

OKINAWA MARINE

OCTOBER 25, 2013

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Islandwide exercise tests disaster response

Lance Cpl. Kasey Peacock

OKINAWA MARINE STAFF

CAMP FOSTER — Exercise Constant Vigilance 2013 took place Oct. 21–25 throughout Marine Corps Base Camp Smedley D. Butler.

The exercise tested emergency response and preparedness procedures across Marine Corps installations on Okinawa, and participants included Marine Corps Installations Pacific security forces, participating U.S. military services, Department of Defense Dependents Schools, Japan Ground Self-Defense Force members and other status of forces

agreement personnel.

To test and guide these procedures, a scenario was created to assess and validate the capability of MCB Butler to respond to and recover from a tsunami that results in casualties and/or damage to critical assets.

Events such as simulated civil unrest, search and rescue training, safe-haven and evacuation operations, and evacuation of host nation civilians through our facilities are all a part of validating the capability of the installations' response to and recovery from a tsunami landfall event,

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Japan Ground Self-Defense Force Sgt. Maj. Hideki Shoji lifts Petty Officer 3rd Class Jamie E. Walters while practicing medical evacuation carries at Camp Foster Oct. 23 during Exercise Constant Vigilance 2013. Walters is a hospital corpsman with 3rd Medical Battalion, 3rd Marine Logistics Group, III Marine Expeditionary Force. Shoji is a maintenance operation specialist with the 15th Logistic Medical Support Unit.

Photo by Lance Cpl. Kasey Peacock



Balloons are released Oct. 19 by service members, their families and civilians during the Walk to Remember tribute at Sunset Beach, Ginowan City, Okinawa. The tribute was held in honor of deceased loved ones and to recognize National Pregnancy and Infant Loss Awareness Month. The service members are with various units on Okinawa, including III Marine Expeditionary Force and Marine Corps Installations Pacific. Photo by Sgt. Brian A. Marion

Walk to Remember brings families, service members together

Lance Cpl. Diamond N. Peden

OKINAWA MARINE STAFF

CAMP LESTER — Service members, their families and civilians attended the Walk to Remember tribute at the Camp Lester Chapel Oct. 19 in honor of National Pregnancy and

Infant Loss Awareness Month.

The event consisted of poetry and memoir readings, candle lightings and a balloon release dedicated to the lost children and their grieving parents.

“Every year on Okinawa, more than

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Battery F returns from CATC Camp Fuji

Lance Cpl. Henry J. Antenor

OKINAWA MARINE STAFF

CAMP HANSEN — Marines and sailors with Battery F returned to Camp Hansen Oct. 17 after completing training at Combined Arms Training Center Camp Fuji in support of Artillery Relocation Training Program 13-3.

Marines with the battery executed artillery live-fire engagements, crew-served weapons training and basic field training during the exercise to enhance their overall combat efficiency in preparation to respond to a crisis or contingency in the Asia-Pacific region.

Battery F is with 2nd Battalion, 10th Marine Regiment, currently assigned to 3rd Bn., 12th Marines, 3rd Marine Division, III Marine Expeditionary Force, under the unit deployment program.

The Marines' artillery-specific training was centered on M777A2 155 mm lightweight howitzer operation and a basic artillery maneuver known as reconnaissance, selection and occupation of a position.

“Although (this technique) primarily trains Marines how to move (their equipment), it also establishes expedient patterns to prepare for shooting and establishing communications quickly,” said 1st Lt. Scott E. Dunaway, a platoon commander with the battery.

After the guns were emplaced, the first volley was fired and the Marines loaded additional rounds, checked their alignments and maintained situational awareness for the

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**IN THIS
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ISSUE NCO GUIDANCE**
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WEATHER DURING FOREST LIGHT**
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**MARINES BUILD FRIENDSHIPS
DURING SPORTS DAY**
PG. 10

Leadership Scholar Program gives Marines edge

Cpl. Mark W. Stroud

“**E**normous responsibilities and pressures (will) be placed on our young Marine leaders ... The lines separating the levels of war, and distinguishing combatant from noncombatant, will blur, and adversaries, confounded by our conventional superiority, will resort to asymmetrical means to redress the imbalance,” said Gen. Charles C. Krulak, the 31st commandant of the Marine Corps, in a 1999 Marines Magazine article, “The Strategic Corporal: Leadership and the Three Block War.”

“In order to succeed under such demanding conditions (Marines) will require unwavering maturity, judgment and strength of character,” added Krulak. “Most importantly, these missions will require them to confidently make well-reasoned and independent decisions under extreme stress – decisions that will likely be subject to the harsh scrutiny of both the media and the court of public opinion.”

Marines shoulder these responsibilities on a daily basis during nation-building efforts in Afghanistan, partnering efforts with U.S. allies, and humanitarian assistance and disaster relief operations around the world.

Despite Marines’ success tackling these challenges head-on over the past decade, translating military experience and responsibilities into civilian qualifications may be a daunting process for separating or recently separated Marines competing against their civilian peers for school seats at colleges and universities.

This is where the Leadership Scholar Program comes into play.

The LSP helps give Marines a leg up in the increasingly competitive admissions process by working with participating universities to advocate for Marines and bridge the gap between military service and civilian qualifications.

Marines must be a high school graduate with an armed forces qualification test composite score of 70 or higher and a general technical score of 115 or higher in order to qualify for the LSP.

The program is also only available for application to undergraduate programs and requires Marines be honorably

discharged by the start of the school semester for which they are applying.

A board of evaluators at the LSP determines applicants’ acceptance into the program based on their potential for success in an academic environment.

The applicant’s record of service, chronological record, administrative remarks page, basic training record, basic individual record, awards page, education record, joint service transcripts, high school transcripts, college transcripts if applicable and a letter of recommendation from the Marine’s commanding officer or officer in charge will be considered when making the decision.

Each participating university determines its individual application requirements in addition to the LSP requirements, as well as how many LSP applicants it will consider. Marines can apply to any university to which they believe they qualify, however, school application fees still apply.

Some universities guarantee admission to an established number of participating Marines per year and even go so far as to provide scholarships to Marines accepted as part of the LSP.

