The Iwakuni Paper

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Marine Corps Air Station Iwakuni, Japan

Warhawks land in Iwakuni



Members from Navy Strike Fighter Squadron 97 unload equipment and personal belongings from a 7-ton vehicle shortly after their arrival here Jan. 16. The Naval Air Station Lemoore, Calif.-based squadron is here for a six-month deployment in support of Marine Aircraft Group 12. Photo by Lance Cpl. Kyle T. Ramirez

Lance Cpl. Kyle T. Ramirez THE IWAKUNI PAPER STAFF

An F/A-18C squadron from Naval Air Station Lemoore, Calif., arrived here Jan. 16 to support Marine Aircraft Group 12 for a six-month deployment.

Navy Strike Fighter Squadron 97, which replaced MCAS Miramar-based Marine Fighter Attack Squadron 314, brought 12 F/A-18C fighter jets, required maintenance equipment and approximately 250 Navy personnel with them as part of the Unit Deployment Program (UDP).

During their stay, the Warhawks will participate in exercises across the Pacific theater. Cmdr. Russell S. McCormack, VFA-97 commanding officer, said this deployment is an opportunity for the Warhawks to prove their operational efficiency in a new environment.

"While we're here, we'll continue to train and maintain operational readiness," said McCormack, a native of Lemoore, Calif.

During this deployment, the Warhawks are slated to participate in Exercises Foal Eagle, Cobra Gold and Freedom Banner as well as unit-level training at Kadena Air Base in Okinawa, according to McCormack.

SEE WARHAWKS ON PAGE 3

Marine deployment to Afghanistan a one-time deal, official says

Gerry J. Gilmore AMERICAN FORCES PRESS SERVICE

WASHINGTON -- The deployment of 3,200 U.S. Marines to Afghanistan this spring represents a one-time troop movement that partially fulfills a long-time request by NATO commanders for additional forces, a senior Pentagon spokesman said here Jan. 15.

The deployment "does not reflect any new developments on the ground," Pentagon Press Secretary Geoff Morrell told reporters at a news conference. "It reflects our means and ability to meet what has been a longstanding desire of the commanders there."

About 2,200 Marines from 24th Marine Expeditionary Unit, based at Camp Lejeune, N.C., and about 1,000 troops from 2nd Battalion, 7th Marine Regiment, based at the Marine Corps Air-Ground Combat Center, at Twentynine Palms, Calif., are participating in the deployment, according to officials at the Defense Department and Marine Headquarters here.

The Marines will serve in Afghanistan for seven months, Morrell said,

SEE DEPLOYMENT ON PAGE 3

King's dream celebrated

(From left) Masato Poirier, 10, Fahrenheit Ridley, 12, and Devonie Plesimond, Youth and Teen Center Torch Club adviser, look at one of the displays set up in honor of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. during a memorial service at the Marine Memorial Chapel Jan. 18. "The overall message (today) was we came together to celebrate the legacy of Dr. Martin Luther King – all of the contributions he has given to not only African Americans but all people," said Master Sgt. Robert E. Raines, station equal opportunity adviser. Photo by Lance Cpl. Noah S. Leffler

INSIDE IWAKUNI



Iwakuni's one, only baby doc delivers



Plaque, monument memorialize WWII Vets





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Tax Center makes filing less taxing

Staff Judge Advocate Office CONTRIBUTING WRITER

It's that time of year again when the taxman makes his rounds and requires the filing of income tax returns. But despite this seemingly bad news, there is a silver-lining.

You can save yourself the angst and frustration of preparing your own tax returns by allowing the MCAS Iwakuni Tax Center to do it for you -- for free!

You can have the Tax Center prepare your federal and state income tax returns, and electronically file them for you. All you have to do is walk in at the Tax Center.

For people with complex tax returns, such as those who have rental property, have sold stocks or have small business, please make an appointment and bring in the necessary information. You should bring:

Proof of a valid Social Security Number (SSN) or Individual Tax Identification Number (ITIN) for you and all the dependents you wish to claim on this year's tax return.

Wages and salary information (include W-2's for all jobs worked during the year).

bring these forms if Also applicable:

1099 forms (interest statements from banks, investment accounts and other miscellaneous income).

Power of attorney if filing for another taxpayer, such as your spouse

Child care expenses.

Copy of divorce decree, form 8332, or form 2120.

Retirement account (IRA) contributions.

If you want your tax refund (a wishful assumption) electronically deposited in your bank savings or checking account, you need to bring your savings or checking account number with you. A voided check is preferable.

To make an appointment, call 253-3540. You can schedule an appointment for Mondays through Fridays from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m.

During the peak tax filing season, the Tax Center will be open on Saturdays and for extended hours during the week. Look for future announcements.

The Tax Center is located in Building 608, Provost Marshal's Office Law Center, inside the Office of the Staff Judge Advocate.

myspace.com/se



-AHHH, THE DAILY BUTT KICKING CONTEST-

News Briefs

3rd Annual Far East Furniture Auction

The Club Iwakuni Ballroom will hold this year's 3rd Annual Far East Furniture Auction for all status of forces agreement (SOFA) status residents Feb. 2 from 1 - 7 p.m.

Complimentary appetizers, cash bar, and silent and live auctions will be held at the event.

All proceeds will go to benefit the Officer Spouses Club Scholarship Fund. For more information. call 253-2896

Cash, checks and credit cards are accepted.

2008 Seabee Ball

The 2008 Seabee Ball will be held at the Club Iwakuni Grand Ballroom March 7 from 6 p.m. - 1 a.m.

More details including ticket prices and point of sale information will be announce at the beginning of February.

For more information, call 253-5637.

Bronco Cheerleaders

Marine Corps Community Services Productions will host the Denver Bronco cheerleaders at the Sakura Theater Jan. 31 from 7 - 9 p.m.

The Bronco cheerleaders are huge supporters of the U.S. Military and have traveled across the world on numerous Armed Forces Entertainment tours to say "Thank You" to the troops.

Known for their distinctive "Colorado" western uniforms, these ladies from the "Mile High Stadium" in Denver will take your breath away with their dynamic dance routines and contagious enthusiasm and spirit.

For more information, call MCCS Productions at 253-3727 or visit their website at www. mccsiwakuni.com.

Otake Oyster Festival

Ovster season is here!

