

FALL FESTIVAL
Children learn safety through fun | p. 4
FEATURE



IWAKUNI FESTIVAL
Community sings, dances in streets | p. 6 - 7
FEATURE



SOFTBALL
Regulators taste victory, chilli | p. 11
SPORTS



IWAKUNI APPROACH

Issue No. 39, Vol. 2 | Marine Corps Air Station Iwakuni, Japan

Station members get inside look at PMO

LANCE CPL. SALVADOR MORENO
IWAKUNI APPROACH STAFF

The Provost Marshal's Office here held an open house to all station residents Oct. 16 to allow them to grasp a better perspective of the offices' daily activities.

"The Marine Corps Air Station Iwakuni community had an opportunity to gain information on PMO operations through an open-house event designed to enhance community relations and promote awareness on various avenues of reporting and security. It revealed that there was more to PMO than patrolmen," said Sgt. Carrie White, PMO physical security and crime prevention specialist.

PMO put together a show of all sorts including a military working dog demonstration and a seatbelt convincer, a low-impact collision simulator, for all attending personal to participate in.

Food and drinks were also available for all

SEE **PMO** ON PAGE 3

MCPON stresses heritage in naval birthday message to fleet

MASTER CHIEF PETTY OFFICER OF THE NAVY
RICK D. WEST
CONTRIBUTED

WASHINGTON — Very recently I had the honor of visiting Mrs. Ima Black. For those of you who don't know, she is the widow of our first Master Chief Petty Officer of the Navy Del Black.

In honor of our 234th birthday as a service, I'd like to tell you a little bit about this amazing lady because she represents so much that is right about our Navy and her life so closely parallels our history.

Ima is 88 years old, an honorary master chief, a proud chief petty officer's wife and an amazing supporter of the American sailor. From the minute we sat down to lunch she asked about you, about our men and women at sea and about the sailors serving in Iraq, Afghanistan and other dangerous places around the world.

I told her that I'd never seen so many men and women in uniform with so much passion to serve, so much enthusiasm to represent our nation. We talked about today's Navy and she told me some stories about the Navy she joined in 1943.

Mrs. Black lives in a retired community down in Florida, in a small apartment overlooking a little lake. She's surrounded by friends

SEE **BIRTHDAY** ON PAGE 3



SGT. JOSH COX

Elliott Yamin performs a track off of his new album "Fight for Love" at the parade deck here Oct. 14 during a United Services Organization tour of Guam and Japan. Yamin placed third in the fifth season of American Idol and came out with his hit single "Wait for You" in 2007. This was Yamin's second United Services Organization tour and his seventh time touring Japan. Read the full story on page 12.

Service members conduct medical training in Manila

LANCE CPL. CHRIS KUTLESA
IWAKUNI APPROACH STAFF

CLARK AIR BASE, Philippines — A group of Navy doctors and corpsmen conducted the first ever Professional Nursing Symposium with medical personnel from the Armed Forces of the Philippines in Manila Oct. 14-16.

The symposium was an opportunity for military medical personnel from both the Philippines and United States to exchange medical procedures and techniques.

"Training is the key to preparedness and when we are prepared half the battle is won," said Brig. Gen. Nelia B. Buenaflor, the Chief Nurse of AFP. "One of the strategic goals of the Nurse Corps is training enhancement for the development of both nurse trainees and trainers."

Six United States Navy corpsmen and doctors conducted classes over the course of three days.

Classes covered a multitude of topics, ranging from the H1N1 Virus to organizing a proper command structure.

Armed Forces Philippines nurses requested a majority of the classes provided; additional classes where administered per current events, i.e., mass casualties in floods.

"Before we arrived, the nurses were asked

what sort of topics they would like training in; we tried to cater to there request in addition to adding some subjects we thought were appropriate or useful," said Buenaflor.

Nearly 50 Armed Forces Philippines nurses attended the three-day symposium.

"It's important to understand that all of these nurses were officers, ranging in every rank from lieutenant and captain to major and commander," said Lt. Cmdr. Daniel J. Hohman, a surgeon with the 1st Marine Aircraft Wing.

At the end of the symposium, the Filipinos hosted a series of meals and events to show their appreciation and gratitude toward the United States service members.

"They were so thankful and appreciative. We learned a lot, they learned a lot, and we all had a great time doing it," said Hohman.

At the closing ceremonies, U.S. service members were presented plaques and gifts, along with a challenge to partake in the local delicacy balut.

Balut is a fertilized duck egg with a nearly-developed embryo. Much to the nurses' delight, all the service members partook in the crunchy, gooey cuisine.

When the symposium came to a close, both parties appeared to be pleased with the

SEE **TRAINING** ON PAGE 3



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The Iwakuni Approach welcomes Letter to the Editor submissions. Letters must include a full name and unit, if applicable. Anonymous letters and comments will not be published. Letters are the opinion of the writer only. Submissions may be edited for clarity and space. Letters can be dropped off at the Public Affairs Office or sent via e-mail to iwakuni.pao@usmc.mil. Please submit all content at least two weeks in advance of projected publication date for review.

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CHAPLAIN'S CORNER

'Esse quam videri'

LT. NORBERT KARAVA
MAG-12 DEPUTY GROUP
CHAPLAIN

Every environment comprises a matrix of both positive and negative influences on human life, ranging from merely physical to moral, religious and spiritual.

Some of these influences are obvious; others are not and constitute an ambient background. For example, the chemical substances in the air we breathe and the food we eat, which, over time have a cumulative effect.

Obviously the need to identify and evaluate these non-obvious, continuing, background influences, both positive and negative, is more critical. We more readily avoid being run over by trains than contracting cancer.

For those of us who still understand man as a person and not a

merely psychosomatic entity, the most critical dimension of life is the moral order, which inevitably leads us into the realm of things

religious.

And so, when we make choices that are properly moral, we fundamentally define ourselves. If I lie, not only have I uttered a mistruth, but I have acquired the identity of a liar. That is, in preferring whatever thing to the moral good of truth, I have become a liar.

One of the features of military community life is recognition and intense scrutiny. This is the world of our medals, ribbons, devices of rank, promotion, bullets and fitness reports.

While on one hand this is a driver of development and achievement, on the other, it represents a clear and present danger.

Self-appearance is obviously a fundamental psychological issue for all, yet in a military context

this becomes all the more intense. How we look and act in the eyes of others can become so important with time, and in this on-going negative moral conditioning, appearances can very easily become more important than moral substance, which more often than not does not pay the material and practical dividends of this quickly passing world.

"A man cannot serve two masters." And with this comes the eclipse of the person who we morally are by the persona of what we appear to be.

In the glitter of appearances, compromising and betraying our consciences becomes easier. The conscience is informed either by our religion or even the moral precepts we have discovered in moments of our embarrassed honesty. And so the possibility exists to be a highly decorated traitor of the moral order.

