

OKINAWA MARINE

NOVEMBER 26, 2008

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Drive thru flu shot exercise to be held on Futenma

Lance Cpl. Tyler J. Hlavac
OKINAWA MARINE STAFF

CAMP FOSTER — Medical personnel from III Marine Expeditionary Force, the U.S. Naval Hospital Okinawa and 18th Medical Group are teaming up to conduct a drive-thru seasonal influenza vaccination exercise on Marine Corps Air Station Futenma Dec. 9 from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m.

This is a voluntary exercise open to all Status Of Forces Agreement personnel on Okinawa.

The exercise is done for planning and preparation purposes only and there is no increased threat. This exercise is part of the yearly seasonal influenza vaccination campaign and provides medical planners with a unique opportunity to evaluate and improve upon existing response plans to public health emergencies such as pandemic influenza.

During the exercise, participants (who must enter via vehicle) will be routed in Gate 1 or 3, around the Habu trail and into a large holding area near the flight line at MCAS Futenma. They will be medically screened and given their seasonal flu vaccination. After receiving a vaccination, there will be a mandatory 15-minute observation time for any potential negative reactions to the vaccine before participants will be allowed to exit the air station through Gate 2.

"These exercises look at ways to give vaccinations while using social distancing techniques – that is keeping people physically separated from one another in order to prevent potential disease spread," said Navy Cmdr. Juliann Althoff, the preventive medicine officer for III MEF. "Social distancing techniques would be critical in the event of a pandemic."

Although the idea is for participants to remain in their vehicles during this evolution, there will be water and bathroom facilities available. There will also be emergency medical responders on hand in the event of an emergency.

"This influenza exercise has been planned for December in order to capture the dependent and SOFA population. It is one in a series of

SEE **FLU** PG 4

Getting down, dirty



Pfc. Jonathan Bolden, a ground sensor operator with Ground Sensor Platoon, 3rd Marine Intelligence Battalion, III Marine Expeditionary Force, stops to catch his breath after carrying a simulated casualty through the thick mud and over the steep hills of the Jungle Warfare Training Center. SEE STORY PGS. 6-7. Photo by Lance Cpl. Tyler J. Hlavac

Liberty rules still apply when on leave

Lance Cpl. Michael A. Bianco
OKINAWA MARINE STAFF

Editor's note: The following is the last in a series of articles highlighting the Marine Corps Bases Japan and III Marine Expeditionary Force order 1050.7, the Liberty Campaign Order, signed by III MEF and MCBJ Commanding General Lt. Gen. Richard C. Zilmer Sept. 29.

CAMP FOSTER — Marines and sailors who take annual leave and remain in Japan must still adhere to the MCBJ and III MEF Order 1050.7, the Liberty Campaign Order.

Though red card holders on leave and in possession of valid leave papers are authorized to stay off base and are not required to check in and out with the duty noncommissioned officer, red card holders must be on base or indoors between

midnight and 5 a.m.

The order lists hotel rooms and private residences as examples of acceptable indoor locations.

Also, the policy on alcohol consumption for Marines and sailors attached to III MEF or MCBJ applies both on liberty and leave.

Marines and sailors with gold cards must stop consuming alcohol in public facilities by 2 a.m. and all Marines and sailors who are E-3 and below are not authorized to consume hard alcohol under any circumstance. Hard alcohol is described in the order as any drink that has a 10 percent alcohol content or higher.

Sgt. Major Cevet A. Adams, the sergeant major of Marine Corps Base Camp Butler, explained the regulations are in place for good reason.

"We want Marines to conduct themselves appropriately while on or off leave. Service members on Okinawa are ambassadors and must present themselves in a professional manner," Adams said. "We do not want Marines to use leave as a loop hole to get around the Liberty Campaign Order."

Adams explained not all liberty campaign policies apply while on leave. For example, E-3s and below are not required to maintain a liberty buddy in a leave status. However, Marines and sailors are encouraged to never travel alone, no matter where they are, he said.

All prohibited activities and off limits areas detailed in chapter six of the Liberty Campaign Order along with all off-limits establishments designated by

SEE **LEAVE** PG 5

INSIDE



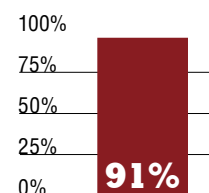
LOOKING FOR IEDS

Marines learn how to spot improvised explosive devices during predeployment training

PG. 5

MARINE CORPS FORCES JAPAN COMBINED FEDERAL CAMPAIGN '08

- The goal is 100 percent unit member contact
- As of Monday, 13,706 unit members were contacted, approximately 91 percent of the total personnel goal



Waking up next morning, not knowing what happened last night

Lance Cpl. John Garcia
PROVOST MARSHAL'S OFFICE

As Marines, people look up to us as a picture of perfection. But just like everyone else, Marines mess up too. Just a month ago, I jeopardized my Marine Corps career by doing something wrong; something that could have been avoided.

On Oct. 10, another Marine and I decided to go off base to Gate 2 street by Kadena Air Base.

Approximately 6 p.m. that evening, we went to a local club to have some fun and a couple of drinks. After awhile, I told my buddy I was going outside to chill.

Approximately 9:30 p.m., I remember seeing courtesy patrol talking to some Marines about the new campaign order; specifically about E-3s and below not drinking hard liquor.

By that time, I was intoxicated and when asked what my rank was I said, "I was a sergeant at the Provost Marshal's Office."

I gave the greeting of the day and kept walking. This is when the rest of the evening became a blur.

I was drinking hard liquor, which is a violation of the Liberty Campaign Order. The next morning a peer told me I had ran from the courtesy patrol Marines.

I think as Marines we should always make a plan for what we are going to do on and off base.

Especially off base because we are ambassadors of the United States. My evening went wrong because I didn't have a plan in place, I separated from my liberty buddy and I consumed too much alcohol.

My first mistake was not making a plan. If I had a plan, I would have stayed with my liberty buddy and one of us would have been sober and responsible to get the other back. But I didn't stay with my liberty buddy and I drank past my limit.

There is no reason why our military organization should be looked upon with dismay by any country because the irresponsible behavior of a few Marines. We not only represent ourselves, but also our Marine Corps and our country.

But when we falter all eyes are on us. It is how we pick ourselves up after we falter that can make the difference.

Most local nationals in a host nation associate our nation with what we display while we are out on liberty. So, the next time your buddy has had too many drinks and is beginning to get out of line, just remind him and yourself about the thousands of Marines before us who gave their lives defending our freedom. As Marines, we are all responsible for the integrity of our organization, the actions of our peers and our personal conduct. It is our duty to police the actions of oth-

ers and hold ourselves to a higher standard of Marine Corps professionalism.

I have always considered myself a good Marine. A Marine who follows the rules and regulations in place that govern us as a whole. As I look back to that evening I cannot believe my behavior.

That night I let many people down, but mostly myself. One way to get back on my feet is to make sure all Marines understand what I did wrong so they don't make a similar mistake. I will take my mistake and use it as a tool to better my self as a Marine.

How to avoid mistakes going off base:

Always sign out of the bar-

racks.

Always make a plan.

Do not drink past your limit.

If you are a red liberty card holder Marine, make sure you are on base before midnight.

