

The WIRE

An award-winning
JTF journal

Can you
see me
now?

JTF to roll out
NWU Type III

Also:

Tax time is upon us

What's with all
the cacti?

UFC fighters grapple
at Denich

Delicious proteins

COMMAND CORNER

COMMAND SGT. MAJ. KARIUM EDWARDS

ACTING COMMAND SERGEANT MAJOR, JTF GUANTANAMO

Joint Task Force Guantanamo is made up of an ever-changing community. Troopers continuously rotate in and out on different types of tours and lengths of deployments. We are from every branch of military service, and come from the reserve and active components.

With every incoming and outgoing unit or individual augmentee, one thing remains the same: Troopers' commitment to the Joint Task Force mission. The JTF can only improve as we continue to train, communicate new ideas, take pride in our knowledge and experience, and work together to leave our places better than we found them.

The first step is the individual initiative to do the right thing, even when nobody is looking. Integrity is key to gaining the trust of your leadership and subordinates. Do the right thing for the right reason – doing a “favor” for someone should not be conditional. Helping one another only helps the JTF as a whole grow and improve.

The second step is the desire to improve what you do on a daily basis. Whether your tour is six months, nine months, or a full year, you have the ability to make your job better. Just having a positive attitude will help.

The longer people are here, the more they mature into their job, and the better they become at it. Recognize your own and other people's leadership styles.

Regardless of your level, everyone has the responsibility to point out things which are going wrong or have the

potential to become bigger problems. Address issues as they come up and make on-the-spot corrections. Don't wait until a problem cannot be fixed.

Having arrived here in August as JTF Guantanamo's J3 Operations sergeant major, my first impression was challenging to say the least. Now that I have the perspective of nearly six months on the ground, I have the utmost respect

I have the utmost respect and appreciation for all brothers and sisters in arms supporting the JTF. The recent Command Climate Survey confirms that everyone here, from the “Red Roof” leaders to the gate guards, is doing a good job.

and appreciation for all brothers and sisters in arms supporting the JTF. The Trooper population is incredibly diverse, dedicated, and mission-focused. Each Trooper seeks to earn the trust of their leadership and battle buddies. The recent Command Climate Survey confirms that everyone here, from the “Red Roof” leaders to the gate guards, is doing a good job. Everyone visibly cares about their job and takes pride in their work.

Next week's series of All-Hands Calls will discuss the JTF mission, equipment, resources and our biggest asset: the care and concerns of our Troopers. All-Hands Calls are a regular occurrence and may be particularly familiar to the Navy, however, all Troopers will benefit.

Bottom line: the JTF Guantanamo leadership is committed to the mission and continuing to improve all aspects of life for all those deployed and stationed here. Continue to communicate at all levels the importance of the mission and those who make it happen every day: you!

Cover: U.S. Naval Station Guantanamo Bay Seabees have already transitioned to wearing the Navy Working Uniform (NWU) Type III. On April 16, the Joint Task Force's Navy population will follow suit and trade in their desert combat uniforms for the new green, tan, and black camouflage.

—photo by Mass Communication Spc. 2nd Class Kilho Park



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NEWS FROM THE BAY

Command Fitness Leader cert course

Are you looking for a chance to take the lead on your command's physical training? Enroll in the Command Fitness Leader Certification Course. Register online by March 9 at the following address:

www.navyfitness.org/fitness/cfl_information

The course runs from March 26 to March 30. For more information, call 2157.

Library renovation

The MWR Community Library is closed for renovations. The children's section will be available at the elementary school, room B9 on Tuesdays and Fridays from 9 a.m. to noon. Story time will also be held in room B9 on Fridays at 10 a.m. Wi-Fi access, public computers, the scanner, fax and copier will be available at the Teen Center from 8 a.m. to 9 p.m. Sunday to Wednesday.

NLSO tax assistance

The Navy Legal Services Office is ready to help Guantanamo residences through tax season. The naval station location will be open 8:30 a.m. to 8 p.m., Mon-Fri., and the JTF Trooper One Stop office 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. Mon.-Fri. Appointments are now available.

For more information, call 4692.

Pool tournament

Bring your pool skills to Marine Hill, Camp America and Deer Point Liberty Centers on Feb. 27 at 6 p.m. to compete with the best pool players Gitmo has to offer. Prizes will be given to winners at every Liberty Center. For more information, call 2010.



Specialty care providers at USNH

Specialty care providers will be available for appointments at U.S. Naval Hospital Guantanamo in the upcoming months:

GI – March

ENT – March/April

Audiology – April

Dermatology – April

Podiatry – April

Urology – April

For a referral, schedule an appointment with Primary Care Clinic at 72110.

Virtual career fair

Service members, veterans, and military spouses will have the opportunity to meet and interact with recruiters and hiring managers from dozens of military employers from the convenience of their home. You must register to reserve your space at www.veteranscareerfair.com. The career fair will be at Feb. 24 from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Day fishing

Join MWR Liberty for a free fishing trip March 3 at 6:30 a.m. Bait will be provided, but you must bring your own fishing pole. This event is open to unaccompanied military members.

For more information, call 2010.

Wood Shop hours

Due to customer demand, the Wood Shop now has extended Sunday hours.

Sunday: 12 p.m. – 9 p.m.

Tuesday-Friday: 5 p.m. – 9 p.m.

Saturday: 2 p.m. – 9 p.m.

Advancement Test exam schedule

The Windjammer Ballroom doors open at 7 a.m. and close at 7:30 a.m. prior to testing. No entry will be allowed after they close. Remember ID cards and be sure to wear proper name tapes. The test dates are as follows:

E6 candidates: Mar. 1

E5 candidates: Mar. 8

E4 candidates: Mar. 15

For more information, call 9541.

Bart Walker Band to play Marine Hill

The Marine Corps Security Force Company proudly presents a free outdoor concert featuring the Bart Walker Band at the MCSFCO Parade Deck tomorrow. Gates open at 4:30 p.m. and the show starts at 6:15 p.m. The show is free to all hands. Bring your own lawn chair, blanket, food and drink (no glass, please). Parking is limited, so please share rides.

If you can't make it on Saturday, the band will also play Feb. 26 at O'Kelly's Irish Pub at 5 p.m.

For more information, call 2114.

Tricare office relocated

The Tricare office has temporarily relocated to building H-11, behind the hospital barracks complex.

Free range balls

The Lateral Hazard golf course shop at the Yatera Seca Golf course will provide free driving range balls Feb. 27.

For more information, call 2345.

Kickball league

Get a group of friends together and relive some of your favorite childhood playground moments with the kickball league. Teams can be coed and participants must be 16 years old and up. Each team will bat 11 and field 10 players at a time. The number of players on the roster is up to you. Registration ends March 7 at 7 p.m. A coaches meeting will be held on March 14 at 5:30 p.m.

For more information, call 2113.

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Trooper to Trooper

the IGs are here to help!

SGT. 1ST CLASS BETTY GOODLOW

ASSISTANT INSPECTOR GENERAL

I am sure many of you have heard of the Inspector General (IG) and may have asked the question: what is the job of an IG?

IGs have four general functions: inspections, assistance, investigations, and teaching and training. The role of the Inspector General in the Joint Task Force Guantanamo mission is to provide support in maintaining the highest level of integrity and confidence. We are advocates of quality service for all JTF personnel. We provide candid, objective, and uninhibited internal analysis and advice. We emphasize integrity, ethics, efficiency, discipline and readiness while exercising fairness, impartiality, and timeliness in accomplishing the mission.

The motto of the Inspector General Corps is "Droit et Avant," which is Latin for "be right, and then move forward." IGs are confidential advisors and fact finders to commanders. IGs examine the facts before taking further actions. Selfless service is the cardinal attribute of a successful IG. Our sworn duty is to serve as fairly, impartially, and objectively.

