

## **From Editor's Desk**

Spring is when cherry blossoms (sakura) bloom everywhere in Japan. I remember the days when I was still a high school student in mainland Japan walking up the stairs surrounded by cherry blossoms every morning. My school was on top of a hill and from the train station to the school, up a flight of long steep stairs.

I hated these stairs because they were so tiresome except the spring when cherry blossoms bloomed. To tell you the truth, thanks to sakura, this short time in April, when the new school year starts in Japan, was the most pleasant time of the year to me and even walking up this steep stairway was enjoyable.

After I moved to Okinawa, I saw dark pink flowers on trees here and there alongside the street but I never realized that those flowers were cherry blossoms because their pink color was way too dark and they bloomed way too soon. They bloomed in January! I only found out that they were sakura when my mother visited me and told me she wanted to go to the festival in Nago to see cherry blossoms.

To a person who was born and raised in the countryside of mainland Japan and was used to seeing the cherry blossoms only in very light pink or even whitish, it was quite a shock.

In my hometown, there was a plum tree. Its flowers were as dark pink as those flowers you see at Nago Cherry Blossom Festival and they bloomed in early spring. Maybe because of this memory of mine, it still makes me wonder sometimes when I see dark pink sakura, what I am seeing are not cherry blossoms but red plum blossoms.

I used a picture of Sakura on the cover to convey my feelings. It is very difficult to overcome your stereotypes and habits.

#### 編集デスクより

春、あちらこちらで咲いている桜を見ると、高校生だった頃、毎朝桜に囲まれた 階段を上っていたのを思い出します。本土にある私の学校は丘の上にあり、駅から学校まで、この長い急な階段が私を待ちかまえていました。

桜が咲く春以外は、この階段がとても面倒でした。でも、実を言うと、桜のおかげで、進級時期のこの短い期間が私にとっては一年で一番気持ちのいい時で、きつい上り階段でさえ楽しいものでした。

沖縄に引っ越した後、道沿いにちらほらとある木々に咲いている濃いピンクの 花を見かけましたが、その花が桜だとは思いませんでした。花のピンク色が濃く、 あまりにも早く咲いていたからです。一月に咲くなんて! 母が私を訪ね、名護のお 祭りに桜を見に行きたいと言った時、初めてあれは桜だったのだと知りました。

日本本土の田舎で生まれ育ち、薄いピンク色、あるいはむしろ白っぽい色の桜の花を見慣れている私にとっては、これはショッキングなものでした。

私の田舎には、梅の木がありました。その花は、名護桜祭りで見る花と同じくらい濃いピンクでした。その梅の花は早春に咲いていました。この記憶のせいか、濃いピンクの桜を見ると、今でも時々、私が見ているのは桜ではなく梅の花じゃないかと思ってしまう時があります。

その思いを伝えたく表紙の写真に使ってみました。思い込みや習慣を克服する ことは非常に困難ですね。

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#### 各基地渉外官へのお問合せ

基地渉外官は、在沖縄米海兵隊各基地と地域社会との架け橋です。各基地の渉外プログラムについては右記までお問合せください。電話でのお問合わせは以下の通り。メールでご連絡される場合は、okinawa.mcbb.fct@usmc.milまで。

件名の欄にお問合わせ先のキャンプ名をご記入ください。

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「大きな輪」は、性別・年齢・国籍を問わず、多くの読者の皆様のご意見、ご感想、ご質問をお待ちしております。氏名、住所、電話番号を明記の上、ファクシミリ、メール、または封書にて上記の「大きな輪」編集係までお送りください。掲載させて頂いた方には、「大きな輪」各号を郵送いたします。



#### On the cover

Cherry blossoms at Nakijin Castle Ruins, Jan 30. 2020 今帰仁城跡桜

= 2020年1月30日、名護市

(Photo by Yoshie Makiyama 槙山由江) FOLEST is a bilingual newsletter that Ms. Hiroko Tomimura, Camp Foster community relations specialist, has been publishing since 1998. FOLEST is an acronym that combines portions of both the Foster and Lester names. It has been distributed to local government offices and several restaurants around Camp Foster and Lester. Big Circle is republishing FOLEST to share the information of differences in people's lifestyles on and off base.

