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AIR FORCE - ARMY - NAVY - COMMUNITY NEWS

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F-15 Eagles from Kadena Air Base are parked on the ramp, July 9, at Yokota Air Base. The F-15s evacuated due to Typhoon Maria. This is the first time all of Kadena's F-15s evacuated to Yokota.

(U.S. Air Force photo by Yasuo Osakabe)

Team Kadena assesses lessons from Typhoon Prapiroon

By 18th Wing Public Affairs

7/6/2018 — Typhoon Prapiroon kicked-off the 2018 typhoon season, mildly impacting the area July 1-2, and Team Kadena leadership gathered to discuss its impacts.

In a post-typhoon discussion, key leaders from across Kadena discussed how to more effectively communicate Tropical Cyclone Conditions of Readiness (TCCOR) Conditions as well as lessons learned from the first typhoon of the season.

“The overall intent of the TCCOR system is to allow for timely preparation leading up to a storm and a safe and expeditious recovery to full mission capability following a storm,” said Brig. Gen. Case A. Cunningham,

18th Wing commander.

TCCOR announcements and specific Okinawa storm forecasts can be found on Shogun Weather at www.kadena.af.mil/Agencies/Local-Weather/. The Joint Typhoon Warning Center at www.metoc.navy.mil/jtwc/jtwc.html carries the latest forecast updates for the storm and its predicted path.

In addition to the weather information posted on the above sites, 18 WG Public Affairs will now change the cover photo of the Kadena Air Base Facebook page for each TCCOR Condition change to reflect the latest Shogun Weather forecast and current condition update graphic. A separate Facebook status update will include TCCOR condition changes with

the time it changed and a brief description of the condition. These changes will ensure that important official weather updates from Shogun Weather and TCCOR Condition changes are more likely to show up in Facebook user news feeds.

The Kadena Connect app is also an excellent resource for TCCOR notifications. Members can download the app on their smart phones.

A desire for more clarity on the use of the TCCOR Storm Watch condition also provided another lesson learned. In general, TCCOR Storm Watch after either TCCOR 3, 2, 1, or even 1C indicates strong winds of 35 knots sustained or greater are possible due to the proximity of a tropical cyclone; however due to

the predicted path or strength of the storm, the winds on Okinawa are no longer forecasted to meet the destructive wind criteria (50 knots sustained or gust factors of 60 knots or greater). The use of TCCOR Storm Watch after TCCOR 1R indicates recovery efforts are complete but strong winds are still possible due to the proximity of the tropical cyclone and personnel should exercise caution while outdoors.

After a typhoon passes, the TCCOR All Clear status indicates the storm is over. After a short period of time, the change from TCCOR All Clear to seasonal TCCOR 4 will indicate a reset for overall typhoon season readiness.

While Prapiroon only increased in strength from a

tropical storm to a Category 1 typhoon as it passed Okinawa, military family housing residents got a chance to see how important it is to take the appropriate measures to secure their homes and outdoor equipment properly for a storm.

The Typhoon Guide prepared by the Kadena Office of Emergency Management is an excellent guide for typhoon season preparations as well as TCCOR Condition explanations and can be found at www.kadena.af.mil.

“I’m proud of the teamwork involved in our preparation for and recovery from Typhoon Prapiroon,” said Cunningham. “Assessing our lessons from this storm gives us a great opportunity to be even better prepared for future storms.”

F-15s and F-22s evacuate from Typhoon Maria



(U.S. Air Force photos by Yasuo Osakabe)

▲ Eight F-15 Eagles from Kadena Air Base are parked on the ramp, July 9, at Yokota Air Base. The F-15s evacuated due to Typhoon Maria. This is the first time all of Kadena's F-15s evacuated to Yokota.



◀ An F-22 Raptor from Joint Base Elmendorf-Richardson, Alaska, sits on the flightline, July 8, at Yokota Air Base. Eight F-22s evacuated from Kadena Air Base due to Typhoon Maria. The F-22 is being deployed under U.S. PACOM's theater security package (TSP) program, which has been in operation since 2004.

A simple guide to storm safety

By Staff Sgt. Jessica H. Smith

18th Wing Public Affairs

7/9/2018 — Living on a tropical island may seem like a breeze, but during typhoon season it's possible to be blown away with never-ending safety precautions.

Here on Kadena, preparation is key. There are a few things to remember to keep oneself and their family as safe as possible.

First, visit any of the Eagle Hardware locations to pick up sandbags and sand. Once sandbags are acquired, place them horizontally on the outside of all exterior doors. The sandbags are designed to help prevent water infiltration.

The next thought may be windows, however, nothing needs to be done to the windows here, as they all have anti-shatter film. Adding any tape causes damage to the protective film – just one less thing to worry about in time of preparation.

Every yard should look as if the house is vacant. All outside items can become hazardous and cause significant risk to not only properties, but lives as well. Ensure all items are brought inside – regardless of size – whether it's a kite or a kayak, it's a flight risk.

With yard preparation comes the responsibility of one's trash – not another

man's treasure in this scenario. Once TCCOR-2 is in effect, all trash collection comes to a halt. Anything that has not been collected needs to be brought inside, including bulk trash items.

Keep in mind, green waste can be dropped off at Kadena's Recycling Center.

Rest assured, all homes – on and off base – are safe and regularly inspected to ensure those living in them are out of harm's way. The housing here is designed to withstand Super Typhoons.

In the event a door or window breaks open during the storm, isolate the room and find shelter in a different part of the home. Residents will not be evacuated if there is still a single room of the home to be sheltered in.

Most importantly, know that in the event of a medical issue, emergency services can be limited based on the storm condition. In TCCOR-1E, nobody is moving. In TCCOR-1R, only first responders will begin to move out.

With that being said, it's important to stock up on sheltering and first aid supplies as well as medications. Also be aware that the Nurse's Hotline can be accessed for assistance over the phone.

