III MARINE EXPEDITIONARY FORCE AND MARINE CORPS INSTALLATIONS PACIFIC

OKINAWA MARINE

FEBRUARY 17, 2012

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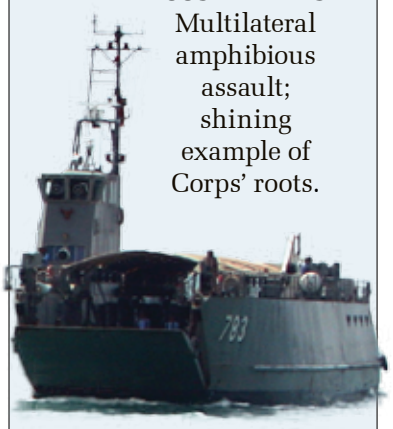

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Cpl. Gregory S. Pugh, left, receives a challenge coin from Lt. Gen. Kenneth J. Glueck Jr. during a brief at the Camp Foster Theater Jan. 18. Glueck addressed the Marines regarding Combat Logistics Battalion 4's deployment to Afghanistan in support of Operation Enduring Freedom. "As we move forward into 2012, we will continue to focus on supporting the commandant's number one priority, which is Operation Enduring Freedom," Glueck said. "We will be continually challenged to do more with less, but I am confident we will meet the requirements of our nation, U.S. Pacific Command and our Corps." Glueck is the commanding general of III Marine Expeditionary Force. Pugh is a heavy-equipment operator with Company B, CLB-4, Combat Logistics Regiment 3, 3rd Marine Logistics Group, III MEF. *Photo by Cpl. Mark W. Stroud*

General explains vision, intent

Sgt. Heather Brewer
OKINAWA MARINE STAFF

CAMP BUTLER — Lt. Gen. Kenneth J. Glueck Jr., the commanding general of III Marine Expeditionary Force, provided supplemental guidance to the members of his command Feb. 7.

In his guidance, Glueck first addressed challenges faced by III MEF last year and praised how well those challenges were met by the force.

"2011 proved to be a challenging year for the MEF, but we excelled in meeting the commandant's intent of addressing today's crisis, with today's force, today," said Glueck. "This was demonstrated during Operation Tomodachi and Pacific Passage, through our training with the Republic of Korea, and in our response to humanitarian and disaster relief missions in Southeast Asia.

"We have proved our expeditionary character and that III MEF is truly our Corps' 'Tip of the Spear,' the most ready, when others are least ready," he added.

Also noted in the guidance were areas in which the MEF has advanced its capabilities over the past year, and upheld changes in policy made in 2010.

"We have significantly

see **GUIDANCE** pg 3

Marines conduct counter-IED training at Cobra Gold 2012

Staff Sgt. Ken Melton
OKINAWA MARINE STAFF

BAN CHAN KREM, Kingdom of Thailand — Royal Thai Marines and U.S. Marines with Combat Assault Battalion conducted counter-improvised explosive device training as part of Exercise Cobra Gold 2012.

"This isn't a qualification course, but mind-set training," said Sgt Matthew J. Medzis, a counter-IED instructor for CAB, 3rd Marine Division, III Marine Expeditionary Force. "We help them realize that there is stuff out there that can't be seen but can hurt you."

The course is meant to increase awareness of IEDs and how to better detect them and disable them before they can cause any harm or damage. Medzis has experience in dealing with IEDs after encountering them in Iraq and Afghanistan while working as a combat engineer. In his experience, he has learned that even the best set of equipment is no substitute for a good set of eyes.

"We teach them the '5 and 25' rule and to watch for baseline changes," Medzis said. "We teach them to scan their immediate five meters around them, then they

see **CG 12** pg 5

Marines train, fire at Hijudai Maneuver Area

Pfc. Nicholas S. Ranum
OKINAWA MARINE STAFF

HIJUDAI MANEUVER AREA, OITA PREFECTURE, Japan — Marines and sailors with 3rd Battalion, 12th Marine Regiment started the firing portion of Artillery Relocation Training 11-4 at the Hijudai Maneuver Area Feb. 10.

The regiment, part of 3rd Marine Division, III Marine Expeditionary Force, conducts four

see **HIJUDAI** pg 5

See iSource inside for upcoming Comic Con Okinawa!

President's Day Message

Washington's Birthday is an occasion to commemorate not only the historic legacy of President George Washington, but all our presidents.

In our nation's history, only 44 citizens have had the proud distinction of serving as our military's commander-in-chief, and we owe them all an enormous debt of gratitude.

The institution of the American presidency has earned the respect and admiration of governments and people around the world.

President George Washington is remembered for his unwavering commitment to establishing a free and democratic republic. He stood apart from his peers because of the magnitude of his accomplishments in the face of overwhelming odds.

Washington understood the importance of his role as the first president of the United States and realized the responsibility he had been entrusted with in leading the new nation. He left a legacy of strength, integrity and national purpose past presidents upheld and future presidents will emulate.

As you celebrate Washington's Birthday, take a moment to reflect upon why we honor him and how he exemplified our core values of honor, courage and commitment.

Liberty commences as follows:

III Marine Expeditionary Force and Marine Corps Installations Pacific military personnel, to include those stationed on Hawaii: Saturday, Feb. 18 through Tuesday, Feb. 21.

Supervisors of U.S. civilian appropriated-fund employees may permit liberal leave procedures for their employees if mission and workload permit.

The observed holiday for all civilian employees, U.S. and Japanese, is Monday, Feb. 20. A liberal leave policy will be in effect Tuesday, Feb. 21.

Leaders, know your people and ensure they are aware of the common factors associated with high-risk behavior, such as drinking and driving, speeding and not wearing seatbelts. Act sensibly and take care of yourselves and each other. Have a safe and enjoyable holiday.

