



THE WIRE

The Official Publication of Joint Task Force Guantanamo

JTF Change of Command



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Guantanamo Bay, Cuba
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AROUND THE BAY



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Cover photo: Navy Rear Adm. Richard Butler, outgoing JTF commander, hands Navy Rear Adm. Kyle Cozad, incoming JTF commander, the colors during the JTF Change Of Command Ceremony in the Windjammer Ballroom Thursday.

Back cover photo: A crowd stacks by the stage of Naval Station Guantanamo Bay's Tiki Bar while the rock band Jimmy Eat World puts on a show Friday. This concert and other events were a part of the Fourth of July Celebrations at GTMO.

Photo by Pvt. Kourtney Grimes

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Navy Rear Adm. Richard Butler, commander of Joint Task Force Guantanamo relinquished command to Navy Rear Adm. Kyle Cozad during the JTF Change of Command Ceremony Thursday.

6 • Jimmy Eat World

American rock band Jimmy Eat World played for Guantanamo Bay residents and JTF Troopers Saturday at the Tiki Bar as part of the weekend-long celebration of American independence.

8 • Fireworks light the sky

The sights and sounds of fireworks delighted the senses and stirred the patriotic pride of Naval Station Guantanamo Bay residents July 4 to culminate the final hours of Independence Day 2014.

9 • July 4th softball tournament

This weekend, teams from around the base celebrated the nation's independence by competing in an all day softball tournament sponsored by the MWR.

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



22 Jump Street

Review by Staff Sgt. Carmen Steinbach
Editor, thewire@jtfgtmo.southcom.mil

Channing Tatum. Channing Tatum. Channing Tatum. Now that I got that out of the way, going into the follow up to cop comedy "21 Jump Street," the audience expects primarily two things: side-splitting humor and outrageous, yet still hilarious action scenes (spoiler alert: octopus attack). In this regard, "22 Jump Street" does not disappoint.

When stepping into their next undercover drug-bust assignment, Jenko (Tatum) and his partner Schmidt (Jonah Hill), are told by their boss, "Parks and Recreation's" Nick Offerman, that their mission is exactly like last time



– except now they are college students. With this subtle warning, the film falls into the same rhythm as its predecessor, but with the roles reversed. Jenko is now accepted into a fraternity, with Schmidt feeling like the outcast. The jokes range from taking jabs at their real-life selves to ridiculing bromances and their obvious age gap. Whether they are fighting, sleuthing or making up, the laughs keep on coming. It's not until the last 30 minutes of the film where the joke material seems to grow a little stale.

The stand-out performance from supporting actor Ice Cube as Captain Dickson cannot be understated. This is by far his best comedic role in recent memory, especially with his own self deprecating humor, such as working in an office that resembles a giant "cube of ice." I give it four banana rats.



Photo courtesy of Concept Arts

Transformers: Age of Extinction

Review by Sgt. Spencer Rhodes
Copy Editor, thewire@jtfgtmo.southcom.mil



Photo courtesy of BLT Communications, LLC

The prolific director of "The Transformers" film franchise has failed fans yet again. Filled with potential, as hopeful fans have likely grown up on a TV show based on the alien machines, Michael Bay manages to create a film with all new elements and still make it feel and look exactly like his last three movies.

Only a few years after the third movie, Transformers are being violently hunted down, now seen as a threat to humanity. Cade Yeager (Mark Wahlberg), a struggling robotics inventor, discovers and helps restore Optimus Prime who had gone into hiding in the form of a derelict semi-truck. As can be expected, association with Transformers thrusts Yeager and his family into constant peril, facing numerous obstacles, all of them deadly.

Explosive ordinance disposal technicians will love ridiculously frequent and often unnecessary explosions. Bay seemingly refuses to step outside stereotypical gender roles with female characters that

don't serve much purpose other than to be in constant distress. The character development was better, and in certain areas, the acting was far and away superior to the original ensemble, but a lack of dynamic change in the making of the movie, exceedingly predictable vehicle choices and constant product placement make this movie fall so short of what it could be.

Rottentomatoes.com reports that viewers are enjoying it more than critics, and that's because it is entertaining. However, had they gone with a different director, such as Ronald Emmerich, director of "The Patriot" and "Independence Day," who was among those to replace Michael Bay, perhaps the movie would have been more gratifying and less predictable and ostentatious. It gets three banana rats, not because it isn't fun, but because it should have been so much better.



