

OKINAWA MARINE

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FLIGHT OF THE TIGERS



A CH-46E Sea Knight helicopter with Marine Medium Helicopter Squadron 262 prepares to land at Ie Shima, before beginning a coordinated rapid ground refueling exercise with airmen from 1st Special Operations Squadron, 353rd Special Operations Group, Kadena Air Base. HMM-262 is the aviation combat element of the 31st Marine Expeditionary Unit. SEE STORY ON PGS. 6-7 Photo by Lance Cpl. Stefanie C. Pupkiewicz

Marines, family members should make voices heard in presidential election

Gen. James T. Conway
COMMANDANT OF THE MARINE CORPS

WASHINGTON — The presidential election will be held on Nov. 4. To vote in the election, you must be registered.

I encourage all Marines, other service members attached to a Marine command, all authorized family members and civilian Marines to exercise their right to vote in person or by absentee ballot.

If you are deployed or stationed outside your state of legal voting residency, you must complete a federal post card application to register to vote or to request an absentee ballot.

The most frequent barrier voters encounter when voting absentee is insufficient ballot transit time. Register now to eliminate this potential problem.

If you need an FPCA or assistance in completing the FPCA, see your unit voting assistance officer or visit the Marine Corps voting Web site at <http://www.manpower.usmc.mil/voting>.

You can also obtain additional information from the Federal Voting Assistance Program Web site at <http://www.fvap.gov>.

I encourage everyone to exercise your right to vote. Register now, make your vote count.

Semper fidelis.

Motorcycle riders course graduates sign safety creed

Lance Cpl. Michael A. Bianco
OKINAWA MARINE STAFF

KADENA AIR BASE — As the Marine Corps surpassed a 10-year high in two-wheeled fatalities, the Commander, Marine Corps Bases Japan, has initiated a new, positive step for active duty Marines who graduate from the Basic Rider Course taught here.

Upon successful completion of the course, Marine graduates will be provided an opportunity to acknowledge their commitment to safe mo-

torcycle practices by signing a Motorcycle Safety Oath. Marines will then receive their Motorcycle Safety Foundation comple-

tion card and stamped endorsement on their Status of Forces Agreement driver's license.

Three Okinawa SEE PIN PG 4



(From right to left) Maj. Arthur L. Davidson Jr., Capt. Joe D. Blocker, Jeannene E. Blocker, and Staff Sgt. Michael C. Bailey of the Basic Rider Course take a safety oath Aug. 8 on Kadena Air Base. Photo by Lance Cpl. Michael A. Bianco

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These Colors; Don't Run

Morning ceremonies? Don't panic! Just grow up, stop, salute

Lance Cpl. Stefanie C. Pupkiewicz

The sounding of Colors every morning and every evening is a way of honoring everything the American flag stands for as well as those who sacrificed and died under it.

For many service members, the five-minute warning is a quick take-cover alarm.

Getting stuck outside during Colors is more of a nuisance than anything else. Why should I have to stop for music that is so long?

Respect.

The massive history of our country and our Corps is symbolized in the music and raising of the flag. If you ignore or are quick to dive into a building when they play, you're dodging out of acknowledging the sacrifices and strife of the service members before you.

No decent Marine, soldier, sailor or airman would consider desecrating a grave site, but when you don't stop and render the appropriate honors, then that

is what you are effectively doing — spitting in the face of veterans who fought and suffered.

What could you possibly be doing in such earnest that you would so blatantly ignore something so simple but steeped in tradition and importance? There are very few replies that could be granted an exception — wanting to get to chow or to the barracks faster are not among them.

Try to remember, next time you make a run for it — a run to beat the sounding of our Colors

— that it is not you making a last stand in the Chosin Reservoir, all of your comrades lying dead and frozen around you. It is not you with bamboo slivers shoved under your fingernails as you're interrogated by the Vietcong in a prisoner-of-war camp.

You are safe on a massive Marine Corps installation having to stand and salute for a few minutes.

Pupkiewicz is a combat correspondent with the Okinawa Marine newspaper.

Greatest challenges facing men's health are themselves, lack of activity

Submitted by Lifelines

Men in the United States may not be as healthy as they say they are.

Data from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention indicates cases of testicular and colorectal cancer have been on the rise for more than a decade. According to a recent survey commissioned by the American Academy of Family Physicians and conducted by Harris Interactive, almost one in five men age

55 or older have not received the recommended screening for colon cancer. And, while 79 percent of the men surveyed said they are in excellent, very good or good health, 42 percent have been diagnosed with at least one of the following chronic conditions: high blood pressure, heart

disease, arthritis, cancer or diabetes.

One of the biggest obstacles to improving men's health care is men themselves, the survey indicates. Among the findings:

Twenty-nine percent of men said they wait as long as possible before seeing a doctor when they feel sick, are in pain or are concerned about their health.

Men spend an average of 19 hours a week watching television, more than 4 hours a week watching sports, but only 38 percent of men in the United States exercise on a regular basis.

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention estimates more than 71 percent of men are overweight.

But not all is bad news. Among those men surveyed who indicated they had a spouse or significant other, 78 percent said their spouse

or significant other has influence over their decision to go to the doctor. But, what kind of doctor should a man see?

The Academy of Family Physicians recommends that all men have a personal family physician who knows their medical history and is their first point of contact for medical care.

In addition to diagnosing and treating illnesses, family physicians provide routine checkups, health-risk assessments, immunization and screening tests, and personalized counseling on healthy lifestyle choices. They also manage chronic illnesses and coordinate care, when necessary, with other specialists.

Lifelines is a Navy-created resource site for Marines, sailors and their families. Visit <http://lifelines.navy.mil> for more information.

Sempertoons

Created by Gunnery Sgt. Charles Wolf

"GOOD INITIATIVE.... BAD JUDGEMENT MARINE
YOU CAN NOT CORRECT A MISTAKE ON YOUR
COMPUTER SCREEN WITH... "WHITE OUT"!!!"



