III MARINE EXPEDITIONARY FORCE AND MARINE CORPS BASES JAPAN



ROK, US Marine howitzers howl through KITP



Lt. Gen. Nak-Jun You, commandant, Republic of Korea Marine Corps, visits U.S. Marines with Romeo Battery, 3rd Battalion, 12th Marine Regiment (Reinforced), 3rd Marine Division, III Marine Expeditionary Force, during live-fire artillery training, part of Korean Incremental Training Program 2011-2, at Camp Rodriguez, Republic of Korea, April 21. KITP 11-2 is a joint-service, bilateral training exercise between U.S. and ROK forces designed to strengthen the ROK-U.S. alliance, while promoting stability throughout the Korean Peninsula. *Photo by Lance Cpl. John Kennicutt*

Cpl. Kentavist P. Brackin OKINAWA MARINE STAFF

CAMP RODRIGUEZ, Republic of Korea — Marines and sailors from 3rd Battalion 12th Marine Regiment (Reinforced), 3rd Marine Division, III Marine Expeditionary Force, and Republic of Korea Marines with the 22nd Bn., 2nd Artillery Brigade, 2nd ROK MarDiv., conducted bilateral artillery training during the Korean Incremental Training Program 2011-2 at the Rodriguez Live Fire Complex here, April 17-21.

The coordination exercise is one of many exercises that make up KITP 11-2, a joint-service, bilateral training exercise between ROK and U.S. forces designed to strengthen the ROK-U.S. alliance, while promoting stability throughout the Korean Peninsula.

This is the first time ROK and U.S. forces have held a battalion-level artillery exercise together during their alliance, according to ROK Marine Lt. Col. Byung Sun Lee, the battalion commander for 22nd Bn. "I am greatly honored to be a part of this historic event," said Lee. "We acted as one which will ultimately allow us to connect with one another, as well SEE **HOWITZER** PG 5

Happy 53rd

Anniversary

3rd MLG

Long-awaited reunions CLB-3 Marines return home

Lance Cpl. Kris Daberkoe

OKINAWA MARINE STAFF

CAMP FOSTER — Approximately 400 Marines and sailors with Combat Logistics Battalion 3, Combat Logistics Regiment 3, 3rd Marine Logistics Group, III Marine Expeditionary Force, returned from Afghanistan over the course of the last several days.

Elements of CLB-3 were spread throughout central and southern Helmand province, in areas such as Marjah and Garmsir, providing logistical support to combat elements on the ground from October to April.

"Marines from a variety of (military occupational specialties) were working with Regimental Combat Team 1 throughout the winter," said Capt. Kevin Ritchie, company commander with the battalion's engineer company.

SEE **RETURN** PG 5

First responders make history



U.S. Navy and Japanese emergency response teams off-load a simulated casualty from a Japanese air ambulance to be rushed into U.S. Naval Hospital Okinawa for medical care on Camp Lester April 27. The event, which included similar operations by Japan Coast Guard and U.S. Air Force search and rescue helicopters, marks the first time Japanese emergency response helicopters have performed a patient transport to USNH Okinawa. This is part of an emergency preparedness exercise conducted between the U.S. military and Japanese emergency response services. *Photo by Cpl. Megan Angel*



RECONNAISSANCE HITS THE STICKS

3rd Recon patrols Jungle Warfare Training Center strengthening tactics, techniques and communication.

PG. 9

KEYS TO TMO SUCCESS Transitions made easy with preparation

Jamin Hamza Hammad

he key to a successful transition from one duty station, or residence, to another is knowledge. Those of you who serve our country as active-duty military members or Department of Defense civilian employees owe it to yourselves to educate not only yourself, but also your family, on both the rights and responsibilities related to your move. To provide you with education and assistance is the Traffic Management Office, commonly referred to as TMO.

The personnel at Camp Butler TMO take great pride in ensuring that all customers are

well educated and free of any uncertainty with regards to the logistics of their personal property.

In an attempt to dispel common rumors and ease the burden of preparing for your move, here are some points to consider while making arrangements for your transition:

• Have an idea of when you will be departing. Having a port call date, the date you will fly, will

allow you to schedule your household goods pickup date and housing or room inspection, and allow you to schedule your stay in temporary lodging.

• Give advance notice to your local TMO. Arranging your pickup date at least two to four weeks in advance is ideal and eliminates the probability of unavailable dates. It is best to contact TMO as soon as orders are dispatched.

• The TMO briefing is mandatory. Briefings are held on Camp Foster at building 495 at 8 a.m. Monday - Friday (please arrive early, or risk being turned away). There are four TMO sites; Camp Hansen, Camp Courtney, Camp Kinser and the main office at Camp Foster.

• Ensure your orders have appropriation data. It is essential for orders to contain a Transportation Account Code (TAC), Line of Accounting (LOA) and Standard Document Number (SDN) to award customers their entitlements.

• Register for an account at www.move. mil. By registering at the website, members are able to initiate a household goods pickup date, check the status of their shipment(s) or initiate a claim.

• Don't listen to rumors, every situation is different. Unfortunately, the stories you

Knowledge of your entitlements and responsibilities for the movement of your personal property can prevent potential discord or excess expenses, and make the transition to your new duty station or residence a pleasant one.

hear from others are not always true, thus it is a disservice to rely on second-hand information. Have a question? Call us.

• Protect your personal property. Monitor the movers' handling of your personal property and ensure that every item is accounted for. If is it not accounted for, you can't claim it.

• Keep in mind that this is an international

shipment. Violation of U.S. Customs is a very expensive mistake. It is vital that all personal belongings, motorcycles and automobiles adhere to the requirements of the U.S. Don't assume, ask.

In essence, knowledge of your entitlements and responsibilities for the movement of your personal property can prevent potential discord or excess expenses, and make the transition to your new duty station or residence a pleasant one.

If you have any questions or concerns, please call 645-0922.

Hammad is a transportation assistant and counselor for the Traffic Management Office.



- www.marines.mil/unit/mcbjapan
- www.facebook.com/iiimef.mcbj www.youtube.com/3mefcpao
- www.flickr.com/3mefpao

• www.twitter.com/okinawamarines





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For more information, e-mail us at okinawamarine.mcbb.fct@usmc.milorwrite to u at Public Affairs Office, H&S BN MCB PAO, Unit 35002, FPO AP 96373-5002.



