

AIR FORCE - ARMY - NAVY - MARINE - COMMUNITY NEWS

Team Kadena operators honor ultimate sacrifice



(U.S. Air Force photo by Staff Sgt. Peter Reft)

By Staff Sgt. Peter Reft

18th Wing Public Affairs

10/30/2019 - KADENA AIR BASE — Airmen and family members with the 320th Special Tactics Squadron and the 31st Rescue Squadron conducted a five-mile memorial ruck in honor of two fallen pararescuemen.

U.S. Air Force Tech. Sgt. Sean Barton, from the 320th STS, and Tech. Sgt. Peter Kraines, from the 24th Special Operations Wing, died from injuries sustained in training incidents in 2014 and 2019, respectively.

"We do these memorial rucks and memorial workouts to remember the fallen and their families and to educate others who may not have known them to learn about those who made the ultimate sacrifice," said Tech. Sgt. Kenneth O'Brien, a pararescueman with the 320th STS. "We get together, do these workouts, and we share the sweat and camaraderie in memory of our brothers."

The memorial ruck featured a pair of 200-lb. litters and several 50-lb. water cans, totaling 800 lbs., in addition to loaded ruck packs worn by Airmen.

"We make these rucks difficult so you actually have to push through and think about why you're doing this," said O'Brien. "Remember that the sacrifice they made is much worse than anything you're going through during the memorial."

Spouses and children showed their support for the fallen as well, running alongside the Airmen.

"This was the first time in my experience we did a memorial workout with spouses, and my wife actually suggested it," said O'Brien. "We do not suffer alone. They share this burden with us."

"Our community is pretty small, especially the pararescue community," O'Brien added. "You feel like you know people better, you know what their families went through, and any loss hits pretty hard."

The kinship, brotherhood and family bond of special operations forces members are key parts of life for the men and women of the Air Force who volunteer for the most dangerous assignments. The 320th STS and 31st RQS conduct memorial ruck marches every couple of months for PJs and Combat Controllers, according to O'Brien.

Intense training required of pararescueman is not without risk, but the hard work and struggle result in some of the world's most capable and determined Airmen ready to aid anybody else in need, whether they're in a combat zone, jungle or sea.

Tech. Sgt. Sean Barton was a certified paramedic, static line jump master, military free fall jump master, combat dive supervisor and recovery team leader.

His decorations include seven Air Medals, an Aerial Achievement Medal, two Air Force Commendation Medals, an Air Force Achievement Medal and an Army Achievement Medal.

Tech. Sgt. Peter Kraines was a certified paramedic, static-line jumper, military freefall jumper and Air Force combat scuba diver.

His awards and decorations include two Air Medals, an Aerial Achievement Medal, an Air Force Commendation Medal, an Air Force Achievement Medal, an Afghanistan Campaign Medal, a Meritorious Unit Award, an Air Force Expeditionary Service Ribbon with gold border, and a NATO Medal.



Pacific, Philippine Air Forces partner during Aeromedical Evacuation Exchange



By Tech. Sgt. Rainer Largo

18th Aeromedical Evacuation Squadron

10/24/2019 - CLARK, Philippines — U.S. medical personnel from across Pacific Air Forces held an Aeromedical Evacuation Subject Matter Expert Exchange with the Philippine Air Force at Clark AB, Pampanga, Philippines, September 9-11.

U.S. Air Force aeromedical evacuation subject matter experts from Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam, Hawaii and Kadena Air Base, Japan joined with their PAF counterparts to conduct the SMEE. Participants shared real-world tactics, techniques, and procedures, demonstrated AE medical equipment and conducted exercises to stress on how to enhance aeromedical evacuation operations within the area of responsibility.

Following the success of the 2018 AE and Patient Movement SMEE, this event advances the series by focusing on exchanging AE concepts to support interoperability with coalition partners, assisting with military contingencies, and Humanitarian Assistance/Disaster Response in the AOR. The exchange aimed to help fill the gaps on procedures to assist and improve PAF's contingency response to disasters and conflicts.

According to U.S. Air Force Col. Robert Craig-Gray, Aerospace Medicine Division chief, Headquarters PACAF Office of Command Surgeon, described what he felt made this engagement a success, "These exchanges are the best ways to learn from each other from partnership and interoperability."

The exchange was structured and designed to provide the PAF with concepts that will strengthen their protocol and procedures, and to share information as effectively as possible.

While it was titled an aeromedical evacuation SMEE, personnel from other fields also participated in the exchange. Other aircrew members, such as PAF fixed-wing and rotary pilots participated in the event to have a better understanding of patient movement and how it relates to their flying operation.

The bulk of this three-day SMEE was presented in Tagalog. PACAF facilitators were selected due to their primary specialty, skillsets, language capability, and International Health Specialist special experience identifier. An overwhelming amount of positive feedback was received from the PAF audience, facilitators, and leadership in regards to utilizing host nation language into practice for this event.

PAF Maj. Gen. Allen T. Paredes, Air Logistics Command commander, stated, "Exchanges like these deepen the understanding of aeromedical evacuation, as well as deepen the understanding of the culture of the United States and the Philippines."

Naha Port undergoes first dredging in 30 years

By Donna Klapakis

Military Surface Deployment and Distribution Command

10/30 /2019 - NAHA — Naha Military Port here is currently undergoing its first dredging operation since 1989.

Home to the 835th Transportation Battalion, one of 599th Transportation Brigade's three forward battalions in the Pacific, and Military Sealift Command Okinawa, this major hub in shipping for military and other government service cargo is currently unable to support medium draft vessels for unit moves.