While some schools may work to provide veterans with scholarship and grant opportunities, Marines are responsible for arranging to pay for their education and can use their military benefits, such as the Montgomery G.I. Bill, Post-9/11 Bill or the Yellow Ribbon Program.

Interested Marines are encouraged to begin looking into the program and forming their educational plans early. A proactive and timely approach to the university and LSP application processes will allow Marines to transition from military service to life as a student with minimum interruption in their schedule.

Those interested in finding out more about the LSP, including which schools are participating, can visit their installation education center or the program website at www.leadershipscholarprogram.com. For information regarding possible waivers to application requirements, consult Marine Corps Order 1700.32.

Stroud is a combat correspondent with the Okinawa Marine staff.

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**AROUND THE
CORPS**

A Marine rappels from an MV-22B Osprey tiltrotor aircraft Oct. 15 to the flight deck of the USS Boxer. The Marines conducted the training to maintain force readiness in preparation for possible future contingency operations. The 13th Marine Expeditionary Unit is deployed with the Boxer Amphibious Ready Group as a theater reserve and crisis response force throughout the U.S. 5th Fleet area of responsibility. The Marines are with Battalion Landing Team 1st Battalion, 4th Marine Regiment, 13th MEU, I Marine Expeditionary Force. Photo by Staff Sgt. Matt Orr



Marines participate in a 7-ton truck pull Oct. 11 during the Praetorian Challenge at Marine Corps Base Camp Lejeune. The Praetorian Challenge is named after the Praetorian Guard, a force of fierce bodyguards used to protect Roman emperors. The challenges consisted of teams from II Marine Expeditionary Force Headquarters Group competing in rock climbing, tire flips, ammunition can lifts, fireman carries, 7-ton truck pull, a pugil stick bout and tug-of-war. Photo by Lance Cpl. Joshua W. Grant



OKINAWA MARINE

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Winner, 2012 DoD Thomas Jefferson Award
Best Tabloid Format Newspaper

3rd MLG hosts 4th annual Children's Marine Corps Ball

Sgt. Anthony J. Kirby

OKINAWA MARINE STAFF

CAMP FOSTER — Service members and their families gathered at the Butler Officers' Club on Camp Foster Oct. 15 for the 4th annual Children's Marine Corps Birthday Ball.

The children's Marine Corps birthday ball allows young and old alike to celebrate the Nov. 10, 1775, birth of the Marine Corps in a family-friendly environment.

The event was hosted by various units within 3rd Marine Logistics Group to allow children a closer look at an important part of Marine Corps traditions.

"My children are just as much a part of the Marine Corps as I am, so they need to be here to understand what they're a part of and why it's important," said Chief Warrant Officer Derrick E. Oliver, a food service officer with 3rd MLG, III Marine Expeditionary Force.

The event commenced with three key elements of most traditional Marine Corps birthday celebrations; a troop formation, a reading of Gen. John A. Lejeune's birthday message, and cake-cutting ceremony.

This was a great opportunity for families to become closer and spend time together, according to Kara Walton, the family readiness officer for 9th Engineer Support Battalion, 3rd MLG.

Members of the III MEF Band played as the children intently watched their parents, wearing their blue dress uniforms, execute their designated role during the ceremony.

"As the ceremony went on, my children asked questions about what was happening, so them being here helped give them a better understanding of the Marine Corps' history and traditions," said Eula Carrasco, a ball attendee and Marine spouse.

Another enjoyable aspect of the celebration was that it gave the children a chance to get dressed up and experience something new, according to Carrasco.

"Being here lets them see another part of what daddy does, other than putting on (his uniform) and going (to work)," said Carrasco.

The children's ball also helps reinforce the importance of traditions and customs, according to Oliver.

"My children understand that the Marine Corps is a part of our family, so bringing them here puts in perspective the difference between our family traditions and our Marine Corps family traditions," said Oliver.

Following the ceremony and dinner, the Marine parents were able to let loose as they danced and played with their children.

"Children deserve this chance to be here with their parents as reward for their support," said Oliver. "My family, my children, have been with me through the hard times (including) deployments and moving to different duty stations, so they have every right to be here with me celebrating."

Participants in the 4th annual Children's Marine Corps Birthday Ball, included Marines with 9th ESB, Combat Logistics Regiment 35, Combat Logistics Regiment 37, 3rd Supply Battalion and 3rd Medical Bn., all units within 3rd MLG, III MEF.

BRIEFS

HALLOWEEN TRICK OR TREAT HOURS

Halloween trick-or-treat hours for status of forces agreement personnel and their non-SOFA preregistered guests will be 6-8 p.m. Oct. 31 on Marine Corps installations on Okinawa and Kadena Air Base.

Non-SOFA participants must be preregistered by SOFA personnel no later than Oct. 30.

Service members E-5 and below will be allowed up to five guests.

Service members E-6 and above will be allowed up to ten guests.

For more information, call 645-7317.

INSTALLATION SAFETY OFFICE CLOSURE

The Installation Safety Office will close Friday, Nov. 8 for annual staff training.

The office will reopen on its normal schedule the following Tuesday, Nov. 12 at 7:30 a.m.

Personnel with government owned vehicle and privately owned vehicle licenses expiring on Monday, Nov. 8 requiring reissue are highly encouraged to visit the Installation Safety Office prior to the date of closure during the weekday from 12:30-4:00 p.m., except on Wednesdays.

For more information, contact the deputy safety director at 090-6861-4270.

DODEA OKINAWA DISTRICT COLLEGE NIGHT 2013

Volunteers are needed to represent their respective colleges for the Department of Defense Education Activity Okinawa District College Night Fair Nov. 7 at Kubasaki High School from 5:30-7:30 p.m.

The sign-up deadline is Oct. 25. Volunteers can sign-up at <http://okinawacollegenight.weebly.com>.

For more information, call 634-1204.

ENERGY-SAVING TIPS

If you're leaving a room for any length of time, shut off the lights, appliances, or anything that is using electricity that doesn't need to be on.

