Headquarters and Headquarters Squadron, MCAS Iwakuni

Command Philosophy

Unit Mission: Headquarters & Headquarters Squadron Iwakuni personnel generate, sustain, and defend combat power to provide the United States Indo-Pacific Command with a naval expeditionary force-in-readiness in support of fleet operations and naval campaigns.

Unit Vision: We seek every day to embody the professional Marine, Sailor, and Marine Civilian, striving for excellence in all endeavors.

Purpose. We are a warfighting organization. Everything we do must align and contribute to that end state. Each of you has an important role in sustaining the critical operations of this base and your efforts enable Naval and Allied forces to project power in this area of operations. But remember that regardless of what billet you perform while in uniform, you are a Marine and Sailor first. You must uphold the discipline and standards of our Naval Service, and represent our Nation with honor. Your actions while in this command have strategic impacts.

People. Our people are our most valuable asset. We must take care and look out for each other both in professional and personal settings. Leaders should develop unit cohesion, esprit de corps, and self-confidence of individuals. Foster a culture of boldness and initiative founded on knowledge, experience and judgment. Have a bias for action and don't look the other way. Each one of us has different backgrounds, experiences, and perspectives, and this diversity creates a stronger and more effective organization. Every individual in this command is an invaluable member regardless of rank or billet.

Readiness. We must build resiliency in our organization. We must train ourselves and train our teammates and build a bigger and more comprehensive ready bench, enabling freedom of maneuver. Every individual should work every day to learn, grow, and improve on both a professional and personal level. Continually improve processes and optimize how we employ our equipment. Take care of our equipment, which in turn will take care of us.

As Marines and Sailors, we chose this profession. We must set and uphold the standard—you are the example. Lastly, our goal is simple: do great work, look out for each other, and have fun.

SgtMaj Steven T. Kern
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Sergeant Major Steven Kern

Sergeant Major



Lieutenant Colonel Federico Mendizabal

Commanding Officer