

# OKINAWA MARINE

NOVEMBER 2, 2012

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## Leaders discuss Asia-Pacific region, future



**Commanders and senior enlisted leaders from throughout III Marine Expeditionary Force listen as Lt. Gen. Kenneth J. Glueck Jr. speaks at the annual III MEF commanders' conference at the Ocean Breeze at Camp Foster Oct. 29. "We are flexible and can respond to any type of contingency," said Glueck. "I am confident in our abilities and capabilities. We are only getting stronger." Glueck is the commanding general of III MEF.**

Photo by Lance Cpl. Mike Granahan

**Lance Cpl. Mike Granahan**  
OKINAWA MARINE STAFF

CAMP FOSTER — III Marine Expeditionary Force leaders met for the annual III MEF commanders' conference at the Ocean Breeze at Camp Foster Oct. 29-30.

Lt. Gen. Kenneth J. Glueck Jr., the commanding general of III MEF, opened the conference with a discussion detailing the importance of Marine Corps engagement in the Asia-Pacific region and reinforcing the commandant of the Marine Corps' guidance to

all Marines regarding sexual assault prevention, personal integrity, accountability, illegal drug use and hazing.

Senior leaders came together to discuss challenges and opportunities and to ensure everyone understands the commanding general's intent, priorities and concerns, according to Col. Daniel J. Haas, the III MEF chief of staff.

"(III MEF) and Marine Corps Installations Pacific have a variety of responsibilities in the increasingly important Asia-Pacific region,

and it's important we come together and ensure we are all on the same page," said Haas.

The expeditionary character and agility of III MEF must be maintained, according to Glueck.

"We can do whatever it takes to accomplish the mission, and that is why we are the response force of choice in this region," said Glueck.

Marines in this part of the world are forward deployed and must be prepared to respond quickly to a variety of situations, according to Haas.

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## Japan, US officers discuss artillery

**Lance Cpl. Jose D. Lujano**  
OKINAWA MARINE STAFF

CAMP HANSEN — Marines with 3rd Battalion, 12th Marine Regiment, hosted an M777A2 155 mm howitzer static display for student-officers with the Japan Ground Self-Defense Force's Fuji Schools at Camp Hansen Oct. 24.

The event was part of the Japan Observer Exchange Program, which provides the opportunity for JGSDF personnel and U.S. service members to exchange information on a wide range of military topics.

The Marines with 3rd Battalion, 12th Marine Regiment, a part of 3rd Marine Division, III Marine Expeditionary Force, displayed the howitzer to the JGSDF student-officers and

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**An MV-22B Osprey takes off after landing support specialists attached a 7,000-pound concrete block during dual-point external training on Ie Shima Oct. 25. Marine Medium Tiltrotor Squadron 265 recently switched from the CH-46E Sea Knight helicopter to the Osprey, which allows for dual-point external operations at faster speeds. The landing support specialists are with Combat Logistics Regiment 37, 3rd Marine Logistics Group, III Marine Expeditionary Force. The pilot and crew are with VMM-265, 1st Marine Aircraft Wing, III MEF.** Photo by Pfc. Kasey Peacock

## Marines train with Osprey at Ie Shima

**Pfc. Kasey Peacock**  
OKINAWA MARINE STAFF

IE SHIMA, Okinawa — Marines conducted dual-point external

training with an MV-22B Osprey at Ie Shima, Okinawa, Oct. 25.

Landing support specialists with Combat Logistics Regiment 37, 3rd Marine Logistics Group, III Marine

Expeditionary Force, supported Marine Medium Tiltrotor Squadron 265 during external training, which consists of lifting a 7,000-pound

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# Prevention starts at home

Marie Lewis

If you are a parent on Okinawa, you may have sent your child to school recently wearing wacky socks or dressed in red from head to toe. While these silly activities show support for Red Ribbon Week, they also offer an opportunity for parents to engage their children in one of the most important conversations in their young lives.

Students throughout Department of Defense Education Activity Okinawa schools took an active role in this year's Red Ribbon Week, which is the oldest and largest drug abuse prevention program in the U.S., reaching millions of young people Oct. 23-31 each year. The national obser-

vance is in memory of Enrique Camarena, an agent with the Drug Enforcement Agency and former Marine who gave his life fighting the battle against illegal drugs.

Our educators used fun, interactive activities to communicate a critical message to our students: "It's Up to Me to be Drug Free."

We emphasize personal responsibility at school, but the lesson truly begins at home. As educators, we strive to model healthy behaviors and reinforce sound judgment. However, parents are always the first and most effective teachers when it comes to children's decision-making. By simply asking your child about what they did at school for Red Ribbon Week, you have opened the door to a meaningful discussion about the dangers of drug abuse and the pressures your child will face as they grow older. Lead by example and exercise the kind of judgment you want your child to follow. Ask them questions and listen—truly listen by giving them your full, active attention—to what they have to say.

I saw firsthand the devastating impact of drugs on families when I worked in Kentucky as a reporter. Methamphetamine use was rampant, and I literally saw families torn apart. One day, I was riding along with

undercover police, about to burst into the home of a large-scale drug dealer. With my video camera on my shoulder, I was shocked to come face to face with the leader of this massive drug ring: an elderly woman with children and grandchildren of her own. She allowed me to interview her before police led her away in handcuffs. Tearfully, she admitted to me that through her influence, her children were using and dealing drugs on a regular basis. She felt there was no way out.

Prevention must start early, and parents will have the greatest impact in this effort.

Your children look to you for guidance even when you do not realize it. We encourage all parents to remind children of the school's right to conduct searches under certain circumstances. In Do-

DEA Okinawa schools, officials may search a student and his or her possessions or locker when they have reason to believe the student has illegal drugs, weapons, contraband, stolen property or other evidence of misconduct. Additionally, desks, lockers and storage spaces are the property of the school. As such, they are subject to periodic or random inspections by the principal in coordination with appropriate installation authorities or military police. Drug detection dogs may also be used for random searches of student vehicles, property, book bags, backpacks, desks and lockers.

