



THE WIRE

The Official Publication of Joint Task Force Guantanamo

Back to school
new school year, new faces

OPERATION Sea
Signal
remembered after 20 years

391st MP Battalion keeps force rolling

AROUND THE BAY

MOTIVATOR OF THE WEEK

SGT Ferguson

342nd Military Police Company

SrA Kalia Foreman

Base Engineer Emergency Force



Cover photo: Spc. Daniel Matamoros, a Soldier with the 391st Military Police Battalion's consolidated motor pool, located on Windmill Beach Road, troubleshoots a Humvee while using a multi-meter Tuesday. This task is one of many that the Soldiers of the motor pool accomplish on a daily basis. For pictures and the full story, turn to page eight.

Photo by Pvt. Kourtney Grimes

9/11 Run to remember

In remembrance of the lives lost during the Sept. 11 terrorist attacks, MWR is hosting 9.11k and 5k runs Sept. 11 beginning 6:30 p.m. at Cooper Field. Registration for the event ends at noon the day before the race, and is free and open to all Guantanamo Bay residents. Sign up today at Denich Gym. Call 2113 for more information.

Flag football league kicks off

With the start of NFL and NCAA football comes the latest pigskin activity. The GTMO flag football starts Sept. 22. Teams must register by Sept. 17 before 8 p.m. Flag football is free and open to ages 16 and older. The coaches' meeting is Sept. 18 in the Denich Gym classroom.

FEATURES

7 • Boot scootin' boogie

A JTF Soldier takes advantage of the Windjammer's Country Night each Thursday by teaching fellow Service members how to two-step around the dance floor like a pro. Drop by for a lesson if you're looking to improve your moves.

10 • Operation Sea Signal

The mayors of Miami and Coral Gables were on hand to recognize the heroic actions of the Miami Medical Team 20 years ago in which they saved the lives of thousands of Cubans and Haitians in search of freedom.

12 • Back to School

School-aged residents of GTMO return to school and are greeted by some new faces in the classroom. Welcome back students of W.T. Sampson Elementary and High School.

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



Army Col. Steve Warren (right), director, Defense Press Operations, and Army Lt. Col. Myles Caggins (left), desk officer, Operational Security Detachment – Public Affairs, peruse through the catalog system for Radio GTMO's vinyl collection. Warren, Caggins and other distinguished visitors explored the spectacular collection of records during a tour of GTMO. For the full story on Radio GTMO's vinyl collection, pick up next week's issue of "The Wire."



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JOINT TASK FORCE
GUANTANAMO

Religious Services

NAVSTA Chapel

Catholic Mass
Mon.-Thur. 1730
Saturday 1700
Sunday 0900

Protestant Services

General Protestant
Sunday 1100
Gospel Worship
Sunday 1300

Chapel Annexes

Pentecostal Gospel
Sunday 0800 & 1700
Room D

LDS Service

Sunday 1300 Fellowship Hall

Islamic Service

Friday 1315 Room 2

Seventh Day Adventist

Friday 1900 Room 1
Sabbath School: Saturday 0930
Room 1
Sabbath Service: Saturday 1100
Room 1

Iglesia ni Cristo

Thursday: 0500, 1900 Room 1
Sunday: 0530, 1900 Room 1
Tuesday (Bible Study): 2000

New Troopers' Chapel

Protestant Worship
Sunday 0640
Sunday 0900
Sunday 1900

Bible Studies

Monday 2000
Cuzco block J
Wednesday and
Friday 1900
New Troopers' Chapel

Chapel Annexes Cont.

Liturgical Protestant

Sunday: 0930, Room 1



Transportation Schedules

BUS Schedule

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

BEACH BUS Saturday & Sunday ONLY

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

FERRY Schedule

Monday thru Saturday
FERRY

Windward 0630/0730/0930/1030/1130/1330/1530/1630
Leeward 0700/0800/1000/1100/1200/1300/1400/1600/1700

UTILITY BOAT

Windward 1730/1830/1930/2030/2130/2230
Leeward 1800/1900/2000/2100/2200/2300

Sunday & Holidays

FERRY
Windward 0730/0930/1130/1330
Leeward 0800/1000/1200/1400

UTILITY BOAT

Windward 1530/1730/1830/2000/2230
Leeward 1600/1800/1900/2030/2300



SAFE



HUMANE



LEGAL



TRANSPARENT



Leadership and taking responsibility

By Navy Capt. Mark Winter

Joint Task Force Guantanamo Chief of Staff

Leadership is about responsibility. As a leader, you are responsible for those under your command, whether a squad, platoon, work center or department. It also means taking responsibility, even in cases where it might not be a popular decision. When I was a new division officer on my first ship, I read the following story about being a leader. It made me understand that with leadership comes responsibility, and that the buck stops with you.

As the story goes, a new department head (an O-3) was assigned to a ship that had been having a lot of leadership issues in the senior enlisted and junior officer (E-7 to O-2) ranks. The ship was getting

ready for an upcoming inspection and there was a lot to do. An ensign and chief petty officer from one of the divisions came to the department head and asked for part of the next day off so that their division could take care of some things ashore. The department head knew that this division still had lots to get done but said that he would check with the executive officer. The XO stated that no one was to leave the ship until all work for the inspection was complete and that inspection preparations were the

number one priority. That afternoon, the department head caught up with the division officer and told him, "the XO said 'no way,' and you guys need to finish



Capt. Mark Winter

up the inspection preps." Just as he said that, the XO walked around the corner.

The XO brought the young department head immediately into his office and counseled him (in a very stern and direct manner) about not passing the buck, taking responsibility and owning a decision. This was a lesson the department head never forgot. It stuck with me as well.