There will be an "Otake Oyster Festival" in Otake Harumi No. 1 park on Sunday.

The park is located next to You Me Town, Otake store. They will introduce a variety of cooking styles for oysters.

You can purchase oysters or taste oysters for a reasonable price.

Parking is available.

For more information, call 253-4197.

News

HM-14, HM-111 commence first bilateral training

Lt. j.g. Kimberly Gentner CONTRIBUTING WRITER

On Dec. 13, after days of weather cancellations, the pilots and aircrew of Helimineron 14, Detachment 1 Vanguard participated in the first significant joint operation with their Japanese counterparts.

Two aircraft from HM-14, detached from Norfolk, Va., were joined by two Japan Maritime Self Defense Force (JMSDF) HM-111 Griffins, and commenced one part of the first bilateral mission between the two countries.

Aside from the formation flight, the two squadrons also took part in an airborne mine counter measures crew swap. Four aircrewmen and one pilot from HM-14 were passengers on an MK-103 AMCM tow mission with HM-111. Chief Petty Officer Matthew Wilhelm, one of the Vanguard's AMCM crew chiefs, commented on his return, "The procedures were pretty much the same, but the aircraft was spotless. That really impressed me."

They spent five hours observing the Japanese crew operate equipment that the Vanguard itself uses frequently. Lt.

j.g. Andrew Watts, the pilot representative aboard the flight, remarked, "I feel lucky to be able to have been a part of such an historic event, to be able to learn from our Japanese counterparts and share our knowledge with them."

Both squadrons spent countless hours preparing for this important step in the relationship between the U.S. Navy and JMSDF. For days prior to the formation event, MH-53E helicopters - both grey and white - were seen in pairs practicing maneuvers in hope of perfecting their formation.

The day prior, the Griffins hosted the American pilots and provided an in-depth flight briefing on procedures, and Watts presented standard formation checkpoints and emergency procedures. This briefing also gave the American and Japanese pilots a chance to speak face to face and put a more personal note on this bilateral exercise.

On the final day available for the flight, the four aircraft turned up on time and were ready to head out. For almost two hours, both HM-111 and HM-14 got a chance to lead the flight and take pictures. Though rain threat-



A Vulcan 546 leads Griffins 23 and 25 in a historic first formation flight between the U.S. and Japan. Photo by Staff Sgt. Daniel Kauppila

ened, the flight was able to continue on and complete the exercise, and before it concluded, HM-111's formation lead, Lt. Cmdr. Taketsugu Matsumoto said over the radio, "Today has been a historic event, the first time that the United States and Japan have flown the MH-53E together in formation. Thank you for letting us be a part of this."

Both crews were extremely proud to be members of this flight.

As Lt. Cmdr. Kathy Linton, HM-14 officer-in-charge, said in her after-action report, this exercise "provided both squadrons the opportunity to observe each other's tactical employment of AMCM via passenger exchange and built esprit de corps through a joint formation flight. HM-14 and HM-111 are building a strong brotherhood. This exercise was the first operational step in joining our two AMCM families."

WARHAWKS FROM PAGE 1

Since their arrival, the majority of the squadron's personnel have undergone briefs and are becoming accustomed to the new environment, according Lt. Tommy Kolwicz, VFA-97 F/A-18C pilot and native of Danbury, Conn. Although this deployment is the squadron's third visit to Iwakuni, much of the arriving personnel are experiencing their first tour in Japan.

"It was really cold when we first arrived and I didn't know what to expect; it was my first time in Japan," said Petty Officer 2nd Class Cameron M. Giddings, VFA-97 aviation maintenance administration clerk. "A lot of my buddies in the squadron are here for the first time and we're very anxious to experience this culture."

Like many Iwakuni newcomers, Giddings said he and his comrades are waiting for their chance to receive their liberty cards and leave the air station to visit the local scene.

"I plan to meet a lot of new people who will be able to show us around," said Giddings, a Fairfield, Calif., native. "A few of my good friends who have been in the squadron a little longer are telling me about the location and where the best places are to visit."



"Warhawk" paint job – with an American flag-bearing hawk on its left tail wing and a Japanese flag-bearing hawk on its other.The squadron is here for a six-month deployment. Photo by Lance Cpl. Kyle T. Ramirez

DEPLOYMENT FROM PAGE 1

noting the temporary plus-up will boost the total number of U.S. forces in Afghanistan to about 30,000 from around 27,000 now.

The deployment "is for a very finite period of time," Morrell emphasized. "We've made it clear. This is seven months. This is a one-time deal; that's it."

Beyond that, "we're going to need our allies' help to either backfill this deployment or to perhaps match us in the numbers we're putting forth," Morrell said.

Senior leaders of NATO's International Security Assistance Force in Afghanistan have said in the past that they require another 7,500 troops to confront Taliban insurgents and to help train new Afghan soldiers and police, Morrell said.

Marines from 24th MEU should be in place in March to assist in NATOled anti-insurgent operations in southern Afghanistan, Morrell said, while the 1,000 Marines from Twentynine Palms would be assigned to duty under American command sometime in April to assist in training Afghan security forces.

"Our planners have carefully considered when would be the best time to deploy these additional forces, and by getting the MEU in place in March, they believe it provides more than adequate time for them to be ready for the fighting season" that comes with the advent of spring, Morrell explained.

The temporary deployment of additional U.S. Marines to Afghanistan may inspire other NATO nations to pitch in with more forces, Morrell said.

"We certainly hope that us doing so will inspire them to do so," Morrell said. "At the very least, we would hope they would take a serious look at backfilling this deployment after the Marines leave at the end of this year."

Iwakuni's one, only baby doc Japanese practitioner caters to American families



Dr. Takashi Shoji, an obstetrics and gynecology practitioner (OB/GYN) and Iwakuni native, treated 262 newborns and their mothers in 2007, 48 of which came from within the station gates. Photo by Lance Cpl. Kyle T. Ramirez

Lance Cpl. Kyle T. Ramirez THE IWAKUNI PAPER STAFF

Most mothers will say the next most painful task to actually having a baby is finding the right Obstetrics and Gynecology specialist (OB/GYN) for the job. Whether they're active duty or active spouses, military mothers who find themselves pregnant in Iwakuni could easily become overwhelmed by their selection of either a six-hour bullet-train ride to Naval Hospital Yokosuka or the fear of being lost in translation during a delivery in Iwakuni City.

