

KADENA SHOGUN WEEKLY NEWS



# AMURAI GATE



AIR FORCE - ARMY - NAVY - MARINE - COMMUNITY NEWS

Number 12 - Issue 18

## Strengthening relationships through social media



(U.S. Air Force photo by Tech. Sgt. Matthew B. Fredericks)

Tour participants pose for a group photo during a base tour of Kadena Air Base, May 8. The participants received a base mission brief and F-15 Eagle static display at Naha Air Base before traveling to Kadena for an 18th Wing mission brief and KC-135 Stratotanker static display.

**By Staff Sgt Jessica H. Smith**

18th Wing Public Affairs  
5/13/2019 - KADENA AIR BASE — Kadena Air Base and the Japan Air Self-Defense

Force collaborated on a contest using their Twitter pages to give followers a chance to win a tour of both bases. With roughly a 1 of 30 chance in winning, 10 people were selected to be part

of a same-day tour of both Naha and Kadena Air Bases, May 8.

The winners consisted of individuals from Okinawa and mainland, Japan – all of who were aircraft enthusiasts. For

most, base tours – especially two in one day—is a rare opportunity.

“It doesn’t happen everyday that you can get on both a U.S. Air Force base and a JASDF base, so I’m very happy about it,” said Mitsuki, a local of Yomitan Village. “I can feel peace about each one, Japan and the U.S.”

The tour began at Naha AB, where winners were given a briefing about the mission and F-15 Eagle aircraft. After their briefing, they were able to view a few aircraft and talk with aircrew. After a couple more stops on the JASDF base, the tour moved to Kadena.

The Kadena tour, similar to Naha, began with a briefing to help them better understand the layout and mission of the base and its units.

The tour not only provided a better understanding of each base and their mission, but also offered a more refined view of military members.

“I have visited Kadena many times in the sense that I was outside of the base looking in, but this is the first time being on the inside, said Tsuchiya, a

follower from mainland. “I was very impressed by how friendly everybody in uniform was.”

The day ended with an in-depth look at a KC-135 Stratotanker and a full tour of the aircraft with aircrew from the 909th Air Refueling Squadron standing by to answer questions. Lastly, a walk through Peace Park to view static displays of previous 18th Wing aircraft provided insight on the history of the base.

While the base tours offered education and entertainment for the winners, it resulted in much more.

The experience provided an opportunity to display the importance of the U.S. and Japan’s relationship as partners and allies; it created a better understanding of the base’s roles in the Indo-Pacific as well as a sense of comfort and closeness for those in the surrounding communities.

“Before the base tour, Kadena Air Base, to me, was a far neighbor, but now that I have had this experience, Kadena Air Base has become a close neighbor,” Mitsuki said.

## NORTHERN EDGE 2019



A U.S. Air Force F-15 Eagle assigned to the 44th Fighter Squadron from Kadena Air Base, lands in preparation for Northern Edge, May 8, at Eielson Air Force Base, Alaska.

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



(U.S. Air Force photo by Airman 1st Class Caitlin Russell)

U.S. Air Force KC-10 Extender assigned to Travis Air Force Base, Calif., prepares to land prior to exercise Northern Edge, May 8, Joint Base Elmendorf-Richardson, Alaska. With participants and assets from the U.S. Air Force, Marine Corps and Navy, Northern Edge is Alaska’s premier joint-training exercise designed to practice operations and enhanced interoperability among the services.



(U.S. Air Force photo by Airman 1st Class Charles T. Fultz)

An E-3 Sentry assigned with the 962nd Airborne Air Control Squadron flies May 8, in preparation for exercise Northern Edge 19.



(U.S. Air Force photo by Senior Airman Eric M. Fisher)

A U.S. Air Force maintenance Airman assigned to the 18th Aircraft Maintenance Squadron, Kadena Air Base, crouches down while communicating with a pilot during Northern Edge, May 14, at Eielson Air Force Base, Alaska.



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

U.S. Air Force Capt. Deline Tengen, 51st Security Forces Squadron section commander from Osan Air Base, Korea, helps Airmen and Sailors in-process for exercise Northern Edge, May 10, at Eielson Air Force Base, Alaska.



(U.S. Marine Corps photo by Cpl. Anabel Abreu Rodriguez)

U.S. Air Force F-15E Strike Eagles assigned to the 53rd Wing from Eglin Air Force Base, Fla., park on the flightline prior to Exercise Northern Edge, May 10.

# FUELING A PARTNERSHIP



(U.S. Air Force photos by Airman 1st Class Matthew Seefeldt)

An F-16CM Fighting Falcon from the 35th Fighter Wing, Misawa Air Base, refuels with a KC-135 Stratotanker from the 909th Air Refueling Squadron, Kadena Air Base, during a routine training exercise off the coast of Japan, May 8. The 909th ARS helps ensure a free-and-open Indo-Pacific by providing air refueling to U.S., allies and partners within the area of responsibility.

U.S. Air Force Tech. Sgt. Chance Italiano, 18th Air Refueling Squadron boom operator, works the controls in his boom pod during a routine training exercise off the coast of Japan, May 8.



# Patrol Squadron 5



(U.S. Navy photos by Aircrewman Operator 2nd Class Trenton Jameson)  
Aircrewman Operator 3rd Class Taylor Powers, assigned to Patrol Squadron (VP) 5, tests the operator systems during an aircraft preflight inspection May 9. The "Mad Foxes" of VP-5 are currently deployed to Kadena Air Base conducting maritime patrol and reconnaissance and theater outreach operations within U.S. 7th Fleet (C7F) area of operations in support of Commander, Task Force 72, C7F, and U.S. Pacific Command objectives throughout the Indo-Asia Pacific region.



Aircrewman Operator 3rd Class Taylor Powers, assigned to Patrol Squadron (VP) 5 inspects the sonobuoys during an aircraft preflight, May 9.

## Air Force simplifies promotion recommendation forms for officers

### By Secretary of the Air Force Public Affairs

5/8/2019 - ARLINGTON, Va. — The Air Force announced today it will make adjustments to the way the Air Force Form 709, Promotion Recommendation Form, will be filled out and used for Total Force officer promotion boards beginning in September 2019.

The new policy will reduce the promotion recommendation narrative from nine lines to two and provide guidance for stratification and comments.

"Centralized boards have the critical task

of selecting the next generation of leaders," said Shon Manasco, assistant secretary of the Air Force for manpower and reserve affairs. "To assist in that effort, senior raters need a simple and effective mechanism to communicate their observations about an officer's potential. These enhancements to the PRF and new stratification guidance allow us to better achieve that goal."

Endorsements for promotion are based upon an officer's demonstrated character and competence as detailed in the secretary of the Air Force's Memorandum of Instruction for promotion boards. Comments

or recommendations for items that are decided through other processes (e.g. developmental education, jobs, assignments, etc.), will no longer be authorized on the PRF.

"This is about building the officer bench we need to fight and win as we accomplish our missions in support of the National Defense Strategy. Over time the PRF has become a summary of an officer's record with significant focus on style and format," said Lt. Gen. Brian Kelly, deputy chief of staff for manpower, personnel and services. "This adjustment restores the PRF to its

original intent of providing a way for senior raters to communicate an officer's potential to serve in the next higher grade directly with promotion boards and is another key step in our officer talent management transformation."

Additionally, senior raters will follow new guidance regarding stratification on the PRF. The guidance allows the promotion board to receive pertinent information that directly speaks to an officer's promotion potential.

