



ALL ARMS

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THE QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER OF THE JAMAICA DEFENCE FORCE

BUDGETING & CONSERVATION



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Chief of Defence Staff's Message

BUDGETS AND REALITIES



Maj Gen S E Saunders, ADC, MSc, JP, psc

I have often, during my career, been very intrigued by the JDF budget preparations, submissions, deliberations and the reality of the end product. It has been my experience, to date, that we have always tried to represent to Government a budget that shows precisely what it will take to run the JDF for the Financial Year.

Notwithstanding this, we know fully well that a budget is not representative of money in hand, but rather, in our case, it places a respon-

sibility upon the Government of Jamaica (GOJ) to raise finances whether through taxation, foreign loans, etc, to provide for our total administration over the financial period. What are the other realities?

The GOJ estimates what is needed to run the country and limits its Ministries and Agencies by declaring 'ceilings' that we cannot exceed. We have to conform to such directives and the JDF exercises its responsibility by advising the relevant authorities

of the implications.

In my entire service I cannot recall the JDF ever receiving the budget requested. We have managed to survive by way of subventions and a most patriotic and dedicated set of suppliers. Our suppliers deserve all the respect, recognition and commendations imaginable. How, in their business, they have managed to maintain their financial obligations, having contracted to provide us goods and services, continues to be miraculous.

They make such extreme sacrifices in light of the value they perceive that we bring to the nation. We salute them for their continued and consistent effort in supporting the JDF. In doing so, I must stress to all service members the reality that we can neither afford to let them, nor the nation down, in the execution of our duties. No matter what the budgetary allocations we too have to deal with its realities ensuring that we serve the nation's interest at all times. Difficult, but not impossible! ✨

All Arms

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All Arms is the quarterly newsletter of the Jamaica Defence Force, and is an official publication. The newsletter exists to communicate policy, plans and newsworthy occurrences in the JDF.

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Front Cover reflects the economic balancing act to finance the JDF and those of its personnel, and their own personal budgetary demands. **Bottom** reflects JDF's pride in the achievements of the Jamaican 'Beijing Heroes' athletes and an acknowledgement of their tremendous contribution to the international recognition of Jamaica.

NOTE: Background pictures **DO NOT** represent JDF's budgetary allocation in the areas of expenditure but are used for illustration purposes only.



Maj Charlene Steer, SO2 J9 (CMC), HQ JDF

Many Jamaicans are hoping that Col (Retd) Trevor MacMillan's crime plan will aid the security forces in ridding the country of crime. They are banking on his experience as a former army Colonel and Commissioner of Police and his appointment as the Minister of National Security.

'I think it is the hope of the entire country, including myself, that we can make an impact on violent crime,' the Minister admitted.

'The problem of crime and violence in Jamaica is at least 30 years old and so we are talking about something that cannot be solved overnight', he told **All Arms**.

Col Macmillan's knowledge of Jamaica's security landscape dates back to the period of the West Indies Federation and decades of military service that began in the West India Regiment (WIR) and continued in the JDF, after the Force was formed to serve the newly independent Jamaica.

Adamantly against a merger of the security forces

Col MacMillan recalls JDF's earliest operations working alongside the police. 'The first major operation for the JDF was in 1967, the State of Emergency in West Kingston. We were down in what is now Tivoli [Gardens] and all those areas. I was called to an O-Group one Sunday afternoon. I was the Regimental

Signals Officer and I never went back home again for three weeks. That was the first real operation.'

Since then the JDF got more and more involved with the police he said. But the Minister was adamant that his crime plan did not call for the merger of both forces, despite their ongoing working relationship.

'Absolutely not! That won't happen! The two forces are totally different with totally different roles. The JDF has a different, yet critical role to play with respect to Jamaica. You cannot compromise that role!' he said emphatically.

Senior Cadet

So how did Col Macmillan ascend to the office of Minister of National Security? An important part of his impressive résumé was his service in the JDF.

'Growing up on Arnold Road, my first memories are of soldiers marching. From then, all I wanted to do was to be in the army,' he said. His first endeavour was to join his school's cadet corps. His initial effort at Kingston College was unsuccessful. 'They ran me; said I was too short,' he revealed. Not surprisingly, a determined Macmillan transferred to another school. There at Wolmer's Boys' he became a cadet and rose to senior cadet; in those days, the rank of Sergeant.

Joining the army also took unwaver-

ing determination. After three attempts over three years, he achieved his goal and was enlisted in 1WIR in March 1960. He was 21 years old. Life in the army was quite different from his privileged background.

Private Soldier

'I had come out of a home where if I wanted a glass of water there was a helper to get it. I came out of a home where I never washed dishes or made up a bed. I didn't have to,' he said. On his first day of reporting, after being issued his uniforms and taught some drills, he was sent to do fatigue duty.

'The first job I got was to clean toilets! I was a private soldier for six months, from March to September, during which I did guard duties and all the functions of a private soldier. I washed dishes, and in those days in the cookhouse we never had hot water. So when you had greasy pots and pans, you had to take them outside, pick some grass, get some sand, and scrub off the grease.'

He was not distracted from his goal. Private Macmillan had his eyes set on becoming a Commissioned Officer. 'Sandhurst was a turning point. Those were possibly two of the best years of my life.' He spent some two years attending consecutive courses in the UK, during which time the WIR was disbanded and the JDF formed.

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JDF's FINANCIAL SYSTEM

Maj Radgh Mason, SO2 J4 (Fin), HQ JDF

The financial well-being of the Force commences with the Approved Estimates of Expenditure. It is critical that we get this process right since there is an inevitable snowball effect when we don't. Financial resources are not inexhaustible and hence we must ensure that in all our undertakings we plan, prioritize, get value for money and that persons are held accountable for public property.

The aim of this article is three fold; firstly it seeks to outline the financial structure of the JDF and its terms of reference. Secondly the current financial state of the force will be summarized and thirdly we would like to seize the opportunity to articulate the way forward. There are a number of stakeholders in the system of administration and these are highlighted throughout the document.

STRUCTURE

The Finance office is ultimately

charged with the responsibility of managing the approved Budget for the Financial Year. The "A" Branch, headed by Col AQ, Capt (N) G S Reynolds, must do the necessary financial projections to ensure that the administrative support is provided to facilitate the operations of the Force. The good old adage is that the "G" Side drives the Force whilst the "A" side is left with the "bag" to support such initiatives.

It is the duty of SO2 J4 (Fin) to account for expenditure of the funds appropriated by the Ministry of Finance and Planning. The authority is contained in the Financial Administration and Audit Act Regulations, 1996. There are other duties contained in the Force Standing orders which essentially have to do with fiduciary issues with respect to service funds, salary negotiations and general advice on financial matters.

The Estimates of Expenditure are subdivided under two (2) headings, that is,

Recurrent and Capital Expenditure. The Estimates of the JDF are contained in the estimates of the Ministry of National Security. The MNS is comprised of a total of eight (8) departments.

The Budget process involves submissions from the respective spending officers across the force. In the JDF Spending Officers are essentially the experts and Officers Commanding of various sub units. Spending Officers are meant to conduct detailed analyses of their respective votes in order to arrive at an estimate of funds needed for the Financial Year.

The Spending Officers are responsible for the management of their respective votes in keeping with the approved budget. The concept of the structure is simply that the spending officers are meant to be abreast of the needs of the respective units. The goods and services required to meet these needs are



Maj Radgh Mason

to be procured in order of priority as determined by HQ JDF. The spending officers are responsible for the certification of goods and services to ensure that value for money is secured in the public interest.

cont'd on Page 7

CONSERVATION, EVERYBODY'S BUSINESS

LCpl Juliet Clarke, HQ JDF (Civ/Mil Co-op)

Over the years the Jamaica Defence Force (JDF) has been working in tandem with external organizations to stem the growing issue of waste and deterioration, but what is being done to correct the problem within the Force?



The Force is currently in the process of writing its conservation policy, but in the interim the Force Conservation Officer oversees the Force's conservation of petrol, oil and Lubricant

(POL), water, electricity, rations, medical supplies and telephone services.

His mandate, right now, has a lot to do with the cutting of cost and preservation of what already exists.

"In achieving this, my aim is to educate the Force on the importance of conservation, making it everybody's business and then implementing strategies and following through to see that they are adhered to," said Capt Godfrey Sterling, Force Con-

servation Officer.

The 'open windows and doors' strategy during the days with the air conditioning off, was recommended to conserve on electricity.

As for medical supplies, he said we need to have enough medication inhouse so that persons do not have to go to external pharmacies, where they will have to pay general consumption tax. He also recommends that the Medical Reception Station gets persons regis-

tered to the National Health Fund so as to eliminate the need to purchase medication for chronic illnesses. Now that health care is free in government institutions some patients can be referred there instead of private practices.

"The desired end state, however, is to promulgate a holistic policy framework and it is expected that this will happen in four to six months," Capt Sterling said.

cont'd on Page 6

INVESTMENT STRATEGIES FOR MILITARY PERSONS

Maj (Retd) Neil Lewis Contributor



It has been said that the military is a young man's (or woman's) career and indeed so it is. Unfortunately not many military persons recognize this fact early enough in their career to plan effectively for this 'short' career.

This is largely because when the career is young the very nature of the job for many creates a 'sky is the limit' mentality where there is no end in sight. The typical soldier has a limited six-year contract, renewable, with no guarantee. A regular service contract also has limits, 22 years of service if you are privileged, and up to a maximum age of 56 years, if extended. In any case, every military person must plan carefully for 'life after the military'.

Investing for the military person must therefore be

founded on 3 bases;

1. Intended length of career; how much provision do I have to make for my retirement?
2. Supplementing the relatively miniscule military pension, this is normally very sensitive to inflation.
3. One's primary military discipline (or trade). This determines one's post-military marketability.

Planning for investing.

