

THE YEAR IN REVIEW
10 pages highlighting last year's events
2010



SPECIAL MEAL
North side mess hall invites service members, civilians to Martin Luther King, Jr. meal



IWAKUNI APPROACH

Issue No. 1, Vol. 4 | Marine Corps Air Station Iwakuni, Japan



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2010 THE YEAR IN REVIEW

JANUARY



Jan. 11

Marine Fighter Attack Squadron 311 arrives from Marine Corps Air Station Yuma, Ariz., to replace VMA-513

Jan. 17

Operation Comfort and Care ends after a weeklong of collecting donations for deployed Iwakuni Marines and sailors serving in Iraq and Afghanistan

Jan. 18

The 22nd MEU arrives off the coast of Haiti to provide humanitarian aid and disaster relief to earthquake survivors

Jan. 22

THAILAND – Iwakuni aviation units arrive in Korat, Thailand for exercise Cobra Gold 2010, a joint, multinational land and air exercise

Jan. 27

Japanese and American military forces all over Japan complete the command-post exercise Keen Edge

Jan. 31

The original Soba Shop serves its final meal and shuts its doors

Iwakuni units land in Korat

Jan. 22 **KORAT ROYAL THAI AIR FORCE BASE, Thailand** – Marines and sailors aboard Marine Corps Air Station Iwakuni executed orders to Korat Royal Thai Air Force Base, Thailand, to take part in exercise Cobra Gold 2010, an exercise demonstrating joint and multinational capabilities and improving interoperability between the United States and Thailand.

Marines and sailors arrived early to set up equipment, schedule flight plans, situate missions and organize units. Cobra Gold 2010 is a regularly scheduled joint/combined exercise in the continuing series of U.S.-Thai military exercises.

Japanese, American units improve interoperability during Keen Edge

Jan. 27 Japanese and American military forces all over Japan completed the weeklong command-post exercise known as Keen Edge.

Senior station officials alongside members of the Japan Self-Defense Force here participated in the annual exercise designed to measure and improve the combat readiness and interoperability of U.S. and JSDF forces in defense of Japan against any threat.

FEBRUARY



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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 Anonymous letters and comments will not be published.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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Feb. 1
THAILAND – Cobra Gold 2010 officially kicks off at Royal Thai Air Force Base Korat

Feb. 7
Fighter Attack Squadron 94 arrives from Naval Air Station Lemoore, Calif., to replace Marine All-Weather Fighter Attack Squadron 533

Feb. 10
Station conducts NEO exercise

Feb. 16
Iwakuni residents celebrate the Hinamatsuri Doll Festival at the Iwakuni Youth Hostel

Feb. 25
Exercise Total Shield 2010 wraps up on station

Feb. 28
USS Rentz drops anchor at the station's port for maintenance and resupply



LANCE CPL. CLAUDIO A. MARTINEZ

Station tests evac during NEO exercise

Feb. 10-12 Station residents conducted a Noncombatant Evacuation Operation exercise here.

The exercise was conducted to test and train station personnel to respond to an unforeseen NEO contingency in which area civilians and family members might be forced to evacuate.

At left, volunteering community members walk through various stations set up at the harbor facility during the exercise.

Iwakuni units depart Thailand as Cobra Gold 2010 ends

Feb. 20 Exercise Cobra Gold 2010, a multi-lateral exercise demonstrating joint and multinational capabilities and improving interoperability between the U.S. and Thailand, came to a close with the main body of Marines departing Thailand Feb. 20.

Marines and sailors were still conducting training until their final departure.

Marine Fighter Attack Squadron 115, Marine Aircraft Group 12, Marine Aviation Logistics Squadron 12 and Marine All-Weather Fighter Attack Squadron 242 all participated in the 10-day

exercise with units from other bases around the world.

Exercise Cobra Gold 2010 provided the VMFA(AW)-242 and VMFA-115 pilots an opportunity to put their training to the test against the Thai Royal Air Force's F-16s as well as other aircraft.

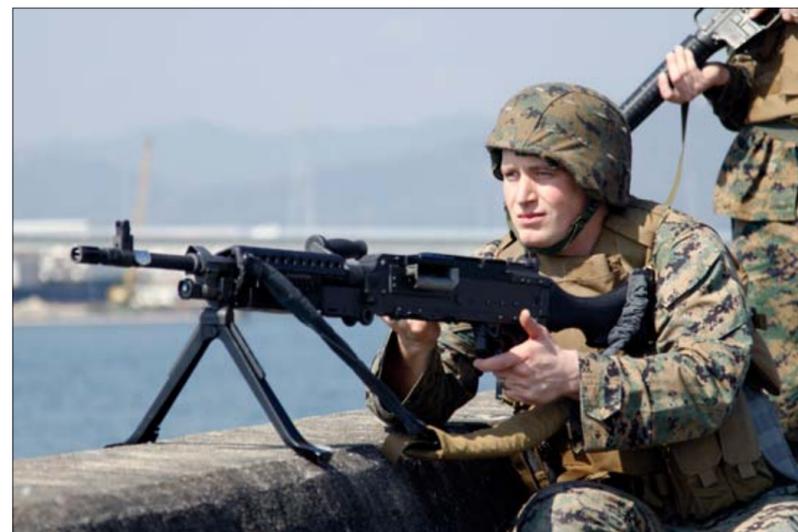
Total Shield 2010 teaches lessons, trains station

Feb. 25

Station military personnel and members of the 46th Regiment, 13th Brigade of the Japan Ground Self-Defense Force from Camp Kaitaichi, brought the weeklong exercises Total Shield and Active Shield 2010 to a close here Feb. 25.

Total Shield was meant to test the station's ability to defend itself against terrorist attacks while Active Shield improved on the interoperability of U.S. and Japanese forces here.

