



THE WIRE



Honor Bound To Defend Freedom

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15 Minutes of Fame, pg. 11

SOUTHCOM Commander visits GTMO

By Spc. Seth Myers

JTF-GTMO Public Affairs Office

Distinguished visitors, Army Gen. Bantz J. Craddock, the commander of U.S. Southern Command (SOUTHCOM), and Army Brig. Gen. David B. Lacquement, J2, SOUTHCOM, visited Gauntanamo Bay this week.

The pair met with JTF-GTMO Commander, Brig. Gen. Jay Hood, Steve Rodriguez, Director, Joint Intelligence group, and other members of the JTF senior staff and intelligence community, to discuss the intelligence mission here and to visit the newly completed JTF Intelligence and Operations Facility.

Lacquement oversees the intelligence mission of SOUTHCOM, of which, JTF-GTMO is a major contributor.

According to an unclassified fact sheet of information gathered here and published by the Office of the Secretary of Defense, JTF-GTMO has contributed more intelligence from detainees about the al-Qaida network than any other element in the Department of Defense.

"[GTMO] has helped in a myriad of ways that most people will never fully appreciate. [GTMO] has been a major contributor to the complexities of the difficult threats that we face," said Lacquement.

The fact sheet states that intelligence gathered here helps the military to understand more about the terrorist organizations they are dealing with and where the terrorists are located. Detainees provide information about leadership structures, recruiting practices, funding mechanisms, relationships, and the cooperation between al-Qaida terrorist groups, training programs, plans for attacking the United States and other countries, and individuals connected to al-Qaida's pursuit of chemical, biological, and nuclear weapons.

We have learned a lot about the training programs used to teach recruits how to make improvised explosive devices. These courses are very structured. Some are only a few days long, but others are a few weeks. In these longer courses, they learn in-depth talents such as electronic circuitry, according to the Defense Department fact sheet.

The fact sheet also details how detainees have talked about their recruitment into al-Qaida, and how they were encouraged to participate in the jihad against the United States. Some of the detainees were themselves recruiters, it states, and they have shared information about recruiting interested youths to go to training



Photo by Spc. Seth Myers

Army Gen. Bantz "John" Craddock, the commander of U.S. Southern Command is greeted by Steve Rodriguez, Director Intelligence Group, as he arrives at the new Intelligence and Operations Facility.

camp. Because of the information gathered here, the country now has a better idea of what kind of people are more likely to become participants, recruiters, and leaders for the Islamic extremist movements. The detainees have also provided information that has led to the location of training compounds, safe houses, terrain features, travel patterns and routes used for smuggling people and equipment.

"From the very beginning of our mission, we set the standards for detention and intelligence operations; in fact our standard operating procedure is the model and the blue print for like missions in Iraq and Afghanistan...It took great Troopers and government/contract civilians to set the foundation for what we do today. The trend continues, and as future GTMO rotations arrive, we get better and better at what we do. We are one team with an important mission, and I am very proud of everyone for what they do on a daily basis," said JTF Command Sgt. Maj. Angel Febles.

With the war on terror still going, GTMO's contribution to intelligence is still key, and will remain critical for as long as the Global War on Terror continues. ■

Do something for yourself



Photo by Army Sgt. Todd Lamonica

By Army Col. Jane Anderholt

JTF-GTMO Commissions OIC

“The ship took ground on the shore of this uncharted desert isle, with Gilligan...”

So, here you are, deployed, at beautiful Guantanamo Bay. You can't seem to get the words to the Gilligan's Island song out of your mind! You work 12-plus hours a day, six days a week or more, and live with five or six of your new “closest” friends. You're tired, hot, desperately craving privacy, and all you want is a few hours of uninterrupted sleep! Your mind keeps wandering to the castaways' crazy schemes to get rescued...maybe you really can float a '56 GTMO special to Florida...

Relax. You're on a beautiful Caribbean island, with a view of the ocean American tourists pay hundreds of dollars a day for! But, your family (or significant other) isn't here, so what fun is this? Well that's up to you, isn't it? Rather than sit around focusing on who or what you're missing, spend some time focusing on what you can do for yourself.

The last thing you want to hear me tell you to do is to think about spending your limited off-duty time taking college courses or “bettering yourself.” So, I won't. Granted, there *are* incredible opportunities here on the island to work on college courses and military education, but there are other things you can do to put your free time to good use. This truly is a chance of a lifetime to do things you would never have time for in your busy lives back home.

