

THE WIRE

Joint Task Force
Guantanamo's
Finest News
Source

A News Magazine



525 MP Bn Regimental History

Ramadan Traditions

Inside the Detainee Library

Army & Navy

Core values of the service

By Army Sgt. Maj. Cheryl Williamson

JTF-GTMO Assistant Inspector General

Some are bothered by the fact that different branches of the service recognize different values; and that they differ in quantity as we see below. The values are only road signs inviting us to consider key features of the requirements of professional service, but they can not hope to point to or pick out everything. By examining integrity, service and excellence, we also eventually discover the importance of duty, honor, dedication, fidelity, competence and a host of other professional requirements and attributes. All of the core values listed inspire us to do our best at all times. They are the common bonds that unite all comrades-in-arms, as well as the great warriors and public servants of the past.

ARMY: There are seven core values. Army Values is not merely a term for how members of the Army should act; it is an expression of who we are. **LOYALTY:** Loyalty is the faithful adherence to a person, unit or Army. It is the thread that binds our actions together and causes us to support each other, our superiors, our families and our country. **DUTY:** Duty is the legal or moral obligation to accomplish all assigned or implied tasks to the fullest of your ability. Every Soldier must do what has to be done without having to be told to do it. **RESPECT:** Respect is treating others with consideration and honor. It is the ability to accept and value other individuals. **SELFLESS SERVICE:** Selfless service is placing your duty before your personal desires. It is the ability to endure hardships and insurmountable odds because of love of fellow Soldiers and our country. **HONOR:** Honor is living up to the Army Values. It starts with being honest with oneself and being truthful and sincere in all our actions. **INTEGRITY:** Integrity means to firmly adhere to a code of moral and ethical principles. Every Soldier must possess high personal moral standards and be honest in



word and deed. **PERSONAL COURAGE:** Physical courage is overcoming fears of bodily harm while performing your duty. Moral courage is overcoming fears of other than bodily harm while doing what is right, even if unpopular.

NAVY: From the early days of naval service, certain bedrock principles or core values have carried on to today. They consist of three basic principles.

HONOR: The Navy will bear true faith and allegiance. Accordingly, Sailors will conduct themselves in the highest ethical manner in all relationships with peers, superiors and subordinates. They will be honest and truthful in their dealings with others, and with those outside the Navy. **COURAGE:** The Navy will support and defend. ... Accordingly, Sailors will have courage to meet the demands of their profession and the mission when it is hazardous, demanding, or otherwise difficult; make decisions in the best interest of the Navy and the nation, without regard to personal consequences. **COMMITMENT:** Sailors will obey the order. ... Accordingly, they will demand respect up and down the chain of command; care for the safety, professional, personal and spiritual well-being of their fellow Sailors.

Core Values are much more than the minimum standards for us to follow. They remind us what it takes to get the mission done and done well. Next week I'll examine the core values of the Air Force, Marine Corps and Coast Guard.

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525 Military Police Bn.

honors its regimental history

Story and photo by Army Spc. Shanita Simmons

JTF-GTMO Public Affairs Office

The 525th Military Police (MP) Battalion (Bn) in Guantanamo Bay kicked off the 66th anniversary of their regimental founding on Sep. 11 with a week of events that celebrated their past, present and future.

Soldiers from the 525th MP Bn joined other military police units located around the world in commemorating this history which officially began on Sept. 26, 1941. The 525th celebrated by hosting a prayer breakfast, a noncommissioned officer induction ceremony, a golf tournament and an awards ceremony. Army Command Sgt. Maj. Theodore A. Trahan, the 525th Battalion command sergeant major, said Regimental Week is a time for Soldiers to come together and show their pride, comradery and competitive spirit.

"It's our week, so it gives us a sense of ownership and in a way a sense of pride. It's a week for all Soldiers, even those in support roles, since they are a part of the military police family," said Trahan.

A three-mile battalion run opened the week of festivities which was then followed by a recreational day where Soldiers competed against one another in activities such as the HUMVEE push, horseshoes, basketball and a push-up competition.

During the week, Army Sgt. Maj. Donald W. Troxler, the battalion operations sergeant major, said companies within the 525th that excelled in maintenance, safety, weapons qualifications and other related mission requirements were also recognized for their accom-



Members of the 525 Military Police Battalion sing a hymn for a prayer breakfast held Wednesday during Regimental Week.

plishments by earning battalion ribbons.

"What we do as leaders is take our Soldiers and provide them leadership and mentorship, even after the duty day is completed. We believe that excellence breeds excellence and that is what we strive for," said Troxler.

