

# U.S. ARMY ON OKINAWA

## Quarterly Newsletter

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LOYALTY

# DUTY



SELFLESS SERVICE

Fulfill your obligations. Doing your duty means more than carrying out your assigned tasks. Duty means being able to accomplish tasks as part of a team. The work of the U.S. Army is a complex combination of missions, tasks and responsibilities – all in constant motion. Our work entails building one assignment onto another. You fulfill your obligations as a part of your unit every time you resist the temptation to take “shortcuts” that might undermine the integrity of the final product.

Bear true faith and allegiance to the U.S. Constitution, the Army, your unit and other Soldiers. Bearing true faith and allegiance is a matter of believing in and devoting yourself to something or someone. A loyal Soldier is one who supports the leadership and stands up for fellow Soldiers. By wearing the uniform of the U.S. Army you are expressing your loyalty. And by doing your share, you show your loyalty to your unit.

Put the welfare of the Nation, the Army and your subordinates before your own. Selfless service is larger than just one person. In serving your country, you are doing your duty loyally without thought of recognition or gain. The basic building block of selfless service is the commitment of each team member to go a little further, endure a little longer, and look a little closer to see how he or she can add to the effort.

RESPECT

# HONOR

Live up to Army values. The Nation's highest military award is the Medal of Honor. This award goes to Soldiers who make honor a matter of daily living – Soldiers who develop the habit of being honorable, and solidify that habit with every value choice they make. Honor is a matter of carrying out, acting, and living the values of respect, duty, loyalty, selfless service, integrity and personal courage in everything you do.

Treat people as they should be treated. In the Soldier's Code, we pledge to “treat others with dignity and respect while expecting others to do the same.” Respect is what allows us to appreciate the best in other people. Respect is trusting that all people have done their jobs and fulfilled their duty. And self-respect is a vital ingredient with the Army value of respect, which results from knowing you have put forth your best effort. The Army is one team and each of us has something to contribute.

INTEGRITY



Do what's right, legally and morally. Integrity is a quality you develop by adhering to moral principles. It requires that you do and say nothing that deceives others. As your integrity grows, so does the trust others place in you. The more choices you make based on integrity, the more this highly prized value will affect your relationships with family and friends, and, finally, the fundamental acceptance of yourself.

Face fear, danger or adversity (physical or moral). Personal courage has long been associated with our Army. With physical courage, it is a matter of enduring physical duress and at times risking personal safety. Facing moral fear or adversity may be a long, slow process of continuing forward on the right path, especially if taking those actions is not popular with others. You can build your personal courage by daily standing up for and acting upon the things that you know are honorable.

PERSONAL COURAGE





safety is  
**everyone's**  
responsibility...



...if you see a  
hazard, report it.

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U.S. ARMY ON OKINAWA

# 10th Support Group



## Kadena's Veterinary Clinic Mission Ready, Prepares for PCS Season

By Mr. Philip Molter/10th Support Group, Public Affairs Office

KADENA AIR BASE, OKINAWA, JAPAN – If you have pets on Okinawa or if you are a Military Working Dog (MWD) Handler, Army, Marine Corps, Navy, or Air Force, you are likely very familiar with the U.S. Army Vet clinic here. The Army is the only branch of the military which provides veterinary services.

“We actually provide medical care for military working dogs (MWD) for all the branches,” said Sgt. Carlos Torres, a veterinary technician at the clinic. “We do see personal animals as well, not just MWDs. We do everything from vaccines to sick call appointments, to major surgeries like knee repairs or internal surgery. We also inspect animals at the high school or Child Development Centers just to make sure they are not carrying any transmissible diseases.



**The lobby at the Okinawa Branch Veterinary Services, Public Health Activity Japan Clinic on Kadena Air Base sees scheduled patients only to maintain COVID-19 social distancing.**

In addition, our team plays a large role in food safety on island and inspects food establishments all over the island.”

Accomplishing all this in the midst of the COVID-19 pandemic has presented some challenges.

“COVID-19 has had a huge impact on the mission,” Torres said. “We are still caring for MWDs, they are Soldiers and they get the same treatment as we would. Any kind of treatment they need, any time of the day, weekends, we are here to see them. As far as our other services, everything has been pretty much halted. Currently we are only doing health certificates for patients that are flying off island. There are still some people that are PCSing, or retirees that have to leave island”

Staffing at the clinic normally consists of a mix of Soldiers, local national employees and about 20 DA

civilians, but again the pandemic changed that. Once the restrictions and increased Health Protection Conditions were set, it became just the Soldiers and MLC employees.

“When this started we went down to six Soldiers,” Torres said. “Now the restrictions are starting to ease up a little bit, so a few of the NAF (Non-Appropriated Fund) employees are working in the front of the clinic; but initially to keep the risk down everyone stayed home”

The clinic introduced tele-health appointments for quarantine exams and select sick calls. Doctors are able to interact with clients and patients over video to help accommodate patients who could not come into the clinic. These are not as effective as face to face appointments but are helping serve the community during COVID.



# 10th Support Group (Cont.)



“With the COVID-19, we appreciate everybody being so patient. A lot of people have had to go out into town for care. We definitely want to say thank you to all our clients and patients for understanding it’s out of our hands. We’re doing the best we can because they deserve that.

“One bright spot as PCS season heats back up is our availability of health certificate appointments. The restrictions on routine pet visits means a larger percentage of health certificate availability. This should make it easier for pet owners to get appointments for health certificates as they PCS”

There are some things that people can do to help make the pet portion of their PCS move easier.

