

AMURAI GATE



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Overcoming holiday blues

By Chaplain (Col.) Shon Neyland Pacific Air Forces

12/6/2018 - JOINT BASE PEARL HAR-BOR-HICKAM, Hawaii — The holiday season is upon us once again, and it is often a busy season. It is filled with shopping, gifts, festivities, joyous music, holiday parties, decorations, and many opportunities to be with family, friends, and coworkers as we close out the old year and welcome the New Year. However, for some this can be a challenging time. Instead of being a season of joy, some may experience increased stress, feelings of loneliness, depression and anxiety. Psychologists often refer to this as the holiday blues. Unfortunately, this is a real phenomenon and some will contemplate suicide.

Military and civilian personnel alike can face higher stress levels during the holidays. The expectation of 'holiday happiness' can seem difficult to obtain if you are experiencing a troubled relationship, the death of a loved one, separation from family and friends, being away from home, difficulties in the work place or challenges with finances. These stressors are real and can lead to the holiday blues, but they can be overcome.

You may be wondering if you are experiencing the holiday blues. Often overlooked warning signs include changes in sleep patterns, weight loss or gain, increased or

decreased eating, increased anger or anxiety, headaches, lack of concentration and decreased interests in things you would normally do. Other classic symptoms that can indicate the holiday blues or depression include being sad often, withdrawn, and not interacting with others or going to events. The key is recognizing that these are all real feelings and possibilities for each of us. If you, your loved ones, or someone you know show signs of the holiday blues, here are some recommendations to help overcome them.

We must be intentional about socializing with others. The easiest thing to do when faced with difficulties is to isolate ourselves. Isolation can give a false sense that the problems are bigger than they actually are. Spending time with family, friends, and those who care about you can help bolster your emotional well-being. Each of us needs a wingman and support network where we can go when things are not going as we planned in life.

Another area that causes the holiday blues is trying to meet perceived expectations of society. If gifts are a part of your holiday celebrations, understand your gift-giving budget and stick to it. Holiday pressures and wanting to give to those we care about can cause unnecessary financial strain. If your loved one knew you would be carrying debt for the next year to buy

them a gift, do you think they would still want you to buy it? Oftentimes the pressure to overspend is internal and not external.

There is little doubt that a key to overcoming the holiday blues is ensuring that whether you are military or civilian, you are keeping a caring eye on your wingman. This can be checking in via email, a phone call, or going to lunch with them. Connection is the key to letting others know they are loved and not a burden. Those who experience the holiday blues often feel as though they were a burden to their family, friends and coworkers. Connecting with one another is a sure way to provide a sense of hope and encouragement. Communicate with others and talk about your feelings with your wingman or family members. Surround yourself with family and friends.

Finally, if you are spiritual, rely on that connection and seek out the spiritual power outside of yourself. Spiritual fitness has to do with our way of looking at life with meaning, hope and inner peace. To be spiritual is to know and live according to the knowledge there is more than meets the eye. Spiritual fitness includes the knowledge there is something greater than ourselves. Whether one attends worship services or gains perspective from embracing nature or patriotism, spirituality remains a viable source of strength and resiliency.



(U.S. Air Force photo by Senior Airman Sadie Colber

Overcoming the holiday blues is possible when we take the time to connect with our families, friends and coworkers. This holiday season, take a moment to reassess your purpose and recognize what you bring to the defense and freedom of America every day. Remember, look out for one another—talk to your wingman and check in. Just as our Pacific Air Forces commander has set the vector for each us, to be ready, resilient, and postured for the future, make the decision today to get the most out of the upcoming holiday season by deliberately connecting with others and building social fitness, not letting holiday pressures overwhelm you through mental fitness and leveraging spiritual fitness.

Kadena Air Base Weekly Newspaper





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Osan tapped to assist Balangiga Bell return





 Airmen assigned to the 731st Air Mobility Squadron load cargo, including a Balangiga bell, into a C-130J Super Hercules at Osan Air Base, Republic of Korea, Dec. 7. Two of the three bells were housed at F.E. Warren Air Force Base, Wyoming, until Nov. 14, when the repatriation process began to return the bells to the Republic of the Philippines.

∢ A C-130J Super Hercules departs Osan Air Base, Republic of Korea, transporting a Balangiga Bell to Kadena Air Base, Dec. 7. The 51st Logistics Readiness Squadron was called on by Pacific Air Forces to create a special airlift mission to support the U.S. Army's shipment of the bell.

By 1st Lt. Jacqueline Jastrzebski

51st Fighter Wing Public Affairs

12/8/2018 - OSAN AIR BASE, Republic **of Korea** — Airmen assigned to the 51st Logistics Readiness Squadron and 731st Air Mobility Squadron assisted in the return of one of three Balangiga Bells the U.S. is returning to the Philippines after more than a century of absence.

Secretary of Defense James Mattis notified the U.S. Congress Aug. 9, of the Department of Defense's intent to return the bells, which were originally taken by the U.S. Army as trophies during the Philippine-American war in 1901.

Two of the three bells were housed at F.E. Warren Air Force Base, Wyoming, until Nov. 14, when the repatriation process began.

The Army's 9th Infantry Regiment possessed the third bell and displayed it in the 2nd Infantry Division museum at Camp Red Cloud, Republic of Korea.

