

# The WIRE

An award-winning  
JTF journal



## Beat the heat!

Stay cool at GTMO

## '9/11 Five' in court

Legal motions begin

# COMMAND CORNER

REAR ADM. JOHN W. SMITH JR.

COMMANDER, JTF GUANTANAMO

We use four words to describe our detention operation here at Joint Task Force Guantanamo: safe, humane, legal and transparent. The first three words are self-explanatory. But what does it mean to be transparent?

Some might point to the fact that the news media is able to come visit the Joint Task Force, ask questions, take pictures and write stories as a sign of transparency. I believe the media plays an important role in our free society, and I am proud that we provide as much access as possible – consistent with security and force protection policies. Still, media access is but one dimension of a transparent operation.

Transparency is as much a philosophy as it is a policy. One of my favorite sayings is that “Integrity is what you do when nobody’s watching.” Do not compromise your integrity because no one is looking over your shoulder. There will always be one person there no matter what you’re doing, and that person is you. I see transparency as another word for integrity.

Our work is important, and requires us to conduct our operations transparently, with integrity, 24 hours a day, seven days a week. We must do it the right way, all the time. Not just when the boss is nearby. Not just when we have visitors. Not just when a reporter is talking to us. A favorite quote of mine written by Henry Wadsworth Longfellow states, “It takes less time to do a thing right, than it does to explain why you did it wrong.”

We follow our Standard Operating Procedures – our SOPs – as if we were

being graded, because it is the right thing to do. Those SOPs have been refined, tested, challenged and revised to make sure that they make sense, are simple to follow, and leave little room for error or misinterpretation.

We conduct spot checks to make sure that everyone is doing it right. We have two-person integrity to help reduce errors. We have leadership who is watching out

for fatigue, stress and complacency. And we debrief our operations with a focus on facts. What went right? What went wrong? What can we do better next time? What do we need to stop doing?

When we operate in a world of transparency and integrity, we don’t fear scrutiny, we welcome it.

When asked what the greatest challenge we face here at JTF Guantanamo, the rotational nature of

our force often comes to mind. We are in a state of constant turnover, with most personnel and units here on tours ranging from six or nine months to a year or two. Constant turnover means constant training, and a portion of the force is always relatively new and inexperienced.

Viewed in a different light, our rotational force is an asset that keeps us fresh and vital. New people arrive with new ideas and fresh perspectives. If something isn’t clear, they aren’t afraid to ask “why do we do it this way?”

When we operate transparently, with integrity, we welcome these questions, and aren’t afraid to change things that need improvement. Transparency and integrity are a way of life.

***I believe the media plays an important role in our free society... When we operate in a world of transparency and integrity, we don't fear scrutiny: we welcome it.***



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## The Wire

**Senior Editor** Army Sgt. Ryan Hallock  
**Layout Editor** Army Pvt. Loren Cook  
**Copy Editor** Spc. Vanessa Davila  
**Assistant Editor** Mass Communication Spc. 3rd Class Brian Jeffries  
**Photojournalists**  
Sgt. 1st Class Kryn Westhoven  
Army Staff Sgt. Lewis Hilburn  
Mass Communication Spc. 2nd Class Joshua Hammond  
Mass Communication Seaman Hannah Wilhide  
**Webmaster**  
Mass Communication Spc. 1st Class Keith Simmons

## Contact us

**Editor's Desk:** 3499  
**Commercial:** 011-5399-3499  
**DSN:** 660-3499  
**E-mail:** thewire@jftgtdmo.southcom.mil  
**Online:** www.jftgtdmo.southcom.mil/wire/wire.html

# JOINT TASK FORCE GUANTANAMO

SAFE • HUMANE • LEGAL • TRANSPARENT

# NEWS FROM THE BAY

## Safe Ride!

Out drinking? Thinking about driving? Put the keys down! Save your life, the lives of others, and your career.  
**Call 84913/84781.**

## Are you ready for some football?

You’ve heard it on many a night in the autumn and winter. Hank Williams Jr.’s immortal question has been the prelude to many Monday nights of gridiron action.

GTMO might not have its own Hank Williams Jr, but there’s no reason we can’t have our own football games!

Beginning Sept. 3, MWR will offer men’s and women’s flag football leagues for anyone 16 and up. Register at Denich Gym by 7 p.m. tonight. A coaches meeting is scheduled for Wednesday at 5:30 p.m.

First and second place teams get a trophy! For more information, call 2113.

## Feds Feed Families

The 2012 Feds Feed Families food drive is going on right now! A collection table for cash donations will be located in the NEX Atrium from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. on Saturdays until Aug. 31. A donation box for nonperishable food items is located inside the NEX. Do your part to help those less fortunate!

For more information, call HM1 Sarro or NDC Bolen at 4444.

## Use J-4 for all your official travel needs!

Need to go on official travel, but not sure how to do it? Don’t sweat it! You have people for that!

For all inquiries regarding official travel, such as emergency leave, temporary duty, permanent change of station, R&R leave, or medevac flights, please contact Staff Sgt. Williams, J-4’s passenger/embarkation chief, at 3011 between 8 a.m. and 4 p.m. Monday to Friday.

J-4 is located in Building 906, Room 101.

For Space A travel, call the NAVSTA Air Terminal at 6204.

## Enrich yourself!

CLEP and DSST testing have returned. You can earn college credit for free! Register at [www.ccis.edu/guantanamo](http://www.ccis.edu/guantanamo).

