

OKINAWA MARINE

JUNE 11, 2010

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AND PHOTOS
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The Fukushuen Garden in Naha is full of a wide variety of flowers and trees that tourists can see, smell and touch while walking through the garden. The garden was the second stop during a Naha tour May 21 hosted by Marine Corps Community Services Tours Plus.

Photo by Lance Cpl. Aaron Hostutler

LIBERTY CAMPAIGN ORDER

Bars, clubs off limits after midnight

III MEF PAO

CAMP FOSTER — Changes to the Liberty Campaign Order went into effect today for all Marines and sailors in Japan assigned to III Marine Expeditionary Force and Marine Corps Bases Japan.

Lt. Gen. Terry G. Robling, commanding general of III MEF and MCBJ, signed change 3 to the Liberty Campaign Order today.

The changes to policy are the result of recommendations made to Robling by a joint task force comprised of all the U.S. services

that conducted a comprehensive internal examination of policies and procedures that govern conduct and discipline on and off duty. The joint task force was created in late March due to a number of off-base vehicle accidents and alleged misconduct by service members.

The U.S. military and its commanders take very seriously all incidents and allegations involving misconduct by service members, especially those that impact the host nation community.

SEE **LIBERTY** PG 5

3rd MLG CG prepares to depart

Lance Cpl. Jovane M. Holland

OKINAWA MARINE STAFF

CAMP KINSER — Brig. Gen. William Faulkner, commanding general of 3rd Marine Logistics Group, III Marine Expeditionary Force, is scheduled to relinquish command to Brig. Gen. (select) Craig Crenshaw, the previous commanding officer of Combat Logistics Regiment 25, 2nd Marine Logistics Group, II MEF, in a change of command ceremony Wednesday.

Faulkner, who took command of

3rd MLG in June 2008, will continue his service at the Pentagon, where he will serve as the vice-director of the Joint Staff J-4 directorate.

Faulkner said he looks forward to his next assignment, which differs somewhat from his current position.

"I'll basically be coordinating the same logistical support type functions for the Joint Force that I do now for the III MEF commander," Faulkner said.

SEE **FAULKNER** PG 4

Cambodian Interoperability Program '10 ends on high note

Lance Cpl. Antwain J. Graham

OKINAWA MARINE STAFF

KAMPONG CHHNANG PROVINCE, Cambodia — Sailors, Marines and Royal Cambodian Armed Forces members gathered outside the Kampong Chhnang Friendship Clinic for the Cambodian Interoperability Program 2010 closing ceremony, May 20.

Throughout the duration of the mission, doc-

tors and corpsmen treated more than 20,000 Cambodian patients, breaking last year's total of 12,333.

"I'm amazed and more than proud of the outstanding work all the doctors and service members did here in this province," said Col. James L. Rubino, commanding officer, Combat Logistics Regiment 35, 3rd Marine Logistics Group, III Marine Expeditionary Force.

Leading representatives of the Kampong

Chhnang Province spoke on behalf of the region and the provincial governor, thanking the U.S. service members for the assistance and services they provided to the Cambodian people.

"The combined effort of the R.C.A.F., U.S. forces and the non-governmental organizations made a great difference in this province," said Hul Chanthro, the Kampong Tralach district governor.

SEE **CLOSING** PG 4

IN THIS
ISSUE

SCUBA SAFETY

Be prepared. Know the dangers and how to be safe when you enter the water for a dive.

PG. 3



SWIMMING WITH FISH

The basics of snorkeling must haves, must knows and places to go swimming with the fish.

PG. 12

OKINAWA

New Marine experiences new culture

Lance Cpl. Michael G. Iams

"Konnichiwa! Watashi no namae wa Michael desu."

A few months ago, I would have raised a confused eyebrow if someone spoke those words to me. Now, having been on the beautiful island of Okinawa, I have a greater appreciation for the Japanese culture. From the moment I stepped off the plane coming from the United States to Japan, I knew my life was going to change.

When I first received orders to Japan, I was excited to go to a place I was so fond of and really wanted to experience. At the same time, I was scared to leave home, a place and lifestyle I was comfortable with.

Not to mention I would be leaving behind friends and loved ones. These are people I was comfortable being around and loved to have fun with.

Landing on Okinawa, Japan, was a culture shock. I was amazed and confused about the lifestyle of the Japanese.

In fact, a few Marines from my shop were at the airport to pick me up.

There were many things I was unaware of that I had to adapt to. Driving on the left side of the road took me a while to get used to. There were many instances in which I mistook the driver's side of a vehicle for the passenger's side.

Obviously, the time difference was a significant change. For a week or so, I was getting up in the middle of the night and was unable to go back to sleep.

I had to learn the language and cur-

rency rate between the dollar and the yen. I learned these skills are vital for my future off base. I cannot rely on English to get around off base.

Luckily the Marines in my shop were more than willing to show me around and teach me what I needed to know. They toured me around the base showing me the popular hang out spots. They also helped me settle in and better adjust to the fact that I was far away from home by being there for me when I needed them.

Without their help, I would have been

wandering around like a lost puppy. I am really glad to see that there is a Sponsorship program here that provides inbound personnel an easier transition. I had a sponsor, friends and fellow Marines looking

out for me throughout the transition period.

As the days roll on, I am starting to settle in and get used to living on an island, which is like a whole new world to me.

There are days when I wake up and feel like I'm home in Tampa, Fla. The hot, humid weather, although more sporadic than in Florida, reminds me of being there, sitting around my pool, and puts me at ease.

Maybe in a few months, I can go pick up a fellow Marine and welcome them to the island the way I was welcomed.

Iams is a combat correspondent with the Okinawa Marine.

"I am starting to settle in and get used to living on an island, which is like a whole new world."

This Week in History

U.S. MARINE CORPS HISTORY DIVISION

June 12, 1961 - President John F. Kennedy signed a presidential proclamation calling for the American flag to be flown at the Marine Corps War Memorial in Arlington, Virginia, "at all times during the day and night." Discussions between the Attorney General's office and Marine Corps officials earlier in 1961 on improving the visibility and appearance of the monument led to the proposal to fly the Flag continuously, which by law could only be done by congressional legislation or by presidential proclamation.

June 12, 2004 - Marines, according to military sources, conducted a three-week assault in southern Afghanistan. The assault on the Taliban stronghold was a demonstration that there was no refuge for terrorists, especially on the eve of Afghanistan's first free elections that were scheduled for late 2004.

June 14, 1917 - The 5th Marines, commanded by Col. Charles A. Doyen, sails from New York onboard the USS Henderson, the USS DeKalb and the USS Hancock en route to Pensacola, Fla., Norfolk, Va., Cuba, Haiti and the Dominican Republic.

