

TELEVISION QUARTERLY ISSUES-PROGRAMS REPORT

Station: WEAR-TV
Location: Pensacola, FL
Quarter ending: December 31, 2009

Issue/description: 3. MILITARY AFFAIRS. Issues of concern to military and civilian workers at local bases; military retirees; the military's impact on our area's economy and lifestyle; military dependents, etc.

How Issue was treated (Program, PSA, etc.):

<u>Title</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Time/Duration</u>	<u>Program type</u>	<u>Description</u>
1. Channel 3 News 1 st at Four "Your 3 Cents"	11/25/09	04:20PM/3 minutes	News/Public Affairs	*
* This is our regular segment where we present a current issue and solicit viewer input of their opinions on the issue. Today's issue was ... "Should gays be allowed to serve openly in the U.S. military?" Thousands of gay rights supporters have marched from the White House to the Capitol. They demanded that President Barack Obama keep his promises to allow gays to serve openly in the military and to work to end discrimination against gays. Rainbow flags and homemade signs dotted the crowds filling Pennsylvania Avenue in front of the White House. Many children were also among the demonstrators. A few counter-protesters had also joined the crowd. Some participants in the National Equality March were energized by Obama's blunt pledge to end the ban on gays serving openly in the military. On Saturday, President Obama reaffirmed his campaign pledge to end the ban on homosexuals serving openly in the military. Obama told thousands gathered at the annual dinner of the Human Rights Campaign in Washington on Saturday night that he'll end "don't ask-don't tell." That got him a standing ovation from the gay civil rights advocacy group. But he offered no timetable or specifics for acting on the promise.				
2. Channel 3 News at 6PM Series "Military – Holidays in Afghanistan"	11/21/09 through 11/28/09	06:00PM/3 minutes	News	**
*** Reporter Bill Pearson and photojournalist Dan Kettinger traveled to Afghanistan to experience first-hand the daily lives of U.S. troops from our area who are serving there. They reported back with daily stories about what life is like for the soldiers, how they plan to spend their holidays, and shared messages to loved ones back home in Northwest Florida.				
3. Channel 3 News at 5PM Series "Military – Air Combat Training"	11/23/09	05:00PM/3 minutes	News	***

*** As part of our focus on the military, reporter Bill Pearson profiled Whiting Field in Santa Rosa County. This is the home to helicopter and air combat training. Anyone who wants to become a pilot for the Navy and Coast Guard must go through Whiting Field. Bill showed viewers what takes place at the base, and both the high-tech and low-tech training for becoming a pilot.

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4. Channel 3 News at 5PM	11/24/09	05:00PM/3 minutes	News	****
	11/24/09	10:01PM/2 minutes		
Series "Military – EOD Training"				

**** As part of our focus on the military, Okaloosa County reporter Laura Hussey profiled Eglin Air Force Base. It's our country's largest Air Force base, and it is where young men and women soldiers are trained to defuse Explosive Ordinances overseas in Afghanistan and Iraq. At 5PM we showed details of how these soldiers are trained in an 11-month course. At 10PM we reported that they are having difficulty getting recruits, and interviewed several soldiers to find out what kind of person it takes to go through this training and be ready to help our forces overseas.

5. Channel 3 News 1 st at Four "Your 3 Cents"	11/25/09	04:20PM/3 minutes	News/Public Affairs	*****
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***** Today's issue was ... "Do you support a troop increase in Afghanistan?" The White House says President Obama is placing heavy emphasis on how the United States eventually will withdraw from Afghanistan, even as he plans to announce a troop increase next week. White House Press Secretary Robert Gibbs said today that the U.S. is in its ninth year of military involvement in Afghanistan, and "we are not going to be there another eight or nine years." Gibbs says Obama's recent meetings with military advisers have often focused on how to train Afghanistan's police and army so they can secure and hold areas taken from the Taliban after U.S. forces are gone. Obama will address the nation Tuesday night on his Afghan strategy. He will brief key members of congress earlier that day. A Gallup poll released Wednesday found that 37-percent of Americans support sending another 40-thousand troops to the country, while 39-percent say we should be reducing the troop numbers.

6. Channel 3 News at 5PM Series "Military – Boot Camp"	11/25/09	05:00PM/3 minutes	News	*****
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***** As part of our focus on the military, reporter Laurie Bernstein reported on a local ex-Navy veteran who has developed a "boot camp" for private citizens to help them lose weight. It's a 6-week program modeled after the military version. We followed one local person as they went through the program and found out just what our soldiers have to endure.

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7. Channel 3 News at 5PM Series "Military – BRAC Closing"	11/26/09	05:00PM/3 minutes	News	*****

***** As part of our focus on the military, reporter Bill Pearson profiled the "Naval Aerospace Medical Research Lab" at NAS Pensacola. Because of the Base Realignment And Closure process, the lab is closing here and is being moved to another military installation. The Lab has a long, rich history of research and innovation, and we reported on the many problems that the unit has solved for the Navy, and why it is now being moved.

8. Straughn & Company	12/06/09	09:00AM/30 minutes	Public Affairs	*****
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***** The Emerald Coast Honor Flights, that take surviving World War II veterans to visit the World War II National Memorial in Washington, D.C., have brought a renewed interest in that war and the members of "our Greatest Generation". Today our guest was Jeff Shaara, author of "Gods and Generals", an intimate look at the individual soldiers who fought in America's Civil War. He went on to write more books about that war, then authored books about the American Revolution, then World War I, and finally transitioned to writing about World War II in "The Rising Tide", about America's first battles of the war in Europe, actually fought in North Africa against Rommel and the Germans. His newest release is "No Less Than Victory", about the personal stories of WWII G.I.s during the Battle of the Bulge and the fall of Hitler, and the first American soldier who entered the gates of the concentration camps. Many of those interviewed in his research for the book are military retirees living here in Northwest Florida.

9. Channel 3 News 1 st at Four "Your 3 Cents"	12/21/09	04:20PM/3 minutes	News/Public Affairs	*****
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***** This is our regular segment where we present a current issue and solicit viewer input of their opinions on the issue. Today's issue was ... "Do you agree with a military policy that punishes pregnancy?" A new order from the U.S. General in charge of Northern Iraq makes getting pregnant or impregnating a fellow soldier an offense punishable by court-martial. General Anthony Cucolo commands 22-thousand soldiers. He says the directive is meant to prevent losing soldiers at a time when troop strength is stretched thin. The rule was enacted November 4. It prohibits "becoming non-deployable for reasons within the control of the soldier," which include "becoming pregnant, or impregnating a soldier ... resulting in the redeployment of the pregnant soldier." The directive applies to all military and civilians serving under Cucolo in Northern Iraq. Of the 22,000 people under his command, 1,682 are women. Cucolo will decide what cases will be pursued. During the Vietnam War, a female troop would be discharged for getting pregnant. That rule was challenged, but the government did not want to defend it at the time.