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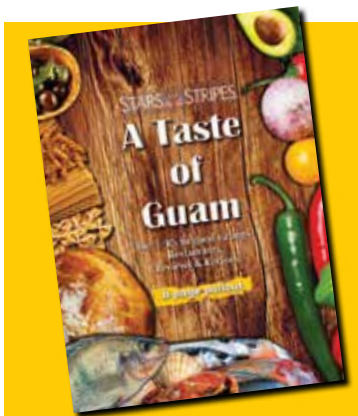
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# WORLDWIDE CONNECTION

## Smithsonian shares its collection with DODEA students

BY PEGGY MCGLONE,  
THE WASHINGTON POST

For 50 minutes on a recent weekday morning, Debra Moore's digital photography students received a private tour of the Smithsonian — from their classroom in Guam.

Using high-end videoconferencing equipment, Smithsonian American Art Museum educator Peg Koetsch showcased two dozen carefully selected photographs from SAAM's world-class collection — including works by Walker Evans, Man Ray and Barbara Morgan, renowned for photographing dancers — to illustrate a lesson about composition, camera angle, and positive

and negative space.

Many of Moore's students have never been to the Smithsonian, which is not surprising considering their school, on the grounds of U.S. Naval Hospital Guam, is 7,900 miles away from Washington, D.C. But thanks to a little-known program involving the world's largest museum complex and the Department of Defense, these military-connected students are treated to a treasure trove of art that many other American students never get to see.

"I wasn't familiar with the images, but I was inspired to go look at those artists," junior Khyla Jones, 16, said after the class. Jones has never visited the



Peg Koetsch, teaches a photography course to DODEA students on Guam (on the bottom left of this page) at 8 a.m. their time and 5 p.m. Eastern time. Photos by Katherine Frey, The Washington Post

Smithsonian, but the lesson inspired her to change that. "Once I get to the States, that is something I want to do," she said.

The partnership between the Smithsonian museum and the Department of Defense Education Activity (DODEA), the unit responsible for 163 schools on military bases in the United States and around the world, began quietly in 2004. It has reached more than 40,000 military-connected students in 71 elementary, middle and high schools in Italy, Japan, South Korea and throughout the United States.

In addition to providing videoconferences for students, SAAM's educators provide professional development seminars for teachers working at the schools. The partners signed another five-year contract this summer, ensuring the program continues through

2024. DODEA pays the museum about \$150,000 annually.

The museum's educators provide lessons in art and art history as well as English language arts, social studies and even science and math. Teachers in DODEA schools submit requests to the museum's education department specifying the topics they want to cover, and the museum staffers mine the collection for ways to address them. The list of past subject areas includes surrealism, the Harlem Renaissance, the art of persuasion, the Civil War and Italian mathematician Fibonacci.

"Everything is customized, for the teacher, the class, the region," said Chris Phillips, DODEA's Specialized Content Program Manager. "It has a very positive impact on our students and their learning. They are enhancing what we are doing already,

SEE CONNECTION ON PAGE 4



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Middle-school students on a military base in Guam photograph each other's hands during a video-linked photography class through the Smithsonian American Art Museum. Photos by Katherine Frey, The Washington Post

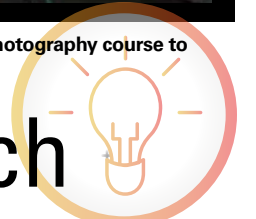


“ I might be teaching the lesson one way and then a museum educator or curator has a different viewpoint. They always bring in fresh ideas. ”

– Debora Moore, DODEA teacher



Koetsch in front of a green screen she uses to teach a photography course to middle schoolers on a military base in Guam.



# CONNECTION: Smithsonian broadens reach

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 2

not supplementing or taking the place of something. They make it interactive, and it brings (the lessons) to life.”

The foundation of the program is the museum’s collection, said Carol Wilson, SAAM’s head of education. There are more than 40,000 digitized images available for lessons, representing 88 percent of the museum’s holdings.

“We treat it like a primary source — like a journal or a letter. You’re seeing what’s on the mind of artists during the Civil War, or Reconstruction, or the Great Depression,” Wilson said

of the artwork. “There are so many ways to pull the thread through our collection. It’s learning about who we are as Americans through the things we have made over hundreds of years.”

The museum was already providing some distance learning when it first submitted a proposal to the Department of Defense. “It was a way to broaden our reach and make American art more available to Americans living in other places,” Wilson said.

It was a Monday evening in the District of Columbia when Koetsch connected to Moore’s classroom in Guam, where the 15-hour time difference meant that it was 8 a.m. on Tuesday.

Koetsch stood before a green wall — think of a TV forecaster standing in front of a weather map — and gestured to the photographs she knew her remote audience would be seeing on a large video monitor in their classroom.

Her lessons ended at 7 p.m. her time, after six videoconferences in a 12½-hour workday that began with back-to-back 90-minute classes. She sometimes works through the night, she said, giving classroom conferences and professional development seminars at 3 and 4 a.m. if that is the best time for schools in other parts of the world.

At least the technology has improved. When the program


started, the museum would ship special equipment from base to base to allow the schools to receive the audio/visual feed. Now, they email an internet link to the teacher, who uses a computer and webcam to connect.

On occasion, a teacher will request a videoconference that the museum can’t deliver, Koetsch said. When a teacher asked for a lesson on the Tuskegee Airmen — the African American World War II fighter pilots — Koetsch said the collection wasn’t suited for that. But after a discussion of the teacher’s goals, they decided to use SAAM’s extensive holdings of paintings by 20th-century African American painter

William H. Johnson to illustrate the different ways African Americans served in the war.

Moore, the Guam High School art teacher, said the program benefits her students because it offers new perspectives along with exceptional art.

“(I) might be teaching the lesson one way and then a museum educator or curator has a different viewpoint. They always bring in fresh ideas,” Moore said. “And it’s really nice that they can bring in artists that we might not know about. It pushes the kids to the next level of thinking, about what kind of photographer they might want to be.”



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### Chamorro Village

Guam Unique Merchandise and Arts (GUMA) Gallery serves as a great starting point for anyone looking for local products produced with pride. Located at Chamorro Village, home of the Wednesday Night Market, GUMA's mission is to provide a platform of support to Guam's artists and designers, and its gallery is full of products crafted locally.

A highlight from GUMA is artist Ron Castro's three-dimensional puzzles. Depicting local icons like the coconut crab and the Plaza de España in Hagåtña, the



wooden puzzles capture the uniqueness of Guam in fun fashion.

Sirena Soul, another local business nurtured by GUMA, features ocean-inspired jewelry and apparel that calls to those who love sand between their toes, sun on their shoulders, and the sea in their hearts.

Next door to GUMA is the Guam Art Boutique, a collaborative collection of work from 11 artists. These two stores

have everything from soaps to bikinis; jewelry to cookies; greeting cards to coloring books, and everything in between.

Also located at Chamorro Village is It's Sew Jayne - a shop featuring handmade clothing and crafts including hats depicting popular TV and movie characters, crocheted dolls, and much more.

Although most visitors attend the Wednesday Night Market, Chamorro

Village is open daily and not just on Wednesday for the night market.

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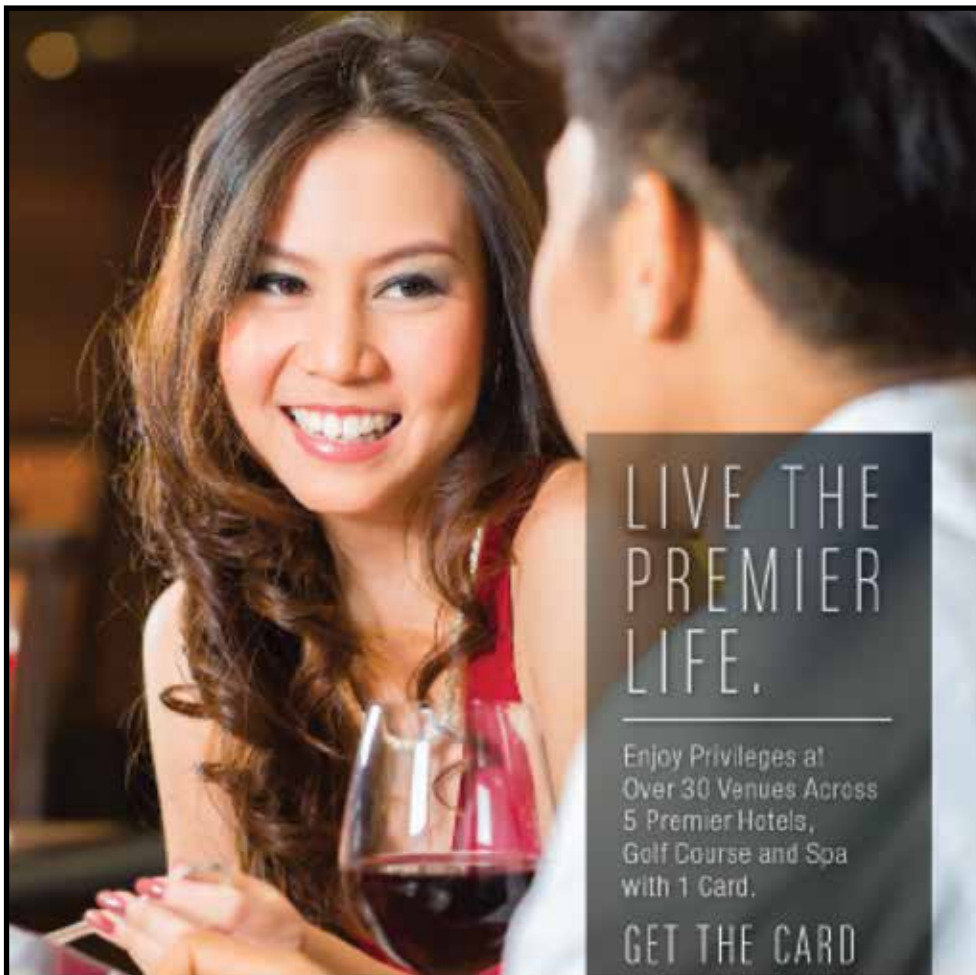


