

OKINAWA MARINE

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Marines prep for KMEP 13-8

SEE PAGE 4 FOR STORY & PHOTO



Marines execute preparation fire training at Rodriguez Live-Fire Complex, Republic of Korea Aug. 16 prior to Korean Marine Exchange Program 13-8. The U.S. Marine Corps artillerymen will train with ROK Marines, exchanging standard operating procedures and comparing capabilities. The artillerymen are with India Battery, 3rd Battalion, 11th Marine Regiment, currently assigned to 3rd Bn., 12th Marine Regiment, 3rd Marine Division, III Marine Expeditionary Force, under the unit deployment program. The photographer used a combination of low light and a slow shutter speed to create a ghostlike effect on the faster-moving subjects. Photo by Lance Cpl. Kasey Peacock

Veterans visit Foster, share experiences

Lance Cpl. Pete Sanders

OKINAWA MARINE STAFF

CAMP FOSTER — Trips to medical treatment facilities frequently bring to mind thoughts of serious physical ailments and injuries. There are some injuries, however, that cannot be seen, and others that simple scans and blood tests cannot definitively detect.

The unseen set of injuries frequently overlooked in and out of the military relate to mental health.

Marine Corps Community Services hosted the Heroes and Healthy Families program conferences Aug. 14-15 covering serious and essential issues within the military community, including combat operational stress, suicide prevention and substance abuse.

The conferences were held at Camps see **HEALTHY** pg 5

UFG 13 improves stability, overall mission readiness

Lance Cpl. Brandon C. Suhr

OKINAWA MARINE STAFF

CAMP HANSEN — Service members from the United States and the United Nations Command sending states are participating in Exercise Ulchi Freedom Guardian 2013 Aug. 19-30

UFG 13 is an annual, combined command and control exercise designed to improve the United States' and its allies' ability to defend the Republic of Korea and takes place throughout the Asia-Pacific region.

"The exercise will also improve participating units' readiness in order to maintain the stability of the Korean Peninsula," said Maj. David M. Grosso, the force synchronization see **UFG** pg 5



Marines with 3rd Law Enforcement Battalion demonstrate mechanical advantage control holds during the Nonlethal Weapons Executive Seminar 2013 Aug. 19 in Five Hills Training Area, Mongolia. NOLES is designed to promote awareness and effective use of nonlethal weapons as a tool to maintain order in low-intensity or civil unrest situations. 3rd LE Bn. is with III Marine Expeditionary Force Headquarters Group, III MEF. Photo by Sgt. John M. Ewald

Nonlethal weapons exercise begins

Sgt. Ben Eberle

US MARINE FORCES PACIFIC

FIVE HILLS TRAINING AREA, Mongolia — U.S. Marines and Mongolian Armed Forces service members were joined by the Mongolian General Police Aug. 17 to start Nonlethal Weapons Executive Seminar 2013 at Five Hills Training Area and Ulaanbaatar, Mongolia.

A joint-combined team of approximately 170 military and police personnel began the 12th iteration of NOLES, which is a regularly scheduled field training exercise and leadership seminar designed to promote awareness and effective use of nonlethal weapons.

"We need to understand that future conflicts will mandate that battlefield commanders have a thorough understanding of nonlethal weapons, their tactics, and how see **NOLES** pg 5

IN THIS
ISSUESUBSTANCE ABUSE COUNSELORS
ATTEND 'PRIME FOR LIFE'

PG. 3

3RD MAINTENANCE BATTALION
SEES GREEN AT NIGHT SHOOT

PG. 6-7

3RD LE BATTALION BRINGS OUT
THE 'HEAVY GUNS'

PG. 10

Airman's devotion to duty highlights dedication, sacrifice of service members

1st Lt. Luke B. Kuper

"I only regret that I have but one life to give for my country," said Nathan Hale as he stood waiting to be hanged after being captured during an intelligence-gathering mission in the early stages of the American Revolution.

His stoic defiance and willingness to sacrifice his life for the cause he believed in inspired not only his compatriots but also generations of Americans to come.

It is with the knowledge that a service member's life may be given for his or her nation that people voluntarily join the U.S. military.

On Aug. 5 a U.S. Air Force HH-60G Pave Hawk helicopter crashed in the Central Training Area of Okinawa while conducting a training mission.

While the cause of the crash is still under investigation, it did result in the loss of life for one of the four crew members on board.

Tech. Sgt. Mark A. Smith of Bakersfield, Calif., a flight engineer with the 33rd Rescue Squadron, 18th Wing Operations Group, 18th Wing, gave his life in the line of duty.

As a flight engineer with a rescue squadron helicopter, Smith dedicated himself to ensuring the survival of his comrades-in-arms during harrowing circumstances in inhospitable terrain across the globe.

This tragic loss highlights the ever-present possibility of paying the ultimate price for freedom and serves as a sobering reminder of the dangerous nature of military service whether in garrison or deployed.

It has always seemed fascinating to me that even though Americans are given the opportunity to apply all of their efforts toward an occupation based solely on monetary value, that many choose to go a different route

and risk the one life they have been granted so others may pursue the inalienable right to happiness.

Through years of conflict, service members have witnessed and participated in remarkable acts of sacrifice in the operational theaters. Oftentimes, this meant the loss of life.

As these conflicts wind down and the distance grows between present worries and past events, it is important not to let these sacrifices be forgotten.

Along with current operations, incredible sacrifices are made every day while in garrison, with the events of Aug. 5 standing as a stark example.

Yet sacrifice extends beyond the close circle of service members and applies to family and friends as well.

The months spent patiently maintaining a sense of normalcy while a service member is deployed requires families and friends to sacrifice personal time and daily communication along with many events that seemed normal and have since become luxuries.

This sacrifice becomes even more poignant and significant when a loved one does not return.

I encourage all our readers to recognize the sacrifices around you daily and not just on federal holidays.

Whether by wearing inscribed wrist bands, participating in remembrance activities, or through the simple act of quiet reflection or prayer, one can honor the sacrifices of those who came before, those currently serving and the family and friends who sacrifice alongside.

On behalf of Marine Corps Installations Pacific and III Marine Expeditionary Force, it is with heavy hearts that we extend our sincere condolences to the family and friends of Tech. Sgt. Smith. His sacrifice will remain an example of selfless devotion to duty.

Kuper is the content production officer for the MCIPAC/III MEF Consolidated Public Affairs Office.

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**AROUND THE
CORPS**



Lance Cpl. Brock A. Ruiz with 2nd Battalion, 5th Marine Regiment, fires at a target with an AT-4 light anti-armor weapon Aug. 14 at Range 800 at Camp Pendleton, Calif. The Marines conducted day and night platoon attacks supported by crew-served weapons as one of their final training exercises before deploying to Okinawa, Japan, as part of the unit deployment program. Ruiz is a rifleman serving with 2nd Bn., 5th Marines, 1st Marine Division, I Marine Expeditionary Force.

