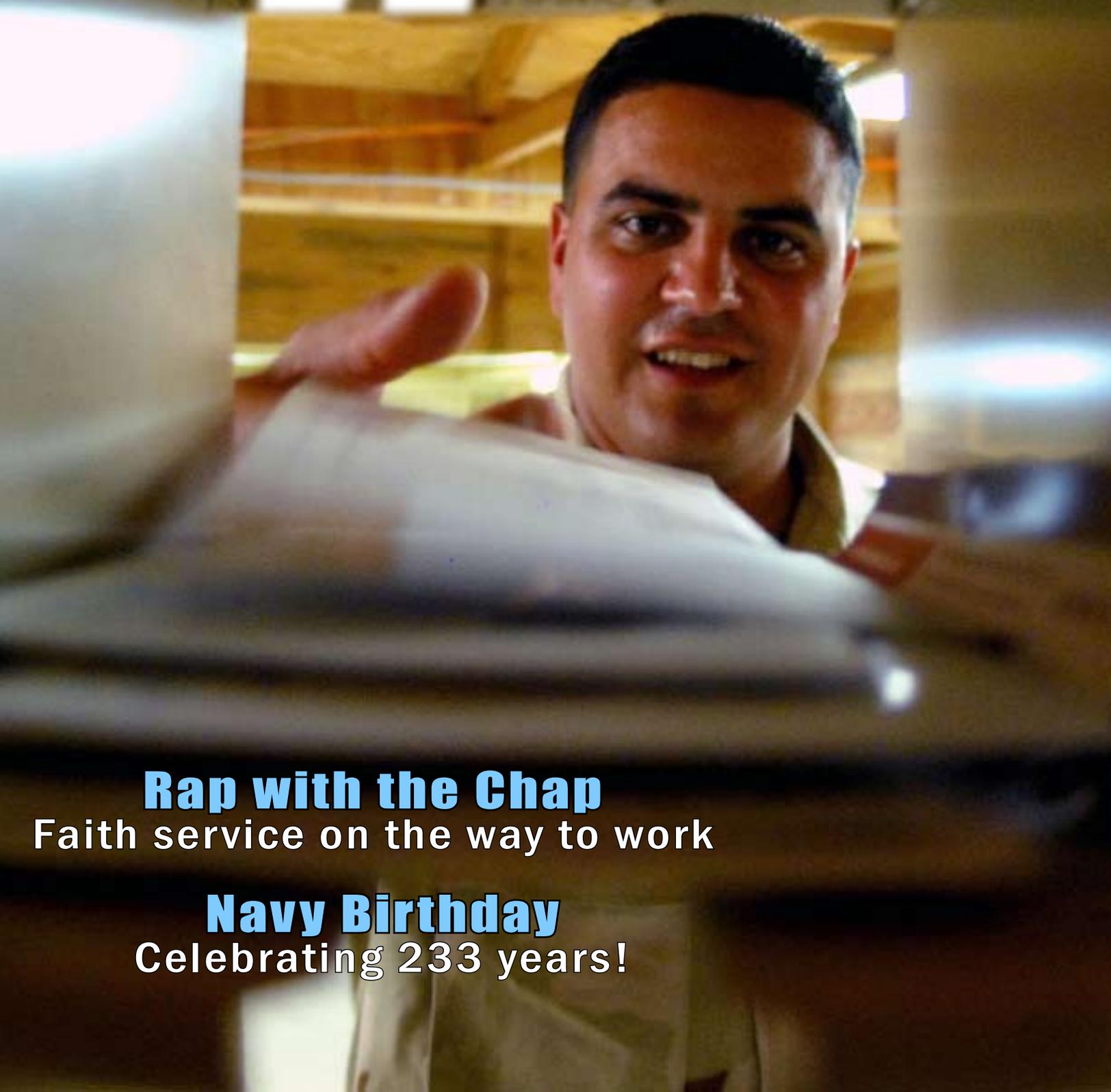


# THE WIRE

A JTF Journal



## Rap with the Chap

Faith service on the way to work

## Navy Birthday

Celebrating 233 years!

# Learning from our past

**Army Master Sgt.  
David Wade**

Commissions Support Group

As all of you well know, history is being made in Guantanamo Bay every day. But it is important to remember that this is not the first time history has been made here. Since arriving here in January, I have heard bits and pieces about the battle at Cuzco Well and about the two Marine sentries that were shot while on outpost duty. Other than that, I had not heard much about the history of Guantanamo Bay in the Spanish-American War.

As I began to investigate, I learned that much had taken place in the vicinity of Fisherman's Point and McCalla Hill. Most of you know Fisherman's Point as the Windward Ferry Landing. McCalla Hill is the hill above Fisherman's Point where the military commissions are currently taking place.

On June 7, 1898, two U.S. Navy ships – the Marblehead and the St. Louis – entered Guantanamo Bay with the mission to cut communication cables located at Fisherman's Point. The Marblehead fired its cannons on the village at Fisherman's Point and a blockhouse that was located on the hill above the village, clearing them of Spanish troops.

