

OKINAWA MARINE

AUGUST 17, 2012

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Gen. James F. Amos, the commandant of the Marine Corps, speaks to Marines about the importance of their training at the Jungle Warfare Training Center Aug. 12. The Marines are with Company E, 2nd Battalion, 3rd Marine Regiment, 3rd Marine Division, III Marine Expeditionary Force, based out of Hawaii and in Okinawa under the unit deployment program. Photo by Lance Cpl. Mike Granahan

CMC: Asia-Pacific region critical

Lance Cpl. Mike Granahan
OKINAWA MARINE STAFF

CAMP FOSTER — General James F. Amos, commandant of the Marine Corps, and Sgt. Maj. of the Marine Corps Micheal P. Barrett visited Okinawa and addressed Marines on current issues and the importance

of their mission in the Asia-Pacific region Aug. 12.

As the tempo in the Middle East slows, the spotlight will shift to the Asia-Pacific region, bringing new importance to the actions of forces here, according to Amos.

“This is a very important part of the world and we want to make sure

that we’re here to talk to our Marines,” said Amos.

During a live radio interview on American Forces Network Okinawa at Camp Foster, Amos and Barrett answered questions from Marines and spoke about how critical it is to have Marines in the Asia-Pacific region and

see **CMC** pg 5



A spectator takes a turn conducting the III Marine Expeditionary Force Band during the 61st Kesenuma City Port Festival parade at Kesenuma City, Japan, Aug. 12. Photo by Pfc. Terence G. Brady

Band welcomed by Oshima

Pfc. Terence G. Brady
OKINAWA MARINE STAFF

KESENNUMA CITY, Japan — The III Marine Expeditionary Force Band performed in a parade during the 61st Kesenuma City Port Festival in Kesenuma City, Japan, Aug. 12.

“U-S-A! U-S-A! U-S-A!” The chant could be heard over the din of the crowd as Marines marched by in perfect unison.

see **KESENNUMA** pg 5

MCIPAC installs warning system

2nd Lt. Jeremy Alexander
OKINAWA MARINE STAFF

CAMP FOSTER — Marine Corps Installations Pacific recently installed and will soon test an installationwide mass notification tsunami warning system designed to alert personnel on all camps and stations to the threat of an imminent destructive wave.

The use of this system will significantly improve the safety of personnel who live or work in low-lying coastal areas on Marine Corps camps and stations and improve their ability to safely and expeditiously evacuate those in harm’s way. First responders and camp and situation personnel will be better prepared to respond to a potential tsunami, according to Mike Lacey,

see **TSUNAMI** pg 5

Save energy during summer

You can do your part at home, work

Lubka Robertson

“Transforming the way we use energy is essential to rebalance our Corps and prepare it for the future,” said Gen. James F. Amos, the commandant of the Marine Corps, in his message in the “United States Marine Corps Expeditionary Energy Strategy and Implementation Plan.”

Marine Corps Base Camp Butler is actively looking for ways to save energy and reduce costs. Camp Butler currently consumes nearly \$60 million in utilities annually, and usage costs are especially high during the summer. However, there are many ways everyone can help reduce energy costs, both at work and home.

Marine Corps facilities and homes use a significant amount of energy through the use of air conditioning during the summer. One simple way to conserve energy is to comply with Marine Corps Order, P11000.9C, real property facilities manual, energy and utilities management, which states that your office and home spaces maintain a temperature between 78 and 80 degrees Fahrenheit. In the last year, Camp Butler saved more than \$550,000 in energy costs during air conditioning shutdown season from December to March. By complying with the order during summer months, individuals can help Camp Butler save even more.

The benefits of saving energy are far greater than simply saving money. Saving energy

protects the environment by lowering greenhouse gas emissions; less greenhouse gases means cleaner air and an overall healthier environment.

There are many other ways service members and their families can save energy during the summer: closing blinds and using fans to stay cool, as fans generally cost less than 1 cent per hour to run, turning off unnecessary lights and electronic equipment to minimize their heating effects, and ensuring external doors and windows are closed and sealed.

Kadena Air Base saves energy by encouraging their personnel to conserve as much energy as possible during the peak usage hours of 1-4 p.m. Both the Marine Corps and Air Force pay 15 percent more for energy daily during that time due to high usage and demand, so taking the initiative to have similar devices at your work or home take a “power nap” can have a cumulative and positive effect on saving energy.

Awareness starts with an understanding of the value of energy, at home and to the mission, and ends with accountability, according to the implementation plan. It is the personal responsibility of service members and their families to conserve energy at home and work, and the summer months are an especially important time to step up energy saving efforts.

Robertson is an energy manager with facilities engineers, Marine Corps Base Camp Butler.

Awareness starts with an understanding of the value of energy, at home and to the mission, and ends with accountability.

Telling the Marine Corps story through videos, photos and stories. See more online.

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OKINAWA MARINE

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THE AROUND CORPS



Sgt. Richard Rodriguez fires an M1911 .45-caliber pistol during training on the flight deck aboard USS New York at sea Aug. 7. The 24th Marine Expeditionary Unit is deployed with the Iwo Jima Amphibious Ready Group as a U.S. Central Command theater reserve force providing support for maritime security operations and theater security cooperation efforts in the U.S. 5th Fleet area of responsibility. Rodriguez is a reconnaissance man with 2nd Reconnaissance Battalion, 2nd Marine Division, II Marine Expeditionary Force and is currently attached to the 24th MEU.

Photo by Staff Sgt. Robert Fisher



Jorge Solis, 5, shows Officer Benjamin Maple the challenge coins he received throughout his tour of Marine Corps Base Camp Pendleton, Calif., Aug. 10. Solis, who has retinoblastoma, a rare eye cancer, wished to be a Marine for a day. Maple is a kennel master at the K-9 kennels. Photo by Cpl. Jovane M. Henry



Completing 60 years of service, Marine Heavy Helicopter Squadron 362, known as the ‘Ugly Angels,’ completed a memorial flight over Helmand province, Afghanistan Aug. 9. The squadron was created in 1952 and holds the distinction of being the first Marine helicopter squadron to arrive in country during the Vietnam War.

