

THE WIRE

A News Magazine

Joint Task Force
Guantanamo's
Finest News Source

**Black
Widow
Strikes!**

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Navy Master Chief Mary C. Holland

Take care of your shipmates

By Coast Guard Command Senior Chief Eric Johnson

JTF-GTMO Port Security Unit 301

The key word in Joint Task Force (JTF) is absolutely the word “JOINT”.

Joint is defined as—**United, in concert, not separate.** United — is there any stronger, more easily defined word in the English language than united? We all understand what it is to be united, our 50 states are united, we unite in marriage and we all look forward to reuniting with our loved ones. I often hear about how well we operate in a joint atmosphere and how the mission is enhanced by the jointness of Guantanamo Bay (GTMO). What I really want to focus on is not how well we work together, that is a function of our professionalism and training, but rather how well we live and play together.

All of us are resistant to change and do not enjoy drifting too far out of our comfort zones. I experienced a major change when the Maryland National Guard went home. They were helpful in getting my unit online and up to speed, and they were good neighbors. When the Puerto Rico National Guard assumed the watch I was unsure as to whether or not the language and cultural barriers would be so significant that rough waters would be on the horizon, I felt myself drifting helplessly out of my comfort zone.

This was certainly one of those occasions that I can't say often enough or loud enough; “I was wrong” and should have been much more open to change and diversity. The members of the Puerto Rico National Guard have been absolutely amazing to live with and have welcomed me into their world by working with me on language, culture and other information that I



will need in my new assignment in San Juan. Its funny how life works. Just what I needed was placed in my hands at absolutely the critical moment. So much help and support have been rendered and for that, I am extremely thankful.

I can say without any reservations that I have made friends here in GTMO. I will miss these friends and in many cases, never see them again. Unfortunately uniting, working hard, playing hard and moving on is all part of military life. It is all part of the package. A quote that I truly believe in is from Saint Thomas

Aquinas:

“There is nothing on this earth more to be prized than true friendship.”

It has been my pleasure to serve with all of you. Please accept my thanks and praise for a job well done. With your help I have developed as a leader and an individual. The quality of the men and women here is second to none and it is with great pride that I say that I was a part of this mission and a member of Joint (United) Task Force – GTMO. Take care of each other and take care of your shipmates.

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Sea Horses make way as Sharks dive in

By Army Sgt. Scott Griffin

JTF-GTMO Public Affairs Office

A transfer of authority ceremony for the Port Security Unit (PSU) was held at Phillips Park Thursday, June 7. Presiding over the ceremony was Commander, Joint Task Force-Guantanamo (JTF-GTMO) Rear Adm. Mark H. Buzby.

The departing unit, PSU 301 from the Coast Guard Reserve out of Cape Cod, Mass., was proud of the work they did while serving in GTMO. Senior Chief Petty Officer Eric Johnson, Command Senior Chief of PSU 301, held his Troopers in high esteem.

“It was very busy for us,” Johnson said. “Our schedule was full every day and our Troopers performed flawlessly. I hope the 308 continues the standard of excellence here and brings success to the mission.”

Master Chief Petty Officer Robert Fowler, Command Master Chief of the incoming 308, said that the new unit was well-trained for the mission. “We did weapons training and tactical boat skills,” Fowler said. “We had a trainer come in from the Special Missions Training Center out of Camp Lejeune, N.C., for refresher courses. A lot of our



Photos by Army Sgt. Scott Griffin

The mascots for the 301 and 308 Port Security Units are seen here. The patches are designed and paid for by the units, but are officially recognized for wear. The 301 is represented by a seahorse rampart, and the 308 by a trident-bearing shark.



Troopers have already been deployed multiple times, so we were very well prepared for this mission.”

“We’re definitely going to maintain the high standards the 301 set, then strive to set the bar higher for the next unit,” Fowler said.

Outgoing Commander Stevan Little was thanked by many as the ceremony ended. “It’s been great,” Little said. “There are some really good people here. We had so many good people on our team,

and we were part of a fantastic organization.”

“I’m wrapping up my 39th year of service,” Little said. “This is the highlight of my career. I served with great Troopers from the trenches to the top.”

Incoming Commander Michael K. Hart looks forward to the challenging standards set by the 301. “The bar’s been set pretty high, but we’re looking to meet that standard and then take it higher,” Hart said.

Terror suspect transferred to Guantanamo

DoD Press Release – The Department of Defense announced Wednesday, June 6, the transfer of a dangerous terror suspect to Guantanamo Bay, Cuba. Abdullahi Sudi Arale is suspected of being a member of the Al Qaeda terrorist network in East Africa, serving as a courier between East Africa Al Qaeda (EAAQ) and Al Qaeda in Pakistan. Since his return from Pakistan to Somalia in September 2006, he has held a leadership role in the EAAQ-affiliated Somali Council of Islamic Courts (CIC).

There is significant information available indicating that Arale has been assisting various EAAQ-affiliated extremists in acquiring weapons and explosives, and has facilitated terrorist travel by providing false documents for AQ and EAAQ-affiliates and foreign fighters traveling into Somalia. Arale played a significant role in the re-emergence

of the CIC in Mogadishu.

The capture of Abdullahi Sudi Arale exemplifies the genuine threat that the United States and other countries face throughout the world from dangerous extremists. The detainees being held at Guantanamo have provided information essential to our ability to better understand how Al Qaeda operates and thus to prevent future attacks.

As with all detainees in Guantanamo, Arale will undergo a Combatant Status Review Tribunal, where he will be given the opportunity to review an unclassified summary of the evidence against him and contest his enemy combatant status.

The International Committee of the Red Cross will be granted access to this detainee. With Wednesday’s transfer there are approximately 385 detainees here.

Judges dismiss terror charges against detainees

A military judge dismissed the terrorism charges against Yemeni detainee Salim Ahmed Hamdan (left). Hamdan was charged with conspiracy and providing material support for terrorism.