FACT CHECK BOOT SOCKS

Q: Some Marines have told me I may only wear coyote brown boot socks, while others say both jungle green and black socks are still authorized. What is the real deal with boot socks?

A: According to the Marine Corps Uniform Board, coyote brown socks will be standard as issued and sold through the Department of Defense supply system and will be worn with the Marine Corps combat utility uniform and whenever combat boots are worn. The order goes on to state green and black cushion sole socks may be worn until their replacement is required, however, as the decision was made by the presiding MCUB on Aug. 29, 2003, jungle green and black socks should no longer be purchased for wear with utilities.



31st Marine Expeditionary Unit Marines currently enrolled in the Chemical, Biological, Radiological and Nuclear Consequence Management Course monitor unidentified chemical agents July 31 on Camp Hansen. The service members conducted a mock improvised explosive device recognition scenario to test their IED identification skills in a mock contaminated area. Photos by Lance Cpl. Jason Spinella

31st MEU tackles CBRN course

Lance Cpl. Jason Spinella
31ST MARINE EXPEDITIONARY UNIT

CAMP HANSEN — In a hazardous materials environment, noxious fumes from chemical agents can prove deadly.

The 31st Marine Expeditionary Unit uses consequence management teams to quickly and skillfully take care of any situation requiring chemical, biological, radiological and nuclear specialist expertise.

Seventeen Marines and sailors from various military occupational specialties are undergoing the new and enhanced CBRN Consequence Management Course, which began July 16 and is scheduled to conclude Aug. 22, to become the 31st MEU's certified consequence management team.

According to Staff Sgt. Marco Flores, the lead instructor of the course, the importance of this training is to provide the MEU commander with a capable team to assess, mitigate and control a CBRN crisis.

"This team of Marines is responsible to react in the event of a hazardous materials situation and determine whether the situation is an accident or incident," said Sgt. James McCarty, a CBRN defense instructor with the MEU.

The course focuses on various aspects of the CBRN field and its history. Along with using the latest CBRN equipment, students undergo human vital signs classes to monitor the effects of CBRN agents on individuals.

Additionally, six hours were spent on the detection of CBRN agents and monitoring their hazardous levels.

"The new class gets in-depth with the new

state-of-the-art detection equipment, a variety of gas masks, and plenty of practical application," McCarty said.

For some of the students, learning about CBRN applications for the first time can be overwhelming. However, the course's length and pace allowed ample time for the students to learn.

According to Lance Cpl. Sean Lockard, a light armored vehicle repairman with Combat Logistics Battalion 31, 31st MEU, all the new detection equipment and gear becomes easy to work with and understand after the familiarization training.

"Because of the class, I feel very confident in using this new equipment in a real scenario," Lockard said.

While the training benefits the MEU as a whole, students have the opportunity to gain a marketable skill if they decide to leave the Marine Corps.

"All the gear and personal protection equipment the students are learning about and using could really help them if they decided to pursue a civilian career in the hazardous materials field," said Lance Cpl. Benjamin Rader, a CBRN defense specialist and assistant instructor for the MEU. "The certifications these students are earning is recognized as a major accomplishment in the civilian sector."

While the training and certification benefits the individual, the course's training focused on staying prepared for possible crises in the Asia-Pacific theater.

"All the Marines enrolled in the course seem to be grasping everything quite well," Rader said. "They should be ready for any mission scenario we throw their way and eventually, be ready to use these skills down range in potential real world missions."



Lance Cpl. Ricky Olivas, right, an intermediate radio repairman with Combat Logistics Battalion 31, 31st Marine Expeditionary Unit, is decontaminated by other members of the consequence management team on Camp Hansen July 31.

At the end of the course, the students' training will culminate in a capabilities exercise, which is designed to test their knowledge and prepare them for the MEU's upcoming fall deployment.

BRIEFS


RANGE HIGH SCORES

Aug. 4-8

Rifle Detail 29 - Hansen

Pvt. Hill, R.A. MALS-36 334

Rifle Detail 29 - Schwab

Sgt. Gagner, A.C. CLR-35 332

ANTI-TERRORISM ONLINE TRAINING

Service members who have not taken the Anti-Terrorism level 1 training in the past year are required to undergo the training.

The test can be found at <https://atlevel1.dtic.mil>.

URUMA CITY ROAD CLOSURE

Highway 75 is scheduled to be closed Sunday from 2 to 6 p.m. in Uruma City between Family Mart and the Kanehide supermarket due to a tug-of-war ceremony.

EXPRESSWAY TRAFFIC DELAYS

Due to the repairing of an expressway bridge, traffic delays can be expected between the Kin (exit 8) and Ginoza (exit 9) exits from Sunday until Dec. 26.

KUWAE PRESCHOOL REGISTRATION

Kuwae Preschool, located in Building 6047 on Camp Lester has spaces available for the 2008-2009 school year, for children of Status of Forces Agreement personnel 3 to 5 years old.

All children must be toilet trained and meet the required age by Oct. 31 of the school year.

Documentation required to register includes the child's passport, current shot records and an updated picture.

For more information, call 645-8419.

GTCCP CHANGE INFORMATION

Due to the transition of government travel credit cards from Bank of America to Citi Bank on Nov. 29, card holders' contact and mailing information with Bank of America must be up to date.

For more information, contact your GTCC agency program coordinator.

MARINE CORPS CCE REGISTRATION

The Marine Corps College of Continuing Education's early registration is underway for both the Expeditionary Warfare School and the Command Staff Course.

The courses, which begin in October, are broken down into two approximately 35-week sessions with classes one night a week.

For more information or to sign up, contact the Marine Corps College of Continuing Education at 645-2230, or visit the Web site at <http://www.tecom.usmc.mil/cce>.

NMCRS AFTER-HOURS CONTACT NUMBER

The Navy-Marine Corps Relief Society has a new after-hours contact number. The number's use is limited to emergency transportation requests due to illness or death of an immediate family member or grandparent.

