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IWAKUNI APPROACH

Issue No. 45, Vol. 2 | Marine Corps Air Station Iwakuni, Japan

HFVP puts extra bread on tables

LANCE CPL. MIRANDA BLACKBURN
IWAKUNI APPROACH STAFF

The holidays are just around the corner, and everyone is looking forward to enjoying the things that come with the holiday season: turkey dinners, Christmas lights, decorations, ginger bread houses and the smell of cinnamon and hot chocolate.

This is a time that should be spent with family and friends and is also known as the season of giving.

This year you can help others enjoy the holiday festivities.

The Holiday Food Voucher Program (HFVP) is a charitable program that provides people a chance to give the blessing of good fortune this holiday season.

Donations made to the HFVP help provide vouchers to families within the Marine Corps Air Station Iwakuni community.

Each voucher presented to families aboard the station can be redeemed at the Commissary, Club Iwakuni or at the Crossroads food court.

"This year's HFVP is well on its way," said Sgt. Maj. David J. Wimberly, station sergeant major.

"The first increment of the program, which encompasses the Thanksgiving holiday meal, serviced 39 service members.

Each voucher has a face value of \$50. We had residual cash from unused portions of the program's last year's donations; we have \$3,925.87 to work with for the two holiday periods."

Private organizations and units are encouraged to contribute to the HFVP to provide relief for service members and their families during the holiday season.

"One may contribute by stopping by the Marine Corps Community Services financial office to donate money by specifying that it is for the Holiday Food Voucher Program," said Lt. Cmdr. Allen Kuss, the station chaplain.

The following private organizations contributed to the HFVP for fiscal year 2009: the Iwakuni Dental Association, Filipino American Association, SeaBee's Association, Aircraft

SEE HFVP ON PAGE 3

Marines train with Israeli Special Forces



LANCE CPL. CHRIS KUTLESA

Marines clear a room during a counter-terrorism course at the Indoor Small-Arms Range here Nov. 19. The course was a week long and instructed by former members of the Israeli Task Force. The course was designed for members of the Special Reaction Team but was open to other Marines. Read the full story on pages 6-7.

Thrift Store reopens doors after extensive remodeling project, offers deals for station

SGT. JOSH COX
IWAKUNI APPROACH STAFF

Marine Corps Air Station Iwakuni's Thrift Store opened its doors to shoppers over the weekend following a complete restoration project.

Renovations and an expansion of the store began approximately two months ago and culminated in a ribbon cutting ceremony here Saturday afternoon.

"This is really a big deal," said Col. Michael A. O'Halloran, station commanding officer, during the store's official ribbon cutting. "All the money that comes in here, it is just pure — it's turned right back around

... it goes right back to the community. About \$50,000 last year went right back out into the community. As a private organization, the Thrift Store does so much."

According to Gwen Peterson, the Thrift Store's manager, "customers are in for an enjoyable experience as they shop in the clean, organized, well-lit, state-of-the-art sales floor."

The store, which relies on donations and a dedicated volunteer staff to operate effectively, offers many bargains for the local community.

"The Thrift Store is not just a Thrift Store; it's a lot more than that," said Candice O'Halloran,

who assisted in the coordination of the project.

Mrs. O'Halloran said the store assists newcomers, military families in distress and community programs with funds generated from store sales.

"We have a free uniform area for the military," Mrs. O'Halloran said.

The store includes a special corner offering military clothing and memorabilia — items completely free for active duty service members.

The facility also incorporates a newly paved driveway exclusively for donation drop-

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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

'A metaphysically Happy Thanksgiving at the table of the Grand Mystery'

LT. NORBERT J. KARAVA
MAG-12 DEPUTY CHAPLAIN

One of the great shocks innocent minds experience when they are introduced to philosophy is that for years, up to the moment of the discovery, they have been blinded by the obvious: No one can prove, by mathematical or syllogistic reasoning, the things we experience by way of our senses actually exist as extra-mental, independent-of-our-experience realities.

Hence the celebrated question: Does the tree you see in your back yard still exist after you've left the premises and no longer see it?

Whereas it is true we cannot prove the things underlying our sense experiences actually exist independently, it is not true that we cannot know they exist.

The existence of a thing is an on-going dynamic event of which we are aware, but which we cannot grasp. That which makes things real cannot be defined or quantified. One of the greatest mistakes we can make is to limit our ability to know what we can prove; in that event, we make ourselves the unhappy and lonely prisoners of our own mere mental devices.

There are basically two

interpretations of this on-going event we call reality: One, it is merely a naked factuality in itself void of all meaning and therefore absurd, or two, it is innately good, in the sense of something wonderfully gratuitous. The first interpretation is the origin for all of humanity's pessimism, jadedness, indifference, sociopathic behaviors and attitudes, and yes, its ultimate excuse for selfishness and suicide.

The second is the only explanation for this particular mammal's ability to understand goodness, gratuity and kindness, and by extension, to experience guilt, and yes, gratitude. Because of their innate goodness, things are not only mysterious but wonderfully mysterious in the sense of being an ongoing act of not only existence but kindness. It is not an accident the phenomenon called "religion" has inevitably taken place in the wake of the second interpretation: In the Genesis story for example, God "sees" the things He created are "good." And so, not only God, but things themselves are innately and wonderfully mysterious.

