

THE WIRE

A man in a military uniform, wearing sunglasses and a green vest, is speaking into a white microphone. He is on the deck of a ship, with the ocean and another person in uniform visible in the background. The title 'THE WIRE' is overlaid at the top in a stylized font.

High value detainees arraigned
U.S. Army celebrates 233 years
JDG Deputy Commander gets in sync
Do your part: VOTE!

Am I my brother's keeper?

**Navy Command Master Chief
Brad LeVault**
JTF Guantanamo
Command Master Chief

The title is an age old question that has many levels and is pertinent at all of them. The answer is always the same. Yes – you and I, we are all “our brother’s keeper.”

Why? Why do I have to step in if someone is being foolish? They are responsible for their own actions and must face the consequences for them – right? Correct, but if you are there and do not act to prevent a bad incident from happening, then you enable it – and not acting is nonetheless a decision, and you now have responsibility in the matter.

Unfair? The point is moot – by reasonable standards, you are involved and are now part of the problem.

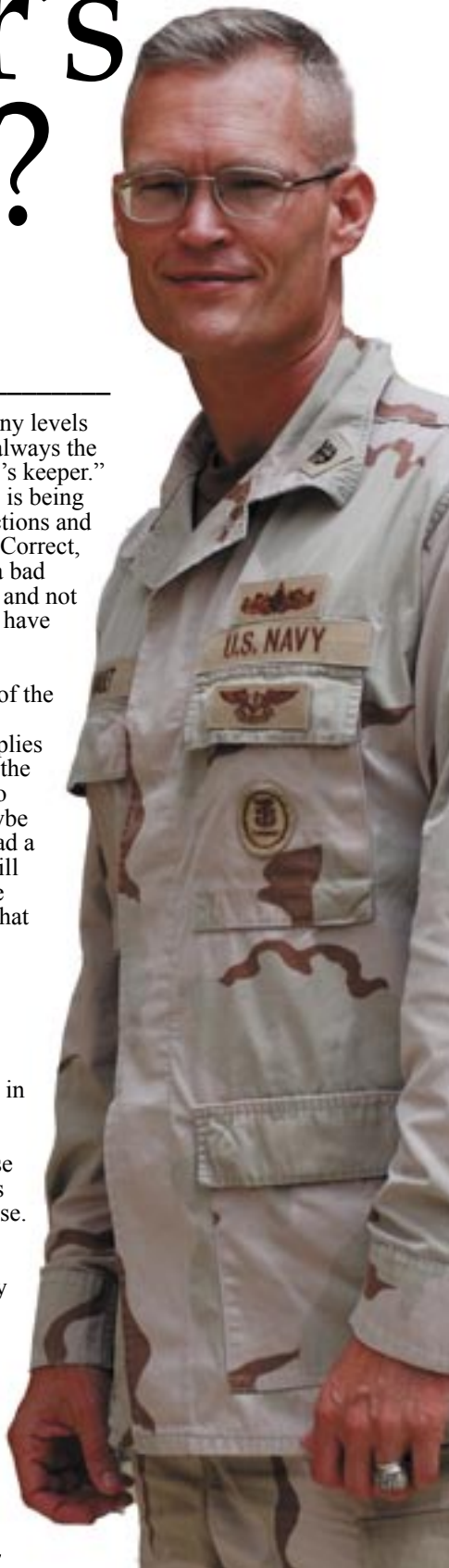
Understand first that the term “brother” applies to everyone, not just your sibling. The fact of the matter is that sometimes people are not able to make rational decisions and require help. Maybe they are under a great deal of stress or have had a traumatic event, but whatever the reason, it will take an outside influence for them to make the right choices. Another thing to understand is that the responsibility to influence never ends.

You may be a complete stranger, but your rational influence in a situation may mean the difference between someone making a choice that changes lives or otherwise. I submit that intervening as a stranger is easier than intervening as a friend. As a stranger you step in and step out. There is no judging afterward or hurt feelings.

Friends, however, are put to the test in these situations. If you are truly a friend, it becomes your responsibility to be the first line of defense. Many times people make bad choices to draw attention. What they really want is to be noticed by you and asked what is wrong. They are looking for a true friend. Enabling your friend’s bad choices by agreeing, or actually participating, sends the message that you don’t care. It strengthens the bad choice, making it more difficult for your friend to see the mistake or legitimately ask for help.

It requires maturity and effort to be a true friend. True friends call a bad choice a bad choice before it goes bad. Be a true friend, and find only true friends.

And, yes – you are your brother’s keeper. ☆



JTF GUANTANAMO

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COVER:

Coast Guard Petty Officer 2nd Class David Tillman, a boatswain's mate from Port Security Unit 307 out of Clearwater, Fla., mans an M-240B crew served weapon while on patrol in Guantanamo Bay, June 10. – JTF Guantanamo photo by Navy Petty Officer 2nd Class Nat Moger



The WIRE is the official news magazine of Joint Task Force Guantanamo. It is produced by the JTF Public Affairs Office to inform and educate the Troopers of JTF Guantanamo through news, features, command guidance, sports and entertainment. The WIRE seeks to provide maximum disclosure with minimum delay with regards to security, accuracy, propriety and policy. This DoD news magazine is an authorized publication for the members of the Department of Defense. Contents of The WIRE are not necessarily the official views of, or endorsed by, the U.S. Government, the Department of Defense, or Joint Task Force Guantanamo. It is printed by the Document Automation & Production Service with a circulation of 1000.

New Port Security Unit on Station



Members of Coast Guard Port Security Unit 307, from Clearwater, Fla., simulate aggressive screening and herding maneuvers while patrolling Guantanamo Bay.

