

THE WIRE

**Joint Task Force
Guantanamo's
Finest News Source**

A News Magazine

HONOR BOUND TO DEFEND FREEDOM



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with Navy Lt. Jonathan McComb

Influencing positive behavior

By Navy Command Master Chief
Petty Officer Ira Wenze

JTF-GTMO Joint Medical Group

My article for this month comes compliments of the USS GEORGE WASHINGTON (CVN 73). Influencing your personnel in a positive way is the hallmark of great leadership. There is nothing more important than your personnel. Please ask yourself this question, "Do your personnel follow you because they want to or because they have to?" Although some of the ways to influence positive behavior below are stated in Navy lingo, they still apply across all the services.

Standards and Tone

- Recite the Sailor's Creed daily to reinforce Navy Core Values
- Enforce military courtesies and traditions
- Always lead by example
- Enforcement of the Navy-wide physical readiness test policy to include mandatory FEP
- Promote "ownership" in your Command
- Encourage teamwork to maintain high standards
- Conduct daily Quarters/Formations for instruction and inspection
- Ensure compliance with regulations, instructions and procedures
- Instill values through active religious and education programs

Intrusive Leadership

- Develop an effective Mentorship Program that imbues mentorship at all levels of the Command
- Conduct effective routine counseling to provide positive and negative feedback
- Promote the use of individual liberty planning
- Use a risk factor screen sheet for long-distance travel and establish maximum ranges on liberty
- Promote effective two-way communication
- Ensure personnel have individual personal and professional goals
- Conduct regular Career Development Boards to offer career guidance and assess professional growth
- Conduct medical screenings



(questionnaire) for alcohol abuse and domestic violence

- Know your people

Good Order and Discipline

- Actively investigate all allegations of wrong-doing and quickly adjudicate at appropriate level
- Ensure punishment is timely, fair, impartial, consistent and of sufficient magnitude
- Effectively utilize Disciplinary Review Boards chaired by the CPO Mess
- Correct performance and behavior deficiencies on the spot
- Actively utilize Extra Military Instruction (EMI) to correct performance deficiencies
- Publish the results of disciplinary proceedings to educate the crew on the consequences
- Aggressively test for drug use and ban the use of the drug cleansing agents

Education to Influence Behavior

- Mandatory attendance at General Military Training, to include Navy Core Values, ethics, suicide awareness, STDs, domestic violence
- Have those guilty of DUI brief their peer group
- Mandatory "ADAMS for Leaders"
- Conduct dedicated leadership training in the Wardroom and CPO Mess
- Create a robust healthy lifestyles program
- In-rate training to enhance professional growth ■

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Director of Public Affairs:

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Serving our Nation in 2007

By Navy Rear Adm. Harry B. Harris, Jr.

JTF-GTMO Commander

The New Year gives each of us a chance to reflect on what we have accomplished and envision what we resolve to achieve. I will remember 2006 as the year I was given the privilege to lead Joint Task Force Guantanamo and to serve alongside the finest Airmen, Coastguardsmen, Marines, Sailors, Soldiers and Civilians I have encountered in my career. It has been an incredible nine months.

In 2006, the Troopers at Guantanamo performed magnificently during complex operations and major evolutions. Detention and intelligence operations, military commissions and detainee movements required the coordination of hundreds of people and were carried out with precision. A major new facility, Camp 6, was brought into service, improving the living conditions for the detainees and working conditions for our guard force. Your teamwork made these and countless other evolutions look easy.



Serving in Guantanamo is not easy. The work is challenging. The family separation is stressful and you do it in the spotlight of the world media. You have sent a message that the young American men and women, military and civilian, are doing a difficult and dangerous job here, and are doing so with honor and integrity.

I ask each of you to renew your commitment to our mission and our guiding principles in 2007. Good ideas know no rank, and your leaders will continue to create an environment where good ideas can be quickly realized. My dedication and responsibility to all of you is absolute and my resolve is to continue to improve quality of service for each of you in the year ahead.

Honor Bound! ■

Artists celebrate New Year with Troopers

By Army Spc. Phil Regina

JTF-GTMO Public Affairs Office

Joint Task Force Troopers and Naval Station Guantanamo personnel rang in the New Year with a slew of various musical acts leading the celebration.

Shanna Crooks, Sean Paul and Mary White wowed crowds at the Goat Locker and Cooper Field. Various events were set up at different places around the base to ensure that every Trooper had something to do for New Year's Eve.

White led the festivities at The Goat Locker, singing some old favorites to help ring in 2007. Champagne, confetti and finger foods were served to the eager attendees.

While the party at The Goat Locker raged on, Troopers at Cooper Field were treated with

performances from singer Shanna Crooks and rapper Sean Paul.