IGs provide assistance and a system for resolving problems for Troopers, civilians and family members. We provide the

ability for Troopers to seek help on matters affecting their health, welfare, and personal readiness. Anyone may submit a complaint, or request for information or assistance to the IG. The IG's role as the Commander's representative is to resolve these issues within the limits of the IG system. But before coming to the IG, ensure that your chain of command has had a chance to resolve the problem.

Our mission is to provide accurate and responsive service to resolve questions and issues, maintaining confidentiality to the maximum extent possible. All communication with the IG is protected by law, and talking to an IG about an issue cannot be grounds for any unfavorable action. Everyone must respect and protect a Trooper's right to bring issues or allegations to the IG, whether or not you agree with its validity. However, understand that research takes time.

Inspectors General should not be viewed as the enemy. IGs are here to help commanders as well as the Troopers. IGs should be viewed as an asset. We have knowledge in many areas useful to Commanders and Troopers. Remember: to file a complaint without fear of reprisal is the right of any Trooper!



'Tis the season... tax season, that is!

MONEY MATTERS

By Sgt. 1st Class Kryn Westhoven

Less than two months. Just over seven weeks. Fifty-three days to go. No matter how you remind yourself, the April 17 deadline to file your 2011 taxes is fast approaching. You read that correctly; April One Seven, but having two extra days doesn't mean you have additional time to procrastinate.

To successfully complete the mission of filing your tax returns, it is like any other. Preparation is plays an important role in making the process faster and lessens the potential for errors.

There is some basic information you will need for filing. Have social security numbers and dates of birth for you, your spouse and dependents. Now gather up receipts or records for real estate taxes, education, child

care and adoption costs. Gather up your medical and dental expenses, charitable donations or alimony information, if any of those situations apply to you.

You should have received in the mail or retrieved online the various forms you need to file with your return. Your W-2 is available at the following site:

<https://mypay.dfas.mil/mypay.aspx>

Married service members will need their spouses' W-2s if they worked in 2011.

Then there is the family of 1099 forms. The number 1099 is followed by letters to indicate where the money is coming from; for example, 1099-INT records bank account interest and 1099-MISC shows any miscel-

Money really does matter, especially to the IRS in April: this is part one of a three-part series on how to file your taxes while at Joint Task Force Guantanamo.

laneous income. You might have a Form 1098-E for student loan interest or Form 1098 for home mortgage interest that you will need to account for.

Remember a deployment or permanent change of station to Joint Task Force Guantanamo does not entitle you to Combat Zone Exclusion, so all your pay is taxable, to include hazardous duty and imminent danger pay. There is a chart of items included in gross income along with a chart of exclusions in the 30 pages of the Armed Services Tax Guide, which is available at the Internal Revenue Service's website:

<http://www.irs.gov/pub/irs-pdf/p3.pdf>

Before filing your federal income tax return, you should be aware of a few important tax changes that took effect last year.

First, the standard deduction increased for some taxpayers who do not itemize deductions on IRS Schedule A (Form 1040); the amount varies depending on your filing status. Also, the amount you can deduct for each exemption has increased to \$3,700 for 2011.

Last year, the rates for mileage were different for Jan. 1 through June 30 than for July 1 through Dec. 31. Medical and moving mileage are both 19 cents per mile for the early half of the year and 23 1/2 cents in the latter half. For business use of your car, you

see TAXES page 7

Super Troopers

Congratulations to the Navy Expeditionary Guard Battalion Troopers who recently received commander's coins!

MA2 Blume	MA2 Harvey	OS2 McReynolds
MA2 Brooks	AWO1 Hill	PR2 Navarro
YN2 Brown	NC1 Hodge	HT3 Ruiz
EM2 Davis	YN2 Holt	MA1 Santana
MA1 Harris	AZ2 Joseph	YN2 Toledo

PROTECT YOUR INFO! PSEC ALERT

Who has the "Need to Know"?

Have you ever had someone ask you questions that you thought were unusual or were a bit too personal? Questions from strangers about our job, family or private life can make us feel uncomfortable. So how do we know what to say? How much information do we give about ourselves? Use the "Need to Know" principle. Ask yourself why this person might be looking for information, and then ask yourself "do they have the need to know"? Some people do need to know things about us. For example our work supervisors, doctors, even security personnel might need to know things as a part of doing their jobs. But does the person next to you in line need to know how you do your job? Does the guy at the laundromat? How about the next door neighbor? Think before you speak. Don't just give out information because someone asks for it. Use "Need to Know" as your guide. Use OPSEC!



re: information assurance

It is tax season again! As more people file their taxes online, tax scams are on the rise. Remember: if it sounds too good to be true, it probably is. The IRS has issued several consumer warnings about the fraudulent use of the IRS name or logo by scammers trying to gain access to consumers' financial information in order to steal their identity and assets. Scammers will use regular mail, telephone, fax or email to set up their victims. It is very rare for the IRS to initiate taxpayer communications through email. If you get an email from the IRS concerning refunds or balance due, it is probably a scam. For more information on current tax scams or instructions on how to report a scam please visit www.irs.gov.

TROOPER FOCUS

By Sgt. 1st Class Jerome Grant

Hospital Corpsman 2nd Class Frederick Scott works as the Lead Petty Officer (LPO) of the Dental Department at the Joint Troop Clinic. He serves as the lead administrator of the clinic, in addition to providing dental cleanings and performing duties as a dental technician.

At his parent command, Naval Station Mayport, Fla., Scott works in logistics, specifically medical supply. The duty here is much different than working in logistics.

"I take care of daily operations," said Scott. "I schedule patients, ensure all the equipment works, and make sure the rest of the corpsmen stay gainfully employed."

Scott's boss has a slightly different view of his role in the Dental Department.

"He fully manages a complex schedule of patient care" said Cmdr. Bruce Green, Senior Dental Officer of the Joint Medical Group. "HM2 is an outstanding performer, making even complex procedures go smoothly with his expert assistance."

"The visiting dental specialist on the island had the

opportunity to work with HM2 Scott, and commented that he was among the best dental techs that he has ever worked with," Green said.

Scott said that he enjoys his job because he is taking care of Troopers.

"My favorite thing is the dental cleaning," said Scott. "After the cleaning, people can leave here with a sense of satisfaction."

Scott's excellent performance isn't limited only to his dental skills, according to Chief Petty Officer Sharon Raymond, LCPO of the Joint Troop Clinic.

"HM2 Scott is an outstanding dental technician and Sailor," said Raymond. "Through his managerial ability, dental appointment availability rose 50 percent, reducing routine access to care from 12 days to seven."

Another notable accomplishment according to Raymond was Scott's work in support of the Naval Expeditionary Guard Battalion. Scott utilized various resources and tools to increase the dental readiness of NEGB by five percent in just two months.

One might think that



someone so driven to excellence might be easily stressed, but not Scott.

"HM2 Scott is always smiling," said Raymond. "His positive attitude is infectious."

"I have not known him to have anything but a positive attitude," said Green. "Even

when the going has gotten very tough, even when the hours have gotten long, and most especially when patients have been irate."

"I can't wait to see him with anchors someday!" Raymond added, referring to Navy chief rank.

14,000 combat-related jobs now open to female service members

By Karen Parrish

American Forces Press Service

WASHINGTON – Military women, particularly Soldiers, will see more than 14,000 new job or assignment opportunities because of policy changes the Defense Department announced Thursday.

The changes are included in a report the department submitted to Congress Thursday, based in part on findings the Military Leadership Diversity Commission reported in March.

Thursday's report included a "vision statement": "The Department of Defense is committed to removing all barriers that would prevent service members from rising to the highest level of responsibility that their talents and capabilities warrant."

A Pentagon news release accompanying the announcement quotes Defense Secretary Leon E. Panetta as saying women have proven themselves in and out of battle.

"Women are contributing in unprecedented ways to the military's mission," he said. "Through their courage, sacrifice, patriotism and great skill, women have proven their ability to serve in an expanding number

of roles on and off the battlefield.

"We will continue to open as many positions as possible to women so that anyone qualified to serve can have the opportunity to do so," the secretary said.

