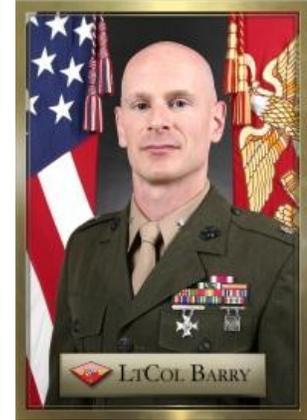


# Welcome!

New Marine, Sailor, or Family Member of Marine Air Control Squadron 4,

It is truly exciting for my wife Rebecca and me to welcome you to the MACS-4 family! Along with our three daughters, we have been stationed in Okinawa since 2008 and cannot wait to share with you all we have experienced in order to make you feel at home whether you're reading this letter from the United States, Japan, or elsewhere. No matter where you are in the world, once you or your Marine checks into MACS-4, you need to know the Command is succeeding because of you.



For anyone coming to a Marine Air Control Squadron for the first time, you may be curious about our mission. The Marines and Sailors here exist to provide a number of services unique to all the Marine Forces stationed in the Western Pacific. First of all, they conduct air traffic control at Marine Corps Air Stations and in expeditionary environments throughout this geographic region. Secondly, we are capable of providing meteorological forecasting to the entire 1<sup>st</sup> Marine Aircraft Wing no matter where they may deploy. Finally, our Marines perform direction and control of friendly aircraft as they encounter hostile aircraft, and alert friendly forces of incoming enemy missiles.

The intent of this command is mission accomplishment no matter the task. In order to do this, we ask our Marines and Sailors to treat this unit as our house --- a house built upon a foundation of honesty and constructed with walls of knowledge and wisdom. The foundation and walls support our roof of readiness; a roof reinforced by leadership. Every member of this command has a role in building and maintaining this house. Every member of this command is needed!

Our forward position in Japan opens a world of both operational and personal opportunities. We are called to perform our mission in many different countries --- Thailand, Japan, Korea, Philippines, Australia, to name a few. While you or your Marine may not travel to all of them, the experiences of being stationed in a foreign country are second to none. As a family member embrace and enjoy this opportunity. As a Marine or Sailor, you will not only get to experience distant lands, you will learn to work through language barriers, enable bi-lateral and joint partnerships, and overcome unique obstacles in order to accomplish the task at hand.

Please know Rebecca and I (john.barry1@usmc.mil), along with the Executive Officer (howard.mui@usmc.mil), Sergeant Major (lance.harrell@usmc.mil), and Family Readiness Officer ([erin.sims@usmc.mil](mailto:erin.sims@usmc.mil)) are all here to assist you or your Marine's smooth transition to Japan. For more detailed information on moving to Okinawa, please visit:

<http://www.mccsokinawa.com/welcomeboard/> , or for Iwakuni bound Marines see: <http://www.mccsiwakuni.com/sub-navigation-widget-pages/new-to-iwakuni.aspx>.

Semper Fidelis,

JOHN C BARRY  
LTCOL USMC