Exercise Total Shield was planned out by senior station personnel who operated scenarios out of a



LANCE CPL. CLAUDIO A. MARTINEZ

room referred to as white cell. White cell tested the station's

defense through active shooters, suspicious vessel probing, sabotage

of mission-essential areas, waterborne rocket attacks and many other

scenarios.

Above, a Marine stands post on the seawall.

MARCH | APRIL

March 12
Two-week WOLF Tactical Reconnaissance and Personal Protection course begins

March 14
Marine All-Weather Fighter Attack Squadron 121 arrives from Miramar, Calif., replacing Marine Fighter Attack Squadron 115

March 25
Dr. Robert Eldridge gives a guest lecture on the U.S.-Japan security treaty and alliance

March 25
First ever Iwakuni chef wins Marine Corps Bases Japan Chef of the Quarter Board

April 2
The central taxiway tunnel opens near the new air traffic control tower

April 8
Taiko drummers visit Matthew C. Perry elementary in honor of the Month of the Military Child

April 22
Environmental Compliance Evaluation station meets DoD and SOFA policy

Seabees celebrate 68 years of history

March 5 Seabees, Marines, sailors and guests all attended the 68th Seabee Ball and the 143rd anniversary of the Civil Engineer Corps at the Club Iwakuni ballroom here.

The evening event commemorated the service of the station's civil engineers and men of the construction battalions.

After the the cake-cutting ceremony, it was nothing but fun and games for the rest of the night.

At right, the youngest and oldest Seabees are presented with plaques by the Seabee commanding officer and the guest at the 2010 Seabee Ball.



CPL. SALVADOR MORENO

Marines learn Israeli fighting techniques

March 22 - April 2

A total of 15 Marines aboard the station were afforded the opportunity to take part in a two-week Israeli Krav Maga course at the IronWorks Gym here.

The focus of the course was on actual combat situations and was developed for the military for hand-to-hand and close quarters combat.

At right, David Kahn, Israeli Krav Maga Association U.S. chief instructor, demonstrates with Sgt. Rajir Douglas, a Marine with Marine Aviation Logistics Squadron 12, how to defend against a knife attack while on the ground.



CPL. SALVADOR MORENO

Mass casualty drill preps 1st responders

April 7 The station Fire Department, Branch Health Clinic, Provost Marshal's Office and Aircraft Rescue Firefighting Marines participated in a mass casualty drill here.

The mass casualty drill was preparation for events that could occur during Friendship Day.

At left, the station fire department, and Aircraft Rescue Firefighters, carry a simulated casualty to an ambulance during the mass casualty drill.



LANCE CPL. MARCEL BROWN

Key Resolve/Foal Eagle 2010 kicks off

March 8 Units from here and around the world kicked off the annual Key Resolve/Foal Eagle 2010 exercises in the South Korean peninsula.

Marine Aircraft Group 12, Marine All Weather Fighter Attack Squadrons 242 and 121, Marine Wing Support Squadron 171, Combat Logistics Company 36, Strike Fighter Squadron 94 and Marine Attack Squadron 311 service members were involved in the exercises.

Key Resolve, considered one of the largest computer-generated exercises in the world, exercised the decision-making skills of the senior leaders involved.

Once the decision-making exercises conducted through Key Resolve finished, Exercise Foal Eagle began.

Foal Eagle exercised the defensive field and air capabilities of participating service members in the defense of South Korea.

Station radio network gets total overhaul

April 3 The station's radio system was upgraded with a digital trunking system and a command and control system.

The upgrade was comparable to going from a VCR to a Blu-Ray player.

Most importantly, the new radio system has greatly increased radio communication reliability.

Bilateral exercise builds U.S.-ROK skills

April 13 YECHON AIR BASE, Republic of Korea – Marines and the Republic of Korea Air Force faced an improvised explosive device scenario during exercise Foal Eagle here.

The Marines and ROK airmen gained control of the area and cared for any injured.

The ROK airmen played an important role in the training. They worked hand-in-hand with the Marines to achieve the mission, learning to communicate and work together as a team.

MAY

May 5

38th annual Friendship Day attracts 265,000 visitors to the station for a day of aerial acrobatics, food, fun and cultural exchange

May 16

Underdog Matthew C. Perry High School wins Far East Soccer Tournament

May 18

Station IPAC sets Marine Corps Administrative Analysis Team inspection record with a score of 99.31

May 20

Two sailors aboard station are recognized as the best in Marine Corps Forces Pacific

May 22

M.C. Perry hosts Super Science Saturday fair with 15 different stations providing hands-on learning for parents and students

May 29

Japanese and American officials commission new runway and officially open it for flight operations

2010 Friendship Day welcomes aboard 265,000

May 5 Just as the sun rose, a mass of Japanese people flooded the air station to secure seats for the 38th annual Friendship Day air show here.

2010's Friendship Day garnered a crowd of approximately 265,000. The thousands of people in attendance had a chance to witness a variety of aeronautic performances including a skydiving duo in "squirrel suits."

There were 24 static displays offering attendees a chance to get up close with the aircraft.

The air show's fair grounds boasted a variety of American and Japanese cuisine, along with a lineup of 70 classic cars.

This year's Friendship Day was the last one held on the old runway before the new airfield was officially opened for use.

At right, an AV-8B Harrier demonstrates its vertical/short takeoff and landing maneuvers in front of thousands during the air show.



CPL. SALVADOR MORENO

American, Japanese officials commission new runway, open officially for use

May 29 American and Japanese officials gathered at the new runway here to officially open it to flight operations in a commissioning ceremony.

The historic ceremony marked the conclusion of the \$2.6 billion, 13-year construction effort, which was designed to enhance the safety

of flight operations and to decrease aircraft noise in the communities surrounding the air station.

Below, American and Japanese officials cut the ceremonial ribbon, officially opening the new flight line here to flight operations during the commissioning ceremony.



LANCE CPL. MIRANDA BLACKBURN

Station IPAC scores 99.31 in MCAAT

May 17 - 18 The station's Installation Personnel Administration Center here passed the Marine Corps Administrative Analysis Team inspection with a near perfect score of 99.31.

