O-KINA-WA

BIG States CIRCLE

EN/JP Bilingual Free Paper

It starts here! **Circle of friendship:** seeds of mutual understanding

Japan-US Cultural Exchange Project



The III Marine Expeditionary Force Band performs at the Japan-U.S. Cultural Exchange Project, Chatan, Okinawa, Oct. 1, 2023. The project, started in 2008 by the Okinawa Defense Bureau, returns for the first time in five years. It aims to promote mutual understanding and foster trust between residents of municipalities near U.S. military bases and Status of Forces Agreement personnel, by sharing time, places, and experiences through various exchanges, such as sports, music, and cultural activities. Related photos on page 5.

2023年10月1日、沖縄県北谷町で開催された日米文化交流事業で演奏する第三海兵遠征軍音楽隊。

同事業は沖縄防衛局が2008年に開始したが、新型コロナの感染拡大以来5年ぶり。スポーツ、音楽、文化活動など様々な交流を通じて、時間、場所、経験を 共有することで、米軍基地周辺自治体の住民と日米地位協定関係者との相互理解を促進し、信頼関係を培うことを目的としている。(関連写真は5ページ)

(Photo by Yoshie Makiyama / 写真 槙山由江)

21

Director's greeting

20

Marines' training prevents secondary chaos on Rt 58

18

Lessons through laughter: comedian Steve Verret breathes a little life into safety

16

Local students broaden perspective at Courtney Summer **English Class**

12-11

Installation Commanders' New Year's greetings Camp Kinser, MCAS Futenma, Camps Foster & Lester, Camps Courtney & Mc-Tureous, Camp Hansen, Camp Schwab

10

Japan-US basketball players learn differences, strive for the best in friendly games

8

Safety committee enhances USMC Japanese workers' risk management awareness

6

JP broadcasting group experience 'seeing is believing' at

MCAS Futenma

5

Okinawa's popular tourist spot becomes a place for international exchange

2

The music continues, the circle of friendship spins on

Commanding General Maj. Gen. Stephen E. Liszewski

Communication Strategy and Operations Director LtCol. Daniel M. Huvane

> **Managing Editor** Yoshie Makiyama

Editorial Support David S. Sidney Toshiyuki Nakamoto Sqt. Maximiliano Rosas Staff Sqt. Averi M. Coppa

International phone 011-81-98-970-1220

Mailing Address MCB Camp S.D. Butler Bldg. #1, COMMSTRAT Unit 35001 FPO AP 96373-5001

Phone: (098) 970-1220

E-mail: MCBPAC.MCBBUTLER.O@usmc.mil

NOTE: The stories start from here for English readers. Big Circle's first page starts based on the Japanese style.

注:日本語読者は反対側から読 み進めてください。こちらは最後 のページです。

Director's Greeting 広報企画運用部長より新年のご挨拶

Dear Readers,

I would like to express my gratitude to each member of our community who has paused to open an issue of the Big Circle--and that obviously includes YOU. Within this command's communication office, we learn much about all the hard work that takes place to perform the mission here, and we seek to share those stories. We also see much of the effort that goes into building strong ties between our temporary population and our more permanent host population, and this magazine hopefully stands as a testament to our unity and the power of collaboration.



Before we greet the opportunities that 2024 brings, I invite you to reflect on the achievements that marked the past year in our unique community...and looking ahead, I hope we renew our efforts toward more teamwork and friendship. Faces come and go with frequency in military life, while team members from our host nation provide essential continuity, maintaining relationships and integrating new arrivals into the beautiful fabric of Okinawa.

Wishing you and your loved ones a joyous New Year filled with health, happiness, and continued success. May the upcoming months bring fresh challenges, new bonds of camaraderie, and further milestones to celebrate. Semper Fidelis.

LtCol. Dan Huvane

Big Circle is an authorized publication of the United States Marine Corps. However, the contents of Big Circle

are not necessarily official views of, or endorsed by, the Marine Corps, U.S. Government, or Department of Defense. It is published every four months by Communication Strategy and Operations, Marine Corps Installations Pacific. Big Circle is on the Web at https://www.dvidshub. net/publication/1184/the-big-circle.

Email subscriptions to this publication are available online by subscribing via https://www. dvidshub.net/publication/1184/ the-big-circle. Subscribers will receive an e-mail when the latest issue has been published on the Web. The publication can be viewed in PDF format online or downloaded.

We want your feedback on the Big Circle magazine! Please take our survey and let us know what you think by visiting this link: https://bit.ly/201q125

「大きな輪」 は、米国海兵隊 認可の機関誌 です。しかし、内 容は、必ずしも 海兵隊や米国 政府、米国防総 省の公式見解

であるとは限らず、またそれらによって推 奨されているものでもありません。当機関 誌はキャンプ・バトラー米海兵隊太平洋基 地広報企画運用部(COMMSTRAT)が4ヶ 月ごとに発行しています。「大きな輪」のウ ェブアドレスは https://www.dvidshub. net/publication/1184/the-big-circle.

当機関誌ウェブ版をご希望の方は、上記 ウェブサイトに購読をお申し込み下さい。 お申し込みされた方は、ウェブ上に新刊が 掲載されると、通知メールを受信するよう になっています。ウェブ版はPDF形式で、オ ンラインで閲覧、またはダウンロードする ことができます。

「大きな輪」は、性別・年齢・国籍を問わず、多 くの読者の皆様のご意見、ご感想、ご質問をお 待ちしております。氏名、住所、電話番号を明記 の上、ファクシミリ、メール、または封書にて下 記の「大きな輪」編集係までお送りください。

アンケート調査は: https:// www.surveymonkey.com/r/HQRL3D2



読者の皆様

今号の「大きな輪」を目にして立ち止まり、手に取っ ていただいた同じコミュニティーに住まうのすべての 読者に新年のお悦びを申し上げます。今、この記事に 目を通されている方、そうあなたです!私は、皆様との 交流を図るこのオフィスに着任して以来、使命に汗を 流す皆様の努力を目の当たりにし、その姿を各記事を 通じて発信することを心がけて参りました。また限られ らた時間でしか沖縄に滞在できない私どもですが、地 域の人々との絆を深める取り組みにも触れることがで きました。「大きな輪」が皆様との絆やコラボレーショ ンの強さを示す証しとなれば幸いです。

2024年を迎えるにあたり、昨年行われた地域での出来事を振り返 りつつ、新しい年に目を向けてみてください。それを通じてチームワ ークや友情を築くことの大切さに気づかされると思います。軍人とし て働くことで、多くの人々との出会いや別れを経験します。その一方 で、受け入れ国のチームメンバーが、コミュニティーや関係性を築き、 新しく着任する隊員たちを迎えれつつ、美しい沖縄を織りなしてきて ことを理解しました。

結びにあたり、皆様とご家族がますます健やかで幸せに満ち溢れ、 成功した新年を迎えることができますよう心よりご祈念申し上げます。 来るべき月日が新たな挑戦や新しい友情で満たされ、人生を祝福す る一里塚となりますように。

常に忠誠を ダン・ヒューベイン中佐

> Follow us/最新情報はこちらで 〒901-2300 電話番号: 沖縄県北中城村石平 在沖縄米海兵隊基地 メール: BLDG.1, COMMSTRAT MCBPAC.MCBBUTLER.O@ (UNIT 35001) USMC.MIL

大きな輪 編集係

(098) 970-1220



MARINES' TRAINING PREVENTS SECONDARY CHAOS ON RT 58

"Stay vigilant" is something you often hear when you work closely with U.S. Marines. Many service members exercise and train as part of their daily routines. The importance of such training became apparent when six Marines came across the scene of an accident on Route 58 near Camp Kinser, Aug 17, 2023.

The accident was a two-car-collision, with a van traveling northbound and a small car turning right from a side road running in a parallel direction at the Aja North intersection at the bottom of the Aja River overpass. Lance Cpl. Issac A. Brittain, 4th Marine Regiment, 3rd Marine Division, and his five colleagues were on duty heading to Camp Kinser from Camp Schwab when they saw two cars overturned about 20 meters apart from each other.

"Glass everywhere and no one was there helping them," said Brittain. "We told our driver to pull to the side and then we got out and immediately started to stop the traffic and then pulled them out of their vehicles because they were stuck in there."

The Marines split into two groups. One group moved the drivers and passengers to a safer area, treated their injuries, and provided shade and water, while the others directed traffic and flipped the vehicles upright to smooth the flow of traffic on the road until local first responders arrived.

According to the Urasoe Police, there were three persons injured in the accident. Brittain remembered that the driver from the small car had a leg injury, and the woman with three children in the van had a severe wound. "Her arm was shredded and you could see the bone," recalled Brittain.

"We just applied what we knew from CLS (combat life saver)," said Cpl. Deven M. Buck, 4th Marine Regiment, 3rd Marine Division. "A sergeant (Stewart) was helping

us out with everything from TCCC (tactical combat casualty care)." TCCC and CLS training courses implemented within the Marine Corps are designed to provide nonmedical personnel with the medical skills necessary to provide lifesaving treatment.

With this training they were able to stop the injured woman's bleeding. "In this situation, I was just unfazed and leaned back on what I was taught to do and it just came naturally. We're moving quickly and with a purpose, but not to do anything that we shouldn't be doing," said Brittain. "I wrapped it up from the tip of her arm all the way. It was a good portion of her arm, so I just made sure to get everything." "Part of the training that we receive in the Marines is combat first aid and CPR," said Gunnery Sgt. Johnwilliam G. Copleman, the platoon sergeant of the involved Marines, of Amphibious Combat Vehicle Platoon, 4th Marine Regiment. "In the event of combat, we're able to provide first aid to each other." With constant training, "we force them into those types of training scenarios so that they know how to respond."

The Marines called it "a perfect timing situation" because there was no one helping when they first saw the accident site. It was a quick instinct for them to get out and help the situation although some of them prepared themselves mentally for the worst.

They also appreciated Japanese bystanders' help in translation. According to Buck, the man in the small car understood everything they said to him. With the family in the van, "we're getting translated the whole time, it wasn't like a language barrier," said Buck. A month later, Sept. 27, the Urasoe City Police gave letters of appreciation to Sgt. Mark D. Stewart, Cpl. Logan M. Belanger,

Cpl. Keanue Y. Greenley, Cpl. David S. Haynes, Buck, and Brittain, at the Urasoe City Police Station. They were recognized for preventing further damage and injuries with their quick response at the scene of the accident.