June 15, 1944 - During World War II, preceded by Naval gunfire and carrier air strikes, the V Amphibious Corps assaulted the west coast of Saipan, Marianas Islands. By nightfall, the 2nd and 4th Marine Divisions, moving against heavy opposition, had established a beachhead 10,000 yards wide and 1,500 yards deep on the island.

June 15, 2002 - The 11th MEU departed from Camp Pendleton as part of the Belleau Wood Amphibious Ready Group for the Western Pacific and Persian Gulf area as the 13th MEU returned as part of the Bonhomme Richard ARG from the same area two days later. The 11th MEU was the third Pendleton-based MEU to deploy since the war on terrorism began with Marines from the first two seeing combat in Afghanistan as part of Operation Enduring Freedom.

HAVE A SAY

SEND YOUR OPINION TO OKINAWAMARINE.MCBB.FCT@USMC.MIL

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OKINAWA MARINE

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COMMANDING GENERAL Maj. Gen. Mary Ann Krusa-Dossin

PUBLIC AFFAIRS DIRECTOR Lt. Col. Douglas M. Powell

PRESS OFFICER 2nd Lt. Lindsay M. Pirek

PRESS CHIEF Master Sgt. Chris W. Cox

DESIGN EDITOR Audra A. Satterlee

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Scuba safety in Okinawan waters

Pfc. Garry J. Welch

OKINAWA MARINE STAFF

CAMP FOSTER — Scuba divers must keep safety in mind while exploring the waters of Okinawa.

There are many safety rules divers should follow to prevent injury.

People who want to dive must complete a scuba training course to get their diving license before experiencing the wonders of Okinawa's waters.

Scuba licensing courses teach divers basic tech-

niques needed to keep them safe while in the water. Divers learn basic control of buoyancy, controlled ascent to the surface, how to read dive tables, and many other valuable skills that may save their life.

In addition to these skills, divers are taught safety rules, such as the 10 second rule.

If you can't decide if it's safe to dive in a specific place in 10 seconds, don't do it, said Sgt. Landon Llewellyn, a product con-

trol chief with Marine Wing Support Squadron 172, Marine Wing Support Group 17, 1st Marine Aircraft Group, III Marine Expeditionary Force, and a diver of 14 years. If it takes that long to decide, the water is not safe to be in.

The most common mistake divers make is going in the water when it is unsafe, said Melissa F. Elver, the retail shift operator for Tsunami SCUBA.

Before entering the water, divers need to thoroughly inspect all of their

gear to ensure it is in proper working condition, Elver said.

Marine Corps Bases Japan Order 1050.7 requires all III Marine Expeditionary Force and MCBJ personnel participating in water related activities to utilize the buddy system.

While you are with your buddy in the water do not leave him. Having a buddy is no good if he isn't around to help if something happens, said Llewellyn.

In addition to diving with a buddy, divers should always carry a tank banger, said Elver.

A tank banger is a tool with a metal tip that a diver can bang against their tank in order to get their buddy's attention.

Divers should also always be aware of their surroundings.

"Don't touch marine life," said Elver. "Many divers get injured when they try to interact with the marine life."

However injuries still occur even when they fol-

low that rule, said Elver. Divers may accidentally come into contact with sea urchins or lion fish while trying to get back to shore. Both the lion fish and sea urchin are camouflaged, making them hard to see on the ocean floor.

When touched by the hands or feet, these wild-life cause an extremely painful sting, which is why divers should wear protective gear, dive gloves and boots, to help prevent such injuries, said Elver.

Elver concluded that diving rules have been put in place for a reason. Many of them were discovered the hard way. "Keep aware of surroundings at all times while diving and spending time in the water, and do not take unnecessary risks."

For more information on scuba diving contact Tsunami SCUBA on Camp Foster at 645-4206 or Camp Hansen at 623-7717, Torii Scuba Locker at 644-4290, Kadena Marina at 098-959-6344, or various dive shops in the city.

HMM-265 receives new CO



Marsh



Taylor

Lt. Col. Damien M. Marsh replaced Lt. Col. Christopher D. Taylor as the commanding officer for the Marine Medium Helicopter Squadron 265, Marine Aircraft Group 36, 1st Marine Aircraft Wing, June 10 during a ceremony held on Marine Corps Air Station Futenma at the MAG-36 hangar. Marsh recently served as Department of Safety and Standardization with MAG-36. Taylor is heading to the Top Level School as a student in Virginia.

Civil affairs meets with Cambodian district governor

Lance Cpl. Antwain J. Graham

OKINAWA MARINE STAFF

KAMPONG LEAENG PROVINCE, Cambodia — Representatives with III Marine Expeditionary Force Civil Affairs Detachment met with Gov. Mean Eanly, the district governor for Kampong Leaeng, May 20 to discuss issues within the district, the progress of Cambodia Interoperability Program 2010 and plans for future projects to help the community. CIP is an annual, joint service medical and dental civic action project organized to provide medical and dental care to Cambodians within the province.

This is the first time a civil affairs team has been attached to the CIP.

The III MEF Civil Affairs Detachment's mission is to support all III MEF subordinate commands in the planning, coordination and execution of civil military operations throughout the III MEF area of operations.

"We were able to reach out to

all eight districts in the region and find out what was needed in those areas," said Capt. Horace J.C. Bly, Civil Affairs Team 1 team leader, III MEF Civil Affairs Detachment.

The governor explained that the district only has four clinics and does not have any doctors; only a few physician assistants.

One of the major issues discussed were the Cambodian people's inability to reach the medical civic action program site.

Another issue discussed was the region's lack of a water purification system.

"People here drink the polluted water and suffer from diarrhea, cholera and other bacterial infections," Eanly said.

"The governor asked about the possibility of holding a medical civic action project in this district in the future and building a purification system," said Gunnery Sgt. Jonathan Dowdall, team chief, Civil Affairs Team 1, III MEF Civil Affairs Detachment. "We plan to take the requests to the U.S. Embassy here and allow



Gov. Mean Eanly, left, district governor for Kampong Leaeng district in Kampong Chhang Province and Sam Vuthy, a translator, middle, run through province names with Gunnery Sgt. Jonathan Dowdall, right, team chief, Civil Affairs Team 1, III Marine Expeditionary Force Civil Affairs Detachment, where medical attention, purification systems and other assistance is needed. Photo by Lance Cpl. Antwain J. Graham

them to take action to solve the problem."

Attaching a civil affairs team to this type of exercise will also benefit future humanitarian as-

sistance missions in the region by ensuring future civil military operations continue to meet the needs of the local community, said Dowdall.

BRIEFS**MARRIAGE ENRICHMENT RETREAT**

The Chaplains' Religious Enrichment Development Operation will conduct a Marriage Enrichment Retreat July 22-24 at the YYY Resort. Registration is from June 14-25. Call 645-3041, e-mail CREDO.mcbb.fct@usmc.mil; or drop by Camp Foster, building 442.

Couples must have been married at least one year and cannot have attended a CREDO Marriage Retreat within the past five years.