Also, Army Sgt. 1st Class Shaun J. Coker was inducted into the prestigious Sergeant Audie Murphy Club. Troxler mentioned that Coker's induction is an exceptional honor that is bestowed upon a member of the military police corps who exemplifies characteristics similar to those of one of the most highly decorated World War II combat Soldiers, Sgt. Audie Murphy.

"We want to serve as Sergeant Murphy's example. We want to take characteristics from him and apply them to our current day-to-day operations as leaders," said Troxler.

The 525th MP Bn. was established at Guantanamo Bay in October of 2004 to provide detention support to the Joint Task Force. The majority of the Soldiers provide internal security within the detainee camps,

with others providing vital mission assistance in support roles such as administrative, legal and financial services.

Although the military police corps is considered one of the youngest branches of the United States Army, similar forces existed on the battlefield during the Revolutionary War. A mounted police force called the "Troops of the Marechaussee" protected the Army when it encamped and convoyed. Since then, military police have served with distinction during wartime and peacetime by conducting patrols, combat operations and military investigations.

In addition to celebrating the birthday of the military police, Troxler said that Regimental Week gives the battalion here the opportunity to acknowledge Soldiers who have served in the Global War on Terrorism.

"How do we honor those who have fallen? How do we honor those who are currently out on missions and cannot be here with us?" said Troxler. "We do this by celebrating our birthday and recognizing those who have served."

Ramadan: Hope for God's Mercy and Forgiveness



(www.roadgladiator.com)

**By Navy Petty Officer 3rd Class
William Weinert**

JTF-GTMO Public Affairs Office

“Ramadan is the month during which the Qur’an was revealed, providing guidance for the people, clear teachings and the statute book. Those of you who witness this month shall fast therein. Those who are ill or traveling may substitute the same number of other days. God wishes for you convenience, not hardship, that you may fulfill your obligations, and to glorify God for guiding you, and to express your appreciation.”—Qur’an, chapter 2, verse 185

Thursday, Sept. 13, marks the beginning of the Islamic month of Ramadan, the most holy month of the Islamic year. Ramadan takes place during the ninth month of the Islamic lunar calendar, which starts with the sighting of the new moon and ends with a celebration called *Eid-al-Fitr* (breaking of the fast).

During Ramadan, Muslims practice *sawm* (fasting) for an entire month. *Sawm* involves total abstinence from eating, drinking, or sexual relations between dawn and dusk. In addition to fasting, Muslims are encouraged

to refrain from anger, greed, envy, lust, backstabbing and gossip.

“Spiritually, you are not supposed to hurt people with your tongue or your hand. You go through the suffering and you are not even supposed to talk about other people, because that will disqualify you from fasting,”

explained Mr. Zak, the cultural advisor for Joint Task Force – Guantanamo.

This Ramadan provision should result in a more peaceful time within the camps, but this cannot be absolutely guaranteed. “Usually during the month of Ramadan, we see a calmer period. However, we tell the guards not to let their guard down,” said Mr. Zak.

The importance of fasting during Ramadan dates back to the prophet Muhammad receiving the Holy Qur’an from the Angel Gabriel on the 27th day of that month. Since then, fasting in Islamic society has become one of the five pillars of Islam, which are the essential requirements that all Muslims must go through.

The five pillars include a declaration of faith, daily prayer, alms giving, fasting and pilgrimage to Mecca. While fasting is encouraged throughout the year, it is required during the holy month of Ramadan.

The fast fills many purposes in the Islamic world.

“First there is the physical part of it, to feel for the poor people. Medically it’s good for the body to change the routine and spiritually it gets you closer to God,” said Mr. Zak.

During the process of moving closer to God, Muslims hope that God will grant them *Rahmat* (mercy) and *Maghfirat* (forgiveness), including forgiveness for anything they might do unintentionally. They especially hope for *Nijat* (salvation), which means that God will save them from going to hell.

“It [fasting] is meant to remind people to continue to do good,” said Mr. Zak. “You not only do good during Ramadan, you are to do good all year round.”

Once the sun goes down, Muslims participate in a nightly breaking of the fast meal. The meal traditionally consists of dates and honey. For other meals that take place throughout the night, observers may eat whatever they want.

In addition to nightly meals, Muslims hold extended prayer sessions, called *Taraweeh*. These sessions take place after the fifth prayer of the day and last about 90 minutes in duration. The goal of these extended prayer sessions is to recite the entire Qur’an, and try to memorize it.

Throughout the month of Ramadan, appropriate accommodations will be made to all Muslim detainees for the observation of the holy month.

“We will be honoring those 29 or 30 days by re-adjusting the meal times. We let them pray and we give them the option whether they want to pray as a group or in their cells,” said Mr. Zak.

