

THE OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF JOINT TASK FORCE GUANTANAMO

THE WIRE



December 11, 2015



PHOTO STORY

GRINCH, SANTA JOIN FORCES TO BRING GOOD WILL TO GTMO

PARADE KICKS-OFF SEASON OF CELEBRATION

STRENGTH THROUGH POWERLIFTING

GTMO TROOPERS SHOW OFF GAINS AT MWR EVENT

BUSTING THE MYTH: GTMO RECYCLING PROGRAM

FIND OUT WHAT REALLY HAPPENS TO REUSABLES

OUT WITH THE OLD, IN WITH THE NEW FOR THE MARSECDET

COAST GUARD UPDATES THEIR FLEET

DEC. 7, PEARL HARBOR: A DAY WHICH WILL LIVE IN INFAMY

Editor's Note: Dec. 7 marked the 74th anniversary of the attack on Pearl Harbor. Guantanamo Bay, Cuba, has a unique tie to the ships involved in the attack at Pearl Harbor.

In January 1920, a photographer captured an image of three U.S. Navy battleships visiting Guantanamo Bay, Cuba. The three dreadnaughts, USS Oklahoma, USS Pennsylvania, and USS Arizona, were taking part in a nearly month-long winter exercise. Over the next two decades, each ship would return to GTMO for various missions and training exercises.

On Dec. 4, 1941, USS Oklahoma and USS Arizona paired up again, this time with USS Nevada, which had also been a part of the 1920 winter exercise at Guantanamo Bay. The three ships participated in a live fire exercise from Pearl Harbor, Hawaii, where ironically the USS Pennsylvania was in dry dock. This exercise would ultimately be the last one performed by both the USS Oklahoma and USS Arizona.

Shortly before 8 a.m. on Dec. 7, 1941, the U.S. Fleet at Pearl Harbor was attacked by Japanese forces during, what President Franklin D. Roosevelt would call, "a day which will live in infamy." The first battleship to return fire was USS Pennsylvania, which was in Dry Dock No. 1. She survived the attack and the war. In 1946, the USS Pennsylvania

would be used for atomic testing and would be sunk as part of a training exercise in 1948.

The USS Arizona sustained eight bomb hits early in the attack, including one that detonated smokeless powder causing cataclysmic damage, resulting in the loss of 1,177 of the 1,512 Sailors on board. The losses from the USS Arizona accounted for more than half of the total casualties suffered during the attack. In 1950, the Navy began raising the colors over the USS Arizona wreck. The USS Arizona was designated a memorial in 1962.

USS Oklahoma suffered three torpedo strikes in the initial attack, which caused the ship to begin to capsize. While it was capsizing, the USS Oklahoma was struck two more times, killing 429 men onboard. As a result of the attack, the USS Oklahoma was listed as a total loss, one of only two battleships lost. It was salvaged in 1943 and sold for scrap in 1946. While being towed to Oakland, California, it broke free of its towline and sank again. The ship was never recovered.

At the time of the attack, USS Nevada was the eldest ship at Pearl Harbor. After suffering a torpedo strike, she managed to get underway. Her slow movement made her a tempting target for the Japanese. To prevent her from sinking, USS Nevada was run aground at Hospital Point. In 1942 she



At right is USS Oklahoma and two more distant ships are USS Arizona and USS Pennsylvania off Guantanamo Bay, Cuba, January 1920.

underwent repairs and was put back into service. USS Nevada survived the war and was later used as part of the atomic tests at Bikini Atoll. The USS Nevada was sunk in the same training exercise as USS Pennsylvania in 1948.

Article by
ARMY SGT. 1ST CLASS
PATRICK DEGEORGE
JTF GTMO Public Affairs



STOP, FACE, STEP: EVENING COLORS

exiled people to return home, the author writes:

"The voice of one crying out in the wilderness: Prepare the way of the Lord, make his paths straight. Every valley shall be filled, and every mountain and hill shall be made low, and the crooked shall be made straight, and the rough ways made smooth; and all flesh shall see the salvation of God."

How might we listen for the voice in the wilderness summoning us home? What if home is not a physical location but a spiritual place without boundaries? Could the practice of making our way home compare with evening colors?

Stop. When the music for evening colors begins, everything stops. It is easier to listen when we are not rushing. Kids playing at friends' houses stop what they are doing before riding bicycles or walking home.

Face. To the casual observer, evening colors may appear irregular. To see people frozen in

place and cars stopped in the middle of the road is out of the ordinary. Everyone faces the source of the music while the flag lowers. Can we find our way home when we are looking away? Facing home is listening to our Higher Power. Orienting ourselves towards the music helps, us find our way home.

Step. Immediately after evening colors, pedestrians "unfreeze." Children who hear colors run or bicycle home. Others continue towards destinations or resume their mission. Obstacles are overcome. Problems are worked. Paths are made straight. Valleys are filled. Mountains are made low. We are set in motion again with a new orientation.

May we listen to voices crying out in the wilderness and possess the strength and wisdom to find our way home.

Article by
NAVY CHAPLAIN (CMDR.) SEAN COX
JTF GTMO Chaplain

For a few moments, everything stops.

As the national flag is lowered, music plays. Pedestrians face the music and freeze in place. Cars stop. Apart from the music, all is quiet.

Children who live on installations hear "evening colors" differently. It is their summons home. Some mothers who live here tell their children "play at your friend's house until you hear colors, then come home for dinner."

In a section of the book of Isaiah calling



HISTORY & CHAPLAIN

Stop. Face. Listen. Step. The JTF Chaplain explains how the observe of evening colors can relate to a spiritual connection. We are reminded of the “day that will live in infamy.”



GTMO NEWS

Rumors laid to rest. Learn how you can be a part of the recycling effort at GTMO. Read how flying boats help Port Security stay in business.



PHOTO STORY / COVER PHOTO

Holiday cheer hits GTMO during the annual holiday parade, which included the Grinch, Dr. Suess and many more. See who steals Christmas and who spreads holiday cheer.



ENTERTAINMENT

A presence not felt for many years as we prepare for a “Star Wars” marathon. “Steve Jobs”, will the movie’s success mirror the man? “Creed” a sequel to a beloved franchise.



