

THE WIRE

The official publication of

Joint Task Force Guantanamo



OPSEC!

Ensuring the safety of every Trooper

The Maritime Security Detachment

Keeping a watchful eye on GTMO's waters

Marathon: stretching yourself

AROUND THE BAY

AND IN OUR PAGES



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What you think you knew and a lot you didn't



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Young Soldier already a DJ, producer



Cover Story

Cover photo by Sgt. Cassandra Monroe

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BAY WIRE REPORT

Food for the soul



The Guantanamo Bay Black Heritage Organization will host a banquet for Black Heritage month Saturday, Feb. 22, at the Bayview.

The event starts at 6 p.m., with the banquet beginning at 7 p.m. Tickets cost \$35 and valet parking is available.

Semi-formal attire is requested. For more information contact Mr. Caton at ext. 79449.

Scheduled power outage

An upcoming power outage at the Villamar substation will occur Friday, Feb. 7, from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Affected areas include: Bargo (all), East Caravella, Nob Hill, Windward Loop, Caravella, Villamar, Granadillo Point, Lassiter Fuel Farm (including Toltest office), Landfill, Vet Clinic, Housing Self-help Store, Cable Station, TV Station and the BR Compound.

Main NEX inventory hours

The main NEX will close Saturday, Feb. 1, at 5 p.m., to perform its annual inventory inspection. Please be sure to make all final purchases by 5 p.m.



MOTIVATOR
OF THE WEEK

SPC Ian Bartholomew
591st Military Police Company

BM3 Nicholas Leonard
Port Security Unit 301

Sweethearts 4ever 4-miler

Sunday, Feb. 9, 8 a.m.
Camp America



Do you have a sweetheart back home who enjoys running? Have them join you in a shadow run between a state-side location at GTMO. For more info, contact Lt. Cmdr. Cynthia Holland at ext. 9717. Open to JTF GTMO personnel only.

CORRECTIONS Please report all corrections to thewire@jftgtmo.southcom.mil



THE WIRE

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Religious Services

NAVSTA Chapel

Catholic Mass
Mon.-Thur. 5:30 p.m.
Saturday 5 p.m.
Sunday 9 a.m.

Protestant Services

General Protestant
Sunday 11 a.m.
Gospel Worship
Sunday 1 p.m.

Chapel Annexes

Pentecostal Gospel
Sunday 8 a.m. & 5 p.m.,
Room D

LDS Service
Sunday 10 a.m., Room 19

Islamic Service
Friday, 1:15 p.m., Room 2

Seventh Day Adventist
Friday, 7 p.m., Room 1
Sabbath School: Saturday 9:30 a.m.,
Room 1
Sabbath Service: Saturday 11:00 a.m.,
Room 1

JTF Trooper Chapel

Protestant Worship
Sunday 6:40 a.m.
Sunday 9 a.m.
Sunday 7 p.m.

Transportation Schedules

Bus #1, 2, 3:

Camp America - :00, :20, :40
Gazebo - :01, :21, :41
Camp America NEX - :02, :22, :42
Camp Delta - :04, :24, :44
Camp 6 - :07, :27, :47
TK 4 - :13, :33, :53
JAS - :14, :34, :54
TK 3 - :15, :35, :55
TK 2 - :16, :36, :56
TK 1 - :17, :37, :57
CC - :19, :39, :59
Windjammer/Gym - :22, :42, :02
Gold Hill Galley - :24, :44, :04
NEX - :26, :46, :06
NEX Laundry - :27, :47, :07
C Pool - :30, :50, :10
Downtown Lyceum - :31, :51, :11
NEX - :33, :53, :13
Gold Hill Galley - :35, :55, :15
Windjammer/Gym - :37, :57, :17
CC - :40, :00, :20
TK 1 - :41, :01, :21
TK 2 - :42, :02, :22
TK 3 - :43, :03, :23
TK 4 - :44, :04, :24
Camp 6 - :50, :10, :30
Camp Delta - :53, :13, :33
HQ Building - :55, :15, :35
Camp America NEX - :57, :17, :37
Gazebo - :58, :18, :38
Camp America - :00, :20, :40

NEX Express Bus

9:55 a.m. - 7:55 p.m.
Every hour at the stated times

Camp America - :55, :48
TK 1 - :05, :36
Denich Gym/Windjammer - :11, :31
Gold Hill Galley - :14, :29
NEX - :16, :27
Downtown Lyceum - :17, :25

Beach Bus

Sat. and Sun. only - Location #1-4

Windward Loop
9 a.m., 12 p.m., 3 p.m., 6 p.m.

East Caravella
SBOQ/Marina
9:05 a.m., 12:05 p.m., 3:05 p.m.

NEX
9:08 a.m., 12:08 p.m.,
3:08 p.m., 6:08 p.m.

Phillips Park
9:14 a.m., 12:14 p.m.,
3:14 p.m.

Cable Beach
9:17 a.m., 12:17 p.m.,
3:17 p.m.

Windward Loop
9:30 a.m., 12:30 p.m.,
3:30 p.m.

NEX
9:25 a.m., 12:25 p.m.,
3:25 p.m., 6:25 p.m.

SBOQ/MARINA
9:35 a.m., 12:35 p.m., 3:35 p.m.

Return to Office
9:40 a.m., 12:40 p.m., 3:40 p.m.

