

OKINAWA MARINE

JULY 3, 2013

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Futenma, Ginowan agree on disaster procedures

Lance Cpl. Elizabeth A. Case
OKINAWA MARINE STAFF

MARINE CORPS AIR STATION FUTENMA — Mayor Atsushi Sakima of Ginowan City and Col. James

G. Flynn, commanding officer of Marine Corps Air Station Futenma, signed a bilateral agreement June 26 at MCAS Futenma specifying procedures for the evacuation of Okinawa residents in the event a natural di-

saster and provisions for evacuation drills to maintain readiness.

The agreement comes after thorough collaboration between Ginowan City and MCAS Futenma and signifies the importance that

the city and air station place on mutual safety and cooperation.

“The March 2011 earthquake in northern Japan triggered a powerful tsunami that devastated the see **EVACUATION** pg 5



Marines with 3rd Battalion, 12th Marine Regiment, fire a 155 mm high-explosive round June 17 at the Yausubetsu Maneuver Area, Hokkaido, Japan, as part of the Artillery Relocation Training Program 13-1. 3rd Bn., 12th Marines, is part of 3rd Marine Division, III Marine Expeditionary Force. Photo by Lance Cpl. Henry J. Antenor

ARTP 13-1 concludes

Lance Cpl. Henry J. Antenor
OKINAWA MARINE STAFF

YAUSUBETSU MANEUVER AREA, HOKKAIDO, Japan — Marines with 3rd Battalion, 12th Marine Regiment, successfully concluded Artillery Relocation Training Program 13-1 June 21 at the Yausubetsu Maneuver Area, Hokkaido, Japan.

The exercise was comprised of Marines with Headquarters Battery, 3rd Bn., 12th Marines, 3rd Marine Division, III Marine Expeditionary Force, see **ARTP** pg 5

JGSDF trains in logistics

Lance Cpl. Anne K. Henry
OKINAWA MARINE STAFF

CAMP FOSTER — Members of the Japan Ground Self-Defense Force received training from Marines on logistics capabilities June 25 at Camp Foster.

The Marines with Combat Logistics Battalion 4 presented instruction and provided hands-on training to the JGSDF members throughout a two-day training course.

The purpose of this training was

to give the JGSDF members basic knowledge of the 3rd Marine Logistics Group's tactics and techniques.

“We want to give the JGSDF members a rundown of our logistics capabilities,” said 1st Lt. David K. Baker, a platoon commander with CLB-4, 3rd MLG, III Marine Expeditionary Force. “They are very curious about what we do here, and through this training, they can walk away with an understanding of how Marine Corps logistics operate.”

see **LOGISTICS** pg 5

Training continues during CARAT '13



SEE PAGE 4 FOR STORY & PHOTOS

Marines with Combat Assault Battalion, 3rd Marine Division, III Marine Expeditionary Force, return to the amphibious dock landing ship USS Tortuga after conducting amphibious assault training with the Malaysian Armed Forces during Cooperation Afloat Readiness and Training 2013 in Malaysia. Photo by Cpl. John C. Lamb

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JGSDF SERGEANTS LEARN MARINE CORPS SKILLS

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Independence Day message

The Continental Congress adopted The Declaration of Independence, which announced the independence of the 13 American colonies, July 4, 1776. Independence Day, celebrated every July 4, is a time to reflect on the memory of those brave Americans who resisted oppression against great odds and created a better tomorrow for future generations. John Adams, a founding father and former U.S. president, said that Independence Day "ought to be solemnized with pomp and parade, with shows, games, sports, bells, and illuminations from one end of this continent to the other, from this time forward forever more."

We, the protectors of our nation's freedom, brave men and women in uniform, should take time to celebrate being Americans. Enjoy a traditional backyard barbeque, safe fireworks display or simply spend time with friends and family. However you choose to celebrate, remember that this holiday is due to military members' sacrifices—past, present and future—that all Americans might enjoy freedom and opportunity.

During the liberty period, remember our great nation's rich history and those who came before you. This is a time for Americans to gather and celebrate the actions of our forefathers 237 years ago to make our nation free. As you do this, make wise decisions. The liberty policy recognizes that the vast majority of Marines and sailors are making the right decisions and serving as outstanding ambassadors for our country. If you choose to consume alcohol, do so responsibly and follow the policies in place.

Liberty commences as follows:

a. III Marine Expeditionary Force and Marine Corps Installations Pacific military personnel to include those stationed on Hawaii: July 4-7, 2013 (96 hours).

b. Civilian employees: 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 Japan, is July 4, 2013. A liberal leave policy will be in effect on July 5, 2013.

c. Camp Mujuk military personnel and civilian employees will continue to follow their previously promulgated holiday routine schedule.

Always remember that you are an ambassador wherever you go. You not only represent the Marine Corps, but the United States of America, both in and out of uniform.

Semper Fidelis,

Lt. Gen. Kenneth J. Glueck Jr.

Maj. Gen. Charles L. Hudson

Glueck is the commanding general of III MEF, and Hudson is the commanding general of MCIPAC and Marine Corps Base Camp Smedley D. Butler

Reminder: MCBJO 11320.1 prohibits the use of personal fireworks.

AROUND
THE
CORPS

Canadian soldiers guard the flanks and rear of an M1A1 Abrams tank June 21 during Exercise Dawn Blitz 2013 at Camp Pendleton, Calif. Dawn Blitz 2013 is a scenario-driven exercise designed to test U.S. Navy and Marine Corps forces at the Marine Expeditionary Brigade and Expeditionary Strike Group levels, while promoting military-to-military cooperation and interoperability with partnered nations. Participating countries include Canada, Japan, New Zealand and military observers from seven nations. The soldiers are with 2nd Battalion, Royal 22nd Regiment. Photo by Sgt. Jacob H. Harrer



Cpl. Ben Hudson leaps off the wing of an AV-8B Harrier II aircraft after helping to move the aircraft to a different location on the flight deck June 26. The Marines and sailors of the 31st Marine Expeditionary Unit recently embarked on their summer patrol of the Asia-Pacific region. Hudson is a fixed-wing aircraft mechanic with Marine Medium Tiltrotor Squadron 265, 31st Marine Expeditionary Unit, III Marine Expeditionary Force. Photo by Seaman Apprentice Edward Gutierrez III

OKINAWA MARINE

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CENTRAL BUREAU
Camp Foster
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NORTHERN BUREAU
Camp Hansen
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SOUTHERN BUREAU
Camp Kinser
DSN 637-1092



Winner, 2012 DoD Thomas Jefferson Award
Best Tabloid Format Newspaper, 2012

Safety critical with festivals, cooking

Lance Cpl. Pete Sanders

OKINAWA MARINE STAFF

CAMP FOSTER — The hot summer months can be a very enjoyable time of year and are often celebrated with festivals, fireworks and food.

