

## 2013 Secretary of Defense Environmental Awards Environmental Quality Awards

Each year since 1962, the Department of Defense has honored individuals, teams, and installations for their outstanding achievements and innovative environmental practices and partnerships that promote the quality of life and increase efficiencies without compromising mission success. A panel of judges with relevant expertise, education, or experience from federal and state agencies, academia, and the public evaluated each of the nominees to select winners of the nine categories that cover six subject areas: sustainability; environmental quality; environmental excellence in weapon system acquisition; natural resources conservation; environmental restoration; and cultural resources management. As structured since Fiscal Year 2009, some of the awards within these categories are on a two-year cycle with large/small and non-industrial/industrial installations competing in alternate years.

### About the Environmental Quality Category

In 2013, the Environmental Quality category covered awards for both industrial installations and overseas installations. These awards recognize efforts to ensure mission accomplishment and protection of human health in the areas of environmental planning, waste management, and safe drinking water. The 2013 winner of the Environmental Quality, Installation award is the *78th Civil Engineer Group, Robins Air Force Base, Georgia* and the winner of the Environmental Quality, Overseas installation award is *Marine Corps Base Camp Smedley D. Butler, Japan*.

### About the 78<sup>th</sup> Civil Engineer Group, Robins Air Force Base, Georgia

Robins Air Force Base (Robins AFB) is the largest industrial facility in the State of Georgia, with an annual \$4.5 billion economic impact across the state. Personnel from Robins AFB, along with the greater community of central Georgia, make up Team Robins, which created a model program for the Department of Defense through their commitment to environmental excellence, stewardship of community resources, and sustainability of the warfighter. Robins AFB leads the way with one of the most wide-ranging and proactive installation environmental programs in the nation. The Environmental Management Branch efforts focus on air quality, community relations, hazardous materials and waste management, pollution prevention, green procurement, natural resources, restoration, and water quality. Some of Team Robins' specific accomplishments include:

- Established a Qualified Recycling Program (QRP) that has twice won the Air Force Materiel Command QRP Award. During Fiscal Year 2012, the QRP recycled over 2,000 tons of recyclables, diverted 53 percent of solid waste from the landfill, and generated over \$960,000 in total revenue.
- Received accolades for the state-of-the-art groundwater treatment plant; numerous



*The Mission Starts Here! Pictured at the Grand Opening ceremony of the new Robins AFB QRP Facility are 78 Air Base Wing Commander, Col Butikofer, 78 Force Support Squadron Director, Alexander Kovras, and 78th Civil Engineer Group Director, Otis Hicks. Robins leadership demonstrate how recycling at Robins AFB just got better!*

awards for successful, efficient, and safe operation; and the Plant of the Year award for the tenth time since 2000. This is the first industrial wastewater treatment facility in Georgia to receive the Platinum Award and it has been successful in removing more than 34,900 pounds of contaminants.

- Expanded the Transportation Incentive Program, making it the second largest in the Air Force. By partnering with the Macon-Bibb Transit Authority to establish a base shuttle from neighboring counties, Team Robins increased carpooling by 36 percent in Fiscal Years 2011 and 2012. Because of these efforts, 78th Air Base Wing at Robins AFB won the Georgia Department of Transportation and the Clean Air Campaign Federal Government PACE Award in 2012 in recognition of their accomplishments to reduce traffic and improve air quality.
- Established the Robins Transportation Improvement Program to expand and increase participation in commute options, reducing the number of vehicle miles traveled by 2 million between Fiscal Years 2010 and 2012 and saving over \$1.1 million in fuel and maintenance costs.



*Dennis and Julie Julius catch the BiRD (Buses into Robins Daily), a partnership between the Macon-Bibb Transit Authority and Robins AFB that serves over 22,000 people in Houston, Macon, Bibb and surrounding counties. Promoting clean commuting initiatives is a top priority at Robins.*

Robins AFB continues to lead the way with one of the most wide-ranging and proactive installation environmental programs in the nation.