Example of making a plan:

Go off base with a friend, and if separated, look for each other for 10 minutes. Then, if you don't find each other, call the duty noncommissioned officer within 30 minutes and immediately go back to barracks.

If you know you get intoxicated with six beers, only drink three and E-3s and below do not drink hard liquor.

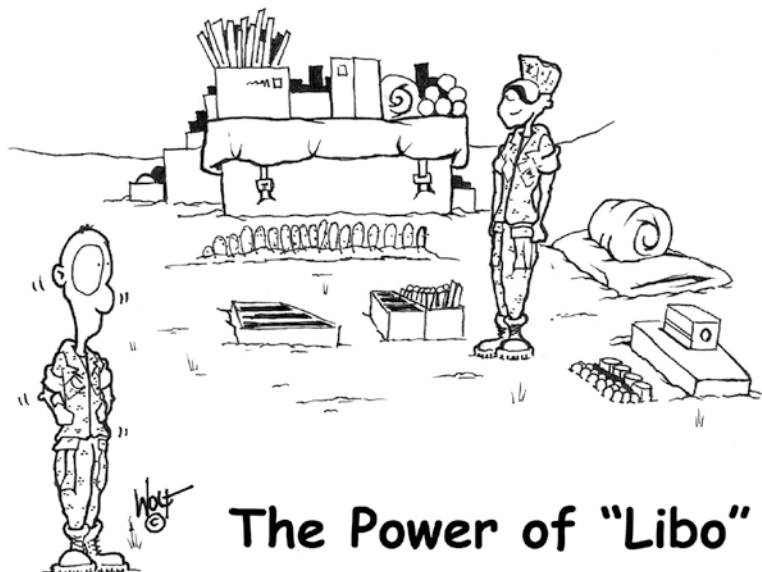
Garcia is a Military Policeman with Marine Corps Base Provost Marshal's Office



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FACT CHECK HAIR GEL IN UNIFORM

Q:

Can I use gel in my hair in uniform?

A:

Yes, as long as it does not create an eccentric appearance. According to paragraph 1004 of MCO P1020.34G, Marine Corps uniforms standards of grooming do not allow eccentric or faddish styles of hair, jewelry or eyeglasses. Eccentricities in individual appearance detract from uniformity and team identity. Because it is impossible to provide examples of every appropriate or unacceptable style of "conservative" or "eccentric" grooming and attire, the good judgement of Marines at all levels is key to enforcement of Marine Corps standards in this issue, as in other issues.

TO SUBMIT AN OPINION OR EDITORIAL, E-MAIL US AT OKINAWAMARINE.MCBB.FCT@USMC.MIL

Fire from the sky



Marines with Marine Medium Helicopter Squadron 265, Marine Aircraft Group 36, 1st Marine Aircraft Wing, conducted aerial gunner training Nov. 18 at Whisky Range 176. The range, located about 30 miles east of Okinawa, is a small landmass with several geographic features Marines used as targets. (Top) Cpl. Raymond Killinger, a CH-46 helicopter crew chief with the squadron, steadies a mounted .50-caliber machine gun while flying to the range. (Below right) Sgt. Raymond Green, a weapons and tactics instructor with the squadron, fires a .50-caliber machine gun at targets during the training which is conducted several times a year to ensure crew chiefs with the unit are comfortable with the weapon systems used on the Sea Knight helicopter. Photos by Lance Cpl. Aaron D. Hostutler

Food voucher program offers free holiday meal

Lance Cpl. Tyler J. Hlavac

OKINAWA MARINE STAFF

CAMP FOSTER — The Marines Corps Personal Services Center, working alongside various commands across Marine Corps Bases Japan, is now offering food vouchers to families in need as part of their 10th annual Holiday Food Voucher Program.

The vouchers are funded by donations from individual units, private organizations and contributions from the Marine Corps Base Camp Butler Chapels' religious offering fund.

A food voucher representative from each unit collects the unit's donations and gives them to the Personal Services Center, which then pools each unit's donation into one food voucher fund.

From there, the money is converted into Defense Commissary Agency checks which

are good for any food or non-food item at the commissary except for tobacco items; including such items as diapers or baby wipes.

The amount of the checks depends on how much money is donated by the units, but, said Selina McBride, a food voucher program coordinator with the Personal Services Center, all checks will have at least a \$50 value.

There are three different categories of eligibility for Marines and sailors looking to take advantage of the program.

The first category of eligibility is for corporals and petty officers 3rd class or below who are the only sources of income for their family and have at least one dependent child or one legal dependent.

The second category is sergeants and petty officers 2nd class and below who are their family's only source of income and have two or more children or legal dependents.

Additionally, higher ranking Marines and sailors can be recommended by their food voucher program coordinator to take part in the program, McBride said. If the unit does not have a coordinator the Marines or sailors can also be recommended by any of the senior staff noncommissioned officers in their unit.

The Personal Services Center began distributing checks Nov. 10 and will continue to give out checks throughout November and December until all food voucher funds have been used.

Anyone interested in participating in the food voucher program or looking to make donations can contact the food voucher representative or senior enlisted Marine in their unit.

For more information, contact the HFVP coordinator at 645-7494 or by email at HFVP@okinawa.usmc-mccs.org.

BRIEFS**DAIKO SERVICE NUMBERS**

The Army Air Force Exchange Service Daiko taxi service ensures Status of Forces Agreement personnel have a safe and effective way to return home with their vehicle after consuming alcohol. When an individual calls for a Daiko taxi, the company sends a taxi and an additional driver to drive the individual's vehicle home. To access Daiko service from anywhere on base, dial 645-8888 and follow the prompt for the respective base, camp or station. From off base, dial 970-8888. From a cellular phone, dial (098) 970-8888.

HOLIDAY MAILING DATES

Following are the suggested deadline dates for sending letters and packages from military post offices on Okinawa to U.S. addresses to arrive before Christmas:

- Parcel Airlift, Nov. 29
- Priority, Dec. 4
- First Class, Dec. 4
- Express, Dec. 11

Following are the suggested deadline dates for sending letters and packages from U.S. addresses to military post offices on Okinawa to arrive before Christmas:

- Space Available, Nov. 28
- Parcel Airlift, Dec. 4
- Priority, Dec. 11
- First Class, Dec. 11
- Express, Dec. 18

For more information, contact your camp's post office.

CREDO WORKSHOPS

The Chaplain's Religious Enrichment Development Operation is scheduled to host a marriage enrichment workshop Dec. 5, from 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. at Camp Foster.

For information, call 645-3041.

NAVY COMMISSIONING PROGRAMS

The U.S. Naval Hospital career counselor and representatives from the USNH Officers' Wardroom will have a briefing on Navy commissioning programs Dec. 5 at 2 p.m. in the Camp Lester chapel.

The briefing will cover the different Navy commissioning programs and offer advice on how to prepare a successful application.

All interested sailors and Marines on Okinawa are welcome to attend.

Active duty sailors as well as Marines are eligible for many of these programs.