Misao Sunabe, police chief of Urasoe Police, noted that the police officers and paramedics at the scene were grateful for their precise aid to the injured. "I am impressed that this is the fruit of their daily training," Sunabe said.

The Marines involved are in Okinawa for the Unit Deployment Program and they rotate stations every six months. Capt. Ross M. Ochs, the new company commander from Camp Pendleton, California, happened to be visiting his platoon for five days. He heard that the Marines helped people in Okinawa and they were to be recognized for it.

"We couldn't pass it up. It's exactly what I expect them to do," said Ochs. "They went above and beyond to help their local community." Copleman stated that he believes that if Marines encounter even the slightest danger, whether the person is civilian or military, any Marine will quickly respond just because they are trained to do so. He emphasized that that is their job; to protect the community, protect the country, but also protect their allies as well.

"Marines are confident enough to respond to any dangerous situation, especially if it's to help the community, the public, the people of Japan, the people of the United States, anywhere whatsoever," said Copleman.

Story and Photo by Yoshie Makiyama

Urasoe Police Chief, left, claps as he hands a letter of appreciation to Cpl. Logan Belanger, Cpl. Isaac Brittain, Cpl. Deven M. Buck from the left. 左からローガン・ベレンジャー伍長、アイザック・ブリ ティン上等兵、デヴェン・バック伍長に感謝状を手渡 し拍手をする浦添警察署長。

車の運転手が足を負傷 移動させ にちはドライ 一兵隊は2つのグル 流れをスムーズにす 降りてす もう とブリティン けがの手当てを-、なった 一方のグ よる ぐに交通整理を始め、 ブリティ 人たちを と同乗者を安全な場所 女性は 車を脇に寄せるよう 兵連隊のデヴェン 「彼女の腕はズタズタ -フに分か この事 - プが地元の救急隊 ン上等兵は、 るために横転 から引っ張り 故で ンに乗って れて、 日陰と水

> 演習 かなりの 4海兵連隊水陸両用戦闘車 海兵隊で マン一等軍曹は言う 腕の先からずっと巻い 応急処置と心肺蘇生法があり に応急処置ができます D 一我々 きか 部分だったから、 を熟知 る訓練の一環と ジョ 彼らを強制的にそ 「万一の戦闘でも、 彼らがどの べてを包む 隊 ます」 6 戦闘 人 の

Ę

__ 方

隊員らは、 かは最悪の いる者が誰も 事故現場を最初に目にした時 Ó 事態を想定 ;状況」 なかったことから、 だったと振 していま あたろ

あろう

と軍人で

あろう

海兵隊

軽白

察署の砂辺操署長は いる」 「日頃からの と救急隊員から感謝さ 訓練のたまものだ 的確な負傷

カラスがそこらじゅう

2散乱-

じていま-

しません」とフリティン上等兵

んで

身

誰も彼らを助け

に滞在しており この表彰を見逃がす から来た新任の中隊長ロス・ たまたま彼の が沖縄の と述べた。 半年ごとに駐屯地を交替す 小隊を5日間訪れていた 州キャンフ・ **レ**ログラ 々を助け ムの ために沖縄 その功績が ペンデル クス大

カップルマン一等軍曹は、 彼らは地域 まさに私が 会のた に望んでいること 期待以上 クス大尉



https://www.japan.marines.mil/Misc/BigCircle/



文・写真

れば、

どこで

とカップルマ

が海兵隊の

同盟国

LESSONS THROUGH LAUGHTER: COMEDIAN STEVE **VERRET BREATHES A LITTLE LIFE INTO SAFETY**

In fall, Marine Corps Installations Pacific Safety Office holds traffic safety sessions to raise awareness of best practices regarding traffic safety. This is to ensure that not only service members, but also the newcomers to Okinawa through a permanent-change-of-station, have knowledge of traffic safety before the winter holiday season.

"During a huge PCS season, with a number of drivers new to Japan, we want to demonstrate to the Okinawa community (that) we take driving on their roads seriously," said Shawn M. Curtis, the Installation Safety director. "And we pursue educational opportunities for our personnel so they are best prepared to demonstrate good driving behavior." The summer and fall months are considered a big PCS season with many service members and families on the move due to the easier transition time for school children.

The Safety Office invited Steve Verret, stand-up comedian and traffic safety expert, to give a series of traffic safety education presentations to Marines and Sailors across the island of Okinawa. A total of 10 sessions were held on various Marine Corps bases on Okinawa from Sept. 12 to 15, 2023. More than 2000 service members attended and experienced the unique presentation.

On Sept. 15, Verret held one of his presentations at the Camp Foster Theater. The liveliness of the theater was due to Verret's comedic presentation. Verret has entertained and enlightened thousands of service members across all branches of the U.S. Armed Forces for 20 years with his humorous traffic safety presentations, according to the Safety Office.

Verret encouraged audience participation during his presentation through games, joke segments, and even an impression of the Jerry Springer show. His goal was to entertain while also explaining the important facts needed to be a safe driver. Participants were particularly

engaged when Verret had teams compete against each other in a game similar to Family Feud, where they answered questions about the most common distractions drivers face. Cpl. Liam Anderson, a network administrator with 3rd Network Battalion, said that Verret's style of training was significantly better at keeping the audience's attention. "If this were a regular PowerPoint presentation, I'd say half the audience would be asleep by the end. But Steve had the audience up and interacting, which let us gain the most out of the training," said Anderson.

Verret said, recalling the days he had taught the traffic school classes in California, that filling the 8 hours of class with just lectures did not benefit the students, but with games, interaction, questions and jokes, people would pay more attention and could sit through the whole time. The benefits of this method of education could be seen during the presentation. As Verret asked the audience if anyone could talk about a Japanese traffic law, a Marine

shouted the blood alcohol content. Verret educated the audience on the differences of the blood alcohol content considered to be driving under the influence between Japan and the U.S., with the U.S. at 0.08% (0.8 mg/ ml) and Japan at 0.03% (0.3 mg/ml). "When people call things out to me, everybody listens," said Verret. "So, they learn the information more. "Whenever somebody goes to a

different area, a different country especially, they should learn as much as they can about the laws," continued Verret. "Laws are designed to keep us safe, so we should learn the laws before we go," he stressed. Verret studies the rules and regulations before giving the presentations, to provide accurate information to the audience. For his series of Okinawa presentations, he went over a number of resources, including the Safety Office's handbook on Japanese traffic regulations for

drivers licensed under the Status of Forces Agreement, a video on driving safely in Okinawa, and an informational website on driving in Japan run by the U.S. Embassy and Consulates in Japan.

"We have to figure out as many different ways as we can to communicate the importance of a topic to Marines and Sailors of the force," said Col. David M. Banning, camp commander for Camps Foster and Lester, who spoke on the necessity of having different ways to teach Marines. After the presentation, Yoichiro Kanemoto, section chief, **Compensation and Procurement Cooperation Section, Facilities** Management Division of the Okinawa Defense Bureau, who was one of six observers from Okinawa Prefecture and the Okinawa Defense Bureau, stated that the audience and the lecturer actively interacted, communicated, and had fun, but did not overkill it with jokes.

"What we need to do is thoroughly explain the horrors of drinking, the types of people who cause accidents. The lecturers were explaining about adaptability and appropriate abilities, as well as the tragedy of actual traffic accidents," Kanemoto continued. "It was very interesting. It was different and innovative from what I had imagined before, but I think it was a very good lecture." Shawn Curtis said this style of training had a visible impact on the audience. "We are giving them an opportunity to learn in a different way." Verret stated, "TV commercials both in Japan and America have humor because people listen more when it's funny." He noted that people he ran into 10 years later told him that because they were laughing and listening, they still remembered all the laws he mentioned at the presentation. "So, if I can save one life doing this kind of show, I've done my job," said Verret.

> Story by Yoshie Makiyama Sgt. Maximiliano Rosas

の の)真似事な 映画 I 館 で 講

大隊 D Æ ற 演 脥 衆の

> σσ 安

以

なの はそ 地 の法律を学 運 る 日 会 一地の前 転者

Z な方法の 海軍

6 う衛て局 の 郎管理

た



18 — January 2024

https://www.japan.marines.mil/Misc/BigCircle/

	ト氏はいう。	ティーブ・ベレット氏を講師に招き、一連の交通安全教育講
	彼らはより多くの情報を学ぶことができるのです」とベレッ	象に、コメディアンであり、交通安全の専門家でもあるス
文 槇山由江/マキシミリアーノ・ロサス三等軍曹	「人々が私に話しかけると、誰もが耳を傾けます。だから、	2023年秋、安全部は沖縄駐留の海兵隊員と海軍兵を対
になるのです」	03%(0・3 ㎜/ 配)であると日米の違いについて説いた。	ズンと考えられている。
人でも命を救うことができれば、私は自分の仕事をしたこと	含有量は、アメリカは0・08%(0・8 呬/心)、日本は0・	すいため、多くの隊員や家族が移動する大きな配置転換シー
い出を語った。「だから、このようなショーをすることで一	んだ。ベレット氏は、飲酒運転とみなされる血中アルコール	夏から秋にかけての数ヶ月間は、学齢期の子供が転校しや
講演会で彼が話した規則を今でも覚えていると伝えられた思	と尋ねた時、参加者の一人が血中アルコール濃度について叫	転ができるよう最善の準備をしています」と語る。
よく聞くからです」と言い、10年後に偶然会った人たちから	ベレット氏が聴衆に日本の交通法について話せる人はいるか	す。そして、隊員に教育の機会を提供することで、適切な運
ルにはユーモアがあります。なぜなら、人々は面白いときに	この教育方法の利点は、講演の最中にも見ることができた。	真剣に考えていることを沖縄の人々に伝えたいと思っていま
ベレット氏は、「日本でもアメリカでもテレビコマーシャ	後まで座っていられたと話した。	換シーズンに、私たちが沖縄の道路を安全に運転することを
までとは異なる方法で学ぶ機会を与えています」	ジョークを交えれば、人々はより注意を払うようになり、最	本での運転が初めてとなるドライバーも多い大規模な配置転
目に見える影響を与えたと述べた。「私たちは彼らに、これ	けで埋めてもうまくいかなかったが、ゲームや対話、質問、	基地安全部のショーン・M・カーティス安全部長は、「日
カーティス基地安全部長は、このスタイルの講話は聴衆に	担当していた頃のことを思い出しながら、8時間を講義だ	知識を身につけてもらうためである。
たと思います」と続けた。	ベレット氏は、カリフォルニアで交通違反者講習の授業を	縄に赴任してきた新しい人々にも、交通安全に対する正しい
い描いていたものとまた違って斬新でしたが、良い講話だっ	の事を学ぶことができました」	する。これは、冬休みシーズンを前に、隊員だけでなく、沖
いました」と兼本氏は振り返り、「とても面白い、事前に思	上がらせ、対話させてくれたので、私はこの講演から最大限	する最善策への意識向上を図るため、交通安全講演会を開催
力など、また、実際の交通事故の悲惨さについても説明して	半分は眠っていたでしょう。でも、スティーブは聴衆を立ち	秋になると、米海兵隊太平洋基地安全部は、交通安全に関
交通 安全啓発に 一役買う	米コメディアン、	笑いを通した学び —

