



the Wire

“ HONOR BOUND TO DEFEND FREEDOM ”

Volume 4, Issue 4

www.nsgtmo.navy.mil/jtfgtmo

Friday, October 3, 2003

JTF has come a long way, going further

Leadership improves troopers' quality of life

By Sgt. Jolene Staker

The more things change the more they get better.

The change our country went through since the terrorist attacks on 9/11 made the creation of the JTF necessary to facilitate detainee operations. Facilities for both troopers and detainees were erected expeditiously. Quality of life improvements have been a part of JTF life since.

As detainees were first housed in Camp X-Ray, troopers lived just outside in Freedom Heights, a tent city with sun-baked tents, makeshift flooring and no running water. Most Troopers had meals-ready-to-eat (MREs) on a regular basis.

Then, Camp Delta was built to pro-



Photo by Sgt. Jolene Staker

Kvaerner employees unload furniture into one of the units formerly part of Kittery Beach housing. The renovated units will be known as Tierra Kay East and will house military police to give them a place to get away from their job at the wire so they can decompress.

See JTF on page 4

Inside the Wire ...

GTMO JAZZ FESTIVAL



PAGE 9

FOOTBALL TOURNEY AHEAD



PAGE 10

FOR MY FAMILY



PAGE 12

Trooper to Trooper

The JTF continues to improve both its mission readiness and focus to improve trooper quality of life. Leaders understand the challenges that JTF troopers face each day. As a result, a number of efforts are underway to improve how we live and work.

You have probably seen several ongoing construction projects in and around Camp America. A new navy exchange will open on 15 October in Camp America. This modern facility will be a more convenient place to shop, and will stock the kinds of things that JTF troopers will need. New living quarters are under construction that will provide billeting, laundry and latrine facilities for another 400 troopers in Camp America. This will allow us to bring our team closer to our mission, and is the next step in providing a full scope living area for troopers. A new chapel will be taking shape, providing a central location for religious activities in Camp America. We are also building a new mess hall inside Camp Delta - Café Caribe - to give troopers inside the wire a great place to eat, a break from duty, all while serving high quality meals. Each of these projects reflects an investment in our quality of life. We are all about getting better each day.

Additional quality of life projects are underway. We are renovating housing units in the Tierra Kay complex. This project will allow us to provide additional quality housing for troopers in the Tierra Kay area. The new Tierra Kay joint aid station will open in November and will improve the full service, responsive medical care we currently enjoy. Again, these are investments in our future that will improve our quality of life and set conditions for JTF mission success.

All these new billeting projects under construction now add more billeting space for the JTF. Once we move into our new housing, the naval base will be able to reduce the waiting list for Navy families separated due to lack of family housing. This should assist in improving the quality of life for the naval base sailors, key contributors in the JTF's mission success.



MG Geoffrey D. Miller
Commander
JTF Guantanamo

Later on in October you will see construction begin on several other projects to enhance trooper fitness and recreation in Camp America. Before we are finished, we will add a running track with outdoor lights, improve our softball field and soccer field, build another volleyball court, and add a bunch of improvements to the Bulkeley gym complex.

Troopers that are new to the JTF are settling in, learning the ropes, setting goals and overcoming challenges. Leaders are out front, teaching and mentoring, showing troopers what right looks like and encouraging folks to get the most out of their deployment to our JTF.

We welcome your suggestions to improve the JTF team, and help troopers achieve personal goals they have set for this deployment. If you have ideas that we should know about, forward them through your chain of command. This joint task force is a team, and every member's input is important. With every JTF trooper working hard, pulling in the same direction, we are assured of JTF mission success.

Honor bound!

JTF-GTMO Command

Commander:

MG Geoffrey D. Miller

Joint Task Force CSM:

CSM George L. Nieves

Public Affairs Officer:

Lt. Col. Pamela L. Hart

Deputy PAO

Lt. Cmdr. Robert W. Mulac

70th MPAD Commander:

Maj. Jonathan P. Dolan

Command Information Officer / Editor:

1st Lt. Tracy L. Saucy

Circulation: 2,100 copies

The Wire Staff

The Wire NCOIC / Editor

Staff Sgt. Patrick Cloward

Layout Editor

Spc. Tommi Meyer

Sports Editor:

Spc. Rick Fahr

Staff writers and design team:

Sgt. Jolene Staker

Spc. Katherine L. Collins

Contact us:

From Guantanamo:

5239/5241 (Local phone) 5426 (Local fax)

From CONUS:

Com: 011-53-99-5239 DSN: 660-5239

Public Affairs Office

Online:

<http://www.nsgtmo.navy.mil/jtfgtmo>

The Wire is produced by the 70th Mobile Public Affairs Detachment assigned to the Joint Information Bureau at Joint Task Force Guantanamo. This publication is printed under the provisions provided in Army Regulation 360-1 and does not reflect the views of the Department of Defense or the personnel within.

DID YOU KNOW? AN INTERESTING GTMO FACT

According to the Pass and ID section, there are approximately 3,000 registered vehicles currently on Guantanamo Bay. Quite a few considering the the base is only 45 square miles large, including the bay.

"We are registering around 250 vehicles a month," said Petty Officer 2nd Class Martha Wofford.

All those vehicles and not traffic traffic light in site!

\$\$ Finance Note \$\$

To better serve your finance needs and help with any pay problems, entitlements or travel vouchers, the Finance Section has two soldiers at Camp America, (JDOG) S-1, every Tuesday and Thursday, from 1:30 p.m to 4 p.m.

29th Division Visits 1-181st Infantry

Story and photos
by Patrick Cloward

A little more than a week ago, 29th Infantry Division Commander MG Daniel Long arrived from Lynchburg, Va., to oversee the transition of the 2nd Bn., 116th Infantry Regt., also from Lynchburg, to the 1st Bn., 181st Infantry Regt., from Worcester, Mass.