SPORTS

Did the *GTMO Bandits* burn or did they extinguish the *Blazing Saddles* in this week’s game? Follow along as GTMO’s softball playoffs heat up.



JSMART & WILDLIFE

How to avoid overeating this holiday season and the dangers of delicious Christmas favorites. Learn how to coexist peacefully with GTMO’s reptilian residents in this week’s guest article.

MOTIVATOR OF THE WEEK

**ARMY SGT.
DANIEL NEFF**
377TH MP CO.

**ARMY SGT.
JACKLYN COLLINS**
J2

WOULD YOU RECOGNIZE CRITICAL INFORMATION?

Some things are obviously sensitive, such as a driver’s license number, SSN, bank account information and credit card numbers. We protect these so we don’t fall victim to fraud or identity thieves. What work information is critical? Remember COPP – capabilities, operations, personnel and personal data. We protect our facilities and operational plans, schedules and rosters, procedures, people and classified information. If you’re not sure if something is sensitive, treat it like it is until you find out for sure. Don’t post things online or talk about work in non-work places. Once information is released, you can never get it back. THINK OPSEC FIRST!

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. The editorial content of this publication is the responsibility of the Joint Task Force Guantanamo Bay Public Affairs Office. The Wire is printed weekly by the Defense Logistics Agency Document Services with a circulation of 1,025. It is distributed free to all personnel assigned to the Joint Task Force and is published online.

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KEEP IT MODEST, STAY OFF THE NAUGHTY LIST



With winter holidays around the corner there are some basic legal considerations you should keep in mind regarding gifts, decorations and time away from work.

Holiday decorations: from a fiscal law perspective, it is permissible to use appropriated funds to pay for decorations. The decorations must be modestly priced and consistent with promoting morale and efficiency, promoting a pleasant work atmosphere, rather than being purchased solely for personal convenience. Office decorations should be secular or religion-neutral to avoid issues with endorsing a particular religion.

Gift exchanges and office parties: ordinarily, supervisors or superiors may not accept gifts from military subordinates or federal civilians who earn less pay. However, on infrequent occasions, such as a holiday gift exchange, superiors may accept non-cash gifts of \$10 or less from a subordinate. Superiors may also accept food and refreshments shared among the office and may share in the expenses of an office party. If subordinates are invited to a social event at a supervisor's residence, the subordinate may give the supervisor a hospitality gift of the type and value customarily given on such an occasion. There are no restrictions or limitations on gifts where

a superior gives to a subordinate. However, professional appearances and good order and discipline should always be considered.

The rules are slightly different when contractors are involved; a gift from a contractor to a government employee, including military members, may not exceed \$20, unless there is a pre-existing, personal relationship between the employee and the contractor. For example, if the employee and the contractor are friends from school or were former shipmates while the contractor was still on active duty.

Office or unit parties and holiday social events are normally considered unofficial events. Therefore, you may not use any appropriated funds to pay for unit or office parties, but you may solicit voluntary contributions from members of the unit or office to pay for expenses.

Holiday greeting cards: appropriated funds may not be used to purchase or send holiday greeting cards.

Holiday pass or liberty: when giving time off around the holidays, supervisors should be cognizant of policies on liberty or pass, and specifically, on the number of consecutive days a member may be in a pass status. The terms pass and liberty are synonymous. There are two types of passes: special and regular.

Regular pass refers to the time you ordinarily have off between work periods, such as in the evening until the morning of the next workday and weekends. Regular pass also may include federal holidays.

So, for example, on a three-day holiday weekend, you would have a three-day regular pass. Commanders may choose to give an additional day of "special pass" in conjunction with a holiday, thereby giving a member four days off from work. However, the absolute limitation you need to keep in mind is that pursuant to DODI 1372.6, Enclosure 2, paragraph 4a, members may never be in a pass or liberty status, which exceeds four consecutive days.

The JTF-GTMO OSJA provides full-spectrum legal services and advice to the JTF command and its warfighters. If you have questions regarding the content of this article or need assistance with a personal civil legal assistance matter, please contact the JTF Legal Assistance office (Bldg. 2525 - x8589).

Courtesy article by
**JTF OFFICE OF THE STAFF JUDGE
 ADVOCATE**

Photo illustration by
ARMY SGT. CHRISTOPHER A. GARIBAY

BUSTING THE MYTH: GTMO RECYCLING PROGRAM

Editor's note: This story is the first in a three-part series highlighting the recycling center here and its mission.

A young boy sits and watches television. As he watches, a commercial comes on depicting a Native American walking next to a river polluted with trash. As the Native American picks up the trash, the camera zooms in on a tear falling from his face. A narrator speaks on the importance of recycling. The boy matured, but never forgot the lesson he learned.

"Ever since I saw that commercial, it inspired me to recycle," said Army Capt. Charles J. Sanders, the officer-in-charge of Joint Task Force Guantanamo's future operations. "It's kind of funny, every time I think about recycling, I think about that."

Now deployed to U.S. Naval Station Guantanamo Bay, Cuba, Sanders still takes recycling seriously.

GTMO's recycling program struggles due to a lack of awareness.

Upon his arrival, Sanders heard multiple rumors that all the recyclables were thrown away and burned with the trash, he said. He was shocked until a few of his friends did some research and found out a recycling program exists here.

"Yes, we do have a recycle program aboard the installation," said David Balog, an environmental protection specialist with the Public Works Department. "Many residents on the island just don't know it exists. If it goes into a recycling bin, it does get recycled, if it's an item that we can recycle. If it doesn't go to a recycle container, then it does go to an incinerator."

While not all recyclable items, which are normally recycled in the states, can be recycled here, many items JTF Troopers use on a daily basis can be recycled.

"We recover plastics, electronics and metals, ferrous and non-ferrous," said Balog. "We recycle construction and demolition concrete. We recycle rubber as well." Ferrous metals and alloys contain iron while non-ferrous metals do not, said Balog.

Recycling is imperative for two reasons, financial purposes and the environment, said Sanders. It's less costly to take a product, which was already molded into something useful and melt it down to create another object. Additionally, plastic is not biodegradable and marine wildlife often gets caught up in or choke on it.