The most obvious opportunity is the

beach and the beautiful ocean. An afternoon at the beach just sunning or visiting with friends can be restful and rejuvenating. How many of us, realistically, will ever have this incredible opportunity to scuba dive or snorkel weekly in waters this pristine again? Even if you never have time to scuba dive again, the experience is one which will stay with you long after you leave Camp America and Club Survivor far behind. Without meaning to sound like a commercial for MWR, check out the Marina. Sailing and boating lessons are available for the asking.

For those who don't like water sports, there are lots of other diversions to enjoy. When will you ever have a better chance to get into great physical shape? Never picked up a golf club? Give it a try. Swimming, hiking, biking, running and all types of sports leagues are available. You have only to ask and you can find someone who is interested in a sport or activity you might enjoy. What have you got to lose (except some weight?).

Not your cup of tea? Try making a cup, or a pot or a bowl. Did you know there is a great ceramics workshop here? Lessons in pottery making and all the supplies needed are available for a small fee. Still not what you're looking for? Try the chapel services or spend some time with a good book at the library.

What happens to you during this deployment is up to *you*. Take advantage of this incredible opportunity and go explore Guantanamo Bay!

Honor Bound! ■

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Servicemembers Civil Relief Act

Know your rights

By Army Capt. Matthew Edwards

JTF-GTMO Legal Assistance Office

The Servicemembers Civil Relief Act (SCRA) became law in 2003 and is the successor to the Soldiers' and Sailors' Civil Relief Act. The SCRA improves upon all the benefits that servicemembers have received through the Soldiers' and Sailors' Act for nearly 90 years.

The Servicemembers Act has been in the news recently because of one lender's refusal to comply with the six percent interest rate cap provision. The lender attempted to charge an exorbitant interest rate to a National Guardsman returning from Iraq. Fortunately, the servicemember knew his rights under the law and successfully enforced those rights against the lender. The returning Soldier can now look forward to a maximum six percent interest rate on all loans he held prior to entering active service, and that gives him more money for his family.

Six Percent Interest Rate Cap

The interest rate cap provision states that six percent is the maximum rate a lender may charge a servicemember for any debt incurred prior to the period of active duty. It is routinely used by National Guardsmen and Reserve Troopers when called to active duty. The cap can also be used by any servicemember when they enter the service for the first time. As with most SCRA provisions, the member must notify the lender in writing in order to get the capped interest rate. You must also enclose a copy of your military orders, which place you on active duty. The cap provision is then automatic, and most lenders are familiar with their obligations under the SCRA.

Skin cancer awareness month

Skin cancer is the most common of all cancers--and the most preventable.

More than one million Americans will be diagnosed with skin cancer this year. Most skin cancers are highly curable, but one form, malignant melanoma, is much more serious and has increased more than 100 percent since 1973, according to the American Cancer Society.

Overexposure to the sun is the number one skin cancer risk factor. And while this is a fairly well known fact, many people still don't protect themselves from either natural ultraviolet (UV) radiation or artificial UV

radiation, like that from a tanning bed. It is known that people exposed to these sources will have an increased risk of developing skin cancer.

May, Skin Cancer Awareness Month, is a good time to get educated about melanoma and skin cancer, and what to do to prevent becoming a statistic.

Tips to help protect you and your loved ones:

The fairer your skin, the higher your risk of getting skin cancer. If you freckle or burn in the sun, you are at highest risk. Still, people of all skin colors can develop skin cancer over time. Babies should never be exposed to direct sunlight.



Stay of Proceedings

Many servicemembers also take advantage of the "stay of proceedings" provision of the SCRA. This protects you from lawsuits in civil court, which might result in a default judgment against you since you are not present to defend yourself. Once again, it is important that you notify the court in writing regarding your military status, and if done properly, you will be granted a delay in the court proceedings until you can return. Since we are stationed overseas it is easier to demonstrate to a court that we will not be able to return to the United States in order to appear.

Automobile Lease Termination

A new provision of the SCRA allows you to terminate an automobile lease, which was entered into prior to commencing active duty service. The lease termination must be given in writing, and your responsibility for further lease payments ends when you return the automobile to the dealer.