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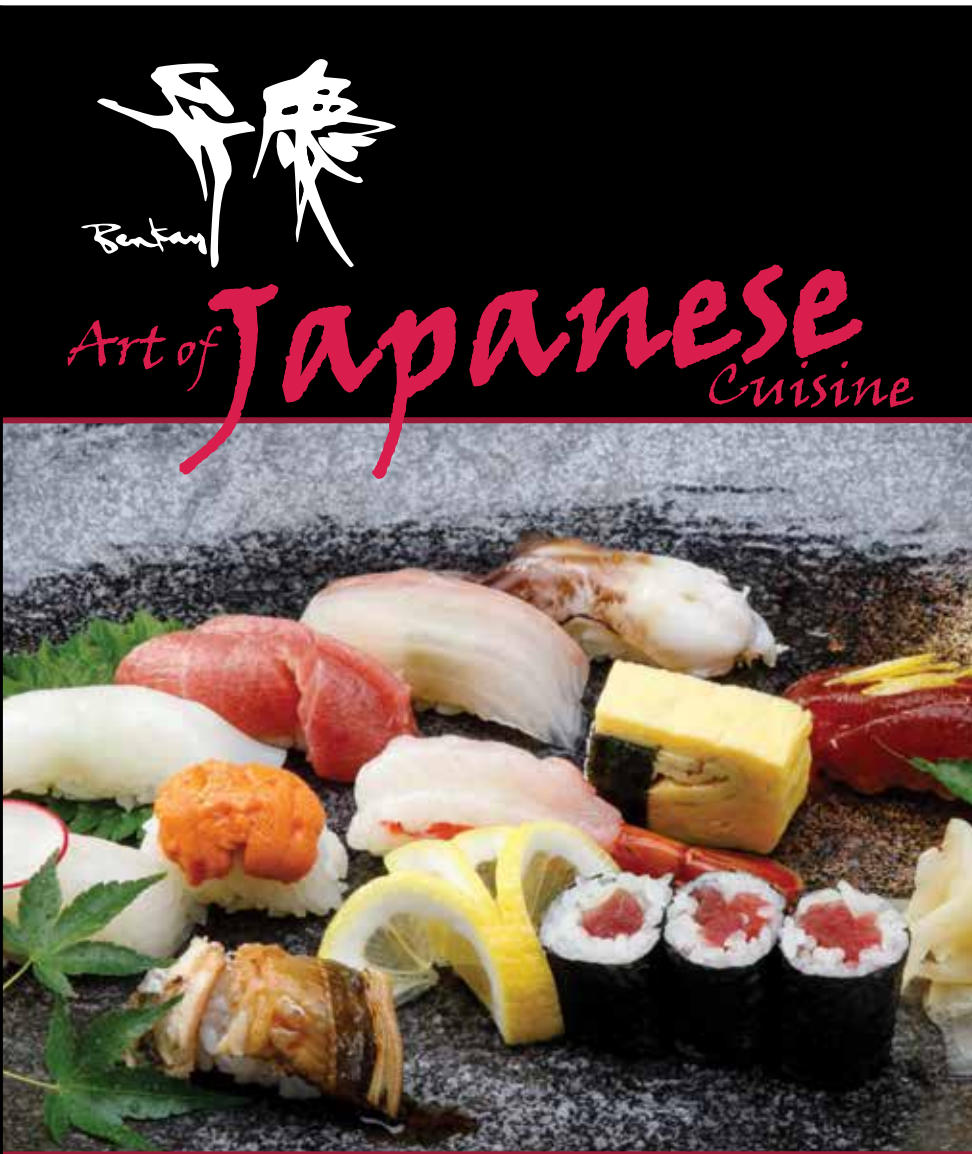
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Two Lovers' Point (Puntan Dos Amantes) Photos courtesy of Guam Visitors Bureau

# Valentine vistas

BY TAKAHIRO TAKIGUCHI,  
STRIPES GUAM

“Romeo and Juliet” is not the only romantic saga ending in woe. Others in Japan and on Guam are inked so indelibly on public psyches as to inspire “lovers’ points” with sweeping vistas to evoke romance and luck in love. In fact, cities have even become bedfellows because of their respective tales of trysts and tragedies.

Guam’s Puntan Dos Amantes, or Two Lovers’ Point, overlooking picturesque Tumon Bay and the Philippine Sea, has two “sister capes” in the Land of the Rising Sun. There is Izu City’s Toi Koibito Misaki, or Lovers’ Point, with its panoramic vista of Mount Fuji and the Suruga Gulf in Shizuoka Prefecture, and Kashiwazaki City’s Lovers’ Point in Niigata Prefecture, offering scenic sunsets over the Sea of Japan against the backdrop of nearby Sado Island. The transpacific courting began more than two decades ago.

Present day Izu City has the longest running courtship with Guam. In 1989, then Guam Gov. Joseph Ada and the town mayor of Toi (now part of Izu), Takashi Aoki, signed a “sister cape” deal during a ceremony on the island. In 2003, then Gov. Felix Camacho and Kashiwazaki Mayor Shingo

See the legends behind all three lovers' points. Page 10

Tsuchida followed suit.

“Since there is a lovers’ point in our town, I thought it would be nice to build a friendly relationship with Two Lovers’ Point on Guam to promote tourism,” said Kazuhiko Kagiya. The former Toi Tourist Association director spearheaded the 1989 project by reaching out to the Guam Visitors Bureau.

All three amorous attractions are wed to romantic sagas of yesteryear – two with tragic endings of Shakespearian proportions. Today, they are go-to destinations

for a date day, if not to supercharge that special bond with a certain someone.

The saga behind Izu’s Lovers’ Point has the more upbeat ending: Prevented by circumstance from marrying, two youths express their love for one another over a great distance by ringing a bell miraculously given to each of them. In time, their famed plight prompts others to bring them together so they can wed. Today, pilgrims flock there to ring a gold bell in hopes of gaining love.

Guam’s Two Lovers’ Point is said to be where a local Chamorro man and Spanish maiden leapt to their deaths in the 1500s to avoid capture and the girl’s forced betrothal

to another, thereby preserving the eternally.

Today, this scenic symbol of undying love is touted as the ideal place for wedding as well as views. There’s also a silver bell gift from its sister cape in Izu – said to bring good luck in romance to those who ring. Visitors can also buy heart-shaped plaques to write down heartfelt words of romance and attach them to the Lovers’ Wall to come true – a custom adopted from the cape’s Kashiwazaki sister.

In Kashiwazaki, Lovers’ Point is the tale of a love-sick woman who leapt from one of her nightly perilous journeys to Sado Island to meet her lover in death. He in turn took his own life. Now, pilgrims in search of successful marriages visit the pilgrimages there to enshrine their written wishes along the cape’s Lovers’ Wall.

Tourism officials say the sister relationship has been a boon.

“Quite a few Japanese who visit Puntan Dos Amantes learn about our sister cape here in Guam,” Kagiya said. “I also hear a lot of love pilgrims come here say they are here to visit the Two Lovers’ Point in Guam. ... This is a win-win situation.”

takiguchi.takahiro@stripes.com







Lovers' Point (Koibito Misaki), Kashiwazaki Photo courtesy of Kashiwazaki Tourism Association



Lovers' Point (Koibito Misaki), Izu City Photo courtesy of Toi Onsen Hotels Union

# Link 2 cultures



## Two Lovers' Point (Puntan Dos Amantes), Guam

Built upon a bitersweet tale of eternal love, Puntan Dos Amantes, or Two Lovers Point, is an icon of Guam attractions. Every year hundreds of thousands of visitors are drawn to the towering cliff that is the site of Guam's most well-known and romantic legends.

The Two Lovers Point park features lookout points that offer sweeping views of Tumon Bay, high above crashing ocean waves 122m (400ft) below. Couples can purchase a lovelock, attach it to the railing and toss the key into the ocean to symbolize their own eternal love. The centerpiece of the park is a magnificent brass statue of two lovers locked in an embrace that gleams in the sun and extends to the sky. The park also features a wedding chapel and terrace restaurant.

- Guam Visitors Bureau

For more details, visit: [puntandosamantes.com](http://puntandosamantes.com)



## Lovers' Point (Koibito Misaki), Kashiwazaki, Japan

Named after a sad love story, or "sado jowa," this Lovers' Point is in Sado Yahiko Yoneyama National Park and is famed for being Niigata Prefecture's most popular spot for viewing beautiful sunsets. It overlooks the Sea of Japan, offering picturesque vistas of 3,255-foot-tall Mount Yoneyama, nearby Sado Island and the Fukuura Beach coastline. Lovers come here and purchase a chain, lock and heart-shaped plaque from the visitors' shop. After writing their romantic wishes on the plaque, they chain it to the fence surrounding the scenic cape, securing their love. It's said that doing so ensures successful marriage.

For more details (in Japanese), call: 0257-32-2882 or visit: [www.koibitomisaki-niigata.jp](http://www.koibitomisaki-niigata.jp)

## Lovers' Point (Koibito Misaki), Izu City, Japan

About 230,000 people, many in search of luck in love, visit this cape annually. An observation platform offers fantastic vistas of Mount Fuji Suruga Gulf. A golden bell is mounted there and it is said that whoever rings it three times their wish in matters of love will come. The bell has a silver 'sister' on Guam's Two Lovers' Point. According to lore, whoever can ring both bells will be graced both happiness and prosperity. Lovers who ring the bell together can get a special certificate of declaring their amorous relationship at the visitor's office on site. When they marry later, a congratulatory message will be sent to the newlyweds.

The town of Toi, in the city of Izu, also boasts other attractions such as scenic Anrakuji Temple and the world's largest flower clock in Matsubara Park and the oldest hot spring in western Izu.

For more details (in Japanese), call: 0558-99-0270 or visit: [koibito.toi-onsen.com](http://koibito.toi-onsen.com)



# Matters of the heart mythology

Guam's legend may be compared to "Romeo and Juliet," while the lovers' points legends in Japan can be characterized as typical Japanese folk stories. Yet there is a poignant similarity at the heart of all three of these tales. Compare them yourself. You'll see just how beautiful – and cruel – love can be.

## The sad love story of Kashiwazaki

Oben, the daughter of shipping agent Ogi, Sado Island, met and fell in love with Tokichi, a boat carpenter who came from Kashiwazaki, a village on the shore of Niigata, about 35 miles away. They enjoyed romantic rendezvous while Tokichi worked on the island. On completing his work, however, Tokichi had to return to Kashiwazaki.

