



Marine Air Support Squadron 2

Welcome Aboard Letter



Dear Future Pacific Vagabond and Family,

On behalf of MASS-2, We want to extend a heartfelt welcome! You and your family are joining an outstanding unit on the picturesque sub-tropical island of Okinawa, Japan. We're excited about your arrival and looking forward to meeting you in person. We want to provide some information that might assist you in your transition; our command team, sponsorship team, and uniformed readiness coordination team stand ready to answer any questions or support you during your relocation.

MASS-2 was activated in January 1943 and has participated in numerous campaigns including World War II, Korea, and Vietnam. It is the oldest and most decorated Aviation Command and Control Squadron in the United States Marine Corps. MASS-2 maintains a high operational tempo throughout the Pacific region. The Marines and Sailors of MASS-2 provide Direct Air Support Center capabilities for control and coordination of close air support for the Marine Air-Ground Task Force and the Tactical Air Command Center for the Aviation Combat Element Commander.

Our forward position in Japan opens a world of both operational and personal opportunities. The experiences of being stationed in or visiting a foreign country from Okinawa are second to none. We highly encourage Marines and families to embrace and enjoy this opportunity. Living in a foreign country will allow you to learn new languages, eat excellent food, and live among fantastic people with a rich culture.

Moving overseas can be stressful, but informed planning can reduce this stress. It is natural to have many questions about administration, health care, driving, housing, etc. It is our team's privilege to help you with the process and alleviate some stressors from an overseas transition. You will be assigned a MASS-2 sponsor to assist you before, during, and after your move. Above all, their primary directive is to ensure your move to Okinawa is as painless as possible; if you haven't heard from them yet, please get in touch with the sponsorship team below.

Our [linktree](#) has links to useful websites that will help you learn more about the unit, the island, and to get connected with our outstanding Marines and spouses already at the unit.

If you have any questions, please get in touch with your sponsor or our Sponsorship Coordinator and Uniformed Readiness Coordinator below:

MASS-2 Sponsorship Coordinator: 1stLt Carsten Gottfredsen-Kromke

Email: gottfred.carsten.mil@usmc.mil

Phone: Intn'l: 011-819-8970-5555 (wait for dial tone, then dial) ext. 636-3516

DSN: 315-636-3516

MASS-2 Uniformed Readiness Coordinator: 1stLt Erika Pecece

Email: erika.pecece@usmc.mil

Phone: Intn'l: 011-819-8970-5555 (wait for dial tone, then dial) ext. 636-3706

DSN: 315-636-3706

**We are excited for you and your family join us here at MASS-2 in beautiful Okinawa, Japan!
Safe travels and be well!**

D. F. KNUDSON III
LIEUTENANT COLONEL, U.S. MARINE CORPS
COMMANDING OFFICER, MASS-2