

# OKINAWA MARINE

MARCH 23, 2012

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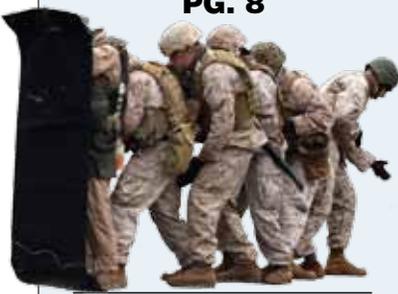


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## JGSDF thanks Marines, civilians

Japan Ground Self-Defense Force Gen. Eiji Kimizuka presents a letter to Lt. Gen. Kenneth J. Glueck Jr. during a ceremony at the JGSDF Ground Staff Office in Tokyo, Japan, March 11. The letter, presented exactly one year after the devastating Great East Japan Earthquake and tsunami struck mainland Japan, thanks U.S. service members, their families and the civilian support establishment for their friendship and support following the disaster. Kimizuka is the chief of staff of the JGSDF. Glueck is the commanding general of III Marine Expeditionary Force. SEE LETTER AND STORY ON PAGE 3

Photo courtesy of the Japan Ground Self-Defense Force



## Children unattended in vehicles illegal

**Pfc. Nicholas S. Ranum**  
OKINAWA MARINE STAFF

CAMP FOSTER — Leaving children unattended in a vehicle is always illegal, but with rising temperatures will become increasingly dangerous.

Leaving children under the age of 9 unattended in vehicles violates both Marine Corps Bases Japan Order 5800.2E and

Kadena Air Base Instruction 31-204. On both Marine Corps bases and Kadena Air Base, children ages 10 and 11 can be left alone in a vehicle for no more than 15 minutes with the keys removed from the vehicle. Children ages 12 and above can be left unattended in a vehicle as long as the keys are not in the vehicle.

see **UNATTENDED** pg 5

## Course geared to prevent tactical vehicle accidents

**Lance Cpl. Alyssa N. Hoffacker**  
OKINAWA MARINE STAFF

CAMP FOSTER — Motor Transport Company held its first Assistant-Driver Trainer's Course here March 16.

The company, part of Marine Wing Support Squadron 172, Marine Wing Support Group 17, 1st Marine Aircraft Wing, III Marine Expeditionary Force, developed the course to educate assistant drivers on ways to prevent accidents on Okinawa.

"Operating large tactical vehicles on these small roads on Okinawa is extremely difficult in itself, not to mention the fact that the operator is on the opposite side of the road," said Capt. Max Foti, the Motor Transport Company commander. "There are many blind spots, which are the biggest cause for accidents."

The course included an hour-long presentation and ended with a practical application. The assistant drivers had multiple stations where they practiced ground guiding with the correct hand-and-arm signals. A ground guide directs the vehicle operator when needed, usually in tight spaces and while the vehicle is backing-up.

"We've designed the course to focus on situations where many accidents

see **DRIVER** pg 5

## ACMC visits Okinawa



Assistant Commandant of the Marine Corps Gen. Joseph F. Dunford Jr. speaks with Marines at the Jungle Warfare Training Center on Camp Gonsalves March 21. Dunford visited Marine Corps camps on Okinawa March 21-23 to view and assess Marine facilities and better understand what III Marine Expeditionary Force needs to prepare for the realignment of forces. Photo by Sgt. Rebekka S. Heite

# Volunteering can work for you

## Camp Foster American Red Cross Staff

Living and working on a military installation means we all share a common denominator: we are all part of an honorable tradition of volunteering. Standing beside our all-volunteer military are men and women picking up the neighbors' children during date night, volunteer nurses giving their time at military hospitals, and Girl Scout troop leaders empowering the young women of tomorrow. Volunteering for the men and women of the United States military and their families is not just a hobby; it is a way of life.

Are you moving duty locations? Don't know anyone? Why not volunteer? Whether you are interested in puppies or painting, nursing or education, volunteering opportunities exist.

While many view volunteering as a hobby or pastime, the benefits extend far beyond that. Leveraging volunteer work can often lead to

higher salaries, increased employment opportunities and countless academic benefits, sometimes even full-tuition scholarships.

At the American Red Cross, we have compiled several reasons for you to start your career as a volunteer:

**Boost your resume.** Lack experience? Have a lapse between jobs due to multiple permanent-change-of-station moves? Volunteering can diminish unwanted resume gaps while building upon prior experience.

**Build a career.** Why not volunteer in something new and different? Finding a niche in coaching or youth programming

can easily translate into a career opportunity at home or abroad. Volunteering is a great way to explore new and old interests.

**Go to college.** Countless universities have volunteer requirements built into their acceptance process. Going above and beyond the minimum requirement frequently results in better financial packages, including scholarships, fellowship opportunities and public recognition.

**Make new friends.** What better way to make friends than to volunteer with like-minded individuals? Meet a new group of friends while exploring a common interest.

So, how can you become more involved in your community? Countless

organizations exist to fill the gaps caused by constant moves and culture shock.

Need a little guidance? The American Red Cross is an international organization with branches spanning from California to Germany to right here on Okinawa. As

a volunteer-led organization, opportunities are limitless.