Navy Petty Officer 2nd Class Nat Moger

JTF Guantanamo Public Affairs

U.S. Naval Station Guantanamo Bay is the oldest overseas naval station. It is also the only one in a country with which the U.S. does not have diplomatic relations. While Marines patrol the fence line separating Gitmo from the rest of Cuba, there are still miles of coastline exposed to the water.

Coast Guard port security units are responsible for that coastline.

On the morning of June 5, Port Security Unit 313, from Tacoma Wash., transferred authority over to PSU 307, from Clearwater, Fla., in a ceremony by the boathouse here.

Looking over the past six months, Coast Guard Cmdr. Jim Howatson, commanding officer of PSU 313, saw the deployment as an opportunity to put all of 313's skills to the test.

"Our deployment has been excellent," said Howatson. "This was a great operational opportunity. The op tempo was continuously high, so everyone was constantly engaged."

Besides providing anti-terrorism and force protection for the waters surrounding the naval station and Joint Task Force Guantanamo, Howatson's unit faced new

challenges for a PSU.

"The biggest thing for us this deployment was the incorporation of our shore side security into commissions support," said Howatson. "This meant a larger detachment and bringing our security force from home."

Following a turnover period between Howatson and Coast Guard Cmdr. Robert Grassino, PSU 307 commanding officer, PSU 307 has completely taken over all of PSU 313's responsibilities.

"We went through a right-seat, left-seat period," said Howatson. "Cmdr. Grassino was my co-pilot, until we switched seats and I was his co-pilot. Now he's steering the whole thing."

Grassino views success not only in flawless operations while in theater, but also by passing down his lessons learned to his replacements, creating a sustainable rotation between the Coast Guard's eight PSUs.

"If the next PSU can improve on us because we've left them in good shape, then we've done our job," said Grassino.

Currently PSU 307 conducts many secondary missions, including vessel escort, search and rescue missions, random anti-terrorism measure, and insertion and extraction missions with the Marines in

areas which are more accessible by boat than by land vehicles. To fulfill these missions, PSU 307 has brought cutting edge equipment.

"We've got the transportable port security boat from Boston Whaler out there," said Grassino. "It's got everything you need: machine guns, crew-served weapons, state-of-the-art electronics, a complete comms suite. Of course, we've also got the best trained crews in the world."

These crews draw experience from their work back home in Florida.

"We're a reserve unit and the majority of our people are police officers and firefighters," said Grassino. "This mission is the nexus of their civilian and Coast Guard jobs. They're perfectly suited for this. And the ones who aren't policemen or firefighters are mature, successful professionals with top notch educations."

Fortunately for the Coast Guardsmen in PSU 307, Grassino doesn't look at the next six months as all work and no play.

"I've asked all my folks to turn in a professional goal, a personal goal and a fitness goal," said Grassino. "Hopefully all my guys will leave in better shape and take advantage of everything that Gitmo offers, from education, to scuba diving to the classes offered at the gym." ★

JDG deputy commander accepts challenge

**Army Staff Sgt.
Emily J. Russell**

JTF Guantanamo Public Affairs

Conducting a symphony requires a keen ear, a quick eye and a steady hand to maintain the perfect tempo. As deputy commander of the Joint Detention Group, Joint Task Force, Guantanamo Bay, Navy Cmdr. Ed Weisbrod must orchestrate intelligence, operations and civil military affairs in an environment that sometimes struggles for harmony.

"The biggest challenge the deputy commander faces," said JDG commander Army Col. Bruce Vargo, "is the synchronization of all aspects of the JDG. I primarily rely on him to manage the intelligence, military operations and civil military operations functions within the camps.

"He handles who is going where and when, who needs to move, which detainees need to move and where the priorities are," continued Vargo.

Weisbrod also manages all visits to the camps, whether from United Service Organizations, Joint Civilian Orientation Conference or distinguished visitors. He coordinates the activities with intelligence, force protection and detainee operations in mind.

"The challenge of the position was overwhelming at first," said Weisbrod. "There is a lot of minutia you have to know, especially when it comes to the detainees. The details are extremely important.

"As the deputy, my job is to ensure that Col. Vargo knows about things that affect the Joint Task Force," he continued. "I make sure he doesn't get bogged down in the details of things that he needs to know. I'm kind of like a filter."

Weisbrod has used the last few weeks to settle into the role of JDG deputy commander.

"My issue in the beginning was [that] I didn't know who to ask for the right answer. The answers are there, [but] part of my ramping up was knowing who to go to," Weisbrod explained. "The staff here is excellent and knows all the answers or can find them out immediately.



Navy Cmdr. Ed Weisbrod, Joint Detention Group deputy commander, takes time to speak with a Trooper during a United Service Organization tour while at the detention center medical facility.

"Every once in a while we get a curve ball from someone outside the JDG who has a medical, intel, or support service question and the primary staff person is not available," he added. "But the JDG staff is constantly communicating. When it comes down to important issues, rarely does it take more than a couple hours to resolve them or come to some sort of agreement. Everyone works together really well."

Like in any large organization, leadership is key. Knowing the nuts and bolts of the day-to-day operations comes with time but providing oversight and follow-through is critical from day one.

"The only way you catch up with the game is to be 100 percent involved with the job, which he is, no doubt," Vargo said. "You won't find a day during the week [Weisbrod] isn't in the camps learning about them, meeting troops, patting them on the back and watching operations. He is very good at what he does."

