FISC Yokosuka Marine 'hits the beach' in Timor-Leste

By H. Sam Samuelson,
FISC Office of Corporate Communication

A small but elite contingent of six U.S. Marines at U.S. Fleet and Industrial Supply Center (FISC) Yokosuka helped equip the Sailors and Marines on *USS Bonhomme Richard* (LHD 6) for their mission to deliver foreign humanitarian aid in Timor-Leste recently.

FISC Yokosuka Marine Liaison Officer in Charge Capt. Aaron Warby said his team's logistics mission started with an "age-old" Marine Corps tradition: hitting the beach. "We wanted to ensure that the *Bonhomme Richard* mission – providing humanitarian aid, building schools, and giving medical and dental care – was supported with the equipment they needed when they needed it, where they needed it," said Warby.

Warby was dispatched to Timor-Leste as part of a FISC Yokosuka "operationalization" culture, which ensures logistics management experts are closely tied with fleet customers, in this case, ships with the *Bonhomme Richard* Amphibious Ready Group providing humanitarian assistance in Indonesia and Timor-Leste.

"It's known as logistics integration," Warby said. "I went to Indonesia to be a link between the Navy and Marines doing good things for the indigenous population in the area, and the source for the equipment they would need to provide a full range of humanitarian assistance."

The role Warby was in is typically that of a Supply Corps lieutenant. But with *Bonhomme Richard* – an amphibious assault ship as a primary benefactor to the people of Timor-Leste – and as the Marine liaison officer in charge at FISC Yokosuka – Warby was a natural nod to get the assignment.

"And, really, when it comes to logistics management, whether Navy or Marine Corps, the concept of logistics integration doesn't recognize the uniform, just the support," Warby said. "For me this was an opportunity to demonstrate that logistics is logistics; it's not that different, no matter what uniform you wear."

However, with the exception of a history of swift field logistics and supply, introduction of a Marine Corps element to what has historically been Navy logistics management at the FISC level is a relatively new initiative that adds a "USMC" dimension to logistics support.

FISC Yokosuka is the only one among seven FISCs around the world to employ a U.S. Marine Corps Liaison Office.

For example, in Warby's case, it certainly didn't hurt that the 10-year Marine Corps veteran had deployed to Indonesia before – during a period of civil unrest.

"Back in 2000, I was with the 15th MEU (Marine Expeditionary Unit) aboard *USS Tarawa* (LHA 1). We deployed to Indonesia during East Timor's fight for independence as a contingency to ensure the protection of U.S interests," Warby said. "I remember the region as a war-torn area.

"When I flew in [for this mission], I flew over farms, fields and thatched-roof huts," Warby said. "It was peaceful country side."

Timor-Leste's nationhood was declared in 2002 and the country is recognized as the first new country of the millennium.

Both Indonesia and Timor-Leste are challenged by economic impoverishment and, often bear the brunt of Western Pacific typhoons and other natural disasters. Warby says it's in the nature of Marines to lend a hand – anywhere in the world.

"You know, as Marines, we are primarily trained to fight and win; but that's not the whole of our culture," Warby said. "The better part of who we are as Marines is demonstrating the value of a representative democracy and helping others shares the gift of basic human freedoms."

(Right) Lt. Stephen Zanoni conducts a medical interview with a patient during a medical civic action program in Timor-Leste Oct 16. FISC Yokosuka Marines recently helped equip Sailors and Marines on *USS Bonhomme Richard* (LHD 6) for their mission to deliver foreign humanitarian aid in Timor-Leste.
U.S. Navy photo by Lt. j.g. Timothy Hawkins

According to Warby, providing humanitarian aid is a large part of that effort.

"Of course, it doesn't hurt that, as a Marine, I was supporting fellow Marines over there," he said. "All of us in the USMC Liaison Office are proud of that, but, in the end, Navy or Marine Corps, we're one team, one fight."

Sailor shares holiday spending tips

Story and photo by Blake Vives,
CFAY Public Affairs

The new U.S. Fleet and Industrial Supply Center (FISC) Yokosuka command financial adviser steps into the spotlight providing timely holiday spending advice for everyone.

