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OKINAWA AUGUST Bulletin

THE REVIEW OF A PLACE RESORT SALON DE MARE

RIMPAC 2024

USNHO **receives three ambulances**



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Issue 6 >> August 7, 2024

VOICE PAPER

VOICE PAPER, features Okinawa local events, off-base places, U.S. Military activity news on the island and around the Asia-Pacific region.

Duty on the island Kadena conducts sunset paradrop training



(U.S. Air Force photo by Senior Airman Tylir Meyer)

A pararescueman assigned to 353rd Special Operations Wing conducts jump training from a MC-130J Commando II over Okinawa, July 8. Pararescuemen are trained, equipped and postured to conduct full spectrum personnel recovery operations in both peacetime and combat environments.

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USAF Academy Defender Cadets train with virtual reality



(U.S. Air Force photo by Airman 1st Class Edward Yankus)

U.S. Air Force Senior Airman Den'e Hernandez, 18th Security Forces standards evaluator, demonstrates the use of de-escalation tactics of an armed person during a simulated scenario of the Street Smarts Virtual Reality system at Kadena Air Base, July 8. The SSVR system is meant to fully immerse trainees into realistic three-dimensional situations to enhance their use-of-force training.

Japanese university students visit Camp Hansen for a tour and culture exchange with III MEF Marines

Japanese university students and U.S. Marines with III Marine Expeditionary Force pose for a group photo during a tour on Camp Hansen, July 12. The visit provided the students with insights into the training and operations conducted by III MEF and the facilities at Camp Hansen. Upon returning to mainland Japan, the students will present their findings to the Japan Ministry of Defense.

Marines, Air Force extinguish simulated aircraft fires



(U.S. Marine Corps photo by Lance Cpl. Sav Ford)

U.S. Marines with Marine Wing Support Squadron 172 extinguish a controlled fire during burn training on Kadena Air Base, July 10. MWSS-172, Tennessee Air National Guard, and 18th Civil Engineer Squadron conducted joint training to promote inter-service camaraderie and morale, as well as boost mission readiness and cross-training capabilities.

CLB-31 hosts ARDB for Collaborative Visit

U.S. Marine Corps Lance Cpl. Gael Ornelas, an optics technician with Combat Logistics Battalion 31, 31st Marine Expeditionary Unit demonstrates barrel alignment procedures to Japanese soldiers with the Amphibious Rapid Deployment Brigade, Japanese Ground Self-Defense Force during their visit on Camp Hansen, July 11. CLB-31 hosted the ARDB to foster mutual understanding and improving interoperability between the two forces by sharing a wide range of capabilities and practices.



(U.S. Marine Corps photo by Cpl. Juan K. Maldonado)

Service Members Participate in a Helicopter Rope Suspension Techniques Course



U.S. Army Master Sgt. Brandi Gray, a warrior operations medical clinic flight chief with 18th Operational Medical Readiness Squadron, 18th Mission Support Group, rappels during a HRST training exercise on Camp Hansen, July 9. The training exercise refined U.S. service members HRST capabilities necessary to perform a wide range of military operations.

(U.S. Marine Corps photo by Lance Cpl. Manuel Alvarado)



(U.S. Marine Corps photo by Cpl. Jesse Davis)

AUGUST bulletin

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OKINAWA

Okinawa Island-wide Eisa Festival



Aug 23-
Aug 25

In Okinawa, where Obon is celebrated according to the lunar calendar, the dates vary each year and fall on the 13th to the 15th day of the 7th lunar month. In 2024, Obon in Okinawa will be from August 16 to August 18.

On the final day, the dance known as "Eisa" is performed, which is a significant dance to send the spirits of ancestors to the afterlife. This traditional performing art has a long history and has been passed down through generations in the local community.

Eisa, performed with the powerful sounds of the sanshin, songs, and drum rhythms, is so popular locally that it has grown into large festivals. It captivates not only the locals but also tourists.

Eisa is danced on the final day of Obon (Ukui) to send the spirits of ancestors to the afterlife, similar to Bon Odori in other parts of Japan. It is one of Okinawa's very important events, reflecting the deep respect for ancestors.

