

THE WIRE

Joint Task Force
Guantanamo's
Finest News Source

A News Magazine

HONOR BOUND TO DEFEND FREEDOM

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with Army Spc. Crystal Sidebottom

My Thoughts

By Army Sgt. Maj. David Hare

Camp America Commandant

Walking through Camp America and Radio Range, as well as the last few New Comers' briefs, I noticed something. Looking at the Troopers I saw that the Joint Task Force-Guantanamo includes both genders, all races, different ethnic backgrounds and all ages and services. I guess sometimes, we in the military take that fact for granted, but we shouldn't because our diversity illustrates our strength.

I've spoken to a lot of Troopers over the years and one question that I've always asked them is "Why did you join?" Many say it's for the schooling benefits and some just want the training to carry into the private sector. But if you've ever been away from home for a few months or longer, where a shower and a change of clothes become a luxury instead of a routine and you eat when and if you can; you miss the important things in life; births, deaths, graduations, weddings, first steps and first words, and you continue to do an outstanding job. There's more than "school" and "training" keeping you here. You're the ones who "keep it real". There are a lot easier ways to get schooling and training. It's something inside you that you can't give a name.

I joined the Army in 1969 because I wanted to get away from home and do something and belong to something that I felt was important. I think this is still very true for most of the Troopers on active today. There's something inside each of us that keeps us coming back and doing what we have to do.

Almost immediately after Sept. 11, 2001, we witnessed a universal American outpouring of pride and patriotism from every American regardless of race, color, ethnic background or religion. That outpouring continues to manifest



itself in our military service today. For years, we have heard the American people described as a "melting pot" of the world's peoples. I like to think of the American military more as a "reinforced metal alloy" than a melting pot. The strengths of all our backgrounds blend into an unbreakable sword made from that "alloy," standing ready to defend our people and our nation.

Our diversity doesn't end with our wealth of races, colors and ethnicity. Our active duty components are tried and true military professionals. Our reserve component forces, in addition to their military training, bring a multitude of civilian occupations and experiences to the fight. Together, our active and reserve Troopers have honed the blade of our sword to razor sharp efficiency and lethality. Our sword, however, doesn't remain sharpened on its own. We must strive to train, to improve and to maintain our sword's edge.

I've seen a lot of changes in the military in my years. Sometimes I felt that we were heading in the wrong direction, but when I walk Camp America and Bulkeley and see the Troopers with whom I have the honor of serving, I know we are going in the right direction. I am very proud to have served here at GTMO with all of you.

■

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Army National Guard turns 370

By Navy Petty Officer 2nd Class Trevor Andersen

JTF-GTMO Public Affairs Office

Even before the United States was imagined, the English colonies formed militias for protection. Those militias became the National Guard, the oldest component of the U.S. Armed forces, and on Dec. 13, 2006, they celebrated one more year.

It was on that day in 1636, the Massachusetts Bay Colony established three militia regiments, North, South and East, to defend against the Pequot Indians. Since the Pequot War, the Army National Guard has fought in every war or conflict in which our nation has found itself.

The militia tradition was brought over from Britain. The idea was for civilians to train for combat in order to protect themselves. Their job was to enforce local laws and fight Britain's enemies in America. Once the U.S. broke away from Britain, the Founding Fathers expressed the need for a militia in the Constitution. Congress defined the mission of the militia as such, "to Execute the Laws of the Union, suppress Insurrections, and repel Invasions."

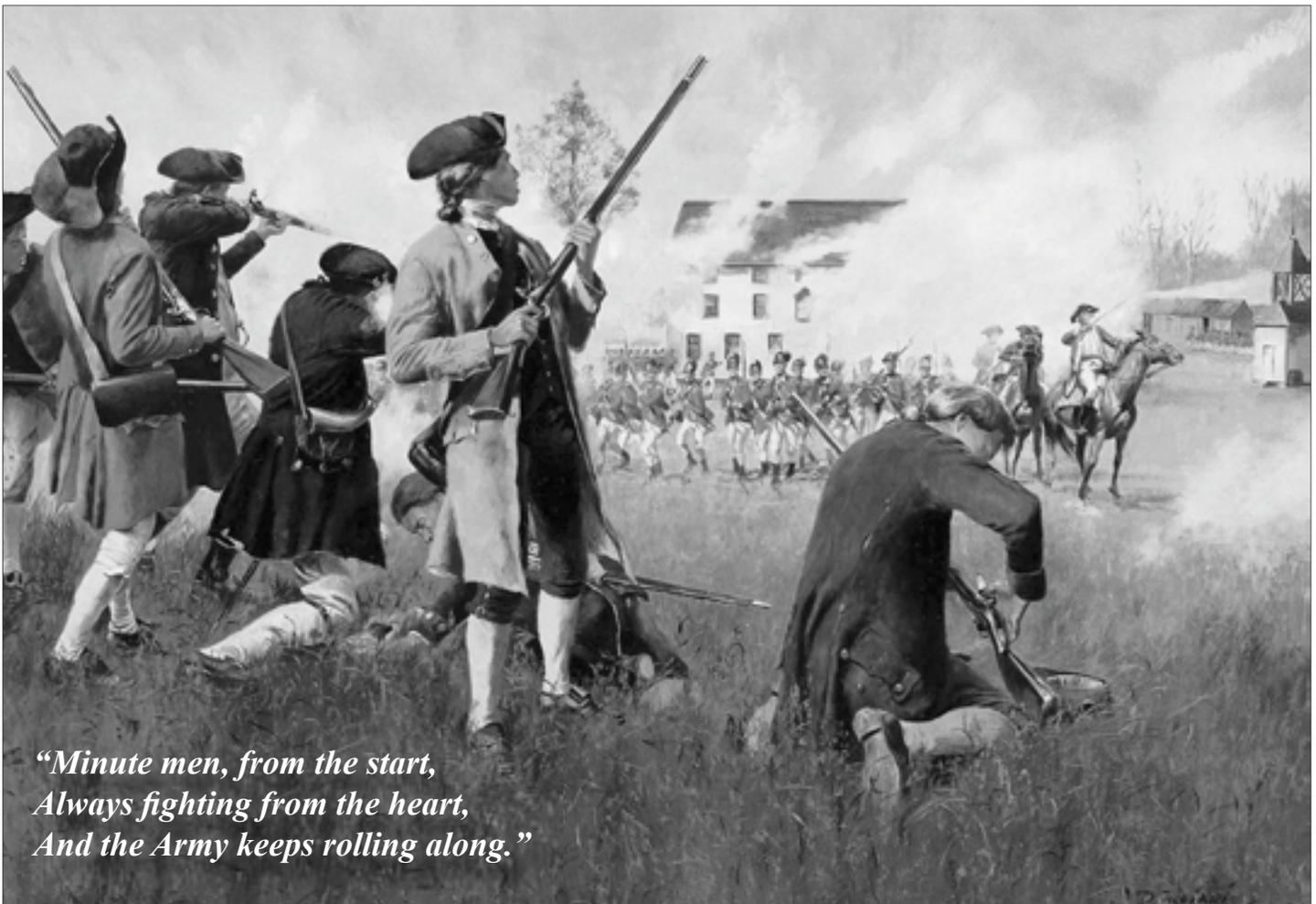
In 1903 the modern National Guard was established and tasked with being the nation's primary organized combat reserve force.