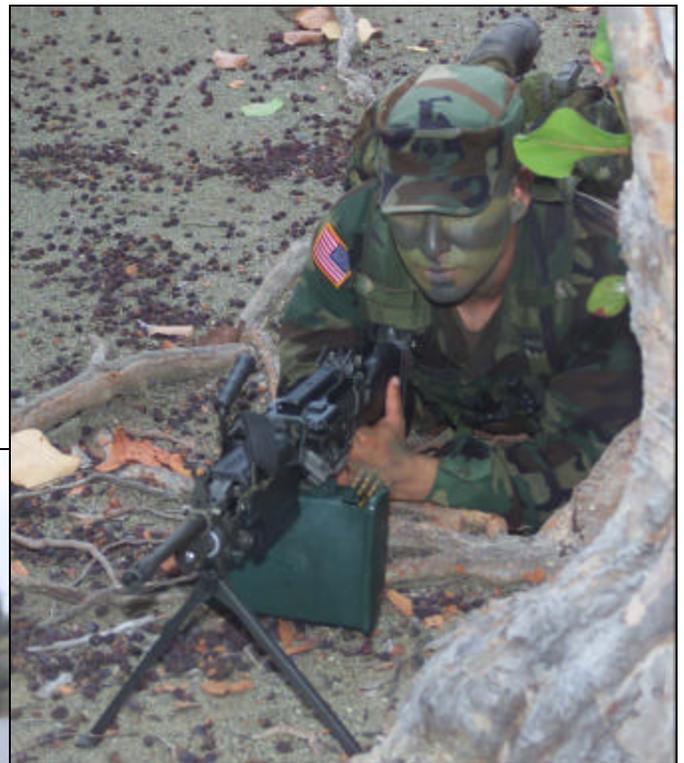
"I think they've done a good job," said Long as he spoke to soldiers training in fighting positions in and around Camp Delta, Sept. 19. "I'm real proud of them. I think that they have exceeded probably what has been expected of them to do." Troopers from the 181st have finally begun to dig in and acclimate to their new responsibility in the defense of Camp Delta and other JTF installations.

"As I saw it, it was a great opportunity for the Guard and the battalion to come down here and do what the nation would ask them to do," said Long.



"I'm real proud of them. I think that they have exceeded probably what has been expected of them to do."

*MG Daniel Long
Commander, 29th Infantry Division*



Top right- MG Daniel Long and BG Mitchell LeClaire discuss JTF activities.

Above- Spc. Jorge Solano A Co. 1-181st, mans a Squad Automatic Weapon.

Shown left- 1-181st Battalion Commander Lt. Col. Joseph Noonan and MG Daniel Long.



JTF from page 1

vide improved conditions for detainees, as troopers moved to their better housing area in Camp America, now used as office space.

While many look at Camp America today as primitive compared to what they left at home, the troopers who moved there in April 2002 from Freedom Heights considered it the lap of luxury. It was the first time those troopers had air-conditioned living quarters.

Even though there was no running water or indoor bathroom facilities, troopers were just thankful that the walk to the outdoor facilities was not as far. It was not until the troopers moved into Camp America North that they had indoor plumbing.

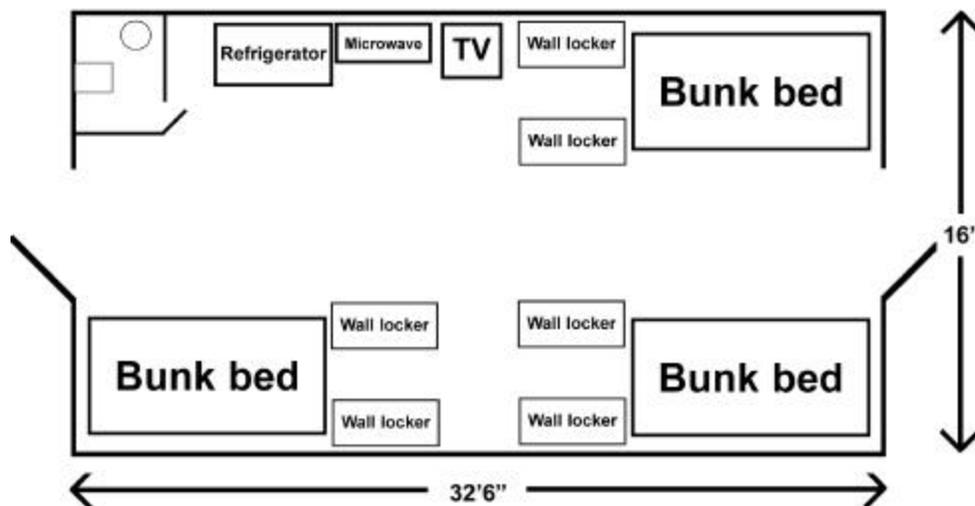
Later, the Seaside Galley was built and the troopers went from eating MREs in the hot sun to eating hot meals in an air-conditioned facility.

JTF support personnel lived in permanent party family housing areas that had been left vacant to include Windward Loop, East Caravalla, Tierra Kay and Kittery Beach. Rest and relaxation units were also set aside to give the troopers living in Freedom Heights a place to get a real shower and get out of the elements for a short break.

Now, the naval base needs some of its housing back to allow their permanent party personnel to bring their families to Guantanamo Bay. The JTF is moving out of the Windward Loop.

Units formerly part of the Kittery Beach housing area are being refurbished into what will be known as Tierra Kay (TK) East. There are two and three bedroom units.