"The most effective way to reduce waste is to not create it in the first place," according



Contractor employees sift through assorted recyclables at the recycling center at U.S. Naval Station Guantanamo Bay, Cuba, Dec. 1. After the materials are sorted, they are put into balers and condensed into large bales.

to the Environmental Protection Agency.

"Making a new product requires a lot of materials and energy. Raw materials must be extracted from the earth, and the product must be fabricated, then transported to wherever it will be sold. As a result, reduction and reuse are the most effective ways you can save natural resources, protect the environment and save money."

“ IF IT GOES INTO A RECYCLING BIN, IT DOES GET RECYCLED ”

The recycling center can recycle plastics categorized as high-density. High-density plastics are labeled as number ones, twos, threes and fives. These numbers can be found on the bottom of each container. The recycling center can also recover glass, cans made of steel and aluminum, batteries, cooking oil and electronics.

Aerosol cans are especially important to recycle, said Balog. If you have an aerosol can, please make sure it gets put into a recycling bin.

After the products are dropped into recycling bins, the items are brought to a

material recovery center where they are sorted, grouped, condensed and baled. The bales weigh from 300-500 pounds. Once enough bales are created, they are put into shipping containers and shipped off island.

To help improve recycling efforts Sanders has often scheduled beach cleanups, an opportunity for service members and residents to go out, clean up beaches, and pick up plastics with a chance to do some underwater while scuba diving.

Once Troopers know about recycling, they would participate, said Sanders. Showing people the importance and the process would encourage people to do so.

While the recycling program has yet to reach its peak, many steps have been taken to improve the system, said Balog. It comes down to each Trooper making the decision to take the recyclables to recycling bins and take the initiative. Troopers can take it upon themselves and designate trashcans as recycling containers at each block of the Cuzcos and elect someone to take the recyclables to the plant for example. Also, Troopers can take the recyclables to the local bus stops.

Recycling benefits everyone. All Troopers should recycle as much of their waste as possible and play their part in keeping the environment as clean as possible. Contact Balog for further information regarding recycling at David.Balog@gtmo.navy.mil.

Article and photo by
SPC. JUSTIN LE MALONE

OUT WITH THE OLD, IN WITH THE NEW FOR THE MARSECDET



Boats are staged in preparation to load vessels onto an Air Force C-5 Galaxy on Dec. 4, for Port Security Unit 313, needing maintenance, assigned to the Maritime Security Detachment on U.S. Naval Station Guantanamo Bay, Cuba.

On any day, at any time, one can look out over the water at U.S. Naval Station Guantanamo Bay, Cuba, and see the port security vessels of the Joint Task Force Guantanamo, U.S. Coast Guard's Maritime Security Detachment. They are a constant, steady presence, vigilantly patrolling our seas. What happens when those boats need repairs that cannot be done here on island?

Four of the older, more worn vessels took flight, departing GTMO in an Air Force C-5 Galaxy on Dec. 5. Meanwhile, six new boats were delivered on the same aircraft after a lengthy, cross-country journey from Everett, Washington.

The four older boats will be refurbished and stay with at the Port Security Unit 313's home station in Everett, Washington, while the six new vessels, will be staying here at GTMO to support the JTF.

While it is not unusual for the U.S. Coast Guard to transfer boats via aircraft, this is the first time this particular unit, the PSU 313, has undertaken this task, said Coast Guard Chief Warrant Officer Tony Slowik, the engineering officer for the PSU 313.

"This unit has not done an

airlift before, we've never had to," said Slowik. The method of deploying boats via aircraft is fairly standard, and it allows the Coast Guard to deploy anywhere in the world, he said.

The C-5 only had a window of a few hours before it needed to take off again, meaning PSU 313 would be racing the clock to unload and then reload the aircraft. If the loading and unloading process took more than four hours, the Coast Guard would have incurred additional costs from the Air Force.

Additionally, during the transition, the number of boats available to patrol the harbor was reduced, so time was of the essence to get the new crafts inspected and in the water.

"We're trying to keep that window as small as possible so that we can get boats back in service," Said Slowik.

Adding to the difficulty level was the timeframe in which inspections and any repairs would need to be made.

One of the major components of the transfer was inspecting the boats for damage that could have occurred during their voyage from the Pacific Northwest to the East Coast via flatbed truck, and then to GTMO in the air, said

Coast Guard Chief Petty Officer Charles Hauswirth, a machinery technician chief with PSU 313. Of particular concern is the mounting area for the large inboard motors, which can be jostled and damaged significantly during transit, he said.

The crew had an ideal window of having all of the craft inspected and made seaworthy within nine hours, an ambitious self-imposed goal that would help maintain the standard number of vessels available to the MARSECDET at

all times, said Slowik.

"We did meet our time window," said Slowik. "In fact we exceeded it. We were done in only eight hours."

Despite not having transferred boats via C-5 before, the Troopers assigned to the task were confident in their ability, said Hauswirth, who performed similar operations with different aircrafts.

"We flew some boats down in July," said Hauswirth. "I was in Charleston, (South Carolina) for that part of the movement, but that was on a C-17."

"It's something different," said Coast Guard Petty Officer 2nd Class Andreas Shelly, a machinery technician with PSU 313. "I've had no experience with loading aircraft, which is another reason why it's exciting." It was a good opportunity to flex new skills and embrace new challenges, said Shelly.

The success of the mission was greatly impacted by the professionalism and hard work of the PSU 313, the U.S. Coast Guard Aviation Detachment, and the crew of the C-5, said Slowik.

Article and photos by
ARMY SGT. IAN WITHROW



The boats needing maintenance, are staged in preparation to load onto an Air Force C-5 Galaxy.

STARGAZERS IN FOR WEEKEND TREAT ON DEC. 11-14



Every year, several cosmic events are regular enough to set a schedule and prepare for a show. Most of them are meteor showers. Residents of the usually clear-skied U.S. Naval Station Guantanamo Bay, Cuba, will be in for a show as the Geminid meteor shower makes an appearance, Dec. 4-16.

According to NASA, the shower originates from the asteroid "3200 Phaethon" and will be radiating from the Gemini Constellation. For those unfamiliar, the Gemini constellation is just to the east of the more recognizable Orion's Belt. Most viewers should have little trouble finding the area, because during the peak of the shower, it is predicted to have up to 120 meteors per hour, one of the highest of any of the annual showers.