## Display good Mule or Gator etiquette!

How would you like to receive a smile and a friendly wave from other drivers?

Practice good etiquette when driving a Gator or Mule. That doesn’t mean a gator reading Emily Post and wearing a monocle; it means thinking about others on the road.

Pull over for faster-moving vehicles and you will receive a friendly wave. Consideration of others on GTMO roadways is part of defensive driving. Do your part!



## Learn to read music!

Want to learn what all of those weird arcane symbols on sheet music mean? There’s a class for that!

An eight-week basic music theory for adults class begins Sept. 14 at the W.T. Sampson High School band room. Class runs from 5:30 to 6:30 p.m. and costs \$120.

Register by Sept. 7 at the Child Development Center to secure your seat.

For more information, call 77302.

## Labor Day softball tournament

MWR is scheduled to hold a one-pitch softball tournament at Softball Field 2 Labor Day weekend. The tournament will begin at 7 p.m. Sep. 1 and continue overnight until about 6 a.m. Sep. 2. Registration is limited to 12 teams and teams should register by Aug. 24. A coaches meeting is scheduled for Aug. 29.

Prizes will be awarded to the 1st and 2nd place teams and the winner of a home run derby.

For more information, call 2113.

## Firefighter Ball

You’ve bought the T-shirts and gone to the fundraising events. Now it’s time for the main event! Naval Station Guantanamo Bay’s fire department is holding its Firefighter Ball 5:30 p.m. tomorrow at the Windjammer. For tickets or more information, call 4577.

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AUGUST 24, 2012

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# Trooper to Trooper

## Make the Right Decisions

MASTER SGT. JASON JORDAN

J-6 SUPERINTENDENT

Have you ever been in a situation where you made a decision that you wish you could take back? Well I certainly have, and I am here to tell you I would give anything to be in that situation again, only this time to make the “right” decision. Back in 2005, I was deployed to Al Dhafra Air Base in the United Arab Emirates and made a choice that changed my career. As an escort for third-country nationals, I was working 15-hour days, six days a week; so on my one and only day off some friends and I decided to go downtown in Abu Dhabi to shop at the mall, tour the city, visit the beach, and just get away from it all. We all knew that our base commander enforced a “zero-tolerance” drinking policy for anyone going off base. Well let’s just say the day started out great but didn’t end so well due to a choice that my friends and I eventually made. Our intentions were never to drink. We just wanted to relax and have some fun on our day off, but with one tip of the bottle that all changed. It wasn’t just one of us; collectively, we made the decision to have a drink and, unfortunately, it was a decision that ended up changing, not only our careers, but our lives as

well! Some wanted to devise a plan so we wouldn’t get caught, but I just couldn’t do it. I had already made one horrible decision so I refused to compound my mistake by making another one. The lesson learned here is that nothing good ever comes out of hiding the truth, so remember to take responsibility for your actions and come forward... integrity always!

So you might be asking yourself, “what kind of trouble did they get themselves in?” Well, I received an Article 15 along with forfeiting half a month’s pay for six months. A few of my fellow Airmen lost a stripe, forfeited half a month’s pay for six months, and one Airman ultimately took his own life upon his return home.

So let me ask you, was the decision we made worth it? Absolutely not, and it is a decision that my friends and I still live with today. No one is perfect, and I’m sure we’ve all made at least one poor decision, along with many mistakes, in our time, but it’s what we learn from those mistakes that really count and makes us who we are today. Whether you’re an Airman, Soldier, Sailor, Marine or Coast Guardsman, remember to always be there for one another, because without each other we have nothing. Each one of us made the decision to serve our great nation so please, don’t let one terrible



decision take away what you’ve worked so hard for. The next time you find yourself in a similar situation, stop and think long and hard about the decision you’re about to make... trust me, you’ll be glad you did!

## BOOTS ON THE GROUND

### What’s your favorite video game?



“World of Warcraft!”

Hospital Corpsman 3rd Class  
Lukus Baker



“Call of Duty: Modern Warfare.”

Spc.  
Luis Flores



“The original Counterstrike, then Counterstrike: Source.”

Spc.  
Chris Hurley



“Goldeneye. It’s my favorite shooting game of all time.”

Spc.  
Ryan Gundara

# Motion hearings begin for ‘9/11 Five’

By Cheryl Pellerin  
American Forces Press Service

WASHINGTON – Three months after the arraignment of Khalid Sheikh Mohammed and his four co-defendants, those accused of planning and executing the Sept. 11, 2001 terrorist attacks are back in court this month for hearings on motions made by the defense and prosecution.

Army Brig. Gen. Mark S. Martins, chief prosecutor in the Office of Military Commissions, is overseeing the trial in the case of the United States vs. Khalid Sheikh Mohammed, Walid Muhammad Salih Mubarak Bin Attash, Ramzi Binalshibh, Ali Abdul Aziz Ali and Mustafa Ahmed Adam al Hawsawi.

Martins is a graduate of the U.S. Military Academy and Harvard Law School and is a Rhodes scholar.

“The military commission convened to try the charges referred to it against [the defendants] will hold what are known under the Military Commissions Act of 2009 as sessions without panel members present,” Martins told American Forces Press Service.

The sessions began Aug. 22 and will continue until Aug. 28 at U.S. Naval Station Guantanamo Bay, Cuba.

