What Human Rights Non-Governmental Organization (NGO) Observers and Others May Want to Know Before Traveling to Guantanamo Bay, Cuba

Military Commission Observation Project
Program in International Human Rights Law
Indiana University McKinney School of Law

Principal Author: George E. Edwards
(with significant assistance & insights from very many NGO observers and others!)

(Please send comments / suggestions / tips to GitmoObserver@yahoo.com)

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What Human Rights Non-Governmental Organization (NGO) Observers and Others May Want to Know Before Traveling to Guantanamo Bay, Cuba

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What Human Rights Non-Governmental Organization (NGO) Observers and Others May Want to Know Before Traveling to Guantanamo Bay, Cuba1

I. Introduction

This “Know Before You Go to Gitmo Guide” is intended to provide helpful information for non-governmental organization (NGO) observers and others traveling to Guantanamo Bay, Cuba for U.S. Military Commission proceedings. The idea for this guide was borrowed from an NGO observer who circulated tips via e-mail to NGOs traveling with her to Guantanamo Bay. We at Indiana University School of Law’s Military Commission Observation Project picked up on the idea and fleshed out the original tips.2 Thanks to that person, who is remaining anonymous. Thanks also to other NGOs and others over the years who have offered suggestions on items to include, and thanks anticipatorily to NGOs and others who will contribute to future iterations of this “Know Before You Go to Gitmo Guide”!3

This Know Before You Go to Gitmo Guide contains 24 distinct sections dealing with a wide range of issues, including: why the Defense Department permits NGO observers to travel to Gitmo to observe / monitor military commissions; the role of NGO monitors at Gitmo; how NGOs might prepare substantively for their mission; getting to Gitmo; rules NGO monitors must follow; information sources on the ground (e.g., briefings by chief prosecutor, chief defense counsel, specific defense teams; and possibly by victims and victims’ families, JTF-GTMO personnel including Public Affairs); courtroom monitoring; NGO Resource Center (where NGOs research and write); accommodations (frigid tents); NGOs escorts / minders; where to eat at Gitmo; souvenirs and attractions; health; internet & telephones; Gitmo wildlife); sports and entertainment; and returning to the U.S.. The Guide discusses how NGOs might best fulfill their duties which include to attend, observe, analyze, critique and report on the U.S. military commissions and to be the eyes and ears into Guantanamo Bay for those who are not able to travel there.

II. Why the Defense Department permits NGO observers to go to Gitmo to monitor Military Commissions

The U.S. Department of Defense (DoD) has stated that it seeks for Guantanamo Bay hearings to be transparent, consistent with the statutory requirement that “military commissions shall be publicly held”,4 and that NGOs play a

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1 This “Know Before You Go to Gitmo Guide” is produced through the Military Commission Observation Project of the Indiana University McKinney School of Law, whose Affiliates (faculty, staff, students and graduates) travel to Guantanamo Bay, Cuba and Ft. Meade, Maryland to monitor military commission hearings. Our observers attend, observe, analyze, critique and disseminate information about hearings on all pending cases before the Guantanamo war crimes courts. Dozens of our Affiliates have undertaken these missions, and many of those who did not travel participate by researching, drafting and editing the Guantanamo Bay Fair Trial Manual and other materials.

2 Information/tips/suggestions in this expanded version of that e-mail was gathered from Indiana McKinney observers, observers from other NGOs, and others who have traveled to Gitmo. Great effort has been made to help ensure that information herein is as accurate as possible. Please check with other official / unofficial sources that may have better, more complete, current information.

We always seek and welcome more tips / suggestions to include. Please send us your thoughts so we can include them in the Guide’s next version, to benefit anyone going to Gitmo. Please send information / tips/ suggestions to GitmoObserver@yahoo.com.

3 During each Guantanamo Bay visit by an Indiana Observer other NGO Observers inevitably offer suggestions and tips that are then incorporated into Know Before You Go. Again, please send your thoughts to us at GitmoObserver@yahoo.com.

4 Military Commissions Rules of Evidence (MCCREE) (14 August 1012), Rule 806 provides:

(a) In general. Except as otherwise provided in chapter 47A of title 10, United States Code, and this Manual, military commissions shall be publicly held. For purposes of this rule, “public” includes representatives of the press, representatives of national and international organizations, as determined by the Office of the Secretary of Defense, and
critically important role in promoting transparency in fair, open hearings. The DoD has stated that:

(a) the DoD selects NGO Observers to monitor U.S. Military Commission hearings to demonstrate that the rules under which the military commissions operate are legal under international law and U.S. domestic law, and that these rules are being applied in compliance with U.S. and international law;

(b) the DoD wants NGOs Observers to examine whether the rights of all Military Commission stakeholders are being fully afforded to them, under U.S. and international law, and to confirm to the outside world that these rights are being so fully afforded;

(c) the DoD seeks to select NGO Observers that will monitor the hearings and the process, analyze and critique the hearings and the process, and widely disseminate reports of their findings on the hearings and the process.6

The Pentagon thus granted a number of NGOs permission to send “NGO Observers” to monitor hearings, trials and other U.S. Military Commission proceedings held at Guantanamo Bay, Cuba. NGO Observers may also monitor these proceedings via secure, live videolink in a secure facility at the Ft. Meade U.S. military base in Maryland.7

III. The Role of NGO Observers who travel to Guantanamo Bay to monitor U.S. Military Commissions

NGOs traveling to Guantanamo Bay to monitor hearings may have a range of substantive interests, political or ideological perspectives, and types of operations. But, surely, principal motivations of all those NGOs include to seek

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certain members of both the military and civilian communities. Access to military commissions may be constrained by location, the size of the facility, physical security requirements, and national security concerns.

5 The government contends that the Military Commissions operate wholly in compliance with treaties and customary international law in the areas of international human rights law, international humanitarian law, and international criminal law.

6 The DoD’s stated criteria in selecting NGO Observers include:

(a) the reach of the applicant (e.g., audience size, readership, subscriptions, circulation, viewers, listeners, website hits, writings, broadcasts, professional standing, diversity of audiences, etc.);

(b) the nexus of the applicant’s organizational mission to military commissions, wartime detention or prosecution, international law, and/or human rights; and

(c) the extent to which applicant has provided longstanding and frequent coverage of issues relating to military commissions, wartime detention or prosecution, international law, and/or human rights.


7 In September 2014 hearings in the case of Hadi al Iraqi, the judge, at the request of the prosecution, ordered that a new remote viewing site be created at Camp Bulkeley, which is physically located at Guantanamo Bay, a distance from the Guantanamo Bay courtroom. (Transcript Cite) Though NGO observers are permitted to view proceedings at Ft. Meade, which is also a “public viewing site”, it is unclear whether NGO Observers can also view the proceedings at Camp Bulkeley. Who is the “public” who is able to observe at Camp Bulkeley?

During the same September 2014 hearings in the case of Hadi al Iraqi, the judge ordered the opening of an additional viewing site for viewing Military Commission proceedings at Camp Ft. Devins, Massachusetts. This viewing site will not be open to “the public” and is presumably also not open for viewing by NGO Observers. Other sites are available for victims and victims’ families to view in the 9-11 and U.S.S. Cole cases.

Media may observe from multiple locations, including the Media Operations Center (MOC) at Gitmo and at Ft. Meade.

Recently someone told us that the John Jay College of Criminal Justice has a viewing site. We’re checking on this.

Non-public sites include offices of the prosecution and defense counsel, and probably the trial judiciary, other Office of Military Commission offices, and other military or civilian U.S. government offices.
to ascertain if U.S. and/or international law are being complied with, and for some of the NGOs, to advocate on issues. All NGOs, as far as we can tell, are interested in justice, integrity, the rule of law, and the right to a fair trial for stakeholders (though different NGOs may prefer to look after the rights of particular categories of stakeholders and not all stakeholders). No NGO representative has ever stated otherwise to me.

Ideally, each NGO will provide its NGO observer representative with a set of objectives – a Terms of Reference – to inform the observer of what they are expected to do or accomplish at Guantanamo Bay (or Ft. Meade or other viewing site). If the NGO does not inform the observer what is expected of its observer, how will the observer know what to do before, during and after their mission? How will the observer know what is expected of them?

Standard Terms of Reference for Guantanamo Bay missions might include a requirement that the NGO observer: (1) Attend; (2) Observer; (3) Analyze; (4) Critique; and (5) Report, as follows:

1. **Attend Hearings and Trials** – One can’t simply go to your local airport and board a plane to Guantanamo Bay and show up at the courtroom ready to observe. NGO observers must deal with multiple layers of logistics and other hurdles before they are able to attend hearings, including signing a sizeable stack of official Department of Defense forms. More information about these challenges and how NGO Observers meet these challenges can be found in Chapter xyz of the *Guantanamo Bay Fair Trial Manual*.

2. **Observe Hearings and Trials** – Observing involves more than sitting in the courtroom during hearings. First, observing requires an independent, objective, open mind. Second, observing requires substantive preparation, so you will know what you are looking for, and why, and the rules of law that govern the proceedings, so you can ascertain whether the proceedings comply with law.

3. **Analyze Hearings and Trials** – You should understand the specific law governing the right to a fair trial (as described in the *Guantanamo Bay Fair Trial Manual* and elsewhere), and the range of rights and interests of stakeholders, and what is required for rights and interests to be realized for all the stakeholders. You will be more effective at analyzing the proceedings if you have this background in mind, and employ an appropriate analytical framework. You need not be a lawyer to analyze what is going on!

4. **Critique Hearings and Trials** – After you analyze, you will form judgments as to whether you believe all is operating smoothly, whether rights of all Guantanamo stakeholder rights are being fully afforded to them, whether the right to a fair trial is being honored. Your critique can be positive or negative, but you should be able to opine based on the law and the facts as you witness on the ground.

5. **Report on Hearings and Trials** – You contribute to transparency a small bit by being present at Guantanamo. But, greater transparency comes when you as an NGO observer disseminate information to the outside about what you observed, analyzed and critiqued while at Gitmo. You should submit a Final Observation Report to your sending NGO. You are encouraged to publish widely about your Guantanamo Bay experiences on blogs, in law reviews or newspapers, as op eds, or otherwise. You can play a critical role in helping to ensure that what happens at Guantanamo Bay does not stay at Guantanamo Bay. NGO Observers are the eyes and ears of the outside world as to what happens at Guantanamo Bay. NGO Observers have a unique responsibility to share their experiences, insights and conclusions with the world outside of the remote Naval Base in Cuba.

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IV. Preparing for your Guantanamo Bay missions substantively

A. Be Prepared.

You are not expected to “know” everything before you go to Guantanamo Bay or while you are there. But do your homework before you leave the U.S.! If you do not prepare before you go, you will not be able effectively to attend, observe, analyze, critique, or report on your Guantanamo Bay experience. If you do not prepare wisely, you will not have as insightful of an experience on the ground.

B. Information sources before you go

Before you travel to Guantanamo Bay to monitor military commissions, you may gather information from multiple sources, so you will be better positioned to perform your roles as monitors – to attend, observer, analyze, critique and report on the commissions. You will be able to form reasonable judgments about what you see, hear, and feel. You will be better positioned to ask informed questions and evaluate what the defense team(s), prosecution, JTF-GTMO, Public Affairs Officers, media, fellow NGO Observers, and other stakeholders may tell you.

We begin this section by referring you to “unofficial” sources of information related to Guantanamo Bay, since many unofficial sources are geared towards informing NGO observers, the media, victims, the public, and others who may not have an official role in the commissions. Some of these unofficial sources of information are easier to access and digest than some of the official sources that we mention below.

Then, we mention several “official” sources of information about Guantanamo Bay.

(1) Unofficial Information sources on substance.

Good sources of unofficial information before you depart include www.GitmoObserver.com (website of the Military Commission Observation Project at Indiana University McKinney School of Law), the Guantanamo Bay Fair Trial Manual, websites of various NGOs that have long been involved with the Commissions, news outlets, the parties – the prosecution and the defense, and from victims and victims’ families.

(a) www.GitmoObserver.com – the Website of Indiana Law’s Military Commission Observation Project

The Indiana University McKinney School of Law’s Military Commission Observation Project’s website is www.GitmoObserver.com. That site has a blog that chronicles monitoring work of Indiana McKinney faculty, staff, students and graduates related to Gitmo. The site has a repository of documents related to the Military Commissions, and descriptions of key instruments and rulings.

It has a page devoted to Guantanamo Bay Periodic Review Boards (PRBs), which are the “parole board”...
hearings ordered by President Obama that assess whether current detainees pose a risk to U.S. national security, and if they do not pose such a risk, the detainees may be repatriated to other home country or resettled in a third country.

The website also has downloadable copies of the Guantanamo Bay Fair Trial Manual (described below) along with Excerpts of that Manual, this Know Before You Go Guide, and other information that may prove useful to those planning to travel to Guantanamo Bay.

(b) Guantanamo Bay Fair Trial Manual.
The Indiana University School of Law’s Military Commission Observation Project is producing a Guantanamo Bay Fair Trial Manual (www.GitmoObserver.com) that may prove useful to you as you prepare for your mission to Guantanamo Bay. The Manual explores rights and interests of a wide range of Guantanamo Bay stakeholders, and not just the rights of the defendants. The Manual examines rights and interests of the prosecution, victims and their families, the media, witnesses, JTF-GTMO personnel (who are responsible for the detention facilities), the domestic and international publics, and others. The Manual identifies the international and domestic fair trial law that applies at Guantanamo, and provides a framework that NGO Observers and others may find useful when seeking to ascertain whether what the Observer witnesses on the ground at Gitmo is consistent with or reflects compliance with binding international or domestic law. The Manual (pink cover) and its Appendix (blue cover) – totaling over 500 pages -- are available for free download at www.GitmoObserver.com. Indiana has placed several copies of the Manual in the Camp Justice NGO Resource Center for NGO Observers to use. Furthermore, portions of the Manual are excerpted in a document titled “Guantanamo Bay Fair Trial Manual: Excerpts” (yellow). If an Indiana NGO Observer is on your mission to GTMO, that person will provide you with a copy of the Excerpts via e-mail before your trip, and give you a hard copy of the Excerpts at Andrews Air Force Base before you depart for Guantanamo Bay.

c) NGO websites / blogs.
I hesitate to list names of specific NGOs that have website that provide excellent information about the military commissions, so as to not inadvertently omit other NGO websites that also provide similarly excellent information. Many of these websites are well known, with representatives of these NGOs participating as Gitmo and Ft. Meade Observers on the ground. A quick google search will point you towards NGO websites with rich and deep relevant, helpful information.

d) News Outlets; Authors (of books, blogs, newsletters)
Other unofficial sources include media outlets, such as the Miami Herald, with star reporting by Guantanamo Bay Press Corps Dean Carol Rosenberg. Her Miami Herald reporting is extensive – perhaps the most extensive of any individual / outlet over the last 15 years -- reporting on Guantanamo Bay’s detention operations, on the Military Commissions, on Department of Defense matters related to Guantanamo, and on Guantanamo Bay itself as a Naval Base. You can find information on the Miami Herald website, and through Carol’s tweets and Facebook posts.

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9 The Manual is a work in progress! Please send us any comments / suggestions / additions for the Manual as we continue to work on it. Please reply to GitmoObserver@yahoo.com. Thank you!
Carol also has a book (summer 2016) titled *Guantánamo Bay: The Pentagon’s Alcatraz of the Caribbean*, available in on Kindle with audio / visual, and in paperback.\(^\text{10}\)

The *New York Times* also has a repository on Guantanamo Bay, as do other news outlets.

Many journalists, commentators, academics, former detainees, and former military commission lawyers have published on Guantanamo Bay military commission topics. The *Guantanamo Bay Fair Trial Manual* contains a list of some of these publications.

A forthcoming publication is *The Guantanamo Bay Reader*, by George Edwards, under contact with Indiana University Press. This book contains dozens of essays by people who have helped shape and have lived the Guantanamo Bay experience and who share their experiences in their own voices – with these people including defense and prosecution lawyers, a former military commission judge, NGO representatives, academics, Bush / Obama officials, current and former detainees, victims and victim family members, media, and others.

### (e) Information from the parties & other actors involved with the cases – the Defense, the Prosecution, Victims and Victims’ Families

#### (i) Information from the defense

Depending on which military commission case you are traveling to observe, one of the defense teams may send out a list of motions to be heard during your week of hearings, with substantive comments related to those motions. If you receive this, review it before you depart for GTMO. You will be better prepared.

#### (ii) Information from the prosecution\(^\text{11}\)

\(^\text{10}\) Carol Rosenberg’s book is available from various sources, including Amazon -- [https://www.amazon.com/dp/B01JKK3AKW/ref=dp-kindle-redirect?_encoding=UTF8&btkr=1](https://www.amazon.com/dp/B01JKK3AKW/ref=dp-kindle-redirect?_encoding=UTF8&btkr=1).

\(^\text{11}\) Typically, NGO Escorts hold an on island briefing for NGO Observers within hours after the group arrives at Gitmo. By then, the prosecution will have sent over for each of the NGO Observers a set of CDs containing a database of Military Commission materials. The CDs contain primary documents, such as the Military Commissions Act, along with motion papers for the case at hand dating back to the beginning of the case, and a docket sheet of what will likely be on the agenda for the current session (with the docket appearing in the “motion papers” directory of the CD, as the docket sheet is a court filing). Of course the CD will not contain any classified or privileged information. This information has been very helpful, though some NGOs have suggested that it might be a great idea if NGOs were provided
Helpful information from the prosecution typically does not reach NGO observers until after they arrive at Guantanamo. Usually on the first day on island, the prosecution will ensure that each NGO observer receives two things: (a) a disc containing a wealth of commission related information, including the Military Commission Act (and regulations, rules and other related instruments), motions papers from the beginning of the case to date, and other useful information; (b) a cd rom player since most of our laptops do not contain cd drives. We have been discussing with the prosecution about how this information might be made available to NGOs before they arrive, and it is possible that this process will commence in early 2017.12

(iii) Information from the Victims and Victims Family Members

At the moment, there is no avenue through which information is routinely provided by Victims and Victims’ Families (VFM) to NGO Observers. There are multiple organizations created by VFM of crimes charged in different cases at the Military Commissions, and some of these organizations have websites that provide information. Information about Guantanamo Bay Military Commission VFM can be found on the Military Commission website (www.mc.mil), and through general internet searches.

Victims and their family members of the 9/11 case attacks on the World Trade Center and the Pentagon routinely travel to Guantanamo Bay to attend hearings in the case against 5 alleged masterminds of those attacks, including Khalid Shaik Mohammad. Victims and their family members of the 2000 attack against the U.S.S. Cole off the coast of Yemen routinely travel to Gitmo to attend hearings in the case against al Nashiri, an alleged master mind of that attack. We were informed that victims and families harmed by alleged al Qaeda leader Hadi al Iraqi (Nashwan al Tamir) may travel to Gitmo for hearings in that case. Some NGOs have suggested that NGOs do not have access to victims and their families, who travel on the same plane with NGOs to and from Gitmo, but who on the ground have separate escorts, living accommodations, briefing schedules, and other activities. Some NGOs would like to have the opportunity to be briefed directly by victims and their families, as victims and families are stakeholders and are part of the process, and NGOs communicating with them would help NGOs do the part of their mission that involve gathering information from stakeholders, and analyzing, critiquing and reporting on the NGOs experiences on the ground. It would promote transparency if NGO observers / monitors had access to primary groups of military commission stakeholders, including victims and victims’ families.

