



Marine Air Support Squadron 2 Welcome Letter



Dear future Pacific Vagabond and Family,

On behalf of MASS-2, I want to extend to you a heartfelt welcome. You and your family are joining the oldest and most decorated Aviation Command and Control Squadron in the United States Marine Corps. MASS-2 traces its lineage, beginning 1 January 1943 during WWII, and has participated in numerous campaigns including World War II, Korea, Vietnam, Iraq, and Afghanistan. MASS-2 maintains a high operational tempo throughout the Pacific region from Hawaii to the Republic of Korea and from Northern Japan to Australia.

If this is your first-time receiving orders to a Marine Air Support Squadron, you may be curious about our mission. The Marines and Sailors of MASS-2 provide Direct Air Support Center (DASC) capabilities for control and coordination of close air support for the Marine Air-Ground Task Force as well as the Tactical Air Command Center (TACC) for the Aviation Combat Element Commander.

Our forward position in Japan opens a world of both operational and personal opportunities. We are called to perform our mission in many countries, including Thailand, Japan, Korea, the Philippines, and Australia. While you or your Marine may only travel to some of them, the experiences of being stationed in or visiting 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, but you will also learn to work through language barriers, enable bi-lateral and joint partnerships, and overcome unique obstacles to accomplish the task at hand.

Moving overseas can be stressful, and leads to lots of questions about administration medical, driving, and housing requirements associated with the permanent change of station. 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 who is specifically tasked with assisting you, providing you access to resources, and ensuring that your move to Okinawa is as painless as possible.

To learn more about our unit's current events, training, and other helpful information, please join our Official Facebook Page, "Marine Air Support Squadron 2" at <https://www.facebook.com/PacificVagabonds>. For spouses, please join our unofficial Facebook Group "Vagabond Spouses" at <https://www.facebook.com/groups/mass2spousesokinawa>.

If you have any questions, please contact your sponsor or our Uniformed Readiness Coordinator below:

MASS-2 Uniformed Readiness Coordinator: 1stLt Myers, David

Email: david.myers@usmc.mil

Phone: Intn'l: 011-819-8970-5555 (wait for dial tone, then dial) ext. 636-5424

DSN: 315-636-5424

**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**