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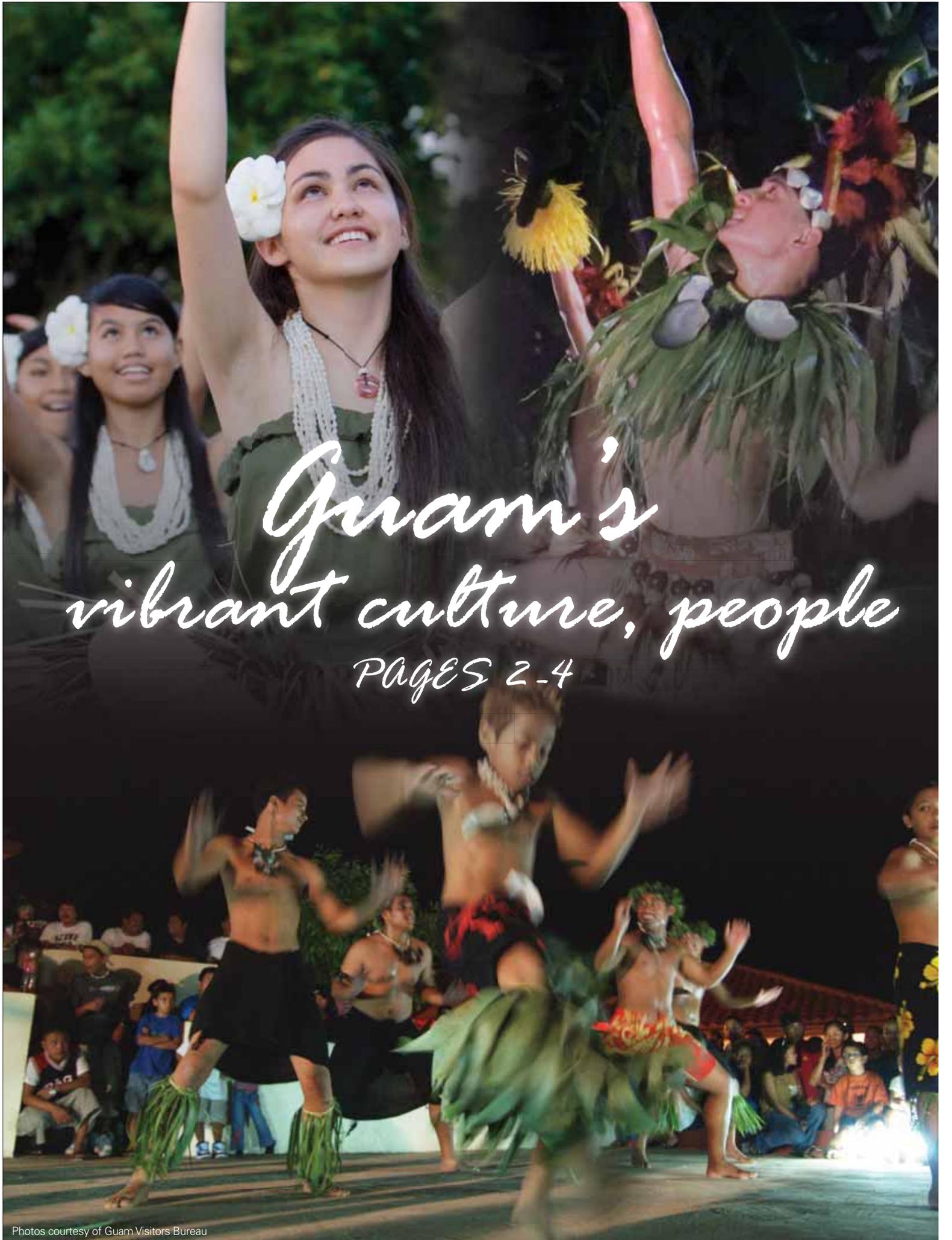
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vibrant culture, people*
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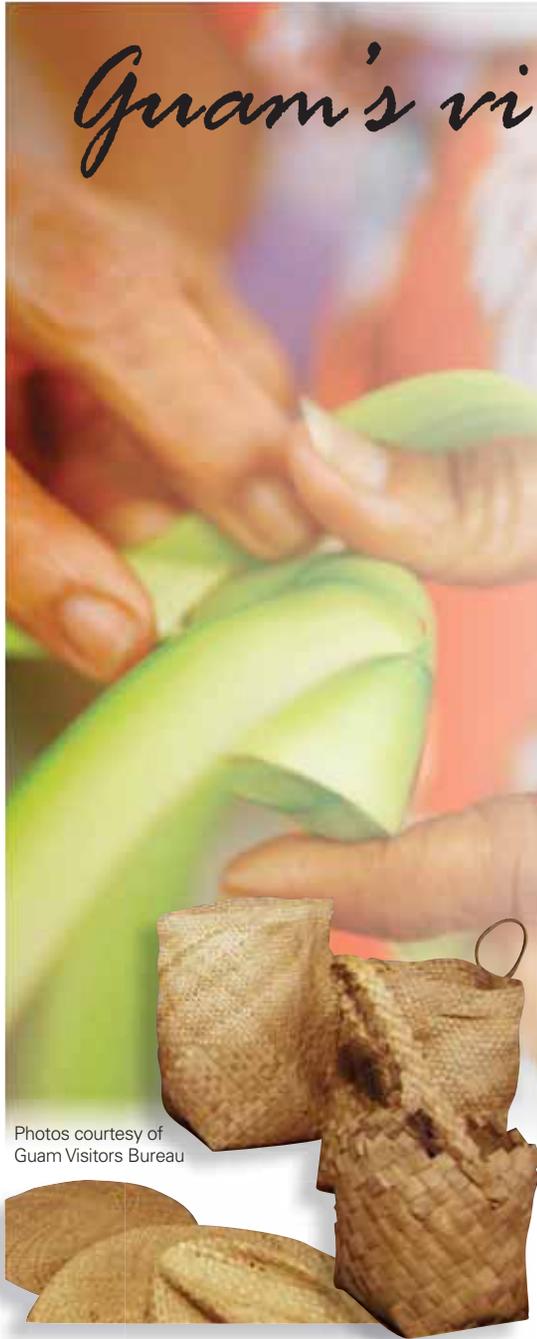
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Photos courtesy of Guam Visitors Bureau

Guam's vibrant culture, people

GUAM VISITORS BUREAU

Guam, the largest and southernmost of the Mariana Islands chain, has a unique and complex cultural history. Located in the Western Pacific in the geographic region known as Micronesia, Guam is well known for its strategic military and economic position between Asia and the North American continent, but is less known for its remarkable history and resilient people.

Inhabited for thousands of years, archaeological evidence indicates that the Marianas Islands were one of the first places to be settled by seafaring peoples, possibly from the Maritime Southeast Asia area, over 4,000 years ago. The Mariana Islands appear to have been continuously occupied by people who shared the same culture and language that eventually became known as Chamorro.

Guam's history is also one of multi-colonialism, with the last 400 years of Guam's history marked by administrations of three different colonial powers: Spain, the United States and Japan.

The ceding of Guam to the United States as an unincorporated territory after the Spanish-American War in 1898 introduced Chamorros to democratic principles of government and the modern American lifestyle, while keeping them subjects of a sometimes-oppressive U.S. Naval administration.

Guam also had a unique position in World War II, when Japan invaded the island shortly after the attack on Pearl

Harbor in December 1941. For the next three years, Guam was the only U.S. territory occupied by Japanese forces until the Americans returned in 1944 to reclaim the island.

The political maneuverings after World War II and the post-war buildup led to even more expansion of U.S. military interests in Guam and the rest of Micronesia, with Guam becoming a hub for economic and commercial development. The easing of military restrictions for entering Guam and the establishment of a local, civilian government, have made the island an ideal place for people from all over the world to visit, go to school, find jobs or pursue a variety of economic interests.

Today, in addition to its inviting beaches, elegant hotels and great bargains, Guam has another vital attraction – its unique culture. The traditions and customs of Guam's proud island heritage thrive, despite invading conquerors, wars and epidemics, and changing governments. Forged from a neolithic foundation and molded by historical events, Guam's living culture has expanded into a vibrant, modern way of life.

Since the 17th century, Catholic churches have been the center of village activities. Even today, every village has its patron saint whose feast day is celebrated with an elaborate fiesta, which the entire island is invited to attend. Family groups still hold christening parties, weddings, novenas, funerals, and

SEE PEOPLE ON PAGE 4

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Guam's seven historical eras

2,000 BC – 1668: Ancient Guam

People first arrived on Guam and the rest of the Mariana Islands probably from Southeast Asia, possibly in many waves over many years. These people evolved into the Chamorro people with their own distinct language and way of life.

1668 – 1898: Spanish Era

Starting with the arrival of Father San Vitores, Guam was colonized by Spain until the Spanish-American War.

1898 – 1941: U.S. Naval Era

The U.S. Navy ruled Guam from the end of the Spanish-American War up until the Japanese invasion of Guam on Dec. 8, 1941. The Chamorros petitioned for U.S. citizenship for the first time in 1901.

1941 – 1944: World War II/Japanese Era

Japanese forces occupied Guam from Dec. 8, 1941 to July 21, 1944.

1944-1950: Post-War Era

A period of rebuilding after the destruction of World War II. Naval governors were once again in charge of the island. This is the period when the military took land and built several large bases. The people of Guam pushed hard for self-rule and U.S. citizenship.

1950 – 1970: Guamanian Era

With the signing of the Organic Act on Aug. 1, 1950, Chamorros became U.S. citizens, though they had limited self-government. The governor, a civilian, was appointed by the U.S. president. The Organic Act set up the government of Guam as well, with the administration, the legislature and the courts. The term "Guamanian" was coined, which includes Chamorros, Filipinos and everyone else who makes Guam their home.

1970 – Present: Contemporary Guam

Guam's first elected governor took office and Guam started getting more tourism business on a regular basis, which gave the island a second industry besides the military.

- Guampedia



PEOPLE: Families Guam's cornerstone

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 2

death- anniversary rosaries. All are flavored by the rich Spanish heritage.

Spanish influence may also be seen in the mestiza, a style of women's clothing, or in the architecture of Guam's southern villages.

Countless Americans, Europeans, Asians, Micronesians and other visitors have left their imprints on the island's pastimes and tastes, but nowhere is the island's multi-cultural influence more evident than in its food.

At a fiesta or other island party, families prepare heavily laden tables of local delicacies, such as red rice, shrimp patties, a Filipino-style noodle dish called pancit, barbecued ribs and chicken, and taro leaves cooked in coconut milk. Another mouth-watering treat is kelaguen, usually prepared from chopped broiled chicken, lemon juice, grated coconut and hot peppers. Fiery finadene sauce, made with soy sauce, lemon juice or vinegar, hot peppers, and onions, is sprinkled over the food for a truly memorable dish. After a hearty meal, Chamorros often enjoy chewing pagua (betel nut) mixed with powdered lime and wrapped in pepper leaf.

Music is an integral aspect of an island lifestyle, and performances using traditional instruments, such as the belembaotuyan, are highlights of

cultural presentations. The belembaotuyan, made from a hollow gourd and strung with a taut wire and pressed against ones bare stomach, creates a melodic sound enjoyed by all. The nose flute, once a long forgotten instrument, is now making a hearty return.

The Kantan Chamorro style of singing has been a favorite form of entertainment for generations. Additionally, it has been used to lighten long hours of group work activity, such as weaving, corn husking and net fishing. One singer would begin the familiar four-line chant, referring romantically or teasingly in the verse to another person in the group. The challenged person would then take up the tune and the song might continue in this fashion with different singers for hours.

Contemporary music is an important element of social gatherings, ranging from fiestas and fandangos to casual backyard parties. Musicians usually sing Chamorro, American, Filipino, or a variety of Asian songs.

Legends and folklore about village taotaomo'na (ancient spirits), doomed lovers leaping to their death off Two Lovers' Point (Puntan Dos Amanetes), and Sirena, a beautiful young girl who became a mermaid, are portrayed in many of Guam's enriching cultural dances.

Guam's traditional arts are

very much alive. During cultural fairs and exhibitions, visitors often have the opportunity to watch master weavers, carvers and even a blacksmith at work.

Weavers, using the traditional pandanus or coconut fibers, fashion baskets of various sizes, purses, hats, floor mats and wall hangings. Carvers hew tables, plaques, figurines of people or animals, and household implements using ifil wood or pago woods.

The traditional ways are being passed along to the younger generations through apprenticeship programs in order to preserve the island's art heritage. A master blacksmith, for example, recently graduated three pupils who have learned how to make useful steel farming and fishing implements, such as coconut graters, hoes, machetes and fishing spearheads. Other hand-forged items include betel nut scissors, tools for weaving and knives.

A trip to Guam is like visiting the four exotic corners of the globe. Guam is considered the hub of the western Pacific and undeniably Micronesia's most cosmopolitan destination - a true example of the great American melting pot. In addition to the indigenous Chamorros and 'stateside' Americans, Guam boasts large populations of Filipinos, Chinese, Japanese, Koreans and Micronesian Islanders, as well as a few Vietnamese, Indians and Europeans.

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Adm. Karl Shultz, the commandant of the Coast Guard, presided over the groundbreaking of the Cmdr. Carlton Skinner building at Naval Base on July 22. Photos by Auxiliariest David Liu, U.S. Coast Guard

Trailblazer for civil rights in Coast Guard remembered

BY PO3 MATTHEW WEST,
U.S. COAST GUARD
DISTRICT 14 HAWAII PACIFIC

SANTA-RITA — Seventy-years after President Harry Truman appointed Carlton Skinner the first civilian governor of Guam, Adm. Karl Schultz, the commandant of the Coast Guard, presided over the groundbreaking of the new Cmdr. Carlton Skinner building at Naval Base Guam, Monday.

The building will support three new Fast Response Cutters replacing the two 110-foot Island Class cutters currently stationed in Guam as the Coast Guard continues its efforts to modernize its fleet to better respond to an ever-evolving and interconnected global maritime transportation system.

“We are growing our presence and capabilities in the Indo-Pacific,” said Schultz. “We broke ground on a state-of-the-art support facility for three new Fast Response Cutters, which will be homeported in Guam and patrol throughout the region, protecting U.S. national security and economic interests. Named after Carlton Skinner, a U.S. Coast Guard WWII veteran and the first civilian governor of Guam, this FRC Maintenance Team Building is a physical representation of our close ties to the people of Guam, its history, and our long-standing commitment to their liberty. Semper Paratus!”