This was Crooks' second time visiting Guantanamo Bay and she was wholeheartedly happy to be here to help Troopers celebrate the New Year.

"I liked this place so much the first time I just had to come back," said Crooks in between songs.

Rapper Sean Paul took the stage immediately following an encore performance by Crooks. He hyped up the crowd as the countdown to the New Year rolled on.

"It's the New Year and there's no place I'd rather be than here with you Troops," exclaimed Paul as the clock struck midnight.

Elation abounded as hugs, high fives and toasts were shared amongst the many Troopers at both events as 2007 became reality. ■



Country and western artist Mary White lifts her hands in the air at the stroke of midnight, ringing in the new year. White performed at the Goat Locker for Troopers on New Year's Eve.

Legal assistance for JTF Troopers

By Army Spc. Phil Regina

JTF-GTMO Public Affairs Office

Although Troopers at Guantanamo Bay may be far removed from the hustle and bustle of the states, they are no less prone to legal concerns.

No matter how trivial or serious your legal concerns may be, the Joint Task Force Legal Assistance Office offers a means to help solve them.

Legal Assistance offers notary public services, document certification, help with the Servicemember's Civil Relief Act, family law issues, bill of sale, consumer finance issues, federal income tax filing, adoption and advice on the naturalization process.

"Our door is always open for Troopers in need of legal assistance. No matter how seemingly small or large the problem may be, we're happy to help out the Troopers," said Army Maj. Kevin F. Phillips, the Legal Assistance Office officer-in-charge.

With tax time coming up, Phillips was quick to point

out that they can help.

"Filing your federal income taxes can be pretty tedious thing and we're happy to help out the Troopers with the process," added Phillips.

Many Troopers deployed here have civilian jobs waiting for them back home. Sometimes returning to this job can prove problematic. The legal assistance office offers some help with this problem.

"Troopers returning to civilian jobs from deployment are entitled to have that job back when they come home. The whole process is outlined in the Servicemember's Civil Relief Act and I know it through and through. So if any Trooper has a problem, I'm happy to help out," said Phillips.

The Legal Assistance Office is located inside building 6208A, behind Trooper's Chapel in Camp America and it is open

Monday through Friday, 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

If you have any legal issues contact Staff Sgt. Carlos Cherry at ext. 3561 to schedule an appointment. ■



Security bulletin: Protection of classified information

By Frank Perkins

JTF-GTMO Special Security Office

It's that time of year: colorful lights, tantalizing scents, good food, beverage, music and friends! Holding parties which last well into the night is one of the most popular of all traditions of the New Year. It is traditional to greet the New Year at midnight and celebrate the first minutes of the year in the company of friends and family. To bring in the New Year the song, "Auld Lang Syne," playing in the background, is sung at the stroke of midnight in almost every English-speaking country in the world. It is often remarked that

"Auld Lang Syne" is one of the most popular songs that nobody knows the lyrics to. "Auld Lang Syne" literally translates as "old long since" and means "times gone by." The song asks whether old friends and times will be forgotten and promises to remember people of the past with fondness, "For auld lang syne, we'll take a cup o' kindness yet."

Other traditions of the season include the making of New Year's resolutions, which many of you may be thinking about now. These are a list of decisions about how you will strive to live in the coming year. Some are related to health and fitness or family and relationships; some

as simple as cleaning out the closets or your work desk. Your friendly JTF Security Team wants to remind everyone of their responsibilities relating to the privilege of safeguarding sensitive and classified information, and asks that you resolve to meet your obligations in support of this privilege.

We encourage you to adopt security awareness in your resolutions for the New Year.

As we continue to protect our nation's assets, please remember that security never takes a holiday. As you welcome the 2007 New Year, raise a toast to "Mission First- Security Always!" ■

Network News

The DoD Computer System Logon Banner

By Air Force 1st Lt. Jim Northamer

JTF-GTMO Information Assurance Officer

Prior to using a DoD computer system, every user must undergo individual Information Assurance training, sign a User Agreement, and even physically acknowledge a warning banner every time they log on to the system. It's important that computer users understand and adhere to the rules governing DoD computer systems. In this article, I'll discuss what the logon banner states and what your acknowledgment means.

Every time you log on to any DoD computer system, you'll see the DoD Logon Banner that explains the terms and conditions for accessing the system. You can't access the system unless you click "Accept" and "OK" or a similar acknowledgement. Knowing that they cannot access the system without clicking on the appropriate button, most people simply click away without paying attention to what this banner says. While clicking the correct button is the only way to get you onto the system, it's important to understand what clicking on the button means.

You're acknowledging that the computer system and all its parts (including Internet access) are DoD-owned and are to be used only for authorized, official U.S. Government use. If you are going to use this system, you are acknowledging that you will only use it for official business.

