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AIR FORCE - ARMY - NAVY - MARINE - COMMUNITY NEWS

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Staff Sgt. Joshua Hoffman, a 353rd Special Operations Maintenance Squadron crew chief from Kadena Air Force Base, marshals a U.S. Air Force MC-130H Combat Talon II during Red Flag-Alaska 18-3 at Joint Base Elmendorf-Richardson, Alaska, Aug 16. RF-A is a Pacific Air Forces-directed field training exercise for U.S. and international forces flown under simulated air combat conditions. The exercises are focused on improving the combat readiness of U.S. and international forces and providing training for units preparing for air expeditionary force taskings.

(U.S. Air Force photo by Airman 1st Class Jonathan Valdes Montijo)

Breaking barriers for future generations

By Senior Master Sgt. Melinda Morris

633rd Air Base Wing Equal Opportunity

Voting is an essential part of the American democratic experience, yet not everyone in America was afforded the opportunity at the inception of our country. Women's Equality Day celebrates the passage of the 19th Amendment, which granted women the right to vote on August 26th, 1920.

Voting was a civil rights platform hailing suffragist alums, such as Elizabeth Cady Stanton, Lucretia Mott, Frederick Douglass, Sojourner Truth, Susan B. Anthony and Alice Paul, sometimes risking their personal safety and well-being to fight for the equality we enjoy today.

In the vein of breaking barriers and seizing opportunities, as an enlisted woman, I follow in the footsteps of trailblazer Esther Blake, the first woman in the U.S. Air Force. Esther Blake enlisted on July 8, 1948: the first minute of the first hour of the first day Air Force duty was authorized for women.

More than 50 years after Esther Blake's inspiring achievement, I enlisted in the Air Force as a services Airman. During my nineteen years in the Air Force, I have been given many opportunities that weren't always afforded to women. I am grateful of the advances taken every day toward sustaining equality, and urge us all to keep moving forward to ensure an inclusive workforce and world for generations to come.

But almost 100 years since being able to vote and 70 years entering the Air Force, there are still some subtle women's equality stemming from unconscious bias or blatant sexism seen in the form of cat calls, comments, slurs, jokes and even job assignments or hiring actions.

When I worked the night shift at lodging as a young senior airman, I had inebriated male customers tell me after checking in I knew what room they were in if I wanted to visit (wink, wink). Even last month, visiting Virginia Beach, I had a group of men yell and whistle at me. Being seen as an object instead of a person is never comfortable.

Even though we still see signs of inequality, we have also made societal strides in breaking barriers. One such stride was seen in 2015, when the Department of Defense opened all military occupations and positions to women.

Additionally, in 2016, the National Center for Education Statistics reported women made up 57 percent of post secondary education graduates. According to the Department of Labor, in 2017, almost 47 percent of U.S. workers were women.

As I reflect on the significance of Women's Equality Day, it's almost impossible to imagine what my life and career would be like if those courageous women

hadn't paved the way before me. Throughout my career I've had many unique opportunities, including two deployments and being stationed at nine bases. I was selected to tandem jump with the Wings of Blue for my first reenlistment; and my second reenlistment was with the Air Force Thunderbirds, during the time frame of the first female demonstration pilot. I've been featured on a Community College of the Air Force marketing poster. I've earned squadron,

occurred while serving in Equal Opportunity. Our career field works to improve organizational climate and effectiveness, and breaks mental barriers that diminish a member's ability to accomplish the mission. I've had the privilege of not only helping people by providing an avenue of redress for unlawful discrimination and sexual harassment, but also by providing input to the future state of our career field.

I'm proud of the influential roles I've had in EO

Career Development Course rewrites; manpower and occupational analysis studies; and major command-level EO conferences. I've also watched my EO Airmen with pride as they've grown and contributed to the career field. I love the people who share my desire and passion to ensure people are treated with human dignity and respect.

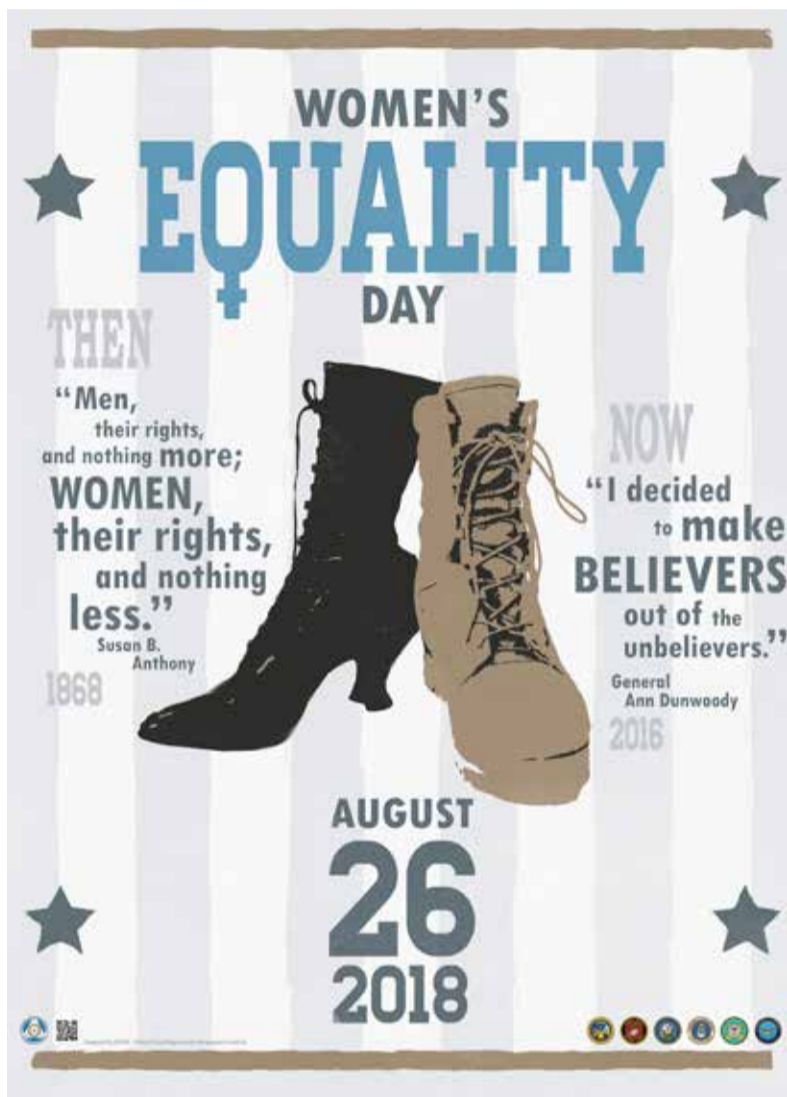
Much of my passion and drive stems from having a strong female role model — my mother. She remains my hero, and shows me what it meant to be a woman, mother and leader.