Following the celebration of *Eid-al-Fitr*, Muslims are still obliged to fast for six more days, sometime throughout the year. These days are called the six white days, and many Muslims observe them immediately after *Eid-al-Fitr*.

All Muslim Troopers are encouraged to observe Ramadan according to their traditions. If they let their leadership know in advance, they should expect appropriate accommodations to be provided.

Building Rapport: BSCT Operations

Story and photo by Army Spc. Shanita Simmons

JTF-GTMO Public Affairs Office

Some critics of the Joint Task Force detainee mission at Guantanamo recently questioned the ethics of psychological service providers here. One group alleges that military psychologists support the use of coercive interrogation techniques against detainees and have, therefore, called for the removal of all psychologists from U.S. military detention facilities.

In an open letter addressed to Sharon Brehm, president of the American Psychological Association (APA), this group shared its concerns about allegations of unethical practices at Guantanamo. This letter was followed by a proposed resolution during the organization's annual convention that called for the removal of all psychologists from U.S. military detention facilities around the world.

During the APA convention held Aug. 15-21 in San Francisco, however, the resolution was voted down almost unanimously.

According to Army Col. Larry C. James, officer in charge of the Behavioral Science Consultation Team (BSCT) here, the vote makes it clear to him that the wider community of psychologists supports the work being done here.

Although the resolution was nonbinding, James, said such measures can have far-reaching effects in the political community.

"If the resolution had passed, then the psychologists would have taken the language and lobbied their Congressmen to force the Army, Navy and Air Force surgeon generals to remove psychologists from detention facilities located around the world," said James. "It



Col. Larry C. James discusses BSCT operations with a member of his staff.

would have created a public policy nightmare for the Department of Defense (DoD)."

"These people who were voting are like the Congress for the APA. As a voting member, they are representing other members from their state," said James.

James attended the conference not only for JTF-Guantanamo, but also as a representative of the Army and the DoD since he was intimately involved in creating the policy used by BSCT psychologists who work within military detention facilities.

"There are a lot of innuendos and false reporting of events that simply do not occur here," said James. "You have to keep in mind that most civilian PhD's are based in university settings that tend to be very liberal. As a result, many of my colleagues tend to look at military psychologists with a certain disparagement."

Unlike psychologists in a hospital setting, James' team does not provide health care. Rather, they are consultants to the Joint Intelligence Group and the Joint Detention Group. They help interrogators improve their interviewing skills

and provide guidance for the safe and humane interrogation and detention of Guantanamo's enemy combatant population.

Col. James has a long and honorable association with Behavioral Science Consultation Teams and Guantanamo. "In 2003, my commander made it very clear that he wanted the BSCT to work with interrogators on how to develop rapport-building strategies and techniques with detainees," said James, who has deployed with BSCT teams around the world. He added that the rapport building techniques encourage interrogators to build good working relationships with detainees in order to increase the likelihood that they will choose to provide actionable intelligence.

James emphasized that even before the first detainees arrived at Gitmo, psychologists had long recognized that abusive, harsh tactics simply do not work.

"Scientific studies have shown that people who are coerced or tortured during an interrogation will fabricate stories and plead guilty to

Continued on page 12

Chasing the Cup



By Army 1st Sgt. Patrick Sellen

JTF-GTMO Public Affairs Office

After 26 races in the NASCAR Chase for the Nextel Cup, 12 drivers prove they are the cream of the crop as they push for the Championship. Several of NASCAR's familiar faces will be competing for the Cup. However, this year former poster boy Dale Earnhardt Jr. is on the outside looking in.

There are ten races to decide this year's champion, the first of which will be this weekend at the New Hampshire Motor Speedway. Let's preview the drivers in the positions that they currently hold:

1. Jimmie Johnson – Johnson, last year's Nextel Cup Champion, holds the top spot entering the chase because he has won the most races (six). He also has 14 top fives and 16 top 10 finishes. Look out; we could have a repeat winner!

2. Jeff Gordon (-20 points) – Gordon had a very solid year and finds himself in the second spot with four wins, 15 top five finishes and 21 top 10s, both the most of any driver. If he wants his fifth Cup title he will need to get back to his earlier form.

3. Tony Stewart (-30 points) – Stewart with his brash "never say die" attitude won the Cup in 2005 and 2002. Stewart won three races, had nine top fives and 18 top 10s. His third cup is well within reach.

4. Carl Edwards (-40 points) – Edwards is becoming a dominant force in NASCAR. Edwards has two wins, seven top five finishes and 11 top 10 finishes. Edwards should not be overlooked as one of the favorites in this chase.

