



# SKYWRITER

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Bon  
Odori

PG. 8

NAVAL AIR FACILITY ATSUGI, JAPAN



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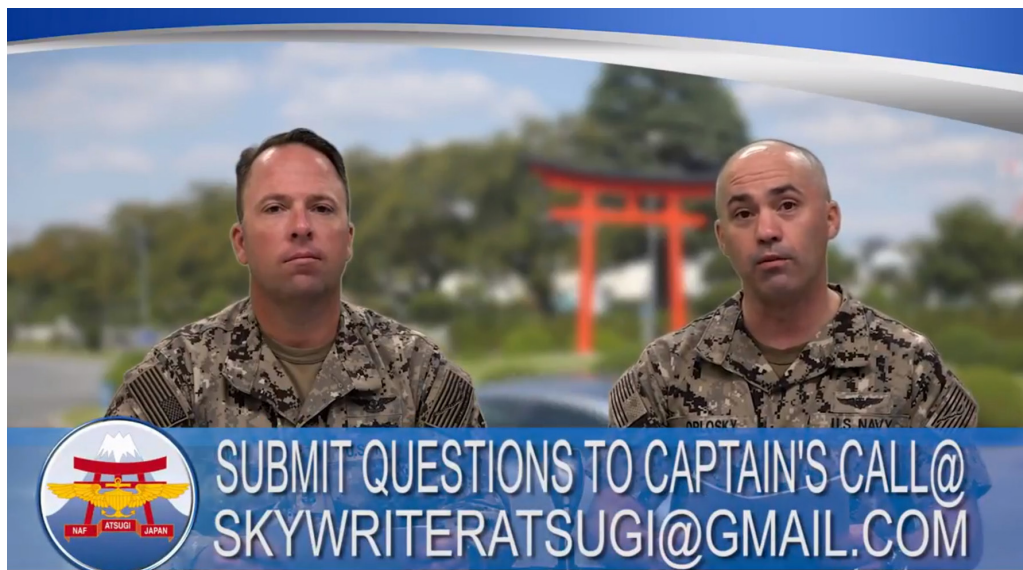


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**CHECK OUT OUR NEW CAPTAIN'S CALL VIDEO**



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 **SKYWRITER**  
**ONLINE**

**ON THE COVER**

SAILORS FROM NAVAL AIR FACILITY ATSUGI JOIN MEMBERS OF THE LOCAL COMMUNITY CARRYING A MIKOSHI, A PORTABLE SHRINE, DURING THE INSTALLATION'S BON ODORI OPEN BASE EVENT DURING THE INSTALLATION'S BON ODORI OPEN BASE EVENT. (U.S. NAVY PHOTO BY MC2 MICHAEL DOAN)





# LEADERSHIP CORNER

## WITH NAF ATSUGI SECURITY OFFICER

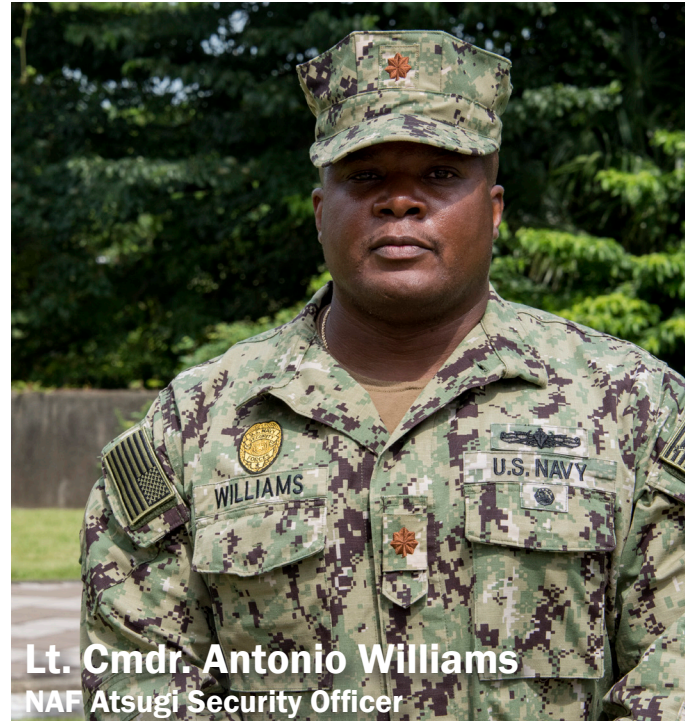
As the Security Officer for NAF Atsugi, I am responsible for Law Enforcement, Anti-Terrorism programs, Physical Security programs, and Loss Prevention programs on the installation. The goals of these programs are to promote public safety, provide protection for U.S. and Allied critical assets and infrastructure, and enforce military law and regulations.