RED CROSS BABY SITTER'S TRAINING

The Red Cross is scheduled to hold a two-day baby sitter's training class. Classes will be held at the Camp Foster Red Cross office building 5674 on Dec. 5 from 5 to 9 p.m. and Dec. 6 from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. The class will focus on child development and safety, diapering, feeding, responding to emergencies, and child and infant cardiopulmonary resuscitation and basic first aid.

Students must be at least 11 years old to take the course and 12 years old to baby sit on Marine Corps bases. The course is \$45. Students must attend both sessions. For more information and to register, call 645-3800.

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

Japanese compulsory insurance mandatory

Lance Cpl. Stefanie C. Pupkiewicz

OKINAWA MARINE STAFF

CAMP FOSTER — Not having property damage insurance or Japanese compulsory insurance on privately-owned vehicles can carry serious, if not expensive, consequences.

Possession of PDI and JCI are mandatory for Status of Forces Agreement personnel to drive on Okinawa, according to Marine Corps Bases Japan Order P11240.1B.

A driver is subject to a traffic citation if operating a vehicle without insurance, said Sgt. James Meak, the physical security noncommissioned officer in charge for the Base Provost Marshal's Office.

Driving without one or both forms of insurance will result in the driver receiving a traffic citation with a mandatory court appearance.

The driver will also have to pay to retrieve his or her vehicle from the Camp Kinser Impound Lot, Meak said.

To retrieve the vehicle, the

owner must have a release letter from his or her command proving all insurance violations have been rectified, Meak said.

The incident of drivers being stopped without one or both forms of insurance is a common occurrence on Okinawa, said Cpl. Calvin Kilby, the traffic court noncommissioned officer for PMO.

The backlog created by these citations can leave perpetrators on island past their rotation date, he added.

Commanders have and will place insurance violators on legal hold until their file is closed, Kilby said.

Not having insurance and being involved in an accident is the worst case scenario. It will place the offender in deeper trouble with his or her command and leave the driver responsible for the cost of repairing the damaged property, said Kilby.

Damage to other vehicles and property in an accident is the only thing covered by PDI, according to Christin N. Sanders, claims supervisor at the Office

of the Staff Judge Advocate.

If the culpable driver does not have PDI and is involved in an accident off base with a local national, the Office of the Staff Judge Advocate will facilitate a payment plan with the parties involved for property damaged, Sanders said. She added if SOFA personnel are involved in an off-base accident involving other SOFA personnel where the culpable driver does not have PDI, it is the responsibility of the driver seeking claims to pursue compensation for property damage.

Bodily injuries and deaths incurred in an accident are covered by JCI, according to Staff Judge Advocate officials. An initial inspection is necessary to ensure the vehicle is in proper working order before the JCI can be reinstated.

For more information on obtaining or renewing PDI and JCI contact the Joint Service Vehicle Registration Office at 645-7481 or <http://www.mcbbutler.usmc.mil/jsvr/jsvro/>.

3rd Recon gets new commander**Consolidated Public Affairs Office**

CAMP HANSEN — Lt. Col. William H. Seely relinquished command of 3rd Reconnaissance Battalion to Lt. Col. Oliver B. Spencer during a change of command ceremony at the 3rd Reconnaissance Battalion headquarters building here, Nov. 19.

Seely will go on to attend the Naval War College in Newport, R.I.

Spencer comes to 3rd Reconnaissance Bn. after serving as the executive officer of I Marine Expeditionary Force Headquarters Group, Camp Pendleton, Calif.

Born in Hartford, Conn., Spencer attended the Taft School in Waretown, Conn., and later graduated with a bachelor's degree in history from Tulane University, New Orleans, La.

Throughout his career, Spencer has deployed many times to include Operations Desert Shield and Desert Storm, and recent deployments to Iraq and Afghanistan.

Spencer's decorations include the Defense Meritorious Service Medal, The Joint Commendation Medal with gold star, the Navy and Marine Corps Commendation Medal and the Combat Action Ribbon.



Spencer



Seely

FLU FROM PG 1

exercises coordinated by the Joint Preventive Medicine Epidemiological Action Center for Health during this year's flu season," said Althoff. "These exercises give medical personnel a chance to test our pandemic influenza response plans and at Futenma, allows us to test the concept of drive-thru vaccinations. Similar exercises are being conducted by many city and public health officials in the United States and have been a great success."

Althoff also added that the seasonal influenza shot exercise is a great opportunity for anyone who has not yet received their flu shot to do so, as the medical team will have more than enough vaccines available for anyone who shows up.

Seasonal Influenza vaccinations are recommended for everybody over the age of six months, especially children, pregnant

women and those individuals with chronic illnesses.

"We definitely recommend that everyone who has not already done so show up and receive their flu vaccine," she said. "We will utilize the same standard seasonal influenza vaccine and adhere to standard immunization protocols, such as the mandatory 15 minute waiting time. While it may take a little extra time, you and your family can get your immunization in the comfort of your car while contributing to our response plan evaluation."

An additional door-to-door vaccination exercise will be conducted in a Marine Corps Base residential unit at a later date. Prior to the exercise, residents of the selected residential unit will be informed of the exercise and a town hall meeting will be held to provide additional information and answer all questions.

CLB-4 searches for IEDs during predeployment training

Lance Cpl. Michael A. Bianco
OKINAWA MARINE STAFF

CAMP HANSEN — Approximately 200 Marines from Combat Logistics Battalion 4, 3rd Marine Logistics Group, participated in an improvised explosive device course here Nov. 17-20.

Instructors in the course taught the Marines how to identify IEDs to better prepare them for deployment.

"A lot of the guys out here have never had experience with IEDs," said Jerry Rodriguez, an instructor of the course and retired explosive ordnance disposal technician. "We want them to get accustomed to it now so they have a better idea in (the future)," Rodriguez said, referring to other predeployment training the Marines of CLB 4 will conduct early next year.

The Marines traveled in convoys of four humvee with four to five man teams in each vehicle searching for IEDs. The Marines approached with caution when a possible IED was spotted.

The convoy halted and the Ma-

rines exited the humvee to search and assess the area for a possible explosive.

When an IED was found, the Marine was instructed to stop and yell firecracker to confirm its presence and indicate its location to the other Marines.

In addition to recognizing IEDs, the instructors prepared the Marines for the worst.

"Marines need to be ready for not only the explosion, but also what comes afterward," Rodriguez said, referring to the casualties and damage to equipment and vehicles resulting from the blast.

During the scenarios, service members treated the wounded and secured, repaired or towed immobile vehicles before moving on to the next check point.

Both instructors and students of the course said it was successful in its mission to prepare the Marines.

"This did a lot for us," said Lance Cpl. James Feeley, a logistics vehicle system operator with CLB 4. "We were able to find out our strengths and weakness," he said,



Marines from Combat Logistics Battalion 4, 3rd Marine Logistics Group, search for improvised explosive devices during the Individual Preparedness in an IED Environment course at Camp Hansen Nov. 20. Photo by Lance Cpl. Michael A. Bianco

pointing out that communication between vehicles was difficult at times.

The instructors drove home the importance of being prepared for IEDs.

"Your radios aren't always going

to work and you're not always going to be able to hear your counterparts in other vehicles," Rodriguez said. "That's why you always have to keep a look out and be ready to do whatever it takes to ensure the safety of the Marines around you."

