

**QUICK RESPONSE**  
Station tests capability for crisis | P. 6 & 7



**SWIM**  
MALS-12 grows fins | P. 11



**POST OFFICE**  
The post office will be closed Aug. 27 due to the Summer Music Festival



# IWAKUNI APPROACH

Issue No. 32 Vol. 4 | Marine Corps Air Station Iwakuni, Japan



CPL. CLAUDIO A. MARTINEZ

ROYAL AUSTRALIAN AIR FORCE BASE TOWNSVILLE, Australia — A Marine Fighter Attack Squadron 314 F/A-18 Hornet takes off from the flightline here during the first part of the surge mission in support of Exercise Southern Frontier 2011 Aug. 2. The scenario tested the Black Knights' ability to continually provide an aerial assault to a specified area on request. They successfully launched 30 sorties in less than 14 hours.

## Japan-based units end Southern Frontier 2011

CPL. CLAUDIO A. MARTINEZ  
IWAKUNI APPROACH STAFF

ROYAL AUSTRALIAN AIR FORCE BASE TOWNSVILLE, Australia

— Japan-based Marine units brought their portion of Exercise Southern Frontier 2011 to an end here Aug. 15.

Southern Frontier is an annual bilateral exercise designed to test and enhance the Marine aerial units' ability to provide close-air support to integrated Marine and Australian ground units.

Participating Marine units are also given the opportunity to conduct intensive unit-level training during the yearly exercise.

Japan-based Marine units who participated in this year's Southern Frontier included assets from Marine Aircraft Group 12 Headquarters, Marine Fighter Attack Squadron 314, Marine Aviation Logistics Squadron 12, Marine Wing Support Squadron 171, Marine Aerial

## Black Knights surge to full power during training scenario

CPL. CLAUDIO A. MARTINEZ  
IWAKUNI APPROACH STAFF

ROYAL AUSTRALIAN AIR FORCE BASE TOWNSVILLE, Australia — The Marine Fighter Attack Squadron 314 Black Knights conducted a surge mission in support of Exercise Southern Frontier 2011 during

the second day of the exercise Aug. 2.

Southern Frontier is an annual bilateral exercise designed to test and refine Marine aerial units' ability to provide air interdiction and close-air support to integrated American and Australian ground units.

Japan-based Marine units

participating in this year's Southern Frontier include assets from Marine Aircraft Group 12 Headquarters, Marine Fighter Attack Squadron 314, Marine Aviation Logistics Squadron 12, Marine Wing Support Squadron 171, Marine Aerial Refueler

SEE SURGE ON PAGE 3

SEE EXERCISE ON PAGE 3

## Station, city officials patrol downtown streets to promote crime prevention awareness

Yoshihiko Fukuda, Iwakuni city mayor (right) Masayoshi Tatsumi, Chugoku-Shikoku Defense Bureau director general, and Col. James C. Stewart, station commanding officer, greet an Iwakuni local in the streets of downtown Iwakuni during a joint leadership walk Aug. 19. During the leadership walk, station and city officials passed out flyers to promote awareness on crime prevention to ensure the community's safety. Station and city officials patrolled through the city's downtown streets to show the public that crime prevention is everyone's responsibility. This marked the fourth time a leadership walk has been done.



CPL. CLAUDIO A. MARTINEZ



**Commanding Officer/Publisher**  
Col. James C. Stewart

**Public Affairs Officer**  
Maj. Neal A. Ruggiero

**Public Affairs Chief**  
Gunnery Sgt. Bryce R. Piper

**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 Neviers  
Lance Cpl. Kenneth K. Trotter Jr.  
Pfc. Nicholas Rhoades

**Webmaster**  
Yukie Wada

**Community/Media Relations**  
Hiroyuki 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

## 'Hello, I must be going!'

LT. ROBERT MILLS  
DEPUTY COMMAND  
CHAPLAIN

In 1930, the Marx brothers, a film and vaudeville comedy team made up of brothers Chico, Harpo, Zeppo and Groucho, produced an early comedy film called "Animal Crackers." During the film, Groucho sings a short song called, "Hello, I must be going." Some of the words are "Hello, I must be going. I came to say, I cannot stay, I must be going. I must be going!"

I have to say that this is how I feel right about now.

My family and I arrived in Iwakuni just about three-and-a-half years ago, in April of 2008. Since we arrived, the time has flown by as if on wings!

It seems like we had barely settled in here when it was time for pack-out and out-process planning.

Although fast-moving, our time

here has been golden, mostly fun, and very rewarding for our personal growth and the togetherness of our family.

We have seen and experienced many things. Some that come to mind:

– The beauty of sunrise on the mountains and the ocean as viewed from the seawall in the middle of many early-morning PT runs.

– The profound rest that comes after a busy day, knowing you have accomplished much and helped people.

– The charm, grace, and friendliness of the people of Iwakuni, both on and off base.

– The incredible outpouring of service and help during the collection drive for Operation Tomodachi.

– The genuine grief, helpful support, and great love you all showed to the West family and the chapel family while we celebrated

the life and mourned the death of a fallen fellow chaplain.

