



THE WIRE

The Official Publication of Joint Task Force Guantanamo

Corpsmen in the camps

AROUND THE BAY

MOTIVATOR

OF THE WEEK

SrA Jeremy Neubauer

Base Emergency Engineer Force

SPC Andrew Byerly

391st Military Police Battalion



Cover photo: The primary mission of the Navy hospital corpsmen assigned to Joint Task Force Guantanamo's Joint Medical Group is to provide medical care for the detainees. To accomplish this task, they serve as a medium between the nurses and the providers and act as first responders in the event of a medical issue.

Photo by Staff Sgt. Carmen Steinbach

SAPR Victim Advocate training

Interested in helping people? Join the SAPR team and become a Victim Advocate! To sign up, you must complete the DD Form 2909 with your command and contact the sexual assault response coordinator at 4227 for an interview and to receive an application. The class is Dec. 1 - 5 from 7:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m. in the Fleet and Family Support Center, building 2135. The application deadline is Nov. 21.

New to GTMO orientation

There seems to be many new faces walking around the Navy Exchange loading up on new household goods. The Fleet and Family Support Center offers another way to make GTMO feel more like home. To register, call 4141.

Flu vaccines now available

Beginning Monday, the Joint Troop Clinic will be providing flu vaccines to all JTF personnel from Oct. 27 - Nov. 7. Check with your unit for further information.

FEATURES

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11 • A Soldier's return

Army Command Sgt. Maj. Michael Poll assisted with Operation Sea Signal 20 years ago. In GTMO once again, he looks back on his past mission.

CORRECTIONS *Please report all corrections to thewire@jftgmo.southcom.mil.*



Photo by Sgt. Adrien Borunda

Rear Adm. James M. Heinz, U. S. Coast Guard acting director for reserve and military personnel, visited with Coast Guardsmen from Port Security Unit 312 on Tuesday, as part of his visit to U. S. Naval Station Guantanamo Bay.

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Look for us on your favorite Social Media:



Religious Services

| | | | |
|----------------------------|-------------------------------|--|-----------------------------------|
| Roman Catholic | (All at NAVSTA Chapel) | | |
| Saturday* | 1700 | | Monday-Thursday* 1730 |
| Sunday* | 0900 | | |
| Protestant Services | JTF Troopers' Chapel | | |
| Sunday* | 0640, 0900, 1900 | | |
| Protestant | | | |
| Traditional* | Sunday 0930 | | Annex Room 1 (Liturgical Service) |
| Contemporary* | Sunday 1100 | | Main Chapel |
| Gospel | Sunday 1300 | | Main Chapel |
| Other Services | Seventh Day Adventist | | |
| Islamic Prayers | Friday 1315 | | Annex Room 2 |
| 7th Day Adventist | Saturday 0900 | | Annex Room 1 Sabbath School |
| | Saturday 1100 | | Annex Room 1 Sabbath Service |
| Latter Day Saints | Sunday 0900 | | Annex Room 2 |
| Pentacostal | Sunday 0800 | | Annex Room D |
| | Sunday 1700 | | Annex Room D |
| JTF Bible Study* | Monday 2000 | | Cuzco Block H |
| | Wednesday 1900 | | JTF Troopers' Chapel |
| New Christian's Inquiry | Saturday 1900 | | Troopers' Chapel |
| JTF Bible Study* | | | |

*These services are conducted by Army or Navy chaplains

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

NEX Express Bus
09:55 - 19:55 hourly

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

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

The military common core

By Air Force Lt. Col. Patrick Miller

Commander, 474th Expeditionary Civil Engineering Squadron

In an effort to better prepare our youth for success after high school, many states are adopting what is known as the Common Core State Standards. The Common Core focuses on developing critical-thinking, problem-solving and analytical skills areas of mathematics and English. The intent is a more developed, well-rounded generation ready to tackle the rigors of college, career and life.

Our five branches of military service also teach a Common Core curriculum. Through daily lessons – mentoring, on-the-job training and other interactions - leaders ingrain a few basic tenets that serve as the foundation for success. We know them more commonly as

our core values. The Army has seven core values, whereas the Navy, Marines, Coast Guard and Air Force each have three core values. Add in the 14 Marine Corps leadership traits, and you have the services' common core.

Serving on Joint Task Force Guantanamo provides a unique perspective. Here, you get to witness firsthand all five services' respective core values such as duty, honor, integrity, courage, commitment, service, respect and excellence shape even our most basic actions. From execution of the various missions to the way Service members treat each other. The core values consistently serve as the underlying framework of our decision making process.

Although each service establishes its culture through its core values, I believe there is a common theme. The services' core values can be distilled down to two simple words - character and competence.

Character defines us as individuals. It takes a certain character to earn the privilege of donning the uniform. Attributes such as integrity, loyalty, courage, honor and respect are all critical to the type of

person we want defending our freedom. A sense of comfort exists when you look left and then look right and know that regardless of the uniform, the person standing next to you has the same core character as you.

Competence covers how you execute the mission. Excellence, duty, and commitment merely scratch the surface. Our Service members strive to be the most proficient Soldier, Sailor, Marine, Coast Guardsmen or Airmen possible. They are dedicated to honing their craft to ensure when they are called upon to act, they are ready to perform unwaveringly.

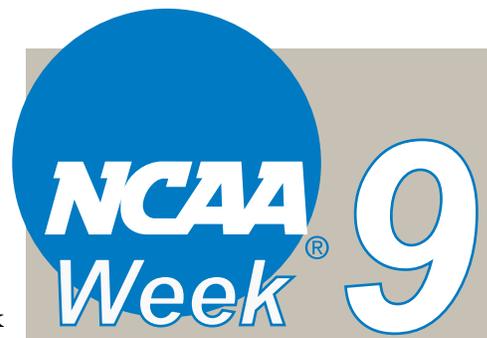
However, character and competence do not work in isolation; they must co-exist. You can be high character, but if you do not have the competence to execute the mission

then you can be a good person in the private sector. Conversely, you can be the most competent firefighter (or pick a trade), but if you lack the character essential to serve our nation then you can be a proficient firefighter outside of the military.

Character and competence, they are the foundation that makes us the world's most professional and lethal armed forces in history. Over the coming days, weeks, months, and years, I challenge you to remain steadfast to character, continue to build competence and challenge those around you that are failing to live up to our common core.



Air Force Lt. Col. Patrick Miller



Story by Staff Sgt. Robert Ponder

Media Relations, thewire@jtfgtmo.southcom.mil

This week there were a few shifts in the top 25. A few teams continue to showcase why they are the top teams in the nation and for some, possibly a reason to go back to the drawing board. In any case, we now only have four teams left undefeated in the top 25.