LOCAL STUDENTS BROADEN PERSPECTIVE AT **COURTNEY SUMMER ENGLISH CLASS**



加者ら

Camp Courtney opened its gates to local students from the neighboring city of Uruma to give them an opportunity to experience American culture during a five-day Camp Courtney Summer English Class, August 14-18, 2023. With it, students had a chance not just to learn English but also broaden their understanding of their own surroundings and Japanese culture. The project has continued for more than 20 years, and Uruma City now supports publicity and transportation.

Background

Okinawa is known to the Japanese for hosting many U.S. military bases, and Uruma City is one of the areas that shares land with the U.S. Marine Corps.

Although military bases and neighboring communities are separated by a fence, a lot of communities take advantage of this unique environment. Military service members often lend their support to local residents by participating in cleanups. However, one of the ever-popular exchanges between communities is English classes.

When Ichiro Umehara, the community relations specialist for

sessions at Camp Courtney Summer English Class, Aug. 16, 2023. 2023年8月16日、キャンプ・コートニー・サマー・ イングリッシュ・クラスでのクラスセッションで、

与えられたトピックについて話し合う隊員と参

Camps Courtney and McTureous, received a local parent's request over 20 years ago for students to study English on base as if they were abroad, he recognized the benefits and came up with the idea of a 5-day English class during summer vacation for Japanese school children. Umehara thought this could bring the base and the local community closer together.

Umehara initiated the Camp Courtney Summer English Class in the summer of 2000. His initial goal was for local children to enjoy learning English and experience American culture just a fence away from their community. However, his deeper thought was that the experience of the English class would go beyond just speaking English but connect to their awareness of their surroundings and future jobs.

"I was born in the south of Okinawa where there are no military bases around, so I didn't have much opportunity to be exposed to English," said Mika Nago, the mother of a participating student. "This kind of learning opportunity will be an advantage and an inspiration for them. It doesn't have to be all about learning English. Just by being in contact with other

people, we can share our different cultures and values."

2023 Summer English Class

In 2023, Uruma City welcomed the applicants, not just high schoolers but also college and vocational school students — to make up for missed opportunities due to the COVID-19 pandemic — through their newsletter and homepage. A total of 30 students. first-come and first-serve, from Uruma City, age 15 to 20, participated.

"I want the students to change from this experience," said Yoshinori Shinzato, the director of the Uruma **City Citizen Collaboration Policy Division of the Residential Affairs** Department.

Uruma City shares the land with not just the U.S. Marine Corps, but also the Navy, Army, and the sea area with the Air Force. On top of that, there are various Japanese Self-Defense Forces bases, including the Ground Self-Defense Force and Maritime Self-Defense Force.

"If we can make use of what we already have and help the children learn, I think it is worthwhile," said Shinzato. "It is necessary to understand the nature of the bases, so it is important to know why they exist, and to see and hear what they will say."

The program included classroom sessions, tours of on-base facilities, and one unique tour which changes every year with Umehara's choice. Every course was to enlighten the students on the differences between Japanese and American culture and lifestyle. Five to 10 Marines were invited and assigned to groups of students. Since not all the students understood English, there were local college students who supported the participants with English translation.

The summer English class started out with an introduction and moved to discussion among participants in English. The given topic for discussion changed every session to ensure

たち あ立てについての 達からも嫌な思いを の隊員 考え Ó Ō

質疑応答を受け、 参加去 過

来続 活動や らも地元 0 8

あ

 σ 学生

海兵隊ボラ 睦を深め に施設の

→ diverse conversations. They also rotated the groups or tables once a subject was done, and mixed the groups daily.

"It was really nice because we started to walk around and go to different groups," said Lance Cpl. Trey C. Girard, Headquarters Battalion, 3rd Marine Division, on his third day of the class. "We can teach all the groups different things, not just our first group, which is really cool." However, he also noticed that although some of the students started to open up a little more, some were still shy. Girard said that he tried to talk to them since he understood how they felt, as he used to be shy at one point in his life. One of the topics included an explanation of Okinawan food. It seems simple; however, Umehara wanted students to use their full knowledge of the subject matter and explain it from many aspects,

such as how to make the food, the ingredients, and nutritional benefits as well, even if they lacked English skills.

After the English exchange, Umehara scheduled lunch at various locations on Camp Courtney. He wanted the students to experience the different types of eating environments, such as Tengan Castle for the dining style restaurant, Bulldogs as the fastfood restaurant, and the mess hall where normally only service members were allowed to eat. Each afternoon, the group ventured out for a field trip to camp facilities such as the library, gym, commissary



Participants listen to Ichiro Umehara, the community relations specialist for Camps Courtney and McTureous, at the Henoko landfill construction site, Aug. 17, 2023. 8月17日、辺野古埋め 立て工事現場にてコートニー&マクトリアス梅原一郎基地渉外官の話に耳を傾ける参加者ら。

(grocery store), exchange store (retail store) and barracks (dorms). "I was able to experience what

kind of rooms Americans live in and what kind of food they usually eat, so I felt a little closer to them as if we are the same people," said Miriya Nakamura, a high school sophomore.

The class did not miss adding in some fun. Even though it was

Continued on Page 14 COURTNEY

Participants line up for shoes at the bowling alley, Aug. 16, 2023 8月16日、ボーリング 場で靴を受け取る 参加者ら。

Participants watch over preparations for barbecue, Aug. 18, 2023. 8月18日、バーベキ ューの準備を見守 る参加者ら。



COURTNEY Continued from Page 15 midday on a weekday, Umehara requested the Bowling alley to turn on the party lights for the participants to experience the atmosphere of an American bowling alley on a weekend night.

A field trip to Camp Schwab and Henoko District of Nago City

The fourth day was a day trip to Camp Schwab and Henoko District office in Nago City. The participants learned the purpose behind Camp Schwab and what they do operationally from the camp director and community relations specialist. They also gained insight into the relationships between the district residents and service members from the perspective of Shigeru Shimabukuro, Henoko District mayor.

At the meeting on Camp Schwab, participants asked two Marines about their thoughts on the protestors outside the gate and Henoko landfill, which has been ongoing since 2018, when the land reclamation work began on the Henoko coast in preparation for the relocation of Marine Corps Air Station Futenma to Henoko.

One Marine replied that he has never had a negative experience from people outside the gate nor local residents, saying "what we think is nice is different from what people here think is nice. Sometimes it's a misunderstanding and something you have to work on." Another Marine said he was unaware of the Henoko relocation and thought the landfill was just a landfill, which surprised many participants.

Shimabukuro also took questions from participants. He shared a few of his memories of the past and explained to the students how the residents of the district have dealt with the situations with Camp Schwab for 65 years since its establishment.

"There are so many people who misunderstand our situations," said Shimabukuro. "Our residents have good relationships with the service

members. They (Camp Schwab and its Marines) are a part of our district and even have the 11th section flag, and participate in our community events and activities. Our mentality is that we are all friends." Karin Kinjo, a sophomore from a local high school, commented that she has never

given a thought to the reason about the landfill or why the U.S. military bases existed in Okinawa because they were always there since she was born.

"It was difficult for me," said Kinjo. "I had seen many opinions against the landfill on TV, so I agreed with them, but after listening to the people inside the base, I realized that there are many different opinions. It is important to listen to other opinions, not just one."

After summer English class

Anna Nagayama, a freshman at Okinawa University, said she was under the impression that it was fine as long as she could speak English when she first came to the summer English class, but realized it would be better to understand the culture of the country and the problems faced by people from abroad as well.

According to her, even though she lived in Okinawa all her life, there

were so many things she was not aware of. "I need to learn more about the language, culture, and Okinawa, where I live, in order to deepen our exchange," said Nagayama.

Participants experience a meal at a mess hall where normally only

員しか食べることのできない隊員食堂での食事を経験する参加者ら。

Shigeru Shimabukuro, Henoko District mayor answers

8月17日、参加者からの質問に答える島袋茂辺野古区長

questions from participants, Aug. 17, 2023.

service members were allowed to eat, Aug. 16, 2023. 8月16日、普段は隊

Yuna Azama from the Uruma City Citizen Collaboration Policy Division, who accompanied the students throughout the summer English class, was amazed how honest students were, and she had a good feeling about their possibilities. "Being exposed to a different culture was a shocking experience to some students; however, it also gave them a chance to realize that there are choices in their future by knowing different ways of thinking and seeing," said Azama.

The 5-day-long summer English class ended with a friendship barbecue cook-out. Marine volunteers worked together to serve food, and at the same time interact with students in sports outside the facility.

