

THE WIRE

A JTF Journal



J6

One stop communications

Bowling for Soup

GTMO's Labor Day weekend

Working jointly, successfully

Navy Master Chief Petty Officer

Scott A. Fleming

JTF Guantanamo Command Master Chief

What makes a successful Joint Task Force? Is it an exciting mission as defined by the execution order, or is it the unique camaraderie of working beside Troopers from sister services? Is it the impressive professionalism and integrity of service members themselves, or is it the sense of strategic relevance that comes with an operational mandate? Maybe your answer fits neatly into one of the above categories or maybe it's something entirely different, either way, we all have our own opinions on the chemistry of a good team, joint or otherwise.

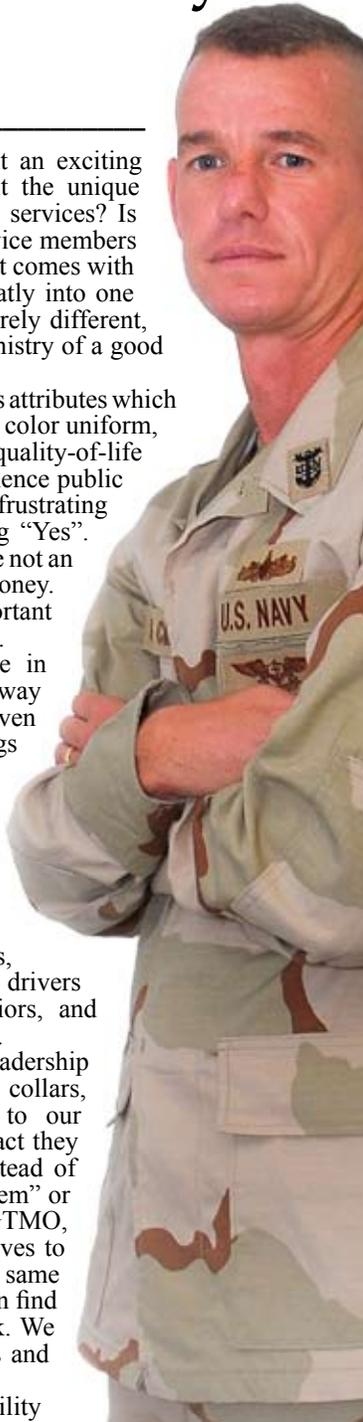
Fortunately, here in Guantanamo, we have numerous attributes which define us as successful: Top-notch personnel in every color uniform, a mission that matters to national security, superb quality-of-life for a deployment and the opportunity to actively influence public opinion. Are there some aspects of life here that are frustrating or could be improved? The answer is a resounding "Yes". Contrary to an article in one newspaper recently, we are not an extravagant Caribbean beach resort with unlimited money. No place is perfect, however, and that's why it is important to continuously attempt to improve things around you.

Unarguably, the most valuable players we have in improving our foxhole are the Troopers who go way beyond their lanes to make a difference. On any given day, the JTF has countless people doing amazing things that serve us all – not because they have to in their jobs, but because they want to in their free time. There are troops who have worked tirelessly to clean up hiking trails, beaches and playgrounds, and still others supporting Scout troops, youth athletics and cultural organizations. JTF personnel organize road races, lead sailing and diving clubs, and gather in spiritual groups. They officiate at sporting events, raise money for local causes, serve as designated drivers at command functions, work with wounded warriors, and participate in professional junior enlisted associations.

These are all incredible examples of vivacious leadership – not drawn from stripes on sleeves or devices on collars, but from basic human generosity. The benefits to our GTMO community are immense in the tangible impact they leave and the infectious enthusiasm they create. Instead of labeling challenges we face as "someone else's problem" or hopelessly wondering why there is nothing to do in GTMO, these outstanding citizens are taking it upon themselves to make a difference. More often than not, these are the same people who give 110% in their normal duties, and then find the energy necessary to give even more off the clock. We should all learn a lesson from their selfless kindness and salute their civic contributions.

Certainly, the chain of command has a responsibility to enhance the lives of Troopers on and off duty. No worthwhile leader would argue with that idea. There are, in fact, some issues that can only be effectively addressed by a chain of command with authority and influence. But there are also countless opportunities available for all of us – including me and other senior enlisted leaders, to do something good with only our time, initiative and a little sweat. It's easy to get wrapped around the axle in our jobs and forget about volunteering. Sometimes we all need to be reminded, and where better to look for inspiration than at those JTF superstars already providing spectacular examples of benevolence.