12 Certainly, copies of most motion papers and other relevant official documents related to each military commission case are available on www.mc.mil. However, the database containing the documents is not easy to navigate, and indeed is very difficult to work with. It is cumbersome, and not user friendly. Being able to open up a simple folder in a laptop directly would save significant time and effort.
(iv) Academics

May academics have published monographs, articles, book chapters, speeches, amicus briefs, powerpoints, op eds, and other work on the Guantanamo Bay U.S. Military Commissions. Much of this is available through Lexis / Nexis, Westlaw, Google Scholar, Hein Online, and other academic databases. If you are associated with a law school, law firm, or government law office, you should have access to academic databases. If you are a non-practicing lawyer, you should be able to access these materials through your law alma mater. If you are not a legal professional or a law student, you might ask the law school nearest to you whether you may use that school’s databases to access password-protected / subscription sites. In the interests of serving the public good, law libraries may do this for you.

(2) Official Information

(a) www.mc.mil

The principal source of “official” information about the Guantanamo Bay U.S. Military Commissions is found on / through www.mc.mil, which is the official website of the military commissions. That site has a searchable database of court filings of all the current and former Guantanamo Bay military commission cases, a running calendar of upcoming hearings, a database of primary military commission documents, daily transcripts from court hearings, commentary about the commissions, podcasts of press briefings / press conferences, and information about access to the commissions for NGOs, media, victims and victims’ families, and the public. It is widely recognized that this site is not the easiest to search to find the various documents and other materials that you might wish to locate. It is suggested that if you seek official information related to the military commissions and you cannot locate that information on mc.mil, that you reach out to the contacts listed on the website.

You may wish to watch briefings conducted by the prosecution and defense so you can get up to speed on the commissions and on the case you will be monitoring, and so you can recognize attorneys before you get to Guantanamo, perhaps while you are at Andrews – as all the lawyers will be on the same plane traveling to Guantanamo Bay with you. You can get further information from www.mc.mil.

(b) Joint Task Force – Guantanamo (JTF-GTMO)

Joint Task Force-Guantanamo Bay (JTF-GTMO) consists of representatives of multiple branches of the U.S. military and performs various prisoner detention functions and various U.S. Military Commission-related functions at Guantanamo Bay, Cuba. Approximately 1,700 U.S. military and civilian personnel are associated with JTF-GTMO. Approximately twelve-hundred JTF-GTMO personnel are assigned to the Joint Detention Group (JDG), which is JTF-GTMO’s detainee guard force. Some JTF-GTMO personnel have duties other than detention, such as working on matters in conjunction with the military commissions.

The JTF-GTMO commander and that person’s staff can provide pertinent and interesting information that NGOs might find useful in carrying out their monitoring mission. The JTF-GTMO Public Affairs Office (PAO) has trained officials who can provide NGO Observers with information that may not be readily available to escorts, prosecution or defense, or others involved with the military commissions.

13 Surprisingly, daily transcripts are made available the very evening of the day’s hearing. If the internet is cooperating, you can download the day’s transcript before you go to bed each hearing night.

14 A joint task force (JTF) is a military organization consisting of elements of different military branches that work together for a unitary mission.

(c) Non-Military Commission Information -- Morale, Welfare & Recreation -- Guantanamo Bay (MWR GTMO).

Check out the Morale, Welfare & Recreation website (found at the end of this paragraph) for information about what to do at Gitmo when court is not in session and you have completed all of your Military Commission research, interviews, and blog posts. This site has information about many things to do on the base – with information including about restaurants, sports and fitness activities (golf, bowling, water sports, the 24-hour gyms), the 3 base outdoor movie theaters with movies every night of the week, shopping, the base library, and more – see below. See also [link]

V. Getting to Guantanamo Bay

A. What NGOs are traveling with you to Guantanamo Bay?

(1) Information about other NGOs traveling with you

a. Ideally, long before your scheduled departure date, your NGO Escorts will send all NGOs contact information for the other NGOs traveling on the same mission. Observers can then share information with each other, or arrange transport to Andrews for your flight. You can also share tips with each other, especially if one or more of the NGO observers on your mission has previously traveled to Guantanamo.

b. If you have not received a list of other NGO Observers traveling with you to GTMO by 4 – 5 days or a week before your trip, ask your NGO Escorts early!

c. In summer 2016, the NGO Escorts started asking NGOs traveling to Gitmo to submit a photo of themselves and a short paragraph about their background. NGOs on missions wondered why they hadn’t received a copy of the photos / bios of the other NGOs, as that would help the NGOs learn about their NGO colleagues – their backgrounds, interests, previous trips to Gitmo, etc. NGOs decided to ask the NGO escorts if they would share that information with the NGOs, to help further the NGO Observation mission.

B. Andrews Air Force Base

(1) Arriving at Andrews Air Force Base – “Show Time”!

a. Your NGO Escort will provide instructions as to “show time” -- what time you need to arrive at Andrews Air Force Base, and where to meet the Escorts (typically at the Visitors Center or at the Air Terminal). Show time can be as early as 4:00 a.m. (for an 8:00 a.m. flight out of Andrews). But more frequently than not, show time has been at 6:00 a.m. for a 10:00 flight.16

b. Be attentive to the Escort’s instructions, and follow those instructions!

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16 You may ask “why do I have to show up at 4:00 a.m. for an 8:00 flight from one military base to another – the flying time from Andrews to Guantanamo is only a little over 3 hours, but we have to show up 4 hours in advance of the flight?” Well, there are reasons for having NGOs arrive 4 hours in advance, and some of those reasons have been shared with me. And, some people would consider some of the reasons to be reasonable. Whatever, please just show up when told!
c. How do you get to and onto Andrews? In the 2016 fall, the NGO Escorts started asking NGOs to inform the Escorts, in advance, how the NGO would arrive in the Andrews area, and whether the NGO needed a ride from wherever they were in the Andrews area to the Andrews air terminal.

The Escorts offered three (3) options: (a) the NGO could make his / her own way to the Andrews Visitor Center (VCC) and the Escort would pick them up there; (b) the NGO could wait at a nearby, off-base hotel (Quality Inn – one block from the entrance to Andrews) and the Escort would pick them up there; or (c) the NGO could make his / her own way all the way to the Andrews Air terminal.

Whichever you choose, stick to it! And if the Escort is not present to pick you up at the appointed hour, call or e-mail them! They may be busy with one of the many other tasks they have to perform for NGOs and for others involved with the mission to Guantanamo Bay. (Remember that the NGO Escort accompanying you to GTMO has many responsibilities aside from their NGO responsibilities!)

d. If you stay at the Quality Inn the night before, you could in theory walk to the Visitor Center. Walk from the hotel the White Air Force water tower, turn right at the green street sign (Suitland -- see photo on this page), and walk less than ¼ mile. But why not just wait for your Escort? Again, if no one shows up after several minutes phone, e-mail or text the Escort, who would have given you contact information, exactly for this and similar purposes. Whatever the case, don ’t panic! And, if worse comes to worse – and worse will not come to worse -- you can walk.

(2) Checking in at Andrews.

a. At Andrews meet wherever your Escorts tell you to meet.

b. Please be certain to have your U.S. passport in hand.17

c. At check in you will surrender one of those 3 copies of your orders18 that you were instructed to bring with you. By the way, you may print your orders in black and white or in color – it doesn’t matter – what matters

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17 On a recent trip, one NGO representative accidentally failed to bring his passport with him to Andrews. Ordinarily, that person would have been told that they could not travel to Guantanamo Bay. Miraculously, arrangements were made for him to join the trip without his passport. This was highly unusual, and do not count on being able to go if you forget your passport. Indeed, there is about a 99.99% chance you will not go to Guantanamo Bay if you do not have your valid, unexpired U.S. passport with you. Don’t count on a miracle.

18 The “orders” in this case are military invitational travel orders and take the form of a letter from the Office of Military Commissions to you inviting you to travel to Guantanamo Bay for specific period of time, for a specific purpose, under specific conditions. Your Escort will send you a copy of your orders before you leave your home to travel to Andrews.
is that you have your orders with you!) **You will need to show your valid,** unexpired U.S. **passport.** The check-in agent will issue you a paper boarding pass at this time. Keep track of your boarding pass, as you need it, along with your passport, to board the plane!

d. When you check in you may be asked to show a copy of your **Aircraft and Personnel Automate Clearance System form (APACS)** that shows that you have been approved to travel to Guantanamo Bay. Your Escort may have sent you a copy of this multi-page document, but it is possible that they did not send it to you. If you are asked for the APACS and you do not have one, ask your Escort at Andrews and you will be provided with one. Indeed, a fellow observer should have theirs that you may use. So, do not panic if you do not have an APACS with you in hand at Andrews.

e. When you check your bag (just like you check bags on any other flight!), be sure to tell the check-in person that you are an NGO Observer. Why? Because each category of passenger has a different color baggage tag, and when you get to GTMO bags are dispatched to living areas and offices based on the color of the tags. You want your bag to be tagged with the color (NGOs typically have green tags) that will get your bag to the tents where NGOs will live. You may ordinarily check as many bags as you need even if they are heavy (unless you have to switch to a small plane that has weight limits), and your bags are at no charge. As mentioned, they will be delivered directly to your tent.

f. For **carry-on bags** – keep in mind that passengers will walk across the Andrews tarmac or ride a bus to the plane and climb stairs up to the plane, and at GTMO you will have to walk down the plane’s steps, across the tarmac, maneuver to the ferry, with a couple of van rides in between. Irrespective of what temperature

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Up until Fall 2016, NGO representatives were requested to carry 5 copies of their orders with them. On no occasion in previous years that I’m aware of where all 5 copies of orders used during a mission. Indeed, I have only ever known for 2 copies of the Orders to be used: (a) turn in one copy when checking in at Andrews for the flight to Guantanamo Bay; and (b) turn in one copy when checking in at Guantanamo Bay for the flight to Andrews. Now the Escorts request that each NGO bring only 3 copies of their Orders with them instead of 5 copies.

Ideally your orders will be sent to you well in advance so that you can easily print them at your home or office, and not have to scramble to try to get them printed at a Kinkos near Andrews Air Force Base or at your hotel the night before your flight.

19 The APACS will indicate that your sponsoring agency is the Department of Defense, and that the purpose of your travel is “NGO Observers invited by the Office of Military Commissions traveling to Guantanamo Bay, Cuba to observer official operations and hearing.” The APACS will indicate that your “Country Clearance Status”, your “Theater Clearance Status”, and your “Special Area Clearance Status” are all “approved”. For logistical support, your APACS will indicate that “Personnel will be arriving to and departing from Guantanamo Bay, Cuba via MILAIR or SAAM Contracted OMC Flights obtained by the Office of Military Commissions; lodging has been arranged”.

Furthermore, the APACS notes the following: “**IMPORTANT** A hard copy of the APACS request marked “REQUEST APPROVED” should be hand carried during travel.”

And the following appears in quotation marks: “traveler(s) has read and will comply with General Order Number 1 while traveling in the USSOUTHCOM AOR”.

General Order Number 1, issued on 28 May 2012 by the United States Southern Command Office of the Commander, has this stated purpose “To identify and regulate conduct that is prejudicial to the maintenance of good order and discipline of forces in the USSOUTHCOM AOR”, and prohibits the following: “(1) It is prohibited to introduce, purchase, possess, use, sell, transfer, manufacture, or consume any controlled substances without a valid prescription unless specifically authorized for an official purpose. (2) It is prohibited to knowingly enter into contact with a prostitute or a person who provides sexually oriented massages. (3) It is prohibited to patronize a prostitute or receive a sexually oriented massage. (4) It is prohibited to directly or indirectly arrange for a prostitute or sexually oriented masseuse to come to your own hotel room or other quarters or to go to the hotel room or other quarters occupied by any person subject to this General Order. (5) It is prohibited to use an escort service or dating service. (6) It is prohibited to enter an establishment that is off-limits or where it is known by the person subject to this General Order that any of the following are present or habitually present: prostitution, sexually oriented massage, or illicit drug use. (7) It is prohibited to remove, possess, sell, deface, or destroy archeological artifacts or national treasures. (8) It is prohibited to sell, barter, or exchange any currency other than at the official host nation exchange rate or commercial rate commonly available at hotels.” [Info omitted from the above without ellipses]
it is at Andrews, it will be hot and muggy upon arrival at Guantanamo Bay. You will have to carry your carry-on bags through all of this. So, you might want to check most of your bags.

g. Ear Plugs. Just as you are about to leave the Andrews terminal to board the bus to take you to the plane, there should be a box on the floor with orange individually wrapped ear plugs. You might wish to take a couple of pair, especially if you are traveling to GTMO on a military plane (and not a regular commercial jet). These military planes, like the -17, are notoriously loud. Also, the Guantanamo Bay tents are very loud – because of the loud air condition units that blast frigid air, and sometimes because of loud NGO Observers – and you might wish to have ear plugs.

(3) Andrews Waiting Room.

Use the time to mingle and talk with the NGO Observers, as well as the legal teams and press. Introduce yourself. With luck, the NGO Escort office will have distributed copies of NGO photos and bios, so it should be easy to learn who the other NGOs are. While in the waiting room, you might have a chance to see Air Force One sitting on the tarmac. If it is there, you should be able to take photos of it, from inside the terminal. You may not take photos once you step out onto the tarmac to take the Andrews bus to your plane.

You might take this opportunity to charge up your mobile phone or laptop, if needed. Some planes to Gitmo have chargers, but some do not. Outlets are not too easy to spot, but they are definitely available at Andrews. Check the walls and the end tables.

(4) Wi-Fi

Wi-Fi is available for free in the Andrews waiting area. It tends to slow down as the number of users increases. This is a great place for you to type up and post a blog entry or post on Facebook about your experience! Why not share with others a bit about what you are experiencing? You have between 3 and 4 hours of downtime while waiting at Andrews – put that time to good use!

(5) Food and drink.

Food and beverages are not available in the Andrews airport, except for a few items in a vending machine.

a. The McDonalds just outside the entrance to Andrews Air Force Base is the last stop for coffee and a hot breakfast.

b. The Starbucks at Andrews does not open until after 7:00 am and it is too far to walk while you are waiting for your plane. The NGO Escorts may agree to do a coffee / breakfast run for you. If you want this, ask! All the NGO Escorts are very approachable, and are great about trying reasonably to accommodate requests. But, keep in mind that on the morning of flights, NGO Escorts typically have duties other than looking after the NGOs, and these duties might relate to overall operations for the entire flight, or relate to categories of travelers other than NGOs. Try to sort out your own food / drink on flight morning!

(6) Security.

Security protocols when boarding the plane are the same as at a commercial airport. Your carry-on bags will go through an x-ray machine. You will go through a metal detector. No filled water bottles are allowed, liquid limits are enforced, shoes and belts come off, and laptops must be removed from bags before going through the
scanners. An interesting note is that in the 2016 Fall, they switched the location for the security checks away from the main hallway between the check-in counter and the gate, to basically inside the check-in area. You never know what is going to change from one trip to the next!

(7) Types of Aircraft

You will fly from Andrews to Gitmo on a chartered commercial aircraft or a military plane. Your NGO Escorts will usually tell you in advance which type of aircraft you will use. (If there is a problem with your commercial flight, you may switch to a military aircraft at the last minute, in which case you would need to have closed-toe shoes, that is, no flip flops or sandals – as mentioned below.)

There is no assigned seating on the plane. NGO Observers typically board first and are required to sit in the rear section of the plane, typically the last several rows. The rest of the plane is divided into sections, with different groups required to sit in different sections. Ordinarily the Judge & Judge’s staff sit in the very front (in first class or business class if they exist, and they sometimes do), followed roughly in order by the following groups – the Victims & Victims’ families, OMC staff, the prosecution, more staff (including interpreters, translators, technicians), the defense, the media, and, again, at the very back the NGOs.

a. Commercial aircraft (chartered). There are flight attendants and you will be served a typical airplane breakfast or lunch, and have the usual perks such as blankets and movies. Sometimes the meals are “proper” airline meals. Sometimes they are boxed lunches, apparently catered by a local restaurant, with sandwiches, chips, and cookies. Plan ahead and bring your own lunch if you require a vegetarian, vegan, Halal or Kosher meal or have other special dietary restrictions. There is no guarantee these needs can be accommodated on the flight. Commercial / charter flights to Guantanamo Bay have been on airlines such as United, American, Delta, Sun Country, etc.

b. Military aircraft. These require that all passengers have closed toed shoes (no sandals or flip flops). Be sure to have a lunchbox for sale, so have $10. Bring snacks along. Some military aircraft do not have pressurized cabins. They fly low and take longer to get to GTMO. They also get very cold. Dress accordingly.
c. **Other chartered aircraft.** Occasionally due to flight “complications”, and no chartered commercial aircraft nor regular military aircraft is available. In such cases, the equivalent of a private charter jet may be provided for Gitmo travel. In the 2016 fall, following Hurricane Matthew, a large aircraft was scheduled to travel from Andrews to Gitmo for hearings in the 9/11 case. The flight was scheduled to depart Andrews on a Saturday. Scheduled passengers included members of the 5 defense teams, the prosecution, the military judge and his staff, OMC staff, court staff, media, NGOs, court reporters and others. It was decided that the plane needed to carry certain non-Military Commission personnel to deal with post-Hurricane Matthews matters. It was reported that due to insufficient space on the plane, media and NGOs were asked to deplane and told that they would fly on Monday rather than Saturday, arriving at Gitmo the night before the hearings commenced. The media flew on a private jet on Monday, nonstop to Gitmo, probably taking 3 – 5 hours. The NGOs also flew on a private jet to Gitmo on Monday, but they stopped twice for fuel on a journey that took close to 9 hours rather than 3.5 hours nonstop. The NGOs and media spent two nights in the DC area, many in hotels, waiting for their Monday flights. This was an unusual set of circumstances. But, these things happen.

Where to sit on the plane?
As mentioned, NGOs sit in the last 2 – 3 rows expressly reserved for NGOs.

Are there any “good” seats in the back? Seating is open, in the rows assigned. If the load is light you can have an entire row of 3 or 4 seats to yourself. When flying to Gitmo, you tend to have a better view of the Florida Keys, some Caribbean Islands, and the base from the right windows. Flying out of Gitmo you tend to have a better view of those things from the left side.

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VI. Arrival at Guantanamo Bay

- Guantanamo Bay Naval Station, operating for over 100 years, is a regular U.S. naval base, and was such long before January 2002 when the first 20 orange-jumpsuit clad detainees were brought to the base in the wake of the 9/11 attacks. About 1,000 personnel (and families) live at Gitmo as part of the regular Naval Station, and have nothing to do with the detention facilities or the military commissions. About 1,700 personnel are at Gitmo as part of Joint Task Force Guantanamo (JTF-GTMO), running the prisons currently holding several dozen remaining detainees, with a few staff based there to work on military commission matters. More information about the larger base is provided below, in addition to more information about the military commissions.

- The airport is on the leeward side of Gitmo, and you must take a ferry across the Bay to the windward side, where you will be throughout your stay until you return to the airport to depart. To get your bearings, have a look at the map on page 2 of this *Know Before Your Go Guide*. (FYI - you can see the airstrip from Glass Beach or Girl Scout Beach, or to the Gazebos and picnic tables “below” Camp Justice where your tents are).
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- **Touchdown at Guantanamo Airport.** Upon arrival at Gitmo you will go through a process similar to immigration / customs. You will need to show your passport and a copy of your orders\(^{20}\) before you can leave the tarmac. You may also need to show another document – the name of which I do not recall at the moment – but that evidences your specific permission to be at Guantanamo Bay Naval Station.