#### FOSTER LESTER NEWS

Chinese

Restaurar

Hwy 58

Beach

To Kadena



Kuwae Lodge

U.S.Naval

Hospital

New Chatar

Town Hall

Road 23 (To Gate 5)

School Bus Terminal

Lester

Middle

School

In 1998

- This time, let's talk about CAMP LESTER in Chatan Town. The town is getting busier lately. The New Chatan Town Hall is to be completed within Camp Lester this Spring. The area of the Town Hall is 6.4 acres, or 7800 tsubo which covers 2.5% of Camp Lester.
- "Camp Lester used to be called "Camp Kuwae".

  It was changed in 1982 from Kuwae to Lester which was named after Hospital Apprentice Fred F. Lester. But local place name (like Kuwae) may still sound familier with locals. There are some facilities with such names as Kuwae Lodge, Kishaba Housing and so on.
- The main facilities on Lester are the U.S.Naval Hospital, Lester Middle School, Kuwae Lodge, School Bus Terminal, Offices and Housing.
- Above all, the U.S.Naval Hospital would be the best known because it's visible from off Base and the local bus stop has the name "Naval Hospital". Well, some people say "I thought it's an ARMY hospital..." That's because it used to be run by the Army from 1954 to 1977 when it was turned over to the Navy. Normally, it has 112 beds and can be extended up to 298 during an emergency.

Since New Chatan Town Office was built (Map on the Right)

update from Big Circle

↓

Photo taken on
May 22, 2019
courtesy of Chatan Town
Official Website

About 20 years later, the area was populated with stores and apartments, and it is still growing.



Any questions on FOLEST, contact Ms. Tomimura: 098-970-7766 (direct line)

The name was changed from FOSTER LESTER NEWS to FOLEST on its 20th issue. (There are corrections made for the change in contents due to its publication date.)

「フォレスト」はキャンプ・フォスター&レスター渉外官である富村浩子さんによって1998年以来発行されている二か国語のニュースレターです。フォレストは英語ではなく、フォスターとレスターを組み合わせた造語。キャンプ・フォスターとレスター近隣の役所や飲食店に配布されています。「大きな輪」では、基地の中と外の生活様式の違い等を紹介しているこの情報誌を掘り起こし、取り上げています。



フォレスト紹介

#### フォスターレスターニュース



- ■最近、何かとにぎやかな北谷町にあるのが今回紹介する「キャンプレスター」です。北谷町の新庁舎もこの春にレスターの中に完成、庁舎域の面積は6.4ェーカー又は7800坪で、レスター全体の約2.5%にあたります。
- ■レスターは以前は「キャンプ クワエ」と呼ばれていましたが、1982年に米国海軍一等兵フット・ファルクナー・レスター の名前が採用され、「キャンプレスター」と改名されたのです。地元の人には地名の方が覚えやすいかもしれません。基地内でも「クワエロッシ」(右図参照)のように地名が採用されている所もあります。
- ■レスター内の主な施設は海軍病院、レスターミドルスクール、クワエロッジ、スクールバスのターミナル、事務所、住宅など。
- ■その中でも米国海軍病院は国道からも見える 上、バス停名にもなっているので名前を聞いた ことがある人も多いでしょう。1954年設立から 1977年に海軍に委託されるまでは実は「陸軍病 院」でした。2つの名前が聞かれるのはこういう 事情があったからなんですね。当病院には通常 のベッド数が112床ですが、災害時には最大拡 張数が298床にもなります。

#### 北谷町役場が完成した当時(右図)から

「大きな輪」より追記 ↓

2019年5月22日 撮影 北谷町公式ホームページより 約20年でこうなりました。レスター跡地大半 は商業施設、住宅と変 貌を遂げています。そ してまだ進行中です。



フォレストは第20号でフォスターレスターニュースからフォレストへ改名されました。 (1998年発行のため、内容等に変更がありますので、注釈を入れています。)

2020年 春号



## Rotarians see "both sides of shield" at Kinser **Battle of Okinawa Historical Society display**

Rotary club members from **Rotary International District** 2580 toured the Battle of Okinawa Historical Society display on Camp Kinser Feb. 14 to learn about U.S. military bases and to understand the purpose of U.S. military presence in Okinawa.

