

# OKINAWA MARINE

JULY 16, 2010

WWW.OKINAWA.USMC.MIL

## MACH training takes control



Staff Sgt. Jeremy Loux, an instructor with Special Operations Training Group, III Marine Expeditionary Force, demonstrates a Mechanical Advantage Control Hold June 24. Photo by Cpl. Rebekka S. Heite

Cpl. Rebekka S. Heite  
OKINAWA MARINE STAFF

FIVE HILLS TRAINING AREA, Mongolia — A hand grabs an arm from behind, another arm slips past the assailant's throat. The arm slams back, forcing him backwards.

"Where the head goes the body goes," said Sgt. Ronnie Wilson, an instructor with Special Operations Training Group, III Marine Expeditionary Force, as he explained the move to members of the Mongolian Armed Forces and Internal Forces, June 24.

The above scenario is just one of five steps of Mechanical Advantage Control Holds SOTG instructors demonstrated for 120 Mongolian Armed Forces members during the Non-Lethal Weapons Executive Seminar 2010.

"MACH is not breaking a limb, it's about moving your subject from one end to another," said Sgt. Ricardo Narvaez, a SOTG instructor. "Like if you want to get them into a chair, you can use a MACH to get them into that chair."

Many of the Mongolian troops participating in the seminar are 22-24 years old, brand-new and straight out of their Noncommissioned Officer Academy, said Capt. Batbayar, military police company commander, Military Police Company, 022nd unit, Mongolian Army.

"So for us the training gives a lot of knowledge of new things," he said.

SEE MACH PG 5

## Marine Online links to OMPFs

Gunnery Sgt. J. L. Wright Jr.  
OKINAWA MARINE STAFF

CAMP FOSTER — Okinawa Marines now have instant access to their Official Military Personnel File thanks to a new tool on the Marine Online website. The Marine Corps Personnel Management Support Branch added the new tool, titled "My OMPF" in May.

According to Chief Warrant Officer Bryan T. LeDrew, operations officer, Marine Corps Personnel Management Support Branch 21, Headquarters Marine Corps, the service was being tested on a few Reporting Unit Codes throughout the Marine Corps, but, Okinawa Marines began to notice the online feature as early as July 1.

"The OMPF provides a history of the Marine's military career from entrance into the Marine Corps or the Marine Corps Reserve, until severance by discharge, retirement, resignation, or death," according to the MMSB website. "The OMPF, along with the Master Brief sheet serves as the Marine's advocate at HQMC and is used for promotion, selection, and assignment purposes."

The OMPF is divided into folders and subfolders and includes information about the Marine's service details, all commendatory and derogatory material, fitness reports, health information,

SEE OMPF PG 5

## Daiko, taxi services offer convenience

Cpl. Daniel A. Flynn  
OKINAWA MARINE STAFF

CAMP FOSTER — Army and Air Force Exchange Service offers military members options to get around while stationed here on Okinawa.

AAFES has contracts with several taxi services on

the island responsible for ensuring each base has the appropriate level of taxi coverage.

"We have noticed that a lot of patrons are confused about the services provided," said Moritsugu Nakaima, AAFES services business manager. "We are attempting to reach out to our customers and ensure

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Non-Lethal Weapons Executive Seminar 2010 demonstrates crowd and riot control strategies.

PG. 6-7



**MANEUVERING THROUGH TRAINING**

Truck Company trains in convoy communications, maneuvering obstacles and IED response.

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# Not just for sport, martial way of life

**Staff Sgt. Christopher Pilgrim**

CONTRIBUTING WRITER

I was recently asked by a senior member of my karate association a question that I feel bears significant weight for Marines, especially as we continue to train in MCMAP.

“What is the difference between a martial sport, a martial art, or a martial way?”

In the martial arts community, there is a long-standing divide between the “traditional” and “sport” communities, and any discussions on the matter typically end with a line similar to this: “Whether someone hits you with a ‘traditional’ karate punch or a ‘sport’ punch, it’s still going to hurt - so there’s really no difference.”

I wanted to find out for myself, so naturally, I started with the dictionary.

Martial, as defined, is an adjective:

1. Inclined or disposed to war; warlike: The ancient Romans were a martial people.

2. Of, suitable for, or associated with war or the armed forces: martial music.

3. Characteristic of or befitting a warrior: a martial stride.

I believe the easiest way to differentiate between the types of training directly relate to the reasons we train.

If we are training for competitive (e.g., tournament) application of the techniques, then we are practicing a martial sport. I don’t think anyone in our community would dispute the point that Brock Lesnar, Chuck Liddell, and the hundreds of other UFC fighters are talented fighters. Their abilities have already been demonstrated. And yes, a sport punch hurts just as much

as a traditional punch. However, these fighters aren’t the “everyman” in the world, any more than NFL players are just like the guys throwing the pigskin in the back yard. Whether they win or lose the fight, they will be well-paid, and it’s not the end of the world. Whether they are training in “traditional” martial arts dojos or MMA gyms is irrelevant to the discussion - they are training to fight in competition, putting their skill set against that of another, solely to win the fight within the rules. Sportsmanlike conduct is held in high regard, as it is a sport. Boxing, MMA, wrestling - the list goes on. Karate can easily be added to the list.

Martial artists, on the other hand, are con-

stantly in a state of becoming more refined artists. They are not training for that peak moment in a televised fight. They are training for the potential of an unexpected fight in an unknown location against an opponent of unknown stature and skill. The martial artist may never need to use the techniques, but believes it is better to be armed with them and proficient with them than to be a defenseless victim.

A martial artist will use the fundamentals of the force continuum, because the easiest way to win a fight is to never have to fight at all - the next best way is not to lose the fight. Should they need to use their skills, it is likely their physical well-being, or even their life, may be on the line.

Lastly, we have the martial way. I believe that applies to the military. Not all of us are martial artists. However, through a series of choices, we are walking the martial way. There are as many reasons why we are in the martial way as there are service members, but each of us has chosen to walk the martial way for a time. Much like martial artists, there are no sponsors and no main event fight. We must maintain a constant state of readiness. Unlike the martial artist’s lifelong commitment to the refinement of their art, those in the martial way choose to dedicate their life to the defense of others, because those in the martial

way are not fighting for their own well being. In fact, those who we hold in the highest honor and regard are those who have sacrificed their lives to save others. Although our fighting ability may keep us alive, our success or failure in the fight is not determined solely by whether we live or die.

In all honesty, there are cases where all three of these categories blend and fade across one another. It’s not all black and white, just different levels of gray, because the three are not mutually exclusive. Personally, I was walking the martial way when I started to become a martial artist. I have worked and trained with some in the martial way who are heavily involved with martial sports. Likewise, I have had the opportunity to train with others who combine martial arts and martial sports. It is important to remember why we pursue the training paths we have chosen so that we may increase our proficiency and continue to grow - even if it’s to win the next tournament.