It is recommended that a detailed budget be developed and the discipline maintained to ensure that sufficient surplus is realized

cont'd on Page 7

The Blue and John Crow Mountains National Park, and the JDF

Mrs Susan Otuokon Executive Director, JCDD/Acting Park Manager, BJCMNP



A bird's eye view into the interior of the Blue and John Crow Mountains National Park with its thick forest and waterfalls gushing from pre-

cipitous slopes, is a spectacular view, which few Jamaicans except the pilots of the Jamaica Defence Force Air Wing are likely to see more than once in a lifetime. I had that opportunity in February this year, when Commanding Officer of the JDF Air Wing, Lt Col Geoffrey Roper flew the reconnaissance team and me on a helicopter tour of the National Park for His Royal Highness, the Prince of Wales.

The Blue and John Crow Mountains National Park (BJCMNP) was established on 26 Feb 93 under the Natural Resources Conservation (BJCM) Order, and on the same boundary as the Blue Mountains Forest Reserve. Its management has been delegated by the Natural Resources Conservation

cont'd on Page 6

Editorial

CONSERVATION, CONNECTIONS & CONSEQUENCES



Lt Col Rocky R Meade, PhD

This issue of All Arms places great emphasis on the themes of conservation awareness and financial prudence, which are very

relevant issues at this time. It is widely recognized that budgeting, conservation, frugality, and saving for 'rainy days' and retirement are wise practices. In the current climate of increasing prices, the failure of investment schemes as well as of major United States financial institutions and the associated global implications, it is absolutely necessary to be financially wise.

With several articles in this edition focusing on various aspects of financial management and emphasizing budgeting and conservation, readers will have little excuse for not adopting sound financial practices. However, even with awareness of danger and detriment, we will often be neither responsive nor responsible until influenced by a catalyst to act to promote self-preservation. It is important to recognize the correlation between individual actions and outcomes that can have widespread effect. Whereas the connection between a

leaking tap and high water bills, and between leaving lights and appliances on unnecessarily and high electricity bills are well recognized in relation to the home environment, the relationship and associated negative impacts in the work environment tend to be less acknowledged.

We do not, individually, pay higher bills when we leave pipes dripping or leave lights on at work. However, we should not be lulled into a false sense of financial security. The cost of lack of conservation awareness at work is not borne only by 'them' - it affects us directly. There is a connection between the wastage that we cause and the shortage of resources such as uniforms, medical supplies, rations, vehicles and safety gear. When HQ JDF has to pay high utility bills and fund the repair or replacement of items damaged due to improper use or inadequate care, it has a negative effect on the funding of other needs. For the most part,

there is only one pool of funds that has to stretch to cover all our costs, including the additional costs resulting from wastage and lack of care. At the very least, we should apply the same care and consideration when handling resources at work as we do at home.

The financial climate in Jamaica, and indeed the world, is likely to get worse before it gets better. Even with an optimum level of financial prudence we have to anticipate feeling the economic pinch in some measure. It is therefore imperative that we appreciate and put into practice the advice offered in this issue of All Arms, as well as from other credible sources, on budgeting, spending and conservation. In doing so, we will foster an environment in which, even if we are squeezed financially, we will at least avoid being crushed by the possible economic landslide. ☀

HAVE YOUR SAY

All members of the JDF are invited to submit opinions/comments to the Editor on articles or any other relevant matters pertaining to service in the JDF. Views expressed here do not necessarily represent the policies of the JDF or All Arms.

Conserve Today for Tomorrow

The average Jamaican has little regard for the environment and sadly many members of the JDF show the same scant regard, though we are constantly reminded by NWC and JPS how important it is to conserve on water and energy. We listen to their advertisements yet we make little attempt to adhere to the messages.

At the Force Catering Centre and various mess halls we toy with the food, take more than we can eat and waste perfectly good meals. We take leisurely showers. We watch gallons of water go down the drain each time we brush our teeth. We let our favourite radio stations play as we sleep. We show little concern for the future state of our resources.

While conservation must be driven by an overarching Government policy, organizations such as the JDF that make efficiency part of their mandate would do well to take the initiative in practising conservation, be it of energy, food or water. The society is always looking to the Force as a reliable example of good and productive behaviour. Let us not drop our guard where conservation is concerned but rather, let us be pioneers in this new thrust to conserve.

Pte Aldaine Dunstan
2 JR

MONEY DOWN THE DRAIN

We have no choice, we have to use it, water is an essential part of life. Life in the garrison of Up Park Camp is no different. Ok so maybe it is a bit different. For example, don't be caught dead washing your personal vehicle in the camp. Then again, don't be caught alive doing it either. That's where the difference actuality is. Some persons however do not take into consideration the cost of using water while in Up Park Camp. We will pass a running tap, leave the urinal flushing system running, and yes some persons still continue to wash their cars in the camp. Why and how should we conserve on water in Up Park Camp?

Let us first deal with the why. The simple answer is money. How do we conserve? In the interest of time I will mention the obvious ones briefly.

- Turn off all taps properly.
- Repair all taps that leak.
- Wash cars in Up Park Camp.

No, it's not a "typo", I said wash cars in Up Park Camp. In keeping with garrison living, why not open a car wash in the Camp. As a further deterrent to persons who continue to wash their cars in the camp, let us give a reasonable option and generate some cash, part proceeds in aid of the JDF' water bill.

I will postulate one more method of conservation. This one may be a bit costly to implement and may require a feasibility study. That is, recycle the Camp's grey water for irrigation of the various playing fields. A significant portion of our water usage is taken up with keeping our playing fields green, especially during dry

months. If all the grey water from the various accommodations and bathrooms within the camp can be channelled to a single treatment area for future usage, a significant step would have been taken at reducing the amount of the JDF's money that goes down the drain. A similar system was implemented at what was once the dust bowl at the Dunrobin Primary School.

For those of you who are interested in recycling grey water at home, google the following for further information "water saver technologies Aquas". This is a system that recycles grey water from your bathroom sink for flushing your toilet.

Lt Syldan Thompson
JDF AW

Preserve the future, conserve human life

The term conservation has a broad definition covering clean rivers, lakes, diverse wildlife, healthy soil and clean air as well as protecting future generations. So while it is good that we are attempting to conserve on our energy, farmlands, water and so on, what about the human population?

Recently there has been much concern for human life as the murder rate, particularly in Jamaica, has been increasing steadily. In the mid 1970's, researcher Ben Best noted in one of his papers that Jamaica along with three other Caribbean nations ranked number ten as the world's worst coun-

tries for murder. In 2003, Jamaica appeared alone at number three for homicides. No other Caribbean country was named in the top ten.

Indeed, just as curing a body of cancer requires radical and invasive therapy, curing the hemisphere of the

human 'murder' virus will require a radical and invasive approach. I urge you to consider our future existence; act now!

Pte Rochelle Ellis
3 JR (NR)

BOTTOMLESS PIT

It is my opinion that there is gross indiscipline with regards to money management within the JDF. Over the years I have seen fellow soldiers plunge deeper into the bottomless pit of debt.

Why? Because we watch other people's lifestyles, be it family or friends, and try to compete. Many spend all their pay in clubs, especially those of the

exotic nature, dance halls and fast food franchises, basically at any entertainment outlet within their scope.

For some strange reason when we are paid each month, we get the idea that we are financially invincible. However, in about one week, the money is spent, reality chips in and we run to the loan sharks. Yes, I said it, loan sharks. These lenders feed on the debit cards of many, creating an end-

less cycle of indebtedness.

The cure for this cycle of debt is to budget, and spend wisely. Once we start to budget our unfortunate state of indebtedness will be resolved. Remember a word to the wise is sufficient, so please BUDGET.

LCpl Garnette Ellis
JDF PU

WITHIN OUR UNITS

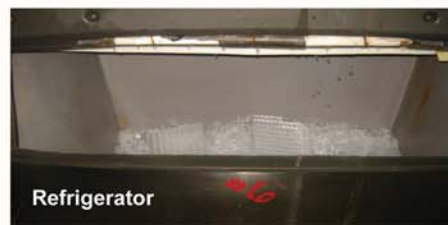
TRANSFORMING WASTE MATERIAL INTO EFFICIENT ENERGY SAVING MACHINES

Lt Robert Bruce, 1Engr Regt (JDF)

At a time when the concept of energy conservation is rapidly gaining interest across the world, 1 Engineer Regiment (JDF) is making phenomenal strides in the energy conservation cause. Using creative methods to transform refuse material into efficient energy conserving machines; they've literally transformed 'nothing' into great things! In a most unusual design, the team of engineers has created a stove and refrigerator using ordinary drums. The icemakers were constructed using machines deemed irreparable.

To further prove its value, a record of the efficiency gains is posted inside the refrigerator room showing the huge savings the JDF enjoys as a direct result of these machines. The records reveal that, on average the machines supply 50,000-70,000 pounds of ice each month here at Camp and save over \$1 million each time. Through remarkably hard work and sheer ingenuity,

the engineers have created machines that are noteworthy.



Refrigerator



Oven

TOTAL ICE ISSUED MONTHLY AT UP PARK CAMP

Month (2008)	Total Pounds Issued Monthly	Cost per Pound	Total Cost
January	58,129	15	871,935
February	70564	15	1,058,460
March	63311	15	949,665
April	68731	15	1,030,965
May	75248	15	1,128,720
June	72213	15	1,083,195
July	72161	15	1,082,415

FIREFIGHTERS' JOB

Sgt Garfield March, JDF AW



Ptes Ricardo Grant and Mark Johnson during CPR training

Fire fighting is one of the world's most honoured but risky occupations and requires professional training to meet the skill level the job demands. With the assistance of the Canadian Engineer Support Unit and the Jamaica Fire Brigade, the JDF Air Wing conducts Class One and Two training courses, to equip and train members of the Unit's Fire Department. ☀

FAREWELL TO RSM 'JIMMY' CAMPBELL

Pte Rohan Thompson, 1JR



Ex WO1 Ashley Campbell

Regimental Sergeant Major Ashley G Campbell was honoured at a farewell luncheon at Mon-eague Training Camp, on 25 Jun 08, for his 32 years of exemplary service to the JDF, most of which was served at 1JR. WO1 Campbell's career began in 1976 as a rifleman in 1JR. He spent a mere eleven months as a Private as his hard-working attitude and other attributes propelled him

through the ranks speedily.