"We have a great team here with Military Sealift Command and U.S. Army Corps of Engineers," said Lt. Col. Kelvin Simmons, 835th commander. "They are the experts on dredging. As far as I am concerned they are part of the team.

"We make sure we keep them informed of vessel operations, so they can de-conflict the ship ops and dredging operations," Simmons added. "When we have ships in, they just move the dredging. We have never had any issues or slowed down any operations because of the dredging."

"The powers that be argued for four years on whether the harbor would be dredged to 34 or 38 feet," said Thomas

Walters, director of MSC Okinawa.

Walters said he recommended that they dredge to 38 feet so that they could accommodate more ships.

"If the depth had been 38 feet, 67 vessels, roll-on, roll-off (RO/RO), prepositioned cargo fleet, and surge fleet for sealift could all come in," he said.

"However, they are dredging to 34 feet, which will accommodate 26 ships; this will work for most contingencies," Walters said.

"At the end of the day, we will still be limited in what we can bring in, 26 of the medium RO/RO fleet," said Simmons. "But 26 is a lot better than what we can bring in now, which is zero."

Not only is the channel being dredged for depth, it is also being widened to accommodate longer vessels.

"The requirement for the width of the channel must be 50 percent of the length of the vessel," said Walters. "A 720-foot vessel can come in at 110 meters if the channel is straight. However, the channel at Naha has two doglegs, so we need it wider there."

"The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers did the environmental survey and awarded the contract," said David Barrett, construction control representative for the Corps of Engineers. "The contract was awarded in May 2018, preconstruction surveys were started this February, and dredging began in April.

"The biggest challenge of the project for the USACE was at the start: getting the permits and finding the right people," said Barrett.

"The Japanese Coast Guard, Pilots Association, Ferry Captains, Tourism Industry, Department of Education Archaeological Office, Naha Port Authority, and the Okinawa Defense Bureau all had to come together and agree on the dredging," Barrett said.

Mud that is hauled out of the harbor is treated to form a type of concrete.

"They are using a system that adds a hardening agent and makes it into a type of concrete at almost the same time it is dug out," said Barrett. "They haul out 1,200 cubic meters a day, and they are turning that 1,200 around in a day. They have 45 dump trucks that are taking the finished product down to a landfill after it is processed."

The project had some excitement in June.

"They found unexploded ordnance in the form of a 1,100-pound bomb, and removed it the next day," Barrett said. "The Japanese explosive ordnance disposal team floated it, put it in water, and towed it



(U.S. Army photo by Donna Klapakis)

A view of dredging at Naha Military Port from across as barbor.

away. They took it three miles out past the airport."

Simmons appreciates the added capacity the dredging project will bring to the port.

"Dredging expands the capability to sustain the force throughout the Indo-Pacific Command area of operations, Simmons said. "We will be able to load more cargo out of Naha Military Port as a strategic port. To bring larger vessels in will be a boon to the command and to our customers.

"The dredging of Naha Military Port is a strategic platform for humanitarian assistance as well as operations," Simmons added. "It will give us extra resources when an earthquake or tsunami hits."

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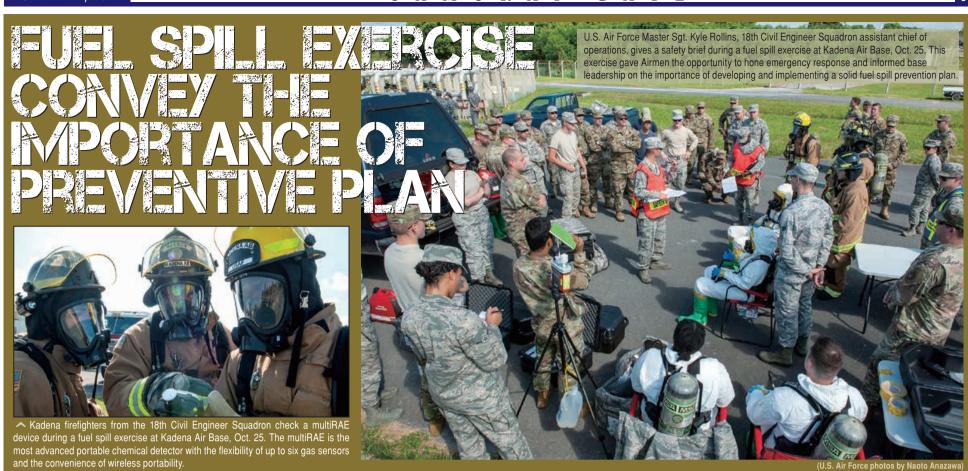
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Airmen from the 18th Security Forces Squadron review the location of a fuel spill during an exercise at Kadena Air Base, Oct. 25. The exercise was designed to prepare and train Airmen for a fuel spill due to the weather or earthquakes in the region.



Christopher Barnett, Defense Logistics Agency contractor terminal superintendent, talks to Master Sgt. Roger Halle, 18th Civil Engineer Squadron assistant chief of operations, during a fuel spill exercise. DLA Energy provides military installations with the training necessary to prevent and react to disasters, such as the simulated fuel spill, while adhering to federal regulations.



^ A member of Japan Air Self Defense Force, 9th Air Wing Base Supply Squadron, equips a level-A suit during a fuel spill exercise. The 18th Logistics Readiness Squadron commander invited more than 10 JASDF members from the 9th AW to observe the U.S. Armed Forces methods responding simulated fuel spill.













rescue training during exercise Beverly H at le Shima airfield on Oct. 21. The exerc an integration of Marines and Airmen des rehearse combat employment of rescue f an austere location and establish commur in any environment.