In order to take advantage of your rights, you must know what they are and how to enforce them. If you have any questions regarding the SCRA, or if you want sample letters for your specific situation, please contact the JTF Legal Assistance Office.

The JTF Legal Assistance Office is located in Building 6208 in Camp America (behind Troopers Chapel). Office hours are 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Friday and 8:30 a.m. to noon on Saturday. The office extension is 3561. ■



Photo by Spc. Dave Lankford

Shield them with protective clothing when out during the day. In the southern United States, the sun's ultraviolet rays are strongest between 10 a.m. and 4 p.m. - a good time to stay indoors if possible.

Apply sunscreen about 30 minutes before going into the sun so it has a chance to be absorbed by the skin. Reap-

ply often, as swimming and perspiration will remove it. Don't try to economize. Apply sunscreen liberally - the skin you save may be your own! If you must be in the sun, cover up with clothing, sunscreen and sunglasses.

A sunscreen with a SPF of at least 15 is a good choice for most people. SPF stands for Sun Protection Factor and means that if you normally burn in 10 minutes while unprotected, you can stay in the sun 15 times longer, or 150 minutes, if you apply a sunscreen with an SPF of 15. ■

--from *CancerWise*, University of Texas, M.D. Anderson Cancer Center



Photo by Army Sgt. Todd Lamonica

▲Army Brig. Gen. David Lacquement, the J2 for Southern Command, stops at the Seaside Galley before his visit to the JTF's new intelligence and operations facility.

AROUND THE JTF



Photo by Spc. Timothy Book

▲Spc. Cristina Magallanes adjust the front sight on her M16 25-meter zero range May 12.



Photo by Spc. Timothy Book

▲Spc. Alisha Knight cleans the bolt of an M-16 rifle after completing weapons qualification May 12.



Photo by Spc. Seth Myers

▲Navy Chief Petty Officer Tom Edwards gets "creamed" by his wife, Sheila, as part of a program to raise money for the Navy Marine Corps Relief Society, while his daughter watches.

BOOTS ON THE GROUND

Spc. Jeshua Nace asked Troopers around JTF-GTMO...What do you think of Toby Keith coming to Guantanamo Bay?



◀“I’m excited about it. This is my first country music concert, and he’s my favorite artist. I’m getting autographs for my family, and it’s a surprise.”

— Navy Petty Officer 3rd Class Michele A. Blymire

▶“It’s a great morale booster; it’s not everyday a country star comes to Guantanamo.”

— Marine Cpl. Vincent Stanziale

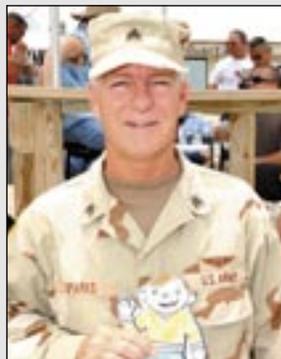


◀“It’s a great opportunity to get to see him; he’s such a great inspiration since he’s so patriotic.”

— Coast Guard Petty Officer 3rd Class Matthew Lindsley

▶“It’s great! I’ve never seen him before. My wife is jealous. I’m having fun here and this makes it that much easier. I wish they could do more things like this.”

— Army Sgt. Thomas W. Sparks



Army 10-Miler Qualification

By Spc. Dave Lankford

JTF-GTMO Public Affairs Office

Troopers from JTF and NAVBASE joined in a 10-mile run recently in an attempt to qualify for the Army 10-Miler in Washington, D.C., this October. The top three male, and top three female runners, may qualify to represent Guantanamo Bay at the 2005 running.

The 10-Miler will be run on Oct. 10 at the Pentagon. The deadline for registration is Sept. 18, and there is a limit of 16,000 runners. Registration can be done online at the Army 10-Miler website, www.armytenmiler.com, at a cost of \$25. For more information call the Army 10-Miler office at (202)685-3361 or (DSN) 325-3361. ■



Photo by Spc. David Lankford

Army Sgt. Jason Abigania pushes it to the limit to qualify for the Army 10-Miler.

Top Males:

Navy Ensign Brian Burdick	1:06.47
Spc. Scott Willits	1:12.26
Army Sgt. Jason Abigania	1:14.38

Top Females:

Army Sgt. Esmerelda Amaya	1:22.33
Army Sgt. Natasha Monroe	1:39.57
Army Sgt. Oralia Barbosa	1:43.14

Country comes to town



Toby Keith puts on an impromptu show for the crew of the USS Austin.