- **No photographs on the tarmac!**
  You will then be loaded into a van and taken to the ferry to cross from the leeward to the windward side. Once on the ferry, you are allowed to get out of the van and go up to the observation deck. You will need to be back in the van to depart the ferry. The ferry ride is about 20 minutes.

- **It is OK to take photos while on the ferry. But, be careful not to take photos of the golf balls or windmills – see below for more on these. Also try to avoid photos of the faces of people on the ferry – as there may be people onboard, in or out of military uniform, whose faces should not be photographed.**

- The van will drop you off at your Camp Justice tent.\(^{21}\) Your luggage will show up shortly.

- **Getting Badged!** Then you get your ID badge. This is a priority for the NGO Escorts, so be available when they say. (Indeed, it’s always a great idea to be available whenever your NGO Escorts ask you to be available!) When going for badging, the only thing you should carry is your passport. Do not bring your phone, bags, purses, wallets. You have to enter a highly secure area in the courtroom complex.\(^{22}\)

- **Your tent area.** NGO Observers stay at Camp Justice in tan, heavily air-conditioned (freezing cold) tents near the tents where the media stay. Near the residential tents are the latrine tents (male / female), the shower tents (male / female), and the laundry tent (with washing machines and dryers – free of charge for anyone to use – you just need to provide detergent). (Your Camp Justice tent accommodations will be discussed further below.)

- **The courtroom complex.** Also in Camp Justice is the Expeditionary Legal Complex (ELC), which houses Courtroom II in which cases are heard against High Value Detainees (HVD). The ELC contains judges’ chambers, trailers for the defense and prosecution, court offices, holding cells for the detainees so they do not need to be returned to the camps during court breaks, trailers for defense and prosecution witnesses to prepare, and an outdoor waiting area where court attendees or participants may congregate during court breaks and purchase and consume snacks from a vending machine.

- Courtroom 1, which is used for non-high value detainee cases, sits in the yellow building (AV 34) sitting on top of the hill just behind the ELC.

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\(^{20}\) I describe “orders” above in the section describing what you need to have in hand to check in for your flight at Andrews Air Force Base.

\(^{21}\) You will recognize soon that Camp Justice is a very small part of the larger Guantanamo Bay Naval Base. On the larger base, not far from Camp Justice, there is a small commercial area with a Taco Bell, McDonalds, Subway, outdoor movie theatre, bowling alley, golf course, scuba shop, public library, chapel and mosque, thrift store, K-12 school, churches, 24-hour gym and athletic fields, etc. The Naval Exchange (“NEX”), which is similar to a Super Target or K-Mart, is also located on the main base. In short, a community.

\(^{22}\) Without exception, every single time I’ve gone with a group of NGOs to get badges one or more NGO representatives will bring along a cell phone, a fitbit, or some other item that is prohibited from being brought into the ELC – the courtroom complex -- where the badging occurs. Oh well.
VII. Camp Justice Rules; Military Commission Rules; Naval Station Guantanamo Bay (GTMO) Rules

If you are an NGO Observer to the U.S. Military Commissions held on U.S. Naval Station Guantanamo Bay, you will spend most of your time “on island” at Camp Justice (AO Patriot – or Area of Operation Patriot – or Tent City). Camp Justice is where the tents are where you will live during your GTMO stay (with the latrines, showers, washing machines and dryers), is where the NGO Resource Center is, is where you will likely attend separate briefings with prosecution and defense lawyers and possibly with the JTF-GTMO personnel and VFM and PAO, and is where the Expeditionary Legal Complex (ELC) is where U.S. Military Commission court proceedings occur.

You are required to comply with Naval Station codes of behavior, in addition to codes of behavior related to the Military Commissions, in addition to codes of behavior related to Camp Justice. Don’t worry, though there are multiple sets of rules, they all overlap in significant respects, many of them are based on common sense, and many of them are easy to understand and follow once explained to you.

One or more NGO Escorts will accompany you from Andrews Air Force Base to GTMO, remain on the base with you throughout your stay, and accompany you back to Andrews. They will advise you of Naval Station and Military Commission rules.

23 The Naval Station is also known as “NSGB”, “GTMO”, “Gitmo”, or even “Guantanamo”.

24 Camp Justice, which is a very small part of the U.S. Guantanamo Naval Station at Guantanamo Bay, basically consists of tents which are occupied by the NGO Observers and the media, the Expeditionary Legal Complex (ELC) which contains the primary military commission courtroom, accommodations for some defense counsel and prosecution team members and Office of Military Commission (OMC) staff, temporary housing for soldiers transiting in and out of Gitmo, the workspace for the media and NGOs, and a few other facilities such as a lounge area for soldiers. You will also find the home of Reptar, Camp Justice’s resident iguana.

25 One issue is that some of the rules change from time to time, and repeat visitors to Gitmo may find that a rule in place on an earlier trip has been changed on a subsequent trip. Another issue is that even during a single trip, different people with whom NGOs come in contact may have different understandings of the rules, possibly causing confusion. These changes are regrettable.

All the changes are not totally arbitrary or inexplicable. Reasons include that security guidelines are periodically updated or otherwise modified. Also, on-the-ground staff at GTMO rotate in and out in typically 6 to 9 month deployments and each set of staff may have different understandings of they need to enforce. Nature has caused changes, such as in the 2016 Fall when Hurricane Matthew damaged the GTMO NGO Resource Center ceiling, NGOs shifted to work in Camp Justice’s MWR (Moral, Welfare and Recreation) tent, a venue from which NGO Observers were previously expressly banned.

26 Your NGO Escorts work out of operations side of the Office of Military Commissions (OMC) and are based in the Washington, DC area. Their work with NGOs is only a small portion of their regular day jobs at OMC headquarters. Regarding NGO Observers, your OMC NGO Escorts are responsible for you while you are at GTMO (and you are required to answer to them), before you depart for Guantanamo Bay, while you are there on island, and on the ground upon your return to Andrews Air Force Base, and I guess technically until you actually the Andrews base to return to your home at the end of your Gitmo mission.

During your time at Guantanamo Bay when you are not in court (or going to / from court), you will be “escorted” not by the NGO Escort who travelled with you to GTMO, but by contract escorts who live full-time at GTMO. These could be military personnel from any branch of service, or civilians, who are retained to drive NGOs from place to place, to assist NGOs when logistical or other needs arise, to offer suggestions / guidance on Gitmo and things you might do there, etc. These individuals are always knowledgeable about the non-Commission aspects of Guantanamo, and can be a great resource for you during non-court periods. And, they tend to be fun people you will enjoy being with (and the same goes for the NGO Escorts as well!). Though you may be with these military or civilian “on island escorts” for substantial parts of any given day, you are still answerable to your NGO Escorts who traveled with you from Andrews. The work of the two sets of escorts complement each other. But, ultimately the NGO Escort(s) who accompanied you from Andrews is / are responsible for you.

Your NGO Escorts and your on island escorts do not want you to get into trouble. Trust me on this one. They want to be helpful. Please...
rules, some of which are contained in the documents you signed prior to your departure from the U.S., including the NGO Ground Rules, a copy of which is attached here to. Many if not most of those rules are related to OpSec – Operational Security.²⁷

A. Rules (Sample)

Following is a small sample of some of these Naval Station & Military Commission rules, to give you an idea of the nature and depth of these guidelines and restrictions -- from behavior to dress:

(1) Photography. There are photography restrictions, only some of which are clearly posted. After you arrive at the GTMO landing strip and transfer to the ferry to the base from the airport, do not take pictures of the “golf balls” (i.e., the large white circular communications devices up on the hill as you approach the base that indeed look like huge golf balls). Yes, you can see these golf balls on Google Earth. But, you are not permitted to photograph them live, or photograph the “Windmills” which sit on top of a hill (Windmill Hill).²⁸

Photography restrictions change frequently. So, listen to your Escorts, and as an easy rule—if it has barbed wire, armed soldiers, or “No Photography” posted, don’t photograph it! (But you can take photos of Camp X-Ray, which does in fact have barbed wire.²⁹ See note below about requesting a walking tour or drive by tour of Camp X-Ray.)

pay attention to their directions and suggestions. The better you can help them do their jobs, the better your overall Guantanamo experience will be. Guaranteed.

²⁷ Operational security, in the U.S. military, involves, among other things, protecting information / data that could be advantageous to adversaries and harmful to the national security of the U.S. Security and safety are always important for NGO representatives as well as for everyone else at Guantanamo Bay, whether or not they are involved with the Military Commissions.

²⁸ You can’t miss the Windmills! They look like precisely what you would expect windmills to look like! Indeed, you will recognize the golf balls as soon as you see them as well.

²⁹ If you are taken on a “drive by” to see Camp X-Ray, you may be told by the driver that you are not permitted to take photographs of Camp X-Ray from the roadside “because it has barbed wire”. If your group is being given a drive by of Camp X-Ray, your NGO Escort might clarify in advance with the driver whether on that particular day you are permitted to take photographs of the facility, that has not been used as a detention facility in over 15 years. Indeed, it was only used for 92 days in 2002 when the first group of 20 detainees arrived at Guantanamo Bay, and were dressed in the iconic orange jumpsuits with sensory deprivation masks covering their heads.
(2) **Cameras.** Most Observers take photos with their mobile phones. Some bring “fancy” cameras – Canons, Nikons, etc. – with fancy lenses. Some bring tripods and other equipment. There is plenty to take photographs of on island, and there may be opportunities to use the fancy cameras.

*Be aware of the general photography rules mentioned above, and be certain that you don’t accidentally include prohibited items in your photos. If you have any doubt whatsoever, ask!*

(3) **Theft? Other Crime?** Recently a person scheduled to observe at Guantanamo Bay for the first time asked whether it was “safe” to take valuables to Guantanamo Bay, and whether it was safe to leave valuable items in the tents when Observers were at court or elsewhere. My answer was I cannot imagine any scenario in which anyone at Guantanamo would steal an Observer’s property from a tent, from the NGO Resource Center, or from elsewhere. If someone knows of any such crimes occurring, I would be interested in hearing about it. [Do you consider one NGO Observer eating an apple or pear purchased by another NGO Observer to be “theft”? If so, then this paragraph may need to be rewritten!]

(4) **Badge.** Upon arrival at Camp Justice you will be issued a badge to wear while you are in Camp Justice.

   The times when you will definitely need to have your badge ready to show are:
   (a) when you enter the courtroom complex on a hearing /trial day. In fact, you need to show your badge at a minimum of 3 security posts before you reach your seat in the courtroom gallery.
   (b) If on a court day you decide to leave Camp Justice for any purpose (e.g., for lunch, to go jogging in the morning, etc.), you will be required to show the badge to re-enter Camp Justice. But you *should not* display your badge when you are outside of Camp Justice, for example, when you are at the movie theater, the restaurants, or jogging.

*Do not photograph your badge, which is a controlled item!* 

Certainly, do not deliberately photograph the face of the badge. That is strictly forbidden. An issue arises from time to time of badges inadvertently being captured in photographs. For example, NGO Observers are required to display their badges openly at court sessions. Since NGO Observers are dressed in their business clothes for court, at times, immediately after court sessions NGOs may want to take individual or group photos in front of the Camp Justice flags. It is easy to forget that you have your badge on, and badges may inadvertently appear in photographs. Be attentive to this. And, flip your badge over, take it off, or slip it under your shirt when photos are being taken.

*Lost your badge?*

If you should lose your Camp Justice badge, **report the loss of it immediately to your NGO Escort.** If you do misplace your badge, your NGO Escort is required to spend 2 hours searching for the Badge, and if the badge cannot be found, your NGO Escort must report the situation to local security. It is possible that NGO representatives might place their badges in a safe place for safe-keeping, to help prevent loss. Try to remember where that safe place is!
Check Your Neck!

Here’s a badge tip— if you misplace your badge, “check your neck”.

The “check your neck” phrase was coined on a recent Guantanamo Bay trip when one NGO representative did what many NGO representatives do when they are wearing their badge around their necks but they are traveling to a place where they do not need or should not wear their badge openly. They keep the badge around their neck, but slip the badge under their shirt.

The NGO representative thought that he misplaced his badge, and spent a fair amount of time, with colleagues, searching for it. It came time for the badge to be reported missing. Soon after, the badge was discovered resting in a very safe place, around the NGO representative’s neck under his shirt.

If you misplace your badge, check your neck.

(5) Ceremonies. Staying on a military base will also give you a view into the structure and ceremonial aspects of military life -- salutes, the playing of the Star Spangled Banner each morning and the retiring of the flags each evening – be respectful of these norms. At 7:55 a.m., you will hear a 5-minute musical warning over camp-wide loudspeakers, announcing that the National Anthem will begin at 8:00 a.m. If you are outside when the National Anthem begins, you will witness military personnel and others stopping what they are doing, standing still and straight and respectfully, with a salute. Traffic will stop on the streets and drivers will turn on their emergency blinkers. At the end of the day you will note a similar ceremony. Honor these traditions.

What happens when “rules” are not followed, whether or not “rules” ae in place, and whether or not NGOs are notified of those “rules” in time to avoid the behavior?

- An NGO representative apparently did or said something in a press conference at Guantanamo Bay that resulted in NGOs being “permanently” banned from attending press conferences.
- An NGO was “permanently” banned from traveling to Gitmo to observe hearings due to alcohol related issues.
- NGOs representatives have fallen asleep in the courtroom galley during hearings (almost always in the afternoon, after lunch) and been awakened by security guards
- An NGO representative was removed from the courtroom and prohibited from attending future sessions
- NGO representatives have been criticized by VFMs for reacting to the proceedings
- NGOs representatives have been stopped while attempting to bring “contraband” into courtroom complex (staples of any size in their documents, paper clips of any size, fitbits, and other items)
- An NGO representative’s camera was “wiped” after he videoed something prohibited. (It is unclear what ‘wiped” meant, but the camera was likely subject to an “OpSec” (operational security) check in which a security or other officer inspected the video to determine if a prohibited item was captured, and if so the prohibited image was cropped out or the video was deleted from the camera.)

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30 The identity of the NGO Representative mentioned in the Check Your Neck passage is no secret. However, the author of this article has chosen not to mention his identity, so as not to distract from the message “Check Your Neck”!

31 The ceremony for the morning National Anthem and the evening ceremony differ when personnel are on land or when they are on a ship. I was told that, for example, if the National Anthem is played on the land and you are on a ship and can hear it, you need not salute and stand still since the National Anthem pertains to those on the land and not to those on the ship. I’m not sure if this is correct. I was also told that if you are in the middle of a work project you need not stop to participate in the ceremony.
What NGO Observers May Want to Know Before Traveling to GTMO (29 December 2016) (6:00 p.m.)

(6) **Dress in the Courtroom.** What would you wear if you were an official Monitor / Observer at a hearing in a courtroom in the U.S.? Or if you were sent to monitor / observe a hearing in another country? The U.S. Military Commissions are formal, proper U.S. courts, and dress codes and other traditions associated with U.S. courts should be honored.

Courtroom attendance requires professional / business attire. Business casual is ok, that is, a suit, blazer / slacks / tie, pantsuit, dress / skirt. This means no uncovered shoulders, short pants, flip flops or casual sandals.

Monitors / Observers should not draw attention to themselves and should not be the focus of attention. Wearing inappropriate attire to court would draw attention to you and you would become the focus of attention.

(7) **Courtroom Decorum.** The Military Commission courtroom is a courtroom. Decorum should be respected.

Monitors / Observer obviously monitor and observe. But, monitors and observers are also readily visible to everyone in and around the courtroom, and are in a sense monitored and observed by everyone else. The Judge can see the monitors / observer through the triple-paned glass (which by the way is not bullet proof). The prosecution and defense lawyers can see the monitors / observers, just as the security guards and members of the panel (the jury) see you – through the triple-paned glass. The defendants can see you when they enter and leave the courtroom, and whenever they turn their heads towards the back of the courtroom where the gallery is. The victims and their family members, and the media and other visitors in the Gallery with you can see you as well.

Monitors / observers should not draw attention to themselves in and around the courtroom and should not be the focus of attention. You would draw attention to yourself if you nod off, eat or chew gum, talk loudly (or at all), gesture, read magazines or casual books, or visibly react to what might be transpiring in the courtroom. Do not do these things!

If you find yourself getting tired, you may stand up a stretch. Get a drink of water. Get a snack from a vending machine or from the refrigerator where you left it when you arrived at the courtroom complex. Ask to be escorted outside to the restroom. (They have a smoke pit outside the courtroom, about 75 feet away from the courtroom door, where you may go with an escort or within the eyesight of an escort during court sessions.)

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**Who is Observing the NGO Observers in the Courtroom?**

Be certain to honor courtroom decorum and follow courtroom rules. Not only is it the right thing to do, but also negative behavior may capture the eye of the multiple persons charged with observing the observers, and the consequences can be embarrassing and unpleasant.

The following people have official responsibility for observing Observers in the courtroom:

- A courtroom security officer who stands near the door of the gallery and watches everyone in the gallery.
- Another courtroom security officer who may come in and out of the gallery during the proceedings
- Two enlisted JTF-GTMO personnel who sit in the gallery, one typically in the row behind the NGOs and one either in front of or to the side of the NGOs.
- The NGO Escort who accompanied the NGOs from the U.S. to Guantanamo is always present in the gallery, seated at the end of one of the NGO rows.
- Courtroom security officers who are in the main part of the courtroom (with the judge, defendants, and lawyers) but who can see NGO Observers and others in the gallery.
- Anyone else seated in the gallery or in the courtroom – everyone can see the NGO observers!
- Security and other officials who can see into the gallery through the CCTV feeds.

All of the above persons keep an eye out for NGOs dozing off, doodling or drawing, eating or chewing gum, talking loudly, gesturing, or other prohibited behavior. Yes, NGO Observers are being observed!
Recently, the reservist MPs responsible for courtroom security walked across the gallery and tapped on the shoulders NGO Observers who appeared to be dozing during a mid-to-late afternoon session. It does seem to be the case that more people tend to want to doze off in the afternoons post-lunch than in the mornings.

Respect the courtroom and those who are participants in this process. You do want to be removed from the courtroom and banned from returning.

PS: And yes, courtroom security will remove an NGO Observer (or anyone else) from the courtroom for what the security might deem to be inappropriate or otherwise banned behavior. This has happened.

C. Information Sources on the Ground at GTMO

VIII. Meetings with Defense and Prosecution Teams, Media Briefings, proposed JTF-GTMO briefing

The NGO Escorts will help facilitate separate meetings between the NGOs and Chief Defense Counsel, the Chief Prosecutor, and specific defense teams. These are great opportunities to meet, ask questions, get to know the attorneys, and to learn more about the case – all of which will help NGOs do their jobs better – to attend, observe, analyze, critique and report on the military commissions. Do not miss these meetings!

(a) Chief Prosecutor Briefing
On most trips to GTMO NGO Observers will have an opportunity to be briefed by Chief Prosecutor Brigadier General Mark Martins and a member of his staff. This meeting may come near the beginning of the week, during the week or close to the end of the week. The timing of the meeting means you will need to read up on the Commissions beforehand – so you can formulate good questions for the General, and so you can better evaluate the information he and his team will share with you.

Be sure to have questions prepared for these meetings.