Peak viewing days are Dec. 13 and 14, and because GTMO is near the equator, the skies should be active from dusk until it reaches its peak around 2 a.m., Dec. 14.

The Geminids are reportedly one of the most reliable and consistent showers. This year's crescent moon should provide very little light interference and make for excellent viewing.

According to National Geographic, the shower tends to start slowly and intensify, so don't give up if at first you don't see much.

Astronomers seem to agree that it takes at least 20 minutes for your eyes to adjust fully to the darkness. Plan on spending some time if you decide to go out and see the spectacle.

The experts at NASA also suggest heading

as far away from city light as you can to minimize light pollution. While this should not be a problem for most GTMO residents, the best places to watch from are probably going to be Girl Scout beach and Glass beach, due to the low light density at these locations.

The weather, according to Weather Underground, is predicted to have clear skies and a low temperature of 73 degrees, with slight Northeast winds.

For any aspiring photographers out there, this could be your shot to snap a "parting shot" featured on the back page of the next edition of "The Wire."

Members of the public affairs staff here suggest doing the following to improve your photos.

Bringing a tripod is essential, as it will eliminate much of the movement that can affect a long exposure shot. A remote controlled shutter, or alternately a timer function, which allows you to remove your hands from the camera before the shot is taken will further eliminate any movement that might disrupt your photo. Finally, a long exposure is better than a high ISO, which is the setting on your camera that adjusts the sensitivity of your light sensor, because a higher ISO tends to lead to grainy photos.

Whether you go out to snap a great photo or simply to enjoy the show, you'd be hard pressed to find a better place with better weather to witness the spectacle than GTMO.



Article and photo by
ARMY SGT. IAN WITHROW
 Photos courtesy of
WWW.NASA.GOV

GRINCH, SANTA JOIN FORCES TO BRING GOOD WILL TO GTMO

They stood silent and still, listening for the distinct sound of Santa's sleigh bells and other sounds of the holiday season. Their patience was rewarded with the sounds of holiday music, lights, floats and a jolly man sporting a white beard, red cap and suit during the Holiday Parade on Dec. 5 at U.S. Naval Station Guantanamo Bay, Cuba.

A line of more than a dozen vehicles, colorfully decorated with holiday lights, wrapping paper and other holiday adornments, slowly drove down the mile and a half route along Sherman Ave as part of the Holiday Parade. Special guests included Mr. Kris Kringle, more commonly known as Santa Claus, the Grinch, the Gingerbread Man, GTMO Girl Scouts, Navy Exchange employees, civilian contractors, Joint Task Force Guantanamo Troopers and various other GTMO residents.

Members of the JTF created their floats with a theme to bring holiday cheer to Troopers and residents at GTMO.

Spc. Amber Levy, a supply specialist with the 525th Military Police Battalion, said creating the float took a lot of brainstorming and creativity. The morning of the parade, Levy and more than a dozen of members of her unit came together to create their customized parade float.

"The battalion recreation committee tasked us with creating a holiday float," said Levy. "We wanted to make GTMO like home for the holidays. It meant a lot for us to come together, we had fun."

For other JTF Troopers, creating their floats encompassed the spirit of coming together.

"I'm not as close to everyone here because we work in different places (in the JTF) so this helped us bond together," said Spc. Shakyla Smith, a human resources specialist with the 525th MP Bn. "Our theme was 'Under the Sea,' we had

supplies sent in from home and picked up the rest at the NEX. About 20 of us got together before the parade and put it all together."

Other JTF units sought to update previous float ideas, including the 474th Expeditionary Force, Prime Base Emergency Engineer Force 17.

"We recycled some of the materials we used last year and made improvements to others including adding more lights," said Air Force Lt. Col. Christopher Gant, Prime BEEF commander.

This particular event has taken almost six months to plan, said Jon Gilligan, morale, welfare & recreation coordinator. It included the hour-long parade, performances by local talents consisting of the community special events coordinator, GTMO Dance Team, GTMO Cheerleaders, and Fair Winds Wooden Quintet—a Navy Band out of Naval Air Station Jacksonville.

"This is the essence of MUs (Navy musicians), to bring a sense of home and the holidays," said Navy Petty Officer 1st Class Krista S. Koester, petty officer in charge of the Fair Winds. "I've been overseas and it is very special to me to bring a homely environment here."

The band played all the holiday classics including Jingle Bell Rock, Let It Go, Jingle Bells, the Nutcracker and many more.

While some people may grow to forget the jingle of Santa's sleigh bell, those who believe in the spirit of holiday will continue to hear its ringing. With the commitment of GTMO residents, JTF and NAVSTA Troopers, holiday cheer may bring Troopers a sense of home.

Article by

ARMY SGT. CHRISTOPHER A. GARIBAY

Photos by

ARMY SGT. CHARLIE HELMHOLT



The U.S. Naval Station Guantanamo Bay, Cuba, Girl Scouts, pose for a picture before participating in the Holiday Parade down Sherman Avenue on Dec. 5.



Floats line up for the GTMO Holiday Parade with Santa Claus in the lead. Service members and residents lined Sherman Avenue to celebrate the annual event.



A volunteer, dressed as Rudolph the Red Nose Reindeer, walks beside the floats along with other volunteers during the holiday parade.



GTMO resident, Clayton Harris, visits Santa Clause as part of the Holiday Parade celebration event at the Downtown Lyceum.



Carolers serenade bystanders from a gingerbread float during the GTMO Holiday Parade.



Members of the GTMO Dance Team perform at the Downtown Lyceum as part of the MWR holiday festivities.

MOVIE REVIEW / CREED



Close your eyes and imagine it. Imagine an underdog fighter who struggles against the odds. He has strength and speed, but his greatest weapon is his heart. Can you hear the “Rocky” theme music yet? Viewers may be surprised to find that “Creed” is not just a “Rocky” clone, but as a bona fide franchise sequel.

Adonis Johnson, played flawlessly by Michael B. Jordan, is the illegitimate son of Apollo Creed, who was featured in the first two “Rocky” movies. Johnson never met his father, having grown up in foster homes until Mary Anne Creed (Phylicia Rashad) finds and raises him.