The number is (909) 9574-2673.

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



Students line up Aug. 8 before a portion of the practical application test during the Basic Rider Course on Kadena Air Base. Photo by Lance Cpl. Michael A. Bianco

PIN FROM PG 1

Marines were the first graduates from the beginner course presented with gold wings after signing the Motorcycle Safety Oath Aug. 8.

"A lot more is going on than just handing them a certificate," said Col. John J. Sullivan Jr., the III Marine Expeditionary Force Inspector General. "Presenting the pins and certificates is a way of showing the command's concern and interest on this subject. This was just the kickoff of the commander's initiative towards leadership involvement with new motorcycle riders."

Maj. Arthur L. Davidson,



Capt. Joe D. Blocker, and Staff Sgt. Michael C. Bailey each took an oath dedicating himself to motorcycle safety upon graduation of the course.

This new oath of dedication to motorcycle safety helps riders see the command's commitment to safety, said Sullivan.

The Basic Rider Course is a three-day course which teaches students the basics of riding a two-wheeled vehicle.

The course is held three times a month and is mandato-

ry before becoming a licensed motorcyclist on Okinawa.

For more advanced riders, there is the Experienced Rider Course, which is only a day long.

The courses are held at Kadena Air Base and are open to Marines and SOFA personnel interested in riding a two-wheeled vehicle.

The only requirement is the student must supply their own bike or scooter, said Pat Yamashiro, the training technician for the course.

For more information or to sign up for the course, contact Pat Yamashiro at the Motorcycle Safety Department on Kadena Air Base at 634-2450.

Most summertime sports injuries preventable

Lance Cpl. Daniel A. Flynn

OKINAWA MARINE STAFF

CAMP HANSEN — Although sports are great summertime activities, people can be at risk for injuries if they do not take precautions while playing sports.

One of the biggest reasons people are injured in recreational sporting activities

CRITICAL DAYS OF SUMMER is because they do not wear the proper protective equipment for the sport, said Shawn Curtis, the supervisory, occupational and health specialist of the Marine Corps Base Camp Butler Installation Safety Office.

The most common sports related injuries are to the wrists, knees and ankles as well as broken bones.

Not stretching properly, not hydrating and not having the proper skills for the sport can lead to injuries during play, said Curtis.

Staying hydrated and drinking sports drinks to replenish electrolytes as well as eating a proper diet can prevent injuries

such as dehydration, said Lt. Cmdr. John Biery, sports medicine physician for 3rd Marine Logistics Group.

Also, to prevent sports related injuries such as overuse, people should ease their way into whatever sport they're participating in, said Biery. By not increasing their physical exertion by more than 10 percent a week, they will be less likely to get injured.

Marines who receive a sports-related injury should be quick to report it to their command.

"The Installation Safety Office reports that the majority of minor sports injuries go unreported," Curtis said. "When a Marine gets a sports-related injury, they are supposed to report it to their unit safety officer."

Remember, most sports-related injuries can actually be prevented.

"Recreational sports-related injuries are probably the leading cause of preventable days of missed work," Biery said.

For further information contact the Installation Safety Office at 645-3806.

CAP offers helping hand to SOFA residents

Lance Cpl. Monty Burton

OKINAWA MARINE STAFF

CAMP FOSTER — When Yemanja Krasnow, a prevention specialist with the Counseling and Advocacy Program, talks to people, she asks them “What have you all heard about us?”

“There is a stigma around us, that only wife beaters come to the advocacy center,” she said.

Although CAP does offer victim advocate services and intervention, it also offers pre- and post-deployment counseling, healthy dating and relationship classes, communication skills classes, stress and anger management classes as well as suicide prevention classes.

The program is focused on prevention rather than intervention.

“We would rather have people knocking on the doors of the prevention office rather than having our intervention specialist getting involved,” Krasnow said. “If we have to intervene, that means something has already happened.”

Service members who think they may have a problem or just need someone to talk to are always welcome at the center.

“It takes a lot more guts to admit you have a problem and seek help, than to try and deal with it on your own,” she said.

All of the program’s services are completely free, confidential and open to all Status of Forces Agreement personnel.

Service members can get the help they need without involving their commands.

The center works very closely with leadership to ensure they sup-

port the services offered.

Krasnow said a lot of commands come to get informed about the services so they can relay the information to their troops.

The CAP office is staffed by three prevention specialists, four advocate specialists, and numerous counselors.

“Many people feel more comfortable talking to people who are dealing with the same issues as them,” she said.

Although the counseling office closes at 4:30 p.m., the program victim advocates are on call 24 hours a day.

Shane Arnett, the family advocacy supervisor, said the program serves about 30,000 Marines, sailors and their families each year.

Krasnow said Marines should also be aware of any drastic changes in the behaviors of their fellow Marines. She stated suicide is the third leading cause of death among Marines behind natural causes and the global war on terrorism.

“It is every Marine and sailor’s obligation to report it if they think a fellow service member is thinking about hurting themselves,” she said. “If you get them the help they need before something happens, it can be better for everybody.”

The Counseling and Advocacy Program is located in Building 439 near the personal services building on Camp Foster. The personal and family counseling can be reached at 645-2915. The victim advocacy telephone number is 645-2915. After hours dial 911, on base, or (098) 911-1911, off base, and ask to be transferred to a victim advocate.



Jean Claffey, the personnel and family counseling supervisor, councils a patient Tuesday at the Counseling and Advocacy Program on Camp Foster. All programs, services are completely free, confidential and open to all Status of Forces Agreement personnel. Photo by Lance Cpl. Daniel A. Flynn

Unaccompanied Marines to get kitchen units in barracks

Lance Cpl. Michael A. Bianco

OKINAWA MARINE STAFF

CAMP FOSTER — A new kitchen being built in barracks 473 here is just the first planned by Marine Corps Base Camp Butler as part of the 2006 Bachelor Enlisted Quarters campaign plan signed by the Commandant of the Marine Corps in November 2006.