Following these key steps helps ensure not only one's own safety, but those around them as well.

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525th AMU keeps F-22s flying during TSP



Senior Airman Taylor Bryant, 525th Aircraft Maintenance Unit crew chief, goes through pre-flight procedures June 28, at Kadena Air Base.



Senior Airman Taylor Bryant, 525th Aircraft Maintenance Unit crew chief, goes through pre-flight procedures June 28, at Kadena Air Base. Rotational forces are integral to increasing our military combat capabilities, which are essential to U.S. power projection and security obligations.

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

By Airman 1st Class Greg Erwin

18th Wing Public Affairs

7/5/2018 — As the morning sun rises over the base, the pilot walks to his aircraft. Both man and machine will work as one unit in the sky today. The pilot looks at the crew chief, who is waiting at the aircraft, and gives a thumbs up. As the pilot buckles into the cockpit and the canopy closes, the crew chief ensures that the final touches are completed and clears the jet for launch.

“Sir, your jet is good to go – see you when you get back on the ground.” These words are the last to the pilot prior to launch by Senior Airman Taylor Bryant, 525th Aircraft Maintenance Unit crew chief. Bryant and members of the 525th Fighter Squadron are currently deployed to Kadena as a part of a Theater Security Package tasking.

F-22s are a familiar sight over the skies of Okinawa; the jets deploy to Kadena

Air Base routinely. Combined with the six-month rotational deployment of the F-35As from Hill Air Force Base, Utah, these TSP’s reinforce the Pacific Air Force’s commitment to the employment of fifth-generation fighter technology within the U.S. Indo-Pacific Command area of responsibility.

Dealing with a fifth-generation aircraft creates a learning curve for the maintainers on the ground, to make sure the aircraft launch and perform their mission as expected, explains Master Sgt. Kenneth Wilkins, 525th AMU production superintendent. Because the airframe is relatively new, the past generation aircraft knowledge is something the maintainers often rely on for problem solving.

“The prior aircraft experience has been crucial in preparing maintainers on these fifth-generation fighters,” Wilkins said. “Without the prior experience,

we wouldn’t have a baseline of items to check when a new problem may arise.”

While the F-15s here at Kadena are a fourth-generation aircraft, Bryant explained there’s still plenty that can be learned by maintainers to apply to the fifth-generation models.

“I’d relate the F-15 Eagle to a strong Chevrolet truck,” Bryant said. “It can take a beating and keep going and it’s a highly reliable aircraft. The F-22 Raptor is more like a Lamborghini – still very reliable but very high-tech.”

As new F-22s have come off the line, each aircraft has gotten progressively more advanced due to the diligence of the maintainers finding potential issues. Bryant said when an issue does occur, they often have a representative from Lockheed Martin or Boeing come and help diagnose the problem and come up with a solution – making sure future

models don’t have similar problems.

Even though the 525th is based in Alaska, Bryant stated the environment at Kadena helps play a major part in making the deployment a learning experience for the 525th AMU.

“A challenge being deployed here, versus being home in Alaska, is combating the weather,” Bryant said. “Alaska is not as humid as it is here at Kadena, so we have to make sure to keep the cockpit dry and clear of condensation.”

For Bryant however, the real gratification comes from seeing his work lead to the generation of aircraft safely each day.

“A friend of mine always said you have to come to the line with the mentality that ‘it’s a beautiful day to put jets in the air’ – everyday someone’s life is in our hands,” Bryant said. “It’s very rewarding to know that this aircraft can take off every day, and I’m the last person who touched it.”

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18th SFS train to always be ready



U.S. Marine Corps Marines from the Provost Marshal's Office special reaction team clears a hallway during an active shooter training exercise June 25 at Ryukyu Middle School, Kadena Air Base.



▲ A U.S. Marine Corps Marine from the Provost Marshal's Office special reaction team helps a simulated hostage during an active shooter training exercise June 25.

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

By Staff Sgt. Matthew B. Fredericks

18th Wing Public Affairs
6/28/2018 — Members of the 18th Security Forces Squadron conducted an active shooter exercise here June 25.

The 18th SFS patrolmen constantly refine how they accomplish their mission. Part of that improvement process is their ability to work alongside a large variety of other agencies that can become involved in incidents that require a security forces response.

Airmen recently conducted training

with a U.S. Marine Corps special reaction team and Kadena Fire Department on how to resolve an active-shooter event.

"Today we were practicing joint-agency and joint-service responses," said Master Sgt. Anthony Johnson, 18th SFS standardization and evaluation superintendent. "We have agreements established that we want to continue to practice and allow to evolve."

The exercise participants practice communication and coordination techniques needed if an incident occurs requiring a response by more agencies than

just security forces.

"Realistically, there's no incident where other agencies won't be involved," said Johnson. "Especially on a base where there's so many different assets working together."

The training allows evaluators to identify opportunities for improving their planning and preparing capabilities with other agencies when responding to a variety of incidents.

"This is a way to sharpen our skillset, and a good chance to work with the other agencies on base, and in this case, our

sister service," said Master Sgt. Matthew Bridge, 18th SFS avenger flight chief. "Getting together, and understanding each person's role, trying to figure out what we can do to improve the next time, and if this ever happens in real life."

Kadena patrolmen used the exercise to rehearse several response scenarios and validate current procedures.

"Doing these types of exercise gives our Defenders the confidence to handle any incident," said Bridge. "We don't expect this type of incident to happen, but we'll be ready if it ever does."

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A1C Martinez helps keep the power on

By Airman 1st Class Greg Erwin

18th Wing Public Affairs

6/28/2018 — Imagine a child grabs a pack of instant ramen to make breakfast, as there is no other food available for the morning meal. The slow walk to the microwave to heat the noodles that the child will eat for breakfast, lunch and dinner is just another part of the daily routine — like getting out of bed in the morning. The power flickers out, leaving the child dejected and hungry. The bills were paid late again, and now there's no power.