Weisbrod came to Guantanamo to serve as an individual augmentee with the JDG. At his home station, a float Training Group in San Diego, he is the head aviation assessor for all flight deck certifications and assessments for Pacific Fleet. ★

A big day

Army Col. Lawrence Morris, chief prosecutor for the Office of Military Commissions, addresses civilian media during a press conference following the arraignment of Khalid Sheikh Mohammed and four other alleged Sept. 11 co-conspirators in McCalla Hangar here June 5.



■ World's eyes on Gitmo as Sept. 11 terror attack co-conspirators arraigned

**Navy Petty Officer 2nd Class
Nat Moger**

JTF Guantanamo Public Affairs

Khalid Sheikh Mohammed, alleged Sept. 11 mastermind and former al-Qaeda number three, and four other alleged Sept. 11 co-conspirators were arraigned on multiple charges of terrorism-related activities at the Expeditionary Legal Complex on U.S. Naval Station Guantanamo, June 5. If convicted, the accused may face capital punishment.

The arraignment came after the accused were served the referred charges of conspiracy, attacking civilians, attacking

In this courtroom sketch by artist Janet Hamlin, detainee Ramzi Bin al Shibh's defense counsel sits to his right during his arraignment June 5 at Guantanamo Bay.

civilian objects, intentionally causing serious bodily injury, murder in violation of the law of war, destruction of property in violation of the law of war, hijacking or hazarding a vessel or aircraft, terrorism and providing material support for terrorism.

Typically an arraignment consists of the formal reading of charges to the accused in his presence and an election of counsel by the accused.

Mohammed and the four other accused expressed their desires to proceed without military or civilian defense counsel and act as their own counsel, or proceed "pro se."

"From religion point of view we cannot accept any American citizen as defense," said Mohammed in choppy, but confident, English, citing Sharia law as the only legal system he would follow. "I'm not talking about your laws, I'm talking about God laws."

The detailed military judge, Marine Col. Ralph Kohlmann, urged each of the accused to consider the option of retaining military counsel, patiently listing the advantages legal professionals have over the accused, including not being detained and having

See **COMMISSIONS/13**

Summer heats up with co-ed Volleyball League



Team Joint Effort battles it out during their second game of the match June 10. – JTF Guantanamo photo by Army Sgt. Gretel Sharpee

Navy Petty Officer 2nd Class Nat Moger

JTF Guantanamo Public Affairs

Leave the bug spray and the sandals and grab your sneakers and jerseys, because the hottest volleyball action on base isn't in the sand, it's in the gym.

The 2008 indoor volleyball season is in full swing, with teams vying to end up at the top of the leaders board.

The league is following USA Volleyball rules, with exceptions to accommodate a co-ed environment. At least one member of each team must be female, but in order to play a full complement of six, a team must have two females. Teams may play with four or five to avoid forfeit. Games are decided best two out of three, to 25, with the final game to 15, all rally style.

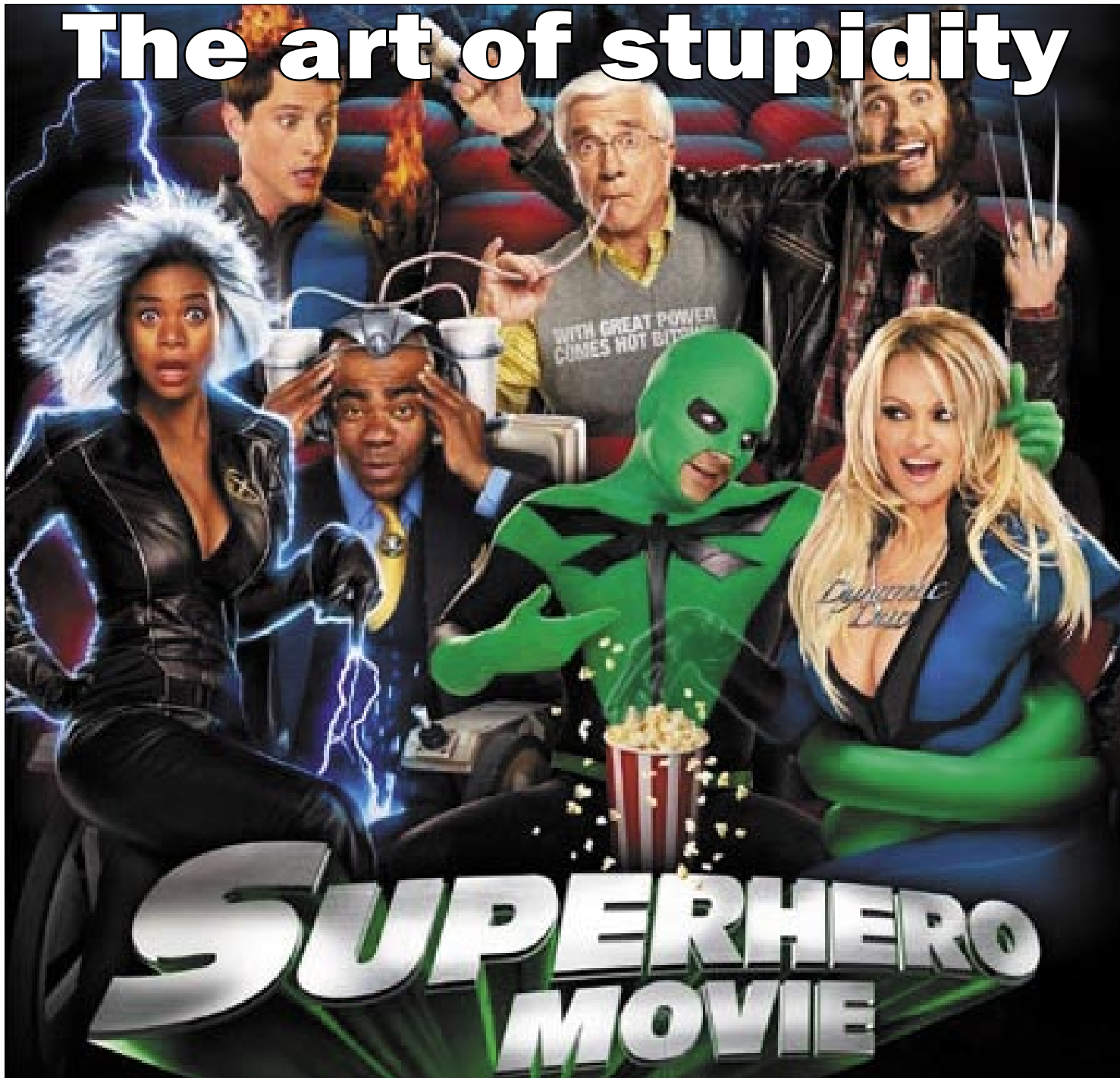
Meredith Denoyer bumps the ball to her teammate to make the final hit over the net in a match with Joint Effort. – JTF Guantanamo photo by Army Sgt. Gretel Sharpee