After attending the twoday regional conference in Okinawa, 24 Rotarians from Tokyo and three Okinawan members used the third day of the tour to visit the display on Camp Kinser, according to Atsushi Nerome, a member of the Okinawa Naha-East Rotary Club. Nerome requested Camp Kinser's community relations specialist Ichino Kuba the tour for the group.

"We wanted to help the members from Tokyo deepen their mutual understanding and improve the communication by looking at

the Military bases in Okinawa not just from outside but also from the inside," said Junichi Inagaki, a member of the Naha-South Rotary Club and the Chairman of the regional conference.

The party met Kuba at the gate and then went to the display in the Camp Kinser Headquarters building. Due to the display only being open when there are visitors, the party waited until it was unlocked.

Serving as a bridge between the Marine Corps and local communities daily, Kuba herself often serves as a guide for the the display when people visit it.

Kuba pointed out the displayed artifacts and relics one by one and explained the historical background, flow, and the situation and environment at the time of the war based on the damage of the items.

Last time the regional conference was held in Okinawa seven years ago, there was a development of the area "Near Omoromachi Station" in Naha and many remains were excavated. Rotarians at the time decided to support the people who were helping to collect remains of the war dead. This time their purpose of gathering was to support the recovery of Shuri Castle, according to Inagaki.

At the same time, however, Inagaki and Nerome added this visit to the display on Camp Kinser to their plan in order to help them better understand Okinawa.

Shinobu Suzuki, a wife of a Rotarian from Tokyo Ikebukuro Rotary Club, said, "This display was much more fulfilling and very informative. I am glad I came to this tour this time," while recalling the experience she

she actually saw the size of the area the U.S. military bases occupied with her own eyes from the bus and she was so astonished even it through media.

only displayed all about the wins of the United States military, but I was very impressed that they display equally and treat the Japanese, U.S. and Allied sides equally," Eiichi Saito of Chiba Ichikawa from Tokyo Joto Rotary Club expressed his thought.

curator for a museum. remarked on the Kinser Battle of Okinawa Historical Display, "The equality that is the way the display should be." He thanked the display to share with them the valuable things which are not easy to see.

had seven years ago when though she had known about

"I thought that this place

In addition, Saito, a certified

Story and Photos by Yoshie Makiyama

に参加後、希望者でキャーであれた2日間にわたる3名の沖縄のメンバーは、3名の中縄のメンバーは、3分のロータリークラブメージを開いた。 1二ケーションをらい、お互いの理に沖縄の基地を内

のある建物内の歴史資料館へと足流後、キャンプ・キンザー司令部 れるのを待

た時だった。いた時だった。

博物館の学芸員の資格を

U.S. .30-caliber machine gun excavated at Sugarloaf hill in Naha is displayed. 那覇市安里貯水池で発見されたU.S. .30口径機関銃

2020年 春号 — 5

**冲縄戦歴史資料館で** 

楯の

南面

を見る



Continued from Page 10

the ash melting system, was handed over, the participants were amazed at its weight. It was heavier than they imagined.

At the recycling facility that handles recyclable items, the guide explained that almost all processes are performed by hand unlike mechanization and automation of the incineration and the power generation facilities and the crushing and sorting facilities. "I have to wash the bottle after I finish and remove the labels and lids for the people who do all this work behind the scene," said Lance Cpl. Heaven L. Gaude, Headquarters and Service Battalion,.

"It opened my eyes a lot about how we can recycle better and how we can make the people who work here life easier," commented Sgt. Justin A. Wilson, Headquarters and Service Battalion participated with his family.

Michael Ju, an environmental trainer with the Compliance, Training, and Support Section, Environmental Affairs Branch, G-F, facilities, who visited a disposal facility off base for the first time, expressed his enthusiasm of talking in his class about how people have to sort out the garbage by hands after it comes to the facility.

"That was a lot of new information they were teaching us. Learned about how things in the waste bins that shouldn't be there could cause trouble," said Gaude, referring to the fire incident a lithium battery caused on the disposal pick-up track. "People need to educate themselves."

Gaude also stated that the visit will change people's mindset when it comes to recycling and now she actually herself wanted to recycle.

