

THE WIRE

Joint Task Force
Guantanamo's
Finest News Source

A News Magazine

HONOR BOUND TO DEFEND FREEDOM



Inside this issue:

pg. 6 National Sports

pg. 8-9 JTF Change of Command

pg. 10 Memorial Day

pg. 15 "15 Minutes of Fame" with

Coast Guard Senior Chief Eric Johnson

Buzby addresses JTF

By Navy Rear Adm. Mark H. Buzby

Commander, JTF-GTMO

Just about a year ago, I visited the Joint Task Force (JTF) here at Guantanamo (GTMO) and came away absolutely impressed by the professionalism and dedication of the Troopers that I met. I am now incredibly thankful for this opportunity to join the ranks of the men and women for whom the words “Duty”, “Honor” and “Country” are not simply words, but a way of life.

Certainly, I am excited at what the future may hold in store – a new assignment, new challenges and a new set of life experiences. However, that excitement is balanced by the knowledge that the mission here is very real and it is very relevant.

The United States is in a state of armed conflict with Al Qaida, the Taliban and their supporters. Being a part of this conflict, the U.S. captures and detains enemy combatants as entitled under the Law of War - and that is where we come in.

What this task force does, day in and day out, is of paramount importance to our nation’s success in the Global War on Terror. Your work is not only important but it is unprecedented, and it is of global interest. For years now, the Troopers of the JTF have worked tirelessly to ensure that we execute our dangerous mission safely, professionally and honorably. My job as your commander is to ensure that you continue to be well supported and empowered to carry out that work.

“Honor Bound” is our battle



cry. Those two words are at the very core of what makes us strong. From the sign at Camp America to the small print on our official JTF letterhead, the words “Honor Bound” are prominently displayed for all to see. They

“Honor Bound is our battle cry. Those two words are at the very core of what makes us strong.”

serve as a guide for our future actions and a reminder of the great things that have already been accomplished. Our mission here is bigger than any one of us, but by working together and taking care of each other, I am confident that we will continue to achieve greatness.

As I said at the change of command ceremony, I pledge to you that I will lead you the very best way I know how every day that I am here. I only ask that you keep focused on executing our mission as brilliantly as you have always done. Together, we will successfully meet every challenge that lies ahead. God bless you and your families, and God bless America.

Honor Bound! ■

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Buzby assumes command of JTF-GTMO



Photo by Army 1st Lt. Kevin Cowan

Rear Adm. Mark H. Buzby (left) addresses the JTF-GTMO Troopers during a change of command ceremony Tuesday as Rear Adm. Harry B. Harris Jr. looks on.

By Navy Petty Officer 3rd Class Jeff Johnstone

JTF-GTMO Public Affairs Office

Navy Rear Adm. Mark H. “Buz” Buzby assumed command of Joint Task Force-Guantanamo (JTF-GTMO), relieving Navy Rear Adm. Harry B. Harris Jr. during a change-of-command ceremony at the Camp Bulkley Lyceum here Tuesday, May 22.

In his last address to the Troopers, Adm. Harris remarked, “I knew nothing of detainee operations when I received this mission, but I knew the path of mission accomplishment was well prepared for me by the generals that preceded me, Hood and Craddock. I will look back on my time at Guantanamo with fondness and absolute confidence in the abilities of Rear Adm. Buzby and the Troopers – officers and NCOs alike -- to carry on the mission.”

Prior to assuming command of JTF-GTMO, Buzby served on the Staff of the Chief of Naval Operations as Deputy Director, Expeditionary Warfare.

Commander, U.S. Southern Command Adm.

James G. Stavridis attended the event, bidding a fond farewell to Harris and extending a warm welcome to Buzby. Stavridis also emphasized the importance of the JTF-GTMO mission.

“What you do here is of crucial importance to the Global War on Terror (GWOT),” said Stavridis. “I am proud of you and I believe you do your jobs in a transparent and humane way, and it’s crucially important that you continue to do that.”

“You are at a crucial place here in GTMO, and I’m incredibly proud of what you do every day,” said Stavridis.

Harris, who will assume responsibilities as Director of Operations, J3, U.S. Southern Command in Miami, Fla., then introduced Buzby to the JTF Troopers.

Buzby addressed the JTF Troopers, telling them that while he looks forward to working with them, he also would like to get to know each and every one of them during his time in command.

Buzby reflected on his first trip to Guantanamo. While he was merely a visitor at the time, Buzby was impressed by the dedication of Troopers he now looks forward to commanding.