		NOW SHOWING								
		FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY		
DOWNTOWN	CAMP BULKLEY	The Fault in Our Stars (New) PG13, 8 p.m. Transformers: Age of Extinction PG13, 10:15 p.m.	Dawn of the Planet of the Apes (New) PG13, 8 p.m. 22 Jump Street R, 10:30p.m.	Earth to Echo PG, 8 p.m.	Maleficent (LS) PG, 8p.m.	Blended (LS) PG13, 8 p.m.	X-Men: Days of Future Past PG13, 8 p.m.	Throwback Thursday: Ghostbusters PG, 8 p.m.	DOWNTOWN	
		Dawn of the Planet of the Apes (New) PG13, 8 p.m. 22 Jump Street R, 10:30p.m.	The Fault in Our Stars (New) PG13, 8 p.m. Earth to Echo PG, 10:15 p.m.	Transformers: Age of Extinction PG13, 8 p.m.	Maleficent (LS) PG, 8 p.m.	Maleficent (LS) PG, 8 p.m.	Throwback Thursday: The Sandlot PG, 8 p.m.			
				* LYCEUM CLOSED *		* LYCEUM CLOSED *				

Call the Movie Hotline at ext. 4880 or visit the MWR Facebook page for more information

* Concessions closed until further notice *

Stay classy, GTMO! No ALCOHOL or TOBACCO at the Lyceums!



JTF GTMO under new command

Story by Sgt. Kenneth Tucceri
Webmaster, thewire@jtfgtmo.southcom.mil

"After I took command last July, it did not take me long to realize that this detention effort is really an all-hands effort by everyone on the island. Your commitment is inspiring," said Navy Rear Adm. Richard Butler, Joint Task Force Guantanamo's outgoing commander.

JTF GTMO held a change of command ceremony to officially appoint Navy Rear Adm. Kyle Cozad as JTF's new commander Thursday, July 10 at GTMO's Windjammer Ballroom.

The event, which filled the ballroom with Soldiers, Marines, Sailors, Airmen and Coastguardsmen featured speeches from Marine Gen. John Kelly, U.S. Southern Command's commander, Butler and Cozad.

Cozad, a native of Las Vegas, graduated from the U.S. Naval Academy in 1985. His naval service spans all four Maritime Patrol and Reconnaissance Aircraft sites. Additionally, he served in the White House where, in his final year there, he was senior director of the White House Situation Room. Most recently, he served as Vice Deputy Director, Regional Force Management and Future Operations (J-35), with the Joint Staff in Norfolk, Virginia.

"Rhett, you leave behind an incredible



Navy Rear Adm. Kyle Cozad, JTF GTMO's 11th commander since 2002, stands at the podium and addresses the large audience at JTF's change of command ceremony July 10. Cozad is relieving Navy Rear Adm. Richard Butler of his responsibilities.

legacy and some huge shoes to fill," said Cozad. "Thanks for the insightful turnover, your incredible professionalism and, on a personal note, for the gracious hosting that you and Lana have leaned into over the past month. It's been great getting to know you ... and I look forward to continuing our friendship in the future."

Both Butler and Cozad touched on the support their spouse's, Lana Butler and Amy Cozad, had on their extensive careers.

"Like many military spouses, Amy serves this great nation and our military with every ounce of her energy in not only supporting my career, but also the service men, women and their families alongside with who we serve," said Cozad.

Kelly's remarks touched on his pride in Butler's year as JTF's commander, his confidence in Cozad's leadership and "the most important people here ... the men and women that are the joint force at Guantanamo Bay."

"Loyalty. Duty. Respect. Selfless Service. Honor. Integrity. Personal Courage. These are the truths you all follow here at JTF GTMO," said Kelly. "It is who you are. I have commanded troops all over the world, in every clime and place in my career. I have

never been prouder of any than I have commanded that I am of you. For your decency, for your approach to duties, ... for your long suffering dedication to a tough but critically important mission; I know Rhett Butler shares this pride, and I also know our president and secretary are proud as well."

