

# OKINAWA MARINE

MAY 4, 2012

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## 1st MAW performance recognized

**Lance Cpl. Nicholas S. Ranum**  
OKINAWA MARINE STAFF

CAMP FOSTER — Marines of the 1st Marine Aircraft Wing gathered at the Butler Officers' Club on

Plaza Housing here for the Marine Corps Aviation Association awards banquet April 27.

The awards recognized 1st MAW Marines and squadrons for achievements

in categories including safety, logistics, command and control, and flight.

"Tonight, we recognize the Marines and squadrons from the 1st MAW," said Maj. Gen. William D. Beydler,

commanding general of 1st MAW. "I could not be more proud of the MAW."

The awards covered units at Marine Corps Air Stations Futenma, Iwakuni see **MCAA** pg 5

## Philippines, US conclude Balikatan

**Staff Sgt. Mike Meares**  
321ST AIR EXPEDITIONARY WING

CAMP AGUINALDO, Republic of the Philippines — The Republic of the Philippines and the U.S. celebrated the successes of Exercise Balikatan 2012 during a closing ceremony here April 27.

Balikatan, meaning "shoulder-to-shoulder" in Tagalog, the language of the Philippines, was exactly how the two militaries conducted the 28th iteration of the multilateral event.

The combined forces worked together, shoulder-to-shoulder, to conduct more than 100 separate events across three categories: humanitarian and civic assistance, a simulated humanitarian assistance and disaster relief scenario, and field training.

During the ceremony, each see **BK 12** pg 5



Members of the Armed Forces of the Philippines and U.S. Marine Corps rehearse a beach assault April 21 at Tagkawayan Beach, Palawan, Republic of the Philippines, during Exercise Balikatan 2012. Photo by 2nd Lt. Clayton A. Groover

## 1st MAW welcomes new sergeant major



**Sgt. Maj. Trevor V. Jackson** receives the noncommissioned officer sword from Maj. Gen. William D. Beydler during the 1st Marine Aircraft Wing sergeant major relief and appointment ceremony at the Camp Foster Field House May 1. Jackson's previous post was Marine Corps Recruit Depot San Diego, where he served as the Weapons and Field Training Battalion sergeant major. Sgt. Maj. Eric J. Seward has led the 1st MAW since June 2010 and is retiring after 30 years of service. Beydler is the commanding general of 1st MAW, part of III Marine Expeditionary Force.

Photo by Lance Cpl. Carl Payne

## 3rd MLG fights sexual assault via education

**Lance Cpl. Kasey Peacock**  
OKINAWA MARINE STAFF

CAMP KINSER — 3rd Marine Logistics Group hosted a sexual assault symposium at the Camp Kinser Theater April 24 as part of its effort to eliminate sexual assault.

Sexual assault response coordinators and uniformed victim advocates across Okinawa hosted events throughout the month of April in support of sexual assault awareness month.

The events included a III Marine Expeditionary Force-wide luncheon, a 3rd MLG "Stomp Out Sexual Assault" run and various sexual assault symposiums held by different units across Okinawa.

During the MLG symposium, participants see **ASSAULT** pg 5

# Early intervention, resilience key to alcohol abuse prevention

Staff Sgt. Joshua L. Brewer

Alcohol Awareness Month was founded by the National Council on Alcoholism and Drug Dependence in 1987 and is held every April. Activities during the month focus on increasing public awareness and understanding of substance dependence and reducing the stigma that too often prevents individuals and families from seeking help.

Alcohol abuse is defined as any harmful use of alcohol that leads to inappropriate conduct, decreased job performance or legal problems.

One of the issues facing alcohol-abuse prevention in the military is differentiating between alcohol abuse and alcohol-related incidents. Not every person who has an alcohol-related incident abuses alcohol. Likewise, an individual could be an alcohol abuser without having an alcohol-related incident.

A good way to prevent alcohol abuse is to keep an eye on those with potential personal risk factors of developing alcoholism. These indicators include a family history of substance abuse problems, steady drinking over time, age, sex and a history of depression.

Environmental risk factors, like work-related stress, uncontrollable social situations, loneliness and interpersonal conflicts can increase the potential for alcohol abuse. These factors can be mitigated by avoiding situations where alcohol consumption is the focus. Get involved with the Single Marine Program, the United Service Organizations, or other volunteer

organizations, or seek guidance through your chain of command or chaplain's office when dealing with homesickness or conflicts with roommates or co-workers.

Another problem plaguing the prevention of alcohol abuse, especially in the military community, is the stigma that those who seek help are weak or damaged. This is simply not the case.

As Marines, we are supposed to know ourselves and seek self-improvement. Reaching out for help when needed instead of pretending the problem does not exist shows true moral courage. Leaders need to make it known that seeking help does not make you weak or less of a Marine.

**“Reaching out for help when needed instead of pretending the problem does not exist shows true moral courage.”**

It is also important for Marines to realize the stereotype of seeing the substance abuse control officer as a punishment is not true. The SACO is there to help Marines get treatment and assistance.

Once a Marine gets help and possibly goes to treatment, it is imperative the leadership stays engaged and keeps the Marine from high-risk situations, which might hinder their ability to successfully complete treatment.

To accomplish these goals, the Substance Abuse Counseling Center offers many educational classes and programs, in addition to screenings and treatment plans. For more information, visit [www.mccso-kinawa.com/mccs](http://www.mccso-kinawa.com/mccs) or call 645-3009.

