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AIR FORCE - ARMY - NAVY - MARINE - COMMUNITY NEWS Number 13 - Issue 20

Air Force delays mandatory wear-date for OCP items, 2PFDU

Fitness testing suspended until Oct. 1

OCP UNIFORM CHANGES BECOME MANDATORY BEGINNING SEPTEMBER 1

The changes for each uniform are detailed in Air Force Instruction 36-2903, Dress and Appearance of Air Force Personnel.

- The U.S. flag patch will be Spice Brown. Airmen will wear the flag while in garrison and deployed. Infrared U.S. flags are not authorized.
- The authorized T-shirt color will be Coyote Brown (Tan 499) only.
- Rank insignia will be Spice Brown. Exception: First lieutenant and lieutenant colonel rank insignia will be black.
- The authorized socks will be DLA-issued green socks or Coyote Brown only.
- The authorized boot color will be Coyote Brown only. Exceptions: Airmen with a medical condition as determined by medical authorities at a civilian or military treatment facility and approved by the commander, and those who must wear black combat boots in industrial areas.

(U.S. Air Force courtesy graphic)

By Staff Sgt. Sahara L. Fales

Air Force's Personnel Center Public Affairs
5/27/2020 — In an effort to reduce unnecessary stress on Airmen and Space professionals during COVID-19 restrictions, several uniform changes scheduled to become mandatory for the Operational Camouflage Pattern and Two-Piece Flight Duty Uniform (2PFDU) on June 1, have been delayed to Sept. 1.

The changes for each uniform are detailed in Air Force Instruction 36-2903, "Dress and Appearance of Air Force Personnel." Mandatory wear of the Operational Camouflage Pattern Uniform remains April 2021.

The changes that become mandatory on Sept. 1 for the OCP include:

- Officer rank insignia will be spice brown (exception: first lieutenant and lieutenant colonel rank

insignia will be black).

- The U.S. flag patch will be mandatory and the only authorized color is spice brown (cloth). Airmen will wear the flag while in garrison and deployed. Infrared U.S. flags are not authorized.
- The authorized T-shirt color will be coyote brown (listed as Tan 499 per AAFES nomenclature) only. If purchasing coyote brown shirts from outside retailers, uniformed members should ensure the color matches the authorized coyote brown color (Tan 499).
- The authorized socks will be DLA-issued green socks or coyote brown only.
- The authorized boot color will be coyote brown only. The two exceptions are for Airmen with a medical condition as determined by medical authorities at

a civilian or military treatment facility and approved by the commander, and those who must wear black combat boots in industrial areas.

The changes that become mandatory on Sept. 1 for the 2PFDU include:

- All mandatory wear badges must be in place.
- The cloth U.S. flag will be the spice brown color only.
- The authorized socks will be DLA-issued green socks or coyote brown only.
- The authorized boot color will be coyote brown only.
- The only authorized color for thermal undergarments will be coyote brown.

For more information, please review Air Force Instruction 36-2903, "Dress and Appearance of Air Force Personnel."

By Secretary of the Air Force Public Affairs

5/22/2020 - ARLINGTON, Va. — In an effort to reduce exposure to Airmen and to continue to slow the spread of COVID-19, Air Force officials announced May 22 all official fitness testing is suspended until Oct. 1.

The change, which is an update from the original June 1 resume date, is effective immediately.

Lt. Gen. Brian Kelly, deputy chief of staff for manpower, personnel and services, said in a signed memo, "Airmen remain our top priority, and we will ensure their health and safety as we maintain our force readiness posture."

"When testing resumes, the Air Force will take a systematic approach to reintegrating official physical fitness assessments," Kelly said in the memo. "All policies and procedures should reinforce physical distancing, use of personal protective equipment, Airmen health and personal hygiene, and cleaning, sanitizing and disinfecting work spaces and common areas."

In March, officials canceled fitness assessments until June 1. Airmen who were scheduled to test in March, April and May received new test dates that were delayed by six months.

The latest change, which is subject to local health conditions and states, "Commanders shall begin assessing Airmen's fitness on Oct. 1, 2020 contingent upon base fitness centers being reopened and local state/country travel and movement restrictions being lifted."

Additionally:

- If fitness centers remain closed and local movement restrictions remain in place, commanders may choose to delay physical

fitness assessment resumption beyond Oct. 1, 2020 until safe conditions are available.

- An Airmen's next scheduled fitness assessment will be based on the date of their last official assessment and fitness category.
- In order to maintain the health and safety of the force as testing resumes, the abdominal circumference component will be temporarily suspended through Oct. 1, 2021 or until further notice. During this period, all Airmen will receive a temporary, one-year abdominal circumference component exemption, and the next scheduled test date will be based on the overall fitness score. This one-year temporary abdominal circumference exemption will take precedence over any other shorter term temporary abdominal circumference exemptions.
- The annual height and weight measurements taken in conjunction with the fitness assessment will be temporarily suspended until further notice in order to preserve the health and safety of the force.
- Physical training leaders augmenting the Fitness Assessment Cell may test members from within their same unit to help provide commanders with capacity options.
- Commanders should use the four-month delay to purchase appropriate equipment (e.g., toe bars) to aid in physical distancing and administration of official physical fitness assessments in a safe and healthy environment.

