

The WIRE

In memoriam

*Troopers pay tribute to those
who made the ultimate sacrifice*

**Scientists study GTMO
manatee population**

Trooper Focus: Spc. Dominique Clarke

COMMAND CORNER

CAPT. DARYL DANIELS
COMMANDER, JOINT MEDICAL GROUP

I am a newcomer to Guantanamo Bay. It has just been a few weeks since I assumed command of U.S. Naval Hospital Guantanamo Bay and the Joint Medical Group.

During my transition here, I spent some time in duty-under-instruction at the Command Leadership School in Newport, R.I. While in New England, I had a chance to go back to my hometown of Newton, Mass., to visit friends and classmates. We spent one bright spring day in downtown Boston walking the streets and catching a game at Fenway Park. Two days later, the Boston Marathon would wind its way through the very streets we were walking.

We all know what happened that day. Like many of you, I was struck by the city's immediate response to the tragedy. Policemen, firefighters, medical personnel and civilian bystanders all did their duty and responded to the wounded and those in need with professionalism, skill and determination. As we grieved with the

victims and their families, I was filled with pride as the first responders helped secure the streets – the very streets where I used to live.

The events in Boston reminded me of why we all serve. We are all responders helping to secure our families, our neighborhoods and our nation. And like the responders in Boston, I have been struck and filled with pride as I meet and interact with all the Troopers who work with the Joint Task Force. You show your absolute professionalism, skill and steadfast determination every day, in everything that you do.

As a medical officer and commander of the Joint Medical Group, I want to assure you that your medical team stands with you. We are ready to provide the best medical care possible to each and every one of you, making sure you are ready and able to carry out your mission.

I am proud to serve and proud to be here with all of you.

The events in Boston reminded me of why we all serve. We are all responders helping to secure our families, our neighborhoods and our nation. And like the responders in Boston, I have been struck and filled with pride as I meet and interact with all the Troopers who work with the Joint Task Force. You show your absolute professionalism, skill and steadfast determination in everything that you do.

Cover: Sailors from Naval Station Guantanamo Bay raise the American flag first all the way up and then lower it to half-staff during the playing of the national anthem for morning colors at the naval station's annual Memorial Day ceremony on Monday at the Cuzco Well Cemetery. The ceremony honored military members who died in service to the United States with a 21-gun salute and a playing of Taps. Photo by Army Sgt. Jonathan Monfiletto

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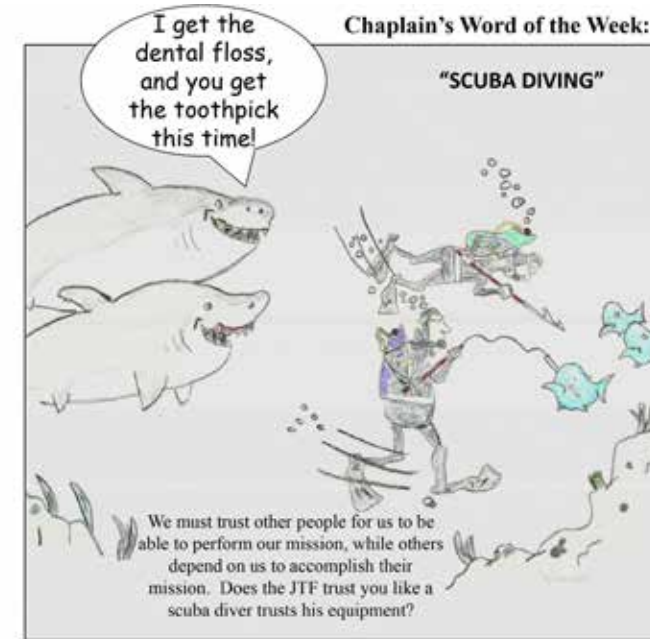
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NEWS FROM THE BAY



GTMO History Tour

Each Sunday through July, Al Adler, from the National Museum of the Marine Corps, will conduct a hike of the Battle of Guantanamo Bay. He will discuss the Spanish American War and the Battle of Cuzco Wells. The hike will begin at 7:45 a.m. from the pavilion at Ferry Land and last approximately four hours, ending at Cable Beach. Volunteers are needed to stage vehicles at Cable Beach before the hike starts and provide rides back to Ferry Landing following the tour.

The hike will occur at the same time of day and along the same general route that the Marines used during the battle from June 10-14, 1898. If you are interested in participating, please send an email to alan.j.adler@jftgtdmo.southcom.mil. Space is limited to 15 people per tour. If you sign up and find you cannot make it, please advise so your place can be offered to someone else.

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The WIRE is the official news magazine of Joint Task Force Guantanamo. It is produced by the Troopers of JTF Public Affairs Office to inform and educate the Troopers of JTF Guantanamo through news, features, command guidance, sports and entertainment. This DoD news magazine is an authorized publication for the members of the Department of Defense. Contents of The WIRE are not necessarily the official views of, or endorsed by, the U.S. Government, the Department of Defense, or Joint Task Force Guantanamo. It is printed by Defense Logistics Agency Document Services with a circulation of 1,250.