Butler concluded his speech with



Color guard Troopers held flags that created a spirited backdrop to the day's ceremony. "I also have to thank color guard, formations, chaplain and the many others who volunteered to help make today's ceremony meaningful and precise," said Cozad. "Thanks to each of you for your painstaking attention to detail in making today so special."

parting words for those in the crowd that remain tasked to continue with JTF's operations.

"You should know your work here is critical to the future of the JTF mission and to our national security," said Butler. "I am confident you will continue to do an outstanding job. You have the gratitude and respect of the entire chain of command for your service and for

the sacrifice of your families. I thank you for raising your hand to volunteer to serve your country, and I'm proud to have served with all of you here. You carry out JTF GTMO's mission of safe, humane, legal and transparent care and custody of the detainees. Your gallantry and courage stirs the souls of Americans. Your pride and patriotism is deeply felt and through your valor and

sacrifice, our country remains strong and free ... While it is bittersweet to be moving on after only one year, I know Rear Adm. Cozad will do all that needs to be done to keep JTF's commitment to defend freedom. Thank you and honor bound!"



Marine Gen. John Kelly awards Navy Rear Adm. Richard Butler with the Defense Superior Service Medal during the JTF Change of Command Ceremony at the Windjammer Thursday, July 10. Butler received the award for his distinguished exceptional, superior service from July 2013 to July 2014 in support of Operation Enduring Freedom.



Navy Rear Adm. Richard Butler smiles at his wife, Mrs. Lana Butler, after she received a certificate of appreciation from Marine Gen. John Kelly for her unwavering and devoted service to JTF during her husband's time here. The certificate was awarded to Mrs. Butler during the JTF Change of Command Ceremony at the Windjammer Thursday.

Jimmy Eat Jerk House

rock band puts on a show for residents of GTMO

Story by Pvt. Kourtney Grimes
Staff Writer, thewire@jftgmo.southcom.mil

Familiar tunes of the early 2000's blared through the speakers at Naval Station Guantanamo Bay's Tiki Bar as Jimmy Eat World, a rock band from Mesa, Arizona, performed for their GTMO fans Saturday. This Fourth of July weekend concert, paired with dinner catered by GTMO's local restaurant, the Jerk House, was of the many events offered to celebrate freedom in the company of those who most cherish it.

With its small start in 1993, the band of teenagers began with the release of a demo tape with a punk rock sound. Since then, Jimmy Eat World has released eight studio albums and numerous chart-topping singles and toured U.S. and Europe.

Now, on their first Armed Forces Entertainment tour through the Caribbean, which includes stops in the Bahamas, Cuba and Honduras, the band noticed a stark difference between the audiences of previous gigs to their shows for Service members.

"There's a different energy than like your typical club," said Jim Adkins, lead singer and guitarist. "Everyone's really

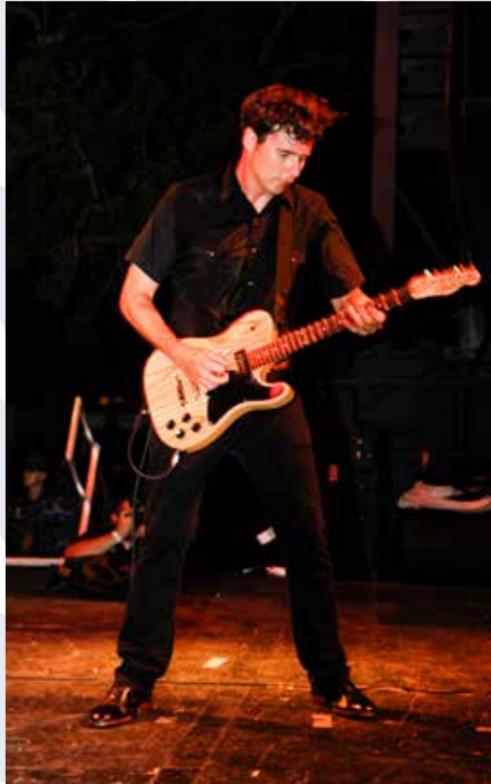


Photo by Pvt. Kourtney Grimes/The Wire

valuable insight from their fans.

"I've talked to a few people who've said they've seen us in all sorts of different cities around the U.S. So that's cool," said Tom Linton, guitarist.

