

OKINAWA MARINE

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Off-load displays expeditionary readiness



Marines with 3rd Marine Expeditionary Brigade off-load a high-mobility multipurpose wheeled vehicle pier-side from the USNS 1st Lt. Jack Lummus March 21 in Subic Bay, Republic of the Philippines, during a Maritime Prepositioning Force off-load as part of Exercise Freedom Banner 2013. Photo by Staff Sgt. Robert Dea

Gunnery Sgt. Christine Polvorosa
MARINE CORPS FORCES, PACIFIC

SUBIC BAY, Philippines — The Marine Corps and Navy demonstrated the capability to generate and sustain combat power ashore during Exercise Freedom Banner 2013 with a Maritime prepositioning force off-load March 21-22 in Subic Bay, Republic of the Philippines.

“Freedom Banner is a (U.S. Pacific Command-directed) exercise that supports multiple countries throughout the region,” said Col. Mark J. Menotti, assistant chief of staff,

G-4, supply and logistics, 3rd Marine Expeditionary Brigade, III Marine Expeditionary Force. “This is the first time in more than 20 years that Freedom Banner is supporting the Philippines, which gives us an opportunity to build closer ties with the Philippine armed forces.”

In less than 48 hours, more than 270 Marine Corps tactical vehicles and amphibious assault vehicles were off-loaded pier-side from the USNS 1st Lt. Jack Lummus, a maritime prepositioning ship assigned to Maritime Preposition Squadron Three.

As part of annual multilateral training Exercise Balikatan 2013, the USNS Sacagawea, a dry cargo and ammunition ship that represents the Marine Corps’ solution to sea-based logistics, will provide ship-to-shore sustainment of troops and equipment in the form of food, water, fuel, construction material, ammunition, repair parts and principle end items, such as vehicles and generators.

Unique to BK 13 will be the use of MV-22B Ospreys as ship-to-shore connectors. This will be the first time an
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Small protests create unsafe gate conditions

1st Lt. Jeanscott Dodd
OKINAWA MARINE STAFF

CAMP FOSTER — Small groups of protestors continue to obstruct traffic and impede access to Marine Corps Air Station Futenma and the Jungle Warfare Training Center on Camp Gonsalves, resulting in dangerous conditions at both sites.

Protest activities at JWTC have also delayed the single largest return of land by U.S. forces to the government of Japan, hindering the construction of new landing zones required to transfer nearly 10,000 acres of land in the Northern Training Area to the Japan government. The land return, first slated for 2008, remains delayed due to several protestors limiting contractors’ access to the site.

The chief concern is the safety of Marines, civilians, contract employees and their family members while entering and exiting the installations, and of the protestors themselves, according to Tim Morello, the mission assurance director for G-3/5, operations, training and plans, Marine Corps Installations Pacific.

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Sailors salute for the retiring of the colors during the decommissioning ceremony of U.S. Naval Hospital Okinawa on Camp Lester March 25. “Our Marines, sailors and soldiers have always known that this hospital would be there to take care of them,” said Navy Capt. Rick Freedman. “The spirit of this hospital will live on in all of us and will be forever remembered.” Freedman is the executive officer of USNH Okinawa, and the sailors are also with the hospital. Photo by Lance Cpl. David N. Hersey

Hospital on Camp Lester officially closes

Lance Cpl. David N. Hersey
OKINAWA MARINE STAFF

CAMP LESTER — Staff at the U.S. Naval Hospital Okinawa lowered the colors at the facility on Camp Lester for the last time March 26, marking the hospital’s official closure.

Commissioned in 1958 as a U.S. Army hospital,

the hospital changed hands from the Army to the Navy and was recommissioned as the U.S. Naval Hospital Okinawa in 1977. The hospital has offered medical treatment to military personnel in the Pacific since the day its doors were opened.

“This hospital has a legacy, which is rich with tradition,” said Brig. Gen. Craig Q. Timberlake,
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Caring for military families

Autism awareness critical for proper care

Master Gunnery Sgt. Rafika O. Vann

Recognizing the needs of a variety of individuals, active-duty, civilian employees and their families, is the hallmark of the Marine Corps. This is the first step to understanding our military families consist of an extremely wide range of people who collectively stand up as a team to support and defend our nation.

One of the ways we accomplish this is to highlight the growing need for the concern and awareness of issues through theme months such as Autism Awareness Month. The Autism Society has recognized National Autism Awareness Month since the 1970s, and the U.S. recognizes April as a special opportunity to educate the public about autism and issues within the autism community.

Autism spectrum disorder, known as ASD, and autism are both general terms for a group of complex disorders of brain development. These disorders are characterized, in varying degrees, by difficulties in social interaction, verbal and nonverbal communication, and repetitive behaviors. It is important to understand this disorder, so we

understand how to best care for those who suffer from it. We never know how many of our very own Marine Corps and Navy family members are born with this disorder.

Based on prevalence rates on autism from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, as many as 12,000 family members of active-duty, reserve and guard service members are afflicted with autism. One of the most important services we can offer to our family members is expressing genuine concern for their welfare.

Military life is particularly difficult for children with autism and their families. Given the frequent duty station changes and social turmoil of military service, military children with an autism spectrum disorder often face additional challenges with which their civilian counterparts do not have to contend.


Expressing genuine concern for the welfare of family members who suffer from autism is integral to providing support and awareness, so access to resources and information for service members and their spouses remain current. These resources must constantly evolve as new and additional information is gained. Education is crucial to ensuring the best support is requested and obtained.

President Barack Obama signed bipartisan legislation Jan. 3, which created a one-year pilot program expanding applied behavioral analysis care, one of the most widely used treatments for autism, to all military families through TRICARE. The program marks a critical first step in improving services for military families raising children with autism and will be evaluated for potential as a permanent part of TRICARE benefits.

As we move towards Autism Awareness Month, I would ask each of you to really think about the often unleashed potential of special needs individuals and what they offer to the nation we all defend. To become more educated about special-needs individuals is to become more educated about ourselves as leaders. In the end, this is an ideal formula for commands, which are truly combat-effective.

"It is important to understand this disorder so we understand how to best care for those who suffer from it."

Vann is the equal opportunity adviser for III Marine Expeditionary Force.