Oben could not forget her lover. One night, she missed him so much that she took a small round "taraibune" boat and sailed the sea late at night to Kashiwazaki guided by a light on the cape. When she reached Kashiwazaki she was reunited with Tokichi again. She began doing this every night.

Although Tokichi welcomed her at first, he was eventually put off by an attachment so strong that it made Oben sail 35 miles to Kashiwazaki every night. One night, he extinguished the light on Kashiwazaki's cape when Oben was at sea. She got lost and her boat eventually sank offshore. Seeing her body on Kashiwazaki's beach the following morning, Tokichi was filled with deep regret and despair over his actions. He took his own life by jumping off the cape into the sea.

– Kashiwazaki Tourist Association

## The legend of Two Lovers' Point

Once long ago, in the time when Spain ruled Guam, there was a proud family living in Hagatna, the capital city. The father was a wealthy Spanish aristocrat and the mother was the daughter of a great Chamorro chief. The family owned land and were highly esteemed by all, Chamorro and Spanish alike.

Their daughter was a beautiful girl, admired by all for her honesty, modesty, and perfectly natural charm. Her beauty bestowed the greatest pride and dignity unto her family.

One day, the girl's father arranged for her to take a powerful Spanish captain as her husband. When the girl discovered this, she was so distraught that she ran from Hagatna all the way to the north of Guam until she found a secluded and peaceful shore.

There, on the moonlit shore, she met and fell in love with a young warrior from a very modest Chamorro family. He was gentle, with a strong build, and had eyes that search for meaning in the stars.

When the girl's father learned of the two lovers, he grew angry and demanded that she marry the Spanish captain at once. That day at sundown, she stole away to the same high point along the shore, and once again met her Chamorro lover.

Her father, the captain, and all the Spanish soldiers pursued the lovers up to the high cliff above Tumon Bay. The lovers found themselves trapped between the edge of the cliff and the approaching soldiers.

All the young warrior could do was warn them to stay back, and the father ordered the soldiers to halt.

The lovers tied their long black hair into a single knot. And acting as if they were entirely alone, they looked deeply into each other's eyes and kissed for the final time. Then they leaped over the long, deep cliff into the roaring waters below.

Her father and all who remained rushed to the edge to stare in great anguish.

Since that day, Chamorros have looked to the jutting peak above Tumon Bay with reverence. The two lovers remain a symbol of true love – a love in which two souls are entwined forever in life and in death. Forever after, the high point on the cliff was known as Two Lovers Point.

– Two Lovers' Point Park

## The Love Call Bells

Once upon a time, a fisherman named Fukutaro from Toi met Oyone, a farming girl from Yonezaki at his village's morning market, and they fell in love. Although they wished to be together, the steep mountains between their villages, their poverty and need to care for their aging parents prevented them from seeing each other.

Oyone, thinking of Fukutaro, visited a shrine daily to pray they would be united. Even if there was a violent storm she always visited the shrine to pray. One day, while she was praying she heard a voice say, "Oyone, I'll give you two bells. Give one to Fukutaro and confirm his love with them." She looked down and there were two bells.

When she took the bells to Fukutaro, they both welcomed the miracle. He hung one bell on the bow of his fishing boat. Fukutaro always sailed passed Oyone's village on the way of his fishing grounds.

Every morning, Oyone climbed a cape rang her bell three times when Fukutaro's boat passed by. When Fukutaro heard the bell, he responded by ringing his bell on the boat. Although the lovers could not see each other, they confirmed their mutual love with the bells. Sometimes, Oyone's bell guided Fukutaro's boat home when he was lost in heavy fog or stormy weather.

The sound of the two lovers' bells gradually became renowned throughout Yonezaki village, and the villagers found a way for two to unite. They lived happily after.

– Izu City Tourist Association



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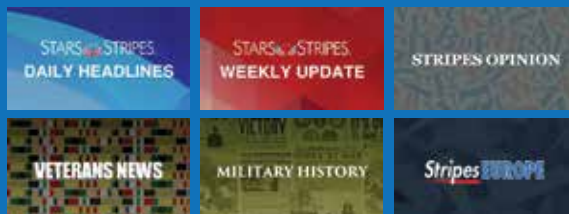


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# Plan a romantic getaway on Guam



Blue Hole



Mount Lamlam

“lightning” in Chamorro, rises nearly 11km from the bottom of the nearby Marianas Trench, the deepest part of the ocean in the world. If Mount Everest was placed at the bottom of the trench it would still be almost 2km underwater.

### Dive the Blue Hole

With vibrant reef systems, fascinating marine life and historical shipwrecks, Guam’s exceptional oceanic diversity thrills divers every time they go beneath the waves. There are over a thousand fish and coral species, and more than 100 dive sites in the warm turquoise waters surrounding Guam, including unique sites such as the SMS Cormoran and Tokai Maru shipwrecks — the only place in the world where divers can touch shipwrecks from two different World Wars at the same time.

The Blue Hole is one of the island’s popular dive sites and features a vertical shaft with a wide heart-shaped opening – a perfect backdrop for a gorgeous couples’ photo, not to mention an unforgettable experience. For novice or inexperienced

divers, Guam offers an exciting array of options for an underwater adventure.

### Activities for Two

Whether it’s paddling along a river in a kayak built for two or gliding over the ocean in a two-seated parasail, Guam offers a variety of fun and exciting experiences for couples, including jet skiing together from Agana Bay to the base of Two Lovers Point in Tumon. A cultural dinner show, sunset cruise, or a magic and comedy show is a great way to cap your day of romance. Whatever adventure you choose, be sure to wind down and relax together with a couple’s spa treatment or a simple sunset stroll on the beach.

#### GUAM VISITORS BUREAU

When it comes to romance, Guam has received numerous international awards for being the Most Romantic Destination. The island’s tropical weather and natural beauty is a perfect backdrop for romance and every year hundreds of couples choose Guam for a romantic getaway. And for those of you lucky

enough to be stationed here, why not plan a Valentine’s Day excursion with your sweetheart. Here are some of our favorite ways for couples to experience Guam and create unforgettable memories to cherish for a lifetime.

### Climb Mount Lamlam

You and your sweetheart can literally take your romance to

new heights atop the summit of Mount Lamlam, Guam’s highest point of elevation. The 360° panoramic views of southern Guam’s rolling green hills are simply breathtaking – and at 406m (1,332ft) you can reach the peak in well under an hour. The trail is easy to follow and begins across the highway from the Cetti Bay overlook in Umatac. Lamlam, which means

rootz HILLS GRILLHOUSE

# Be my Valentine

Prix Fixe and Limited À La Carte  
Friday, February 14, 2020  
6:00pm-9:30pm  
\*10% Service Charge

Three course meal \$130 per couple  
À la carte menu available

Located in the Guam Plaza Resort & Spa. For reservations book online at [www.guamplaza.com](http://www.guamplaza.com) or call T.647-1976/646-7803

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## The Sweetheart Menu True Taste of Guam

3 Courses of Savory Meal 



5:30 pm and 7:30 pm seatings || Hagatna: 479-2652 || Tumon: 969-2652



# Ko'ko' Kids Fest to be held March 22

GUAM VISITORS BUREAU

**K**o'ko' Kids Fest is back for more fun! This fun-filled family event features a Trench Kids Obstacle Course Challenge and a Striders Kids Biking event. Enjoy games and activities for children starting at 2 years of age.

TRENCH™ KIDS is a Mini Obstacle Course Race exclusively for children ages 4 - 11 to take place on Sunday, March 22nd at the Gov. Joseph Flores Memorial



/ Ypao Beach Park during the 2nd Annual Ko'Ko' Kids Fest event.

Children will get a chance to tackle up to 10 different obstacles and terrain challenges on the course. All participants receive a bib, finisher medal, refreshments, and custom 100% polyester tech participant shirt. Awards and prizes will be given to top 3 boys and girls in their age division.

- **DATE:** March 22
- **SHOW TIME:** 6:30 a.m.
- **START TIME:** 7 a.m. (Different start times for each age division)
- **DISTANCE:** Approximately 1~1.5km depending on age group
- **OBSTACLES:** Approximately 10
- **SOLO RUNNER DIVISIONS:** 4-5yrs / 6-7yrs / 8-9yrs / 10-11yrs  
Limited to 100-120 runners per age group. Register early before sold out.
- Top 3 Boys & Girls in each division to be awarded with trophies.  
4 Kid Team Challenge. Teach your children the value of teamwork early. 2 Age groups. (6-8yrs & 9-11yrs) Limit 20 teams per age division.

Must have 4 members in a team. Awards for fastest team.

- Registration includes Finisher medal, Participant dri-fit shirt, Aloha Maid, and Finisher fruits.
- **PRICE:**  
- \$25 from Jan. 1 Early Bird Rate  
- \$30 from Feb. 1 or after first 100 Early Birds signed up  
- \$40 from March. 1

• **REGISTRATION:**  
**Trench Kids:**  
<http://bit.ly/TRENCHKIDS2020>

**Strider Race:**  
<http://bit.ly/STRIDERRACE2020>

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## Boonie Stomps Guam



INFORMATION PROVIDED BY  
GUAM BOONIE STOMPERS



Fadian Cove

Every Saturday, Guam Boonie Stompers offers public hikes to a variety of destinations such as beaches, snorkeling sites, waterfalls, mountains, caves, latte sites, and World War II sites. We meet at 9 a.m. in the Center Court of Chamorro Village in Hagatna. The cost is \$5.00 for hikers over 17. Children must be accompanied by a responsible adult. Hikers should provide their own transportation. Guam's trails are not developed. Weather conditions can make the hikes more difficult than described. No reservations required.

**For more information:**  
[www.facebook.com/GuamBoonieStompersInc](http://www.facebook.com/GuamBoonieStompersInc)  
or call 787-4238.

**Feb. 8 Fadian Cove** *Very Medium*  
3 hours for 2 miles

We descend to this scenic and picturesque cove below Guam's northeastern cliffs to swim and snorkel if the water is calm. If conditions are good we'll also head north along the reef to the next cove.