- Lt. Gen. Kenneth J. Glueck Jr. and Maj. Gen. Peter J. Talleri

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AROUND THE CORPS

Lance Cpl. Neil C. Lipon and Pfc. Kyler A. Ramsey practice holding security on the flight deck of the USS Gunston Hall during a training exercise, off the coast of North Carolina, Feb. 10. While at sea, Marines and sailors prepare to guard the ship whenever it passes through a dangerous area or when there is an increased threat to the force. The training exercise was a part of the 24th Marine Expeditionary Unit's certification exercise in preparation for an upcoming deployment. Lipon and Ramsey are automatic riflemen with Company C, Battalion Landing Team 1st Battalion, 2nd Marine Regiment, 24th Marine Expeditionary Unit.
Photo by Sgt. Richard Blumenstein

Sgt. Maj. of the Marine Corps Micheal P. Barrett speaks to Marines of Marine Heavy Helicopter Squadron 363 in Afghanistan Feb. 5. Barrett and Gen. James F. Amos, the commandant of the Marine Corps, traveled to Afghanistan to visit troops and commanders throughout the country. The squadron is part of Marine Aircraft Group 24, 1st Marine Aircraft Wing. *Photo by Sgt. Charles T. Mabry II*

Mississippi Gov. Haley Barbour speaks to guests, sailors and Marines during a wreath-laying ceremony held in honor of Ronald Reagan's 101st birthday at the Ronald Reagan Presidential Foundation and Library in Simi Valley, Calif., Feb. 6. The white-rose wreath was placed on the gravesite of the 40th president by Marines from Camp Pendleton on behalf of President Barack Obama.
Photo by Lance Cpl. Derrick Irions

OKINAWA MARINE

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CENTRAL BUREAU
Camp Foster
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Camp Hansen
DSN 623-4224

SOUTHERN BUREAU
Camp Kinser
DSN 637-1092

"All Marines and sailors should always follow their commander's intent, lead from the front, seize the initiative, and demonstrate responsibility and accountability."

Lt. Gen. Kenneth J. Glueck Jr.

GUIDANCE from pg 1

improved our operational planning, execution and ability to command and control the force in joint and combined operations," said Glueck. "Our liberty campaign plan is working, and I salute the performance of our lance corporals and petty officers who have earned their gold cards; they have clearly set the standard."

Before detailing key priorities for 2012, Glueck focused on Operation Enduring Freedom.

"As we move forward into 2012, we will continue to focus on supporting the commandant's number one priority, which is Operation Enduring Freedom," he said. "We will be continually challenged to do more with less, but I am confident we will meet the requirements of our nation, U.S. Pacific Command and our Corps."

The top concern for 2012 is preparing to "fight tonight" on the Korean Peninsula, according to Glueck.

"The unpredictable leadership regime in North Korea will continue to challenge our U.S. and Korean alliance," he said. "III MEF will focus on continually improving our ability to rapidly deploy to the Korean Peninsula, integrating into our combined force, and deterring and defeating North Korean aggression."

Glueck's second priority centers on Pacific theater crisis response.

"The 3rd Marine Expeditionary Brigade will be the first out the door for our response in the case of theater crisis," he said. "We need to be prepared for the unexpected, such as preparing to respond to natural disasters or humanitarian crises."

Third on the list is the reconstitution of III MEF.

"The unit deployment program for units that have been assigned to Operation Iraqi Freedom and OEF will restart in the spring or summer, and later this year the MV-22 Osprey will begin replacing our aging CH-46s," said Glueck.

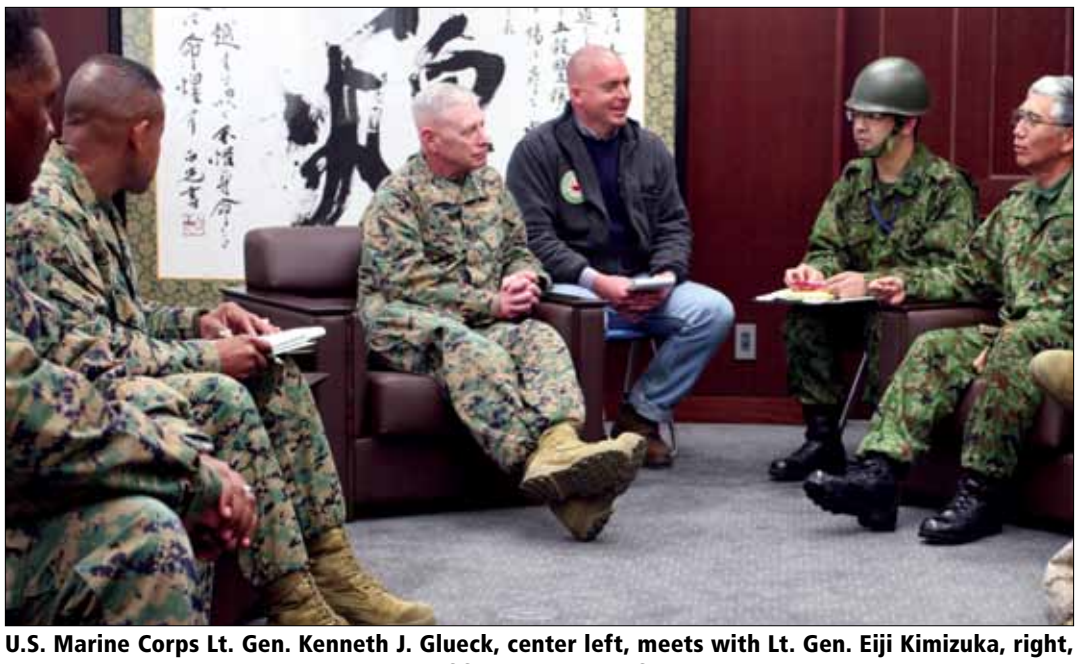
Lt. Gen. Kenneth J. Glueck Jr. talks with Lance Cpl. Aaron J. Neal during a recent training exercise in the Republic of the Philippines. In his guidance, Glueck praised how well the force handled situations throughout the year. *Photo by Lance Cpl. Chloe Nelson*

Lastly, Glueck plans to increase the focus on force preservation.

"I want the MEF to focus on reducing incidents of driving under the influence, alcohol-related incidents and illegal drug usage, all of which had an impact on our readiness in 2011," he added.

In addition to this year's new guidance, Glueck wants last year's guidance to be kept in mind.

"My guidance from 2011 remains in effect, and I expect all commanders to review that guidance with the force," he said. "I want to specifically stress item number 10; all Marines and sailors should always follow their commander's intent, lead from the front, seize the initiative and demonstrate responsibility and accountability."