A squad of the U.S. Marine Silent Drill Platoon performs during a drill competition hosted by Recruiting Station St. Louis April 16 at Seckman High School. Photo by Cp



Lance Cpl. Wayne Snelling, left, looks on as Lance Cpl. Taylor Slay shares a piece of his steak with Mac, a military working dog. The Marines with 3rd Light Armored Reconnaissance Battalion attached to 2nd Marine Division (Forward), II Marine Expeditionary Force, are currently at Camp Leatherneck, Helmand province, Islamic Republic of Africanictan A privatoly funded population Afghanistan. A privately funded, nonprofit organization from Dallas served the Marines and sailors of 2nd MarDiv. (Fwd) steak dinners in seven separate locations within a five-day period. Photo by Sgt. Earnest J. Barnes



Lt. Moses K. Omopariola, left, chief instructor, Special Boat Service, Nigerian Navy, observes two U.S. Marines participating in a live-fire shoot on the Sadoum River as a Senegalese Marine and Nigerian sailor observe the targets. Approximately 45 U.S. Marines and sailors, with 100 Senegalese and Nigerian service members are participating in Africa Partnership Station 2011, a U.S. Africa Command maritime security assistance program designed to strengthen participating nations' maritime security capacity through multilateral collaboration and cross-border cooperation. Photo by Master Sgt. Grady Fontana

COMMANDING GENERAL Maj. Gen. Peter J. Talleri PUBLIC AFFAIRS DIRECTOR Lt. Col. David M. Griesmer PRESS OFFICER 2nd Lt. Evan A. Almaas PRESS CHIEF Gunnery Sgt. J. L. Wright Jr. DESIGN EDITOR Audra A. Satterlee



OKINAWA MARINE NEWSPAPER

H&S Battalion MCB PAO Unit 35002 FPO AP 96373-5002

CENTRAL BUREAU Camp Foster DSN 645-9335

NORTHERN BUREAU Camp Hansen DSN 623-4224

Road Taxes due June 1, collection centers available

Cpl. Megan Angel

CAMP FOSTER — All U.S. Forces Japan and Status of Forces Agreement personnel with registered motor vehicles must pay the Japanese 2011 Road Tax and display a 2011 road tax sticker by June 1. Vehicles not de-registered before April 1 must pay the tax.

The Joint Service Vehicle Registration Office here has established collection centers at seven U.S. military bases for vehicles owners with 40/400, 50/500, 77/78, 33/300 (4,500 cc and below), 33/300 (4,500 cc and above), 11/100 and 88/800 license plate categories.

- 40/400, 50/500, 77/78 ¥7,500
- 33/300 (4,500 cc and below) ¥19,000
- 33/300 (4,500 cc and above) 22,000
- 11/100, 88/800 ¥32,000

Mini-car and motorcycle taxes must be paid by May 31 to local city, town or village offices between 8:30 a.m. and noon or between 1 and 5 p.m. The 2011 road tax sticker can be obtained by bringing the receipt to the JSVRO or

- any of the tax collection sites. • Mini-car Road Tax - ¥3,000
- Motorcycle Road Tax:

(126 cc and above) - $\frac{1}{25}$ (125 cc and below) - \frac{1}{25} (125 cc and below) - $\frac{1}{25}$ (125 cc and below) - \frac{1}{25} (125

For those who cannot make it to a scheduled collection center, road taxes can also be paid at city, town or village offices during normal business hours.

Road taxes must be paid in Japanese yen only. U.S. currency, checks, credit cards and debit cards are not accepted. Community Bank services will be available at or close to each collection point.

Personnel must provide the following required documents:

- Military Registration
- 2010 Road Tax receipt
- Vehicle Title
- Japanese Compulsory Insurance
- American Insurance
- All documents must be original. Copies will not be accepted.

For more information, contact the JSVRO at 645-7481 or 645-3963.

TORII STATION - CHAPEL ANNEX May 23 from 9:30 a.m. - 2:30 p.m. CAMP KINSER - SURF SIDE ey 6 from 9:30 a.m. - 3:30 p.m **CAMP HANSEN - THE PALMS KADENA AIR BASE - KEYSTONE THEATER** May 9-13 from 9:30 a.m. - 2:30 p.m. May 24 from 9:30 a.m. - 2:30 p.m. **CAMP FOSTER - THEATER CAMP SCHWAB - CAMP SERVICES** May 16-18 from 9:30 a.m. - 2:30 p.m. May 25 from 9:30 a.m. - 2:30 p.m. **CAMP COURTNEY - THEATER** DOORS MAY CLOSE BEFORE SCHEDULED TIME BASED ON NUMBER OF CUSTOMERS IN LINE May 19-20 from 9:30 a.m. - 3:30 p.m. • Community Bank only available until 2 p.m. LICENSE PLATE CATEGORY COSTS 40/400, 50/500, 77/78 ¥7,500 INI-CAR ¥3,000 MOTORCYCLE (126 cc & above). 33/300 (4,500 cc & below) ¥19,000 ¥1,000 33/300 (4,500 cc & above). ¥22.000 MOTORCYCLE (126 cc & below) ¥500 ¥32,000 11/100, 88/800. REQUIRED DOCUMENTATION - MILITARY REGISTRATION 2010 ROAD TAX RECEIPT - VEHICLE TITLE - JAPANESE COMPULSORY INSURANCE - AMERICAN INSURANCE *ALL DOCUMENTS MUST BE ORIGINAL, NO COPIES *U.S. CURRENCY, CHECKS AND CREDIT AND DEBIT CARDS ARE NOT ACCEPTED FOR MORE INFORMATION, CONTACT THE JOINT SERVICE VEHICLE REGISTRATION OFFICE AT 645-7481 OR 645-3963. Photo illustration by Cpl. Megan Angel

2011 ROAD TAX COLLECTION SCHEDULE

NMCRS fund drive has two weeks left

Lance Cpl. Matthew A. Denny OKINAWA MARINE STAFF

CAMP FOSTER — The annual Navy Marine Corps Relief Society's 2011 Active Duty Fund Drive is in its sixth week of operation and is slated to run until May 14.

The drive gives service members an opportunity to donate to a foundation that provides 100 percent of its support to military personnel and their families.

The difference between the NMCRS and other financial support organizations is that donations are not just sent to a bank somewhere. You can see immediate results within your command, said Maj. Lisa M. Webb, the NMCRS Active Duty Fund Drive coordinator for 1st Marine Aircraft Wing, III Marine Expeditionary Force.

"People should be generous in donating to the society regardless of rank or service," said Master Chief Petty Officer David D. Jones, command master chief of 1st MAW, III MEF. "I have sent numerous sailors to the organization and have never received a 'sorry we can't help you'. They have always found a solution and offered assistance."

The society does more than just bail people out of money trouble, said Webb. NMCRS offers many different opportunities to support Marines, sailors and their families. A few of those options include emergency loans, budget assistance and Budget for Baby workshops.