To ensure this is an entertaining and memorable time of year, safety must be everyone's first thought, according to Staff Sgt. Thomas D. Sanford, customs staff noncommissioned officer in charge with the Provost Marshal's Office, Marine Corps Base Camp Smedley D. Butler, Marine Corps Installations Pacific.

Although many festivals include spectacular firework displays, personal fireworks are strictly prohibited for all status of forces agreement personnel, according to Marine Corps Bases Japan Order 11320.1.

"Over time, fireworks have become louder, bigger and more extravagant," said Sanford. "This translates to them becoming more lethal and requires more attention to detail to handle."

Besides the risk of injury, personal firework displays will result in disciplinary action, according to Sanford.

In addition to fireworks, another subject synonymous with summer festivities is food. Cooking outside on a grill is a common image when people think of summer, according to Michael Joseph, the assistant chief of fire prevention with Marine Corps Installations Pacific Fire and Emergency Services.

"We all like to cook on the grill," said Joseph. "People looking to grill should only use starter fluid meant for grills and should never add fluid after the grill is lit."

Individuals using charcoal and propane grills should be mindful of children and pets, and ensure they stay a safe distance from any cooking area, according to Joseph.

Grills should remain a minimum of ten feet from any fire hazard such as buildings and their overhangs, and should not block or obstruct any emergency-escape route, according to MCBJO 11320.1.

"Know where your fire extinguisher is and follow the instructions on it," said Joseph. "The fire is more likely to be contained and extinguished

at the scene, preventing emergency personnel from having to be called."

Whether cooking indoors or out, it is important to remember proper food handling to prevent food poisoning, according to the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

Proper hand washing is the first step in the fight against disease, according to CDC. Bacteria can grow anywhere, especially on people's hands.

Another common cause of food poisoning is cross contamination that is caused from bacteria from one food item being exposed to another item, according to the CDC. To reduce the risk of sickness caused by this, be sure to wash utensils, hands and surfaces after each use.

Along with cooking and eating delicious foods, another important factor to remember while participating in all summer activities is appropriate fluid intake, according to Joseph.

"We see people lose consciousness because of dehydration, especially on hot summer days," said Joseph. "Make sure you drink plenty of water, especially if you are new to Okinawa."

"Usually when someone hurts or injures themselves, it is due to last-minute plans and throwing safety considerations out the window," said Sanford.

Proper preparation can help people avoid having an unfavorable experience with whatever summer activity they choose, according to Sanford.

Base safety personnel are available to assist with any general safety concerns as well, added Joseph.

"If anyone has any questions, give the station a call at 645-0299," said Joseph. "We are more than happy to help figure out safety considerations, prepare your residence, or answer any questions you may have."

If an emergency arises, call 911 from a DSN line or 098-911-1911 from a cellular device.



BRIEFS

LIBRARY ACTIVITIES DURING INDEPENDENCE DAY

The libraries across Marine Corps bases will be offering free activities throughout the July 4 holiday weekend.

The events are focused on single service members during the holiday.

They include:

- Camp Foster Library - Board-Game-Apalooza (645-7178)
- Camp Schwab Library - Movie Night: Independence Day (625-2518)
- Futenma Library - Movie Night: G.I. Joe (636-3946)
- Camp Hansen Library - Movie Night: Independence Day (623-7372)
- Camp Kinser Library - movies and games (637-1039)
- Camp Courtney Library - Movie Night: Independence Day (622-9280)

Contact the libraries for more information on the events.

USNHO ADJUSTS HOURS AFTERNOON OF JULY 18

U.S. Naval Hospital Okinawa and its branched services will have reduced services on the afternoon of Thursday, July 18 due to its change of command.

Services will be limited throughout the day in administrative areas such as outpatient records, birth registrations, and the billing office, as well as walk-in clinical areas such as immunization clinics.

Emergency care will still be available in the emergency department. Previously scheduled clinic and surgical appointments for that day will remain as scheduled.

For questions or concerns, contact the appropriate clinic or the U.S. Naval Hospital Customer Relations Office at 646-7432.

SCHEDULED POWER AND WATER OUTAGES

There will be a scheduled power outage July 5 at Buildings 206 and 449 from 8:30-11:30 a.m.

For more information, please contact 645-0883 or visit www.mcipac.marines.mil/MCIPAC/CampButler/UtilitiesOutages.aspx

ENERGY-SAVING TIP: FAUCETS

Report leaky or dripping faucets immediately. One drop a second can waste up to 48 gallons a week!

Aside from wasting water, a faucet leaking hot water wastes energy and money.

For more information, please call 645-3320.

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

One Republic performs on Okinawa



Ryan Tedder, the lead vocalist for One Republic, performs for Marines, sailors and Okinawa community members June 28 at the Post Exchange parking lot at Camp Hansen. "This year when we were asked to come here, we said yes right away," said Tedder. "It is truly an honor to come out here and perform for you guys."

Photo by Sgt. Brian A. Marion

Marines execute amphibious assault with Malaysian Armed Forces

1st Lt. Noah W. Rappahahn

OKINAWA MARINE STAFF

TANJUNG GELANG NAVAL BASE, Pahang, Malaysia — U.S. Marines and sailors with Landing Force Company conducted amphibious assault operations alongside Malaysian Armed Forces soldiers at Batu Beach, Pahang, Malaysia, June 20-21, during Cooperation Afloat Readiness and Training 2013.

For MAF soldiers participating in CARAT 2013, this was a unique opportunity to conduct ship-to-shore raids using assault amphibious vehicles launched from the USS Tortuga.

More than 100 MAF soldiers boarded the USS Tortuga where they partnered with U.S. Marines of Company I, 3rd Battalion, 3rd Marine Regiment, 3rd Marine Division, III Marine Expeditionary Force, in preparation for the amphibious raid, according to MAF Maj. Larry Mike, the commander of Company A, 1st Battalion, 8th Paratroopers, MAF.