Joint Task Force Soldier Spc. Andrea Nein fell into the category that Linton spoke of as she saw them in concert while in her home state of Arizona.

"I was excited and was shocked that they would come to Cuba. Cool that they put on a show for Soldiers," said Nein. "It was really good, and I liked that they took the time after the show to talk and sign autographs."

Warriors packed into the patio behind the Tiki Bar that night to get a show from the band and among them was Navy Petty Officer 1st Class Daniel Baldaramos with the Joint Task Force Post Office who was not disappointed.

"I think the band's performance was stellar," said Baldaramos. "Their energy had the crowd going to the end, and I thought it was awesome that they ended with their popular songs. I think it left a lasting impression."

positive, really into it and you can sense that. As a performer, you sort of feed on that."

The band took the time to meet and greet those who came early and received



Jimmy Eat World, a rock band from Mesa, Arizona put on a concert for patrons of Naval Station Guantanamo Bay at the Tiki Bar Saturday. The four current members are touring together on their first Armed Forces Entertainment tour. The band is comprised of Jim Adkins (top), lead singer and guitarist, Tom Linton (left), guitarist and vocals, Zach Lind (center), drummer and Rick Burch (right), bassist.



Photo by Sgt. Kenneth Tucceri/The Wire

Jim Adkins, lead singer and guitarist of Jimmy Eat World, smiles for the camera during a concert Saturday at Naval Station Guantanamo Bay's Tiki Bar. While they are most known for their popular hits from the early 2000s including "The Middle" and "Sweetness," their concert included tunes from their newer music as well as those fan favorites.



America, freedom, sports: MWR hosts weekend softball tournament

Story and photos by Sgt. Spencer Rhodes
Copy Editor, thewire@jftgmo.southcom.mil

Festivities could be seen in all different forms over the Fourth of July Weekend at Naval Station Guantanamo Bay as our nation's independence was celebrated with fireworks, cookouts, sports tournaments and even a concert. On Saturday, men and women from Joint Task Force Guantanamo and NAVSTA celebrated by competing in an all-day softball tournament hosted by MWR.

The tournament was filled with familiar faces for those playing in MWR's on-going softball league, albeit not everyone would be claiming their usual allegiances in regards to teams. Many Service members were forced to find room elsewhere if their normal group couldn't produce the requisite players.

One such team was AK-Chaos, a combination of the Alaskan softball team and the Chaos softball team; both are normally rivals in the regular softball league.

"Well, it's the Fourth of July weekend so a lot of them wanted to do other things. So we just ended up combining players," said Army Sgt. Maj. Stephen Blair, who normally pitches for Alaska. "But so far it's worked out really well for us."

For The Mercenaries, a continual presence on the field, both in the league and tournaments, they are made up

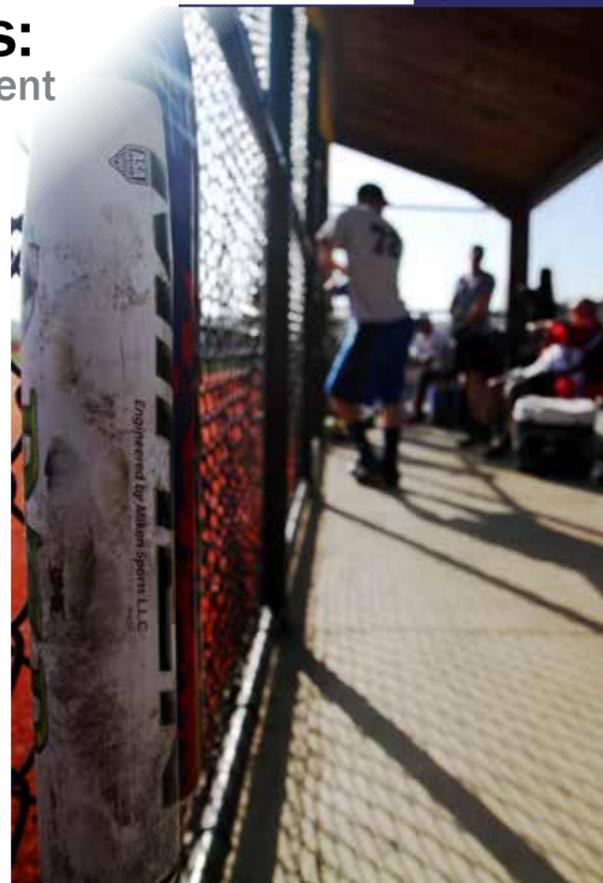
of components from all over the stations. Known for their frequent wins in softball competitions, the team met their match in the fiercely competitive AK-Chaos team, who went undefeated throughout the entire competition, beating the Mercenaries in the final game, 8-1.

