

With The WIRE

An award-winning
JTF journal

**MSST lights the way
at Windward Point**

**Movies, how do
they work?**

Here fishy fishy...

**Mind, Body & Spirit:
A haunting in GTMO**



COMMAND CORNER

CMD. MASTER CHIEF REYNALDO TIONG

COMMAND MASTER CHIEF, JTF GUANTANAMO

To the Troopers who are here at Joint Task Force Guantanamo: you need to know that you make me proud.

You make me proud to be part of the greatest military on the planet. Your dedication to duty and your willingness to meld into something greater than yourself for the greater good humbles me and my heart fills with pride when I look at our service.

A couple weeks ago one of my nephews sent me an email asking me about military life and talked of his various goals as he graduates from high school and considers his future.

As I began my reply, I naturally focused on the benefits the Navy provides. But as I wrote to him about the growth in maturity, opportunities for travel, and so it dawned on me that it isn't just the Navy who provides these, it is all our branches of service.

So I revised my email and told my nephew of the opportunities afforded by all branches of service, including the National Guard and Reserves. I wrote to him of honor, commitment, and values.

The military isn't for everyone, but for those who have made the choice to serve, we are blessed with opportunities for training and growth that few will ever experience. Though we may have great pride in the specific branch of service in which we chose to serve, we share camaraderie like no other profession shares with all.

Though we may have joined for reasons other than "to be part of something bigger than ourselves," by default that is exactly what we have become.

Cover: Jan. 21's Seabee Ball fundraiser-lionfish hunt targeted an invasive marine species – for more than one good cause. Read one special operation team's harrowing account of the hunt on page 10.

–photo by Army Maj. Jon Powers

Here at JTF Guantanamo you are in a pressure-cooker of both personal and organizational growth. You are learning to evolve and mature while working in an organization whose immediate and long-term future is uncertain.

Regardless of external factors we cannot control, every Trooper here at the Joint Task Force remains unwavering in commitment to serve "Honor Bound."

Each branch of service has a set of values and we are reminded of them by posting them on walls, or on the signs at the gates and entrances through which we travel. All those values are held together by trust.

In his book "Start With Why," Simon Sinek writes:

You, fellow Troopers, are not passive. You LIVE your values. You turn them into a living example and for that I am proud to serve with you.

"Trust matters. Trust comes from being a part of a culture or organization with a common set of values and beliefs. Trust is maintained when the values and beliefs are actively managed... It's not enough to just write them on the wall – that's passive."

And you, fellow Troopers, are not passive. You LIVE your values. If the value is "integrity" you exemplify it by "doing the right thing even if no one is looking." If the value is "loyalty" you live it by "being your brother's keeper, never leaving a fallen comrade." You take the value presented as a noun; you turn it into a living example and for that I am proud to serve with you and use you as an example of who others should strive to be.

Keep up the good work!



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NEWS FROM THE BAY

Leathercraft classes

Learn the art of leathercrafting at the Ceramic Shop every Tuesday from 7 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. Each class costs \$15.

Register at the shop or call 74795/84435.

W.T. Sampson box top drive

Turn your trash into cash for the students of U.S. Naval Station Guantanamo Bay. W.T. Sampson is taking part in the Box Tops for Education fundraiser. Each box top donated will be turned into 10 cents for Guantanamo Bay schools. A Box Tops collection bin is available at the NEX.

Sand volleyball tournament

Grab some friends and some sunscreen and get ready for the coed Blizzard Sand volleyball tournament. The action runs from Feb. 18-20. Register your team (four to six people) by Feb. 14 at 7 p.m. There will be a coaches' meeting Feb. 16 at 5:30 p.m. You must be at least 16 years old to join a team.

For more information, call 2113.

Cartel concert

Straight from Atlanta, Ga. comes Cartel: a pop-rock band which has toured around the world and was featured in Rolling Stone, USA Today and The New York Times. Watch them rock the stage tomorrow at O'Kelly's Patio at 9 p.m. The subject of MTV reality mini-series "Band in a Bubble," Cartel will perform songs from their upcoming album "In Stereo" as well as their hit "Honestly."



Dinner and a Movie

Bring the whole family to the Bayview Patio tonight for sloppy joes and a showing of "The Smurfs." Dinner starts at 6 p.m. and the movies begin at 7 p.m.

For more information, call 75604.

GTMO Rock & Roll Half Marathon

Tomorrow's GTMO Rock and Roll Half Marathon kicks off at 7 a.m. with musical acts Cartel and Something Distant among the motivational sections every mile. Come out and join a cheering section. There will be no same-day registration for the run itself.

For more information, call 2157.

MWR Expo

Are you looking for something new to do on base? Come to Downtown Lyceum tomorrow between 9 a.m. and 1 p.m. for the MWR Expo. Representatives from the different MWR sections will be there to show you what exciting events and adventures they have to offer. There will be lots of prizes and free giveaways.

Something Distant concert

Rock band Something Distant will also bring their sounds to O'Kelly's Patio tonight at 7 p.m. This band has shared the stage with bands including Red Jumpsuit Apparatus, Molley Hatchet, Fit For Rivals, Yellow Card, Tony Scozarro, Big 10-4, Hollywood Love Scene, Ben Robinson and many others.



Free mountain bike trip

Want to see Guantanamo Bay from a new perspective? Come to the Marina tomorrow at 8 a.m. for a mountain bike trip through some of the base's beautiful trails. No bike? No problem. Reserve a bike or register for the trip today by 3 p.m. by calling 2345.

Craft fair

Want to purchase some treasures and gifts made by local craftsmen? Come to Downtown Lyceum tomorrow from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. for the craft fair.

Half price recreation in January

Golf cart rentals will be half price every Tuesday in the month of January. \$5 covers a rental for one person and \$7.50 covers two people.

Additionally, boat rentals will be half price every Wednesday this month. Prices vary based on the boat.

For more information, call 2345..

Super Fishbowl Tournament

Get in the mood for the Super Bowl by playing in the Super Fishbowl Tournament Feb. 4. Register at the Marina by Feb. 2. Registration costs \$6. The Tournament starts at 7 a.m. and ends at 12 p.m. There will be prizes for 1st place male and female winners with the longest mackerel, jack, and snapper.

For more information, call 2345.

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Trooper to Trooper

deployment is a balancing act

SGT. 1ST CLASS HEATHER ELIAS

J8 SENIOR ENLISTED LEADER

You have been trying to find balance in your life, even before you even knew what balance was. As an infant and a toddler, you tried first to sit up, then crawl, then stand up and walk. However, you might not have known that finding balance would become a lifelong event. Being at Joint Task Force Guantanamo can be a balancing act because of the stress of work and being away from your support system: your family and friends. You have to strive for balance in all you do.

Now how do you find balance? This is a question that each one of you will have to ask yourselves. You will need to find something that you enjoy, or find something new to try. It may be walking, diving, kayaking, painting at the ceramics shop, working on your college degree, or reading. Volunteering is a great way to achieve balance your life. By volunteering you get to help someone in need, which in turn should help you feel better about yourself. Guantanamo Bay has many opportunities to volunteer, from working at the school, captaining a boat, or cleaning the hiking trails. If you would like more information on volunteering, ask your chain of command. They can help you find the volunteer opportunity which fits your personality.