Skinner was an advocate for greater self-rule for the people

of the territory. Guam was under military-control since the United States had taken it from Spain during the Spanish-American War. During an interview in 1970 with James A. Oestele for the John F. Kennedy Library History Program, Skinner stated his view on how he felt concerning self-rule in the Pacific.

“I don’t have the precise date.... But the Navy had ruled these islands continuously ever since, and in my opinion, the people were denied their basic civil rights by being under military rule, various aspects of that, not the least of which was that they had no legislative bodies with legislative powers,” said Skinner.

Skinner was a part of the drafting process for the Guam Organic Act of 1950, the constitution of Guam, and breaking the chain of military rule. This event was not the first time he was a trailblazer for civil rights.

During World War II, Skinner was the executive officer aboard the Coast Guard Cutter Northland as it patrolled off the coast of Greenland. It was his job to evaluate and recommend service members under his command for advancement.

At the time, the United States military segregated African-Americans and limited them to specific rates aboard ships. Skinner recalled in the interview with Oestele, a particular African-American steward’s mate who served under him.

In Skinner’s words, this steward was a genius with diesel

Skinner’s experiment to deliberately desegregate an American warship was a first.

motors. Skinner said he would spend all his free time in the engine room, studying motors and their manuals, and desired to be a motor machinist’s mate. The rate was prohibited to African-Americans at the time.

“It seems to me very logical that he should be, and I had him examined for this and recommend him to headquarters and headquarters sent back that he could not be because he was [African-American],” said Skinner. “This irritated me; it infuriated me. I had him re-examined, and appealed, and finally he was rated as a motor machinist’s mate.”

Skinner went on to discuss how this situation made him view the bigger problem of racial segregation in the Coast Guard and Navy. When the cutter returned from Greenland, he recommended to the commandant of the Coast Guard a program be created for the inclusion of African-Americans in the general ratings at sea.

This effort was the birth of the USS Sea Cloud experiment. Skinner received orders to become

the executive officer of the Sea Cloud, a Navy weather ship, in 1943. He was later made the ships commanding officer, and began overseeing desegregation of the vessel with African-American sailors filling general rating roles. Within a few months, there were over 50 African-Americans assigned to the ship.

The experiment to deliberately desegregate an American warship was a first. Skinner had asked for no special treatment or publicity as the cutter fulfilled its roles without incident, proving the process should and could work.

With Skinner’s history in mind it is fitting that, 76 years after the Sea Cloud experiment began, the building now bearing his name will provide support for two cutters named after minorities who broke through prejudicial barriers in their time.

The Fast Response Cutters Oliver Henry, Myrtle Hazard and Frederik Hatch are scheduled to arrive in Guam over the next three years.

Oliver Henry is recognized as the first African-American to successfully make the transfer from steward’s mate to motor machinist’s mate and may very well have been the steward’s mate Skinner had referred to in his interview as they both served aboard the Northland together during the Greenland patrol.

Myrtle Hazard is considered the first active-duty female Coast Guard service member. She served as an electricians mate

in 1918, and while women had served in several different capacities to the precursor services of the Coast Guard such as lighthouse keepers, she was the first enlisted female service member in the Service.

The Coast Guard remains committed to the concept of diversity all these years after Skinner began his time on the Sea Cloud. Recently, the commandant has made diversity within the Coast Guard a top priority. One of Schultz’s primary directives is to recruit and retain an inclusive and diverse workforce that reflects the American public the Coast Guard Serves.

“Our leaders must be champions of diversity and inclusion at all levels of the Service,” said Schultz, “Now is the time to make tangible changes to the way our Service approaches diversity and inclusion. It starts with us, but our message must make it to all levels of the Coast Guard. Carry our message, Shipmates.”

Vincent Patton, who served as the master chief petty officer of the Coast Guard from 1998 to 2002, stated Skinner was a leading figure in integrating the United States military during an interview with the publication SFGate in 2004. He also said Skinner had received little credit for it.

“But then he wasn’t interested in getting a lot of notice, and Mr. Skinner said all along this wasn’t about creating a social experiment... but about putting people in the right job,” said Patton.

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3 Rota Hole
4 Shoun Maru
5 Bird Sanctuary
6 Taga Stone Quarry
7 Ancient Chamorro Village, Mochong Latte Site
8 Swimming Hole
9 Teteto Beach

Mt. Tapingot (Wedding Cake Mountain)

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Saipan

- Saipan
- Tinian
- Aguijan

Rota

- Agana

Guam

The island of Rota (Luta) “Nature’s Treasure Island” is the southernmost island of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands (CNMI). Guam is about 47 nautical miles (87 km) south of Rota, and the CNMI, make up the Mariana Archipelago. The Marianas consist of fifteen volcanic islands that extends 420 miles from Guam in the south to Farallon De Pajaros in the north.

Rota is a hidden gem in the Marianas, tropical paradise, with spectacular snorkeling, great fishing, beautiful natural scenery, rich in history, interesting archaeological sites, savory local delicacy and genuine Chamorro tradition. It is well-known for its hospitable people, welcoming guests to the island, and the great Hafa Adai spirit of the local Chamorros.



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Military appreciation night makes problems seem minor league

I was running late, as usual. A mini-crisis had erupted on email at home, and typing an emergency response had put me behind schedule. My tires squealed turning past the "Lot Full" sign at the parking lot entrance across from the ballpark. I gave the attendant as pathetic a look as I could muster, but before I could beg, he waved his hand toward a space that had just opened up.

After parking, I jogged toward the spot where I had agreed to meet my 24-year-old son, Hayden. He had called two weeks prior to tell me that his employer, Raytheon Company, was sponsoring Military Appreciation Night at a Newport Gulls baseball game. Did I want to go with him? I jumped on the rare invitation from my quirky, loner, too-intelligent-for-his-own-good, software-engineering son.

Hayden was there, as promised, standing in front of the green wooden entrance to Cardines Field, one of the oldest ballparks in the country. The night's New England Collegiate League game was between our

own Rhode Island Newport Gulls and the New Bedford Bay Sox of Massachusetts.

Hayden fished our tickets from the overloaded pocket of his gym shorts, and we entered the old stadium to find seats among the peanut shell-littered wooden bleachers. The tiny ballpark looked more like a little league field than a place where future pros might play, but I loved the nostalgia of it.

As it was Military Appreciation Night, an emcee dressed in red striped pants and a star-studded blue jacket was announcing the names of veterans gathered behind the pitcher's mound. Navy Band Northeast musicians stood nearby in their crackerjack dress whites, their horns glinting in the setting sun. Past first base, four uniformed reservists held flags, ready to parade the colors onto the field for the National Anthem.

While veterans threw first pitches, the seagull-costumed mascot "Gully" interacted with the modest crowd of Monday night spectators, people lined

The Meat and Potatoes of Life

Lisa Smith Molinari



limb caught my attention. The emcee introduced him as Army Sgt. Brandon Deaton, accompanied by his wife and two small children.

Deaton, the emcee explained, lost his left leg in a roadside explosion in Iraq.

The crowd quieted, and even the players took notice.

The emcee announced that he had a surprise for Deaton and his family. From the stands, an all-terrain wheelchair was rolled out, donated by The Independence Fund of Rhode Island. Deaton, stunned, sat in the state-of-the-art device, and drove it onto the pitcher's mound while the crowd looked on.

Then, one by one, people stood up from their phones and peanuts and licorice whips. I stood too, and we all applauded this brave American hero. In that moment, as a fat tear rolled down my cheek, the jumbled priorities of my world were magically reset.

Major crises become bush league annoyances when one considers those who give life and limb to serve in the U.S. military.

Read more of Lisa Smith Molinari's columns at: themeatandpotatoesoflife.com
Email: meatandpotatoesoflife@gmail.com

Major crises become bush league annoyances when one considers those who give life and limb to serve in the U.S. military.

my face in my texts, complaining to friends about my crisis du jour.

But then, the speaker cracked with the emcee's voice. Near the third-base line, a bearded man with a prosthetic



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From left, Eddie Davis and his brothers Julius, Octavious, Lebronze, Frederick, Arguster and Nathaniel pose for a photo behind a family picture.

11 brothers from Alabama, 158 years of military service

STORY AND PHOTOS BY ADRIAN SAINZ, ASSOCIATED PRESS

TUNICA, Miss. — The sons of Ben and Hattie Davis give special meaning to the term “band of brothers.”

Eleven in all, their combined 158 years of service to the U.S. military make them brothers in arms as well as brothers raised on a family farm in rural Alabama.

Seven of the 11 gathered in mid-July at a hotel and casino in Mississippi for a reunion thick with brotherly love and military pride. They laughed together, told stories from their days growing up and serving the country and reminisced about what it was like to be black in the U.S. military in the 20th century.

But in the end, they talked less about racism and more about the lack of respect all veterans feel from their fellow Americans.

“Being in the military, it was a fine thing,” said Lebronze Davis, who fought in the Vietnam War and has survived cancer and heart surgery. “We all think we’ve done an outstanding job.”

In 2017, the Davis men were honored by the National Infantry Museum Foundation. The names of the 11 brothers and their uncle are engraved on four paving stones installed at the museum.

“What these brothers did out of love for both family and country is nothing short of remarkable,” foundation president Pete Jones said in a statement to The Associated Press. “Their sense of duty is unrivaled, and is the kind of spirit that makes our nation’s armed forces the greatest in the world.”

Sixteen siblings — the 11 veterans, plus three sisters and two brothers who did not enter the military — grew up on a 60-acre cotton farm in Wetumpka, Alabama, where their parents worked hard to put food on the table. Mom was the disciplinarian, dad had a softer approach.

“Their moral and ethical values were pristine,” said Arguster, the youngest at 67 years old.

When the boys graduated high school, it seemed natural to enter the military.

Military experience runs long in the Davis family. The brothers’ uncle, 99-year-old Master Sgt. Thomas Davis, survived Pearl Harbor’s surprise attack.

Ben Jr. was the first brother to enlist. He joined the Navy in 1944, while World War II was still raging.

Arguster served in the Air Force for four years and then the Air Force Reserve until 1998.

Lebronze, 70, saw the heaviest fighting of the group: He survived jungle ambushes as an Army soldier in Vietnam, where he developed advanced napping skills.

“I can go out in any bushes and sleep like a Holiday Inn,” Lebronze said. “You learn how to do it because you are so tired. But guess what, you can hear a gnat go by you.”

The brothers talk often, and try get together every year. This year, seven of them traveled to Tunica, Mississippi, for some gambling and buffet action to celebrate three July birthdays.

The Davis roll call features a mix of personalities.

Octavious, the brothers agree, is the jokester. An Army veteran, he drew riotous laughter when he told a bear-in-the-woods joke.

“We just like to get together and talk trash and just have a good time,” said Octavious, 80. “All of us are close.”

Lebronze is known as the straightforward brother. Brothers Frederick, 68 — the serious one — and the more practical Julius, 73, joined him in serving in the Army during Vietnam.

Eddie, 89, also served during Vietnam, but that was just part of his 23-year career with the Army and Air Force. He has a more spiritual side, while Army veteran Nathaniel, 75, is no-nonsense.

Washington, a six-year Army veteran, has passed away. Ben, Alphonza, who served 29 years in the Army, and Calvin, who did four years in the Navy, couldn’t attend.

In their years after serving, the brothers have worked for the U.S. Postal Service and the Bureau of Prisons, as electricians and businessmen. And they clearly have shared personality traits: friendliness, strong work ethic, mutual respect.

They remember being disrespected too, like the white-only drinking fountains and “colored-only” waiting areas they endured while growing up in the years of legal segregation.

“These were the norms we saw,” Nathaniel said.

But the brothers said they didn’t experience much racism in the military. Julius does recall when his base in Mobile, Alabama, was put on alert the day Martin Luther King Jr. was assassinated in Memphis, Tennessee.

“Everybody thought that black people were going to tear the town up,” he said.

Octavious says the brothers don’t often talk with one another about their military experiences. Lebronze won’t watch war movies and he doesn’t even dream about his time in Vietnam.

But they all boomed a collective “no” in response to one question: Are veterans respected as much today as in the past?

Arguster says he has grown weary of the over-used phrase, “thank you for your service.”

His preference? “I would much rather hear them say, ‘Thank you for helping to keep this country free.’”



Lebronze Davis shows a reporter newspaper articles about him and his brothers.

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Left: Josefa Muñoz, a Sea Turtle Biologist with the University of Guam Sea Grant, releases the babies of an endangered Green Sea Turtle.

Leilani Sablan, a Sea Turtle Biologist with the University of Guam Sea Grant catalogs the eggs of the endangered Green Sea Turtle.

Leilani Sablan, a Sea Turtle Biologist with the University of Guam Sea Grant measures the depth of a nest of the endangered Green Sea Turtle on July 25 at Andersen Air Force Base. Photos by Airman 1st Class Amir R. Young, U.S. Air Force

An endangered Green Sea Turtle crawls into the water.

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PIRATES, BUCCANEERS AND

GUAMPEDIA

Although the word 'pirate' is used in early documents, secondary literature on Guam's history has also referred to these pirates as 'adventurers', 'buccaneers' and 'privateers' which refer to the same profession of, among other things, preying upon and stealing from ships, with the primary objective being Spanish galleons carrying gold and silver. The term 'buccaneer' originates from

the Caribbean Islands and refers to pirates that attacked Spanish and later French shipping in the 17th and 18th centuries. A privateer was a ship authorized by a country to attack enemy shipping and by default those undertaking these attacks became known as privateers.

After a June 1668 royal order requiring all Acapulco originating galleons to



stop at Guam in support of the Spanish Christian mission there, fires were kept burning at the highest points of Guam when the ships were thought due so that they would not miss the island. The fires, however, may have also helped attract pirates.

Here are some accounts of visits to Guam from 'adventurers.'



Oliver van Noort

Dutch expedition

In 1597 the Dutch began raiding into the Pacific, hoping that by attacking the Spanish colonies and ships they could force the Spanish to grant them independence. In 1598 the Dutch launched an expedition to the Pacific under Admiral Oliver van Noort, who was acclaimed a hero for striking at the Spanish and completing the fourth expedition (after Magellan, Hawkins, and Cavendish) to circumnavigate the globe.

Van Noort first sighted Guam on September 15, 1600, approaching the island on the east side. He wrote that a canoe came alongside when they were still half a league away, and soon many more came out in their canoes with fish, coconuts, bananas, yams and sugarcane to barter for iron.