As a leader, you have to make decisions that are sometimes not popular. Sometimes you have to deliver orders from above that you know will not be well received. But you are the leader – you need to own that decision and not pass the buck. It is easy to blame someone else. Don't take the easy way out. Be a leader and take responsibility. If you have concerns about the directions, discuss it with your chain of command. But, in the end, you are in charge of those under your command. Show that you are a strong leader and that the buck stops with you.

Trooper to **TROOPER**

Meat eater or vegetarian?

By Navy Chief Petty Officer Merico Zanotti

Joint Medical Group

What type of leader are you? Over the years I have heard many philosophies regarding leadership. I believe deckplate leadership can be categorized into two philosophies, the "meat eater" and the "vegetarian." Both are very effective leadership styles. The challenge is to know your people and applying the appropriate style for that particular situation.

As a young Sailor I was told to be a meat eater. I know what my chief wanted; I just did not understand the term. What does it take to be a meat eater? You have to be aggressive, find out what your goals are and hunt it down. The best part about being a meat eater is that you benefit from your accomplishment

almost instantly. This style of leadership is best utilized in the day to day activity that contributes to the mission. If you procrastinate while utilizing this style of leadership, you will starve.

As I grew up in the Navy I realized that being a vegetarian has an impact that is deeply-rooted. As a vegetarian you have to carefully cultivate the soil then plant

the seed. If the proper follow-up is not performed, the vegetarian will see his/her crop wither and die. With patience

and nurturing, this style of leadership will blossom and the command will continuously reap its reward for generations.

The answer to the question asked can be both. We are all leaders every day, and we have a duty to each other. Know your teammates, practice situational awareness and, above all walk, the deckplate.



Chief Petty Officer Merico Zanotti



BOOT KICKING GOOD TIME

Story and photos by Sgt. Christopher Vann

Copy Editor, thewire@jtfgtmo.southcom.mil

It's time to grab your Stetson, fasten your buckle and throw on those boots. Now that you look the part, it's time to learn the moves.

Staff Sgt. Shawn Lehman, a Soldier with Joint Task Force Guantanamo, has brought his style of country western dancing to GTMO and is more than willing to help out the novice dancers and give the more experienced individuals some added variety.

"I do quite a bit of two-step country dancing back at home as one of my hobbies," said Lehman. "A few Soldiers in my unit had asked if I would teach them how to two-step."

Lehman discovered when he first got here that there was a country night. That seemed like a perfect opportunity for him to teach those individuals who wanted to learn.

"After a few country nights, I discovered that many people did not partake in two-stepping because they simply did not know how to," said Lehman. "I just wanted to give them an opportunity to learn as much as I know and hope that they get the same enjoyment out of country music and two-stepping that I do."

So far Lehman has only set up two classes. The results were not quite what he was hoping for as only a few individuals showed up. After speaking with a few people who suggested making flyers, he noticed that the number of people who are showing up for country night was increasing, which he felt was fantastic. Many have learned to two-step as they go, with the help of Lehman and others who donate their time to contribute in filling up the dance floor.

"There are several varieties to two-stepping," said Lehman. "The two-stepping that I am currently teaching is just a way and not the only way. The disc jockey for country night does a phenomenal job of playing music, and he tries to help me out as much as he possibly can."

The two are coordinating with each other to get something set up to teach both of their varieties of two-stepping

for a "boot scootin' boogie" good time.

There are a few individuals that have picked up on Lehman's particular style of dancing and are more than willing to help him teach others with their spins and twists.

"I am also very willing to open up and learn new dances and techniques from others if they would not mind sharing," said Lehman.

Lehman enjoys the benefit of line dancing and how it can be used as a good workout. "Right now I currently have set aside Thursday from 7:30 p.m., until either the Windjammer closes or I am physically exhausted from danc-



Army Staff Sgt. Shawn Lehman performs a few two-step moves on the dance floor for country night at the Windjammer, Aug. 21.

ing all night," said Lehman. "I understand that work and time off schedules fluctuate here, and I would really like to accommodate for those schedules. I will be available most evenings to teach if people are interested in learning to two-step and would like to maybe teach two classes per week."

So if you're ready to shake your "honky tonk badonka donk," rustle up a few partners and head on over to the Windjammer Thursday nights for some heel-kicking fun.



Life in **BOOTS**



WEEKLY

Story by Sgt. Christopher Vann

Copy Editor, thewire@jtfgtmo.southcom.mil

This past weekend was filled with some hard hits, amazing plays and the return of the New Orleans Saints' Drew Brees, unfortunately football fans, pre-season also witnessed the exit of the St. Louis Rams' Sam Bradford, who suffered a season-ending knee injury.

After a hiatus from football, the San Francisco 49ers defensive end Aldon Smith returned to action after his tumultuous off-season, as well as the incident involving marijuana charges of the Pittsburgh Steelers running backs Le'Veon Bell and LeGarrette Blount.

All 32 NFL rosters were trimmed to 75 players or fewer by Tuesday.

Here are the final scores from the past weekend:

Eagles – 31, Steelers – 21

Patriots – 30, Panthers – 7

Giants – 35, Jets – 24

Lions – 13, Jaguars – 12

Packers – 31, Raiders – 21

Seahawks – 34, Bears – 6

Buccaneers – 27, Bills – 14

Dolphins – 25, Cowboys – 20

Titans – 24, Falcons – 17

Ravens – 23, Redskins – 17

Saints – 23, Colts – 17

Rams – 33, Browns – 14

Vikings – 30, Chiefs – 12

Texans – 18, Broncos – 17

49ers – 21, Chargers – 7

Bengals – 19, Cardinals – 13



Review by Navy Petty Officer 1st Class Andrew Murray

Wire Contributor, thewire@jtfgtmo.southcom.mil



In 1986, at the end of the Cold War, Americans were searching for a hero. Our role models were either a humanoid from the future or a body builder shooting bad guys in Vietnam. What we sorely needed was a change of pace. What we got was Tom Cruise and "Top Gun."