When the Army was tasked to begin the process of returning the bell, they knew they'd need the Air Force's help to make it happen.

'The 51st LRS was called upon by Pacific Air Forces to create a special assignment airlift mission to support the Army's shipment of the bell," said Master Sgt. Christopher DiSanto, the airlift support function superintendent with the 51st LRS and native of Holbrook, New York.

Once the bell arrived at Osan via ground transportation, Airmen who are joint inspection qualified began the

lengthy process of ensuring the bell and its crate were safe to fly.

DiSanto said attention to detail is critical when inspecting and transporting delicate cargo.

The bell was carefully loaded by Airmen from the 51st LRS and 731st AMS onto a C-130J Super Hercules assigned to the 374th Airlift Wing from Yokota Air Base, Japan, and flown to Kadena Air Base, Dec. 7.

"Working in the Republic of Korea has its challenges, but it affords our air mobility team incredible opportunities to support unique and historic missions," said Capt. Lindsey Bryant, air freight flight commander assigned to the 731st AMS and native of Granbury, Texas.

All three bells will be reunited in Japan

before they're airlifted to the Philippines on a date yet to be announced.

The event comes at the conclusion of a year marked by multiple historic repatriations made possible by the 51st LRS, 731st AMS, and hundreds of other Osan Airmen.

"It's amazing to be a part of all the historical events that have taken place at Osan," said DiSanto. "I hope to be part of more in the future as peace talks expand."

While the geopolitical landscape in the region may be ever-changing, the mindset of logistics Airmen at Osan stays the same. Whether it's people, equipment, the remains of fallen heros, or items of historical significance, the 51st LRS and 731st AMS can move anything that comes their way.



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Okinawan families celebrate holiday season with Team Kadena during Tinsel Town



(U.S. Air Force photos by Staff Sgt. Omari Bernard)

Okinawan and American children play together in the snow at Tinsel Town Dec. 1, at Kadena Air Base. This year Team Kadena invited Okinawan children and families to celebrate the holidays together with American families.



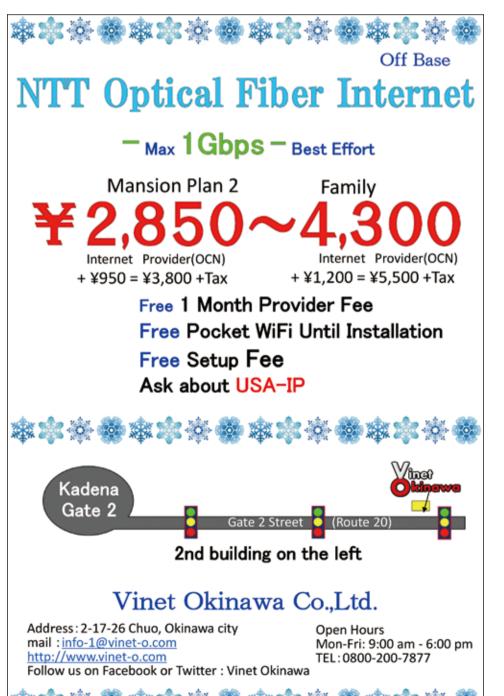
→ Okinawan and American families play together in the snow at Tinsel Town Dec. 1, at Kadena Air Base. Tinsel Town is Kadena's annual holiday celebration offering meet-andgreets with Santa and Mrs. Claus, games, food and free entertainment.











AFSOC Airmen inducted into Air Commando Hall of Fame

By Staff Sgt. Lynette Rolen

Air Force Special Operations Command
Public Affairs

12/10/2018 - **HURLBURT FIELD, Fla.** — The Air Commando Association hosted a convention from Dec. 7-9 at Hurlburt Field, honoring Air Commandos from Air Force Special Operations Command.

Five AFSOC Airmen were inducted into the Air Commando Hall of Fame at the awards banquet on Dec. 7.

The Air Commando Hall of Fame recognizes service members who made significant contributions to the readiness of AFSOC's mission, served honorably and were assigned to AFSOC for no less than three years.

"One of the greatest services the Air Commando Association provides all Air Commandos is selecting an elite few for induction into the Air Commando Hall of Fame," said retired Col. Dennis Barnett, Air Commando Association president. "Individuals selected for this prestigious honor have served and contributed in an outstanding manner both on and after active duty."

Retired Col. William Andersen served AFSOC throughout his 24-year career. Andersen led the streamlining of separate AFSOC units into one training enterprise, ultimately called the 492nd Special Operations Wing.

Retired Chief Master Sgt. Tom Baker dedicated 28 years of service to AFSOC.

Baker's career involved service as AFSOC's career enlisted aviator function manager, A3 (operations directorate) chief enlisted manager and 23rd Air Force chief enlisted manager. Baker mastered the specialized mission qualifications associated with the MC-130 Combat Talon.

Retired Chief Master Sgt. Thomas Green served AFSOC for 25 years. Green wrote the special duty assignment pay package, which provided increased benefits for AFSOC enlisted aircrew.

Retired Col. Mark Race served AFSOC throughout his 30-year military career. Race worked relationships with Joint Special Operations Command, United States Special Operations Command, and the Office of the Secretary of Defense to guarantee special operators have the most current technology.