Photo by Cpl. Joseph Scanlan

A 26th Marine Expeditionary Unit maritime-raid-force Marine executes double-bag, static-line parachute operations Aug. 10 from a KC-130J Super Hercules transport aircraft over Djibouti, Djibouti. The maritime raid force is assigned to the 26th MEU, II Marine Expeditionary Force. The aircraft is assigned to Marine Aerial Refueler Transport Squadron 352, Marine Aircraft Group 11, 3rd Marine Aircraft Wing, I MEF. Photo by Sgt. Christopher Q. Stone



OKINAWA MARINE

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DSN 623-7229

SOUTHERN BUREAU
Camp Kinser
DSN 637-1092



Winner, 2012 DoD Thomas Jefferson Award
Best Tabloid Format Newspaper

Counselors build knowledge with 'Prime for Life' program

Lance Cpl. Pete Sanders

OKINAWA MARINE STAFF

CAMP FOSTER — Substance Abuse Counseling Center staff attended a Prime for Life refresher course Aug. 12-14 at Camp Foster to further their education as counselors in an effort to serve as reliable and knowledgeable resources on a wide range of substance-abuse issues.

The Substance Abuse Counseling Center is operated jointly by Marine Corps Community Services and U.S. Naval Hospital Okinawa, and the use of the Prime for Life substance-abuse prevention program was announced in Marine Administrative Message 527/12 on Sept. 21, 2012.

"This (program) is designed to teach patients how to identify and prevent problems," said Raymond P. Daugherty, a co-author of the Prime for Life program. "It's an evidence-based, early prevention program conceived to meet the needs of the populace."

Creating a program based on clinical research and studies in substance abuse helps achieve relevance and results, according to Daugherty.

"We designed the curriculum according to clinical research from other programs," said Daugherty. "We took what works from different programs and combined it to make this program accurate and effective."

Developing the course around early prevention helps students address substance use and abuse before it hinders long-term potential, according to Chief Petty Officer Clay B. Hardman, an addictions counselor with USNHO.

"Substance abuse disorders are commonly referred to as being progressive," said Hardman. "The earlier the intervention, the better chance that someone will adjust their behavior and make low-risk (substance use) decisions."

Because many cases of substance abuse are progressive, starting with seemingly small issues, and are rooted in habits begun before an incident, mandatory counseling is usually required, according to Hardman.

"More often than not, service members who come to a (rehabilitation) facility like ours laid

the foundation of substance abuse long before the military," said Hardman.

The key to returning to a healthy lifestyle is identifying the activity or activities creating an issue, according to Raul E. Barsallo, a drug and alcohol specialist with the Substance Abuse Counseling Center.

"The earlier we can identify the problem, the better it's going to be for the service member and their family," said Barsallo.

Ideally, an individual's problems will be identified using the program before they manifest themselves into long-term consequences.

"A lot of patients think because there haven't been any negative repercussions from their actions there isn't a problem," said Barsallo. "This couldn't be farther from the truth. Just because you haven't been caught doesn't mean there isn't a problem."

The program is not exclusively for those suffering from substance-abuse disorders, according to Daugherty.

"We don't make the assumption that everyone going through Prime for Life has a drug or alcohol problem," said Daugherty. "We only assume they want to prevent a problem from occurring."

The course work taught in the classes is designed to help both the individual and those around them make safe and healthy choices, according to Barsallo.

Substance-abuse counseling and research is available at the center and encouraged for everyone, according to Hardman.

"There are many resources available to educate yourself about responsible (substance) use and how to assess the level of risk for developing a substance-abuse issue without having a sit-down counseling session," said Hardman. "When people come into this program they usually leave happy they went through it, and I hope further implementation of the Prime for Life curriculum continues yielding positive results."

The staff at the Substance Abuse Counseling Center is available to answer questions about the Prime for Life program or other substance-abuse issues and can be reached by dialing 645-3009 from an on-base phone.

BRIEFS

PREP WORKSHOP FOR ENGAGED AND MARRIED COUPLES

A free workshop for engaged and married couples is scheduled for Sept. 12 at the Camp Foster Education Center from 7:30 a.m.- 4 p.m.

This free workshop is designed to equip married and engaged couples with valuable communication and problem-solving skills, and help them gain a deeper understanding of each other in their relationship.

For more information, call 625-2644.

FURLOUGH DAYS REDUCED

The number of furlough days will be reduced, and the planned school closures scheduled for Sept. 3, 9, 16, 23 and 30 are canceled.

DODEA schools will open as scheduled Aug. 26.

18TH ANNUAL COMBINED BAND CONCERT

The 15th Japan Ground Self-Defense Force Band and the III Marine Expeditionary Force Band will host their 18th annual combined concert Sept. 14 at 7 p.m. at the Okinawa Civic Hall.

The concert is free and will feature march and concert band music.

Tickets are available for pick up at the III MEF Band Hall on Camp Foster.

For more information, call 645-3919.

DISTANCE EDUCATION PROGRAM COMMENCES

Expeditionary Warfare School and Command & Staff College AY 14 Distance Education Programs commence Oct. 1.

To enroll, contact the College of Distance Education and Training at 645-2230.

OVERSEAS CITIZENSHIP CEREMONY

A U.S. overseas citizenship ceremony is scheduled for Sept. 6 at the Camp Foster theater from 9-11 a.m.

MANPOWER MANAGEMENT BRANCH VISITS OKINAWA

Personnel with Manpower Management Enlisted Assignments branch will visit Okinawa commands Sept. 13-17.

MMEA will conduct a series of manpower in-calls, presentations, and interviews in order to update commanders on enlisted manpower issues and assist Marines in making well-informed career decisions.

A detailed schedule is forthcoming.

TO SUBMIT A BRIEF, send an email to okinawamarine.mccb.fct@usmc.mil. The deadline for submitting a brief is noon Wednesday. Okinawa Marine reserves the right to edit all submitted material.

Marines recognized for heroic actions



U.S. Air Force Brig. Gen. James B. Heckler, left, presents a coin to U.S. Marine Corps Capt. Travis K. Pugh Aug. 15 at Marine Corps Air Station Futenma. Marines with Marine Medium Helicopter Squadron 262 were presented the coins after extinguishing a fire resulting from an Air Force HH-60G Pave Hawk helicopter, which crashed during a training mission Aug. 5 in the Central Training Area on Okinawa. "When we needed help, the Marines were there for us," said Heckler, the commanding general of the 18th Wing. Pugh is the air frames officer in charge with HMM-262, Marine Aircraft Group 36, 1st Marine Aircraft Wing, III Marine Expeditionary Force.

Photo by Lance Cpl. Anne K. Henry

Marines prepare for exercise KMEP 13-8 with bang

Lance Cpl. Kasey Peacock

OKINAWA MARINE STAFF

RODRIGUEZ LIVE-FIRE COMPLEX, Republic of Korea — Artillerymen with 3rd Battalion, 11th Marine Regiment, fired preparation rounds at the Rodriguez Live-Fire Complex Aug. 16 prior to conducting bilateral training with Republic of Korea Marines during Korean Marine Exchange Program 13-8.

KMEP 13-8, a regularly scheduled combined training exercise that enhances the combat readiness and interoperability between the ROK and U.S. Marine Corps forces, is just one in a series of continuous combined training exercises designed to promote stability on the Korean Peninsula, enhance the alliance between the two nations, and strengthen ROK-U.S. military capabilities.

The artillerymen fired 155 mm high-explosive rounds using M777A2 155 mm lightweight howitzers. The preparation fire is a necessary safety and function check that takes place before any training commences.