Photo by Cpl. Isaac Lamberth

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CENTRAL BUREAU

Camp Foster

DSN 645-7422

NORTHERN BUREAU

Camp Hansen

DSN 623-4224

SOUTHERN BUREAU

Camp Kinser

DSN 637-1092

Kinser opens gate, offers tour to Urasoe City officials

Lance Cpl. Kasey Peacock

OKINAWA MARINE STAFF

CAMP KINSER — Seventeen members from the Urasoe City Chamber of Commerce toured Camp Kinser Aug. 10.

The tour was hosted by camp services and led by Col. John E. Kasperski, the camp commander for Camp Kinser, Paul E. Newman, the deputy camp commander of Camp Kinser, and Ichino Kuba, the community relations specialist for the camp.

The chamber members toured the camp to gain a better understanding of Kinser's function, according to Newman.

"With Camp Kinser being in Urasoe City, we see it every day," said Asao Ogimi, a member of the chamber. "The tour was important. It gave us an opportunity to make an opinion on the U.S. military for ourselves."

The tour began with a welcome aboard brief, followed by visits to various locations on the camp including family housing, the bachelor enlisted quarters, the mess hall, Kinser Elementary School, the cook-chill facility and the Battle of Okinawa Historical Organization's Display.

"There are so many moving parts on a logistics camp," said Newman. "Behind the gate, there is so much that goes on they don't know about. We wanted to give them an opportunity to see it all."

During the tour, the chamber



Takanori Takahara explains the functions of a cook tank to members of the Urasoe City Chamber of Commerce at the cook-chill facility at Camp Kinser Aug. 10. Photo by Lance Cpl. Kasey Peacock

members were given briefs at each location and were encouraged to ask questions.

"I thought the display told the story of the Battle of Okinawa very well," said Ogimi. "I was most interested in what many people on the camp call 'warehouse road.' That road was once a runway for the Imperial Japanese Army during World War II."

Chamber members were also given an opportunity to see how Marines live in the BEQ and family housing.

"I visited Camp Kinser for the first time five years ago," said Toshio Takara, a member of the chamber. "I am impressed that

young Marines are well disciplined to keep their room so clean. It reflects the high quality of the U.S. Marine Corps."

While at the school, chamber members visited the culture room to get a better understanding of how American children are taught about different cultures.

"It is important for them to understand how American schools operate because we are guests in their country," said Nicholas E. Peters, the administrative officer for Kinser Elementary School and Lester Middle School. "Seeing how we teach our children lets them know we care about other cultures."

The tour concluded at the mess hall, where Kasperski thanked the members for coming and emphasized the hard work Marines and Okinawan employees put into keeping the camp functional every day.

"Our Marine and Okinawan brothers and sisters do a great job every day," said Kasperski, who also serves as commanding officer of Combat Logistics Regiment 37, 3rd Marine Logistics Group, III Marine Expeditionary Force. "I thank all of (Urasoe City Chamber of Commerce) for coming out and getting a better understanding of what goes on behind the fence."

Safety remains top priority as Fall approaches

Lance Cpl. Mike Granahan

OKINAWA MARINE STAFF

CAMP FOSTER — Though the official critical days of summer end Labor Day weekend, service members and their families should remain focused on safety throughout the year.

Incidents which occur during the summer are not limited to that time frame on Okinawa due to the island's subtropical temperatures.

"People need to remain vigilant all year long, not just during the critical days of summer," said Jim Maldonado, safety officer, III Marine Expeditionary Force.

There is an abundance of opportunity for water recreation on Okinawa, which provides plenty of entertainment, but also makes it a primary safety concern at all times.

"If you're going to dive make sure you get certified, have a plan and ensure you let someone know where you're going," said Maldonado. "Using the buddy system is (mandatory)."

Staying aware of personal safety for everyone is the key to keeping mishaps to a minimum.

"Always be aware of the weather and current sea conditions before leaving your

home," said Stephen Fairbanks, a safety and occupational health specialist at the Marine Corps Installations Pacific Safety Office. "That information can make the difference in creating a successful outing."

Traffic on and off base is also a concern, as many service members newly stationed on Okinawa adjust to new driving patterns and styles on the island.

Typically, there is an increase in accidents during and after permanent change of station season when there is a greater number of new drivers on the road, said Fairbanks.

"It's about safety vigilance," said Maldonado. "The minute you become complacent is the minute you get hurt."

Most accidents are preventable. By slowing down and planning out the day, one can prevent a family member or a co-worker from being injured, said Fairbanks.

Service members need to remember that they are in a foreign country and take precautions based on that fact.

"People tend to become complacent in their natural environment which usually leads to senseless or careless accidents," said Fairbanks. Something as simple as the

Critical Days of Summer
Safety ... look beyond the horizon

handle of a pot sticking out past the stove can cause serious problems if knocked over, which would have been easily prevented."

As CDOS comes to a close service members are reminded to always be mindful of their surroundings and to do their best to stay safe.

"Summer safety this year has been a success due to the military community's focus on safety," said Fairbanks. "We hope to continue this positive outlook into the future."

Service members need to remain vigilant year round. Most injuries do not occur from hidden dangers, but occur from things one does on a daily basis.

"Many people today have the attitude that it could never happen to me, until it does," said Fairbanks.

BRIEFS

CAMP LESTER ACTIVE SHOOTER DRILL

U.S. Naval Hospital Okinawa, along with the Camp Foster Provost Marshal's Office and the Camp Foster Anti-terrorism Office, will participate in an active shooter response training exercise at Camp Lester Aug. 22 from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Expect delays and increased security at the gates and traffic delays around the camp. Routine medical and administrative business will not be affected. Emergency care will be available, and all clinic and surgical appointments scheduled for that day will stay as scheduled.

For more information, contact the hospital's public affairs office at 643-7294 or the Camp Foster Anti-terrorism Office at 645-5722.

MANPOWER MANAGEMENT DIVISION

Manpower Management Division, Enlisted Assignments will conduct their annual visit to Okinawa Sept. 14-19. MMEA monitors will brief and conduct interviews at various locations on Okinawa to update commanders of enlisted manpower decisions. All fiscal year 2013 first term alignment plan Marines are required to attend the FTAP brief prior to their interview with their respective monitor.