JOINT TASK FORCE GUANTANAMO



SAFE



HUMANE



LEGAL



TRANSPARENT

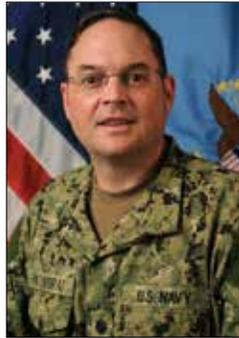


Fair winds and following seas

By Cmdr. John Filostrat
Director, Public Affairs Office

Units are constantly rotating in and out of Joint Task Force Guantanamo. In February, your public affairs team will be turning over. The 133rd Mobile Public Affairs Detachment from the Kentucky National Guard and the 120th Public Affairs Detachment from the Indiana National Guard will depart JTF GTMO and the 107th MPAD from the Florida National Guard will join the team. To the professional communicators from Indiana and Kentucky – thank you all for a job well done. You can all be proud of the work with the media and “The Wire.” As we say in the Navy, “fair winds and following seas.”

Welcome to the Soldiers of the 107th MPAD. You are joining a team of professional military men and women who are dedicated to the mission of safe, humane, legal and transparent



Cmdr. John Filostrat

care and custody of the detainees. I know you will be successful during your tour here, and maintain the excellent media and communication support.

We have a busy month in February supporting the military commissions, which is a form of military tribunal convened to try individuals for unlawful conduct associated with war. Foreshadowed by military tribunals convened during the American Revolution, the term “military commission” first became common in the U.S. during the Mexican-American War of the mid-19th century. They are rooted in U.S. law and in the international laws of war.

Today, a Convening Authority appointed by the U.S. Secretary of Defense convenes military commissions under the Military Commissions Act of 2009, passed by the U.S. Congress and signed by the President. The process will continue throughout 2014 and the JTF GTMO media team will facilitate the dozens of reporters who cover the military commissions.

I am proud to be serving with all of you at JTF GTMO. Honor bound!

TROOPER TO TROOPER

Building, growing our Military to ensure effective leaders

By Sgt. Maj. Michael Baker
Sergeant Major, 525th Military Police Bn.



Sgt. Maj. Michael Baker

Unfortunately, in the past, the military has lost the trust and confidence of those we swore to protect by putting ourselves in situations that brought discredit to the United States. We’ve endured the Tail Hook scandal, in which our military leaders acted improperly and indecently; the Aberdeen Proving Grounds scandal where officers and noncommissioned officers took advantage of trainees; the mistreatment of detainees and lack of leadership involvement at Abu Ghraib; and most recently, an Air Force General, who was responsible for nuclear missiles, was relieved for inappropriate personal behavior. These are examples of how the trust between the people of the United States and its military can be compromised. We must ensure we always

serve with honor and not allow ourselves to discredit the military or our profession and if we identify someone who is attempting to bring discredit upon us, we must take action and be a good steward of the profession. We do this with the training of our subordinates for the future, and prepare them to eventually take over our duties and responsibilities. Leaders have the long-term responsibility to build and grow our Army and ensure the future development and effectiveness of our Soldiers. We have programs such as the Officer Development Program and Noncommissioned Officer Development Program that ensure the current force, and the force of 2020, is set and prepared for the uncertainties of the future. Lastly, as the stewards of the profession we uphold our immense duties. This sentiment is captured in the last sentence of our oaths, “... and that I will well and faithfully discharge the duties of the office upon which I am about to enter.” Having the tremendous responsibility to be a steward of the profession is not something anyone can do, but it is something we as military professionals hold true and do on a daily basis.

In the Joint Task Force, we are priv-

ileged to have one of the most important and historic missions occurring or having occurred in Operation Enduring Freedom and Overseas Contingency Operations (formerly known as The Global War on Terror). We are part of an organization that is trusted and self-policing, which develops and applies expert knowledge and expertise to accomplish the mission. We provide a service to society that has not gone unnoticed, but we have the inherent responsibility to ensure we maintain the trust of society. We do this by being a good steward of our resources and ensure we’re accomplishing our mission expertly, honorably and ethically. Failing is not an option and we must continue to hold those accountable that dismiss the profession when violating regulations.

Having the opportunity to be part of the less than 1 percent of Americans that serve this great nation and to be called a professional is something each of us must take seriously. It’s essential for each of us to protect our great profession and ensure each of our Warriors understands their role and responsibilities that guarantee the future of our military is as great, and better, as it was yesterday.

Origins of the marathon

By **Cmdr. Terry Eddinger**
Chaplain, Joint Task Force Guantanamo

Have you heard the story of the original marathon race, how Pheidippides ran 25 miles from the Plain of Marathon to Athens to tell the city of the Greek victory, and then he collapsed and died? This isn't the whole story, or even the best part of it.

In 490 B.C., the Persians invaded the coastal areas of Greece with an army of more than 25,000 Soldiers (perhaps as many as 100,000), 1,000 cavalry, and 600 ships. The Athenians could only muster about 10,000 Soldiers for the battle. They needed help from the Spartans, a city-state of Warriors, located about 140 miles south of Athens. Around Aug. 5, the Athenians sent Pheidippides, an Athenian professional messenger and Warrior, to Sparta to ask for assistance. The Spartans declined due to a religious festival, although they agreed to come in about two weeks at the end of the festival. Pheidippides returned to

Athens on foot, delivered the bad news of Sparta's refusal, and joined up with the army. The Athenian army marched from Athens to Marathon, about 25 miles, to meet the Persian army on the Plain of Marathon. The Athenian army formed up at two narrow passes and blocked the only roads to Athens. On the morning of Aug. 12, Greeks formed up for battle and ran to meet the Persians. The Greek center intentionally allowed the Persians to penetrate their line while their reinforced flanks held in place. The Persians now found themselves fighting on three sides. The Persians retreated in a panic toward their ships three miles away. The Greeks pursued them, killing as they went. By noon, the fighting was over. The Persians lost. More than 6,400 Persians died, while the Athenians lost 192 and the Plataeans lost 11.

