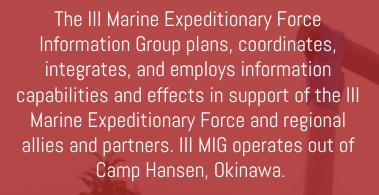


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Editor's Note The month of June saw the

Marines of III MIG take on many challenges, old and new, in the familiar heat of summer in the Indo-Pacific. Whether these Marines are competing against cyber forces across the DOD or rushing in to aid a local in need, the Marines of III MIG aim and climb ever higher while upholding the title of Marine.









- **4** Community Ties
- **5 Motor Pool Training**



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- 9 5th ANGLICO Marine Aids Okinawan Local



U.S. Marine Corps Lt. Col.
Stephanie Mafrici, the
commanding officer of 7th
Communication Battalion, III
Marine Expeditionary Force
Information Group, conducted

a gift exchange with Mr. Satoshi Ginoza, the secretary general for the social welfare corporation, at Camp Hansen, Okinawa Japan, June 9, 2025.

The gift exchange was to commemorate the 250th anniversary of the Marine Corps and the 30-year relationship between 7th Comm. Bn. and the Ginoza

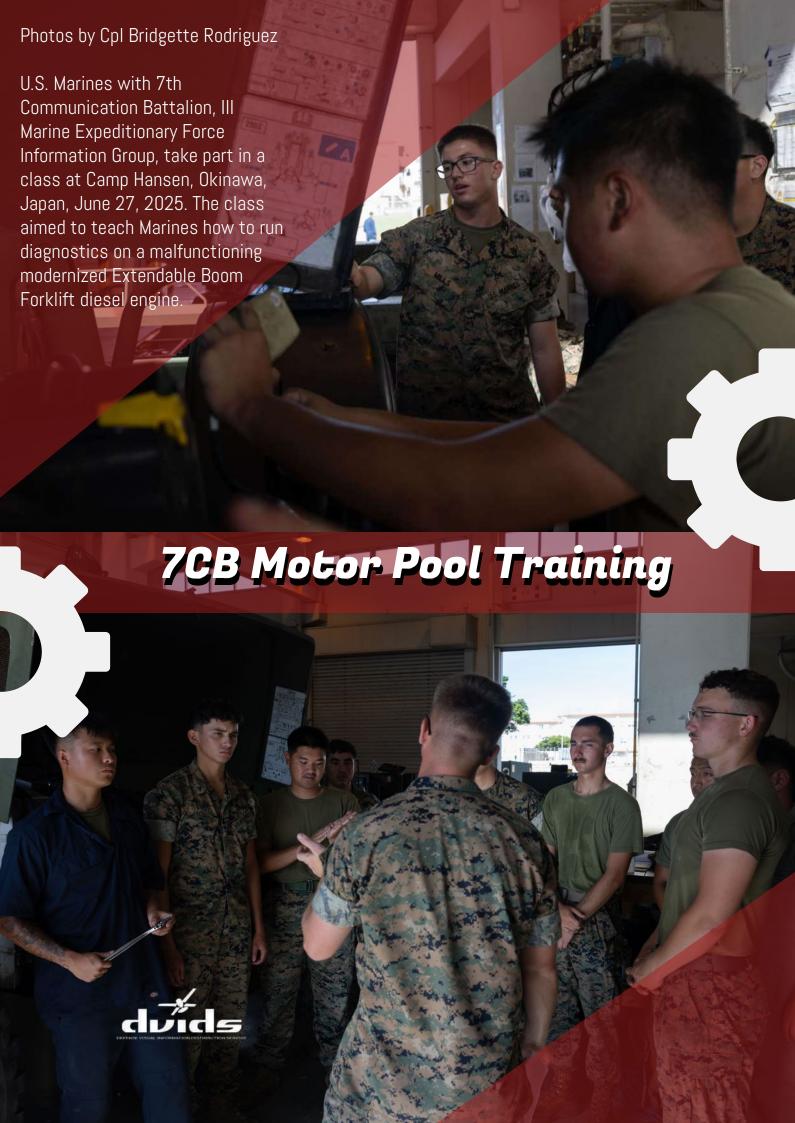
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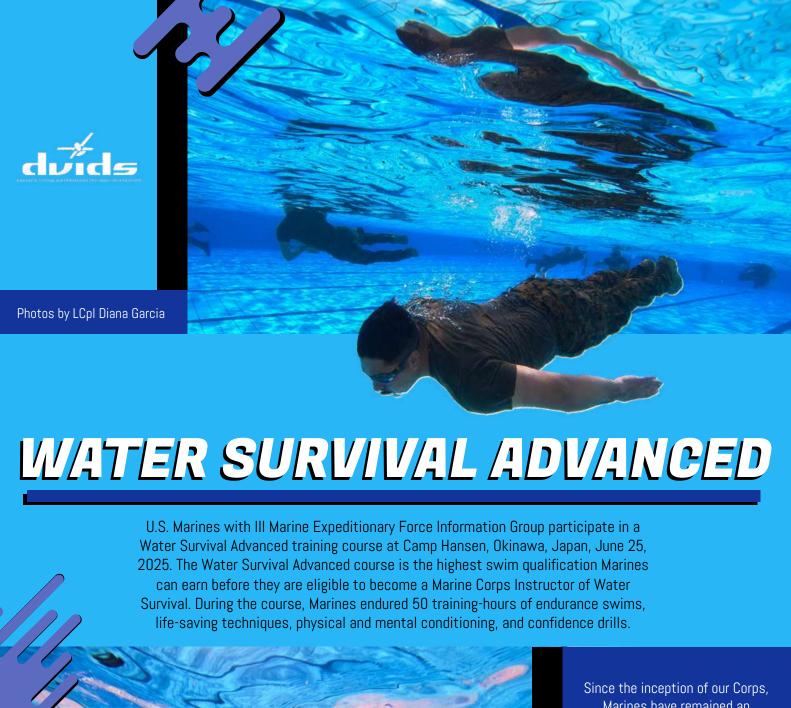
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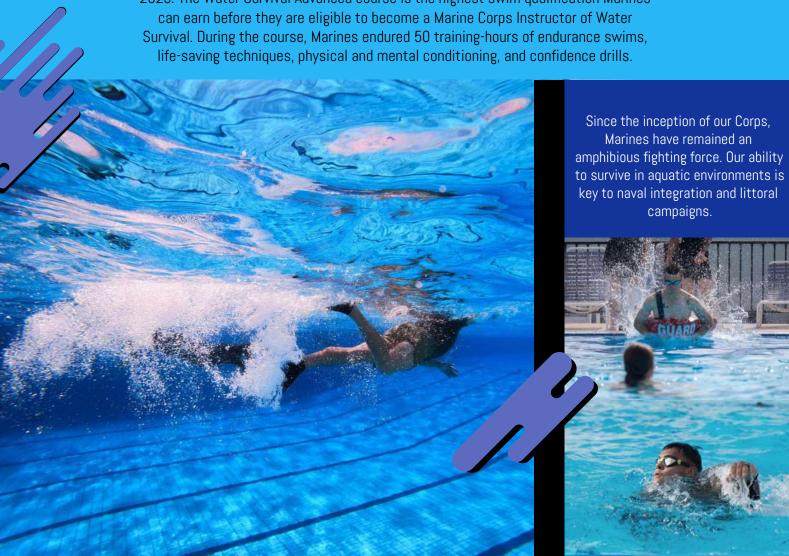
7CB Community Ties