Retired Chief Master Sgt. John Varner served AFSOC for over 36 years. Varner impacted AFSOC's newest weapon system, the AC-130U Spooky, as the logistics test superintendent. Varner's efforts achieved first flight for the platform, first live fire for the 25-millimeter gun, and on-time delivery of the first production aircraft to Hurlburt Field. The AC-130U is a \$1.2 billlion acquisition program.

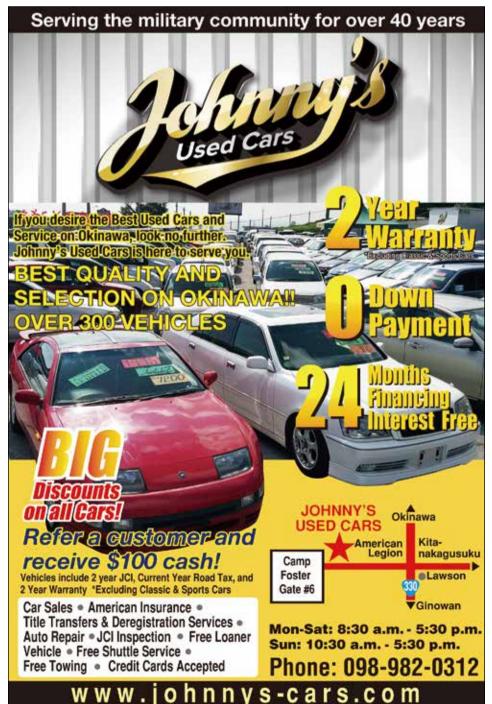
In addition to Hall of Fame inductions, the ACA hosted a heritage seminar breakfast and announced the following ACA Commander's Leadership Award recipients:

Kadena hosts annual Cookie Drive



Capt. Nicholas Albert 524th Special Operations Squadron Capt. Anthony Belviso 7th Special Operations Squadron **Capt. Geoffrey Barnes** 33rd Special Operations Squadron Tech. Sgt. Jason Chase 919th Special Operations Aircraft Maintenance Squadron Tech. Sgt. Kevin Connell 16th Special Operations Squadron Tech. Sgt. Cesar Fernandez 901st Special Operations Aircraft Maintenance Squadron Master Sgt. Michael Guarino 24th Special Tactics Training Squadron Capt. Sarah Hartenstein Geographically Separated Unit

Capt. Erin Howell 73rd Aircraft Maintenance Unit Tech. Sgt. Aaron Jackson 18th Flight Test Squadron Capt. Benjamin Larsen Detachment 1, 58th Operations Group Capt. Casey Mathews 353rd Special Operations Group Tech. Sgt. Matthew Mills 352nd Special Operations Aircraft Maintenance Squadron Tech. Sgt. Matthew Moody 71st Special Operations Squadron Senior Airman Michael Orozco 17th Special Operations Squadron Capt. Kyle Oestreich 24th Special Tactics Training Squadron Tech. Sgt. Ronald Wheeler Geographically Separated Unit









III MEF Band Annual Holiday Concert



(U.S. Marine Corps Photo by Lance Cpl. Kelcey Seymour)

Audience members and U.S. Marines sing Christmas songs together during the III Marine Expeditionary Force
Band Christmas Concert at the theater on Camp Foster, Dec. 5. III MEF Band arranged the concert called "It's a
Wonderful Corps" in reflection to the holiday classic movie "It's a Wonderful Life." The skit followed the story of a
sergeant who wished he never enlisted in the Marine Corps and a heavenly angel who shows him the consequences
that wish would have had on his life and those around him.



(U.S. Marine Corps photo by Lance Cpl. Sarah N. Petrock)

> U.S. Marines with the III Marine Expeditionary Force Band perform "Baby, It's Cold Outside" during their annual holiday concert.

 ✓ U.S. Marine Corps Brig Gen. Paul J. Rock Jr, and his wife sing in the crowd during the annual holiday concert put on by the III Marine Expeditionary Force Band.



(U.S. Marine Corps photo by Lance Cpl. Sarah N. Petroc

31st ARP rehearses HALO capabilities during MEUEX



(U.S. Marine Corps photos by Cpl. Isaac Cantrell)

UH-1Y Huey helicopter crew members with Marine Medium Tiltrotor Squadron 262 (Reinforced) watch a CH-53E Super Stallion helicopter in flight during a simulated high altitude, low opening parachute jump and Reconnaissance and Surveillance mission as part of the 31st Marine Expeditionary Unit's MEU Exercise, Dec. 8.



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NMCB-3 EMBRACES SAILOR 360 PROGRAM





Naval Mobile Construction Battalion (NMCB) 3, discusses the topic of shortterm goals with iunior enlisted Seabees during a Sailor 360 program

training course.

Operator 2nd Class Dillon Francis, assigned to

Construction Battalion (NMCB) 3, delivers an introduction of the Sailor 360 program to junior enlisted personnel onboard Camp Shields in Okinawa.

By Equipment Operator 2nd Class Marisela Allen

Naval Mobile Construction Battalion 3 Public Affairs

11/22/2018 - CAMP SHIELDS

 Seabees assigned to Naval Mobile Construction (NMCB) 3 have embraced the Navy's Sailor 360 program as a way to shape and promote leadership skills in junior enlisted Seabees.

