

VOICE

PAPER

VOICE PAPER features Okinawa's local events, off-base locations, and U.S. military activity on the island and across the Asia-Pacific region.



a large flight to project rotary-wing light attack combat power and build flight leadership and experience for pilots and crew chiefs.

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Sailors Share Story Time with Local School Children



(U.S. Navy photo by Mass Communication Specialist 1st Class MacAdam Kane Weissman Logistics Specialist 2nd Class Jacob Mitchell, from Orange, California, assigned to Navy Munitions Command Pacific East Asia Division Okinawa. left and Personnel Specialist 2nd Class Janine Hunt, from Lodi, California, assigned to Electronic Attack Squadron (VAQ) 209, read to children during a community relations event led by Commander, Fleet Activities Okinawa, at a school in Kadena Town, July 10. The event gave Sailors the opportunity to read storybooks and interact with local kindergarteners through games and playtime, while strengthening U.S.-Japan ties through cultural exchange. CFAO maintains and operates facilities to support United Nations Command-Rear missions, coalition and allied partners, U.S. Navy ships, submarines, and aircraft, and Joint Force assets in the Indo-Pacific region.

F-15EX visit offers first look at Indo-Pacific airpower evolution



18th Wing commander, converses with Okinawan civic leaders after a tour of an F-15EX Eagle II from the 85th Test and Evaluation Squadron, Eglin Air Force Base, Florida, at Kadena Air Base, July 18. The visit to the 18th Wing for integration and familiarization training with local units and joint partners marks a key step in preparing for the permanent arrival of 36 F-15EX aircraft at Kadena in spring 2026.

U.S. Air Force Brig. Gen. John Gallemore.

Ginowan Dragon Boat Race

U.S. Marines with
Headquarters and
Headquarters Squadron,
Marine Corps Air Station
Futenma, participate in
the Ginowan Dragon
Boat Race. Forty teams,
including Das Boots,
Hornet Harbingers
and Yasha Dragons
from MCAS Futenma,
competed for top five
honors in the timed event.



(U.S. Marine Corps photo by Lance Cpl. Alexander Conde)

Sailors share in language exchange with Okinawan school children



Sailors assigned to the "Golden Eagles" of Patrol Squadron (VP) 9 are introduced to local Okinawan students as part of a language exchange during a community relations event led by Commander, Fleet Activities Okinawa (CFAO) at a school in Uruma, July 15. The event provided students with the opportunity to practice English by interacting with native speakers, while also strengthening U.S.-Japan ties through cultural exchange.

(U.S. Navy Photo by Mass Communication Specialist

HMLA-169 conducts off base beautification

U.S. Marine Corps Cpl. Kayla Cassel, an aviation operations clerk, and Cpl. Kaleef Thompson, a maintenance data specialist with Marine Light Attack Helicopter Squadron 169 (HMLA-169), Marine Aircraft Group 36, 1st Marine Aircraft Wing drop off waste at a designated waste collection area at Ginowan, July 2. HMLA-169 personnel worked with the local public to gather combustibles and recyclables as part of a beautification event, fostering U.S. and local relationships in Okinawa.



(U.S. Marine Corps photo by Lance Cpl. Benjamin Catindig)

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AUGUST SEPTEMBER bulletin























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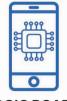
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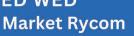


CAMERA ISSUES



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Gallemore takes command of the 18th Wing Story by Staff Sgt. Dwane Young 18th Wing Public Affairs

KADENA AIR BASE – U.S. Air Force Brig. Gen. Nicholas Evans officially relinquished command of the 18th Wing to Brig. Gen. John Gallemore during a change

> Japan and 5th Air Force. Simultaneously, Chief Master Sgt. Brandon Wolfgang transferred responsibility as the 18th Wing command chief to Chief Master Sgt. William Cupp. As the wing's senior enlisted leader, Wolfgang served as the principal advisor to the commander and senior staff.

of command ceremony at Kadena Air Base, July 14. The event was presided over by Lt. Gen. Stephen

Jost, commander of U.S. Forces

(Continued on page 9)



U.S. Air Force Lt. Gen. Stephen Jost, left, U.S. Forces Japan and 5th Air Force commander. passes the 18th Wing guidon to Brig. Gen. John Gallemore incoming 18th Wing commander, during the 18th Wing change of command ceremony at Kadena Air Base, July 14.