Sixteen teams are currently in the hunt, with JUNO, GTMO Latino, NEX Rollers and Bubble Gang at the top with three wins apiece. By June 20, JUNO and Bubble Gang will have played each of the other undefeated teams assuring heaping shovelfuls of furious volleyball action.

However, it's not all competition all the time for everyone. Chris Kuttyreff, a participant in the league, is still looking for his first win, but appreciates the balanced playing environment and emphasis on sportsmanship.

"I wanted to participate in something," said Kuttyreff. "It fits in my schedule and they've done a great job keeping the tournament fun but still competitive." ☆

The art of stupidity



**Army Pfc.
Eric Liesse**

JTF Guantanamo Public Affairs

Spoof movies used to be rare at the local movie theaters. Lately, however, it seems one is popping up about every six months. The latest and not-as-bad-as-most is "Superhero Movie."

Guess what it makes fun of?

Continuing the theme that just won't die, "Superhero Movie" pokes fun in the eye of all the big comic book heroes' latest silver screen adventures, with even more references to the general American culture, with mockeries of things like Apple's iPod line (again), to internet (teenage) craze MySpace, to Barry Bond's (alleged) steroid use.

The story mostly mirrors that of the

first Spider-Man film, with star Drake Bell playing the high-jumping, super-strong, wish-he-could fly superhero of Dragonfly. He even gets his power from a class field trip as his normal self, high school news photographer Rick Riker, in which he gets bitten by a genetically engineered bug. However, in "Superhero Movie," he then gets violated by a hoard of random animals in heat.

Of course, every ridiculous hero needs a villain with an equally shoddy premise. In steps Dragonfly's nemesis, Hourglass, a mad scientist in a big suit who is infatuated with time because he must consume the life force of one person per day to stay alive. Played by veteran villain actor Christopher McDonald, Hourglass intends to build a machine to kill thousands of people at once and use their life force to gain immortality.

With more cameos than a Friars Club Roast, the flick never lets up on the sometimes-overdone spoofs or hit-and-miss jokes. The many cultural references sprinkled throughout are usually funnier anyhow. The movie also deserves plenty of credit for going almost an hour without a fart joke.

With gags as random as Dragonfly's aunt stuffing a plant and a bottle of vodka in a turkey that she is about to bake, it's obvious this movie does not require the audience to think; only to laugh at the pointless jokes.



PG-13

1 hour, 25 minutes

Rating:



VISUALIZE THE BATTLE OF CUZCO WELLS

Historical information provided by Army Spc. Daniel Welch and the Spanish-American War Centennial Website.

Photos and story by Army 1st Lt. Adam Bradley and Army Sgt. Gretel Sharpee

The view of this bay would have been slightly different in 1898. The USS Dolphin would have been positioned off the coast and firing directly where the white marker is placed.

On June 14, 1898, U.S. Marines and Cuban officers and guerillas engaged the Spanish forces in a series of engagements in and around the area known as Cuzco, to include the Cuzco water well.

The Marines were already encamped in an area now known as McCalla Hwill, a position gained through the support of Navy gun ships. However, the cacti and rough brush encased terrain gave the Spanish, who had higher, inland hills, a clear advantage when engaging the Marines below.

Over the course of the three days preceding

the battle for Cuzco well, the Spanish attacked and retreated several times. The Marines suffered few casualties but because of the frequent attacks, reinforcement and re-supply were difficult.

In an effort to end the frequent attacks, Col. Enrique Thomas, who was in command of 225 Marines and 50 Cubans, advocated to attack at Cuzco to take control of the well. Since Cuzco well was the only fresh water source in the immediate area, Thomas thought by taking control and destroying the well, the Spanish would have no choice but to retreat back to Guantanamo City.

The two companies of Marines and Cuban guerrillas engaged the Spanish with the Dolphin providing support fire from the bay. As the

Spanish were pushed further back the Dolphin's fire support began encroaching on the Marines and Cubans. To provide a signal for the Dolphin to cease fire, Staff Sgt. John Quick climbed atop of the hill facing the bay, exposing himself to the friendly fire, and used the Meyer signaling system to communicate the new enemy position to the Dolphin.

The fighting stopped by 3p.m. that day when the Spanish were forced to retreat to Guantanamo City. In total from the day of fighting, the Marines captured 18 Spanish soldiers, killed 58 and wounded over 150 without suffering a single casualty.