Including you, even though you are no mere thing! What then are the two first symptoms of a

mind that has had the courage to entertain reality? One humility before a wonder that exceeds our ability to measure or grasp; two, gratitude in response to a gesture of gratuitous kindness impossible to repay and before which all of our false senses of entitlement vanish like the mist before the rising sun.

It is when we are cranky, sulky, mean-spirited, morose, depressed, angry, vengeful, envious and lustful that we need to be blind-sided by the obvious: We simply are not grateful and therefore not in contact with reality, or, in other words, existentially (not psychologically!) insane.

Our souls are such that it is impossible for them to be simultaneously grateful and in any of the negative states mentioned above. Gratitude is our normal state of affairs.

Similarly, it is not possible for us to turn our backs on reality without becoming selfish and self-destructive.

And so, as we carve our Thanksgiving turkeys, which we don't really deserve, let us wonder at the unspeakable kindness of a life given, which we deserve entirely less, and allow ourselves to be brought back to our true, sane and grateful selves.

How to properly dispose computers, storage devices

GUNNERY SGT. JOSE PALOSCHAVEZ
STATION OPERATIONS
SECURITY OFFICER

As computers and other electronic devices become obsolete sooner due to new technology, disposal of personal information is of serious concern. Just one hard drive or compact disc has the potential to contain thousands of files.

So what is the best way to properly dispose of a computer or storage device?

Proper disposal depends on whether it is a government or personal one. Most government computers and storage devices are managed by Navy Marine Corps Intranet.

In this case, NMCI will ensure all applicable DoD guidelines are adhered to. Computers or storage devices owned by the government and not managed by NMCI require proper disposal, too. Approval by the unit Information Assurance manager is required.

Department of Defense guidelines require any information residing on government hard drives or storage devices be degaussed with a degausser appearing on the National Security Agency's evaluated products listing and must be physically destroyed. In addition, all destructions must be approved in writing by the unit security manager.

Disposal discipline is highly recommended for your own personal computer and storage devices because personal information tends to accumulate over a period of time. Accumulated information may include e-mails, bank statements, medical, income-tax, spreadsheets, call logs and images.

All of this information may lead to a potential identity theft. A recommended solution to properly dispose of your own personal computer is to format all the hard drives or storage devices in their entirety.

Another solution is to download BCWipe, a 32-bit disk and file wiping utility from the Navy Information Assurance Web site at <https://infosec.navy.mil>. Once there, click on the COMPUSEC Tools link. In order to reach the site and download the software you must use a government computer.

Classified military information and equipment requires specific destruction methods. Your unit security manager has access to approved destruction equipment. Approval for destruction of any classified documents or equipment is required from your unit security manager. Peace of mind comes by knowing your personal information is properly disposed.

Security, whether government or personal, is an ongoing process.

For more information on OPSEC, call 253-4247.

got news?

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.



Marine Corps Air Station Iwakuni commanding officer, Col. Michael A. O'Halloran, flanked by Candice O'Halloran (left), Thrift Store manager Gwen Peterson (right), and volunteers, directs a ribbon-cutting ceremony for the Thrift Store Saturday. Renovations and an expansion of the store began approximately two months ago and culminated in a grand opening ceremony over the weekend.

Thrift Store offers more bang for buck

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offs. A specific gated area is designated for the donations.

The Thrift Store is open for shoppers on Wednesdays and Fridays from 10 a.m. to 12 p.m., and resumes business from 4 p.m. to 7 p.m.

The Thrift Store is located in Building 1117, next to Yujo Hall and a newly erected playground, commonly referred to as Happy Park.

"The park is another success, and it's all flowing nicely," Mrs. O'Halloran added.

"I think it's great for the community."

For more information about the Thrift Store, donation criteria, volunteer opportunities or assistance, call 253-4711.

HFVP assists families in need during holidays

HFVP FROM PAGE 1

Rescue Fire Fighting, Tsuda Orphanage, Matthew C. Perry Elementary School Parent Teacher Organization, Medical Association, Iwakuni Official Association and the Mt. Fuji Military Lodge.

The Boy Scouts, Girl Scouts, station chapel, Iwakuni Chief Petty Officer Association, Filipino American Association, SeaBee's

Association, Mt. Fuji Lodge, Genesis Lodge, Calvary Chapel and the Thrift Store contributed to the HFVP last year along with other private contributors.

The HFVP is a combined effort put together by the station command, Marine Corps Community Services and the chaplain's office.

According to III Marine Expeditionary Force and Marine Corps Bases Japan Order 1700.5, eligible recipients include single-income

families of active duty Marines and sailors (E-4 and below) and DOD employees (GS-05 and below) with at least one child or other legal dependent.

Eligibility also includes single-income families of active duty Marines and sailors (E-5) with two or more children or other legal dependents.

"This is just another way for Marines to help their fellow Marines," said Wimberly. "Never be too proud to ask for a little assistance."

To find out how to receive a Holiday Food Voucher, contact the station chapel at 253-3371.

Station Provost Marshal's Office to enforce regulations

All U.S. active-duty personnel assigned to III Marine Expeditionary Force and Marine Corps Bases Japan at Marine Corps Air Station Iwakuni are required to always keep their liberty card in their possession along with their Department of Defense identification card.