– The beauty of the local area, whether it was on a hike up the mountain to Iwakuni Castle, the ferry boat ride to Miyajima, the beautiful drive to Oshima Island, or the special thundering roar of Three Falls.

– The intense desire of the chapel congregations to thrive, love, help and grow.

– The great friendliness and helpfulness of neighbors, co-workers, and colleagues here.

I must say we will never be the same.

This tour has made us richer people in so many ways, and we are so happy that we came here.

We are moving just 'up the street' to Yokosuka, so be sure to look us up when you are visiting up there.

Now, I will leave all of you with this ancient blessing:

"The Lord bless you and keep you, the Lord make his face to shine upon and be gracious to you. The Lord lift up the light of His countenance upon you, and give you peace. Amen."

## Marine units close out Southern Frontier 2011

EXERCISE FROM PAGE 1

Refueler Transport Squadron 152, Marine Wing Communication Squadron 18, Marine Air Control Squadron 4 and 5th Air Naval Gunfire Liaison Company.

Approximately 400 Marines and sailors participated in this year's exercise.

Lt. Col. Brian Evans, VMFA-314 executive officer, said he considered this year's Southern Frontier very successful and the exercise provided many lessons for the participating squadrons.

"Our expeditionary nature and our ability to up-and-move to a detached location is something we need to continually exercise," said Evans. "That lesson is continually learned every time, as well as our ability to interact and become a team with other units within the Marine Corps and in this case with another country's military."

The VMFA-314 Black Knights, which was trained as the aviation combat element during

Southern Frontier, logged 210 sorties and a total of 295.9 flight hours in the air.

During the exercise, the Black Knights trained in a variety of scenarios which cultivated their skills in armed reconnaissance support, air interdiction strikes, and strike in coordination and reconnaissance missions.

Evans said all the skills they trained during the exercise were like their bread and butter and exactly what they would use in a real-world scenario.

"These are all important skills, and if you don't exercise them regularly, they will deteriorate," said Evans. "These skills are being used (in Afghanistan) daily."

The Black Knights also successfully launched 30 sorties with 11 F/A-18 Hornets in one day to provide close-air support to integrated Marine and Australian 4th Regiment service members in support of Southern Frontier. Although Marines and their Australian counterparts successfully accomplished their

goals, there were challenges to overcome along the way. Throughout the exercise, participating units learned how to adapt to different ways of speaking and different means of operation.

"There are nuances of differences between how we do business," said Evans. "To be able to identify those nuances in a training environment and then get to a common ground and understand where each unit and military is coming from and our procedures — what they actually mean and why we do them is good."

Maj. Michael Lepore, VMFA-314 operations officer helped coordinate and create some of the training opportunities involved in Southern Frontier.

"It was a great exercise," said Lepore. "Overall we met all of our training objectives and more. Same thing for the guys we worked with on the ground. They met their training objectives and more, which

increased combat readiness on our side and on their side. It was awesome."

Lepore said because of everything accomplished in support of the exercise, he believes the Black Knights and supporting units are now a lot more proficient at what they do.

For many participating service members, Southern Frontier provided them with new experiences, which they believe has made them better at what they do.

"I think everybody here can say— whether it's a pilot or whether it's a mechanic or (air traffic controllers)— anybody here can say they are better at their job after going through this and all the challenges that came up and all the hurdles that we, as an (air combat element), had to overcome," said Capt. Adam Wellington, a VMFA-314 pilot. "It's just improved everyone. I know, on a personal level, it's made me a better pilot and I will be hard pressed to find a Marine out there who isn't better at their job after going through this exercise."

This year's Southern Frontier started Aug. 1.

## Freedom Bridge inspection and closure

The marine Corps has funded the biannual structural safety of the Freedom Bridge through a central contract.

The inspection will take three days to complete and will include closure to vehicular traffic September 2 and September 3 from 8:30 a.m. – 3:30 p.m. The Bridge will remain open to bicycle and pedestrian traffic at all times.

**The inspection team will post barricades and signs and provide flagmen at each end of the bridge to guide traffic.**

### Schedule

- September 1** — Perform Freedom bridge underneath inspection of substructure from a locally owned and operated boat.
- September 2** — Perform Superstructure inspection with Snooper vehicle.
- September 3** — Finish any topside inspection and Snooper work.

**Officer Professional Military Education**

**Distance Education Program**

**Expeditionary Warfare School**

**&**

**Command and Staff College**

Register for Fall Academic Year 2012 Seminars

**July 1 - September 1 2011**

**ENROLL TODAY**

SURGE FROM PAGE 1

Transport Squadron 152, Marine Wing Communication Squadron 18, Marine Air Control Squadron 4 and 5th Air Naval Gunfire Liaison Company.

The surge mission required the Black Knights to successfully launch 30 sorties with 11 F/A-18s in one day to deliver ordnance in support of friendly ground movement at the Highrange Townsville Field Training Area.

"This was another major muscle movement to make sure we can actually sustain (a surge mission)," said Lt. Col. Waylan Cain, VMFA-314 commanding officer.