On Okinawa, the American Red Cross has opportunities for youth volunteers, medical professionals, administrative assistants and everything in between. We also offer a free dental assistant training program open to all status of forces agreement residents.

To learn more about opportunities with the Camp Foster American Red Cross, visit [AmericanRedCrossOkinawa.org](http://AmericanRedCrossOkinawa.org) or call 645-3800.

For opportunities with the Kadena Red Cross, visit [www.KadenaRedCross.org](http://www.KadenaRedCross.org) or call 634-1294.

**On Okinawa, the American Red Cross has opportunities for youth volunteers, medical professionals, administrative assistants and everything in between.**

## AROUND THE CORPS



Lance Cpl. Danny Castro searches for improvised explosive devices using a metal detector in Helmand province, Afghanistan, March 9. Castro is a motor transport mechanic with 2nd Battalion, 11th Marine Regiment, 1st Marine Division, I Marine Expeditionary Force (Forward). Photo by Army Sgt. Laura L. Bonano



An MV-22 Osprey hovers above the ground during air delivery operations training at Landing Zone Falcon, Marine Corps Base Camp Lejeune, N.C., March 13. The training certified Marines with the air delivery attachment of Combat Logistics Battalion 24, 24th Marine Expeditionary Unit, II Marine Expeditionary Force, in conducting air delivery operations.

Photo by Sgt. Richard Blumenstein



Cpl. Michael J. Carvalho performs pushups aboard USS New Orleans while at sea March 16 during a leadership course competition. Carvalho, a radio technician, is with Battalion Landing Team 3rd Battalion, 1st Marine Regiment, 11th Marine Expeditionary Unit. The unit is deployed as part of the Makin Island Amphibious Ready Group, a U.S. Central Command theater reserve force.

Photo by Cpl. Ryan Carpenter

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## OKINAWA MARINE

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CENTRAL BUREAU

Camp Foster

DSN 645-7422

NORTHERN BUREAU

Camp Hansen

DSN 623-4224

SOUTHERN BUREAU

Camp Kinser

DSN 637-1092



## BRIEFS

**ONE DAY MARRIAGE BUILDING WORKSHOP "HAPPILY EVER AFTER"**

Chaplains Religious Enrichment Development Office Okinawa and Marine Corps Installations Pacific are conducting a free relationship enhancement program, "Happily Ever After," April 3 from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. at the CREDO center, building 442, on Camp Foster.

Newlyweds are encouraged to attend, but all couples are welcome.

To sign up, contact Marine Corps Family Team Building at 645-3696 or e-mail [credo.mcbb.fct@usmc.mil](mailto:credo.mcbb.fct@usmc.mil).

**COLLEGEWEEKLIVE VIRTUAL FAIR**

The Spring 2012 CollegeWeekLive event is a free virtual college fair for Marines and family members March 21-23 from 11 p.m. to 11 a.m.

There will be presentations about going to college, financial aid and much more. Prospective students can talk or chat live with college or university admissions representatives and current students.

To register and preview the event details, visit [www.collegeweeklive.com/en\\_CA/guest/spring\\_2012](http://www.collegeweeklive.com/en_CA/guest/spring_2012).

**VOLUNTEERS NEEDED AT BECHTEL**

Camp Courtney is seeking volunteers to help Bechtel Elementary School conduct its Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics Awareness Week April 23-27.

Anyone in a career field related to these topics who is interested in providing a 30-minute presentation is encouraged to participate.

Members interested in volunteering their skills and knowledge should contact 622-7504 or e-mail [jeanene.golden@pac.dodea.edu](mailto:jeanene.golden@pac.dodea.edu).

**HUMIDIFIERS FOR LOAN**

As the weather begins to warm up humidity will increase. Many residents of military family housing are eligible to check out a dehumidifier from the Chibana appliance repair warehouse, building 54410, located near Camp Shields housing outside Kadena Gate 3.

Dehumidifiers are available to those who live in towers and those who do not have control of their air conditioning systems. Recently renovated houses are not eligible.

For more information, contact maintenance at 632-4099.

**AIR CONDITIONING RESUMPTION**

Per MCBJO 5090.3A "Energy and Water Conservation Program," Marine Corps Base Camp Butler has resumed its air conditioning season.

In accordance with MCOP11000.0C, "Energy and Utilities Management," air conditioning in living and office spaces must be set between 78 and 80 degrees Fahrenheit, or 26 degrees Celsius. Ensure windows and doors remain closed to conserve energy.

For more information, call the MCB Energy Office at 645-3320.

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



**Marines participating in predeployment training fire their M4 carbine rifles at targets on Camp Hansen March 16. The purpose of the training is to prepare the Marines for their upcoming deployments to Afghanistan in support of Operation Enduring Freedom.** Photo by Lance Cpl. Daniel E. Valle

## Marines prepare to join fight

**Lance Cpl. Daniel E. Valle**

OKINAWA MARINE STAFF

CAMP HANSEN — More than 40 Marines with various units took part in predeployment training on Camp Hansen March 12-21.

The purpose of the training was to prepare the Marines for their upcoming deployments to Afghanistan in support of Operation Enduring Freedom.