The U.S. artillerymen began firing alongside ROK Marines Aug. 17, while exchanging standard operating procedures and comparing capabilities.

“This exercise is going to be a great opportunity for us to learn things we couldn’t learn at our home base in Marine Corps Air Ground Combat Center Twentynine Palms, Calif.,” said Staff Sgt. David R. Morgan, an artilleryman and battery gunnery sergeant for India Battery, 3rd Bn., 11th Marines, currently assigned to 12th Marine Regiment, 3rd Marine Division, III Marine Expeditionary Force, under the unit deployment program. “Dealing with different terrain, climate and language is going to provide a great challenge for our Marines.”

Even though the exercise will present new challenges, the Marines with the battery know that being able to work together with their Korean counterparts is a crucial part of the Marine Corps’ role in the Asia-Pacific region.

“It starts with us on the ground,” said Cpl. Alan M. Swan, an artilleryman and section chief with the battery. “This bilateral training is not



Marines fire an M777A2 155 mm lightweight howitzer at the Rodriguez Live-Fire Complex Aug. 16 in preparation for the Korean Marine Exchange Program 13-8. The U.S. artillerymen began firing alongside ROK Marines Aug. 17, while exchanging standard operating procedures and comparing capabilities. The Marines are with India Battery, 3rd Battalion, 11th Marine Regiment, currently assigned to 12th Marine Regiment, 3rd Marine Division, III Marine Expeditionary Force, under the unit deployment program. Photo by Lance Cpl. Kasey Peacock

only going to benefit us, but both nations’ Marine Corps as a whole. It is going to be great training, particularly for our battery because it will help us be more prepared for future field operations and interactions with different cultures.”

Throughout the exercise, ROK and U.S. Marines are conducting live-fire training, helicopter exercises, military operations in urban terrain training, as well as cultural exchanges and tours.

“All of our preparations have gone extremely well,” said 1st Lt. Cipriano Rivera, the executive officer of India Battery. “I have

complete confidence and trust in the Marines of India Battery to accomplish their mission as artillerymen and uphold the standards of Marines when interacting with our ROK allies.”

KMEP 13-8, which is schedule to conclude Aug. 29, is carried out in the spirit of the ROK-U.S. Mutual Defense Treaty signed between the U.S. and ROK on Oct. 1, 1953. The exercise underlines the enduring alliance and friendship between the two nations and their combined commitment to the defense of the ROK and peace and security in the region.

3rd Medical Battalion completes MEDEX 13-2

Lance Cpl. Nicholas S. Ranum

OKINAWA MARINE STAFF

PHNOM PENH, Cambodia — Marines and sailors with 3rd Medical Battalion completed Cambodia Medical Exercise 13-2 Aug. 17 in Takeo and Phnom Penh, Cambodia.

The service members partnered with approximately 40 members of the Royal Cambodian Armed Forces and the Ministry of Health for medical training and conducted subject-matter expert exchanges with the caregivers during the exercise.

“The interaction between their care providers and ours was excellent,” said U.S. Navy Lt. Joseph F. LaBarbera, the officer in charge of the exercise with 3rd Med. Bn., 3rd Marine Logistics Group, III Marine Expeditionary Force. “We were able to learn how they take care of their patients while they were able to learn what we do for ours.”

The exercise provided opportunities for the U.S. service members to learn as well.

“The exchanges that we conducted went well,” said U.S. Navy Lt. Cmdr. Ian M. Laughlin, an anesthesiologist with 3rd Med. Bn., 3rd MLG, III MEF. “We were not only able to see how their military hospital functions, but also how a rural clinic maximizes the (limited) resources it has available to it.

“We tailored our lectures to fit their needs, and we were able to learn from both the Royal Cambodian Armed Forces and the civilian providers,” added Laughlin.

The service members discussed a wide variety of medical subjects with the caregivers of Roh Minh Clinic and helped the clinic staff maintain readiness by conducting training using only the supplies at the clinic to show how readily available materials can be used to meet the health provider’s needs.

“The knowledge that was given to us about trauma treatment, dental care and pregnancy will especially help the staff of the clinic in the future,” said Sera Vong, the chief physician of the clinic. “The experience that was provided to the staff was needed and showed us what will be useful for our clinic.”

“I strongly hope that this relationship will continue into the future,” said Vong.

The Marines and sailors also learned about the history of Cambodia, visiting the Toul Sleng Genocide Museum and Cheoung Ek Memorial. The museum and memorial stand as a testament to the brutal legacy of the Khmer Rouge regime in the 1970s, and the dedication of the Cambodian people to remembering their past in hopes of building a better future.

“These serve as a reminder of how far humanity can go in the wrong direction,” said U.S. Navy Lt. Joseph Grant III, a general dentist assigned to 3rd Med. Bn. “The Cambodians have designed it in such a way that (the museum) heals them. It is their way of coping with the pain and trauma.”

Learning and experiencing a small portion of the rich history of Cambodia strengthened the bond between the U.S. service members and their counterparts and reinforced the partnership, according to LaBarbera.

“Everyone did well, and I think that we have met all of our goals,” said LaBarbera. “The relationships that we built will carry on into the future and allow our countries’ forces to better share their knowledge and capabilities.”

HEALTHY from pg 1

Schwab, Hansen and Courtney Aug. 14, and Camps Foster and Kinser, and Marine Corps Air Station Futenma Aug. 15; all were open to any participants who wished to attend.

The Heroes and Healthy Families program, an organization based in Santa Ana, Calif., is designed to help service members return to non-combat life following combat deployment or situations that may cause similar reactions from service members.

The conferences included presentations from Master Sgt. Bradley "Ice Man" Colbert, known for his portrayal in the book and TV show "Generation Kill." Presenters also included retired Army Maj. Gen. Mark Graham and his wife Carol; Medal of Honor Recipient Sgt. 1st Class Leroy A. Petry; and Marine Corps veterans 1st Sgt. Marcus Wilson and licensed marriage and family therapist Jack Brito.

Conferences such as this serve as an increasingly vital part of mission preparedness, according to Sgt. 1st Class Leroy A. Petry, a Medal of Honor recipient and speaker at the Camp Foster event.

"Maintaining health is vital to individual and unit readiness," said Petry. "Mental illness, be it depression or post-traumatic stress disorder, is just as debilitating as any other set of injuries—just because we can't see the injury, doesn't mean it isn't there."

The purpose of the conferences is twofold: bring awareness of mental illnesses to both individuals and units, and let those from



Medal of Honor recipient Sgt. 1st Class Leroy A. Petry speaks Aug. 14 at Camp Foster's theater during a conference about some of the effects of combat stress. Petry's presentation, titled "Recovery after the smoke clears," used his experiences, following the amputation of his right hand while deployed, to encourage and educate service members and their friends and families in the audience. Petry is with the 75th Ranger Regiment. Photo by Lance Cpl. Pete Sanders

many demographics and situations know they are not alone, according to Petry.

By increasing awareness of mental health and helping those suffering from psychological ailments know they are in good company, listeners can look inward and recognize what is transpiring within their thought patterns, according to Petry.

Identifying potential problems is not solely the responsibility of the individual, according to Colbert.