“This was the first time these MAF forces conducted an amphibious raid from ship to shore on the U.S. AAVs,” said Mike. “The men were excited, and felt very fortunate to have this experience and opportunity to train with the U.S. Marines.”

Marines assigned to Combat Assault Battalion, 3rd Marine Division, III MEF, provided ship-to-shore



Marines with the Combat Assault Battalion, 3rd Marine Division, III Marine Expeditionary Force, return to the amphibious dock landing ship USS Tortuga after conducting amphibious assault training with the Malaysian army during Cooperation Afloat Readiness and Training 2013 in Malaysia. CARAT is a series of bilateral military exercises between the U.S. Navy and the armed forces of Bangladesh, Brunei, Cambodia, Indonesia, Malaysia, the Republic of the Philippines, Singapore, the Kingdom of Thailand and Timor-Leste. Photo by Cpl. John C. Lamb

capabilities via their AAVs for the Landing Force Company Marines and MAF soldiers.

The AAVs traveled nearly six nautical miles across open water from the USS Tortuga to the landing site to accomplish the bilateral amphibious assault, according to U.S. Marine 1st Lt. Ryan M. Rice, an AAV platoon commander with CAB.

“It was a long movement for us, but the weather conditions were favorable and allowed us to get the troops on land in good time, so they could successfully execute the raid,” said Rice.

In addition to the amphibious-based operations, Marines and MAF soldiers partnered for jungle warfare training, sniper employment, combat marksmanship and a demonstration of Marine Corps martial arts program techniques.

“It was evident through the Malaysian Armed Forces’ professionalism and proficiency that they worked hard preparing for this operation,” said U.S. Marine 1st Lt. Tyler A. Kistner, the weapons platoon commander with Co. I. “I was very impressed by their level of discipline and work ethic. This was a great op-

portunity for our forces to work together, learn from one another, and build lasting relationships.”

The Marines are scheduled to re-embark aboard the USS Tortuga and sail to the Republic of the Philippines to conduct further training with regional partners.

CARAT is a series of bilateral military exercises between the U.S. Navy and Marine Corps and the armed forces of Bangladesh, Brunei, Cambodia, Indonesia, Malaysia, the Republic of the Philippines, Singapore, the Kingdom of Thailand and Timor-Leste.

Marine earns Purple Heart for actions in Afghanistan



Following an awards ceremony, Staff Sgt. Nicholas Singh, left, discusses the chain of events that led to being awarded the Purple Heart medal with Brig. Gen. Niel E. Nelson June 27 at Camp Kinser. Singh earned the award for injuries sustained while supporting Operation Enduring Freedom in Afghanistan. Nelson is the commanding general of 3rd Marine Logistics Group, III Marine Expeditionary Force, and Singh is a maintenance chief with 3rd Maintenance Battalion, Combat Logistics Regiment 35, 3rd MLG, III MEF. Photo by Lance Cpl. Nicholas S. Ranum

HQ Bn. welcomes Taylor



Taylor



Kuhn

Col. Michael W. Taylor assumed command of Headquarters Battalion, 3rd Marine Division, III Marine Expeditionary Force, from Col. Michael L. Kuhn during a ceremony on Camp Courtney June 20. Kuhn commanded HQ Bn. since July 2011 and will become a professor of naval science at the University of Arizona. Taylor's previous assignment was at Camp Pendleton, Calif., where he served as the assistant chief of staff, G-2, intelligence, 1st Marine Division, I MEF.

EVACUATION from pg 1

area and resulted in the loss of a large number of people's lives and property in a matter of minutes," said Sakima. "This traumatic event emphasized the importance of having an effective evacuation plan for the citizens of Okinawa, who are completely surrounded by a body of water."

Immediately before, during or following a natural disaster, especially a tsunami, MCAS Futenma can use the procedures to open one or more of the station's access gates to allow evacuees immediate and direct passage to higher ground or shelter. Also, the air station would post signs directing evacuees along designated routes between the gates.

The signing of the agreement is an important step in protecting the communities during times of need, according to Sakima.

"This implementation does not only help save lives of Okinawans, but of tourists and visitors from all over the world who happen to be in the area at the time of disaster," said Sakima.

The signed procedures supplement the local implementation agreement that officially allowed residents and visitors to Okinawa access to Marine Corps installations in the event of a disaster, signed in November 2012 by Sakima, Mayor Masaharu Noguni of Chatan Town and retired Maj. Gen. Peter J. Talleri, former commanding general of Marine Corps Installations Pacific and Marine Corps Base Camp Smedley D. Butler. It also supplements an agreement set in August 2012 providing limited humanitarian access to MCAS Futenma for Ginowan City emergency vehicles.

The document prepares the air station and the community for effective response to a disaster.

"The joint signing of this document recognizes the importance our communities place on preparing for a natural disaster that may jeopardize the safety of our citizens," said Flynn. "I am confident that in working together we will undoubtedly protect the lives of countless men, women, children, old and young, faced by a tsunami or other catastrophe. Ideally, we should hope that we will never have to execute this plan, but if the circumstances arise requiring us to do so, I know that we are prepared."

Ginowan City and MCAS Futenma plan to continue collaborating on mutually beneficial agreements.

"I firmly believe that the culmination of this agreement was the result of open and continuous communications between our two organizations," said Flynn. "We have worked together to find solutions that are advantageous to each other. It is my wish that we continue to find opportunities where we can work together on important issues affecting our citizens. It is my hope that we can continue to build on our friendship, and I look forward to working on future endeavors."

ARTP from pg 1

along with Charlie Battery, 1st Bn., 12th Marines and Fox Battery, 2nd Bn., 10th Marines, currently assigned to 3rd Bn., 12th Marines, under the unit deployment program.

"The goal of the artillery relocation training program is to keep our artillery batteries in a high state of readiness, so we can deploy in support of operations in the Asia-Pacific region," said Capt. Caleb A. Murphy, the commanding officer of Headquarters Battery. "We have completed that mission, and the training was a success."

An added benefit for the Marines during this ARTP iteration was that they were able to sharpen skills such as patrolling and security readiness between the artillery live-fire events, according to Murphy.