The score is a record high for all IPACs and places the station's IPAC as the best and most mission capable IPAC team in the Marine Corps.

MCAAT visits and inspects the IPAC shops in the Marine Corps, approximately every two years, searching out discrepancies in paper work and evaluating how well the administrative team functions.

Students build teamwork at leadership retreat

May 22 Approximately 100 Matthew C. Perry students participated in a leadership retreat at Hachagamine Park.

The Youth and Teen Center, adolescent substance abuse counselor and Marine Memorial Chapel provided this opportunity to teens from 7th through 12th grade.

Marines and sailors from Marine Wing Support Squadron 171 and Combat Logistics Company 36 also volunteered for the event to act as mentors and to make sure safety precautions were taken.

Below, Aramis Alexander, a seventh grader at M.C. Perry, shimmies through one of the obstacles at the leadership retreat.



LANCE CPL. MIRANDA BLACKBURN

JUNE

June 4

Station Ordnance begins move to new compound located near the station harbor to improve its ability to support the air station and squadrons

June 5

Houston Texans cheerleaders visit Iwakuni service members and host a cheer clinic for the station's youth

June 15

Soldiers on station celebrate the 235th Army birthday at the south side mess hall

June 16

Twenty-Eight Matthew C. Perry High School students graduate at the Marine Memorial Chapel and begin the next step in life

June 17

Marine All-Weather Fighter Attack Squadron 242 holds a period of military education on the squadron's history

June 28

A Grumman E-2 Hawkeye plane ships from the air station to its new U.S. homeport Naval Air Facility North Island, San Diego

Month of changes of command

H&HS	MALS-12	MWSS-171	VMFA(AW)-242	CLC-36	STATION
June 10	June 14	June 15	June 15	June 21	June 30
Lt. Col. Michael R. Coletta, former Navy Warfare Development Command Head of Air and Land Doctrine, took command of Headquarters and Headquarters Squadron from Lt. Col. Tray J. Ardesse during a change of command ceremony at the parade deck here.	Lt. Col. Charles A. Redden assumed command of Marine Aviation Logistics Squadron 12 from Lt. Col. Jonathan O. Gackle during a change-of-command ceremony at the Marine All-Weather Fighter Attack Squadron 242 hangar here.	Lt. Col. Michael C. Taylor, former Marine Corps attache for U.S. Embassy Beijing, China, took command of Marine Wing Support Squadron 171 from Lt. Col. Christopher A. Fyedelem during a change of command ceremony at the Marine All-Weather Fighter Attack Squadron 242 hangar here.	Lt. Col. Richard Petersen, former Marine Aircraft Group 12 director of safety and standardization, took command of Marine All-Weather Fighter Attack Squadron 242 from Lt. Col. Chris T. Pappas III during a change of command ceremony at the VMFA(AW)-242 hangar here.	Maj. Dustin R. Thorn, former 3rd Supply Battalion, Okinawa, Japan, operations officer and supply management unit officer-in-charge, took command of Combat Logistics Company 36 from Maj. James S. Whiteker during a change-of-command ceremony here.	Col. James C. Stewart, former Headquarters Marine Corps director of aviation manpower and support branch, took charge as the new Marine Corps Air Station Iwakuni, Japan, commanding officer from Col. Michael A. O'Halloran during a change-of-command ceremony at the Marine All-Weather Fighter Attack Squadron 242 hangar here.



LANCE CPL. CLAUDIO A. MARTINEZ

Exercise Thunder Horse prepares 171 for motor transport operations

June 21-25 Marine Wing Support Squadron 171 Marines conducted Exercise Thunder Horse at Penny Lake field here.

The exercise focused on motor transport operation training and was done in preparation for exercise Haramura.

Below, Lance Cpl. Keenen

Chapple-Brown, a Marine Wing Support Squadron 171 logistics vehicle systems operator, and Pvt. Zachary Leininger, an MWSS-171 motor vehicle operator, work together during a professional military education class taught during exercise Thunder Horse here June 23.



LANCE CPL. CLAUDIO A. MARTINEZ

Corpsmen celebrate 112 years of history, healing

June 18 Community members gathered at the Club Iwakuni Eagles Nest here to commemorate the 112th birthday of the Hospital Corpsman.

They spent the evening celebrating the Naval corpsman history and traditions while honoring their fallen comrades.

As long as the United States has been involved in war, there has always been a need for medical

personnel on the field of battle. Congress approved a bill creating the naval rates of hospital apprentice, hospital apprentice first class and hospital steward on June 17, 1898, officially bringing the hospital corpsman to birth.

Above, Chief Adrian Figueroa, hospital corpsman ball guest speaker, cuts the cake during the hospital corpsman cake cutting ceremony at the Club Iwakuni Eagles Nest.

JULY

July 3

Patriot Express showtime changes from 3 hours prior to 2 hours prior to expedite the aircraft's journey

July 4

Strike Zone celebrates 2 years of successful operation and entertainment

July 8

Marine Fighter Attack Squadron 542 from Marine Corps Air Station Cherry Point, N.C., arrives on station to replace VMA-311

July 10

Aircraft Rescue Firefighting holds the 22nd annual summer party for orphans from the Tsuta Children's Home

July 19

Ordnance Marines head out to escort bombs to be used during exercise Southern Frontier held at Royal Australian Air Force Base Tindal, Australia

July 30

The Single Marine Program Hornet's Nest reopens after undergoing a \$1.3 million renovation sponsored by station Facilities and Marine Corps Community Services

MWSS-171 constructs schoolhouse in Bangladesh

July 7 Approximately 40 Marine Wing Support Squadron 171 combat engineers will be deployed to Bangladesh in support of the Bangladesh Interoperability Exercise through the Engineering Civic Action Program.

On average, Marines worked up to 20-hour days to complete the project on time.

