a reality and echoed throughout the years. Here in GTMO there is not only a joint force working together under the Department of Defense but a diverse people of different races, ethnicities and religions working together on an island to support our long war on terror and national security.



Naval Station Guantanamo Bay community head toward the Navsta Chapel to partake in the Martin Luther King, Jr. Commemoration Monday morning.



Attendees take part in the Martin Luther King, Jr. Commemoration at the Navsta Chapel Monday.



Isaiah and Janea Lezama, students at W.T. Sampson Elementary recite the historic "I Have a Dream Speech" during a Martin Luther King, Jr. Commemoration at the Navsta Chapel.

President Obama recognizes military contributions during second inauguration



President Barack Obama delivers his inaugural address at the ceremonial swearing-in at the U.S. Capitol during the 57th Presidential Inauguration in Washington, D.C., on Monday. Obama honored service members and their contributions during his speech that officially kicked off his second term in office. Photo by Carolyn Kaster, Associated Press

Story by Donna Miles
American Forces Press Service

WASHINGTON – President Barack Obama took the ceremonial oath of office for his second term as the 44th U.S. president and commander in chief on the steps of the U.S. Capitol today, honoring the men and women in uniform who have preserved America’s freedoms throughout its history.

More than 5,000 military members – some participating in the Inaugural Parade, others playing musical accompaniment, firing artillery rounds into the sky or providing behind-the-scenes support – were among more than a half million people who gathered on the National Mall to watch Obama and Vice President Joe Biden enter their second term.

Recognizing the drawdown of forces in Afghanistan and the ramping down of more than a decade of conflict, Obama offered high praise during his inaugural address for U.S. service members, their contributions and sacrifices.

“Our brave men and women in uniform,

tempered by the flames of battle, are unmatched in skill and courage,” he said. “Our citizens, seared by the memory of those we have lost, know too well the price that is paid for liberty. The knowledge of their sacrifice will keep us forever vigilant against those who would do us harm.”

Obama expressed hope for a more peaceful future, noting that Americans understand that “enduring security and lasting peace do not require perpetual war.”

Americans are “heirs to those who won the peace and not just the war, who turned sworn enemies into the surest of friends,” the president said. “And we must carry those lessons into this time as well.”

The president affirmed the nation’s resolve to defend its people and uphold its values through both the “strength of arms and rule of law” – and with an arm extended to its friends as well as adversaries to help lay conditions for long-term peace.

“We will show the courage to try and resolve our differences with other nations peacefully – not because we are naïve about the dangers we face, but because engagement can more durably lift suspicion and

fear,” he said.

Meanwhile, “America will remain the anchor of strong alliances in every corner of the globe,” he said. “We will renew those institutions that extend our capacity to manage crisis abroad, for no one has a greater stake in a peaceful world than its most powerful nation.”

The United States will support democracy around the world, “because our interests and our conscience compel us to act on behalf of those who long for freedom,” Obama said. “And we must be a source of hope to the poor, the sick, the marginalized, the victims of prejudice – not out of mere charity, but because peace in our time requires the constant advance of those principles that our common creed describes: tolerance and opportunity; human dignity and justice.”

Obama urged the nation to put partisanship aside and come together to support their universal ideals. “With common effort and common purpose, with passion and dedication, let us answer the call of history, and carry into an uncertain future that precious light of freedom,” he said.



The Navy Band marches during the 57th Inauguration Day parade in Washington, D.C., on Monday. More than 2,100 service members from each of the five branches marched in the parade and about 5,000 additional troops supported inauguration festivities. Photo by E.J. Hersom, Department of Defense

Trooper Focus



PETTY OFFICER 3RD CLASS *Eric Gavin*

Story and photo by Army Sgt. Ferdinand Thomas

Q. WHO IS ERIC GAVIN?

I'M A COAST GUARDSMAN WITH A DREAM OF FLYING.