On June 10, the 1<sup>st</sup> Marine Battalion, commanded by Lt. Col. Robert Huntington, arrived and landed four of six companies at Fisherman's Point. Company C landed first and moved to the top of the hill to protect the landing for their fellow Marines. It was on McCalla Hill that Sgt. Richard Silvey planted the first U.S. flag ever to fly on Cuban soil. The battalion base camp was established there, and later named Camp McCalla in honor of the commander of U.S. Forces at Guantanamo Bay.

The Marines endured numerous attacks on their camp and sporadic sniper fire over the next three days. Six Marines were killed and nine wounded in the fighting on and around McCalla Hill.

These attacks inspired Lt. Col. Huntington to attack the Spanish camp at Cuzco Well, the only source of fresh water nearby. On June 14, Companies C and D – plus more than 50 Cuban insurgents – attacked Cuzco Well and fought for most of the day. Two Medals of Honor were earned. They destroyed the well and suffered minimal casualties. More personnel suffered from heat exhaustion than were wounded or killed by enemy fire. Since the Spanish no longer had ready access to fresh water, the attacks on the Marine camp on McCalla Hill stopped.

The cannon on McCalla Hill is an old French cannon that was made in 1748 and captured by the Spanish at some point. I have heard, but not able to confirm, that the cannon was used as part of the defenses for the Spanish fort on Toro Cay, and it had been fired at U.S. ships during the action at Guantanamo. It was placed on McCalla Hill as a memorial to the Marines who died on and around the hill.

Knowing the history of our little piece of Cuba can be very inspiring, and will allow Troopers to take greater pride in the part they play here. Never forget our fellow service members who have died in the service of our country! ☆



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### COVER:

**Navy Petty Officer 1<sup>st</sup> Class Alexis Barbosa sorts incoming mail in the Joint Task Force post office in Camp America on Oct. 8.** — JTF Guantanamo photo by Navy Petty Officer 3<sup>rd</sup> Class Benjamin Dennis



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 regards 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 1000.

# Happy 233rd Birthday Navy! 1775-2008

**Navy Petty Officer 2<sup>nd</sup> Class  
Jayme Pastoric**

JTF Guantanamo Public Affairs

“Happy Birthday Shipmates! From our humble beginning with six frigates more than 200 years ago, we have become the most dominant and influential naval force ever to sail the world’s oceans. We ensure freedom of the seas, project power in support of national interests and support allies and partners around the world. We are at once powerful, yet compassionate when reaching out to others in need.” – Chief of Naval Operations Adm. Gary Roughead.

Happy 233<sup>rd</sup> birthday to you, Navy! You’re a tough, tested and worthy service that has been there since the beginning our country. You have been in all of our major conflicts and have turned the tides of wars on numerous occasions. You are diverse, fair, steadfast and honorable, and we thank you.

The United States Navy was formed Oct. 13, 1775, when the Continental Congress passed a resolution to acquire the first two warships.

On this joyous occasion, we remember and celebrate an event in naval history and recall the influence the Great White Fleet deployment of 100 years ago.

The Great White Fleet was the popular nickname for the United States Navy battle fleet that completed a circumnavigation of the globe from December 16, 1907, to February 22, 1909 by order of U.S. President Theodore Roosevelt.

With their hulls painted white except for the gilded scrollwork with a red, white, and blue banner on their bows, these ships would later be known as the Great White Fleet.

It consisted of four squadrons with four battleships each. Roosevelt sought to demonstrate growing American military power and blue-water navy capability.

“A good Navy is not a provocation to war. It is the surest guaranty of peace,” said

Roosevelt

This 14-month voyage was a projection of American sea power. The squadrons had 14,000 Sailors. A squadron consisted of several ships (battle cruisers, cruisers, destroyers, auxiliary ships), and each squadron had four battle ships each with a combined fleet of 16 ships. The worldwide tour covered 43,000 miles and made 20 port calls on six different continents.

Today’s high-quality, diverse force allows us to meet challenges and remain a global navy. The Navy remains an essential element of national power and maintaining a robust fleet is in the best interest of the United States.

Honoring the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Theodore Roosevelt’s Great White Fleet deployment underscores our commitment to sustaining a Navy responsive to the challenges of the 21<sup>st</sup> century.

From deterring aggression, protecting sea lanes and projecting power ashore to offering humanitarian assistance to victims of natural disasters, the efforts of every Sailor is vital to the security of the United States.

It is the Sailor serving as an Individual Augmentee in support of the War on Terror; the Sailor serving on humanitarian missions bringing hope and healing to thousands; and every Sailor and Navy civilian deployed around the world and serving at home that keep our fleet on a steady course today.

It is amazing to see the growth and success the Navy has had over the last 233 years.

In the true sprit of naval tradition, Sailors push forward proudly serving their country Navy combat team with honor, courage and commitment. ★

# Keeping the comfort

**Navy Petty Officer 2<sup>nd</sup> Class  
Jayme Pastoric**  
JTF Guantanamo Public Affairs

Keeping the Troopers comfortable is a big job. Consistent upkeep of barracks and housing takes numerous hours and teams of people. The Joint Task Force Commandant's office does the work, keeps the long hours and only uses a team of five.

From Camp America to Camp Buckley and everything in-between, Army Master Sgt. Oscar Fraire and his Army/Navy team keep the Troopers comfortable.