AROUND THE CORPS

Sgt. Chesty XIII, right, official mascot of the U.S. Marine Corps, stares down his successor, Recruit Chesty, during training March 20 at Marine Barracks, Washington, D.C. Chesty, a 9-week-old pedigreed English bulldog, is set to become the mascot after the completion of obedience and recruit training. After completing training, the young puppy will earn the title Marine, joining the ranks of his well-known predecessors.

Photo by Sgt. Dengrier Baez

An F-35B Lightning II Joint Strike Fighter prepares to make a vertical landing March 21 at Marine Corps Air Station Yuma, Ariz. Maj. Richard Rusnok, an F-35B Lightning II test pilot, conducted Marine Fighter Attack Squadron 121's first short takeoff, as well as the Corps' first F-35B hover and vertical landing, outside of a testing environment. Photo by Cpl. Ken Kalemkarian



OKINAWA MARINE

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COMMANDING GENERAL Maj. Gen. Peter J. Talleri

PUBLIC AFFAIRS DIRECTOR Lt. Col. David M. Griesmer

PRESS OFFICER 1st Lt. Jeanscott Dodd

PRESS CHIEF Staff Sgt. Kenneth G. Lewis Jr.

DESIGN EDITOR Audra A. Satterlee



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Camp Foster

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Camp Hansen

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SOUTHERN BUREAU

Camp Kinser

DSN 637-1092



A wind turbine is installed March 19 adjacent to Building 1 on Camp Foster. The turbine is capable of generating 10 kilowatt-hours each hour at its peak, which, as an example, would power the fluorescent lights on one floor of Building 1, according to Capt. Steven M. Bancroft, energy and utilities officer in charge with facilities engineers, G-F, Facilities, Marine Corps Base Camp Smedley D. Butler, Marine Corps Installations Pacific. Photo by Lance Cpl. Brandon C. Suhr

Wind turbine to provide clean power

1st Lt. Jeanscott Dodd

OKINAWA MARINE STAFF

CAMP FOSTER — Japanese contractors recently constructed one of the Department of Defense's first wind turbines in Japan adjacent to Building 1 on Camp Foster.

The turbine, which is expected to be fully operational in mid-April, will generate clean power and help reduce Marine Corps Base Camp Smedley D. Butler's carbon footprint and utilities bill, according to Tomoko Matsuzaki, an energy engineer with facilities engineers, G-F, Facilities, MCB Camp Butler, Marine Corps Installations Pacific.

"This project has been years in the making, and once it is up and running, it will immediately reduce the amount of power Building 1 pulls from the grid," said Matsuzaki. "Since the generator converts kinetic energy from the wind into electrical energy, there are no emissions associated with the turbine, making it better for the environment."

The turbine is capable of generating 10 kilowatt-hours each hour at its peak, which, as an example, would power the fluorescent lights on one floor of Building 1, according to Capt. Steven M. Bancroft, energy and utilities officer in charge with facilities engineers.

"Whenever the wind is blowing and the turbine is operating, energy is being created and Building 1 is pulling less power from the grid," said Bancroft. "That is better for the environment here on Japan, as it means less power is being used from the traditional power plants, which still have large carbon emissions."

Contractors also completed construction on a smaller wind turbine capable of generating one kwh each hour on top of facilities engineers' Building 363 on Camp Foster, added Matsuzaki.

"In addition to these turbines resulting in more clean energy and lower utility costs for Camp Butler, they are also providing us valuable information for future energy saving projects," said Matsuzaki. "We have set up monitoring systems with both turbines, so we can see what their short-term and long-term effects are and determine how we want to move forward with planning future projects."

The turbines represent just one way MCB Camp Butler is working to reduce energy costs and increase the use of green energy.

"We have also applied solar film to many buildings throughout MCB Camp Butler," said Bancroft. "What that solar film does is reflect sunlight off buildings, so the insides do not get as hot during the day, which means less air conditioning is required to keep the temperature cool and constant."

When it comes to reducing energy costs and MCB Camp Butler's carbon footprint, every initiative and small measure add up, according to Matsuzaki.

"Individuals can still save a lot by remembering to turn off lights and appliances when not in use and close windows and doors when the air conditioning is on," said Matsuzaki. "These turbines represent a big step forward for us in our continued efforts to be responsible with the taxpayers' dollars and to the environment here on Okinawa."



Japanese contractors recently constructed one of the Department of Defense's first wind turbines in Japan adjacent to Building 1 on Camp Foster. The turbine is expected to be fully operational in mid-April and will generate clean power and help reduce MCB Camp Butler's carbon footprint and utility costs, according to Tomoko Matsuzaki, an energy engineer with facilities engineers. Photo by Lance Cpl. Brandon C. Suhr

BRIEFS

TAX CENTERS OFFER EXTENDED HOURS

The tax centers on Camps Foster and Hansen are available for tax services Monday-Friday from 8 a.m. to 3 p.m. for walk-ins. Appointments can be scheduled Mondays and Tuesdays between 3-5 p.m.

These centers will also be available for additional weekend services March 30 and April 6 and 13 from 8 a.m. to 3 p.m. for walk-ins and 3-5 p.m. for appointments.

A new satellite location is available at Camp Schwab in the 4th Marine Regiment Headquarters building, Building 3509. This location will be open Fridays from 8 a.m. to noon and 1-5 p.m. for walk-ins and appointments.

To schedule appointments at Camps Foster and Schwab, call 645-4520. To schedule appointments at Camp Hansen, call 623-3535.

MANPOWER MANAGEMENT DIVISION TO VISIT OKINAWA

Personnel with Manpower Management Division, Headquarters Marine Corps, are scheduled to visit Marine Corps installations throughout Okinawa April 9-12. They will present information concerning the promotion and retention processes, personnel assignments, performance evaluations and career counseling.

For a complete schedule of briefing times and locations, visit www.facebook.com/3mef.mcipac.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED FOR EVENT WITH LOCAL ORPHANAGES

Camp Foster is kicking off Tomo Days, and has invited local orphanages to Camp Foster for a day of friendship-building April 6 from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. There will be a movie and an egg hunt.

Volunteers are needed to help set up, operate the egg hunt and games, and serve snacks.

Interested parties should email aaron.carlton@usmc.mil.

AIR CONDITIONING ACTIVATION

The air conditioning systems on Marine Corps Base Camp Smedley D. Butler will resume when average high temperatures reach 72 degrees Fahrenheit. This is projected to take effect in early April.