“ And yes, a sport punch hurts just as much as a traditional punch. ”



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## This Week in History

U.S. MARINE CORPS HISTORY DIVISION

**July 16, 1917** – The 1st and 2nd Battalions, 5th Marines, move to Gondrecourt, France, and begin trench warfare training with the 30th, 70th and 151st Battalions of the French Alpine Chasseurs, known as the Blue Devils. The 3rd Battalion remains at St. Nazaire, France.

**July 17, 1967** – The Secretary of the Navy established the Meritorious Unit Commendation. A midlevel unit award, it denotes exemplary valor or achievement in comparison with other units performing similar duties.

**July 18, 1918** – Marines in a vast Allied counter-offensive meet Germans south of Soissons during World War I.

**July 19, 1918** – Pvt. Frank John Karczykowski, Company H, 5th Marine Regiment, U.S. Marine Corps, displayed exceptional bravery near Vlerzy, France in charging three machine guns with the aid of a small detachment of his comrades, killing the crew and capturing the guns, which were immediately turned on the Germans, thereby opening the line for the advance of his company, which had been held up by enemy fire. He would later be awarded the Congressional Medal of Honor for this action.

**July 20, 1896** – The Marine Corps Good Conduct Medal was established by Secretary of the Navy Hilary A. Herbert and implemented by Navy Department Special Orders Number 49.

**July 21, 1861** – Battalion of 365 U.S. Marines led by Brevet Major John G. Reynolds fights in the Battle of Bull Run.

**July 22, 2004** – Marines of the 22nd Marine Expeditionary Unit pulled out of a Taliban stronghold in southern Afghanistan after completing one of the most successful offensive military missions since the start of Operation Enduring Freedom. The unit spent nearly four months in the militia-controlled provinces conducting both combat and civil military operations before beginning its retrograde out of the area.

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**CENTRAL BUREAU**

Camp Foster

DSN 645-7422

**NORTHERN BUREAU**

Camp Hansen

DSN 623-4224

# Limiting risk, trouble

## Liberty Risk Program intended to limit risk of incidents, trouble

**Gunnery Sgt. Cindy Fisher**

OKINAWA MARINE STAFF

CAMP FOSTER, Okinawa — Marine and sailors assigned to Marine Corps Bases Japan and III Marine Expeditionary Force are expected to act responsibly when enjoying liberty off military installations here, say senior enlisted leaders.

But, for those who don't exhibit sound judgment and maturity while on liberty, there is the Liberty Risk Program as outlined in chapter four of MCBJ/III MEF Order 1050.7, Liberty Campaign Order.

The Liberty Risk Program is basically supervised liberty for those a command no longer trusts to behave responsibly on unsupervised liberty, explained Sgt. Maj. Cevet A. Adams, MCBJ sergeant major.

The program is not a replacement for pretrial restraint or confinement and should not be used in lieu of pretrial restraint for service members awaiting a court martial, according to the order. Additionally, no service member assigned to the Liberty Risk Program will be required to muster or work with others undergoing punitive action.

The program is simply "an administrative tool provided to commanders to deprive Marines/sailors of normal liberty due to unacceptable behavior or conduct while serving in Japan," Adams said.

Battalion/squadron commanders or higher have the authority to place service members in the Liberty Risk Program, according to the order. They also can require personnel on the program to remain in the appropriate service uniform while on liberty or at establishments where alcohol is sold.

During the assignment process, commanders are directed by the order to hold a "non-adversarial in-person or telephonic hearing" with an individual before placing him or her on liberty risk. This allows the service member an opportunity to be heard prior to liberty risk designation. At the commander's discretion, service members may have someone accompany them to the hearing and speak on their behalf, but service members do not have a right to legal representation.

Commanders must assign individuals to the program in writing using assignment orders, according to the order. The initial liberty risk period cannot exceed 30 days. Commanders are directed to review liberty risk assignments on or before the 25th day to assess whether the assignment should be extended. Assignment can be extended in 30-day increments.

Service members placed in the Liberty Risk Program have five working days from the initial or extended assignment to request a reconsideration of their case, according to the order. The request must be in writing and include relevant details for the commander to consider. Commanders will respond in writing within 48 hours of receiving the service member's request.

There are three classifications within the program that place additional restrictions on a service member's liberty. Commanders have the discretion to determine the appropriate classification "based on an assessment of the risk posed by those personnel designated a liberty risk."

Leadership expects to reduce liberty incidents with this program, said Sgt. Maj. Daniel J. Fierle, III MEF sergeant major.

"It is expected to be a deterrent to unacceptable behavior," he

### Restrictions for each classification

#### Class A liberty risk:

- Off-base liberty is authorized only when the service member is accompanied by a noncommissioned officer/petty officer or above.
- Off-base liberty expires at 10 p.m.
- Before beginning off-base liberty, the service member and accompanying NCO/PO must log out with their respective barracks duty NCO or staff DNCO.
- The service member must check in with the barracks DNCO or SDNCO at or before 10 p.m.
- The service member cannot purchase or consume alcohol.
- The service member's current liberty card will be revoked and a new red liberty card will be issued that includes "Liberty Risk A/2200 Secured/Escort Required" on the front of the card.

#### Class B liberty risk:

- Off-base liberty is authorized only when the service member is accompanied by a NCO/PO or above.
- Off-base liberty expires at 8 p.m.
- Before beginning off-base liberty, the service member and their accompanying NCO/PO must log out with their respective barracks duty NCO or staff DNCO.
- The service member and accompanying NCO/PO must check in with the barracks DNCO or SDNCO at or before 8 p.m.
- Service member cannot purchase or consume alcohol.
- The service member's current liberty card will be revoked and a new red liberty card will be issued that includes "Liberty Risk B/2000 Secured/Escort Required" on the front of the card.

#### Class C liberty risk:

- Off-base liberty is prohibited. The service member cannot leave camp under any circumstances, besides work.
- The service member will be escorted by an NCO/PO or above at all times while on liberty.
- The service member and their accompanying NCO/PO must check in with the barracks DNCO or SDNCO as required by their battalion or squadron commander.
- The service member cannot purchase or consume alcohol.
- The service member's liberty card will be revoked and no new liberty card will be issued until they are removed from the Class C category.

added. "I can't think of anyone who would want more restrictions on their liberty."

Curfew violations, underage consumption of alcohol, disrespect, disobedience of an order or other violations of the Liberty Campaign Order or Uniform Code of Military Justice are infractions that could lead to an assignment to the program, explained Fierle and Adams.