For a schedule of events and list of MMEA visitors log on to <http://www.facebook.com/3mef.mcipac>.

LICENSING SECTIONS HOURS CHANGE

The hours of operation for privately owned vehicle and government owned vehicle licensing sections, located at the Camp Foster installation safety office, building 5831, have changed to:

- License testing: 8-10 a.m. Mondays, Tuesdays, Thursdays and Fridays.
- Renewals, duplicates and miscellaneous issues: 12:30-4 p.m. Mondays, Tuesdays, Thursdays and Fridays.

GOV

- Application drop off and staff noncommissioned officers licensing: 7:30-11:30 a.m. Mondays, Tuesdays, Thursdays and Fridays.
- License pick-up: 12:30-4:30 p.m. Mondays, Tuesdays, Thursdays and Fridays.
- Check-out and out-processing: 7:30-11:30 a.m. and 12:30-4:30 p.m. Mondays, Tuesdays, Thursdays and Fridays.

USNH OKINAWA PATIENT FOCUS GROUP

The U.S. Naval Hospital Okinawa will be holding a monthly patient focus group on the third Wednesday from 1-2 p.m.

The hospital staff would like input about patient care as they strive for continual improvement.

For more information, contact Lt. Cmdr. Anne Hollis at 643-7482 or anne.hollis@med.navy.mil.

TO SUBMIT A BRIEF, send an email to okinawamarine.mcbb.fct@usmc.mil, or fax your request to 645-3803. The deadline for submitting a brief is noon Friday. Okinawa Marine reserves the right to edit all submitted material.



U.S. Marines stand in formation next to the Mongolian Armed Forces band during the opening ceremony for Khaan Quest 2012 at the Five Hills Training Area near Ulaanbaatar, Mongolia, Aug. 12. The multinational exercise focuses on training service members from more than 10 nations in peacekeeping operations and is co-sponsored by U.S. Army Pacific and the Mongolian Armed Forces. The Marines are with Company E, 2nd Battalion, 3rd Marine Regiment, 3rd Marine Division, III Marine Expeditionary Force. Photo by Lance Cpl. Matthew Manning

Ceremony kicks off Khaan Quest '12

Lance Cpl. Matthew Manning

OKINAWA MARINE STAFF

FIVE HILLS TRAINING AREA, Mongolia — Exercise Khaan Quest 2012 kicked off after an opening ceremony at the Mongolian Five Hills Training Area near Ulaanbaatar, Mongolia, Aug. 12.

Service members and distinguished visitors from more than 10 participating nations were addressed by Mongolian President Tsakhia Elbegdorj, Mongolian Armed Forces Chief of General Staff, Lt. Gen. Ts. Byambajav and U.S. Army Pacific Commanding General Lt. Gen. Francis J. Wiercinski.

"Securing peace and stability worldwide requires not only conviction but an act of participation as well," said Elbegdorj. "Mongolia has made an unwavering choice to join the priceless efforts of the U.N. and peace-loving nations aimed at bringing peace and justice to troubled areas of our planet and fostering social, political and economic conditions for safeguarding human rights."

Khaan Quest is a multinational exercise sponsored by U.S. Army Pacific and hosted by the Mongolian Armed Forces in partnership with U.S. Pacific Command. It has been conducted annually since 2003.

"Our nation actively strives to broaden multi-lateral cooperation with all countries around the world and safeguard our security through political and diplomatic means," said Byambajav. "Khaan Quest started as a joint event co-hosted with the U.S. Marine Corps. Since 2006, Khaan Quest (has grown) into the current regional multinational exercise, which operates with the support of the U.S. Pacific Command and Global Peace Operations Initiative. More than 5,000 (service members) from 20 nations have seen this remarkable experience."

This year's exercise will feature more than 1,000 participants, according to Wiercinski.

"This year marks the 25th anniversary (of relations) between Mongolia and the U.S.," said Wiercinski. "The relationship has grown and matured over the last quarter century into the valued partnership it is today. The enduring success of this exercise is the fruit of that productive and meaningful relationship."

The exercise trains nations to work together to ensure the success of peace keeping operations, according to Elbegdorj.

"I am excited to take part in Exercise Khaan

Quest," said Cpl. Stephen E. Jones, a squad leader with Company E, 2nd Battalion, 3rd Marine Regiment, 3rd Marine Division, III Marine Expeditionary Force. "It will present a good training opportunity for everyone involved."

"I am interested in seeing how their military operates as well as bettering ourselves by learning different ways to complete the training objectives we are given."

Success of Khaan Quest has always come from interoperability and friendship between the various nations.

"People are our business," said Wiercinski. "As important as building (multinational) interoperability is, the opportunity to improve our individual cultural awareness and develop friendships is also so greatly important. As we begin to train, I would like to challenge (everyone to) take the opportunity to truly know your partners, not just as fellow professionals, but as people."



Mongolian President Tsakhia Elbegdorj accepts a plaque from Alaska National Guard Col. Michael A. Thompson during the opening ceremony for Exercise Khaan Quest 2012 at the Five Hills Training Area near Ulaanbaatar, Mongolia, Aug. 12. Thompson is this year's exercise director. Photo by Lance Cpl. Matthew Manning

CBRN Marines stay prepared



Marines conduct decontamination training during a chemical, biological, radiological and nuclear hazardous material response drill at Camp Kinser Aug. 10. The purpose of the training was to ensure Marines maintain military occupational proficiency when dealing with hazardous material. The Marines evacuated simulated casualties and completed the scenario perfectly, according to Cpl. Jonathan M. Cane, a CBRN defense specialist. Cane and the Marines are with Combat Logistics Regiment 37, 3rd Marine Logistics Group, III Marine Expeditionary Force. Photo by Lance Cpl. Daniel E. Valle

CMC from pg 1

the importance of the nation's alliance with Japan.

"We have developed some very warm relationships with the Japan Ground Self-Defense Force," said Amos. "Alliances are reinforced over time during operations such as Operation Tomodachi.

"At the end of the day, the alliance between our two nations is the most important thing we can deal with."

The commandant also explained the importance of III Marine Expeditionary Force from a global perspective.