The training mission allowed the squadron to identify friction points that might arise should the need for a surge come up in the future, he added.

"It's almost like (physical training)," said Cain. "You get up there and PT and you have a big surge day — you hit the weights hard and now your muscles start to get that muscle memory and in the future it's a lot easier."

Aerial surges are usually used during the beginning stages of combat.

The scenario the Black Knights faced tested their ability to continually provide an aerial assault to a specified area on request. VMFA-314 planned for 30 sorties and successfully launched 30 sorties to the Highrange Townsville Field Training Area from 6 a.m. to 10 p.m.

"At the end of the day we actually had a few extra airplanes left over for spare aircraft as well," said Cain. "If we needed to and if there was a ground commander out there — hey we need some more sorties out and some more ordnance, we could have supported that as well."

The surge not only tested VMFA-314 pilots' ability to deliver presence and fire power. It also tested Marines' coordination with their aircraft maintainers, MALS-12 ordnance, MWSS-171 fuel, and their ability to support members of the Australian 4th Regiment who were conducting ground missions in conjunction with 5th ANGLICO at the Highrange Townsville Field Training Area.

"It took basically everyone working together to prove that we can surge if we need to," said Maj. Michael Lepore, VMFA-314 operations officer. "We validated that we can do it."

During the surge, the Black Knights successfully delivered in excess of 120 MK76 practice bombs, 11 BDU-45 practice bombs and shot more than 5,000 rounds from 20 millimeter machine guns.

"(The surge) is a great deterrent," said Lepore. "We can project 30 F/A-18s within a 12-hour to 14-hour period, that's a huge deterrent for any enemy that's thinking about possibly acting up."

Exercise Southern Frontier ended Aug. 15.

## Matthew C. Perry students go Marine during Johnny Wayne day



Gunnery Sgt. Fabio Salas, Marine Aviation Logistics Squadron 12 squadron gunnery sergeant, instructs a group of Matthew C. Perry first grade students to gather around before sending them through the bounce house obstacle course during the Johnny Wayne day at the IronWorks Gym sports courts here Aug. 23. During the event, students saw a Marine Corps Martial Arts Program demonstration, participated in sumo bashing and worked as a team to complete the obstacle course.

## BOOT SCOOTIN' ROUNDUP

A live 1-hour radio show featuring the best country music. Kick up your boots 9 - 10 a.m. Mondays-Thursdays on Power 1575.

# VFA-94 arrives in Kadena, Habu Fire II kicks off

LANCE CPL. CAYCE NEVERS  
IWAKUNI APPROACH STAFF

**KADENA AIR BASE OKINAWA, Japan** — Navy airmen from Strike Fighter Attack Squadron 94 arrived in Okinawa via High Speed Vessel Saturday to participate in exercise Habu Fire II here.

Habu Fire II is a joint-training exercise where VFA-94, Marine All-Weather Fighter Attack Squadron 242, Marine Fighter Attack Squadron 214 and 18th Fighter Wing work together performing and improving efficiency in air-to-air operations.

This course is unique because it allows Marines, Navy airmen and Air Force airmen the opportunity to work together and learn how each branch accomplishes the mission.

"It gives us a chance to play around and get exposed to the way they do business as well as exposing the way we do business to them," said Senior Chief Jose E. Lumanlan, VFA-94 acting senior enlisted advisor for Habu Fire II. "We are here to learn new ways to do things and to train."

As a part of the Unit Deployment Program Naval airmen of VFA-94 deploy to the Western Pacific for six-month intervals.

While they are here, the Navy airmen expect to learn as much as possible since this could be their

last deployment under the UDP, said Lumanlan.

This training will give Naval airmen a chance to see how well their unit works with other branches.

"We adapt well to being in new places," said Petty Officer 2nd Class Derek Stevens, VFA-94 aviation structural mechanic, safety equipment. "We try and work like we are at home, like we didn't even leave."

Throughout this training, VFA-94 will be conducting air-to-air operations with other squadrons as well as launching, catching, directing and fixing aircraft on a day-to-day basis.

"We are the eyes and ears on the ground," said Navy airman Anthony R. Moreno, VFA-94 aviation electrician's mate. "We are the last to see aircraft before a launch and the first to see it land."

The exercise serves to help the airmen become more efficient in their military occupational specialties.

"We have only been here for a few days and things are just starting, but we are performing above and beyond expectations already," said Moreno.

With the training kicked off, VFA-94 personnel have a lot of work to accomplish in order to make exercise Habu Fire II a success.



LANCE CPL. CAYCE NEVERS

**NAHA PORT OKINAWA, Japan** — Petty Officer 3rd Class Joshua Guemesey, Strike Fighter Attack Squadron 94 aviation electrician, carries a box of Meal Ready-to-Eat from the High Speed Vessel here Aug. 20. Guemesey arrived with the main body of VFA-94 to participate in exercise Habu Fire II.



