

PROMOTIONS
Find out who's weighing down their collar | P. 4

TRAINING
MAG-12 conducts CBRN training | P. 6

MHQ
Ruffles Chicken's feathers | P. 11

SPORTS CAMP
Helping make future athletes | P. 12

IWAKUNI APPROACH

Issue No. 26 Vol. 4 | Marine Corps Air Station Iwakuni, Japan



Full story on | P. 7

Hundreds of colorful sparks and streams of light crack and sizzle in the sky during the annual Independence Day fireworks display at Penny Lake here Tuesday. The fireworks, which began at 8:30 p.m. and lit up the sky until approximately 9 p.m., were set off from the flightline here and could be seen across Penny Lake, all the way to the sea wall where adults and children were awed.

CPL. JENNIFER PIRANTE

Hawks fly through deployment, soar home

Lance Cpl. Charlie Clark
IWAKUNI APPROACH STAFF

KADENA AIR BASE, Japan — Marine All-Weather Fighter Attack Squadron 533 is scheduled to redeploy to Marine Corps Air Station Beaufort, S.C., mid-July.

As part of the Unit Deployment Program, the Hawks flew to the Pacific Theater to participate in various training exercises.

The UDP was set up by the commandant of the Marine Corps and is focused toward deploying units to the Pacific for periods of approximately six months.

The Hawks have flown to Hawaii, Japan, Thailand and South Korea during their deployment.

"It's been a great deployment," said Lt. Col. George B. Rowell, VMFA(AW)-533 commanding officer. "The Marines have done a great job, and now we're ready to go home."

VMFA(AW)-533 flew more air-to-air training exercises during their deployment in the Pacific Theater to prepare the squadron's pilots and weapon systems operators for the Marine Division Tactics Course.

MDTC is a graduate-level course for pilots and weapon systems operators to improve their efficiency in the air-to-air arena, and a stepping stone for the aviation students.

MDTC prepares the aviation students for the Weapons and Tactics Instructors' course, located at Marine Corps Air Station Yuma, Ariz., which will focus more on the integration of the aviation combat element into Marine Air-Ground Task Force situations and further increase the squadron's combat readiness.

Now, the Hawks' pilots and weapons system operators are slated to focus more on air-to-ground training to ensure they are prepared for the WTI course.

When they return to Beaufort, VMFA(AW)-533 is slated to have maintenance and commanding general's inspections, as well as continued air-to-air and air-to-ground training.

The maintenance and commanding general's inspections are regularly scheduled inspections which ensure the Marines in the squadron are working efficiently together.

"We're going to hit the ground running," said Sgt. Maj. Suzie M. Hollings, the VMFA(AW)-533 squadron sergeant major. "Two inspections and training for upcoming events will keep us busy until our next

SEE HAWKS ON PAGE 3

VMFA-314 prepares for Australian skies

Lance Cpl. Charlie Clark
IWAKUNI APPROACH STAFF

KADENA AIR BASE, Japan — Marine Fighter Attack Squadron 314 flew to Royal Australian Air Force Base Townsville, Australia, to start Talisman Saber 2011 and Southern Frontier 2011 July 1.

Talisman Saber 2011, a biennial joint exercise

with the Australian Defense Force, U.S. Navy assets providing support for amphibious assault training and various U.S. Marine Corps fixed-wing and support squadrons, is designed to have U.S. forces provide close-air-support to the Australian army during future joint combat operations and is slated to begin Wednesday. Close-air-support is

assistance from friendly aircraft against enemy forces that are in proximity to U.S. or allied troops on the ground.

"We are directly supporting service members on the ground," said Capt. Elliott B. Lushin, a VMFA-314 F/A-18 Hornet pilot. "The troops will call us in to take out the enemies when they can't do

SEE TALISMAN ON PAGE 3



Commanding Officer/Publisher
Col. James C. Stewart

Public Affairs Officer
Capt. J. Lawton King

**Public Affairs, Operations
& Press Chief**
Staff Sgt. Jimmy H. Bention Jr.

Editor
Lance Cpl. Vanessa Jimenez

Combat Correspondents
Cpl. Marcel Brown
Cpl. Claudio A. Martinez
Cpl. Jennifer Pirante
Lance Cpl. Charlie Clark
Lance Cpl. Cayce Nevers
Lance Cpl. Kenneth K. Trotter Jr.

Webmaster
Yukie Wada

Community/Media Relations
Hiroko Soriki
Hiromi M. Kawamoto

Administration
Hiro Sumida

"This weekly newspaper is an authorized publication for members of the military services stationed overseas and their families. Its contents do not necessarily reflect the official views of the U.S. Government, the Department of Defense or the U.S. Marine Corps, and does not imply endorsement thereof."

Editorial content is edited, prepared and provided by the Public Affairs Office of Marine Corps Air Station Iwakuni, Japan. All queries concerning news and editorial content should be directed to the Public Affairs Office, Building One, Room 216, MCAS Iwakuni, Japan. Call 253-5551.

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.

PSC 561 Box 1868
FPO AP 96310-0019
Phone 253-5551
Fax 253-5554

CHAPLAIN'S CORNER

'Values begin at home'

Lt. Fulgencio L. Legaspi
DEPUTY CHAPLAIN

A grade school teacher was telling her class that more twins are born these days than in the past.

A tiny smart girl replied, "Little children are afraid to come into the world alone."

That is a very insightful remark. With the major threat to obstruct birth, children have all the reason to fear coming out into the world alone!

There is a place for parental love, care and affection beginning from infancy when we are helpless, a place where we can grow to find warmth and security and be accepted.

In Christian doctrine, Jesus, although the son of God, became a human child; he grew up in a family.

In this way, God did sanctify and intended a human family.

The human family as the basic unit of society ought to be the origin of change in the society.

If you cannot find the values such as honesty, justice, kindness and charity, you cannot expect to find these outside.