After the tour both Nedds and Gaude said, "We will tell everyone about this, when we go back," at the same time.

Story and Photos by Yoshie Makiyama



# した翌年から 外に漏れ(空気遮 ニット中 でみを タ

海兵隊員 「目からうろ うけた米海兵隊本部業務大隊のレなみるべきだと、施設の大きさと技沖縄に来る全ての海兵隊員が、

焼却炉で

Refuse crane grabs the garbage in the waste pit.

ごみピット内のごみをつかむクレーン。

2020年 春号 — 7 8 — Spring 2020

## **Eye-opener: Marines and civilians visited** environmental facility

Recycling plays a big part in waste management not only on Okinawa and Japan, but also on Marine Corps bases as well. However, the differences in culture and the ways of thinking still can be obstacles when it comes to waste management.

To help familiarize Marines with what happens to their trash and recyclables after being collected, Hiroko Tomimura, community relations specialist for Camp Foster, organized a tour Feb. 21 of an off-base garbage disposal facility in Haebaru.

This tour has been ongoing since the year after the Naha-Haebaru Clean Center

began operating in 2006, and the facility has been visited several times a year ever since. There is usually an average of 10 participants each time, according to Tomimura.

The tour with the small group of a total of six people and two children this time began with watching a video that introduced the facility overview in English.

During the facility tour, the

group noticed no odor in the building despite being a garbage disposal facility. An air wall served as an invisible barrier over the doorway to prevent the smell from leaking out of

the building.

As the party reached the fifth floor of the building where they got the good view of the 30-meter-deep waste pit, in which garbage piled up to 13 meters high, they observed the crane with huge claws grabbing the garbage, pulling it up all the way to the top and releasing it to bust the plastic bags and get the garbage in the pit spread evenly.

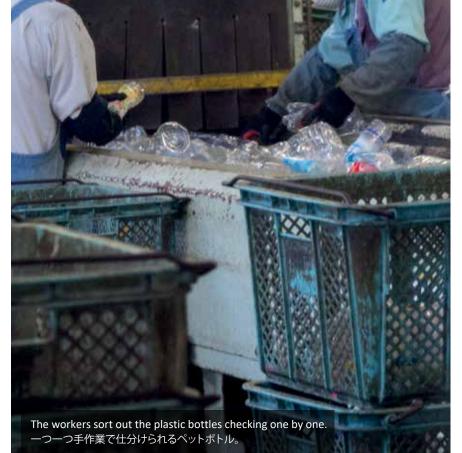
In the incinerator, the garbage is completely burned at more than 1,560 degrees Fahrenheit. Once burned, the heat is reduced quickly in the gas cooling system to prevent the emission of

harmful substances. The combustion boiler uses the heat of the exhaust gas generated in an incinerator to produce steam and the steam turbine generator makes electricity, which is reused in the facility. Any remaining electricity will be

Impressed by the size of the facility and the technology, Cpl. Lexie A. Nedds, **Headquarters and Service** Battalion, remarked that everyone coming to Okinawa should visit the facility.

When molten metal, which was created after the ash from the trash-burning incinerator was melted in

Continued on Page 8





# **Coming Events**

移動販売車フード・フェア

フォスター・フェスティバル 日時 7月4・5日/13:00~21:00 場所 キャンプ・フォスター(北谷町)

キンザー・フェスティバル 日時 9月12日/14:00~22:00 9月13日/13:00~21:00 場所 キャンプ・キンザー (浦添市)

コートニー・フェスティバル 日時 1 0月 1 7・1 8日 / 13:00~21:00

場所 キャンプ・コートニー(うるま市)

キャンプ・フォスター

日時 5月17日 10:00~18:00

コミコン沖縄 日時 2021年 1月 23日 • 24日 12:00~18:00 場所 キャンプ・フォスターフィールド

コロナウィルスの影響でイベントが中止、変更になる 場合がありますので、ご了承ください。 https://www.japan.marines.mil/Event/

れていません。

最新情報は電話:098-970-5829(英語の後 に日本語が流れます)にてご確認ください

沖縄県内にある米海兵隊施設で今年予定で れている日本人も参加できるイベントです。 主催者の都合や天候で、予告なく事前に日 時変更や中止になる場合もありますので、 ご了承ください。なお予定されているイベン トが確定された場合は、在日米外兵隊のホ ームページやソーシャルメディア (URL 本 誌ページ21)を通して告知します。

#### **EARTH DAY - Celebrating 50th Anniversary**

Do you know what Earth Day is? It's easy to think of all the various environmental awareness days as one in the same, but each one deals with its own area of interest or concern.