The project, which began in April, is scheduled to be completed Friday.

The kitchen area comes fully equipped and consists of an industrial refrigerator, range stove and oven, microwave, sink, and plenty of counter top space.



Once the new kitchen area being installed in barracks 473 passes inspections it will be open for use to the building residents. Photo by Lance Cpl. Michael A. Bianco

“Barracks life is getting a lot better than it used to be,” said Gunnery Sgt. Wayne D. Bosley Jr., company gunnery sergeant for A Company, Headquarters

and Service Battalion.

After the completion of the project, the kitchen will be open for inspections for about a week. Once it has been approved by base of-

ficials, the kitchen will be open for use by residents of buildings 472 and 473.

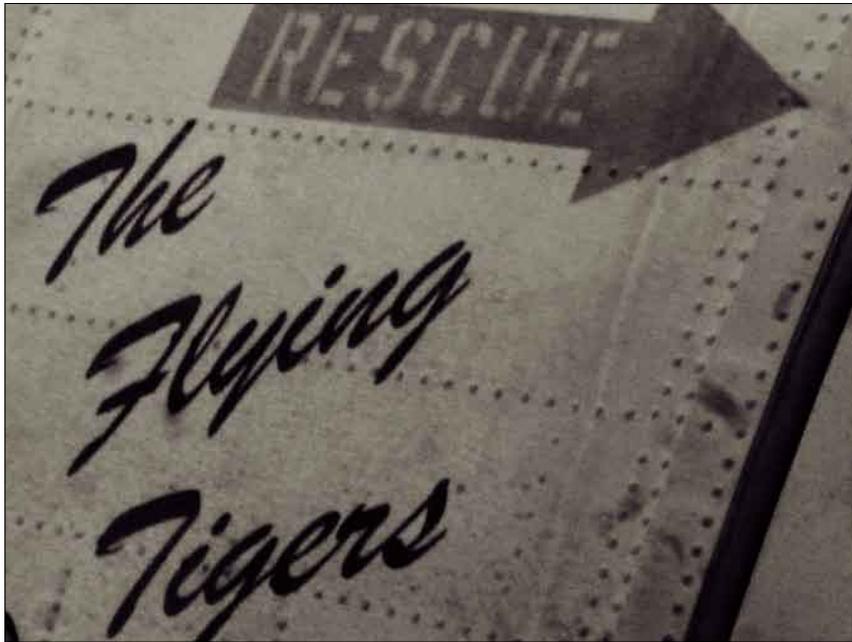
Basic furnishings such as cooking utensils, and pots and pans will hope-

fully be supplied, said Bosley. However, ingredients and other supplies will have to be brought in by the occupants.

It gives you a better opportunity to eat healthy, said Lance Cpl. Gabriel T. Church, a traffic management office clerk and resident of barracks 473.

With the area being incorporated into the weekly field day and also being added to the base’s monthly barracks inspection checklist, it should stay well-taken care of, Bosley said.

In a kitchen, there are always going to be spills, but as long as the residents clean up after themselves, they can cook what they want, he said.



Marine Medium Helicopter Squadron 262, also known as the Flying Tigers, conducted joint operations with the Air Force during a rapid ground refueling exercise Aug. 8 at Ie Shima. Photo by Lance Cpl. Ryan Wicks

TIGERS TAKE FLIGHT

Rapid refuel returns HMM-262 to the air

Lance Cpl. Stefanie C. Pupkiewicz

OKINAWA MARINE STAFF

IE SHIMA — Marines with Marine Medium Helicopter Squadron 262, joined airmen from 1st Special Operations Squadron, 353rd Special Operations Group, on Kadena Air Base, for a rapid ground refueling exercise here Aug. 8.

The exercise took place at a forward arming and refueling point established on the island by the 1st SOS, 353rd SOG airmen and Marines with Detachment 18, a support detachment assigned to HMM-262, the aviation combat element of the 31st Marine Expeditionary Unit.

The coordination with the Air Force for a rapid ground refueling is not typical, said Capt. Jonathan C. Spencer, a pilot with HMM-262, also known as the Flying Tigers.

When both services reserved Ie Shima's airfield, the command saw the opportunity to train with the Air Force and worked it out.

Ie Shima, an island to the northwest of Okinawa, was selected for the exercise to simulate an expeditionary airfield because of its non-standard coral runway.

The rapid ground refueling was setup with the Air Force C-130 Hercules performing the role of the fuel source with fuel lines running

at least 300 feet to where the Sea Knight helicopters would taxi up to the refuel point and simulate taking on fuel.

"This is, by far, one of the most dangerous things we do," described Air Force Master Sgt. Jeffrey W. Barnes with the 1st SOS, 353rd SOG.

He went on to say that the practice helps improve the proficiency of the airmen and the Marines participating, and it also helps reduce the likelihood of errors.

"It's an invaluable asset, especially when you are out there," Spencer said and further described the FARP as a "mobile full-service gas station."

The Marine Corps has the same capabilities for supplying fuel to its aircraft during rapid ground refueling with its Hercules aircraft and its CH-53E Super Stallion helicopters.

Rapid ground refueling is used by HMM-262 pilots during deployments to the Philippines and Thailand when they cannot carry enough fuel to make it all the way, said Spencer.

The joint training was seen by Barnes as a positive step in helping maintain wartime readiness for both services, and he looks forward to training with the Marine Corps again in the future.