"Top Gun" centers around a young, cocky fighter pilot named Pete "Maverick" Mitchell (Tom Cruise) who earns a ticket to the prestigious flight school,

Top Gun, in Miramar, California. At the school his brash attitude lands him in the hot seat with his instructor, Viper (Tom Skerritt), and his classmates, specifically the number one ranked pilot at the school, Iceman (Val Kilmer).

While trying to prove to himself and his friends that he is indeed "the best," Pete falls in love with Charlie, an instructor, played expertly by a young Kelly McGillis, and trades one-liners with his wingman and best friend, Goose (Anthony Edwards). He finally gains respect of his classmates and honors the spirit of his deceased father, also a Top Gun pilot, by putting his relatively brief training to work by defeating a few Russian MIG fighters in the head spinning, edge of your seat climactic ending.

Although filled with cheesy one-liners and a somewhat unrealistic plot, "Top Gun" hit theaters in the summer of 1986 with a bang. The U.S. Navy

reported a five hundred percent increase in young men wanting to be recruited as pilots, even going so far as to have actual recruiters standing outside as moviegoers bought tickets. Ray-Ban aviator sunglasses increased in sales by forty percent, as well. Shot over Fallon, Nevada, retired Navy pilots did all of the actual flight scenes with real F-14 fighter jets, with Paramount paying upwards of \$7,800 per hour, as well as filming actual take-offs and landings from the aircraft carrier, USS Eisenhower. It was the number one grossing film of 1986, and brought in \$350 million in ticket sales worldwide.

The film justifies a respectable four banana rats for its mind-blowing flight scenes, thunderous soundtrack and bringing America the hometown hero it so desperately needed.



Forrest Gump

It's been 20 years since we were first introduced to "Forrest Gump," and the world of cinema has never been the same. I still find myself pulled right back into this man's journey regardless of where in the story my channel surfing lands me. The emotional highs and lows are as they were the first time I watched it only now with a bonus of nostalgia.

Eric Roth's screenplay is masterfully drafted based on the 1986 novel of the same name written by Winston Groom. Roth's writing is vastly different than Winston's novel including

Review by Sgt. David Kirtland

Staff Writer, thewire@jtfgtmo.southcom.mil

Gump's personality and much more outlandish events Gump is involved in.

The man who breathes life into Gump, Tom Hanks, provides us a dignified man with an IQ of 75, accidentally forced into the forefront of almost every major event of the tumultuous times in America between the 1950s to the 1980s. Hanks' beautifully balanced performance of optimism and humanity earned him the Oscar for best actor.

Growing up in rural Alabama in his mother's boardinghouse, Gump struggles to fit in with the other kids because of his IQ and the leg braces he wears to correct his crooked spine. It isn't long until Gump breaks free of his braces and shows off his ability to "run like the wind blows," which eventually lands him a college football scholarship.

Forrest Gump, the simple southern boy from Alabama becomes Forrest Gump the Medal of Honor recipient, the shrimp

boat captain and eventually the millionaire. No matter where life takes Gump, his childhood friend and unlikely sweetheart Jenny remains forever intertwined as she weaves in and out his life..

Director Robert Zemeckis flawlessly inserts Forrest into real footage of historical events using his expertise of special effects. He is placed into archival news footage showing President Lyndon Johnson his wounded backside and telling JFK how bad he has to use the restroom.

"Forrest Gump" was a commercial and critical success earning over \$677 million worldwide during its theatrical run and winning Academy Awards for Best Picture, Best Director for Robert Zemeckis, Best Actor for Tom Hanks, Best Adapted Screenplay, Best Visual Effects and Best Film Editing.

The film is a timeless masterpiece that not only captures a heartfelt story of a simple man in challenging times but is a beautiful retelling of some of the most pivotal events in American history during the last decades of the 20th century. Although this was probably expected, Forrest Gump still gets five enthusiastic banana rats in my book.



Vaccinations

our first line of defense

Need to KNOW

Story by Staff Sgt. Carmen Steinbach
Editor, thewire@jftgtnm.southcom.mil

For several decades immunizations were just a necessity of life. Parents knew that after waiting patiently for 40 weeks, their baby would arrive and at birth would receive their first shot – a hepatitis vaccine. This first round of immunizations marked a process that continued periodically for the majority of their childhood, not only ensuring that they would be safe from certain illnesses for the rest of their life, but also preventing them from infecting others.

Recently several misconceptions about childhood immunizations began swirling, one for instance, suggesting a link between vaccinations and autism, causing some parents to skip the required shots all together. August is recognized as National Immunization Awareness Month and Navy Lt. Charles Moore with Joint Task Force Guantanamo's Joint Medical Group, says that without vaccines, the U.S. will see an increase in diseases that are already prevalent in other parts of the world.

"They aren't prevalent in the U.S. because we have a very robust vaccination

system here," said Moore. "People take it for granted. If we stop taking vaccines, it won't be overnight we see a problem, but over years, diseases will come back and we'll have to start all over building immunity to them."

Vaccines work because at a young age, children are introduced to antibodies. After a certain number of vaccinations, they develop immunities for life.

At two months old, infants should receive their first dose of immunizations called DTaP, which prevents diphtheria, tetanus and pertussis. At that time, they also receive the polio, rotavirus and influenza vaccines. Without the DTaP vaccine to prevent contraction, all of these illnesses can cause death. There has never been a recorded case of a vaccination causing death.

