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AIR FORCE - ARMY - NAVY - COMMUNITY NEWS

Number 11 - Issue 1

44TH AMU TAKES ON 67TH AMU DURING ANNUAL COMPETITION



U.S. Air Force colonels load munitions onto an F-15 Eagle during the Chiefs versus Eagles Weapons Loading Competition Jan. 3, on Kadena Air Base. Each team had to load one AIM-9X heat seeking missile to the aircraft as quickly as possible.

(U.S. Air Force photo by Staff Sgt. Micaiah Anthony)

Maintaining refuelers: keeping jets in the air



Members of the 18th Logistics Readiness Squadron Vehicle Maintenance work on an R-11 truck, Dec. 21, 2017, at Kadena Air Base. The members work in the refueling maintenance shop, an outlying shop geared specifically towards maintaining and repairing refueling vehicles.



Airman 1st Class David Thomas, 18th Logistics Readiness Squadron vehicle maintainer, works on a refueling truck, Dec. 21, 2017, at Kadena Air Base. The refueling maintenance shop is an outlying vehicle maintenance shop of the 18th LRS at Kadena Air Base that specializes in maintaining and repairing refueling vehicles.



Refueling trucks sit parked, Dec. 21, 2017, at Kadena Air Base.

By Senior Airman Jessica H. Smith

18th Wing Public Affairs

12/21/2017 — While everyone seems to know the importance of putting aircraft in the sky, some may not understand the amount of support that goes into successful air power. The 18th Logistics Readiness Squadron Vehicle Maintenance — more specifically members of the refueling maintenance shop — know just what it takes to support the mission.

Vehicle maintenance deals with any and all government owned vehicles; from excavators and forklifts to firetrucks and security forces cars and trucks. Within that array lies the refueling trucks — a key component to getting jets off of Kadena Air Base's runway and into the air.

With many different specialties in vehicle maintenance, Staff Sgt. David Bustria, 18th LRS vehicle maintainer, has made his way to the outlying refueling maintenance shop after six and a half years in the career field.

"The more experience you get, and excel in a position ... They'll rotate you to a different place," Bustria explained. "As a 7-level we have to be well rounded."

During technical school, the career field is broken down into different specialties or vehicle types, but Airmen will only specialize in one at a time, giving them an opportunity to master one before moving on to learn about a new one.

In a few short months, Bustria has learned the ins and outs of maintaining

and repairing refueling trucks.

Amongst the refueling vehicles Bustria works with are the R-11, R-12 and C300 — each giving him an opportunity to diagnose and fix minuscule issues such as replacing seals, changing tires, to more difficult tasks such as locating and stopping air leaks as well as troubleshooting and correcting complicated issues in the engine.

Despite being new to the world of refueling maintenance he has been able to adjust effortlessly. With nearly half the shop being made up of civilian workers, Bustria and the other vehicle maintainers rely heavily on the seasoned workers.

"The civilians are really amazing on how they do their job; some have been here for like 20 years," he explained. "What better guide or master to get the

experience from than the civilians?"

Although the ultimate focus of the shop is to ensure every aircraft that comes down is able to be refueled the refueling maintenance members still see to it to help one another.

"We synergize," Bustria said, "That's what outlying shops are all about — we help each other.

Understanding the importance of being behind the scenes and on the support end of things keeps Bustria and the rest of the team motivated to continue improving their role in the mission.

"For me, learning, training and fixing trucks ... You get a sense of accomplishment every day," he said. "There won't be airplanes taking off if we don't have these refuelers — the flightline would shut down if we didn't have any fuel."

Kadena Air Base Weekly Newspaper

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JASDF student graduates NCOA

By Senior Airman Omari Bernard

18th Wing Public Affairs

1/8/2018 — Every day, Team Kadena strives to build and improve relations with their partners in the Japan Air Self-Defense Force. Whether it's through joint training operations in the field or bilateral exchange programs in the classroom, the two militaries work side-by-side to foster a stronger, more cohesive partnership.

On Dec. 21, 2017, Self-Defense Force Tech. Sgt. Masaaki Hayakawa, 701st Squadron, Special Airlift Group, helped build partnerships between the JASDF and U.S. Air Force by graduating from Kadena's non-commissioned officer academy.

During NCOA, students attend a six-week course that covers leadership challenges, public speaking, management tactics, marching and building partnerships as a class.

"I've had a very fun experience going through the course," Hayakawa said. "My classmates have been very helpful and are good to me."

Hayakawa said his biggest challenge during the course was the language barrier, but he was able to overcome that with the help of his instructor and classmates.

"One of the biggest challenges I had to overcome as an instructor is communication," said U.S. Air Force Tech. Sgt. Brandon

Wolf, Erwing Professional Military Education instructor. "As a teacher, I want to make sure that all of my students succeed."

Wolf said his first worry in teaching an international student was about all of the students getting along and accepting each other. The goal is to naturally promote a bilateral partnership, so positive relationships among the students was vital.

"They welcomed him with open arms and they really made my job easy," Wolf said. "Masaaki did very well in class. The traditional Japanese communication style is a lot different than how we would do a presentation

in the Air Force. I think it was a great learning experience for him to see how we operate and he adapted very well."

According to Wolf, the highlights of each PME class he teaches are watching the students bond, sharing their experiences and growing together over the six-week course.

"I had a meaningful experience of the course," said Hayakawa. "The instructors we're great and my classmates were very helpful. I hope to strengthen the relationship between the U.S. Air Force and the JASDF and that we can continue by exchanging more students."



Japan Air Self-Defense Force Tech. Sgt. Masaaki Hayakawa, 701st Squadron, Special Airlift Group, prepares to graduate alongside his class Dec. 21, 2017, at Kadena Air Base.



Japan Air Self-Defense Force Tech. Sgt. Masaaki Hayakawa, 701st Squadron, Special Airlift Group, poses for a photo alongside his class after the NCO Academy graduation Dec. 21, 2017, at Kadena Air Base.