Two CH-46E Sea Knight helicopters with Marine Medium Helicopter Squadron 262, also known as the Flying Tigers, conducted joint operations with the Air Force during a rapid ground refueling exercise Aug. 8 at Ie Shima. Photo by Lance Cpl. Ryan Wicks



Lance Cpl. Christopher Goodwin and Cpl. Robert Loren from inside a CH-46E Sea Knight helicopter Aug. 8 during the exercise. Photo by Lance Cpl. Ryan Wicks



Helicopter Squadron 262, practice close formation landings at Ie Shima, while waiting to begin their coordinated rapid ground refueling exercise with airmen of 1st Special Operations Squadron. HMM-262 is the aviation combat element of the 31st Marine Expeditionary Unit. Photo by Lance Cpl. Stefanie C. Pupkiewicz



Crew chiefs with Marine Medium Helicopter Squadron 262, observe the training exercise during a rapid ground refueling exercise at Ie Shima. Photo by Lance Cpl. Ryan Wicks



Airmen with the 1st Special Operations Squadron, 353rd Special Operations Group, Kadena Air Base, conduct a rapid ground refueling exercise Aug. 8 on Ie Shima with Marine Medium Helicopter Squadron 262. HMM-262 is the aviation combat element of the 31st Marine Expeditionary Unit. Photo by Lance Cpl. Ryan Wicks



THE BEAUTIFUL



A member of the Zampa Ufujishi Daiko troupe beats a Nagado-daiko drum at the Ginowan Music Festival Saturday. Photo by Lance Cpl. Stefanie C. Pupkiewicz

CHAO

MOST NIGHTS,
I STAY INDOORS.
NOT TONIGHT.

— Story by Cpl. Eric D. Arndt —

My barracks room is a sanctuary — I have a semblance of control over my life in this place. Within my abode, it's all right angles and stacks. Order and organization. It's sterile and isolated, and I usually choose to take comfort in that, away from the erratic habits of others.

Unfortunately, even for me, rationality gets boring after a while. It then becomes necessary to venture out of the planned and precise.

It is this Marine's opinion that Okinawa contrasts starkly to my room, mind and to military life in general. The island is sporadic — it's a mad mash-up and conglomeration of different places to experience. I've even written about some of them in the past: Ocean Expo Park, the Cherry Blossoms in Nago City. There are the shops of Kokusai Street and the natural allure of Hiji Falls.

But this island's people outmatch all of these places in diversity, and you will meet a fairly complete cross-section of the local residents at their festivals.

At these festivals, the influence of American county fairs, Japanese music, and local performances coalesce into a bizarre environment of simultaneous déjà vu and culture shock.

It really doesn't matter which festival you attend. Here, there are plenty year-round held with different main attractions. One weekend you may see thousands of eisa dancers on a single stretch of pavement, the next will spotlight a gigantic tug of war between different regions of the island.

Meanwhile, the ingredients of the local festive occasions remain somewhat static. One will never fail to find the essentials — yakisoba and strange Okinawa-style carnival food, lukewarm Orion beer in open coolers, intricate costumes, prize games, balloon and toy vendors and the golden glow of lanterns after the sun sinks beneath the horizon.



During the Ginowan Music Festival on Saturday, a dragon carried by several men wound its way around the stage. *Photo by Cpl. Eric D. Arndt*

This past weekend, the annual Ginowan Music Festival near the Okinawa Convention Center outside Marine Corps Air Station Futenma was no exception.

Several local bands performed live in an isolated amphitheater while the headlining attraction raged on the main stage. Various drum performances, a gigantic oriental dragon and even a pair of Shisa dogs ran wild, provoking the audience into either laughter or gasps, depending on the crowd's proximity to the action.

The evening ended in fireworks launched from over the venue hillside. As each one detonated, attendees' faces, Okinawan and American alike, lit up in response to the falling embers of emerald, cherry and golden light.

As everyone began to leave, I spoke with two Marines from Marine Medium Helicopter

Squadron 265 — Lance Cpl. Nicholas Inca, a CH-46E Sea Knight avionics technician, and Pvt. Ken White, a CH-46E Sea Knight flightline mechanic. They essentially went for the same reasons as myself — a chance to just be free, to escape the barracks and the installation for an evening and live organically amongst the music, the people and the night.

Inca describes to me the absurdity of the ones who stay indoors, who nestle in their cocoons and play video games or watch whatever action movie the exchange is selling this week. I can't pretend I don't know what it feels like to be the type of person he's describing — I am something of shut-in by choice — but I can still sympathize, I can still feel pity for those who find their way outside the fence less than I do, or the ones who don't seem to leave at all.



A girl watches the odaiko drummers during the Ginowan Music Festival on Saturday. *Photo by Lance Cpl. Stefanie C. Pupkiewicz*

Maybe it's the hesitation at taking the first step, despite the fact there are plenty available. Marine Corps Community Services employs people just to make sure service members on island have places to go, and there's always the Single Marine Program, which regularly tours most of the standard attractions.

I feel good on the walk home, but I also think of the Marine standing at his barracks window, watching the cityscape and desiring to go explore, wanting to do something but paralyzed at the thought of leaving behind the comfort of the routine.

Mostly though, since we all said we joined for adventure, or to see the world, or to experience a certain element of the uncontrollable — that beautiful chaos of the unknown, of the yet-to-be — mostly I just keep asking myself why I, and we all, don't do this more often.



Marines and sailors with Combat Logistics Battalion 31, 31st Marine Expeditionary Unit, provide medical assistance during a mock suicide bomber scenario to Lance Cpl. Jason Roach, a landing specialist with CLB-31, during evacuation control center training Aug. 6 on Camp Hansen. CLB-31 conducted the scenario in conjunction with the ECC training. Photo by Lance Cpl. Jason Spinella

CLB-31 establishes evacuation control center

Lance Cpl. Jason Spinella
31ST MARINE EXPEDITIONARY UNIT

At any given time the U.S. State Department may call for the evacuation of U.S. citizens from a foreign country due to a natural disaster or political unrest.

Marines and sailors with Combat Logistics Battalion 31, 31st Marine Expeditionary Unit, got down and dirty with realistic ECC training, Aug. 5-6, on Camp Hansen.

The 31st MEU serves as a contingency response force for the Asia-Pacific region and may assist for the safe evacuation of American citizens and other essential personnel from harm by conducting a noncombatant evacuation operation.