“Such sessions – in the same manner that a federal district court hearing a criminal case will do prior to the seating of a civilian jury – enable the hearing of various matters in an orderly, methodical way for resolution by the judge prior to trial,” he added.

What the chief prosecutor described as an adversarial process is consistent, Martins said, with the fair, transparent and accountable administration of justice under the rule of law.

The charges allege that the co-defendants are responsible for planning and executing the attacks of Sept. 11, 2001, in New York, Washington and Shanksville, Pa., resulting in the deaths of 2,976 people.

In May, the five were charged with terrorism, conspiracy, attacking civilians, attacking civilian objects, intentionally causing serious bodily injury, murder in violation of the law of war, destruction of property in violation of the law of war, hijacking or hazarding a vessel or aircraft.

Before evidence can be presented, “particularly in a complex, joint trial such as this one figures to be, many matters must be addressed and placed on the record,” the chief prosecutor said, adding that this session is being called to consider 24 or so motions made by the defense and the prosecution.

Martins emphasized that the charges are only allegations and that the accused are presumed innocent unless proven guilty beyond a reasonable doubt.

In terms of the motions to be heard, he added, each piece of business must receive due deliberation.

“Some of the motions by the defense allege jurisdictional error, which means that if the defense position were to prevail, the commission would lack the authority to proceed,” Martins explained.

“The prosecution’s position, not surprisingly, is in opposition to these motions,” he added.

In some of its motions, he said, the prosecution is seeking standard protective orders necessary to ensure that certain materials provided to the defense in discovery are not publicly released. These include classified information protecting sources and methods of intelligence gathering, information about terrorist organizations, certain privacy information, and several categories of information routinely protected in the public interest, the chief prosecutor said.

Martins advised media members who hear continuing complaints from defense counsel in the sessions about a lack of resourcing and the difficulty of forming effective attorney-client relationships to “seek out additional perspectives, including by reading government submissions to the court on the matter and by reviewing facts about resources provided, counsel and investigative hours billed and paid, numbers of flights to Guantanamo available and not taken, opportunities for communication with client through a privilege team, and similar empirical data.”

The judge intends to hear arguments from legal counsel for the American Civil Liberties Union and several media organizations regarding public access to the proceedings, Martins said.

“The prosecution supports the judge hearing such argument and is facilitating counsel’s travel to Guantanamo for this purpose,” he said. “The trial process only benefits from the increased public-access measures that have been put in place, including closed-circuit transmission of the proceedings to the continental United States and same-day posting of unofficial, verbatim transcripts of each session.”

But, he added, “the prosecution opposes departure from the public-access rules used in U.S. federal district courts and military courts-martial, while ACLU and the media organizations seek such a departure in desir-

ing the proceedings to be televised.”

No federal criminal trial or military court-martial has ever been televised, the chief prosecutor noted, “on the rationale that televising trials would violate the balance between the public’s manifest interest in observing the workings of government and other important public interests, including the fair administration of justice.”

The existing public-access rule, he added, “incorporates the value that criminal trials are foremost about ascertaining the truth, determining the innocence or guilt of the accused, and, if the accused is convicted, arriving at a just sentence.”

While the Sept. 11 attacks have been heavily chronicled, Martins said, “the process of seeking accountability under law for the crimes of that day remains unfinished.”

In the months ahead, more sessions without panel members will likely be held to deal with legal and evidentiary issues, he added.

“As the accused and their counsel have yet to receive hundreds of thousands of pages of discovery, ... these sessions are part of a court process that will likely take many additional months,” Martins said.

“It is an important guarantee of fairness that an accused can examine the evidence against him or her, and ... have access to any information that might tend to exculpate or, if convicted, lessen the appropriate punishment,” the chief prosecutor explained.

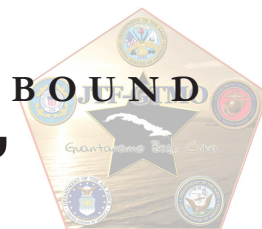
The claim has been made that the many motions and the likely length of the process show that military commissions are unsettled and that such extensive litigation would never happen in an established civilian court, Martins said.

“Such claims are mistaken,” he added. “The judge in this case will consider the facts and apply a well-developed body of law and precedent. That is what courts do, and that is why records of trial and law books containing case precedents are fat,” he said.

As an example, Martins cited the case of Zacarias Moussaoui, a French citizen and self-proclaimed al-Qaida operative who was tried in federal district court in Virginia and in 2006 received a sentence of life in prison.

“The federal judge considered hundreds of motions over the course of a four-year, four-month trial,” the chief prosecutor said of the Moussaoui trial, adding that the case produced 1,900 docket entries and some 1,200 exhibits.

“However long the journey,” Martins said, “the United States is committed to fair and thorough trial of these serious charges.”



# Beat the heat!

By Army Sgt. Saul Rosa

No matter where you go, the climate is going to fight you on way or another. In Guantanamo Bay, Cuba, we're facing off against heat and humidity. How do I stand up against GTMO's weather? Simple: I work through it.

During high school and college, I worked on a farm. Many would think that the northeast would be a relatively cool place. However, I can attest to the heat and humidity of southern New Jersey. Heat can cause injury and that's a fact, but unlike the military, civilian companies do not have a heat scale that restricts the amount of work you can do or dictates the number of breaks you get. So, for a farm laborer, it was simply work through it or quit.