Earth Day is one of such awareness days. It was first celebrated in 1970 to provide a voice to the emerging environmental consciousness. Gaylord Nelson, founder of

Earth day and former senator of Wisconsin, came up with the idea for a national day to promote environmental teach-in for students after witnessed a devastating oil spill off the coast of California in 1969. April 22 was chosen after Spring Break and before final exams for the maximum participation of students.

Today, Earth Day is widely recognized as the largest

secular observance in the world, according to the Earth Day officials. It is aiming to mobilize a billion people worldwide for transformative action of our planet, the Earth, a cleaner place to live. The Marine Corps in

Okinawa is not an exception. We have been celebrating Earth Week by extending to a whole week every year to take part in various

activities, such as educations

programs, clean up both on and off base, rivers and beaches. In addition, we are working hard to develop human resources to raise environmental awareness for base employees. In this Big Circle, we would like to introduce some of these human resources development.

Story by Yoshie Makiyama

#### **Environmental Affairs Branch trains Japanese** base employees

The Environmental Affairs Branch is a part of the G-F, Facilities of Marine Corps Installation Pacific and responsible for implementing environmental protection policies throughout the Marine Corps in Okinawa. However, the responsibility of The Environmental Affairs Branch can be global when viewed from a broad perspective.

Their mission is to support the Marine Corps by carrying out environmental programs, which are in compliance with the

applicable laws and regulations in our area of responsibility and provide comprehensive services and products in a responsive, professional, and cost effective manner to protect people and enhance our environment.

The Environmental Program complies with JEGS (Japan Environmental Governing Standards) issued by U.S. Forces Japan with the cooperation of the Japanese government, set standards and policies for the environment that the U.S. military here must observe for operations. JEGS is the primary source for environmental guidance and standards for U.S. Forces in Japan, with few exceptions, and has adopted more protective standards than those set out in Japan and U.S. environmental laws.

The Compliance, Training, and Support Section of the Environmental Affairs Branch provides the environmental training required for Marines, civilians and Japanese employees who work on Marine Corps facilities. Kaori Arai, an Environmental **Protection Specialist** and Environmental Trainer, was just hired last December. While she herself is deepening her understanding of JEGS,

she has held over seven trainings in the past three months and shared her knowledge with over 100 employees.

The training is mandatory for employees who handle hazardous materials. New employees first complete the three-day course, followed by a one-day refresher course annually. The primary objective of the training is to have them better understand the responsibility and raise awareness of the importance of what they do.

The training not only focuses on risks for different type of hazardous materials, proper use of protective equipment and safety, but also mentions the red soil spill problems and the recycling as well.

#### 地球の日 - 50周年を祝う

理解を深めつつと、は海兵隊基地では海兵隊基地では、 の研修、 ている で、その後 で、その後

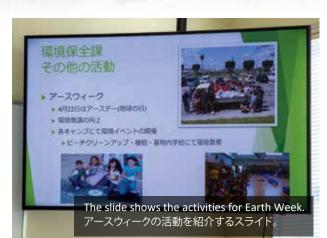
Takahiro Koja, a painter from Maintenance and Repair Section of G-F, Facilities hired as a Master Labor Contract a little over six months ago, said, "I was surprised at the high level of the environment awareness on base. I was particularly impressed with the recycling of plastic bottle caps.'

Shun Takara of Sheet Metal Shop of G-F, Facilities said, "I was sorting plastic bottles for recycling, but, for the first time in this training, I learned how they are actually processed. It is not that I have nothing to do with it. It is that the awareness of each individual in the world is important."

Story and Photos by Yoshie Makiyama







12 — Spring 2020

八従業員へ環境研修



Continued from Page 16

works, and the connection with the Japan Self-**Defense Forces and local** communities with pictures.

"The one thing you can do wrong today is that if you leave here not understanding something, then that will be a mistake," said Owens as he encouraged students to ask questions freely.