“We have a lot of our information posted on our Facebook page, and you can message us there as well (<https://www.facebook.com/OkinawaVeterinaryActivity/>),” said Torres. “Our phone lines are always available for anyone who has questions about PCSing. We definitely ask that as soon as you know that you are PCSing that they contact us and we’ll give them all the information that they need.

“The phones do get very busy so it can be hard to get through, but we check our email account ([okinawavetclinic@gmail.com](mailto:okinawavetclinic@gmail.com)) daily. We have instructional memos and PCS ‘good to know’ information, that we hand out as well.”

As the military staff here are Soldiers, they show a lot of dedication to taking care of the 4-legged Soldiers who are their primary mission.

“For us in uniform, the most interesting part of working here is taking care of the Military Working Dogs, Torres confirmed. “You know a lot of the time you see the handler and dog waking around, and people would like to pet the dog and of course you can’t. But when they come in here you can see you can see what awesome canines they are, so well trained and so easy to work with. The handlers tell them to sit and they just stay there so we can do our checks. The MWDs and the handlers, working with them is just an awesome experience.”

You can contact the clinic by dialing 036-868-2263 from a cell phone, or 966-7593 from a DSN phone on island.

The Okinawa Veterinary Activity, part of the Army Medical Command’s Army Public Health Center, provides exceptional quality of life to Military Working Dogs and privately owned pets through compassionate medical and preventative care as a full service veterinary clinic. We are dedicated to outstanding customer service and client education with the help of military, civilian, and local national employees.



**Capt. Kaylee Quinn, Officer in Charge of the Okinawa Branch Veterinary Services Clinic, Public Health Activity Japan, on Kadena Air Base, conducts a wellness exam, assisted by Sgt. Carlos Torres, Veterinary Technician, June 9.**

# 10th Support Group-Safety

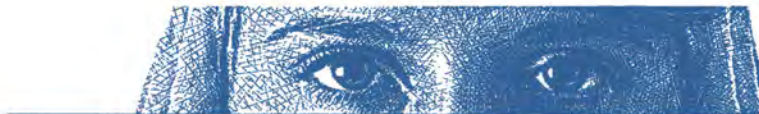
**You are not alone.  
your wellbeing is our priority.**

During times of crisis, it is more important than ever to take care of your mental health.

- Take advantage of assistance programs – phone and video options are often available for counseling



- See what your health insurance program can provide



- Lean on your personal support groups – family, friends, co-workers, supervisors



- Participate in online substance use and mental health support groups, if needed



If you are not sure where to begin, or what is available, reach out to your human resources representative or supervisor. We know this is a stressful time, and we are here for you.



Visit [nsc.org/coronavirus](https://nsc.org/coronavirus) for more resources.

National Safety Council | [nsc.org](https://nsc.org)

**REMEMBER:** Most of the time, our Soldiers, Civilians and Family Members are highly motivated and mission focused however, there are times when obstacles could seem impassable. Remember, you are not alone.

Contact Mr. David Wilson, 10th Support Group's Safety Manager, at DSN: 644-5663 and email: [david.g.wilson36.civ@mail.mil](mailto:david.g.wilson36.civ@mail.mil)

**U.S. ARMY ON OKINAWA**



# 10th Support Group Ammunition Depot



**Director,**  
**10th Support Group**  
**Ammunition Depot**  
**Lt. Col. Onwe Ivory**

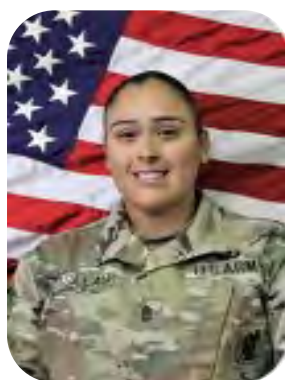
The Ammunition Depot continues operating four strategic ammunition support activities in support of United States Indo-Pacific Command's full spectrum operations and the Joint Munitions Command's maintenance and demilitarization programs.

As the PCS season kicked off, the incoming director, Lt. Col. Onwe Ivory, had a few words for the team.

“Team, I arrived from the United States European Command (EUCOM), one of the eleven unified combatant commands of the United States military, headquartered in Stuttgart, Germany. The command covers an area of 21,000,000 square miles and 51 countries and territories, including Europe, Russia, Greenland, and Israel. The Commander of the United States EUCOM also serves as the Supreme Allied Commander, Europe (SACEUR) within North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO). I look forward to serving with you all”, said Ivory.

This quarter even with COVID-19, Honshu Ammunition Depots containerized 15 TEUs for five separate JMC CONUS depots on a retrograde mission. With a total of 105 short tons and 20,052lbs of Net Explosives Weight. Creating valuable space in our depots for mission critical items that can be used for training and contingency operations.

Lastly, The Ammunition Depot Okinawa, received four containers of redistribution from Hiro and the return of 24 containers of ammunition and residue in support of Cobra Gold 20 and the Pacific Pathways mission. The Ammo Depot while on COVID-19 restrictions, provided 72 Ex-calibur rounds to the Korean Theater of Operations. Additionally, provided 3,500 rounds to JMC CONUS depots for retrograde.