The drawing to determine couples to attend will be held June 28, and the couples will be notified by June 29. Some spaces are held for couples ranked E-1 to E-5.

CREDO retreats have a non-religious focus unless otherwise specified.

FAMILY READINESS PROGRAM ASSESSMENT

This survey will assess the functionality and effectiveness of all aspects of the Family Readiness Program and identify any potential changes.

Marines and family members are encouraged to complete the survey before June 19 at www.surveymonkey.com/s/fr-marines-and-families-survey.

BASIC FINANCE FOR JAPANESE SPOUSES: THE AMERICAN CREDIT SYSTEM

This workshop will be held June 17 from 9 to 11 a.m. in building 445 on Camp Foster. It is designed for Japanese spouses to provide them with a basic understanding of the American financial system involving credit. This workshop is bilingual with translators and handouts provided in Japanese.

For more information or to sign up, please call the Camp Foster Personal Services Center at 645-2104.

COMMAND FINANCIAL SPECIALIST TRAINING

This training will be held June 28 through July 2, from 7:30 to 4:30 p.m. at building 439 on Camp Foster. It provides Unit Command Financial Specialists with the basic tools, techniques, and information to perform as the unit CFS. Training provided is governed by OPNAVINST 1740.5B.

Candidates must be nominated by their command with the following prerequisites:

- Must be in pay grades E-6 or above;
- Highly motivated and financially stable;
- Must have 12 months remaining onboard after completion of the training.

Call the Camp Foster Personal Services Center at 645-2104 for more information.



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.

FAULKNER FROM PG 1

Faulkner said the many accomplishments of 3rd MLG during his tenure were due to the preparedness and professionalism of his Marines and sailors.

"I was fortunate to inherit the talents of a great group of Marines and sailors," the Cherry Point, N.C., native said. "I've been very impressed with the high level of morale and focus on readiness at all times."

Although no one or two events in particular stand out as the fondest or most vivid memory, Faulkner said each and every day has been personally and professionally rewarding.

"I'm constantly hearing from commanders outside the command how well our Marines and sailors are performing while deployed or participating in various exercises throughout the Pa-

cific," Faulkner said. "This is a tribute to their small unit leaders and consistently solid support from our III MEF and Marine Corps Bases Japan leadership."

Crenshaw is fully qualified to take 3rd MLG to the next level and will inherit a talented and motivated group of Marines to accomplish future missions, Faulkner said.

"Most of our Marines and sailors joined while our nation was at war," Faulkner said of the high quality of his Marines. "They all want to get to the fight."

Faulkner said he and his family have enjoyed not only the culture and people of Okinawa, but the relationships they've established with the Marines, sailors and their families.

Faulkner encouraged his Marines and sailors to continue training for combat and

**Faulkner**

setting the example in his absence.

"As I pass along command of 3rd MLG, my parting advice would be to be professional in all your actions, regardless of where you are or who's watching," Faulkner advised.

The 3rd MLG change of command is scheduled to commence at 8:30 a.m. Wednesday at Robert's Field on Camp Kinser.



Col. James L. Rubino, commanding officer, Combat Logistics Regiment 35, 3rd Marine Logistics Group, III Marine Expeditionary Force, gives thanks to Cambodian people gathered outside the Kampong Chhnang Friendship Clinic for their cooperation and support of the Cambodia Interoperability Program 2010 during its closing ceremony, May 20. Photos by Lance Cpl. Antwain J. Graham

CLOSING FROM PG 1

Chanthro said they hope to see more projects and would like to work alongside the American forces more in the future.

"It is a tradition I hope will continue in the years to come," Chanthro said.

Phan Chandara, the deputy director of the Kampong Chhnang Provincial Health Department, also attended the ceremony.

"I can't express the gratitude we have for all the hard work that was done here, especially considering the hot weather," Chandara said. Temperatures throughout the Marines' time in Cambodia exceeded 100 degrees Fahrenheit with high humidity.

Many of the corpsmen said although they were ready to return home, they wished they could stay and do more for the people of Cambodia.

"I really think we made a difference here, because you saw it in the peoples' smiles," said Petty Officer 3rd Class Clyde Fisher, a hospital corpsman with 3rd Medical Battalion, CLR-35. "When they come to you for help and you are able to put a smile on their face, you know you're doing something good."

Overall, CIP 2010 was a success and set the bar high for next year's mission, according to Rubino.



More than 2,000 citizens of Kampong Chhnang Province attend the Cambodia Interoperability Program 2010 closing ceremony outside of the Kampong Chhnang Friendship Clinic, May 20.

LIBERTY FROM PG 1

"These liberty policy changes are designed to promote good order and discipline and reduce off-base misconduct," said Robling. "These changes to policy will ultimately serve our interest in reaffirming the trust, confidence and rapport with our local community."

Robling, who serves as the Okinawa Area Coordinator and senior U.S. military commander on Okinawa, worked with all senior service leadership on Okinawa to modify and improve existing liberty policies for all service members on Okinawa.

The liberty policy change applicable to all service members on Okinawa is the prohibition against patronizing off-base bars and clubs or any establishment where the primary business is the sale and consumption of alcohol after midnight. This change is applicable to Marine Corps red and gold card holders and is being implemented because the majority of off-base liberty incidents involving service members exercising poor judgment with alcohol occur between midnight and 5 a.m.

"Gold card holders can no longer patronize bars and clubs after

midnight," said Col. Leo Falcam, chief of staff for Marine Corps Bases Japan, who worked with the joint task force.

Alcohol consumption off base still secures at 2 a.m. for gold card holders except when in an off-base private residence.

Red liberty cards for sergeants and below who live in the barracks will now be kept by unit commanders until liberty has sounded and returned at conclusion of the liberty period.

The change to policy is applicable to all service members assigned to III MEF and MCBJ issued a red or gold card while in Japan.

The Joint Task Force also recommended that all the services examine the possibility of expanding courtesy patrols to focus on additional areas of concern. However, no decision has been made yet with regards to exact locations. Courtesy patrols consist of teams of three or four service members in uniform. The teams patrol during weekends and holiday liberty periods in areas frequented by Status of Forces Agreement members during liberty hours.

Personnel departing Marine Corps installations during late

hours are routinely required to show their liberty card and military identification at the gates to ensure that all personnel abide by the liberty policy and other regulations. As a result of changes to the liberty order, people entering Marine Corps facilities will now be checked for identification and liberty card.

Liberty training and orientation will be improved so that all new members of a unit will be better prepared for liberty. Improved liberty training will include practical application at small-unit level and an emphasis on liberty events supervised by staff non-commissioned officers and non-commissioned officers. In addition, service members will be required to demonstrate knowledge of liberty policies before receiving liberty privileges.