"What does it profit a man to gain the whole world and lose his soul?"

U.S. Forces Japan employees celebrate 10, 20, 30 years of service



LANCE CPL. CLAUDIO A. MARTINEZ

United States Forces Japan employees sit prepared to be recognized during the 2009 Length of Service Awards Ceremony at the Club Iwakuni Ballroom here Oct. 16. With 30 years of length of service: Minoru Hiraoka, Yoshiharu Tanimoto, Makio Yamamoto, Masanori Kaseda, Kazuo Nakamoto, Hideo Matsui, Kenji Isobe, Hiroki Higashitarumizu, and Toshio Takatsuka. With 20 years of length of service: Takamitsu Kurata, Takushi Koike, Masatoshi Okada, Kazutomo Uchiyama, Shunsaku Yokota, Yoshio Yamamoto, Katsuhiko Fujimoto, Tatsuyoshi Nishimoto, Shigeyasu Tamura, Mitsuhiro Nakano, Hiroyuki Hayashi, Yoshihiro Komura, Katsuhiro Takata, Haruo Kusunoki, Yoshinori Arikuni, Makoto Hida, Kazumi Kawaguchi, Shoji Matsui, Kiyofumi Minato, Hironori Fujimoto, Hirofumi Matsumoto, Koji Kawashige, Katsuhiro Fukuba, Tatsuya Okagake, Takako Hiranaga, Akie Yasuda, Harumi Sakurada, and Yumiko Hamamura. With 10 years length of service: Junji Matsuoka, Tomokatsu Ichida, Hidenori Uchiyama, Miyako Hayashi, Shunji Murashige, Toshiyuki Takenaka, Minoru Iwata, Yasue Sugiyama, Haruhiko Otake, Seichiro Funakoshi, Ken Hisasada, Yumie Iwai, Takashi Kamio, Takako Tamada, Kiyoko Fujii, Naoki Higaki, Kayoko Fukuda, Yoshiko Wakaue, Kazuwa Yanagihara, Tomoko Takamatsu, Teruyasu Hiroshima, Takahiro Miyoshi, Atsuo Kosako, Yuji Tanaka, Kazuhiko Murashige, Masashi Yoshida, Masahiro Horiuchi, Hiromi Fujioka, Akinori Hamada, and Yoko Seo.

EDWIN DEGUZMAN
FILIPINO - AMERICAN
ASSOCIATION PRESIDENT

The Filipino-American Association of Iwakuni, Japan, would like to sincerely thank all who supported us on our food sale in front of the Commissary last Saturday. We will

send the funds we raised to the unfortunate flood victims of typhoons Tetsana (Ondoy) and Parma (Pepeng) in the Philippines, which devastated the lives, crops and property of families in the northern part of the country. We raised \$1,800 that we will send to two nongovernmental organiza-

tions, the Sagip Kapamilya of ABS CBN television network and Christus Vincit, a Catholic organization. These two NGOs are actively working to help Filipino flood victims with food, health and welfare supplies. On behalf of the Fil-Am Association of Iwakuni, thank you very much.

Navy celebrates 234 years of service

BIRTHDAY FROM PAGE 1

and is quick to point out that every once in a while a few sailors drop by to see how she's doing. Her apartment is a tribute to our first MCPON. Pictures, uniform items, anchors ... all mementos from Del Black's amazing career. But if you look closely, you'll see that it's much more. It's a living history of our Navy.

There are pictures of a young Seaman Del Black when he was aboard USS Maryland in Pearl Harbor, just before the fleet was attacked December 7, 1941.

Photo albums hold letters written from several more ships over the course of his career. One picture shows MCPON Black, Ima and Admiral Elmo Zumwalt, the Chief of Naval Operations from 1970 to 1974. Look closely at an-

other and you'll see him at his most comfortable, surrounded by sailors on the mess decks of a ship.

He took care of sailors at a time when our Navy had no idea what or who a MCPON was. He went where the fight was, to Vietnam. And he went where the fleet was, to our ships at sea.

On our 234th birthday, I ask that you remember MCPON Black and you consider that there are thousands of men and women just like his wife Ima who keep our Navy's history alive. Seek them out. Talk with them and your lives will be richer for it.

Happy birthday shipmates. You are part of a legacy that grows stronger each day due to your effort, your initiative and your willingness to serve.

Hooyah Navy.



LANCE CPL. SALVADOR MORENO

A military policeman with the Provost Marshal's Office here poses with McGruff the crime dog and Daren the Drug Abuse Resistance Education lion at PMO's open house Oct. 16. McGruff and Daren interacted and took pictures with the children to promote safety and drug abuse resistance.

PMO shows all

PMO FROM PAGE 1

spectators of the event.

Children of all ages were fascinated with all of the equipment on display as they were allowed to hop in the driver's seats of all the vehicles and utilize the equipment.

"It is best for the community to know how hard we work to keep them safe and secure," said White.

PMO encourages crime prevention awareness year round and has information and tips on how to do so.

The Child Identification Kit was one of the activities PMO had available for parents and children to participate in. It allowed finger printing for all children who attended this second consecutive open house.

Along with the Child ID Kits, there was Special Reaction Team equipment, substance abuse information, a car seat installation and inspection station, anti-terrorism and force protection information, an Accident Investigation Division booth and a bicycle-safety rodeo.

"With the community's knowledge of our operations, they will realize that our success requires and improves with their full cooperation," said White.

The PMO open house is an event they would like to have once a year to be held in concurrence with Crime Prevention Month, which is every October.

"The PMO Open House is not the community's only opportunity to learn about PMO and receive our services," said White.

"We encourage Crime Prevention Awareness year round. Our Child ID Kit is a service we wish to share with every parent aboard this installation."

Pre-school, elementary students drawing contest

Who: Pre-schoolers accompanied by an adult and elementary children

What: Drawing contest, any subject, bring your own supplies — only paper will be provided

When: 9 a.m. - noon Saturday

Where: Kusunoki Dam area, the park area where the Nishiki river splits into Imazu and Monzen rivers

Voting: Drawings will be judged by local infant-care facilities, pre-school and elementary teachers

Awards: Excellent pieces will be awarded and displayed at a local grocery store. All participants will receive a participation gift.

For more information, contact the Kawashimo District Social Welfare Council, Sub-Committee at 0827-23-0641.



LANCE CPL. CHRIS KUTLESA

MANILA, Philippines — Lt. Cmdr. Daniel J. Hohman, a surgeon with the 1st Marine Aircraft Wing, and Brig. Gen. Nella B. Buenafior, the Chief Nurse of Armed Forces of the Philippines, take their seats at the Professional Nursing Symposium in Manila, Philippines, on Oct. 16. The symposium was an opportunity for military medical personnel from both the Philippines and United States to exchange medical procedures and techniques.