"There is nobody further west, there is nobody more engaged, there is nobody that has greater relationships, there is nobody that is more predictable in regards to helping our neighbors, our friends, humanitarian assistance, disaster relief and warfighting plans than the III Marine Expeditionary Force," said Amos. "This really is the tip of the warfighting spear."

III MEF is also a primary player in the president's plan to shift focus to the region.

"I want every Marine and

sailor and all the family members out there to understand they are the lead element of the president's strategy, which was announced in February," said Amos.

Marines on Okinawa hold an increasingly important role as the tip of the spear in the Asia-Pacific region, according to Barrett.

"I want the Marines over here to be the greatest recruiters on the planet, and I want them to tell Marines back in the states what a great opportunity it is to come over here, experience this culture, and be able to help us expand and develop the partnership we have with our Japanese partners," said Barrett.

Amos said each Marine here is an ambassador, and the actions of all affect the nation's relationship with Japan.

"The U.S. has seven major treaties. Five of them are here in the Asia-Pacific (region), with Japan being one of the absolute cornerstone alliances we have. That is why all the efforts to do the right thing on Okinawa, and the realignment of Marines, is so critically important," said Amos.

KESENNUMA from pg 1

Kesennuma City was unable to hold the festival last year due to rebuilding efforts following the Great East Japan Earthquake and subsequent tsunami March 11, 2011.

The mayor of Kesennuma City wrote a letter inviting the III MEF Band to perform in the festival. A formal greeting from community officials accompanied by a drum performance kicked off the festivities and was followed by a ribbon-cutting ceremony.

"It was fantastic," said Hironobu Sugawara, member of the Kesennuma City Assembly. "The city became more unified by the festival, and having the Marines participate was a great success."

The participation of the Marines in the parade reminded the community how U.S. forces came to their aid as part of Operation Tomodachi, Sugawara added.

At that time, Okinawa-based Marines de-

ployed to mainland Japan to offer assistance to the Government of Japan and to provide vital resources to assist recovery efforts.

Residents of the city are grateful for the assistance and recovery efforts. Some of the audience had tears in their eyes as the band marched by playing "The Marines' Hymn."

"It was sort of a dream for us that the Marines could come and play for the festival," said Sugawara. "It is a true testament to the dedication that the Marine Corps has for their missions."

Japanese citizens and leaders developed a close relationship with III MEF Marines and sailors as a result of the bilateral efforts of Operation Tomodachi, and the relationship has continued with several visits conducted between the citizens of the area and service members stationed on Okinawa.

"We were very excited about participating in the parade," said Chief Warrant Officer Stephen B. Giove, the director and officer-in-

charge of the band. "We are very grateful to do our part."

The night ended with the band taking part in traditional festival dances with other parade participants and playing a variety of music.

"Seeing the audience get involved with our part in the parade was extremely emotional and very fulfilling," said Giove. "It allows us to get closer to the audience and is a win-win situation for everyone."

The band's presence and performance created long-term memories for the people of Kesennuma, according to Sugawara.

"In the same way the homestay program impacted the community, the Marine Corps' appearance at the festival is a memory that will never be forgotten," said Sugawara. "Children came to the festival to see the Marines perform, and I believe it is the opinion of the whole island that our gratitude towards the Marine Corps is the strongest."

Tsunami from pg 1

MCIPAC's emergency manager.

Japan has the most recorded tsunamis in the world, averaging one every seven years. They can be triggered by volcanoes, underwater landslides or earthquakes and can travel faster than 500 mph in deep water, necessitating a fast and comprehensive warning system, according to the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration. Although damage to buildings and facilities is unavoidable, this system is intended to save lives by quickly alerting people to a potentially destructive incoming wave.

The alarm itself consists of a siren and verbal announcement in English and Japanese. It is triggered by a single button activating an alarm across Marine Corps camps and stations and White Beach Naval Facility.

The activation of this system will indicate a mandatory evacuation of all Marine Corps facilities within the tsunami inundation zone of 0-30 feet above sea level, making it imperative that personnel living or working in low-lying areas immediately evacuate to higher ground, according to III MEF/MCBJ Order 3000.2, tsunami standard operating procedures.

The triggering of this system should not be taken lightly; when personnel hear it they will have to immediately evacuate, according to Lacey.

"We want to remind personnel that, in the event of a disaster, the burden is still on the individual to have a disaster kit ready and an evacuation plan in place," said Lacey. "It is important to remember that disaster may strike at any time and families should have plans for on and off-duty hours, including a family communications plan and rally point."

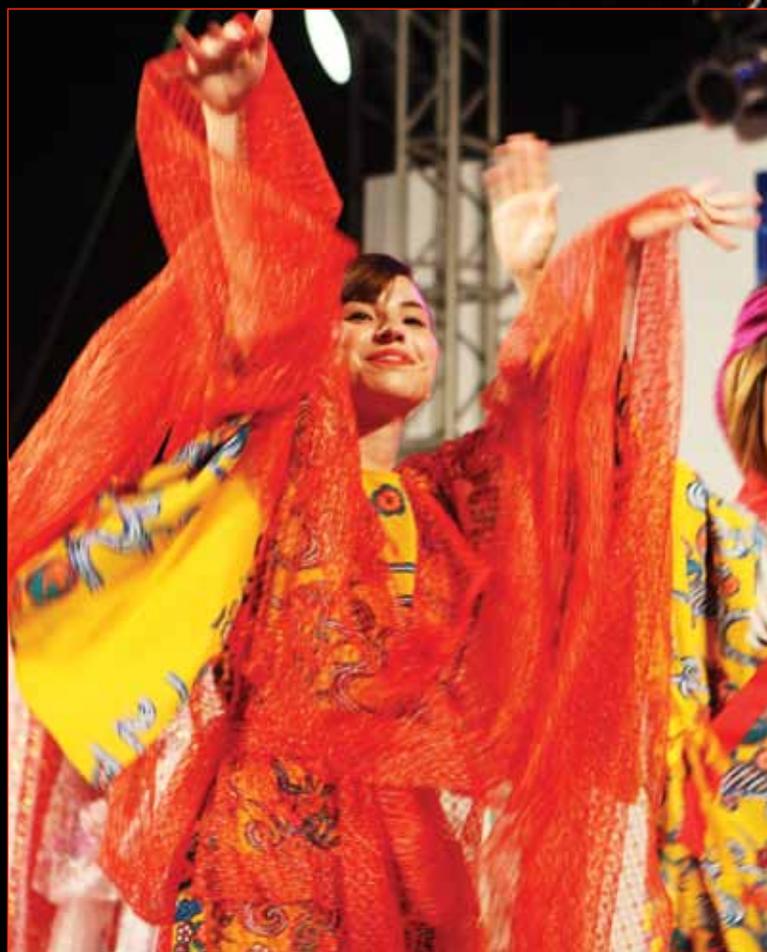
MCIPAC intends to test the system during Constant Vigilance 2012, the annual MCIPAC "All-hazards" exercise, scheduled this year for Sept. 10-14. The exercise is designed to validate and refine incident response plans and procedures and train MCIPAC personnel on actions required in the event of a natural disaster.

