



# THE WIRE

The Official Publication of Joint Task Force Guantanamo

423rd

**MP**  
Company  
arrives at GTMO

Base Emergency Expeditionary Group

**BEEF**  
474th engineers JTF Airmen



**PSU 312 guards the bay**

# AROUND THE BAY

## MOTIVATOR OF THE WEEK

**SGT David Kirtland**

JTF Public Affairs - Command Information

**SGT Augustin Martinez**

420th Military Police Company



**Cover photo:** A team of Coast Guardsmen with Joint Task Force Guantanamo's Maritime Security Detachment take off on the waters of Guantanamo Bay during a normal patrol Tuesday. The MARSECDET makes up the security force that patrols within the bay and along the coastlines of GTMO's blue waters.

Photo by Pvt. Kourtney Grimes

### MWR all-night softball tourney

Sign up by August 13 for an all-night softball tournament at Cooper Field Saturday, August 16 beginning at 7:00 p.m. The tourney will play until victory is secured by the winning team under the lights of the sports complex. The event is available to all hands age 16 and above. There will be a coach's meeting on August 14. Call 2113 for more information.

### U.S. Coast Guard birthday

Come join MARSECDET, PSU 312, in celebrating the 224th birthday of the U.S. Coast Guard. The unit will be hosting a barbecue at the Windjammer Pool and Pavilion on August 2 between noon - 6 p.m. There will be a port security boat on display in the parking lot for everyone to tour.



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**JOINT TASK FORCE  
GUANTANAMO**

### Religious Services

NAVSTA Chapel	Chapel Annexes	New Troopers' Chapel
<b>Catholic Mass</b> Mon.-Thur. 1730 Saturday 1700 Sunday 0900	<b>Pentecostal Gospel</b> Sunday 0800 & 1700 Room D	<b>Protestant Worship</b> Sunday 0640 Sunday 0900 Sunday 1900
<b>Protestant Services</b> General Protestant Sunday 1100 Gospel Worship Sunday 1300	<b>LDS Service</b> Sunday 1300 Fellowship Hall	<b>Bible Studies</b> Monday 2000 Cuzco block J Wednesday and Friday 1900 New Troopers' Chapel
	<b>Islamic Service</b> Friday 1315 Room 2	<b>Chapel Annexes Cont.</b>
	<b>Seventh Day Adventist</b> Friday 1900 Room 1 Sabbath School: Saturday 0930 Room 1 Sabbath Service: Saturday 1100 Room 1	<b>Liturgical Protestant</b> Sunday: 0930, Room 1
	<b>Iglesia ni Cristo</b> Thursday: 0500, 1900 Room 1 Sunday: 0530, 1900 Room 1 Tuesday (Bible Study): 2000	

### Transportation Schedules

BUS Schedule	BEACH BUS Saturday & Sunday ONLY
<b>Camp America</b> - :00/:20/:40 <b>Gazebo</b> - :01/:18/:21/:38/:41/:58 <b>Camp America NEX</b> - :02/:17/:22/:37/:42/:57 <b>Camp Delta</b> - :04/:13/:24/:33/:44/:53 <b>Camp 6</b> - :07/:10/:27/:30/:47/:50 <b>HQ Building</b> - :55/:15/:35 <b>TK 1</b> - :01/:17/:21/:37/:41/:57 <b>TK 2</b> - :02/:16/:22/:36/:42/:56 <b>TK 3</b> - :03/:15/:23/:35/:43/:55 <b>TK 4</b> - :04/:13/:24/:33/:44/:53 <b>CC</b> - :00/:19/:20/:39/:40/:59 <b>JAS</b> - :14/:34/: 54 <b>Windjammer/Gym</b> - :02/:17/:22/:37/:42/:57 <b>Gold Hill Galley</b> - :04/:15/:24/:35/:44/:55 <b>NEX</b> - :06/:13/:26/:33/:46/:53 <b>NEX Laundry</b> - :07/:27/:47 <b>C Pool</b> - :10/:30/:50 <b>Downtown Lyceum</b> - :11/:31/:51	<b>Windward Loop/East Caravella</b> 0900/0930/1200/1230/1500/1530/1800/1830 <b>SBOQ/Marina</b> 0905/0935/1205/1235/1505/1535/1805/1835 <b>NEX</b> 0908/0925/1208/1225/1508/1525/1808/1825 <b>Phillips Park</b> 0914/ 1214/1514/1814 <b>Cable Beach / Turn Around</b> 0917/1217/1517/1817 <b>Return to Office</b> 0940/1240/1540/1840
<b>NEX Express Bus</b> 09:55 - 19:55 hourly <b>Camp America</b> - :48/:55 <b>TK 1</b> - :05/:36 <b>Windjammer/Gym</b> - :11/:31 <b>Gold Hill Galley</b> - :14/:29 <b>NEX</b> - :16/:27 <b>Downtown Lyceum</b> - :17/:25	<b>FERRY Schedule Monday thru Saturday</b> <b>FERRY</b> <b>Windward</b> 0630/0730/0930/1030/1130/1330/1530/1630 <b>Leeward</b> 0700/0800/1000/1100/1200/1300/1400/1600/1700 <b>UTILITY BOAT</b> <b>Windward</b> 1730/1830/1930/2030/2130/2230 <b>Leeward</b> 1800/1900/2000/2100/2200/2300 <b>Sunday &amp; Holidays</b> <b>FERRY</b> <b>Windward</b> 0730/0930/1130/1330 <b>Leeward</b> 0800/1000/1200/1400 <b>UTILITY BOAT</b> <b>Windward</b> 1530/1730/1830/2000/2230 <b>Leeward</b> 1600/1800/1900/2030/2300



Photo by Pvt. Kourtney Grimes/The Wire

Navy Rear Adm. Kyle Cozad, JTF commander, speaks of his initial impressions of JTF GTMO during one of his four all-hands calls Wednesday morning at the Downtown Lyceum.

## FEATURES

### 5 • Flying from the ground

A Joint Task Force Soldier takes his hobby to new heights by flying remote controlled aircrafts while deployed here.

### 10 • Corporals Course II

Naval Station Guantanamo Bay's second Corporals Course, a two-week training for Warriors with an E-4 rank, featured its first two females in the arduous, task-driven course to prepare them to be NCOs.