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(Continued from page 7)

guiding decisions on operational effectiveness, readiness, morale, welfare, safety, and the optimal employment of total force personnel

Cupp now steps into the role, serving as the senior enlisted liaison between the 18th Wing and enlisted members from five other Air Force major commands and joint partner units.

"The 18th Wing's mission is vital to our nation's security and to maintaining stability in this crucial region. As the 'Keystone of the Pacific', this wing's contributions are felt across the region," said Jost. "Gen. Gallemore and Chief Cupp, your unique combination of operational expertise and strategic vision makes you the ideal team to guide the 18th Wing into the future."

Since assuming command in July 2023, Evans and Wolfgang led Team Kadena through significant U.S. Air Force Chief
Master Sgt. William
Cupp, 18th Wing
command chief,
poses for a photo in
front of a HH-60W
Jolly Green II after the
change of command
ceremony at Kadena
Air Base, July 14.

(U.S. Air Force photo by Airman 1st Class Arnet Shavne Tamayo)

accomplishments, including securing critical infrastructure funding to modernize facilities, executing regular readiness training that demonstrated Kadena Air Base's ability to project airpower anytime, and advancing quality of life initiatives that deepened trust and connection between Airmen, families, and the Okinawan community.

"It has been a privilege to serve alongside the men and women of Kadena who deter aggression, reassure our allies, and stand ready to defend Japan every day," said Evans. "This wing has strengthened community ties, sharpened readiness, and deepened the bonds of our alliance, and I have no doubt Kadena will continue to excel in the vital mission it carries out for our nation and our allies."

Selected for reassignment to the U.S. Air Force Academy as deputy superintendent, Evans passed the guidon to Gallemore, who then addressed the men and women of Team Kadena.

"It is an honor to join the incredible Airmen and families of Kadena," said Gallemore. "This

(Continued on page 13)



THE REVIEW * * * OF A PLACE * * *

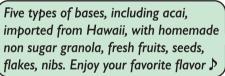




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BENEATH THE WAVES

The USS Emmons
Wreck off Kouri Island

NAKIJIN – Located in northern Okinawa, the small island of Kouri in Nakijin Village is a popular destination known for its scenic drive across the iconic Kouri Bridge. But few visitors realize that 40 meters below the surface lies one of the world's most impressive shipwrecks.

This sunken relic is the USS Emmons, a U.S. Navy warship discovered in February 2001 by local divers. Even before its discovery, local fishermen had long suspected something lay beneath the waves—mainly due to mysterious traces of oil occasionally rising to the surface.

Measuring about 100 meters in length, the Emmons still rests on the seafloor with its massive main guns, propellers, and anti-aircraft weapons largely intact. Despite nearly 70 years underwater since it sank in 1945, the ship

remains a powerful testament to its wartime past.

Today, the wreck attracts experienced divers from around the world, eager to witness its haunting beauty up close. Due to the depth and sometimes strong currents, tours to the Emmons are limited to advanced divers only. Still, for many, the dream of exploring this underwater time capsule is one worth holding onto.

(Copyright by KATSU MIYA / Photo Libery)



(Continued from page 9)

wing plays a critical role in safeguarding peace, strengthening our alliance with Japan, and standing ready to defend our shared interests in the region. I look forward to building on this legacy together."

Gallemore brings a distinguished record, including key leadership roles as Inspector General for Air Combat Command, director of the Secretary of the Air Force and Chief of Staff's Strategic Execution Group, and commander of the 8th Fighter Wing at Kunsan Air Base, South Korea.

He now assumes responsibility for approximately 8,000 service members and their families, alongside over 4,000 Japanese employees and contractors at Kadena Air Base—the largest combat wing in the U.S. Air Force, providing air superiority, combat search and rescue, command and control, aeromedical evacuation, and global mobility to the U.S. Indo-Pacific Command.

His recent tenure as Inspector General at Headquarters Air Combat Command, Joint Base Langley-Eustis, Virginia, has reinforced his appreciation of the critical role that readiness and collaboration play in attaining maximum efficiency and effectiveness.