Provost Marshals Office offers talks about drunk, drugged driving

Provost Marshals Office

Editor's Note: The following is the first in a four-part series providing information on the "Drunk and Drugged Driving (3D) Prevention Campaign," which is a Joint Military Services and Support Agencies endeavor.

The Council for Okinawa Protection and Police Services (COPPS), made up of the seven U. S. Forces Japan Law Enforcement Agencies, along with the III Marine Expeditionary Force Safety office, Marine Corps Base Camp Butler Safety office, and Marine Corps Community Services recently announced the start of the 3D campaign. The 3D campaign is a safety program aimed at reducing alcohol and drug related automobile accidents and promoting safe and responsible driving through awareness, education and strict enforcement of traffic regulations.

The holiday season is a time to come together and celebrate with family and friends. For most people it is a time to rejoice and reflect on fond memories of past years. But for many other families, it can mark a time of somber remembrance and grief for loved ones lost in alcohol related traffic incidents. Traditionally, these incidents increase during the holiday season.

The 3D campaign is a conglomeration of programs instituted by the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, Mothers Against Drunk Driving, Military Police and military command.

Thanks to concerted educational efforts na-

tionwide and stricter laws enacted by authorities, alcohol and drug related driving offenses have been on the decline. Although this trend is encouraging, driving under the influence remains one of the most serious public safety challenges confronting all communities.

The following are NHTSA and Headquarters, Marine Corps statistics for 2007, addressing the scope of the problem:

1. NHTSA reported that 12,998 people in the United States were killed as a result of impaired driving in 2007.
2. In 2008 the United States averaged one alcohol related fatality every 30 minutes.
3. 67 percent of drivers involved in alcohol related traffic fatalities have a blood alcohol content of .08 percent or higher.
4. There were 38 alcohol related incidents from Status of Forces Agreement personnel on Okinawa during the month of December 2007.

"We pass the same message day in and day out, 'Do not Drink and Drive,' but apparently it falls on deaf ears. Every day there is another incident of someone getting behind the wheel and driving an automobile after they have been drinking. In combat we never seem to have an issue with anyone not taking the proper measures to protect themselves and their buddies. So why is it so hard in garrison? We are losing Marines, sailors, soldiers, airmen, civilians and family members daily because we fail to look out for each other. We allow our buddies to chamber a round in the

form of an automobile and point it at all of us. Just as soon as they turn the key and send that bullet down range we have lost. The sad part is there always seems to be someone who after the fact says, 'I knew he was too drunk to drive,' but they failed to take action to stop him. Lets all do our part to make the holidays joyful by looking out for each other," said Lt. Colonel Roy D. Paul, provost marshal for Marine Corps Base, Camp Butler.

As the holiday's approach, all personnel should be especially careful and follow these common sense rules to "arrive alive."

- Don't drink and drive.
- Do everything you reasonably can to prevent others from drinking and driving.
- Use alternate forms of transportation such as taxis or rides from friends.
- If you plan on drinking, designate a driver who will not consume alcoholic beverages.

Everyone agrees that the best way to win this war and prevent tragedy both on and off our installations is through education and proactive law enforcement. The goal is to have no tragedies, on or off base, resulting from impaired driving. All service members, families, American and local-national civilian employees should join this effort and take a stance against drunk driving. Remember, the message is simple - "You drink & drive, you lose."

The next Okinawa Marine article on "3D Prevention Campaign," will address the impairing effects of alcohol.

LEAVE FROM PG 1

the commanding general of MCBJ, apply to service members in a leave status.

This chapter also applies to all MCBJ and III MEF Depart-

ment of Defense civilians, Status of Forces Agreement contractors and all family members of these personnel.

The rules and regulations set forth in the campaign order do not

apply to stateside leave.

The MCBJ/III MEF Order 1050.7, the Liberty Campaign Order, can be accessed online at the MCB Camp Butler adjutant Share-Point homepage at the following

CAC-protected site: <https://wss.mcbbutler.usmc.mil/G1/adjutant/default.aspx>. Under the directives links, click MCBJ/III MEF orders and locate MCBJ/III MEF Order 1050.7.

JUNGLE TRAINING

3rd Intelligence Battalion Marines complete Jungle Warfare Training Center courses

Lance Cpl. Tyler J. Hlavac

OKINAWA MARINE STAFF

Nineteen Marines from Ground Sensor Platoon, 3rd Intelligence Battalion, III Marine Expeditionary Force, proved that they can survive the jungle when they completed the Jungle Survival skills course Nov. 19, and Jungle Skills course Nov. 21 at Camp Gonsalves.

The two courses are offered by the 3rd Marine Division's Jungle Warfare Training Center as a way of teaching service members not only the tactics of jungle fighting, but how to survive in the jungle if they are ever lost or separated from their unit.

The mission of the JWTC is to train Marines in a jungle environment.

The Marines arrived and began training at the JWTC's Jungle Survival course Nov. 16.

During the survival course, the Marines spent their first two days in the classroom learning how to find food and shelter in the jungle.

During the classroom time, instructors also taught the Marines how to find water, build a fire and make shelters.

Additionally, the Marines learned how to catch, skin and clean wild game such as rabbits and chickens.

The survival course culminated with a practical application of the skills they had learned and the added 'bonus' of going 24 hours without eating to teach them about dealing with hunger in the jungle.

Sgt. David Phillips, a ground sensor operator with Ground Sensor Platoon, said the survival course taught the Marines how to deal with stress and helped them develop an "I can" mindset.

"This course has been a great training experience for us, particularly for our junior Marines," Phillips said. "As ground sensor Marines, our job involves us going out into enemy territory to install information gathering sensors, which could potentially lead to a situation in which we would be stuck out in the jungle alone and have to survive."

After completing the survival course, the Marines immediately tackled the Jungle Skills course. The course consists of a day

of classroom training and a day of practical application, and is designed to teach the Marines how to conduct combat operations in the jungle.

The practical application kicked off early Nov. 21 as the Marines ran through the timed 'endurance course' portion of the Jungle Skills course which tests everything the Marines learned in the classroom.

The endurance course began with the Marines racing across hasty rope bridges and then rappelling down steep hills. The Marines then swam through underwater culverts and navigated their way through barbed wire obstacles.

Near the end of the course, the Marines had to carry a simulated casualty on a stretcher made of camouflaged uniform blouses through thick mud and up steep hills.

The Marines finished the course in four hours and 30 minutes, which is considered a fast time, especially since the Marines completed both the survival and skills classes back to back, which no unit has done before.

"They had a really great time out there," said 1st Lt. Mark Patridge, assistant director for the JWTC. "Considering these Marines had done the survival course and gone without food days prior, we had expected them to finish in about six hours, as most units who do the course normally finish within a five to six hour mark. They had the guts to finish this course strongly."

The Marines attributed their quick finish to a strong sense of camaraderie and the number of junior Marines within the unit who stepped up and took charge, both of which were the result of training at the JWTC together.

"This training was really great for us as we came together as a unit and learned how to push ourselves," said Lance Cpl. Caleb Armstrong, a ground sensor operator who also functioned as a unit team leader during the training.