### 11 • Ready for leave?

If you are planning or scheduled to take a trip off island for leave, page 11 has some tips and assistance for your preparations to do so without hassle or delay.

CORRECTIONS Please report all corrections to [thewire@jtfgtmo.southcom.mil](mailto:thewire@jtfgtmo.southcom.mil).



## First Impressions

By Navy Rear Adm. Kyle Cozad  
JTF commander

First things first – having only taken over as the commander of Joint Task Force Guantanamo relatively short three weeks ago - I've already developed several initial impressions.

First, regardless of how things get reported in media venues around the world, we have been assigned a mission by our commander in chief. Given that tasking, I couldn't be more impressed with the professionalism, the motivation and the unfaltering character in which each and every member of the JTF performs that given mission on a daily basis. In a very short time I have been fortunate enough to have seen changes of command for the 525th Military Police Battalion, the Marine Corps Security Forces Company and the 474th Expeditionary Civil Engineering Squadron. I have seen firsthand the professionalism of our Port Security Unit and witnessed the several seamless MP Company transfer of authorities. Although each of those individual units has a uniqueness of both mission and culture – I am incredibly impressed with how the entire team – internal and external to the JTF - all come together every day to support one joint mission.

Second, we are fortunate to live in an incredibly supportive community. From

the service men and women, to the families who support them (both on and off island), to our civilian and contractor workforce – the local GTMO community understands the concept of teamwork and family and always goes the extra mile to ensure that our people have the resources they need – on and off duty – to accomplish our mission.

Lastly, I've come to recognize that the battle motto "honor bound to defend freedom" is much more than a bumper sticker – for the men and women of the JTF, I've quickly realized that it is a way of doing business ... honor bound defines the way we approach our mission, day in, day out - both inside and outside 'the wire.'

Going forward, as many have heard me say as I get out and about, I'm committed to build upon what Rear Adm. Butler accomplished during his tour – building continuity and consistency in our day to day operations, so we can get out of a mindset which has been branded here, "We've been doing this mission for 12 years, one year at a time."

Yes, every day brings new challenges, unforeseen hurdles and external pressures to our mission in GTMO. But with



Rear Adm. Kyle Cozad

these challenges, the phrase "I've got your back" has a unique application to our mission. It applies to the conduct of our mission and the safety of each and every one of you – whether you work on the camp tiers, in the headquarters, in the medical clinic or protecting the safety and security of everyone on the perimeter. Individually, bad days will inevitably happen, but because someone always has your back, mistakes will always be minor and we'll be able to pick ourselves up, learn and move forward.

In just a few short weeks GTMO has become home. Not because of the house I live in or the beauty of the bay – it's become home because of the amazing people

and their sense of community and the impressive men and women who serve in an incredibly challenging work environment. Regardless of the scrutiny, criticism and the pressure to accomplish our mission, you do so with the utmost poise, maturity and professionalism. Thanks to the men, women and families who make up this community. It's good to call GTMO home.

operating any motor vehicle, immediate suspension of driving privileges.

In our very unique deployed environment, we have the privilege of being able to enjoy a cocktail in the Caribbean. This is a privilege that is not shared by many other deployed Service members, and as such, you must protect it and drink responsibly.

Think before you drink and don't relieve yourself in public ... Light posts, walls and bushes don't need urine to grow.

## Fly like an EAGLE

Story and photos by Sgt. Christopher Vann  
Copy editor, thewire@jtfgtmo.southcom.mil



**W**heels, check! Rudders, check! Flight plan, check! Prepare for take-off.

With his eyes fixed on the sky, Army Maj. Clarke Rogers, primary hand receipt holder for Joint Task Force Guantanamo's J4, prepares to launch his remote controlled airplane into the sky at the McCalla Field runway next to Girl Scout Beach July 18.

Rogers has been flying r/c planes for several years and says it's a great hobby for people of all ages. "As a young kid, a big kid or an old man, everyone can get into this," he said.

Since childhood, Rogers has had a love for flying, whether it was going to the Air and Space Museum or listening to his father who was a military pilot, even trying to become one himself until his eyesight prevented him from continuing his dream in ROTC. "I figured, well if I can't fly the real thing, I'll fly the scale model one," said Rogers.

Rogers' penchant for r/c vehicles aren't limited to just scale model planes, he also flies stunt planes, jets and helicopters. "Back home, I have radio controlled cars and boats, pretty much anything remote controlled," he said.

When home, Rogers likes to meet up

with some friends and do a little dog fighting with their planes. Rogers joked that it's actually pretty difficult to hit each other, but it's when you're not expecting to is when you do.

Rogers enjoys flying his F-18 Hornet, modeled after the same aircraft flown by the Navy Blue Angels, which can hit speeds of 80 mph, his Airfield A6M Zero and his favorite and most often flown, as evident to the glue and tape holding the plane together, an SBach 342.

Since it's always windy on island, it makes it difficult to fly. Because of this, all of his planes are made of plastic foam. When asked if he uses plastic foam in case he crashes, Rogers wittingly quipped, "You use plastic foam for when you do crash. Even the best crash!"

"It's very important to have a hobby while deployed, especially here," said Rogers. "There's so much to do on base. Some find that they do get bored, and that leads to other problems."

For more information or to accompany Maj. Rogers, and fly your own planes, you can contact him at 3653.



Army Maj. Clarke Rogers, an officer with J4, displays his remote controlled planes that he uses to break the monotony of everyday GTMO life July 18.

## Trooper to TROOPER

### Think before you drink

By the Staff Judge Advocate Office  
Joint Task Force Guantanamo

After a long week, a couple Service members head to the Windjammer for a relaxing evening out. They meet up with some of their buddies, enjoy a few drinks and then make their way back home. On the way, one of them needs to use the restroom and runs behind the bushes to relieve himself. Of course, there are restrooms at the Windjammer just 100 yards back. Sure enough, the MAs flash their lights and actually catch the individual with his pants down. This is a true story, and we see it almost every weekend. Yes, just like the "don't be that

guy" commercial on AFN.