U.S., Philippines train together

TRAINING FROM PAGE 1

outcome of the event.

They discussed what went well and what more could be done next year over lunch and dinner.

"It went very well," said Hohman. "We plan conducting the symposium again in the future. Hopefully, next year we can expand the scope of topics and begin a deeper interaction and dialogue with Filipinos."

Cyber safety: What parents, children can do to combat growing threat

LANCE CPL. CLAUDIO A. MARTINEZ
IWAKUNI APPROACH STAFF

Naval Criminal Investigative Service hosted a Cyber Safety Awareness class at the Matthew C. Perry School library here Oct. 8 to help parents here become aware of the dangers they and their children can face online.

Michele Starostka, an NCIS special agent, was on-hand teaching the class, which focused on childhood online predators and pedophiles.

"The internet is this great tool to keep in communication with our friends and family back in the U.S., especially when you're deployed or in a foreign country," said Starostka. "However, there are also risks involved with using the internet."

Starostka said we're coming into such a digital age she believes parents often become desensitized and believe neither they nor their children have to worry about online dangers.

According to Cyber Angels, a cyber space volunteer group made up of law enforcement, teachers and parents, approximately 77 percent of children have been contacted by online predators by the age of 14, with more than 75 percent of them freely giving out personal information.

Some of the safety tips passed on during the class, recommended parents establish rules for Internet use on outlining what sites children can visit, how

long they can be online, whom they can talk to and to keep the computer in a common room, not the children's bedroom.

Also, the need for parents to know all their children's online passwords was discussed during the class.

"I understand giving independence and trusting your kids on the internet," said Starostka. "But parents and guardians have got to understand that whatever their children are doing on the Internet, they need to know those passwords."

Starostka said knowing those passwords is the parents' way of protecting their children and if something should happen, it makes things much quicker and easier if they have those passwords.

Also discussed during the class were situations when overseas families were sent inappropriate photographs and messages from someone in another country.

"We have offices all over the world," said Starostka. "Some people think, 'what's anybody going to be able to do?' but we can actually track these things down."

Anyone wanting to learn more about online dangers and how to avoid them can visit the NetSmartz Web site at www.Netsmartz.org.

Anyone wanting to report an online incident anonymously or otherwise can call the station's NCIS at 253-5589 or 253-3318.

Annual 2009 M.C. Perry Fall Festival



CPL. KRISTIN E. MORENO

An aircraft rescue firefighter here helps a child operate a fire hose after dressing in proximity firefighting suits and running approximately five yards during a demonstration at the Matthew C. Perry Fall Festival at the M.C. Perry soccer fields here Oct. 16. The station fire department also provided a fire truck for the children to explore.



CPL. KRISTIN E. MORENO

Lance Cpl. Jamie Anderson, military working dog handler at the Provost Marshal's Office here, helps a young girl take her fingerprints for a children's identification kit during the annual Matthew C. Perry Fall Festival held at the M.C. Perry soccer fields here Oct. 16. PMO also allowed the children to tour their mobile command center.



CPL. KRISTIN E. MORENO

Sparky the fire dog patrols the Matthew C. Perry soccer field here during the annual M.C. Perry Fall Festival Oct. 16, interacting and taking photographs with the children to encourage fire safety. He has been the official mascot of the National Fire Protection Association since 1951.

Children learn safety through fun, games

CPL. KRISTIN E. MORENO
IWAKUNI APPROACH STAFF

With October being Crime Prevention Month, it's no surprise that the main theme of the annual 2009 Matthew C. Perry Fall Festival here was safety through fun.

Children and their families swarmed the M.C. Perry soccer field Oct. 16, running from booth to booth and socializing.

"(The purpose of the event) was to provide a fun-filled, inexpensive, family-orientated evening while promoting a sense of community, both school wide and station wide. The purpose (was) also to raise money for purchasing materials and supplies for M.C. Perry Elementary School," said Cindy Miller, Parent Teacher Organization president here and one of the event coordinators.

Tickets were sold to the participants at four for a dollar.

"We are still finalizing our expenses (and) income, but we expected to raise a couple thousand dollars for the school," said Miller.

There were food booths, finger nail painting, temporary tattoos, duck-pond games, fishing, golfing, basketball, bounce houses and several other activities.

"Playing at the fall festival, the bounce house is the best thing to do," said Kameron Johnson, an 8-year-old fourth grader at M.C. Perry.

Even though the volunteers running the bounce houses wanted the children to have fun, they still had to make sure they were safe, so they instructed the

children on some of the things they couldn't do while inside.

"The people that let us go inside said we can't flip," said Johnson. "It's not really that much fun jumping in a bounce house without flipping. The only thing I did was jumping turning around, spinning, just leaping and diving."

Special guests Sparky the fire dog, McGruff the crime dog and Daren the Drug Abuse Resistance Education lion were also present at the festival, patrolling the soccer field while greeting and taking photographs with the children.

The Provost Marshal's Office here set up their mobile command post for the children to tour and a booth to make fingerprint kits.

The Aircraft Rescue Firefighters here set up a fire truck for the children to explore and allowed the children to dress up in proximity firefighting suits and operate a fire hose. The local Iwakuni firefighters also set up a booth with fire-safety information.

The variety of activities at the festival allowed the children to have fun while learning about safety firsthand. For information on other safety-related events scheduled to take place throughout the month of October, contact the Provost Marshal's Office at 253-3303.

"The PTO would like to thank everyone who came out to support M.C. Perry Elementary School and to all of the volunteers for helping to produce a successful fall festival," said Miller.



LANCE CPL. CHRIS KUTLESA

CLARK AIR BASE, Philippines — U.S. Marines and Philippine police load food and clothing onto a truck at Loakan Airport in Baguio City, Philippines, Oct. 11. Once the trucks were loaded they were then driven to a nearby warehouse, where they will be divided and shipped to nearby neighboring cities. Cities surrounding Baguio experienced severe landslides as a result of heavy rainfall from typhoon Parma.



LANCE CPL. CHRIS KUTLESA

CLARK AIR BASE, Philippines — Col. Paul L. Damren, commanding officer of the 31st Marine Expeditionary Unit, and Col. Domingo B. Palisoc, commanding officer of 1st Air Division Philippine Air Force, talk about landing logistics disaster relief effort at Loakan Airport in Baguio City, Philippines, Oct. 11. Marines delivered nearly 4,500 family food packets and 2,000 clothing packages via five CH-46 Sea Knight helicopters.