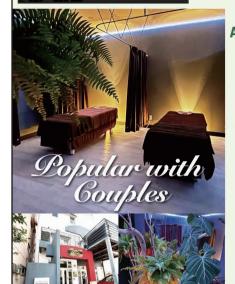








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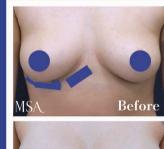


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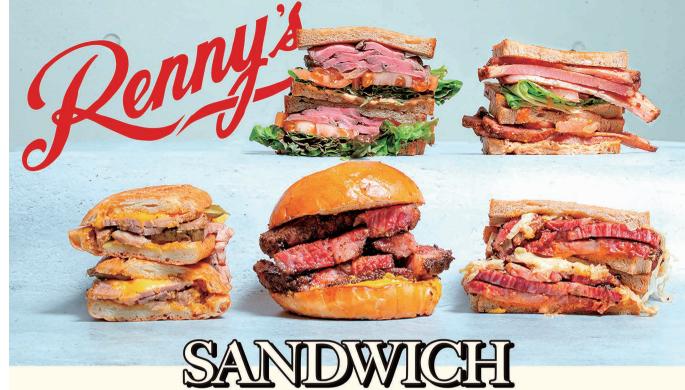
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"No Better Friend" III MIG Marine aids Okinawan local

after slip and fall Story & Photo by 1st Lt. Keyon Whyte III MEF Information Group



CAMP HANSEN – Pvt. Brady Sims was out enjoying another quiet Saturday in Okinawa, when an Okinawan local's sudden slip and fall turned into an immediate call to action for the Marine.

Pvt. Sims is a 3531, a motor vehicle operator with 5th Air Naval Gunfire Liaison Company, III Marine Expeditionary Force Information Group. He recalled how his training and instincts as a Marine compelled him to immediately render aid.

On June 7, Sims was shopping in American Village when he and another Marine, LCpl Ryland Sawyer, decided to walk by a nearby beach. During that walk, they noticed a local Japanese woman slip from the concrete barriers that break up the waves and fall headfirst down an approximately 15-foot drop. Sims did not hesitate

(Continued on page 24)



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to spring into action.

"I ran over there, and it looked like she was in pretty bad pain. I could see blood coming out of her head, so I jumped down there, took off my shirt, and started applying pressure," recalled Sims. "I directed her family to call the paramedics and told another local to go get some ice."

Sims counted on the skills he learned in the Marine Corps to triage the woman's injury and take control of the situation. He checked for the signs of a traumatic head injury that he had been trained to recognize, directed other individuals to assist, and relayed vital information about the woman's status to the paramedics when they finally arrived on the scene.

"I guess because we're trained in basic first aid, I thought that I could help. I didn't really see anybody else who could have done it because she was just there with her family, so I immediately jumped down there and started helping her," Sims continued.

Once the 46-year-old woman was safe with the paramedics, the family members that had accompanied her also paused to express their gratitude to the two Marines

who had assisted her.

"Her family was very thankful. Once [the paramedics] took her, they were asking how they could repay us," said Sims. "We were like, don't worry

about it. We are just here to help people."

Marines like Pvt. Sims are the embodiment of the values, initiative, and bias for action that are instilled in every Marine from day one, proving that Marines are not only the first to fight when the nation calls, but the first to help in times of need.







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Manga Souko is a Treasure Trove of Secondhand Goods

anga Souko is a well-known Okinawan recycling shop chain with four locations in Nago, Naha. Urasoe, and Awase. The popular store specializes in buying and selling various secondhand goods, making it a go-to destination for bargain hunters, collectors, and those looking for unique items.

Manga Souko offers an extensive selection of products, from fashion, toys, home appliances. and tools to everyday necessities and tableware. The store buys and sells mobile phones, books, sports equipment, and trading cards, catering to various hobbies and interests. Gamers and music lovers

can find video games, CDs. and DVDs. while musicians can browse guitars and other instruments, and a collection of fishing gear attracts fishermen. Additionally, the store deals in gold, jewelry, tradeable coupons, and car and motorcycle supplies, making it a versatile shopping destination.

Other items include furniture. interior goods, and amusement items. Customers can both sell their unwanted items for cash and discover rare or discounted treasures, from figures and anime-re-



lated items to rare collectibles. With its wide range of products and affordable prices, Manga Souko provides a sustainable way to shop while giving pre-owned goods a second life.











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Muscle Power

An Emerging Determinant of Healthspan and Lifespan

Dr. Ceabert J. Griffith

n the past few decades, the concept of healthspan—the disease-free period of a person's life that precedes progressive health decline—has gained considerable traction as a predictor of how long a person will live (i.e., lifespan). Good healthspan largely implies the absence of noncommunicable diseases such as hypertension, coronary artery disease, chronic kidney disease, and dementia. Emerging scientific evidence suggests that skeletal muscle health is a powerful contributor to a person's healthspan and lifespan. Indeed, medical researchers have started to identify the indispensable roles of skeletal muscles, including their structural and functional contributions to overall health and wellness. Skeletal muscles represent an organ system that plays a vital role in locomotion and metabolic functions.



that sarcopenia can lead to a reduction in skeletal muscle glucose uptake and metabolic diseases like Type 2 Diabetes and hypertension. Both aerobic exercise and resistance training help regulate skeletal muscle glucose metabolism.