Drug use is a serious offense, and consequences in DoDEA Okinawa schools are equally severe. A student found to be using, selling or in possession of drugs faces suspension from school for up to 10 days. A second offense could result in expulsion from school. There could also be criminal charges that could put any young person's academic and career ambitions in jeopardy.

Red Ribbon Week is a great opportunity to talk to your children about drugs and their dangers. No life is worth a temporary high.

*Lewis is the Department of Defense Education Activity Okinawa News Liaison.*

**Red Ribbon Week is a great opportunity to talk to your children about drugs and their dangers.**



## AROUND THE CORPS



Marines conduct helicopter suspension training at landing zone falcon at Camp Lejeune, N.C., Oct. 23. A CH-53E Super Stallion helicopter lifted and lowered two, 500-gallon water containers between two different landing zones. The training was conducted as part of 26th Marine Expeditionary Unit's predeployment training program. The Marines are assigned to Combat Logistics Battalion 26, 26th MEU, II Marine Expeditionary Force. The helicopter is with Marine Medium Tiltrotor Squadron 266, 2nd Marine Aircraft Wing, II MEF. Photo by Cpl. Christopher Q. Stone



Gunnery Sgt. Kristopher Hocking holds his son after returning from a deployment at Camp Pendleton, Calif., Oct. 26. Families and friends waited patiently at Camp Pendleton for their loved ones following a seven-month deployment to Helmand province, Afghanistan, in support of Operation Enduring Freedom. Hocking is an explosive ordnance disposal team leader with 1st Explosive Ordnance Disposal Company, 7th Engineer Support Battalion, 1st Marine Logistics Group, I Marine Expeditionary Force. Photo by Sgt. Michele Watson



U.S. and NATO service members and civilian contractors compete in the 2012 Marine Corps Marathon Forward on Camp Leatherneck, Helmand province, Afghanistan, Oct. 28. The marathon, a satellite race to the 37th annual MCM held in Washington D.C., has been held annually on Camp Leatherneck since 2009. Photo by Staff Sgt. Ezekiel R. Kitandwe

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OKINAWA MARINE

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NORTHERN BUREAU

Camp Hansen

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SOUTHERN BUREAU

Camp Kinser

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# Holiday mail deadlines approach

Lance Cpl. Daniel E. Valle

OKINAWA MARINE STAFF

CAMP FOSTER — As the holiday season approaches, the deadlines to ensure holiday packages arrive to their destination on time are right around the corner.

Installation post offices across Okinawa have set deadlines for packages to be sent in order to reach their U.S. destinations prior to the holidays. There are also deadlines set for mail from the U.S. to be sent in order to reach Okinawa on time.

There are several options for sending mail, and which one an individual should use depends on how long a package will take to reach its destination.

For express delivery of packages to the U.S. from Okinawa, the deadline is Dec. 17. For 1st class and priority mail, the deadline is Dec. 10, and for parcel air lift and space available mail, the deadline is Dec. 3.

For mail being sent to Okinawa from the U.S., the same options are available with one additional method. For express delivery, the deadline is Dec. 17. For 1st class and priority mail, the deadline is Dec. 10. For PAL, the deadline is Dec. 3. For SAM, the deadline is Nov. 26, and for parcel post, the deadline is Nov. 13.



“During the holiday season, we receive about three times the amount of mail from the states than we usually do,” said Marcelino S. Hernandez, a mail clerk with Headquarters and Service Battalion, Marine Corps Base Camp Butler, Marine Corps Installations Pacific. “Since we are receiving three times the amount of mail, we have to work three times as hard to get it to the Marines. Whether it is working through lunch or later hours, it has to be done.”

For many Marines on Okinawa, this may be the first time they are away from home during the holidays, according to Lance Cpl. Robert A. Rodriguez, a post office patron and heavy-equipment mechanic with G-F, facilities, MCB Camp Butler.

“Everyone should make sure they are aware of

the deadline to send packages home on time and also let their families know how long it takes to receive mail here,” said Rodriguez. “I have a very big family back in the states, and I constantly send large packages home for them. I want them to receive their gifts during the holidays and on time, so I will make sure to send them early.”

For Marines on Okinawa, the shipping process can take anywhere from 10 days to eight weeks depending on the service used, according to Hernandez.

“My advice to anyone sending mail during this time of year is to send it early,” said Hernandez. “Do not wait for the last minute because it is very busy, and your packages might not make it on time.”

## Local students give service members guided tour of Shuri Castle

Lance Cpl. Anne K. Henry

OKINAWA MARINE STAFF

NAHA, Okinawa — Local students with the Naha Nikkei Business College spent the day with U.S. Marines and sailors at Shuri Castle Oct. 27.

During the trip, local students taught the Marines and sailors some of the Okinawan customs and cultures through a guided tour of the centuries-old castle.

“Today benefits both the students and Marines,” said Sgt. Maj. Brent C. Cook, the sergeant major of Marine Corps Air Station Futenma. “They interacted in an environment where they exchanged customs and learned about the culture of Okinawa.”

The day started with the Marines and sailors meeting with the students near MCAS Futenma and dividing into mixed groups of students and service members.

“This is a great thing,” said Erika Shinzato, a second-year student at Naha Nikkei Business College. “We get to practice our English as well as teach the Marines about our culture and customs.”

The students explained the unique and rich history of Shuri Castle while walking with their groups through the ancient site.

“Activities like this are important because it provides our students with an opportunity to speak in English and practice their language skills as well as to interact with Marines,” said Anri Manabe, an English teacher at Naha Nikkei Business College. “These opportunities are also great for the Marines because it allows them to explore the area. I want the Marines to have the chance to interact with the Japanese people and to be able to experience more of Okinawa during their time here.”

As many of the Marines and sailors are new to the island, this was the first time many of them were able to experience Okinawan culture and explore their surroundings.