The Marine Corps is actively working to integrate this warning system with the other services on Okinawa, according to Lacey. In addition, MCIPAC is working closely with surrounding communities to create evacuation plans and procedures that will better prepare those in danger areas for quick and safe evacuations. Camp services' staff or emergency management representatives from each camp can be contacted for more information.

Traditional



International Uchinachu performs their routine during the Kachashi Contest at the 35th Annual Hagoromo Festival at Ginowan Kaihin Park Aug. 12. Kachashi is an Okinawan folk dance traditionally performed on happy occasions.



Christine Y. Cook performs during her team's dance routine in the Kachashi Contest at the 35th Annual Hagoromo Festival at Ginowan Kaihin Park Aug. 12. The team, International Uchinachu, practiced their routine several times before performing for the crowd.

Fireworks conclude the Kachashi Contest at the 35th Annual Hagoromo Festival at Ginowan Kaihin Park Aug. 12. During the contest, 25 teams competed by performing a dance routine on stage.



folk dance competition draws international audience

Story and photos by
Lance Cpl. Kasey Peacock

OKINAWA MARINE STAFF

The crowd of over 2,000 spectators screamed, clapped and danced as contestants went team-by-team across the stage.

One team, slightly different from the rest, looked uneasy as they approached the anxiously-awaiting audience. Short-handed and inexperienced, they took the stage regardless, unsure of what the crowd's reaction would be.

While they did not earn top honors, this underdog team would still prove victorious as International Uchinanchu was one of five teams out of 25 that received recognition in the Kachashi Contest at the 35th Annual Hagoromo Festival at Ginowan Kaihin Park Aug. 12.

Kachashi, a joyful Okinawan folk dance, is traditionally performed on happy occasions to the accompaniment of sanshin and small drums while wearing colorful costumes.

International Uchinanchu was a team invited to the contest and formed by Elena Takaho, the community relations specialist with Marine Corps Air Station Futenma.

"Being involved makes an impact on how we are viewed by the local community," said

Takaho. "This was our fifth time being invited to compete, and we really appreciate the opportunity."

The team consisted of 25 service members and their families, Department of Defense employees and master labor contract employees from MCAS Futenma.

"We put a sincere effort into trying to learn the dance with respect and dignity, and I think the (audience) recognized and appreciated that," said Lt. Col. Ian S. Wallace, the executive officer of MCAS Futenma and a member of the team. "I only know what I witnessed. From (the people in the crowd) that we encountered throughout the entire event we saw smiles, were repeatedly told 'ganbatte,' which means do well and good luck, and received handshakes, high-fives, and many thanks."

Prior to the competition, the team met on six different occasions to practice their dance routine.

"We truly welcome the service members to get involved in our culture," said Haruko Higa, a chairwoman with the Ginowan City Recreation Organization, who donated costumes to members of International Uchinanchu. "I hope when service members leave Okinawa they spread the great memories they had experiencing every-

thing Okinawa has to offer."

The festival also entertained its guests with an opening ceremony, food, souvenir and amusement booths and fireworks.

"I wanted to be a part of the team to help represent the Marine Corps," said Lance Cpl. Daniel J. Hebert, a member of team International Uchinanchu and an aviation ordinance specialist with Marine Aviation Logistics Squadron 36, Marine Aircraft Group 36, 1st Marine Aircraft Wing, III Marine Expeditionary Force. "If I can devote my time to a traditional Okinawan dance, I'm going to do it."

The team put forth their best efforts to achieve the recognition, which included a plaque and many congratulations.

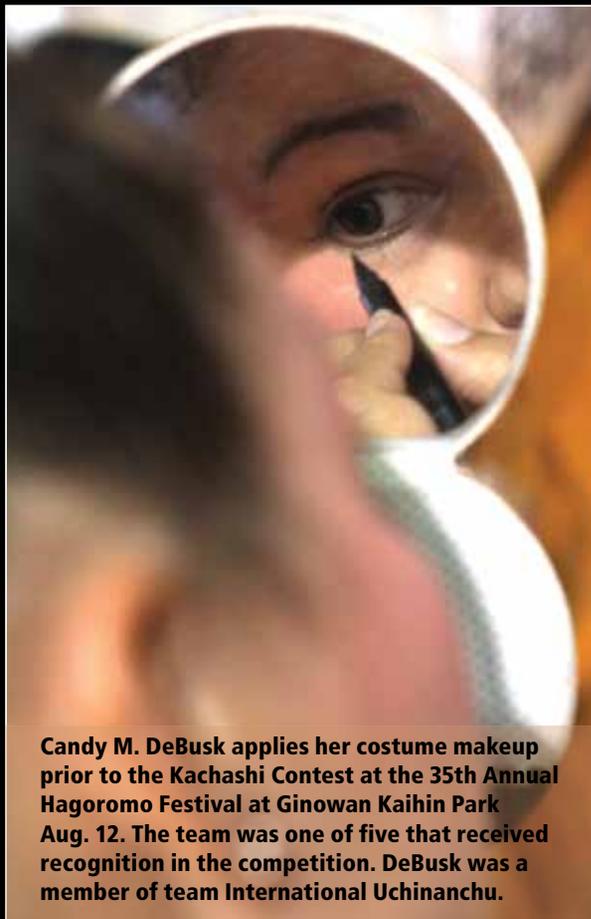
"If service members do not take the time to step out and engage with the community in events like this, then we stay separated and unfamiliar and (Okinawans) can easily choose to view us as strange, cold and possibly threatening," said Wallace. "One of the greatest lessons I have gained from experiencing Okinawan culture is the selfless commitment to community. In the hardest of times, the (Okinawan community members) always give to and support one another and the society."