Now the way I'm describing it makes it out like we just sucked it up, but we did have a couple tricks to survive the heat. One of the deadliest factors in working in the outdoors is the sun. From early morning until the evening, the sun would beat down. So, to combat this we would wear long sleeve shirts and loose-fitting pants. The loose clothing would allow air to cool us down, but still protect against the heat. Also, hats are a great way to provide shade for your face instead of covering it. To minimize our time in the sun, we would take our lunch break at noon, the hottest period of the day. Water was crucial to survive in the heat. At the farm we would bring containers full of water and ice and during work breaks we would make runs back to the central building to refill the containers.

How do I survive the heat of GTMO? I just work through it like on the farm. There haven't been many days here that have made me sweat like back at the farm. But, I still follow what I've learned at the farm and I haven't been a heat casualty yet.



# Be Cool GTMO Style

## How to chill out

By Pvt. Loren Cook

Greetings, all JTF Guantanamo Troopers! As you may have noticed, it's HOT out there! Even if your only exposure to the burning radiation that's... um, radiated from the bright orange ball in the sky is while you walk from your room to your car and from your car to your office, you have still probably observed some sort of wet salty mixture being exuded from your skin, accompanied by a generally warm sensation.

"What is this strange liquid coming out of me?" I'm imagining you thinking to yourself.

Don't worry. No matter how much it may feel like it, you're not melting. That's sweat, and it's your body's natural cooling system. It's how people used to cool themselves down before air conditioning was invented.

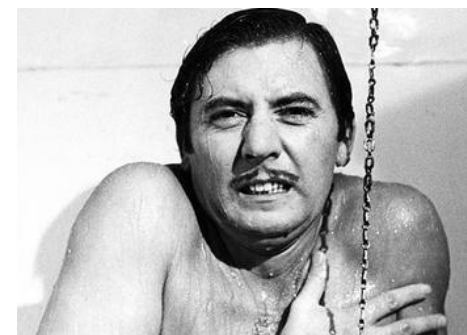
How can you keep yourself cool in these hot conditions? One way is to dress for it. It's common sense to wear as little as possible, and to wear shorts and short sleeved shirts. It's also WRONG! Take a look at how Middle Easterners dress. When was the last time you saw an Iraqi or an Afghan walking around in shorts? They don't!

You see, when you expose your skin to the sun, you are also exposing it to direct radiation. It feels good compared to wearing tightly-fitting clothing because you can feel a breeze, but you're not using the most effective method and you're increasing your risk of skin cancer.

The best way to dress for heat is to wear loose clothing that covers the skin, and a hat. I'm not here to advocate wearing a mandress and turban, but some loose-fitting khakis and a hat with a brim would do the trick.

Another way to beat the heat is to go swimming. We have two swimming pools and an ocean here, so make good use of them on hot days and you'll be cool in no time!

Pool closed? Can't make it to a beach? Don't fret! You can always take a cool shower. (Notice I said a cool shower, not a cold shower. That's a system shock, and it's especially distressing to males.) It can be a little hard to get your shower to the proper temperature, since mine seems to only have two temperatures (Shoots Icicles and Surface of the Sun) but if you can get there, it's quite a nice feeling.



Another method is also very obvious. When it's extremely hot, minimize your time outside, and stay in the shade as much as possible if you must be outdoors.

When you're using your air conditioner, feel free to experiment to discover the setting that works best for you. Believe it or not, there are settings in between "off" and "maximum cool, maximum fan speed." (This message also goes out to whoever sets the thermostat in the Seaside Galley.) If you find the right A/C setting, you're in for a real treat.

## A Tale of Two Cities Housemates

By Army 1st Lt. Amelia Thatcher

It was the best of times. It was the worst of times. It was the hottest of times.

Exercise makes you hot, but Air Force 1st Lt. Aries Hopf knows how to stay cool in the Caribbean summer heat. One of her many weekly workouts consists of the Monday night kickboxing class at the Marine Hill gym.

"Kickboxing combines martial arts techniques with weight resistance, core, and plyometrics moves, making it an excellent cross-training workout," Hopf said. "I keep cool through constant perspiration; everyday in GTMO brings an opportunity to sweat and therefore get closer to my fitness goals."

To help her keep cool through the burn, Hopf chooses the right gear: bright Newton running shoes and moisture-wicking singlets and leggings. The base exchange has a decent selection; however, you might have to go to the Internet to find the ideal outfit for your body type, fitness level, activities, and even the time of year. Believe it or not, it does cool down a bit by February.

"My favorite brands are Sugoi, Lululemon and Nike; I use Amazon.com as my one-stop shop," Hopf added. "I see the money spent in gym gear as an investment in my health, rather than an expense."

Meanwhile, Hopf's lazy housemate tends

to lounge around indoors. She more or less abides by the preset goals on a calorie tracker, has a hiking buddy and goes to thrice-weekly unit PT, but nonetheless acknowledges her mostly sedentary lifestyle.

"Who knits a wool sweater in the Caribbean in August?" she mumbled to herself, fixing the sleeve she accidentally attached inside-out.

Someone chillin' in the air conditioning, that is!

These are just two of many ways to beat the GTMO heat. Find a balance with your work schedule, fitness needs and leisure-time activities. And make sure to drink water!

Full disclosure: This author is Hopf's housemate. Who knits.



since being down here.