U.S. Marine Corps Lt. Gen. Kenneth J. Glueck, center left, meets with Lt. Gen. Eiji Kimizuka, right, to coordinate humanitarian aid and relief for the people of Japan in Sendai, Japan, March 15, 2011. Glueck is the commanding general of III Marine Expeditionary Force, and Kimizuka is the commanding general of the Northeastern Army, Japan Ground Self-Defense Force. *Photo by Lance Cpl. Jason Chatman*

III MARINE EXPEDITIONARY FORCE COMMANDING GENERAL'S GUIDANCE

2012 Guidance

1. **Preparing to "fight tonight" on the Korean Peninsula**
   – The unpredictable leadership regime in North Korea will continue to challenge our U.S. and Korean alliance; III MEF will focus on continually improving our ability to rapidly deploy to the Korean Peninsula, integrating into our combined force, and defeating North Korean aggression
2. **Preparing to respond to crisis in theater**
   – 3rd Marine Expeditionary Brigade will be the first out the door for our response; we need to be prepared for the unexpected. Priority focus will be placed on a major earthquake in Nepal
3. **Preparing to reconstitute III MEF**
   – The unit deployment program for units that have been assigned to OIF and OEF will restart in May 2012, and by August the MV-22 Osprey will begin replacing our aging CH-46s and CH-53s; we need to be prepared
4. **Increasing our focus on force preservation**
   – I want the MEF to focus in on reducing DUIs, alcohol-related incidents and illegal drug usage; all significantly degraded our readiness in 2011

2011 Guidance

1. Operational readiness – As PACOM's 911 Force – we will be ready today for today's crisis
- **-One integrated air-ground team – our bases and stations are the 5th element**
- **-Strengthen our Naval ties; it's all about the blue-green team**
- **-Maintain an expeditionary mindset**

2. Personal and family readiness – important force multipliers
- **-Our Marines, sailors and families deserve the best; continually strive to raise the bar**
- **-Balance life, career and mission**

3. Relationship with our host nation – more than 60 years of dedicated teamwork
- **-We are guests – be good neighbors and treat everyone with respect and dignity**
- **-Conduct operations and activities in a manner that strengthen and leverage our alliance**

4. Force protection and safety – planned into all operations and exercises as well as off-duty activities
- **-Our mission is to be combat ready; safety enhances readiness**
- **-Our most valuable assets are the individual sailor and Marine, protect them**

5. Leadership will be continuous at all levels – be visible and proactive
- **-Ensure the commander's intent is clearly understood**

6. Effective communications will drive our operations
- **-Keep the chain of command informed; what do I know, who needs to know it, and have I told them**
- **-Be proactive in our strategic messaging – seize the initiative and control the narrative**

7. Know your personal limitations; as well as limitations of your Marines and equipment – plan accordingly

8. Core values are your moral compass – always stay the course!
- **-Professional, moral and ethical behavior is expected 24/7**
- **-Hazing in any form will not be tolerated**

9. Know your basic military occupational specialty skills and perfect them – your teammates depend on you

10. Lost communications procedures or when in doubt:
- **-Follow your commander's intent**
- **-Lead from the front and seize the initiative**
- **-Demonstrate responsibility and accountability**

BRIEFS

TAX CENTER CLOSED FEB. 24

The Camp Foster Tax Center will be closed Feb. 24 but will be open Feb. 25.

The Camp Foster Tax Center provides tax advice, preparation and e-filing services for federal and state taxes. These services are provided for active-duty personnel and their dependants, retired military, dependents of personnel who died on active duty, dependents of deceased retired members, Department of Defense civilians and status of forces agreement personnel. In order to receive assistance, you must bring your military identification card, social security cards and dates of birth for all dependents, W-2, all proof of income, child care expenses, bank routing and account information and a copy of last year's return if available.

Walk-ins will be accepted Monday through Friday from 8 a.m. - 3 p.m. and appointments Monday and Tuesday from 8-11 a.m. through April 13. From April 16 through June 15, only walk-ins will be accepted Monday through Thursday from 8 a.m. - 3 p.m. and Fridays from 8-11 a.m.

For more details, contact 645-4829.

FINANCIAL BOOT CAMP

As part of the Military Saves month, Navy-Marine Corps Relief Society Okinawa will offer financial boot camp classes to junior Marines and sailors.

The class will cover topics including setting financial goals, understanding pay and benefits, creating a budget, establishing savings, understanding credit and learning about the valuable resources available. Attendees will also receive a code to access their credit report and credit score for free.

Space is limited and registration is required. Register by calling 645-7808 or 645-2357.

DISTRIBUTION MANAGEMENT OFFICE PASSENGER TRAVEL / PET ADVISORY

Effective March 1, pets will no longer be accepted on United or Continental airline passenger flights originating from Okinawa. For more information, contact the Distribution Management Office at 645-2266, United Airlines at 1-800-864-8331 or the Continental Airlines 24-hour pet assistance number at 1-800-575-3335.

Alternative travel options for passengers with pets will be detailed in an Okinawa Marine article next week.

ELEMENTARY SCHOOL SEEKING VOLUNTEERS FOR GRADES 3-5

Amelia Earhart Elementary School is seeking volunteers to assist with math, homework and reading.

Its reading program will meet from 8-8:40 a.m. Feb. 22, 27 and 29. Homework club meets from 3:10-4 p.m. Feb. 21, 23, 27, 28 and March 1. Math Program meets from 3:05-3:45 p.m. Feb. 22, 27 and 29.

Those interested in volunteering should e-mail gerard.santoro@pac.dodea.edu or diana.mizell@okinawa.usmc-mccs.org.

TO SUBMIT A BRIEF, *send an e-mail to okinawamarine.mcbb.fct@usmc.mil, or fax your request to 645-3803. The deadline for submitting a brief is noon Friday. Okinawa Marine reserves the right to edit all submitted material.*

Futenma Mess Hall best in Corps

Lance Cpl. Alyssa N. Hoffacker
OKINAWA MARINE STAFF

Marines eat and relax at the Marine Corps Air Station Futenma Mess Hall, recently named as the best in the Marine Corps, Feb. 14.
Photo by Lance Cpl. Alyssa N. Hoffacker

MARINE CORPS AIR STATION FUTENMA—Headquarters Marine Corps recently announced the results from the Maj. Gen. William Pendleton Thompson Hill Memorial Awards competition.

Marine Corps Air Station Futenma Mess Hall 423 is now officially the best garrison mess hall in the Marine Corps.

"The MCAS Futenma Mess Hall won the award because of the superior leadership, teamwork and individual commitment to excellence of every member of the mess hall staff," said Lt. Col. Ian S. Wallace, the executive officer of MCAS Futenma. "The staff (here) strives every day to create the best atmosphere, prepare the finest food, and provide unsurpassed service to its customers."

The Maj. Gen. W.P.T. Hill Memorial Awards Program was established in 1985 to improve food service operation and recognize the best mess hall in the Marine Corps.

The dining facilities are judged on areas such as operations, sanitation, taste and quality of food.

"We were judged on November 8, which happened to be the Marine Corps Birthday meal," said Master Sgt. Tony C. Smith, the mess hall manager. "We even had an earthquake that day, but that did not stop the Marines from excelling and doing what they do every day."

The MCAS Futenma Mess Hall has also won many other accolades in recent years, including several Mess Hall of the Quarter awards and Mess Hall of the Year for the former Marine Corps Bases Japan in 2011, said Sgt. Londell D. Calloway, a chief cook with Headquarters and Headquarters Squadron, MCAS Futenma, Marine Corps Installations Pacific. It was also recognized as Mess Hall of the Quarter for Okinawa for the first quarter of fiscal year 2012.