"Looking out for the (service members) with you is absolutely your leadership role," said Colbert. "It's looking out for each other, and for me it was no different."

Some will take this as a micro-

managing excuse; however, there is no extra work required to fulfill this obligation, according to Colbert.

"We spend a lot of time in close contact with our shops," said Colbert. "You probably know them better than you'd like to admit, which makes you better qualified than anyone to identify when something is unusual with someone."

Cultural views on mental-health treatment have evolved in recent years, in part because of the work of the military to help affected service members.

"In the past, those suffering from mental issues were seen as not truly injured," said Petry. "Mental health units and other hospital units were

completely separated. We would see the (service members) going to mental health and think, 'they aren't really hurt, they just need to toughen up.' We now know how wrong that stigma was, and every service has changed to break it."

Service members and civilians alike can benefit from hearing the experiences of combat veterans such as Petry, not only to remove harmful stigmas, but to make life in the military better for future generations of service members, according to Petty Officer 2nd Class Maurice I. Nwagbara, an attendee and surgical technician with U.S. Naval Hospital Okinawa.

"When we gain knowledge from other people, learn what they have learned, we gain so much power," said Nwagbara. "You can use that knowledge to examine yourself, fix what you can do better, and then turn around and teach your teammates. We're all in this together as brothers and sisters."

Getting in front of a group and sharing life experiences, while far from an easy undertaking, is an important way to reach out, helping yourself and others, according to Nwagbara.

"To stand up and talk to others about what has happened and what I've experienced is not easy," said Nwagbara. "But sometimes we have to, if for nothing else than to let those around me who might have been through the same challenges know they are not alone, and they can overcome those challenges to improve as a person and as a warrior."

UFG from pg 1

officer with III Marine Expeditionary Force and senior watch officer for the exercise's Combined Marine Component Command. "The focus of the exercise is on the strategic, operational and tactical aspects of general military operations in the Korean theater."

UFG 13 also enhances the supporting forces through combined and joint training while improving ROK-U.S. combat readiness and interoperability among United Nations Command sending states, according to Grosso.

"This exercise brings augments from several different nations together and is designed to train and integrate the Combat Operations Center staff," said Grosso. "This ensures, in any operation, whether it is a combat zone or not, we are trained and qualified to execute the mission with our Pacific allies."

The augmentation forces will join more than 28,500 U.S. forces stationed in the ROK, as well as multinational representatives from multiple United Nations Command sending states.

"The service members from other nations are very good to work with," said Lt. Col. Thierry Werra, a French Marine liaison officer with the Joint Headquarters of French Armed Forces in Papeete, Tahiti. "Everybody is doing what they are supposed to do in a very professional manner."

UFG 13 is based on realistic scenarios and enables the nations' forces to accomplish essential tasks and respond to any crisis which may arise, according to Werra.

Approximately 30,000 U.S. service members and 470,000 personnel from the ROK are participating in the exercise.

"It is good training and good for unit cohesion," said Pfc. Kevin G. Gorski, a data networking specialist with 7th Communication Battalion, III Marine Expeditionary Force Headquarters Group, III MEF. "Knowing how to respond to certain situations is very important."

Taking part in this exercise has given some of the service members a different perspective as to how many nations are willing to work together with the same goal in mind, according to Gorski.

"I would love to take part in this exercise in the future," said Gorski. "Working with military personnel from other countries is very fun and interesting."

The exercise also highlights the long-standing military partnership, commitment and enduring friendship between the nations, helping to ensure peace and security on the peninsula and reaffirm the U.S. commitment to the alliance.

"This is a very interesting exercise to be a part of," said Werra. "I really like the professionalism between the different nations, and I hope to see it again in the future."

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to employ them," said U.S. Marine 1st Lt. Ryan L. Trunk, a training officer with 3rd Law Enforcement Battalion, III Marine Expeditionary Force Headquarters Group, III MEF, and officer in charge of the Marine training detachment participating in the exercise.

Mongolian service members have significant experience in peacekeeping operations, to include deployments to South Sudan, Sierra Leone and the Balkans, as well as participating in coalition operations in Iraq and Afghanistan.

"Over the next 10 days, we look forward to training you, learning from you, sharing experiences, and making new friendships," said Trunk.

MAF Lt. Col. J. Molorbold, senior staff officer for the MAF's Peace Support Operations Department and exercise director, thanked the Marines of 3rd LE Bn. for their participation as trainers and assistant trainers.

"I hope that you guys have a great time and take care of my soldiers," Molorbold said, emphasizing the importance of safety throughout the exercise.

Trunk stressed that safety, when dealing with nonlethal weapons, is always the top priority, but he did so without sugarcoating the intensity of the days to come.

"The training, at times, is going to be painful, it's going to be extremely difficult, but in the end I can guarantee you that it's going to be well worth it," said Trunk.

The two-part, nonlethal weapon FTX and seminar is sponsored by U.S. Marine Corps Forces Pacific, hosted annually by nations throughout the Asia-Pacific region and is scheduled to conclude Aug. 28.

3rd Maintenance Battalion lights up night

Story and photos by Lance Cpl. Anne K. Henry

OKINAWA MARINE STAFF

“Marines on the firing line, assume a standing position. You will fire a controlled pair directly at your target.” The commands are shouted as Marines with 3rd Maintenance Battalion make last-minute adjustments to their night vision goggles. On the command “Fire!” the loud staccato emitted from M16A4 service rifles cuts through the night.

This event was a portion of a night live-fire exercise during the intermediate combat rifle marksmanship rifle qualification for Marines with 3rd Maintenance Bn., Combat Logistics Regiment 35, 3rd Marine Logistics Group, III Marine Expeditionary Force, Aug. 13 at Range 13 near Camp Schwab.

The Marine Corps intermediate combat rifle marksmanship program is built around combat-oriented shooting with the goal of familiarizing

Marines with engaging targets while subjected to combat limitations.

“It is combat oriented toward fast target acquisition with two to three seconds to shoot three to four rounds,” said Gunnery Sgt. David C. Peel, the staff noncommissioned officer in charge of support platoon and motor transport maintenance chief with the unit.

The Marines continued firing after the sun set, using an advanced target pointer illuminator aiming light, or PEQ-15, in conjunction with NVGs furthering their combat skill-set.

“The night-fire portion of this training, paired with usage of NVGs and PEQ-15s, allows the Marines to build their confidence,” said Peel. “If they are ever in a combat situation, they will be comfortable with their skills and understand what they are doing.”

The night drills consisted of practicing hammer pair drills, two shots fired rapidly; controlled pair drills, consisting of two well-aimed

shots; and failure-to-stop drills, two shots to the chest and one to the head or pelvis.

“In a combat situation, you are unsure and do not always know where your target is going to be,” said Lance Cpl. Alejandro Sanclemete, a water support technician with the unit. “This has improved my skills as a shooter.”

The emphasis on combat-marksmanship skills and maintaining a combat mindset is important for Marines in units across the fleet, and the 3rd Maintenance Bn. is no different.

