Corpsmen in the camps
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.

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.

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# Religious Services

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Service</th>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Location</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Roman Catholic</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Saturday*</td>
<td>1700</td>
<td>Annex Room 1 (Liturgical Service)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sunday*</td>
<td>0900</td>
<td>Main Chapel</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Protestant Services</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sunday*</td>
<td>0640, 0900, 1900</td>
<td>Main Chapel</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Protestant</strong></td>
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<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Traditional*</td>
<td>0930</td>
<td>Annex Room 2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Contemporary*</td>
<td>1100</td>
<td>Annex Room 1 (Sabbath School)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gospel</td>
<td>1300</td>
<td>Annex Room 1 (Sabbath Service)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Other Services</strong></td>
<td></td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Seventh Day Adventist</td>
<td>1315</td>
<td>Annex Room 2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Friday</td>
<td>0900</td>
<td>Annex Room 1 (Sabbath School)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Saturday</td>
<td>1100</td>
<td>Annex Room 1 (Sabbath Service)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sunday</td>
<td>0900</td>
<td>Annex Room 2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pentacostal</td>
<td>0800</td>
<td>Annex Room D</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sunday</td>
<td>1700</td>
<td>Annex Room D</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Monday</td>
<td>2000</td>
<td>Cuzco Block H</td>
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<tr>
<td>JTF Bible Study*</td>
<td>Saturday</td>
<td>JTF Troopers' Chapel</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wednesday</td>
<td>1900</td>
<td>JTF Troopers' Chapel</td>
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<tr>
<td>Saturday</td>
<td>1900</td>
<td>JTF Troopers' Chapel</td>
</tr>
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</table>

*These services are conducted by Army or Navy chaplains

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### Transportation Schedules

#### BUS Schedule

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Time</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Camp America</td>
<td>00/20/40</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gazebo</td>
<td>01/18/21/38/41/5/8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Camp America NEX</td>
<td>02/17/22/37/42/57</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Camp Delta</td>
<td>04/13/24/33/44/53</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Camp 6</td>
<td>07/10/27/30/47/50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HQ Building</td>
<td>05/15/35</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TK 1</td>
<td>01/17/21/37/41/57</td>
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<tr>
<td>TK 2</td>
<td>02/16/22/36/42/56</td>
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<tr>
<td>TK 3</td>
<td>03/15/23/35/43/55</td>
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<td>TK 4</td>
<td>04/13/24/33/44/53</td>
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<tr>
<td>CC</td>
<td>00/19/20/39/40/59</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>JAS</td>
<td>11/33/54</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Windjammer/Gym</td>
<td>02/17/22/37/42/57</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gold Hill Galley</td>
<td>04/15/24/35/44/55</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NEX</td>
<td>06/13/26/33/46/53</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NEX Laundry</td>
<td>07/27/47</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C Pool</td>
<td>10/30/50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Downtown Lyceum</td>
<td>11/31/51</td>
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#### BEACH BUS

**Saturday & Sunday ONLY**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Time</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Windward Loop</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Leeward</td>
<td>0700/0800/1000/1100/1200/1300/1400/1600/1700</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SBQO/Marina</td>
<td>0905/0935/1205/1235/1505/1535/1805/1835</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NEX</td>
<td>0908/0925/1208/1225/1508/1525/1808/1825</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Phillips Park</td>
<td>0914/1214/1514/1814</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cable Beach/Turn Around</td>
<td>0917/1217/1517/1817</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Return to Office</td>
<td>0940/1240/1540/1840</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**FERRY Schedule**

Monday thru Saturday

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Time</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Windward</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Leeward</td>
<td>0700/0800/1000/1100/1200/1300/1400/1600/1700</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SBQO/Marina</td>
<td>0905/0935/1205/1235/1505/1535/1805/1835</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NEX</td>
<td>0908/0925/1208/1225/1508/1525/1808/1825</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Phillips Park</td>
<td>0914/1214/1514/1814</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cable Beach/Turn Around</td>
<td>0917/1217/1517/1817</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Return to Office</td>
<td>0940/1240/1540/1840</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

#### Utility Boat

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

Sunday & Holidays

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Time</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Windward</td>
<td>0730/0930/1130/1330</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Leeward</td>
<td>0800/1000/1200/1400</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SBQO/Marina</td>
<td>0905/0935/1205/1235/1505/1535/1805/1835</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NEX</td>
<td>0908/0925/1208/1225/1508/1525/1808/1825</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Phillips Park</td>
<td>0914/1214/1514/1814</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cable Beach/Turn Around</td>
<td>0917/1217/1517/1817</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Return to Office</td>
<td>0940/1240/1540/1840</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