*Brewer was the substance abuse control officer for 7th Communication Battalion, III Marine Expeditionary Force Headquarters Group, III MEF.*

## AROUND THE CORPS



Sgt. Cogen T. Nelson rides with the Marine Corps flag during cycling practice for the 2012 Warrior Games in Colorado Springs, Colo., April 28. Nelson, a second-time participant in the games, will be competing for the Ultimate Champion title. The Warrior Games is a competition between wounded warriors from all military branches and includes swimming, track and field, cycling, shooting, archery, sitting volleyball and wheelchair basketball. Photo by Lance Cpl. Daniel A. Wetzel



Lance Cpl. Noel Miranda patrols through Musa Qa'leh District, Afghanistan, April 23. Miranda was part of a patrol aiding in the disruption of insurgent supply lines and gaining intelligence from local civilians. Miranda is an infantryman with Company G, 2nd Battalion, 5th Marine Regiment, 1st Marine Division. Photo by Cpl. Kenneth C. Jasik



Marines fire M240B machine guns during live-fire training aboard the USS Pearl Harbor at sea April 24. The 11th Marine Expeditionary Unit is deployed aboard the USS Pearl Harbor, part of the Makin Island Amphibious Ready Group. The Marines are with Battalion Landing Team 3rd Battalion, 1st Marine Regiment, 11th MEU.

Photo by Cpl. Tommy Huynh

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# III MEF Marines prepare for AASAM 12

Sgt. Brandon L. Saunders

OKINAWA MARINE STAFF

CAMP HANSEN — In preparation for the Australian Army Skill at Arms Meeting 2012, Marines practiced weapons-handling skills and familiarized themselves with a new assault rifle here April 24.

In its fifth year, the AASAM is a multilateral event allowing Marines to exchange skills, tactics, techniques and procedures with members of the Australian Army and members of 14 other international militaries in friendly competition.

The detachment of III Marine Expeditionary Force Marines is comprised of Marines stationed in Okinawa and from Marine Corps Combat Development Command, Quantico, Va.

“This gives the Marines a chance to train and compete with different countries,” said Staff Sgt. Travis W. Hawthorne, III MEF detachment staff noncommissioned officer-in-charge. “I’ve been in the Marine Corps for 11 years, and this is the first time I’ve done something like this.”

During the competition, Marines will compete with the 5.56 mm M27 infantry automatic rifle. The rifle, the proposed replacement for the M249 squad automatic weapon, provides many advantages to the shooter. It is similar to the



Lance Cpl. Zachary A. Whitman familiarizes himself with the M27 infantry automatic rifle in preparation for the Australian Army Skill at Arms Meeting 2012. AASAM is a multilateral, multinational event allowing Marines to exchange skills tactics, techniques and procedures with members of the Australian Army, as well as other international militaries in friendly competition. Whitman is a marksman with the III Marine Expeditionary Force detachment. Photo by Sgt. Brandon L. Saunders

M16A4 service rifle in size, weight and design, making it easier to maneuver than the M249 SAW.

The M27 IAR is shorter in length than its predecessor and offers the option to shoot at semi or fully automatic rates of fire. Since the rifle has a free-floating barrel, the user is able to achieve greater accuracy when shooting.

“I joined the Marine Corps to travel the world and utilize different

weapons systems,” said Lance Cpl. Brandon H. Wright, a shooter with the III MEF detachment. “I finally get to do that.”

The Australian Army extended the invitation for U.S. Marine Corps participation in the multinational event. AASAM is currently being hosted at the Puckapunyal Combined Arms Training Center, Victoria, Australia. The competition is scheduled for May 7-17.

Other participating nations included the United Kingdom, Canada, France, New Zealand, Indonesia, Malaysia, Singapore, Thailand, Republic of the Philippines, Japan, Brunei, Timor-Leste, China and Tonga.

“I (think) it’s a great opportunity,” said Lance Cpl. Kevin S. Kahlon, a marksman with the III MEF detachment. “I am excited to celebrate our partnership with our Australian brothers-in-arms.”

## MCPON visits Okinawa



Master Chief Petty Officer of the Navy Rick D. West speaks during a chief petty officer all-hands call and luncheon at the Butler Officers’ Club at Plaza Housing April 25. West was in Okinawa conducting all-hands calls and visiting with sailors as part of a tour of Navy facilities in the Far East. The purpose of the trip was to help West develop a better understanding of the needs of sailors stationed here. Photo Courtesy of MCPON Public Affairs

## Family readiness officers unify efforts

Lance Cpl. Mike Granahan

OKINAWA MARINE STAFF

CAMP KINSER — Family readiness officers met at Camp Kinser’s Surfside Club during an information and resource fair April 27.

During the fair, FROs discussed how to better serve military families.

The fair provided a unique opportunity for the agencies which support the unit personal and family readiness program to increase awareness of services available to support Marines, sailors and their families.

The organizations, including SemperFit, United Service Organizations, American Red Cross and Exceptional Family Member Program, set out booths and provided information pamphlets detailing their services.

The agencies are encouraged to network and share information with Family Readiness Command Team advisors because of the wealth of knowledge these individuals possess, said Denise Loftesnes, the III Marine Expeditionary Force FRO.

“I think (the unit personal and family readiness program) is one of the most remarkable programs we’ve got going in the Marine Corps right now,” said Maj. Gen. William D. Beydler, commanding general

of 1st Marine Aircraft Wing, III MEF.

Most Marines stationed in the United States receive advanced notification before they deploy, but that is not always the case with III MEF, said Beydler. The potential for short notice makes readiness a necessity.

“To have a ready force, every individual person needs to be ready,” said Sgt. Maj. Stephen D. Morefield, III MEF sergeant major. “By helping (Marines and their families) get through some of the common friction points, (FROs) are critical to us being able to respond at a moment’s notice.”

To ensure the well-being of service members and their families, FROs execute the four tenets of the program: official communication, readiness and deployment, information and referral, and volunteer management.

“(Being a FRO) means I have a daily opportunity to make a contribution to the well-being of Marines, sailors and families,” said Loftesnes.