"The biggest thing about the holidays is to have a budget and a spending plan and stick to it," said FISC Yokosuka Command Financial Adviser Logistics Specialist 1st Class (AW) Tony Scales. "I have a handout on the [FISC] customer service counter for anyone who comes by; it is available to help you track your holiday expenses; all you have to do is fill it out and it will help keep you from spending outside your means.

"Similar plans can be found anywhere online but the most important thing is to set a limit on your spending," he added.

Scales advises to always budget and spend well within your plan when buying gifts for the holidays.

"Don't always bank on that spring tax return because it may not be what you think it will," said Scales. "So, stick to spending what you have."

With the recent evolution of "Cyber Monday," (numerous online retailers offering bargains the Monday after Thanksgiving) it can be tempting to shop online for the holidays.

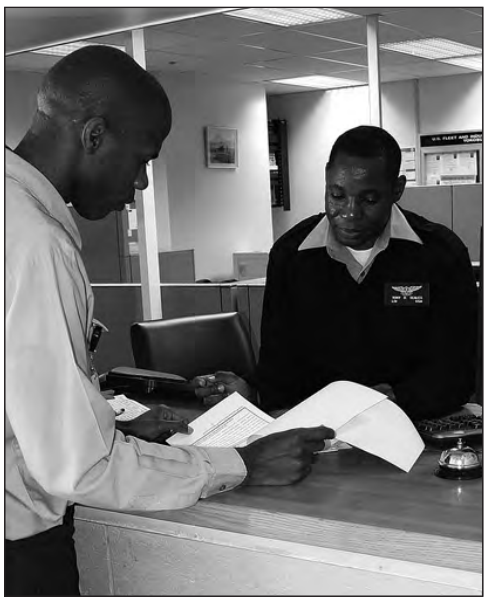
"Online shopping is great; just be aware and know the indicators of a scam," said Scales. "Never reply to an unsolicited e-mail trying to sell you something; look for the lock icon in your web browser which shows you are on a secure website; make sure to actually read the conditions and terms you agree to so you aren't caught up in an item that has a recurring charge."

The internet can provide Yokosuka Base residents with access to stores and products they might not otherwise have.

"As far as holiday spending, in Japan the exchange is only going to get you so far and a lot of people will shop online, but that is where all of the people who want to steal your identity or your credit line are waiting," Scales said. "There are scams built on top of scams and scams built on top of legitimate Web sites; just be aware."

Scales wants to make himself available to the entire command for financial advise.

"You can always come and see me and I will show you the indicators of possible online scams and help you be more aware," he said. "As the new financial adviser I think the command needs to know who I am, where to find me [at the customer service office] and come to see me before there is a problem so they can be proactive rather than reactive."



(Left) LS1 (SW/AW) Dale Crawford stops by the FISC Customer Service Office for holiday spending tips from the new Command Financial Adviser LS1 (AW) Tony Scales.

NAVSUP

Holiday mailing appointments

By Blake Vives,
CFAY Public Affairs

The post office is now accepting appointments for customers mailing four or more packages during the holiday season.

Customers with appointments will be assisted immediately upon their timely arrival.

Appointments are limited and may only be scheduled from now through Dec. 18. No appointments are scheduled on Saturdays or Sundays.

Boxes must be properly packed and wrapped and customs forms filled out completely before the appointment.

Feel free to browse www.usps.com for weight and size limits and approximate value for postage for domestic and international mail.

Payment methods accepted include; cash, checks, or credit card (Visa, MasterCard and Discover).

For more information or to make an appointment contact:

For Yokosuka:
LS1 Roll or LS1 Andrews
243-9740/ 5486

For Ikego:
LS2 Schrum
246-8024/ 8051

For Negishi:
LS3 Smith
242-4114

HOLIDAY MAILING DEADLINES

NAVSUP FISC YOKOSUKA

To ensure delivery of holiday cards and packages by Dec. 25 mail by dates below:

- Parcel Airlift Mail	Dec. 4
- First Class Mail (letters/cards less than 13 oz.)	Dec. 11
- Priority Mail (more than 13 oz.)	Dec. 11
- Express Mail (military service)	Dec. 18

Ready. Resourceful. Responsive!