As the outgoing RSM gave another round of motivational utterances, you could see the tears welling in his eyes, even though firmly restrained, as he gave a synopsis of his distinguished career which started and ended in 1JR.

Commanding Officer 1JR, Lieutenant Colonel G S Prendergast expressed gratitude on behalf of all officers and presented him with a beautiful plaque bearing the Unit's insignia "First and Foremost". Cpl Allen S of HQ Coy bade farewell on behalf of the NCO's, praising WO1 Campbell as a true role model. "Your leader-

ship style etched out in our young minds will dwell with us forever", was his closing comments. Pte Thompson R of HQ Coy represented the privates. He highlighted the fact that the RSM had been a strong disciplinarian but had represented the privates well. "Sir, you have represented us well in many of our grouses." He also thanked him for occasionally rescuing them from arrest.

WO1 Campbell has set the pace for several members of the JDF and has been a direct influence on several SNCOs who now hold key training positions across the force. ☀

Regimental Sergeant Majors - Top Soldiers

LCpl Juliet Clarke, HQ JDF (Civ/Mil Co-op)

The latest batch of 'top soldiers' of the Jamaica Defence Force made their mark when they were transformed from just ordinary soldiers to future Regimental Sergeant Majors.

The graduation ceremony of the Regimental Sergeant Majors (RSM) course was held on 08 Aug 08 at the Jamaica Defence Force Training Depot, Serek Building in Newcastle.

The four-week course was designed to educate students on ceremonial duties, leadership, protocol and etiquette, and structured communication skills just to name a few.

A Regimental Sergeant Major is the backbone of the Force and is the bridge between officers and soldiers. Hence, his primary role includes, but is not limited to, the upholding of discipline in the unit, preparing the unit for parades, advising the Commanding Officer on the men's morale and recommending ways to improve it and to monitor and foster the development of his subordinates.



Graduates of the RSM Course and directing staff with CDS at JDF Training Depot

The course started with 15 students who maintained their composure and bonded together. This resulted in all 15 being successful at the end. It was also a diverse group

as there were four international students from Trinidad and Tobago, Bermuda, St Kitts and Nevis and Barbados. **cont'd on Page 13**

TRODDING THE PEAK

LCpl Juliet Clarke, HQ JDF (Civ/Mil Co-op)



Mission Accomplished: Satisfied hikers from HQ JDF make happy faces as they pose to capture their moment at the Blue Mountain Peak.

Members of the support staff at HQ JDF were among the groups from JDF that visited the Blue and John Crow Mountains National Park in Jul 08.

The mountainous climb started at Hagley Gap in St. Thomas, where the group arrived by bus and truck. They quickly unloaded their gear to begin their weekend adventure. Time was of the essence as they sought to reach the first rest stop at Portland Gap.

Captain Elaine Wray of the Military Records Section set the pace and was never seen again until the entire group was mustered at Portland Gap. 'I didn't waste anytime', said Captain Wray, 'because I wanted to reach before nightfall.'

The group which totaled 50 was rewarded on arrival at the Gap with servings of jerked chicken and Gatorade. This was followed by an impromptu 'Concert on the Hills' which saw each department rendering two

items.

At 0430 hrs, the group set out for the peak, some 7,402ft above sea level. It was an exciting experience as was imagined.

On leaving the peak the rain poured showers of blessings on the hikers. The last event we did, before finally reaching the rally point back at the Gap to board the buses, was rappelling. Some were doing it for the first time. But everyone participated with enthusiasm.

Everybody's business cont'd from Page 3

"Many persons have no idea of the maritime environmental process and systems which exist in our maritime sphere. Therefore the general public has no care if the beaches are polluted, if there are oil spills, and if the fish stock is depleted, he said. The solution to this problem he says is education and public awareness.

"As such during board and search operations we try to educate fishermen on the importance of not over fishing as well as ships transporting oil should ensure that they have the proper equipment to do so and the persons onboard are certified to do the job," said Lt (jg) Aceion Prescott of the JDF Coast Guard.

The Nature Conservancy seeks to study the Pedro Banks and its natural resources. The JDF CG and 1 Engr Reg (JDF) is currently in the process of erecting a prefab building at JDF Coast Guard outstation Pedro Cays to serve as a field research station to be used by the JDF Coast Guard and other government agencies

The JDF CG also transports water samples from Hellshire and Portland Bight for the Urban Development Corporation for assessment of quality.

In trying to curb waste, the JDF has surpassed its limitations and is working toward having full control of waste and deterioration by enforcing rules and regulation on how to conserve.

With this in mind, the responsibility rests on each individual to obey these rules and regulations. ☀



Trodding with gusto is Capt Godphey Sterling (r) and Sgt Karlene Sutherland (l) and visible in the group behind is Sgt Oral Heath

Blue mountain cont'd from Page 3

Authority to the Jamaica Conservation and Development Trust (JCDDT), a non-government organization and registered charity involved in the initial establishment of the National Park, and the island's System of Protected Areas.



The rainforests of the Blue Mountains are unique in Jamaica because of the volcanic geology of the mountain range (compared to the limestone typical of the remainder of the island) and the high elevation (reaching 2,256 m at Blue Mountain Peak). The wide variety of forest types provide habitat for numerous plant and animal species, many of which are endemic to Jamaica, and the National Park in particular. As our island nation develops, natural areas are critical for the survival of unique species such as the Giant Swallowtail Butterfly, the Jamaican Boa and the Jamaican Coney. Whilst modern Maroon communities no longer live within the boundary of the BJCMNP, the lush forest and rugged landscape protect the remains of Nanny Town and the ancestral freedom fighters who used the resources of the mountains to successfully defeat the British military. In recognition of the outstanding universal significance of both the natural and cultural heritage of the BJCMNP, the JCDDT is working with the Government of Jamaica to nominate the property as a UNESCO World Heritage Site. This will bring increased publicity and opportunities for support as well as a greater responsibility for

Jamaicans to better manage the BJCMNP.

Management of the National Park includes reforestation, environmental education and facilitating recreation within designated areas. The Jamaica Defence Force has played a role in the latter by assisting the JCDDT with repairs to the facilities at the Blue Mountain Peak, maintenance of trails, organisation of Misty Bliss, site planning at Hollywell, and most importantly, search and rescue of lost or injured hikers on the Peak Trail. Members of the JDF are recognized by the National Parks regulations as authorized officers under this law, and can therefore enforce the legislation geared at protecting the BJCMNP.

Conserving our natural and cultural heritage is every Jamaican's duty. The JDF, with its 'eyes in the sky', engineering prowess and strong links to the Blue Mountains through the Newcastle Hill Station, has a special role to play in the conservation of the Blue and John Crow Mountains National Park. ☀

Finance cont'd from Page 3

Another component to note is the JDF Pay and Records Office. This entity is directly responsible for the administration of the JDF's Main and Salaries accounts. This comprises the preparation of cheque payments, Bank Reconciliations and the maintenance of the payment records for salaries, military and civilian.

The Equipment Procurement Committee (EPC) is a purely internal body established to deal with procurement which falls within the threshold of \$275,000.00 to \$4M. The Tender Board is established to deal with the award of Government contracts for goods and services. These entities function to provide transparency and fairness in the expenditure of public funds. Internal Audit from the Ministry of National Security is yet another instrument to see to the adherence to government accounting requirements.

There are other external monitoring mechanisms to safeguard public funds to include, the office of the

be managed by the respective Commanding Officers. The workings of such a system though feasible would require extensive training and an adjustment to the unit establishment. It is my view that the current system is workable, providing that the necessary projections, planning and liaison take place.

The approved recurrent estimate of expenditure for the year 08/09 is to the tune of \$5,514,014,000.00. The table (right) seeks to show a comparison between the current and previous financial years.

It is not difficult to deduce that given an 18% inflation rate for the financial year 07/08, the current approved estimates represents a real reduction. In analyzing the figures, there is one factor which we must bear in mind and this concerns the carry forward bills or our debt stock. The carry forward bills as at 31 Mar 08 stood at \$162,760,721.76. This represents 17% of the \$946.6 Mil approved for operating and maintenance expenses. Therefore whereas 82.8% of the approved es-

consumption is of great concern since we currently consume approximately \$12M monthly. Petrol oil and Lubricants, Medical and Rations are some other critical areas where proper internal controls and management must be done.

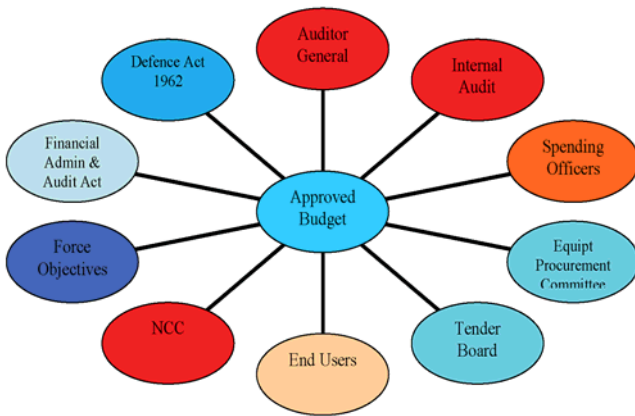
THE WAY FORWARD

The management of finances is a worldwide issue. If we could be provided with all the resources we needed then life would be easy. The fact is that we will always be called upon to achieve the mission despite limited resources at our disposal.

sources accountable for the said resources. Sanctions must be applied to negligence at all levels. The standing orders must facilitate and enforce accountability, forward planning and controls. The information infrastructure must provide the timely and relevant information to support the organization in its planning, controlling and accounting for public resources.

Ownership of public resources i.e. treating these resources as if it were your own will continue to be a factor in our endeavor to manage the Budget. There is an opportunity cost to spending and this reality

Financial Monitoring Structure



Auditor General and the National Contracts Commission. These entities provide regulation in the public interest. The components of the structure are captured in the diagram above.