**NCOIC,**  
**10th Support Group**  
**Ammunition Depot**  
**Sgt. 1st. Class**  
**Jessica Casillas**





# U.S. Army Garrison-Okinawa



**Commander,  
U.S. Army Garrison  
Okinawa  
Lt. Col. Joel Gleason**

As I've made my way around the Garrison over the last few weeks, I occasionally run across someone who is not wearing a mask when they should be. That's disappointing but I have long held that people follow rules the best when they understand why the rule exists. I am here to tell you that the mask is not for you. Wearing a mask is an act of selfless service – you do it for everyone else.

First, the mask actually prevents the spread of COVID19. Not for the wearer, but for everyone else. You will not know that you have COVID19 until it is far too late for apologies, so please just wear your mask.

Second, the mask is what allows us to re-open our services. If customers are not wearing masks when they should be, then we will find ourselves closing doors on support activities that you want to keep open. So please, just wear your mask.

Finally, this mask wearing is going to go on a while. At a minimum, we will be doing it for the next 6 months and maybe even as long as two years. That is my educated guess but I have one last recommendation. If you do not like the mask that you have, go get a new one. Then, please just wear your mask.

I have a confession. I hate wearing a mask. If I had my guess, you do too. But I still wear one every day because it is not about me or what I want. I wear the mask because it protects those around me, because it allows us to open back up for business, and because it is the right thing to do.

It Takes a Team – a team that is willing to wear their masks.



**Command Sgt. Maj.,  
U.S. Army Garrison  
Okinawa  
Command Sgt. Maj.  
Dennis N. Dodge**



# U.S. Army Garrison-Okinawa (Cont.)

COVID-19: The global pandemic has been an unprecedented time in history, challenging our dedicated staff to find innovative ways for Garrison to continue to provide mission essential services to our Soldiers and Joint Service community on USAG Okinawa, Torii Station and other Army properties. Department of Public Works (DPW) Operations and Maintenance (O&M) Division is up to the task! They recently installed new "sneeze guard" protective barriers to various offices including the Post Office, Dental Clinic and the Torii MWR - Okinawa Havana's club on May 7, 2020. These protective measures provide long-term mitigation and is also a boom for moral. Protective barriers will continue to be installed in other locations as materials become available. Great job to DPW O&M Team, Garrison's "silent and invisible" Team of maintenance professionals. Thanks for all you do!



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MISSION ACCOMPLISHED! The Marine Corps Installations Pacific Explosive Ordnance Detachment (EOD) flawlessly removed a World War II era unexploded ordnance (UXO ) from Torii Beach on May 21, 2020. Representing a coordinated effort between various U.S. Army Garrison Okinawa Directorates and the Marine Corps EOD, the UXO was successfully and safely removed.



**U.S. ARMY ON OKINAWA**





# U.S. Army Garrison-Okinawa (Cont.)

MEMORIAL DAY TRIBUTE ON TORII BEACH: Memorial Day is a day to reflect on those who have served and freely sacrificed their lives for their nation. Chapter II of the Special Forces Association (SFA), a 501 (C) Veteran Service Non-profit Organization on Torii Station, began honoring that day by memorializing the fallen 1st Special Forces Group (Airborne) Soldiers that died since the beginning of the Vietnam Conflict. The project took about 2 weeks to prepare, repair, and emplace the 185 crosses of 1st SFG (A) fallen, with the most recent Green Beret added. Sgt. 1st. Class Jeremy Griffin was killed in Action by enemy fire on September 16, 2019 in Wardak Province, Afghanistan. The Chapter continues to remember all of our country's fallen and those who served for our great nation by conducting and participating in local and joint service events. SFA Chapter 2's mission is to promote the Special Forces values, build comradery, and support all service members and their families on Okinawa through community outreach, participation in local events, and support to military families and Soldiers. The Chapter, formally known as the Special Forces Decader Club, presence on Torii Station can be dated back to the late 1950's. Many dignitaries and celebrities often visited the Chapter enroute to USO tours in Vietnam.



WARRIOR ADVENTURE QUEST: June 10, 2020 - Soldiers from 1-1 ADA (Air Defense Artillery) participated in various activities on U.S. Army Garrison Okinawa Torii Beach, as part of Warrior Adventure Quest (WAQ), which is an Army training tool designed to introduce Soldiers to activities that serve as alternatives to aberrant behaviors often associated with accidents involving recently re-deployed Soldiers. This tool presents coping outlets to help Soldiers realize their own new level of normal after deployment and "move on" with their lives. WAQ combines existing MWR Outdoor Recreation high adventure activities (e.g. rock climbing, mountain biking, paintball, scuba, ropes courses, skiing, zip lines, white water rafting, and others) with a leader-led after action debriefing (L-LAAD) tool developed by Army Medical Department (AMEDD) center and school.



## U.S. ARMY ON OKINAWA



First Among Equals

# 1st Battalion, 1st Air Defense Artillery Regiment



**Commander,  
1st Battalion, 1st Air  
Defense  
Artillery Regiment  
Lt. Col. Rosanna  
Clemente**

The Snake Eyes Battalion continues to rise above the rest in the Indo-Pacific Command 'sTheater. The key focus during the months of April through June was executing the 1st Battalion, 1st Air Defense Artillery Regiment's wartime mission, and conducting daily air defense operations across the island of Okinawa, Japan while adhering to COVID-19 restrictions. The Snake Eyes Battalion played an integral role in support of COVID-19 measures throughout Okinawa. Entry Control Points were established at Torii Station and Naha Port in order to perform routine screenings on all personnel entering and exiting the areas. A Clean Team was established and conducted training in preparation to perform decontamination operations on key facilities and assets. Family members helped to provide and distribute the appropriate Personal Protective Equipment needed for Snake Eyes Soldiers to continue conducting their daily mission. The 1st Battalion, 1st Air Defense Artillery Regiment adjusted and overcame the hurdles associated with this difficult period in time; we will continue to strive for and achieve the best for the Battalion and our Soldiers, each and every day.