LANCE CPL. CAYCE NEVERS

**NAHA PORT OKINAWA, Japan** — Strike Fighter Attack Squadron 94 personnel off-load gear and equipment from the High Speed Vessel here in support of exercise Habu Fire II Saturday. Exercise Habu Fire II is a joint-training exercise where Marine All-Weather Fighter Attack Squadron 242, Marine Fighter Attack Squadron 214 and the 18th Fighter Wing work together to perform air-to-air and ground-to-air operations.

# Air terminal officially opens during ribbon cutting

CPL. CLAUDIO A. MARTINEZ  
IWAKUNI APPROACH STAFF

The new station Air Mobility Command passenger terminal was officially opened during a ribbon cutting ceremony Aug. 19.

Col. James C. Stewart, station commanding officer, Air Force Col. Robert Ricci, 515 Air Mobility Operations Group commander and Masayoshi Tatsumi, Chugoku-Shikoku Defense Bureau director general, were at the ceremony to officiate the ribbon cutting.

"It truly is a bit of a momentous occasion that we get to open a new passenger terminal here in Iwakuni," said Stewart. "The previous version of this was built by the United States Navy about 55 years ago. The Seabees did a great job in their construction. It served a purpose for a period of time but as with everything, you evolve and your requirements grow."

The new air terminal is approximately 47,000 square feet and is able to process more than 800 passengers at a time, while the older one was approximately 9,000 square feet and could only process about 300 passengers at a time.

The air terminal was slated to officially open March 18 this year, but was delayed due to the station's role in Operation Tomodachi.

Operation Tomodachi was the joint humanitarian relief effort conducted by U.S. and Japanese forces to help victims of the 9.0 magnitude earthquake, tsunami



CPL. CLAUDIO A. MARTINEZ

**Masayoshi Tatsumi, Chugoku-Shikoku Defense Bureau director general (left), Col. Robert Ricci, 515 Air Mobility Operations Group commander and Col. James C. Stewart, station commanding officer, cut a ribbon at the Air Mobility Command passenger terminal here during the terminal's official opening ceremony here Aug. 19. Planning for construction started in 2001. Actual construction began in 2006 and finished in 2010.**

and subsequent aftershocks, which struck northern Japan March 11.

Stewart said the air terminal proved its worth during Operation Tomodachi as it played a crucial role during the humanitarian relief effort.

The air terminal is the newest U.S. air facility in the Western

Pacific region and is the only one operated by Marines and supported by 515 AMOG. Iwakuni city, Navy, Air Force and Marine officials were present at the ceremony.

"(The air terminal) is really significant because this is a part of the strategic alliance that we have with Japan," said Cmdr.

Keith Applegate, station logistics officer. It stands as a symbol that represents the importance and capabilities of the alliance between U.S. and Japanese forces, he added.

Planning stages for construction started in 2001.

Actual construction began in 2006 and finished in 2010.

# Station residents find new opportunities during information job fair



CPL. JENNIFER PIRANTE

Guillaume Lamothe, Hiroshima tour guide, shows Alma Dickinson, Marine Corps Community Services health promotions director, a brochure of Hiroshima tourist attractions during an MCCS information fair at the Iwakuni Ballroom here Aug. 19. Hiroshima is one of the many cities near the Seto Inland Sea military service members and their families can explore during their tour overseas. The primary purpose of the information fair was to inform all station residents about ongoing as well as upcoming educational, occupational and sight-seeing opportunities on and off station. Approximately 40 booths set up in the ballroom which featured programs such as Cultural Adaptation, Information Tours and Travel, and the Woman's Infant and Children Overseas program and more.



LANCE CPL. KENNETH K. TROTTER JR.

Station firefighters secure Pfc. Cory R. Elwood, mass casualty participant, onto a gurney during a mass casualty training exercise next to the MCAS Iwakuni fire station here Aug. 17. Station firefighters worked with Robert M. Casey Medical and Dental Health Clinic, Provost Marshal's Office and Aircraft Rescue Firefighting personnel to test their response time in the event of a crisis.



LANCE CPL. KENNETH K. TROTTER JR.

LEFT: Michio Uemura, station firefighter, attends to Lance Cpl. Nick A. Richards, mass casualty participant, during a mass casualty exercise next to the MCAS Iwakuni fire station here Aug. 17. The scenario for the exercise was the collapse of a building and the retrieval of its occupants. Each casualty was given a specific injury to mimic during the exercise. Some injuries were minor, such as cuts, others were fatal.

RIGHT: Karawan Takashi, station firefighter, signals for four more individuals to help transport a simulated casualty for treatment by Robert M. Casey Medical and Dental Health Clinic corpsmen and doctors during a mass casualty training exercise next to the Marine Corps Air Station Iwakuni fire station here Aug. 17. Each casualty was fitted with a tag to gauge their injuries from minimal to severe when each casualty was brought to the triage area.



LANCE CPL. KENNETH K. TROTTER JR.