Like my mother was for me, I hope to be a good role model for my daughter, Kiyah. She is what I am most proud of in my life. My nine-pound baby was born in 2008, and helps me understand love, persistence, devotion and priorities more deeply than I have before. I want to live a life worthy of her respect, and do consistent and deliberate actions to make the world a better place for her.

I know she is watching me. I want her to know she is loved, safe and worthy of equal respect. As a result of those who came before us, there are no barriers to achieving her dreams. She has no traditional role to fill; she creates her own destiny.

Kiyah is already an entrepreneur of her own crafts, and interviewed to be on the news crew for 5th grade. She writes books, paints and maintains honor roll. I am proud of her empathetic ability to ensure meaningful social connections as well. She and her friends already know how to build each other up and contribute to each other's goals — a skill some adults have not yet refined.

With all I've learned, experienced, and accomplished in my career, I try to pay it forward — for my mom, myself, my daughter and the rest of the world. I admire and respect any person who has a genuine desire to help others, never stop learning, and connect with people in an authentic way. Everyone can make a positive change by developing self-awareness, being an ally or advocate, and stopping inappropriate or demeaning behavior or practices. Let's break barriers together, for generations to come.



base, and Air Force-level awards, obtained two CCAF degrees, my bachelor's and graduate degrees, as well as professional certifications.

I have always had a passion for equality, fairness, human dignity, respect, and the desire to help people, which drew me retrain into Equal Opportunity in 2004. I applied to retrain as a staff sergeant-select the first moment I met the requirements, and had nothing else on my retraining list as fallbacks.

Some of my most rewarding experiences have

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18th Wing Public Affairs: 18wg.publicaffairs@us.af.mil DSN:634-3813

Schilling Community Center offers Japanese Language Courses

By Senior Airman Kristan Campbell

18th Wing Public Affairs

8/16/2018 — Adjusting to life outside the U.S. can be a culture shock for Airmen and families entering Kadena Air Base, for the first time. Driving on the left side of the road, learning how to properly use chopsticks and communicating with local populace may seem daunting; however, when it comes to understanding the Japanese language, customs and culture, the Schilling Community Center can help.

Japanese language classes, which are offered to U.S. service members and civilians over the age of 18, are designed for all knowledge levels. Classes are available Tuesday from 10:30 to 12 a.m. and Thursday from 5:30 to 7 p.m.

The classes are a great way to better relationships between the U.S. and the Okinawan people, said Hideo Henzan, Japanese language instructor. Henzan has made it his life's work to teach Japanese and has been speaking and translating English for more than 30 years.

"It is an honor to be in the position to teach, to be a bridge between the Okinawan people and the U.S.," Henzan said. "I have always had a strong desire to teach."



(U.S. Air Force photo by Airman 1st Class Greg Erwin)
 ^ Hideo Henzan, Japanese language class instructor, teaches phrases as part of a Japanese language class at the Schilling Community Center Aug. 14, at Kadena Air Base. Henzan was asked by Governor Onaga to help establish an office for the Okinawa Defense Bureau in Washington, D.C.

Whether learning to say "hello" or learning to conjugate verbs, developing language skills can potentially improve the quality of life for Airmen, from exploring Okinawa to having genuine conversations with Okinawan locals.

With the local populace putting in effort to learn English, it's equally important for Americans to match that effort, explained Toshiyuki Shingaki, 18th Force Support Squadron recreation assistant.

While learning the language is the main focus of the class, Henzan also covers traditions

and cultures specific to Okinawa.

"It is vital to learn the culture of the host nation," said Shingaki. "It helps the alliance between the two nations to form a tighter bond, becoming stronger."

While practicing the Japanese language strengthens the bond between U.S. personnel and locals, it can also be rewarding to master a difficult challenge such as learning a non-native language. Events such as this are another resource available to Team Kadena.

Sign-up is available at the Schilling Community center. For more information, call 634-1387 or visit the Schilling.

Okinawa and Nagano Prefecture Students visit Kadena



(U.S. Air Force photos by Senior Airman Omari Bernard)
 ^ Children from both Achi Village of Shimoina District, Nagano Prefecture and Okinawa City, pose for a group photo during a tour Aug. 6, at Kadena Air Base. During the tour students deepened relationships through their exchange program and learned more about the U.S. partnership with Japan.



^ Teachers and students from both Achi Village of Shimoina District, Nagano Prefecture and Okinawa City, visited Kadena Air Base as part of their peace education, Aug. 6. The students were able to view war remnants that have been carefully preserved on Kadena.

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Global Hawk makes historic first landing at Red Flag-Alaska

By Airman 1st Class
Tristan D. Viglianco

9th Reconnaissance Wing Public Affairs
8/21/2018 - FEIELSON AIR FORCE BASE, Alaska — An RQ-4 Global Hawk, assigned to Beale Air Force Base, California, landed at Eielson Air Force Base, Alaska, for Red Flag-Alaska 18-3, Aug. 16.