"We've been able to achieve all of this because every day we have great management, outstanding noncommissioned officers and hard-working, diligent troops, said Sgt. Malcolm L. Love, the subsistence chief at the mess hall. "It all comes down to the troops though, doing the right thing at all times. That is what led us to victory."

MCAS Futenma is the home of the best Marine Corps mess hall because of each and every worker there, said Calloway.

"The hard work, dedication and pride from the Marines and master labor contractors are the reason we were able to win the W.P.T. Hill award," said Staff Sgt. Tevis J. Mitchell, the assistant mess hall manager.

Five members of the mess hall staff will represent the mess hall in Chicago May 5 during the awards ceremony sponsored by the National Restaurant Association.

The staff at the mess hall believes it can reach this outstanding achievement for 2012 and years following.

"We've set the bar, and we can do it again," said Love. "It will take extra dedication and hard work, but I know we can do it."

Residents walk for safety, fitness

Urasoe City residents participate in the 20-kilometer Tedako Walk on Camp Kinser Feb. 5. The Tedako Walk is an event designed to foster better relationships, promote physical fitness, and allow participants to learn and practice traffic safety. Participants were required to obey all traffic signs and signals during their walk. "We invite the Marines to our events to foster friendship with our neighbors," said Mitsuo Gima. "We keep good communication with the camp and participate in their events too. It is very important for us to participate in each other's events because it gives us an opportunity to talk with and understand each other. If we have deep mutual understanding, we can overcome difficulties. For that to happen, we need to meet with each other." Gima is the mayor of Urasoe City. *Photo by Lance Cpl. Michael Iams*

CG 12 from pg 1

begin scanning the area up to 25 meters out, looking for baseline changes or misplaced things in the environment."

The service members used metal detectors to locate materials buried underground that might potentially be IEDs.

"This is knowledge that can help save lives," said Medzis. "The Thai (Marines) do a lot of mine sweeping, so more 'stick time' like this will help them. Their tactics are similar to ours."

The training first began in a classroom environment where they learned the "five Cs" of counter IED training: clear the area, cordon the area, control the cordon, confirm the threat, and call for support.

"When you deploy, it helps us know what you have to do when you are on patrol and you find an IED," said Cpl. Seth D. Huntt, an amphibious assault vehicle mechanic with AAV Co., CAB. "What has to happen, what has to take place, and the proper procedures to take — all this training is relevant."

The Thai (Marines) understand the current terrorist threat throughout the world, and they want to be more trained to handle it, said Medzis.

"The Thai Marines have similar threats and want to make sure they have good (tactics, techniques and procedures) and hopefully improve their TTPs against IEDs," said Sgt. Cristian E. Rios, a secondary instructor for the counter-IED course and squad leader with Combat Engineer Co. "(The Thai Marines) have been picking up the information very quickly. I'm very confident in their skills."

This is 31st reiteration of Exercise Cobra Gold, and it is not only beneficial to the host country but also exercise participants who often learn from one another.

"They are teaching us their own TTPs, so not only are they learning but they are teaching us," said Rios. "To see that during multilateral training; that knowledge is getting passed on; I feel good that my mission here has a purpose."

Exercise Cobra Gold is a recurring multinational and multiservice exercise hosted by the Kingdom of Thailand. It is designed to advance regional security by exercising a multinational force from nations sharing common goals and security commitments in the Asia-Pacific region. For additional coverage, visit http://www.facebook.com/ExerciseCobraGold.

Marines with Amphibious Assault Company and a Royal Thai Marine patrol and search for improvised explosive devices as part of counter-IED training. The training event is one of multiple training evolutions during Exercise Cobra Gold 2012. CG 12 is a recurring multinational and multiservice exercise co-hosted by the Kingdom of Thailand and the U.S. designed to advance regional security by training as a multinational force with nations sharing common goals and security commitments in the Asia-Pacific region. The Marines are part of Combat Assault Battalion, 3rd Marine Division, III Marine Expeditionary Force. *Photo by Staff Sgt. Ken Melton*

HIJUDAI from pg 1

artillery relocation training sessions annually at five different locations in mainland Japan to maintain proficiency in its primary mission of providing artillery fire to maneuver units.

"The training is good for the battery," said Capt. Eric L. Jones, the commanding officer of Hotel Battery, 3rd Bn., 12th Marines. "It allows the Marines to train in an environment that is harsher than anything that they might have to deal with."

The ground around the howitzers turned into a sea of mud as the artillery crews performed their given tasks.

The mud provided a new element for the Marines to work in, said Jones.

Despite it, the gun crews enjoyed the task at hand and competed in a little competition for the right to be called the top gun.

"Our gun was the top gun at the last exercise at Camp Fuji," said Cpl. Jehan Keitt, an assistant section chief with Hotel Battery. "It is a competition to see which gun is the fastest, smoothest and most accurate gun on the line."

Rounds flew from the howitzers as fire missions were called in. Even though it was training, the crews performed as though each round was the last round.

"We try to show off a little, but in the end we do the best we can do at that moment," said Keitt.

The final firing of rounds and silencing of each gun signaled the end of the barrage, the transition for the next fire mission and occupation of new firing positions.

The mud, weather and terrain challenged the movement, but not so much as to cause any serious trouble for Hotel Battery.

"I expected the weather," said Lance Cpl. Brandon Russ, an artilleryman with the battalion. "Apart from the mud everything is pretty nice."

Marines with Hotel Battery fire the M777A2 howitzer at Hijudai Maneuver Area Feb. 11 as part of Artillery Relocation Training 11-4. The Marines fired high-explosive 155 mm rounds during the training. The regiment, part of 3rd Marine Division, III Marine Expeditionary Force, conducts four artillery relocation training sessions annually at five different locations in mainland Japan to maintain proficiency in its primary mission of providing artillery fire to maneuver units. *Photo by Pfc. Nicholas S. Ranum*

Amphibious assault reflects Corps'

Cpl. Justin R. Wheeler
OKINAWA MARINE STAFF

An amphibious assault defines Marines worldwide. The transition from sea to land; the explosions o aggressively force their way to the objective; imposing fear into the enemy; fearless in their actions. the beaches of Guantanamo Bay in this same way in 1898 and claimed many beaches during Worl

Today's Marines demonstrated this same capability with partnering nations as they stormed the beach during a multilateral amphibious assault, a part of Exercise Cobra Gold 2012 in Hat Yao, Kingdom of Thailand, Feb. 10.