Unplug battery chargers, such as cellphone chargers when they are not in use. Conventional battery chargers, even when not actively charging a product, can draw as much as five to 20 times more energy than is actually stored in the battery.

If you have a creative energy-saving idea please call 645-3320.

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.

Smash Mouth headlines Kinser Fest



Smash Mouth performs several of its songs Oct. 19 during the annual Kinser Fest held on Camp Kinser. The festival, which took place Oct. 19-20, was open for everyone on Okinawa to attend. The festival gave service members and residents of Okinawa an opportunity to experience each other's culture through food, carnival games, military equipment displays and musical performances. Smash Mouth, most known for its song "All Star," was the closing performance for the first day of the two-day festival. Photo by Lance Cpl. Donald T. Peterson



Gen. James F. Amos



Sgt. Maj. Micheal P. Barrett

Commandant, Sergeant Major of Marine Corps call for reawakening for NCOs



Gen. James F. Amos

To our Corporals and Sergeants:

We are proud of you! We are privileged to serve alongside you, and we are humbled every day by you!

Instead of an easy life, you and your families chose a more difficult path – a life of service, challenge and sacrifice. With few exceptions, every one of you enlisted while we were fighting two major wars. In the last 12 years, you have defeated every enemy on the battlefield, and now the sergeant major and I need your help to reawaken the soul of our Corps against an enemy emerging from within our ranks. By soul, we mean those timeless attributes and habits that have defined our Corps for 238 years: persistent discipline, faithful obedience to orders and instructions, concerned and engaged leadership (24/7), and strict adherence to standards from fire team leader to general officer. These habits, these attributes, our undeniable belief in “who we are and what we do,” form the soul of our Corps.

We know that 98 percent of our Marines are doing the right thing, but we also know there are some who aren't living up to our sacred title. We are returning to the continental United States to rearm and refit in order to fight again when our nation least expects it. Those who aren't living up to the title Marine within our midst are disrupting the return to immediate readiness, soiling our honor, and causing the American people to lose trust in us!

Disregarding orders and standards, substance abuse, sexual assault, hazing, self-destructive behavior, and failure to maintain personal fitness and appearance standards, weakens our Corps and dishonors all who have endured wars' hardships. This insurgency of wrongdoing is invading our homes and destroying our credibility.

Sgt. Maj. Barrett and I are now calling upon the backbone, the main effort of the Marine Corps – our noncommissioned officers – to once again advance to the decisive points in battle. Of the 174,046 enlisted Marines on active duty today, 144,570 are sergeants and below. Fully 83.06 percent of our enlisted force is led by NCOs. As NCOs, you have irrefutably proven over the past decade of war that you are the backbone of our Corps. Through your presence, leadership and conduct, we will turn the tide of this battle against the insurgency of wrongdoing, restore our integrity with the American people, and keep our honor clean.

We have always known hardship and challenge. We have never known what it is to lose a battle because we have always prided ourselves on our devotion to self-discipline and combat excellence. This is who we are as Marines, and we must never allow it to slide. Discipline today leads to victory tomorrow.

You truly are strategic corporals and sergeants!

Sgt. Maj. Barrett and I need every one of you in this fight. No greater

a compliment can be bestowed to a fellow Marine than to say, I can count on you always! Never forget who we are and what we do for our country. Move to the decisive point in this battle and through your presence, professionalism and tenacity ... turn the tide of this fight for the sake of Corps and country.

Semper Fidelis!

Amos is the commandant of the Marine Corps and a member of the Joint Chiefs of Staff.



Marines evacuate a mock casualty to a casualty collection point after a simulated improvised explosive device detonation during the III Marine Expeditionary Force Headquarters Group Corporals' Course culminating event Aug. 5 at the Combat Town training facility in the Central Training Area. Gen. James F. Amos is calling upon NCOs across the Marine Corps to take a greater role in leading Marines. The Marines photographed are with various units within III MEF. III MHG is a part of III MEF. Amos is commandant of the Marine Corps and a member of the Joint Chiefs of Staff. Photo by Sgt. Brian Marion

CV from pg 1

according to Timothy Morello, the mission assurance director with G-3/5, operations, training and plans, MCIPAC.

In recognizing that a disaster will impact everyone living on Okinawa, both U.S. Marines and sailors trained alongside members of the JGSDF during mass-feeding and triage events on Camp Foster.

"Everyone needs to know the basics in first-aid and also how to be a first-responder," said Petty Officer 1st Class Danny F. Brown, a hospital corpsman with 3rd Medical Battalion, 3rd Marine Logistics

Group, III MEF, and leading petty officer in charge of training during the exercise. "With the next disaster potentially near, exercises like this one better prepare both of our militaries to respond in the most efficient way possible."

The knowledge sharing ensures that both organizations will be ready to respond side by side in a crisis to save lives and provide essential support during recovery operations.

"There is much to learn from each other by sharing and comparing medical capabilities," said Maj. Hironori Kosaki, commanding officer

of the 15th Logistic Medical Support Unit. "Since we have now worked together today, we will be able to better provide care to those who need it in the future."

Along with testing the preparedness of service members, another goal of CV13 was to familiarize all personnel associated with MCB Butler with evacuation drills and emergency procedures.

"The purpose of the exercise is to integrate our bilateral functions to be able to work with anyone, not just the two militaries," said James H. Hawley, the deputy director for the exercise. "We all play a vital

role in the big picture of being ready for potential disasters."

CV13 better prepared MCB Butler to work alongside JGSDF members for response and recovery efforts in the event of a catastrophic natural disaster and informed personnel associated with the base about crucial evacuation routes across Okinawa.

"The communication and integration seen throughout the exercise has been nothing less than excellent," said Hawley. "We were able to coordinate care, exercise our bilateral functions, and were ultimately ready to respond."

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duration of the live-fire mission.

"It can get hectic, but our job is crucial," said Lance Cpl. Jeremiah J. Helms, a field artillery cannoneer with the battery. "We are able to support units from (far) away, fire on the enemy's position, and eliminate them."

Additionally, the Marines camouflaged their positions with netting and emplaced crew-served weapons, including M240B medium machine guns and MK-19 grenade launchers, around the perimeter for increased security.

