



EL CABLE CRIOLLO

MONTHLY NEWS FROM THE HHC 92nd SIB



April 2007

Vol. I - Issue III

BG Crawford Deputy Commander's Corner



Greetings once again from Guantanamo. Your soldiers continue to perform their jobs very well. I remain impressed with the level of discipline the Puerto Rico National Guardsmen display on a daily basis.

Last week I had the honor of representing the Chief of Staff of the Army at the funeral and interment of Corporal Nunez from Naranjito. The trip to Puerto Rico was also an opportunity to meet with the senior leaders of the Puerto Rico National Guard. The entire chain of command, from The Adjutant General on down, is concerned about deployed soldiers and their families. Every family member should know who their Family Program representative is, as well as the location of the nearest Family Assistance Center.

We have settled into a routine with regards to our duties. However, we are at a very critical time in the history of the Guantanamo detention mission. As such, we will have the opportunity to participate in many "firsts". Finally, I am working with the leadership in Puerto Rico to get some members of the media here to cover the story of your soldiers and the great job they are doing under challenging circumstances.

Puerto Rico is a beautiful place; I look forward to visiting this summer when I have more time to travel about the island and see the sights. In the meantime, I hope to meet some of you if you are able to come to Guantanamo to visit your loved ones.

Until then,

BG Crawford

THE PUERTO RICAN

Lets consider that the people of Puerto Rico represent a cultural and racial mix. During the early 18-century, the Spaniard in order to populate the country took Taino Indian women as brides. Later on as labor was needed to maintain crops and build roads, African slaves were imported. Long after Spain had lost control of Puerto Rico, Spanish immigrants continued to arrive on the island. The most significant new immigrant population arrived in the 1960s, when thousands of Cubans fled from Fidel Castro's Communist state. The latest arrivals to Puerto Rico have come from the economically depressed Dominican Republic. This historic intermingling has resulted in a contemporary Puerto Rico without racial problems. So, Puerto Ricans do not think about racial problems any where they go.

Puerto Ricans are known for their friendliness and warmth. Hand gestures and movements are often used in daily conversation. Many Puerto Ricans will stand fairly close to one another in

Social setting. Moving away from a counterpart may be considered offensive or insulting.

In relationships the Wife is "sacred", in the way that everyone has to respect her and behave well in front of her. The majority of the time, the only one that can dance with someone's wife is the husband. The same applies in pre-marriage relationships. Some exceptions apply when you have a very close and respectful friend; but not always. Puerto Ricans are very protective (extremely protective) with their family, much more with kids.

When it's time for party, regularly the music is loud and they love to dance Salsa, Merengue (originally from the Dominican Republic), Bachata and Reggaeton, as well as some other kinds of dancing. Old people also likes the "Danza" (Dance). When going partying everyone likes to wear the best in accordance with the occasion. Women uses make-up, almost anywhere they go, more for festivities.

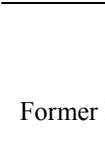
As everybody, Puerto Ricans just look for happiness, friendship, and for people with high values that can understand that no one is better than another, that all are create equals.

Regardless the fact that Puerto Ricans are taught English as a second language, communicating in English occasionally can be a little difficult. Sometimes you will find yourself surrounded by Spanish speakers only. Please, understand that is their best way of communication and understanding. What language you will use in another country if it is an American group talking together? Perhaps, you will not have a better time to try learning some Spanish. So try it!

PROMOTIONS



William Griffin
From MAJ to LTC
Native from: Jacksonville, NC (Raised in Puerto Rico)
Former Military Job: Brigade S6
Civilian Job: Foreign Service Officer, US DOS



Cheryl L. Williamson
From MSG to SGM
Native from: Erie, Pennsylvania
Former Military Job: JFHQ California National Guard
Job: AGR, NCOIC IG Office



Jaime Díaz
From PFC to SPC
Native From: Ponce, Puerto Rico
Former Mil. Job: PRNG Language Center
Civilian Job: PRNG Language Center

HAPPY BIRTHDAY !