In those days the primary firearm was a matchlock musket that could take up to 56 steps to load and fire, and almost one third of the militia would go into battle with a long pike. Today they wage the Global War on Terrorism with precision weapons and state-of-the-art equipment.

"The birthday of the National Guard is a reminder that we are a unique force with two missions – we serve both our country and our state," said Brig. Gen. Ed Leacock, deputy commander of Joint Task Force-Guantanamo. "Being called to serve on active duty is the highest calling for a National Guard Soldier, and I am proud of our National Guard Soldiers serving here in Guantanamo."

Leacock, from the Maryland Army National Guard, is the senior National Guard Soldier at the JTF.

The National Guard will continue to be a force to be reckoned with because they are citizens who strongly believe that military service is necessary for the security of the country. ■



*"Minute men, from the start,
Always fighting from the heart,
And the Army keeps rolling along."*

Maintaining Army uniform standards

By Army Spc. Dutin Robbins

JTF-GTMO Public Affairs Office

When a Soldier properly wears his uniform, it displays to the world a sense of pride and professionalism.

In a media hotspot like Guantanamo Bay, proper wear of the uniform is all the more important. It helps give the world audience the understanding that we perform our jobs to the best of our ability with the highest standards in mind.

But you may ask yourself, "What is the standard?" The U.S. Army is an old organization with many traditions that have carried on throughout its time, and many of those traditions have to do with our uniforms. Some of these traditions were carried over when the Army adopted the Battle Dress Uniform (BDU) in 1981 and were generally accepted as the standard. However, traditions such as spit-shining combat boots and pressing uniforms to a neat crisp are now a thing of the past with the Army focusing more on tactics

and functionality when it comes to the new Army Combat Uniform (ACU).

Other forms of use and wear of the BDU accepted in the past are no longer acceptable with the ACU ensemble. You may have seen Soldiers blousing their boots by wrapping the legs of their trousers tightly around their lower calves before tucking them into the top of their boots. This practice is no longer within regulations. Another tip to Soldiers is that the proper wear of the unit patch (shoulder sleeve insignia) is that the subdued SSI is worn centered on the hook and loop-faced pad already provided on the left sleeve of the ACU coat.

Wear standards are not just for the ACU uniform. There are a few things that Soldiers should keep in mind when wearing their Improved Army Physical Fitness Uniform (APFU). Soldiers should remember that ankle socks are not allowed for wear with the Physical Fitness uniform. Soldiers must also remember to wear their reflector belts with their PT uniforms as well as keep

their PT shirt tucked in at all times.

Keep yourself up to date on the proper wear of you uniform. If you are a Soldier and have a question concerning the current regulations, visit <http://www.armyg1.army.mil/hr/uniform.asp> for all of the latest news and regulations concerning Army uniforms. ■



Security bulletin: Protection of classified information

By Frank Perkins

JTF-GTMO Special Security Office

As a custodian of classified information, you have a personal, moral, and legal responsibility at all times to protect classified information, whether oral or written, within your knowledge, possession, or control and for locking classified information in approved security containers or otherwise physically securing classified information not in use or under the direct supervision of authorized persons.

Follow procedures to ensure that unauthorized persons do not gain access to classified information. For example, classified material shall not be taken home, and you must not work on classified material at home. Classified information or material is used only in approved facilities where conditions are adequate to prevent unauthorized persons from gaining access to it. Exercise caution in dealing with persons not authorized to have access to classified information. Inadvertent leaks may be just as damaging to our national security as outright espionage.

Remove classified material from a designated office or working area only in the performance of your official duties. Classified documents removed from storage must be kept under constant surveillance and face down or covered when not in use. Use appropriate cover sheets for classified documents. Preliminary drafts, stenographic notes, working papers, floppy and hard disks, and other items containing classified information must be either destroyed immediately after they have served their purpose, or be given the same classification and security handling as the classified information they contain.