"Because the rate of live-fire was slower, it gave us a chance to focus on local security, where the Marines protected the headquarters and battery positions," said Murphy.

The additional time was beneficial for the younger Marines who recently arrived from the artillery military occupational specialty school, according to Sgt. Garry L. Lowrance, an assistant radio chief with 3rd Bn., 12th Marines.

"Our younger Marines learned quite a bit from this evolution that they didn't learn in school," said Lowrance. "They went to multiple positions, resolved communication issues, and gained the experience they need to be able to work efficiently."

Throughout the exercise, vital communications were maintained, which was a contributing

factor to the success of the ARTP, according to Lance Cpl. Robert D. James, a field radio operator with 3rd Bn., 12th Marines.

"Part of the reason our operations ran smoothly was because we maintained 100 percent of our communications with headquarters," said James. "As another part of our job, we sent communication-contact teams to the batteries to help with any issues they may have had."

Some challenges the Marines faced included the rough terrain comprised of hills and ditches, and the thick vegetation that slowed movement, according to Murphy.

"Despite the challenges, we were fortunate that the weather was good and we were able to get the training done," said Murphy. "The Marines performed an outstanding job."

LOGISTICS from pg 1

Throughout the morning, the Marines trained the JGSDF members on the capabilities of the RT240 rough terrain container handler and the Humvee.

"Today, we showed the JGSDF members how the RTCH operates by moving 20- and 40-foot containers to the back of a logistics vehicle systems replacement," said Cpl. Dugan L. Hoffmann, a heavy-equipment operator with CLB-4, 3rd MLG, III MEF. "It's good for the JGSDF members to understand how our logistics work because it gives them a new perspective."

In addition to the RTCH demonstration, the JGSDF members also operated the Humvee and eventually conducted limited convoy operations.

The JGSDF members spent the day expanding their understanding of Marine Corps logistics in

order to apply it to their systems, according to Lt. Col. Koji Hirata, a planning officer with the Ground Staff Office, JGSDF.

"The Marines are very skilled at what they do, and this is an excellent opportunity for us to learn some of those skills from them," said Hirata. "Today, we get to see firsthand the way the Marines train and function. We hope to use their knowledge in order to apply them to our techniques."

The training presented the JGSDF members and Marines a new perspective on how logistics operate, according to Hoffmann.

"Training, such as this, is good for everyone involved," said Hoffmann. "It allows both the Marines and the JGSDF members to broaden their horizon on logistics operations."

CLR-37 welcomes new commander



Bowen



Kasperski

Col. Edmund J. Bowen assumed command of Combat Logistics Regiment 37, 3rd Marine Logistics Group, III Marine Expeditionary Force, from Col. John E. Kasperski during a ceremony on Camp Kinser June 28. Kasperski commanded CLR-37 since June 2011 and will become the assistant chief of staff, G-4, supply and logistics, Marine Corps Air Ground Combat Center, Twentynine Palms, Calif. Bowen's previous assignment was at Camp Pendleton, Calif., where he served as the assistant chief of staff, G-3, operations, and G-4, supply and logistics, 1st Marine Logistics Group, I MEF.