When you lack positive activities or attitude, destructive behaviors can take hold and disrupt the balance in your life. A destructive behavior is anything that can cause harm to you, the people in your life, or your work performance. Examples include smoking and excessive drinking and partying. Even healthy and fun activities, when not in



balance, can become unhealthy examples. Take care against losing too much weight, working out to excess with no rest periods, and playing video games for hours on end with no sleep.

If your life is feeling out of balance, you have several choices on island to help resolve any issues: JSMART, the chaplains' office, a

friend, and your chain of command are ready and willing to assist. You have 1,440 minutes in a day to make this happen. I challenge you to find some balance in your life, and do something you enjoy or try something new while you are at Guantanamo Bay. What will you do to achieve balance in your day, and in your life?

A star-studded week at JTF: Top brass visit 107th MPs



Army National Guard director Lt. Gen. William Ingram (left) and New York Adjutant General Maj. Gen. Patrick Murphy toured the Joint Task Force and later met with New York Army National Guard military police. —photo by Mass Communication Spc. 2nd Class Kilho Park

by Sgt. 1st Class Robert Stephenson

Newly appointed director of the Army National Guard, Lt. Gen. William Ingram, visited New York Guardsmen Jan. 19 at Joint Task Force Guantanamo, and he was impressed with how well they are handling their essential mission. The 107th Military Police Company is tasked with external security at JTF Guantanamo.

“This is an important mission, a high-profile mission,” said the general as he spoke to Citizen Soldiers from the 107th, who were gathered to meet with him as he toured the facility. “You are representing the Army National Guard of the United States in a very, very positive way.” He complimented the 107th on their outstanding feedback

from the JTF command, and thanked them for their hard work.

Though he has only held the job of director since November, Ingram felt it was important to make a JTF Guantanamo visit high on his list of priorities.

“Boots on the ground makes all the difference, and seeing is much better than hearing. Being able to see the courtroom and to see the facilities here – now I can speak about it with personal experience,” the general commented as he toured Camp Justice.

Accompanying the Army Guard director was New York's Adjutant General, Maj. Gen. Patrick Murphy, who was impressed with how well his Guardsmen are integrating with

the other services that make up the Joint Task Force.

“The 107th MPs are a great company; they stepped up to the mission to do a security detail along with our partners from the other services,” said New York's top Citizen Soldier. “As a group, the Troopers are doing magnificently.”

With the recent hearings for the alleged Cole bombing mastermind, Abdal Rahim al-Nashiri, and the passing of the Joint Task Force's 10 year anniversary, Ingram said it is no surprise that Citizen Soldiers can support such a critical mission.

“The National Guard is ready any time, any place, to do any mission,” he said.



What is an adversary?

People or groups who mean to do us harm are called a “threat,” but to be an adversary they have to have two things: capability and intent. Have you ever heard someone give a threat? Unless they can actually act on it, it's just that, a threat. But if someone can act, then that makes them an “adversary.” There are many threats to our information, so we must always use OPSEC and common sense to protect it before someone can act. If an adversary doesn't know the plan, then they can't try to stop it. Knowing what information a potential adversary knows, or wants to know, helps to keep them from acting against us. Don't give information to an adversary. Be safe. Use OPSEC!



Re: Information Assurance

Facebook is the number one visited web site on the Guantanamo Bay network. While it is a great way for us to keep in touch with family and friends back home, proper usage of the Internet, specifically Facebook, is needed from each Trooper. Please see below for tips on correct Facebook usage and how you can assist us with network resource management.

- Do not leave Facebook running in the background of your computer. Facebook continually updates advertisements, pictures, video, etc. while needlessly consuming limited, off-island network bandwidth.
- Limit video access and photo upload/download.
- Application usage (including Farmville!) drains precious network resources; use only as needed.

TROOPER FOCUS

By Mass Communication Spc. 2nd Class Louis Batchelor

Petty Officer 2nd Class Dexter Torio is always up for a new challenge. Torio, an Iowa native, has been a part of the Joint Task Force Guantanamo community since September, and through learning various operating procedures, epitomizes what it means to work in a joint environment.

A nine-year veteran, Torio is a personnel specialist temporarily assigned to JTF Guantanamo from Oceana Naval Base, Virginia Beach, Va. His role on the JTF team currently has him working at J-8, accounting for leave and special travel.

"I'm the first Sailor to work in the J-8 department, but I feel welcome here," Torio said. "If I have any issues, the Soldiers here are always here to answer. I also bring my Navy skill sets to the table for the team."

Sgt. First Class Heather Elias, Torio's noncommissioned officer in charge, agrees. She believes Torio's professional experience is a valuable

resource to J-8. She said Torio's knowledge of the Navy's accounting systems allowed him to quickly learn the Army's processes and utilize blended skills in the workplace.

"PS2 Torio is a great asset to the JTF J-8," Elias said. "Upon his arrival, he had never worked with an Army accounting system, but took great steps in assuring that he learned and understood the Army's newest accounting systems in minimal time.

Elias thinks Torio was an integral part of J-8's recent success. She said Torio brings a Navy skill set and expertise to J-8 that has enhanced the department's ability to effectively meet the Department of Defense's definition of "joint."

"Currently, we are operating one person short," Elias said. "Torio has stepped up and filled in the gap, ensuring no steps are missed. He is a very well-organized individual who operates at the top of his game on a daily basis."



Torio encourages all Troopers to add to their professional knowledge. He said at times challenges will arise, but the growth Troopers receive personally and professionally are worth the time investment.

"It was a challenge at first, having to adjust to operating the Army's accounting system," Torio said. "I have learned a great deal of information here, but at the end of the day the military services operate well together."

BULLET BIO

Time in service: 9 years

Hobbies: sports, taking on new challenges

The boss says: "This office is operating at maximum capacity due to the PS2 Torio's extensive and meticulous work."

Advice to junior Troopers: "Own your challenges. Stay focused and they will soon turn into successes!"

STUDENT OF THE GAME

The fate of Peyton Manning

By Army Sgt. Landis Andrews

You know things are screwed up in the National Football League when the Cincinnati Bengals make the playoffs, the Denver Broncos are successful with a quarterback that can't throw, the Detroit Lions are a team that people fear and Oakland Raiders owner Al Davis (R.I.P.) is not around to make outlandish personnel moves in the offseason. Above all, the thing that might have the NFL on its head is the idea that quarterback Peyton Manning, a stalwart for the Indianapolis Colts may not suit up for the only team he has played for.

Manning missed the entire 2011 season due to multiple neck surgeries. Normally, owner Jim Irsay wouldn't have to make such a drastic decision, but Manning is due a \$28 million bonus if he is on the Colts roster on March 8. With the 37-year-old's health in question, and Stanford quarterback Andrew Luck looking as attractive as a cheerleader on a USO visit, Manning might be looking at a permanent change of station.

Will Peyton Manning wind up on your favorite team?