"We are always making sure things are working," said Navy Petty Officer 2<sup>nd</sup> Cory Becherer. "We are always staying on top of things, everyday of the week and all hours on the weekend, we are there."

"We get about 20 phone calls a day," said Fraire. "The calls range from Troopers needing a new refrigerator to an air-conditioner breaking."

The work starts when Troopers rotate out of the barracks. The process begins with an inspection looking at areas that need to be fixed or cleaned. Then the work of clearing out old lockers and tables begins - removing damaged mattresses and making sure the air-conditioning is working properly. If property is damaged or worn out, the team breaks it down and hauls it away.

"Over 144 buildings are our responsibility," said Navy Petty Officer 3<sup>rd</sup> Class Ron Alinger. "We make sure Troopers get everything they need as they rotate through the housing."

On Oct. 1, Becherer and Alinger worked

**Navy Petty Officer 2<sup>nd</sup>  
Class Cory Becherer  
and Navy Petty Officer  
3<sup>rd</sup> Class Ronald  
Alinger work for  
the Camp America  
Commandant's office.**  
— JTF Guantanamo  
photo by Navy Petty  
Officer 3<sup>rd</sup> Class  
Benjamin Dennis



**A crane pulls storage cabinets from the back of a pick up truck in the metal scrap yard.** — JTF Guantanamo photo by Navy Petty Officer 3<sup>rd</sup> Class Benjamin Dennis.

together at Camp America to finish clearing out a room of old wooden lockers and worn out tables. One by one they moved the tall lockers to a flatbed truck, and secured them for transport. The petty officers made the trip to the dump, unloaded the burnable items, and then repeated throughout the day.

Once the cleaning is complete the rebuilding begins. The housing is outfitted with new furniture and amenities to welcome new Troopers as they check onboard JTF.

"Troopers can really give us a hand with our work," said Fraire. "If they take the time to maintain the furniture and maintain good order and discipline we would be thankful."

The hard work and effort of these Troopers in maintaining the quality of life Troopers are accustomed to takes a lot of dedication.

"Master Sgt. Fraire is kind of like the Mayor of housing," said Army Sgt Maj. Matt Aragon. "Fraire tries his best to accommodate all of the Troopers needs." ★

# Bringing faith to Troopers



**Army Staff Sgt.  
Emily J. Russell**

JTF Guantanamo Public Affairs

Tending to the physical, mental and emotional health of Joint Task Force Troopers is an important part of taking care of the force. However, there is another very important need to consider that doesn't always get the same attention: spiritual health.

Realizing the need to bring church to the Troopers, Army Capt. Scott Brill, Chaplain for the Joint Detention Group, with the support of the JTF command and Chaplain's assistant, got the wheels in motion in February. The program has been rolling ever since.

According to Brill, if Troopers couldn't make it to church, then he'd find a way to bring it to them. This plan gave birth to the program "Rap with the Chap."

"The original purpose was because Troopers [within the camps] work so much and some were struggling to make it to church," said Brill.

Brill talked with Army Col. Bruce Vargo, Joint Detention Group Commander, and expressed his concerns about the Troopers time constraints and asked if he could do church services for them on a bus.

"[Col.] Vargo said it was a 'golden idea.' Without his support," said Brill, "this wouldn't be possible."

Troopers, whether going to or from work, can choose to take the "Rap with the

## **A bus full of Troopers listen to Army Chaplain Scott Brill deliver a message about using the Scriptures.**

Chap" bus, instead of the regular base bus, and have the opportunity to get to know the chaplains, enjoy fellowship with other Troopers, listen to Scripture, and sometimes a guest speaker.

"I try and have a message that focuses on values and principles that all Troopers can identify with," said Brill. "I've had the Joint Task Force Cultural Advisor, as well as the Jewish lay leaders, aboard to share inspiring messages and serve as a reminder that religious diversity is what makes this nation free and strong.

"We've had as many as 30 passengers, and as few as seven," he continued. "It depends on the shift and who's working. We have our regulars too."

Troopers are of a variety of faiths, some with no particular denomination. The ride provides Troopers with fellowship and a

chance to get to know the chaplains.

"The purpose of Rap with the Chap is to build relationships of trust," said Brill. "It's all about ministry of presence."

The program was intended to make Troopers more comfortable if they need someone to talk to.

"The service takes place while the bus is enroute to the camps," continued Brill. "It's an opportunity for a Trooper to say, 'Hey Chap, can I talk to you?'"

"The messages are uplifting and fun, and intended for all audiences," said Brill. "We [also] give out books and take requests for religious support supplies like Bibles, Korans, rosaries or religious books.

"Rap with the Chap is like a crowd cheering for the Troopers from the sideline," added Brill. "It changes lives and it gives strength." ☆

# Aces of Naval nets



“Hodge Podes” members bump, set and prepare to spike the volleyball during their Tuesday night Captain’s Cup game at Denich Gym.

**Army Pfc.  
Carlynn M. Knaak**

JTF Guantanamo Public Affairs

Two fierce teams – separated by a solitary seven-foot high net – fought to bump, set and spike their way to the top during the Captain’s Cup Women’s Volleyball Tournament held at G.J. Denich gym.