You're also providing your consent to being monitored while using the computer system. This is a very important part of the logon banner's statement. Quite simply, everything that happens on a government computer system is actively monitored. Really. For the most part, this monitoring is to ensure our computer systems are secure. However, monitoring also includes ensuring the system is used for lawful (authorized and official) purposes.

Information on user activities is collected, stored, and analyzed to ensure the compliance with DoD policies. In short, if you're doing something on a government computer system, somebody knows about it. And if you're doing something that you should not be doing, the DoD Logon Banner reminds you that this collected information can be used for administrative, criminal or adverse action. Like everything else, unscrupulous users may get away with unauthorized activities in the short term, but in the long term, these unauthorized activities will catch the eye of one of us checking system logs.

Next time you log onto the government computer system, think about what clicking that "OK" button means. For the vast majority of people that use government resources appropriately, it's simply one more click on the mouse button prior to getting to your work. For those who wish to press their luck, the logon banner is one final warning that these computer systems are actively monitored and your actions are being logged, tracked, and scrutinized.

If you have any questions or concerns about a computer security issue, please feel free to contact the JTF-GTMO IA Office at j6-ia@jftgtmo.southcom.mil or ext. 3333. ■

JTF wireless policy amended

**By Navy Petty Officer 2nd Class
Steve Watterworth**

JTF-GTMO Public Affairs Office

A new memorandum has been issued concerning the banning of wireless communication devices in and around the Joint Task Force. This is an update to the previous ruling that allowed these devices to be turned off and stored in spaces where sensitive material is stored.

This applies to everyone working in, or visiting JTF-GTMO operating spaces. The policy states, "wireless devices are prohibited from spaces and facilities where unclassified but sensitive and classified information is processed."

Violations of this policy will be reported to the JTF Security Manager and are punishable under the Uniform Code of Military Justice (UCMJ) and by civil proceedings for non-military and visitors.

"Incidents involving visitors, not under JTF-GTMO jurisdiction, shall be forwarded to their home station."

Those who work in Camp America, for example, need to keep this in mind prior to entering the area. Cell phones, personal digital assistance (PDA), Blackberrys, two-way pagers, audio/video recorders, items with photographic and digital storage capabilities, and laptops with wireless capabilities enabled are not allowed in those

spaces. Unless you have written permission from J2, you cannot use these devices.

Medical devices such as hearing aids, pacemakers and other implants are approved.

The only exceptions to the policy are JTF-GTMO essential services such as emergency, security forces for synchronization and configuration purposes. The Public Affairs Officer (PAO) is also an exception to this ruling. Everyone at JTF-GTMO is responsible for enforcing this policy. If a wireless device is found, in one of these facilities without the written approval of J2, you must direct that individual to turn the device off and remove it from the space. ■

The road to the Superbowl

By Army Sgt. Maj. Oscar Diaz

JTF-GTMO Public Affairs Office

“And then there were twelve.” The NFL playoffs are here, where you win and move on, or lose and your season is done.

If you read the September 8, 2006 issue of *The Wire*, you would know that six of the twelve teams I predicted to be in the playoffs are, in fact, there. The Cincinnati Bengals, the Denver Broncos and the Carolina Panthers also had opportunities to clinch a playoff spot on the last day of the season with a win, but failed. What was I thinking when I selected the Cardinals, Lions and Dolphins to win it all? Nick Saban must have known all along that he was going to “Bama.” Must have been the Sports Illustrated jinx; that’s what it was. Gotta blame somebody. Anyway, six out of twelve is 50%, which isn’t bad, so let’s get rolling with the twelve who are in.

In the AFC, the stronger of the two conferences, the San Diego Chargers have the top seed followed by the Baltimore Ravens, the Indianapolis Colts, the New England Patriots, the N.Y. Jets and the Kansas City Chiefs.

In the NFC, the weaker conference, the top seeds are the Chicago Bears followed by the New Orleans Saints, the Philadelphia Eagles, the Seattle Seahawks, the Dallas Cowboys, and the N.Y. Giants.

The Chargers, Ravens, Bears, and Saints all got a first round bye and home field advantage, as they await the winners of this weekend’s wild card games in their respective conferences.

This weekend starts off with the Chiefs visiting the Colts where Indianapolis has a perfect 8-0 record at home. The Colts have a weak run defense and Chiefs running back Larry Johnson will run circles against the Colt defense. The Colts’ Peyton Manning will have to light up the scoreboard and hope the defense can give him the ball enough to pull off this win. The Colts will win this game.

The Dallas Cowboys travel to face-off against the Seattle Seahawks. Both teams have struggled in their last four games, but I give the edge to the Seahawks at home.