By Army Sgt. Sara Wood

American Forces Press Service

Following suit from events earlier Monday morning, June 4, a military judge later in the afternoon dismissed the terrorism charges against Yemeni detainee Salim Ahmed Hamdan.

Navy Capt. Keith J. Allred, the judge in Hamdan's military commission case here, granted a defense motion to dismiss the charges based on a lack of jurisdiction. Allred's ruling follows a decision earlier today by Army Col. Peter Brownback, who dismissed the charges against Canadian Omar Khadr for similar reasons.

The issue in both cases was the status of the detainees as determined by their Combatant Status Review Tribunals (CSRT). Both detainees were classified as "enemy combatants," one of only two designations offered by the administrative hearings, but the Military Commissions Act of 2006 requires that a detainee be classified as an "unlawful enemy combatant" to be tried by military commission.

In announcing his decision,

Allred said that the CSRT determination, in 2004, was made to determine the proper detention of detainees, not their qualification for military commissions. Also, the CSRT finding used a much less stringent definition for "enemy combatant" than the Military Commissions Act uses for "unlawful enemy combatant," he said.

Allred also noted that the CSRT was conducted two years before the Military Commissions Act was signed into law, and Hamdan may well have acted differently if he knew the hearing would determine whether he would be tried by military commission.

Hamdan was charged with conspiracy and providing material support for terrorism. The specific allegations included that he was a bodyguard and personal driver for Osama bin Laden and transported weapons, ammunition and supplies for al Qaeda.

Joseph McMillan, one of Hamdan's civilian attorneys, argued that United States law establishes that jurisdiction of military courts is very limited and must be specifically defined. The charge sheet against Hamdan fails to state the facts on which jurisdiction depends, and instead is very vague, McMillan said. He urged Allred not to ignore the word "unlawful," as it was inserted into the law purposefully to ensure

lawful enemy combatants are not subject to the law of war.

"Congress inserted the word 'unlawful' deliberately, repeatedly and with good reason," McMillan said, referring to the Military Commissions Act.

In arguing against the dismissal, the prosecution said that because Hamdan is alleged to have been a member of al Qaeda, that qualifies him as an unlawful enemy combatant, based on a presidential pronouncement in 2002 that qualifies all members of that and affiliated groups as unlawful enemy combatants. Allred dismissed that argument, saying the president's pronouncement applies to the group at large, and not individual cases.

Allred allowed that the prosecution may have evidence that proves Hamdan is an unlawful enemy combatant, but making that determination will require either reopening the 2004 CSRT or establishing a new one. The prosecution asked for 72 hours to consider appealing Allred's decision, and their request was granted.

Hamdan's case was the one that caused the previous military commissions system to be shut down, after he challenged his detention and his case went to the U.S. Supreme Court. His arraignment today was under the Military Commissions Act of 2006, which Congress and the president crafted in response to the Supreme Court's ruling.

After the ruling, McMillan and Navy Lt. Cmdr. Charles Swift, Hamdan's assigned defense counsel, called today a good day for the military justice system. "What this demonstrates once again is if you put together

statute in three weeks' time, try and rush it through, and then make a series of decisions that are conclusory, you end up with a process that doesn't work," Swift said. "Hopefully, what you also saw was that military justice and military judges are capable of doing good work."

McMillan said that Allred's ruling conforms to the precedence for military tribunals, and was based on a good reading of the Military Commissions Act. The onus is now on the prosecution to decide whether to appeal and to hold an administrative hearing that correctly classifies Hamdan, he said.

Swift said that Hamdan is relieved that he will have a better chance at a fair hearing, and is patiently waiting for that opportunity. Although Hamdan does not have much formal education, Swift said, he believes in fairness. "That's all he's ever asked for," Swift said.

In response to the ruling in this case and the Khadr case, Army Maj. Beth Kubala, spokeswoman for the Office of Military Commissions, dispelled any conjectures about the future of military commissions.

"Based on today's rulings in the Hamdan and the Khadr arraignments, the public should make no assumptions about the future of (Office of Military Commissions) status or processes," Kubala said. "OMC will continue to operate in a manner that's fair, transparent, open and legitimate. If nothing else, today's rulings highlight that the judges operate independently."

MCA clarifies "lawful" vs. "unlawful"

By Navy Petty Officer 3rd Class Jeff Johnstone

JTF-GTMO Public Affairs Office

The June 4 arraignments of Omar Khadr and Salim Ahmed Hamdan before military judges at Guantanamo Bay (GTMO) saw all charges dismissed after it was determined that the defendants could not be tried unless they had been determined to be "unlawful enemy combatants."

Khadr, is a Canadian-born Muslim accused of killing a U.S. Soldier and wounding another in Afghanistan at the age of 15 in 2002. Hamdan was accused of chauffeuring Osama bin Laden.

Prosecutors argued Khadr was an unlawful enemy combatant who fought for the terrorist group, al Qaeda, which is an unrecognized military group. However, the Hon. Col. Peter Brownback stated that the defendant had already been classified as an "enemy combatant" by a military review board in 2004.

Col. Brownback stated that according to the Military Commissions Act of 2006 (MCA), only those classified strictly as unlawful enemy combatants can stand trial in front of a military tribunal. This Act was signed into law Oct. 17, 2006.

According to Brownback, the MCA makes a clear distinction between lawful and unlawful enemy combatants and which cases can be heard during a military commission. This precedent states that all detainees standing future trials at GTMO must first be classified as unlawful enemy combatants in order to be tried here.

Like Khadr, Hamdan is also classified as an enemy combatant.

"Based on today's rulings in the Khadr and Hamdan arraignments, the public should make no assumptions about the future of the Office of Military Commission's (OMC) status or processes," said Army Maj. Beth Kubala, OMC Judge Advocate Spokesperson. "OMC will continue to operate in a manner that is fair, transparent and legitimate."

In both of Monday's cases, the judges ruled that the new legislation says only "unlawful enemy combatants" can be tried by the commissions. The dismissals of the cases do not spell freedom for Omar Khadr (far left) or Hamdan.