Personnel should have them both ready for presentation when entering the air station.

The Provost Marshal's Office here will be checking liberty cards at all entry points, whether walking or in a vehicle, 24 hours a day regardless of rank.

Outbound personnel will also be checked for their identification and liberty card at random.

Community joins in American Cancer Society's efforts for tobacco cessation



Runners take off from the starting line for the Great American Smokeout 5K/10K Run on the seawall here Nov. 19. Forty-seven community members participated in the national event that is designed to encourage tobacco users to quit using tobacco products.



SGT. ROBERT DURHAM

A woman performs nihon buyou, a form of traditional Japanese dancing, before an audience assembled at Kikko Park in Iwakuni city during the Kintaiyo Momiji (Kintai Bridge Maple Leaf Festival) Sunday. Various forms of Japanese traditional music and dance forms were showcased throughout the park during the festival.

Kintai brings crowds despite cold, rain

SGT. ROBERT DURHAM
IWAKUNI APPROACH STAFF

It seems there is always someone. In almost every public space where Marines gather, you will likely hear at least one person complaining non-stop about how bored they are and how they wish there was something to do. Well, if you sat around on your behind in the barracks this weekend, you missed quite a party.

The three-day "Kintaiyo Momiji," or Kintai Bridge Maple Leaf Festival, played host to thousands at Kikko Park in Iwakuni city.

The festival is an opportunity to appreciate the thousands of maple trees and their brightly colored leaves. It is also a chance to reflect on the change of season while enjoying

Japanese culture, crafts and food.

"I love this culture. I try to check out all the festivals they have here," said Lance Cpl. Christopher Lorio, a data network specialist with Marine Wing Support Squadron 171.

"It's a once in a lifetime opportunity for me to be able to see Japan. It's pretty great," he said.

A variety of live performances by musicians, singers and dancers entertained audiences young and old at select locations throughout the park.

Dozens of vendors' booths dotted the area. People sold everything from locally made sake to bamboo toys made on site.

For those arriving with empty stomachs, plenty of opportunities to try the local fare were everywhere. Locally made sushi, pot



SGT. ROBERT DURHAM

A monkey trainer watches his monkey balance on a ball before an audience assembled at Kikko Park in Iwakuni city during the Kintaiyo Momiji (Kintai Bridge Maple Leaf Festival) Sunday. The festival offered Japanese food, live performances and vendors selling a variety of arts and crafts.

stew and oysters were just some of the cuisine available. If that wasn't enough, the thick, made from scratch noodles, could probably subdue the strongest of appetites.

Even after the temperature dropped and light rain set in, most visitors braved the wet weather and carried on under the protection of umbrellas.

Everyone should be reminded the Kintai Bridge area and Kikko Park are fantastic local spots to visit even when there isn't a festival going on. Most attractions in the area stay open until at least 5 p.m.

One of the best parts about this place for the E-1 through E-3 budget, is a person could potentially spend all day at the park and not spend a dime.

"This costs nothing to check (Kikko Park) out," said Lance Cpl. Ian Stutsam, a data network specialist with MWSS 171.

"I know it's expensive to live in Japan, but if you don't take advantage of seeing the culture, then you're pretty stupid, because this is pretty much free," he said.

There are many places to visit here almost any time of year.

The Kintai Bridge was originally built in 1673. Three-hundred yen will get you a ticket to cross both ways.

You can see the white snake sanctuary containing sacred live snakes for a small donation. These snakes are unique to Iwakuni and are considered a Japanese national treasure.

Iwakuni Castle is accessible by foot or by cable car for a fee. Once on top of the mountain you can see all the way to the air station. The castle itself is a museum that contains many historical artifacts, including weaponry and calligraphy.

The Mikata house is a free attraction. This traditionally built home was the residence of a mid-ranking samurai who lived in the 18th century.

The Kikko Shrine is another interesting and free site where good luck charms can be obtained for a donation.

There are also two art museums with modern and historical artwork from the area.

Even if you bring absolutely no yen, the gardens, fountains and streams in the park are worth a gander.

A cab ride to the bridge can cost up to 2000 yen, but the trip can be made rather easily from the air station via bicycle in about 15 minutes.

Chaplain Corps heals emotional wounds

LANCE CPL. CHRIS KUTLESA
IWAKUNI APPROACH STAFF

United States military chaplains all over the world celebrated the the Chaplain Corps' birthday Nov.21. "The birthday celebrates chaplains' involvement throughout the history of the U.S military," said Lt. Cmdr. Denis Cox, Marine Aircraft Group 12 chaplain.

The second article of Navy Regulations reads, "The Commanders of the ships of the thirteen United Colonies are to take care that divine services be performed twice a day on board and a sermon preached on

The move to have chaplains teach aboard ships made sense, considering most learning institutions at the time were faith based.

In fact, the switch toward having chaplains teach aboard ships prompted Chaplain George Jones to campaign for a Naval Academy in 1839. Six years after his campaign, the Naval School at Annapolis, which later became the U.S. Naval Academy, opened its doors.