(U.S. Air Force photos by Senior Airman Omari Bernard)

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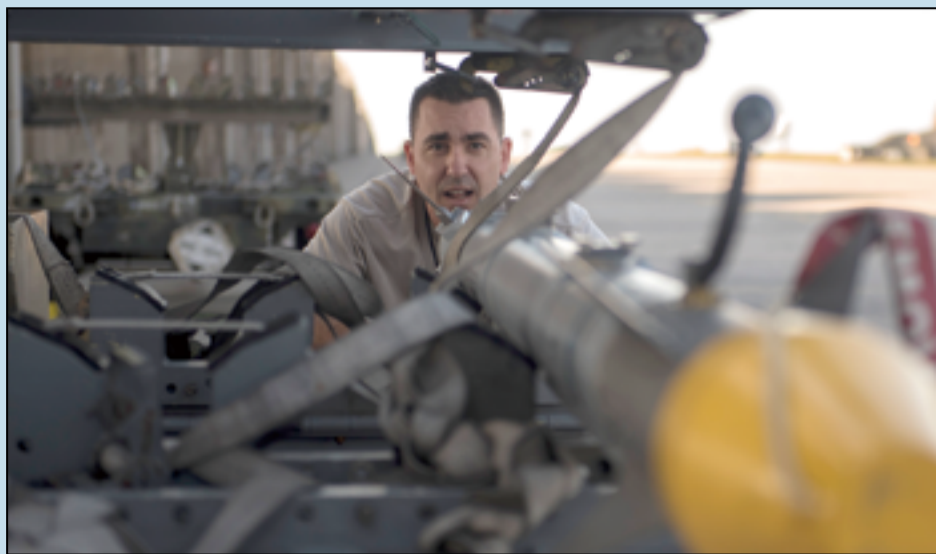
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44th AMU takes on 67th AMU during annual competition



◀ Chief Master Sgt. Davick Hansen, 18th Equipment Maintenance Squadron superintendent, inspects an AIM-9X heat seeking missile during the Chiefs versus Eagles Weapons Load competition Jan. 3, on Kadena Air Base. The competition pitted a team of chief master sergeants against a team of colonels to determine which group could prepare the aircraft for combat the fastest with the fewest procedural errors.



▲ Staff Sgt. Ian Swartzwelder, 44th Aircraft Maintenance Unit weapons load team member, inspects a fin during an annual weapons load competition Jan. 3, on Kadena Air Base. Airmen from the 44th AMU competed against Airmen from the 67th AMU.

(U.S. Air Force photo by Staff Sgt. Micaiah Anthony)



▲ Tech. Sgt. Benjamin Bouvy, right, 18th Maintenance Group load standardization crew chief, introduces Airmen from the 67th Aircraft Maintenance Unit before an annual weapons load competition Jan. 3, on Kadena Air Base.



▲ Col. Britt Hurst, left, 18th Operations Group commander, and Col. Tony Lombardo, 18th Maintenance Group commander, check forms during the Chiefs versus Eagles Weapons Loading competition Jan. 3, on Kadena Air Base.



▲ Staff Sgt. Michael McCoy, left, 18th Maintenance Group weapons load crew chief, Airman 1st Class Victoria Barsness, center, 18th MXG weapons load crew member, and Tech. Sgt. John Cummings, 18th MXG loading standardization crew member, calculate scores during the Chiefs versus Eagles Weapons Load Competition Jan. 3, on Kadena Air Base.



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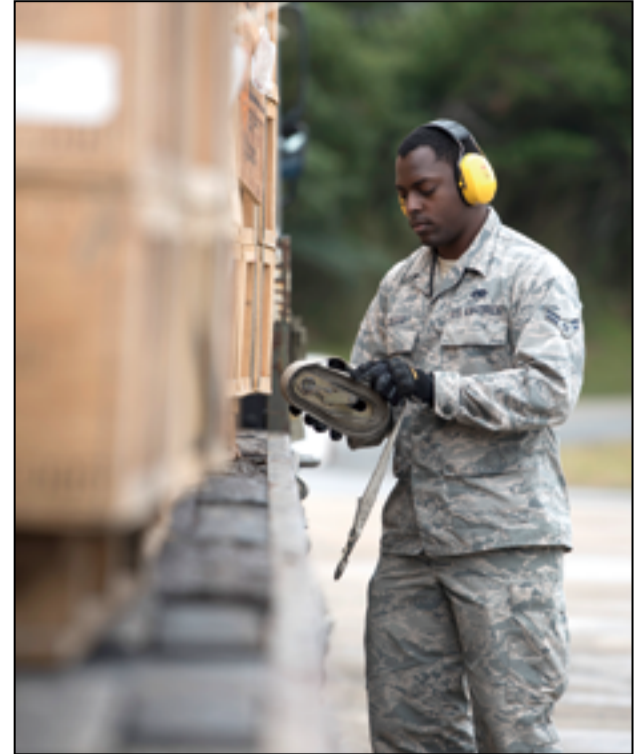
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18th Munitions Squadron: Shells on shells on shells



Airman 1st Class Zachary McGrail, 18th Munitions Squadron munitions storage crew member, calls out serial numbers to Senior Airman Roderick Harris, 18th MUNS munitions storage crew member, Dec. 19, 2017, at Kadena Air Base.



Airman 1st Class Isaiah Colter, 18th Munitions Squadron munitions storage crew member, removes straps securing munitions before they are unloaded Dec. 19, 2017, at Kadena Air Base.

(U.S. Air Force photos by Senior Airman Quay Drawdy)

By Senior Airman Quay Drawdy

18th Wing Public Affairs

12/20/2017 — When “the office” takes up nearly 6,000 acres, it’s no stretch to claim being the largest. The 18th Munitions Squadron at Kadena Air Base, can say just that, occupying a large portion of the base and standing as the most expansive conventional munitions storage area in the Air Force.

Being as massive as the 18th MUNS is comes with challenges that the Airmen of Kadena Air Base must rise to meet.

“It’s crazy high paced, but that’s part of the fun,” said Staff Sgt. Audrey MacKenzie, 18th MUNS stockpile supervisor. “The big operations are my favorite because it shows me more of the big picture. Things only get dull when it’s slow, but that hardly happens here.”

Slow or fast, when it comes to potentially volatile material, there is no room for error.