For more information, log into MyPers or contact the Air Force Personnel Center.

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# 33rd Rescue Squadron Airmen prepare an HH-60 Pave Hawk for a training sortie

U.S. Air Force photos by Airman 1st Class Cynthia Belío



Tech. Sgt. Travis Kidwell, 33rd Rescue Squadron special mission aviator, performs pre-flight inspections on an HH-60G Pave Hawk May 8.



^ (Top photo) Senior Airman Chandler Hoskinson, 33rd Rescue Squadron special mission aviator, performs headspace and timing checks on the gun aircraft unit on an HH-60G Pave Hawk during pre-flight inspections May 8, on Kadena Air Base. (Bottom photo) Maj. Margaret McCord, 33rd Rescue Squadron flight lead, performs avionics system checks on an HH-60G Pave Hawk May 8.



Tech. Sgt. Christopher Kersey, 33rd Rescue Squadron instructor special mission aviator, inspects the tail rotor paddles on an HH-60G Pave Hawk during pre-flight inspections May 8, on Kadena Air Base. The 33 RQS's primary mission lies in combat search and rescue as well as medical evacuation in a wartime environment.



^ (Top photo) Tech. Sgt. Travis Kidwell, 33rd Rescue Squadron special mission aviator, prepares the gun aircraft unit on an HH-60G Pave Hawk during pre-flight inspections May 8. (Bottom photo) Maj. Andrew Simpson, 33rd Rescue Squadron pilot, goes over pre-flight details while on an HH-60G Pave Hawk May 8.

^ An HH-60G Pave Hawk sits on the tarmac during pre-flight inspections May 8, on Kadena Air Base. The 33rd RQS, also known as the Jolly Green Giants, maintain a high tempo of operations and training in order to ensure peak performance around the globe; anytime, anywhere.

# BATTLE

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# Sayonara Shogun Two



A KC-135 Stratotanker taxis underneath water spray commemorating the final flight piloted by outgoing 18th Wing vice commander, U.S. Air Force Col. Richard Tanner, May 7, at Kadena Air Base. Dating back to World War II, aircrew members have celebrated their last flights in similar fashion. Over the years, it has become an Air Force tradition for flyers.

(U.S. Air Force photo by Staff Sgt. Benjamin Sutton)

## 18TH EMS AIRMEN SHARPEN SKILLS TO SUPPORT MISSION



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



U.S. Air Force Staff Sgt. Patrick Degrage, 18th Equipment Maintenance Squadron aircraft structural maintenance craftsman, cuts through a piece of metal May 1, on Kadena Air Base.



U.S. Air Force Airman Kristin Reichert, 18th Equipment Maintenance Squadron aircraft structural maintenance apprentice, bends metal tubing May 1, on Kadena Air Base. Aircraft structural maintenance Airmen train to understand the differences between metals and how they react to different types of stress.

U.S. Air Force Staff Sgt. Patrick Degrage, 18th Equipment Maintenance Squadron aircraft structural maintenance craftsman, and Airman 1st Class Amanda Pacheco, 18 EMS aircraft structural maintenance apprentice, rivet a piece of sheet metal May 1, on Kadena Air Base. Degrage trained Pacheco on a variety of procedures and techniques as a part of on-the-job-training. OJT helps Airmen problem solve and develop the skills required to accomplish mission essential tasks.

## Changes to Post-9/11 GI Bill transfers effective July 2019

### By 445th Airlift Wing Public Affairs

5/11/2019 - WRIGHT-PATERSON AIR FORCE BASE, Ohio— The transferability option under the Post-9/11 GI Bill allows service members to transfer all or some unused benefits to their spouse or dependent children. The request to transfer unused GI Bill benefits to eligible dependents

must be completed while serving as an active member of the Armed Forces. The Department of Defense determines whether or not you can transfer benefits to your family. Once the DoD approves benefits for transfer, the new beneficiaries apply for them at Veterans Affairs.

The option to transfer is open to any member of the armed

forces active duty or Selected Reserve, officer or enlisted who is eligible for the Post-9/11 GI Bill and meets the following criteria:

- Has at least six years of service in the armed forces (active duty and/or Selected Reserve) on the date of approval and agrees to serve four additional years in the armed forces from the date of election.

- Has at least 10 years of service in the armed forces (active duty and/or Selected Reserve) on the date of approval, is precluded by either standard policy (by service branch or DoD) or statute from committing to four additional years and agrees to serve for the maximum amount of time allowed by such policy or statute.
- Transfer requests are submitted

and approved while the member is in the armed forces.

- Effective 7/12/2019, eligibility to transfer benefits will be limited to service members with at least 6 years but not more than 16 years of active duty or selected reserve service. So service members with more than 16 years of service should transfer benefits before 7/12/2019.

For more information, go to [https://www.benefits.va.gov/gibill/post911\\_transfer.asp](https://www.benefits.va.gov/gibill/post911_transfer.asp).

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# Okinawa's Marine Expeditionary Force Information Group is ready to fight in the information environment

By Sgt. George Melendez

III MEF Information Group  
5/10/2019 - OKINAWA — III MEF Information Group reached a historic milestone during the conclusion of the III Marine Expeditionary Force Exercise on Okinawa, May 10. It is ready to begin operating in the information environment, also referred to as the Initial Operational Capability, by supporting operations in the Indo-Pacific region. This operational level command and control focused exercise contains a fictional scenario developed with a real-world near-peer competitor in mind.

"MEFEX was the first time that we did this and it's to try to show the value added from the Information Command Center," said Col. Larry Jenkins, the commanding officer of III MIG. "Showing that we have made ourselves more lethal, more survivable and more flexible."

The ICC is a new concept but is shaped similar to the Marine Corps' ground, air and logistics command units. It will bring together information-related capabilities that have existed in the information domain prior to the MIG standing up and focus them in a unified effort on a singular objective to gain information superiority over an adversary.

"(We) want to change the way the Marine Air-Ground Task Force fights, and get it to think of the operations in the information environment as maneuver warfare in a different domain," said Jenkins.

Examples of the IRCs working alongside of the ICC are cyberspace, electronic warfare, military deception,

special technical operations, psychological operations, communications strategy and operations, and intelligence.

The intent of command in the ICC is putting information-related authorities at our level instead of where they traditionally reside in the higher units. Granting those authorities down provides a space to create tempo and speed for subordinate commanders in the information domain, explained Lt. Col. James McGrath, the III MIG operations officer.

In order to grant proper authorities to the ICC, staff members from different units needed to be trained to synchronize with the other IRCs they may have never worked with before. The training took approximately six months and was executed by building tactics, techniques and standard operating procedures through battle drill rehearsals and staff exercises.

"So, if you look at it now there's a spectrum of capabilities for the MIG. At the one end, the high end, is the MIG staff here; all the subject matter experts in all of the capabilities that we have been taught and come to understand and integrate into the information environment," said Jenkins. "On the other end is the standup of tactical-level capabilities within the six battalions that we have in the MIG to execute operations."

With one historic milestone reached, III MIG's long term goal is to reach full operational capability by 2025 so they can continue to achieve information superiority throughout the information environment.

# Fleet Activities opens new Emergency Operations Center



(U.S. Navy photo by Robert Purdy)

(from right to left) Cmdr. Thomas Taylor, CFAO Executive Officer, Capt. Scott Hardy, Commander, Fleet Activities Okinawa, and Master Chief Petty Officer Michael Fluent, CFAO Command Master Chief cut the grand opening ribbon to the newly renovated CFAO Emergency Operations Center on Kadena Air Base, May 10.