This weekend the matchups aren't overly exciting, but we do have a few games that should be worth watching, although that depends on who you're rooting for.

Michigan State has been one of those teams to watch this year, putting up a great season so far. If you follow college football you know that in-state rivals can always go either way. This week we have the Michigan Wolverines heading over to Michigan State. Like I said, you never know which way a rival game may go, but in this case, I'm pretty confident that the Spartans will dominate.

This season, Ole Miss has remained undefeated so far and has played exceptionally well. The Rebels will be traveling down to Death Valley to play the LSU Tigers on Saturday. Although I would love to see the Tigers pull out a win, I don't see that happening, given the way both teams have played this season.

The USC Trojans will play an away game against Utah this weekend. The Utes are sitting one game behind the Trojans in the Pac-12 and one rank above them in the top 25. Unfortunately for them, I believe that will change after this weekend. I'm going to have to go with the Trojans in this matchup.

Penn State will be hosting the Ohio State Buckeyes for their Big 10 conference game. Out of these two, the Buckeyes offense has put up much better numbers this season. I don't think the Lions defense has what it takes to stop the Buckeyes' running game, which is why I'm picking them to win this week.

College Top 25

| | |
|-----------------------|--------------------|
| (1) Mississippi State | (14) Arizona State |
| (2) Florida State | (15) Arizona |
| (3) Ole Miss | (16) Nebraska |
| (4) Alabama | (17) Oklahoma |
| (5) Auburn | (18) East Carolina |
| (6) Oregon | (19) Utah |
| (7) Notre Dame | (20) USC |
| (8) Michigan State | (21) Clemson |
| (9) Georgia | (22) West Virginia |
| (10) TCU | (23) Marshall |
| (11) Kansas State | (24) LSU |
| (12) Baylor | (25) UCLA |
| (13) Ohio State | |

An admiral on the deck-plate level

Story and photos by **Sgt. Adrian Borunda**
Staff Writer, thewire@jftgmo.southcom.mil

Rear Adm. James M. Heinz, U. S. Coast Guard acting director for reserve and military personnel, visited with Coast Guardsmen of Port Security Unit 312 Tuesday, as part of his visit to U. S. Naval Station Guantanamo Bay.

Heinz, an engineer by trade, visited with Coast Guardsmen whose jobs are to maintain the PSU vessels. He also took a familiarization patrol of the bay. One focus of his visit was to see the way the PSU works with Joint Task Force Guantanamo and the naval station Service members.

"I'm very impressed by not only the partnerships the Coast Guard have maintained with the other services, but how they continue to build and come together," Heinz said. "I had heard nothing but positive things about our Coast Guardsmen here and it's safe to say that my expectations were exceeded."



Heinz said he was proud of PSU 312 and their service and looks forward to the unit returning to their home station in San Francisco.

"I want to say thank you to all the Coast Guardsmen. I appreciate your sacrifice that comes with this important job we have here, Coast Guardsmen are an integral part of making Guantanamo Bay successful," Heinz said.

For Coast Guard Master Chief Petty Officer Sean Fey, PSU 312 waterside security chief, Heinz's visit provided his Coast Guardsmen and him an opportunity to come face-to-face with senior leadership.

"It allows everyone down to the deck plate level to be able to meet him and communicate how things are going here," Fey said. "For me personally, it's great to see a leader like the admiral and to meet who is actually fighting for us and supporting our mission here."



Rear Adm. James M. Heinz, U. S. Coast Guard acting director for reserve and military personnel, (right), took a familiarization tour of the Guantanamo Bay Tuesday with members of Port Security Unit 312 including Seaman Taj Schieve.



Story by **Sgt. Christopher Vann**

Staff writer, thewire@jftgmo.southcom.mil

In week seven of the National Football League, a few final scores did not end as expected. The Jacksonville Jaguars finally secured the first win of their seemingly disappointing season. The Houston Texans squandered a 17-point lead, a losing effort against the Pittsburgh Steelers. The New Orleans Saints gave the Detroit Lions a win due to a complacent defense in the final three minutes of the game.

Other scores went as expected. The Oakland Raiders played the Arizona Cardinals, and you guessed it, they lost. The Dallas Cowboys are still riding high but the playoffs are two months away, which means their quarterback Tony Romo will have to overcome his usual limitations. The injury depleted San Francisco 49ers visited Denver and were stifled by the mile-high air, and became the victims of the Broncos QB Peyton Manning's record breaking performance. With the return of their top three linebackers to the line-up, look for these two teams to meet again in the Super Bowl.

Thursday, October 16

Patriots 27, Jets 25

Sunday, October 19

Ravens 29, Falcons 7

Redskins 19, Titans 17

Rams 28, Seahawks 26

Jaguars 24, Browns 6

Colts 27, Bengals 0

Bills 17, Vikings 16

Dolphins 27, Bears 14

Lions 24, Saints 23

Packers 38, Panthers 17

Chiefs 23, Chargers 20

Cardinals 24, Raiders 13

Cowboys 31, Giants 21

Broncos 42, 49ers 17

Monday, October 20

Steelers 30, Texans 23



Courtesy BLT Communications

FURY



A WALK AMONG THE TOMBSTONES

Review by Staff Sgt. David Kirtland
Staff Writer, thewire@jftgmo.southcom.mil

Review by Staff Sgt. Kenneth Edel

Media Relations, thewire@jftgmo.southcom.mil

“Fury” follows a tank crew who has been together since the beginning of World War II and details their last few weeks of the war. The crew consisted of your usual hard-charging leader (Brad Pitt), religious guy (Shia LaBeouf), drunk (Michael Pena), rude guy (Jon Bernthal) and the newbie (Logan Lerman) thrown into the mix. The characters were a bit stereotypical, but each actor played his role admirably. Pitt as the tank leader, doesn’t steal the show but instead compliments the other actors, which is an impressive feat.

As the film progresses, the new guy turns from an innocent typist into a hardened Soldier. The crew of the tank, nicknamed the Fury, had to endure many obstacles as they became the last tank in their unit and single handedly fought off a German S.S. unit.

While the plot follows the typical war theme, the movie did a good job of making the audience feel for the Soldiers as they fought through internal and external conflicts. “Fury” is a good war movie and very entertaining. The visuals are amazing, and you feel the grittiness in every scene. It holds no punches and reaches out to slap you in the face with its grisly view of the depreciation of humanity during war. For its grit, I give the movie four banana rats.