The biggest barrier DOD is lifting is a 1994 policy prohibiting women from jobs – such as tank mechanic and field artillery radar operator – that take place near combat units. With that bar removed, more than 13,000 Army jobs will be available to women Soldiers for the first time.

The second change is an "exception to policy" that will allow the Army, Navy and Marines to open select positions at the battalion level in jobs women already occupy.

The current policy, also set in 1994, bars women in jobs such as intelligence, communications and logistics from assignment at units smaller than a brigade. Nearly 1,200 assignments will open to women Soldiers, Sailors and Marines under the exceptions.

As the law requires, the Defense Department will not implement the new policies until Congress has been in continuous session for 30 days, which should

happen later this spring.

The report notes the policy changes reflect conditions already common in the past decade's wars, where attacks can occur without warning and battle lines can shift to formerly "rear echelon" areas.

"The dynamics of the modern-day battlefield are non-linear, meaning there are no clearly defined front line and safer rear area where combat support operations are performed within a low-risk environment," the document's authors wrote.

Pentagon statistics show 144 military women have been killed and 865 wounded in combat and noncombat incidents in Iraq and Afghanistan. Some 20,000 of the 205,000 service members currently serving in Afghanistan are women, and they make up about 280,000 of the more than 2.3 million troops who have served in operations over the past decade.

The 1.4 million-member active-duty force now serving includes about 205,000 women.

The report notes the changes will expand career opportunities for women, provide a greater pool of troops from which combatant commanders may draw, reduce the operational tempo for "male counterparts" by increasing the number of service members available to support direct combat forces, improve consistency in assignment policy, and give field commanders more flexibility in meeting combat-support mission requirements.

Pentagon Press Secretary George Little told reporters the policy changes follow an extensive review that involved input from all the services.

"We believe it is very important to explore ways to offer more opportunities to women in the military," he said.

Little said the department will continue to look for ways to increase opportunities for military women. He acknowledged

most of the positions involve the Army, as the nation's primary ground force.

"Most positions in the Air Force are already open to women," Little said. "The vast majority of positions in the Navy are already open to women, so most of these positions do involve the United States Army."

The report states that 99-percent of all Air Force positions, officer and enlisted, are open to women. The figure is 66-percent for the Army, 68-percent for the Marines, and 88-percent for the Navy.

The 1994 Direct Ground Combat Definition and Assignment Rule identified five elements affecting women's military service: direct ground combat, berthing and privacy, collocation, long-range reconnaissance and special operations forces, and physically demanding tasks.

Today's report addresses two of these with full or partial policy changes, and addresses the others by stating department officials are working to establish gender-neutral job standards.

"This will mean a thorough analysis of job-related physical requirements ... expected of service members," the report reads in part. "These standards will help determine which specific positions presently excluded under the special operations and physical standards criteria are suitable for general assignment of both genders."

The report's authors acknowledged there are "practical barriers that require time to resolve to ensure the services maximize the safety and privacy of all service members while maintaining military readiness."

The secretary directed the services to report their results, within six months after the policies take effect, on their implementation of the new assignment standards, and their progress developing gender-neutral physical standards.

What's your favorite AFN commercial?



"I like the commercial with the talking sock. I think talking socks are funny."

Information Systems Technician 2nd Class Ashley Berlemeier



"I like the 'Can't Ship This' commercial. It's funny at the end when they start dancing."

Yeoman 2nd Class Jason Prince



"The Military One Source commercial when the man is shaking his butt at the end! It's too funny the way he's dancing."

Sgt. 1st Class Sharlene Downer



"The 'Be a Good Roommate' commercial is a really good one. It's a good advertisement for a people living in close quarters."

Spc. Paula Felder

BOOTS ON THE GROUND... DELIGHTFUL!

TAXES cont.

start at 51 cents and jump to 55 1/2 cents for the second half.

For those who qualify for the alternative minimum tax (AMT), the exemption amount increased to \$48,450 or \$74,450 if married and filing jointly. The additional tax on distributions from health or medical savings accounts not used for qualified medical expenses increased to 20 percent in 2011.

If you converted or rolled over an amount from a traditional IRA to a Roth IRA or designated Roth in 2010 and did not elect to report the taxable amount on your 2010 return, you generally must report half

of it on your 2011 return and the rest on your 2012 return.

And finally, if you will be mailing in your return the IRS changed the filing location for several areas, so check the Form 1040 instructions for the correct address.

Check www.irs.gov before you file for updates on any new legislation that may affect your tax return.

Next week we will take an in-depth look at the resources available to Troopers at Joint Task Force Guantanamo to assist in tax preparation, to include the Navy Legal Services Office.

The Cactus Curtain

By Sgt. 1st Class Michael Shimer



February was a busy month historically for the U.S. Naval Station Guantanamo Bay, Cuba. Back in 1964, tensions between the communist government of Cuba, under the leadership of Fidel Castro, and the U.S. military at Guantanamo Bay had grown to a bit of a climax.

What later became known as the “Cuban Water Crisis of 1964” had its roots in tit-for-tat events between the Cuban military and the naval station. In 1958, during the Cuban Revolution, vehicular traffic through the Northeast Gate was suspended. In June 1958, Fidel’s brother Raul captured 29 Sailors and Marines returning to base from liberty and held them prisoner for 22 days. The Naval Station suspended off-post liberty in early 1959 for military and civilian personnel. Castro overthrew the U.S.-backed Batista government in 1959 and declared himself a Marxist/Communist in July 1959. The U.S. cut off diplomatic ties with Cuba on Jan. 4, 1961.

Around the time of the Cuban

Missile Crisis in October 1961, the Cuban government had its militia begin planting cactus for miles along the base’s fence line, in part to stem the tide of Cubans who had been trying to flee Cuba for the American naval station side. Comparisons began to be made between the Cuban “Cactus Curtain” and the Soviet “Iron Curtain” in Eastern Europe.

Harassment occurred regularly between the Cuban guards and the U.S. Marines on either side of the “Cactus Curtain.” On Feb. 6, 1964, Castro ordered the water supply to the base, which was part of an agreement between the U.S. and Cuba and delivered through a pipeline from the Yateras River, cut off. But what Castro didn’t factor into his plans was the presence of a bona fide Navy war hero at Guantanamo Bay.

After Castro cut off the water and continued toying with the Americans by turning it back on for three days, Admiral Bulkeley ordered chief engineer Navy Capt. Nelson Simonson to cut a

12-foot section of the water supply pipe. With only 10 days’ supply available, water rationing began immediately and a temporary process was put in place to deliver water to the base by barge.

The Navy also began to dismantle an experimental water desalinization plant in Point Loma, California for shipment to Guantanamo Bay. Just five months after the Cuban Water Crisis had begun, Burns and Roe had the reassembled desalinization plant producing fresh water at Guantanamo Bay, initially with an output of 750,000 gallons of fresh water per day. Within a year, that capacity had been increased to 2.25 million gallons per day.

February 1964 marked a monumental point in the history of Guantanamo Bay. By July of that year, under the leadership of Rear Admiral Bulkeley, and despite continuing harassment from Communist Cuba, U.S. Naval Station Guantanamo Bay at last achieved self-sufficiency behind the “Cactus Curtain.”

photo by Mass Communication Spc. 2nd Class Kilho Park

Volleyball tournament boosts teamwork over long weekend

By Army Sgt. Landis Andrews

You might not be able to tell by the mid-80s temperatures and humidity, but it is winter here. Guantanamo Bay saw his shadow, right? Well, that didn’t stop Morale Welfare & Recreation from putting on a two-day, outdoor volleyball tournament for the community this President’s Day weekend. The weather was the motivation behind the tongue-in-cheek title Blizzard Volleyball Tournament. Eight teams participated, but in the end, the experience of “GTMO Assassins” proved to be too much for the rest of the field.