Youth associations in each district dance Eisa in various places to send off the spirits of ancestors. They parade through the streets within municipalities or areas while performing Eisa.

This is called "Michi Junee" and is danced not only to see off the spirits of ancestors but also to pray for the health and safety of each household and for prosperity.

The "Okinawa Island-wide Eisa Festival" is the largest Eisa festival held in Okinawa, taking place in Koza, Okinawa City, known as the town of Eisa. This year, it will be held over three days from Friday, August 23 to Sunday, August 25.

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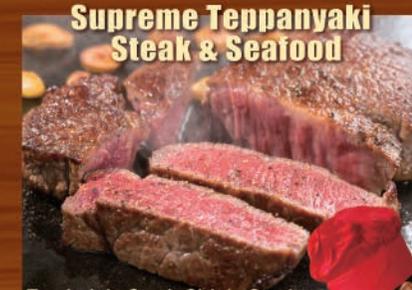
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(Japan Maritime Self-Defense Force photo by Petty Officer 3rd Class Keigo Sugiura)

Successful conclusion of Humanitarian Assistance, Disaster Relief training at RIMPAC 2024

Story by Lt. Victor Murkowski
Commander, U.S. 3rd Fleet

JOINT BASE PEARL HARBOR-HICKAM, HAWAII – The Humanitarian Assistance and Disaster Relief (HADR) portion of the multinational joint exercise Rim of the Pacific (RIMPAC) 2024 has come to a successful close, July 15. HADR is a military cooperation that aims to save lives, reduce suffering, and resolve emergencies during natural disasters. This year, nine nations actively participated: Canada, Chile, Germany, Japan, Mexico, Peru, Republic of Korea (ROK), Singapore and the United States.

Participants trained in a wide range of dynamic scenarios, including Urban Search and Rescue (USAR), Hawaii Healthcare Emergency Management (HHEM) mass casualty response, mass movement of evacuees, aerial survey, port restoration, and logistical support for humanitarian assistance.

“Humanitarian assistance and disaster relief is a critical part of the Navy’s mission,” said Vice Adm. John Wade, commander, U.S. 3rd Fleet and Exercise Rim of the Pacific (RIMPAC) 2024 Combined

Task Force (CTF). “During the HADR exercise, we trained our expeditionary forces to respond to crisis scenarios with the goal of improving our efficiency and interoperability with global maritime partners. Our forces are always at their best when we train together.”

Japan Maritime Self-Defense Force (JMSDF) Rear Adm. Kazushi Yokota, commander, JMSDF Escort Flotilla Three and Exercise RIMPAC 2024 CTF vice commander, led the HADR portion of the exercise and collaboration with local hospital personnel.

“During this great RIMPAC, I am confident to say that we have enhanced integration, interoperability with global maritime partners and demonstrated effective communication,” said Rear Adm. Yokota. “We prepared and exercised crisis response capabilities amongst interagency partners by working together, growing together and learning from each other’s professionalism.”

First-time achievements from this year’s HADR drill included: **-First time conducting USAR**

with participation from Mexico, Peru and the U.S.

-First time conducting an HHEM mass casualty event with partner nations, including Mexico, Peru, and the U.S.
-First time operating with HMCS Max Bernays (AOPV 432), a Canadian special mission support platform and icebreaker.

-First time operating with JS Kunisaki (LST-4003), a JMSDF Osumi-class amphibious landing ship.

-First time integrating U.S. Marines from Combat Logistics Company 33 (CLC-33) and Seabees from First Naval Construction Regiment (INCR) in constructing a helo landing zone, the creation of drinking water, assessing bridges, and removing downed trees.

-First time constructing a pagoda with combined Seabee forces from ROK and the U.S.

-First time using unmanned aerial systems from Naval Facilities Engineering Systems Command for port surveys and

damage assessment.

The HADR training, which began July 8, showcased enhanced integration and effective crisis response capabilities between allies and partners in the Indo-Pacific region.

“It has been exciting to work with our multinational partners during RIMPAC,” said Capt. Douglas Whimpey, commodore, First Naval Construction Regiment

and deputy commander, HADR Task Force. “Together, we have a tremendous opportunity to train, improve our skills and build new relationships. Training with our multinational partners strengthens our ability to operate together. That’s what RIMPAC is all about.”