"I was sent a story of a Marine whose mother died while he was forward deployed on a ship and did not have the money to fly home," Webb stated. "Within four hours of the Marine being notified, the NMCRS had him off the ship and on a flight headed home. The case managers were also able to provide a burial grant to provide the funds for a funeral service."

Marines and sailors have two weeks left to participate in this year's fund drive.

The military has so many resources available to Marines and sailors, such as this one, said Navy Lt. John Van Dyke, the deputy chaplain for U.S. Naval Hospital Okinawa.

"Don't let the opportunity to help your fellow service member pass you by," said Webb.

"It's money from Marines for Marines," said Sgt. Maj. Eric. J. Seward, sergeant major of 1st MAW.

Those interested in donating can contact their command unit coordinator or visit www.nmcrs.org.

Skit discusses sexual assault, consent

Lance Cpl. Jovane M. Henry OKINAWA MARINE STAFF

CAMPFOSTER — Sex Signals, a comedic skit presentation conducted by profes-

skit presentation conducted by professional civilian actors with Catharsis Productions, was performed at Marine Corps base installations on Okinawa April 25-27 to provide a different perspective on the dangers of sexual assault.

The goal of the unorthodox, 90-minute interactive skit is to "incorporate improvisational comedy, education and audience interaction to provide a provocative look at dating, sex and the core issue of consent," according to George Zerante, an educator and presenter with Catharsis Productions.

The Sex Signals presentation began in 2000 as an unconventional method to breach the often uncomfortable subject of sexual assault to college students and select military personnel.

Since its inception, the presentation has been performed over 1,600 times at over 400 colleges throughout the country and dozens of military installations around the world, according to the Catharsis Productions website.

This year, the program was contracted by Sexual Assault Prevention & Response Program Headquarters to tour all Marine Corps installations on Okinawa, according to Sunny Street, the installation sexual assault response coordinator and SAPR program manager here.

"Sexual assault in the Marine Corps remains underreported, as in all branches of the Armed Forces as well as the civilian sector," said Street. "Victims are more likely to be between 18 to 24 years old. Improvisational comedy and audience interaction are strategies for engaging this age group in thinking about and discussing this difficult topic."

Throughout the play the presenters,

Zerante and Libby Matthews of Catharsis Productions, talked about sex, politics, gender expectations and dating while setting up a scenario that ultimately ended dealing with the hazy question of consent.

After the skit, the presenters conversed with the audience, touching on Marines' personal experiences involving assault, thoughts on the consent issue and methods of intervention.

For the actors, conducting the skit for the Marines presented a unique opportunity to spread the word about the issue.

"Humor is a great learning tool, especially when you're tackling an uncomfortable issue," said Matthews. "Our audience is more receptive to the information when it is presented in an interactive and interesting manner."

The nature of the show hit home with its audience, many of whom never thought to view the subject in a humorous light.

"Even though the subject is very serious, I think it was good to see the issue approached in a more light-hearted way," said Seaman Dilan Morgan, a hospital corpsman with 3rd Medical Battalion, 3rd Marine Logistics Group, III Marine Expeditionary Force. "I think the fact that the skit was so funny and interesting will help people be more open and attentive when it comes to talking about sexual assault."

Street said she hopes Marines take more than laughs away from the Sex Signals skit.

"I hope this skit makes Marines comfortable enough to examine their attitudes and beliefs about dating, sex and consent, and helps them develop a sense of awareness on how men and women can perceive a situation or read each other's behavior differently," said Street.

For more information on sexual assault prevention, contact Street at 645-2134.

BRIEFS

MILITARY HOUSING CONSTRUCTION

All military housing residents are reminded to stay away from and out of all construction areas. These areas are barricaded and warning signs posted for safety, as dangerous conditions exist. Residents can help ensure their safety by maintaining a safe distance from construction areas and by discouraging children from entering construction sites. Intentionally entering a construction area is trespassing and violators will be reported to Security Forces or the Provost Marshal's Office.

SUMMER HIRE PROGRAM CANCELLED

The Civilian Human Resources Office regrets to inform that the 2011 Summer Hire Program is cancelled due to budget constraints. For more information, contact 645-5431 or 645-5428.

III MARINE EXPEDITIONARY FORCE BAND US-JAPAN FRIENDSHIP CONCERT

The III MEF Band will be performing a "U.S.-Japan Friendship Concert" hosted by the U.S. Consulate General at Tedako Hall in Urasoe City May 1 starting at 1 p.m.

The concert is free and open to the public. For free tickets or more information, call the American Consulate General and 098-876-6657.

DEFY 2011-2012 RECRUITMENT

Drug Education For Youth is currently seeking applications for the upcoming 2011-2012 Learning Cycle.

DEFY is a comprehensive, twophased prevention program for children ages 9-12 that emphasizes the positive development of mind, body and spirit. DEFY deters at risk behaviors by giving youths the tools they need to resist drugs, gangs and alcohol. This is a free, positive educational program for youths.

Phase I is scheduled to begin in August, and participants must not be scheduled to rotate off island before June 2012.

The first 45 eligible applicants will be accepted.

DEFY is also looking for mentors.

For more information or to sign up, contact maria.belin@fe.navy.mil, duane.brinkley@fe.navy.mil or call 634-8307 or 632-4014.

HOME BUYING WORKSHOP

The Marine Corps Community Services Personal Services Center will be hosting a Home Buying workshop May 11 from 6-8 p.m. at the Camp Kinser MCCS Personal Services Center, building 1220. The purpose of the worship is to provide complete, objective, unbiased information, so prospective military home buyers will be confident in their decision whether or not to purchase a home, and better able to negotiate the financial pitfalls they may encounter during the home purchase process.

For more information, contact your nearest PSC or visit www.mccsokinawa. com/PSC.

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



Marines, who are candidates for citizenship, raise their right hands to take the oath of allegiance during a naturalization ceremony at the Camp Foster theater April 22. Photos by Cpl. Dengrier M. Baez

Naturalized US citizens welcomed

Cpl. Dengrier M. Baez

CAMP FOSTER — Approximately 75 Okinawabased service members and family members realized their dreams of becoming American citizens during a naturalization ceremony at the Camp Foster theater April 22.

The troops hailed from all four services and represented 37 countries of origin, including Bosnia, Brazil, Dominican Republic, Haiti, Honduras, Poland, Japan, Republic of the Philippines, South Korea and Zimbabwe. The oldest candidate was 37 years old and the youngest was 7.

Each new American traveled a different path to citizenship.

The journey for Lance Cpl. Oscar Archaga, 21, began in La Ceiba, Honduras. The promotions and awards clerk with the Command Element of the 31st Marine Expeditionary Unit, remembers life in his native country well. In particular, he remembers attending the Carnival de la Amistad, which means carnival of friendship. The carnival is held every year, and thousands of visitors from all over the world attend.