“We’ve been playing together for five years and we play in all the volleyball games,” Joint Task Force Guantanamo civilian Sikarder Rai said. “We know exactly what we need to do to be successful. The setter knows what kind of set I need and he knows when I want to spike it.”

Teammate Kareem Fazli said their chemistry comes from more than just time playing volleyball.

“We’re friends,” he said. “We work together. We hang out together. That definitely gives us a very big boost.”

Air Force Staff Sgt. Thomas Harvey, contracting NCO for Joint Task Force Guantanamo Bay, didn’t have such deep roots with his team but that didn’t hinder his performance. He entered into the player pool to be assigned a team and ended up playing for team “GTMO Pinoy,” which made it to the championship game.

“I thought it was really awesome to be able to pull together with a team of people that I had never played with before,” Harvey said.

Since Harvey is deployed as an Air Force individual augmentee, he also enjoys the social aspect of sports.

“I was really in it to meet more people and that was accomplished. I played hard

with the intention of winning – who doesn’t when playing sports? – but, the intent of meeting people worked out. I was invited to play for their team again during the indoor league coming up next month and met some of the people on the opposing teams.”

When things were all said and done, everyone had a good time no matter what side of the trophy they were on.

“It was really good to see the teams getting along while being competitive,” Harvey said. The champions agreed.

“The tournament was great and everyone played hard. It was great to face some good competition,” Fazli said.

But that was not his favorite part. The inner child came out during the games.

“I had fun getting out in the sun and playing in the sand,” he said. “I loved that.”

Be sure to join the fun by signing up for the indoor volleyball league in March. Registration opens soon.

Below: Staff Sgt. Thomas Harvey of team “GTMO Pinoy” looked on as civilian Sikarder Rai of team “GTMO Assassins” attempted to drive a spike during the Blizzard Beach Volleyball Tournament over President’s Day weekend. The champions, “GTMO Assassins,” defeated “GTMO Pinoy” for the championship and Rai attributes the success to the fact that his team has been playing together for five years. –photo by Army Sgt. Landis Andrews



UFC

fighters rush

Guantanamo Bay

By Army Sgt. Saul Rosa

Bodies hit the mat when Ultimate Fighting Championship fighters Matt “The Immortal” Brown and the “Dean of Mean” Keith Jardine came to Guantanamo Bay.

The two fighters visited the island Feb. 18 and 19 and met with Troopers throughout the base. They started their tour with a meet and greet at the Joint Task Force’s Kittery Cafe.

At the Cafe, Hospitalman Andre Hall came out to meet the two UFC fighters and have them sign his gloves.

“If I’m ever having a bad day, I’ll see the Dean of Mean’s signature on my glove and it’ll motivate me to work harder,” said Hall.

Brown and Jardine then moved to O’Kelly’s Irish Pub for another chance to mingle with the troops. On Sunday morning, the two fighters spent some time with the Marines.

Jardine explained that the Marines taught the two UFC fighters the basics of room clearing and other infantry skills.

“The appreciation is really for what they do beyond that,” said Jardine. “They told me that their jobs never get old, so the appreciation really comes from the down time they have dealing with the boredom and other stresses. I wouldn’t understand how to be overseas and feeling trapped inside some place and not being able to get out.”

The highlight of the trip for Troopers was the hands-on demonstration at Denich Gym Sunday evening.

Among those who came out to see “The Immortal” and be schooled by the “Dean” was Maritime Safety and Security Team Lt. Jg. Jorge Teller.

Teller, a long time UFC fan and mixed martial artist, was looking forward to meeting and possibly sparring with the



Matt “The Immortal” Brown and “The Dean of Mean” Keith Jardine demonstrated basic wrestling moves to Troops at Denich Gym Feb. 19. —photo by Army Sgt. Saul Rosa

two professionals.

“I’ve been practicing MMA for 24 years,” said Teller. “My father taught me when I was four years old. He used to be in the military in Nicaragua, so growing up he taught my siblings and me how to fight.”

Before joining the military, Teller had a short career as a fighter.

“I did two professional fights before I quit,” said Teller.

Teller came out to learn a few new tricks from the two experienced professionals.

“I haven’t fought with someone that good in years,” said Teller. “It’s awesome when you get a challenge. You learn something new every time and every mistake you make is an opportunity to try again.”

The two fighters were happy to share their knowledge with the

troops stationed at Guantanamo Bay.

“MMA has come a long way and some of things we do in MMA could work in combat situations,” said Jardine. “With wrestlers doing a lot of take downs, it’s all about learning how to get back on your feet and fight.”

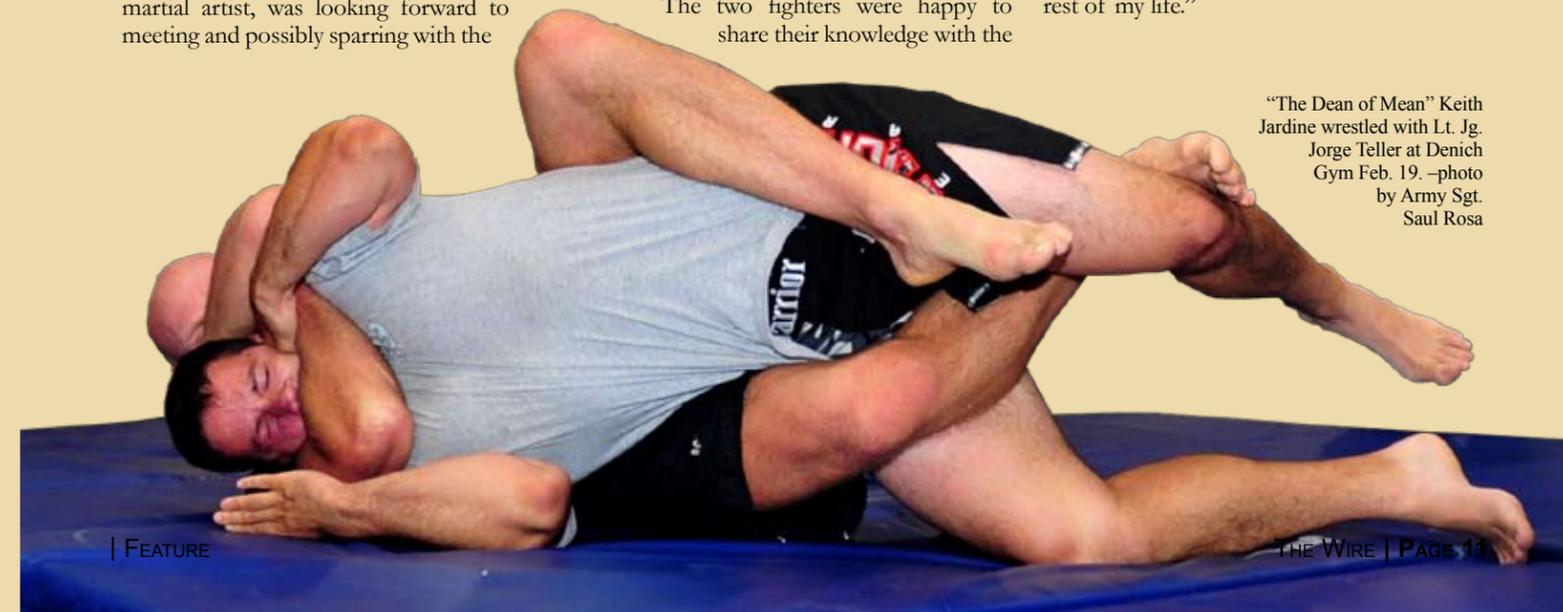
Matt Brown and Keith Jardine may not have known what they were getting into coming down to Guantanamo Bay, but they left feeling satisfied knowing they were able to show their support to the Troopers stationed on island.

“It brings as much joy to me as it does for them,” said Brown. “It’s a great experience for me and I’ve had an absolute blast. This is something I’ll definitely remember for the rest of my life.”