**Bring:** 2 quarts water, sturdy footwear, swim suit, snorkel gear, gloves, insect repellent, sun screen, lunch, and camera.

**Special conditions:** A steep hill to descend and climb, overgrown trail, and hiking over rough rocks.

**Feb. 15 Pagat Cave** *Medium*  
3 hours for 2.5 miles

We explore one of the most famous hiking sights on the island, descending the limestone cliffs to visit the arch (jumping/swimming if conditions permit, an ancient Chamorro village site, and the underground swim pool.

**Bring:** 2 quarts water, hiking shoes, swim suit, Flashlight, gloves, sun screen, insect repellent, lunch, and camera.

**Special conditions:** Walking in cave water, walking over rough limestone rocks, and steep slopes.

**Complete 10 Boonie Stomps to earn a Boonie Stomp T-Shirt!**

**Stomp Tip:**

- 1) Alcohol and hiking do not mix.
- 2) Do not bring beverages with caffeine on hikes.
- 3) Bring plenty of water with you on hikes.
- 4) Do not hike alone and let someone know where you are going and your return time.
- 5) Always carry a well stocked personal first aid kit.
- 6) When hiking, lots of little snacks are better than one big meal
- 7) Always bring a small flashlight in case you get lost, or delayed.  
Save your phone battery for calls.

Guam Boonie Stompers is a non-profit Guam corporation composed of volunteer leaders committed to leading hikes to and protecting the unique destinations on our island.





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**BATTLE SHOWCASE**

**CAR EVENT A MUST FOR MOTOR HEADS**

GUAM VISITORS BUREAU

**DATES:** Feb. 15

**RECURRENCE:** Recurring daily

**LOCATION:** Guam International Raceway

**TIME:** 4 p.m.

- Food Truck Battle
- 1 on 1 B-Boy Battle
- DJ Battle Exhibition

- Auto Show registration is \$50 ~ \$100 (See price increase schedule on [upshiftent.com](http://upshiftent.com)) and available online here or in-person at Proline in Harmon. Space is limited to 80 cars.

The Best Car Show of 2020 that you don't want to miss.

- Custom Auto / Bike Show - Guest Off-island Judge
- Drag Race Battle - Heads up racing in 15 sec - 11 sec index categories. (More info on registration at <http://upshiftent.com>)
- Drifting - Drift exhibition on the drag strip by Guam's best
- DB Sound Battle
- 1 on 1 Graffiti Battle

- Registration covers vehicle and owner/driver. Guest or passenger will need to purchase general admission ticket.

- Drag Race registration is \$30 ~ \$100 + \$100 cash buy-in for winners prize money pot.

- General admission tickets are: **\$15** regular pre purchase **\$20** at gate

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**Rollie**  
A very sleek and elegant cat, she loves to bathe in the sun and get head scratches.

Call G.A.I.N. (Guam Animals In Need) Animal Shelter in Yigo at 653-4246 or visit [www.guamanimals.org](http://www.guamanimals.org) for more information on adopting this pet. G.A.I.N. is a shelter-based humane society with a mission to prevent cruelty to animals, educate the public and promote good animal laws. Under Water World will donate one adult admission for every Pet of the Week adopted.

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TUMON, GUAM



# TINIAN HOT PEPPER FEST TO BE HELD FEB. 15-16

MARIANAS VISITORS AUTHORITY

SAIPAN, NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS – The 16th Annual Tinian Hot Pepper Festival will be held over Presidents Day weekend on Feb. 15-16 in The Marianas.

Activities will include dances, bands, and other live entertainment; cooking competitions, indigenous craft sales; and more. Festivalgoers will have the chance to purchase a variety of local dishes, join the *umang* (hermit crab) races, participate in sports activities, and join the hot pepper eating competition, itself. In addition, the 65K Pika Bike Race on Feb. 15 will begin at 6 a.m.

“We’re looking forward to a great Tinian Hot Pepper Festival in 2020, and we invite everyone to join the festivities,” said Marianas Visitors Authority Managing Director



Tinian youth performing indigenous Chamorro dances draw a crowd at the 13th Annual Tinian Hot Pepper Festival in 2017 in the Marianas. The Marianas Visitors Authority will hold the 16th Annual Tinian Hot Pepper Festival on Feb. 15-16.

Priscilla M. Iakopo. “The festival is one of the best times of the year to visit Tinian and enjoy the community and culture at its best.”

The event is sponsored by the Tinian Mayor’s Office and other MVA

members. Air service between Saipan and Tinian is provided by Star Marianas and takes about 15 minutes.

Airport shuttle will be offered by the MVA to and from the festival site. Accommodations are available at Tinian Ocean View, Lorilynn’s Hotel, Tinian Street Motel, Fleming Hotel, Green Lion House Hotel, and the Marpo Valley Inn. Free camping is available at Kammer Beach, Taga Beach (toilets, barbecue pits, and outdoor showers available) and at the adjacent Tachogna Beach (toilets, barbecue pits, and indoor showers available).



Competitors in the JC Café Pika Burger Eating Contest take their first bites at the 15th Annual Tinian Hot Pepper Festival on Feb. 16, 2019.

For more information, contact MVA Tinian Field Operations Supervisor Vida Borja at **1.670.433.9365** or e-mail at **vborja@mymarianas.com** or MVA Community Project Specialist Ray Villagomez at **1.670.664.3210** or **rvillagomez@mymarianas.com**.

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## The Weekly Crossword by Margie E. Burke

**ACROSS**

- Throws in
- Rhombus or rectangle
- Yellowstone, for one
- Guitar part
- December ditty
- Medicinal herb
- More than suggestive
- Under construction
- Washington Monument, e.g.
- “The Thorn Birds” novelist McCullough
- Telescope part
- Tapping sound
- Big club?
- Shredded
- Text alternative
- Old what’s- name
- Built-out window
- North Pole workers
- Sparkle
- Sub detector
- Hot rock
- Taxi ticker
- Be silent, in music
- URL ending
- Humdinger
- Clock part
- Barley brew
- Nonpoetic writing
- Splinter group
- Create a stir
- Kids’ racers
- High spirits
- Medical remedy
- Desertlike
- Ill-gotten gains
- Prayer’s end
- Anagram for “user”
- Floor it
- Pundit’s piece

**DOWN**

- Bushy do
- Cheerless
- Slow down
- Fashion sense
- Tailor’s tool
- Ketcham of the comics
- Fly ball’s path
- Four-legged friend
- “Freaky Deaky” author Leonard
- R.J. Reynolds brand
- Direction at sea
- Memorization method
- Peachy follower
- Feather in one’s cap
- Quite fond of
- Like The Who’s wasteland
- “Excuse me...”
- Paparazzi target
- Barrel of laughs
- Donald’s first wife
- Carpenter’s device
- Fancy edging
- Fill to the gills
- Ocean current
- Thought out
- Like the boondocks
- Arduous journey
- Bottom-line figures
- Sting operation
- Tree for chocolate
- A bit cracked
- Wise one
- Sacred bird of the Nile
- Former V.P.
- Sloth’s home
- Sam Cooke song, “You \_\_\_ Me”
- NHL surface

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### Answers to Last Week’s Crossword:

L	I	P	S	K	A	R	A	T	C	R	A	M
A	B	L	E	I	N	J	U	R	E	H	O	S
M	E	A	N	S	T	E	S	T	S	A	P	S
E	X	I	S	T	W	H	I	T	E	M	E	A
N	E	A	P	C	E	L	E	R	Y			
O	P	T	G	U	T	T	U	R	A	L		
D	R	I	P	C	U	R	L	N	E	E	D	S
D	I	V	A	K	R	A	A	L	O	P	A	L
S	M	E	L	L	B	I	T	E	N	T	I	N
P	U	R	U	L	E	N	T	C	A	W		
C	H	I	S	E	L	D	A	L	E			
D	E	A	T	H	L	E	S	S	P	I	N	T
A	L	B	A	I	N	C	I	D	E	N	T	A
F	L	I	T	S	C	A	L	E	D	E	L	I
T	O	T	E	H	E	R	O	N	A	R	C	O

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## Stripes Sports Trivia

How much did CBS charge advertisers to air a 30-second commercial during the 2019 Super Bowl?

**Answer** *55 Million* \$\$\$

## SUDOKU

Difficulty: Easy Edited by Margie E. Burke

**HOW TO SOLVE:**  
 Each row must contain the numbers 1 to 9; each column must contain the numbers 1 to 9; and each set of 3 by 3 boxes must contain the numbers 1 to 9.

Answers to Last Week’s Sudoku:

1	5	4	6	2	9	7	3	8
6	3	9	4	7	8	2	1	5
2	7	8	1	5	3	6	4	9
8	2	5	7	9	4	3	6	1
4	9	3	8	1	6	5	2	7
7	1	6	5	3	2	8	9	4
5	4	7	3	6	1	9	8	2
3	8	2	9	4	7	1	5	6
9	6	1	2	8	5	4	7	3

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RESTAURANT INFO

# A Taste of Guam

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RESTAURANT INFO





## Table 35 for fresh island fusion

At Table 35, our culinary vision is an island fusion of New American and Asian cuisine featuring the freshest Guam produce and seafood, sourced from local farmers and fishermen when possible. Enjoy thoughtfully prepared cuisine with a unique ambiance that is cosmopolitan, yet warm and comfortable. Our menus offer some crossover favorites and tantalizing intros like Coconut Portobellos, Salmon Spring Rolls, and Shrimp Bruschetta. Burgers are lunchtime favorites, while dinner offers the inimitable Miso-rubbed NY Sirloin with Citrus Soy Butter and Caramelized Garlic Chips, a succulently delightful steak experience! Table 35 has a first-class bar with fine wines and premium cocktails.

# table 35

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RESTAURANT INFO

# A Taste of Guam

IT'S BACK

## Sriracha Crispy Chicken



*"it's finger  
lickin' good"*

## Spice up February with Sriracha Crispy Chicken

Howdy, folks! Colonel here! Wanted to let you know that KFC is bringing back something extra special to spice up this Valentine's month: our scrumptious and spicy Sriracha Extra Tasty Crispy Chicken!