# Be prepared: Urgent care, quick response key in training exercise

LANCE CPL. KENNETH K. TROTTER JR.  
IWAKUNI APPROACH STAFF

The Robert M. Casey Medical and Dental Health Clinic, Provost Marshal's Office, Aircraft Rescue Firefighters and the station fire department took part in a mass casualty training drill at the downed aircraft simulation building here Aug. 17.

The simulated catastrophe in the exercise was a collapsed building. Ten volunteers served as casualties with injuries ranging from cuts, scrapes and bruises to disembowelment.

The casualties were strewn about the building, some on massive rubble piles and others staged in the sweltering heat of the building.

The call for the exercise was sent out at approximately 2:40 p.m. from the 911 center. Station firefighters, ARFF and PMO arrived on scene to quickly assess the situation. PMO's role in the event was to set up a perimeter to allow the emergency medical teams quick access to the victims.

Once the medical teams were on-hand, they quickly set up an incident command system to relay information back to the clinic in regards to the status of inbound patients.

Station firefighters and ARFF pulled the victims from the rubble, placed tags on them to identify what type of injury they had and what state they were in, and started the process of transporting casualties to the triage center set up for the victims.

Doctors and corpsmen shouted out orders as they diagnosed every patient and figured out exactly what was wrong with victims. To add difficulty to the task, some victims were told to simulate unconsciousness or speaking another language. The victims were loaded in ambulances and transported to the clinic. A 7-ton was also used as a backup resource.

The exercise concluded when the victims were brought to the clinic.

Clinic staff continued a final phase in which they brought in four victims who simulated several symptoms consistent with Ricin poisoning, a highly toxic natural occurring protein which can be inhaled, ingested or injected.

At the event's conclusion, several clinic personnel evaluated positives of the exercise and what areas needed to be improved.

"Overall, the teams pulled together well," said Navy Lt. Tatiana Morales, clinic doctor. "We were able to improve our communication. The Japanese fire department did really well communicating with us, letting us know what we were getting into so I could communicate that back to the clinic, so we could have care ready for the patients."

Morales said an area which needed



LANCE CPL. KENNETH K. TROTTER JR.

Lance Cpl. Jordan E. Payne, a mass casualty participant, sits with a severe head injury prosthetic on his head as Petty Officer 1st Class Katie A. Zirkle, Robert M. Casey Medical and Dental Clinic emergency medical technician, applies makeup before a mass casualty drill, which took place next to the station fire department here Aug. 17. Participants were fitted with various prosthetics and makeup to simulate injuries and were placed near the Aircraft Rescue Firefighting downed aircraft training building.

improvement was the preparedness, whether it is supplies or manpower.

The exercise was to test the speed of emergency response teams in the event of a crisis during on-base events such as the Summer Music Festival and reinforce regular training.

"It's for both purposes, really," said Keith G. Johnson, installation emergency manager. "It's to hone their skills ... but it is also to keep them in a steady frame of mind, such as working together."

Johnson said this training can give station residents peace of mind in knowing the station emergency response teams are more than capable of responding during any type of event.

The simulated exercise also allows new personnel an opportunity to become better acquainted with their roles on station.

"It is PCS season for us," said Petty Officer 1st Class Katie A. Zirkle, clinic emergency medical technician. "We've got new people coming in all the time, so we've got to get them up to speed as quickly as possible for events like this."

The annual Exercise Active Shield also benefited the medical members who participated.

Exercise Active Shield is an annual event which tests the station's ability to continue daily operations in the event of a terrorist attack.

The training the service members received increases skills needed for medical preparedness in combat.

The emergency response teams will be on hand to ensure they are able to respond to any situation as people come to celebrate during the festival.



LANCE CPL. KENNETH K. TROTTER JR.

Seaman Albert Hernandez, Robert M. Casey Medical and Dental Health Clinic hospital corpsman, applied pressure to the stomach of Cpl. Robert J. Adams, mass casualty participant, during a mass casualty training exercise next to the station fire department here Aug. 17. Each Casualty was assessed before being taken to the clinic to finish the exercise.

## CORPS NEWS

HIGHLIGHTING MARINES AND SAILORS AROUND THE GLOBE

## Operation Black Sand blasts insurgency to dust

CPL. JEFF DREW  
2ND MARINE DIVISION

**SHUKVANI, Helmand province, Afghanistan** — A blast of fire, triggered by 1,750 pounds of C4 explosive, erupted from the ground sending a shockwave ripping through the air. Secondary explosions suggested local improvised explosive devices sympathetically detonated as a massive mushroom cloud rose into the sky.

The Marines and sailors of 2nd Combat Engineer Battalion, assisted by the Republic of Georgia's 33rd Light Infantry Battalion, leveled the Ladar Bazaar recently, effectively clearing the area of IEDs and negating the insurgency of IED storage facilities.

Local residents were unable to trade their goods in the marketplace without risking their own lives before the operation. They were upset with having to travel more than five miles, often carrying their goods by foot, to the nearest market. The residents came to the Marines, hoping they would clear the bazaar and rebuild safe and secure compounds. A Civil Affairs Team attached to the 33rd Georgian Battalion sat down with local leaders to figure out a solution to the problem.