3rd Intel Bn. receives Reilly



Reilly

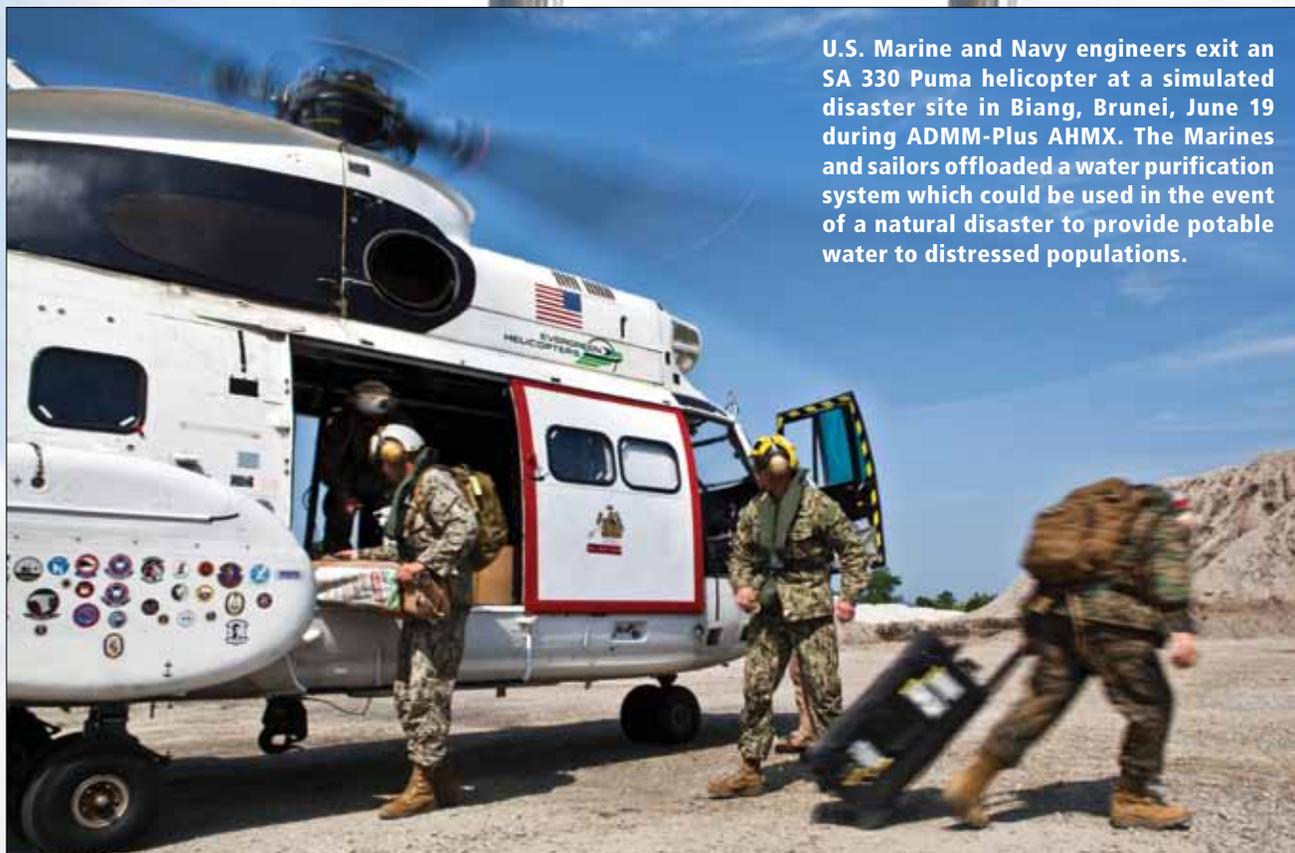


Walzer

Lt. Col. Michael D. Reilly assumed command of 3rd Intelligence Battalion, III Marine Expeditionary Force Headquarters Group, III MEF, from Lt. Col. Jordan D. Walzer during a ceremony on Camp Hansen June 26. Walzer commanded 3rd Intel. Bn. since June 2011 and will become a student at the U.S. Army War College. Reilly's previous assignment was at Camp Lejeune, N.C., where he served as the chief of staff for G-2, security and intelligence, II MEF.

Flags of nations within the Asia-Pacific region fly side-by-side June 18 outside of the Multinational Coordination Centre in Muara, Brunei. Each flag represented a participating country in the Association of Southeast Asian Nations Defence Ministers Meeting– Plus ASEAN Humanitarian Assistance/Disaster Relief and Military Medicine Exercise, a multilateral exercise which provided a platform for regional partner nations to address shared security challenges, strengthen defense cooperation, enhance interoperability, and promote stability in the region.

The sultan of Brunei, Hassanal Bolkiah, greets U.S. Merchant Marine Capt. William Baldwin at the warrant officers mess June 20 in Muara, Brunei, during the Association of Southeast Asian Nations Defence Ministers Meeting– Plus ASEAN Humanitarian Assistance/Disaster Relief and Military Medicine Exercise. Bolkiah made a final tour of the exercise sites and concluded the exercise at a luncheon with other military leaders. Baldwin is the USNS Matthew Perry ship's master.



U.S. Marine and Navy engineers exit an SA 330 Puma helicopter at a simulated disaster site in Biang, Brunei, June 19 during ADMM-Plus AHMX. The Marines and sailors offloaded a water purification system which could be used in the event of a natural disaster to provide potable water to distressed populations.



ASEAN exercise ends with renewed commitment to regional partnership

Story and photos by Lance Cpl. Kasey Peacock
OKINAWA MARINE STAFF

The sultan of Brunei, Hassanal Bolkiah, met with senior military leaders from 18 Asia-Pacific nations participating in the Association of Southeast Asian Nations Humanitarian Assistance/Disaster Relief and Military Medicine Exercise June 20 in Muara, Brunei, to declare the official close of the exercise.

The multilateral exercise, which was held in various locations throughout Brunei, provided a platform for regional partner nations to address shared security challenges, strengthen defense cooperation, enhance interoperability, and promote stability in the region.

“I feel that we accomplished the goals we set for ourselves going into the exercise,” said U.S. Marine Maj. Timothy I. Murray, future operations planning officer with 3rd Marine Logistics Group, III Marine Expeditionary Force. “When you bring 18 different countries together

and throw in the language barrier, as well as cultural differences, it can make things complicated. Everyone worked through the challenges as a team to better prepare ourselves for possible disasters in the region.”

For some countries, this exercise was a unique opportunity to participate in humanitarian assistance and disaster relief with other nations.

“For this being our first time here, I feel we learned an incredible amount and benefited greatly from this exercise,” said Vietnam People’s Army Sr. Col. Do Mai Khanh, the lead medical officer for Vietnam. “Seeing all of the nation’s working together was the greatest benefit for me throughout the exercise.”

AHMX, which took place June 17-20, focused on a post-tropical revolving storm typhoon rescue, survey, recovery and disaster relief in the vicinity of the district of Temburong, as well as other locations in Bandar Seri Begawan, Muara Naval Base and Rimba Air Base.

For the host nation, the opportunity to provide for an exercise of such high importance is a great honor, according to Normasitirena

Suhaini, the senior public relations officer with the Ministry of Defence, Brunei.

“We worked very hard and learned a lot from hosting this exercise,” said Suhaini. “If everything had gone according to plan and things worked out perfect, we wouldn’t have learned as much. While this was a great learning experience, we also built a solid foundation for more exercises like this to happen in the future.”

Participants in the exercise included medical and engineer personnel from the ASEAN-comprised nations of Brunei, Cambodia, Indonesia, the Lao People’s Democratic Republic, Malaysia, Burma, the Republic of the Philippines, Singapore, the Kingdom of Thailand, Vietnam and other Asia-Pacific nations, such as Australia, the People’s Republic of China, India, Japan, New Zealand, the Republic of Korea, the Russian Federation and the U.S.

With natural disasters imminent in the Pacific region, initial planning for the next humanitarian assistance/disaster relief exercise is scheduled to begin near the end of July in Thailand.

Thai Maj. Gen. Wittaya Wachirakul, left, has a conversation with U.S. Marine Col. Douglas Pasnik during the opening ceremony of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations Defence Ministers Meeting—Plus ASEAN Humanitarian Assistance/Disaster Relief and Military Medicine Exercise at the Multinational Coordination Center in Muara, Brunei, June 17. More than 2,500 multinational personnel from 18 Asia-Pacific nations participated in the exercise. Wachirakul was the commander of Royal Thai Forces during the exercise. Pasnik is the director of regional operations for U.S. Marine Corps Forces, Pacific.



U.S. Navy Petty Officer 2nd Class Victor S. Parker, center, accepts a gift from Royal Brunei Armed Forces Lt. Col. Mohd Hafizul Hassan, right, on behalf of his team after placing second in a tug-of-war competition during a sports field meet June 14 at Berakas Army Garrison Camp, Brunei. The competition took place during ADMM-Plus AHMX. Parker is a hospital corpsman with Naval Environmental Preventive Medicine Unit 6. Hassan was the chief medical officer for the exercise.



JGSDF sergeants learn Corps basics

Cpl. Adam B. Miller

OKINAWA MARINE STAFF

Perfect practice makes perfect. Japan Ground Self-Defense Force members and Marines employed this simple concept when learning each other's language as part of an ongoing cultural and language exchange program June 18-19 at the Combined Arms Training Center Camp Fuji.