Twenty-nine nations, 40 surface ships, three submarines, 14 national land forces, more than 150 aircraft and 25,000 personnel are

participating in RIMPAC in and around the Hawaiian Islands, June 27 to Aug. 1. The world’s largest international maritime exercise, RIMPAC provides a unique training opportunity while fostering and sustaining cooperative relationships among participants critical to ensuring the safety of sea lanes and security on the world’s oceans. RIMPAC 2024 is the 29th exercise in the series that began in 1971.

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1st Marine Aircraft Wing holds change of command ceremony

Story by Capt. Tyler King
Photos by Lance Cpl. Sav Ford
1st Marine Aircraft Wing

MCAS FUTENMA, OKINAWA – Major General Eric E. Austin relinquished command of 1st Marine Aircraft Wing to Major General Marcus B. Annibale, July 12, 2024, at Marine Corps Air Station Futenma, Okinawa.

Maj. Gen. Austin, before leaving command, said, “It has been an honor to serve with the amazing Marines and Sailors of 1st Marine Aircraft Wing for the past two years and to be part of the III Marine Expeditionary Force Team as we aggressively adapt to the changing security construct in this theater and the ever-changing character of warfare. It has also been an honor to serve as a component of our amazing joint force, alongside longstanding Japanese, Korean and Filipino allies, and our many like-minded regional partners. Never have our alliances and partnerships been more important, and never have they been stronger.”

Maj. Gen. Austin’s next assignment will be as the commanding general, Marine Corps Combat Development

Command, and the Deputy Commandant for Combat Development and Integration in Quantico, Virginia. Before taking command of 1st Marine Aircraft Wing, Maj. Gen. Annibale served as the director, Expeditionary Warfare in Washington, D.C.

When asked his thoughts on taking over command of 1st MAW, Maj. Gen. Annibale said, “It is my distinct honor and privilege to return to Japan and take command of the most ready and operationally focused air wing in the U.S. Marine Corps. In cooperation with our host nation and vital ally, Japan, and alongside our regional allies and partners, we stand watch supporting III MEF forces as the vanguard of expeditionary air dominance to maintain peace and security in the Indo-Pacific Region!”

1st Marine Aircraft Wing, as the Aviation Combat Element of III Marine Expeditionary Force, provides combat ready, task organized forces capable of conducting aviation operations across all six functions of Marine Aviation in naval and expeditionary environments, and commands and controls aviation forces through the Tactical Air Command Center in order to contribute to the accomplishment of our Nation’s security objectives as required by standing operational plans in the USINDOPACOM AOR, engagement operations in support of Marine Forces Pacific, overseas contingency operations, and other operations as directed.



U.S. Marine Corps Maj. Gen. Eric E. Austin, right, the outgoing commanding general, relinquishes command of 1st Marine Aircraft Wing to Maj. Gen. Marcus B. Annibale during a change of command ceremony at Marine Corps Air Station Futenma, Okinawa, July 12.



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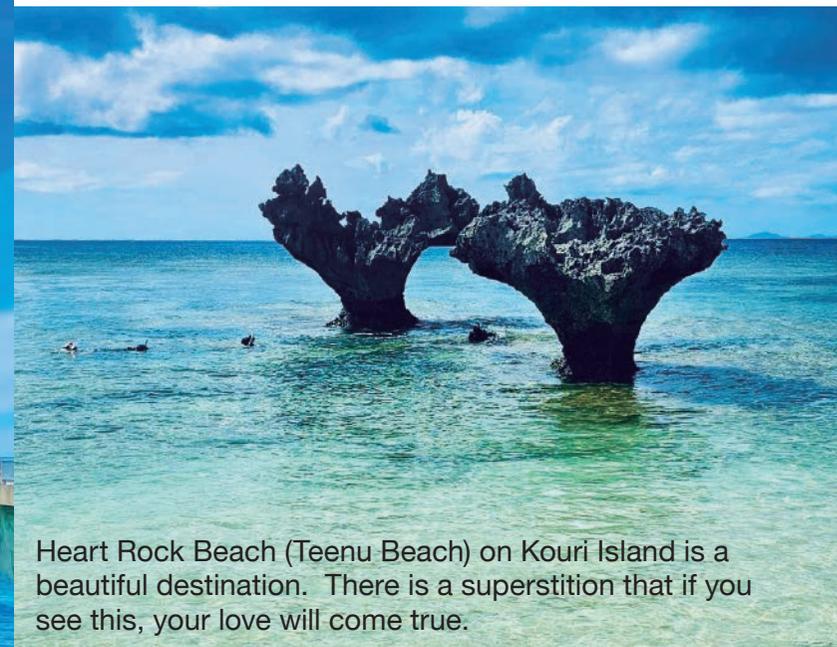