“Fury” follows a tank crew who has been together since the beginning of World War II and details their last few

“A Walk Among the Tombstones” is the latest action movie for Liam Neeson who stars as Matt Scudder, a gruff alcoholic ex-NYPD cop turned unlicensed private eye. The film is based on Lawrence Block’s already bestselling mystery novel series.

Neeson’s character makes his living doing “favors” in exchange for his services. Scudder takes on a job for a heroin trafficker to find the men responsible for kidnapping and murdering his wife. Along the trail Scudder begins to realize this is not the first time these men have done this and it won’t be the last. The movie becomes a race to find the culprits through the backstreets of New York before they kill again.

So far “A Walk among the Tombstones” seems to be receiving great reviews and knowing Neeson’s ability to portray the lone tough guy, this is one film I’m looking forward to seeing. “A Walk Among the Tombstones” gets four banana rats.



Courtesy Art Machine



Review by Sgt. Kenneth Tucceri

Webmaster, thewire@jftgmo.southcom.mil

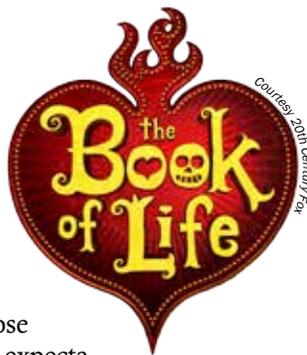
“The Book of Life” is a colorful, fast-paced animated film with a great cast of voices including Diego Luna, who gives sonic life to the adventure’s hero, Manolo. The great conflict Manolo faces is something most can empathize with. He has to choose between his heart or the advice and expectations of those closest to him, his family.

This initiates a prismatic adventure that takes Manolo through three worlds in which he faces the fears that frighten him the most.

This film’s premise and imagery is directly tied to Mexico’s Dia De Los Muertos or, Day of the Dead, giving it a seasonally-appropriate Halloween feel.

Also featured are the voices of Channing Tatum, Ron Perlman, Ice Cube and Zoe Saldana creating a talented voice dynamic to accompany the many songs and bright colors of the animation.

This movie receives three banana rats for its rich tapestry of color, fine voice acting and, most importantly, the encouraging theme of confronting one’s fears.



Courtesy 20th Century Fox



Review by Staff Sgt. Carmen Steinbach

Editor, thewire@jftgmo.southcom.mil

A somewhat new genre has emerged recently, aptly named the dramatic comedy, unlike a dark comedy, where the premise is generally warped or creepy, (think Edward Norton’s “Death to Smoochy”). Contrarily, a comedy drama focuses on relationships, families, touching subjects all with sarcastic and hilarious undertones.

Based on a best-selling novel by Jonathan Tropper, the comedy drama “This is Where I Leave You” features a cast of comedic geniuses included Jason Bateman (Arrested Development) and “30 Rock” and former “Saturday Night Live” writer Tina Fey.

Children from a slightly deranged family (Batemen and Fey, along with Corey Sole and Adam Driver), are forced to sit Shiva together for seven days after their father dies at the insistence of their mother, played by Jane Fonda. Think of this premise as family therapy in a confined space for an extended period of time: issues of infidelity, neglect and overall unhappiness surface amid some moments of slapstick humor.

Unfortunately, the mediocre plot and circumstances lean more towards the comedically sad than the humorous, to such a level that these stars cannot encourage the audience enough to care about their issues, let alone be entertained by them. I give this film three banana rats.

THE ENGINEERS of JTF



The Joint Task Force Engineering Office poses for a group photo in front of their office sign here at Naval Station Guantanamo Bay.

Story and photo by Staff Sgt. Patrick Ponder

Media Relations, thewire@jftgmo.southcom.mil

Have you ever wondered who maintains all of the Joint Task Force Guantanamo's facilities? Or who is in charge of future engineering projects here? Well, that would be the JTF Engineering Office.

The JTF Engineers office is made up of only a handful of Troopers and one civilian. Although they may be small, they are in charge of the maintenance of well over 500 facilities and have one of the largest budgets here.

Recently, the engineers office managed the replacements of three 46-year-old, 1.5 megawatt mobile utilities support equipment back-up generators with a single, newer, more efficient, 2.5 MW unit.

"This has resulted in a saving of more than \$21,000 a month in fuel and lease costs," said Navy Capt. Andy Bodnar, JTF engineers director, "all while being able to provide back-up power to radio range."

Over the next four years, they will oversee the programming of eight major military construction projects, valued at more than \$200 million.

Additionally, they were awarded the contract and are

getting ready to break ground in January 2015 for the major upgrade to the Camp America Galley.

"This project is especially complex because it requires no disruption to the 2,000 meals that are prepped and served to both the Troopers and detainees every day," said Bodnar.

Chanh Lam, planner with the JTF says that Service members, civilian contractors, family members and all diners that frequent the Camp America establishment have no cause for concern. "During that time, the galley will not be closing," he said.

In fiscal year 2014, the engineer's office was awarded at more than \$3.7 million in large-scale air conditioning contracts preventing some of the frequent air conditioning outages the JTF was plagued by in the years past. In this hot and humid environment, maintaining a cool room temperature could mean the difference between life and death.

"We also changed the technical specifications to ensure phenolic coated cooling fins," said Bodnar. "That ensures a longer functioning life in the tropical desert environment of GTMO."

NOW SHOWING

| | FRIDAY | SATURDAY | SUNDAY | MONDAY | TUESDAY | WEDNESDAY | THURSDAY |
|------------------------|---|--|---|-------------------------------|---|--------------------------------|--|
| CAMP BULKELEY DOWNTOWN | The Equalizer <i>(New)</i> R, 8 p.m. This is Where I Leave You R, 10:30 p.m. | Paranorman PG, 8 p.m. Fury R, 10 p.m. | A Walk Among the Tombstones R, 8 p.m. | Gone Girl R, 8 p.m. | The Identical (LS) PG, 8 p.m. | Chef (LS) PG, 8 p.m. | Throwback Thursday: The Exorcist R, 8 p.m. |
| CAMP BULKELEY DOWNTOWN | This is Where I Leave You R, 8 p.m. Fury R, 10 p.m. | The Equalizer <i>(New)</i> R, 8 p.m. A Walk Among the Tombstones PG13, 10:30 p.m. | Gone Girl R, 8 p.m. | LYCEUM CLOSED * | Chef (LS) PG, 8 p.m. | LYCEUM CLOSED * | Throwback Thursday: Scream 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!