Instead of the Persians heading for Asia Minor, their

home, they headed around Cape Sounion for Athens. They could sail this distance in eight to 10 hours. The Persian commander intended to attack Athens, which now was undefended. The Athenian army commander recognized the Persian tactic and ordered the entire army to run to Athens.

Legend has it that Pheidippides ran to deliver the news of the Athenian victory to the citizens of Athens as well as warn them that the Persian fleet was coming. Pheidippides died from exhaustion immediately after reporting the news.

Imagine walking 25 miles a few days earlier in full battle rattle, fighting an intense battle in the morning, and then running a marathon in full battle rattle in the afternoon! That's what they did.

When the Persian fleet reached Athens, they saw warriors standing on the

walls and on the beach ready to defend the city. Demoralized and amazed at the presence of the Athenian warriors, the Persians hung around for a few days on their ships. Then they decided to head for home. Subsequent generations of Greeks celebrated the Athenian warriors for their heroic efforts at the Battle of Marathon. The celebration focused as much on their running abilities as they did for their fighting skills.

This is the story of the first marathon race. It was run not only by one tired messenger, who ran more than 330 miles in less than eight days, but also by a nearly 10,000-person army in full battle rattle!

If you ran the MWR marathon, remember that you are following in the tradition of what a group of Warriors did more than 2,500 years ago. ♦



Dumpster Diving 101

Dumpster diving is performed randomly at the JTF to see what information people might have let slip through and thrown away. Personal information is most commonly tossed out in the form of unwanted mail or envelopes with addresses, along with tidbits of work info. Schedules, calendar events and phone numbers jotted down on sticky-notes are also easy to forget. We have a 100 percent shred policy that needs to be followed for everyone's protection. If your name or information is found in the trash you could be subject to UCMJ punishment. Don't let a simple thing like trash get you in hot water, use OPSEC and shred all paper!



Software Improvements

New security technologies and software development methodologies have drastically improved the security posture of software and systems released over the last decade. Specifically, new software anti-exploitation features in conjunction with the adoption of systematic development processes have contributed to this improvement. Obtaining value from software improvements is only possible through product upgrades and timely deployment of patches.

Information Assurance





47 disavowed Ronin

Review by Sgt. David Bolton

Copy Editor, thewire@jftgmo.southcom.mil

The storyline of “47 Ronin” is steeped in the old ways of Japanese culture; dealing with the ideals of honor, courage and loyalty. The film is very reminiscent of the Kurasawa films of the 1950s in many respects.

Whereas other movies of this type, like “The Last Samurai,” set the western protagonist in the center of a story that revolves around him, “47 Ronin” assumes Kai (Keanu Reeves) is already part of the story itself. The movie isn’t so much about Kai, as it is the quest he and his ronin are undertaking and the motives that drive them.

The CGI images of the film flow flawlessly into the actual sets for a harmonious and visually stunning treat for the eyes. The



sets and scenery were meticulously detailed in every way to give the audience a real feel of the world of ancient Japan. The costume design was spot on; even down to the nuances like the facial paint of the Shogun’s concubines.

For having not made a movie in a while, Reeves really pulled this off with his “strong, silent-type performance.” For slicing its way through an army of Samurai, demons and magic with a sacred Tengu kitana, I give “47 Ronin” five honorable banana rats. 🍌



Courtesy Universal Pictures



“Rocky” and “Raging Bull” clash in “Grudge Match”

Review by Sgt. Cody Stagner

JTF PAO, thewire@jftgmo.southcom.mil

In “Grudge Match,” Razor (Sylvester Stallone) and Kid (Robert De Niro), two former light-heavyweight champions, come out of boxing retirement to settle the score on a 30-year-old title bout that never happened.

Long after hanging up their gloves, Razor and Kid’s legendary rivalry once again becomes main stream news when witnesses capture a hostile reunion of the two aging boxers and the video goes viral.

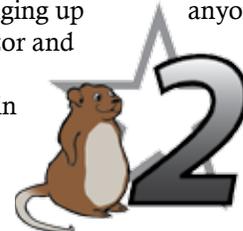
It’s obvious the writers of this film intended to answer a generation-old question: ‘Who would win a match between fictional boxing greats Rocky Balboa (Stallone) and Jake LaMotta

(De Niro)?’

As a big fan of “Rocky” and “Raging Bull,” I immediately pictured a dramatic sports movie of epic proportion and multiple tie-ins to former days of Balboa and LaMotta. A little nostalgia never hurt anyone.

Unfortunately, the only thing epic within this movie was the age of our stars. I believe this idea would have played much smoother if Stallone and De Niro didn’t look like they would break a hip just from entering the ring.

Kid vs. Razor falls well short of Rocky vs. LaMotta, but for reminding us why we loved the classics and the occasional elderly joke, I give this film two banana rats. 🍌



Now Showing!

at the Downtown and Camp Bulkeley Lyceums

Call the Movie Hotline at ext. 4880 or visit the MWR Facebook page for more information
Stay classy, GTMO! No ALCOHOL or TOBACCO at the Lyceums!