For more information, contact the energy and utilities office at 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 Friday. Okinawa Marine reserves the right to edit all submitted material.

Corporal awarded for English teaching

Lance Cpl. Donald T. Peterson
OKINAWA MARINE STAFF

NAGO CITY, OKINAWA, Japan — Corporal Jacob W. Helms was recognized and awarded March 26 at the Nago Civic Center for his contributions to the “Let’s Play with English” program.

Helms’ hard work and dedication to the program was recognized by Noriko Zamami, the Nago City education superintendent, who awarded Helms with a certificate of appreciation.

“The program was a great success,” said Zamami. “With the help of Mr. Iha, as well as Cpl. Helms and the other Marines who volunteered, it was quite enjoyable for the students and a great learning experience.”

The program is designed to give Marines the opportunity to teach English to local kindergarten students and continue building a strong relationship between the Marine Corps and the Nago community.

Marines have volunteered in the annual program for the past 10 years.

“The program starts in June and continues through February,” said Fumio Iha, the community relations specialist for Camp Schwab. “(Volunteers) visit 12 schools during the program to interact with students.”

“Cpl. Helms participated in several of the classes throughout



Cpl. Jacob W. Helms, left, receives a certificate of appreciation from Noriko Zamami March 26 at the Nago Civic Center for his contribution to the “Let’s Play with English” program. The program is designed to teach kindergarten students the basics of the English language through interaction with Marines. Helms is an antitank missileman with 1st Battalion, 3rd Marine Regiment, currently assigned to 4th Marine Regiment, 3rd Marine Division, III Marine Expeditionary Force, under the unit deployment program. Zamami is the Nago City education superintendent. Photo by Lance Cpl. Donald T. Peterson

December and played a big part in many of the events, including our Christmas play, when he dressed up as Santa for the children.”

The students are taught a new topic of the English language by the volunteers each month to help them with their goal of learning basic English.

“The program was very enjoyable to participate in,” said Cpl. Jacob W. Helms, an antitank missileman with 1st Battalion, 3rd Marine Regiment,

currently assigned to 4th Marine Regiment, 3rd Marine Division, III Marine Expeditionary Force, under the unit deployment program. “We helped teach the students colors, numbers, basic greetings and American holidays. It wasn’t only a great learning experience for the students, but for the Marines as well. It helped teach us the common customs and courtesies, as well as the culture of our host nation, which will help us interact with our neighbors here.”

With knowledge gained and a new relationship between the Marines and students made, the bond between the Nago community and Marines was strengthened, according to Iha.

“We conceive that this program is another investment to the future leadership of Okinawa,” said Iha. “In the future, when these children grow up and become the new leadership of this country, they can make the mutual alliance between the United States and Japan stronger.”



Marines patrol through the jungle March 19 at Naval Computer and Telecommunications Area Master Station Guam during a field training exercise as part of Exercise Guahan Shield. Marines conducted a force-on-force FTX to enhance their combat readiness March 19-21. The Marines are with Company L, 3rd Battalion, 6th Marine Regiment, currently assigned to 4th Marine Regiment, 3rd Marine Division, III Marine Expeditionary Force, under the unit deployment program. Photo by Lance Cpl. Pete Sanders

Exercise Guahan Shield enhances combat readiness, training areas



Marines repair pavement March 21 at Andersen Air Force Base on Guam during Exercise Guahan Shield. Marines repaired sections of the pavement for use in future training. The Marines are assigned to Combat Logistics Detachment 39, 3rd Marine Logistics Group, III Marine Expeditionary Force. Photo by Lance Cpl. Jeraco Jenkins

MWHS-1 welcomes new commander



Ebitz



Rupp

Lt. Col. Curtis V. Ebitz assumed command of Marine Wing Headquarters Squadron 1, 1st Marine Aircraft Wing, III Marine Expeditionary Force, from Lt. Col. Joseph E. Rupp during a ceremony on Kadena Air Base March 28. Rupp commanded MWHS-1 since June 2011. His next assignment will be with Programs and Resources at Headquarters Marine Corps. Ebitz's previous assignment was as the future operations officer, G-3, operations and training, 1st MAW.

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the commanding general of 3rd Marine Expeditionary Brigade and one of the guest speakers at the ceremony. "I will forever be proud to have participated in this event."

Following the guest speakers, the audience stood as the color guard retired the colors for the final time. The color guard marched in front of Navy Capt. Pius A. Aiyelawo, the commanding officer of USNH Okinawa, and presented the carefully folded flag to him. Aiyelawo called for the final report, which is a naval tradition at the decommissioning of vessels and facilities.

"I am proud to have been the commander of this hospital and to be here when it was decommissioned," said Aiyelawo. "We will continue to provide the same

professional care and treatment at our new facility as we did here."

For the staff of the hospital, working in the facility and being a part of this historical point in time is a great source of pride and a moment they will never forget, according to Seaman Recruit Warren D. DeLong, a corpsman with the mother and infant care center at USNH Okinawa.

"This is the highlight of my military career so far," said DeLong. "Not everyone can say they were present to witness the decommissioning of a hospital."

A function-for-function relocation of medical services on Okinawa will not affect services provided. The only difference will be the improvements in the safety and quality of these services due to advances in medical technology, according to Aiyelawo.

The new hospital has been built to withstand earthquakes and is located above the tsunami flood zone. Other features include state-of-the-art technology, climate control to further ensure patient comfort, and modern electrical and medical gas systems to provide the best quality care available.

The Camp Lester facility was the site of medical care for half a century and will be remembered by all who worked and were treated there, according to Navy Capt. Rick Freedman, the executive officer of USNH Okinawa.

"Our Marines, sailors and soldiers have always known that this hospital would be there to take care of them," said Freedman. "The spirit of this hospital will live on in all of us and will be remembered forever."

BANNER from pg 1

Osprey will be used to conduct single and dual-point sling loads from a dry cargo and ammunition ship.

The MPF program supports global positioning of Marine air-ground task force and naval equipment and supplies in response to a range of military operations, from the quick and rapid buildup of combat power to humanitarian assistance and disaster relief, added Menotti.