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GTMO JOE by Spc. David Marquis



Welcome to the land of unnecessary sequels.

Fast & Furious 6

JUST STOP. Seriously. It's time to just stop. "The Fast and the Furious" saga has overstayed its welcome more than useless news stories about Duchess Kate Middleton's baby bump. And I am all about being able to separate myself from reality and live in movie-land where anything is possible for a limited amount of time, but "Fast & Furious 6" goes way too far. In this movie, they resurrected people from the dead like it is the New Testament, had fight scenes on 50-mile long aircraft runways and created more predictable and shallow characters than a "Meet the Press" discussion panel. And the worst news is: there are going to be more. If this works for you, then good, but after the seventh or eighth pointless plot-turn, my eyes started to bleed. So, I am giving "Fast & Furious 6" one and a half banana rats, solely because The Rock is awesome.

PG-13 130 min.



The Hangover Part III

R 100 min.



THE WOLFPACK WAS BACK

this weekend for what is supposed to be the final installment of "The Hangover" franchise. Of course, science has proven that the first film in the trilogy was one of the funniest movies ever made, and the second one, while hilarious, mainly coasted on the back of the first. Part III does have several moments that are just as funny as ever, but in attempts to make it an epic finale, it included an almost equal amount of serious, and even "heart-warming," moments. Overall, it was not a bad movie, but it just could not produce the results to match the previous films, with its funny moments few and far between in comparison. With the best part of the movie happening during the credits, they were able to at least end the series on a good note. Let's just hope they don't come back to ruin everyone's day with a prequel film or something like that. Because it did make me laugh, I will give "The Hangover Part III" three banana rats.

Weekend Domestic Box Office (May 24-26)		
Fast & Furious 6 \$97.4 Million	The Hangover Part III \$41.7 Million	Star Trek Into Darkness \$37.3 Million

Troopers help fill sandbags as GTMO preps for hurricanes

Story and photos by Army Sgt. Jonathan Monfiletto

'Tis the season – hurricane season, that is.

With Naval Station Guantanamo Bay situated in the middle of the Caribbean Sea, the area is prone to the effects of tropical storms and hurricanes, so base officials and residents are making the necessary preparations as the potential for destructive weather approaches.

On May 22, Troopers from all five branches and a variety of sections spent the day at Joint Task Force Guantanamo filling sandbags.

The sandbags will eventually be used in fortifying buildings around the JTF side in the event of a tropical storm or hurricane. Air Force Master Sgt. Ryan Wilt, of the Base Engineer Emergency Force (BEEF) and lead for the sandbag-filling project, said the base is not only prone to destructive weather because of its location but is also prone to flooding as a result because it sits in a valley.

"It's all for hurricane preparation," Wilt said of the project. "It's to prevent the flooding



Tech. Sgt. Clinton Stallard, of J1, shovels sand into a sifter at Joint Task Force Guantanamo on May 22, while other Troopers fill sandbags from the sifter. Last week, Troopers filled sandbags as part of Naval Station Guantanamo Bay's preparation for the upcoming hurricane season.

of the buildings."

While Seabees and Troopers from the BEEF did the heavy lifting and operated the equipment for the project, 22 Troopers from a variety of sections, including J1, J4, Staff Judge Advocate, Public Affairs Office and others, dug up the sand and filled the bags.

In the true sense of the JTF, Troopers came from every branch to assist with the project and make it a true joint effort.

Wilt said Army Sgt. Maj. Catherine Farrell and Army Master Sgt. Cynthia Campbell, both of J3, developed a plan on how to fairly divide up the sections and branches to pull Troopers for the sandbag project. He said the day started with roll call at 7:45 a.m., and then Troopers began filling sandbags at 8 a.m. and kept going until 4 p.m. Troopers would use loaders to dig sand from a large pile and then dump the load in a sifter. Other Troopers would pull sand out of the sifter and fill the bags, while still others would tie the bags and organize them on pallets.

Wilt said Troopers from the BEEF worked the day prior preparing sandbags for their

headquarters at Camp Justice before bringing effort to the JTF side.

"We filled sandbags yesterday for Camp Justice," he said. "Today, we're doing the JTF side."

In the event of a hurricane or tropical storm, and the subsequent threat of flooding, Wilt said one of the first responses will be to bring out the sandbags to safeguard buildings all around the base.

"The sandbags go around the buildings to prevent water from entering doors and leaking into buildings," Wilt said. "We put the sandbags out to try to stop the flood waters."

Around the middle portion of the day, the Troopers began taking turns going to lunch. Besides the joint effort, Wilt said he was most proud of the strong effort being shown by Troopers filling sandbags that day. "I can't give enough credit to the people out here for their hard work," he said. "I have to tell them to take a break. They're working too hard."