The happiness, holiness and health of the family rest upon the parents.

Members of a family have their respective calling. The word "call" comes from the Latin word "vocatus."

The father's vocation as the "pillar" of the family is to protect, support and serve the family.

He is to be a husband and father who should help in the upbringing of children.

The mother as the "light" of the family is called to be a wife and a mother.

In today's society they engaged in jobs to earn a living.

The children's principal vocation is to obey their parents.

They must show respect and reverence to them.

Values and virtues must radiate from the family to the place of work, schools and communities; "charity begins at home". The

success of the family depends on the parents and they are expected to provide three important Ps to their children, namely: Possessions, Presence, and Prayers.

Material needs such as food, clothing and shelter, are necessities for families to survive.

Children also need the parent's presence.

Parents should find time to be with their children.

In terms of prayers, parents are accountable for the spiritual formation of their children.

If they don't see parents being spiritual, one cannot expect their kids to do the same.

Actions speaks louder than words.

In an old Chinese story, a wise teacher asks people what is the "most satisfying thing in life."

Some replied, "a happy marriage," others said, "good health."

There were many more answers, but after everyone failed to give the correct one, the teacher said, "The most satisfying thing in life is to see a child confidently walk down the road on his own after you have shown him the right way to go."

Summer reading program opens new chapter to help children read



LANCE CPL. CAYCE NEVERS

Stacey Kobe-Bellika, a station librarian, shows children a picture in the book she was reading about dragons during the "Midsummer Knights Read" Summer Reading Program kick-off at the station library here June 29. Kobe-Bellika is only one of several library workers who are helping out with the Department of Defense sponsored program. The Summer Reading Program is focused on helping the children to better themselves in reading by providing fun activities to complete and topics to read.

Black Knights fly night exercises, train with Navy, Australian army

TALISMAN FROM PAGE 1

so from their position."

Whenever the Australian soldiers require close-air-support, they need to be able to call upon any branch of service for support.

"Australia and the U.S. are allies who go to war together," said Capt. Russ L. Henos, a VMFA-314 F/A-18 Hornet pilot. "We are making sure everyone is operating on the same page."

The bombing ranges the Australian military provides allows for air-to-ground training for the pilots.

"We couldn't do any air-to-ground training in Iwakuni, and we were limited to just one island during our training in Okinawa," Lushin said. "The ranges in Australia really broaden the Black Knights training horizons."

VMFA-314 is slated to roll right into Southern Frontier 2011 toward the end of July following the conclusion of Talisman Saber 2011.

Southern Frontier 2011, hosted by the Royal Australian Air Force, is an annual, bilateral training exercise, which allows Marine F/A-18 Hornet squadrons the opportunity to focus on close-air-support training in order to improve the different squadron's readiness and combat efficiency.

The Black Knights' pilots plan to do a lot of training exercises in support of Southern Frontier 2011, Henos said.

Part of Southern Frontier includes night training.

Night training is especially difficult because the pilots can't see the visual cues used to drop



LANCE CPL. CHARLIE CLARK

KADENA AIR BASE, Japan — Lance Cpl. John D. Reyes, a Marine Fighter Attack Squadron 314 fixed-wing aircraft mechanic, signals to Capt. Justin D. Floyd, a VMFA-314 F/A-18 Hornet pilot, to launch Floyd down the flightline for an air-to-air training exercise here June 27. VMFA-314 will train with more air-to-ground exercises during operations Talisman Saber 2011 and Southern Frontier 2011 June 27.

ordnance.

The pilots are forced to rely on their equipment during these situations in order to be precise when dropping bombs in night combat operations.

"This is a great opportunity for us to maintain our nighttime combat effectiveness," said

Lushin.

The maintenance Marines can also take advantage of the late-night training.

"The Marines who work on the aircraft have qualifications that they need to re-qualify for annually," said Cpl. Michael P. Weston, a VMFA-314 aviation

operations specialist. "This type of training benefits all the Marines in the squadron, not just the pilots."

The VMFA-314 Marines and ADF troops will use these exercises to keep the U.S.-Australian multinational interoperability strong.

VMFA(AW)-533 heads home after successful deployment

HAWKS FROM PAGE 1

deployment in 2012."

The maintenance inspection is first up on VMFA(AW)-533's plate.

A team of expert inspectors sent by Maj. Gen. Jon M. Davis, the 2nd Marine Aircraft Wing commanding general, will test how efficient the squadron stores and disposes of hazardous waste, repairs the aircraft and perform various other aspects the maintenance Marines are trained to accomplish.

"Through the constant training the pilots and weapon systems operators do, we learn how to be very efficient at our jobs," said Lance Cpl. Anthony J. Brissett Jr., a VMFA(AW)-533 ordnance technician. "Once this

inspection is done, we're going to head right back to maintaining and preparing the aircraft for training."

Then, Davis' team will focus on inspecting the headquarters Marines.

For the headquarters Marines, the team of experts will inspect how the performance fitness test, the government charge card and noncommissioned officer mentor programs were conducted.

"I feel as though we are prepared for whatever the experts have in store for us," said Rowell. "Even with these inspections going on, the training won't stop."

VMFA(AW)-533 continues to prove that Marines are capable of operating in any climate and place like the Marine Corps has done for hundreds of years before.



KADENA AIR BASE, Japan — Lance Cpl. William C. Sanborn, a Marine All-Weather Fighter Attack Squadron 533 ordnance technician waits to perform the final safety check for an air-to-ground training exercise here June 28. VMFA(AW)-533 pilots and weapon systems operators completed many air-to-ground and air-to-air training exercises during the units deployment to the western Pacific.