Story and Photos by Yoshie Makiyama



Participants take a photo with Col. Eric A. Meador, camp commander for Camps Courtney and McTureous, after the completion ceremony of the five-day class, August 18, 2023. 8月18日、コー トニー&マクトリアス基地司令官エリック・A・メドアー大佐と修了式後に記念撮影する参加者ら



sessions at Camp Courtney Summer English Class, Aug. 14, 2023. 2023年8月14日、キャンプ・コートニー・サマー・イングリッシュ・クラスでのクラスセッシ で、与えられたトピックについて話し合う隊員と参加者ら

> なるで 南部 彼らにとって 美香さんは、 英語を学ぶこ 事への だっ 意識にも 「私は軍 σ

なる 2 0 価値観を共有 のプラスで 英語に触

るま市は、

広報誌等を通

た機会を取り戻そう

自己紹介 彼 参加者同

(きる のや 変更さ 日目に も変えら 取り 与えら 第3海兵師団司令部· ルを移 移つ σ 等兵は たテ 多様な会 毎日グル マは 「歩き

> を体験 んでいて、 ことのでブ (小売店) の食事 毎日

Ø 日の の をつけるよう もらおう 間に

美利亜さん

みを加えるこ し親近感がわ

るの

か

野古区事務所に 日かけての社会見学。 シュワブと名護市辺 市辺野古区訪問

たの

■ 15 ペ

https://www.japan.marines.mil/Misc/BigCircle/

エーレン		て日本人に知られており、うるま市は米海	沖縄は多くの米軍基地を抱える地域とし	北月星京	トしている。	り、現在はうるま市が広報や送迎をサポー	この企画は20年以上にわたって続けられてお	マー・イングリッシュ・クラスを開催した。	るきっかけとなるキャンプ・コートニー・サ	取り巻く環境や自国の日本文化をも理解す	体験し、英語を学ぶだけでなく、自分たちを	市から地元の学生を迎え、アメリカ文化を	14日から18日までの5日間、近隣のうるま	キャンプ・コートニーが、2023年8月	 ーートーー夏
の距離を縮めることができると考えたのだ。	を思いついた。これなら、基地と地域社会と	夏休みを利用した5日間の夏期英語クラス	要望を受けたとき、地域の小学生を対象に、	感覚で英語を学べる機会がほしい」という	から、「基地が近いので、海外にいるような	トリアスの梅原一郎渉外官は、地元の保護者	20年以上前、キャンプ・コートニー&マク	間の交流で常に人気があるのは、英語教室だ。	加し、地域住民を支援する。しかし、地域	利用。軍人はしばしば地域の清掃活動に参	ているが、多くの地区がその独特な環境を	軍事基地と近隣地域はフェンスで隔てられ	のひとつである。	兵隊と土地を共有しているそのような地域	ニートニー夏邦英語クラスて見背エダる地元学生
す」と語った。	び込んで見聞きすることは良いアイデアで	ぜ基地が存在するのかも含め、その懐に飛	地のあり方を理解しないといけません。な	になればよいのでは」と新里氏は言い、「基	「あるものを利かして、子どもたちの勉強	な自衛隊の基地がある。	その上、陸上自衛隊や海上自衛隊など様々	陸軍、海域は空軍と土地を共有している。	うるま市は米海兵隊だけでなく、海軍、	話す。	加者を見て「化けてほしい、いい意味で」と	うるま市市民生活部の新里禎規部長は、参	計30人。	市在住の15歳から20歳までの先着順の学生	く目れ調子レダンで出
だった。ダイニング・スタイルのレストラン	基地内のさまざまな場所で昼食をとること	英語交流の後の渉外官が立てた計画は同	度から説明してほしかったという。	効能など、知識をフルに使って、あらゆる免	きなくても、料理の作り方、材料、栄養の	渉外官は参加者らに、たとえうまく説明で	あった。簡単なことのように思えるが、梅唇	トピックのひとつには沖縄料理の説明も	努めたと話した。	わかると、上等兵は彼らと会話をするよう	内気だった時期があったため、気持ちはよく	だ内気な生徒もいたことに気づき、自身も	かの生徒が少しずつ心を開き始めた中、ま	ことができました」と語った。しかし、何-	



Camp Hansen ++>プ·ハンセン

Col. Rich Martin

Akemashite Omedetou Gozaimasu On behalf of the Marines, Sailors, and civilians at Camp Hansen, we wish you all

a prosperous and Happy New Year! It's been another great year for the honored relationship with our local communities, marked by the return of a busy and productive community relations calendar. The opportunity for our service members to interact with and learn from our Okinawan neighbors is one of the most rewarding aspects of an assignment to Okinawa. Many of us were able to enjoy the return of the Kin Town, Ginoza Village, and Onna Village Festivals this year – it was a pleasure to share with you all the fun and honored traditions that those events provide.

In March, we opened Camp Hansen's new gate and bridge, which has greatly reduced traffic through Kin Town. It wasn't possible without the help of the Okinawan people and the construction companies whose expert workmanship brought the project to life.

I remain extremely grateful to Mayor Nakama, Mayor Toma, and Mayor Nagahama for their partnership and support, and proud that we at Camp Hansen can call the people of Okinawa our friends and neighbors! We look forward to 2024 and the things we have planned to bring our communities and families closer together!



MCAS Futenma 普天間航空基地

Col. William C. Pacatte

Happy New Year Okinawa! As we celebrate the coming of 2024, the Marines, Sailors, and civilians of Marine Corps Air Station Futenma want you to

know that we are all honored and privileged to remain a part of the Ginowan and Okinawa community.

Looking back at 2023, it was a year of newfound opportunity. The end of the COVID-19 pandemic ushered in the full transition back to normalcy, which allowed our communities to open up and celebrate the culture, customs, and traditions that make life in Okinawa such a unique and unforgettable experience. For this, we are extremely grateful.

In 2024, we look forward to another year of tremendous opportunity - both old and new - to build upon our good will and to strengthen our inseparable bonds. We wish all of you the kindest regards and a new year full of health, promise, and friendship.



Camps Courtney & McTureous キャンプ・コートニー & マクトリアス

Col. Eric A. Meador

On behalf of the Marines, Sailors, and fami-

and prosperous Happy New Year!

Sergeant Major Lopez and I look forward to continuing the established relationships and partnerships with our communities and neighbors here in Uruma City. We have been impressed by the sheer beauty and delightfulness of Okinawan people and culture. Our goal is to strengthen and sustain the partnerships and com- にそのゴールに邁進できますことを心より楽し munity relations with all families here in Okinawa. I look forward みにしております。 to the next few years working together.

May 2024 bring you all happiness and prosperity.

リチャード・マーティン大佐より

明けましておめでとうございます。 キャンプハンセンの海兵隊、海軍 兵、軍属や民間人従業員を代表 し、皆様にとり実り多き喜びに 溢れる1年となりますよう、 心よりお祈り申し上げます。 旧年はキャンプハンセン周 辺地域の皆さまとの多くの交 流会が再開でき、誇りある関係を 祝うことができた素晴らしい年となりま した。沖縄の皆様と触れ合い、学べることは、 沖縄で勤務する我々にとり最も報われる場面の一 つです。私たちの多くは、金武町、宜野座村、そして恩納 村で開催された以前同様の祭りを楽しみ、名誉ある伝統を共 有できたことは大きな喜びでした。

昨年3月にはキャンプハンセン新ゲートや橋梁施設が完成し、 金武町内での大幅な交通渋滞緩和に寄与しています。このプロジ ェクトは地元地域の方々のご協力と、建設会社の皆さまの高度で 専門的な手腕なしでは実現できませんでした。

仲間金武町長、當眞宜野座村長、そして長浜恩納村長、皆さまと のパートナーシップとご支援に対し、心より感謝申し上げます。そし てキャンプハンセンは沖縄の皆さまを友人・隣人と呼べることを誇 りに思います。2024年を迎え、今年度に計画されている、私たち地 域や家族を結びつける様々な行事を楽しみにしています!

ウィリアム・C・パカティー大佐より

沖縄の皆様、新年、明けましておめでとうございま す。2024年の到来を祝うにあたり、ご挨拶申し上げます。ま た、新年にあたり皆様に知っていただきたいことは、普天 間基地所属の全ての海兵隊員、海軍兵、軍属、日本人従業 員は、宜野湾と沖縄の地域を構成する一員であることの光 栄さと喜びを身にしみて感じているということです。

振り返ってみれば、2023年は新たな発見の年でした。新 型コロナウイルス感染症の流行の終息により、平素な日常 への完全な移行が始まったことで、地域が解放され、沖縄 での生活をユニークで忘れがたいものにしている文化、習 慣、伝統を祝うことができるようになりました。これには大 変感謝しております。

2024年では、我々は新旧を問わず、善意を築き、切っても 切れない絆を強固なものするために、またとない機会 が訪れることを楽しみにしております。皆様のご多幸を お祈り申し上げるとともに、皆様のご健康、ご期待、友 情に満ちた新年を心よりお祈り申し上げます。

エリック・A・メドアー大佐より

コートニー、マクトリアス基地の海兵隊員、海軍兵、 そしてその家族を代表いたしまして、みなさま、おー 人おひとりに新年のご多幸をお祈り申し上げます。

ロペス最先任上級曹長と私は、ここ地元うるま市の lies aboard Camps Courtney and McTureous, 近隣の方々と築き上げてきました信頼関係を継続して I wish to extend to each one of you a sincere いくことを楽しみにしております。私どもは沖縄の方々と その文化の美しさ、楽しさに感銘を受けてまいりました。 私どもの目標は、ここ沖縄のすべての家族との信頼

関係と地域の結び付きを強め、その維持をしていくこと です。

今後(私が在任中の)数年間、みなさま方と共

2024年がみなさまにとって幸運と繁栄をもた らす年になりますように。

ear from Commanor

基地

司令官よ

IJ

Camp Schwab

Camp Hansen

Camp Courtney

Camp McTureous

Camp Foster

Camp Lester

Camp Kinser

MCAS Futenma

新年のご挨拶

Col. David M. Banning

Akemashite Omedetou Gozaimasu-明けましておめでとうございます。健勝と繁 here is to a healthy and prosperous 栄の辰年となりました。 Year of the Dragon.

In 2024, I would hope that we can build on the を再建するために精一杯努力して築いた関係 foundations of all the hard work in 2023 to re-establish the relationships and connections that had been severed during the COVID-19 years.