CORPSMEN IN THE CAMPS:

24-HOUR DETAINEE MEDICAL CARE

Story and photos by Staff Sgt. Carmen Steinbach

Editor, thewire@jftgmo.southcom.mil

They wear Navy uniforms, military boots and sometimes protective equipment: face shields and outer protective suits. They walk the beat of their assigned block, listening and looking periodically for anyone in need of assistance. They aren't there to keep the order however, their mission is simple, but oftentimes difficult: They are the Navy hospital corpsmen of the detention facilities at Joint Task Force Guantanamo.

The primary responsibilities of corpsmen working in the camps do not differ much from their counterparts working

in the Joint Troop Clinic providing medical treatment to Service members deployed here. Their tasks include passing daily prescribed medications to detainees who need them and performing standard blood draws for laboratory testing.

"In the camps here, the hospital corpsmen assigned to detainee medical care essentially serve as a medium between the nurses and the provider," said a petty officer third class working in Camp 5. Twenty-four hours a day, a detainee can request assistance, medi-

cines or simply to speak with a hospital corpsman about a particular medical issue.

Depending on the severity of a medical concern, a corpsman can immediately treat a detainee's injury or issue on site, schedule an appointment with a provider, or if needed, contact a specialty provider to come in as soon as possible.

Providers serve in a similar capacity as they do when treating military members, prescribing necessary medication, scheduling appointments and seeing



One of the responsibilities of a Navy hospital corpsman working in Joint Task Force Guantanamo's Camp 5 or Camp 6 is responding to health concerns of all detainees in their care. If a need requires a physician's visit, they coordinate with a health care provider to ensure the proper medical treatment.

patients.

General practitioners are here to treat ailments like aches and pains or cold and flu symptoms for the detainees, identical to the ones seen by families back in the states. Radiology, gastrointestinal specialists, physical therapy and others combine to provide a full medical staff for around-the-clock detainee medical care.

On his last deployment, the petty officer was responsible for providing medical care for more than 120 Sailors. Working in the camps, he is now assigned a small number of detainees on a particular block.

While the corpsman said this assignment is more clinical than the last, one thing remains the same:

“It’s the same level of care,” he said. “The same care that my Sailors got is the same care that the detainees get.”

A Navy petty officer second class hospital corpsman had two prior deployments with an infantry battalion, requiring him to treat more combat-related injuries.

In order to foster the trusting relationship between a medical care provider and his or her patient, the corpsmen must remain approachable.

“The corpsmen are here to help and take care of any of their needs; we’re here to help them.”

Corpsmen also rely on the guards however, to ensure their safety while providing medical services. The senior chief of Camp 5 and 6 recognizes the relationship of the corpsmen and the guard force, as well as what they share with the detainees. The unique environment of the detention facilities makes his task of supervising a section slightly different than his previous assignments.

“From a leadership perspective, it’s the same. The atmosphere and the conditions are much more different, and we have to watch for different things because of the detainees we serve down here. Back home, we have people that are willing to accept our care and are looking for it, whereas here, it’s not always that easy,” said a corpsman.

There are some patients that refused to be seen by a female. Oftentimes

she needs an escort simply to pass medications. GTMO being her first deployment, she came with an open mind and tries to focus on the fact that despite working in the camps each day, Warriors deployed here are fortunate to receive off time to decompress as well.

“Just know that we get to go home at the end of the day,” she said. “You get to de-stress, come back the next and do it all over again.”

Working in the camps is not the sole responsibility of corpsmen here, as others work in various locations, focused on the care of our fighting force. Whether in the camps or at the clinic, the level of medical care provided by the dedicated men and women the hospital corps remains the same.



A Navy hospital corpsman assigned to Joint Task Force Guantanamo’s Joint Medical Group demonstrates a proper blood draw on a fellow Sailor (top). A Navy physician meets with a detainee during a routine checkup (bottom).



The former 189th Military Police Company poses for one last company photo, following the encasing of their guidon at the unit's inactivation ceremony Oct. 15. The Soldiers will integrate amongst the ranks of JTF's 525th Military Police Battalion Headquarters and Headquarters Company.

189th inactivation

Story and photos by Spc. Nadine White
Media Relations, thewire@jftgmo.southcom.mil

Joint Task Force Guantanamo's 189th Military Police Company was inactivated in a special ceremony at Camp Bulkeley Field Oct. 15.

The ceremony began with a beautiful rendition of The Star-Spangled Banner, followed by an invocation by Army chaplain, Capt. Frankie Oxendine.

The ceremony was sentimental for many reasons, one of which was the significance of its date, occurring almost ten years to the day of the 189th's activation here Oct. 16, 2004.

"We are assembled today to recognize the 189th MP Company for the last time and acknowledge the unit's history of dedicated service in support of the JTF mission in our country's overseas contingency operations," said guest speaker, Army Lt. Col. John Fivian, commander of JTF's 525th MP Battalion.

First constituted in the U.S. Army in 1943, the 189th MP Company "Regulators" have since been activated/inactivated, or relieved of duty a total of four times, including the final time here. The company has a strong, proud lineage at GTMO, which was praised at the ceremony.

"Some of the facilities the 189th worked in are no longer open. Some are overgrown with weeds and all but forgotten, but know without any doubt, that the first Regulators that arrived here almost ten years ago, set the standard for all that followed," said Fivian.

The Soldiers' missions in the 189th MP Company varied depending on the needs of JTF and the 525th, but high standards and less-than-ideal tasks were met with diligence, perseverance and ultimately success.

Army Capt. Mendel Cornielle, commander of the 189th MP Company, also spoke at the ceremony, recognizing the efforts and hard work of his Soldiers.

"Today closes another proud chapter in the lineage of the 189th Military Police Company," said Cornielle. "For ten years, you have served with honor. You never failed to maintain the care, custody and control of some of the most sadistic beings known to man."