Charlie and Delta Batteries completed Table VIII gunnery certifications and solidified their primary and secondary crews to conduct air and missile defense operations that protect the force and preserve peace in Okinawa and throughout the Pacific. As we look into the future and anticipate new requirements for air and missile defense, validating an expeditionary capability will prove vital in the defense of Japan.

The Snake Eyes Battalion had the privilege of conducting three Change of Responsibility ceremonies. Headquarters and Headquarters Battery, Alpha Battery, and Delta Battery bid farewell to their outgoing First Sergeants and welcomed in new leaders into their formations. To the outgoing, thank you for all of your hard work, dedication, and success to the Snake Eyes Battalion. For the incoming, congratulations on your newly appointed positions; we are confident that you will take your units to the next level!



**Command Sgt. Maj,  
1st Battalion, 1st Air  
Defense  
Artillery Regiment  
Command Sgt. Maj.  
Melissa Calvo**

During the month of May, the Battalion conducted Virtual Snake Eyes Week in order to strengthen unit cohesion and promote friendly competition while enhancing resiliency. Over the course of the week, units held a video game tournament with live commentary from the Chaplain. Families participated in virtual, online workout and yoga classes, and the Battalion performed our very own Snake Eyes Concert along with a message from the Battalion Command Team highlighting the unit's storied history!

The 1st Battalion, 1st Air Defense Artillery Regiment is excited to have launched our podcast series! The series is meant to provide a platform for Snake Eyes Soldiers and families to discuss key topics that will affect our team and to foster an environment of resiliency amongst our formation. In our first episode, Soldiers from Bravo Battery discussed Master Resiliency Training: Problem Solving, and the Better Opportunity for Single Soldiers Program.

As we move toward the summer season, we want to extend our heartfelt thanks to all our Soldiers and Family members for their support and hard work over the last year. The Snake Eyes Battalion would not be as successful without each and every single one of you! Happy 245th Birthday, Army!!

First Line of Defense, By Valor and Power, First Among Equals!



# 1st Battalion, 1st Air Defense Artillery Regiment

## Gunnery Certifications

Alpha Battery, 1-1 Air Defense Artillery was in full throttle this quarter. Operating on the Patriot tactical site on MCAS Futenma, Alpha continued to defend critical assets for two consecutive quarters while undergoing gunnery certifications. The battery conducted steady state operations while training diligently every day. Gunnery certifications are crew events that require full battery involvement in order to be successful.

Ultimately, Alpha Table VIII certified three crews this quarter. The Tactical Control Officers (TCOs) in charge of each crew were 1st Lt. Jayson Guerra, Warrant Officer Jason Garza, and 2nd Lt. Austin Eldred. Their main job as a TCO while operating the Patriot System is Friendly Protect, and they are responsible for the overall performance of their ten-person crew. Their hard work paid off when Alpha proved itself to be the most tactically proficient battery in the battalion during each certification.



1st Lt. Guerra and Spc. Johnson perform Prepare to Move and Emplace drill on the Engagement Control Station during their Table VIII gunnery certification.



2nd Lt. Young conducts Reconnaissance Selection and Occupation of Position (RSOP) training during Table VIII gunnery certification.

mission critical tasks down to the lowest level.

## COVID

COVID-19 limited many operations and efforts across the U.S. Army this past quarter. While Alpha was no exception to these difficult times, the mission does not end and the enemy does not stop. Alpha Battery transitioned to 50% manning requirements and operated under strict social distancing and hygiene guidelines. Maintaining these standards while conducting mission essential operations required innovative ideas and a motivated formation. Gunnery certifications – mission critical events – continued despite COVID-19 restrictions. Junior Leaders took it upon themselves to manage their formations, ensuring those mission essential personnel received an adequate amount of training and good training, while wearing masks and social distancing. This required both oversight and a thorough understanding of the operational environment and

## Preserving the Force

COVID-19 made group functions and meetings obsolete due to increased restrictions. Such “social distancing” can take its toll over time, so Alpha Battery instituted different programs and events that allowed everyone in the unit to socialize and stay mentally involved in work while physically distancing. 1st Lt. Guerra and 2nd Lt. Eldred ran a Call of Duty Tournament in which 30 Soldiers partook. Additionally, Soldiers took classes available online on Army Learning Management System that were directly related to their jobs. This ensured every person remained mission focused and continued to build their tactical knowledge while at home. Our SFRG, led by Heather Murphy, remained focused on reaching out to all families and Soldiers via text messages, phone calls, and video chats, ensuring no one was left feeling alone. In fact, our SFRG even had a Zoom meeting during which they all did a canvas painting from their homes while catching up on relevant news and policy changes.





First Among Equals

# 1st Battalion, 1st Air Defense Artillery Regiment

## Warriors and Members of a Team

Bravo Battery, 1st Battalion, 1st Air Defense Artillery Regiment (1-1 ADA) has remained resilient, trained, competent, and ready to confront anything despite the imposed restrictions, and preventative measures.

