Cpl. Jennifer Pirante
IWAKUNI APPROACH STAFF

KADENA AIR BASE, Japan — After completing the first week of approximately 45 hours of lectures and ground training June 4, Marine Aircraft Group 12, Marine All-Weather Fighter Attack Squadron 533 and Marine Fighter Attack Squadron 314 were ready to take the Marine Division Tactics Course to the skies.

MAG-12 provided the command element and host for the course with support from Marine Aviation Weapons Squadron 1 instructors, who provided extensive lectures, ground communications and in-air training support.

MDTC is a graduate-level course designed to provide the requisite air-to-air training prior to attending the Weapons and Tactics Instructor course and employs similar tactics as the Navy Strike Fighter Tactics Instructor program.

“During the first week they spent in Iwakuni, Marines were doing full 10- to 12-hour days of academics followed by briefing labs,” said Maj. Kyle Shoop, MAWTS-1 MDTC instructor. “Now, we are down here into the flying operations doing warm-ups so they can go out and get current flying hours because it is part of the training rules they have to follow.”

VMFA(AW)-533 and VMFA-314 MDTC students flew sorties June 6 to ensure they were current and proficient in the air-to-air theatre.

Lt. Gen. Kenneth J. Glueck Jr., III Marine Expeditionary Force commanding general and Marine Corps Bases Japan commander, speaks to a gathering of service members and station residents during a Townhall meeting at the Sakura theater here June 3. Throughout the meeting, Glueck, along with III MEF Command Sergeant Major Steven D. Morefield, gave an in-depth explanation of their intent for III MEF and gave insight into upcoming changes that may affect service members and residents stationed here. After concluding the speeches, Glueck opened the floor for the Marines to give their input, make suggestions or ask professional questions.

Cpl. Marcel Brown
IWAKUNI APPROACH STAFF

KADENA AIR BASE, Japan — Capt. Clayton D. Gard III, Marine All-Weather Fighter Attack Squadron 533 pilot, walks around a F/A-18D Hornet jet on the flightline here June 6 during final checks. Pilots spent the day flying to familiarize themselves with the aircraft before starting the flying portion of the Marine Division Tactics Course, the first MDTC to be conducted outside of the continental U.S.

Lt. Col. P.J. Kerr, MAG-12 safety and operations officer, states that MAG-12 is taking the weight off the other MAG's shoulders in the U.S. to make sure this exercise gets done.
Local areas & scuba water safety

When considering scuba or a buddy, you ensure that they have a buddy with you at all times. You cannot have too many buddies. You and your buddy are responsible for each other.

SCUBA is a tool that allows you to breathe underwater. You cannot breathe air out of the water. You must have air in your tank to breathe underwater.

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Riders course offers tips on motorcycle safety

Summer approaches fast, sitting just beyond the horizon of the spring season. Images of skimpy shorts, muscle T-shirts and children exploring the depths of the local community pool back home may spring to mind.

The thrill of riding free, the whipping wind and the image of weaving through and around traffic in the concrete jungles of the world may be more common to others.

Whatever one’s scene, one thing all riders must take into consideration during the coming summer months is motorcycle safety.

Motorcycle safety is paramount to owning and riding a motorcycle on station.

Roland Kallead, Rape Fox Professional Services traffic safety instructor, teaches the Basic Riders Course and Experienced Riders Course here on station.

“The Basic Riders Course teaches the very basics of riding, even for those who are experienced riders,” said Kallead. “I’ve had people who have been riding for years say they learned something they never knew about riding.”

There are two types of motorcycles commonly known as cruisers and sports bikes, sometimes referred to as “crotch bikes.” These two machines have small differences between them, but these minute differences are more significant in terms of handling and maneuverability.

The differences between the two motorcycles have resulted in riders being placed into separate classes. The Basic Riders Course and advanced course focus on teaching the basics of motorcycle handling.

“Riders often practice new techniques on temporary hiatus due to Operation Tomodachi but has since resumed,” said Kallead. “The times are not as set by station safety but only that it is scheduled to restarted. The times are not set as of yet by due to Operation Tomodachi but has since resumed.”