"This is a symbolic operation," said Sgt. Sean May, a Civil Affairs Team leader. "(The bazaar) is something the (insurgents) have deprived the people of. The Afghan government is telling the insurgents that this is our area now."

The Marines attempted to clear the marketplace throughout the early months of 2011, but the area was covered with IEDs and saturated with the insurgency's presence.

Firefights broke out and the Marines risked triggering booby traps littered across roads and hidden in mud compounds every time they attempted to clear the bazaar.

"(The insurgents) have underground tunnels in there and they're using them as armories," said Lance Cpl. Joshua Hoffman, an engineer with the battalion. "Every single place is

booby-trapped, every door locked and there are pressure plates everywhere. There is no way to clear that place — we have to level it."

The Marines, unable to use air strikes to level the bazaar due to the potential for civilian casualties, ultimately decided the best course of action would be an explosive breach with mechanical clearance.

"We will destroy all of the buildings and any IEDs in the area," said Capt. John Shubeck, company commander with 2nd CEB. "Then we will bring in bulldozers to push the rubble to the sides."



CPL. JEFF DREW

**SHUKVANI, Helmand province, Afghanistan** — Centerville, S.D., native Capt. John Shubeck, company commander for Company C, 2nd Combat Engineer Battalion gives commands over the radio at a nearby observation post. Shubeck led his Marines to level the Ladar Bazaar, an improvised explosive device-laden marketplace.

While planning for the operation 2nd CEB decided to launch 35 line charges strategically throughout the bazaar, each comprised of 1,750 pounds of C4 along a 350-foot rope. A rocket fired from an assault breaching vehicle, a modified M1A1 Abrams Main Battle Tank, primarily used for clearing obstacles for following tactical vehicles and dismounted infantry units, extends the charges 100 meters in front of the vehicles before the Marines detonate the charges.

"Then the Route Clearance platoon will push

through the bazaar, clearing the area of IEDs," said 1st Lt. Chase Wheeler, the executive officer for Company C, 2nd CEB. "That way we, as engineers, have done everything we can to ensure the bazaar is clear of IEDs. By doing this our way, we are being safe, taking care of the IED threat, and we are more involved with the locals."

Marines plan to offer local residents help removing the rubble while the Georgians provide security to the area during construction of the new bazaar, scheduled to begin within two weeks of the operation's completion.

Afghan National Army soldiers partnered with the 33rd Georgian Battalion will enter the area to provide security to the citizens once the bazaar is built.

The former IED-laden bazaar now lies in ruin, a shattered message to the insurgency that the people of Afghanistan will no longer be ruled by fear.

The goal of the operation was to oust an insurgency with roots dug deeply into the Ladar Bazaar. The Marines of 2nd CEB effectively displaced the insurgency foothold there in order to lay the foundation of opportunity to bring families, trade and economic growth to the region.

Editor's note: Second Combat Engineer Battalion is currently assigned to 2nd Marine Division (Forward), which heads Task Force Leatherneck.

The task force serves as the ground combat element of Regional Command (Southwest) and works in partnership with the Afghan National Security Force and the Government of the Islamic Republic of Afghanistan to conduct counterinsurgency operations.

The unit is dedicated to securing the Afghan people, defeating insurgent forces, and enabling ANSF assumption of security responsibilities within its area of operations in order to support the expansion of stability, development and legitimate governance.



CPL. JEFF DREW

**SHUKVANI, Helmand province, Afghanistan** — An explosion rocks the ground in the Ladar Bazaar after a line charge is detonated. The Marines and sailors of 2nd Combat Engineer Battalion, assisted by the Republic of Georgia's 33rd Light Infantry Battalion, leveled the Ladar Bazaar recently, effectively clearing the area of IEDs and denying the insurgency an IED storage facility.

## COMMUNITY BRIEFS | CLASSIFIEDS

## Briefs

**Breast Cancer**

MCCS Semper Fit is scheduled to host a walk to promote breast cancer awareness Oct. 15 at 9 a.m.

**Girl Scouts**

The Iwakuni Girl Scouts is looking for fun-loving, devoted women and men who want to make a positive impact on the lives of young girls. If you are interested in becoming a leader, co-leader, board member or parent volunteer, e-mail iwakunigs@gmail.com.

**American Red Cross**

The ARC is scheduled to host two health and safety courses throughout the month of September. A baby sitting class is scheduled 9 a.m. - 3:30 p.m. Sept. 10. An Adult, Infant, Child CPR & First Aid class is scheduled Sept. 24 8:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m. The fee for each course is \$40. For more information, call 253-4525.

**Childcare**

If you have an unborn baby and will need childcare, put your name on the waiting list as soon

as possible. If you do not sign up for the waiting list, you are at potential risk of not having childcare. For more information, call Melissa Valdez with Resource and Referral for Children, Youth and Teens at 253-4141.

**Crime Stoppers**

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

**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.

**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.

**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.

**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](http://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.

## Jobs

**Part-time Dental Assistant Position**

The dental clinic is seeking a certified dental assistant. For more information, stop by the Robert M. Casey Medical and Dental Clinic, Bldg 111 or call 253-5252/3331 to speak with Petty Officer 1st Class Sean Bohl or Senior Chief Petty Officer Ron Hunter.

