

Homes for America / Sigonella

NAS Sigonella Commanding Officer

First off, thank you to everyone who participated in last week's Marinai town hall meeting. I very much appreciate everyone's concern and commitment to our community and specifically to maintaining Marinai as Navy housing.

This fiscal year, we have seven known reported cases of sexual assault in our community. I emphasize KNOWN, because statistics suggest there are other unknown victims within our community. Seven is too many.

Our goal is ZERO victims - known or unknown.

In addition to Sexual Assault Prevention Awareness Month and Month of the Military Child, April is Child Abuse Prevention Month. Child abuse can occur for many reasons. Usually it is passed down from one generation to the next. Children, abused by parents who did not properly deal with stress, as adults often model the same poor choices, and the unfortunate cycle continues. The reality is our children (and spouses) do not deserve to be abused. It is fascinating how polite we are with coworkers and people we meet in public, but how often these same courtesies are not extended to the ones we love most. How does this happen? What can we do about it? How it happens?

According to the late Jim Morrison, "people are strange." I agree. We are strange, in the sense that each of us is fully unique -different in big and little ways from all others.

Religious Ministries offers many marriage enrichment opportunities and counseling. Fleet and Family Service Center offers similar services as well as financial counseling, anger management courses and counseling for adults and children. All these opportunities and many more are here to help us learn how to be better parents and partners.

I share all of this because I have struggled. As far as I can tell, marriage and parenting are evolving, unending experiences with changing and persistent stresses. I have sought counseling and will again when needed. For those of you who know you have a problem, or even those who are just suspicious, I'd like you to consider: at the end of our lives it will neither be medals, nor rank, nor other Navy accolades that define our lives, but rather the breadth and depth of the relationships we have cultivated and the commitment to those whom we say "I love you." Don't we owe them our very best?

Sigonella, Work hard, Be honest, Make smart decisions.

lemon_parade

Sigonella!!! We got orders to Sigonella!!! However... I'm pregnant, due July 3rd. DH leaves this command at the end of April. I really don't want to be stuck flying with a toddler and a newborn if I have to go after DH. Ahhhh!!!! We're going to Italy!!

Daysgoby

and still I think of you

It is sad to see our old base housing now a refugee camp being attached by 1000 asylum seekers. It used to be well kept.

Jennifer

crazy fool

Wow. I had no idea that Mineo was closed down. I worked security there as it was being built, and later as a brand-new housing community that was really a slice of an American suburb in middle of orange groves.

His girl

Pass the chocolate

Loved Mineo housing! We were one of the last families on our street while it was closing.

Jennifer

crazy fool

We were there for 3 years, 2002-2005. I had my first 2 boys there! Aw, the memories.

From: PAO

Asylum seekers stage protest outside Mineo Refugees' center and on State Road 417.

Local media are reporting that about 1,000 asylum seekers today staged a violent protest outside the Mineo Refugee Center.

Earlier this morning, demonstrators threw rocks at police and other cars traveling on 417. They also set fire to crops and tires, as well as attacked a gas station, a media crew, and riot police. The violence has prompted riot police to spray tear gas during clashes and call additional reinforcements coming from Reggio Calabria. Catania-Gela state road 417 is still closed to traffic and police are working to clear the road. All personnel are urged to avoid this area and all other areas of known protests.

Sea Gels

I wonder if they would be happy if the Italian govt sent them back?

Michael

It is amazing someone's wants help and the way they ask is like this. Should be thankful for every thing they get. I know I thankful every day for the blessings I have in my life.

Alexander

Begin the deportation process.

Rich

sad state of affairs down there. it seems food, shelter and clothing isn't enough anymore.

Sergio

That's sad.

Michelle

Wow, what a change from when I was stationed there!

Chris

Send their sorry rears back on a leaking boat.

Commanding Officer's Suggestion Box

Comment regarding shuttle no-show: Recently my wife and I waited 20 minutes for a shuttle bus on Marinai that never showed. We called the number provided at the bus stop for shuttle information, Public Works 095-86-6013. The gentleman who answered stated he had no information with regard to the shuttle and could only provide a number which was disconnected. I would suggest replacing the sign at the bus stop with an updated phone number to call when there are issues with the shuttle bus.

Commanding Officer's Suggestion Box

Anonymous

Comment: Where to start... CAPT Dennis? You've built a reputation as a man on a mission to ignore, not solve, the animal problem on the base by ordering everyone to "stop feeding the strays" but now your war on animals has a total number of 10 or more on lines, with no shelter, no food, no water, and no one doing anything to help them thanks to NASSIG pressuring the owner of the lot across from the NAS II main gate to "clean up the property because it is a problem for the base and NATO". Since the old man that was there was most likely squatting on the property, his removal makes sense from a legal standpoint I suppose, but the fact that all the people (including my husband) that work on NAS II drive past a lot full of dogs being neglected and literally starved on a leash is a deplorable act and one that shows that your intent is to remove "eyes sores" and "problems" at any cost.

One more item. How do you explain the existence of prostitutes being located within a few minutes of Marinai housing area? You are so focused on threatening people for passing on solid lines between the bases that you and the authorities somehow neglect to do anything about the women who are trafficked. Starving dogs and prostitutes – do something.

Texts from the Sigonella U.S military base housing online communities, Sicily. There had been two identical base housing estates called Marinai and Mineo. However the U.S base canceled the lease contract for the Mineo in 2011 and since then the apartments have been transformed into a refugee detention center (C.A.R.A. di Mineo) for Middle Eastern and African refugees, many of which have arrived via the coast of Sicily or Lampedusa island.