This was sometimes the reality growing up for Airman 1st Class Zackeriah Martinez, 18th Civil Engineer Squadron electrical systems technician.

After struggling to have power growing up, Martinez now gets to help keep Team Kadena's power on. From housing to the 18th Munitions area and everything in between — it's the 18th CES, and Martinez, who keep the base lit up.

"That's the best part of my job," Martinez said. "When I see the lights come on."

He grew up in a family that struggled to keep a hot meal on the table — while the family's bills were paid, they were usually late.

"We barely had two pennies to rub together," Martinez said.

Because of the financial hardships growing up, Martinez looked for a stable income as an adult. He decided to join the military — like his father had done for a few years — once he

finished high school.

His father was in the Navy, but Martinez didn't realize his father was an electrician until the day he completed technical school.

"My father never told me what he did," Martinez said. "He told me on my graduation day he was also an electrician in the Navy; it brought things full circle."

He's the first in his family to join the Air Force — others who attempted to join were denied upon various attempts.

"Everyone in my family tried to join," Martinez said. "Everyone had failed. I told myself I was going to join the Air Force, and I will not fail; just like the last line of the Airman's Creed."

Whatever life throws at Martinez, he says that no feat is too great.



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

◀ Airman 1st Class Zackeriah Martinez poses for a photo for the Airman of the Week program June 18 at Kadena Air Base. Martinez is a second generation military member and electrician.

"I'm a worker," Martinez said. "You'll never see me back down from any challenge."

When giving advice Martinez encourages new Airmen to keep an open mind and keep pushing through the rough days. He uses inspiration from one of his

favorite films — "Rocky Balboa" — to fight through each day.

"My favorite quote is from Rocky," Martinez said. "Life's not about how hard of a hit you can give. It's about how many you can take, and still keep moving forward."

Keeping it cool

By Staff Sgt. Matthew B. Fredericks

18th Wing Public Affairs

6/28/2018 — While Kadena residents are familiar with high temperatures, there are those who are hard at work to make it bearable.

The 18th Civil Engineer Squadron's heating, ventilation and air conditioning shop installs, maintains and repairs the climate-controlling equipment for every

building on Kadena Air Base.

"All buildings on base have to be climate controlled," said Ali Haroual, 18th CES HVAC mechanic. "We're the people responsible for maintaining them, and making sure everything is running properly."

With the high temperatures and humidity levels on Okinawa, paired with winds and salt water from inclement weather, HVAC systems require a higher

than usual amount of upkeep.

According to Haroual, most of the shops time is spent on maintenance and replacements.

"Due to the weather here, it's very corrosive," Haroual said. "These units basically run year-round; they don't stop."

These constantly-running systems cool down computer servers allowing organizations on base to communicate.

"We directly effect the mission; server rooms need AC to work properly," said Staff Sgt. Emmanuel Kamei, 18th CES HVAC craftsman. "It takes our AC to cool down those servers in order for

them to work."

The systems not only take care of equipment, but the men and women who use it to accomplish the mission.

"There's always something needing to be done on a daily basis," said Haroual. "It's not boring or routine; every day you're dealing with something completely different."

Kamei explained how customers are extremely grateful after their air conditioning is fixed.

"The reaction and response we get from our customers is the best part," said Kamei. "They're always so happy to have the AC working."

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Coming together through the law

By Staff Sgt. Jessica H. Smith

18th Wing Public Affairs

7/2/2018 — While the Uniform Code of Military Justice may be the same across the services, each branch still has their own quirks when it comes to serving justice. All four branches on island, as well as their Japanese counterparts came together June 29, at Kadena Air Base, to participate in a mock trial.

The day started with an introduction to military justice and moved on to investigations, commander's discretion non-judicial punishment, and ended with the mock trial.

"All four services on the island took part in one way or another, whether it was a briefing or roles in the mock trial – so it was truly a joint effort," said Capt. Christopher Ginn, 18th Wing judge advocate prosecutor and chief of NJP.

Locals were also heavily involved throughout the day. Members from the Japanese Ground Self-Defense Force, investigators from the Okinawa prefecture, prosecutors from the Naha courthouse and members from the Okinawa narcotics control office all participated in one way or another.

Although the sister services may have reaped many benefits from this event, the goal was to work closer with their Japanese partners, explained Lt. Col. Chuck Neill, Army staff judge advocate.

"The main purpose was to share with our Japanese partners how we conduct our military justice system," he said. "I think it's helpful for them to see a mock trial to understand the kind of scrutiny that defendants will receive ... That witnesses

will receive. I think it's also helpful to show our Japanese partners how seriously we take misconduct committed by military personnel on the island."

Being on island, often means working closely with locals – when it comes to legal matters, there's no room for error.

"We work with them on a pretty regular basis," Neill said. "We've had a couple of cases where there's been misconduct off an installation and the Japanese police are the first ones to respond and we've been able to rely very well on the fidelity and the integrity of their investigations."

Although there are high expectations for the working relationship between the military and the locals, the services seem to have just as much to prove to the locals.

"I think to a certain extent U.S. forces in Japan are seen as one unit – especially if we're in the news – so it's important for that purpose, to show we do work together and we are one unit, especially when it comes to UCMJ," Neill said.

Despite the constant banter between sister services, Lt. Rachael Baker, Navy fleet activities Okinawa staff judge advocate, feels they really are one team.

"I think it's important not only for us to be working with our Japanese partners but also as a purple force because that's what Okinawa is all about," she said. "So I wanted to highlight that – I wanted to show that we really are a joint legal force on this island."

For Baker, the day was both personally and professionally satisfying.