My NSF (Naval Security Force) is committed to a high level of customer service to align with our Commanding Officer's priority, which is supporting the fleet by providing first class customer service to the warfighter. You can see this through Security's management of the Pass and ID office for access to the installation, the Vehicle Registration Office, providing finger printing services for the community, assisting in local background checks for potential employees, servicing the entire 7th Fleet AOR with weapons initial and sustainment qualifications, and assisting residents when they are locked out of their car or home. Another popular program is the Military Working Dogs (MWD) division. We routinely do MWD demonstrations for schools and other groups both on and off the installation.

Other services for which my team is responsible include managing the Command's Anti-Terrorism (AT) program, which provides direct protection to all SOFA sponsored and allied personnel assets critical to NAFA's mission. This is achieved through many forums, to include Anti-Terrorism Working Groups, Threat Working Groups, Anti-Terrorism Executive Council meetings, and great working relationships with all stakeholders on the base.

An important aspect of our role is law enforcement. This includes traffic enforcement, responding to all calls for service, and assisting in command directed sobriety testing, investigating minor crimes and UCMJ violations, and assisting the local NCIS office in investigations involving SOFA sponsored members.

We are gearing up for a crucial comprehensive inspection of the entire NSF department, which includes how we properly document all requirements for NSF related matters, how my Anti-Terrorism Training Team (ATTT) trains NSF, how the



**Lt. Cmdr. Antonio Williams**  
NAF Atsugi Security Officer

ATTT can integrate with the Integrated Training Team (ITT), and measure how we are synchronized with the Incident Management Team via the Emergency Management Officer.

My goal as a Security Officer is to ensure that U.S. and allied interests are protected 24/7. We will continue to do so by providing exceptional customer service to the community and constantly finding ways to meet your needs while staying compliant with higher headquarters requirements.

An important part of customer service is access to answers and information. I'm happy to provide that and am located in BLDG 22, the building right across from the Mini-Mart. You can also contact me via phone at DSN: 264-3323 or by email at [Antonio.williams@fe.navy.mil](mailto:Antonio.williams@fe.navy.mil).

## NAVAL HISTORY

**September 2, 1918**

U.S. Navy ships and crews assist earthquake victims of Yokohama and Tokyo, Japan.

**September 8, 1923**

At Honda Point, Calif., seven destroyers are run aground due to bad weather, strong currents, and faulty navigation. Twenty-three lives are lost during the disaster.

**September 16, 1958**

USS Grayback (SSG 574) fires the first operational launch of a Regulus II surface-to-surface guided missile, while off the coast of California.

**September 24, 1969**

The first nuclear powered aircraft carrier, USS Enterprise (CVAN 65), is launched at Newport News, Va. In 1975, she is designated (CVN 65).





# EXPLORE OMOTESANDŌ



STORY AND PHOTOS BY MC2 MATTHEW DUNCKER

Stretching from the auspicious and holy Meiji Shrine in Harajuku to the extremely wealthy neighborhood of Aoyama, is a tree lined avenue that since its inception in the 1920's, has become synonymous with fashion, architecture, wealth and Japan's omnipresent youth culture. This area of Tokyo has earned the nickname "The Rodeo Drive of the East" and is the epicenter that put Tokyo in the same breath as Paris, London and New York as fashion capitals of the world; this place is Omotesandō.

Omotesandō, or "Frontal Approach," was first established during Japan's Taishō Era in Japan. The avenue was built in 1919 and was originally meant to be the front entrance pathway to the Shinto shrine dedicated to Emperor Taishō's deified father, the first modern Emperor, Meiji, and his stepmother, Empress Shōken. In order to show the special nature of the pathway to the shrine, Zelkova trees, or Japanese elm trees, which are commonly used for bonsai

trees, were planted and are still maintained in the neighborhood to this day.