Thanks to each and every one of you who has devoted an hour, a day, or a week to make GTMO a better place to serve and live. The rest of us owe you a debt of gratitude for the things you have done and will do in the future. Leadership like yours is truly a precious commodity, and one we sometimes take for granted. Your effort is worthy of the highest praise possible. To those seeking a chance to get involved in the community, look around your organization for a person already carrying the baton – it's a pretty safe bet they exist . . . even if you never noticed them before. ☆



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COVER:

Army Spc. Sierra Krukowski, a 525th Military Police Battalion chaplain's assistant, practices proper shield-holding procedures during riot control training, Sept. 1. - JTF

Guantanamo photo by Navy Mass Communication Specialist 3rd Class Joshua R. Nistas

BACK COVER:

Army Pvt. John Quarles, a member of the 525th Military Police Battalion, straps on body armor, Sept. 1. - JTF Guantanamo photo by Navy Mass

Communication Specialist 3rd Class Joshua R. Nistas

The WIRE is the official news magazine of Joint Task Force Guantanamo. It is produced by the JTF Public Affairs Office to inform and educate the Troopers of JTF Guantanamo through news, features, command guidance, sports and entertainment. The WIRE seeks to provide maximum disclosure with minimum delay with regard to security, accuracy, propriety and policy. This DoD news magazine is an authorized publication for the members of the Department of Defense. Contents of The WIRE are not necessarily the official views of, or endorsed by, the U.S. Government, the Department of Defense, or Joint Task Force Guantanamo. It is printed by the Document Automation & Production Service with a circulation of 1,000.

The one stop communications shop



Jamie Cardwell, a field technician for J-6, types functions into a computer. J-6 provides Joint Task Force Guantanamo with constant technical support that allows the mission to be accomplished. — JTF Guantanamo photo by Marine Corps Lance Cpl. Anthony Ward Jr.

Marine Corps Lance Cpl. Anthony Ward Jr.
JTF Guantanamo Public Affairs

The J-6 section works diligently to fulfill the needs of Joint Task Force Guantanamo, shouldering the communications responsibilities for the entire JTF. Making sure there is secure, safe and reliable communications throughout the JTF is a constant effort and important for mission success.

A big priority at JTF-GTMO is military commissions, in which J-6 plays an integral role.

“We make sure the connections are up, video feeds are working, and make sure both the defense and prosecutors have working NIPRNET and SIPRNET accounts,” said Air Force Capt. Rene O. Prieto, interim J-6 director. “It is really important to make sure there are no mistrials due to communications.”

J-6 plays a big role in mission accomplishment at the JTF and a staff,

consisting of service members and contractors do multiple jobs to keep the wheels turning for everyone attached.

The jobs in J-6 range from the helpdesk, which helps with computer problems and assigns trouble tickets, to network engineers and system administrators who maintain the servers, NIPR and SIPR accounts, and many other things, Prieto said.

Maintaining hardware and keeping pace with the needs of its customers is an ongoing challenge for this section. Internal projects, personnel rotations or contract changes do not deter J-6 from striving to continue its mission.

“We have a huge lifecycle replacement going on around the JTF, with about 1,350 computers being changed out,” Prieto said. “A lot of this stuff is seven and eight years old, from when JTF was stood up in 2003.”

The project affects the entire JTF. The new computers will have upgraded hardware

and provide better workstations for the user. This is one of the many projects J-6 is managing.

Another project is being overseen by Air Force Staff Sgt. Candace Ruth, the communications computer systems project manager for J-6, who oversees projects from inception to production. She manages the logistics and ensures timelines are met for smooth transitions.

“Currently J-6 is managing the installation of an infrastructure into old female dormitories that are being turned into office spaces,” said Ruth.

This project will move some Camp America offices closer to the directorate offices and improve the work environment. J-6 is all about supporting the mission and providing for the end users requirements, Ruth added.