For more information, Airmen should visit MyPers and/or contact their chain of command.

DOD officials unveil COVID-related personnel, move guidance

By Jim Garamone

DOD NEWS

5/27/2020 - WASHINGTON — Defense Department officials outlined a conditions-based approach to relaxing the stop-movement order that has been in effect since early March due to the coronavirus pandemic.

Defense Secretary Dr. Mark T. Esper issued the order in early March, and in April, he extended the ban through June 30.

At a Pentagon news conference today, Matthew P. Donovan, the undersecretary of defense for personnel and readiness, said Esper signed a memo lifting the June 30 travel restrictions and transitioning to a conditions-based phased approach for personnel movement and travel.

"While the COVID-19 pandemic still presents an overall risk to our service members, civilians and their families,

varying conditions across the nation warrant this transition to a tailored approach," Donovan told reporters.

The conditions to resume travel will be based on two overarching factors, Donovan said. First, the resumption of unrestricted travel must align with state and regional criteria based on the guidelines of the White House's Opening Up America guidance. DOD and base officials also will adhere to guidance from the Department of Health and Human Services and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, Donovan said.

"Consideration of factors such as removal of shelter-in-place orders and a downward trend of new COVID-19 cases over the preceding 14 days will be used to make a determination for the resumption of movement between states, regions and nations," the undersecretary said.

The second set of factors incorpo-

rates the evaluation of installation-level conditions. "This includes items such as whether there are local travel restrictions, sufficient capacity of medical treatment facilities or local hospitals, testing capability and capacity and the availability of essential services such as schools and child care," he said. "These factors will be carefully considered before movement decisions are made."

The Pentagon reservation — the building and many leased spaces in the national capital region — has made tremendous progress and officials have seen a downward trend in coronavirus cases for 10 days, DOD Chief Management Officer Lisa W. Hershman said.

"We've been able to isolate, trace and mitigate any spread," she said. "To date, our teams have cleaned and sanitized over 1 million square feet of office space on the Pentagon reservation to CDC standards."

The telework effort has enabled more than two-thirds of the Pentagon reservation workforce to continue to deliver the mission at alternate work locations, the CMO noted.

Hershman said the "resilience plan" is based on local conditions and is not set to any specific date. The plan builds on the White House Opening Up America plan and has five phases leading to full opening, she said. As the plan moves along, she added, if there is a resurgence in the spread of coronavirus, DOD officials will reassess the department's protection measures and workforce phase and respond appropriately.

"The plan provides phase-by-phase guidance to commanders, supervisors and employees to safely and effectively return to Pentagon reservation offices, along with guidelines for in office and telework targets," Hershman said.

US, Japan bomber-fighter integration demonstrates commitment, enhances readiness

By Senior Airman River Bruce

Pacific Air Forces Public Affairs

5/27/2020 - ANDERSEN AIR FORCE BASE, Guam — A B-1B Bomber Task Force mission on May 26 included important elements for a complex theater – integration with allies and partners – in support of U.S. Indo-Pacific Command and U.S. Strategic Command objectives.

This latest mission involved integration with the Koku Jieitai, or Japanese Air Self-Defense Force.

Two B-1s, deployed to Andersen Air Force Base, Guam from the 9th Expeditionary Bomb Squadron, 7th Bomb Wing, Dyess Air Force Base, Texas, flew to the Sea of Japan to conduct bilateral training with eight Koku Jieitai F-15s and eight F-2s, before returning to Andersen.

“The U.S. steadfast commitment remains unchanged and integration missions are a way for the U.S. to demonstrate that commitment,” said Lt. Col. Ryan Stalls-

worth, 9th EBS commander, adding that “missions such as these make us better at integrating global fires and effects in a vast battlespace.”

U.S. and partner aircrews train as they would fight during these integration missions.

“We practice as a team so when it is game-time, we are a well-oiled machine that is ready to win,” said a 9th EBS B-1B pilot. “We’ve been working together on new tactics and procedures, practicing them, and assisting in the development of new ones.”

Four B-1Bs arrived on Guam May 1 with approximately 200 Airmen from Dyess to assist Pacific Air Forces training efforts and strategic deterrence missions to reinforce the rules-based international order in the Indo-Pacific region.

“It’s always an honor to show our allies and partners that the U.S. is committed to security in the Indo-Pacific region,” said



A 9th Expeditionary Bomb Squadron B-1B Lancer takes off from Andersen Air Force Base, Guam, May 27.

(U.S. Air Force photo by Senior Airman River Bruce)

the B-1 pilot. “While flying BTF missions, we practice integrating through voice and data links to ensure we are a lethal force when employing together.”

In line with the National Defense Strategy’s objectives of strategic predictability and operational unpredictability, the Bomber Task Force enables a mix of different types of strategic bombers to operate forward in the Indo-Pacific region from a broader array of overseas and continental U.S. locations with greater operational resilience.