“The combination of the castle and interacting with the students was amazing,” said Petty Officer 3rd Class Tam Chu, a hospital corpsman with Marine Air Support Squadron 2, Marine Air Control Group 18, 1st Marine



**Erika Shinzato tells Seaman Edouard Blanc about the history of Shuri Castle during a tour of the castle Oct. 27. The tour gave the Marines and sailors a chance to learn more about the Okinawan culture and to interact with students from Naha Nikkei Business College. Shinzato is a second-year student at the college, and Blanc is a corpsman with Marine Medium Tiltrotor Squadron 265, Marine Aircraft Group 36, 1st Marine Aircraft Wing, III Marine Expeditionary Force.**

Photo by Lance Cpl. Anne K. Henry

Aircraft Wing, III Marine Expeditionary Force. “It gave us a rich cultural experience that we don’t get every day.”

Having the service members gain a better understanding of Okinawa culture and people will help them develop a relationship with the local community.

“This was a great experience for us,” said Chu. “Interacting with the students gave us a chance to learn their customs and for them to learn our customs. This is absolutely going to benefit me in the long run, as I now have a much greater understanding of their culture.”

## BRIEFS

## FEDERAL WRITE-IN ABSENTEE BALLOTS

The Nov. 6 general election is quickly approaching. Service members, civilian employees and their family members on Okinawa who have not yet received their ballots are encouraged to visit [www.fvap.gov](http://www.fvap.gov) to request and fill out a federal write-in absentee ballot and fax or email it in as soon as possible. Online voting assistants at [www.fvap.gov](http://www.fvap.gov) can help individuals complete the ballot in minutes, which can then be downloaded, printed and mailed to the local election official.

For more information, contact a unit voting assistance officer or visit the website at [www.fvap.gov](http://www.fvap.gov).

## SEASONAL UNIFORM CHANGE

The seasonal uniform change will take place Nov. 5. The uniform will be the Woodland Digital Marine Pattern Camouflage Marine Corps Combat Utility Uniform.

## WALK-IN FLU IMMUNIZATIONS

The U.S. Naval Hospital Okinawa will hold a walk-in clinic for seasonal flu immunizations Nov. 8-9 from 6:30 a.m. to 6 p.m. at the Camp Foster Community Center.

Flu immunizations will be available for anyone 6-months or older eligible for care at military health care facilities on Okinawa. Both injectable vaccine and nasal mist are available.

Participants should bring their identification cards, and anyone under 18 years of age must be accompanied by a parent or guardian.

For more information, contact the USNH Okinawa preventive medicine at 643-8031.

## MEDICATION TAKE-BACK DAY

U.S. Naval Hospital Okinawa, in conjunction with the Camp Foster Provost Marshal's Office, will sponsor an island-wide medication take-back day Nov. 17. Collection points will be located outside the Camp Foster main exchange and commissary from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m.

Expired or unused prescription and over-the-counter medications will be accepted from status of forces agreement personnel and retirees. Bring all medicine and containers so personnel can dispose of them properly for environmental and personal safety.

For more information, contact the USNH Okinawa pharmacy at 643-7547.

## SCHEDULED POWER, WATER OUTAGES

Camps Foster and Lester and Plaza Housing will experience temporary scheduled power and water outages through the month of November. For more information, contact Camp Services at 645-0883 or visit [www.facebook.com/campfoster](http://www.facebook.com/campfoster).

**TO SUBMIT A BRIEF,** send an email to [okinawamarine.mcbb.fct@usmc.mil](mailto: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.

# Marines refresh operator skills

Lance Cpl. Terence G. Brady

OKINAWA MARINE STAFF

CENTRAL TRAINING AREA — Approximately 30 Marines with Combat Logistics Battalion 4 conducted tactical vehicle operators' sustainment training at the Central Training Area Oct. 22.

The training was conducted to provide Marines with the battalion, a part of Combat Logistics Regiment 3, 3rd Marine Logistics Group, III Marine Expeditionary Force, an opportunity to drive different tactical vehicles on various types of terrain they will encounter on Okinawa.

"These road miles are necessary for drivers to adapt to driving on narrow roads and on the left-hand side," said 2nd Lt. Kristina F. Warren, the officer in charge of the convoy with CLB-4. "We had experienced drivers giving them guidance, since these road miles prepare our drivers to safely conduct operations on the roads here."

The Marines were guided through the training area, stopping frequently to assess the driver's knowledge of the routes.

"The training was difficult at first," said 2nd Lt. Mason D. Mckee, the convoy commander for the battalion. "Outside of studying maps, no one was really familiar with the area of operation, so there was some confusion on the route."



Marines conduct tactical vehicle operators' sustainment training at the Central Training Area at Camp Hansen Oct. 22. The training gave Marines an opportunity to drive different tactical vehicles on various types of terrain they will encounter on Okinawa. The Marines are with Combat Logistics Battalion 4, Combat Logistics Regiment 3, 3rd Marine Logistics Group, III Marine Expeditionary Force. Photo by Lance Cpl. Terence G. Brady

The vehicle operators had to complete approximately 95 miles of driving throughout the course, using heavy vehicle variants such as medium tactical vehicle replacement trucks and logistics vehicle system replacement trucks.

"It's always good they get practice with these vehicles in a controlled environment first," said Mckee.

Along with the convoy movement, Marines dispersed along the road as road guards and vehicle guides to ensure safety during the training. Battalion corpsmen integrated into the training to provide medical attention if needed throughout the convoy.

"Whenever we train, we learn something new and apply the

lessons learned to future operations," said Warren. "Parts of this training highlighted the importance of a detailed convoy brief and ensuring each individual is 100 percent clear as to the route and their specific task."

The Marines trained throughout the week in order to be mission capable for convoy operations in support of III MEF.

"The most important aspect that the Marines should remember is that all training, whether it is a complex firing range or just driving back and forth on the same road, serves a purpose and should be treated as a tactical mission," said Mckee. "These Marines now have the road miles and training to be able to do what the Marine Corps needs."