From numerous off-base volunteer activities to cooperative Eisa performances on and off-base, and the numerous on-base festivals, sharing our cultures with each other is one of the greatest opportunities that is a part of life on Okinawa. We see not only the areas of uniqueness with each other's culture,

but more importantly, how much we have in common. We look forward to strengthening our existing friendships and building many new ones this year. Thanks to the great team that we have and the kindness and generosity of our Okinawan hosts, the Year of the Dragon will be the best year yet! Kotoshimo, yoroshiku onegai itashimasu!

Camp Schwab ++vプ·シュワブ

キャンプ・シュワブ周辺地域の皆様へ、キャン プシュワブ海兵隊員、海軍兵、軍属従業員より謹 Col. Erick T. Clark んで新年のご挨拶を申し上げます。60年以上に This year the Marines, Sailors and civilians of Camp Schwab, もわたり、地域友好委員会の一員として楽しく過 would like to wish our surrounding communities a happy ごせているのも、周辺地域の皆様の温かいお心 and joyous New Year. We have enjoyed being part of the 遣いあってのことだと承知しております。キャン local Friendship Committee for over 60 years, and understand that this would プシュワブ基地司令官として、皆様お一人一人 not be possible without the kind hearts of the local community. As the Camp のご厚意に感謝申し上げるとともに、私たちの Commander, I would like to sincerely thank each and every one of our neighbors 地域社会活動が皆さまのご家族へと幸せをもた for your kindness, and hope that through our community relations efforts we らすことを願っております。2024年へと期待し、 are able to bring happiness to you and your families. We are looking forward to より多くの機会で皆様とキャンプシュワブでお what 2024 brings and hope to welcome you to our Camp even more often. 会いできることを祈念いたしております。



Camp Kinser キャンプ・キンザー

浦添市、那覇市、そして県民の皆様、明けましてお めでとうございます。昨年も地元コミュニティと引き Col. Andre M. Ingram 続き強い絆を築いてこられましたことを大変嬉しく 存じます。一年を通して、多くの日本の方々を様々な Happy New Year Urasoe, Naha, and Okinawa! The last year has been very exciting as イベントにお招き致しました。特筆すべきこととし まして、キンザーフェストでは過去最多の地元の皆 we continue to build strong ties with the 様にお越しいただきました。さらに、日頃より地元コ local communities. In the past year we have welcomed our Japanese ニュニティーで活動しておりました清掃ボランティ hosts to Camp Kinser for a number of events. The highlight was アが、沖縄テレビの"りゅうぎんグッドニュース"で取 Kinser Fest where we enjoyed a record attendance. We've also done り上げられ放送していただけました。これらの交流 community service clean-up events, one of which was highlighted by は、皆様との友好関係をより強固とし、より一歩前に "RyuGin Good News" on Okinawa Television. These types of engage-推し進めるものだと思います。 ments are what make our relationship strong and enable us to move 本年も県内外の大学及び高校、森の子児童セン forward together to continue to improve our local community. ター、宮城っ子児童センターとの交流プログラムを In the year to come we are excited to engage in exchange programs とても楽しみにしております。二月には浦添市主催 with universities and high schools within Okinawa and mainland のてだこウォークが計画されており、多くのご参加 Japan, the Morinoko Children's Center, and the Miyaggiko Children's Center. We are also excited about the Tedako Walk in February where 者をキャンプキンザーにてお迎えすることを心待ち にしております。 we will again welcome the community to Camp Kinser. 改めまして、浦添市の松本市長に日頃よりの感謝 As always, I want to extend a special thank you to Mayor Matsumoto を申し上げます。これまで貴重な友好関係を築くと of Urasoe City. We have developed a valuable relationship that has ともにそれを維持してまいりました。引き続き、市長 continued to grow. I sincerely look forward to future engagements と浦添市職員の方々と共に、浦添市とキャンプキン with both him and his staff as we explore ways to further bring the ザーがより親しいものとなるよう手を取り合い協働 Urasoe communities and Camp Kinser closer together. させていただきたく存じます。 I wish everyone good fortune and good health in 2024. 本年も皆様のご健康とご多幸をお祈り申し上げ HAPPY NEW YEAR! ます。謹賀新年。

*messages are in no particular order/メッセージは順不同です

Camps Foster & Lester ++>プ·フォスター&レスター

デビッド・M・バニング大佐より

2023年、私どもはコロナ禍で失われた関係 を基礎として、年年はさらに良い関係を築いて いくことを願っています。

基地外で行われた多数のボランティア活動 から基地内外でのエイサー演舞への協力、そ して多数の基地内フェスティバルを通してお 互いの文化を共有することは沖縄で生活する ことによってできる素晴らしい機会でしょう。異 文化のユニークさを見るだけでなく、共通する 部分を知ることもできます。

新しい年は我々の友好関係を強化できるこ とを期待しております。沖縄の皆様との素晴ら しいチームワークで辰年が最高の年となるで しょう。今年もよろしくお願いします!

エリック・T・クラーク大佐より

アンドレ・M・イングラム大佐より



JAPAN-US BASKETBALL PLAYERS LEARN DIFFERENC-**ES, STRIVE FOR THE BEST IN FRIENDLY GAMES**

In 2023, Okinawa was at the height of basketball fever. The Ryukyu Golden Kings won the Japan Professional Basketball League in May for the first time since their foundation in 2007. Shortly after in August, the FIBA Basketball World Cup 2023 was held at Okinawa Arena, home of the Golden Kings, and Japan qualified for the 2024 Paris Olympics as the number one team in Asia. There is a myth that their success lies in people's love of basketball due to Okinawa's unique history.

After World War II in 1945, Okinawa was under U.S. control until its reversion to Japan in 1972, when many U.S. military bases were built. Since then, the bases have remained and military personnel have spent their free time playing sports, such as Basketball. It is here where Okinawans were exposed to "Americanway" basketball and had more opportunities to see and even play against Americans in exchange games. While Japanese crowds typically show less emotion in public, Americans express emotions openly. This may be the reason why Okinawans are said to be different from the rest of Japan in the way they cheer and play in games. On Aug. 12, 2023, Okinawa 1215 Basketball Club invited four teams, including one female team, from



local junior high schools for its first **Basketball Friendship Tournament** in Okinawa. The tournament at the Camp Foster Fieldhouse was planned to promote sportsmanship, teamwork, and friendship between Okinawans and on-base players. The 1215 was founded in 2020 by Harold H. Crawley, Jr., the club president, with hopes of providing 12 to 15 year-old children of U.S. military-affiliated personnel in Okinawa with an opportunity to improve their skills and techniques, so they can compete with children in the U.S. once they return from their families' Okinawa assignments. The club runs from February to September, the off-season for basketball. The summer season begins in June, with tryouts in April. The summer of 2023, the club selected a team of 25 players: 15

boys and 10 girls. The invited local teams were from Yokatsu and Takaesu Jr. High Schools, both from Uruma City, and Mashiki Jr. High School from Ginowan City for boys, and Minatogawa Jr. High School of Urasoe City for girls. Some of the players had exchange matches before with the 1215 club, but for some it was their first time competing against Americans. "The children were surprised when they heard the offer for the first time," said Ayano Gibo,

> the leader of the Takaesu team parent association. "They were worried if they could communicate with American players, but the language doesn't matter in the game, all you do is hustle."

Since Gibo herself was once a basketball player and played against a base team in high school, she knew the physical differences affect moves such as charging, blocking, and covering in a

game. She said that the tournament would give a good opportunity for Japanese players to learn.

"We cannot become complacent just because we're winning this game, because these other two teams are in a tight game. They have good basketball players," said Forrest "Chip" Williams, the father of a 1215 player. "Japanese basketball teams are very good, very fast, and very fundamental, and they do not stop. We have lost to Japanese teams."

Williams emphasized that basketball is a team game. He said that Japanese teams do not play oneon-one basketball. They know their positions, their assignments, and they run their plays and make good basketball decisions. He continued saying that it is a testament to how disciplined and how fundamentally sound a lot of the Japanese basketball teams are. With their shots, skills and coordination, their speed, and the ball handling, "Everybody is a threat."

However, Williams pointed out that the 1215 team also came together as a unit in the past few months, playing unselfish team basketball.

"Their (Japanese) pace is different, they are a lot faster," said Maurice Brown, a player on the 1215, who has been playing basketball for 5 years. "We just have to keep moving."

Eitetsu Koura, the teacher in charge of the Yokatsu team, said, "The flow of the game is different and the rules are a little different, but such things the children can adjust flexibly; however, the height and physical strengths are another story. But even that, to some children, is the learning experience. They started to think about nutrition, like what, how and when to eat, or effective ways for physical contact."

According to Yosuke Nakasone, a 🗷



こつく1215の選手。 勝って が技って 彼 <u>の</u> バ ス 柔軟に対応でき 僕らは動き続(日本)のペー 多小 ō 部の幸良苗 ற 基地内 日本の る い は団 当 ŧ

-ルに興味を持たせ続けるマールに興味を持たせ続けるマ	遠征し、地元のユースチームと対戦し215チームは夏になると日本本土や2021年に正式なクラブとなって以ったという。ーしたいと、基地選手と対戦して思うケットボールを続け、将来は海外に行を始めたのは小学6年生のとき。高校空手を習っていた江口選手がバスケッ37(ナ」	Pので、タイミングを合わせ し、リズムも独特でした。江口選手い方が を指摘した。江口選手い方が、今回 イントやリバウンド、ディー わっていないという。前回の試 イントやリバウンド、ディー わっていないという。前回の試 した子どもたちもいたそうだ な、英語をもっと勉強するこ イントやリバウンド、ディー していなかった」とコミュニケ を指摘した。江口選手い方が、今回 イントやリバウンド、ディー
と、男ン縄 - りる 接 69 子 トで - しる 戦 - しがを バー と を 41 開 ス 会	しや以 う行校ッ	わった わった のの にの しん 、 た 、 た つ 、 た つ に う る 二 の し 、 前 に 、 か 、 、 イ つ に ち こ た 、 に の し 、 れ 、 、 イ つ に ち こ た て 試 ル 遥 と 果 こ る た 、 式 い し ま た こ た て 試 ル 通 と 果 こ る た て 試 ル の に た こ た て 試 ル の に た い の に た で に の に て っ に て っ に て ち た に た に た に た に た に た に た に た の に た た に た た に た た に た た に た た に た た た た に た た に た た た た た た た た た た た た た

→ substitute teacher for the Yokatsu team, the exchange match became their mentor not just for basketball. The experience from a game a month prior made some children realize that studying English harder is important if they wanted to communicate with their American counterparts.