It would be great if additional members of the prosecution staff could attend these NGO briefings – that often have law students or young lawyers in attendance – and share a few words in the spirit of mentoring. These prosecution staff members could speak about, among other things, how they acquired their positions – military or civilian – in on the prosecution team. Some of the NGO observers were current law students who have served active duty, were currently reservists, or had been deployed. Indeed, at the law school at which I teach (Indiana) More than a handful of students with current / former military experience including students who were deployed to Guantanamo Bay with the Indiana National Guard. Prosecution lawyers might address mentoring-focused issues / questions such as: How can a law student or young lawyer might get involved with the GTMO prosecution? Were the lawyers prosecution interns during law school or have other criminal prosecution or defense experience? Are they JAG officers? Have they practiced outside of the military? Were they detailed / seconded from the Department
of Justice? Have they every been active duty military? Did they go to law school after they served in the military?

General Martins is amenable to photographs, so feel free to ask him to join in group photos with the NGOs, or individual photos. It is suggested that you dress for these briefings appropriately – as you would dress for court.

(b) Chief Defense Counsel Briefings

Beginning in 2016, NGO Observers have had a regular opportunity to be briefed by the new Chief Defense Counsel, General John Baker and members of his staff. Before General Baker came on board to this office (newly named Military Commission Defense Office)\(^{32}\), in recent memory, it was rare for such Chief Defense Counsel meetings to occur. Take advantage of these meetings! This meeting may come near the beginning of the week, during the week or close to the end of the week. The timing of the meeting means you will need to read up on the Commissions beforehand – so you can formulate good questions for the General, and so you can better evaluate the information he and his team will share with you. Be sure to have questions prepared for these meetings. General Baker is amenable to photographs, so feel free to ask him to join in group photos with the NGOs, or individual photos. It is suggested that you dress for these briefings appropriately – as you would dress for court. Since NGO briefings often have law students or young lawyers in attendance, it is suggested that the Chief Defense Counsel and perhaps members of his staff might address mentoring-focused issues/questions such as: How can a law student or young lawyer get involved with the MCDO? Were they defense interns during law school or have other criminal prosecution or defense experience? Are they JAG officers? Have they practiced outside of the military? Were they detailed/seconded from the Department of Justice? Have they every been active duty military? Did they go to law school after they served in the military?

It is highly recommended that you meet with the Chief Defense Counsel (and possibly with his staff) separate from your meeting with the defense counsel for the specific defendant in the case that you are monitoring. Certainly, the Chief Defense Counsel and the specific defense counsel work out of the same office and are essentially on “the same side”. However, Chief Defense Counsel and the specific defense counsel do not have the same posture on the case. For example, the Chief Defense Counsel does not have an attorney client relationship with any defendant, and each specific counsel of course has an attorney client relationship with his/her client. The interests of one defendant may differ from the interests of another defendant, and indeed one defendant may testify against another defendant, triggering a conflict between the two sets of specific counsel and triggering non-communication between those two specific teams. The Chief Defense Counsel is not privy to all strategies of the specific defense counsel, and does not share in all other information that the individual defense counsel might possess regarding the specific case. One specific counsel may not be as willing to speak as freely to NGOs about strategy or other issues if the Chief Defense Counsel were in the room, given the Chief

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\(^{32}\) The office was previously known as the “Office of the Chief Defense Counsel” but was renamed to reflect that the office was not just for the Chief Defense Counsel, but was an office that served the entire defense side – the Military Commission Defense Office, known as “MCDO” (pronounced MacDoe or McDoe).
Defense Counsel’s relationship with the other specific defense teams. The Chief Defense Counsel and the counsel for specific defendants may differ on a wide range of issues, including resources the Chief Defense Counsel may or may not provide for the individual defense team.

It is easiest and better for all if NGOs meet with the Chief Defense Counsel and his staff separately from meeting with the specific defense counsel for specific defendants. Thus, it is suggested that NGO observers request separate meetings with the Chief Defense Counsel and the counsel for the individual defendants.

(c) Briefings by Defense Counsel for the Specific Case you are Monitoring.

You may also have the opportunity for briefings by the lead counsel and / or co-counsel for defendants. If the counsel of the different defense teams do not reach out through your escort, ask for a meeting!

At the moment, there are three active Guantanamo Bay cases you might observe, with one case having 5 defendants and the other two cases having one defendant each. On the case with 5 defendants (the 9/11 case), there are 5 sets of specific defense counsel, each defendant having his own defense team. You may not be able to have individual briefings by each defense counsel team during your short observation week. On the 9/11 case, defense counsel for Hawsawi has been known to be very willing to meet with NGOs, and the al Baluchi teams typically hosts a barbeque for NGOs on their first night on island.

In all instances in which you have defense counsel briefings, be sure to request that you meet with the defendant’s military and civilian counsel. And if your case is a death penalty case, be sure to request that you meet with the “Learned Counsel”, who is the team lawyer with competency in death penalty litigation.

As mentioned, be certain to ask that your Chief Defense Counsel meeting be separate from your meeting with the specific defense counsel. There are lots of good reasons for this, and some of those reasons are mentioned above.

(d) Media Briefing / Press Conference.

There will be a media briefing / press conference at the end of the week (and sometimes more frequently). The briefing will be broadcast into the NGO Resource Center. The prosecution and defense teams will make statements and then allow the media to ask questions. The victims and victims’ family members are also allowed to address the media. Do not skip these presentations!

As of June 2014, NGOs were no longer permitted to participate in or attend press conferences at GTMO. This photo is of an NGO Observer viewing a Military Commission press conference by video-feed from in the same building (the former NGO Resource Center that was condemned in 2016 following Hurricane Matthew damage), yards away from where the press, prosecution, and defense teams are conducting the press conference.
In the past, NGOs were permitted to sit in on the media briefings / press conferences. However, word has it that a particular NGO representative at some point did or said something during a press conference that resulted in all NGOs being permanently banned from attending any press conference. This is unfortunate. But it also demonstrates how important it is for NGOs to not do anything that may be deemed to be inappropriate so as not to ruin opportunities or future NGO observers to be able to do their jobs effectively.

(e) Joint Task Force – Guantanamo Bay (JTF-GTMO) representative briefing -- proposed
JTF-GTMO PAO can provide valuable, insightful information about detention operations at Guantanamo Bay. The camp commander would be an excellent person to brief NGOs. Another possibility would someone from the JTF-GTMO Public Affairs Office (PAO), which tends to be led by a military officer (Captain or above) on a 9-month deployment. The JTF-GTMO representative of the Public Affairs Officer can also provide general information about the non-detention aspects of GTMO, including who lives there aside from the 1,700 personnel assigned to work on detention issues. A JTF-GTMO / PAO briefing would help demystify the process, educating and informing NGOs, making it easier for NGOs to fulfill their missions of attending, observing, analyzing, critiquing and reporting on the military commissions.

IX. Courtroom Observation / Monitoring

A. The morning ritual on court days

- The NGO Escorts will escort you as a group on the 5-minute walk from the tents to Courtroom 2 – about 300 yards – the length of several football fields. (Courtroom 1 is not frequently used, as it is not equipped to handle cases involving “High Value Detainees” (HVDs), HVD cases require greater security than Courtroom 1 can provide.
- Your Camp Justice security badge is required to enter the courtroom. Don’t leave your tent without your badge on a court day!
- No electronics are allowed in the courtroom. This includes phones, computers, tablets, certain watches, fitbits, flash drives, etc.—basically anything that can connect to the internet or outside world – basically anything with an on / off switch. They have posters with photos of prohibited items, and those posters had to be updated several years ago when fitbits, google glasses, and other new tech gadgets came out. (See the photograph on the next page.)
- On a recent trip, one NGO representative had a portable iPhone charger with him when he entered the security tent. He was forbidden from taking it into the courtroom, and had to place it in a locker and pick up the locker key. He went back to the security line, and was told that he could not take his fitbit into the courtroom, so he put his fitbit in a separate locker, retrieved a second locker key, and returned to the security line. The security guards confiscated his “reading material” from him, a book about the stock market, but then gave it back to him.
cautioning him not to read it in the observation gallery. His book remained under his assigned gallery chair throughout the hearing day.

B. Courtroom (security, seating, water & eating, cold, not taking, no doodling, sketching or drawing)

- **Security.** You will go through security. The security will be thorough! The security sequence changes, and you may or may not be subject to all of the below. The description of the security checks is probably almost obsolete already, since it changes so frequently. The descriptions are provided principally to demonstrate that the security process is extremely thorough, and greater than you would experience seeking to board an airplane at any U.S. or overseas airport.

- **The process.** As mentioned, what is described here is subject to change, with additional inspections added, 33 Listen carefully to the security guards, 34 and follow their directions as to what security procedures are in place for that day.
  - **Badge.** First, you must show your badge to enter the security tent.
  - **Item inspection # 1 – the missing x-ray machine replaced by physical inspection of property.** There used to be an airport-like x-ray machine through which court visitors’ personal belongings can be sent, creating an image on a screen for the MP security officials to review. These machines disappeared, and all personal belongings of courtroom visitors must be manually checked.
    - As there’s no x-ray machine, you must place all your items in a bin, and a soldier checks them. They will flip through pages of your note book, open your wallet and flip through cash / cards, open containers of snacks you brought for breaks, and confiscate contraband – an item recently confiscated from an NGO was a medium-sized paper clip (summer 2016). In the Fall 2016, one security guard used her fingernails to remove a regular staple from a document that an NGO Observer sought to carry into the courtroom.
  - **Metal detector / wandng.** After that soldier checks your items, you proceed to another station where you pass through a metal detector. You are then wanded, front, arms and legs, and back. At times, they may ask to see the bottom of your shoes.
  - **Item inspection # 2.** By the time you finish passing through the metal detector and get wanded, the bin with your items in it will have arrived at the secondary item inspection site. Another soldier will flip through pages of your note book, open your wallet and flip through cash or cards, open up containers of snacks you may have brought for court breaks, and confiscate contraband (including any paper clips or staples that might have gone unnoticed at Item Inspection # 1).

33 Halfway through a recent hearing week, all of a sudden the guards started checking the soles of Observers’ shoes. Who knows why? No one asked why. And had they asked why, they would not have been told why. In any event, from that point on, the soles of NGO shoes were checked – at least until that group of security guards finished their deployment and the group was replaced by another group that did not check soles of shoes. But, perhaps when I am next at Guantanamo Bay they not only will be checking soles of shoes, but also they will be checking something else that we would not have thought about.

34 Every single courtroom security guard I have encountered on every single trip to Guantanamo Bay has been a pleasure to work with. They are all professional – courteous and overly thorough. But they are also nice people, some with a lively sense of humor, all with a smile.

As a side note, I’ll mention that the guards have included both men and women, though I could not tell you the percentage of male versus female, but it is likely that there are more male than females working in the areas where NGOs most encounter them – in and around the courtroom on hearing days.
Badge – again. After the badge check, Item Inspection # 1, metal detector / wanding, and Item Inspection # 2, there’s a final security protocol before you depart the security tent. You must show your badge again, for the third but not the last time in about 20 yards. This time a guard consults a notebook, locates your name that is already written by hand in a log, and marks the time that you reach this station. You then stand off to the side to wait until the other NGOs reach that station and get logged in before the entire group is permitted to exit out the backside of the security tent and enter the long open-air walkway to the inner sanctum of the courtroom complex, with sniper netting lining both sides as you walk.

Concertina wire walk. Next is a 150 foot walk down a narrow passage from the security tent to the courtroom building. The passage is sandwiched between layers of fence and large circles of concertina wire, spanning the height and width of the sniper netting covered walls. The walk ends at a patio just outside the courthouse, with restroom trailers (some of which on occasion are broken), a smoke pit, and vending machines for drinks and bagged snacks. As the NGOs typically arrive on the premises very early – before counsel, defendants, victims and their families, and others -- the NGOs may wait in the patio area before entering the courthouse. But you might want to enter the courtroom as early as possible, to allow you to see the defendant(s) escorted into the courtroom. Each detainee / defendant routinely has two guards straddling either side of him, each guard wearing black or blue rubber gloves touching the defendant’s shoulder and forearm, followed by one or more security guards carrying the defendant’s “legal bins” – big plastic, see-through bins (like the ones you fill and stuff under your bed or at the bottom of your closet) containing legal materials, prayer rugs for courtroom prayer breaks, and other personal materials.

Badge – yet again. As you enter the courthouse, a soldier at a small table has a typed up sheet with seat assignments. They take your name from your badge, highlights your name on the sheet, and tells you the seat number that you are to occupy in the courtroom gallery.

Metal detector. After you learn your seat number, you walk about 2 steps, pass through another metal detector, and about 3 steps later reach the gallery door.

End of security – seating? The metal detector was the last security step. As you enter the courtroom, it’s time to find your assigned seat.

Courtroom gallery seating.

Immediately inside the courtroom gallery door is a section of 3 rows and a total of 12 seats (Double Check figures!), reserved for 10 victims and victims’ family members (VFs) and 2 escorts. Recently, of the 9/11 and U.S.S. Cole bombing occupied these seats. VFs can close a blue curtain that separates their section from the section containing NGO observers, media, and others viewing proceedings. Non-victims must walk past the VFM area to get to the non-victims’ side of the gallery, which has 4 rows of (10 seats per row), two rows on each of two levels. X seats are reserved for media in the front row, and 13 – 14 seats are reserved for NGOs, though many times only 6 – 7 NGOs travel to Gitmo, presumably because groups did not nominate NGO observers to travel. Each NGO is permitted to send one representative only. A request was made that if any of the 13 – 14 NGO Observer slots is unfilled, that the empty spots be made available to NGOs that have more than one observer on a “waitlist” they can send. This would help prevent
empty observer spots and help promote transparency. The request will be renewed, since there are often open Observer slots on the plane, in the tents, and in the courtroom, and additional observers cost the government zero. The remainder of courtroom seats are “Space A” – for anyone at GTMO who wishes to observe the proceedings, first come, first served.

- **Courtroom gallery size.**

The gallery is small. It is suggested that you be sensitive to comments or behavior that might be deemed to be offensive or otherwise inappropriate. *Remember – that virtually everyone in the courtroom or in the courtroom gallery can see everyone else. And, everyone within the gallery can hear everyone else in the gallery.*

Follow the oral instructions given by a soldier before the hearing begins (do not communicate with anyone in the courtroom itself -- on the other-side of the triple-paned glass; no eating except for cough drops; no electronics – in case any electronics slipped through the multiple security checks; etc.). All the security guards have pleasant personalities, but the courtroom guards are ones you get to spend a little extra time with and get to enjoy their company – though you do not get to talk with them much. They will bring you water in the gallery if you ask – or they may volunteer. They escort you to the restrooms. They can answer questions.

- **What can I bring into the courtroom?**

You may bring into the courtroom gallery the entire *Guantanamo Bay Fair Trial Manual (Volumes I and II if you like, with pink and blue covers, respectively)*, the *Manual’s Excerpts* (yellow cover), motion copies, paper and pens. You may also bring small snacks, tissues, etc. for during the breaks. All food and non-water drinks should be stored in the refrigerator in the entrance to the gallery as it is not allowed in the gallery itself. You may eat food during breaks; there are covered areas with picnic tables and restrooms outside the courtroom.

- **Water.**

Water is provided in the courtroom gallery. Indeed, bottled water is provided just about all over the AO Patriot part of the base (Camp Justice), free of charge! (Drink plenty of it, as it gets very hot there, even during the “winter.”) Do not hesitate to walk to the gallery refrigerator to get water. If you get up and walk towards the refrigerator, one of the friendly guards jump up, reach the refrigerator before you do, and get water for you.

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35 When you sit in the gallery and face the court, there are six defense tables on the left side. Each defendant has one row, with the defendant seated on the far left. In the courtroom photo on this page, the defendant’s seat is on the left, with no table-top in front of it, with a shackle on the floor immediately in front of the right front right leg of the chair. When facing the courtroom, the NGOs are immediately behind the defense tables, behind the triple-paned glass. Victims and victims’ families also sit in the gallery, but they sit behind the prosecutors, who are on the right side of the courtroom facing forward.

Recently, at the conclusion of a day of hearings in the 9/11 case, some victims / victims’ family members shifted from their position on the right hand side of the gallery to the left hand side so as to stand directly behind where the defendants sit, and directly in front of where the NGOs sit in the gallery. The victims and victims’ family members apparently had photos of their loved ones killed in the 9/11 attacks, and held those photos against the glass to be in the line of vision as the defendants were escorted down the left aisle out a side door on the left side of the courtroom. I did not hear any security office opinion about seeking to show victims’ photos to the defendants from the gallery into the courtroom.
• **Eating.**

Do not eat or chew gum in the gallery. One of the judges sent military personnel into the gallery to tell observers to stop chewing gum! No sleeping. No gesticulating or responding nonverbally to proceedings. Remember – everyone can see you. (And of course there are CCTV cameras pointed at you, and security or other officers can see you as well from the security control room.)

• **It’s cold in there!**

The gallery is kept chilly, so be prepared. This topic was recently raised in court, and it was mentioned that some of the high tech equipment requires cooler temperatures. You can bring a sweater or jacket with you, or a shawl. One defendant who was dressed in white light-weight traditional attire wore his interpreter’s heavier blazer in the courtroom each day of that week’s hearings.

• **Lunch on court days.**

There is a limited time for lunch. The NGO Escorts typically arrange for carry-in from Subway. In the morning before you leave your tents to go to court, your Escorts will ask you to fill out an order and provide cash to pay for it. Your selections and change will be waiting for you in the NGO Resource Center at the lunch hour. You can of course purchase food from the Navel Exchange (NEX) and cater for yourself during the lunch periods. You may not want to eat Subway every day for lunch. You may also purchase snacks from a machine that is located in a big tent area that sits just outside the ELC, after you clear security.

• **Taking notes for your blog posts, articles.**

It is a good idea to take notes during hearings. For your blog posts and other reporting projects, you can access unofficial transcripts at the end of the day through the Office of Military Commissions website (www.mc.mil). Again, these are a good resource for writing your reports and blog posts. If you need an extra pen or legal pad, check the Indiana University McKinney trunks. Please feel free to use supplies provided by Indiana.

• **Doodling / Sketching / Drawing in the Courtroom – Don’t.**

There are signs hanging in the courtroom that say don’t doodle, sketch or draw (**Get precise language of new sign**). This is probably the 3rd iteration of that sign to appear, because lawyers (and others) found ways to interpret the language of the earlier versions of the signs that would permit activity that was meant to be proscribed. No doodling, sketching, or drawing is very broad, and likely covers any activity that previously was thought to be permitted.

The only exception to this is for the one authorized Sketch Artist who has an assigned seat in the gallery who is permitted to provide professional sketches of what transpires in the courtroom. Even she is subject to rules, for example, no drawing of facial characteristics of the panel members (jury), no sketching of facial characteristics of victims / families without permission, no sketching of security aspects of the courtroom – such as the cameras. All of her drawings must be approved by the courtroom security officer, with an official security sticker affixed to it, before the sketch may be released. The current sketch artist is Janet Hamlin, whose sketches have truly provided outsiders an important, insightful view of the personalities in the courtroom.
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over many years. Be certain to have a look at her book called Sketching Guantanamo,36 which contains 150 sketches she has drawn at Guantanamo Bay over the years.

It was recently suggested that the government retain the service of another courtroom sketch artist, since when Janet Hamlin is not present, no sketches are made, and the visual courtroom scenes are not preserved for history, and are not available to the public. Ms. Hamlin apparently only travels to Guantanamo Bay when media retain her and pay her fare, other expenses, and wages. And, apparently, and for whatever reason, the media have not been retaining her for this undertaking.