"(An enemy) will direct actions against the field artillery to suppress, neutralize or destroy our capability to fight," said Dunaway. "All field artillerymen must know and apply passive and active defense measures against artillery, air and ground attacks if they are to survive and provide continuous and responsive fire support."

After the field training portion of ARTP 13-3 ended, the Marines visited several cultural sites near CATC Camp Fuji, including the Narusawa Museum of Mount Fuji, the Kitaguchi Hongu Fuji Sengen Shrine and an underground cave site, in addition to touring Tokyo.

The Marines took full advantage of the opportunity to visit the area and enjoy the popular sites, according to Lance Cpl. Jacob Castro, a field artillery cannoneer with the battery.

"After all the hard work we have done, being able to visit these places was a good experience," said Castro. "I learned a lot from the culture surrounding the mountain, and if I could, I would love to come here again."



Marines with Battery F fire an M777A2 155 mm lightweight howitzer during a live-fire training evolution at the East Fuji Maneuver Area by Combined Arms Training Center Camp Fuji Oct. 2 during Artillery Relocation Training Program 13-3. "It's our job to provide fire support from miles away, eliminating the threats to our troops and helping accomplish the mission," said Cpl. Matthew J. Jackson. Jackson is a field artillery cannoneer assigned to Battery F, 2nd Battalion, 10th Marine Regiment, which is currently assigned to 3rd Bn., 12th Marines, 3rd Marine Division, III Marine Expeditionary Force, as part of the unit deployment program Photo by Lance Cpl. Henry J. Antenor

WALK from pg 1

100 families are affected by the loss of a child," said Lt. Cmdr. Russell A. Hale, the U.S. Naval Hospital Okinawa chaplain. "Events like the Walk to Remember serve to reinforce and remind families who have suffered the loss of children that they have people they can rely on, and have gone through the same thing. They have people who they can talk to for comfort and reassurance."

President Ronald Reagan dedicated October as the National Pregnancy and Infant Loss Awareness Month in 1988. Over time, Oct. 15 became recognized as Pregnancy and Infant Loss Remembrance Day.

This is Camp Lester's fifth year hosting the walk, which is designed to support parents and help them cope with the loss of their children. The event was open to all status of forces agreement personnel.

"You don't have to go through it alone," said Naoko Rodriguez, an event participant. "When you lose your child and they're this young, you really don't know what to think."

Throughout the service, bereaved parents and support nurses read poems and shared advice about how to cope with the loss.

"It will test your relationship with your spouse," said Naoko. "You and your spouse may cope with the loss differently, but you have to lean on and support each other in order to make it through."

"You never think losing your child could happen to you, and at first you think you're the only one that this has happened to," Naoko added. "Then you learn about all the support groups and events like

this that are out there to help you."

Support groups, like the Perinatal Loss and Miscarriage Support Group, provide online forums for people who have lost children and to support and talk with each other during the healing process.

"One of the things I found most helpful was sharing stories," said Naoko. "Time heals all wounds, but the pain stays with you. It may lessen over the years, but it will always be there."

During the ceremony, the parents lit candles to signify the sparks of life that were extinguished all too quickly.

"Some flames burn for a long time while others barely even burn at all," said Hale. "As you watch this flame flicker and move with the slightest breath or wind, let us remember your loved ones who are now gone."

After finishing the service in the chapel, the congregation collected balloons, wrote messages on them and walked to Sunset Beach, where they watched the balloons float into the clouds in honor of their deceased loved ones.

"When a child loses their parents, they are called an orphan," said Air Force Master Sgt. Andrew Rodriguez, the first sergeant of 961st Airborne Air Control Squadron, 18th Wing, Kadena Air Base. "When a spouse loses his or her partner, they are called a widow or widower, but when a parent loses their child ... there isn't a word to describe it."

For more information about this event or support groups, please contact the Perinatal Loss and Miscarriage Support Group at OkinawaAngelBabies@groups.facebook.com or visit www.october15th.com.



Marines and Japan Ground Self-Defense Force members perform military operations on urbanized terrain during Exercise Forest Light 14-01 Oct. 10 at Aibano Training Area, Shiga prefecture, Japan. Forest Light is designed to increase interoperability and maintain a strong partnership between III Marine Expeditionary Force and the JGSDF. The JGSDF members are with the 37th Infantry Regiment, Central Army. The Marines are with Company K, 3rd Battalion, 3rd Marine Regiment, currently assigned to 4th Marines, 3rd Marine Division, III MEF, under the unit deployment program. *Photo by Lance Cpl. Stephen D. Himes*

Marines, JGSDF

Lance Cpl. Stephen D. Himes
OKINAWA MARINE STAFF

The scene of Marines applying camouflage face paint while preparing for a mission is portrayed in Hollywood movies repeatedly. What is not often seen in movies is Marines, like those of 3rd Battalion, 3rd Marine Regiment, as they joined together with Japan Ground Self-Defense Force members to complete light-infantry training in the midst of turbulent weather conditions.

JGSDF members and the Marines with 3rd Bn., 3rd Marines, participated in bilateral comprehensive training Oct. 15–16 during Exercise Forest Light 14-01 at the Aibano Training Area in Shiga prefecture, Japan.

The JGSDF and Marines worked with MV-22B Osprey tiltrotor aircraft during the exercise, marking the first time the Osprey has been used in training over mainland Japan and the first time JGSDF members have trained with the aircraft.

“Forest Light is a great opportunity to evaluate our capabilities during bilateral operations,” said U.S. Marine Sgt. Kenney Clark, a platoon sergeant



Lance Cpl. Nicholas Mieszala provides security for his platoon while moving to rendezvous with Japan Ground Self-Defense Force members during the culminating event of exercise Forest Light 14-01 Oct. 16 at Aibano Training Area, Shiga prefecture, Japan. Forest Light is a semiannual, bilateral training exercise consisting of field training events, including light-infantry tactics. Mieszala is with Co. K, 3rd Bn., 3rd Marines. *Photo by Lance Cpl. Stephen D. Himes*

F push through weather during final exercise

with Company K, 3rd Bn., 3rd Marines, currently assigned to 4th Marines, 3rd Marine Division, III Marine Expeditionary Force, under the unit deployment program. “We are seeing what we need to improve and what we can offer to our ally nations. This exercise has been a great help to us and our future involvement in joint operations in the Pacific.”