During a NEO, an evacuation control center is established and serves to provide essential services comprised of contraband search,

medical screening, administrative processing and transportation of American citizens to a safe location.

"The main purpose of the ECC is to search and clear the evacuees, process and transport them to a safe destination," said Sgt. Ryan Sturgell, the CLB-31 military police platoon sergeant and ECC team chief. "After the infantry Marines escort the evacuees to the ECC, we take over the process to ensure the evacuees get out of the area safely."

The ECC training instilled confidence in the Marines and sailors in order to complete future evaluated exercises and potential real-world missions.

"The training was very important because it gave all the Marines and sailors a chance to see the elements of an ECC and how it operates," said Lance Cpl. Mathew Pendola, a military

policeman with CLB-31 and ECC search team leader.

"From classroom training you can only grasp so much, but being out here and having to set up the tents and actually evacuate people really helps you understand the details and what must be done for an ECC to function properly," Pendola added,

The ECC training was also executed in a progressive manner, first focusing on the fundamentals and concluding with multiple scenarios to test the Marines and sailors on their new skills.

"First off, we want to get the Marines comfortable with the basics of what an ECC consists of and how it operates," said Sturgell, a Mansfield, Ohio native.

In a crisis, rapid and smooth actions are the name of the game.

"We wanted to get a feel for the situation

at hand so everyone would understand their individual job in a real-life scenario," said Pendola, a native of Yorkville, Ill. "At the end of this training, everyone must be fast and proficient when it comes to rendering aid, searching or just setting up the tents, everything needs to be second nature."

Drills were executed to test the service members' skills and teach them how to deal with adverse scenarios.

Some of the scenarios included medical emergencies and weapons or ordnance crises.

"During a medical emergency the main responsibility of a corpsman on site is to sort and triage evacuees," said Petty Officer 2nd Class Thomas Santos, a corpsman with Health Service Support Platoon, CLB-31. "We have a corpsman at the entrance of the ECC screening

people for illness, and if something is detected, they are escorted to the medical tent for further medical assistance or first aid."

Another common scenario was a mock explosive detonation in which the corpsmen had to identify the injured personnel and then render proper aid based on the medical condition of the victim.

"It was fast paced, but the best way to work with the situation at hand was to practice like you play," said Santos, a Houston native. "We trained as if it was real. We performed exactly how we would during a real NEO, and I feel confident now."

So whether it's a natural disaster or political unrest that sparks the danger, the 31st MEU will be able to evacuate American citizens and other essential personnel safely and efficiently when the situation dictates.

IN THEATERS AUGUST 15-21

Movie schedule is subject to change without notice. Call in advance to confirm show times. For a complete listing, visit <http://www.aafes.com>.

FOSTER 645-3465

FRIDAY The Dark Knight (PG13), 7 p.m.; Swing Vote (PG13), 10 p.m.

SATURDAY Kung Fu Panda (PG), noon; The Dark Knight (PG13), 3 and 7 p.m.; The Happening (R), 10:30 p.m.

SUNDAY The Dark Knight (PG13), noon; The Mummy: Tomb of the Dragon Emperor (PG13), 4 and 7:30 p.m.

MONDAY Indiana Jones and the Kingdom of the Crystal Skull (PG13), 3 p.m.; The Happening (R), 7 p.m.

TUESDAY Indiana Jones and the Kingdom of the Crystal Skull (PG13), 7 p.m.

WEDNESDAY Get Smart (PG13), 7 p.m.

THURSDAY Kung Fu Panda (PG), 3 p.m.; The Mummy: Tomb of the Dragon Emperor (PG13), 7 p.m.

FUTENMA 636-3890

FRIDAY The Happening (R), 6:30 p.m.

SATURDAY The Mummy: Tomb of the Dragon Emperor (PG13), 4 and 7 p.m.

SUNDAY You Don't Mess with the Zohan (PG13), 4 p.m.; The Happening (R), 7 p.m.

MONDAY Step Brothers (R), 6:30 p.m.

TUESDAY Closed

WEDNESDAY Closed

THURSDAY Closed

HANSEN 623-4564

FRIDAY Get Smart (PG13), 6 and 9 p.m.

SATURDAY Step Brothers (R), 6 and 9 p.m.

SUNDAY Kung Fu Panda (PG), 2 p.m.; What Happens in Vegas (PG13), 5:30 p.m.

MONDAY The Mummy: Tomb of the Dragon Emperor (PG13), 7 p.m.

TUESDAY The Mummy: Tomb of the Dragon Emperor (PG13), 7 p.m.

WEDNESDAY Iron Man (PG13), 7 p.m.

THURSDAY Swing Vote (PG13), 7 p.m.

SCHWAB 625-2333

FRIDAY Step Brothers (R), 7 p.m.

SATURDAY You Don't Mess with the Zohan (PG13), 5 p.m.

SUNDAY The Happening (R), 5 p.m.

MONDAY-THURSDAY Closed

KADENA 634-1869

FRIDAY Kung Fu Panda (PG), 6:30 p.m.; Get Smart (PG13), 9 p.m.

SATURDAY Kung Fu Panda (PG), noon; Get Smart (PG13) 3 p.m.; Swing Vote (PG13), 6 and 9 p.m.

SUNDAY Get Smart (PG13), 1 p.m.; Swing Vote (PG13), 4 and 9 p.m.

MONDAY Swing Vote (PG13), 3 and 7 p.m.

TUESDAY Kung Fu Panda (PG), 3 p.m.; Step Brothers (R), 7 p.m.

WEDNESDAY Kung Fu Panda (PG), 3 p.m.; Step Brothers (R), 7 p.m.

THURSDAY Get Smart (PG13), 3 p.m.; Step Brothers (R), 7 p.m.

COURTNEY 622-9616

FRIDAY The Mummy: Tomb of the Dragon Emperor (PG13), 6 and 9:30 p.m.