LANCE CPL. CHARLIE CLARK

Corporals Course: 520-11

Honor Graduate:
Cpl. Justin D. Burk
H&HS

Cpl. Vonace C.
Creswellmcdermett
MWSS-171

Cpl. Paul Curtiswittenberg
VMFA(AW)-242

Cpl. Bryan C. Freeman
MALS-12

Cpl. Mario E. Jimenez
CLC-36

Cpl. Kevin S. Karr
MALS-12

Cpl. Miranda L. Mitchell
MWSS-171

Cpl. Jason A. Schar
MALS-12

Cpl. Kristen F. Starkus
MALS-12

Cpl. Shaikh R. Thomas-Boyd
MALS-12

Cpl. Timothy J. Watjen
H&HS

Cpl. Lonnie Wells IV
MALS-12

Cpl. Artur Wlodarski
MALS-12

Iron Man:
Cpl. Christopher A. Saroch
H&HS

Gung Ho:
Cpl. Julia A. Henley
MAG-12



Corporals Course class 520-11 graduates recite the Marine Corps Hymn as Cpl. Julia A. Henley, Corporals Course Gung Ho Marine leads the new graduating class of corporals during their ceremony at the Marine Memorial Chapel here Friday. The 15 Marines who graduated spent weeks training and testing their physical and mental abilities in areas such as sword manual, physical training and Marine Corps Knowledge, as well as improving their leadership abilities.

July Promotions

MAG-12

Lance Cpl.
Jung, Yoon H.

Cpl.
Ordenana, Stephanie A.
Sanchez, Anthone

Sgt.
Dang, JosephVu T.

CLC-36

Lance Cpl.
Gonzalez Jr., David
Nicholson, Miranda N.

Cpl.
Tamashiro, Stephen G.

Staff Sgt.
Krueger, Curtis L.

H&HS

Lance Cpl.
Penaranda, Matthew R.
Pyle, Jesse F.

Cpl.
Gutierrez, Daniel R.
Josemendez, Julio A.
Martebreu, Melvin D.
McIntosh, Gerrod L.
Moore, John A.
Rosenthal, Noah S.

Gunnery Sgt.
Chilson, Ryan M.
Palmer, Germaine M.

VMFA(AW)-242

Cpl.
Harper, Daniel L.

Sgt.
Guzman, Lorenzo M.
Oxford, Phillip D.

MWSS-171

Lance Cpl.
Canas, Victor H.
Morris, Alexander D.

Cpl.
Blancas, Fernando
Robinson, Bradley R.
Smith, Geoffrey D.

MALS-12

Cpl.
Alford, Kenji L.
Burns, Antwain C.
Conklin, Shane M.
Daly, Jeffrey A.
Kramer, Aaron W.
Pineda, Adrian N.
Samaniego, Ashley S.
Scott, Hunter K.
Swearengin, Brian C.
Tremont, Joseph G.

Sgt.
Lock, Corey N.



(From left to right:) Petty Officer 2nd Class Jeffrey Minnis, Petty Officer 2nd Class Carlos Lozoya, Helicopter Sea Combat Squadron 25 aviation electronic technicians and Petty Officer 3rd Class Sixto Paguirigam, HSC-25 aviation electricians mate, check parts of the main rotor hub on one of their MH-60S Knighthawk helicopters during a Phase D inspection at the HSC-25 hanger here June 6.



Two Helicopter Sea Combat Squadron 25 aviation electricians check the main rotor hub system of one of their MH-60S Knighthawk helicopters during a Phase D inspection at the HSC-25 hanger here June 6.

HSC-25 maintainers aren't fazed with Phase D

Cpl. Marcel Brown
IWAKUNI APPROACH STAFF

Helicopter Sea Combat Squadron 25, A Unit Deployment Program helicopter squadron based out of Anderson Air Force Base, Guam, is the only forward deployed helicopter sea combat squadron in the Navy.

Being the only squadron of its kind, HSC-25's MH-60S Knighthawk helicopters are tasked with a wide range of responsibilities throughout the Pacific, primarily vertical replenishment and search and rescue missions.

On average, each helicopter flies 10 – 12 hours daily. This constant stress on the helicopter requires frequent maintenance.

"Maintenance wise, this is the biggest thing we have to do," said Petty Officer 3rd Class Matt Koncz, HSC-25 aviation electricians mate. "On average it takes about three to four weeks from start to finish. After we do all of this, we do what we call a functional check flight (FCF), which takes another three days."

HSC-25 aviation electricians completed an approximate monthlong Phase D inspection on one of their two Knightkawks here June 10.

"This is basically the most in-depth maintenance inspection," said Koncz. "There are four phases, A through D. In between each phase, there are 175 hours."

Every 175 flight hours, the Knighthawks must go through A through C phase inspections, but every 700 flight hours, Knighthawks are required to go through an in-depth phase D inspection, which requires maintenance technicians to disassemble, test and reassemble the entire rotary system.

"Everything on top comes off," said Seaman Johnathan Stone, HSC-25 aviation electricians mate. "We take everything up there apart, measure it, make sure everything is good, reassemble and put it back up."

Although the rotary system is the primary focus, other major components are thoroughly checked during Phase D inspections.

"Basically, we just disassemble some parts on the bird, make sure there's no excess corrosion, make sure the parts are good, and if not, we order new parts," said Stone. "Once that's done, we reinstall everything and do an FCF."

During UDP deployments, HSC-25 maintenance sailors face several obstacles, primarily getting parts on station.

"If it's not on the authorized user's list, you have to apply for it to be on there. Then, you have to go through the process to get it here," said Stone.

Each base or station has a hazardous material authorized user's list. Since Iwakuni is home to mainly fighter jet squadrons, this list is mostly composed of HazMat parts for fighter jets. This creates a problem for helicopter squadrons.

"For this bird, we had to wait two weeks for one CA-1000, it's a type of ceiling, because nobody on the base uses that kind of ceiling except these birds," said Stone.