“I am incredibly humble to have been selected for this command in execution of one of the most vital missions of the war on terror,” said Buzby.

“To the men and women of JTF-GTMO, almost one year ago I visited the JTF and came away absolutely impressed by your level of professionalism and steely determination to accomplish the mission while dealing eyeball to eyeball, day in and day out with the world’s most dangerous terrorists,” continued Buzby.

“As a matter of fact, I spent a good part of the last year telling people about you, because I was so impressed. Everyone came away knowing just how professional you were and amazed that we were doing such a difficult mission contrary to what they were hearing from the media. I therefore could not be more proud, or eager to now serve alongside all of you whom I’ve admired for so long.”

Buzby concluded his message by encouraging the Troopers to continue working towards the success of JTF-GTMO’s role in the GWOT.

“I pledge to you that I will be the very best commander that I can be, every minute of every day,” said Buzby. “I only ask that you continue to display the strength, courage and professionalism that enables this to command to execute so safely, humanely and so honorably. The war is still on, so let’s get to it. Honor Bound!” ■

NEX/Commissary: Very similar, yet very different

By **Lydia Alvarez**

Visual Supervisor, NEX GTMO

As a member of the military, whether active duty, reservist, retiree or family member, two of the benefits you receive for your dedicated service are exchange and commissary privileges.

Here in Guantanamo, the Navy Exchange (NEX) and commissary are collocated. Both offer great merchandise at a significant savings, and both make an important quality of life contribution to the community. However, did you know that they are run very differently?

The exchange and mini-marts are run with non-appropriated funds. That is, they are self sufficient, using virtually no tax dollars. Navy Exchanges operate in much the same way as civilian retailers.

Profits from NEX/mini-mart sales pay for associate payrolls, workman's compensation, health insurance, retirement benefits and for building and renovation of stores. A small amount of tax dollars pay for the salary of the few military

assigned to the Navy Exchange system, uniform management fee, and for some transportation of goods to overseas exchanges. Even though you still save every day on NEX merchandise, NEX Command must make a profit. If a profit isn't made, contributions to Moral Welfare Recreation (MWR) would decrease and so would your quality of life. Currently, GTMO's NEX is giving our local MWR program \$53,423 per month to help support quality of life programs.

On the other hand, all commissaries, whether on Army, Air Force, Navy or Marine Installations, are run by the Defense Commissary Agency in Ft. Lee, Va. Unlike the NEX, these military supermarkets are subsidized with tax payer dollars. You pay for your groceries at cost, plus a five-percent surcharge, which is added to your bill.

This surcharge is used to build new stores, provide upkeep on existing ones, pay commissary associates' salaries, and operating expenses. This is why you will see a lower retail price for commissary items versus higher prices in GTMO's mini-marts for identical items. ■

General Logan's General Order 11

By **Frank Perkins**

JTF-GTMO Special Security Office

May 30, 1868 was designated for the purpose of strewing with flowers or otherwise decorating the graves of comrades who died in defense of their country during the late rebellion, and whose bodies now lie in almost every city, village and hamlet church-yard in the country. In this observance, no form of ceremony is prescribed, but posts and comrades will, in their own way, arrange such fitting services and testimonials of respect as circumstances may permit.

We are organized comrades, as our regulations tell us, for the purpose among other things, "of preserving and strengthening those kind and fraternal feelings which have bound together the Soldiers, Sailors and Marines who united to suppress the late rebellion."

What can aid more to assure this result

than tenderly cherishing the memory of our heroic dead, who made their breasts a barricade between our country and its foes? Their Soldier lives were the reveille of freedom to a race in chains and their deaths the tattoo of rebellious tyranny in arms. We should guard their graves with sacred vigilance. All that the consecrated wealth and taste of the nation can add to their adornment and security is but a fitting tribute to the memory of her slain defenders.

Let no wanton foot tread rudely on such hallowed grounds. Let pleasant paths invite the coming and going of reverent visitors and fond mourners. Let no vandalism of avarice or neglect, no ravages of time testify to the present or to the coming generations that we have forgotten as a people the cost of a free and undivided republic.

If other eyes grow dull, other hands slack and other hearts grow cold in the solemn

trust, ours shall keep it well as long as the light and warmth of life remain to us.

Let us, then at the time appointed, gather around their sacred remains and garland the passionless mounds above them with the choicest flowers of spring-time; let us raise above them the dear old flag they saved from his honor; let us in this solemn presence renew our pledges to aid and assist those whom they have left among us a sacred charge upon a nation's gratitude, the Soldier's and Sailor's widow and orphan.