Oliver van Noort

Noted Chamorros swimming abilities

He made note of the how strong the Chamorros were and about their excellent swimming abilities, also saying they were tricksters:

We were coasting the island which runs south and north about seven or eight leagues according to our estimate. We

doubled the south cape, from which we saw a low point coming out where we thought we could anchor and the canoes were coming out from all sides to barter. There must have been over 200 canoes and aboard each two, three, four and five men, pressing together noisily, shouting hiero, hiero, which means iron, iron. Because of the pressing we must have crushed two or three underneath our keel; but, they did not care, because they are very good swimmers, know how to upturn their canoes and put back everything that was in it.

These islands bear their true name of Ladrones, because everybody there is inclined to steal, and is very subtle at it, even remarkable, because they cheated us in various ways in trading with them; by placing a handful of rice on top of a basket of coconut leaves; it looks as if there was much inside, but upon opening it, one finds only leaves and other things, because when bartering they place their canoes behind or on the side of the ships without coming aboard, and one must tie a piece of iron to a cord, and take in exchange what they give.

Some of them came aboard the ship, where they were given some food and drink, and one of them seeing one of our people who had a sword in hand, who was doing his turn at guard duty, grabbed it from him and leapt overboard with it, diving under the water. We aimed a few shots at others who had also stolen some things: but they all jumped overboard to avoid the shots, and the others who were not guilty did not care at all.

These people live in the water as well as on land, according to our opinion, because they know how to dive so skilfully, the women as well as the men, which we noticed when we threw five pieces of iron into the water which one single man went in to get all from below, something that amazed us very much.

Van Noort also commented on the canoes:

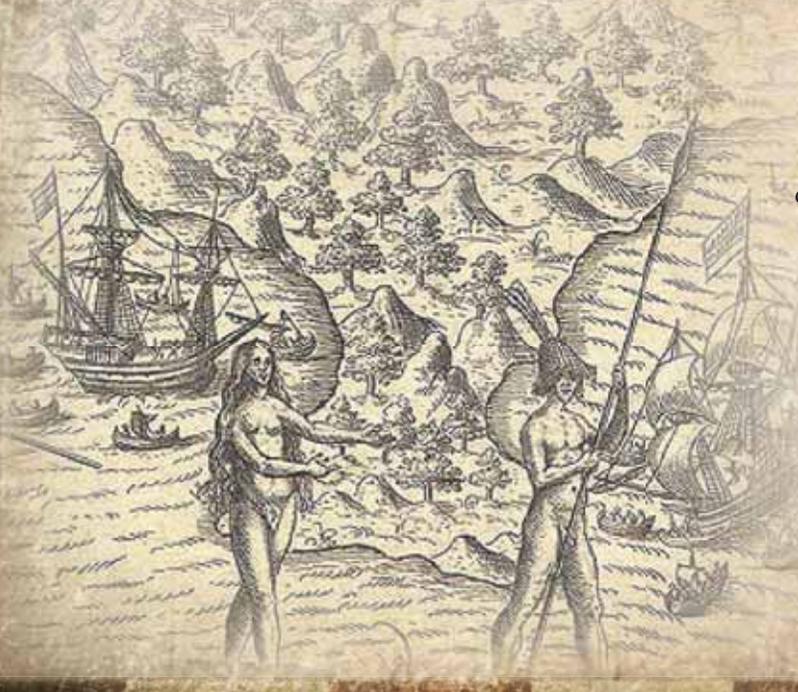
Their canoes are very beautiful and well made, such as any that we have seen in the Indies, being about 15 or 20 feet in length, and one foot and a half wide: They knew how to handle them well, sailing before the wind rather skillfully, without turning around to tack; rather, they sail against the wind with the other end forward, leaving the sail as is, which is made of reeds like dressed sheepskin.

Some women came aboard as well completely naked as the men, except that they had a green leaf before their middle. They wear their hair long and the men shorn just like we see at home, Adam and Eve in paintings.

- By Shannon J. Murphy

John Eaton Chamorro

John Eaton and William A. ... ited Guam in March 1683. ... letter that the ship was fi ... Manila with supplies for the Sp



Cowley wrote that the sailors who brought them:

"potatoes, mananoes, co to us for old nails and old trusted them not for we ha great guns loaden with rou we would have our deck fu always in arms.

AND PRIVATEERS OF GUAM



Woodes Rogers

British privateer

Just after three frigates under his command had captured the Spanish galleon *Nuestra Señora de Encarnacion* (which he renamed *Bachelor*), British privateer Woodes Rogers arrived at Guam on March 11, 1710, asking that Governor Juan Antonio Pimentel enable him to replenish his ships – otherwise he would bombard the island.



On January 4, Rogers had also attempted to take the galleon *Nuestra Señora de Begoña*, resulting in eight deaths and twenty-eight men wounded in the battle that followed. Rogers was lying in wait on Guam for the *Begoña*, which failed to show.

Rogers sent a letter ahead from his ship to Governor Pimentel, saying that he wished to purchase all the provisions which could be spared (to be paid for very likely with pieces of eight that were part of the booty), and that furthermore if the Spanish refused to deal with him he would blast their villages with his ships' guns. Governor Pimentel, who had only 130 troops as compared to Rogers' 300 men, agreed on the condition that they put ashore the prisoners they had taken from the galleon.

Governor Pimentel directly made a present to Captain Rogers of four bullocks, limes, oranges, and coconuts. In return Rogers invited Governor Pimentel and four of his officers aboard his ship for dining and entertainment. Later, Rogers and his officers also visited the governor's palace in Hagåtña and were given a feast of more than sixty dishes of various delicacies. Along with needed food supplies, Governor Pimentel added "2 Negro Boys dress'd in Liveries, 20 Yards of Scarlet Cloth-Serge, and 2 Pieces of Cambrick" before Rogers departed the island. For his mandated hospitality, Governor Pimentel was to spend several years imprisoned in Manila.

Rogers and his men were also very impressed with the speed and workmanship of the Chamorro flying proas which they saw all around them in the Guam and Rota waters. Captain Rogers observed:

By what I saw, I believe they may run twenty miles an hour, for they passed our ships like a bird flying.

When Rogers left Guam March 22, 1710, he took one of the flying proas back to London with him as a souvenir.

– By Dirk A. Ballendorf, PhD and Nicholas J. Goetzfridt, PhD

Eaton and William Cowley

asked for help

Ambrosia Cowley, English pirates, visited in 1715. Jesuit Father Juan Tilpe wrote in a first thought to be a Spanish ship from Spanish garrison on Guam. It was then believed to be a French warship since its captain communicated in French.

Eaton asked for supplies for his scurvy suffering crew, trading gunpowder and several rifles for pigs, corn, rice, and other foods.

Arriving on Guam at the height of the Spanish-Chamorro Wars, the crew found the governor Don Damian Esplana in a state of uneasiness reporting that a chief named Yula had fought the Spaniards less than a year before, wounding the governor and killing several priests and soldiers.

were well received by the Chamorros

coconuts and plantains, selling them for iron. But they being treacherous, we had always our small arms ready, and shot and balls and cartridges. Sometimes we fought with these infidels but we were

Some of the Englishmen went fishing with the Chamorros when the Chamorros surrounded the boat with a net as though to draw it ashore together its crew, Crowley noted. The crew reacted by shooting at the Chamorros.

(We) let go in amongst the thickest of them and killed a great many of their number while the others, seeing their mates fall, ran away. Our other men which were on shoar meeting them, saluted them also by making holes in their hides.

We took our boat immediately thereupon, and went on board, most of our well men being on shoar, and seeing many of these infidels' boats lie along our ship's side, did not know what design they might have on board (against) our sick men, but as it fell out, there were boats which came from the governor, with more presents for our refreshment.

Several Chamorros approached "the French" to seek an alliance with them to "wipe out all the Spanish."

We took four of these infidels prisoners, and brought them on board, binding their hands behind them. But they had not been long there, when three of them leaped overboard into the sea, swimming away from the ship with their hands tied behind them. However we sent the boat after them and found a strong man at the first blow could not penetrate their skins with a cutlance. One of them had received in my judgment, forty shots in his body before he died. And the last of the three that was killed had swam a good English mile first not only with his hands tied behind him, as before, but also with his arms pinion'd.

The governor rewarded the pirates for killing the Chamorros by giving them more supplies after which they saluted him with three guns and sailed away on April 11, leaving behind Chamorros reluctant to attempt to make alliances with any other visiting ships. Shortly after Eaton was gone, the Chamorros nevertheless launched another assault against the Spaniards, killing several soldiers but failing to dislodge them from their Hagåtña fort.

– By Nicholas J. Goetzfridt, PhD and Shannon J. Murphy

PIRATES
SEE MORE ON PAGE 14

PIRATES
CONTINUED FROM PAGE 13

William “Bully” Hayes

Slaver captured by Chamorros

William “Bully” Hayes was a blackbirder (slave trader) and criminal who in the nineteenth century terrorized the inhabitants of Micronesia for many years. He was born in Cleveland (Ohio) sometime around 1829 and died in the Marshall Islands in 1877. In the last years of the nineteenth century and early decades of the twentieth he became a legendary figure as an adventurer.

Although the British authorities of the H.M.S. Rosario tried to capture Hayes in Kusaie (now Kosrae) after the accusations made against him by the islanders and his own crew, the credit for the arrest of Hayes shall always be for Chamorro lieutenant and gobernadorcillo (little governor or mayor) of Hagåtña José Pérez Cruz, who captured Hayes in his undergarments, in a cove near Falcona Point in northern of Guam.

Hayes landed at Guam on February 28, 1875. He apparently planned to engage in commerce with a Captain Willney and bought a small schooner – the Joaquina Ana – from Francisco Portusach who would later become the disputed acting governor of Guam after American Captain Henry Glass seized Guam from the Spanish in 1898.

Hayes renamed the ship Arabia and after satisfying official requirements, departed Apra Harbor on April 8 bound for Pohnpei but secretly carrying nine Spanish political deportees sentenced to exile on Guam and six Chamorros wishing to emigrate illegally. These people had apparently paid whatever price Hayes demanded of them.

Eventually alerted to the scheme and the Arabia having been sighted off Falcona Point, Chamorro Lieutenant José Pérez Cruz with twenty men of the local militia walked overland to Falcona. Seeing the Arabia silhouetted against the horizon, Pérez and his men waited through the night and finally



saw Hayes approach the shore early the next morning in a boat in his underwear.

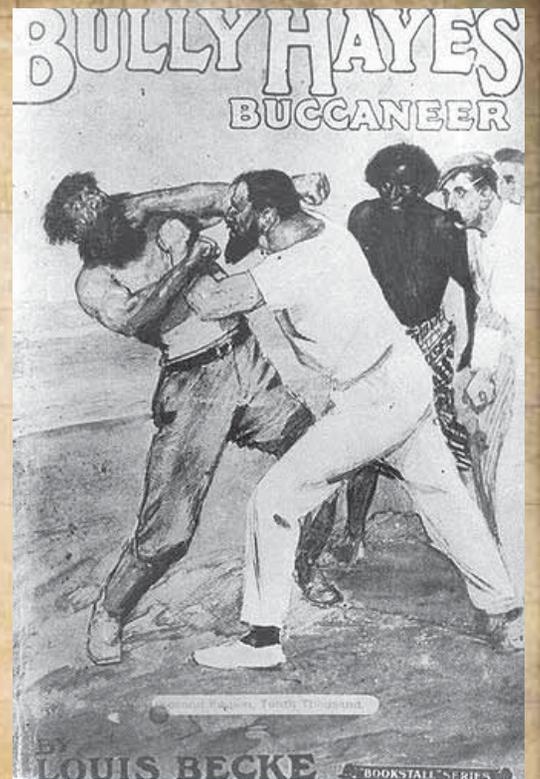
Intending from the start to take their money once he got rid of them, Hayes had spent the night pretending the wind was too weak to sail and attempted to get the passengers to go to the shore to swim. Prompted by the reluctance of his clandestine passengers, Hayes took off his clothes to try to demonstrate that he was serious about taking a swim and was promptly seized by Lt. Pérez and his men.

Seeing what was happening on shore, the passengers forced the pilot to pull anchor and sail on to Palau where the Chamorros may have gotten off. The Arabia then sailed on to Singapore where the deportees found their way home to Spain. Hayes was imprisoned in Hagåtña until June 10 when he was sent to Manila, tried and imprisoned for about nine months.

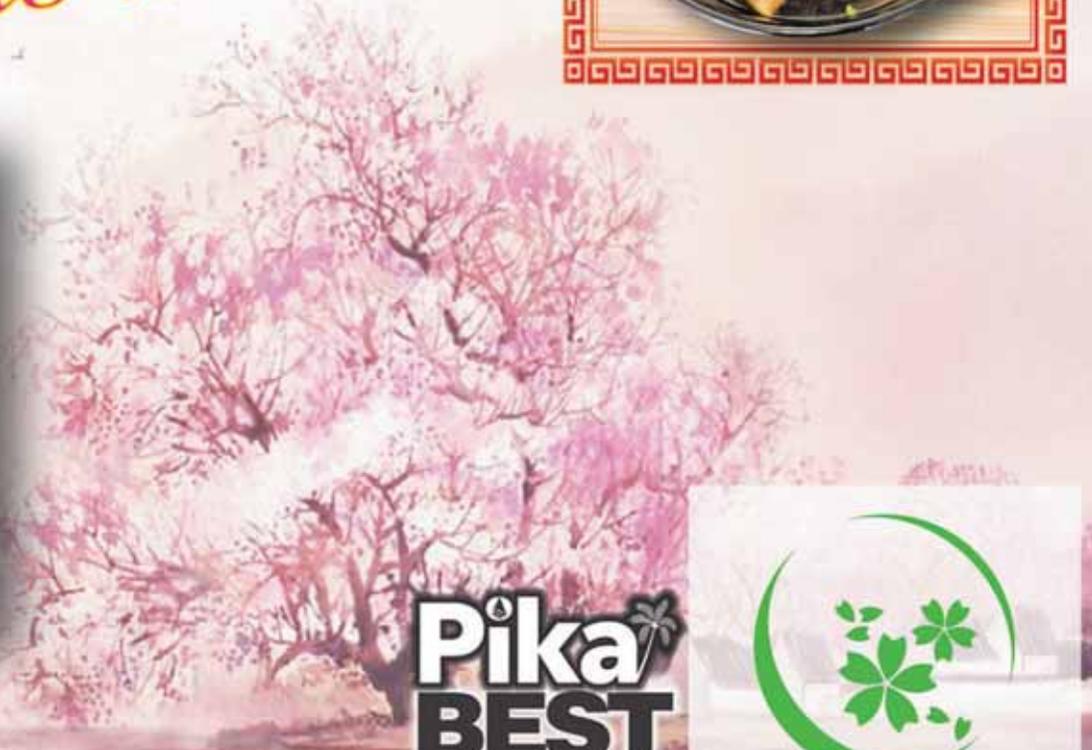
After spending some time in San Francisco, in April 1877 Hayes returned to Micronesia on board the yacht Lotus. While navigating near Jaluit in the Marshall Islands, he was murdered by a blow from an iron fitting. Reportedly, he left a widow and twin daughters in Samoa, and most probably an undetermined number of illegitimate descendants in different islands of the Pacific.