When the briefing baton was handed to Charles A. DeCesari, Camp Director of Camp Schwab, he

talked about the history of Camp Schwab, its role as a Marine Corps base, regional exchange and its 60-year relationship with the neighboring district Henoko. someone else's opinion." Students' questions varied from in-depth command hierarchy to how the members spend their free

Students who thought the Marine Corps was all about warships and combat units were surprised that some units were connected to the local communities. One

student said "my image of Marines was tough and hard to approach, but it's more friendly and likable than I thought," and continued, "I'm going to know more about them now."

"I always see in the news that there are conflicts with the local people, but now I am surprised that they actually do a lot of volunteer activities, seems to be good neighbors and have a good relationship with the local people," another student said.

This visit was a part of the school trip called taxi training, in which the students research where they want to go. It came to realization when a student told a teacher about his idea of visiting a U.S. base and the teacher contacted Marine Corps officials and scheduled the tour.

"Students can learn general knowledge of security treaties and other things in class, but it's also important for them to have the opportunity to see the reality and to have their own ideas," a teacher said.

DeCesari stated, "From their questions, you can tell that the students are making educated decisions, not just on what they see on the news or part of

After the brief, DeCesari guided the students to the rappel tower. The tower, 66 feet tall, is used for rappelling and fast roping training. This training gives Marines to learn about the procedure and the safety, develop confidence, and conquer fears before they actually descent

from a building or even a helicopter.

The students uttered their impressions of the height while overlooking Camp Schwab from atop of the tower. Despite the fear of heights, one of the students struggled to climb up but managed to the top and looked far away crouching on the center of the floor. It was the moment that curiosity won over fear. Before lunch, they arrived at a view point where they

can overlook Oura Bay, the "Henoko no Umi." "It is wider than I imagined watching it on TV," a student commented as observing the lines of the buoys that indicate the landfill area.

After the visit, the students all said their mindset has changed. One student commented, "I can think more deeply by looking at it myself, not just the media coverage."

DeCesari hoped this event was a good opportunity to improve each other's environment and relationships. "It makes sense for students from the mainland to visit the base. They can't come to the base without making an effort. To come here, they are showing a willingness to learn what's going on," he stated.

"The students act with their own willingness in this way, and to see, feel, and learn by themselves, not the opinions of others, are going to be influencing the next relationship between the Americans and Japanese," concluded DeCesari.

Story and Photos by Yoshie Makiyama



で調べて行うが自分が行れる場はタクシー

ど、奉仕活る 衝突がある

ュ

工高校生 修学旅行 ワブを視察

14 — Spring 2020

## Seeing is believing: Japanese High School students from mainland visit Camp Schwab on a school trip

As part of a school excursion, there is typically some free-time for students to explore the destination on their own. In the future, the idea that students choose to visit a military base to broaden their knowledge may become an option.

On Feb. 6, seven high school students from mainland Japan visited Camp Schwab during a school trip to Okinawa. They came up with the idea

when they saw a question and answer on the official Marine Corps website that informed school officials can request to visit bases.

Unlike Okinawa, high school students on the mainland only know the current status of U.S. military bases in Okinawa through newspapers, television and social media. It's hard for them to actually see the situation with their own eyes. The seven high

school students are all sophomores in mechanical course. While other students had reached recreational facilities and amusement parks, they chose Camp Schwab as their destination and undertook this visit by doing a preliminary survey in advance to understand

Shortly after students arrived at Camp Schwab, the first place they headed was a briefing room where

the status of the base.

they learned about the Marine Corps and Camp Schwab.

Col. Neil J. Owens, assistant chief of staff of G-7, Government and External Affairs, Marine Corps Installation Pacific, first explained to the students why Marines are in Okinawa. He also showed what the U.S.-Japan Security Treaty and the Status of Forces Agreement are, how the Marine Corps

Continued on Page 14



Students over look the Oura-wan Bay. 「辺野古の海」の埋立状況を室内から望む。

第三海兵遠征軍·海兵隊太平洋基地 (III MEF/MCIPAC)の紹介 Col. Neil J. Owens, assistant chief of staff of G-7, Government and External Affairs, Marine Corps Installation Pacific, gives the brief to the mainland high school students. 米国海兵隊太平洋基地、政務外交部長のニール・」・オーエンズ大佐の 16 — Spring 2020

# Marines help elementary school children at English Day Camp

#### 海兵隊員が小学生の英語体験学習に協力

Volunteers from the U.S. military community across Okinawa helped the youth of Okinawa learn English through games, conversations and skits at the Nago Youth House's English Day Camp Feb. 22.