Bravo Battery continued to conduct training to certify their gunnery crews in Air and Missile Defense Operations. When not training on their assigned equipment, Soldiers were writing essays or creating short video presentations on various topics, including Resiliency, Suicide Prevention Measures, and Sexual Harassment and Assault Prevention.

Bravo's leadership has been focusing on Soldier and leader development. Essays are used as a tool to enable and enhance research and critical thinking skills. Video presentations are utilized to develop Soldiers into leaders that are able to confidently relay their ideas in order to provide purpose, direction, and motivation to their subordinates.

Bravo Soldiers live by the Warrior Ethos to always place the mission first; never accept defeat; never quit; and never leave a fallen comrade. These values provide Soldiers with a steady foundation during highly uncertain times.



Launcher Platoon conducts guided missile transporter training



Sgts. Metz and Hickison prepare to certify their RSOP crew.

## Mission Comes First

Bravo Battery continued to train and certify its reload, engagement control station, and reconnaissance, selection, and occupation of a position (RSOP) crews. Soldiers also completed an average of 80 hours of correspondence courses in varying topics, including intermediate Soldiers tasks and drills to learning a new language. Bravo's leaders continuously emphasize that regardless of the current situation, Soldiers must remain focused on the accomplishment of the mission, whether the mission consists of certifying on their assigned equipment or developing themselves as leaders in order to train and develop their future subordinates.

## We Are Experts and Professionals

Bravo Battery's Unit Master Driver, Sgt. Siler, trained the battalion in the operation of the new guided missile transporter (GMT). Launcher's Platoon Sergeant, Sgt 1st. Class Romero, and his platoon attended the training, and are ready to begin operating and preparing to certify their GMT crews.

SFC Romero stated, "It's awesome that my platoon has the opportunity to train on new equipment. They're more knowledgeable now that they have been exposed to previous and current models."

Launcher Platoon currently has the fastest reload time in the battalion.

# HONOR

Live up to all the  
Army Values.



*"The very obsession of your public service must  
be DUTY, HONOR AND COUNTRY!"*

*— General Douglas MacArthur*

U.S. ARMY  
CALL TO DUTY  
BOOTS ON THE GROUND



U.S. ARMY

ARMY STRONG.™

## ARMY VALUES

U.S. ARMY ON OKINAWA





# 835th Transportation Battalion



**Commander,  
835th Transportation  
Battalion**

**Lt. Col. Kelvin Simmons**

Friends and Family,

The Champion Battalion has endured much change over the past six months. In response to the COVID-19 pandemic, we transitioned to 100% telework, instituted health precautions, and continued constant coordination with local government and USFJ units to disseminate updated Okinawa COVID-19 restrictions and information. Through it all, we have balanced Protecting the Force with Mission Assurance for our supported agencies and units throughout our area of responsibility. Team Champions, I thank you for your professionalism, flexibility, and resiliency and ingenuity over the past few months. Remain vigilant and continue to be responsive and exemplary professionals in this new environment and worldwide shift in international commerce and transportation.

Supporting surface movement in the Pacific, on 4-23 April, four Champion team members deployed to Thailand to conduct terminal operations ISO Hanuman Guardian with support to 25th ID and 25th CAB return to home station in Hawaii. Albeit heightened restrictions on international travel, our team exercised caution and implemented protective procedures as they traveled aboard the MV Cape Hudson to load 650 pieces of cargo, and successfully did so in under 48 hours.

In an effort to emphasize the importance of safety, we kicked off the summer with our annual safety stand down. This event afforded us, as a team, the opportunity to have critical dialogue about the importance of safety in the workplace and off duty activities. As well as, promote safety awareness, not only for the workplace but also for outdoor recreation specific to Okinawa, Guam, Singapore, and substance abuse. I remind everyone that SAFETY is PARAMOUNT in our day to day operations and off duty activities; therefore, I highly encourage everyone to do the right thing when no one is watching.



**Command Sgt. Maj.,  
835th Transportation  
Battalion**

**Command Sgt. Maj.  
Talmige Bell Jr.**

As we have now entered the period of summer rotation, we bid farewell to many of our devoted teammates that are moving and starting new chapters as they retire and PCS to new opportunities. Team members that are relocating include Mr. Benjamin Ruffin, Marine Cargo Specialist, as he transitions to a new opportunity in Cherry Point, North Carolina. Next, Mr. John Balfour, Information Management Section Chief, retiring after 39 years of combined military and civilian service. Mrs. Elaine Mastriano, Personnel Clerk, is relocating with her family to California. Last but not least, Mr. Tsuyoshi Adaniya is retiring from our Cargo Documentation Section after 39 years of service. Congratulations to each of you and know that you each have played a significant role in the battalion's success during your tenure.

“Champions... Moving the Pacific!”

**U.S. ARMY ON OKINAWA**





# 835th Transportation Battalion

## 835th Enables Marine Corps Modernization

The summer of 2020 is different for the 835th Transportation Battalion for a number of reasons. The most obvious is the COVID-19 epidemic and the impact to operations in Okinawa and their supporting battle space in Southeast Asia. Another big difference for the battalion is that they have the opportunity to shape the future force in accordance with the National Defense Strategy. An ongoing mission with the Marine Corp on Okinawa will give the 835th Transportation Battalion the opportunity to do just that, shape the future force. The 835th Transportation Battalion is known for their world class support from Naha Military Port (NMP) in Okinawa to providing mission support to the nine countries they are responsible for in Southeast Asia.