It is the purpose of the Commander-in-Chief to inaugurate this observance with the hope that it will be kept up from year to year, while a survivor of the war remains to honor the memory of his departed comrades. He earnestly desires the public press to lend its friendly aid in bringing to the notice of comrades in all parts of the country in time for simultaneous compliance therewith. ■

Network News

Internet Policy at JTF-GTMO

From the Information Assurance Office

While surfing the Internet at work, many folks have stumbled, either intentionally or unintentionally, onto a website that's blocked by website filtering software managed by the Joint Task Force, Guantanamo Bay Information Assurance Office. This software, called WebSense, displays the following message: "*JTF-GTMO's Internet use policy, in accordance with USSOUTHCOM Regulation 1001, restricts access to this web page at this time.*"

The software message displays more information, such as where you were trying to go, why it's blocked, etc. People typically react to these messages one of two ways. They may panic and wonder "Am I in trouble now," or get frustrated and think, "Why would these guys block a perfectly legitimate website?"

Both of these are reasonable responses. However, this software is not intended to elicit either. WebSense

is a tool that allows the JTF-GTMO IA Office to monitor Internet usage and to block certain websites that have been known to contain malicious code, prohibited content or otherwise inappropriate material. It's one of the many programs that run on our network that keep the bad guys out and prevent network users from inadvertently introducing a virus or other vulnerability to our global network. It can, however, become frustrating for you if you cannot access the websites your job requires.

If you ever find yourself blocked from a website that you need to access to perform your official duties, there's a simple way to get to it. When you receive the aforementioned message, you'll also see a message that says, "Click HERE to request access to this site. Please include the URL and a justification." Clicking on the link will generate an e-mail that will go to the J6 Help Desk and the IA Office.

In this e-mail, include a brief justification for needing access to the blocked website. If it's something that should not have been blocked, the IA team will enable access to that website. While web filtering software is a valuable resource that helps us do our jobs, its value is lost if it hinders you from doing yours. When this happens, let us know and we will get you the access your duties require. If you ever have any questions or concerns about a computer security issue, please feel free to contact the JTF-GTMO IA Office at j6-ia@jftgtno.southcom.mil or ext. 3333. ■

Incentives Available for Some Active-duty Captains

From Army News Service

A new Critical Skills Retention Bonus (CSRB) of \$20,000 is available to more than 7,000 regular Army captains who agree to remain on active duty beyond their initial active duty service obligation (ADSO).

The bonus is part of a "menu of incentives" targeting officers nearing completion of their initial active duty service obligation who are willing to remain on active duty an additional three years. Other incentives include graduate school, military school, transfer of branch or functional area, or post of choice.

The incentives will help the Army retain company-grade officers with valuable experience, said Col. Paul Aswell, chief, Officer Division,

Directorate of Military Personnel Management, Army G1. The Army is currently growing to increase capabilities and reduce stress over the long term. This has led to an increased need of nearly 6,000 captains and majors since 2004, according to Aswell.

The branches considered critical for the purposes of the CSRB include: air defense, adjutant general, armor, chemical, engineer, field artillery, finance, infantry, military intelligence, military police, ordnance, quartermaster, signal corps and transportation corps. Officers originally commissioned in these branches are eligible for all incentives on the menu. Officers commissioned into the Army nurse corps or medical science corps are also eligible for the CSRB.

Aviation officers are not eligible at this time due to their longer initial ADSOs, but the Army is working to draft an incentive program to offer them by year's end.

Eligible captains must have a date of rank between March 1, 2005, and January 1, 2007. Similar incentives will be offered to captains in other year groups, Aswell said.

The CSRB and other incentives are just part of the Army's efforts at eliminating the officer shortage, Aswell said. The Army has moved up the promotion to major from 11 years to ten, and is considering moving it to the ninth year of service. Aswell noted that earlier promotion points and higher rates reflect the Army's recognition of the higher experience level among today's company grade officers, and the value of their service.

"It takes the Army ten years to grow a major," Aswell said, "To grow the active officer force, we must keep officers who in the past have left active service." He went on to say he is confident the new incentives will improve retention of company-grade officers on active duty to well-above historic rates. ■

Ducks shock Red Wings in sudden death

By Army Pfc. Daniel Welch

JTF-GTMO Public Affairs Office

It has been said that nothing is more exciting than sudden death, or overtime in hockey. With a flick of the stick, a team's hopes can be realized or dashed. Game five of the Western Conference Finals between the Anaheim Ducks and the Detroit Red Wings was no exception. On Sunday, the Ducks moved one step closer to the Stanley Cup Finals with a 2-1 overtime thriller, taking a 3-2 lead in the best-of-seven series.