If you are one of the many who drive a Mule or Gator, enjoy the cool mornings going into work. Let the breeze blow all your cares away. However, don't get too into it. Be sure to pull over and let the other drivers go on by. Let's face it: if you have an ATV you are not in a hurry to get somewhere. Those darn things are slow. Now, I know better than most how flipping hot it gets in the afternoons. When traversing the winding roads enjoy the roller coaster ride going down hills, just don't throw your hands in the air.

To embrace the true country lifestyle nothing beats the heat better than a nice tall glass of sun tea. Run to NEX and grab yourself a pitcher, with a lid, some ice tea packets, sugar, and a case of water for those who don't care much for the tap water here. Make it in the morning before you go to work. Set it outside your room or house all day in the sun. By the time you get home you will have fresh-brewed sun tea. Pour it in to a nice tall glass, throw in some ice and enjoy.

Since we are on an island, there is

By Army Staff Sgt. Lewis Hilburn

Okay listen up. The dog days of summer are here. Now I could sit here and tell you to drink plenty of water and stay in the air conditioning to keep cool. I am not, because what good is that going to do you? The purpose of summer is to get out and enjoy the weather. Therefore, here are some things I have picked up

## Be cool... get wet!

By Army Sgt. Ryan Hallock

"Water is the essence of wetness, and wetness is the essence of beauty."

There have been wise men and women since the dawn of time who have graced us with their inspirational knowledge. And there's also Derek Zoolander. A man of such physical beauty was also able to and unselfishly willing to give us those remarkable words.

So why do we get wet? I can tell you why I get wet: to be cool! On the weekends and some weekdays I lace up my Nikes and hit the road. Every run I pass the Guantanamo Bay sign and slow down if I need to so I can catch the temperature. When it reads 90 degrees Fahrenheit I get excited. Something about seeing that "9" gets me pumped up for the run. I know I will sweat hard. I feel like I could run in Africa and feel no exhaustion from heat. The "9" makes me stronger.

My body makes itself wet. Sweat pours out of every pore. It's a wondrous thing, but it's not enough. I need to be totally submerged in wetness to be cool. My route is short and sweet: to Girl Scout beach and back to the Cuzcos. The last hill to the entrance to the beach is slow, but then there it is!

The view of the Caribbean as I'm walking down the steps never gets old; it's like the first time every time. I toss my Nikes, headphones, sunglasses, shirt, socks, necklace, and backpack to the sand and run into the ocean. I am now wet. I am now cool... until a jellyfish stings me! If I were writing this in a text I would use the emoticon that is winking one eye and sticking out his tongue.

Be cool, Guantanamo Bay. Running will get you wet, but the ocean will get you wetter!

nothing better than putting your butt in the sand and feet in the water. Take some time to enjoy the water. Remember, the water is fine and the beer is cold. Bring some tunes, floaties, and let your stress melt away.

Of course, there are those times when you don't feel like doing anything. That's fine. It's summer; take a stroll, read a book underneath a palm tree, or whatever. I don't care, just get out. Time moves slower here anyway, why can't you? Moving slow helps beat the heat no matter who you are.

Well that's about it, hope you all got something useful out of this and remember it's five o'clock somewhere!

# Trooper Focus



Story by Spc. Vanessa Davila  
Photo courtesy of Tech Sgt. Mychael Bulford

The English language has an almost infinite number of adjectives available for one person to describe another. The wrong adjective can make all the difference when it comes to conveying what it is that you mean. The word “anxious” has many different meanings – most of them negative – but tucked in the dictionary, there is a positive one. Yet when you highlight “anxious” in Microsoft Word and ask it for synonyms, the program inundates you with other negative adjectives in close meaning to the word anxious.

Tech. Sgt. Mychael Bulford tells me that “a lot of people get caught up in the popularity contests [but] not me. If people don’t like me, it doesn’t bother me; I don’t lose sleep over it.” Initially, many negative adjectives come to mind. However, if you continue talking with the 12-year Air Force veteran, you realize that he’s not trying to be “mean” or “malicious” – he just has too much good in his life to get caught up in the pettiness.

“This is what I love to do,” said Bulford about his military career. “I love putting the uniform on every day and supporting the mission. I enjoy being a part of a group or family that makes you feel like you belong.”

Like many, Bulford first joined the Air Force for the college benefits, but he loved it so much that he reenlisted. He has yet to earn his college degree, but it doesn’t mean



that it’s not within his grasp; Bulford intends to finish his bachelor of arts in organizational management. He has been able to hone his management skills as a leader in the Air Force.

“I love training new Airmen,” said Bulford. “I have a hand in making sure the future of the Air Force is in good hands.”

For a “company man,” Bulford doesn’t take the little things too seriously. He says that his greatest trait is his sense of humor.

“I like to have fun and enjoy things, even at work. I also know when it’s time to get the job done,” said Bulford about balancing humor with the serious. “My motto is ‘don’t take life too seriously, you’ll never get out

alive.” Bulford is a serious man when it comes to his family though: serious about how important they are to him.

“My wife is one of the reasons I joined the Air Force... to have a career and have the ability to support a family,” said Bulford. “She is what keeps me going on a daily basis. I wouldn’t be here now if it wasn’t for her.”

Bulford and his wife Katie have been together for 15 years and seven years ago they welcomed a son, Bradyn, to their family.

“The birth of my son was extremely significant; becoming a father is the best thing that has ever happened to me,” said Bulford. “It changed my life, totally. Everything revolved around Bradyn.”