Cardiovascular Health

Besides their role in standing, walking, running, and other weightbearing activities, the calf muscles are often referred to as the second heart. The powerful heart muscle pumps oxygen- and nutrient-rich blood throughout the body, including both legs. After delivering these vital substances to the lower extremities. the oxygen- and nutrient-depleted blood must make its way back up to the heart, competing with the powerful forces of gravity. Because there are no pumps in the legs to return blood to the heart, the calf muscles function as de facto pumps, defying gravity to return blood to the heart for nutrient and oxygen replenishment. Studies have shown that individuals with heart failure have smaller calf muscles than their peers with

robust heart function. Furthermore, strengthening the calf muscles can help the failing heart regain some pumping prowess. This does not suggest that small calf muscles are the *cause* of heart failure; however, it does suggest that strong calf muscles are major contributors to overall cardiovascular function.

Building and Maintaining Muscle Health

Adults typically achieve maximum skeletal muscle mass in their 40s, after which they experience a progressive decline in skeletal muscle size and strength. Age-associated reduction in skeletal muscle mass-known as sarcopenia—can be slowed. allowing individuals to maintain their mobility and agility. What are the effective strategies for ameliorating the decline in skeletal muscle mass and power over a lifespan? Exercise physiologists and nutrition professionals recommend regular resistance training, supported by adequate protein intake to mitigate age-related sarcopenia.

Before undertaking any exercise training you should consult with a healthcare provider. Working with a personal trainer offers the best option to ensure a safe exercise prescription. Engage

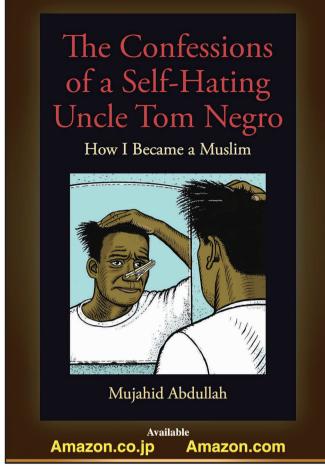


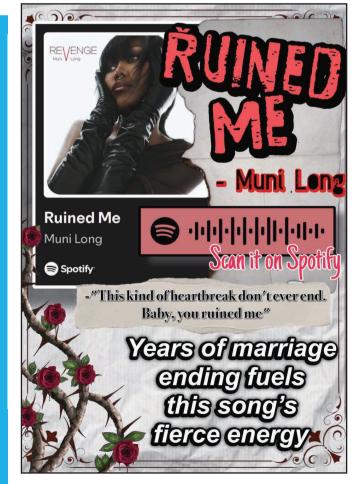


in an aerobic activity (e.g., dancing, walking, and swimming) most days, 45-50 minutes each session. Resistance training, done three times a week, can maintain skeletal muscle mass. Calf raises strengthen calf muscles and are simple to do by standing with your feet shoulder-width apart and raising your heels so that you are standing on the balls of your feet. Foot pumps also strengthen calves and can be done by pointing your toes down towards the floor and up towards your head. Additionally, daily walking builds calf muscles.

Regarding the dietary protein needed to support muscle growth and maintenance, nutrition experts recommend approximately 1 gram of protein per kilogram (2.2 pounds) of body weight. So, an 80-kilogram (176-pound) person should consume 80 grams of protein daily.

A combination of resistance training and adequate protein intake can ensure that your skeletal muscles are powered up to support your locomotion needs, healthy glucose metabolism, and effective cardiovascular function, and support an elongated healthspan and lifespan.





Locomotion Skeletal muscles—

Skeletal muscles—those that help stabilize joints, maintain posture. and produce movement—is at the center of tremendous energy production and consumption. For example, the quadriceps muscles at the front of the thigh produce a tremendous amount of energy to fuel their contribution to knee stabilization, the ability to stand upright, and dynamic knee extension when standing, walking and running. To combat knee joint arthritis, rehabilitation specialists prescribe a program of quadriceps muscle strengthening to reduce knee pain by stabilizing the knee joint during various movements.