The units are being renovated with new kitchen appliances, washing machines, dryers, beds, bedroom furniture and dining room furniture. All this and they even have closets.



The above graphic is one possibility for what furniture will be in a bay as well as how it could be arranged. Capt. McNeill would like troopers to give their input on what they would like in their rooms as well as how it is arranged. Please e-mail 1LT Peter Polizzi, J4 housing officer, at PolizziPM@JTFGTMO.southcom.mil with suggestions.

Military police will be housed in Tierra Kay and Tierra Kay East. Command Sgt. Major George Nieves said that after working long hours inside the wire those troopers need a place away from their work environment where they can decompress.

For those who work and eat inside the wire, the new Delta Galley will soon be a reality. The permanent building will allow for more comfortable furniture and running water, which will give troopers soda fountains, coffee makers and restrooms.

Construction should be completed toward the end of October. Then, the new equipment will be moved in and the galley should open for troopers by mid-November.

“The main thing is to get it open so we can make the troopers comfortable. We will then modify and upgrade it as we’re going down the road,” said Sgt. 1st Class Tecia Molisani.

The infantry, which provides security for Camp Delta, will reside in the area to keep them close to the fight, said Nieves. Housing the infantry near ensures that those troopers can be deployed at a moment’s notice to man the perimeter and

take the fight to the enemy instead of them bringing the fight to us.

Camp America II consists of modern and roomy, open bay units. The units, originally designed to hold 12 people but reduced for more room, will have beds, wall lockers, a television/DVD combo, refrigerator, microwave and phone. Some furniture will be added to give troopers a place to sit while watching TV. There is also a half bathroom with sink and toilet in each room.

There will also be centralized showers and laundry facility as well as a kitchenette with outside barbeque and sitting areas.

“It is as nice as any barracks anyone has ever lived in,” said 1st Sgt. Jeffrey McCann of the JDOG.

“We’re looking at everything down to the towel racks in the bays,” said Navy Capt. Paul McNeil, adding that the improvements will continue even after they move in.

“We try to give the troopers of the JTF the best life possible. We work on it every day,” said Nieves, “anything we can think of and anything we can do to improve the quality of life, that’s what we’ll do.”

JTF support personnel will

fill in here and in other available housing. Nieves plans to maintain unit integrity as much as possible.

“We work as a team; we want to live as a team,” he said.

The goal is that by the end of the first week in December all JTF troopers will be situated into their permanent housing.

The movement of JTF troopers will require different transportation options than those currently available to ensure each and every trooper can get to work in a timely manner. “We are going to make improvements to the transportation system,” said McNeil.

Point-to-point express buses are one option being considered.

The new TK JAS will be in a renovated building that used to be the old migrant headquarters across from the current JAS. A dental clinic will be an additional service available. The chaplains and combat stress team will also be housed in the new station. Nieves said the goal was to have “one-stop shopping.” All needs -- medical, dental, mental, and spiritual will receive treatment at the same facility.

Wheel & Deals: New vehicles at great prices

Story and photo
By Spc. Katherine L. Collins

If adopting a "GTMO special" just isn't for you, JTF offers another form of acquiring wheels to get you around. Stop by New Car Sales, located outside the main base Navy Exchange, to purchase a new car, truck, sports utility vehicle (SUV) or Harley Davidson motorcycle.

To purchase a car, truck or SUV a trooper must show he or she has been or will be stationed at Guantanamo for 30 or more consecutive days. The requirement is at least 90 consecutive days to buy a Harley Davidson.

At the shop you can custom order most models of all American-made vehicles, from containing the basics to full amenities, because every auto ordered is delivered factory direct. Naturally then, the variety of vehicles ranges widely in price. Available Harley Davidson models span from \$6,000 to \$21,000. Purchase prices include delivery charges. According to Woodberry, New Car Sales offers the best price available for each make and model it carries, promising that if you find a better deal elsewhere it will match that price.

At times you can even purchase vehicles with rebates. When a person orders an automobile but fails to pick it up, the factory holds the vehicle and markets it for a rebated cost. Woodberry said dealerships notify him twice per week about the availability of any rebated vehicles. He maintains an updated list in the store window.

As for delivery, your new motorcycle must ship to a stateside address, where you can enjoy it when you return home, because you cannot ride them in Guantanamo, since there is no dealership here to provide warranties. You can, however, request delivery of your car, truck or SUV to a stateside address or to Guantanamo. Kvaerner provides all warranties for these types of vehicles on base. Kvaerner is also the base mechanic for all personal vehicles. You can save money by shipping the automobile here, because you will pay no sales tax. All deliveries, stateside or to Guantanamo, take between 30 to 60 days.

To assess your options of new vehicles in Guantanamo you can search each American made dealership's website or you can browse the shop's catalogs. To figure the shipping costs of each vehicle



Coast Guard Legalman 1st Class Kyle Vaughan, a court reporter with the saif judge advocate, admires a Harley Davidson at the New Car Sales store outside the main base NEX.

you must stop by or call the store.

Once you find the vehicle of your choice, you can finance the purchase through the loan company of your choice as well, including the dealership. Woodberry recommends you finance through Navy Federal Bank, whose annual percentage rate is currently 5.9 percent. Always check with the dealerships first though, he said. Their regular rates range from 6.9 percent to 9.9 percent, but often they hold specials offering 0 percent and no payments for roughly 12 to 36 months. All rates depend on credit history. To open a Navy Federal Bank account simply complete an application and accompany it with \$5. Opening an account and applying for a loan require approximately two to three hours.

A "GTMO special" or a new set of wheels – you decide what is right for you. If you desire to explore the new automobile route, visit the websites and stop by the New Car Sales store. Woodberry said, if you cannot stop by the shop during its posted business hours, just call him at the shop at x4227 or at home at x5710. He will arrange to meet you at the store.