The Sailor 360 program is the Navy's newest leadership training program designed to enrich the professional development of its enlisted Sailors. The program brings significant changes to how the Navy has traditionally trained enlisted leaders since 2011 and empowers commands to continue the leadership conversation through command-developed trainings.

This new curriculum is derived from Secretary of the Navy Richard V. Spencer's initiative titled "Laying the Keel: Developing the backbone of our Navy." The program applies to seven leadership training fundamentals: alignment, habits, training, education, opportunity, feedback and self-awareness.

NMCB-3 is one of the first commands in the Naval Construction Force to implement the program in their training curriculum with small group training sessions meeting monthly

"It feels good be part of a command that's going to take on implementing this program and find out what the best practices are to be able to pass that on to similar commands for the benefit of their Seabees," said Builder 2nd Class Daphne Maxwell at the conclusion of the first training session.

NMCB-3 is utilizing the course to give all Sailors an opportunity to have a discussion about what it takes to lead at all levels through challenge, adversity, and positive feedback. This training format was a focus that was more heavily leveraged towards first class petty officers in the past.

Senior Chief Equipment Operator Denise Demontagnac is the program's advisor. Her responsibilities include ensuring all program training objectives are in accordance with the curriculum's fundamental elements of the leadership development process as well as listening and initiating feedback vital to the enhancement of the Sailor 360 program for future organizational development.

"I think Sailor 360 will have a great impact on NMCB-3's command climate, with

everyone knowing their voice will be heard for their own personal development," said Demontagnac. "The importance of the curriculum is to ensure we provide overall mentorship to Sailors from E-1 through E-9, with it always being a constant goal to empower all so no one feels left out."

Command Master Chief Alonso Cadena, command master chief of NMCB-3, said that he welcomes the program with open arms and is an advocate for the new direction and flexibility of the Navy's mentorship program.

The program will allow us to provide direct mentorship from

supervisors — we can provide leadership skills early on that need to be addressed in order to make the unit better while not going off of one template and one schedule," said Cadena. "It allows us to be creative."

Builder 2nd Class Desreal Shorts, assigned to Naval Mobile

During the first implementation of NMCB-3's Sailor 360 program, conducted onboard Camp Shields in Okinawa, ten second class petty officers mentored more junior enlisted Sailors to tackle the topic of "why." The leaders addressed the topic that lingers in many junior Sailor's minds as they may struggle to understand the purpose of their day-to-day tasks in their work centers and how they relate to the bigger picture in both their personal careers and the battalion's operations and overall readiness.

"This gives us a good reference point of where we are at in life, whether it's in building our careers in the Navy or preparing for a career as a civilian," said Equipment Operator 3rd Class Alvis Frederick. "I look at this as something to get us on the

right track and help us develop a good plan. I think Sailor 360 is good for our future."

NMCB-3, nicknamed "Better Than Best," has the values of leadership and ownership built into the commanding officer's command philosophy and leaders looks to foster more forward-thinking Sailors who are more involved in leadership throughout all levels of service.

"We want everyone to have a chance to say something and be heard," said Demontagnac. "We want to use these discussions to build leaders, unlock potential, and show our junior Seabees what they're capable of."

Other more senior petty officers showed excitement for facilitating the course and mentoring their Junior Seabees.

"I really hope this program does not fall by the wayside, and I hope the participation will grow as we continue on," said Builder 1st Class Ghafayt Moredeyo at the conclusion of the command's first Sailor 360 class. "I think this can be a great tool if interest and value are there."

NMCB-3 Seabees conduct crane operations



Equipment Operator 2nd Class Adam Lefford, from Salamanca, N.Y., and assigned to NMCB 3, guides a crane into position as part of a project to build a k-span structure onboard Camp Shields, Dec. 5.



nboard.



Seabees assigned to NMCB 3, position slings arounc a rebar cage during crane operations build a k-spar structure onboard Camp

U.S. Army Corps of Engineers and DoDEA work together to build modern schools in Japan

By Martin Taylor

U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Japan District 12/9/2018 - TOKYO, Japan — The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) is employing innovative strategies to overcome challenges in international construction projects.

USACE Pacific Ocean Japan (POJ), or Japan Engineer District (JED) as it is commonly called, is the Departments of Defense's (DoD) design and construction agent for U.S. forces and other agencies in Japan. Simply put, USACE is responsible for the overall management and implementation of Department of Defense construction programs in Japan. Construction programs include piers, runways, barracks, and even commissaries. For many parents who serve in Japan as Uniformed Service Members or DoD Civilians one of JED's most important missions is building world class schools for their children.

The Department of Defense Education Activity (DoDEA) established schools in the Pacific theater shortly after the end of World War II. DoDEA provides the children of U.S. military and eligible DoD civilian personnel families stationed throughout Japan with a comprehensive K-12 school system. Currently, there are over 15,000 students in 33 schools throughout Mainland Japan and Okinawa.

In order to fulfill their mission of enriching the lives of military-connected students and the communities they serve DoDEA will work with JED to build sixteen new schools in Japan over the next ten years. The new schools fulfill the 21st Century Educational objectives of DoDEA by introducing designs and layouts that complement modern education standards. The upcoming schools will be organized around a central "Commons" space designed to accommodate the entire school population for assemblies, lunch, after-school events and other large group activities.