We follow young Adonis as he fights semi-pro in Mexico and deals with living in his father’s shadow, which he claims to dislike. Realistically though, despite it being portrayed well in the movie, Adonis can’t expect to avoid his father’s shadow if he’s going to follow his footsteps.

Rocky (Sylvester Stallone) adds weight to the story and cast as well. It’s bittersweet, in this film we see an older Rocky dealing with the hurdles that accompany age. It’s as much a redemption story for Rocky as for Adonis.

One great thing about the Rocky movies is that the protagonist is relatable and embodies the qualities we, as a society, admire. Rocky wasn’t the biggest or strongest, but he

had heart. He was the guy who could get hit and get back up. Adonis shows similar qualities while being different enough from Rocky as to not seem like a cookie cut out.

Stallone penned an amazing story in “Rocky”, and although this is the first of the “Rocky” franchise not written by Sly, you wouldn’t know it. It fits right in with the rest of the films, successfully handing the torch to a new deserving boxer, Adonis.

The story is well told and there were moments where I had the urge to jump up and start boxing, a telltale sign of boxing enjoyment. In my opinion, it was way up there in terms of enjoyment and story. If you are a fan of the series, you will not be disappointed.

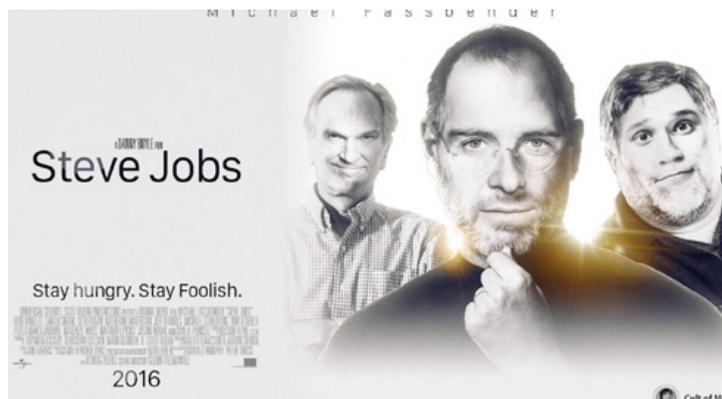
People who have never seen the “Rocky” films probably won’t enjoy “Creed” as much as those who are fans, but don’t let that deter you from catching this flick, as it is still a great standalone boxing movie.

Outside of the “Martian” and, let’s hope, “Star Wars”, it’s the best movie I’ve seen in my five months at Guantanamo Bay, Cuba. I give “Creed” 5 stars.

“Creed” is rated PG-13 for language and some sensuality.

Movie review by
**ARMY SGT. CHARLIE
HELMHOLT**

MOVIE REVIEW / STEVE JOBS



“Steve Jobs” was a titan of technology. His accomplishments are only eclipsed by the number of stories, both good and bad, about how he got there. Jobs, along with Steve Wozniak, brought the home computer to the world when they started Apple Inc. Jobs went on to revolutionize the music, telecom and animation industries. But the movie doesn’t really express this.

Aaron Sorkin is an accomplished screenwriter in his own right. Troops at Guantanamo Bay, Cuba should all be familiar with his masterpiece, “A Few Good Men.”

Unfortunately, in the case of Jobs, a brilliant screenwriter, writing about a brilliant CEO simply does not work.

Of all the things that could be said about Jobs, Sorkin decided to key in on Jobs’ relationship with his daughter. He frames the movie around three pivotal points in Jobs’ career, the launches of the Macintosh, the NeXT and the iMac. Each of the three parts dives primarily into the relationship he has with his daughter, while looking at the colleagues and mentors he leaves in his wake.

While examining his interpersonal relationships, specifically within his family, is surely important, I personally think his relationships with Steve Wozniak, known as Woz, Jony Ive, Chief Designer at Apple, and Ed Catmull, president of

Pixar, are just as important to the “Steve Jobs” story. Aside from the “I-love-Woz-no-matter-what” moments in the film, there was not even a mention of Ive or Catmull.

Furthermore, there is no real moment in the movie where Apple was doing well at all. The movie chronicles his failures leading up to the launch of the iMac, but there is no frame of reference to see how far Apple fell from grace and how much it has grown since.

In a rebirth plotline, it is important to know when the protagonist is being reborn from and what he’s being reborn into. We get none of that in “Steve Jobs” – we only get that he had a disturbing family life and pushed away his closest friends.

The story of Jobs as a jerk is cliché. Sorkin went for the easy pile-on. At least, in typical Sorkin fashion, there was some excellent dialogue. I would have rather seen the innovation that Jobs commanded, though.

My book recommendation as an antidote to this lackluster movie is “Creativity, Inc.” by Ed Catmull, which shows Jobs’ leadership strengths and faults through his dealings with Pixar. Having said that, I give “Steve Jobs” two out of five banana rats.

“Steve Jobs” is rated R for language.

Movie review by
NAVY LT. MICHAEL ZAIC



IN THEATERS THIS WEEK

The Downtown Lyceum showtimes are shown in the top row and the Camp Bulkeley Lyceum showtimes are displayed in the bottom row.

In the Heart of the Sea (New) PG13, 7 p.m. The 33 (New) PG13, 9:30 p.m.	Star Wars: Episode I PG, 7 p.m. Paranormal Activity: The Ghost Dimension (LS) R, 10 p.m.	Star Wars: Episode II PG, 6:30 p.m. The Last Witch Hunter (LS) PG13, 9 p.m.	Star Wars: Episode III (LS) PG13, 7 p.m.	Star Wars: Episode IV PG, 7 p.m.	Star Wars: Episode V PG, 7 p.m.	Star Wars: Episode VI PG, 7 p.m. Star Wars: Episode VII (New) The Force Awakens PG13, 12:01 a.m. (12/18 Friday)
12/11 FRIDAY	12/12 SATURDAY	12/13 SUNDAY	12/14 MONDAY	12/15 TUESDAY	12/16 WEDNESDAY	12/17 THURSDAY
The Last Witch Hunter (LS) PG13, 8 p.m. Creed PG13, 10 p.m.	In the Heart of the Sea (New) PG13, 8 p.m. The 33 (New) PG13, 10 p.m.	Paranormal Activity: The Ghost Dimension (LS) R, 8 p.m.	LYCEUM CLOSED	The Hunger Games: Mockingjay - Part 2 PG13, 8 p.m.	LYCEUM CLOSED	Our Brand is Crisis R, 8 p.m. Star Wars: Episode VII (New) The Force Awakens PG13, 12:01 a.m. (12/18 Friday)

Call the Movie Hotline @ 4880 or visit the MWR Facebook for more info. *Concessions at Bulkeley are closed until further notice Stay classy, GTMO! No alcohol or tobacco at the Lyceums.