FROs serve as the primary channel of communication between commanders and their Marines’ families.

“(FROs) have the power to make massive differences, not only in the lives of our Marines and sailors but their families as well,” said Morefield.

## BRIEFS

## 2012 ROAD TAX COLLECTION

Personnel are required to pay road tax on all vehicles not de-registered before April 1. All 2012 road tax stickers must be displayed before June 1.

Road taxes may be paid at the following locations and times:

- Kadena Keystone Theater: May 7, 8 and 11, from 9:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m., May 9 from noon to 3:30 p.m., May 10 from 10:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.
- Camp Foster Theater: May 14-16, 9:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.
- Camp Courtney Education Center: May 17-18, 9:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.
- Torii Station Chapel Annex: May 21, 9:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.
- Camp Hansen, The Palms: May 22, 9:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m.
- Camp Schwab Camp Services: May 23, 9:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m.

The following original documents are required: military registration, 2011 road tax receipt, vehicle title, Japanese compulsory insurance and American insurance. Road taxes must be paid in Japanese yen only.

For more details, contact the Joint Service Vehicle Registration Office at 645-7481/3963.



## PLAZA ENTRANCE DETOUR

Plaza Housing gate 8, the main entrance, will be closed beginning May 12 at 1 p.m. Work is scheduled to end June 22. All traffic will be diverted to Plaza gate 8a.

Personnel leaving Plaza Housing will take Ernie Pyle Road to Bragg Road and follow it through gate 8a. Continue to the intersection and turn right onto Highway 85 which will connect with Highway 330.

Personnel wishing to enter Plaza Housing will pass gate 8 and turn left at the first traffic signal. Follow that road downhill to gate 8a.

For more information and a map, visit [www.facebook.com/campfoster](http://www.facebook.com/campfoster).

## TAKE CARE OF OUR OWN VIA NMCRS

The Navy-Marine Corps active-duty fund drive, extended to May 15, provides a valuable opportunity to contribute to the Navy-Marine Corps Relief Society. NMCRS helps Marines, sailors and their families by providing assistance, including financial support and education.

To donate, speak with your unit representative and fill out a paper form.

**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.

## SQUARED AWAY

## Alcohol abuse ends careers, hurts units

Cpl. Garry J. Welch

OKINAWA MARINE STAFF

**A**worsening personal appearance, financial problems and neglecting responsibilities at home, school or work can all be signs that a Marine is abusing alcohol.

Alcohol abuse can happen at any level within the command, but it is the responsibility of non-commissioned officers to know their Marines and to take appropriate actions if one of their Marines exhibits signs they may have a problem.

“Combating the debilitating threat posed by alcohol abuse and alcohol dependency on both Marines and mission readiness requires a total commitment from all NCOs,” said Cpl. Ricky R. Shorter Jr., an administrative clerk with Headquarters and Service Battalion, Marine Corps Base Butler, Marine Corps Installations Pacific. “We have to be aware of the characteristics of alcohol abuse and the symptoms of the disease of alcoholism.”

Alcohol abuse can happen anywhere. For instance, Marines may find themselves bored in the barracks and turn to alcohol as a way of entertaining themselves.

“Instead of allowing their Marines to just drink, NCOs should encourage their Marines to engage in other activities such as participating in the Single Marine Program trips,” said Sgt. Justin R. Burch, a section chief with 3rd Battalion, 12th Marine Regiment, 3rd Marine Division, III Marine Expeditionary Force. “Or the NCOs should put together group activities the unit could do together.”

Alcohol abuse affects the Marine abusing it and every Marine they work with. It degrades the abusing Marine’s readiness, and in turn degrades the unit’s overall readiness.

“It can give the unit a bad name,” said Burch. “That Marine becomes a weak link in the unit and affects unit cohesion because most of the time if they have been drinking and are hungover they

are late, tired, lazy and insubordinate. That Marine then becomes unable to help the unit during deployments and exercises.”

Alcohol abuse could pose a significant obstacle in a Marine’s future career, especially when it is time for promotion or re-enlistment. If a pattern of misconduct surfaces, the Marine’s career is in jeopardy.

It is the job of NCOs to ensure their Marines are drinking responsibly, and when irresponsible drinking takes place it is their job to ensure their Marines get the help they need.

According to Burch, if a Marine is abusing alcohol, it does not make them a bad Marine. There are many factors that can lead a good Marine to abuse alcohol, and it is up to NCOs to pull that Marine aside and see what’s going on in their life that’s leading them to seek comfort in alcohol.

“With the Marine Corps downsizing, any trouble that a Marine gets in can be a career ender,” said Sgt. Robert R. Taulung, career planner with Marine Air Support Squadron 2, Marine Air Control Group 18, 1st Marine Aircraft Wing, III MEF. “For first-term Marines, having a disciplinary record due to alcohol abuse reflects very poorly on that Marine, and they will probably not be allowed to re-enlist.”

Although the majority of Marines are sent to the substance abuse control officer because of an alcohol-related incident, many Marines have gone to SACO for help voluntarily and have gone on to be successful in the Marine Corps.

Going to SACO voluntarily not only gets the Marine the immediate help they need, but it can save a Marine’s career and keep them out of trouble, according to Shorter.

NCOs must watch out for their junior Marines and ensure that if their Marines drink, they drink responsibly. Junior Marines are also responsible to watch out for one another and know their own limitations.