In 1983, Hollywood star Tommy Lee Jones portrayed William Hayes in the movie Nate and Hayes. In 1986, the Federated States of Micronesia issued a number of stamps based on scenes of his tumultuous life.

– By Carlos Madrid and Nicholas J. Goetzfridt, PhD



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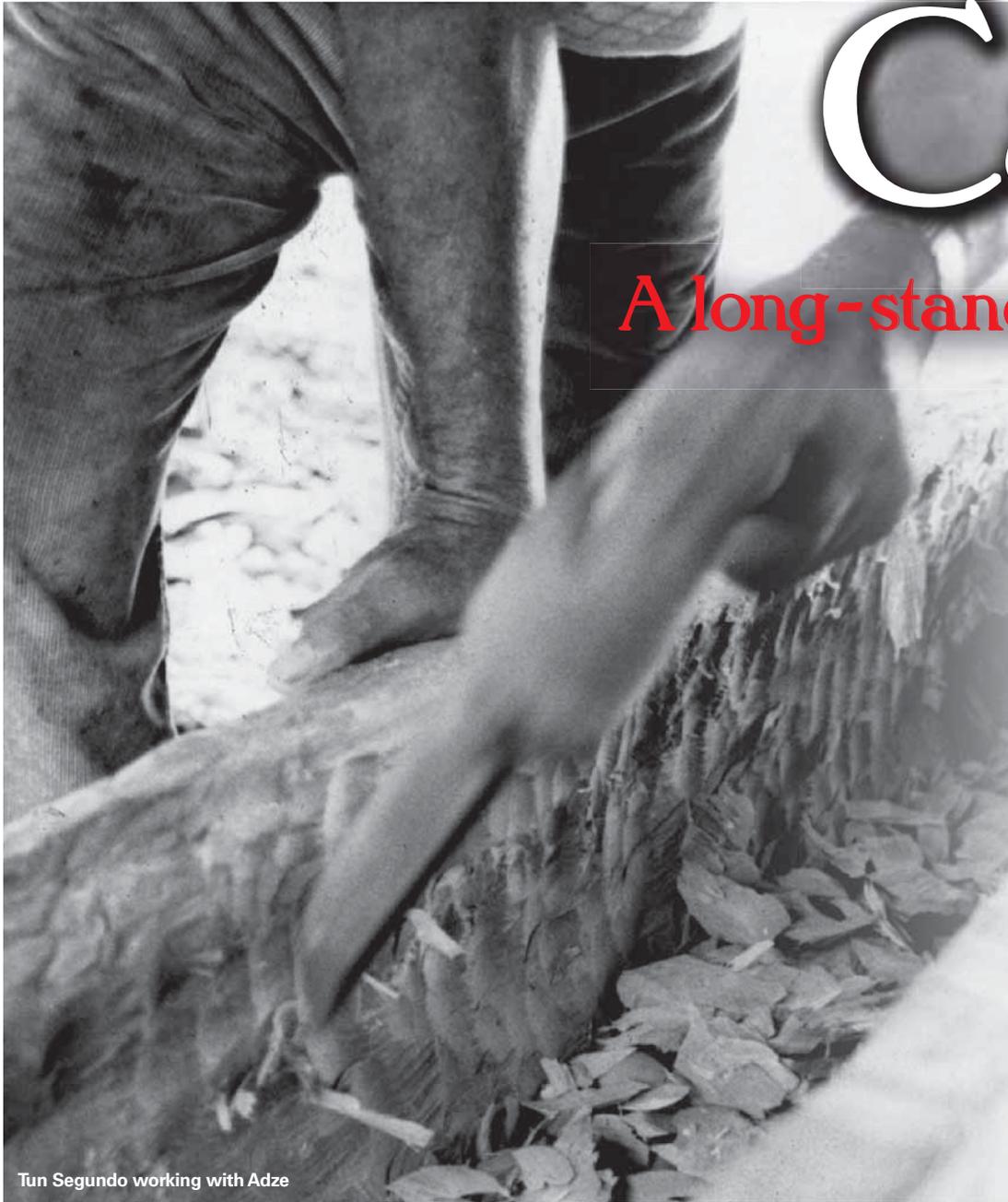


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Carving

A long-standing tradition on Guam

STORY AND PHOTOS BY
TAMMY JO ANDERSON-TAFT,
GUAMPEDIA

Carving is an ancient tradition on Guam and in the Mariana Islands. The craft was used for thousands of years to create utilitarian items as well as body adornments. Pieces like *latte* (monolithic ancient stone structures with capstones used as house supports), shell jewelry and tools demonstrate the skill of ancient carvers. This skill was important because carving was vital to life in ancient times.

The craft continued to be both utilitarian and artistic through the Spanish rule of Guam beginning the late 17th century. During the second half of the 20th century, carving on Guam moved away from its utilitarian roots and became more of an art form. Modern day carvers, however, continue to incorporate ancient

symbols and color and often use ancient carving techniques to create their pieces.

Although the use for carving has changed, the raw materials used has not. Carvers on Guam typically use materials found on the island including stone, wood, bone and shell. Working with different materials also means there are many different carving techniques and styles. While some of these techniques have been

updated during the 20th century, many carvers continue to employ traditional techniques in honor of their ancestors.

Ancient carving practices

Carving was an essential craft for the ancient Chamorros. They used carving to fulfill many of



Tun Segundo working with Adze

SEE CARVING ON PAGE 16



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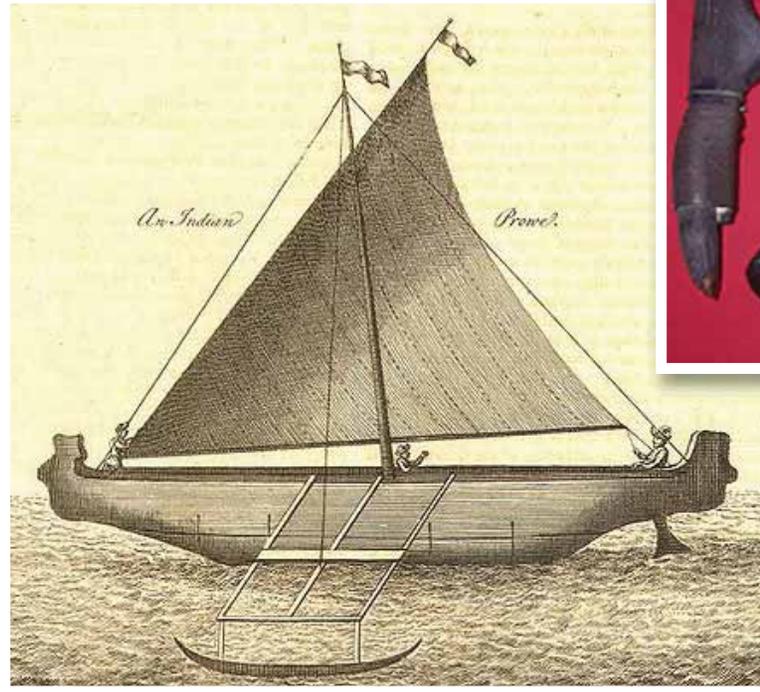
CARVING: Big part of ancient Chamorro culture

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 15

their needs including shelter, food preparation and decoration. One of the most well-known icons of ancient Chamorro culture is the carved stone latte. These stone structures were created with two pieces; pillars and capstones carved from land and sea resources, including limestone and brain coral. Basalt tools such as adzes were used to chip the stone while rubble was removed with wooden shovels and by hand. The largest latte can still be found on Guam's neighboring island of Tinian where some capstones measure more than eight feet in diameter with shafts in excess of twelve feet in height.

Chamorros also used stones to carve objects used in every day living. The *lusong* (mortar) and *lommok* (pestle) were typically carved from basalt or limestone. *Se'se* (knives) were carved from stone as well as bamboo or shells. Slingstones and fishing hooks were also carved during ancient times. Carving was also used to create useful tools. The *gachai* (adze) was an axe created by carving a wooden handle and using a thick clam shell for the blade.

Many ancient carvers worked with wood. Ancient Chamorros were known as



Proa

skilled seafarers and their main transportation on the water were carved canoes. European explorers traveling through the Marianas archipelago noted the graceful shape and artistry of the Chamorro canoes. The small crafts were said to have cut through ocean waves like dolphins and fly like birds in the wind. These wooden water crafts, in a variety of sizes, were commonly used throughout the

Marianas.

The canoe carving process began with selecting the proper type and sized tree. Many times, carvers utilized the hard *ifil* (ifit) tree, monkeypod wood, *nunu* (banyan) tree or *dokdok* (breadfruit) tree for material. After a tree was chosen and harvested, the bark was stripped and a design was created. Carvers would mark each end of a tree with a V-shape to



Basalt Adzes

wealth and status of a person. This type of jewelry is highly valued because of the difficulty in obtaining the shells.

Carving to preserve traditions

Many contemporary carvers in the Marianas produce items that represent icons of Chamorro history. The monolithic latte are no longer carved of stone, but are depicted in smaller wood carvings or as images on plaques. Small models of Chamorro carabao carts, complete with passengers, cargo and tools, and model proas with sailors, paddles and sails made from cloth or other materials are popular.

Other traditional items are stories carved into varying pieces of wood. These storyboards range in size and detail, depending upon the artist. Typically the pieces depict an iconic story or legend from Guam's history. Popular storyboard topics include the Guam legends of two powerful

form the sea-going vessel.

Ancient Chamorros also used animal shells for carving items. Money was carved from turtle shells or *Spondylus* (spiny oyster) shells. Jewellery was often created from shells found on the beach which are relatively hard and easily workable with stone tools. During ancient times, small disks carved of spondylus were placed on necklaces and represented the



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Tun Segundo Blas

chiefs, Two Lover's Point, Sirena and the Chamorro story of the creation of the world.

Carvers on Guam have (and continue to) produce utilitarian pieces including tables, benches, *mitatis* (flat grinding stone) and *kamyo* (coconut grinder) stools. In addition to decorative pieces, carvers create other utilitarian pieces including furniture from local woods.

Master Carver Emilio Borja was known for using ifit to carve canoes and spear guns. Borja grew up in Palau (formally known as the Republic of Palau, a nearby island in Micronesia) and moved to Guam in the late 1940s. He was trained in carving by his father. This practice has been passed on to his children and extended family. In 1976 Borja, along with Master Carver Segundo Blas, were commissioned by then-Governor Ricardo J. Bordallo to build a canoe for the bicentennial of Guam. The project took six months to complete.



Legend of Two Chiefs

Blas, another well-known and respected master carver, learned how to build canoes as a youth on Saipan and Palau. Blas was also instrumental in preserving the Chamorro culture, sharing his knowledge of carving skills to a younger generation. In the 1990s Blas mentored and trained Rob Limtiaco and Gary Guerrero as they built their first canoe. The fifteen-foot outrigger, now displayed at the Guam Museum, is the product of a National Endowment of the Arts and Guam Council on the Art and Humanities Agency funded project.

Master Carver Robert Taitano is well-known on Guam for his ability to create wooden ifil pieces for useful and decorative or commemorative items. He is well-known for carving beautiful, stalwart tables and decorative wooden artwork featuring coconut crabs. His

carved artistic depictions of latte, plaques and storyboards are often given as gifts to visiting dignitaries to Guam. In 1998, with only a week's notice, Taitano carved several wooden ifil chairs used to seat political dignitaries during US President William Jefferson (Bill) Clinton's historic visit to Guam. Two of the chairs were later shipped to the president as a gift.

Taitano is also renowned for his production of ifil clocks, backgammon boards, chongka (a game played with shells on a wooden board), cutting boards, ashtrays and other items from local woods. Taitano owns the "Ifit Shop" in the village of Yigo located in northern Guam as well as a shop in the Chamorro Village in the island's capital, Hagåtña.

Carving of jewelry has also become a well-recognized modern art form on Guam. Many talented carvers create pieces from shell, wood or other natural material with symbolic meanings. Pieces are on display at various art galleries and shops. They typically include iconography from ancient Chamorro society including latte stones or other icons from ocean living including depictions of fish or other animals. Because certain types of shells, including the spondylus, were initially scarce some people import these shells from off island.

Another indicator of how popular the art of carving is on Guam is the "Orange Night, Spondylus Night" event hosted by the Guam Gallery of Art. According to the events organizer, Filamore Palomo Alcon, the event began as a smaller gathering of people who already had spondylus pieces. Since the first event, many people have become interested in carving their own pieces out of spondylus shells.