*Want to write a movie review for The Wire? Send your movie review to: thewire@jtfgtmo.southcom.mil

J.J. ABRAMS, YOU'RE OUR ONLY HOPE - STAR WARS: EPISODE VII

Long, long ago (in 1977), in Hollywood, California, just like another galaxy, and far, far away from Guantanamo Bay, Cuba, the world was forever changed when "Star Wars" was released. Unless you have been living inside a Taun-Taun's these past 40 years, you have run into a "Star Wars" reference or two - the odds you have not, are 764,328 to one.

No one had seen anything like it, a space western complete with laser swords and death machines the size of planets. A group of George Lucas' fellow directors actually condemned the film before it's release. Brian De Palma (Scarface) reportedly claimed it was the 'worst movie ever.' In fact, Lucas himself was so sure it would flop, he went on vacation to Hawaii with Steven Spielberg during the premier. Of the directors Lucas showed the movie to, Spielberg was the only

one to correctly predict the film would make millions.

It was the first truly huge blockbuster. People literally lined up around the block for a chance to see this movie. It started a fever that has not yet abated. It waxes and wanes, but ignites again with re-releases and new films.

In my lifetime, I have experienced what many younger fans are experiencing now; the excitement of not just a new movie, or installment in the overall story, but a new generation of "Star Wars" happening to them. It almost gives you some slight sense of ownership of the story when you are able to be in the theater when they come out. I will always remember when I first saw "A New Hope" in the theater. I later watched it 100 times on our tube TV and videotape growing

up, but to hear the deep, subtle rumble of bass when Vader force chokes Captain Antilles, gave me chills.

I hope this new generation of fans, along with droves and droves of fans from the previous "Star Wars" eras, will not be let down. I dressed up as a Jedi Padawan for "Star Wars: Episode Two- The Clone Wars". I remember being both embarrassed about standing in line dressed up for a movie but I was so excited that I didn't care.

Lucas recently sold the all things "Star Wars" to Disney for \$4 billion. I think this is the best thing to happen to the franchise in a long time.

Do not get me wrong, Lucas will always have a special place in my heart for the gifts of Storm Troopers, Jedi, Sith and light sabers to the world. However, it was evident to me from episodes one, two and three, which came out in the early turn of the millennia, that he had lost a step. I think it was selfless to give it over to someone else to re-imagine some of that universe, and I'm very excited to see where J.J. Abrams takes it.

If you haven't seen these movies, do yourself a favor and plan on a movie marathon; and you're in luck because The Downtown Lyceum will be hosting a "Star Wars" movie marathon, showing the films every night in sequential order until the weekend release of "The Force Awakens."

May the Force be with us all, I'll see you there and here's to hoping that this is the "Star Wars" movie we all want it to be.

Article by
ARMY SGT. CHARLIE HELMHOLT



MWR

2015/16 SPORTS SCHEDULE

Starting dates are subject to change. All leagues last 2-3 months, including playoffs.

MONTH / DAY ACTIVITY

December 11	Army / Navy Game
December 19	Holiday Basketball
December 24	Jingle Bell Fun Run
January 23	Softball Tournament
January 25	Soccer League starts
January 30	Full & Half Marathon
February 1	Kickball League starts
February 6	Fitness & Figure Comp.
February 13	Adult 1 Mile Swim
February 16	Basketball League starts
February 20	GTMO Mudder
February 27	Sprint Triathlon
March 12	Northeast Gate Run
March 12	Max Performance Games
March 14	Ultimate Frisbee League
March 19	Lucky Dog 5k
March 26	Aquatics Easter Egg Hunt
April 2	April Fool's Softball Trnmnt.
April 4	Softball League starts
April 11	Flag Football League starts
April 16	Youth Swim Meet
April 18	Golf League
April 23	Olympic Triathlon
May 7	Color Run
May 9	Indoor Volleyball League
May 14	Adult 500 Yard Swim
May 14-15	GTMO Golf Open
May 20-21	Captain's Cup Events
June 4	Max Performance Games
June 11	JPJ 5 Miler
June 18	Youth Summer Splash
June 25	Power Lifting Meet
June 27	Soccer League starts
July 2	Softball Tournament
July 2	Ridgeline Trail Run
July 4	Golf Tournament
July 11	Basketball League starts
July 16	Cable Beach Run
July 23	Adult Swim Sprint 300 Yard
July 25	Badminton League starts
August 6	Duathlon
August 8	Beach Volleyball League
August 13	Paddle, Pedal, Paintball
August 20	Back to School Splash
August 20	Fitness & Figure
August 22	Ultimate Frisbee League
August 27	All-Night Softball Trnmnt.
September 3	Sprint Triathlon
September 5	Golf Tournament
September 6	Co-Ed Softball League
September 11	9/11 Memorial Run
September 13	Flag Football League starts
September 17	Adult 100 Yard Swim Meet
October 22	Glow Run
October 29	Zombie Run
November 5	Olympic Triathlon
November 19	Max Performance Games
November 24	Thanksgiving Half & 5K

STRENGTH THROUGH POWERLIFTING

Standing beside your weights, you focus on your next task; lift the weight. Muscles strain, sweat drips from your face. You visualize the mechanics needed in order to finish the lift. Preparation has been the key to your success. Exercising daily has allowed you to achieve your goals. You position yourself under the bar, lifting it and gracefully taking a step backward. You complete your squat.

Thirty-four people participated in a power lifting competition sponsored by the Morale, Welfare & Recreation program at the G.J. Denich Gym on Dec. 5, at U.S. Naval Station Guantanamo Bay, Cuba.

Competitors were divided by gender and weight class: lightweight, middleweight, or heavyweight.