Q. HOW DID YOU SAY YOU GOT INTO WANTING TO BE A PILOT?

MY GRANDPA WAS A WORLD WAR II PILOT. MY DAD WAS A NAVY PILOT. AND EVER SINCE I CAN REMEMBER, I'VE ALWAYS WANTED TO BE A PILOT. I REMEMBER GOING TO MY FIRST AIR SHOW WITH MY DAD AND SEEING THE BLUE ANGELS FOR THE FIRST TIME. THAT WAS SUCH AN EXCITING FEELING. I JUST REMEMBER WANTING TO BE THOSE GUYS, UP IN THE AIR, FLYING HIGH, FLYING FAST. WHEN I WAS 16, I STARTED FLYING WITH MY DAD MORE. AFTER THAT, I STARTED TAKING LESSONS, GOING TO GROUND SCHOOL AND EVENTUALLY I EARNED MY PRIVATE PILOT'S LICENSE.

Q. HOW LONG DID IT TAKE TO EARN YOUR PILOT'S LICENSE?

IT TOOK SEVERAL YEARS. DURING THE COURSE OF THOSE YEARS, I WAS GOING TO COLLEGE AND WORKING FULL-TIME. IT COSTS MONEY, SO I DID IT WHEN I COULD.

Q. WHAT MADE YOU JOIN THE U.S. COAST GUARD?

I WAS PLAYING WATER POLO IN COLLEGE. I'VE ALWAYS WANTED TO BE IN THE MILITARY. I REMEMBER A FEW OF MY FRIENDS WERE ACTIVE DUTY IN THE COAST GUARD, AND A COUPLE OF MY WATER POLO BUDDIES WERE GOING INTO THE COAST GUARD. I RESEARCHED IT MORE, AND I LEARNED ABOUT THE MISSIONS OF THE COAST GUARD AND I FOUND OUT IT SUITED ME SO I PURSUED IT.

Q. HOW DOES IT MAKE YOU FEEL TO FLY?

I LOVE IT. I LOVE EVERY MINUTE OF IT EVERY TIME I GET UP IN THE AIR. AFTER I GOT MY PILOT'S LICENSE, I WANTED TO FLY AEROBATICS. ACTUALLY, BEFORE THIS DEPLOYMENT, I WAS TRAINING FOR MY FIRST AEROBATIC COMPETITION. IT WAS GOING TO TAKE PLACE THIS YEAR.

Q. HOW DOES WHAT YOU DO IN THE COAST GUARD TIE INTO YOU BEING A PILOT?

AS A PILOT, I'VE ACQUIRED A GREATER AMOUNT OF SITUATIONAL AWARENESS UNLIKE ANY OTHER. IT'S GIVEN ME THE ABILITY TO THINK CLEARLY AND CONCISELY. THE DISCIPLINE THAT IT TOOK TO FINISH THE PILOT'S LICENSE HAS GIVEN ME THE CONFIDENCE THAT I CAN FINISH ANYTHING IN THE COAST GUARD.

Q. WHAT IS YOUR JOB IN THE COAST GUARD?

I'M AN OPERATIONS SPECIALIST. HERE AT GTMO, I'M THE WATCH SUPERVISOR. I'M OVERSIGHT FOR OUR GUYS ON THE WATER.

Q. WHERE DO YOU PLAN FOR YOUR CAREER AS A PILOT TO TAKE YOU IN THE MILITARY?

I'VE ALWAYS HAD ASPIRATIONS TO BECOME A MILITARY PILOT. I WANT TO FLY HIGH AND FAST. I ALWAYS WANTED TO FLY JETS. SEEING THE TYPE OF PEOPLE I WORK WITH, I'M LOOKING MORE INTO FLYING HELICOPTERS AND RUNNING RESCUE MISSIONS. THAT'S PORTRAYING THE COAST GUARD RIGHT THERE.



Sexual Assault Prevention and Response (SAPR)

Reporting Options for Victims of Sexual Assault (Service Members and their Dependents Over the Age of 18):

Unrestricted Reporting

- Victims can receive advocacy, counseling, medical treatment, AND an official investigation.

Restricted Reporting

- Victims may confidentially disclose details of a sexual assault to: Installation Sexual Assault Response Coordinator (SARC), SAPR Victim Advocate (VA), Healthcare Provider (to include Fleet and Family Support Center counselors), and/or Chaplain.

Restricted reporting does not trigger a command report or official investigation. Victims selecting restricted reporting will be able to receive the same support services (advocacy, counseling, medical treatment, etc.) as victims selecting unrestricted reporting.