Story and Photos by Spc. Dave Lankford

JTF-GTMO Public Affairs Office

Country music superstar Toby Keith rocked Guantanamo Bay with free concerts at Club Survivor and the Downtown Lyceum, as well as an impromptu performance on the flight deck of the USS Austin recently.

Keith, one of country music's staunchest supporters of the Global War on Terrorism, visited GTMO to kick off his third USO tour, which will continue in Germany, Belgium and the Persian Gulf.

"I get accused of banging the war drum by the media – I'm all for peace, but from time to time we have no choice but to fight for our freedom. So I support our troops. They're working people – they get up every day and put their boots on and go to work; every day they defend our country overseas," Keith said.

Keith, along with guitarist and songwriter Scotty Emerick, belted out crowd favorites like "Should've Been a Cowboy" and "You Ain't Much Fun."

"The fans love these songs. They're standard party songs I've played for a decade or so," Keith said.

The real thunder from the crowd came when Keith launched

into his patriotic song, "Courtesy of the Red, White and Blue (The Angry American)," written in response to the Sept. 11, 2001 terrorist attacks, and "The Taliban Song," a comical song warning the Taliban to "get the hell out of Dodge," as Keith put it.

Even the nominal Toby Keith fan was visibly moved by the Academy of Country Music Song of the Year nominee, "American Soldier," a song written as a salute to the efforts of American armed forces around the world.

After an encore at the request of Brig. Gen. John Gong, JTF Deputy Commander, Keith shook hands with and signed autographs for JTF Troopers.

Upon leaving Camp America, Keith and his entourage toured the East Gate where Keith remarked, "I'd like to stand and smoke one of those (Cuban) cigars over the fence." The crew then moved on to the USS Austin, the Naval Exchange for souvenirs, and to the Downtown Lyceum for yet another show.

In addition to the hits played at Club Survivor, Keith gave the fans at the Lyceum a taste of his latest album, "Honkytonk University," with the single, "As Good As I Once Was." The new album, Keith's thirteenth, hit stores in the States on May 17.

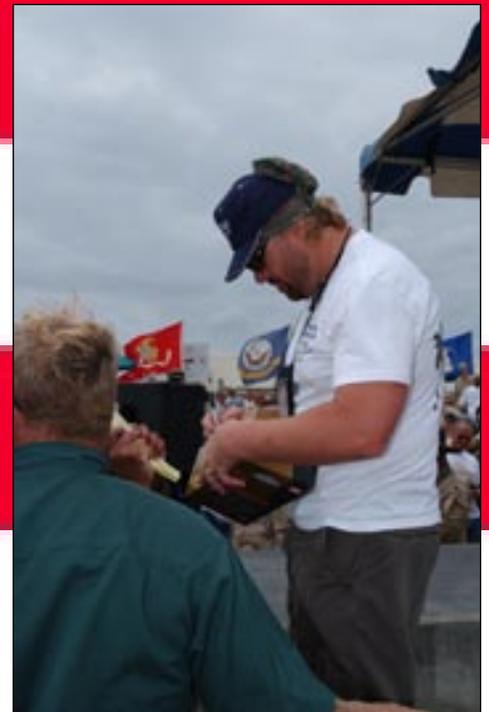
The day ended with storm clouds moving in, but with spirits at GTMO as high as they've ever been. ■



It was standing room only at Club Survivor for a free show put on by Toby Keith.



Toby Keith considers the deer hunting possibilities...maybe bear...polar bear.



Always time for his fans...Toby Keith signs autographs for Troopers at Club Survivor.

GRAFFITI: Perception is everything

By Spc. Dave Lankford

JTF-GTMO Public Affairs Office

Camp America is, as it should be, the picture of professionalism. And the world truly is watching.

Not a day goes by that JTF-GTMO is not portrayed in the news in one respect or another. The professionalism displayed here reflects directly on the leadership.

And then one looks to the hills. Suddenly, that professionalism fades away, as if it were never there.

“When I first arrived at GTMO I was impressed with the great work and professionalism across the JTF. As I was ‘battle circulating the JTF foot print,’ I noticed an enormous amount of graffiti on the landscape. Several words came to mind: unprofessional, discipline, and leadership,” said Command Sgt. Maj. Angel Febles, JTF-GTMO Command Sergeant Major.