By 1906, the Chaplain Corps began to move away from filling the role of both teacher and pastor and instead focused strictly on spiritual practices. It was around this time that

"When a service member needs to heal their emotional wounds, a chaplain will be there to help start the process."

Lt. Cmdr. Denis Cox
Marine Aircraft Group 12 chaplain

Sundays, unless bad weather or other extraordinary accidents prevent."

On Nov. 28, 1775, that article was adopted and thus the Chaplain Corps was born.

The first chaplain known to have served in the Continental Navy was Reverend Benjamin Balch, who served aboard the frigate Boston in October 1778. The Chaplain Corps' early history has not been as well documented as the later.

By Jan. 25, 1802, a new edition of the Naval regulations read,

"He is to read prayers at stated periods; perform all funeral ceremonies; perform the duty of schoolmaster instructing the midshipmen and volunteers in writing, arithmetic, navigation and whatever else they might need to make them proficient; and teach the other youths of the ship as the captains orders."

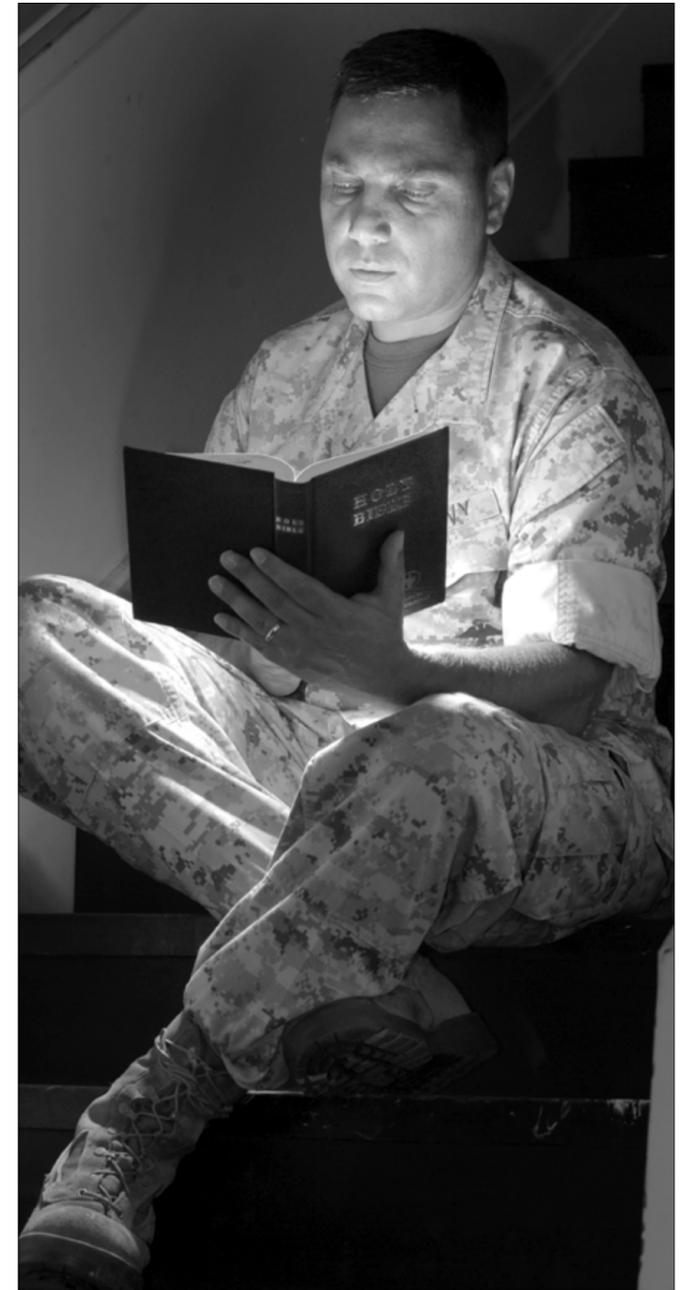
the Secretary of the Navy established the Chaplain Corps we are more familiar with today.

From 1906 on, it became required that all chaplains graduate both college and seminary school along with receiving a recommendation from their respective denominations.

Today's chaplains are deployed all over the world in support of military members currently in theater.

Providing services in a variety of religions, the Chaplain Corps has provided spiritual guidance for 234 years.

"When a service member needs to heal their emotional wounds, a chaplain will be there to help start the process," said Cox. "In the fox holes, chow halls, barracks and workplace, we serve our country's service members wherever they might be."



MARINE CORPS BASE CAMP LEJEUNE

Emergency phone numbers for the station

Anti-Terrorism Force Protection Hotline 253-2837

This line should be used to report suspicious persons or vehicles, suspicious activities or to report people taking pictures aboard the air station

All Emergencies 119 or 911

This line should be utilized for "life, limb or loss of vision threatening" emergencies, nearby building(s) on fire, medical assist, assaults, domestic violence, rape and sexual assaults, traffic accidents, hazardous material spills, dead persons or suspicious packages.

From a Cellular Telephone (0827) 21-7700

This line should be utilized to report emergencies requiring bilingual capability (Japanese - English) or to report emergencies using a cell phone while aboard the station.

Provost Marshal's Office - Security Issues 253-3303



ALL CLEAR!