DoD Safe Helpline (877) 995-5247 SAPR VA 84578 SARC 4227/84577



Trail Blazers spruce up GTMO hiking trails



One Trooper mans a lawn mower while another Trooper mans a weed trimmer as part of a group working with the Trail Blazers to clean and clear Hutia Highway on Saturday. A total of 36 Troopers performed maintenance on three Naval Station Guantanamo Bay hiking trails during the event.

Story and photo by Army Sgt. Jonathan Monfiletto

After a two-month hiatus for the holidays, the Trail Blazers were back at it again on Saturday, cleaning and clearing the hiking trails of Naval Station Guantanamo Bay, so that they and other GTMO residents can continue to enjoy them.

And they came out in full force for Saturday's event.

While a typical Trail Blazers event draws just a handful of volunteers to help spruce up the hiking trails, Saturday's event drew 36 participants ready to go to work on the trails.

The Trail Blazers is a group of Troopers that spends one day a month cleaning up the trails in an effort to leave GTMO nicer when they leave than it was when they arrived. Since the group started its work nearly two years ago, its membership has changed as units depart Joint Task Force Guantanamo, but the mission is the same.

While the main mission for the Trail Blazers is to maintain the many trails around GTMO so that the community can continue to enjoy them for hiking, running or biking, Saturday's event was also meant to prepare the trails for the Morale, Welfare & Recreation 10-Mile Trail Run scheduled for this Saturday.

"The goal today was to get out here and improve the trails," said Army Master Sgt. Luis Cora, of the Joint Detention Group, the current Trail Blazers organizer. "We haven't been able to get a chance because of the holiday schedule to really hit the trails, but there's a 10-mile trail run coming up on the 26th and we wanted to impact the trails this weekend as much as we could."

With so many volunteers at hand and ready to be put to work, the Trail Blazers were able to accomplish their goal in just a few hours on Saturday morning. After meeting next to the Joint Troop Clinic, the volunteers split up into three different groups and performed maintenance on Hutia Highway, Tarantula Trail, and Boa Breezeway.

Another smaller group went out to a section of Ridgeline Trail, which will be included in the route for the 10-miler, to clear it in preparation for Saturday's race. Cora pointed to the large turnout as the reason why the Trail Blazers were able to accomplish so much in a relatively short period of time.

"It was the biggest [we've ever had]," Cora said of the number of volunteers. "We had a large scope of people that came out to help today, and I just really appreciate the help. Everybody did their part."

Cora also noted the people who make up the Trail Blazers are a lot of the same people who use the trails for recreational purposes, so their service is a way for them to return the favor to the base for a hobby they get to enjoy during their time at GTMO.

"We all get out here and enjoy the trails, and why not give it a little back?" he said. "Why not keep them up? Why not maintain them? I think it's a way of giving back to the community as a whole here at GTMO."

The large turnout on Saturday also brought some first-time participants to a Trail Blazers event.

With Cora preparing to leave the island soon, he is glad to know there are people willing to continue the Trail Blazers' efforts to maintain the trails.

"It feels like you're passing the baton," he said. "It's time for another group to take over and see if they can improve it even more. Today's turnout is definitely a blessing because I think there's a lot more that's going to be done in the future with the trails."

MWR Does Something Fishy



Army Sgt. Darryl Penn, a training sergeant and food service specialist with the 189th Military Police fishes during an MWR sponsored fishing trip Saturday.



A trooper displays one of the fish he caught on an MWR fishing trip Saturday.

Story by Spc. Cody Campana,
Photos by Army Pfc. Chalon Hutson

Just as the Sun was creeping over the horizon on Saturday morning, unaccompanied Troopers gathered at Naval Station Guantanamo Bay's Marina for a day of free fishing.

The Morale, Welfare, and Recreation event started just as the daylight broke on the island, but still many troopers showed up for the event. For some it would be their first time fishing here, but for Army Sgt. Darryl Penn it would add to one of his many fishing experiences on the bay.

Penn, a training sergeant and food service specialist with the 189th Military Police, said he has gone on many MWR fishing excursions while here.

"I've been here five months now and I've gone at least six times," he said, "I do a lot of fishing, plus it's free. I take advantage of that, so I don't spend a lot of money."