NAVSTA and Joint Task Force Guantanamo personnel competed in three events; the bench press, squat and dead lift, said Kaleb Heninger, the MWR fitness coordinator. Each competitor executed three lifts per event. The Wilks Formula was used to measure the strength of a power lifter by adding their weight and heaviest lift from each event.

"(For example) if someone weighed 205 (pounds) and another person weighed 400 (pounds), if they both lift 400 (pounds), one person is lifting their weight but the other person has doubled their weight," said Heninger. "The one who has doubled his weight has a higher power index."

The top performers had a chance to explain how they trained.

"This is such a great experience to be here," said Hani Abou-zaki, who competed in the heavyweight class and was the winner of the overall male lifter. "I continued to train for it.



Susana Bran, performs a squat during a power lifting competition at the G.J. Denich Gym on Dec. 5, at U.S. Naval Station Guantanamo Bay, Cuba.



Hani Abou-zaki, heavyweight class participant and the overall male lifter, deadlifts during a power lifting competition at the G.J. Denich Gym on Dec. 5.

I always wanted to see how much I could do and try to do the best I can."

Lifters train every day to stay healthy and fit, for many this was their first time competing in a PLC.

"I have been lifting seriously for a year and a half, and been doing Cross Fit for about three years," said Chelsea Sellers, who competed in the heavyweight class and was the winner for the overall female lifter. "I never (competed in) one before so I figured this was the best place to get my feet wet."

Sellers challenges herself every time she goes to the gym to work out, she said. If she is weak in an area, she targets those areas and trains harder to overcome the deficiencies.

"What I lack in skill, I make up for in determination," is a motivational saying Sellers lives by, she said.

The competitors enjoyed the event the MWR put on.

Abou-zaki enjoyed the camaraderie between all the competitors as they lifted, he said. Every lifter cheered for each other as they performed each exercise and said it was a great feeling.

Sellers' agreed with Abou-zaki and encouraged everyone to participate in the next PLC event.

"It's not always about winning," said Sellers. "It's more about the setting, the battle buddies around you...everybody who comes (to) support you. It's about learning something new."

The next MWR power lifting competition is schedule for June 2016.

Article and photo by
ARMY SGT. RYAN L. TWIST

BLAZZING SADDLES IGNITE BANDITS



Jim Holbert, a left fielder for the Blazzing Saddles, smashes a pitch during a Morale, Welfare & Recreation softball game, Dec. 3, at the Cooper Field Complex at U.S. Naval Station Guantanamo Bay, Cuba.

In a crazy role reversal, the GTMO Bandits were ridden hard by the Blazzing Saddles, who in a stunning five-inning victory, trounced their opposition in the second round of playoffs 12-1 during a Morale, Welfare & Recreation softball game, Dec. 3, at U.S. Naval Station Guantanamo Bay, Cuba.

If motivation was a contributing factor in determining victory on the softball field, either team could have left the field victorious, but alas, this was not the case.

The Blazzing Saddles set the game's tempo early with a hard-hitting lineup, spreading the hits evenly across the field and left the Bandits' fielders chasing grounders or under-running fly balls.

The Blazzing Saddles struck first, quickly scoring seven runs in the first inning, leaving the Bandits reeling on their heels and looking to even it up with their own offense. Early on, the Bandits' hitters did not show much promise, but slowly, over the course of a couple innings, they started to get their bats in the game.

"The score didn't go our way tonight, they hit real good, we were missing a couple key players who were working, it was just an off game for us," said Paul J. Borboa, Bandits team member.

The Bandits had a couple of good rallies, but they just could not find the traction needed to outpace the Blazzing Saddles' bats.

The Bandit's motivation never let up though, even with three quick outs in the

first, the dugout was calling for an offensive rally in the second.

Although the Bandits would eventually start to grab a few hits, the Blazzing Saddles would come back twice as strong, playing solid defense to match their impressive first inning offense. In the second inning, they were again pressuring the Bandits defense with runners on the bases and scoring two.

The Bandits' bats eventually found holes in the near impenetrable Blazzing Saddle's defense as they tried to chip away at the lead scoring a run in the third.

The Blazzing Saddles answered with hard hits, which brought in three more runs in the fourth making it 12-1, heading into the top of the fifth. Whatever momentum the Bandits had picked up at the end of the third, was

smothered by the offense's power.

The Bandits' bats were also held at bay by the defensive prowess of the Blazzing Saddles. Whether it was a great catch by outfielder, Heather Baugh, or the creation of a virtual infield wall by shortstop, Alec Culpepper, the Blazzing Saddles held the Bandits to one run all game holding the score to 12-1 to end the game.

"The lack of walk, a lot of great plays and solid defense won us the game," said Donnie Niles the Blazzing Saddles pitcher.

The Blazzing Saddles advance to the third round of play-offs where they will play the One Hit Wonders on Dec. 7.

Article and photos by
ARMY SGT. CHARLIE HELMHOLT



A team member for the GTMO Bandits, smashes a pitch during the game Dec. 3, at the Cooper Field Complex.

MWR FLAG FOOTBALL

No.	Team Name	Standings
01	Gunslingers	11-1
02	Straw Hat Gang	10-2
03	Confusions	9-3
04	Unknowns	9-3
05	Gatekeepers	8-4
06	Joint Squad	7-5
07	Dirty Mike & the Boys	6-6
08	Tuesday Morning	6-6
09	Punishers	6-6
10	Warriors	6-6
11	Spartans	5-7
12	Mighty Guns	3-9
13	The Scoregasms	3-9
14	377 MP Co	2-10
15	Sea Chickens	1-11





JSMART SPOT

JSMART HELPER: HARLEY

HEALTHY HOLIDAY HABITS WILL SAVE YOU A STOMACH ACHE

Throughout our lives, we are involved in many kinds of relationships such as friendships, family, romances and acquaintances.

Each of these has the potential to enhance us, adding to our feelings of self-respect and personal growth.

In all relationships there will be disagreements, need for compromise, and times of frustration. These alone do not necessarily indicate an unhealthy relationship. However, if you find yourself uncomfortable, unhappy or afraid, you may find that you are, in fact, in an unhealthy relationship.