The Bulfords are close-knit, so much so that they have taken up the martial art of taekwon do as a family.

“It’s brought us closer together as a family,” said Bulford about Tae Kwon Do. “It’s also helped my son with respect and determination. It is something that helps both my wife and I out tremendously. It’s amazing to watch my wife and kid excel at something and know that we are all a part of the growth.”

Bulford is surely looking forward to seeing his family again. He is also looking forward to the start of college football season.

“I’m a diehard Ohio State Buckeyes fan...” said Bulford. “O-H-I-O.”

# Through the GTMO looking-glass

By Army Maj. Jon Powers

Ever since cavemen were able to spell “psychologist,” people who think for a living have been studying leadership, team building, conflict and change issues. They created thousands of theories, cool acronyms and neat names for “phases.” Millions of dollars have been spent creating elaborate clinical studies to torture clueless college students with stress and conflict. Such a waste of money! They could have joined the military for free!

If these über-eggheads visit a combined joint command like Joint Task Force Guantanamo, they could study ways people task-organize and succeed when they are randomly thrown together and then separated again every day all over our island.

In the 1960s, Bruce Tuckman, PhD, laid the foundation for psychological stages of group and team dynamics. He worked with the industrial psychology lab at Princeton and then began research on small-group behavior at the Naval Medical Research Institute, Bethesda, Md. His four well-known stages of forming, storming, norming and performing soon became the model, and other studies followed. All those words tell me is that they were good at rhymes. They forgot hand-warming, bee-swarming and autobot-transforming.

But what does the mean to JTF Troopers? Parables are more fun than psycho-speak anyway, so let’s begin with “The Trooper discovers three doors.”

Behind Door Number One is “the beginning.” Not every door is left wide open. You run to the door and try the knob. Door’s

locked. Here’s the first struggle of your new environment. That is not permission to snooze on the porch swing. Saying “sorry, I tried” isn’t an option. The door won’t open itself so you need to overcome the challenges. Not every JTF Trooper is assigned a job that matches their military specialty. You have to be ready to do what’s needed.

Some might use C4 and blow the door off its hinges. Extreme, but effective. Maybe just knock? Someone can let you in. Look at the lock. Where is the key? How about under the doormat? Finally, success! Intellectual curiosity brings results in a deployment or new assignment. Problem solving is a big part of what we do.

The JTF rotational force is built on this premise: Troopers must mentally commit to success. This is where leaders and Troopers truly begin to serve. During each overlap of one tour and the next is an opportunity for real intellectual progress. Just reading standard operating procedure isn’t enough; you must absorb the knowledge and digest the information intelligently. Back to the parable!

You dash into the room and immediately rearrange the furniture and put up new pictures. If you are lucky there is someone to help you with the large filing cabinets. You work hard and the room becomes what you want it to be. Where did the helper go? Oh well, you are on your own. Left seat-right seat is over and you know your job well enough to not die of a panic attack each morning. Without realizing it you are passing out of “storming.” Good, because more change is coming: new people!

They start just like you did; redecorating the room. You are frustrated and want a bigger place because now it’s too crowded.

As new units integrate into your daily experience you mature in your job and realize each person has also moved from their “beginning room” and brought their stuff too.

Door Number Two is always open. Room two has space for all. This is where “norming” occurs. Room two is where everyone sorts out all their junk, hangs their posters and defines their boundaries. While defining your space mfeelings might get hurt. There are good times and bad times, laughter and tears in the “middle room.” But in the end it always works out: something not entirely

unlike harmony exists. Performing phase complete.

The true danger here is that you get so comfortable you don’t try anymore. Complacency! Stagnating in the “good enough is good enough” rut is the death of group progress and success. Time passes. Either the people are getting bigger or the “middle room” is getting smaller in an “Alice in Wonderland” sort of way.

You know you have to find Door Number Three. You procrastinate because you are comfortable right where you are. You have a cool Castro bobblehead on your desk and you finally got to the point where you know everything about everything. Here and now is cozy. It’s upsetting to tear down everything you worked so hard to build. It’s painful to move on and leave it all behind.

“Change, especially dramatic change, makes the awareness of time more acute and for that reason, unconsciously links up with the idea of death,” writes notable psychologist Joseph Burgo. “In order to escape that knowledge, many people create a kind of stasis, as if time has stopped moving for them.” Wow! A little extreme, don’t you think? But there is something to it. People don’t like endings.

Troopers may adopt attitudes of apathy or belligerence, symptomatic of GTMO Short-timer’s disease. With the imminent conclusion looming, anxiety and conflict erupt. In healthy groups, separation issues are addressed, and members’ express appreciation for each other. They reminisce on M Block and the total GTMO-ness comes to the surface.

All things end, eventually. Instead of passing through Door Number Three, the resistant few get shoved out the window-of-change and land outside again feeling rather lost. This is the price of avoiding room three.

In a rotational environment, the transfer is critical. If Troopers are too involved with their own emotional issues to offer a full and functional handover, valuable knowledge is lost. The way to defeat the dark side of change is to embrace it. Direct the energy you feel into a positive outlet. Teaching someone your position is an excellent way to say good bye to that part of your life. Now you are ready for the “end,” through Door Number Three.

If you enter the “end room” with your eyes wide open you may notice it is the same as your “beginning room;” but with a new, mildly confused person rummaging around. Looks like they need help moving the filing cabinets.