The 12th Reconnaissance Squadron sent a team of pilots to RF-A to better incorporate the RQ-4's reconnaissance gathering capabilities into the simulated warfighting efforts. This marks the first time an RQ-4 has landed in Alaska during a simulated combat training exercise.

"We are here to integrate with the exercise and our coalition and joint counterparts who have brought their units up here," said Capt. Nate, 12th RS

assistant director of operations. "Whether it is Army or Navy, we are practicing doing the exercise with them and relaying information that they can utilize."

RF-A is a Pacific Air Force's directed training exercise conducted on the Joint Pacific Alaska Range Complex. This iteration of the exercise features more than 100 aircraft, from more than a dozen units from the U.S., Australia, Canada and the U.K.

The exercise is designed to improve interoperability between participants, which includes 12th RS RQ-4 pilots operating from mission control elements at Beale AFB.

"It is a great opportunity for us to show what we can do," Nate said. "Not everyone knows what we can do, so they don't know



A team of 12th Aircraft Maintenance Unit Airmen walk beside an RQ-4 Global Hawk while it's being towed during Red Flag Alaska 18-3, Aug. 16, at Eielson Air Force Base, Alaska.

(U.S. Air Force photo by Airman 1st Class Tristan D. Viglianco)

how to best utilize our products."

Since the aircraft is unmanned, the 12th RS sent a team of pilots to RF-A to better incorporate the RQ-4's reconnaissance gathering capabilities into the simulated warfighting efforts.

"We are doing mission planning and acting as liaison officers," said 1st Lt. Andrew, 12th RS RQ-4 pilot. "We are able to coordinate on the ground with the other pilots and mission planners to figure out how we can best integrate the RQ-4 into what is happening. Then we

relay that to the pilots who are taking off out at Beale (AFB)."

RF-A dates back to 1976 when it was known as Cope Thunder and even though this is the first time an RQ-4 has landed during the exercise, Andrew believes everyone involved will see the benefits of having high-altitude reconnaissance.

"We are giving them imagery to provide a view of the battlefield and the effects of ordnance dropped," Andrew said. "I have had a lot of conversations where people from the Air Force, Navy, and other countries' militaries

are seeing the impact of the RQ-4 and are surprised with its capabilities."

Nate said The RQ-4 participating in an exercise of this magnitude improves the nation's ability to incorporate reconnaissance in expeditionary warfighting conditions.

"We benefit by showing off our capabilities, so other people know what we can do," Nate said. "We can also build and work on tactics so we can present better intelligence, surveillance, and reconnaissance in wartime and future exercises."

New strategy charts Air Force Medicine course

By Peter Holstein

Air Force Surgeon General Public Affairs

8/20/2018 - FALLS CHURCH, Va. — The Air Force Medical Service is in a time of transition, with new leadership, evolving readiness requirements and congressional mandates all affecting its future.

To address these changes and provide guidance and direction to Airmen, AFMS leaders met in July to chart a way forward for the organization. A new strategy was developed at that meeting, aligning AFMS goals and objectives to Air Force priorities and the 2018 U.S. National Defense Strategy.

The AFMS has three goals that guide its activities: achieve full spectrum readiness, strengthen the joint warrior medical team, and drive AFMS transformation. Each goal furthers the AFMS mission to "ensure medically fit forces, provide expeditionary medics, and deliver Trusted Care to all we serve."

"Readiness remains the highest AFMS priority," said Col. Colin Smyth, director, expeditionary medical policy and oper-

ations at the AFMS. "We are refocusing our readiness preparation efforts in line with the Air Force Secretary's vision. We need everyone ready to deploy, today, rather than on a rotational basis. It's as much a mindset as anything else."

The 2018 NDS returns its focus to defending against near-peer powers. The AFMS joins that shift away from irregular warfare that has been the focus of U.S. forces since 2001. This means examining AFMS readiness and deployment models, and developing new models to ensure medical Airmen have the best training and experience to operate in joint environments.

"Interoperability is such an important idea for us," said Ms. Ellen Greenwood, deputy director, manpower, personnel and resources for the AFMS. "We are looking for new opportunities for medical Airmen to work in a joint environment, like being stationed at an Army or Navy hospital. These opportunities let Airmen share our Air Force culture and learn theirs, improving communication and cooperation when deployed."

Greenwood says that joint operations lead to an overall stronger force, without losing what makes each medical component unique.

"Medical Airmen bring what's unique and valuable about the Air Force to the table," said Greenwood. "It's important to also understand what our partners bring, whether it's another agency or another service, and know how they can work together and complement each other."

The final piece of the strategy is driving AFMS transformation. This is the piece that ties the strategy together, and keeps the AFMS moving forward, says Maj. Gen. Robert Miller, director, Medical Operations and Research for the AFMS.

"Drive AFMS transition, that's a lofty goal," said Miller. "We have all 76 Air Force MTFs [military treatment facilities] transitioning to the Defense Health Agency in the coming years. We are doing everything possible to support that movement, including the recent launch of an AFMS Transformation Cell to coordinate those activities. We also need to plan how we will support our readiness

mission and maintain our Trusted Care culture once the transition is over."

Miller emphasized the centrality of readiness and Trusted Care in the strategy.

"At the end of the day, everything is in service of the patient," said Miller. "Whether it's on the battlefield, in the air, or at an MTF, the patient comes first. If we do this right, our patients shouldn't even know that the AFMS is transformed, just that they got great care."

Chief Master Sgt. Adam "Troy" McComb, chief, medical enlisted force development for the AFMS, sees joint operations and AFMS transformation as a great opportunity to improve care. He points out that the actual medical services provided across the Army, Navy and Air Force are very similar.

"Everyone bleeds the same," said McComb. "The difference between the services is in how we deploy, how we get the care to the patient or the patient to the care. If we can get better at doing that by working together with our sister services and the DHA, then we owe it to our patients to do that."

