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RONIN REPORT

Conclusion of
Kaiju Rain 25

MSB Marine Wins
Wargaming Award

Field Events

III MIG MONTHLY MAGAZINE
MAY 2025

About III MIG

The III Marine Expeditionary Force Information Group plans, coordinates, integrates, and employs information capabilities and effects in support of the III Marine Expeditionary Force and regional allies and partners. III MIG operates out of Camp Hansen, Okinawa.



Editor's Note

The rainy month of May saw the conclusion of Kaiju Rain 25, multiple field events, and more. Keep knocking out those PFTs if you haven't already, and don't let the weather be a reason to halt training. Embrace the amphibious nature of Marines!

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Triad Thunder

U.S. Marines with Service Company, 7th Communication Battalion, III Marine Expeditionary Force Information Group, prepare Cammie netting during Exercise Triad Thunder as part of Kaiju Rain on Camp Hansen, Okinawa, Japan, May 5, 2025. Exercise Kaiju Rain 25 enhances III Marine Expeditionary Force Information Group's ability to conduct command and control, employ sensor capabilities and integrate multi-domain operations to enable III MEF, the joint force, and allies and partners in the Indo-Pacific region.

Lt. Col. Gary Keefer, the commanding officer of 3d Radio Battalion, III Marine Expeditionary Force Information Group, gives remarks during the closing ceremony for Kaiju Rain 25, at Camp Hansen, Okinawa, Japan, May 12, 2025.



PHOTOS BY CPL MICHAEL TAGGART

KAIJU RAIN 25 CLOSING CEREMONY



Colonel Joshua Mayoral, commanding officer of the III MIG, remarked upon the ambitious goal-setting and successes associated with KR25 as the first independent exercise executed by the III MIG. Col. Mayoral emphasized working alongside allied nations to share critical information, integrate best practices, and build resilient communication networks. Also mentioned was the critical capability of the III MIG in combatting potential adversaries in the information environment.

Major Jessica Connatser, the targeting officer for the All-Domain Operations Center, III MIG, explains the significance of Kaiju Rain 25 within the information environment. KR25 was a unilateral exercise, but had meaningful impact on the perspectives and information output of other countries and their forces.





III MIG CONCLUDES KAIJU RAIN 25

CAMP HANSEN, Okinawa — The III Marine Expeditionary Force Information Group concluded Exercise Kaiju Rain 25 on May 12 with a closing ceremony, marking a significant step forward in advancing the Marine Corps' operations across the information environment in the Indo-Pacific.

Led by III MIG, Kaiju Rain 25 focused on advancing command, control, communications, cyber, intelligence, surveillance, reconnaissance and targeting (C5ISRT) capabilities—part of a broader effort to empower the stand-in force concept and align with Force Design 2030. The exercise brought together joint, interagency and allied partners to refine the integration of cyber operations, electronic warfare and multi-domain sensing in support of distributed operations.

"Each of the battalions encompasses a warfighting capability within information," said Col. Joshua Mayoral, commanding officer of III MIG. "Bringing the capabilities together as a III MIG team, as an information combat element, projects the aggregated and integrated C5ISRT and counter-C5ISRT capability that enables joint and coalition command and control (C2) and kill webs, and long-range precision fires.

"These critical capabilities, as outlined in the Commandant's Planning Guidance, are how Kaiju Rain delivers information advantage for the stand-in forces, partners and allies. Our ability to do that in expeditionary and resilient ways, across INDOPACOM, is what postures us to deter adversaries, reassure partners and allies, and be prepared to fight and win the nation's battles."

Col. Mayoral emphasized that these capabilities are central to achieving information advantage in the Indo-Pacific and directly align with the Marine Corps' modernization priorities under Force Design 2030.

The All Domain Operations Center served as III MIG's central hub for analyzing and synthesizing information gathered across the battlespace. Data and signals collected by the battalions—through sensing, surveillance and electronic warfare—were passed to the ADOC, where they were fused into a coherent operational picture. This centralized processing enabled faster decision-making and supported the command element's ability to coordinate effects across domains in support of distributed operations.

"Kaiju Rain 25 is the first of its kind rehearsal led by III MEF Information Group to test and refine Marine Corps communications, sensing and coordination capabilities across all domains, to include sea, land, air and cyberspace," said Gunnery Sgt. Andrew Ogletree, the ADOC Cognitive Cell chief.

3rd Intelligence Battalion provided a robust sensing capability and conducted sensor fusion to support targeting operations, contributing to the development of the kill web by integrating multi-domain intelligence that can enable timely, precise engagements across the battlespace.