Let's start with the list of teams that have the quarterback position secured: Patriots, Jets, Ravens, Bengals, Steelers, Texans, Chargers, Giants, Eagles, Lions, Packers, Falcons, Panthers, Saints and Rams. Those 15 teams have outstanding quarterbacks, or have a young guy that still needs time. No room for Peyton.

When one considers teams which can afford to pay a Hall of Fame shoo-in without compromising competitiveness, more squads fall to the wayside: Bills, Browns, Titans, Bears and Seahawks.

This leaves the Dolphins, Jaguars, Broncos, Chiefs, Raiders, Cowboys, Redskins, Vikings, Buccaneers, Cardinals and 49ers.

Minnesota and Tampa Bay have top five picks so they can snag their rifleman from college if they decide their young guns aren't going in the desired direction. As previously stated, Al Davis might have thrown the kitchen and bathroom sink at the Colts. But, without AD, it's doubtful Manning will don the black and silver. Alex Smith and Jim Harbaugh seem to have found a formula that will be successful for years to come, so Manning won't be in San Francisco. Jax and the Chiefs could make a surprising bid, but it's doubtful. Broncos? I've got two words for ya: Tee-bow.

It looks like Miami, Arizona, Dallas and Washington are still in the hunt.

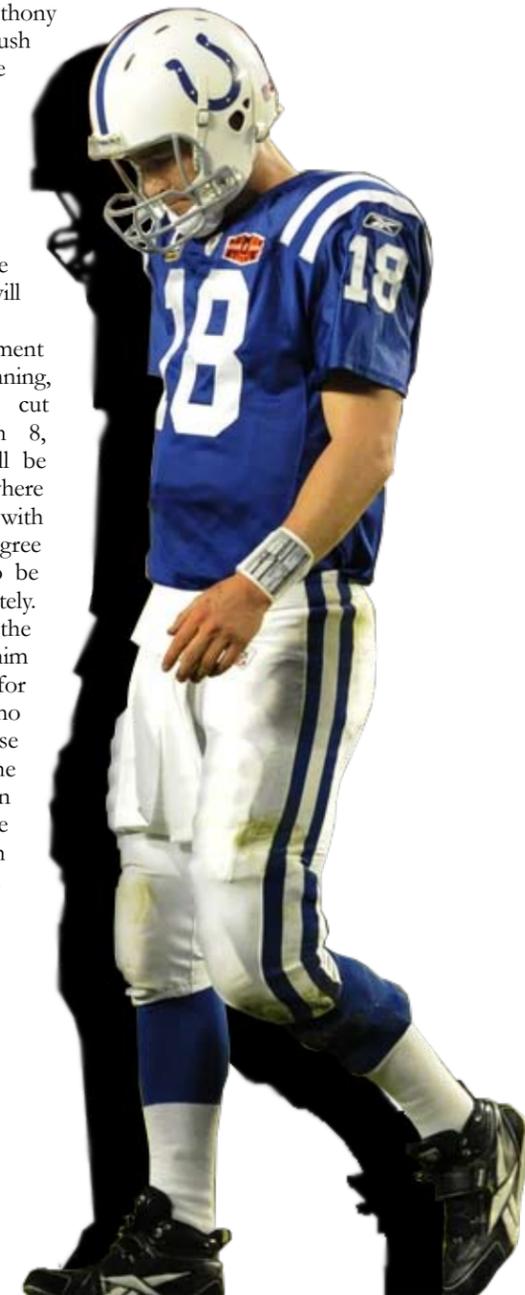
Manning doesn't have the time left on his game clock to get Washington back to prominence. Plus, who really wants to play for Washington? Jerry Jones has stated time and time again that he is behind Tony Romo 200%, but Jones wants to win now. Manning might be the piece that is missing in Big D.

The Cardinals have been searching for a guy like Manning ever since Kurt Warner left. They are so thirsty for a strong quarterback they gave Kevin Kolb a \$63 million contract. Kolb is \$20 million in guaranteed money; they might be able to dump him and make a move for Manning. On top of that, the Cardinals took Emmitt Smith at the ripe old age of 33. Manning's body hasn't been through nearly as much as Smith's did at the time of acquisition.

This leaves us in Miami.

The Dolphins haven't had a real quarterback since that Marino character. Matt Moore and JP Losman haven't proven any worth at the quarterback position. Brandon Marshall, Davone Bess, Anthony Fasano and Reggie Bush are a better offensive package than Manning when he took Indy to the playoffs in 2010. Jake Long, Marc Colombo and Mike Pouncey can provide the protection he will need to stay healthy.

If Colts management decide to get rid Manning, they are going to cut him before March 8, meaning Peyton will be able to choose where he signs. A player with the winning pedigree he has will want to be successful immediately. The Cowboys and the Dolphins give him the best chance for that. But, with Romo getting paid to lose when it counts, the most probable option for Manning is take his talents to South Beach and take Dan Marino's title as the best ever while wearing the same uniform Marino wore. Besides, isn't Florida the best place for rich people to retire?



What is the silliest thing that ever happened to you at the movies?



"I remember the first time I went to see a movie at Camp America. I saw banana rats everywhere!"

Aviation Boatswain's Mate 3rd Class Stephen Bolinski



"I was scared of animals being at the outdoor theater but when I went to see a movie a couple weeks ago, it was a really good experience."

Master-at-Arms 2nd Class Ashley Sprouse



"When we go to Camp America and see those banana rats, they walk up to you like they are your friends. They just congregate around you."

Master Sgt. Gary Hayner



"I was watching 'The Help' and it started to rain. We were in the van, but if you turn to channel 97.1 you can listen to the movie in the car."

Sgt. Ashelei Johnson

BOOTS ON THE GROUND

Lighting the way to pride: GTMO lighthouse project underway



By Mass Communication Spc. 2nd Class Louis Batchelor

U.S. Naval Station Guantanamo's Windward Point Lighthouse is a historical pillar of the community. Deactivated in 1964, the lighthouse has since served the Guantanamo community as one of the island's most popular tourist attractions.

At 108 years old, the 60-foot-tall lighthouse and its keeper's quarters understandably need some work. Several groups in the past have searched for a way to improve the lighthouse's condition.

Joint Task Force Guantanamo's Maritime Safety and Security Team – San Diego has established the means to refurbish this Guantanamo landmark. They have already eagerly begun work on the lighthouse keeper's quarters.

"The lighthouse is a piece of history here at Guantanamo," said Lt. Jg. Aaron Dorrian, MSST shoreside officer-in-charge. "I feel we have an obligation to do our best to preserve it for future service members to enjoy."

Chief Damage Controlman Matthew Caswell concurs. Caswell is the MSST's Maintenance Department's leading chief petty officer. He said at the time the MSST took helm of the project, participation was low. However, people quickly saw the historical importance of the landmark and volunteers increased in number.

"When Lt. Dorrian first brought this idea to us, I thought it was great," Caswell said. "The lighthouse has been closed for a while. It would be a great accomplishment for all of us if our efforts lead us to opening the doors to see people walking through it again before we leave."