Glucose Metabolism

The skeletal muscles are involved in the lion's share of insulin-mediated glucose metabolism. Studies show

ABOUT THE AUTHOR: Dr. Ceabert J. Griffith is trained in public health and family medicine and is an Adjunct Professor of Health Sciences at Touro University Worldwide. He is based in Okinawa and is the author of the recently released book "15 Power Habits of Wellness." and co-author of "11 Power Habits to Defeat High Blood Pressure." Both books can be purchased from Amazon.com.

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VERSES FROM THE HOLY QUR'AN

With The Name of The One True *G-D. The Merciful Benefactor, The Merciful Redeemer

Al Kahf (The Cave)

And so the two continued their journey, until, when they met a young man, (the sage) killed him –

(Whereupon Moses) exclaimed: "Have you slain an innocent Human Being without (his having taken) another's life? Indeed, you have done a terrible thing!

He replied: "Did I not tell you that you will never be able to have patience with me?"

Said (Moses): "If, after this, I should ever question you again, keep me not in your company: (for by) now you have heard enough excuses from me."

And so they traveled on, until, when they came upon some villagers, they asked them for food; but those (people) refused them all hospitality.

And they saw in that (village) a wall which was on the point of tumbling down, and (the sage) rebuilt it (whereupon Moses) said: "Had you so wished, surely you could (at least) have obtained some payment for it?"

(The sage then) replied: "This is the parting of ways between me and you. (And now) I shall tell you the interpretations of all (those events) that you were unable to bear with patience:"

[End of Part II]

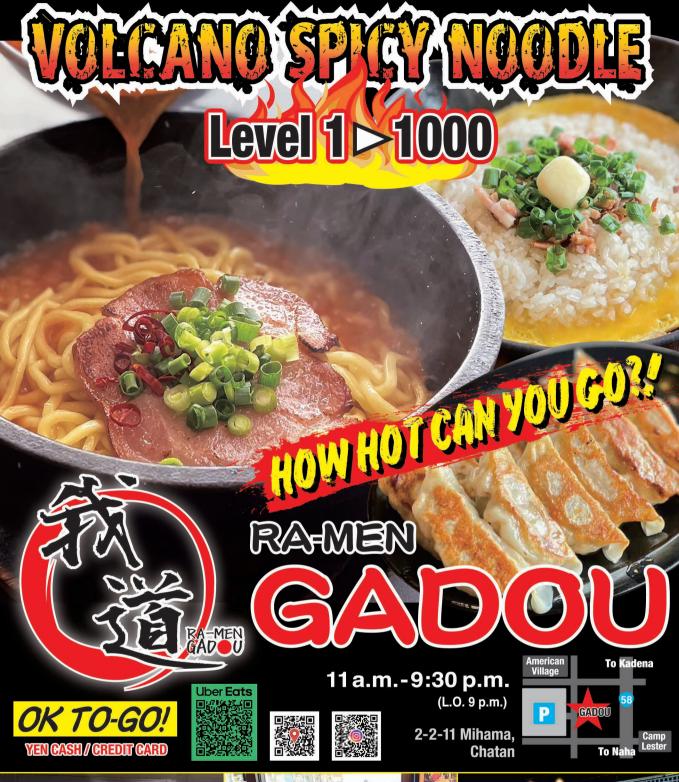
*G-D instead of God. God when spelt backwards is dog. This is not a proper spelling for a word, that is used for The All-Mighty Creator of the

** 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.



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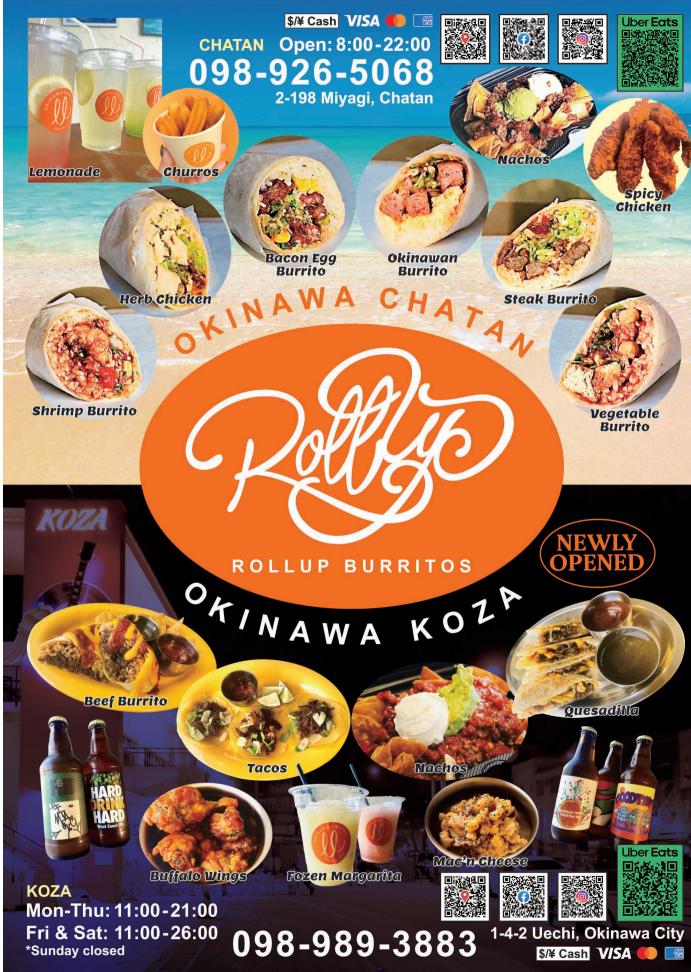