A Soldier pushes sand down into a sifter, while other Soldiers fill and tie sandbags.



Religious Programs Specialist 3rd Class Deon Haynes, of the Chaplain's Office, ties up sandbags that have already been filled and will next be placed on a pallet to be stored for hurricane season.

JTF Honor Bound Win 4-on-4 Streetball Tournament

Photos by Army Sgt. Ferdinand Thomas

Alban Bonilla drives strong to the basket for a score during the one-day tournament. (Below) JTF Honor Bound, formally JTF PAO, pose for a photo after winning the championship in the 4-on-4 streetball tournament sponsored by Naval Station Guantanamo Bay MWR. Kyle King, Ray Campbell, Sean Dickinson, Jonathan Scott, Joshua Piper, Ferdinand Thomas and Jonathan Trusty make up JTF Honor Bound.



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GTMO volunteers help to capture and tag manatees



Volunteers and scientists from the U.S. Geological Survey lift a juvenile manatee onto the capture boat for transport to the examination area. The manatee capture was held from May 20-24, and more than 122 volunteers from all over Naval Station Guantanamo Bay participated throughout the event.

Story and photos by Spc. Raechel Haynes

Naval Station Guantanamo Bay has a wide variety of residents, no matter where one looks - from the wide variety of service members and civilians, to the iguanas and the banana rats. However, one of the residents of GTMO lives under the water: the Antillean manatee.

Troopers, civilians and some visiting scientists spent the week of May 20-24 catching and tagging these unobtrusive residents. Planning for the capture began last year, but the team from the U.S. Geological Survey had been trying for years to set it up.

"During our research in the early 90s, people were talking about the manatees here in Guantanamo, and there was some interest in doing research here," wildlife biologist and team leader James Reid said. "About every five years, there was an attempt to start a project here and it was initiated by the Navy. Unfortunately, all the players and the funding didn't come together. Finally, 15 years later, things fell into place."

Putting these plans into action was an extensive process, including



Members of the exam team carefully hold the calf down to prevent her from harming herself or the volunteers.

shipping a specialized capture boat and calling for community volunteers.

"In terms of resources, it's expensive to bring a team down here, so we brought down some professionals to train volunteers here," Reid said. "It's a great opportunity for awareness as well."

Volunteers received their initial briefing about the capture process on Friday, May 17. After another more in-depth briefing the next day, volunteers had a dry run on Sunday, May 19. Volunteers learned how to set and pull the nets for both a land-based capture and a boat capture.

"In order to radio tag manatees and do the health assessments, we have to get them out of the water," Reid said. "One way to do that is with a specialized manatee capture boat, a specialized net and some trained people in order to work with folks here to safely capture manatees and do this kind of research. It's been an evolving research technique that's been developed in Florida primarily. We use modified net boats. They were developed for the mullet fishery. They have the motor mounted up in the front. The back is movable so

we can drop the net and pull manatees right onto the back of the boat."

Despite the number of volunteers, training and special equipment, catching manatees can be challenging.

"No manatee capture is really easy," Reid said. "In this case these are really shy animals and there aren't very many here. They don't overlap with humans and they don't use areas that facilitate an easy capture."

Reid explained that thorough training for volunteers is crucial to the success of the capture. He was surprised by the great turnout of volunteers and the willingness to help.

"We have had a great response from folks here," Reid said. "We've had people sign up to be spotters, to be on the support boats, on the capture boat, wherever we needed them. A lot of people really want to get their hands on the manatees, and that's what we need. I didn't expect the 122 volunteers we have on our list. That's certainly more than we need, but out of that we'll get a core group who will be a great help and will also be able to help raise awareness. And that is very important to the success of this mission."

Volunteers who were unable to work the whole week would sign up for specific days or for different posts. There were many ways to participate in the capture process. There were spotter positions, a capture team, medical teams and support boat captains. Some volunteers opted to collect volunteer hours for the capture, while others just volunteered because they wanted to be involved. Capture team members helped to set the nets, and when an animal was caught they pulled in and bag the nets so the animal could be brought on the boat or beach. Spotters kept an eye out for manatees surfacing to breath or heading towards the net. The medical team took blood and tissue samples from the captured animal, girth and height measurements, estimated weight, and monitored breathing and response. Support boats watched for manatee sightings and helped to corral the manatees in one area.

Reid said it was good for residents to be involved and develop an understanding of the creatures that share the base.

"The Navy is tasked with protecting the resources here," Reid said. "So, the more you can know about how these animals are using the habitat, the more you can manage activities here, and that is always valuable. It is a win-win in both cases."



The capture boat team pulls in the net in an open-water capture attempt. Teams were divided into float and lead teams. Float teams pulled in the top of the net while the lead team pulled in the bottom of the net.



The net teams wrestle with a young female calf fighting to escape the net. The teams work to bag the net around the calf without harming her or being harmed by her.