"The carnival is celebrated in a main street that is over seven miles long and is filled with people, food and bright colors, celebrating something dear to our people—friendship," said Archaga.

However, the memories of a difficult life in Honduras are also ever present.

"My family was considered middle class, but that didn't exclude us from what was happening," said Archaga. "La Ceiba is known for having friendly people, but there's still a high amount of violence in the country."

Archaga dreamed of playing soccer in his country's major leagues. He got close. He became a player on a minor league team, but he gave up the position to come to the U.S.

He said that the decisions he made in life, including joining the military and later becoming a citizen, were made for his family.

"My family has done a lot for me, and I just wanted to be able to help them," he said. "My mother has always been there for me, and I wanted to inspire my brothers."

Archaga saw joining the military as an opportunity to help his family and make them proud, he said. After looking at other military services, Archaga knew he wanted to be part of the best, the Marine Corps.

Marine Corps recruiters wearing dress blues



Lance Cpl. Oscar Archaga, a promotions and awards clerk with the 31st Marine Expeditionary Unit, stands proud after his naturalization ceremony at the Camp Foster theater April 22.

caught his attention, one of whom was of Hispanic descent. This particular recruiter helped to cement his decision to join the Corps, he said.

"My family was really proud of me. On graduation day on Parris Island, (South Carolina), they said I was a different person," Archaga said. "My mother was so proud of me ... I knew I made the right decision with my life."

Now that Archaga is a U.S. citizen, he has gained some new rights, he said. He can vote and obtain a higher security clearance, which will allow him more opportunities to deploy and take on higher billets in his occupation. He also plans to marry once things settle down in his life.

"Being a citizen feels great," he added. "I feel more freedom, and it's just an awesome feeling that now I'm fully committed to the greatest country and finest organization in the world, the Marine Corps."

OKINAWA MARINE **NEWS** April 29, 2011

Appetizing additions

New menu items sampled



Marines and Mess Hall managers from different camps aboard Okinawa sample food at a cutting, or food tasting, at the Base Food Service Building on Camp Kinser April 21. The Marines perform the cutting to sample new products and determine which they would like to add to their mess hall's menu. "The cutting is about finding the products the new generation of Marines may like and would like to see served at the mess hall," said Master Sgt. Alfred Gonzales, base food service operations chief with Headquarters and Service Battalion, Marine Corps Base Camp Butler. Photo by Lance Cpl. Michael G. Jams

RETURN FROM PG 1

According to Ritchie, engineers with the battalion paved hundreds of miles of road and constructed dozens of bridges and culverts, while motor transport Marines took part in combat logistics patrols to deliver essential supplies, gear and personnel to forward operating bases within their area of operations.

"Every day was different," said Lance Cpl. Edgardo Fuentes, a motor transport operator with the battalion. "Every day we had something to work for and goals to achieve."

During several operations, the Marines with CLB-3 worked closely with soldiers from the Afghan National Army.

"This is a great team of professionals that did everything that was asked of them and more," said Lt. Col. Henry Lutz, the battalion's commanding officer. "They always had oil in the tank when the regiment needed something."

CLB-3 passed on its responsibilities to the Marines of CLB-7, based out of Marine Corps Combat Development Command Twentynine Palms, Calif., April 17.

For many friends and family members on Okinawa, the announcement that CLB-3 was returning from Afghanistan meant a long-awaited reunion was only days away.

Screams of excitement

pulsed though the air as the first Marine-packed bus pulled into the regiment's motor pool. The families were bunched into two columns to welcome the arriving service members, but soon broke apart as they ran to embrace their loved ones.

"It feels good to be home," said Staff Sgt. Carl Petitfrere, a maintenance chief with the battalion's engineer company.



Sgt. Robert Torres, a military policeman with Combat Logistics Battalion 3, Combat Logistics Regiment 3, 3rd Marine Logistics Group, III Marine Expeditionary Force, embraces his wife, Rose Marie Torres, and daughters Brooklyn and Haven, after returning from Afghanistan April 26. Photo by Lance Cpl. Kris Daberkoe

HOWITZER FROM PG 1

as, realize the importance of our alliance."

Approximately 400 Marines and sailors from 3rd Bn., 12th Marines (Rein.) are participating in the exercise, including 5th Air Naval Gunfire Liaison Company, III Marine Expeditionary Force Headquarters Group, III MEF, and the temporarily assigned firing battery, Romeo Battery.

Romeo Battery fired artillery ammunition utilizing its five M777A2 howitzers in coordination with three ROK Marine firing batteries, while 5th ANGLICO provided fire control.

"This wasn't a typical ANGLICO mission, so it got us out of our comfort zone," said Lance Cpl. Colin A. Fruehbolt, a fire support man with 5th ANGLICO. "Normally, we work with the more maneuverable part of the infantry, but since we came here we have gotten a lot closer to our artillery roots with helping to coordinate the fire missions."

The language barrier was probably the most difficult obstacle U.S. and ROK Marines faced during the exercise, according to Fruehbolt. "But a couple of the ROK Marines spoke English, so we were able to easily get over that."

During the exercise ROK and U.S. Marines working together fired 155mm high-explosive, smoke and illumination rounds from the howitzers throughout the day.

"It was all a good experience for the junior Marines," said Cpl. Andrew R. Turner, a section chief with Romeo Battery. "It will give them a different outlook on life in and outside the military. I just hope that our being here made a stronger bond between our two countries."



Marines with Romeo Battery, 3rd Battalion, 12th Marine Regiment (Reinforced), 3rd Marine Division, III Marine Expeditionary Force, and Republic of Korea Marines with the 22nd Battalion, 2nd Artillery Brigade, 2nd ROK Marine Division, launch 155mm artillery shells during a bilateral artillery coordination exercise at Camp Rodriguez, Republic of Korea, April 17-21. The exercise is part of Korean Incremental Training Program 2011-2, a joint-service, bilateral training exercise between U.S. and ROK forces designed to strengthen the ROK-U.S. alliance while promoting stability throughout the Korean Peninsula. *Photo by Cpl. Kentavist P. Brackin*

Brothers-in-arms face off in field m

Story and photos by Cpl. Kentavist P. Brackin

A pproximately 400 U.S. Marines and sailors from 3rd Battalion, 12th Marine Regiment (Reinforced), 3rd Marine Division, III Marine Expeditionary Force, and Republic of Korea Marines from 22nd Battalion, 2nd Artillery Brigade, 2nd ROK Marine Division, integrated with each other to form two bilateral teams that competed during a field meet at Camp Rodriguez, Republic of Korea, April 23.