Avoiding liberty risk assignment is easy; just do the right thing, said Fierle.

"You will not be put on the Liberty Risk Program for doing the right thing or making good decisions," he said.

For those currently assigned to the program, Adams advised, "Learn from your mistakes, make better decisions, and don't be a liberty risk."

## BRIEFS

**SOFTBALL REGIONAL TRY OUTS**

Softball Regional try outs are being held July 20-22 on Camp Foster Field 1 by the 50-meter pool from 6-8 p.m. See if you have what it takes to play for Marine Corps Base. For more information, e-mail [thomas.meinhart@usmc.mil](mailto:thomas.meinhart@usmc.mil).

**DANGERS OF DRINKING AND DRIVING**

On Okinawa, if arrested for Driving while intoxicated, the consequence is imprisonment not exceeding 5 years or a fine not exceeding ¥1,000,000. If arrested for driving under the influence of alcohol, riding with a driver who is drunk or refusing to take a breath test, the consequence is imprisonment not exceeding 3 months or a fine not exceeding ¥500,000.

**STUDENT BUS PASS REGISTRATION**

Student bus re-registration is going on now. Sponsors may call the Student Transportation Office to re-register for the coming year.

Expect to receive your student's bus pass within the first two weeks of August. If you don't receive your student's bus pass within one week of the start of school, call the STO for assistance.

A photo of each student is required for the issuance of a bus pass.

If you have any questions, call the Kadena STO at 632-9034/9035 or Camp Foster STO at 645-7820, or e-mail [Okin-Sto@pac.dodea.edu](mailto:Okin-Sto@pac.dodea.edu).

**CREDO FAMILY RETREAT**

The Chaplains' Religious Enrichment Development Operation will conduct a Family Retreat July 29-31 at White Beach Naval Facility. Registration ends July 26. Call 645-3041 or e-mail [CREDO.mcbb.fct@usmc.mil](mailto:CREDO.mcbb.fct@usmc.mil).

The focus will be to develop greater self-awareness for each family member, build teamwork within the family, help families discover the unique 'design' of each child along with some effective parenting skills, all at an outstanding location by the beach.

Four of the nine spaces are held for families ranked E-1 to E-5. CREDO retreats have a non-religious focus unless otherwise specified.

**WOMEN MARINES ASSOCIATION 26TH BIENNIAL CONVENTION AND PERSONAL DEVELOPMENT CONFERENCE**

Marines gather to celebrate 50 years as an organization and generations as Marines Sept. 3-7 at the Grand Hyatt Denver, Colo.

Programs ranging from finance to veterans benefits are available for attendees. Active Duty may attend TAD. See [MARDMIN254/10](http://MARDMIN254/10).

Online registration, advertising and sponsorship opportunities are available at [www.womenmarines.org](http://www.womenmarines.org)

**3RD INTEL FUNDRAISER RUN**

July 22-24 ten Marines will run 235 Miles around Okinawa to honor the bravery of Marines past and present and to raise money for the Injured Marine Semper Fi Fund. To learn more visit [www.firstgiving.com/okinawarun](http://www.firstgiving.com/okinawarun).

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

# Swim safely to prevent water-related incidents

Story and photo by Lance Cpl Matthew A. Denny

OKINAWA MARINE STAFF

CAMP FOSTER — It's hot outside, and Okinawa is surrounded by water. For service members who decide to cool off by enjoying the multiple water-related activities offered around the island, Marine Corps Bases Japan wants you to practice water safety.

There have been four deaths due to drowning and water-related activities Marine Corp-wide in the last three months, according to [www.safetycenter.navy.mil](http://www.safetycenter.navy.mil).

During the critical days of summer, Marines can find themselves in situations that present potential mishaps. However, if Marines arm themselves with knowledge, proper planning and preparation, water-related mishaps can be avoided.

Off-duty recreational swimming can be a fun way to cool off and enjoy the island, as long as it is done safely, said Sgt. Robert C. Allen, Marine Corps instructor of water survival, with Headquarters and Service Battalion, Marine Corps Base Camp Butler.

Swimming can be an activity for all ages to enjoy as long as the basic safety rules are followed; beginner swimmers should use a flotation device or have one nearby. Always inform a third party of the time and location the swimming will take place and stick to that schedule. If diving or snorkeling, wear the proper protective equipment which consists of; a snorkeling vest, a skin diving horse collar or buoyancy compensator, and an appropriate sized life vest if necessary, according to the water-recreation safety regulations described in the Marine Corps Bases Japan/III Marine Expeditionary Force Order 1050.7, Liberty Campaign Plan.

If swimming with the family or younger children, assure there is constant supervision and have two people for every young child in the water, said Ryan E. Stahl, Facilities manager for Tsunami Scuba on Camp Foster. It is important to remember sunscreen when enjoying water activities, as being in the water reflects the sun and provides a greater risk for burn.

According to the order, SOFA status personnel are not authorized to participate in any water-related activity without wearing appropriately-sized, proper protective equipment.

Before entering the water, look for signs of danger such as jellyfish, rough coral, jagged rocks or strong currents, said Stahl. In the diving world there is something known as the "10 second rule."

"If it takes greater than 10 seconds to decide the condition, ... you should find a calmer spot to dive," he added.

It's recommended to wear a rash guard or dive skin, and booties. All are water-related clothing items designed to protect swimmers from coral, rocks, jellyfish stings and sun exposure, added Stahl.

"When swimming in the ocean, you (are required to) swim with a buddy and let someone else know where you were planning on going beforehand," said Allen. "The base pools here are a great place to swim, even for beginner swimmers, because there are lifeguards on-duty at all times while pools are open. It allows you to go and practice your techniques and feel safe with someone there to help you if needed."

One of the key points to practice safe diving, snorkeling or swimming is to swim within your abilities, and don't put yourself in a situation where you will be too tired in the water and stuck with no help, said Stahl. "It is important to remember that however far away from the shore you choose to swim in the ocean, you have to swim back," stated Stahl.

"If a swimmer begins to swim back to shore and is making no progress than he or she is most likely caught in a rip current. Swimming directly against it will be impossible and will only exhaust the swimmer," said Stahl. "Don't swim against the current. Swim parallel to shore at a small diagonal angle until you are successfully out of the current and can make it to shore."

"Don't fight the water. Water is a powerful force and it will always win. The best thing to do is stay relaxed," stated Allen.

Swimmers tend to swim harder than their body is prepared for. They then wear themselves out quickly and often times will develop muscle cramps from over exertion, said Allen.

"If you find yourself cramping up, try to optimize full-lung inflation and float to shallow water. It is critical to not panic and get to safety as soon as possible," he added.