On Tuesday and Thursday evenings six teams, competing for the coveted number one spot, participate in the Morale, Welfare and Recreation’s women’s 6-on-6 volleyball tournament.

Each intense match consists of the best two out of three sub-games. The first two are played to 25 points, and a third tie-breaker game, if needed, is played to 15 points.

The games are scored using a method known to the volleyball world as rally scoring. In rally scoring, points are awarded when the ball comes into contact with the floor within the court boundaries. If a team makes a mistake, the serve and accompanying point are given to the other team.

Captain Cup’s teams are composed of a mixture of women from all branches of service, civilian contractors and even high

school students.

“It’s really great to have an opportunity to meet people in other commands and to meet members of the community while doing something fun,” said Anastasia Wells, member of the undefeated (5-0) Hodge Podes.

Playing in such a small community like GTMO alleviates much of the angry competition that tends to arise in tournaments such as this.

“It’s definitely different than in the states,” said Cheri Gildea, coach for W.T. Sampson. “With these girls it’s all about having fun, playing the game and getting better.”

Captain’s Cup continues Oct. 14 with the W.T. Sampson’s High school (1-4) matching up against Heathers Team (3-2) at 6 p.m., the Hodge Podes meeting the GTMO Latinas (0-5) at 6:50, and Blunt Trauma (4-1) taking on the Rockstars (2-3) at 7:40 p.m.

There’s no Queen of Hearts in this game. For these ladies it’s all about the aces, so ‘set’ yourself up for a good time and come by the Denich Gym on most Tuesdays and Thursdays through the end of October to watch these warrior women sparkle. ☆



Members of the “W.T. Sampson’s High School” team join together to receive instructions from their coach after the loss of their first game during the Captain’s Cup Women’s Volleyball Tournament.

# If Ma Bell were Big Brother ...

Army Pfc.  
Eric Liesse

JTF Guantanamo Public Affairs

Steven Spielberg has a legendary record of science fiction films, and techno-terrorism is always a big thrill. So when I first saw previews for "Eagle Eye," Spielberg's new movie of a 20-something guy and gal forced via phones and surveillance cameras to commit terrorism, I was excited. However, by the film's end, I felt as though I had just watched a Michael Bay explosion-filled waste of celluloid.

Directed by D.J. Caruso, who also worked under Spielberg for 2007's "Disturbia," "Eagle Eye" stars Shia LaBeouf as copy boy, and Stafford dropout Jerry Shaw. Although he may be naturally intelligent, Jerry seems content going from girlfriend to girlfriend, having them pay his rent. However, he is crushed after the funeral of his twin brother, an Air Force Academy graduate who was supposed to have been smarter than most humans could fathom.

After returning home from the ceremony, he finds his dinky apartment filled with weapons, top-secret government documents and enough fertilizer to start a small farm. He receives an anonymous phone call with a stern female voice telling him he has 30 seconds to flee, or the coming FBI agents would break in to arrest him.

While Jerry is detained and questioned, single-mother Rachel Holloman (Michelle Monaghan) sees off her young son to play a concert with his school band in Washington, D.C. That night, at the bar, she receives an ominous call from the same female that if she doesn't go to a specific car a few blocks away, her son would die. She takes it seriously when the TVs on the McDonald's restaurant across the street show security camera footage of her son then flips back to commercials.

For the remaining first half of the film, Jerry and Rachel are in constant flight mode from all authorities. However, they are doing so at the minute-by-minute instruction of the anonymous female on the phone. She can use any cell phone, change any video screen to what she wants it to show, or even change the direction of railway trains.

As though she is right there with the pair, the anonymous female forces Jerry and Rachel to follow her exact instructions, all while making sure they stay away from the authorities. This comes after a news reporter voice-over tells the audience that the film's FBI has gained the ability to monitor any and all audio received by any and all cell phones in the nation – even when they are turned off.

As with any film where the audience and main characters don't know what is going on, the payoff comes when these big questions are given answers and the "enemy" is given a clear face. Once "Eagle Eye" shows its face as to who/what is behind Jerry and Rachel's ride, the excitement level dives.

Without giving much away, the answers to the intentional plot questions aren't nearly as interesting as the early action. Add to that, the film's climax is the live-action equivalent of a Yosemite Sam gag.

The fact that the number of explosions is inversely proportional to the number of plot mysteries, and it turns into Michael Bay's "Armageddon" without Bruce Willis – is always a downgrade.

It's too bad "Eagle Eye" falls into such a mindless end after its compelling and intriguing opening. This movie's Orwellian overlord may come across as a terrorist with the greatest Internet connection ever, but it falls far short of anything remotely groundbreaking. ★

**PG-13**

**1 hour, 58 minutes**

**Rating: ★★☆☆☆**



Shia LaBeouf and Michelle Monaghan hope you will run, not walk, to catch this movie about coercive phone calls.

# FISHING WITH A PROFESSIONAL

Photos by Army Staff Sgt. Emily J. Russell

George Poveromo - world renowned saltwater angler, and Senior Editor with Salt Water Sportsman Magazine - visited Guantanamo Bay to meet Troopers and spend time fishing the plentiful waters of the Bay.