Kiana Higginson, 3, watches from her brother Tristan's shoulders during the opening ceremony of the Kachashi Contest at the 35th Annual Hagoromo Festival at Ginowan Kaihin Park Aug. 12. Kiana and her brother were a part of team International Uchinanchu.



Teams rush the stage during the Kachashi Contest at the 35th Annual Hagoromo Festival at Ginowan Kaihin Park Aug. 12. Kachashi, a joyful Okinawan folk dance, is traditionally performed on happy occasions to the accompaniment of sanshin and small drums while wearing colorful costumes.



Candy M. DeBusk applies her costume makeup prior to the Kachashi Contest at the 35th Annual Hagoromo Festival at Ginowan Kaihin Park Aug. 12. The team was one of five that received recognition in the competition. DeBusk was a member of team International Uchinanchu.

DODEA schools educate students on bullying

Lance Cpl. Brianna Turner

OKINAWA MARINE STAFF

Bullying is a common problem in schools throughout the United States. Approximately 20 percent of high school students and 15 percent of elementary students reported being victimized by their peers physically or emotionally, according to statistics compiled by the Centers for Disease Control and University of Virginia.

Students in Department of Defense Education Activity Schools on Okinawa live in a unique environment where reports of bullying are not seen as often. "I feel there is less bullying on Okinawa than in the U.S.," said Maryann Fiermonte, a counselor at Lester Middle School. "We are multicultural. The children have a lot in common and have a strong bond being from military families and moving around the world."

As many service members register their children for school here on Okinawa, others are preparing their children to

move back to the U.S. In order to prepare students to thrive in any school, "I think education is the most important tool," said Fiermonte.

Bullying is defined as unwanted, aggressive behavior involving a real or perceived power imbalance, according to the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services. Aside from physical bullying, children can experience verbal bullying, such as name calling; or social bullying, such as spreading rumors.

Students learn what bullying is and how to avoid it during guidance lessons at DoDEA Okinawa schools.

"Most of the kids do not realize the things they say can genuinely hurt someone. We hold anti-bullying seminars several times a year and have students sign a pledge to stop bullying," said Fiermonte.

Students are also taught to recognize signs indicating a peer may be in trouble. "Children who are bullied are likely to be depressed, lonely, and

"We are multicultural. The children have a lot in common and have a strong bond being from military families and moving around the world."

Maryann Fiermonte

anxious or develop low self-esteem," said Jeanne Tsue, a guidance counselor at Zukeran Elementary School. "Children could start being absent from school, feeling sick or may think of suicide."

There are many warning signs a parent can look for to determine if their child is being bullied at school.

"Parents may notice torn or damaged clothing and personal items," said Tsue. "Children may be afraid to go to school, take a different route to school, become less interested in schoolwork, or become sad and have difficulty sleeping."

Bullying does not only affect the victim. School-aged bullies are more likely to get into fights, vandalize property and drop

out of school. As they move into adulthood, they are also more likely to be abusive toward their romantic partners, spouses, or children, according to the HHS.

All DoDEA schools have a zero-tolerance policy and take bullying very seriously.

"The administrative consequences for bullying can include, but are not limited to: verbal counseling and warning; loss of school privileges, such as recess; in-school suspension and out-of-school suspension," said Tsue.

The parents' chain of command and the Inspector General's Office are notified when cases result in an out-of-school suspension, according to Tsue.

For more information on bullying visit: <http://www.dodea.edu/StopBullying/>.

Service members, Okinawan students build friendships

Lance Cpl. Jose D. Lujano

OKINAWA MARINE STAFF

The rhythm of music and the loud crashing of bowling pins sounded as stomachs were filled and satisfied with scrumptious pizza and cold beverages.

Marines, sailors and students from Naha Nikkei College of Business participated in a cultural exchange bowling event held by the single Marine program at the Futenma Bowling Center at Marine Corps Air Station Futenma, Aug. 8.

"This is our first major community relations event where young Marines and sailors intermingled with students from the college," said Lance Cpl. Jermaine C. Ferguson, an aviation support specialist and the SMP president for MCAS Futenma. "Service members and students exchanged cultural awareness and worked together to break down the language barrier."

For some service members and students, the bowling event served as an icebreaker, easing interactions through friendly competition.

"When anyone hit a strike or a spare, we cheered each other on, and it helped everyone get comfortable and get to know one another," said Pfc. Alejandra Manzanares, a participant in the event and a supply administration and operations specialist with Personnel Support Detachment 18, Marine



Lance Cpl. Jorge A. Maldonado advises Chie Torikai where to throw a strike at a cultural exchange event held by the single Marine program at the Futenma Bowling Center at Marine Corps Air Station Futenma Aug. 8. The event provided service members and Japanese college students the chance to build confidence in their communication, and start new friendships. Maldonado is an aviation supply specialist with Marine Aviation Logistics Squadron 36, Marine Aircraft Group 36, 1st Marine Aircraft Wing, III Marine Expeditionary Force and Torikai is a student at Naha Nikkei College of Business. Photo by Lance Cpl. Jose D. Lujano

Air Control Group 18, 1st Marine Aircraft Wing, III Marine Expeditionary Force.

The cultural exchange instilled a sense of curiosity from both groups inside and outside Marine Corps installations, according to Ferguson.

"Through this event we practiced our Japanese and students practiced their English," said Manzanares. "This event has inspired me, so in my spare time, I plan to get together with other Marines to explore more of Okinawa."

The event provided the service members and students the chance to build confidence in their communication and start new friendships.

"At first I was uncomfortable, and it was difficult to communicate with the service members, but with time I was able to be myself," said Rena Uechi, a student from the college. "I hope I can stay in contact with the friends I made today."