Military commissions at GTMO

By Petty Officer 3rd Class Jeff Johnstone
JTF-GTMO Public Affairs Office

The Department of Defense's (DoD) official definition of military commissions held here at Guantanamo Bay (GTMO) are "trials for war crimes violations by unlawful enemy combatants. Commissions provide a fair, legitimate and transparent process to ensure unlawful enemy combatants suspected of war crimes violations are prosecuted in accordance with the Military Commission Act of 2006 (MCA)."

"Commissions are very similar to court-martial procedures that a Trooper would go through if they were charged with a crime under the Uniform Code of Military Justice (UCMJ)," said Navy Cmdr. Dan Jones, Joint Task Force-GTMO Deputy Staff Judge Advocate.

The DoD revised military commissions procedures via the MCA of 2006, which was signed into law by President George W. Bush on Oct. 17, 2006. The Act was signed as a result of the Supreme Court case Hamdan vs. Rumsfeld. The Supreme Court determined that military commissions set up at that time were in violation of the UCMJ and the four Geneva Conventions.

The stated purpose of the MCA is "to facilitate bringing to justice *unlawful enemy combatants* through full and fair trials by military commissions and for other purposes."

An unlawful enemy combatant is defined as a person denied the privileges of Prisoner of War (POW) designation in accordance with the Geneva Conventions.

A lawful combatant is defined in the MCA as:

A) A member of the regular forces of a State party engaged in hostilities against the United States

B) A member of a militia, volunteer corps, or organized resistance movement

belonging to a State party engaged in such hostilities, which are under responsible command, wear a fixed distinctive sign recognizable at a distance, carry their arms openly and abide by the law of war

C) A member of a regular armed force who professes allegiance to a government engaged in such hostilities, but not recognized by the United States.

The purpose of the MCA, is explained in MCA section 948b and states the "procedures governing the use of military commissions to try alien unlawful enemy combatants engaged in hostilities against the United States for violations of the law of war and other offenses triable by military commission."

The jurisdiction a military tribunal holds is clearly stated in MCA section 948d.

A military commission under this chapter shall have jurisdiction to "try any offense made punishable by this chapter or the law of war when committed by an alien *unlawful enemy combatant* before, on or after September 11, 2001."

The Combatant Status Review Tribunal (CSRT) is a one time process that provides the detainee with the opportunity to have his status reviewed and considered by a neutral decision-making panel composed of three commissioned military officers sworn to execute their duties faithfully and impartially.

Each detainee at GTMO receives a CSRT, which determines whether the detainee is properly designated as an enemy combatant. The detainee can be heard in person and present evidence that

might benefit him. In addition to the CSRT, an Administrative Review Board conducts an annual review to determine the need to continue the detention of the enemy combatant.

Monday's arraignments of Omar Khadr and Salim Ahmed Hamdan resulted in charges being dismissed due to the inability to establish the two had been found to be unlawful enemy combatants.

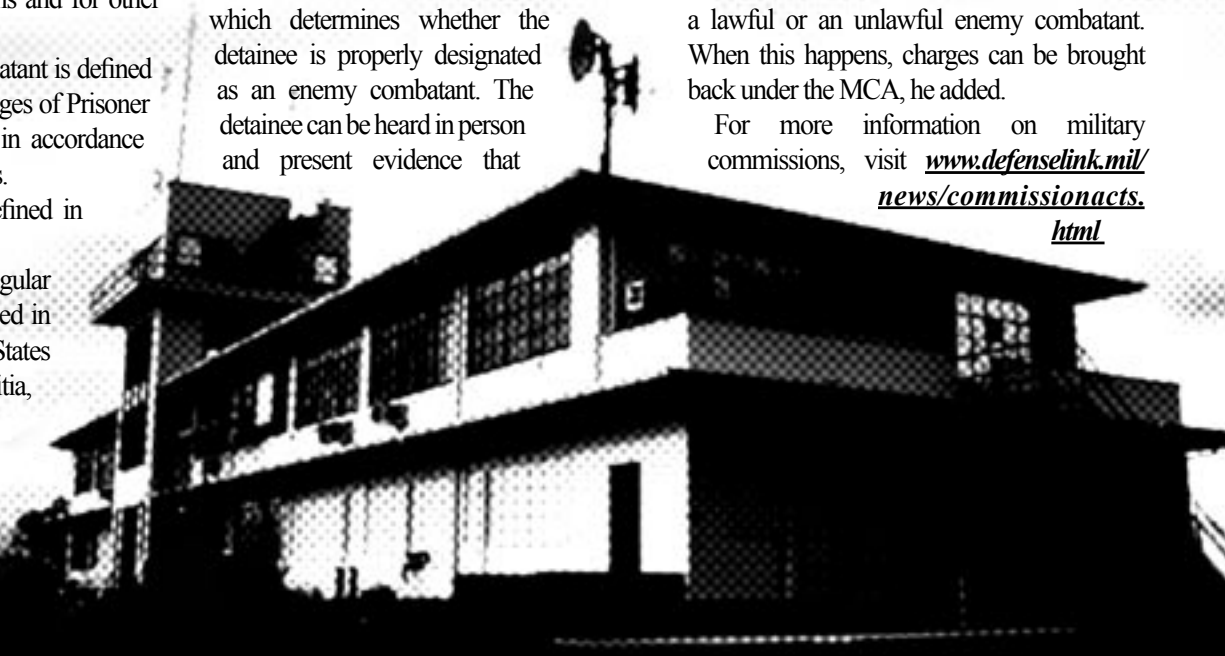
"The judges said (the prosecution) must establish jurisdiction," said Jones. "The government was relying on the CSRT process. The decision the CSRT made was 'Are they (Khadr and Hamdan) enemy combatants or are they not enemy combatants?' It (CSRT) did not determine whether they were lawful or unlawful enemy combatants."

Without that determination, Jones continued, the court could not move forward, so both judges dismissed both cases. They dismissed the cases without prejudice; meaning the charges can be brought back.