NEVSPRINT

America Strike Group Conducts Formation Sail During Talisman Sabre 25



(U.S. Navy photo by Mass Communication Specialist 2nd Class Cole Pursley)

U.S. Navy ships from the America Strike Group, led by the forward-deployed amphibious assault ship USS America (LHA 6), sail in formation with the Royal Australian Navy, Republic of Korea Navy, Royal New Zealand Navy, French Navy and Japan Maritime Self-Defense Force as part of Talisman Sabre 25, July 20, Talisman Sabre is the largest bilateral military exercise between Australia and the United States advancing a free and open Indo-Pacific by strengthening relationships and interoperability among key allies and partners, while enhancing our collective capabilities to respond to a wide array of potential security

JMSDF Cadet Base Tour at MCAS Iwakuni



(U.S. Marine Corps photo by Lance Cpl. Tyler Bassett

U.S. Marine Corps Capt. Bailey Smith, a F-35B pilot with Marine Fighter Attack Squadron (VMFA) 211, Marine Aircraft Group 12, 1st Marine Aircraft Wing, gives Japanese Maritime Self-Defense Force cadets a tour of a F-35B Lightning II aircraft with Marine Fighter Attack Squadron (VMFA) 211 during a base tour at Marine Corps Air Station Iwakuni, June 18. JMSDF cadets received a tour of MCAS Iwakuni's capabilities and had the opportunity to see various aircraft, including the F-35B Lightning II, KC-130J Super Hercules, and C-12 Huron.

DPAA conducts Okinawa honorable carry



U.S. Army Sqt. 1st Class Sabrina Hollis, Defense POW/MIA Accounting Agency noncommissioned officer in charge. carries the U.S. flag during an honorable carry ceremony at Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam, Hawaii, July 16.

Possible remains, recently repatriated from Okinawa, will undergo scientific analysis and identification at the DPAA laboratory. Currently, 71,896 service members remain unaccounted for from World War II.

Japan, Republic of Korea and U.S. conduct trilateral flight

Fighter aircraft from Japan and the Republic of Korea conducted a trilateral escort flight of U.S. bombers operating in the Pacific, July 11. Two Japan Air Self-Defense Force F-2 fighter aircraft and two ROK Air Force KF-16 Fighting Falcons escorted two U.S. Air Force B-52H Stratofortress bombers. The flight continues to



demonstrate and train the collective ability to immediately respond to regional security challenges.

Bilateral Fueling Ops Sustain Air **Dominance During REFORPAC**



Japan Air Self-Defense Force Staff Sgt. Utaka Musha, 3rd Air Wing petroleum, oil, and lubricant technician, pulls a fuel line from a JASDF refueling truck during exercise Resolute Force Pacific (REFORPAC) 2025 at Misawa Air Base, July 15. REFORPAC is part of the first-in-a-generation Department-Level Exercise series, designed to combat airpower to the Indo-Pacific region at speed and scale, and conduct operations in a contested, dynamic environment.





USO COFFEE CONNECTIONS

USO OKINAWA COFFEE CONNECTIONS



USO Coffee Connections are gatherings happening around the world to connect military spouses with new friends or reconnect with old ones! Join USO Okinawa for Coffee Connections at the following locations:



Aug. 21st: USO Kinser @10:30am Aug. 27th: USO Futenma @10:00am Sept. 10th: USO Foster @10:30am

USO.org/CoffeeConnections

SPECIAL EVENT: "Cars and Coffee" Sept. 13th: USO Hansen @9:00am