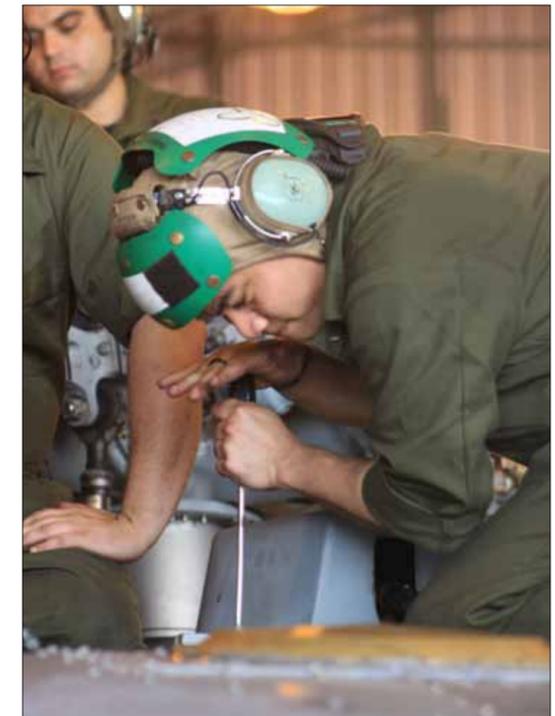
With the constant use of these helicopters, HSC-25 maintenance sailors come across a phase inspection very frequently.

"On a boat, they fly twelve hours a day. So depending on how they fly, we may have to do a phase about every 17 days," said Stone.

Although these phases are vital to mission accomplishment, HSC-25 pilots have to put their utmost trust in their maintenance sailors.

Brief inspections are conducted daily, but during these phase inspections, pilots stay out of the way.

"I've always been very impressed with the maintainers I work with. We trust them implicitly," said Lt. Cmdr. Ronald Mason, HSC-25 detachment officer-in-charge. "They have a very tough job, and they've done a phenomenal job day in and day out providing



Petty Officer 1st Class Jay Jerusalem, Helicopter Sea Combat Squadron 25 aviation electricians mate, tightens a screw on the top of one of the HSC-25 MH-60S Knighthawk helicopters during a Phase D inspection at the HSC-25 hanger here June 6.

us aircraft to fly."

Mason said his sailors have managed to stay on top of their responsibilities with their small staff of six maintainers.

"We have yet to have a maintenance issue we couldn't fix. We've had no delays other than waiting for the supply system to catch up," said Mason. "Obviously, it takes time when you order something, but when we get it, these guys do a phenomenal job of installing it, making sure that the system is checked correctly and were safe to fly."

For the remainder of their stay here, HSC-25 will most likely conduct at least one more D phase inspection before departing.



CPL. CLAUDIO A. MARTINEZ

Sgt. Cristhian Santana, Marine Aircraft Group 12 Section 1 personnel chief, adjusts the fit of his gas mask after receiving word that the mission-oriented protective posture level has been raised from level 2 to 3 at Building 1 here during a MAG-12 MOPP familiarization training June 28. The MOPP training was designed to familiarize participating MAG-12 service members with the benefits and limitations of protective gear in a chemical, biological, radiological and nuclear environment. The training lasted the entire work day.

GAS, GAS, GAS!



CPL. CLAUDIO A. MARTINEZ

Staff Sgt. Philip E. Roderick, Marine Aircraft Group 12 career planner, types away on his keyboard using stick erasers while donned in his mission-oriented protective posture gear while in MOPP level four at Building 1 here during a MAG-12 semi-annual MOPP familiarization training June 28. Many of the service members participating in the training found typing while wearing gloves was difficult and were forced to adapt and overcome the situation.



CPL. CLAUDIO A. MARTINEZ

Capt. Timothy E. Banks, Marine Aircraft Group 12 Section 2 senior intelligence officer, walks down a hallway in Building 1 here while in mission-oriented protective posture level 1 during a MAG-12 semi-annual MOPP familiarization training June 28. All training conducted during the MOPP exercise was done in accordance with Marine Corps Order 3400.3F, which lists the standards and requirements Marines and Marine units need to meet in order to accomplish their missions in a chemical, biological, radiological and nuclear environment.

MAG-12 service members dress to impress

Cpl. Claudio A. Martinez
IWAKUNI APPROACH STAFF

The Marine Aircraft Group 12 command received intelligence about an enemy state launching several missiles toward the air station that presented a chemical, biological, radiological or nuclear threat to station residents. In response to the danger, the command gave orders for mission-oriented protective posture gear and gas masks to be issued to its Marines and sailors. The command also issued orders for the service members to continue their daily missions while having their gear on standby, ready for use.

This was the scenario MAG-12 Headquarters personnel faced here in their regular workspaces during their semi-annual MOPP familiarization training June 28.

The training was designed to familiarize service members with the benefits and limitations of protective gear in a CBRN environment.

"The Marines are meant to understand and learn that while MOPP gear is uncomfortable, they can still accomplish their mission," said Gunnery Sgt. James L. Walters, MAG-12 CBRN chief. "If you're a Section 6 Marine, you can still work on somebody's computer for them wearing MOPP gear. If you're in administration, you have to adjust and figure out how to still type orders while you're in MOPP gear. Doing this training ensures that we can still function, and we won't be sidelined in the event of an enemy attack."

The MAG-12 service members conducted the training throughout the entire work day and progressed in MOPP levels as intelligence reports on simulated CBRN attacks were disseminated throughout the work sections. As the MOPP levels increased, the Marines and sailors became more familiar with the limitations each level presented.

"A lot of people see this training as a pain to do," said Walters. "(The gear) is very restrictive and the training lowers morale somewhat; but doing a little bit of training now, will save a lot of lives in the future."

The service members went through all MOPP levels. Level zero requires service members to have their gas mask and carrier attached at the hip with their gloves, boots and protective over garments within reach.