MWSS-171 Marines worked hand in hand with the Bangladesh Army for approximately 20 days to construct a schoolhouse.

CLC-36 lays down hot lead during Dragon Fire

July 22 Approximately 65 Marines with Combat Logistics Company 36 returned here from Combined Arms Training Center Camp Fuji, Japan, upon completion of Exercise Dragon Fire 2010.

Exercise Dragon Fire, a 10-day exercise designed to refamiliarize Marines with weapon systems, convoy operations, military operations in urban terrain, land navigation and patrolling, took place at the base of Japan's largest and most prominent mountain, Mount Fuji.

The purpose of the exercise was to increase the unit's ability to function in a combat environment, build esprit de corps and facilitate engaged small-unit leadership.

Marines practiced throwing M-67 fragmentation hand grenades and fired the M-16A2 service rifle, vehicle-mounted M-2 .50 caliber machine gun, M-203 grenade launcher, M-249 squad automatic weapon, and M-240G medium machine gun.

More than 44,700 rounds were fired during the exercise.

The Marines also practiced patrolling. Squads patrolled from the grenade range to the armory of Camp Fuji, performing several maneuvers such as patrol formations and contact responses.

Below, Marines and a Navy corpsman run to aid simulated wounded victims during exercise Dragon Fire at the Combined Arms Training Center Camp Fuji, Japan, July 14.



CPL. ANDREA M. OLGUIN



CPL. KRISTIN E. MORENO

MALS-12 aids town distressed by destructive flooding

July 27 Marine Aviation Logistics Squadron 12 donated more than 1,000 bottles of water and relief supplies to the town of Shobara, Japan, after the town was recently hit with a flood.

The flood injured several people, destroyed 10 houses, severely damaged 24, and forced

more than 90 people to evacuate the area. Additionally, much of the town's water system was blown away, which left the people without clean drinking water, and several roadways were destroyed.

MALS-12 responded to the distressed town in less than one week.

U.S., ROK forces flex skills during Invincible Spirit

July 29 Exercise Invincible Spirit came to ends for Marine Corps Air Station Iwakuni, Japan, units as the last two F/A-18 Hornets flew out of Pohang Air Base, Republic of Korea.

Exercise Invincible Spirit was a joint combined exercise in which the Navy, Air Force, Marine Corps and Republic of Korea forces worked together to demonstrate solidarity and a commitment to work together.

Marines from Marine Aircraft Group 12, Marine Wing Support Squadron 171 and 172, Marine Aviation Logistics Squadron 12, Marine Air Control Squadron 4, Marine Aerial Refueler Transport Squadron 152, Marine All-Weather Fighter Attack Squadron 242 and Marine Fighter Attack Squadron 542



CPL. JOSEPH MARIANELLI

HM-14 visits to conduct vertical replenishment training

July 8 Sailors with Helicopter Mine Countermeasures Squadron 14 Detachment 1 out of Pohang, Korea, visited the station to conduct external vertical replenishment training.

HM-14 is homeported at Naval Station Norfolk, Va., and its mission is to stand ready to deploy anywhere in the world within 72 hours to provide airborne mine countermeasures and vertical onboard delivery support, as well as humanitarian and disaster relief.

Vertical replenishment is used to transport equipment or supplies to seaborne vessels or remote locations inaccessible by any other means.

At right, sailors with Helicopter Mine Countermeasures Squadron 14 Detachment 1 out of Pohang, Korea, hook simulated cargo onto an MH-53E Sea Dragon during an external vertical replenishment exercise at the airfield here.

AUGUST

Aug. 5

Marine All-Weather Fighter Attack Squadron 224 from Marine Corps Air Station Beaufort, S.C., arrives on station to replace Fighter Attack Squadron 94

Aug. 13

Marine Corps Community Services begins accepting online reservations for Temporary Lodging Facilities

Aug. 14

Marine Corps Community Services hosts first Iwakuni Wheels car, motorcycle show

Aug. 20

Marine Wing Support Squadron 171, Marine Corps Community Services conclude two-week youth sports camp

Aug. 27

Combat Logistics Company 36 hosts Jane/Johnny Wayne day for active duty family members

Aug. 31

AUSTRALIA – Iwakuni-based units land at Royal Australian Air Force Base Tindal, Australia, for exercise Southern Frontier 2010



LANCE CPL. MARCEL BROWN

ACOE begins master plan to improve security, fire protection systems

Aug. 14 The Army Corps of Engineers spent close to \$1 million for an in-house, contracted station survey in support of a multi-billion master plan development and review scheduled to be completed here by 2015.

Engineer teams from C.H. Guernsey & Company, EMC Engineers Inc. and Poole Fire Protection Inc. arrived here Aug. 14. The last team of engineers stayed until Sept. 1, surveying the fiscal security and fire protection technology of 189 buildings on

station. With the station's expected population increase, the ACOE in conjunction with the station S-6 department is creating a master plan to update the security and fire protection technology of current station facilities to keep them up to par with the systems of newly constructed structures.

At left, Brendan Donnelly and Mi Sun Kim Poole, Poole Fire Protection Inc. fire protection engineers, evaluate a fire alarm panel in the Aircraft Rescue Firefighting facility here.



LANCE CPL. CLAUDIO A. MARTINEZ

Aug. 16 John Iwaniec, Marine Corps Community Services director; Ginna Benke, JD's Grille executive chef; Christopher Braswell, JD's Grille club manager; and Col. James C. Stewart, station commanding officer, cut a ribbon to officially open JD's Grille here for business.

Station children tour air station, get hands on



LANCE CPL. CLAUDIO A. MARTINEZ

Aug. 17-18 School Age Care children from around the station spent Aug. 17-18 with Marines learning what it is they do here.

During their first day, station Marines volunteered their time and took approximately 60 children, ages 5-12, on an airfield facilities tour.

The children were given the opportunity to tour the air traffic control tower and the different offices responsible for keeping the airfield operational.