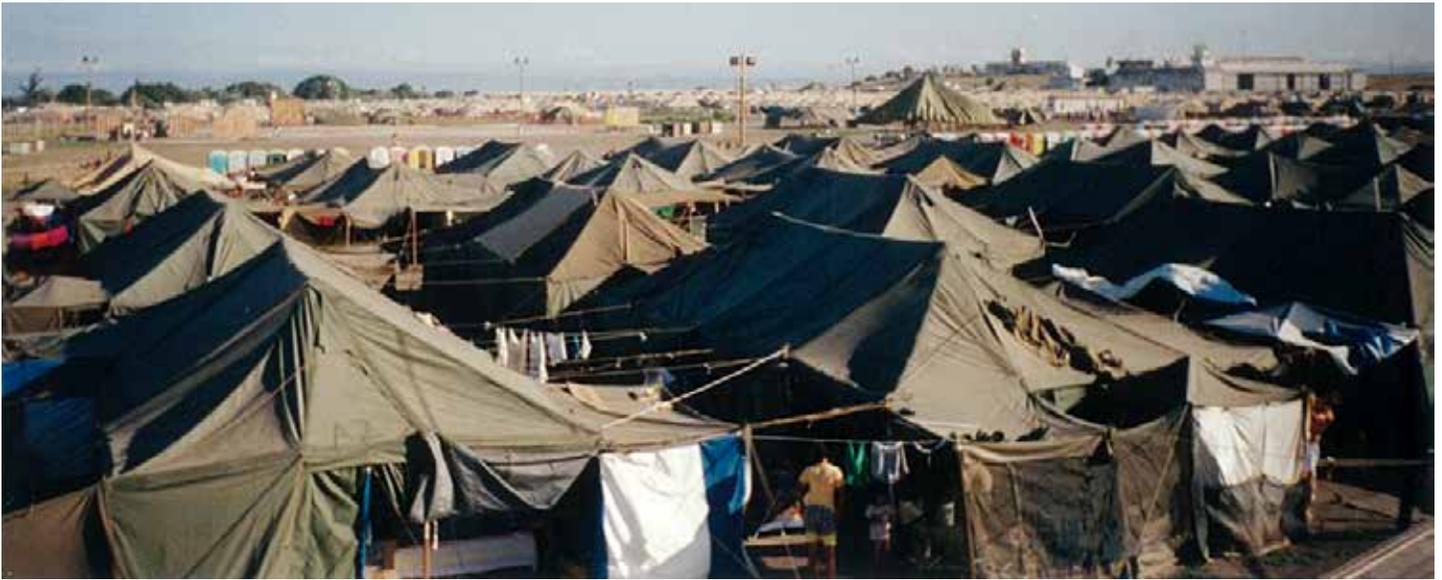
Cornielle concluded his speech crediting his troops with being the "sole reason we can inactivate today and proudly say, 'mission accomplished.'"

Following the inactivation, the former 189th Soldiers will disperse amongst the ranks of the 525th MP Battalion Headquarters and Headquarters Company, and will continue to serve the JTF GTMO mission. Wherever their military careers take them, the Regulators will have an outstanding legacy left behind.

"It has been an honor to serve with you," said Fivian, wrapping up his commendation of the 189th. "You have written the latest chapter of your unit's history; one which will be read years from now at a ceremony not unlike the one here today. Trust that those Soldiers, years from now, will look back at your accomplishments with pride. Never forget, you will always be Regulators, Vigilant Warriors, honor bound to defend freedom."



Soldiers from Joint Task Force Guantanamo's former 189th Military Police Company salute the American flag during the singing of the national anthem at the unit's inactivation ceremony at Bulkeley Field Oct. 15.



A lot has changed across the GTMO landscape since the last time Army Sgt. Maj. Michael Poll was here. "It was a lot different 20 years ago," said Poll. "Our barracks were tents located near Cable Beach and our dining facilities were tents near Girl Scout Beach."

20 YEARS LATER: Remembering Operation Sea Signal

Story by Sgt. David Kirtland

Staff Writer, thewire@jtfgtmo.southcom.mil

In 1994, the United States put Operation Sea Signal into action in response to a mass migration of Cuban and Haitian refugees attempting to gain asylum in the U.S. Coast Guard and Navy personnel rescued the migrants from the waters and brought them to Naval Station Guantanamo Bay.

Army Command Sgt. Maj. Michael Poll, a specialist at the time, was serving with the 571st Military Police Company out of Fort Lewis, Washington. Although he was a young Soldier, he had deployed multiple times for a variety of missions.

"I had been to Japan, Somalia and even deployed to Los Angeles during the Rodney King Riots," Poll said. Operation Sea Signal was very different for him. His mission in Japan was as a military policeman and he conducted mostly route reconnaissance in Somalia. "This was my first time dealing with a refugee or resettlement camp," said Poll.

Between Aug. 1994 and Feb. 1996, Joint Task Force 160 was responsible for caring for more than 50,000 individuals. Refugees were assigned to specific camps for several different reasons. Cuban and Haitian migrants were kept in separate camps. There were specific camps for intact families, single men and unaccompanied minors.



Spc. Michael Poll (left) poses with a Cuban refugee and a fellow MP during Operation Sea Signal at Naval Station Guantanamo Bay in 1995.

Poll worked in Camp Mike, which housed five camps within it. Poll felt a connection with the people under his care.

"These people were trying to escape a tyrant. I thought about what I would do in their situation if I knew just 90 miles north I could have freedom," Poll said. "They were confined to their camp, which made life difficult for the refugees. A lot of them had families and kids."

During the operation, Camp X-Ray was built to segregate dangerous refugees who had committed crimes while at Guantanamo Bay.

"Fidel Castro had released a lot of his prisoners. There were incidents of

various assaults within the camps. That's why Camp X-Ray was built," said Poll. He also personally brought some of its first residents who had committed offenses to Camp X-Ray.

"There were some families who were allowed into the U.S. A lot of families from Camp Mike did, but many were repatriated back to Cuba or Haiti," said Poll. He actually kept in contact with one family that had moved to Miami but lost touch over the years.

"I didn't quite understand just how dire it was for them until it sank in later in life. I started looking back at my life, the things I was able to do in the Army," said Poll.

THE WIRE

PAO Crossover: 107th bestows mission helm to incoming 123rd

Story by Sgt. Spencer Rhodes

Photo Editor, thewire@jftgmo.southcom.mil

The Joint Task Force Guantanamo public affairs mission, like any operation, requires far more effort to succeed than what most people see on a daily basis. Split into two teams, media relations and command information (“The Wire”), the 107th Mobile Public Affairs Detachment, from St. Augustine, Florida, facilitates a mission that often affects those who work across all spectrums of JTF GTMO’s area of responsibilities.

Media relations regularly escorted media through tours of the Joint Detention Group area of operations, coordinating housing, meals and transportation for any visiting media, as well as handling media inquiries and information. Men and women from publications throughout the world including American journalists to Australian and French press come looking for a story. Making sure their work needs and simple every day needs are met while making sure operational security, which is essential not only for the JTF GTMO mission but

often for the safety of the Service members carrying it out, is what media relations does best.

