



# AMURAI GATE



## 18TH MDG PERFORMS DECONTAMINATION EXERCISE

Airmen practice decontaminating a patient during an exercise at the Kadena medical clinic, Aug. 30, at Kadena Air Base. The Airmen were timed to gage their effectiveness at setting up a decontamination tent and treatment of patients.

(U.S. Air Force photo by Airman 1st Class Nick Emerick)

**By Koichiro Yakabi**

18th Wing Public Affairs

9/6/2016 — A decontamination exercise was held at the 18th Medical Group clinic Aug. 31, at Kadena Air Base, Japan.

The purpose of the exercise is to make sure the MDG members are prepared for any potential decontamination situation.

Members of medical squadrons from across the Pacific Air Forces came to Kadena to participate in this exercise.

Exercises such as these are held in anticipation of chemical attacks from potential adversaries.

“The teams represented here are going home with training materials so they can sharpen the skills of members of their respective bases,” said Theresa Casey, DECON LLC patient decontamination instructor.

Participants carried out the exercise based on a scenario that a person was

contaminated. Exercise crews quickly and smoothly put up a special tent, which has a water purifier to safely clean the contaminated patient, carried them into the tent, and gave them a decontamination treatment.

“This was the first time this team had ever trained together and they did marvelously well,” Casey said.

There were two timed phases of exercise: the first exercise took roughly 11

minutes, which was about nine minutes quicker than the scheduled time, while the other exercise took seven minutes, nearly eight minutes faster than the scheduled time.

“Everything went fantastically and was completed within the allotted time-limit, allowing us to save the exercise patients,” said Staff Sgt. Doug Langhorst, 18th Dental Squadron technician and patient decontamination team lead.

# Kadena begins Suicide Prevention Month



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

18th Wing Public Affairs

9/1/2016 — Everyday, approximately 22 military veterans commit suicide in the U.S. according to a 2012 study done by the Department of Veteran Affairs.

September is Suicide Prevention Month, and Team Kadena is making efforts to raise awareness for the methods available to make that future number zero.

“Suicide prevention is everybody’s responsibility,” said Tech. Sgt. Jonathan Becker, 18th Medical Operations Squadron mental health element NCO in charge. “Now more than ever we need to be in tune with our people – that way we can talk about their stressors.”

As part of Suicide Prevention Month, Kadena will take part in many activities such as handing out suicide prevention tips cards at the gates, suicide prevention briefings at Kadena

(U.S. Air Force graphic)

SEE BE THERE PAGE 2