Photo by Peter Read Miller / Sports Illustrated

Cowboys quarterback Tony Romo will watch the Super Bowl with his American Idol girlfriend, Carrie Underwood, at home. As an added bonus, the Cowboys will say good-bye and good-riddance to team/league “nuisance-extraordinaire” wide-receiver Terrell Owens.

The Jets travel right up the road to New England in the rubber-match of the season. They both won at each other’s home field this year and now square off in the playoffs. The Jets Cinderella story comes to an end. Bill Belichick will find a way to win.

My beloved Giants go to Philadelphia hobbling with injuries. The Eagles are on a hot streak and Jeff Garcia has them playing like a team that deserves to be here; another rubber-match here as they split the regular season games winning in each other’s back yards. My heart says the Giants win, but with so many injuries on both the offensive and defensive sides of the line for the Giants, I have to go with the Eagles.

Let’s move on to the Divisional, Conference and Super Bowl Winners. Next week the Patriots will fly to San Diego and play the NFL’s most well rounded team. The

Chargers will handle the Patriots easily in this one.

The Colts go to Baltimore and play against a well-rested and almost injury-free Ravens defense, who will man-handle the Colts in a lop-sided affair. Peyton Manning

is not ready to win the big one yet.

In the NFC, the Seahawks go to Chicago and give them a run for their money. Chicago will beat the Seahawks in a close game.

The Eagles fly to New Orleans and their hot streak will come to an end as they face a well-rested Reggie Bush and the boisterous New Orleans fans. In the Conference Championship, the winning continues for the Saints when they travel to Chicago and the “Gross-Mans” interceptions and lingering offense finally catches up with him. Bears were fortunate to have home-field against the Seahawks, but it won’t matter against the Saints.

A rematch of week four, when Baltimore went into San Diego and beat them 16-13, is the premier game of all the playoffs. This game is the Super Bowl as this year the AFC dominated the NFC in the regular season. The Chargers have a great defense and more offense than the Ravens and will revenge the week four loss to move on to play the Saints in the Super Bowl.

Defense usually wins Super Bowls and this year won’t be any different. Both the Saints and the Chargers have strong defenses, but the Chargers are by far the better team. The Chargers also have a potent offense, namely LaDainian Tomlinson and will score plenty in the splendid weather of Miami. Super Bowl Champions – San Diego Chargers, 38- 17. ■

Higher percentage of servicemembers donating blood

By **Gerry J. Gilmore**

American Forces Press Service

It's a little-known fact that about 20 percent of Servicemembers donate blood, compared to less than 5 percent of the civilian populace, the director of the U.S. military's blood program said here today.

This year, the Armed Services Blood Program will collect about 160,000 units or pints of blood products, Navy Cmdr. Michael C. Libby said during a Pentagon Channel interview.

"That's 20 percent more than last year, and that's twice as much as we did in 2001," Libby said. That's possible, he said, because of the great generosity of the program's donors.

National Volunteer Blood Donor Month is in January. That is the traditional time, Libby said, when the ASBP salutes its donors for their

generosity.

"It is because of them that the program is very successful and we can support our warfighters," Libby said.

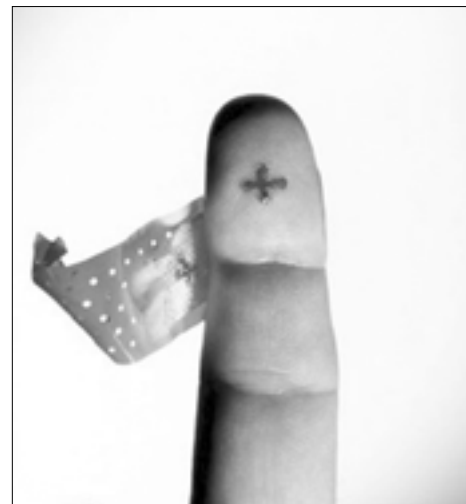
The ASBP collects blood only from Servicemembers, government civilians, retirees and their family members. The U.S. military needs blood every day for critically injured troops, cancer patients, premature infants and other uses, Libby said.

The program manages 18 state-side blood donor centers, he said, and four overseas centers. Donors normally give about a pint of blood at a sitting.

Most people who are eligible to donate provide blood to the program, Libby said. Only a small percentage may be restricted from doing so because of their travel to certain countries or the taking of certain medications.

Specific information on these conditions may be found on the program's Web site, www.military-blood.dod.mil.

Blood is always needed, Libby said, noting blood products normally must be replenished about 42 days after being collected. Frozen blood, on the other hand, can be stored for years. ■



“No” means no...

By **Army Spc. Jonathan Mullis**

JTF-GTMO Public Affairs Office

Saying “no” and understanding that “no” does, in fact, mean “no” is an extremely important realization for anyone in or outside of the military. Fortunately, there is an abundance of help and counseling offered to victims as well as perpetrators of sexual assault. However, while the information is readily available, there are still many misconceptions in reference to sexual assault.