In the late 1970's and early 1980's Japanese designers such as Rei Kawakubo and Yohji Yamamoto opened their first stores in the area. These designers' combination of classical Japanese aesthetics with western ideas garnered global attention and showed the west that Tokyo was the unrivaled fashion capital of the East. With further urban development in the early 2000's, Omotesandō has become known not just for high fashion, but for its beautiful architecture, making it stand out in a city that is already known for being other-worldly.

Visitors can reach Omotesandō from Harajuku Station on the JR line. To the right of the station lies the entrance to Meiji Shrine and Yoyogi Park. Turning left out of the station takes guests to the start of the avenue in Harajuku. Walking straight down the road will lead to Tokyo plaza and the start of the tree-lined streets of the area and its unique architecture. Several high-end





western and eastern brand stores are found in the neighborhood selling items exclusive to Japan, and making them highly sought after by collectors and travelers to the city. Omotesandō Hills is a massive shopping complex, housing more than 100 shops and restaurants.

For those willing to totally immerse themselves in the neighborhood, more stores or restaurants can be found on several side streets and alleys connected to Omotesandō. The most unique among these is Urasando Garden. What many would assume is just a regular residential house is, in actuality, a celebration of all five human senses with stores that sell Japanese treats using molecular gastronomy, hand drip coffee, traditional Japanese tea, a bistro, a museum dedicated to products made in Japan and a custom fragrance maker.

Another of these side streets, Ura-Harajuku, has come to represent the opposite of Omotesandō. Gone is the post-modern architecture and luxury brands and in their place are street food vendors, record stores, coffee shops and youth oriented street wear. The area is known to be the birth place of skate and bike culture in the city as well as one of the first places in the 80's to hear Rap and Hip-Hop records from America. Globally known streetwear brands such as Beams, Neighborhood, A Bathing Ape and Good Enough first originated out of this area and helped kick off what become known as the "Harajuku style" fashion that

was influenced by punk, goth, and rap, which stood in sharp contrast to the more preppy, western influenced fashion that had permeated Japan in the 70's and 80's.

For visitors looking to be more frugal in their visit to Omotesandō there are several museums in the area, such as the Ukiyo-e Ōta Memorial Museum of Art, dedicated to the woodblock prints that became popular during the Tokugawa era, and the Taro Okamoto Memorial Museum dedicated to the works of the avant-garde artist. The Gyre shopping plaza features a museum dedicated to the design work of Rei Kawakubo and her Comme des Garçons label, featuring her avant-grade runway pieces and collaborations for visitors to view. Also, there is a walking architecture tour of the avenue for those looking to learn more about the urban design that has taken place in the neighborhood.

Omotesandō, which was originally meant to be nothing more than the entrance way to a shrine, has come to represent luxury, commerce, design and originality. It became home to the rich elite of Tokyo society as well as the youth who felt adrift in post-war Japan and wanted to fuse tradition with subcultures that came to represent them in the economic boom of the 1980's. The neighborhood fills a niche for visitors looking to wear the newest Japanese fashions or simply enjoy an exquisite cup of coffee, Omotesandō fulfills all these needs, and more.



# Tomioka Town Summer Festival

## Chief Selects Volunteer in Kooriyama



## Story and photos by MCC Ben Farone

Twenty-three Chief Petty Officer (CPO) selectees and nine CPOs from Naval Air Facility (NAF) Atsugi area commands participated in the 7th annual Tomioka Town Social Welfare Center summer festival in Kooriyama, Japan Aug. 25, 2018.

According to Sumie Maruyama, NAF Atsugi Community Relations Specialist, the festival began as a way to reunite citizens from Tomioka who were displaced in the aftermath of the March 11, 2011 earthquake and tsunami which struck Japan's Tohoku region.

"The purpose of the festival is to bring together everybody who had to evacuate from Tomioka town to different cities. Kooriyama is one of the biggest towns that people from Tomioka evacuated to, as you can see from the temporary housing set up here," said Maruyama. "There used to be thousands of people living here. Some people were able to move back to Tomioka, but some people had to stay here in Kooriyama city."

The relationship between NAF Atsugi and

the Tomioka Town Social Welfare Center began in 2012, when several groups from the installation came together to make donations to the citizens relocated to Kooriyama.