	31 FRIDAY	01 SATURDAY	02 SUNDAY	03 MONDAY	04 TUESDAY	05 WEDNESDAY	06 THURSDAY
CAMP BULKELEY DOWNTOWN	The Secret Life of Walter Mitty (New) PG, 7 p.m. 47 Ronin PG13, 9:15 p.m.	Grudge Match PG13, 7 p.m. Paranormal Activity: The Marked Ones (New) R, 9:15 p.m.	The Nut Job PG, 6 p.m. Anchorman 2: The Legend Continues PG13, 8 p.m.	Lone Survivor R, 7 p.m.	The Hobbit: The Desolation of Smaug (LS) PG13, 7 p.m.	American Hustle R, 7 p.m.	Jack Ryan: Shadow Recruit PG13, 7 p.m.
	Paranormal Activity: The Marked Ones (New) R, 8 p.m. Grudge Match PG13, 10 p.m.	The Secret Life of Walter Mitty (New) PG13, 8 p.m. 47 Ronin PG13, 10:15 p.m.	Savings Mr. Banks PG13, 8 p.m.	Lyceum closed Note: Concessions at Camp Bulkeley are also closed every night until further notice.	Anchorman 2: The Legend Continues PG13, 8 p.m.	Lyceum closed Note: Concessions at Camp Bulkeley are also closed every night until further notice.	The Hobbit: The Desolation of Smaug (LS) PG13, 8 p.m.

Operation Purple Dragon: Training new OPSEC practitioners



Story and photos by Staff Sgt. Rebecca Wood
JTF PAO, thewire@jtfgtmo.southcom.mil

This story is part one of a three part series

More than 25 Joint Task Force personnel participated in a four-day Operations Security Analysis and Program Management Course Jan. 13, to Jan 16., at U.S. Naval Station Guantanamo Bay, Cuba. The course was taught by members of the Joint Information Operations Warfare Center from San Antonio, Texas.

“This course was a great way to for me to identify aspects of OPSEC that I wasn’t aware of before,” said Staff Sgt. Caleb Guillory, an operations noncommissioned officer with the 2228th Military Police Company. “I now have policies and procedures that I can implement back in my unit and make Soldiers fully aware of what OPSEC really means.”

Operations security is defined as measures that must be taken by the government, organization or individual to identify, control and protect unclassified information in order to deny or mitigate an adversary or competitor’s ability to compromise or interrupt an operation or activity.

The 40-hour class helped the students understand why they need to protect critical information with the use of examples not normally discussed in common annual OPSEC briefings.



Brian Danahey, an instructor for the OPSEC 2500 course, teaches how to relay information about Operations Security to personnel from Joint Task Force Guantanamo Bay, Jan. 15.

“The class was very eye opening,” said Army 1st Lt. Alex Burton, security manager for the 491st MP Co., “it made you think that some of the pleasures we have—like smart phones—are not as secure as we were made to believe. I immediately put a password on my phone at the first break to give myself a little protection.”

Christopher R. Turner Sr., one of JIOWC instructors for the OPSEC course, said throughout the eight years he has been an instructor, he has seen a positive shift in military personnel.

“We are getting better



Army 1st Lt. Alex Burton, security manager, for the 491st Military Police Company, takes part in a discussion about Operations Security during the OPSEC 2500 course at Joint Task Force Guantanamo Bay, Cuba Jan. 15.

trained OPSEC program managers who understand that this responsibility is not just another collateral duty,” said Turner. “They strive to run their unit’s OPSEC programs in a more dedicated way.”

“We also are seeing more of the commanders taking ownership of the program,” he said. “This is amazing because OPSEC, as a practice, simply does not work without the senior leadership’s support. Even with the most dedicated OPSEC program manager, the leaders have to set the standard for the rest of the workforce.”

The senior leadership at Guantanamo Bay views operations security as an important puzzle piece to an even larger picture of what makes up the JTF.

JTF Commander, Navy Rear Adm. Richard W. Butler, showed his support by making an appearance on the last day of training to congratulate the troops and to present certificates.

OPSEC Gabe, JTF OPSEC program manager, is in charge of the awareness and training of all personnel throughout the JTF as well as managing OPSEC policies and unit assessments.

He said he was proud to have 26 new OPSEC practitioners at Guantanamo Bay, but also had another purpose for the class in mind.

“I wanted to show our personnel that the OPSEC program taught in the school houses is being applied here at the JTF,” said Gabe. “I wanted to show the command that OPSEC is not only done by the book here, but also growing and expanding according to the needs of each unit rotation and the ever-changing global interest in Guantanamo Bay.”

If you would like to coordinate unit training or have question regarding OPSEC, contact OPSEC Gabe at ext. 8506. ♦



Through motivation,
runners go the distance





Story and photos by Sgt. Cassandra Monroe

Staff Writer, thewire@jftgmo.southcom.mil

Within the 13 to 26 long miles that make up both half and full marathon races, you may find sweat dripping down your face as your pace increases; each step getting faster as the beat in your headphones gets louder. You may find yourself lost in thought, making silent reminders to yourself to “keep pushing,” or “slow down, keep pace,” as your heart rate monitor warns you with beeps. You may be running solo, trying

to achieve your personal-best record, or running with a battle buddy, ensuring your motivation stays with you as you go.