“Fitting everything into its storage area is like a giant puzzle with a weight-balancing component,” said MacKenzie. “We have to be sure that only the same types

of munitions go into storage together, old items are removed and replaced and we have to be careful with how and where things are stored. You can’t skate by doing the bare minimum in ammo. Attention to detail is absolutely vital.”

Even with the pressure of the 18th MUNS size, mission and dangers, the impact of the job isn’t lost on the Airmen.

“I definitely enjoy what I do,” said Senior Airman Roderick Harris, 18th MUNS munitions storage crew member. “We’re the first stop in the chain when it comes to the weapons and countermea-

asures for the aircraft. Without MUNS, our jets wouldn’t have what they need and that would mean total mission stoppage.”

Showing pride and dedication in their work is part of what makes the 18th MUNS, where more than \$947 million worth of material is located, the go-to squadron for conventional munitions throughout the Pacific.

“It’s definitely a unique experience working overseas on a mission of this scale,” said MacKenzie. “I’m always looking forward to what comes next.”

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NCOA Class 18-2

By 18th Wing Public Affairs

12/21/2017 — Congratulations to the following graduates of NCO Academy Class 18-2:

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Tech. Sgt. Joshua Mills,
17th Special Operations Squadron Kadena AB

Commandant Award:

Tech. Sgt. Daniel Stearns,
1st Special Operations Squadron Kadena AB

Academic Achievement Award:

Tech. Sgt. Jeremy Butterworth,
36th Operations Support Squadron Andersen AFB

Distinguished Graduates:

Tech. Sgt. Daniel Fink,
35th Civil Engineer Squadron Misawa AB
Tech. Sgt. Justin Schultz,
374th Communications Squadron Camp Zama
Tech. Sgt. David Showers,
374th Operations Support Squadron Yokota AB
Tech. Sgt. Daniel Stearns,
1st Special Operations Squadron Kadena AB
Tech. Sgt. Timothy Mutter,
18th Maintenance Group Kadena AB
Tech. Sgt. Jason Ginete,
374th Communications Squadron Yokota AB

Graduates:

Tech. Sgt. Colley Abston, 35th Maintenance Group Misawa AB
Tech. Sgt. Raymond Ada,
36th Communications Squadron Andersen AFB
Tech. Sgt. Todd Alter,
554th Red Horse Squadron Andersen AFB
Tech. Sgt. Andrew Avery,
18th Component Maintenance Squadron Kadena AB
Tech. Sgt. Julia Baron,
36th Force Support Squadron Andersen AFB
Tech. Sgt. Beauwilliam Blackburn,
35th Aircraft Maintenance Squadron Misawa AB
Tech. Sgt. Marshall Boykin,
18th Civil Engineer Squadron Kadena AB
Tech. Sgt. Aaron Bradberry,
18th Civil Engineer Squadron Kadena AB
Tech. Sgt. Lisa Brow,
374th Civil Engineer Squadron Yokota AB
Tech. Sgt. Devon Brown,
35th Maintenance Group Misawa AFB
Tech. Sgt. Jonathan Brown,
18th Communications Squadron Kadena AB
Tech. Sgt. Samuel Brown,
18th Dental Squadron Kadena AB
Tech. Sgt. Jeremy Butterworth,
36th Operations Support Squadron Andersen AFB
Tech. Sgt. Julio Chavez,
18th Logistics Readiness Squadron Kadena AB

Tech. Sgt. Alexander Conner,
44th Aircraft Maintenance Unit Kadena AB
Tech. Sgt. Klinton Cooper,
36th Wing Equal Opportunity Andersen AFB
Tech. Sgt. Joshua Dungan,
353rd Special Operations Maintenance Squadron Kadena AB
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374th Logistics Readiness Squadron Yokota AB
Tech. Sgt. Daniel Fink,
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18th Munitions Squadron Kadena AB
Tech. Sgt. Justin Harris,
18th Equipment Maintenance Squadron Kadena AB
Tech. Sgt. Masaaki Hayakawa,
701st Squadron Special Airlift Group Chitose, Japan
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35th Logistics Readiness Squadron Misawa AB
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18th EMS Aerospace Ground Equipment



Senior Airman Michael Tripp, 18th Equipment Maintenance Squadron aerospace ground equipment journeyman, repairs an MJ-1C aerial lift truck Dec. 18, 2017, at Kadena Air Base. Each week, members from the 18th EMS AGE routinely perform their job in Mission Oriented Protective Posture (MOPP) gear to maintain readiness no matter what conditions are present in the work environment.

(U.S. Air Force photo by Airman 1st Class Greg Erwin)

Navy, Air Force, Army participate in Joint Enroute Care Course



> Navy Lt. j.g. Andrew Nichols, an intensive care unit nurse with U.S. Naval Hospital Okinawa, treats a simulated casualty during the Joint Enroute Care Course Dec. 13, 2017, at Kadena Air Base. Navy, Air Force and Army medical personnel participated in hands-on training to qualify them to provide pre-, mid- and post-flight medical care to patients being flown to medical facilities.

(U.S. Marine Corps photos by Lance Cpl. Isabella Ortega)

18th MXG Airmen manage aircraft repairs



(U.S. Air Force photo by Senior Airman Omari Bernard)

Senior Airman Mart Angelo Gatchalion, 18th Maintenance Group Maintenance Operations Center board controller, updates the flight status of aircraft undergoing maintenance Dec. 19, 2017, at Kadena Air Base. The 18th MOC maintains the Air Force's largest combat wing at Kadena Air Base and ensures Kadena Air Base's fighters are ready around-the-clock.



< Air Force Maj. Jered Beard, a flight nurse for 18th Aeromedical Evacuation Squadron, and Army Spc. Toby Robling, a medic for 1st Battalion, 1st Air Defense Artillery, check their medical supply inventory during the Joint Enroute Care Course Dec. 13, 2017, at Kadena Air Base.