JTF GTMO can count on the support of J-6 through the future, they are here to stay. ★

REMEMBERING 9/11

Mass Communication Specialist 2nd Class
Shane Arrington
JTF Guantanamo Public Affairs

Never has an act of terrorism shook America the way the 9/11 terrorist attacks did. The overwhelming majority of those old enough to remember that day can tell you exactly where they were when they heard the news. The United States of America, the strongest nation in the world, had its illusion of being untouchable, shattered that day.

As we pull troops out of Iraq and redirect them to Afghanistan, President Obama reminds Americans that even though many years have passed since that day, they must never lose sight of what's at stake.

"As we speak, al Qaeda continues to plot against us, and its leadership remains anchored in the border regions of Afghanistan and Pakistan," he said. "We will disrupt, dismantle and defeat al Qaeda, while preventing Afghanistan from again serving as a base for terrorists."

Remember those brave men and women who lost their lives that day and the days after. Think of those currently risking their lives. It is through the sacrifice of time, family and, sometimes, life, that America remains the great nation that it is. ☆

- ☆ Total people killed in attacks : 2,819
- ☆ Percentage of Americans who knew someone hurt or killed in the attacks : 20
- ☆ Number of Americans who changed their 2001 holiday travel plans from plane to train or car : 1.4 million
- ☆ Estimated number of New Yorkers suffering from post-traumatic-stress disorder as a result of 9/11 : 422,000

Numbers provided by New York Magazine.





Dinner for Schmucks

Takes One To Know One.

Winners

Navy Mass Communication Specialist 2nd Class
Shane Arrington
 JTF Guantanamo Public Affairs

After the screen turned black on “Dinner for Schmucks” I couldn’t decide whether I liked it or not. It’s one of those stupidly funny movies that you either love to hate, or hate to love. After thinking about it for a while, I determined that if a movie makes you snort on multiple occasions, yes, I snort sometimes, then it can’t be that bad.

Once you get past the rather disturbing opening credits, the movie quickly throws the viewer into the life of Tim (Paul Rudd). Tim is a mid-level financial executive who is tired of working on the “lowly” sixth floor and decides to make his move to the big time. After proving to his boss he is a man of vision by negotiating a huge deal with Swiss businessman Martin Mueller (David Williams), Tim is invited to a special “business” dinner. Everyone is required to bring an interesting person with a special talent to dinner so the superior businessmen can laugh and make fun of them.

When Tim tells his girlfriend Julie (gorgeous new actress Stephanie Szostak) about the dinner, she is disgusted and asks

that he does not go, to which he agrees.

The next day he drives into Barry (Steve Carell), a taxidermy master, who rushed into the street to save a dead mouse. Tim’s promise to Julie goes out the window when this pot of gold falls into his lap.

Tim quickly begins to regret not leaving Barry on the street.

Due to a scheduling conflict, Barry shows up to Tim’s house a night early, Julie storms out and they both find themselves defending themselves from Tim’s crazy stalker and one-night stand, Darla. As if that is not enough, Barry convinces Tim that Julie is probably cheating on him with her client, super macho artist Kieran Volland (Jermaine Clement).

After breaking into Volland’s apartment, and finding out Julie is not there, Tim and Barry take a road trip to Volland’s ranch. While there, Tim not only makes Julie madder, he also offends Barry and they go their separate ways.

When Tim arrives at the dinner to tell his boss he will not be plus one this evening, he is surprised to find Barry already there. When Tim asks him why he showed up, Barry simply states it is what friends do.

After seeing what a great person Barry

is, Tim decides he doesn’t want him to go through this. Barry refuses to leave – and then things get interesting.

By the end of the dinner Barry, reins supreme as the number one loser, a fact he is proud of since he has never won anything before. After receiving his trophy, yes, there was a trophy; it was explained to all the other guests why they were really invited to the dinner. The news is not taken well and they rise up in a coup against those who would deem themselves their betters.