CSRTs began in July, 2004, following the Hamdan vs. Rumsfeld Supreme Court ruling. It's important to understand the difference between "lawful" and "unlawful" enemy combatants. Without a CSRT determination that a person is an unlawful enemy combatant, that person cannot be tried by a military commission.

According to Jones, there must be a process to make the determination that a detainee is a lawful or an unlawful enemy combatant. When this happens, charges can be brought back under the MCA, he added.

For more information on military commissions, visit www.defenselink.mil/news/commissionacts.html



King James

By Army Pfc. Daniel Welch

JTF-GTMO Public Affairs Office

Many in the basketball community expected 22 year old LeBron James to immediately take the Cleveland Cavaliers and the National Basketball Association by storm. When your high school basketball games are broadcast on ESPN, and not long after high school you sign a multi-million dollar Nike endorsement deal, who wouldn't?

Opting to skip college after graduating from St. Vincent - St. Mary High School in Akron Ohio, he was taken first overall in the 2003 NBA Draft. Finding himself in an NBA climate eager to find a superstar that could fill the void left by Michael Jordan, James entered the league and made an immediate impact. He received the Rookie of the Year award and reached the NBA All Star Game in two of his first three seasons.

In the 2005-06 season, he became only the third player in NBA history to record 35 or more points in nine consecutive games.

However, LeBron's individual achievements on the court did not factor into his team's achievements, as the Cavaliers failed to make it past the second round in 2005-06. With nicknames like "King James" and the "Chosen One," championship trophies were expected. James did not help matters, once referring to himself as a "global icon" after a game in that season.

In the second round, leading the New Jersey Nets 3-1, consecutive lackluster performances on the part of James led some in the media to criticize his game and ability

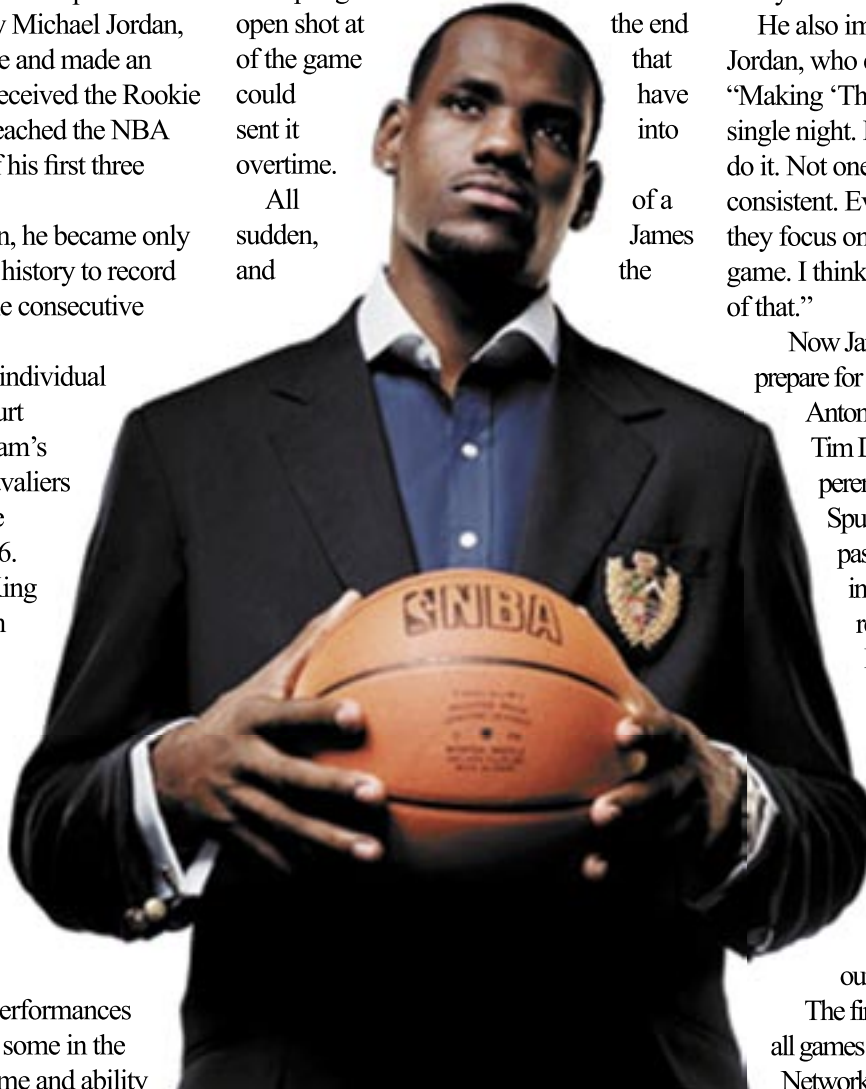
to raise his level of play in the postseason.

In a post-game press conference after a game five loss, James told reporters, "I want to win, but it is not the most important thing in my life."

Some have called him "tentative" about taking shots in big situations; others have criticized him as being an "awful team player" and a "playoff disappointment," as well as "the most uninspiring star in the league."

This last week, after falling behind Detroit in the Eastern Conference Finals by losing the first two games, James was again criticized for his lifeless play scoring a career low ten points in the first game and opting not to take an open shot at the end of the game that could have sent it into overtime.

All sudden, and of a James the



Cavaliers caught fire taking the next four games in a row en route to the franchise's first Eastern Conference Championship and a trip to the NBA finals.

Scoring 32 points with nine assists and nine rebounds in game three, James saved his best performance for game 5, leading the Cavaliers almost single-handedly to a 109-107 victory, scoring 48 points total and the team's final 25 in the victory.

Speaking with the media afterward, James' confidence boiled over. "Why should I be surprised? I was making a lot of great moves,".

The Cavaliers wrapped up the series on Saturday in Cleveland, crushing the Pistons 98-82, bolstered by 20 points and 14 rebounds by James.

After answering some of his harshest critics on the court, James offered this to the media, "This is like a dream; this is probably the best feeling that I've ever had in my life."