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Happy Days Are Here Again!



At the Chatan Fair, that is! The popular

event takes place Nov. 9 and 10 at the same venue as last year in the area next to the baseball stadium across from the Aeon Chatan department store.

This year, too, organizers promise, there will be much to see and do. An exciting draw rewards the lucky winners with fantastic prizes like hotel stays. On stage, various artists entertain the crowds all day with live performances. The kids will be busy at a hands-on experience area where, among many fun activities, one of the favorites is sure to be operating a power shovel.

The activity makes one hungry, and the concurrent C-1 Gourmet Fair offers great meat dishes the whole family is guaranteed to enjoy. And no fair in Chatan would be perfect without the popular food trucks, like Gordie's, Old Spice, Pizza Inn and others. Finally, close to 20 food booths complete the list making sure no one goes home hungry!

Remember to mark the fun-filled Chatan Fair in your calendars for next weekend!

Date: Nov. 9 (Sat) & 10 (Sun), 2019 Time: 10:00-17:00 Place: Chatan Park **Admission: Free**



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(U.S. Air Force photo by Staff Sgt. Sadie Colbert)

By Staff Sgt. Sadie Colbert

509th Bomb Wing Public Affairs

10/23/2019 - WHITEMAN AIR FORCE **BASE, Mo.** — With the use of electronic cigarettes on the rise, concerned Air Force health officials warn of the possible side effects of these devices.

According to Alicia Ferris-Dannenberg, the 509th Operational Medical Readiness Squadron health promotion coordinator, vape use at Team Whiteman increased from 5.2 to 9.5 percent from 2017 to 2019.

"Many people believe there isn't any harm with vaping because they can control their nicotine intake and tar doesn't build up in their lungs," Ferris-Dannenberg said. "What they don't realize is they take in heavy metals from other components caused by the chemical reaction creating the vapor."

As of October 15, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention reported

1,479 lung injury cases associated with the use of e-cigarette, or vaping, products from 49 states, except Alaska, the District of Columbia, and one U.S. territory.

"The nicotine itself thins the lungs' and airways' linings," Ferris-Dannenberg said. "In addition to the respiratory risks, service members who smoke or vape experience poor wound healing."

She said negative side effects could jeopardize our workforce and Air Force Global Strike Command's mission to be always

Hidden tetrahydrocannabinol — THC found in vape juice

In two states, 53 cases of respiratory illnesses hospitalized 50 patients, according to the New England Journal of Medicine. Hospital researchers found THC products in 84 percent of cases.

Due to the reports of respiratory illnesses, the Food and Drug Administration warns users to be aware of products containing THC mixtures in vape juices as they investigate vaping products and the correlation between illness and inhalation

Although the FDA can't conclude THC oil as the leading cause in the respiratory diseases, they suggest consumers to stay away from street vaping products or adding THC to modify vape juices.

Not only does this affect Airmen's health, it can endanger their careers due to Air Force regulations and the Uniform Code of Military Justice banning the ingestion of hemp products outlined in AFMAN 44-197, Military Drug Demand Reduction Program.

"Ensuring our Airmen are fit to fight is a priority for Team Whiteman," said Col. Jeffrey Schreiner, 509th Bomb Wing commander. "Airmen using e-cigarettes should know the dangers and risks they accept by vaping and research vendors they're purchasing from, or quit vaping or smoking altogether-we have resources to assist Airmen making this step."

The CDC recommends adults who quit vaping nicotine, avoid returning to cigarettes.

"The 509th Medical Group hosts nicotine cessation classes," she said. "Members can also request the help of the Behavioral and Health Optimization Program or schedule a visit with their provider to obtain medication to help fight nicotine addictions."

To learn more about alternatives to e-cigarettes or general smoking, visit the Smoking and Tobacco Use section on the CDC website.







Thanksgiving is sneaking up fast! Pre-order your meal starting Friday, 1 November at Rocker Enlisted and Officers' Clubs!

From the Rocker Enlisted Club

Order your meal by noon on Tuesday, 26 November. Pickup on Wednesday, 27 November from 11 am - 5 pm

\$94.95 • Turkey Dinner (Serves 8)

\$89.95 • Small Ham Dinner (Serves 6)

\$109.95 • Large Ham Dinner (Serves 8)

From the Kadena Officers' Club

Order your meal by noon on Tuesday, 26 November. Pickup on Wednesday, 27 November from 11 am - 5 pm

\$94.95 • Turkey Meal (Serves 8) \$109.95 • Large Ham Meal (Serves 8)

All Dinners To-Go include:

- · Stuffing
- Turkey Gravy
- Mashed Potatoes
- Green Beans
- Cranberry Sauce
- · Pumpkin Pie
- Dinner Rolls
- Additional sides are available for purchase.

Air Force Club members receive \$5 discount.

Payment is due at the time of order. No call-in orders will be accepted. Limited quantities are available, so place your





'IZNIZ' TO STREAMLINE CYBER WEAPON SYSTEMS TOOLS

By Tech. Sgt. R.J. Biermann

Sixteenth Air Force (Air Forces Cyber) Public Affairs 10/25/2019 - JOINT BASE SAN ANTO-NIO-LACKLAND, Texas — Sixteenth Air Force (Air Forces Cyber) leaders recently launched an initiative to streamline its cyber weapon systems tools.

"12N12," which launched July 1, aims to replace, reduce and consolidate the tools, systems and applications operators and analysts employ within the cyberspace security and defense mission area to approximately 12 by July 1, 2020.