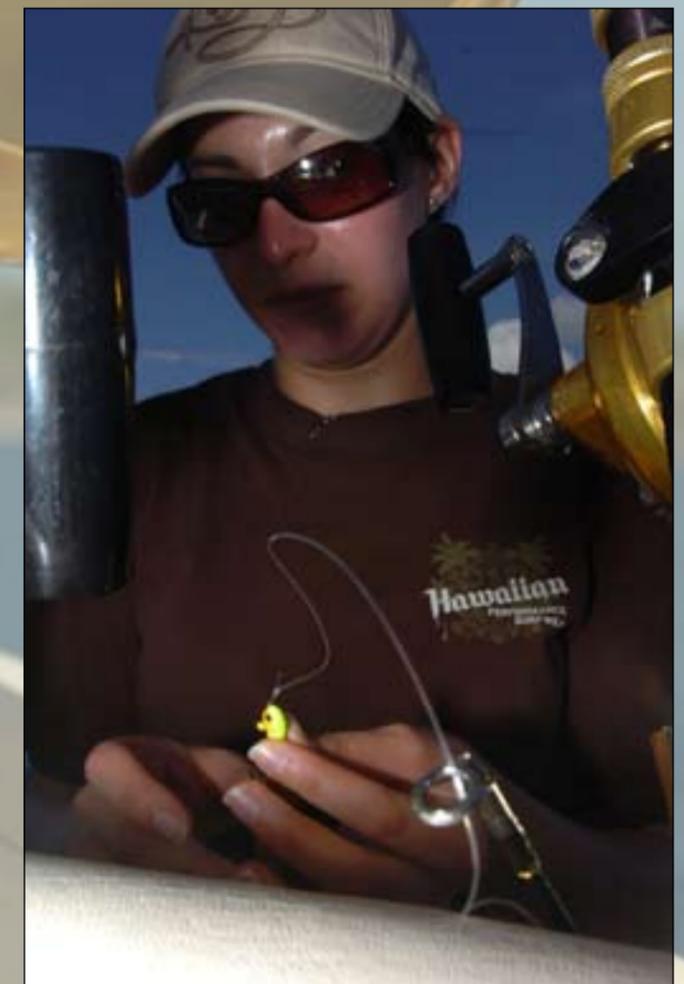
Poveromo, along with his filming crew and three Troopers, set out early each morning aboard the Marc VI, to catch their bait for the day.

After stocking up on live herring, the Marc VI raced off to the mouth of the bay, to see what kind of big fish they could reel in.

The Yellowtail Snapper were plentiful and served as a good indication that larger fish, like Grouper, may be lurking below.

With more wind and more current in the water, the conditions were rife for a good day of fishing.

In addition to fishing with Troopers, Poveromo held two fishing clinics at the marina and also made meet-and-greet appearances to sign autographs. For more information, see Reel Adventure, page 10.



# Reel adventure

■ Troopers get opportunity to fish with pro saltwater angler George Poveromo

**Army Staff Sgt.  
Emily J. Russell**

JTF Guantanamo Public Affairs

A day of fishing in Guantanamo Bay is often a treat for many Joint Task Force Troopers. However, add George Poveromo, a camera crew from George Poveromo's World of Saltwater Fishing, a twin engine boat, and a whole lot of enthusiasm, and you've reeled in a great day on the water.

Todd Jordon, an avid fisherman and Information Technology manager for Guantanamo Bay's Morale, Welfare and Recreation program, made the initial contact to ask Poveromo if he was interested in coming here to fish with the Troopers.

"When Todd first called, I thought a friend was playing a joke on me," said Poveromo. "Once I realized it was real, I was honored, and wanted to take it one step further."

With coordination effort from MWR Director Craig Basel and MWR marina manager Jaron Chapman, Poveromo was able to do just that.

Poveromo decided to use the opportunity to bring his boat, the Marc VI, and film a show while he was here. What began as an MWR meet-and-greet, and an opportunity to fish the plentiful waters of the Bay, became a day to remember, not just for Poveromo, but for all the Troopers who earned the privilege of casting a line from his boat.

"I think this is a great experience," said Navy Petty Officer 2<sup>nd</sup> Class Melissa Jardina. "I don't usually fish. It's a treat to fish with someone who knows what they're doing."

Poveromo fished with three Troopers each day of his visit, spending half the day on the water. The rest of his time was spent meeting Troopers and signing autographs as well as presenting two fishing clinics, and touring the camps.

"There is tremendous fishing potential here," said Poveromo. "The reef structure and the bay ... this is an untapped fisherman's paradise. You know the fish stocks are healthy [because] there is no commercial fishing [here]. I was pleased to see Gitmo's level of conservation measures ... it is honorable."

Yellowtail snapper, a reef fish, are



**Navy Petty Officer 1<sup>st</sup> Class Will Battleson holds his catch as expert saltwater angler George Poveromo helps him remove the hook from the yellowtail's mouth. Poveromo, along with his crew visited Guantanamo Bay to meet and spend time with Troopers. While here, they filmed for a future episode of Poveromo's TV show.**

abundant here. Yellowtail sustain great numbers of game fish like amber jack, grouper, barracuda, king fish, mackerel and shark.