*Robins AFB enjoys unprecedented support from the surrounding communities since. Community members perpetually live their motto EDIMGIAFAD (Every Day in Middle Georgia is Armed Forces Appreciation Day).*



*The entire community celebrates Robins AFB's Tree City USA award during an Earth Day/Arbor Day Ceremony at the Base Historic Forest. Trees planted in the forest come from seeds of trees located on properties once owned by notable Americans such as George Washington. The trees planted in the Forest are mostly planted as living memorials to deceased or retired members of the Robins Community*

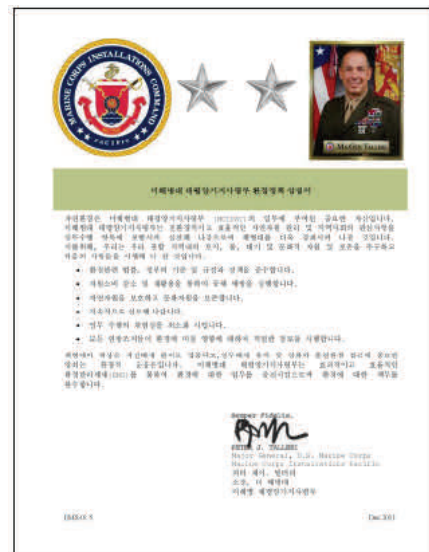
**About Marine Corps Base Camp Smedley D. Butler, Japan**

Marine Corps Base Camp Smedley D. Butler (MCB Butler) supports over 32,000 active duty military and civilians and encompasses more than 45,000 acres. Despite the challenges of being in a remote overseas location with a unique environmental and political climate, MCB Butler is a leader in enhancing environmental quality while sustaining the Marine Corps’ ability to effectively train and maintain readiness in Okinawa, Japan. MCB Butler’s environmental program proactively supports mission readiness by providing the most extensive environmental training program within the Department of Defense in Asia, completing plans and environmental analyses using in-house staff to save time and money, and effectively managing the land entrusted to the Marine Corps. In addition to having a fully implemented Environmental Management System (EMS), MCB Butler has exceeded Department of Defense requirements by implementing a regional EMS that incorporates installations in Japan, Korea, and the U.S. Due to the success of this program, MCB Butler’s experienced and knowledgeable staff provides extensive support to other Department installations in the Pacific region to help them improve their own EMS programs. The success of MCB Butler’s environmental program has been a cornerstone to improving relations between the people of Okinawa and the Marine Corps. Some of MCB Butler’s specific accomplishments include:



*The island of Okinawa, Japan is a key training location for the Marine Corps. MCB Butler’s innovative soil erosion efforts have been instrumental in protecting this vital coral habitat.*

- Collected 4.5 million kilograms of recyclables from nearly 700 locations throughout Okinawa, Japan, and achieved a 59 percent solid waste diversion rate, resulting in recycling proceeds of nearly \$2 million.
- Provided comprehensive environmental training and general awareness training to over 26,000 Service members, U.S. and Japanese civilians.
- Achieved a nearly 50 percent reduction in expired hazardous materials with the development of a new Authorized User List process.
- Completed more than 20 erosion control projects, allowing Marines to continue to use training areas for live fire and jungle warfare training.



*The Marine Corps Installations Pacific (MCIPAC) Environmental Policy Statement is provided in English, Japanese, and Korean and is widely distributed, displayed, and communicated via new employee orientations and all in-house training classes.*



- Captured 589 cane toads by the end of 2011, after it was identified on Camp Kinser. The cane toad is one of the world's most invasive animals due to its poisonous glands and large appetite. Continued monitoring of potential breeding sites by MCB Butler staff did not find any signs of breeding, indicating that their capture efforts were effective.

MCB Butler continues to be a leader in enhancing environmental quality while sustaining the Marine Corps' ability to effectively train and maintain readiness activities.

**Cane Toad (*Bufo marinus*) is still on Kinser**

Since August of 2011, when the first cane toad was found on Camp Kinser, a total of 505 toads have been captured on the Camp as of June 2012. Because only 2-4 toads were captured each month in the last few months, it is predicted that the majority of the cane toad population has been removed, but a small number of the toads are still left on the Camp. Because one female is capable to lay more than 10,000 eggs, a pair of the toads can easily reproduce the same or more number of offspring we have caught so far. We must get rid of all from the Camp before they breed.

**If you see or capture any cane toads, please contact  
Camp Environmental Office at 637-4405/1815!!!**



**Warning:** The cane toad releases a **toxin** from its glands behind the eyes as a defense mechanism. This white milky toxin can kill or harm animals (notive predators, small animals including domestic cats and dogs). Humans can get skin and/or eye irritation from handling the toad. When capturing cane toads, latex gloves should be worn.