The Ducks, who trailed most of the game, tied it up with 47.3 seconds remaining in the third period, off a deflection from Anaheim's Scott Niedermayer that flipped over the glove of Detroit Red Wings Dominik Hasek.

"They pull the goalie and score on a deflection off my defenseman's stick," Hasek said to reporters. "It was a lucky goal, but it still counts the same as the others."

After killing off a Detroit Power Play early in overtime, the Ducks' Teemu Selanne stole the puck from a Detroit defenseman and lifted a backhand shot over the sprawling Hasek for the win.

"Everything happened so quickly," Selanne told reporters, "You don't have enough time to plan anything."

"But I've been practicing that move my whole life. I knew I had to get it up. He [Hasek] goes down and covers up everything down low."

The Red Wings took the lead at 6:13 into the second period on a goal by Andreas Lilja. They had plenty of



Anaheim's Rob Niedermayer celebrates as his team scores, while Detroit's goalie Dominik Hasek kneels in disbelief.

opportunities but could not break through the goaltending of Anaheim's Jean-Sabastien Giguere.

Giguere withstood a barrage by the Red Wings stopping 36 shots and kept the Wings high-octane special teams in check, holding them 0-7 on the power play.

The Ducks, on the other hand, managed only 18 shots on

goal for the first three periods and finished the game with only 24 shots on net.

"That's hockey," Red Wings head coach Mike Babcock explained to reporters, "But when that break goes our way, we don't overanalyze it. We just take it when it goes against us, I don't think you want to spend a whole lot of time analyzing that." ■

Another Softball Season slides on by

By Navy Petty Officer 3rd Class Jeff Johnstone
 JTF-GTMO Public Affairs Office

Intramural softball at Guantanamo Bay (GTMO) officially came to a close Wednesday. In the men's division, the Hydroids closed out the season on top of the league standings with a convincing 12-1 record, followed by The Untouchables with an 11-2 record. Congratulations on a successful season!

Other notable performances this season came from the GTMO Devils, finishing 10-3, the Ghetto Boys (9-3) and Detox (9-4). Congratulations also to the W.T. Sampson High School Pirates, picking up victories over much older, more experienced competition.

In the women's division, Six Pack closed out the season with a 5-1 record, followed by the W.T. Sampson women (4-2).

Congratulations to each and every athlete who participated in this year's softball season. Let the countdown to next season commence! ■



Photo by Navy Petty Officer 3rd Class Jeff Johnstone

A W. T. Samson player slides into base as a member of The Untouchables attempts to tag him out. The Untouchables had the second winningest record this season (11-2).

Captain's Cup Men's Softball Final Standings

Team Name	Wins	Losses
Hydroids	12	1
The Untouchables	11	2
GTMO Devils	10	3
Ghetto Boys	9	3
Detox	9	4
525 Vigilant Warriors	8	5
Rocking Anchors	8	5
Untouchable Renegades	6	6
NEGB	6	7
GTMO Guardians	3	8
Los Boricuas	3	10
W.T. Sampson	2	9

Captain's Cup Women's Softball Final Standings

Team Name	Wins	Losses
Six Pack	5	1
W.T Sampson Women	4	2
Missfits	2	4
Las Chicas	1	5

MEMORIAL DAY FISHING TOURNAMENT

MAY 25TH - 28TH, 2007

\$15 In Bound Buy In/Registration Fee

\$40 Out of Bound Buy In/Registration Fee

- ★ Total buy in money for in bounds will be divided between 1st, 2nd & 3rd place fishermen in the in-bound category.
- ★ Total buy in money for out of bounds will be divided between 1st, 2nd & 3rd place fishermen in the out of bounds category.
- ★ Shotgun start from the Marina before every session. All boats must report to the Marina before the *START* of any session. All boats participating in the tournament must be inspected at the Marina prior to 1800 Friday.
- ★ Inbound weigh-ins will be based on the 3 biggest LEGAL fish.
- ★ Out of bounds will be appreciated (per lb weight) of all fish caught during the tournament.
- NO SPEAR FISHING
- NO SHARKS!!!
- ★ Participants will not be permitted to sign up for both In and Out of bounds.
- ★ A Captains' meeting will be held on Thursday, May 24th at 0700 & 1000.
- ★ All registered participants must attend.