"Find high profile reefs and avoid flats," said Poveromo. "Where reefs come up in five to eight foot spikes ... look for groups of yellowtail, or fish activity."

Poveromo shared his fishing expertise with the Troopers who fished with him each day, as well as those who attended his clinics. Attendees learned his tips and techniques

for saltwater fishing and had time to ask him questions. They also received an issue of "Salt Water Sportsman," a magazine for which Poveromo is senior editor.

"More wind and current made for the best day of fishing," said Poveromo. "The chum was floating out behind the boat, instead of just sinking."

While chumming the water at Guantanamo is not permitted, special consideration was given for the MWR event

See **FISHING/13**

# Celebrating the Hispanic-American culture



**Marysol Restrepo and Jorge Restrepo perform the Cumbia, a native Columbian dance, at the Hispanic-American Heritage Association Dinner Dance at the Windjammer Ballroom, Oct. 4.**



**Doraima Alvarez, member of the HAHA, dances with Arnaldo Feliciano for a medley of songs, to include the Bachata, the Reggaeton, the Merengue and Salsa at the HAHA dinner dance.**

## **Army Spc. Megan Burnham**

JTF Guantanamo Public Affairs

It was an evening of culture, dining and dancing, Oct. 4, as the Hispanic-American Heritage Association hosted its annual dinner dance at the Windjammer Ballroom as part of National Hispanic American Heritage Month.

“Hispanic Heritage Month is the period to recognize the contributions of Hispanic-Americans to the U.S. and to celebrate Hispanic heritage and culture,” said Lydia Alvarez, HAHA vice president.

The celebration was first established in 1968, but only lasted for a week. However, President Ronald Reagan expanded the observation to cover a 31-day period, Sept. 15 to Oct. 15.

The month-long celebration begins on the anniversary of independence of five Latin-American countries from Spain: Costa Rica, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras and Nicaragua.

To celebrate Hispanic Heritage Month Gitmo-style, HAHA has been busy hosting other events, to include a Latin Food Fiesta at Navy Capt. Mark M. Leary’s house and a silent auction that also included salsa dance lessons and taste testing different Hispanic foods. An event called Kitchen Vacation was also held that provided a family

breakfast from Panama, lunch from Puerto Rico, and dinner from Colombia.

“It’s great that we get to share our culture with the entire community,” said Doraima Alvarez, HAHA secretary. “We hold a big part in the American community as well, and they learn about our historical figures that make us proud to be Hispanics.”

As guests arrived and handed in their tickets, their first sight of the ballroom was a display table that included cultural clothing native to Panama, Puerto Rico and Columbia, as well as arts and crafts, postcards and biographical information on historical Latin-American figures.

During the social hour of the event, hors d’oeuvres were offered that gave guests insight on the type of foods made from different Hispanic countries - potato cakes from Ecuador, an empanada recipe from Puerto Rico and corn fritters from Panama.

A highlight of the evening was the speech given by guest speaker Army Lt. Col. Doris J. Acevedo-Selva, director for manpower, personnel and administration at Joint Task Force Guantanamo Bay.

“I value the opportunity to reaffirm the pride in our heritage which contributes to the self-esteem of all Hispanic-Americans in Gitmo and share with non-Hispanic

See **HAHA/13**



**Contact JTF-Public Affairs at 8950 to schedule and record you and a group of your friends' home team spirit and get on the big screen!**

# MWR MARINA

## U.S. NAVAL STATION GUANTANAMO BAY, CUBA

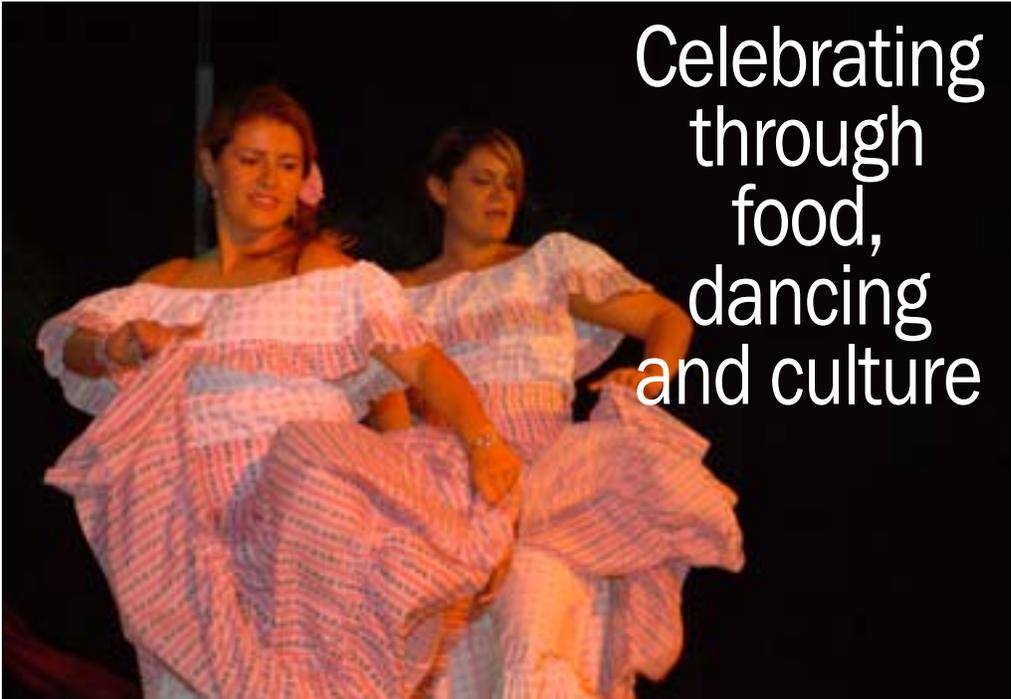
The Guantanamo River is open to all vessels except vessels under sail. Boaters shall not go past the Guantanamo River Bridge. At no time shall anyone leave the boat to go ashore, dive or swim. The river is a "No Wake Zone" and is secured to boaters from sunset to sunrise and when live fire exercises are in progress.