A Feb. 3 CONUS-to-CONUS BTF with two B-52 Stratofortresses from Minot Air Force Base, North Dakota, conducted bilateral training near Misawa Air Base, Japan, with 13 JASDF F-2s, four F-4s and 28 F-15s; and six U.S. Air Force F-16 Fighting Falcons from the 35th Fighter Wing, Misawa AB.

On April 22, another CONUS-to-CONUS BTF mission involved B-1B Lancers

from the 37th Bomb Squadron, 28th Bomb Wing, Ellsworth AFB, South Dakota, who integrated with six U.S. Air Force F-16 Fighting Falcons from the 35th FW, and seven JASDF F-2s and eight JASDF F-15s over Draughton Range near Misawa for bilateral and theater familiarization training.

The B-1’s can carry Joint Air-to-Surface Standoff Missiles, 2,000-pound class Joint Direct Attack Munitions and the Long Range Anti-Ship Missile, giving it an advanced stand-off, counter-ship capability. It also has an advanced self-protection suite and is able to transit at supersonic speeds to enhance offensive and defensive capabilities reassuring allies and aggressively deterring adversaries in the region.

The BTF provides a persistent, bomber presence not only in the Indo-Pacific theater, but around the globe. USSTRATCOM has conducted BTF missions since 2014, formerly known as Bomber Assurance and Deterrence mission until 2017.

Air Force removes initial height requirement for officer aviators

By Dan Hawkins

Air Education and Training Command Public Affairs

5/22/2020 - JOINT BASE SAN ANTONIO-RANDOLPH, Texas — As part of the Air Force’s on-going effort to encourage a more diverse pool of applicants to pursue careers in aviation, the minimum height requirement for officer applicants who wish to fly has been removed as of May 13.

While still preserving safety of flight, the policy adjustment prevents initial applicants who are below 64 inches or above 77 inches in height from requiring an accessions waiver.

“We’re really focused on identifying and eliminating barriers to serve in the Air Force,” said Gwendolyn DeFilippi, assistant deputy chief of staff for manpower, personnel and services. DeFilippi, who chairs the Department of the Air Force Barrier Analysis Working Group, explained, “This is a huge win, especially for women and minorities of smaller stature who previously may have assumed they weren’t qualified to join our team.”

With the removal of the blanket height standard, the medical and operations communities will apply an anthropometric screening process to individual applicants for placement in an aircraft they can safely fly as they pursue a rated track.

“Studies have shown that women’s perceptions about being fully qualified for a job makes them less likely to apply, even though there is a waiver option,” said Lt. Col. Jessica Rutenber, Air Force mobility planner and programmer and team leader on the Women’s Initiative Team who led the height standards adjustment effort. “Modifying the height standard allows the Air Force to accommodate a larger and more diverse rated applicant pool within existing aircraft constraints.”

Under the previous Medical Standards Directory requirement, the height requirement to become an Air Force pilot was a standing height of 64 inches to 77 inches (5’4” to 6’5”) and a sitting height of 34 to 40 inches. Although most height waivers were approved, the previous restriction eliminat-

ed approximately 44% of the U.S. female population between the ages 20 to 29.

“Historically, most of our aircraft were engineered around the height of an average male, not females,” Rutenber said.

According to the Department of Health and Human Services Anthropometric Reference Data for Adults, United States, 2007–2010, the average height for U.S. females aged 20 and over is 63.8 inches across all ethnic groups. In contrast, the average height for U.S. males aged 20 and over, across all ethnic groups, is 69.3 inches.

“While most height waivers were approved under the old system, feedback indicated the entire waiver process served as a barrier, which negatively impacted female rated accessions,” said Lt. Col. Christianne Opresko, branch chief on the Air Force’s Air Crew Task Force and an aerospace physiologist. “It’s hard to determine how many women did not previously apply due to their perception of not being fully qualified or having to pursue a waiver.”

The WIT is an all-volunteer team, serv-

ing as influential advocates on topics that influence women’s propensity to serve in the Air Force. WIT members work toward creating a Total Force where all Airmen can advance to their maximum potential, regardless of gender.

“This doesn’t happen without the hard work and dedication of Maj. Chandra Fleming, Maj. Andrea Harrington and Capt. Lauren Daly, who played major roles in studying the engineering factors that might present barriers to rated accessions applicants,” Rutenber said. “Our medical and training teams with the Surgeon General, as well as Air Education and Training Command and Nineteenth Air Force helped make this adjustment possible.”

The WIT is one of five teams within the Department of the Air Force Barrier Analysis Working Group, which was created for the purpose of analyzing anomalies found in civilian and military workplace policies, procedures and practices. DAFBAWG teams are dedicated to identifying and removing potential barriers to equal opportunity.

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Yokota showcases adaptability and mission capability with Samurai Surge

By Staff Sgt. Juan A. Torres

374th Airlift Wing Public Affairs
5/21/2020 - YOKOTA AIR BASE, Japan — Members of the 36th Airlift Squadron, 459th Airlift Squadron and the 21st Special Operations Squadron out of Yokota Air Base, came together to complete a 17 aircraft Samurai Surge training exercise, May 21.