"I like the weekend tournaments better because you are able to interact with other teams more during the day and everyone seems much more laid back than usual," said Jim Holbert, sports coordinator for MWR. "I know a lot of people like the fact they have the opportunity to play multiple games during the day, and it's a great way to spend a Saturday here at GTMO. Since these tournaments are separate from league play everyone has the freedom to create new teams which is fun since everyone is used to playing each other in the league already. It puts a different spin on it."

MWR holds tournaments regularly throughout the year, so if anyone has missed a chance to play in the league,

or only has enough time to dedicate a single afternoon to a sport, tournaments may just be the perfect way to get involved. For Spc. Shawn Babin with JTF GTMO's 3-89th Cavalry Regiment, the tournament provided some welcomed nostalgia.

"I had a great time playing in the tournament. It actually reminded me a lot of playing baseball in high school and traveling to the round-robin tournaments on the weekends," said Babin.



The Mercenaries shortstop throws a ball home in an effort to beat the nearest runner before scoring Sunday at the Fourth of July weekend softball tournament.



The AK-Chaos softball team poses for a group photo after winning the all-day Softball tournament facilitated by the MWR Sunday. They went undefeated through the whole competition, beating the Mercenaries in the final game, 8-1.



Photo by Maj. Reinaldo Montero/The Wire



Photo by Maj. Reinaldo Montero/The Wire

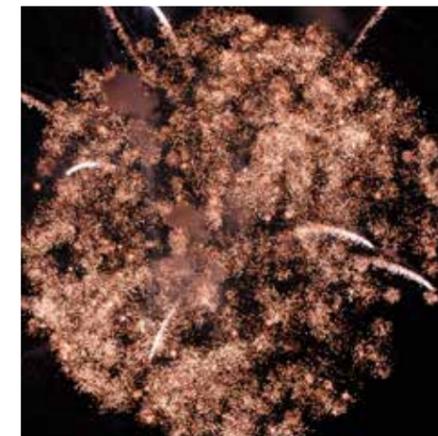


Photo by Maj. Reinaldo Montero/The Wire

Independence Day fireworks light up GTMO's sky

Story by Sgt. Kenneth Tucceri
Webmaster, thewire@jftgmo.southcom.mil

The sights and sounds of fireworks delighted the senses and stirred the patriotic pride of Naval Station Guantanamo Bay residents Friday, July 4 to culminate the final hours of Independence Day 2014.

"I have never seen fireworks go over as well as they do here," said Stephen Prestesater, GTMO's community activities director. "It's a little taste of home and, just being out here, I can see everyone's faces; they are so excited, and the shows are huge, 20 minute long shows. It really adds a lot of flavor, a lot of something extra to being in GTMO and helping people out."

Though there are plenty of vantage points for groups to gather and see the fireworks here, which were shot off in the bay, GTMO's Tiki Bar drew a celebratory and communal crowd who enjoyed patriotic-themed rock tunes that accompanied the visual display.

For one Soldier in attendance, the mixture of friends and fireworks inspired a great ambiance that helped assuage the truth that she, along with all the other deployed Service members and residents, is away from family, friends and the places she's familiar with.

"It's nice to have a family environment when you don't have your actual family, and that's what it kind of felt like tonight," said Spc. Gina Bertelli, a Joint Task Force Soldier with the 747th Military Police Company. "It felt like even though I couldn't be home with my family or the places I'd want to be

watching fireworks, whether it's at the local beach or whatever, it still felt like I was surrounded by family and friends that I would be surrounded with back home."

The event, which was part of the weekend-long Freedom Fest, was sponsored by USAA. Funds from MWR also assisted in putting the event together, according to Prestesater.

Pyro Shows, Inc., a Tennessee-based company, was responsible for the fireworks.