"I was contacted by the director of the social welfare center, where we've been donating toys and other items for the last several years. They wanted to see us and interact in person. Some of the volunteers here have visited NAF Atsugi and they wanted us to come here and share this experience with them," said Maruyama.

For Aviation Electronics Technician 1st Class, Stephen Schmidt, from Spring Lake Park, Minn., a CPO selectee participating in this year's performances, though some events were a bit out of the ordinary, they helped develop practical applications for the future.

"We did the Sailors Creed, we did a Japanese cadence and sang Anchors Aweigh," said Schmidt. "Near the end, we did the 'Cupid Shuffle' and tried to get the Japanese attendees to join in."



“It was definitely outside the comfort zone; it’s not something we do on a daily basis, but it’s something we can use in an everyday application such as training within the mess or command. We had an idea of what we were going to do today but things changed a bit so we had to adapt and overcome which is what we do on a daily basis.”

Schmidt also noted a unique component of this year’s group of selectees that helped show the strong connection between the two nations and their military services.

“We have two Japan Maritime Self-Defense Force (JMSDF) members with us for this year’s initiation and by having one of them call a cadence (in Japanese) for us, it helped demonstrate our close partnership with the JMSDF,” said Schmidt.

NAF Atsugi Command Master Chief Daniel Irwin, a Colorado Springs, Colo. native, felt the relationship building and confluence of cultures were the highlights of the festival.

“We came to this summer festival to support the people of Tomioka in their reunion and share with them a little bit of American hospitality. My favorite aspect of today’s festival was having our Chiefs and CPO selectees integrate with the folks here, mix cultures and to see the different aspects of their culture that they shared with us. We wanted to show one of our closest allies, Japan, that we’re here to help, we are glad to be part of the community and we want to do whatever we can to foster this relationship.”