Yup, we kicked up our Pica chicken a notch with Sriracha. And, folks, I'm sure you've never had Sriracha like this before. It's spicy, tangy and sweet! If you like Sriracha, you'll fall in love with KFC's Sriracha Extra Crispy Chicken! So, visit KFC today because this special flavor is only available on Guam for a limited time. KFC, it's finger-lickin' good!



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RESTAURANT INFO





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NEW YORK PIZZA

## Chicago Everything Deep Dish Pizza

Kick off 2020 with Sbarro's New Chicago Everything Deep Dish Pizza. This deep dish really does have EVERYTHING on it! Bite into veggies sautéed to perfection, the classic pepperoni you know and love, tasty Italian sausage, creamy mozzarella and let Sbarro's hearty Ragu sauce and a sprinkling of parsley bring the flavors together. This holiday season bring home the perfect pie for sharing with your family and friends. Are you hungry yet? Hurry in to our GPO or Micronesia Mall Sbarro locations for a slice or a whole pie of your new favorite – the Chicago Everything Deep Dish Pizza!



RESTAURANT INFO

# A Taste of Guam

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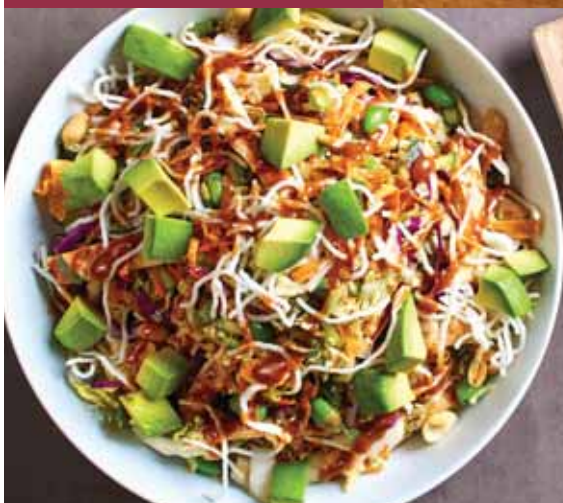
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RESTAURANT INFO





Valentine's Day chocolate delights



# CHOCOLATE ICE CREAM CAKE

“My name is Annie. Food and I get along so well! Cooking and baking are more than a hobby for me – they’re a passion. I come from the beautiful island of Guam, U.S.A. The recipes you’ll find here are my creations, or those of my children, who are also budding foodies. I hope you like them. Drop me a comment or two to let me know how you like our island and other delicacies. Enjoy!”

- Army Lt. Col. (Ret.) Annette Merfalen



## Ingredients

### Cake:

- 1/4 cup cocoa powder
- 1/3 cup plus 2 tablespoons cake flour
- 1 tablespoon instant espresso powder
- 1/8 teaspoon salt
- 1/2 stick unsalted butter, melted
- 3 large eggs
- 2 large egg YOLKS
- 1/2 cup white, granulated sugar

### Filling:

- 1 cup milk chocolate chips
- 1/2 cup half-and-half (or heavy cream)
- Half gallon coffee ice cream (or your favorite flavor)
- 1/2 cup toffee bits

### Ganache:

- 1 1/2 cups semisweet chocolate chips
- 1 cup half-and-half (or heavy cream)

### Topping:

- 1/2 cup toffee bits

Some of my favorite desserts are chocolate cake, coffee ice cream, and toffee candy. This dessert combines all three in one very decadent dessert.

If you’ve read through my directions below, you may be thinking that this is a difficult dessert to make. Don’t let the number of steps fool you, however. This is actually very simple to make; just follow each step as I’ve described them below and before you know it, you’ll be enjoying this heavenly dessert! The only hard part is waiting for the ice cream to re-harden!

Give my recipe a try. I know you’ll love it.

## Directions



**1** In a small mixing bowl, sift together the cocoa powder and cake flour. Add the instant espresso powder and salt to the bowl. Whisk to combine.



**2** In a microwave-safe bowl, melt the butter. Set aside to cool.



**3** Place a small pot filled with about 2 inches of water over medium heat; bring to a simmer. In a large heat-safe mixing bowl, place the eggs, egg yolks, and sugar. Place the egg and sugar mixture over the simmering water, whisking constantly until the mixture is warm to the touch.



**4** Switch to a hand-held mixer. Mix on high speed until the mixture thickens and turns a very pale yellow.

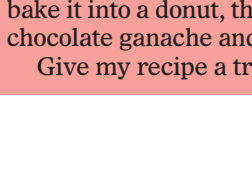


**5** Fold the dry ingredients into the thickened egg mixture.

**6** Drizzle the cooled melted butter down the side of the bowl. Gently FOLD the butter into the batter. Do NOT overmix; the batter will be very airy and light.



**7** Line a large baking pan (a jelly-roll pan works well) with parchment paper. Pour the batter onto the lined pan. Gently and evenly spread batter out over the pan (be careful not to over-handle the batter as you spread it out; you do NOT want to deflate the air bubbles).



**8** Bake at 450 degrees for 7 minutes.

**9** While the cake is still warm, flip it out onto a clean dish cloth that’s been dusted with cocoa powder. Peel the parchment paper off the cake.

**10** Sprinkle more cocoa powder over the cake. Roll the cake — including the dish cloth — starting at the short edge. Set aside until the cake is completely cooled.



**11** After the cake is completely cooled, carefully unroll it.



**12** Make the ganache for the filling. In a small microwave-safe bowl, heat the 1/2 cup of half-and-half for about a minute. Add the milk chocolate chips to the heated half-and-half, whisking until the chocolate melts and the mixture is smooth.



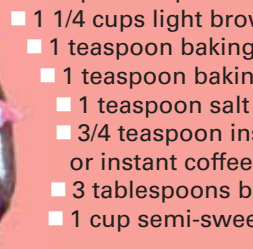
**13** Spread the ganache over the cake, staying about 1 inch from the edge.



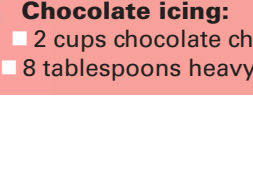
**14** Spread the ice cream over the cake. I found it easier to use a spatula to “slice” pieces of ice cream, then I placed the slices of ice cream over the cake, staying about 1 1/2 inches from the edge.



**15** Sprinkle 1/2 cup of toffee bits over the ice cream.



**16** Re-roll the cake, jell-roll style, starting from the short edge. Be careful not to squeeze too tightly or all of the ice cream and chocolate ganache will ooze out of the cake.



**17** Tightly wrap the rolled cake with plastic wrap. Place in the freezer and freeze until the ice cream firms up.



**18** To finish the cake, prepare more ganache using the remaining half-and-half and semisweet chocolate chips. Once again, heat the half-and-half in the microwave for a minute. Add the semisweet chocolate chips to the hot half-and-half, whisking until smooth and creamy. Pour the ganache over the cake. Sprinkle with the remaining 1/2 cup of toffee bits.

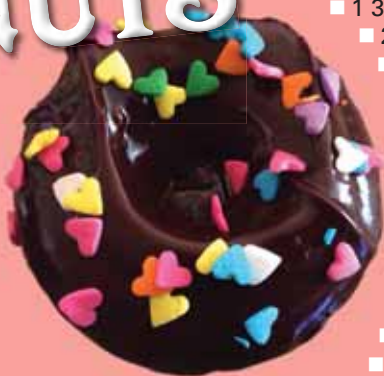
**19** Slice the cake, serve and ENJOY!

# CHOCOLATE CAKE DONUTS

Moist chocolate cake...chocolate chips...chocolate ganache...enough said.

Seriously, though. If you are like me, you LOVE LOVE LOVE chocolate! Take a moist chocolate cake batter load it with chocolate chips, bake it into a donut, then dredge it in a rich, creamy chocolate ganache and you’ll be in Heaven!!

Give my recipe a try. I know you’ll love it!



## Ingredients

### Dry Ingredients:

- 1 3/4 cups all purpose flour
- 2/3 cup cocoa powder
- 1 1/4 cups light brown sugar
- 1 teaspoon baking powder
- 1 teaspoon baking soda
- 1 teaspoon salt
- 3/4 teaspoon instant espresso powder, or instant coffee granules
- 3 tablespoons buttermilk powder
- 1 cup semi-sweet chocolate chips

### Chocolate icing:

- 2 cups chocolate chips
- 8 tablespoons heavy cream

### Wet Ingredients:

- 2 eggs
- 3/4 cup water
- 2 teaspoons vanilla extract
- 1 stick unsalted butter, melted

### Toppings (Optional):

- Sweetened coconut flakes
- Toffee bits
- Mini chocolate chips
- Chocolate cookie bits
- Multi-colored sprinkles



SEE DIRECTIONS FOR CHOCOLATE CAKE DONUTS ON PAGE 8





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**RESTAURANT INFO**

# A Taste of Guam



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**RESTAURANT INFO**





# Taste the Impossible at Pika's Cafe!

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DELICIOUS  
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RESTAURANT INFO

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## A Taste of Guam



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February 14, 2020 5 COURSE \$100  
6PM - 10PM  
Call 647.1020 for reservations.



RESTAURANT INFO





# CHOCOLATE CAKE DONUTS

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 5

## Directions

In a large mixing bowl, whisk together the dry ingredients:

- 1 Place the flour into the bowl.
- 2 Add the cocoa powder. It isn't necessary to sift the cocoa powder; just dump it in the bowl.
- 3 Add the brown sugar.
- 4 Add the baking powder, baking soda, salt and espresso powder (or instant coffee granules). You can omit the espresso powder if you'd like. However, I find that the coffee enhances the flavor of the cocoa, making the donuts taste so much more rich and decadent.

- 5 Add the buttermilk powder. If you can't find buttermilk powder in your grocery store, use 3/4 cup of liquid buttermilk INSTEAD OF the buttermilk powder and 3/4 cup water. Add the buttermilk with the wet ingredients as described below.

Another easy substitution for buttermilk is to place 1 teaspoon of either white vinegar or lemon juice in a cup. Mix in enough regular milk to make 3/4 cup of total liquid (milk plus vinegar). Stir to combine, then let the mixture sit for a minute or so (it will thicken a bit). Again, you'd omit the buttermilk powder and 3/4 cup of water if you did it this way. Add the milk-vinegar mixture with the wet ingredients as described below.