Lt. Col. Stephanie Mafrici (right) and members of the Ginoza family pose during a gift exchange at Camp Hansen, Okinawa Japan, June 9, 2025.







III MIG takes First Place in DOD Defensive Cyber Competition

Story by 1st Lt Keyon Whyte

CAMP HANSEN, Okinawa, Japan — The Indo-pacific region is no stranger to potential threats that may challenge peace and stability within the region. While Marines train every day to defend the nation, allies, and partners against these threats on land, in the air, and at sea, a battle rages in an unseen, and seldom discussed, domain - cyberspace.

The Marines of 3d Cyber Warfare Company, III Marine Expeditionary Force Information Group (III MIG), train and operate in the cyber domain every day to defend against threats that can move at the speed of light. They seized the opportunity to put their training and skills to the test and emerged victorious during the Cyber Blue Zone 25-1 competition.

Cyber Blue Zone 25-1 hosted competitors from across the Department of Defense and tested their ability to identify, neutralize, or mitigate cyber threats in a simulated environment. "It was named Cyber Blue Zone because there are two sides to cyber operations, red and blue," said Sergeant Michael Saris, a defensive cyberspace operator and III MIG team competitor with 3d Cyber Warfare Company. "While the red side focuses on breaking into machines and exfiltrating data, the blue side focuses on stopping potential attacks." The competition focused on the defensive aspect and had participants form teams to identify and defend against malicious attacks like malware or ransomware.