In addition to liberty policy changes and as a result of tactical vehicle accidents on Okinawa, the Marine Corps will work to improve the safety of tactical vehicle operations by way of mandatory route reconnaissance planning, development and use of video that shows most common tactical vehicle routes, mandatory use of some form of communication for

all tactical vehicles such as government provided cell phone or two-way radio, and development of a tactical vehicle simulator training curriculum for Okinawa.

The Liberty Campaign Order is designed to provide simple guidance and expectations of military members assigned to III MEF and MCBJ while in an off-duty status. The order addresses leave and liberty regulations, the off-base liberty card program, the liberty risk program, liberty buddy policy, the courtesy patrol program, prohibited activities, civilian clothing regulations, and the alcohol abuse and de-glamorization policy.

Over the next few months, the Okinawa Marine newspaper will publish a series of stories about various aspects of the order to highlight what Marines and sailors should know.

The MCBJ/III MEF Order 1050.7 Change 3 Liberty Campaign Order can be accessed on-line at the Camp Butler adjutant SharePoint homepage at the following CAC-protected site: <https://wss.mcbbutler.nmci.usmc.mil/G1/Adjutant/default.aspx>. Look under "Announcements" for a link to the Liberty Campaign Order.

Some important parts of the Liberty Campaign Order

LIBERTY CARD POLICY

- No liberty card will be issued until completion of the NOWA Seminar and the Standards of Conduct Class for all newcomers, regardless of rank. Newcomers are not allowed unaccompanied liberty without their sponsor until receiving the NOWA Seminar and Standards of Conduct Class.

- Company commanders and company grade officers designated by the battalion/squadron-level commanders may assign red liberty cards to deserving Marines and sailors. Only battalion/squadron-level commanders will assign gold liberty cards based upon recommendations of company, battery, and section team (CO, XO, 1st Sgt.) for those who have EARNED it through demonstrated maturity, judgment and superior conduct.

- Service members E-4 and above will normally be issued a gold liberty card. However, the commander may consider initially issuing a red liberty card, should he/she desire a period of observation.

- Red liberty cards for E-5 and below living in barracks will be retained by unit commanders until liberty has sounded and returned when off-base liberty is secured.

- Off-base liberty for service members issued a red liberty card is secured to their home camp or off-base place of residence from midnight to 5 a.m. However, service members will be considered in compliance with policy when using "The Green Line" after midnight.

- Permission for overnight liberty or liberty extended beyond the designated restricted liberty hours must be obtained in writing from unit commanders in the rank of O-5 or above.

- Local leave within Okinawa Prefecture does not dismiss the requirements to adhere to the rules of the liberty card program. Red card holders on leave and in possession of valid leave papers may be off-base and are not required to check in, but must be indoors (hotel or private residence) between midnight and 5 a.m.

- Leave papers must be in individual's possession when in leave status.

ALCOHOL CONSUMPTION OFF BASE

- No service members are allowed in bars/clubs off-base past midnight where the primary business is the sale and consumption of alcohol, regardless of color of liberty card, duty status, or rank. (Note: For gold card holders this prohibition does not extend to eating facilities in which alcohol is served as an accompaniment to food service.)

- Red card holders are prohibited from consuming alcohol off base after midnight except when in an off-base private residence.

- Alcohol consumption off base secures at 2 a.m. for gold card holders except when in an off-base private residence.

ALCOHOL IN THE BARRACKS

- E-3s and below who live in the barracks shall not possess more than six 12-oz/wine coolers/malt liquor beverages or one 750 ml bottle of wine per occupant of legal drinking age (20 years old).

- E-3s and below regardless of age, are not authorized to possess or consume hard liquor in the barracks, including those E-3s and below who are TAD or on leave status. Hard liquor is defined by the Order as any beverage with an alcohol content greater than 15% (greater than 30 proof).

- Non-Commissioned officers or petty officers (E-4/E-5) who live in barracks shall not possess more than one liter of hard liquor or twelve 12-oz beers/wine coolers/malt liquor or two 750-ml bottles of wine per occupant of legal age. Hard liquor will be locked up at all times when not being consumed. An example of "secured" hard liquor would be locked within wall locker or desk secretary within the barracks room.

- Displaying empty bottles or cans of alcohol of any type is prohibited in the barracks.

- Providing alcohol to underage or unauthorized military or civilian consumers is prohibited.

- Any Marine or sailor who knows that another Marine or sailor is consuming alcohol while underage or in a manner otherwise prohibited by this order and fails to stop or report it to proper authority may be subject to administrative and/or disciplinary action for violating article 92, UCMJ.

LIBERTY BUDDY POLICY

- Marines and sailors, E-3 and below, and all red liberty card holders must have a liberty buddy for off-base liberty, except when on approved annual leave. The requirement for a liberty buddy applies to all liberty periods, including after working hours, over weekends, and during special liberty hours. Marines and sailors serving an accompanied tour are to have a liberty buddy in the event their family member is not available to accompany him/her during liberty periods. Marines and sailors traveling between their residence and base do not require a liberty buddy for such travel, so long as they are traveling directly between base and residence and make no stops along the way.

- If liberty buddies become separated, they must report their separation to their command within 30 minutes. While becoming separated from a liberty buddy in and of itself does not represent a violation of the Order, failing to report the separation is a violation of the Order.



Amanda Perez, a Naha tour participant, walks through the Fukoshuen Garden in Naha May 21. The garden was built using ideas and architecture from the Chinese to symbolize the influence China has had on the Okinawan Culture.

Visitors experience C

Story and photos by Lance Cpl. Aaron Hostutler

OKINAWA MARINE STAFF



TOP: Participants on Marine Corps Community Services Tours Plus take their hands as part of a special Naminoue Shinto Shinto tourists to three different LEFT: Mike and Jean turtles at the Fukosh



The Fukoshuen Garden in Naha, consisting of waterfalls, Chinese architecture and a variety of plants, offers a serene setting in the heart of the city. The garden was the second stop during the tour by Marine Corps Community Services Tours Plus.

Okinawa through Naha tour

Ancient culture, colorful flowers and diverse shopping were on the menu for Americans who took part in a tour of Naha May 21.

The tour, hosted by Marine Corps Community Services Tours Plus, stopped at three different locations throughout Naha to show the different sides of the city.

The first stop was the Naminoue Shinto Shrine, which was originally designed for the protection of the tranquility of all Okinawa.

While at the shrine, tourists took pictures of the various places of worship and participated by saying prayers of their own.

The shrine included a hand washing basin. Visitors typically wash their left hand first, then their right and then rinse their mouth. After washing, visitors approach the shrine itself. If they can, visitors make a donation, bow twice and then stand and clap twice.

"I especially enjoyed the hand washing ritual," said Alicia Bailleres-Green, a Marine spouse. "I regret not buying a wish though."

At the shrine, visitors can buy pieces of wood to write a wish on and hang on a wall filled with hundreds of others.