- 3 Bake per your donut maker's instructions, or until the donuts feel slightly firm to the touch. My donut maker has a light that turns green when the donuts are done.

These can get very hot, so be careful when taking the donuts out of the donut maker.

- 4 Remove the donuts from the donut maker. be careful when taking

- 5 Place the donuts on a wire wrack to cool. Ensure the donuts cool completely before icing.

- 6 To make the chocolate icing: Combine the chocolate chips and heavy cream in a microwave-safe bowl.

- 7 Heat for 45 seconds then remove from the microwave and stir with a fork (or use a whisk), mixing until the icing is shiny, smooth and creamy.

- 8 If the chocolate chips aren't melted enough after stirring (you still see chunks of chocolate), heat for another 10-15 seconds then stir again.



- 9 After the donuts are cool, dip the top of each one in the warm icing.

- 10 Place the iced donuts back on the wire wrack to allow the frosting to set (or you can just devour them at this point!).

**NOTE:** If you don't have a donut maker, simply use a muffin pan.



- 6 Add the chocolate chips. I guess I should have named these Chocolate-Chocolate Chip Donuts, huh?

- 7 Use a whisk to mix all of the dry ingredients together. Or, you can use a fork.

In a separate mixing bowl, mix together the wet ingredients:

- 1 Place the eggs, water, vanilla extract, and melted butter into the bowl; stir to combine. Note: after melting the butter, let it sit for a minute or so to cool slightly.

- 2 Spoon the batter into the wells of your pre-heated donut maker, filling according to manufacturer's instructions. I use a small cookie scoop to fill my donut maker with about 2 tablespoons of batter. My donut maker has a non-stick surface; if yours is not non-stick, spray each donut well with butter-flavored cooking spray.

# A Taste of Guam

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Located on the second floor of The Plaza Shopping Center, Tumon

RESTAURANT INFO



# STARS AND STRIPES®

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GUAM EDITION

stripes.com

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 7, 2020



## Hungry for hope

Watchdog agency says millions of Afghans will struggle to buy food this year **Page 2**

Lena, 7, waits with her mother to receive food from the UN World Food Program in Kabul, Afghanistan. A third of the country's population may go hungry this winter, according to a SIGAR report.

J.P. LAWRENCE/Stars and Stripes



## COVER STORY

# Agency: Third of Afghans might go hungry

By J.P. LAWRENCE  
Stars and Stripes

KABUL, Afghanistan — Food bought by the U.S. and other United Nations donors was distributed to thousands of people on the outskirts of Kabul, ahead of a Jan. 31 report by a U.S. watchdog agency that a third of Afghanistan's population might go hungry this year.

Hundreds of people lined up — men on one side, women on the other — and waited for their names to be called so they could receive food for their families.

One girl in line, Lena, 7, clung to her mother, Nadia, 30.

As Lena waited, her father, a day laborer, was at the market trying to find work. Most days he comes home empty-handed, Nadia said, and the family of eight has been hungry all winter.

They are among more than 11 million people who will struggle to afford food this year, the report by the Special Inspector General for Afghanistan Reconstruction said.

The U.S. has allotted \$87 million to the U.N. World Food Program for upcoming emergency food distribution and fighting child malnutrition.

This funding buys items such as wheat, cooking oil and split peas, which was distributed to about 14,000 people in the Afghan capital area Jan. 30, said Zlatan Milisic, country director for WFP in Afghanistan.

The goal is to help 6.7 million people throughout 2020, a joint report by WFP and other humanitarian groups said.

“Conflict and last year's drought continue to affect many rural communities,” Milisic said, “and often poor families in the cities struggle to (get) by as day laborers, or by sending their children to beg or collect trash in the streets.”

Unemployment and high food prices also contribute to hunger in the country, the SIGAR report said.

The U.S. has provided \$2.3 billion in agricultural aid since 2002 to help Afghan farmers grow more food and help the country become less dependent on foreign funding, SIGAR said.

Despite these efforts, hunger has increased in recent years. For the first time in a decade, the majority of Afghans said they were struggling to afford food in 2018, a Gallup survey said in August.

The U.S. “clearly failed to deliver on its objectives,” wrote Adam Pain, professor from the Swedish University of Agricultural Science, Uppsala, in a report last year.

U.S. efforts need to “move beyond a focus on production” for farmers and address how poverty means few in Afghanistan can afford the food grown there, the report said.

Afghan agriculture requires “strong state support and rising demand ... and Afghanistan's urban poverty is such that there is no demand,” Pain said in an email.

The families receiving food had their own ideas for solving the nation's hunger pangs.

Mastoor, a young woman receiving food for a family of eight, said the country



PHOTOS BY J.P. LAWRENCE/Stars and Stripes

An aid worker hefts a 100-pound bag of wheat to be distributed by the United Nations World Food Program in Kabul, Afghanistan. A third of the country's population may go hungry this winter, the U.S. Special Inspector General for Afghanistan Reconstruction reported.

## FRUITLESS ENDEAVOR?

Despite \$2.3 billion in agricultural aid from the U.S. since 2002 to help Afghan farmers grow more food and help the country become less dependent on foreign funding, hunger has increased in recent years. For the first time in a decade, the majority of Afghans said they were struggling to afford food in 2018, according to a Gallup survey in August.

SOURCE: Stars and Stripes

must tackle obstacles to women working.

“If there is work and all men and women can work, there won't be poverty,” she said.

Another person in line, Mohammad Naeem, an elderly jobless man with 21 people in his family, echoed a familiar refrain in Afghanistan: end the war.

“If there is peace then our government will open factories, people will work there and will have salaries,” Naeem said. “They won't suffer anymore then.”

Zubair Babakarkhail contributed to this report.  
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“If there is peace then our government will open factories, people will work there and will have salaries. They won't suffer anymore then.”

Mohammad Naeem  
elderly jobless man with 21 people in his family



Farmers ride donkeys as they bring farming goods along a paved road into Baharak in remote Badakhshan province July 14.



## MILITARY

# Navy deploys 2 Tritons to Guam for debut

BY SETH ROBSON  
*Stars and Stripes*

The Navy's largest unmanned aerial vehicle deployed for the first time to the Pacific, where it will conduct intelligence, surveillance and reconnaissance missions.

Two MQ-4C Tritons — maritime versions of the Air Force RQ-4 Global Hawk — arrived at Andersen Air Force Base, Guam, the Navy said in a statement Jan. 26 after the second aircraft touched down.

The Tritons, and two others scheduled to be on Guam by 2021, will be flown by the Navy's first dedicated drone squadron, Unmanned Patrol Squadron 19, which will focus on honing the skills needed to operate the high-tech planes, the statement said.

The Tritons will complement P-8A Poseidon surveillance planes and bring increased persistence, capability and capacity through their multi-sensor mission payloads, the Navy statement said.

The drones provide real-time intelligence, surveillance and reconnaissance over vast ocean and coastal regions, Northrop



RYAN BROOKS/U.S. Air Force

**An MQ-4C Triton unmanned aircraft taxis after landing at Andersen Air Force Base, Guam, for a deployment on Jan. 12.**

Grumman states on its website.

"The aircraft can fly over 24 hours at a time, at altitudes higher than 10 miles, with an operational range of 8,200 nautical miles," the website states.

The Triton looks like the RQ-

4B Global Hawks that the Air Force already flies out of Guam; however, the resemblance is only skin deep.

The front edges of a Triton's wings are toughened to withstand bird strikes, and its elec-

tronics are designed to withstand power surges from lightning. Tritons also have stiffer wings that allow them to dive below 10,000 feet to get a closer look at targets floating on the water, according to the Navy.

The Tritons on Guam will fall under Task Force 72, the lead command for patrol, reconnaissance and surveillance forces in 7th Fleet, the Navy said.

"The introduction of MQ-4C Triton to the Seventh Fleet area of operations expands the reach of the U.S. Navy's maritime patrol and reconnaissance force in the Western Pacific," said Capt. Matt Rutherford, the task force commander. "Coupling the capabilities of the MQ-4C with the proven performance of P-8, P-3 and EP-3 will enable improved maritime domain awareness in support of regional and national security objectives."

The inaugural deployment of Triton to Guam also brings enhanced capabilities to forward fleet commanders, Rear Adm. Peter Garvin, commander of 7th Fleet's patrol and reconnaissance group, said in the statement.

The Navy's first dedicated drone squadron is "superbly trained" and ready to provide the persistent intelligence, surveillance and reconnaissance the Navy needs, he said.

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## Guam-based US airmen join effort to fight massive fires in Australia

BY SETH ROBSON  
*Stars and Stripes*

The U.S. Air Force has joined a multinational effort to battle massive bushfires in Australia.

Two five-person cargo load teams from the 36th Contingency Response Group at Andersen Air Force Base, Guam, arrived Jan. 26, according to the Australian Department of Defence.

The U.S. Embassy in Canberra announced the deployment of another 90 civilian personnel in addition to more than 200 U.S. Forest Service and Department of the Interior wildland fire staff battling blazes in the Australian

states of New South Wales and Victoria.

The fires, burning for months, have blackened an area more than 40,000 square miles and have claimed 31 lives, The Associated Press reported.

Three U.S. military veteran firefighters were killed when a C-130 Hercules air tanker operated by a Canadian company crashed while battling bushfires last month in Australia.

Australia's Minister for Defence, Sen. Linda Reynolds, said the latest deployment builds on training conducted under the bilateral Enhanced Air Cooperation program.

"We are deeply saddened by the loss of three American firefighters who were helping Australia, far from their own homes, and who had previously served their country in the U.S. military," she said.

"The assistance provided by the U.S. military to Operation Bushfire Assist is a reminder of the rich history of cooperation that exists between our two nations."

Troops from Australia, New Zealand and Singapore have been assisting in the response to the disaster.

In January, personnel at Nellis Air Force Base, Nev., assisted the Royal Australian Air Force



JAMES MAY/U.S. Air Force

**Members from the 36th Contingency Response Group from Andersen Air Force Base, Guam, seen here in 2018, joined the multinational efforts to fight Australia's bushfires.**

with transporting fire retardant to Australia on a RAAF C 17A Globemaster, according to the

Australian statement.