"Seeing our Japanese counterparts really enjoying it and walking away from it happy that they came is very personally



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

Local Okinawans look over the script for the mock trial as part of the Military Justice Symposium June 29, at Kadena Air Base. The mock trial was a part of the Military Justice Symposium, in which members from all branches of the U.S. military and local Okinawan legal members converged on Kadena Air Base for a knowledge exchange.



Left Photo Akira Nonobe, translator for the U.S. Navy, explains what Lt. Col. Steven Neill, U.S. Army military judge, is saying to the courtroom June 29, at Kadena Air Base.

Right Photo Lt. Col. Steven Neill, U.S. Army military judge, explains the Uniform Code of Military Justice to the local Okinawans in the courtroom June 29, at Kadena Air Base.

rewarding ... Professionally, I think it's a great experience to get to know your colleagues on island even better ... To get those relationships and build them with our Japanese counterparts," Baker said. "There were four different offices here that we had relationships with previously, but I think we strengthened them today."

While being overseas can pose certain challenges, the legal teams here see

unique working experience as a great opportunity to learn more and build relationships.

"Getting a glimpse into each other's worlds is never a bad thing," Ginn expressed. "Something like this would not happen if you're stationed stateside – it's a fact – this is international relations, this is international law and it's something that's really cool to be a part of."

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Okinawa

Mark 54 live load



(U.S. Navy photos by Mass Communication Specialist 2nd Class Juan S. Sua)

Aviation Ordnancemen assigned to the "Skinny Dragons" of Patrol Squadron (VP) 4 inspect a Mark 54 torpedo prior to loading it to a P-8A Poseidon aircraft during a proficiency exercise on Kadena Air Base, June 28. VP-4 is deployed to the U.S. 7th Fleet area of operation conducting Intelligence, Surveillance, and Reconnaissance (ISR) and Anti-Submarine Warfare (ASW) missions as well as providing maritime domain awareness throughout the Indo-Pacific region.



Aviation Ordnancemen assigned to the "Skinny Dragons" of Patrol Squadron (VP) 4 load a Mark 54 torpedo on a P-8A Poseidon aircraft during a proficiency exercise on Kadena Air Base, June 28.

Navy Color Run



(U.S. Navy photo by Mass Communication Specialist 2nd Class Matthew Dickinson)

Runners are doused with colored powders as they approach the start of the LGBT Pride 5K Color Fun Run at Camp Shields, June 29. Sponsored by Commander Fleet Activities Okinawa's Multi-Cultural Committee, the run brought together military, dependents and SOFA status personnel in support of the LGBT community during LGBT Pride month.

USS O'Kane, USS Preble, USS William P. Lawrence and USS Sterett moor during the harbor phase of RIMPAC



(U.S. Navy photo by Mass Communication Specialist 3rd Class Alexander C. Kubitza)

The guided-missile destroyers USS O'Kane (DDG 77), USS Preble (DDG 88), USS William P. Lawrence (DDG 110) and USS Sterett (DDG 104) are moored during the harbor phase of the 2018 Rim of the Pacific exercise, at Pearl Harbor, Hawaii, July 4. Twenty-five nations, 46 ships, five submarines, about 200 aircraft, and 25,000 personnel are participating in RIMPAC from June 27 to Aug. 2 in and around the Hawaiian Islands and Southern California.

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31st Marine Expeditionary Unit Completes MEU Exercise

By Gunnery Sgt. T. T. Parish

31st Marine Expeditionary Unit
7/5/2018 - CAMP HANSEN, Okinawa — The 31st Marine Expeditionary Unit (MEU) completed the first in a series of pre-deployment training events at Camp Hansen, June 28.

The first step for the 31st MEU to prepare for an upcoming patrol of the Indo-Pacific region is Marine Expeditionary Unit Exercise. Also called MEUEX, it is designed to integrate each component of the 31st MEU — Battalion Landing Team, 2nd Battalion, 5th Marines; Marine Medium Tiltrotor Squadron 262 (Reinforced); Combat Logistics Battalion 31; and the 31st MEU Command Element — into a cohesive crisis response force capable of a diverse set of missions at a moment's notice.

MEUEX tests the 31st MEU's capability to plan and launch a series of complex missions from the sea, ranging from limited combat operations to humanitarian assistance and disaster relief — with a target of six hours from orders received to mission execution, according to Col. Robert Brodie, the 31st MEU commander.

"The 31st MEU is the the cutting edge maritime crisis-re-

sponse force in the region," said Brodie. "We are a composited task force that is rehearsed, relevant and ready to meet the needs of the geographic combatant commander, any time and any place. We have the ability to reach anywhere within the Indo-Pacific in a matter of days, if not hours, and that is a capability no other unit in the region can match."

For each component of the 31st MEU — the Ground Combat Element, the Aviation Combat Element, the Logistics Combat Element and the Command Element — MEUEX is a two week sprint to plan, rehearse and launch specific mission-sets in and around Okinawa, where the unit is based. For the Marine Corps' only continuously forward-deployed MEU, MEUEX sets the pace at the start of each twice-annual deployment.

It is an imperative first step, according to Brodie.

"MEUEX gives us the opportunity to refine integration of the Command Element, Aviation Combat Element, Battalion Landing Team and Combat Logistics Battalion, ensuring our ability to conduct 14 separate missions. We deploy two times each year, so obviously it is a fast-paced and requires constant rehearsal to ensure our prepared-

ness as our nation's 911 force in readiness," said Brodie. "MEUEX develops our planners and small unit leaders, not to mention all our junior Marines, and prepares them for the challenges experienced underway. When we're embarked as part of an Amphibious Ready Group, the operational tempo increases tenfold, so MEUEX helps mold all of our Marines and prepare for our partnership with the Navy."