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TOYOTA	4RUNNER	2013	59036	JTEZU5JR9D5055346	BLACK	\$17,995	AUTOMATIC
LEXUS	ES 350	2013	62710	JTHBK1GG4D2008459	BLACK	\$13,495	AUTOMATIC
JEEP	WRANGLER	2009	96080	1J4FA24139L733638	MAROON	\$12,995	AUTOMATIC
CHEVROLET	CRUZE	2016	62367	1G1BE5SM8G7294846	BLACK	\$11,995	AUTOMATIC
LAND ROVER	LR2	2008	68042	SALFP24N38H013791	BLACK	\$10,995	AUTOMATIC
TOYOTA	PRIUS-C	2015	43650	JTDKDTB3XF1086443	RED	\$10,995	AUTOMATIC
BMW	X5	2007	54000	5UXFE43587LY82391	BLACK	\$9,995	AUTOMATIC
TOYOTA	FJ CRUISER	2007	110930	JTEZU11F070013311	ORANGE	\$9,295	AUTOMATIC
CHEVY	CRUZE	2013	39237	1G1PE5SB7D7143190	BLACK	\$8,995	AUTOMATIC
HONDA	PILOT LX	2010	113663	5FN9YF3H2XAB004925	BLUE	\$7,995	AUTOMATIC
CHEVROLET	SONIC	2015	45622	1G1JC5SH2F4148480	BLACK	\$7,995	AUTOMATIC
DODGE	RAM 1500 4X2	2008	111278	1D7HA16K38J146550	BLUE	\$6,995	AUTOMATIC
TOYOTA	CAMRY XLE	2007	104259	JTNBE46K073001244	GRAY	\$6,995	AUTOMATIC
HYUNDAI	GENESIS 3.8	2009	39917	KMHGC46E19U049967	SILVER	\$6,995	AUTOMATIC
TOYOTA	4RUNNER	2003	156296	JTEBU14R530016089	SILVER	\$5,995	AUTOMATIC
TOYOTA	4RUNNER	2002	139625	JT3GN86R020247031	GREEN	\$5,995	AUTOMATIC
TOYOTA	SCION XB	2008	48311	JTLKE50E181023574	SILVER	\$5,295	AUTOMATIC
KIA	FORTE	2013	72867	KNAFU4A24D5707906	SILVER	\$4,995	AUTOMATIC
CHRYSLER	PT CRUISER	2002	76021	3C8FY68B22T252882	BLUE	\$3,995	AUTOMATIC
NISSAN	FRONTIER KING CAB	1998	157988	1N6DD26S3WC355100	BLUE	\$3,495	AUTOMATIC
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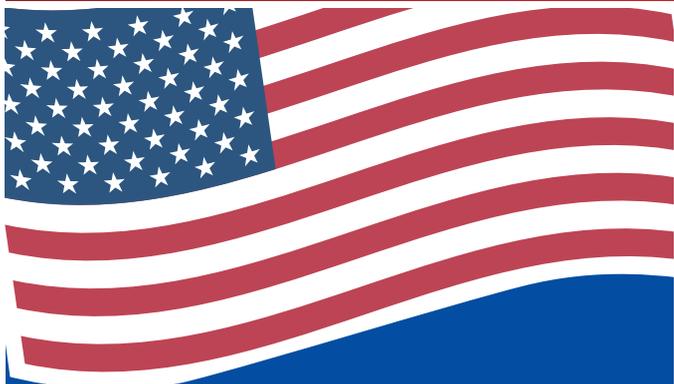
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Take a dip in southern Guam

GUAM VISITORS BUREAU

Guam is well known for its pristine beaches and vibrant coral reefs but the island's natural beauty extends beyond its white sand shores and turquoise waters. From north to south, Guam's vivid landscape is rife with hiking trails that lead to picture-perfect waterfalls, natural swimming holes, and breathtaking vistas.

One of these hidden natural gems is Priest's Pools, a refreshing oasis in southern Guam that is tucked away in the breezy hillside of Merizo. Located near the historic San Dimas Catholic Church, whose foundation dates back to the late 1600s, Priest's Pools are named after the Spanish-era priests who often visited the natural freshwater pools to bathe and refresh.

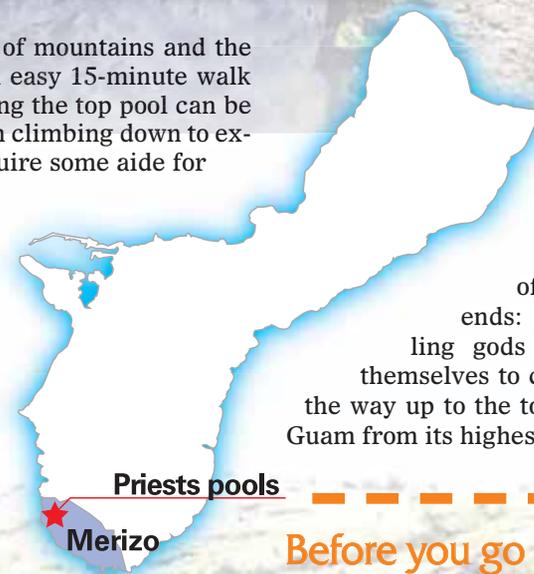
Priest's Pools is a series of eight cascading infinity pools of varied sizes that are continuously filled by the Pigua River as it makes its way to the ocean. The largest pool, and the biggest for swimming, is the top pool measuring in at 9 meters long and 4.5 meters wide with a depth of 2.4 meters.

The wide and easy trail to Priest's Pools cuts through peaceful savannas dotted with wildflowers

surrounded by serene views of mountains and the distant ocean. The hike is an easy 15-minute walk to reach the top pool. Reaching the top pool can be achieved by all ages, although climbing down to explore all of the pools will require some aide for little ones.

To reach Priest's Pools, travel south to Merizo. In Merizo, turn off Route 4 at the corner of San Dimas Church onto Chalan Joseph A. Cruz and drive up the hill. Take the second paved left (this particular street is unmarked, however, the first street is N. Doyle St.), drive to the end of the street and park on the side of the road without blocking any residential driveways. Hike along the dirt road trail that begins at the end of the street, which will slowly descend to the right and lead to the top of Priest's Pools.

Priest's Pools is just one of many hiking trails



on Guam that offer activity, adventure, nature, and an opportunity to break away from the crowd and get to know the island deeper. After Priest's Pools, explore Fouha Rock, the site of one of Guam's most enduring legends: Puntan and Fu'una, the sibling gods of creation who sacrificed themselves to create the universe. Or go all the way up to the top of Mount Lamlam and see Guam from its highest peak.

Before you go

Guam's weather is hot, humid, and unpredictable. Wear clothing that will protect from the sun and appropriate shoes for hiking. Also bring plenty of drinking water and be sure to let someone know where you're going and what time you expect to return.



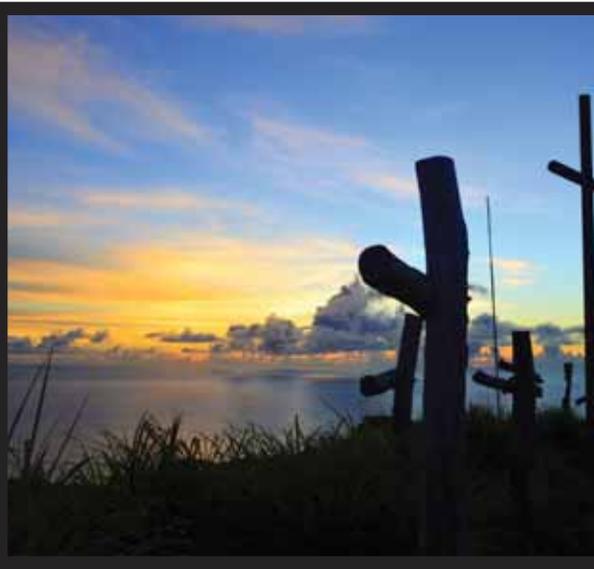
G360 GUAM

360guam.wordpress.com

INFORMATION PROVIDED BY
360GUAM

Mt. Jumullong Manglo

Hike to the crosses atop Guam's own 'Mount Golgotha' in the south



People often confuse this mountain with Mount Lam Lam. In fact, the crosses we see from the highway in the Southwest are on Mount Jumullong Manglo, not Mount Lam Lam. The tallest mountain in the world uses this trail until the eleventh (XI) cross where it parts ways to the left.

Quick Stats
LOCATION: Umatac
REGION: Southwest
DIFFICULTY: Easy Medium
TIME: 30 - 40 minutes to the top, allow 2 hours
LENGTH: .675 of a mile
ELEVATION GAIN: 653 feet (trailhead at 630 feet, peak at 1,283 feet)

SIGHT: Mountain peak views
COOL STUFF: Religious significance (crosses, Virgin Mary grotto), 360° views, wildflowers, great for sunsets

Overview
 This trail is wide and extremely easy to see because crowds of people hike it every year for their Good Friday

celebration. A new cross is carried up the mountain by followers of the Catholic religion as they reenact Jesus' struggle during his crucifixion.

There are sections of the trail that are extremely slippery when wet due to the clay and limestone, which line the mountainside. The incline isn't too bad; remember all levels of fitness make this hike every year.

The wildflowers are amazing and the vegetation is different in all seasons. The view shows you Cocos Island in the South, all the way up to Two Lover's Point and Hotel Row in the West, the cliffs of the Air Force base to the North, and miles and miles of inland and coastal views to the East. Definitely worth your while!
WHAT TO BRING: Bug spray,




mesklaguam.com

Meskla

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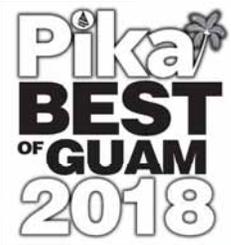
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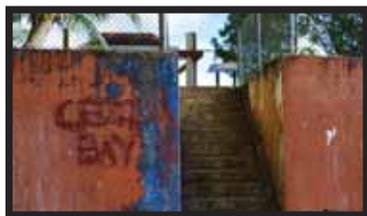
☛ sunscreen, water, hiking boots, flashlights (if hiking for sunset)
TIPS: Bring a hat as this is a fully exposed hike, use sunscreen, and spray yourself with bug spray as the shaded jungle parts are full of mosquitoes

Directions

FROM THE NORTH (TAKING MARINE CORPS DRIVE):

- 1 Drive South on Marine Corps Drive until you hit the last light facing the Apra Harbor Navy base – Naval Base Guam.
- 2 Turn left here and keep heading South. You will be staying on the main road to reach your destination, for about 20 minutes, and you'll never turn off.
- 3 You will pass downtown Agat, the Agat boat harbor, and homes along the road. The houses go away as the road twists and turns and goes up and down in elevation. After 10-15 minutes you will pass a Humatak sign on the right. Right after that is the small Sella Bay trail parking lot (a roundabout parking area under very shady trees to your right) – keep going straight.
- 4 Soon you will see a red wall to the right, with a small space parallel to the wall for cars to park. You have arrived at your destination of Cetti Bay Overlook.

Parking



You will park here at the Cetti Bay Overlook car park. Park diagonal to the wall with the front right bumper towards the wall, and the back bumper facing down the street where you came.

Trailhead

As you look across the street from your car, you will see a small, magazine-sized green sign slightly up the road to the right that says, "Mt. Lam Lam". This is also the beginning to the Crosses hike. Walk across the street and begin walking just left of the sign, following the trail that immediately pivots left and up the hill.



Trail Guide

Take the trail up this dirt path, noticing the woodland wildflowers that grow at this level. You will find your first of about 14 stations of the cross, marked roman numeral I. Turn to marvel at the view of Cetti Bay and of the Cetti Bay Overlook.

Five or ten minutes up the trail you will find some beautiful, delicate woodland trees (and may choose to take rest here), and will proceed on to the darker red dirt section of the trail. Notice how different the terrain and ecology is in all these different vegetation patches and elevations. The trees turn to a more African savannah look.

Soon you will hike through your first short jungle section (there are about four in total), where the terrain can be muddy and the sky is hidden behind the ceiling of trees and vines. These shaded jungles are where all the mosquitoes live, so try to walk through at a brisk pace.

After the overlook, turn back and keep going forward on the trail. Pass another couple short jungle sections and reach the Virgin Mary grotto to your left, tucked away in a cavern. This is a cave where Catholics come to light a candle and pray every Good Friday. There are candles, a statue of the Virgin Mary, and rosaries here in this grotto. Beware of the swarms of mosquitoes that also like to pray here as well.

Now begin your grassy meadow, slippery, wet limestone walk. (Interesting fact: the limestone here was formed before the island was uplifted out of the ocean and thus, coral grew on it.) Take care in your footing and DO NOT grab the grasses to help steady yourself without gloves as it is sword grass. Watch for holes, wet slopes, slick limestone with no traction, puddles, and slippery volcanic clay. If you have to walk back at night because you stayed too late at the sunset, this section, and the jungles are the harder sections to descend – so make sure you have a flashlight handy!

Soon after passing through this jungle you will find on of the most beautiful parts of this hike. Keep your eyes peeled for

a path to your right that leads out over the valley and towards the ocean. Take this short path (to the right of a tree) to enjoy a lovely overlook of the grassy hills, the valley where you have just hiked, Cetti Bay, the endless ocean, and that beautiful open sky. Each day brings a brilliant new scenery of sky here on Guam.

At cross number 11 (roman numeral: XI), you may see the Mount Lam Lam trail to the left if the grass is well-groomed. Keep on the main trail, which veers to the right.

Take in the sights of the grassy meadows, scatters of orchids, and finally the Eastern and Northern sides of the islands through the grass on this ridge trail. You will pass a variety of ridgeline trees and will see the crosses through the arches created by vines. You have arrived!

To return to your car, go back the way you came.

History of the Crosses

At the top of Mount Jumulong Manglo (pronounced "Humuyong"), 1,283 feet high, are crosses from years of Good Friday celebrations.

Each Good Friday, before sunrise, a huge crowd of Catholic followers make the hike to the top, stopping on the way to pray at the Stations of the Cross and lighting a candle at the Virgin Mary grotto.

On this day, Catholics will carry a heavy cross (sometimes 600 pounds) up the mountain as a symbol and reenactment of the cross Jesus carried during his crucifixion, to adorn the peak among the others.

The 14 white crosses on the walk up are marked with roman numerals and represent the Stations of The Cross – the 14 events leading up to Jesus' crucifixion.

At Cross 11 (XI) there is a trail to the left that takes the hiker to Mount Lam Lam, the tallest mountain in the world from its base in the Mariana Trench, which is over 6 miles deep at it's lowest point. The limestone found on Mount Lam Lam as well as Mount Jumulong Manglo is evidence that the peaks were close enough to the ocean at one point for coral to grow on them.



Boonie Stompers Guam

INFORMATION PROVIDED BY
GUAM BOONIE STOMPERS



Tinago Falls

Every Saturday, Guam Boonie Stompers offers public hikes to a variety of destinations such as beaches, snorkeling sites, waterfalls, mountains, caves, latte sites, and World War II sites. We meet at 9:00 AM in the Center Court of Chamorro Village in Hagatna. The cost is \$5.00 for hikers over 17. Children must be accompanied by a responsible adult. Hikers should provide their own transportation. Guam's trails are not developed. Weather conditions can make the hikes more difficult than described. No reservations required.

For more information:

www.facebook.com/GuamBoonieStompersInc
 or call 787-4238.

- | | |
|------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| August 10 | <i>Difficult, 4 hours for 3 miles</i> |
| Pagat Loop | |
| Pagat Cave Only | <i>Medium, 3 hour for 2 miles</i> |

We offer two ways to get to the same place! We descend the cliff and through the limestone forest to explore the ocean arch with possible jumping and swimming, explore the ancient Chamorro village, then swim in the underground fresh water pool.

Bring: 3 quarts water, hiking shoes, swim suit, flashlight, gloves, sun screen, insect repellent, lunch, and camera.

Special conditions: Stretches of steep trail, walking in cave water and over rough limestone rocks.