LANCE CPL. CHRIS KUTLESA

Marines clear a room during a counter-terrorism course at the Indoor Small-Arms Range here Nov. 19. The course was a week long and instructed by former members of the Israeli Special Forces. Twenty-seven Marines attended the course that focused on active shooter scenarios, i.e. Fort Hood.



LANCE CPL. CHRIS KUTLESA

Nir Maman gives individual instruction to a Marine during a counter-terrorism course at the indoor small arms range here Nov. 19. The course was a week long and instructed by former members of the Israeli Special Forces. Maman stayed here for two weeks before moving onto more training course in the United States and Canada.



LANCE CPL. CHRIS KUTLESA

Marines rush to clear a makeshift room during a counter-terrorism course at the Indoor Small-Arms Range here Nov. 19. The course was a week long and instructed by former members of the Israeli Special Forces. Lt. Col. Tray J. Ardesse began to plan the course over three months before the course actually took place.



LANCE CPL. CHRIS KUTLESA

Nir Maman gives feedback during a counter-terrorism course at the Indoor Small-Arms range here Nov. 19. The course was a week long and instructed by former members of the Israeli Special Forces. Maman left the Israeli Task Force three months and now is a full time instructor for military forces.

Marines participate in weeklong counter-terrorism training

LANCE CPL. CHRIS KUTLESA
IWAKUNI APPROACH STAFF

A tall man shouts, "You aren't paying attention to your surroundings!" His uniform is black and blue, noticeably different from the Marines he is instructing, and his slight accent makes you wonder where this guy is from. He goes off to the side and talks to a colleague in Hebrew. OK, so the guy is from Israel. What is he doing here? The gentleman's name is Nir Maman and his background is with the Israeli Special Forces. For one week, Nov. 16-20, he trained 27 Marines from Marine Corps Air Station Iwakuni, Japan, in the tactics used by Israelis in an active-shooter scenario, i.e. Fort Hood. "This training is unique in the fact that it caters to counter terrorism," said Staff Sgt. Jason M. Jensen, Headquarters and Headquarter Squadron S-3 operations chief here. "It's not the traditional Marine Corps military operations in urban terrain. It deals with active shooter scenarios, such as Columbine, where people are going around killing innocent civilians."

The timing of the training and the events that unfolded at Fort Hood are a coincidence, but none the less have sent a message on the importance of such training. Lt. Col. Tray J. Ardesse, H&HS commanding officer, planned the training nearly three months ago. Although the training was designed for the Special Reaction Team here, it was open to Marines with different occupational specialties from around the station. "We all have to be combat ready, and this was a great chance for Marines from different kinds of fields to come in here and whoop it on," said Jensen. Most of the drills the Marines participated in took place at the Indoor Small-Arms Range here in makeshift rooms that would constantly change shape via moveable panels. When the Marines weren't clearing rooms, they were in the classroom or firing live rounds. Most of the Marines agreed that the hardest part about the class was getting over their previous training. "At first, it's really tough to wrap your head around the knowledge," said Sgt. Bryce C. Good, a customs chief and SRT team leader here. "The training is good, but it is

completely different in almost every aspect, which makes it really hard to learn at first." According to Good, the biggest difference is the method the Israeli Special Forces uses to clear rooms. "Our whole concept is that you never enter a room by yourself, and we are a little more conscious, where they don't really focus on the unknown and they just focus on moving ahead and clearing; it's pretty ruthless," said Good. Considering the frequency of attacks Israel experiences, Good said he has begun to understand why the Israeli Special Forces executes clearing procedures the way they do. This past week a group of Marines had another opportunity to train with Maman's colleague, Shay Amir, in close protect techniques typically used by V.I.P. bodyguards. "It's good that the command is bringing in people from around the world to bring us different views and new methods of training," said Cpl. Adrian Solis, a military policeman here. "This is a rare opportunity, and I think everyone is excited to be here."



LANCE CPL. CHRIS KUTLESA

Marines prepare to clear a room during a counter-terrorism course at the Indoor Small-Arms range here Nov. 19. The course was a week long and instructed by former members of the Israeli Special Forces. Most of the Marines that attended the course said the most difficult part about the course was ignoring previous training.



CORPS NEWS

HIGHLIGHTING MARINES AND SAILORS AROUND THE GLOBE



SGT. MARK FAYLOGA

Members of the rifle detail perform a 3-volley salute during 2nd Battalion, 3rd Marine Regiment's memorial service for nine Marines and one sailor killed in support of Operation Enduring Freedom. Hundreds attended the memorial service Nov. 17 that took place between Hangars 1 and 2 aboard Marine Corps Base Hawaii.

HONORING THEIR BROTHERS

"While service members respectfully raised their right hand to the brim of their cover, many couldn't fight the single tear which fell from their eyes, knowing this marked the final goodbye to their brothers."

LANCE CPL. CASSANDRA FLOWERS
MARINE CORPS BASE HAWAII

MARINE CORPS BASE, Hawaii — Marines, sailors, family and friends gathered for a memorial service to honor the nine Marines and one Navy corpsman from 2nd Battalion, 3rd Marine Regiment who were killed in action while supporting Operation Enduring Freedom. The service took place between Hangars 101 and 102 aboard Marine Corps Base Hawaii Nov. 17.