If you do buy a vehicle in Guantanamo you will also need to register it and purchase automobile insurance and license plates. To obtain registration and plates visit the Pass and ID Vehicle Registration office or call x3730. The option to buy personalized plates is available. To purchase insurance call Ron Weldon at x5626. **See insurance article, page 6.**

Get your GTMO special



Photo by Sgt. Jolene Staker

By Spc. Tommi Meyer

You may have been riding about town on a GTMO Rapid Transit bus or on one of the many two-wheeled machines peddling around base and noticed that some troopers have a "special" mode of transportation, "GTMO Special" to be specific.

You may have wondered "How'd they do that?" The first step is to find what you are looking for. You might want to keep your eyes open when you walk past bulletin boards or peddle past the NEX parking lot. You can also read the classified section of *The Gazette* or listen to NAVBASE radio advertisements to find out what may be up for grabs.

Be prepared to spend anywhere from \$600-\$1,500 when you run across that "special" deal.

After you make your decision, you do have a bit of work to do.

"It all has to be legal," said Petty Officer 2nd Class Martha Woffard of the Navy Pass and ID section. "It has to be official."

According to Woffard, both parties, the seller and the buyer, have to be present to do an official bill of sale (BOS). This form can be obtained at either the JTF or Navy legal services office.

Once you pay for the vehicle and have your BOS you will need to get insurance, a safety inspection and get registered at the Pass and ID office.

For insurance, Woffard said you have a few choices, USAA, Geico or the local representative, Ron Weldon. You may call Weldon at extension 5626 Tuesday through Thursday from 5 to 6 p.m.

Next your vehicle needs to be registered and inspected.

"There are no fees for the inspection or registration," said Woffard.

According to Woffard, if your car doesn't pass inspection, you will be issued a non-driving registration to allow time to make the necessary repairs. Remember though, your "special" purchase must remain in a parked status until it is signed off as GTMO road worthy.

If you have additional questions call the Pass and ID section at extension 3730.

JTF from page 4

One stop shopping includes the improvement of the 280-square-foot NEX trailer at Camp America with a 3,040 square-foot facility. This will help to ensure that troopers have essentials, as well as creature comfort extras, readily available. It is expected to open its doors on Oct. 14.

The NEX will open the door to the new building on Oct. 14. The ribbon cutting ceremony, originally scheduled for Oct. 22, will be announced as soon as the date and time are decided.

On the day of the ceremony, hourly drawings will give troopers a chance to win either a prize or gift certificate. The prizes are designed to be something the trooper can use here and not have to pack home. Prizes include a fishing package and a scuba diving package. Gift certificates will be worth as much as \$100.

"This move, combined with the opening of the new TK JAS and the new NEX store at camp America, will improve how our troopers accomplish their mission and takes another step in how we improve our quality of life," said MG Geoffrey Miller.

Command Sgt. Major Stephen W. Short, said "Communication improves along with transportation. It also helps solidify the JTF personnel and the JDOG personnel into one team instead of having one group on one end of the base and the other group on the other end."

JTF Troopers can expect continued improvements.

"There is always something else we can do and we will do it. There won't be a day that we can say we've done all we could," Nieves said.

"It is all about working and living smarter as the JTF gets better everyday," Miller added.

New JTF Guantanamo assistant IG swears in



Photo by Spc. Tommi Meyer

Sgt. 1st Class Danny Johns, 177th Military Police Co. is sworn in as the JTF assistant inspector general by MG Geoffrey Miller, JTF commander. Though new to the job, Johns is jumping right in. "I am anxious to go a good job. Hopefully I can be a positive influence on some soldiers lives," he said.

Dropping auto insurance may not save money

By Mr. Anthony Tempesta, Legal Assistance Chief, Fort Benning

Many soldiers try to save money by dropping their auto insurance during a deployment. Saving a few dollars now, however, could end up costing much more in the long run.

Consider the following example: Spc. Jones is going to deploy for six months. He is financing a 2002 Ford Mustang GT, a vehicle that will sit in his parents' driveway while he is away. He knows that he must still make his monthly car payment, but can't he drop his insurance while the car sits idle? The answer is that he probably should not drop his insurance.

If he is financing the vehicle, the "small print" of his financing agreement almost certainly contains a clause where he agreed to maintain liability insurance on the vehicle at all times. The lender

requires this protection, so if the car is totaled on the interstate for example, the finance company will still get paid.

If the borrower drops the liability insurance, the insurance carrier will notify the lender, and the lender will contact the borrower. If the borrower does not reinstate the original insurance policy or obtain a new one, the small print of the financing agreement almost always gives the lender the authority to purchase a liability policy on the vehicle and bill the borrower for the cost. The cost of such a forced policy is usually much more than the cost of the original policy. For example, a recent client had been paying \$200 a month in auto insurance, but after he dropped his policy and the borrower purchased a policy for him under the terms of his financing agreement, he was then required to pay insurance premiums over \$350 a month.

The costs of forced insurance are typically added into the vehicle's financing, either increasing the monthly payment or adding additional monthly payments.

Even if the car is sitting idle in a driveway or a garage, something could still happen to it. A storm could topple a tree onto the car, or a fire in the garage could destroy the car. The risk of loss or damage is greatly reduced when a car is not being driven, but the risk is not eliminated entirely.

Many soldiers think that if a vehicle is put into government storage during a deployment, the Army will pay for any damages that occur. This is not necessarily correct. Because there are limitations on types of claims and dollar amounts that the Army system can pay, the soldier might not be fully reimbursed for damage to a stored vehicle. Second, the Army is not an insurance company, and

when the terms of a vehicle's financing agreement require insurance, the fact that the Army may pay a damage claim does not stop the financing company from purchasing insurance on the vehicle.