It has long been debated that each Unit should be allocated a budget to

timates represent Pay and Allowances, a further 17% has to deal with the carry forward debt. This does not represent good reading but it does emphasize an even greater need for us to prioritize and plan properly.

Public utilities, particularly water

COMPARISON OF RECURRENT ESTIMATES 07/08 AND 08/09

Srl	OBJECTS	APPROVED FY 07/08	APPROVED 08/09	VARIANCE with APPROVED 07/08	% CHANGE
1	Compensation	4,142,314,000.00	4,539,690,000.00	397,376,000.00	
2	Travel and Subsistence	86,785,000.00	27,635,000.00	(59,150,000.00)	
	TOTALS	4,229,099,000.00	4,567,325,000.00	338,226,000.00	8%
Operating & Maintenance Cost					
3	Rental of Property	1,401,000.00	613,000.00	(788,000.00)	
4	Public Utilities	187,439,000.00	209,435,000.00	21,996,000.00	
5	Purchase of Other Goods	640,529,000.00	701,350,000.00	60,821,000.00	
6	Grants & Contribution	47,044,000.00	29,363,000.00	(17,681,000.00)	
7	Purchase of Capital	5,436,000.00	5,928,000.00	492,000.00	
8	Purchase of Animals	400,000.00		(400,000.00)	
	TOTALS O & M	882,249,000.00	946,689,000.00	64,440,000.00	7%
	FINAL TOTALS	5,111,348,000.00	5,514,014,000.00	402,666,000.00	8%
	Monthly Operating & Maintenance Cost	73,520,750.00	78,890,750.00		

The way forward inevitably resides in our ability to get the strategic objectives correct. This may be divided into four components as follows; the personnel, the organizational structure, standing orders, and the information infrastructure. The personnel involved in the system must be sufficiently trained with respect to the rules governing public accounts and the accounting system in general. The organizational structure must facilitate holding the persons in charge of public re-

compels us to be disciplined and rigid in our duties to meet the objectives of the Force. The guiding principle we must adopt and enforce is simply to treat with public resources as if it belongs to you, report and fix the leaks, care the vehicles and equipment and hold accountable those who are negligent. This is a reality in your personal homes and as such the Military property must be viewed as an extension. ☼

Investment cont'd from Page 3

and maintained for investment. This surplus must NOT all be put into savings or financial instruments but should be split between these types of investments. It is important that you invest in education and training to ensure a future career. This should be carefully balanced and maximized against one's primary military discipline. Determining a future career is therefore an important first step and remembering that one's skill set in the military carries great value on 'civvy street' and therefore building on that in planning an investment in education is an important principle.

Types of Investments

We classify investments into 3 categories according to Risk and Reward;

1. Low Risk/Low Reward – Yields of 4-12% per annum; this is typical of the traditional financial markets available as; interest on savings, CDs, Mutual Funds etc.
2. Medium Risk/Medium Reward Yields of 12 - 30% per annum; Investments of this nature generally involve the investor paying some attention to the investment and include trading stocks, participating in profit sharing in traditional operating businesses such as import/export, or projects such as those in building construction.
3. High Risk/High Reward – Yields of over 30% per annum; investments of this type are often referred to as 'Alternative Investment Schemes' and include such areas as foreign exchange trading and trading in options but

could also include participating in cutting edge opportunities in the hedge fund and venture capital markets.

To maximize the earnings from your savings these should be allocated to different investments and monitored according to performance and risk. It must be remembered that the higher the risk the greater the reward, so we recommend that investments be spread over medium and high risk instruments. Debt (credit card etc.) should also be balanced against proven earnings in investments and it should also be your goal to keep your debt below your realized earnings. Investing in high risk, although lucrative, should not have, initially, more than one can afford to lose. Also, high risk investments should not be

cont'd on Page 12

Candid Camera



Service women 31st anniversary reunion in Sunrise, Ft Lauderdale, USA



Members of ALERT 2008 Committee welcome Dr. Rev. Henley Morgan (centre in photo to the left), Guest Speaker at the 'ALERT Launch (also left in photo to the right).



International soprano Abigail Kelly performs at the Jamaican Military Museum Classical Concert at the Garrison Chapel



Soldiers celebrate the victory of the Jamaican athletes in Beijing.



WO1 Orlando Levene, A/FSM (left), works closely with the organizers of the 2008 Independence Grand Gala (right)

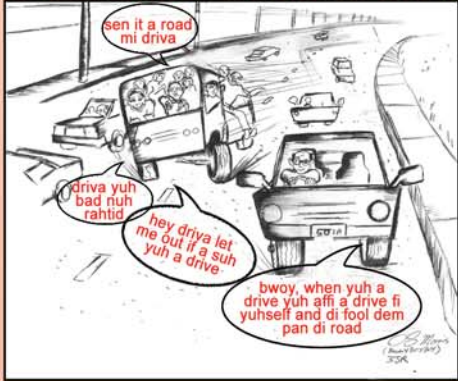


Ex Tropical Hammer: CDS welcomes the Commander of the Canadian Forces Operational Support Command

Puzzle

Contributor: LCpl Ralston Johnson, 3 JR (NR)

HOW TO PLAY: All the words listed below are in the puzzle, they appear vertical; horizontal; diagonal and even backwards. Find them and CIRCLE THEIR LETTERS ONLY, DO NOT CIRCLE THE WORD. Rearrange the remaining letters to spell the Wonderword.



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

ARMOUR, BUGLER, BAPTIST, BATTALION, BUGLE, CEASE, COURT, DEPOT, DRIVE, FIELD, GUN, INFORM, MARINE, OBSTACLES, ORDERS, PROVOST, RANGE, RETIRED, SENTRY, SITE, SOLDIER, SUPPLY, TRADE, TROOPS, UNIT, VEST, XRAY, ZONE, ZULU.

Answer here:

○ ○ ○ ○ ○ ○ ○ ○ ○ ○ driving.

Solution on Page 15



Some areas of JDF that manage finance – Pension Dept and the RBTI.



Staff at JDF Pay and Records Office (Salary) and the Financial Controller, Ms Jennifer Brammer (right).



Soldiers enjoying meals at the improved catering facility.



Annual Administrative Inspection - maintaining JDF's capital investments.



You. Know Did You. Know Did You. Know Did You. Know Did You. Know Did You. Know Did You. Know Did You. Know Did You. Know

Did You Know

FINANCIAL RESTRAINTS FACING THE MILITARY



Mr Merrick Needham, OD, MVO Contributor

Money may not be the root of (absolutely) all evil, as the old saying goes, but it is certainly the cause of a lot of our difficulties. As one who is concerned about the

recording and preservation of Jamaica's military history, I am truly saddened by the deterioration of the past few years in so many of the historic buildings at Newcastle – possibly the forerunner of all the once famous military hill stations of 19th century Britain's imperial army. Newcastle was impeccably maintained, first by the British Army and then almost lovingly by the JDF for more than one-and-a-half centuries until the infamous 'financial restraints' made it impossibly challenging.

And one doesn't even have to leave Up Park Camp itself to see the ever-increasing signs of

the 'financial restraints'. Indeed, it says a lot for the ingenuity of the CDS and HQ JDF that things are not worse than they are; every time we feel like grumbling, we should remember that.

However, we are by no means alone; the national armed forces with which perhaps we have the closest and certainly the most traditional ties are those of the former colonial power, Great Britain. Concern about equipment inadequacies, especially for troops in combat zones such as Afghanistan and Iraq, resulted in several distinguished retired British generals – includ-

ing at least one former Chief of the General Staff – recently issuing a strong, combined public criticism of the British Government's expenditure on the Army.

In the wealthy UK criticism was probably well justified; for our Government, balancing the budget is a far harder task. Last year, with the British armed forces overall strength at approximately 190,000 personnel, the Defence Budget Departmental Expenditure Limits showed a projection for 2007-08 of all of £40.4 billion, equal to well over J\$5,650 billion – and the retired generals still had cause for complaint. ☺

The Crown Makes Restitution

Maj Charlene Steer, SO2 J9 (CMC), HQ JDF

The Daily Telegraph of Wed 20 Dec 1961 headline read '£500,000 Owed to Soldiers – Jamaica Law Was Overlooked'. The report described the outcome of years of petitioning by Jamaican officers for equal pay as British army officers. After eleven years of appeals, the War Office relented and made restitution through the Exchequer. Two well-known beneficiaries were the late Brig Dunstan Robinson, a former Chief of Staff and Lt Col (Retd) Paul Hire-Miller.

Col Hire-Miller revealed with glee that he "spoofed" his compensation. "I took my family on a trip around the world", *cont'd on Page 15*

Soldiers' Health Issues

Measles (Rubella, Red Measles, Hard Measles)

Lt Marlene Wilby Denton, Public Health Nurse, JDF MRS

Measles is a highly transmissible, acute infectious viral disease affecting mainly children who are not immunized.

Occurrence

Measles virus exists worldwide but with the introduction of immunization, the incidence has decreased to approximately 1% in children too young to be immunized. The last case of measles in Jamaica and the Caribbean was in 1991; until May 2008 when an imported case was identified in a child visiting from the United Kingdom

Mode of Transmission (spread)

It is airborne and can be contracted through direct contact with nasal or throat secretions from the infected persons.

Incubation Period

The incubation period is at an average of 10 days but can vary from 7-18 days from exposure to the development of the first symptoms. It usually takes 14 days for the rash to appear.

When it is Contagious

The virus becomes contagious and able to be transmitted from the moment it is contracted to about four days after the appearance of the rash. However, it be-

comes minimal after the second day of the rash.

Who can get it

All persons who have not had the disease or who have not been successfully immunized are susceptible.

Resistance

After having the disease, a person acquires permanent immunity. Infants born to mothers who have had the disease are immune for the first 6-9 months after birth. Immunization at 12-15 months after birth produces 95-98% immunity in those immunized.