With one stupid act, this Service member has given up the right be treated like an adult and will be barred from drinking alcohol for the rest of his deployment, per JTF GTMO Policy 14.3, Use of Alcohol, dated 7 April 2014. Any Service member who has an alcohol related incident (ARI) will not only be barred from drinking for the rest of his/her deployment but he/she will undergo a command directed alcohol-dependency screening, fit-for-duty screening and, if the incident occurs while



# DELIVER US FROM DEVIL

Review by Sgt. Christopher Vann  
Copy Editor, [thewire@jftgtmo.southcom.mil](mailto:thewire@jftgtmo.southcom.mil)

With a few startling moments, "Deliver Us from Evil" is nothing more than scenes copied from "The Exorcist" or a number of other cookie-cutter "horror" movies. I guess it had a message to convey, but since the acting was dry and the plot unimaginative, I couldn't begin to tell you what the point of the movie was.

The main reason for this movie not doing too well in my eyes was the lack of vision on the writers' part. Sgt. Ralph Sarchie (Eric Bana), a New York Police Department detective, supposedly has this sixth sense that lets him know something bad is about to happen, like this movie being made. Sarchie's "gift" leads him and his partner Butler (Joel McHale) to a series of related cases. In each case, parents abuse their children while a mysterious and slender man (Sean Harris) lurks nearby, painting graffiti written entirely in Latin on walls like a New York tagger. Additionally, Sarchie finds that an alcohol-loving priest, Father Mendoza (Edgar Ramirez), is already on the case. As expected, the two men team up, but only after more children and animals are harmed.

I won't give away the ending, but I'm sure you can figure it out just from watching the many other generic horror movies of late. Even with Joel McHale and his wise cracks, I still give this movie two bored banana rats.



Review by Sgt. Debra Cook  
Staff Writer, [thewire@jftgtmo.southcom.mil](mailto:thewire@jftgtmo.southcom.mil)

The name Lucy is of Latin origin and means "light." Lucy, the main character, is played by Scarlett Johansson, a hard-partying, 25-year-old American woman living and studying in Taipei, Japan. Her boyfriend tricks her into delivering a briefcase to a scary, Japanese mafia type named Mr. Jang. The situation progresses and she gets a plastic bag of a new synthetic super-drug surgically inserted into her stomach so she can deliver it to another country undetected.

A blow to her stomach breaks the bag inside her and ka-boom, brain evolution begins. The scene is like "The Exorcist" with a new twist. Instead of a demon, it's drugs flinging her up onto the ceiling upside down writhing in pain and confusion as her body adapts to her increasing brain ability throughout the movie. During the intense scenes, the movie cuts to a separate event of Morgan Freeman, as Professor Samuel Norman, who's lecturing about capacity and usage of the brain. This is all interspersed with images of nature and the world around us. We get to see apes and animals reproducing and the universe evolve as time spans across the centuries.

The momentum built as viewers waited to see what would happen when Lucy hit 100% brain usage capacity, which no one has ever seen, even the good professor.

After Lucy evolved into an untouchable formless invisible being that exists everywhere, her voice said, "Life was given to us a billion years ago, and now you know what to do with it." The last message her formless entity took was in the form of a text that read, "I'm everywhere."

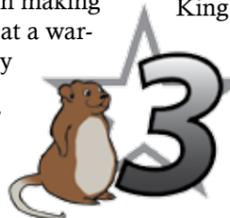
This movie was mildly entertaining while seeming to push an agenda, the theory of evolution. The greatness of this movie is as much a farce as the myth that we only use 10% of our brain. I asked other viewers who thought the banana rat rating should be higher for this movie simply because of Scarlett Johansson's part. But even that doesn't bring my rating up. I still give this movie two banana rats.



be just him defeating regular ruffians who prey on the superstitions of others. After an introduction to the "mythical hero" and his team, Hercules is hired by the King of Thrace to squash a rebellion by the evil warlord of the region. Hercules and his team train the ragtag army of the king to fight like a real army, and they take on and defeat the warlord.

Things go downhill from there as the warlord and the King of Thrace are not what they seem and Hercules' past returns to haunt him. In the end, Hercules shows off more muscle than a regular man, and you know he is the demigod he has always claimed to be.

With a great supporting cast, the movie succeeds in being entertaining but just misses the mark on epic. I give it three banana rats.



# HERCULES

Review by Sgt. Kenneth Edel  
Media Relations [thewire@jftgtmo.southcom.mil](mailto:thewire@jftgtmo.southcom.mil)

I have to admit, Dwayne Johnson's newest film, "Hercules," is a fun-filled action movie. While the film doesn't have epic proportions, it surpassed the quick, cheesy, action flick that I thought it would be. The story starts off with a setup that Hercules isn't as godlike as he's portrayed to be. He's actually just a really strong sword for hire that sells himself to local kingdoms.

In fact, if it wasn't for his band of mercenaries, you get the impression that he wouldn't be successful very much and his name wouldn't be legendary after all. His compatriots all help in making sure that the myth of how great a warrior stays, well, mythical. They even have a guy whose only job is to tell inflated stories of everything Hercules related.

Hercules' legendary twelve labors turn out to

# GTMO vs. USS America: land plays sea in tournament

Story by Staff Sgt. Carmen Steinbach  
Editor, [thewire@jftgtmo.southcom.mil](mailto:thewire@jftgtmo.southcom.mil)

Residents of Naval Station Guantanamo Bay prepared for an immediate increase to the base's population July 21 when the soon-to-be commissioned USS America pulled into port. For some this meant fewer supplies at the Naval Exchange, for others it meant: game on.

Sailors and Marines from USS America and GTMO residents and Troopers came together to square off in two athletic events July 21. Both beginning at 7:00 p.m., the opponents met at Cooper Field for a full-length soccer match and at Denich Gym for a basketball game. Before the ship even entered the bay, the tournament had been scheduled, and the players grew anxious.

"The theater security cooperation team and operations department contact all the countries we are going to; they schedule everything and make sure we

have everything that we need when we get there," said Navy Ensign Juan Benavides, soccer coach and a supply operations officer aboard the USS America. "They make sure we have water, transportation ... everything has to be coordinated so everybody is good to go to have fun over here."

In most cases, they need a soccer field, basketball court and an opposing side. Throughout the ship's voyage to San Francisco to be commissioned later this year, their teams have played in Cartagena, Colombia against the Colombian Navy, now Guantanamo, and are next scheduled to play in Brazil. While their soccer team lost against the Colombians, Benavides believes new talent added to their roster takes credit for the win here at GTMO.

"Today, I'm impressed, because my roster was for 20 players and I have 40," said Benavides. "We have all kinds of ethnicities here all the way from South Africa, South America, Central America and obviously the states, so this is good."