The Samurai Surge exercise involved 17 aircraft for an elephant walk and a C-130 formation flight. Of those 17, two were CV-22 Osprey aircraft from the 353rd Special Operations Group. This event showcased the 374th Airlift Wing's mission capability, adaptability and readiness to respond to disaster relief scenarios and contingency operations across Yokota's area of responsibility to maintain regional stability in the Indo-Pacific, even in the face of an ongoing global COVID-19 pandemic.

Due to inclement weather the morning of the event, a previously scheduled larger formation flight was reduced and launched as a smaller C-130J formation and a low-cost, low-altitude airdrop portion of the exercise was cancelled in effort to ensure the safety of aircrew and individuals in the surrounding Tokyo metropolitan area.

"An elephant walk is a critical test for not only our aircrew, but

our maintenance and airfield operations teams," said Capt. Melinda Marlow, 36th AS C-130J pilot and scheduler. "It showcases our ability to launch multiple aircraft out of a large formation to execute an airdrop mission. To make that happen, our entire operation begins with our maintenance team that has to put in a ton of work to make sure our aircraft are ready to go out and make that mission happen."

As a significantly larger-than-normal aircraft formation, a total of nine C-130J's, two CV-22's, three C-12 Hurons and three UH-1N Iroquois participated in the event.

"Seeing an elephant walk is great. Seeing our work in action, our ability to generate such a large formation and what it is capable of doing is just an amazing experience to be a part of," added MSgt. David Arnold, 374th Aircraft Maintenance Squadron C-130J production superintendent. "This is proof that we can take our entire fleet to get them ready to execute any mission that comes down, putting our air power in action."

This year, the exercise was conducted while under the restrictions of an ongoing pandemic, a situation that forced Airmen to rethink how these formations were planned, produced, and executed while following established



CV-22 Ospreys assigned to the 21st Special Operations Squadron taxi on the runway at Yokota Air Base, May 21, during the Samurai Surge training exercise.

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



C-130J Super Hercules, assigned to the 36th Airlift Squadron, are prepared to participate in a Samurai Surge, May 21, at Yokota Air Base.

(U.S. Air Force photo by Staff Sgt. Juan Torres)

guidelines and policies to prevent any potential exposure.

"COVID-19 has had a significant impact on how we go about our mission planning, but not so much when it comes to our execution of that mission," said Marlow. "If anything, it has allowed us to practice utilizing some of the tools and resources we have

but don't get to utilize very often. While the [physical] distancing aspect is unique, that distance in planning is a very realistic hurdle we routinely face when planning our real-world missions to respond to things that arise in our area of responsibility.

"We had to plan our flights and coordinate every detail from sepa-

rate locations but at the end of the day, that 17 aircraft formation we mobilized today is the same level of mobilization we would have achieved prior to COVID-19. The C-130J's mobilized are capable of delivering two battalions of paratroopers or up to 360K lbs. of cargo anywhere in the Pacific and COVID-19 doesn't change that."

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Pacific Fleet Sea Sailor of the Year advanced to CPO in rare ceremony



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

Chief Aviation Ordnanceman Jason Webley, from Brooklyn, N.Y., assigned to Pacific Missile Range Facility Far East Detachment Okinawa, stands at attention before being pinned to chief petty officer at Commander, Fleet Activities Okinawa White Beach Naval Facility May 27. Webley was the 2019 Pacific Fleet Sea Sailor of the Year.

By Mass Communication Specialist 1st Class David R. Krigbaum

Commander, Fleet Activities Okinawa Public Affairs

5/28/2020 - OKINAWA — U.S. Pacific Fleet Sea Sailor of the Year Aviation Ordnanceman 1st Class Jason Webley was meritoriously advanced to the rate of chief petty officer in a pinning ceremony held at Commander, Fleet Activities Okinawa White Beach Naval Facility May 27.

Webley, a Brooklyn, N.Y. native assigned to Pacific Missile Range Facility Far East Det. Okinawa, was selected as the 2019 U.S. Pacific Fleet Sea Sailor of the Year while stationed aboard aircraft carrier USS Ronald Reagan (CVN-76) forward deployed to Yokosuka, Japan. He joined the Navy in 2007.

This is the first time Sailor of the

Year program-related pinning ceremonies have been held outside of Washington, D.C. The ceremony is normally held at the Navy Memorial but because of travel restrictions in place to combat the spread of COVID-19 local ceremonies are being held across the Navy. The ceremony followed social distancing guide lines and was attended by CFAO-area chief petty officers. Master Chief Petty Officer of the Navy Russell Smith gave his remarks from Washington, D.C. via video and Rear Adm. Fred Kacher, Commander, Expeditionary Strike Group Seven, was the guest speaker.

"There is no transition more important to our Navy as an institution than becoming a Navy chief petty officer," Kacher said in his remarks as he congratulated Webley on his achievement. "Because when it comes down to it, it is the Chief Petty Officer who

shows the rest of us what right looks like."

