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MMA Fighters Bring the Heat to the Pacific

Ultimate fighters showcased their mixed martial arts skills to the troops.

WASHINGTON, D.C. (January 11, 2011) – [Armed Forces Entertainment](#) sent MMA fighters “Filthy” Tom Lawlor, Seth Petruzelli, Nate “Rock” Quarry, Eben Kaneshiro, Jao Assis and Greg Thompson to demonstrate their mixed martial arts skills for troops stationed in the Pacific. The fighters signed autographs, posed for photos and extended their appreciation to America’s men and women in uniform.

Quarry was featured on the first season of *The Ultimate Fighter* and acts as a motivational speaker for the esteemed TED conference. Lawlor debuted on the eighth season of *The Ultimate Fighter*, has fought five times in the UFC and co-owns an MMA and fitness academy with Petruzelli, who has also been featured on a season of *The Ultimate Fighter*. Kaneshiro is a skilled Brazilian Jiu Jitsu practitioner and owns and operates his own school out of Portland, OR. Assis, a world champion in Brazilian Jiu Jitsu, was voted Grappler of Year in 2010 while Thompson is the head coach of Next Level MMA.

Details:

- Connolly is a former Marine Corps Infantry Officer.
- Lawlor and Petruzelli co-own an MMA and fitness academy.
- Assis was voted Grappler of the Year in 2010.
- Thompson is the head coach of Next Level MMA.

Quotes:

Attributed to Greg Thompson:

Traveling overseas to entertain the troops is all about giving back. Those men and women have done so much for our country and flying across the world to entertain them is the very least we can do to say thank you.

Attributed to USAF Lt. Col. Kathleen Weatherspoon, Chief, Armed Forces Entertainment:

These MMA fighters are not only amazing athletes, they are fantastic entertainers. Their display of athleticism, energy and their overall enthusiasm makes for a great show and we appreciate that they were able to tour with Armed Forces Entertainment.

Multimedia:

 Armed Forces Entertainment Logo	 Tour Photos (updated during the tour)
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Social Media and Other Web Sites:

Armed Forces Entertainment

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

Facebook: <http://www.facebook.com/ArmedForcesEntertainment>

YouTube: <http://www.youtube.com/user/AFEchannel>

Twitter: <http://twitter.com/armedforcesent>

Tom Lawlor

Website: <http://www.facebook.com/tlaw4>

Twitter: <http://twitter.com/FilthyTomLawlor>

Seth Petruzelli

Facebook: <http://www.facebook.com/profile.php?id=1849444048>

Twitter: <http://twitter.com/silverbackseth>

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

Nate Quarry

Facebook: <http://www.facebook.com/nathan.quarry>

Twitter: <http://twitter.com/ZombieCageFight>

Website: <http://www.zcf.me>

Eben Kaneshiro

Facebook: <http://www.facebook.com/profile.php?id=100000809920147>

<http://www.facebook.com/newbreedoregon>

Website: <http://newbreedoregon.com/>

Joao Assis

Facebook: <http://www.facebook.com/profile.php?id=756033296>

Website: <http://carlsongracietemecula.com/>

Greg Thompson

<http://www.facebook.com/profile.php?id=1487029796>

<http://www.facebook.com/pages/Tigard-OR/Next-Level-Martial-Arts/126379560707624>

<http://www.facebook.com/group.php?gid=61933793345>

<http://nextlevelmma.com/>

Twitter Pitch: @ArmedForcesEnt, Mixed martial artists bring the heat to troops stationed in the Pacific. [MMA Fighters Featured Artist Page](#)

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.*