After an early start and through the pain, miles and sweat, base residents ran the Morale, Welfare and Recreation Full and Half Marathons, Jan. 25. at U.S. Naval Station Guantanamo Bay, Cuba.

The marathon paths took residents up and over hills, to the Northeast Gate and along Kittery Beach Road, right around the time the sun began to rise.

For some, the marathon was a way to try something new with a friend close by for motivation. Although the main goal was to complete the run, Army Spc. Marcos Rodriguez, military police, 613th Military Police Company, said the run was a way to support his Soldier and battle buddy.

“He’s 20 years old and I wanted him to see that he can do things that he has never done before,” he said. “We just wanted to finish and enjoy it; talk and see the scenery. I wanted to be with him the whole time to ensure he was able to finish it.”

Army Spc. Kevin Rosario, also military police with the 613th, ran his first half marathon with Rodriguez.

“First, when you run alone, you think ‘man, how long has it been,’” he said. “But when I ran with him, we just kept talking and talking and then I realized we were already at the finish line.”

Army Sgt. Kyle Mullinix also had the experience of team work for his half marathon race, although he didn’t directly train for the marathon.

“I’ve been training my two-mile run time, but I’ve been doing a lot of four-mile runs and treadmill hill work,” said Mullinix. “But honestly, I knew one of my junior Soldiers was out here doing it and I couldn’t let her do it without some support. I figured I would do it with her, and we got more people involved.”

This is Mullinix’s first half marathon and he is motivated to do more.

“I want to do another one, but I’m definitely glad with getting through my first one,” he said.

Army Staff Sgt. Casey Gore, with the Public Health Command, took first place in the full marathon, and attributed a positive, but self-challenging, attitude, hard training, and a healthy, balanced diet to his success in running.

“I usually train as I fight,” he said. “Make sure you eat properly and drink light fluids. Challenge your body, challenge your mind; your body can do amazing things. Challenge yourself.” 🍷



Relentless service

MARSECDET keeps vigilant watch over waterways

Story and photos by Staff Sgt. Darron Salzer

Photo Editor, thewire@jftgmo.southcom.mil

The men and women of the Joint Task Force Guantanamo Maritime Security Detachment, members of Port Security Unit 301, hold watch over the water much like their counterparts do along the wire.

But like many things at GTMO, their mission is multi-faceted.

“Our primary focus is to provide anti-terrorism force protection patrols

offshore and to ensure that the area adjacent to the commissions’ area is secure throughout the duration of commissions,” said Coast Guard Master Chief Petty Officer Karl Brobst, senior enlisted leader of the MARSECDET.

“A secondary mission of ours is providing transportation across the water for any distinguished visitors to

GTMO,” Brobst said. “We try to do that so they don’t have to wait for the ferry.”

Additionally, the MARSECDET escorts ship traffic in and around the bay when necessary.

“We patrol all over the bay, and most of what we see are boats from the marina,” said Coast Guard Petty Officer 3rd Class Nicholas



Coast Guard Lt. Craig Bailey, operations officer with Port Security Unit 301, looks out over the water during an area of responsibility tour, Oct. 26, 2013 at Guantanamo Bay, Cuba. Members of PSU 301 arrived in August to take over the waterside security mission, and have already fully integrated themselves into the Joint Task Force-Guantanamo security mission.



Coast Guard Chief Petty Officer Scott Duckworth, bottom left, chief of waterside security, Port Security Unit 301, talks to Joint Task Force-Guantanamo Troopers about the capabilities of the equipment the Maritime Security Detachment uses to secure the waters of Joint Task Force Guantanamo Bay, Cuba, Oct. 26, 2013.



Coast Guard Chief Petty Officer Scott Duckworth, right, chief of waterside security, Port Security Unit 301, talks to Air Force Capt. Preston Goodrich, officer in charge of the Joint Personnel Center, during an area of responsibility tour, Oct. 26, 2013 at Joint Task Force Guantanamo Bay, Cuba. Duckworth showed personnel the typical areas that the Maritime Security Detachment patrols on the bay.

Newhall, boatswain's mate and tactical crewmember. "Occasionally we'll escort barges moving through the bay to the Cuban villages on the other side of the northern boundary. We also escort Coast Guard cutters coming into port from time to time as well."

Since they arrived, the Coast Guardsmen of the MARSECDET have worked to fully integrate themselves into the joint mission of GTMO, working more closely with their land-side counterparts toward a better understanding of capabilities.

"One way we are building this better understanding is by taking members of the guard force within the Joint Detention Group on a patrol with us so that they can see what capabilities we have when they see us out on the water from their fighting posts on shore," Brobst said. "They reciprocate by taking our Troopers and placing them in their fighting posts and giving our guys that point of view."

"By having a working relationship with them, we can better understand the capabilities of one another and how our policies and procedures can function as one," he said.

Brobst said the fostered relationship greatly enhances the force protection capabilities of both landside and waterside security elements.

"It's about building a better team and working closely to better understand one another is a critical aspect of that process," he said.

Operating small watercraft near shorelines for over 200 years, Brobst believes it is the Coast Guardsmen of PSU 301 who are uniquely suited for the maritime mission within the Joint Task Force.

"Currently we operate the 25-foot transportable port security boats, and these watercraft are extremely fast and extremely maneuverable," he said. "We also have a couple of the newer 32-foot boats, a more stable platform that has a greater amount of endurance on the sea. We feel that the newer boats will greatly enhance our ability to work here along the coastline, allowing us to stay on-scene for much longer and mitigate crew fatigue from the constant pounding our Troopers take when they are on the water."