"It is important to know how to swim. Especially living on an island, you are bound to be in a water-related situation," added Allen. "You could be enjoying time on the beach and see someone begin to struggle in the water. If there are no lifeguards around, you may be able to save someone."

When experiencing a water-related incident either on-duty or off, it is important to practice "S.A.F.E.," Allen explained.

- SLOW and easy movements
- APPLY natural buoyancy,
- FULL lung inflation,
- EXTREME relaxation.

There are multiple classes and activities available for those looking to improve their skills in the water.

For those who want to be able to keep up with the dolphins while swimming, Semper Fit Aquatics offers swimming classes during the summer months. Call 645-3985 for more details.

"Our doors are open at Tsunami Scuba for advice and tips on proper water safety and the proper procedures to take when stuck out in the ocean," said Stahl. For more information on fun safe places to swim, dive and snorkel call 645-4206.



# 12th Marines receive new CO



Miagany

Wester

**Lt. Col. Sean D. Wester passed command of 3rd Battalion, 12th Marine Regiment, 3rd Marine Division, III Marine Expeditionary Force, to Lt. Col. Ricardo Miagany July 2 during a ceremony at the Camp Hansen north gym. Miagany comes from United Nations Command, Combined Forces Command, U.S. Forces Korea, where he was the Crisis Action Team executive officer. Wester is going to serve as exercise planner, G-3, Headquarters, U.S. Northern Command in Colorado Springs, Colo.**

## OMPF FROM PG 1

and their official photograph.

"The OMPF is important to all ranks," said Gunnery Sgt. Vernita Stevens, instructor, advanced course, Okinawa Staff Noncommissioned Officers Academy. "It paints a picture of you for those who have not been afforded the opportunity to meet you ... it is your time to stand out."

Marines will still have the option to request their OMPF on compact disc through previous procedures; the online feature will simply allow Marines to view the information faster.

In the past, it has taken about a week or more for Marines to receive their OMPF after requesting it the conventional way, according to Staff Sgt. Nicholas Holland, operations chief, Marine Corps Bases Japan, III Marine Expeditionary Force.

With the new feature added to MOL, "All the Marines need to do is click on the 'My OMPF' tab to access all the information that is contained in the Marine's OMPF," LeDrew said.

For more information, login to MOL, click on the "My OMPF" link, then click on the "Help" link.

## DAIKO FROM PG 1

they understand the ins and outs of this program."

Nakaïma said one of the biggest things for customers to understand is that the contracted taxis are required to operate on specific bases and are limited on the services they can provide from base to base.

"If someone ever waves down a taxi and it doesn't stop for them, this is probably the reason," he said adding that "These particular taxis are required to have a sign in their window that reads 'Reserved'"

In addition, each base has certain areas designated where taxis wait for fares. Each of these areas is marked with identifying signage.

According to Nakaima, customers should also note that fees are subject to change during hours of darkness. "After 10 p.m., taxi prices increase by 20 percent because of nighttime driving," he said.

In addition to basic taxi services provided, AAFES also provides one of the island's "Daiko" services.

"Daiko service is a safe way to get you and your car home when you're too tired to drive or had an alcoholic beverage," explained Nakaima.

When customers request this service, two drivers and a taxi will be dispatched to the location requested. One driver will provide the customer with a ride, the other driver will drive the customer's car to the final destination.

According to Nakaima, if an individual uses the Daiko service they will be required to ride in the taxi, vice their own car due to insurance reasons.

Morihiro Gushiken, AAFES services supervisor, said, the only drawback to Daiko is if someone is in a group of more than four people they will need to call an additional taxi for the remainder of the group.

Nakaïma said, there are other Daiko-type services out in town, however, it is not guaranteed that they will have all of the proper insurance and unlike the ones contracted through AAFES, they may not be authorized on base and sometimes speak little to no English.

For more information about AAFES' taxi or Daiko services, call 645-7742.



**Instructors with Special Operations Training Group demonstrate a Buddy Mechanical Advantage Control Hold as members of the Mongolian Armed Forces follow their lead practicing the move July 24 during Non-Lethal Weapons Executive Seminar 2010 demonstration held in Mongolia. Photo by Cpl. Rebekka S. Heite**

## MACH FROM PG 1

MACH holds are techniques that use the person's momentum and leverage to control them or take them down as necessary, said Sgt. Tabitha Golden, a SOTG instructor during NOLES-10.

The first hold of MACH is getting the person to go backwards. To accomplish this you hold one of the person's arms and push their face backwards by pressing an arm to the front of their throat, said Narvaez.

"By pressing their neck and their face back, their body is going to want to go backwards," he said.

MACH 2 is to moving the person forward; this is accomplished by pushing their arm forward as you twist that arm in a forward direction with your other hand.

"Where the arm goes, the body is going to

want to go as well," said Narvaez. "The body doesn't want anything to get broken so that's why it goes with the limb."

The third technique is lifting the arm up towards the person's head and pulling backwards, forcing him to walk backwards or risk breaking his arm.

The fourth is pulling his arm forward, with enough force that if he doesn't walk forward his arm is going to be pulled out of his shoulder, said Narvaez.

The last technique is twisting the wrist and arm in a backwards motion, again forcing the person to move backwards.

In addition to observing five MACH techniques, the service members also learned different pressure points to use to get the subject away from them or up from the ground where they would then use the MACH holds.

## Where, how to contact AAFES sponsored taxis:

- Camp Schwab (99) 929-1818: United Service Organizations, Post Exchange;
- Camp Hansen (99) 929-1818: USO, Post Office, Old Burger King, The Palms Club;
- Camp Courtney (99) 937-2467: Courtney PX, near Barracks #4450;
- Kadena Airbase 959-5900: Front of the PX, USO;
- Marine Corps Air Station Futenma (99) 892-0606: USO, Barracks 229, Flight line 600, Barracks 400;
- Camp Kinser (99) 869-6000: Gas Station, Kinser PX, near Barracks #1225;
- White Beach 622-5900: Near Baseball field, near Burger Shop;
- Camp Foster (99) 946-5477: PX, Barracks 472, near Barracks 5703

**RIGHT:** After recovering the leader during a simulated riot, two Mongolian Police S.W.A.T. members of the simulated riot-control force escort him behind the control force formation.

**BELOW:** A member of the Mongolian Army, Military Police Company braces his shield as members of the Mongolian Police Force simulate a rioting crowd June 30.



**One platoon of Mongolian Armed Forces demonstrates crowd control techniques during a demonstration part of Non-Lethal Weapons Executive Seminar 2010.**

## Mongolian Armed, Internal Forces learn riot control

**Story and photos by Cpl. Rebekka S. Heite**  
OKINAWA MARINE STAFF

A wall of shields line one end of the parade deck, on the other an angry crowd jeers the men and women behind the wall.