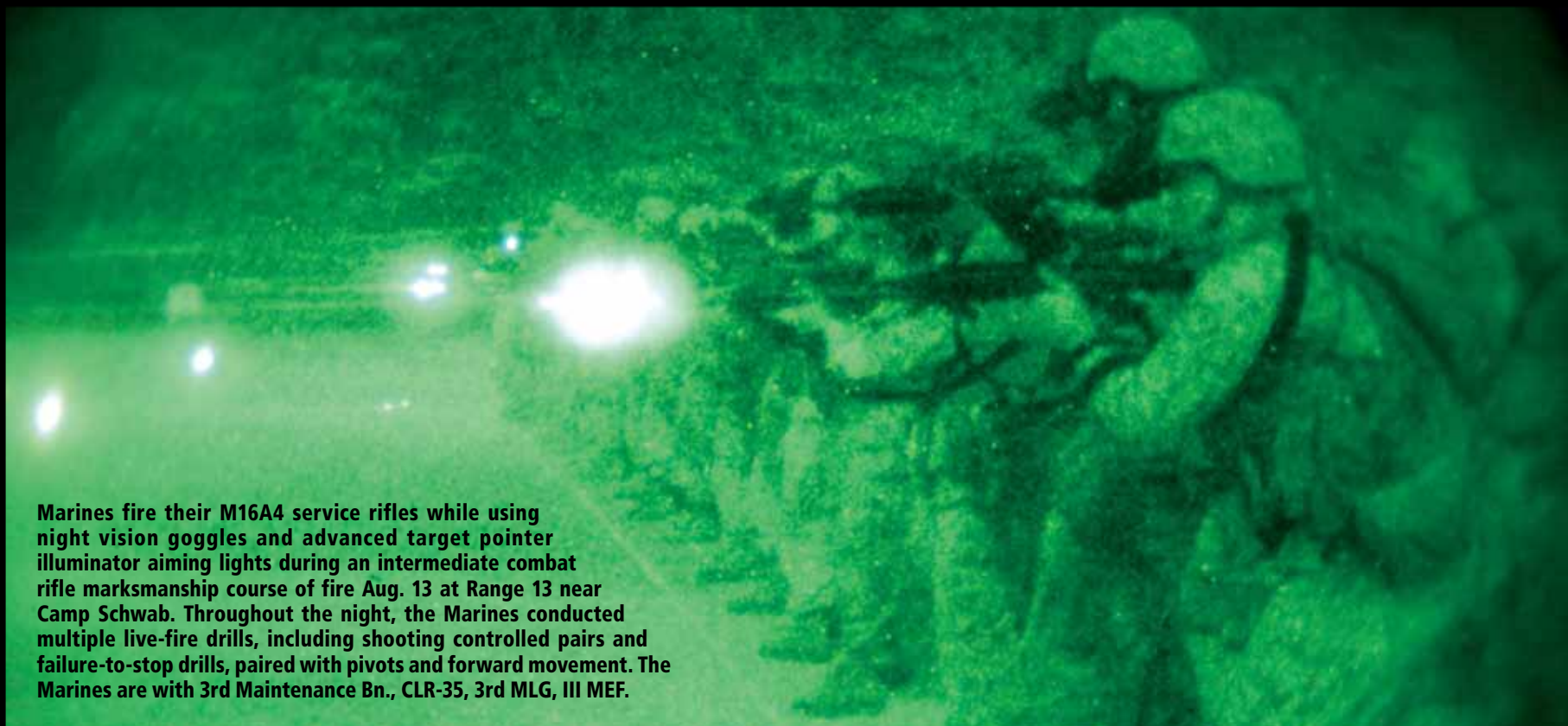
It is critical for these Marines to excel in combat-oriented shooting to better prepare for future missions or exercises whether deployed or in garrison, according to Cpl. Kyle G. Bailey, a marksmanship-training chief and automotive organizational mechanic with the unit.

“It is critical that they are relaxed when handling the weapon,” said Bailey. “I feel that this training adequately (prepares) these Marines for combat.”

Cpl. Jacob W. Wroughton peers through his night vision goggles as he prepares to fire his M16A4 service rifle with an advanced target pointer illuminator during an intermediate combat rifle marksmanship course of fire Aug. 13 at Range 13 near Camp Schwab. Throughout the evening, the Marines built their confidence in the weapons system by practicing various combat shooting drills, according to Gunnery Sgt. David C. Peel, the staff noncommissioned officer in charge of support platoon and motor transport maintenance chief with 3rd Maintenance Bn., CLR-35, 3rd MLG, III MEF. Wroughton is an optics technician with the unit.



Marines prepare for a facing movement to engage their targets during an intermediate combat rifle marksmanship course of fire Aug. 13 at Range 13 near Camp Schwab. The Marines are with 3rd Maintenance Battalion, Combat Logistics Regiment 35, 3rd Marine Logistics Group, III Marine Expeditionary Force.



Marines fire their M16A4 service rifles while using night vision goggles and advanced target pointer illuminator aiming lights during an intermediate combat rifle marksmanship course of fire Aug. 13 at Range 13 near Camp Schwab. Throughout the night, the Marines conducted multiple live-fire drills, including shooting controlled pairs and failure-to-stop drills, paired with pivots and forward movement. The Marines are with 3rd Maintenance Bn., CLR-35, 3rd MLG, III MEF.



2nd Lt. David Denisi sights-in on his target using night vision goggles and an advanced target pointer illuminator aiming light during an intermediate combat rifle marksmanship course of fire Aug. 13 at Range 13 near Camp Schwab. The training is built around combat-oriented shooting with the goal of familiarizing Marines with engaging targets while subjected to combat limitations, such as low to no-light conditions. Denisi is an operations assistant with 3rd Maintenance Battalion, Combat Logistics Regiment 35, 3rd Marine Logistics Group, III Marine Expeditionary Force.

Okinawa families make splash with service members

Lance Cpl. Kasey Peacock
OKINAWA MARINE STAFF

Students of the Asunaro Nursery School in Nago City splashed and played Aug. 10 during a day at the beach with Marines and sailors of Combat Assault Battalion.

At Oura Wan Beach, students, their family members and school staff spent time with Marines and sailors with CAB, 3rd Marine Division, III Marine Expeditionary Force, as part of an ongoing relationship between the school and the battalion.

Volunteers with CAB make monthly visits to the school, teaching basic English phrases and words, as well as proper pronunciation.

Fumio Iha, the Camp Schwab community relations specialist, coordinated with the CAB chaplain, Navy Lt. Steven K. Mayfield, to invite the children to the beach with their family members and school staff, so they could see the benefits of previous interactions.

"The service members have

been meeting with the children at the school almost every month," said Iha. "This was a great opportunity for the parents of the children to see the service members who volunteer with their children. It was a great experience to look around and see everyone enjoying themselves, and we definitely plan to coordinate future activities like this."

While the beach event was open to anyone from CAB who wanted to attend, the majority were the Marines and sailors who volunteered for the English-teaching visits, according to 2nd Lt. Ty Hogan, a ground intelligence officer with CAB.

"I think being on this island it is imperative to remember the importance of this relationship," said Hogan. "I am extremely impressed with the Marines and sailors who continue to volunteer and for those who offered the children an opportunity to see familiar faces. We all signed up to make a difference, and the Marines and sailors definitely did that."