For more information about SMP or upcoming cultural exchange events, call 645-3681.



Instructors with Fleet Anti-Terrorism Security Team Company Pacific observe as a Marine engages a target during training at the close-quarters battle facility at Camp Hansen Aug. 11. The Marines used the M9A1 pistol and M4A1 close-quarters battle rifle to clear rooms in an exercise designed to enhance the company's CQB skills.

FAST company strikes fast during training

Marines ascend stairs with unloaded weapons at the close-quarters battle facility at Camp Hansen Aug. 11. The Marines trained at range 17B to increase their close-quarters battle skills. The Marines are with Fleet Anti-Terrorism Security Team Company Pacific, 7th Fleet, is based out of Yokosuka Naval Base, Japan.

Story and photos by Lance Cpl. Nicholas S. Ranum

OKINAWA MARINE STAFF

As the smoke cleared in the small room, a Marine bellows "Room clear!"

With those words, the Marines of Fleet Anti-Terrorism Security Team Company Pacific stacked up on the next door and prepared to engage the next set of targets with speed and aggression.

The Marines, with FAST Company Pacific, 7th Fleet, based out of Yokosuka Naval Base, Japan, practiced close-quarters battle skills at the close-quarters battle facility at Camp Hansen Aug. 11.

"The primary mission of FAST Company is the reinforcement or recapture of critical U.S. infrastructure in the Pacific Command area of operations," said Staff Sgt. Max F. Veliz, a platoon sergeant with the company. "Our secondary objective is visit, board, search and seizure operations in the PACOM area of operations."

As the sole FAST Company in the Pacific, it is essential to be ready at any moment to respond to any potential threat in any potential environment, according to Veliz. CQB skills are used in confined areas and allow Marines to quickly enter a confined space and take control of that space and any situation they may encounter.

The Marines used tactics devised to allow quick entry without giving advanced warning to potential enemies. As the fire team stacks up on an entry point, two members of the team prepare to enter the area. Once the entry is made, Marines begin to clear the room in a fluid motion. The Marines practiced their procedures multiple times without live ammunition before progressing to live rounds.

"It is the Marine Corps' policy that whenever we use live rounds, we must perform dry runs before," said Veliz. "The training that we do primarily involves live rounds and Okinawa provides for better ranges and better training opportunities for the Marines."

The training in the close-quarters battle facility is a great opportunity, according to Lance Cpl. Cameron S. Barron, a fire team leader with FAST Company.

"The goal for coming out here is the sustainment of mission essential skill sets," said Capt. Joseph M. Lipiec, a platoon commander with the company. "Everyone in the platoon went through a five-week course before coming out here, and this allows the Marines to stay sharp."





Marines stationed at Camp Hansen prepare tents for the Hansen Festival at Camp Hansen Aug. 14. The Marines are from various units stationed aboard the camp. Photo by Lance Cpl. Nicholas S. Ranum

Marines prepare Hansen for Idol-studded festival

Lance Cpl. Nicholas S. Ranum
OKINAWA MARINE STAFF

Setting up a camp festival is an intensive and time-consuming task for any organization. However, for Marine Corps Community Services, setting up multiple festivals throughout Okinawa is important for the morale of the populace they serve.

The Hansen Festival is one such festival planned for Aug. 18-19 on the parade deck at Camp Hansen.

There will be bounce houses, amusement rides and game booths at the event, according to Andrew P. Menges, the marketing accounts and research manager for MCCS. There will be live entertainment from both local and American performers.

The headlining performance is the Idol World Tour composed of former American Idol contestants, according to Menges. There will also be performances by local artists such as: Eisa group Chijunshu Wakati-da, classic rock band Aki and Buzz Light, the dance troupe Jam Plant and the Ultimate Game Show, a crowd participation activity.

"The entertainers and the other activities at the festival were chosen because they are family friendly," said Ai Shears, a MCCS entertainment coordinator. "It also gives service members a chance to experience the local culture."

Music and games will not be the only entertainment option for Hansen Festival visitors. There will also be a hot dog-eating competition, food vendors, and a display featuring several military vehicles.

"The annual hot dog-eating competition will be held at 3:30 p.m. Sunday," said Menges. "The vendors will provide festival goers with a variety of food from local favorites (and) traditional American foods like hamburgers and snow cones."

Coordinators hope the festival will provide a large variety of entertainment options, but also give service members a chance to get together in a family-friendly environment.

The set up takes days to accomplish and months to prepare and would not be pos-

sible without support from Camp Hansen personnel.

"The process involves staging of equipment, setting up and retrograding all items back to our warehouse," said Reginald C. Coy, the MCCS special events program manager. "It takes about 80 hours and about 30 personnel to setup."

"This event is designed to provide morale and recreation activities for Marines, service members, and family members assigned throughout Okinawa," said Coy. "It is also to enhance relations with the surrounding community. This event is open to all Status of Forces Agreement and Japanese community members islandwide."



Marines and Okinawa community members try their luck at a game booth during last year's Hansen Festival Aug. 27, 2011. Photo by Cpl. Tyler C. Vernaza



Pfc. Juliana Gatica ties down an awning on the parade deck at Camp Hansen Aug. 14. Gatica is an embarkation specialist with 3rd Law Enforcement Battalion, III Marine Expeditionary Force Headquarters Group, III MEF. Photo by Lance Cpl. Nicholas S. Ranum

In Theaters Now

AUGUST 17-23

FOSTER

TODAY Total Recall (PG13), 6 p.m.; Hope Springs (PG13), 9 p.m.
SATURDAY Diary of a Wimpy Kid: Dog Days (PG), noon; Hope Springs (PG13), 3 p.m.; The Dark Knight Rises (PG13), 6 and 10 p.m.
SUNDAY Diary of a Wimpy Kid: Dog Days (PG), 1 p.m.; The Bourne Legacy (PG13), 4 and 7 p.m.
MONDAY The Dark Knight Rises (PG13), 3 and 7 p.m.
TUESDAY That's My Boy (R), 7 p.m.
WEDNESDAY Chernobyl Diaries (R), 7 p.m.
THURSDAY The Bourne Legacy (PG13), 3 and 7 p.m.