The Ground Self-Defense Force and Marine exchange program affords the opportunity for JGSDF students enrolled in the 56th Primary Enlisted English course at the Kodaira School in Tokyo to visit CATC Camp Fuji and then host Marines at their school.

"The purpose of the exchange program is to give the students a chance to practice and refine their English-speaking skills with members of the U.S. military," said U.S. Marine Staff Sgt. Patrick J. Brennan, the company gunnery sergeant for Headquarters Company, CATC Camp Fuji.

The Marines also benefit from the exchange program, as they learn the basics of the Japanese language and are exposed to the unique traditions of their host nation, according to Brennan.

"The students swap experiences and stories with the Marines to practice their English," said Brennan. "They teach each other about their military jobs, responsibilities and unit histories in order to promote mutual understanding and respect."

While visiting CATC Camp Fuji, JGSDF members learned about the Marine Corps' military occupational specialties, received a presentation of the Marine Corps martial arts program, and executed drill movements. They also received classes and demonstrations by Marines with the armory, explosive ordnance disposal and motor transportation sections.

"I feel this experience was incredibly motivating and beneficial for all of us," said JGSDF 1st Lt. Shuji Iwasaki, a Kodaira School instructor.

To increase interoperability between the JGSDF and the Marine Corps, both sides must be willing and able to overcome the language and cultural hurdles, which is what the GMEP is designed to do, according to Iwasaki.



U.S. Marine Staff Sgt. Patrick J. Brennan demonstrates firing positions used by Marines June 19 at the Combined Arms Training Center Camp Fuji. The weapons presentation was one of many exhibitions during a two-day visit in which more than 40 Japan Ground Self-Defense Force members participated. The JGSDF members are currently enrolled in the 56th Primary Enlisted English course at the Kodaira School in Tokyo. The visit was part of an ongoing cultural and language learning exchange program. Brennan is the company gunnery sergeant of Headquarters Company, CATC Camp Fuji.

"This program is important because English is one of the hardest languages to learn," said U.S. Marine Lance Cpl. Tekiera S. Edwards, a warehouse clerk with Headquarters Company, CATC Camp Fuji.

"The JGSDF members who learn the English language help

strengthen the bond between our two services and enhance the relationship between the U.S. and Japan," said Edwards.

The Marines hope the JGSDF members obtained the education they sought along with an understanding of how Marines operate, according to Brennan.

"I would like to commend the JGSDF for taking the time to visit and learn more of the English language," said Brennan. "Putting forth such a great effort to ensure effective communication between our two countries is (admirable)."

Japan Ground Self-Defense Force Sgt. Maj. Arata Hamaguchi participates in simulated explosive ordnance disposal training June 19 at the Combined Arms Training Center Camp Fuji, Japan. Hamaguchi is the assistant command sergeant major for the JGSDF's Western Army Medical unit.



Dogs sniff-out explosives during training

Lance Cpl. Nicholas S. Ranum

OKINAWA MARINE STAFF

Searching and sniffing at anything suspicious, military working dog teams operate on the front lines clearing patrol routes and providing a unique layer of security for Marines in the unit.

As a continuation of earlier training at Camp Hansen, the Marines of 3rd Law Enforcement Battalion brought their military working dogs to the Central Training Area to practice patrolling and roadside bomb identification in a simulated hostile environment June 20.

“The purpose of this training is to get both the dog and the Marine used to working with a full load of equipment,” said Cpl. Heather M. Lewis, a military working dog handler with 3rd LE Bn., III Marine Expeditionary Force Headquarters Group, III MEF. “We try to simulate a combat environment as best as we can, so that the dogs can get used to performing at that level.”

The relationship between the dog and handler is crucial to allowing the teams to work as a cohesive unit, according to Lewis.

“To be able to do this type of training with a dog, you need to have a basic relationship and understanding,” said Lewis. “I need to know that when I send my dog to a corner of a building or a wall during a patrol, he will stay there and not move past it. Everything we do is founded on that relationship.”

Conducting patrols in an outdoor training environment allows each handler to learn how their dog operates and allows the dog to become accustomed to seeing Marines in a combat load, according to Lance Cpl. Derreck S. Brantley, a military



Lance Cpl. Samuel V. Enriquez directs military working dog Dasty to search part of a road June 20 at the Central Training Area near Camp Hansen. The training allowed the team to practice search techniques it would use during a patrol. Enriquez is a military working dog handler, and Dasty is a military working dog. Both are with 3rd Law Enforcement Battalion, III Marine Expeditionary Force Headquarters Group, III MEF. Photo by Lance Cpl. Nicholas S. Ranum

working dog handler with the battalion.

“This training really helps you notice the small things while working with your dog,” said Brantley. “Going into this training and not knowing how the course is set up helps to get the natural reaction from the dog.”

Getting a genuine response from the dog in a new environment and recognizing the signals it displays allows the team to do their job more efficiently, according to Lance Cpl. Jadd R. Hamel, a military working dog handler with the battalion.

“I have been with my dog for a short while, and we’ve been steadily building

our relationship,” said Brantley. “To build that relationship means getting to know a dog by observing how they search and train for real-world patrols.”

The 3rd LE Bn. working dog teams train consistently, according to Hamel. By employing the tactics, techniques and procedures of working dogs across the U.S. military, the teams are prepared for any environment they may face.

“No two days will ever be the same, nor will two training events ever be the same,” said Hamel. “That is why we train. So we can be ready to respond to anything and save as many lives as we can.”

Camp Schwab USO opens sports lounge

Cpl. Mark W. Stroud

OKINAWA MARINE STAFF

The USO opened a sports lounge at its Camp Schwab center June 14 to complement and expand existing services at the site.

The lounge, which is still undergoing improvements, opened to service members in time for the National Basketball Association and National Hockey League finals.

“It is just another outlet here at the Camp Schwab USO for the troops to relax and watch their favorite sports,” said William C. Stanley, the center manager at the Camp Schwab USO. “The NBA finals and NHL playoffs have increased the amount of patrons here. People are able to sit down, kick their feet up, relax, and watch the game.”

The new sports lounge boasts seven televisions, two gaming consoles and seating selected with the service members’ comfort in mind.

“We set up multiple TVs like you would see in a sports lounge stateside,” said Stanley. “You have the basketball game on one TV and soccer or football on another TV. If they’re not up for watching sports, they can play video games.”