## Elementary students 'sock it to drugs'



Students in Gregory Lanier's fifth-grade class "sock it to drugs" during Red Ribbon Week at Bechtel Elementary School at Camp Mctureous Oct. 25. "I encourage individuality in my classroom," said Lanier. "Being proud to be who you are and make your own decisions to live a healthy lifestyle is a perfect way to support Red Ribbon Week. Wearing crazy socks allows students to express themselves and have fun at the same time."

Photo by Deborah Connolly, Bechtel Elementary School News Liaison

# Marines, leadership reflect on core values



Lt. Gen. Kenneth J. Glueck, Jr. addresses Marines, sailors and civilians during an all-hands reflection brief at Camp Foster Oct. 25. Glueck visited all Marine installations on Okinawa Oct. 24-25 to address recent alleged incidents and the resulting curfew policy while emphasizing service members' roles as ambassadors on Okinawa. "I have all the trust and confidence that we will overcome this period and continue to move forward," said Glueck. "Every Marine became a diplomat the moment they landed on Okinawa. Conduct yourselves accordingly when interacting with our hosts and be the best diplomat you can be for our country and service." U.S. Forces Japan is conducting a review of liberty policies while the curfew policy is in effect. Glueck is the III Marine Expeditionary Force commanding general.

Photo by Lance Cpl. Jose D. Lujano

## HST from pg 1

concrete block and moving it to different locations around a landing zone.

The concrete block simulates the weight of equipment that may need to be moved in combat or humanitarian assistance operations, such as military vehicles, supplies, food and water.

"Our mission is to get in and extract the object as quickly and safely as possible," said Capt. David M. Venci, a pilot with VMM-265, a part of Marine Aircraft Group 36, 1st Marine Aircraft Wing, III MEF. "While we train with the 7,000-pound block, the Osprey has an external lifting capability up to 15,000 pounds."

VMM-265 recently switched from the CH-46E Sea Knight helicopter to the MV-22B Osprey, which allows dual-point external operations to be executed at faster speeds.

"With the Osprey having increased capabilities compared to the CH-46 and operating at faster speeds, we can accomplish our mission faster and more efficiently," said Gunnery Sgt. Jaymz L. Bott, a crew chief with the squadron.

The training consisted of landing support specialists using dual-point hook external systems to attach the concrete block to the Osprey. The Marines endured extreme winds and rotor wash to connect the hooks that hang from the aircraft hovering above them.

During the training, it was vital for the pilot and crew to stay in constant communication with the Marines on the ground to ensure there were no errors, according to Sgt. Robert D. Gallini, a landing support specialist with the regiment.

"In combat situations, we need to be quick while being as safe as possible," said Gallini. "This training is extremely important because working with Ospreys is relatively new to many Marines."

This was the second time on Okinawa the Osprey was used for external training, and it is scheduled for many different training events in the future, according to Bott.

"We have many experienced Osprey pilots on Okinawa," said Bott. "It is important we get the ground Marines as much training with the aircraft as we can, so that everyone is familiar with its capabilities."

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explained its importance to the Marine Air-Ground Task Force.

"A MAGTF is composed of four elements: the command element, air combat element, logistics combat element and ground combat element," said Maj. David I. Padilla, executive officer of the battalion.

Use of the howitzer enhances the lethality of the ground combat element by providing supporting fires on the battlefield, allowing Marines to maneuver easily, according to Padilla.

"The key element that I tried to convey is the combined combat power of the MAGTF," said Padilla. "This unique fighting organization and structure can be tailored and scaled to operate across the entire range of military operations."

In order for the U.S. and Japan to preserve and sustain joint capabilities, there has to be a mutual understanding regarding the way both forces operate, according to 1st Lt. Sean R. Salefske, a fires direction officer with 3rd Battalion, 12th Marine Regiment.

"By addressing and answering questions about our equipment and procedures, we can



Sgt. Mark A. Dickey briefs the capabilities of the M777A2 155 mm howitzer to Japan Ground Self-Defense Force student-officers during a static display at Camp Hansen Oct. 24. Dickey is a field artillery cannoneer with 3rd Battalion, 12th Marine Regiment, 3rd Marine Division, III Marine Expeditionary Force. The JGSDF student-officers are with Fuji Schools. Photo by Lance Cpl. Jose D. Lujano

take a step forward in creating a level of mutual understanding in our field," said Salefske.

The Marines briefed their capabilities and answered questions, according to Maj. Mashi Kagiwada, a student-officer with Fuji Schools.

"We have many questions because we are training to become field officers," said Kagiwada. "In a battle, we can work together easily because we know their structure and way of fighting."

The JGSDF student-officers spent approximately two hours becoming familiar with the functions and capabilities of the howitzer and its role within the MAGTF.

The static display was a great opportunity to further understand how the Marine Corps operates, according to Kagiwada.

"We would like to attend and partake in more displays in the future to exchange knowledge," said Kagiwada.

## CONFERENCE from pg 1

"III MEF needs to maintain a high state of readiness in order to be able to respond to crises and contingencies while simultaneously executing multiple, overlapping exercises and engagements with our allies throughout the U.S. Pacific Command area of responsibility," said Haas.

The commandant consistently refers to the Corps as a middleweight force, and III MEF embodies that principle, according to Glueck.

"We are flexible and can respond to any type of contingency," said Glueck. "I am confident in our abilities and capabilities. We are only getting stronger."

Commanders and senior enlisted leaders left the conference with the clear guidance and necessary knowledge to carry out the vision of their leadership and continue to keep the III MEF and MCIPAC team ready for any future operations.

A Marine snaps a football during the flag football event at the 2nd annual super squadron competition at Marine Corps Air Station Futenma Oct. 26. "Here, aboard MCAS Futenma, we are all about one team, one fight," said Sgt. Maj. Brent L. Cook, the air station sergeant major. "The event was about putting the stress of daily life to the side and really getting to know the Marine to the left and right of you through friendly competition."