The tourists then loaded onto the bus which traversed the narrow Naha streets headed for Fukushuen Chinese Garden built in 1992.

"I just thought it was really peaceful and pretty," said Lyndsey Posada, who arrived on island with her husband in late April. "I also thought it was kind of cool that there was such a serene place in the middle of Naha."

The garden was built using Chinese ideas and architecture, to symbolize the influence China has had on the Okinawan culture, according to the group's tour guide.

"I cannot say enough about the Fukoshuen Garden," said Bailleres-Green who was traveling with her mother on the tour. "It far exceeded my expectations. Mom couldn't wait to see each and every plant and tree species. She was like a kid in a candy store: wide eyes filled with excitement dying to see the next candy shelf."

The tourists walked through the garden, which featured a variety of flowers and trees, and fed the fish and turtles for more than an hour.

"Fukoshuen Garden was my favorite because we had enough time to explore it, and it was never redundant," Bailleres-Green said.

Next was a visit to Kokusai Street for lunch and shopping.

"The best part was probably walking on Kokusai Street and watching all the people and sites, like the ven-

dors and covered side streets," said Posada.

While on Kokusai Street, the group visited the many small shops and restaurants lining the road. The cuisine ranged from American-style burgers to traditional Okinawan soba.

After the tour, many of the participants agreed they would recommend the tour to others as a good way to explore the island.

"I want to sightsee and try to go to as many places as I can in the three years we are here," Posada said. "There is so much culture and history here, and I want to learn all about it."

The majority of M CCS tours are family friendly and are held every Thursday, Friday, Saturday and Sunday. To see a schedule of tours go to <http://mccsokina-wa.com/mccs.asp?id=31>, or call 646-3502.

The Fukoshuen Garden in Naha has a variety of flowers and trees tourists can see, smell and touch while walking through the garden. The garden was the second stop during a Naha tour May 21 hosted by Marine Corps Community Services Tours Plus.



A Marine Corps Community tour May 21, rinse their hands as part of a spiritual ritual at the Naminoue Shrine in Naha. The tour took place at three different locations in Naha. The tour also included a visit to the Fukoshuen Garden May 21.

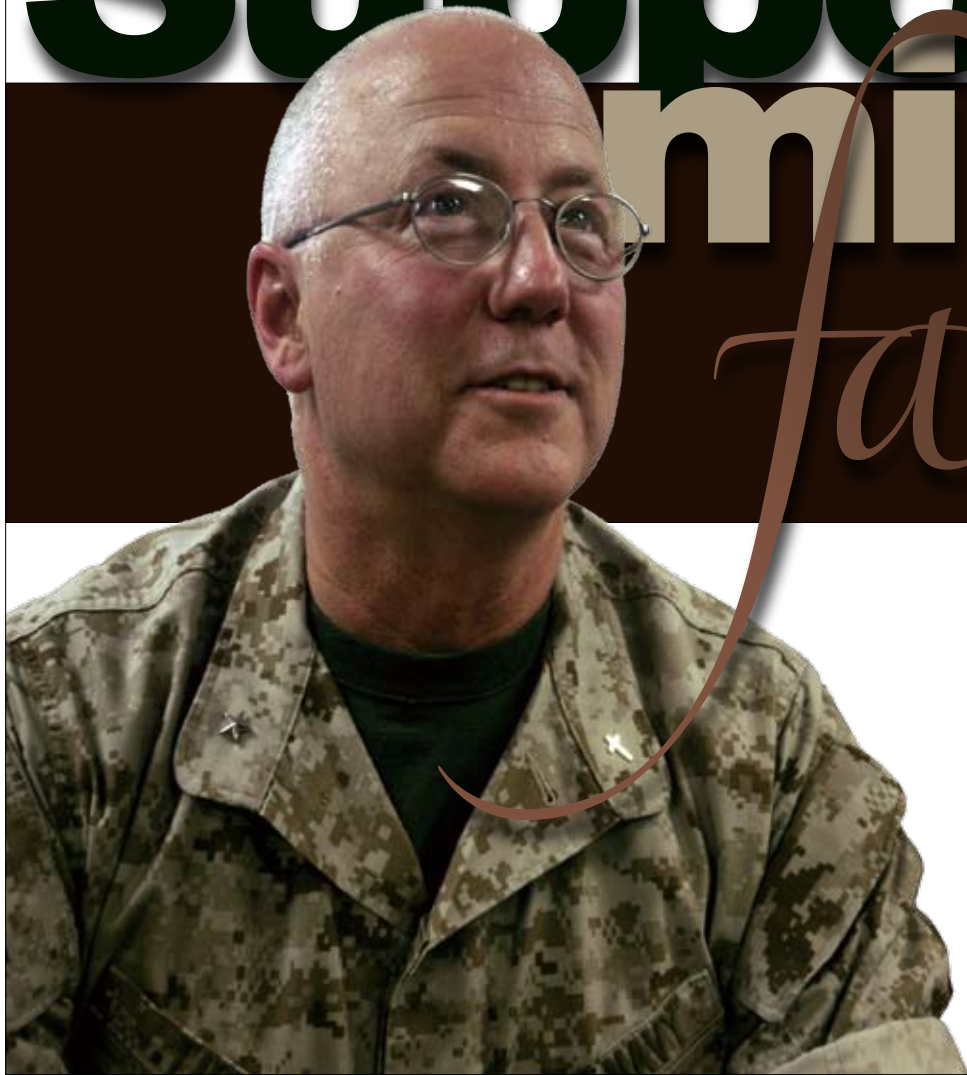


A variety of flowers and trees, seen during a Naha tour May 21 hosted by Marine Corps Community Services Tours Plus.



Lyndsey Posada, right, and Amanda Perez, participants in a Naha tour, look at merchandise from a street-side vendor on Kokusai Street May 21 as part of the Marine Corps Community Services Tours Plus tour.

Supporting military families



“You may not be on the front page of a newspaper, but know that what you do is extremely important. People back in the United States really appreciate everything you do.”

- Rear Adm. Mark L. Tidd

Chaplain of Marine Corps stresses importance of family

**Story and photo by
Lance Cpl. Aaron Hostutler**

OKINAWA MARINE STAFF

Families are essential to service members across the globe, according to Rear Adm. Mark L. Tidd, Chaplain of the Marine Corps.

“That’s why I’m here,” Tidd said. “The Marine Corps, Navy and all services are realizing in new ways the vital role families play in supporting Marines, sailors and airman.”

Tidd visited Okinawa May 28 as part of a Pacific tour he is conducting to visit Marines and sailors and ensure their needs are being met.

“The Chaplain of the Marine Corps is the chief advisor to the Commandant of the Marine Corps regarding moral, spiritual welfare and the readiness of military families,” said Navy Capt. Robert L. Keane, the Marine Corps Bases Japan chaplain. “So it’s extremely helpful to him to visit Marines, sailors and their families throughout the world so he can better understand their needs by getting face time with them that he can’t get by sitting in Washington.”