DISCOVER & VISIT Kouri Island

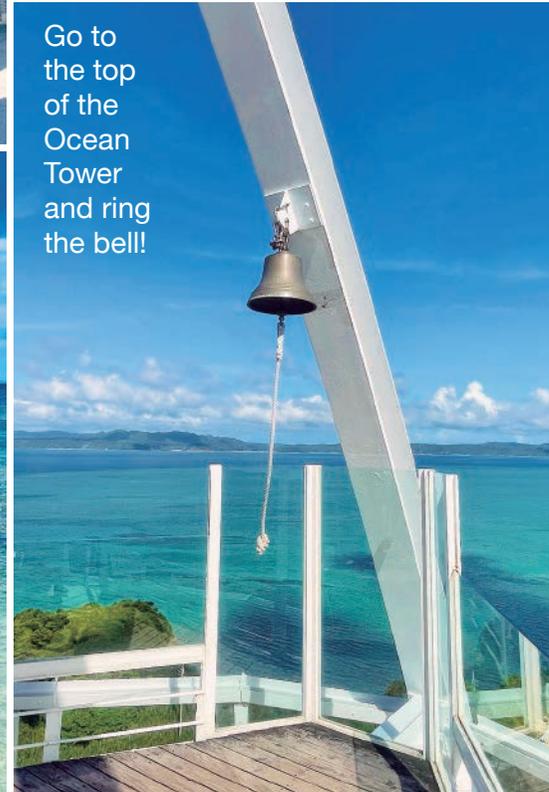


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U.S. Naval Hospital Okinawa Coordinated with Sister Services to Move Life-Saving Equipment Across Air, Land and Sea in Support of Emergency Services in Okinawa

Story by Isaac Savitz
U.S. Naval Hospital Okinawa



U.S. Navy Sailors with U.S. Naval Hospital Okinawa observe an ambulance at Naha Military Port, Okinawa, July 8.

(U.S. Marine Corps photo by Cpl. Thomas Sheng)

OKINAWA – The Military Health System (MHS) has undergone a significant transition that has aligned all the medical assets from the different services under the Defense Health Agency’s (DHA) guidance. One of the best benefits is the ability for service members to receive care seamlessly at any military medical treatment facility (MTF) run by the Navy, Air Force, or Army. Another benefit of consolidating the services is the ability to integrate and cross-level resources, which saves money and maintains a sustainable armed forces military medical system. At a recent U.S. Armed Forces Japan (USFJ) medical summit in Yokota, Japan, hosted by Lieutenant General Ricky N. Rupp and in response to Admiral John C. Aquilino’s request to get to immediate small and quick wins that will improve the quality and access to medical services in Japan. It is often quite easy to get caught up in a large-scale operations and focus all your effort there, waiting for all the necessary pieces to fall into place, and that takes time. Going after quick wins can motivate and allow for immediate progress. The other key concept of this story is the power of relationships. The tenacity and perseverance of USNHO’s EMS Director set the proverbial wheels in motion for a quick win.

U.S. Naval Hospital Okinawa is always striving to enhance the patient experience. One way to do this is to improve their emergency services capabilities and part of that plan includes several additional ambulances. Rather than waiting for the ordering process to take place, Capt. Kathleen Cooperman organized a small task force to look for ideas to form a bridging solution until the new ambulances are procured. A team of subject matter experts (SME) including LCDR Studer (NMRTC Okinawa EMS Director), Chief Ulysses Taormina (MCIPAC Regional Fire Chief), and LT Richardson (NMRTC Okinawa Deputy Comptroller) strategically partnered with Brian Allgood Army Hospital, Marine Corps Installation Pacific (MCIPAC), and the 3D Marine Expeditionary Force and (III MEF) to secure three ambulances for immediate use to increase access to Emergency Medical Services (EMS) on Okinawa.