At level one, the over garments are worn with the gas mask and carrier attached at the hip. Boots and gloves are within reach.

In level two, the garments and boots are worn; the gas mask is carried at the hip and the gloves are within reach. Level three requires service members to don their boots, garments and mask with their gloves at the ready. At level four, all protective gear is worn.

Several of the Marines and sailors found MOPP level four the most cumbersome.

"Being that we are in the administration side of the house, the main challenge was actually typing and talking on the phone while in MOPP level four," said Staff Sgt. Mike Rodriguez, MAG-12 fiscal chief. "Its good train-

ing, but it's hard to accomplish certain tasks when you've got gloves on and your sight is minimized along with your hearing."

Many of the service members found typing while wearing gloves difficult. They were forced to adapt to the situation and use pens and pencils to type.

Others found it difficult to deal with the rise in temperature but were still able to complete their tasks. Some Marines thought about what it would be like in an actual CBRN environment.

"Being Marines, I think we can accomplish the mission no matter what, but it would be a bit more challenging in MOPP gear," said Rodriguez. "After doing this training, I think we'll be okay, and we'll be able to do what we needed to do."

Although uncomfortable during the training, even the most junior Marines realized how important the training was.

"Just doing basic tasks was hard," said Pvt. Kouassi Kuffi, a MAG-12 legal clerk. "I didn't even feel like getting up. It was really hot and draining."

Kuffi said even though he doesn't like doing the training, he thinks it's important to do it at least annually in order to know how to operate in a CBRN environment.

All training conducted during the MOPP exercise was done in accordance with Marine Corps Order 3400.3F, which lists the standards and requirements Marines and units need to meet in order to continue their missions in a CBRN environment.



CPL. JENNIFER J. PIRANTE

Hundreds of streams of bright fireworks light up the sky for station residents and Japanese locals to enjoy at Penny Lake here Tuesday. Every year, Marine Corps Community Services hosts a fireworks display to celebrate Independence Day, which the U.S. has continued to celebrate for 235 years. Due to heavy rain on Monday, the fireworks display was moved to Tuesday.

Boom go the Fireworks!



CPL. JENNIFER J. PIRANTE

A colorful fireworks shoots up from the flightline here Tuesday in celebration of Independence Day. Hundreds of station residents and Japanese locals gathered to watch the show.

Cpl. Jennifer J. Pirante
IWAKUNI APPROACH STAFF

Station residents and Japanese locals gathered to watch the Independence Day fireworks display at Penny Lake here Tuesday.

The fireworks, which began at 8:30 p.m. and lit up the sky until approximately 9 p.m., were set off from the flightline here and could be seen across Penny Lake, all the way to the sea wall where adults and children awed.

The show was originally slated to occur Monday, but was postponed due to inclement weather and heavy rain.

A concert featuring local bands Jalopy and Blister took place

at the Club Iwakuni ballroom Monday, and also featured headliner 12 Stones courtesy of Armed Forces Entertainment.

"(Independence Day) is my favorite American holiday," said Lt. Donald Baker, Marine Wing Support Squadron 171 chaplain.

"It makes me so happy to be an American, to be serving in the military and our country is awesome. Being out here, it takes the meaning a little bit deeper because we're serving another country while serving ours. It means a lot."

Fireworks and entertainment for Independence Day festivities were provided by Marine Corps Community Services.



CPL. JENNIFER J. PIRANTE

Station residents watch the night sky light up with hundreds of fireworks at Penny Lake here Tuesday in celebration of Independence Day. The fireworks display had been postponed due to inclement weather.

CORPS NEWS

HIGHLIGHTING MARINES AND SAILORS AROUND THE GLOBE

Marine survives close encounter with anti personnel mine

Lance Cpl. Bruno J. Bego
2ND MARINE LOGISTICS GROUP

CAMP LEATHERNECK, Afghanistan — According to the United Nations' Mine Clearance Program, Afghanistan is the most heavily mined country in the world. There are nearly 10 million landmines littering 530 kilometers of Afghan soil.

Some of these mines emplaced by insurgents, but most are left over from the Soviet invasion of Afghanistan in 1979.

Cpl. Brock E. Callaway, a combat engineer with Combat Logistics Battalion 8, 2nd Marine Logistics Group (Forward), was clearing a path with a mine detector when he stepped on a defective anti-personnel mine June 26, near Patrol Base Shark Tooth, Sangin District, Afghanistan.

"Our team was cutting down some trees to establish a new post for Marines in the area," Callaway explained. "We were told the area we were going to work on wasn't clear."

Before the Marines started working, Callaway swept the area around the first two trees thoroughly.

"When I finished, I started clearing the next two trees and that's when I stepped on the mine," he said.

The mine was buried along the trees near a canal. Water exposure caused the explosive material to fail, reducing its effectiveness.

"At first I thought I lost my legs," he explained. "The blast pushed me back a couple of feet away... As soon as I landed I got up and ran back toward the Marines."

All I could think about was running as far as I could from that place."

The explosion wasn't strong enough to injure Callaway. Cpl. David P. Veneziani, a combat engineer with 2nd MLG (Fwd.), was standing nearby.

"I was approximately 10 or 15 meters away cutting some trees, when everything happened," Veneziani said. "We heard a small explosion... so I looked over and saw [Callaway] running toward us."

"The first thing I noticed was that he had all his extremities, which of course, was my first concern," he added. "So I grabbed him, I threw him up on my shoulders in a fireman's carry and got him away from that area."

Once the Marines reached a different and more secured position, Veneziani along with Cpl. Howard W. Laur, a combat engineer proceeded to check Callaway for injuries.

"I was mainly providing security, looking around as we took him up on the hill," Laur explained. "Once we stopped we started treating him, we removed his shoes to make sure nothing was broken, we also took his pants off to see if he had any real serious injuries on his legs."