LANCE CPL. CHRIS KUTLESA

CLARK AIR BASE, Philippines — A Filipino policeman carries a bag of family food packets from a CH-46 at Loakan Airport in Baguio City, Philippines, Oct. 11. Cities surrounding Baguio experienced severe landslides as a result of heavy rainfall from typhoon Parma. Marines delivered nearly 4,500 family food packets and 2,000 clothing packages via five CH-46 Sea Knight helicopters.

Landslide Marines bring relief to Parma victims

LANCE CPL. CHRIS KUTLESA
IWAKUNI APPROACH
STAFF

CLARK AIR BASE, Philippines — Marines from the 31st Marine Expeditionary Unit traveled to Baguio City, Philippines, to deliver food and clothing to landslide victims Oct. 4.

Authorities are reporting more than 185 people have been killed by flooding and landslides from tropical depression Parma.

With roads affected by the landslide, Marines arrived via helicopter to provide relief.

It took five CH-46 Sea Knight helicopters, two trips each, to deliver nearly 4,500 family food packets and 2,000 clothing packages totaling 18,500 pounds.

"I think every Marine there was proud and satisfied with the work they were doing," said Col. Paul L. Damren, commanding officer of the 31st Marine Expeditionary Unit. "This was a great opportunity to help relieve some of these people's suffering. We were happy to help."

Marines worked side by side with the Philippine Air Force

and the Baguio City Police Department to unload items off of the Sea Knights and onto trucks waiting nearby.

Once the trucks were loaded, they were then driven to a nearby warehouse, where they will be divided and shipped to nearby neighboring cities.

Sgt. Cassandra Heil, a chemical, biological, radiological, nuclear and explosive specialist with Combat Logistics Battalion 31, said she was impressed by the efficiency of the local police force.

This was Heil's second time visiting Baguio City, the first time was to visit family members living in the region. Heil noted that not much seems to change in Baguio, including the small one-level homes that many locals reside in.

As Marines were delivering goods, locals were just beginning to return to their homes after previously being evacuated.

"I believe this is the most beautiful region in the Philippines," said Heil. "I am glad we were able to come here and help. I would do it all again in a heartbeat."

53rd Annual Iwakuni Festival: 97,000 people enjoy fun filled day with food, games, parades, live musical performances



LANCE CPL. CLAUDIO A. MARTINEZ

Festival participants carry a Buddhist float down the streets of Iwakuni during a parade at the 53rd Annual Iwakuni Festival Sunday. The festival was one of many going on in Japan during this fall season in celebration of this year's harvest.

LANCE CPL. CLAUDIO A. MARTINEZ
IWAKUNI APPROACH STAFF

As the summer months come to an end and the fall season begins, festivals filled with food stands, music and dancing in the streets are being held all over Japan in celebration of this year's harvest.

Following suit, the city of Iwakuni, Iwakuni Chamber of Commerce and Industry, and Iwakuni Tourism Association hosted the 53rd annual Iwakuni Festival in downtown Iwakuni Sunday.

Approximately 97,000 people poured into the streets to participate in the festival offering live music, parades, contests and prizes.

"The city has a lot of friendship exchange, civic and volunteer activities it offers to the community," said Shima Arai,

an Iwakuni local.

"The festival was a great way to bring all of that to the public," she added.

Arai said she just moved to Iwakuni in April and coming to the festival with her children while having fun, gives her a good idea of what the regional people are like.

A number of city blocks around the downtown train station were closed to traffic to provide room for the event.

Local school bands and musical groups paraded down the streets of Iwakuni, filling the spectators' ears with the sounds of snare drums, trumpets and flutes to announce the beginning of the day's festivities.

Young children could be seen clapping their hands and marching in time with the drum beats as the school bands and musical groups passed by.

In addition to the parade, a small bazaar selling local foods and items was set up to be invaded by festival goers searching for trinkets, clothing and art.

A number of stages were constructed providing a venue for musical performances. Various musical groups took to the stage, entertaining the public with musical numbers ranging from traditional Japanese sounds to modern hip-hop beats.

Arai said she and her children had a good time at the festival.

Among one of the stands set up giving away prizes to the public was one set up by Iwakuni-based Marines and sailors.

"I thought coming out would be really good to build relations," said Lance Cpl. David Chy, a Marine Aviation Logistics Squadron 12 avionics

calibrator.

"It's all about community relations. We want to have a stronger bond with the public," he added.

Marines and sailors of MALS-12 and Combat Logistics Company 36 spent the day posing for pictures with Japanese locals, playing rock, paper, scissors, and handing out candy and stickers to children.

Toward the end of the festival, the thunder of Taiko drums was heard announcing the beginning of the closing parade.

Various groups from around Iwakuni took to the streets dancing and parading down to the train station until the music ended and everyone broke out in cheers while clapping their hands.

"The festival was great," said Chy. "Great entertainment, great food. It was a lot of fun."



LANCE CPL. CLAUDIO A. MARTINEZ

Festival participants wrap a sacred white snake float around a ball of rice during the closing parade of the 53rd Annual Iwakuni Festival Sunday. The white snake, unique to Iwakuni, is considered by some to be a god bringing good fortune to money and business. The white snake wrapping around the ball of rice, representing good fortune and blessings, is symbolic of the snake holding on to the blessing for the people of Iwakuni.



LANCE CPL. CLAUDIO A. MARTINEZ

Festival participants put on a musical dance performance in downtown Iwakuni during the 53rd Annual Iwakuni Festival Sunday. Various stages were set up around the downtown area providing a venue of traditional and modern hip-hop dance performances by dance groups from around Iwakuni.



LANCE CPL. CLAUDIO A. MARTINEZ

Lance Cpl. Daniel Chy, a Marine Aviation Logistics Squadron 12 avionics calibrator, faces off in a Marine Corps push-up competition with an Iwakuni citizen during the 53rd Annual Iwakuni Festival Sunday. MALS-12 and Combat Logistics Company 36 Marines and sailors set up a stand during the Festival where they took pictures, shook hands and played games with the locals. One of the games they played was rock, paper, scissors. If the Japanese local won, he or she would get a Marine Corps emblem sticker or a manga book. If they lost they had to perform Marine Corps push-ups while wearing a heavy pack on their back.



LANCE CPL. CLAUDIO A. MARTINEZ

A local school band parades down the streets of Iwakuni during the 53rd Annual Iwakuni Festival Sunday. In addition to the parade, various stands selling food, clothing and trinkets were set up for festival goers.



LANCE CPL. CLAUDIO A. MARTINEZ

Festival participants parade and dance down the street with decorated umbrellas during the closing parade of the 53rd Annual Iwakuni Festival Sunday. Approximately 97,000 people came out to enjoy the festival hosted by the city of Iwakuni, Iwakuni Chamber of Commerce, and Iwakuni Tourism Association. The all-day festival provided entertainment to the local people in food, games, live musical performances and a small bazaar.