Prevention

1. Education- about the disease and how to prevent the spread.
2. Immunization- of susceptible population unless contraindicated. Usually a single dose of MMR (Measles, Mumps and Rubella) vaccine is administered and should induce active immunity possibly for life. A second dose of vaccine increases immunity to as high as 99%. Approximately 5-15% of persons may have side effects of malaise (feeling ill) fever of 39.4 degrees Celsius (103 degrees Fahrenheit) within 5-12 days. The fever only lasts 1-2 days with little disability. It is recommended that vaccines be given at 12- 15

months and 4- 6 years.

Signs and Symptoms

Symptoms include fever, eye inflammation, running nose and koplik spots (small red spots) on the lining of the cheek. A characteristic red blotchy rash appears on the 3rd - 7th day beginning on the face, becoming generalized, and lasting 4 -7 days. After this, the skin would peel and shed fine scales.

Complications

When one contracts the measles virus, complications may develop from viral replication or bacterial super infection and include middle ear infections, pneumonia, severe coughing, diarrhea and encephalitis (infection of the brain).

Contraindications to MMR

1. Patients with immune deficiency disease exclusive of HIV or suppressed immune response from leukemia lymphoma or any cancers should not be given the vaccine.
2. Persons who are pregnant or giving blood in 2 weeks.
3. Persons with fever.

Conclusion

You can prevent the disease. Act now! Immunize your child TODAY. ☼

THE COST OF 'FREE' HEALTH CARE

Lt Celia Bennett, JDF MRS

The Jamaica Defence Force is responsible for the health care needs of its members. How many members stop to think of the cost of this service? Where does the money come from and how is it spent?

Medical Budget	2007/08	2008/09
Drugs:	\$8,550,000	\$13,800,000
Medical supplies:	\$4,750,000	\$ 4,200,000
Medical Attention:	\$40,600,000	\$19,500,000
Post Mortem:	\$250,000	\$30,000
Burial:	\$1,500,000	\$1,300,000
Other Medical	\$700,000	\$2,400,000

You will notice from the information above, obtained from the Finance Office, that in two critical areas i.e. medical supplies and attention there has been a significant decrease in the budgetary allotment. This therefore places more pressure on the Finance Office, as it now has less funds with which to pay for needed health services.

Some may argue now that health care is free. However how many of us are willing to attend these public facilities? Many patients prefer to be seen in a private practice as going to the public facility means a very long wait; sometimes for the greater part of a day and there is also the security risk. Many of our surgeries are performed by these private practitioners who use the public or private facilities and charge us for their services. Despite the cost of investigations, the cost of not thoroughly investigating a patient's condition can be much more expensive.

Reimbursement of funds spent to seek medical attention is divided into two categories, amounts above \$5000 and below \$5000. Despite the many complaints of no refunds for bills sent in, for the last quarter of 2007/08 a sum of \$2,548,005 was returned to persons who spent more than \$5000 and \$1,407,334.64 to persons who spent less than \$5000. The wait for these returns is sometimes long but let us examine the cause. Illness is unpredictable, one can plan for allocations or refunds and then a more urgent case arises. That refund will have to be shelved as a patient had to be rushed to the hospital with a ruptured appendix for which UHWI is demanding to be paid.

Highlighting the present problems with the provision of free health care for members of the Force serves to sensitize us about the budgetary constraints being faced, by HQ JDF. Unfortunately with health there will always be some persons who need more urgent medical attention than others. Until the amount allotted for the medical budget is sufficient to cater to all, there will be a wait.☼

Prescription Discipline

WO2 Odelee Morrison Smith, JDF MRS

All medications excepting those available over the counter ought to be prescribed by a medical doctor or nurse practitioner. Drugs prescribed for one individual should NEVER be shared with another. Special attention must be paid to the instructions given on the labels, as these will determine the effectiveness of the medication. One must try to be consistent with the medication, taking them at the same time of day for each day. Special instructions such as NO alcohol, no stomach medicine, drink plenty of water or take until finished must be observed. No alcohol also includes fruit cake, sorrel with rum, and ice-cream with rum.

All medications have side effects, however these may differ between persons. Where these side effects manifest themselves, for example in some hypertensive and diabetic medications, the patient MUST return to the prescribing physician and report them. ☼

Be conservative with running

Lt Celia Bennett, Physiotherapist, JDF MRS

Members of the JDF are mandated to run twice per year to register their Basic Fitness Test standard. However, continuous hard running in preparation for BFT can do serious damage to one's knees and back. The risk of such injuries increase for those in the Infantry and Engineer regiments as a result of the excess weight from wearing bullet proof vest, heavy lifting and the mounting and dismounting from trucks.

It is therefore important that soldiers incorporate a variety of physical activities in their fitness regime in order to preserve their backs and knees. Note carefully that there is no stipulation that running is the only form of exercise to maintain fitness.

The most frequently treated conditions at the physical therapy department are those affecting the knees and lower backs. A concerted effort should be made by everyone to participate in a more efficient exercise programme so they can enjoy a lifetime of good health. This can be achieved by varying physical activities to include swimming and cycling. The physiotherapist will tell you that it is not helpful to run every day and that it is better to run on a playfield than hard surface as this reduces the stress placed on the back and knees. Preserve your health, be more conservative with running! ☼

INTERNATIONAL LINKS

THROUGH THE EYES OF A RANGER

2Lt Damion Gordon, 1JR

It is undeniably true that we are all born equal but are distinguished by virtues. That truism becomes evident during the two and a half months of torture at the Ranger School in Georgia, USA.

Army Rangers undergo a rigorous training and psychologically transforming process under conditions as miserable and uncomfortable as war itself. The training is designed to weed the weak from among the strong. In order to achieve the desired result, the course is divided into three phases: Benning Phase, Mountain Phase and Swamps.

The Benning Phase is an assessment period that makes recruit training look like a stroll in the park. The Potential Ranger is given improbable timelines to complete multiple tasks. It demands keen attention to the least of details. Each day is worse and more grueling than the day before. From 5:00 am speed runs, to 12-mile road marches, to combat water survival, in the freezing ponds of Georgia, the inner

virtual warzone deep in the woods of Fort Benning. Loaded with 110 pounds backpack, long ambush and reconnaissance patrols are done over miles of rugged terrain with nothing to sustain but water and chewing gum. A bland MRE is eaten at 0800 hrs and another at 0400 hrs the next morning as sustenance. Sleep is a privilege granted at the discretion of the instructors. After arrival at the patrol base, less than an hour's sleep only fuels lackluster, doubt and fear. But the mission has to be accomplished even though tired, hungry, desperate and facing great danger. Only those who have shown that they can continue to rise to the challenges make it through the first phase.

The Mountain Phase sees continuous raids and ambush patrols. Each new mountain faced is another day of vertical hell. One would think that the fear of poisonous snakes would cause an increased meticulousness, but poisonous snakes and bugs had little impact on the deep need to close one's eyes for a few minutes.



2Lt Damion Gordon

2Lt Zavian Phipps

challenge remains the same - just survive.

The sweltering sun becomes an enemy. Fallout after fallout occurs as heat stroke and heat exhaustion break the will of the students. The numbers dwindle and soon the tacit fact is that only the mentally strong will survive. You are pushed to the breaking point, at times near death. Yet, this is the familiarization phase of the Ranger Course.

Rangers must race against time and other factors in order to strike with decisive force; hence, the soldier is locked into

In Florida, the students engage in air assault missions with a very crafty enemy and a two-hour waterborne operation along the seemingly endless Yellow River. Patrols span seven to ten miles.

D-Day, 55th Day, is the day each student will now know whether he will bear the Ranger name. Half of my squad fails and heads are hung low. I share their pain, but for us who survived, we know that the title is not for the weak or faint hearted. A ranger has to display sound character as 'Rangers Lead The Way'. ☼

China and Jamaica continue to strengthen military ties

Maj Charlene Steer, SO2 J9 (CMC), HQ JDF



Signing of MOU between Gen Jingong and Maj Gen Stewart Saunders, CDS

A six-member delegation from the Ministry of National Defence of the People's Republic of China visited the Jamaica Defence Force (JDF) from 31 Aug to 03 Sep 08. The delegation was headed by Maj Gen Jingong Ding, Deputy Director General. Maj Mahatma Williams, SO2 J3 (Ops) at Headquarters JDF, co-ordinated the visit and met the delegation at NMIA.

The highlight of the visit was the signing of a Memorandum of Understanding by General Jingong Ding and the Chief of Defence Staff, Maj Gen Stewart Saunders. The MOU covered the strengthening of military co-operation between China and Jamaica in the form of military assistance and training.

During the visit Gen Jingong Ding, who spoke through an interpreter, offered congratulations on the outstanding performances by the Jamaican athletes at the Olympics in Beijing. General Saunders thanked the General and praised the Chinese for their excellent preparations which he said contributed to the world record performances by the Jamaican athletes.

Ambassador's visit to JDF Coast Guard

A week prior to the visit of the official delegation from China, on 22 Aug 08, the Chinese Ambassador to Jamaica, His Excellency Zhao Zhenyu, his wife and son visited HMJS CAGWAY. The purpose of the visit was to meet



Ambassador and his wife onboard HMJS Surrey, flanked by CO JDF Coast Guard (r) and Lt (jg) Presocct.

with the Commanding Officer Cdr Kenneth Douglas to explore opportunities for cooperation. The Ambassador was briefed on the operations of the Unit and received a tour of the base and one of the offshore patrol vessels, HMJS SURREY. ☼

JDF COAST GUARD DELIVERS RELIEF SUPPLIES TO HAITI AND CUBA

Maj Charlene Steer, SO2 J9 (CMC), HQ JDF

Lt Cdr Paul Wright, as an ambassador of goodwill, took a break from his Executive Officer duties at HMJS CAGWAY and sailed twice within a week to deliver much needed hurricane relief supplies to the governments of Haiti and Cuba. Cdr Wright captained both HMJS SURREY, then HMJS MIDDLESEX, for the missions, which docked in Port-au-Prince, Haiti, on 13 Sep 08, and in Santiago de Cuba, on 20 Sep 08.

The relief effort from Jamaica was spearheaded by the Government of Jamaica, through the Office of the Prime Minister and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs. The Office of Disaster Preparedness and Emergency Management (ODPEM) coordinated the receipt of the supplies, which included water, mattresses, bedding, generators, tarpaulins, towels and utensils.