"We are able to operate in any environment—whether it's austere or more developed. With all of our equipment being man-packable, we are able to go to any point on the globe," said Cpl. Aidan Henson, the Maritime Support Team lead with 3rd Intelligence Battalion.

3rd Radio Battalion provided signals intelligence and electronic warfare capabilities that delivered vital data to the ADOC, enabling enhanced sensing, targeting and operational decision-making across the information environment. Separately, the battalion's Automated Parachute System capability proved vital for insert and extract missions, reinforcing their role in enabling rapid, responsive operations across distributed terrain.

"On the ground level, we are the ones receiving those signals, doing that collection and analysis, and as intel becomes more and more important, it's passed along to those at III MIG that really need it," said Cpl. Michael Redding, a signals intelligence and electronic warfare team lead with 3rd Radio Battalion.

5th Air Naval Gunfire Liaison Company trained to enable cross-domain fires through forward-deployed, sensor-enabled Marines—such as their small unmanned aerial systems team—enhancing precision targeting and kill chain integration. The unit concurrently increased readiness across multiple war fighting functions through its unit-level exercises, Katana Strike and Ryukyu Hammer.

7th Communication Battalion established expeditionary command and control nodes and delivered resilient mobile communications in support of Kaiju Rain 25, enabling integrated C5ISRT capabilities across the battlespace. Concurrently, the battalion conducted unit-level training as part of Triad Thunder, sharpening its readiness to operate in contested and distributed environments.

The III MEF Support Battalion provided critical sustainment and logistical support throughout Kaiju Rain 25, enabling uninterrupted operations by executing a mobility exercise alongside other III MIG-led efforts, validating their ability to rapidly deploy and sustain forces across dispersed locations in a dynamic and distributed environment.

"We are in an information age, and right now with modern technology, information is one of the fastest moving things on Earth," said Ogletree. "Whoever controls the flow of information will control the fight."

In conclusion, interoperability with allied forces and U.S. agencies remained a core component of Kaiju Rain 25. Through joint planning and real-time coordination, the exercise emphasized the importance of shared information and mutual trust in today's complex operational environment. It highlighted efforts to build the integrated frameworks needed for collective success in the information domain.

HISTORY FEATURE

THE COMMITMENT OF THE
INDIVIDUAL MARINE TO TRAIN
CONSISTENTLY, SEEK SELF-
IMPROVEMENT, AND PUSH ONE'S
BOUNDARIES IS A TESTAMENT TO THE
WILL OF EVERY MEMBER OF OUR
CORPS. WE STAND TALL ON THE
SHOULDERS OF OUR FOREBEARS,
WITH NO BENDED KNEE.

"The bended knee is not a
tradition of our Corps."

- General Alexander A. Vandergrift, USMC
to the Senate Naval Affairs Committee
5 May 1946

U.S. MARINE CORPS LANCE CPL. ELIJAH GEIWITZ EXECUTES A SERIES OF DRILLS IN THE SHORT BAY DURING A LIVE-FIRE
RIFLE RANGE FOR THE COMBAT MARKSMANSHIP COURSE ON CAMP HANSEN, OKINAWA, JAPAN, MARCH 13, 2025.