CORPS NEWS

HIGHLIGHTING MARINES AND SAILORS AROUND THE GLOBE

22nd MEU storms beach during Bright Star 2009



STAFF SGT. MATT EPRIGHT

ALEXANDRIA, Egypt — A light-armed vehicle from Weapons Company, Battalion Landing Team, 3rd Battalion, 2nd Marine Regiment, 22nd Marine Expeditionary Unit, assaults the beach from a landing craft utility from Assault Craft Unit 2 during an amphibious assault demonstration conducted as part of Bright Star 2009 in Egypt Oct. 12, 2009. The multinational exercise is designed to improve readiness, interoperability, strengthen the military and professional relationships among U.S., Egyptian and participating forces. Bright Star is conducted by U.S. Central Command and is held every two years.



CPL. THEODOR W. RITCHIE

ALEXANDRIA, Egypt — An AH-1W Super Cobra from Marine Medium Tiltrotor Squadron 263 (Reinforced), attached to the 22nd Marine Expeditionary Unit provides close air-support as a light-armed vehicle from Weapons Company, Battalion Landing Team, 3rd Battalion, 2nd Marine Regiment, 22nd Marine Expeditionary Unit, assaults the beach during an amphibious assault demonstration conducted as part of Bright Star 2009 in Egypt Oct. 12, 2009.

CAPT. CLARK D. CARPENTER
22ND MEU

ALEXANDRIA, Egypt — Coalition forces along with Marines and Sailors from the 22nd Marine Expeditionary Unit and Bataan Amphibious Ready Group (ARG) stormed Egyptian beaches near Alexandria during a major amphibious assault demonstration Oct. 12 as part of Exercise Bright Star 2009.

The assault combined the forces of the Egyptian Army and Navy, Pakistani Marines, Kuwaiti Marines, U.S. Navy and Marine Corps forces from the MEU and ARG.

"The amphibious assault demonstration was not only a great demonstration of the cooperation of regional militaries, but it highlighted the amphibious expertise of the Marine Corps, Navy and coalition partners," said Col. Gareth F. Brandl, commanding officer of the 22nd MEU and native of Virginia Beach, Va.

According to MEU operations officer Lt. Col. David Owen, the MEU has been planning for the exercise since June. Final details of the amphibious assault demonstration were coordinated between Coalition participants upon arrival earlier in the week, he added.

"There was a significant amount of detailed planning that went into this event to ensure success," said Owen. "This is a great example of how we can come together with our partner nations in this region, regardless of any language barrier, and plan and execute very complex mission sets like the amphibious assault demonstration today."

Although the demonstration did not begin until midday, movement of aircraft, personnel and equipment began before the sun had risen. The previous day included a full rehearsal to ensure the precise timing of the landing.

Twelve aircraft from the MEU, five landing craft from the Bataan Amphibious Ready Group, two Egyptian landing craft utilities (LCU), six amphibious assault vehicles (AAV), five Egyptian amphibious tracked vehicles and a host of forces from other partner nations participated in the event.

"This was a team effort," said Brandl. "Conducting operations like this with our partner nations now will help ensure we can conduct future missions in a proficient and professional manner."

The day's event began as a team of Egyptian special forces inserted on the beach simulating beach reconnaissance prior to the assault. Shortly after, four AV-8B Harriers from Marine Medium Tiltrotor Squadron 263 (VMM) (Reinforced), attached to 22nd MEU, streaked over the viewing stand to simulate the targeting of enemy positions on the beach.

The next waves of forces consisted of AAVs and Egyptian amphibious assault craft which displayed the maneuverability and firepower amphibious vehicles can deliver on enemy positions ashore.

The last waves brought the MEU's light-armed vehicles and the Humvees of the unit's Combined Anti-Armor Team to the beach aboard landing craft utility (LCU) vessels from Assault Craft Unit (ACU) 2 and Landing Craft Air Cushioned (LCAC) transports from Assault Craft Unit 4.

"This type of training is important because it shows us what we can accomplish working with other forces from around the world," said Cpl. Gabriel T. Church, native of Marion, N.C., and a vehicle commander with Combined Anti-Armor Team, Weapons Company, 3rd Battalion, 2nd Marine Regiment, 22nd MEU. "As the theater reserve force, there are endless possibilities of what we may be asked to do — non-combatant evacuations, humanitarian relief or combat operations. This training helps keep our edge sharpened if the situation calls for it."

Bright Star, the longest running exercise in the U.S. Central Command's (CENTCOM) area of operations, was established in 1981 as a result of the Camp David Peace Accords. The CENTCOM and Egyptian co-sponsored exercise is designed to strengthen military-to-military relationships and improve readiness and interoperability between U.S., Egyptian and Coalition forces.

COMMUNITY BRIEFS

CTC Class Registration
Central Texas College registration will be held until Monday at Building 411 Rm. 109. Classes will also begin Monday. For more information, call 253-3288.

Club Iwakuni Parking Lot
The staff noncommissioned officer parking lot at Club Iwakuni is undergoing renovations that

will open up 16 additional parking spaces. The parking lot will be partially blocked off until Nov. 13. Club Iwakuni and Torii Pines Golf Course will remain open for regular business hours during this time.

Iwakuni Teens
Join us for Club Beyond every Tuesday night. Enjoy games, music, food

and fun plus a short Bible lesson. Club is held in Yujo Hall, between the chapel and thrift shop, 6:30 to 8:00 p.m. every Tuesday. Club Beyond, where friends, fun and faith connect. For more information, call the chapel at 253-3371 or call John at 080-4177-2060.

Birthday Break
The birthday break is

an ongoing promotion held every Friday at 9:15 a.m. on Power 1575 radio. The promotion is open to anyone with a birthday. Just visit www.mccsiwakuni.com/birthdaycake, fill out the form and let Power 1575 and Marine Corps Community Services take care of the rest. Every Friday, birthdays from the previous week will be announced and on the last Friday of every month there will be a random birthday cake giveaway for one birthday in the upcoming month.

The Biggest Saver Coupon Contest
The Personal Financial Management Office is conducting a contest for all authorized patrons of the MCAS Iwakuni commissary Aug. 1 to Oct. 31. The person who saves the most money in coupons during the three-month contest will win an hour-long massage. Take your receipts to the Personal Financial Management Office in Building 411, Room 201. For more information, call 253-6250.

To submit an event, automobile, item or job ad request, please send an e-mail to iwakuni.pao@usmc.mil. Please include a contact name, at least one phone number and the information you would like published. Alternatively, you may submit in person at the Public Affairs Office, Building 1, Room 216.