Anyone considering dropping automobile insurance should first read the terms of the vehicle's financing agreement. If the vehicle is paid in full, the soldier should still consider maintaining the existing insurance policy to fully protect against loss.

Personnel with specific legal assistance questions should stop by Sea Hut A6107 in Camp America or call x 3564/3561. The legal assistance attorney is Maj. Pelot and Legal NCOs are Sgt. 1st Class Zaroff and Sgt. Rivera. Office hours are Monday, Wednesday and Friday 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m., Tuesday and Thursday 8:00 a.m. to 5 p.m. and Saturdays 8:30 a.m. to noon.

273rd joins team: enthusiastic, focused to serve

Story and photo
Spc. Katherine L. Collins

Just three weeks ago, Washington, D.C., National Guard's 273rd Military Police Company joined the fight in Guantanamo Bay to defend freedom around the world. These troopers arrived able and willing to serve their part in the JTF mission, carrying with them experience, teamwork and enthusiasm.

According to 1st Sgt. Sandra Adams-Jones, 273rd Co. first sergeant, the unit's mission here is to serve as force protection. "Specifically, that means completing such tasks as escorting the detainees and visitors in the wire. It also involves assisting the detainees in such [routine activities] as showering and eating," she explained.

The company's deployment experience prepared the troopers for Guantanamo, advancing their skill level and camaraderie. The unit arrived here straight from 10 months of active service at the Pentagon. It also recently served

on active duty to protect the U.S. Capital.

Adams-Jones described the preparation the Pentagon duty provided. "Our last mission was very different from this one, but it prepared us well," she said. "We grew to know each other well, and the soldiers came to know the leadership well, making us a solid unit. We came here ready to succeed."

The 273rd's enthusiasm for its mission at hand rang evident in the words of trooper Sgt. Tamara Sutton, who has deployed twice before with the company. "I never dreamed I'd be here. It's an exciting and very unique mission, and it has been very smooth so far," she said. "What's neat, too, is that I [can] say I was actually [here] and helped," said Sutton. "This is a definite peak in my career. I will be retiring soon, so this is a great way to complete my service," she added.

Adams-Jones explained her own excitement about the JTF mission, describing it as a new and beneficial experience for the



Sgt. Tamara Sutton of the 273rd MP Co. opens a gate for contractors, checking their badges as they enter.

273rd. "We are actually dealing with detainees, not just providing general law and order," she said.

Sgt. Victor Escobar demonstrated his own enthusiasm as he agreed with Adams-Jones' view of the unit's present mission. "It's good to be here. We are guarding far more than just a building here. I know I am playing an important part in history."

Escobar also reflected his unit's possession of selfless serv-

ice when describing his personal goal for this deployment. He thought in terms of the team, not just himself. "My mission is our mission. It is simply to do our job, giving 100 percent," he said.

Ready to serve, the 273rd also arrived with a list of unit goals it hopes to accomplish. "Our top goals here are to become more efficient at our job and better learn our basic soldier skills," said Adams-Jones. "Also, we want to improve our physical training and weight control, and we will strive to send as many as our soldiers as possible to the leadership schools they need to attend to keep or acquire their next rank."

Leading and guiding the 273rd's mission focus and attitude for success, Adams-Jones set forth her own bit of wisdom to the unit. "My advice is just focus on the mission and before you know it, it will be time to depart, and you will be able to head home proud for all you've accomplished for your country while here."

Man on the Street

Interview and photos by Spc. Katherine L. Collins

This week's question:

How do you talk about selfless service with your family and loved ones?



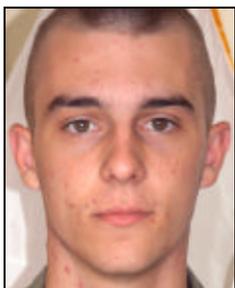
Spc. Catalina Blackman, 273rd MP Co.

"It means doing whatever it takes to get the mission done and maintaining a positive attitude about it. I am proud to be a soldier. My family is proud of me."



Navy Petty Officer 3rd Class Maria Soto, J1

"It's why I volunteered to deploy. I am single. If I serve, someone who has a spouse and children can stay behind. That's what I tell my family."



Army Pfc. Kyle Mostad, 747th Postal Det.

"I say, no matter how long I am here I have to put all else aside and just focus on the mission."



Sr. Airman Brandon Hill, JIG/ICE

"It means taking care of your fellow soldiers. It is sacrificing for the greater good. My family agrees. They know I must focus on my job here."



Army Sgt. Johnny Saldana, 1st Bn., 181st Inf. Regt.

"I tell them it means leaving my family behind and concentrating on the mission at hand."

Minor: Prepare yourself

CHAPLAIN'S CORNER

By Maj. Paul Minor
JTF Guantanamo Staff Chaplain

Everyone here understands that we are "Honor Bound to Defend Freedom."

We also know that we need to be prepared to defend freedom. This is where training comes in.

We train on our mission through practice and study. We train our bodies through regular exercise. We prepare to do the best possible job in defense of our freedom. Training is a critical activity in the military. Without it, we will not be prepared to do our best.

Goal setting helps us train properly by focusing our minds and bodies in a specific direction. Many of us have set goals for ourselves for our time at Guantanamo. We have planned a personal training program in addition to our military training program. I have heard people speak of plans to lose weight, continue their education or increase their scores on the physical fitness test. It is a godly and holy thing to make good use of the time that God gives us. Each day is a gift from God and a blessing. We have a choice to make each day. We can simply mark time and count the days or we can make use of the time that God has given.