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U.S., Indonesia reach new levels in information sharing during CARAT



(U.S. Navy photo by Petty Officer 3rd Class Tristin)

USS Rushmore (LSD 47) arrives in Jakarta in preparation for Cooperation Afloat Readiness and Training (CARAT) Indonesia 2018.

By Lt. Clyde Shavers

CTF 73 Public Affairs

8/20/2018 - JAKARTA, Indonesia — The U.S. and Indonesian navies successfully utilized the Combined Enterprise Regional Information Exchange System (CENTRIXS) during Cooperation Afloat Readiness and Training (CARAT) Indonesia to communicate and share information through secure channels, Aug. 10-17.

A global multinational information sharing initiative, CENTRIXS enabled Sailors and Marines from both navies to communicate in real-time during complex exercises including division tactics (DIVTACS) as ships maneuvered in close

proximity, and amphibious landings as landing craft and amphibious vehicles were launched from USS Rushmore (LSD 47).

“CENTRIXS has been used for nearly ten years in CARAT Indonesia, and continues to be our main form of communication, especially during the sea phase,” said Lt. Cmdr. Astra Kamayi, CENTRIXS working group lead for the Indonesian Navy. “We have continued to gain more knowledge about CENTRIXS, and CARAT 2017 was the first time sailors from the Indonesian Navy operated the CENTRIXS machines themselves.”

As part of the initiative to enhance maritime domain awareness (MDA)

PAC ANGEL 18-4 Water Purification



◀ Capt. Inna Salunga, 18th Medical Group theater occupational health chief, Kadena Air Base, demonstrates a sand filter water treatment technique at Sri Lanka Air Force Air Base Hingurakgoda, Sri Lanka, Aug. 10. U.S. and SLAF service members shared best medical practices and provide a variety of medical services to local residents.

(U.S. Air Force photo by Maj. Tamara Fischer-Carter)

towards regular synchronization and combination of information between partner nations, CARAT Indonesia 2018 incorporated seminars about CENTRIXS and SeaVision, a platform that enables partner and allied forces to track vessels by automatically collecting information onto a Google Maps powered display.

“CENTRIXS is a critical part of establishing secure networks, allowing everyone to confidently share sensitive information. As part of a much larger team working to better deploy and use this valuable tool, I am grateful that we were took another step towards better integration of day-to-day operations with our partner nation,” said Cmdr. Kevin Wagner, assistant chief of staff for communications and information systems for Task Force 73.

CARAT Indonesia builds upon other engagements with Indonesia including

Pacific Partnership, the largest annual multilateral humanitarian assistance and disaster relief preparedness mission and Southeast Asia Cooperation and Training (SEACAT), which involves nearly a dozen partner nations. These engagements serve to enhance information sharing and coordination and support long-term regional cooperation.

“No nation can achieve maritime domain awareness alone. We need to trust each other in collaboration so that we are all looking at the same maritime picture,” said Rear Adm. Joey Tynch, commander of Task Force 73. “Maritime security, stability and prosperity is a common goal for all participants, and the tools - CENTRIXS, SeaVision - are there for us to ensure this. It is up to all of us to remain committed to each other by exchanging information towards shared maritime security responsibilities.”

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ODF season kicks off early September

Pacific Air Forces Public Affairs
8/22/2018 - JOINT BASE PEARL HARBOR-HICKAM, Hawaii — Operation Deep Freeze (ODF), the Department of Defense's logistical support to the National Science Foundation's (NSF) U.S. Antarctic Program (USAP), 2018 – 2019 season kicks off Sept. 1.

The ODF seasons run annually from September 1st to July 31st. This time-frame allows the NSF's research teams and partnered entities the safest and most efficient method of accomplishing their joint goals. It's through the careful teamwork and monitoring of environmental conditions, which the journey to and time spent, at the world's coldest, windiest, and most inhospitable continent, is possible.

The ODF 2018-2019 season's first mission, a winter fly-in, or WinFly mission, is scheduled to take place Sept. 1, 2018. WinFly's are scheduled at the end of the Antarctic Winter and bring cargo and personnel to prepare runways and airfields for the anticipated heavy traffic of the upcoming season. A Joint Base Lewis-McChord C-17 Globemaster III is scheduled to travel from Christchurch, New Zealand to McMurdo Station, Antarctica.

Since 1955, the U.S. military has demonstrated its capabilities to support the USAP's operations in Antarctica, the world's most austere environment.

Led by Pacific Air Forces, the Joint Task Force-Support Forces Antarctica (JTF-SFA) provides USAP military support, comprised of active duty, National Guard and Reserve; U.S. Air Force, Coast Guard, Navy and Army personnel.

JTF-SFA coordinates strategic inter-theater airlift, tactical deep field support, aeromedical evacuation support, search and rescue response, sealift, seaport access, bulk fuel supply logistics, port cargo handling and transportation requirements.

"The polar experience, dedication and operational flexibility of the military men and women supporting JTF-SFA are simply unmatched," said U.S. Air Force Lt. Col. Jamielyn Thompson, JTF-SFA deputy commander. "Mother Nature continues to challenge our access to the harsh continent; yet, we are able to meet mission demands through incredible teamwork with the National Science Foundation and international partners. This collaboration and the pure 'Global Reach' of ODF will ensure we continue to be at the leading edge of scientific discoveries."

Airlift for ODF involves U.S. Air Force active duty, Reserve and National Guard including C-17 Globemaster III support assigned to Joint Base Lewis-McChord, Wa., LC-130 Hercules support assigned to the New York Air National Guard, sealift support from the U.S. Coast Guard and Military Sealift Command, engineering and aviation services from U.S. Navy Space and Naval Warfare Systems Command, cargo handling from the U.S. Navy, and public health and veterinary services support from the U.S. Army.

(Photo) Following a seven hour flight from Christchurch, New Zealand via a C-17 military transport plane, personnel arriving at McMurdo Station, Antarctica, are greeted by freezing temperatures and clean, pristine air
(U.S. Navy photo by Sarah Burford)

Camp Courtney hosts Summer English Class



Students from the local community talk with Marines during Camp Courtney's Summer English class Aug. 16 at the Camp Courtney Mess Hall.