The entire 3rd Regiment was in attendance to honor the courage and sacrifice of their fallen brothers. Memorialized were: Lance Cpl. James Argentine, Lance Cpl. Travis Babine, Lance Cpl. Joshua Bernard, Petty Officer 3rd Class Anthony Garcia, Cpl. Christian GuzmanRivera, Sgt. Jay Hoskins, Cpl. Matthew Lembke, Lance Cpl. John Malone, Lance Cpl. Alfonso Ochoa Jr., and Lance Cpl. Joshua Whittle.

Ten rifles with fixed bayonets lined up across the flight line, with a Kevlar — rested on the buttstock of each rifle, identification tags draped from each pistol grip, and a pair of combat boots at the bottom of the memorial.

Photos of the fallen Marines and sailor were staged next to the field memorials reminding the onlookers of the heroism of these men.

"Where do we find such men?" asked Lt. Col. Patrick Cashman, commanding officer, 2/3. "We don't find them, they find us. Something in the way they're raised, something in their formative years drives them to seek out challenges, conflict and sacrifice, and it's a good thing they do."

During the ceremony, Marines read Bible verses from the Ecclesiastes 3:1-11 and Psalm 23. "Amazing Grace" was played on bagpipes to honor the men and their bravery.

Leaders then performed their final roll call, along with a 3-volley salute. Tears rolled down the cheeks of family and friends, as the first startling crack of a rifle was let off.

Service members stood at the position of attention and honored the men with a final salute as the somber echo of "Taps" filled the airfield.

While service members respectfully raised their right hand to the brim of their cover, many couldn't fight the single tear which fell from their eyes, knowing this marked the final goodbye to their brothers.

Many Marines coped with the loss of their brothers by sharing stories with one another, and family and friends.



SGT. MARK FAYLOGA

Navy Lt. Randal K. Potter comforts Blanca Ochoa as she grieves at the memorial of her husband Lance Cpl. Alfonso Ochoa Jr. Hundreds attended 2nd Battalion, 3rd Marine Regiment's memorial service Nov. 17 that took place between Hangars 1 and 2 aboard Marine Corps Base Hawaii to honor the deaths of nine Marines and one sailor killed in support of Operation Enduring Freedom.

"It really helps to know that my son was so well taken care of," said Velma Torres, mother of GuzmanRivera. "Talking to the Marines who lived with him every day was really comforting. It's great to know that his own special family loved him. He was really taken care of out there."

Many of the fallen service members' families attended the ceremony. They agreed the ceremony gave them closure on their tragedies and added they were so proud of their lost loved ones.

Torres said the emotional ceremony, which honored her son and the men he fought with, was beautiful. She said to look at the same sky her son saw in Hawaii put her at ease, and brought her peace. She knows her son did what was right for him, but will never forget his words, "I'll be home soon."

COMMUNITY BRIEFS

Hawaiian Gospel Christmas Concert

The Hawaiian Gospel Hula Team and Christmas Gospel Mass Choir will hold its Christmas concert at the Sinfonia Iwakuni Dec. 5 at 6 p.m. with featured guest soloist Dorothy Morrison. Tickets are available at MCCS IT&T or at Sinfonia Iwakuni. For more information, call 090-4104-1541.

JMSDF Christmas Concert

The JMSDF Kure Marching Band will be holding its Christmas Music Concert at Sinfonia Iwakuni Dec. 6 from 2-4 p.m. The concert hall will be open to the audience at 1 p.m. The event is free, but tickets are required to

enter the hall. Tickets are available on a first come first served basis at the Public Affairs Office Rm. 216, Bldg. 1 and MCCS Information and Referral in the Crossroads Mall. For more information, call 253-5551.

Library Renovations

A re-carpeting project is scheduled 9 a.m.-5 p.m. Dec. 7-13 at the station library. During this time, the fiction, DVD and children's section, and computer lab will be closed off. The station library will be closed to all patrons Dec. 14-18 to finish the project. Normal library hours will resume Dec. 19.

Iwakuni Teens

Enjoy games, music, food and fun plus a short Bible

lesson at Club Beyond every Tuesday night. Club Beyond is held in Yujo Hall, between the chapel and thrift shop, 6:30 to 8:00 p.m. every Tuesday. For more information, call the chapel at 253-3371 or call John at 080-4177-2060.

Hornet's Nest Renovations

The Hornet's Nest is currently undergoing renovations scheduled to be completed June 2010. The recreational areas will be under renovation until March 1. The gym area will be closed March 1-June 1. The Cyber Café, located in Building 1345 will remain open 24 hours a day seven days a week during the renovations. Single Marine Program trips will continue and

can be paid for in the Cyber Café or the Marine Lounge. For more information, contact Jay Stovall at 253-3585.

UMUC Spring Registration

Registration for spring sessions is underway. On site classes start from Jan. 18 to Mar. 14. Distance Education classes start Jan. 25 to April 4.

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.

Dental Assistant Training Program

The American Red Cross is offering a Dental Assistant Training Program. To receive your certificate you will receive 40 hours of didactic course and 500 hours of supervised clinical experience and chair side instruction. The program must also be completed within six months of the start date. For more information or requirements, call 253-4525 or email iwakuni@usa.redcross.org

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.