On command the wall starts to move forward, putting on a show of force, hoping the crowd will disperse without incident.

The crowd stays.

A few members of the crowd pick up rocks and start lobbing them at the wall. Others grab water balloons and throw them into the crowd behind the shields.

As if that were a cue, the rest of the crowd rushes the wall. One man breaks through and is promptly overcome and taken into custody. The crowd retreats a few steps.

Finally, one of the Mongolian leaders calls a halt to the scenario. It's time to switch sides.

This was just one of the crowd control scenarios the Mongolian Armed Forces and Internal Forces practiced as instructors from Special Operations Training Group, III Marine Expeditionary Force, watched and made suggestions June 30 during Non-Lethal Weapons Executive Seminar 2010.

NOLES is an annual seminar held each year in a different country in the Asia-Pacific region. Since 2002, Marines with SOTG have gone to the country designated for the event, whether it was Sri Lanka, Australia, Bangladesh, Indonesia or Mongolia, and completed exercises with the local forces in non-lethal weapons. During the seminar, the force provides a demonstration of their proficiency. The demonstration is designed to show key personnel from approximately 20 countries in the Asia-Pacific Region non-lethal weapons and tactics they can bring to their forces.

The Mongolian Forces learned the crowd control formations and facts about the non-lethal munitions commonly used for riot control over a period of four days. The fifth day was all about perfecting what they learned.

"The formations we use are for riot control," said Staff Sgt. Jeremy Loux, an instructor with SOTG, during NOLES-10. "Most of the time that you would employ non-lethal weapons would be in riot situations. The formations are designed to create a barrier from the rioters so they can't get to the more vulnerable side of the control force. We use shields and batons and non-lethal munitions to try to break up the rioters," he said.

Crowd Control, or Riot Control, methods are

the steps and procedures police, military or other security forces use to break up a crowd.

The formations demonstrated to the Mongolian forces are "a good tool to do crowd control with instead of going straight to lethal force," said Staff Sgt. Frederick Gladle, an instructor with SOTG during NOLES-10.

While one group spent the morning further practicing the riot-control formations, the other group went to the non-lethal munitions range where they fired the M203 grenade launcher using foam baton and ball munitions. They were also given the chance to throw multiple training grenades and sting ball grenades before they were given shotguns with a special adapter on the front for firing the grenades.

Though the language barrier made it more difficult to work with the Mongolian forces, most of the skills being demonstrated during NOLES-10 are hands-on which "you can show them and they can understand," said Sgt. Joshua Meadows, an instructor with SOTG during NOLES-10.

Both exercises, the non-lethal munitions range and the crowd-control formations, had one purpose: to meet the NOLES mission of spreading the knowledge of non-lethal weapons and tactics to the countries involved.



Force Members simulates a rioting crowd while another platoon practices riot-control formation on June 30 during an exercise in non-lethal weapons and tactics for a Weapons Executive Seminar 2010 held in Mongolia. The seminar is an annual event held in a different country in the Asia-Pacific region each year.



Practicing for the Non-Lethal Weapons Executive Seminar 2010 demonstration, members of the Mongolian Internal Forces prepare to fire foam baton-and-ball grenades July 6. This is the second time the seminar has been held in Mongolia. The first was in 2007.



**Pfc. Jose Loredo, a motor transportation operator with Truck Company, Headquarters and Service Battalion, 3rd Marine Division, III Marine Expeditionary Force, checks the oil of a Mine Resistant Ambush Protected All Terrain Vehicle after arriving at Landing Zone Mallard in the Central Training Area, June 29.**

## Day, night, Truck Company keeps it rolling

**Story and Photos by  
Lance Cpl. Michael G. Iams**  
OKINAWA MARINE STAFF

**T**hirty Marines from Truck Company, Headquarters and Service Battalion, 3rd Marine Division, III Marine Expeditionary Force, recently participated in a three-day field operation at Landing Zone Mallard in the Central Training Area.

The Marines maneuvered through various situations over 72 hours, allowing them to learn from their mistakes and prepare them for real life situations, said 1st Lt. Daniel Sanchez, Truck Co. commander.

Motor transportation operators support and reinforce infantry but also need to be able to hold their own, said Sanchez.

The training evolution included convoy communications, maneuvering in and around obstacles and improvised explosive device response drills.

The Marines also participated in enhanced motor vehicle operators training to learn different convoy tactics for both day and night operations.

"This training builds confidence and hones basic off-road vehicle fundamentals," said 1st Lt. Adam Latham, 3rd platoon commander.



**The Marines of Truck Company, Headquarters and Service Battalion, 3rd Marine Division, III Marine Expeditionary Force, search for signs of improvised explosive device training aids while patrolling the roads of the Central Training Area in a convoy, June 30.**

"Our convoys were put in different scenarios throughout the training," said Lance Cpl. Ryan Shepherd, a motor transportation operator. "We are put in these different situations so we know how to react to them."

The Marines also practiced using radios to communicate with each other, reinforcing the proper techniques of convoy operations and communications.

"We instill confidence in the drivers through rigorous training," said Gunnery Sgt. Devron Gray, motor transportation operations chief. "The training we do

is to help develop and reinforce the Marines' skills and give them the knowledge needed to survive in Afghanistan."

After sunset, the Marines used night vision goggles to operate in dark and low-light conditions. This was particularly challenging as the Marines still had to search for signs of IEDs, while following the road and tree line.

The Marines maneuvered in and around obstacles, going through tight spaces, over steep hills, wide ditches and across several water obstacles.

The operators also learned

how to react to various IED situations and focused on what to do in case their vehicle becomes disabled.

"The Marines did an outstanding job on this training exercise," said Latham. "This [training] gave them a chance to bond with each other and work as a team to complete the mission."

"We need to be able to work independently and be self-sustaining," said Sanchez. "We will be doing training like this monthly to help build and sustain the Marines' convoy training."



**Sgt. Robert K. Cozad, with Marine Aerial Refueler Transport Squadron 152, 1st Marine Aircraft Wing, III Marine Expeditionary Force, turns in his goggles to Chris Skinner, a warehouse worker with Individual Issue Facility.**

# Taking “what IIF” out of checking out

Story and photos by  
**Lance Cpl. Matheus J. Hernandez**

OKINAWA MARINE STAFF

## *Get off island without stressing about turning in gear*

**U**pon arrival to Okinawa, Marines are issued several thousand dollars worth of field equipment, such as canteens, sleeping bags, protective eyewear and gas masks, to name a few. Marines use this equipment for training and deployments on a routine basis.