Dorrian said the lighthouse renovation project will be an ongoing, two-part project, lasting the duration of San Diego's tenure at the Joint Task Force. He said the MSST plans to renovate both the yard area

Left: Members of the United States Coast Guard Maritime Safety and Security Team – San Diego recently began restoring the Windward Point Lighthouse site, a volunteer project open to the entire Guantanamo community. –photos by Mass Communication Spc. 2nd Class Louis Batchelor

and interior of the lighthouse as a nod to their service branch's overall mission. The Coast Guard has been responsible for the operation of U.S. lighthouses since 1939.

"There is a lot of history contained within the lighthouse itself," Dorrian said. "All the historical documents housed inside recognize the past accomplishments of service members during the Spanish-American War. Those service members fought to pave the way for us. It is an honor to be a part of something extremely important: making sure the accomplishments of those before us are not forgotten."

Petty Officer 1st Class Keyara Thompson of the MSST's admin section is one of the volunteers. She said she enjoyed helping because for is a cause which needs to be done and she enjoys helping out.

"Whenever I see a lighthouse, it reminds me of the Coast Guard," Thompson said. "As long as I have been in the Coast Guard, lighthouses have always reminded me of my service and give me a sense of pride in what I do. I chose to help out with this project because it is fun and also something that is important to me."

Dorrian is proud of the progress this project has already seen and looks forward to seeing this project go further. He wants all Troopers and civilians to understand this project is open for everyone and extends an open invitation to join the MSST's endeavor.

"I want to thank all who have volunteered their time and efforts assisting us," Dorrian said. "I especially would like to thank the BEEF, Self Help, Paperclips and the Seabees for providing us supplies and logistical support. Without you, none of what we have accomplished and intend to keep doing would be possible."

Right: A statue of a military member overlooks Windward Point Lighthouse and its 108-year history. The lighthouse, a Guantanamo Bay landmark, contains historical documentation of the Spanish-American War. –photo by Mass Communication Spc. 2nd Class Louis Batchelor



Operation: Lion Hunter

There are events in your life which so closely resemble a movie or story, your mind cannot help but overlay the cooler fiction over top of reality. The Lionfish Hunt fundraiser for the Seabees' Ball was just that. Cruising around the coral heads searching for these "alien" fish reminded me of the great movie "Aliens": hearing Cpl. Hudson whine in my head "It's a bug hunt, sir!" made the whole day ten times as fun. It was a great event to start with, but now it is a memory worthy of its own story...

Mission Log Twenty One
January point Two:

We met at o-dark-thirty for the mission brief. Our contact, Lt. Jg. Andrew Maughn, informed us that an alien species had established a foothold on the fringe of our territory. The aliens earned the name Lionfish for their ferocity. The poisonous spines and frilly bits all over somehow wasn't accounted for in their name. Since arriving from territories unknown, they quickly took over the reef. Maughn was seeking volunteers for a black-op code named Seabees' Ball. In the assassin's lingo, it was "wet work" and not for the squeamish or easily car-sick.

The assembled team came from the disavowed unit known only by its code name - Mindbender. Veteran Commander Reese was the leader for the mission.

Just back from the urban warfare school in Camden, N.J. was Grant. Just Grant. He only needed one name and his classification was beyond standard rank. His specialty was hand-to-alien spear combat.

As for me, I had made it through a grueling pull a name out of a hat process. The skills necessary to be considered were just as demanding. Only warriors in the military specialty of "guys who are mostly expendable but still OK to hang around with in case they don't get captured or something list" were included. And I was damn proud of it.

Our contact drew us in close. Maughn informed us the alien invaders had no natural predators in this sector, and that they were proliferat-

ing by subjugating the local species and using them as a food source.

Most of the Outer Zone was still a mystery: deep, dark and totally inhospitable to human forms. Those who had been there and survived called it the "Blue" mainly because... it was a mysterious blue.

"If you are going into the outer zone then you have to sign the waiver," Maughn said. "The government can't be held responsible if, you know..." his voice trailed off as he absently gazed over the bay.

"You have until 1600 to report back," he said. "Good luck," he added, offering a hand shake. Grant had heard enough.

"All right, sweethearts, we're a team and there's nothin' to worry about. We come here, and we gonna conquer, and we gonna kick some, is that understood? That's what we gonna do, sweethearts, we are going to go and get some. All right, people, on the ready line!" Grant shouted.

"OK, tactical convoy on Route Sherman, to Zone Windmill," Reese barked. Her visage hardened into the steely demeanor of a warrior who had seen carnage in the Blue. "Keep it quiet, I don't need the Lionfish scouts to know we're coming."

"So I am to collect strategic intelligence and document the mission for presentation to Fleet HQ for analysis, Ma'am?" I asked. I had never been a part of a more complex operation, and needed clarification.

"Yes, Powers, take pictures, bring them back and don't get captured," Reese explained. "You wouldn't like what happens to people who get captured by Lionfish," she said. Her ex-

pression changed to show that it was really, really awful. Like Nyquil after-taste awful.

"Fifteen minutes to DCS and mission prep!" Grant shouted. "Secure that hatch!" It had been nearly 45 minutes since he had last killed something and he was getting cranky.

The next thing I knew we were throwing gear on our backs like a kid unwrapping Christmas presents, wait not like that at all, opposite that but the same. Anyway, it was crazy.

"Go, go, go, go!" Reese got the group focused and running for the surf.

I ran for all I was worth, tripped on a shell, fell down, rolled over a couple times, got back up, ran slightly sideways and then straight in the heart of danger. The Blue met me with a cold embrace.

Reese signled to form up and follow. For 20 minutes we stealthily tracked our azimuth on the air-sea border.

"Grant, have we reached the drop zone?" the commander asked.

"We're in the pipe five by five, I can see the landing area but there should be lights..." his sentence cut short by instinct. Something was wrong.

"Ma'am, scanners will be useless out here," I noted just trying to be helpful.

"Good thing we're all equipped with Mark II ocular target acquisition ports." Reese said, finishing her pre-descent checks with practiced efficiency.

see THE HUNT next page

By Army Maj. Jon Powers

Joint Task Force Guantanamo Troopers were among the hunters. Lionfish, which are highly disruptive to the reef ecosystem, were the hunted. On Jan. 21, teams of divers competed to catch the largest, smallest, and most fish in support of the Seabee Ball Committee's Lionfish Hunt fundraiser. The hunt, which concluded with awards and a fish fry, had the double purpose of eliminating an environmental hazard. The lionfish is classified as an invasive species which has already done significant damage in the Caribbean Sea.

Deputy Commander earns Legion of Merit



THE HUNT cont.

“The Mark-o what?”
“Ocular...oh, nevermind! Eyes, Powers, just look for the darn fish!”

The mission itself was a blur. Heroism and violence, stealth and agility wove together in a tapestry of awesomeness. I followed the patrol through the murky domain. Recording what may have been the lasting image of these professionals. I would see Grant fly nap-o-the-coral with his weapon set to kill. Sometimes he would fade out of view; all I could hear were the sounds of metal on rock in a violent clash between hunter and hunted. Commander Reese took the tactic of out-flanking the Lionfish outposts, disappearing into the haze only to return with yet another alien for the roll. On three separate sorties the team would emerge from the Blue, restock our life support systems, fuel up on highly technical drinks with silly fruity names and return

into heart of darkness. Finally exhausted, the team stood to account for the day’s work.