Classified information may be processed by automated information systems that have been approved for such use. Avoid routine reproduction of classified material. Classified material that is reproduced is subject to the same controls as the original material. Storing unneeded classified information increases both cost and risk. Destroy all unneeded classified information by an approved method of destruction such as shredding or burning.

Mission first, security always! ■

Schedule announced for release of tax statements

American Forces Press Service

WASHINGTON, Dec. 11, 2006

— Servicemembers, military retirees and annuitants, and federal civilian employees paid by the Defense Finance and Accounting Service can expect to receive their 2006 tax statements beginning this month, DFAS officials announced today.

DFAS customers with access to the secure, Web-based “myPay” system will be able to retrieve their tax statements electronically up to two weeks sooner than those relying on regular mail delivery, officials said.

The myPay system includes layers of defense against identity theft, officials noted, adding that its technology meets or exceeds security requirements in private industry worldwide.

“Tax statements are available online, allowing customers to view and print W2s and 1099Rs. Whether anyone needs the statements to complete taxes or just want an extra copy for their records, the tax statements can be accessed and printed at any time,” Patrick Shine, DFAS operations director, said. “The printable statements are approved by the Internal Revenue Service.”

Here are projected distribution dates for DFAS customers’ tax statements:

- Retiree Annual Statement: Available on myPay Dec. 9, mailed via U.S. Postal Service Dec. 16-31;
- Retiree 1099R: Available on myPay Dec. 15, mailed Dec. 16-31;
- Annuitant Account Statement: Available on myPay Dec. 18, mailed Dec. 19-31;
- Annuitant 1099R: Available on myPay Dec. 18, mailed Dec. 19-31;
- VSI/SSB W-2: Not available on myPay, mailed Jan. 4-5;
- Active Duty Air Force, Army, Navy W-2: Available on myPay Jan. 22, mailed Jan. 23-29;
- Reserve Air Force, Army, Navy W-2: Available on myPay Jan. 2, mailed Jan. 5-8;
- Marine Corps active and reserve W-2:

Network News

The Five Pillars of Information Assurance

By Air Force 1st Lt. Jim Northamer

JTF-GTMO Information Assurance Officer

As the Information Assurance Manager for the JTF, I’m often asked what exactly Information Assurance (IA) is. Admittedly, IA is a nebulous term that’s probably best defined by looking at the official department of defense textbook definition: “information operations that protect and defend information and information systems by ensuring their availability, integrity, authentication, confidentiality, and non-repudiation.” The terms at the end of this definition are the five key pillars of the IA program. Here’s what each means in the context of IA:

Availability: information services are there when you need them.

Integrity: information has not been modified during transmission or processing.

Authentication: a security measure designed to establish the validity of a transmission, message, or originator, or a means of verifying an individual’s authorization to receive specific

categories of information.

Confidentiality: people who don’t have the appropriate clearance, access level, and “need to know”, do not access the information.

Non-repudiation: the sender of data is provided proof of delivery and the recipient is assured of the sender’s identity so that neither can deny having processed the data.

So, what exactly is IA? IA is the function of providing/ensuring these things. These five pillars identify the fundamental purpose of the Joint Task Force-Guantanamo IA program (and all Department of Defense IA programs). By providing and ensuring these services on our information and information systems, we can be confident that JTF-GTMO’s networks and information are secure.

If you have any questions or concerns about a computer security issue, please feel free to contact the JTF-GTMO IA Office at j6-ia@jftgtmo.southcom.mil or ext. 3333. ■

Available on myPay Jan. 5, mailed Jan. 9-10;

● Civilian employee W-2: Available on myPay Jan. 9, mailed Jan. 11-18;

● Savings Deposit Program 1099INT: Available on myPay Jan. 19, mailed Jan. 19-20; and

● Vendor Pay 1099: Not available on myPay, mailed Jan. 27-31.

Shine added that current myPay account holders can eliminate the costs associated with generating and distributing the tax statements immediately by signing up and using

myPay. A personal identification number, or PIN, is required to use the system, and eligible users can apply for one at the myPay Web site, www.mypay.dfas.mil.

Users with military e-mail addresses—addresses in the .mil domain -- or a pre-registered personal e-mail address can receive their new PIN via e-mail. All others will receive their new PIN via mail in about 10 working days from the date of request, officials said.

Customers who already had obtained a PIN but have forgotten it can apply for a new one at the myPay site. ■

Tis the season to go Bowling

The College Football Bowl season is once again here and *The Wire* will let you decide who the winners will be. You can compete against the Joint Task Force staff and beat their picks. Please submit your picks by close of business on Tuesday Dec. 19, to Sgt. Maj. Diaz at oscar.diaz@jtfgtmo.southcom.mil or hand carry your picks to *The Wire* and submit them to Staff Sgt. Vince Oliver at Camp America Bldg. 4106 by close of business on the 19th. The Trooper with the most accurate picks will have their picture in the Jan. 12, 2007 edition of *The Wire*. Good Luck!