From left, Sgt. Maj. Brent L. Cook and Col. James G. Flynn lead Marines in a pushup exercise following the 2nd annual super squadron competition at Marine Corps Air Station Futenma Oct. 26. The winning unit, Marine Wing Support Squadron 172, earned the most cumulative points and was presented with the super squadron trophy. Cook is the MCAS Futenma sergeant major and Flynn is the commanding officer.



Sgt. Steven J. Olson flips a tire after spinning around a bat during the 2nd annual super squadron competition at Marine Corps Air Station Futenma Oct. 26. The competition consisted of 10 rigorous events including a Humvee pull, a bench press competition and an obstacle course. Olson is a field radio operator with Marine Air Support Squadron 2, Marine Air Control Group 18, 1st MAW, III MEF.

# Squadron BONDING

# Competition builds bonds between squadrons

Story and photos by Pfc. Kasey Peacock  
OKINAWA MARINE STAFF

Marines pride themselves on their ability to bring the fight through the air, on land and at sea. While some Marines specialize in one of the three, the ability to adapt and overcome to accomplish the mission is shared by all Marines.

Marines with 1st Marine Aircraft Wing proved their capabilities extend far beyond high altitudes during the 2nd annual super squadron competition at Marine Corps Air Station Futenma Oct. 26.

The competition, hosted by MCAS Futenma leadership, was open to all squadrons



Lt. Col. Darin J. Clarke holds up the championship trophy at the 2nd annual super squadron competition at Marine Corps Air Station Futenma Oct. 26. Clarke's unit, Marine Wing Support Squadron 172, earned the most points throughout 10 rigorous events to claim first place. Clarke is the commanding officer of MWSS-172.

with Marine Aircraft Group 36 and Marine Air Control Group 18 as they competed to be crowned super squadron.

"Here, aboard MCAS Futenma, we are all about one team, one fight," said Sgt. Maj. Brent L. Cook, the air station sergeant major. "The event was about putting the stress of daily life to the side and really getting to know the Marine to the left and right of you through friendly competition."

The competition consisted of 10 rigorous events including a Humvee pull, a bench press competition, dodgeball, flag football and an obstacle course.

Each squadron was separated into 10 teams and collected points according to how each team placed within an event. Teams were composed of at least one officer, one staff noncommissioned officer, one noncommissioned officer and one junior Marine.

"We wanted to set the teams up like that to give the Marines a chance to get to know everybody, not just their peers," said Cook.

Although the meet was designed to build unit cohesion, Marines appeared to relish the opportunity to compete with their brothers and sisters-in-arms even more.

"The Marines look forward to the competition, and our goal is to continue to do it every year," said Sgt. Maj. Ricky L. Fode, the sergeant major with Headquarters and Headquarters

Squadron, MCAS Futenma.

For the competition, Marine Corps Community Services representatives and squadron family readiness officers and squadron family readiness officers provided music, prizes and refreshments to the competitors.

"The help and support we received from MCCS and squadron FROs helped make the day more enjoyable for the Marines and we really appreciate everything they do," said Cook.

The different job responsibilities within a MAW make it difficult for Marines to get to know each other outside of work, according to Gunnery Sgt. John M. Warrenski, an aircraft mechanic with Marine Medium Tiltrotor Squadron 265, 1st MAW, III Marine Expeditionary Force.

"This gave us an opportunity to accomplish something as a whole, as brothers and sisters," said Warrenski. "No matter how good you are at something on your own, as Marines, we need to always train and work together as a team."

Marine Wing Support Squadron 172 earned the most cumulative points and was presented with the super squadron trophy.

"I enjoyed getting out there and competing with my unit," said Sgt. Thomas P. Deyo, an engineer equipment operator with MWSS-172.

"While it felt good to win the competition, the greater reward was the opportunity to bond with the other Marines in the wing that we don't normally get to interact with."

Gunnery Sgt. John M. Warrenski attacks the obstacle course during the 2nd annual super squadron competition at Marine Corps Air Station Futenma Oct. 26. The competition, hosted by MCAS Futenma leadership, was open to all squadrons with Marine Aircraft Group 36 and Marine Air Control Group 18 as they competed to be crowned the super squadron. Warrenski is an aircraft mechanic with Marine Medium Tiltrotor Squadron 265, Marine Aircraft Group 36, 1st Marine Aircraft Wing, III Marine Expeditionary Force.



**U.S. Marines load into a French Armed Forces EC725 Caracal helicopter prior to a helicopter raid as part of Exercise Croix du Sud in Kumac, New Caledonia, Oct. 24. After being dropped in a landing zone, the Marines secured a simulated enemy compound as part of Croix du Sud's culminating field training exercise. The Marines are with 1st platoon, Company G, 2nd Battalion, 3rd Marine Regiment, which is currently assigned to 4th Marine Regiment, 3rd Marine Division, III Marine Expeditionary Force.**

## Multilateral field training exercise concludes

Story and photos by Cpl. Erik S. Brooks Jr.

OKINAWA MARINE STAFF

**M**ore than 1,300 personnel from eight nations conducted a multilateral field training exercise as the final phase of Exercise Croix du Sud at Kumac, New Caledonia, Oct. 21-25.

Croix du Sud is a multilateral exercise hosted by the French Armed Forces in New Caledonia involving two U.S. Marine Corps platoons and elements of the armed forces of Australia, the United Kingdom, New Zealand, Vanuatu, Papua New Guinea and the Kingdom of Tonga.

The U.S. Marines who participated are with 1st platoon, Company G, 2nd Battalion, 3rd Marine Regiment, which is currently assigned to 4th Marine Regiment, 3rd Marine Division, III Marine Expeditionary Force.

"We conducted simulated humanitarian aid and disaster relief operations, noncombatant evacuation operations and an assault during the five days," said Sgt. Guillermo L. Fargas, the platoon sergeant for 1st platoon. "We worked in conjunction with all the participating nations to respond to a simulated tsunami hitting New Caledonia."

The exercise was designed to strengthen interoperability between the different militaries through the exchange of procedures and sharing of past experiences, according to French Gen. Jean-Francois Parlanti, the supreme commander of French forces in New Caledonia.