"They are who we contract for the show," said Prestesater, "They've been

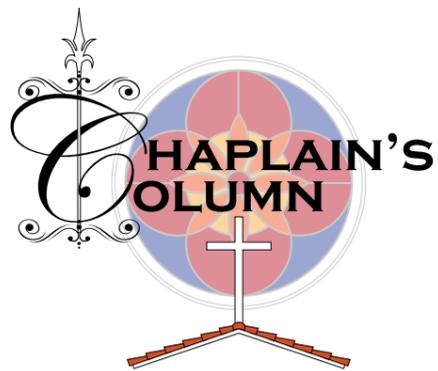
coming down and doing it for three years now. We work directly with them to figure out what kind of show we want. We tell them what our budget is going to be, how big of a show we want to produce, and they work with us to determine what's going to work best, the size of the case, or the size of the explosion you are going to see, and then we kind of team it up with the music that's going to match it."

Now the only question remains: Did our Cuban friends on the other side of the bay enjoy the show too?



Photo by Sgt. Kenneth Tucceri/The Wire

Naval Station Guantanamo Bay residents were treated to a 20-minute firework display July 4. The fireworks, which was just one event in the weekend long Freedom Fest, were lit off on the bay.



What's most important to you?

By Army 1st Lt. Raymond Lowdermilk
Joint Detention Group Chaplain

What is most important to you? Ask your coworkers, friends or significant other and they'll tell you. Many will say their faith, family, friends, finances, fitness or future is most important to them. But when you look at how their time is spent and at the choices they make, it's clear that other things matter more. GTMO is a great place to work on important things or be distracted from them. You can enjoy the pleasures that GTMO has, but know that many of those things are temporary and lack long-term importance or impact. Instead, they hinder it. So, enjoy GTMO fun without being too preoccupied by it.

As a chaplain, it's always hard to meet those who say their faith is important, but then do very little or nothing with it here. They did things of faith back home, but when they are here they neglect it. So the question becomes, are they really people of faith? Is it really important? If it is, it will show in their personal time and activities. If not, it will not.

What we spend our free time doing is what is most important to us. We spend a great deal of time thinking about it, even when we are working. So, are the important things in your life in alignment with the things you claim are important? Are you accomplishing all that you want to here in GTMO?

It's kind of surprising how fast time can go by here. Do whatever you can to leave here without regrets. Take time to write a plan and your goals then compare it with your everyday life. Use all the resources you have to work on the things you claim are most important to you. Keep refining your plan and do it!



Fireworks for your freedom

Story by Sgt. Debra Cook
Staff Writer, thewire@jftgmo.southcom.mil

Upon declaring our country's independence from Great Britain, John Adams wrote a letter to his wife Abigail and said it would be the most memorable epoch in the history of America.

He wrote, "I am apt to believe that it will be celebrated by succeeding generations as the great anniversary festival. It ought to be commemorated as the

day of deliverance, by solemn acts of devotion to God Almighty. It ought to be solemnized with pomp and parade, with shows, games, sports, guns, bells, bonfires and illuminations from one end of this continent to the others, from this time forward forever more."

This Fourth of July most of us looked up into the sky as bursts of spectral lights rained down and declared freedom for our country. Troopers said the fireworks were magnificent and inspirational.

To many, being here in Guantanamo Bay is a time to reassess goals, save money, achieve new heights in fitness and more. Let the fireworks mark your time at GTMO as not just a memorable occasion, but to serve as a reminder of your own freedom, and let the powerful force of determination rise up within you to drive towards the direction of your dreams.

It's the American way.



Courtesy Stacey Byington

The Frederick Snare Corporation began a vast construction program on the base on July 12, 1940 to build up Naval Operating Base Guantanamo Bay. The original contract was for \$5 million, and was originally intended for the expansion of Marine and aviation facilities. The contract was subsequently augmented until it reached \$34 million. Under the contract the Marine Corps was provided with a new and self-contained base with all necessary power and water treatment plants, cold-storage, a refrigerated storehouse, garage, maintenance building, laundry, fire house, brig, magazine, mess halls (officer and enlisted), barracks, bakery, administration buildings, roads, walks and essential landscaping.