Rules and sign up at the Marina, ext: 2345





JOINT TASK FORCE CHANGE OF COMMAND





A Day of Remembrance



Archived photo courtesy of *The Wire*

By Army Staff Sgt. Paul Meeker

JTF-GTMO Public Affairs Office

We Troopers serving in the post-Vietnam War generation, know of men and women who have given their lives willingly in service to our country, her citizens and the freedoms guaranteed by our constitution. The battlefield for this generation is not the linear, traditional battlefield of old; it is “asymmetrical” and is a constant threat. This is the battlefield of little or no warning, fought by enemies

who are not readily identifiable by uniform or unit, much less country or nationality.

The tragedy of Beirut, Lebanon in October, 1983 saw 241 Marines lose their lives in their own quarters.

In June, 1996 at Khobar Towers, Saudi Arabia, 19 servicemen lost their lives in this momentous conflict that has since taken the lives of many others, including 17 Sailors on the USS Cole in October, 2000. As of this writing, over 3800 service members have fallen in the cities, mountains and deserts of Iraq and

Afghanistan since 9-11.

It is our privilege and our duty to honor these sacrifices, along with the sacrifices of all who have given their lives during our nation’s wars and conflicts. We honor our fallen with our sober reflections and prayers on Memorial Day.

The president has called upon all of us to unite in prayer for permanent peace. Monday, May 28 and to observe by resolution a National Moment of Remembrance by “voluntarily and informally pausing from whatever [we] are doing for a moment of silence or listening to “Taps.”

A special place to participate in this solemn ceremony of remembrance on Memorial Day is the Cuzco Cemetery, where Rear Adm. Mark H. Buzby will lay a wreath at the flagpole in commemoration of those that lie there in service to our nation. A 21-gun salute by the Marine Corps Honor Guard will follow the Admiral’s presentation. Troopers interested in honoring those who have stood and fallen before them are encouraged to be at the cemetery before 7:30 a.m., which is when the ceremony will begin.

Unlike our enemies, we stand proud and in uniform, recognizable by service, unit, rank and accomplishment. More importantly, we stand proud because we’ve inherited from the fallen a way of living, loving, fighting and dying that is sacred and honorable. This is why we pause on Memorial Day.

“The bravest are surely those who have the clearest vision of what is before them, glory and danger alike, and yet notwithstanding, go out to meet it.” – Thucydides, 460-404 BCE. ■

Mark Twain

By Army Pfc. Daniel Welch

JTF-GTMO Public Affairs Office

In past years, many entertainers have made their way to Guantanamo Bay (GTMO) to perform for the Troopers assigned here. From NFL cheerleaders to rock stars, to guys who juggle flaming chainsaws, GTMO has been the host of a variety of acts. However, it is not often that someone credited as being the “father of American literature” stops by for a lecture. Stranger still, that same person has also been dead for nearly a century.

Just such an appearance happened on Friday, May 18 at the Windjammer Club, when the club hosted “An Evening with Mark Twain.” A one man show was performed by W.T. Sampson Elementary School Assistant Principal Jay Gilbo, as a benefit for the school’s Parent Teacher Association (PTA).

“I have 150 first editions of his, as well as various letters and speeches that I have collected over the years,” explained Gilbo. The topics of conversation ranged from subjects including, Shakespeare and Bacon, profanity, suicide attempts, accident insurance and the dangers of abstinence.

After a short intermission, Gilbo went on to read a passage from the Twain classic “Huckleberry Finn,” a tale of a wayward young man and his adventures with an escaped slave. He finished the show with other irreverent tales from Twain.

The show is a labor of love for Gilbo, who has admired the Missouri-born author since he was a child.

“My grandmother used to read me stories of his when I was a child,” said Gilbo. “I loved the way she made different voices for each of the characters, and brought them all to life.”

Bringing Twain to life onstage was something that happened later on in his life. “I had been toying with an impersonation of him for a while,” explained Gilbo, but it was not until 1974 that I began doing it on stage with 45 minutes worth of material.”

The show has taken Gilbo many years to perfect. “I hope the show gets people to understand that he was not just a writer, but also a humorist, and a humanitarian among other things,” explained Gilbo. “As he got older, he also got more convoluted and dark, and I hope that comes across in my work.”