He also impressed the iconic Michael Jordan, who explained to reporters that "Making 'The Leap' is what you do every single night. It's expected of you, and you do it. Not one game, not two games. It's consistent. Every defense comes in and they focus on you and you still impact the game. I think he (James) has shown signs of that."

Now James and the Cavaliers must prepare for an even greater task, the San Antonio Spurs. Led by superstars Tim Duncan and Tony Parker, the perennial championship contending Spurs have won three titles in the past eight years and have rolled into this year's finals with a 12-4 record.

If the Spurs worry James, he is not showing it.

"They are a great team, they're very experienced, they've been to the finals before and they know how to handle adversity. We have to just attack, attack, attack. That has to be our mind-set and we give ourselves a chance to win."

The finals began Thursday, June 6 and all games will be shown on Armed Forces Network.

Cardboard Boat Regatta draws crowd of hundre

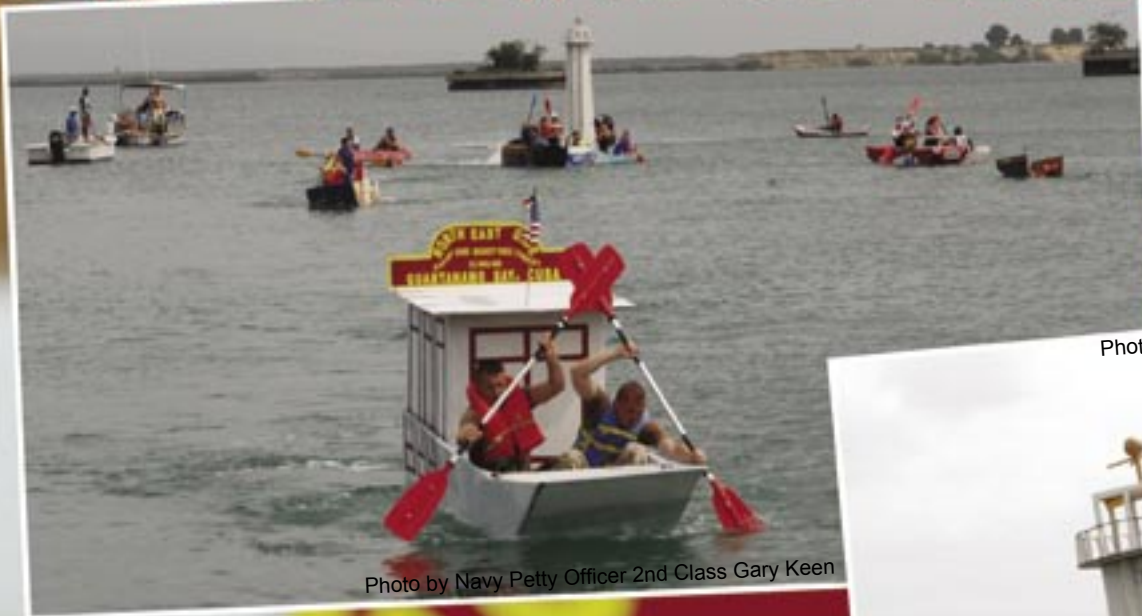


Photo by Navy Petty Officer 2nd Class Gary Keen

Photo by Navy Petty Officer 2nd



Hundreds of Guantanamo Bay residents turned out for the 7th Annual MWR Great Cardboard Boat Regatta held June 2. Members of U.S. Naval Station-Guantanamo and members of Joint Task Force-GTMO spent many hours preparing their mighty seagoing vessels for a daring dash around the Windward Marina.

While some craft disintegrated and now reside in Davey Jones' Locker, the Seabees raced in "The Seabee Dragon" for a *first-place* finish. Chas Crouse captained "The USS Minnow" to *second place*, and the Public Works Department paddled "The Northeast Gate" to *third*. The *Most Creative* award was presented to "The GTMO Lighthouse," *Best Looking* was "Cruising the Bay," *Best Theme* was "The Magic Hat," *Best Name* was "The Flower Girl," and finally *Best Sinking* went to the JTF Engineers and J-6 Section.

a
ds!

d Class Gary Keen



Photo by Army Sgt. Scott Griffin



Photo by Navy Petty Officer 2nd Class Gary Keen



Photo by Army Sgt. Scott Griffin

Photo by Army Sgt. Scott Griffin



Black Widow in GTMO



Former #1 Lady's Billiards Champion Jeanette Lee visited Guantanamo Bay this past week. Lee is widely known as "The Black Widow" for the way she quickly dispatches opponents on the felt. She is currently on an MWR-sponsored tour to meet with Troopers and tell them how much she appreciates their service. Lee held exhibitions around GTMO and also got in a few games against local JTF 'sharks.'

Lee knows a thing or two about overcoming adversity. She was diagnosed at the age of 13 with scoliosis and doctors inserted a steel rod into her back to alleviate the pain, which she still has today. But that doesn't stop her from chalking up and sinking the competition. A few of Lee's accomplishments include winning 17 World Professional Billiard's Association titles, a gold medal at the 2001 World Games, and a 2003 Tournament of Champions title.

Security bulletin: Reportable information

By Frank Perkins

JTF-GTMO Special Security Office

The security of classified information is of the highest importance to our nation's defense. The safeguarding of our secrets ensures protection of missions, operations, and personnel. This process depends upon the continuous evaluation of employees who have been granted access to classified information. To remain qualified for a security clearance, all personnel are required to be continually assessed for standards of conduct, patterns of behavior, affiliations, and allegiance. Individuals who become aware of unfavorable information about another individual are required to report that information to the Command Security Manager or Special Security Office.

Unfavorable or potentially disqualifying information can come to the attention of anyone in the supervisory chain, working or social environment. Once the information surfaces, it is every recipient's responsibility to ensure that it is reported appropriately.