Cameras are not permitted in the courtroom. The proceedings are not on C-Span, and not readily available to the public. In the public viewing sites, such as Ft. Meade, cameras are not permitted. Detainees may not be photographed in their detention facilities. For many of the detainees/defendants, the only visual representations of them that the world sees are photographs taken before they were taken into custody, or like for Khalid Shaik Mohammad and others, while they were being taken into custody. NGOs and others have contended that failure to permit photographs or failure to facilitate full access to sketch artists prohibits the creation of an accurate history of the U.S. Military Commissions. The world does not know what these defendants look like today—15 years after many were detained—and the world does not know what the courtroom proceedings look like, except as portrayed in writing or in Ms. Hamlin’s sketches, again, which are these days rare.

X. Accommodations ((Tent City, AO Patriot, Camp Justice)

- Your tent.

You will be staying in a tent. Your tent accommodations come with a twin bed, small dresser, and linens (i.e., sheets, light blanket, pillow, and towels). The tents come with electricity, lighting, and a phone. You can purchase a phone card at the NEX if needed, and that phone card will work with the phone in your tent or with any other phone on the base. Each tent also has a microwave, an iron and ironing board, a broom, a set of table/chairs, and a small refrigerator. The sockets in the wall are identical to the ones in the U.S., and the current /

36 Sketching Guantanamo, which contains many dozens of 150 sketches she has drawn at Guantanamo Bay, related to the Military Commissions, over the course of many years. Her book can be found at (and ordered from) http://fantagraphics.com/flog/sketching-guantanamo-by-janet-hamlin-videophoto-slideshow-preview/. You can find a copy of her book in the Indiana University McKinney School of Law trunk in the NGO Resource Center GTMO.
voltage is the same as in the U.S. If you want a hair dryer, you will need to bring your own. There are heavy, yellow power cords throughout each tent, providing many outlets.

I believe that the GTMO personnel responsible for upkeep of the tents are associate with BEEF – the Base Engineer Emergency Force. (We’re checking to make sure that it is BEEF that handles this.) Whatever the case, those responsible for upkeep do a great job – dealing with air conditioning units that fail, fixing showers that won’t drain, preparing signage for the tent doors, delivering linens to the tents before NGOs arrive, collecting soiled lines at the end of the week, etc.

- **It’s colder in your tent than in the courtroom.**
  
The tent is kept very cold to keep out the local wildlife (banana rats, iguanas, crabs, etc.). The center air cylinder running the length of the ceiling has velcro openings in it; close them to warm up the tent, open them to cool down the tent. There is also a temperature dial outside the tent in the back, but it is advised not to adjust that dial. However, it was deemed ok to adjust a temperature dial that sits inside the tent near the refrigerator in the back. The tent window flaps can be kept up or down to let in light (or let in warm air / let out cold air).

As mentioned below, as of Fall 2016, the tents now come equipped with new heavier blankets than were previously provided, and if you need additional blankets you may request them. Also, as mentioned below, the NGO Resource Center contains a stash of blankets that NGOs purchased at the NEX and left behind for future NGOs (along with a few sleeping bags and at least one electric blanket - - found in the Indiana trunk).

- **New thick blankets (and “pillow top thick mattresses”!**
  
In December 2016, all the beds in the Camp Justice tents where NGO Observers sleep received new mattresses and blankets. The mattresses are “pillow top”, and are thicker than the previous very thin mattresses, and I must say more comfortable. The new blankets are considerably thicker than the previous blankets, and appear to be warmer (I don’t know for sure, since I only use Indiana’s electric blanket and have never used a Guantanamo-issued blanket). Even with the new blankets, if you feel you need an additional blanket you may bring one from home or purchase one at the NEX – they are not very expensive.

Sleeping bags may be available at the NEX, but if you definitely want to use a sleeping bag you might bring your own from home. Indiana McKinney School of Law has an electric blanket in its trunk (usually used by the Indiana Observer) and two sleeping bags. Recently, blankets were donated by the multiple NGO representatives from Multiple NGOs.37

Before you purchase a blanket at the NEX, check to see if there is a spare blanket in the NGO Resource Center! Chances are good that you will be able to use a blanket that is already there. Whatever the case, if you have a blanket or sleeping bag you would like to leave for future NGOs, it would be more than appreciated!

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37 The number of NGO donors of blankets and other supplies got so long that it was decided not to list these NGOs by name here, as it would be unwieldy and some names that should be present might inadvertently get left off. Thank you to these NGO representatives! Before you rush out to purchase a blanket, check in the NGO Resource Center to see if there is a blanket you can use for the chilly nights in your tent.
Wildlife in your tent?

On one trip to Guantanamo Bay, someone in one of the women’s tents decided to turn up the thermostat as it was too cold. It got warm enough in the tent for an iguana to feel comfortable. Several days into the week, the iguana appeared from under the bed. You can imagine the reaction when the iguana was spotted in the tent—it’s hard to know who reacted with the greatest stress, the person who found the iguana or the iguana itself. (I wonder whether this iguana was Reptar, the iguana who lives under a wooden roof soldiers built for it just a few yards from the NGO tents. See the picture of Reptar and an NGO representative on this page.)

Flashlight.

You may want to take a small flashlight as the tent is black-out dark in the night, and you may not want to turn on an overhead light in your sleeping area, as the overhead light may wake your tentmates. You may of course use the flashlight on your cell phone.

Showers.

The showers are in tents a short walk from the tents where you will sleep. Have you ever seen the TV show MASH? Well, the showers are not much different from what you might have seen on that show. Many people believe that the Camp Justice showers work very well – with a powerful stream of water as hot as you would want it – better than some of us have in our own homes back in the U.S.
You are required to wear something more than a towel when walking between your tent and the shower tent. You must be dressed. Over the years I have never seen anyone walk to/from the showers in a bathrobe. You might bring sandals or flip flops to wear when walking between the showers and your tent, and for when you are in the shower area.

No shampoo or shower soap is provided by the OMC or Camp Justice. You may bring your own from home (in your checked luggage if your liquid containers are larger than 3 ounces), or you can purchase this from the NEX. You may also find shampoo and shower gel in the NGO Resource Center, left behind by previous NGO observers. Feel free to leave in the NGO Resource Center any such toiletry items you think might be useful to a new crop of NGO observers.

- **Latrines.**

  The latrines are tents a short walk from the tents where you will sleep. So far, I know of no one in the U.S. who has toilets in their homes that operate like the Camp Justice toilets operate, each of which has a set of directions for use posted on the wall behind each toilet unit. It’s too complicated to explain and requires illustrations.

- **Laundry.**

  Washing machines and dryers (free of charge) are in a tent near the latrines / showers. You may need to purchase detergent (unless an NGO Observer left some behind). **Check the NGO Resource Center before you purchase detergent. Also check to see if there is any detergent in the laundry room. Soldiers, NGOs, media and others who use the laundry may leave detergent behind. If so, you may use detergent you find for free.**
Kitchenware / Refrigerator
No dishes, glasses/cups, utensils, can or bottle openers, etc. are provided. But previous NGO observers have left in the NGO Resource Center disposable silverware, cups, plates, can / bottle openers, cork screws, a small coffee maker, etc. Feel free to use these supplies. Also feel free to replenish these supplies, or to add different items to be used by future NGO observers!

There is a small refrigerator / freezer in the NGO Resource Center. You may use if while you are at Guantanamo Bay. If you have leftover non-perishable items that need refrigeration or freezing – e.g., coffee, chocolate, sugar, creamer, chocolate, or ice cream -- you may leave them in the refrigerator for future NGO Observers. You may also leave non-perishable food items (e.g., canned items, factory sealed packaged items), in the NGO Resource Center. Recent NGO observers have left behind packaged popcorn, tuna fish, etc.

Keeping Your Tent Clean
You are responsible for taking your garbage to the dumpster and recycling to the recycler. Each tent comes with a broom to sweep out sand and dirt. Try to keep your tent clean. Not only is it just more pleasant to have a clean tent, but also a clean tent is less inviting to insects, wildlife, etc.

Electricity
Generators provide electricity and air conditioning. They are loud and run all night. You may want ear plugs.

Don’t drink the water!
Tap / shower water on the base is not potable. Cases of bottled water are provided all around Camp Justice -- in the tents, NGO Library, and courtroom. Remember to use bottled water for brushing your teeth!

XI. NGO Orientation & Working with the NGO Escorts

NGO Orientation
Upon arrival at GTMO you will have an NGO orientation at which you will be informed of additional rules and regulations. Ask questions if you do not understand! Do not hesitate to ask!

How to Contact Escorts.
The NGO Escorts will provide you with their phone numbers and other information. Take note of that.

Down time / non-court activities?
Of course your primary purposes at GTMO include to attend, observe, analyze, critique, and report on your military commission experience. There may be days with no hearings or other official events. You might ask your NGO Escorts to organize, at a minimum, a walking (or drive by) tour of Camp X-ray and the detention camps on the JTF-GTMO side, and a courtroom tour (walk onto the actual courtroom floor, visit holding cells where defendants are during breaks, etc.), a Windmill Hill (or John Paul Jones Hill) tour, or for a Base tour (beaches, Christmas Tree Hill, bowling alley, etc.). If there is additional down time, there are the other

\[38\] We need to check to make certain that this hill is actually referred to as the John Paul Jones Hill, or not.

\[39\] Named such since just before Thanksgiving each year Christmas trees are decorated on this hill, which has a prominent position near the
activities listed below. If you only have one day of free time at GTMO, you do not want to spend it in a restaurant having a long brunch, holed up in your tent (though it is a good idea to spend time reading and preparing for the hearings!), or preparing your own barbeque. Consider that the NGO Escorts do not control who is permitted to do certain things, such as have a courtroom tour. But, if you do not ask, you may not have an opportunity.

- **Internet (Internet is also discussed below. Also see section on T-Mobile).**

  Until September 2016, internet was available in the NGO Resource Center for $150 per week using an Ethernet connection. Contractors would meet you in the NGO Resource center and you could enter into an agreement to use the Ethernet for the week, and you would pay $150 with credit card, over $21.00 per day (with no wifi).

  In the 2016 summer a new cable was activated and internet connection costs dropped considerably. The new costs ranged from $7.95 per day to $24 per month. You pay by credit card online after you boot-up your computer. If you pay by credit card, make certain you do not click a button permitting recurring charges you for each subsequent day, week or month. Click the button that permits charging for only the specific day, week or month you want the service. One NGO observer was charged each month for 4 months after signing up for internet at wifi, but was ultimately refunded for the specific periods he was not on island.

  If your laptop has no Ethernet port, you might find an Ethernet adapter – for Windows Computers -- in the NGO Resource Center in the Indiana supply trunk. If you need an Ethernet adapter for a mac / Apple, you might bring one from home. The NEX will likely not have either a Windows or Apple adapter for sale.

  If you do not purchase internet, you may still use free wifi at the Base Library, the Starbucks, some restaurants, and elsewhere. After Hurricane Matthew in the 2016 fall, internet resources changed again. This is described below. Ask your Escort for current info before you depart for GTMO.

- **Internet Post-Hurricane Matthew – Fall 2016.**

  November 2016, after Hurricane Matthew damaged the NGO Resource Center (see below), the internet costs for NGOs at Camp Justice was waived. NGOs could use wifi while in or near the MWR tent (near the NGO tents), use Ethernet connects inside the MWR tent, and use computers supplied in the MWR tent.

  A serious disadvantage for NGOs working in the MWR tent is that because the tent is a temporary physical structure (similar to the tents where you sleep), the tent is said to be subject to invasions by Gitmo creatures (banana rats, iguanas, snakes, etc.) and is kept NGO observers have worn hats, multiple and blankets while working in there. The MWR tent does not make for a sustainable environment for NGO observers who are issues associated with the hearings, or drafting entries or reports.

  There have been discussions about the of the new NGO Resource Center moving to location to be vacated by JTF-GTMO Public Rooms 1 & 2 in the Media Operations Center. that happens in early 2017!
XII. NGO Resource Center (formerly “NGO Lounge” or “Internet Café”)

a. General information re NGO Resource Center

- The NGO Resource Center was traditionally in the old airport hangar on McCalla Field\(^{40}\) a 30-second stroll from your tent in Camp Justice.\(^{41}\) It was a bare bones operation with old desks and chairs, a TV, a white board, Ethernet hookups, and a printer. The NGO orientation was typically held here, as were meetings with the Chief Defense Counsel and separate meetings with members of the individual defense teams for the case you are monitoring. This facility was previously referred to as the “NGO Lounge”, but over time NGOs who traveled to Guantanamo came collectively to believe that what the place was called was important, and the name should reflect what it is and how it should be known to outsiders. The NGO Resource Center is much more than a place to “lounge”. Hence, a handwritten sign saying “NGO Resources Center” was placed on the door to the room. On Wednesday, 16 November 2016, during hearings in the case of Nashwan al Tamir (a/k/a Hadi al Iraqi), a Guantanamo Bay official, noting the “not the best” penmanship on the makeshift sign (see the photo on this page!), offered to have created a “proper” sign for the door! What a kind, helpful and welcome gesture! Hopefully the new sign will be posted soon.

b. New NGO Resource Center – Because Hurricane Matthew caused the original NGO Resource Center to be condemned.

- In Fall 2016, Hurricane Matthew damaged the hangar, including the NGO Resource Center GTMO ceiling. Since then, NGOs have not been permitted to use the NGO Resource Center. Instead, NGOs have been using a morale, welfare and relief (MWR) tent that was previously exclusively for soldiers, located about 50 feet from the NGO tents. The MWR tent is significantly nicer than the previous NGO Resource Center facility, with more comfortable couches, with coffee tables, a lending library, and a bigger TV. But, it is freezing cold inside the MWR tent, to keep out the Guantanamo creatures, but that also dissuades NGOs from

\(^{40}\) McCalla Field is an old airfield that is named after Bowman H. McCalla, who was a U.S. Navy Admiral in charge at the Battle of Guantánamo Bay, which was fought from 6 – 10 June 1898, during the Spanish–American War, and which resulted in the U.S. and Cuba capturing Guantánamo Bay.
working there because the cold prevents it from being a suitable work environment.

- It was learned that one of the Media Center Rooms (Media Rooms 1 & 2), that is currently occupied by JTF-GTMO Public Affairs Officers, will be abandoned by them since they are shifting their offices to the JTF side of the base. There were discussions about shifting the NGO Resource Center to that space, which is in the hangar where the Media Operations Center is, near the space where press briefings are held, and not far from the site of the original NGO Resource Center, which is in the same hangar but on the opposite side of the structure. Media Rooms 1 & 2 could be excellent spaces to become the new NGO Resource Center, as those rooms have furniture (couches, chairs, TVs, and book cases), computer equipment (including printers), and proper lighting. They have solid walls, floors and ceilings, and are more permanent than a tent that flaps in the wind. Because of the permanence of these media structures, they do not need to be kept freezing cold to keep out the iguanas, banana rats, and snakes. These rooms would be a far more suitable place to be the NGO Resource Center, and better equipped, than the MWR tent, the other temporary tent designated as the NGO Resource Center (tent A-10), or even the original NGO Resource Center on the other side of the hangar.

c. More information about the NGO Resource Center

- The press conferences typically held at the end of a hearing week are broadcast to the NGO Resource Center and displayed on the large screen.

- Cases of water and a refrigerator are provided. There are coffee pots that have been donated by Observers, but no supplies other than sugar and the like. If you make coffee, please remember to pitch the grounds as there is no clean-up crew – other than you and the other NGO observers with you.

- The observer representing Indiana University McKinney School of Law’s Military Commission Observation Project will typically “set up” the NGO Resource Center. Indiana has provided office supplies and background information, the Senate Select Committee Torture Report Executive Summary, the Geneva Conventions, Charge Sheets of the different defendants, and Briefing Books. Indiana also provides pens, notebooks, post-its, a stapler, sheet protectors, and other office supplies. Any NGO Observer should feel free to use these.
resources, materials, and supplies provided by Indiana.

- In the small kitchen area of the old NGO Resources Center are trunks of “stuff” brought by different NGOs, principally for use by NGOs from their respective organizations. Each trunk is marked with the name of the organization. Some labels are restrictive and say things like “for use by members of xyz organization only”. Others have no labels. Labels on the two Indiana trunks invite any NGO to use the materials in those two trunks. Some NGOs lock their trunks, which has caused problems when an NGO Observer would arrive at GTMO and not know the combination to their NGO’s trunk. We have seen no need to lock the Indiana trunks, particularly since all of the materials in our trunks are provided for the express purpose of being made available to all NGO observers, irrespective of which organization they represent.

- In those trunks, you can find the substantive, printed materials mentioned above. You may also find non-perishable food items, mosquito spray, soap, and sunscreen.

- **Games.** Games and other recreational implements can be found in the trunks (and in the MWR tent). Games include Jenga, Taboo, decks of cards, Balderdash, foam footballs, Frisbees, etc. If you purchase sporting equipment or games at the NEX, or if you bring such from home, feel free to leave it behind for other NGO Observers to use on future missions.

- **Mosquito / bug repellant.** To reemphasize -- use the mosquito / bug repellant you might find there. At times, mosquitos are plentiful at Guantanamo Bay. At times, gnats are plentiful. Be prepared!

- **Refrigerator.** During the 2016 summer and early fall, the small freezer in the small NGO Resource Center refrigerator was frozen solid. A request was made that it be defrosted. The defrost did not happen. NGOs will greatly appreciate the ability to have freezer storage for things like coffee, chocolates, and ice. The refrigerator issue may become moot if the NGO Resource Center is moved to the area being vacated by the JTF-GTMO PAO, as those rooms (MOC Rooms 1 & 2) have properly functioning refrigerators with freezers!

### XIII. Supplies

- Shortly after you arrive at Gitmo you will be taken to the Navel Exchange (NEX), like a Super Target or K-Mart. Cash or credit accepted.

- They sell just about any item you would find in a major chain grocery store in the U.S., as well as non-food items you might find in a Target or K-Mart. Prices are reasonable! You can get sunscreen, bug spray, or any item you left at home (including swimming gear). And, as mentioned, you can get food.

- A small tourist shop next to the NEX sells shirts, magnets, mugs, caps with “Guantanamo Bay” or a related slogan on it. You can buy postcards, stamps, and phone cards. The shop also sells, for $25, a bound history of the Guantanamo Bay naval base. Cash or credit accepted.

- If you forget something, no worries, since you will likely go to the NEX frequently while at Gitmo.

- If you have extra non-perishables at the end of your GTMO stay, you may leave them in the NGO Resource Center for other NGO observers to use. If you have extra perishables, you may leave them with your on-the-ground escorts who have been assisting the NGO Escorts.
XIV. Banking

- The NEX plaza area, in the center of town, has ATM machines.
- You may be able to get “cash back” when you make purchases at the NEX. I wouldn’t count on it. Bring extra cash with you so you don’t have to use the ATM machine or rely on credit cards.
- Also, keep in mind that some places where you might like to make purchases do not accept credit cards. You can’t go wrong if you have a couple hundred dollars in cash with you when you arrive. Chances are you will have most of it still in your pocket when you return home at the end of the week. But, at least you will not have to worry about running out of cash.
- If you run out of cash, you might borrow a little from a fellow NGO Monitor. You can immediately repay the person electronically from your bank account using PayPal, Venmo, or another money transfer app.

XV. Souvenirs

- Outside the NEX across the patio from Subways is a souvenir shop. You can buy a variety of items with “GTMO” or “Guantanamo” on them. They sell t-shirts, shorts, sweatshirts, mugs, blankets, travel bags, key chains, medallions, magnets, and many other souvenirs.
- You can purchase souvenirs at the Mini Mart at Marine Hill (open 24 hours), and at a few other locations on base, including Radio Gitmo, some of the restaurants, and elsewhere.
- The airport souvenir shop has always been closed when flights carrying NGOs have arrived at or departed. So, there will be no last minute purchases of souvenirs at the airport, which is a shame, since some passengers on these flights would likely be want to purchase last minute souvenirs. Also, the air crew for these flights, during their brief period on the ground when are there to drop off or pick us up, would also likely be happy to purchase souvenirs at the airport. (NB: There is a Mini Mart near the airport – on the leeward side of Guantanamo Bay – but there may not be enough time for your escorts to drive you to the Mini Mart before your flight to Andrews.)