According to Tidd, a chaplain’s main mission is to ensure the religious and spiritual needs of Marines and sailors are being met, but it doesn’t stop there.

“Chaplains are always concerned about a person’s whole life,” Tidd said. “The needs people have cover a wide spectrum, and while chaplains play a critical role, they can’t do everything. That’s why it is so important that chaplains serve as a link between Marines, sailors, their families and the various programs made available to them.”

Marines and sailors have a variety of programs to choose from in supporting their family, including: Marine Corps Community Services, Navy and Marine Corps Relief Society, the Marine Corps Family Team Building Center and the Family Readiness Officers.

These programs can be helpful anywhere, but being stationed overseas presents unique challenges to service members and their families.

“While chaplains and these programs are important anywhere, it is especially important in Okinawa and other places where Marines and their families are so far away from home,” Tidd said.

Families must be proactive because these programs are only beneficial if service members and their families take advantage of them, he said.

“But don’t stop there,” Tidd added. “Engage other families who have been here longer and ask them what programs have helped them.”

While on his tour, Tidd also had a personal message to deliver to military families.

“You may not be on the front page of a newspaper, but know that what you do is extremely important,” Tidd said. “People back in the United States really appreciate everything you do. It has been a tremendous privilege to serve and deploy with Marines and sailors.”

Numbers for families to know:

- **Camp Foster Marine Corps Family Team Building: 645-3689**
- **Camp Foster Personal Services Center: 645-2104**
- **Camp Foster Counseling and Family Advocacy: 645-2915**
- **Navy Marine Corps Relief Society: 645-7808**
- **Exceptional Family Member Program: 645-9237**
- **Substance Abuse Counseling Center: 645-3009**
- **Children, Youth and Teen Program: 645-4117**
- **The Focus Project: 645-6077**
- **Camp Foster Chapel: 645-7486**
- **Camps Courtney, Hansen, McTureous, and Schwab Chapels: 622-9350**
- **Marine Corps Air Station Futenma Chapel: 636-3058**
- **Camp Kinser Chapel: 637-1148**
- **Camp Lester Chapel: 643-7248**
- **Kadena Air Base Chapel: 634-1288**

Petty Officer 3rd Class Justin Gor, a corpsman, left, and Lance Cpl. Hugh Meehan, a military policeman, both with Military Police Company, Headquarters Battalion, 3rd Marine Division, III Marine Expeditionary Force, assemble a tent during the Jungle Leadership Course at the Jungle Warfare Training Center May 9.



Shelter keeps Marines in every clime, place

Story and photos by
Lance Cpl. Kris B. Daberkoe
OKINAWA MARINE STAFF

As the Marines with Military Police Company, Headquarters Battalion, 3rd Marine Division, III Marine Expeditionary Force, ready themselves for the rigors of the Jungle Skills Course at the Jungle Warfare Training Center, they first have to set up their home away from home.

Their new home is bundled in a three-foot nylon sack.

This nylon sack carries the means to construct a shelter, to consolidate gear, ward off vermin and keep the elements out.

"A Marine can survive for three months without shelter, three weeks without food and three days without water, but only 30 seconds without hope," said Lance Cpl. Shane Preston, chief instructor at JWTC. "Shelter goes a long way, providing Marines with hope."

The military policemen set up their green tents on line under the misting rain in military formation.

"Shelter is good for overall morale, because it provides Marines with a suitable place to sleep, eat, and stay dry," said Cpl. Zachary Laclair, a military policeman with MP Company.

"Having a safe place to return to after working in a high stress environment gives Marines something to look forward to," said Laclair.

While being exposed to the elements, Marines are also exposed to the native wildlife. Disease-ridden insects, rodents and reptiles live on the muddy jungle floor.

"Shelter is important to prevent hypothermia, heat exhaustion, and other illnesses," said JWTC instructor Petty Officer 3rd Class Hector Topete.

Preston said shelter also keeps important gear and equipment out of sight.

"Shelter provides a centralized location so everyone is on the same page on where to keep watch," said Preston.

After successfully completing this Jungle Skills Course, these Marines will be able to move on to the Jungle Leadership Course – a more advanced program. The Skills course taught the fundamentals of existing in the jungle with government-issued gear.

Students in the six-day Jungle Leadership Course learn how to make different types of shelters and sleeping arrangements with only rudimentary items, like ponchos, foliage, string and sticks.

"A shelter can be anything from an over hanging rock to a hole in the ground," said Lance Cpl. William Harrell, an instructor at JWTC.

Because of training evolutions like the one these Marines went through, they will continue to be mission ready despite any perilous terrain ahead, said Laclair.

This combat tent – a two-man, multi-season, double-wall, free-standing tent – was one of the shelters Marines learned to set up during the Jungle Leadership Course.



Sgt. Joshua Mathes stands with Afghan National Army soldiers in Laghman Province, Afghanistan, where he was responsible for training during his seven-month deployment to Afghanistan as part of Embedded Training Team 5-5, Regional Corps Advisory Command 3-7. Mathes was one of three Marines responsible for the training of three ANA reconnaissance platoons and a field artillery platoon. Photo courtesy of Sgt. Joshua Mathes

Back to basics in Afghanistan

RCAC 3-7 Marines befriend, share knowledge with counterparts

Lance Cpl. Stefanie C. Pupkiewicz

OKINAWA MARINE STAFF

The dense jungles of northern Okinawa are a far cry from the mountains of Afghanistan that Sgt. Joshua Mathes had grown accustomed to during his seven-month deployment as part of Embedded Training Team 5-5, Regional Corps Advisory Command 3-7.

Mathes, who is the chief instructor at the Jungle Warfare Training Center, volunteered for the deployment at the end of 2008, he said.

He understood what was in store for him as a member of an embedded training team because he assisted in the training of Iraqi police in Fallujah in 2007.

Eager to get another combat deployment under his belt, Mathes responded to the opportunity with, "If you are asking, I'll go."

Once Mathes' boots were on the ground though, he realized it would be different than he anticipated.

Going from a platoon-size element, like he was used to working in, to only a three-man embedded training team was an interesting experience, Mathes said.

There were only three Marines at the combat outpost, and they were responsible for advising three full Afghan National Army reconnaissance platoons and an ANA field artillery platoon. The Army National Guard

was also at the outpost but they were there under different orders, Mathes said.

The interaction with the ANA was very positive, he said. They were eager to learn and fearless when confronted.

"These guys aren't afraid of anything," he said.

At one point, during a patrol, the group received enemy fire. Mathes, following Marine Corps procedure, took cover and turned to engage the enemy, but several members of the ANA had already started to run up the mountain in pursuit of the enemy. While not keeping within the procedures the embedded training team was trying to instill in the ANA, it was a brave and memorable act for Mathes, he said.

