



Kadena Shoguns change command Brig. Gen. Cunningham assumes command of 18th Wing

Lt. Gen. Jerry P. Martinez, U.S. Forces Japan and 5th Air Force commander, presides over the 18th Wing change of command from Brig. Gen. Barry Cornish to Brig. Gen. Case Cunningham July 10 at Kadena Air Base.

By Senior Airman John Linzmeier

18th Wing Public Affairs
7/10/2017 — Brig. Gen. Barry R. Cornish relinquished command of the 18th Wing to Brig. Gen. Case Cunningham during a change of command ceremony July 10 at Kadena Air Base.

Lt. Gen. Jerry Martinez, U.S. Forces Japan and 5th Air Force commander, presided over the event held inside a hangar where Airmen, Soldiers, Sailors, Marines, and distinguished U.S. and Okinawan guests welcomed the new commander.

Martinez commended Cornish for his dedication, innovation, and leadership and welcomed Cunningham to the command.

To show gratitude for Cornish's contributions toward strengthening the bond between the U.S. and Japanese forces, Japan Air Self-Defense Force Lt. General Shigeki Muto, Southwestern Composite Air Division commander, presented him with a defense cooperation award, which was followed by the citation of a letter of appreciation from JASDF General Yoshiyuki Sugiyama, Koku-Jieitai chief of staff.

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(U.S. Air Force photo by Senior Airman John Linzmeier)

F-35B conducts FARP at Kadena



Airmen from the 353rd SOG and 18th LRS stand by with Marines from Marine Wing Support Squadron 172 refuel a Marine Fighter Attack Squadron 121 F-35B Lightning II during a forward area refueling point joint training exercise June 27, at Kadena Air Base.

By Senior Airman Omari Bernard

18th Wing Public Affairs
7/7/2017 — U.S. Marines and Airmen conducted the first ever joint forward area refueling point exercise involving the F-35B Lightning II June 26, at Kadena Air Base.

The two-day exercise enabled the U.S. Air Force and Marine Corps to improve interoperability and develop tactics, techniques and procedures involving the new aircraft for future joint FARP operations throughout the Indo-Asia Pacific Theater.

Marines from Marine Fighter Attack Squadron (VMFA) 121 and Marine Wing Support Squadron 172 trained alongside Airmen from the 353rd Special Operations Group and 18th Wing.

Thanks to planning and teamwork, the operation began and ended within an hour.

"Numerous people and units put in tireless man hours to make the mission a success," said

(U.S. Air Force photo by Senior Airman Omari Bernard)

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