"DoDEA Pacific truly values our partnership with the Army Corps of Engineers as we work together to create the optimum learning environment for our students, insuring they are college and career ready," said Ms. Lois Rapp, the DoDEA Pacific Director for Student Excellence.

In the recently completed Yokota High School, located on Yokota Air Base in Western Tokyo, the Commons connects



directly to a state-of-the-art Black Box theater, gymnasium, Information Center, food service, and classrooms neighborhoods. The space was designed to incorporate natural daylight in the majority of the educational spaces. This feature contributed to the project being certified as a Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) silver rating.

Several obstacles had to be overcome before the construction of the Commons on Yokota High School could even begin. Many U.S. Installations in Japan are located on reclaimed land and fill soil. The soil is easily liquefiable and subject to frequent seismic activity which Japan is known for. In order to overcome the unstable top layer of soil the majority of facilities in Japan are constructed on pile foundations. The pile foundations transfer the weight of the structure from the unstable top layer of soil to stronger layers of rock and soil found deeper in the Earth.

Along with the increased engineering and construction requirements DoDEA and JED must also overcome language and culture barriers. The design and construction of DoDEA schools in Japan are completed through Military Construction (MILCON) programs. MILCON is a United States Government (USG) construction program that provides property for service members and their families to work, train, and live. JED works with stakeholders to draft conceptual drawings and technical narratives to ensure the proposed facilities meet the operational and technical requirements of the end user. Next, JED awards and administers the design and construction contracts.

Throughout the design and construction process JED works with its counterparts to ensure USG criteria and standards are applied to the maximum extent practicable. It was during this process the Japanese contractors awarded the Yokota High School Project suggested using an innovative method known as the Multi-Mixing Bucket (MMB) method or Soil-Cement Slurry (SCS) to build upon the foundation of the new facility. Rather than excavating and disposing the existing materials and replacing it with structural fill as the building platform for the foundation, the contractor used in-situ materials and mixed it with a cement slurry.

JED worked with all stakeholders to implement this widely used Japanese construction methodology, which exceeded the original structural design parameters of the project, improved the efficiency of the construction schedule, and led to cost savings. This construction methodology is now being incorporated in other designs on Yokota Air Base and other military installations in Japan.

JED also works with contractors during the design phase of projects to identify and overcome any potential challenges. Identifying challenging design elements early can prevent unnecessary cost overages and construction delays.

U.S. Fleet Activities Sasebo (CFAS) is a United States Navy base, in Sasebo, Japan, on the island of Kyūshū. The elementary school that serves this military community was built in 1978 by the Government of Japan. On March 30, 2011, DoDEA began working with JED to build a modern school for the CFAS community that incorporated "Commons" and other contemporary design features to create a first rate learning environment.

"The Sasebo Resident Office is looking forward to delivering Sasebo's first 21st Century elementary school for U.S. Fleet Activities Sasebo (CFAS). The new elementary school will accommodate approximately 250 students from Pre-K through 6th grade and will be constructed to meet a LEED Silver level rating", said Don George, JED's resident engineer

Early in the design phase of the Sasebo elementary school JED worked to overcome hurdles with the school's mandatory blast resistant windows. Blast resistant windows have a complex design criteria and have to meet requirements outlined by several DoD construction standards. JED's structural team worked with the contractors and manufactures as they developed calculations to manufacture blast resistant windows. After several months calculation reviews and submittals, the contractor successfully verified in their calculations that the blast resistant window system met the requirements in accordance with DoD's Minimum Antiterrorism Standards/ Standoff design. This group effort saved nearly 3 to 4 months on procurement time, which will result in earlier arrival to the project site. Another benefit to locally manufactured materials is that they eliminate long lead times in case of repair and maintenance for DoDEA years after construction is complete

"As engineers we are always looking to find the best solution for our stakeholders. The Japanese construction professionals deliver each project within our program with innovative ideas and top quality construction material that consistently meets U.S. and Alliance requirements," said Colonel Thomas J. Verell Jr., Commander, Japan Engineer District. "Lessons learned from these projects will help DoDEA and JED design and construct a world class school system for the children of the men and women who serve America overseas."

party of the Defense Cyberspace **Operations** Internal **Defense** Measures Company stand at parade rest during the company's activation ceremony at Camp Hansen, Dec. 7.



By Cpl. Alexis Betances

III MEF Information Group 12/7/2018 - CAMP HANSEN

The 7th Communication Battalion held the Activation of Command ceremony for the ations Internal Defense Measures Company on Camp Hansen, Okinawa, Dec. 7.

DCO-IDM is an information-related capability of III Marine Expeditionary Force Information Group. Defensive Cyber Operations are intended to assure mission success within the Marine Air Ground Task Force by defending mission-critical information and warfighting systems against a cyberspace attack. This provides the commander freedom of action in cyberspace and provides Marines a more secure network both in the field and in garrison.

The Marine Corps has established three DCO-IDM companies since July to assist in achieving digital resiliency. The newly-formed companies within each MEF stand as part of the Marine Corps' modernization plan, referred to as "Force 2025." The plan describes a shift in the Corps to better adapt and employ its forces for the ever-changing and unpredictable future.