They’ve even revamped the media engagement training that’s offered to Service members of all ranks on Friday mornings. Along with the training is an instructional video shot with a naturally entertaining and professional narrative to help Service members who have never interacted with media before.

“The main goal of the media engagement training video was to allow Troopers the opportunity to see some mistakes that others have made during interviews as well as ways to recover from mistakes and have a successful interview,” said Spc. Nancy Mizzell. “Some of the mistakes that we chose to highlight were funny, so the video was naturally entertaining.”

The other half of the 107th MPAD creates the weekly publication, “The Wire,” for the reading pleasure of all residents in GTMO. It has the movie schedule and reviews for the new movies, reporting on MWR events. The Wire staff also highlights the mission of the Troopers, whether they’re Navy hospital corpsman, Joint Detention Group Soldiers or Air Force engineers.

Army Staff Sgt. Carmen Steinbach, noncommissioned officer in charge of “The Wire” explained that catering the publication to the interests of the readers was



Army Sgt. Debra Cook, a broadcaster with the 107th Mobile Public Affairs Detachment frequently heard on the radio, films a transfer of authority ceremony Aug. 25.

a priority from day one.

“When we took over the mission of producing “The Wire,” we wanted to make sure that product is what the customers wanted to read. It’s our mission to highlight the men and women of Joint Task Force Guantanamo, but also to give them something to look forward to – something they can send home to their families and say “This is me. This is what I do,” said Steinbach. “I think it is a crucial element of a deployment to tell the story of what the military personnel on the ground, in the camps and on the water do on a daily basis to keep our nation safe.”

Just like media relations, “The Wire” staff is not meant to conduct their mission indefinitely, and after a nine-month tour, they are ready to make their way home and pass the torch to another MPAD. In this case, the 123rd MPAD from Arizona has come in ready to take the lead on Media relations and a publication read by people all across the JTF and Naval Station Guantanamo Bay.

“The Wire” staff would like to thank all the readers for their support and cooperation.

Photo by Pfc. Kourtney Grimes/The Wire



The 107th Mobile Public Affairs Detachment poses in front of Naval Station Guantanamo Bay’s Northeast Gate. The 107th will be handing over mission responsibility to the incoming 123rd MPAD from Pheonix, Arizona.

423 Beach Cleanup



Soldiers of the 423rd Military Police Company prepare for a volunteer clean-up mission along Naval Station Guantanamo Bay's Windmill Beach.

Story by Spc. James Dailey

423 MP Company, thewire@jtfgtmo.southcom.mil

Windmill Beach is a nice stretch of sand and shells, commonly used for diving and snorkeling excursions just outside Camp America. Its proximity to the camp frequently draws Soldiers to its shores to blow off steam, gather for barbecues or simply enjoy the ocean breeze after a long day. The beach offers several cabanas with overhead cover and grills, and a row of reclining beach chairs for Troopers and other Naval Station Guantanamo Bay residents.

The beach receives such frequent use that accumulation of wrappers, bottle caps and other flotsam that blows away during barbecues and events is inevitable. Army Sgt. Robert Drexler of the 423rd Military Police Company noticed the accumulating debris and worked with the company first sergeant, Army 1st Sgt. Conrad Queen, to organize a company-wide clean up.

"We all like to go down to this beach, and we know that other companies use it," said Drexler, "It's a shame to see waste accumulating so I thought we could fix the situation. I was worried about asking people to do this on their day off, but the response has been really positive from the company and our leadership."

This will be the second time the 423rd has gathered to perform area maintenance on Windmill Beach. They like to do the maintenance early on Sunday to help recover from the weekends of usage.

"Events like this bring the company together for a common cause. Windmill

Beach offers a lot of great recreational opportunities," said Army Staff Sgt. Michael Thimm, "Keeping it clean is a great way to keep this resource for both the military and civilian communities and to protect this environment."

Although this is a company-organized event the Soldiers work in civilian clothes, listening to music on portable speakers, eager for the fun ahead. It's important to the company that their Soldiers be able to enjoy the time together working for the common good on their day off.

Army Sgt. David Gaskin organized a barbecue following the clean up so the Soldiers could enjoy the area they've just beautified. Many Soldiers brought prepared dishes to the barbecue in pot-luck fashion. Gaskin said knowing that most everyone enjoys a good cookout, combined with the variety of people in the unit, is what brought the inspiration for the post-cleanup barbecue.

"I like to cook for my friends, and after being at the camp for a while I realized that many of our Soldiers do too. Our unit is from New York but the Soldiers have all different heritages, and when we all cook you get a really interesting mix of foods. Spc. [Nicole] Girardi made pasta with a homemade sauce and I brought jerk chicken. It's just a cool mix," said Gaskin.





Five minutes to cry

Story by Sgt. Debra Cook

Staff Writer, thewire@jftgtno.southcom.mil

Our 6-foot, auburn haired drill sergeant towered over me. Her arms weren't even crossed because she was so mad she needed her hands to yell with. Today, I can't remember why I was standing there. I'd done something wrong, but at that moment all the stress of basic training hit me: being away from my family, getting up at 4:30 a.m. every morning, being smoked constantly ... and I did what no Soldier should ever do, I cried. I didn't just cry, but I snorted and sniveled like a baby in front of my female drill sergeant.

She crouched down to my 5-foot-3 inch level and glared at me with disbelief. Then yelled, "Crying? You're crying? Stop it. Crying never solved anything."

Standing beside her was our tough, muscular male drill sergeant who was

from the streets of Chicago. He didn't say a word.

That night in formation he told us, "Soldiers, you can cry. It's OK to cry."

We waited for his humiliating tag line but instead he gently said, "But you can only have five minutes to do it in. After that five minutes is up, wipe the snot from your face and carry on."

"Believe me," he said, "in your military career you're going to see things that will destroy you if you let them. But an Executioner (our unit's chosen name) doesn't let anything destroy them, an Executioner picks their bootstraps up and moves on."

I remember a pastor one Sunday referring to people's past history as war stories.

"Most people have war stories," he said. "Those things they've experienced in the past and what they used to do, but that's all they have to share. I don't care about the past, he told the congregation. I want to know what you're doing today. What are you doing with your life now?"

Service members go on deployments and our world is changed. We get better at our jobs, we finish school, we make

emotional ties, etc. Then we go home and our deployment becomes our past. Guantanamo Bay will only be a page in our history.

Hopefully, your page is one you're happy with. Stories are good to have and share, but those stories shouldn't be all we're made of. You're going somewhere else to start another story.