The III Marine Expeditionary Forces (III MEF) and Team Champion have a habitual-support relationship for deployment, deployment to home station and sustainment operations. III MEF asked Team Champion to be part of their “POM-21” from the ground up. POM 21 is the Marine Corps’ force modernization efforts starting with the divestment of excess or obsolete ground equipment on Okinawa. The divestment of the equipment is important because it is one of the means the Marine Corps is to provide cost avoidance funding reinvestment in Program Objective Memorandum 21.

Team Champion executes a primary role in this operation – training the workforce to ensure a baseline of information is transformed into the daily knowledge of III MEF that will translate into their Tactics Techniques and Procedures (TTP). The training focus points are understanding the proper steps and requirements to ship cargo back to CONUS, consolidate information and input the data into the Export Travel Release Requests (ETRR) to assist in the booking process via the Integrated Booking System (IBS) with the commercial carrier, and finally act as a liaison between the customer and commercial carrier. However, ensuring the information processed is correct, streamlines the operation, reduces booking delays, and reduces cost due to processing delays when the cargo dimensions do not meet the input data. These small issues can cause thousands of dollars each year to every mission.

Team Champion was able to provide additional assistance by creating a joint Equipment Consolidation Point (ECP) on Naha Military Port. The ECP served as the reception point for all vehicles entering NMP enabling property accountability for Marine Corp units as well as the ability to gain all vehicle data required for booking in IBS and In-Transit Visibility (ITV). The addition of the joint ECP was an adjustment to the normal deployment process, which increases efficiency, and accuracy.

The mission will culminate for Team Champion in the first week of July when the MV GREEN COVE arrives on NMP for the uploading of all cargo supporting equipment divestiture, and other sustainment cargo moves globally. This is just another example of the importance of building relationships, partnerships, and friendships to support the Joint Deployment and Distribution Enterprise.



# 835th Transportation Battalion in photos



**Equipment Consolidation Point (ECP) on Naha Military Port**



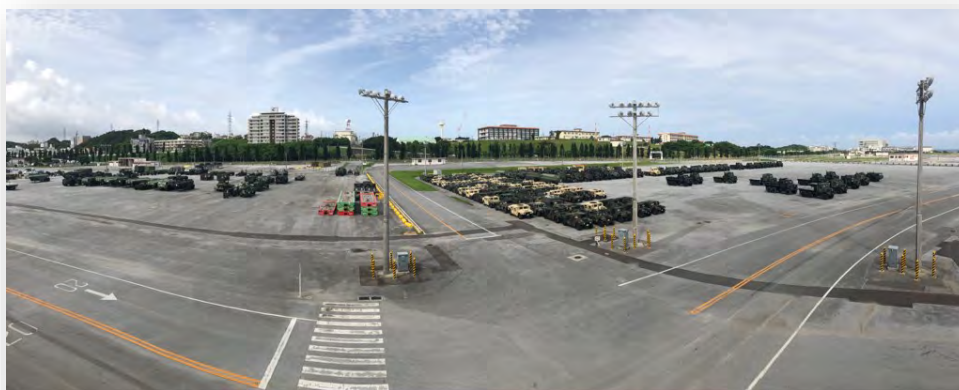
**Marine Cargo Specialist Shiroma-San works with a member of the Okinawa Stevedore and Forwarding (OSF)**



**Marine Cargo Specialist Ishigaki-San validating vehicle dimensions and paperwork**



**Non-Mission Capable (NMC) equipment entering Naha Military Port**



**Equipment Consolidation Point (ECP) on Naha Military Port where all POM-21 divestment equipment was processed for upload on the MV GREEN COVE**



**NATIONAL**  
**SUICIDE**  
**PREVENTION**  
**LIFELINE™**  
**1-800-273-TALK**  
www.suicidepreventionlifeline.org

**Suicide Prevention Lifeline: 1-800-273-TALK (8255)**  
or **CHAT** on their website at  
<https://suicidepreventionlifeline.org/help-yourself/veterans/>

## DOMESTIC VIOLENCE

**ARMY COMMUNITY SERVICE**  
**DOMESTIC ABUSE VICTIM ADOVATE**  
**HOTLINE: 090-6861-8042 (all hours)**



**STOP SEXUAL**  
**HARASSMENT**

**NOT IN OUR ARMY.**



**TOGETHER, THIS WE'LL DEFEND.**

**Sexual Assault Response Program: DSN 634-7272 or [www.sapr.mil](http://www.sapr.mil) / [www.PreventSexualAssault.army.mil](http://www.PreventSexualAssault.army.mil)**



**U.S. Naval Hospital Okinawa**  
**Emergency Room**  
**has a mental health on-call provider 24/7**  
**DSN: 646-7311 / 098-971-7311 or simply go to ER**

### **Crisis resources for locals:**

**Japanese suicide hotline number: 03-5774-0992**

**Active 0900-2300 daily**

**Crisis chat hotline: [Telljp.com](http://Telljp.com), Active Fri/Sat/Sun 2230-0200**





Kin No Ashika

# 78th Strategic Signal Battalion



**Commander,  
78th Strategic Signal  
Battalion  
Lt. Col.  
Michael J. Temko**

Shogun Family,

Command Sgt. Maj. Wokasch and I would like to express our deepest gratitude to the Soldiers, Civilians and Families of the 78th Signal Battalion for the vital role you played in keeping the island of Okinawa safe from the spread of COVID-19. We recognize your dedication and sacrifice for the greater good. As a direct result of your vigilance, Okinawa was able to stifle the spread of the virus and is now free of active cases.