At left, Lance Cpl. Jeremy Borges, a station Aircraft Rescue and Firefighter, assists Allison Mohn, a 5-year-old School Age Care child, shoot a water hose at cones during an airfield facilities tour here

New CO takes CLC-36 reigns

Aug. 25 Maj. Dustin R. Thorn relinquished his command of Combat Logistics Company 36 to Maj. Andres Caceres-Solari during a change-of-command ceremony here Aug. 25.

The ceremony was the second change-of-command ceremony for CLC-36 this year. The first was when Thorn assumed command from Maj. James S. Whiteaker June 22.

Southern Frontier gets rolling

Aug. 31 ROYAL AUSTRALIAN AIR FORCE BASE TINDAL, Australia – More than 300 Marines migrated toward the outback for exercise Southern Frontier at Royal Australian Air Force Base Tindal, Australia.

Southern Frontier is an annual, bilateral training exercise hosted by the RAAF to afford Marine Aircraft Group 12 Hornet squadrons the opportunity to focus on offensive air support training to improve squadron readiness.

At right, A Marine All-Weather Fighter Attack Squadron 224 F/A-18 Hornet lands for exercise Southern Frontier here.



LANCE CPL. JENNIFER PIRANTE

SEPTEMBER | OCTOBER

Sept. 3

MALS-12 Aviation Life Support flies through Commander Naval Air Forces inspection

Sept. 17

Marine Aircraft Group 12 dominates Headquarters & Headquarters Squadron 24-6 during the annual Fall Classic

Sept. 24

Marine All-Weather Fighter Attack Squadron 225 from Marine Corps Air Station Miramar, Calif., arrives to replace VMFA(AW)-121

Oct. 1

Fiscal year 2010 is recognized as the safest year on record for Marine Corps aviation

Oct. 1

Marine Wing Support Squadron 171 motor transportation maintenance Marines learn to use their new hydraulic lift

Oct. 5

Nishimatsu Construction Co. hosts a traditional groundbreaking ceremony to begin renovations on Buildings 1191, 1200

Oct. 22

Gen. James F. Amos replaces Gen. James T. Conway as commandant of the Marines Corps

Valient Shield 2010 kicks off JMSDF rocks 37th annual open house

Sept. 12 ANDERSEN AIR FORCE BASE, Guam — Multiple Air Force, Marine and Navy units from around the Pacific theater gathered here to kick off exercise Valiant Shield 2010.

Valiant Shield is an integrated joint military exercise among U.S. military forces that focuses on their ability to respond to any regional contingency.

Iwakuni-based units that participated in the exercise included Marine Aircraft Group 12, Marine Aviation Logistics Squadron 12 and Marine Wing Support Squadron 171.

Marine All-Weather Fighter Attack Squadron 225, on their way to Iwakuni under the Unit Deployment Program was the main Marine Corps squadron participant.

More than 150 aircraft participated in the exercise along with a naval strike group and amphibious ready group.

Valiant Shield also trained units in maritime interdiction, intelligence surveillance and reconnaissance, personnel recovery, and command and control skills.

Navy celebrates 235 years

Oct. 15 More than two centuries of heritage and history brought sailors and fellow service members together to celebrate the 235th Navy birthday at the annual Navy Birthday Ball held at Club Iwakuni here.

The theme for 2010 was "honoring the past, serving the present, and preserving the future."

Below, Seaman Zachary Hallowood, youngest sailor present, eats the first piece of cake, while Cmdr. Sheri Coleman, oldest active duty sailor present, watches during the Navy Birthday Ball.



CPL. ANDREA M. OLGUIN

Marines touch, go in Philippines

Oct. 15 CLARK AIR FORCE BASE, Republic of the Philippines — Marine All-Weather Fighter Attack Squadron 224 participated in opening flight training exercises during PHIBLEX here. The exercise was conducted to give pilots position-approach training.

Due to inclement typhoon conditions, PHIBLEX was cut short for Iwakuni-based units.

Sept. 19 A record setting 5,100 Iwakuni community members flocked to the 37th annual Japan Maritime Self-Defense Force Iwakuni base festival here.

The JMSDF Iwakuni festival commemorated the 50th anniversary of the U.S.-Japan Security treaty.

At right, the Japan Maritime Self-Defense Force drill team performs at the JMSDF Iwakuni base festival.



PFC. VANESSA JIMENEZ

Station welcomes more than 100 olympians

Oct. 17 About 120 athletes from Hiroshima and Yamaguchi Prefecture competed in the regional Special Olympic Games hosted here.

Competitors participated in cycling, basketball, soccer and bowling.

More than 60 station members volunteered to support the event.

At right, special olympics participants and a volunteer prepare for the cycling event outside IronWorks Gym.



LANCE CPL. MIRANDA BLACKBURN

5 days, 89,000 gallons: Marines train for disaster

Oct. 25-29 Marines of Combat Logistics Company 36 and Marine Wing Support Squadron 171 maintenance and utilities sections participated in water purification training at Penny Lake here.

The training was preparation for possible natural disaster situations.

The Marines were tasked to bring in and purify 8,000 gallons of water each day from the port and Penny Lake for a total of 40,000 gallons. They pulled in more than double their quota, bringing in 89,000 gallons of water.

At right, a heavy equipment operator loads generators onto a truck after the conclusion of the training exercise.



CPL. KRISTIN E. MORENO

COMMUNITY BRIEFS | CLASSIFIEDS

Briefs

Club Iwakuni

Club Iwakuni will be closed Jan. 17 for renovations and will reopen January 18.

Operation Comfort Care

Marine Corps Family Team Building will be collecting donations throughout the month of January.

Financial Planning for Deployment

There will be a workshop at the Yujo Hall Jan. 11 from 9 a.m. – 12 p.m. to go over financial areas that need to be considered due to our military lifestyle.