"We got rained on a lot, were constantly cold and went without food, but no one in the unit argued or fought. This was a great morale builder for us and we are definitely going to come out here again in the future and beat our course time."



Lance Cpl. Karl Guyette, a geographic intelligence specialist with the 3rd Intelligence Battalion, III Marine Expeditionary Force, inches his way over a wire crossing at the Jungle Warfare Training Center. Photos by Lance Cpl. Tyler J. Hlavac



ist with 3rd Intelligence Battalion, III Marine
during a jungle skills training course at the Jungle



Lance Cpl. Michael Velasco, left, and Pvt. Shane Johnson, ground sensor operators, with 3rd Intelligence Battalion, use flint and magnesium strips to light a fire during the Jungle Warfare Training Center's Jungle Survival Course.



Marines with 3rd Intelligence Battalion, slog their way through a muddy trench during the Jungle Warfare Training Center's endurance course.



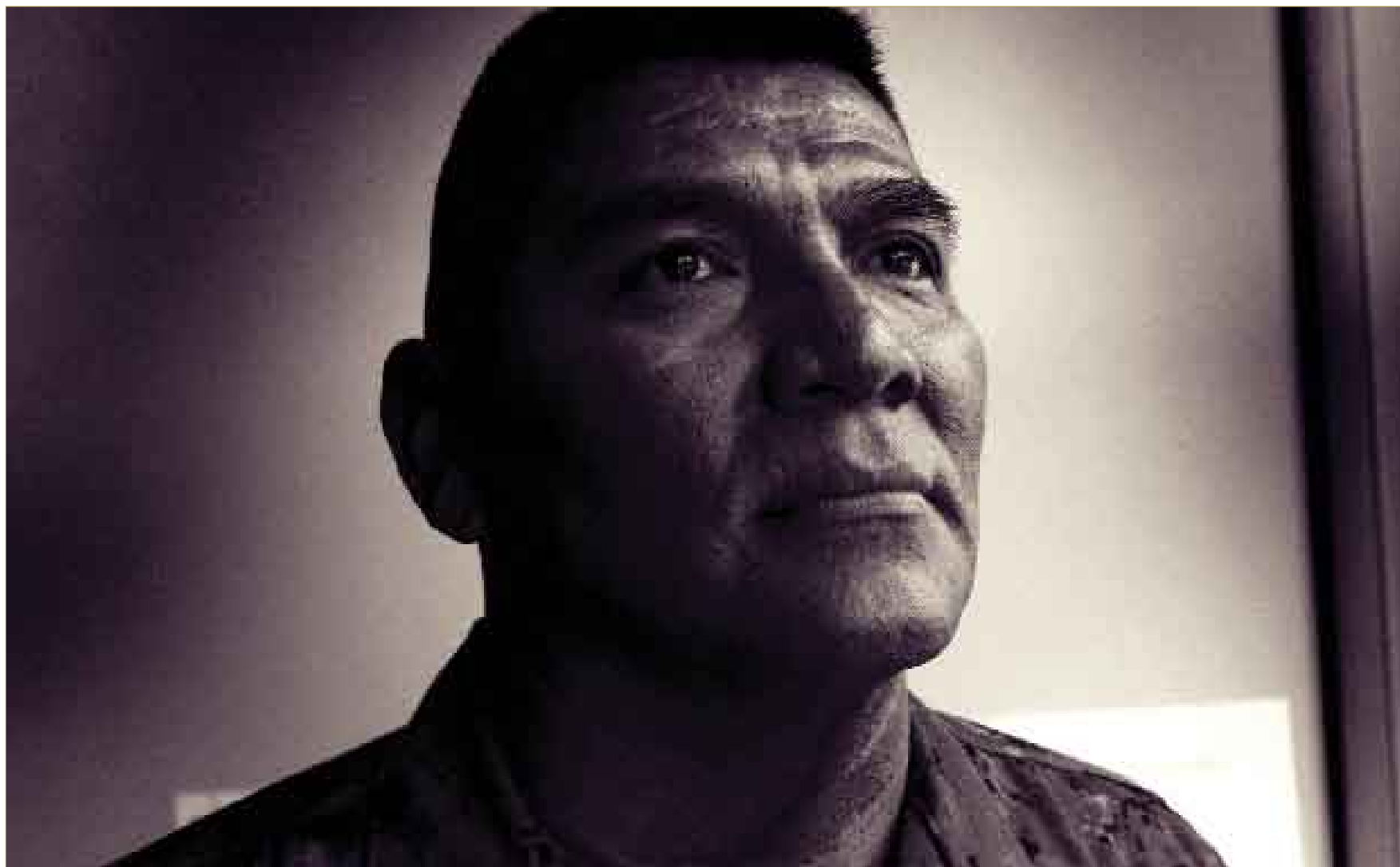
Marines with Ground Sensor Platoon, 3rd Marine Intelligence Battalion, struggle to carry a simulated casualty during the Jungle Warfare Training Center's endurance course.



Cpl. Jordan Collingwood, an instructor with the Jungle Warfare Training Center, washes the mud off Marines from Ground Sensor Platoon, 3rd Intelligence Battalion, after they completed the endurance course.

National American Indian Heritage Month

Marine shares native culture woven in Corps history



"I met some of the code talkers themselves...I told them I was so proud of them." — Master Sgt. Emerson L. Tate, Marine Corps Base Facilities Engineer Cheif and Navajo Native American who fluently speaks the language used by the famous U.S. Marine Navajo code talkers. Photo by Lance Cpl. Thomas W. Provost

Lance Cpl. Thomas W. Provost
OKINAWA MARINE STAFF

Master Sgt. Emerson L. Tate knows a military code that once perplexed the enemy so much, it was deemed unbreakable.

No numbers or fancy word play is involved in the code; it is rooted in culture.

Tate, Facilities Engineer division chief for Marine Corps Base, is a Navajo Native American. His tribe's lineage in the Marine Corps resonates with distinction amongst the Corps' history.

During World War II, Japanese communication soldiers combed the air waves for American military radio transmissions. What they intercepted was a strange language they never heard before.

The Navajo language was chosen by the Marine Corps during World War II to encode messages sent by radio.

Navajo was chosen because it was an un-written language, only a very small number of people speak.

"We never sat in a classroom to learn the Navajo language," said Tate, who speaks the language

fluently. "It's only spoken, never written. It's what you remember up here," he said pointing to his head.

World War II was not the first time a Native American Language was used as a secret military code. During World War I, the language of the Comanche nation was used. During the Civil War, the language of the Iroquois was used to encode messages.

The Navajo language code was never broken. This was because the language is un-written and extremely difficult to learn if not practiced from childhood, said Tate.

Marines employed the code in every major battle in the Pacific, including the battles of Guadalcanal, Tarawa, Saipan, Iwo Jima and Okinawa, said Tate.

The code was simple but effective. A message would be given to the Marine Navajo code talker; he would then translate the message into Navajo and send it by radio. The recipient code talker translated the message back into English and relayed it to commanders. Messages were sent back and forth from the front and rear without being compromised.



Navajo code talkers were employed throughout the Pacific during World War II. Pictured here are code talkers on Bougainville.