One of the most common is the concept that the majority of sexual assault cases take place down a dark alley in the middle of the night. While Hollywood is likely to blame for this misconception, the truth of the matter is that most cases occur between people who know and are familiar with one another, said James Mandley, Guantanamo Bay Sexual Assault Response Coordinator.

The stage for sexual assault is often set in a social environment over drinks and a “good-time.” While it's rarely the victims fault, sexual assault is almost always preventable, explained Mandley. “People should be allowed to have a good time, however, in so doing they should be aware of their environment and their limitations,” said Mandley. By partying and drinking too

much, victims often give the perpetrator the means by which to commit the offense. “Everybody is a potential victim and everyone needs to be aware,” said Mandley.

Though remaining cognizant of one's surroundings is important, it is also crucial to be aware of what steps to take after the fact. There are generally two avenues of approach that a victim has available to them once an offense has been committed. The first is to contact a chaplain, a Sexual Assault Advocate or the I-CARE-LINE. All of which will initiate a “restricted report” but not an official investigation.

Sometimes it can be very tough for a person to talk about something so personal to anyone outside of their own circle of friends. Therein lies a problem, because once a friend has been informed, he is required to report the incident to his chain-of-command, which in turn initiates an “unrestricted report” and will lead to an investigation.

The most important thing for victims to understand is that they are not alone. There is a system set in place that offers support and guidance to them if they choose to use it.

“Most people live under the delusion that this can't happen to them, but it can. And when out with friends everyone needs to remain active and vigilant to protect themselves as well as safeguarding their friends,” said Mandley. ■

NEW YEAR'S EVE



Photo by Army Spc. Phil Regina



Photo by Army Spc. Phil Regina



Photo by A



Photo by Army Spc. Phil Regina



Photo by Army Spc. Phil Regina

E CELEBRATIONS



Army Spc. Dustin Robbins



Photo by Navy Chief Petty Officer Timm Duckworth



Photo by Army Spc. Dustin Robbins



Photo by Army Spc. Phil Regina



Photo by Army Spc. Phil Regina

The importance of relaxation and restoration

By Navy Petty Officer 2nd Class
Tanniesha L. Watts

JTF-GTMO JSMART

Webster's dictionary defines restoration as: "returning something to a better state, the state of being restored; recovery of health, strength." Our day-to-day life can take a toll on our mind, body and soul. We tend to just take these stressors as parts of our job, daily routine and ultimately life, but do you ever set aside time to restore yourself?

Often we forget that we are not robots. Our bodies need breaks. Many of us use our off-duty time to drink and go to clubs. Restoring oneself should not involve drinking three 6-packs of beer, smoking a pack of cigarettes a day or staying out until

2:00 AM during the work week.

Drinking ten red bulls, because you were out late the night before, and hoping they will keep you awake, is not the way to go. Dealing with your stressors with anger or self-medicating with alcohol is also a big no-no. Looking for deployment romance is not the best way to use your off time. These things can put you and others in situations that may affect your career, family life or finances negatively.

Not knowing how to cope with a stressful environment can also be a big down fall. When you find yourself in a stressful situation, step away and take a breather. Know your limitations and find ways to deal with your stressors.

For starters, taking care of yourself involves getting adequate rest (about

6-8 hours) and eating a balanced diet. Drinking water is another key to both surviving the GTMO heat and to taking care of your body. Exercising can be a great way to restore and build your body, as well as relieve stress.

Other restorative activities include relaxing when you have time off or doing activities that can be therapeutic such as snorkeling or diving, taking time out to read a good book or listening to musical artists such as Sade or Yanne.

It's important to take some "me time" because you are important to the completion of the mission and you need to restore yourself so that you can be effective to your team. Remember you are ultimately responsible for your own health and restoration. ■

Pay raise is just enough to match price increases

By Rick Maze

Army Times Staff writer

The 2.2 percent pay raise that will appear in military paychecks in January will be just enough to keep up with consumer price increases.

The U.S. Labor Department announced Friday that the Consumer Price Index, a measure of the cost of goods and services, jumped by 2 percent between November 2005 and November 2006.

The biggest price jump, 3.7 percent for the previous 12 months, has been in health care expenses, something that does not directly affect many military families because the government provides a service member's health care for free and greatly subsidizes the cost for immediate family members.

Housing costs have increased by 3 percent and food costs have increased 2.3 percent over the last year, but some consumer expenses have dropped. Energy costs are down 3.7 percent, which is part of the reason for a 1 percent drop in transportation costs.

Military pay increases, however, are not designed to keep

pace with consumer prices or inflation. Instead, the pay formula in federal law bases military pay on increases in private-sector salaries

so that pay levels remain competitive with civilian wage, which may or may not be keeping pace with consumer prices. The 2.2 percent raise, which applies to all basic pay and drill pay for all ranks, equals private-sector wage growth in 2005.