## By Commander Fleet Activities Okinawa Public Affairs

5/13/2019 - KADENA AIR BASE — Commander Fleet Activities Okinawa (CFAO) celebrated the grand opening of its newly renovated Emergency Operations Center (EOC) on Kadena Air Base May 10. The new EOC features state of the art visual screens, computers and communications equipment to better support the needs of the command emergency management team and the Navy community on Okinawa. The facility will provide real time tracking, improved communication and response during a natural disaster such as a typhoon, earthquake or other man made incident.

The grand opening ribbon was snipped by Capt. Scott Hardy, Commander, Fleet Activities Okinawa, Cmdr. Thomas Taylor, CFAO Executive Officer and Master Chief Petty Officer Michael Fluent, CFAO Command Master Chief.

"Fleet Activities Okinawa's primary mission is to support the Fleet, Family and the Warfighter. This new facility is a big part of the future of CFAO and will provide us with the capabilities to support our shipmates and their families, keep them safe and informed, and effectively operate and leverage our resources to quickly respond to any type of emergency that may come our way," said Hardy.

Okinawa's geographic location puts it in what is referred to as "Typhoon Alley." The area is known by this nickname due to the number of typhoons that threaten the region and the island each year. Typhoons are most prevalent between 1 June and 30 November when optimum weather conditions exist for the development of large storms. For this reason, Okinawa remains in Tropical Cyclone Condition of Readiness (TCCOR-4) and is one of the main reasons why early preparation is vital to safely weathering a storm.

"One of the most important things to keep in mind is that it's never too late to prepare for a typhoon," said Olympio Magofna, CFAO Emergency Management Officer. "The sooner the better. Begin building your emergency preparedness kit now. Fill it with at least four days of essential supplies such as non-perishable foods, water, cell phone, a radio, flashlight, batteries, candles, matches, first aid kit, blankets, cash (yen), etc. If you have pets, don't forget food and water for them as well."

"Having the kit can mean the difference between life and death. After an emergency, you and your family may need to survive on your own for several days until help comes. Make sure your kit is ready when you need it. Build it now, not when the storm hits," added Magofna.

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# Army GLOs enable joint combat power, battlefield safety



(U.S. Air Force photo by Tech. Sgt. Nick Wilson)

Army Maj. Nathan Gunter, left, and Sgt. 1st Class Jeremy Graham, 497th Operations Support Squadron ground liaison officers, stand together for a photo May 13, 2019 at Joint Base Langley-Eustis, Va.

## By Tech. Sgt. Nick Wilson

Air Combat Command Public Affairs

**5/13/2019 - JOINT BASE LANGLEY-EUSTIS, Va.** — The Department of Defense receives a significant amount of its intelligence from the Air Force distributed common ground system, which is an enterprise of globally networked analysts and cyber professionals linked together by a global communications architecture.

Although geographically separated, the sites work together to provide worldwide intelligence to multiple theaters of operation.

The 497th Intelligence, Surveillance, and Reconnaissance Group at Joint Base Langley-Eustis, Virginia, houses Distributed Ground System-1. In daily operations, intelligence Airmen utilize the expertise of Army ground liaison officers to translate Army operational and tactical terminology and graphics in operations orders to verbiage that Airmen can understand.

“They form a critical node that ensures our analytical efforts are harmonized and synchronized with the ground scheme of maneuver and that we are contributing to the attainment of the supported com-

mander’s objectives,” said Lt. Col. Sean Piccirilli, 497th Operations Support Squadron commander. “They provide an unparalleled level of situational awareness that ensures we are able to pivot in response to the changes in a dynamic battlespace.”

Prior to 2009, during Operation Enduring Freedom and Operation Iraqi Freedom, the DGS-1 intelligence community relied on Air Force Reservists, Air Force National Guardsmen and civilian contractors to translate Army terminology into Air Force verbiage. In 2010 the 4th Battlefield Coordination Detachment moved a U.S. Army Central Ground Liaison Detachment to DGS-1 to better support joint operations in the U.S. Central Command area of responsibility.

Additionally, the scope of DoD’s mission has increased over the last decade, which therefore increased the need for intelligence support for warfighters on the ground.

“If you go back 10 years ago, we had over 100,000 troops in Iraq and Afghanistan,” said Army Sgt. 1st Class Jeremy Graham, 497th OSS ground liaison officer. “The capacity of the intelligence enterprise has grown and become more complex while our troop strength downrange has decreased.”

Having Army support at DGS-1 has been key to maintaining relationships between the Air Force intelligence community and the deployed ground forces across the globe.

In addition to establishing relationships,

the Army support also adds value by helping DGS-1 build and maintain trust with their supported units, which is a critical ingredient in enabling the Air Force to effectively and collaboratively tackle some of CENTCOM’s most complex intelligence problems.

“U.S. Army Central stations ground liaison detachments with fighter wings, bomber wings and air mobility wings under Air Combat Command,” said Army Maj. Nathan Gunter, 497th OSS ground liaison officer. “The ground liaison detachment at (JB Langley-Eustis) is the only one assigned to an intelligence wing. We’re unique in ACC because there’s only one of us directly supporting the ISR mission.”

“While the DGS has multiple sites supporting the mission downrange, there’s only one ground liaison detachment supporting the DGS,” he continued. “We plan to support more DGS sites in the coming years with U.S. Army intelligence specialists working alongside U.S. Air Force intelligence specialists.”

An increased Army presence would also greatly benefit other elements of the Air Force intelligence community, especially within the targeting enterprise, Piccirilli said.

“ISR is one of the Air Force’s five core missions and having an embedded GLO team ensures that the Army can effectively leverage our unrivaled expertise in this area,” Piccirilli explained. “We see the intelligence we produce as a force multiplier for the land component, and it ultimately contributes to making them the most lethal Army in the world.”

Additionally, DGS-1 also enhances lethality and readiness for ACC and combatant commanders downrange.

“We help ensure our Army partners are able to use overwhelming force against an

adversary, applying precision fires wherever it is required in the battlespace,” Piccirilli said. “At the same time, the Air Force is able to leverage some of the Army’s unique skill sets, including their robust human intelligence capabilities that help drive our targeting process.”

Those robust intelligence capabilities also play a role in keeping warfighters safe so they can return to their families in one piece.

“The methods we use go beyond simply processing, exploitation and dissemination,” Piccirilli said. “As traditional PED’s demise is imminent, I believe the DGS’s most impactful role in keeping warfighters safe is in executing time-dominant fusion, which is a type of analysis that concentrates on identifying elements that are new or previously unknown in the battlespace in order to optimize multi-discipline collection.”

Ultimately, the Army’s ground liaison mission creates a strategic enabler for senior leaders in multiple services. They serve as the air component’s touchpoint with the land component and help ensure a multi-domain perspective is applied when planning and executing air operations.

This multi-domain approach provides a combatant commander with a multitude of options for the employment of forces to satisfy a variety of objectives across the range of military operations.

“The integration of joint capabilities is an operational imperative because the United States fundamentally applies combat power as part of a joint team,” Piccirilli said. “Each of the services organize, train and equip their forces in different manners but they are employed by the combatant commander as part of an integrated whole that can effectively leverage each services’ distinct competencies and capabilities.”