Prices, plans and procedures might not be the same the world over but the desire to help those in

need is, and that is the driving force behind Iwakuni's own Dr. Takashi Shoji, a 35-year OB/GYN specialist and Iwakuni native.

Shoji, with the assistance of his team at the Iwakuni Byoin hospital, treated 262 newborns and their mothers in 2007, 48 of which came from within the station gates.

He is the first recommendation of station doctors for expecting mothers because of his popular American-catering service, and as Perlita Coronado found by Googling "Iwakuni pregnancy," Shoji has an 18-year history of treating American patients.

"The language barrier was a little hard with the nurses, but Dr.Shoji is very professional and was able to answer each of my questions in the three months that I worked with him," said Coronado holding her newest child with her husband Sgt. Valentin Coronado, a Marine Aviation Logistics Squadron 12 aviation supply clerk from Houston.

Like many families assigned to Iwakuni during mid-pregnancy, the Coronado's had worries about switching doctors and perhaps even practices as a result of the move. But the service found at Iwakuni Byoin hospital under Shoji, the hospital's director, proved to be more comfortable than expected, according to the family.

"Dr.Shoji listens to jazz while working and his staff of nurses are constantly searching for anything I might need; it's very relaxing," said Coronado. "I've heard rumors of bizarre (delivery room) stories and malpractice in other countries and it's scary, but Dr. Shoji really does his part to let you know that a pregnancy is a pregnancy and he's going to take care of you."

Japanese prenatal and postnatal care is dissimilar to American practices in a variety of ways, according to Shoji. Fathers are not usually welcome in the delivery room; mothers can expect to share a room with others immediately following their child's birth and are recommended to stay at the hospital for a minimum of one week. Recognizing the conflicts of interest, Shoji takes special care of his American patients with the infant's best interest in mind.

"Being one of the only OB/GYN practitioners in Iwakuni, I have to be somewhat adaptable to what the expecting mother requires, but I keep my hospital equipped for most situations," said Shoji. "I make sure everything is going as smooth as possible so that I can hear that first scream of a healthy child and be happy from the bottom of my heart."

Shoji is noted by his patients for his straightforward and his serious manner while on the job.

"I've always known Dr. Shoji to be professional no matter what's going on," said Gunnery Sgt. Shalanda E. Raynor, hours following the delivery of her twin girls. "Sometimes in a situation such as childbirth - this one being a first for me - you would rather only know the professional side of your doctor so that you know what's most important to him."

Raynor said that at no point during her pregnancy did Shoji stray from the subject of her children or lack the answers to her questions.

"In the Marine Corps, 'Lance Cpl. Smuckatelli' at work is different from John Smuckatelli at home," said Raynor, a Peoria, Ill., native. "While he's at work, there should be no evidence that John Smuckatelli even exists. The same mindset is at this hospital. I've never seen Dr. Shoji or any of the nurses here in a bad mood or acting withdrawn in any way."

Shoji said that he feels his work is very meaningful, so it's important to be proficient at all times.

"My father was the director of this hospital before I was," said Shoji. "This hospital has a history of professionalism, and we hold it at the highest level of importance."

Iwakuni Byoin was the first hospital in Yamaguchi Prefecture and is nearing 120 years of service. According to Shoji, Shigeki Kumagai started the hospital and trained his subordinates using handwritten textbooks he authored while attending school in China. Shoji's father, the third director

Gone but not forgotten

Plaque, monument memorialize WWII veterans

Lance Cpl. Noah S. Leffler THE IWAKUNI PAPER STAFF

On Aug. 6, 1945, the first atomic bomb to ever be used in modern warfare was detonated over downtown Hiroshima. The blast instantly destroyed more than 80 percent of the city's structures and claimed an estimated 70,000 lives. The aftereffects of radiation poisoning led to an additional 60,000 fatalities, bringing the death toll to nearly 140,000 by the year's end, according to a 2003 report by the Atomic Bomb Survivors Relief Department, Social Affairs Bureau.

While guests in Japan, station residents are encouraged to visit Hiroshima's Peace Park and Memorial Museum to gain a better understanding of the enormity of the devastation and humanity of those affected. Surreal images such as the Atomic Dome and Memorial Cenotaph are stark reminders of the war's destructive cost.

I was surprised to recently discover a group of American service members also perished as a result of the blast, and that two memorials are in place to commemorate these lesser-known but nevertheless historically significant deaths.

It all began with an e-mail from a friend formerly stationed here. He had come across the online transcript of an interview conducted by two Rutgers University students with former U.S. Army Air Corps B-29 radioman Martin L. Zapf. In the interview, Zapf tells the story of being shot down while on a bombing mission over the Sea of Japan. He and nine other crew members spent several days afloat on their life rafts before being picked up by a Japanese fishing vessel near the small village of Masuda.

The Americans were held as prisoners of war, blindfolded and transferred to a civilian jail in Hiroshima, which they later realized had been bombed 10 days earlier. It was here Zapf recalled seeing the grisly image of several of his countrymen who survived the nuclear explosion.

"We met two Americans in the jail who had been ... POWs in Hiroshima when the bomb was dropped," said Zapf. "One was a B-24 gunner from Okinawa and the other was a Navy flyer of some kind, I think also a gunner. They both died while we were with them for a couple of days, because they were - (it is) difficult to describe what they looked like. They had pus running out of their mouth and ears and nose, and they were in agony. They wanted to die. It was terrible and we, of course, couldn't do anything for them. We didn't know what had caused their appearance."

This account hit a nerve inside me. These men died excruciating deaths as a result of their own country's weapon. However, the incident seemed to have been lost in the history books.

Later in the interview, Zapf went on to mention the name of the soldier's downed B-24. A little research soon revealed not only was there a small monument to the aircraft The Lonesome Lady but that it was located less than an hour from the air station.

After receiving directions from Yanai City Hall, a friend and I set out to find the memorial in Ikachi, near Yanai City. After a scenic 45-minute drive we finally spotted the stone marker behind a bus stop on the edge of a large field.

Standing there, I was struck by



The memorial placed in tribute of the Lonesome Lady, a B-24 bomber shot down near Yanai City, can be found in the small farm community of Ikachi. Five Lonesome Lady crew members were later interned at the Chugoku Military Headquarters in Hiroshima at the time of the atomic blast.