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OPSEC

## ALERT

COMMISSIONS

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**Have you talked to your family about OPSEC? Do they know how to protect their information, or what information should be protected? Tell them to check their online privacy settings and make sure they know that some information just shouldn't be posted online. Make sure they don't inadvertently give away information about you or your unit that the adversary could use. Keep your family and friends aware of OPSEC. Protect yourself, your family and the mission; use OPSEC!**



Movie Review  
R  
106 min.

By Pvt. Loren Cook

Ah, “Ted.” It seems Seth MacFarlane wasn’t content with making “Family Guy,” “American Dad,” two amazing shows... oh yeah, and “The Cleveland Show” too, and wanted to make a full-length, live-action movie. After coming out stateside more than a month and a half ago, it has finally arrived here at Guantanamo Bay. Was it worth the wait? Is it worth your time to see it?

The answers to those questions, respectively, are “Yes” and “Maybe. It depends whether you like Family Guy.”

The movie begins in the heady days of late 1985; when Reaganomics were in full swing, Teddy Ruxpin was at the height of its popularity, the Nintendo Entertainment System was about to make a huge splash and change the world, and I was only a few months old so I don’t remember any of this firsthand.

It’s Christmas Eve, and we meet eight-year-old Bostonian John Bennett, (Bretton Manley in his film debut) a little boy who has no friends. While all the other children have snowball fights, build snowmen, and beat up the Jewish kid, John has to watch it all happen from the window of his parents’ suburban home.

Of course, after Christmas Eve comes Christmas, and John’s parents give him a talking teddy bear. All it can say is “I love you!” in a high-pitched voice certain to irritate parents who hear it over and over again, but John is thrilled. He names the teddy Ted, and finally has a friend, albeit a stuffed and inanimate one.

That night, John wishes his friend could be real, and the next morning, his wish has come true! It’s a Christmas miracle!

From then on, the two are together, watching “Flash Gordon” on TV, becoming Thunder Buddies when John is scared of thunder, and playing happily every day.

Of course, a living teddy bear is quite a spectacle, and Ted becomes a celebrity. He even goes on “The Tonight Show” and hobnobs with Ed McMahon and Johnny Carson. Ted’s fame is only fleeting, though, unlike his friendship with John.

Fast-forward to 2012. John is now a 35-year-old man (played by Mark Wahlberg, “The Fighter”) with a dead-end job at a rental car agency. He’s still best friends with Ted, whose voice has lowered significantly (voiced by Seth MacFarlane, TV’s “Family Guy”). The two live together, hang out together, drink together, and smoke weed together. Ted even goes on dates with John and his long-term girlfriend Lori (the lovely Mila Kunis, “Friends with Benefits”), who has patiently tolerated Ted for the last four years.

Eventually, Ted goes too far and Lori can tolerate him no longer. She gives John an ultimatum: his teddy bear or her.

There are other subplots, but those are peripheral to the central plot of the movie, that of a man having to put away childish things in order to grow up and become the man he needs to be.

It’s a traditional romantic comedy plot, but with the sensibilities (and voices) of an episode of “Family Guy.”

On reflection, Ted is a childish object who displays very few childish traits, but instead keeps John in a state of perpetual adolescence. It’s a familiar character in recent movies, especially movies starring Zach Galifianakis, but this is the first time I’ve seen it in the form of a teddy bear.

The movie really does feel like an episode of “Family Guy” sometimes, including the

seemingly random references to ‘80s pop culture. It doesn’t have any “remember the time when...” gags of the sort Peter Griffin would say, but then again, it DOES have a scene of Flash Gordon fighting Ming the Merciless (It makes sense in context, I swear!) and when Ted and John fought each other, as shown in the trailer, I couldn’t help but think of Peter Griffin fighting a giant chicken. This is a good thing.

There’s a subplot at the end of the movie where Ted is kidnapped by the creepy Donny (Giovanni Ribisi, “The Rum Diary”) that I didn’t particularly care for. The movie took a dramatic shift in tone, and I don’t think the change was for the better. It was like watching a happy-go-lucky comedy about cartoon rabbits that suddenly turned into “Watership Down.” This was the weakest part of the movie.

Ted is an entirely CG character, except for a few scenes where he’s just a teddy bear, and I found him entirely believable. You completely forget that he’s not actually there interacting with the actors.

The only real litmus test for a comedy, however, is whether the movie was funny, and this was the funniest movie I’ve seen all year. (Full disclosure: I never got to see “21 Jump Street.”)

The movie would have benefited from subtitles or a pause after jokes, because I couldn’t hear anything over the laughter in the theater. That’s how funny it was. It was like watching “The Hangover” for the first time. It was completely unlike watching “The Hangover: Part 2.” (Because this movie was actually funny—yeah, I went there.)

It’s the comedy event of the season, and I give it four banana rats. Some bits don’t work, and the ending seems like it came from a different movie, but the laughter doesn’t lie. What do you think, GTMO?

## GTMO Quick Reference

### Caribbean Coffee & Cream – 77859

Mon.-Sat. 6 a.m.-10 p.m.  
Sun. 1-10 p.m.

### Jerk House – 2535

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

### MWR Liberty Centers – 2010

Deer Point: Mon.-Fri. 4 p.m.-12 a.m.  
Sat. & Sun. 9 a.m.-12 a.m.

Marine Hill: Mon.-Th. 11-12 a.m.  
Fri. 11-2 a.m., Sun. 9-12 a.m.