"The goal is to reduce the number of applications in our cyber weapon systems, which in some cases are as many as 70, to about a dozen, and do so in 12 months or less," said Col. Sean Kern, 26th Cyberspace Operations Group commander.

"But this is absolutely not just a technology initiative," Kern continued. "It is about our Airmen and our ability to produce a highly trained and ready cyber force that possesses the appropriate tactics, techniques, procedures and tools, to gain and maintain operational access for core missions, and generate desired effects in and through cyberspace."

According to Steve Barker, Sixteenth Air Force (Air Forces Cyber) director of requirements, "12N12" aligns with strategic initiatives focused on simplifying and improving full-spectrum weapon systems using agile methodologies to best prepare for future peer-adversary threats.

"12N12' will reduce the complexity of our systems, allowing Airmen to gain deeper expertise in the tools they use as well as posture our enterprise for future change," he said.



(U.S. Air Force photo by Tech. Sgt. R.J. Biermann)

The end state calls for replacing aged, single-purpose tools with newer, multi-purpose ones.

One antiquated tool among many is the Security Information and Event Management tool.

"The SIEM scrubs through all the data we receive and presents it to the operator in a way that is easier to view," said Staff Sgt. Trevor Daher, 33rd Network Warfare Squadron cyber operator. "It only allows us to manage the stream of information, and it was put in place in 1999. Of course it has been updated, but it is still a 20-yearold product."

Some newer tools both manage information and respond to alerts.

"There is a tool called a SOAR, a Security Orchestration and Automated Response tool," said Daher. "This tool reviews data and can be programmed to respond or react to individual alerts in different ways. You tell it what to do – it sees an alert and executes a checklist for you."

For the aviation enthusiast, an aircraft analogy may help to better understand an operator's current workspace.

"Think of this from a pilot perspective," said Chief Master Sgt. Michael Clutz, 26th COG superintendent. "If I had to press 40 different buttons to fire a missile, nobody would think that was ok. Our cyber Airmen currently have to carry that burden. We are trying to make life better for them through this initiative while taking it to the adversary. The number of applications a weapon system employs is the number of things the operators must be familiar

The prospect of having to master fewer weapon systems tools is an encouraging future for Daher.

"Replacing our old tools with new ones would be amazing," he said. "These tools have capabilities we don't currently have. Many of them can automate a decent portion of what we do, allowing us to spend more time investigating more malicious activities."

Within the cybersecurity arena, time is one factor that separates winners from los-

"In 18 minutes, 49 seconds a foreign nation-state actor can gain initial access into a victim's computer before moving laterally throughout its network," said Kern. "That is our operational urgency, and if we don't get cybersecurity and defense right, we will lose."

Some operators process upwards of eight million alerts per day using common computer programs, when newer, automated applications are available.

"We look at an insane amount of data from across the Air Force to determine if something is malicious or not," said Daher. "We have seen what cyber attacks can do, and the goal is to stop those types of things from happening. To do that, we have to monitor our entire network. These new tools could change everything. Being able to better see data enables other Air Force missions to do what they need to do without cyber interruption."

To keep pace with the goal date, a project team meets weekly to share updates and discuss obstacles and how to mitigate them. Additionally, Air Combat Command has adopted a new approach to cyber weapon systems development.

"The status quo will not work," said Kern. "Air Combat Command's efforts to implement agile methods will be critical to achieving our desired July 1, 2020 end state. "By next year, you can expect to see an Airman sitting at a single console, conducting cybersecurity and defense, and not having to move from system to system to do their job," said Kern.



Safe from sound?

AFRL experts collect data inside hardened aircraft shelters around the world

By Gina Marie Giardina

Air Force Research Laboratory

10/25/2019 - WRIGHT-PATTERSON **AIR FORCE BASE, Ohio** — Acoustics researchers in the Air Force Research Laboratory's 711th Human Performance Wing are collecting and delivering acoustics data from hardened aircraft shelters around the world—data that customers can then use to certify that F-35 fast-jet airframes and the personnel working inside are safe.

Hardened aircraft shelters are reinforced hangars that store and protect military fighter aircraft. Many of these shelters are in Europe and date back to the Cold War. The earlier shelters were three to six feet thick, but during World War II, stronger, thicker shelters were built to protect German U-boats, explained John Stillion in his article Fighting Under Missile Attack.

These shelters today, with their differences in wall thickness as well as their diverse shapes and sizes, still provide a hiding place for fighter aircraft. They still provide protection for personnel inside to perform necessary maintenance. But the next-gen fighters like the F-35 have very different sound profiles. This creates the need for acoustics testing to ensure safety of the aircraft and crew.

"These hardened aircraft shelters, or HAS, are very common in Europe," explained Dr. Alan Wall, a physical acoustics researcher with the 711HPW. "Before crews can perform any engine run-ups, maintenance operations or load weapons—before the F-35 can taxi out and take off, there is a need to certify that the personnel working on or around that aircraft inside these shelters are provided the recommended hearing protection. Also, crews have to ensure that the sound vibrations inside the shelter that are bouncing all around are not going to damage the aircraft itself."

The team's first foray into this work came from a request back in 2016 from the Royal Netherlands Air Force. The 711HPW acoustics team, led by Wall and now-retired Rich McKinley, traveled to the allied country to help. After about a week of gathering data and a year of analysis, the team delivered its final report, and the country completed its HAS certifications.

But that work attracted attention. Other countries, including the U.S., are reaching out to AFRL for help with additional acoustics testing and analyses of HAS for their certifications for next-gen fighters.