XVI. Where to eat at Guantanamo Bay?

Guantanamo Bay offers a variety of eating / drinking establishments, from finer dining to military mess hall, to fast food, to road side shack. Alcohol is served. The tolerance for drinking and operating a vehicle at Gitmo is 0.0 – that’s zero point zero. If you ingest even an ounce of alcohol, do not operate a vehicle (car, golf cart / mule, etc.). Please just do not do it. You can call a hotline any time of night for a free ride from / to wherever you need to go.

1. The Galley (Gold Hill Galley). For $3.45 (cash only) you get a full breakfast, including eggs cooked to order, pancakes, and may other hot and cold options. Lunch and dinner are under $6.00. This all-you-can-eat price includes a choice of multiple entrees (or indeed you could have multiple entrees!), salad bar with dozens of

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42 References to the “Galley” typically are to the Gold Hill Galley (Iggy Café), located in “downtown” Gitmo. There are galleys at the hospital, on the JTF-GTMO side, and on the leeward side. The dress code and other galley rules apply at all galleys, which all charge the same prices. All the galleys serve the same food.
items (including nice-sized shrimp, freshly cut fruit, and fresh whole fruit), a selection of drinks, and dessert, including cakes, and ice cream. You can walk to the galley from Camp Justice – it is across the street and up the hill from the NEX, McDonalds, and the chapel.

Most military eat at the galley, and you can interact with military personnel there if you wish. On court days, your contract escorts will likely pick you up for a galley breakfast run at 6:00 or 6:15 a.m., and bring you back to your tent 45 to 60 minutes later, offering you plenty of time to get ready for court. You are not obligated to go to breakfast, and most observers do not – they tend to purchase fruit or other snacks to eat for breakfast in their tents and make lunch a bigger meal. NGOs usually do not go to the galley for lunch because it takes too long to get there and back during the court’s lunch hour. Occasionally NGOs go to the galley for dinner.

Galley rules:

- **Dress code.** When dining at the Galley (the military personnel dining room) if you wear trousers they should have pockets (no sweat pants) and men and women should have their shoulders covered. No exercise or short shorts are permitted. Generally, no strapless tops are permitted, for men or women – though you may wear a shawl on top of your strapless shirt. If you wear a “t-shirt”, it must have words or a design on it, and cannot be plain – like a plain white undershirt / t-shirt. All hats and caps must be removed as you enter.

- **No backpacks / bags.** Although small handbags are permitted, you will need to leave your backpacks or satchels in the van or in a rack near the Galley’s front desk. Aside from the Galley, all other places to eat at Guantanamo are casual.

- **No doggie bags.** You may not remove food from the Galley. So, _don’t_ try to take your apple for later. If you want midnight snacks, purchase them from the NEX or get doggie bags from other restaurants.

- **Surf and turf.** A highlight of galley eating is that on special occasions, typically once per month, all the galleys will serve surf and turf – lobster and steak. Special occasions might include the Navy’s birthday or a notable base event. (I’ve been lucky enough to have surf ‘n” turf several times at GTMO, and I’ll post photos when I can find them!)

(2) **O’Kelly’s Irish Pub & Windjammer Restaurant.** These are two separate restaurants, but serve the same food and are housed on opposite sides of the same building. They serve general American food, and also bar food that might be suitable for late night. Cash or credit accepted. The pub sells tourist items such as t-shirts with the logo “The Only Irish Pub on Communist Soil.” They have big screen TVs that show news, sporting events and other shows. **O’Kelly’s** has karaoke every Wednesday from 8:00 to 11:30, and Country Night every Thursday from 8:00 – 11:30. The **Windjammer** has Bingo on Sunday and Tuesday at 6:30 p.m., DJ Hip Hop & Latin Night every other Friday from 7:00 p.m. to 1:30 a.m., and DJ Hip Hop Night on Saturday from 7:00 p.m. – 1:30 a.m. The **Windjammer** has lunch buffets as follows Tuesday (Italian), Wednesday (Southern), Thursday (Chef’s Choice), and Friday (Jerk). Phone: 77252.
(3) **Bayview Restaurant.** Full Sunday brunch for $12. Dress code. This is where on Thursday nights they have traditionally created a Mongolian Barbeque experience for those on the base. Customers walk around a station that contains dozens of types of raw meat and vegetables, they collect portions of meat and vegetable as they visit raw food stations, and take the plate of raw items to one of two very large grills already set up and warm. The grill masters cook your food and serve it to you with rice or pasta.

In 2016, the Mongolian Barbeque was held at the Windjammer instead of at the Bayview. Compared to other eating options at Guantanamo Bay, Mongolian Barbeque is on the more expensive side since they charge for your food by ounce, pre-cooking. You could easily spend $15 - $25 on your meal.

**Bayview** has other specials – Prime Rib (Saturday, 6:00 – 9:00), Sunday Brunch (10:00 – noon – $12.00); Chateaubriand (Friday & Saturday – for 2); Seafood (Friday), They also have a sushi night for $22.

(4) **Rasta Hill -- Road Side Jamaican.** For $8.00 you can get a pretty authentic Jamaican meal. Cash only, no vegetarian options. The curry goat is amazing! So too is the fish, fried chicken and barbeque pork. (They are only open sporadically, typically on Friday afternoons beginning around 5:30.) Rasta Hill is located on Sherman -- the main road that runs from Camp Justice to “downtown Guantanamo Bay”, on the left as you leave Camp Justice, across the street from the shrine of Our Lady of Guadalupe. It would not be unusual to see people associated with the military commissions eating at Rasta Hill, and yes, including judges. Indeed, since there are so few restaurants at Gitmo, you cannot help but bump into others involved with the military commissions no matter where you eat on base including at the food counter in the bowling alley.

(5) **The Jerk House.** Chicken, goat and rib options – Jamaican style. No inside seating. Wireless available. You often see other military commission stakeholders eating here or nearby, and the setup of the tables are conducive to your being joined by them for a meal. Go early, as it is known to run out of selections (such as the ribs or corn on the cob). The Jerk House is currently located next to the “Starbucks” with which it shares a plaza, and the Tiki Bar which is next door. Rumor has it that the Jerk House will soon move to another location – near the Guantanamo Bay library, in the space previously occupied by another popular restaurant – the Cuban Club – which before it closed this past year was known for good
Cuban food, with each meal cooked from scratch, taking at times an hour or more to be served even basic dishes. The Jerk House, with Jamaican food, serves super huge portions in a short amount of time. As of December 2016, ox tails on Friday nights are no longer on the Jerk House menu. Cash or credit accepted. Phone: 2535.

(6) **Tiki Bar**. Open Wednesday – Thursday, 5:00 – 11:30; Friday – Saturday, 5:00 p.m. – 1:30 a.m.

(7) **Taco Bell, Pizza Hut (and yes – Pizza Hut delivers!), McDonalds, & Subway** are available -- although McDonalds has been known to serve peanut butter & jelly sandwiches when it runs out of burgers because the barge bearing supplies has not come in on time.

(8) **Caribbean Coffee & Cream** – also at times known as the “Starbucks”. Serves ice cream and Starbucks coffee. Next to the Jerk House. Wireless available. Cash or credit accepted.

(9) **Bowling Alley**. Serves bowling alley-type food. Hamburgers and cheeseburgers, fried catfish, french fries, onion rings, etc. (By the way, the bowling alley has Cosmic Bowling nights on Friday and Saturday nights).

(10) **Clipper Club Lounge**. You probably will not have an opportunity go here, since it is on the leeward side (near the airport) and you have to travel there by ferry, and because it is only open on Friday nights.

(11) **Pirate’s Cove**. You probably can’t go here since it is on the JTF-side of the base. Open Friday / Saturday nights.

(12) **Rick’s Lounge**. Wednesday & Thursday (5:00 p.m. – 11:00), Friday & Saturday (5:00 p.m. – 11:30 p.m.). An Officer’s Club – for “Officers and equivalent” (with ID required).

(13) **Do it yourself bar-b-que**. Avoid being talked into doing a bar-b-que on the beach unless you like doing all the work and buying food and cooking utensils! It also means you have one less chance to run into and talk with members of the media and defense teams.

(14) **Defense Team Bar-B-Que**. During hearings in the 9/11 case, the al Baluchi defense team typically hosts a bar-be-que the evening that everyone arrives on island, typically a Saturday. There is a question and answer session, so be prepared to ask questions! Although not an official pitch-in, it is appreciated if you contribute beverages or food you can buy at the NEX or bring from home. If you donate perishable items, they can be saved and used at the next al Baluchi team event. Sometimes lawyers from other defense teams attend, along with OMC staff and others. You might meet, for example, mitigation specialists, who perform a role with which you might be unfamiliar. This is always a great opportunity to meet people in a light, informal session, before the intensity of the week of hearings commences.

43 Each defendant in a capital case, such as the 9/11 case, has a “death penalty mitigation specialist” who is a lawyer trained to seek out and gather information that the “learned counsel” (the death penalty counsel) and other defense counsel may submit on behalf of the client in efforts to persuade the Military Commission jury not to impose the death penalty if the detainee is convicted of a capital offense.
(15) Military Commission Defense Office (MCDO) party. In the 2016 summer, soon after General John Baker assumed the role of Chief Defense Counsel, the Military Commission Defense Office (MCDO) began hosting a party typically on the Friday night at the end of a hearing week. NGOs are invited, as are media, OMC staff, and others. They might have subway sandwiches, pizza, chips, along with generous, free-flowing libations.

(16) NEX – Self-catering. The NEX contains a full grocery store – equivalent to any large grocery store chain in the U.S., though they may not have quite as much variety as some larger supermarkets. The NEX sells items that you can cook in the microwave in your tent, full rotisserie chickens that you might buy at any grocery store, cold cuts and bread, fresh fruits and vegetables, nuts, dairy products, and more than enough to create breakfast, lunch and dinner for most NGO reps who do not want to go to any of the eating establishments on base.

XVII. Health & Health Care

- NGO reps are expected to have health and evacuation insurance to cover them while they are traveling to, while at, and while traveling back from Guantanamo Bay. Generally, the U.S. government takes no responsibility for this, and NGO representatives sign a release before they are permitted to travel to Gitmo.
- High class medical facilities exist at Guantanamo Bay, including a hospital, and resources for urgent care. If an NGO representative has an accident or takes ill, *that NGO representative will get treated*. If there is a need for a medical evacuation back to the U.S., I have to believe that the medical evacuation will happen. It is possible that the NGO representative or that person’s insurance will need to cover some or all of those expenses. But, rest assured that if there is a need, the NGO representative will receive proper medical attention.
- Detainee medical care. Detainees receive what JTF-GTMO considers to be very high quality medical care with state of the art equipment in high quality facilities. In November 2016, one of the 9/11 defendants underwent surgery at the general base hospital (not the medical facility on the detention side of the base) for a prolapsed rectum purportedly caused by rectal feeding while in detention. Other detainees have been treated for a wide range of ailments and conditions, both in the detention medical facility itself and in the main base hospital itself.
- Carcinogens / cancer at Camp Justice. There had been discussion / investigations as to whether carcinogens existed on or around McCalla field where Camp Justice is (and where the NGOs live in tents). It had been determined that at least 7 people associated with the Military Commissions who spent time at Camp Justice developed different types of cancers, and at least in one case, a such a person (one of the defense lawyers) died from that cancer. You may do research on this issue to learn what the current thinking is on it.
- Zika. In 2016, we were told that there had been one case of Zika diagnosed at Guantanamo Bay, and the patient had contracted Zika on another island, not the island of Cuba.
- Hospital galley. Hospital has an excellent galley – great place to go for lunch, particularly if you are in the area for a tour of Camp X-Ray, a Northeast Gate Tour, or a visit to Radio GTMO. It is smaller than the Gold Hill Galley and JTF Seaside Galley, but the food and prices are the same.

XVIII. Internet Access / Telephone

(1) Wireless. Wireless access is provided at some restaurants (Jerk House, Starbucks) and the public library. Do not expect to be able to rely on this as you will have to travel from Camp Justice into the town. To use the open wireless at the restaurants, you will need to register your device on the GTMO Wi-Fi usually reserved for military personnel’s private use. Enter OMC as the unit when registering.
In the past, NGOs who wanted to use internet in Camp Justice had to pay $150 for one access point (via Ethernet) *See discussion above on how internet is significantly cheaper with the new cable!* Again, if you need an Ethernet adaptor for a Windows laptop, check the Indiana supplies in the NGO Resource Center or the NEX. Or, better yet, bring one from home. Note that the Ethernet cords are not compatible with Apple products. Purchase an adaptor before you go to Guantanamo Bay because the needed adaptors are typically out of stock at the NEX.

(2) **Telephone cards.** You may purchase telephone cards from the NEX and from various locations on base. You can use the cards to dial to the U.S. from any phone on the base, including from the phones in your tents, the NGO Library, etc. The cost is very reasonable. If you have extra value left on your card at the end of your week, please feel free to leave the card with the Indiana McKinney School of Law materials in the Internet Library. Your card will be placed in the Indiana McKinney chest, and will be able to be used by other NGO Observers (from Indiana or otherwise) in the future. (It is unclear if with these telephone cards you may phone countries other than the U.S. We’re checking on this!)

(3) **T-Mobile!** On 7 September 2016, T-Mobile began service to Guantanamo Bay. If you have T-Mobile in the U.S. (or elsewhere), you are able to use your cell phone anywhere at GTMO as though you were using it at your home. You can surf the web, make and receive phone calls, send and receive texts, and check U.S.-based apps. Make sure you have an unlimited data plan! In September 2016, I tethered my T-Mobile iPhone to my laptop and conducted 4 hours of live video-conference back to Indiana for 2 different international law classes, with guest presenters / participants including all the NGO observers who were at Gitmo that week and with military, civilian defense counsel, including learned (death penalty) counsel, for the al Nashiri team. It was likely the first U.S. law school classes taught from Guantanamo Bay, live, and certainly the first taught using T-Mobile tethering, which had only started that week at Guantanamo Bay.

(4) **Verizon.** We were told in September 2016 that if you have Verizon, you should keep the transmit mode turned off at Gitmo. Apparently Verizon operates in Cuba (“Cuban side of Cuba”, that is, non-Gitmo), and if your Verizon phone is transmitting it will go into roaming mode and you will be charged for data usage whether or not you affirmatively use the device. Perhaps keep your Verizon phone in airplane mode? If you use the device, you would of course be charged. These charges can be high, since you would be charged at roaming rates. We were told that a soldier used Verizon for a 20 minute FaceTime chat to the U.S. and the cost was $300! Beware!

**XIX. Wildlife**
- Do not leave food out.
- Do not feed the iguanas, banana rats, or other creatures.
- Do not harm any creature. The fine for killing an iguana is $10,000 U.S.
XX. Departing Camp Justice

- At the end of your hearing period, you are required to clean out the refrigerator in your tent, take out all the trash, and sweep the tent before you depart. All your linens should be gathered and put in the bin that will be placed outside your tent. (Actually, beginning in December 2016, the bins for soiled linen appeared in the tents at the beginning of the week, permitting NGOs to toss in soiled towels mid-week.)

- The refrigerator should be emptied of all but water. All left over food can be given to your military personnel drivers or thrown out. Non-perishable items can be left in the NGO Resource Center for future NGOs.

- Indiana McKinney School of Law Observers will repack the NGO Resource Center into the McKinney Law trunks the night before departure. Any other Observers who wish to leave behind reading materials, phone cards, or other nonperishable items are welcome to leave them in the McKinney Law trunk. Those items can be used by any/all future NGO Observers.

- You should be able to access the NGO Resource Center up until 30 – 45 minutes before you depart Camp Justice on the morning of your flight back to Andrews. This will give you a chance to send last minute e-mails, return blankets, bug spray, sunscreen, and other materials to the trunks, etc. Indeed, if you are using the Indiana McKinney School of Law electric blanket, you will not want to put it back into the trunk until the morning of your departure, otherwise you will have to sleep the last night freezing in the tent!

- Your Escorts will arrange for pre-check for the return flight to Andrews. You will need your passport and another copy of your Orders to complete the pre-check in process. Usually you do pre-check near the Lyceum movie theater on Friday night before departure, where you will get your boarding pass. You will need your boarding pass and your passport to get on the plane and to be processed back into the U.S. at Andrews.

- You may not be able to eat at the Gold Hill Galley on the morning of departure. Plan accordingly.

- On the morning of your departure from GTMO you will be driven past the courtroom with your luggage to the “Red Carpet” (though there is no carpet, much less red carpet). You will check your luggage at a truck that is there for that purpose. You will get your baggage claim receipts. This is the last time you will see your luggage until you land at Andrews, so plan accordingly. At times the flight to Andrews may be delayed, and some NGOs and others prepare for this by carrying in their hand luggage shorts, sandals and other gear they might want to use at a beach near the Guantanamo airport if the plane is significantly delayed.

- Recently when traveling from the tents to the Red Carpet, the Escorts warned not once, not twice, not thrice but many times “When we get to the Red Carpet, do not enter the security tent”. I think it made the NGOs wonder “what’s going on in the security tent that they don’t want us to see”. Nevertheless, no NGOs went into the security tent, and to the best of my knowledge, did not even ask what was in the tent. The NGOs merely dropped off their bags behind the tent, collected their baggage checks, and proceeded to the vans for the 3 minute ride down the ferry for transfer to the Guantanamo Bay airport.
There is free Wi-Fi at the GTMO airport.

If time permits, you may have breakfast at the smaller galley after departing the ferry on the airport side and heading to the airport. Your Escorts will inform if this will happen. It is about $3.50 for the breakfast, with only cash accepted. And there is a Subway at the airport, in case you haven’t had enough Subway.

Customs forms will be distributed on the return flight to Andrews.

In the past, when the plane touched down at Andrews, immigration and customs border control officials would board the airplane and clear you as you deplaned. Lately, you have to clear immigration and customs inside the terminal. Follow whatever instructions you are given. If you are carrying a passport other than a U.S. passport, you may be asked to accompany the immigration officer to a separate room to be processed back into the U.S. Don’t be alarmed if you are asked to follow the officer. (This issue no longer arises for NGOs since beginning in summer 2016, all NGOs observers traveling to Gitmo are required to be U.S. citizens with U.S. passports. Previously, non-U.S. citizens were permitted to go to Gitmo as NGO observers.)

Your baggage will be trucked to the front of the terminal and unloaded by the curb.

If you drove to Andrews and parked your car there, you can easily roll your suitcase from the luggage pick up area to your car and drive home. But if you stayed at the Quality Inn or other nearby hotel and were picked up there by an Escort, or if a taxi dropped you off at the Visitor Center when you arrived at Andrews, you will not be able simply to walk to your car and drive away. If you plan to get back to take a taxi (or Lyft or Uber) from Andrews, they will need to pick you up at the Visitor Center, as they cannot ordinarily enter the base and pick you up at the Air Terminal. So, you will need someone to drive you and your luggage from the Air Terminal to the Visitor Center. Occasionally an Escort or another person on the flight can drop you off at the Visitor Center, or occasionally they might be able to drop you off at National Airport, BAI Airport, Union Station (for a train from DC), or a DC Metro Station. Cross your fingers and hope for the best!44

XXI. “Attractions”, Sites & Other Activities (when court is not in session, including when hearings are delayed, cancelled, or closed to observers)

Upon arrival at Guantanamo Bay, pick up a copy of GITMO Life, the base newsletter, for updated phone numbers, hours of operations, etc. Also visit the Guantanamo Bay Morale, Welfare and Recreation website -- www.navywmrguantanamobay.com.