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6-6 CAV builds collective readiness on the Korean Peninsula

By Spc. Thomas Scaggs

10th Combat Aviation Brigade

12/19/2017 - SOUTH KOREA — As day breaks near the Bongsu Mountain in South Korea, a small team of highly trained operators emerges from the thick underbrush. In the chilly air, the team of 10, comprised of U.S. Air Force Combat Controllers and Republic of Korea Joint Fires Observers moves stealthily through the wood line, en route to their objective as AH-64D Apache Longbows from 6th Squadron, 6th Cavalry, 10th Combat Aviation Brigade, circle high overhead.

6-6 CAV, 320th Special Tactics Squadron, and Korean Army Joint Fires Observers completed Operation Teak Knife throughout November across South Korea in order to enhance Joint U.S. Army and Republic of Korea Army interoperability and build combat power.

This unique exercise is a critical step in strengthening ties between the RoK Army and U.S. Armed Forces. Korean Combat Controllers, who are certified as U.S. Joint Fires Observers spent weeks training, readying for this capstone event known simply as "Teak Knife."

The 320th Special Tactics Squadron, based at Kadena Air Base, Japan, led the

teams through the exercise. As the field portion of the training got underway, the teams sought to confirm the security of their infiltration zone from where they would control the air assets once they arrived on station. After completing this objective, the U.S. Soldiers and Korean Soldiers gathered to discuss their plan and set up their security posture.

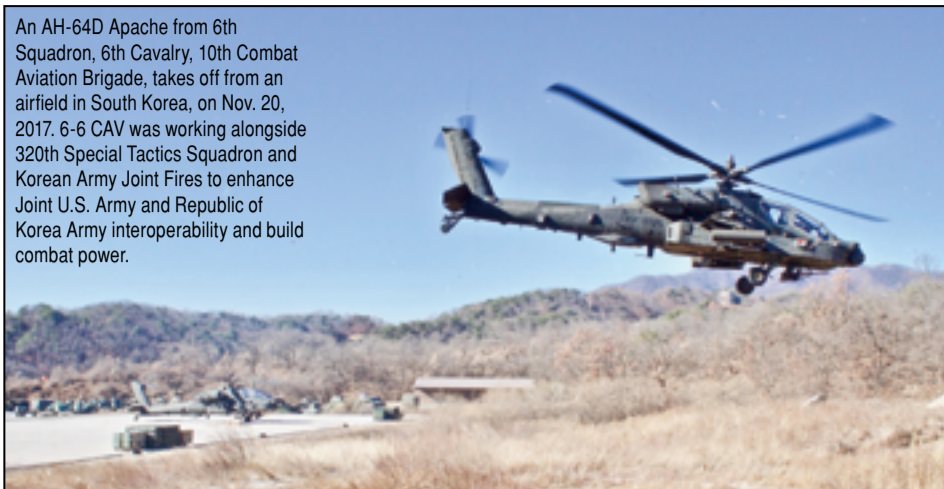
Overlooking the Yedang Lake in front of Bongsu Mountain, the Soldiers began to search for any signs of enemy activity. Their primary concern was the elimination of any enemy air defense assets.

Shortly after beginning the search, the teams identified three enemy air defense systems placed in boats on the lake.

Not long after their discovery of the enemy, AH-64D Apache Longbows from the 6th Squadron, 6th Cavalry Regiment arrived on station. As with all of their previous rehearsals and pre-coordination, the RoK Army controllers took command of the aircraft after receiving their check-in briefs with continued assistance from their 320th STS counterparts.

Despite not being native English speakers, the RoK controllers trained hard on mastering the tenets of the standard call-for-fire terminology in training with

An AH-64D Apache from 6th Squadron, 6th Cavalry, 10th Combat Aviation Brigade, takes off from an airfield in South Korea, on Nov. 20, 2017. 6-6 CAV was working alongside 320th Special Tactics Squadron and Korean Army Joint Fires to enhance Joint U.S. Army and Republic of Korea Army interoperability and build combat power.



(U.S. Army photo by 1st. Lt. Austin Welch)

the 320th STS in the garrison environment prior to coming to the field. This training was key to enabling their effective communication with U.S. assets, like the Apaches, during the execution phase of Teak Knife.

According to Capt. Michael McConville, of Charlie Troop, 6-6 Cavalry (Commanding) Teak Knife's lead planner, "Using common JFIRE brevity allowed the aircrews to quickly detect, identify, and (notionally) prosecute targets handed over from RoK JFOs."

This interoperability is key considering the importance of the RoK-U.S. alliance and the frequency with which these units work together.

Once reporting the notional air defense assets up to their chain of command, their headquarters approved a firing mission, prompting the RoK controllers to direct the Apaches onto the notional targets in order to destroy them.

This exercise demonstrated the ability of RoK forces to talk U.S. assets onto notional targets using the latest in highly sophisticated technology.

Using calls for fire with grid areas and also utilizing equipment like Ground Laser Target Designators (GLTD), the RoK ground forces demonstrated the

capability to communicate and operate effectively with the Apaches.

Once in receipt of the target, the Apaches engaged the notional air defense assets and successfully destroyed the enemy targets.

"Working with 320th STS and their RoK JFO counterparts was a unique and rewarding training experience," McConville said. "We were able to further build shared understanding and common TTPs that will make us more discriminately lethal on a combined division maneuver battlefield."

Exercises like these are critical in building the confidence of both ground and air forces for future training and real-world events.

According to Lieutenant Jo Joon-won, RoK Army, Joint Fire Observer, "Through training, we were able to improve the ROK-U.S. Combined Forces' ability to carry out combined operations."

This capability will continue to be of extreme importance in building readiness to Fight Tonight.

As for the future of training events such as Teak Knife, Capt. McConville shared, "We hope to continue to build upon our great relationship with the RoK ground forces."



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Marine awarded for rescuing four Okinawans from rip tide



(U.S. Marine Corps photo by Lance Cpl. Josue Marquez)

1st Lt. Aaron Cranford stands with Justin Kinjo and Yusuke Teruya, divers who almost lost their lives at the hands of a rip current, and Maj. John Mahler, former Headquarter and Support Company Commander, 3rd Reconnaissance Battalion, after receiving the Navy and Marine Corps Medal on Jan. 8, at the 3rd Reconnaissance Battalion Headquarters building on Camp Schwab.