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The AVID program prepares students for college by allowing them to observe various professions and what those jobs entail. The AVID program has been offering this opportunity for the past six years. The students are encouraged to give considerable thought to all their options including the Marine Corps said JoAnn L. Sellers, an AVID teacher. “It’s really great that they have a awareness of what certain divisions do in the community,” said Sellers. “By having that awareness, they can look at the possibility of making this a career they can take on.” Members of the explosive ordnance disposal team here helped students try on some of the gear used in bomb disposal such as the advanced bomb suit. “We came out today to let some of the kids try on our gear and possibly weigh their options for joining the service in the future,” said Sgt. Ryan G. Wilhite, MWSS-171 explosive ordnance assistant team leader. “Also, we wanted (the students) to get a better feel of what their parents do within the military.” EOD Marines also let the students test out the Mac-Transportable Robotic System MARK II, a remote controlled bomb disposal tool. “Driving the robot around and trying on the suit were something that I thought was unique,” said Meia F. Cuyjet, 12, a Matthew C. Perry High School seventh-grader. “It’s something that a lot of kids may not otherwise have the opportunity to try being here.” Understanding can be a helpful tool when working with the students. When the students see a person who is truly committed to their job and loves what they do, it can send a powerful message, encouraging the students to not give up on themselves or what they want in life. “One of the things I really admire about these (Marines) is that they love their job,” said Sellers. “I think that it’s important for kids to see that they love what they do.” MWSS-171 engineers showcased the Army/Navy personnel search system, a metal detector that also has ground penetrating radar enabling it to detect low-metallic density objects such as anti-personnel land mines. Though the purpose of the day was for the AVID students to see how Marines operated, they also were treated to some of the heavy machinery used by the Marines such as the MR-40/10A1 logistics vehicle system. This day of the program was considered part of the end-of-year celebration course focusing on academics, learning about different career paths and a celebration at the end of the school year said Erin D. Ramey, AVID teacher. Cuyjet said being a part of the AVID program and observing some of the things MWSS-171 has shown him has made her think about her future. “We came out today to let some of the kids have a better feel of what their parents do within the military.” MWSS-171 has shown them has made her think about her future. The program offered the students the opportunity to try things they may not otherwise experience outside the program. "One of the things I really admire about these (Marines) is that they love their job," said Sellers. "I think that it's important for kids to see that they love what they do."
CORPS NEWS

Highlighting Marines and Sailors around the Globe

Stepping into new boots: Marines take on leadership roles, pass on experience from past deployments

CyL James W. Clark, 2nd Marine Division

MARINE CORPS BASE TWENTYNINE PALM S, Calif.

Afghanistan, to the froth of experience and a cage of adaptability manifests itself in many ways, whether it is through a Marine’s liberal application of duct-tape to fix broken equipment or in one’s ability to move into new roles and take on additional responsibilities; the latter however, is a change that often goes unseen.

Last year, during Baia’s first deployment, he served as a machine gunner with Company B, but this time around, he will not only be responsible for himself, but also for the Marines in his care.

“Last year, I didn’t need to be micro-managed, and at first, I expected the same from my Marines,” said Baia. “But, they’re not quite there yet – they are getting there though. I’m also learning the importance of your accountability, not just of yourself, but of your Marines.”

This shift in roles can be trying at times, as it forces a leader to not only have self-discipline, but also to expect and foster that trait in those under him, Baia explained. Additionally, a leader isn’t measured by his performance, but by the progress of his juniors.

“My success is their success,” he said. “I don’t measure myself as good as those guys. It never do, as I say, not as do I – let me show you, I don’t feel like I’m doing my job if my guys aren’t progressing.”

Sgt. Wesley Hillis, a section leader with Weapons, Baia and his squad member last year, pointed out that being a squad leader and a unit leader is easily the most challenging adjustment, requiring the Marine to develop a leadership style that fits him and benefits his Marines.

“You always think about how you Senior’s actions turned you,” Hillis said. “You take the traits that you want to emulate and I see that in the guys that were under me last year.”

For the squad leaders within the section, there are countless reasons for why they push themselves and their Marines, but the most consistent explanation is very simple – to get them home safely.

“We’re just trying to get everyone ready so they know what to expect,” said Lance Cpl. Augustino Huma, a squad leader whose story follows along the same lines as Baia’s. “That way we can do our job and bring everyone home. Last year it was more of me taking care of myself and now I have these boys to look down on their personal needs.”
INFOTAINMENT

Chapel Services

Remax Cathedral
Sunday 9:30 a.m. Protestant Service (Small Chapel)
5:30 p.m. Bible Fellowship (Building 1 Room 216)
5:30 p.m. Worship (Church of Christ)
9:30 a.m. Sunday School, Adult Bible Study
Communion Service
6:30 p.m. Activity – Arts and Crafts (Small Chapel)

Protestant
Saturday 7 a.m. Men’s Ministry
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
Sunday 6 p.m. Activity – Arts and Crafts (Small Chapel)

Latter Day Saints

Church of Christ
Sunday 9:30 a.m. Bible Study (Small Chapel)
10:30 a.m. Worship Service

Teen Programs

Tuesday 6:30 p.m. Activity – Arts and Crafts (Small Chapel)

Latter Day Saints

Church of Christ
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Team Programs

• High School Meetings (Club – grades 9-12)
• Junior High Meetings (Club – grades 7-8)
• HS&JR Bible Studies
• Retreats
• Service Projects
• Missions Trip
• Special Events Volunteer Training & Mentoring
• Foster Support Group
Call 080-4177-2090 or e-mail jfletah@ChallangeDy.org

For information regarding diverse services, religious education or any other compartmentalized program or chapel activity, call the Marine Memorial Chapel at 253-8777.

Mess Hall Menu

Monday

Vegetarian chowder, turkey yakisoba, Chinese barbecue diced pork, red pepper glazed fish, pork fried rice, steamed vegetables, rice, orange carrots, fried potatoes, fried vegetables, Chinese egg roll, dinner rolls, macaroni salad, potato salad, coleslaw and standard salad bar.