“Wrap it up,” Reese declared. “No warrior can do more today.”

“We are all in pretty strung out shape,” Grant concluded. “Stay frosty and sharp. Because if just one of those things gets up here, all this we care so much about, we can kiss it all goodbye.”

“Yeah we sent them crawling back to someplace else,” I added.

“Lionfish can’t crawl, Powers.” Reese said patiently.

“Then I guess they learned a real lesson today, the lesson of humiliating Lionfish crawling.”

But I knew in my heart that this was not the last time I would have to summon the courage and venture into the Blue to battle those aliens. I can only hope there will always be another Seabees’ Ball and an excuse to hunt lionfish.



Congratulations, sir!
Joint Task Force Guantanamo Deputy Commander Brig. Gen. James C. Lettko was awarded the Legion of Merit by his former boss, the Adjutant General of New York, Maj. Gen. Patrick Murphy Jan. 19. Lettko distinguished himself while serving as Chief of Staff to the Adjutant General prior to being selected for his current position.

Murphy presented the award while visiting New York Guardsmen from the 107th Military Police Company, who are deployed here to JTF Guantanamo.

The Legion of Merit is awarded to members of the Armed Forces of the United States for exceptionally outstanding conduct in the performance of meritorious service to the United States.

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

Who doesn't love a free movie?

By Mass Communication Spc. 1st Class Ty Bjornson

Movies at Guantanamo Bay: how does this work? Sure, you may have noticed the two outdoor movie venues on the Naval Station and Joint Task Force sides. Perhaps you’ve even attended a show. The Downtown Lyceum and the Camp Bulkeley Lyceum both offer a unique outdoor moviegoing experience. Big screen presentations are available with full stereo surround sound to be enjoyed while sitting under the stars.

But how are the movies selected to be shown at Guantanamo? Out of all the newest film releases, what will get screened and for what duration? Guantanamo Bay’s Moral Welfare Recreation program coordinates the outdoor movies. According to Brittany Hanna, MWR marketing coordinator, there are two types of movies agreements that are made to show the movies here. “The first-run movies are released to us through the FROST program, which stands for First Release Over Seas Theater,” said Hanna. “We are able to show these movies within a week’s release of their run in the States. We are able to show these films over a three to four week time period. Then the films take a break and we don’t show them for three to four weeks. After that hiatus, we are able to show them again.”

The second film program is similar. Movies that have already been showing a few weeks in domestic

release will arrive and be shown for three to four weeks only. After that, they are sent back to the Navy Motion Picture Service.

Just because MWR-GTMO has an agreement to show a given movie over a four week run, doesn’t necessarily mean they have to. MWR has the option to show certain movies more if there is more interest and demand for it. “We showed the recent “Twilight” movie a few more times because of the fanbase,” Hanna said. “Movies that don’t have an appeal for our audiences we tend to show less during the time we have it for.”

To determine what kinds of movies bring people to the two lyceums, patron counts are used. The attendance of adults and children is measured at various types of movies. There is a prerequisite for weekend movies showings.

“At least one ‘PG’ rated film will be shown for the families and kids on the Naval Station side. That’s something we always try to do,” said Hanna. “We also average about two new movies per week.”

As long as there are personnel stationed at Guantanamo Bay, MWR will do their part in to help them enjoy their moviegoing experience to the best of their ability. “The movies are for everybody here on base,” said Hanna. “We really want people to enjoy themselves. Let us know if you have any questions or comments. We are here for you.”

New feature!

How does it work?

Are you curious about how things happen at Guantanamo Bay?
Contact The Wire with your questions, and we will try to find out!

Use the comment boxes or email saul.e.rosa@jtfgtmo.southcom.mil

Tuskegee Airman laid to rest at Arlington

By Tech. Sgt. Mareshah Haynes
Defense Media Activity

ARLINGTON, Va. — Family members, friends and fellow service members gathered Jan. 20 here to honor the life and contributions of an original Tuskegee Airman.

Retired Lt. Col. Luke Weathers, 90, a member of the 302nd Fighter Squadron during World War II, received full military honors including an F-16 Fighting Falcon flyover by 113th Wing, an Air National Guard unit of Washington, D.C. The ceremony coincided with the release of “Red Tails,” a full-length feature film chronicling the challenges and victories of the Tuskegee Airmen.

“The Tuskegee Airmen were dedicated heroes who gave so much for this country,” said Brig. Gen. Jeffrey Johnson, the 113th WG commander. “It is an honor to perform a flyover for this brave American.”

With World War II veterans like the Tuskegee Airmen entering their 90s, the numbers of these living history makers are dwindling.

During a time of racial segregation in America, the Tuskegee Airmen, the U.S. Army Air Corps’ first black fliers, proved

they were just as qualified as their white counterparts to fly in combat.

“Along with serving their country, they changed America,” said retired Chief Master Sgt. John Patterson, the national 1st vice president of Tuskegee Airmen Inc. “They made it easier for me, when I came along many years later, to come into the military and have opportunities.”

Weathers, a P-51 Mustang and P-39 Airacobra pilot, shot down two German planes in November 1944 and was awarded the Distinguished Flying Cross for his actions. Later, in 2007, he and 300 original Tuskegee Airmen were presented with the Congressional Gold Medal. It is one of the highest awards in the United States.

“He was a part of the Tuskegee experience,” Patterson said of Weathers. “He went to the combat zone in World War II when there were no examples for blacks to look up to. These gentlemen set the bar high and gave society someone to look up to.”

Along with his legacy, Weathers leaves behind his children, grandchildren, great-grandchildren, a host of family members and friends, and his wife, Jacqueline Moore-Weathers.

Moore-Weathers said her husband continued to encourage Airmen to reap all the benefits the military has to offer and fulfill their goals.

“He was very proud of being a part of the (Tuskegee Airmen),” she said. “He was very proud of the accomplishments they were able to make. After the war, he went about his life trying to create and participate in Tuskegee Airmen activities.”

COAST TO COAST Coast Guard warns of damaged navigation marker in San Diego Bay

By 11th Coast Guard District Public Affairs

SAN DIEGO — The U.S. Coast Guard is warning mariners transiting in San Diego Bay that an aid to navigation located near the west end of Shelter Island was damaged in an allision and could pose a hazard to navigation.

Shelter Island West End Light 4, LLNR-1595, was struck sometime before Wednesday afternoon, shifting the day board portion of the aid out of position and bending a section of the ladder perpendicular to the aid near the waterline.

The light on the aid is still operating properly. This aid marks the right side of the channel into the Shelter Island yacht basin.

The responsible party left the scene without reporting the damage, leaving a potentially hazardous situation due to the steel ladder protruding from the pole and the misalignment of the day marker.