The challenges faced amidst COVID-19 has allowed the battalion to highlight its most important resource – our people. You have proven to be adaptable, resilient, and upstanding in all that you do. However, the fight is not over. Your commitment must be steadfast and enduring if we will prevail and have a chance to regain normalcy. YOU – the people – remain my #1 priority and we must do everything we can to preserve the health, wellness, and strength of the workforce.

We are experience an unprecedented time with the events occurring in the United States related to the death of George Floyd. The battalion is dedicated to diversity, inclusion, and treating others with dignity and respect, which is founded on the essential principle that all men and women are born free and equal. Leaders at all levels hosted small group discussions to garner understand and awareness to the issue and foster an environment of dignity and respect. Injustice anywhere within our unit or abroad is a threat to justice everywhere.

The battalion continues to maintain pace and overcome all obstacles of adversity. The battalion conducted Operation Noboribata, where the battalion staff performed detailed mission analysis to reintegrate the workforce from teleworking, prepare for a high volume movement cycle over the summer, and initiate large-scale communication projects. The Network Enterprise Center-Okinawa (NEC-O) completed their move into the new facility on Torii Station. The new facility allows the company to consolidate equipment and personnel from various sites into a centralized location allowing for a robust, 24/7 mission support posture. The Large Enterprise Gateway (LEG) collaborated with the USMC 7th Communications Battalion to support upcoming training events. The LEG leadership met with White Beach Communications team to establish future technician exchange opportunities between organizations.



**Command Sgt. Maj.,  
78th Strategic Signal  
Battalion  
Command Sgt. Maj.  
Mark F. Wokasch**

The next quarter will be one that is bitter sweet, as we will say goodbye to Command Sgt. Maj. Mark F. Wokasch and welcome Command Sgt. Maj. Wesley W. Stollings during their change of responsibility. An upstanding leader and steward of the profession, Command Sgt. Maj. Wokasch has provide us with so many fond memories and lasting lessons learned. We wish Command Sgt. Maj. Wokasch all the best as he turns the page to begin a new chapter.



# 78th Strategic Signal Battalion (Cont.)

## U.S. Army Network Enterprise Center—Okinawa Stretches out Safely in New, State of the Army Facility

By 1st Lt. Blake Toth / 78th Signal Battalion

OKINAWA, Japan - The United States Army Network Enterprise Center – Okinawa (USANEC-O) under the 78th Signal Battalion, executed a facility move into a new state of the art, \$35 million Network Enterprise Center (NEC) on Torii Station, Okinawa Japan. Since 2019, the NEC has conducted extensive planning and preparation to relocate Army enterprise services for the Army community throughout Okinawa. Additionally, the “Rough NEC” operates and maintains the Joint Warfighter Inter-base Telecommunication Network (JWITN), which supports all Marine, Navy, Air Force, and Army bases on the island of Okinawa. The USANEC-O operated out of four buildings, sprawled throughout three installations across the island. As a result, the move consolidated multiple enterprise branches under a single facility which will ultimately foster improved collaboration and interoperability to better support the warfighter.

The supply and maintenance section relocation was by far one of the largest muscle movements for the USANEC-O and initiated the entire relocation process. During the preparation phase, Sgt. Aaron Nobuo and Spc. Kenyatta Lane of the Supply and Maintenance Team conducted an initial inventory of all property items, turning in any excess items within the supply cage and coordinating transportation assistance through the United States Army Garrison – Okinawa (USAG-O). Throughout the entire move to the new facility, the Supply and Maintenance Team practiced proper supply discipline by maintaining an accountable manifest during each iteration of supply movement into the new facility. After moving the supplies and organic property, the team conducted a second inventory and organized and labeled the new space. The team maintained 100% accountability of all property book items throughout the relocation. In addition to transporting and maintaining the property, the Supply Team was also tasked with key custodial duties, issuing hundreds of keys to USANEC-O personnel as they moved into the new facility to commence a new era of telecommunications support with an already established history of excellence. Sgt. Aaron Nobuo, Supply and Maintenance Team NCO describes his relocation experience

“The move from the old center into the new center was smooth. Support from USAG – Okinawa had a large impact on ensuring the move was organized and completed in a timely manner. The new supply room has ample space to efficiently store, issue and conduct all supply and maintenance related actions,” said Nobuo.

While the Supply Team led the charge into the new facility, the USANEC-O Command Team was close behind, but no closer than six feet to meet social distancing guidelines.



**USANEC-O Soldiers from the Network Support Branch, Pfc. Carlos Garcia (left) and Spc. Victor Nguyen, learn how to install and configure switches during the telecommunications installation of the new Network Enterprise Center. (U.S. Army photo by Staff Sgt. Jennifer Monge/Released)**



Kin No Ashika

## 78th Strategic Signal Battalion (Cont.)

Company Commander Capt. Taumaloto To'o, 1SG. Jose Mendoza, Executive Officer 1st Lt. Blake Toth and Program Director Mr. Jason Parker were eager to work together under the same roof to facilitate enhanced coordination and management of the extremely impactful USANEC – Okinawa USANEC-O mission while maintaining customer support as the number one priority. The plethora of health preserving COVID-19 restrictions certainly added a level of difficulty while moving nearly 100 personnel and relevant equipment, and implementing technical adjustments for communications service continuity.