One of the soccer players on the America sidelines was Navy Petty Officer 3rd Class Nichole Brooke who has been aboard the USS America since November. Previous to joining its crew, she was actually assigned to Joint Task Force Guantanamo.

"I was here from 2012 to 2013. I never thought I would come back here, but it's nice that I know the area," said Brooke. "I've seen some familiar faces around."

As the USS team possessed regional diversity, the GTMO sidelines boasted players from a wide range of military services. While the main part of the team was comprised of Coast Guardsmen, it also included naval station and Joint Task Force Service members from all branches, which came together to play the regular MWR soccer season under the team name of Smash Bois.

"It's good to see new talent," said the team's coach, Marine Sgt. Derrick Wyatt. "We're used to the same old guys; we know who the strong guys are, who the strong forwards are, who the strong defenders are and who to avoid. So with these guys coming out here, we really had to start paying attention to the game again."

Despite being only down by one goal at half time, the visitors from the sea eventually conquered GTMO's locals with a final score of 4-0. After the defeat, Wyatt said the game's duration took a toll on his players, since this match consisted of the full 45-minutes per half, instead of the standard 25-minute halves of their regular season games.

"It was rough," said Wyatt. "It was nice to get to play a full game again though." GTMO's basketball team was able to bring the victory home, defeating the USS America crew with a final score of 46 - 38.



Sailors and Marines of USS America squared off in a soccer match against Naval Station Guantanamo Bay residents July 21 while the ship, on its inaugural voyage, was traveling to its home port in San Diego.

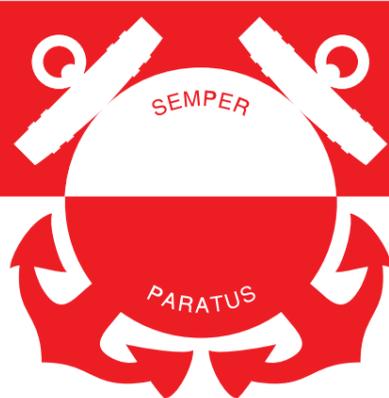


NOW SHOWING							
	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY
DOWNTOWN	Tammy (New) R, 8 p.m. Lucy R, 10 p.m.	How to Train your Dragon 2 PG, 8 p.m. Get on Up (New) PG13, 10 p.m.	Hercules PG13, 8 p.m.	The Fault in our Stars (LS) PG13, 8 p.m.	Jersey Boys (LS) R, 8 p.m.	Deliver us from Evil R, 8 p.m.	Transformers: Age of Extinction PG13, 8 p.m.
CAMPBULKLEY	Get on Up (New) PG13, 8 p.m. Deliver us from Evil R, 10:30 p.m.	Tammy (New) R, 8:00 p.m. Hercules PG13, 10 p.m.	The Fault in our Stars (LS) PG13, 8 p.m.	LYCEUM CLOSED *	How to Train your Dragon 2 PG, 8 p.m.	LYCEUM CLOSED *	Lucy R, 8 p.m.

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!



# Port Security Unit 312

## JTF Coast Guardsmen uphold no-fail maritime mission upon GTMO's waters

Story and photos by Pvt. Kourtney Grimes  
Staff Writer, [thewire@jtfgtmo.southcom.mil](mailto:thewire@jtfgtmo.southcom.mil)

The high-risk operations here at Joint Task Force Guantanamo are a no-fail mission, but the job doesn't lie solely in the camps or the guard towers. Every day, Coast Guardsmen of JTF's Maritime Security Detachment do their part in the joint mission out on the waters and along the coastlines surrounding Guantanamo Bay.

As the operations officer of Port Security Unit 312, the unit that fills the JTF's MARSECDET, Coast Guard Lt. Michael Henson knows the down and dirty of the high expectations of the Coast Guardsmen that have taken on this arduous mission.

"We have two ready-boats that are always able to respond to any threats off shore," said Henson. "We are able to respond to any type of threat that may come offshore and any type of vessel encroaching onto the camps. We will actually intercept and escort them out to a safe boundary area. We are able to respond to any type of search and rescue that happens not only offshore but also inside the bay where we'll assist the Navy harbor patrol units."

While the mission is demanding, so is the schedule. The Coast Guardsmen work 12-hour shifts to have the bay covered 24 hours a day, seven days a week, 365 days of the year.

A Coast Guardsmen that knows the difficulty of the job and the timeline in which it has to be accomplished is Petty Officer 2nd Class Curtis Clinton.

"We have a rotation with two different crews," said Clinton. "We go out; we do active patrols of the bay and then offshore for a certain amount of miles, patrol along the camps and make sure



Coast Guardsmen with PSU 312 respond to an incoming call over the radio while on the calm waters of Naval Station Guantanamo Bay Tuesday. The Warriors respond to radio calls in their day-to-day routine for everything from boats encroaching on the southern boundary to MEDEVAC training.

everything's fine and that we don't have any contacts or whatever the case may be."

Alongside these tasks, the MARSECDET also responds to search and rescue calls.

"We're also secondary SAR," said Clinton. "The Navy will be called first, but if we need to assist they'll call us, and then we'll do what we need to."

Being able to keep up the intense pace of this high visibility task doesn't come without training. The MARSECDET trains monthly to stay vigilant, be prepared and ensure good working relations with the other services they encounter during missions.

"We do interop[eration]s training, both with the Army and the Marine Corps," said Henson. "With the Army, we'll work with them on their defensive fighting posts. We also do joint training