Director of Haiti's Cabinet, Mr Yves Stan-



Lt Cdr Paul Wright (2nd r) and Lt (jg) Cleon Muir (r) in Cuba.

ley Joseph, accepted the relief supplies for Haiti and International Relations Officer, Mr Vincente Gonzalez Biaz, for Cuba.

A team from ODPEM represented the Jamaican Government for the handover of supplies. Members of the local media also accompanied the missions. ☼

Category	Percentage	Annual Amount	Monthly Amount
Total Income			
Taxes			
Net Spendable			
Percentages below are for percent of Net Spendable			
Net Spendable			
Housing			
Food			
Automobile			
Insurance			
Debt Repayment			
Entertainment and Recreation			
Clothing			
SAVINGS:			
Medical/Dental (not usually applicable to military persons while they serve)			
Miscellaneous			
School/Childcare			
INVESTMENTS			
1. New career Education			
2. Medium risk investment			
3. Higher risk investment			

A sample budget as illustrated by Wikipedia

Col MacMillan cont'd from Page 2

Service in the JDF

The Minister said that he never envisaged attaining the rank of Colonel. 'At one point, as a Second Lieutenant, there was no vacancy for a Captain But things happened. People died, people resigned, people retired and the establishment was increased. JDF's establishment, when I was a 2Lt, had a Brigadier and some Lieutenant Colonels. There were no full Colonels; after three full Colonels were appointed that opened up the vacancies.' He was promoted to Lieutenant in 1964, Captain in 1965, Major in 1970, and Lieutenant Colonel in 1977 and to Colonel in 1979.

He disclosed that back then when he was Col AQ it was very difficult to finance the JDF. 'We had to set priorities for our expenditures. The number one priority was pay and allowances, number two was food and number three was medical expenses. After that, everything else! And you notice, I did not mention operational expenses. If you can't pay the soldiers, look after them if they get sick and feed them, then you don't have a soldier.'

Those who have served with Col Macmillan remembered him performing outstanding service, particularly as a senior officer.

'He was the females' knight in shining armour,' said Capt Wray who was among the first batch of servicewomen to join the JDF since 1977. 'He was always there for us. If he was not Col AQ, they might have sent us home.'

'I stood up for them for maternity leave' said Col MacMillan. 'There was some argument about pregnancy not being an illness. My then [fiance], who was as an obstetrician and gynecologist said to me, 'Oh, it is not an illness? They can die from it!' So I fought very hard to ensure that maternity leave was appropriately given to female soldiers, whether they were single or married.'

He is also respected for the remarkable work he did as the Chairman of the organizing committee for JDF's 1983 tattoo. 'When Jamaica was 21 years old we put it on as part of the celebrations. There was no limit to the budget.

I am not too sure if that will ever happen again,' he reminisced. The tattoo, which showcased the JDF with splendour, is still remembered with nostalgia.



Minister MacMillan tours Up Park Camp.

Chief of Defence Staff praises Col MacMillan

'Colonel Trevor MacMillan, now the Minister of National Security, has a wealth of knowledge and experience in matters concerning the JDF, but, most importantly, what stands out in my memory is his deep concern for and understanding of soldiers', said Maj Gen Stewart Saunders. 'He stood tall in the eyes of everyone when he accepted the challenge to form the 2nd Battalion The Jamaica Regiment and, on successful completion, be its first Commanding Officer.

'I had the pleasure and privilege of serving under his command then and can attest to the fact that the standards set for that Unit at the time continues to be a lasting legacy.

Investments cont'd from Page 7

used for ready cash as your ability to retrieve cash from these investments can be difficult depending on the type of investment and the environment in which the investment operates.

Budgeting

A simple budget can be written on a piece of a paper with a pencil, and optionally, a calculator may be used. Such budgets can be organized in three-ring binders or a file cabinet. Simpler still are the pre-formatted household budgeting or bookkeeping forms that create a budget by filling in the blanks.

A budget should have a purpose or defined goal that is achieved within a certain time period. Knowing the source and amount of income and the amounts allocated to expense events is as important as when those cash flow events occur.

The more complicated the budgeting process is, the less likely a person is to keep up with it. The purpose of a personal budget is to identify where income and expenditure is present in the common household; it is not to identify each individual purchase ahead of time. How simplicity

is defined with regards to the use of budgeting categories varies from family to family, but many small purchases can generally be lumped into one category (Car, Household items, etc.).

The budgeting process is designed to be flexible; the consumer should have an expectation that a budget will change from month to month, and will require monthly review.

"Busting the budget" is a common pitfall in personal budgeting; frequently busting the budget can allow consumers to fall into pre-budgeting spending habits. Anticipating budget-busting events (and under spending in other categories), and modifying the budget accordingly, allow consumers a level of flexibility with their incomes and expenses.

A budget's accuracy is only as good as the accuracy of the individual updating budget data; an old budget that does not reflect actual income or expenses is of little use to a current budget. Computer generated budgets have become commonly used as they replace the need to rewrite and recalculate the budget every time there is a change.



I have no doubt that as our Minister of National Security he will continue his lifelong philosophy of giving service to the nation', stated Gen Saunders.

Minister's plans for the JDF

Now years later, the Minister's office sits atop the North Tower of NCB Building on Oxford Road, Kingston, which gives him a bird's-eye view of Up Park Camp. This along with his tour of the camp made the Minister conclude that the JDF was badly in need of resources.

When asked how his plans would tally with a limited budget, the Minister emphasized that his role was to deal with policy and not operations. However, he stated that such policy initiatives would include making sure that the Force had resources. 'Therefore one of my main roles is to convince the Government to give [the JDF] more resources,' the Minister said.

The Minister also sees his role as ensuring that JDF remains 'very professional and apolitical'. He cited his own career path as an example. He pointed out that he had never turned down an offer to serve from any government - He served the PNP Government as the Director of the Revenue Protection Division and as Commissioner of Police, and now as Senator and Minister for the JLP Government. He said that he has been accused of being a 'comrade' and a 'labourite', but consider it an honour to be cursed by both sides as it meant he was doing his job professionally.

'On all occasions service to my country took priority. That came out of my army service,' the Minister said.

Asked why ex-military officers usually got top jobs, he responded, 'Military officers have some characteristics that are not found in a lot of people even if they are university trained. One is leadership, two is discipline and three is integrity. I am not saying all ex-officers have all those, but these are the major factors.'

For his distinguished service to country, Col MacMillan has been recognized with the following decorations: Medal of Honour for Meritorious Service, 1978; Order of Distinction (Officer Class), 1984; and Commander Class, 1997. ✨

IN FOCUS

Inspector General's Department

THE PURPOSE OF BOARDS OF INQUIRY AND INVESTIGATIONS IN TODAY'S JDF

Lt Cdr Richard Russell, Deputy Inspector General (Investigations and Boards)



The Inspector General has the overall responsibility for the oversight of all Investigations and Boards of Inquiry conducted within the Jamaica Defence Force. Investigations and Boards of Inquiry are convened so that the facts, as they relate to an occurrence, are captured and recorded in a formal manner through a systematic process of Investigation and Inquiry.

The Inspector General and his Offices do not necessarily conduct all the Investigations and Boards. Depending on the circumstances, severity and conse-

quences of an accident or incident and/or the directives of the Chief of Defence Staff he will have the department convene and select the most appropriate individuals to conduct the investigations. This will aid the Chief of Defence Staff in his analysis and provide him with specific answers to questions which he may seek in order to make an informed decision.

Individual Commanding Officers still retain the authority to convene and have Investigations and Boards conducted into matters which occur within the purview of their individual commands. The Findings, Opinions, Recommendations and Commanding Officer's comments, in respect of these Investigations and Boards, are forwarded to the Office of the Inspector General for comments and recommendations, prior to being forwarded to the Chief of Defence Staff.

The purpose of a Board of Inquiry or Investigation into an accident or an incident is to discover what occurred, how it occurred and how best to prevent a recurrence. Accidents and Incidents can cause injury to person, loss of life, loss or damage to equipment along with mental anguish. All of these must be

avoided. Inquiries are not convened primarily for the purpose of ascribing blame or bringing disciplinary actions against individuals.

In circumstances where individuals are found to have contributed to an accident or an incident by virtue of negligence or deliberate action, it may be recommended by the investigators that action be taken against the individual or individuals deemed to be responsible. This action can vary from retraining, recertification to severe disciplinary action or a combination of any of the available actions within that range.

Investigations and Boards can also be convened in order to find ways to make procedures and/or systems more efficient. This provides for the better utilization of resources, time and in general a better way of life.

Accidents and incidents occur because of what are called causation factors. Removal of any single causation factor will prevent the occurrence of an accident or incident. As such it is incumbent on any individual summoned to give evidence before a Board or Investigation to speak the truth the whole truth and

nothing but the truth. This information provides illumination to the investigators and allows for the proper findings, opinions, and recommendations to emerge, thereby achieving the primary aim of the investigation or board.

The practice of being conservative with the truth, selective memories or outright untruthfulness is not helpful to Investigators when bearing in mind the primary reasons for the convening of the Board or Investigation. This can result in inaccurate findings, flawed opinions and faulty recommendations thereby defeating the primary purpose. This is rarely the case and individuals who for misguided reasons choose not to be cooperative or be fully cooperative in an investigation or Board of Inquiry are usually discovered because their information cannot be corroborated or their information conflicts with that of other witnesses. This results in the loss of the individual's integrity in the minds of the investigators.

The Office of the Inspector General reminds you "THE TRUTH SHALL SET YOU FREE". ☼

PASSAGE OF TROPICAL STORM GUSTAV

Cpl Joseph Lewis, HQ JDF (Civ/Mil Co-op)



Preparing for Tropical Storm Gustav (l); residents looking at the collapsed Hope River Bridge at Harbour View, which 1Engr Regt (JDF) helped replaced.

With gusty winds and heavy rainfall, Tropical Storm Gustav made its way to the shores of Jamaica on 28 Aug 08. It was obvious that many Jamaicans did not take the storm warning seriously and were reluctant to leave their homes for safer areas.