The Marines are individual augmentees who will serve in different units supporting combat operations later this year.

The Marines conducted improvised explosive device training, table 3 shooting, culture classes and combat lifesaver training.

"I think what I took away the most from this predeployment training is what we learned about IEDs," said Lance Cpl. Nicholas G. Fouts, an electrician with Marine Wing Support Squadron 171, Marine Wing Support Group 17, 1st Marine Aircraft Wing, III Marine Expeditionary Force. "We learned the different types, nomenclature and what to do when we spot one."

Without this training, Marines would not be prepared to go into combat, according to Fouts.

"This prepares you for so many different things that could happen and teaches you what to do in those situations," he said. "Knowing is half the battle to me, and I am happy that they make this training mandatory — I wish they would extend it."

The Marines participating in the training are excited to learn as much as possible before their upcoming deployments, according to Cpl. Rashad J. Thompson, an administrative clerk, Installation Personnel Administration



**Marines prepare to fire their M4 carbine rifles at targets during predeployment training on Camp Hansen March 16. The training gives them an opportunity to practice using the rifle combat optic system in a variety of situations.** Photo by Lance Cpl. Daniel E. Valle

Center, Headquarters and Service Battalion, Marine Corps Base Camp Butler.

"I am very excited to be participating in this training," Thompson said. "It's not every day that I can come out and shoot table 3, go through IED training or combat lifesaver (training)."

"It is something you look forward to when you join the Marine Corps, and it feels great to be able to do it," he said.

Table 3 consists of courses of fire including firing while moving and after pivoting, firing at unknown distances and a course of night fire using a rifle combat optic system.

For some of the Marines, using the RCOs with their rifles is challenging but gets easier with practice, according to Cpl. Rafelina Y. BlancoRodriguez, a warehouse clerk, Marine Wing Headquarters Squadron 1, 1st MAW.

"I learned a lot about how to use the RCO effectively," said BlancoRodriguez. "Once you

understand how it works and use it properly, it is very simple and helpful to use."

The Marines each feel the training challenges them differently but have learned everything they need to be successful while deployed, according to Fouts.

"Combat lifesaver is important to me because if another Marine and the corpsman go down, then it is up to you to help them," said Fouts.

"IED training was the most difficult part of this so far," said Thompson. "It teaches you to maintain your situational awareness."

Despite the difficulties the Marines faced during the training, they agree that the training is essential for them.

"This training makes you feel safer — better prepared — to go into combat," said BlancoRodriguez.

"It is definitely a must-do for Marines deploying," said Thompson. "It ensures we are prepared for anything and everything that can happen."

# Marines, soldiers, Boy Scouts combine efforts to clean memorial

**Lance Cpl. Kasey Peacock**

OKINAWA MARINE STAFF

ITOMAN, OKINAWA — Marines, soldiers and family members participated alongside Japanese and American Boy and Cub Scouts in the 4th annual cleanup event at the Army Lt. Gen. Simon B. Buckner Jr. Memorial here March 17.

Coordinators with the Single Marine Program and the Better Opportunities for Single Soldiers Program recruited volunteers to team up with the Boy Scouts of America and the Scout Association of Japan to clean the memorial.

Takeshi Kinjo, an Eagle Scout and college student at Okinawa International University, became inspired by the memorial four years ago and wrote a letter to the consulate general asking for military support to keep the memorial clean.

In 2007, Kinjo and his family began keeping the area clean on their own initiative until the consulate general replied to Kinjo's letter in May 2008 and approved his request to recruit military volunteers.

During the event's first iteration in 2008, Kinjo recruited more than 50 volunteers from each branch

of service to assist in what would become an annual event.

"This is a great opportunity for the community to see us in a positive light," said Sergio Morales, an SMP coordinator in charge of the Marine volunteers. "The story of how Kinjo took it upon himself to set all this up is truly inspiring, and I think it really shows the strength of our Japanese and American relationship."

Buckner, who was killed during the closing days of the Battle of Okinawa by enemy artillery fire, was the highest-ranking military officer killed in action during World War II.

"Everyone coming together to honor the memorial shows how far we have come since the tragic losses experienced by both the American and Japanese people during World War II," said Morales.

Kinjo, who was a high school student and Cub Scout at the time of the event's inception, was unable to attend this year; but his father, who has been attending the events since they began, was there in his honor.

"The family's continual involvement in the event has been crucial to its success," said Masaaki Ishiki, the community relations specialist who coordinated military support for the



**Service members and their families, as well as members of the Boy Scouts of America and the Scout Association of Japan, volunteered their time during an annual cleanup event held at the Army Lt. Gen. Simon B. Buckner Jr. Memorial in Itoman, Okinawa, March 17. During the event, the volunteers planted flowers, cleared brush, picked up trash, and cut the grass around the memorial.** Photo courtesy of Sergio Morales, Single Marine Program coordinator

event this year. "The Single Marine Program has aided in the success as well, always helping with recruiting Marine volunteers."

During the event, the volunteers and Boy and Cub Scouts planted flowers, cleared brush, picked up trash, and cut the grass around the memorial.

"It is important to get the Cub Scouts involved in the military community," said Sgt. Maj. James N. Calbough, a Cubmaster for Cub Scout Pack 102. "As Marines, we always leave a place better than when we got there, and we try to instill those values into our cub scouts as well."