Army Col. Dennis Army CSM Plemmons	Army Maj. Pearson Army CSM Vanwyngarden	Navy Cmdr. Winter Navy CMC Conley	Army Col. Tucker Army Sgt. Maj. Diaz	Army Capt. Hughes Army 1st Sgt. Fitzgerald
TCU	TCU	TCU	TCU	TCU
Oregon	BYU	BYU	Oregon	BYU
Rice	Rice	Rice	Rice	Rice
New Mexico	New Mexico	New Mexico	New Mexico	New Mexico
South Florida	South Florida	South Florida	East Carolina	South Florida
Utah	Utah	Utah	Utah	Utah
Hawaii	Hawaii	Hawaii	Hawaii	Hawaii
Central Michigan	Central Michigan	Central Michigan	Central Michigan	Central Michigan
UCLA	UCLA	UCLA	UCLA	UCLA
Oklahoma State	Oklahoma State	Alabama	Alabama	Oklahoma State
Texas A&M	Texas A&M	California	California	California
Rutgers	Rutgers	Rutgers	Rutgers	Rutgers
Maryland	Maryland	Maryland	Maryland	Maryland
Clemson	Clemson	Clemson	Clemson	Clemson
Missouri	Missouri	Oregon State	Oregon State	Oregon State
Texas Tech	Minnesota	Texas Tech	Texas Tech	Texas Tech
South Carolina	South Carolina	South Carolina	South Carolina	South Carolina
Texas	Texas	Texas	Texas	Texas
Nevada	Nevada	Nevada	Miami	Miami
Boston College	Boston College	Boston College	Boston College	Boston College
Virginia Tech	Georgia	Virginia Tech	Georgia	Georgia
West Virginia	West Virginia	West Virginia	West Virginia	West Virginia
Nebraska	Auburn	Auburn	Auburn	Auburn
Tennessee	Penn State	Tennessee	Penn State	Tennessee
Arkansas	Arkansas	Wisconsin	Arkansas	Arkansas
Cincinnati	Cincinnati	Cincinnati	Cincinnati	Western Michigan
Ohio	Ohio	Southern Mississippi	Southern Mississippi	Southern Mississippi
USC	Michigan	Michigan	Michigan	Michigan
Oklahoma	Oklahoma	Oklahoma	Oklahoma	Oklahoma
Louisville	Louisville	Louisville	Louisville	Louisville
LSU	LSU	LSU	LSU	LSU
Ohio State	Ohio State	Ohio State	Ohio State	Ohio State

Fill in your picks below!

Poinsettia Bowl TCU vs. Northern Illinois	
Las Vegas Bowl Oregon vs. BYU	
New Orleans Bowl Troy vs. Rice	
New Mexico Bowl New Mexico vs. San Jose State	
Papajohns Bowl East Carolina vs. South Florida	
Armed Forces Bowl Utah vs. Tulsa	
Hawaii Bowl Arizona State vs. Hawaii	
Motor City Bowl Central Michigan vs. Middle Tennessee	
Emerald Bowl Florida State vs. UCLA	
Independence Bowl Oklahoma State vs. Alabama	
Holiday Bowl California vs. Texas A&M	
Texas Bowl Kansas State vs. Rutgers	
Champs Sports Bowl Purdue vs. Maryland	
Music City Bowl Kentucky vs. Clemson	
Sun Bowl Missouri vs. Oregon State	
Insight Bowl Minnesota vs. Texas Tech	
Liberty Bowl Houston vs. South Carolina	
Alamo Bowl Texas vs. Iowa	
MPC Computers Bowl Nevada vs. Miami	
Meineke Car Care Bowl Boston College vs. Navy	
Chick-fil-A Bowl Virginia Tech vs. Georgia	
Gator Bowl Georgia Tech vs. West Virginia	
Cotton Bowl Nebraska vs. Auburn	
Outback Bowl Penn State vs. Tennessee	
Capital One Bowl Arkansas vs. Wisconsin	
International Bowl Western Michigan vs. Cincinnati	
GMAC Bowl Southern Mississippi vs. Ohio	
Rose Bowl Michigan vs. USC	
Fiesta Bowl Oklahoma vs. Boise State	
Orange Bowl Wake Forest vs. Louisville	
Sugar Bowl Notre Dame vs. LSU	
BCS Championship Game Ohio State vs. Florida	

	Army Col. Dennis Army Command Sgt Maj. Plemmons Joint Detention Group	Army Maj. Pearson Army Command Sgt. Maj. Vanwyngarden Joint Detention Group	Navy Cmdr. Winter Navy Command Master Chief Conley Joint Detention Group	Army Col. Tucker Army Sgt. Maj. Diaz Joint Task Force Public Affairs	Army Capt. Hughes Army 1st Sgt. Fitzgerald Headquarters, Headquarters Company
Last Week	6-7	5-8	8-5	7-6	8-5
Season	102-80	110-72	107-75	112-70	110-72
San Francisco at Seattle	San Francisco	Seattle	Seattle	Seattle	Seattle
Dallas at Atlanta	Dallas	Atlanta	Dallas	Atlanta	Dallas
Detroit at Green Bay	Green Bay	Green Bay	Green Bay	Green Bay	Green Bay
Houston at New England	New England	New England	New England	New England	New England
Jacksonville at Tennessee	Tennessee	Jacksonville	Tennessee	Jacksonville	Jacksonville
Miami at Buffalo	Buffalo	Miami	Buffalo	Miami	Miami
N.Y. Jets at Minnesota	N.Y. Jets	Minnesota	Minnesota	Minnesota	Minnesota
Pittsburgh at Carolina	Carolina	Carolina	Carolina	Carolina	Carolina
Tampa Bay at Chicago	Chicago	Chicago	Chicago	Chicago	Chicago
Washington at New Orleans	New Orleans	New Orleans	New Orleans	New Orleans	New Orleans
Denver at Arizona	Denver	Arizona	Denver	Denver	Denver
Philadelphia at N.Y. Giants	N.Y. Giants	N.Y. Giants	N.Y. Giants	N.Y. Giants	N.Y. Giants
St. Louis at Oakland	St. Louis	St. Louis	St. Louis	St. Louis	St. Louis

MWR Captain's Cup Soccer showdown

By Army Spc. Phil Regina

JTF-GTMO Public Affairs Office

The Morale Welfare and Recreation sponsored Captain's Cup Soccer season is officially over, with only single elimination playoff matches left. Each team still in is trying desperately to maintain a stake for the cup.