Webley was pinned by his wife and children and his cover was donned by CFAO Command Master Chief Michael Fluent.

Webley credits his faith and team onboard Reagan for his selection as SOY and advancement. "It is a direct reflection of my leadership, my peers and the hard work of my junior Sailors that worked alongside me onboard USS Ronald Reagan put forth, so this is for everyone."

The Sailor of the Year program was established in 1972 by Chief of Naval Operations Adm. Elmo Zumwalt and Master Chief Petty Officer of the Navy John Whittet to recognize an individual Sailor who best represented the ever-growing group of dedicated professional Sailors at each command and ultimately the Navy.

USS Blue Ridge arrives in Okinawa for limited port call

By Seaman Sarah Eaton

USS Blue Ridge (LCC 19)

5/24/2020 - OKINAWA — U.S. 7th Fleet flagship USS Blue Ridge (LCC 19) and embarked 7th Fleet staff pulled into Okinawa, May 24, making the ship's first port visit in more than 70 days.

While on liberty, Sailors will have limited access to specific designated areas on the pier and neighboring beach. This type of "Safe Haven" liberty allows for quality of life and readiness, while strictly mitigating the risk of contracting COVID-19. Ship's personnel and 7th Fleet staff will not physically interact with anyone who is not part of the crew, including people from the base and local community.

This port visit will pave the way for future ships to do "Safe Haven" liberty in a manner which Sailors' morale and quality of life is considered while mitigating the risk of COVID-19.

"It is not lost on me how difficult a longer than normal deployment can be on top of the stress of the COVID pandemic on my Sailors and their families," said Blue Ridge commanding officer, Capt. Craig Sicola. "These types of port calls are absolutely required to restore our mental readiness, stay healthy, and enable us to fight another day."

Blue Ridge's MWR committee has worked diligently to ensure that, Sailors will have access to areas of the base and have entertainment available while in Okinawa, all while inside the designated safe

zone or "bubble."

Wi-Fi is being installed on the pier so that Sailors can use their phones and laptops. The beach will be open for Sailors to swim and lounge out on the beach, and sporting events like softball, soccer, kickball, volleyball, and basketball will be available at the facilities on base.

"A lot of great work has gone into planning this port visit," said Blue Ridge's senior MWR representative, Chief Navy Counselor Min Jun, from Davis, California.

Sailors were also given the opportunity to order personal items from Kadena's Exchange and have it delivered to the pier.

"Providing pierside delivery was an excellent way to help Sailors get the items they need to keep them running their best during deployment," said Lt. j.g. Raymond Kosak, Blue Ridge's disbursing officer.

All purchases will be delivered to a drop off station on the pier and fully disinfected by a qualified cleaning crew or be placed in large storage containers for an appropriate time that will ensure it is COVID-free.

With the exception of a few mandatory personnel to ensure the ship's safe arrival, there will be no interaction with any personnel outside the designated liberty areas. For the docking process, all COVID mitigations will be in place to include social distancing, masks, gloves, and minimal interactions.

"It is important to realize that the Blue Ridge has maintained a COVID-free bub-



U.S. 7th Fleet flagship USS Blue Ridge (LCC 19) arrives in White Beach Naval Facility in Okinawa, May 24.

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

ble since the outbreak," said Sicola. "We are taking extreme caution to retain this bubble by not allowing any human interaction with personnel outside the bubble and maintaining strict disinfecting procedures for items and equipment on the pier."

The visit to Okinawa comes after Blue Ridge recently broke its record of consecutive days at sea, which had previously been 64, last set during the summer of 1972 during the Vietnam War.

"Being underway this long has really opened my eyes to how the Navy operates. I'm so proud to be serving on the Flag

Ship for U.S. 7th Fleet and even more excited to be able to get the opportunity to pull into Okinawa," said Culinary Specialist 3rd Class Justine Hughes from Albany, Oregon. "The fact that this ship has taken on the challenge of maintaining our presence at sea during this time of worldwide crisis is very humbling and makes me feel like I have a bigger purpose in this military organization."

Blue Ridge is the oldest operational ship in the Navy, and as the 7th Fleet command ship, is responsible for fostering relationships within the Indo-Pacific region.

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3rd MLG unit deactivates after 14 years



(U.S. Marine Corps photo by Pfc. Courtney A. Robertson)

By 1st Lt. Tori Sharpe

3rd Marine Logistics Group
5/22/2020 - OKINAWA — U.S. Marine Corps Col. Joon H. Um, commanding officer of Combat Logistics Regiment 35, 3rd Marine Logistics Group, and Sgt. Maj. Shelby S. Smith, sergeant major of CLR-35, cased the CLR-35 colors for the last time in the regiment's former headquarters' building here, May 22.

The act of casing the colors represented CLR-35's deactivation, an event that typically would have drawn the approximately 1,500 Marines and Sailors belonging to CLR-35 and its subordinate commands, 3rd Maintenance Battalion and 3rd Supply Battalion, but was now reduced to three individuals due to COVID-19 precautions.