Tuesday

Chicken gumbo soup, French fried shrimp, eel salad, barbecued beef cubes, home fried potato, steamed rice, cauliflower parmesan, southern green beans, mac and cheese, creamy gravy, dinner rolls, steaks, quick chefy curry seafood, blueberry pie, white ice cream with butter cream frosting, bananas, vanilla creme pie, parfait and jellos, macaroni salad, potato salad, coleslaw and standard salad bar.

Wednesday

French onion soup, Chinese five spice chicken, Swiss salad with brown rice, mustard dill fish, steamed green potato, steamed wedges, fried cabbage with bacon, mixed vegetables, creamy gravy, dinner rolls, steaks, quick chefy curry seafood, blueberry pie, white ice cream with butter cream frosting, bananas, vanilla creme pie, parfait and jellos, macaroni salad, potato salad, coleslaw and standard salad bar.

Thursday

New England clam chowder, beef stroganoff, pork fried rice, steamed pasta, scalloped cream sauce, corn, steamed carrots, onion rings, brown gravy, dinner rolls, kolaches, apple coffee cake, cherry crunch, banana cake with butter cream frosting, macadamia nut chocolate chunks, chocolate parfait, jellos, macaroni salad, potato salad, coleslaw and standard salad bar.

Friday

Chicken fajitas, French fries, fried steak, beef, chicken, fish, steamed vegetables, salad bar, whipped cream, mashed potatoes, rice, and steamed vegetables.

Sakura Theater

Photo of the week

Church of Christ 
Sunday 9:30 a.m. Bible Study (Small Chapel)
10:30 a.m. Worship Service

Teen Programs

Tuesday 6:30 p.m. Activity – Arts and Crafts (Small Chapel)

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Sakura Theater

Photo of the week

INFOTAINMENT

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INFOTAINMENT
ATC stomps mud hole in Devil Donkeys, walks it dry

IWAKUNI APPROACH STAFF

ATC defeated the Devil Donkeys 13-2 in an intramural softball game at the main softball field here June 2. ATC was the first to strike as Paul A. Torres, ATC center fielder, dropped a fly ball into a center field gap for a double. Wade J. Armstrong, ATC second baseman, hit a sacrifice, bringing Torres home, to left field.

Chad A. Welsh, ATC left fielder, was next up to the plate. Welsh hit a pitch perfectly out to center field for a single. Next up to bat was Ryan C. Snyder, ATC right fielder. With one strike and two balls, Snyder waited for the Devil Donkey’s pitcher, Bradley A. Hanson, to send one over the plate. Snyder made a line drive to first base, where Ronald S. Hunter, Devil Donkey first baseman, tagged him out. Charles D. Wine, ATC catcher, delivered a ground ball near first base and was tagged out.

The Devil Donkeys were next up. Hanson, with his lefty stance, earned the Devil Donkey’s first out with a pop-up to right field caught by Snyder. Clayton R. Hullet, Devil Donkey center fielder, made a triple. Blade was next to bat. A line drive by Veronica E. Bigornia, Devil Donkey catcher, allowed Hullet to make it to home plate, making the score 1-1. Bigornia was ruled out at first base at the top of the first inning.

Jameson L. Lazares and, ATC third baseman and Christopher B. Jones, ATC second baseman, earned two more runs in the second inning, making the score 3-1. Torres and Christopher B. Jones, second baseman, added two more runs to the scoreboard before the end of the inning, making the score 5-1.

The Devil Donkeys were only able to get one player past second base during the second inning. A series of fly balls were easy pickings for their opponents. “Our hitting was really poor,” said Hanson. “Our overall game was pretty weak. We didn’t have a full team to really make it work.”

Several times throughout the game, the Devil Donkeys were required to forfeit an out for not having a 10-man team present. This added to the Devil Donkeys’ woes as this forced them off the field even faster as the game progressed.

ATC continued to get hits at will during the third inning, pushing the score to 7-1. The Devil Donkey’s had no answer to ATC.

The Devil Donkeys continued to fight on, even in the jaws of defeat. Raynier Cruzborroto, made one last attempt at a comeback for the Devil Donkeys. Cruzborroto sprinted to home plate when Hanson made a line drive to right field. Cruzborroto crossed home plate as Hanson was tagged out at second base.

The Devil Donkeys had one last attempt to make a comeback before the umpire called the game in the top of the fifth. Bases were loaded in the bottom half of the fourth inning when Sam J. Graviet, ATC center fielder, made an inside-the-park home run, pushing the score to 11-2. Two more runs were tacked on by ATC, making the final score 13-2.

Even with such a loss, the Devil Donkeys were unfazed. “We just came out here to have fun,” said Hanson. “We already know we’re going to the playoffs.”

The playoffs will be a double-elimination tournament. Hanson said the Devil Donkey’s batting needs to improve if it is to have a chance in the playoffs.

ATC felt even with the win, there were areas which need fine tuning. “We were making too many golf club swings,” said Torres. “A lot of our guys were trying to go for home runs. We need to just focus on connecting with the ball.”

This was the fourth game of the season for ATC. The Devil Donkey’s sit at 2-2 with this loss.