5. Kurt Busch (-40) – Busch's late push moved him from 12th. Busch won two races, had seven finishes in the top five and 11 in the top 10. Look out if he continues on this push.

6. Denny Hamlin (-50) – One of NASCAR's young guns looks to win his first championship. Hamlin had one victory to go along with 10 top fives



(www.tonystewart.com)

and 15 top 10 finishes. Does he have the experience?

7. Martin Truex Jr. (-50) – Like Hamlin, Truex is another one of NASCAR's young guns. Coming into his own this year, Truex has one win along with five top five and 10 top 10 finishes. I don't believe it will be this year for Truex Jr.

8. Matt Kenseth (-50) – Former Nextel Cup champion Matt Kenseth has had an average year by his standards. Kenseth had one win, eight top five and 16 top 10 finishes. Even though he is in the eighth spot, don't take your eye off this guy.

9. Kyle Busch (-50) – The third member from Hendrick Motor Sports has had a solid year thus far. Busch had one victory, six top five and 14 top 10 finishes. He has shown flashes of greatness – too much too soon. Not this year Kyle.

10. Jeff Burton (-50) – Burton is a crafty veteran who has had an up and down year and sits in the 10th spot. He has one win, four top five and 11 top 10 finishes. Don't count him out, but he needs to be more consistent.

11. Kevin Harvick (-50) – The Daytona 500 winner has had an unpredictable year. He has that one victory, four top five and 11 top 10 finishes. A little less fighting, and some better driving, would serve Harvick well.

12. Clint Bowyer (-60) – The only driver in the Chase without a win. He had two top fives and 12 top 10s. Bowyer

managed to stay consistent enough to make the chase, but don't expect him to get much higher than he is now.

Although NASCAR's new point system surely makes for an exciting 10 races, drivers like Jeff Gordon who had a 300 plus point lead going into the final weekend, will suffer. Nevertheless, I believe that after all the rubber is off the tires, Gordon will remain the best driver and win his fifth Nextel Cup.

Blitz NFL Picks

Green Bay vs. N.Y. Giants
Houston vs. Carolina
Seattle vs. Arizona
San Diego vs. New England
Washington vs. Philadelphia

Patrick "Top" Sellen: (4-1)

Green Bay
Carolina
Seattle
New England
Philadelphia

"Big Daddy" Dan Welch: (3-2)

N.Y. Giants
Carolina
Arizona
San Diego
Washington

Jerry "Redneck" Rushing: (4-1)

NY Giants
Carolina
Seattle
San Diego
Philadelphia

Cancer Awareness Half Marathon

By Navy Seaman Kellie Bliss and
Army Sgt. Jody Metzger

JTF-GTMO Public Affairs Office

The third Annual Cancer Awareness Half Marathon set the pace Saturday, Aug. 8, with 40 participants toeing the line for a friendly 13.1 mile competition.

The race encourages both physical fitness and shares an important message about cancer.

Lt. Cmdr. Laurretta Huff, event organizer, saw the race as an opportunity to raise “awareness for individual or family cancer risks to prevent or early detect the different kinds of cancer.”

“Getting out and running is a great way to promote health,” said Audrey Chapman, an MWR coordinator.

“I think it’s great that we are able to offer more than just 5k’s [five kilometer races] to the people here in Gitmo. On the MWR fitness side, we’re always trying to promote physical activity and we’re just trying to make sure we hit on what everybody likes to do,” said Chapman.

The enthusiasm of the people who participated in the race surprised and delighted Chapman. Chapman noted how important it is to participate in these kinds of events to bring the

community together.

“I think the element of competition is always a good thing. You’re out running with other people instead of just going out and running by yourself. You have other people to do it with,” said Chapman.

The first place male and female winners were Wilfredo Turell and Kathryn Hostetler. They each received a plaque, T-shirt and towel donated by the race sponsor, *Elite Racing*. Second place male and female winners were Rafael Rivas and Amber Dach. Third place male and female winners were Luis Gonzalez and Jody Metzger.



Wilfredo Turell flashes a victor’s smile after yet another racing triumph in the Morale, Welfare and Recreation/Cancer Awareness Half Marathon held Aug. 8. First place female winner Kathryn Hostetler shows the fierce determination that led her to victory in the race. (Photos by Army Staff Sgt. Paul Meeker)

525 Military Police Battalion

*Celebrating 66 years
of regimental history!*

525th Military Police Battalion, Guantanamo Bay, celebrated their 66th anniversary this week with events and activities focused on the appreciation of their Soldiers, and the history of the military police. The week kicked off with a Battalion run from Tierra Kay housing to Windmill Beach. Upon arrival, qualified companies were awarded streamers for their prowess in important aspects of mission readiness including weapons training, education, family readiness and safety excellence. A prayer breakfast Wednesday morning, the induction of Sgt. 1st Class Shaun Coker to the prestigious Audie Murphy Club and a noncommissioned officers' induction ceremony highlighted the weeks' events. Happy Anniversary, MPs! (Photos by Petty Officer 2nd Class Jeff Johnstone).