Monday night soccer action pitted the 2-7 OARDEC Enforcers

against the 7-3 "No Live, Nowhere."

OARDEC was highly disadvantaged going into the match, with only the minimum amount of players present to play, which meant each player had to play both ways the entire match, no substitutions.

NLNW had a full roster of able bodied players, as well as a good amount of backup players for substitutions.

Both teams started the game midfield, eager for the action to begin. NLNW took first possession of the ball. Showing speed, accuracy and patience, they passed the ball effortlessly between the OARDEC defenses. With a feinting kick that gave the illusion of the ball going high, a NLNW forward went low, forcing an early goal.

To the surprise of NLNW, OARDEC quickly regrouped and forced the ball downfield. With slippery moves, the OARDEC forwards continued to push the ball downfield, dumbfounding the NLNW defenses. Finally, with a kick not too unlike the first NLNW goal, OARDEC tied the game 1-1.

With urgent ferocity NLNW took the ball downfield, splitting the OARDEC defenses with total ease. From sideline to sideline the ball went, the NLNW working together like a well-oiled machine, striking back with two more goals.

OARDEC, on the other hand, began to show not only their fatigue, but their frustration as well. With the ball spending the majority of its time on the OARDEC side of the field, OARDEC defenders showed their desperation by committing several fouls against NLNW.

Although OARDEC's desperation and passion was noteworthy, it was to no avail, NLNW went on to score two more goals, bringing the score to 5-1 into the half.

The second half showed the fatigue of both teams. The ball continued to go both ways, each downfield drive was a hard fought battle between battle-weary individuals. Although heated, the second half brought no new score, making the final score same as it was at the half, 5-1, NLNW over OARDEC. ■



Photo by Army Spc. Phil Regina



Photo by Army Sgt. Jonson Tulewa-Gibbs



Photo by Army Sgt. Jonson Tulewa-Gibbs

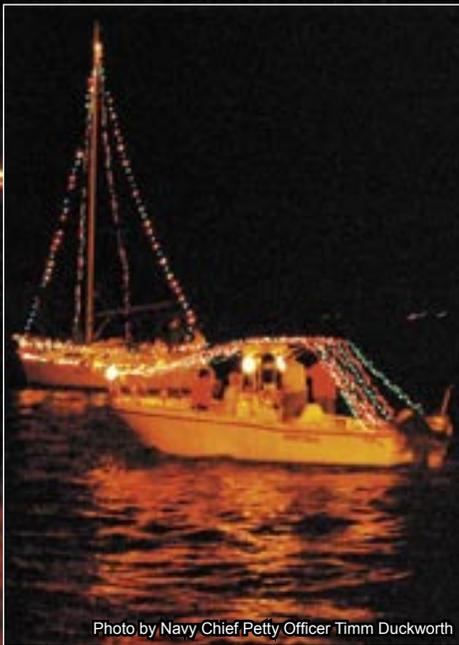


Photo by Navy Chief Petty Officer Timm Duckworth



HOLIDAY PARADE



Photo by Army Sgt. Jonson Tulewa-Gibbs

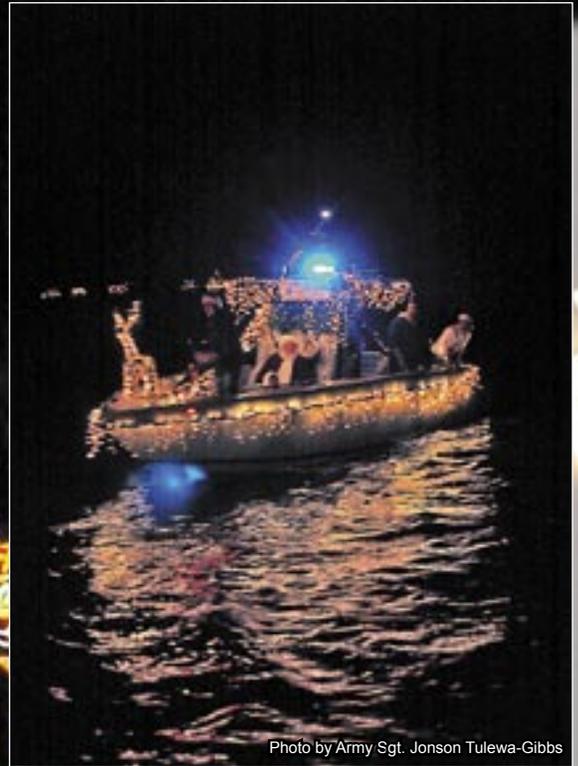


Photo by Army Sgt. Jonson Tulewa-Gibbs



Photo by Army Spc. Dustin Robbins



Photo by Army Sgt. Jonson Tulewa-Gibbs

MADE OF BOATS

Spiritual Fitness: What is it?

By Army Master Sgt. Eric Pilgrim

Reprinted from *NCO Journal*

Army leaders are taking total Army fitness more serious these days in light of unfolding events in the Global War on Terrorism. The war has touched everybody's life in one way or another; good in some ways, bad in others.

In an effort to stay on top of total fitness, renewed emphasis is being placed on every aspect of military life from physical training to Army Values, Warrior Ethos, family assistance programs, post deployment counseling and countless Equal Opportunity classes. The list goes on and yet, news continues to flow from Iraq and Afghanistan of allegations of another revenge killing, another senseless rape or murder of innocents; another immoral act from an American warrior who swore to uphold the Army Values.