**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 four-year

degree, five-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](mailto:lbginokinawa@gmail.com). For more information visit [www.louisberger.com](http://www.louisberger.com) and look for the jobs indicated for Okinawa.

**Brief and Classified Submissions**

To submit a brief or classified advertisement, send an e-mail to [iwakuni.pao@usmc.mil](mailto:iwakuni.pao@usmc.mil). Include a contact name, a phone number and the information you would like to be published. Alternatively, you may submit your brief or ad in person at the Public Affairs Office, Building 1, Room 216 or you may call 253-5551. Please 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.

## Interested in becoming a DJ?

You could rock the club and enjoy all the night time parties that Club Iwakuni has to offer! If you are interested in becoming a DJ, call MCCS Productions at 253-3727 for details.

## Sea Wall closure

The seawall fitness path from the school and housing area to the IronWorks Gym B1010 will be closed to the public Aug. 1, 2011- May 2012 due to a major repair project. The repair will be conducted in two phases. The IronWorks Gym to the Port Area Security Gate is scheduled to be closed from June 2012 to April 2013. The repairs are necessary to maintain the safety and serviceability of the fitness path. Community safety and security is paramount throughout the project duration.

## Emergency Phone Numbers

■ Antiterrorism Force Protection: 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.

# 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

**Protestant**  
 Saturday 10 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)

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

**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



COURTESY PHOTO FROM LT. BRAD FAIRFAX

Strike Fighter Attack Squadron 94 returned here in July for their fourth deployment with Marine Aircraft Group 12. The Mighty Shrikes bring with them more than 250 aircrew, maintenance, and support personnel. If you would like to submit your own photo, you can submit 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, August 26, 2011**  
 7 p.m. Transformers: The Dark of the Moon (PG-13)

**Monday, August 29, 2011**  
 7 p.m. Larry Crowne (PG-13)

**Tuesday, August 30, 2011**  
 Theater Closed

**Wednesday, August 31, 2011**  
 Theater Closed

**Thursday, September 1, 2011**  
 7 p.m. Transformers: The Dark of the Moon (PG-13)

**Saturday, August 27, 2011**  
 Theater Closed

**Sunday, August 28, 2011**  
 1 p.m. Judy Moody and the Not So Bummer Summer (PG)  
 4 p.m. Larry Crowne (PG-13)  
 7 p.m. Bad Teacher (PG-13)

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

General Admission: Ages 12+ are \$3 / Ages 6-11 are \$1.50 / Children ages 5 and under admitted free. For more information, visit [www.mccsiwakuni.com](http://www.mccsiwakuni.com) or call 253-5291.

## Mess Hall Menu

**Monday**  
 Cream of broccoli soup, turkey pot pie, chicken vega, Cajun baked fish, steamed rice, mashed sweet potatoes, cauliflower combo, collard greens, vegetable gravy, apple dressing, dinner rolls, bear claws, macaroni salad, potato salad, coleslaw, standard salad bar, banana nut muffin, quick apple coffee cake, blueberry pie, devil's food cake with chocolate frosting, peanut butter cookies, coconut cream pudding, Jell-O parfait.

**Tuesday**  
 Chicken gumbo soup, shrimp scampi, barbecue pork ribs, sweet and sour chicken, peas with onions, wax beans, steamed rice, oven browned potatoes, mushroom gravy, dinner rolls, macaroni salad, potato salad, coleslaw, standard salad bar, banana nut muffin, quick apple coffee cake, blueberry pie, devil's food cake with chocolate frosting, peanut butter cookies, coconut cream pudding, Jell-O parfait.

**Wednesday**  
 Tomato soup, lasagna, roast pork, fried breaded shrimp, au gratin potatoes, steamed rice, whole kernel corn, mixed vegetables, brown gravy, garlic bread, macaroni salad, potato salad, coleslaw, standard salad bar, snails, pecan rolls, cherry crunch with chocolate frosting, sugar cookies, chocolate pudding parfait, Jell-O parfait.

**Thursday**  
 Minestrone soup, barbecued ribs, chicken on orange sauce, steak and vegetables, steamed rice, pork fried rice, vegetable stir fry cabbage, peas and carrots, brown gravy, dinner rolls, macaroni salad, potato salad, coleslaw, standard salad bar, kolaches, blueberry muffins, apple pie, spice cake with buttercream frosting, brownies, vanilla pudding parfait, Jell-O parfait.

**Friday**  
 Cream of mushroom soup, baked tuna and noodles, salisbury steak, fried catfish, mashed potatoes, steamed rice, brussel sprouts, cream style corn, brown gravy, corn muffins, standard salad bar, potato salad, coleslaw, macaroni salad, kolaches, quick French coffee cake, Boston cream pie, double layer carrot cake with lemon buttercream frosting, oatmeal raisin cookies, vanilla pudding parfait, Jell-O parfait.