While wearing masks and socially distancing, Um, Smith and 1st Sgt. Chamnane D. Ung, CLR-35 Headquarters Company First Sergeant, came together to honor CLR-35 and document the historical significance

of the unit's deactivation.

For 14 years, CLR-35 stood as a pillar of logistics excellence in the Indo-Pacific region. With its subordinate battalions, 3rd Maintenance Battalion and 3rd Supply Battalion, CLR-35 was the go-to unit for integrated intermediate supply and maintenance support across III Marine Expeditionary Force. By providing units a higher echelon of supply and maintenance, CLR-35 kept III MEF ready to 'fight tonight'.

However, in order to meet the demands of today's environment, the Marine Corps decided to deactivate CLR-35 as the headquarters unit, leaving 3rd Maintenance Battalion and 3rd Supply Battalion as stand-alone battalions.

"3rd Supply Battalion and 3rd Maintenance Battalion are postured to assume roles and responsibilities of independent, functional battalions under the MLG staff structure and are prepared to provide intermediate supply and maintenance capabilities to III MEF forces," said Capt. Nicky Jones, CLR-35 Operations Officer.

As stand-alone battalions, 3rd Maintenance Battalion and 3rd Supply Battalion provide the Marine Corps more flexibility in organizing, training and equipping to support the Navy and Marine Corps force while operating in contested mari-

time spaces, facilitating sea control or executing distributed maritime operations.

"While it may seem counter-intuitive, deactivation of regimental headquarters can be seen as a small part of the larger, institutional effort to align to the Commandant's Planning Guidance," said Um. "We think, given the distributed nature of our formation in the future, decoupling the battalions and allowing for independence adds greater agility for respective commanders to respond to rapidly evolving conditions. This is part of the Marine Corps getting lighter, faster and more lethal."

The deactivation of CLR-35 resulted in the redistribution and staff integration of more than 1,800 pieces of equipment and 127 Marines and Sailors throughout 3rd MLG.

"At end of the day, there is not a single Marine who wants to quit at something and give up all his or her resources, but the entire CLR-35 headquarters team fully understood that this deactivation was absolutely necessary as the Marine Corps grows in a new direction to face different challenges," said Um. "The Marines worked hard over the last year to account for every single item while ensuring both battalions are successful on their own."

Combat Logistics Regiment 15, 1st Marine Logistics Group, based out of Camp Pendleton, and Combat Logistics Regiment 25, 2nd Marine Logistics Group, based out of Camp Lejeune, will also deactivate later this year.

EXERCISE CAGED HYDRA



(U.S. Marine Corps photo by Cpl. Donovan Massieperetz)

U.S. Marines with 3rd Battalion, 12th Marine Regiment, 3rd Marine Division, conduct dry fire drills with an M142 High Mobility Artillery Rocket System during exercise Caged Hydra on Camp Hansen, Okinawa, May 20. Caged Hydra is a battalion-level exercise that trains 3rd Battalion, 12th Marine Regiment's ability to implement dispersed and disaggregated command and control.

3RD RECONNAISSANCE BATTALION DIVERS



(U.S. Marine Corps photo by Cpl. Savannah Mesimer)

U.S. Navy Petty Officer 3rd Class Taylor Hale (left), a Special Amphibious Reconnaissance Corpsman, and U.S. Marine Corps Sgt. Trevor Lynch (right), a reconnaissance Marine assigned to 3rd Reconnaissance Battalion, 3rd Marine Division, wearing their underwater equipment during a Marine Corps Combat Diving Supervisors Course on Camp Schwab, Okinawa, May 20. The course lasts two weeks and allows the Marines to be supervisors in charge of their platoon while conducting diving operations.

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

NOTICE

Kadena Post Office notice

Please see some step-by-step guidance on how to complete the customs form online. Helpful Links:

USPS Click-N-Ship <https://cns.usps.com/>
USPS Customs Form Online <https://cfo.usps.com/>
USPS Partner Systems (i.e. stamps.com)

Until more guidance is released, please continue to handwrite customs declarations for the parcel select return labels provided by vendors.

Please e-mail any questions to:
718FSS.FSVP.KADENAPOSTOFFICE@us.af.mil

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.

INFORMATION

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.

Base Facilities (Current as of May 20)

The following on-base activities/facilities are authorized when made available. All personnel will comply with posted mitigation measures and staff directives as applicable:

1. Dine-in restaurant services
 2. Auto-hobby, arts and crafts, and similar activities/facilities
 3. Outdoor equipment rentals
 4. Gyms or fitness centers
 5. Pools and aquatic centers
 6. Bowling
 7. Education centers and libraries
 8. Pet boarding and adoptions
 9. Scuba rental and retail
 10. Golf courses, clubhouses, and pro-shops
 11. Movie theaters
 12. Beaches, camping, and resort areas
- Kadena Recreation Areas (Kadena Marina, Okuma, Chibana Recreation Area, Bellows) may open. Patrons will comply with all posted safety guidelines and social distancing mitigation measures and staff directives.