Though this was the first year the

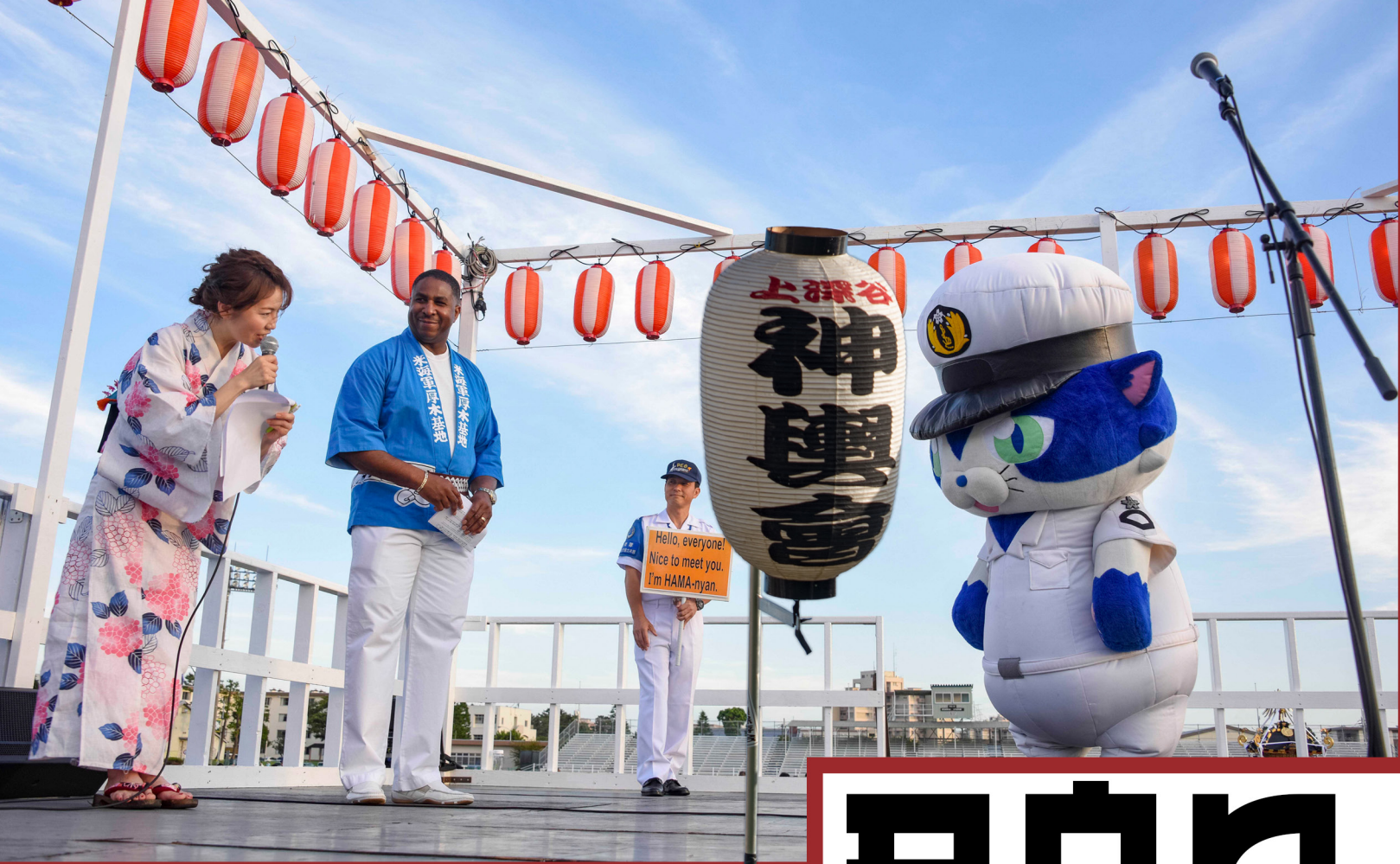


installation’s Sailors participated in the festival, Irwin hopes to make return trips an Atsugi tradition.

“What I’d like to see moving forward is us participating in this festival every year. Not only because it supports the evacuees, but it also helps people understand what we’re here to do, and that’s to truly be partners with the Japan Self-Defense Forces and gracious guests of our host nation.”







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# EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT MAKING ATSUGI A RESILIENT COMMUNITY



## STORY AND PHOTOS BY MC2 MICHAEL DOAN

Is next Tuesday a good day for you to experience an earthquake?

You may not be able to plan when you'll face your next emergency, but you can take the next best step and plan how you are going to react.

There are a great many challenges you can face when it comes to planning for natural or man-made disasters.

The Sailors and civilians working at Naval Air Facility (NAF) Atsugi's Emergency Management (EM) and Disaster Preparedness Dept. spend their time planning for the worst and training others on how to prepare for potential emergencies.

"We are responsible for the ability to coordinate

response operations during hazardous incidents," said Damage Controlman 2nd Class Santiago Cerrillo, a member of Atsugi's Emergency Management (EM) team. "Our goal is a resilient Atsugi community."

September is National Preparedness Month and has an overarching theme:

**Disasters happen.**

**Prepare now.**

**Learn how.**

Two of the biggest threats Sailors and their family members may face during their time at NAF Atsugi are severe weather in the form of typhoons and natural disasters such as earthquakes.



Members of the EM team teach newly reporting personnel arriving to Atsugi during the area orientation brief about steps they can take to prepare for any and all potential disasters.

This is not just important to the Atsugi community. During a recent all hands call at NAF Atsugi, Commander, U.S. Naval Forces Japan Commander, Rear Adm. Greg Fenton, spoke to sailors, civilians and family members about noncombatant evacuation operations (NEO).

Each family is responsible for maintaining the paperwork required to evacuate from Japan and relocate to the United States or a designated safe haven. Your NEO coordinator will be your point of contact in times of crisis or emergency.

“Families are being required to have a NEO packets and we want them to have filled out as much of the NEO kits as possible,” said Cerrillo. “Most of the paperwork in the NEO packets is time critical and can’t be filled out until they are needed.”

Not having your NEO packet filled out when an emergency does happen doesn’t mean you will be turned away, but it will make it a longer process to

successfully evacuate if that time comes.

“We are asking people to not just fill out as much of the packet as possible, but be ready for the worst,” said Cerrillo. “It is even more important for families to be prepared when their spouse is deployed.”

It is important that each dependent spouse become familiar with the NEO paperwork, particularly since spouses may be required to relocate without sponsors in most scenarios. In case of such an emergency, it will be important to take the following steps: locate NEO packet, prepare NEO emergency kit and follow instructions. A NEO is a high stress event. The better prepared you are, the easier your check-in and evacuation will be.