While “Dinner for Schmucks” does not host the best performances by its two lead actors, it does a good job of making you laugh. Its one of those movies you’ll remember clips of for some time to come, but will forget the overall story a few days after watching. ♡

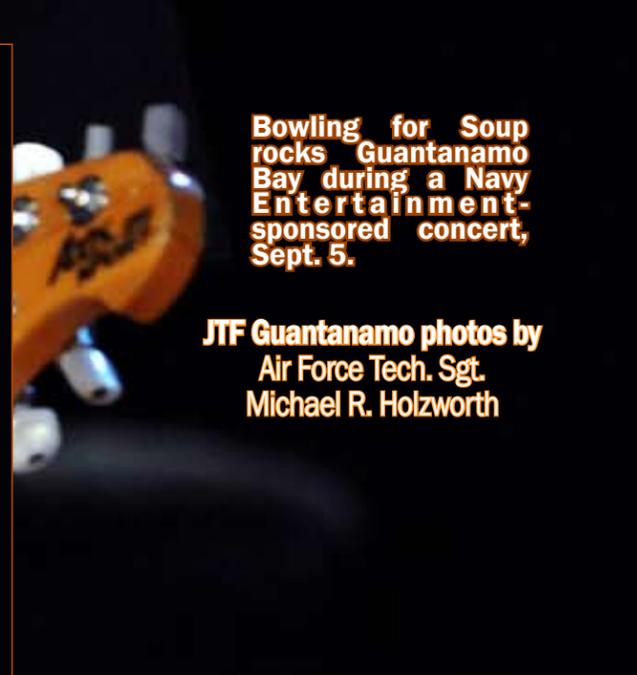
PG 13

114 minutes

Rating: ★★☆☆☆

**Bowling for Soup
rocks Guantanamo
Bay during a Navy
Entertainment-
sponsored concert,
Sept. 5.**

**JTF Guantanamo photos by
Air Force Tech. Sgt.
Michael R. Holzworth**



Are you ready for some football?

Navy Mass Communication Specialist
1st Class Mark Richardson
JTF Guantanamo Public Affairs

The end of summer and the Labor Day weekend means it's time for some action on the gridiron as 2010 National Football League season starts. According to the NFL, its games are the most attended domestic sports league in the world, with an average attendance of 67,509 fans per game. However, it took years for the NFL to develop into the premier sports league it is today.

The NFL, as we know it today, was created on June 8, 1966, with the merger of the National Football League and the American Football League. The merger resulted in 24 teams in two conferences: the National Football Conference and the American Football Conference and an agreement that more teams would be added.

The original NFC teams were the New York Giants, Chicago Bears, Green Bay Packers, Detroit Lions, Dallas Cowboys, Washington Redskins, Los Angeles Rams, San Francisco 49ers, Minnesota Vikings, St. Louis Cardinals, Philadelphia Eagles and Atlanta Falcons. The AFC consisted of the Cleveland Browns, Pittsburgh Steelers, Baltimore Colts, Miami Dolphins, Kansas City Chiefs, New York Jets, Oakland Raiders, San Diego Chargers, Denver Broncos, Houston Oilers, New England Patriots and the Buffalo Bills.

The New Orleans Saints and Cincinnati Bengals were added in the late 1960s as expansion teams, and in the 1970s, the Tampa Bay Buccaneers and Seattle Seahawks joined the league. It took nearly two decades before new expansion teams were added, with the Carolina Panthers and the Jacksonville Jaguars joining the league in 1995. In 1999 Cleveland was awarded an expansion team three years after the original Browns moved to Baltimore and became the Ravens. The last expansion team was awarded in 2002 when the Houston Texans hit the field.

With 32 teams now playing, the NFL went through a realignment for the 2002 season and restructured the two conferences into four divisions with four teams in each division.

The regular season begins on the Thursday night in the first

full week of September after Labor Day, and runs weekly to late December or early January. The teams play 16 games over a 17 week schedule with each team getting one bye week, which is a week the team does not play.

Under the NFL's schedule, each team in a division plays a home and away game against its three division opponents. Each NFL team also plays four teams from another division, within its conference, on a three-year rotating cycle. Two games of the season are an intra-conference game based on the prior year's standings. Teams who finished in first place the prior year play the first-place teams in the two same-conference divisions the team is not scheduled to play. The teams that finished second, third and fourth are scheduled the same way each season.

Following the end of the regular season, the NFL playoffs begin. The top six teams from each conference, the four division winners and two wild card teams, play in single-elimination games. The wild card teams are the two teams in the conference that didn't win their division, but finished with the best record.

Round one of the playoffs begin with the wild card teams playing the two division winners who did not have the top records. The top two division winners in the conference get a first round bye, meaning they don't play in the first week of the playoffs.