The 31st MEU, as a forward-deployed unit, is constantly on call to address crises throughout the entire Indo-Pacific region, stretching from Australia in the south to Mongolia in the north, and India in the west to roughly the Marshall Islands in the mid-Pacific. The vast area of responsibility features a wide array of terrain, climate, cultures and geopolitics. The 31st MEU must train to operate in everything from the jungle to deserts and mountains to coral outcroppings no higher than a few meters. They deploy with a large contingent of weapons, vehicles, equipment and personnel, aiming to be armed and equipped for any scenario, according to Maj. Jacob R. Godby, the 31st MEU's assistant operations officer.

"The size of our AO requires us to train for a wide variety of mis-



(U.S. Marine Corps photo by Gunnery Sgt. T. T. Parish)

Marines with Echo Company, Battalion Landing Team, 2nd Battalion, 5th Marines, riding Assault Amphibious Vehicles, head toward the shore during a mechanized assault as part of the 31st Marine Expeditionary Unit's MEU Exercise, near Ginoza Village, June 28.

sions which requires an extensive range of equipment and the best trained Marines anywhere," said Godby. "In Okinawa, we have the resources and training grounds that allow us to train for almost any mission we could be tasked with. MEUEX allows us to begin putting the pieces together as we move closer to embarking for our next patrol."

While embarked, the 31st MEU partners with the U.S. Navy's Amphibious Squadron 11 to form the Wasp Amphibious Ready Group. The Marines and Sailors who form the 31st MEU embark aboard the ships of the

Wasp ARG, and focus on area presence throughout the region while partnering with regional nations to enhance security and build ties between militaries, according to Godby.

"Being forward-deployed in Okinawa allows the 31st MEU to build solid and continuing friendships with other nation's militaries, which helps enhance regional security and stability," said Godby. "Every Marine and Sailor with the 31st MEU understands the importance of our role in the Indo-Pacific, and MEUEX is the first step as we lean into our next deployment."

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Student leaders to travel to Washington D.C. for highly-selective environment forum

Courtesy story

5/2/2018 - FAIRFAX, Va. — Shenaysha Duchesne, a student at Kadena High School, has been selected to represent Okinawa, Japan as a National Youth Delegate to the 2018 Washington Youth Summit on the Environment at George Mason University.

Duchesne joins a select group of 300 students from across the country to participate in an intensive, week-long study of leadership in environmental science and conservation. Duchesne was chosen based on academic accomplishments and a demonstrated interest and excellence in leadership in the sciences and conservation studies.

George Mason University along with partners, National Geographic and the National Zoo are excited to welcome the nation's young scholars to Washington, D.C. With distinguished faculty, guest speakers, and direct access to elite D.C. practitioners, the Washington Youth Summit on the Environment offers aspiring environmentalists and student leaders an unparalleled experience. The week-long program is held at George Mason University's state-of-the-art campus. The Summit will encourage and inspire young leaders who desire a unique experience focused on successful careers in this dynamic industry.

The Washington Youth Summit on the Environment will be held June 24 to 29.

About George Mason University

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About the 2018 Washington Youth Summit on the Environment

The Washington Youth Summit on the Environment (WYSE) is a unique student leadership conference designed to develop and encourage future leaders in the important field of environmental studies and conservation in the 21st century. The Advisory Board is chaired by Mark Bauman, Senior Vice President of the Smithsonian Institution's Enterprises Division. Additional members include world renowned scholars, distinguished scientists and award winning university faculty, such as Dr. Tom Lovejoy, noted environmentalist and former executive vice president of the World Wildlife Fund. Delegates gain an insider look at environmental science, policy and conservation issues. For more information visit us online at wyse.gmu.edu.

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DOD personnel assist in Thai cave rescue operations to save stranded boys, soccer coach



Airmen from the U.S. Indo-Pacific Command (USINDOPACOM) meet with Royal Thai military officials and a Thai engineering company to advise and assist in the rescue operation June 30, at Chiang Rai, Thailand.

(U.S. Air Force photo by Capt. Jessica Tait)

By Lisa Ferdinando

DoD News

7/10/2018 - WASHINGTON — Defense Department personnel continue to assist in the rescue operations in Thailand to evacuate the remaining four boys and their coach from a flooded cave system, the director of defense press operations said today.

The DOD effort consists of 42 deployed military personnel and one member from the Joint U.S. Military Advisory Group Thailand, Army Col. Rob Manning told reporters at the Pentagon.

“Coordination and interaction with Thai military, Thai government, and other multinational civilians and government entities remains extremely positive and effective,” he said.

U.S. personnel have staged equipment and prepared the first three chambers of the cave system for safe passage, he

said. They are assisting in transporting the evacuees through the final chambers of the cave system, and are providing medical personnel and other technical assistance to the rescue efforts, he added.

MULTINATIONAL RESCUE EFFORT

“We continue to fully support the multinational rescue effort and pray for the safe return of the remaining members of the team,” Manning said.

The soccer team and their coach entered the Tham Luang cave in Chiang Rai province in northern Thailand on June 23 and were trapped by floodwaters. Eight boys have been rescued so far.

Manning paid tribute to former Thai Navy SEAL Saman Kunan, who died after delivering oxygen tanks in the cave.

“The death of the former Thai Navy SEAL illustrates the difficulty of this rescue,” Manning said. “His sacrifice will not be forgotten.”

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Mongolian Armed Forces host Khaan Quest 2018 peacekeeping field-training exercise

By Sgt. David Bedard

134th Public Affairs Detachment
7/2/2018 - FIVE HILLS TRAINING AREA, Mongolia — The Mongolian Armed Forces hosted a United Nations peacekeeping field-training exercise June 14 to 28 at Five Hills Training Area, Mongolia, as part of Khaan Quest.

The purpose of Khaan Quest is to gain U.N. training and certification for multi-national participants through the conduct of realistic peace-support operations, to include increasing and improving U.N. peacekeeping operations interoperability and military relationships among the participating nations.