## Meet our USO Okinawa 48<sup>th</sup> Annual Service Salute Honorees!



Petty Officer 2<sup>nd</sup> Class  
Malique D. Graham



Okinawa



Petty Officer 2<sup>nd</sup> Class  
Naoki Harada



Sergeant  
Mark A. Tollefson



Technical Sergeant  
Shotaro Yoshida



Senior Airman  
Mark M. Florentino



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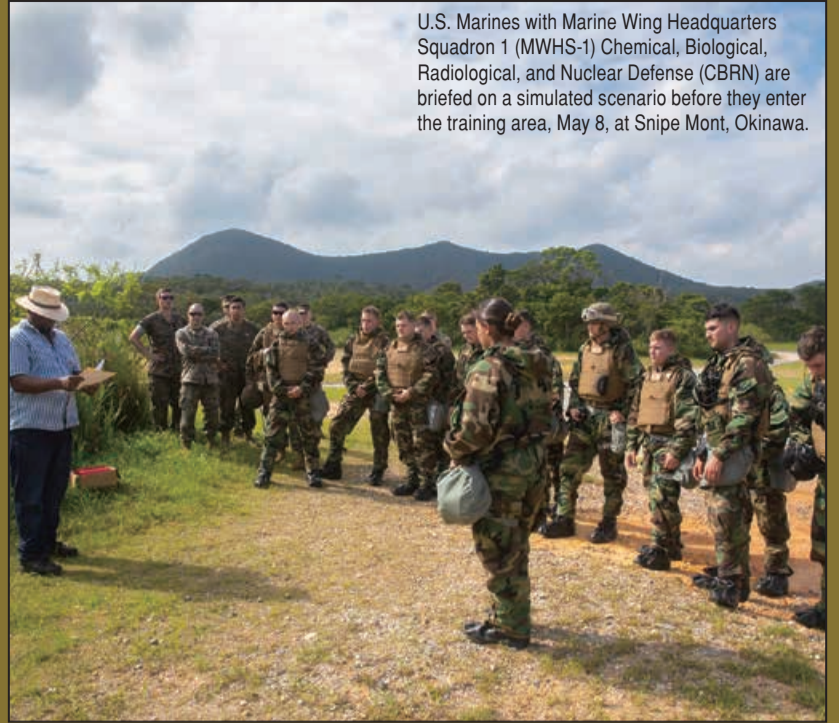
Staff Sergeant  
Miranda N. Moreno

# MWHS-1 CBRN enhances combat readiness with simulated training

U.S. Marines with Marine Wing Headquarters Squadron 1 (MWHS-1) Chemical, Biological, Radiological, and Nuclear Defense (CBRN) put on their gear in preparation for entering the contaminated building in the simulated scenario, May 8, at Snipe Mont, Okinawa. The casualty evacuation and CBRN training evolution helped enhance the unit's readiness and proficiency to respond to emergencies while deployed in a field environment.



(U.S. Marine Corps photos by Lance Cpl. Madeline Jones)



U.S. Marines with Marine Wing Headquarters Squadron 1 (MWHS-1) Chemical, Biological, Radiological, and Nuclear Defense (CBRN) are briefed on a simulated scenario before they enter the training area, May 8, at Snipe Mont, Okinawa.

# Recon Marines with the 31st MEU conduct dive, live fire training at Camp Hansen

Reconnaissance Marines with the 31st Marine Expeditionary Unit's Force Reconnaissance Platoon roll backward into the water during training at Camp Hansen, May 13. The FRP Marines train regularly for quick, tactical raids of targets both on land and sea to fulfill the specialized raid missions the 31st MEU is capable of conducting during deployments.



(U.S. Marine Corps photo by Lance Cpl. Cameron E. Parks)

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**Fresh seafood and Okinawan cuisine**

An extensive selection of sushi rolls, ranging from popular staples to creative varieties

**We have moved to new location!**

**Kami Sushi**  
3-2-2 Mihama, Chatan Town  
Tel: 098-926-3290  
Hours: Lunch 11:30-14:00 (last order 13:30)  
Dinner 17:00-23:00 (last order 22:00)  
Closed: Tue

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**Puchi Marry Cat Cafe**

First café in Okinawa specializing in kittens!  
Join us in Mihama American Village

You can feed the kittens, too! ¥300-

So cute!

Meals are at 12:00 & 19:00 every day.

Over 20 adorable kittens are waiting for you!  
Bengals, Scottish Folds, Munchkins, and other pedigree kittens!

**Price**  
☺ 10 min ¥200 + tax  
☺ Drink ¥350 + tax (1000 yen bill)

**FREE WI-FI** Enjoy playing games on Nintendo Switch and PS4.

**Kick back and relax with the kittens all day!**  
Tel: 098-989-5085 Hours: 11:00-22:00 (Last entry 21:30)  
Address: 2F Seaside Square, 9-8 Mihama, Chatan Town

## Asian American, Pacific Islander Heritage Month

# Reflecting on our ancestors



(U.S. Marine Corps photo by Nika Nashiro)

### By Nika Nashiro

Marine Corps Installations Pacific

5/7/2019 - OKINAWA — The month of May is designated as Asian American and Pacific Islander Heritage Month in the U.S. This monthlong observance celebrates the achievements and contributions of Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders in the U.S. and recognizes the hardships and challenges they endured. This heritage month also honors their history, traditions and cultures in the U.S.

### The history of Japanese Immigrants

The first Japanese immigrants to the U.S. arrived during the 1860s to work on sugarcane plantations in Hawaii. Not only was life on plantation harsh, but Asian immigrants underwent discrimination, humiliation and financial hardship. From 1907 to 1924, informal and formal measures were taken to limit the lifestyles of immigrants, creating a segregated society.

After years of plantation work, some moved to the continental U.S., while others stayed in Hawaii and opened independent businesses.

On Dec. 7, 1941, Japan attacked Pearl Harbor. This led to the issuing of Executive Order 9066 on Feb. 19, 1942. This policy stated that everyone with Japanese ancestry living in the U.S. must be detained at internment camps for security reasons. This meant that families were forced to leave their homes and were separated, children were forced to leave school, businesses had to be closed, and civil rights were taken away. It is said that more than 110,000 Japanese-Americans were incarcerated throughout 10 internment camps in the U.S.

### Japanese-American service members

The Battle of Pearl Harbor changed everything.

More than 1,400 second-generation Americans of Japanese descent, or nisei, were serving in the Hawaii Territorial Guard before World War II. After the attack, they were stripped of their rifles and transferred to Camp McCoy, Wisconsin, due to concerns that they might cause a security threat. However, they were also trained to be a provisional

infantry unit for possible deployment to European theater – later becoming the 100th Infantry Battalion. Their motto was “Remember Pearl Harbor.”

Right after the attack, all Reserve Officer's Training Corps students from the University of Hawai'i reported to HTG and were assigned military duties such as guarding vital installations and helping with the Red Cross. After a month of service, nisei soldiers were dismissed from duty for being classified as 4C, enemy aliens, meaning they could not serve in the armed forces.

The disheartened nisei ROTC students wrote a petition to the military governor, Army Lt. Gen. Delos Emmons, to allow them to serve their country and to prove their loyalty to the U.S. With Emmons' approval, a labor battalion, the Victory Varsity Volunteer, was established. Through their hard labor, they regained the trust of the U.S. military. Because the 100th Infantry Battalion soldiers were breaking records in Camp McCoy, the image of Japanese-Americans was enhanced, leading to the establishment of 442nd Regimental Combat Team.