The exercise is an annual multinational combined-joint training exercise held throughout the Kingdom of Thailand. It is the United States' largest multilateral exercise in the Asia-Pacific region and offers more than 20 participating countries critical opportunities to improve interoperability in multinational operations.

Marines knew the training would be different than single-unit events they had taken part in previously. This assault required coordination between large elements from several countries.

"We're not (focusing today's) training on tactics or command and control or how to deploy weapon systems. We're out here to work together to see if we can execute a 3-company operation onto a (simulated) hostile beach," said 2nd Lt. Jacob Crockett, a platoon commander with Battalion Landing Team 1st Battalion, 4th Marine Regiment, 31st Marine Expeditionary Unit.

Sgt. Joseph Kim, an interpreter with the Republic of Korea Marine Corps, said the opportunity to participate in this training with other nations was invaluable.

"Exercise Cobra Gold has been very important to my military life and this year it was a larger-scale exercise than last year," said Kim. "I can take this experience back to Korea and share it with the new (R.O.K.) Marines."

A Marine with Company B, Battalion Landing Team 1st Battalion, 4th Marine Regiment, 31st MEU, provides security during an amphibious assault in Hat Yao, Kingdom of Thailand, Feb. 10. BLT 1st Bn., 4th Marines is part of the 31st MEU. *Photo by Cpl. Garry J. Welch*

Lance Cpl. Steven D. Kellogg, a squad leader with the BLT, understood the importance of training with partner nations after experiencing first-hand a deployment to Jordan with the 15th MEU for real-world operations.

"I think it's good for us to train with other militaries because there are situations where we would have to work with these other countries," said Kellogg. "It's good to train on a common basis. That way we can learn each other's methods and know what each other is capable of. It creates better unity among us."

While the amphibious assault demonstrated the roots of Marine Corps fighting tradition, the enthusiasm of Marines conducting the amphibious assault was visible in all who participated, said Kellogg.

"As far as I've seen while working with the R.O.K and Thai Marines, they hold their standards high just as we do," said Kellogg. "You'll see it when we train with them; they show just as much passion in their job as we do in ours."

Royal Thai Marines push forward as CH-46E Sea Knight helicopters of Marine Medium Helicopter Squadron 262, fly overhead during an amphibious assault in Hat Yao, Kingdom of Thailand, Feb. 10. The multilateral assault was conducted during Exercise Cobra Gold 2012 and included Royal Thai, Republic of Korea and U.S. Marines of the 31st Marine Expeditionary Unit. CG 12 demonstrates the commitment of the U.S. and participating nations to increase interoperability and promote security and peace throughout the Asia-Pacific region. *Photo by Cpl. Garry J. Welch*

' roots

f sand as Marines
. Marines captured
d War II.

R.O.K. Marines and Marines with Battalion Landing Team 1st Battalion, 4th Marine Regiment, fire at simulated targets during the multilateral amphibious assault at Hat Yao, Kingdom of Thailand, Feb. 10.
Photo by Cpl. Justin R. Wheeler

U.S. Marine Corps amphibious assault vehicles maneuver back to USS Tortuga after completing training at Hat Yao Beach, Feb. 10, during Exercise Cobra Gold 2012. CG 12 is the largest multilateral exercise in the Asia-Pacific region and offers more than 20 participating countries critical training opportunities to improve interoperability in conducting multinational operations. The amphibious assault vehicles are with 31st Marine Expeditionary Unit.
Photo by Lance Cpl. Courtney G. White

Framework for making memories

Service members spend time with Thai patients

Story and photos by Lance Cpl. Courtney G. White
OKINAWA MARINE STAFF

Marines and sailors participating in Exercise Cobra Gold 2012 feed fish with residents of the Camillian Social Center in Rayong, Kingdom of Thailand, as part of a community relations project Feb. 11. The social center's purpose is to provide health care for adults and children suffering from HIV and AIDS with the mindset of 'caring for the sick as a mother cares for her sick child.'

Marines and sailors participating in Exercise Cobra Gold 2012 visited the Camillian Social Center in Rayong, Kingdom of Thailand, Feb. 11, as part of a community relations project.

The purpose of the center is to provide health care for adults and children suffering from HIV and AIDS. The center operates with the mindset of 'caring for the sick as a mother cares for her sick child.'

The 24 service members spent the afternoon visiting, playing games and interacting with the adults and children who live at the center.

"(We) were able to interact with the residents of the center and show our support from the United States military for the Kingdom of Thailand," said Navy Lt. Gary W. Foshee, command chaplain for Combat Logistics Battalion 3, Combat Logistics Regiment 3, 3rd Marine Logistics Group, III Marine Expeditionary Force. "It is definitely a way for us to show our appreciation for Thailand hosting us in not only their military operations but also in their communities."

It is a great thing when the children get to interact with new people, said D. Paul Baird, a volunteer at the center.

"It's wonderful when the younger generation like the Marines and sailors come to visit because they have more energy to keep up with the children and the children love to have them," said Baird.

At the conclusion of the visit, the center provided paper hearts and markers for residents and visitors to create Valentine's Day cards to display at the center.

"Our lives have definitely been strengthened by the courage these people have allowed us to witness."

Navy Lt. Gary W. Foshee

"The best part of the event was being able to see the residents, despite their unfortunate circumstances, in such a good mood," said Petty Officer 2nd Class Kerlon Williams, a preventive medicine technician with 3rd Medical Battalion, III MEF Headquarters Group, III MEF. "It was a great feeling to know we were able to bring a little more happiness into their lives."

Being able to spend time with the residents of the center is not an opportunity many people get to experience, said Foshee.

"Our lives have definitely been strengthened by the courage these people have allowed us to witness."

The goal for the center is to be able to provide the framework for the everyday lives of the residents, said Baird.

"The center is able to provide education, assistance and most importantly a greater chance at life," said Baird. "It just takes working at it, and we are here to help as much as we can."

U.S. service members are in the Kingdom of Thailand in support of Exercise Cobra Gold 2012, a recurring multinational and multiservice exercise co-hosted annually by the Kingdom of Thailand and the U.S.

U.S. Marine Corps Lance Cpl. Siobahn Parker plays with residents of the Camillian Social Center as part of a community relations project in Rayong, Kingdom of Thailand, Feb. 11.

Nations participate in command post exercise

Lance Cpl. Ronald K. Peacock
OKINAWA MARINE STAFF

Participants from 17 countries across the globe have teamed up at Camp Suranaree, Korat, Kingdom of Thailand, since Feb. 10 to protect the people of two simulated countries, "Kuhistan" and "Free Mojave," from the aggressive "Arcadian Forces" during Exercise Cobra Gold 2012.