One chaplain, Maj. Mark Johnston, at the U.S. Army Sergeants Major Academy, says this increase in wrongful actions is a symptom of deep spiritual bankruptcy beginning long before Soldiers enter the Army. He and other chaplains are calling for new thinking on a crucial missing ingredient of Soldier health – spiritual fitness.

Surprisingly, spiritual fitness is not a new concept. It is actually a part of Army policy, found in DA PAM 600-63-12 and Field Manual 16-1. But like the elephant standing in the front yard, spiritual fitness has gone largely unnoticed. Johnston wants to change all that but in order to do so, some questions need to be answered first.

“Three questions challenge the

whole purpose of spiritual fitness: what is it, can we train it, and if so, how,” Johnston said.

“Those are the three prongs that we are dealing with.”

In order to answer the questions, he met with Master Sgt. Harry Bryan, Johnnie Dills, Sgt. Maj. (ret.) Rebecca Meldrum, Sgt. Maj. Carrie Stevenson, Command Sgt. Maj. Ronald Cook Jr., and Benjamin Stevens, all from the Directorate of Training and Development at the academy. They develop training modules for the Noncommissioned Officers Education System –

Johnston: So, what is spiritual fitness?

Meldrum: I think spiritual fitness is the development of those personal qualities needed to sustain a person in a time of stress, hardship and tragedy.

Johnston: So spiritual fitness is a component of a personal sense of well-being that can help people to go through some of the very difficult times in life.

Meldrum: Right, go that extra mile or pull up that strength you need to go forward.

Stevens: To me, somewhere in there you have to draw the line between what's right and what's wrong. Soldiers in combat have seen others shot or mutilated or just blown apart. They have to think about the consequences instead of just reacting.

Bryan: [I] approach spiritual fitness more as something to do with self discipline. We've got to

make sure the Soldiers understand that there are reasons you have laws of the land in warfare; there're reasons that you have that self-discipline.

Johnston: What I'm hearing from both of you is spiritual fitness may have some positive impact on morality on the field of battle. Does it have some means of correcting what might be the abuses or does it have some means of reinforcing the positive?

Bryan: Well yes, that's just part of your Army Values. They go hand-in-hand.

Johnston: Then getting back to that first question, what is spiritual fitness?

Cook: I think it's more like living a healthy and balanced life. You have to develop skills internally to make yourself better. ■



Photo by Army Spc. Jamieson Pond

Legal assistance corner

By Navy Lt. Stacie Leonard

OIC JTF-GTMO Legal Assistance

Recently, there has been an increase in predatory lending activities involving Troopers. Predatory lending is when a creditor charges illegal interest rates or uses unfair tactics to take advantage of people who have poor credit. In an effort to change these practices, the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2007 established a new section in the U.S. Code (10 U.S.C. §987) which places limitations on consumer credit terms involving members of the armed forces and their dependents.

Under the new law, creditors are prohibited from charging any member greater than 36% A.P.R. as defined by the Truth in Lending Act. The term "interest" includes all cost elements associated with the extension of credit, including fees, service charges, renewal charges, credit insurance premiums, any secondary product sold with any extension of credit to a Trooper or the Trooper's dependent, as applicable, and any other charge or premium with respect to the extension of consumer credit.

This new law applies to Troopers who are on active duty under a call or order that does not specify a period of 30 days or less and to members on active Guard or Reserve Duty. The law also provides protection to dependents who are defined as either a spouse, child, or person for whom the Trooper provides greater than 50% support.

Additionally, several "predatory lending" practices are also made illegal when the loan is to a Trooper. These include:

Roll-over loans: a creditor cannot "roll-over" or refinance the same loan between the same creditor and borrower; mandatory waivers of consumer protection laws. Creditors cannot require borrowers to waive any State or Federal law, including provisions of the Servicemembers Civil Relief Act; mandatory arbitration provisions. Creditors cannot require borrowers to submit to arbitration or other burdensome legal notice provisions.

Use of check or vehicle title as loan security: a creditor cannot require a borrower to issue a check as a means of access to the borrower's financial accounts or require a borrower to provide a vehicle title as loan security.

Unreasonable notice requirements: a creditor cannot insert into credit agreements any unreasonable notice requirement as a prerequisite to borrowers right to bring legal action against the creditor.

Mandatory allotments: a creditor cannot require a borrower to create a voluntary allotment for the benefit of the creditor as a loan prerequisite.

Prepayment penalty: a creditor cannot charge a penalty for prepayment of a loan, in whole or in part.

Violation of this statute by a creditor is a misdemeanor as defined by Title 18. This statute does not preclude any remedy available to a Trooper through state or Federal law. Any contract that violates this section is void. Finally, arbitration is not enforceable against any Trooper regarding a contract that violates this statute.

Should you have any issues with creditors trying to enforce any of the prohibited activities under the new Act, make an appointment with the legal office so we can assist you. ■



Photo by Army Sgt. Jonson Tulewa-Gibbs

Don't fall prey to predatory lenders. Be smart with your money and contact your local legal office for more information.

Surviving Separation: Communicate

By Army Chaplain (Lt. Col.) Ron Martin-Minnich

JTF Command Chaplain

Any of us who are deployed without dependents or partners are put in an abnormal state. We are, by nature, people who enjoy the love and companionship of the family, friends, and partners who are constantly involved our lives. We therefore enter into unknown territory for us when we go on a deployment. What can we do to overcome feelings of loneliness, sadness, and boredom while we are separated?

Action Item #1 – Communicate, Communicate, Communicate.

Action Item #2 – Don't Forget Special Occasions:

There is no excuse with the internet and mail order catalogues to forget a birthday, anniversary or holiday. Plan ahead to select, make or order, gifts, flowers and cards for the person you love. The more time you take the less likely you'll be to make a last minute selection or forget to send something at all. It's the little things we do that help prevent the big hurts and major arguments while on a deployment.