There are several phases to Freedom Banner. The off-load of cargo typically takes three to four days, followed by 15 days of reduced operations for Freedom Banner personnel while all gear and equipment are employed in humanitarian and civic assistance projects and command post and field training exercises during BK13. The final phase is the reconstitution exercise, where the equipment is surveyed, maintained and subsequently prepared for redeployment onto the maritime prepositioning ships, which are scheduled to depart at the conclusion of the exercise April 30.

"What makes Freedom Banner unique is it offers a combatant commander the ability to project a MEB anywhere in the world in a short amount of time," said Maj. Sean M. Forester, the operations officer for G-4, supply and logistics, 3rd MEB.

By prepositioning key equipment and supplies in support of forward presence throughout the region, the Marine Corps extends its global reach in crisis response. This reduces the time and strategic lift required to complete synchronization of forces and equipment deployment in support of powerful and integrated response capabilities, Menotti added.

"Exercising this capability enables us as Marines to be a force in readiness for the Marine Corps and for America, with the power and the capability to execute any mission," said Menotti.

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"The biggest issue is at gate three of Futenma," said Morello. "Although their numbers are not many, the few protestors frequently crowd the entrance lanes and sidewalks next to where cars enter and exit the air station and block drivers' visibility of the public road, creating a dangerous and often blind merge into traffic."

Protestors also have occasionally struck and thrown objects at vehicles, laid down in front of traffic, yelled insults at drivers using megaphones at close proximity, and recently assaulted a civilian Marine Corps employee, all in the view of local police officers, according to Morello.

"These activities create a dangerous situation," said Morello. "The Ginowan police have restrained some who were particularly aggressive and approached cars, which in some cases had children in them, but we need cooperation by local and prefecture law enforcement to remove protestors who create a safety hazard."

These issues have the attention of Marine Corps officials on Okinawa, who are making every effort to work with the Okinawa Prefectural Police to find solutions and ensure the safety of those entering and exiting the bases and air station.

"I recently met with key OPP leaders to communicate our concerns about the safety of our service members and their families, as well as the Japanese employees and contractors that use these gates," said Lt. Gen. Kenneth J. Glueck Jr., the Okinawa area coordinator and commanding general of III Marine Expeditionary Force. "Safe and unimpeded access to military installations is critical to ensuring Marines are able to safely and successfully perform their jobs."

The Marine Corps is committed to finding a safe solution to the issues at the gates before the protestors' actions cause a serious accident or injury to Japanese citizens, military and civilian personnel, or their families, according to Col. Jonathan D. Covington, the deputy commander of MCIPAC.

"We're looking for consistent and effective enforcement of Japanese law, so everyone exiting and entering the installations can go about their business safely," said Covington. "The actions of the protestors at JWTC are counterproductive and have delayed the return of land to the Japanese government for several years. In addition, they create unsafe conditions around the gates, as protestors harass people who are transiting in and out of the center."



A protestor harasses a driver attempting to exit Marine Corps Air Station Futenma Nov. 5, 2012. Marine Corps officials on Okinawa are making every effort to work with local law enforcement and government officials to ensure the safety of Marines, family members and Japanese employees entering and exiting the air station. Photo by Lance Cpl. Andrew M. Kupperts

In spite of the dangerous activities of the protestors, other citizen groups have been supportive and even volunteered to remove the trash left behind by the protestors.

"We know there are many peaceful, law-abiding, civic-minded residents who are also concerned about the unsafe and potentially illegal activities of the protestors," said Col. William Truax, assistant chief of staff, G-7, government and external affairs, MCIPAC. "They have gone out on their own to help clean the fences at Futenma and otherwise shown their support to local governments and police and U.S. military personnel."

Glueck and other key Marine leaders will continue to work with local law enforcement and government officials with one goal in mind.

"This is about the safety of everyone on this island," said Glueck. "We respect the rights of protestors and those exercising their freedom of speech; however, our personnel and families have a right to transit to the bases without being harassed and put in unsafe and dangerous situations. We're asking Japanese law enforcement to do its job, enforce local traffic laws, and ensure safety."

Marines with 3rd Reconnaissance Battalion engage silhouette targets with M27 infantry automatic rifles while moving March 25 at Range 10 near Camp Schwab during weapons familiarization and sustainment training. The Marines also fired the IAR while stationary at both known and unknown target distances.



Recon M



Reconnaissance men engage March 25 at Range 10 near Camp Schwab during weapons familiarization and sustainment training. The Marines also fired the IAR while stationary at both known and unknown target distances. The Marines are with 3rd Recon Bn.



A reconnaissance man engages unknown-distance targets with an M249 squad automatic weapon March 25 at Range 10 near Camp Schwab during weapons familiarization and sustainment training. Marines trained with a variety of weapons during different firing scenarios, along with conducting immediate and remedial action drills designed to train the Marines to respond instinctively to firing stoppages or weapons malfunctions. The reconnaissance man is with 3rd Reconnaissance Battalion, 3rd Marine Division, III Marine Expeditionary Force.

Marines practice fundamentals, train as riflemen

Story and photos by Cpl. Mark W. Stroud
OKINAWA MARINE STAFF

“This is finding brilliance in the basics,” said Sgt. Matthew J. Foglesong, a reconnaissance man and team leader with 3rd Reconnaissance Battalion. “We are still infantrymen at the end of the day, and this is what we do and who we are.”

Marines with 3rd Recon Bn., 3rd Marine Division, III Marine Expeditionary Force, exercised their fundamentals as riflemen March 25 at Range 10 near Camp Schwab during weapons familiarization and sustainment training with the M27 infantry automatic rifle, M249 squad automatic weapon and M240B medium machine gun.

The training, which included maintenance and stationary and moving live-fire, took place as part of weapons training scheduled for March 18 to April 10.

“The Marines need to be familiar with any weapon they might use as a member of a patrol,” said Capt. Brian J. Luszczynski, a platoon commander with the battalion. “We went from short to medium to long-range firing tables and gave the Marines a chance to do immediate and remedial action drills, along with reloads and using all the different reticle and sight patterns available to them.”

Immediate and remedial action drills train the Marines to respond instinctively to firing stoppages or weapons malfunctions to get their weapons back into the fight.

“Anytime you pull the trigger, you are bettering yourself, and it increases your chances of succeeding in combat,” said Lance Cpl. Brian D. Doca, a reconnaissance man with the battalion.

The Marines are also scheduled to train with service and sniper rifles, shotguns, grenade launchers, claymore mines and fragmentation grenades during the three-week evolution.