Petty Officer 3rd Class Travis H. Pullen, I I th Dental Company, Iwakuni Detachment hospital corpsman and native of San Antonio, observes a plaque memorializing a group of American prisoners of war who were interned at the Chugoku Military Headquarters in Hiroshima at the time of the atomic blast. The plaque can found in downtown Hiroshima one block east of the Kamiya-Cho intersection on the north side of the Takara building. *Photos by Lance Cpl. Noah S. Leffler*

the serenity of the rural farming community; hardly a car or person was seen in the half-hour spent at the site. I tried to imagine the thunderous roar of a falling bomber shattering the midday tranquility on July 28, 1945, and the fear the eight surviving airmen must have felt.

Lonesome Lady pilot Thomas C. Cartwright and six other members of the crew were eventually rounded up, transported to Hiroshima and interned at the Chugoku Military Headquarters building along with several other American airmen and at least one sailor. Cartwright and tail gunner Bill Abel would be the only two taken for interrogation in Tokyo and Kure, respectively. The rest of the American POWs died at the hands of their captors or from radiation poisoning after the nuclear blast.

Cartwright describes the years of emotional pain following the loss of his crew and fellow service members in Hiroshima and the frustration of having little or no information about their deaths in his book "A Date with the Lonesome Lady."

"I kept waiting to hear about the

remainder of my crew and no word came. I wrote the War Department requesting information but got no answer. A few weeks after I got home, a book came out with pictures of Hiroshima, and it dawned on me that that was where my crew had been interned.

"Some months later the families of the six members of my crew were informed that their sons had been killed in Hiroshima. I was never informed about the fate of my crew," he added. "It is still unclear how many American POWs were killed in Hiroshima."

But for Cartwright, closure finally came in the form of correspondence with several Japanese World War II survivors dedicated to the task of keeping the memory of his fellow Americans alive.

Shigeaki Mori was an 8-year-old boy living in Hiroshima when the atomic bomb was detonated. Being a longtime sufferer from the effects of the radiation had not deterred him in his search of the historical records



Boom-shaka-laka: M.C. Perr upsets varsity teams in annua



Megan Landean passes to Kelli Clark during an annual students versus faculty basketball game at Matthew C. Perry High School. The faculty outplayed the girls' team in the paint which contributed to the staff's 37-34 win.

Lance Cpl. Chris Dobbs THE IWAKUNI PAPER STAFF

For the first time in 47 years, the Matthew C. Perry High School faculty defeated the boys' and girls' varsity basketball teams in the school's annual students versus teachers' game.

Both games came down to the buzzer, but the female staff squeaked by the girls 37-34 while the men edged the boys' team 43-41.

"It's all in good fun," said Diane Landean, high school teacher and girls' basketball coach who was a member of the faculty team. "I think the girls' game provided some comic relief while the guys were very competitive."

The female teachers outplayed the girls' team in the paint both on

offense and defense, contributing to several easy baskets, while the guys' game was neck-and-neck all the way with both sides displaying a lot of hustle and showing no sign of letup.

"We just wanted to play our hardest and play smart," said Tyler Henderson, boys' basketball player and 12th grade student. The friendly game provides a unique setting for the students and teachers to meet, according to Henderson, who said the best part of the game is the chance to go "head to head" with his teachers.

"It's fun to be able to push your teachers around a little bit," said Henderson laughingly. "I've already got three fowls."

While the students might have got their shots in at the teachers during the game, the faculty finally has bragging rights, at least until next year.





(Left) Megan Landean throws an inbound pass during an annual students versus faculty basketball game at Matthew C. Perry High School. The female staff members defeated the girls' team 37-34.

Photos by Lance Cpl. Chris Dobbs and Lance Cpl. Noah S. Leffler

(Right) Shevonne Simpson is heavily covered by Deb Wright (left) and Melissa Lindquist during an annual students versus faculty basketball game at Matthew C. Perry High School. The women staff members pulled off a 37-34 win, which is the first time the faculty has defeated the students in 47 years.

y faculty al game



Ryan Schmidt dribbles past Scott Seitz (middle) and Shawn Ryan during an annual students versus faculty basketball game at Matthew C. Perry High School. The male faculty beat the boys' varsity team 43-41.



Justin Parks looks toward the bench during an annual students versus faculty basketball game at Matthew C. Perry High School. The boys' varsity team versus male staff game was neck-and-neck until the closing minutes as the men pulled away to claim the win by a single basket.

AROUND THE CORPS

Marines prepare Iraqi police for future operations, stability

Cpl. Andrew Kalwitz 2ND MARINE LOGISTICS GROUP

FALAHAT, Iraq -- Iraqi and U.S. forces have achieved great stability in recent months, conducting operations and working with the Iraqi people to greatly decrease enemy activity. Even after the successes of the past year, however, they show no signs of slowing down.

Focusing now on sustained stability, Marines installed 220 concrete barriers and almost 3,000 meters of razor wire in an area where stability was once deemed unattainable.

Though the area currently lacks a high threat, motives for emplacing this protection at the town's police station are aplenty.

At the top of the list is ensuring Iraqis have the tools they need to maintain stability.

"We want to plan for the worst. There still is that (truck bomb) threat to the entry control points, and they're targeting more of the Iraqi police and the Iraqi army instead of coalition forces," said 1st Lt. Nathan Mueller, a platoon commander with Engineer Company, Combat Logistics Battalion 8, 2nd Marine Logistics Group (Forward). "They see that the Iraqi army and police are the future."

The engineers built stairs leading to new observation posts that overlook the surroundings. They also constructed a new entry control point to the station to facilitate searches and demolished a small building to increase the visibility of the compound's guards.

This town's police have been operating under the guidance of Marine Corps trainers, often leading patrols themselves. If not for the added security, the station's police chief said they wouldn't feel fit for success.

"Without their help, we couldn't have done anything," Lt. Col. Jabbar Diraa Feihan said of the Marines. "This gives us the protection we need to defend the people if the threat level increases."

Until now, many small villages have relied upon patrols by U.S. and Iraqi troops for security. But a rise in recruiting has allowed local police forces to take on more prominent roles in their communities.

In Falahat, news of the departure of a 1st Iraqi Army Division unit

located here was met with fears that an increase in violence could soon follow.