SATURDAY Speed Racer (PG), 2 p.m.; The Happening (R), 7 p.m.

SUNDAY Step Brothers (R), 7 p.m.

MONDAY You Don't Mess with the Zohan (PG13), 7 p.m.

TUESDAY Closed

WEDNESDAY Swing Vote (PG13), 7 p.m.

THURSDAY Closed

KINSER 637-2177

FRIDAY Get Smart (PG13), 3 p.m.; Kung Fu Panda (PG), 6:30 p.m.

SATURDAY Kung Fu Panda (PG), 3 p.m.; Get Smart (PG13), 6:30 p.m.

SUNDAY Kung Fu Panda (PG), 3 p.m.; Get Smart (PG13), 6:30 p.m.

MONDAY Closed

TUESDAY Closed

WEDNESDAY The Mummy: Tomb of the Dragon Emperor (PG13), 3 and 6:30 p.m.

THURSDAY Closed

USO MOVIE NIGHTS

The USO hosts movie nights at the locations below.

For schedules and start times, call:

CAMP SCHWAB 625-3834

MCAS FUTENMA 636-2113

CAMP HANSEN 623-5011

KADENA AIR BASE 632-8781



For more information, contact the Single Marine Program Office at 645-3681.

All bus pick-up points will be at Semper Fit gyms or the Foster Fieldhouse.

SINGLE MARINE PROGRAM EVENTS

AUG. 26, 27 | OKINAWA BATTLE SITES TOUR

• See Battle of Okinawa historical locations such as Hacksaw Ridge, the Japanese Naval Underground Headquarters and Okinawa Prefectural Peace Memorial Park. The cost is \$15; attendees should wear comfortable shoes and bring extra dollars and yen for snacks and souvenirs. Sign up with your SMP representative no later than Aug. 21 or 22 for the southern and northern camps' trips, respectively.

• Aug. 26, southern camp bus departures: Camp Foster, 8:50 a.m.; MCAS Futenma, 9:20 a.m.; Camp Kinser, 9:40 a.m.

• Aug. 27, northern camp bus departures: Camp Courtney, 6:35 a.m.; Camp Hansen, 7:15 a.m.; Camp Schwab, 7:50 a.m.

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

• The Marine Thrift Shop on Camp Foster requests two volunteers on a weekly basis from Camps Kinser, Foster, Courtney, Hansen and Schwab and MCAS Futenma. Contact your SMP representative for more information.

• Volunteer opportunities at the Ai No Mura Nursing Home are the fourth Friday of each month. Call 636-3092 for more information.

CHAPEL SCHEDULE

CAMP FOSTER | 645-7486/7487

- **Catholic:** Mon.-Fri., 11:45 a.m.; Sat., 5 p.m.; Sun., 10 a.m.
- **Christian Science:** Sun., 11 a.m., Bldg. 442
- **Eastern Orthodox:** Sun., 9:30 a.m.
- **Gospel:** Sun., 11:30 a.m.
- **Hindu:** Sat., 3:30 p.m., Bldg. 455
- **Jewish:** Fri., Traditional, 6:00 p.m.; Informal (first and third Friday), 6:30 p.m.
- **Muslim:** Friday prayer, 12:45 p.m.
- **Protestant:** Sun., 8:30 a.m.

MCAS FUTENMA | 636-3058

- **Catholic:** Sun., noon
- **Contemporary:** Sun., 9 a.m.

CAMP HANSEN | 623-4694

- **Catholic:** Sun., 10 a.m., E. Chapel
- **Latter Day Saints:** Sun., 1 p.m., W. Chapel
- **Protestant:** Sun., 11 a.m., W. Chapel

CAMP SCHWAB | 625-2644/2866

- **Catholic:** Sun., 5:30 p.m.
- **Protestant:** Sun., 11:30 a.m.

CAMP SHIELDS | 632-4192

- **Protestant:** Sun., 6 p.m.

CAMP McTUREOUS | 622-7505

- **Gospel:** Sun., 12:30 p.m.
- **Lutheran:** Sun., 9:30 a.m.

KADENA AIR BASE | 634-1288

- **Buddhist:** Sat., 10 a.m., Bldg. 856
- **Catholic:** Sun., 8:30 a.m., Mass, Chapel 1 Sun., 11:30 a.m., Reconciliation, Chapel 1 Sun., 12:30 p.m., Mass, Chapel 1 Sun., 5 p.m., Mass, Chapel 1 Sun., 10:30 a.m., CCD, Amelia Earhart School Daily Mass, Mon.-Thurs., noon, Chapel 2
- **Protestant:** Sun., 10:30 a.m., Contemp., Chapel 1 Sun., 8:30 a.m., Inspirational, Chapel 2 Sun., 10:30 a.m., Traditional, Chapel 2 Sun., 10:30 a.m., Gospel, Chapel 3 Sunday School, 8:45 a.m., Bldg. 856
- **Wiccan/Pagan:** Fri., 7 p.m., Chapel 1 Sat., 6 p.m., Bldg. 856

CAMP COURTNEY | 622-9350

- **Catholic:** Sun., 8 and 11:15 a.m.; Mon.-Fri., 11:45 a.m.
- **Protestant:** Sun., 9:30 a.m.
- **Episcopal:** Sun., 6:30 p.m.

CAMP KINSER | 637-1148

- **Catholic:** Sun., 11 a.m.
- **Gospel:** Sun., 8 a.m.
- **Protestant:** Sun., 9:30 a.m.