The III MIG team of ten that took first place credited their teamwork and communication as a large contributing factor to their victory. "Communication was really big," said Sergeant Ean Goodwin, a defensive cyberspace operator with 3d Cyber Warfare Company who also competed on the III MIG team. "Being able to find what everyone was good at and switching out accordingly helped out a lot."

Goodwin went on to explain how the team was comprised of junior Marines who had just completed their formal defensive cyber training as well as more senior Marines who had more experience in defensive cyber operations. This team, varying in experience and expertise, worked in a decentralized capacity to manage different tools and capabilities so they could sustain their operations and focus their attention on what was important. While the competition provided a venue to test their teamwork and abilities against other cyber savvy operators, it also provided immense training value for the III MIG Marines who competed.

"Just the familiarization with different types of attacks and different cyber environments is very helpful to our mission," said Saris. "Being able to simulate what vectors an enemy may use to exploit vulnerabilities and conduct attacks is extremely helpful," Goodwin added.

The Marines of 3d Cyber Warfare Company not only demonstrated their teamwork, ingenuity, and technical expertise during Cyber Blue Zone 25-1, they also gained extremely valuable training and experience that will continue to enable III MIG to maneuver in the information domain and support Marines, allies, and partners in the region to operate in all other domains to maintain regional security in the Indo-Pacific.











U.S. MARINES WITH 5TH AIR NAVAL GUNFIRE LIAISON COMPANY, III MARINE EXPEDITIONARY FORCE INFORMATION GROUP, FIRED M249 LIGHT MACHINE GUNS AND M240B MACHINE GUNS DURING A LIVE-FIRE RANGE AT CAMP HANSEN, OKINAWA, JAPAN, JUNE 12, 2024. THE MACHINE GUN RANGE SERVED TO MAINTAIN 5TH ANGLICO'S PROFICIENCY IN EMPLOYING CREW-SERVED WEAPONS.

"No Better Friend"

III MIG Marine aids Okinawan local after slip and fall

Story by 1st Lt Keyon Whyte

CAMP HANSEN, Okinawa, Japan — Pvt. Brady Sims was out enjoying another quiet Saturday in Okinawa, when an Okinawan local's sudden slip and fall turned into an immediate call to action for the Marine.

Pvt. Sims is a 3531 motor vehicle operator with 5th Air Naval Gunfire Liaison Company, III Marine Expeditionary Force Information Group. He recalled how his training and instincts as a Marine compelled him to immediately render aid.

On June 7, Sims was shopping in American Village when he and another Marine, LCpl Ryland Sawyer, decided to walk by a nearby beach. During that walk, they noticed a local Japanese woman slip from the concrete barriers used to break up the waves and fall headfirst down an approximately 15-foot drop. Sims did not hesitate to spring into action.

"I ran over there, and it looked like she was in pretty bad pain. I could see blood coming out of her head, so I jumped down there, took off my shirt, and started applying pressure," recalled Sims. "I directed her family to call the paramedics and told another local to go get some ice."

Sims counted on the skills he learned in the Marine Corps to triage the woman's injury and take control of the situation. He checked for the signs of a traumatic head injury that he had been trained to recognize, directed other individuals to assist, and relayed vital information about the woman's status to the paramedics when they finally arrived on the scene.

"I guess because we're trained in basic first aid, I thought that I could help. I didn't really see anybody else who could have done it because she was just there with her family, so I immediately jumped down there and started helping her," Sims continued.

Once the 46-year-old woman was safe with the paramedics, the family members that had accompanied her also paused to express their gratitude to the two Marines who had assisted her

"Her family was very thankful. Once [the paramedics] took her, they were asking how they could repay us," said Sims. "We were like, don't worry about it. We are just here to help people."

Marines like Pvt. Sims are the embodiment of the values, initiative, and bias for action that are instilled in every Marine from day one, proving that Marines are not only the first to fight when the nation calls, but the first to help in times of need.



History Feature:

A Happy Birthday to Chesty

Story by 1st Lt Joshua Wolek

On June 26, 1898, a Marine Corps legend was born. Born just before the turn of the 19th century as Lewis Burwell Puller, the man would come to be known by warfighters the world over as Lieutenant General Lewis "Chesty" Puller.