文

写真

Genki Eguchi, a Yokatsu player, noted the drastic change in the 1215 play. According to Eguchi, team members in the 1215 have not changed since their last close match in July 2023, but his team lost this time.

"They have been better in threepoints, rebounds and defenses

before, too, but if we could not beat them in power, we can switch to a faster attack. But they were faster than us today," said Eguchi.

"Their improvement in technique of overtaking the opponent in an instant was amazing, and the rhythm was unique. Something Japanese players don't have, so it was hard for us to get the timing right." Eguchi, a former karate student, did not start playing basketball until he was in the sixth grade. He now wishes to continue playing in high school, and after competing against base players, he also thinks that he would like to play basketball abroad in the future.



Since becoming an official club in 2021, the 1215 has traveled to mainland Japan and Guam in summer months to compete against local youth teams. "We keep them interested in basketball because the whole goal is to keep them playing basketball," said Crawley. This is a reason the Okinawa 1215 Basketball Club held the Basketball Friendship Tournament in Okinawa.

All the victories went to the 1215 club; 87-32 against Takaesu, 82-14 against Mashiki, 69-41 against Yokatsu, and the close game of the day, with the girls' 27-26 against Minatogawa.

Story and Photos by Yoshie Makiyama



SAFETY COMMITTEE ENHANCES USMC JAPANESE WORKERS' RISK MANAGEMENT AWARENESS

There are nearly 9,000 local residents employed by the Japanese government as Master Labor Contract (MLC) and Indirect Hire Agreement (IHA) workers on U.S. military facilities in Okinawa, and over 3,000 people work for the United States Marine Corps. Although they are Japanese government employees, they work under the direct supervision of United States Forces Japan military and civilian supervisors.

Marine Corps Installations Pacific Safety Office has been conducting quarterly safety committee meetings for over 25 years to be a bridge between U.S. and Japanese employees for issues and concerns to mitigate work-related injuries and health hazards.

On June 15, 2023, the safety committee held a meeting at the Safety Office on Camp Foster with a room full of participants. According to Jun Shimabukuro, safety program administrator and general safety and health manager, MCIPAC Safety Office, the committee meeting was previously limited to certified Occupational Health personnel, but recently they have opened their doors to anyone interested.

"We want to hear from as many people as possible about preventing workplace accidents and improving the work environment at Marine Corps bases, so we no longer limit participants," said Shimabukuro. Among 34 attendees were the Japanese supervisors, unit safety representatives and workers from various offices from Marine Corps Base Camp Smedley D. Butler and Marine Corps Community Services Okinawa. Observing were safety specialists from MCIPAC, MCCS, and U.S. Army, along with USMC Civilian Human Resource officers and Labor Management Organization personnel. Five observers from the Okinawa Defense Bureau, the legal employer of Japanese workers, also participated.

According to Shimabukuro, in an effort to share the information with ODB personnel, the Safety Office invited them as "employers" to a meeting where Japanese workers as "employees" on the U.S. military base, discussed the issues. They have attended meetings since March 2016.

Col. David M. Banning, camp commander for Camps Foster and Lester, sat among the committee members. This was his second time attending the safety committee meeting. As Banning understands the Japanese language, he took advantage when he was informed about the meeting for the first time, and attended the last one in March. Although the meeting was only conducted in Japanese, Banning listened attentively and took notes. Banning thinks the Japanese workforce is important, and if the U.S. side does not understand the concerns that Japanese employees have, half of the workforce will show up in an environment that is not safe and welcoming.

"The presentations are very helpful," said Banning. "The safety analysis on how to prevent accidents is very important. This allows me to get an understanding and visibility on the problems of thousands of the Japanese employees across the camps." Hiroshi Makino, labor management officer, Labor Management Section, ODB, was surprised that the Marine Corps seriously committed to safety management, and talked about the issues in depth.

"This meeting is meaningful," stated Makino. "Obtaining statistics will serve as a guideline for taking similar measures later on. Their response and the way they exchanged their opinions were fruitful. The way personnel from CHRO responded immediately made me realize that they have a high level of knowledge."

Follow-up

Another meeting was held on Sept.

14, 2023. Banning also attended that meeting and said, "I've tried to make these quarterly safety meetings so that I can hear directly from the MLCs and the workers. Because we have representatives from all the different sections on base, it's a very effective way to make sure that we have feedback so that we can figure out if we need to make any changes, or if there are areas of concern that we can address quickly."

"When I hear cases where things were resolved and how they were improved, I see that it is up to our own actions," said Munehito Nakachi, administrative specialist at Base Food Services Branch, Camp Hansen. "Depending on how well I can convey our issues to my (U.S.) superiors, there is still room for improvement."

加

り、モ

、をも取

Story and Photo by Yoshie Makiyama

A 1215 player attempts a shot against Takaesu, Aug. 12, 2023. 8月12日、高江州戦でシュートを打つ 1215選手



前で 感情 、 感情を表に う カ人との交 れたの か 交

> 会の σ クラブは男子 なも から9 ற が 行 わ 女 子 10 る の 夏シ 2 人 0 の 2 計 3

 σ

スケ

合 校 真志喜中学校。 た手の中 る のの はあ <u>「</u>中学校、 女子が浦添市 初 る 者も め 2 男子がうるま クラ い が、 市の港

野さ 그 は じて 子ども の保護 Ξ ま ンが たちは初めてこの た 靸 × る 、リカ人選手 と笑う 心配 ある宜保 係 話

> 25 わ 朝ご に安全委

い

る

ιī

安全 員会はキ 参加でも 大勢の

人の環境 定して 善につ ので、 現在は参加者 災害の防止と

。2 バ 0

防衛局からも5 M C C S 沖 一会人と Ø 日本 人の 人が参加 の 日 の法 の 安全 機構の 太平洋 海兵隊 作業員も 者や職場安 ビス沖縄 ある沖縄 員が出

る必

常に

ケ

る彼らを 月から会議に 島袋氏によると、 は2 М 「従業員」である基地内の Ó 出席 安全部 じて し合う 関係者 大佐は、 安全委員会へ る は沖縄防衛局 は2 あ 実行委 る委 0 者 Ĥ で

|皮目。日 日本語を したの る大佐 け IE. 司令 6

、基地従業員は重要であったは熱心に耳を傾け、メロな日本語だけで進められた たが、 うバ

る」と前を向いた。 たちの行動次第で ため善の余地はあ ることがわかり たちの行動次第で 述べた。 門職の仲地宗に氏 ように改善され こンの基地 「物事が解決-ビス部管理真



Col. David M. Banning, camp commander for Camps Foster and Lester, addresses base employees at the Safety Committee meetin June 15, 2023. 6月15日、安全委員会で参加基地従業員らに挨拶をするフォスター&レスター基地司令官デビッド・M・バニング大佐。

わ 四 れ

出 会が行

席

を

8 — January 2024

https://www.japan.marines.mil/Misc/BigCircle/

E米バスクットオール遅手		親善討合て遠しを学むり碇琢摩
に沸いていた。5月の日本プロバスケット2023年、沖縄はバスケットボール熱	ケットボールクラブは、地元沖縄の中学校2023年8月12日、沖縄1215バス	在沖米海兵隊、安全委員会で日本人
スが2007年の創設以来初めて優勝。直ボールリーグでは、琉球ゴールデンキング	し、第1回沖縄バスケットボールフレンから女子1チームを含む4チームを招待	ま也 送 着 見 り も 幾 ら 雷 里 急 能 同 り る る く イ い 、 、 、 、 、 、 、 、 、 、 、 、 、 、 、 、 、 、
後の8月にはゴールデンキングスのホーム	ドシップトーナメントを開催した。フォス	
ベーク・シャック ひとう 引着 ひとう うまい うちょう しょう うちょう しょう しょう しょう しょう しょう しょう しょう しょう しょう し	※は、中間のまでは、たりののまでの引こう ター基地内にある体育館で行われたこの大	沖縄の米軍施設では、日本政府により基 メリカ側が彼らの抱える懸念を理解しなけへ
れ、日本はアジアナンバーフンのチームと	けるスポーソマン清神、中間意識、友情を	」 本労働契約(MLC)および間接雇用協定 れば、労働力の半分は安全で歓迎されない
して24年パリ五輪の出場権を獲得した。し	促進するために企画された。	(ー H A) 労 働 者 と し て 約 9、 0 0 0 人の 地 一 環
かし、それらの成功は沖縄のユニークな歴	1215クラブは2020年、ハロルド・	ニバト毎年旅ご助いたいら。安らは日本女垣住民が雇用されており、3 CCC人以
史による人々のバスケットボール愛にある	H・クローリーJr. クラブ会長によって設	「「「「「「「「」」」では「「」」では「「」」では「「」」では「「」」では「「」」「「」」
という神話がある。	立された。在沖縄米軍関係者の12歳から15	が、 左日米軍の軍人や軍属監督皆の旨示の 解し の で 雇 厚 て オ ナ 基 せ れ 等 員 て お そ
1945年の第二次世界大戦後、沖縄は	歳の子供たちが、家族での沖縄駐留から帰	下で働いている。
72年の本土復帰までアメリカの統治下にあ	国後、米国の子供たちと互角に競い合える	米海兵隊太平洋基地安全部は、業務上の
り多くの米軍基地 が 建設された。 それ 以来	よう 技術や技能を向上させる機会を提供	負傷や健康被害を軽減するため、日米の従
多くの基地は残り、軍人は自由な時間をス	したいという願いが込められている。この	業員間の課題や懸念事項の橋渡し役とし

2024年1月号 — 7

JP BROADCASTING GROUP EXPERIENCE 'SEEING IS BELIEVING' AT MCAS FUTENMA



Participants from eight Japanese broadcasters receive an overview of the Marine Corps Air Station Futenma during a tour of the base, Aug. 25, 2023. 2023年8月25日、海兵隊普天間航空基地視察で同基地の概要説明を受 ける日本の放送局8社からの参加者ら。

A group of managers from eight Japanese broadcasting companies visited Marine Corps Air Station Futenma, Aug. 25, 2023. The twelve participants from across the country learned about the current security environment surrounding Okinawa from the perspective of Japan's ally, the United States.

