



Kadena promotes safety through annual fair



(U.S. Air Force photo by Naoto Anazawa)

Approximately 50 bike riders participate in the semi-annual Motorcycle Safety Stand Down during the Wingman Safety Day at the Keystone Theater on Kadena Air Base, May 21. Bike riders paraded around Kadena Air Base led by an 18th Security Forces Squadron patrol car after a safety brief.

By Senior Airman Omari Bernard

18th Wing Public Affairs

5/27/2015 — The 18th Wing hosted their second annual Safety Wingman Day May 21 to promote comprehensive Airman fitness and safety for Kadena Airmen and their families.

As with other similar events throughout the years, the day focused on individual and group safety throughout everyday activities.

However, Tech. Sgt. Erich Basler, 18th Wing Ground

Safety specialist, said like last year, the event this year took a different approach to teaching attending service members safe practices than the more traditional means from years before.

“People were able to pay attention and talk to the experts at the booths,” Basler said. “It’s important because it gives us a chance to step back and see how things are properly done. It’s a good time to remember the rules and regulations that are there and how it should be done.”

Though last year was the

first iteration of the new approach, Basler said this year’s turnout marked a momentous improvement on turnout and participation.

“Last year was the first year, and we had about 1,500 people,” he said, “but this year we had about 3,000. We also had twice as many booths compared to last year.”

The day began with individual units meeting together to participate in command specified training.

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Team Kadena rucks for Bataan Death March POWs



(U.S. Air Force photo by Staff Sgt. Maeson L. Elleman)

Staff Sgts. Adam Worcester and Sean Boes, both from the 353rd Special Operations Group, participate in an 8.5-mile march around the Kadena Air Base, flightline May 23. Military members from all branches of service on Okinawa, civilian government employees and their families participated in the march to commemorate the prisoners of war who were a part of the Battle of Bataan in the Philippines during World War II.

733rd AMS runs for fallen ‘Port Dawgs’



(U.S. Air Force photo by Staff Sgt. Maeson L. Elleman)

Airman carries the “Port Dawg Memorial Run” guidon as he participates in the second annual event on Kadena Air Base, May 21. The run, which is held on several bases around the world each year, was enacted to honor those from the career field who have fallen since the last time the event was held.

Kadena holds Memorial Day service, honors fallen



Brig. Gen. Barry Cornish, 18th Wing commander, speaks during a Memorial Day ceremony at Chapel 1 on Kadena Air Base, May 25. Cornish served as the guest speaker for the event, which is held annually to honor the men and women who have died while serving in the U.S. armed forces.

(U.S. Air Force photo by Airman 1st Class Zade C. Vadnais)

By Airman 1st Class Zade C. Vadnais

18th Wing Public Affairs

5/27/2015 — Leaders, veterans and active-duty personnel from all branches of service on Okinawa gathered at Chapel 1 here to attend a Memorial Day ceremony May 25.

Memorial Day is an annual holiday observed on the last Monday in May, and is a special day set aside to remember the brave men and women who have died while serving in the U.S. armed forces.

“I think it’s especially important for us as active duty service members to commemorate the holidays like Memorial Day and Veteran’s Day,” said Capt. Greyson Leftwich, 18th Dental Squadron oral surgery element chief and Memorial

Day ceremony planner. “We should take time to remember those who paved the way for us and made the ultimate sacrifice for our freedom.”

Leftwich went on to say that having veterans in attendance put the ceremony into perspective and served as a strong reminder of the day’s intent.

“One of the veterans I spoke with said he’s come to every Memorial Day service since 1961,” Leftwich said. “The enthusiasm was pretty evident, and I’m really glad they were here.”

The ceremony included an invocation, a poetry reading, a wreath laying ceremony and a rendition of “Taps” by the Kadena Honor Guard.

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