The female calf is brought to the examination area on a stretch of vacant beach. The exam team took blood and tissue samples, girth and length measurements, and monitored her breathing.

'It's the right thing to do'

GTMO honors the fallen with Memorial Day ceremony

Seven Marines from the Marine Corps Security Force Company at Naval Station Guantanamo Bay stand at attention and prepare to march away after performing the 21-gun salute at Monday's Memorial Day ceremony at the Cuzco Well Cemetery. Troopers and civilians alike honored those who made the ultimate sacrifice and gave their lives in service to the United States during the naval station's annual ceremony that included lowering the flag to half-staff and playing Taps in addition to the salute.

Story and photos by Army Sgt. Jonathan Monfiletto

On a day when the United States honors the service members who gave their lives in defense of the nation, Naval Station Guantanamo Bay paid tribute to those who paid the ultimate sacrifice in an area where 115 years ago Marines waged a battle to establish this naval station.

The base's annual Memorial Day ceremony takes place in the Cuzco Well Cemetery, which serves as the resting place for service members and civilians alike who died at GTMO - Americans, Cubans, Jamaicans and many other nationalities.

Before the area became a cemetery, it was the scene of the Battle of Cuzco Well, in which Marines stormed the area around Guantanamo Bay and defeated the Spanish forces for control of the land during the Spanish-American War in 1898.

On Monday, the Memorial Day tradition continued, as Troopers from all five branches and civilians from all walks of life packed rows of seats under a tent in the cemetery and gathered to remember those who died in service to the United States.

The ceremony got under way just before the playing of the national anthem for morning colors. Navy Capt. John Dickens, naval station command chaplain, delivered the invocation to begin the ceremony. Following

the invocation, Navy Capt. J.R. Nettleton, naval station commanding officer, and Navy Cmdr. Colin Caswell, executive officer, laid a wreath near the flag pole in the cemetery.

Then, a group of Sailors stood at attention and presented arms with either a rifle or a hand salute during the anthem, while one of them raised the American flag - first all the way up and then down to half-staff in accordance with the presidential proclamation that required all flags to be flown at half-staff until noon on Monday.

After the flag was raised, Navy Lt. Brian Parsons, the naval station's assistant security officer, read President Barack Obama's presidential proclamation for this year's Memorial Day celebration.

"Since our Nation's earliest days, America has been blessed with an unbroken chain of patriots who have served our country with honor and distinction," the proclamation reads. "From Concord to the Korengal, generations of brave warriors have fought for freedom across sand and snow, over mud and mountains, into lonely deserts and through crowded streets. Today, we pay tribute to those patriots who never came back -- who fought for a home to which they never returned, and died for a country whose gratitude they will always have.

"Scripture teaches us that 'greater love hath no man than this, that a man lay down

his life for his friends.' On Memorial Day, we remember those we have lost not only for what they fought for, but who they were: proud Americans, often far too young, guided by deep and abiding love for their families, for each other, and for this country. Our debt to them is one we can never fully repay. But we can honor their sacrifice and strive to be a Nation equal to their example. On this and every day, we must meet our obligations to families of the fallen; we must uphold our sacred trust with our veterans, our service members, and their loved ones.

"Above all, we can honor those we have lost by living up to the ideals they died defending. It is our charge to preserve liberty, to advance justice, and to sow the seeds of peace. With courage and devotion worthy of the heroes we remember today, let us rededicate ourselves to those unending tasks, and prove once more that America's best days are still ahead. Let us pray the souls of those who died in war rest in eternal peace, and let us keep them and their families close in our hearts, now and forever."

After the reading of the proclamation, Nettleton gave remarks on Memorial Day and also took the time to thank those who participated in and attended the ceremony, pointing out that this year's attendance was three times higher than last year's showing.

"Today is the day we pause to remember

those who gave their lives for our nation," Nettleton said.

Nettleton also noted that his generation of service members started serving around the time of Operation Desert Storm and has since been involved in "a constant series of engagements for the last 25 years."

For Nettleton and his comrades, Memorial Day does not mean just honoring unknown veterans passing by on parade flats, but it means even more remembering shipmates and battle buddies who were killed in the line of duty while serving the United States.

"Memorial Day, when you serve long enough, begins to take on a much deeper meaning," Nettleton said. "You were the lucky one. You came home, and they didn't."

With that said, Nettleton told the audience that they should take time to remember the fallen on Memorial Day, though there is not necessarily a right way to celebrate the day as long as they remember the fallen.

"There is a right way to give them proper respect," he said. "We've done that this morning. I appreciate everyone showing up. It says a lot about our community. Not only that, it's the right thing to do."

Following Nettleton's remarks, seven Marines from the Marine Corps Security Forces Company performed a 21-gun salute in three iterations. The salute was met with complete silence other than the sharp crack of gunfire as the rifles were shot.