After the Battle for Iwo Jima, Maj. Howard Connor, a signal officer from the 5th Marine Division, said, "Were it not for the Navajos, the Marines would never have taken Iwo Jima."

Tate had the opportunity to meet some of the code talkers in person.

"I wasn't in uniform when I saw them, but they saw that I had a Marine hair cut and when I showed my I.D. card to them, they just squeezed my hand a little tighter than a regular hand shake," said Tate. "I told them I was so proud of them, that they did it for our freedom. You could

see it deep inside their eyes: that little smile."

The Navajo Marines, along with the code, played an integral part in the war and directly influenced its outcome, as did their fellow Native Americans during the Civil War and World War I.

Today, there are 2,626 active duty Native Americans serving in the Marine Corps, according to Headquarters Marine Corps.

There are 7,209 Native Americans who have deployed in support of the Global War on Terror and 34 who have given their lives in combat.

Combat Engineers improve living conditions for Iraqi Army

Okinawa based 9th Engineer Support Battalion deployed to Iraq in September and quickly completed their first major construction project.

2nd Lt. Ty Barrion
CO. A 2ND PLATOON COMMANDER

QASR AMIJ, Iraq — For the Iraqi Army 29th Brigade Military Transition Team, living conditions in Iraq got a little better recently.

Combat engineers from 2nd Platoon, Company A, 9th Engineer Support Battalion, completed a month-long mission constructing living spaces for the 40-man team.

The MiTT facility was the battalion's first large-scale mission since deploying to Al Taqaddum, Iraq in late August.

With limited time to plan before being pushed outside the wire to the remote location, these Marines hit the ground running.

"We were right in the middle of our relief in place (with 7th ESB) when the majority of the planning for this mission was going on," said mission commander 1st Lt. Tom Nichols. "Everyone's time was torn between getting settled, completing required training and working with their counterparts

to learn how we were going to operate out here. There were some late nights trying to get this mission ready to go."

Late nights were far from over once the mission was underway. The Marines had to work in full gear since there was little physical force protection established. Temperatures during the day reached more than 100 degrees, so the Marines worked at night.

"The Marines were pushed to their limit both technically and tactically," said Gunnery Sgt. Michael Baehr, the platoon sergeant of 2nd Platoon.

The platoon erected 13 structures including nine billeting structures, a combat operations center, a chow hall and a gym. All were complete with power and a hygiene trailer was installed with full plumbing.

"My team's typical work day started at 8 p.m.," said Pfc. David Carrol. "We'd work all night, have breakfast at 6 a.m., then go to sleep. We got up at noon and then had to stand security again until 2000. We did that for a month straight. We were really busy, but it made the time go by fast."

Despite rigorous pre-deployment training, there was considerable on-the-job training for the Marine engineers. Most had little construction experience beyond what they learned from military occupational specialty schools, and the utility Marines had to learn how to work with materials



Lance Cpl. Tremayne Baker, a combat engineer from Chicago, with 9th Engineer Support Battalion mixes concrete during final construction in Qasr Amij, Iraq on Oct. 24. The Marines with 9th ESB are working on the facilities for a military transition team operating in the area. Photo by Cpl. James D. Wilkins

measured by different standards.

"The things that were unfamiliar to us were the ablution trailers," said Staff Sgt. Lafonz

Clark, the utilities staff non-commissioned officer in charge of the commercial hygiene trailers assembled on-site. "Not having the right size piping and proper tools to make things work was a challenge in itself. So there was a lot of adversity that we as utilities Marines had to overcome that played a big part in our success of accomplishing the mission."

After this mission Chief Warrant Officer Ken Schwartz, utilities officer in charge from Pittsburgh, Pa., was optimistic about his section's readiness for future operations.

"There has been a learning curve, but within a couple of weeks I know that we are able to take on any mission from the planning stages all the way through execution and turn-over of the finished product," he said.

The Marines worked extra hours in order to adhere to the aggressive timeline. When it came time for the transition team to occupy the camp, they were grateful for all the hard work put forth by 9th ESB.

"Your Marines were a marvel to watch," said Maj. Daniel Benz from the supported unit. "The Iraqi Army officers were just blown away by how hard they all worked. [The] Marines did great."



Lance Cpl. Tyler Goddard, a combat engineer with 9th Engineer Support Battalion builds framing during construction at Qasr Amij, Iraq, Sept. 28. The Marines from 9th ESB built a facility for a Military Transition Team helping train Iraqi forces. Photo by Cpl. James D. Wilkins

Staff sergeant helps other Marines to recover

Part II

Fred W. Baker III

AMERICAN FORCES PRESS SERVICE

Doctors operated and stabilized Staff Sgt. Daniel Kachmar after his squad was hit by an improvised explosive device blast Aug. 25th, 2005. He was then flown to Balad Air Base, north of Baghdad, where other doctors operated and stabilized him again, preparing him for his long journey to the National Naval Medical Center in Bethesda.

He spent three months at the Bethesda hospital, suffering through operation after operation.

Shrapnel had blown through his hand, damaging all the muscles and nerves that work his fingers. Doctors rebuilt the hand, rebuilding bone, grafting nerves and muscles, and installing screws and plates to hold things together.

Kachmar's leg needed rods and pins because his shin and calf bones were shattered. Muscle deteriorated leaving the doctors little to work with. In the end, they had a last choice - graft muscle from his abdominals to his leg, and hope it grows.

It worked, and now Kachmar has only a "three-pack" left in his belly, and three distinct ab-looking lumps on the inside lower part of his left shin.

"When I get hungry now, my leg hurts," Kachmar said jokingly.

Fortunately, doctors were able to work around the homemade number 33 tattooed just above his ankle - Kachmar's high-school football number.

His hands were not quite the success story, however. After 30 surgeries, his right pinky and ring finger were not functional. They were just "there," he said.

The bum fingers would get in the way, bumping into things as he tried to drive, tie his shoes and the like. And, he said, they were "super sensitive" so every bump came with a shot of searing pain.

So last year, facing no promise of ever having function in the fingers, Kachmar made the almost unthinkable decision. He had doctors cut them off.

"Getting operated on 30 times for two insignificant fingers, I said 'Enough is enough. Go ahead and take them,'" Kachmar said. "They just got in the way."

A New Beginning

During that time, a girl from his hometown called to see how his recovery was going. One conversation led to another and a romance brewed. Kachmar made his move with the speed of a Marine infantryman securing his target.

"I came home, and I saw her and we hooked up, got married and now we're making babies," Kachmar said, laughing.

The two were married in June 2006. Already, they have a 19-month-old girl, and twins, born this month.

The expeditious Kachmar didn't want to waste time in therapy in the hospital either. He was ready to get back to work and said he felt that he could work the muscles even more outside the hospital as part of a normal day.



Staff Sgt. Daniel Kachmar lost two fingers and had other serious wounds from his service in Iraq. But that hasn't stopped the 24-year old from wearing the uniform and maintaining physical training. Photo by Fred Baker III

"Whenever I was doing occupational therapy, I would baby my hand and only work it when I was in therapy. And now I'm just like, 'Do it. Figure out a way.' I don't feel sorry for myself. I don't feel sorry for my hand. Suck it up and do it," Kachmar said.