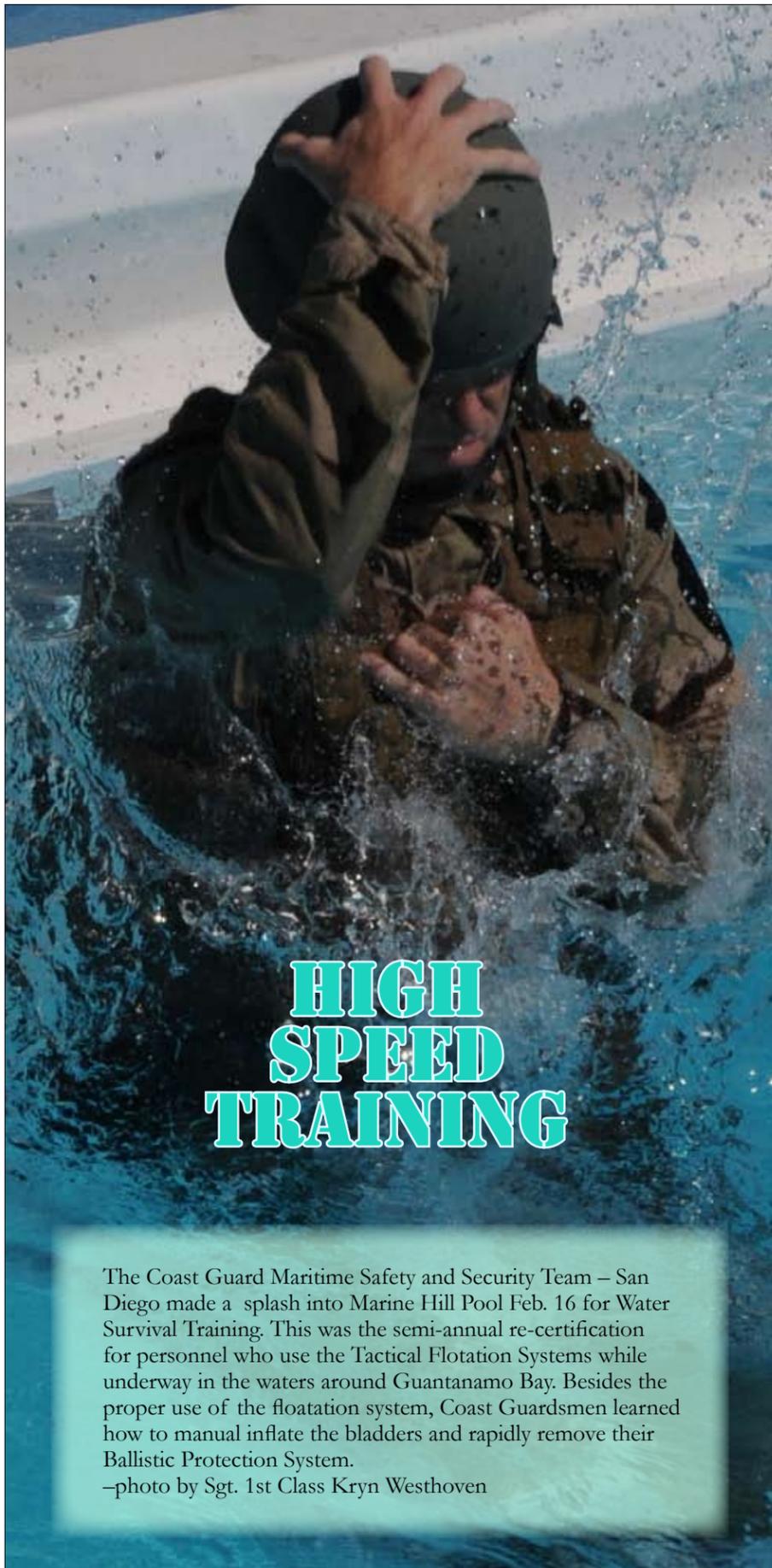


Above: Matt “The Immortal” Brown and “The Dean of Mean” Keith Jardine signed autographs at the Kittery Cafe for Joint Task Force Guantanamo Troopers Feb. 18.

Right: The two UFC fighters grappled with Troopers at Denich Gym Feb. 19. —photos Army Sgt. Saul Rosa



“The Dean of Mean” Keith Jardine wrestled with Lt. Jg. Jorge Teller at Denich Gym Feb. 19. —photo by Army Sgt. Saul Rosa



HIGH SPEED TRAINING

The Coast Guard Maritime Safety and Security Team – San Diego made a splash into Marine Hill Pool Feb. 16 for Water Survival Training. This was the semi-annual re-certification for personnel who use the Tactical Flotation Systems while underway in the waters around Guantanamo Bay. Besides the proper use of the flotation system, Coast Guardsmen learned how to manual inflate the bladders and rapidly remove their Ballistic Protection System.

—photo by Sgt. 1st Class Kryn Westhoven



brand NWU

your new uniform questions answered!

The new Navy Working Uniform Type III changeover is right around the corner, and The Wire sought Navy Expeditionary Guard Battalion Executive Officer Lt. Cmdr. Mack Brunson to answer your questions.

1) Why is the Navy implementing the NWU Type III uniforms in the first place? Why change from the DCUs we currently have?

- DCUs are no longer supported by the stock system. Replacements are no longer being manufactured. The Navy decided to transition all expeditionary and individual augmentee (IA) Sailors to the Type IIIs, replacing the old woodland camouflage and the DCUs.

2) When is the rollout date and when should Sailors at Joint Task Force Guantanamo be receiving their uniforms?

- The JTF Guantanamo transition date is April 16.

- The one exception will be the incoming NEGB Sailors, who will be wearing them prior to April 16 as they will not be issued DCUs.

- Each Sailor will be issued three sets, including the 8-point cover. The current

boots are authorized for wearing with the Type IIIs.

3) Who in the JTF will be assigned to wear Type IIIs?

- All Navy IAs assigned to JTF Guantanamo will transition to the Type IIIs.

4) Will the NEX be able to support any uniform accessories like name tapes, or will we have to purchase them ourselves? Can alternations be made if the issued uniforms are too short, long, big, etc.?

- The NEX has an existing order for Type III materials.

- The name tapes will come with the uniform issue, in the Type III material. NEGB is working to get name tape material on island to produce the job title badges, and should have them ready for issue by the transition deadline.

- No one should have to get any of these uniforms tailored if they provided the appropriate sizes. The Type III sizes are the same as the Type I (blue digital) size chart. If a member provided the sizes of their DCUs, they may have to tailor their Type IIIs. If that is the case, it will be at the member's expense. If they received something other than what they

ordered, they need to contact Lt. Cmdr. Mack Brunson or Chief Petty Officer Arnel Valdez and we will work to get them the correct sizes.

5) Do we have to dry clean these uniforms?

- The Type IIIs are wash-and-wear; no dry cleaning is required.

6) Is the cost for the new uniforms coming out of pocket?

- This is considered "initial issue" and no money will come out of the Sailor's paycheck.

7) What do we do with our old DCUs? Can we just chuck them in the trash or will there be a collection? Can we make our pants into shorts?

- Just like at any other time, DO NOT simply throw old uniforms away. More guidance on exactly what to do with them will be provided before the transition date.

—photo and interview by Mass Communication Spc. 2nd Class Kilho Park

DoD raises nearly \$16 million for CFC

By Sgt. 1st Class Tyrone C. Marshall Jr.

American Forces Press Service

WASHINGTON – The Defense Department raised nearly \$16 million in contributions during the 2011 Combined Federal Campaign, marking its fifth consecutive year raising more than \$15 million, Deputy Defense Secretary Ashton B. Carter said today.

“With almost \$16 million raised, we have again surpassed this year’s fundraising amount,” Carter said. “This is DOD’s eighth consecutive record-setting year; our fifth year in a row we’ve raised over \$15 million -- no small accomplishment.”

Carter spoke during the 2011 DOD CFC Awards for the National Capital Region to celebrate the department’s “impressive contributions to the Combined Federal Campaign.” It also was the campaign’s 50th anniversary.