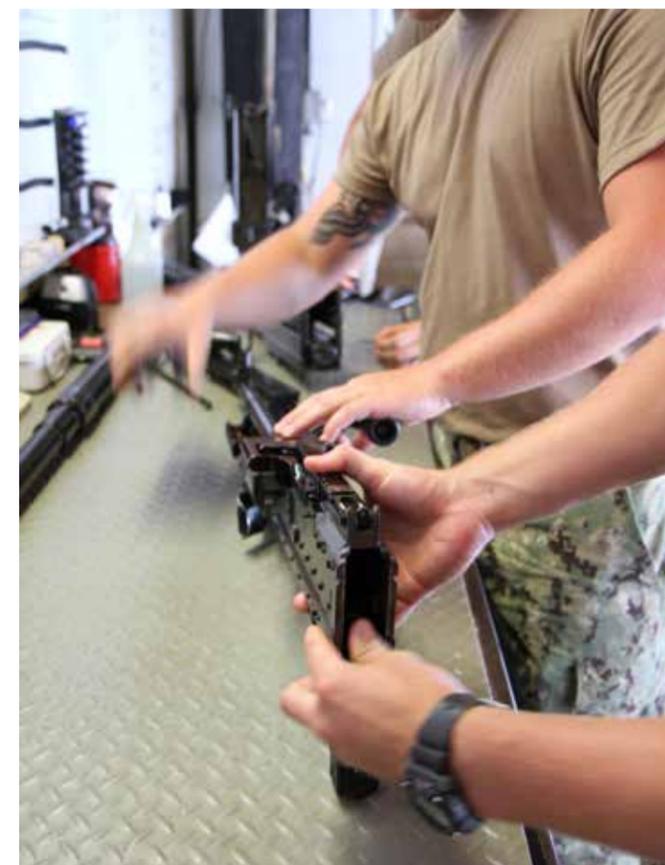
with the Marine Corps for MEDEVACs. They're constantly out here training in and around the wire so any type of injury that happens out there we are able to respond and get that Marine back over here on this side to the hospital. We have a great working relationship with the Marine Corps."

Although the mission is difficult and fast paced at times, while patrolling the bay, Coast Guardsmen of the MARSECDET often find themselves enjoying the beautiful oceanic scenes and sea life that belongs on a postcard and take advantage of the view GTMO has to offer.

"It's always cool hanging out on the blue waters offshore," said Clinton. "There's always some kind of dolphin or whale sharks."



A Coast Guardsmen with PSU 312 stands ready with his mounted M240B machine gun while patrolling the bay here Tuesday. The JTF MARSECDET does patrols in the bay and along the coastline.



Coast Guardsmen of PSU 312 clean weapons during their down time. The Coast Guard's boats are equipped with two M240B machine guns and a .50-caliber machine gun during a portion of their patrols.



The duties of the Joint Task Force Maritime Security Detachment are plenty and arduous which include patrolling the bay, coastlines and southern boundary of Guantanamo. The Coast Guard uses 32-foot Transportable Port Security boats during their patrols around the island.

# Nothing girly about it!

*Two female Soldiers show they can hang with the guys*

Story and photos by Sgt. Christopher Vann  
Copy editor, [thewire@jftgmo.southcom.mil](mailto:thewire@jftgmo.southcom.mil)

Spcs. Patricia Williams and Kelly Rojas, two Soldiers with Joint Task Force Guantanamo, recently completed leadership training in the JTF's Marine's Corporals Course July 25.

This is the second ever course that was open to all branches conducted at GTMO and the first featuring female participants. They showed that they were more than ready to continue on their path to leadership.

"It was a great feeling to go out there and complete a Marine training course as a Soldier," said Williams, a driver with the Joint Visitors Bureau, who was



all have to do the same thing, the same training," said Williams. "Everyone has their strong points and weak points, and we came together as a team and as leaders."

Marine Staff Sgt. Daryl Walker, an NCO with J2 and NCOIC of the leadership course, showed no preferential treatment and maintained the Marine standard. "As a Marine, there is no difference in males and females. The training is all the same."

Everyone in the class had their own personal challenges they had to overcome, both males and females. "Mine was speaking in front of groups and projecting my voice," said Rojas, a JTF postal clerk. "By the end of the course I had my projecting voice down pat. I could hold a concert without microphones."

"It's my duty as a leader to provide them with the tools to face such challenges," said Walker. "Not once did I hold back on the training just because they are females. I did not let them or anyone else take the easy way out."

The instructors are very seasoned in their jobs of teaching young Warriors how to be future leaders and NCOs," said Rojas. "They immediately recognized everyone's weaknesses and focused on those to have us face those weaknesses with all we have."

During the two-week course, both

Williams and Rojas took on leadership roles and had to step up in front of their peers and take charge. They wanted to show that they are equal to their male counterparts in a military where leaders are not defined by race, gender or ethnicity, but by actions and actions alone. Both Soldiers as well as the rest of their class proved that to be a fact.

One Team, One Fight!



Spc. Patricia Williams, a driver for the JVB, assists in the log carry portion of the obstacle course event that was conducted as part of the Corporals Course training July 15.



Spc. Kelly Rojas, a JTF postal clerk, pulls herself up a rope, during the rope climb portion of the obstacle course event that was conducted as part of the Corporals Course training July 15.

pleased with the training she received in the course. "It's rare that we have the chance at inter-service training like this."

When asked if it would be a challenge, being the only two females in a male-dominated course and if they would have any issues with some of the tasks, Williams quickly put that notion to rest. "No, just like in boot camp we



here are some tips to send you safely on your way

Story by Sgt. Kenneth Tucceri  
Webmaster, [thewire@jftgmo.southcom.mil](mailto:thewire@jftgmo.southcom.mil)

Arriving at Naval Station Guantanamo Bay can be an exciting moment for a Service member, especially if it is their first deployment. With so much to do on the island, from water-related activities to MWR events, it can be a thrilling experience, yet a tad hectic.

Between our busy work schedules and the many ways to spend our free time, taking leave off island can be a great way to help mollify the stress and fatigue that can begin to catch up on all of us.

For Spc. Alejandra Bello, Joint Task Force Guantanamo's leave and pass manager, ensuring people have what they need to leave GTMO and also what they need to return is the focus of her duty here.

"I verify with J4 that they have an itinerary so that they can get off island," said Bello. "The commercial portion is

all up to them. When I receive it [the packet], I have a tracker, and I issue a control number."

As for the leave packet, your unit's admin will take care of all of that. So here is a rundown of what is required of you should your leave be approaching.

"The member comes and signs out the day prior," said Bello. To do this, you must go to the Joint Personnel Center in building 1451 on Radio Range Road, located across from the headquarters building.

Here you will pick up your packet.

"The member has to have a copy of the leave form when they leave," said Bello. "If not, they will not let them on the plane." The same goes for coming back on island, so make certain you have a copy.

After that, you will need to go to the annex building located on Sherman

Avenue, next to the Downtown Lyceum. Here you will check in any luggage, purchase your plane ticket, which has already been reserved, and then you are set to hop on the next day's 10:30 a.m. ferry, where a bus will take you to the terminal.