III MEF and the JGSDF hold Exercise Forest Light semiannually to strengthen their bilateral partnership, enhance regional security agreements, and improve unit and individual-level skills.

The event started with the Marines patrolling through the underbrush of the training area to rendezvous with a JGSDF element of the 37th Regiment, Central Army.

The Marines worked in tandem with their counterparts to complete the mission – securing a simulated enemy fortification.

The Marines opened the attack with suppressive fire, using blank ammunition on a mock enemy positions as the JGSDF maneuvered down a steep hillside to secure an entrance. Shortly after, the

Marines followed their counterparts down the hill and entered the building.

“We struggled with the language barrier,” said Lance Cpl. Matthew E. Sheppard, a rifleman with the company. “But we were able to learn from each other, which was good because we had to use the knowledge and tactics from our training over the past week to get through this final exercise.”

The night brought strong winds, rain and low temperatures, creating additional challenges for the service members, with weather continuing to deteriorate the following morning.

After the call for extraction was received, two Ospreys with Marine Medium Tiltrotor Squadron 262, Marine Aircraft Group 36, 1st

Marine Aircraft Wing, III MEF, arrived to extract the bilateral forces.

The importance of the Osprey being involved in this iteration of Forest Light is beyond measure, according to Capt. Chad Buckel, the officer in charge of training for the company. The accomplishment of this mission has provided a substantial boost to the relationship between Japan and the U.S.

With the exercise over, a collective look of accomplishment appeared on the faces of the wet and cold Japan and U.S. forces as they unloaded their weapons and shook each other's hands in congratulations.



JGSDF members wait for the command to embark an MV-22B Osprey tiltrotor aircraft during Exercise Forest Light 14-01 Oct. 16 at Aibano Training Area, Shiga prefecture, Japan. Forest Light is the first bilateral exercise with the Osprey over mainland Japan. The Ospreys and crews supporting the exercise are with Marine Medium Tiltrotor Squadron 262, Marine Aircraft Group 36, 1st Marine Aircraft Wing, III MEF. Photo by Lance Cpl. Stephen D. Himes



A U.S. Marine Corps MV-22B Osprey tiltrotor aircraft carrying Japan Ground Self-Defense Force members and Marines descends as the JGSDF members and Marines onboard prepare to secure the landing zone during a simulated air-assault drill as part of Exercise Forest Light 14-01. Forest Light is a semiannual, bilateral exercise with elements of the III Marine Expeditionary Force and JGSDF. The event marked the first time Marines and members of the JGSDF trained with Ospreys on mainland Japan. The JGSDF members are with the 37th Infantry Regiment, Central Army. The Ospreys, pilots and crew are assigned to Marine Medium Tiltrotor Squadron 262, Marine Aircraft Group 36, 1st Marine Aircraft Wing, III MEF. The infantry Marines are with 3rd Battalion, 3rd Marine Regiment, currently assigned to 4th Marines, 3rd Marine Division, III MEF, under the unit deployment program. Photo by 1st Lt. Breck B. Archer

Service members visit battle sites throughout Okinawa

Lance Cpl. Diamond N. Peden
OKINAWA MARINE STAFF

As service members and civilians crawled through an Imperial Japanese Army bunker from World War II, looking out through a gun port that controlled commanding fields of fire almost 70 years ago, the reality of the Battle of Okinawa began to dawn on them.

This scene set the tone for an afternoon of taking in the not-so-distant history as service members and status of forces agreement personnel toured the island Oct. 20 during a Marine Corps Community Services Okinawa battle sites tour.

The Battle of Okinawa was the largest ground battle fought in Japan during World War II, where hundreds of thousands of people were affected by the conflict and lost their lives, according to the Okinawa Convention and Visitors Bureau in the foreword of “Message from the Underground,” an exhibit in the Former Japanese Naval Underground Headquarters.

The battle, which began April 1, 1945, included some of the heaviest casualties of the war, with more than 100,000 Japanese soldiers, 65,000 U.S.-Allied service members and tens of thousands of civilians killed or wounded over the 82 days of fighting.

“People don’t realize the extent of the battle and just how it affected the lives of those involved,” said Lance Cpl. Austin J. Gilkey, a financial management resource analyst with Marine Wing Headquarters Squadron 1, 1st Marine Aircraft Wing, III Marine Expeditionary Force. “You hear people’s names and (about) things they faced in certain battles, (information) you wouldn’t hear unless you were on a guided tour.”

The tour was designed to help attendees understand the battle by visiting important sites, such as the Battle of Okinawa Historical Display, the Okinawa Prefectural Peace Memorial Park, the Former Japanese Navy Underground Headquarters and Kakazu Ridge.



A bouquet of flowers lies on a wall honoring those who made the ultimate sacrifice during the Battle of Okinawa at the Okinawa Prefectural Peace Memorial Park during a battle site tour Oct. 20. Service members and status of forces agreement personnel were given an opportunity to tour the park. The tour, sponsored by Marine Corps Community Services Okinawa, included stops at Kakazu Ridge, the Battle of Okinawa Historical Display, the Okinawa Peace Memorial Museum and the Former Japanese Naval Underground Headquarters. Photo by Lance Cpl. Diamond N. Peden

“At Kakazu Ridge, it was so strange to see that we were standing on a hill and knowing there were tunnels underneath us that the Japanese had dug and used to plan attacks,” said Michelle A. Moore-Robinson, the principal of Kinser Middle School. “Then we got to see the (Former) Japanese Navy Underground Headquarters, where there is so much history of workers and (evidence of) what life had been like staying in there.”

The tour also emphasized how the events of 1945 still live within the memory of Okinawa residents who survived the battle and how it altered the landscape.

“All the trees you see here are less than 70 years old,” said Mark Wayaster, an MCCA tour guide, referring to the lush greenery covering the landscape that had been barren and charred black during the war.