During the computer-simulated command post exercise, dubbed Operation Righteous Cause, the Royal Thai Armed Forces have led service members from the U.S., Malaysia, Indonesian, Republic of Korea, Singapore, Japan and other nations in an effort to overcome complex challenges with a distinctly multinational approach.

Arcadian Forces have been moving into Kuhistan and Free Mojave, but Multinational Force Cobra Gold 12 will not be overcome.

While combat operations spread throughout the region, communication between participating nations becomes key to restoring peace in "Pacifica."

The annual CPX provides an opportunity for participating nations to hone their communication skills and learn from each others' unique experiences and expertise, better preparing partner nations for a unified approach to future contingencies.

"The exercise provides us with the opportunity to familiarize ourselves with each other and to better prepare for a potential emergency in the future," said U.S. Marine Capt. Anthony K. Sutton, a watch officer for the CPX. "Everyone seems to have a mutual appreciation for what other nations bring to the fight."

Every nation has brought important capabilities to the combined effort.

"It is about synchronizing the nations involved because it is imperative we are able to work together," said Royal Thai Army 1st Lt. Surasak Maneesri, who assists in battle operations during the CPX. "It has been one of the best experiences for me, and I am trying to learn as much as I can from multinational partners."

Nations participating in the CPX work through language barriers and unfamiliar procedures to strengthen bonds between each other and become more operationally ready for a real-life event.

"The key to a multinational operation is (working together)," said Malaysia Armed Forces Lt. Col. Jamaluddin Alias, deputy director of planning for C-5 during the CPX. "Understanding everyones' strengths and weaknesses has made it a great first exercise for me."

CG 12 has provided an important opportunity for participants to strengthen relationships.

"In today's globalization era, we can't face the enemy alone," said Indonesia Navy Cmdr. Didong Purwokuntjoro, a public affairs officer for the CPX. "Many challenges to come must be dealt with hand-in-hand. I am very thankful for the opportunity to participate in Cobra Gold 2012."

R.O.K. Marine 2nd Lt. Hyunseok Seo, translator for the CPX, agreed. "It has been a great pleasure being here for my first Cobra Gold, and I have really enjoyed working with other nation's Marines," he said. "With international threats and disasters, this exercise gives us the opportunity to see how well we all work together."

Nations fully participating in CG 12 include the Kingdom of Thailand, the United States, Singapore, Japan, Republic of Korea, Indonesia and Malaysia. Several other countries have been invited to participate in the multinational planning augmentation team, including Australia, France, Canada, the United Kingdom, Bangladesh, Italy, India, Nepal, Republic of the Philippines and Vietnam.

Cobra Gold in its 31st iteration, is designed to advance regional security by exercising a robust multinational force from nations sharing common goals and security commitments in the Asia-Pacific region.

Marines and sailors with Headquarters Battery, 12th Marine Regiment, engage targets at close distances during the combat marksmanship Program shoot on Range 18 at Camp Hansen Feb. 10. The regiment is part of 3rd Marine Division, III Marine Expeditionary Force.
Photo by Lance Cpl. Alyssa N. Hoffacker

Training reinforces 'every Marine a rifleman'

Lance Cpl. Alyssa N. Hoffacker
OKINAWA MARINE STAFF

"Is the firing line clear? The firing line is clear. Shooters moving from the 25-yard line to the 20-yard line with a hammered pair to the chest, begin on the command 'target!' Target!"

These commands could be heard echoing across Range 18 as Marines and sailors with Headquarters Battery, 12th Marine Regiment, 3rd Marine Division, III Marine Expeditionary Force, conducted a combat marksmanship program shoot on Camp Hansen Feb. 10.

The CMP Shoot is also known as Table III, which is required training for most Marines per Marine Corps Order 3574.2K, said Staff Sgt. Matthew J. Castaneda, officer-in-charge during the shoot and combat marksmanship instructor trainer for the regiment.

Table III consists of several courses of fire including firing under movement, firing after pivoting, firing at unknown distances and night fire.

"Without table III being conducted, it's hard for the saying 'every Marine a rifleman' to be true," said Castaneda.

During table I, the shooter practices and qualifies for long-distance shooting, while table II focuses on direct, fast-reacting firing. table III requires the shooter to fire as if in close-combat situations.

"Simulated live firing is beneficial to my combat skills as a whole," said Lance Cpl. Scott J. Carmichael, a motor transport mechanic for the battery. "Table III helps bring a combat scenario to light in a different way than tables I and II."

The CMP is often conducted by units to help the Marines prepare for combat, said Castaneda.

"This helps each person prepare and become more comfortable with shooting and moving," said Staff Sgt. Monclova Rodriguez, the range safety officer for the shoot and radio chief for the communications section of the battery. "This gets the basics of combat shooting and helps the shooter realize the importance of safety while shooting next to his comrades."

With today's uncertain world situations, it is important for Marines to stay current with their rifle skills, said Rodriguez.

"If I was a staff noncommissioned officer, I would realize that after too many days of Marines constantly doing their specific jobs, they would begin to forget the essence of being a Marine, 'every Marine a rifleman'," said Carmichael. "This is why coming to the range more than once a year is always beneficial to each and every Marine."

Cpl. Lance L. Osborne awaits direction from his team during a teambuilding exercise at the Chaplains Religious Enrichment Development Operation retreat at White Beach Naval Facility Feb. 10-12. Obsborne is with 12th Marine Regiment, 3rd Marine Division, III Marine Expeditionary Force. *Photo by Sgt. Rebekka S. Heite*

Marines enhance leadership skills

Sgt. Rebekka S. Heite
OKINAWA MARINE STAFF

"Turn around, go forward, stop, reach down," yelled a Marine as he gave direction to his blindfolded partner behind him.

To add another point of friction, both Marines had to rely on six other team members who were also deprived of a key component of communication, speech.

The goal – move objects from one place to another, despite the lack of key senses. The purpose – learn the importance of effective communication.

This was one of many teambuilding exercises more than 20 Marines and sailors with the 12th Marine Regiment accomplished during their weekend retreat to White Beach Naval Facility Feb. 10-12.

"Unit retreats focus on reinforcing core values," said Navy Lt. John Freiberg, deputy director for the Chaplains Religious Enrichment Development Operation.

The purpose of CREDO is to improve job performance and enhance overall quality of life for service members and their families.

"My goal for this weekend is that the Marines remember why they came into the Marine Corps, that they remember their history and what they represent," said Lt. Cmdr. Samuel Ravelo, chaplain, 12th Marines, 3rd Marine Division, III Marine Expeditionary Force. "It is so easy to forget."