Coast Guard Aids to Navigation Team (ANT) San Diego responded to the damaged marker and removed the protruding ladder Wednesday evening. Preparations to repair the day board are currently underway.

Coast Guard responded to three separate vessel collisions with the aids to navigation near the west end of Shelter Island in the past year, two of which were unreported.

“We are very fortunate that a mariner on a smaller vessel did not hit the dangerous protrusion from the pole and injure themselves or others,” said Petty Officer 1st Class Michael Tapp, officer in charge of ANT San Diego.

The collision’s circumstances are currently under investigation.

IN THE FIGHT

Expedited transfer possible for sexual assault victims

By Cpl. Aaron Hostutler

Marine Corps Bases Japan

CAMP FOSTER, OKINAWA, Japan — The Deputy Secretary of Defense released a memorandum detailing procedures for possible expedited transfer of service members who file unrestricted reports of sexual assault.

According to the memorandum, service members who file credible, unrestricted reports of sexual assault will be given the option to request a temporary or permanent transfer from their command or base.

“The intent behind the policy is straightforward: to protect and separate victims of sexual assaults from the offender,” said Col. Kevin D. King, the III Marine Expeditionary Force sexual assault response coordinator.

After submission, commanding officers have 72 hours to approve or deny the request. If approved, the request would immediately be forwarded to the appropriate office that processes permanent change of station, permanent change of assignment and unit trans-

fers.

“Sexual assault is a traumatizing event for anyone,” said Sandra M. Beecher, a civilian victim advocate with Marine Corps Community Services. “However, this trauma is amplified for a military victim whose offender may also be on active duty, perhaps even in their own unit.”

If a request is denied by a commanding officer, service members will be given the opportunity to have the request reviewed by the first general or flag officer in their chain of command. Once submitted, the decision to approve or deny a transfer again must be made within 72 hours.

“This law (part of the National Defense Authorization Act of 2012) gives military victims the right to expedited consideration of a transfer request,” Beecher said. “This, along with other tools we already use, such as military protective orders, will give victims greater protection from revictimization.”

Army study: behavioral health stigma drops

By Rob McIlvaine

Army News Service

WASHINGTON — A newly released Army study on behavioral health shows a decline in Soldier suicides and more seeking treatment for their problems.

Gen. Peter W. Chiarelli, Army vice chief of staff, discussed the findings of the report, “Generating Health and Discipline in the Force, Ahead of the Strategic Reset,” at a Pentagon news conference Jan. 19. The three-year study outlines the problem of suicide in the Army and related issues of substance abuse, spouse abuse and child abuse.

Two years ago, the Army reported 210,000 Soldiers sought treatment for behavioral health problems, Chiarelli said, adding that public reaction was, “My gosh, you’ve got that many in the Army? That’s not good, is it?”

“I told them we’d like to see that number go up,” he said. “And in fact, it has gone up. It’s gone up to 280,000. I think we have begun the process in the Army of destigmatizing behavior health issues. That, to me, is absolutely critical. People who need help, get the help that they need.”

More Soldiers seek help because of the help of commanders and leaders at all levels, Chiarelli added.

Suicide Prevention

Three years ago, then Army Secretary Gen. Pete Geren and Chief of Staff Gen. George Casey appointed Chiarelli to look at driving down the number of soldier suicides.

Chiarelli found that drug abuse, suicide attempts, alcohol abuse, prescription drug abuse and anger management all are high-risk behavior common to soldiers who committed suicide.

In 2011, he said, overall suicide numbers decreased by 10 percent, from 350 to 315. “The only category where we had an increase of five suicides was in the active-duty category,” Chiarelli said.

Most important, he said, is that more Soldiers are receiving early intervention and treatment.

“This shows why I think we have arrested this problem and hopefully will start to push it down, because we have leader involvement,” Chiarelli said. “They’re not walking past the problem, and [they] are getting Soldiers the help that they need. And that, to me, is a very positive sign.”



Army Vice Chief of State Gen. Peter W. Chiarelli noted important findings in a three-year behavioral health study Jan. 19, including the fact that the overall Soldier suicide rate decreased in 2011. —Department of Defense photo

Traumatic Brain Injury

One of the “huge advances” the Army has made downrange are the protocols that last year led to diagnoses for 9,000 Soldiers who had concussions downrange, Chiarelli said. The protocols include an initial screening and keeps Soldiers off the battlefield for another 24 hours for a second screening.

“If they fail any of those two screenings, they are sent to one of our concussion recovery centers,” he said. “Some of them stayed up to 21 days until their brain looked normal.”

Traumatic brain injury and the cognitive issues involved, Chiarelli said, occur when concussions are not treated.

“I think this is a huge step forward that we made,” he said, added that the Army has diagnosed 126,000 cases of TBI in the past 10 years of war. “But I’ve got to tell you, if they’re treated properly, most Soldiers will have a full recovery from traumatic brain injury. The problem is if they return and get a second concussion before the brain has healed.”

Post-traumatic Stress

“PTS is one of the key ones,” Chiarelli said. “It represents a prevalent psychological injury with over 70,000 Soldiers diagnosed by the Army since calendar year 2003. That’s not 70,000 out of 1.1 million. That’s 70,000 out of a much greater number because we have Soldiers entering and leaving all the time.”

The problem with post-traumatic stress (PTS), he said, is it is hard to diagnose. It shares many of the same symptoms as TBI and sometimes symptoms don’t appear for weeks, months, or even years after the event.

“I don’t think we’ve done a good job in explaining the immaturity in the science of the brain,” Chiarelli said. “I was quoted a figure that basically said that from the time an initiating event for PTS takes place to the time that somebody gets into treatment is 12 years. Twelve years nationally — that’s not with Soldiers, that’s nationally.”

“And the horrible thing about that is all

see **STUDY** next page

'USO Warrior and Family Care' program continues to serve

From the United Services Organization

Throughout the USO's history, going back to World War II, the USO has supported healing heroes during and after major conflicts. Over the last decade, the widespread use of body armor, rapid evacuation from the battlefield, and advances in military medicine are resulting in many more service members returning home having survived injuries that in past conflicts would have been fatal. More than 40,000 service members have been visibly wounded in the conflicts in Iraq and Afghanistan, and some estimate more than 300,000 troops suffer from invisible wounds, such as post-traumatic stress or traumatic brain injury.

These wounded, ill and injured troops, as well as their families and caregivers, are facing a very difficult challenge, and the USO is doing all we can to strengthen their hope and confidence for the happy and fulfilling future they so richly deserve. When the USO asks, "Who needs us most?" our wounded, ill and

injured troops, and their families and caregivers, are at the top of the list.

In an effort to ensure that the name of the programs and services in our continuum of care for our wounded, ill and injured warriors, their families and caregivers, as well as families of the fallen, captures all of those that we support, the USO has recently renamed the offering of these programs and services. The name, "USO Warrior and Family Care," will now be the name of our programs and services that support this continuum of care.

We feel the name, "USO Warrior and Family Care," represents the fact that USO's programs serve the warriors who return with wounds, or are ill and injured, as well as their families and caregivers who are so important in the healing process. Also, we listened to troops who told us their concerns about being labeled "wounded," and our tagline, "Healing with Honor," reflects the respect and dignity afforded to these heroes on their

journey. The name may have changed, but our mission never will.