When it's time to rotate to a new duty station or to the civilian world, one of the tasks Marines tackle during the check-out process is accounting for, cleaning and turning in all of their field equipment and gear.

“There has been a serious problem with Marines failing to maintain accountability of their gear and missing gear statements cost valuable time and money for the Marine and the command,” said Gunnery Sgt. Ian P. Brady, acting first sergeant, Company B, Headquarters and Service Battalion, Marine Corps Base. “Not only is it a problem when it is time for a Marine to leave the island, but it also affects their readiness and ability to deploy.”

The Individual Issue Facility, formerly known as the Consolidated Issue Facility, is the place responsible for issuing, inspecting and collecting this equipment, according to Barbara Memolo, the logistics management specialist and contracting officer representative here.

One of the benefits IIF offers is a website, which

Marines can access online at [www.usmccif.com](http://www.usmccif.com). Online, Marines can view all the items they have checked out and information on how to properly clean each piece of gear. An individual record containing information of the Marine's personalized equipment can also be accessed online, said Memolo. This online feature is designed to aid Marines in the accountability process involved with checking out.

“A lot of the Marines, after being here for two

or three years, just show up thinking they're just going to immediately turn in their gear or they don't even know they're missing gear,” said Andy Smith, regional manager, IIF, III Marine Expeditionary Force.

“By using the website [Marines] can go in at any time of their tour, and inventory their gear,” added Memolo. “It's important the Marine prepares for turn in, not only reconciling his inventory, but making sure the equipment is properly cleaned.”



**Chris Skinner, a warehouse worker with Individual Issue Facility, inspects turned in Individual Issue Facility gear.**

If gear is damaged, it will be looked at by the employees at IIF, according to Smith. From there, the employee will decide if the damaged gear is what they call normal “wear and tear,” which means it was damaged while in use, or if the damage was malicious and intentional. If the damage appears to be normal wear and tear, the Marine will not be held liable, but if it's clearly intentional damage by the individual, they will have to fill out a missing gear statement and potentially pay to replace it.

Missing gear statements are filled out if a Marine has lost or damaged a piece or pieces of the equipment they are responsible for. The statements can be found at the IIF or accessed on the website under the “downloads” section.

While the administrative process is simple, it does take time to work its way through the chain of command. As long as a Marine doesn't wait until the last minute before executing orders off-island, completing a missing gear statement should be a relatively pain-free experience, according to Smith.

“It is the Marine's responsibility that the missing gear statements are processed through the chain of command and then brought to the IIF to finalize their record,” said Smith.

Marines should inspect and inventory their gear

upon return from each deployment or field exercise to maintain accountability of all equipment.

Another problem Marines have is cleaning the gear, Smith explained.

“Instructions on [cleaning] each item is clear and simple,” he continued. “Marines will find that it is a lot easier to follow those directions rather than try it their own way.”

Gear damaged by not following the cleaning instructions is not considered normal wear and tear and the responsible Marine will have to go through the process of filling out a missing gear statement, Smith said.

All of the IIF leaders in III MEF are willing to go out to units and train the Marines on how to properly clean the gear the easiest and most effective way whenever requested, said Smith.

“Simple light detergent, or light soap and some water and a decent scrub brush with not a whole lot of pressure, will clean 99 percent of anything that's required to get it turned in,” Smith explained.

Each of these resources offered by IIF is meant to help Marines prepare for check-out, however, the responsibility lies on the Marine to make sure they have inventoried and cleaned their gear.

Checking out doesn't have to be difficult. By following these tips, Marines can make the IIF step that much smoother.

# Pro-Athlete teaches youth perseverance, determination

Lance Cpl. Jovane M. Holland

OKINAWA MARINE STAFF

**M**ary Mohler has been swimming for almost two decades, and she's only 25 years old.

The award winning, former world record-holding Olympic hopeful visited Kishaba Youth Center on Camp Foster, June 22 for Olympic Day to share her struggles, achievements and some relevant advice.

Held annually, Olympic Day is celebrated by thousands of people in more than 160 countries and commemorates the birth of the modern Olympic Games. Athletes around the world lead discussions with youth about the Olympic values of excellence, friendship and respect.

More than 30 youth gathered to hear Mohler's accounts of her swimming career.

"My mom signed me and my sister up for a summer league swim team so we'd have a constructive way to burn up all our summer energy," said the Naperville, Ill. native. "By the end of the summer, I loved swimming, and I didn't want it to end just because of school, so I joined the local YMCA swim club."

Mohler said although she initially had high hopes for year-round swimming, her first few practices left much to be desired.

"I thought the practices were too hard and not fun enough, so I wanted to quit," said Mohler of her early league days. "Luckily, my mom wouldn't let me quit. She told me I had already agreed to swim [plus, she had already paid the team fees], so quitting wasn't an option. I am grateful to her for that decision, because after that, not quitting became a major mantra in my life."

Throughout the years, Mohler



**Youth from the Kishaba Youth Center pose with professional swimmer Mary Mohler at the center's Olympic Day celebration, June 22. Mohler intends to compete in the 2012 Olympics in London.** Photo by Lance Cpl. Jovane M. Holland

said she used her 'never give up' method to push through many obstacles.

"I was always a lot smaller than other swimmers my age until I was a sophomore in high school, when I grew 7 inches in one year," Mohler said. "However, until then, I didn't make excuses, I just listened to my coaches and made up for my lack of height with a determination not to let my smaller size affect the outcomes of my races."

In 2001, after making the world championship and continuously making the U.S. National Team, Mohler tried out for the 2004 U.S. Olympic Team.

She didn't make it.

"I was crushed, I felt like I had let my family, friends and coaches down," said Mohler of the experience. "I had trained for four years with the goal of making the team. I'd made huge sacrifices, and I had nothing to show for it. Nevertheless, I picked myself up, didn't feel

sorry for myself and got right back into training- with the goal of making the 2008 U.S. Olympic team."

In order to achieve her goal, Mohler said she began training with a vengeance and re-evaluating her lifestyle choices. She enlisted the help of a personal trainer.

"I wanted to have no excuses," Mohler said. "I needed to be able to look at myself in the mirror at the end of the day and say I had done everything I could to set myself up for success."

When the 2008 Olympic trials rolled around, Mohler was present and ready to show her stuff.

She placed fourth in the 200 meter Butterfly and 200 meter Backstroke events, but didn't make the team.

Despite her disappointment, Mohler competed in the U.S. Open weeks later.

I felt like I had something to prove to myself," Mohler said. "I ended up dropping time in every

event I raced in, snagging the high point average and earning a time that would have made the Olympic team."

Mohler pushed ahead, this time competing in Rome for the World Championship in the 200 meter Butterfly. It was here that she dropped three full seconds from her best time and broke the standing world record.