“We also went out and got new furniture to give it an ‘at-home’ feeling.”

The lounge supports the resumption of the unit deployment program, which rotates U.S.-based units to Okinawa for six-month tours to increase the capabilities of the III Marine Expeditionary Force and reduce the number of permanent personnel on the island.

“A year ago, there was no UDP here, and now the camp is full,” said Col. Richard D. Hall, the Camp Schwab commander and commanding officer of 4th Marine Regiment, 3rd Marine Division, III MEF. “All the units that are going to be at Camp Schwab are here, and the things that we have built over the last year are providing the capacity to support that. A lot of the work we have done to support the UDP is coming to fruition.”

The services provided by the USO are especially useful to the Marines and sailors deployed under the UDP.

“During their six-month deployment, some of the Marines may not have easy access to the internet,” said Staff Sgt. David M.

Spearing, a platoon sergeant with Company I, 3rd Battalion, 6th Marine Regiment, currently assigned to 4th Marines, 3rd Marine Division, III MEF, under the UDP. “These services are free, and I advise my Marines to use this place all the time.”

Volunteers played an important role in planning and completing the new lounge, and helped facilitate the successful completion of the additions.

Volunteers were the main effort to help renovate, furnish and decorate the new additions, according to Stanley.

The USO also has a computer lounge, free Wi-Fi access, snack bar and a separate lounge for television and movie viewing. The Camp Schwab site also hosts regularly scheduled events such as Saturday night barbecues.

Service members interested in learning more about the USO or volunteering can call 625-3834 for further information.

“These services are free and I advise my Marines to use this place all the time.”

Staff Sgt. David M. Spearing

Riley Inns, right, battles his opponent at the Henoko Okinawa-Style Sumo Tournament June 22 at the Mae-No-Hama Field. Inns went on to defeat two more opponents to win first place in the children's age tournament, according to Fumio Iha, community relations specialist for Camp Schwab. Inns, 13, is the son of a Marine.



Pfc. Danielle A. Auld, left, takes on her challenger at the Henoko Okinawa-Style Sumo Tournament June 22 at the Mae-No-Hama Field. In the tournament's challenge matches, audience members challenge each other to a single bout for fun. Auld won both her matches against her challengers. Auld is an ammunition technician with 3rd Supply Battalion, Combat Logistics Regiment 35, 3rd Marine Logistics Group, III Marine Expeditionary Force.

Pseudo-sumo wrestlers test their might in contest

Lance Cpl. Natalie M. Rostran
OKINAWA MARINE STAFF

The competitors are quiet and focused as they grab hold of each other's belts. The bout begins and ends in the blink of an eye, and the crowd erupts with cheers as sand flies through the air.

The victor rose from the ground, helping his opponent up in the process. They bowed to each other and returned to their respective sides to anxiously wait for the next round while the crowd continued cheering.

This is an example of Okinawa-style sumo wrestling, and it should not be confused with the traditional Japanese-style of sumo wrestling with its world renowned, large statured competitors. Here, the athletes vary in size and compete under a different set of guidelines.

Marines and family members of Camp Schwab participated in the Henoko Okinawa-Style Sumo Tournament June 22 at the Mae-No-Hama Field in Henoko. The Henoko Young Men's Association hosted the tournament, which has taken place annually for the past 50 years.

"Okinawa-style sumo, also called kakuriki, closely resembles a combination of western wrestling and Okinawa-style grappling, known as tegumi," said Fumio Iha, the community relations specialist for Camp Schwab. "The athletes in Okinawa sumo wear a gi with either red or white belts. While it used to be practiced on beaches, most tournaments are now held at sandy pits, called dohyo."

The objective is to get the opponent on their back without the participants letting go of each other's belts or using any kind of striking technique.

"For the trained athlete, the focus is on strength and the ability to off-balance the opponent," said Masakazu Tokuda, president of the Henoko Young Men's Association.

Marines and their families were invited to participate in all four categories of Henoko's tournament including the children's matches, friendly matches, challenge matches and championship tournament.

"It was fun, but hard," said Preston D. Flinders, 10, the son of a Marine, after his first match. Preston would continue on to reach fourth place in his group.

As the tournament progressed to the 11 year-old and up categories, techniques began to take precedence over strength and for the first time in the tournament's history, two Americans took first and second place in the children's age group.

Riley Inns, 13, also the son of a Marine, took first place, and Tyler S. Flinders, 14, and Preston's older brother, earned second.

"It felt good to win because some of those competitors are really good," said Inns.

During the challenge portion of the competition, members of the audience could challenge anyone else in attendance. If the attendee accepted the challenge, they would participate in one bout for fun.

"I can now say I have wrestled in an Okinawa-style sumo tournament," said Pfc.

Danielle A. Auld, an ammunition technician with 3rd Supply Battalion, Combat Logistics Regiment 35, 3rd Marine Logistics Group, III Marine Expeditionary Force, who was challenged twice and won both bouts. "It was amazing to be able to experience so much of their culture. It was fun, and I hope to be able to do more events in the future."

The championship tournament began with 22 participants, including seven Marines from Camp Schwab and one U.S. Department of Defense civilian contractor, according to Pfc. Gabriel J. Fennimore, an ammunition technician with 3rd Supply Battalion. Although the American participants did not place in the championship tournament, they all took something away from the competition.

"It was cool to be a part of their traditions," said Fennimore. "It is something that is very important to them, and they take Okinawa-style sumo very seriously. Their sportsmanship is awesome, and it was a great way to introduce us to their customs."

As the evening came to a close, Tokuda addressed the audience and emphasized the importance of fostering good relationships between the residents of Henoko and the Marines, sailors and their family members at Camp Schwab.

"We are very pleased to have this competition, especially with the participation of the Camp Schwab Marines," said Tokuda. "We're always happy to see them coming to our events, and we hope they know that they are always welcome to compete."

In Theaters Now

JULY 5 - 11

FOSTER

FRIDAY White House Down (PG13), 6 p.m.; The Heat (R), 9:30 p.m.
SATURDAY Monsters University (3-D) (G), noon; White House Down (PG13), 3 p.m.; The Heat (R), 6:30 and 9:30 p.m.
SUNDAY Monsters University (3-D) (G), 1 p.m.; White House Down (PG13), 4 p.m.; The Heat (R), 7:30 p.m.
MONDAY Monsters University (3-D) (G), 3 p.m.; White House Down (PG13), 7 p.m.
TUESDAY The Heat (R), 7 p.m.
WEDNESDAY White House Down (PG13), 7 p.m.
THURSDAY White House Down (PG13), 3 p.m.; The Heat (R), 7 p.m.