Unfavorable or disqualifying information falls into the following categories:

- a. Allegiance to the United States.
- b. Foreign influence.
- c. Foreign preference.
- d. Sexual behavior.
- e. Personal conduct.
- f. Financial considerations.
- g. Alcohol consumption.
- h. Drug involvement.
- i. Emotional, mental, and personality disorders.
- j. Criminal conduct.
- k. Security violations.
- l. Outside activities.
- m. Misuse of information technology systems.

Supervisors and commanders must ensure their personnel are aware of their responsibility to report unfavorable information, maintain high standards of trustworthiness and loyalty, and avoid any personal behavior that would result in rendering themselves ineligible for a security clearance.

Failure to report unfavorable or disqualifying information can be grounds for loss of security clearance for both the individual and of the person failing to report. The reporting of unfavorable information will not necessarily result in the individual's security clearance being suspended. The information provided will be considered in conjunction with other factors, to include the individual's previous record, recommendations of the supervisor, and mitigating circumstances.

Mission first, security always!

Love and sacrifice: One father's service

**Commentary by
Army Pfc. Daniel Welch**

JTF-GTMO Public Affairs Office

I remember vividly that terrible day on September 11th, 2001, standing on top of the hotel where I worked in New Jersey, watching plumes of smoke billow out of the two towers before they collapsed. Then and there I decided I wanted to do something more with my life than stand by passively and watch others defend this great land from those who wish to reign terror and death upon it.

I enlisted in the Army and served four years before being transferred to the Inactive Ready Reserves. Soon thereafter, two of the most important events in my life happened nearly one month apart. This past November, I received activation orders to deploy in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom and then, one month later, on December 28, 2006 my son was born.

The range and emotions that swirled around my head ranged from tremendous joy knowing I was a dad to terrible anguish knowing that in order to fulfill my obligation to this country, I would have to leave my wife with the responsibility of raising our child for at least the next year.

I knew that many Soldiers ordered to serve again from the IRR weren't honoring their commitments and I knew I could never be one of them. One of the most important things I want my son to know about me is that when my country asked me to serve, I stepped up and refused to



be counted a coward.

As Father's Day approaches and with my son now close to six months old, I find it difficult to be away. I've missed his first smile and his first taste of solid food, times that I can never get back.

However I like to think that I, like so many other fathers here serving in Joint Task Force – Guantanamo, am like the many other fathers who have served before us, fighting in various conflicts throughout history to ensure our nation's safety. These were men who were willing to miss those precious moments with their loved ones in order to take part in critical missions in the defense of our nation.

In some ways it feels like this is the most fatherly thing we can do, to stand in the gap and defend our families and protect our friends.

There will be more moments that I will miss during this deployment here, the first time

he sits up, his first steps and, very likely, his first words. But hopefully he will understand and forgive my absence during this time because of the mission I've been called to perform.

Luckily, thanks to technological advancements, I can stay connected to my family in ways that were inconceivable even 15 years ago. E-mail, video messaging, and cell phones make the burden of this deployment a little easier. I am so thankful that thanks to the Morale, Welfare, and Recreational facilities here, I can even see my son every few days or so.

Sometimes when talking to friends of mine who have children, it is hard for me to mask my jealousy of them. But my jealousy is tempered with the knowledge that the important work that I am doing here, that we all are doing here, is the reason that they and their children are safer in their homes and communities from terrorism.

Reunion Issue #7

By Army Chaplain (Maj.) Daniel Jones

JTF-GTMO Command Chaplain

Practically everyone who has been through the reunion cycle agrees that your sense of timing, and that of your partner, matters a great deal. The most important thing seems to be to save the first day or two for just being home and being together. Questions, problems, and complications can wait – whether they are “your” troubles or those of your partner.

Do set aside your first day home for doing nothing but soaking up the fact that you are home.

Do come right out and tell your partner how wonderful it is to be together again; and if you have children and other friends and family around, tell them too.

Do focus on your partner and family for the first couple of days. Unless you are single, let seeing your friends wait until later.

Don't go through your mail on the first day. It's been waiting quite a while already, so a couple of extra days won't matter.

Don't ask where the money came from for the new curtains, or who put the scratch in the coffee table.

Don't make judgments about any changes you notice in the home, in your partner, or in your children if you have any. Let things settle for a couple of days.

Seek professional and sympathetic support if you are having a difficult time adjusting to your stateside life through your chaplain and family readiness and support programs and staff.

SURVIVING SEPARATION

By Army Chaplain (Maj.) Daniel Jones

JTF-GTMO Command Chaplain

This week's action item is:

Action Item #7 – Think about reorganizing your life.

Plan with your family or loved one what you want to change before you return home. Plan the change instead of being controlled by the change. Simply, work out a way to make the changes you have wanted to achieve during this time of separation. It could be a renovation to your home, buying a new home, moving to a new job, and whatever your imagination can create.

WEEKEND WEATHER FORECAST

Weather forecast provided by www.weather.com

Saturday, June 9

Isolated thunderstorms possible. Highs in the high - 80's, and lows in the high-70's.



Isolated T-storms

Sunrise: 6:20 a.m.
Sunset: 7:39 p.m.
Chance of Rain: 30%

Sunday, June 10

Isolated thunderstorms possible. Highs in the high - 80's, and lows in the high-70's.

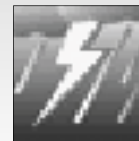


Isolated T-storms

Sunrise: 6:20 a.m.
Sunset: 7:340 p.m.
Chance of Rain: 30%

Monday, June 11

Isolated thunderstorms possible. Highs in the high - 80's, and lows in the high-70's.



Isolated T-storms

Sunrise: 6:20 a.m.
Sunset: 7:40 p.m.
Chance of Rain: 30%

Tuesday, June 12

Scattered thunderstorms possible. Highs in the high - 80's, and lows in the high-70's.



Sunrise: 6:21 a.m.
Sunset: 7:40 p.m.
Chance of Rain: 60%

Scattered T-storms

Wednesday, June 13

Scattered thunderstorms possible. Highs in the high - 80's, and lows in the high-70's.