"The requests are coming from high-level leadership, who need their F-35s to be able to operate when they arrive at these various air bases, so they are asking for our

Wall went on to explain that there are a number of stakeholders involved in the process of collecting the necessary data that will then be used for certification. While Wall's team gathered acoustics data, other international partners gathered air quality and other data.

"There are structural engineers, who need our data to make decisions about if the F-35 is safe to fly after it's been worked on in a hardened aircraft shelter. There are safety and occupational health experts, who need this data to determine if personnel working inside the shelters have proper hearing protection and safe breathing air. There are base operations specialists, who need to be able to execute missions inside these shelters. They let us know what they plan to do inside, and that tells us what to measure."

Also, similar to sound inside different stadiums or playhouses, there are many variables, including wall thickness mentioned earlier, that come in to play with the sounds inside these shelters.

"From one shelter to the next, the noise levels can vary," explained Wall. "This has to do with the geometry of the shelter; the composition of the walls, ceiling, floors; and perhaps the most critical—the interaction with the jet itself to what's called the jet-blast deflector, a concrete structure at the back of the shelter that takes the flow off the jet engine and diverts it away from the shelter."

And to complicate matters, not only is every shelter different, but there are no guidelines, no manuals.

"There's no standard—no set way of doing this," said Wall. "Now we have experience gathering this for the Netherlands, and we worked with the Navy in their enclosed shelters called hush houses—so we're working to leverage that experience as we receive additional requests for data."

So how exactly are these measurements recorded?

"We go to the site, bring an F-35 with us to park inside the shelter, and we cover the aircraft with microphones," Wall said. "These microphones are acoustics sensors directly on the panels, or skin, of the aircraft. They could be in 30 different locations - wherever the structural experts tell us that the acoustic pressures can't exceed a certain level. Then the aircraft is run up from low engine powers, and the acoustic data is recorded in real time—evaluated on the spot."

Wall went on to explain that this re-

al-time evaluation is a team effort where they predict the acoustics levels in stages of

engine run-up.

'We all work together and ask 'okay, so do we think the next point is going to exceed those criteria'—and if not, we keep increasing the engine power at various increments until we predict we're going to exceed it. The structural folks, who tell us the criteria, are the authority though, and make those decisions—if the levels are going to be safe for the aircraft or not."

"In the end, we take all that data that we gathered from the microphones, clean it up and do the statistics, and turn it into a full report. The customer can then use this official document for their certification processes. The F-35 structural experts sign off on it. Whoever the aircraft owner is - so in the Netherlands, the Royal Air Force in our first data collection - they sign off on it. Once the report is signed, the customer has to go through a follow-on process to certify aircraft for operational use in that shelter."

"So essentially, we measure and provide all the data to the requesting organization or country, and then they take that information and go make decisions—'Yes, we can do these things inside the shelter, or no, these things we can not do.' And those answers are going to be different for each type of shelter," Wall said.

Wall explained that his team is working towards a solution to these differing shelters and their wide array of sound profiles. Not only is the work for each request time consuming, it requires a great deal of manpower. It's also expensive. While the team gathers data for their customers, they are also collecting data that they can leverage for a future modeling and simulation effort in hopes that in a few years, they won't have to travel to and measure every shelter.

"Our goal is to be able to predict the answers based off information about the HAS that can be sent to us, which equates to a large long-term cost saver for the Department of Defense and each Partner and Foreign Military Sales country receiving the

So not only is this AFRL team keeping F-35s and their pilots safe from sound, they are also developing the measurement standards so they can deliver HAS acoustics data smarter, cheaper and faster for future customers.







SAMURAI GATE NOVEMB 1ST NIARNE AIRCRAFT WING RAPID DEPLOYMENT EXERCISE

By Lance Cpl. Ryan Persinger

1st Marine Aircraft Wing

10/29/2019 - MCAS FUT-**ENMA** — 1st Marine Aircraft Wing rapidly deployed more than 25 aircraft to austere, expeditionary locations and then returned those aircraft and forces to Marine Corps Air Station Futenma from October 24 to 25.

Rapid deployment exercises like this are essential to maintaining the readiness needed to uphold commitments to U.S. allies and partner nations in the Indo-Pacific and highlight the MAW's active posture in the region.

"This operation was for one purpose; to demonstrate III MEF's ability to rapidly deploy combat power anywhere in the Indo-Pacific within a moment's notice, sustain those forces, and rapidly redeploy them" said U.S. Marine Corps Brig. Gen. Chris McPhillips, commanding general of 1st Marine Aircraft Wing.

During this exercise, 1st MAW deployed every variant of aircraft from Marine Aircraft Group 36, including MV-22 Ospreys from Marine Medium Tiltrotor Squadron 265, currently attached to the 31st Marine Expeditionary Unit, and Marine Medium Tiltrotor Squadron 262; CH-53s Sea Stallions from Marine Heavy Helicopter Squadron 462; and UH-1Y Venoms and AH-1Z Vipers from Marine Light Attack Helicopter Squadron 169.

Marine Wing Support Squadron 172 and various elements of Marine Air Control Group 18 supported the aircraft throughout the evolution.

"The MWSS provides the expeditionary capability and sustainability that is required for our aviation combat element to operate in an expeditionary and distributed environment," said U.S. Marine Corps Lt. Col. James S. Pryor, commanding officer of Marine Wing Support Squadron 172. "We provide a wide range of capabilities that provide fuel for aircraft, power generation, water purification, flight line and/ or air point security, and other functions of aviation ground support that are only found in the MWSS."

The movement of a high volume of aircraft within a small time frame is a complex process, requiring deliberate planning and strategically postured forces. During this training evolution, Marines with 1st MAW refined their ability to plan, rehearse and execute complex operations.