Story by Army Sgt. Jody Metzger

JTF-GTMO Public Affairs Office

The detainee library delivers a great service to the detainees of Camp Delta, Joint Task Force - Guantanamo. It began three years ago as an unorganized collection of books that the camp chaplain and guard staff maintained in their extra time. Since then it has grown considerably with over 6,000 books on its shelves and more always on order. The library features a variety of non-fiction and fiction books, as well as assorted magazines that are written in 18 different languages.

The Chief Librarian, Julie, has worked at the detention camp library for nearly two months now and already sees the positive impact that the library has on the detainees and the overall camp atmosphere.

For many, according to Julie, something as small as a sudden fascination with animals, nature or history can bring about a positive change in the detainees' attitudes. Suddenly they want to have a book to read on their subject of interest. So every week, hundreds of books are taken to the camps for distribution by library technicians who are also Muslim linguists in the primary languages spoken in the camps.

"My goal here is to put them [the detainees] in a positive state of mind and into a world that helps to entertain them," Julie said.

The library staff also tries to provide detainees with books that they have specifically requested. These special book

requests allow the detainees the ability to exercise greater choice of reading materials. Requests are made when the library staff and linguists go out on the blocks during their weekly visits.

The library staff gives extra thought and consideration to the differing educational levels represented by the detainee population.

"We have a variety of educational levels that we try to address," Julie said. "Whether they [the detainees] are illiterate or college graduates, there is something for everyone in the library. As far as the different reading levels, we have children's books for those that are just starting to read, young adult books like Harry Potter for an easy read, and for a more skilled reader – non-fiction books on history and religion, as well as classic authors such as Charles Dickens, Dostoyevsky, Tolstoy and Victory Hugo."

The library is a busy place for Julie and her staff. On an average day, she and her staff spend their day cataloging, labeling, organizing, and submitting requests for more books. The work load increases as more books come in. It takes two librarians, two linguists and the appropriate approval authority from the Joint Task Force to maintain and improve upon the reading opportunities for the detainees.

When new books come in they have to go through a review process with specific guidelines governing what can and what cannot be distributed to detainees. Items

that are generally approved for inclusion in the library usually contain themes of family, tolerance, moral choice, and topics that expand the mind. The library stays away from material that might be culturally offensive to Muslims or might provoke extremist attitudes.

The detainee library does occasionally accept donations, including many from the International Committee of the Red Cross. They work with the Joint Task Force staff to identify new materials and also work hard to track down hard-to-find selections. Unfortunately, most of the publications donated by lawyers end up being rejected because they often contain personal notes, law firm stamps or suggestive images of women. The latter is especially problematic, since such images are offensive according to Islamic custom and practice.

For Julie, her position means more to her than just filing books and making purchase orders; it involves being a productive link between the detainees and their guards.

"It's rewarding to hear that the library technicians who go on the block were able to meet the needs of the detainees," Julie said. She went on to explain that the detainees are especially pleased when the library is able to grant a special request for a book.

"When the detainees are happy, my hope is the guards are going to have an easier day on the block," she said.

Classified: Don't Talk

Submitted by Tony Camera

JTF-Security Manager

Much is heard these days of government secrets being uncovered, national security being compromised, and sensitive information getting into the wrong hands. Most countries have a classification system to formalize state secrets and protect information from being used to endanger citizens. This article will familiarize you with the security classification system.

Top Secret: Information that, in the hands of the enemy, would put the security of America at exceptionally grave risk. Individuals undergo meticulous investigation to receive the level of clearance necessary to view this information. Clearance must be renewed every five years.

Secret: Information which could cause serious damage if publicly available. Intense investigation is required for individuals with this clearance, which must be renewed every ten years.

Confidential: Information that could compromise the safety of Americans. Clearance must be renewed every 15 years for individuals on this level.

Unclassified: Not technically a classification. This includes all information that does not pose a security risk and is available to the public.

All classified information, regardless of the level, is available only on a "need to know" basis. Therefore, an individual having Top Secret clearance may not be privileged to view all Top Secret documents, only those documents which are pertinent to his or her work.

When two or more countries agree to share information with each other they

must agree upon a uniform classification system. The United Nations, NATO, and the European Defense Organization all have their own security classification systems.