KADENA

FRIDAY White House Down (PG13), 6 p.m.; The Heat (R), 9:30 p.m.
SATURDAY Monsters University (G), noon; White House Down (PG13), 3 and 6:30 p.m.; The Heat (R), 10 p.m.
SUNDAY World War Z (PG13), 1 p.m.; White House Down (PG13), 4 p.m.; The Heat (R), 7:30 p.m.
MONDAY White House Down (PG13), 7 p.m.
TUESDAY Now You See Me (PG13), 3 p.m.
WEDNESDAY White House Down (PG13), 7 p.m.
THURSDAY After Earth (PG13), 7 p.m.

COURTNEY

FRIDAY White House Down (PG13), 5:30 p.m.; The Heat (R), 9 p.m.
SATURDAY Monsters University (G), 3 p.m.; White House Down (PG13), 6 p.m.
SUNDAY Monsters University (G), 3 p.m.; The Heat (R), 6 p.m.
MONDAY Fast & Furious 6 (PG13), 7 p.m.
TUESDAY Closed
WEDNESDAY Monsters University (G), 3 p.m.; The Heat (R), 7 p.m.
THURSDAY Closed

FUTENMA

FRIDAY White House Down (PG13), 6:30 p.m.
SATURDAY Man of Steel (3-D) (PG13), 4 p.m.; White House Down (PG13), 7:30 p.m.
SUNDAY The Heat (R), 4 p.m.; White House Down (PG13), 7:30 p.m.
MONDAY World War Z (3-D) (PG13), 6:30 p.m.
TUESDAY-THURSDAY Closed

KINSER

FRIDAY The Heat (R), 6:30 p.m.
SATURDAY White House Down (PG13), 3 and 6:30 p.m.
SUNDAY After Earth (PG13), 1 p.m.; Now You See Me (PG13), 3:30 p.m.; The Heat (R), 6:30 p.m.
MONDAY-TUESDAY Closed
WEDNESDAY White House Down (PG13), 6:30 p.m.
THURSDAY The Heat (R), 6:30 p.m.

SCHWAB

FRIDAY Star Trek Into Darkness (PG13), 6 p.m.; After Earth (PG13), 9 p.m.
SATURDAY This is the End (R), 6 p.m.; World War Z (PG13), 9 p.m.
SUNDAY The Purge (R), 6 p.m.; Man of Steel (PG13), 9 p.m.
MONDAY-THURSDAY Closed

HANSEN

FRIDAY White House Down (PG13), 3 and 6:30 p.m.; The Heat (R), 10 p.m.
SATURDAY World War Z (3-D) (PG13), 6 and 9:30 p.m.
SUNDAY White House Down (PG13), 2:30 p.m.; The Heat (R), 6 p.m.
MONDAY White House Down (PG13), 6 p.m.; The Heat (R), 9:30 p.m.
TUESDAY The Heat (R), 7 p.m.
WEDNESDAY World War Z (PG13), 7 p.m.
THURSDAY The Heat (R), 7 p.m.

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 and 3-D availability visit www.shopmyexchange.com.



SINGLE MARINE PROGRAM EVENTS

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

FOREST ADVENTURE PARK

• The SMP is hosting a trip to the Forest Adventure Park July 20. There will be a bus fee of \$10 that must be paid to the SMP office prior to the trip. For more information, contact your SMP representative or the SMP office at the number above.

MOUNT FUJI DISCOUNTS

• The SMP is offering discount prices for a Mount Fuji trip taking place Aug. 21-25. Full payment or cancellation of payment is due July 30. For more information, contact Tours Plus at 646-3502.

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

TEST YOUR CORPS KNOWLEDGE:

What year did the first formal Marine Corps birthday ball take place?

See answer in next week's issue

LAST WEEK'S QUESTION:

Which embassy was evacuated by Marines during Operation Frequent Wind in 1975?

ANSWER:

The U.S. Embassy in Saigon, South Vietnam, April 29-30. Marine pilots flew 682 sorties during the operation, and transported more than 7,000 evacuees.

日本語

Japanese phrase of the week:

“Watashi no namai wa (your name) desu.”
 (pronounced: wah-tah-shee no nah-mah-ee wah (your name) dehs)
 It means, “My name is (your name).”

CHAPLAINS'

OPINION

“I have learned to not let fear get in the way.”



Facing fears to overcome hardships

Lt. Scott Shafer
 3RD MEDICAL BATTALION CHAPLAIN

“I am going straight into Hell.” That’s all I could think as I looked at the track at Officer Indoctrination School. It looked like a recipe for pain!

Our division was going to run with the senior chief petty officer. We had never met before, but I was convinced that senior chief was offended by the fact that I had been born. He had us out there, and he was not happy. We were going to do a relay conditioning run.

The run consisted of getting in one big line and running one behind the other. And when senior chief blew a whistle, the person at the end of the line would run to the front. At least all of us were equal in our misery as we ran.

I hadn’t run in years. There was a man in my church who was a runner, and he got me to the point where I

could run a mile and a half. Enough to get in the Navy, but I was neither graceful, nor efficient, nor fast. And here I was running on a track with people half my age.

I think we ran for forty-five minutes or an hour. Who knows? One loses all sense of time, and you just start listening for the whistle. We ran and ran and when we were done, we had gone four and a half miles. I had never run that far in my entire life!

We can achieve what we had never imagined, but we go nowhere if we don’t step onto that track. We may not know if we can even make it to the finish line, but sometimes what it takes is that beginning push.

I have learned to not let fear get in the way. You are not alone in this effort. Faith, prayer, determination, and a senior chief petty officer all make a difference.

I thanked senior chief. He had gotten me somewhere I had never been before!

FOR UPCOMING SPECIAL WORSHIP SERVICES AND EVENTS FOR ALL MARINE CORPS BASE CHAPELS, CALL 645-2501 OR VISIT WWW.MCIPAC.MARINES.MIL AND LOOK UNDER “AROUND MCIPAC”