This is the third time Gilbo has performed his show for an audience at GTMO, and it certainly won’t be his last. He hopes to prepare a show during the Fall, with entirely new material. ■



Reunion Issue #5

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

JTF-GTMO Command Chaplain

Deployment Cycle Support (DCS) briefings and specific tasks were created by the military to safeguard the Troopers and their families against the pitfalls of post-deployment reunions. Troopers and their family members have similar experiences, but each has a different way of looking at his experience. The process of reuniting involves each party taking the time to understand the other's point of view: the time of separation, the challenges that were experienced, the anger that was felt and the changes that Troopers and family members have experienced.

The briefings required by all out-processing members of the Joint Task Force are Department of Defense mandated briefings. No one is allowed to leave Guantanamo Bay without completing these DCS briefings.

Our families have similar reunion briefings provided to them with their specific experiences addressed. Simply, our family members did not experience service at GTMO, so they don't receive our identical briefings. Family Readiness (Reserves and National Guard), Family Assistance Centers and Fleet and Family Support Centers (Navy) provide the briefings for our families.

The difference with them is that no one can order them to attend. Our personal encouragement may be the deciding

factor in their participation. The benefit for them, and for the troopers, is a smoother, better informed reunion process. For example, the more they understand why we may have problems sleeping at first and the more we understand their desire for us to take back some of our responsibilities from them, the sooner our feelings about being home will return to normal.

Seek professional and sympathetic support if you are having a difficult time adjusting to your stateside life through your chaplain, family readiness and support programs and staff. ■

SURVIVING SEPARATION

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

JTF-GTMO Command Chaplain

This week's action item is:

Action Item #5 – Attend Reunion Briefings.

Tell your family to attend their Reunion Briefings back home. Family members need the same information that we are required to have. ■

WEEKEND WEATHER FORECAST

Weather forecast provided by www.weather.com

Saturday, May 26

Scattered thunderstorms possible. Highs in the high - 80's, and lows in the high-70's.



Scattered T-storms

Sunrise: 6:21 a.m.

Sunset: 7:34 p.m.

Chance of Rain: 60%

Sunday, May 27

Scattered thunderstorms possible. Highs in the high - 80's, and lows in the high-70's.



Scattered T-storms

Sunrise: 6:21 a.m.

Sunset: 7:34 p.m.

Chance of Rain: 60%

Monday, May 28

Scattered thunderstorms possible. Highs in the high - 80's, and lows in the high-70's.



Scattered T-storms

Sunrise: 6:21 a.m.

Sunset: 7:35 p.m.

Chance of Rain: 60%

MOVIE REVIEW CORNER

This week's movie review of "Reign Over Me" by Army Pfc. Daniel Welch



"Reign Over Me," is an illustration of how important it is for a critically successful movie to have a solid script as well as a great cast.

The movie itself centers around Alan Johnson (Don Cheadle) a successful New York City dentist, and his attempts to rescue his college roommate, Charlie Fineman (Adam Sandler), from the depths of depression and post - traumatic stress, after the death of Charlie's wife and three daughters who were on one of the planes that crashed into the World Trade Center.

The windfall of insurance and government money in the wake of the tragedy leaves Charlie without any monetary concerns, and he reverts into a sort of "man - boy state." He plays video games and plays drums in a rock band, while riding his scooter all over Manhattan. Alan, on the other hand, is a top-notch dentist who feels empty from his overbearing wife and lifeless dental practice.

While the story is pretty straight forward, the movie never fleshes out the minor characters or leaves many of the sub-plots unanswered.

The use of 9/11 in the storyline as the backdrop for tragedy is also misguided. It is certainly not used in a disrespectful manner. However the death of Charlie's family could have been the result of any number of circumstances and his condition would be just as plausible. Because the magnitude of that day still resonates in the minds of many Americans, it's use in the film overshadows his loss and feels like a trump card played by the filmmakers to ensure an audience.

It's unfortunate that the script is so poorly written, because Cheadle does another outstanding job in this film and continues to build an impressive resume of work. Sandler, on the other hand, continues to try his hand at something other than "fart joke" movies, and does a respectable job as the catatonic Charlie.

"Reign Over Me" is not a total calamity by any stretch, but with a better script it could have been one of those dark horses that contend for an Oscar. ■

-Reign over me-

Rating: ★★☆☆

Rated: R

Duration: 124 minutes

Boots on the Ground:

"What is your favorite food served at the Galley?"



"Chicken, rice, everything! The food is good!"