The memorial park honors all those who

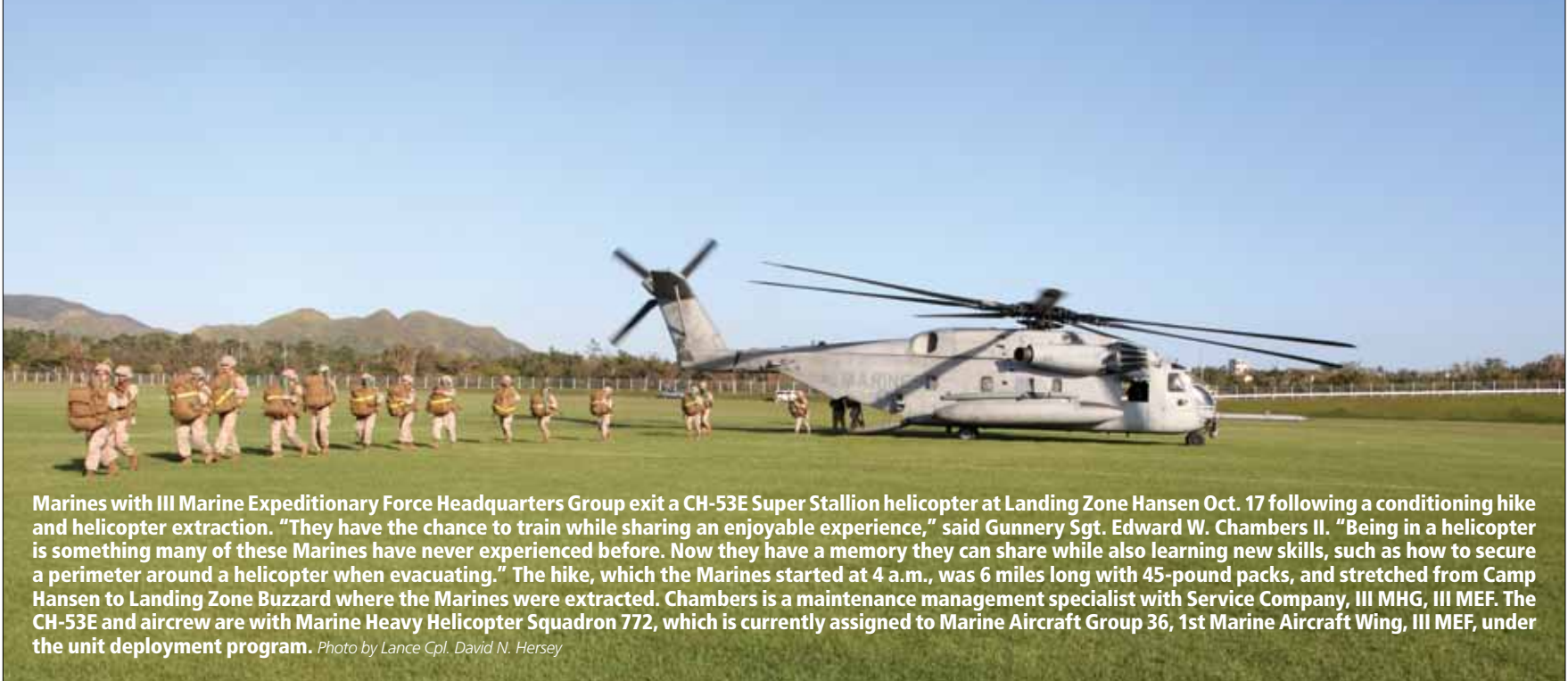
died during the Battle of Okinawa, with the names of each casualty written in their native language, including nearly 150,000 civilian names and more than 14,000 American names.

The tour provided service members who attended the opportunity to understand and relate to those who fought and died on the same soil so many years ago, according to Moore-Robinson.

The tour left many in awe, and those who know veterans or have family that were involved in the battle know how vital it is to understand the significance of the battle.

“The tour guide was great with the historical perspective from the Japanese side and the American side and how both sides were impacted,” said Moore-Robinson. “It’s really amazing, and to conclude the tour at the Peace Park was a calming and a humbling experience.”

III MHG Marines ready for expeditionary operations



Marines with III Marine Expeditionary Force Headquarters Group exit a CH-53E Super Stallion helicopter at Landing Zone Hansen Oct. 17 following a conditioning hike and helicopter extraction. “They have the chance to train while sharing an enjoyable experience,” said Gunnery Sgt. Edward W. Chambers II. “Being in a helicopter is something many of these Marines have never experienced before. Now they have a memory they can share while also learning new skills, such as how to secure a perimeter around a helicopter when evacuating.” The hike, which the Marines started at 4 a.m., was 6 miles long with 45-pound packs, and stretched from Camp Hansen to Landing Zone Buzzard where the Marines were extracted. Chambers is a maintenance management specialist with Service Company, III MHG, III MEF. The CH-53E and aircrew are with Marine Heavy Helicopter Squadron 772, which is currently assigned to Marine Aircraft Group 36, 1st Marine Aircraft Wing, III MEF, under the unit deployment program. Photo by Lance Cpl. David N. Hersey

Service members, families watch bouting bulls in Uruma City

Story and photos by
Lance Cpl. Anne K. Henry
OKINAWA MARINE STAFF

The sound of roaring spectators resonates throughout the arena as two behemoths clash in a duel of butting heads and brute strength.

The audience, consisting of service members, families and Okinawa community members, watched a series of bouts during the Uruma Bullfighting Festival Oct. 20 at the Ishikawa Multipurpose Dome in Uruma City, Okinawa.

The event afforded Marines and their families an opportunity to experience a unique aspect of the rich traditions of Okinawa.

"This is my first time in Japan," said Gunnery Sgt. Joel B. Newport, an operations chief with Combat Logistics Battalion 4, 3rd Marine Logistics Group, III Marine Expeditionary Force. "I have never seen a bullfight like this before, so it was pretty interesting."

Traditional Okinawa bullfighting, or Togyu, is a spectator sport.