After 110 years, the United States still maintains a place -by treaty- on the former Spanish territory of Guantanamo Bay, Cuba.

110 Years



Drawn to history

**Army Sgt. 1st Class
Vaughn R. Larson**

JTF Guantanamo Public Affairs

Janet Hamlin may have an eye for detail, but it was a nose that made news recently.

Not her nose, exactly – Khalid Sheikh Mohammed’s nose.

Hamlin is a professional illustrator, and you’ve probably seen some of her recent work – sketches of the Sept. 11 conspirators during the military commissions held at U.S. Naval Station Guantanamo Bay. She described the task as both challenging and rewarding.

“It’s a one-shot deal,” she explained. “They are only up for so long, so you have to get what you can when you can.”

“I feel like a human Polaroid.”

Because cameras are not allowed in the Expeditionary Legal Complex where the commissions are held, Hamlin provides the only images the rest of the world will see. She identifies the subject first and captures their image with pastel on tone paper right away. She then adds the surrounding scene. She said a typical sketch takes about an hour, but added that time demands can vary.

“Yesterday was the fastest,” she said, referring to the June 5 commissions arraignment. “I did six [sketches]. It was such a big deal – I had to.”

“You have to visually edit,” she continued. “There’s no way you can capture everything.”

One sketch – a profile of Khalid Sheikh Mohammed, also referred to as KSM, the professed mastermind of the Sept. 11 terror attacks – required a different kind of editing. Geneva Convention rules extended to enemy combatants prohibit detainees from being paraded in public; this includes images intended for public distribution. This meant that KSM was allowed to see Hamlin’s sketch, and had veto authority over its release. He complained his nose was too big in the sketch, and suggested Hamlin refer to his FBI photo.

“I’ve never had to [redraw] before,” she said, despite providing sketches from four previous proceedings at Guantanamo. “I wasn’t surprised, because I didn’t think the likeness was right. I was happy to have the chance to go back and fix it.”

This would not have been an issue when she first sketched legal proceedings at Guantanamo Bay.

“At first I had to erase faces,” she recalled. “They changed it so I could draw detainees’ faces.”

The courtroom sketches are reviewed by a Pentagon official before being approved for release.

Hamlin studied illustration at the Art Center College of Design, where she graduated with honors in 1987.

A freelance artist for 20 years, she is currently working on a children’s book series. Her clients include the Associated Press – which first sent her to sketch at Guantanamo Bay in 2006 – as well as Time Warner, Universal Studios, the New York Times, Wall Street Journal, Playboy, IBM and HarperCollins. Still, she said it’s difficult to accept the magnitude of sketching history as it unfolds.

“It’s pretty amazing,” she confessed.

“I’m proud to be a part of it. I was in New York when 9-11 happened – it’s sort of personal.” ☆



GITMO TO CELEBRATE ARMY'S 233RD BIRTHDAY

**Navy Petty Officer 2nd Class
Nat Moger**
JTF Guantanamo Public Affairs

Most 58-year-olds have issues lifting 80 pounds, much less strapping that much weight to their bodies and running around all day. Yet at four times that age, the U.S. Army and the proud men and women who comprise it and its reserve components, the U.S. Army Reserve and National Guard, can secure hostile ground in the darkness of night through the deployment of highly trained infantry companies, bring order to chaos with bunker busting and indirect fire from field artillery batteries, strike deep into enemy territory with mobile and lethal firepower via the rolling thunder of armored cavalry troops, and place a dozen thick-necked operators directly over the rooftop of any building, anywhere in the world ready to Aussie rappel from the relative safety of their UH-60 Blackhawk helicopter and kick down a door.

Not bad for a 232-year-old.

On June 14, Joint Task Force Guantanamo will celebrate the U.S. Army's 233rd birthday with a mess-style dinner at the Seaside Galley here at 4:30 p.m.

"American Soldiers have fought in 10 wars, from the American Revolution through the Cold War, the Gulf War and the current War on Terrorism," said Army Sgt.

I will be reflecting on all the battles the Army has fought throughout history and my continued amazement at the young men and women who have always served and how they continue to answer their country's call.

– Command Sgt. Maj. Gary Fowler

Maj. Donald Troxler, event coordinator. "The Army birthday dinner is designed to honor the proud history and heritage of our nation."

Members of all branches of service and civilians are cordially invited to attend, in civilian attire, and reflect on the centuries of selfless service by Soldiers around the world.

"We are in a joint environment," said Troxler. "We are proud of our heritage as

an Army, and we openly invite others to share in our proud traditions and heritage."

The menu will include steak and seafood, and will be served in a mess environment with no segregation between officers, senior enlisted and junior enlisted. The price will be \$3.85, and will be free to those with meal cards. There will also be toasts in honor of the President of the United States, the U.S. Army, to fallen comrades and to ladies, families and loved ones.

"It's also a time to acknowledge the sacrifices we have made to maintain a peaceful and secure nation," said Troxler.

The ceremony will conclude with the Army Song and a cake cutting ceremony with the oldest and youngest members present, signifying the past and the future of the Army and a chance to balance past achievements with upcoming challenges.

"I will be reflecting on all the battles the Army has fought throughout history and my continued amazement at the young men and women who have always served and how they continue to answer their country's call," said 525th Military Police Battalion Command Sgt. Maj. Gary Fowler. "I believe everyday we should give thanks for the Soldiers, Sailors, Airmen, Marines and Coast Guardsmen who gave their life in defense of the United States of America." ★

Be smart: do your part

**Navy Petty Officer
Cheryl Dilgard**

JTF Guantanamo Public Affairs

It's your right and your responsibility, voting. Presidential elections are on the horizon this fall. Not only will our commander in chief be chosen by democratic vote, but also many local officials and local issues will be settled. We are in the unique position to actually have a say in who will be the next leader of the free world.