While Penn does like fishing for free with MWR, he did note that he likes to go fishing on his own as well.

"My first weekend here I was actually fishing, and I've probably been

fishing here at least 12 to 15 times," said Penn.

Penn, a fisherman at home as well, said that the island has given him a chance to experience a different type of fishing than he is used to.

"I actually only fresh water fished before I came to GTMO," Penn stated, "GTMO was the first time I have ever salt water fished, and after the first time I fell in love with it."

"The best part about saltwater fishing here in GTMO is that the fish are much bigger and there are many different kinds to fish for," Penn noted.

"You have a variety of ways to fish around here, and a variety of fish to fish for," Penn said, "I'm aiming for snapper and king mackerel, but the only things I've been able to catch so far are barracuda and snapper."

The largest fish he has caught in the bay was a 12 pound barracuda, he said. He also noted that he has had quite some luck fishing in a few key areas of the bay.

"The best places to fish are over

between buoys two and three and by the Phillip Dive Park," said Penn, "In my experience those are the best places."

Penn also said that the time of day is a large factor in what type of fish and the quantity of fish you are able to catch in the bay.

"Snapper you can catch during the day and night, but mostly jacks are caught during the night times," he said. "Sometimes we'll catch a cooler full of fish at night!"

Many could wonder what to do with a cooler full of fish. Some people would sell them, others may keep them all to themselves, but Penn has other means of disposing of his trophies.

"Most of the time I just give them away," he said.

If the fish is big enough he will eat them, said Penn, but he fishes for the fun and for the sport of it.

"More people should come out and fish. It's fun and it's relaxing," Penn stated, "If anyone needs a great stress reliever they should come and fish. That's why I do it."



If Shoes Could Talk

Column by Spc. Jessica Randon

If shoes could talk, what would they say? Even more so, if your civilian shoes could speak to your combat boots, what would they say? I was asked this question once, and I could not put my finger on the significance of it all. Why shoes specifically?

"Sometimes comfort doesn't matter. When a shoe is freakin' fabulous, it may be worth a subsequent day of misery. Soak in Epsom salts, and take comfort in the fact that you're better than everyone else," says Clinton Kelly of TLC's *What Not to Wear*.

Every day when we wake and lace up our boots, we are continuing our commitment to defend the Constitution of the United States of America. My combat boots may not be stilettos or knee high boots, but they are so fashionable and elite that only one percent of America's population can wear them like I do. Sometimes they hurt my feet, but the pain is always temporary because the pride I have in wearing these shoes lasts forever. Although we all made the same commitment and carry the same pride, our reasons for lacing up our boots every morning are all different.

Diversity is one thing that we are constantly surrounded by in the military. We have males and females from all walks of life, and although we all wear the same uniform and combat boots, it doesn't mean that we have all been to the same places or seen the same things.

What should have been my freshman year of college, I spent wearing combat boots in Baghdad, Iraq. Sometimes, I would think about

friends back home wearing their flip flops and sneakers and going to school, living that 'college' type of life. The sergeant major that was over my unit at the time would always remind me that I could always go to college when I got home and still experience the 'college' life. But, the chances of my friends back home going to Baghdad and experiencing my life would most likely never happen. This is just one instance where my combat boots gained a story that my civilian shoes could never tell.

Look at your shoes. I know it sounds silly, but do it. If they could speak, what would be said? Ultimately, your response will be a small reflection of why you continue lacing up your boots every morning or why you don't plan on doing so much longer.

A friend of mine who I served with a while back responded to this same question with, "Well, not sure if this is what you're looking for, but my 'mom shoes' told my combat boots it was time to get out while my combat boots screamed, 'we want to continue fighting.' In the end, my mom shoes won."

Your combat boots may have been to many places and seen many things that your civilian shoes could never fathom. Or it could be the other way around. Regardless of your specific reasoning or which shoe had the better response, all stories are worth sharing because they are puzzle pieces to who you are. Carry pride in what you

come up with and know that it is you.

People always say that you can tell a lot about a person by how they care for their shoes. But what can your shoes tell about you? Regardless of the shoes you put on in the morning, have confidence in how you wear them and the stories they tell. So, again, from me to you, be you, be true, be beautiful.