Alaska Army National Guard Staff Sgt. Oliver Meza, field-training exercise lead, said the training began with academics, which taught service members representing the seven participating nations U.N. doctrine such as protection of civilians, personal code of conduct, rules of engagement and escalation of force.

Meza said instructor staff comprised representatives from several participating nations. Each instructor attended a two-week U.N. Global Peace Operation Initiative train-the-trainer course at different locations throughout the world.

“Primarily, we’re teaching peacekeeping principles,” Meza said. “We provide a class prior to the lane-execution exercise - an entire day of peacekeeping principles - so each platoon has a basic peacekeeping knowledge before they begin the exercise.”

The events were spread across the training area with nations rotating in a round-robin fashion. Training included protection of civilians, convoy operations, counter improvised-explosive device operations, presence patrol, distribution of humanitarian goods, checkpoint operations, crowd control and protection of a U.N. designated site.

The U.S. fielded two platoons during the exercise, one from the Alaska Army National Guard’s 297th Regional Support Group and another from the U.S. Marine Corps’ 3rd Law Enforcement Battalion, Camp Courtney.

Japan Ground Self-Defense Force platoon leader 2nd Lt. Seiga Kudo said he relished working with other nations during the exercise.

“This is a rare opportunity to get the experience and skill of multiple countries,” Kudo said. “We get to share a lot of information, and that is a very good thing.”

Meza said the exercise trained



(U.S. Army National Guard photo by Sgt. David Bedard)

U.S. Marine Corps Cpl. Domenick DiGiovannangelo, and Lance Cpl. Andres Delgado, both of 3rd Law Enforcement Battalion, provide aid to a simulated enemy after a mock firefight June 20, during Khaan Quest 2018 entry control point operations training at Five Hills Area, Mongolia. The purpose of Khaan Quest is to gain U.N. training and certification for the participants through the conduct of realistic peace support operations, to include increasing and improving U.N. peacekeeping interoperability and military relationships among the participating nations.

and tested peacekeeping skills that are quite different from the conventional warfare and counter-insurgency skillsets most of the attendees normally train for.

“There’s the old saying, ‘Hearts and minds,’ and that’s the foundation of peacekeeping principles,” Meza said. “(There are) a lot of negotiations prior to any ... kinetic force to accomplish the mission.”

The sergeant said training wasn’t the only dimension of Khaan Quest that added to

units’ peacekeeping capabilities. The nation’s hosted cultural events during the evenings showcasing their heritage.

“These cultural events allow students, instructors and command teams to come together for one reason, and that’s to learn about each other’s culture,” Meza said. “When those events are conducted, you see the benefits of such cultural events out on the lanes. There’s an understanding and a respect for other countries and other cultures,

and it bridges that communication barrier very well.”

Meza said operating at the Five Hills Training Area provides the multi-national participants a unique opportunity to operate in an unfamiliar environment.

“(A benefit is) units that don’t usually have the opportunity to train in such a dynamic training area,” he said. “It allows them the opportunity to do something different that’s challenging and rewarding outside of their normal training facilities.”

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Australian, US forces team up for Exercise Hamel



(Australian Defense Force photo by Capt. Roger Brennan)



(U.S. Army photo by Staff Sgt. Keith Anderson)

◀ Australian soldiers from Battlegroup War Horse take part in the final assault on Williamson Airfield in the Shoalwater Bay Training Area, Rockhampton, Queensland, during Exercise Hamel, June 27.

▲ An Australian military policewoman and her canine join U.S. Marines, U.S. Soldiers and Australian Soldiers June 23 in an urban training exercise at Rasberry Creek, as part of Exercise Hamel in Shoalwater Bay Training Area, Australia.

By Staff Sgt. Keith Anderson

25th Infantry Division

7/5/2018 - ROCKHAMPTON, Australia — On the 100th anniversary of WWI's Battle of Hamel, when U.S. and Australian forces first fought side by side against German forces in Le Hamel, France, the longtime partners once again joined forces — this time for Exercise Hamel at Shoalwater Bay Military Training Area in central Queensland, Australia, from June 18-July 1.

Indiana Army National Guardsmen traveled nearly 9,000 miles to join their Australian counterparts for the exercise, which saw U.S. forces integrated into the Australian Battle Group to enhance tactical and sustainment interoperability with allied partners.

"It was truly an honor to be able to integrate into one of our coalition partner's headquarters," said U.S. Army Col. Robert Burke, the commander of the 76th Infantry Brigade Combat Team. "We were able to conduct a very challenging and worthwhile command post and field training exercise, outside the United States, and achieve a higher level of readiness than I anticipated while creating great relationships with the Australians during an historic time in our shared military history."

More than 6,000 Australian soldiers and nearly 800 U.S. military personnel participated in the training. Hamel is an Australian army field training exercise that serves as the Army's culminating event in the unit train-up/certification process before transitioning to a ready brigade.

INTERNATIONAL TRAINING

Indiana Army National Guardsmen from the 1st Battalion, 293rd Infantry

Regiment, joined up with Australian soldiers from 7th Brigade at the Shoalwater Bay Military Training Area and moved through a series of battles and engagements to certify the Australian brigade for deployment and to fulfill the annual training requirement of the Indiana Army National Guard battalion.

Additional U.S. participation included Soldiers from the 10th Regional Support Group, based at Okinawa, Japan; U.S. Marines from the III Marine Expeditionary Regiment, also based in Okinawa; U.S. Marines from the 2nd Battalion, 4th Marines, 5th Marine Regiment, based at Camp Pendleton, California; and exercise support from U.S. Army Pacific and the 25th Infantry Division, both based in Hawaii.

"We've had a number of great scenarios involved, from non-combatant evacuation operations to an amphibious tactical lodgement [landing], population security operations and also more high-end joint land combat, so on all accounts, it's been a fantastic get-out for our ADF," said Australian Brig. Gen. Ben James, the director general for training and doctrine.