During the retreat the Marines learned about Marine Corps history, participated in interactive discussions and teambuilding exercises, and conducted a personality inventory and people-skills training.

"This retreat took junior Marines away from work, got them out of uniform, and gave them tools and skills to invest in their character," said Freiberg.

The goal is to connect their beliefs and values to their behavior, he added.

"The teambuilding exercises were a little harder than I thought they would be," said Cpl. Devonte Bailey, a retreat participant. "I'm enjoying myself. I'm enjoying getting to know these guys better," he added.

Reduce electricity costs by using less

Lance Cpl. Brianna Turner
OKINAWA MARINE STAFF

"Turn off the television and shut off the lights when you leave the room! You will understand when you are the one paying electricity bills!" Most people hear this as a child, but they do not realize how much this advice could actually save them in the long run.

The average household electric bill on Camp Butler ranges from $360 to $600 per month. With a 25 percent rise in fuel prices in the past year, it is important to begin saving energy both at home and at work, said Gary D. Exon, senior resource efficiency manager for Energy Engineering and Consulting Services.

The use of new technologies, such as compact fluorescent light bulbs could reduce energy use by 50 to 75 percent.

"It is important for people to remain constantly aware of their energy use and speak up if they have ideas on ways to save," said Sundae Knight, a resource efficiency manager with the 718th Civil Engineering Squadron, Kadena Air Base. "Reducing energy not only helps meet the requirements of the Energy Independence and Security Act of 2007, as well as other policies, but it helps increase national security by promoting domestic and renewable energy."

The EISA aims to increase U.S. energy security, develop renewable fuel production and improve vehicle fuel economy by requiring federal agencies to reduce energy intensity by three percent per year or 30 percent by fiscal year 2015, according to Knight.

There are a number of small tasks people can do to reduce the amount of energy they use daily.

"The cost of electricity on Okinawa is double the amount in the United States," said Exon. "Residents on Okinawa are paying 20 cents per kilowatt-hour compared to the 10 cents U.S. residents pay."

Air conditioning accounts for 68 percent of the electricity used in military family housing on Marine Corps Base Camp Butler, according to Exon.

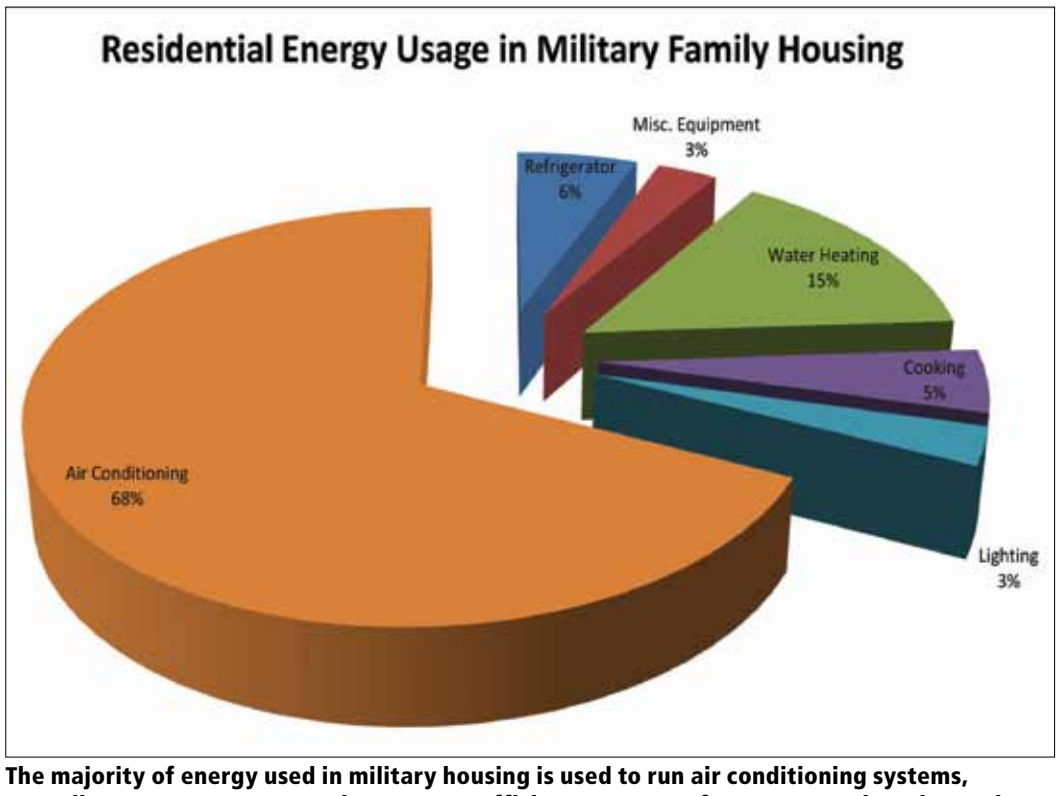
"Good ways to reduce the use of air conditioning is to keep windows and doors closed while using the air conditioning, set the thermostat at the warmest comfortable setting, 78 degrees Fahrenheit if possible, and turn the thermostat up at night or when you are away from your home," said Exon.

The second biggest contributor to energy use is water heating. Reducing thermostat settings and taking shorter showers can help reduce this, but the most important thing to remember is to check for leaking faucets, said Exon.

Another contributing factor to remember is energy is used to run refrigerators, cooking equipment and lighting systems.

Making improvements to your lighting is one of the fastest ways to cut your energy bills. An average U.S. household dedicates 11 percent of its energy budget to lighting. The use of new technologies, such as compact fluorescent light bulbs, could reduce energy use by 50 to 75 percent, according to the U.S. Department of Energy.

The department also encourages selecting energy-efficient computers and printers, which can result in enormous savings.



The majority of energy used in military housing is used to run air conditioning systems, according to Gary D. Exon, senior resource efficiency manager for Energy Engineering and Consulting Services at Camp Foster. Air conditioning makes up 68 percent of the electricity used in military family housing on Marine Corps Base Camp Butler.

In Theaters Now

FEBRUARY 17 - 23

FOSTER

TODAY Big Miracle (PG), 6 p.m.; Red Tails (PG13), 9 p.m.
SATURDAY The Muppets (PG), noon; Red Tails (PG13), 3 and 6 p.m.; Sherlock Holmes: A Game of Shadows (PG13), 9 p.m.
SUNDAY Journey 2: The Mysterious Island (PG), 1 and 4 p.m.; Red Tails (PG13), 7 p.m.
MONDAY The Muppets (PG), 1 p.m.; Extremely Loud & Incredibly Close (PG13), 4 p.m.; Red Tails (PG13), 7 p.m.
TUESDAY Sherlock Holmes: A Game of Shadows (PG13), 7 p.m.
WEDNESDAY Sherlock Holmes: A Game of Shadows (PG13), 7 p.m.
THURSDAY Journey 2: The Mysterious Island (PG), 7 p.m.