“Working at this department signifies the devotion all of you have to public service and I think of our contributions to the Combined Federal Campaign as an extension

of that devotion,” he said. “It’s a reflection of that devotion that underscores just how committed each of you are to bettering our nation and our world.

“So it’s not surprising that we do so well in the Combined Federal Campaign in this department because it’s the kind of people who make it up,” he added.

Carter praised DOD employees for their substantial contributions during a period of fiscal austerity.

“The individual contributions you make have a huge collective impact even during difficult times for individuals and families, and I know many of you face them. This commitment in our department continues to be truly remarkable,” he said.

“From the earthquake and tsunami in Japan [to] the deadly outbreak of tornados in the American South and Midwest,” he said, “[to] the continued uncertainty and turmoil in the global economy, the past year reminds us of just how important it is to extend a helping hand to others.”

The deputy secretary referred to volunteer-

ism as a part of the “fabric of our society.”

“Our commitment to each other through charity and service is one of the things that keep this country great,” Carter said. “Every year those that contribute to the CFC astound us with their personal dedication to philanthropy.”

Carter said CFC contributions go to more than 4,000 charities and impact the lives of tens of thousands of people domestically and overseas.

“What you give extends access to medicine and medical care to some of the most impoverished parts of the world,” he said. “What you give fights hunger from poverty with technological advances and agricultural education.”

Carter noted contributions also provide emergency relief to disaster-stricken areas and promote women’s health, freedom and dignity.

“Thanks to you, once again, these organizations and charities will benefit from another record-setting year of generosity,” he said.

IN THE FIGHT

F-35B USMC major selected as test pilot of the year

JSF Public Affairs

Headquarters, Marine Corps

NAVAL AIR SYSTEMS COMMAND, PATUXENT RIVER, Md. — The test pilot responsible for leading the planning effort for the F-35B Joint Strike Fighter’s initial sea trials in October received accolades for his leadership during a ceremony Feb. 16.

The John H. Glenn squadron of the Marine Corps Aviation Association (MCAA) selected Marine Corps Maj. Richard Rusnok as test pilot of the year for his role in the successful embarkation and deployment of more than 250 people and 140,000 pounds of supplies and equipment with two F-35B test aircraft on USS Wasp (LHD 1).

“Major Rusnok was the focal point for an extremely complex event, and the amount of coordination, thought and planning he put into it was enormous,” said Navy Capt. Erik Etz, military director of test and evaluation for F-35 naval variants. “Initial sea trials were a resounding success, and his award

is well deserved.”

“It’s every naval test pilot’s dream to be involved with initial ship trials,” Pittston, Pa., native Rusnok said. “It’s such a rare occurrence – a once-in-a-generation opportunity – for us to take a new aircraft to sea.”

Rusnok, an operational test liaison, spent almost a year planning the trials.

“It was an incredible opportunity for me to see the plan evolve over time,” Rusnok said. “It sounds trite, but nothing I did was noteworthy. I had a lot of support and the virtually unlimited resources of a talented team.”

Rusnok was also one of four test pilots hand-selected to demonstrate the Marines’ amphibious air power with the first short takeoffs and vertical landings on the Wasp.

“It was really satisfying to see the payoff of all the hard work we did, like the Field Carrier Landing Practices with the Wasp crew,” Rusnok said. “Flying at sea felt like coming home again.”

“I was surprised and happy to be se-

lected,” Rusnok said. “However, this award probably ruins some of my tactical street cred with the fleet,” he joked.

This year, Rusnok will transition to Edwards Air Force Base, Calif., where operational testing on the F-35B will commence.

Rusnok was among three Marines honored at the squadron’s 7th Annual Acquisition Awards Banquet. As Test Pilot of the Year, he will be considered for the national Commandant of the Marine Corps’ Award for Acquisition Excellence, to be announced by the national MCAA organization in May.

The F-35B is the Marine variant of the Joint Strike Fighter aircraft. It is capable of short takeoffs and vertical landings for use on amphibious ships or expeditionary airfields to provide air power to the Marine Air-Ground Task Force. Initial ship trials for the F-35B began Oct. 3 on USS Wasp (LHD 1). The F-35B is undergoing test and evaluation at NAS Patuxent River prior to delivery to the fleet.

A career of firsts: Female African-American general continues service

By Armed Forces News Service

FORT GEORGE G. MEADE, Md. – Born about the time the Tuskegee Airmen were earning their reputation over the skies of North Africa and Italy, Marcelite Harris would go on to break a number of racial and gender barriers during an illustrious Air Force career.

Harris was born Jan. 16, 1943, in Houston and attended Spelman College in Atlanta, where she earned a bachelor’s degree in speech and drama in 1964. She then attended Officer Training School at Lackland Air Force Base, Texas, where she was commissioned a second lieutenant in 1965.

During the early days of her career, Harris held assignments as an administrative officer in California and West Germany, before transitioning into the maintenance field by attending the aircraft maintenance officer’s course at Chanute Air Force Base, Ill., and graduating as the first female aircraft maintenance officer.

Her first assignment as a maintenance officer was to support the Vietnam War as a maintenance supervisor with the 49th Tactical Fighter Squadron in Korat Royal Thai air base, Thailand. After stints back in California and Washington, D.C., Harris broke another barrier as one of the first women to be an air officer commanding at the U.S. Air Force Academy in Colorado Springs, Colo.

After commanding an avionics main-

tenance squadron and a field maintenance squadron, both in Kansas, and a director of maintenance in Okinawa, Japan, Harris would make another first - this time as the first female deputy commander for maintenance.

But her biggest accomplishment lay ahead, when in 1991, Harris became the first female African-American general, when she pinned on her first star as the vice commander of the Oklahoma Center Air Logistics Center.

Harris retired from the Air Force in early 1997, where she had been serving as the director of maintenance, deputy chief of staff for logistics, Headquarters, U.S. Air Force. At that time, she was the highest ranking female officer in the Air Force and the highest ranking African-American female within the Department of Defense.

Harris continues to contribute to the Air Force even after her retirement. In 2010, President Barack Obama appointed her a member of the Board of Visitors for the United States Air Force Academy. As a board member, she inquires into the morale, discipline, curriculum and other matters deemed appropriate. The board submits reports to the secretary of defense and the Committees on Armed Services of the Senate and Congress via the secretary of the Air Force.

As she continues to serve the Air Force she serves her community. She is a member of the National Association for the Advance-



Brig. Gen. Marcelite Harris paved the way for female and African-American service members, becoming a maintenance officer in Thailand and Japan, an air officer commanding at the U.S. Air Force Academy, and the first female African-American general officer. —U.S. Air Force photo

ment of Colored People and Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc. For her works, in 2010 she was nationally recognized by the Black Girls Rock Foundation with the Trailblazer Award.

MISSION FIRST

Incident leads to new training for ISAF troops

By American Forces Press Service

KABUL, Afghanistan – All International Security Assistance Force personnel will complete training in the proper handling of religious materials, military officials reported.

Marine Corps Gen. John R. Allen, ISAF commander, ordered that all coalition forces in Afghanistan complete the training by March 3.

Allen issued the order in response to an incident last night in which religious materials, including Qurans identified for disposal, were inadvertently taken to an incineration facility at Bagram Airfield, officials said. The incident is under investigation.

“On behalf of the entire International Security Assistance Force, I extend my sincerest apologies to the people of Afghanistan,”

Allen said. “To assist us in ensuring we have uncovered all the facts, I’ve also asked our partners from the Afghan Ministry of Interior to assist us with this investigation.”

The training will include the identification of religious materials, their significance, and correct handling and storage.

“Along with our apology to the Afghans, is our certainty and assurance to them that these kinds of incidents, when they do occur, will be corrected in the fastest and most appropriate manner possible,” Allen continued. “We’ve been shoulder to shoulder with the Afghans for a long time. We’ve been dying alongside the Afghans for a long time because we believe in them, we believe in their country, and we want to have every opportunity to give them a bright future.”