Our programs have expanded over the last 10 years to encompass a continuum of care, including physical health and recreational activities, mental health support, family strengthening, education and employment training, career opportunities and community reintegration support. To learn more about the ways that the USO supports our healing heroes, their families and caregivers, as well as families of the fallen, please visit www.uso.org/warriorandfamilycare.

If you have any questions, or would like us to join you for a briefing, please contact me or our Vice President of USO Warrior and Family Care, Susan Thomas, at stomas@uso.org.

Sincerely,

Sloan Gibson
President and CEO, USO

STUDY cont.

the bad things that happen in between," he said. "The abuse of alcohol, the abuse of drugs, prescription drugs, the anger management issues."

Drug Abuse

The Army continues to close the gap in drug surveillance and drug rehabilitation programs, although there was an increase last year believed to be related to increased surveillance, Chiarelli said. Illicit drug use declined by 19 percent from earlier highs in 2006 and 2008, he said.

Army substance abuse programs saw more than 24,000 Soldiers last year. "I know because of the connection of alcohol abuse to post-traumatic stress, many people who go untreated for PTS self-medicate with alcohol," he said. "I know that after 10 years of war, those numbers have gone up. So seeing an increase in the number who are in the program is a positive step."

Sexual Assaults

Chiarelli said he is most concerned about an increase in violent sex crimes that rose 64 percent from 2006 to 2011. "This is unacceptable. We have zero tolerance for this," he said.

"Army leaders take sexual assault seriously," Chiarelli said. "We're expanding our surveillance and response against these crimes. We've identified numerous sex crime factors, such as alcohol and the newly designed barracks that offer privacy, coupled with a lack of leadership."

This impacts the youngest and most junior female Soldiers, and the perpetrators mirror that age, he said.

Domestic violence among Soldiers increased during the same five-year span by 33 percent, Chiarelli said, while child abuse cases rose by 43 percent.

Alcohol associated with domestic violence increased by 54 percent, and with child abuse by 40 percent, he said.

The research also shows that PTS contributes to domestic violence, Chiarelli said, with person diagnosed with PTS three times more likely to participate in some kind of partner aggression.

"That is why it is so critical to eliminate the stigma associated with PTS and get people in for treatment for their alcohol problem, their drug-abuse problem, prescription drug-abuse problem, or anger-management problems, spouse abuse and child abuse," Chiarelli said. "That, to me, is critical. And the National Institute of Mental Health lays this out as not just an Army problem, this is

a national problem."

Looking to Reset

Similar to any post-war period, reset and recovery must remain focused on the health and discipline of the volunteer force, Chiarelli said.

"We have an opportunity to avoid mistakes of prior post-war environments by applying science and the many lessons learned to mitigate health, discipline and readiness challenges," he said. "I often tell folks if you were to ask somebody what good comes out of war, they would point to military medicine and the advances that are made that benefit us all. And I think if you were to ask somebody today what is the greatest advancement in military medicine in this war, they would probably point to the advancements we've made in prosthetics.

"But I honestly believe 10 years from now with some of the things that I'm seeing and the advancements we've made in brain science, that ... people are going to look back and say, 'You know the greatest advancements that were made in these particular conflicts was our understanding of the brain,'" Chiarelli said.

Mind, Body & Spirit

The world is haunted

by Chaplain
Capt. Garland Mason
525th MP Battalion

Professor of Philosophy at Boston College, Peter Kreeft asks in his book "Heaven: The Heart's Deepest Longing," "Have you ever felt it—the haunting of the world?" He says we should feel the haunting of this world with our "haunt detector." Now we are accustomed to using our five senses to detect colors, shapes, sizes, sounds, smells, tastes, textures, heat, and many other things we encounter daily. "But," Kreeft says, "we have inner senses too. For instance, we have truth detectors and lie detectors, love detectors and hate detectors, beauty detectors and ugliness detectors, and right and wrong detectors (usually called consciences)." Everyone has an inner haunt detector giving us the sense this world we see is "haunted" by something we don't see. This is the sense that "often inspires awe and fear because it is not humanly predictable and controllable, not definable and tamable. It seems to come from another dimension, another kind of reality."

There are many things that tend to activate our haunt detector but there are at least three that always do, namely love, beauty, and music. There is something which comes through these three from another world that haunts our own. This experience is one of intense longing that is sparked by love, beauty, and music but not wholly satisfied by them. Kreeft believes all the things that have deeply moved you have been hints of the other world. However, the things themselves (love, beauty, music) have only been channels through which the true satisfaction of our deepest longings has passed.

For instance think of relational love. Isn't there something about being in love that makes you ache for more love? Or

think of a beautiful sunset over the ocean. Isn't there something about a beautiful sunset that makes you pull the car over and take it all in? Music is also very powerful in this regard. Think of some of your favorite songs. Isn't there something about that song that seems to come through from somewhere else, tugging at your heart to follow it back to where it came from?

I recently watched "The Soloist," which tells the story of Steve Lopez, a Los Angeles newspaper reporter (Robert Downey Jr.), who discovers a brilliant homeless street musician named Nathaniel Ayers (Jamie Foxx). There is a point in the movie where Lopez tries to describe to his wife the effect a symphony had on Ayers. Lopez says, "We are listening to the same music but I'm watching him and he's watching the music. And while they're playing I say, 'My God, there is something higher out there! There is something higher out there and [Ayers] lives in it. . . . But I don't know what to call it!'" The Germans call this phenomenon of human longing or yearning "sehnsucht." Many people's haunt detectors are moved by love, beauty, and music. Haven't you had the experience of feeling, even momentarily, that you were transported to another world?

These things are strong indicators of another reality that moves you to long for something more. C.S. Lewis sums it up this way in "Mere Christianity":

"Most people if they had really learned to look into their own hearts, would know that they do want, and want acutely, something that cannot be had in this world. There are all sorts

of things in this world that offer to give it to you, but they never quite keep their promise. The longings which arise in us when we first fall in love, or first think of some foreign country, or first take up some subject that excites us, are longings which no marriage, no travel, no learning, can really satisfy... There was something we grasped at, in that first moment of longing, which just fades away in the reality. I think everyone knows what I mean. The wife may be a good wife, and the hotels and scenery may have been excellent, and chemistry may be a very interesting job: but something has evaded us."

Many people would admit they have experienced the haunting of this world. Most of us know what it's like to look into the eyes of our beloved, see a dazzling sunset, or listen to a particular piece of music that, at a certain spot, makes your heart ache. The problem is even when we have all this world has to offer we still say, "I can't get no satisfaction." What then are we to do? Lewis said, "If I find in myself a desire which no experience in this world can satisfy, the most probable explanation is that I was made for another world."

What about you? Do you long for something that you have not yet found in this world? Listen to your haunt detector. It may just lead you home.

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



We all face daily challenges that make our jobs at Joint Task Force Guantanamo tough enough as it is. We do not need to compound it with useless and hurtful rumors, misconceptions or innuendos that can result in decaying our team spirit and camaraderie. Let's all remember the Golden Rule: Treat others as you would want to be treated.