The modern threat envi-

ronment demands agility, lethality, and adaptability. Being able to deploy rapidly makes 1st MAW a persistent force that is difficult to target, swift and inherently resilient. As the only forward deployed Marine expeditionary force, III MEF is strategically located to quickly and effectively respond to crises using this method, and the MAW plays an integral role in that mission.

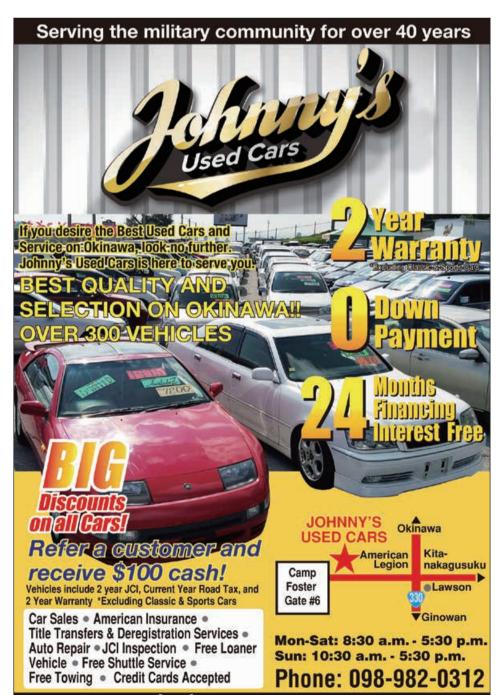
"This operation demonstrates our ability to rapidly displace expeditionary forces and our ability to mass forces," said U.S. Marine Corps Lt. Col. Mark E. Woodard, commanding officer of Marine Medium Tiltrotor Squadron 265. "Our V-22s bring range, speed and payload, providing the MEF commander significant flexibility in moving his ground combat element. Our H-1s provide lethal offensive air support and our CH-53s provide unmatched heavy lift to move troops and heavy cargo weap-

Rapid deployment operations highlight a core capability of the Marine Corps: operating anywhere at any time. III MEF is positioned to rapidly deploy at a moment's notice in support of our allies and partners to keep a free and open Indo-Pa-



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





www.iohnnvs-cars.com

Nurses and Corpsmen with 3rd Medical Battalion participate in the Joint Enroute Care Course



U.S. Navy Lt. Burnetta Fears and Petty Officer 2nd Class Johnny Novotny treat a simulated patient during the Joint Enroute Care Course at Camp Foster. Oct. 14. The purpose of the JECC is to prepare 3rd Medical Battalion corpsmen and nurses to conduct aeromedical evacuation in rotary wing platforms from the point of njury to a higher echelon of care by ensuring optimal enroute patient outcomes.



U.S. Navy Petty Officer 3rd Class Michelle Ramirez prepares to lift up a simulated patient during the Joint Enroute Care Course at Marine Corps Air Station



U.S. Navy Petty Officer 2nd Class Vittorio Garcia treats a simulated patient during the Joint Enroute Care Course at le Shima, Oct. 17.

30 Years Strong and Counting

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(Photo by Anthony Mayne)

Hiromitsu Arakaki sits at his desk at Okinawa Area
Office, Japan Engineer District.

By Anthony Mayne

U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Japan District 10/25/2019 - OKINAWA — Hiromitsu Arakaki received a 30 year Length of Service Award during the Master Labor Contract Award Ceremony in Okinawa on October 16.

Arakaki began his lengthy career with the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Japan Engineer District in 1988, after transferring from the 18th Civil Engineering Group to the Tengan Resident Office on Kadena Air Base.

Reporting for duty at TRO for the

first time was a stressful experience, and Arakaki mistakenly asked to see the wrong individual when checking in. The TRO Resident Engineer at the time, Mr. Yoshimoto responded "What? You don't know the name of your boss!"

Being the youngest member of his team at TRO created additional challenges. Most of his coworkers were not familiar with a new technology introduced in the office, computers.

At that time, telephone lines were shared by modems and voice communication. Transferring project information via modem during the day would frequently be interrupted by high priority calls initiated at the switch. Consequently, Arakaki would be the one to update the host nation database early in the morning or late in the evening. He also remembers the tedious task of completing the daily quality assurance reports by hand.

Those times were not without some humorous moments. Arakaki recalls an incident with a colleague. Mr. Yamada. Yamada was curious about the differences in the food at the different dining facilities at Kadena Air Base. Yamada was able to sneak into the U.S. chow hall and grab a plate of food before being grabbed by the collar.

"With fork still in hand, he continued to eat while being dragged out of the facility," laughed Arakaki.

In 1996, because of the declining work-load, many of the Okinawa Area Office employees relocated to the mainland to support projects there. Arakaki was sent to help with the Ikego Housing Project in Yokosuka.

"I enjoyed working at Yokosuka," said Arakaki. "Especially working with a humble young captain. That captain would later be known as Maj. Gen. Michael C. Wehr (former USACE Deputy Commanding General)."

Eventually, Arakaki joined the Engineering Division to support communications design.

"Mr. Asato and I were the team," said Arakaki. "The work was surprisingly busy, and I worked from early in the morning to late in the evening."

Their office was located next to the U.S. Consulate General Naha in Urasoe City and was later demolished to become a shopping mall. The USACE office was later relocated to its current location at Camp Foster.

Through the years, Arakaki became very familiar with U.S. construction standards and requirements especially for communications and hospital facilities.

"There were no (Army Civilians) working in the OAO communications section, so I had to work on both military construction and Host Nation projects," Arakaki explained.