The procurement of ambulances jointly improves the capabilities of the Bureau of Medicine and Surgery (BUMED), the U.S. Air Force (USAF), and DHA in transporting our most vulnerable and critically ill infant patients. As NMRTC Okinawa hosts the only Neonatal Intensive Care Unit (NICU) in the



(U.S. Marine Corps photo by Cpl. Thomas Sheng)

From left to right, U.S. Navy Cmdr. Pete Nyilas, director of medical services, U.S. Naval Hospital Okinawa, Ulysses Taormina, regional fire chief of Marine Corps Installations Pacific Fire and Emergency Services, Capt. Kathleen Cooperman, commanding officer of USNHO, and Lt. Cmdr. Amanda Studer, Emergency Medical Services director of USNHO, discuss a recent shipment of ambulances at Naha Military Port, Okinawa, July 8.

Indo-Pacific Command (INDOPACOM), it’s imperative to have these ambulances to transport infants in isolettes, safely. An isolette is a clear plastic enclosed crib that maintains a warm environment for a new baby and isolates them from germs. Ambulances have historically been challenging to appropriate due to a myriad of factors. The three ambulances procured offset a substantial cost and allow for greater maneuverability in modernizing our ambulance fleet. This collaboration demonstrates our commitment to our patients, jointness, optimization, and resource stewardship for all involved.

The U.S. Navy Medicine Readiness and Training Command Okinawa (USNMRTCO) supports the Defense Health Agency’s U.S. Naval Hospital, Okinawa (USNHO) as the largest OCONUS Navy Medicine medical treatment facility and stands at the ready to respond to contingency operations to support the INDOPACOM region. It is a critical regional asset for direct care delivery, regional referrals, and medical contingency operations. The staff of USNHO understands their vital role as pre-positioned, forward-deployed naval forces within the first island chain, aligned and in support of the joint military commands and operations.

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Largest Pitch Black Exercise opens for U.S. and 19 nations

Story & Photos by Tech. Sgt. Jimmie D. Pike
Pacific Air Forces



Royal Australian Air Force Air Commodore Peter Robinson, Officer Commanding Exercise, provides remarks to participants of Exercise Pitch Black 24 at the Darwin Convention Center in Darwin, Australia July 12.



Exercise Pitch Black 24 Participants listen to speakers during the opening ceremony in Darwin, Australia July 12.

DARWIN, NORTHERN TERRITORY, Australia – Exercise Pitch Black 2024, the largest iteration of the Royal Australian Air Force’s premiere biennial flying exercise, officially opened on July 12 in Darwin, Australia during a ceremony held at the Darwin Convention Center attended by service members from multiple countries.

RAAF and Australian leaders provided remarks regarding the growth of the exercise and the intent of participants to learn from this opportunity.

“Pitch Black 24 will be the largest in the exercise’s 43 year history and brings together 20 participating nations, more than 140 aircraft from around the world, and over 4000 personnel,” said Eva Lawler, Chief Minister

of the Northern Territory (Australia). “The territory’s landscape and clear airspace offer an ideal environment for rigorous training exercises that prepare service members to face the challenges of modern warfare.”

Aside from the size, one other significant aspect about this year’s exercise is the inclusion of six new countries’ participation: Philippines, Spain, Italy, Papua New Guinea, Fiji, and Brunei.

“We have brought like-minded nations that will come together and exercise together,” said RAAF Air Commodore Peter Robinson, Officer Commanding Exercise. “We build capabilities together, we build friendships together, we build relationships together and we leave the exercise much stronger as partners.”

Though Pitch Black is an Australian-led exercise, the U.S. Air Force has been a participating member since 1983 and recognizes the unique opportunity to work with such a large group of foreign militaries to include a European presence in the Indo-Pacific making Pitch Black a world-wide experience.