The group swam, held footraces,



Lance Cpl. Ricardo Gonzalez plays with children from the Asunaro Nursery School of Nago City Aug. 10 at Oura Wan Beach on Camp Schwab. "The biggest thing for us was just the opportunity to be able to come," said Sanae Gibo, the principal of the school. "The parents and their children had been looking forward to this event as soon as we got the invite. While we are very thankful for the service members visiting monthly to teach English, it is events like these that the kids will remember and grow from." Gonzalez is a Marine Air-Ground Task Force planning specialist with 4th Marine Regiment, 3rd Marine Division, III Marine Expeditionary Force. Photo by Lance Cpl. Kasey Peacock

and built sand castles throughout the event.

"The biggest thing for us was just the opportunity to be able to participate," said Sanae Gibo, the school principal. "While we are very thankful for the monthly service members' visits to teach English, it is events like these that the kids will remember."

While the English-teaching

visits will continue, the students, their families and school staff look forward to future interactions outside of a school setting, according to Gibo.

"We hope to continue these events with the service members as often as we can," said Gibo. "Many people have no idea (about the positive) impact this can have on the children's future."

Readiness paramount in preparing for typhoon season

Lance Cpl. Donald T. Peterson
OKINAWA MARINE STAFF

In 2012, 13 typhoons affected Okinawa. The typhoons sent massive waves crashing against the shoreline. Violent wind and rain flooded buildings, uprooted trees, damaged cars, and left roads impassable.

June 1 marked the beginning of typhoon season, which will last until Nov. 30, and it remains important for service members and their families living on Okinawa to be prepared in advance of the powerful tropical storms common in the Asia-Pacific region.

Throughout typhoon season, Okinawa remains in tropical cyclone condition of readiness 4. TCCOR 4 denotes a weather state where destructive wind of 50 knots or greater are possible within 72 hours.

"If someone asked you, 'Are you ready if a typhoon is scheduled to make landfall in the next 72 hours?' what would you say?" asked Aaron M. Davis, the supervisory occupational safety and health specialist with the Installation Safety Office, Marine Corps Base Camp Smedley D. Butler, Marine Corps Installations Pacific. "Now is the time to stock-up on typhoon supplies. It is important to ensure that throughout typhoon season you have a typhoon readiness kit prepared at all times"

Typhoon readiness kits may vary for each family based on what it feels it will require during and following a storm, but all should include several basic items, according to Davis.

"Every typhoon readiness kit should have the following: one gallon of water per person for a day, canned goods that can be eaten without being heated up or nonperishable foods, flashlights, a hand-powered or battery-powered radio, appropriate spare batteries and a first-aid kit," said Davis. "All these supplies should be properly stocked to last for at least three to seven days."

Bathtubs should be filled with water for hygiene purposes before a typhoon makes landfall, according to Davis. In the chance that facilities and services are rendered inoperable, the water in the tub can also be used to flush the toilet.

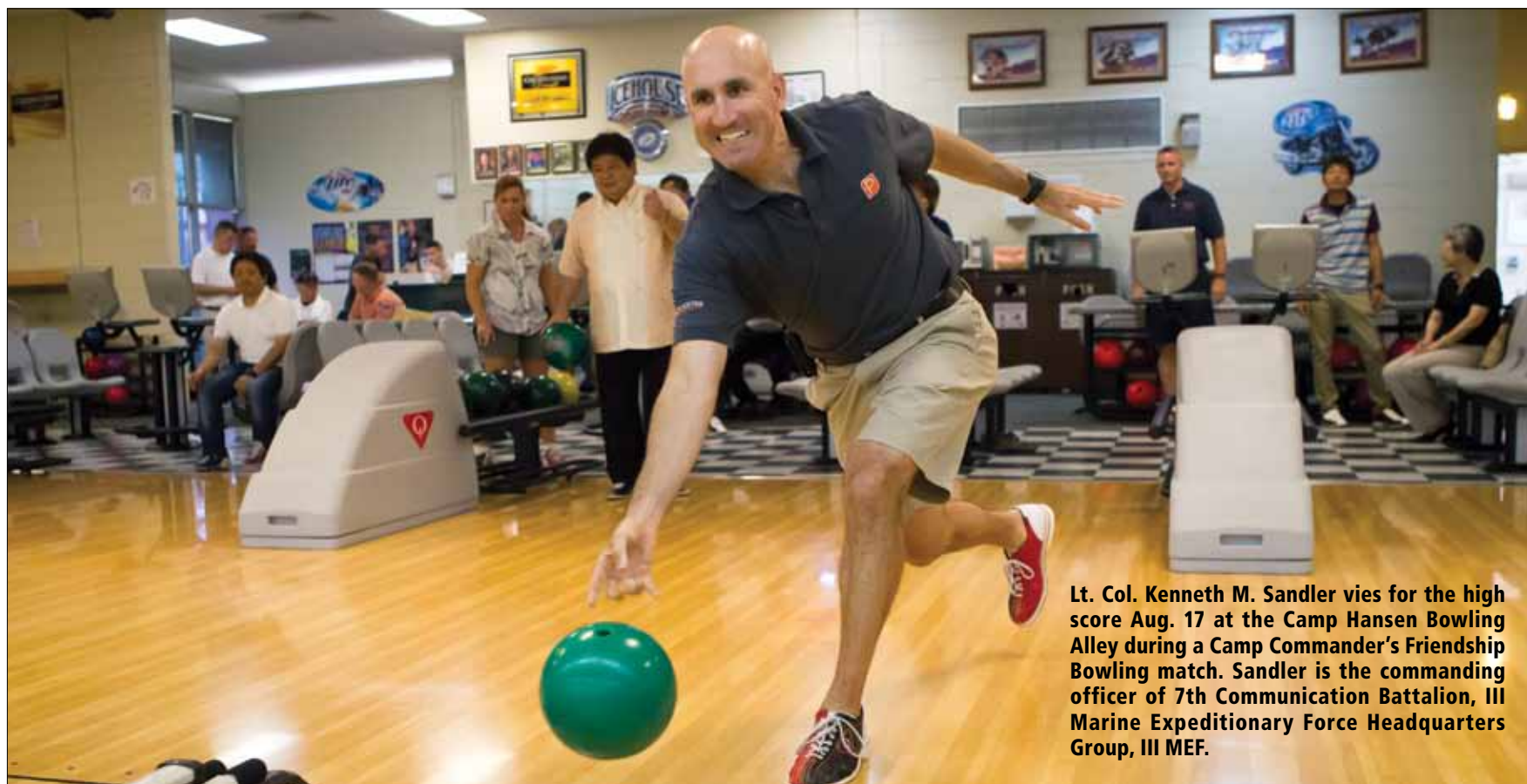
With the complexities of accurately predicting volatile storms a persistent issue, the TCCOR system has been updated to allow the conditions to more accurately reflect the weather that Okinawa is expected to experience.

If a typhoon is not expected to make landfall, but the island will still feel the effects of the storms, Storm Watch will be enacted per the recent update to the TCCOR system, according to Air Force Master Sgt. Joseph Round, a flight chief with 18th Operation Support Squadron and weather consultant with the Kadena weather forecast.