One example of a country without a formal classification system is China. The Criminal Law of the People's Republic of China makes it a crime to release a state secret. However, there is only a vague



(www.knocksnews.com)

definition of what constitutes a state secret; therefore, the government has used this law to imprison journalists.

Private corporations make use of a similar type of security classification system when working with new product development, mergers, and company financial reports. This type of information is protected under trade secret laws. Employers can require their employees to sign confidentiality agreements and undergo extensive background checks. While corporate classification lacks the harsh criminal sanctions of the government

classification system, individuals who leak company secrets can be tried and punished in courts of law.

The military is the largest employer of people with security clearances. It might surprise you to know that one out of every thirty Americans, or 3-5 million individuals are authorized to some extent to know state secrets. Of all individuals with such clearances, it is estimated that one in a thousand can be expected to compromise the secrets they are entrusted with, through blackmail, greed or sloppiness.

Individuals may only apply for security clearances if it is anticipated they will be dealing with classified information. Once a candidate has completed the application phase, a detailed investigation ensues. The applicant's background will be thoroughly examined, and depending on the level of clearance needed, family members and relatives may also be scrutinized. The investigation phase

can last up to a year or more. Candidates who pass this phase will then enter the adjudication phase. In this phase, all information gathered in the previous two phases is reviewed and analyzed according to factors developed by the Department of Defense. Allegiance to the United States and personal conduct are examples of areas that are considered.

Having a security clearance is nothing to sneeze at. Some experts say that having such a clearance can increase one's salary between \$10 and \$15K in certain job categories. It is evident that the ability to keep a secret is a valued commodity in this increasingly precarious society.

BSCT Continued from page 5

almost anything. They will then later recant and say, ‘I just wanted it to stop, so I said, yeah, I did it,’” said James.

“What is going to happen is your captives are going to end up spinning their wheels and millions of dollars later you will find out that they talked, but they gave you a lot of wrong information,” he added.

James reiterated that he believes the interrogators and guards here perform their duties in a most ethical manner. Although neither he, nor any other military leader, can erase the images of the abuse that occurred at Abu Ghraib, James touts the professional work of the JTF.

“We treat detainees like every human being should be treated – safely and humanely,” said James. “There is a percentage of the public that believes what we are doing here is unethical and immoral. No matter what we do, there is nothing we can do to convince some people that we do not abuse, beat or strip anybody, nor do we starve anybody or withhold medications.

“Daily, my staff works diligently to complete their mission. Unfortunately, what I have said does not sell a whole lot of newspapers and that is not the story that some people want to hear.”



WEEKLY WEATHER FORECAST

Weather forecast provided by www.weather.com

Saturday, Sept. 15

Highs in the low - 90's, and lows in the mid-70's.



Isolated T-Storms

Sunrise: 6:48 a.m.
Sunset: 7:07 p.m.
Chance of rain: 30%

Sunday, Sept. 16

Highs in the low - 90's, and lows in the mid-70's.



Isolated T-Storms

Sunrise: 6:48a.m.
Sunset: 7:03 p.m.
Chance of rain: 45%

Monday, Sept. 17

Highs in the low - 90's, and lows in the mid-70's.



Scattered T-storms

Sunrise: 6:48 a.m.
Sunset: 7:02 p.m.
Chance of rain: 45%

Tuesday, Sept. 18

Highs in the low - 90's, and lows in the mid-70's.



Sunrise: 6:49 a.m.
Sunset: 7:01 p.m.
Chance of Rain: 60%

Scattered T-storms

Wednesday, Sept. 19

Highs in the low - 90's, and lows in the mid-70's.



Sunrise: 6:49 a.m.
Sunset: 7:00 p.m.
Chance of Rain: 35%

Scattered T-storms

Thursday, Sept. 20

Highs in the low - 90's, and lows in the mid-70's.

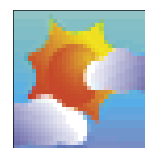


Sunrise: 6:49 a.m.
Sunset: 6:59 p.m.
Chance of Rain: 35%

Scattered T-storms

Friday, Sept. 21

Highs in the low - 90's, and lows in the mid-70's.



Sunrise: 6:49 a.m.
Sunset: 6:58 p.m.
Chance of Rain: 30%

Partly Cloudy



Sunshine

By Army Spc. Daniel Welch

JTF-GTMO Public Affairs Office



At first glance, “Sunshine” seems like another in a long line of sci-fi space thriller movies that uses a huge ship and a small crew to amp up the tension. What I was not expecting was a stylishly done film that resembles predecessors like “2001” and “Solaris,” though the tone of “Sunshine” is much craftier.