## DISCUSSION BOARD: ALCOHOL ABUSE



Cpl. Stephen M. Houserman, 3rd Marine Logistics Group

**“Unquestionably, the ramifications of alcohol abuse are not solely reserved for the individual. Rather, the legitimacy of an entire command could be affected because of one alcohol-related incident. We all had to sacrifice something to wear this uniform. Don’t let binge drinking take that accomplishment away from you.”**



Cpl. Jeremy Horton, 1st Marine Aircraft Wing

**“Instead of Marines finding a temporary relief in a bottle, they should make a lasting commitment to honor the Corps by being the best Marine they can be.”**



Cpl. Antonio Santana, Marine Corps Base Camp Butler

**“Alcohol abuse affects the Marine Corps just like it affects anything else. Excess drinking is a sign of irresponsibility, weakness, lack of judgment and self control. It lessens and destroys every leader, which is unacceptable in the Corps.”**

To join the discussion, visit [www.facebook.com/3mef.mcipac](http://www.facebook.com/3mef.mcipac)

# Chaplains prepare to serve



**Rear Adm. Margaret G. Kibben speaks to chaplains with Marine Corps Base Camp Butler and Marine Corps Air Station Iwakuni at the Ocean Breeze on Camp Foster during the Annual Chaplain Professional Development Training Course April 24. The course was designed to educate chaplains about various topics they may encounter. Those topics included sexual assault, combat-related stress, deployment stress and stress caused by living overseas. Kibben is the 18th chaplain of the Marine Corps and the deputy chief of Navy Chaplains.** Photo by Lance Cpl. Nicholas S. Ranum

## ASSAULT from pg 1

were educated about the effects of sexual assault and how to implement preventative measures by guest speakers and a live performance from the Pacific Okinawa Players, a volunteer theater organization.

"The performance offered more for the audience than just reading statistics," said Casidy Denman, a scriptwriter and director for the group.

People who have not been indirectly or directly affected by sexual assault developed a better understanding of its negative impacts, he added.

The performance began with a skit during which a victim reported she was sexually assaulted to a counselor. It depicted questions that might be asked when reporting sexual assault and portrayed how someone might react when reporting sexual assault.

The second part of the performance characterized a male service member acting inappropriately toward a female service member and detailed appropriate responses from bystanders.

"Everyone needs to acknowledge this is an issue," said Cpl. Michelle S. Monrroy, a company clerk with Combat Logistics Regiment 37, 3rd MLG, III MEF. "I feel if you are trying to prevent sexual assault, whether you are a victim or witness it, you need to speak up about it."

After the performance, audience members asked questions to a panel of six volunteers ranging from corporal to colonel.

"To (shield) ourselves from sexual assault, we need to have and be aware of our internal boundaries," said Col. Julia A. Meade, assistant chief of staff, G-3, operations and training, 3rd MLG. "Every Marine, male or female, should be able to look themselves in the mirror at the

end of the day and know whether their actions were right or wrong."

Koren Zailckas, author of the books "Smashed: Story of a Drunken Girlhood" and "Fury: A Memoir," was invited to speak at the III MEF luncheon and the 3rd MLG symposium, about the importance of sexual assault prevention, the correlation between alcohol abuse and sexual assault, and read excerpts from her book.

Nationally, sexual assault awareness month is conducted throughout military installations to promote awareness. It also provides commands and installations the opportunity to highlight Department of Defense and service policies addressing sexual assault prevention and response.

To learn more about sexual assault prevention, contact your unit's sexual assault response coordinator.

## MCAA from pg 1

and Kanehoe Bay in Hawaii.

"We brought people down from MCAS Iwakuni, but sadly we could not bring any Marines from Hawaii," said James P. VanEtten, the Naval Aviation Enterprise current readiness advisor for the wing. "We held a separate awards ceremony for them earlier this year with the assistant commander."

Leaders emphasized the strategic importance of 1st MAW in a forward-deployed location.

"We are at a critical point in time and at a critical point in geography," said Col. Leo A. Falcam Jr., a guest speaker for the event, longtime Naval aviator and deputy commander of Marine Corps Installations Pacific.

"There are many situations that allow you to exploit your skills to the fullest," he added. "Those

situations can be anything from humanitarian operations to the sanctioned use of violence against the enemies of our nation."

Marine Medium Helicopter Squadron 262 won the MCAA award for the best safety record for a squadron in 1st MAW and also won the award at the national level.

In addition to HMM-262, many other Okinawa-based units and individuals won awards at both levels.

Events like this are designed to pull everyone together to gain a sense of camaraderie, Falcam said. Marines have to have fun doing what they do, and leaders have to make time to reward the many deserving Marines and units.

Safety is paramount to air operations, said Falcam. Marine air and ground crews are trained to operate in the safest way possible at all times.

## BK 12 from pg 1

speaker remarked on "culminating another historic event," by working together and having a mutual respect for one another deeply rooted in cooperation. The speakers indicated that these successes were born out of the longstanding relationship between the Philippines and United States.

Harry K. Thomas Jr., U.S. ambassador to the Philippines, stood at the podium and spoke of the respect he witnessed among the exercise participants. He playfully took his speech, tore it up, and tossed it away, because he said he could not say anything better than what had been said by military leadership.

U.S. Marine Lt. Gen. Duane D. Thiessen, commander, U.S. Marine Corps Forces, Pacific; Philippine Army Gen. Jessie D. Dellosa, AFP chief of staff; and Philippine Navy Rear Adm. Victor Emmanuel C. Martir, AFP exercise director, all spoke of the mutual respect, admiration and gratitude the participating forces have for one another.

"This exercise was an amazing success," Thiessen said. "I want to compliment the leadership, the vision of the government of the Philippines, and the leadership of the Armed Forces of the Philippines for everything they have done during this exercise. I have been very, very impressed."

Exercise Balikatan is an annual training event aimed at improving combined planning, combat readiness, humanitarian assistance operations and interoperability between the AFP and United States.