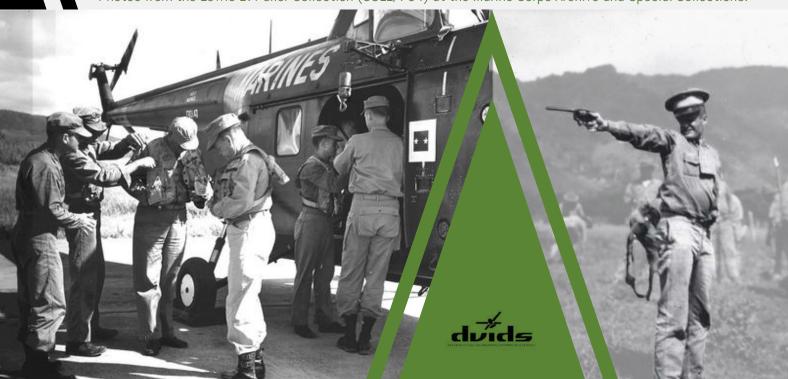
From his desire in 1918 to fight in World War 1 by enlisting in the United States Marine Corps, to leading Marines in fierce action in Guadalcanal as a lieutenant colonel in 1942, to rallying his embattled troops at the Battle of Chosin Reservoir, Chesty's leadership serves as a paragon of fortitude and determination for the Marines that have followed. For these and other feats, Lt. Gen. Puller remains the most decorated Marine in history.

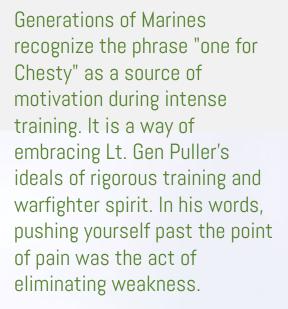
In 126 years, the inspiration has not lessened. But what lessons from Chesty are still guiding us today? One need not be a general to understand that the island-hopping campaigns of World War 2 fundamentally solidified the Marine Corps' function as an amphibious fighting force. Strategies such as Lt. Gen. Puller's will continue to inform today's actions, including the prioritization of deterrence and strengthened alliances in the Indo-Pacific by the U.S. Department of Defense.

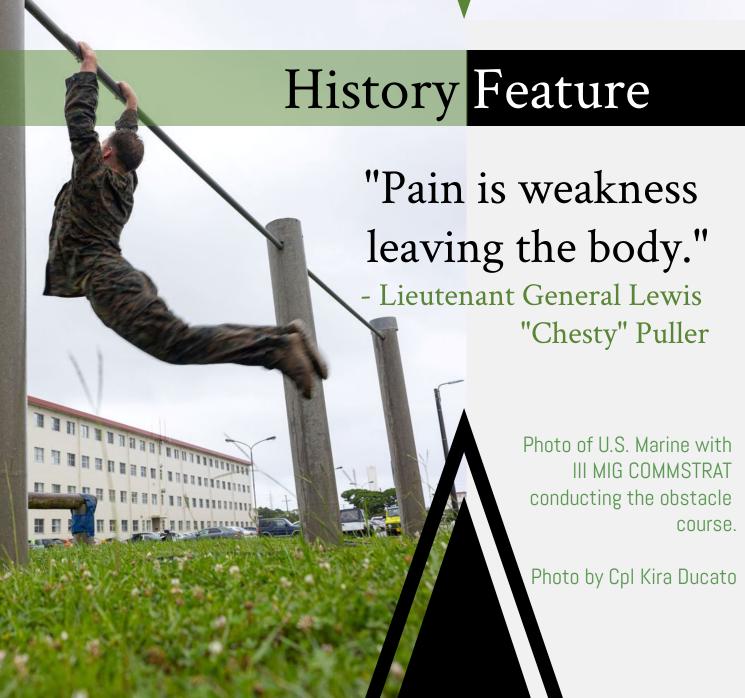
Chesty Puller is quoted as having said that "the difference between success and failure in this life of ours is mostly hard work, so you must constantly work to try to improve yourself." This continues to define the nature of discipline and rigorous combat training for Marines in the 21st century. These principles of realistic combat training with the sole aim of defeating our nation's enemies in battle are reflected in the Commandant Planning Guidance issued by the 39th Commandant of the Marine Corps, General Eric Smith.

In this way, the ethos embodied by Marine Corps legends such as Chesty Puller has paved the way for the leaders and force design that guides us to this day. New legends spring from the shoulders of giants, and there is no more fertile ground for breeding greatness than in the title Marine. While Chesty left some very big boots to fill, it is impossible not to equate the mission of the individual Marine with the guarantee of lethality and excellence.

Photos from the Lewis B. Puller Collection (COLL/794) at the Marine Corps Archive and Special Collections.















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