PHOTO BY CPL MICHAEL TAGGART

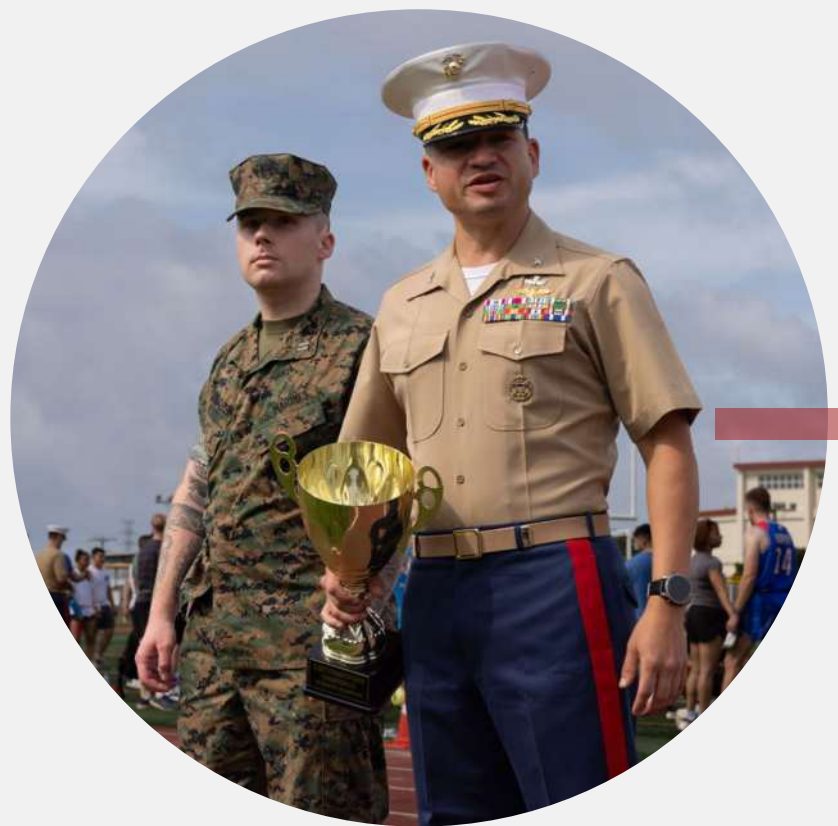


III MIG FIELD MEET

On May 23, 2025, the Marines of III Marine Expeditionary Force Information Group came together to compete on Camp Hansen, Japan in the 2025 III MIG Field Meet.

The event was comprised of five events where teams from different battalions under III MIG compete against one another to increase cohesion across all subordinate units. Marines demonstrated their physical readiness and warfighter spirit through events such as tug of war, Humvee push, pugil stick matches, relay races, and grappling.

The Marines of 7th Communication Battalion accumulated the most points, and Capt. David Boltz, left, the headquarters company commander for 7th Comm. Bn., is seen here receiving the Commander's Cup from Col. Joshua Mayoral, right, the commanding officer of III MIG.



PHOTOS BY CPL BRIDGETTE RODRIGUEZ



5TH ANGLICO FLAG FOOTBALL



The Marines of 5th Air Naval Gunfire Liaison Company may have been split into teams on the morning of May 23, 2025, but they were united in purpose. 5th ANGLICO held a flag football tournament in remembrance of Sgt. Julian Chase, who died during a combat operation in Afghanistan while assigned to 5th ANGLICO.

Sgt. Chase's combat citation was read by Maj. Martin Kuhnle, the brigade platoon commander with 5th ANGLICO, and Sgt. Maj. Matthew O'Brian, the sergeant major of 5th ANGLICO, remarked upon the significance of remembering fallen service members before the commencement of the tournament.

Sgt. Julian Chase was killed in action on May 28, 2012, in Helmand province, Afghanistan. A native of Maryland, he now rests in Arlington National Cemetery, Virginia.

PHOTOS BY CPL MICHAEL TAGGART



III MSB MARINE BRINGS HOME WARGAMING AWARD

STORY BY 2ND LT JOSHUA WOLEK



PHOTOS PUBLISHED AS COURTESY ASSETS

CAMP HANSEN, Okinawa, Japan – This year's Commandant's Cup Wargaming Tournament came to an exciting conclusion at Walter E. Washington Convention Center, Washington, D.C., May 1, 2025. Major Matthew Evers, a logistics officer in III Marine Expeditionary Force Support Battalion, III MEF Information Group, placed 3rd in the individual wargaming category and led his team to 1st place in the team wargaming category. The tournament took place at the Modern Day Marine 2025 Expo and was hosted by the Marine Corps University.

Maj. Evers shared that wargaming is "all about finding a deeper understanding of why the model is presented in the way you're seeing it. You know what the scenario will be going in, but you won't know everything. You use similar principles, like destroying enemy air defenses or intelligence nodes, but you have to be ready for an intelligent opponent."

Maj. Evers began his foray into the professional wargaming community in 2020, making steady progress through the growing field and networking with many talented individuals in and out of uniform that pour their passion and brainpower into wargaming. Wargaming is divided into three categories: Education/Training, Co-Analysis, and Analytical Wargaming. All rely on foundations of intelligence preparation, understanding orders of battle, quickly assessing changes in the flow of battle, and adapting to scenarios faster than one's opponent.

While Evers did compete as an individual and place 3rd in that category, it was the shared brainpower of U.S. Marine Corps Major Christopher Lowe and himself that brought them to the 1st place position in the team category. The two wargamers had known each other online for over a year, and interacted occasionally via the wargaming community, but it wasn't until the tournament approached that they decided to form a team.

