



# MACS-4 Commanding Officer

## Official Welcome Aboard Brief



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

My wife Rachel and I to welcome you to the MACS-4 family! We are here with our three sons, and this is our third tour in Okinawa. We 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.

For those new to a Marine Air Control Squadron, you may wonder what we do. The Marines and Sailors here exist to provide a number of services unique to all the Marine Forces stationed in the Western Pacific. They conduct air traffic control at Marine Corps Air Stations and in expeditionary environments throughout this geographic region. They provide meteorological forecasting to the entire 1st Marine Aircraft Wing. They also provide radar surveillance and perform direction and control of friendly aircraft as they encounter and help defend against hostile aircraft. They also provide the crucial logistic, administrative, communication, and maintenance support to enable those missions.

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 the challenge may keep the squadron busy, know that we are making a difference. While you or your Marine may not travel to every country, the experiences of being stationed in a foreign country are priceless. 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 Rachel and I, along with the Executive Officer, Sergeant Major, and Uniformed Readiness Coordinator are all here to assist you or your Marine or Sailor's smooth transition to Japan.

**J. G. Kolb**

**Lieutenant Colonel, USMC**  
**Commanding Officer, Marine Air Control Squadron 4**