When returning, you should be aware that if you don't grab your luggage at the airport, it will be sent to the annex for you to pick up that afternoon.

Whether you have a 96-hour leave, 2 weeks or something in between, have a safe and wonderful vacation from the "pearl of the Antilles."

For additional information on AMC flight information, such as seat availability, arrival and departure details, call 6204.

For more information from the Joint Personnel Center, call Spc. Bello at 8098.

# Joint Task Force Guantanamo



## welcomes 423rd Military Police Company

Story by Sgt. Kenneth Tucceri

Webmaster, [thewire@jtfgtmo.southcom.mil](mailto:thewire@jtfgtmo.southcom.mil)

Joint Task Force Guantanamo welcomed the arrival of the 423rd Military Police Company, an Army Reserve unit based out of Shoreham, New York Thursday, July 24.

The unit arrived to replace the 66th MP Company and to provide continuance to the mission of supporting JTF GTMO with safe, legal, humane and transparent care and custody of the detainees here.

As their deployment begins, the members of the 423rd are already off to a good start with their preparedness.

"Our annual training as a reserve unit was geared towards this mission," said Army 1st Sgt. Conrad Queen. "We came on orders June 10 and began our mobilization training at Fort Bliss where we excelled. We were 100% across the board in completing all the AWT training and mission sets for this mission, and now we are here, and we are looking forward to getting in and having an uneventful nine months."

For many of the Soldiers of the 423rd, this is their first deployment. However, many of the newest JTF Troopers are familiar with being overseas and know what to expect along with what's expected of them.

"This is my third deployment," said Army Sgt. John Riffle. "I've been to Iraq and Afghanistan ... and now Guantanamo. I expect to do the mission and enjoy my time here. This is a lot different from other deployments. There are a lot more recreational activities, so I'll take advantage of that and help my troops out."

For Spc. Jonathan Santiago, this is his first deployment. You could say he is off to a good start with setting goals and beginning with the end in mind as far as having a plan when his time on the island is done.

"Our team leader set up three goals for us to accomplish while we are down here," said Santiago.

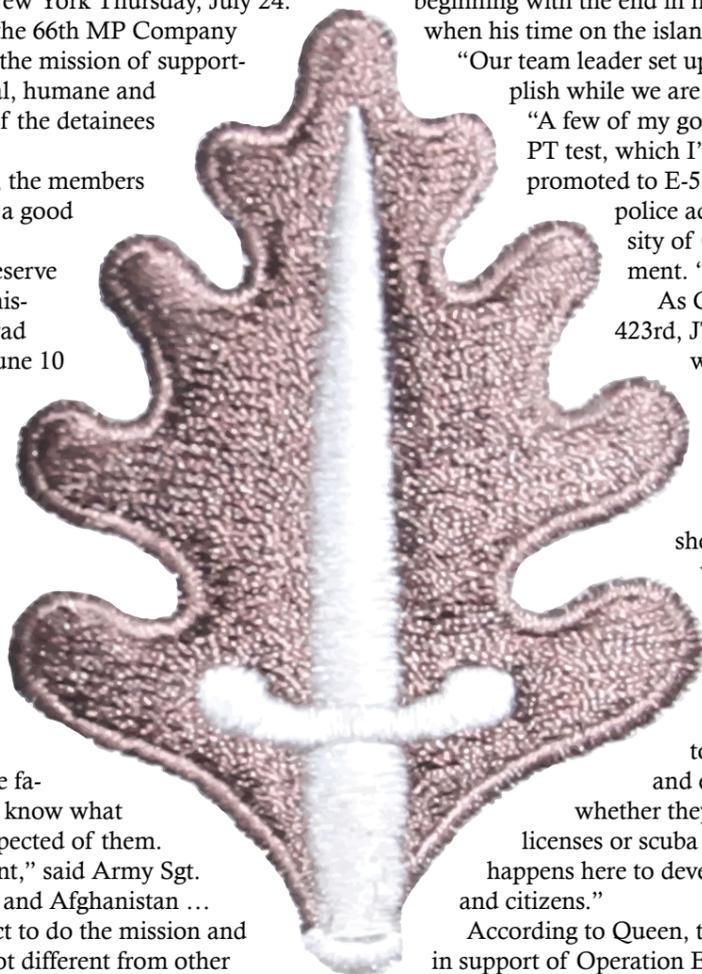
"A few of my goals are to get over a 300 on my PT test, which I've done in the past ... and get promoted to E-5. When I get back I'll start the police academy for the Uconn [University of Connecticut] Police Department."

As Guantanamo welcomes the 423rd, JTF GTMO's leadership, along with MWR and others, presents its members an opportunity to have a beneficial tour, both professionally and personally.

"Individually, our Soldiers should come back completed with their individual professional military education," said Queen. "With physical development, we should be green across the board ... we also expect everybody to get involved in some college and even recreational development,

whether they come back with boating licenses or scuba licenses or whatever else happens here to develop them as complete Soldiers and citizens."

According to Queen, the unit last deployed in 2002 in support of Operation Enduring Freedom. Prior to that the 423rd deployed to Bosnia in 1997.



# BEEF

## WELL DONE

Story and photos by Sgt. Christopher Vann

Copy editor, [thewire@jtfgtmo.southcom.mil](mailto:thewire@jtfgtmo.southcom.mil)

With lights shining bright and illuminating the Camp America entrance, the 474th Expeditionary Civil Engineer Squadron stood fast as they participated in the change of command between Air Force Lt. Cols. Eddie Phillips and Pat Miller July 23.

Air Force Col. James Sheedy, commander, 474th Air Expeditionary Group, first congratulating the outgoing members, BEEF 14, on the achievements during their deployment, then taking the time to speak of the expectations of the incoming crew, BEEF 15, and the importance of meeting and exceeding the standard set by their predecessors.

Each incoming unit receives a numeral designating their rotation.

Sheedy addressed the 474th ECES, also known as BEEF, or Base Emergency Engineering Force, currently made up of members of active duty and National Guard Airmen, saying, "This team came in and built infrastructure, put up sun shades at the Cuzcos Barracks and expanded security roads," said Sheedy. "If you've seen it, they've built it or repaired it."

The BEEF's mission is sustainment of Camp Justice and the Expeditionary Legal Complex and additional projects across the naval station and JTF. Miller, incoming commander of the BEEF 15, said he expects some challenges. "As Air Force engineers, we're not used to working in detention facilities," said Miller, "but we are looking forward to accepting that challenge."