Despite a lack of enthusiasm from Japanese-Americans in mainland U.S., there were around 10,000 nisei volun-



(Photo courtesy of the Hawaii State Archives)

▲ The 442nd Regimental Combat Team, made up of Japanese-American soldiers, stands in formation at Iolani Palace, Hawaii, prior to a departure for training, March 1943.



▲ Lt. Col. Peter Makoto Gibbons, executive officer for Marine Aircraft Group 36, 1st Marine Aircraft Wing, carried by his mother, and his family pose for a photo for his sister's Shichi-Go-San celebration in Japan, 1974. (Photo courtesy of Lt. Col. Gibbons)

◀ Tsuruko Yara, left, and her daughter, Setsuko, pose for a photo at their home in Kitanakagusuku Village, Okinawa, March 25, 2019.

teers from Hawaii who signed up for 1,500 available slots. Their motto was “Go For Broke” – risking it all to win big; win against the German in Europe and win against the racial prejudice in the U.S.

The 100th Infantry Battalion/442nd Regimental Combat Team made up of nisei soldiers fought in the European theater. They are commonly regarded as the most decorated unit in the U.S. military history, having earned more than 18,000 individual decorations to include 21 Congressional Medals of Honor, 52 distinguished service Crosses, 560 Silver Stars, and 4,000 Bronze Stars.

Meanwhile, there was another military unit with nisei soldiers. Due to the secrecy, they did not receive as much recognition as the 100th and the 442nd. They were members of Military Intelligence Service. The nisei soldiers with the MIS were trained to be interpreters and interrogators. They played a vital role in the Pacific theater – especially in the Battle of Okinawa, during which they persuaded Japanese Imperial soldiers and civilians hiding in caves to come out and surrender.

“[The MIS] saved over 1 million lives and shortened the war by two years,” said Army Maj. Gen. Charles Willoughby, intelligence chief for Gen. Douglas MacArthur who was the Supreme Commander for the Allied Powers during the occupation of Japan.

### Voice of Battle of Okinawa survivor saved by nisei soldier

Tsuruko Yara, 91 year old from Kitanakagusuku Village, Okinawa, was saved by Taro Higa, a nisei soldier from Hawaii who was in Okinawa during the battle as an interpreter. She was 16 years old when the war started – hiding during the day and fleeing during the night; avoiding the crossfire of the battle.

“When my mother, sister and I were found and captured by American forces, I was so terrified, I was wailing,” said Yara. “That was the first time I saw Americans. Soon after, a soldier named Higa came to calm us down. After talking with Higa, we were so relieved and happy that we didn't have to run anymore. We were

taken to Camp Koza where we were fed C-rations. They were so good! Looking back, I feel so lucky that Higa was there.”

Two to three decades later, Yara heard that Higa was looking for her and her family. Since then, they had numerous exchanges here in Okinawa and over in Hawaii. Whenever there is a chance, Yara shares her story to her grandchildren.

### Marines of Japanese descent

Lt. Col. Peter Makoto Gibbons, executive officer for Marine Aircraft Group 36, 1st Marine Aircraft Wing, was born in Japan between an American father and a Japanese mother. His mother was a child living near Tokyo during World War II.

Gibbons recalls a moment when he and his mother were watching a documentary on the Battle of Iwo Jima. His mother was taken aback seeing a Marine giving water to a detainee, as if it was contradicting propaganda images she saw growing up.

“I am not sure what was going through her head, but it made me realize that race and ethnicity shouldn't matter; we need to treat everyone with dignity and respect,” finished Gibbons.

Sgt. Ryo Alexander Ishimaru, a future operations non-commissioned officer with III Marine Expeditionary Force, was born and raised in Torrance, California between Japanese parents. Ishimaru attended Asahi Gakuen, a Japanese Saturday school, from primary school through middle school where he learned Japanese culture, tradition, and language.

“Learning the history of Japanese immigrants, self-sacrifice and the hardship they went through makes me very proud of my heritage as a nisei Japanese descent,” said Ishimaru. “I make sure to keep my heritage alive through constantly learning about the multiple sides of the history.”

Ishimaru's paternal grandfather worked for the Department of Defense as a psychiatrist at Camp Zama, Japan, during the Vietnam War. He treated service members returning from Vietnam suffering from post-traumatic stress disorder. However, decades before that, his maternal grandfather was making ammunition in a factory for the war effort while a high school student in Japan. Through collecting these oral histories from both sides of the family, he realized that there are always going to be multiple sides to everything.

“There are always different perspectives on everything that happens in life,” said Ishimaru. “And that keeping an open mind is the key to understanding someone or something. Both the U.S. and Japan suffered and fought for the ones they loved and wanted to protect them. In the end, we are now on the same team and have a mutual understanding of each other to take on whatever comes at us as allies.”

*Special thanks to Stacey Hayashi for her assistance for historical references. Hayashi, a fourth generation Japanese-American and director of the film “Go For Broke: An Origin Story.”*

*“It is important to preserve and educate the younger generations with the stories of these legacy warriors who have paved the way for Japanese-Americans,” said Hayashi.*



# A transition from civilian to Army Nurse



Capt. Lisa Kasper, an Emergency Room Nurse assigned to 3rd Brigade Combat Team, 101st Airborne Division (Air Assault), inserts an intravenous needle into a patient during a training exercise at Fort Campbell, Ky., May 1.

(U.S. Army photo by Maj. John J. Moore)

## By Maj. John Moore

3rd Brigade Combat Team, 101st Airborne Division (AA) Public Affairs  
5/3/2019 - FORT CAMPBELL, Ky. — National Nurses Week is a time for everyone to recognize the vast contributions and positive impact of more than four million registered nurses in the United States.

In 1993, National Nurses Week was established and is a time to celebrate and elevate the nursing profession. Each year, the celebration begins on May 6, ending on May 12, Florence Nightingale's birthday.

Florence Nightingale was a prominent figure in nursing who greatly affected 19th and 20th-century policies pertaining to patient care. Born to an affluent family in Florence, Italy, May 12, 1820, she followed her God-given call to service through nursing as she grew up. As a young adult, she

defied the societal norms of the Victorian Era, opting to pursue a career in patient care, rather than to simply marry to uphold her social class standing.

Throughout her life, Nightingale cared for thousands of patients. One of many examples of her selfless service came during the Crimean War. During that time, she and her team of nurses improved the unsanitary conditions at a British base hospital, significantly improving the quality of life while also reducing the death count. She tirelessly devoted her life to preventing disease, and ensured safe and compassionate treatment for the poor and the suffering.

Nurses, in many ways, constitute the collective face of healthcare. There are dozens of nursing specialties categorized by level of certification or education, population, or medical specialty.

Capt. Lisa Kasper, an Emergency Room Nurse assigned to 3rd Brigade Combat Team, 101st Airborne Division (Air Assault), joined the Army in August 2010, after graduating in 2008 from the College of St. Scholastica, in Duluth, Minnesota with a degree in Nursing. A Turtle Lake, Wis. native, Kasper decided to serve her nation by providing compassionate treatment to America's Soldier during a time of war.

"I joined the Army for the challenge and adventure," said Kasper. "After graduating college, I worked as a civilian nurse for two years prior to deciding to join. I could not see myself working in the same job for the rest of my life so I joined for the Army."

