



**ARMED
FORCES
ENTERTAINMENT®**

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The Leathernecks Tour

Some of America's bravest heroes motivate the troops with their stories.

Washington, D.C. (June 13, 2012) – [Armed Forces Entertainment](http://www.armedforcesentertainment.com) sends former Marines John Bates, William 'Spanky' Gibson, Salvador 'Gonzo' Gonzalez and Timothy Howard to meet and greet the service members stationed in the Middle East. The Marines will share inspirational stories from of their lives and time in the service, sign autographs, pose for pictures and extend their gratitude to the men and women in uniform.

Bates earned three Purple Hearts in Vietnam after exhibiting remarkable acts of bravery and surviving machine-gun fire to the chest. Gibson lost his left leg to a terrorist sniper's bullet while serving in Iraq in 2006 and became the first-ever above-the-knee amputee to be redeployed to the front lines. Gonzalez lost his left leg to an explosion on the front lines in Iraq and turned to music and became a country singer and songwriter after his recovery. Howard received the Silver Star medal for extraordinary heroism while serving as a helicopter pilot on a rescue mission alongside Navy SEALs.

Social Media and Other Web Sites:

Armed Forces Entertainment:

Website: <http://www.armedforcesentertainment.com>

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About Armed Forces Entertainment: *Armed Forces Entertainment is the official Department of Defense agency for providing entertainment to U.S. military personnel serving overseas, with priority given to those in contingency operations and at remote and isolated locations. The Department of the Air Force is the executive agent of Armed Forces Entertainment. Founded in 1951, Armed Forces Entertainment brings a touch of home to more than 500,000 troops annually, embracing the best of Americana that stretches across all genres of entertainment. Visit www.armedforcesentertainment.com for more information.*

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