Once Veneziani and Laur finished examining Callaway, they took him back to the base to be transported to the medical facility aboard Camp Bastion to receive further assistance.

"This was definitely a wake-up call," Callaway said. "I consider myself very fortunate to be able to walk."

"I am not going to deny that I am a little nervous to go back outside the wire again, but I knew the risks when I joined the Marine Corps," Callaway concluded. "This is my job and will continue doing it regardless of the circumstances."



LANCE CPL. BRUNO J. BEGO

CAMP LEATHERNECK, Afghanistan — Cpl. Brock E. Callaway, a combat engineer with Combat Logistics Battalion 8, 2nd Marine Logistics Group (Forward), poses for a picture in front of the battalion sing July 1, aboard Camp Leatherneck. Callaway stepped on a defective anti-personnel mine while clearing an area June 26 near Patrol Base Shark Tooth, Sangin District, Afghanistan.

Callaway wants to stay in the Marine Corps to become an instructor at his military occupational school. He intends to use his experience to teach entry level Marines going through engineer school about how to mitigate the dangers they may face when they deploy.



LANCE CPL. BRUNO J. BEGO

CAMP LEATHERNECK, Afghanistan — Cpl. Howard W. Laur (left), Cpl. Brock E. Callaway and Cpl. David P. Veneziani, combat engineers with Combat Logistics Battalion 8, 2nd Marine Logistics Group (Forward), pose for a picture July 1, aboard Camp Leatherneck, Afghanistan. Callaway stepped on a defective anti-personnel mine while clearing an area June 26 near Patrol Base Shark Tooth, Sangin District, Afghanistan. Laur and Veneziani provided immediate assistance to Callaway and carried him back to the post to be medically evacuated.

COMMUNITY BRIEFS | CLASSIFIEDS

Briefs

Summer Group Swimming Lessons Session

Registration begins Saturday, 8 a.m. – 5 p.m. Lessons are Monday – July 22, Mondays through Fridays. Morning lessons are held at the IronWorks Gym Indoor Pool and evening lessons are held at the WaterWorks Outdoor Pool. Lessons are for children ages 6 months and older. Cost is \$30 per student. Register in the Aquatics Office located in the IronWorks Gym. Call 253-4966 for details.

Naha Consulate Visit

State Department personnel from the U.S. Consulate in Naha will be in Iwakuni Tuesday-Thursday conducting 30 minute interviews for I-130 petitioners. They will see petitioners from Iwakuni and Sasebo. An I-130 Petition is the beginning of the process to obtain immigration status for a foreign relative. For more information, contact Junko Sakamoto at the Legal Assistance Office at 253-5594.

Temporary Mess Hall

Building 240 is designated as a temporary mess hall. Hours of operation are 6 – 7:30 a.m. and 11 a.m. – 1 p.m. Monday – Friday. The special shuttle bus will continue to run during the dinner and dinner/brunch meal periods. A sandwich bar is also available from 1:30 – 5:30 p.m.

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 is required. The lending locker is located in Building 411 room 101. 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.

PMO Lost and Found

Contact the Provost Marshal's Office Lost and Found if you have lost anything around the installation. Examples may include: Cell phones, keys, digital cameras, bicycle helmets, etc. To recover lost items or for more information, call 253-4929.

Crime Stoppers

To report a crime, call 253-3333. Callers can leave a detailed message without having to speak to a live person.

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

matic, fluids recently serviced, tires new in January. Asking \$2,500 OBO. For more information call 080-3506-9395 or 253-2880.

Jobs

Program Management Positions

Louis Berger Group is seeking experienced DoD, retired or separated military members for program management positions located at Camp Courtney, Okinawa, Japan. Some requirements include a minimum 4-year degree, 5-years experience, U.S. citizen, able to obtain secret security clearance, experience with military requirements, planning and operations. For immediate consideration for local residents, you may submit an advance resume to lbginokinawa@gmail.com. For more information visit www.louisberger.com and look for the jobs indicated for Okinawa.

Vehicles

Nissan Pulsar Serie
JCI good until January 2013, 77,000 km, auto-

Brief and Classified Submissions

To submit a brief or ad, send an e-mail to iwakuni.pao@usmc.mil. Include a contact name, phone number and the information to be published. You may submit your brief or ad in person at the Public Affairs Office, Building 1, Room 216 or call 253-5551 to submit over the phone. Provide all requested information to simplify the request process. 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.

Station bids farewell to retiring loyal employees



LANCE CPL. CAYCE NEVERS

Master Labor Contractors, now officially retired in a ceremony, sit with Lt. Col. Thomas A. Wagoner, acting station executive officer, and Yvonne M. Matthews, Civilian Human Resources Office acting director, at the Club Iwakuni Enlisted Club here June 29. Retired MLC's with 30 years and more: Satoru Kobayashi, Sadaichi Tani and Haruyuki Yagi. Retired MLC's with 20 years and more: Yukio Kimura, Tatsuto Mori, Makio Otani, Toshiharu Fujimoto, Tetsuo Michinaka and Shigeyasu Tamura, Kojima Yumiko. Retired MLC's with 15 years and more: Tetsuo Nomura, Mami Fujimoto, Keiko Kubota and Toshie Nakatsu.

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 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 (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
 Tuesday 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.

Photo of the week



LANCE CPL. KENNETH K. TROTTER JR.
 Anthony Baker, Thunder Chickens' shortstop, prepares to swing at the pitch as it passes over home plate in the Chickens' narrow 10-9 loss to MHQ at the main softball field here June 29 during the 2011 intramural softball tournament. MHQ stayed in the lead throughout the game but nearly gave up the win in the fifth inning. If you have your own photo to submit? Submit your photos to the Public Affairs Office by e-mailing them to iwakuni.pao@usmc.mil or submit them in person at the Public Affairs 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. For more information call 253-5551.