Sunrise: 6:21 a.m.
Sunset: 7:41 p.m.
Chance of Rain: 60%

Scattered T-storms

Thursday, June 14

Scattered thunderstorms possible. Highs in the high - 80's, and lows in the high-70's.

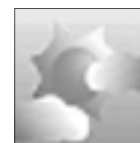


Sunrise: 6:21 a.m.
Sunset: 7:41 p.m.
Chance of Rain: 40%

Scattered T-storms

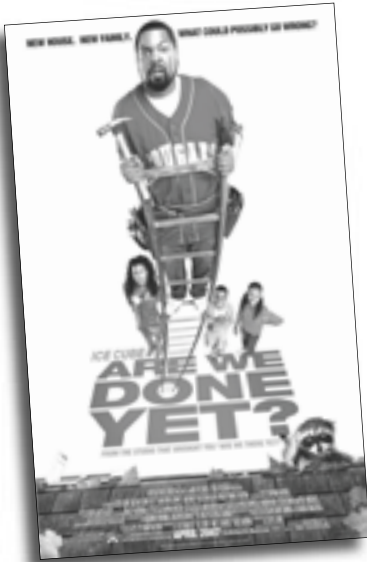
Friday, June 15

Partly cloudy. Highs in the high - 80's, and lows in the high-70's.



Sunrise: 6:21 a.m.
Sunset: 7:41 p.m.
Chance of Rain: 10%

Partly cloudy



MOVIE REVIEW CORNER

By Army Pfc. Daniel Welch

Are we done yet?

Rated: PG-13

Duration: 168 minutes

Rating: ★★★★★

There was a time about 15 years ago when Ice Cube made a transition from musician to actor in “Boys ‘n’ the Hood.” His role as Cuba Gooding Jr.’s brother showed an untapped acting ability. Since then, he has bounced around from various roles, never finding a niche in any particular character type. If “Are We Done Yet” is any indication, Ice Cube may never find it.

Cube again reprises the roll of Nick in this sequel to 2005’s “Are We There Yet?” Nick, and his new wife Suzanne (Nia Long) and her two kids are squashed into Nick’s tiny apartment.

Nick is attempting his hand at writing his own sports magazine after selling his sports memorabilia store. After they find out Suzanne is pregnant with twins, Nick decides it is time for them to pick up and move to the country.

The family is pushed into buying a “fixer-upper” by an unscrupulous realtor, contractor and county inspector extraordinaire, Chuck Matthews, Jr. (John C. McGinley). As a remake of the 1945 Cary Grant film “Mr. Blandings Builds His Dream House,” this version is woeful in its attempt to do anything right; the acting is dreadful and hollow, the characters are mean-spirited and the plot is charmless and dreadful.

Throughout the film, Nick falls off roofs and though ceilings and floors, all the while being scammed by McGinley into dumping more money into the house. Suzanne, it seems, has given up any attempt at parenting, leaving it to all the flabbergasted Nick. She could care less about the current state of the house that they’ve poured their life savings into, and her only concern seems to be why they are not having enough “alone” time together.

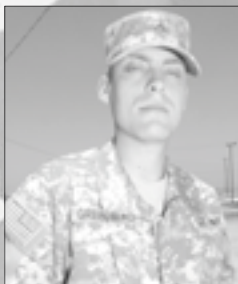
Oddly, when her 13-year-old daughter Lindsay (Aleisha Allen) begins to date a much older guy, it does not dawn on her or any of the characters that this is in anyway inappropriate.

McGinley is the only saving grace of the film, if only mildly, as the unscrupulous realtor who leads Nick into a cavalcade of errors. While his acting shows much of his talent, it does not compare to the overbearing Dr. Cox that he plays on TV’s “Scrubs.”

Not surprisingly throughout the 95 minutes of this film, the only thing I kept wondering was, if I was done yet and could go home. Like a lazy iguana on the road, this movie should be steered clear of and left alone.

Boots on the Ground:

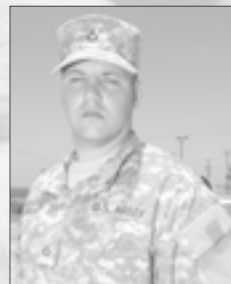
“What is your favorite sports activity?”



“Paintball and Football”
-Pvt. Jason Green



“Running”
-Navy Petty Officer 2nd Class Quinton Harris



“Football and Basketball”
-Army Pfc. Casey South



“Running”
-Navy Petty Officer 3rd Class Semo Ayers

“In and Out”

From the JTF-GTMO Command Chaplain's Office

I have this dog that thinks that we as humans are meant to be her door knob turning tool. She's inside for a good five to seven minutes, sometimes less, and then she wants out again. She is now out and in the same span of time wants back inside. "In and out" seems to be a game that she has beaten us humans at. However, I have finally stood my ground and I will only open the door two times and then she is stuck wherever that moment is for a long period of time or at least until another human comes by.

She isn't the only one who has this problem. I have two sons who have displayed this same strange behavior, though in other ways. One day they just love onions in their food and the next it makes them gag. One day they like red colored clothes and the next the red clothes are nerdy and they wouldn't be caught dead in them. One day Dad is pretty smart and cool and the next he's dumb as a rock and old-fashioned.

In and out is really a norm for us humans in most of our relationships. One day we are deeply in love, the next we feel hateful. One day we like a certain food, yet gradually we lose our taste for it. One day we love being with our children and the next we run and hide and wonder what ever possessed us to want them. We even feel this way with our spouses. One day we have deep feelings of love and tenderness for someone, and then later, after an argument, see only his or her imperfections and annoying habits. We fall in love and out of love. We feel this way in all our relationships, from our parents and friends to our spouses and children. We love them, we hate them, we love them, and then we hate them. It reminds me of when we used the petals on a flower to decide if we loved or hated someone.

The message hopefully you have heard is that this is normal. To feel a radical move from love to hate so swiftly is felt at times in all kind of relationships such as humans, food, clothing and music. It is emotion. It is a feeling that lays mostly at the surface. Feelings come and go... in and out. They cause fears and guilt

when it is quite normal. It's when we react to them the wrong way that others may get hurt.