Having grown up in a large city, Febles said he was always

disappointed to see graffiti defacing the neighborhood and feels that seeing it on a military installation is even more disappointing.

“Ever heard the expression, ‘Perception is everything’? I have been serving JTF-GTMO for 14 months, and it is my assessment everyone is fulfilling an important, integral part of the mission. Without a doubt the JTF has outstanding professionals. However, we get distinguished visitors on a weekly basis, and I wonder what comes to their minds when the first thing they see before entering traffic check point Roosevelt is the same type of graffiti as is seen in poor neighborhoods across the USA,” Febles said.

Leaders lead by example. It is their job to not only observe what is going on around them and make corrections as needed, but to instill in subordinate Troopers a sense of discipline and pride in doing the right thing.

“Just recently, several leaders personally restored an area



Photo by Spc. David Lankford

that was defaced with graffiti and the unit logo--they fixed the problem because it was the right thing to do and wanted to send a message to their subordinates. What concerns me is that there are junior leaders that either knew about or partook in painting the landscape,” Febles said.

It’s only natural, even respectable, that Troopers want to display their unit pride for the entire world to see. That is an option at Camp America as well.

“Here is the bottom line:

Painting or carving graffiti is unprofessional, destroys the landscape, is unsafe, and gives the wrong perception. In lieu of graffiti we authorize units to construct a small, removable structure with the unit logo, date, and motto; they are all located in Camp America in the Rock Garden,” said Febles.

Pride and esprit de corps are military traditions but they must be balanced with leadership and discipline.

Febles’ message is clear, show your pride, but do it in the right way. ■

Working to improve the JTF mission

By Spc. Seth Myers

JTF-GTMO Public Affairs Office

The JTF top leadership gathered May 13 at the Community Center during the Process Improvement Conference, where various issues for improvement at GTMO were discussed.

JTF-GTMO Commander, Army Brig. Gen. Jay Hood, led a conversation on mission improvement, while Deputy Commander, Army Brig. Gen. John Gong, and Chief of Staff, Col. John Hadjis, headed the discussion on JTF-GTMO standard operating procedures. Command Sgt. Maj. Angel Febles led the talks on improving the quality of life here.

“This conference is critical to the long term success of the mission, because it is a forum for leaders in the task force to meet and discuss issues that meet the commanding general’s daily charge to every Trooper, which is, ‘Challenge everything you do, every day, for its value, and contribution to mission success.’ What we are doing today is establishing the improvements we want to make to mission execution, the SOP, and Trooper quality of life over the next year,” said Hadjis. ■



Photo by Spc. Seth Myers

JTF leaders discuss how to improve the standard operating procedures here during the Process Improvement Conference held at the Community Center on May 13.

The DCU dilemma

By Army Sgt. Todd Lamonica

JTF-GTMO Public Affairs Office

Comfort is very important to most people, especially when working in 100-degree heat. You need to be dressed properly to stay cool. The uniform that most Troopers here at JTF-GTMO are wearing is the Desert Camouflage Uniform (DCU).

This uniform is a derivative of one of the uniforms worn by U.S. forces during the first Gulf War, and was referred to as the "Chocolate Chips." It was redesigned based on research done by the U.S. Army Soldier Systems Center at Natick, Mass.

Researchers there developed the tri-colored DCU to work with changes in the color of the terrain during different times of the day, and the fact that no color, or combination of color, can match all deserts.

The implementation of the DCU to this area of operation was threefold: first, they are conducive to the environment, second, uniformity across the board for JTF Troopers, and third, durability. "It also is the uniform worn by others who are serving in Operation Enduring Freedom," said Army Capt. John Hotek, J4 supply officer.

Granted, not all units at JTF-GTMO are wearing the DCU. The battle is not so



Photo by Army Sgt. Todd Lamonica

Desert Camouflage Uniforms for all services will be available soon at the NEX for purchase, and as a supplemental issue by J4 supply for those units that have not yet received them.

much getting the uniform as it is trying to get specific sizes. There have been supply and demand issues, with various logistics agencies, on shortages in DCU sizes, most of them stemming from the recent issue of the ACU (Army Combat Uniform), said Hotek.