“Pitch Black is a great opportunity for us to exercise closely with our Allies and partners to bolster our combined and joint capabilities,” said U.S. Air Force Lt. Col. Ryan Nickell, USAF Pitch Black Detachment Commander. “True integration takes understanding and trust. This is our opportunity to learn from each other and contribute to stability in the region through longstanding partnerships.”

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With The Name of The One True *G-D, The Merciful Benefactor, The Merciful Redeemer
Al Ankabut (The Spider)

And (remember Prophet) **Lot** : Behold he said to his people : “You do commit (sexual) perversity, such as no people in Creation (ever) committed before you.”

“Do you indeed approach men (sexually) and cut off the (natural) path of (procreation)? – And practise wickedness (even) in your (official) Councils?”

But his people gave no answer but this; they said: “Bring upon us the Wrath of G-D if you are telling the truth” He said: “O my Lord-Creator! Help me against people who do mischief!”

When **OUR Messengers came to **Abraham** with the good news, They said: “we are indeed going to destroy the people of this territory: for truly they are (addicted to) degeneracy.”

He said: But (my nephew) **Lot** is there.” They said: “Well do we know who is there: we will certainly save him and his following – except his wife. She is of those who straggle behind!”

And when **OUR Messengers came to **Lot**, he was distressed for their safety, and felt himself powerless (to protect) them: but they said: “Do not be afraid, nor be distressed: We are (here) to save you and your following, except your wife: she is of those who straggle behind.”

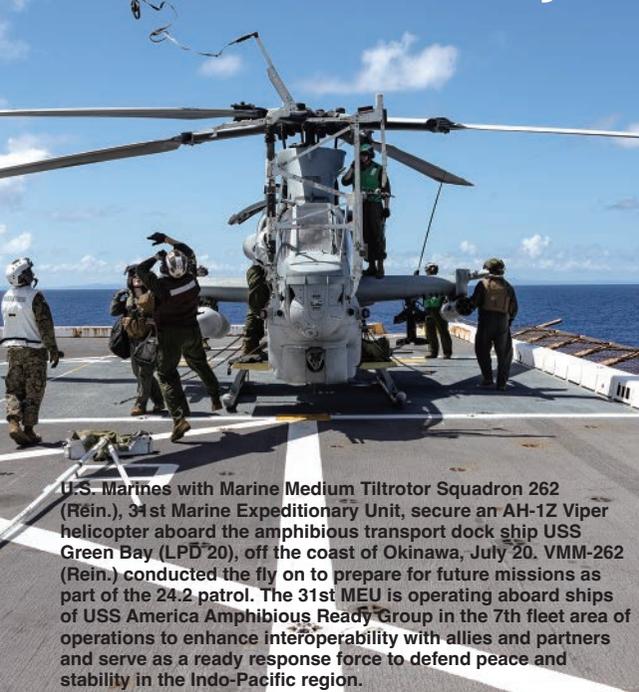
[End of Part I]

*G-D instead of God. God when spelt backwards is *dog*. This is not a proper spelling for a word, that is used for The All-Mighty Creator of the Heavens and Earth.

** WE, Ourselves, US as revealed in the Qur’an is a reference to the Angels who have been assigned by The Creator to control everything in HIS creation.

Listen to Imam **Yahya Abdullah**

VMM-262 embark on USS Green Bay



U.S. Marines with Marine Medium Tiltrotor Squadron 262 (Rein.), 31st Marine Expeditionary Unit, secure an AH-1Z Viper helicopter aboard the amphibious transport dock ship USS Green Bay (LPD-20), off the coast of Okinawa, July 20. VMM-262 (Rein.) conducted the fly on to prepare for future missions as part of the 24.2 patrol. The 31st MEU is operating aboard ships of USS America Amphibious Ready Group in the 7th fleet area of operations to enhance interoperability with allies and partners and serve as a ready response force to defend peace and stability in the Indo-Pacific region.