The exercise consisted of multiple training events focused on supporting a displaced populace following the simulated natural disaster.

After landing in the simulated disaster zone, the French and U.S. Marines worked together to establish control bases in the area.

"When we landed, we were tasked to patrol down to a nearby soccer field and set up security," said U.S. Marine Lance Cpl. Cory R. Pirtle, a rifleman with 1st platoon.

The Marines secured the field for the French to follow up and establish a battalion headquarters. The following day, the Marines were tasked with sending a quick reaction force to calm a simulated civilian riot at the battalion headquarters.

"We sent the Marines out with the British soldiers to be a presence and make sure the riot did not get out of hand while the Vanuatu soldiers controlled the crowd," said Fargas.

When the riot was settled, the Marines headed back to base to get ready for their next task, which was to conduct a resupply mission with the French Marines, according to Fargas.

"Our mission was to secure a landing zone in a field and wait for the French to drop humanitarian

aid supplies from their planes," said Fargas. "Once they were dropped, we recovered and delivered the supplies back to base."

Militaries would use this resupply technique in an HADR situation because most of the roads would be damaged in a natural disaster, according to Fargas.

The Marines' final mission was a helicopter assault operation on a simulated enemy compound.

"We took a squad and coordinated with the French to take out the enemy on a remote island north of our position," said 1st Lt. Forrest L. Martin, platoon commander for 1st platoon. "We landed on the island, linked up with the French, and maneuvered and took the enemy out together."

The training exercise was the closest simulation to a three-block war a military can get, according to Fargas. A three-block war is a scenario when, taking a platoon as an example, one squad is conducting combat operations, another is conducting humanitarian aid operations, and another is conducting peacekeeping operations all in the same area of operation. The training scenario was beneficial to each country's participants.

"We train in these situations to be able to intervene when circumstances are so damaged that only militaries can do something with their specific abilities, especially for HADR and NEO scenarios," said Parlanti. "This exercise allowed for the militaries to return to their countries with a better understanding of these missions, making them more effective and efficient."



**U.S. Marines watch as French Armed Forces aircraft drop supplies during Exercise Croix du Sud in Kumac, New Caledonia, Oct. 22. The U.S. Marines retrieved and transported the supplies to a battalion headquarters the French and U.S. Marines had set up for simulated disaster relief operations.**



**French and U.S. Marines prepare to attack a simulated enemy compound as part of Exercise Croix du Sud in Kumac, New Caledonia, Oct. 24. "We landed on the island, linked up with the French, and maneuvered and took the enemy out together," said 1st Lt. Forrest L. Martin, platoon commander for 1st platoon.**

# CLR-3 Marines renew warfighting spirit

Lance Cpl. Alyssa N. Hoffacker

OKINAWA MARINE STAFF

**A** Marine yells “Half load!” alerting those around that the bolt of a .50-caliber Browning machine gun is forward. The Marine then yells, “Full load!” signifying the weapon is now loaded and ready to fire.

Commands echoed loudly as Marines with Combat Logistics Regiment 3, 3rd Marine Logistics Group, III Marine Expeditionary Force, conducted crew-served weapons training at Camp Schwab Oct. 24.

The crew-served weapons shoot was part of a weeklong training evolution, which focused on sharpening both military occupational specialty and infantry skills.

The Marines trained on convoy operations, improvised explosive device drills and military operations on urban terrain throughout the week.

“We learned proper techniques and procedures for MOUT and the dangers and intensity involved with urban operations,” said Lance Cpl. Frank L. Brasington, a data systems technician with the regiment.

Some of the Marines who took part in the training spend most days in an office. They relished the opportunity to execute field training, according to Brasington.

“This got us out of our normal environment and into the field, where most of us don’t get a lot of hands-on experience,”

said Brasington. “This week reminded us that every Marine is a rifleman.”

The training evolution improved more than the Marines’ knowledge and familiarity with weapons and procedures.

“I can already see a boost in morale,”

said Lance Cpl. Anthony M. Tucker, a motor vehicle operator with CLR-3. “The camaraderie has in-

creased significantly within the junior leadership. We are all in this together, day in and day out.”

The training gave Marines the necessary experience to better react in combat situations, according to Staff Sgt. Nyan R. Kendrick, the motor transport staff noncommissioned officer in charge with CLR-3.

“Training is where mistakes can be made because once they (are in combat), it’s game on,” said Kendrick. “That’s where real things happen to real people. The best part of this training was to see young Marines give it 100 percent. They pushed forward, did different things, learned their weak and strong points, and successfully completed this training evolution.”



Lance Cpl. Joseph W. Cobb effectively engages a target with a .50-caliber Browning machine gun during crew-served weapons training at Camp Schwab Oct. 24. Cobb is a data systems technician with Combat Logistics Regiment 3, 3rd Marine Logistics Group, III Marine Expeditionary Force. Photo by Lance Cpl. Alyssa N. Hoffacker

**“This week reminded us that every Marine is a rifleman.”**

Lance Cpl. Frank L. Brasington

## Marines learn fundamentals of marksmanship coaching

Lance Cpl. Anne K. Henry

OKINAWA MARINE STAFF

“One shot, one kill” and “Every Marine a rifleman” are two mantras that exemplify Marines’ history as sharpshooters, but before they can become exceptional marksmen, they must be trained.

To train future weapons experts, groups of Marines head to the classroom and learn to teach fundamentals of rifle and pistol marksmanship.

Approximately 40 Marines attended a rifle and pistol coaches course Oct. 15-26 to become certified as marksmanship coaches through classroom instruction and practical application. Following the rifle and pistol coaches course, the students were scheduled to attend a combat marksmanship course.

“We are teaching future coaches the necessary skills, so they will be able to instruct future students,” said Sgt. Ethan D. Hutchman, a range warden with Headquarters Battery, 12th Marine Regiment, 3rd Marine Division, III Marine Expeditionary Force.