Then, Chief Master-at-Arms Brian Staercke read a poem called "Memorial Day" by C.W. Johnson. The last two stanzas of the poem read: "Now the services are over / For this Memorial Day. / To the names upon these crosses / I just want to say / Thanks for what you've given. / No one could ask for more. / May you rest with God in heaven / From now through evermore."

Navy Lt. Tung Tran, a naval station chaplain, closed the ceremony with the benediction, and then a Sailor honored the fallen with the playing of Taps. As with the 21-gun salute, there was complete silence for Taps other than the crisp notes of the trumpet.

The silence hung in the air as the attendees filed away from the ceremony area. Some stuck around to look at the tombstones in the cemetery or chat with their comrades, while others headed out in buses and personal vehicles.

On Memorial Day, GTMO remembered the fallen - those who made the ultimate sacrifice and gave their lives in defense of the United States - in a place where the fallen already lay and where battle for freedom was previously fought. But, no doubt the residents of GTMO - Troopers and civilians alike - will continue to honor the fallen with their own service to the nation.



A bugler sounds Taps at the end of Naval Station Guantanamo Bay's Memorial Day ceremony on Monday at the Cuzco Well Cemetery. The annual ceremony honored those who died in service to the United States.



Navy Capt. J.R. Nettleton, Naval Station Guantanamo Bay commanding officer, delivers remarks during the base's Memorial Day ceremony on Monday at the Cuzco Well Cemetery to honor fallen service members.

Trooper Focus...

...with Dominique Clarke

Story and photos by Army Staff Sgt. Michael Davis

Who is Spc. Dominique Clarke? Step foot into the Sunday 1 p.m. Gospel Service and you will find out exactly who he is. Stay a little longer, after the invocation prayer, and you will have an opportunity to experience the powerful and unique musical talents he has been blessed with.

Here at Naval Station Guantanamo Bay, Spc. Dominique Clarke works for Joint Task Force Guantanamo at the detainee library, but his natural ability to sing allows him to give so much more to the GTMO community.

"I called Chaplain [Navy Lt. Larry] Jones and I asked, 'Do y'all need any help with musicians?'" Clarke said, explaining how he got involved with the 1 p.m. Sunday Gospel chorale.

"I play for my church back home and I'm just looking to be a part," Clarke said he told Jones, continuing to talk about how his conversation went with the joyful naval station chaplain.

When Clarke arrived at the Navsta chapel that Sunday, Jones called him out in the middle of a service and told him to speak to Spc. Ardel Henderson, the previous choir director, about how to get involved.

"I talked to him and became a part," Clarke said. "And I love it."

Clarke's course in his musical journey has led him to stop here at GTMO, but every note he sings and every tune he plays makes you wonder at what other places he has stopped and what kind of testimony he has.

Clarke is originally from Queens, N.Y., but he now lives in Maryland. He is deployed here with the Washington, D.C. National Guard.

"I started out playing the drums. That's from when I was one [year old] and then I went from there," Clarke said.

At that age, Clarke didn't start off with an actual percussion instrument. He started out with a kitchen set of pots and pans to bang on.

What would seem like noise and racket from a normal toddler, Clarke said

his family quickly recognized rhythmic beats coming from the kitchen utensils.

"It didn't sound like I was just banging, so someone picked up a recorder and recorded it," Clarke said. "And that's when they were like, this kid has some music in him that's he's trying to get out."

As an adolescent, Clarke didn't have the opportunity to take music lessons, but he quickly learned how to enhance his skills.

"I think I was seven when I went to my pastor. ... I went to him and I was like, 'I want to play the drums.'"

The pastor didn't take him seriously because of his age, but he still allowed Clarke to shadow the present drummer.

"I was passionate about hearing," Clarke said. "I never feel like I'm there - I always want to get better - so when I hear someone, I always want them to play so I can listen to them and take from them."

Clarke said when he plays, you can hear a little bit of other musicians he previously listened to in his tunes.

"If another musician comes and they listen to me play anything, piano, drums, sing, they will be able to hear different people who have sown in my life, and that's just from me listening to them," Clarke said. "I just absorb everything I hear and I mix it to make me."

Clarke said he doesn't work hard for his musical talents - they work for him.

"I really thank God because it's a gift," Clarke said. "It's a blessing, I didn't work hard for it."

However, life wasn't always good and easy for Clarke. Yes, he eventually got a chance to play the drums at the age of nine and became the lead drummer for his church, but he experienced hardship in his personal and family life.

He struggled as a teen searching for his father, who wasn't there for most of his life. One of the ways Clarke vented from his trials and tribulations was through singing. He said the first time he realized he

could sing was at age 16 at a church service.

"When I sing, I sing words that minister to me," Clarke said, speaking about how he encourages himself to keep going forward.

"When I started singing, I just grabbed the mic one day and everyone sat there and half of the people were in tears," Clarke said. "I went home, never thought anything of it, and my mother was like 'you could sing' and there it goes, I started singing."