In the last 20 years, the need for information, information systems, and digital network connectivity within the United States Armed Forces has increased to continue support of warfighting functions. According to members of 7th Communication Battalion, American adversaries have kept pace in the evolving cyber-battlespace, increasing in capabilities, frequency, and complexity of attacks.

"From 'script kiddies' to 'hacktivists' to state-sponsored actors, nothing is off limits, and each has different motives," explained 7th Communication Battalion Michael Hlad, "Due to the low cost of entry, software-enabled weapons systems and information network systems are prime targets for asymmetric attacks from global threats, internal or external to the region. The DCO-IDM Company is an extra measure dedicated to countering such attacks."

The development of this capability allows III MEF Information Group to stay competitive in the U.S. Indo-Pacific Command's Area of Responsibility. This activation ceremony signals another step toward achieving that end.

Exercise Yama Sakura 75 kicks off in Japan



Maj. Gen. Shinichi Aoki, left, and U.S. Marine Brig. Gen. Christopher McPhillips, right, pose for a photo following the opening ceremony of Yama Sakura 75 on Camp Courtney, Dec. 10.

By Petty Officer 2nd Class Dominique J. Shelton 12/11/2018 - CAMP HI-GASHI-CHITOSE, Japan – Japan Ground Self-Defense Force (JGSDF) service members gathered Dec. 9, at Camp Higashi-Chitose, Hokkaido, Japan, to kick off the bilateral Japanese and U.S. opening

eration of the bilateral, command post exercise between the two nations. The U. S. Army's I Corps and the JGSDF's Northern Army used the exercise to enhance their combat readiness, as well as demonstrate U.S. support to

ceremony for the Japan-based

the Indo-Asia-Pacific region.

The Soldiers of America's First Corps are committed to our and build capacity in both of our organizations," said Lt. Gen. Gary J. Volesky, the commander of I Corps . "A critical objective for this exercise is strengthening the Japanese military alliance and building combined readi-

and JGSDF Lt. Gen. Masato Taura, Northern Army commanding general, spoke to the exercise participants about strengthening trust while enhancing their understanding of war fighting capa-

force, we have an opportunity to create deeper interoperability between our militaries through shared understanding," said Volesky. "Our commitment to each other is enduring, and I be-lieve this will show throughout

Following the remarks, both countries service members delivered a resounding battle cry where each group shouted "Forward! Together!" in both

countries native languages.
Yama Sakura 75 is set to run
until Dec. 16 and will train U.S.
and JGSDF capabilities to defend Japan during joint unified land operations.

Military community competes to be Okinawa's Strongest

By Pfc. Brennan Beauton

Marine Corps Installations Pacific

12/4/2018 - CAMP FOSTER — The first ever Okinawa's Strongest competition took place Dec. 1 at Gunner's Gym on Camp Foster.

The event was held to determine Okinawa's strongest man and woman.

The contestants competed in seven different events. The events were the atlas stone lift, log clean to press, deadlifts, farmers carry, tire flips, sled pulls, and the wheel barrel.

Competitors were divided into different weight classes. The females were split into two different weight classes, and the males into three

The champion from the female weight class up to 140 pounds was Nortia Miller.

The champion from the female weight class 140 pounds and over was Kimberly Pistell. The champion from the male weight class up to 150 pounds was Kazuhiro Nishimura. The champion from the male 150 to the 200 pound weight class was Kouya Tengan, and the champion from the male over 200 pounds weight class was Adam Pixton.

Okinawa residents and service members traveled from all across the island to participate in this event.

The event went really well, and there was a good turn out for the event's debut according to Laura Bates, the athletic program manager with Marine Corps Community Services Semper Fit.

The event is scheduled to take place again next year.



The champions of their weight class show off their 1st place plaques at Gunner's Gym on Camp Foster Dec. 1. This was the inaugural Okinawa's Strongest event.



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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 31 Dec., 2018, 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.

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 1 Jan., 2018. 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 1 Jan., 2018. 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 1 Jan., 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.

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.

SAPR/Suicide Prevention Annual

Training (Green Dot) – Final Training Days 2018 SAPR/Suicide Prevention Training is a Mandatory requirement. Classes offered are slowing down and WILL END before the Holiday begins. There are no personal "in-house" trainings authorized for 2018 so if you have not completed yours, GET SCHEDULED BEFORE IT IS TOO LATE. For more information, please visit Kadena Green Dot website.

Receipt of Legal Proceedings Against the United States

If you or your family members ever receive through the mail, electronic media, or in person any written notice of legal action against the United States or the USAF to include a writ, summons, notice of legal proceedings, or any other foreign civil process, please IMMEDIATELY send or deliver it to the Legal Office for appropriate actions.

Kadena Post Office Holiday Hours

We are currently on our holiday hours. The Parcel Pick-Up window and Finance Section are open until 5 p.m. on Saturdays.