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## Commissary spending cap back in South Korea

BY KIM GAMEL  
*Stars and Stripes*

SEOUL, South Korea — The U.S. military has reimposed monthly commissary purchase limits in South Korea, less than a month after a retiree was banned from bases over black marketing allegations.

The new policy, effective as of Jan. 23, means that commissary shoppers will again be limited to \$800 for the main sponsor and \$300 for additional family members per month. Anybody who needs to spend more must request an exception from squadron or battalion commanders.

The decision was based on purchasing trends showing that most authorized shop-

pers stayed "well below" the limits since the purchasing cap was lifted in September, U.S. Forces Korea said Tuesday in announcing the decision on social media.

"It has been determined that reinstating the cap will have little or no effect to the majority of authorized individuals meeting their monthly purchasing needs," it said.

USFK said the purchase limits are necessary "to deter black marketing and the abuse of duty-free privileges" and provide commanders with a "useful tool for identifying potential violations."

USFK provided no further details. However, a U.S. military retiree was banned from bases in South Korea for 10 years

earlier this month "for excessive purchasing of duty-free goods and black marketing," officials said at the time.

That cast a shadow over measures to ease shopping restrictions, which were implemented in September as USFK tries to make South Korea a more attractive assignment.

In September, the military also lifted entry ID checks at commissaries and post exchanges so anybody could enter, although shoppers are still required to show purchasing authorization at the cash register.

Service members, their families and other Americans working for the government may shop tax-free in commissaries

and exchanges.

The military has had problems with goods purchased from base facilities being resold on the local market.

In one of the most notorious cases, a store manager and a South Korean businessman were convicted in 2003 of smuggling some 62,000 cases of wine and beer through a tunnel dug under a U.S. military housing compound in Seoul.

Some 28,500 U.S. service members are stationed in South Korea, which remains technically at war with the North after the 1950-53 Korean War ended in an armistice instead of a peace treaty.

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## MILITARY

# Okinawa Marines laud new metal 3D printer

By MATTHEW M. BURKE  
*Stars and Stripes*

CAMP KINSER, Okinawa — Members of the III Marine Expeditionary Force now have a cutting-edge metal 3D printer they say will pay dividends in cost and efficiency when it comes to manufacturing vehicle or weapon parts in the Indo-Pacific region.

The Markforged Metal X 3D printer arrived at the 3rd Maintenance Battalion shop at Camp Kinser piece by piece, finally becoming operational in December, Marine officials said. Using spools of powdered stainless steel, tool steel and nickel alloy, it can simultaneously produce multiple metal parts that would be otherwise difficult to machine or cast.

III MEF is the first expeditionary force to receive one of the \$150,000 machines, said 3rd Marine Logistics Group spokeswoman 1st Lt. Tori Sharpe.

The printer is expected to free up Marines who would otherwise spend hours carving parts out of blocks of metal, save money on waste and avoid the downtime associated with ordering parts from the United States.

Plastic 3D printers “are great for prototyping, but where they fall short is, it’s very few [finished] components that they’re able to produce,” said shop foreman Staff Sgt. Quincy Reynolds, 36, of Baltimore.

Reynolds said plastic 3D printers have been in the fleet for only four or five years.

“Whereas with our new metal 3D printer, that opens up a whole new world for us,” he said. “This piece of equipment is able to save

time with the multiple prints and then you’re able to have a completed [piece] ... that does not need any machining.”

Reynolds’ shop has 12 Marines who spend their days repairing components for vehicles and weapon systems for all III MEF units, he said. This can mean milling parts out of blocks of metal, which can be both wasteful and time consuming.

This process, known as subtractive manufacturing, often requires multiple tool changes and the dedicated attention of at least one Marine working on a single piece for eight to 12 hours at a time. One miscalculation and the entire process must start over.

The Metal X 3D printer can print multiple pieces at the same time, Reynolds said. Once a Marine makes sure the print’s base layers are correct at the outset, it can be left alone to finish the job, freeing up that Marine. There is also little to no waste.

Marines can now take on as many as four projects at a time, Reynolds said.

With the Metal X, Marines can design their own parts for printing in a computer-aided design program called SolidWorks or download approved blueprints from the Marine Corps system, Reynolds said.

The printer comes in three separate stations, Reynolds said. The first is the printer itself, which prints metal objects as large as 13 inches square and bound in plastic on a build plate. The next stage is a wash-and-dry station, which soaks the printed piece in liquid argon to remove the plastic support filament.

The final station is a 290-cubic-inch, coil-heated furnace,



PHOTOS BY MATT BURKE/Stars and Stripes

**Marine Staff Sgt. Quincy Reynolds of the III Marine Expeditionary Force’s 3rd Maintenance Battalion shows off the furnace for the unit’s new Markforged Metal X 3D printer at Camp Kinser, Okinawa, last month.**

Reynolds said. The pieces cook for as long as 27 hours at up to 2,700 degrees Fahrenheit and are infused with gases that solidify the metal. Some finished products can even be welded.

The only drawback to the Metal X is the furnace size, Reynolds said, which is about half of the printer capacity. He said plans are already in the works to upgrade to a larger furnace.

The battalion’s goal is to be able to print or manufacture any metal part that III MEF needs,

Reynolds said. Thus far, they have made gauges for .50-caliber machine guns, sockets for wrenches and a piece to test weapon optics at the armory.

They hope to expand their portfolio in the days to come.

“We’re asking units, ‘Hey, just give us a problem. Let us figure out the solution for you,’” he said. “Right now, the sky is the limit honestly with this printer. If you can think of it, we can literally do it.”

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Twitter: @MatthewMBurke1



**Reynolds holds a .50 caliber machine gun gauge made by their new metal 3D printer.**

# Marines honored for saving mom, daughters

By CHAD GARLAND  
*Stars and Stripes*

Four Marines who saved a woman and her two daughters from a dangerous rip tide over Father’s Day weekend in 2018 were recognized Jan. 28 for their heroism.

Cpl. Austin McMullen, Cpl. Timothy R. Watson, Sgt. Anders K. Larson and Staff Sgt. Leary K. Reichartwarfel each received the Navy and Marine Corps Medal in a ceremony at Marine Corps Air Station Cherry Point, N.C., for putting their own lives in danger to save Ali Joy and her twin girls.

The Marines had been enjoying a day at North Carolina’s Atlantic Beach on June 15, 2018, when a woman came up and “told us that she thought that there was somebody out in the water that needed help,” recalled McMullen in a Marine Corps video. “I just remember the only thing that I said was, ‘Where?’” McMullen swam 150 yards



WILLIAM L. HOLDAWAY/U.S. Marine Corps

**Staff Sgt. Leary Reichartwarfel, left, Sgt. Anders Larson, Cpl. Austin McMullen, and Cpl. Timothy Watson pose for a photo with the family they saved after receiving the Navy and Marine Corps Medal aboard Marine Corps Air Station Cherry Point, N.C., on Jan. 28.**

through dangerous surf to reach Ali Joy and her two 7-year-old daughters, said a citation read during the ceremony. Two Marines stabilized the mother and girls on a surfboard, saving them

from drowning, another citation said.

The rescuers also pulled the father of the family, Charles Joy Jr., 48, out of the water but he later died in a hospital, the

Carteret County News-Times reported.

Ali Joy and her husband had run into the water after noticing the girls were being pulled too far out into the ocean, the mother said in a Marine Corps statement about a month after the incident.

“I got out to the girls and I couldn’t touch (the bottom), the waves were breaking over us,” she said. “My girls were panicking and I was having trouble staying afloat.”

When the Marines reached them, one of them shouted to “float on our back,” Ali Joy recalled.

After the incident, she started a foundation called Float Don’t Fight, aimed at educating people on how to survive rip currents and tides or help someone caught in them.

“The human instinct is to fight, to struggle, but you need to float,” she was quoted saying in the 2018 Marine statement.

Ali Joy was able to thank her rescuers last August during a

national lifeguard competition in Virginia Beach, Va., where three of them were recognized for their heroism. “They did not think twice about risking their lives,” she said on local TV.

The military award they received this week is the Navy’s “highest peacetime decoration for heroism,” Maj. Gen. Karsten Heckl, commander of the Cherry Point-based 2nd Marine Aircraft Wing, said during the ceremony.

While it isn’t solely awarded for actions that involve saving a life, when it is, “the action must have been performed at the risk of one’s own life,” eligibility requirements state.

The award “means more than the individual receiving it,” McMullen said. “I’m humbly honored to be a part of something that can reach the eyes and the ears of other people and maybe serve as an inspiration.”

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## PACIFIC

# Experts: Duterte's threat to end US agreement could hurt alliance

BY SETH ROBSON  
Stars and Stripes

Philippine President Rodrigo Duterte's latest anti-American rant could do real damage to the longtime Pacific allies' defense relationship, some security experts say.

Duterte, who began his term in 2016 by insulting U.S. leaders and stating his intention to move closer to China and Russia, threatened to terminate the Visiting Forces Agreement that governs the deployment of U.S. troops to his country.

The U.S. Embassy in Manila declined to comment on the issue.

But Jeffrey Ordaniel, assistant professor of international security studies at Tokyo International University, said in an email from Manila that all military exercises in the Philippines would have to be reviewed and likely need a new legal framework to back them up if Duterte follows through on his threat.

"Washington will also [be] less likely to continue to commit to Philippine defense in the South China Sea, given that there was no way for its troops to be in Filipino territory," he said.

U.S. counterterrorism assistance, which might also be impacted, is irreplaceable, according to Patricio Abinales, a Philippines expert at the University of Hawaii.

Duterte's threat to terminate the agreement came in response to the U.S. revoking its visa for one of his closest political allies, Sen. Ronald "Bato" Dela Rosa. Thousands of extrajudicial killings took place during a bloody drug war while Dela Rosa was chief of the Philippines National Police from 2016-18.

## Duterte's threat

"I'm warning you. This is the first time," Duterte said in a speech Jan. 23, according to the Philippine Daily Inquirer newspaper. "If you do not correct that, I will terminate the basis of Visiting Forces Agreement."

A day later, broadcaster Russia Today aired an interview in which Duterte said the U.S. sees his country as "a vassal state."

"America is not the Philippines and the Philippines is not America. It ain't that way anymore, and I refuse to dovetail under American foreign policy," he said. "I cannot get a credible posture from the Americans; I can get it from the Russians and China."