**DRIVER** from pg 1

could (occur)," said Staff Sgt. Jorge A. GonzalezMancha, a truck master with the company. "There are a lot of different rules that are specific for operating tactical vehicles on Okinawa."

The course is intended to make the assistant drivers aware of rules and regulations when operating tactical vehicles, and help the Marines understand the multiple and large blind spots of these vehicles, said Foti.

"This course is very informative, and I have learned a lot," said Lance Cpl. Joshua D. Crady, a field wireman with the squadron. He said he felt the course will play a major role with preventing accidents and keeping the unit operationally ready.

The squadron is planning to have most of its Marines qualify in this course, said Foti.

"We support the squadron and hopefully with this course, accidents will be prevented," said Foti.

**UNATTENDED** from pg 1

Anyone caught violating the order on a Marine Corps installation can be tried before a hearing and their licenses can be suspended or revoked for three months to a year, said Carl D. Hodges, Inspector General's office for Marine Corps Installations Pacific. On Kadena, licenses can be revoked on the spot.

The regulations are aimed at ensuring safety.

"The biggest preventative measure is to plan your trip," said Aaron M. Davis, the supervisory occupational safety and health specialist at the Installation Safety Office on Camp Foster. "If you plan your trip so that you can take your kids with you or have someone in the car with them, then that makes it much easier."

Leaving children unattended in vehicles can pose serious risks to the child, vehicle and community.

"The dangers of leaving a child alone are twofold," said Davis. "Besides heat injuries, they can get out of their restraints and move about the car, bumping into buttons and gearshifts. They could put the car into drive accidentally if they want to imitate their parents."

"Worst case is that a child actually gets out of the vehicle and gets lost," he said.

In addition to setting boundaries for children in vehicles, MCBJO 5800.2E also provides guidelines on leaving children at home unsupervised.

The order states that starting at 10 years of age a child may be left at home for no more than six hours with physical access to a designated adult or care provider such as a nearby neighbor. Under the age of 10, children may not be left at alone in quarters without immediate supervision.

For more information, contact the Marine Corps Base Camp Butler Installation Safety Office at 645-2039.



**Lance Cpl. Daniel Bourgal practices guiding a 7-ton truck with an attached trailer on Camp Foster March 16. This was part of the practical application portion of the new Assistant-Driver Trainer's course, conducted by Motor Transport Company. The course was designed to help prevent accidents on Okinawa. Bourgal is a field wireman with Marine Wing Support Squadron 172, Marine Wing Support Group 17, 1st Marine Aircraft Wing, III Marine Expeditionary Force. Motor Transport Co. is part of MWSS-172.**

Photo by Lance Cpl. Alyssa N. Hoffacker

# CLB-4 supports intelligence, surveillance, reconn

Story and photos by Cpl. Mark W. Stroud

OKINAWA MARINE STAFF

Marines with Combat Logistics Battalion 4 conducted a combat logistics patrol supporting counterinsurgency operations in Helmand province, Afghanistan, March 4-7.

The patrol delivered helium gas needed to operate the persistent ground surveillance system, also known as an aerostat surveillance balloon, along with other supplies to forward operating bases manned by Regimental

Combat Team 6. CLB-4 is part of 1st Marine Logistics Group (Forward).

“Keeping the PGSS personnel supplied with helium helps to secure the area of operations around the forward operating bases for both mounted and dismounted patrols,” said 1st Lt. Ryan L. Cornwell, a platoon commander with CLB-4 and patrol leader.

Aerostat balloons float above forward operating bases providing platforms for cameras to monitor the surrounding area, and they remotely transmit video to decision makers on the ground.

“The (balloons) are the eye in the sky; an observer who never gets tired or falls asleep on post,” said 1st Lt. Clayton T. Anderson, intelligence officer with the battalion.

Lance Cpl. Samuel M. Depriest, a military policeman with CLB-4, detaches a trailer loaded with compressed helium transported to Forward Operating Base Pennsylvania during a combat logistics patrol March 5. Helium, which is lighter than air, is used to fill aerostat surveillance balloons that monitor the area around the FOB.



A mine resistant ambush protected vehicle provides security during a combat logistics patrol through Helmand province, Afghanistan, March 5. The patrol, conducted by Combat Logistics Battalion 4, 1st Marine Logistics Group (Forward), supported counterinsurgency operations in the area.



# naissance operations with combat logistics patrol

The floating observation post, combined with other assets, provides a comprehensive surveillance solution around forward operating bases.

“When we are in a defensive position, we have overlapping fields of fire,” said Anderson. “This is the same thing; the blimp is one more tool that ensures redundancy in our observation of the area.”

Highly visible surveillance tools such as balloons can do more than simply monitor security threats.

“(The balloons) discourage enemy activity,” said Cornwell. “The insurgents are less likely to be active when they know they are being watched.”

The visible nature of the balloons also serves as a reminder to Afghans that the Marines are committed to improving the local security situation and protecting

them from extremist threats.

“We are here to ensure the daily pattern of life for the majority is not disrupted by the minority who would cause harm,” said Anderson. “The (balloons) are a reminder to the (Afghans) that we are not leaving them, and that we are maintaining a presence.”