(U.S. Marine Corps photo by Lance Cpl. Kealii De Los Santos)

By Lance Cpl. Kelcey Seymour

Marine Corps Installations Pacific

8/20/2018 - CAMP COURTNEY — Camp Courtney hosted its annual, weeklong Summer English Class Aug. 16 on Camp Courtney.

High school students from the local community were welcomed on Camp Courtney for class where volunteer Marines spent the week speaking with the students to help expand their English vocabulary and conversational skills.

"The purpose of this week was for the children to speak English with people fluent in the language," said Cpl. Aaron Herder, a volunteer for the class and cyber network operator with Headquarters Battalion, 3rd Marine Division. "The second part was for them to learn about Marines. We want to show them what Marines are like normally."

During the class, students were given homework that involved asking Marines to describe a word or phrase that they commonly use in the military community.

"This allows them to learn more words and how to speak in a proper conversation," said Fumika Shinzato, a local community member volunteer of 12 years. "I was part of this class 12 years ago. It helped with my speaking but also my fascination of the Marines here. Coming onto base and speaking with Marines was the best thing about the class for me."

The students and Marines spent the morning getting to know each other at the Camp Courtney Mess Hall, before eating lunch together and then going on a tour. Marines kept the tour fun and lively by entertaining the students with jokes, showing off their physical fitness, and asking questions.

"We enjoy the Marines who help us," said Kazuki Oshiro, a local volunteer for the class. "We come to practice our English since we don't get much chance outside of class and the Marines are very open. They are curious of our culture just as we are of theirs. This allows us learn together, to build friendships."

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Okinawa

H&S Bn. Camp Butler Officers vs. SNCOs Softball Game



▲ Col. Vincent Ciuccoli bats during a Headquarters and Support Battalion officer vs. staff noncommissioned officers softball game Aug. 10 aboard Camp Foster. The softball game was a chance for the members of H&S Bn. to meet each other in friendly competition. Ciuccoli is the commanding officer of H&S Bn., Marine Corps Installations Pacific-Marine Corps Base Camp Butler.



◀ Members of Headquarters and Support Battalion pose for a photo during an officer vs. staff noncommissioned officers softball game Aug. 10 aboard Camp Foster. The softball game was a chance for the members of H&S Bn. to meet each other in friendly competition. After the officers vs. SNCOs games the teams decided to play Company A vs. Company B.

(U.S. Marine Corps photos by Pfc. Nicole Rogge)

Ronald Reagan Strike Group and Japan Maritime Self-Defense Force conduct bilateral training

Aviation Boatswain's Mate (Equipment) 3rd Class Gabriel Arreaga, from Midland, Texas, clears the launching area on the flight deck of the Navy's forward-deployed aircraft carrier, USS Ronald Reagan (CVN 76), June 19.



(U.S. Navy photo by Mass Communication Specialist 2nd Class Kenneth Abbate)

By Mass Communication Specialist Seaman Codie L. Soule
Commander, Task Force 70 Public Affairs
8/17/2018 - PHILIPPINE SEA — The Ronald Reagan Carrier Strike Group (CSG), JS Kirishima, and Japan Maritime Self-Defense Force (JMSDF) personnel from the Commander, Escort Division (CCD) 6 embarked aboard the aircraft carrier USS Ronald Reagan (CVN 76)

started bilateral training Aug. 14. CSG units and JMSDF units worked together and participated in an air defense exercise, communication evolutions, and provided support for aircraft squadrons embarked aboard Ronald Reagan. "Working side by side we have used this opportunity to train together to further streamline our communications through exercises and other tactical

events," said Lt. Jeff Kryski, Destroyer Squadron (DESRON) 15's assistant planning officer. While embarked aboard Ronald Reagan and the Ticonderoga-class guided-missile cruiser USS Antietam (CG 54), CSG and CCD 6 personnel conducted unit level training to increase interoperability between U.S. Navy and JMSDF units and improve the tactical

skills of both maritime forces. "Having CCD 6 personnel aboard greatly benefits both JMSDF and DESRON 15 by allowing both sides to continue our strong and lasting partnership," said Kryski. The Ronald Reagan Strike Group is forward-deployed to the U.S. 7th Fleet area of operations in the support of security and stability in the Indo-Pacific region.

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Landing Support Company executes paraloft training operations on Ie Shima



(U.S. Marine Corps photos by Lance Cpl. Jamin M. Powell)
 ▲ Lance Cpl. Daniel Vollman parachutes to the ground after jumping from a CH-53E Super Stallion during parachute training operations Aug. 13 at Ie Shima.

By Lance Cpl. Jamin Powell

3rd Marine Logistics Group

8/17/2018 - IE SHIMA, Okinawa — Rain sporadically fell on two tactical vehicles

parked in a grassy field next to a weathered air strip on Ie Shima, Okinawa.

Marines with Landing Support Company, 3rd Transportation Support Battalion, dismounted from the vehicles and looked to the sky in anticipation of the air drop training operations planned for the day. The drop zone, a square about 20 yards wide and 100 yards from the airstrip, was set up as a reference point for the pilots.

Late in the morning of Aug. 13, 2018, the Marines ears perked up to the hum of helicopter propellers in the distance announcing the arrival of a CH-53E Super Stallion. The Marines watched as the helicopter flew overhead and dropped a streamer the size of a scarf.

Staff Sgt. Gabriela Villagomez, the pack staff noncommissioned officer in charge (SNCOIC) of LS Co., 3rd TSB, 3rd Marine Logistics Group, said the scarf is dropped to check the wind and make sure the pilots have properly adjusted before dropping packages or Marines.

After gauging the wind speed at about 20 mph, the helicopter made a second pass, dropping two small, sand-filled chests strapped to a parachute that simulated a small bundle of equipment or rations.