Mathes, a machine gunner, was largely responsible for the ANA's weapons instruction. He qualified them on the M-16A2 service rifle, the M-240B medium machine gun and the .50-caliber Browning machine gun.

In addition to training the ANA, he spent a lot of his free time in the camp with them, and though they did not speak the same language, they managed an easy friendship, Mathes said.

Communication was restricted to games of impromptu charades and laughing when they couldn't understand one another, Mathes said.

There were three soldiers that spoke decent English but for the most part the ANA spoke Dari, Farsi and Pashto. He tried to learn at least a new phrase a week so he could communicate better, Mathes said.

He learned a lot of Arabic during his deployment to Iraq and occasionally uses an Arabic word for something rather than the appropriate language.

This language confusion has continued in Japan where, prior to Afghanistan, he was learning Japanese. Since returning,

he confuses his Japanese and Dari because he grew accustomed to using the language of the Afghans, Mathes said.

However, he confuses the lan-

guages less now that his Dari has begun to fade because he doesn't use it on a day-to-day basis, he says.

From Iraq to Okinawa to Afghanistan and back to Okinawa, Mathes has learned language is no barrier when it comes to leadership.

"These guys aren't afraid of anything."

- Sgt. Joshua Mathes

In Theaters Now

JUNE 11 - JUNE 17

FOSTER

TODAY Sex and the City 2 (R), 6 and 9:30 p.m.
SATURDAY Alice in Wonderland (PG), noon; The Last Song (PG), 3 p.m.; Robin Hood (PG13), 6 and 9:30 p.m.
SUNDAY Marmaduke (PG), 1 and 4 p.m.; Robin Hood (PG13), 7 p.m.
MONDAY Shrek Forever After (PG), 7 p.m.
TUESDAY Shrek Forever After (PG), 7 p.m.
WEDNESDAY Shrek Forever After (PG), 7 p.m.
THURSDAY Marmaduke (PG), 7 p.m.

SCHWAB

TODAY Prince of Persia: The Sands of Time (PG13), 7 p.m.
SATURDAY Why Did I Get Married Too (PG13), 5 p.m.
SUNDAY Clash of the Titans (PG13), 5 p.m.
MONDAY-THURSDAY Closed

COURTNEY

TODAY Marmaduke (PG), 5:30 and 8:30 p.m.
SATURDAY How to Train Your Dragon (PG), 2 p.m.; The Ghost Writer (PG13), 6 p.m.
SUNDAY Prince of Persia: The Sands of Time (PG13), 2 and 6 p.m.
MONDAY Why Did I Get Married Too (PG13), 7 p.m.
TUESDAY Closed
WEDNESDAY Sex and the City 2 (R), 7 p.m.
THURSDAY Closed

KADENA

TODAY The Last Song (PG), 6 p.m.; Iron Man 2 (PG13), 9 p.m.
SATURDAY The Last Song (PG), noon; Iron Man 2 (PG13), 3 and 6 p.m.; Sex and the City 2 (R), 10 p.m.
SUNDAY The Last Song (PG), 1 p.m.; Iron Man 2 (PG13), 4 p.m.; Sex and the City 2 (R), 7:30 p.m.
MONDAY Sex and the City 2 (R), 7 p.m.
TUESDAY Prince of Persia: The Sands of Time (PG13), 3 and 7 p.m.
WEDNESDAY Date Night (PG13), 3 p.m.
THURSDAY The Princess and the Frog (G), 3 p.m.; Prince of Persia: The Sands of Time (PG13), 7 p.m.

KINSER

TODAY Shrek Forever After (PG), 6:30 p.m.
SATURDAY Shrek Forever After (PG), 3 p.m.; Date Night (PG13), 6:30 p.m.
SUNDAY Shrek Forever After (PG), 3 p.m.; The Last Song (PG) 6:30 p.m.
MONDAY Closed
TUESDAY Sex and the City 2 (R), 6:30 p.m.
WEDNESDAY Marmaduke (PG), 3 and 6:30 p.m.
THURSDAY Date Night (PG13), 6:30 p.m.

HANSEN

TODAY Brooklyn's Finest (R), 6 p.m.; Date Night (PG13), 9 p.m.
SATURDAY Prince of Persia: The Sands of Time (PG13), 6 and 9 p.m.
SUNDAY The Last Song (PG), 2 p.m.; Date Night (PG13), 5:30 p.m.
MONDAY Marmaduke (PG), 7 p.m.
TUESDAY Marmaduke (PG), 6 and 9 p.m.
WEDNESDAY She's Out of My League (R), 7 p.m.
THURSDAY Sex and the City 2 (R), 7 p.m.

FUTENMA

TODAY Clash of the Titans (PG13), 6:30 p.m.
SATURDAY Marmaduke (PG), 4 and 7 p.m.
SUNDAY Why Did I Get Married Too (PG13), 4 p.m.; The Ghost Writer (PG13), 7 p.m.
MONDAY Prince of Persia: The Sands of Time (PG13), 6:30 p.m.
TUESDAY Closed
WEDNESDAY Closed
THURSDAY Closed

THEATER DIRECTORY

CAMP FOSTER 645-3465
KADENA AIR BASE 634-1869
(USO NIGHT) 632-8781
MCAS FUTENMA 636-3890
(USO NIGHT) 636-2113
CAMP COURTNEY 622-9616
CAMP HANSEN 623-4564
(USO NIGHT) 623-5011
CAMP KINSER 637-2177
CAMP SCHWAB 625-2333
(USO NIGHT) 625-3834

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



For more activities and information, contact the Single Marine Program at 645-3681

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

EXPO/PINEAPPLE PARK TRIP: JUNE 13

• Expo Park has many activities for sea-lovers to enjoy. One of Expo Park's greatest features is the Churami Aquarium, the largest in Japan. Pineapple Park has many varieties of pineapples, which are used in the production of soap and many other products such as cakes and candies. All can be sampled and purchased during the tour. The bus will leave from the Foster Field House at 9:30 a.m. Contact the SMP for more information.

SMP TURNOVER TRAINING: JUNE 14

• All new Single Marine Program representatives should attend the training at the Camp Foster SMP building 5674 at 3 p.m. Contact the SMP for more information.

FOSTER PAINTBALL TRIP: JUNE 20

• Contact the SMP for more information.

EXPO/PINEAPPLE PARK TRIP: JUNE 26

• Bus will leave Marine Corps Air Station Futenma at 9 a.m. and Camp Kinser at 9:20 a.m. Contact the SMP for more information.

HANSEN BASH (OPEN TO ALL CAMPS): JUNE 26

• SMP Bash with food, games and a live band at the Camp Hansen Festival! Come and enjoy this free day with us! This event was originally scheduled for May 22 and was rescheduled.