By Lance Cpl. Charles Plouffe
3rd Marine Division

1/8/2018 - CAMP SCHWAB, Okinawa — A Marine was awarded the nation's highest medal for non-combat heroism during a ceremony on Camp Schwab, Okinawa, Jan. 8, for courageous actions off duty.

1st Lt. Aaron Cranford, a supply

officer with Headquarters and Service Company, 3rd Reconnaissance Battalion, 3rd Marine Division, was awarded the Navy and Marine Corps Medal for saving three divers and a local Okinawan who were caught in a rip current during a recreational dive at Onna Point, Okinawa on April 23, 2017.

Cranford surfaced from a 35-minute

dive and noticed three distressed divers caught in a surf zone about to be swept out to sea by a rip current.

After he ensured his dive group had reached a safe point to exit the water, Cranford returned to the surf zone at risk to his own life to begin rescuing the divers one by one.

"I could definitely tell that the divers were in distress," said Cranford, a native of Fort Worth, Texas. "Their gear was not the way it should have been and they were waving their arms back and forth trying to get people's attention."

One local Okinawa said he believes he wouldn't be alive today without Cranford's help.

"I just knew I was going to die," said Okinawa City, Okinawa native, Justin Kinjo. "My leg was stuck, I couldn't get any air and as soon as I reached the surface, the waves pushed me back in — knocking my [air] regulator out of my mouth."

For his courageous actions, Commandant of the Marine Corps Gen. Robert B. Neller awarded Cranford the highest non-combat decoration for heroism.

"1st Lt. Cranford is a superb representative of the United States Marine Corps," said Maj. Gen. Craig Q. Timberlake, the commanding general for 3rd Marine Division. "His actions took a lot of guts and a lot of courage. He reflects a United States Marine doing what a United States Marine does."

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面接日程を調整いたしますので、電話連絡の上(またはメール)、履歴書(写真貼付)持参下さい。

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18-Jan	1100-1400	KAB Flightline	Café Shiyu de Pokko
18-Jan	1100-1700	Torii Express	Old Spices

Blended Military Retirement System to take effect Jan. 1

By Defense Media Activity

12/21/2017 - WASHINGTON — One of the most wide-reaching and significant changes to military pay and benefits over the last 70 years goes into effect Jan. 1, 2018, with the implementation of the Uniformed Services Blended Retirement System, known as BRS.

The new system blends aspects of the traditional defined benefit retirement pension system, with a defined contribution system of automatic and matching government contributions through the Thrift Savings Plan.

All new entrants into the uniformed services on or after Jan. 1, will be enrolled in this new retirement system, Pentagon officials said. The uniformed services are the Army, Navy, Air Force, Marine Corps, Coast Guard, Public Health Service Commissioned Corps and the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration Commissioned Officer Corps.

Some Can Choose Between Systems

Nearly 1.6 million current service members will have the option to remain in the current legacy "high-3" retirement system or to choose the BRS when the opt-in period for eligible service members opens Jan. 1. Opt-in eligible service members from all seven of the uniformed services will have an entire year to make their retirement system election. The open period for the majority of service members is from Jan. 1 through Dec. 31, 2018.

Service members will need to visit one of these designated resources to opt into BRS:

- Army, Air Force, Navy: MyPay (<https://mypay.dfas.mil>).



(Courtesy graphic)

- Marine Corps: Marine Online (<https://www.mol.usmc.mil>).
- Coast Guard, NOAA Commissioned Corps: Direct Access (<https://portal.direct-access.us>).
- U.S. Public Health Service personnel should contact the USPHS Compensation Branch.

Service members who believe they are eligible to opt in, but do not see the opt-in option available online should contact their local personnel/human resources office to verify eligibility, officials said.

Decision Irrevocable

The decision to opt in is irrevocable, officials emphasized, even if a service member changes his or her mind before the Dec. 31, 2018, deadline. Eligible service members who take no action will remain in the legacy retirement system, they added.

Prior to opting in, officials recommend that service members take advantage of all available resources to assist in making an informed decision on the financial implications specific to their retirement situation. The Defense Department endorses several training and informational tools to support a service member's decision, including the BRS Opt-In Course, the BRS Comparison Calculator and numerous online BRS resource materials. Service members can receive no-cost, personal support from an accredited personal financial manager or counselor available at their installation's military and family support center or by calling Military OneSource at 1-800-342-9647.

For more information, please contact Tech. Sgt. Agnes Pena, Military Personnel Section, 632-4967.

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Military Sealift Command's USNS Pecos delivers Project Handclasp to Thai kids



(U.S. Navy photos by Grady T. Fontana)

^ **SRIRACHA, Thailand** — Chaplain Lt. Cmdr. Glen Kitzman, Military Sealift Command Far East out of Singapore, right, and Lt. Peter Johnson from the Tactical Operations Center in Kadena Air Base, unpack a sewing machine that was part of U.S. Navy Project Handclasp during a community relations event at Map Yang Ra Hong primary school in Chantaburi, Dec. 16. Military Sealift Command fleet replenishment oiler USNS Pecos (T-AO 197) recently transported two tons of U.S. Navy Project Handclasp humanitarian items from Singapore to Thailand that supported four community relations events at local organizations here.



◀ Aviation Metalsmith 2nd Class Kevin Brown with Patrol Squadron 8, hands a child an items from a U.S. Navy Project Handclasp kit during a community relations event at Map Yang Ra Hong primary school in Chantaburi, Dec. 16. Patrol Squadron 8 is a U.S. Navy land-based patrol squadron stationed at Naval Air Station Jacksonville, Fla., and deployed to Okinawa.



◀ School children meet with Sailors from Patrol Squadron 8, a U.S. Navy land-based patrol squadron stationed at Naval Air Station Jacksonville, Fla., and deployed to Okinawa, during a community relations event at Map Yang Ra Hong primary school in Chantaburi, Dec. 16.