Panetta, Allen apologize

Defense Secretary Leon Panetta joined Allen in apologizing to the Afghan people for the reported inappropriate treatment of religious materials, including copies of the Quran, at Bagram Airfield.

“[Allen] and I apologize to the Afghan people and disapprove of such conduct in the strongest possible terms,” Panetta said. “These actions do not represent the views of the United States military. We honor and respect the religious practices of the Afghan people, without exception.”

ISAF officials are taking steps “to ensure this does not ever happen again,” Allen said. “I assure you – I promise you – this was NOT intentional in any way,” he said.

Troopers, start your engines

Racing fans get revved up for Daytona 500



Fans ask for it and pack racing is back in NASCAR as the first exhibition race at Daytona International Speedway saw plenty of action and nearly two dozen cars damaged in wrecks. Drivers will have to adjust to this style of racing for Sunday's Daytona 500. —Motorsport.com photo

By Sgt. 1st Class Kryn Westhoven

The Daytona 500 is part competition of highly refined versions of cars that are in our driveways and part game of strategy deciding when to add fuel or change tires. Add in the driving skills of 42 men and one woman, who race within inches of each other at over 190 miles per hour and there could be only one outcome. But you'll never know who will be in the winners circle.

It has been a decade of different drivers leading the pack when the checkered flag waves. The last two years saw upsets of the NASCAR (National Association of Stock Car Automobile Racing) driving elite when 20-year old Trevor Bayne came out of nowhere with the bright yellow rookie stripe on the back of his race car to win the Daytona 500. In 2010 Jamie McMurray, who is far from a NASCAR household name, was the race winner.

When WWE wrestler John Cena waves the green flag at the start of the 54th edition of "The Great American Race" on Sunday, the grandstands at Daytona International Speedway in Florida will be filled with 160,000 fans. Millions more worldwide will be watching the race including many Joint Task Force Troopers, as AFN Sports will carry the event live at 1 p.m.

You would be hard pressed to predict who

will earn this year's trophy. Can Kyle Busch repeat his winning performance? Busch edged Tony Stewart on the final turn to win by inches, in an impressive show of skill, straightening the car out twice in shower of sparks to avoiding being towed off the track on a wrecker.

If you think the fastest car and driver will be the victor then look to Carl Edwards, who earned the number one starting position at 194.738 miles per hour. His Roush Racing teammate Greg Biffle will be next him at the start. This is the fastest qualifying speed since Jeff Gordon raced to the top starting spot in 1999 with a speed of 195.067 miles per hour. Last Dale Earnhardt Jr. was on the pole last year recording a speed of 186.089; this year he was third fastest.

For the pair of NASCAR drivers who visited Guantanamo in December as part of a USO tour, Joey Logano is looking to improve on his third place finish from the July race at Daytona. Meanwhile Brad Keselowski is working to add to the three wins he recorded last year, placing fifth in the standings.

But the real unknown is how the teams adjust to new NASCAR rules for 2012. The fans wanted to see a return to "pack" racing, where large groups of cars stay together until one sees an opportunity to pass.

So the sanctioning body made a one-inch reduction in the size of the rear spoilers, which provides less down force on the rear ends, which makes the cars unstable. Even the slightest tap on the back bumper from a car following behind will cause the driver in front to lose control.

The changes in the aerodynamics of the cars led to a trio of multiple car wrecks, with former 500 winners Earnhardt Jr., Kevin Harvick, Michael Waltrip and Jimmie Johnson getting caught up in the carnage. A total of 23 cars were damaged or did not finish the event.

Jeff Gordon, the 2005 Daytona winner, was not hurt in a violent crash as his #24 Chevrolet came down the 31 degree banking on its roof. The car barrel rolled several times, throwing parts everywhere before stopping upside down.

For the T-shirt wearing, car-number-decal-plastered-on-their-vehicle fan, the Daytona 500 marks the start of the 36-race season, as these supporters shift into drive after being in park for three months.

For the casual observer, this event might be the only time they watch stock car racing. The attraction could be the drama from driver rivalries, or the cars hurtling around the 2.5-mile tri-oval, but this year's event could offer something different: a demolition derby.



by Mass Communication Spc.
2nd Class Kyle Steckler

One man's experience with protein

It's likely that if you're reading this, you saw the title. If that's the case, and you're still reading, it's probably safe to say that you at least have a passing interest in protein. Whatever your opinions might be, I'm not here to change your mind one way or the other. I don't have the proper credentials to do so, even if I wanted to. This is MY truth about protein based on my own opinions and experiences.

The Centers for Disease Control and Preventions (CDC) website says this about protein: "Proteins are part of every cell, tissue, and organ in our bodies. These body proteins are constantly being broken down and replaced. The protein in the food we eat is digested into amino acids that are later used to replace these proteins in our body."

So how does this apply to muscle growth? Simply put, protein is made up of amino acids; the building blocks of your muscles and body. Without these amino acids, your body would not have the fuel to build, repair or even maintain muscle tissue. Going a step further, protein is made up of several elements, including nitrogen. A sufficient amount of protein will put your body in a positive nitrogen balance, also known as an anabolic state. Being in an anabolic state will

allow you to build muscle, plain and simple.

Knowing now how important protein can be to the growth and maintenance of muscle tissue, you might be interested in how much protein you need in a given day to achieve your goals. It goes without saying that due to our individual shapes and sizes, as well as the different ways each person metabolizes food and nutrients, a magic number doesn't exist. The number changes again depending on your goals.

Madelyn Fernstrom, director of the Weight Management Center at the University of Pittsburgh Medical Center says "as a general rule, between 10 to 15 percent of your total calories should come from protein. An easier way to figure this out is to take your weight, divide it in half, and subtract 10. So, if you weigh 120 pounds, you should eat about 50 grams of protein [per day]."

However, that's for a normal person. Like I said, the amount of protein your body consumes changes based on your individual goals. A person who lifts weights for example, would need more. Now, how much more depends on who you ask. Many protein powder companies assure you that you need at least one gram per pound of body weight. Some even say you need two grams per pound.

Based on personal experience, however, I believe you don't need nearly that much. I believe you get all the protein you need from the protein rich foods served at the base galleys every day. Beef, pork, fish, nuts, beans, eggs: all these foods have an abundance of protein in some form or another. I, personally, just eat as much of these foods as I can, and steer clear of expensive powders.

I will say, though, that having a protein powder on hand as a meal replacement isn't a bad idea. For those days when you just can't get to a galley, a couple scoops of protein will do you a world of good.

To summarize, protein is an essential part of our bodies, and certainly an important part of muscle growth. Everyone needs protein, but some people need more of it based on physical activity. Like I've said, I'm not qualified to hand out advice beyond what I've learned in my experiences with exercise and supplements. What you've read has been entirely my own opinion. At the end of the day, all I can really do is urge you to seek answers. Don't put anything into your body without first knowing the details of the product. Research, and then research some more. You might as well start with the exercise experts here at Guantanamo Bay!

ONLY AT GTMO by Mass Communication Spc. 1st Class Ty Bjornson





By Mass Communication Spc. 1st Class Ty Bjornson

There are times where I feel really dumb at the movies. Does that make sense? I will elaborate: You attend a feature film presentation, ready to become immersed in the picture. You clear your mind of conscious thought and let the transpirings of the screen happen. The audience around you appears to be having a good time. They laugh on cue and seem to be following the film fine...everyone, that is, except for you.

This is the overall experience I had while watching the latest Denzel Washington ("Unstoppable") and Ryan Reynolds ("Green Lantern") picture "Safe House." It is a film of visual brilliance, quick action cut-away shots and high tension. These are the usual ingredients of pot-boiler international intrigue movies. There is no reinventing the wheel for the genre, except of course for studios to put out a movie that is better than the last one to make it stick with folks long after it is over. To achieve this, the film must adhere to attention to detail and have a visceral effect on its viewers. There are numerous variables to make this kind of movie work.