Australian soldiers began operations with an amphibious landing before facing a wide variety of challenges, from complex urban operations to chemical, biological, radiological, nuclear and explosive response and large-scale combined arms battles, with their U.S. counterparts.

URBAN OPERATIONS

U.S. Marines from Fox Company, 2nd Battalion, 4th Marines, assaulted an enemy-held urban complex in predawn darkness, followed by Australian soldiers from the 6th Royal Australian Regiment and U.S. Soldiers from Alpha Company,

1st Battalion, 293rd Infantry Regiment.

"They needed to clear a village with a mixture of insurgent forces, conventional forces and a significant number of civilians," said Australian Army Capt. Tom Patterson, who served as an observer and trainer for the battle.

The scenario required infantry, tanks, military police and police dogs, engineers, air support, explosive ordinance disposal and other forces and considerations, Patterson said. It challenged soldiers in scenarios learned from real-world battles in urban areas where it is often not clear who is a fighter and who is a civilian, who is a friend and who is a foe.

The 1st Battalion, 293rd Infantry Regiment Soldiers guarded critical artillery and logistical positions, cleared routes and performed area reconnaissance, secured enemy prisoners of war, and served as the Australian brigade's reserve force as the 7th Brigade pushed westward through the 1,754-square mile training area.

In the final battle of the exercise, as Australian and U.S. forces took on a near-peer adversary played by the 3rd Brigade, Australian army elements captured a critical airfield in a large-scale combined arms battle with tanks, dismounted infantry, air support, artillery and unmanned aerial vehicles.

"We supported the tango call signs — the tanks — as the infantry attachment clearing the route providing blocks and clearances of vulnerable points," said Australian Army Cpl. Daniel Petterson, 6th Royal Australian Regiment. "We culminated in a large, complex assault and a hybrid attack."

NEW EQUIPMENT

The exercise also allowed Australian

military planners to test new equipment and capabilities.

The forces utilized the Australian Air Force's C-27J Spartan, the LAND 121 protected mobility vehicle, three separate digitized logistics common operating picture systems, vehicle camera systems, a fuel distribution and monitoring system, an automated base refueling point, an expeditionary fuel installation system for aviation and a programmable or manual-control precision aerial delivery system.

"Because Hamel simulates a tactical operation it gives us the best test bed to modernize, to refine our tactics, techniques and procedures, and apply the best outcome in our area of operations for the Australian Defense Force," said Australian Army Maj. Samuel Luke, the operations officer for the 9th Force Support Battalion, 17th Brigade.

Exercise Hamel was successful in more than just certifying 7th Brigade for deployment and fulfilling the training requirements of the Indiana Army National Guard, James said.

"We've broken new ground in a whole range of areas," he said. "For the first time, we've had a rotating ground combat element, that is, the land element that's embarked onboard our new Navy amphibious ships, so we've broken new ground there. It's the first time the [Australian] Army's worked alongside the [Australian] Air Force's new C-27J Spartan aircraft, which has been fantastic. And also, there are a number of trials on our unmanned aerial systems in the training area as well, so in a whole range of areas — new trials, new capabilities and new doctrine — it's been really exciting."

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Cell phones across Okinawa currently receive emergency text notifications in Japanese from mobile phone service providers. To receive emergency notifications by e-mail in English, contact the Readiness & Emergency Management Flight at 634-4404.

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Did you drink tonight? Made a plan but it's falling through? Can't catch a cab? If any of this applies to you, call AADD. Don't risk it all, when you can get a ride home for free. Call AADD at the cell phone number 098-961-1110 and then ask for the USO or dial DSN: 634-3889. We're open from 10 p.m. to 1 a.m. and we're here to help. Also if you would like to volunteer please click on the Link below! We're open from 9 p.m. to 1 a.m. and we're here to help. Any questions please Email our Work Box or contact us on Facebook, Kadena Air Base A2D2. Angel Vargas, President, 090-9786-9431. Henry Huynh, Vice President 090-9785-7935. Roman Nieves, Secretary 080-6485-6464. Jared Bland, Head Scheduler 070-3135-9906. Zachary Todd, Public Affairs 080-9850-5200.

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 date: July 19 - Closed at 12 p.m. 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, SSGT Larissa Palmer at 630-4504, or Ms. Melissa Cook at 630-5050.

Patient Advisory Council

The 18th Medical Group is forming a Patient Advisory Council to improve patient safety, processes, and services. We are currently recruiting voting members. The council will meet once a quarter and is open to all empaneled Kadena Clinic patients (active duty,

dependents, and retirees.) Call DSN 630-4146 or email KadenaPatientAdvocate@us.af.mil for more information.

Finance Office Closure

The finance office is closed each 3rd Thursday of the month (Training Day) - Closed - All Day For emergencies please call 080-6487-6969

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 closed from 8 a.m. to 12 p.m. July 23 for The Change of Command Ceremony. For emergency assistance, please contact 634-HOME (4663).

Road Cut Notification

The Arnold Ave, Hampshire St and an unnamed street between Hampshire and Walmsley Way will be road cuts to install new electrical conduits and foundation for street lights for the new Military Family Housing. One-lane of each affected areas will be closed. Contractor will provide flagmen to direct the one-way alternation. Open trenched will be covered with steel plates at the end of each day. For more information, contact Akira Fair at 634-4879.

Road Closure

Partial Road Closure/alternate traffic flow is scheduled from July 9 to Oct. 31 on Schreiber Ave near Bldg 250 to Bldg 3416. Flagger and traffic lights will be posted. This is to support Government of Japan construction project in the vicinity. For any information or concerns, please contact Eishin Hiyajo at 634-4285, or Email eishin.hiyajo.jp@us.af.mil.

TRICARE Overseas Off Base Do's and Do not's

Tricare Operations would like to ensure all

Continued on PAGE 15

Find Your Exchange Food Trucks at a Location Near You Today!