The field meet marks the conclusion of Korean Incremental Training Program 2011-2.

KITP 11-2 is a joint service, bilateral training exercise between U.S. and ROK forces designed to strengthen the ROK-U.S. alliance, while promoting stability through the Korean Peninsula.

The field meet was a very important part of KITP 11-2, said 1st Lt. Andrew J. Gay, the organizer of the field meet and the battalion fire directional officer.

"It was a chance for us to expand on some of the relationships developed during the small arms and artillery training," said Gay. "We know that U.S. Marines develop a stronger sense of camaraderie through competition, and we found out the same is true of ROK Marines."

Marines from both militaries faced-off against each other in each event, while U.S. and ROK spectators cheered them on from either side.

The field meet opened with a martial arts demonstration by the ROK 22nd Bn.'s finest Tai Kwon Do fighters. The fighters performed a variety of jumps and kicks to break pieces of wood during their demonstration.

From there, the two teams began competing against each other in soccer, a strongman competition and arm-wrestling. The strongman competition consisted of group pushups, a water-can carry and a 50-meter Humvee-pull race.

"Arm-wrestling was a particular favorite," said Gay. "The strongman competition was something the ROK Marines said they had never done before and were unfamiliar with, but everyone knew arm-wrestling and could cheer for their favorite team or person."

The field meet was a great time, said ROK Marine Lance Cpl. Dong Guk Lee, a transportation chief with 22nd Bn. "It was my once-in-a-lifetime experience, and I definitely would like to take another chance if there is one in the future."



Opposing teams, each comprised of a combination of U.S. Marines from 3rd Bn., 12th Marine Regiment (Rein.), and ROK Marines from 22nd Bn., 2nd Artillery Brigade, 2nd ROK MarDiv., shake hands at the conclusion of a soccer game during a field meet on Camp Rodriguez April 23.



Lt. Col. Ricardo Miagany, left, commanding officer for 3rd B 12th Marine Regiment (Reinforced), 3rd Marine Division, III Expeditionary Force, attempts to block a head-butted socce Republic of Korea Marine Cpl. Jang Hyuk Jeen, with Charlie 22nd Bn., 2nd Artillery Brigade, 2nd ROK MarDiv., during a Camp Rodriguez, Republic of Korea, April 23. The field mee Korean Incremental Training Program 2011-2, a joint-set training exercise between U.S. and ROK forces that is do to strengthen the ROK-U.S. alliance, while promoting st throughout the Korean Peninsula.





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ROK Marine Lance Cpl. Jo Sung Yong, from Bravo Battery, 22nd Bn., 2nd Artillery Brigade, 2nd ROK MarDiv., faces off against U.S. Marine Staff Sgt. Michael T. Williams, a platoon sergeant for Romeo Battery, 3rd Bn., 12th Marine Regiment (Rein.), 3rd MarDiv., III MEF, in the final armwrestling match during a field meet on Camp Rodriguez April 23.



Opposing teams, each comprised of a combination of U.S. Marines from 3rd Bn., 12th Marine Regiment (Rein.), and ROK Marines from 22nd Bn., 2nd Artillery Brigade, 2nd ROK MarDiv., pull Humvees to the finish line during a field meet on Camp Rodriguez April 23.





Lance Cpl. Andrew Rubio Jr., left, with Headquarters Company, Headquarters Battalion, 3rd Marine Division, III Marine Expeditionary Force, passes debris to Lance Cpl. George Lemmer III, also with Headquarters Co., while cleaning the overgrown banks of the Tengan River in Uruma City near Camp Courtney April 24. Photo by Gunnery Sgt. Cindy Fisher

Marines, local volunteers clean Tengan River area

Gunnery Sgt. Cindy Fisher OKINAWA MARINE STAFF

amp Courtney-based Marines joined more than 150 Japanese volunteers for the 23rd annual Tengan River Cleanup in Uruma City near the camp April 24.

The Marine volunteers, from 3rd Marine Division, III Marine Expeditionary Force, and Camp Courtney's Camp Operations, along with a handful of their family members, helped Japanese volunteers pull tires, rusted metal trash cans, plates, plastic and other trash from the mud and mire of the Tengan River's overgrown banks. The volunteers also cut down the bamboo, grass, weeds and trees that choked the banks of the river.

Before the cleanup began, Toshio Shimbukuro, Uruma City mayor, thanked volunteers for their efforts.

"We cannot achieve 23 years of Tengan River Cleanups without your support," Shimbukuro said.

After so many years of cleaning the river, the water quality has improved and fish have returned to the river, Shimbukuro said, adding that planting flowers as part of the cleanup every year has also brought butterflies back to the area.

He also told those gathered that Marines recently returned from helping clean up Sendai Airport in mainland Japan.

Marine participation in projects, such as the Tengan River Cleanup, is vital for maintaining a healthy relationship with the communities surrounding military bases here, said Col. Robert C. Clements, commanding officer of Headquarters Battalion, 3rd MarDiv., and camp commander for Camp Courtney.

Many of the Marine volunteers said they thought the cleanup would be a simple walk along the riverbed picking up trash. They soon learned differently, as they were faced with clearing brush taller than themselves.

Removing the dense brush from sections of the Tengan River's banks helps reduce the potential for flooding because it allows more room for the river to expand during rainfalls.

Clements said he participated in last year's cleanup and knew this would be a lot of hard work. Volunteers would have to slog through dense vegetation that must be cut down into brush and dragged away for disposal.

The amount of work to be done was surprising, but he was just here "to do good things," said Lance Cpl. Andrew Rubio Jr., with Headquarters Company, Headquarters Bn., 3rd MarDiv.

Pfc. Benjamin Cook, with Military Police Company, Headquarters Bn., agreed.

"I think it is a good thing we're doing, and I think the community would like it," Cook said.

Volunteering in the surrounding community is not just good for the community and the relationship between the military and local government leadership, it is also beneficial for the Marines who participate, Clements said.

"Most Marines who take part in these activities enjoy it immensely, and get more out of it than the local communities," he said.

GCSS-MC effective in forward environment

Sgt. Heather Brewer

hen Marines with III Marine Expeditionary Force deployed to mainland Japan in support of Operation Tomodachi, they took with them relief supplies, humanitarian aid and equipment to help the Japanese recovery efforts. In addition to these things, they brought the newest component to support the Marine Corps' long legacy as the U.S. military's quick reaction force.

After being used in garrison by III MEF for roughly a year, the Global Combat Support System-Marine Corps, a transformational, web-based, near real-time logistics system, made its first appearance in a forward environment with the 1st Marine Aircraft Wing in Atsugi, Japan.