But Iraqi police will man the same checkpoints their army counterparts once did and hope that the reinforcement of the police station will serve as a visual reminder to residents that they are here to stay.

The leader of the police transition team claims the renovations have earned the force credibility amongst the local people, scoring them an early relationship that has led to intelligence from area residents. "It legitimizes them as Iraqi police. It lets the people see that it's built up here and that this place is here to stay," said Staff Sgt. Patrick M. Wright of 1st Battalion, 1st Marine Regiment, Regimental Combat Team 6.

"They're concerned less about the security of the area because they see that Falahat station is defended well."

Wright said those threatening the town's peace tend to come from outside the area.

Greater security spares policemen from manning more posts at the station, freeing them for patrols that help keep the enemy out.

"Had we not received any of this



Petty Officer 3rd Class Daniel Clark mingles with local Iraqi children near the worksite for the Marines with Engineer Company, Combat Logistics Battalion 8, 2nd Marine Logistics Group (Forward). Photo by Cpl.Andrew Kalwitz

force protection before they left, it's inevitable that there would've been an attack," said Wright. "Any preplanned attacks on this place will definitely be postponed and they're going to definitely need to reevaluate that with all the new force protection."

MEMORIALS FROM PAGE 5

of the American POWs. Mori managed to track down and invite Cartwright to Hiroshima for the 1998 unveiling of a bronze plaque memorializing the fallen service members at the site of their internment. Mori, who had taken a second job to personally cover the plaque's expense, wanted to share the historical moment with the former pilot.

"There are more than 300 memorials erected all over this city at spots where people were exposed to the radiation and died," Mori said in an interview with Stars and Stripes newspaper. "But there was nothing to recognize and honor these Americans who were also victims of the bomb."

Cartwright attended the ceremony and during a press conference read "An Open Letter to the People of Hiroshima" which he had written for the event.

"I have come to Hiroshima to pay homage particularly to our friends and comrades who died here in August 1945," he said. "These included six of my bomber crew; I was spared by being transferred to Tokyo. We come to thank and pay respect to those of you who have recognized these comrades and erected memorials to them."

I recently visited the plaque which sits on the north side wall of the Takara building at 12-8

Motomachi St. in downtown Hiroshima. While it is a small, simple memorial, I was nevertheless moved by the thought and effort taken by Mori to have it placed there, something I'm sure Cartwright also felt when he visited Japan in 1998.

After the unveiling in Hiroshima, Cartwright finally returned to the site where he and his crew were shot down near Yanai. Another war survivor would be the catalyst for this visit, and their meeting at the memorial was a result of nearly 13 years of correspondence.

"I had always felt a void about my crew - my friends - vanishing ... with nothing to connect to them," he wrote. "One day in 1985, I got a letter from a Japanese man, Mr. Keiichi Muranaka, who had lived close to where the Lonesome Lady crashed." Enclosed with the letter was a piece of torn aluminum from the plane, which Muranaka had retrieved from the crash site as a "reminder of the war" nearly 40 years before.

"I always relate my sad experiences regarding WWII and (the) a-bomb and the crash of the Lonesome Lady," Muranaka wrote in his letter to Carwright. "Now I would like to give you this article which I have kept all these years as a reminder of the sad experiences that we shared during that terrible time in history. By remembering we shall be able to maintain this peace we enjoy now. This is our responsibility."

Muranaka had spearheaded the effort to raise funds for the monument I recently visited in Ikachi. On its face, inscribed in Japanese are the words imploring others to maintain the peace enjoyed by Ikachi residents for the past 62 years.

"We establish this memorial with a wish this happiness continues to our posterity and with a great appreciation for today's peace."

On the back is a brief description of the crash and those who subsequently died:

"These military members are also to be honored as they perished for the sake of serving their country."

After visiting these two memorials I have come away with a better understanding of the war and these particular service members. The memories will always be a part of my experience in Japan, and I hope others will take time to pay tribute to our fallen comrades.

For directions to the Lonesome Lady memorial in Ikachi, contact the Yanai City Hall at 0820-22-2111 (it is advised to enlist the aid of a translator). The plaque in Hiroshima can found one block east of the Kamiya-Cho intersection on the north side of the Takara building.

SHOJI FROM PAGE 4

of the hospital, carried the business throughout the middle of the 20th century before handing it down.

Shoji attended a university in northern Japan for six years where

he passed the medical practitioner's exam.

Following his schooling, he worked at the university's hospital for six years before beginning his career in Iwakuni, and since that time, Shoji said, has delivered more infants than there are people in the town.

"As far as my physical energy permits, I will continue to do this job," said Shoji. "After my retirement I plan to live in peace with my family."

Even though Shoji has been working at the hospital for 35 years,

he still trains himself in the latest technology and techniques for the well-being of the patient. Assisting in the births of new lives is something sacred for Shoji and his hospital staff, and Shoji said he hopes to leave that impression on every patient he treats.

253-3067 for information.

Massage Services

IronWorks Gym has seven massage therapists on staff providing a wide variety of massage services including full body, facial, hands, feet, prenatal, Shiatsu, Thai, Swedish, deep tissue, therapeutic, lymphatic and Seitai massage. For more information please call Lydia at 253-3696. Please call 253-6359 to make an appointment.

Adventure

Obuku Tea Ceremony The ceremony begins at 10 a.m., January 27 at the Shukkeien Garden (next to Hiroshima JR station). There is a 1,200-yen admission fee to the ceremony and a 250yen fee to enter the park. For more information, contact Hiroshima Shukkeien Garden by calling 082-221-3620. Shin-Gen-Chi

The program aims to promote local talent on the stage and sound system at Club Quattro and begins at 7 p.m., Jan. 26 at the club on the tenth floor of the Parco Mall on Hondori Street in Hiroshima.

Import Car Show

Imported Cars will be on display at the Green Arena in Naka-ku, Hiroshima, Jan. 26 -27 from 10 a.m.- 6 p.m. The admission price to the show is 1,000 yen. For more information, call 082-247-6282.

Community Briefs

Community

Volunteer Victim Advocate Training

The training is open to status of forces agreement (SOFA) adults and is scheduled for February 25-29, 6 p.m.-9 p.m. at Building 411, Room 217. Volunteers provide immediate assistance to victims of spouse abuse and sexual assault. Sign up by calling Marine & Family Services Division, Victim Advocate office at 253-4526.