The ACU is a new style of uniform that was designed to replace the current Battle Dress Uniform. The overlap of production of this uniform and the current DCU has caused most of the backlog.

This backlog caused backorders at J4 supply, but it is expected some units should receive all of their uniform items in June, at the earliest.

All generals in the Army and their staffs

were issued the ACU, so that Troopers can see the new uniform. The JTF Commanding General and the Command Sgt. Major wear their ACUs on Fridays.

The uniforms that will be issued by supply will be a supplemental issue. Meaning the uniforms will be owned by the JTF. They will be issued to Troopers and recovered from them when the mission is done.

The arrival of the uniform should prevent any further supply and demand issues for J4 supply. The Naval Exchange and J4 supply have collaborated on a large order of DCU clothing sales items due to be in the store within the month. ■

15-month enlistment option available

A 15-month-plus Army enlistment option is now available nationwide for 59 occupational specialties, allowing recruits a choice of following military duty with service in a program such as AmeriCorps or the Peace Corps.

The U.S. Army Recruiting Command announced last week a nationwide expansion of its "15-Month Plus Training Enlistment Option," a program USAREC officials said was designed to promote and facilitate military enlistment in support of national service.

Applicants enlisting for this program will incur an eight-year military service obligation. The obligation will consist of: 15 months of active duty after completion of basic and advanced individual training and 24 months of satisfactory participation as an active drilling member in the Army Reserve or National Guard. Soldiers have the option of serving the remainder of their eight-year obligation in one of three ways: as an active drilling member of the Army Reserve or National Guard; a member of the inactive



Photo from www.goarmy.com

Individual Ready Reserve, known as the IRR; or as a member of a National Service Program designated by the secretary of Defense (such as AmeriCorps or the Peace Corps).

Occupational specialties which qualify for the 15-month enlistment can be found www4.army.mil/news. --Army News Service ■

✝ Disappointment: A painful fact of life ✝

By Army Chaplain (Lt. Col.) Robert Palmer

JTF-GTMO Chaplain's Office

When I think of disappointment, I think of the character, Fantine, in Victor Hugo's novel "Les Miserables." In the musical version of "Les Miserables," Fantine sings a sorrowful song about disappointment called, "I Dreamed a Dream." The song begins with the words, "I dreamed a dream in time gone by; when hopes were high and life worth living." She goes on to describe her youthful vigor, as she chased pleasure and fun, fell in love with a young man a bit older than her, and spent a summer together. But for Fantine, an unexpected pregnancy followed by the departure of the father made her dreams come crashing down. As a single mom in 19th century France, she found it difficult to survive. She works in a factory for a while, but then she's fired because the foreman finds out that she has a child outside of marriage. She sells her hair to pay her rent, she sells her teeth, until she has nothing else to sell but herself. She ends up on the streets as a prostitute, a hollow shell of what she once was. Eventually she dies from the sickness she contracts as a prostitute. So the song ends with the words, "I had a dream my life would be so different from this hell I'm living; so different now from what it seemed; now life has killed the dream I dreamed."

How do we deal with the disappointments of life? How do we deal with being unable to go to the college we've always dreamed of? How do we deal with the relationship that doesn't work out; with the one in a million job opportunity that we don't get? How do we deal with infertility or being single if we want to get married? How do we deal with the disappointments of life?

Sometimes life leads us to some dark places. And in those dark places it seems that our dreams die. Yet from the death of our dreams grow new dreams, new opportunities, new ways to live. A man in the Bible named Daniel found himself in a dark place. When Babylon invaded Israel, there were actually three different deportations of people. In the first deportation in 605 B.C., all the royalty and nobles were deported to Babylon. A young man named Daniel was one of those deported to Babylon in this first deportation. Yet despite being in a dungeon, enslaved by the Babylonian government, and indoctrinated in the Babylonian educational system, Daniel maintained his integrity. You read the book of Daniel, and you read about how God miraculously delivers Daniel from danger and hostility over and over. God is with us in dark places.