In 2052 the crew of the Icarus II is at the tail end of a 16 month mission to reignite the sun. The Earth has been cast into a “solar winter” because the sun has begun to die. The Solaris is equipped with a bomb the size of Manhattan that is to be fired into the core of the sun. This will cause a chain reaction that will reignite the sun and save Earth. A previous mission, the Icarus I, failed seven years before and the whereabouts of the ship and crew are unknown.

A series of mishaps befall the crew after it receives a distress call that is believed to be from the first ship. The crew decides that since two gigantic warheads are better than one, they will go after the Icarus I to try to salvage her payload, and possibly learn why its mission failed.

What sets this movie apart is that the characters of the multi-ethnic crew are well developed and written in a multi-dimensional way. No one is necessarily bad or good, all are shades of grey. The tension is built, not on space aliens bent on destruction, or on a computer gone hay-wire, but rather on the ideas of loss of humanity, religious fanaticism and the difficult choice between self-preservation or sacrifice.

The movie is directed by Danny Boyle, who is well suited for the role considering his previous works, “Trainspotting,” “28 Days Later” and “The Beach,” all of which deal with many of the same topics. The cast is filled with virtual unknowns, except for Cillian Murphy (“Batman Begins” and “28 Days Later”) as Kapa, a physicist who designed the bomb and is the only one capable of detonating the device that will save human life on earth.

Sunshine gets 4 out of 5 stars. It is a nearly perfect movie, aside from some silly dialogue at times and pacing that sometimes felt hurried. It’s unfortunate that this movie has come out in the historic down period of Hollywood – after the summer blockbusters and before Oscar contenders make their splash. It deserves much credit for rehashing a genre that has been worked nearly to death, by making a fresh, thought-provoking and exciting sci-fi thriller.

Rated: PG 13

Duration: 110

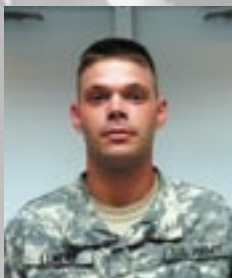
Rating: ★★★★★

Boots on the Ground

*By Navy Petty Officer
3rd Class William Weinert*

“Why did you choose to become a Military Policeman?”

**-Army Spc. Anthony
Luneke**



**For the experience,
to join the Police
Department back
home.**

**-Army Staff Sgt.
Eddie Flournoy**



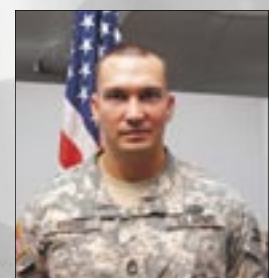
**It offered better
opportunities for
career advancement
than my previous
Army job.**

**-Army Sgt. 1st Class
Richard Bush**



**I wanted to help
other people and
get involved with
Soldiers through
law enforcement.**

**-Army Sgt. 1st Class
Anthony Bragg**



**I was interested in
law enforcement
and I wanted a
challenge.**

"The Necessity of Resiliency"

By Navy Lt. Cmdr. Daniel McKay
JTF-GTMO Deputy Chaplain

While serving for three-and-a-half years in Okinawa, I came to appreciate more fully the need for resiliency in one's life. Our Okinawan secretary faced many problems and hardships during my time there, but she always endured everything with a smile on her face and a great deal of patience, hopefulness and optimism. Eventually, my curiosity got the best of me and I sat down beside her

I was willing to take the time, she would teach me.

I received my first lesson from her right there and then, for the word that fell from her lips was "resiliency." Seeing my puzzled look, she continued, "You see, we Okinawans are a resilient people. Over the years we've been conquered by outside forces many times, but we always find a way to eventually win back our independence. In fact, our motto is, 'Okinawans are like the sugar cane we grow; the winds may knock us down, but, in time,

can get through it again. In other words, deep within the Okinawan heart there is the assurance that they not only 'think they can,' but rather 'they know they can.'

When we reflect on this last thought, it doesn't take much to figure out that non-resilient individuals are defeated much of the time because their mindset is the reverse: 'they not only don't think they can, they know they can't' – even before they try. Rather than sharing Keiko's patient, hopeful, and optimistic point of



(www.publicaffairs.uth.edu)

and asked the question that opened up an entirely new world for me.

I asked her, "Keiko, what keeps you going through all the difficulties you've had to struggle with over these past many months?" She smiled, looked me straight in the eyes, and returned a question of her own. "You don't know much about our Okinawan culture, do you?" She was correct: I had to plead completely ignorant on that score. But, in her motherly way, she reassured me it was okay; that, if

we rise again."