Our vote counts as we have seen in past elections. The absentee vote can make or break an issue or a politician. That is why it is so important for each of us to register, and actually vote.

We have the luxury of being able to vote using an absentee vote, which means that our ballots can be mailed to us and we can mail it back. In order to make our vote count however we need to meet the specific deadlines and make sure we are registered to vote.

The Joint Task Force voting

representative is Navy Petty Officer 1st Class James Richardson, located at the Troopers One Stop, building 1451, in the legal offices. Troopers are welcome to come in Monday through Friday between 0830 and 1700 to register to vote and request an absentee ballot.

"Mail here is slow so it is a good idea to fill out the forms early," said Richardson.

Generally forms must be filled out and mailed between August 31 and September 7, depending on the state. To avoid confusion and possibly missing out on a vote, register early.

"I would recommend people register prior to August 31. At the very least you need to give your self three weeks to mail the form. Allow time for it to be processed, and allow three weeks for the ballot to be returned to you," said Richardson.

If you do not want to visit the Troopers One Stop you can go to FVAP.gov, the federal voters assistance program online. There you can follow the links to register to vote, but you will still need to allow time for processing and receiving the ballots.

Follow these steps to cast your vote.

1. Register (either online or by visiting the voting representative)
2. Fill the form out in its entirety, make sure you sign it.
3. Return the form.
4. Upon receiving your ballot, vote in secrecy.
5. Sign the affidavit that accompanies your ballot, and the outside of the envelope.
6. Mail it off.

These six simple steps allow you to take part in one of the greatest freedoms we have the privilege to participate in. The presidential election will be held November 4, and your vote counts.

Members of JTF who are interested in finding out more about voting assistance or becoming a voting assistance officer can call Richardson at 8113. ☆



Proper sun screening a bright idea

For many people who live in Guantanamo Bay, this hot-and-humid climate is one that getting used to. Getting too much sun can do more damage than just the pain and irritation of a sunburn.

Overexposure to UV radiation has caused 65-90 percent of all skin cancers as well as signs of premature aging such as wrinkles, pigmented spots and cataracts, and a weakened immune system.

While skin cancer becomes more apparent with increasing age, malignant melanoma, the most serious form of skin cancer has been rated as the third most common cancer in people aged 15-24 years. Melanoma is also twice as common in young females as young males. Nevertheless, this type of skin cancer is unusual in that it is 100 percent preventable!

However, there are ways to achieve moderate sun exposure that will increase overall health.

The following tips apply to most environments and skin types to avoiding overexposure.

Cover Up. When outside always wear clothing to protect as much of the skin as possible. Ideal sun-protective fabrics are lightweight, comfortable, and

still protect against exposure when wet.

Use sunscreen. Sunscreen, with sun protection factor (SPF) 15, at least, does not provide total protection against the sun. Apply sunscreen to dry skin 20 to 30 minutes before going outside so the skin has time to absorb the chemicals. Pay close attention to and apply generously to areas not covered by clothing including the face, ears, hands and arms, and reapply every two hours.

Wear a Hat. Make sure it has at least a two to three inch brim all around to protect areas such as the neck, ears, eyes, forehead, nose and scalp.

Wear sunglasses. UV-blocking sunglasses block 99-100 percent of UVA and UVB radiation. This protects eyes from sun damage and decreases the chance of developing eye disease.

Limit direct sun exposure. Avoid direct contact with the sun during midday when UV rays are most intense; this is normally between 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

To increase awareness of the effects of UV radiation, the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) has developed a UV Index.

The UV Index number, on a scale from 1 to 11+, is a measure of the amount of UV radiation reaching the earth's surface during an hour around noon. The higher the number indicates the greater the exposure to UV radiation. Guantanamo Bay normally has levels of 10+ while most of the United States only obtains a 10 UV level.

The sun and its UV rays can benefit the body but only in limited quantities of time and exposure. With the effects of overexposure to UV radiation, it's not really worth it to ignore potential hazards of UV rays and fail to minimize these hazards.

Go out and have fun this weekend, and remember, apply the sunscreen!

Sources: American Cancer Society. *Skin Cancer Prevention and Early Detection*; Health Sponsorship Council. *The Risks & Benefits of Sun Exposure in New Zealand*. 2006; California School Boards Association. *Background: The Harmful Effects of Exposure to Sun*. July 2006; Cancer Research UK. *Young People and Skin Cancer*. May 2005. ☆



Sept. 11 co-conspirators arraigned

Commissions from 5

access to computers to research and prepare motions.

Mohammed, Walid Muhammed Salih Mubarak Bin 'Attash and Ali Abdul Aziz Ali continued without defense counsel, although they retained their formerly detailed military counsel and civilian defense attorney as advisers, allowing them to be next to the accused during trial, but unable to formally represent them.

Navy Cmdr. Suzanne Lachelier and Navy Lt. Richard Federico were able to stay on as counsel for Ramzi Bin al Shibh, due to the unknown effect of medication on al Shibh's cognitive abilities. Kohlmann made a ruling to revisit the matter of counsel after examining al Shibh's medical history and present condition.