"As it has been in the past ... through the spirit and meaning of Balikatan, you have shouldered the work together," said Honorio Azcueta, Philippine undersecretary of defense. "The training program you have participated in shall improve your professional advancement."

The various activities provided the opportunity for the members of the AFP and U.S. forces to get to know each other, train together, and provide

assistance to local communities. More than 6,500 Philippine and American troops participated in this year's Balikatan.

During the humanitarian and civic assistance portion, which mainly took place in various locations in Palawan, an island southwest of mainland Philippines, both Philippine and U.S. medical personnel teamed up to treat 5,862 patients in need of medical care, and veterinarians treated approximately 6,091 animals.

The command post exercise consisted of notional tabletop exercises and was a multilateral event focused on humanitarian assistance and disaster relief operations' planning and coordination. Leaders simulated natural-disaster scenarios to test and improve planning, preparation and disaster-response capabilities of the participating countries. In addition to Philippine and U.S. involvement, Australia, Indonesia, Malaysia, the Republic of Korea, Singapore and Vietnam also participated.

The field-training exercise portion of Balikatan provided realistic bilateral training scenarios, from live-fire events to explosive ordnance disposal training.

"This is our 28th Balikatan," Thiessen said. "Over those years, I've watched the Philippines and the United States work together. I have seen our exercises grow in sophistication and in mutual capacity."

"We are at a level we have never been at before," he added. "I'm very impressed."

"With all of these activities undertaken, it is safe to say, 'We have achieved what we planned to accomplish in this year's exercise,'" Martir said. "I would like to take this opportunity to thank all the officers, men and women, soldiers, sailors, airmen and Marines from both forces who made this year's exercise a successful and significantly safe event for all."

# CLB-4 expands patrols to new supply

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

Marines with Company A, Combat Logistics Battalion 4, conducted a combat logistics patrol along Route Red-West for the first time recently.

CLB-4 is assigned to 1st Marine Logistics Group (Forward), I Marine Expeditionary Force (Forward), and was providing tactical logistics support to Forward Operating Base Now Zad, Afghanistan, in addition to several other FOBs and combat outposts.

The patrol delivered 235 short tons of supplies and 5,000 gallons of fuel during the operation. In addition, it retrograded 155 short tons of supplies and equipment.

“Taking a new route during a (combat logistics patrol) is a challenge because we have to learn what the atmospheric are along with the route,” said 2nd Lt. Charles M. Brooks, a platoon commander with Co. A, CLB-4. “We don’t know what the terrain is like, what the enemy’s disposition in the area is, or how the locals are going to act when we go through the city (of Now Zad).”



Lance Cpl. Paul C. Maina clears dirt and debris from the locking slot of a shipping container at FOB Now Zad, Afghanistan, April 24. Maina loaded the shipping container onto his vehicle during a CLB-4 patrol. Maina is a motor vehicle operator with Company A, CLB-4.

Co. A worked with the battlespace owners, 2nd Battalion, 5th Marine Regiment, Regimental Combat Team 6, and the CLB-4 intelligence section to help prepare for the route and overcome the challenges, according to Staff Sgt. Luis R. MartinezBido, a platoon sergeant with Co. A, CLB-4.

“We talked to the units who had been there before us, who were familiar with the route, to learn what

to expect,” said MartinezBido. “We also looked at any (significant acts) which took place along the route recently to see what was happening in the area.”

The CLB-4 patrol also continued to provide support to FOB Edinburgh and Combat Outposts Eredvi and Shirghazi during the operation, a mission the Co. A Marines have become proficient at, according to MartinezBido.

“The Marines have made very dramatic progress since (the first FOB Edinburgh combat logistics patrol),” said MartinezBido. “They know what is required of them, and they come out here and get it done.”

Vehicle maintenance is one of the key areas where the Marines improved, according to Brooks.

“This convoy had the least amount of maintenance issues; and part of that is because we had a maintenance stand-down where we halted missions for a week to thoroughly (inspect) the vehicles and fix any issues,” said Brooks.

Afghan National Police aided the combat logistics patrol by providing security at a series of checkpoints along the roadways, according to Brooks. They also patrolled the area near FOB Now Zad.

The maintenance stand-down, preparation for patrolling the new route, and security and counterinsurgency operations conducted by the ANP, all played into making the mission a success.

“We met the timeline for the mission, avoided any major maintenance issues and continued to support the battlespace owners,” said Brooks.

Lance Cpl. Adam R. Tornatore, helps an Afghan driver change a damaged tire on his truck at FOB Now Zad, Afghanistan, April 23. The Afghan truck was embedded in the CLB-4 convoy. Tornatore is a motor vehicle operator with CLB-4.



# route

A Marine uses the load-handling system on a logistics vehicle system replacement to load a shipping container during a combat logistics patrol in Afghanistan April 23. The CLB-4 patrol supported counterinsurgency operations in the area.



A rough-terrain container handler offloads a shipping container from a Company A, CLB-4 logistics vehicle system replacement at FOB Edinburgh, Afghanistan, April 22. The shipping container was delivered to the FOB during a five-day combat logistics patrol.

In the background: Combat Logistics Battalion 4 tactical vehicles cross an expanse of desert near Forward Operating Base Edinburgh, Afghanistan, April 22. The combat logistics patrol supported counterinsurgency operations in the area. CLB-4 is a part of 1st Marine Logistics Group (Forward), I Marine Expeditionary Force (Forward).

# III MEF Band jazzes Kin Town

Lance Cpl. Matthew Manning  
OKINAWA MARINE STAFF

As daylight faded from the sky and shopkeepers prepared for another Friday night's business, the sound of instruments being tuned and musicians warming up drew a diverse crowd of spectators.

As the crowd purchased food from local vendors and found its seats for the show, the members of the III Marine Expeditionary Force Band prepared to perform in Kin Town April 27.