“You never know where you are going to end up, especially in this job,” said Foglesong. “The weapon systems and the way they are going to be employed are different for every operating environment, so the Marines have to be familiar with everything we have.”

The more experienced Marines assumed a mentorship role during the training and

passed on their knowledge on a broad range of engagement scenarios.

“We had the team leaders who have been on combat deployments running the weapons stations,” said Luszczynski. “We covered both phases of engagement with the enemy. The close-range tables used the reflex sites on top of the (squad day optic) or the (rifle combat optic). On the long-range, unknown-distance targets, the Marines used the reticle patterns on their SDO, (machine gun day optic) or RCO to let them get familiar with the bullet drop compensator and ranging targets using only the (weapons’ optics).”

The Marines determined the approximate range of targets at varying distances by comparing known size values of their target, such as the average width of a man’s shoulders, to reference points on their combat optics. Spotters worked with the shooters to make fine adjustments to their point of aim and achieve hits on target.

“We have many targets downrange and don’t tell the Marines what range they are at so they have to use their (optics),” said Luszczynski. “Working with the spotter gets them familiar with the rhythm and communication as they shoot and spot rounds.”

The reconnaissance teams also discussed the tactics of employing each weapon system for maximum effectiveness, including adjusting fire-team tactics to take advantage of the new IAR.

“The IAR is going to allow much faster fire-team movement,” said Foglesong. “We can really push the pace of the battle to the point where the enemy is not going to be able to keep up.”

The concept of an automatic rifle to supplement the firepower of small units is not new to the Marine Corps, but dates back to World War II and the M1918 Browning automatic rifle, according to Foglesong.

“The bringing back of the automatic rifle represents a big shift in how the Marine Corps operates,” said Foglesong. “For the classes I teach on the IAR, I have dug into not only what the Marine Corps offers in the current technical manuals, but also into World War II and how the BAR was used back then.”

The training is scheduled to culminate in live-fire and maneuver scenarios, where the Marines will apply what they have learned to simulated combat situations.

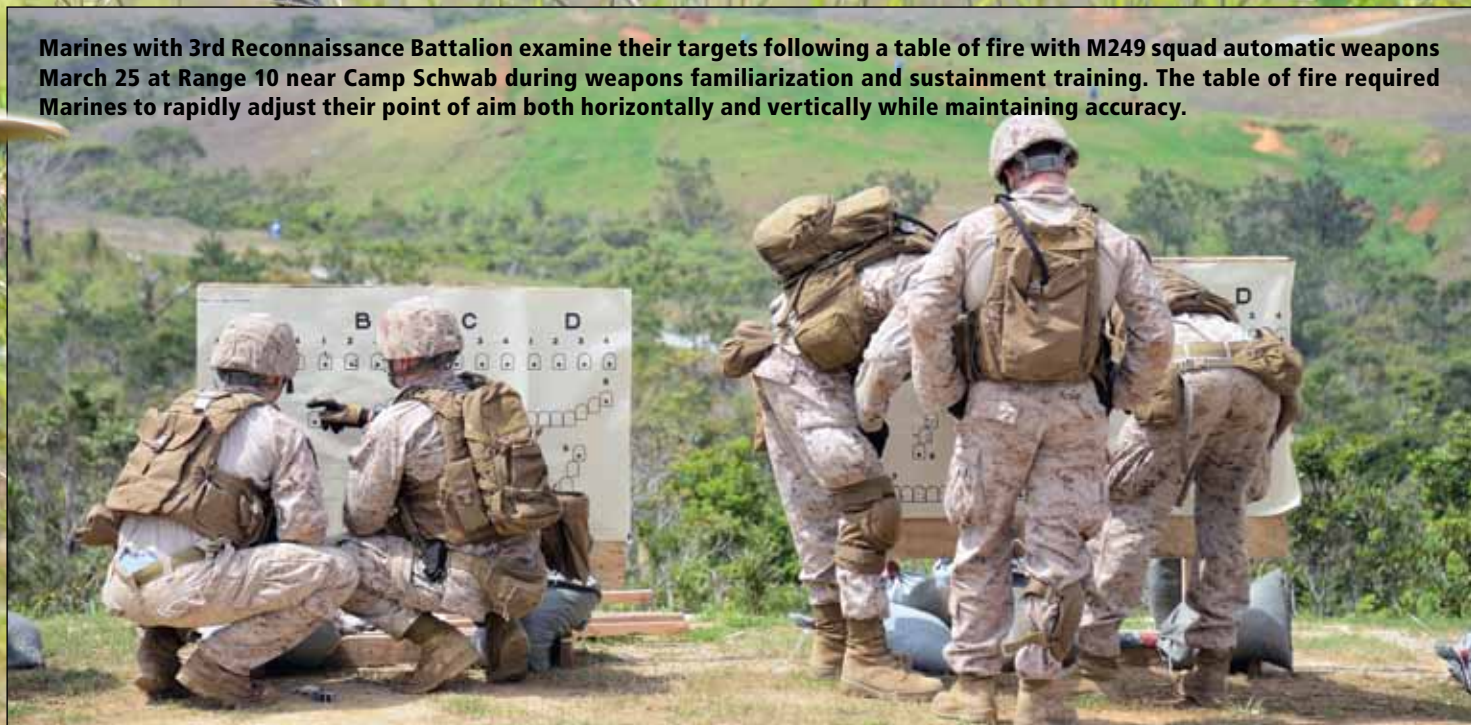
“At the end of the day, the training is definitely a step in the right direction,” said Luszczynski. “We will continue to train until we are doing the live-fire and maneuver drills as the capstone event.”

“Anytime you pull the trigger, you are bettering yourself, and it increases your chances of succeeding in combat.”

Lance Cpl. Brian D. Doca

Targets with an M240B medium machine gun at Camp Schwab during weapons familiarization and sustainment training. The Marines adjusted their point of aim based off of the table of fire to put rounds on target. The Marines

Marines with 3rd Reconnaissance Battalion examine their targets following a table of fire with M249 squad automatic weapons March 25 at Range 10 near Camp Schwab during weapons familiarization and sustainment training. The table of fire required Marines to rapidly adjust their point of aim both horizontally and vertically while maintaining accuracy.