(U.S. Marine Corps photo by Cpl. Osmar Gutierrez)

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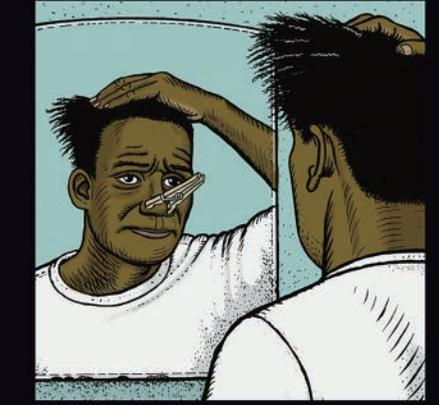
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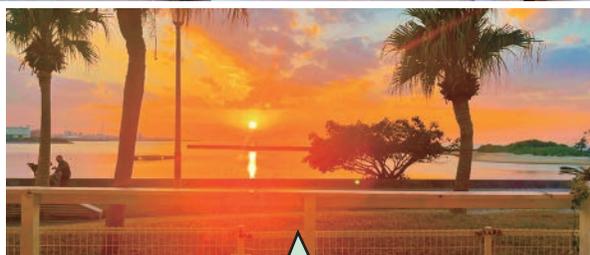
THE REVIEW OF A PLACE



An exquisite oil massage that will soothe and help you forget the physical and mental fatigue of everyday life.



Relaxing interior decorations and a pleasant aroma fill the salon.



In the evening, you can enjoy a couples massage while watching the sunset at Sunset Beach.



Resort Salon de MARE

1-21-9 Kitamae, Chatan
Weekday 9:00-17:00 / Weekend 9:00-19:00
Closed Thursday
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OFF-BASE Please call before visit the hospital / medical clinic.

Local Hospital & Medical Clinic DIRECTORY



General	Urasoe General Hospital	1-56-1 Maeda, Urasoe / 098-878-0231	Emergency
	University of the Ryukyus Hospital	207 Uehara, Nishihara Town / 098-895-3331	Emergency
	Chubu Tokushukai Hospital	801 Higa, Kitanakagusuku / 057-098033	
	Nakagami Hospital	601 Noborikawa, Okinawa / 098-939-1300	
Internist Clinic	Life Care Clinic Nagahama	1530-1 Nagahama, Yomitan / 098-982-9000	
	Nishihira Clinic	2-2-2 Akamichi, Ginowan / 098-896-1116	
Eye Specialist	San Ai Ganka-Eye Clinic	1-3-28 Yamauchi, Okinawa / 098-933-3322	
	Gushiken Eye Clinic	1371-1 Gushikawa, Uruma / 098-975-1010	
	Hayakawa Eye Clinic	2-2-2 Nodake, Ginowan / 098-893-8155	
Pediatrics	Aiwa Clinic	766-2 Ikeda, Nishihara / 098-946-5558	
	Matsushima Clinic	894-2 Senaha, Yomitan / 098-958-6888	
Gynecology & Obstetrics	OBGYN Yui Clinic	2444-3 Noborikawa, Okinawa / 098-989-3801	
Dental Clinic	Sunabe Smile Dental Clinic	1-105 Miyagi, Chatan / 098-926-4618	
	Yara Dental Clinic	2-17-6 Chatan, Chatan / 098-936-7515	
	Sakura Dental Clinic	4-7-9 Mihara, Okinawa / 098-989-9986	
	White Dental Clinic	813-2 #101, Kamisedo, Chatan / 098-989-3780	
	Life Dental Clinic	6-24-9 Oyama, Ginowan / 098-890-5322	
	Hanarabi Orthodontic Clinic Cure&Care	2-3-9 Yamazato, Okinawa / 098-930-4187	
	Grace Dental Clinic	364-1 Minamiuehara, Nakagusuku / 098-895-6868	
	ACE Dental Clinic	62-2 Higashionna, Ishikawa, Uruma / 098-965-6336	
	Nakawaka Dental Clinic	468-3 Kuwae, Chatan / 098-926-4180	
	Piece Dental Clinic	62-2 Higashionna, Ishikawa, Uruma / 098-965-6336	
	Komesu Dental Clinic	4-18-2 Matsumoto, Okinawa / 098-939-6123	

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Free Hot Stone Massage

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Weekday 9:00~17:00
Weekend 9:00~19:00
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Araha Beach

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Camp Foster

Araha Beach

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