All vessels **MUST** first file a **FLOAT PLAN** with **PORT CONTROL** BEFORE leaving port by calling **#4188**.

The following information will be requested:

- ⇒ Vessel number and Vessel type
- ⇒ Name of owner and operator
- ⇒ Berthing or slip location
- ⇒ Telephone number
- ⇒ Number of passengers
- ⇒ General location
- ⇒ Approximate time of return to port
- ⇒ Upon returning to the Marina or dock, contact port control to close float plan





# Celebrating through food, dancing and culture

**Marysol Restrepo (left) and Migdalia Orellana dance to the music of Bomba y Plena from Puerto Rico at the Hispanic-American Heritage Association annual dinner dance held at the Windjammer Ballroom, Oct. 4** – JTF Guantanamo photo by Army Spc. Megan Burnham

**HAHA** from 11

Americans so that they have a better understanding of our contributions to the nation,” said Acevedo-Selva, “as well as to educate on diversity which is understanding and valuing every person’s different skills, talent and experience.”

The dancing followed a meal of mojito chicken, congri rice and black beans and yuca. The first dance to be performed was the Cumbia, a Colombian-style dance. Next was the Congo from Panama and the Bomba y Plena from Puerto Rico. The final performance was a medley of dances,

to include the Bachata, the Reggaeton, the Merengue and Salsa.

“Some dancers had been practicing as far as two months back,” said Lydia Alvarez. “Other dancers only practiced for two weeks.”

Door prizes were given throughout the night.

“We encourage everyone to join us at HAHA next year,” said Lydia Alvarez. “We are planning to start again in February 2009 for another successful Hispanic American Heritage Month.” ☆

# Professional fisherman explores Gitmo waters

**FISHING** from 10

to give Troopers a chance to reel in greater numbers of big fish. The chum encourages schools of yellowtail to come out from under the reef. Once the yellowtails are out, bigger fish that feed on yellowtail are waiting to join in the feeding frenzy.

“The only fish I’ve ever caught [here] are Snit,” said Navy Petty Officer 1st Class Will Battleson. “Yellowtail are definitely more fun.”

Snit, similar to barracuda, is mostly used as bait for shark fishing.

As of Friday, the biggest fish caught was a mutton snapper, weighing in around eight pounds.

“That’s a good size for a reef fish,” said Poveromo.

By the end of the day Friday, the Troopers landed nearly two dozen yellowtail and one grouper.

“I’m thankful George could come down and do this for the Troopers,” said Battleson. “It gave us a break from work.”

George Poveromo’s World of Saltwater Fishing, found on ESPN2, will likely air this episode toward the end of February or beginning of March, next year. For specific show times, check Poveromo’s website [www.georgepoveromo.com](http://www.georgepoveromo.com). Next season’s schedule will be posted sometime around the end of this year.

“[Fishing here], it’s a huge honor,” said Poveromo. “I rate [this trip] at the top of the list of most memorable fishing trips.” ☆

# Boots on the Ground

by Army Pfc. Eric Liesse

Given the current economic state, what do you trust more: the stock market or your sock drawer?

**Navy Lt.j.g. Stacy Gross**



“A little bit of both because it really depends on what stocks you have.”

**Army Staff Sgt. Ingrid Ryan**



“My sock drawer because the stock market sucks right now. Look at the DOW, and we’ve lost two banks already.”

**Army Spc. William Alcoser**



“Neither, with the way things are going right now.”

**Petty Officer 3rd Class Jason Lail**



“Cash savings that is maybe not in a sock drawer, but the bank.”

# The lesson of the sailboat

**Army Capt.  
Eric Bey**

525 Military Police Battalion Chaplain

There once was a boy who saved all the money that he earned in a year to purchase a miniature sail boat. It was a top-of-the-line, technologically advanced thing of beauty. It had servos that could raise and lower the sails, trim the rudder and it even had a little motor to propel her along if the wind was down. It took the boy and his father four painstaking months to assemble and paint it and silkscreen the sails, but when it was finished it was awe-inspiring.

The very day he finished it, the boy took it to a nearby pond on the outskirts of town. His face beamed with pride as he set it in the water for its maiden voyage. He was putting it through its paces for about 15 minutes when the wind began to blow and the tributaries began to fill the pond. He hadn't checked the weather, and sure enough a storm was upon them.