As a result of entering the Army as a direct commissioned officer, the transition from civilian life to Army Officer came with a bit of a learning curve. Her first assignment following her officer initial entry training program was at Brooke Army Medical Center, in San Antonio, Texas, where she served as an Emergency Room Nurse.

"I enjoy being a nurse because it makes me happy to care for others," Kasper said. "Knowing that I am able to make an impact on someone's life makes my job worthwhile."

Making the transition from providing care in an Army hospital stateside, she later deployed to Mazār-i-Sharīf, Afghanistan in 2012, in support of Operation

Enduring Freedom.

"I deployed with the 8th Forward Surgical Team," said Kasper. "We augmented a German role-two hospital. As one of the only Americans working with the Germans, it was such a great opportunity to not only provide great care to the wounded, but to also work with soldiers from other nations."

In summer 2018, Kasper arrived at Fort Campbell, Ky., and was assigned to the 101st Airborne Division, and began working at the LaPointe Soldier Centered Medical Home. There, she is responsible for the medical readiness of more than 4,200 soldiers monthly, and helps to support more than 2,500 patients per month.

As a Soldier in world's premier Air Assault Division, she understood the importance of upholding the division standards, and attended training at the Sabauski Air Assault School. During the ten-day school, she trained on Air Assault operations, sling-load operations, and rappelling. Graduates of the school are able to make maximum use of helicopter assets in training and in combat to support their unit operations.

"Air Assault School was a great experience," said Kasper. "As a nurse we are very seldom given the opportunity to do any tactical training." "It was always a goal of mine to complete the school," she continued.

Sometimes called the "ten

toughest days in the Army," Air Assault School frequently releases students from training, for failure to meet the course standards.

"There were times while I was in the school where I wondered why I volunteered to do this," Kasper said. "The last day was rewarding, since I was able to rappel from a hovering helicopter. Overall, it was a great opportunity that many [Army] nurses will never get."

As a Soldier first, and an Army Nurse second, she gained an interesting perspective into providing care for Soldiers after earning her wings.

"It helped me to be a better Soldier and understand what the Soldiers are going through as well as the health challenges they face due to the intensity of their training."

Being the only nurse in the Rakkasans, Kasper noted feelings of uncertainty prior to arriving to the unit.

"Serving as the only nurse in the brigade was very daunting at first," Kasper said. "I was nervous that I was not going to fit in with the infantry soldiers." "After arriving, I slowly developed my role as the brigade nurse and established standards for what leaders could expect from me," she continued.

I truly enjoy my job as the brigade nurse, knowing that I am able to make a difference and assist Soldiers in many different ways. I enjoy being able to help others."

## HAVANA's

JOIN US FOR A FREE MOVIE!  
POPCORN IS AVAILABLE (\$1 A BAG)

MAY 17, FRIDAY  
AT 18:00

HOW TO TRAIN YOUR DRAGON:  
THE HIDDEN WORLD (PG)

\*Movie titles are subject to change



Join us for a free movie & enter our drawing for a chance to win  
a BBQ dinner courtesy of ANA InterContinental Manza Beach Resort!

One lucky family (vouchers are for 2 adults, and up to 3 children) will have  
the chance to attend ANA InterContinental Manza Beach Resort's Memorial Day  
Weekend BBQ Dinner on the Beach on Sunday, May 26!  
Doors open at 5:30pm and drawing will be held promptly at 6pm right before  
the start of the movie. Winner must be present to win.



Sponsorship Does Not Imply Endorsement By The DoD or The U.S. Army.

Per Army Regulation 215-1 para 8-24 (17) no outside food or drinks are authorized in the facility.

Call 644-4256 or 098-962-4655 for more information

www.torii.armymwr.com



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# Kadena Air Base Community Notes

To submit an announcement for the base bulletin, please visit [www.kadena.af.mil](http://www.kadena.af.mil) or send [info@samuraigate.jp](mailto:info@samuraigate.jp)

## NOTICE Commander's Action Channel UPGRADE

The Kadena Air Base, 18th Wing's Commander's Access Channel is being upgraded. If you or your organization have a submission request please email it to [18wg.papublicaffairs@us.af.mil](mailto:18wg.papublicaffairs@us.af.mil). Please ensure all submissions are Power Point format files (ppt) in LANDSCAPE mode in 16:9 Widescreen.

## TRICARE Corner for March - May

Great news for all TRICARE-eligible beneficiaries, the Kadena AB clinic TRICARE Plus program re-opened on March 15. TRICARE Plus allows beneficiaries who are not enrolled in TRICARE Prime, US Family Health Plan or a Medicare HMO seek treatment at the clinic. It provides cost-free coverage for primary care services. Any services outside the Kadena clinic such as referrals or specialty care services will not be covered. If you are enrolled in TRICARE Plus at USNHO it will not automatically transfer to Kadena clinic. Your enrollment is only for the clinic where you enrolled. TRICARE Plus is for sponsor beneficiaries and their dependents who are 18+.

How can I enroll to TRICARE Plus?  
Present to TRICARE front desk at Kadena Clinic  
Complete TRICARE plus screening application packet  
Allow 14 days for approval or disapproval notification  
Apply now while there is availability!

## Housing Office Closures

The Kadena DoD Family Housing Office, Camp Kinser Office, Camp Courtney Office, Camp Foster, Furnishing Management Section and Furnishing Management Section Self-Help and Appliance Repair will be closing at May 27 and 28 in observance of

The Memorial Day Holiday. For emergency assistance, please contact 634-HOME (4663).

## POV Shipment Authorize

Effective immediately, Air Force members are authorized to ship a Privately Owned Vehicle on subsequent Permanent Change of Station orders from Okinawa/Japan when a member does not use the storage entitlement under JTR, para 0532. These members in this category can ship a car from Okinawa to their next Permanent Duty of Station, on a case by case basis. \*Federal, state, local, and/or international requirements and cost therein fall entirely on the member.\* Members must still visit TMO PPSO well in advance to coordinate this request, to ensure they are fully briefed on the entire process. For more information, contact TMO Personal Property at 632-0068.

## TMO Personal Property

Hours of Operations: Monday, Wednesday, Friday (0830-1530) / Tuesday, Thursday (0730-1500) Location: Building 756, DSN: 632-0068 PCS Group Briefings: Every Tuesday & Thursday (1500). Kadena customers will need valid PCS orders before scheduling any Household Goods and Unaccompanied Shipments.

## TMO Passenger Travel

Hours of Operations: Monday, Wednesday, Friday (0830-1530) Tuesday, Thursday (0730-1500) Location: Building 756 DSN: 634-7792/7794 Mandatory PCS Briefings: Every Wednesday at 1530. Leave in Conjunction with Official Travel (LICWO) Walk-in Hours: Monday, Wednesday, Friday (0830-1100) Tuesday, Thursday (0800-1100) Circuitous Travel Hours:

Monday - Friday by appointment only (1230-1500)  
Please call TMO to book an appointment at 634-7792/7794.