- | | |
|---------------------|----------------------------|
| August 17 | <i>Medium</i> |
| Tinago Falls | <i>3 hours for 2 miles</i> |

We trek to a great scenic area on Guam, a series of waterfalls and cascades in the southeast. There is something for everyone to enjoy, from tiny tots playing in the cascades or to jumping, waterfall showers, and a rock slide for the more adventurous. There's even a hammock for the more sedate.

Bring: 2 quarts water, hiking shoes, gloves, swim suit, sun screen, insect repellent, lunch, and camera.

Special conditions:

Possible mud, a short steep section.

Complete 10 Boonie Stomps
to earn a Boonie Stomp
T-Shirt!

Stomp Tip:

- 1) Alcohol and hiking do not mix.
- 2) Do not bring beverages with caffeine on hikes.
- 3) Bring plenty of water with you on hikes.
- 4) Do not hike alone and let someone know where you are going and your return time.
- 5) Always carry a well stocked personal first aid kit.
- 6) When hiking, lots of little snacks are better than one big meal
- 7) Always bring a small flashlight in case you get lost, or delayed. Save your phone battery for calls.

Guam Boonie Stompers is a non-profit Guam corporation composed of volunteer leaders committed to leading hikes to and protecting the unique destinations on our island.



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G.A.I.N. Pet of the Week



Sirena

You can't handle these ears! She's only 9 weeks old, so the ears are guaranteed to grow in cuteness as the weeks go by. If you need some love in your life, consider bringing Sirena home today!

Call G.A.I.N. (Guam Animals In Need) Animal Shelter in Yigo at 653-4246 or visit <www.guamanimals.org> for more information on adopting this pet. G.A.I.N. is a shelter-based humane society with a mission to prevent cruelty to animals, educate the public and promote good animal laws. Under Water World will donate one adult admission for every Pet of the Week adopted.



THE GUAM BREWERY TAP HOUSE

announces its summer menus, events and hours

BY AUBRIENE MERFALEN,
THE GUAM BREWERY TAP HOUSEP

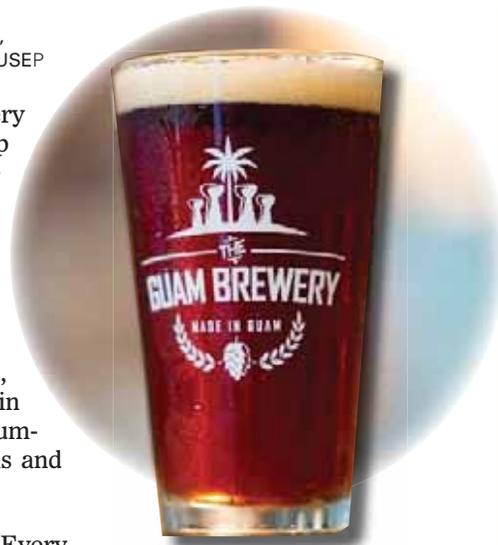
The Guam Brewery Tap House (The Tap House), Guam's innovative craft beer and pub concept in Tumon Bay, announced its seasonal events and hours today.

The Tap House invites Founders Club members, residents and visitors to join them throughout the summer for special promotions and events:

Pizza Mondays: Every Monday, The Guam Brewery Tap House is pairing a free pizza slice with every pint order from 6-10 p.m. Chef Jared has added some new pizza flavors that can only be found at The Tap House. All pizzas are \$2 off on Monday nights.

Brews & Tunes: Enjoy the laid back summer vibes at The Tap House every Wednesday from 7-10 p.m. The performance lineup changes each week to keep things fresh and fun.

Saturday BBQ: Chef Jared and The Tap House team will be firing up a grill and offering a variety of delicious BBQ plates that complement a cold brew.



Join us from 4-10 p.m. in our front patio for our take on casual summer dining beginning on Aug. 3.

"We are mixing it up this summer and featuring new dishes and flavors by Chef Jared and his culinary team," said Mark Stotts, The Tap House's general manager. "We invite everyone to hang out and enjoy some fresh brews and delicious food all summer long."

The Tap House also announced its seasonal schedule. The Tap House is open Monday through Friday from 3 to 11 p.m. and on the weekends from 11 a.m. to 11 p.m. The brew pub is located in the Blue Lagoon Plaza in Tumon.



WHAT'S ON TAP

The Guam Brewery Tap House serves craft beers and craft foods made with the finest ingredients, infused with proprietary flavors, and served with Guam's warmest Håfa Adai spirit. Located in the heart of Tumon at the Blue Lagoon Plaza at 941 Pale San Vitores Road, The Tap House is open from 3 to 11 p.m. Monday through Friday and 11 a.m. to 11 p.m. on Saturday and Sunday. For more information about The Tap House or its Founders Club, visit theguambrewery.com or engage with them on social media - Facebook (@[theguambreweryandtapouse](https://www.facebook.com/theguambreweryandtapouse)), Instagram (@[guambrewery](https://www.instagram.com/guambrewery)), and Twitter (@[GuamTap](https://twitter.com/GuamTap)).

The Guam Brewery Updates

The Guam Brewery, Guam's newest craft beer production brewery has officially started brewing large batches of Guam's freshest beers. The Guam Brewery will begin canning six of the brewery's proprietary beers by late summer - Guam Gold Cream Ale, Tumon Bay Hoppy Blond, Old Hagåtña Honey Rye, Island IPA, Mansanita Amber Ale, and Paseo Porter.



Do you have an idea for comics? Email it to Guam@stripes.com

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A Taste of Yap

BY SUSAN GOOLIYAN,
YAP VISITORS BUREAU

Aug. 30

COLONIA, YAP — Yap Visitors Bureau will hold a “A Taste of Yap” event on Friday August 30, 2019, starting at noon. The event, which will be held at the Yap Living History Museum Grounds, will showcase the local foods of Yap, plus art and handicraft items for sale. The festival will also provide individuals and groups with the opportunity to sell and showcase local foods of the island, plus art and handicraft items.

The inaugural event is being held during Manta Ray Bay Resort’s annual MantaFest (www.mantafest.com) which brings together amateur and professional photographers from all over the world. “A Taste of Yap combined with MantaFest is a great opportunity for more visitors to learn about the culture about Yap” said Don Evans, general manager of Yap Visitors Bureau.

There will be traditional dances, plus other local entertainment and various vendor booths. The Museum grounds will open at noon for the public to visit the various booths and exhibits, and the evening program will start at 5:30 p.m. There will be a traditional dance at 6 p.m. and another dance at 9 p.m. Victorian style streetlamps are currently being installed on the museum grounds that will provide additional lighting for the nighttime event. The festival will conclude at 10 p.m.

Rota Coconut Festival

BY PRISCILLA M. IAKOPO,
MARIANAS VISITORS AUTHORITY

Sept. 13-14

SAIPAN, NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS – Rota, renowned among the islands of The Marianas for its untouched nature beauty and warm island hospitality, is gearing up to welcome visitors for the 5th Rota Coconut Festival on Sept. 13-14, 2019.

“The Marianas Visitors Authority is excited to partner again this year with the Rota Mayor’s Office on the exciting Rota Coconut Festival, which will provide visitors a truly unique and friendly experience on the beautiful island of Rota,” said MVA Managing Director Priscilla M. Iakopo. “Rota is renowned for its unspoiled natural environment, so it is a more than fitting venue for this celebratory tribute to the staple of Pacific island living – the coconut tree.”

The event will feature educational displays and demonstrations related to the coconut, entertainment, games, a Coconut Scavenger Hunt, and a variety of live cooking competitions on site such as the “manha titiyas” (tortillas made with young coconut), “ahu” (soup made with young coconut), coconut candy, and “bunelos manha” (doughnuts made with young coconut).

Additional details will be announced shortly. For more information, contact the Rota Mayor’s Office at 1.670.532.9451 or Field Supervisor Sandra Atalig of the MVA at 1.670.532.0327 or satalig@mymarianas.com.




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The Weekly Crossword

by Margie E. Burke

ACROSS

1 Place for a massage

6 Chowder morsel

10 Highway exit

14 Teach one-on-one

15 "Unfaithful" star

16 Burn soother

17 Make amends (for)

18 Gambler's concern

19 Overabundance

20 Like summer school classes, often

22 Bone brace

24 Hook, line and

26 Worse for wear

27 Informant

30 Express a thought

32 Track down

33 "Cheers" regular

34 Kind of race

37 State with certainty

38 No ___ or reason

40 Corduroy ridge

41 Cooking fuel

42 Italian import

43 Furnace, for one

45 Ungraceful one

47 Favor

48 Case opener?

50 Wear away

53 Dot above the i

55 Priest's helper

59 Anagram for "beat"

60 70's hairdo

62 Delve into

63 Elvis movie, "___ Happy"

64 Pixar movie set in Mexico

65 Prop for Picasso

66 Ill at ___

67 Follow, as advice

68 Gas additive

DOWN

1 Hollywood sighting

2 Adorable

3 Kind of bomb

4 Country group with the #1 song "Amazed"

5 Do a meteorologist's job, say

6 Dagger's companion

7 Big dipper

8 Here-now link

9 State of disorder

10 Type of sleeve

11 Repeat starting letters, as in "good as gold"

12 Everest or Ararat

13 Tom who sang "I Won't Back Down"

21 Get what was left?

23 Stiffly formal

25 ___ and board

27 Refinery residue

28 Exploding star

29 Some Winter Olympians

31 Warm up, in the kitchen

33 WSJ alternative

35 Sheltered, at sea

36 School session

39 Confusion

40 "The Wind in the Willows" critter

42 Roll up, as a flag

44 One that got away

46 Pint-sized

48 Theater platform

49 Fibula's neighbor

51 Ludicrous show

52 Biblical disaster

54 Inventory unit

56 Nonsense

57 Follow orders

58 Holler

61 Friend's opposite

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Answers to Last Week's Crossword:

S	L	O	E	A	D	O	B	E	A	C	M	E
O	O	P	S	C	A	B	A	L	L	O	A	D
F	R	E	T	C	R	E	D	I	T	C	A	R
T	E	N	A	C	I	T	Y	C	O	O	L	L
S	T	U	D	S	M	I	T	H				
S	L	E	E	P	E	R	O	T	T	O	M	A
H	I	S	N	E	A	R	E	L	I	D	E	
O	V	A	S	T	A	R	T	E	R	C	A	W
R	E	M	I	T	S	T	A	Y	A	R	M	S
T	R	E	M	O	L	O	L	E	P	R	O	S
T	I	T	L	E	D	W	H	I	T	E	C	A
A	D	M	O	N	I	T	I	O	N	N	O	G
M	E	N	D	D	E	N	S	E	A	P	E	S
P	A	T	E	A	N	G	E	R	L	E	S	T

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Stripes Sports Trivia

Baseball analytics are becoming more widely accepted, and one of the stats at the forefront of that is Wins Above Replacement (WAR). According to Baseball Reference, the all-time leader in WAR is Babe Ruth with 182.5. With 100, who is the active player with the most Wins Above Replacement?

Answer *Albert Pujols*

SUDOKU

Difficulty: Easy

Edited by Margie E. Burke

HOW TO SOLVE:
Each row must contain the numbers 1 to 9; each column must contain the numbers 1 to 9; and each set of 3 by 3 boxes must contain the numbers 1 to 9.

Answers to Last Week's Sudoku:

1	7	8	9	2	4	6	3	5
6	4	2	5	3	7	8	9	1
3	9	5	1	6	8	2	7	4
9	3	6	2	4	5	7	1	8
2	1	7	8	9	3	4	5	6
5	8	4	7	1	6	9	2	3
7	5	1	6	8	9	3	4	2
4	6	9	3	5	2	1	8	7
8	2	3	4	7	1	5	6	9

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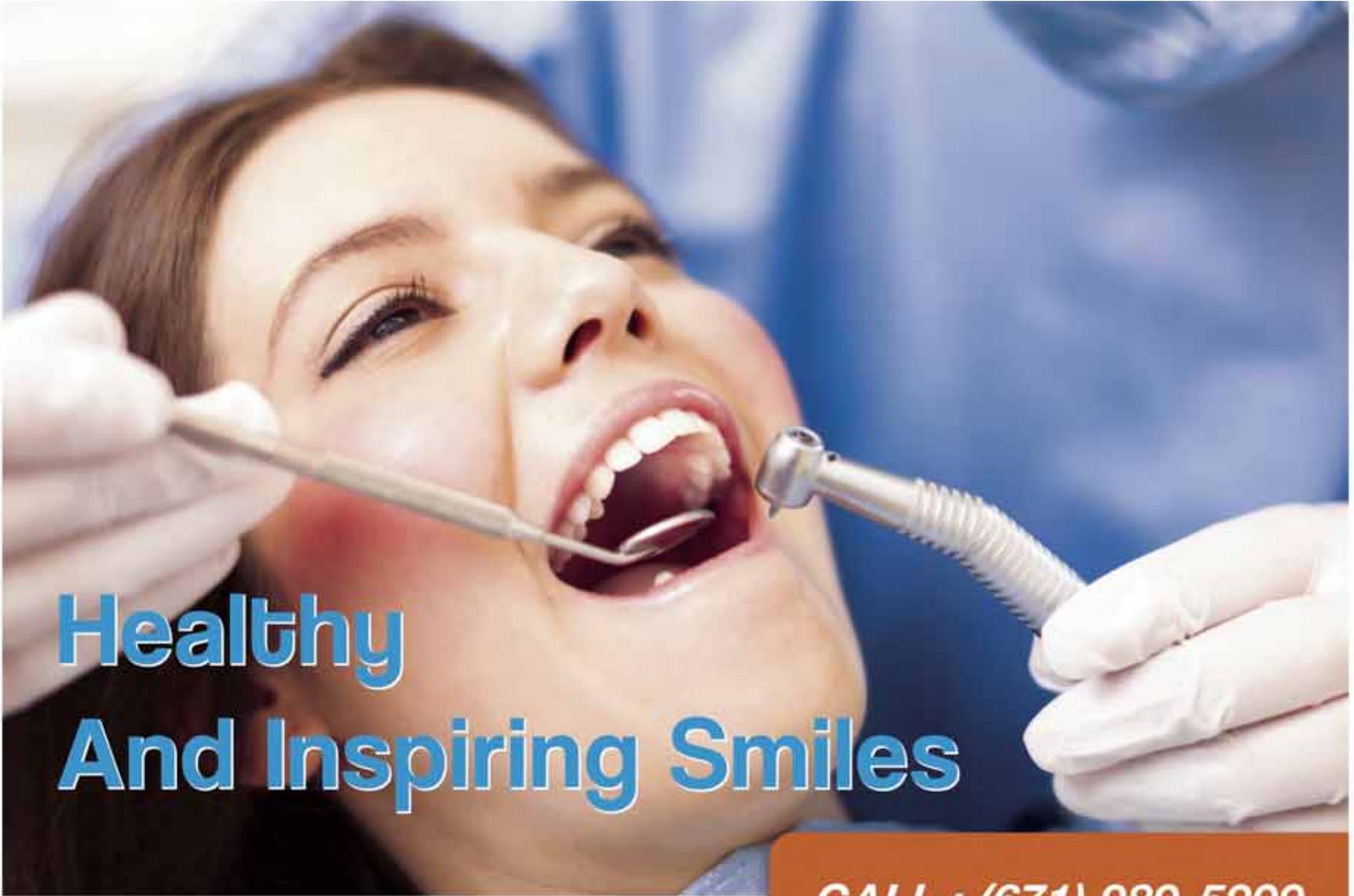


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GUAM EDITION

FRIDAY, AUGUST 9, 2019



CLEARED FOR TAKEOFF

'Top Gun: Maverick' is Navy-approved, down to the plot details **Page 2**

Tom Cruise returns as Capt. Pete "Maverick" Mitchell in "Top Gun: Maverick," the sequel to the 1986 hit "Top Gun."