Tierra Kay: Sun.-Th. 7-12 a.m.  
Fri. & Sat. 7-2 a.m.

Camp America - open 24 hours

### Pirate’s Cove

Th.-Sat. 7 p.m.-12 a.m.

### Cuban Club – 75962 (call ahead!)

Mon.-Sat. 11 a.m.-9 p.m.

### McDonald’s – 3797

Mon.-Th. 5 a.m.-11 p.m.  
Fri.-Sat. 5 a.m.-2 a.m.  
Sun. 6 a.m.-11 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.

### O’Kelly’s Irish Pub

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

SAFE RIDE  
84781

## Guantanamo Bay Bus Schedule

All buses run on the hour, 7 days/week from 5 a.m. – 1 a.m.

Camp America :00 :20 :40

Gazebo :02 :22 :42

NEX Trailer :03 :23 :43

Camp Delta 2 :06 :26 :46

KB 373 :10 :30 :50

TK 4 :12 :32 :52

JAS :13 :33 :53

TK 3 :14 :34 :54

TK 2 :15 :35 :55

TK 1 :16 :36 :56

West Iguana :18 :38 :58

Windjammer / Gym :21 :41 :01

Gold Hill Galley :24 :44 :04

NEX :26 :46 :16

96 Man Camp :31 :51 :11

NEX :33 :53 :13

Gold Hill Galley :37 :57 :17

Windjammer / Gym :36 :56 :16

West Iguana :39 :59 :19

TK 1 :40 :00 :20

TK 2 :43 :03 :23

TK 3 :45 :05 :25

TK 4 :47 :07 :27

KB 373 :50 :10 :30

Camp Delta 1 :54 :14 :32

IOF :54 :14 :34

NEX Trailer :57 :17 :37

Gazebo :58 :18 :38

Camp America :00 :20 :40

### NAVSTA Main Chapel

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

Vigil Mass  
Saturday 5 p.m.

Mass  
Sunday 9 a.m.

Spanish-language Mass  
Sunday 4:35 p.m.

General Protestant  
Sunday 11 a.m.

Gospel Service  
Sunday 1 p.m.

Christian Fellowship  
Sunday 6 p.m.

Chapel Annexes

Protestant Communion  
Sunday 9:30 a.m.  
Room B

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

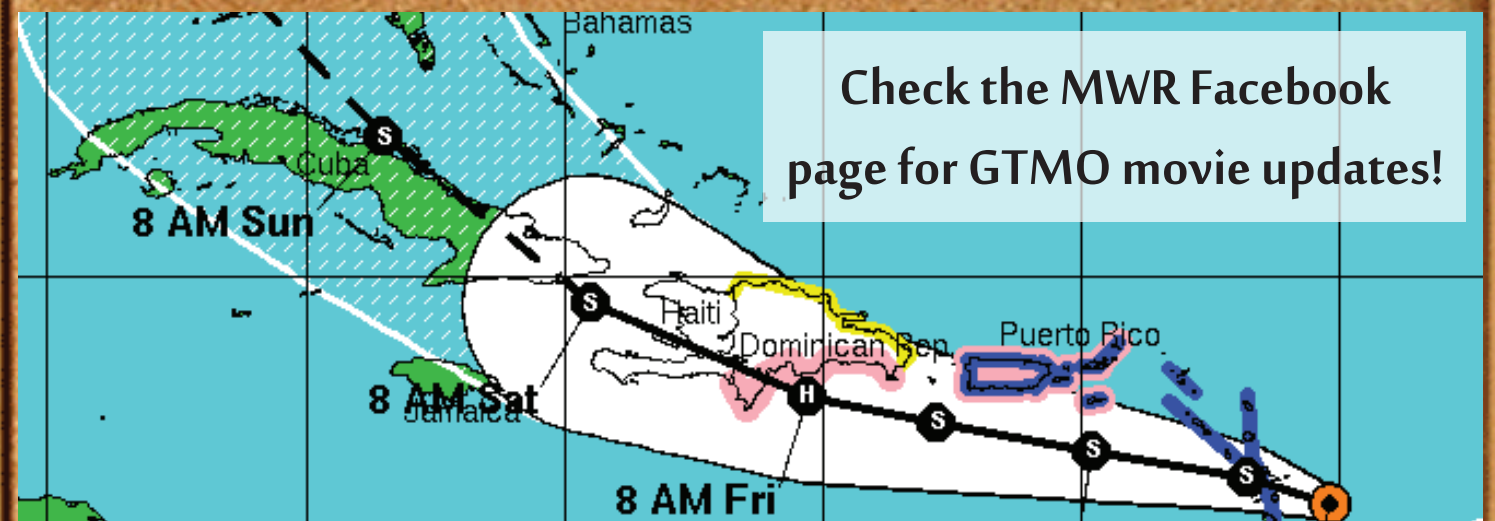
JTF Trooper  
Chapel

Protestant Worship  
Sunday 9 a.m.

Bible Study  
Wednesday 6 p.m.

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

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



Check the MWR Facebook  
page for GTMO movie updates!



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# SEX SIGNALS

**WHERE TO SHOW UP**

**DATE & TIME**

WINDJAMMER BALLROOM

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 17  
8 A.M., 1 P.M., 6:30 P.M.

CONTACT YOUR CHAIN OF COMMAND FOR ATTENDANCE REQUIREMENTS