Cpl. Wilkins Vidal crosses the monkey crawl obstacle of the endurance course March 21 at the Jungle Warfare Training Center on Camp Gonsalves during the Headquarters and Service Battalion, Marine Corps Base Camp Smedley D. Butler corporals' course. Throughout the endurance course, Marines were required to cross numerous natural and man-made obstacles. Vidal is the training noncommissioned officer for Company B, H&S Bn., MCB Camp Butler, Marine Corps Installations Pacific.

Corporals conquer jungle, gain leadership skills

Story and photos by
Lance Cpl. Donald T. Peterson

OKINAWA MARINE STAFF

Marines crawled through the flooded trench, sliding through cold, muddy water while keeping a low profile to avoid detection and maintaining a focus on developing leadership in a setting far different from the classroom they frequented the week before.

Marines of the Headquarters and Service Battalion, Marine Corps Base Camp Smedley D. Butler corporals' course completed the basic jungle survival skills course March 13-21 at the Jungle Warfare Training Center on Camp Gonsalves.

"This is the first time I know of that (our) corporals' course has gone through the full basic course at JWTC," said Master Sgt. Fred J. Suniga Jr., the operations chief for H&S Bn., MCB Camp Butler, Marine Corps Installations Pacific.

The course consists of classroom instruction and practical application of skills such as land navigation, jungle survival and rappelling, and concludes with an endurance course designed to challenge the Marines' mental and physical strength, as well as their ability to work as a team.

"The endurance course is demanding mentally and physically," said Cpl. Brian M. Ashworth, an instructor at JWTC. "It consists of natural obstacles, such as hills and creeks, as well as man-made (obstacles) like the monkey crawl, which is a rope that is

suspended above a body of water that they must cross."

Among the obstacles, some of the most challenging to overcome are the natural ones created by the jungle, according to Cpl. Wilkins Vidal, the training noncommissioned officer for Company B, H&S Bn.

"When you're in the jungle, you can't see more than 10 to 15 meters in front of you at a time," said Vidal. "Between the lack of the visibility and the hills and creeks we had to traverse, the course was extremely demanding physically."

Along with challenging the Marines physically and mentally, the endurance course offered the Marines an opportunity to work on their small unit leadership and teamwork.

"One of the things I've gained from this training is the importance of working together," said Japan Ground Self-Defense Force Sgt. Yuichi Kato, an infantryman with the JGSDF and a student in the corporals' course. "The way the Marines and I worked together to overcome the obstacles showed me that if you take the time to talk about a problem, you can overcome any obstacle."

The Marines completed the basic jungle skills course better equipped for the challenges ahead as noncommissioned officers.

"It's not every day that you get an opportunity to partake in a course like the one offered by JWTC," said Vidal. "With all that I have learned, I feel confident in my abilities and those of my fellow Marines."

"If you take the time to talk about a problem you can overcome any obstacle."

Sgt. Yuichi Kato



Marines form a human chain to transport a simulated casualty up a slope during the endurance course March 21 at the Jungle Warfare Training Center on Camp Gonsalves. The endurance course is the final event of JWTC's eight-day basic jungle survival skills course. The Marines are all students in the H&S Bn., MCB Camp Butler corporals' course.

Japanese security guards train with Marines

Lance Cpl. Ian McMahon

OKINAWA MARINE STAFF

For on-base personnel, the first line of defense against would-be aggressors is the Japanese security guards at the gates. The job these men perform requires them to be well-trained, alert and ready for anything at any time.

Marines helped the JSGs maintain that level of readiness with nonlethal weapons and oleoresin capsicum spray training March 21 at Camp Foster.

The course was taught by instructors with the mobile training team, Provost Marshal's Office, Marine Corps Base Camp Smedley D.

Butler, Marine Corps Installations Pacific, to enhance the JSGs knowledge and skills with using the correct escalation of force when



Satoru Taira subdues Lance Cpl. Sammy Y. Kim during nonlethal weapons training March 21 at Camp Foster. Kim played the role of an aggressor, working to disrupt and slow the Japanese Security Guards. Taira is a JSG with the Provost Marshal's Office at the Jungle Warfare Training Center. Kim is an airframe mechanic with Marine Aviation Logistics Squadron 36, Marine Aircraft Group 36, 1st Marine Aircraft Wing, III Marine Expeditionary Force. Photo by Lance Cpl. Ian McMahon

apprehending suspects.

"Sharing knowledge with the JSGs ensures they are ready for any event that may occur," said Staff Sgt.

Anthony Mendoza, the staff noncommissioned officer in charge of the MTT and instructor of the course. "PMO Marines train in these

skills to prepare for real-life scenarios where an escalation of force is required, but lethal force is not necessary or authorized."

Nonlethal weapons training includes all weapons and techniques that are not inherently deadly, such as batons, defensive tactics, OC or pepper spray, and mechanical-advantage control holds.

"It was really interesting to be able to work with the JSGs," said Lance Cpl. Robert P. Hodges, a military policeman with the PMO. "The training teaches you to keep your cool while affected by the OC spray."

During the course, JSGs ran through a series of stations after receiving a level-two exposure to OC spray. The course progressed in its level of difficulty from subduing one opponent to

fending off multiple Marines in padded suits acting as aggressors. This was designed to disrupt and slow the JSGs as they made their way through the course.

At the final station, participants executed mechanical-advantage control holds.

"I have done this training many times before," said Migaku Shingaki, a JSG with the Camp Foster PMO. "Each time I do the training, I learn a little more. It's very useful for what we do."

Once all the participants completed the course, they reflected on the usefulness of the training.

"Anything can happen while on duty," said Narihiro Shimoji, the JSG training instructor and coordinator for the PMO. "We are the first responders when an event occurs, and it is important for us to have these skills."

Spouses train as Marines during Jane Wayne day

Lance Cpl. Brandon C. Suhr

OKINAWA MARINE STAFF

The opportunity to wear the uniform of a member of the U.S. military and spend a day in their combat boots is an honor few are blessed with.

However, the spouses of Marine Aircraft Group 36 personnel were given this opportunity during a Jane Wayne day March 22 at Marine Corps Air Station Futenma.

Jane Wayne days offer spouses a chance to take part in Marine Corps training and gain insight into the daily challenges of their active-duty spouses.

"All the ladies and I really enjoyed getting to experience how pilots train in the simulators, as well as learning how to shoot weapons," said Dale DePue, a participant at the event. "Even getting a tour of the various aircraft — it was a lot of fun getting to see all of that stuff."