CHAPEL SCHEDULE

CAMP FOSTER | 645-7486

- Catholic: Mon.-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., Vespers, Sat., 5 p.m.
- Gospel: Sun., 11:30 a.m.
- Hindu: Sat., 3:30 p.m.
- Jewish: Informal: 1st, 3rd Fri., 6:30 p.m.
- Muslim: Fri., Prayer, 12:45 p.m.
- Protestant: Sun., 8:30 a.m.

CAMP SCHWAB | 622-9350

- Catholic: Sun., 5:30 p.m.
- Protestant: Sun., 4 p.m.

CAMP COURTNEY | 622-9350

- Catholic: Sun., 8 a.m.;
- Protestant: Sun., 9:30 a.m.

CAMP HANSEN | 622-9350

- Catholic: Sun., 10 a.m., E. Chapel
- Protestant: Sun., 11 a.m., W. Chapel

CAMP MCTUREOUS | 622-9350

- Gospel: Sun., 12:30 p.m.
- Lutheran: Sun., 9:30 a.m.

KADENA AIR BASE | 634-1288

- Catholic: Sun., 8:30 a.m., Mass, Chapel 3; Sun., 11:30 a.m., Reconciliation, Chapel 3; Sun., 12:30 p.m., Mass, Chapel 3; Sun., 5 p.m., Mass, Chapel 2; Daily Mass, Mon.-Fri., noon, Chapel 2
- Contemporary: Sun., 10:30 a.m., Kadena High School
- Gospel: Sunday School, 9 a.m., Bldg. 856; Service 10:30 a.m., Chapel 3
- Inspirational: Sun., 8:30 a.m., Chapel 2;
- Protestant: Sun., 10 a.m., Chapel 2;
- Traditional: Sun., 10:30 a.m., Chapel 2;
- Wiccan/Pagan: Sat., 2 p.m., Bldg. 856

CAMP LESTER | 643-7248

- Catholic: Sun., 8 a.m., Lester Chapel Mon., 10 a.m., Thurs., 9 a.m., Liturgy of Word at Hospital Chapel
- Non-Denominational: Sun., 9 a.m., Hospital Chapel; Sun., 10 a.m., Lester Chapel

MCAS FUTENMA | 636-3058

- Catholic: Sun., noon
- Contemporary: Fri., 7 p.m.; Sun., 9 a.m.

CAMP KINSER | 637-1148

- Catholic: Sun., noon
- Protestant: Sun., 9 a.m.

CLASSIFIED ADS

AUTOMOBILES

'95 TOYOTA EMINA
JCI JULY 2011,
\$1,500 622-5168
(080)3554-1132

'99 TOYOTA CELICA
JCI APRIL 2011,
\$2,000 OBO
(080)3954-7832

'92 TOYOTA WINDOW
JCI AUG 2010,
\$500
(080)4169-9559

'96 HONDA ODYSSEY
JCI MAY 2011,
\$2,500 OBO
646-8551

'99 NISSAN GRANDE
JCI JUN 2011,
\$2,500 OBO
(080)3954-7832

'96 HONDA ODYSSEY
JCI JUN 2011,
\$1,300
(080)4169-9559

'00 HONDA CAPA
JCI APR 2011,
\$1,500 OBO
(090)9789-0744

'95 TOYOTA COROLLA
JCI SEPT 2011,
\$1,950 OBO
(080)4053-5972

'98 NISSAN CUBE
JCI JUL 2011,
NEW TIRES/BATTERY
959-5152

'94 TOYOTA TOURER
JCI NOV 2011,
\$2,000 OBO
(080)3750-6985

'94 TOYOTA CHASER
JCI OCT 2010,
\$1,800 OBO
(080)3750-6985

'02 TOYOTA DUET
JCI FEB 2011,
\$4,500 OBO
(090)6859-4043

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Fisheye view of safe snorkeling in Okinawa

Lance Cpl. Michael G. Iams

OKINAWA MARINE STAFF

S snorkeling can open a whole new world of adventure. All that's required is knowing the proper swim and breathing techniques and a love of being in the water.

Snorkeling makes it possible to explore the underwater sealife and allows a fisheye view in the ocean blue.

"Snorkeling is not a very physically demanding activity," said Scott J. Sukalski, the facility manager of Tsunami SCUBA on Camp Courtney. "Just be sure to never push yourself too far."

The basic equipment needed to snorkel is a mask, snorkel, fins and personal flotation device. The mask acts as a window so snorkelers can clearly see the underwater life. The snorkel allows them to breathe while face down in the water and fins help propel them.

According to Marine Corps Bases Japan Order 1050.7, all III Marine Expeditionary Force and MCBJ personnel are required to wear a PFD such as a snorkeling vest, skin diving horse collar, or buoyancy compensator when conducting snorkeling or skin diving (free diving) activities.

Sukalski recommends snorkelers also wear gloves and booties for extra protection against rocks and coral that can do serious harm.

"I would recommend bringing skin guards to protect you from getting scrapes," added Mike Morrison, the chief instructor at Tsunami SCUBA. "Also, sun block

will prevent sunburns that can make you feel like a lobster the next day."

Morrison stressed that being cautious and using common sense is crucial when dealing with the ocean and its inhabitants. Snorkel in populated areas and know where to get in and out of the water, he advised.

"I recommend snorkelers (use) the 10 second rule," said Morrison. "If it takes you longer then 10 seconds to decide whether or not to get in the water, go somewhere else or do something else."

An essential safety tip is to check the sea conditions and current wave conditions to determine if it is safe to go in the water, Morrison added.

Marine Corps Bases Japan Order 1050.7 requires all III Marine Expeditionary Force and MCBJ personnel participating in water related activities to utilize the buddy system.

It is also a good idea to "let someone know where you are," said Morrison. "Just in case you get lost or someone is looking for you, there is someone who knows where you are. The biggest

danger to snorkeling besides the rocks and coral is yourself."

Snorkelers should scout a location before going in the water, said Bob Zimmerman, a program manager for Tsunami SCUBA. He recommends anywhere along Sunabe Seawall as a good spot for those who are new to snorkeling.

"For those who are moderate swimmers and snorkelers, Maeda Point and Channel Crevices are a few good spots to go to," said Sgt. Landon Llewellyn, the production control chief with Marine Wing Support Squadron 172, Marine Wing Support Group 17, 1st Marine Aircraft Group, III MEF, and a snorkeler. Maeda Point is located next to Cape Maeda, about 30 to 45 minutes directly north on 58 from Gate 1 of Kadena Air Base.

"Snorkeling is a gateway into diving," said Sukalski. "It gets your feet wet, no pun intended, and helps you to get scuba qualified."

For more information on snorkeling, call 645-4206 or visit www.mccsokinawa.com/mccs.asp?id=119.

Top Okinawa Snorkel, Dive Locations



Photo illustration by Lance Cpl. Michael G. Iams

Illustration courtesy of Marine Corps Community Services Marketing and Tsunami SCUBA