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|----------------------|--------|-----|
| MAJ José A. Nieves | 2 Apr | JTF |
| MAJ Raymond Rivera | 5 Apr | JTF |
| SFC Tomás Carrera | 10 Apr | JTF |
| MAJ Mariano Meaux | 21 Apr | JTF |
| MAJ Miguel A. Méndez | 27 Apr | JTF |
| SGM Jaime Pérez | 27 Apr | JTF |

Thursday
26
April
Birthdays
Lunch
Seaside Galley

Knowing Our People



MSG RICHARD A. MALTZ

From the great State of Alabama. He wants everyone to know that, for him, it's an honor and a privilege to be serving with the 92D SIB from Puerto Rico. He has over 25 years of military service, 20 as an Armor Crewman and 5 in the Chemical Corps. MSG Maltz's military education includes: PLDC, BNCOC, ANOC and 1SG Course. Among the well deserved awards, he has the Army Commendation Medal, Army Achievement, National Defense, Overseas Ribbon and others.

He possesses an Associate Degree in General Studies. Back home he works at the Mercedes-Benz Assembly Plant. Here, at Guantanamo Base, he works at the J-3 office where he denotes his professionalism. With his wife, they have 3 children. A great USA soldier that has won the respect and friendship of all Puerto Ricans and co-workers.



SPC MISAEL SANTIAGO

Born in Santurce, Puerto Rico. And now resident of Bayamón City. He commenced his military carrier at the 246th Mortuary Affairs Company with our brothers at the Reserve. In 2004 joined the Puerto Rico National Guard, 2/162D FA. He posses an Associate Degree on Aviation Systems and also is a Water Front/ Park Life Saver. He also studied at the 92Y school (Unit Supply Specialist) and Combat Life Saver. He participated at Operation LEAD (Louisiana Emergency Assistance Disaster) and now is here at Paradise (GTMO) as Armorer Custodian. Back home he is the Supply Technician for the PRNG MATES. His father (former military) and mother are very proud.

PUERTO RICO TAX DUE THIS MONTH

Taxes
17
APRIL

As a remainder, the Puerto Rico 2006 Tax Return will be due on 17 April 07 at 2400 hrs. As a responsible citizen, you have to fill the forms and send them with its correspondent payment (if any), or better, praying to get back some dollars in to your pocket. Either way, remember that is a moral obligation to contribute with our economic system.

LATIN FRIDAYS AT THE WINDJAMMER

The Windjammer has been renovated. Our great DJ is completing his tour and a new DJ (with new music) is already in town. If you are not there at 2100 hrs every Friday, you will miss the fun.

QUOTE OF THE MONTH

**“Determine never to be idle...
It is wonderful how much may be done if we
are always doing.”**

Thomas Jefferson

Holidays & Festivities

(Including Puerto Rico)



1 April, Fools Day: Began in the 1500s when the Gregorian calendar took over from the Julian. Those who forgot to change and attempted to celebrate New Year's (previously celebrated on the 1st April) on the wrong day were teased as Aprils fools.



6 April: Good Friday- is a holy day observed by some Christians. Special prayer services are often held on this day with readings from the Gospel giving accounts of the events leading up to the crucifixion.



8 April: Eastern Day- Easter is a Christian Festival that celebrates the Resurrection of Jesus Christ. On the third day after Good Friday, mourners went to His tomb to collect His body. However, He was not there and they were greeted by an angel who said "He is Risen". (The rabbit, representing the festivity, symbolized new life and rebirth in ancient Egypt).



13 April, Thomas Jefferson Birthday: Thomas Jefferson -- author of the Declaration of Independence and the Statute of Virginia for Religious Freedom, third president of the United States, and founder of the University of Virginia -- voiced the aspirations of a new America as no other individual of his era. As public official, historian, philosopher, and plantation owner, he served his country for over five decades.



16 April: José De Diego (1866-1918) Born in Aguadilla, Puerto Rico. Studied law in Spain. He received his law degree and became a doctor of laws in 1892. During the brief interlude between the declaration of autonomy and the U.S. intervention of Puerto Rico, Diego served as Sub-secretary of Justice and Interior, and then became a magistrate of the Territory of Puerto Rico. After annexation, he combined a brilliant literary career with public service. Diego became a member of the Chamber of Delegates (1903-1917) then Chamber of Representatives, representing the Unionist Party.

Holy Week in Puerto Rico



A generally somber atmosphere prevails during Holy Week (*Semana Santa*), from Palm Sunday to Easter, processions and pageants are held island wide. Most of Puerto Rico's celebrations are in a religious vein. Off Holy Week, every town on the island has its "fiestas patronales" or patron saint festival. They regularly begin on a Friday, approximately 10 days before the date prescribed. Although services are held twice a day. In those "Fiestas Patronales" the atmosphere is more festive than religious. Music and dancing take place on the town plaza, and food stalls sell the greatest local specialties.

“El Cable Criollo” STAFF (monthly paper)

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UNCLAS