U.S. Navy aircraft joins search and rescue efforts for missing mariners in East China Sea

By **U.S. 7th Fleet Public Affairs**

Commander, U.S. 7th Fleet Public Affairs
1/7/2018 — On Jan. 7, the U.S. Navy sent a P-8A aircraft attached to the 'Fighting Tigers' of Patrol Squadron EIGHT (VP-8) to

assist in an international search and rescue (SAR) effort in the East China Sea following a collision between two commercial vessels.

After arriving on scene, the aircraft searched an area of approximately 3,600 square nautical miles before returning to

Kadena Air Base. None of the mariners were located.

Chinese-flagged cargo ship, CF Crystal; and Iranian-owned and -operated, Panamanian-flagged MV Sanchi; collided Jan. 6. International search efforts are ongoing

for MV Sanchi's 32 missing crew members.

Seventh Fleet, which celebrates its 75th year in 2018, spans more than 124 million square kilometers, stretching from the International Date Line to the India/Pakistan border; and from the Kuril Islands in the North to the Antarctic in the South. Seventh Fleet's area of operation encompasses 36 maritime countries and 50 percent of the world's population with between 5070 U.S. ships and submarines, 140 aircraft, and approximately 20,000 Sailors in the 7th Fleet.

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Kadena Air Base Community Notes

To submit an announcement for the base bulletin, please visit www.kadena.af.mil NO FEDERAL ENDORSEMENT OF PRIVATE ORGANIZATIONS OR ACTIVITIES IS INTENDED.

Trash & Recycling Important Information

Effective Dec. 21, 2017 all trash pick-up service, to include bulk items, for Kadena Air Base and island-wide Military Family Housing was restored and has resumed with the regular schedule. Your patience and cooperation during this period of reduced service has been greatly appreciated. If you have any questions, please contact CE Customer service at 634-2424 or Housing Maintenance at 634-HOME.

Kadena and Camp Foster Emergency Numbers

Kadena Fire Emergency Services reminds everyone to program their cell phones with the emergency numbers. To report an emergency on Kadena via cell, dial 098-934-5911, and from an office phone, dial 911. For Camp Foster via cell, dial 098-911-1911, or from an office phone, dial 911.

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How to File a Complaint with IG

If you believe you are unable to resolve your complaint through supervisory channels, you may seek IG assistance to determine if the complaint should be filed with the IG.

You can file a complaint if you reasonably believe inappropriate conduct has occurred or a violation of law, policy, procedures, or regulation has been committed. Complete the personnel data information on an AF Form 102 and briefly outline the facts and relevant information related to the issue or complaint. List the allegations of wrongdoing briefly, in general terms and provide supporting narrative detail and documents later, when interviewed by an IG person. Allegations should be written as bullets and should answer who committed the violation; what violation was committed; what law, regulation, procedures, or policy was violated; when did the violation occur. Help is available: Call your Kadena IG office at 634-7622 for Maj. Sarabia or 634-1109 for Mr. Lovingood, or leave a message on the Kadena Fraud Waste & Abuse (FWA) Hotline at 634-0404.

18th MDG Clinic Closures

The Kadena Air Base clinic will be closed on the following dates:

Jan. 15 Closed All Day

Jan. 16 Closed All Day

Jan. 26 Closed All Day

Feb. 5 Closed All Day

Feb. 15 Closed ½ Day

The 18th Medical Group is responsible for ensuring the 18th Wing's medical readiness in support of the United States' and Japan's mutual interests. In keeping with this mission, the Kadena Clinic will be participating in 18th Wing upcoming exercises. During exercises, our normal patient care and clinical services (pharmacy, lab, immunizations, etc.) will be impacted, as the clinic may be closed for one day during these exercises (exact dates subject to scenario). We ask for your patience as our trusted professionals exercise their skills and work with the Wing and other agencies on island in support of these training events. We apologize for any inconvenience that this may cause. As always, in the event of an emergency, seek emergency services at

the U.S. Naval Hospital on Camp Foster, or by dialing ambulance services at 634-1796 or by cell phone 098-934-5911. For more information, contact Capt. Jennifer Stark at 630-4565, Staff Sgt. Larissa Palmer at 630-4504, or Ms. Melissa Cook at 630-5050.

WIC Overseas Program Enrollment and Eligibility

The Women, Infants, and Children Overseas is a supplemental nutrition program designed for pregnant, postpartum, and breastfeeding women, infants and children up to the age of 5. As a WIC Overseas participant, you can receive nutrition education in the form of individual counseling and group classes, breastfeeding support, supplemental foods such as milk, juice, cheese, cereal, eggs, and fresh fruits and vegetables, and referrals to other health care agencies. For more information, check financial/residential eligibility, visit or call WIC Overseas. All of WIC can be reached at 645-WICO (9426) or from a cell phone at 098-970-9426. (Options 1- Camp Foster; 2- Kadena Air Base; 3-Camp Kinser; 4- Camp Courtney) Kadena Air Base (Bldg. 428) Camp Foster (Bldg. 5674) Camp Courtney (Bldg. 4408) Camp Kinser (Bldg. 107 Rm. 121)

Secretary of the Air Force Focus Groups

The Secretary of the Air Force Public Affairs team wants to hear your opinion regarding Senior Leader online communications. This is a chance for officers and enlisted of all ranks and AFSCs to tell Senior AF Leaders whether their messages are being received whether by the AF webpage, portal or official social media pages. The goal is to identify any gaps between the wants and desires of Airmen and what is currently being provided when it comes to Senior Leader online communication. Focus groups will take place Feb. 15 with an enlisted (E1-E9) focus group at 9 a.m. and an officer

(O1-O6) focus group at 1 p.m. Each focus group will last approximately 90 minutes. If you would like to participate or have questions about the focus groups, please contact Mr. Andre Trinidad at 18wg.papublicaffairs@us.af.mil or 634-3813 before Jan. 26.

SGLI Online Enrollment System (SOES) Implementation

On Aug. 1, 2017, the Air Force implemented the Servicemembers' Group Life Insurance Online Enrollment System (SOES) for the uniformed services. The Air Force's 12-month implementation of SOES will continue through July 31. During your birth month, all Airmen (officer and enlisted) will update their SGLI/FSGLI election option, validate coverage level and add beneficiary information. Also, prior to deployment, and in some instances prior to retirement or separation, if applicable. You will receive a message. More information is available at the Kadena MPS site.