As a constant concern, Brobst said the Coast Guardsmen of the MARSECDET take numerous measures to combat crew fatigue and complacency while on the water.

"A lot of times the coxswain will do random training scenarios while underway," he said. "It not only breaks up the monotony, but it helps to make

the members of the boat crew more proficient in their skills."

"We train daily for things such as a man overboard, loss of communication drills, and crew casualties," he continued. "It becomes second nature after a while, and by continuing to drill and train it makes times of stress in real-world situations manageable."

According to Brobst, there are three positions on the small boats used by the MARSECDET: coxswain, engineer and crewmember.

"All off these positions are attainable through training and testing," he said, "and every six months each person has to perform additional tasks to show that they are still proficient in their job."

"Training is consistent, and we are able to capitalize on the opportunity to not only perform our mission, but to constantly take advantage of the real-world training opportunity afforded us here at GTMO," he said.

With a highly-trained, mobile and capable force on the water, the MARSECDET has become an integral part of the JTF mission.

"If anything were to happen here, us being out on the water as that first line of defense is a pretty important part of the total security mission here," Newhall said. ♦



Courtesy photo

Masons of the Caribbean Naval Lodge along with Guantanamo Bay Eagle Scouts pose at the Columbus monument which they re-constructed at Ferry Landing, U.S. Naval Station Guantanamo Bay, Cuba, Oct. 14, 2013.

Masonry thrives at GTMO

Story by Sgt. David Bolton

Copy Editor, thewire@jffgtmo.southcom.mil

At the top of John Paul Jones hill, overlooking the bay, is a small, concrete monument. Runners often touch it upon reaching the summit of the hill, but how many have ever stopped to read the plaque on it? If you know where to look, and what you are looking for, you'll notice there are several distinct markers around the base that bear a particular emblem. It is the seal of an organization that is the oldest fraternity in the western hemisphere – the Masons. Despite popular culture's depiction of this group as secretive, subversive and secular, the Caribbean Naval Lodge at Guantanamo Bay is quick to point out that it is charity and wisdom that sets members apart.

"It boils down to relief, charity and brotherly love," said Richard Vargas, post master for Guantanamo Bay Post Office and secretary of CNL. "You try to associate yourself with like-minded individuals who try to better themselves and the community."

Neil Mendoza, database admin for Islands Mechanical, and member of CNL echoes this sentiment.

"Mason means one thing to me, charity," said Mendoza, "devoting and giving your time."

The Masons have been at GTMO since 1965 when the CNL was first established. Two years later it was constituted. Service members stationed here, some who were already Masons from various lodges, wanted to have a place where they could continue their traditions and customs.

"It was originally designed as a military lodge, be-

cause that's all you had here at that time, it was a way for them to fellowship with other Masons on an installation," said Vargas, a former Navy Chief.

The CNL, once governed by the Grand Lodge of Cuba, now operates under the Grand Lodge of Massachusetts of Ancient, Free, and Accepted Masons, and prides itself on benevolence to the GTMO community. Recently, its members assisted local Boy Scouts with building a memorial to honor Christopher Columbus.

"The Eagle Scouts came to us and asked us for help," said Vargas, "so we went out and said 'of course we'll help you build your project.' Little by little we're working on giving back to the community."

Since the beginning of the CNL, the Masons at GTMO have openly offered Troopers the promise of friendship, brotherhood and charity. The principles and virtues adhered to by the acolytes of this assemblage, according to Vargas, help make the world a better place; not just for the members, but for all who share this world.

"What we give people is the wisdom to practice charity," said Mendoza. "Once they travel and go to foreign countries, they know what to do and how to treat other people."

For more information about the CNL, call ext. 78695 or email cnlsecretary@gmail.com.



Photo illustration by Sgt. David Bolton/The Wire

Two turntables and a microphone ...



Courtesy photos by Army Pfc. Alec Normandin, 591st Military Police Co.

Army Pfc. Alec Normandin, military police, 591st Military Police Company based in Fort Bliss, Texas, mixes music and layers tracks as he DJs at the “Toc Bar” club in Houston, Texas. Normandin, 19, has been DJ-ing and producing music for several years and has played at every major club in Houston.



Courtesy photos by Army Pfc. Alec Normandin, 591st Military Police Co.

Army Pfc. Alec Normandin, military police, 591st Military Police Company based in Fort Bliss, Texas, right, plays for a crowd of people as he DJs at “The Underground” club in Houston, Texas. Normandin was performing a tag set where two DJs go back and forth playing tracks.

Story by Sgt. David Bolton

Copy Editor, thewire@jtfgtmo.southcom.mil

At the age of 16 he bought his first set of turntables and music equipment. He has performed at every major club in Houston, Texas, including “Kryptonite.” He once helped run an impromptu event just to see what the turnout would be. More than 300 people showed up. Army Pfc. Alec Normandin, military police, 591st Military Police Company based in Fort Bliss, Texas, has a love of music, DJ-ing and producing that began when he was younger and has flourished into, what may end up being, a very successful career.

“It was something I always wanted to do,” said Normandin, “I figured it was too expensive and my mom told me it was too expensive.”

But she made him a deal. If he was still interested in mixing when they moved to Houston, he could continue on that path. And interested he was. Normandin, at one point, said he was working at a local supermarket making little more than minimum wage, but still invested his money into what he loved.

“I was working at Kroger making \$7.25 an hour and spent like \$10,000 on all my equipment,” said Normandin.