"This allows a heightened state of alert in case the course of the typhoon changes, so people will hopefully be better prepared," added Round. "Also, if a tropical storm system comes through that doesn't meet other TCCOR criteria, we can use storm watch to help alert people that it will still be a really bad storm."

To receive updates about current TCCOR conditions and monitor storm progress on Okinawa, visit: www.usno.navy.mil/jtwc, tune-in to American Forces Network television and radio programming, or call 634-4081 and speak to a representative from 18th Wing Support Squadron with Kadena Weather.





Lt. Col. Kenneth M. Sandler vies for the high score Aug. 17 at the Camp Hansen Bowling Alley during a Camp Commander's Friendship Bowling match. Sandler is the commanding officer of 7th Communication Battalion, III Marine Expeditionary Force Headquarters Group, III MEF.

Camp Hansen, Kin Town dignitaries bowl in friendship

Story and photos by
Cpl. Adam B. Miller

OKINAWA MARINE STAFF

There is no mistaking the cracking echo in a bowling alley as 10 pins are knocked down by a perfectly placed, perfectly thrown bowling ball.

Such was the scene at the Camp Hansen Bowling Alley Aug. 17 during the Camp Commander's Friendship Bowling match in correlation with the Camp Hansen Friendship Festival.

"We have a special relationship with Kin Town," said Col. Stephen B. Lewallen Jr., the commanding officer of III Marine Expeditionary Force Headquarters Group, III MEF, and Camp Hansen commander. "The mayor (of Kin Town) and I see each other frequently, so when we get together like this it is just another way to improve our relationship and ensure it lasts a long time."

Annually, Camp Hansen hosts a friendship festival to foster good relations between the Marine Corps and the Okinawa community.

"These types of events are good for both the Marines and the people of Kin Town and their families," said Kiichi Higa, the superintendent of Kin Town's board of education. "But it is also a good opportunity for people like me because it gives me a chance to get to know some of the (Marine Corps') leaders here a little better."

During the bowling matches, it was all laughs, cheers and

applause as the Marines, their families and Kin Town dignitaries did their best at a game requiring a great deal of skill.

"I'm not the best bowler, but I had a fun time bowling with the colonel, sergeant major and the other representatives of Kin Town who were able to make it out for the event," said Tsuyoshi Gibu, the Kin Town mayor. "But the real purpose was to deepen the connection we have between our community and the Marines who live and work where we live and work."

It was a good time to let loose, share some laughs, and enjoy a fun game all in the name of building upon an already good relationship between Kin Town and Camp Hansen, according to Gibu.



Tsuyoshi Gibu claps after his opponent picks up a spare Aug. 17 at the Camp Hansen Bowling Alley during a Camp Commander's Friendship Bowling match. The bowling match was intended to bring III MEF leaders and local dignitaries of Kin Town together in a show of hospitality and friendship furthering their already strong relationship. Gibu is the Kin Town mayor.



Kiichi Higa (right) bowls for a spare Aug. 17 at the Camp Hansen Bowling Alley during a Camp Commander's Friendship Bowling match. Higa is the superintendent of Kin Town's board of education.

Military policemen make weapon proficiency priority

Story and photos by
Lance Cpl. Brandon C. Suhr
OKINAWA MARINE STAFF

A police officer's job is to serve and protect citizens, which means they need to be at the top of their game and proficient in their duty. The same applies to military policemen when protecting Marines.

Military policemen conducted proficiency sustainment training using various weapons systems Aug. 13-16 at Range 10 near Camp Schwab.

The MPs are assigned to Company B, 3rd Law Enforcement Battalion, III Marine Expeditionary Force Headquarters Group, III MEF.

The MPs trained with several weapons systems including the M240B medium machine gun, M249 squad automatic weapon, .50-caliber Browning machine gun and MK19 40 mm automatic grenade launcher, all to improve their capabilities should the need arise to implement the varied weapons systems.

"We're trying to become more familiar with the weapons that we don't regularly use," said Sgt. Rene A. Alvidrez Jr., a squad leader with the company. "We are relearning how to properly employ them and perform immediate and remedial actions (if we need to use them in

exercises or operations)."

MPs have to be well trained for any situation and need to be prepared for anything, according to Alvidrez.

3rd LE Bn. consists of military policemen who are trained and prepared to quickly deploy in the Asia-Pacific region to help investigate crimes, such as terrorism and drug trafficking, as well as train security forces in partner nations.

"Familiarization with any weapon is essential in a combat environment," said 1st Lt. Kristin A. Mathias, the officer in charge of the training event. "The training with the weapons systems allows for further combat readiness to support and play an active role if the fight were tonight."

Before firing at the range, the Marines received instruction on how to assemble, disassemble, properly operate, load, unload and function-check each weapon system, according to Mathias.

"You can only learn so much from doing this in a classroom environment," said Mathias. "This gives (the Marines) hands-on experience and the opportunity to apply everything they learned during the classes."

The Marines demonstrated their proficiency with the systems through the practical



A Marine inspects a belt of M240B medium machine gun ammunition before firing during a proficiency sustainment shoot Aug. 13 at Range 10 near Camp Schwab. Safety is paramount when weapons and live ammunition are involved, and inspecting the ammunition and weapons for irregularities helps to prevent misfires. The Marine is a military policeman with Company B, 3rd LE Bn., III MHG, III MEF.

application of what was learned earlier in the training.

"This not only helps show our proficiency with the weapons, but it gives us a chance to correct any problems," said Lance Cpl. Edgar Cruz-Ruiz, a military policeman with the company.

Not only does proficiency sustainment training help ensure every weapon is functioning correctly, but it also helps the Marines maintain the expertise needed to respond to any crisis or

contingency in the region.

"It's very important that all Marines in the unit know how to use the weapons because we do a lot of bilateral training with other countries in the Pacific region, so when we go to those other countries we can pass our knowledge on to our allied forces," said Alvidrez. "This training paints a clear picture of how 3rd LE Bn. supports III MEF capabilities in the Marine Corps' focus to the Asia-Pacific region."



Lance Cpl. Anthony M. Inman fires an M249 squad automatic weapon while Lance Cpl. William C. Sutton observes the target area during a proficiency sustainment shoot Aug. 13 at Range 10 near Camp Schwab. During the training, the Marines fired the M249 SAW, M240B medium machine gun, .50-caliber Browning machine gun and MK19 40 mm automatic grenade launcher. Inman and Sutton are military policemen with Company B, 3rd Law Enforcement Battalion, III Marine Expeditionary Force Headquarters Group, III MEF.

In Theaters Now

AUG 23 - 29

FOSTER

TODAY Jobs (PG13), 6 p.m.; Kick-Ass 2 (R), 9 p.m.
SATURDAY Monsters University (3-D) (PG), noon; The Butler (PG13), 3 p.m.; Kick-Ass 2 (R), 6 & 9 p.m.
SUNDAY Despicable Me 2 (3-D) (PG), 1 p.m.; Paranoia (PG13), 4 p.m.; Kick-Ass 2 (R), 7 p.m.
MONDAY Paranoia (PG13), 7 p.m.
TUESDAY The Butler (PG13), 7 p.m.
WEDNESDAY Kick-Ass 2 (R), 7 p.m.
THURSDAY Paranoia (PG13), 7 p.m.