"Sometimes comfort doesn't matter. When a shoe is freakin' fabulous, it may be worth a subsequent day of misery. Soak in Epsom salts, and take comfort in the fact that you're better than everyone else."

-Clinton Kelly

Trooper to Trooper

Honor bound to lead

1ST SGT. THOMAS PATRICK
FIRST SERGEANT, 428TH MILITARY POLICE CO.

I recently challenged my noncommissioned officers to enlighten me on their leadership philosophy. In doing so, I shared with them my beliefs on basic leadership fundamentals and asked for a candid reply on what it means to lead. I wanted them to take a hard look in the mirror and peel back the layers of what they believe in and what it means to serve.

This task was two-fold: First, it was about reflection and, for some, this was about recalibration. Second, it provided me the chance to further understand what makes each of my NCOs uniquely different from one another. I won't say that I was surprised by what they had to say. I believe I have some of the greatest NCOs in the Army. The 428th Military Police Company has a commitment to lead and uphold the standards of the Joint Task Force Guantanamo mission. Each Soldier is extremely proud to serve and contribute to the overseas contingency operation, which is evident in our company motto, "Strength in Justice."

A leader IS NOT defined by the title of a person's rank or position. An effective leader is someone who has the perseverance to achieve objectives and who has the ability to utilize all available resources to get the job done. As noncommissioned officers, we have an inherent responsibility to lead Soldiers in an environment that is rapidly changing and continually challenging. Therefore, we must have the ability to adapt and react to change. It's my opinion that there are three main elements to effectively lead at any level. These elements are equally applicable in a strategic mission such as the detainee operations mission here at JTF GTMO.

First, the NCO must understand the goals of the JTF and align these requirements with his or her team goals and abide by these

goals much like our core values. Second, the NCO's job is to influence those he or she leads on the importance of these goals through positive influence and ultimately holding them accountable for their actions. Lastly, the most important task of a leader is to maintain focus on the ultimate goal of our mission: We are "Honor Bound to Defend Freedom."

Without leadership that lives by values and a firm commitment to the mission statement, the JTF would fail and the scope of the mission would inevitably change. Without a clear understanding of our purpose, there can be no clear vision for the future. Understanding the importance of serving with honor and the strategic impacts of decisions that could bring discredit to all we've done must always be in the forefront of our minds.

To effectively lead you must have the ability to positively influence others to be professional in the face of adversity and under the most stressful and volatile situations. So, how do you influence in a positive way rather than a negative way?

First, you must earn respect by being loyal to those you serve. Respect is much more than a routine display of military customs and courtesies in your presence. It's about earning trust through your actions and values and not bringing discredit to the stripes you've been afforded the opportunity to wear. To truly influence, you must be an effective mentor. Competence is your watchword, and you must share your knowledge to successfully develop future leaders. Competent leaders will take action in the absence of orders and provide clarity during the fog of war. Those you serve will remain loyal to you and look to you for direction and guidance regardless of the situation. This is positive influence.

The most important task of a leader is to maintain focus on the mission: Honor Bound to Defend Freedom. Without this goal as our guiding principle, then we may



only be rewarded with short-term success and we'd inevitably fail in the long run. Without adaptive leaders who can lead and influence these common goals, it is unlikely that we could endure long-lasting success against the enemy. NCOs are the backbone and must lead and enforce standards at all levels. Choose the hard right over the easy wrong, and do what's right when no one else is looking. NCOs most always lead from the front and DO as they SAY and not just SAY what they DO.

I'm often humbled by the gratitude of the American people and the greatness that exists in our ranks. I take great pride from being afforded the privilege to serve and lead Soldiers at the team, squad, platoon, detachment and company level. Our military has seen great success thanks to the resolve of all of us who have chosen to put freedom first and fight for what our founding fathers believed in. The resiliency of our Troopers is realized every day at GTMO and across the globe in our relentless pursuit of justice. It's a result of outstanding leadership and the positive influence on those we serve. We are "Honor Bound to Defend Freedom."