The participants travelled through different stations, including simulated pistol and rifle ranges, a Marine Corps martial arts program exhibition, static displays of aircraft, aircraft simulator training and a night-vision lab.

Some spouses even wore their Marine's uniforms to boost morale and help them get a better feeling of what their Marine does for a living, according to 1st Lt. Matthew S. Piston, an MV-22B Osprey pilot with Marine Medium Tiltrotor Squadron 265, MAG-36, 1st Marine Aircraft Wing, III Marine Expeditionary Force.

As the day went on, some spouses, who previously served on active-duty in the Marine Corps, shared their knowledge and experience with the others.

"I was an active-duty Marine for eight years and it healed my heart, absolutely healed my heart, to come back and do Marine things, especially shooting the weapons and getting in the simulator," said Kimberly Kurzenhauser,



Myrlaine Beauvais low-crawls across a field as part of the Marine Corps martial arts program station during a Jane Wayne day March 22 at Marine Corps Air Station Futenma. Marine Aircraft Group 36, 1st Marine Aircraft Wing, III Marine Expeditionary Force, hosted the event. Photo by Lance Cpl. Brandon C. Suhr

an event participant. "It was nice to come back to it again."

Many participants were eager to experience more of the Marine Corps, according to Piston.

"I think it played-out very well. I had a chance to roam around and speak with a lot of the groups as they went through the stations," said Piston. "Many of the spouses told me how they wished there was a little more time at each station, so we might have to make this a little bit longer in years to come, but overall I feel this event was very well-received by all the participants."

All the spouses seemed to have a lot of fun, according to DePue. The day served as a great team-building opportunity that allowed everyone to get know each other.

"With my husband being an MV-22B

Osprey pilot, I have seen and heard about the aircraft many times, so I was able to help answer a few of the questions other spouses had throughout the day," said DePue. "I've seen some of the stuff before, but I thought it was a neat experience getting into the aircraft and being able to see the night-vision lab. It seems like every Jane Wayne event I've done has been different, so I get new experiences all the time."

After the event concluded, the spouses departed with new experiences and knowledge about their active-duty spouses and what they do to serve country and Corps.

"I think it was great. Many of the girls really haven't been around some of these events, so they were asking all kinds of questions," said Kurzenhauser. "(Today), they got their answers."



Dozens of young soccer players watch Ay Carnell juggle a soccer ball during a soccer clinic March 21 at Camp Foster. More than 20 players and staff of the Seattle Reign Football Club instructed the children on a variety of basic techniques, drills and strategies to help them become better players. Carnell is the general manager of Seattle Reign FC, which competes in the National Women's Soccer League in the U.S.

Children sharpen soccer skills during clinic

Story and photos by Lance Cpl. Jose D. Lujano

OKINAWA MARINE STAFF

Meeting a childhood hero can have a lasting effect on a child's life; it can inspire them to work harder and make far-off dreams seem more attainable.

More than 20 players and staff of the Seattle Reign Football Club provided such an opportunity as they conducted a one-hour soccer clinic for children in Marine Corps Community Services Okinawa's minor and major age divisions March 21 at Camp Foster.

The professional players, who compete in the National Women's Soccer League in the U.S., separated the youth players into their respective divisions, and each group rotated through three drills, focusing mostly on ball-control fundamentals.

"Drills are the main focus of any practice session because without them, the training is incomplete and its ineffectiveness is truly shown in a game," said Keelin Winters, a midfielder with Seattle Reign FC. "The reason why we chose these drills is because it is important to instill the basic ball control, movements, stamina and endurance that are needed in a game of soccer in the minds of these growing players."

Coaches also appreciated the opportunity to see the children develop their skills in an atmosphere where so many share the same passion for the sport.

"The (professional) team participating in the event breaks up the monotony of normal

practices and gives the children the chance to see what the pros do and that they can do it too if they keep trying," said Capt. Jeremy B. Durette, a youth soccer coach for the Kinser Assassins and supply officer with Marine Air Support Squadron 2, Marine Air Control Group 18, 1st Marine Aircraft Wing, III Marine Expeditionary Force. "I think the outcome of the event is more dedication from the kids to soccer, and the league will become more competitive."

Following drills, the professional athletes autographed jerseys, cleats and soccer balls and posed for photographs.

"Being able to come out means the world to the children, and if we can change one kid's mind to continue to play soccer, we have done our job," said Winters. "We are lucky and blessed to be here, and our appreciation goes out to all military members, families and friends for providing us your services."

Winters, who grew up in a military family, welcomed her return to the military environment and the memories it brought back.

"It is nice giving back and being in this environment again," said Winters. "It reminds me of being home, which is far away from me because I'm from D.C.



Laura Heyboer, left, and Kerryn C. Terry conduct a header drill during a soccer clinic March 21 at Camp Foster. The clinic provided children an opportunity to learn skills from professional players. Heyboer is a forward for Seattle Reign FC.

and now live in Seattle."

While being stationed far from home makes it more difficult for fans to keep up with their favorite players on television, practicing with them in person was a rare, welcomed opportunity.

"Being in Okinawa, our players do not have the advantages of watching professional games and attending summer clinics or camps like they do stateside," said Natalie Steele, the youth sports coordinator for Semper Fit on Okinawa. "I'm sure everyone can enjoy this chance to meet with the teams and take a little bit of their knowledge and advice to use it towards future games and practices."

The professional players hoped to teach the children that if they want something and are willing to put in the hard work, they can

achieve it, according to Winters.

As the clinic ended, the children appreciated the opportunity to further their skills in soccer and interact with professional soccer players.

"My dream came true, as I met my favorite soccer player, Keelin Winters because she is a midfielder like me," said Jena V. Durette, an 11-year-old soccer player with the Kinser Assassins. "It was a really big privilege to have them here because I felt like I was home."

Meeting the players inspired Jena and the other children to continue pursuing their dreams.

"They made me want to keep playing soccer," said Jena. "I know if I practice hard enough, I can make it to not just a professional team, but the national team as well."