Now he works at the headquarters of the Wounded Warrior Regiment, about 45 miles south of the Pentagon.

Still A Marine

Although Kachmar is back at work, he said he still considers himself in recovery and is working his body hard to get his abilities back to where they were before.

So far, Kachmar estimated he is about 70-percent physically capable of performing what he once was.

"I used to be a stud," Kachmar said. "I can barely do anything (now). It's kind demotivating, but at the same time it's motivating. You look back on where you were and where you are at and it's like 'I've really got to get my butt in gear.' It gives you a goal."

He can now run and do pull-ups and is working on the physical fitness test. Before the IED explosion, he scored at the top of the test. Now, he figures he can pass it, just not with the scores he wants.

The side of his hand is still "super" sensitive on the back side of his palm, Kachmar said. He can't hold a remote control, or a butter knife. It is hard to hold a hammer, and tools, but he is becoming ambidextrous. For the most part he can "adapt and overcome," Kachmar said.

He can write with a pen, and still types with a "two finger punch." He never could type much before.

More importantly, Kachmar can still shoot a rifle and pistol.

When it came time for the young Marine to decide to stay in the service or get out, Kachmar opted to stay in. He is in waiting

now for the ruling on a limited duty request.

Recovery is a long, and sometimes confusing process, especially in its first few weeks, Kachmar said. Now he is there to help other Marines who are flown in. His job is educating other Marines on the process and their rights.

"When Marines get hurt, they're swamped with so much information that they don't take anything in," Kachmar said. "All they care about is 'Am I going to walk again? Am I going to use my arm again? Is my brain going to function? That's all they care about.'"

Kachmar tries to ease the pressure on the Marines by encouraging them to not make any decision too quickly.

"You've got a 20-year-old kid who's married, and hasn't known anything but the Marine Corps since high school, and now he's got an injury ... he just doesn't know," Kachmar said. "He has all these people telling him ... 'This is what you need to do, this is what you need to do.'"

"For me as another wounded Marine to say, 'Look, take a step back. Don't be in any rush to make any decision. There is no point to it,' he said.

For Kachmar, though, the decision is made. He said that deep down inside, he feels he can still recover to the point where he can stay in the infantry,

Now, his sights are set on the rigorous sniper school. To get into the school, he will have to work harder to improve his physical conditioning, he said.

"I don't want to just go through the school. I want to ... excel. If I'm going to do it, I want to do it right," Kachmar said.

If he can't be a sniper, Kachmar is convinced there will be another career opportunity in the Corps. That's because, Kachmar said, he has "leadership, experience" to bring to the fight.

"That's all any Marine really needs, is leadership," Kachmar said.

IN THEATERS

NOV 21 – 27

Movie schedule is subject to change without notice. Call in advance to confirm show times. For a complete listing, visit <http://www.aafes.com>.

FOSTER 645-3465

FRIDAY High School Musical 3: Senior Year (G), 6 p.m.; Quantum Solace (PG13), 9 p.m.

SATURDAY High School Musical 3: Senior Year (G), 12 and 3 p.m.; Burn After Reading (R), 6 p.m.; Miracle at St. Anna (R), 9 p.m.

SUNDAY Bolt (PG), 1 and 4 p.m.; Ghost Town (PG13), 7 p.m.

MONDAY Bolt (PG), 7 p.m.

TUESDAY High School Musical 3: Senior Year (G), 7 p.m.

WEDNESDAY Tyler Perry's The Family That Prey's (PG13), 7 p.m.

THURSDAY Bolt (PG), 7 p.m.

KADENA 634-1869

FRIDAY Night in Rodanthe (PG13), 6 p.m.; Ghost Town (PG13), 9 p.m.

SATURDAY Bolt (PG), 2 p.m.; Quantum of Solace (PG13), 5 and 9 p.m.;

SUNDAY Closed

MONDAY Unavailable

TUESDAY Unavailable

WEDNESDAY Unavailable

THURSDAY Unavailable

FUTENMA 636-3890

FRIDAY Burn After Reading (R), 6:30 p.m.

SATURDAY My Best Friend's Girl (R), 4 p.m.; Burn After Reading (R), 7 p.m.

SUNDAY My Best Friend's Girl (R), 4 p.m.; Miracle at St. Anna (R), 7 p.m.

MONDAY Righteous Kills (R), 6:30 p.m.

TUESDAY Closed

WEDNESDAY Closed

THURSDAY Closed

COURTNEY 622-9616

FRIDAY Bolt (PG), 5 p.m.

SATURDAY The Longshots (PG), 2 p.m.; Burn After Reading (R), 7 p.m.

SUNDAY Madagascar: Escape 2 Africa (PG), 7 p.m.

MONDAY Burn After Reading (R), 7 p.m.

TUESDAY Closed

WEDNESDAY Quantum of Solace (PG13), 7 p.m.

THURSDAY Closed

HANSEN 623-4564

FRIDAY Pineapple Express (R), 6 p.m.; Disaster Movie (PG13), 9 p.m.

SATURDAY Bangkok Dangerous (R), 6 p.m.; College (R), 9 p.m.

SUNDAY Traitor (PG13), 2 p.m.; The Rocker (PG13), 5:30 p.m.

MONDAY Unavailable

TUESDAY Unavailable

WEDNESDAY Unavailable

THURSDAY Unavailable

SCHWAB 625-2333

FRIDAY Miracle at St. Anna (R), 7 p.m.

SATURDAY My Best Friend's Girl (R), 5 p.m.

SUNDAY Burn After Reading (R), 5 p.m.

MONDAY-THURSDAY Closed

USO MOVIE NIGHTS

The USO hosts movie nights at the locations below.

For schedules and start times, call:

CAMP SCHWAB 625-3834

MCAS FUTENMA 636-2113

CAMP HANSEN 623-5011

KADENA AIR BASE 632-8781



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

All bus pick-up points will be at Semper Fit gyms or the Foster Fieldhouse.

SINGLE MARINE PROGRAM EVENTS

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

- Volunteer at Kinser Elementary School by reading to students and participating in class activities every Friday from 8:45 to 11 a.m.
- The Marine Thrift Shop on Camp Foster requests two volunteers on a weekly basis from Camps Kinser, Foster, Courtney, Hansen and Schwab and MCAS Futenma.
- Volunteering dates at the Ai No Mura Nursing Home occur on the fourth Friday of each month. Call 636-3092 for more information.
- To sign up as a volunteer contact your SMP representative or call the SMP office at 645-3681 by Wednesday of each week.

DEC. 5 | 2ND ANNUAL DUCK AND COVER GOLF TOURNAMENT

- Teams of four with at least one staff noncommissioned officer will be competing in this golf tournament. Registration deadline is Nov. 26. First 26 teams get a free BBQ lunch. Call the SMP office for more information and to register.

DEC. 20 | CHRISTMAS CRUISE

- Enjoy an evening of entertainment, activities, and a buffet dinner aboard the Moby Dick cruise ship. Registration deadline is Dec. 12. Call the SMP office for more information or to register.