The comments mark a return to the anti-American rhetoric that Duterte favored early in his term when he insulted then-President Barack Obama and called for the withdrawal of U.S. Special Forces from Mindanao and the end of bilateral military exercises.

U.S.-Philippines relations had appeared warmer under the administration of President Donald Trump. American officials have refrained from public criticism of the drug war and military exercises have continued. U.S. Army Green Berets helped Philippine troops win a bloody battle against Islamic insurgents who had captured the southern city of Marawi in 2017.

However, there appears to have been only minimal progress under an agreement for shared use of Philippine military bases by U.S. forces.

Duterte has declined to challenge Chinese occupation of disputed territory in the South China Sea, even after an international court ruled in the Philippines' favor. He scrapped plans

for joint U.S.-Philippine patrols and naval exercises in the waters early in his term.

It's unclear how termination of the Visiting Forces Agreement, which includes guidelines on visas and jurisdiction over crimes committed by American troops, might affect the U.S.-Philippines military relationship.

However, it might impact large-scale annual exercises such as Balikatan and Kamandag, and U.S. support for counterterrorism efforts and assistance during natural disasters such as Typhoon Haiyan, which prompted the deployment of a U.S. aircraft carrier and thousands of personnel to help with relief efforts in 2013.

The Philippines and U.S. are allies under the 1951 Mutual Defense Treaty, which mandates both countries support each other in case of an external aggression.

## 'Game of chicken'

Abinales said Duterte is playing a "game of chicken" and the Visiting Forces Agreement would probably not be terminated.

Ordaniel said he expects the Philippine military establishment is trying to save the agreement.

"Duterte's term expires in 2022. There is still hope that reason will prevail and that Manila can find a face-saving way to not follow through with the president's pronouncements," he said. "But there are those surrounding the president who, instead of advising him on the course of action most beneficial to Filipino interest, will instead kowtow and downplay the negative impact of [ending] the VFA," he said.

Without an agreement, conducting operations under the



SETH ROBSON/Stars and Stripes

**The latest anti-American remarks by Philippine President Rodrigo Duterte, shown here in 2017, could do real damage to the longtime Pacific allies' defense relationship, according to security experts.**

alliance becomes difficult, for example, during contingencies in the South China Sea, Ordaniel said.

"It will be virtually impossible for the U.S. to preposition troops, defense equipment and [humanitarian and disaster assistance] supplies without a VFA," he said.

The U.S. could lose a longterm opportunity to deter the Chinese in the South China Sea, he said.

"Beijing will certainly be happy with this," Ordaniel said. "One of the very few options available for the U.S. to influence China's behavior in the South China Sea, long-term, is to work with its alliance with the Philippines. It's difficult to deter China in maritime Southeast Asia from

Guam, Okinawa or Darwin. They're simply too far away."

It's unlikely that the Philippine military establishment was consulted ahead of Duterte's speech, Ordaniel said.

"Duterte has proven to be an inconsistent and misinformed leader who, on many occasions, does not act or speak on the basis of facts, proven statistics, or intelligence information," he said.

"This episode demonstrates that four years into the presidency, Duterte's parochial concerns and whims still prevail over the Philippines' long-term national interest."

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# Philippines retires ship used by US in Korean War

BY THERON GODBOLD  
Stars and Stripes

The Philippine Navy has decommissioned a former U.S. minesweeper that was built during World War II and earned five battle stars in the Korean War.

The corvette BRP Rizal was retired Jan. 29 by the Philippines as part of a move to save money on maintenance costs and to make way for new ships, according to the Philippine Daily Inquirer newspaper. It is among several "aging vessels" that Philippine Vice Adm. Robert Empedrad said are being removed from service.

"It's the only way to move forward," he was quoted as saying. "We have to retire [these] ships so we can man our new ships."

The Rizal began life in August 1944 at the Savannah Machine and Foundry Co. in Georgia. Commissioned the USS Murrelet one year later, it arrived at Sasebo



U.S. Navy

**The USS Murrelet earned five battle stars during the Korean War.**

Naval Base, Japan, in January 1946, according to Naval History and Heritage Command.

After operating around Japan and

Korea, the Auk-class minesweeper was mothballed in the Pacific Reserve Fleet at San Diego for several years before returning to service in October 1950 after the Korean War began.

For the next three years, the Murrelet shuttled between Yokosuka Naval Base in Japan and Korea, where it resumed its former duties as a minesweeper and a patrol craft.

It earned its battle stars by destroying shore-based artillery batteries and capturing or destroying enemy sampans, small wooden vessels converted to wartime use for laying mines and other tasks.

After the war, it returned to the West Coast, where it was again assigned to the Pacific Reserve Fleet. The Murrelet was retired from the Navy for good in 1964.

However, the ship still had life left. In June 1965, it was sent to the Philippines under the U.S. Foreign Military Assistance Program and renamed the BRP Rizal.

During its nearly 55 years with the Philippine Navy, the Rizal and its crew sometimes paired up in naval exercises with the ship's previous owner. It took part in Cooperation Afloat Readiness and Training, or CARAT, in 2005 and again in 2011.

The Rizal also had run-ins with the Chinese in the South China Sea, where the Philippines and China sometimes clash over conflicting territorial claims.

In May 1999, it collided with a Chinese fishing vessel off the Scarborough Shoal, drawing a protest from Beijing, which lays claim to the shoal.

In 2011, the Rizal again collided with a Chinese-flagged vessel towing 25 sampans near the Recto Bank within the Philippine exclusive economic zone. The Chinese vessel retreated, leaving behind the sampans, which the Rizal then towed back to Palawan province.

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## MILITARY



THERON GODBOLD/Stars and Stripes

Master Sgt. Brent Fallon of the 374th Civil Engineer Squadron speaks beside a bulldozer displayed inside Nina Circle at Yokota Air Base, Japan, on Jan. 24

## Yellow bulldozer honors Air Force civil engineers at Yokota Air Base

By SETH ROBSON  
Stars and Stripes

YOKOTA AIR BASE, Japan — Air Force engineers at the home of U.S. Forces Japan in western Tokyo marked their territory recently by parking a 6.4-ton bulldozer in the middle of a prominent on-base roundabout.

“This is a statement to showcase civil engineers and let everybody know where we are,” said Master Sgt. Brent Fallon, a heavy equipment operator and section chief for Yokota’s 374th Civil Engineer Squadron.

The yellow John Deere 850J bulldozer was placed on the roundabout in December to help guide people to the engineer compound across the street.

“If you’re looking for us you can find us next to the big bulldozer,” he said.

Nina Circle, as the roundabout is known, was previously home to the Nina II, an F-86F Sabre aircraft gifted to the base by the Japan Air Self-De-

fense Force to honor 5th Air Force pilots who flew the fighters in the Korean War. The jet was relocated to the front of USFJ headquarters in 2012.

The bulldozer that took its place has a maximum speed of 5 miles per hour and is one of four operated by the squadron, said Fallon, 30, of Wichita, Kan. The machine is standard equipment for the engineers, whose mission involves making sure Yokota’s runways are in working order.

“Our main contingency mission is to keep the airfield operational if there is any damage to it,” he said.

A closeup look at the massive yellow beast reveals that the gasmask-wearing airman in the driver’s seat is just a mannequin.

The engineers train to restore the airfield wearing the sort of protective equipment that they’d need to operate after an attack with weapons of mass destruction, Fallon said.

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# IG: Flaws found in reporting of sealift ships’ readiness

By JOHN VANDIVER  
Stars and Stripes

The Military Sealift Command inaccurately reported the readiness of reserve transport ships, which are crucial for moving large volumes of combat gear in a crisis, a report by the Defense Department Inspector General has found.

The flawed reporting of surge sealift ship readiness means that commanders could base crisis decision-making and planning on bad information, the IG said in a report released on Jan. 24.

“As a result of the MSC’s inaccurate ship readiness reporting, the [U.S. Transportation Command] assessment of surge sealift capability was unreliable and could lead geographic combatant commanders to make incorrect assumptions about the initial availability of equipment and resupply of critical items,” the report said.

Surge sealift provides 90% of cargo space needed to meet combatant commanders’ operational plan requirements, the report said. In the event of a large conflict, the fleet would likely be called upon to move weaponry and supplies.

“The inability of a single ship to perform its mission could result in an armored brigade combat team’s equipment not being delivered when expected,” the IG said.

The U.S.’ aging transport fleet has been an area of growing concern for the military, particularly as it focuses on threats posed by China and Russia.

About 60 government-owned transport ships are part of the military’s sealift reserves. In September, dozens of those ships were ordered to sea to determine if reserve transport vessels were able to respond on short notice. U.S. Transportation Command, which launched the “Turbo Activation” drill, said in a report afterward that only about 40% of the ships had left port without issues.

The inaccuracies in reporting the seaworthiness of reserve ships may have arisen from MSC not having sufficient procedures in place to ensure accurate inspection reports, the IG said.

Part of the problem was that, while MSC officials relied on captains to assess their ships, the



JENNIFER HUNT/U.S. Navy

**The roll-on/roll-off vessel USNS Gilliland participates in a group sail during Turbo Activation in September. The Defense Department Inspector General said in a report that Military Sea Lift Command inaccurately reported the readiness of reserve transport ships.**

findings were never verified or reconciled with other records.

Much of the IG report was redacted, including sections that provided a detailed breakdown of which ships weren’t available because of deficiencies. However, the IG found “32 instances in which the MSC or U.S. Coast Guard inspectors identified major or no-sail deficiencies that required Category 4 casualty reports,” which means an equipment failure was found.

Between 2017 and 2018, MSC inaccurately reported the readiness of 15 of its ships, the IG said.

The Defense Department spent \$477.8 million between 2016 and 2018 on maintenance and repairs for 35 Maritime Administration surge sealift ships, and plans to spend an additional \$843.9 million through 2022, “without verification that the surge sealift ships are being maintained at the levels expected and will be mission ready when required,” the IG said.

The Maritime Administration, which maintains the National Defense Reserve Fleet, should standardize criteria for ship assessments and develop a plan to verify readiness, the IG recommended.

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**“The inability of a single ship to perform its mission could result in an armored brigade combat team’s equipment not being delivered when expected.”**

Defense Department Inspector General’s report

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