KADENA

TODAY The Campaign (R), 6 and 9 p.m.
SATURDAY Total Recall (PG13), 7 p.m.
SUNDAY Total Recall (PG13), 1 and 4 p.m.; The Campaign (R), 7 p.m.
MONDAY-THURSDAY Closed

COURTNEY

TODAY The Bourne Legacy (PG13), 6 and 9 p.m.
SATURDAY Chernobyl Diaries (R), 2 and 6 p.m.
SUNDAY Madagascar 3: Europe's Most Wanted (PG), 2 p.m.; The Watch (R), 6 p.m.
MONDAY Hope Springs (PG13), 7 p.m.
TUESDAY Closed
WEDNESDAY The Campaign (R), 7 p.m.
THURSDAY Closed

FUTENMA

TODAY Step Up Revolution (PG13), 6:30 p.m.
SATURDAY The Bourne Legacy (PG13), 12:30, 4 and 7:30 p.m.
SUNDAY Step Up Revolution (PG13), 4 p.m.; Prometheus (R), 7 p.m.
MONDAY The Watch (R), 6:30 p.m.
TUESDAY-THURSDAY Closed

KINSER

TODAY Rock of Ages (R), 6:30 p.m.
SATURDAY Rock of Ages (R), 3 p.m.; That's My Boy (R), 6:30 p.m.
SUNDAY Rock of Ages (R), 3 p.m.; That's My Boy (R), 6:30 p.m.
MONDAY Closed
TUESDAY Closed
WEDNESDAY The Bourne Legacy (PG13), 3 and 6:30 p.m.
THURSDAY Hope Springs (PG13), 6:30 p.m.

HANSEN

TODAY That's My Boy (R), 7 p.m.
SATURDAY The Watch (R), 6 and 9 p.m.
SUNDAY Rock of Ages (R), 2 p.m.; That's My Boy (R), 5:30 p.m.
MONDAY The Bourne Legacy (PG13), 6 and 9 p.m.
TUESDAY The Bourne Legacy (PG13), 7 p.m.
WEDNESDAY Hope Springs (PG13), 7 p.m.
THURSDAY The Campaign (R), 7 p.m.

SCHWAB

TODAY The Watch (R), 5 and 8 p.m.
SATURDAY Marvel's The Avengers (PG13), 5 and 8 p.m.
SUNDAY Prometheus (R), 5 and 8 p.m.
MONDAY-THURSDAY Closed

THEATER DIRECTORY

- CAMP FOSTER** 645-3465
- KADENA AIR BASE** 634-1869
- (USO NIGHT)** 632-8781
- MCAS FUTENMA** 636-3890
- (USO NIGHT)** 636-2113
- CAMP COURTNEY** 622-9616
- CAMP HANSEN** 623-4564
- (USO NIGHT)** 623-5011
- CAMP KINSER** 637-2177
- CAMP SCHWAB** 625-2333
- (USO NIGHT)** 625-3834

Movie schedule is subject to change without notice. Call in advance to confirm show times. For a complete listing, visit www.shopmyexchange.com.



SINGLE MARINE PROGRAM EVENTS

For more information or to sign up, contact the Single Marine Program at 645-3681.

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

- Taiyo Golf Club is looking for volunteers for its junior golf event Aug. 21 and 22 from 6 a.m. to 3 p.m. Sign up by Aug. 20.
- The Camp Foster School-Age Center is in need of volunteers for its back-to-school carnival Aug. 24 from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. Sign up by Aug. 23.
- The Navy-Marine Corps Relief Society requests volunteers for Navy Morale, Welfare and Recreation's 5K Family Fun Run Aug. 25 beginning at 7:30 a.m. Sign up by Aug. 24.

FOREST ADVENTURE PARK TRIP - SEPT. 1

- Spend a day zip-lining through the Okinawa jungle. A bus will be departing Kinser Gym at 8:50, Futenma Semper Fit Gym at 9:20 and Camp Foster Field House at 9:40 Sept. 1. Sign up by Aug. 30.

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

Japanese phrases of the week:

“Watashi no namae wa **Sam** desu.”

(pronounced: wah-tah-shee no nah-mah-ee wah **Sam** dehs)

It means, “My name is **Sam**.”

“Onamae wa nan desuka?”

(pronounced: Oh-nah-mah-ee wah nahn dehs-kah?)

It means, “What is your name?”



CHAPLAINS' GORMIER

“If you emit waves of judgement or indifference, others will likely reflect these back to you.”

First impressions influential

Lt. Cmdr. Alfred V. Pena
 MCIPAC AND MARINE CORPS BASE CAMP BUTLER DEPUTY CHAPLAIN

Waves are an invisible but very significant part of our existence. One of my favorite theoretical physicists is Michio Kaku. He works in the area of string field theory and writes that subatomic particles — neutrons, protons, quarks, and so on — are like musical notes on a tiny rubber band. When the rubber band vibrates, it changes from one frequency to another. Different frequencies determine whether it becomes an electron, neutron, proton, or other particle and likewise defines what particular and predictable characteristics it takes on, and also how it will interact with all other subatomic particles. Subatomic particles make up all matter, including our bodies, and are essentially different waves on countless tiny vibrating strings interacting in harmony.

The same can be said for our human interactions. As humans, even our unspoken presence can make other people happy, upset or at peace, because it tells certain things about us. Like musical

instruments, we transmit waves defining who we are, what we do and even our mood. Others pick up on these waves and predict how they will interact. These waves are indicative of healing or hurt, peace or discord, affinity or hate, to name a few examples.

Usually, within the first minute of an initial observation, a person is determining something about you. True, sometimes they may be completely wrong based on their limited perception of you. It is always helpful to be aware of how a particular way you stand, look at someone, place your arms, or display other body languages will communicate information about you that others will use to define who you are and predict how you will interact with them. Additionally, how others behave towards you is often a reflection of the “waves” you emit. If you emit waves of judgement or indifference, others will likely reflect these back to you. Learning to be aware of and change negative types of waves you emit can help shift others’ initial thoughts and feelings resulting in better first impressions, more cooperative relationships and a healthy spirituality.