-Army Sgt. 1st Class
Josue Nieves



"Tacos on Wednesdays."

-Navy Seaman
Christopher Weekes



"Asian food."

-Navy Petty Officer
3rd Class Sea Thornton



"All the food! Not just one."

-Army Spc. Oscar De
Jesus

I am who I am supposed to be

By Army Chaplain (Maj.) Daniel Jones

JTF-GTMO Command Chaplain

I received the following story in my email the other day.

A six-year-old boy told his father he wanted to marry the little girl across the street. The father, being modern and well-schooled in handling children, hid his smile behind his hand.

“That’s a serious step,” he said. “Have you thought it out completely?”

“Yes,” his young son answered. “We can spend one week in my room and the next in hers. It’s right across the street, so I can run home if I get scared of the dark.”

“How about transportation?” the father asked.

“I have my wagon, and we both have our tricycles,” the little boy answered. The boy had an answer to every question the father raised.

Finally, in exasperation, his dad asked, “What about babies? When you’re married, you’re liable to have babies, you know.”

“We’ve thought about that, too,” the little boy replied. “We’re not going to have babies. Every time she lays an egg, I’m going to step on it!”

I’ve planned my life out in as much detail as that little boy and girl and I’ve even laid a few eggs in my time. I’ve even stepped on the fragile things around me and caused cracks and brokenness. My plans haven’t turned out the way I planned and even as I matured I began hoping that I would turn a corner and everything would fall into my grand plan. It didn’t. My imaginative and even early vocational goals cracked and broke. My looks changed from my image of what I wished I looked like to what you see is what you get. Time and rough roads traveled haven’t helped that wish. If I looked at the whole early plan compared to the reality of life and today’s personal profile, I am wise to see that I am who I am supposed to be.

We wish, plan and even make some tries at organizing and controlling life but that is unrealistic and we can be very frustrated and disillusioned. What you and I need to do

are two things: first, accept that God is not finished with me yet, I am a work in progress, yet to be completed. Second, help our children, friends and others in learning this wisdom.

Eggs will be broken in the process and we may even wish they didn’t exist but that is how life is. We plan, we hope and we wish but we never completely control our lives. We just control how we react to the brokenness. Sometimes we just have to step back, smile and make scrambled eggs. ■

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
	7:00 p.m.	Family Home Evening	Room 8
Mon. to Fri.	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 Minutes of Fame

COAST GUARD SENIOR CHIEF ERIC JOHNSON

By Army Pfc. Daniel Welch

JTF-GTMO Public Affairs Office

Guantanamo Bay (GTMO) can be an exciting place, depending on how you spend your down time. Beaches, fishing, snorkeling and other aquatic activities are available just down the road for most Troopers here. Troopers motivated to perform these aquatic hobbies always have the option to be motivated academically as well. With today's technology, even an online classroom! By focusing on their opportunity to cash in on a free education, Troopers can complete a staggering amount of college course work in a seemingly short period of time.

An academically motivated individual is Coast Guard Senior Chief Petty Officer Eric L. Johnson. During his six month stay on the Caribbean, he has earned 60 college credits on his own, and is only a few credits away from earning his bachelor's degree.

Johnson, a 28 year veteran of the Coast Guard (the last 19 in a reserve unit), has traveled far and wide during his service to the country. He has spent time on the shores of New England. He's conducted port security operations in the Middle East during the Gulf War. Now, he is here at GTMO.

The missions he has carried out have been as versatile as the locations he has been assigned: counter drug operations, search and rescue and force protection missions.

His dutiful service does not stop there, as he is set to retire from the New Hampshire State Police in July of this year.

However, during that time, the

one thing Johnson never pursued was a higher education. Shortly after his arrival, Johnson attended the mandatory Newcomers' Briefing. When the topic of education came into discussion, the course offerings and easy access to Columbia College's satellite campus piqued his interest.

"Coming from a small town in Northern New Hampshire, I never really thought college was that vital," explained Johnson, Senior Chief of JTF-GTMO Port Security Unit. "Looking back though, there were a lot of opportunities that were missed because I did not have one (a college education)."

Working with the staff at Columbia, Johnson took two classes, but most of his coursework was done via the CLEP program, which allowed him to earn credit by testing out of many subjects.

"I gave myself a week to study for each class before taking the test," said Johnson. "It's a tremendous asset to

be able to take a CLEP exam free of charge."

He added that the eight week course length aided his ability to complete such a large volume of schooling, and that classes at Columbia College offer everyone assigned here a chance to get ahead while deployed.