Learning English is an important part of education for some children in Okinawa. The Nago Youth House held the camp as a chance to teach English in fun and effective ways.

"There is a great interest in the community to learn English and to interact with people who speak English," said Col. Jason Perry, camp commander of Camp Schwab and commanding officer of 4th Marine Regiment.

"For us, it is an opportunity to interact with our neighbors in the community," he said.

Volunteers spent the day

playing games that helped students understand English in everyday sentences.

"For me, it isn't us building relations with the local community, it is being a part of that local community and contributing to that community," Perry said.

The day ended with the students performing a skit where they said both English and Japanese phrases to the volunteers and the rest of the students.

"I'm excited when I come to these events because these are the kids of the future and we can teach them some things that other students or teachers can't," said Navy Petty Officer 2nd Class Robert Nard with 7th Communications Battalion.

Story by Lance Cpl. Zachary Larsen

沖縄県名護市内にある小学校の5~6年生を対象にした英語キャンプが2月22日、名護青少年の家で行われた。

名護市教育委員会から委託を 受けた英語開発機構が中心とな り、今年8年目となる英語キャン プには市内の各小学校から約40 人の児童が参加した。

この英語体験学習をサポートするため米海兵隊基地キャンプ・シュワブ基地司令官のジェイソン・ペリー大佐を筆頭に、海兵隊員とその家族、日本人ボランティアら大勢が参加し、100人近くのにぎやかな日米交流イベントが始まった。

ペリー司令官は「地域の子どもたちが英語圏の人と交流する機会で、私たちにとっても隣人である地域の人たちと交流できる素晴らしい機会です」と話していた。

ボランティアは午前中、子ども たちの緊張をほぐし距離を縮め る目的でゲームを楽しみながら、 子どもたちに英語での日常会話が理解できるように接していた。「私にとってこのようなイベントは地域社会との関係を構築する場ではなく、地域社会の一員として地域に貢献することです」と、日本語を読み書きできるペリー司令官は説明した。

午前中に行われたゲームやランチを通して子どもたちとボランティアらが打ち解け、午後は各グループごとに日本語と英語を使っての寸劇を演じた。

グループごとに即興で演じた 寸劇は、まじめに演じるグルー プや笑いに展開するグループ と、それぞれがチームワークを いかしたユニークな作品の数々 だった。

ロバート・ナード2等海曹は「こういったイベントに参加するのは、子どもたちの未来のためであり、友だちや先生からも教わることのないことを教えることができるのでとても楽しいです」と、2年ぶりの沖縄で嬉しそうに話した。

文 平安生英





# Annual festival: a place for international exchange

#### 基地フェスティバル、国際交流の場に

Over 7,500 people from both the local and U.S. military communities on Okinawa attended the 2020 Camp Hansen Festival, Feb. 8-9.

The annual celebration featured live performers, demonstrations, food vendors, and games. Despite the rain, many people came out to participate.

One of the many demonstrations performed that day was the dog handling.

"Hansen Festival is an awesome time to show what hard work the dogs and handlers go through for training and exercise," said Cpl. Isaac Cutshall, a working dog handler with 3rd Law Enforcement Battalion.

"The dogs go through about five hours of training a day and it shows when we do demonstrations like this," he said.

Country music band Parmalee headlined the festival with a concert at the end of the first day.

"It's important to remind the service members that we support them for what they do," said Matt Thomas, lead singer of Parmalee. "We want to give them a taste of home."

A Japanese female visitor said, "I came here to enjoy the American food because we cannot taste it in Japan." She added, "also to meet with foreigners is unique to Okinawa,"

Hansen Festival and other open-gate events are important to strengthening

the relationship between the local Okinawa culture and U.S. Armed Forces.