Okinawa is a location of interest for Japanese media because of its concentration of U.S. military bases on the island. Among the bases in Okinawa, MCAS Futenma has often made headlines in the Japanese media due to its future relocation. Participating media outlets were: Tokyo Broadcasting System Television, Inc.; Radio Kyushu Broadcasting/Mainichi Broadcasting Corporation; Nagasaki Broadcasting Company; Radio Kumamoto Kabushiki Kaisha/Kumamoto Broadcasting Co., Ltd.; Oita Broadcasting System, Inc.; Miyazaki Radio and Television/Miyazaki Broadcasting Co., Ltd.; Minami Nippon Broadcasting Co., Ltd.; and Ryukyu Broadcasting Corporation. They all belong to the Japan News Network, which was formed by Japanese commercial broadcasting companies with TBS Television as its key station.

The JNN routinely holds the two-day news managers' meeting among four blocks: Hokkaido-Tohoku (northern) region, Chubu (central) region, Kinki-ChuShikoku (western) region, and Kyushu-Okinawa (southern) region, twice a year. They gather to discuss issues each region faces regarding news reporting and broadcasting. This time was RBC's turn,

and the meeting was held for the first time in six years in Okinawa.

"As a news organization, we naturally report on emergencies," said Mariko Arai, TBS editorial manager. "We wanted to visit the U.S. military bases that protect key points in such cases, and hear what kind of preparations and assumptions the U.S. military has in place." At the beginning of the brief, Col. William C. Pacatte, camp commander for MCAS Futenma, introduced himself to the group by his call sign "Spam," which made the participants laugh. "Everybody's here to learn some facts and what we do here at Futenma. So, you definitely came to the right place.' During the brief overview of Futenma's functions, Pacatte told the group that the air station's existence is relevant due to the strategically and operationally appropriate time in the current world situation. As he showed the introduction slide with a picture of aircraft — including the UH-1Y, the

Participants tour around the CH-53E Super Stallion, a heavy lift helicopter. 大型輸送ヘリコ プターCH-53Eス ーパースタリオン

者ら。

MV-22 and the F-35B — Pacatte said, "It captures really what the essence of Marine Corps Air Station Futenma is all about. It's all about aircraft support."

During the briefing, slides reflecting the history of MCAS Futenma displayed aerial photos from 1946, 1970, 1996 and the present. These images showed the changes and growth of the surrounding areas of the air station. Pacatte briefed that Futenma was founded after World War II. The airfield was under the control of the Air Force until 1957, when it was transferred to the Navy and became a Marine Corps Air Facility.

Pacatte also mentioned the **Defense Policy Review Initiative** which the U.S. and Japanese governments launched in 2002, with the intent to reduce the Marine Corps footprint on Okinawa as well as consolidate numerous bases. He said that was the beginning of the Futenma Replacement Facility to eventually shut down the air station.

"It has been 70 some years since the end of the war and Americans

Continued on Page 4 ► **FUTENMA**



Participants take notes during briefs in the CH-53E helicopter. CH-53Eスーパースタリオン機内で 説明のメモをとる参加者ら。



Cultivated land used by local farmers inside MCAS Futenma, visible from the bus window. バスの車窓から見える基地内の地元 農家が使用する耕作地

ることが

わ

かり

ます」 な調整を

さまざま

しました ますが たとき 一普天間飛 を稼働 \mathcal{O} 一地の

・沖縄の 々 のことを ぐ弁 たち 本 オティ 行存共 供す や団 説 17

開 促進さ

-に入った 굾 生懸命者 司令 せ Z E

Okinawa's popular tourist spot becomes a place for international exchange 沖縄の人気観光地、国際交流の場に



III Marine Expeditionary Force Band and U.S. Forces in Okinawa eisa group participate in Japan-U.S. Cultural Exchange Project 第3海兵遠征軍音楽隊と在沖米軍エイサー隊が 日米文化交流プロジェクトに参加





府イれ線11すつ 1よま早 たに置明取	ンを内側に移動させ、日本政府	た。 普天間基地がフェンスライ	の混雑を緩和するために作られ	亏線は、既存の国道330号線	ぐ外側にある宜野湾市の市道11	も説	大佐はまた、土地の取引につ	大佐は言う。	っにするものです」とパカティー	での間、私たちが機能出来るよ	間飛行場代替施設が完成するま	「ここでの工事はすべて、普天	かったと話した。	なったのか、グループに見せた	された建物がどのような状態に	し、時間が許せば、10年間放置	り戻そうとしています」と説明	くのインフラ整備が、遅れを取	てく当身白さえれい マー・ション
---------------------	----------------	-----------------	----------------	----------------	-----------------	----	---------------	--------	-----------------	----------------	----------------	----------------	----------	----------------	----------------	-----------------	----------------	----------------	------------------

のです」	地を存続させなければならない	る基地ができるまで、普天間基	「我々は、実行可能な代わりとな	を合わせることが大切だとした。	えるためには戦略的環境と歩調	とって重要であり、その同盟をま	う。普天間飛行場は日米同盟に	られる限りの質問に答えたとい	できる限りのことを伝え、答え	パカティー大佐は、訪問者に	けた。	りませんでした」と中島氏は続	譲歩していることを来るまで知	思いますが、こうして少しずつ	「土地の返還はいずれは来ると	していませんでした」	してやっていることをよく理解	割をきちんと考えつつも、協調
------	----------------	----------------	-----------------	-----------------	----------------	-----------------	----------------	----------------	----------------	---------------	-----	----------------	----------------	----------------	----------------	------------	----------------	----------------

Project, Oct. 1, 2023. 2023年10月1日、日米交流で笑顔はじける在沖米 軍隊員ら。



バスツアー中に基地内の撮影をする参加者ら

FUTENMA Continued from Page 6 have been stationed in Okinawa for a long time," said Arai. "It's not just an issue between the U.S. and Okinawa, as long as they are in an alliance; their presence can be helpful, and if the alliance is dissolved, it can be troubling.

"It's a difficult dilemma. It is difficult because I don't think it can be solved simply by opposing and dissolving the alliance. There is also the difficulty of reporting such a point, but I try to be as unbiased as possible," continued Arai.

During the question-and-answer session of the briefing, participants asked if the number of MV-22 Ospreys has changed since it deployed in 2012, as well as the number of service members. Pacatte replied that the number of Ospreys on Futenma varies, depending on the maintenance cycle and temporary fly-ins, and an average number of 3,200 service members that fluctuates based on what units are deployed on Unit Deployment Program, where units rotate in and out for six-month intervals.

The last part of the brief was about the air station's value in terms of strategic alignment, tactical advantage, allies and partners, and stand-in forces. A quick look at DPRI's overall plan of returning sites, FRF schedule, and the headlines and news feeds related to MCAS Futenma that hit the paper were also presented.

Pacatte emphasized the importance of maintaining good relationships with the Okinawa communities, and said they take every opportunity to show their resolve. "One of the concepts or principles is

transparency," said Pacatte. "And mutual understanding." After an hour-long brief, the group took a bus tour to the airfield. A Marine pilot escorted them to a CH-53E Super Stallion helicopter, the primary heavy lift helicopter on MCAS

Futenma, and showed them inside. "I knew it was about the base tour, but I never imagined that I could actually see inside of a helicopter or go to the base runway," said Mitsuhiro Nakashima of Nagasaki Broadcasting Company. "Even though being from Nagasaki, where the U.S. Commander Fleet Activities Sasebo resides, it's hard to enter the base, so it was really a good experience for me to learn what kind of problems Futenma faces, and what kind of role it plays on the front line in Okinawa, where the Taiwan contingency and various other issues are currently being discussed."

During the tour on base, the group had a chance to see the older facility buildings from the 50s as well as older barracks and aircraft hangers. According to Pacatte, one of the main challenges as base commander is keeping those facilities up and operational.

"When FRF started, the U.S. stopped investing in infrastructure improvement in Futenma," said Pacatte. "It went back about 10 years, then with FRF's long term delay, a lot of them try to catch back up." He wanted to show the group what 10 years of neglect does to a building if time allowed.

"All the construction here is just trying to keep us going until FRF can be completed," explained Pacatte. Pacatte also walked through some of the land transactions. Ginowan City route 11 right outside the fence line was created to ease the congestion of the existing route 330. Futenma moved the fence line inwards, and the road opened in 2020, as facilitated by the return of

land to the government of Japan. There are also joint uses of the area, such as those used by local farmers. According to Pacatte, it is a win-win scenario: The land not being used was given back after they received a proposal of the use of the land from the city and organizations. Pacatte explained this to the group while passing through a second gate further inward to the base from the original gate, which is left for farmers' easy access to their fields.

"I see that they are really thinking about Japan and the people of Okinawa, and making various adjustments," said Nakashima. "Until I came here, I didn't really understand that they were doing this in a coordinated manner, while still thinking properly about their role in this way.

"The return of the land will eventually come, but I didn't know until I came here that they were making concessions little by little like this," Nakashima continued. Pacatte said that he gave the visitors everything he could, and answered as many questions as he could answer. He noted the importance of Futenma air station is to the Japan and U.S. alliance, and in order to support that alliance, it is important to stay in tune with the strategic environment. "We have to keep Futenma going until we have a viable replacement."

"I had never been inside the base before, so I wondered how big and how amazing the equipment and facilities are," said Shigeki Sato, digital editorial manager from TBS. "It is big, but I was a little surprised to find that the facilities were quite old. I thought they would be full of shiny new things, but that was not the case.

"However, I could sense that service members were working earnestly while thinking hard. I was a little moved by the commander's very sincere answer," continued Sato. "As they say in Japan, 'Hyakubun wa, ikken ni shikazu,' you have to see it to believe it."