Sometimes we make rebellious choices. We choose our own path, a path of willful rebellion against what we know to be right. But instead of finding our dreams fulfilled on this road, we find affliction. The road of rebellion promises much, but it doesn't deliver what it promises. It's a road of self-destruction, a road of pain and misery. Yet even people who chose the path of rebellion find deliverance from God. They cry out for God's help and He answers them. Their painful affliction is turned to songs of joy. Sometimes our rebellion leads to disillusionment. I think many of us have wrecked our dreams this way. An unplanned pregnancy, a

charge of driving under the influence drug deal, a lie at these things can person's dreams. look for shortcuts the easy ways to success without without sacrificing, it leads us down the path of rebellion. But this path leads to despair and disillusionment. But God can answer us in our despair, even when we've killed our own dreams.

In the midst of our disappointments, God's love remains a firm basis for hope. God's love is like an anchor that holds us, even when we go through doors that lead to desert places; even when we chase our dreams and they come to nothing; even when life leads us to places of darkness; even when our own rebellion leads us to despair. In each circumstance we're reminded that God's unfailing love endures, in the desert and in the darkness; in our despair and at sea with the crashing waves. Some of our dreams may die, but God's love endures. God's love is only a prayer away. ■



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CAMP AMERICA WORSHIP SCHEDULE

Sunday	9 a.m.	Protestant Service	Troopers' Chapel
	6:00 p.m.	Confessions	Troopers' Chapel
	6:30 p.m.	Catholic Mass	Troopers' Chapel
	7:30 p.m.	Protestant Service	Building 3203
Tuesday	7 p.m.	Alpha	Building 3202
Wednesday	7:30 p.m.	Soul Survivor	Club Survivor
Saturday	3 p.m.	Saturday Vigil Mass	Troopers' Chapel

NAVAL BASE CHAPEL

Sunday	8 a.m.	Pentecostal Gospel	Sanctuary C
	9 a.m.	Catholic Mass	Main Chapel
	9 a.m.	Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints	Sanctuary A
	9:30 a.m.	Protestant Sunday School	Main Chapel
	11 a.m.	Protestant Service	Main Chapel
	1 p.m.	Gospel Service	Main Chapel
Monday	5 p.m.	Pentecostal Gospel	Sanctuary C
	7 p.m.	Prayer Group Fellowship	Fellowship Hall
	7 p.m.	Family Home Evening	Room 8
Tues. to Fri.	12 p.m.	Daily Mass	Cobre Chapel
Wednesday	7 p.m.	Men's Bible Study	Fellowship Hall
Friday	1 p.m.	Islamic Prayer	Room 12
Saturday	4:30 p.m.	Confessions	Main Chapel
	5:30 p.m.	Vigil Mass	Main Chapel

For information on Jewish services call 2323

15 Minutes of Fame with Army Staff Sgt. Monique Brown

By Spc. Seth Myers

JTF-GTMO Public Affairs

Army Staff Sgt. Monique Brown is the JTF-GTMO rotations NCOIC.

How long have you been in the military?

I have been in the military for 17 years. I did three years of active duty. I was stationed in Fort Lewis and did a little time in Korea. When I got out, I went to college and did some Reserve time. When my first eight-year contract was up, I decided to join the National Guard. I did that in 1995, and I've been with the same unit since then.

What did you do prior to this?

Since October of 2004, I was on recruiting and retention duty, and I worked for the Transportation Security Administration prior to that. I was trying to finish my college degree, and I just finished last week.

What did you major in?

I have a Bachelor of Science in criminal justice. I did the last class online. It was an environmental science class.

What is your job at GTMO?

I coordinate the rotations in and out of units, the large units, not individual augmentees. I make a schedule for the day they arrive, and coordinate everything they will do on that day.

Have you always been in the job field you are doing here?

I'm actually a food service sergeant at home, and I've been in the food service since I joined the military.

So how did you end up with the rotations job?

They were going to bring a food service advisor and one cook. There were no slots for me, but I wanted to come on this mission. The person who was going to do the rotations was medically disqualified, so they put me into that slot.

How has your experience in GTMO been thus far?

I love the job. The interesting thing about my job is it keeps you out of the office. It keeps you moving. However, when you are doing a unit that is rotating out, it kind of makes you homesick, but my time here at GTMO has actually been wonderful. As long as you find stuff to do and keep yourself busy, like the school I was doing kept me busy, you'll be fine. Now that I'm done, I have to find new things to do.

What are some of the new things you are going to do?