When you leave GTMO, if you need it, take your five minutes to cry, wipe the snot from your nose and begin a new story. Even if you're going back to the same old thing, it has potential for rebirth and newness. When you leave, a new story begins. May that story be full of adventure, excitement and passion and the thrill of life.

The first article I ever wrote here was, "The Wire connection remains." It was about my unit, the 107th Mobile Public Affairs Detachment taking over "The Wire" after the last unit left.

Even though the 107th is moving on to start a new story, "The Wire" connection will still remain.

Honor bound.

The everything cake

Story by Sgt. Debra Cook

Staff Writer, thewire@jftgtno.southcom.mil

Guantanamo Bay is my first deployment. Before I came I scheduled a few counseling sessions to help my kids adjust with the change.

Our counselor, Mrs. Jones, was a joyful woman who was never without a smile. She'd talk to my girls like they were her best friend, but no matter how hard she'd try, my youngest kept cold and distant. It wasn't until Mrs. Jones suggested 'the everything cake' that my daughter began to open up.

Mrs. Jones told her that when she was a child, her father deployed a lot, and that whenever he would return from a deployment they would make an everything cake to celebrate every holiday they had missed together while he was

gone.

Sophia looked at me, her mouth fell open and she said, "Can we do that too mom?"

Since then my daughters have been planning the everything cake for my return and tracking every holiday or birthday I've missed so it will be covered on one cake, at one time, in one large party.

Since everybody doesn't like cake, and an everything cake has no rules, it can also be an ice cream cake. You don't have to buy one because they're really easy to make. Enjoy!

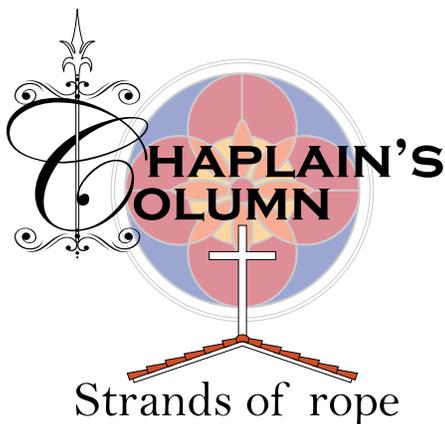


Recipe

Ingredients:
1 (20 oz.) package of Oreo cookies, 1/2 gal. vanilla ice cream, 12 oz. container Cool Whip (frozen)
Crust: 20 Oreo cookies, finely crushed, 1/4 c. melted butter

Directions:
Prepare a 13x9-inch pan. For the crust: in a bowl combine the crust ingredients until well blended. Press down into the bottom of the baking dish. Place a 20-oz. bag of Oreos in a food processor, process until coarsely crushed, remove a little less than half of the crumbs to sprinkle on top of the cake. In a bowl mix 1/2-gal. of the softened ice cream with the coarsely crushed cookies. Fold in half of the container of Cool Whip until combined. Transfer and spread over the cookie crust. Sprinkle the reserved crushed Oreos over the top. Freeze for a minimum of 5 hours or until completely frozen. Now the fun part - take out and decorate.

Almost Dairy Queen Blizzard Cake courtesy Food.com



Strands of rope

By Army Capt. Frank Valencia
391st Military Police Battalion chaplain

Congratulations to all who participated in the Humvee pulling contest! In order to move the massive Humvee, contenders strenuously pulled the rope connected to the Humvee. Indeed, it is a good thing the rope did not rip apart during competition. A fragmented rope would result in a halted competition. Sometimes we feel like the rope as we are strenuously pulled by the stressors of daily life. Typical stressors include: relationship issues, working with unsavory individuals and poor sleeping habits. Unwelcomed and stressful circumstances can result in the loss of focus on our inner resources.

It is worthwhile to habitually refocus on our inner-resources. In general, inner-resources are grounded in a person's spiritual values. An effective approach for nurturing spiritual values is merging with a trusted community of friends. In comparison to a single strand rope, a multi-strand and interlaced rope stands a better chance to remain intact when exposed to tension. Likewise, we improve our likelihood of not coming apart mentally, emotionally and spiritually if we weave ourselves into a group of like-minded comrades.

At GTMO, your chaplain team offers a broad array of community activities designed to restore, sustain and fortify both healthy and struggling Warriors. Why not join together with your chaplain sponsored activities or any of the GTMO community activities? When stressors pull us tight and threaten to rip us apart we can rest assured that our supporting community can fortify us.

"Though one may be overpowered, two can defend themselves. A cord of three strands is not quickly broken." Ecclesiastes 4:12 NIV

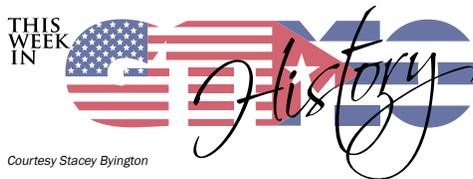
The JSMART Spot

By Navy Petty Officer 2nd Class Arianna Loaiza
JSMART Advertising Coordinator

Separation from one's family is a reality most military members face. The sacrifices don't just affect the Service member; they impact the family as well. Children of military members who are geographically separated may exhibit an array of atypical yet normal behaviors. Coping with emotional and physical distance while maintaining a bond can seem challenging, but it is achievable. Simple things such as communicating with your children via email, phone calls, letters, sending children a picture you drew, or recording yourself reading a book can mean the world to them. These things are reminders to your children that they're not forgotten. Don't

avoid contact with your children believing that it will prevent them from getting upset about your absence. This type of avoidance could make their adjustment worse.

During homecoming, children specifically may initially come off as distant. It takes time for the entire family to readjust. Remember, being a military parent doesn't make you a bad parent. Military children can be resilient and are known to adapt well to changes as they get older.



Courtesy Stacey Byington

Oct. 22, 1962

Because of the Cuban Missile Crisis, approximately 2,800 dependants, non-essential civilians, and numerous military personnel were evacuated from the base on ships and aircraft. Active duty base personnel were assigned to augment the ships' companies to help care for the evacuees, including two doctors, a medical service officer, four dental technicians, eight commissarymen, and four stewards.

The order was given at 10 a.m. to "pack one suitcase for each person to be evacuated, bring evacuation and immunization cards, and have an emergency payment authorization. Tie pets in the yard, leave house keys on the dining room table, and stand by in front of your house ready to board the bus."

They were well on their way to Norfolk, when President Kennedy announced on national television that evening about the presence of Soviet missiles in Cuba.