January Home and White Sale

The Marine Corps Exchange is scheduled to host a sale on home furnishing items Jan. 12 - 15

Commanders Cup Challenge

There will be a volleyball single elimination tournament January 21 from 11 a.m. – 1 p.m. at the IronWorks Gym Sports Courts.

One Player Scramble

Get an early start on your golf season for \$19 at the Torii Pines Golf Course January 22 from 8 a.m. – 1 p.m.

In the Midst – Emotional Cycles of Reunion

There will be a workshop at the Yujo Hall for military spouses planning a reunion from an ending deployment, however all military spouses are welcome.

MammoVan

The "MammoVan" quarterly visit is scheduled Jan. 31 - Feb. 4. Patients requiring their annual scan should contact their primary care manager, and obtain a radiology referral, after which they may start scheduling their appointments Jan 21 - 28 at the clinic's Radiology department.

DeCA sponsored 2011 Scholarships for Military Children program

Scholarship applications are available in commissaries worldwide and online at <http://www.commissaries.com> – choose the "News & Info" tab and then the "Scholarship Info" tab. Applications are also available at <http://www.militaryscholar.org>. Applications and an essay must be turned in to the Commissary by close of business Feb. 22. We can be reached at 253-4873 building 450. Contact us for further details.

PMO Lost and Found

Please contact the Provost Marshal's Office Lost and Found if you've lost anything around the installation. The following are just some of what has been turned in: Armed Forces Identification Cards, meal cards, keys, money, digital cameras, cell phones, liberty cards, passports, dog tags, jewelry, glasses, gray sweater, Nintendo DS with case, debit/credit cards, brown wallet, bicycle helmets, computer hard drives, umbrella. Please contact PMO Lost and Found at 253-4929 or email jeffrey.n.anderson@usmc.mil for more information.

Weight Loss Support Group

Weight loss support group meetings are held on Mondays at 5 p.m. outside of Building 657. Service members, family and civilians are welcome to attend. For more information, call 090-9147-0490 or e-mail verasavage@gmail.com.

Emergency Phone Numbers Reminder

• Anti-terrorism force protection hotline: 253-ATFP(2837)
• Life limb or loss of vision threatening emergencies while on the air station: 119 or 911. From a cell phone or for bilingual capability: 082-721-7700.
• For security issues, contact the Provost Marshal's Office: 253-

3303. To report without talking to a person. Crime Stoppers: 253-3333.

• Sexual Assault: To make a confidential report of sexual assault or harassment, contact the victim advocate at 253-4526 during working hours. For after hours, weekends and holidays, call 090-9978-1033 or 080-3427-0835. You can also call the installation Sexual Assault Response Coordinator at 253-6556 or 080-5865-3566.

Lending Locker Program

The lending locker program is available to provide small home appliances and utensils for incoming and outgoing command sponsored members for up to 60 days inbound and 30 days outbound. A copy of PCS orders are required to check-out items and the program is by appointment only. The lending locker is located in Building 411 Room 101. Appointments are 8 a.m. -3:30 p.m. For more information, call 253-6161.

NMCRS Quick Assist Loans

The Iwakuni Navy Marine Corps Relief Society is providing Quick Assist Loans to prevent active duty service members from falling prey to predatory lenders. These loans are designed to assist with short-term living expenses up to \$300, interest free and must be repaid within 10 months. For more information call the Iwakuni NMCRS at 253-5311 or stop by the Marine Memorial Chapel, Room 148.

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.

Vehicles

1998 Toyota Spacio

JCI until Feb. 2012. Asking \$1,500 without the JCI or \$2,500 with the JCI. Car is in good shape and is clean. For more information, please call 253-2540 or 080-3705-2974 or e-mail at jessica.lang@pac.dodea.edu.

Jobs

WIC Overseas Iwakuni

Choctaw Archiving Enterprise has an opportunity available for a full-time Certified Professional Authority (Nurse, Nutritionist, or Registered Dietitian) in the Women, Infants, and Children Overseas Program (WIC Overseas) in Iwakuni. Position requires a BS in Nutrition, Nursing, or Home Economics. Experience in prenatal, maternal, or infant nutrition preferred. Must have references, US citizenship, US driver's license, and SOFA status. Employment conditional upon satisfactory background check. For immediate consideration, please email resume and cover letter to: virginia.johnson.ctr@misawa.af.mil or fax to 226-9585.

Travel Counselor

CWTSatoTravel has a travel counselor position available at the government travel office here. This position is responsible for booking air, car and hotel reservations for military travelers in official duty status using the SABRE CRS. Desirable for the candidates to have travel agency or airline experience, and SABRE CRs experience. Knowledge of government travel regulation is also

preferred. Please send all inquiries and resumes to mkenat@cwtsatotravel.com. No phone inquiries please.

Exchange New Car Sales

Looking to add a few energetic and outgoing people to our team! Sales training available and high income potential for sofa status personnel. This is a great way to be involved with our dedicated military community. Dependents are also encouraged to apply. For more information, please call 080-3243-4689.

English Teacher

An English teacher is needed to take over a class in downtown Iwakuni. For more information call 253-7716.

NMCRS Volunteer Opportunities

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, call 253-5311.

Brief and Classified Submissions

To submit a community brief or classified advertisement, send an e-mail to iwakuni.pao@usmc.mil. Include a contact name, a phone number and the information you would like published. Alternatively, You may submit your brief or classified ad in person at the Public Affairs Office, Building 1, Room 216 or you may call 253-5551. However you choose to submit, ensure you provide all requested information to simply the request process and ensure your request is processed properly. The deadline for submissions is 3 p.m. every Friday. Submissions will run the following Friday on a space-available basis. The Iwakuni Approach staff reserves the right to edit submissions for space and style.

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 of projected publication date for review by e-mailing iwakuni.pao@usmc.mil, call 253-5551 or stop by Building 1, Room 216.