SAKURA THEATER

Friday, July 8, 2011
 7 p.m. Jumping The Broom (PG-13)
Premier
 10 p.m. Bridesmaids (R)
Premier

Saturday, July 9, 2011
 1 p.m. Prom (PG)
Premier
 4 p.m. Jumping The Broom (PG-13)
 7 p.m. Bridesmaids (R)

Sunday, July 10, 2011
 1 p.m. Hoodwinked Too!: Hood vs Evil (PG)
 4 p.m. Prom (PG)
 7 p.m. Green Lantern (PG-13)

Monday, July 11, 2011
 1 p.m. Rio (PG)
Last Showing
 7 p.m. Water For Elephants (PG-13)
Last Showing

Tuesday, July 12, 2011
 Theater Closed

Wednesday, July 13, 2011
 Theater Closed

Thursday, July 14, 2011
 1 p.m. Hoodwinked Too!: Hood vs Evil (PG)
 7 p.m. Madea's Big Happy Family (PG-13) *Last Showing*

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.

Mess Hall Menu

Monday
 Corn chowder, sauerbraten, jerked styled chicken, spicy baked fish, lyonnaise rice, baked macaroni and cheese, asparagus, corn, brown gravy, dinner rolls, macaroni salad, potato salad, coleslaw, standard salad bar, bear claws, blueberry muffins, cherry pie, white cake with buttercream frosting, brownies, chocolate pudding parfait, jello parfait.

Tuesday
 Chicken gumbo soup, baked Italian sausage, southern fried chicken, pepper steak, steamed rice, mashed potatoes, peas and carrots, brussels sprouts polonaise, brown gravy, dinner rolls, macaroni salad, potato salad, coleslaw, standard salad bar, kolaches, quick cherry coffee cake, pecan pie, marble cake with buttercream frosting, chocolate chip cookie, banana cream pudding, jello parfait.

Wednesday
 Cream of chicken soup, baked salmon, roast pork, Yankee pot roast, paprika buttered potatoes, steamed rice, peas and carrots, calico cabbage, brown gravy, dinner rolls, macaroni salad, potato salad, coleslaw, standard salad bar, kolaches, quick cherry coffee cake, pecan pie, marble cake with buttercream frosting, chocolate chip cookie, banana cream pudding, jello parfait.

Thursday
 Minestrone soup, barbecue chicken, apple glazed corned beef, Cantonese pork ribs, grilled cheese, potatoes au gratin, tossed green rice, orange carrots amandine, spinach, chicken gravy, dinner rolls, bowknots, blueberry muffin, apple pie, devil's food cake with coconut buttercream frosting, shortbread cookie, chocolate pudding parfait, jello parfait, macaroni salad, potato salad, coleslaw, standard salad bar.

Friday
 Chicken rice soup, savory baked chicken, fried catfish, salisbury steak, mashed potatoes, long grain and wild rice, summer squash, asparagus, chicken gravy, brown gravy, dinner rolls, quick French coffee cake, doughnut, vberry pie, yellow cake with chocolate buttercream frosting, brownies, vanilla pudding parfait, jello parfait, macaroni salad, potato salad, coleslaw, standard salad bar.

MHQ fights to stay ahead of Chickens, win 10-9

Lance Cpl. Kenneth K. Trotter Jr.
 IWAKUNI APPROACH STAFF

MHQ narrowly defeated the Thunder Chickens in an intramural softball playoff game at the main softball field here June 29.

The game was part of the 2011 intramural softball playoffs, which is a double-elimination tournament. The playoffs began June 28 and are scheduled to conclude on Tuesday.

Anthony Baker, Thunder Chickens shortstop, was first up to bat. Baker walked to first base. Chris A. Lang, Thunder Chickens, first baseman, was able to get to first base with a line drive between second and third base.

MHQ was quick to get the line drive, tagging Baker out at second.

Roy D. Whitener, Thunder Chickens pitcher, smashed a fly ball to center field, getting to third base with Lang on third.

Travis J. Eno, Thunder Chickens left centerfielder, was ruled out when a fly ball to center field the next play.

Kevin J. Quintana, Thunder Chickens third baseman, was able to get Lang and Whitener home with a ground ball while he was ruled out at first.

The score was 2-0 for the Thunder Chickens. MHQ was not to be outdone in the bottom of the first.

Charles A. Redden, MHQ right centerfielder, and Jerry Woods, MHQ left centerfielder, were both able to bring a runner home with hard hits deep to right field before Raymond S. Sawejko, MHQ pitcher was ruled out when a pop up sailed left and was ruled a foul.

Stephen F. deBruyn, MHQ shortstop, managed to make it to third through a fly ball deep to left field.

In a display of athleticism, Baker made a leaping catch on Warren Graham's, MHQ second baseman, line drive between second and third base making another out for MHQ.

deBruyn ran for home when Daniel S. Clary, MHQ third baseman, hit a fly ball to center field before being tagged out at second. MHQ closed the first inning with the lead 3-2.

The Thunder Chickens lone score in the top of the second came when the team's second baseman, Derek W. Kuster, managed to break away to home from third from a fly ball deep

to right field.

MHQ managed to tack on four more runs during the bottom of the second inning.

With one out, deBruyn hit an infield homer deep to center field, bringing two more runners home. Clary was ruled out by a fly ball to center field.

deBruyn scored when Sawejko hit a line drive between first and second base and was tagged out. The score was now 7-3 at the end of the second.

"We created more runs for them by not being patient and waiting for the ball," said Eno. "We're going to have to work on that and our defense throughout the tournament."

But Eno was quick to point out that the score was no reflection of the team's attitude.

"It's just a game," said Eno. "We're having fun."

The Thunder chickens responded by posting 3 runs at the top of the third.

MHQ walked the Thunder Chickens' first three batters. Eno gave the Chickens their first runner home for the third inning with a line drive.