The CLB-4 patrol also delivered power generators, mail and food supplies to the forward operating base. On the return trip, the Marines towed vehicles back for repairs and upgrades and brought unused gear back to Camp Leatherneck in preparation for redeployment to the United States.

“We are assisting with retrograding equipment from the base however we can,” said Cornwell. “If we can haul it back now, we don’t have to haul it back later.”

According to Cornwell, the

combat logistics patrol was completed successfully thanks to the small-unit leadership exhibited by the Marines.

“I think the success of the mission is a credit to our (non-commissioned officer) leadership,” said Cornwell. “We delivered all of the supplies to the supported units and returned all Marines and gear safely.”



**Petty Officer 3rd Class Gregory Jones, a hospital corpsman with CLB-4, monitors intravenous therapy during a break in supply offload operations at Forward Operating Base Pennsylvania March 5. Jones administered the IV to a Marine who became dehydrated during the combat logistics patrol.**

# 9th ESB Marines open doors during breach training

Story and photos by Lance Cpl. Daniel E. Valle

OKINAWA MARINE STAFF

The charge explodes with a loud bang and blinding flash. Fragments of the door hit the shield. The Marines spring into action rushing through the black smoke, slamming the door open and quickly entering the room, clearing their sectors of fire.

In seconds, the building is cleared and security has been established.

The enemy is not real; but for the Marines of 9th Engineer Support Battalion's Explosive Ordnance Disposal unit and the Provost Marshal's Office special response team the training on Camp Hansen March 12-16 prepared them for scenarios they could encounter.

The purpose of the training was to teach Marines how to force open doors safely and effectively when the mission requires it. The battalion is part of Combat Logistics Regiment 35, 3rd Marine Logistics Group, III Marine Expeditionary Force. PMO's special response team is part of Headquarters and Service Battalion, Marine Corps Base Camp Butler.

"We are out here learning basic breaching tactics by a few Marines that have gone through the breachers course," said Sgt. Ryan S. Potts, EOD technician with 9th ESB. "We are here to familiarize ourselves with the explosives because a lot of us have not done this before."

The Marines must be ready for anything, and the training prepares them to respond effectively to a variety of situations.

"This training is good for us because we can never know 100 percent what is on the other side of the door or wall we are trying to breach," said Sgt. Matthew D. Hanson, special response team, Provost Marshal's Office, Headquarters and Service Battalion, Marine Corps Base Camp Butler. "We can use this training to either rescue hostages or even eliminate the enemy threat by surprising them."

While dealing with explosives is an everyday job for these Marines, this is the first time many of them have participated in this training.

"I have never done anything like this before," said Sgt. Brianna M. Walker, EOD technician with the battalion. "You need practice doing this because there are a lot of moving parts, so all the Marines need to be on the same page."

"It is good to know all aspects of our job," Potts said. "If we are in Afghanistan and are called upon to breach a wall or a door, we at least know the basic charges and can adjust from there."

During the training, Marines are challenged with different scenarios such as a failed breach.

"It is important to practice what we would do in the event of a failed breach," he said. "If you do have a failed breach, the enemy will know that you are there and you basically showed your hand."

The Marines developed proficiency in handling these unexpected situations.

"We were put through scenarios where the

breach is unsuccessful and we would use alternative ways of entering," said Hanson. "We have been successful with those techniques as well."

Although these Marines are trained to properly handle the explosives, there are still many safety precautions taken to ensure there will not be any injuries or mishaps.

"The training is very safe," said Potts. "We have instructors that make sure we have positive control of the explosives, we use a safety blanket to protect us from debris, and along with that we have standard protection – ear pro, eye pro, flak jackets and Kevlars."

The training is not only for EOD Marines, but Marines from other specialties as well, said Potts.

"Any Marine can be asked to breach a target, and it would be good to at least know the basics," he said.



Sgt. Matthew D. Hanson prepares to detonate a charge placed on a nearby door while Marines prepare to clear the building during breaching training on Camp Hansen March 14. Hanson is a special response team member with PMO. The Marines following Hanson are with PMO's special response team and 9th ESB's EOD unit.



Marines shield themselves from an exploding charge during breaching training on Camp Hansen March 14. The purpose of the training was to teach the Marines how to force doors open safely and effectively. The Marines are with 9th Engineer Support Battalion's Explosive Ordnance Disposal unit, Combat Logistics Regiment 35, 3rd Marine Logistics Group, III Marine Expeditionary Force, and the Provost Marshal's Office special response team with Headquarters and Service Battalion, Marine Corps Base Camp Butler.

# Scout sniper named III MEF NCO of the Year



**Sgt. Jeffrey T. Majka, a scout sniper team leader, deployed to Afghanistan twice, in 2009 and 2010. He earned the title of III Marine Expeditionary Force Noncommissioned Officer of the Year for his exemplary leadership and initiative. Majka is with Headquarters and Service Company, 2nd Battalion, 3rd Marine Regiment, 3rd Marine Division.** *Courtesy photo*

**Kristen Wong**  
HAWAII MARINE STAFF

**A** Marine with 3rd Marine Division was named the III Marine Expeditionary Force Noncommissioned Officer of the Year.

Sgt. Jeffrey T. Majka, scout sniper team leader, Headquarters and Service Company, 2nd Battalion, 3rd Marine Regiment, 3rd Marine Division, was nominated by his company and competed in boards from the battalion to MEF level before he was awarded the title.