(1) Camp X-ray. Some NGOs have been permitted to take a walking tour of Camp X-Ray. If you would like to do that, ask. If they do not permit you to do a walking tour, you may request a “drive-by” tour. At least during the 2016 calendar year, the ability of NGOs to get out of the car on the road and / or take pictures depended on who the contract

44 But it is probably safe to say that you will not be “abandoned” at the Andrews Air Terminal. So far, every NGO observer to date has found a way to get to where they needed to go so they could get home after their Guantanamo Bay, Cuba missions!
Escort happened to be during that week of hearings. It would be great if a definitive ruling is made on this point, to help avoid frustration that arises during virtually every single hearing week as the issue is reshuffled – can NGOs do a drive by of Camp X-ray, meaning ask the driver to “drive by” Camp X-Ray with or without stopping the vehicle? Can NGOs do a walking tour of Camp X-Ray? Can NGOs park on the side of the road and take photos of Camp X-Ray? Can NGOs take photos of Camp X-Ray as they are driving by without the car stopping?

(2) “JTF-GTMO side” or “JTF side”. All detainees are held on this side of the Guantanamo base, which is the opposite side of the base from where NGOs live at Camp Justice. You can see the primary entranceway to the JTF side as you travel to Windmill beach, straight ahead as you make a sharp turn off the main road down to the Windmill beach area. The back entrance to the JTF side is at the top of the hill where Camp Iguana sits, just above Windmill Beach. You might request an actual visit to or a “windshield tour” of Camp 6, which is where the bulk of current detainees are house, and Camp 5, which was closed in the 2016 summer after the numbers of detainees at Gitmo dwindled to considerably fewer than 100. You would be able to see other now closed camps, and work and living spaces for many of the 1,700 JTF-GTMO personnel currently deployed to Gitmo. You might enjoy a meal at the Seaside Galley, which is like the galley on the naval station side, but overlooks the Caribbean. You can see the shrine to the dozens of military groups that have been deployed to Gitmo over the year. Also, you can see the office that houses the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) that pays periodic visits to the detainees, and the large JTF headquarters. Yes, NGOs have been given a windshield / drive by tour, and have eaten at the Seaside Galley. Yes, they have driven past Camps V and VI, Camp Iguana, and other detention facilities on the JTF side.

(3) Radio GTMO. This is a radio station on the base that has broad programming broadcasts throughout the base in the day and evening. Programming includes music, talk shows, advice shows, and lots of public service announcements. They have a broad range of souvenirs with “Radio Gitmo” on them, including t-shirts, coins, mugs, bottle openers, and cozies. Perhaps their most highly sought after souvenir is the Fidel Castro bobblehead, that frequently sell out and for which frequent back orders are made – even though they sell for $25.00 (cash only). (And yes, when you visit Radio Gitmo it is possible to go on the air, depending on what show is on, and your talents!)

(4) Skyline Drive. A high vantage point where you can see the entire base. No pictures permitted taken toward the Joint Task Force (JTF-GTMO) area which is where the detainee detention camps are located. (Do you know what JTF-GTMO is? If not, check the glossary!)

(5) Lighthouse. There is a lovely small museum where you can get a real understanding of the history of the base. The museum sells t-shirts. Even if the Lighthouse Museum is closed, it is nice to stop by anyway, and walk around to the back. You will see remnants of boats used by persons fleeing to Guantanamo Bay from Haiti, among other things.
The lighthouse is a beautiful backdrop for sunset photographs over Guantanamo Bay. It is about a mile down the road out the back of Camp Justice—an easy walk, jog or bike ride. It is not much further down the road than Glass Beach or Girl Scout Beach, about a mile before you reach Cable Beach.

(6) Chapel. Beautiful chapel on the main base, near the NEX. It’s a multi-denominational military chapel, with multiple services on different days, of different denominations, in different languages, at different times. They host a variety community pastoral activities, meetings and events including music programs, 12-step recovery meetings (e.g., Alcoholics Anonymous), and discussion groups (Muslim, Christian, Jewish, and others). The Chapel Complex also houses a Mosque (see below), and the office for Columbia College (which is an online academic institution through which military personnel and their families may earn degrees while at Guantanamo Bay—see below).

Phone or e-mail the Chapel for more information: phone number -- 757-458-2323; e-mail -- gtmochapel@gmail.com. The Chapel also has a Facebook page.

(7) Mosque. The Guantanamo Bay mosque is located in Room 2 of the Guantanamo Bay Chapel Annex. The mosque is open all day every day for persons to use for prayer. It has reading materials, signs, and a screen dividing the sections for men and women. The Mosque is easy to spot once you arrive in the Chapel Annex area. It has an internal door (leading to the Annex’s “courtyard”), and an external door leading to the Chapel parking lot. The parking lot door to the Mosque is easiest to use.

(8) Columbia College. Columbia College, which is an accredited institute of higher education headquartered in Columbia, Missouri, offers Guantanamo Bay military personnel and their dependents the opportunity to earn bachelor, masters, associate, pre-professional, certificate / certification primarily online from Guantanamo online. They offer degrees in business, marketing, computer science, mathematics, criminal justice, human services, education, general studies, history, philosophy, political science, literature, communication, nursing, science, psychology and sociology. The central offices are located in the Chapel Annex in the center of Guantanamo Bay, near the NEX and the McDonalds. They have a delightful staff. Their website is hwww.ccis.edu/nationwide/main.aspx?guantanamo
(9) **Monuments.** Many monuments have been erected on the base to memorialize a number of different categories of persons and events. Monuments commemorate Christopher Columbus’ landing at Guantanamo Bay, Haitian’s who came seeking asylum, a soldier who was killed when she swerved off the road to avoid killing innocent children, and others.

(10) **Fire Stations.** Guantanamo Bay has 4 fire stations. The one located a short walk from Camp Justice sells t-shirts; which are a big hit if you have a fire fighter in your life! Of course, the Firehouse is open 24 hours per day. You should not wait until the last minute to purchase t-shirts, since they may not have the shirts on hand and would have to retrieve them from near Kittery, which they can only do during the day and even then it may take a while. (The don’t wait until the last minute tip came about after NGOs on a recent trips tried to purchase t-shirts at 9:15 on the night before their flight back to Andrews at 10:00 a.m. Firefighter t-shirts existed, but they were at Kittery and retrieved in time.

(11) **Cemetery.** In 1940, the Cuzco Wells Cemetery became operational at the Guantanamo Bay Naval Station. The cemetery is located in a restricted area of the base, and is open to the public only on Memorial Day each year “providing an opportunity to remember those buried there and all of those who have died in service to their country”

(12) **Shrine to Our Lady of El Cobre (or Nuestra Senora de la Virgen de la Caridad, or Our Lady of Charity).** This Virgin Mary shrine is to the “Mother and Patroness of Cuba”, and has multiple names including “Our Lady of El Cobre”, “Nuestra Senora de la Virgen de la Caridad”, or “Our Lady of Charity”. The plaque on the statue read “Hermita a la Virgen de la Caridad Del Cobre – 1966 -- Construido en Tiempo Para Que Llegue al Corazon Y Termine en Eternidad” (“Hermitage to the Virgin of Charity of Cobre - 1966 Built in Time to Reach the Heart and End in Eternity”)

This shrine is Located on Sherman, across from Rasta Hill Jamaican restaurant, a relatively short walk from the tents where you live at Camp Justice.

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E-mail - GitmoObserver@yahoo.com

@GitmoObserver The Gitmo Observer (Indiana U McKinney School of Law)
(13) **Marine Hill.** The site appears in the film “A Few Good Men”. They sell t-shirts, mugs, coins, and hats. You can also request that a U.S. flag be flown over the Northeast Gate (as the “wire” is patrolled by the Marines). Cash only. You can get a tour of the Northeast Gate on the 3rd Friday of each month. (See below)

(14) **Northeast Gate / Fence Line Tour.** Your NGO escorts can help get this tour organized for you if you do not have military commission sessions GTMO on the third Friday morning of the month. This tour is run by the U.S. Marine Corps. You will get on buses at the Marine Corps Headquarters (Marine Hill) and you will be bused out to the Northeast Gate, which is the last operating gate between the Cuba mainland and GTMO (there are a few others, but the majority of the military to military meetings take place here). This is the only opportunity you will have to see the fence-line up close.

Check with your escort if you are interested in visiting the place at Guantanamo Bay where you will be closest to the Wire you can get, and where Cuban and U.S. officials meet unofficially and have snacks and drinks once per month, one month on the U.S. side of the Guantanamo Bay fence, and the next month on the Cuban side of the Guantanamo Bay fence). At these meetings, the snacks and drinks are from both countries. Pictured on this page is a Cuban drink and a Cuban candy bar exchanged at a venture to the Cuban side that morning.

To sign up for the tour you (or your Escort) must go to the White House (the marine barracks) on Thursday evening before the Friday morning tour and sign your name to the roster. Only the first 40 people who sign their names to the roster are permitted to go on the tour, which begins around 10:30 or so and lasts for about an hour. It is a highly sought after tour. So, if you happen to be at GTMO at the right time (the 3rd Friday of the month) under the right circumstances (no court hearings that morning), try to get your names on the Northeast Tour list as soon as the list is posted on Thursday late afternoon!

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On the 3rd Friday of each month the Cubans & Americans meet at the Northeast Gate for drinks and snack, one month on the Cuban side, the next on the U.S. side. This marine just returned from a Friday morning meeting on the Cuban side, with a Cuban drink (xxx) and a Cuban snack (xxx) in hand.
(15) **Christmas Tree Hill.** This is really only an attraction beginning in November of each year when a big hill near the center of downtown Guantanamo Bay is decorated with an assortment of Christmas decorations that light up Gitmo so brightly that it could easily be spotted from a plane flying miles overhead. “Season’s Greetings” is in huge green and red, festive green and red, an oversized airplane is created from blue, red and white blue, elves and reindeer come to life, and an outline of Cuba with the words “Guantanamo Bay, Cuba” in bright white lights serve as a centerpiece of this Holiday display. The annual Guantanamo Bay Christmas parade passes by, with floats, bands, and pageantry. During the non-Holiday Season, this hill is still referred to as Christmas Tree Hill, even without the decorations lit. Just behind the Hill is the beginning (or end) of a walking / running / hiking path that is widely used.

(16) **Flags flown.** Various military branches will fly U.S. flags for you at different locations at or around the Guantanamo Bay Naval Station and provide you with distinguished-looking, colorful, impressive certificates indicating where and when the flags were flown. You can bring U.S. flags with you from home, or purchase them at the NEX or through the military service itself when you request that the flags be flown. It is probably easiest to you supply your own flags and just hand them over to be flown. You can request that the flags be flown on a particular date, and request that they be flown in honor or memory of a particular person, institution or event. For example, you may request that the flag be flown on a friend or family member’s birthday, or on some other auspicious occasions. The branch will hold your flag until the requested date, fly the flag, prepare the certificate and get the flag back to you, typically by mail (or possibly hand-carried by a future NGO observer).

Who flies flags where:

a. **Army** (flag flown above Camp Justice) (their office is in the hangar near the media) (at times they request that you place the order before you arrive – there is a form that your NGO Escorts will be able to provide for you)

b. **Marines** (flags flown at the Northeast Gate) (requests are made at Marine Hill)

c. **Coast Guard** (flags flown in the Bay from ships while on patrol) (requests are made at the Coast Guard office, in trailers behind the NEX)
XXII. Sports, Entertainment

(1) **Movie Theaters -- Lyceum.** Outdoor movie theatre. Sometimes show first run movies. In December 2016, it showed the new Star Wars movie – Rogue – at midnight the night (or morning) it was released in the U.S. That was an exciting day for Star Wars fans at Gitmo, and hundreds of these fans turned up for screenings of Rogue over the course of a couple of days. Like many other activities at Gitmo, the movie is free of charge. They screen a side variety of movies of different types each night. Phone: 4880 for the showings. Visit the Navy Motion Picture Service website to find out what movies are coming soon: [www.navymwr.org/movies](http://www.navymwr.org/movies).

(2) **Bowling -- Marblehead Lanes.** Bowling alley. They have Cosmic Bowling on Friday and Saturday nights. They also have other special events throughout the week. Drinks and food are available for purchase and can be consumed while bowling. There is a fee for bowling, but it is not a large fee. Phone: 2118.

(3) **fGold -- Lateral Hazard Golf Course.** This is the Gitmo base golf course. Pro shop sells shirts, golf balls, etc. with the course logo. Cash or credit card. Phone: 77288.

(4) **Swimming.** There are swimming pools at Guantanamo, including the Marine Hill Pool (though it was closed for renovation in the 2016 summer), the Windjammer Pool, and the Splash Pool. Of course you can swim in the Caribbean Sea, either walking off the beach into the surf, or off of a boat.

(5) **Beaches.** There are some great beaches on the base. You can buy a snorkel and beach shoes at the NEX if you don’t want to carry them with you. Beach shoes are recommended for most of the beaches, since most beaches have rocks / pebbles along the shoreline, in addition to sand, that you have to walk across to get to the water. Ask your NGO Escort about the conditions of each beach.
The amenities vary by beach. For example, **Girl Scout Beach** has no rest rooms, but great sea glass. **Windmill Beach** and **Cable Beach** have rest rooms, beach chairs, etc. You can walk to Glass Beach (no rest rooms, no beach chairs) in about 10 minutes from your tent, and reach Girl Scout Beach in about 20 minutes from your tent. In the 2016 Fall, Hurricane Matthew damaged the steps leading down to Girl Scout Beach, which caused that beach to be closed until the steps were repaired. Reports are that as of December 2016 the Girl Scout Beach steps were repaired and that beach is back open!

- **Marina.** Various aquatic activities including fishing trips, kayak and paddleboard. If you can find a boat captain, you can hire a boat to take you to different parts of Guantanamo Bay and up the river that separates “Cuba proper” from the naval station. The Marina also rents bicycles. Your escorts can help you with this if you are interested. Phone: 2345.

- **Ridge Hike.** There is a 3-4-hour self-guided ridge hike. Your Escorts will arrange to get you to the trail head. Take plenty of water and a buddy.

- **Dive Shop.** The Dive Shop rents and sells equipment for scuba and snorkeling, and other water activities. You can purchase beach ware (including beach shoes – which come in very handy since most of the GTMO beaches are pretty rocky – even the sandy beaches have some rocks).
(9) **Scuba.** Shop rents equipment and coordinates buddies. The dives are not guided by a dive master. You will need to show your PADI certification card. You can dive off of many of the beaches, essentially walking from the beach into the surf and then diving down. The sites you visit while scuba diving are said to be spectacular. They offer at least 3 types of Scuba classes, for adults and children over 10 or 12 (depending on the class). Class on offer include **Open Water** (the initial certification course for Scuba diving, no prerequisites); **Advanced Open Water** (required to dive the advanced beaches, Open Water Diving course is a prerequisite); and **Rescue Diver** (learning to prevent and manage problems in the water, become more confident in your skills as a diver, knowing you can help others if needed (prerequisite is Advanced Open Water).

(10) **Snorkeling. See Dive Shot.** A very popular activity. You can snorkel off of many Gitmo beaches, including off of Windmill Beach, beneath the cliffs on which sits Camp Iguana, the prison complex that housed teenagers held for many years at Guantanamo Bay.

(11) **Running / Jogging paths.** Guantanamo Bay is great place for runners, both on and off pavement, though primarily on. A great starting point is at the tents where NGOs live, with “standard” runs being out and back to Cable Beach (4 miles round trip), down and back to different part of “downtown Guantanamo” (3 – 4 miles), up and down hills in various directions, and more. If you can keep a brisk pace for a good distance at sunrise, you might consider asking General Martins if you can join him some morning. Numerous NGO representatives have survived these runs with General Martins, and some of the NGOs joined him, and survived, post-run workouts including sit-ups, pushups, and who knows what else. When you are out running, be certain to wear a reflective belt – a base requirement. And be certain to have your badge on your person – perhaps tucked away in a pocket and not on open display outside of Camp Justice. You might find a reflective belt in the Indiana trunks, or you can ask your escorts.

(12) **Gym / Health Club (Denich Fitness Center; Also another location at Bulkeley Hall).** A full gym is available for your use. It has state of the art workout equipment of many varieties. Two NGOs representatives – both pretty tough prosecutors -- became members of the 1,000-pound club by lifting 1,000 pounds in 3 lifts (I’ll have to double check the rules, but whatever it was it was very impressive!) The gym has softball, basketball, badminton, and soccer. I’m not sure if the tennis courts are there or elsewhere. The main gym is located near O’Kelly’s and the bowling alley on the main base near the center of town, not far from the chapel, McDonalds, the NEX and the Gold Hill Galley. There is another 24-hour per day gym at Camp Bulkeley. You are also able to jog/run on the base (see below). You will be required to wear a reflective belt or vest if doing so (even if you are jogging on the outdoor track).
**Fitness Classes at the Gym**: You can take any of these that might fit into your NGO monitoring schedule – Zumba; Total Body Shape for Women; Command PT; Group Cycling; Pilates; Speed / Agility / Quickness; Step & Sculpt; NOFFS Body Regeneration; Total Body Circuit; UJAM Fitness; Yoga; Core Assault; PFS Wing Chun; Max Performance; Cardio kickboxing; Senior Fitness; Trainer Floor Time.; and TRX

(13) **Arts and Crafts Studio**. Guantanamo has spacious arts’ and craft studio where you can take a lesson on making pottery, painting, adult canvas painting, ceramic making, woodshop, Stein making, making handicrafts, and dabbling in other artistic endeavors. In December 2016, over a dozen soldiers proudly showed off their hand-painted wintry Christmas scenes on tall canvases, with snowmen, holly, bells and ribbons – with inscriptions dedicated to family members back home stateside.

(14) **Paintball**. The Paintball Range has limited hours and is apparently only open on Saturdays and Sundays from 11:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., though it “is open upon request during the week”. They have a Paintball League that the every 3rd Saturday of every month at 8:00 a.m.

(15) **Boat Tour — Guantanamo Bay & Guantanamo River**. Your escorts can also arrange a boat tour to see the Bay. Participants contribute some money to pay for fuel and the captain. Seeing the Bay provides insight into why the U.S. has operations at Guantanamo. You can see the beaches, Hospital Quay (which actually merits its own Attraction entry!), sites for snorkeling and diving, the dividing line between US controlled & Cuban controlled waters, and many other interesting sites. In 2016, one of the contract escorts acquired his Captain’s License in part so that he could take NGOs out on the water on a pontoon. Other Escorts have Captain’s licenses, as do BEEF staff and others who work in areas in or physically close to Camp Justice. If you have a desire, the time, knowledge to pass a 50 question test (that you can find materials study for), skills to pass a boat driving test on the water (including pulling up to the dock), and the desire – you too can acquire a Guantanamo Bay Captain’s License.
XXIII. Shopping and Health & Beauty Services

(1) **NEX.** Already explained – Navel Exchange – Like a big K-Mart or Super Target.

