

Welcome Aboard!



As the Commanding Officer of Marine Aircraft Group 36, allow me to welcome you to both the Group and to the island of Okinawa, Japan. MAG-36 consists of a Headquarters and four subordinate squadrons, and is forward deployed in the Western Pacific to provide aviation support to 1st Marine Aircraft Wing. As a forward deployed unit we are focused largely on operations and exercises in the western Pacific and support on-going operations in Iraq, Afghanistan, and elsewhere as needed.

Okinawa is a great place for Marines and families. The local nationals are amazingly hospitable and opportunities for culture and leisure activities abound! Whether you are on your first tour or a return assignment, I am sure you will find Okinawa a fascinating, exciting and rewarding duty station.

The majority of Marines assigned on Okinawa spend some degree of time deployed off-island. It is important for personnel and families to be ready and capable in their Marine's absence. To that end we have developed a strong Family Readiness Program intended to provide Marines and their families with the tools they need to be independent. Please note that the definition of family includes all members of a Marine's family- spouses, parents, children, and extended family members as designated by the individual Marine.

My Family Readiness Officer, Mr. Brent Fisher is my Special Staff Officer responsible for overseeing my Family Readiness program. Among other things, he can provide you with two-way command communication, information and referral services, and readiness and deployment support. I think you will find he is a wealth of information for you and your family. I urge you to contact him if you need any assistance. You can reach him by email at Brent.E.Fisher@usmc.mil or via phone at DSN 636-2216. Welcome Aboard!



J. K. ARRUDA
Colonel, U.S. Marine Corps
Commanding Officer, MAG-36