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Stars and Stripes published a piece today on a Marine Corps Logistics Base in Okinawa, Japan in relation to a 2019 health hazards report released by NMCPHC.

The Naval Public Health Center found the toxic equivalent of 0.0025 mg/kg of the dioxin 2,3,7,8-Tetrachlorodibenzodioxin ("TCDD") in the area of the Marine Corps Maintenance Bldg. 1304, an outdoor exercise facility, and the base skatepark - which is FIVE-HUNDRED times the EPA's carcinogenic screening level.

Another section of the base surrounding the medical clinic registered more than one hundred times higher, making the area unsafe for children. Other sites across the base, specifically the Kinser Elementary School and adjacent sports fields, were deemed toxic after contaminated soil was used to fill the surrounding area.

TCDD is deemed by the EPA as a "probable human carcinogen" as passive, long-term TCDD exposures alter the oxidation-reduction process, which affects the occurrence and development of cancer.

In tumors, the oxidation-reduction state is often in an unbalanced state, which is manifested by increased reactive oxygen species (ROS) levels and oxidative stress. A moderate increase in ROS level can promote cell proliferation and differentiation, while an excessive increase will lead to DNA damage.

Read the full list of known cancers, illnesses, and, most importantly, the Marine Corps units affected here: <https://lnkd.in/e-HBFCKe>

