

# 2016 Okinawa Marathon - Kadena traffic delay

**By 18th Wing Public Affairs**

**2/18/2016** — Traffic on Kadena Air Base will be affected by the 2016 Okinawa Marathon Feb. 21.

Gates 2 and 5 will be closed to vehicle traffic from 8:30 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. Roads will be closed from Gate 2 on Kuter Blvd. to Vincent Avenue, from Vincent Avenue to Schreiber Blvd. and from Schreiber Blvd. to Gate 5. Gate 2 will remain open for pedestrian traffic with authorized base passes.

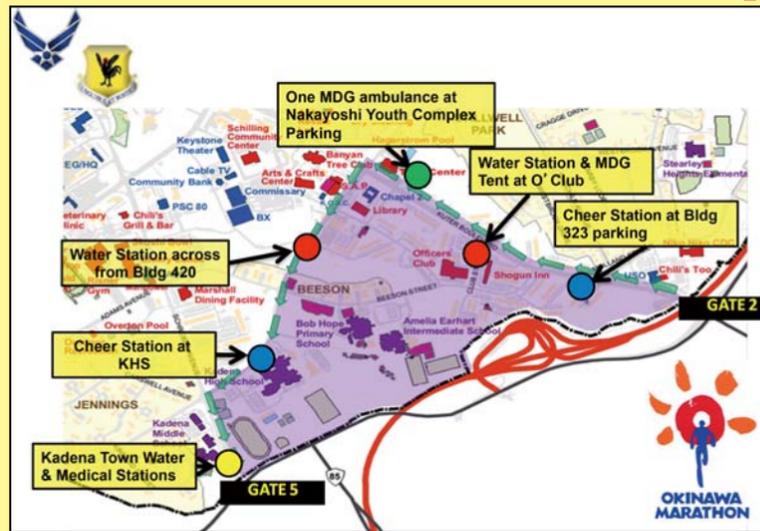
Runners will enter Kadena through Gate 2 on Kuter Blvd., turn left onto Vincent Avenue at Chapel 2, turn left on Schreiber Blvd. at Kadena High School, and exit the base through Gate 5.

The following facilities will be affected by the marathon: **Chapel 2 / Kadena / Library / Shogun Inn / Officers' Club / Kadena High School / Bob Hope Primary School / Amelia Earhart Intermediate School / Dormitories located along the route / Family housing on Beeson**

**Avenue / Temporary lodging facility / Visiting officers' quarters.**

Residents living inside the on-base route should consider parking their vehicles outside the affected area if they plan to travel anywhere from 8:30 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. There will only be one authorized vehicle egress route into and out of the affected area. Vehicle traffic will be allowed to cross at the intersection of Vincent Street and Beeson Street. Traffic will be regulated by Security Forces. Runners will have priority. Vehicle wait times to cross may be as long as 30 minutes. Pedestrians will only be authorized to cross the marathon route on the crosswalks near the Base Exchange, at the Kadena USO, and behind the Officers' Club to cross over Kuter Blvd. These crosswalks will also be regulated by security forces.

Please direct any traffic related questions or concerns to Master Sgt. Melvin Hunt at the 18th Security Forces Squadron at 634-0706.



## Joint PME provides valuable leadership insight



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

▲ Tech. Sgt. Danny Lopez, Erwin Professional Military Education instructor, evaluates a student of NCO Academy Class 16-2, during a service dress uniform inspection, Feb. 9, at Kadena Air Base.

**By Airman 1st Class Corey M. Pettis**

18th Wing Public Affairs

**2/17/2016** — Service members from the Army, Navy, Marine Corps and the Japan Air Self-Defense Force integrate with Airmen to attend an Air Force professional military education course at Kadena Air Base.

"It's a very uncommon opportunity for them to gain some Air Force knowledge and perspective," said Tech. Sgt. Lauren Strike, NCO Academy flight instructor. "What they bring to the Air Force is an outside view of how the Air Force conducts its operations."

The students at NCOA are attending a seven-week course that covers leadership issues over a wide range of topics from sexual assault to stress management.

"We cover a lot of very broad topics, things that might be considered higher Air Force level, but it's really getting them to understand what their roles in those topics are," said Strike. "Things like resource stewardship, why it is important for NCOs to be good resource stewards and how they fit in, in terms of leading their Airmen."

Not only are they getting leadership

education, the members of different branches of service get a different perspective on how to lead their troops and handle different situations.

During lessons and discussions on leadership topics, they can lend their experience on how they have seen it done differently in another branch. Airmen are gaining valuable insight on how their sister services operate and other services can take home valuable lessons from the Air Force side.

"It's just all about learning and gaining knowledge," said Strike. "Learning how the other services conduct business and learning how Airmen fit into a joint service."

With the military these days becoming more and more integrated, leaders at every level must know and be comfortable operating in a joint environment.

"The things that I learned here for the Air Force, helps the way I make decisions in the Navy," said U.S. Navy Petty 1st Class Quan Hancock, NCOA student. "Even though it's another service we experience some of the same issues leadership wise as the Air Force does and it teaches me a little bit about myself and how I am as a leader."

## Tips for taxes

**By Stephanie Evans**

18th Wing Legal Office

**2/9/2016** — It's time to file your taxes! Here are a few tips from the Kadena Tax Office to guide you through this tax season.

**1. Take advantage of the great resources available to you.**

Filing your tax returns on your own can be complicated and confusing. Take advantage of the Kadena Tax Center's FREE tax preparation and filing services for all of your state and federal returns. Conveniently located in Building 1460 behind Eagle Hardware, the Tax Center offers walk-in, appointment, and drop-off services for all eligible Active Duty service members, DoD civilians, DoDDS teachers, and their families. The Tax Center is open Monday through Friday, from 0900 – 1400, with extended hours on Tuesdays and Wednesdays from 1400 – 1600 for dropping off documents.

**2. Organize your documents.**

Designate a folder to keep all of your tax-related documents, and file them as soon as they come in. Having a dedicated place to put all of these documents means that when it's time to file your returns, you won't be digging through disorderly drawers to find what you need. Believe me, you'll thank yourself later.

What documents do you need to get your tax return submitted by the Kadena Tax Center?

- Last year's adjusted gross income or tax preparation pin;
- DoD/military ID card;
- Power of attorney (if electronic filing on behalf of your spouse);
- Social Security numbers for all family members;

- Bank routing and account numbers; and,
- W-2 Forms or 1099 forms from all employers and financial institutions.

Where applicable, you may also need documents related to: an IRA; rental property (including total income, mortgage interest, taxes, insurance, and other related expenses); child care expenses (including receipts for costs and the provider's tax identification number); foreign earned income; the sale of a personal residence; the sale of stocks/mutual funds; higher education tuition payments; and student loan interest.

**3. Don't wait until the last minute.**

The deadline for filing your federal tax return is April 15th (extensions can be granted until June 15th in some circumstances). While you may qualify for an extension because you are stationed overseas, it's best not to wait until the last minute. Why? Because filing early means that you can avoid a last-minute scramble to collect everything you need to complete your return, and gives you time to search for or request any missing records. (And it means you can enjoy any refund sooner!)

**4. Enjoy that refund, be proud of doing your civic duty, and be satisfied that you don't have to do this for another year!**

The Kadena Tax Center takes pride in serving those who serve. If you would like to take advantage of these free tax resources, or if you have any further questions, please contact the Kadena Tax Center at 634-7418.