Public Affairs Photo Studio

The Public Affairs photo studio is open Mon.-Thurs. from 9-11 a.m. and 1-4 p.m. Appointments are available in half-hour increments. Award, bio or package submission photos are scheduled Mon-Wed. Full length photos are only available on Thurs. Official Passport photos are by appointment only until further notice, Mon-Fri, and require a letter from your UDM or the passport office. For questions or to schedule, please call 634-3813.

Preparation for Promotion Testing

As the promotion cycle nears, your Test Control Officer would like to ensure all examinees receive the best opportunity going forward. All examinees should be prepared on their scheduled day by ensuring they:

- Are on time (late arrival will generate a no-show)
- Have CAC at all time during both tests
- Be in appropriate military uniform

What's Okinawaetcetera?

ADDICTIVE TASTE AND SPRINGY TEXTURE OF THE "JIMAMI-DOFU"

Jimami-dofu is a standard menu in Okinawan Izakaya (Japanese-style bar), and is very popular for souvenirs.

The springy texture, the smooth and slightly sweet taste, this maybe the reason why many people become addicted once they eat it.

When asked, probably not many people can answer the ingredients.

Tofu is typically made from soybean, but jimami-dofu is made from peanut.

Unlike the tofu, jimami-dofu is made by mixing together the squeezed juice of the peanut with sweet potato starch.

The springy texture comes from this natural starch.

By the way, the word "Jimami" means groundnut in Okinawan dialect. In other words, it's a peanut that grows in the soil.



The jimami-dofu is sold all year round in the Okinawan super markets, and it is a very common dish that represents Okinawa.

It contains rich vitamin B1 and vitamin E, and it is a very good decomposer of alcohol, recommended to eat jimami-dofu when you drink. It also has skin-beautifying effect, so have some with the brown sugar syrup for your dessert.

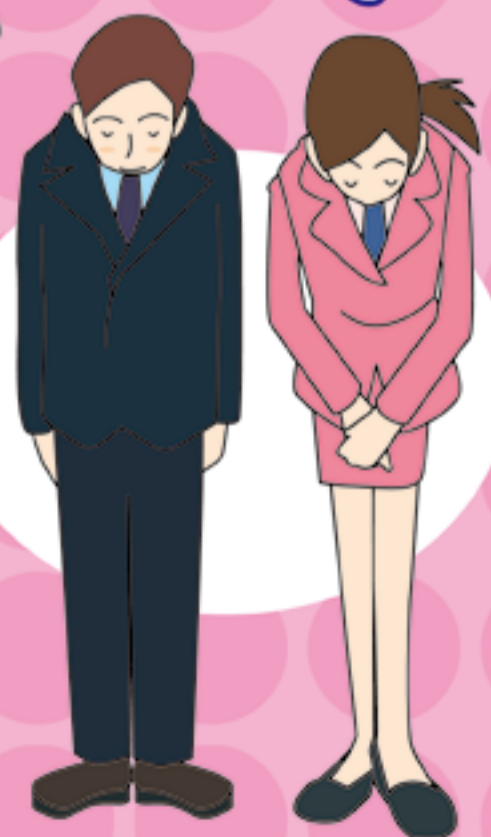


HAI-SAI! (Hello) Chanpuru is Okinawan for "something mixed" and the word also is used when talking about the mixture of cultures. In this corner, we will go over some fun tips as you enjoy your stay on the island.

The Bow in Japan

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When you meet someone you bow. When you present your name card, you bow. When shaking hands, you bow. And after thanking someone, you bow. There is endless bowing especially in the business world. A proper way of saying good bye, is with a bow.



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Like Okinawa Travel Info

Kadena Housing Office Closure

The Kadena DoD Family Housing Office, Camp Kinser Office, Camp Courtney Office, Camp Foster, Furnishing Management Section and Furnishing Management Section Self-Help and Appliance Repair will be closing in observance of Martin Luther King Day, Jan. 15 and Jan.16. For emergency assistance, please contact 634-HOME (4663).

Kadena Air Base women's softball

Are you looking to play slow pitch softball? Our women's team competes all-year round on Kadena with other local bases and there is even opportunities to play in tournaments throughout the Pacific Theater! Practices are held twice per week and is open to all active duty personnel, spouses and DOD civilians. For more information, please contact Master Sgt. Crystal Benitez at crystal.benitez@us.af.mil

Kadena MPS Customer Service – Walk-ins only Jan. 22 – 26

For all DEERS updates/CAC/ID cards that need to be created or renewed the Kadena MPS Customer Service office will be on a walk-in basis ONLY from Jan. 22 – Jan. 26 due to the RAPIDS system upgrade. There will be no scheduled appointments during this time. Please plan accordingly. Expect delays or outages. Alternative Options for ID CARD/DEERS Service Schedule Appt @: <https://rapids-appointments.dmdc.osd.mil/appointment/default.aspx>

UPCOMING EVENTS

Kadena High School Varsity Boys Basketball

Please come out and support Kadena Varsity boys' basketball team's last home game Jan. 12 at 6:30 p.m. Help us celebrate our seniors for SENIOR NIGHT! Concessions will be on sale at the game! Go Panthers! For more information, please contact Josephine Robinson at 634-1523

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

Volunteers needed for 2018 Okinawa Marathon

Volunteers are needed to provide water and cheer on runners at stations along the base route on Kadena Air Base during the 2018 Okinawa Marathon Feb. 18. Those interested are encouraged to attend a meeting Feb. 8 at 10 a.m. in the Schilling Ball Room (Bldg. 455). If you

are going to volunteer as group, you can send one representative to the meeting. For sign-up or more information, email to makiko.miyara.jp@us.af.mil or call at DSN 634-5696.

Volunteers Needed At Amelia Earhart Intermediate School

Guest Classroom Readers Requested for Black History Month from Jan. 15 - Feb. 15 School volunteers requested to read to students at Amelia Earhart Intermediate School (grades 3-5). Jan. 17 & Feb. 6, 9:10-10:00 a.m. Selection of books provided, contact POC, Ms. Gatus, sarah.gatus@pac.dodea.edu to sign up, LOA provided.