Signs of an unhealthy relationship may include temper outbursts, violent or demeaning language, a sexist attitude, insults or shaming, use of force or even coercion.

Healthy relationships are characterized by respect, sharing, trust and no fear. They are based on the belief of equal partners and the power and control in the relationship is shared.

In some cases, unhealthy relationships can lead to domestic violence. Domestic violence does happen and we can work together to prevent it by recognizing the signs above. Remember, there are services offered to those who are affected by domestic violence. Fleet and Family Support Center, the chaplain's office and JSMART are here to help.

Sometimes we will find our relationships need a pick-up, even the better ones, especially when separated by distance. Some ways to nurture from afar include sending letters or cards, sending photos of good memories, sending care

packages, and having healthy communication. These actions can help make your partner feel loved, appreciated and desired, and will, in turn, help make you feel more connected to them. Remember healthy relationships are built on give and take and you should expect both ups and downs.

In addition, reading the "5 Love Languages" book may be helpful in restoring or enhancing a healthy relationship. Free copies are available at your chaplain's office.

Article by
NAVY PETTY OFFICER
3RD CLASS
JONNI GILLISPIE
Joint Medical Group



GTMO WILDLIFE

AVOID WILDLIFE ON ROADWAYS - IGUANAS, BOAS ARE PROTECTED

One of the most unique and noteworthy aspects of Guantanamo Bay, Cuba, is the wildlife we encounter every day.

The Cuban Iguanas and the Cuban Boas are two species which most of us will see during our stay here. Sometimes these species get a bad reputation, but in reality they help control vegetation and pests and pose little to no threat to humans when left alone.

Both species are also protected by law. The iguanas are endangered and the boas are threatened. Additionally, NAVSTA instructions (1710.10B) say you cannot intentionally harm, harass, kill, or remove either of the species while

staying here and yet they are injured or killed by vehicles far too often.

Most of the injuries to wildlife occur because we drive over the speed limit or are not aware of our surroundings while driving.

Because of the short distances we drive on base, speeding only saves us a couple of minutes of drive time at best. When we ignore the posted speed limits, we jeopardize pedestrians, bicyclists, other motorists and our unique wildlife.

Let's challenge ourselves to not only drive the speed limit, but to stop and wait when we see an animal trying to cross the road. If we simply

drive around it, there is always the possibility the next person may not be so kind. We should all do our part to help protect the wonderfully unique ecosystem that surrounds us.

So before we pull out of our parking spot, let's remember to check underneath our vehicle for any animals, especially iguanas. When we are on the road, we should always follow the speed limit for the safety of all of the base residents, not just the humans.

Article by
GARRETT WHITE
GTMO Natural Resources Specialist

RELIGIOUS SERVICES

ROMAN CATHOLIC (NAVSTA chapel)

Saturday* 1700
 Sunday* 0900 (Side Chapel)
 Mon-Thurs* 1730&0900

PROTESTANT SERV. (JTF Troopers' chapel)

Sunday* 0900&1900
 Friday night movie Friday 1900

PROTESTANT SERV. (NAVSTA chapel)

*Traditional** Sunday 0930 Annex Room 1 (Liturgical Service)
*Contemporary** Sunday 1100 Main Chapel
Gospel Sunday 1300 Main Chapel

OTHER SERV. (NAVSTA chapel)

Islamic Prayers Friday 1315 Annex Room 2
7th Day Adventist Saturday 0900 Annex Room 1 (Sabbath School)
 Saturday 1100 Annex Room 1 (Sabbath Service)
Latter Day Saints Sunday 0900 Annex Room 19
Pentecostal Sunday 0800 Annex Room D
 Sunday 1700 Annex Room D
*Christian Fellowship** Sunday 1800 Main Chapel (Non-denominational)
Jewish Study Friday 1900 Call JTF Chaplain for location*

BIBLE STUDIES (JTF Troopers' chapel)

Monday 1900 JTF Trooper's Chapel
 Wednesday 1900 JTF Trooper's Chapel
Game Night Saturday 1900 JTF Trooper's Chapel

DAVE RAMSEY'S FINANCIAL PEACE / MILITARY EDITION (JTF Troopers' Chapel)

Tuesday 1900 Taught by Navy Chaplain

ALCOHOLICS ANONYMOUS MEETINGS

Mon/Wed/Sat 1830 NAVSTA Chapel Annex, Room 16

*These services are conducted by Army or Navy chaplains / For more information call ext. 2218

FERRY SCHEDULE

Monday - Saturday

FERRY

Windward:

0630/ 0730/ 0930/ 1030/ 1130/ 1330/ 1530/ 1630

Leeward:

0700/ 0800/ 1000/ 1100/ 1200/ 1400/ 1600

UTILITY BOAT

Windward:

1630/ 1730/ 1830/ 2030/ 2230/ 2330

Leeward:

1700/ 1800/ 1900/ 2100/ 2300/ 0000

Sunday & Holidays

FERRY

Windward:

0730 / 1330

Leeward:

0800 / 1400

UTILITY BOAT

Windward:

1030/ 1530/ 1730/ 1830/ 2030/ 2230

Leeward:

1100/ 1600/ 1800/ 1900/ 2100/ 2300

BUS SCHEDULE 05:00 - 01:00

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

EXPRESS BUS SCHEDULE 09:55 - 19:55

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

BEACHBUS (Saturday & Sunday only)

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

DA PHOTO LAB ANNOUNCEMENT

The Joint Task Force Guantanamo Department of the Army photo lab is now open for all Army Soldiers E-6 and above. Photos are taken at the JTF photo lab on Thursdays from 12:30 p.m. – 2:30 p.m. by appointment only. The photo lab is located on the JTF side in the International Committee

for the Red Cross, building 2525. Soldiers should come in the Army Service Uniform, ready to have their picture taken. To make an appointment contact Army Sgt. Zachary Zimmerman at zachary.b.zimmerman@jftgtmo.southcom.mil or x75039.

Photo by Jay Sams

PARTING SHOT



'CRAB' BY JAY SAMS. FOR A CHANCE TO HAVE YOUR PHOTO FEATURED IN THE PARTING SHOT, PLEASE SEND SUBMISSIONS TO: THEWIRE@JTFTGTMO.SOUTHCOM.MIL

THE WIRE