Chapel Services

Roman Catholic

Saturday 4:30-5:15 p.m. Confession
5:30 p.m. Mass
Sunday 8:30 a.m. Mass
9:45 a.m. Religious Education
Tues. - Fri. 11:30 a.m. Weekday Mass
Wednesday 6 p.m. Inquiry Class for adults

Protestant

Saturday 9:30 a.m. Seventh-Day Adventist Sabbath School
11 a.m. Seventh-Day Adventist Divine Worship
Sunday 9:30 a.m. Sunday School, Adult Bible Fellowship
10:30 a.m. Protestant Service
11 a.m. Children's Church
Wednesday 6 p.m. Awana (Bldg. 1104)
6 p.m. Adult Bible Study (Capodanno Hall Chapel)

Church of Christ

Sunday 9:30 a.m. Bible Study (small chapel)
10:30 a.m. Worship Service

Latter Day Saints

Weekdays 6:30 a.m. Youth 12-17 Activities

Teen Programs

- High School Meetings (Club - grades 9-12)
- Junior High Meetings (Club JV - grades 7-8)
- HS&JR Bible Studies
- Retreats
- Service Projects
- Missions Trip
- Special Events Volunteer Training & Mentoring
- Parent Support Group

Contact the youth director at 080-4177-2060 or jletaw@clubbeyond.org for more information.

For information regarding divine services, religious education or any other command religious program or chapel activity, call the Marine Memorial Chapel at 253-3371.

Registering guests for "trick or treating"

- Status of Forces Agreement personnel may sponsor up to 10 guests per family. All guests must be escorted by a sponsor.
- Master Labor Contract (MLC) or Indirect Hire Agreement (IHA) employees may sponsor their immediate family members; e.g., spouse, children, children's spouse, brothers, sisters, parents, and spouse's parents, up to ten per family.
- Sponsors must meet their guests at the Contractors' Gate 4 - 7 p.m. All guests may exit the air station via the Main Gate after the event.
- Guests' vehicles are prohibited from being parked at the barracks or housing areas.
- Sponsors must pre-register their guests at the Provost Marshal's Office Administrative Section, Building 608 prior to noon Oct. 27.
- "Trick or treating" will be limited to the housing areas only. Bachelor Officer Quarters, Bachelor Enlisted Quarters and office spaces will be off limits.
- From 5 - 7 p.m. Oct. 31, air station residents will not be permitted to sign guests aboard the installation unless they have been pre-registered with the PMO Administration Section. All other visitors must be signed on before or after these times.

Trick or treating hours will be from 1700 - 1900. The Freedom Bridge will only be open to pedestrian traffic.

For more information contact the PMO Administration Section at 253-4843 or Staff Sgt. Julian Perez, PMO Physical Security Section at 253-3423.

Trick or treat, smell my feet, give me something good to eat.

Marine Wing Support Squadron 171 is scheduled to host a free haunted house open to all station residents 5 - 8 p.m. Oct. 29 - 30 at the MWSS-171 Headquarters Building located across from IronWorks Gym. Enter if you dare. Trick or treating will also be included.

SAKURA THEATER

Friday, October 23, 2009

7 p.m. 500 Days of Summer (PG-13) Premier
10 p.m. Halloween 2 (R) Premier

4 p.m. The Time Traveler's Wife (PG-13)
7 p.m. The Final Destination (R)

Monday, October 26, 2009

7 p.m. Surrogate (PG-13)

Saturday, October 24, 2009

1 p.m. Fame (PG) Premier
4 p.m. 500 Days of Summer (PG-13)
7 p.m. The Final Destination (R) Premier
10 p.m. The Goods (R)

Tuesday, October 27, 2009
7 p.m. The Time Traveler's Wife (PG-13)

Wednesday, October 28, 2009

7 p.m. The Goods (R)

Sunday, October 25, 2009

1 p.m. Shorts (PG)

Thursday, October 29, 2009

7 p.m. Fame (PG)

General Admission: Ages 12+ are \$2.50/ Ages 6-11 are \$1/ Children ages 5 and under admitted free. For more information, visit www.mccsiwakuni.com or call 253-5291.

CLASSIFIEDS

Miscellaneous

End Tables

Pair of black, solid wood, glass topped end tables. Sturdy, held up to a baby and toddler with no evident wear. Simple and contemporary shape. Asking \$100 OBO. For more information, call 253-2829 or e-mail krystal.L.white@hotmail.com.

Toothbrush System

Never opened or used Philips Sonicare elite e7300 toothbrush system. Retails over \$100. Asking \$75 OBO. For more information, call 253-2829 or e-mail krystal.L.white@hotmail.com.

Mess Hall Menu

Monday

Cream of mushroom soup, Creole soup, sauerbraten, hot and spicy chicken, fried rice, oven glo potatoes, fried zucchini, calico corn, dinner rolls, potato salad, mixed fruit salad, congo bars, double-layer marble cake with butter cream frosting, blueberry crunch.
Specialty Bar: Pasta

Tuesday

Cream of potatoes soup, chicken noodle soup, southern fried chicken, barbeque beef cube, steamed rice, buttered pasta, black eye peas, Creole squash, macaroni salad, deviled potato salad, chocolate chip cookies, spice cake with butter cream frosting, lemon meringue pie.
Specialty Bar: Taco

Wednesday

Cream of broccoli soup, vegetable soup, tempura fish, pepper steak, steamed rice, oven glo potatoes, glazed carrots, brown gravy, dinner rolls, club spinach, potato salad, country-style tomato salad, peanut butter cookies, double-layer devil's food cake with butter cream frosting, cheese cake.
Specialty Bar: Barbeque

Thursday

Minestrone soup, cream of chicken soup, Creole macaroni, fried shrimp, fettuccini noodles, alfredo sauce, grilled cheese sandwich, tempura vegetables, peas and carrots, dinner rolls, cocktail sauce, macaroni salad, German tomato salad, sugar cookies, strawberry shortcake with whipped topping, vanilla creamed pie.
Specialty Bar: Deli Sandwich

Friday

Clam chowder, minestrone soup, braised beef and noodles, baked fish, mashed potatoes, fried cabbage, mix vegetables, chicken gravy, dinner rolls, potato salad, spinach salad, banana bread, shortbread cookies, Dutch apple pie.
Specialty Bar: Hot Dog

Sims 2

Sims 2 for PC - \$30
Sims 2 Pets - \$15
Sims 2 Nightlife - \$15
Sims 2 Open for Business - \$15
Sims 2 Family Fun Stuff - \$5
Sims 2 H&M Fashion Stuff - \$5
Sims 2 Glamour Life Stuff - \$5
Sims 2 Kitchen & Bath Stuff - \$5
Or \$80 OBO for all. For more information, call 253-2829 or e-mail krystal.L.white@hotmail.com for more info.