After the evacuation patrons of the

Navy Exchange did their shopping with rifles slung over their shoulders. A CNO message dated Nov. 2, commented on the base's transformation saying, "Once a community with overtones of suburbia, the base now has all the earmarks of an armed camp..."

Dependents and other civilians were allowed to return to the base two months later, and most were home by Christmas 1962.

GTMO sports standings

| Softball | |
|------------------------|-----|
| AMERICAN LEAGUE | |
| 1. Husker Doos | 9-0 |
| 2. GTMO Latino+ | 8-1 |
| 3. The Black Sheeps | 6-2 |
| 4. The Leftovers | 6-3 |
| 5. MisFits | 4-3 |
| 6. Poker Jokers | 3-6 |
| WEST | |
| 1. Here Come the Runs | 5-0 |
| 2. 391st Paladins | 5-1 |
| 3. Grizzlies | 4-1 |
| 4. Thunder | 4-2 |
| 5. Goin' Deep | 3-3 |
| 6. The Abusement Park | 2-4 |
| EAST | |
| 1. BEEF | 6-0 |
| 2. SH Money Team | 4-1 |
| 3. Boston BD's | 4-2 |
| 4. Crazyhorse | 3-3 |
| 5. Confusion | 2-3 |
| 6. Gerbils | 2-4 |
| 7. The Pirates! | 2-3 |
| 8. MCSFCO | 0-6 |
| NATIONAL LEAGUE | |
| 1. Outcasts | 5-0 |
| 2. Here Come the Runs | 7-1 |
| 3. Boondoggles | 5-1 |
| 4. 391st Paladins | 3-3 |
| 5. GTMO Goonies | 3-3 |
| 6. WMPA | 4-4 |
| 7. Puddle Pirates | 3-5 |
| 8. Jerks | 2-4 |
| 9. React to Extract | 0-5 |
| 10. Swift Justice | 0-6 |

U.S. Consular Officers visiting GTMO October 27 - 28

Accepting appointments for:

1. Regular (tourist) passports
2. Consular Report of Birth Abroad
3. Special Immigrant Visas
4. Certifications of true copies

Please contact Lt. Smith at 4692

or jennifer.smith@gtmo.navy.mil

for more information and to schedule appointments



Beehive Disc Golf Open

Lateral Hazard disc golf course

Saturday, Nov. 8

8:30 a.m. - Player check-in

8:50 a.m. - Player's meeting

9:00 a.m. - First Round (9 holes)

9:50 a.m. - Player's meeting

10:00 a.m. - Second Round (9 holes)

11:00 a.m. - Award Ceremony

Tournament is free and includes all ability levels. Register day of the event or in advance at 3858. POC is SSG Lynch.



HAPPY HOWL-O-WEEN

Pet Costume Contest

October 29th

5 - 6 p.m.

At the Dog Park

Get your costumes ready!

Medals for: Best Costume
Most Original
Best Owner/Pet
Most Photogenic



Pictures from 5-5:30 p.m.
Judging from 5:30-5:45 p.m.

FMI information call x2212



The rise and descent of the sun at Naval Station Guantanamo Bay creates a pleasant experience for those who enjoy color. This photograph by Maj. Luis Lopez shows the pastel orange that the sun creates and reflects off the water.

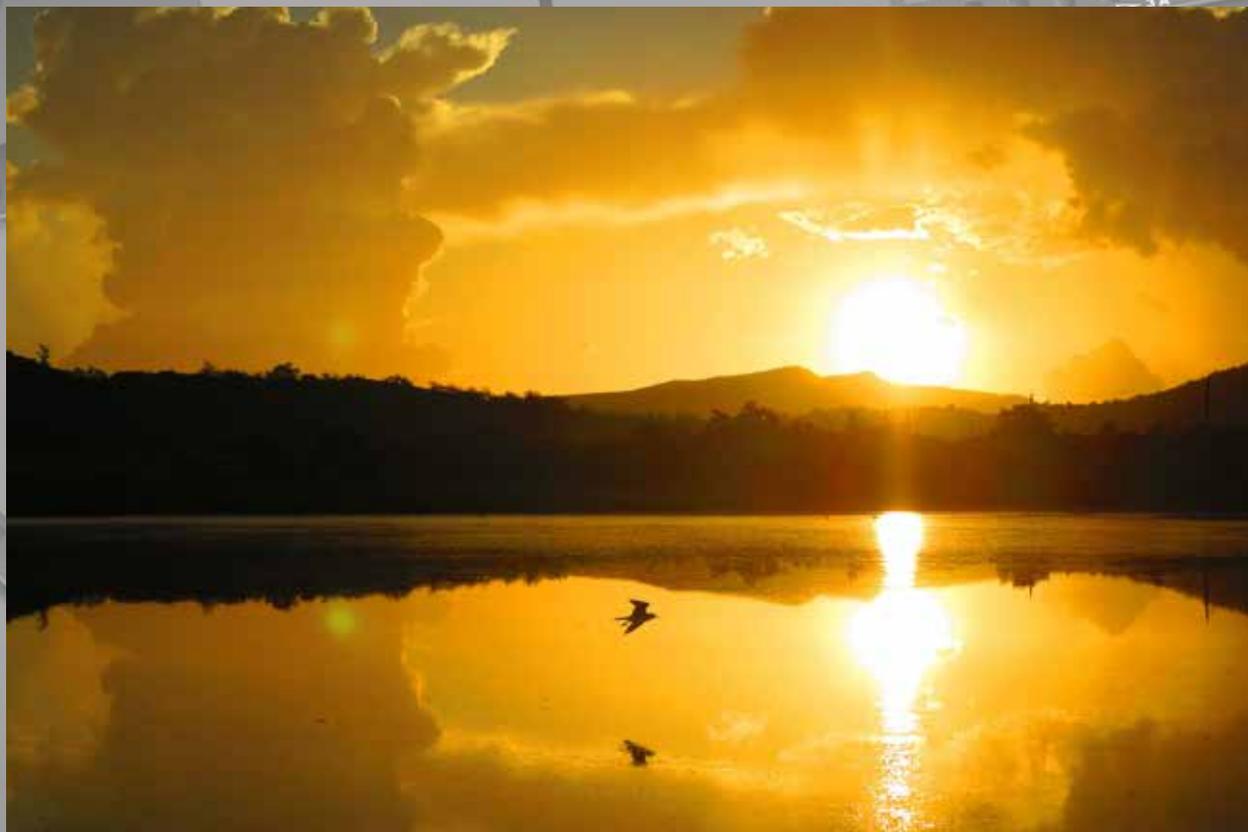


PHOTO OF THE WEEK

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