"Safe House" opens with the pursuit of the international criminal Tobin Frost (Washington). He's a former CIA agent with a file of grave importance in his possession. Their contents, if discovered, would cause irrevocable damage to global security, foreign and domestic. After he arrives at the American embassy in South Africa, he is relocated to a CIA safe house in Cape Town for interrogation.

Running this safe house location is the low-level "housekeeper" Matt Weston (Reynolds). He is young, brash and idealistic. After his safe house is raided by the unrelenting mercenary Vargas (Dares Fares), who will stop at nothing to take Frost down, Weston takes Frost prisoner and they go into hiding.

The chase is on. While Weston is retrieving a GPS device to track the detrimental file, Frost uses his cunning and ingenuity to escape. The CIA headquarters is abuzz with how to track Frost and secure the stolen files before it is too late. CIA Deputy Director Harlan Whitford (Sam Shepard, "Stealth") is adamant for the files to be accounted for and never again see the light of day. He asserts that whoever is in possession of the file will have many enemies.

"Safe House" is a thunderously paced "cat and mouse" picture. The cinema photography is a unique from other action pictures. While the use of "documentary style" camera technique is nothing new, I enjoyed the infusion with the warm kelvinesque colors

throughout the picture. The stark beauty of South Africa is presented strongly and boldly.

This film features great action sequences and the acting talent pooled together is quite impressive, though most of it is underutilized. Why are the versatile Ruben Blades ("Once Upon a time in Mexico") and Vera Farmiga ("Up in the Air") wasted here? Their characters are set up with the promise of seeing them more, then nothing. What did I miss here?

"Safe House" is the American film debut for Swedish filmmaker Daniel Espinosa (less than Swedish-sounding?). He allegedly drew from several decades worth of international intrigue thrillers as the inspiration for his own offering. Espinosa stated he wanted his picture to have relatable qualities for U.S. movie-goers, calling it "a classic American tale." But is it really?

As I watched "Safe House," I felt like I had seen all of these elements before, but in better movies. That's not to say these elements couldn't have worked here. They actually do, but to a very limited effect. The show stoppers on "Safe House" are coherence and cohesion. These are imperative to make any movie work as a whole.

Coherence: "Safe House" is so quick in pace I honestly felt like the filmmakers left out plot points. I had a hard time keeping up with what was going on. I definitely was never sure of what was going on. Maybe, as I watched the movie, I might have been distracted by the night air, the slight headache I had or the loud Jamaican music in the distance during the third act. Then again, maybe not. As I mentioned at the opening of this review, I felt dumb trying to put this film together. If the reactions of other moviegoers in attendance are any indication, there seem to have been some people who got it. I wish I were one of them.

Cohesion: This is one of the most disjointed, "all-over-the-map" movies I've seen in many a moon. I never knew how the scenes pieced together or why.

"Safe House" might be a good time at the movies for the right demographic. It has some really great factors, though I felt it never came together. It felt scattered, disconnected and clichéd. Based on that, in good faith I cannot recommend this film. I know I'm not totally alone, as many people I quizzed after the movie felt the same way I did. Whew! It's not just me. If you saw "Safe House" and enjoyed it, I'm glad. For me, it was an incoherent editorial mess that begged to be more than the sum of its parts. That's not the movie I wanted to see.

R
117 min.

Movie Review

SAFE HOUSE



GTMO Quick Reference

Bayview Club - 75604
Wed.-Fri. 11 a.m.-8 p.m.
Sun. & Holidays 8 a.m.-5 p.m.

Bowling Center - 2118
Mon.-Fri. 6-11 p.m.
Fri. 6 p.m.-12 a.m.
Sat. 1 p.m.-12 a.m.
Sun. & Holidays 1-11 p.m.

Caribbean Coffee - 77859
Mon.-Sat. 6 a.m.-10 p.m.
Sun. 1-10 p.m.

KFC and A&W Express - 75653
Daily 11 a.m.-10 p.m.

Jerk House - 2535
Sun.-Th. 5-9 p.m.
Fri. & Sat. 5-10 p.m.

MWR Liberty Centers - 2010
Mon.-Th. 11 a.m.-12 a.m.
Fri. 11 a.m.-1 a.m.
Sun. 9 a.m.-12 a.m.
Sat. & Holidays 9 a.m.-1 a.m.

Cuban Club - 75962
(Call ahead!)
Mon.-Sat. 11 a.m.-9 p.m.

Library - 4700
Mon.-Sat. 8 a.m.-9 p.m.
Sun. & Holidays 12-9 p.m.

Pizza Hut - 77995
Mon.-Th. 11 a.m.-9 p.m.
Fri. 11 a.m.-11 p.m.
Sat. & Sun. 12-9 p.m.

Windjammer Club - 77252
Fri. & Sat. 5 p.m. - 2 a.m.

Windjammer Cafe
Mon.-Th. 11 a.m.-9 p.m.
Fri. 11 a.m.-10 p.m.
Sat. 5-10 p.m.
Sun. 5-9 p.m.

Windjammer Sports Bar
Mon.-Th. 5-9 p.m.
Fri. & Sat. 5 p.m.-2 a.m.
Sun. 5-9 p.m.

Safe Ride - 84781

NAVSTA Main Chapel

Daily Catholic Mass
Tues.-Fri. 5:30 p.m.

Vigil Mass
Saturday 5 p.m.

Mass
Sunday 9 a.m.

General Protestant
Sunday 11 a.m.

Gospel Service
Sunday 1 p.m.

Christian Fellowship
Sunday 6 p.m.

Iglesia Ni Cristo
Sunday 5:30 a.m.
Room A

Pentecostal Gospel
Sunday 8 a.m. & 5 p.m.
Room D

LDS Service
Sunday 10 a.m.
Room A

Islamic Service
Friday 1 p.m.
Room C

GTMO Religious Services

JTF Trooper Chapel

Protestant Worship
Sunday 9 a.m.

Bible Study
Wednesday 6 p.m.

For more information,
contact the JTF
Chaplain's Office
at 2305.

Intense Spiritual Fitness Power Lunch!

Study the Book of Romans with

Chaplain Chouest

Begins March 1

Thursdays 11-11:30 a.m.

JTF Command Chaplain's Office

For other services, contact the NAVSTA Chaplain's Office at 2323.

	24 FRI	25 SAT	26 SUN	27 MON	28 TUE	29 WED	1 THU
Downtown Lyceum	Hugo (last showing) (PG) 7 p.m. The Devil Inside (NEW) (R) 9 p.m.	Journey 2: Inner Core (PG) 7 p.m. Darkest Hour (NEW) (PG-13) 9 p.m.	Safe House (R) 7 p.m.	Alvin & the Chipmunks (last showing) (PG) 7 p.m.	Sherlock Holmes (last showing) (PG-13) 7 p.m.	Girl with the Dragon Tattoo (R) 7 p.m.	We Bought a Zoo (PG) 7 p.m.
Camp Bulkeley	Journey 2: Inner Core (PG) 8 p.m. Darkest Hour (NEW) (PG-13) 10 p.m.	Safe House (R) 8 p.m. The Devil Inside (NEW) (R) 10 p.m.	Sherlock Holmes (last showing) (PG-13) 8 p.m.	Girl with the Dragon Tattoo (R) 8 p.m.	Hugo (last showing) (PG) 8 p.m.	Mission: Impossible (PG-13) 8 p.m.	War Horse (PG-13) 8 p.m.

Call the movie hotline at 4880 or see <https://intranet/movies.html> for more information.

On Feb. 18, dozens of runners and walkers took to the winding roads of U.S. Naval Station Guantanamo in the challenge to conquer John Paul Jones Hill. The GTMO Healthy Heart Run started and ended at Denich Gym, with the turnaround point at the windmills.
-photo by Sgt. 1st Class Kryn P. Westhoven

The **JTF** At Shutter Speed