KADENA

TODAY The Butler (PG13), 6 p.m.; Kick-Ass 2 (R), 9 p.m.
SATURDAY Monsters University (PG), noon; Paranoia (PG13), 3 p.m.; Kick-Ass 2 (R), 6 & 9:30 p.m.
SUNDAY Despicable Me 2 (PG), 1 p.m.; Jobs (PG13), 4 p.m.; Kick-Ass 2 (R), 7:30 p.m.
MONDAY Paranoia (PG13), 7 p.m.
TUESDAY Jobs (PG13), 7 p.m.
WEDNESDAY The Butler (PG13), 7 p.m.
THURSDAY Kick-Ass 2 (R), 7 p.m.

COURTNEY

TODAY Jobs (PG13), 6 p.m.; The Butler (PG13), 9 p.m.
SATURDAY Jobs (PG13), 3 p.m.; Kick-Ass 2 (R), 6 p.m.
SUNDAY The Butler (PG13), 3 p.m.; Kick-Ass 2 (R), 6 p.m.
MONDAY Paranoia (PG13), 7 p.m.
TUESDAY Closed
WEDNESDAY Paranoia (PG13), 7 p.m.
THURSDAY Closed

FUTENMA

TODAY Kick-Ass 2 (R), 6:30 p.m.
SATURDAY Jobs (PG13), 4 p.m.; Kick-Ass 2 (R), 7:30 p.m.
SUNDAY The Butler (PG13), 4 p.m.; Kick-Ass 2 (R), 7:30 p.m.
MONDAY Jobs (PG13), 6:30 p.m.
TUESDAY-THURSDAY Closed

KINSER

TODAY Kick-Ass 2 (R), 6:30 p.m.
SATURDAY The Butler (PG13), 3 p.m.; Paranoia (PG13), 6:30 p.m.
SUNDAY Jobs (PG13), 12:30 p.m.; Paranoia (PG13), 3:30 p.m.; Kick-Ass 2 (R), 6:30 p.m.
MONDAY-TUESDAY Closed
WEDNESDAY The Butler (PG13), 6:30 p.m.
THURSDAY Jobs (PG13), 6:30 p.m.

SCHWAB

TODAY Paranoia (PG13), 6 p.m.; Kick-Ass 2 (R), 9:30 p.m.
SATURDAY Jobs (PG13), 6 p.m.; Kick-Ass 2 (R), 9:30 p.m.
SUNDAY The Butler (PG13), 3 p.m.; Jobs (PG13), 6:30 p.m.
MONDAY Pacific Rim (3-D) (PG13), 6 p.m.
TUESDAY-WEDNESDAY Closed
THURSDAY Despicable Me 2 (3-D) (PG), 6 p.m.

HANSEN

TODAY Paranoia (PG13), 6:30 p.m.; Kick-Ass 2 (R), 10 p.m.
SATURDAY Jobs (PG13), 3 p.m.; Paranoia (PG13), 6 p.m.; Kick-Ass 2 (R), 9:30 p.m.
SUNDAY The Butler (PG13), 2:30 p.m.; Kick-Ass 2 (R), 6 p.m.
MONDAY Jobs (PG13), 7 p.m.
TUESDAY Paranoia (PG13), 7 p.m.
WEDNESDAY The Butler (PG13), 7 p.m.
THURSDAY Kick-Ass 2 (PG13), 7 p.m.

THEATER DIRECTORY

CAMP FOSTER 645-3465
KADENA AIR BASE 634-1869
(USO NIGHT) 632-8781
MCAS FUTENMA 636-3890
(USO NIGHT) 636-2113
CAMP COURTNEY 622-9616
CAMP HANSEN 623-4564
(USO NIGHT) 623-5011
CAMP KINSER 637-2177
CAMP SCHWAB 625-2333
(USO NIGHT) 625-3834

Movie schedule is subject to change without notice. Call in advance to confirm show times. For a complete listing and 3-D availability visit www.shopmyexchange.com.



SINGLE MARINE PROGRAM EVENTS

For more information or to sign up, contact the Single Marine Program at 645-3681.

KUWAE PRESCHOOL

• The SMP is looking for volunteers to help the ongoing goodwill effort to clean Kuwae Preschool. Sign up ends Aug. 27. Attire for the event is appropriate work clothing. For more information, contact the SMP office via the number above.

DANCE OFF

• Join the SMP for the all-camps dance-off Aug. 24 at the Camp Foster Ocean Breeze. The event will feature hip-hop, country and latin music. For more information, contact the SMP office via the number above.

Mention of any company in this notice does not imply endorsement by the Marine Corps.

TEST YOUR CORPS KNOWLEDGE:

Which unit was established in Nov. 1947 to test experimental rotary-wing aircraft?

See answer in next week's issue

LAST WEEK'S QUESTION:
Which Marine recruit training depot dates back to Nov. 1, 1915?

ANSWER:

Marine Corps Recruit Depot Parris Island. The depot's 4th Recruit Training Battalion is the only all-female unit in the Department of Defense.



Japanese phrase of the week:

“So desu ne!”

(pronounced: soh-dehs-neh)
It means “That’s right!”

CHAPLAINS'

ORNER

“Okinawa is the place for natural sight and sound to benefit our well-being.”



Nature brings peace to mind, body

Lt. Pon Chanthaphon

3RD RECONNAISSANCE BATTALION CHAPLAIN

Okinawa is more than just a place where ancient tradition meets modern pop culture. It's more than just a place where people can find an enchanting blend of Eastern and Western cultures.

I find Okinawa to be the perfect natural setting for me to relax and to meditate; to be myself physically and spiritually while I'm stationed here.

Water is a life-giving source and is plentiful on Okinawa. It is beneath us, above us (a lot of it and at times with heavy downpours), and all around us. It is here pretty much year round. As the old adage says, 'Where there is water, there is life!'

I can think of many religions in the world that emphasize the importance of water in their ceremonial practices; such as Christian baptism, which sprinkles or pours water on someone's head or submerges the baptismal candidate's entire body; the overflowing of bowls during funerals for Buddhist monks, the Hindu belief in the spiritual power of the Ganges River, and so forth.

There are many rivers and streams on Okinawa along with dams, lakes, reservoirs and waterfalls that can be found just a few kilometers apart. I have found that relaxing near water is one of the ideal places for inward reflection and meditation. I am able to let the natural sights and sounds sooth my mind.

Add to this the sandy beaches, brilliant sun, rolling hills and lush mountains that surround us, and we cannot help but be amazed by the beauty and serenity of our island home.

I hope you get out into nature and experience it for yourself. Make note of the beautiful sunrise and sunset unique to our island setting.

These are all natural ingredients that God has placed here for us to enjoy. Okinawa is a place where the sights and sounds of nature can benefit our well-being.

As we go about our day whether to work or play, let us enjoy Okinawa's natural beauty. Relax. Meditate. Breathe the fresh island air. Let the natural experience of Okinawa be part of your daily physical and spiritual activity.

FOR UPCOMING SPECIAL WORSHIP SERVICES AND EVENTS FOR ALL MARINE CORPS BASE CHAPELS, CALL 645-2501 OR VISIT WWW.MCIPAC.MARINES.MIL AND LOOK UNDER "AROUND MCIPAC"