DVD Movies

The Nightmare Before Christmas Collector's Edition with digital copy, Race To Witch Mountain, Space Buddies, James and

the Giant Peach, Bolt, Beverly Hills Chihuahua, 101 Dalmations II Special Edition, Jungle Book II Special Edition, Little Mermaid Ariel's Beginning, Little Mermaid II Special Edition, Baby Einstein Baby's Favorite Places, Sleeping Beauty 50th Anniversary Edition. All unopened and never watched. Asking \$10 each or \$100 for all 12.
For more information, call 253-2829 or e-mail krystal.L.white@hotmail.com.

Jobs

NMCRS Volunteer Opportunities

Every day sailors, Marines and their families come to the Navy-Marine Corps Relief Society in emergencies. Be that friendly person who lets them know they've come to the right place. Client Services Assistants volunteers greet clients and guide them through the initial intake process. To apply for this opportunity, call 253-5311.

got news?

Do you have an idea for a story or need coverage for an event? We are here for you. Contact the Public Affairs office two weeks in advance by e-mail at iwakuni.pao@usmc.mil, call 253-5551 or stop by Building 1, room 216.

October: Crime Prevention Month

DAVID HAMMELL
CONTRIBUTED

The month of October is recognized as Crime Prevention Month by the National Crime Prevention Council and many other organizations in the United States, including the United States Marine Corps. This month is a time for us to step back from our daily hustle and think about our community's safety.

Being that Marine Corps Air Station Iwakuni is relatively safe, we sometimes put our guard down, and this month is meant as a reminder to stay vigilant.

The military police assigned to the Provost Marshal's Office do an excellent job; however, the job of everyone aboard the air station is to remain alert to criminal activity.

You should make yourself and your property a hard target for criminals.

A hard target is a person or property protected from criminal activity.

This can be achieved easily by ensuring your windows and doors are secured in your house and vehicles, and by never leaving personally identifiable information unsecured.

Taking these minor precautions make you a hard target to the most seasoned criminals and make crimes of opportunity less prevalent.

October is also Halloween time, a holiday targeted at our children.

We have all heard the stories of evil doers who place harmful items in candy and hand them out to children on Halloween.

As disheartening as it sounds, the reality is there are people who want to ruin Halloween for children; therefore, it is our responsibility as parents and as a community to ensure it does not happen to any child aboard MCAS Iwakuni.

To protect our children during one of the most vulnerable nights of the year, we just need to take some simple steps.

For instance, let your children have fun collecting all the candy they want; however, tell them not to eat any of their candy until a parent has had a chance to inspect it. A simple inspection of the outer wrapper of candy for any tampering is all it takes.

Also, stick to the known brands of candy and do not allow your children to eat homemade candy.

According to "How often does Halloween tampering really happen," an article on www.tlc.com, "...Until the year 2000, there hadn't been a single proven incident in which a child was injured by Halloween candy from a stranger.

That Halloween, James Joseph Smith of Minneapolis was charged with one count of adulterating a substance with intent to cause death, harm or illness after he put needles into candy bars and handed them out. One child was pricked with a needle when he bit into a candy bar, but neither he nor any other children were seriously injured."

Taking these few precautions is a huge step in reducing crime aboard our air station and a way for all members of our community to remain safe and be a part of crime prevention.



"Blast from the Past"

A live 2-hour radio show featuring the best of the 50s, 60s and 70s. Every Monday 7 - 9 p.m. on power 1575.

Regulators get sweet taste of victory with side of chili

CPL. JOSEPH MARIANELLI
IWAKUNI APPROACH STAFF

The Regulators proved their namesake, leveling all-comers and eliminating the Longballs 23-5 to take first place in the 2009 Chili Slip-N-Slide Softball Tournament at Penny Lake here Saturday.

The Longballs were defeated by the Regulators early in the double-elimination tournament and wrangled back from the losers' bracket for a chance at revenge and the title. The championship action started out as expected with both teams performing like well-oiled machines.

After the second inning, the score was just 6-3 with victory up for grabs. Unfortunately for the Longballs, the Regulators went on a ferocious tear in the top of the third, chalking up 17 runs and putting the score at 23-3.

Nothing seemed to go quite right for the Longballs as the Regulators dropped hit after hit into the outfield gaps or blasted frozen ropes past the Longballs' first and third basemen. The Longballs managed to bring in two more runs in the bottom of the third, but the game was called once the side was retired, and the game ended 23-5.

The Regulators had indeed regulated. "Our strategy was just come out here and have fun," Rodney Buentello, Regulators' coach and second baseman, said. "It's the last tournament of the season, and we just played team ball."

The Longballs had no shortage of talent demonstrated by their climb from the losers' bracket, but the Regulators seemed to have the all-around package crucial for success. "Softball is 80 percent mental, 50 percent physical, 60 percent of the time," said Buentello.

Whatever that means, it seems important.

After trophy presentations for first and second place, there was a home run derby, fastest base run and a throwing contest.

Carlton K. Kohler, Longballs player, won the home-run derby, posting three home-runs out of five attempts.

"The only person I want to thank is Gunny B," said Kohler. Longballs' James K. Hayes easily took the fastest base runner with a time of 11.87 seconds.

Seth Hershberger of the IYOYAS won the throwing competition.

But the day of fun in the sun wasn't just about softball; the event just wouldn't make sense without chili.

The five chili entries varied from straight out of the can to wild homemade selections incorporating bacon or one number that was a conglomeration of five different chili recipes.

"I brought an 18-quart crock-pot, it's all gone and I didn't win," Cynthia Wichner, creator of the five recipe combination chili, said.

"The whole point is to feed all of the guys of an awesome tournament," she added. "I did it to feed."

Longballs' right fielder Denean Massengale defended her title and won best chili for the second year in a row when the judges selected her meat and bean concoction in a 2-1 decision.

Cody Massengale, son of Clinton and Denean Massengale, said his mother's chili was the only one out of the five entries he could eat.

He may have been slightly biased. "Don't let the hubby do it, and we're from Texas," Denean Massengale said when asked about her secret for success.

Fortunately for other chili creators, the Massengales won't be around for next year's event to defend their title.



Carlton K. Kohler cranks the ball for another home run during the home run derby portion of the 2009 Chili Slip-N-Slide Softball Tournament at Penny Lake here Saturday. Kohler managed three home runs out of five attempts to win the derby during the finals of the event.



Tony Stone, head umpire, serves himself another bowl of Denean Massengale's winning chili during the 2009 Chili Slip-N-Slide Softball Tournament at Penny Lake here Saturday. Of the five entries, judges voted Massengale's chili the best for the second year in a row in a 2-1 decision.



Clinton Massengale, Longballs' pitcher, unloads a pitch during the championship game of the 2009 Chili Slip-N-Slide Softball Tournament at Penny Lake here Saturday. Unfortunately for the Longballs, the Regulators proved their namesake and crushed the Longballs 23-5 in the championship game.