"This was the most rewarding experience of all, because I never gave up on myself," Mohler said. "If after the 2008 Olympic trials I had retired from swimming, as some of my friends suggested and many assumed I would, I'd never have had this amazing experience."

In presenting her story to the youth of the Kishaba Youth Center, Mohler repeated the theme of perseverance.

"I would encourage you all to always pursue your passion, dreams and goals in whatever you do," said the swimmer. "We all have obstacles, but everything is what you make of it. If you learn from your setbacks and let them motivate you, in the end everything will work out."

Mohler said she has yet to let go of her dream of becoming an Olympian.

"Right now, I'm training to try-out for the 2012 Olympics in London. My ultimate goal is to win an Olympic event," Mohler said. "This is not an easy task, and I have to maintain total dedication to this goal."

Dawnece Williams, a fifth grader at Zukeran Elementary here, said Mohler's presence and message were inspiring.

"I loved hearing Mrs. Mohler speak because I want to maybe run track in the Olympics one day," said the 11-year-old. "She taught us about perseverance and never giving up, and that is very important."



## Hansen opens gates for annual festival

The 16th Annual Hansen Festival will take place July 17 from 3 to 10 p.m. and July 18 from 1 to 10 p.m., on the Camp Hansen parade deck. The festival is a free event open to all military personnel, their families and local community members. The festival will feature games, live bands, local dancers, food vendors and giveaways. For more information, call Marine Corps Community Services at 645-5828.



# In Theaters Now **JULY 16 - JULY 22**

## FOSTER

**TODAY** Toy Story 3 (G), 3 p.m.; The Twilight Saga: Eclipse (PG13), 6 and 9:30 p.m.  
**SATURDAY** Toy Story 3 (G), noon; Just Wright (PG), 3 p.m.; The Last Airbender (PG), 6 p.m.; Macgruber (R), 9 p.m.  
**SUNDAY** Toy Story 3 (G), 1 p.m.; The Last Airbender (PG), 4 p.m.; Predators (R), 7 p.m.  
**MONDAY** Toy Story 3 (G), 3 p.m.; The Last Airbender (PG), 7 p.m.  
**TUESDAY** Grown Ups (PG13), 7 p.m.  
**WEDNESDAY** Grown Ups (PG13), 7 p.m.  
**THURSDAY** Despicable Me (PG), 3 p.m.; Predators (R), 7 p.m.

## COURTNEY

**TODAY** Predators (R), 6 and 9 p.m.  
**SATURDAY** The Last Song (PG), 2 p.m.; Iron Man 2 (PG13), 6 p.m.  
**SUNDAY** Knight and Day (PG13), 2 and 6 p.m.  
**MONDAY** Grown Ups (PG13), 7 p.m.  
**TUESDAY** Closed  
**WEDNESDAY** Despicable Me (PG), 7 p.m.  
**THURSDAY** Closed

## KADENA

**TODAY** Despicable Me (PG), 6 p.m.; Just Wright (PG), 9 p.m.  
**SATURDAY** The Twilight Saga: Eclipse (PG13), noon, 4 and 8 p.m.  
**SUNDAY** Despicable Me (PG), 1 p.m.; The Twilight Saga: Eclipse (PG13), 4 and 8 p.m.  
**MONDAY** The Twilight Saga: Eclipse (PG13), 7 p.m.  
**TUESDAY** The Twilight Saga: Eclipse (PG13), 7 p.m.  
**WEDNESDAY** Just Wright (PG), 7 p.m.  
**THURSDAY** Macgruber (R), 7 p.m.

## KINSER

**TODAY** Macgruber (R), 6:30 p.m.  
**SATURDAY** Despicable Me (PG), 3 and 6:30 p.m.  
**SUNDAY** Shrek Forever After (PG), 3 p.m.; Macgruber (R), 6:30 p.m.  
**MONDAY** Closed  
**TUESDAY** Despicable Me (PG), 6:30 p.m.  
**WEDNESDAY** Predators (R), 3 and 6:30 p.m.  
**THURSDAY** Letters to Juliet (PG), 6:30 p.m.

## HANSEN

**TODAY** Grown Ups (PG13), 6 p.m.; Macgruber (R), 9 p.m.  
**SATURDAY** Knight and Day (PG13), 6 p.m.; Macgruber (R), 9 p.m.  
**SUNDAY** Grown Ups (PG13), 2 and 5:30 p.m.  
**MONDAY** Predators (R), 7 p.m.  
**TUESDAY** Predators (R), 6 and 9 p.m.  
**WEDNESDAY** Macgruber (R), 7 p.m.  
**THURSDAY** The Twilight Saga: Eclipse (PG13), 7 p.m.

## FUTENMA

**TODAY** Robin Hood (PG13), 6:30 p.m.  
**SATURDAY** Predators (R), 4 and 7 p.m.  
**SUNDAY** The Karate Kid (PG), 4 p.m.; Macgruber (R), 7 p.m.  
**MONDAY** Knight and Day (PG13), 6:30 p.m.  
**TUESDAY** Closed  
**WEDNESDAY** Closed  
**THURSDAY** Closed

## SCHWAB

**TODAY** Knight and Day (PG13), 7 p.m.  
**SATURDAY** Grown Ups (PG13), 5 p.m.  
**SUNDAY** Iron Man 2 (PG13), 5 p.m.  
**MONDAY-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.

### SHURI CASTLE AND KOKUSAI STREET TRIP: JULY 25

• Learn more about Okinawan history by visiting Shuri Castle, and explore the sights of Kokusai Street. The bus will leave Camp Foster at 11:05 a.m., Marine Corps Air Station Futenma at 11:20 a.m. and Camp Kinser at 11:50 a.m. It will return at 6 p.m. Contact the SMP for more information. Last day to sign up is July 22.

### SINGLE MARINE PROGRAM "RUN HANDICAP SOFTBALL" TOURNAMENT: JULY 30 - AUG. 1

• This event will be held on Camp Hansen and is open to teams island-wide. Sign-up deadline is July 28.  
 • A coaches meeting for the "Run Handicap Softball" Tournament will be held on July 28 at 6 p.m. at the SMP Office in building 5674 on Camp Foster.