Slated chapel holiday services schedule

Dec. 14 3 p.m.- Catholic Advent pageant and dinner	11:30 p.m.- Catholic carols and midnight mass	Year's Eve service Jan. 1 9 a.m.- Catholic Mary, mother of God mass
Dec. 24 5 p.m.- Catholic Christmas vigil mass	Dec. 25 9 a.m.- Catholic Christmas day mass	For more information, contact the Marine Memorial Chapel at 253-3371.
7 p.m.- Protestant Christmas Eve service	Dec. 31 7 p.m.- Protestant New	

SAKURA THEATER

Friday, November 27, 2009

1 p.m. Polar Express (PG)

Free Admission

4 p.m. All About Steve (PG-13)

7 p.m. Whip It (PG-13)

Premier

10 p.m. Zombieland (R)

Saturday, November 28, 2009

1 p.m. Disney's A Christmas Story (PG)

Premier

4 p.m. Whip It (PG-13)

7 p.m. The Stepfather (PG-13)

Premier

10 p.m. Jennifer's Body (R)

Sunday, November 29, 2009

1 p.m. Fred Clause (PG)

Free Admission

The movie schedule is subject to change. Please check www.mccsiwakuni.com/sakura often for updates, or call the Sakura Theater at 253-5291 for the latest schedule.

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

Automobiles

1993 Nissan Terrano
JCI until Jan. 2011. Four door, 4X4, new tires, 2.7L Turbo Diesel, large roof rack with spot lights. Runs great. Asking \$2,000 OBO. For more information, call 253-5995 (work) or 253-2752 (home).

2001 Honda CBR929
JCI until June 2011. Red and white accents New fairings, new gauges. Must sell. Asking \$4,000 OBO. For more information, call 080-3059-0626 or 253-5511.

1994 Mazda Carol K
JCI until Jan 2011, excellent A/C and heat, terrific on gas. Need to sell quickly. \$1,800 OBO. For more information, call 253-2140

(home), 253-3525 (work) or 080-6322-4719.

1994 Toyota Lucida
22 months of JCI. Great vehicle, lots of room. Drives great. Front moon roof, rear sun roof, sports wheels, AM/FM/CD player, cool box. Asking 2,900 OBO. For more information, e-mail harley212@hotmail.com or call 080-3246-5384 and leave a message if there's no answer.

Miscellaneous

Items for sale
5 time zone clock—\$15
Small 14" TV—\$20

DVD player—\$10
RCA radio/satellite receiver with speakers and MP3 Player never used \$35.
For more information, call 253-7716.

Jobs

Rainbow Home Day Care

Have openings for full-time, part-time, and hourly children from 7 a.m. to 5 p.m. Mondays – Fridays. Have 13 years of experience working with children, First-Aid and CPR certified, and have a degree in early childhood education. Call 253-2246.

NMCRS Volunteer Opportunities

The Navy-Marine Corps Relief Society is looking for Client Services Assistants who are volunteers to greet those in need and guide them through the initial intake process. To apply for this opportunity, call 253-5311.

Iwakuni community members get crafty



A Marine prepares to pay for an assortment of baked goods from the Cub Scout table, one of many vendors at the craft fair held at the Crossroads Mall here Nov. 20. Community members sold hand made crafts, art work and homemade baked goods.

Mess Hall Menu

Monday

Manhattan clam chowder, chicken and rice soup, Swedish meatballs, roast turkey, buttered noodles mashed potatoes, Louisiana style smothered squash, green beans and corn, macaroni salad, German style tomato salad, coconut raisin cookies, double layer almond and chocolate cream pie.
Specialty Bar: Pasta

Tuesday

Beef noodle soup, chicken and mushroom soup, Jaeger schnitzel, grilled pork chops with sauteed peppers, mashed potatoes, rice pilaf, asparagus, scalloped cream corn, three bean salad, cucumber and onion salad, butterscotch brownies, apple pie, spice cake.
Specialty Bar: Taco

Wednesday

Tomato noodle soup, chicken and mushroom soup, veal parmesan, spaghetti with meat sauce, pizza, mashed potatoes, club spinach, mixed vegetables, garlic bread, spring salad, deviled potato salad, peanut butter cookies, sweet potato pie, coconut cake.
Specialty Bar: Barbeque

Thursday

Minestrone soup, cream of chicken soup, ginger pot roast, creole shrimp, steamed rice, oven glo potatoes, broccolli parmesan, peas and carrots, cheese biscuits, potato salad, spinach salad, double layer devil's food cake, coconut pecan frosting, pumpkin pie, oatmeal raisin cookie.
Specialty Bar: Deli Sandwich

Friday

Beef barley soup, Spanish soup, rock cornish hen with syrup glaze, chili con carne, grilled cheese, steamed rice, mashed potatoes, beets with orange and lemon sauce, green bean combo, chicken gravy, dinner rolls, mixed fruit, Italian style pasta salad, apple and cherry turnovers, bread pudding, crisp toffee bars, chocolate pudding.
Specialty Bar: Hot Dog



Sanford Bell, Diamondbacks receiver, slithers just out of Cougar Bait defensive linemen Ronrico McGee (left) and Clarence Lampkin's reach on his way to the end zone on the Diamondbacks' opening drive during a flag intramural football game at Northside football field here Monday. The Diamondbacks went on to win 22-0 and push its second-place record for the season to 7-2.