At 12-15 months, the measles, mumps, rubella (MMR) vaccine is administered. Since the first signs of autism generally present around ages 15 – 18 months, question arose about a link between the vaccinations and the development of autism. According to the American Academy of Pediatrics,

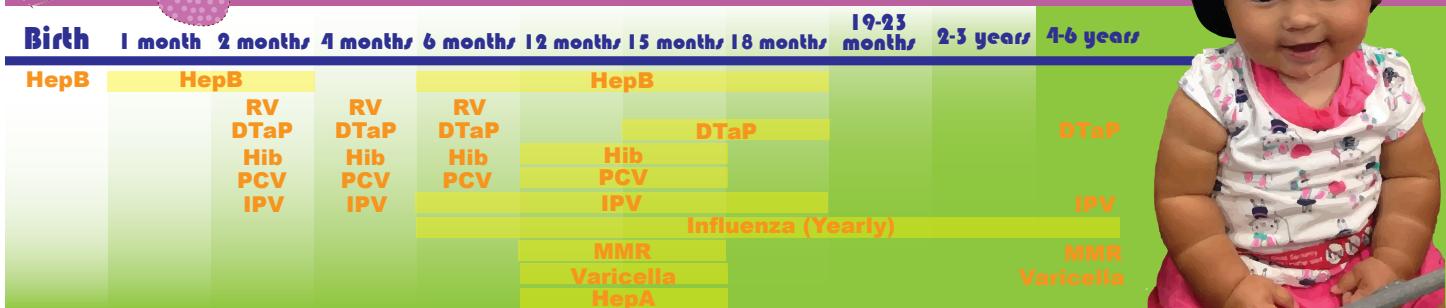
despite several studies in the U.S. and Europe, there has been no scientific evidence to suggest that vaccinations cause autism.

Failure to vaccinate has been proven to lead to an increase in documented cases of diseases. Also according the AAP, in the early '90s, an epidemic of measles resulted in 11,000 hospitalizations and 123 deaths. The majority of these cases were reported in unimmunized preschool children.

As military members traveling abroad, Moore says that we have an even bigger obligation to get our children and ourselves vaccinated at the required times.

"We deploy to other countries that have all of these bugs. If not vaccinated, we could bring them home to our families," said Moore.

Currently, vaccines are required for any child entering public school and daycares. In order to keep your family and others healthy, stay informed. Visit <https://www.aap.org> for an immunization schedule.



MOVIES

CAMP BULLEY DOWNTOWN

FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY
Hercules PG13, 8 p.m. The Expendables 3 PG13, 10 p.m.	Lucy R, 8 p.m. The Fluffy Movie PG13, 10 p.m.	Planes: Fire & Rescue PG, 8 p.m. Sex Tape R, 10 p.m.	The Purge: Anarchy (LS) R, 8 p.m.	Dawn of the Planet of the Apes (LS) R, 8 p.m.	Into the Storm PG13, 8 p.m.	Guardians of the Galaxy PG13, 8 p.m.
Lucy R, 8 p.m. The Fluffy Movie PG13, 10:30 p.m.	Hercules PG13, 8:00 p.m. The Expendables 3 PG13, 10 p.m.	Dawn of the Planet of the Apes PG13, 8 p.m. The Purge: Anarchy (LS) R, 10:30 p.m.	LYCEUM CLOSED *	Sex Tape R, 8 p.m.	LYCEUM CLOSED *	Get on Up PG13, 8 p.m.

CAMP BULLEY DOWNTOWN

NOW SHOWING

* Concessions closed until further notice *

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

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



Spc. Daniel Matamoros, a Soldier with the 391st Military Police Battalion's consolidated motor pool, located on Windmill Beach Road, works underneath a dead-lined Humvee. The Soldiers of this motor pool work on Humvees, small engines and other tactical equipment everyday to support the mission of the 391st Military Police Battalion.

Keeping the mission rolling

An inside look at the JTF's primary vehicle maintenance force

Story and photos by Pvt. Kourtney Grimes
Staff Writer, thewire@jtfgtmo.southcom.mil

Humvees sit under the shade of tents in the make-shift motor pool near the Camp America Galley here at Joint Task Force Guantanamo while mechanics of the 391st Military Police Battalion work tirelessly to repair their tactical vehicles and equipment. The 391st's consolidated motor pool is made up of Soldiers from the units that fall under the battalion, but they toil together to complete a mission vital to the success of JTF GTMO.

Sgt. 1st Class Erick Dietz, battalion motor sergeant with the 391st MP Battalion, works in the motor pool every

day with his Soldiers, helping them accomplish their various daily tasks.

"Mainly we work on the M1026 Humvees, various-sized generators and some other tactical equipment," said Dietz. "They work on a company-sized element of Humvees. We'll do everything from changing tires, headlights and light bulbs all the way up to replacing engines and transmissions out here."

A normal day for his Soldiers in the motor pool is usually quite routine.

"They get here about eight o'clock in the morning. They start working on either scheduled or unscheduled services, and they also run the fuel points," said

Dietz.

While scheduled services are something that would be seen in a civilian auto shop, the unscheduled maintenance can be quite different, especially considering GTMO's terrain and the toll it takes on the vehicles.

"Our typical unscheduled maintenance issues are transmissions slipping, flat tires, electrical problems, vehicles not starting properly," said Dietz. "Common issues with the terrain on GTMO are the brakes; we do a lot of changing of brake pads and brake systems, transmissions occasionally because going up and down the hills are rough on these



Top left: Spc. Benjamin Kelley, a Soldier with the 391st MP Battalion, works in the wheel well of a Humvee while preparing to replace its tire. Top right: Spc. Joshua McClellan, the only generator mechanic in the 391st MP Battalion's consolidated motor pool, works on a small generator. Bottom left: A Soldier who works in the motor pool, doing maintenance on the battalion's tactical vehicles, replaces the left windshield in the Humvee. Bottom right: Army Chief Warrant Officer 3 Jennifer Hamm helps Spc. Daniel Matamoros as he uses a manual to troubleshoot a dead-lined Humvee.

older vehicles we have here."