CHAPEL SCHEDULE

CAMP FOSTER | 645-7486/7487

- **Catholic:** Mon., Wed., Fri., 11:45 a.m.; Sat., 5 p.m.; Sun., 10 a.m.
- **Christian Science:** Sun., 11 a.m., Bldg. 442
- **Eastern Orthodox:** Sun., 9:30 a.m.
- **Gospel:** Sun., 11:30 a.m.
- **Hindu:** Sat., 3:30 p.m.
- **Jewish:** Fri., Traditional, 6 p.m.; Informal: Fri., 6:30 p.m.
- **Muslim:** Fri., Prayer, 12:45 p.m.
- **Protestant:** Sun., 8:30 a.m.
- **Seventh Day Adventist:** Sat., 10 a.m.

CAMP LESTER | 643-7248

- **Catholic:** Sun., 8 a.m., Lester Chapel
- **Protestant:** Sun., 9 a.m., Hospital Chapel
- Sun., 10 a.m., Lester Chapel

CAMP COURTNEY | 622-9350

- **Catholic:** Sun., 8 and 11:15 a.m.; Mon.-Fri., 11:45 a.m.
- **Protestant:** Sun., 9:30 a.m.

CAMP HANSEN | 622-9350

- **Catholic:** Sun., 10 a.m., E. Chapel
- **Latter Day Saints:** Sun., 1 p.m., W. Chapel
- **Protestant:** Sun., 11 a.m., W. Chapel

MCAS FUTENMA | 636-3058

- **Catholic:** Sun., noon
- **Contemporary:** Fri., 7 p.m.; Sun., 9 a.m.
- **High school senior service:** Sat. 6 p.m.

KADENA AIR BASE | 634-1288

- **Buddhist:** Sat., 10 a.m., Bldg. 856
- **Catholic:** Sun., 8:30 a.m., Mass, Chapel 1; Sun., 11:30 a.m., Reconciliation, Chapel 1; Sun., 12:30 p.m., Mass, Chapel 1; Sun., 5 p.m., Mass, Chapel 1; Sun., 10:30 a.m., CCD, Amelia Earhart School; Daily Mass, Mon.-Thurs., noon, Chapel 2
- **Protestant:** Sun., 10:30 a.m., Contemp., Chapel 1; Sun., 8:30 a.m., Inspirational, Chapel 2; Sun., 10:30 a.m., Traditional, Chapel 2; Sun., 10:30 a.m., Gospel, Chapel 3; Sunday School, 8:45 a.m., Bldg. 856
- **Wiccan/Pagan:** Fri., 7 p.m., Chapel 1; Sat., 6 p.m., Bldg. 856

CAMP SCHWAB | 625-2644/2866

- **Catholic:** Sun., 5:30 p.m.
- **Protestant:** Sun., 11:30 a.m.

CAMP SHIELDS | 632-4192

- **Protestant:** Sun., 6 p.m.

CAMP MCTUREOUS | 622-7537

- **Anglican/Episcopal:** Sun., 6:30 p.m.
- **Gospel:** Sun., 12:30 p.m.
- **Lutheran:** Sun., 9:30 a.m.

CAMP KINSER | 637-1148

- **Catholic:** Sun., 11 a.m.
- **Gospel:** Sun., 8 a.m.
- **Protestant:** Sun., 9:30 a.m.

CLASSIFIED ADS

AUTOMOBILES

'94 MARK II GRANDE
JCI Jan. '10,
\$2,500 OBO,
(090) 6859-9719

'93 MAZDA DEMIO
JCI Jan. '10,
\$2,500 OBO,
623-9111

'95 TOYOTA CARINA
JCI Sept. '10,
\$1,850 OBO
646-3799

'93 TOYOTA HILUX SURF
JCI Nov. '09,
\$1,900 OBO,
622-8554

'02 HONDA ODYSSEY
JCI '09,
\$7,295 OBO,
(090) 3070-0698

'98 MARK II GRANDE
JCI Sept. '09,
\$5,000 OBO,
(090) 6861-7229

'98 NISSAN PULSAR
JCI Apr. '09,
\$1,500 OBO,
(090) 6861-5506

MISCELLANEOUS

— UMUC books: BMGT380, \$50; BIO101 6th Edition w/CD, \$40; ECON203 10th Edition, \$50; HRMN300 12th Edition, \$75; all excellent condition, no highlighting. Call 646-3799

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Chris Knackstedt coaches Yuka Tukumura on how to read the green before she chips as Konami Toshiaki looks on during a game of golf at the Awase Meadows Golf Course Saturday. Photos by Lance Cpl. Joseph A. Cabrera

Golf course strengthens community bonds

Lance Cpl. Joseph A. Cabrera
OKINAWA MARINE STAFF

CAMP BUTLER — Since its opening in 1948, Awase Meadows Golf Course has provided an opportunity for Status of Forces Agreement personnel and Okinawan golf enthusiasts to share the enjoyment of a game that transcends cultures.

Awase Meadows has hosted many golf tournaments featuring SOFA personnel, Okinawans and dignitaries from throughout the region. The course has even hosted celebrities such as American singer Johnny Mathis, said Sonny Gibbs, the head golf professional of Awase Meadows Golf Course. Professional Golf Association member Lee Trevino also chased the Awase greens while enlisted in the Marine Corps and stationed on Okinawa, he added.

According to Gibbs, the game has been a driving force in creating bonds between U.S. Military service members, their counterparts and local golfers in the region.

“Golf gives people that either work together, or work similar jobs, or have similar interests, an opportunity in a relaxed environment to communicate about a lot of things away from the desk and the shirt and tie and to get outside and enjoy the sunlight, fresh air and nature,” Gibbs said.

Lead marshal Jeff Baker said it is the game’s universal appeal that transcends culture.

“The game improves relations between many people, it’s a universal game,” he said. “You can be any age and play. It is a great way to meet people in a friendly, challenging environment.”

Players from all walks of life, young and old, can share in the genuine fun of the game, said Gibbs.

One of the greatest things about the game is that an average citizen can be playing on a golf course beside a celebrity, politician or dignitary and they would never know. When people are clad in golfing attire, it becomes

difficult to distinguish who is a VIP and who is not, he said.

Two people who would normally never meet or hold a conversation can be paired up on the links for a round of golf, enjoying competition and conversations, according to Gibbs.

There is a lot going on in the game of golf, it is not just about chasing the ball around the course with clubs, Gibbs said.

According to Baker, Golf is not

an easy sport but like any other sport, to play the game well golfers must continually practice to stay efficient in the game.

“It’s a target game, it’s an accounting game, it’s an honor game,” Gibbs said. “Many of the attributes that are necessary to be a good leader like making good decisions in regards to risk and reward, assets and liabilities, are exposed in the game of golf, those that play understand that.”



Yuka Tukumura, left, John Bivens, center, and Chris Knackstedt, right, watch as Konami Toshiaki makes a long putt attempt at the Awase Meadows Golf Course Saturday.



The Okinawa Marine is published by Marine Corps Community Services under exclusive written contract with Marine Corps Base Camp Smedley D. Butler, Okinawa, Japan.

The editorial content of this newspaper is edited and approved by the Consolidated Public Affairs Office of Marine Corps Base Camp Smedley D. Butler.

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OKINAWA MARINE NEWSPAPER

H&S Battalion MCB PAO

Unit 35002

FPO AP 96373-5002

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