(2) **Thrift Shop.** This is not exactly an “attraction”, but it is a place that NGO observers have recently made it a point to visit. This shop only sells second-hand items. Why does this attract NGOs? Because some of the second hand items, particularly clothing, may be nice souvenirs, including shirts with GTMO / Guantanamo Bay / Gitmo logos. Recently, polo shirts there said “MWR” also said “Guantanamo Bay” and had a picture of Cuba. They also had polo shirts that said “Guantanamo Bay Spouses’ Association”, items that commemorated fun runs / races held at Gitmo, and other interesting items that you would not find at a thrift store anywhere in the continental U.S. Each item only costs a dollar or two, but may be higher, like a pair of seemingly new running shoes that were purchased in November 2016 for $5.00.

(3) **Mini Marts – Extensions of the NEX – Convenience Stores – Charge higher prices than the NEX.**
   - **Windward Side.** Marine Hill 24 / 7. Well-stocked convenience store. Escorts can drive you at night.
   - **Mini Mart – Leeward Side Mini Mart.** Located on the airport side of the base. You have to cross the Bay by ferry to reach this store, which is near the airport.

(4) **Barbershop.** In the plaza area that houses the NEX, the souvenir NEX extension, and the Subway is a barbershop, nestled in a back corner. I’ve seen some long lines for haircuts. I’m not sure whether you can get a haircut appointment.

(5) **Manicures / pedicures.** In December 2016, we were told that there is a place to get reasonably priced manicures / pedicures at Guantanamo. We’re investigating and will report back.

XXIV. Conclusion

NGO representatives are charged with the important task of being the eyes and ears into the Guantanamo Bay Military Commissions for those unable to travel to Guantanamo themselves. NGO representatives attend, observe, analyze, critique and report on what they see and hear, and this benefits all concerned.

At times hearings are suspended, and NGOs would like a break from the legal analysis / reporting part of their role, and want to explore the environs – either to relax or to learn about the parts of Guantanamo Bay that have nothing to do with the Military Commissions. We hope that this guide is helpful as NGO representatives perform their observation tasks, and is helpful as NGO representatives undertake other activities on island.

Please recall that the JTF-GTMO operation and the Military Commissions are a small part of a much larger naval base operation and community. Most of the entities that sell t-shirts and other souvenirs use the proceeds to support MWR (Morale, Welfare and Recreation) and private activities on the base, such as, for example, the Make a Wish Foundation, high school prom or UN team, Boy Scouts and Girl Scouts, the Marine Corps ball, the Lighthouse, and historical preservation. Just ask if you are curious where the funds are going!

We wish you all the best on your mission to GTMO.

**PS:** If you have any comments / suggestions / tips to pass on to future NGO Observers, please send them to us at [GitmoObserver@yahoo.com](mailto:GitmoObserver@yahoo.com) and we can include them in a future edition of this document!
Appendices
Non-Governmental Organization Ground Rules
for Observation of Military Commissions
U.S. Naval Station Guantanamo Bay, Cuba (GTMO)

1. Ground Rules — The United States Department of Defense (DoD), through the Office of Military Commissions (OMC), has invited various Non-Governmental Organizations (NGOs) to observe the military commission proceedings. The following Ground Rules have been established in order to facilitate this effort.

Ground Rules are established to ensure that protected information such as classified information, intelligence collections capabilities, and sources and methods of intelligence gathering are not compromised. They are also designed to protect the security of various commission participants by preserving anonymity. Additionally, the Ground Rules outline the nature and limitations of the DoD invitation for NGOs to observe the military commission proceedings and take into consideration the restrictions of logistics, security and equitable access to the commissions by other interested parties.

Failure to comply with the Military Judge’s instructions, or these Ground Rules, could result in permanent expulsion from the courtroom area and may result in removal of the parent organization from future invitations to observe the military commissions proceedings. Disclosure of classified or protected information may subject the NGO representative (NGOR) to criminal prosecution.

By signing this document, a NGOR agrees to abide by the following restrictions:

a. To NOT publish, release, discuss or share information identified by commission personnel as being protected information or otherwise protected from disclosure by these Ground Rules.

b. To be subject to the instructions of the Military Judge and courtroom etiquette rules as determined by the Office of Military Commissions or the Military Judge. Failure to comply with the Military Judge’s instructions could result in a charge of contempt of court, which could curtail all further participation by that NGOR and his or her organization.

c. To NOT record or document by audio, video, sketches or likenesses, photography or other electronic means, the proceedings or their participants from the courtroom or in the CCTV viewing area.

d. Tape recorders, telephones, computers, photographic or any other type of electronic or imaging equipment may NOT be brought into the courtroom or CCTV viewing area while proceedings are in session. Writing materials are permitted. With the consent and assistance of the OMC Public Affairs Officer, NGORs may be permitted to photograph and record images inside the courtroom when no proceedings are being conducted and no participants are present. No drawings, sketches, photographs or videotape of detainees are permitted either inside or outside of the courtroom.

e. The identities of all commission personnel, beyond those already released to the public, to include the Military Judge, commission members, prosecutors, defense counsels, and witnesses, will NOT be reported or otherwise disclosed in any way without prior release approval of the Office of the Secretary of Defense, Public Affairs (OSD (PA)). No drawings, sketches, photographs or videotape of commission personnel are permitted either inside or outside of the courtroom without prior release approval by OSD (PA) and the individual.

f. Disclosing information about transit routes for detainees, including ground and air movement between detention facilities, or movement between detention facilities, courtroom facilities and transportation modes (bus, ferry, aircraft, etc.) is NOT permitted.

g. Embargos on information may be imposed by the Military Judge, the OMC or Joint Visitors Bureau (JVB) when necessary to protect security.

h. NGORs are at Guantanamo Bay Naval Station under U.S. Government Invitational Travel Orders (ITOs) for the sole purpose of observing the commission process. While NGORs may engage the media at Guantanamo, neither the OMC nor the JVB is under any obligation to facilitate NGOR access to the press.
What NGO Observers May Want to Know Before Traveling to GTMO (29 December 2016) (6:00 p.m.)

1. Press Center use is for approved DoD personnel and accredited media only. Additionally, DoD press conferences within the Media Center at Guantanamo are for DoD personnel and commission staff (to include OMG Public Affairs, the prosecution and defense staffs) to communicate with the public via the media. They are not public or open microphone forums in which NGORs have a right to participate. NGORs may view DoD press conferences at a location that receives the CCTV feed.

2. **Agree to Abide** – The NGOR, as well as the NGO President or other authorized sponsoring organization officer, must agree to and sign the NGO Ground Rules for Observation of Military Commissions each time the designated NGOR plans to travel to Guantanamo Bay Naval Station, Cuba, (GTMO) prior to being issued Invitational Travel Orders (ITO) or being allowed to board military or military contracted transportation to GTMO. Failure to do so in a timely manner will result in a withdrawal of ITOs and, if necessary, immediate return to port of embarkation at the NGOR’s own expense.

   Additionally, the NGOR, as well as the NGO President or other authorized sponsoring organization officer must agree to and sign a DoD Release, Indemnification, and Hold Harmless Agreement and Agreement Not to Sue prior to departure for GTMO.

   Failure to agree to, sign, and follow these Ground Rules and/or comply with the Military Judge’s instructions may result in permanent expulsion from the courtroom area, restricted access to GTMO, removal from the installation, revocation of his or her ITO and removal of the parent organization from future invitations to observe the commission proceedings.

   By signing this document, the NGOR and authorized sponsoring organization officer agree to abide by these restrictions and is applying to attend the proceedings of Military Commissions for the sole purpose of observation.

Please fill out and sign the following, acknowledging that you have read and understand these Ground Rules and limitations. Each traveler must provide the information below by email

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>NGO</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Position</td>
<td>Work Phone</td>
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<tr>
<td>Cell Phone</td>
<td>Fax</td>
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<tr>
<td>Passport Number</td>
<td>Place of issuance</td>
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<tr>
<td>Emergency Contact (Name &amp; Phone)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

As the designated NGOR for traveling to Guantanamo Bay, Naval Station, Cuba, to observe Military Commission proceedings, I understand and will comply with the Ground Rules listed above. I also understand that the U.S. Government assumes no liability or responsibility for my personal safety.

(Signature) __________________________ (Date) __________

2 of 2
Guantanamo Bay Naval Station (GTMO) – Logistical & Other Information for NGO Observers / Monitors to the U.S. Military Commissions.

It is not clear who compiled this 11-page document. It has been approved for dissemination to NGOs as part of this document. Some of the information contained in the document is out-of-date. You may use this information as a general guide. Of course, please check with your NGO Escorts (or Contract Escorts) for updated information. [NB: McCalla Field is the name of the old landing strip that has been converted into Camp Justice – which is where NGO tents are.]
South of McCalla Field

Sherman Avenue

Phillips Park Recreation Area

Cable Beach

McCalla Field
### Downtown Lyceum

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>DATE</th>
<th>TIME</th>
<th>MOVIE</th>
<th>RATING</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Fri. 7/15</td>
<td>8:00 pm</td>
<td>Ghostbusters (NEW)</td>
<td>PG13</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>10:00 pm</td>
<td>Central Intelligence</td>
<td>PG13</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sat. 7/16</td>
<td>8:00 pm</td>
<td>Finding Dory</td>
<td>PG</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>10:00 pm</td>
<td>Me Before You</td>
<td>PG13</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sun. 7/17</td>
<td>8:00 pm</td>
<td>Now You See Me 2</td>
<td>PG13</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mon. 7/18</td>
<td>8:00 pm</td>
<td>Alice Through The Looking Glass (LS)</td>
<td>PG</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tues. 7/19</td>
<td>8:00 pm</td>
<td>X-Men: Apocalypse (LS)</td>
<td>PG13</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wed. 7/20</td>
<td>8:00 pm</td>
<td>Independence Day: Resurgence</td>
<td>PG13</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thurs. 7/21</td>
<td>8:00 pm</td>
<td>The Secret Life of Pets</td>
<td>PG</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

### Camp Bulkeley Lyceum

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>DATE</th>
<th>TIME</th>
<th>MOVIE</th>
<th>RATING</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Fri. 7/15</td>
<td>8:00 pm</td>
<td>Now You See Me 2</td>
<td>PG13</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>10:30 pm</td>
<td>The Legend of Tarzan</td>
<td>PG13</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sat. 7/16</td>
<td>8:00 pm</td>
<td>Ghostbusters (NEW)</td>
<td>PG13</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>10:00 pm</td>
<td>Warcraft</td>
<td>PG13</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sun. 7/17</td>
<td>8:00 pm</td>
<td>X-Men: Apocalypse (LS)</td>
<td>PG13</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tues. 7/19</td>
<td>8:00 pm</td>
<td>Alice Through The Looking Glass (LS)</td>
<td>PG</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thurs. 7/21</td>
<td>8:00 pm</td>
<td>Finding Dory</td>
<td>PG</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*L: Last Showing* | Call the movie hotline for current movie listings x4880 | Free Admission
**Sports, Fitness & Aquatics**

**Sports, Fitness and Aquatics Events**

- **Independence Day Softball Tournament**
  - Sat, July 2, 8am.
  - Register by Tues, June 28
  - Coaches Meet Wed, June 29 (DFC Classroom)

- **Independence Day Ridgeline Trail Run**
  - Sat, July 2, Check-in/Start 6:30am
  - Check-in/Start at Christmas Tree Hill
  - Register by June 29, $10

- **Cable Beach 10K**
  - Sat, July 16, Check-in 5:30am/Start 6am
  - Check-in/Start at Downtown Lyceum
  - Register by Thurs, July 14, $10

- **Summer Basketball League**
  - Starts Mon, July 18, (7pm, 8pm, & 9pm nightly)
  - Register by Wed, July 13
  - Coaches Meet Thurs, July 14, 6:30pm (DFC Classroom)

- **MWR Men’s & Women’s Soccor League**
  - Starts Tues, July 19, 7 pm nightly (Cox Field)
  - Register by Tues, July 12
  - Coaches Meet Wed, July 13 (DFC Classroom)

- **MWR Badminton League**
  - Starts Mon, July 25, (7pm, 8pm, & 9pm nightly)
  - Register by Wed, July 20

**SCUBA**

- **Open Water**
  - The Open Water and Junior Open Water Dive Courses are the initial certification course for SCUBA diving.
  - No prerequisites. Minimum age: 10

- **Advanced Open Water**
  - The next step in your diving adventure.
  - Prerequisites: Basic Open Water. Minimum age: 12

- **Rescue Diver**
  - Learn to prevent and manage problems in the water, and become more confident in your skills as a diver, knowing you can help others if needed.
  - Prerequisites: Advanced Open Water. Minimum age: 12

**Fitness Classes**

- **Command PT**
  - By appointment
  - Mon/Wed/Fri 6-8am

- **Total Body Shape for Women**
  - Mon/Wed/Fri 9-11am

- **Trainer Floor Time**
  - Mon 11am-1pm
  - Tue 1:30pm
  - Wed 11am-1pm

- **Senior Fitness**
  - Mon & Wed 11am-1pm

- **Zumba**
  - Mon & Wed 6:30pm
  - Thu 7:30pm
  - Fri 6:30pm

- **Cardio Kickboxing**
  - Mon & Wed 6:30-7:30pm
  - Wed 6:30pm
  - Fri 5:30pm

- **Max Performance**
  - Mon/Wed 6:30-7:30pm

- **PFS Wing Chun**
  - Mon & Wed 8:30pm
  - Thu 9:15pm

- **Yoga**
  - Tue & Thu 6-7pm
  - Sat 4-5pm

- **Core Assault**
  - Tue & Thu
  - 10am-11:30am

- **TRX**
  - Tue 5-6pm

- **Group Cycling**
  - Tue & Thu 6-7pm

- **Pilates**
  - Tue 7:30pm
  - Thu 5:30pm

- **Speed Agility/Quickness**
  - Multi-Purpose Field
  - Tue & Thu 7-8:30pm

- **Early Bird Group Cycling**
  - Wed 5-6pm

- **Step ‘n Sculpt**
  - Wed 7-8:30pm
  - Sat 9-10am

- **Zumba Gold (Active Adults)**
  - Thu 10-10:45pm

- **NOFFS Body Regeneration**
  - Fri 11:15-12:15pm

- **Total Body Circuit**
  - Sat 10:30-11:30am

- **UAM Fitness**
  - Sun 4:45pm

- **Lateral Hazard Golf**
  - Phone: 2743
  - Mon & Wed 2-8pm
  - Thu-Sun and Holidays 7am-8pm

Clubs can be checked out overnight. Golf carts must be returned by sunset daily. Range balls may not be used on the golf course.

**Iron of Independence Golf Tournament**

Lateral Hazard Golf Course

Mon, July 4: Shotgun start at 8am

$5 Entry fee per person

$15 Cart fee for Cart Rental
# GTMO Dining & Clubs

**Windjammer Café** (Phone: 2522)  
- Mon-Thu 11am-1:30pm & 5-9pm  
- Fri 11am-1:30pm & 5-10pm  
- Sat 5-10pm / Sun 5-9pm  

- **Bingo** - Sun & Tue 6:30pm  
- **DJ Hip Hop & Latin Night** - Every other Fri 7pm-1:30am. Full service bar and dance-floor.  
- **DJ Hip Hop Night** - Sat 7pm-1:30am

**O’Kelly’s Irish Pub** (Phone: 2522)  
- Food Service:  
  - Mon-Thu 12-9pm  
  - Fri & Sat 11am-10pm  
  - Sun 11am-9pm  

- **Bar Service**  
  - Mon-Thu 12-11:30pm  
  - Fri & Sat 11am-1:30am  
  - Sun 11am-11:30pm

- **Join your friends at O’Kelly’s Patio every week for:**  
  - **Karaoke** - Wed 8-11:30pm  
  - **Country Night** - Thu 8-11:30pm

**Pizza Hut** (Phone: 2522-day; 2824-evening)  
- Mon-Fri 11am-1pm & 5-8pm  
- Sat 12-10pm / Sun 12-9pm

- **Pizza Hut delivery service begins at 5:30pm daily.**  
- **Available for eat-in or take-out at the Windjammer Restaurant.**

**Pirate’s Cove** (JTF Compound) (Phone: 2871)  
- Fri-Sat 6pm-1am

**Tiki Bar** (Phone: 2757)  
- Wed-Thu 5-11:30pm / Fri-Sat 5pm-1am

**Guy’s Night Out**  
- Sat, July 30, 7pm-1:30am

**Rick’s Lounge** (Officer’s Club) (Phone: 2132)  
- Wed & Thu 5-11:30pm / Fri - Sat 5pm-1:30am

- **Officers and equivalent (Officer ID membership card required) are invited to Rick’s each week.**  
- **Appetizer menu served Wed-Sat, 5-10pm.**

**Weekly Specials:**  
- Free appetizers every Wednesday 5pm-7pm  
- Half price appetizers - Every Friday, starting 5pm-9pm

**Variety Music & Karaoke**  
- Every Saturday Night, 9pm-1am

**Taco Bell & ‘Triple B’** (Phone: 2896)  
- Sun-Thur 11am-10pm / Fri-Sat 11am-11pm

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**Windjammer Lunch Buffet Line Up**

- **Tuesday:** Italian  
- **Wednesday:** Southern  
- **Thursday:** Chef's Choice  
- **Friday:** Jerk

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Maps & Other Information re GTMO – September 2016 (Page 10 of 11)
GTMO Dining & Clubs cont’d

Bayview (Phone: 2059)
Wed, Fri & Sat 6-9pm/ Thu 5-9pm
Sun 10am-2 pm

Bayview Weekly Specials
Mongolian Night - Every Thu 5-9pm
Seafood Specials - Every Fri 6-9pm
Prime Rib Special - Every Sat 6-9pm
Price: $18.00. Reservations are recommended.
Chateaubriand Dinner - Fri & Sat night only 6-9pm. Dinner for two prepared tableside.
Reservations are required 24 hours in advance. Call 2059.

Sunday Brunch - Every Sunday 10am-2pm
Price: Adults - $12.00 / Kids - $6.00

Caribbean Coffee & Cream (Phone: 2805)
(Triple C)
Mon-Tues 8:30am-9pm / Wed-Fri 6:30am - 10pm
Sat 7:30am-10pm / Sun 7am-9pm
Stop by for Starbucks drinks, ice cream, smoothies, and a variety of sweet treats.

Drum of the Month: Tropical Milkshake

Clipper Club (Leeward) (Phone: 8604)
Open Fridays 6-10pm

Jerk House (Phone: 2535)
Sun-Thur 5-9pm
Fri-Sat 5pm-Midnight

Try the authentic Jamaican Soup every Friday for the Month of July.

Jerk House Dinner Specials:
Thursday Night - Curry Chicken
Friday Night - Oxtail Dinner
Saturday Night - Curry Goat Dinner
Friday & Saturday late night menu 9pm-12am: Jerk House Burger and All American Wings.

Marblehead Lanes
Telephone: 2118
Mon 11am-1pm & 5-11pm / Tues-Thur 11am-11pm
Fri 11am-12am / Sat 1pm-12am / Sun 1-11pm

Lunchtime Bowling
Mon-Fri 11am-1:30pm
Spend $5+ and bowl free.
Show your receipt at the counter.

Cosmic Bowling
Every Friday & Saturday 9-11:30pm,
$13 includes 2 hrs bowling and shoes

Liberty Cosmic Bowling
The last Wednesday of the month!

Summer Break Early Bird Bowl
July 1 – Aug 31
$2 games OR choose a package deal that includes a meal for $11.50.

Summer Fun League 9 Pin No Tap
Every Friday, July 8 – October 21
Games begin 6:30pm
$30 entry fee, $7 nightly