Just last week an unscheduled repair came into the motor pool.

"We had an engine go down. We had to pull it out and we had that done in two days," said Spc. Jared Dodds, with the 391st MP Battalion. Dodds had experience in working on engines before his career in the military.

"Back home, I do work in a maintenance shop. It's not always vehicles, but it's normally small engines," said Dodds. "Joining the military I wanted to come in as a mechanic or maybe a carpenter or masonry, but I really enjoy being a mechanic."

Like many others in the motor pool, Dodds enjoys doing his job and always has a positive outlook toward the time he spends working.

"I feel if you can't have a good time and still get work done, there's no point in coming," said Dodds.

As battalion motor sergeant, Dietz sees this every day and is proud of what his Soldiers do here.

"I think the motivation of my Soldiers is incredible because they work, a lot of times, unscheduled hours; some will get called in during the middle of the night," said Dietz. "They're motivated. They do an awesome job here."

The stellar success of those manning the motor pool doesn't go unnoticed. Army Command Sgt. Maj Michael Poll, command sergeant major of the 391st MP Battalion, recognizes what they bring to the table.

"The guys in the motor pool are an integral part of the battalion. Without these guys, we don't have any vehicles. They are often unappreciated and overlooked. We very much appreciate them because, in any theater, here in Guantanamo Bay or Afghanistan and Iraq, having vehicles running is the basis of our mission."

More photos on next page



Left: A Humvee awaits repairs in the southern tent of the 391st consolidated motor pool. Their taskings include scheduled and unscheduled maintenance. "Our typical unscheduled maintenance issues are transmissions slipping, flat tires, electrical problems, vehicles not starting properly," said Sgt. 1st Class Erick Dietz, battalion motor sergeant with the 391st MP Battalion. "Common issues with the terrain on GTMO are the brakes; we do a lot of changing of brake pads and brake systems, transmissions occasionally because going up and down the hills are rough on these older vehicles we have here," said Dietz. Above: Spc. Benjamin Kelley, with the 391st MP Battalion, works underneath a Humvee at the 391st consolidated motor pool.

Sea Signal remembered

Guantanamo recognizes Miami Medical Team

Story and photos by Staff Sgt. Carmen Steinbach

Editor, thewire@jtfgtmo.southcom.mil



Responsible for saving the lives of thousands of Cuban and Haitian refugees during Operation Sea Signal, members of the Miami Medical Team were presented with a plaque during a ceremony Aug. 22, that will forever remind residents and members of the Cuban committee of their heroic actions.

"Twenty years ago, when the world saw a mass exodus of Cubans trying to gain freedom, they were brought here to Guantanamo Bay and a few weeks after dozens of Cuban American doctors, nurses, support personnel decided that they wanted to help ... these people left their families, their jobs. They paid for themselves to come here and for many, many weeks they took care of many thousands of women, children and men that were housed here."

These were the opening words given by mayor of Miami, Tomás Pedro Regalado, during the Miami Medical Team's commemoration ceremony held Friday at the Naval Station Guantanamo Bay base chapel on the 20th anniversary of Operation Sea Signal.

Mayor Regalado served as a journalist during Operation Sea Signal and says he was honored to recognize the heroism displayed by the members of the Miami Medical Team, some of which were present at the ceremony, and to also remember those Cuban refugees that died in search of a better life.

Operating under stressful conditions, Sea Signal participants comprised of both active duty military and non-gov-

ernmental agencies and volunteers saved more than 60,000 Cuban and Haitian refugees hoping to find freedom and a new way of life.

In recognizing the efforts of the doctors and nurses of the Miami medical community, Regalado was joined by mayor of Coral Gables, the Honorable James Carson, former ambassador to Paraguay, who served as the chief of the U.S. Intercession in Havana, Cuba during the crisis in 1994.

In May of 1994, a U.S. policy allowed the screening of Haitian refugees on-board vessels, rather than immediately returning them to their home country. This decision created a sudden outflow of Haitian migrants. To prevent the loss of life at sea and thwart the illegal immigration into the U.S., Navy and Coast Guard vessels intercepted and rescued migrants. Initially intending to safeguard the migrants in Kingston, Jamaica, once the location was overwhelmed in numbers, Guantanamo became the next alternative to provide temporary shelter.

In August '94, the humanitarian effort

became further complicated when Fidel Castro revised his internal policy to allow Cubans to leave the island. Approximately 45,000 Cubans took to the straits of Florida with small children, elderly and their families, disregarding the hazards of the ocean. Those Cuban refugees were also redirected to Guantanamo temporarily until they were either legally

brought to the U.S. or returned to their homes. Not everyone survived however, and those

that landed here still had to endure less-than-ideal conditions, needing medical treatment, food and water.

Mr. Guarione Diaz, the civilian liaison during Operation Sea Signal, appointed by then President Bill Clinton to build relationships between the Cuban population and the international community, said that it was hope that urged the immigrants forward.

"They never lost their hope that they will be able to reach the United States," said Diaz. "Once again ... America extended its arms to the needy, to the helpless, to those who were seeking freedom and a better life. Spending enormous resources to make this happen and were very successful at it."

By making the journey to Guantanamo, the Miami Medical Team saved countless lives that would have otherwise been lost. With their contribution, came much sacrifice. Many of the medical personnel abandoned their practices back home and financed the venture, most often lodging alongside the refugees, displaying a level of care and selfless service not often associated with the island.

"The world looks at Guantanamo now and have an impression of what they think Guantanamo is about," said Navy Cmdr. Colin Caswell, Naval

“ 20 years ago in Guantanamo, the light of humanity, of hope, shown very brightly.”