Kuster was able to bring home two more runners with an outfield hit before being tagged at third base. The score now stood at 7-6 at the top of the third.

MHQ closed out the inning with no more runs.

The fourth inning quickly ended for the Chickens when their first three runners' fly balls were all picked off.

MHQ earned three more runs in the bottom of the fourth, closing out the inning safely in the lead 10-6.

The top of the fifth the Chickens struck quick and fast.

The Chickens already had one out. With the bases loaded, Kuster hit a fly ball to right field bringing all runners home.

The score was now 10-9. Not wanting to be beaten, MHQ stepped up making two diving catches to finish the game and seal the Chickens' fate.

"Their biggest strength was staying with us," said Loughman. "It's exciting in games like this."

Nothing but respect was given to the Chickens but the fact that they were allowed



LANCE CPL. KENNETH K. TROTTER JR.
 Raymond S. Sawejko, MHQ pitcher, floats a pitch during MHQ's close 10-9 win against the Thunder Chickens in an intramural softball tournament game at the main softball field here June 29. The Chickens attempted to mount a comeback late in the fifth inning but were stopped short.

to come back and nearly win the game was something that needs to be worked on said Joshua Whitfield, MHQ first baseman.

"We were able to come back from our mistakes late in the game," said Whitfield. "We need to commit fewer mistakes, though. But I had no doubt we'd get those last outs."

MHQ will continue on to the winner's bracket of the tournament. The Chickens' will have to fight back through the losers' brackets to have a chance at the championship in the upcoming weeks.



LANCE CPL. KENNETH K. TROTTER JR.
 Warren Graham, MHQ second baseman, prepares to strike the ball in MHQ's win against the Thunder Chickens an intramural softball tournament game at the main softball field here June 29. The Thunder Chickens were on the losing side of a close 10-9 game. Players on both teams dove and leaped for the ball in an effort to slow either team down.

Sports camps teach children sportsmanship, fundamentals

Lance Cpl. Kenneth K. Trotter Jr.
IWAKUNI APPROACH STAFF

Marine Corps Community Services hosted a three-day basketball camp in the IronWorks Gym sports courts here June 27-29.

The camp is one of the many MCCS Iwakuni Command Summer Camps, which are being offered throughout the summer for station residents' children.

"We're not just trying to teach children about sports, but also to give them an opportunity to get out of the house, away from the video games for a bit, just come out here and have a good time," said John R. Baltazar III, MCCS youth coordinator.

The children spent much of the morning with the coaches focusing on the fundamentals of basketball. They worked through layups, jump shots, zone/man-to-man defense, boxing out and crossover drills for several hours before continuing on with a short game scrimmage.

The coaches took approximately 45 minutes at each station teaching the children many of the necessities of the game.

Codie E. Hernandez, a 12-year-old station resident, signed up for the camp to learn pointers and tips from the coaches.

"(The coaches) taught little tricks to help me improve like performing a fake out," said Hernandez.

At this point in the children's development of sports, the children are more impressionable to picking up and retaining an understanding of the game said Camille N. Peet, an MCCS commands sports camp coach and former collegiate basketball player.

"It really does make a difference with

kids this age," said Peet. "They're still at this age where it's more accessible for them and not so set in their ways yet. After that, it gets harder for them to grasp."

The camps hold a dual purpose. On one end, they serve to get children out of the house, learn sports and sportsmanship. On the other, it provides an opportunity for Marines to get out and volunteer in the community, exposing them to children their own age and how to interact with them.

Volunteers are continuously sought out to help during the summer months. Those who wish to come out and help are not required to have a deep, extensive knowledge to take part in the camp.

"You don't have to be an expert," said Baltazar. "Just come out and see what this is all about."

The dodgeball camp took place from June 30-July 1. Soccer camp is scheduled to start July 12-15. There is also a bowling and volleyball camp scheduled to take place August 1-5. Children ages 7-15 are encouraged to take part in the camps.

Fifteen dollars is required to participate in all the camps except for soccer.

The price for soccer camp is \$30. The camps are Monday-Friday from 8-11:30 a.m.

Each one of these distinctive camps can also serve as a refresher or preliminary start into a new sport such as soccer.

The soccer camp is a prelude to the youth soccer season, which is scheduled to begin Sept. 17-Oct. 29. The camp will have the Southern Californian Seahorses, a professional soccer team based out of La Mirada Calif., which performs motivational-speaking tours throughout Asia.

For more information about the camps during the summer, contact 253-3239 at the youth sports office at the IronWorks Gym here.



LANCE CPL. KENNETH K. TROTTER JR.

Shion B. Fleming, 8, blocks Kailey M. Crochet's, 10, jump shot in a scrimmage game during the Marine Corps Community Services Commands Sports Camp here at the IronWorks Gym sports courts here June 29. Soccer, dodgeball, and bowling are some of the other camps that are offered during the summer months to station residents' children. Marines are also invited to come out and help give back to the community by volunteering as coaches during this time.



LANCE CPL. KENNETH K. TROTTER JR.

Kailey M. Crochet, 10, works to get around John R. Baltazar III, Marine Corps Community Service youth coordinator, during the MCCS Commands Sports Camp in the IronWorks sports courts here June 29. The camp taught the children fundamentals of basketball and worked on improving sportsmanship.



LANCE CPL. KENNETH K. TROTTER JR.

Vinesys RodriguezSegarra, 9, performs a crossover against Sean E. Oakry, a summer camp coach, as part of crossover drills during the Marine Corps Community Services Iwakuni Commands Summer Camp at the IronWorks sports courts here June 29. RodriguezSegarra was one of several children who took part in the basketball segment of the camp which lasted from June 27-29. Dodgeball was the next camp that was offered at the conclusion of the basketball camp. It lasted from June 30- July 1.