But the Jamaica Defence Force did not leave anything to chance. Days before the blow, members of 1 Engineer Regiment (JDF) were seen battening down windows and doors of essential buildings in Up Park Camp.

Checks following the blow revealed that there was minimal damage in Up Park Camp but

many Jamaicans were left without a home as they were washed away by the heavy flood waters.

As usual, the JDF Air Wing was kept busy conducting Search and Rescue operations across the country. Supplies were airlifted to persons who were marooned.

"The JDF AW did a lot of reconnaissance of flooded areas in Spanish Town, St Thomas and Portland," said Lt Noel Lewis, Operations Officer JDF AW. He further stated that the JDF AW conducted a lot of power line reconnaissance for the Jamaica Public Service Company.

The Office of Disaster Preparedness and Emergency Management (ODPEM) opened approximately 95 shelters where a total of 1823 persons were housed. The Eastern and Southern sections of the country suffered the most as the tropical storm crawled slowly through Jamaica. So intense was the rainfall of Tropical Storm Gustav that it caused a section of the Hope River Bridge at Harbour View to collapse.

The Engineer Regiment has since assisted the NWA in constructing a Bailey bridge across the Hope River to allow commuters to get into Kingston. ☼

RSM Top Soldier cont'd from Page 5

The eight Warrant Officers and seven Staff Sergeants made up a group which had a representative from all disciplines across the Force. They ranged from sailors, airmen, engineers, infanteers and desk Warrant Officers.

The hard work throughout the course did not go unnoticed as each successful student received a certificate and a pace stick which was presented to them by the Reviewing Officer, Major General Stewart Saunders.

In his address, the Chief of Defence Staff said, 'As Warrant Officers or aspiring Warrant Officers you are the guardians of the foundations of knowledge, skills and experiences that cause military organizations to either be progressive or deteriorate into oblivion.' He further charged them that by virtue of their knowledge and experience they are critical to the proper development of young officers and enlisted personnel. 'You have the envious, important and sometimes difficult task of advising and even instructing your superiors in rank,' he said.

The award of Best Local Student went to Warrant Officer Class Two Lennox Ingram of the Second Battalion The Jamaica Regiment while the Best Overseas Student was Warrant Officer Class Two Gavin Lee from the Bermudan Regiment. ☼



Jubilant graduates of the RSM Course

KEEPING THE COUNTY CLASS AFLOAT

SSgt Paul Malabrer, JDF CG



HMJS Surrey on dry dock

The newly acquired state-of-the-art off-shore patrol vessels (OPV) were built by Damen Shipyard in Holland for about US\$10M each. However, a number of the equipment onboard were supplied by other manufacturers - the controllable pitch propeller system by Rolls Royce and Kamewa; the main engines and generator by Caterpillar, the Hydraulic power pack which controls the stabilizers by Quantum and the monitor-

ing system and bridge controls by Alphatron.

The maintenance of the different machinery, though expensive, is essential to the serviceability and the vessel's performance. The cost incurred for every 1000 running hours of both main engines is approximately JA\$362,364.00. This involves the changing of the engine's lubricating oil, oil filters and fuel filters. Additionally, the generator set is maintained every 250 running hours at an estimated cost of JA\$21,000.

A week's routine patrol, about 80 hours, consumes an average of 28,680L of diesel fuel, approximately JA\$2.2M in cost. The vessels are required to be dry docked at 18-months intervals. This basic dry dock involves the inspection and maintenance of the underwater portion of the vessel and could run at a cost of US\$120,000 (JA\$840,000).

'It takes cash to care' and this cliché is true for maintaining a seagoing platform. ☼

THE COST OF SAFETY

Lt Col Geoffrey Roper, CO JDF AW

Our job in the army is inherently a dangerous one. We conduct patrols in order to flush out dangerous gunmen, flights to rescue people from flooding rivers, voyages to intercept narcotics smugglers and deploy to foreign nations to carry out assistance of various kinds. Wherever possible, we must ensure that we take the necessary steps to ensure that the infrastructure and equipment that we depend on will allow us to carry out our duties safely. There is a cost. The cost of safety!

Around us we may see low hanging wires, bare treaded tyres, lifting zinc roofs, dilapidated fencing, uncovered fuse boxes, unreliable fire trucks, unkempt playing surfaces, and the list goes on and on. In spite of all these things we continue to provide sterling service to Jamaica in myriad roles. In many ways we have been fortunate that the consequences of turning a blind eye to safety have not caught up with us in major loss of life. This article seeks to look at some of those consequences in order to make us aware and more prepared to deal with safety.

Firstly, a diminished appreciation for proper safety standards. When we ignore or forego a procedure to correct a problem, we run the risk of it becoming the norm. This is dangerous and it breeds mediocrity that should not be accepted within the military. Instead of paying attention to detail, we let details slide. The major cause is a perceived lack of funds to correct the initial problem in the first place. This attitude leads to complacency and willingness to forego established procedures.

This leads to the second consequence. If we do not adequately deal with small safety issues early they will become big ones later. The consequences then are significant. Imagine if an aircraft engine, known to be defective, was given the okay. There would soon be no passengers, pilots or aircraft. What about the tread-bare tyres? The patrol is not stood down. We take the risk and deploy. A chase with a gunman ensues, a tyre blows, the vehicle turns over, soldiers suffer broken arms, punctured lungs and head injuries and the vehicle is written off.

How should we deal with this issue? Firstly, at the individual level we must have a mindset that always seeks to achieve a higher standard.



Safety equipment on display at JDF AW Anniversary Open Day

Secondly at the managerial level, we must spend money to rectify the situations as soon as they happen and not accept the lower standard. 'A stitch in time saves nine'. In other words, fix the problem now before the playing surface delivers a broken ankle, before smooth tyres lead to a blow out and broken bodies, before the faulty weapon leads to a dead soldier.

Consider this:

"For want of a nail the shoe was lost,
For want of shoe the horse was lost,
For want of a horse the knight was lost,
For want of a knight the battle was lost,
So it was a kingdom was lost all for want of a nail"

Do not settle for a low standard. Seek the best. Pursue it. When it comes to safety, understand the risks. Make good plans to minimize the risk. Sail the right course or fly a good sortie, because in these times of ever increasing financial constraints we cannot afford to be unsafe and face the larger costs. ☼

VOX POP

Sgt Antoinette Neath, HQ JDF (Civ/Mil Co-op)

With the current rise in basic food and utilities bills, 'All Arms' asked members of the Force the following questions:

Q1. How does the rise in prices affect your budget?

Q2. Given the chance, how would you spend the JDF's budget?



**Spr Lawrence Walford, 1 Engr Regt (JDF)
6 years service**

"I have to make changes especially for transportation and food".
"I would prioritize on clothing, troop carrying vehicles and body armour for troops. Living area would also be a priority".

**Pte Kenroy Williams, 2 JR
7 years service**

"I spend more for transportation and utility bills. I have to spend less on clothing and entertainment".
"Living quarters and uniform would be a priority and medical facilities would be refurbished. Transportation for troops would also be a priority".



**Cpl Lincoln Allen, Sp and Svcs Bn
19 years service**

"With the rise in cost of basic food items my budget has been affected as I spend more on food and transportation".
"Given the chance to spend the JDF's budget, I would cut back on food items such as red meat and buy more vegetables. I would also improve the living accommodation".

**Cpl Gilbert Whitely, JDF AW
8 years service**

"The rising food prices have affected my budget in every way. My food, utility and transportation bills have significantly increased".
"Given the chance to spend the JDF's budget, I would prioritize starting with uniforms for the soldiers, then accommodation. Health care would be next followed by troop carrying vehicles".



**PO Kenlloyd Daley, JDF CG
19 years service**

"The current rise in cost of basic food items has put a big dent in my budget. My utility and food bills have skyrocketed lately and I think I am speaking on everyone's behalf. What is more disturbing is that salary is not going up to meet the demands".
"I would spend the JDF budget on medical, dental, uniform and troop carrying vehicles".

**Sgt Paul McKenzie, 1 JR
24 years service**

"I spend less on entertainment and spend on the basic necessities".
"I would spend the JDF's budget on medical, accommodation, uniform and training. I would also acquire troop carrying vehicles".



**WO2 Odelee Morrison-Smith,
Sp and Svcs Bn. 31 years service**

"I have to do without some things. I spend more wisely and cut back on certain items."
"I would spend the JDF budget on food, medical and living accommodation. Equipment would be the next priority".

OUR EXTENDED FAMILY

DETERMINED TO SUCCEED

Danielle Douglas
Contributor



Danielle Douglas (daughter of Sgt Donald Douglas, Sp and Svcs Bn)

CXC examinations are viewed as the starting point on a teenager's path to their career goals. It is also one of the most stressful periods in a teenager's life; long hours of studying, several days of exams and the anxiety awaiting the results. Despite the challenges, I was determined to be successful as mediocrity and failure were unacceptable.

I spent endless hours completing the School Based Assessments (SBAs) and sleepless nights practicing and studying. Before I knew it, my exams and the stress became history. I then endured the anxiety of awaiting my results. Weeks passed, hurricane winds howled and the flood rains came which delayed the process. Finally, the day for collection of results came and I was filled with joy as I looked at my results slip which displayed six distinctions and two credits. I had passed all eight subjects taken. I will go on to advanced level study and will continue to apply hard work and determination, to once again experience the joys of achievement, as I pursue my goal of becoming a business lawyer or financial analyst. ☼

DIARY OF A MAD BLACK MAN

Sgt Lukel Miller, HQ JDF



Stop, don't move, don't say a word
This is so quiet to you but to me,
loudly heard
Mi hand dem a shake, mi caan tink
straight
The warden and nurse a try pull mi
tru bellview gate
Craziness a seep tru and meck di
wull place a shake

All a wi went fishin but mi tun out to be di bait
Everybody else get served and mi alone stand up a wait
Mama and papa mounin' and mi still feel great
Mi love everybody and a mi all a dem hate
Dem mad but dem a question mi mental state
Somebody call Dr Irons and meck mi a date
All a dem sidung and a collaborate
Den dem question the speed a mi healing rate
The pastor start pray and a ask God fi fait
Him a sing fill my cup Lord and all a turn up him plate

How you mean seh mi body still a run but mi mind stall
Mi speak when mi spoken to and ansa when you call
What u sey, mi couldn't manage the pressure and mi staat
mourn and bawl
You talking to mi and mi naah ansa at all
Mi look like mi gwine climb up and jump over di wall
Like the man who jump offa KPH and nobody nuh bawl
People a watch and some even a call, jump, jump until the
man meck him fall
But when mi sidung and absorb it all
Is society fool fool, mi standing mentally tall.