The second round of the playoffs has the top two conference teams hosting the winners of the first round. After that, the AFC and NFC championship games are played pitting the winning teams of the second round against each other with the winners meeting in the Super Bowl.

The first Super Bowl was played in 1967 but wasn't called the Super Bowl at that time; instead it was called the AFL-NFL World Championship Game. Under legendary coach Vince Lombardi, the Green Bay Packers won the first two AFL-NFL World Championship Games, beating the Kansas City Chiefs and the Oakland Raiders. Then in 1969 the championship game officially became known as the Super Bowl with the winning team awarded the Vince Lombardi Trophy, named after the great coach of the Green Bay Packers.

Here at Naval Station Guantanamo Bay the big screens will be bright as fans gather to enjoy the new season. ★





Bowling for Soup rocks GTMO

Navy Mass Communication Specialist 2nd Class
 Shane Arrington
 JTF Guantanamo Public Affairs

Bowling for Soup recently came to Naval Station Guantanamo Bay to perform their latest Navy Entertainment-sponsored concert. Service members and civilians from the NAVSTA joined with Troopers and contractors from Joint Task Force Guantanamo to see the show.

BFS is no stranger to playing for the troops. In March, they were onboard USS John C. Stennis, and they spent July 4th weekend in Italy. Jeret Reddick, lead vocalist and rhythm guitarist for the band, said while it may seem like the easy thing to say, it really is a great feeling to play for those serving their country.

“We’d just finished up playing in Italy when this opportunity came up,” Reddick said. “When they asked us if we wanted to come to GTMO and play we said of course we would.”

The Grammy Award nominated band (for single, “Girl All the Bad Guys Want”) does not let fame get to them. As they were hanging out at O’Kelly’s, Guantanamo Bay’s Irish pub, it was obvious they were happy to just have a few drinks and chat with those around them. The only real way you could tell them apart from the locals was by the body adorning. There are not many in GTMO with a lot of piercings and mohawks.

“They were really cool and down to Earth,” said Army Cpl. Kathy McDanal. “It was pretty awesome hanging out with them the night before the concert.”

The day after hanging out at the bar, the band had the chance to tour the JTF detention facilities. The band was excited at the chance to see the camps and the Troopers on duty there. Reddick made a joke about their trip to GTMO while he and the other three members of the band were interviewed by JTF broadcasters: “Who

has eight thumbs and gets to go to Cuba – these guys.”

For those living in Guantanamo Bay, good entertainment is scarce, so McDanal said she was glad the guys came down.

“It’s by far the best show I’ve seen in GTMO,” McDanal said. “There was a good turn out and people were really enjoying themselves.”

Reddick said he is glad he could bring rock to the residents of GTMO and had the chance to see America’s slice of Cuba.

“We’re excited to be here,” Reddick said. “You know, anytime we get a chance to play for the troops, it really does mean the world to us.” ☆



Jeret Reddick, lead singer for Bowling for Soup, entertains Guantanamo Bay residents, Sept. 5. – JTF Guantanamo photos by Air Force Tech Sgt. Michael R. Holzworth.



Major League Eaters down dogs

Marine Lance Cpl. Dimery Harris, left, pairs up with Eric “Steakbellie” Livingston, right, as master of ceremony, Hall “Hoover” Hunt, center, look on during a friendly hot dog eating contest. “Steakbellie” came to Guantanamo Bay with three other members of Major League Eating, to provide some entertainment for those stationed there. – JTF Guantanamo photo by Army Staff Sgt. Shereen Grouby

Boots on the Ground

by Marine Lance Cpl. Anthony Ward Jr.

What is your dream car?

Navy Hospital Corpsman
2nd Class Christopher
Parker



“1951 Mercury, it has a simple style.”

Navy Hospitalman Maikol
Vegasuarez



“1972 Pontiac Grandville, it has power, a droptop, it is a perfect car for the entire year.”

Army Sgt. Aubrey Mata



“2003 Infinity G35 Coupe, it’s a beautiful thing.”

Army Spc. Elcina Bryan



“2006 Chrysler 300, because it looks more expensive than it is.”

The Days of Awe



Navy Cmdr. Brad Hoffman
4th Marine Aircraft Wing, New Orleans

— Beginning on the eve of September 8, Jews all over the world celebrated the Holy Day of Rosh Hashanah, the Jewish New Year.