CAMP LESTER | 643-7248

- **Catholic:** Sun., 8 a.m., Lester Chapel
- **Protestant:** Sun., 9 a.m., Hospital Chapel Sun., 10 a.m., Lester Chapel Tue., noon, Hospital Chapel (Eucharist)

CLASSIFIED ADS

AUTOMOBILES

- JCI Nov. 09, \$1,900 OBO, 622-8554
- '96 NISSAN CEDRIC JCI Aug. 10, \$4,000 OBO, 645-7012
- '96 HONDA DOMANI JCI Sep. 09, \$2,200 OBO, 646-6337
- '95 TOYOTA WINDOM JCI Dec. 08, \$1,500 OBO, (090) 6861-7577
- '93 TOYOTA ESTIMA JCI Oct. 08, \$800 OBO, (090) 6861-7577
- '95 TOYOTA ARISTO JCI April 10, \$4,200 OBO, (090) 1947-5463
- '95 TOYOTA CELICA JCI Aug. 09, \$1,500 OBO, (090) 6861-7659
- '93 TOYOTA HILUX SURF JCI Nov. 09, \$2,700 OBO, (090) 6859-5377
- '94 NISSAN PULSAR JCI Sep. 09, \$600 OBO, 646-9309
- '94 TOYOTA MARK II JCI Sep. 09, \$2,800 OBO, 646-2724
- '96 MITSUBISHI DELICA VAN JCI May 09, \$3,500 OBO, (080) 3544-8285
- '97 HONDA SMX JCI Nov. 09, \$2,700 OBO, (090) 6859-5377
- '98 NISSAN SKYLINE JCI Dec. 09, \$3,200 OBO, (098) 936-6865
- '96 TOYOTA CURREN JCI Jan. 09, \$1,300 OBO, (080) 3540-6130
- '96 NISSAN RASHEEN

- JCI March 09, \$3,000 OBO, (090) 9141-7128
- '94 TOYOTA CELICA JCI Oct. 09, \$1,750 OBO, (080) 3459-2680
- '95 HONDA DOMANI JCI June 10, \$2,000 OBO, 646-3715
- '93 TOYOTA LUCIDA JCI Aug. 09, \$1,000 OBO, 646-3715
- '05 HARLEY DAVIDSON 883 SPORTSTER \$8,000 OBO, (098) 879-2999
- '04 HARLEY DAVIDSON XL 883 SPORTSTER JCI March 09, \$5,500, (080) 3487-2975

MISCELLANEOUS

- Cobra two-person kayak, comes with seats and paddles, \$800, (098) 936-4029
- Two twin beds with soccer-themed headboards, mattresses included, \$120 each or \$200 for both, (098) 926-2732
- Remote control motorcycle, \$40; 420-watt Pioneer car speakers, \$30, 633-1593
- Doorway rain cover, new in box, \$75 OBO, 646-8325
- Six-drawer girls' dresser with mirror, four-drawer girls' dresser, \$100, 646-5405

MOTORCYCLES

Ads appearing in the Okinawa Marine are a free service to active duty military and their dependents, DoD employees and retirees. Ads are restricted to personal property or service of incidental exchange. Ads are run on a space-available basis. The deadline for ads is noon Fridays. The Okinawa Marine reserves the right to edit ads to fit available space. Please include your name and the phone number you wish published. The Okinawa Marine makes every effort to ensure accuracy but assumes no responsibility for services offered in ads. Submit ads by fax to 645-3803, or send an e-mail to okinawamarine.mcbb.fct@usmc.mil.

MALS-36 scores win in b-ball tournament

Pfc. Antwain J. Graham
OKINAWA MARINE STAFF

CAMP FOSTER — The team from Marine Aviation Logistics Squadron 36 steamrolled the competition on its way to victory during the Southern Camp Commander's Cup Basketball Tournament held Saturday at the Semper Fit gymnasium on Marine Corps Air Station Futenma.

The MALS-36 team beat Marine Aircraft Group 18, 60-33, during the championship game.

"If I had to pick a (most valuable player) for this tournament it would have been Robert Dunning," said Rico Lee, coach for MALS-36.

Dunning, who played for MALS-36, averaged about 15 points and 10 rebounds per game during the tournament, according to Lee.

Michael Thomas, a new player for MALS-36, was also a valuable addition to the team, Lee said.

Thomas played tight defense on the other teams' key players and averaged 10 points, four rebounds, six assists and three steals per game.

"Thomas was my Scottie Pippen for this tournament," Lee said. "The key for us winning this tournament is that we played as a team and had fun."

The double elimination open basketball tournament started with five teams. The Okinawan International University placed third.



Marine Aircraft Logistics Squadron 36 won the championship game of the Southern Commander's Cup Basketball Tournament held on Marine Corps Air Station Futenma Saturday. Pfc. Antwain J. Graham

Base destroys competition in softball tournament

Lance Cpl. Daniel A. Flynn
OKINAWA MARINE STAFF

CAMP HANSEN — Base showed their competitive spirit by edging out 15 teams and defeating Yellow Box 7-5 in the championship game of the Camp Hansen Midnight Madness, a double elimination open softball tournament

Base made it to the finals without losing a game, but in the first round of the finals Yellow Box handed them their first loss by beating them 17-10.

"Yellow Box is a good team," said Kevin Basso, Base coach. "They have a solid infield and normally hit the ball well. In the

first game of the championship, they were able to win because we had several errors, and they took advantage of it."

In the final championship game, Base managed to score the first runs in the second inning, driving in three players for a 3-0 lead.

Yellow Box fired back in

the fifth inning by scoring three runs to tie the game at 3-3.

Base, refusing to back down, answered in the sixth, bringing home four more players to take the lead.

In the top of the seventh inning, Yellow Box tried an offensive rally but were only able to score two more

runs and ended the game at 7-5 in favor of Base.

"We were able to win because we played as a team," said Basso. "We didn't have any one player that stood out, or that carried the team."

"We were able to make the basic plays and limit our mental mistakes," added Basso.



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COMMANDING GENERAL Maj. Gen. Mary Ann Krusa-Dossin

PUBLIC AFFAIRS DIRECTOR Lt. Col. Douglas M. Powell

PRESS CHIEF Gunnery Sgt. William J. Ray

DESIGN EDITOR Cpl. Eric D. Arndt

EDITOR Lance Cpl. Ryan Wicks

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