Air Force Col. James Sheedy, commander, 474th Air Expeditionary Group, hands the 474th ECES guidon to Air Force Lt. Col. Pat Miller, incoming commander, during the 474th change of command ceremony July 23.

While other services tend to be mobile, typically for the BEEF units, they're stationary. "This is why we do such a good job at garrison," said Sheedy. "So for the mission at GTMO, all of our folks are trained and ready to get to work."

The 474th ECES Airmen will support base members while completing projects such as demolition, roadwork and renovations to detention centers. "Air Force engineers have a strong history of installation and mission support," said Miller. "Our job is to carry on that legacy. That's what we're trained to do."

"Our mission's complexity requires cohesion from all parts, BEEF 14 stepped up and went above and beyond their call of duty," Navy Rear Adm. Kyle Cozad, JTF commander, said of the work he's seen by the BEEF.

Phillips, BEEF's outgoing commander, said he was grateful and honored to command the unit and was pleased with the work they did. And when referring to how he felt to be in charge of the unit, he said "In the words of Sgt. Maj. Hidalgo, I get to do this!"

"We set off to continue the legacy of the BEEF, and we did just that," said

Phillips. "We came as 46 Airmen from different bases, and now we as leave as one team."

The civil engineers, including plumbers, carpenters, electricians, heavy equipment operators and air conditioning and heating specialists, make up the new members of the BEEF 15 and will finish the projects initiated by their predecessors. Typically, BEEF units consist of civil engineers tasked with designing, building, maintaining and tearing down buildings and airfields according to established Air Force standard operating procedures.

Airmen of the 474th ECES will focus on preventive maintenance to ensure facilities such as showers and latrines are in working order, and that Camp Justice's power supply and water treatment plant remain functional.

Previous units have said that the greatest challenge here is not the mission itself, but performing it within a joint environment. The BEEF 14 unit has worked hard to put that feeling to rest and the BEEF 15 plans to carry on that level of excellence.



Story by Sgt. Debra Cook  
Staff Writer, [thewire@jftgmo.southcom.mil](mailto:thewire@jftgmo.southcom.mil)

Jane told her friend she was going to have her own a jet plane one day. Her friend looked down his nose at her and asked, "Have you even fathomed what it takes to accomplish that?" Then he asked her if she was even able to comprehend how much money that was.

For a goal to be realistic you do have to know what it will take to make that goal a reality. But to have goals, history proves that dreaming is required.

Tim Ferriss says in his book, "The 4-hour Work Week," that thinking really big is the first step to goal setting. He calls his goals dreamlining and writes, "Ninety-nine percent of the people in the world are convinced they are incapable of achieving great things, so they

## DIVING FOR YOUR GOALS - can you fathom them?

aim for mediocre."

When creating goals you should suspend logic and pragmatic thinking according to Berkeley education website [www.hrweb.berkeley.edu](http://www.hrweb.berkeley.edu). Their instructions are clear on developing a career vision statement, "Remember that with a career vision anything should be possible to accomplish, so find a way to turn

one.

Here's another less well-known goal setting tip. Not everyone has the right to speak into your life, so don't let them. If you're allowing yourself to dream big, it's easy to be swayed by people that will challenge your thoughts of what you can accomplish. That can be a necessary part of the process, but a large majority

“Once you allow yourself to dream, you can begin to achieve things that seem unachievable.”

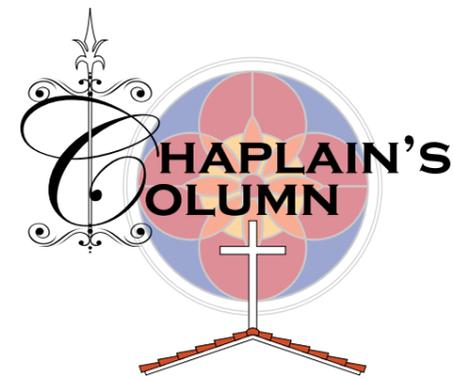
off any negative thinking that will block you from thinking big. Don't assume the future is limited to what is happening today.”

Once you allow yourself to dream, you can begin to achieve things that seem unachievable. One of the proven steps to goal setting is summed up in this well-known saying, if you don't write it down, it's not real. There are tons of ideas and steps for goal setting, but writing them down is always step

of people will shoot your dream down before you've even began. That can affect your ability to believe your dreams are possible. To believe you can achieve something takes great energy and force. You don't want to lose momentum when you've just embarked on a new journey of doing something amazing.

It's been said, when you dream big you surprise yourself.

May we all be surprised with what we can accomplish in this life.



## Finish faithfully

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

This was my first deployment and my first year as a chaplain. I had great expectations for this deployment, and most of them were realized both through joy and suffering. It's been a privilege to share my thoughts, hopefully encouraging and challenging you as it did me.

I often recall Colossians 3:23, which states, "Whatever you do, work heartily, as for the Lord and not for men." While here I wanted to please God, which often had the by-product of pleasing others. For me this played out through the many hours of interaction and relationships I had in the GTMO community. I met many of you, in Troopers' Chapel for services, study or fellowship; in the camps late at night; or through counseling, for another perspective or just venting. It didn't matter the time or duration, I was always glad to be there. It was never a burden, but a privilege to be allowed to be a part of your lives, even for a short season.

Just as all things come to pass, so will your time here in GTMO. Most people will remember you by how you finished. So, what kind of legacy are you leaving here? Have you helped to improve your office, section, peers and subordinates? It doesn't matter how long you have been here, or how much time you have left. What matters is this: Will you be faithful professionally and personally until your departure? I hope and believe I have; can you say the same? If not, there is always time to change this. May today be the day you make a change.

It has been a joy and a privilege to work with you and serve you when you wanted or needed it. May God bless the rest of your time here.

# Photography 101

## Preparing for a photo shoot

Story by Pvt. Kourtney Grimes  
Staff Writer, [thewire@jftgmo.southcom.mil](mailto:thewire@jftgmo.southcom.mil)

While it's fun and easy to just take off with a camera and do an impromptu photo shoot, there are many things than can turn a quick photo adventure into a picture perfect nightmare. When it comes to preparing for a photo shoot, here are some things to keep in mind.