A native of Mesa, Ariz., Majka enlisted in the Marine Corps in January 2008. He was stationed aboard Marine Corps Base Hawaii, his first duty station, starting in August of 2008.

Majka, 29, said he enlisted because he wanted to deploy, enjoy a brotherhood with the “good guys,” and support the mission of the Corps.

Majka deployed twice to Afghanistan — from May to November 2009 and from November 2010 to June 2011.

He was meritoriously promoted to corporal while serving in Afghanistan in 2009. He recently re-enlisted to be eligible for deployment again.

As the III MEF NCO of the Year, Majka said he is excited about the award and considers it an honor. However, he credits his success to all the influential people around him, not only in his platoon, but in 2nd Bn., 3rd Marines, as a whole.

“Everybody in my platoon deserves this award,” Majka said. “I was surrounded by over-achievers — people who have helped me out, showed me a good route to success.”

This is not the only honor Majka has earned.

His fellow Marines report that he was also the honor graduate for the Scout Sniper Team Leader Course at Marine Corps Base Camp Pendleton, Calif., as well as the honor graduate for the Corporal’s Course here.

“I wasn’t too surprised,” said Staff Sgt. Loren M. Cunningham, scout sniper platoon sergeant for Headquarters and Service Company, referring to Majka’s newest honor. “Every school I’ve sent him to, everything I’ve tasked him with, he’s come back with an award.”

Cunningham described Majka as a hard worker who “gets the job done.”

For 1st Lt. Andrew T. Miller, platoon commander, it was how Majka got the job

done during Exercise Lava Viper at Pohakuloa Training Area on Hawaii.

Miller said Majka completed more than a dozen complex missions.

“He was leading a very junior team of Marines,” Miller said. “This was their first exercise, and he got them through the entirety of the mission.”

Miller said he is happy for Majka and proud.

“He worked for it and he earned it,” Miller said. “He brought great credit not only upon himself but upon his platoon and his battalion.”

“He is really good at what he does,” said Majka’s wife. “He’s just amazing. I was very proud of him.”

She describes him as kind-hearted and willing to help friends and even people he does not know.

When he is not on duty, Majka takes time to golf, swim, run and spend quality time with his family.

Majka has no plans to leave the Corps anytime soon. Currently, he is pursuing involvement in the Marine Enlisted Commissioning Program.

When he does leave the Corps, however, Majka said he hopes to teach history or physical education to high school students.

## MCIPAC recognizes Noncommissioned Officer of Year

**Lance Cpl. Ian M. McMahon**  
OKINAWA MARINE STAFF

**T**he Noncommissioned Officer of the Year award is an honor bestowed on leaders who perform above and beyond their standard duties. The NCO chosen exemplifies the Marine Corps leadership traits and passes his knowledge to his subordinates.

Many Marine NCOs are great leaders, but the NCO of the Year is a step ahead of its peers. This year, Sgt. Eleazar A. Zamano is that outstanding NCO for Marine Corps Installation Pacific.

All I did to earn this award is to follow the example of the NCOs before me, said Zamano, fuels training chief for Headquarters and Headquarters Squadron, Marine Corps Air Station Futenma, MCIPAC.

“Leading by example is what is expected of me, not only as an NCO but as a Marine,” he added.

Zamano was born in 1987, in Bellflower, Calif. He graduated in 2005 from Colony High School in Ontario, Calif. He entered recruit training Sept. 11, 2005 at Marine Corps Recruit Depot, San Diego.

“Not everyone can say they are a Marine,”

said Zamano. “I remember going to my cousin’s (recruit training) graduation. I thought it was the coolest thing in the world.”

Zamano enlisted in the Marine Corps with the military occupational specialty of motor transport operator.

During his career, Zamano deployed to Iraq, was meritoriously promoted to the rank of lance corporal, and was attached to the 11th Marine Expeditionary Unit, deploying to Kuwait, Guam and Africa.

Zamano has also acquired the additional MOSs of semi-trailer refueler operator, fixed-wing transport aircraft specialist and martial arts instructor.

Cpl. Sean M. Caldwell, a bulk fuel specialist with the squadron, feels Zamano is well deserving of the NCO of the Year award.

“(Zamano) deserves the title NCO of the Year,” said Caldwell. “He is constantly striving to better himself. He leads his Marines from the front and is always professional and respectful.”

Outside of work, Zamano continues to stay motivated and do his best.

“There are many people that have inspired me, but the one person that inspired me the most would have to be my wife,” said Zamano.