According to Jewish tradition, this two-day celebration marks the anniversary of the creation of the world. This will be the year 5761.

Rosh Hashanah is one of the most important Jewish Holy Days and is observed by two days of worship services. The most prominent feature regarding the observance of Rosh Hashanah is the sounding of the shofar, a ram's horn. Since ancient times, this act has been seen as a call to repentance. Rosh Hashanah also marks the beginning of a period called the Ten Days of Repentance, in which the shofar serves as a means of arousing the conscience of the people. On the second day of Rosh Hashanah Jews symbolically cast their sins into a running stream by tossing bread crumbs into a river. This custom is called *Tashlich* and comes from the Biblical verse in the Book of Prophet Micah (7:18-20); "You shall cast all your sins into the depths of the sea." It summons them to self-judgment, change and improvement culminating in service of Yom Kippour, the Day of Attonement.

But changes are not automatic; they take time — a transition. Two of the most central of Jewish High Holidays — Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippour, are upon us. The message in the service of Yom Kippour is simple, but meaningful, repentance. Yom Kippour is about change, assessment and re-evaluation, but anyone who has ever tried knows there is nothing simple about it. In the excitement of the moment all of us make sincere and sweeping resolu-

tions, only later to realize their inherent magnitude. We say we are going to change and only later do we actually think about how we will go about fulfilling the promise we made. In many cases, we like to think that by saying we will never do it again that all is forgotten. The person who offends quickly forgets, but the one offended looks for the actions behind the words.

That is why the High Holiday period is preceded by the month of Elul, whose Hebrew root means "to search into." To make this an active process, the shofar, or ram's horn, is blown at the end of every morning service during this month (except for Shabbat and the day before Rosh Hashanah). Maimonides, the great medieval codifier of Jewish law wrote that the shofar calls to all of us to wake up and examine our souls and deeds. It is a way to warn us that the Day of Judgement is coming. This transition period is heightened by the Selichot service held on the Saturday night before Rosh Hashanah. These services consist of prayers of penitence. In both the Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippour services, sins committed against God are acknowledged along with sins against our fellow humans. For in wronging our brother, sister, neighbor, friend or stranger, God is pushed out of our midst.

The Jewish month of Elul, which precedes the High Holidays, has a universal message: Admitting wrongs to ourselves and God is the first step in starting the transition toward change. This act is private and hidden. Approaching other persons and admitting that we have wronged them, whether publicly or privately, whether intentional or not, is a difficult and courageous step. In doing so we expose our frailty as creatures a little lower than the angels.

When we admit to the person we have offended that we are sorry, we cease playing a game of hide and seek with ourselves. At that moment God's presence fills another small part of the world. ✪

GTMO Religious Services

Daily Catholic Mass
Mon. - Fri. 5:30 p.m.
Main Chapel
Vigil Mass
Saturday 5 p.m.
Main Chapel
Mass
Sunday 9 a.m.
Main Chapel
Catholic Mass
Saturday 7:30 p.m.
Troopers' Chapel
Sunday 7:30 a.m.
Troopers' Chapel

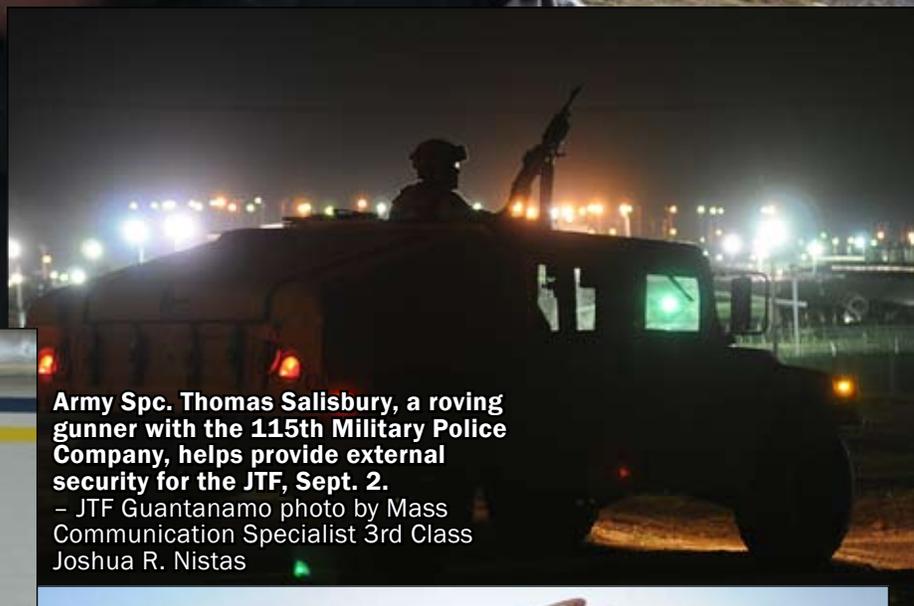
Protestant Worship
Sunday 9 a.m.
Troopers' Chapel
Islamic Service
Friday 1:15 p.m.
Room C
Jewish Service
FMI call 2628
LORIMI Gospel
Sunday 8 a.m.
Room D
Church of Christ
Sunday 10 a.m.
Chapel Annex
Room 17