Paramount Pictures

MILITARY

Latest 'Top Gun' movie is Navy approved

BY NANCY MONTGOMERY
Stars and Stripes

What's Capt. Pete "Maverick" Mitchell been up to the past 32 years since the Navy fighter pilot first expressed his need for speed in 1986's highest-grossing film?

Why, as a rear admiral played by Ed Harris asks Maverick in the "Top Gun: Maverick" trailer released last month, is he still a captain despite more than 30 years of service and an unparalleled record shooting down enemy planes?

Cmdr. Ron Flanders, spokesman for Naval Air Forces in San Diego, can't, by contract, say.

"We'll probably have to see the movie to see what he's been doing," Flanders said.

Chances are it won't have been anything awful.

"The Navy did review the script so that A, it was accurate and B, was consistent with the ideals of the Navy," Flanders said.

The Defense Department has script approval rights, just as the military does over any movie that enlists its support. If the filmmakers decline to make changes desired by the military, its support, such as access, equipment and troops, can be withdrawn.

In the first movie, the script originally called for Goose, Maverick's sidekick, to die in a midair collision, according to a 1986 story in *Time* magazine. The Navy said too many pilots were crashing so the script was changed to kill Goose as he tried to eject during a spinout.

According to a production assistance agreement for the upcoming film posted online by the *Washington Business Journal*, senior military staffers would "review with public affairs the script's thematics and weave in key talking points relevant to the aviation community" and be on set to provide and to "depict action scenes accurately."

In addition, the DOD was to be provided a rough cut of the movie to address any



Paramount Pictures

Tom Cruise flies in an F/A-18 in a scene from "Top Gun: Maverick," which will be released next summer.

aspects officials found problematic as well as be provided a screening of the finished film before public premieres, according to the agreement.

Paramount in return got access to naval facilities and troops in three states and a Nimitz-class nuclear-powered aircraft carrier; permission to fly aircraft, put cameras on and in F/A-18 Super Hornets and Navy helicopters, cast training in water survival and aircraft seat ejection; and 20 Marines to appear as an official funeral detail.

Paramount has to reimburse the Navy

for all costs "not aligned with current operations," such as flights not deemed to be providing training.

Flanders said there will be a lot of flying, and that pretty much all of it would be real, including, unlike in the original movie, scenes with actors in the aircraft.

"Whatever you're going to be seeing in 'Top Gun: Maverick,' that is the real deal," he said.

"Top Gun" producers 32 years ago paid the military \$1.8 million for using its naval air stations, carriers, planes and pilots, according to *Time*, including \$7,600

an hour for flying time.

Super Hornets cost at least \$24,400 an hour to fly, according to a recent estimate by IHS Jane's, a British publishing company specializing in military, aerospace and transportation topics.

"It may be even more than that," Flanders said, but whatever it is, Paramount will be on the hook for it.

"There will be no cost to the taxpayer," he said.

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USAF seeks feedback on new maternity uniforms



U.S. Air Force

Stacey Butler, right, a clothing designer with the Air Force Life Cycle Management Center's Air Force Uniform Office, measures Capt. Taylor Harrison's maternity Airman Battle Uniform in 2017. The Air Force is seeking feedback from women on its new maternity uniform.

BY JENNIFER H. SVAN
Stars and Stripes

KAISERSLAUTERN, Germany — More than a year after rolling out maternity uniforms with a full-stretch waist panel in the pants, roomier coat and other comfort features, the Air Force is conducting a survey to get feedback from female airmen on the new design.

All women serving in the Air Force will receive an email about the survey, but only those who have worn the new maternity uniform or are currently wearing it will be invited to complete the full questionnaire, officials from the Air Force Uniform Office said in a statement.

The online survey is open to active-duty, Reserve and Guard members and will be available until Sept. 23.

The Air Force wants to ensure the uniforms are comfortable and can be worn through an entire pregnancy, uniform office chief Tracy Roan said in a statement.

Feedback will help to de-

termine if the new maternity uniforms are meeting the needs of pregnant airmen and guide the Air Force as it continues to design and develop maternity uniforms, officials said.

New maternity ABUs were first made available in December 2017.

A full-stretch panel at the waist was subsequently added after airmen complained the waistband was restrictive and uncomfortable. Some airmen reported cutting the elastic in the waistband to relieve pressure and then having to use safety pins to keep the pants up.

Other new features include coats that have flaps on the chest, a pencil pocket, adjustable side tabs and more room in the front.

For questions about the survey or maternity uniforms, send an email to: AFLCMC.WNUV.TAC.AF.UniformOffice@us.af.mil.

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MILITARY

Visiting vets recall Korean War and its armistice

By MATTHEW KEELER
Stars and Stripes

SEOUL, South Korea — Dozens of Korean War veterans, including 17 Americans, returned to the divided peninsula to commemorate the 66th anniversary of the signing of the armistice that ended the fighting between the U.S.-backed South and its communist rivals in the North.

Dick Munson, 87, who was visiting South Korea from Ely, Nev., recalled learning about the armistice while he was at his post called Christmas Hill near the front lines on July 27, 1953.

“I was thinking about the anniversary of the signing of the armistice and excited to be here for that,” he said in an interview before a ceremony Saturday in Seoul. “Those of us serving up there called it Christmas in July.”

South Korea’s Ministry of Patriots and Veterans Affairs hosted Munson and more than 100 other veterans and family members from 16 nations to express the South’s appreciation for the sacrifices made during the three-year war.

During the revisit program, the vets participated in numerous cultural events and tours, including a trip to the truce village of Panmunjom and other sites in the heavily fortified Demilitarized Zone.

They also laid white flowers on the headstones of fallen servicemembers at the United Nations Memorial Cemetery in the southern city of Busan.

They were welcomed with a standing ovation and honored during the annual United Nations Forces Participation Day ceremony in Seoul, which was broadcast on national TV.

That event was also attended by South Korean Prime Minister Lee Nak-yeon, the commander of United Nations Command and U.S. Forces Korea Gen. Robert Abrams, and Eighth Army commander Lt. Gen. Michael Bills.

“These brave soldiers endured combat, which often had them outnumbered and underequipped. Still they resisted, driven by the will to protect the freedoms that we all cherish,” Abrams said in opening remarks. “They faced the toughest imaginable conditions — freezing winters, sweltering summers and unforgiving terrain.”

Eighteen countries, including the United States and South Korea, joined the war under the umbrella of the U.S.-led United Nations Command after North Korea invaded the South on June 25, 1950.

Hostilities ceased when the armistice was signed in Panmunjom by a U.S. general representing the UNC and a North Korean general representing his country and its ally China. The nations remain technically at war to this day since they failed to agree on a peace treaty.

The UNC also held a ceremony at the Joint Security Area in the DMZ that divides the peninsula.

‘Coming back is closure’

The 17 American veterans who made the trip had varying motives for joining the Cold War conflict, which is often known as the Forgotten War because it was sandwiched between World War II and Vietnam.

Many simply didn’t have a choice, while others passed up life-changing opportunities to heed the call to go to war.

Munson was drafted at age 19 and served the last 10 months of the war as an infantryman with both the 45th and 2nd Infantry Divisions.

“Coming back is closure,” he said.



PHOTOS BY MATTHEW KEELER/Stars and Stripes

Korean War veteran Theodore Trousdale Jr., shown at the United Nations Memorial Cemetery in Busan, South Korea, on July 25, was among 17 American veterans who visited South Korea to commemorate the signing of the armistice that ended the fighting in Korea.



Korean War veterans were honored during the 66th anniversary of the armistice agreement at the United Nations Forces Participation Day ceremony in Seoul, South Korea, on July 27.

“It is so good to come back and see the progress of this wonderful nation,” he said. “It makes me almost feel it was worth it.”

Jim Judge, 86, said he was eager to go to war and gave up a potential professional baseball career with the Boston Red Sox to enlist. The Boston native joined

the Marine Corps at age 17 and spent all of 1952 on the Korean Peninsula as a machine-gunner.

“I was expected to only last seven minutes out on the battlefield,” he said, jokingly.

Although Judge exceeded expectations in his first day on the job, he described a

close call he had with enemy fire during an observe and capture mission.

“While I was digging a hole, I heard a cling. I think someone is shooting at me,” he said. “I picked my pack up, got down behind a hill and I looked at the pack — it had a bullet hole. I opened my pack and my metal mess kit had been hit.”

Back-to-back tours

The ability to serve and live to tell your war stories is rewarding on its own, but another vet managed to survive two tours with two different branches of service.

Theodore Trousdale Jr., 88, of Melbourne, Fla., was 19 years old and enrolled in the Army ROTC program at the University of Florida when the war broke out.

Trousdale said he knew he was about to be drafted, so he joined the Army and found himself in Korea in 1951 as a combat medic providing treatment for countless casualties.

Following completion of his first tour, he joined the Navy as what was known then as a frogman, or a trained combat diver, and served a second tour onboard a submarine in 1952 until the end.

“We would come ashore into North Korea along the Sea of Japan and the China Sea at night and set off demolition on railroad tunnels,” he said. “We had to get back into the rubber raft and get back onto the submarine before dawn.”

Trousdale first returned to South Korea in 1998, returning again 21 years later.

“It’s been wonderful,” he said. “The Korean people are really appreciative of all we did for them. They have really honored us the best way they could.”

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MILITARY

Military mail delivery may be altered

By WYATT OLSON
Stars and Stripes

Servicemembers stationed overseas probably don't think much about how their mail to and from the United States is delivered through the immense system of Army, Air Force and Navy post offices.

In 2018, the Defense Department's Military Postal Service Agency oversaw the delivery of 88,618 tons of packages and letters sent or received by overseas soldiers, sailors, Marines, airmen and federal employees at about 1.2 million post office boxes, unit mail rooms, buildings and other delivery points.

That was roughly equivalent to mailing 1,310 Abrams tanks.

The average military mail customer has also likely given little thought to an arcane international treaty called the Universal Postal Union — but they're apt to hear a lot more about it by October.

The Trump administration announced last year that the U.S. would withdraw from the 144-year-old treaty, primarily over growing complaints by some U.S.-based businesses that packages sent to the States from other countries — primarily China — have much lower postal rates. In some cases, U.S. businesses spend more to mail a package domestically than a China-based firm would pay to ship to America.

"The big fight is over delivery charges," said James Campbell Jr., a Washington-based attorney who specializes in regulations concerning international shipping.

"The Trump administration is saying that we are delivering Chinese packages, in particular — but all foreign e-commerce packages, really — for somewhere between a third to half of what we're charging Americans for the same service. That's crazy. The domestic merchants are complaining about that."

October deadline

The U.S. is slated to drop out of the postal union treaty in October unless changes are made by the Bern, Switzerland-based body that governs the system.

Because the treaty has been in effect so long and includes almost all the world's nations, the ripple effects of withdrawal are unpredictable.

The U.S. Postal Service seems to be counting on a meeting scheduled for September during which treaty members will discuss changes to "terminal dues," which are the rates each member nation pays for delivery of mail within other countries.

"This will provide a new opportunity for UPU members to collaborate and develop solutions to end the distortionary effects associated with excessively low rates for certain foreign origin mail, as compared to domestic



THOMAS CROUGH/U.S. Army

Military working dog Roger sniffs mail for contraband at Joint Military Mail Terminal, Camp Arifjan, Kuwait, in 2017.

postage rates," the Postal Service said in a statement to Stars and Stripes.

But the Postal Service is also undertaking "parallel efforts" in the event the U.S. withdraws from the treaty, including "addressing and prioritizing military mailing issues," the statement said.

The Postal Service declined to elaborate on what those military mailing issues might be.

Pete Graeve, chief of plans and policy for the Military Postal Service Agency, was optimistic about the potential impact leaving the postal union will have on the APO — or Army Post Office, also used by the Air Force — and the Navy's Fleet Post Office, or FPO.

"The bottom line is that we have host nation agreements/status of forces agreements/diplomatic notes that allow the [Military Postal Service] to operate in host nations, and we expect host nations will not unilaterally abrogate those agreements," Graeve wrote in a response to

questions from Stars and Stripes.

"The UPU issue pertains to international civil mail postage remuneration, not military mail which is considered domestic and does not have international postage," Graeve said.

"[The Defense Department] is developing contingency plans in the event a host nation does abrogate an agreement to minimize any potential disruptions and continue providing support to our servicemembers and their families."

Customs scrutiny

Among the primary host nations are Germany, Italy, Portugal, the United Kingdom, Belgium, the Netherlands, Romania, Bulgaria, Greece, Turkey, Kuwait, Australia, Japan and South Korea.

If those host nations were dealing only with U.S. withdrawal from the Universal Postal Union treaty, it seems less likely they would abrogate agreements governing military mail.

But the Trump administration is already at odds with European allies over his unilateral withdrawal from a 2015 nuclear deal with Iran in which the nations traded sanctions relief for Iran's delay in enriching uranium.

President Donald Trump has also frequently criticized fellow NATO-state members for contributing too little for operating expenses.

Consequently, some countries may not have the appetite to negotiate a postal agreement with the United States.

John Couch, a co-founder of ShipitAPO, which helps overseas servicemembers receive packages from retailers that will not send to APO and FPO addresses, has tried unsuccessfully for months to get clear answers from government officials about what the military mail landscape will look like if the U.S. leaves the postal union.