For Scheduled Airline Ticket Office (SATO) assistance, please call 1-855-431-7707 (option 3). Submit 'PCS Port Call Reservation Worksheet' as soon as you are notified of assignment to the 18 LRS/PAXPCS Org box (even without orders). PCS Port Call Reservation Worksheet can be found on the Kadena SharePoint: <https://kadena.eis.pacaf.af.mil/18MSG/18LRS/LGRD/TMO/PT/SitePages/Home.aspx> If you are Separating or Retiring, submit your 'Ret Sep Port Call Request' to the 18 LRS/PAXPCS Org box (even without orders). RET SEP Portcall Request can be found on the Kadena SharePoint: <https://kadena.eis.pacaf.af.mil/18MSG/18LRS/LGRD/TMO/PT/SitePages/Home.aspx>  
Common Mistakes for Port Call Request:  
- Missing Full Middle Name  
- Date of Birth Format  
- Next of Kin (someone not traveling with you)  
- Expired/inactive Passport Information  
- Expired/inactive GTC card

## TMO Outbound Freight/Cargo new phone numbers

TMO Outbound Freight/Cargo has recently moved to Bldg. 795 and with it new phone numbers have been added. You can now reach us at:  
Packing & Crating Office: 634-1391//634-6631//634-6623//634-6612//634-6451//634-6465  
Outbound Freight Office: 634-6412//634-6414//634-1162//634-6431//634-1750//634-6437  
Water Port Office: 632-6530//634-6671

## 18th LRS Air Force Equipment Management System (AFEMS) Freeze

The 18th Logistics Readiness Equipment

Accountability Element wants to inform all property and equipment custodians starting April 1 the Air Force Equipment Management System (AFEMS) records will be frozen. The Equipment office will no longer be accepting AF Form 601's for authorization change requests until the freeze is lifted and the migration to Defense Property Accountability System (DPAS) is completed July 1, 2019. For more information please call 634-3653.

## INFORMATION Think Before You Drink

Did you know there have 15 SOFA members caught drinking and driving in 2019. Don't become a statistic. Think before you drink. Don't drive - call a ride. For a safe ride home call these numbers:  
Kadena Taxi at 098-970-8888(option 8)  
Panda Taxi (off base) 098-937-8989.  
Daiko 098-932-4035.

## 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.

## Mail Collection Box Locations on Kadena Air Base

For your letter mailing convenience, five mail drop box locations are available and their respective pickup schedules are below. Each letter must have the appropriate postage adhered to the letter before placing in the mail drop box. If postage is needed please visit the post office to purchase. Drive-up mailboxes and pick up times are listed below: Nearby the Community Bank drive-through ATM (across from Schilling Community Center). Mail will be picked up Monday -

## Happy Hour Monday~Thursday

From 17:00 to 19:00,

# Chatan beer (original beer) is 10% OFF



Everlasting tranquil time in Chatan bay







# CHATAN HARBOR

## BREWERY & RESTAURANT

**Hours**  
 Restaurant 17:00 ~ 23:00 (Last Order 22:00)  
 Bar 17:00 ~ 24:00 (Last Order 23:30)

Accept credit card payments & English menu available

Address: 53-1 Mihama, Chatan, Okinawa, Japan  
 Tel: 098-926-1118 / Fax: 098-926-1119




# 2019 Road Tax Collection Schedule

<b>CAMP KINSER</b> "SURF SIDE" Tues, 7 May 0930-1530	<b>CAMP FOSTER</b> "THEATER" Wed-Fri, 8-10 May 0930-1530	<b>KADENA AIR BASE</b> "RISNER GYM" Mon-Fri, 13-17 May 0930-1530
<b>TORII STATION</b> "THE HAVANA" Mon, 20 May 0930-1530	<b>CAMP COURTNEY</b> "SNCO CLUB" Tues-Wed, 21-22 May 0930-1530	<b>CAMP HANSEN</b> "THEATER" Thurs, 23 May 0930-1530
		<b>CAMP SCHWAB</b> "CHAPEL" Fri, 24 May 0930-1200

DOORS MAY CLOSE BEFORE SCHEDULED TIME  
BASED ON NUMBER OF CUSTOMERS IN LINE.

All Documents must be original. COPIES WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED!

**Required Documents: Military Registration, 2018 Road Tax Receipt, Vehicle Title, Japanese Compulsory Insurance, and American Insurance.**

**ROAD TAXES MUST BE PAID IN JAPANESE ¥EN ONLY!**

U.S. CURRENCY, CHECKS, & CREDIT CARDS ARE **NOT** ACCEPTED.  
COMMUNITY BANK SERVICES WILL BE AVAILABLE NEAR EACH COLLECTION POINT.

LICENSE PLATE CATEGORY 40/400, 50/500, 77/78	¥7,500
LICENSE PLATE CATEGORY 33/300 (4,500 cc & below)	¥19,000
LICENSE PLATE CATEGORY 33/300 (above 4,500 cc)	¥22,000
LICENSE PLATE CATEGORY 11/100, 88/800	¥32,000

**MINI-CAR** and **MOTORCYCLE** taxes **MUST** be paid **1 April - 31 May** to local City, Town, or Village Offices between 0830-1200 and 1300-1700. Bring your receipt to the Joint Service Vehicle Registration Office or tax collection site to receive a 2019 Road Tax sticker.

MINI-CAR ROAD TAX	¥3,000
MOTORCYCLE ROAD TAX	
126cc and above	¥1,000
125cc and below	¥500

All vehicles not de-registered before 1 April must pay road tax.  
All vehicles must display a 2019 Road Tax sticker before 1 June 2019.

**FOR MORE INFORMATION**  
 Contact the Joint Service Vehicle Registration Office at 645-7481

Friday at 2:30 p.m. and on Saturday at 1230 p.m. / Near the Fairchild Shoppette. Mail will be picked up Monday - Friday at 2:36 p.m., Sat at 12:36 p.m. / Near the Kadena Base Exchange main entrance, Mon - Fri 2:43 p.m., Saturday 12:43 p.m. / Near the Kadena post office main entrance, Mon - Fri 2:48 p.m., Saturday at 12:48 p.m. / Nearby Popeye's Restaurant at Olympic Mail, Mon - Fri 2:53 p.m., Saturday at 12:53 p.m. For more information, contact Nick Tolosa at 634-7909.

**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, 634-2768 for SMSgt Aguirre, or leave a message on the Kadena Fraud, Waste, & Abuse (FWA) Hotline at 634-0404.

**2019 Total Air Force Sexual Assault and Suicide Prevention**

The 2019 Total Air Force Sexual Assault and Suicide Prevention Program is coming your way. New classes, New Curriculum, New Materials, and a New Team for 2019. For more information contact your WG/CSVP - MSgt Jennifer G. Malone at 634-4870.

**18th Wing Equal Opportunity**

Do you face concerns of unlawful discrimination or sexual harassment? If so, Kadena AB 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: 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

**New Master's Program at University of Maryland University College**

University of Maryland University College is offering a new Master's Program for active duty and veterans. The Master's of Science in Transformational Leadership is designed to help prepare you for senior leadership positions in public, private, and non-profit organizations in various fields. We will accept up to 12 credits from selected professional military education institutions. For more information, please contact us at 634-4383 or kadena-asia@umuc.edu.

**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 from 0730-1630.

**Public Affairs Photo Studio**

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

**Mail Address Format**

The mail addressees should inform their mailers to not include "Japan" or "Okinawa" in the APO or FPO mail address format. If included, the mail may be routed through the international postal system instead of the military postal system, which may result in a higher postage rate and longer transit time to the addressee. For more information / questions, contact at 634-2155/5098.