Ryukyu Middle School Saturday School Volunteering

Volunteers needed to assist Ryukyu Middle School students with school assignments. LOAs will be written and given to all volunteers. DATE(s): Jan. 13 and 27. / Feb. 10 and 24. March 10 and 24. / April 14 and 28. / May 12 and 26. / June 2. All classes will be from 7:30 a.m. to 11 a.m. For more information, please contact Ms. Lee Mik at DSN 634-4849 or email lee.mik@pac.dodea.edu

Native Spanish Speaking Volunteers Needed At Kadena High School

The Kadena High School Foreign Language Department is seeking native Spanish speakers to volunteer in some of the Spanish classrooms to interact with students in Spanish. Speakers are needed during the school day (7:20 a.m. – 2:05 p.m.) on Feb. 9, March 9, April 20, June 1. If interested, please contact Elizabeth Elansari at 634-1216 or via email at elizabeth.elansari@pac.dodea.edu.

Seeking Volunteer Weight Trainers

The Kadena High School football program is looking for volunteers that would like to help with its weightlifting program. Volunteers would be assigned one day a week to come in and monitor the prescribed workout for correct form, effort, safety and motivate athletes through their workouts, helping students write down their weight, sets and repetitions in their logs. The students will be on a prescribed program but extra activities could be added if they finish early or feel that they could benefit from more exercises. Volunteers are needed one day per week for about 60-90 minutes per day unless the volunteer chooses to do more.

The workouts would last from 2:15 p.m. - 3:45 p.m. on Mondays through Fridays. The start day is Jan. 8 and ends on May 18. This is a great opportunity for community members to earn volunteer hours and resume experience. If you are interested, please contact Coach Sergio Mendoza, at 634-1216 or via email at sergio.mendoza@pac.dodea.edu. A volunteer packet and background check will be required.

Come Volunteer At The Wired Bean

The Wired Bean is a home away from home for our junior enlisted and we need E-4s and above to volunteer to monitor the facility and check out equipment. Please sign up using the link below or email Melissa Rafferty for more information at rafferty515@yahoo.com.

Kadena Post Office Volunteer Opportunity

Volunteer to help out the Kadena Post Office with holiday mail Monday-Friday 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. and Saturdays 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. (closed on holidays). Times and dates may be claimed at <http://www.signupgenius.com/go/60b0f4dadab2fa2f58-holiday>. Please call customer service at 634-4458 for any questions you may have.

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 Chicken (6pc) 500yen
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 Choice of 11 Delicious Sauce Flavors!
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 WING KING KADENA
 Eagle Lodge Bldg 455
 TEL: 098-936-8986
 OPEN 11:00am - 9:00pm

Ryukyu Lantern Festival
 2017-2018
 A romantic event featuring thousands of Ryukyu lanterns adorning the premises of Murasaki Mura.
 Limitedly held until Sun. Feb. 25, 2018
 Enjoy a seasonal beauty lit by Ryukyu lanterns.
 A delicious variety of food stands with dim sum delicacies including pork buns and yakitori skewers, as well as hot drinks are on offer at lantern cafe area.
 Dec. 2 (SAT) - Feb. 25 (SUN)
 Starts at dusk, nightly
 Murasaki Mura, Takashibo 1020-5
 Yomitan Village Okinawa
 Mission: ¥600 for adults
 ¥500 for junior & senior high school students
 ¥400 for elementary school students

BOOK CLUB
 AT THE KADENA BASE LIBRARY

UPCOMING THEMES

JANUARY
 Self help

FEBRUARY
 Big brother / Data

MARCH
 Novels or real people

APRIL
 Wild Card

The buy, borrow, bypass book club allows readers to take control of what they read, while still being structured around one central theme! Choose a book based off that months theme and come discuss whether or not you would recommend buying it, borrowing it, or bypassing it completely.

Stop by the Kadena Base Library on the 3rd Wednesday of every month at 6:30pm. Open to all ages 18 and over.

Kadena Base Library • 634-1502 | Building 451

KADENA AIR BASE
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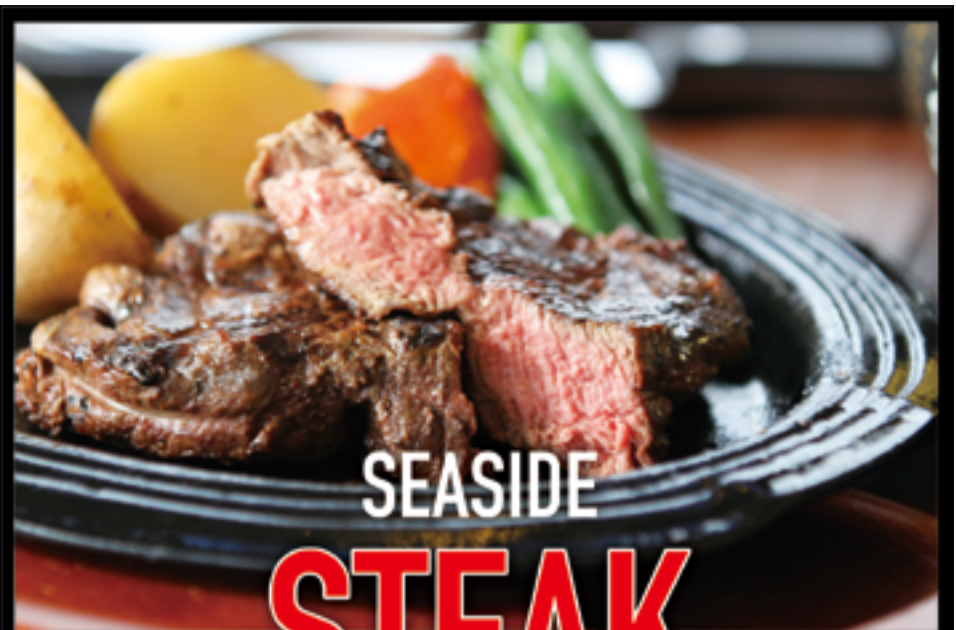


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