The airfield on McCalla Hill was equipped with three asphalt runways, taxiways, land plane hangar, utility building, administration and operations buildings, magazines and other

assorted facilities. At the Leeward Point airfield (an extension of the air station), taxiways, storage facilities, distribution systems for water, a small power plant, temporary barracks and a small boat landing were also built. In October 1940, the construction of 200 low-cost housing units was added to the contract, to be built in the area now known as Villamar. From July 1940 through September 1943 the Frederick Snare Corporation employed approximately 9,000 contract workers and almost 4,000 government civilian employees.

GTMO sports standings

SOCCER		
Men's Soccer League		
1. NEX United	10-0-1	
2. Asquad	8-1-2	
3. Manchester City	7-1-3	
4. Wolverines	7-3-2	
5. Boston Beaners	4-7-0	
6. Fight'n 66	3-9-0	
7. Boston Beaners	2-7-0	
8. Road house	1-1-10	
Women's Soccer League		
1. Soccer Bombers	7-3-1	
2. One Love	5-4-3	
3. Barcelona	2-7-3	



From left to right: Navy Petty Officer 1st Class Vicki Stalla a Sailor with Joint Task Force Guantanamo and Soldiers with the 346th Military Police Company, Army Spc. Joel Goodwater and Army Sgt. Gerry Perzee after completing the Independence Day Trail Run Friday.

Long before the fireworks lit the sky this Fourth of July, rain clouds loomed over head. Hoping the precipitation would wait until the completion of the Independence Day Trail Run, just over 100 runners took their place at the starting line in the early morning hours July 4 at Christmas Tree Hill.

Dozens of Guantanamo Bay residents and Joint Task Force Guantanamo Troopers turned out to start the patriotic festivities off with a little physical fitness session – a 4.2 mile race along Ridgeline Trail.

"We planned this run on the Fourth



Ginger Jane, a fueller with Maytag Aircraft, reaches the halfway point during the Independence Day Trail Run, July 4 at Naval Station Guantanamo Bay.

Independence Day Trail Run

Story and photos by Staff Sgt. Carmen Steinbach
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of July to celebrate Independence Day as a group and start the day out right with a trail run," said MWR Sports Coordinator Jim Holbert. "It was a great turn out and very nice to see this many people coming together to help celebrate Independence Day."

One of the participants set out to run the race comfortably and enjoy the great outdoors on America's birthday.

"In Fourth of July spirit, we all came out to celebrate the birth of our country," said Senior Airman Austin Denigan, with the 474th Base Engineer Emergency Force. Denigan was not alone in his endeavor, as all members of the BEEF came out to participate together before their return home in the next few weeks.

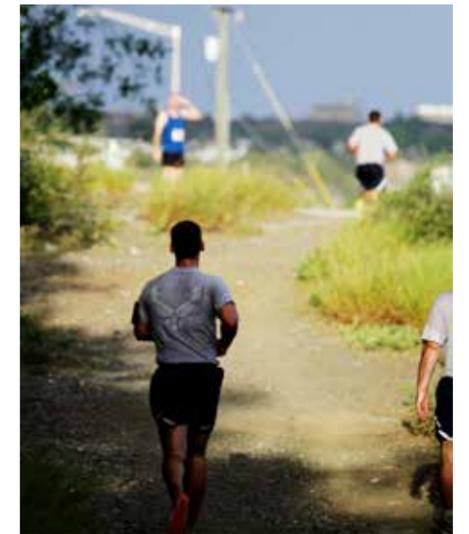
While they usually volunteer for events like this, it is the first time they have all competed together.

"We've been here six months, participating, handing out water in a lot of races, and I thought it was time for us to give back – to show what the Air Force can do and represent on the run," said BEEF Commander Air Force Lt. Col. Ed Phillips.

Despite some members participating in other MWR events and championship games the night before, all Airmen

tackled the race with great motivation, cheering each other on as their last teammates crossed the finish line.

"We had softball and basketball last night so those guys gave it heart, then came out here and ran first thing this morning," said Phillips. "I can't say I'm more proud of the guys than today. It's a great way to celebrate the Fourth of July."



Members of the 474th Base Engineer Emergency Force celebrated the nation's independence by participating in an MWR-sponsored trail run Friday. Participants ran 4.2 miles across Naval Station Guantanamo Bay's Ridgeline Trail.