- Navy Cmdr. Colin Caswell



Twenty years after Operation Sea Signal, Mr. Hector Lans, a member of the Miami Medical Team delivered the invocation during a commemoration ceremony Aug. 22.

Station Guantanamo Bay's executive officer. "What some people don't realize or remember is that 20 years ago in Guantanamo, the light of humanity, of hope, shown very brightly."

Caswell explained that the highlights of his career were providing humanitarian missions, and while it was his assigned duty to assist, he applauds those that volunteered to help their fellow man.

"You never stand taller than when you're helping someone," said Caswell. "These represented organizations, they did it because from far away they knew it was the right thing to do – to come together to help people."

The Miami Medical Team has responded to humanitarian missions all over the world, and they are now apart of Guantanamo's history. A plaque commemorating the historical event will be placed here so that the Cuban and Cuban American community will always remember the valiant efforts performed by the Miami Medical Team during Operation Sea Signal.



Mayor Tomás Pedro Regalado, the mayor of Miami, praises the valiant efforts of the Miami Medical Team during a commemoration ceremony on the 20th anniversary of Operation Sea Signal Aug. 22 at Naval Station Guantanamo Bay's base chapel.

Back to school



The W.T. Sampson High School is one of two schools on Naval Station Guantanamo Bay that facilitates kindergarten through grade 12 and a Sure Start program for the children of GTMO residents. The W.T. Sampson Elementary School is only two miles down the road on Sherman Avenue. For the children attending school here, class began Monday.

Story and photos by Sgt. Kenneth Tucceri

Webmaster, thewire@jtfgtmo.southcom.mil

As September nears, for young Americans, one annual event is always the same no matter where they call home - school is back in session. For the school-age residents of Naval Station Guantanamo Bay, Monday marked the beginning of their academic year.

According to Brian Perry, the principal of the base's two schools: W.T. Sampson Elementary and W.T. Sampson High School, things are not much different here than from a school in the states, aside from the unique location and eclectic student body.

"It's a diverse group of students with a lot of life experiences," said Perry. "That's how we would differ from a normal school system or from a school system in the states. They've been around the world, some are from different countries, and their parents speak a lot of different languages. It is definitely a diverse set of individuals."

GTMO's schools are part of the Department of Defense Education Activity (DoDEA). They support Sure Start through grade 12, said Perry, with 232 total students here, some of them children of Joint Task Force Service

members.

Of the challenges Perry faced to start the new school year here, one was to fill in the many vacancies created by a large faculty turnover; the other was to ensure the new staff members arrived before the start of school. This was a collective effort from many different levels within DoDEA.

"The challenge is getting them connected quickly," said Perry. "When I first came here, I came without my family for a couple of months, and some teachers have done that as well. So, getting them connected, and getting them to bond as a team is a must. I feel like we have done that during our first days together as a staff, so our challenge is to continue that throughout the school year."

Getting teachers to commit to coming to GTMO isn't always an easy thing either, said Perry.

"It's a selling process, and you have to be honest with people," he said in regards to recruiting new staff. "I've been here since September, and my family and I love it. It has its challenges, but at the end of the day there's lots to do."

The way the base does things, there are always things to do."

Perry began his teaching career with DoDEA 14 years ago at Maxwell Air Force Base in Montgomery, Alabama. To Perry, it's a great system with excellent training and good support for teachers and administrators.

"It kind of landed in my lap when I first started teaching, and I kind of fell in love with it," said Perry. "I grew up in Montgomery, where Maxwell is, and it's kind of a secret, not many people knew they had a school there. I wasn't in the military, so it's my way to serve, my way to give back to our military families."

Thinking of DoDEA schools may bring to light the vast aspects that help our military succeed in winning the fight.

"I think we are slated for a phenomenal year," said Perry. "We are going to build on what we did the first two days. It's good to bring new ideas into a school, and that's what I'm most excited about. Our diverse staff from many different backgrounds and experiences will mesh together and share ideas. We are set for a great school year."

Seabiscuit: AN EXECUTIVE RUNNER

Story and photos by Sgt. Spencer Rhodes

Photo Editor, thewire@jtfgrm.southcom.mil

The armed forces is a community that fosters interaction with all different calibers of athletes. From swimmers to runners to Olympic weight lifters, it's safe to say that even if working out isn't an individual's forte, the military is still more of an encouraging environment for those looking to exercise than most. That aspect brings not just various types of athleticism, but an eclectic assembly of experience in the characters who ply their preferred sport.

Army Maj. Jason Small, the executive officer for the 391st Military Police Battalion, is one Soldier who fits that description. Those who work with him have christened him 'Seabiscuit' for his exceptional running ability, despite being shorter than most competitive runners. They've even gone so far as putting the nickname on his door at work.

Recalling the first time someone at work called him that, Small said, "I started getting called that because I'm shorter than most guys, but I can run pretty fast. A lot of the people you see [running] are often a lot taller."

A former Division I college athlete on Indiana State University's nationally ranked cross country team, Small has competed with the best of them, and while his days of being a student runner have come and gone, his achievements in running now still exceed what some would even consider trying to achieve. In early August he came in first place in the MWR's duathlon race in the individual category with an impressive finish time of one hour, 57 minutes.

"Running out here, the hard part is the heat, and I've had trouble with that in the past," said Small. "My running approach isn't always the amount of miles I run but making sure the miles I do run really count. I have very specific goals for each run."

His workouts don't just take him to



Army Maj. Jason Small, executive officer for the 391st Military Police Battalion, has a long history with running, one that he doesn't plan on finishing anytime soon. Playing an important role in the Joint Task Force Guantanamo mission, Small keeps himself busy and fit by competing in MWR runs and kayaking in the bay when time permits.