In Theaters Now

MARCH 29 - APRIL 4

FOSTER

TODAY The Croods (PG), 6 p.m.; Admission (PG13), 9 p.m.
SATURDAY The Croods (PG), noon and 3 p.m.; Admission (PG13), 6 p.m.; The Call (R), 9 p.m.
SUNDAY The Croods (PG), 1 p.m.; Mama (PG13), 4 p.m.; Dead Man Down (R), 7 p.m.
MONDAY Les Miserables (PG13), 7 p.m.
TUESDAY Beautiful Creatures (PG13), 7 p.m.
WEDNESDAY Mama (PG13), 7 p.m.
THURSDAY Identity Thief (R), 7 p.m.

KADENA

TODAY The Croods (PG), 6 p.m.; Admission (PG13), 9 p.m.
SATURDAY The Croods (PG), noon and 3 p.m.; Admission (PG13), 6 and 9 p.m.
SUNDAY The Croods (PG), 1 and 4 p.m.; Admission (PG13), 7 p.m.
MONDAY The Croods (PG), 7 p.m.
TUESDAY Dead Man Down (R), 7 p.m.
WEDNESDAY The Croods (PG), 7 p.m.
THURSDAY Oz the Great and Powerful (PG), 7 p.m.

COURTNEY

TODAY The Croods (PG), 6 p.m.; Admission (PG13), 9 p.m.
SATURDAY Escape from Planet Earth (PG), 2 p.m.; Dead Man Down (R), 6 p.m.
SUNDAY The Croods (PG), 2 p.m.; Admission (PG13), 6 p.m.
MONDAY Admission (PG13), 7 p.m.
TUESDAY Closed
WEDNESDAY The Incredible Burt Wonderstone (PG13), 7 p.m.
THURSDAY Closed

FUTENMA

TODAY Admission (PG13), 6:30 p.m.
SATURDAY Jack the Giant Slayer (PG13), 4 p.m.; Dead Man Down (R), 7 p.m.
SUNDAY The Call (R), 4 p.m.; The Incredible Burt Wonderstone (PG13), 7 p.m.
MONDAY Oz the Great and Powerful (PG), 6:30 p.m.
TUESDAY-THURSDAY Closed

KINSER

TODAY Mama (PG13), 6:30 p.m.
SATURDAY The Croods (PG), 3 p.m.; Admission (PG13), 6:30 p.m.
SUNDAY The Croods (PG), 3 p.m.; Admission (PG13), 6:30 p.m.
MONDAY-TUESDAY Closed
WEDNESDAY Mama (PG13), 6:30 p.m.
THURSDAY Admission (PG13), 6:30 p.m.

SCHWAB

TODAY Admission (PG13), 6 p.m.; Bullet to the Head (R), 9 p.m.
SATURDAY Dead Man Down (R), 6 p.m.; Broken City (R), 9 p.m.
SUNDAY Mama (PG13), 6 p.m.; Snitch (PG13), 9 p.m.
MONDAY-THURSDAY Closed

HANSEN

TODAY Admission (PG13), 7 p.m.; Hansel and Gretel: Witch Hunters (R), 10 p.m.
SATURDAY The Incredible Burt Wonderstone (PG13), 6 p.m.; Les Miserables (PG13), 9 p.m.
SUNDAY Admission (PG13), 2 p.m.; The Call (R), 5:30 p.m.
MONDAY Mama (PG13), 6 p.m.; The Call (R), 9 p.m.
TUESDAY The Incredible Burt Wonderstone (PG13), 7 p.m.
WEDNESDAY Les Miserables (PG13), 7 p.m.
THURSDAY Admission (PG13), 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.

BATTLE SITES TOUR - APRIL 19

- Learn about the Battle of Okinawa during a tour of the island. Visit significant battle sites, including The former Japanese Naval Underground Headquarters, Peace Prayer Park and The Battle of Okinawa Historical Society display at Camp Kinser. Sign up by April 12.

DRAGON BOAT RACE - MAY 5

- The Dragon Boat Races, called haarii (the Chinese word for "dragon"), are held at the beginning of May each year at Naha port. The SMP is sponsoring two teams of 36 members each for the 39th Annual Dragon Boat Races. Practice is every Tuesday and Thursday from 1:30-3:30 p.m. at White Beach. SMP will provide transportation. Call 645-3681 for more information.

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

TEST YOUR CORPS KNOWLEDGE:

What weapon is entering service to augment fire power at the fire-team level and supplement the role of the M249 squad automatic weapon?

See answer in next week's issue

LAST WEEK'S QUESTION:
 When in the carry position, the tip of a Marine's sword will fall within what distance of the height of the eyes?

ANSWER:
 The sword must fall not more than one inch above or below eye level, per MCO P1020.34G.



Japanese phrase of the week:

"Chotto matte kudasai"

(pronounced: cho-toh-mah-teh koo-dah-sah-ee)
 It means, "Just a moment please," as if asking someone to hold on the phone.

CHAPLAINS'

ORNER

"What is outside of us will never make us happy if we are in conflict with ourselves."



Spirituality brings fulfillment

Lt. Flournoy Phelps
 CHAPLAIN, 4TH MARINE REGIMENT

There is so much to be thankful for. With income, friends, access to education and recreation, the question comes easily, why should we care about spirituality? With so many different avenues for spiritual growth and expression, no single answer can explain the value of every form of spirituality, but two examples may help.

In 2011, Fernando Torres transferred to the Chelsea Football Club, leaving an organization that he did not like and earning \$68 million in the process. But he played poorly when he got there and was miserable. Why?

"Halfway through last season, I distanced myself from the values I had grown up with. I discovered that I was not happy because I had stopped being what I had always wanted to be," said Torres.

Despite obvious reasons to be happy, Torres had abandoned his priorities, was unhappy, and felt it deeply inside himself.

Compare this with Anne Frank's response to the horrors of World War II. She was not ignorant of the evils around her, but she did not let circumstances change who she was inside.

"It's a wonder I haven't abandoned all my ideals, they seem so absurd and impractical. Yet I cling to them because I still believe, in spite of everything, that people are truly good at heart," said Frank.

Frank saw her world keenly, but she also knew who she was and did not let go of it. She took care of her spiritual health by knowing her convictions and sticking to them. This helped her find beauty, even in the ugliest of circumstances.

Torres, on the other hand, was focused on what was outside himself. What is outside of us will never make us happy if we are in conflict with ourselves.

By taking care of our spirituality, that deepest sense of who we are and what is most important to us, we will find that we are fulfilled. Regardless of our successes or failures, we will know who we are and have pride in never letting go of our values.

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"