Schools and Childcare

DoDEA Schools: Closed indefinitely
School Age Care: Open to single and dual military parents; military with working spouse. Additional open spaces now

allow categories of DoD civilian and Dual DoD. Child Development Center: Open to single and dual military parents. Youth and Teen Center: Closed
Family Child Care: First come, first served basis - 11 spaces, including 1 infant space is now available.

Defense Commissary Agency

At this time, the commissary remains open and has enough resources to accommodate Team Kadena's service members and their families. Hand sanitizer will be limited to one per transaction to ensure access for more individuals. AAFES and DeCA are working closely with their U.S. and local supply chains to ensure hand sanitizer and disinfectant products are available to their customers. Updates will come in-store and across their social media.

Dining Facilities

Dining facilities remain open.

FSS Activities

Please monitor the KadenaFSS website for event updates.

Military Personnel Flight

Monday - Friday, 7 a.m. to 7:30 p.m. by appointment only.

Chapel Chapel is no longer conducting mass gatherings all week. However, Chaplain services are still available.

McDaniel Center

All professional development seminars and lunch'n'learns are temporarily suspended until further notice with the exception of FTAC. One-on-one counseling sessions still available on an appointment only basis.

Public Affairs Photo Studio

Open Wednesdays from 9 a.m. - 11 a.m. by appointment only. Call 634-3813 between 8 a.m. and 4 p.m. weekdays to schedule. Appointments are limited to the issuance of official passport photos or if photo is required for a special duty application.

Approved & Restricted Non-essential Activities (Current as of May 20)

All personnel will comply, to greatest extent feasible, with social distancing measures (e.g., maintain 6 feet apart, minimize close contacts) and ensure proper hygiene at all times. (moved from the medical section)
The following travel restrictions/off-base activities applies to any personnel desiring to gain or maintain access to Kadena Air Base and areas under 18th Wing control:

* Those who live and work on Kadena AB are restricted to KAB.

* Those who live on KAB, but work off KAB, are restricted to KAB unless traveling directly to and from their place of work.

* For those personnel who live off KAB (in the local community or on another military installation), off-base travel is limited to traveling directly between their place of residence and their place of work/military installation.

* This direction is not meant to restrict freedom of movement while on a military installation beyond that already implemented, nor prohibit traveling directly between military installations (including to/from KAB).

* Use of off-base child care and schools is authorized; however, use of on-base services is highly recommended due to potential for these facilities to be placed off-limits in the future.

Exceptions to Policy for Off-Base Restrictions: All ETPs for off-base restricted activities will be limited in nature, will detail the risk and mitigation measures, and must be approved in writing by the first Field Grade Officer squadron commander (or civilian equivalent); all approved exceptions must be forwarded through the chain of command to the 18th Wing Commander no later than 24 hours

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Okinawa

prior to the time an exception is required. The following activities/facilities remain prohibited:

1. Off-base chapels and church services
 2. Nail salons
 3. Massage services
- Shopping at the BX, Commissary, and AAFES concessionaires (unless prohibited above) is authorized. DoD ID and face covering/mask required for all personnel to enter.

The availability and hours of operation of Force Support Squadron (FSS) functions can be found on the Kadena Connect app and the Kadena FSS Facebook page.

Authorized off-base activities (with proper social distancing) are limited to the following:

- Housing/Financial activities such as paying rent/utility bills and banking
- Grocery shopping and procuring other essential household items
- Physical exercise outdoors such as walking, running, and biking
- Activities required by the Government of Japan such as paying road taxes
- Medical or veterinary care
- Vehicle repair and gas fill-up
- Drive-thru from dining establishments
- Command-authorized health and wellness checks
- Take-out from dining establishments/convenience stores. Personnel will limit the number of group/family members in an establishment at one time to ensure social distancing
- Visiting beaches and public parks
- Only MLCs, IHAs, and non-SOFA contractor employees are authorized to patronize off-base barbershops and beauty salons.
- Any person who refuses to obey or otherwise violates these directives may be detained and held accountable. Uniformed personnel and retired members of the uniformed services may be punished under the Uniform Code of Military Justice. Those not subject to military law may be subject to administrative action including, but not limited to, an early return of dependents, termination of a civilian tour, and/or denial of access to/barrament from the installation.

Current situation on Okinawa regarding COVID-19 (Current as of May 28)

As of 27 May, there have been no new cases of COVID-19 for 27 days straight. As of 26 May, 131 people out of 143 have recovered. Five individuals remain hospitalized with three being seriously ill.

A woman in her 50s from Okinawa City has tested positive again after being discharged from hospital on 11 May. This is the fourth case of reactivation in Okinawa. This is not considered a "new" case.

Responding to the Government of Japan bringing 80% of the country out of the nationwide state of emergency - including Okinawa - Okinawa Prefectural Government has lifted its own state of emergency. All elementary, middle and high schools in the Okinawa Prefecture have reopened. Local buses on Okinawa have returned to their usual timetables and the business closure requests have been lifted. The Kyushu Area Governors' Association, which is composed of the governors of the Kyushu area as well as Yamaguchi and Okinawa prefectures are asking people to continue to give careful consideration to making trips to the five prefectures that were released from a nationwide state of emergency on 25 May (Tokyo, Kanagawa, Chiba, Saitama and Hokkaido prefectures) until 18 June. Requests for people to refrain from crossing prefectural borders will be lifted in phases beginning June 1.