INFOTAINMENT

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
 4:30 p.m. Lutheran Holy Communion Service (Small Chapel)
 Wednesday 6 p.m. Awana (Bldg. 1104)
 6:15 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
 Call 080-4177-2060 or e-mail jletaw@ClubBeyond.org

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

Funny photo of the week



After their poorly planned debut album "I Want Candy" debuted and was roundly rejected by critics as the worst collaboration of all-time, rivaling Yoko Ono's involvement with The Beatles, Bananaman and Lil Jon agreed they should never work together again. While a minor setback in Lil Jon's career, Bananaman never recovered and was last seen panning for change and turning brown. Think you can write a better caption or have your own funny photo to submit? Submit your ideas or photos to the Public Affairs Office by e-mailing them to iwakuni.pao@usmc.mil, calling 253-5551 or submitting your idea in person at the office in Building 1 Room 216. Entries will be judged by the Iwakuni Approach Staff and the top selection will run in the next edition of the Iwakuni Approach.

SAKURA THEATER

Friday, January 7, 2011
 7 p.m. Little Fockers (PG-13)
 Premier
 10 p.m. Conviction (R)

Saturday, January 8, 2011
 1 p.m. Yogi Bear (PG)
 4 p.m. Tangled (PG)
 7 p.m. Little Fockers (PG-13)

Sunday, January 9, 2011
 1 p.m. Tron: Legacy (PG)
 Premier
 4 p.m. The Tourist (PG-13)
 7 p.m. Little Fockers (PG-13)

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.

Monday, January 10, 2011
 7 p.m. Red (pg-13)
 Last Showing

Tuesday, January 11, 2011
 7 p.m. Paranormal Activity 2 (R)
 Last Showing

Wednesday, January 12, 2011
 1 p.m. Hereafter (PG-13)

Thursday, January 13, 2011
 7 p.m. Tron Legacy (PG)

253-5291

Mess Hall Menu

Monday
 Manhattan clam chowder, chicken and rice soup, Swedish meat balls, roast turkey, buttered noodles, mashed potatoes, Louisiana style smothered squash, green beans and corn, chicken gravy, dinner rolls, macaroni salad, confetti rice salad, standard salad bar, coconut raisin cookies, double layer almond cake, chocolate cream pie with whipped topping.
 Specialty Bar: Pasta

Tuesday
 Beef noodle soup, navy bean soup, beef brogul, mustard-dill baked fish, mashed potatoes, rice pilaf, asparagus, scalloped cream corn, tomato gravy, dinner rolls, three bean salad, cucumber and onion salad, standard salad bar, butterscotch brownies, apple pie, spice cake with buttercream frosting.
 Specialty Bar: Taco

Wednesday
 Cream of broccoli soup, knickerbocker soup, veal parmesan, spaghetti with meat sauce, pizza (assorted), mashed potatoes, club spinach, mixed vegetables, brown gravy, garlic bread, spring salad, deviled potato salad, standard salad bar, peanut butter cookies, sweet potato pie with whipped topping and coconut cake.
 Specialty Bar: Barbecue

Thursday
 Minstrone soup, pepper pot soup, ginger pot roast, Creole shrimp, steamed rice, oven glow potatoes, broccoli parmesan, peas and carrots, cheese biscuits, brown gravy, potato salad, spinach salad, standad salad bar, double layer devil's food cake, coconut pecan frosting, pumpkin pie, with whipped topping and oatmeal raisin cookies
 Specialty Bar: Deli Bar

Friday
 Beef barley soup, tomato soup, rock cornish hen with syrup glaze, chili macaroni, grilled cheese, grilled ham and cheese, steamed rice, mashed potatoes, succotash, green bean combo, chicken gravy, dinner rolls, mixed fruit salad, Italian style pasta salad, standard salad bar, (apple/cherry) turnovers, bread pudding, crisp toffee bars and chocolate pudding with whipped topping.
 Specialty Bar: Hot Dog

NOVEMBER

- Nov. 3** Marines begin 15 training day Marine Combat Instructor Water Survival Course
- Nov. 10** Marine Aircraft Group 12 units face-off in annual birthday ball field meet
- Nov. 16** Master teacher of Soroban visits M.C. Perry elementary to teach students quick calculation techniques
- Nov. 20** Headquarters and Headquarters Squadron Marines host Jane Wayne Day for dependents on station
- Nov. 22** MARADMIN 653/10 establishes new swim qualification criteria
- Nov. 27** Annual tree lighting ceremony ignites Cherry Blossom Triangle with more than 8,000 lights
- Nov. 30** Station holds a memorial service for Sgt. Jason T. Smith who was killed during combat operations in Afghanistan Nov. 19

MAG-12 NCOs get MCT refresher

Nov. 2 Marine Aircraft Group 12 noncommissioned officers attended a weapons familiarization class at the Indoor Small Arms Range here to get a refresher on Marine rifleman fundamentals.

After the informal periods of instruction, the Marines went to the Indoor Simulated Marksmanship Trainer to practice weapon identification, firing drills and combat tactics.

At right, Cpl. Shaquan Jackson, Marine Aircraft Group 12 ground safety manager, prepares to fire an Indoor Simulated Marksmanship Trainer AT4 rocket launcher during the weapons familiarization class.



LANCE CPL. MARCEL BROWN

JASDF cadets get birds-eye view of Marine Corps aviation

Nov. 4 Nine Japan Air Self-Defense Force personnel from the 12th Flying Training Wing, Hofu North Air Base, Yamaguchi Prefecture, along with 61 aviation cadets visited the air station to take an organized tour of the station.

The tour included a trip to the top of the new air traffic control tower, a visit to the Marine All-Weather Fighter Attack Squadron 224 hangar to view their static display, a test flight in the Tactical Operations Flight Trainer, and finally a walk through of the Japan Maritime Self-Defense Force section of the station.

Marines celebrate 235 years of honor, courage, commitment

Nov. 10 Since 1921, when Gen. John A. Lejeune issued Marine Corps Order No. 47 summarizing the history, mission and tradition of the Corps, Marines all over the world have celebrated the birth of the Marine Corps either on or around Nov. 10.