Unlike bullfighting in other cultures, Togyu does not permit

overly violent actions between the bulls, and strict rules are in place to ensure the safety of the animals when in the ring, according to Mark Wayaster, a tour guide with Marine Corps Community Services Okinawa.

The event consists of numerous bouts in which two bulls struggle against one another head-to-head, each looking to gain an advantage by overpowering the other. The bull that maneuvers and strikes the other on the side first is declared the winner of the round.

"Each bull has a coach in the ring with them to ensure the animals safety during the fight," said Wayaster. "Most people think that these animals are highly aggressive. In reality, they are not. When not in the ring, they can be compared to a family pet and are very docile."

Although the matches are played out for the enjoyment of spectators, the safety of the bulls remains paramount.

"If the bulls get cut or hurt during a fight, the match will be called off right away," said Wayaster.

Bullfighting has been a part of the culture of Okinawa since the mid-19th century and started with



Two bulls clash Oct. 20 during the Uruma Bullfighting Festival at the Ishikawa Multipurpose Dome in Uruma City, Okinawa. The day allowed the attendees to experience a unique aspect of Okinawa culture. Okinawa bullfighting, or Togyu, has been a popular form of entertainment on Okinawa since the mid-19th century.

villages hosting the events for entertainment and competition, according to Wayaster. In the present day, Okinawa is one of the few prefectures that still honors the tradition of bullfighting.

"Bullfighting became so popular in the 19th century that the Ryukyu Kingdom put a law into effect that allowed one bullfight per three villages," said Wayaster. "It stayed very popular until the Battle of Okinawa in 1945 when the sport was temporarily stopped. It has again become very popular."

Bullfighting has come to symbolize more than just a form of entertainment for the people who regularly attend the exhibitions.

"Today's game has been a lot of fun to watch," said Arare Kameyama, a spectator at the bout. "I love coming here so much that sometimes I even help the trainers out with the bulls by looking out for both of their safety in the ring."

The match provided entertainment for all who attended and left Marines and their families with a newfound appreciation and understanding of a part of Okinawa traditions, according to Newport.

"I would highly recommend this to other Marines, especially those who are here accompanied," said Newport. "It is a lot of fun to just get out and experience the culture."



Coaches supervise their bulls Oct. 20 during a bullfighting exhibition at the Uruma Bullfighting Festival at the Ishikawa Multipurpose Dome in Uruma City, Okinawa. "This is my first time in Japan," said Gunnery Sgt. Joel B. Newport. "I have never seen a bullfight like this before, so it was pretty interesting." Newport is an operations chief with Combat Logistics Battalion 4, 3rd Marine Logistics Group, III Marine Expeditionary Force.

Competition builds friendships at Tai Chu En Children's Home

Story and photos by Sgt. Anthony Kirby

OKINAWA MARINE STAFF

Oftentimes, those involved in athletics create a bond with their teammates that transcends sports itself. That distinctive bond was established between the residents and staff of the Tai Chu En Children's Home and service members during a recent Sports Day celebration.

Marines and sailors with Combat Logistics Regiment 35 participated in the event Oct. 14 in Itoman City, Okinawa.

"It's great for us to be able to come here and break down the boundaries of language and culture (through) something we both love – sports," said Lt. Cmdr. Harvey C. Macklin, the CLR-35 chaplain, 3rd Marine Logistics Group, III Marine Expeditionary Force.

Sports Day, a national holiday in Japan, is held annually on the second Monday of October. It commemorates the opening of the 1964 Summer Olympics held in Tokyo, and is designed to promote sports and an active lifestyle.

The celebration was not only important because of the annual holiday, but because of the time spent with the residents, according to Yoshi Uehara, the liaison between Tai Chu En and Camp Kinser and teacher at the home.



U.S. Marine Capt. Sean Cunningham, center, and Lt. Cmdr. Harvey C. Macklin, left, compete in Oodama-Korogashi, a giant ball-rolling race, Oct. 14 at the Tai Chu En Children's Home in Itoman City, Okinawa, as part of the home's celebration of Sports Day. Participants had to roll the ball to a designated spot before returning to the starting point. Cunningham is the commanding officer of Headquarters Company, Combat Logistics Regiment 35, 3rd Marine Logistics Group, III Marine Expeditionary Force, and Macklin is the CLR-35 chaplain.

"It's kind of looked at as family time whenever visitors are able to come by," said Uehara. "It's a great opportunity for cultural exchanges and building friendships."

The volunteers competed against each other, staff, children and mentally handicapped adult residents of the home in various and unique races, relays and events.

"It was completely different from sports

events we usually have in the military," said Cpl. Nyree L. Wilson, a volunteer and warehouse clerk with the regiment. "Their races seem to be more creative and focus more on fun instead of competitiveness."

The celebration concluded with prizes given to participants, and for volunteers like Wilson, it brought back memories of her time in high school.

"Participating in the Sports Day was normal for me," said Wilson. "It was just like a track meet but with different events. It's how you meet new and different people."

The friendships, along with the shared passion for sports between both the service members and the residents and staff of the home, are what made the day so special, according to Macklin.

"I think what our volunteers saw today was that there's more value in the interaction we (had) with the staff and residents than us competing with them," said Macklin. "It's not always about winning, it's about the sportsmanship."

Marines participate in Shogaibutsu Kyoso, an obstacle course, Oct. 14 at the Tai Chu En Children's Home in Itoman City, Okinawa, as part of the home's celebration of Sports Day. The Marines are with CLR-35, 3rd MLG, III MEF.



Residents of Tai Chu En Children's Home compete in a race Oct. 14 at the home in Itoman City, Okinawa. The race was one event during a celebration of Sports Day. Sports Day is a national holiday in Japan held annually on the second Monday in October.



In Theaters Now

OCT. 25 - 31

FOSTER

TODAY Escape Plan (R), 6 p.m.; Carrie (R), 9 p.m.
SATURDAY Cloudy With A Chance Of Meatball 2 (PG), noon;
 Cloudy With A Chance Of Meatball 2 (3-D) (PG), 3 p.m.; Carrie (R),
 6 p.m.; Escape Plan (R), 9 p.m.
SUNDAY Percy Jackson: Sea Of Monsters (PG), 1 p.m.;
 Insidious: Chapter 2 (PG13), 4 p.m.; Carrie (R), 7 p.m.
MONDAY Escape Plan (R), 7 p.m.
TUESDAY Carrie (R), 7 p.m.
WEDNESDAY Carrie (R), 7 p.m.
THURSDAY Escape Plan (R), 7 p.m.