Diamondbacks snake through Cougar Bait's defense 22-0

CPL. JOSEPH MARIANELLI
IWAKUNI APPROACH STAFF

Defending its tenuous second place standing, the Diamondbacks managed to squash Cougar Bait's offensive advances, dominate offensively to win 22-0 and push its record to 7-2 in an intramural flag football game at the Northside football field here Monday.

Although the score made the game appear very one-sided, the Diamondbacks defense deserves a lot of credit.

"Defense just stepped up this game," Joel Montez, Diamondbacks' quarterback, said. "That's what we really needed to work on."

And step up the Diamondbacks defense did. Cougar Bait had several impressive drives, including one coming within one yard of the end zone, which was ultimately stopped.

"I encourage the other team into a lull, and then they're so relaxed that I just sack," said Diamondbacks defensive lineman Charles Welsh.

The sheer speed of the Diamondbacks seemed to overwhelm Cougar Bait's defense.

Setting the tempo early in the game, on the first drive the Diamondbacks managed to chalk-up a touchdown in two plays.

Starting at the 40-yard line due to a Cougar Bait turnover on downs for its first drive, Diamondbacks quarterback Montez made a quick shovel pass that was flicked back for a gain of about 25 yards.

On the next play, Montez shot a rocket to Diamondbacks' receiver Sanford Bell, who snaked through Cougar Bait defensesmen like water flowing around rocks in a stream.

Cougar Bait just couldn't grab Bell's flags, and he snaked into the end zone putting the Diamondbacks up 6-0. The extra point was no good.

Cougar Bait's defensive troubles would not end there, but the team did respond with an impressive drive of its own.

Opening the drive, Cougar Bait quarterback Ronrico McGee rolled out of the pocket and scrambled for nearly 25 yards, almost getting

to the 40-yard line, which is the half-way point on the flag-football field.

A quick connection from McGee to receiver Christopher Burke generated a first down, and on the next play McGee connected with receiver Isaiah Peart for 10 more yards, putting Cougar Bait within striking distance and just shy of a first down.

Opting for a quarterback draw, Cougar Bait got a first down plus 8, putting the team about 12 yards from the end zone.

On second down, McGee handed off to Burke, who sprinted for the end zone, lost his flags and was touched just before breaking the plane.

Third down turned into a catastrophe as the Diamondbacks defense put pressure on McGee, who shoveled the ball off to Peart for a loss of yards.

Going for it on fourth, McGee, again under pressure, rolled left out of the pocket and headed for the end zone, but a Diamondbacks defensive lineman snatched his flags a few yards short of the touchdown.

Again, the Diamondbacks established their speedy offensive tempo.

Montez, pushed back into the end zone by a dead ball foul, launched a quick bomb to receiver Bryan Scott for a 30-yard completion.

On third down, Cougar Bait blitzed, and Montez took off to get a first down just past the 40-yard line.

A short pass to Diamondbacks center James Walters on first down put the Diamondbacks 10 yards into Cougar Bait territory.

On second down, Montez made a quick connection with Bell who again slithered through Cougar Bait's defenses like a cat burglar for another touchdown.

The Diamondbacks went for two, and a quick rocket from Montez to Walters put the score at 14-0.

With 45.4 seconds remaining in the first half, Burke took over as Cougar Bait quarterback.

After a 15-yard completion to Clarence Lampkin, a 22-yard connection with Peart, plus 10 more yards running from McGee,

Cougar Bait was 10 yards out with 9 seconds ticking.

Burke connected with Lampkin at the back of the end zone, but after a flag check the referees negated the touchdown due to illegally secured flags.

Cougar Bait was proving to be its own worst enemy.

The second half turned into a defensive battle.

The Diamondbacks managed to come within 20 yards of the end zone on their opening drive, but Cougar Bait's safety Lampkin picked the ball off ending the drive.

Cougar Bait managed to get to the 40, but then Burke was picked-off by Diamondbacks' Montez, who nearly ran back to where his team had thrown an interception, about 22 yards out from the end zone.

On third down, Montez went for the end zone, but Peart was ready and intercepted the ball for a touchback.

Again, Cougar Bait drove all the way down to within 5 yards of the end zone but came up begging.

On third down, another shot into the end zone was picked-off by Diamondbacks' defensive lineman Scott.

Cougar Bait had failed to seal the deal. They would not get the ball back again.

The Diamondbacks' players brought back their tempo from the first half.

On first down, Montez took off and quickly made a lateral to Bell for a first down at the 20.

Ten more yards and a down later, Montez launched the ball 30 yards to Scott, whose height proved too much for Cougar Bait's Peart.

Scott ran another 10 for the touchdown. Going for two successfully, the Diamondbacks ended it 22-0.

"We started out with the option; we always start off like that," said Montez.

"If that's working, then that sets us up for the pass, pretty much that's what we killed them on."

Holiday Tree Lighting Ceremony

Friday, December 4, 5 - 7 p.m.
Cherry Blossom Triangle
Free cookies, cider and hot chocolate!
Special guest Appearance by Santa
Live Holiday Entertainment
Open to all base personnel



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