**The 40,000 square foot United States Army Network Enterprise Center – Okinawa footprint with sister unit, USASA – Okinawa (DSCS) Radomes, set in the background. Torii Station, Okinawa, Japan. (U.S Army photo by 1st Lt. Blake Toth/Released)**

Throughout the NEC relocation, a crucial aspect of the mission was keeping everyone safe from the threat of contracting COVID-19, while also striving to maintain scheduled timelines. Given these environmental circumstances, the seven support branches within the NEC adjusted to an altered telework schedule; shortly before relocating. Between telework for Department of the Army Civilians and alternate duty location for Japanese Master Labor Contractors, the USANEC-Okinawa managed to continue the relocation at a reduced but safe and efficient pace. This schedule ultimately allowed for proper social distancing while relocating branches on their scheduled week by moving one person per day to minimize contact between members of the USANEC – Okinawa. Once situated in their new space, the ample size of the facility enabled the USANEC-O in adhering to social distancing guidelines from USAR-J, furthering the protection of the force from potential COVID-19 exposure.

As the Commander of the USANEC – Okinawa, Capt. Taumaloto To'o shared his thoughts on the tremendous team effort of relocating safely.

“Over 300 hours of planning, rehearsing and executing went into our move into this new facility. We have such an excellent team of Local Nationals, DA Civilians and Soldiers who provided strict oversight to maintain the health and safety of our workforce during the transition under COVID-19 restrictions. Consolidating our workforce from three separate geographical locations will drastically improve the efficiency of USANEC – Okinawa,” said To'o.

With nearly the entire USANEC-O centrally located on Torii Station, the company now shares a garrison environment with the 78th Signal Battalion Headquarters adding another level of support for both the unit and the customer. The NEC has historically been split across numerous locations but now all assets to include JWITN supported DoD entities are able to visit the same facility for all of their telecommunication support needs. The USANEC-O will continue to provide state of the art DoDIN C4IM capabilities, contingency communications, and COMSEC support to the Warfighter, Installation Commanders, Mission Commanders, and United States Army Japan tenants.



# HELP STOP CORONAVIRUS



## HANDS

WASH AND DRY HANDS THOROUGHLY  
AND OFTEN FOR AT LEAST 20 SECONDS

**ELBOW**  
COUGH INTO IT



**FACE**  
DON'T TOUCH IT

**FEET**  
STAY MORE THAN  
6 FT. APART



**SICK**  
TEMPERATURE  
OF 100.4? CALL  
A DOCTOR

If you are experiencing COVID-19 symptoms,  
**CALL AHEAD** before proceeding to a medical facility.

U.S. Naval Hospital: 646-7555 or 090-6861-5230

Kadena Medical Clinic: 630-4817 or 098-960-4817

Symptoms include: fever, cough, shortness of breath



# 247th Military Police Detachment

Greetings from the 247th Military Police Detachment,

Even with COVID-19 effecting the Army at large, very little has changed for the 247th as we are still out their on the roads providing community policing to U.S. Army Garrison Okinawa!

During the months of April and May the unit's primary mission was to support the Provost Marshal's Office with planning, setting up, and operating health screenings across Garrison Okinawa. Additionally in preparation of an early Typhoon season, the 247th conducted tactical vehicle drivers training, licensing Soldiers on HMMWVs, LMTVs, generators, and even a forklift. Towards the tail end of May, the Detachment had the opportunity to look into the past as it assisted in the removal of a World War II era UXO which had been found on Torii beach.



**Sgt. Smith gives the mask removal procedures in the CS chamber during mask confidence training.**



**USMC EOD removes the UXO from the shrapnel bunker on Torii Beach**

With COVID-19 conditions getting better in Okinawa, normal day to day operations have began to return to the "new normal" over the month of June. Along with the bright Okinawan sun and humidity, comes another training cycle. Over June, the Samurai Sheriffs have ran several small arms ranges, qualifying on the M4A1 Rifle, M9/M11 Service Pistols, and the M320 Grenade Launcher. Lastly, the unit also conducted CBRN Defense training which culminated in the running of a CS Chamber, where Soldiers gained confidence in their M50 pro-masks.

More exciting missions and training are on the calendar for next quarter and we look forward to sharing it all with you. Without Fail!!!



**Switching out drivers during the night driving qualification course for the M1152 HMMWV**

**U.S. ARMY ON OKINAWA**



**Provost Marshal's Office:** As you get out their driving, ensure to obey all posted speed limits. Remember 15 KPH while passing pedestrians and always stop for stop signs. As COVID-19 restrictions are reduced, remember "Not One Drop." Drinking and driving can ruin your career, but most importantly it can hurt others.

•Torii Station PMO: DSN: 644-4715/ Commercial: 098-956-1206

•Military Police: DSN: 645-7441/ Commercial: 098-970-7441

•On Base Emergency: DSN: 911/ Commercial: 098-911-1911

•Local Police: 110

## REFUSING A BREATHALYZER TEST OFF-BASE IN JAPAN



**The maximum punishment is  
3 months confinement + ¥ 500,000 fine**

**KNOW THE DIFFERENCE**

**NOT  
= 1 =  
DROP**  
IF YOU'RE DRIVING

**U.S. ARMY ON OKINAWA**





**U.S. ARMY**