I love to read. I went onto a free website and ordered some books. I got about ten James Patterson books, so I have a bunch to read. He is my favorite author. Other than that, I've been to the beach, and to the clubs. I love to shoot pool. I bought a truck that I am now starting to make into a "GTMO special." I was thinking about getting into the auto skills shop and trying to learn a little about

doing tune-ups and oil changes too. Even if you don't do it yourself, you know what is going on with your car. I love cars. It will be neat to learn the inside of the car, and work with it.

When you leave here, what do you intend on doing in the Criminal Justice field?

There is a place called the Grizzly Youth Academy. It is run by the military. It is for students in the Los Angeles school district who are not in the criminal justice system yet, but look like they are on their way. It's like boot camp. It is a guided program. The job there is an active duty position. Here is my little problem with that: because I finished my degree and want to advance my military career, I want to become a warrant officer. I am putting together my packet now for Warrant Officers Candidate School. When I get back, the warrant officer who is helping me with my packet wants me to go right into school. If I become a warrant, I may not be able to work at the Grizzly Youth Academy. I am not sure which I would choose if I had to.



Photo by Spc. Seth Myers

What are some of your professional and personal goals for while you're at GTMO?

I've been injured for a while, and put on some weight, so I want to get in shape. I think I want to start the master's degree program because I have so much idle time. The problem is my university doesn't have the master's program I want, which is psychology or sociology. So I may start my master's here. As far as my military career, I am going to get that packet together for the warrant, and then try to decide what I am going to do. However, I don't want my schooling to be idle. I want to be able to use what I learned in college.

Brown would like to have this article dedicated to her puppy that passed away recently. He was a black Chihuahua named Poppy. ■

15 Minutes of Fame

Know a Trooper worthy of being highlighted in "15 Minutes of Fame?" Call Sgt. 1st Class Sheila Tunney at 3594.

You can call her 'Mom'

By Spc. Jeshua Nace

JTF-GTMO Public Affairs Office

Patriots come in all sizes, shapes, colors and forms. Sam Scott, the manager of the Seaside Galley in Camp America and the Café Caribe inside Camp Delta, has never served in the military but is as--or more--patriotic than any Trooper.

Originally from South Korea, Scott moved to America in 1974. She got married to Jerry Scott and had children. "I have four boys: Danny, Bruce, Michael and Jerry Junior. Three of them live in the U.S.; two are married. My youngest goes to the high school here," said Scott.

Scott has been working for the military as a civilian contractor for 26 years, the last year has been at Guantanamo. Her contribution doesn't go without being noticed. Her office is laced with awards for excellence and letters of appreciation from many different units across America.

"I enjoy country music. I like to go fishing, try different decorations in my house and work in the garden," said Scott. But that time doesn't come very often, being a manager takes up a lot of her day.

Many Americans go through several jobs, and companies before they find their



Photo by Spc. Jeshua Nace

Sam Scott is doing paperwork to make the Seaside Galley better for Troops in Camp America.

place in the world.

"All my life I've been working for the military. All my life I've been working in food services. Pentad (a food services company) is the only job I've ever had. In 1979 I started working for Pentad. Then I became a manager for my company in 1986,"

said Scott.

Scott is constantly trying to improve life here, and she takes it personally. "I want our Troops to feel at home here. I treat them like my sons and daughters, and at times, they call me 'mom'. I like helping the U.S. cause. Actually, I'm happy to do it. I feel that the people in the military are my true family," said Scott.

If Troopers have a suggestion, she is always available to hear their concerns. "I try to listen to the Soldiers, listen to their recommendations. I try to make them feel at home here. I see what I can do for them. I ask them what they want, what they like," said Scott.

"Serving the troops and the commander is part of my job. Where the country needs me, I'm going to be there. If the command section or the troops need me, I'll go, I'll be there. I like it wherever I go. If I can make it comfortable for them, I'll be there," said Scott.

Scott has to go in and out of Camp Delta since she runs the Café there. She doesn't fear the detention center, or any of the detainees. "I feel comfortable, just like walking at home. I know the Soldiers there, my 'family' works there," said Scott.

Sam Scott is living the American dream, and in her lies the truth that you don't have to be born in America to be an American. ■



Photo by Spc. Jeshua Nace

Sam Scott, the manager of the Seaside Galley in Camp America and the Café Caribe inside Camp Delta, has a wall of many awards and letters of appreciation from many units for her work feeding Troopers here and in the United States.