Clarke said his family came from a musical background.

"My mother actually went platinum on the European side. My biological father is a drummer slash singer. That part of my family, they all sing," Clarke said.

However, Clarke said he never got a chance to interact with those talented family members.

"It's like God set my talent, my gift, aside to be nurtured by him," Clarke said.

Clarke said he's had some problems in his life, but God has brought him out of them all. He has also realized that when he thought he was going through hardship, God actually was protecting him the whole time.

"I'm only here because of God's grace," Clarke said. "So, I have to do what I do for him"

And Clarke clearly expresses that he sings for God at the 1 p.m. Sunday Gospel Service.

Clarke has sung at many places and touched many people. And despite his trials, he thanks his mother, aspires to do right by his daughter and thanks God for the most part.

"My way of life is making sure my daughter is good," Clarke said. "I want to always see a smile on her face."

To express how he feels at this point of time in his life, he recited a line from one of the many songs he has written - "I have peace of mind, don't have to search anymore, I found a love that's mine, yes I'm sure," Clarke sang. "The only love you're completely sure about is the love of Christ. You know, that's that love that will never leave you nor forsake you."



"I have peace of mind, I don't have to search anymore, I found a love that's mine..."

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Be Your Own Fortune Cookie

Column by Spc. Jessica Randon

Everyone's military career will eventually come to an end. Far too often, I hear prior-service individuals talk about how the military pretty much stood them up when they got out. That means the military, no matter the branch, didn't provide them with a proper exit didn't help them transition or find work and didn't help them situate their future.

Don't get me wrong, I believe that if anyone should be catered to, it should be the service members who go to war and fight in combat and service members who dedicate 110 percent of themselves to serving a people who at the end of the day would not do the same for them. But, unfortunately that is not reality.

Everyone has different experiences when serving in the military - some good and some bad, but I think that you choose what you take from it and how you use it to build your future. Some people have career fields that transfer on to the civilian side easily and some don't. But, if you don't have that "perfect" military occupational specialty, then take what you do have - experience.

When I say experience, I don't necessarily mean within your career field but just different things you learn and grow from while serving. The biggest thing I will take from my service is the appreciation for diversity, which enhanced my ability to remain open-minded and patient. OK, OK, so I'm not the most patient person in the world, but I acknowledge when I'm not and try to fix it, you know, "Woosah" style.

You have people from all over the United States of America making a decision to serve their country. Granted, the reason behind each person's choice to serve may be different, but you can't deny the fact that somewhere along their enlistment timeline, their

reasons may have changed. I know mine did, from experience and education to pride and respect for those who are no longer here to serve with.

I always try to remember that because we all come from different walks of life. We all have different morals and beliefs, thus, who am I to judge? Sometimes you accept the fact that it's not always about understanding someone else's beliefs or ways of doing things but accepting it for what it is. Not everything is meant to be seen through your eyes or how you envision it. Personally, I can't stand how some things are done. For example, instead of doing things the simple, common sense way, sometimes I feel like some people may do things the longest way possible. And it's not about taking the easy way out, it's about thinking smarter.

Over my enlistment in the military, I have grown a lot. And I have had many unforgettable experiences with unforgettable people, even those I would like to forget. And I wouldn't change any of it, ever. I take the good with the bad, and I push on because another thing I've learned in life thus far is that you can either let the things you go through break you down or build you up. You make that decision, no one else. So at the end of the day, you take your military career and experiences and YOU turn them into a future. No one else can do that for you, and quite frankly, shame on you if you thought they would.

So, don't be that person dogging the armed forces because "they let you down." Get up and go get it, whatever it is you're blaming the military for not providing you. Do the research, make the calls and ask the questions. You might not be able to control everything that occurs while you're in uniform, but when you hang up that uniform, you have full control over what happens next. Be your own fortune cookie, and if nothing else, be you, be true and be beautiful.



GTMO Says...

What is the best thing to bring to a barbecue?



Sgt. Christian Hiner

177th Military Police
Brigade

*JVB Junior Driver
and Protocol Clerk*

“Montreal Steak Seasoning. I put that [stuff] on everything. Also, no barbecue is complete without Sam Adams or Guinness”



Navy Petty Officer 2nd Class

Timothy Frogue

Staff Judge Advocate

*Red Cross Message
Non-commissioned Officer*

“Chips! No one ever brings chips.”



Coast Guard Petty Officer 2nd Class

Filomeno Pumaren

a.k.a. “Puma”

Port Security Unit 311

Tactical Engineer

“Steak seasoning and awesomeness”



Sp. Anthony Aadland

191st Military Police Company

Military Policeman

“Besides friends and family, brats”

Trooper to Trooper

Preparing for retirement

SGT. 1ST CLASS THOMAS COLLINS
WATCH COMMANDER, 428TH MP COMPANY



Preparing for retirement is something that many Troopers may not think is a priority during their initial entry to the armed forces. Instead of considering whether or not they should deposit money into the Thrift Savings Plan (TSP) or Individual Retirement Account (IRA), many Troopers would much rather think about that new car, TV, or video game console they want to buy.