Classes during the course included ballistics, combat optics, methods of target engagement and range estimations.

“We conduct these courses whenever a unit needs new coaches or instructors,” said Hutchman. “Because of the quality of the education we are providing today in these classes, more units will be able to depend on a greater number of qualified individuals to teach Marines marksmanship skills throughout the Corps.”

Since weapons handling and marksmanship are critical skills throughout the Marine Corps, instructors and coaches must be well-trained to ensure Marines receive the correct guidance on the rifle and pistol ranges.

“You ultimately learn the fundamentals of the rifle and pistol during this course,” said Lance Cpl. Travis J. Stevens, a rifle range block noncommissioned officer with range control, III MEF Headquarters Group, III MEF.



Marines look through their rifle optics during a rifle and pistol coaches course Oct. 26 at Camp Hansen. The course taught the students the fundamentals of the rifle and pistol and gave them the confidence and skills needed to be range coaches. Photo by Lance Cpl. Anne K. Henry

“It is very important that these future coaches master the skills we are teaching. Without these skills, the Marine Corps would not be what it is.”

The rifle and pistol coaches course is critical training and not only teaches Marines how to be qualified instructors, but also gives them in-depth training on the fundamentals of marksmanship.

“I am advancing my marksmanship skills and learning a lot of new things,” said Lance Cpl. Trevon E. Brown, a student in the course and supply warehouse clerk with Combat Logistics Regiment 35, 3rd Marine Logistics Group, III MEF. “I have been trying for a very long time to become a coach. I want my students to be the best shooters they can be and to pass my knowledge to them.”

# COMPARING WEAPONS

## Republic of Korea, US Marines share expertise

Story and photos by Lance Cpl. Nicholas S. Ranum  
OKINAWA MARINE STAFF

The booming sound of rockets launching and spent casings hitting the ground marked the culmination of the last live-fire range during Korean Marine Exchange Program 13-1.

Republic of Korea Marines with 32nd Battalion watched as U.S. Marines with Weapons Company, 2nd Battalion, 3rd Marine Regiment, demonstrated combined-arms maneuvers at Camp Mujuk, Republic of Korea, Oct. 22-26.

2nd Bn., 3rd Marines is participating in KMEP 13-1 from Oct. 15 to Nov. 14 to improve Republic of Korea and U.S. Marine forces' interoperability. The battalion is currently assigned to 4th Marine Regiment, 3rd Marine

Division, III Marine Expeditionary Force.

"The end state of this training was to demonstrate our combined-arms capabilities to our South Korean allies," said 1st Sgt. William J. Banks, the first sergeant for the company. "We incorporated the ROK Marines from the very beginning of the week."

Throughout the course of the week, the U.S. and ROK Marines shared their knowledge and taught each other about their respective weapons.

"The first day of the week, we were at a small-arms range," said Banks. "This gave us an opportunity to learn about their K1 and K2 rifles and their course of fire. We also demonstrated to the ROK Marines our rifles, the weapons safety rules, conditions and our course of fire. During firing that

day, we collectively fired approximately 10,000 rounds of 5.56 mm ammunition."

The company also demonstrated other, more advanced weaponry.

"We gave the ROK Marines the opportunity to learn about the MK19 40 mm grenade launcher, the .50-caliber Browning heavy machine gun, the M240B medium machine gun and the (tube-launched, optically-tracked, wire-guided) missile system," said Banks.

"The ROK Marines had the opportunity to get into the turrets and fire the weapons with the exception of the missile system. They also demonstrated the capabilities of their anti-tank missile system and compared it to our system."

The U.S. and ROK Marines stressed safety throughout the event by ensuring everyone received proper training and briefs before entering the turrets and firing the weapons.

"We discussed with the ROK Marines the functions of our weapons and how to shoot them safely," said Pfc. Marco J. Watson, an automatic rifleman with the company. "They can use that knowledge to enhance their own training and operating procedures."

The event ended with a demonstration of tactics to combat a heavy vehicle.

"On the final day, we familiarized them with how we operate taking down a large target," said Banks. "We had two Humvees act as decoys while Marines fired a Humvee-mounted TOW missile to take advantage of the surprise and destroy the vehicle."

The ROK and U.S. Marines used the training not only to learn about weapons but also to understand one another at the unit level.

"Training with the ROK Marines is fun," said Watson. "They teach us and we teach them, we both become better at what we do, and we are all stronger because of exercises like this."



Republic of Korea and U.S. Marines fire the MK19 40 mm grenade launcher Oct. 22 as part of a weeklong combined-arms training exercise during Korean Marine Exchange Program 13-1.



Republic of Korea Marines demonstrate the capabilities of their anti-tank missile system to U.S. Marines during bilateral training Oct. 24. Throughout the training, ROK and U.S. Marines shared their knowledge and taught each other about their respective weapons. The ROK Marines are with 32nd Battalion. The U.S. Marines are with Weapons Company, 2nd Battalion, 3rd Marine Regiment.

# In Theaters Now

**NOVEMBER 2 - 8**

## FOSTER

**TODAY** Alex Cross (PG13), 6 p.m.; Paranormal Activity 4 (R), 9 p.m.  
**SATURDAY** Ice Age: Continental Drift (PG), noon; Alex Cross (PG13), 3 and 6 p.m.; Taken 2 (PG13), 9 p.m.  
**SUNDAY** Alex Cross (PG13), 1 p.m.; Fun Size (PG13), 4 p.m.; Taken 2 (PG13), 7 p.m.  
**MONDAY** Taken 2 (PG13), 7 p.m.  
**TUESDAY** Argo (R), 7 p.m.  
**WEDNESDAY** Sinister (R), 7 p.m.  
**THURSDAY** Fun Size (PG13), 7 p.m.