American Idol sensation, rising stars hit stage

LANCE CPL. MIRANDA BLACKBURN
IWAKUNI APPROACH STAFF

Within just a couple days of each other, platinum-artist Elliott Yamin and rising band Clarias both came to show their support for troops during a United Services Organizations tour throughout Guam and Japan.

Screaming teenage girls rushed the stage as Yamin made his first appearance on the parade deck here Oct. 14.

This was Yamin's second USO tour and seventh trip to Japan within the last year and a half.

"I'm here for you guys," Yamin said. "The gratitude we get from the men and women of the armed forces is amazing, but we're just as grateful to you guys."

During the concert Yamin performed songs from both his self-titled album and his sophomore album, "Fight for Love," but saved his first radio single, "Wait for You," for the end of the show.

The array of fans joined in to sing the final song of the performance.

"That's the beauty of music," said Yamin. "To be able to take people's minds off the mundane things of everyday life is a great thing."

The Boston-based band Clarias arrived in Iwakuni Oct. 16 just two days after Yamin's performance.

The band of brothers and college friends made their way to Iwakuni after touring several military bases throughout Guam and Japan.

Clarias' upbeat and lively mu-

sic kept the crowd pumped up throughout their two-hour performance.

"The music we play is pop/rock. It's commercial, it's accessible. Everyone likes it," said drummer Jordan Lipp.

There is one difference from Clarias and most other rising artists in the pop/rock genre, though; they are determined to make it big without getting signed by a major record label.

"The whole thing is, without the help of a record label no band has actually made it, so we're in a weird dynamic in the music industry right now," said Lipp.

It wasn't hard to tell the band was passionate about what they do.

"We believe in what we do and want other people to believe in it, so obviously we want to share it with as many people as we can, and if that means we have to stand around and listen to it while other people enjoy it, that's totally cool because we like to see other people enjoy music," said Lipp. "That's why we play."

Clarias not only wants to do a tour when they get back to the states, but also made it very clear they plan on doing another American Forces Entertainment or USO tour as soon as they can.

"The shows have just gone off so well," said Lipp. "Everyone's just giving us such good vibes from the audience, and they're just so encouraging that we have no choice than to put out our best show for them."



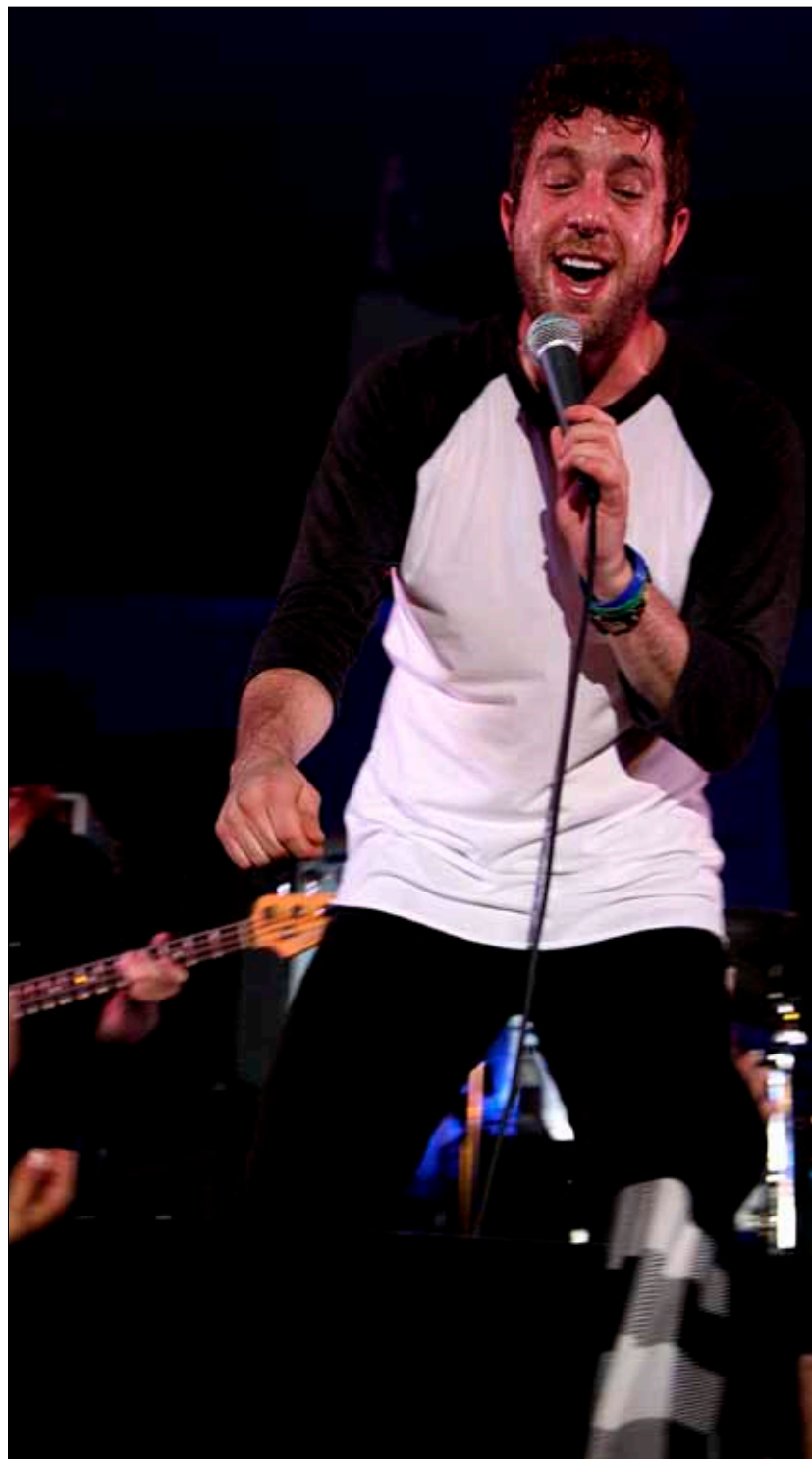
SGT. JOSH COX

A young girl sits on her mother's shoulders during the Elliott Yamin concert at the parade deck Oct. 14. This was Yamin's second United Services Organization tour and his seventh time touring Japan.



LANCE CPL. MIRANDA BLACKBURN

Guitarist Paul Lipp and bass guitarist Damian Gates jam during their performance at the parade deck here Oct. 16. The Boston-based band Clarias made their way to Iwakuni after touring several military bases throughout Guam and Japan during a United Services Organization tour.



LANCE CPL. MIRANDA BLACKBURN

Elliott Yamin performs a track off of his new album "Fight for Love" at the parade deck here Oct. 14 during a United Services Organization tour of Guam and Japan. Yamin placed third in the fifth season of American Idol and came out with his hit single "Wait for You" in 2007.