## MALS-12 finds their inner fish in swimming challenge



LANCE CPL. KENNETH K. TROTTER JR.  
 IWAKUNI APPROACH STAFF



LANCE CPL. KENNETH K. TROTTER JR.

Cpl. Bryan Carvahal, Marine Aviation Logistics Squadron 12 maintenance administrator, prepares to answer a question during the Aqua Fitness Challenge at the WaterWorks pool here Aug. 19. The challenge was part of the 2011 Commander's Cup, which pits various units from across the station against each other in different fitness and sports events. The next event is the Earthball game scheduled Sept. 16.



LANCE CPL. KENNETH K. TROTTER JR.

Staff Sgt. Johnathan J. Spinosi, Marine Wing Support Squadron 171 current operations chief, reaches for the ball during the 2011 Aqua Fitness Challenge at the WaterWorks pool here Aug. 19. Participants were required to answer various fitness and health questions in the pool as part of the challenge. Marine Aviation Logistics Squadron 12 won with 15 points while MWSS-171 came away with 10 and Combat Logistic Company 36 with eight points.

Marine Aviation Logistics Squadron 12 took first place during the Aqua Fitness Challenge at the WaterWorks pool as part of the 2011 Commander's Cup Aug. 19.

MALS-12 won with 15 points. Marine Wing Support Squadron-171 came in second with 10 points. Combat Logistics Company -36 followed close with eight points.

The Commander's Cup is an annual station-wide series of events, which involve squadrons competing against one another in various challenges ranging from softball to the most recent event of the Aqua Fitness Challenge.

The Commander's Cup is open to any unit on station.

Service members from Robert M. Casey Medical and Dental Clinic, MWSS-171, Headquarters and Headquarters Squadron and CLC-36.

The purpose of this particular challenge was to give service members a chance to relax, share camaraderie in a different way and test their knowledge on fitness.

"It's a way for them to get out, enjoy themselves besides the usual physical training and try something different," said Barbara A. Roman, Semper Fit fitness coordinator. "It's also a way for them to get outside of the workplace, put ranks aside and just have fun."

The challenge consisted of the five teams each having a swimmer at opposite ends of the pool. The swimmers were then given a question, which related to either overall physical fitness or Semper Fit.

The swimmers then swam to where Semper Fit members threw a ball into the middle of the pool.

Whoever was the first to reach the ball stated their unit and answered the question. One question was worth one point.

Questions were also asked so Marines could take away a better understanding of physical fitness and apply it in their duties.

"The things they learn here, they can apply in the workplace with other Marines," said Roman.

"It was awesome to come out here and win with my team," said Bryan Carvahal, MALS-12 maintenance administrator.

Though knowledge was the key point of the challenge, the participants would not be able to perform if they were not familiar with the water.

"I've been swimming for 10 years," said Carvahal. "so I signed up as soon as I could."

Having good swimmers aided MALS-12 in winning, as several times throughout the challenge MALS-12 was out in front of the other swimmers.

"Their swimmers were definitely their biggest strength," said Seaman Perry M. Lynch, clinic hospital corpsman.

So far, the challenge is the only Commander's Cup water sport.

Carvahal said he hopes as more Marines and sailors take part in events like this, the word will spread and more will come out to compete.

"This was my first time doing something like this, and it was fun," said Lynch.

The points the teams scored were added to the overall total for each unit.

Roman said Marines and sailors are encouraged to come out and take part in events like this.

"It's part of the community," Roman said. "This brings people together, civilians too."

The next Commander's Cup challenge, Earthball, is scheduled to take place September 16.

MCCS & MCAS Iwakuni bring you the 2011

# OPEN

Summer Music Festival

# HOUSE

サマーミュージック  
フェスティバル

## FOOD

Your favorite  
American food and drinks

アメリカンフード!

ハンバーガー  
ピザ  
ナチョスなど

## MUSIC

Headline act AIRIEL DOWN  
Plus local bands & entertainment

ライブミュージック!

アメリカ本土から  
「エアリアル・ダウン」  
地元バンドほか

## FUN

Fun for all ages!

Kids Land  
Static Display  
Vendor Row

催し物!

キッズランド・航空機展示・売店

**TORII PINES** GOLF COURSE  
08.27.2011 FROM 2:00-8:00 p.m.

Enjoy live music and good food in a fun environment while building a stronger Japanese and American relationship.

for more information visit:  
[www.mccsiwakuni.com/smf](http://www.mccsiwakuni.com/smf)  
find us on facebook at:  
MCCS Summer Music Festival



Torii Pines Golf Course will be closed from August 23-28.  
Driving Range will be open 24 hours a day during this period.  
All non-Japanese citizens/over-CCPA status persons must bring a valid passport or Alien Registration Card (ARC) and complete a short questionnaire prior to being granted access to MCCS Iwakuni for Summer Music Festival. Failure to bring proper identification to complete this questionnaire will result in denial of access to the base. Upon arrival at MCAS Iwakuni, signs at each entrance will direct you where to go for screening.  
Event will be cancelled if inclement weather occurs.