Story and Photos by Yoshie Makiyama



-想定をして カテ 普天間基地司令官である ノで自己紹 につ が存在す 普天間で 話 大佐は 戦的に適切 の簡単な概 るのか、米 ることが 現 在 てつけ 我々が何 ヴェ 35 ラ 参加者 を聞 σ

終戦から70年あまり ある が経ち ることで助かる れば困るこ アメリカ 同盟を は

あ 参加記者 できるだ の数 から 偏らな じる難しさ の数に 0 と思う して解消 いこと 2 年 Ó

与った写真を紹

Members of the press are briefed on the history of

Futenma Air Station 普天間航空基地で同基地の歴史説明を受ける報道関係者ら。

開 ブログ 要説明の 地視察の 係を保つことの 優位性 った観点 ムでどの部隊が派 |基地の主要 最後の部分は、 ドライ るとも説明し とは知って からの同航空基地の価値 普天間 53 E ス 返還 **透明性です。そして相**の重要性を強調し、「理 沖縄の地域社会と良 ンやニュ 紙面を の全 海兵隊の。 ノグの 機内を案内 大型輸送へ 戦略的整合性 後 スフィ されるかに パー イ行 ロは タ た同 Ĺ オ

https://www.japan.marines.mil/Misc/BigCircle/

	設問題で日本のメディアをしばしば賑わせ	る。沖縄の基地の中でも、普天間基地は移	本のメディアにとって関心の高い場所であ	沖縄は米軍基地が集中しているため、日	に訪れた。	を取り巻く現在の安全保障環境を学ぶため	の同盟国であるアメリカの視点から、沖縄	視察した。各地から集まった12人は、日本	の報道部長一行が海兵隊普天間航空基地を	2023年8月25日、日本の放送局8社
--	---------------------	---------------------	---------------------	--------------------	-------	---------------------	---------------------	----------------------	---------------------	---------------------

の報道関係者、

普天間基地

百聞は

見に

g

を

里子扁集部長は、「服首幾週」して、緊急事	TBS報道局総合編集センターの荒井麻	た。	のホストで、沖縄での開催は6年ぶりとなっ	題について話し合うためだ。今回はRBC	している。各地域が抱える報道や放送の課	会を年2回、2日間の日程で定期的に開催	四国、九州・沖縄の4ブロックの報道部長	JNNは、北海道・東北、中部、関西・中国・	ス・ネットワークに属している。	民放放送局で構成される、ジャパン・ニュー	べて、TBSテレビをキー局とする日本の	南日本放送、RBC琉球放送。これらはす	本放送、OBS大分放送、MRT宮崎放送、	KB毎日放送、NBC長崎放送、RKK熊	参加したメディアは、TBSテレビ、R	
----------------------	--------------------	----	----------------------	---------------------	---------------------	---------------------	---------------------	-----------------------	-----------------	----------------------	---------------------	---------------------	----------------------	---------------------	--------------------	--

The next generation of U.S. and Japan continue their friendship through music. A short story about the circle of exchange that started with a single opportunity. For past related photo, see page 21 of September 2023 Big Circle at https://www.dvidshub.net/publication/issues/67463

日米の次世代が音楽を通じて友好を深める。ひとつのきっかけから始まり繋がれた交流の輪のショートストーリー。過去関連写真 は2023年9月号の「大きな輪」21ページ(https://www.dvidshub.net/publication/issues/67463)でご覧いただけます。

The music continues, the circle of friendship spins on 友情の歯車

People refer to music as not having borders or that music is a universal language. On Nov. 19, 2023, Stella Grimmer, an eighth grader from Lester Middle School, said, "We may not speak the same language but the music brings us together." Grimmer's statement was made at a concert that Mashiki Junior High School brass band hosted in the Mashiki Junior High School gym, Ginowan City, where Lester music students were invited to perform together.

According to Robert Roth, the Lester Middle School music teacher, Japanese students initiated it and invited them in return for the joint concert which was held at Lester in May, 2023.

Earlier in 2023, Asako Ishimura, a community relations specialist of Government and External Affairs, Marine Corps Installations Pacific, coordinated a performance with Lester Middle School for the Friendship Music Festival, inviting the III Marine Expeditionary Force Band, the Japan Ground Self-Defense Force 15th Band, and the Mashiki Junior High School band.

"We didn't speak English well, but we were able to unite our hearts through music and had fun performing with the same feeling," said Hinata Arakaki, the Mashiki band captain, recalling the May performance. "Since then, we have longed to do it again."

At the concert, Mashiki played nine songs, including three with the Lester Middle School band, and the audience of both Mashiki and Lester school parents applauded loudly.

"We practiced very well, and we all put enough time into ourselves," said Andrei Francheska De Leon, a Lester seventh grader. "We had a very big expectation

and I think all of us exceeded that." She showed her excitement in performing with the Japanese band, since last time in May she was still a sixth grader and could not participate.

Although there was not much time for exchange, Arakaki was happy to have had brief conversations with the Lester students at the farewell. "It is rare to have such an opportunity, so I hope the younger members continue to do this (the exchange concert) in the future." She hoped that eventually they would become closer and deepen their relationship.

Story by Yoshie Makiyama

音楽と共に動きだす

音楽には国境がない、音楽は世界共通の言語である、はよく耳 にする言葉だが、2023年11月19日、レスター基地レスター中学 校2年生のステラ・グリマーさんは「私たちは同じ言葉を話さな いかもしれません。でも、音楽が私たちをひとつにしてくれます」 と発言した。グリマーさんの言葉は、宜野湾市立真志喜中学校の 体育館で開催された同校吹奏楽部の定期演奏会で、レスター音 楽部の生徒たちが招待され、共演した時に発せられたものだ。

レスター中学校の音楽教師、ロバート・ロス氏によると、2023年 5月にレスター中学校で行われたジョイント・コンサートのお礼 に、真志喜中学の生徒たちが発案し、彼らを招待したのだという。 2023年初め、海兵隊太平洋基地政務外交部の石村麻子渉外 官は、レスター中学校の友好音楽祭との共演を企画し、第三海兵 遠征軍音楽隊と陸上自衛隊第15音楽隊、真志喜中学校吹奏楽部 を招いた。

真志喜中学校吹奏楽部主将の新垣陽向さんは、「英語はあまり 話せませんが、音楽を通して心を一つにできて、同じ気持ちで楽 しく演奏しました」と5月の公演を振り返った。それ以来、「また、 このような交流演奏会をやりたいと思っていました」と続けた。

演奏会では、真志喜中学校吹奏楽部がレスター中学校音楽部 との3曲を含む9曲を演奏し、双方の保護者から大きな拍手が送 られた。

レスター中学校1年生のアンドレイ・フランチェスカ・デ・レオ ンさんは、「私たちはとてもよく練習し、自分たちに十分な時間を かけてきました」と述べた。「とても高い目標を掲げていました が、全員がそれを上回ったと思います」と話し、前回の5月演奏会 ではまだ6年生だったため参加できなかったが、今回は一緒に 演奏できたことに興奮を隠せない様子。

交流の時間は多くはなかったが、新垣さんは別れの際にレスタ ーの生徒らと短い会話を交わすことができたことを喜んだ。「こ のような機会はめったにないので、後輩たちには今後も(交流演 奏会を)続けてほしい」とし、いずれはもっと親しくなり、交流が深 まることを願った。

文 槙山由江



Lester Middle School and Mashiki Jr. High School bands perform together at the Mashiki Jr. High School gym, Ginowan City, Nov. 19, 2023. 真志喜中学校体育館にて合同演奏を披露するレスター中学校と 真志喜中学校吹奏楽部=2023年11月19日、宜野湾市

(Photo by Yoshie Makiyama/写真 槙山由江)



Col. Erick T. Clark, camp commander for Camp Schwab, second from right, his wife Jean, right, and other members from the United States Marine Corps in Okinawa, hand out bags of snacks for participation to Henoko residents as part of a competition at a newly built athletic field in Henoko, Nago, Okinawa, Oct. 5, 2023. The sports day began 50 years ago and was resumed for the first time after the COVID-19 pandemic. Camp Schwab has been part of the event as Henoko's 11th residential section.

2023年10月5日、沖縄県名護市辺野古区に新設された運動場で、競技の一環として辺野古区民に参加賞のお菓子を手渡すキャンプ・シュワブ基地司令 官、エリック・T・クラーク大佐(右から2人目)と妻のジーンさん(右)、そして在沖縄米海兵隊の隊員、および関係者ら。 運動会は50年前に始まり、コロナ禍以降初めて再開された。キャンプ・シュワブは、辺野古第11班としてこのイベントに携わってきた。



13 コートニー夏期英語クラスで見聞広 める地元学生

17

笑いを通した学び

合で違いを学び切磋琢磨

「百聞は一見にしかず」を体験

19 沖縄の人気観光地、国際交流の場に

日米バスケットボール選手、親善試

21 広報企画運用部長より新年のご挨拶

在沖米海兵隊、安全委員会で日本人 基地従業員の危機管理意識高める

11-12

基地司令官より新年のご挨拶 キャンプ・キンザー、普天間航空基地、キャン プ・フォスター&レスター、キャンプ・コートニ -&マクトリアス、キャンプ・ハンセン、キャン プ・シュワブ

日時/date and time 3月30日 & 31日 13:00~21:00

日時/date and time

(Photo by Yoshie Makiyama / 写真 槙山由江)

米コメディアン、交通安全啓発に一役買う

海兵隊、訓練のたまもの 国道事故での二次被害防止に貢献

Upcoming Events

Hansen Festival・ハンセン・フェスティバル

2月24日 & 25日 13:00~21:00 Schwab Festival • シュワブ・フェスティバル

基地渉外官は、在沖縄米海兵隊各基地 と地域社会との架け橋です。各基地の 渉外プログラムについては下記まで お問合せください。電話でのお問合わ せは以下の通り。メールでご連絡され る場合は、MCBPAC.MCBBUTLER.O@ usmc.milまで。件名の欄にお問合わせ 先のキャンプ名をご記入ください。

各基地渉外官へのお問合せ

キンザー(浦添市) コートニー [交換] 098-970-5555 [内線] 637-1728

普天間 (宜野湾市 [交換] 098-970-5555 [内線] 636-2022

フォスター (北谷町・他) 098-970-7766 (うるま市) 098-954-9561

ハンセン(金武町) 098-969-4509

シュワブ(名護市) [交換] 098-970-5555 [内線] 625-2544

フリーマーケット最新情報は電話:098-970-5829 (英語のみ)と下記のURLからご確認を https://www.japan.marines.mil/Event/