"This is the first time the band has played in Kin Town in about 20 years," said Takayuki Kayo, the community relations specialist for Camp Hansen.

The community responded well to the free show.

"I actually did not know the band was going to be playing today," said Paul Cassity, a spectator. "I had just planned on going to the park with my daughters, but when I saw the band setting up for their concert I decided to stay and called my neighbors to let them know about the show."



Marines with the III Marine Expeditionary Force Band performs at a free jazz concert in Kin Town April 27. This was the first concert the III MEF Band has held in Kin Town in more than 20 years. The III MEF Band performed this concert to help strengthen community ties through music. Photo by Lance Cpl. Matthew Manning

The opportunity to interact with the community proved to be fun for the band members as well, said Sgt. Ted D. McElwee, a trombonist with the band.

"I enjoy when we have events like this because we are able to work around the people of Okinawa," said McElwee. "Music is

a universal language, so having this concert is a positive way (to) relate (with) the community."

The venue was appropriate for the concert and will likely be used again.

"I have been talking more with the officer of the band, and we would like to continue to have the band come out and

play in Kin Town," said Kayo. "This is a very positive way the Marines can reach out to the Okinawan community. It does not matter what language someone speaks (everyone can) enjoy good music."

For more information about the III MEF Band and concert schedule, call 645-3919.



A child knocks down a pyramid of cans at a carnival on Camp Foster April 27 while her dad cheers her on.

Photo by Lance Cpl. Nicholas S. Ranum

## Chimugukuru Center celebrates military children during carnival

Lance Cpl. Donald T. Peterson  
OKINAWA MARINE STAFF

As bubbles floated through the air, glistening in the sunlight, children laughed and played, trying to pop as many as they could.

The Chimugukuru Center on Camp Foster celebrated the Month of the Military Child with a carnival April 27, which included recreational games and activities for the children of the center.

The Month of the Military Child is a time to honor, recognize, and thank the children of military personnel for the sacrifices they make daily.

Throughout the month of April, the center has celebrated military children with

many activities. It concluded the month-long celebration with a carnival, featuring Okinawan and American flair.

"It's important that we take the time to appreciate the sacrifices the children make with having to move around all the time," said Jocelyn Simmons, Chimugukuru Child Development Center director. "It's also important that they experience the culture and learn from it."

The carnival began with the Japanese and American national anthems followed by a performance from the III Marine Expeditionary Force Band.

"It's such a great experience for the children to have everyone come out and volunteer to help recognize them," said Sgt. Renee A. Caseman, a postal clerk with Marine Corps Base Camp Butler Consolidated Postal System, whose child is enrolled in the center.

Staff and students from the Nishibaru Preschool and the Ballet Folklorica Mexicana de Okinawa performed dance routines at the event. Marine volunteers from various units helped with arts and crafts, face painting and food service.

"The most important part of this is the bonding, whether it's between the children and parents or (sharing experiences) with the Okinawan children," said Caseman.

As the carnival ended and the families began to leave, one could hear voices of several children saying that they did not want to leave, and instead wanted to stay and play more games.

"With the help of (members of the local community) and Marines, the carnival was an enjoyable event for everyone," said Simmons.



Children from the Chimugukuru Center dance to the music played by the III Marine Expeditionary Force Band at a carnival held in celebration of the Month of the Military Child on Camp Foster April 27. Photo by Lance Cpl. Nicholas S. Ranum

# American Women's Welfare Association celebrates 40 years

Story and photo by Lance Cpl. Courtney G. White  
OKINAWA MARINE STAFF

The American Women's Welfare Association celebrated its 40th anniversary with a friendship banquet at the Kadena Officers' Club on Kadena Air Base April 23.

AWWA is an organization that provides opportunities for military spouse organizations on Okinawa to coordinate and consolidate their resources.

The organization enables the groups to have a greater positive influence with American and Japanese charities on Okinawa and the surrounding islands, according to Debi Panke, president of AWWA.

"AWWA is made up of the five military spouse organizations on Okinawa," said Panke. "The Army Community Group of Okinawa, the Kadena Officers' Spouses' Club, the Marine Officers' Spouses' Club, the Navy Officers' Spouses' Club on Okinawa and the Okinawa Enlisted Spouses' Club."

The organization gathers monthly to discuss and plan community involvement activities.

In the past 40 years, AWWA has supported many American and Okinawan charities, said Panke.

In one situation, AWWA helped the Boy Scouts of America Far East Council to acquire kayaks, said Dan Richard, the district executive for the Boy Scouts of America Far East Council.

"The Boy Scouts now have the opportunity to earn their Kayak Merit Badge," said Richard.

The organization also helped provide a wheelchair accessible van for the Uruma City Social Welfare Meeting, a facility that provides daily activity to the elderly residents of Uruma City.

The van provides transportation to the city for the elderly and disabled, said Kenkou Nakayama, Uruma City welfare councilman. About 300 people use the facility daily, and the van is used multiple times per day.

AWWA can have such a great influence because of its military spouse volunteers, said Panke.

"Over the last 40 years, the amount of volunteer hours have been tremendous," said Panke. "It's amazing to see what goodwill can do."



A winner accepts her prize during a raffle drawing at the American Women's Welfare Association anniversary Friendship Banquet at the Kadena Officers' Club April 23. AWWA enables spouses' groups to have a significant positive influence with the American and Japanese charities on Okinawa and the surrounding islands, according to Debi Panke, president of the AWWA.



Participants of the 2012 Camp Courtney Open-Water Triathlon sprint into the sea to begin the 300-meter swim portion of the race April 29.



Participants compete in the cycling portion of the 2012 Camp Courtney Open-Water Triathlon April 29.