We are experiencing the deployment differently than our loved ones. We have to remember they view us as having

time off for ourselves. They are taking care of problems, family and work and may have no one to support them; they miss us and get easily upset when they feel we're taking their support for granted. They want to know we're okay, but it can make them mad if they think we're only going to the beach and playing in the sun all week long. This is the perspective that can result from our inability to share with them exactly what we're doing. ■



WEEKEND WEATHER FORECAST

Weather forecast provided by www.weather.com

Saturday, Dec. 9

Scattered showers. Highs in the upper 80's, and lows in the low 70's.



Scattered Showers

Sunrise: 6:24 a.m.

Sunset: 5:22 p.m.

Chance of Rain: 30%

Sunday, Dec. 10

Scattered showers. Highs in the upper 80's, and lows in the low 70's.



Scattered Showers

Sunrise: 6:24 a.m.

Sunset: 5:22 p.m.

Chance of Rain: 30%

Monday, Dec. 11

Partly cloudy. Highs in the upper 80's, and lows in the low 70's.



Partly Cloudy

Sunrise: 6:25 a.m.

Sunset: 5:23 p.m.

Chance of Rain: 20%



GTMO Movie Review Corner

with Navy Petty Officer 2nd Class Trevor Andersen's review of: "The Departed"

There seems to be a tradition of remaking Asian movies in Hollywood. "The Seven Samurai" became "The Magnificent Seven" and more recently "A Bug's Life."

"Yojimbo" was made in to "A Fist Full of Dollars" and "Last Man Standing."

"The Departed" continues this tradition as a remake of the Hong Kong movie "Infernal Affairs."

Two cops in Boston take their careers two different ways. One is an undercover cop infiltrating a mobster's organization while the other is an undercover gangster from that organization infiltrating the Boston police. The plot has them trying to find each other.

I really enjoyed this movie at first. I mean, the soundtrack was full of Irish rock and the dialogue was witty, humorous and engaging. The action was also great, as I've come to expect from Martin Scorsese. My problem was the ending. I hated the ending of this movie. I am convinced it didn't follow the plot to its logical conclusion. Yes, there is closure, but it seemed like the story was dropped out the window so they could throw a little twist in at the end.

I give this movie three stars. I would have liked to give it more, but I just can't bring myself to do it.

"The Departed" is rated R. It's very violent and full of adult language and content. This one's not for the kiddies and it's not the greatest film ever, but if you're in the mood for a crime thriller, this one will satisfy your appetite. ■

- The Departed -
Rating: ★★☆☆☆

Rated: R
Duration: 151 minutes

Boots on the Ground:

"What do you want for Christmas this year?"



"I want a Playstation 3 with John Madden '07."

-Army Sgt. Gerard Willis, 29th Infantry Division



"My son just joined the Coast Guard and may deploy down here, it would be nice to see him."

-Navy Command Master Chief Petty Officer Rick Beuber, JIG CMC



"For my brother in Iraq to return home safe."

-Army Spc. Damon Shelton, 29th ID



"I'd like a new car."

-Navy Petty Officer 3rd Class Mike Staab, NEGB

HANUKKAH

OR THE FESTIVAL OF LIGHTS

By Army Chaplain (Lt. Col.) Ron Martin-Minnich

JTF Command Chaplain

Hanukkah is one of the few Jewish holidays not mentioned in the Bible. The story of how Hanukkah came to be is in books 1 and 2 of Maccabees, which are not part of the Jewish canon of the Hebrew Bible.

These books tell the story of the Maccabees, a small band of Jewish fighters who liberated the Land of Israel from the Syrian Greeks who occupied it. Under the reign of Antiochus IV Epiphanes, the Syrian Greeks sought to impose their Hellenistic culture, which many Jews found attractive. By 167 B.C., Antiochus intensified his campaign by defiling the Temple in Jerusalem and banning Jewish practice. The Maccabees--led by the five sons of the priest Mattathias, especially Judah--waged a three-year campaign that culminated in the cleaning and rededication of the Temple.

Since they were unable to celebrate the holiday of Sukkot at its proper time in early autumn, the victorious Maccabees decided that Sukkot should be celebrated once they rededicated the Temple, which they did on the 25th of the month of Kislev in the year 164 B.C. Since Sukkot lasts eight days, this became the timeframe adopted for Hanukkah.

About 250 years after these events, the first-century Jewish historian Flavius Josephus wrote his account of the origins of the holiday. Josephus referred to the holiday as the Festival of Lights and not as Hanukkah. Josephus seems to be connecting the newfound liberty that resulted from the events with the image of light, and the holiday is still often referred to by the title Josephus gave it.

By the early rabbinic period about a century later--at the time that the Mishnah (the first compilation of oral rabbinic law included in the Talmud) was redacted--the holiday had become known by the name of Hanukkah ("Dedication"). However, the Mishnah does not give us any details concerning the rules and customs associated with the holiday.

It is in the Gemara (a commentary on the Mishnah) of the Babylonian Talmud that we are given more details and can clearly see the development of both the holiday and the stories associated with it. The discussion of Hanukkah is mentioned in Tractate Shabbat. Only three lines are devoted to the events of Hanukkah while three pages detail when, where, and how the Hanukkah lights should be lit.

Completed approximately 600 years after the events of the Maccabees, the Talmud contains the extant version

of the famous story of the miraculous jar of oil that burned for eight days. The Talmud relates this story in the context of a discussion about the fact that fasting and grieving are not allowed on Hanukkah. In order to understand why the observance of Hanukkah is so important, the Rabbis recount the story of the miraculous jar of oil.