The two-year lag between the private-sector and military raises is primarily the result of the lengthy federal budget process. The Jan. 1, 2007, raise was included in the defense budget submitted to Congress in February 2006, and was calculated using the private-sector pay increase for the previous year. While the Bush administration is still putting together the 2008 budget it will submit to Congress in January, the pay formula calls for a 3 percent raise.

The Jan. 1 increases, which will first appear in mid-January checks, will be followed by some targeted pay increases April 1 that will apply to midgrade enlisted members, warrant officers, and some senior officers, warrant officers and enlisted members with 30 or more years of service. ■





WEEKEND WEATHER FORECAST

Weather forecast provided by www.weather.com

Saturday, Jan. 6

Partly Cloudy. Highs in the upper 80's, and lows in the upper 60's.



Partly Cloudy

Sunrise: 6:37 a.m.
Sunset: 5:36 p.m.

Chance of Rain: 20%

Sunday, Jan. 7

Windy. Highs in the upper 80's, and lows in the upper 60's.



Windy

Sunrise: 6:37 a.m.
Sunset: 5:36 p.m.

Chance of Rain: 20%

Monday, Jan. 8

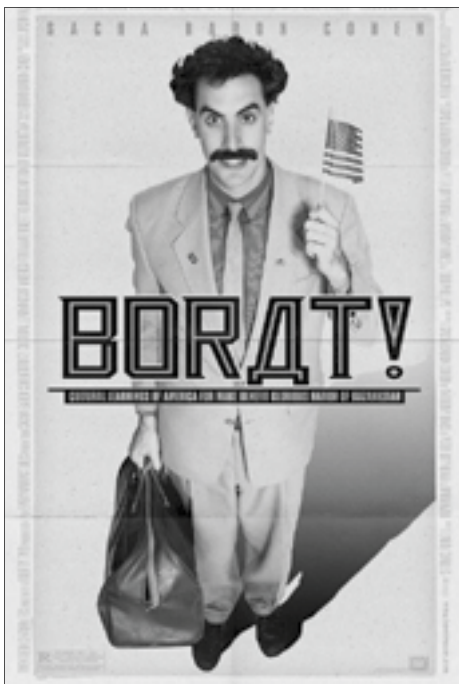
Partly cloudy. Highs in the upper 80's, and lows in the upper 60's.



Partly Cloudy

Sunrise: 6:37 a.m.
Sunset: 5:37 p.m.

Chance of Rain: 20%



GTMO Movie Review Corner

with Army Staff Sgt. Vince Oliver review of: "Borat"

The much anticipated "Borat: Cultural Learnings of America for Make Benefit Glorious Nation of Kazakhstan" played to a packed Lyceum Theatre last Saturday night. Kazakhstani television journalist Borat Sagdiyev, an affable and utterly shameless character played by comedian Sacha Baron Cohen, delivered a completely believable and nutty performance.

In the film, Borat embarks on a trip to the United States to learn, first-hand, the ins-and-outs of American culture. Initially his journey takes him to New York City; however a chance viewing of the now syndicated television show "Baywatch" introduces him to pop culture phenom Pamela Anderson, to whom he becomes obsessively smitten.

Chaos ensues as he redirects his travel plans and heads towards Hollywood to meet and propose marriage to Anderson. Anderson makes a cameo appearance in the film and plays along as if she has no idea what is happening.

Cohen's no-holds-barred, and not to mention irreverent, style leads him through many different chance encounters with people who think he is filming a legitimate news documentary. About half-way through this film, Borat's antics started to seem a bit too juvenile.

All-in-all, I gave the film three stars. At least one of those stars was due to me being a fan of Sacha Baron Cohen's HBO comedy show, "The Ali G show." ■

- Borat -
Rating: ★★☆☆☆

Rated: R
Duration: 84 minutes

Boots on the Ground:

"What is your New Year's resolution?"



"This year I want to quit smoking"
 -Army Spc. Christopher Penvose



"I want to graduate from Ranger School."
 -Army Spc. David M. Kittle



"This year I want to spend more time with my family"
 -Army Spc. Corey Bacon



"My New Year's Resolution is to grow closer to Christ"
 -Navy Petty Officer 3rd Class Katherine McKnight

Too soon ...

By Army Chaplain (Lt. Col.) Ron Martin-Minnich

JTF-GTMO Command Chaplain

Too soon the elementary years ran by. The fireworks on a July 4th, before and after. Ant hills to tease with sticks. A strange hole in the tree where anything could be hiding. A tree limb to be climbed. A stick found that turned into a pirate's sword. Looking at clouds and seeing much more. Wondering what God looks like.