I challenge leaders to go out and ask a young Trooper if he even knows what the acronyms TSP or IRA stand for. I would imagine many Troopers will not know the answer.

Even as a Trooper advances through the ranks, financial planning is not something that is typically discussed nor at the forefront of conversations. Occasionally, you may see the public service announcements on Armed Forces Network (AFN) or hear one on the GTMO radio that encourages Troopers to get more information.

Most of us would like to think that programs such as social security and pension programs will be there to take care of us during retirement – that is, if we even think about it. Just ask yourself this question: “Do I have a plan in place for my future?”

I asked that same question to my platoon a few months ago. While a few of my Troopers had started planning and saving, the vast majority had not and did not know where to start. Many did not even know about the TSP or that it now has a ROTH component.

Currently, I’m an activated Army Reservist performing my duties as a military police

officer. However, in the civilian sector, helping people prepare for retirement is what I do. I have had many experiences on the civilian side that have not gone particularly well due to a lack of planning by the individual. It is hard to tell someone that they don’t have

Look back to when you initially entered military service. Be honest, did you think about retirement? If your answer was no, like mine, there is a good chance that your Troopers are not thinking about it either.

any money left.

They ask me what to do, and I don’t have an answer for them because it is often much too late. Fortunately for our Troopers, the military provides a lot of great resources to help prepare and educate them. Troopers just need to know where to go.

That is where we, as leaders, come into play. We need to encourage our Troopers to start preparing now. As it stands now, many sources cite that the Social Security Administration could start running out of money as soon as 2033 if significant changes at the Department of Defense level don’t take place. There are also discussions in Congress about overhauling the current military retirement system. The proposed solutions include reductions or cuts to the military pension program that could affect current and future Troopers.

Unfortunately, not everyone is financially savvy. That is why there are professionals out there to assist Troopers and point them in the right direction, which helps them make an educated decision. While the responsibility primarily is on the individual Trooper, leaders share that responsibility and therefore must be informed to care for the Soldiers, Sailors, Airmen, Marines and Coast Guardsmen in our formations. We must have a basic knowledge of what is out there and where we can send our Troopers to get help.

Look back to when you initially entered military service. Be honest, did you think about retirement? If your answer was no, like mine, there is a good chance that your Troopers are not thinking about it either. Educate yourself and ensure your Troopers are prepared for financial success.

PROTECT YOUR INFO!

ALERT What is social engineering?

Social engineering is the art of manipulating people into performing actions or divulging confidential information, rather than by breaking in or using technical cracking techniques. While similar to a confidence trick or simple fraud, the term typically applies to trickery or deception for the purpose of information gathering, fraud or computer system access. In most cases, the attacker never comes face-to-face with the victim. Social engineering using impersonation (e.g., to gain information over the phone or to gate-crash) is known informally as ‘blagging.’ In addition to criminal purposes, social engineering has also been employed by debt collectors, skip tracers, private investigators, bounty hunters and tabloid journalists. A study by Google researchers found that up to 90 percent of all domains involved in distributing fake antivirus software used social engineering techniques.



Whit's BBQ Pit

As told by Spc. Phil Whitaker
Photo by Spc. Chalon Hutson

It's Friday in GTMO, and that means it's grilling time! As we all know, May is Asian American and Pacific Islander Heritage Month, and this week's BBQ Pit will give May a proper Asian Pacific send off.

Barbecuing is always a good time, but when the food tastes great, it makes the experience that much better. With that being said, I give you Kamikaze Burgers.

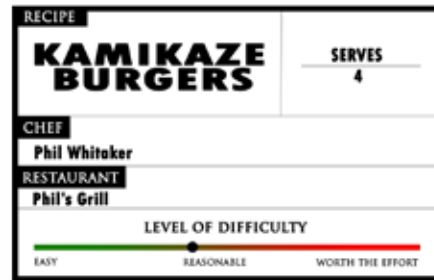
The flavor combinations in this recipe are fantastic. The meat is tender and juicy, and the prep time is short. With a short list of ingredients and a prep time of 15 minutes, this meal is easy for a weekday dinner or a weekend hit. This recipe serves four, so adjust accordingly.

BBQ Tip of the Week: Have fun and just go with it. The best barbecue recipe is the one you throw together on a whim. If you think it will be good, then try it. If it is good, then SHARE IT!

Submit your recipes & photos to phillip.r.whitaker@jtfgtmo.southcom.mil



I truly enjoy writing this piece every week, and I hope you enjoy the recipes and the final product. If you have any recipes of your own that you would like me to feature in the Pit or a critique of a prior recipe, please send them to the email listed below. Until next time Guantanamo, GO, FIGHT, WIN!