Army Maj. Jon Jackson and Navy Lt. Gretchen Sosbee were also allowed to stay on as defense counsel for Mustafa Ahmed Adam al Hawsawi after Kohlmann ruled that Hawsawi did not understand the charges and penalties facing

him. This came after Kohlmann denied Jackson a continuance until the following morning to establish a relationship with his client. Jackson also informed Kohlmann he intended to request to sever the proceedings from the other four cases, saying Hawsawi "has been coerced into turning down the election of counsel," and alleging that Mohammed taunted Hawsawi, asking if he was "in the American Army now."

The arraignment concluded with Prosecutor Robert Swann expressing the prosecution's intention of filing a motion to have the accused present at each session, if only to have them express their desire to be absent to the judge. In the case of military commissions, the accused are required to be present at arraignment, but there is no requirement during subsequent proceedings.

In a press conference afterwards, Army Col. Lawrence Morris, Office of Military Commissions chief prosecutor, explained that for the lawyers involved "a case is best prepared and best tried with the accused next to them," and noted "there's no system in the U.S. where the defendant gets to opt out of the trial."

Addressing issues of trying all five at once, Morris said "they're co-conspirators. It's not an accident. These are the five people in U.S. custody most responsible for the murder of 2,973 individuals."

OMC chief defense counsel Army Col. Steven David thanked Joint Task Force Troopers, starting off his address to the press saying "there were many young men and women who were here early in the morning and who are still here now that made all this possible, letting you do what you are here to do." ☆



A sketch of Ali Abdul Aziz Ali, done by sketch artist Janet Hamlin, is the only visual depiction of his arraignment here since no photography was allowed in the court room. – Contributed sketch by Janet Hamlin

Boots on the Ground

What is your useless fact about Gitmo?

by Navy Petty Officer 2nd Class Cheryl Dilgard

Navy Petty Officer 3rd Class Clarence Knight



"I was told when I came to Gitmo that it only rains about 2-inches a year. I have been here 3 weeks and it has been more than that."

Army Staff Sgt. Jeremy Dubois



"Useless fact about Gitmo? There are five beaches on this island and no sand."

Army Special Agent James Hendry



"More cars are held together with Duct tape per capita than anywhere else in the world."

Army Spc. Chandradeo Harry



"Iguana tastes like chicken. Really expensive chicken."

Happy Father's Day

**Army Capt.
Y.J. Kim**

Chaplain, 525th MP Battalion

When a father gives to his son, both laugh; when a son gives to his father, both cry. — Jewish Proverb

Fatherhood is one of life's most challenging yet fulfilling endeavors. This day, we honor all our fathers and express our appreciation for all they do to help build a strong foundation for our children.

At the outset, I would declare that being a parent is a hard job. I know; I'm a father. I've often thought being an Army Chaplain is a hard job, though it's nothing compared to fathering kids! May God bless those of you who are called by Him to be fathers. There is nothing in life more important than parenting.

With such gratefulness, I want to encourage our dads with some suggestions this Father's Day. Dads, we need to create a context of grace. Our homes need to be a place of love, support, respect and encouragement: a place where we all can speak the truth to one another in love.

Basically, any home needs to be a place to meet the material and the emotional needs of children. It means that fathers take the time to teach, inspire, enlighten, warn, discipline and hold accountable, while refusing to be demeaning or hurtful. I would suggest that you grant them as much freedom as possible within legitimate boundaries and avoid placing unhealthy expectations on their shoulders. It is dangerous for parents to live their lives through their children.

All of these things require time. Not just quality time, but quantity time.

The current picture of reality is grim. The average time in the United States that a father spends daily with his children is only 37 seconds! Researchers had fathers wear recording devices which revealed an average of 2.7 encounters daily with their children, each lasting between 10 and 15 seconds.

Before you join me in thinking you spend a lot more time than 37 seconds



with your children, you need to know that all the fathers tested estimated their time to be 30 times greater than the actual time they spent with their children. When we compare 37 seconds with the average four to seven hours per day our children watch television, why do we wonder what is happening with today's kids?

Time is the greatest gift a father can give his family. Fathering is serious business. None of us is perfect. We all have shortcomings—children and parents alike. Our Heavenly Father knows our flaws better than we know them ourselves, and yet He has pity on our weakness and loves us anyway.

God has called us to be fathers. As the Bible teaches, there are responsibilities for us all. As children we are called to obedience and to honor our parents. As fathers we are called to nurture and to instruct in godliness, to pull back the curtain in such a way that our children might catch a glimpse of the splendor,

wonder, love, and beauty of the Lord. These are the awesome tasks placed before us.

As fathers we need to bring into the home components of faith, humility, tolerant love and mutual submission. Unfortunately, too many people act like demons at home. Our worst selves are what the people who are closest to us see. The most important witness we have is the witness within our families. Our integrity begins in the home, with the family. We need to fulfill this salient responsibility by loving our children with all our heart and demonstrating this love daily.

This Father's Day, I encourage you to recognize the many fathers in uniform who are role models for their children.

As Henry W. Beecher once said, "Children never know the love of the parents until they become parents themselves." Thus, take heart, fathers, for your endeavors are not in vain.

Happy Father's Day! ☆

JTF CHAPEL SCHEDULED PROGRAMS

Catholic Mass

Sunday: 7 a.m. Confession
7:30 Mass

Wednesday: 11 a.m. Mass

Protestant Worship

Sunday: 9 a.m. and 7 p.m.

Spanish Protestant Worship

Sunday: Noon

Not just another Dad

■ *Quick actions saved the life of fellow Trooper*

**Navy Petty Officer
Cheryl Dilgard**

JTF Guantanamo Public Affairs

Master Sgt. Thomas Richards of the New Mexico Army National Guard is many things: a non-commissioned officer in charge, a dad, a friend.