Arakaki has received numerous awards and recognition during his time with the Corps. The most memorable for Arakaki was receiving the Chief of Engineers coin from Lt. Gen. Thomas P. Bostick at Kadena Air Base.

As a valued member of the Okinawa Design Branch, Arakaki continues to contribute his communications engineering knowledge and expertise, along with team members Tsukasa Oshiro and Yukiya Uezato.

"I am very thankful for the mentors, colleagues, and many training opportunities I had while working at JED," said Arakaki.







Kadena Air Base Community Notes

To submit an announcement for the base bulletin, please visit www.kadena.af.mil

NOTICE AFSA Chapter 1553 General Membership Meeting

The Air Force Sergeant's Association (AFSA) Chapter 1553 is holding its monthly general membership meeting Nov. 21, at 11 a.m. in the Kuba Room at the Rocker NCO Club. All ranks and services are welcome to attend. Click here to view current and historical agendas. For more information, contact Donald Fisher at 632-5085.

FMO Relocation

Effective Nov. 6, the Furnishings Management Accompanied Self-help Customer Service will be relocated to Bldg. 54413 in Chibana. For more information, contact Military Family Housing at 634-4008.

National Anthem Courtesy Reminder

Friendly reminder, military members in uniform will render the same customs and courtesies afforded to the American national anthem to the Japanese national anthem.

Discussion: Some questions have been asked with regards to the etiquette to render customs and courtesies to the Japanese national anthem. According to AFI 34-1201, Protocol, "during the playing of national anthems of friendly nations, military members and civilians should render the same customs and courtesies as those given during the playing of the United States national anthem."

Guidance: When Retreat is played as a prelude to the national anthem at the end of the duty day, face the flag (or the music if the flag is not visible) assume the position of parade rest and upon the first note of the Japanese national anthem, assume the position of attention and (1) render a salute when in uniform or (2) place your right hand over your heart when not in uniform, or civilian personnel, until the final note of the American national anthem.

Please direct questions regarding this matter to the 18th Wing Protocol Office at DSN 634-1808 or 18wg.ccp@us.af.mil

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.

INFORMATION

TRICARE Corner

Nov. 11, 2019 until Dec. 9, 2019, TRICARE is having the open season. This allows eligible beneficiaries to make changes to their health and dental plans, as well as enroll into FEDVIP. However, if you decide to not change your dependents health plans, they will be locked in until the next enrollment season or until a QLE occurs. QLEs are any change in a beneficiary's status, such as PCS, separation, retirement, new baby, college age dependents, or death in the family. You can contact the TRICARE Operations Office at DSN: 630-4310/4026, or come into the MDG, Mon-Fri 0730-1630, we are located across from the Pharmacy on the Main Floor

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

2020 Okinawa Marathon registration

Registration application forms for the 2020 Okinawa Marathon and 10K Road Race scheduled for February 16, 2020 will be available at the Risner Fitness Center, until December 9th for all interested SOFA status personnel. Registration will close when the prescribed number of applicants is reached.

Participants must be age 16 or older as of Feb. 16, 2020. Entry fees are in YEN ONLY and are NON-REFUNDABLE. Fees for the full marathon are 7,000 yen for ages 19-64, and 6,000 yen for ages 16-18, and 65 or older. Fees for the 10K race are 4,700 yen for ages 19-64, and 3,200 yen for ages 16-18, and ages 65 or older. For more information, call the Risner at 634-5128 / 5129.

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.

DoD School Information

The Department of Defense school information is now on the Kadena Connect app. For more information, visit the Kadena Connect App Homepage, Coming to Kadena, Newcomers and then Child/Youth/School Info.

UPCOMING EVENTS Teens and Tweens

The Family Advocacy Clinic will hold a Teens and Tweens class Nov. 1, 8, and 15 from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. at Family Advocacy Clinic (Bldg. 90). Trying to get respect from teenagers is a tough job for parents. This 3 part series class will help parents develop positive and healthy relationships with their teens. For more information, contact Nora Kohri at 634-0433 or email nora.kohri.ctr@mail. mil

Free Interactive Workshops

There will be two free interactive workshops Nov. 5 at the Rocker Enlisted Club starting at 5:30 p.m., and Nov. 8 at Keystone theater starting at noon, presented by Amy Lang, who is an awardwinning author / speaker, on "why you need to start the conversation earlier than you think" plus tips for making the talks easy & fun. Learn about Amy at https://birdsandbeesandkids.com. For more information, contact the Child and Youth Services at 634-2775.

CEGAO 9-Pin No-Tap Bowling Tournament

The CEGAO bowling tournament will be held Nov. 8 from 12:30 to 16:30 at Emery Lanes. Showtime for sign-in is noon. \$20 per Bowler / 2-4 Bowlers per team. (Includes 3 games and shoe rental) Prize for top team, top male, top female and most spares. For more information, contact Senior Master Sgt. Ochshalay Davis at 632-8967 or Tech. Sgt. Tommy Hwang at 634-7293.

Love & Logic

The Family Advocacy Clinic will hold a Love & Logic class Nov. 5, 12, 19, and 26 from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. at Family Advocacy Clinic (Bldg. 90). Your child doesn't listen to you? Having difficulty disciplining them? This 4 part series class will help parents learn ways to allow their children to make smart choices and be responsible. For more information, contact Nora Kohri at 634-0433 or email nora.kohri.ctr@mail.mil

5th Annual Veteran's Day Parade

The Kadena Top 3 Heritage Committee will hold the 5th Annual Veteran's Day Parade Nov. 10, starting at 9 a.m. on Douglas Blvd. We have several organizations signed up, music and entertainment will also be provided, and lots of candy for the children.