He received no formal training in learning how to mix; rather “Internet University” supplied the basis for his knowledge on DJ-ing. Normandin found others working out mixes on YouTube and decided he would try his hand at mixing some tunes of his own.

“I was just researching YouTube videos, just trying to figure it out, so I kept looking stuff up and kept teaching myself,” said Normandin.

Since his early days, Normandin’s skills have progressed. He said one of the hardest parts of mixing tracks involves knowing the key of a track and how to combine it with others so that there isn’t a harmony clash.

“If you don’t get the right chord progression, the music won’t sound right,” said Normandin. “They clash and they don’t make the right sound. Certain notes flow with certain notes, others don’t.”

He added that DJ-ing and mixing involves knowing the key of the track; so if two songs aren’t in the same key, the music will sound off.

Keeping everything in balance and in sync goes beyond the music for Normandin. Looking to the future, when he gets back from his current deployment to GTMO, he said he is going to go to college to get a music degree so he can learn and teach new things.

“I’ll probably go into music theory,” he said. “I know I’ll keep making music and keep playing shows and then just try to keep making tracks and send them off to record labels.”

Meals with monroe

Although we're experiencing the constant heat wave here in Guantanamo Bay, we know some of our folks back at home have it worse. As I scoured the Naval Exchange for a quick, easy meal to make, I remembered my Dad's chili recipe he always used to make for my little brother and I. The beans make this chili rich and hearty, while the corn adds a little sweetness and the spicy vegetable juice adds a little bit of heat.

You'll need a crock pot for this recipe!

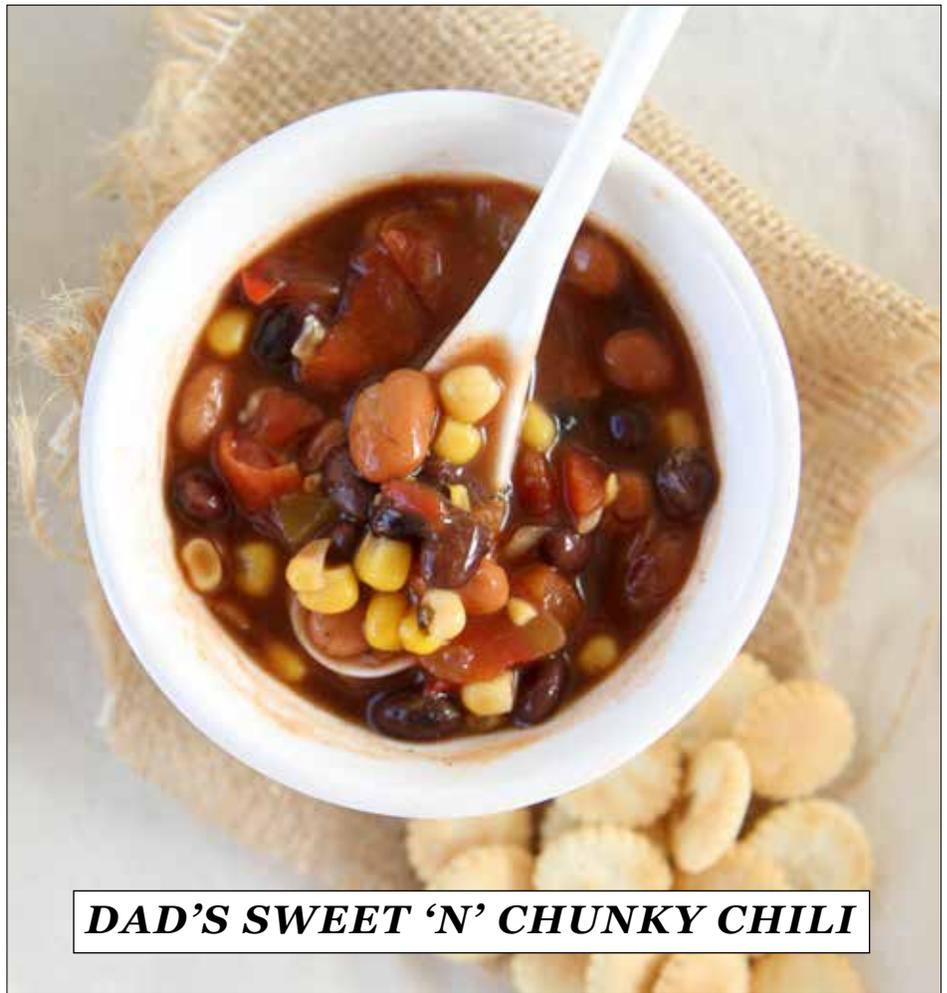
In a crock pot, combine 2 cans of **black beans**, 2 cans of **Green Giant 'Mexicorn,'** 2 cans of **pinto beans**, 2 cans of **Ro*Tel Diced Tomatoes and Green Chilies**, 2 to 3 cans of **V-8 Spicy Hot vegetable juice**, 1 can of medium-hot **enchilada sauce**, and 1 large jar of **salsa**. Stir all ingredients well.

Set the crock pot on the 'high' temperature dial.

While the ingredients heat up, brown 1 pound of **beef** with some **chili seasoning** from a chili seasoning packet.

After beef is browned throughly, add to crock pot and stir. Let ingredients simmer until heated.

*You can easily customize this recipe by keeping it strictly vegetarian, or by adding different kinds of meat, like shredded or cubed chicken or pork.