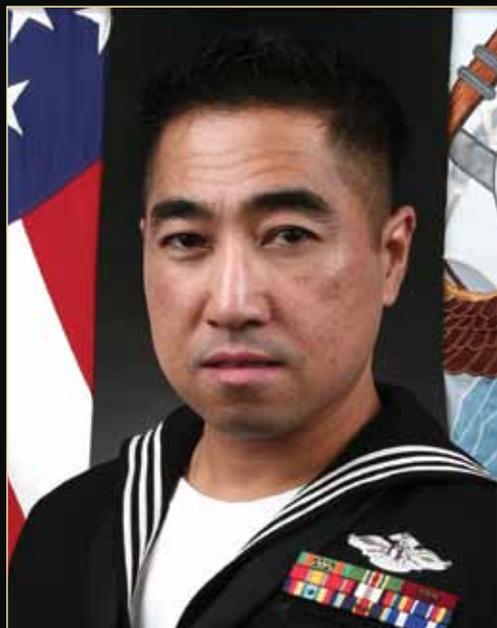
**Sgt. Eleazar A. Zamano**

“She is constantly pushing me to better myself and my career.”

NCOs like Zamano continue to uphold the image of the Corps and pass the knowledge and traditions of the Marine Corps to their Marines.

# Sailors of the Year

## 3rd Marine Logistics Group Senior Sailor of the Year



Petty Officer 1st Class Ronald A. Wood, a hospital corpsman with Medical Logistics Company, 3rd Supply Battalion, Combat Logistics Regiment 35, earned the Senior Sailor of the Year Award for 3rd Marine Logistics Group.

## 3rd Marine Logistics Group Junior Sailor of the Year



Petty Officer 1st Class Seantavias J. Hannans, a hospital corpsman with Medical Logistics Company, 3rd Supply Battalion, Combat Logistics Regiment 35, earned the Junior Sailor of the Year Award for 3rd Marine Logistics Group.

## U.S. Naval Hospital Okinawa Senior Sailor of the Year



Petty Officer 1st Class Scott A. Moore, a hospital corpsman with U.S. Naval Hospital Okinawa, earned the Senior Sailor of the Year Award for the USNH Okinawa.

## U.S. Naval Hospital Okinawa Junior Sailor of the Year



Petty Officer 2nd Class Joel Ortiz, a hospital corpsman with U.S. Naval Hospital Okinawa, earned the Junior Sailor of the Year Award for the USNH Okinawa.

## U.S. Naval Hospital Okinawa Blue Jacket of the Year



Petty Officer 3rd Class Eloy Rodriguez, a hospital corpsman with U.S. Naval Hospital Okinawa, earned the Blue Jacket of the Year Award for the USNH Okinawa.

"These sailors recognized here are the epitome of excellence in today's Navy. They are leaders not just in their work centers, but throughout their commands and community. They have performed far beyond expectations. Each of them understands it isn't just one individual that creates success; but it is a team atmosphere and strong leadership that breeds success. The sailors of the year and their commands have true reason to be proud, as do all of the outstanding sailors nominated by their respective commands."

- Command Master Chief Petty Officer Rick E. Anderson, 3rd Marine Logistics Group

# In Theaters Now

**MARCH 23 - 29**

## FOSTER

**TODAY** John Carter (PG13), 6 p.m.; Underworld Awakening (R), 9:30 p.m.  
**SATURDAY** Journey 2: The Mysterious Island (PG), noon; Red Tails (PG13), 3 p.m.; Underworld Awakening (R), 6 p.m.; Act of Valor (R), 9 p.m.  
**SUNDAY** Journey 2: The Mysterious Island (PG), 1 p.m.; 21 Jump Street (R), 4 and 7 p.m.  
**MONDAY** Act of Valor (R), 7 p.m.  
**TUESDAY** Haywire (R), 7 p.m.  
**WEDNESDAY** Underworld Awakening (R), 7 p.m.  
**THURSDAY** 21 Jump Street (R), 7 p.m.

## KADENA

**TODAY** Underworld Awakening (R), 6 p.m.; Act of Valor (R), 9 p.m.  
**SATURDAY** Red Tails (PG13), noon and 3 p.m.; Underworld Awakening (R), 6 and 9 p.m.  
**SUNDAY** Red Tails (PG13), 1 and 4 p.m.; Underworld Awakening (R), 7 p.m.  
**MONDAY** John Carter (PG13), 7 p.m.  
**TUESDAY** Haywire (R), 7 p.m.  
**WEDNESDAY** Dr. Seuss' The Lorax (PG), 7 p.m.  
**THURSDAY** Dr. Seuss' The Lorax (PG), 7 p.m.

## COURTNEY

**TODAY** 21 Jump Street (R), 6 and 9 p.m.  
**SATURDAY** Dr. Seuss' The Lorax (PG), 2 p.m.; The Devil Inside (R), 6 p.m.  
**SUNDAY** Dr. Seuss' The Lorax (PG), 2 p.m.; Extremely Loud & Incredibly Close (PG13), 6 p.m.  
**MONDAY** Contraband (R), 7 p.m.  
**TUESDAY** Closed  
**WEDNESDAY** John Carter (PG13), 7 p.m.  
**THURSDAY** Closed

## FUTENMA

**TODAY** Contraband (R), 6:30 p.m.  
**SATURDAY** 21 Jump Street (R), 4 and 7 p.m.  
**SUNDAY** Extremely Loud & Incredibly Close (PG13), 4 p.m.; The Devil Inside (R), 7 p.m.  
**MONDAY** Underworld Awakening (R), 6:30 p.m.  
**TUESDAY-THURSDAY** Closed

## KINSER

**TODAY** Underworld Awakening (R), 6:30 p.m.  
**SATURDAY** Red Tails (PG13), 3 p.m.; Haywire (R), 6:30 p.m.  
**SUNDAY** Red Tails (PG13), 3 p.m.; Underworld Awakening (R), 6:30 p.m.  
**MONDAY** Closed  
**TUESDAY** Closed  
**WEDNESDAY** 21 Jump Street (R), 3 and 6:30 p.m.  
**THURSDAY** Haywire (R), 6:30 p.m.