"Even if new postal treaties can be reestablished with each APO-FPO host nation, this will not happen overnight," Couch said.

"And there's no guarantee that the new agreements will be as favorable regarding allowable items, package sizes, weights and quantities. We can only hope for the best."

One likely and immediate outcome of U.S. withdrawal from the postal union would be increased customs security for both military and civilian mail, said Campbell, who sits on the State Department's Advisory Committee on International Postal and Delivery Services.

"The reality is that postal packages have become the conduit of choice for drug smugglers, intellectual property violations and all kinds of stuff," he said. "The reality is that Customs has no idea what's in the mail stream."

"If the U.S. leaves the UPU in October, my guess for APO/FPO mail is that there's going to be increased customs scrutiny, at least in the big countries. That's going to entail more costs."

That increased scrutiny and cost will come regardless of the treaty status, though, he said.

Last year, Congress passed a law that says beginning in 2021, all postal packages must undergo the same strict customs procedures required for packages shipped via Federal Express and the like, he said.

“If the U.S. leaves the UPU in October, my guess for APO/FPO mail is that there’s going to be increased customs scrutiny, at least in the big countries. That’s going to entail more costs.”

James Campbell Jr.

Advisory Committee on International Postal and Delivery Services

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MILITARY

Agility tests

US troops help train Georgian and Ukrainian forces amid tensions with nearby Russia

By MARTIN EGNASH
Stars and Stripes

More than 3,300 soldiers from 14 nations began the largest annual exercise in the former Soviet republic of Georgia aimed at strengthening security in the tense Black Sea region.

During the two-week Agile Spirit war games, which began July 28, soldiers will face and use modern military equipment and hybrid warfare tactics such as cyberwarfare to defend against an attack by a “near-peer” adversary, Brig. Gen. Nikoloz Janjgava, deputy chief of staff of the Georgian armed forces, told Stars and Stripes.

He said that the opposing forces in the exercise scenario are not modeled on the Russians. However, Russia is using similar tactics in the ongoing conflict with Ukraine and used them in the brief war it fought with Georgia in 2008.

“We are trying not to use the ‘R’ word during the exercise,” Janjgava said.

About 20% of Georgia’s internationally recognized territory is under Russian occupation, including Abkhazia on the Black Sea and South Ossetia, which is about 50 miles away from the Vaziani Training Area where Agile Spirit is taking place.

About 1,500 U.S. troops and a similar number of Georgians are participating in the drills. Twelve other countries, including Ukraine, have sent a total of 300 participants.

U.S. and Georgian troops opened the event with a live-fire attack on enemy-held bunkers. They plan to move into defensive operations later in the exercise.

Agile Spirit gives Georgia and Ukraine more experience working with NATO allies, Janjgava said. Both countries are on track to become part of the alliance in the near future, the Georgian Ministry of Defense said.

The drills also help to prepare Georgian soldiers for upcoming deployments to Afghanistan, where Georgia is one of the top troop contributors to the NATO-led mission, Janjgava added.

U.S. soldiers from the Army’s 2nd Cavalry Regiment, based in Vilseck, Germany, brought Stryker armored vehicles to Georgia for the war games. The wheeled armored vehicles can navigate more easily through Georgia’s hilly terrain than tracked vehicles, Maj. Nathaniel Carter said.

“This exercise shows how maneuverable Strykers are in any given terrain,” Carter said.

When the cavalrymen finish the exercise, they plan on having a “culture day,” sightseeing in Georgia’s nearby capital, Tbilisi, and spending more time with their Georgian comrades, he said.

“It’s been great so far,” Carter said. “I’m impressed with the Georgian soldiers and look forward to spending the next few weeks with them.”



Clockwise from top: U.S. soldiers assigned to 2nd Squadron, 2nd Cavalry Regiment, prepare for the live-fire exercise during Agile Spirit 19 at the Vaziani Training Area near Tbilisi, Georgia. A U.S. soldier of 2nd Squadron, 2nd Cavalry Regiment, makes his way down the stairs at the conclusion of the squadron’s room breaching and clearing exercise. U.S. soldiers stop to pull security as they advance to the simulated enemy targets for the live-fire exercise. A U.S. soldier scans the area for troops to determine if they properly employed camouflage and concealment during training.

PHOTOS BY LASHIC PATTERSON
U.S. Army

MILITARY

Strengthening ties

US civil affairs soldiers aim to boost diplomacy and development, improve education in Djibouti

By CHAD GARLAND
Stars and Stripes

DJIBOUTI — Back home, they're fire-fighters, pipefitters, mechanics, lawyers or students.

But deployed to this small country in the Horn of Africa, civil affairs soldiers serve as cultural and governance experts who form a key part of the U.S. mission here, as it competes with other world powers making inroads in East Africa.

These servicemembers may be called upon to advise a local government on a public works project, or do something as simple as organize a neighborhood sports outing.

"The joke in civil affairs is we hug people and hand out soccer balls," said Maj. Christian Booth, operations officer with the Syracuse, N.Y.-based 403rd Civil Affairs Battalion, which ended a nine-month deployment to Djibouti last month.

But Booth, like others in civil affairs, said they assist the U.S. mission by helping to build trust in Americans.

"Without trust, you won't have collaboration and partnership," Booth said.

Their efforts align with U.S. Africa Command's goal of being a "partner of choice" in the region, where its focus is shifting from battling extremists to competing with China, Russia and others for the influence and access necessary to advance U.S. goals, protect American lives and property, and promote greater security.

The U.S. aims to strengthen civic institutions, improve education and boost job growth. That won't be achieved with force projection alone, said former AFRICOM chief Gen. Thomas Waldhauser.

"The long-term solution has to do with diplomacy and development," he said in an interview at Camp Lemonnier, the only permanent U.S. base in Africa, home to Combined Joint Task Force-Horn of Africa and just four miles from a new Chinese navy base. "This is going to be the center hub of a lot of activity, both economic [and] political and perhaps even militarily."

The 4,500 Americans at the base are poised to respond to security crises, but provide more than combat power. For example, he said, airlift has aided humanitarian emergencies across Africa, which is about three times the size of the continental United States.

A cultural advantage

English language discussion groups led by civil affairs soldiers at locations around Djibouti complement diplomatic efforts, officials said at the U.S. Embassy in the country's capital.

"People are very, very hungry for English," said Embassy spokeswoman Jennifer Banuls, who said many embassies would like to offer similar programs, but lack the staff to do so. "It's great public diplomacy. ... The only reason we can do this is because of Camp Lemonnier."

In June, Capt. Mike Volk, who's a lawyer back home in rural Pennsylvania, and a handful of other soldiers traveled to a vocational high school in the Djiboutian capital's Balbala neighborhood to lead a discussion group.

It had been weeks since they'd last visited the school, and it would be one of Volk's last visits before he handed off duties to a new batch of civil affairs soldiers.

As their small convoy of trucks reached the school, a crowd rushed to greet them. One young man, charged with after-school security, displayed an American flag



ALLIE DELURY/U.S. Air Force

U.S. Army civil affairs personnel play soccer with a boy in Djibouti in 2016.



SHAWN NICKEL/U.S. Air Force

U.S. Army Capt. Michael Volk, center, a civil affairs officer, works with students during the first-ever English language discussion group in Djibouti in 2018.

before opening the gates for the vehicles to enter.

"God bless America," said Doudou Roblah, the flagbearer, who was going to take part in the language lab — but only after he'd posed for photos alongside the soldiers, draping the flag over his shoulders and theirs.

"I see many familiar faces," Volk said, scanning the classroom filled with at least 20 people. The large group split into several smaller ones, and Djiboutians and Americans began discussing the topic of the evening: life goals.

A 23-year-old woman named Aisha had her sights on becoming a psychologist, a rare profession in Djibouti, she said. Roblah said his goal was to become a U.S. citizen. And Mourad Abdulrahman, a man in his 20s who has been coming to the group for months, had two goals: stay happy and surpass Jeff Bezos in wealth.

"I'm going to miss this," Volk said later, on the drive back to base. Regulars like Aisha, who is about his daughter's age, had become like family, he said.

In addition to running discussion groups, civil affairs soldiers help veterinarians keep livestock healthy, support hospitals that treat cancer patients in Rwanda or prevent Ebola infections in Burundi, and have trained park rangers to combat poaching in Tanzania and Uganda.

Their work often focuses on improving locals' access to basic needs such as water, sanitation, health or education, and helps to shore up civil institutions by addressing their vulnerabilities, said Booth, the operations officer at the U.S. base. All of those require engaging with the community.

A measure of their effectiveness is the phone calls they get, asking them to return somewhere, or inviting them to a special event in the community or to launch a new project, Booth said.

After the English discussion in June, for instance, Roblah, the young man with the American flag, asked Volk's replacement, Capt. Noah Hodges, if his soldiers could come back and transform a dusty lot beside the school into a soccer pitch.

Hodges would have to check into it, he said. But pending the official go-ahead, he offered the young man a consolation: "We can definitely play soccer with you."

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'I'm going to miss this'

The conversations reflected that the English discussions and other means of soft diplomacy appear to be having an effect in Djibouti. One young man said he wanted to be a World Wrestling Entertainment star. Another was studying accounting at a local university, but said he might like to write for WWE, prompting a brief, passionate discussion about the reality of professional wrestling. The consensus: The shows are scripted, but the sweat is real.

MILITARY

101 years later, Union vet gets gravestone

Marker dedicated to Civil War soldier in London cemetery

By **CHRISTOPHER DENNIS**
Stars and Stripes

LONDON — A lone bugler played taps in a London cemetery as, more than 100 years after his death, a soldier who fought in the U.S. Civil War was honored with a headstone dedicated to his memory.

Seth Watson Herrick served in the 2nd Maryland Eastern Shore Infantry for three years during the War Between the States.

Born in Maine in 1834, he enlisted in the Union Army when he was 27 and rose through the ranks to become a major. After the war, he moved to the U.K., became a British subject and died a poor man 101 years ago.

When Herrick was buried at Hendon Cemetery in north London in 1918, no headstone was erected to mark his final resting place. On July 27, that was put right with the dedication of a simple gravestone, provided by the Veterans' Affairs Administration in Washington.

Among the dozens who attended the ceremony were Lt. Col. Jesse F. Moore, assistant Army attache from the U.S. Embassy in London; the mayor of the London borough of Barnet, Reuben Thompstone; British amateur historian Michael Hammerson,



CHRISTOPHER DENNIS/Stars and Stripes

Matthew O'Neill, left, camp commander for Ensign John Davis Camp 10 Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War, presents Robert Herrick with a U.S. flag during a ceremony to dedicate a gravestone to Herrick's great-grandfather, American Civil War veteran Maj. Seth Herrick, in north London.

who found Herrick's grave and was instrumental in arranging for a headstone to be erected; and Herrick's great-grandson, Robert Herrick.

"It was a real honor to have my great-grandfather remembered in this way by this group of people," said Herrick, who traveled from California to attend the ceremony.

Herrick knew his great-grandfather was buried in London but didn't know exactly where until Hammerson contacted him to say he had found Maj. Herrick's burial place. Hammerson has spent years studying Britons who fought in America's Civil War and has located hundreds of veterans' graves in England, Scotland and Wales. Only about

20% of the burial places have commemorative headstones, he said.

In 2015, Hammerson found the grave in north London of a U.S. Medal of Honor recipient, Maurice Wagg, and arranged for a headstone to be erected at the unmarked site where his body had lain for nearly a century. Hammerson also found the

burial place of German-born American Adam Worth, who, after being erroneously reported as killed in action, left the army for a life of crime. Worth ended up in London, where he died and was buried in a mass pauper's grave in Highgate Cemetery.

The grave of Ferdinand Thomas Barzetti, who fought under a false name so his mother wouldn't know he'd enlisted, was also identified by Hammerson, as were the graves of two soldiers who fought in black regiments and four women who served as nurses in America's bloodiest conflict.

Herrick's grave was the 250th that Hammerson has located.

"I managed to get hold of a copy of Maj. Herrick's pension file and it had a claim for the funeral that said where the burial was," Hammerson explained. "In most cases, it is nowhere that easy."

Historians estimate that up to 50,000 men from England, Scotland and Wales served in the Civil War, mainly on the Union side.

"One is always pleased ... being able to identify them and let the local community know," Hammerson said. "On the whole, [the community] seems to be interested to find out that they have a Civil War veteran, and that can be a focus for historical and educational activities."

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Army reservist wins gold in shooting event in Peru



U.S. Army photos

U.S. Army 1st Lt. Sarah Beard, center, stands with silver medalist Eglys De La Cruz, left, of Cuba and bronze medalist Ginny Thrasher, her U.S. teammate, at the 2019 Pan American Games in Lima, Peru.

By **SCOTT WYLAND**
Stars and Stripes

An American soldier won gold in the women's 50-meter, three-position rifle shooting at the Pan American Games, making her a strong contender in the 2020 Olympics.

1st Lt. Sarah Beard, 28, an Army reservist, came from behind to grab first place July 28 in the competition in Lima, Peru. Teammate Ginny Thrasher won bronze, putting two American women on the podium.

"Excited for a first place today," Beard, a Danville, Ind.

'Excited for a first place today. ... Also congrats to Ginny Thrasher for bronze. Mission accomplished.'

U.S. Army 1st Lt. Sarah Beard
gold medal winner

native, wrote on her Facebook page. "Ups and downs, but taking in all the lessons that come along with it. Also congrats to Ginny Thrasher for bronze. Mission accomplished."

Contestants shot a 5.56 mm rifle from prone, standing and kneeling positions at targets 50 meters away.

Beard started strong in the qualifying round, nailing a perfect 400 score in the prone, and moved on to the finals with the second-best score behind Puerto Rico's Yarimar Mercado.

In the finals, Beard dropped to third place after the kneeling portion, then rebounded to second place after shooting from the prone position. In the standing position, she battled Cuba's Eglys De La Cruz in a tight match.

Beard's 454.9 score bested De

La Cruz by 0.7 points.

Beard's win last year in the Championship of the Americas had already landed her a spot, known as a quota place, in next year's Olympics, which will be held in Tokyo.

That left open two quota places in the event. Thrasher seized one with her third-place finish, and silver medalist De La Cruz took the other.

"A bronze medal has never felt so much like gold to me," Thrasher said in a statement. "Any day I can represent my country on the podium is a great day, and being able to win a quota for Team USA to compete in Tokyo is an achievement I'm proud of."

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