Johnson's college education may also come in handy during his next assignment, as he is going back on active duty with the Coast Guard.

"I have been tasked to be the Command chief of Sector San Juan, Puerto Rico," explained Johnson. "I decided that while I was down here, the weather there would agree with me."

There are a myriad of opportunities available to JTF Troopers. Education is certainly an option they can pursue during off duty hours that will have a lasting impact, not only on their military careers, but their lives after the service as well. ■

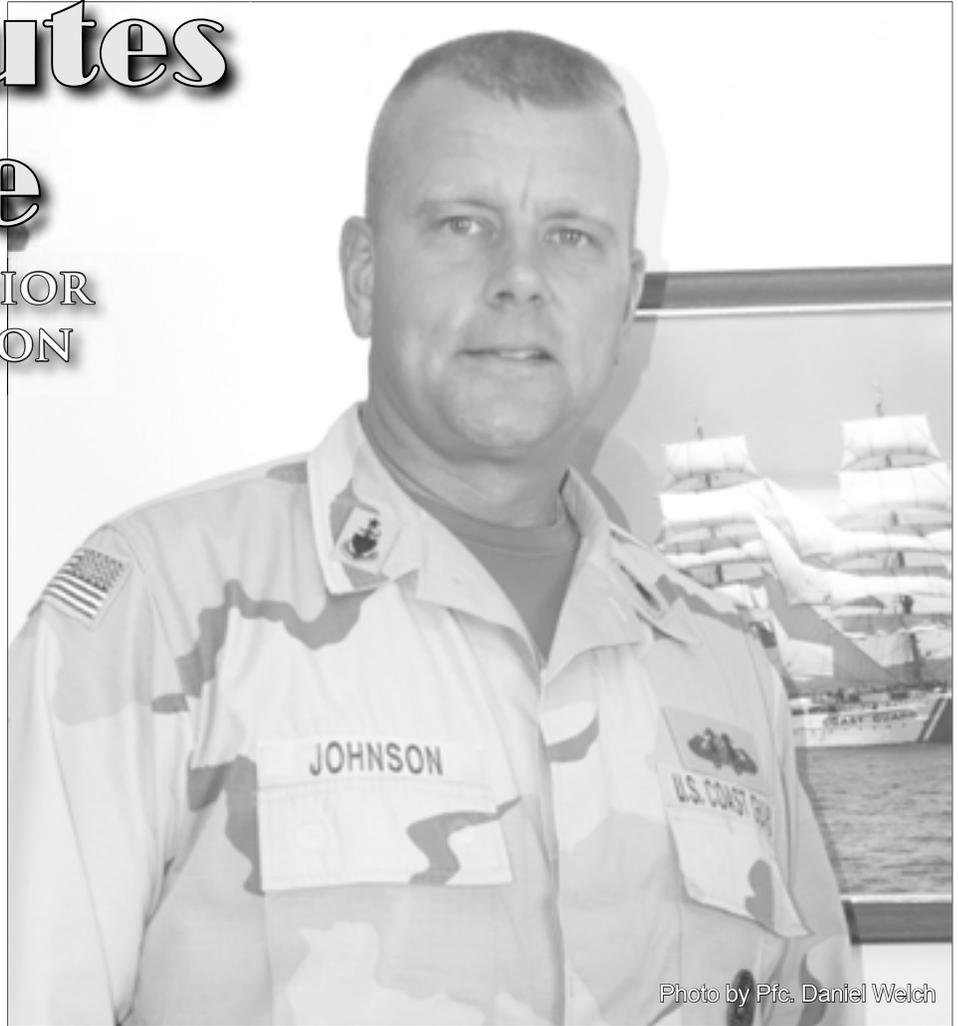


Photo by Pfc. Daniel Welch

AROUND THE JTF



Ensign Deric E. Robinson, assistant officer in charge of Camp 1 presents a reenlistment certificate to Navy Petty Officer 3rd Class Matthew Hall during a ceremony held May 21.



Photo by Petty Officer 2nd Class Patrick Thompson

Commander, U.S. Southern Command Adm. James G. Stavridis awards a Joint Service Medal to JTF Joint Service Director Paul Rester Tuesday.



Photo by Spc. Shanita Simmons

Army Maj. Rolando Vargas (left) was congratulated following his promotion to Major by Commander, JTF-GTMO Rear Adm. Mark H. Buzby following a promotion ceremony Wednesday.