**Please do not transport any cane toads to other Camps or off-base for any reason!**

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*This flyer was distributed throughout MCB Butler to increase community awareness about the invasive cane toad.*

**Past Secretary of Defense Environmental Awards  
Environmental Quality Category Winners**

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| <b>2012</b> - Fort Hood, Texas   | <b>1999</b> - Luke Air Force Base, Arizona                        |
| <b>2011</b> - U.S. Army Garrison Grafenwoehr, Germany  | <b>1998</b> - Naval Aviation Depot North Island, California       |
| <b>2011</b> - Defense Supply Center, Richmond, Virginia  | <b>1998</b> - Fort Sill, Oklahoma                                 |
| <b>2010</b> - Marine Corps Base Hawaii   | <b>1997</b> - Naval Surface Warfare Center, Indian Head, Maryland |
| <b>2010</b> - Mr. Awni M. Almasri, Naval Facilities Engineering Command Europe Africa Southwest Asia | <b>1997</b> - Luke Air Force Base, Arizona                        |
| <b>2009</b> - Environmental Management Division, Hill Air Force Base, Utah                           | <b>1996</b> - Eglin Air Force Base, Florida                       |
| <b>2009</b> - United States Army Garrison Bamberg, Germany   | <b>1996</b> - USAF Hurlburt Field, Florida                        |
| <b>2008</b> - Naval Air Engineering Station Lakehurst, New Jersey                                    | <b>1995</b> - Robins Air Force Base, Georgia                      |
| <b>2008</b> - Hill Air Force Base, Utah  | <b>1994</b> - Fort Campbell, Kentucky                             |
| <b>2007</b> - Tinker Air Force Base, Oklahoma  | <b>1993</b> - Hill Air Force Base, Utah                           |
| <b>2007</b> - Marine Corps Base Camp Smedley D. Butler, Japan  | <b>1992</b> - Naval Air Station Patuxent River, Maryland          |
| <b>2006</b> - Team Dyess, Dyess Air Force Base, Texas  | <b>1991</b> - Tinker Air Force Base, Oklahoma                     |
| <b>2006</b> - Fort Campbell, Kentucky  | <b>1990</b> - McChord Air Force Base, Washington                  |
| <b>2005</b> - Naval Air Depot Cherry Point, North Carolina   | <b>1989</b> - Tooele Army Depot, Utah                             |
| <b>2005</b> - Misawa Air Base, Japan   | <b>1989</b> - Vandenberg Air Force Base, California               |
| <b>2004</b> - U.S. Naval Support Activity Bahrain  | <b>1987</b> - Pine Bluff Arsenal, Arkansas                        |
| <b>2003</b> - Tinker Air Force Base, Oklahoma  | <b>1986</b> - Fort Lewis, Washington                              |
| <b>2003</b> - Marine Corps Base Camp Smedley D. Butler, Okinawa, Japan                               | <b>1985</b> - Marine Corps Air Station Kaneohe Bay, Hawaii        |
| <b>2002</b> - Air Armament Center, Eglin Air Force Base, Florida                                     | <b>1984</b> - Luke Air Force Base, Arizona                        |
| <b>2001</b> - Pearl Harbor Naval Shipyard and Intermediate Maintenance Facility, Hawaii              | <b>1983</b> - Fort McClellan, Alabama                             |
| <b>2001</b> - Marine Corps Base Camp Butler, Okinawa, Japan  | <b>1982</b> - Hill Air Force Base, Utah                           |
| <b>2000</b> - Patrick Air Force Base, Florida  | <b>1981</b> - Marine Corps Base Camp Lejeune, North Carolina      |
| <b>2000</b> - Marine Corps Base Hawaii   | <b>1980</b> - McClellan Air Force Base, California                |
| <b>1999</b> - Indian Head Division, Naval Surface Warfare Center, Maryland                           | <b>1979</b> - Fort Sill, Oklahoma                                 |
|  | <b>1978</b> - Marine Corps Base Camp Pendleton, California        |
|  | <b>1977</b> - Marine Corps Air Station Kaneohe Bay, Hawaii        |
|  | <b>1976</b> - Naval Air Training Center Patuxent River, Maryland  |
|  | <b>1975</b> - Eglin Air Force Base, Florida                       |
|  | <b>1974</b> - Fort Sill, Oklahoma                                 |