



12TH MARINE REGIMENT 3D MARINE DIVISION

Commanding Officer's Family Welcome Aboard Letter



Marine, Sailor, and Family,

Welcome aboard! Congratulations on your assignment to Okinawa and the only continuous forward deployed artillery regiment in the Marine Corps. On behalf of the 12th Marine Regiment, I want to welcome you to our family. My wife Shellii and I look forward to having you on the team.

For some, this will be your first assignment overseas and the transition may be unfamiliar. We are here to help and will work together to ensure as smooth a process as possible. With the advent of the internet, welcome aboard packets may seem obsolete, but hopefully you find some of the provided information useful. Whether it is your first time or you are returning, Okinawa is a great place in which to live, work, and play.

In joining 12th Marines and 3d Marine Division, you become part of the major ground combat element prosecuting our nation's security strategy in the Far East. We are focused principally on warfighting and interoperability with our partners and allies in the region. We are prepared to "fight tonight" if needed, but also for short notice deployments or evacuations due to natural disasters or other factors. You will find your time here both challenging and rewarding, and we look forward to serving with you to carry on the fine legacy of this great regiment.

Getting the family settled takes a little time as you negotiate housing options, vehicle considerations, shipment deliveries, and checking in. Throughout the transition, family is first. A good start makes all the difference on an overseas tour.

The operational tempo will be high, but decent planning provides an exceptional opportunity to enjoy a different culture and explore diverse opportunities. Please take advantage of your time here and create lasting memories as a family. This is a great place from which to launch travel escapades or enjoy island activities such as diving, snorkeling, camping, hiking, fishing, golfing, etc. Additionally, the Regiment will host several events which include Spouse Warrior Days, holiday parties, and beach bashes.

In closing, please accept my most sincere gratitude for everything you do as a Marine, Sailor and/or family member. My goal is to create an inclusive environment where 12th Marine Regiment's Marines, Sailors, and family members are informed, resourced, and actively involved. Our unit, personal, and family readiness only succeeds with harnessing the talents, experience, and insight from our family volunteers. Please get involved and help us take care of each other. We are a nation at war and our success is directly related to the continued health of the force. You and your family will be making a difference. Embrace your new community and again welcome aboard. We look forward to serving together and meeting your family. Please do not hesitate to reach out to Deployment Readiness Coordinator, Ashley Moseley. She will make every effort to assist you and can be contacted at 623-4086, Ashley.moseley@usmc.mil, or via cell phone at 080-6486 7885.

Michael Roach
Colonel, U.S. Marine Corps