I can't speak for you, but I really like that motto. It captures very well the essence of the Okinawans' character and culture as a people. It explains why so many in their culture go through life's hardest times with a courageous spirit and a smile on their face. They carry this part of their social ethos wherever they go and, regardless of the difficulty of the circumstances before them, they carry a sense that they've been there before and

view, the non-resilient person is easily irritated, distrustful, and pessimistic.

I pushed Keiko a bit further by asking, "So you're a resilient person because you're an Okinawan?" "Yes, partly so," she answered, "due to my cultural upbringing. But," she added with a big smile, "I'm mostly resilient because I'm trusting in my heavenly Father's promises to always be there with me, through thick and thin." Now I, too, was smiling. How 'bout you?

15 MINUTES OF FAME

Army 1st. Sgt. Gerald K. Green

By Army Spc. Daniel Welch

JTF-GTMO Public Affairs Office

In a 1952 speech given to cadets at West Point, Gen. Omar Bradley said this about leadership in the military: “The greatest leader in the world could never win a campaign unless he understood the men he had to lead.” One Joint Task Force Trooper who epitomizes that quote is 1st Sgt. Gerald K. Green, Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 525th Military Police Battalion.

Growing up in Dallas, Green knew from an early age that he wanted to be a Soldier in the United States Army. He enlisted as a mechanic as soon as he was eligible.

“I was always impressed with Soldiers in the Army,” said Green, “Back then, to me, being a Soldier meant being the toughest and that’s what I wanted to be.”

For some, joining the Army is a temporary stop before college, an avenue to different life experiences, or a way to just simply grow up. Green however, wanted nothing more than to be a lifelong Soldier.



Green affixes a battalion streamer to the 525 MP battalion guidon. (Photo by Navy Petty Officer 2nd Class Jeff Johnstone).



Green (Right) stands at attention with fellow members of the 525th Military Police Battalion after a battalion run held Tuesday, celebrating regimental week. (Photo by Navy Petty Officer 2nd Class Jeff Johnstone).

“I have been in for 22 years and I want to stay in as long as I can or they let me. Anyone who knows me, knows that I bleed [Army] green,” Green said.

Green explained that early in his career he was intrigued with the various schools and training opportunities the Army offers its Soldiers.

“I put a list together when I first joined. I wanted to become Airborne, Air-Assault and Pathfinder qualified as well as a drill sergeant and a first sergeant. Except for Pathfinder, I have accomplished everything else,” said Green.

Putting his personal achievements aside, Green said that his favorite part of serving this long in the Army is taking care of the Soldiers assigned to him.

“My role now is simple: taking care of the Soldiers in my command,” said Green. “To do this, you have to know each of your Soldiers’ personalities; you must also show them what to expect from you.

“Once you know your Soldiers, you can gauge their performance and you can tell if they are down or something is bothering them,” Green said.

Knowing Soldiers and leading Soldiers is something Green is well versed in. In addition to being stationed at Guantanamo Bay, the Army has taken Green to Kuwait,

Germany and Panama.

From the earliest moments of a Soldier’s life, the Army tries to cultivate him or her for successful leadership. Green did not draw from any one particular Soldier or experience to develop his leadership style. Instead, he has taken something from every leader he has served with or for.

“The key to my job is to make sure that Soldiers are set up for success,” said Green. “There is a lot that goes into that. For example, sometimes younger Soldiers cannot see their potential, and it is my job as a leader to make them see their potential and take hold of that.”

In his off duty hours, Green likes to fish and work out. In fact, he just completed this past weekend’s Cancer Awareness Half-Marathon. He values his time away from work and credits his ability to have time off to successful leadership.

“As long as my Soldiers are doing the right thing, I can go and fish,” he said smiling.

Reflecting back on his career, a smile crossed, Green’s face as he said, “I have no regrets. I have been to many countries and met great people. Looking back, there is nothing that I would change about my career and life in the Army.”

AROUND THE

JTF



(Above) U.S. Coast Guard Petty Officer 1st. Class Jason Bush receives instruction from Staff Sgt. Adam Pitler (above center) during a combat lifesaver course at Camp America on Sep. 11, 2007. (Photo by Navy Petty Officer 2nd Class Michael Billings)

(Right) Navy Capt. Kris Winter guides State Department Coordinator for Cuban Affairs, Ms. Bisa Williams and Thomas Gerth, Senior Advisor to the Office of Cuban Affairs, through the detainee camps during their trip to Guantanamo Bay. (Photo by Army Sgt. Joseph Scozzari)



(Left) Army Spc. Josaf Gearhart, a soldier from the 525th Military Police Battalion, receives an Army Achievement Medal from Rear Adm. Mark H. Buzby at Camp Echo on Sep. 11, 2007 for services performed during Hurricane Dean. (Photo by Petty Officer 2nd Class Michael Billings)