Too soon the teen years struggled by. Boys discover girls and the race is on. Friends hanging out on a street corner. Playing sports and discovering a family called "team." Trying to see something good in the mirror. Discovering how dumb parents are. Wondering why God is so cruel and distant.

"Too soon the elementary years ran by ... Don't let opportunities for time with your faith, family and friends pass you by in 2007."

Too soon the roaring twenties whirl by. Working through the maze of vocation and goals. Climbing the mountain called professional education. Boy discovers a girl after the girl helps the boy. Tedious and patient beginnings of a real job with real money for real responsibilities. Ready to change the world. Finding that God is sometimes important.

Too soon the fruitful thirties walk by. Children scampering and glassware is kept up high. More time on the weekend spent at the park pushing and the ball field watching. A mortgage called "home." The sports car is replaced with the van. Balancing work and family which demand everything. Finding that reading children stories to a wide-eyed child is the best time of your life. Finding that God is a source you can depend on and one you want to rediscover.

Too soon the rich forties walk by. Graduations are a culmination of sacrifice. The van is replaced with the sports car. You become a dumb parent but slowly get smarter. Car insurance for teenagers is a shock. The battle of the tummy is in ever conflict. You are now a manager at work but still a common laborer at home.

God is often spoken to and even better, listened to. And now, the feisty fifties are upon me as



they struggle by. I'm finding out so far that: Life is shorter than it has ever been. I wish I could go back and make times better. Memories are a powerful tool. Life in its richest part is only beginning. Family is more important than anything on this earth. God is now a friend, companion, master, and reason. I can't wait for more.

Don't let opportunities for time with your faith, family and friends pass you by in 2007. Each moment is precious and every experience is priceless. You will never regret taking time to show love and give love, but you will always feel a sense of loss when you don't. ■

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
Monday	1:00 p.m.	Gospel Service	Main Chapel
	5:00 p.m.	Pentecostal Gospel	Room 13
	7:00 p.m.	Prayer Group Fellowship	Fellowship Hall
Mon. to Fri.	7:00 p.m.	Family Home Evening	Room 8
	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.

15:00 Minutes of Fame

NAVY LT. JONATHAN MCCOMB

By Navy Petty Officer 2nd Class Trevor Andersen

JTF-GTMO Public Affairs Office

Our story this week begins with a Sailor with 30 pounds to spare. After a tour on a ship and shore duty in Rota Spain where “life is good” it’s easy to put on a few pounds. So it may surprise you to know he ran the Jacksonville marathon last month in three hours, three minutes and three seconds coming in third in his age group, but let’s not get ahead of ourselves.

Navy Lt. Jonathan McComb, the Navy Expeditionary Guard Battalion acting executive officer, has come a long way from the days where physical training was pushed to the wayside. But it was a process that took time and discipline. The result was the awakening of his love for endurance sports.

“I was on my ship when my boss said ‘there’s a calisthenics class up on deck that the SEALs run,’ so I took the hint and joined,” said McComb. “A year and a half later, I was running it.”

About this time, McComb realized something. “I really enjoyed being in shape.” He said a friend wanted to train for a marathon so he agreed to train with him.

“By the time the marathon came, I passed him by a half hour and I said ‘I can do better.’ He said, ‘never again,’” McComb said with a laugh.

The Jacksonville marathon was his 25th marathon. “It was a natural progression,” he said, describing his addiction. “I had a blast with it, so I kept going.”

McComb doesn’t limit himself to marathons; he has also raced in Ironman triathlons, and was even the first to finish in last year’s ‘Across the bay swim.’

“I think it’s the mental release,” explained McComb. “It feels great to let it all out and you get a feeling of accomplishment when you’ve finished.”

And so, on Dec. 17, 2006 McComb raced in 100 percent humidity against the clock and a sea of runners to put himself to the test.

“I actually didn’t finish as quickly as I’d trained to, but I qualified for the Boston marathon,” he said triumphantly. “It’s one of the oldest running marathons. I’ve run it four times. It’s just amazing.”

Every year the elite race begins at noon. About the time the runners begin to reach the finish line, the Red Sox game ends and the fans, already pumped up