DAD'S SWEET 'N' CHUNKY CHILI



**p.s.
(one last thing)**

I want to hear from you! Did you try my recipe and loved it? Did you try my recipe and hated it? Well... that's too bad but email me anyways! If you have a recipe you'd like for me to try, **contact me!** cassandra.l.monroe@jftgmo.southcom.mil

Chaplain's ext. 2218 **WORD OF THE WEEK**



"Marathon"

Running a marathon requires preparation and planning in order to complete the 26.2-mile trek. Stopping at water and fuel stations along the way are vital in order to finish strong. So it is with a long deployment. Be sure you take care of yourself along the way so that you finish your time at GTMO strong.

National Guard photo by Sgt. 1st Class Aaron Hiller/The Wire

THE DOWNSIDE UP

by Staff Sgt. Darron Salzer



"I can't believe I locked myself out of my Cuzco again ..."



Facebook
/jointtaskforceguantanamo



WAYPOINTS

A message from the Commander of Joint Task Force Guantanamo

Hello, this week I want to talk about our role in support of the commissions proceedings. The commissions are a form of military tribunals convened to try individuals for unlawful conduct associated with war. A Convening Authority appointed by the U.S. Secretary of Defense convenes military commissions under the Military Commissions Act of 2009, passed by the U.S. Congress and signed by the President.

February will be a busy month for us in support of the commissions. The Commissions Liaison Office, security forces, media team, and the medical and guard force all play vital roles in the process. Many others will need to pitch in to help make the events run smoothly. Thanks to everyone who supports this important mission.

Also involved are some of the family members who lost their loved ones on 9/11 and in the USS Cole attack. They

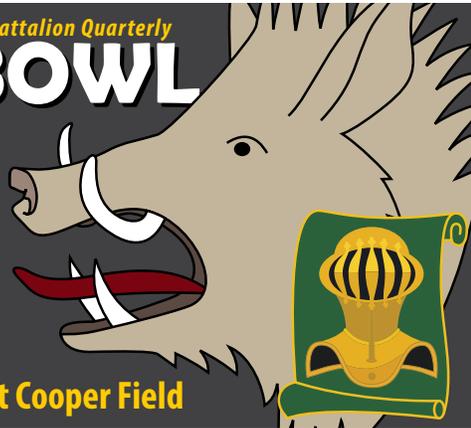
travel to GTMO to witness the commissions' process. The alleged co-conspirators of September 11 and the self-proclaimed mastermind of the USS Cole bombing are in the middle of pre-motion hearings; with a trial in the near future.

No matter the actual trial date, or how many more military commissions we must get through, it's safe to say we are heading in the right direction to bring justice to the victim's family members and to the American people.

This message is also available as an audio podcast on the JTF GTMO SharePoint

525th Military Police Battalion Quarterly

PIG BOWL



Saturday
Feb. 1, 7 a.m. at Cooper Field

Watch the

BIG GAME

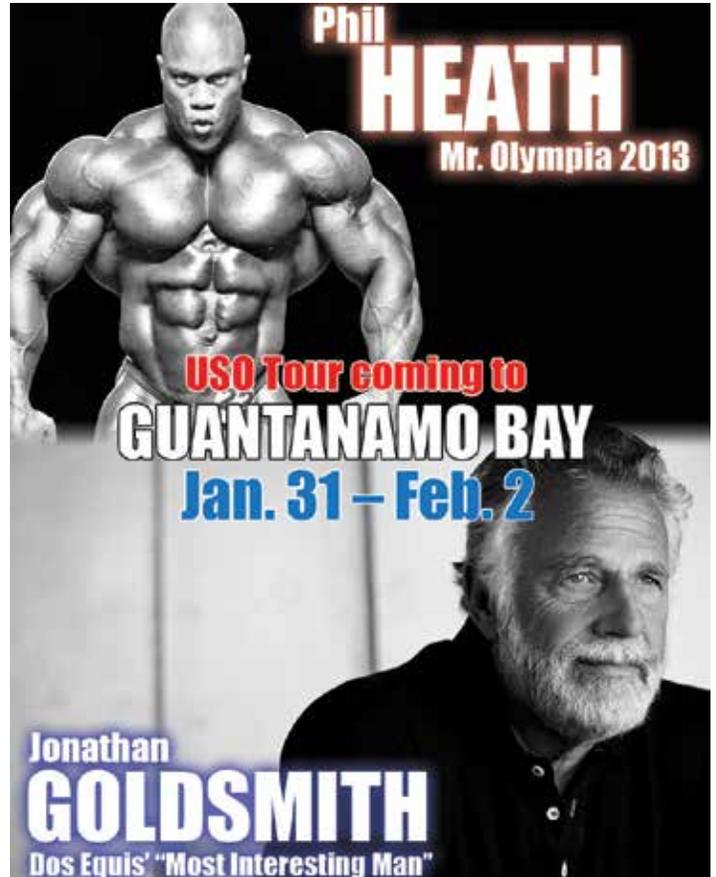


at O'Kelly's Irish Pub
Sunday, Feb. 2

Phil
HEATH
Mr. Olympia 2013

USO Tour coming to
GUANTANAMO BAY
Jan. 31 – Feb. 2

Jonathan
GOLDSMITH
Dos Equis' "Most Interesting Man"



This photo by Mar Andrew Embestro just goes to show you don't necessarily need a fishing pole to catch fish on Ferry Landing Beach.

PHOTO OF THE WEEK