The winds blew the ship away, so he dropped the sails and tried to motor it

back, but the current swept it over the bank of the pond and down the newly formed river faster than he could run. He gave it his all for about two blocks before he gave up hope and returned home with tears flowing down his rain-drenched face.

When his father came home he cried all the more. He sulked for days. On his way to the park one day he passed a hobby store and in the window he saw his sail boat. The distance couldn't fool him — although it had a new paint job and new sails, he recognized his handiwork. He went inside and inquired about the model in the window, and the owner said that he had found that ship the day after the storm. The store owner explained that it was in bad need of repair and a new controller when he found it, but for \$80 he had it up and running.

The boy told the story of how he had lost it in the storm a couple of weeks back and how he would like it returned. The man explained that he had already put money into it and could not part with it, but like everything else in the store, she was for sale. The boy was shocked at the

\$100 sale price, but after arguing his point left more determined than ever to get his ship back.

He spent the next month doing every odd job and chore he could to earn the money. He passed by the hobby store daily to make sure the model ship was still there. When he had collected the money he went to the store, slapped his money on the counter and redeemed his prize. As he walked home with it he said to her, "You are now mine twice over — once because I made you, and now because I bought you."

I don't know why our spiritual pursuits are the first thing to go when we are separated from friends and family, but let this Spiritual Service Reminder serve to remind you that you are God's — first because He made you and in that you had no choice, but more importantly you are His because He ransomed you.

Father asked me to relay that to you. ✪



## JTF CHAPEL SCHEDULED PROGRAMS

### Catholic Mass

**Sunday:** 7 a.m. Confession  
7:30 Mass

**Wednesday:** 11 a.m. Mass

### Protestant Worship

**Sunday:** 9 a.m.

**Spanish Protestant Worship**

**Sunday:** Noon



**Army Staff Sgt. Luis Ortiz steps out of the back of a truck. As squad leader, Ortiz is responsible for keeping his Troopers sharp and fully trained.** — JTF Guantanamo photo by Navy Petty Officer 3<sup>rd</sup> Class Benjamin Dennis

# Protecting and serving

**Navy Petty Officer 2<sup>nd</sup> Class  
Jayme Pastorik**

JTF Guantanamo Public Affairs

Understanding your job is vital for success. Having the knowledge of two jobs makes you just a step above your peers. Army Staff Sgt. Luis Ortiz has the knowledge of two jobs - civil service and the protection of personnel.

Ortiz wears two hats – one, for his mission at Joint Task Force Guantanamo. The second is the police helmet he has as a member of the Puerto Rico Police Department.

While patrolling the JTF, or patrolling the streets of Puerto Rico, Ortiz is a firm believer in learning a job to the fullest and being the best at your job.

“I use the training from the police force and the training from the Army and tried to make myself a better Soldier,” said Ortiz. “I try and use my training and experience to teach my Troopers the things that were

taught to me and train them up to be the best possible they can be.”

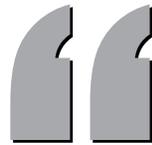
As a police officer, Ortiz is responsible for training current police procedures.

“I’m retraining police officers on the basics,” said Ortiz. “When officers get complacent they get hurt, I don’t want that.”

As a squad leader, Ortiz is responsible for keeping his Troopers sharp and fully trained. Ortiz says his Soldiers can count on him as a leader.

“I prefer to lead by example,” said Ortiz. “If I tell my Soldiers to clean something, I will clean it first to show them. If you are the leader, you are the example.”

Having qualified subordinates and experienced trainers is vital in making any team complete a mission. Whether it is maintaining protection of the citizens of Puerto Rico or the security of JTF, Ortiz has both under control and is trained for the mission at hand. ✪



**I prefer to lead by example. If I tell my Soldiers to do something, I do it first.**

– Army Staff Sgt. Luis Ortiz



**Navy Seaman Jorge Jimenez, a hospital corpsman apprentice, looks on as Army Spc. John Williams, a medic, uses a light microscope at Joint Task Force Guantanamo's Joint Troop Clinic, Oct. 3.** – JTF Guantanamo photo by Navy Petty Officer 2<sup>nd</sup> Class Patrick Thompson



**Army Sgt. Eric Regensberg, a New Mexico National Guard Trooper working in the Joint Task Force Guantanamo logistics office, completes the necessary paperwork to issue supplies here, Oct. 6.** – JTF Guantanamo photo by Army Spc. Erica Isaacson

**Air Force Tech. Sgt. Chad LeBlank, a member of the 474<sup>th</sup> Expeditionary Civil Engineering Squadron, employs a hand held fogger to spray for insects and pests outside a Camp Justice tent here, Oct. 3.** – JTF Guantanamo photo by Army Spc. Erica Isaacson



**Coast Guard Petty Officer 3<sup>rd</sup> Class Bobby Egger, a boatswain's mate with the U.S. Coast Guard Reserve's Port Security Unit 307, performs overhead tricep extensions at G.J. Denich Gym, Oct. 6.** – JTF Guantanamo photo by Army Sgt. Sarah Stannard

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**JTF**