Seventh Day Adventist
Saturday 11 a.m.
Room B
Iglesia Ni Cristo
Sunday 5:30 a.m.
Room A
Pentecostal Gospel
Sunday 8 a.m.
Room D
LDS Service
Sunday 10 a.m.
Room A

Liturgical Service
Sunday 10 a.m.
Room B
General Protestant
Sunday 11 a.m.
Main Chapel
United Jamaican Fellowship
Sunday 11 a.m.
Building 1036
Gospel Service
Sunday 1 p.m.
Main Chapel

GTMO Bay Christian Fellowship
Sunday 6 p.m.
Main Chapel
Bible Study
Wednesday 7 p.m.
Troopers' Chapel
The Truth Project
Bible study
Sunday 6 p.m.
Troopers' Chapel

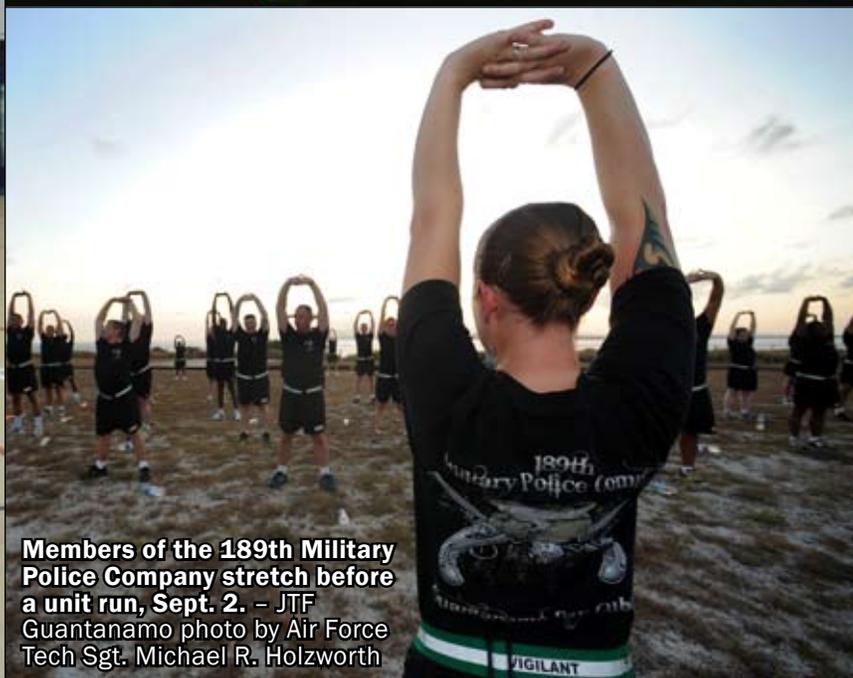
Around the ★ JTF



Army Spc. Thomas Salisbury, a roving gunner with the 115th Military Police Company, helps provide external security for the JTF, Sept. 2.
- JTF Guantanamo photo by Mass Communication Specialist 3rd Class Joshua R. Nistas



Two players square off during the MWR Labor Day basketball tournament, Sept. 4. - JTF Guantanamo photo by Army Staff Sgt. Shereen Grouby



Members of the 189th Military Police Company stretch before a unit run, Sept. 2. - JTF Guantanamo photo by Air Force Tech Sgt. Michael R. Holzworth