"This system worked in the forward environment exactly the way it does in garrison; no changes," said Master Sgt. Nicholas R. Bluma, maintenance management chief, Assistant Chief of Staff G-4, 1st MAW, III MEF. "It really is the common-sense approach to logistics."

Bluma personally used the GCSS-MC during the deployment and was pleased with the effectiveness of the system.

"As long as (operators) have the training, connectivity and electricity it does work," he said. "The transition from garrison to deployed is seamless."

1st MAW was not the only unit to successfully utilize the system during Operation Tomodachi, according to Eric Gray, Headquarters Marine Corps, Installation and Logistics Department, Logistics, Plans, Policies, Strategic Mobility Division liaison officer to III MEF.

"The 3rd Marine Logistics Group was deployed to Sendai Airport, where they worked in very austere conditions at the heart of the disaster area," said Gray. "They too learned that the system worked just as well deployed as it did in garrison."

GCSS-MC was designed based on commercial logistics and supply software using industry-best practices, and has been modified to fulfill the unique requirements of the Marine Corps. The system eliminates supply and maintenance paper trails while streamlining accountability, maintenance and supply procedures for all ground equipment, according to Gray.

"This system operates in near real-time. So, as soon as the request is submitted, the originator knows whether or not that request is filled out correctly. If it isn't, the system immediately notifies the originator," said Gray. "Everything is (common access card) enabled, so you know when a request was originated, viewed or edited and by whom. Everyone sees the same thing, and we have 100 percent visibility."

Since system procedures are uniform no matter who is using it, proper training for GCSS-MC allows for greater streamlined communication between units.

"The fact that everyone is utilizing a single system means that local (standard operating procedures) will have minimal variance from unit to unit," said Gray. "This eases the process for those who use the system in a forward environment; things need to be as smooth as possible while on the battlefield."

GCSS-MC allows maintenance and supply requests to be processed at least two days faster than the older systems the Marine Corps used.

"One Sunday night around 10 p.m. (while on mainland Japan), one of our generators went out," said Bluma. "Using GCSS-MC, I ordered a replacement part. Within a few hours, that request had been sent stateside, and the item I ordered was sent forward from Pennsylvania to California. That within itself is proof that using this system in a forward environment gets the needed supplies to the war-fighters quicker than ever before."

Another benefit GCSS-MC provides is a 24-hour help desk, which is available to all users.

"One of the minor issues we encountered while forward was a seeming inability to connect with our fiscal officer through the system," said Bluma. "I called the GCSS-MC help desk, and they had the problem resolved in 30 minutes. They were well-trained and very professional during the whole thing."

Over the next few years, the GCSS-MC is scheduled to replace current logistics systems across the rest of the Marine Corps.

"The successful use of the GCSS-MC during Operation Tomodachi proved the deployed capability of this transformational logistics system to serve the needs of the Marine Corps in the 21st century," said Gray. "I and II MEF, along with the Reserves Supporting Establishments, should begin implementation of this system in September of this year."

Recon Marines tackle jungle warfare training

Story and photos by Lance Cpl. Mark W. Stroud OKINAWA MARINE STAFF

Arines with 3rd Reconnaissance Battalion, 3rd Marine Division, III Marine Expeditionary Force, engaged in jungle warfare training at the Jungle Warfare Training Center on Okinawa April 12-27.

In preparation for an upcoming deployment, the Marines with Force Reconnaissance Company worked on patrolling tactics, jungle survival techniques and communication during a training evolution designed to focus on the fundamentals of reconnaissance and teamwork.

"No matter how advanced our job is, we start with the basics and go from there," said Staff Sgt. Sigifredo Apodaca, team leader, 3rd Recon Bn. "The goal is to work on (standard operating procedures), working out the mechanics of how we work together as a team."

Instructors from the JWTC hosted both classroom and practical application sessions on jungle survival skills for the reconnaissance Marines.

The JWTC instructors discussed jungle shelters, water purification, improvised weapons, snares, starting a fire, jungle navigation and tracking foot-mobile enemies during the training evolution, according to Sgt. Joshua R. Mathes, chief instructor, JWTC.

The terrain and vegetation of the JWTC provided the Marines with an environment conducive to the training.

"This kind of terrain is always a challenge, that is why we come out here and work on communication and movement," said Apodaca. "You can always paint a broad picture in the classroom, but it's nothing like being out in this environment."

The thick canopies, limited visibility and steep terrain provided a degree of challenge for the Marines.

"Navigating is the main challenge, if you can't get a (global positioning system) signal you have to use your compass, and with the drastic changes in elevation you can't shoot a good azimuth and follow it for a long way," said Cpl. Jason T. Schaefer, reconnaissance scout, 3rd Recon Bn. "You have to inch through the jungle."

The foliage also provided an impediment for communications.

"The (satellite communications) were an issue with the thick canopies," said Cpl. Shane Robertson, one of the battalion's radio operators. "Any type of communication was an issue."

Movement through jungle terrain was another focus of training.

"The course of training we've had has helped with mountaineering and traversing some of the extreme obstacles like cliff faces," said Cpl. Adam Reynolds, assistant team leader, 3rd Recon Bn.

The training movements started off with a low degree of difficulty that gradually increased, allowing the Marines to perfect the fundamentals of patrolling before they were asked to execute a movement under operational conditions.

"When we first came out here we started slick, (no packs), working out the basics, and we've been adding more gear and more weight as we go," said Apodaca.

The presence of the JWTC instructors and the challenging terrain provided the Marines with the chance to engage in this wide range of training in a relatively short amount of time.

"Everything you need is up here, from patrolling to rappelling. It's all here," said Apodaca.

"We are just making sure everyone is capable because a lot of us are new to the job," said Reynolds. "We need to make sure we are capable of doing whatever is asked of us."



Staff Sgt. Sigifredo Apodaca, right, team leader, 3rd Reconnaissance Battalion, 3rd Marine Division, III Marine Expeditionary Force, discusses the plan of action with Cpl. Adam Reynolds, assistant team leader, 3rd Recon Bn., during a stop in a patrol at the Jungle Warfare Training Center April 18. The Marines were practicing standard operating procedures for movement in jungle terrain.

Cpl. Jason T. Schaefer, reconnaissance scout, 3rd Reconnaissance Battalion, 3rd Marine Division, III Marine Expeditionary Force, advances through the thick vegetation at the Jungle Warfare Training Center April 18. Schaefer had shed his rucksack and scouted ahead of the team.



Marines must be recommended by their command, stand on a meritorious promotion board and display Marine Corps traits and principles to be considered for meritorious promotion. *Photo illustration by Lance Cpl. Jovane M. Henry*

Promotions reward high-performing junior Marines

Lance Cpl. Jovane M. Henry OKINAWA MARINE STAFF

In the Marine Corps, maintaining excellence and proficiency, constantly displaying high virtues and performing above the bar are everyday expectations.