"We were both in MIGs," remarked Maj. Evers, referring to U.S. Marine Corps MEF Information Groups. "It just made sense for us to team up. The Commandant's Cup was our first time meeting in person. I hope things like the Commandant's Cup continue to draw more attention to wargaming and bring more people together to share their ideas." Before tournaments, wargamers act as free agents while steadily practicing and competing in qualifier rounds. The qualifiers were composed of 55 two-man teams. The high caliber of competitors, including last year's winners and the incumbent teams, made it very difficult to secure one of the 12 slots for the tournament finals. Maj. Evers recounted the urgency of communication and sharing intelligence before and during the tournament. The teammates cheered each other on and shared tactics, respectfully noting each other's approach as they played independently in each round. The finals were composed of six matches in three high-fidelity scenarios.

The wargaming combined several game formats, including electronic programs and tabletop play elements. Tabletop format is not unlike the sand table exercises that many Marines may be familiar with from tactical decision-making games and other training; this wargaming stresses the impact of working against a thinking opponent.

As a logistician and a member of an information group, Maj. Evers felt that he was especially prepared to evaluate areas such as sustainment and information functions. The ability to evaluate command and control capabilities, stage active and passive countermeasures, and quickly adapt to new information proved crucial to victory.

"Winning was... surreal," Evers humbly recalled. "The attention it garnered, the support that everyone offered, even the closing remarks by Brigadier General Matthew Tracy... it all gave me the feeling that it truly meant something. It was validation that the effort and time really meant something."

For those interested in dipping their toes into the world of wargaming, Maj Evers offered a few resources for getting started. The Marine Corps Association provides a number of commercial wargaming guides and other resources for prospective wargamers. Another good source of information is "Forging Wargamers: A Framework for Wargaming Education," edited by Sebastian Bae for the Marine Corps University Press. The Marine Corps University offers several other freely available resources on wargaming, as well as a digital wargaming cloud library.

III MSB provides and coordinates direct combat service support, security, and administrative services to III MEF and its subordinate commands.



PHOTOS BY CPL MICHAEL TAGGART

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DEFENSE VISUAL INFORMATION DISTRIBUTION SERVICE

III MEF Leadership Visits III MIG

U.S. Marine Corps Lt. Gen. Roger Turner and Sgt. Maj. Joy Kitashima, the commanding general and sergeant major of III Marine Expeditionary Force, respectively, visited the Marines of 3d Radio Battalion, III Marine Expeditionary Force Information Group on Camp Hansen and Ie Shima Island.

The visit occurred during the execution of Kaiju Rain 25 in various locations around Okinawa, Japan, May 8, 2025. The visit's goal was to oversee current operations on exercise Kaiju Rain 25 and to discuss future training opportunities and capabilities of III MIG throughout the first island chain.

During the visit, the commanding general and sergeant major spoke to the Marines and took the time to recognize those of exemplary performance. Among those recognized were Sgt. Lucas Matocky, Cpl. Roger Freiermuth, Cpl. James McKie III, and Cpl. Bethany Ramos.



**LIEUTENANT GENERAL ROGER TURNER
III MEF COMMANDING GENERAL**



**III MEF LEADERSHIP
SPEAKS TO THE MARINES
OF III MIG AND 3D RAD BN**



**SERGEANT MAJOR JOY KATASHIMA
III MEF SERGEANT MAJOR**



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LATEST III MIG POSTS!***



STAY IN THE LOOP!



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III MIG
ON SOCIAL MEDIA***



III MIG



U.S. Marines with 5th Air Naval Gunfire Liaison Company, III Marine Expeditionary Force Information Group rappel at night during Helicopter Rope Suspension Techniques training at Camp Hansen, Okinawa, Japan, May 14, 2025. The HRST training prepares Marines to navigate difficult terrain and insert rapidly into contested areas through rappelling and fast-rope descents.



HRST TOWER

Lance Cpl. Ethan Bollinger executes a self-rescue for a locked out prusik on rappel during Helicopter Rope Suspension Techniques training. Bollinger, a native of Texas, is a fire support Marine with 5th ANGLICO.

PHOTOS BY CPL MICHAEL TAGGART



A photograph of three Marines in camouflage uniforms working on a tall radio mast. The mast is supported by a network of cables and chains. The background is a hazy, overcast sky. The ground is wet, suggesting recent rain. The text is overlaid on the image in a bold, sans-serif font.

***UNTIL THE NEXT
RADIO CHECK:***

STAY CONNECTED

HAVE THE TOUGH TALKS

LEAVE NO MARINE BEHIND

RONIN REPORT