"Ten November represents the start of our Corps, a beginning of a belief in oneself, in each other and in a commitment to a fledgling nation that had to defeat the greatest political, economic and military power of its age to begin an experiment in government and in the fundamental rights of man," said Brig. Gen. Mark A. Brilakis, deputy commanding general of III Marine Expeditionary Force and guest speaker for one of the

Marine Corps Birthday Balls. In celebration of the 235th Marine Corps Birthday, station members here celebrated the birthday over the course of three days and three separate balls.

In his first birthday message since becoming the Commandant of the Marine Corps Oct. 22, Gen. James F. Amos paid tribute to the Marines of the Korean War and recognized their contributions to our enduring legacy.

"It is crucial to celebrate our illustrious history and to keep our traditions alive," said Sgt. Maj. Gonzalo A. Vasquez, guest speaker for one of the balls.

At right, the cake detail walks out the cake during the Marine Corps Birthday Ball held at the IronWorks Gym.



LANCE CPL. MIRANDA BLACKBURN

HE operators get unexpected training

Nov. 19 Heavy equipment operators completed some much needed training during a five-week-long exercise in a remote location here in Iwakuni.

HE operators here typically can't train easily because training pits are not on station.

The Marines weren't put on time constraints for the training evolution, but the exercises changed every week.

Along with perfecting their

skill trade, Marines took this rare opportunity to gain licenses on other equipment, such as a compacter, multi-train loader or a bobcat and a grater.

The culminating event for the training exercise was the building of a combat outpost.

At right, Pfc. Ryan C. Caspary, a Marine Wing Support Squadron 171 heavy equipment operator, operates a grater to level out some ground during an exercise at a temporary dig site here.



PFC. VANESSA JIMENEZ

DECEMBER

Dec. 1

Marine Aircraft Group 12 conducts Wolmi-Do Fury, a MAG exercise integrating the flying squadrons

Dec. 4

Local competitors and station residents compete in annual Heat the Streets event at IronWorks Gym

Dec. 5

Iwakuni launches local Toys for Tots campaign with annual "Thunder Run" motorcycle rally

Dec. 6

Music students from Matthew C. Perry High School Higashi Junior High School and Kawashimo Junior High School put on the Winter Extravaganza concert

Dec. 15

Matthew C. Perry students exhibit art, and 20 pieces are selected for exhibition at the regional Boys and Girls Club of America National Fine Arts Exhibit

Dec. 20

More than 1,000 runners participate in annual Jingle Bell Jog. After the race, participants consumed about one ton of cookies, sandwiches and beverages

MAG-12 maestros Wolmi-Do Fury

Dec. 1-4 Wolmi-Do Fury, a four-day exercise, prepared service members for real-world wartime situations.

The annual exercise included support from Marine Aircraft Group 12, Marine Aviation Logistics Squadron 12 and Marine All-Weather Fighter Attack Squadrons 224 and 225.

Wolmi-Do Fury is a MAG-12 level exercise, which integrates other flying squadrons deployed to Iwakuni.

While the flying squadrons conducted operations and missions, MAG-12 Headquarters and Operations supervised and oversaw everything.

Annual motorcycle rally revs up Toys for Tots campaign

Dec. 5 More than 100 motorcycles hit the air station's streets for the 8th annual Toys for Tots Motorcycle Rally.

The rally was coordinated by the Iwakuni Motorcycle Club and Single Marine Program to kick off the Marine Corps' Toys for Tots campaign.

The program collects new, unwrapped toys each year and distributes the gifts to needy children in the community.

Japanese and American bikers decked out in leather jackets and vests, chaps, bandanas and



LANCE CPL. MIRANDA BLACKBURN

riding boots straddled their motorcycles and hit the road for a mass "thunder run" around the perimeter of the station.

Above, Japanese bikers place toys into a donation box at the 8th annual Toys for Tots Motorcycle Rally.

Keen Sword marks 50 years of U.S.-Japan cooperation

Dec. 10 The Marines of Marine All-Weather Fighter Attack Squadron 242 wrapped up their participation in Keen Sword, which ran Dec. 3-10.

Keen Sword was a training exercise between Japan and the U.S. with the overall goal of integrating operations of the different services and governments that participated.

Keen Sword furthered the resiliency of the Japanese defense forces and the US military through the cooperation of both nations.

At right, Sgt. Isaac G. Jasso, a quality assurance safety observer with VMFA(AW)-242, looks on as pilots of a F-18D Hornet do last minute checks before takeoff.



LANCE CPL. KENNETH K. TROTTER JR.

MWSS-171 represents III MEF in cooking competition

Dec. 11 Support Squadron 171 Marines prepared meals in their field expedient mess tents at Penny Lake Field for the W.P.T. Hill Memorial Award competition for best field mess, the most prestigious award in military food service.

Established in 1971, this award is an annual Marine Corps wide competition to recognize the achievements for garrison and field mess food service operations.

MWSS-171 Marines were judged in 17 categories including operations and supervision, sanitation, taste, food quality, command support, field mess site selection and layout.



LANCE CPL. KENNETH K. TROTTER JR.

Harbor Operations gets new boat

Dec. 20 The U.S. Navy recently showcased its newest asset in its mission to safeguard the harbor.

The Harbor Patrol Boat was officially unveiled and christened here Dec. 20 as dignitaries of the US Navy, Marine Corps and Japanese Coast Guard looked on.

The Harbor Patrol Boat is a unique, one-of-a-kind vessel, which will be used to patrol the station's waters and

make sure the harbor stays secure.

It outclasses many boats of similar size.

The impact of the HPB-1 will bring a substantial increase of security to the table in comparison to other vessels that are used by harbor operations.

At left, Port Harbor Boat 1 glides through the water on its dual diesel engines during an exhibition of the new vessels capabilities.