Meritorious promotions are a means to recognize and reward Marines performing above and beyond the call of duty.

Meritorious promotions are intended to promote Marines whose performance is superior to that of their peers, or to promote Marines for specific actions and superior achievement, according to Marine Corps Order P1400.32D, the Corps' regulation on promotions.

"The Marine Corps aims to promote only its best-qualified, top-shelf Marines," said Gunnery Sgt. Hewitt Ballard, camp operations chief with 9th Engineer Support Battalion, 3rd Marine Logistics Group, III Marine Expeditionary Force. "A strong sense of, and respect for, Marine Corps leadership, traits and principles are required for Marines interested in being considered to stand on a meritorious promotion board."

Marines who consistently strive to raise the bar and perform to their highest potential have a good chance of landing a meritorious promotion, said Sgt. Thomas Regan, the career planner with Headquarters and Service Bn., Marine Corps Base Camp Butler.

"Marines who demonstrate a desire to better themselves and strive for excellence will set themselves apart, and increase their chances of being meritoriously promoted, and advancing their military careers," said Regan.

The journey to a meritorious promotion be-

gins with a Marine stepping up to the plate and asserting they have what it takes to move their military career to the next level. The Marine must be recommended by his or her command.

Prospective promotees then complete an administrative package highlighting their military accomplishments and military occupational specialty-specific achievements.

Subjects judged within the packages include physical fitness test scores, Marine Corps Martial Arts Program achievements, book reports and Marine Corps Institute courses.

From there, the Marine must place an emphasis on studying and understanding Marine Corps knowledge, on which they will be quizzed when they later appear before a board of their respective company and battalion level

It takes Marines that strive to set themselves apart, seek selfadvancement and set their own needs aside to look out for the well-being of others. Meritorious promotion is for those who are ready, willing and able to lead.

- Cpl. Thessalonia Jones

leadership, according to Ballard.

After passing initial selection and being chosen by their command to contend for the meritorious promotion, they appear before the board along with other competitors to be questioned and judged on military knowledge, bearing and uniform appearance.

For Cpl. Thessalonia Jones, the training noncommissioned officer with 9th ESB, appearing before the board was the most challenging aspect of the entire process. Jones, who was meritoriously promoted to corporal in November, was recommended for meritorious promotion by Ballard.

"In the six months Cpl. Jones has worked for me, she has always had a great work ethic, strived to constantly produce her best and sought help or guidance when needed," said Ballard. "Based on her maturity and achievements as a Marine, the decision to recommend her for a board was an easy one."

Jones said she relied on a strong sense of faith and confidence in her abilities as a

Marine when it came to preparing herself to appear before the board.

"Despite being a naturally confident person, I was a bit nervous when it came time for the board. It's kind of scary to have so many eyes staring directly at you to see how you respond under pressure," said Jones.

Any Marine who believes they are more than

average and is ready to take on the next level of responsibility should consider taking the necessary steps to be recommended for a meritorious promotion, said Jones.

"Going before the board is not for the faint of heart," said Jones. "It takes Marines that strive to set themselves apart, seek self-advancement and set their own needs aside to look out for the well-being of others. Meritorious promotion is for those who are ready, willing and able to lead."

In Theaters Now APRIL 29 - MAY 5

FOSTER

TODAY Rio (G), 6 p.m.; The Eagle (PG13), 9

SATURDAY Gnomeo & Juliet (G), noon and 3 p.m.; Unknown (PG13), 6 p.m.; Take Me Home Tonight (R), 9 p.m.

SUNDAY Gnomeo & Juliet (G), 1 p.m.; Water for Elephants (PG13), 4 and 7:30 p.m. **MONDAY** Unknown (PG13), 7 p.m. TUESDAY Take Me Home Tonight (R), 7 p.m. WEDNESDAY The Eagle (PG13), 7 p.m. THURSDAY Water for Elephants (PG13), 7 p.m.

FIITENMA

TODAY | Am Number Four (PG13), 6:30 p.m. SATURDAY Water for Elephants (PG13), 4 and

SUNDAY Sucker Punch (PG13), 4 p.m.; I Am Number Four (PG13), 7 p.m. MONDAY Arthur (PG13), 6:30 p.m. **TUESDAY** Closed WEDNESDAY Closed THURSDAY Closed

HANSEN

TODAY Unknown (PG13), 6 p.m.; Take Me Home Tonight (R), 9 p.m. SATURDAY Arthur (PG13), 6 and 9 p.m. SUNDAY Unknown (PG13), 2 p.m.; Take Me Home Tonight (R), 5:30 p.m. MONDAY Water for Elephants (PG13), 7 p.m. **TUESDAY** Water for Elephants (PG13), 7 p.m. **WEDNESDAY** Unknown (PG13), 7 p.m. THURSDAY Take Me Home Tonight (R), 7 p.m.

KINSER

TODAY Unknown (PG13), 6:30 p.m. SATURDAY Big Mommas: Like Father, Like Son (PG13), 3 and 6:30 p.m. SUNDAY Unknown (PG13), 3 p.m.; Take Me Home Tonight (R), 6:30 p.m. **MONDAY** Closed

WEDNESDAY Water for Elephants (PG13), 3 and 6:30 p.m

THURSDAY Take Me Home Tonight (R), 6:30 p.m.

(PG13), 6 p.m

TUESDAY Closed

COURTNEY TODAY Water for Elephants (PG13), 6 and 9

SATURDAY Gnomeo & Juliet (G), 2 p.m.; I Am Number Four (PG13), 6 p.m SUNDAY Gnomeo & Juliet (G), 2 p.m.; Arthur

MONDAY I Am Number Four (PG13), 7 p.m. **TUESDAY** Closed

WEDNESDAY Rio (G), 7 p.m. THURSDAY Closed

KADENA

TODAY Unknown (PG13), 6 p.m.; Take Me Home Tonight (R), 9 p.m. **SATURDAY** Rio (G), noon, 3 and 6 p.m.; Take Me Home Tonight (R), 9 p.m. SUNDAY Rio (G), 1 and 4 p.m.; Unknown (PG13), 7 p.m. **MONDAY** Unknown (PG13), 7 p.m. TUESDAY Arthur (PG13), 7 p.m. WEDNESDAY Arthur (PG13), 7 p.m. THURSDAY Arthur (PG13), 7 p.m.

SCHWAB

TODAY Arthur (PG13), 7 p.m. SATURDAY The Fighter (R), 5 p.m. SUNDAY I Am Number Four (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 www.shopmyexchange.com.