Movie Review

PG-13
121 min.

By Mass Communication Spc. 1st Class Ty Bjornson

For more than two decades, George Lucas has been developing “Red Tails,” his film version of the story of the Tuskegee Airmen of the 322nd Fighter Group. Lucas is rumored to have spent \$100 million out of his own pocket to produce, distribute and market this picture: an investment he hopes will generate awareness of the history of the real “Red Tail” airmen.

The “Red Tails” moniker comes from the tails of their P-51 Mustang aircraft, painted red to distinguish themselves from other squadrons. During World War II, these pilots were the first African American aviators in the history of the U.S. armed forces. At that time, the military was federally segregated. During the first leg of the war, these aviators were on the sidelines in noncombat operations.

As the war progressed, the members of the 332nd were tasked to escort bomber squadrons. Many troops were reluctant to have African American aviators for escorts: the consensus was these airmen were of limited intelligence and should not operate heavy machinery. Many questioned their bravery, thinking they would run at the first signs of trouble. As history would tell, nothing could have been farther from the truth.

The film follows the beginnings of the Red Tail pilots. Col. A. J. Bullard (Terrance Howard) knows these men are capable of aerial combat. He shows great determination and poise at Pentagon staff meetings to get his men into the war effort. When he is successful in doing so, Maj. Emmanuel Stone (Cuba Gooding Jr.) is only too eager to tell his men that they will start escorting bomber aircraft into combat theater.

These men believe that they are finally doing something special. After all, they aren’t what society expects them to be. They weren’t cooks, nor did they “clean the latrines in Milwaukee,” as was the expectation of blacks at the time. On the contrary, they were finally able to do what they were trained to do and all eyes were on them. Would they succeed or fail in their new challenge?

After many successful escort missions, it became apparent to the military that these men were highly trained and viable assets to the mission. Their reputation preceded them. It wasn’t long before the Red Tails’ services were requested by name.

Historically, the 332nd Fighter Group’s Red Tails had a very impressive war record. They destroyed 261 enemy aircraft and damaged 148 while participating in 1,578 missions. Those are no small accomplishments by any standards, nor did it come without a toll: 66 Red Tail aviators were killed in action. Distinguished Flying Crosses were awarded to 95 others

for their service during the war.

George Lucas is very successful in creating a visually spectacular film in the recreation of the WWII dogfights between the Red Tails and the Germans. Computer-generated imagery (CGI) is used in a movie as a storytelling tool and not for cartoonish backgrounds as in so many other pictures. These scenes are expansive and all-encompassing. They are brought to you by Lucas’ own special effects house, Industrial Light & Magic (ILM). Lucas is on record saying the Death Star battle in the original “Star Wars” (1977) was modeled after real WWII dogfights. Now nearly 35 years later, we are able to see those very dogfights Lucas discussed realized on the silver screen in style. These scenes do not disappoint.

What is disappointing is Lucas’ inability to write dialog beyond the sitcom level. I think characters on “Saved by the Bell” (1990) had far more meaningful conversations on life than the men in “Red Tails” ever do. Almost everyone on the screen is one-dimensional. The Germans are definitely your standard cardboard cutout bad guys of yesteryear. They only display their dislike of Americans and black aviators with disparaging comments and gunfire. No up-close-and-personals there. I guess they don’t need to be more than that, but at the same time their lack of dimension makes them about as menacing as Wile E. Coyote.

Good character moments are few and far between, like in the scenes where the senior officers discuss the merits and effectiveness of black airmen. However, most of the time you feel like the acting is a little over the top. The best human interaction comes from daredevil pilot Joe “Lightning” Little (David Oyelowo) as he woos Italian beauty Sofia (Daniela Ruah).

At least the premise of “Red Tails” is really good. It is a part of World War II history that is worth knowing and talking about. There’s no denying “Red Tails” looks great despite the flat characters. The film’s co-writer Aaron McGruder defended the film by saying: “Some people are going to like this tonal choice and some people are going to say, ‘Oh it should’ve been heavier and it should’ve been more dramatic.’ But there’s a version of this (story) that doesn’t have to be “Saving Private Ryan.” We can be “Star Wars,” as crazy as it is.”

I can’t argue that Lucas and director Anthony Hemmingway made the movie they wanted to make. It is entertaining, though given the seriousness and historical importance of the subject matter. It is apparent this film could have been so much more. It certainly never should have felt like a sitcom. The good thing about “Red Tails” is it will get people talking. The bad thing about “Red Tails” is it feels half realized in terms of drama and presentation. Darn it. “Red Tails” had so much potential and deserved to be more gripping than what it is.

GTMO Quick Reference

Bayview Club - 75605
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.

Jerk House - 2532
Sun.-Th. 5-9 p.m.
Fri. & Sat. 5-10 p.m.

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

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

LDS Service
Sunday 10 a.m.
Room A

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

Islamic Service
Friday 1 p.m.
Room C

GTMO Religious Services

United Jamaican Fellowship
Sunday 11 a.m.
Room B

Liturgical Service
Sunday 10 a.m.
Room B

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

JTF Trooper Chapel

Protestant Worship Bible Study
Sunday 9 a.m.
Wednesday 6 p.m.

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

	27 FRI	28 SAT	29 SUN	30 MON	31 TUE	1 WED	2 THU
Downtown Lyceum	Jack & Jill (last showing) (PG) 7 p.m. Extremely Loud and Incredibly Close (NEW) (PG-13) 9 p.m.	Happy Feet 2 (last showing) (PG) 7 p.m. The Sitter (NEW) (R) 9 p.m.	Immortals (last showing) (R) 7 p.m.	Joyful Noise (PG-13) 7 p.m.	Red Tails (PG-13) 7 p.m.	Twilight (PG-13) 7 p.m.	The Muppets (PG) 7 p.m.
Camp Bulkeley	The Sitter (NEW) (R) 8 p.m. Joyful Noise (PG-13) 10 p.m.	Jack & Jill (last showing) (PG) 8 p.m. Extremely Loud and Incredibly Close (NEW) (PG-13) 10 p.m.	Red Tails (PG-13) 8 p.m.	Immortals (last showing) (R) 8 p.m.	J. Edgar (R) 8 p.m.	New Year’s Eve (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.



L BEACH

Left: Petty Officer 2nd Class Mark Snow of the Navy Expeditionary Guard Battalion took the time to volunteer to improve and beautify the Public Works Department Nursery. -photo by Sgt. 1st Class Joseph Donnelly

BEACH

Backgrounds Kittery Beach reopened for weekend use recently after the previous BEEF's improvements made the access road passable again. -photo by Mass Communication Spc. 2nd Class Louis Batchelor

KITTERY BEACH

OPEN

FERRY LANDING

OPEN

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Lionfish At Shutter Speed

Above: Lt. Jg. Andrew Maughn measured fish Jan. 21 to determine the winners of the Seabees' Ball Lionfish Hunt fundraiser. -photo by Army Maj. Jon Powers