The Marine Heavy Helicopter Squadron 361's (HMH-361) pilots radioed Villago-

mez, an airborne and air delivery specialist and the SNCOIC of the drop zone, asking where the package was dropped in comparison to the drop zone. As they circled around, Villagomez told them it landed about 20 yards away from the designated target. The pilots then readjusted for the wind to hit their target more precisely.

After the second pass, the parachute riggers began to jump out of the helicopter. First, they did a low-level static line jump, parachuting from about 2,000 feet above ground level (AGL), then a military free fall jump from roughly 10,000 feet AGL.

Villagomez explained that low-level static line jumps use parachutes that can be steered but not precisely landed, whereas military free fall jumps use parachutes that are meant for small group insertions and have the ability to precisely steer and land.

Villagomez stated the training qualified LS Co. Marines in parachuting and air delivery training operations and demonstrated 3rd MLG capabilities to other units. She said dropping simulated door bundles and Marines accurately and on target from aircraft requires a lot of practice.

"Everything is a learning experience, being able to see how our door bundles work and show our capabilities is kind of an adrenaline rush," said Villagomez.



▲ Cpl. Daniel Mehaffey removes his gear after jumping out of a CH-53E Super Stallion during parachute training operations Aug. 13 at Ie Shima. Landing Support Company completed parachute and air delivery training to ensure Marines maintain proficiency and meet required training hours. Mehaffey, a parachute rigger with Air Delivery Platoon, LS Co., 3rd Transportation Support Battalion, is a native of Warminster, Pennsylvania.

Kin District Daycare community relation event



Okinawan children hitch a ride on Lance Cpl. Samuel Buhr, left, and Lance Cpl. Kristopher Coalson at Kin District Daycare, Okinawa, Aug. 14. Buhr is an infantryman with 2nd Battalion, 3rd Marines, 1st Marine Division from Colman, South Dakota, and Coalson is a military policeman with Headquarters and Service Company, 3rd Law Enforcement Battalion, from Navarre, Florida.

(U.S. Marine Corps photo by Lance Cpl. Jamin M. Powell)

Combat Logistics Battalion 4 Hike



(U.S. Marine Corps photo by Lance Cpl. André T. Peterson Jr.)

Marines with Combat Logistics Battalion 4, Combat Logistics Regiment 3, 3D Marine Logistics Group conduct a hike on Aug. 17 at Camp Foster. The hike examined the capabilities and morale of the Marines of CLB-4.

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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.

NOTICES

DBIDS 5.0 - Unescorted passes and contractor badge reissue

A scheduled upgrade to the installation access system has completed and DBIDS 5.0 is now live at Kadena Air Base. For all personnel possessing a DEERS linked form of identification (e.g. Common Access Card) there is no action required; DBIDS will automatically create a database profile the first time your identification is scanned by a hand-held device upon entry to the installation. All previously issued unescorted passes and USFJ 98EJ contractor badges will require registration and reissue of a new secure DBIDS 5.0 hard-card form of identification. To facilitate a smooth transition, these unescorted passes and USFJ 98EJ contractor badges will remain valid for a 90 day period while the Gate 1 Visitor Center conducts the registration and reissue process. All personnel that need reissue are encouraged to visit the Gate 1 Visitor Center at their earliest convenience. On Nov. 16 the installation will no longer accept unescorted passes and USFJ 98EJ contractor badges, and personnel still possessing these passes will be denied access and directed to the Gate 1 Visitor Center for registration and reissue.

TCCOR Trash Pickup

All scheduled trash services will cease at the start of TCCOR 2 until ALL CLEAR. For more information, contact 18th CES.

Gate 5 Closure

Gate 5 will be open during normal morning hours, but WILL NOT open during regular afternoon hours for the remainder of the summer. Gate 5 will be open Monday to Friday from 6:15 a.m. to 8:45 a.m. Once school resumes on Aug. 27, Gate 5 will go back to also opening in the afternoon hours. For more information, contact 18th SFS.

18th MDG Clinic Closures

The Kadena Air Base clinic will be closed on the following dates this year: Sept. 3 (Labor Day) Closed all day, Sept. 4 (5th Air Force Training Day) Facility Closed / Appointment Line & Camp Foster Acute Care Open. 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.

TRICARE Prime and TRICARE Select plan information for calendar year 2018

The following changes or improvements to your TRICARE benefits apply for calendar year 2018: TRICARE Select will replace TRICARE Standard and TRICARE Extra on January 1. TRICARE Select brings together the features of TRICARE Standard and TRICARE Extra in a single plan. Enrollees who obtain services from TRICARE network providers will pay lower cost sharing amounts for network care. All current TRICARE beneficiaries will be automatically enrolled in their respective plan on January 1. TRICARE Prime plan enrollees will remain in their TRICARE Prime plan.

TRICARE Standard and Extra beneficiaries will be enrolled in a TRICARE Select plan. Beneficiaries can choose to enroll in or change their TRICARE Prime or TRICARE Select coverage during an annual open enrollment period in November-December, 2018 for coverage beginning on January 1, 2019. For calendar year 2019, failure to enroll in TRICARE Prime or TRICARE Select results in the termination of coverage for civilian care. These beneficiaries who choose to not enroll may only receive care at a military clinic or hospital on a space available basis. However, some exceptions still apply for more information contact TRICARE at 630-4310 Mon-Fri 7:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.

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)

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. Flaggers 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.

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.

Partial Road Closure

Road Closure for portion of FH Smith Dr from intersection of Schreiber Ave to Bldg 3135 from Aug. 11, to March 31, 2020.

Hiroshima Relief donation collection

On July 7th, Typhoon Maria devastated Hiroshima prefecture with widespread flooding and landslides. More than 200 people were killed and hundreds more remain missing. Three million resident were ordered to leave their homes. Join Kadena Airmen in providing assistance to these displaced families. The Kadena Top III: Okinawa Outreach Committee are requesting the following as donations: sanitary napkins, soap, infant diapers and formula powder, toothpaste and toothbrushes, and antiperspirant deodorants. The collection point will be at building 3481. More information can be gathered at <https://www.facebook.com/OkinawaOutreach> OR Staff Sgt. Joseph Kim at DSN 634-9555

Continued on PAGE 11



TRICARE CORNER



Did You Know? THE TRICARE RETIREE DENTAL PROGRAM (TRDP) ENDS ON DEC. 31, 2018.