	25 FRI	26 SAT	27 SUN	28 MON	29 TUE	30 WED	31 THU
Downtown Lyceum	This is 40 (NEW) (R) 7 p.m. Killing Them Softly (R) 9 p.m.	Cirque du Soleil (PG) 7 p.m. Gangster Squad (R) 9 p.m.	Monsters Inc. (G) 7 p.m.	The Hobbit (PG-13) 7 p.m.	Playing for Keeps (PG-13) 7 p.m.	Red Dawn (Last showing) (PG-13) 7 p.m.	Cirque du Soleil (PG) 7 p.m.
Camp Bulkeley	Red Dawn (Last showing) (PG-13) 8 p.m. Playing for Keeps (PG-13) 10 p.m.	This is 40 (NEW) (R) 8 p.m. Killing Them Softly (R) 10 p.m.	Cirque du Soleil (PG) 8 p.m.	Monsters Inc. (G) 8 p.m.	Killing Them Softly (Last showing) (R) 8 p.m.	Gangster Squad (R) 8 p.m.	The Hobbit (PG-13) 8 p.m.

Call the movie hotline at 4880 or visit the MWR Facebook page for more information.

GTMO RELIGIOUS SERVICES

For more information, contact the NAVSTA Chaplain's Office at 2323 or the JTF Chaplain's Office at 2309

NAVSTA MAIN CHAPEL

Daily Catholic Mass
Tues.-Fri. 5:30 p.m.

Vigil Mass

Saturday 5 p.m.

Mass

Sunday 9 a.m.

Spanish-language Mass

Sunday 4:35 p.m.

General Protestant

Sunday 11 a.m.

Gospel Service

Sunday 1 p.m.

Christian Fellowship

Sunday 6 p.m.

CHAPEL ANNEXES

Protestant Communion

Sunday 9:30 a.m. Room B

Pentecostal Gospel

Sunday 8 a.m. & 5 p.m. Room D

LDS Service

Sunday 10 a.m. Room A

Islamic Service

Friday 1 p.m. Room 2

JTF TROOPER CHAPEL

Protestant Worship

Sunday 9 a.m.

Bible Study

Wednesday 6 p.m.

GTMO BUS SCHEDULE

All buses run on the hour,
7 days/week, from 5 a.m. to 1 a.m.

Bus	#1	#2	#3	
96 Man Camp	:31	:51	:11	
NEX	:33	:53	:13	
Gold Hill Galley	:37	:57	:17	
Windjammer/Gym	:36	:56	:16	
West Iguana	:39	:59	:19	
TK 1	:40	:00	:20	
TK 2	:43	:03	:23	
TK 3	:45	:05	:25	
TK 4	:47	:07	:27	
KB 373	:50	:10	:30	
Camp Delta 1	:52	:12	:32	
IOF	:54	:14	:34	
NEX Trailer	:57	:17	:37	
Gazebo	:58	:18	:38	
Camp America	:00	:20	:40	

GTMO Beach Bus Schedule

Saturdays and Sundays only

Location	Run #1	Run #2	Run #3	Run #4
Windward Loop/ East Caravella	0900	1200	1500	1800
SBOQ/Marina	0905	1205	1505	1805
NEX	0908	1208	1508	1808
Phillips Park	0914	1214	1514	1814
Cable Beach	0917	1217	1517	1817
NEX	0925	1225	1525	1825
Windward Loop/ East Caravella	0930	1230	1530	1830
SBOQ/Marina	0935	1235	1535	1835
Return to Office	0940	1240	1540	1840

PROTECT YOUR INFO!



ALERT Don't go to the website Wikileaks!

Have you ever wondered what is on the website WikiLeaks? The answer is classified information that should not have been released. If you attempt to visit the WikiLeaks website from any computer, personal or government, you are violating Department of Defense policy and can be punished under article 92 of the Uniform Code of Military Justice. If you attempt to gather information to post to WikiLeaks or another website or in any way release information to the public, you can be held accountable for your actions. Use common sense. USE OPSEC!

SAFE RIDE – 84781

*Thursday
Night*

**BOWLING
LEAGUE**



3 People
Per
Team

Every Thursday | Starting January, 31 2013

6:30 P.M. | ADULT LEAGUE

Register at Marblehead Lanes by Jan. 31

Fmi, call 2050 or 2118



BOWLING

League Meeting: *January, 24 2013. Anyone may attend. The cost of the league will be decided. This is a prize fund, handicap league.*