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

## 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

### MISCELLANEOUS

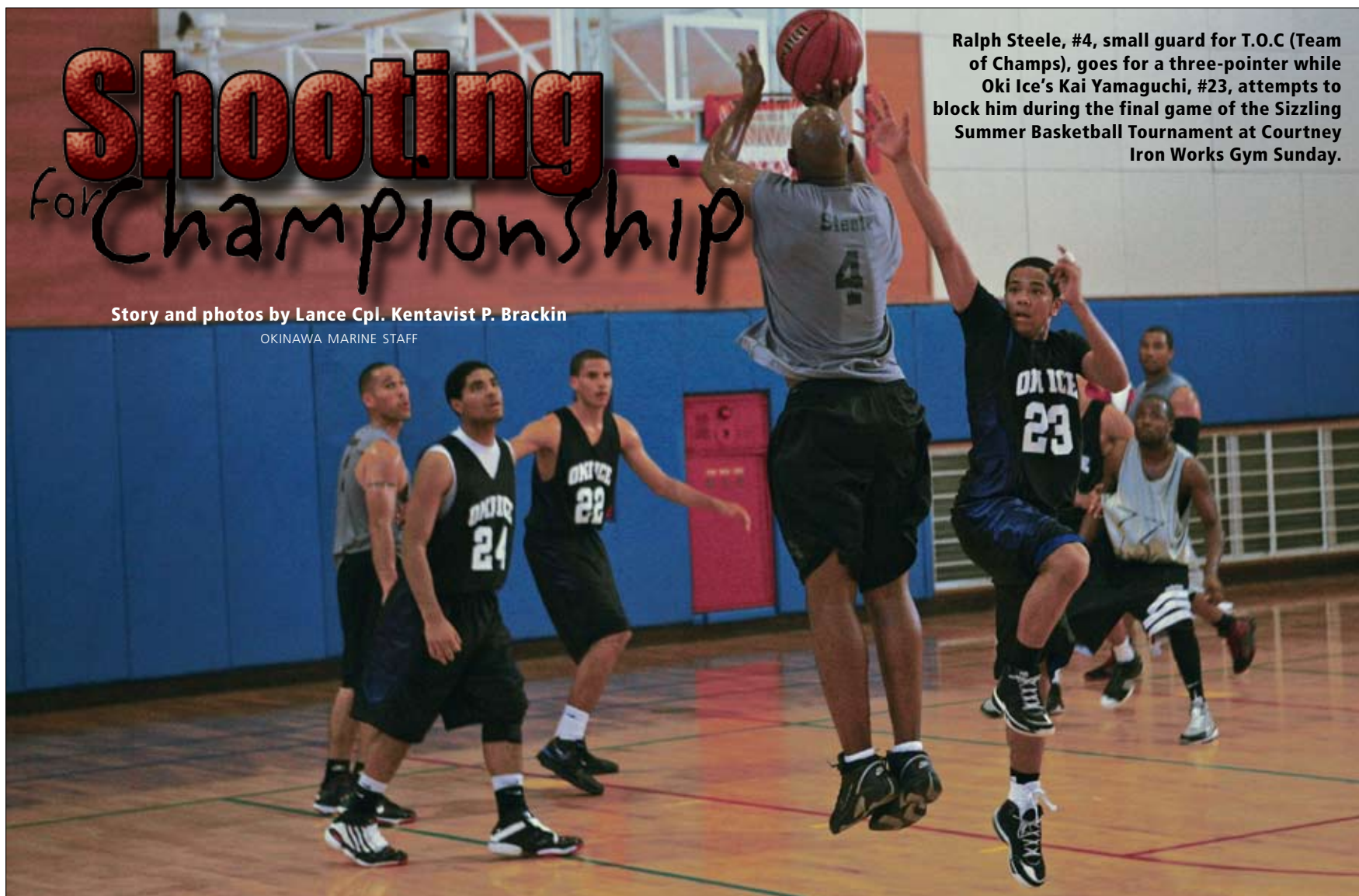
ARM CHAIRS, \$25 EA.; FILE CABINET, \$35; FILE CABINET, \$25, DESK, \$20, BOOK CASE, \$25; FOLDING TABLE, \$35; DESK TABLE, \$40; REFRIGERATOR (16.4 CUBIC FT), \$225; ENTERTAINMENT CENTER, \$50  
 090-9783-6447  
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### AUTOMOBILES

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Ralph Steele, #4, small guard for T.O.C (Team of Champs), goes for a three-pointer while Oki Ice's Kai Yamaguchi, #23, attempts to block him during the final game of the Sizzling Summer Basketball Tournament at Courtney Iron Works Gym Sunday.

# Shooting For Championship

Story and photos by Lance Cpl. Kentavist P. Brackin

OKINAWA MARINE STAFF

## TOC burns through Oki Ice during tournament

The basketball team T.O.C. aka "Team of Champs" stood true to their name by defeating their opponents, Oki Ice, 57-39 during the Sizzling Summer Basketball Tournament Sunday on Camp Courtney.

The three-day tournament pitted 11 teams from around the island against each other for bragging rights, t-shirts and trophies for first, second and third place.

The double-elimination tournament was put together to help raise morale among service members and was larger than past tournaments that only had four or five teams participate, according to Leah Doyle-Stevens, Camp Courtney's sports coordinator.

"We even had a high school team come out to play in the tournament," said Doyle-Stevens.

Oki Ice, consisting of 13 members, was the only team in the tournament composed completely of high school basketball players from Kadena and Kubasaki High School.

"I would have to say the most competitive game of the tournament was the one played against Oki Ice in the finals," said Raul Gomez, #2, point guard for the tournament champions, T.O.C. "We have to give them a lot of credit. They were definitely the most organized and disciplined team in the tournament."

The two teams dribbled back and forth across the court and let three-pointers fly during the first half of the final game as they both tried to get the upper hand.

They were not going to let the other team tire them out no matter what they did, according to Gomez.

"We pride ourselves in our defense. That's what wins basketball games. No matter what we can always improve ourselves defensively," he added.

Oki Ice managed to keep a one-point lead, ending the first half 23-22.

T.O.C. took control of the second half though, firing off well placed two- and three-pointers at the rim giving them an 18-point lead at the buzzer.

"I am very proud of [Oki Ice], and I give them an 'A' for effort," said Ray Broughton, coach for Oki Ice. "I wouldn't change our effort, just our approach during the first game."

"We play Japanese teams during the regular season, so we are used to usually being the bigger team," said Broughton.

According to Broughton, the players had to adjust and overcome to physically being the smaller team in the tournament after losing their first game, 46-49, to the Black Top Crew, a team of military members.

After that, Oki Ice had to fight their way through six games in the losers bracket for a place in the finals.

"They had given everything they had just to get through that gauntlet. I am very proud they kept going where most players would have quit," said Broughton.

"It was great that a high school team made it so far in a military tournament. They were definitely the favorite of the crowd," said Doyle-Stevens.



DaShawn Johnson, #30, small forward for Oki Ice, jumps for a three-pointer while his team and T.O.C. (Team of Champs) look on during the final game of the Sizzling Summer Basketball Tournament at Courtney Iron Works Gym Sunday.