INGREDIENTS

- 2 lbs. Ground Beef
- 4 Buns (your choice of bread)
- 1 Jar of Teriyaki Marinade
- Pineapple Slices
- Lettuce
- Cheddar Cheese Slices
- BBQ Sauce

METHOD

- Marinate the ground beef in teriyaki for at least four hours.
- After marinating, form beef into half inch thick patties. Press a thumb sized dimple into the center of each patty to prevent the meat from balling up.
- Grill the burgers over medium high heat for four to six minutes on each side.
- Add cheese before or after removing from grill – your choice.
- Let the meat rest on a plate five minutes before assembling the burgers. This allows the meat to reabsorb the juices it lost during grilling.
- Assemble the burgers and top with pineapple and BBQ sauce. Enjoy!

	31 FRI	1 SAT	2 SUN	3 MON	4 TUE	5 WED	6 THU
Downtown Lyceum	Now You See Me (NEW) (PG-13) 8 p.m. Fast & Furious 6 (PG-13) 10 p.m.	Mud (NEW) (PG-13) 8 p.m. The Hangover III (R) 10:30 p.m.	Pain & Gain (R) 8 p.m.	The Big Wedding (R) 8 p.m.	Star Trek Into Darkness (PG-13) 8 p.m.	Evil Dead (Last showing) (R) 8 p.m.	42 (Last showing) (PG-13) 8 p.m.
Camp Bulkeley	Mud (NEW) (PG-13) 8 p.m. Star Trek Into Darkness (PG-13) 10:30 p.m.	Now You See Me (NEW) (PG-13) 8 p.m. The Great Gatsby (PG-13) 10 p.m.	The Hangover III (R) 8 p.m.	CLOSED Note: Concessions at Camp Bulkeley are also closed every night until further noticed.	CLOSED Note: Concessions at Camp Bulkeley are also closed every night until further noticed.	CLOSED Note: Concessions at Camp Bulkeley are also closed every night until further noticed.	Pain & Gain (R) 8 p.m.

Call the movie hotline at 4880 or visit the MWR Facebook page for more information.

GTMO RELIGIOUS SERVICES

For more information, contact the NAVSTA Chaplain's Office at 2323 or the JTF Chaplain's Office at 2305

NAVSTA MAIN CHAPEL	General Protestant	Sunday 8 a.m. & 5 p.m. Room D	Saturday 11:15 a.m. Room 1
Daily Catholic Mass Tues.-Fri. 5:30 p.m.	Gospel Service Sunday 1 p.m.	LDS Service Sunday 10 a.m. Room A	Islamic Service Friday 1 p.m. Room 2
Vigil Mass Saturday 5 p.m.	Christian Fellowship Sunday 6 p.m.	Seventh Day Adventist Services Friday 7 p.m. Room 1	JTF TROOPER CHAPEL
Mass Sunday 9 a.m.	CHAPEL ANNEX	Sabbath School - Saturday 9:15 a.m. Room 1	Protestant Worship Sunday 9 a.m.
Spanish-language Mass Sunday 4:35 p.m.	Pentecostal Gospel	Sabbath Service -	Prayer Time Wednesday 12 p.m.

GTMO BUS SCHEDULE

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

Bus	#1	#2	#3	
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	:52	:12	:32	
IOF	:54	:14	:34	
NEX Trailer	:57	:17	:37	
Gazebo	:58	:18	:38	
Camp America	:00	:20	:40	

GTMO Beach Bus Schedule

Saturdays and Sundays only

Location	Run #1	Run #2	Run #3	Run #4
Windward Loop/ East Caravella	0900	1200	1500	1800
SBOQ/Marina	0905	1205	1505	1805
NEX	0908	1208	1508	1808
Phillips Park	0914	1214	1514	1814
Cable Beach	0917	1217	1517	1817
NEX	0925	1225	1525	1825
Windward Loop/ East Caravella	0930	1230	1530	1830
SBOQ/Marina	0935	1235	1535	1835
Return to Office	0940	1240	1540	1840

SAFE RIDE – 84781

JOINT MEDICAL GROUP & JSMART PRESENTS

STRESSED OUT?

HAVING ANY DEPLOYMENT ISSUES AND NEED TO TALK TO SOMEONE? MAYBE JSMART CAN HELP!



-TRYING TO QUIT SMOKING?
-HAVING SLEEPING PROBLEMS?

LOCATION: ON THE JTF SIDE BEHIND THE MAIL ROOM AND CHAPEL

PHONE: 2321

PHONE (AFTER WORK HOURS): 3566

HOURS OF OPERATION: MON - FRI (0600 - 1700)

AVAILABLE AT JTC MON, WED, FRI FROM 0730 - 1130

TUNE IN TO 102.1 FM EVERY FRIDAY AT 1200-1400 FOR SOME
JSMART INTERVENTION ON VARIOUS TOPICS

BE **SMART** ABOUT YOUR WELL BEING... **JSMART**