The Okinawa prefecture has already fulfilled all criteria that it had established for activities to be resumed. OPG is calling on Okinawa residents to adopt a new lifestyle that incorporates antivirus measures such as wearing face masks, maintaining social distancing, promoting teleworking, etc. OPG is working on a plan to jumpstart tourism on Okinawa while putting antivirus measures in place. They intend to bring tourists back to Okinawa after the COVID-19 scare subsides as well as send the message that Okinawa is a safe tourist destination.

The Eisa Festival scheduled for September has been cancelled due to the pandemic.

29- May	1100-1700	KAB Concession Mall	E&C Kebab
29- May	1100-1400	KAB Flightline	Nukumi Kitchen
29- May	1100-1800	Butler Express	Old Spices
29- May	1700-1900	Plaza Housing	Old Spices
30- May	1100-1900	KAB Concession Mall	Nukumi Kitchen
30- May	1100-1900	KAB Concession Mall	Old Spices
30- May	1100-1700	Foster Main Store	E&C Kebab
31- May	1100-1900	KAB Concession Mall	Café Shiyu de Pokko
31- May	1100-1700	KAB Concession Mall	Churros Chifin-no-Suzu
31- May	1100-1900	Foster Main Store	Old Spices
1- Jun	1100-1400	KAB Flightline	Nukumi Kitchen
1- Jun	1700-1900	Torii Express	Triple A
2- Jun	1100-1400	Torii Express	Nukumi Kitchen
2- Jun	1100-1400	KAB Flightline	Café Shiyu de Pokko
2- Jun	1100-1800	Butler Express	Old Spices
3- Jun	1100-1400	KAB Flightline	Old Spices
3- Jun	1700-1900	KAB Concession Mall	Triple A
4- Jun	1100-1700	Torii Express	Old Spices
4- Jun	1100-1400	KAB Flightline	Café Shiyu de Pokko
4- Jun	1100-1800	Butler Express	Old Spices

COVID-19 RESPONSE

64th Air Expeditionary Group Military Movement



(U.S. Navy photo by Mass Communication Specialist 1st Class Kleynia R. McKnight)

NEW YORK, NY — U.S. Army Col. Kimberlee Aiello, commander, 44th Medical Brigade, congratulates service members during an awards ceremony prior to their departure outside the Javits Center, in New York City, May 25. Military medical providers assigned to the hospital collaborate as an integrated system to relieve the New York City medical system, as part of the Department of Defense COVID-19 response. U.S. Northern Command, through U.S. Army North, remains committed to providing flexible Department of Defense support to the Federal Emergency Management Agency for the whole-of-nation COVID-19 response.

EMF-M Sailors return to Jacksonville

JACKSONVILLE, FL — Some of the sailors assigned to U.S. Navy Expedition-



(U.S. Navy photo by Jacob Sippel)

ary Medical Facility - M return on May 22 to Naval Air Station Jacksonville, Florida. Other Navy EMF - M personnel remain deployed, and those who return are placed on ready alert to deploy, in support of the Department of Defense COVID-19 response.

Task Force Medical FTX



(U.S. Army National Guard photo by Sgt. John Schoebel)

HONOLULU, HI — Task Force Medical team members lift a simulated patient to a litter during the field training exercise after being assessed in the field hospital tent, May 23, Honolulu. The training was designed to simulate the response to a sud-

den cluster of COVID-19 cases on the island of Oahu.

911th Airlift Wing thanks healthcare professionals, first responders



(U.S. Air Force photo by Marjorie A. Schurr)

BEAVER, PA — A C-17 Globemaster III piloted by Lt. Col. David Kraft, 758th Airlift Squadron commander, performs a fly-over over Heritage Valley Beaver Campus hospital in Beaver, Pennsylvania, May 25. The 911th Airlift Wing conducted flyovers to thank healthcare workers and first responders who are sacrificing so much to protect the local community during the COVID-19 pandemic.

Minnesota National Guard provides COVID-19 testing

DULUTH, MN — Soldiers and Airmen from the Minnesota National Guard conduct COVID-19 testing at six National Guard armories across the state, May 23. The testing was conducted in coordi-



(Minnesota National Guard photo by Staff Sgt. Linsey Williams)

nation with the Minnesota Department of Health and provided at no cost to any Minnesotan who wanted or needed a test.

Coast Guard participates in Honor Flight



(U.S. Coast Guard photo by Chief Petty Officer Charly Hengen)

MIAMI, FL — A Coast Guard Air Station Miami HC-144 Ocean Sentry airplane crew and an MH-65 Dolphin helicopter crew conduct an Honor Flight over Miami, Florida, May 23. The Honor Flight flew over several South Florida based hospitals celebrating first responders and medical staff working diligently during the COVID-19 pandemic.

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