The source of this article is www.myjewishlearning.com/holidays.

The First Night of Hanukkah, Friday, 15 December at 1700 hours will be observed at West Iguana 2717 A. For more information contact the JTF Command Chaplain at x3202/3203. ■



CAMP AMERICA WORSHIP SCHEDULE

Sunday	9:00 a.m.	Protestant Service	Troopers' Chapel
	5:45 p.m.	Confessions	Troopers' Chapel
	6:30 p.m.	Catholic Mass	Troopers' Chapel
	7:30 p.m.	Evening Prayer	Troopers' Chapel
Wednesday	7:30 p.m.	Soul Survivor	Camp America North Pavilion

NAVAL BASE CHAPEL

Sunday	8:00 a.m.	Pentecostal Gospel	Room 13
	9:00 a.m.	Catholic Mass	Main Chapel
	9:00 a.m.	Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints	Sanctuary A
	9:30 a.m.	Protestant Sun. School	Main Chapel
	10:00 a.m.	Protestant Liturgical	Sanctuary B
	11:00 a.m.	Protestant Service	Main Chapel
Monday	1:00 p.m.	Gospel Service	Main Chapel
	5:00 p.m.	Pentecostal Gospel	Room 13
	7:00 p.m.	Prayer Group Fellowship	Fellowship Hall
Mon. to Fri.	7:00 p.m.	Family Home Evening	Room 8
	6:00 p.m.	Daily Mass	Main Chapel
Wednesday	7:00 p.m.	Men's Bible Study	Fellowship Hall
Friday	12:30 p.m.	Islamic Prayer	Sanctuary C
Saturday	4:15 p.m.	Confessions	Main Chapel
	5:00 p.m.	Vigil Mass	Main Chapel

Jewish Shabbat Services held every second Friday at 7:30 p.m. in the Naval Base Chapel complex Room 11.

15:00 Minutes of Fame

ARMY SPC. CRYSTAL SIDEBOTTOM

By Army Spc. Jonathan Mullis

JTF-GTMO Public Affairs Office

Anyone who's spent time away from home can tell you it doesn't take a whole lot to remind them of the life they left behind. Sometimes, all we need to jog our memories is a familiar smell or a few lyrics of an old song. For many of us, we remember home-cooking and the feeling of walking into a kitchen and smelling our favorite dishes being prepared. Can you recall how delighted and warm you felt on the inside and how at the same time you were as hungry as ever? There's a saying that goes; the key to a man's heart is through his stomach. Well, if that's the case then Army Spc. Crystal A. Sidebottom indeed holds the key.

Working for the finance department of the Joint Task Force-Guantanamo Bay, Cuba, Sidebottom brings a little bit of home with her in the form of herbs and spices.

"I initially entered the Army as a cook," said Sidebottom. "My father was a cook during Vietnam and he was the one who really taught me. So I guess you could say that I'm just following in his footsteps."

Sidebottom first volunteered for assignment to Germany; and it was there that she was able to obtain her first of, what is sure to be, a career full of cooking awards.

"I won two gold awards and two silvers. However, in order to do so I had to beat out all of the competition ... twice," explained Sidebottom.

After serving her tour-of-duty in Germany, Sidebottom volunteered for deployment to Kuwait and listed GTMO as her second choice.

"There weren't any openings



Photo by Army Spc. Jonathan Mullis

A pinch of salt, a pat of butter, two scoops of memories and a sprinkle of good times is a recipe for happiness even in kitchens far from home.

for me in Kuwait and so I was sent here," said Sidebottom. "I don't want to be assigned stateside. I want to be out where the Soldiers are serving."

Sidebottom exemplifies what it means to serve selflessly. "I know that a lot of people want to go to the desert for the badge, but I don't even want the badge," said Sidebottom. "If they send me they can keep it."

When she is finished with her service to the Military, Sidebottom plans to open a bed-and-breakfast. Along with help from her father and sister, Sidebottom plans to leave one career of service and begin another.

"I just love the idea of serving folks breakfast in bed. I think it's so romantic," explained Sidebottom. While the exact location of this soon to be bed-and-breakfast is yet to be determined, one thing is for certain, Sidebottom won't settle for mediocrity.

"It's important that in life we continue to raise the bar and set a higher standard for ourselves," added Sidebottom.

In 2009, Sidebottom will be through with her commitment to the Army and at 27 years old she will be able to embark on her dreams and aspirations. Too few of us grow up nowadays knowing where we want to end up. However, most of us have stars that we're reaching for, and whether they are close to our finger tips or far from our reach, Sidebottom has one piece of advice.

"Follow your heart, life isn't all about fortune and fame; as long as you have hopes and dreams then just keep on reaching." ■

15 Minutes of Fame

Know a Trooper worthy of being highlighted in "15 Minutes of Fame?" Call Army Staff Sgt. Vince Oliver at ext. 3593.

AROUND THE JTF



Photo by Army Spc. Phill Regina

Navy Petty Officer 3rd Class Jason Guenther, a Trooper working at the Joint Task Force-GTMO post office, unloads another bag of mail arriving for the holidays.



Photo by Army Spc. Dustin Robbins

Troopers of U.S. Coast Guard Port Security Unit 312 from California pose for a unit photo at the Northeast Gate last week Thursday.



Photo by Army Spc. Jonathan Mullis

A Guantanamo Bay Joint Task Force contractor moves a pallet of supplies into a warehouse for storage.



Photo by Danielle Riordan

Army Maj. Craig Weedon holds up an extraordinarily large lobster found at GTMO. The lucky people who found it are now in search of butter and an extraordinarily large lemon.