Prep-Premarital Seminar

The seminar is held every last Wednesday and Thursday of every month at the Station Chapel from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. To sign up, contact the Station Chapel by calling 253-3371.

Commissary Closure The commissary will be closed Feb. 20 for cash register upgrades. Business will resume the following day. For more information, contact the commissary by calling 253-5183.

Free Child

Development Screening Education and Developmental Intervention Services will be doing free child development screenings for children under 5 years old Feb. 13-15 at Matthew C. Perry Elementary School. Child specialists will answer questions and evaluate major areas of children's growth. For more information, call EDIS at 253-4562.

Branch Health

Clinic Announcement: The Iwakuni Branch Health Clinic now has a one-stop automated answering system at extension 253-5571. For on-base medical emergencies,

Chapel Services

Roman Catholic

Saturday	4:30 p.m. 5:30 p.m.	Confession Vigil Mass				
Sunday	8:30 a.m. 9:45 a.m.	Mass Religious Education				
	9.10 u.m.	Rengious Education				
Protestant						
Sunday	9:30 a.m.	Sunday School				
	10:30 a.m.	Protestant Service				
	1:00 p.m.	Spanish Fellowship				
Wednesday	6:00 p.m.	Awana (Bldg. 1104)				
	6:00 p.m.	Bible Study				
Church of Christ						
Sunday	9:30 a.m.	Bible Study				
	10:30 a.m.	Worship Service				
Latter Day Saints						
Weekdays	6:30 a.m.	Youth Activities				
Islamic						
Friday	Noon	Prayer				
Jewish	(00	01 11 /				
Friday	6:00 p.m.	Shabbat				

Teen Programs

For times, call 253-5183: High School Meetings, Junior High Meetings, HS and JR Bible Studies, Retreats, Service Projects, Mission Trips, Special Events Volunteer Training and Mentoring, Parent Support Groups

For information regarding divine services, religious education or any other Command Religious Program/ Chapel Activity call the station chapel at 253-5218.

dial 911. If you are off base dial 21-7700.

Boy Scout Troop 77 meeting The troop, celebrating 50 years of service, meets Monday at Building 1111 from 6 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. New members are welcome. For more information, call 253-3505.

Girl Scout volunteers

Iwakuni Girl Scouts is looking for adult volunteers to help with next year's troops. To make a difference in a girl's life, call 253-6838 or write an e-mail to TLRhorst@ aol.com.

Influenza Shots

The Iwakuni Branch Health Clinic will be giving flu shots/flumist to eligible patients at the immunizations office. Immunization hours of operation are Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday from 7:30 a.m. - 11:45 a.m. and 12:45 p.m. - 4 p.m. and Wednesday from 7:30 a.m. - 11:45 p.m. Contact immunizations at 253-6326 for more information.

Twin Cities Recruiting Duty

Recruiting Station Twin Cities is looking for E-5 and below Marines to assist the recruiting effort by serving as Recruiter Assistants for the following areas: North Dakota, South Dakota, Minnesota and Wisconsin. Request permissive TAD orders from your command for up to 30 days of RA. Contact the Twin Cities Recruiting Station by calling (612) 725-3209/3236.

WIC Overseas

Women, Infants, and Children (WIC) Overseas is a nutrition program that supplements healthy foods and provides education on various health topics. Pregnant, postpartum and breastfeeding mothers as well as children ages 0-5 may participate. Call 253-4928 for more information.

MCCS

Catholic Religious Education

Registration has started for youth, high school and adults. Please contact 253-6470 or 3371 for more information. **Moonlight Bowling** Moonlight Bowling is every Saturday at the Bowling Center here beginning at 6 p.m. There is a \$25 money shot at the end of each game and a progressive jackpot at the end of all three games. For more details call 253-3495.

All-Marine Rugby

Semper Fit is seeking players and a coach for the women's All-Marine team. Please call

Young quilters share culture



Youngsters in Marie L. Hyson's multi-age class put the finishing touches on a quilt being sent to Sidney C. Huntington junior and senior high school in Galena, Alaska, located on the northern route of the famous Iditarod dogsled race. Each of the 24 squares of fabric bears a Japanese image drawn by a student. According to Hyson, the project will hopefully establish a good rapport between the schools allowing for a cultural exchange. *Photo by Marie Hyson*

• 71" long x 42" wide x 30" high (center leaf is 18"

long)

Excellent conditionMaple finish

Six cloth chairs
Blue, yellow, green
Stained, otherwise good

without center leaf)

5487 or H/ 253-2764.

- \$275

- \$300

• Inlaid design and trim

• Six Neutral chair covers included free

•Sony CDP-C445 5-disc CD player -\$50

•Technics SL-1200Mk2 turntable - \$350

• Custom table pad included free (fits with and

Call (home) 253-2195 or (cell) 080-3474-8875.

•Boston Acoustics T-1000 home audio speakers

•Carver CT-3EX preamp/tuner with phono stage

•Conrad-Johnson SA250 2-channel amplifier - \$600

•Conrad-Johnson SA250 2-channel amplifier - \$600

•Technics SLQ-200 turntable with Grado - \$175

To submit an advertisement request, follow the

classifieds link on the station Web site and open an

advertisement request form. Submit the form via e-

mail at IWKN_SMBIwakuniPAO@nmci.usmc.mil or

in person at the Public Affairs Office, Bldg. 1, Room

216. Please submit your request at least one week

prior to the date when you want to post it.

•Carver TFM-35x 2-channel amplifier -\$550

Items For Sale - For more information, call W/253-

The Iwakuni Paper Classifieds

AUTOMOBILES

1995 Toyota TRX 2.0

4 door, asking for \$2200. JCI until December 2009. Sporty, clean and reliable - great ride! 5 passenger, 12 disc CD/tape, cold A/C, heat, power everything. For more information, call (work) 253-5951 or (home) 253-7152.

1987 Nissan Homy Van

3-door, 8-passenger. Asking \$1,700 OBO. JCI until May 2009. PWR windows, mirrors, locks and rear sun roof. Also has flip-up front sun/moon roof, Kenwood CD player, swivel rear seats, new fuel pump and tires, diesel engine. Runs good. Selling due to ERD. For more information, call (home) 253-2920 or (work) 253-3993.