Federal Employees Dental and Vision Insurance Program (FEDVIP)

On December 31, 2018, the Defense Health Agency's TRICARE Retiree Dental Program (TRDP) will end. However, as directed in the National Defense Authorization Act (NDAA) for Fiscal Year 2017, retired uniformed service members and their families, who were eligible for TRDP, will have the opportunity to enroll in the Federal Employees Dental and Vision Insurance Program (FEDVIP).

The first opportunity to enroll in FEDVIP will be during the next Federal Benefits Open Season, which runs from November 12 through December 10, 2018, with coverage effective January 1, 2019. If you are currently enrolled in a TRDP plan, you will not be automatically enrolled in a FEDVIP plan for 2019. You must enroll during open season.

FEDVIP Dental Benefits:

- 1.5M current enrollees in TRDP
- Retired members of the Uniformed Services and National Guard/Reserve components
- Current spouses of enrolled members, and children up to age 21, or to age 23 if a fulltime student
- Un-remarried surviving spouses or eligible children of deceased members who perished while in retired status or while on active duty

Visit tricare.benefeds.com for the full eligibility guidelines.

Questions/Briefings Requests:

If you would like to learn more information about TRICARE or request a briefing, please contact the TRICARE Referral Service Center (TRSC) at DSN: 630 - 4310 or visit us at the 18th Medical Group, Bldg. 626, Monday - Friday from 0730 - 1630.

FEDVIP Vision Benefits:

- Those enrolled in TRICARE Reserve Select or TRICARE Retired Reserve
- Uniformed services active duty family members
- Uniformed services retirees and retiree family members
- Those entitled to TRICARE For Life

INFORMATION

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 Wing Equal Opportunity

Do you face concerns of unlawful discrimination or sexual harassment? If so, Kadena Air Base leadership maintains a strict "zero-tolerance" policy pertaining to discriminatory behavior. If you feel you are being unlawfully discriminated against, to include sexual harassment, take action. We encourage members to use the chain of command first to resolve issues at the lowest level. However, you can also contact the EO office at 634-2571 to set up an appointment; or you may visit our office. Please note that the EO office will not accept a Formal Complaint more than 60 calendar days for military and 45 calendar days for civilian complaints after the alleged offense occurred without sufficient justification.

AADD: Get Home Safe NOW LOCATED AT THE USO

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 AB 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

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

Tricare Operations would like to ensure all 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.

Finance Inquiries

Finance inquiries may be sent to 18cpts. finance@us.af.mil - include full SSN. Phone calls will be taken from 8 a.m. - noon at 634-3609. Office is closed each 3rd Thursday of the month (Training Day) - Closed - All Day. For emergencies call 080-6487-6969

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.

Kadena Connect App

The Kadena Connect App is available on both the Google Play and Apple App Store for your Android and iPhone devices. The free app enables users to dial DSN numbers on Kadena along with quick and easy access to call emergency and taxi services. The app

also hosts a variety of useful information and widgets such as: Important alerts and notifications / Weather conditions / Exchange movie theater show times / Restaurant information / Ordering food online / Family fun / Events / And much much more. To download the free app or to find out more information visit the Google Play or Apple App Store!

UPCOMING EVENTS Armed Forces Marathon Championship

The Armed Forces Marathon Championship in Washington D.C. will take place from Oct. 25-28. Open to all Active Duty, Guard and Reserves, application due dates for Coaches is Sep. 4 and Athletes/Trainers is Sep. 10

National Preparedness Month 5K

Come out on Friday, Aug. 31 and run to raise awareness for preparedness! This is a free event with goodies for all, and even a giveaway at the end for two preparedness kits! The start and finish will be at the Kadena USO by Gate 2, with the run kicking off at 6:30 a.m.

Keiro No Hi

Oh behalf of the 18th Wing, we invite you to make history with us as we strengthen relationships with our host nation by honoring local elders of the Okinawan community. Join us on Sep. 14, at 11 a.m. at Officer's club for Keiro No Hi, a special Japanese tradition to express respect for their elderly, to thank them for their contributions to society and celebrate longevity of life. Please RSVP through the below link no later than Sep. 5 to secure your spot. <https://einvitations.afit.edu/inv/index>.

Beat the Heat half marathon and 5K

The 18th Security Forces 7th annual "Beat the Heat" half marathon and 5K is coming up and will be held Oct. 6. Sign-in for the 5K portion begins at 7 p.m. and the half marathon sign-in begins at 7:30 p.m. Registration ends on Oct. 1, or when 200 runners sign up. Registration fees can be payed in cash at the 18th SFS headquarters, bldg. 705, Rm 236. For more information, please visit the Shogun Defender Facebook page under the events tab or contact Lauriele McDermott or Ryan Carrico via Facebook messenger or on Global!

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.

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 the email Melissa Rafferty for more information at rafferty515@yahoo.com.

Kadena Women's Flag Football

A few women on Kadena are looking to start a flag football team and need participants. If you're interested in joining the team, please reach out to: Staff Sgt. Marc Acosta: 080-6496-6533 / Staff Sgt. Alondra Vega-Fulton: 089-9853-6245 / Senior Airman David Binder: 080-6489-3739.