One of the great opportunities that we all have is to use the time to grow in our relationship with God. This growth can take as many forms as there are people on Guantanamo. There are many opportunities for worship, in various traditions, listed in The Wire each week. Other informal gatherings of spiritually minded people occur on a regular basis.

Our setting presents an open invitation for some to commune with God through the



Maj. Paul Minor
staff chaplain
JTF Guantanamo

beauty of nature – especially the water. So many of you have been gravitating to the water for recreation. You can let that time of enjoyment, peace and quiet draw you closer to God. Others will need to find time for prayer and reflection on the Scriptures. This can be a challenge when living in close quarters, but the effort pays off. Finding irregular hours where we can be quiet or making use of quiet places on Guantanamo can provide the peace and quiet that many of us need to draw near to God.

I believe that making spiritual growth one of our goals will pay off immeasurably. We will know more deeply the joy of being in God's presence. We will be strengthened to make the best of our time here. We will grow as persons. If you would like some help in finding ways to draw nearer to God join in one of the many worship and fellowship activities, or speak with a chaplain or with someone whom you trust and who is deliberate about their own spiritual growth.

Exercise your faith

We must exercise spiritually to become spiritually fit. Deepen and strengthen your spiritual "muscles" through prayer, meditation, worship, etc. Spend time in silence listening to God each day, and expand your time in prayer each week. Develop your faith muscles of patience and endurance so you will be prepared for life's challenges.

"We pray that you may be invigorated and strengthened with all power according to the might of God's glory, to exercise every kind of endurance and patience (perseverance) with joy." Colossians 1:11

Worship Services

Catholic

Main Chapel

Daily	6:30 a.m.	Mass Cobre Chapel
Wed.	5 p.m.	R.C.I.A. Cobre Chapel
Fri.	5 p.m.	Rosary
Sat.	4:30 p.m.	Confession
	5:30 p.m.	Mass
Sun.	9 a.m.	Mass
	10:15 a.m.	Spanish Mass (Sanct. B)
	11 a.m.	Mass (Sanct. B)

Camp America

Sun.	5 p.m.	Mass Wooden Chapel
------	--------	-----------------------

Protestant

Main Chapel

Mon.	7 p.m.	Prayer Group Fellowship*
Wed.	7 p.m.	Men's Bible Study*
	7 p.m.	Spanish Group 390-Evan's Pt
Thurs.	6:30 p.m.	Home Group Nob Hill 5B
	7:15 p.m.	Youth 7-12 Fellowship*
Sun.	6:30 a.m.	Praise and Worship Service
	9:30 a.m.	Sunday School
	11 a.m.	Service/Sunday School
	5 p.m.	Bible Study*

* Fellowship Hall located in Chapel Complex

Camp America

Wed.	7 p.m.	Service
Sun.	9 a.m.	Seaside Galley (Temporary location until further notice)
	7 p.m.	Service Wooden Chapel

Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day

Saints

Sun.	9 a.m.	Sanctuary A
------	--------	-------------

Islamic

Fri.	1 p.m.	Classroom 12 Chapel Complex
------	--------	--------------------------------

Jewish

Fri.	8 p.m.	Fellowship Hall
------	--------	--------------------

Camp America Church Bus schedule:

Sun.	8 a.m.	Windward Loop
	8:15 a.m.	Tierra Kay

The bus will return following worship.

Jewish High Holiday Services

Monday: Yom Kippur
Begins 6:30 p.m.
Tuesday: Yom Kippur
8:15 a.m. morning service
Tuesday: Yom Kippur
6:30 p.m. concluding service



All services will be held at Fellowship Hall
For further information, call 2323

GTMO Jazz Festival 2003



Story and photos
By Spc. Tommi Meyer

Free food, free music, crafts and the late afternoon breeze blowing in from the bay greeted Guantanamo residents Sunday for the 2003 GTMO Jazz Festival held at Cooper Field.

The award-winning Dot Wilder Quartet started off the afternoon with a classic jazz style. Wilder's group was followed by Marion Meadows, a New York native who has been playing the clarinet since early childhood.

According to Marion Meadow's web site, he began playing clarinet at the age of 9 and then moved to sax at age 15.

For more information on either Wilder or Meadow visit their web sites, www.dotwilderjazz.com and www.marionmeadows.com.



Top left- Marion Meadows plays his clarinet at the 2003 GTMO Jazz Festival.

Above-The Dot Wilder Quartet performs an original song for the audience at Cooper Field on Sunday.

Left- Sgt. 1st Class Ernesto Ramos, finance section, enjoys a free meal at the 2003 GTMO Jazz Festival.



JTF golfer finishes third

Photo by Karissa Sandstrom
Staff Sgt. Doug Newson (right) of the 216th MP Co. and Jim Gibson, a civilian, finished third in Saturday night's golf tournament at Yatera Seca Golf Club. Mike Heard and Mike Weathers won the event, and Charlie Crouse, Rick Daniels and Tammy Robichalix came in second. The event was a fund-raiser for the upcoming Navy Ball.