BUSHIDO CHALLENGE - MAY 20

• This is open to teams of four, of which at least one team member must be a single or unaccompanied Marine or sailor. Competitions include a physical fitness test, combat fitness test, tire flip, dead hang, shot put, aqua jug and other events. Register at all Marine Corps Community Services Fitness Centers by May 13. After May 13, register only at the SMP office.

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES:

• Tengan Castle Family Night: Volunteer to assist at family night every Thursday from 5-9 p.m. at the Camp Courtney Tengan Castle.

• Kinser Elementary School Reading Program: Volunteer at the Kinser Elementary School Reading Program on Camp Kinser each Friday from 8:45-11 a.m. except on non-school days and half days. Volunteers will work under the direction of the classroom teacher and instruct students in reading, writing and arithmetic activities.

SMP DISCOVER GOLF

• Free golf lessons for single Marines and sailors will be offered on the first and third Friday of every month from 9-11 a.m. at Taiyo Golf Course. Participants will meet at the SMP office on Camp Foster by 8 a.m. Lessons are provided on a space-available basis.

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

Japanese phrase of the week:

"E o tenke desne" (pronounced e o ten-ki des-ne) It means, "The weather is good, isn't it?"

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: Divine Liturgy, Sun, 9:30 a.m.; Vespers, Sat, 5 p.m.
- Gospel: Sun, 11:30 a.m.; 2nd, 3rd Sun,
- Children's Church, 11 a.m.
- Jewish: (Informal) Fri, 6:30 p.m.
- Latter Day Saints: Mon, 6:30 p.m.
- Lutheran DVD Worship: Sun, 4 p.m.
- Muslim: Prayer, Fri, 12:45 p.m.
- Protestant: Sun, 8:30 a.m.
- Seventh Day Adventist: Sat, 9:30 a.m.,
- at Torii Station 644-5701/644-4281

CAMP SCHWAB | 622-9350

- Catholic: Temporarily cancelled May 1, 8 and 15
- Protestant: Sun, 4 p.m.

CAMP LESTER | 643-7248

- Catholic: Temporarily cancelled May 1, 8 and 15
- Non-Denominational: Sun, 9 a.m., Hospital Chapel; Sun, 10 a.m., Lester Chapel

CAMP COURTNEY | 622-9350

- Catholic: Sun, 8 a.m.
- Protestant: Sun, 10:45 a.m.

CAMP HANSEN | 622-9350

• Catholic: Sun, 5 p.m., East Chapel (temporary schedule for May 1, 8 and 15)

- Latter Day Saints: Wed, 6:30 p.m., Library
- Protestant: Sun, 11 a.m., West Chapel

CAMP McTUREOUS | 622-9350 • Gospel: Sun, 12:30 p.m.

CAMP KINSER | 637-1148

- Catholic: Sun, noon
- Protestant: Sun, 9:30 a.m.

MCAS FUTENMA | 636-3058

- Catholic: Temporarily cancelled May 1, 8 and 15
- Contemporary: Fri, 7 p.m.; Sun, 9 a.m.

KADENA AIR BASE | 634-1288 WWW.KADENACHAPEL.ORG

- Catholic: Sun, 8:30 a.m., Mass, Chapel 1; Sun, 11:45 a.m., Mass, Chapel 1; Sun, 4 p.m., Mass, Chapel 1; Daily Mass, Mon-Fri, 11:30 a.m., Chapel 1; Reconciliation, Sun, 3:15 p.m., Chapel 1
- Contemporary: Sun, 10 a.m., Chapel 1
- Gospel: Sun, 10:30 a.m., Chapel 3
- Protestant Bible Institute: Tues, 6 p.m., Chapel 1
- Traditional: Sun, 9:30 a.m., Chapel 2
- Wiccan/Pagan: Sat, 2 p.m., Bldg. 856

FOR UPCOMING SPECIAL WORSHIP SERVICES AND EVENTS FOR ALL MARINE CORPS BASE CHAPELS VISIT: WWW.MARINES.MIL/UNIT/MCBJAPAN/PAGES/AROUNDMCBJ/CHAPEL.ASPX



Pistol Range Capt. Stefan R.Browning, Marine Tactical Air Command Squadron 18, 1st Marine Aircraft Wing, 338

11



Kubasaki, Kadena students compete in golf championship



Terah Whitehurst, a student from Kubasaki High School's golf team, follows through after a drive during the 2011 Okinawa Activities Council district golf championship at the Banyan Tree Golf Course April 25. Students from both Kubasaki and Kadena High Schools tested their skills against each other during the 2011 Okinawa Activities Council district golf championship at the Banyan Tree Golf Course on Kadena Air Base April 25.

The 18 players were placed into groups of four based on ability. Two players from each group competed against one another. The top scorer of each pairing was awarded a point for their team.

"It's fun to have people to compete with," said Matthew Duffy, a Kubasaki freshman and the school's top golfer. "Usually, I'm only able to play with my dad."

After the first round, Kadena's male team led with four points to Kubasaki's one. The female teams tied with two points. The top individual scorer Reid Henderson, a senior from Kadena High School, scored 78.

The second round of the tournament, held at Taiyo Golf Course April 27, determined the champions. Kadena High School took the male team title, while Kubasaki High School won the female team title. Taking the high score for the male and female players were Reid Henderson and Landis Mathis of Kadena, respectively.

The teams played 18-hole matches compared to their usual nine-hole games. It is well known in the golf community that nine-hole games are more practical in training because they are less time consuming.

"It's fun to play 18 holes for once, and it's good to see everyone improve throughout the year and play their best," said Henderson. "It's good competition."

Golf attracts a different kind of athlete than other sports, according to Robert Bliss, head coach of the Kadena High School golf team.

Golfers are required to demonstrate etiquette and manners. Coaches try to emphasize these traits to their players, so that they may act professional on as well as off the field, said Amie Woo, a coach with Kadena High School's golf team.

"We have some very reliable players," said Woo. "They come prepared, they have their clubs, they wear proper attire. They're looking the part."

Not all of the players participated for the sake of competition, however. "I'm not here for the



Alli Sharman, a student from Kubasaki High School's golf team, looks to see where her ball landed just after putting.

competition. I'm here for the fun," said Patrick Snowman, a senior at Kubasaki High School and a top player for the Kubasaki golf team. "Golf is a lifetime sport. I can play golf in the future, but for now, I'm just getting my skills down."

For Josh Pinnau, a sophomore at Kadena High School and member of the team, golf is more than a sport, it is a stress reliever.

"It's fun to be able to meet with Kubasaki students and get out on the course," he said. "Golf helps me relax after school. Everyone relaxes when they're here."