## Courtney hosts triathlon

Story and photos by Lance Cpl. Daniel E. Valle  
OKINAWA MARINE STAFF

As the chilly water broke along the shoreline, participants rushed into the waves.

Marine Corps Community Services Athletics hosted the 2012 Camp Courtney Open-Water Triathlon on Camp Courtney April 29.

The race was open to all ages, islandwide. More than 150 participants competed in the event, which was composed of a 300-meter swim, an 8.4-kilometer bike ride and a 2.4-km run.

"I think the turnout for the event was great," said Bryan White, a sports coordinator with MCCS Athletics on Camp Courtney. "At 150 participants, we maxed-out our sign-ups."

Camp Courtney is the only installation on Okinawa able to host an open-water swim as part of a triathlon, due to the beach located on the camp, according to White.

"Since we are more than 25 meters off the shore, we have to get our event approved by the Japan Coast Guard," said White. "The event is very unique because we get to work hand-in-hand with the Japanese to make it possible."

Open-water races are always the best, said Lt. Col. Stephen P. Armes, the first-place winner of the triathlon.

"It is always nice to start with the open-water swim," said Armes. "Coming from California, it is what I am used to."

"The pool swims are really tough because they are always during the hottest part of the year and are usually the last event," said Armes.

"By the time you are done with the run and bike ride, you get into the pool and begin to cramp from exhaustion," he added.

For short, fast events like the Camp Courtney triathlon, constant training is the best way to prepare, according to Armes.

"It is not that you need to do a lot of training to win a race like this," said Armes. "You need to concentrate on high-intensity training. Do intervals on the track, in the pool, and on the bike."

Keito Matsuda, a 12-year-old participant and the third-place overall winner, holds a similar training schedule.

"Every day, I go to swim at school," said Matsuda. "Twice a week, I run and bike."

Both Armes and Matsuda believe competitors must push themselves.

"You never know how far ahead you are," said Armes. "You have to push as hard as you can because you never know how close that person behind you is, and you can't let him catch up."

Despite all the work that went into preparing for the triathlon, the participants agreed that it was time well spent.

"It is enjoyable and fun to participate in events with people older than me," said Matsuda. "It was too hot outside, but I tried and I am happy with all I could do."

*During Golden Week, April 29 through May 5, the Japanese celebrate several holidays. The National Holiday Laws declare four official holidays are to be celebrated annually in the week spanning the end of April to early May. In honor of Golden Week, Marine commands throughout Okinawa held several events with their Okinawan counterparts to celebrate.*

## Marines host children, mothers during Golden Week



Children from the Urawa Single Mothers Shelter anticipate their turn during a visit to the Camp Courtney Bowling Center April 28 on Camp Courtney in celebration of Golden Week.

Story and photos by  
**Lance Cpl. Courtney G. White**

OKINAWA MARINE STAFF

Service members stationed aboard Camp Courtney volunteered to spend time with the residents of the Urawa Single Mothers Shelter at the Camp Courtney Bowling Center April 28 in celebration of Golden Week.

Golden Week is the name given to the week of April 29 to May 5.

During the week, Japanese citizens celebrate many national holidays including

**“It was a great event for the kids because they were able to get the experience of being around people from a different country.”**

Yumiko Fujii

Constitution Day, Greenery Day and Children’s Day.

“It was a great event for the kids because they were able to get the experience of being around people from a different country,” said Yumiko Fujii, a student in Umehara’s English class who volunteered to assist as an interpreter for the event. “The children did not hesitate to interact with the American people, and everyone seemed to be having fun.”

The visit consisted of bowling and pizza and concluded with a tour of the commissary, said Ichiro Umehara, liaison officer with the camp operations office on Camp Courtney.

“We had fun,” said Reiko Terukina, a mother who attended the event. “The children were happy.”

The event was designed to provide the guests with a little taste of American atmosphere, said 2nd Lt. Daniel E. English, camp operations officer for Camp Courtney.

“We invited the residents of the Urawa Single Mothers Shelter, so they would get the opportunity to see what goes on aboard a military base,” said English. “They have the chance to experience American culture and see the differences between an American store and an Okinawan store.”

Hosting activities where Marines and sailors interact with the Okinawan community members creates positive relationships with the local community, said English.

“We are guests in (this) country,” said English. “It is important that we maintain a friendly relationship with our neighbors, and doing events like this helps to show them we are good people.”

This event was a good way to get to know each other at a more personal level, according to Fujii.

“The Marines showed a lot of hospitality, and we appreciate their time,” said Fujii.



Cpl. Vincent Rios and children from the Urawa Single Mothers Shelter compare scores at the conclusion of their game at the Camp Courtney Bowling Center April 28 in celebration of Golden Week. Rios is an embarkation specialist with Communications Company, Headquarters Battalion, 3rd Marine Division, III Marine Expeditionary Force.

# In Theaters Now

**MAY 4 - 10**

## FOSTER

**TODAY** The Lucky One (PG13), 6 p.m.; Safe House (R), 9 p.m.  
**SATURDAY** Journey 2: The Mysterious Island (PG), noon; Gone (PG13), 3 p.m.; American Reunion (R), 6 p.m.; Project X (R), 9 p.m.  
**SUNDAY** Journey 2: The Mysterious Island (PG), 1 p.m.; Safe (R), 4 and 7 p.m.  
**MONDAY** Act of Valor (R), 7 p.m.  
**TUESDAY** Project X (R), 7 p.m.  
**WEDNESDAY** Gone (PG13), 7 p.m.  
**THURSDAY** Safe (R), 7 p.m.