So, don't get too excited about the ins and outs of life. Most of our feelings change with the wind and the moment. Hang in there and know you are loved and respected by those who count, even if they occasionally think you are clueless.

And another suggestion, take time to go to worship this week according to your own faith. It is our faith that creates the strength we need to control our emotions, to put things in our lives in perspective, to realize that the "people" in our lives are more important than the "things" in our lives.

CAMP AMERICA WORSHIP SCHEDULE

Sunday	9:00 a.m.	Protestant Service	Troopers' Chapel
	5:45 p.m.	Confessions	Troopers' Chapel
	6:30 p.m.	Catholic Mass	Troopers' Chapel
	7:30 p.m.	Evening Prayer	Troopers' Chapel
Wednesday	7:30 p.m.	Soul Survivor	Camp America North Pavilion

NAVAL BASE CHAPEL

Sunday	8:00 a.m.	Pentecostal Gospel	Room 13
	9:00 a.m.	Catholic Mass	Main Chapel
	9:00 a.m.	Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints	Sanctuary A
	9:30 a.m.	Protestant Sun. School	Main Chapel
	10:00 a.m.	Protestant Liturgical	Sanctuary B
	11:00 a.m.	Protestant Service	Main Chapel
	1:00 p.m.	Gospel Service	Main Chapel
Monday	5:00 p.m.	Pentecostal Gospel	Room 13
	7:00 p.m.	Prayer Group Fellowship	Fellowship Hall
	7:00 p.m.	Family Home Evening	Room 8
Mon. to Fri.	6:00 p.m.	Daily Mass	Main Chapel
Wednesday	7:00 p.m.	Men's Bible Study	Fellowship Hall
Friday	12:30 p.m.	Islamic Prayer	Sanctuary C
Saturday	4:15 p.m.	Confessions	Main Chapel
	5:00 p.m.	Vigil Mass	Main Chapel

Jewish Shabbat Services held every second Friday at 7:30 p.m. in the Naval Base Chapel complex Room 11.

15 Minutes of Fame

NAVY MASTER CHIEF MARY C. HOLLAND

By Army Spc. Shanita Simmons

JTF-GTMO Public Affairs Office

“I am the vine, you are the branches. If a man remains in me and I in him, he will bear much fruit; apart from me you can do nothing” – John 15:5 (NIV). This resonated in the mind of one Navy master chief for many years. As president of a recently created non-profit association, she is ready to fulfill what she considers to be her God-ordained destiny.

Navy Master Chief Petty Officer Mary C. Holland, Joint Information Group Noncommissioned Officer in Charge, said that God’s plan for her life was revealed to her at a young age. She added that she always understood the importance of service and working to help others become prosperous. Thus, when she established Vintage Vineyard, Inc., she gave the organization a name that exemplified God’s plan for her life to create a strong vine that would allow others to grow.

“As president and CEO, I will be a liaison with private and commercial businesses to provide employment opportunities for previously incarcerated individuals,” said Holland.

Holland, whose corporation is based in Maryland, said she hopes her organization will help reinvigorate a sense of pride that she believes is lost in many communities. By providing the tools necessary to succeed, Holland hopes to awaken a sense of self-worth and value in those who are less fortunate.

As a national and international

organization, Vintage Vineyard will provide educational and career-building services. Holland said she plans to offer programs to help previously incarcerated individuals transition back into the community. Her organization will also offer training to help individuals obtain a General Equivalency Diploma, and locate employment within their community.

Additionally, Holland said she plans to travel to Africa to help educate people on AIDS prevention. Holland added that many of her organization’s resources will initially be geared towards aiding people in Africa. She learned more about the needs of Africans when she traveled to Nigeria in 2005 with missionaries from her local church.

Holland traveled to Africa as part of a medical mission where she helped administer blood pressure and sugar diabetes tests to nearly 1,000 villagers. She added that the missionaries also distributed multivitamins to senior citizens and children, as well as entertained the villagers by showing movies. During her trip to Africa, Holland said she met children who lacked the clothing necessary to attend school. When Holland returned to the states, she said she knew that her organization would focus on providing school uniforms for poor children.

“The missionary work helped me become more focused on my plans for the organization, and it helped me become more in tune with what was needed,” said Holland. “If the children are naked now, that means they would not have clothing for school. Seeing the children in Africa was an eye-opening experience for me.”

During Holland’s 24-year career in the military, she has worked with programs geared towards improving the education of children. She has volunteered with the Boys and Girls Club of America for several years. She has also worked as a coordinator and volunteer for Partnership in Education, a mentoring program that connects service members with school children.

Holland, who earned a bachelor’s in Management Studies, and a master’s in Interdisciplinary Studies, said she has geared her education toward obtaining the skills necessary to run an organization. She is now ready to use the knowledge gained through her experiences to better the lives of others.

“I’ve been helping people all my life. I came from a background of helping people, and I always knew I would dedicate my life to helping others,” said Holland. “I have always told people to keep your focus and take care of God’s work first, and then the rest will fall into place.”

Photo by Spc. Shanita Simmons

AROUND THE JTF

Photo by Army Sgt. Scott Griffin



Photo by Army Sgt. Scott Griffin

Troopers from the Joint Task Force-Guantanamo (JTF-GTMO) Joint Detention Group pose with Commander, JTF-GTMO Rear Adm. Mark H. Buzby following a promotion ceremony held Friday, June 1, at Camp Delta. Over 100 Troopers were frocked to petty officer 1st class (top left), 2nd class (above) and 3rd class (left).



Navy Petty Officer Second Class Treasure Willis is frocked by Navy Cmdr. Ephraim Post Friday, June 1.



Soldiers from the Puerto Rico Army National Guard show off their catch of land crabs Saturday morning, June 2. The Soldiers spent a good part of their Friday evening at a small inlet on the leeward side of the bay, catching the crabs with their bare hands. While not immediately edible, the land crabs make a tasty meal once they've been fed a diet of selected fruits.