RECREATION & LEISURE



Movie Schedule

Camp Bulkeley

Fri., Oct. 3

8 p.m. *The Transporter*
PG 13 - 92 min

10 p.m. *Ghost Ship*
R - 91 min

Sat., Oct. 4

8 p.m. *Daredevil*
PG13 - 102 min

10 p.m. *Minority Report*
PG13 - 140 min

Sun., Oct. 5

8 p.m. *Gods and Generals*
PG13 - 220 min

Mon., Oct. 6

8 p.m. *The Recruit*
PG13 - 105 min

Tues., Oct. 7

8 p.m. *Lord of the Rings: Twin Towers*
PG13 - 179 min

Wed., Oct. 8

8 p.m. *The Life of David Gale*
PG - 115 min

Thurs., Oct. 9

8 p.m. *Charlie's Angels*
PG13 - 106 min

Downtown Lyceum

Fri., Oct. 3

8 p.m. *Freaky Friday*
PG - 97 min

10 p.m. *American Wedding*
R - 102 min

Sat., Oct. 4

8 p.m. *Secondhand Lion*
PG13 - 107 min

10 p.m. *S.W.A.T.*
PG13 - 116 min

Sun., Oct. 5

8 p.m. *GIGLI*
R - 121 min

Mon., Oct. 6

8 p.m. *Freaky Friday*
PG - 97 min

Tues., Oct. 7

8 p.m. *Matchstick Men*
PG13 - 120 min

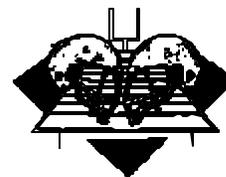
Wed., Oct. 8

8 p.m. *S.W.A.T.*
PG13 - 116 min

Thurs., Oct. 9

8 p.m. *Secondhand Lion*
PG - 107 min

Monday Night Football



Join your fellow JTF troopers at Club Survivor on Monday night to watch the Indianapolis Colts take on the Tampa Bay Buccaneers. The game begins at 2100.

Late scores lift JIG over NEX

By Spc. Rick Fahr

After a flurry of early scoring, JTF JIG and NEX settled into a defensive battle that lasted two-thirds of the way through the second half of Captain's Cup flag football play Monday night.

With just more than six minutes left, JIG members Claro Rocha took a pass from quarterback Jason Pittman at the 1-yard line.

The score, plus the point-after-touchdown, put JIG up 20-13.

The final score would be 33-13 after two late JIG scores, but the game was much closer than the final score indicates.

Jeff Carben began the scoring for JIG and an interception ran back for a touchdown, gave the team 13 points with about eight minutes left in the first half.

A long pass caught by NEX's Amos Brown, a member of the 384th MP Bn., tied the score at 13, which was the halftime tally.

Both teams moved the ball for the first dozen minutes of the second half, but neither could put together a score, until Rocha's score.

On the ensuing possession, NEX failed on a fourth-and-18 play, giving the ball and the game to JIG, which opened the floodgates for their scoring.

Rance Williams caught a long bomb to push the score to 26-13. The extra point try was not good. After getting the ball back, JIG marched down the field again, which ended when Pittman hit Ben Linton in the back of the end zone for a touchdown. The extra point play was successful, providing the final margin.

Regular season play ends tonight, with a post-season tournament set for Wednesday, Oct. 10 and 11.



Photo by Spc. Rick Fahr
Amos Brown, a member of the 384th MP Bn. who plays for the NEX flag football team, leaps high over O.J. Willis of JTF JIG during play Monday night.

In other games this week, Hospital lost its first game of the season, 26-21 at the hands of MCSF Co. The team won two other games, 19-13 over 661st MP Co. and a forfeit victory.

NEX picked up two wins – a forfeit victory and a 20-14 win over NAVSTA, which bounced back to win twice, beating MCSF 20-14 and JIG 27-7.

Standings through Monday are: Hospital, 8-1; NEX, 6-3; 661st MP Co., 5-2-2; MCSF, 5-4; NAVSTA, 4-5; and JIG, 2-6.

FAHR GAME

Two years pass quickly for guardsman

By Spc. Rick Fahr

I didn't recall the column then – then being that early August morning as I prepared to begin my deployment.

As I stood in the airport, saying goodbye to my parents and sisters and, finally, to my little nieces and nephew, I had forgotten that nearly two years earlier I had written a column explaining that I joined the Arkansas Army National Guard not for myself but for those little people in my life.

I signed up shortly after 9-11, fully expecting to be sent somewhere around the world, in order that those children and others like them might be able to live free from terrorist attacks. I signed up hoping that they wouldn't need to later on. I hoped that my service, in some small way, and the service of the hundreds of thousands of other men and women in the U.S. military would be enough to overcome the challenges we face from those who would do us harm. Those thoughts came back to me last week, as the two-year mark of my enlistment passed.

I reread the column, the words I wrote at a time of high emotion and even higher uncertainty. Many of my thoughts today are similar to those in the days following 9-11. Some are not. I guess we've all changed somewhat since then.

But each JTF trooper has a mission to complete. Right here. Right now.

Keeping in mind why we're here – that personal reason each of us has for wearing the U.S. military uniform – will help us on our mission and beyond.



Photo by Spc. Rick Fahr
Jason Pittman, quarterback of JTF JIG, eludes a tackler and prepares to loft a pass to Dwayne Patton during the team's flag football game with NEX on Monday night. JIG won 33-13.

Trooper picks

JTF personnel's predictions for this week's games

Games

Kansas State at Texas
Air Force at Navy
Michigan at Iowa
Tennessee at Auburn
Army at TCU
Dolphins at Giants
Cardinals at Cowboys
Broncos at Chiefs
Colts at Bucs
Redskins at Eagles
Last week's record
Overall record



1st Sgt.
Sandra Adams-Jones
273rd MP Co.

Kansas State
Navy
Michigan
Tennessee
Army
Dolphins
Cowboys
Chiefs
Bucs
Redskins
3-3
3-3



MWR director
Craig Basel

Texas
Navy
Michigan
Tennessee
TCU
Dolphins
Cardinals
Chiefs
Colts
Redskins
4-2
4-2



Staff Sgt.
Deon Lee
216th MP Co.

Texas
Air Force
Michigan
Tennessee
TCU
Dolphins
Cowboys
Broncos
Colts
Redskins
4-2
4-2



Staff Sgt.
Stephanie Nielsen
384th MP Bn.