## HANSEN

**TODAY** Underworld Awakening (R), 7 p.m.  
**SATURDAY** Red Tails (PG13), 6 p.m.; Haywire (R), 9 p.m.  
**SUNDAY** Haywire (R), 2 p.m.; Underworld Awakening (R), 5:30 p.m.  
**MONDAY** 21 Jump Street (R), 6 and 9 p.m.  
**TUESDAY** 21 Jump Street (R), 7 p.m.  
**WEDNESDAY** Red Tails (PG13), 7 p.m.  
**THURSDAY** John Carter (PG13), 7 p.m.

## SCHWAB

**TODAY** Extremely Loud & Incredibly Close (PG13), 7 p.m.  
**SATURDAY** Contraband (R), 5 p.m.  
**SUNDAY** The Devil Inside (R), 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](http://www.shopmyexchange.com).



## SINGLE MARINE PROGRAM EVENTS

For more information or to sign up, contact the Single Marine Program at 645-3681.

### ASHIBINAA OUTLET MALL TRIP - MARCH 31

• Join the SMP at the Ashibinaa Outlet Mall in Naha March 31 from 10 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. for a fun day of shopping. Bus will depart the Camp Foster Fieldhouse at 10 a.m. and the Marine Corps Air Station Futenma Semper Fit Gym at 10:20 a.m. Sign up deadline is March 28.

### DUCK AND COVER GOLF TOURNAMENT - APRIL 6

• Staff noncommissioned officers and officers are invited to form four-person teams to compete in the Duck and Cover Golf Tournament April 6 from 7 a.m. to 2 p.m. Prizes will be given to the top three male and female finishers for the "Closest to the Pin" and "Longest Drive" challenges. Register by March 30.

### BUSHIDO CHALLENGE - MAY 18

• The Bushido Challenge tests physical and combat fitness with competitions including a tire flip, dead hang and shot put. This challenge is open to teams of four, of which at least one team member must be a single or unaccompanied Marine or sailor. To sign up, contact the SMP office.

### DISCOVER GOLF - FREE GOLF LESSONS

• Taiyo Golf Course is hosting free golf lessons for single Marines and sailors the first and third Friday of every month from 9-11 a.m. Participants meet at the SMP office on Camp Foster by 8 a.m.

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

## Japanese phrase of the week:

“Moshi moshi”  
 (pronounced:  
 MOH-shee  
 moh-shee)

It means,  
 “Hello”

(when talking on the phone)



**March 12 - 16**

### RIFLE RANGE

1st Lt. Christopher Mulkey,  
 3rd MarDiv., 336



# CHAPLAINS' CORNER

*“Being dishonest or less-than-genuine, will only leave you feeling hollow inside and will eventually let others down.”*

## Don't be hollow like chocolate bunny

**Navy Lt. Raymond B. Adkins**  
 HEADQUARTERS BATTALION, 3RD MARDIV

Easter is almost here! What do you envision when you think of Easter?

When I was growing up, Easter was a time for Easter egg hunts, lots of candy and stores swarming with many chocolate bunnies.

On one particular trip, I noticed a chocolate bunny that looked like it was two feet tall! As a 10-year-old, that chocolate bunny looked half my size! So, I pleaded with my parents to buy it.

After some pestering, they finally gave in, and I was allowed to purchase it with a certain condition. My parents told me that I had to wait until Easter to eat it, and I had to eat it in

pieces and not all in one sitting. Well, that was a letdown for me but at least I had this big piece of candy to eat, right?

So Easter came, and I couldn't wait to sink my teeth into the chocolate; but when I took that first bite, I found out that it was hollow! I took another bite just to be certain as crushing disappointment washed over me.

Have you ever experienced a disappointment like that growing up? Have you ever thought something was going to be solid inside, only to be let down?

When I look back at that humorous event, it reminds me of a character trait: honesty. As with the chocolate, I must ask myself this question, “Am I solid through and through? Or, do I put

on an appearance of being something on the outside that I can't live up to on the inside?”

Anyone can look the part on the outside, but being who we really are can be a bit more challenging. I believe honesty and truthfulness to one's self gives birth to honor, which is one of our core values.

On the flip side, being dishonest, or less-than-genuine, will only leave you feeling hollow inside and will eventually let others down. Being solid in honesty and truthfulness will allow people to put their trust and confidence in who you really are!

**For the Holy Week worship schedule, April 1-15, visit [www.marines.mil/unit/mcbjapan/Pages/Around/Chapel.aspx](http://www.marines.mil/unit/mcbjapan/Pages/Around/Chapel.aspx).**