## KADENA

**TODAY** The Expendables 2 (R), 6 p.m.; Looper (R), 9 p.m.  
**SATURDAY** Chasing Mavericks (PG), noon and 3 p.m.; Looper (R), 6 p.m.; Paranormal Activity 4 (R), 9 p.m.  
**SUNDAY** Chasing Mavericks (PG), 1 and 4 p.m.; Paranormal Activity 4 (R), 7 p.m.  
**MONDAY** Paranormal Activity 4 (R), 7 p.m.  
**TUESDAY** Alex Cross (PG13), 7 p.m.  
**WEDNESDAY** The Expendables 2 (R), 7 p.m.  
**THURSDAY** Alex Cross (PG13), 7 p.m.

## COURTNEY

**TODAY** Fun Size (PG13), 6 and 9 p.m.  
**SATURDAY** The Expendables 2 (R), 2 and 6 p.m.  
**SUNDAY** Argo (R), 2 and 6 p.m.  
**MONDAY** The Expendables 2 (R), 7 p.m.  
**TUESDAY** Closed  
**WEDNESDAY** Alex Cross (PG13), 7 p.m.  
**THURSDAY** Closed

## FUTENMA

**TODAY** Hit and Run (R), 6:30 p.m.  
**SATURDAY** Fun Size (PG13), 4 and 7 p.m.  
**SUNDAY** Here Comes the Boom (PG), 4 p.m.; Sinister (R), 7 p.m.  
**MONDAY** Argo (R), 6:30 p.m.  
**TUESDAY-THURSDAY** Closed

## KINSER

**TODAY** The Expendables 2 (R), 6:30 p.m.  
**SATURDAY** Here Comes the Boom (PG), 3 p.m.; The Expendables 2 (R), 6:30 p.m.  
**SUNDAY** Frankenweenie (PG), 3 p.m.; The Expendables 2 (R), 6:30 p.m.  
**MONDAY-TUESDAY** Closed  
**WEDNESDAY** Fun Size (PG13), 3 and 6:30 p.m.  
**THURSDAY** Chasing Mavericks (PG), 6:30 p.m.

## SCHWAB

**TODAY** Argo (R), 5 and 8 p.m.  
**SATURDAY** Hit and Run (R), 5 and 8 p.m.  
**SUNDAY** The Expendables 2 (R), 5 and 8 p.m.  
**MONDAY-THURSDAY** Closed

## HANSEN

**TEMPORARILY 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](http://www.shopmyexchange.com).



# SINGLE MARINE PROGRAM EVENTS

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

### FOSTER COMMISSARY APPRECIATION DAY - NOV. 8

• Join the SMP at the Foster Commissary Nov. 8 from 2-6 p.m. for food, games and prizes.

### SMP THANKSGIVING DINNER - NOV. 21

• Enjoy an afternoon eating a home-style Thanksgiving meal at The Palms at Camp Hansen brought to you by the Single Marine Program. The event will include games, prizes, food and entertainment. The event is open to the first 500 people and the deadline to receive tickets is Nov. 14.

### SMP TOYS FOR TOTS GOLF TOURNAMENT - DEC. 7

• Join the SMP for a day of fun and golf at the SMP Toys for Tots Golf Tournament at Taiyo Golf Course. All players are encouraged to donate a new unwrapped toy. Deadline to register is Nov. 30.

### VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

• Volunteers are needed to assist with physical assessments at E.C. Killin Elementary School Nov. 5, 6, 7, 13, 14, 15 and 16 from 8:50 a.m. to 3 p.m. Volunteers should wear fitness attire. Duties will include timing students and documenting the results. Lunch will be provided.

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

## Japanese phrase of the week:

“hai”  
 (pronounced:  
 hi) means,  
 “yes”

“ii”  
 (pronounced:  
 ee-eh) means,  
 “no”

**RIFLE RANGE**  
**HIGH SCORES**

**Oct. 22-26**  
**RIFLE RANGE**  
 Sgt. Stephen Chevez,  
 1st MAW, 343



# CHAPLAINS' CORNER

## Five reasons to visit base chapels

**Lt. John Potter**

CHAPLAIN, COMBAT LOGISTICS REGIMENT 3 AND COMBAT LOGISTICS BATTALION 4

An ancient Hebrew poet radically celebrated his visit to God's house by saying, "For a day in your court is better than a thousand elsewhere. I would rather be a doorkeeper in the house of my God than dwell in the tents of wickedness," Psalm 84:10.

Wouldn't it be nice to find such contentment and satisfaction in your life? One could only talk like this Psalmist by believing that we are made by God.

You may disagree completely with the Psalmist about a temple or a church being so exciting. Perhaps you have questions and doubts about God's existence and the evidence for faith.

Maybe you blame your grandmother for long ago putting you over the normal lifetime's quota of church visits by dragging you along every Wednesday evening and all day Sunday too. Nevertheless, I'd like to propose my top five reasons to consider paying a visit to an Okinawa base chapel:

5) You can usually go to chapel worship

services on your base without arranging a liberty-buddy team.

4) Respectful inquiries in pursuit of truth and understanding are always welcome. Being on Okinawa gives you access to a greater diversity of chapels and faith groups than almost any other duty station. Why not take this opportunity to explore what people from other traditions believe? Seeking the truth is necessary for a life of honor, courage and commitment.

3) Some chapel congregations like to share meals with hungry Marines and sailors. (Try Camp Foster's Protestant's pot-luck fellowship meal at 8:30 a.m. the third Sunday of each month). Maybe you'll meet me at that same service and take me up on my open Ping-Pong challenge: Win a game, and I'll buy you a pizza!

2) You'll have a good chance of meeting other Marines and sailors who are seeking or have found healthier ways of living and serving in the military.

1) Your chaplain's office will be more than happy to give you a copy of the Okinawa base chapel schedule and answer any questions you have ... just ask!

FOR UPCOMING SPECIAL WORSHIP SERVICES AND EVENTS FOR ALL MARINE CORPS BASE CHAPELS, CALL 645-2501 OR VISIT [WWW.MCIPAC.MARINES.MIL](http://WWW.MCIPAC.MARINES.MIL) AND LOOK UNDER "AROUND MCIPAC"