**Time of day** - Although the GTMO sun is perfect for tanning and warm beach days, direct sun isn't good for portraits or action photos. The strong sun creates harsh contrast where details can be lost to dense shadows or washed-out highlights. Plan your photo adventures near sunrise or sunset. When the sun is lower in the sky, colors are more vibrant, shadows are softer and eyes are (usually) less squinty.

**Location** - When it comes to where you are taking your pictures, a lot of things come into play like crowds, availability, timing and background. Searching for the perfect background may take some time but it's worth it with a killer beach scene in the shot. When planning a shoot, think about how busy the venue may be. Photobombers always kill even the best planned shots.

**Equipment** - Have you ever taken your camera out of a cold room on a muggy GTMO morning? More often than not, fog will build up between the pieces of glass inside the lens which makes for blurry, softly-colored photos. When planning on taking early morning photos, set your camera and lenses outside in a secure location so they can acclimate.

So, when you return from your next photo adventure, take a second to send your best work to "The Wire" for the Photo Contest by Tuesday, August 5th.



**CINDY**  
20 minutes,  
As many reps  
as possible

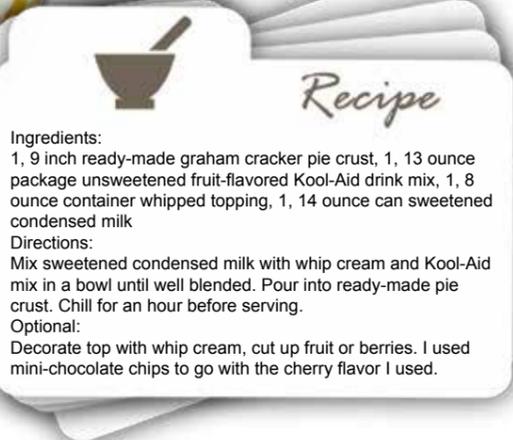
5 pull-ups  
10 push-ups  
15 Air Squats

Courtesy Navy Petty Officer 1st Class Andrew "Biff" Murray

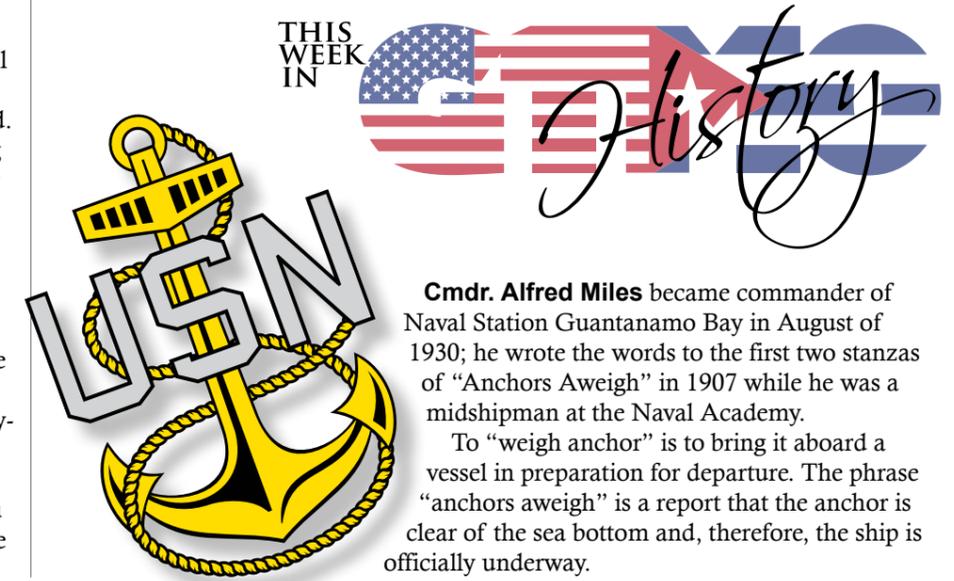


Story by Sgt. Debra Cook  
Staff Writer, [thewire@jftgmo.southcom.mil](mailto:thewire@jftgmo.southcom.mil)

If you grew up in the '80s you probably drank a lot of Kool-Aid because the variety of flavored drinks we have today weren't on the market then. Over the years, recipes have been developed from the little flavored packets created by Kraft Foods. The recipe for this week was found in Military Spouses Maga-



zine. It's super easy, fun and conducive to making with very few kitchen utensils. All that's required is a refrigerator and a spoon for mixing. Even the mix can be stirred directly in the whip cream tub you buy.



**Cmdr. Alfred Miles** became commander of Naval Station Guantanamo Bay in August of 1930; he wrote the words to the first two stanzas of "Anchors Aweigh" in 1907 while he was a midshipman at the Naval Academy.

To "weigh anchor" is to bring it aboard a vessel in preparation for departure. The phrase "anchors aweigh" is a report that the anchor is clear of the sea bottom and, therefore, the ship is officially underway.



# THE WIRE PHOTO CONTEST



Provide a title of your composition

Include a caption with the who,  
what, when & where

Submit photos no later than  
Tuesday, August 5

Send photos to [thewire@jftgmo.southcom.mil](mailto:thewire@jftgmo.southcom.mil)

Saturday, August 9<sup>th</sup>  
 Run a 10k, bike 20k and run a 5k  
 in that order. Register by August 7<sup>th</sup>  
 Check in time 0600  
 Race start time 0630

**MMR** Duathlon

## WHAT **NOT TO WEAR** IN THE GALLEYS

- |                             |  |
|-----------------------------|--|
| SWEAT PANTS (ANY TYPE)      | EXPOSED MID-DRIFT                                |
| PANTS or SHORTS w/o POCKETS | EXPOSED UNDERARMS                                |
| PANTS w/ HOLES              | COVERALLS  |
| CUT-OFF SHORTS              | ARTICLES w/PROVOCATIVE LANGUAGE                  |
| RUNNING SHORTS              | SHORTS, SKIRTS, DRESSES<br>HIGHER THAN MID-THIGH |
| MILITARY P.T. GEAR          |  |
| PLAIN T-SHIRTS of ANY COLOR |  |

A crab was seen hanging on the railing of the Leeward Ferry Landing at night in this photo by Petty Officer 3rd Class David Valdez.



PHOTO OF THE WEEK

Send your best photos to [thewire@jftgmo.southcom.mil](mailto:thewire@jftgmo.southcom.mil)