#### NEX Express Bus

- **9:55 - 19:55** hourly
- **Camp America** - 04/55
- **Gold Hill Galley** - 11/31
- **Gold Hill Galley** - 14/29
- **NEX** - 16/27
- **Downtown Lyceum** - 17/25

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The Wire is an authorized publication for members of the Department of Defense. It is produced by the JTF Public Affairs Office to inform and educate the Troopers of JTF-GTMO. The contents of The Wire are not necessarily the official views of, or endorsed by, the U.S. Government, the Department of Defense or the U.S. Army, Air Force, Navy, Marines or Coast Guard.

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- [Joint Task Force Guantanamo on YouTube](#)

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**Joint Task Force Guantanamo**

**Safe**  **Humane**  **Legal**  **Transparent**

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**The Wire · October 24**
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 well-rounded education 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.


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) ECU  (23) Marshall  
(11) Kansas State  (24) LSU  
(12) Baylor  (25) UCLA

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.
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
- 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

**Sunday, October 19**
- Patriots 27, Jets 25
- 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

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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.

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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.”

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

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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.”

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Story by Sgt. Christopher Vann
Staff writer, thewire@jtfgmo.southcom.mil

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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.
Review by Staff Sgt. Kenneth Tucceri
Media Relations, thewire@jtfgtmo.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.

A Walk Among the Tombstones

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

"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.

This is Where I Leave You

Review by Staff Sgt. David Kirtland
Staff Writer, thewire@jtfgtmo.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.

A Walk Among the Tombstones

Review by Staff Sgt. David Kirtland
Staff Writer, thewire@jtfgtmo.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.

A Walk Among the Tombstones

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

"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.

This is Where I Leave You

Review by Staff Sgt. David Kirtland
Staff Writer, thewire@jtfgtmo.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.

A Walk Among the Tombstones

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

"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.

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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.
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 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.”
Corpsmen in the Camps:
24-Hour Detainee Medical Care

Story and photos by Staff Sgt. Carmen Steinbach
Editor, thewire@jtfgtmo.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, medicines or simply to speak with a hospital corpsmen 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.
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 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.
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.”
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.

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 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 everyday 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 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.
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.

April Sgt. David Gaskin organized a barbeque following the clean up so the Soldiers could enjoy the area they’ve just beautified. Many Soldiers brought prepared dishes to the barbeque 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-clean up 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@jtfgtmo.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@jtfgtmo.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 kids 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!

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 ½-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 6 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 re-focus 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

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.

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

Flag Football

AMERICAN LEAGUE
1. Husker Doos 9-0
2. 391st Paladins 5-1
3. Grizzlies 4-1
4. Thunder 4-2
5. Gato Deep 3-3
6. The Abusement Park 2-4
7. Nailed It! 2-6
8. Jerks 2-4
9. Non-Jerks 1-7
10. PT-Romaniacs 0-7

NATIONAL LEAGUE
1. Outcasts 5-0
2. Here Come the Runs 7-1
3. Boondoggles 5-1
4. 391st Paladins 4-1
5. GTMO Goonies 3-3
6. WMPA 3-3
7. Paddle Pirates 3-3
8. Swift Justice 0-6
9. React to Extract 0-5
10. Swift Justice 0-6

Softball

AMERICAN LEAGUE
1. Here Come the Runs 5-0
2. 391st Paladins 5-1
3. Red Apple 2-6
4. Thunder 4-2
5. The Leftovers 6-3
6. The Abusement Park 2-4
7. Nailed It! 2-6
8. Red Apple 2-6
9. Non-Jerks 1-7
10. PT-Romaniacs 0-7

NATIONAL LEAGUE
1. Outcasts 5-0
2. Here Come the Runs 7-1
3. Boondoggles 5-1
4. 391st Paladins 4-1
5. GTMO Goonies 3-3
6. WMPA 3-3
7. Paddle Pirates 3-3
8. Swift Justice 0-6
9. React to Extract 0-5
10. Swift Justice 0-6
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.

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

Zombie 5k Run
Friday, Oct. 31, 6 p.m. Cooper Field

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.

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

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

Photos from 5 - 6 p.m.
Judging from 5:30 - 6:45 p.m.

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

PHOTO OF THE WEEK