“My running approach isn't always about the amount of miles I run but making sure the miles I do run really count. ”

- Army Maj. Jason Small

the track, which he also frequents when doing sprint workouts, but to the gym, ridgeline trail and any road that presents him with challenging hills to get the most of his workout.

"My gym workouts revolve around high reps, low weight, calisthenic style workouts. For me it's more important to have lean muscle mass than adding a bunch of bulk," said Small.

Luckily for him, life on Naval Station Guantanamo Bay is never lacking in runs to compete in. The MWR is planning a 5k run and a 12 mile run near the Northeast Gate. As of right now, Small hopes to be able to do both, and already has a goal in mind for the 5k.

Small laughs and shakes his head at the mention of the 12 mile run, "Part of me doesn't really want to do the 12 mile

run, because I know it's going to hurt, but I'm just going to approach it with a smile and try to enjoy it. As for the 5k, I'd really like to have it at 18 and some change, maybe around 18:30."

Running isn't all he does though, what spare time he does have on the weekends, the 391st executive officer can probably be found working on his Intermediate Level Education or on the water in one of MWR's kayak. Even when not specifically doing something with the intent of exercising, he finds something that helps keep him fit simultaneously.

"The people at the Marina pretty much expect me every Saturday and Sunday to get my kayak. I think so far, I've been everywhere you're allowed to be in the bay, on a kayak," said Small.



Story by Sgt. Debra Cook

Staff Writer, thewire@jtfgtmo.southcom.mil

"I was so down I stayed in my room all weekend. Not one person in my unit reached out to me. Not one person asked how I was doing," said a Soldier. "I was feeling sorry for myself, and then I saw another guy and gave him a ride. It ends up he was someone having hard times and talked to me about it. It made me feel good to be able to listen to him, and I made a friend."

He realized sitting in his room alone wasn't getting him anywhere. "You have to be a friend to have a friend," he said.

That Soldier was willing to admit he needed to change himself to make his situation better. As we move forward to achieve our own highest heights, there

A glance in the mirror

are other successful men and women whose success was paved by looking in the mirror.

Self awareness is a huge key to success. Leo Tolstoy, a famous Russian writer said, "Everyone thinks of changing the world, but no one thinks of changing himself."

James Allen, a 19th century English writer said, "Men are anxious to improve their circumstances, but are unwilling to improve themselves."

It's said of Lyndon B. Johnson, the 36th President of the United States, that people would not call him a naturally likeable person. Johnson was willing to admit that and change it. Some time before becoming president he made a list to improve by. I think his rules are valuable for all of us and worth reprinting here. They can be found in the book, "The Magic of Thinking Big" by David Schwartz.

President Johnson's 10 Rules For Success:

1. Learn to remember names. Inefficiency at this point may indicate that your interest is not sufficiently outgoing.

2. Be a comfortable person so there is no strain in being with you. Be an old-shoe, old-hat kind of individual.

3. Acquire the quality of relaxed easy-going so that things do not ruffle you.

4. Don't be egotistical. Guard against the impression that you know it all.

5. Cultivate the quality of being interesting so people will get something of value from their association with you.

6. Study to get the "scratchy" elements out of your personality, even those of which you may be unconscious.

7. Sincerely attempt to heal, on an honest Christian basis, every misunderstanding you have had or now have. Drain off your grievances.

8. Practice liking people until you do so genuinely.

9. Never miss an opportunity to say a word of congratulation upon anyone's achievement, or express sympathy in sorrow or disappointment.

10. Give spiritual strength to people, and they will give genuine affection to you.



Story by Sgt. Debra Cook

Staff Writer, thewire@jtfgtmo.southcom.mil



Historically, truffles have been a gourmet food. The term truffles originally referred to underground edible fungi far longer than chocolate confections. In the book, "Theophrastus of Eresus", Theophrastus who was a pupil of Aristotle's, referred to truffles as "a natural phenomenon of great complexity, one of the strangest plants, without root, stem, fiber, branch, bud, leaf, or flower."

Simply put, it's a mushroom.

Truffles always grow wild beneath the surface of the soil where no one can see them. They have been highly prized in history because no one knows where they will grow, or when. It was discovered truffles could be preserved for some time in brandy. The liquor would absorb some of the truffle aroma and allowed the creation of chocolate shells, into which small quantities of this liquid were poured, then sealed with chocolate.

Voila, the birth of chocolate truffles.

Truffles are fun, delectable pleasure sensations for your pallet, and so we bring you the Trooper

The TROOPER truffle

truffle. This recipe is dedicated to all of you who only have a microwave in your room to cook with.

This was found on the internet compliments of thetasteofhome.com.


Recipe

Ingredients:
 1/3 cup finely chopped pecans, toasted, divided (can substitute for any nut you like), 8 ounces semisweet chocolate (use chocolate chips they melt well), 1/4 cup butter (use real butter not margarine), 1/4 cup heavy whipping cream, 1/4 teaspoon almond extract

Directions:
 Place 24 small foil candy cups in miniature muffin cups or on a baking sheet. Spoon 1/2 teaspoon pecans into each; set cups and remaining pecans aside. In a 2qt. microwave-safe bowl, combine chocolate and butter. Microwave at 50% power for 1 minute or until melted. Stir in cream and extract. Beat with an electric mixer until slightly thickened, scraping sides of bowl occasionally. Immediately pour into prepared cups. Top with remaining pecans. Refrigerate until set. Yield: 2 dozen. This recipe was tested in a 1,100-watt microwave.



Spiritual Labor

By Navy Cmdr. Thomas Taylor
Joint Task Force chaplain

Labor Day weekend is upon us. Things don't change much here, but at home there is a lot going on. Back to school sales, last chance vacations, closing up the cottage for the winter, FOOTBALL! Over the weekend, there will be picnics, parades and other gatherings to celebrate the role of labor in our country's history. But did you know there is a spiritual aspect to Labor Day?