Finance: Nov. 26 - Dec 24: Mon-Sat 9 a.m. - 5 p.m. (Dec. 25 and 26, Dec. 31 and Jan. 1 closed)

Parcel Pick-up: Nov. 26 - Dec. 24: 9 a.m. - 6 p.m. /

Sat 9 a.m. - 5 p.m. (Dec. 25 and Jan. 1 closed)

Family Day Parcel Pick-up: Dec. 26 and Dec. 31

President's Volunteer Service Awards

The Kadena Airman and Family Readiness Center is an official certifying organization for the Presidential Volunteer Service Award (PVSA). Eligible volunteers can track and submit service hours at www.presentialserviceawards.gov(ROS key for Kadena: SND-6354). Volunteer hours earned between January 01 and December 31, 2018 must be submitted on the website by January 31, 2019 to be certified for an award (Bronze, Silver, Gold or lifetime achievement) to be presented at the Annual Volunteer Recognition Ceremony on April 12, 2019. For group submissions, contact the Volunteer Coordinator. For more information, call 634-3366, visit the Kadena A&FRC (Bldg. 220) or email wendy. council.1@us.af.mil.

2019 Active Duty & Dependent Scholarships

The Air Force Association has announced scholarships for 2019 that are available to active duty members and their dependents. Questions can be emailed to scholarships@afa.org. For more information please visit

https://www.afa.org/education/scholarships.

TMO Passenger Travel & Personal Property Minimal Manning

The TMO Passenger Travel and Personal Property offices will be minimally manned on Dec. 21 and will be closing 30 minutes early (3 p.m.). We're sorry for the inconvenience. For more info, please contact MSgt Hon Mac at 634-7845.

INFORMATION Visitor Control Center Webpage

The 18 Security Forces Pass and Registration Webpage is now live. Please visit https://www.kadena.af.mil/Agencies/Visitor-Control-Center/ to view requirements for our services and hours of operation.

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.

AADD: We Get You Home Safe

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. To contact AADD from a cell phone number, dial 098-961-1110 and ask for the USO, or dial DSN: 634-3889. We're open Fridays and Saturdays at the USO (gate 2) from 2200 to 0100 and we're here to help. If you have any questions and/ or concerns, please email our Org Box or contact us on Facebook: Kadena AB A2D2

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 SMSgt. Southern, 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.

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. - 12 p.m. at 634-3609. Office is closed each 3rd Thursday of the month (Training Day) - Closed - All Day. For emergencies call 080-6487-6969.

TRICARE Overseas off Base Do's and Don'ts

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. 0730-1630.

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES Volunteers needed for 2019 Okinawa **Marathon**

Volunteers are needed to provide water and cheer on runners at stations along the base route on Kadena Air Base during the 2019 Okinawa Marathon Feb. 17, 2019 (Sunday). Those interested are encouraged to attend a meeting Feb. 7 at 2 p.m. in the Schilling Ball Room (Bldg. 455). If you are going to volunteer as group, you can send one representative to the meeting. For sign-up or more information, email to shoko.tamaki.jp@us.af.mil or call at DSN 634-4142.

Kadena High School JROTC Detachment

The Kadena Air Base High School JROTC Detachment

has 155 cadets and is in need of volunteers. This volunteer effort is to help provide Air Force Career Speakers, Drill Team leads, CyberPatriot leads, Academic Bowl leads, Tutors, Mentors, etc. This is a joint Company Grade Officer Council and Top 3 volunteer effort and is extremely flexible. You can go to the Kadena CGOC sharepoint site (see below) to see the openings and different programs that you can volunteer for. Click on the JROTC Volunteer Signup for all the details! https://kadena.eis.pacaf. af.mil/orgs/kcgoc/SitePages/Home.aspx - OR - you can go to the Top 3 sharepoint site https://kadena. eis.pacaf.af.mil/orgs/top3/Pages/CGO-Liaison.aspx to sign up! For more information please contact the CGOC POCs, Capt Daniel Brewer at DSN: 634-3097 or daniel.brewer.10@us.af.mil, Capt Robert Stone at robert.stone.29@us.af.mil - OR - Top 3, SMSgt Kim Wiessner kim.wiessner@us.af.mil or MSgt Wayne Shaw at Wayne.shaw.4@us.af.mil

Kadena Tax Center Volunteer Event

The Kadena Tax Center needs volunteers for the upcoming tax season, and we request your help. Kadena has one of the best tax programs in the Air Force. Last year, Kadena Tax Center Volunteer Tax Advisors (VTA) helped prepare over 1,073 returns, saving service members over \$202,200.00 in tax preparation fees. This is a great benefit for Airmen and their families, but as you're aware, this "FREE" service cannot be offered without help from the VTAs. While no longer an extra duty requirement, we request your assistance in determining if any of your personnel are willing to volunteer, and if so, determining if your mission requirements would allow for such support.

- Each VTA is required to attend a 5-day IRS training (unless they have been a VTA within the past 2 years) and work 20 days in the tax center during peak season (January - June 2019). The work days can be accomplished by working 1 day every week or a block(s) of consecutive days.
- IRS training: This will be provided on 7-11 Jan., 2019; Volunteers need a laptop for training.
- Volunteers do not need tax experience as training will be given. However, individuals with prior experience are highly encouraged to volunteer.
- DEADLINE: Initial cutoff: Dec. 16, Submit VTA names to Mrs. Leigh Dedrick at DSN 634-3300 or email: Primary: leigh.dedrick@us.af.mil or Alternate: 18wg. jagenerallaw@us.af.mil.