**Mailing Addresses**

To help prevent non-delivery of mail, please enclose inside the mail piece the sender's address and the intended addressee. Enclosing the addresses inside the package can help the Postal Service route the mail to the addressee or returned to sender should the exterior addresses become unreadable or is separated from the mail piece. Call MSgt Robert Quinones at 634-2155/5098 for more information.

**Off Base Language School**

- 1) Japanese Classes by licensed and experienced teacher. Study one-on-one or create your own group. Call 090-6862-0404
- 2) Christian English School is looking for a Christian teacher to teach 5-10 classes a week. Please send your resume to openheavenjapan@yahoo.com

**UPCOMING EVENTS**

**"We End Violence" Education and Awareness Seminar**

Mr. Jeff Bucholtz provides consultation in the fields of sexual violence, relationship violence, masculinity, gender normativity, violence prevention, stalking, bullying, working in alliances, collaboration and the intersectionality of oppression. You won't want to miss his dynamic presentation style and it's FREE! Join us at one of the following 90-minute seminars: May 24 at 8 a.m., 10:30

a.m. and 1 p.m. at the Keystone Theater. For more information, contact TSgt Latoya Cole at 634-0180.

**CCAF Graduation**

The Kadena Air Base Top 3 Organization will host the Community College of the Air Force Graduation at the Rocker NCO Club, May 17 at 3 p.m. Reception to follow. Military guests of the graduates may wear the uniform of the day. For more information, contact the Education Office at 634-1500.

**VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES Kadena High School needed for Volunteer Native Speakers**

Kadena High School is seeking volunteer native Spanish and French speakers to engage in conversational practice with students. This is a great opportunity to volunteer and help our students develop their language skills. Civilian attire is appropriate. Military spouses, non-military and civilians are also welcomed to participate in this opportunity. The volunteer days are April 19, May 24. Spanish speaking volunteers are needed between 0814-1405. French speaking volunteers are needed between 0720-1000. You will have the option to sign up for one or multiple time slots. Call for more info 634-1216 or email: Jason.Gusler@pac.dodea.edu

**Come volunteer at "The Wired Bean"**

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

**Kadena High School Football Program**

The Kadena High School football program is looking for volunteers that would like to help with its weightlifting program. Volunteers would be assigned one day a week from Feb 25 through May 25, to come in and monitor the prescribed workout for correct form, effort and safety. There would be no more commitment than one day per week for about 60-80 minutes per day unless the volunteer would choose to do more. The workouts would last from 1420-1540 on Mondays through Fridays. Volunteers would motivate the athletes through their workouts, helping students write down their weight/sets/ reps in their logs, and ensure proper form and safety. The students will be on a prescribed program but extra activities could be added if they finish early or feel that they could benefit from more exercises. This will be great opportunity for community members to earn volunteer hours and resume experience. If you are interested, please contact Coach Mendoza at sergio.mendoza@pac.dodea.edu. A volunteer packet and background check will be required.

**Kadena Middle School Military Mentor Monday**

Kadena Middle School is looking for mentors who are willing and able to assist/support middle school students in academics and age-appropriate social interactions. "The intent of the Military Mentor Monday Program or (MMMP) is to build an on-going relationship between our local military community and DoDEA schools as well as provide positive role models to the students" (Pacific South Continuous School Improvement, 2019). This will take place at KDMS in various locations on the campus. Volunteers are needed every Monday to assist between 0730-1430. To volunteer please contact Ms. Traci Cooper at Traci.Cooper@dodea.edu or call 632-0217

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23-May	1100-1700	Torii Express	Old Spices

# Air Force transitions enlisted specialty, grows Special Tactics capabilities

By Senior Airman Rachel Yates

24th Special Operations Wing Public Affairs  
5/13/2019 - HURLBURT FIELD, Fla.  
— Enlisted Airmen have been analyzing weather since the very beginning of American military flight in 1917. Decades of hard-earned experience led to Special Operations Weather Team Airmen being designated with their own Air Force Specialty Code in 2008.

By combining the core skills of Special Operation Forces with their meteorology skills, SOWTs have been a critical asset to the War on Terror. Alongside Special Tactics teammates from forward deployed locations, SOWTs would gather, assess, and interpret environmental data in order to forecast weather impacts to operations. In a location like Afghanistan, this was vital to successful air-ground operations.

However, in an era of great power competition, the need to look critically at the entire U.S. Air Force Special Operations Command formation drove Headquarters Air Force and AFSOC to broaden the skillset of Special Tactics teams. On April 30, 2019, SOWT became Special Reconnaissance expanding the capacity and lethality of Air Force Special Tactics.

“Air Commandos need to operate effectively across the spectrum of conflict, from the low-end to the high-end and everywhere in between,” said Lt. Gen. Brad Webb, AFSOC commander. “It’s what the nation expects from us and this transition demonstrates our commitment to the National Defense Strategy.”

SOWT Airmen have been an integral



U.S. Air Force Special Tactics Airmen with the 24th Special Operations Wing perform avalanche training at Moran, Wyoming, Dec. 13, 2016. Special Operations Weather Team Airmen have been an integral piece of Special Tactics with unique training to conduct multi-domain reconnaissance and surveillance across the spectrum of conflict and crisis.

(U.S. Air Force photo by Staff Sgt. Sandra Welch)

piece of Special Tactics with unique training to conduct multi-domain reconnaissance and surveillance across the spectrum of conflict and crisis. As Special Reconnaissance, or SR, they will continue to maintain their application of lethal and non-lethal air-to-ground integration of airpower.

“The evolution of Air Force Special Tactics on today’s battlefield has called for SOWT to transition their singular focus to a more holistic approach—the highly demanded special reconnaissance,” said U.S. Air Force Chief Master Sgt. Jeff Guilmain, the command chief of the 24th Special Operations Wing.

Special Reconnaissance, or SR, Airmen add a new capability to Special Tactics

teams to prepare the environment and aid in air, space, cyberspace, and information superiority for the successful execution of Joint Force objectives.

“[Special Reconnaissance] will truncate [special operations] weather training with a shift in focus from long-term regional forecasting to short-term, small-scale, team-specific environmental reconnaissance with an emphasis on special recon as a whole,” said U.S. Air Force Master Sgt. Thomas Howser, a career assistant functional manager for Special Reconnaissance.

The training pipeline for SR won’t be much different from that of SOWT’s.

Trainees will still undergo:

• Selection Course

- Initial Skills Course
- U.S. Army Airborne School
- U.S. Air Force Basic Survival School
- U.S. Air Force Water Survival School
- U.S. Air Force Underwater Egress Training
- Special Operations Weather Course
- Advanced Skills Training
- Special Tactics Training

Combat dive and military free-fall qualifications, as well as recon-specific training, are being added to the pipeline.

Existing SOWTs will attend a Special Reconnaissance transition course that will sign off SR-specific training.

“This move will modernize the force and bridge a gap across all domains,” Howser said. “It will allow joint-interopability across all the services with regards to Special Reconnaissance.”

The Special Reconnaissance designation is not only creating Air Force history, but honoring a giant in special operations weather history.

“SR” is the operator-initials of U.S. Air Force Lt. Col. William “Bill” Schroeder, a career special operations weather officer and former commander of the 342nd Training Squadron, Joint Base San Antonio-Lackland, Texas.

Schroeder was fatally wounded during a struggle with a gunman after he instinctively placed himself between the armed individual and the squadron’s first sergeant, saving the lives of many, on April 8, 2016.

The new designation is just one way future Special Reconnaissance Airmen will remember their roots and the true meaning of service before self.

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