If you are interested in signing up to participate in the parade or volunteering, please contact below.

To march in the parade

POCs: Master Sgt. Aaron Ottmo / Tech. Sgt. Tyler Pillmore

To volunteer to assist with the parade

POCs: Master Sgt. Nicholas Gagne / Tech. Sgt. David Vazquez / Tech. Sgt. Vitold Rybicki We hope to see you out there as we honor the

U.S. Consulate General Naha

NOVEMBER & DECEMBER CALENDAR

> Passport Acceptance Days

11/8	FRI	KINSER	Kinser USO	14:00-16:00
11/12	TUE	KADENA	Schilling Community Center	11:00-13:00
11/19	TUE	FOSTER	Foster USO	11:00-13:00
11/22	FRI	TORII Tra	aining & Support Center Bldg. #287	14:00-16:00
12/10	TUE	KADENA	Schilling Community Center	11:00-13:00
12/17	TUE	FOSTER	Foster USO	11:00-13:00
12/20	FRI	SCHWAB	Schwab USO	11:00-12:00

Save your passport slots by email at NahaACS@state.gov

Immigrant Visa Presentations / I-130 Acceptance Days

11/8	FRI	KINSER	KINSER USO *Register by email at NahalV@state.gov	9:00-11:00
11/22	FRI	TORII	TORII Training & Support Center Bldg. #287 *Register by email at NahalV@state.gov	9:00-11:00
12/6	FRI	KADENA	Airman & Family Readiness Center *Register by calling 634-3366 (AFRC)	10:00-12:00

*Register by email at NahalV@state.gov

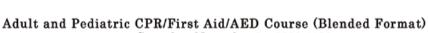


12/20 FRISCHWAB SCHWAB USO

Only money orders will be accepted for payment!



9:00-11:00



Saturday, November 2 – 0900-1100
Wednesday, November 6 – 1800-2000

Adult and Pediatric CPR/First Aid/AED Course (Full Length Format)

• Saturday, November 23 – 0900-1600

Babysitter's Training

Saturday, November 16 – 0800-1700



selfless dedication and sacrifice of generations of war fighters from all branches who secured our continuing freedom. For more information, contact Master Sgt. Patricia VanBeek at 634-

Armed Service Blood Bank Drive

The 18th Dental Squadron is hosting a blood drive on behalf of the Armed Services Blood Bank Center Nov. 13 at Kadena USO. Help support the military community in the PACOM area of operation by donating blood on behalf of service members, dependent family members,

civilians, and retirees in their most crucial time of need. It is walk-in only so please plan for the donation process to take about 45 minutes. For more information / signing up, email Senior Airman Mekenzie Mazur at mekenzie.k.mazur. mil@mail.mil.

M U R A

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES Library volunteers needed for Month of Magic event

The Kadena Base Library needs adult volunteers to plan and participate in our second annual Nighttime Academy for Witches and Wizards,

part of FSS's Month of Magic, which will be held the evening of Feb. 28, 2020. Volunteer positions range from creating decorations to cosplaying and running activities the night of the event. There will be an initial planning meeting Nov. 3, at 10:30 a.m. at the Kadena Base Library. For more information, email Holly May at holly.may.1@us.af.mil

Kadena Middle School Military **Mentor Monday**

The 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 from 7:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. To volunteer, please contact Ms. Traci Cooper at Traci.Cooper@dodea.edu or call 632-0217.



TRICARE and FEDVIP Open Season for enrollment or changes is:



I AM A	I WANT TO CHANGE MY TRICARE HEALTH CARE PLAN	I WANT TO ENROLL IN A FEDVIP VISION PLAN	I WANT TO ENROLL IN A FEDVIP DENTAL PLAN
Active Duty Service Member	You can only change plans when you retire. (While on active duty, you can only be Prime/Prime Remote) At retirement, civilian coverage ends. Learn about your options and what to do at www.tricare.mil/retiring	You do not qualify to purchase a FEDVIP vision plan. You will continue to get care as you do now.	You do not qualify to purchase a FEDVIP dental plan. You will continue to get care as you do now.
Active Duty Family Member	You can change plans during the 2019 TRICARE Open Season.	You qualify to purchase a FEDVIP vision plan. You must enroll during Federal Benefits Open Season.	You do not qualify to purchase a FEDVIP dental plan. You can purchase dental coverage through the TRICARE Dental Program.
Reserve Component Member or Family Member enrolled in TRICARE Reserve Select or TRICARE Retired Reserve®	No action needed. This does not apply TRICARE Reserve Select® (TRS) or TRICARE Retired Reserve (TRR).	You qualify to purchase a FEDVIP vision plan. You must enroll during Federal Benefits Open Season.	You do not qualify to purchase a FEDVIP dental plan. You can get your dental care through the TRICARE Dental Program.
Retired Service Member or Family Enrolled in TRICARE Prime®, TRICARE Select®	You can change plans during the 2019 TRICARE Open Season.	You qualify to purchase a FEDVIP vision plan. You must enroll during Federal Benefits Open Season.	You qualify to purchase a FEDVIP dental plan. You must enroll during Federal Benefits Open Season. If you are already enrolled in FEDVIP, you don't need to re-enroll.
Retired Service Member or Family Member using TRICARE For Life	No action needed. This doesn't apply to TRICARE For Life.	You qualify to purchase a FEDVIP vision plan. You must enroll during Federal Benefits Open Season.	You qualify to purchase a FEDVIP dental plan. You must enroll during Federal Benefits Open Season. If you are already enrolled in FEDVIP, you don't need to re-enroll.