Tutors needed for Saturday homework club

Subjects: Math, Science, Reading, English Language Arts, Social Studies

Date(s): Select Saturdays . Times: 0800-1200 Location: Ryukyu Middle School ◆ Contact: 634-8826 POC: Ms. SanJuan, Valerie SanJuan@DODEA.EDU

Details: Volunteers are welcome to bring their own work (i.e. college assignments) or leisure reading while standing by for students to seek homework help. Snacks provided.

Need Spanish speakers to assist in language class

Date(s): December 14 • Time: 0715-1405 Location: Kadena High School

POC: Mr. Gusler, jason.gusler@pac.dodea.edu

Need French speakers to assist in language class

Date(s): December 14 • Time: 0715 -1000 Location: Kadena High School POC: Mr. Gusler, jason.gusler@pac.dodea.edu

Youth baseball and softball coaches

Date(s): 3 December - End of February • Time: Ask Location: Kadena AB

POC: Kadena Youth Sports, 634-1384

Science mentors needed (no need to be present in person)

Date(s): Current - 1 February 2019

Time: Email student once or twice a week

Location: Kadena AB

POC: Ms. Fenimore, Allison.Fenimore@DODEA.EDU

Looking for mentors who understand the research process to communicate with students via email once

or twice a week to guide students through the research & analysis process.



GIFT SHOPPERS!!!!

WHOLESALE PRICES GUARANTEED!!!

LOWER THAN

Join our LIVE AT PHAI'S AUCTION/SALE online broadcasts this weekend, Saturday & Sunday, Dec. 15 & 16, 2018 at 0900, Okinawa time. You will be glad that you did!!!

Please share with your friends, family, co-workers and neighbors. They will thank you and we will appreciate you for it.







 Windows \$65~ Bathrooms \$65~ Kitchen Oven Cleaning \$65~ \$ 25 ~/Hr OLiving room for 1Hr or 2Hr OScreen Replacement Service(Screen Window) \$ 30 ~ OExterior Wall Cleaning \$70~ (We do not offer lawn mowing service) PCS and Move-out Cleaning *On Base Only Please call for free estimate

OKINAWA BRANCH OFFICE 5-8SHIROMAECHO.OKINAWA CITY

Reception Time 10:00~16:00 Holiday: SAT/SUN/U.S. Holiday

dillingham@eight-jp.net



Find Your Exchange Food Trucks at a Location Near You Today! 14-Dec 1100-1400 KAB Flightline Nukumi Kitchen 14-Dec 1100-1700 KAB Concession Mall Triple A 15-Dec 1100-1900 KAB Concession Mall Old Spices 15-Dec 1100-1700 Foster Main Store Triple A 16-Dec 1100-1900 KAB Concession Mall Café Shiyu de Pokko Churros Chilin-no-Suzu 16-Dec 1100-1700 KAB Concession Mall 16-Dec 1100-1900 Foster Main Store Old Spices 17-Dec 1100-1400 KAB Flightline Nukumi Kitchen 18-Dec 1100-1800 Butler Express Old Spices 18-Dec 1100-1400 Torii Express Nukumi Kitchen 18-Dec 1100-1400 KAB Flightline Café Shiyu de Pokko 19-Dec 1100-1400 AMC Terminal Triple A MALL 19-Dec 1100-1400 KAB Flightline Old Spices 20-Dec 1100-1400 KAB Flightline Café Shiyu de Pokko

20-Dec 1100-1400 Torii Express

Old Spices

Missed TRICARE Open Season? There's still time to act!

By TRICARE Communications

12/11/2018 - FALLS CHURCH, Va. — If you missed TRICARE Open Season, you still have time to enroll. For this year only, you can enroll in or change your TRICARE Prime or TRICARE Select plan through Dec. 31, 2018 for coverage starting on Jan. 1, 2019. You may also change your type of enrollment, like switching from individual to family coverage.

If you're considering a change, don't delay. Starting on Jan. 1, 2019, you'll only be able to enroll or make changes to your TRI-CARE Prime or TRICARE Select plan during open season or after a Qualifying Life Event (QLE). The next TRICARE Open Season will take place in fall of 2019.

A Qualifying Life Event is certain change in your life, such as marriage, birth of a child, or loss of a family member, which may mean different TRICARE options are available to you. A QLE opens a 90-day period for you to make eligible enrollment changes. A QLE for one family member means all family members may make enrollment changes. For more on QLEs, visit

Life Events on the TRI-CARE website.

You have three options to enroll in a TRICARE Prime or TRICARE Select plan:

Online: Go to the Beneficiary Web Enrollment website. (Stateside only)
By phone: Call your TRI-CARE regional contractor.
By mail: Send your enrollment form to your regional contractor.

The Federal Benefits Open Season also ended on Dec. 10. If you were eligible, this open season allowed you to enroll in the Federal Employees Dental and Vision Insurance Program (FEDVIP). If you wanted to enroll in FEDVIP, but missed the open season for reasons beyond your control, you may have a chance to apply for belated enrollment. To find out what options are available to you, visit the FEDVIP enrollment website at www. benefeds.com. You can also call 1-877-888-3337 for assistance.

To be sure you don't miss changes related to your TRICARE benefit, sign up to receive emails from TRICARE. You can also visit TRICARE Changes to keep updated on all changes to TRICARE.





on how to enroll after open season, visit www.tricare.mil/OpenSeason