Texas
Air Force
Michigan
Tennessee
Army
Giants
Cowboys
Chiefs
Bucs
Eagles
4-2
4-2

Sports highlights

MLB postseason set

Compiled by
Spc. Rick Fahr

Divisional series play began this week. In the American League, the **Minnesota Twins** are playing the **New York Yankees**, and the **Oakland A's** drew the wild card **Boston Red Sox**. National League divisional series pit the **Chicago Cubs** against the **Atlanta Braves** and the **San Francisco Giants** against the wild card **Florida Marlins**.

Division leaders in the National Football League range from the dominant to the mediocre.

Leaders through Sunday are: **Minnesota Vikings**, 4-0; **Indianapolis Colts**, 4-0; **Denver Broncos/Kansas City Chiefs**, 4-0; **Seattle Seahawks**, 3-0; **Carolina Panthers**, 3-0; **Washington Redskins**, 3-1; **Miami Dolphins**, 2-1; and **Pittsburgh Steelers**, 2-2.

College football's top 10 saw little change this week, with no changes in the top five teams. They are (in the ESPN/USA Today poll) **Oklahoma**, **Miami**, **Ohio State**, **Virginia Tech** and **Florida State**. Rounding out the top 10 are **Louisiana State**, **Tennessee**, **Nebraska**, **Arkansas** and **Southern California**.

From the "just keep plugging" file ...

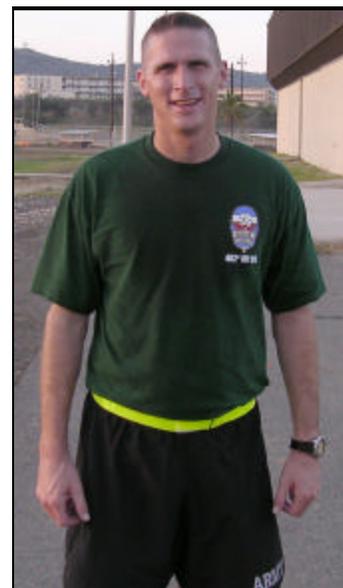
Coming into last week's Texas Open, **Tommy Armour III** hadn't won in his last 366 PGA Tour starts.

Not only did the tour veteran win by seven strokes, Armour broke the tour's 72-hole scoring record by two strokes. He posted a 26-under, 254 for the tournament.

Sports highlights compiled from www.espn.com.



Amy Ruggero
177th MP Bde.



Gys Moore
463rd MP Co.

Fun runners celebrate Hispanic Heritage

By Spc. Rick Fahr

Several dozen runners participated in Saturday's Hispanic Heritage 5K Fun Run.

Gys Moore of the 463rd MP

Co. was the first JTF trooper to cross the finish line. Amy Ruggero of the 177th MP Bde. was the first female to finish the course, which began and ended at G.J. Denich Gymnasium.

15 Minutes of Fame...

With Staff Sgt. Amy Erickson, JDOG S1 Motivation: "I do this for my family"

Interview and photo by
Sgt. Jolene Staker

Staff Sgt. Amy Erickson, of the 384th Military Police Bn., has been in the Reserves 12 years. At home she is a supervisor for Home Depot. She is married and has three children.

Q: What has been the hardest thing for you to adjust to in GTMO?

A: The heat. Being from Minnesota I like my cold weather.

Q: What motto do you live by?

A: Adapt and overcome. Challenges are not going to beat me. I may fall down, but I will get back up.

Q: Why did you join the Reserves?

A: Because my best friend in high school bet me that I wouldn't make it through basic training. He's out and I'm still in.

Q: He joined before you did, or did he wait to see if you would join with him?

A: He joined first and then dared me to join. I took him up on his dare.

Q: Did the military interest you before your friend dared you to join?

A: I had been interested. My Dad was in the military for three years.

Q: Where are you from?

A: I was born in Wisconsin. We moved to St. Louis. After four and a half years then we moved to St. Cloud, Minn. My husband is Active Guard Reserve.

Q: Were you already in the military when you met him?

A: Yes, I actually worked with him.

Q: How does he handle you being away from home?

A: He's learning what it's like to take care of everything at home. The Reserve unit that I was transferred from is close to



Staff Sgt. Amy Erickson takes a break from her job as the JDOG S1 Personnel Services NCO. She is in charge of all personnel actions, including promotions, awards, leave and Red Cross messages. Her extra duties include coordinating victory dinners as well as serving as the recorder for both promotions boards and the soldier of the quarter board.

home and very supportive.

Q: How are your children handling you being gone?

A: They miss me. I just got an e-mail from my little boy, and he said, "I hope you're having fun." I don't think they understand why I'm gone; they just know that I'm away from home and will be for a long time.

Q: Who will take care of your children if your husband is also deployed?

A: Their grandparents, my husband's parents. They are very supportive.

Q: How do you feel about being away from your children to serve your country? Is it worth it?

A: It is worth it. My family is my first priority, but I feel that I am doing this for my family. I'm doing it for their future. If I can protect my family that is what I want to do.

Q: Who is the one person who has influenced you the most?

A: My Dad. I'm his only child. I want to make him proud and happy. Whatever I do, I try to make him proud.

Q: If people only remember one thing about you what do you want it to be?

A: My willingness to help people.

Q: What is your favorite activity for your free time?

A: To watch the Packers play. I've only gotten to see two of the games here, but I have friends back home that tape the rest of them and send them to me so I won't miss anything.

Q: How do your friends describe you?

A: Very big hearted. I take care of them. Sometimes I bite off more than I can chew but I never spit it out and give up. I always keep going, and I take care of others before I take care of myself.