## KADENA

**TODAY** Gone (PG13), 6 and 9 p.m.  
**SATURDAY** The Lucky One (PG13), noon and 3 p.m.; Project X (R), 6 and 9 p.m.  
**SUNDAY** The Lucky One (PG13), 1 and 4 p.m.; Project X (R), 7 p.m.  
**MONDAY** The Lucky One (PG13), 7 p.m.  
**TUESDAY** The Three Stooges (PG), 7 p.m.  
**WEDNESDAY** The Three Stooges (PG), 7 p.m.  
**THURSDAY** The Three Stooges (PG), 7 p.m.

## COURTNEY

**TODAY** Safe (R), 6 and 9 p.m.  
**SATURDAY** Wanderlust (R), 2 and 6 p.m.  
**SUNDAY** The Three Stooges (PG) 2 and 6 p.m.  
**MONDAY** Act of Valor (R), 7 p.m.  
**TUESDAY** Closed  
**WEDNESDAY** The Lucky One (PG13), 7 p.m.  
**THURSDAY** Closed

## FUTENMA

**TODAY** Act of Valor (R), 6:30 p.m.  
**SATURDAY** Safe (R), 4 and 7 p.m.  
**SUNDAY** Wanderlust (R), 4 p.m.; Act of Valor (R), 7 p.m.  
**MONDAY** The Three Stooges (PG), 6:30 p.m.  
**TUESDAY-THURSDAY** Closed

## KINSER

**TODAY** Project X (R), 6:30 p.m.  
**SATURDAY** Gone (PG13), 3 p.m.; Project X (R), 6:30 p.m.  
**SUNDAY** Gone (PG13), 3 p.m.; Project X (R), 6:30 p.m.  
**MONDAY** Closed  
**TUESDAY** Closed  
**WEDNESDAY** Safe (R), 3 and 6:30 p.m.  
**THURSDAY** Gone (PG13), 6:30 p.m.

## HANSEN

**TODAY** Gone (PG13), 7 p.m.  
**SATURDAY** The Three Stooges (PG), 6 p.m.; Project X (R), 9 p.m.  
**SUNDAY** Gone (PG13), 2 p.m.; Project X (R), 5:30 p.m.  
**MONDAY** Safe (R), 6 and 9 p.m.  
**TUESDAY** Safe (R), 7 p.m.  
**WEDNESDAY** Project X (R), 7 p.m.  
**THURSDAY** The Lucky One (PG13), 7 p.m.

## SCHWAB

**TODAY** The Three Stooges (PG), 7 p.m.  
**SATURDAY** Act of Valor (R), 5 p.m.  
**SUNDAY** Wanderlust (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.

### SMP ULTIMATE FRISBEE SHOWDOWN - MAY 12

• Join us on the field next to Gunners Fitness Center for a Frisbee Showdown. Deadline to sign up is today.

### PAINTBALL - MAY 26

• Bus departs Camp Kinser Semper Fit Gym at 7:30 a.m. and Marine Corps Air Station Futenma Semper Fit Gym at 8 a.m. Sign up deadline is May 17. There are 40 seats available. Bring your own water and snacks.

### 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:

“goyukkuri”  
 (pronounced:  
 goh yoo-koo-ree)  
 It means,  
 “feel at home,” or  
 “take your time.”



**April 23 - 27**

### RIFLE RANGE

Staff Sgt. Gustavo Hernandez, 3rd MLG, 337  
 Sgt. Gerald Guerra, 1st MAW, 337

### PISTOL RANGE

Staff Sgt. Daniel Alfred, III MHG, 338



# CHAPLAINS' CORNER

*“When you learn to attack fear effectively with determination and faith, you will be happier and more productive in life.”*

## Overcome your fear factors

**Lt. Cmdr. Kobena K. Arthur**  
 COMMAND CHAPLAIN MCAS FUTENMA

**W**e all have fears and anxieties that appear to control us. However, we do have the spiritual capacity to cope with them. Author Norman Vincent Peale believes that one can do so by taking the counsel of faith.

He relays the following story:

*One night during the Civil War, Gen. Thomas J. “Stonewall” Jackson was in conference with his generals. He was planning a daring mission in the Shenandoah Valley.*

*Strategically, it was a brilliant plan. The odds were high, but the possibility of success existed. Only a genius could have conceived and carried it through.*

*At the conclusion of the meeting, one of Jackson’s generals said timorously, “But, General Jackson, I fear we can’t carry it off.” Jackson rose, put his hand on his shoulder and said, “Never take counsel of your fears, General.”*

*Jackson was a man who took counsel not of fear but of faith that canceled out all fear.*

In canceling out fear by faith, Peale suggests that you say with determination:

“I do not want to be motivated by anxiety and fear anymore. I want to cast out fear and anxiety from my mind and no longer be dominated by them. I now decide – I now determine – that my anxiety and fear be brought under control, even eliminated, and that I become a person of faith.”

Another suggestion Peale gives is to write down all your fears on a sheet of paper. Determine your worst fear and decide to attack that particular fear alone. Your strength is equal to only one aspect of fear at a time, according to Peale.

Conceivably, an attack on more than one fear would be too much to successfully handle. But, if you overcome them one at a time, you will eventually conquer your entire fear pattern.

Finally, Peale suggests taking large “doses” of faith as well. Work at it zealously and constantly, with the purpose of saturating your entire consciousness with faith.

When you learn to attack fear effectively with determination and faith, you will be happier and more productive in life. You can do it!

FOR UPCOMING SPECIAL WORSHIP SERVICES AND EVENTS FOR ALL MARINE CORPS BASE CHAPELS, CALL 645-2501 OR VISIT [WWW.MARINES.MIL/UNIT/MCBJAPAN/PAGES/AROUNDMCBJ/CHAPEL.ASPX](http://WWW.MARINES.MIL/UNIT/MCBJAPAN/PAGES/AROUNDMCBJ/CHAPEL.ASPX)