1995 HONDA ODYSSEY

Cream of Mushroom Soup

Creole Soup, Sauerbraten

Marble Cake Double Layer

Butter Cream Frosting

Specialty Bar: Pasta Bar

Blueberry Crunch

Hot and Spicy Chicken

Oven Glo Potatoes

Fried Zucchini

Calico Corn Hot Dinner Rolls

Congo Bars

Monday

Fried Rice

65,000 miles, JCI until May 2008, air bag, ABS, AC, PS, power/windows, AM/FM CD stereo, seats 7, tires/battery in good condition. Vehicle has been well maintained and runs great. Must sell - \$1,900 OBO. For more information, call (cell) 080-3009-6154 or (home) 253-2741.

Tuesday

Cream of Potato Soup

Chicken Noodle Soup

Rice, Buttered Pasta

Black Eye Peas

Creole Squash

Corn Bread

Southern Fried Chicken

BBQ Beef Cube, Steamed

Chocolate Chip Cookies

Butter cream Frosting

Lemon Meringue Pie

Specialty Bar: Taco Bar

Spice Cake Double Layer

JOB OPENINGS

CHRO - The following job announcements are available at Civilain Human Resources Office, Bldg. 1, Room 104:

•Training & Curriculum Specialist, GS-1701-09 •Recreation Assistant, GS-0189-05

•Management & Program Analyst, GS-0343-09/11 •Store Worker (Intermittent), WG-6914-04 For more information, contact CHRO at 253-3455

OTHER ITEMS

Sauder Armoire (model 8470) for sale:

- 68" high x 34" wide x 22" deep
- Mission style / Cherry finish
- Very versatile
- Holds a lot:
- Desktop Cabinet
- Printer Tray/Slide
- Slide-out desk area
- •Slide-out keyboard tray
- •Fits 19" flat screen monitor

Call (home) 253-2195 or (cell) 080-3474-8875.

Table and chairs for sale:

Weekly Mess Hall Menu

Wednesday

Cream of Broccoli Soup Vegetable Soup, Tempura Fish, Pepper Steak Steamed Rice Oven Glo Potatoes Glazed Carrots Club Spinach Brown Gravy Dinner Rolls Peanut Butter Cookies Devil's Food Cake Butter Cream Frosting Specialty Bar: BBQ Thursday Minestrone Soup Cream of Chicken Soup Creole Macaroni, Fried Shrimp, Fettuccini W/ Alfredo Sauce, Grilled Cheese Sandwich, Tempura Vegetables, Peas and Carrots Dinner Rolls Sugar Cookies Strawberry Shortcake Whipped Topping Vanilla Cream Pie

Friday

Clam Chowder Soup Minestrone Soup, Braised Beef and Noodles, Baked Fish Mashed Potatoes, Fried Cabbage, Mix Vegetables Chicken Gravy Dinner rolls Banana Bread Dutch Apple Pie Shortbread Cookies Specialty Bar: Hot Dogs Polish Sausage

MCTV Movie Schedule

Tuesday				
2:00 PM	John Tucker Must Die PG13			
5:00 PM	Reaping, The R			
8:00 PM	Thumbsucker R			
11:00 PM	Take the Lead PG13			
Wednesday				
2:00 AM	Woods, The R			
5:00 AM	Sweet Insanity R			
11:00 AM	Tenacious D, the Pick of Destiny R			
2:00 PM	Woods, The R			
5:00 PM	Sweet Insanity R			
8:00 PM	We Are Marshall PG			
11:00 PM	Tenacious D, the Pick of Destiny R			
Thursday				
2:00 AM	Ask The Dust R			
5:00 AM	Meet the Robinsons G			
11:00 AM	Live Free Or Die Hard PG13			
2:00 PM	Ask The Dust R			
5:00 PM	Meet the Robinsons G			
8:00 PM	Population 436 R			
11:00 PM	Live Free Or Die Hard PG13			

Editor's Note: MCTV movies can be viewed on Ch. 20.

SAKURA THEATER

Specialty Bar: Deli Bar



Timothy Olyphant plays Agent 47 working for "The Agency" in this action thriller. Hitman (R) Fri 7:00 p.m. Sun 7:00 p.m.

Lions for Lambs (R) Sun 4:00 p.m.

The Bucket List (PG-13) Fri 10:00 p.m.

Enchanted (PG) Sat 1:00 p.m.



This Sci-Fi thriller is based on the popular novel by Stephen King about a freak storm.

The Mist (R) Thu 7:00 p.m.

Thu 7:00 p.m. Sat 10:00 p.m.

The Golden Compass (PG) Sat 4:00 p.m.

Charlie Wilson's War (R) Sat 7:00 p.m.

August Rush (PG) Sun 1:00 p.m.

'We are the champions!' H&HS comes out on top of doubleheader with CLC



The Headquarters and Headquarters Squadron Liberty Risk celebrates after its 18-6 victory over Combat Logistics Company 36 in the intramural football championship game at Northside field here Wednesday. Photo by Lance Cpl. Chris Dobbs

Lance Cpl. Chris Dobbs THE IWAKUNI PAPER STAFF

Capitalizing off a last second play, the Headquarters and Headquarters Squadron Liberty Risk (18-2) triumphed over Combat Logistics Company 36 (13-7) 20-18, 18-6 to win the intramural football season championship game.

H&HS's Derrick Hart's touchdown run from the goal line in the closing seconds of game one of the double-header kept the Risk alive.

Down by 6 with less than two minutes remaining, H&HS regained possession of the ball at their own 2 following a couple of crucial defensive stops.

Using a hurry-up offense, they drove the ball the length of the field before facing stiff resistance from CLC's defense as they neared the end zone.

With 11 seconds remaining, on a do-or-die fourth-and-goal attempt from the 10, Hart threw a short pass over the middle to running back Jason Etienne who extended his arms out for the score. The ball, however, was illegally (against flag football rules) knocked from Etienne's hands just before he got to the goal line. The resulting penalty gave the Risk another crack at it from the goal line. This time, Hart held onto it, running a quarterback sneak up the middle and crossing the line. The H&HS sideline shouted in excitement.

"That was a miracle," said Hart about the gamewinning score. "I think it was divine intervention."

Because CLC was undefeated in the tournament and H&HS had one loss (to CLC 28-20 on Monday), H&HS had to beat CLC twice to claim the tournament championship.