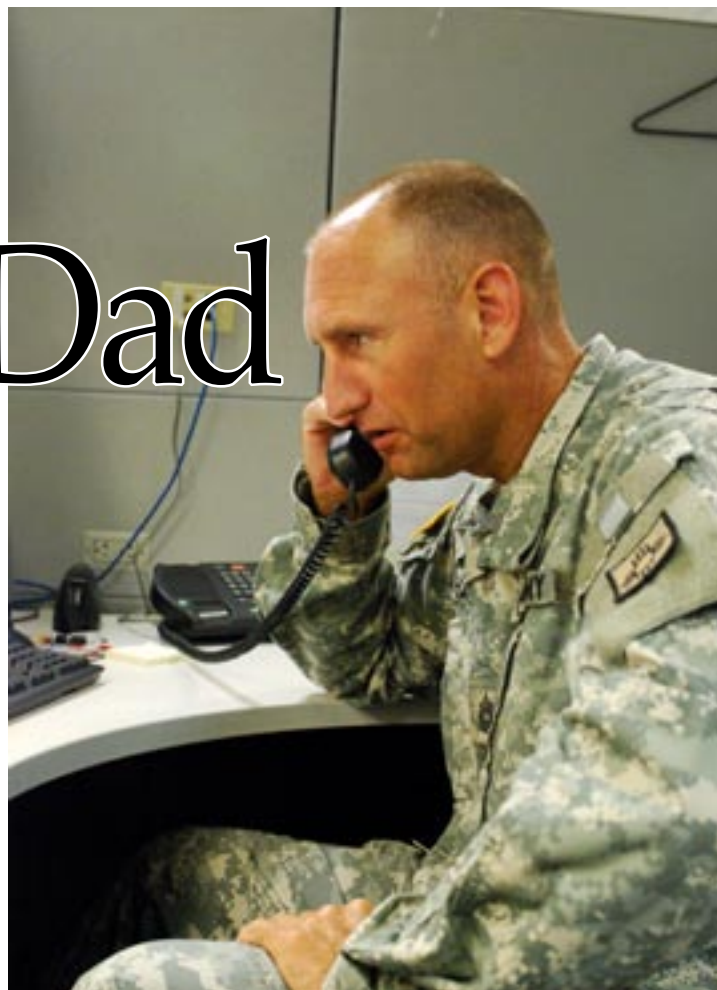
Now he can add lifesaver to that list.

Recently, a Trooper who had been drinking heavily had difficulty breathing and lost consciousness. Richards assessed the situation, began administering CPR and saved the Trooper's life.

Thanks to the quick thinking and training of Richards, this Trooper is alive today and getting help. Alcohol is mistaken by many as a stress reliever, and some may have troubles recognizing when enough is enough.

Richards has found other ways to relieve his stress. Richards loves to swim, go to the gym, and stoke his creative flames by

Richards relaxes by playing his guitar after work. Richards is preparing for his first 'Open Mic' night in Guantanamo on Wednesday at the Caribbean Coffee and Cream.



Army Master Sgt. Thomas Richards, the NCOIC of the J-6 communications department deals with all forms of communications issues.

playing the guitar. Wednesday was his first opportunity to perform at an 'Open Mic' night at the Caribbean Coffee and Cream.

In his civilian life he is an automotive service equipment technician for the city of Albuquerque and works on large diesel garbage trucks. Richards, married for almost 19 years is the father of a 16-year old son. Back home Richards plays guitar with his son, who is interested in music and sports.

Richards loves to read about history and

current events, but when he is at home he keeps busy with projects around the house.

"I love working on my home. When you buy a block home built in 1952, you get good at repairs. I put in my own heating, ventilation and air system," said Richards.

He has also done other construction jobs around his home such as tearing down walls, installing a bar and finding ways to make his home more valuable and comfortable for him and his family.

Richards, originally from Los Angeles, joined the Army in 1980 and served ten years on active duty and 18 years in the National Guard. He has been deployed three times. His first deployment is his proudest accomplishment in the Army.

"I was deployed to Prince Sultan Air Base in Saudi Arabia. It was there that I was the NCOIC and was part of the stand up for the Patriot unit before and after Sept. 11," said Richards.

Richards also deployed in support of Operation Clear Skies, where he was based out of Fort Bliss, Texas. There his primary duties involved the security and protection of President George W. Bush while he was at his ranch in Crawford, Texas. Now, on his third deployment, he is the NCOIC of J-6, which is responsible for JTF communications. In this position he manages many forms of communication including wireless and radio communications. He is responsible for doing research to upgrade systems. ★

A member of the 2nd Headquarters and Headquarters Service Battery, Puerto Rico Army National Guard prepares to unload protective equipment. – JTF Guantanamo photo by Navy Petty Officer 2nd Class Nat Moger ▼



Brad Decker entertains the audience at Open Mic Night at the Caribbean Coffee and Cream on June 11. – JTF Guantanamo photo by Navy Petty Officer 2nd Class Cheryl Dilgard

The New Mexico Army National Guard's Adjutant General Kenny C. Montoya and Joint Task Force Deputy Commander, Brig. Gen. Gregory J. Zanetti ride across Guantanamo Bay in a viper boat while receiving a briefing on naval station operations. – JTF Guantanamo photo by Army Pvt. Carlynn M. Knaak ►



Eric Mabijs, actor from the television show "Ugly Betty", Mike Vogel, actor from the movie "Cloverfield" and Hilarie Burton of television's "One Tree Hill" pause for a photo with members of the 307th Port Security Unit. JTF Guantanamo photo by Army Spc. Megan Burnham

AROUND
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