13-Jul	1100-1400	KAB Flightline	Nukumi Kitchen
13-Jul	1100-1800	Butler Express	Old Spices
14-Jul	1100-1900	KAB Concession Mall	Triple A
15-Jul	1100-1700	KAB Concession Mall	Churros Chilin-no-Suzu
15-Jul	1100-1900	KAB Concession Mall	Café Shiyu de Pokko
16-Jul	1100-1400	KAB Flightline	Nukumi Kitchen
16-Jul	1100-1400	AMC Terminal	Triple A
16-Jul	1600-1900	KAB Concession Mall	Triple A
17-Jul	1100-1400	KAB Flightline	Café Shiyu de Pokko
17-Jul	1100-1400	Torii Express	Nukumi Kitchen
17-Jul	1100-1800	Foster Troop Store	Old Spices
18-Jul	1100-1400	Torii Express	Triple A
18-Jul	1100-1800	KAB Flightline	Old Spices
19-Jul	1100-1400	KAB Flightline	Café Shiyu de Pokko

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What's Okinawaetetera?

THE OKINAWA RAIL, A BIRD UNIQUE TO NORTHERN OKINAWA



It is because of this that it was only in 1981 that it was officially certified as a new species.

Its biggest feature is that, unlike other birds, it cannot fly and so it has to jump up into the trees to sleep.

The population of the Okinawa rail is currently about 1500, and the area it is found in gets smaller each year.

With many rare and endemic species, Okinawa is a treasure trove of wild birds and a sanctuary for bird watchers. The Okinawa rail, or "Yanbaru Kuina" in Japanese, is the rarest of all and was registered as a Natural Monument of Japan.

Throughout the world, this wild bird only lives in the Yanbaru area of northern Okinawa and is unlikely to show itself to humans due to its cautious personality.

It is hard to find in the wild and so those who would like to see the bird up close should stop by Kuina Forest, the Okinawa Rail Habitat Display Learning Facility in Kunigami village.

When driving in the northern part of the main island, there are often road signs with a picture of the Okinawa rail.

Please drive carefully if you come across a warning sign for them jumping out!



Okinawa Travel Info
Tourist information for Okinawa, Japan

<http://okinawatravelinfo.com>

Like Okinawa Travel Info



AD members, dependents, Civilian and DoD employees are familiar with the cultural etiquette that is expected when visiting Japanese medical facilities. This will insure clarity on all questionable customs and courtesies with our host nation providers. Do's and Don'ts worksheets are available at the TRICARE front desk located at the Kadena Clinic. For additional information please contact Referral Management at 630-4402 Mon-Fri 7:30 a.m.-4:30 p.m.

Personal Property PCS Peak-Season: Visit TMO Right Away

TMO has been booking pick-up dates for the Kadena base populace at a frantic pace since May 1, due to peak PCS season (May 1 to Sep 30). Currently, everything up to July 18 is completely booked for any household goods (HHG) and/or unaccompanied baggage (UB) shipments. If you're PCS-ing in June and have not set up a pick-up date with our offices, please be sure to have someone in mind who can release your items to the carriers, during pick-up, once a pick-up date is established. A special power of attorney will be needed in order to designate someone else to be at your home/dorm on the day of pick-up. As soon as members receive their orders, they are required to visit our office to set up a pick-up date. Pick-up dates are first come, first serve and cannot be secured without orders.

Lead and Copper Sampling Notification

Samples will be collected through the months of July and August to determine lead and copper levels in your tap water. This sampling is required by Air Force Instruction 48-144, Drinking Water Surveillance Program, and the Japan Environmental Governing Standards and is being accomplished through the cooperation of housing occupants and Bioenvironmental Engineering (BE). Because lead and copper in drinking water is mainly due to corrosion of service lines and household plumbing, tap water samples are collected at kitchen or bathroom taps of residences. Housing units will be chosen and the residents notified if they are to do sampling. BE will provide the required sample collection containers along with instructions on how to correctly collect the water sample. If chosen for sampling, the instructions on how

to complete the sampling process, along with sampling containers, will be left at your place of residence.

Government of Japan Quarantine Warning

Certain regions of Japan, including Okinawa, are home to serious plant pests that are not present in other parts of Japan. The government of Japan's Plant Protection Station strives to eradicate these pests and prevent the movement of their host plants to areas the pests are not currently present. DO NOT transport or mail the following plants and species: Sweet Potatoes / Citrus Seedlings / Giant African Snail / Citrus Greening Disease / West Sweet Potato Weevil / Sweet Potato Weevil.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Kadena Women's Basketball Team

Kadena Lady Warriors Basketball team is looking for women that interested in playing the game of basketball. The team is open to all ID card holders. If you have any questions or concerns please email Head Coach Artis Gandy at artis.gandy@yahoo.com.

CCAF Graduation Ceremony

The Kadena Top III CCAF Graduation Committee would like to invite all personnel with base access who wants to show support for this year's graduates. The ceremony will be held at the Keystone Theater (Bldg 446), Wednesday, July 18 at 2 p.m.

**VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES
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 or email Melissa Rafferty for more information at rafferty515@yahoo.com.

Lego Robotics Club

Kadena Elementary School is in need of consistent volunteers to assist students with programming Lego EV3 Robots on Mondays and Wednesdays, 7:30-8:25 a.m. UOD fine, LOA provided. For more information, contact Jilleane Beard-Archie at jilleane.beard-archie@pac.dodea.edu

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Western style restaurant

Exit the Okinawa Expressway at Haebaru Minami IC, turn left at the second traffic light from the Tsukayama (South) intersection after the Nanbu Tokushukai Hospital. You can meet the Miyako horse, an endangered species, said to only be 53 left in the world.

OPEN: AM 11:30 ~ PM 18:00 L.O: 17:00

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