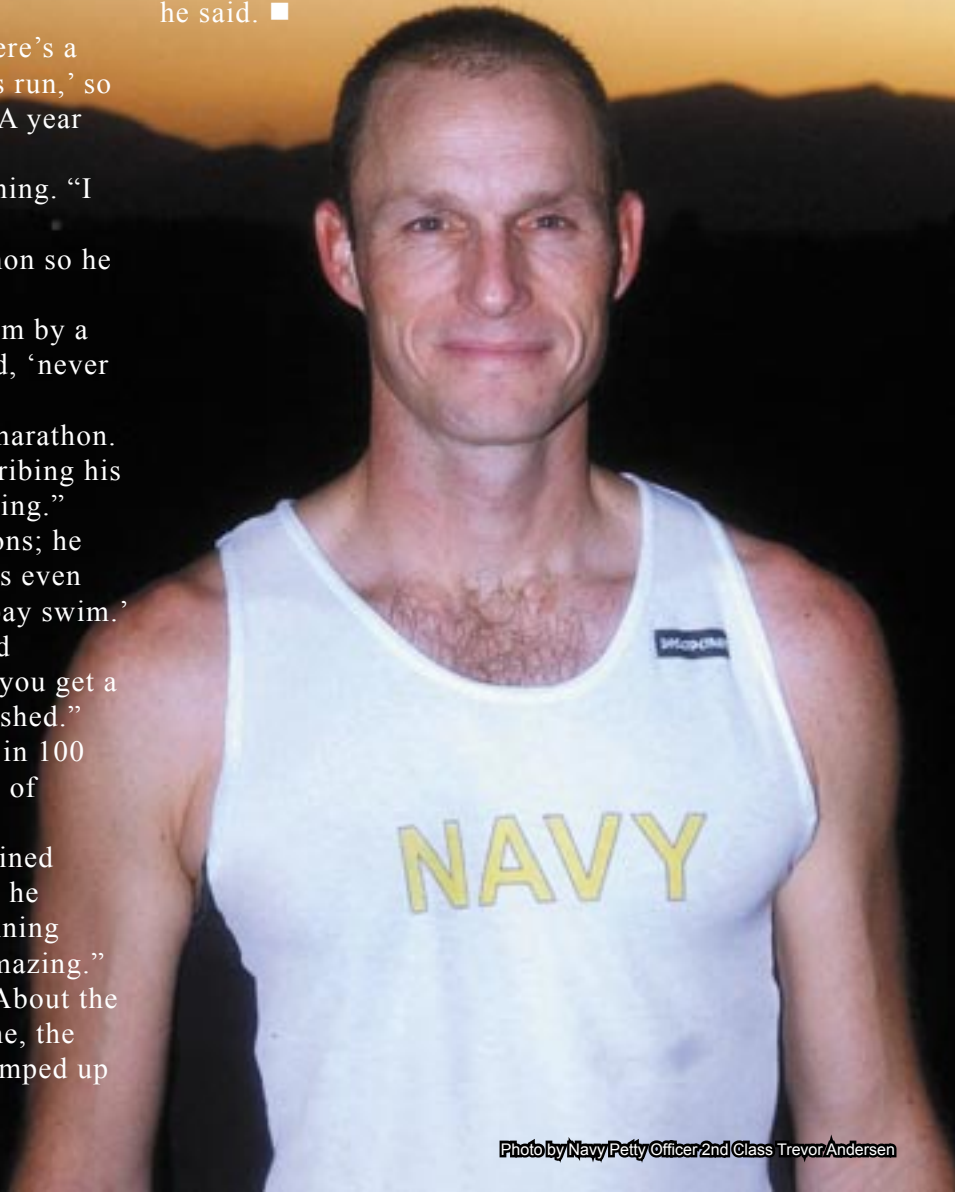
from the game, pour out of the stadium to cheer the runners on.

“It’s like being a rock star. The noise is deafening, they’re going crazy. It’s indescribable almost,” said McComb. “There’s nothing like that finish line. No one can take that finish line from you. It’s your finish line.”

McComb loves to push himself to the limits, but he’s gained more from it than fitness and breezing through his PT tests.

“It helps you take a long term view of your goals and how to get there. When it’s hard, I’ve learned it won’t last. If I keep pushing I can get through,” said McComb.

“Set your goals. Don’t let anyone tell you they’re too high and have the discipline to carry them out,” he said. ■



AROUND THE JTF



Photo by Army Spc. Dustin Robbins

◀ The Flag at Camp Delta flies at half mast in remembrance of former President Gerald Ford.

★★★ PHOTO OF THE WEEK ★★★



Photo by Army 2nd Lt. Jean Georges

Army 2nd Lt. Jean Georges, of the 525 MP Battalion, took this photo of 525 Troopers running in formation on Christmas Eve to claim this week's Photo of The Week.



Photo by Army 1st Lt. Anthony John

A Cuban Rock Iguana basks in the sun comfortably atop a stone near the shores of Guantanamo Bay.



Photo by Army Spc. Dustin Robbins

Navy Chief Petty Officer Patrick Otis covers Navy Petty Officer 2nd Class Matt Burnett during a frocking ceremony at Camp Delta Saturday.



Photo by Army 1st Lt. Anthony John

◀ The sunset gleams off of the shores of Guantanamo Bay during a calm night in the Joint Task Force.