Quonset Hut Cleanup

The 18th Wing History Office is requesting volunteers for a Quonset Hut cleanup! The event will take place Sep. 21, from 9 a.m. - 2 p.m. at the Quonset Hut near building 10 (in the airpark). This is an opportunity to help maintain a piece of Team Kadena's history. Clean up will consist of sweeping, dusting, window cleaning, clearing torn sandbags, trash pick-up, brushing the exterior and many more tasks. Cleaning will be both interior and exterior and the History office will supply cleaning materials. Please bring your own gloves (must have), eye and respiratory protection (optional). In the future, we would like to recreate what a Q-hut might have looked like in the 1940s and 50s, so we will be planting native flowers and lining the outside with rocks. The History Office will endorse all volunteers who come, sign in and actively participate in the clean-up. You can stay for 30 minutes, an hour or the whole allotted time. The clean-up will end early if all the tasks are completed. The History Office will have volunteer time sheet forms on hand for whoever needs them. Please contact Mr. Evan Muxen at 634-8875 for more information or to sign up.

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PACAF and partner nations work towards safer skies



(U.S. Air Force photo by Staff Sgt. Daniel Robles)

◀ Koku-Jieitai (Japan Air Self-Defense Force) Lt. Col. Ryouhei Nakashima (left) and U.S. Air Force Col. Tim Cullen, Pacific Air Forces director of safety, work together during a group activity as part of the Asia-Pacific Aviation Safety Subject Matter Expert Exchange (APASS) in Honolulu, Hawaii, Aug. 14. APASS allows partner nations in the Indo-Pacific to discuss aviation safety practices and devise solutions to challenges faced by the various air forces.

By Staff Sgt. Daniel Robles

Pacific Air Forces Public Affairs

8/18/2018 - JOINT BASE PEARL HARBOR-HICKAM, Hawaii — U.S. Air force representatives and partner nations around the Indo-Pacific met in Honolulu, Hawaii, for this year's Asia-Pacific Aviation Safety Subject Matter Expert Exchange (APASS), hosted by Pacific Air Forces (PACAF), Aug. 14-17.

The four-day safety exchange provided a forum to discuss aviation safety and risk management procedures used by partner nation air forces.

"The sons and daughters of our nations are entrusted to us as leaders and as safety experts," said Maj. Gen. Brian M. Killough, PACAF chief of staff. "Coming together as a group

to share these safety exchanges really does make a difference. One person saved is a lifetime of accomplishments."

The participants began the exchange by listening to guest speakers about resource and risk management. Each nation also had the opportunity to present their aviation safety views and practices.

"We view this event as very important for engaging with our safety partners throughout the Indo-Pacific region" said Royal Australian Air Force Wing Commander Sam Barnes. "No one has all the answers. Diversity of thought is a critical piece in achieving the safety outcomes that we all strive for."

Although the air forces vary in size and structure, they share a common goal of making

aviation as safe as possible. The exchange of ideas and information between nations in the Indo-Pacific region allows for stronger partnerships and more robust safety programs for all.

"One of the mantras we have here in the PACAF Safety office is that it's not no risk, it's knowing risk" said Col. Tim Cullen, PACAF director of safety. "As our systems become more complex there may be less incidents but the ones we do have can be catastrophic. Ultimately, our goal is to have zero mishaps."

Other nations expressed interest in hosting future exchanges to allow for a continued prosperity of the Indo-Pacific region.

The event ended with a cultural tour and enthusiasm for meeting again for APASS in 2019.

RED FLAG-ALASKA 18-3



Two U.S. Air Force F-15 Eagles are framed between trees as they return from a sortie Aug. 16, during RED FLAG-Alaska at Eielson Air Force Base, Alaska. The two F-15s are from the 44th Fighter Squadron out of Kadena Air Base.

(U.S. Air Force photo by Airman 1st Class Eric M. Fisher)

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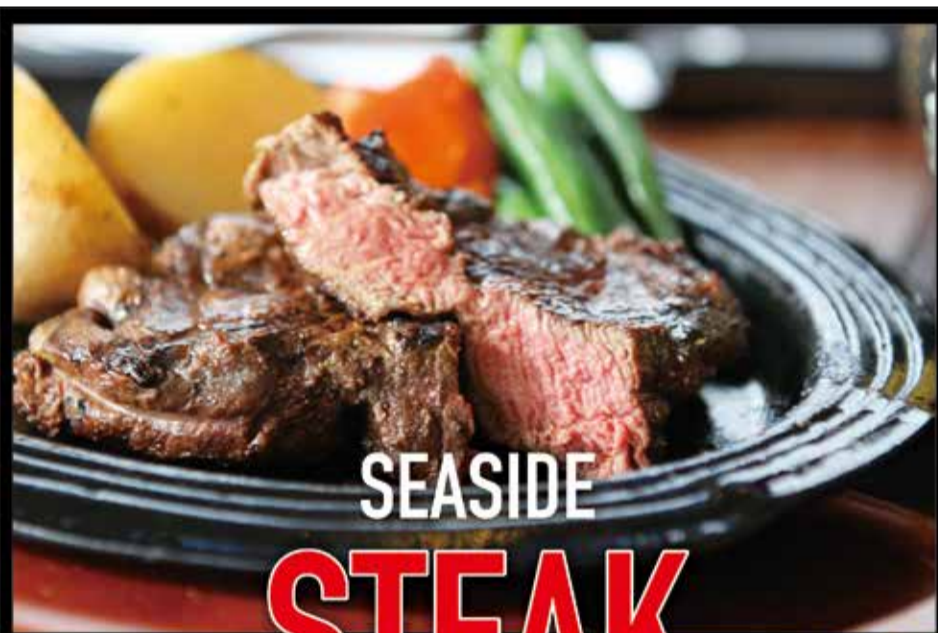
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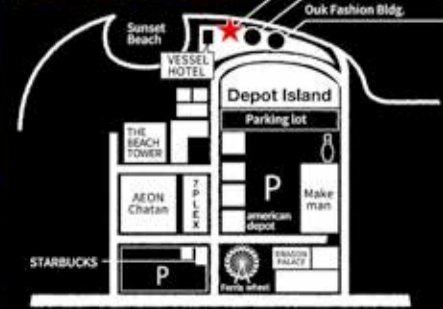
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