KADENA

TODAY Sherlock Holmes: A Game of Shadows (PG13), 6 and 9 p.m.
SATURDAY Big Miracle (PG), noon and 3 p.m.; Sherlock Holmes: A Game of Shadows (PG13), 6 and 9 p.m.
SUNDAY Big Miracle (PG), 1 and 4 p.m.; Sherlock Holmes: A Game of Shadows (PG13), 7 p.m.
MONDAY Big Miracle (PG), 3 p.m.
TUESDAY Sherlock Holmes: A Game of Shadows (PG13), 7 p.m.
WEDNESDAY One for the Money (PG13), 7 p.m.
THURSDAY Red Tails (PG13), 7 p.m.

COURTNEY

TODAY Journey 2: The Mysterious Island (PG), 6 and 9 p.m.
SATURDAY The Muppets (PG), 6 p.m.; The Sitter (R), 9 p.m. and midnight
SUNDAY One for the Money (PG13), 6 p.m.
MONDAY The Sitter (R), 7 p.m.
TUESDAY Closed
WEDNESDAY Big Miracle (PG), 7 p.m.
THURSDAY Closed

FUTENMA

TODAY Extremely Loud & Incredibly Close (PG13), 6:30 p.m.
SATURDAY Journey 2: The Mysterious Island (PG), 4 and 7 p.m.
SUNDAY Extremely Loud & Incredibly Close (PG13), 4 p.m.; Mission Impossible - Ghost Protocol (PG13), 7 p.m.
MONDAY One for the Money (PG13), 6:30 p.m.
TUESDAY-THURSDAY Closed

KINSER

TODAY Sherlock Holmes: A Game of Shadows (PG13), 6:30 p.m.
SATURDAY The Muppets (PG), 3 p.m.; Sherlock Holmes: A Game of Shadows (PG13), 6:30 p.m.
SUNDAY The Muppets (PG), 3 p.m.; Sherlock Holmes: A Game of Shadows (PG13), 6:30 p.m.
MONDAY Closed
TUESDAY Closed
WEDNESDAY Journey 2: The Mysterious Island (PG), 3 and 6:30 p.m.
THURSDAY We Bought a Zoo (PG13), 6:30 p.m.

HANSEN

TODAY One for the Money (PG13), 7 p.m.
SATURDAY One for the Money (PG13), 6 and 9 p.m.
SUNDAY Sherlock Holmes: A Game of Shadows (PG13), 2 p.m.; Contraband (R), 5:30 p.m.
MONDAY The Mysterious Island (PG), 6 and 9 p.m.
TUESDAY Journey 2: The Mysterious Island (PG), 7 p.m.
WEDNESDAY Sherlock Holmes: A Game of Shadows (PG13), 7 p.m.
THURSDAY Big Miracle (PG), 7 p.m.

SCHWAB

TODAY One for the Money (PG13), 7 p.m.
SATURDAY Immortals (R), 5 p.m.
SUNDAY The Sitter (R), 5 p.m.
MONDAY-THURSDAY Closed

THEATER DIRECTORY

CAMP FOSTER 645-3465
KADENA AIR BASE 634-1869
(USO NIGHT) 632-8781
MCAS FUTENMA 636-3890
(USO NIGHT) 636-2113
CAMP COURTNEY 622-9616
CAMP HANSEN 623-4564
(USO NIGHT) 623-5011
CAMP KINSER 637-2177
CAMP SCHWAB 625-2333
(USO NIGHT) 625-3834

Movie schedule is subject to change without notice. Call in advance to confirm show times. For a complete listing, visit www.shopmyexchange.com.

SINGLE MARINE PROGRAM EVENTS

For more information or to sign up, contact the Single Marine Program at 645-3681.

DRAGON BOAT TEAM

• It's that time of year, dragon boat time! The Single Marine Program is looking for motivated single Marines and sailors to join the 2012 dragon boat team. Do not miss out on this opportunity to participate in the Okinawan culture and be part of the best dragon boat team on island. Contact 645-3681 for more information.

DISCOVER GOLF - FREE GOLF LESSONS

• Taiyo Golf Course is hosting free golf lessons for Single Marines and sailors the first and third Friday of every month from 9-11 a.m. Participants will meet at the SMP office on Camp Foster by 8 a.m. Limited seats are available.

Mention of any company in this notice does not constitute endorsement by the Marine Corps.

Japanese phrase of the week:

"arigato gozaimasu" (pronounced: ar-ee-gah-to go-zy-mas)

It means, "thank you very much"

CHAPLAINS' CORNER

An ounce of prevention is worth a pound of cure!

Personal identity key to success

Lt. Cmdr. Mark Tanis
COMMAND CHAPLAIN, MWSG-17

Well ... have you broken your New Year's resolutions yet? Or, like me, did you even bother to make any due to such a lousy track record at keeping them?

Yes, we flipped the page on the calendar, replaced the end digit with a "2." Yet, inside ourselves we can wonder, "What will be different this year?"

For many, it will be things we can anticipate — like receiving orders or earning a new rocker or stripe. But for some of us, things will happen we can't anticipate, things we do not like to think about very much.

I'm referring to 'losses.'

We do not like to lose things, even minor things like our keys. When the loss is something serious, such as a relationship, or a loved one, well, we tend to avoid such unpleasant thoughts.

We know life does involve losses – many in fact!

As difficult as it is to think about, being prepared ahead of time – the Boy Scout's motto – can be a great help for us when we face life's many challenging circumstances.

What is the most helpful thing to do to prepare ahead of time for unpredictable, yet inevitable, life events? The answers are myriad, and each of us must answer that question for ourselves or face the consequences.

Some proven answers would include having a support network of family and friends in place. Taking good care of our relationships well before they could begin to fall apart is wise; it is important to know of good resources before an unfortunate event happens.

Although we can never prepare for every situation, my grandmother always said "An ounce of prevention is worth a pound of cure!" Lately, I am beginning to understand just what she meant.

Now, I wonder what she wished for over the many New Year's she celebrated? I'll bet her wishes were pretty simple, centering around the truly important things in life ... maybe that's what I'll wish for – or, better yet, pray for.

FOR UPCOMING SPECIAL WORSHIP SERVICES AND EVENTS FOR ALL MARINE CORPS BASE CHAPELS, CALL 645-2501 OR VISIT WWW.MARINES.MIL/UNIT/MCBJAPAN/PAGES/AROUNDMCBJ/CHAPEL.ASPX