In the neck-and-neck second game, the score was tied at 6 until late in the second half, when Hart scored on a 2-yard touchdown run with 4:45 to go.

CLC threatened to score on its ensuing drive, but H&HS cornerback Terrence Carty intercepted a third and goal pass in CLC's end zone. A couple of plays later, H&HS put the nail in the coffin when receiver Jason Brown caught a short pass and broke free on a 70-yard scoring dash.

Following the play, Hart and Leikwold looked at each other before laughing and shaking hands.

"CLC's a tough team," said Hart. "We were fortunate to come out on top."

1st Game Recap	1	2	Total
H&HS	6	14	20
CLC-36	12	6	18

1st Half

17:30 *H&HS Hart 42-yard pass from Caporaso*

5:05 CLC-36 Leikwold 15-yard run
:32 CLC-36 Dault 35-yard pass from Leikwold

2nd Half

15:47 CLC-36 Leikwold 3-yard run 9:58 H&HS Etienne 15-yard run (Jones 3-yard pass from Caporaso)

:07 H&HS Hart 1-yard run (Rodriguez 3-yard pass from Caporaso)

2nd Game Recap	1	2	Total
H&HS	6	12	18
CLC-36	6	0	6

1st Half

17:10 CLC-36 Lewis 26-yard pass from Leikwold

4:40 *H&HS Hart 43-yard pass from Caporaso*

2nd Half

4:45 H&HS Hart 2-yard run

1:12 H&HS 70-yard pass from Hart

H&HS quarterback Marcus Caporaso, who led the Liberty Risk with accurate passing and deft rushing throughout the season, was named the tournament's most valuable player.

"I'm only as good as my team," said Caporaso. "I'm nothing without them."

IWAKUNI SPORTS SCENE

MARINE LOUNGE POOL TOURNAMENT

Saturday and Sunday, 2 p.m. to 6 p.m.

The Marine Lounge hosts its weekend pool tournament every Saturday, Sunday and holiday at 2 p.m. Saturdays are nine-ball tournaments and Sundays are eight-ball tournaments. There is a \$5 entry fee. Cash prizes are awarded to first and second places.

YOGA DAY USA

Saturday, 9 a.m. to 12 p.m.

Attend the 2008 Yoga Day USA Activity Workshop. The workshop is for everyone regardless of age, body type or fitness level. No previous registration required. Yoga mats, blocks and stretch bands available. Feel free to bring your own supplies. Please bring a towel and water bottle.

POWERLIFTING BRIEF

Saturday, 1 p.m. to 3:30 p.m.

Prepare for the Open Bench Press Competition March 22, or just learn how to safely increase your strength in six weeks. Attend the brief to learn the powerlifting techniques used by national powerlifting competitors. The brief will be held in the Wellness Room at IronWorks Gym. Sign up by Jan. 23 by calling 253-5051, or send an e-mail to williamsi@usmc-mccs.mil.

INVITATIONAL RAQUETBALL TOURNAMENT

Feb. 2, 9 a.m. to 6 p.m.

Semper Fit's Intramural/Varsity Sports will host an Invitational Racquetball Tournament at the IronWorks Gym racquetball courts. For further information, contact Intramural/Varsity Sports at 253-3067.

Sports

Sink it: Marines drop shots for cash

Lance Cpl. Chris Dobbs THE IWAKUNI PAPER STAFF

Whether it's to surf the internet, check up on friends via MySpace, play Xbox, watch a movie or just hang out, Marines and sailors visit the Single Marine Program's Hornet Nest and Marine Lounge in swarms. The hangouts, which are open to all station residents and their guests age 18 and older, offer weekend ping pong, chess and gaming competitions which attract those looking for some friendly competition.

The Marine Lounge's eight and nine-ball weekend and holiday pool tournaments have drawn amateur to avid billiards players to its tables for many years, and Sunday was no different.

Cpl. James Newson, Marine Aviation Logistics Squadron 12 supply receiving noncommissioned officer-incharge and native of Jackson, Tenn., won the tournament and a \$50 cash prize.

"There's always good competition," said Newson, a native of Jackson, Tenn. "If you're able to come out on top, you feel pretty good about yourself."

Newson beat Sgt. Leo Moulton, Combat Logistics Company 36 refrigeration mechanic and native of Addison, Vt., in three games



Cpl. James Newson, Marine Aviation Logistics Squadron 12 supply receiving noncommissioned officer-in-charge and native of Jackson, Tenn., hits a shot during an eight-ball tournament at the Marine Lounge Sunday. Photos by Lance Cpl. Chris Dobbs

in the championship round to claim the top spot.

"My concentration was real good," said Newson. "I stayed down on the ball and was confident throughout the tournament."

"Confidence is the key," added Newson. "It's the same in every sport." While Moulton, who has played in tournaments at the Marine Lounge since 2004 when he arrived in Iwakuni for his first tour of duty, could only manage second place, he said the competition is exciting and the event's friendly atmosphere keeps him coming back. "It's com

"It's competitive, but at the same time real laid back," said Moulton. "It's a good chance to practice and also just have a good time."

Moulton said one of the reasons he enjoys the tournaments is because of the dedication of the event's organizer, W.F. Takashi.

Takashi, a Marine Lounge volunteer and Iwakuni native who has organized the tournaments for the past 12 years, assists players with game rules and can also be found giving tips to those who seek his advice before and after events.

"He's very knowledgeable of the game," said Newon. "He helps the Marines a lot."

"He's a real good, honest guy," said Moulton. "All the Marines love him."

Takashi, who arranges Marines versus Japanese Maritime Self Defense Force tournaments and other contests to suit those looking for topnotch competition or just a casual game, said tournament participation has not been as good lately. Though the tournaments still get a decent turnout, he and tournament regulars long for the days when the tables were surrounded by players.

"We used to have tournaments three, four times a week," he said. "There would be 15 or 16 participants at the minimum for every event."

While Takashi and the players attribute the decline in participation to the installation of the Lounge's coin tables which cost 75 cents a game – a couple of years ago, they hope to keep the weekend tradition going as strong as possible.

"We're always looking for more players," said Moulton. "Come on out."



Sgt. Leo Moulton, Combat Logistics Company 36 refrigeration mechanic and native of Addison, Vt., hits a shot during an eight-ball tournament at the Marine Lounge Sunday. Newson claimed a \$50 cash prize by winning the tournament.