2月8と9日の両日に開催された2020年ハンセン・フェスティバルには、地元住民や米軍関係者の両方から7500人以上が参加した。

毎年恒例のお祭りは、ライブあり、見せ物あり、屋台あり、ゲームありと盛り沢山。 雨にもかかわらず、多くの人々が足を運んだ。

ドック・ハンドリングの実演は、 フェスティバルでの多くのデモ ンストレーションのうちの1つで あった。

第3法執行大隊(憲兵隊)の軍用犬を扱うドッグ・ハンドラーであるアイザック・カットシャル伍長は「ハンセン・フェスティバルは、軍用犬とトレーナーがどのような苦労を通して訓練や演習をしているかを皆に見てもらえる良い機会です」と話した。

「軍用犬は1日約5時間の訓練

を受けています。このような実演 を行うとその成果が現れます」と カットシャル伍長。

カントリーミュージックバンド のパーマリーの歌声が、フェスティバル初日のステージの最後を 飾った。

パーマリーのリードシンガー、マット・トーマスさんは「隊員達に、僕達が彼らを応援していると知ってもらうことが大切です」と言った。「僕達は隊員達に故郷の雰囲気を感じてもらいたい。」

フェスティバルを訪れていた 日本人女性は「日本では味わえ ないアメリカの食べ物を楽しみ にしてきています」と言い、「沖縄 ならではの外国人との交流も楽 しみです」と付け加えた。

ハンセン・フェスティバルやその他の基地を一般に開放するイベントは、沖縄の地元社会と米軍の関係を強化する重要な役割を果たしている。

Story and photos by Lance Cpl. Zachary Larsen 文・写真 ザッカリー・ラーセン上等兵

2020年 春号 — 17



## **Better safe than sorry: JGSDF Amphibious Rapid Deployment Brigade trains with US Forces in Okinawa**

The 31st Marine Expeditionary Unit, U.S. Navy and the Japan **Ground Self-Defense** Force's Amphibious Rapid Deployment Brigade performed bilateral training at Kin Blue near Camp Hansen on Feb. 9.

This is the first time the JGSDF ARDB has participated in the training for amphibious operations with Marines in Okinawa which began Jan. 25. This day was also the first time the 31st MEU landed the M142 High Mobility Artillery Rocket System (HIMARS) using the Navy's hovercraft type Landing Craft Air Cushion (LCAC).

"Today what you witnessed is a combination of naval vessels bringing our Marines and JGSDF members together to conduct a raid

on the beach," said Col. Robert Brodie, commanding officer of the 31st MEU. "Most important thing is this demonstrates our ability, our team-work and our unity to be able to handle crisis response.'

The combination of three forces, Navy, Marines and JGSDF drilled on a small offshore attack. Off the coast of Kin Blue Beach, a naval ship dispatched a series of rubber boats with Marines from the 31st MEU landing team including Boat Company and members of JGSDF ARDB to land quickly and secretly.

The 31st MEU's landing team and the JGSDF ARDB reached on a sandy beach with 11 boats and then took the beach from simulated enemy control. As Marines and ARDB secured position

on land, the Navy hovercraft approached at high speeds from the sea. Upon arriving at the shore with a loud roar, the LCAC landed and off loaded the HIMARS.

"The crisis is not the time to come together and figure things out," Navy Capt. Rich LeBron, Squadron 11 commanding officer said. "Working together now, understanding how we operate now will enable us

to work much more closely and synchronize our effort in the time of crisis."

Brodie emphasized that Marines love living on Okinawa and appreciate the understandings and supports local populations give. He continued that the exercise was another example of how Marines strive to maintain peace and stability in the region.

Story and Photo by Yoshie Makiyama



A Marine and a JGSDF member

海軍と初演習

guard the M142 High Mobility Artillery Rocket System (HIMARS) 高機動ロケット砲システムを警護す る陸自隊員と海兵隊員。

# 陸上自衛隊水陸機動団 沖縄にて海兵隊、

20 — Spring 2020



#### Big Circle 大きな輪

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注:「大きな輪」は、日本式(右綴じ)に基づいて雑誌の裏表紙(左綴じから見て)から最初のページを開始します。これは雑誌の最後のページです。このページの目次はそれに応じて後方から表示されています。

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