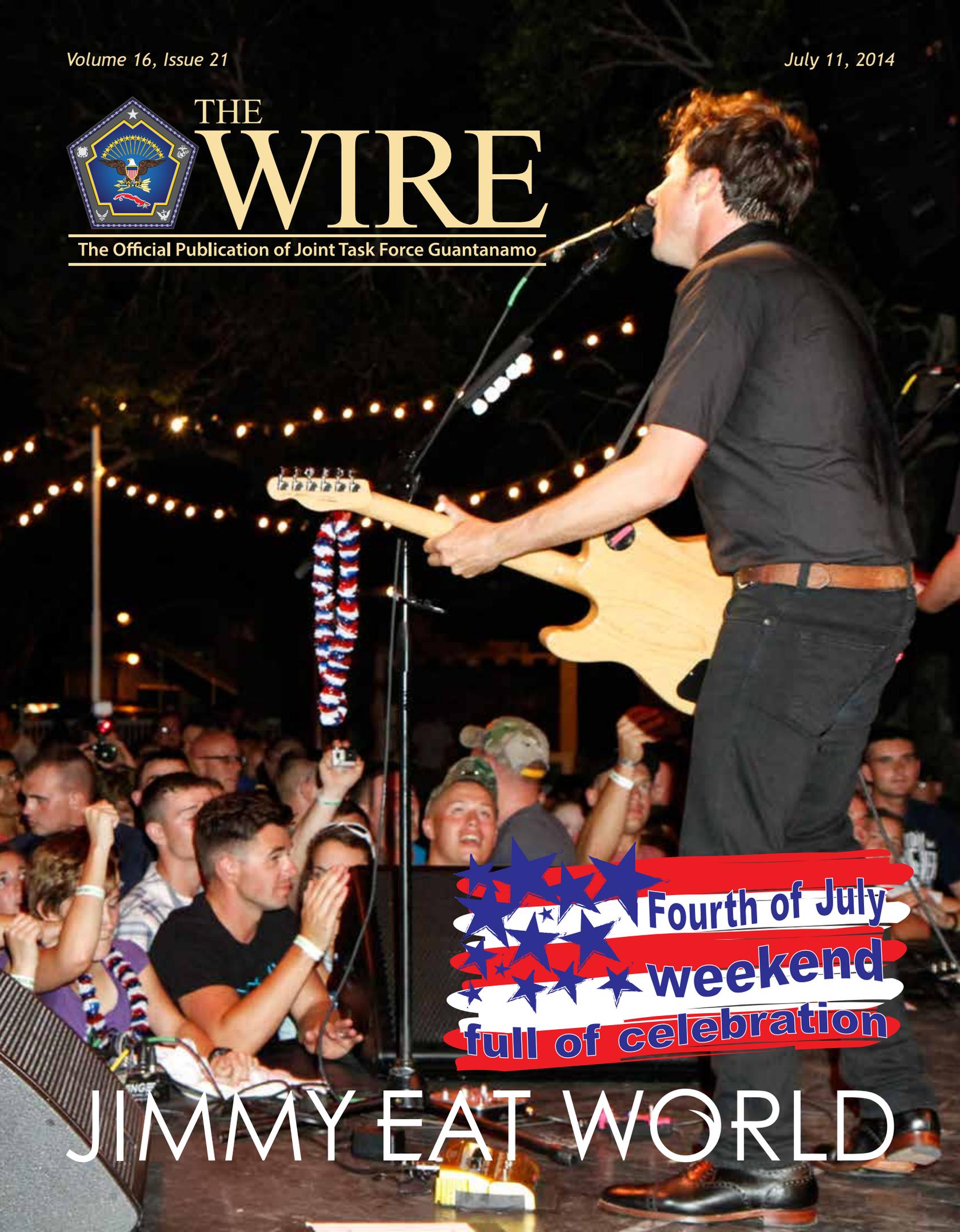


Residents and deployed Service members of Naval Station Guantanamo Bay celebrated America's birthday by participating in the Independence Day Trail Run.



THE WIRE

The Official Publication of Joint Task Force Guantanamo



**Fourth of July
weekend
full of celebration**

JIMMY EAT WORLD