KADENA

TODAY Escape Plan (R), 6 p.m.; Carrie (R), 9 p.m.
SATURDAY Cloudy With A Chance Of Meatball 2 (PG), noon;
 Escape Plan (R), 3 & 6 p.m.; Carrie (R), 9 p.m.
SUNDAY Gravity (PG13), 1 p.m.; Escape Plan (R), 4 p.m.;
 Carrie (R), 7 p.m.
MONDAY Runner Runner (R), 4 p.m.; Carrie (R), 7 p.m.
TUESDAY Escape Plan (R), 4 p.m.; Carrie (R), 7 p.m.
WEDNESDAY Parkland (PG13), 4 p.m.; Escape Plan (R), 7 p.m.
THURSDAY Escape Plan (R), 4 p.m.; Carrie (R), 7 p.m.

COURTNEY

TODAY Carrie (R), 6 p.m.; Escape Plan (R), 9 p.m.
SATURDAY Cloudy With A Chance Of Meatball 2 (PG), 3 p.m.;
 Escape Plan (R), 6 p.m.
SUNDAY Getaway (PG13), 3 p.m.; Escape Plan (R), 6 p.m.
MONDAY Carrie (R), 7 p.m.
TUESDAY Closed
WEDNESDAY Runner Runner (R), 11:30 a.m.; Carrie (R), 7 p.m.
THURSDAY Closed

FUTENMA

TODAY Escape Plan (R), 6:30 p.m.
SATURDAY Carrie (R), 4 p.m.; Escape Plan (R), 7:30 p.m.
SUNDAY Carrie (R), 4 p.m.; Escape Plan (R), 7 p.m.
MONDAY Carrie (R), 6:30 p.m.
TUESDAY-THURSDAY Closed

KINSER

TODAY Carrie (R), 6:30 p.m.
SATURDAY Escape Plan (R), 3 p.m.; Carrie (R), 6:30 p.m.
SUNDAY Cloudy With A Chance Of Meatball 2 (3-D) (PG),
 1 p.m.; Insidious: Chapter 2 (PG13), 3:30 p.m.;
 Escape Plan (R), 6:30 p.m.
MONDAY-TUESDAY Closed
WEDNESDAY Carrie (R), 6:30 p.m.
THURSDAY Escape Plan (R), 6:30 p.m.

SCHWAB

TODAY Escape Plan (R), 6 p.m.; Carrie (R), 9 p.m.
SATURDAY Escape Plan (R), 6 p.m.; Carrie (R), 9 p.m.
SUNDAY Escape Plan (R), 6 p.m.; Carrie (R), 9 p.m.
MONDAY The Mortal Instruments: City of Bones (PG13), 7 p.m.
TUESDAY-WEDNESDAY Closed
THURSDAY The World's End (R), 7 p.m.

HANSEN

TODAY Carrie (R), 6:30 p.m.; Escape Plan (R) 10 p.m.
SATURDAY Escape Plan (R), 3 p.m.; Carrie (R), 6 p.m.;
 Escape Plan (R), 9:30 p.m.
SUNDAY Carrie (R), 2:30 p.m.; Escape Plan (R), 6 p.m.
MONDAY Captain Phillips (PG13), 7 p.m.
TUESDAY Carrie (R), 7 p.m.
WEDNESDAY Parkland (PG13), 7 p.m.
THURSDAY Escape Plan (R), 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.

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

• 50 zombie-dressed volunteers are needed Nov. 2 to assist with the Haunted Highway 5K Fun Run at 7 p.m. on Camp Kinser.

• Volunteers are needed for the Kadena Special Olympics Nov. 2 at 8 p.m. on Kadena Air Base. Volunteers will meet at Risner Fitness Center.

*If interested in participating, contact the SMP office at the above number.

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

TEST YOUR CORPS KNOWLEDGE:

Which Marine aviator achieved the title of ace in both World War II and the Korean War?

See answer in next week's issue

LAST WEEK'S QUESTION:
 What weapon provides Marines with man-portable anti-aircraft capabilities?

ANSWER:
 The FIM-92 stinger surface-to-air missile, the primary weapon for low-altitude air-defense Marines.



Japanese phrase of the week:

“Shinpai shinai de.”
 (pronounced: Sh-ehn-pah-ee sh-ehn-ah-ee deh)
 It means “Don't worry.”

CHAPLAINS'

CORNER

“An anxious heart weighs a man down, but a kind word cheers him up.” Proverbs 12:25”



Lifting up those who are down

Lt. Cmdr. Jeffrey A. Terry
 12TH MARINE REGIMENT CHAPLAIN

Several years ago, a friend of mine sent me the following story. The point it makes is as powerful today as when I first received it. See what you think ...

A group of frogs was traveling through the woods, and two of them fell into a deep pit. All the other frogs gathered around the pit. When they saw how deep the pit was, they told the two frogs they were as good as dead.

The two frogs ignored the comments and tried to jump up out of the pit with all of their might. The other frogs kept telling them to stop; that they were as good as dead.

Finally, one of the frogs took heed to what the other frogs were saying and gave up. He fell down and died.

The other frog continued to jump as hard as he could. Once again, the crowd of frogs yelled at him to stop and just die. He jumped even harder and finally made it out.

When he got out, the other frogs said, “Did you not hear us?” The frog explained to them that he was hard of hearing. He thought they were encouraging him the entire time.

There is power of life and death in words. This story teaches two lessons:

1. An encouraging word to those who are down can lift them up and help them make it through the day.

2. A destructive word to those who are down can be what it takes to kill them.

Exercise care in what you say. Speak life to those who cross your path.

“An anxious heart weighs a man down, but a kind word cheers him up.” Proverbs 12:25

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”