Every family and their situation is unique, so what may work for one family in preparation for a possible evacuation may not work for another.

“We have a bi-monthly class for families, civilians and military who want to know more about evacuations, services provided and expectations,” said Damage





Controlman 2nd Class Armando Aranda, logistics coordinator at EM. “You can show up without having to sign up. Kids are welcome to come too.”

Emergency management’s responsibilities cover more than what some people may think.

“We are here to respond to extreme weather, natural disasters and major accidents that affect the function of the base,” said Cerrillo. “We are here to support and coordinate the personnel required to bring the base back to working conditions.”

Support and coordination doesn’t stop at the fence line. NAF Atsugi regularly participates in drills with the surrounding communities in order to help better prepare for any disaster.

“We were at the Kanagawa Big Rescue, which is an annual training event that brings together emergency service provider from the area to work together during simulated casualties caused by an event like an earthquake,” said Aranda.

Drills like the Kanagawa Big Rescue provide experience and instill confidence in responders to react during the worst of times.

**NAF ATSUGI DEPARTMENT OF EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT**

We are responsible for the ability to coordinate response operations during all hazard incidents.

We specialize in informing the Atsugi community on the potential hazards they could experience.

We provide advice and assistance to the community on unit and family emergency kits.


We manage and activate the Emergency Operations Center.

We train the Incident Management Team for the Emergency Operations Center.

We deliver continuous command and control capability for on-scene operations during response and recovery actions.

We control the Common Operating Picture for emergency response operations.

We support NEO registration and evacuation operations.



**OUR GOAL IS A RESILIENT ATSUGI COMMUNITY!**

“Preparation is crucial,” said Cerrillo. “We don’t know what the future holds for us, but we will know how to react when it happens.”







### *Naval Air Facility Atsugi*

## EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT/DISASTER PREPAREDNESS OFFICE

#### **How would you describe your Department's primary mission?**

The mission of NAF Atsugi's Emergency Management Office is to coordinate response operations during major incidents. In case of disaster, we manage and activate the Emergency Operations Center, delivering continuous command and control ability for on-scene operations during response and recovery actions. We develop and maintain emergency response procedures and manage noncombatant evacuation operations (NEO).

#### **What primary services do you provide and who are your primary customers?**

We provide preparedness training and education to all departments, tenants, and dependents on the installation. We use the mandatory Area Orientation Brief (AOB) to educate new personnel on the hazards they could experience while stationed here in Japan. We provide advice and assistance to the commands and families on emergency preparedness. Additionally, we offer a 'NEO 4 Families' course every two months which takes participants step-by-step through the process and expectations related to a large scale evacuation.

#### **How do the services you provide support the command's mission?**

We ensure the installation is capable of absorbing the impact of a major incident and provide the guidance and management necessary to return operations and living conditions to a state of normalcy as quickly as possible. We do this through an aggressive information and training program designed to engage and energize the commands,

departments, agencies, and families collectively so everyone is part of the answer.

#### **What can you tell us about your department that others may not know?**

We have a working relationship with the nine surrounding cities of NAF Atsugi. We meet twice a year and share information on our respective emergency management programs. This helps us understand each other's capabilities and expectations and while strengthening the bond we have with our community partners and host nation.

#### **Something Special?**

Every month we partner with the American Red Cross, MWR and Fleet and Family Support Center during our EM Resiliency Outreach program. This is an opportunity to connect with our NAF Atsugi community and offer information on programs and opportunities available to them. These include MWR tours which provide opportunities for sailors and families to experience Japan; Fleet and Family programs to help cope with daily stressors, and EM training on ensuring your family is prepared in case of emergencies. At the end of the day, this partnership reinforces our goal of a 'Resilient NAF Atsugi Community.'

#### **How can your customers reach you?**

We're happy to answer any questions on emergency management or disaster preparedness at DSN: (315) 264-4184. In addition, we can be reached via Facebook at <https://www.facebook.com/NAFAEmergencyManagement>



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EMNOEL AGAS*

*AMC (SEL)  
CLINT BUCKLES*

*CEC (SEL)  
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