Stop, don't move, don't say a word
This is so quiet to you but to me, loudly heard. ☼

TRIPLE ACTION

LtCpl Juliet Clarke, HQ JDF (Civ/Mil Co-op)



Cpl Ferguson and the triplets (all boys)

There is a Jamaican saying "two is better than too many" but what is said in the case of three?

Corporal Roman Ferguson and wife Donna had their first baby boy in 1993, now 15 years later Donna gave birth to triplets.

The triplets were delivered at the St Ann's Bay Hospital on 16 May 2008. "I am so excited," Donna said. "Even though there are sleepless nights and feeding every two hours for the boys, it's all worth it," the couple agreed.

The couple knew they were having triplets before they were born, so adequate preparation was put in place for their coming. "When I learned that I was going to have triplet I was so shocked!" Donna said. "I gained a lot of weight and it was hard," she explained. "I had to stop from work and stay home," she remarked.

But for Cpl Ferguson he is trying to cope with the sleepless nights. "Taking care of the babies is like a 24-hour job but I'm learning each day," he said. "They feed a lot and it's like a boxing ring when they want their food," he said laughing.

Kallil, Kamar and Kamal together weighed 5.22 kg (11 lbs) at birth.

Cpl Ferguson, who is from Alpha Company, 2JR said he had received much help from his company and the PRI shop with gifts of baby supplies. "Also my family is very large and they are very supportive," he said. "Especially my mother, she has been a world of help," he added.

The couple who lives in St Mary is currently staying with Cpl Ferguson's mother who is assisting them with the babies. ☼

The Crown cont'd from Page 9

he said. This included a visit to India, where he met his wife while stationed there in World War II. Investigation also revealed that the former COS, made substantial purchases to include a Buick motor car.

According to the news report: "More than £500,000 will have to be paid by the Exchequer to the men of the West Indies Regiment who, it has been discovered, were underpaid between 1946 and 1958. The total sum could be as much as £700,000.

"Because a local law was overlooked, the Regiment did not receive an increase when the British Army pay and allowances were increased in 1946. The error came to light through the efforts of Major [later Brigadier] D.F. Robinson, who lives in Jamaica. He claimed he was underpaid for eleven years.

"Provision Overlooked: A Jamaica law of 1939, not repealed until 1958, stated that when called up for service, members of the local forces were entitled to rates of pay and allowances not less than the corresponding pay and allowances granted to the officers and men of the regular Army." ☼

POPPY APPEAL

Lt Celia Bennett, Sp and Svcs Bn

The National Poppy Appeal is launched annually with a Concert-in-a-Garden at Curphey Place in Swallowfield, Kingston. The concert is held on the first Sunday in October each year. A new target of 4.3 million dollars has been set for 2008.



The tin drive represents the major source of income for the Jamaica Legion. This organization established in 1949, is an affiliate of the British Commonwealth Ex-services League. The President and Grand Patron of the organization is the Governor General. The Chairman is former Chief of Staff Maj Gen (Retd) Robert Neish and the Chairman of the National Poppy Appeal is the Commanding Officer of Support and Services Battalion, Lt Col Paul Dunn.

The purpose of the Jamaica Legion is to aid in the welfare of ex-service men and women who for whatever reason are unable to take care of themselves. This care takes the form of dental, medical and optical assistance. Curphey Place, located in Manchester, is a home operated by the Legion for service personnel with no place to call home.

Non-resident ex-service persons are given monthly allowances in addition to the financial support from government. Members of the JDF also contribute approximately one day's salary, annually. This goes a long way in providing the assistance needed by our veterans. The contribution from serving members however is not limited to financial support but also labour and time dedicated towards the maintenance of the Home.

Next time you are at the cashier remember what that poppy tin truly represents. ☼

Cricket cont'd from Page 16

nursing injuries. The brunt of the work was left on the aging and dependable Cpl Howard Copeland of 2 JR.

With new recruits and upgraded facilities, the Force can look forward to a vibrant Battalion League and a good 2009 cricket season. ☼

Martial Arts cont'd from Page 16

college, I learn new things each day.' The 25-year-old has indeed been learning. He is a qualified Scuba Diver, a Physical Training Instructor (PTI) and a Life Guard.

"Of all the activities, my favorite is scuba diving because it is very adventurous and keeps me on the edge," OS Cummings said. 'I love it. I've been 120 feet under water.' OS Cummings also enjoys track and field and playing football. His quest for knowledge continues as he wants to be a marine engineer some day.

He has words of encouragement for his colleagues, "In life choose a goal and work hard towards your dream. Do not let anyone tell you that you can't do it; never stop trying." ☼

Solution to Puzzle

driving (E) (A) (I) (S) (I) (V) (E) (D) (E) (F) (E) (N) (S) (I) (V) (E)

ALL ARMS Sports

THE QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER OF THE JAMAICA DEFENCE FORCE



Force Cross Country Sep 08 Results:

Unit	Points	Position
1JR	96	1
1 Engr Regt (JDF)	117	2
2JR	190	3
Sp and Svcs Bn	268	4
JDF AW	285	5
3 JR (NR)	301	6
JDF CG	380	7

Sports Highlights

Caribbean Invitational Sevens Tournament

JDF accepted an invitation from the Caribbean Cougars Rugby Football Club and participated in the captioned tournament in New York, USA. A 12-member squad represented the JDF.

Force Football Competition 2008

Will be held 13- 17 Oct 08 with team competing in two zones. Each Unit will enter one team and the top two teams from each zone will advance to the semi-finals. Zone 1: Sp and Svcs Bn, JDF AW, JDF CG and 3JR (NR). Zone 2: 1JR, 2JR and 1 Engr Regt (JDF).

KSAFA

Kingston and St Andrew Association football season gets underway in Oct 08.

Pan American Junior Championships

Cpl Sheldon Brown, as Goal Keeper/Coach and Pte Jerome Davis, hockey player, are currently in preparation with Jamaica Men's National Hockey programme to participate in the captioned event in Trinidad and Tobago 12-26 Oct 08.

JDF Shooting Festival

Will take place 18-30 Nov 08 with a few modifications. The Sharpshooter Competition will be replaced by a team shoot. The Brig David Smith Trophy will be presented to the Champion Unit.

The WATA Rose Hall Triathlon & Wellness Festival

Interested persons are invited to indicate their interest to the FPETW to participate in the Triathlon in St James on Sun 26 Oct 08. Top prizes US\$ 10,000 and US\$ 3,000.

Visit www.watarosehalltriathlon.com for more details.

SAILOR AFFIXES MARTIAL ARTS TO HIS ACHIEVEMENTS

LCpl Juliet Clarke, HQ JDF (Civ/Mil Co-op)

Following his dream of becoming a soldier instead of his sister's advise to become an accountant, the past student of Old Harbour High School in St Catherine, is now known as 'Jet Lee'.

OS Mario Cummings is no ordinary soldier. 'Jet Lee' as he is affectionately called was a top student in the Martial Arts Train-the-Trainers Course recently run at Up Park Camp by the People's Liberation Army (China). 'Growing up I was always fascinated with jumping over walls and climbing trees, swinging back and forth limb to limb,' OS Cummings revealed with a smile.

'The training took a lot of physical strength. You had to be fit and I was prepared,' he explained. However at the start of the course OS Cummings was hampered by a hamstring injury which took him out of training for almost two weeks. Still the martial arts enthusiast never yielded.

'He is very dedicated and loyal,' said LCpl Floyd Farquharson, physical training instructor at 1 JR. He described OS Cummings as very professional and always giving 150 per cent in whatever he was doing. 'He had a lot of interest in martial arts and it showed during the training.'

LCpl Farquharson said. 'During the three months I was taught some basic techniques such as the Shoalin Fist (Kung Fu), Five Step Fist, Chinese Long Fist, Kick Boxing and Self Defence. I even invented my own move which most people call the matrix. It was displayed at the Force Boxing Competition,' said OS Cummings. Because of his versatility, OS Cummings was chosen among others to present a special display at the Chinese Embassy during the '100 Day to Beijing' celebrations.

OS Cummings wishes to further his martial arts skills and hopes for the opportunity to do the one-year training course in China. 'What I like most about martial arts is that it helps me to concentrate and to be more focussed generally.'

He is employed to the JDF Coast Guard and has been in the JDF for almost six years.

Describing his experience in the JDF as, 'like going to *cont'd on Page 15*

Super League Cricket 2008

Capt Albert Ayre, HQ JDF

Recently appointed cricket coach Mr Junior Deans (c) discussed strategies with Cpl Akbar Moody (l) 2JR, also recently appointed as the Super League Cricket Captain. Alongside is former Jamaica Pacer, LCpl Warren Medwynter (r) 1JR. The appointment of Cpl Moody as Captain was a strategic decision that freed the former Captain, LCpl Mel Wint, to concentrate on his batting and wicket keeping. Despite the strategic changes and valiant effort, the Brigadiers were relegated to the Senior Cup after they dropped out at the third round of the 2008 Jamaica Super League.

The JDF Brigadiers had faced an uphill task since the start of the year's season when the upgrade of their facility, destroyed by hurricane, did not meet the deadline. This caused some inconvenience as the team had to travel to Kensington Cricket



Club to train on their pitch. The situation was compounded with the top pacer Pte Kamal Dennis, 1 JR, losing his form and LCpl Medwynter

cont'd on Page 15