In 1909, the American Federation of Labor declared the Sunday preceding Labor Day as Labor Sunday, dedicated to the spiritual and educational aspects of the labor movement. Spiritual aspect of labor? Not something we often think about, but the word "labor" appears over 100 times in the Bible. Some of them are familiar.

In Exodus, God told his people, "Six days you shall labor and do all your work, but the seventh day...you shall not do any work." (Ex 20:8-9) God knew the value of rest, and wanted to make sure we did too. In the Gospel, Jesus said, "The harvest is plenty, but laborers are few." (Mt 9:37). He knew that he needed help in order to do his work, and recognized the value of labor. But he also knew we needed him: "Come to me all who labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest." (Mt 11:28)

Each of us is called to labor in many ways in life. We have tasks which need to be accomplished, which sometimes seem to be too much of a burden. That's where the spirituality of labor comes in. We should take pride in accomplishing all that we do, as it allows us to use the gifts God has given us. And when things are tough, we should turn to God – because he never gives us more than we can handle.

The JSMART Spot

By Navy Petty Officer 3rd Class Keith Reau
JSMART Advertising Coordinator

How often does someone pass by you and say "how's it going?" Do you ever wonder if they really mean it? I challenge you to actually listen and care about what they are saying.

One of the most important parts of resiliency is having a social support group. The best way to develop that is by using tactical empathy or active listening. The next time you see someone having an off-day, take time out to listen, take a second to focus and try to help them. Ensure you take into account their body language and demeanor. This

can tell a lot about how a person actually feels. As you are using tactical empathy, try and show you are paying attention. If the issue seems too much for you to handle on your own, you can always bring in someone else in your chain of command, or bring them to JSMART to get everything worked out.



In June 1963, American and Russian representatives agreed to establish a so-called "hot line" between Moscow and Washington. The agreement came just months after the October 1962 Cuban missile crisis, in which the United States and Soviet Union came to the brink of nuclear conflict.

In August 1963, the system was ready to be tested. American teletype machines had been installed in the Kremlin to receive messages from Washington; Soviet teletypes were installed in the Pentagon. (Contrary

to popular belief, the hot line in the United States is in the Pentagon, not the White House.)

On August 30, the United States sent its first message to the Soviet Union over the hot line: "The quick brown fox jumped over the lazy dog's back 1234567890." The message used every letter and number key on the teletype machine in order to see that each was in working order. The return message from Moscow was in Russian, but it indicated that all of the keys on the Soviet teletype were also functioning.

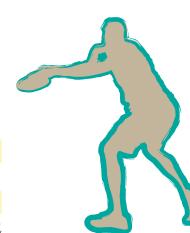
Though the Cold War is over, the hot line continues in operation between the United States and Russia. It was supplemented in 1999 by a direct secure telephone connection between the two governments.

GTMO sports standing



Beach Volleyball

I. BEEF	6-1
2. Banana Rat	6-1
3. The Guy Plus I	6-1
4. Hell Hounds	6-2
5. The Team	6-2
6. JMG	5-2
7. Z Team	5-2
8. SOGO	3-3
9. Danger Zone	3-4
10. B. Uglies	3-5
11. Regulators	2-5
12. MisFits	2-4
13. Woosah	2-5
14. PWD	1-6
15. The Chowderheads	1-6
16. CCR	0-7



Ultimate Frisbee

I. I-guana GTMO	6-0
2. Ridiculousness	5-1
3. PWD	4-3
4. BEEF	4-3
5. Huckaholics	3-3
6. Footballs R2 Heavy	2-4
7. Boston	1-5
8. Dirty Mike & the Boys	0-6



WOD 1

- 50 pull ups
- Rest 2 mins
- 50 air squats
- Rest 2 mins
- 50 toes to bar
- Rest 2 mins
- 50 burpees

or

WOD 2

- 5 rounds for time:
- 15 box jumps
- 15 push ups
- 15 toes to bar
- 15 tire flips

Courtesy Spc. Crystal Pittman

Marine Corps Security Force Company WINDWARD FENCE LINE 5K

Saturday, September 6, 7:00 a.m.

\$20.00 entry fee

Runners receive finisher's
medal and picnic lunch

Spectators will be
transported to finish
line at Kittery Beach

Lunch tickets available
for spectators \$5.00

Register Monday - Friday at Marine Hill
White House 11:30 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.

Check in for the run begins at 6:00 a.m. at
Marine Hill Parade Deck (ID required)

FMI call 2554

An ant is captured in motion utilizing macro photography as an approach to achieve an fascinating level of detail in this image by Gary Magracia.



COOKING UP AN END TO DOMESTIC VIOLENCE
SATURDAY OCTOBER 18, 2014 11AM - 1PM
WINDJAMMER BALLROOM

THINK YOUR CHILI IS HOT STUFF? PROVE IT!

Enter your favorite flavors, craziest concoction, or super-secret salivary surprise into GTMO's first chili cook-off in support of Domestic Violence Awareness Month.

Cook Registration: FREE
Registration Deadline: September 26
LIMITED TO FIRST 20 TEAMS/INDIVIDUALS – REGISTER EARLY!
For Registration Forms/Cook-Off Rules, contact 4153/4141
or emily.kolenda@gtmo.navy.mil

AMR



Trooper's Chapel

is looking for musicians to join the worship

If you can sing, play an instrument or work a soundboard, come serve on the worship team.
Contact PV2 Grimes (x3499) or SPC Mizzell (75054) for rehearsal times.



PHOTO OF THE WEEK

Send your best photos to thewire@jftgmo.southcom.mil