

WELCOME HOME
10 CLC-36 Marines
return to Iwakuni | P. 4
NEWS

MIYAJIMA
See local attractions with the
Cultural Adaptation Program | P. 6, 7
FEATURE

JROTC
Find out who rocked the Far
East Competition | P. 12
FEATURE

IWAKUNI APPROACH

Issue No. 14, Vol. 2 | Marine Corps Air Station Iwakuni, Japan

Attempted kidnapping on station: PMO seeks leads

LANCE CPL. CHRIS KUTLESA
IWAKUNI APPROACH STAFF

The Naval Criminal Investigative Service is seeking the public's assistance in locating a man who allegedly attempted to abduct a young woman at approximately 7:30 p.m. April 1 near the Marine Corps Exchange.

Anyone near the Marine Corps Exchange, Station Telephone Office, or Building 658 between 7 – 7:30 p.m. April 1 or with incident information can call the Provost Marshal's Office anonymously at 253-3303.

While such incidents are rare and the majority of people aboard the air station are law-abiding residents, it is wise for people of all ages and genders to take precautions regarding their personal safety.

The following personal security tips are provided by PMO to help people increase their safety and security:

- Avoid walking alone around the station at night.
- Make an effort to walk on streets where there are other people.
- Stay alert to surroundings at all times. Look confident and purposeful when walking, while observing nearby activities and people.
- Plan and use the safest and most direct route to your destination.
- Choose busy, well-lit streets and avoid isolated areas, alleys, vacant lots, abandoned buildings and construction sites.
- Walk near the curb and do not pass too close to shrubbery, dark doorways and other places of concealment.
- Avoid shortcuts.
- Walk facing traffic in order to see approaching cars.
- Carry a flashlight during hours of darkness.
- Be aware that wearing earphones

connected to portable radios, cassette and CD players while walking can be a distraction and minimize the ability to sense potential danger. (The only authorized location aboard the air station for wearing such earphones is along the sea wall.)

• Do not hitchhike or accept rides from strangers.

• It is wise to carry a personal alarm. Use the personal alarm to attract attention and to summon help in a dangerous situation.

• If followed or threatened by someone in a car, use your personal alarm or scream long and loud, cross the street and run in the opposite direction. This will force the driver to turn the car around to pursue you. Head for bright lights and people. Make an attempt to obtain the license plate number and a description of the car and its occupant(s).

For questions and comments, contact Crime Prevention at 253-5105.

First Patriot Express flight lands



PFC. CLAUDIO MARTINEZ

Cpl. Melissa Cerasuolo with the Air Terminal Division welcomes passengers unloading from the newly returned Patriot Express at the air terminal here April 4. The return of the Patriot Express will provide flights from and to Seattle, Tokyo, Iwakuni and Okinawa. Service members and dependents wanting to check space availability on outgoing flights can look on channel 5 or call the air terminal at number 253-5509.

SPI busts language barriers

SGT. ROBERT DURHAM
IWAKUNI APPROACH
STAFF

Iwakuni's new Safety Patrol Iwakuni team started making its first rounds April 1.

The team consists of 10 police officers from various law enforcement backgrounds.

Many of the officers speak English and are able to assist English speaking residents and visitors more effectively, connecting the communities of Japanese and base personnel better than before.

"Here in Iwakuni we have the Kintai Bridge. Well, we as Safety Patrol Iwakuni would like to act as the bridge between foreigners and the Japanese community," said Officer Yoshikazu Ida, a member of the new unit.

The new group of officers can be identified from regular police by their distinctive black and pink SPI armbands worn on their left arm.

To go with the new unit, is a brand new building, or koban. Koban, meaning "police box," is the smallest echelon of Japanese police organization.

The building is near four-corners and was dedicated April 3.

"This koban is located where it can be most effective, where our communities most interact and where we can all access it for mutual assistance," said Maj. Giuseppe Stavale, station provost marshal, during his speech in Japanese at the opening ceremony.

The new koban has many amenities designed to strengthen bonds between base personnel and SPI officers.

"They have a new room that basically entertains the courtesy patrol and military police," said Stavale.

"Americans tend to believe in having a good attitude.

SEE **POLICE** ON PAGE 3

Mass casualty exercise tests emergency services

PFC. MIRANDA BLACKBURN
IWAKUNI APPROACH STAFF

To prepare for Friendship Day 2009, emergency medical personnel responded to a simulated aircraft mishap that resulted in multiple casualties and air show spectator chaos here April 1.

These full scale exercises have been the most

comprehensive manner of testing the station's emergency services' response plans, said Keith Johnson, the disaster preparedness officer who choreographed the event.

The day started off with a short bus ride to the flight line around noon. About 30 volunteers from

SEE **CASUALTY** ON PAGE 3



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CHAPLAIN'S CORNER

'Pay it forward'

LT. J.G. ROBERT E. MILLS
STATION CHAPLAIN

Thirteen years after graduating from college, my wife and I arrived at seminary for my theological education and suddenly discovered what it meant to be poor students again.

We went from a reasonably good salary to a small stipend augmented by whatever work I could find.

I found myself competing with teenagers for near minimum-wage work and I was 37!

We lived in a small campus apartment that was less than half the size of our previous house.

Every Wednesday afternoon, we stood in line to receive free food. We scrimped and scraped and rejoiced greatly any time the checking account had more than \$500 in it.

Then one day something very special happened. We got a check in the mail for \$100!

It was from a pastor and his wife. We barely knew them, but had worked in the same state.

The note with the check said something like this: "Bob & Virginia, here is a little something to help you get out to a nice restaurant. Please don't bother to pay

it back. We remember how it was to be in seminary and we want you to accept this with our love and pay it forward. That's right — when you are out in the world earning a good living, find someone in seminary who needs your help and pay it to them. Hopefully, they will do the same for somebody else down the line. Enjoy!"

What a concept!

Instead of worrying about getting something back or getting recognized for their giving, these great Christians just asked that we help somebody else.

Well, you can bet as soon as we were out of school and earning again we did pay it forward to another young couple who was struggling to make ends meet at seminary.

It was a great feeling to know we had helped somebody else the same way we had been helped earlier.

So Charles and Karen, if you ever happen to read this, please know that we did pay it forward! The act of giving to those who

are less fortunate is a central component of most of the world's religions.

It is so important because it teaches us to be less selfish and more open to the needs of others.

The concept of paying it forward adds another beautiful element to that basic component of giving. The Christians Scriptures say, "Freely you have received, freely give." (Matthew 10:8).

We all have been blessed in some way or other.

How creative can we get in finding ways to pay it forward?

What if we did this at Iwakuni?

What if we shared an extra large tip with the grocery baggers at the commissary?

What if we offered to babysit so the couple in the next apartment could go out on a date?

What if we increased our giving to the various worthy charities on base?

What if we offered to give a ride to a young Marine or sailor walking on a rainy, cold day?

What if we picked up trash from the ground as we walked around the base?

If we did these things, not only would our base be a better place to live, but we would give others a chance to pay it forward too.

Pay it forward!

Foal Eagle 2009 comes to a close

LANCE CPL. DANIEL NEGRETE
IWAKUNI APPROACH STAFF

Marine Aircraft Group 12 participated in 7th Air Force Air Combat Command's Exercise Foal Eagle 2009 March 30 to April 3 here.

Foal Eagle is an annual field training exercise that combines joint U.S. and Republic of Korea (ROK) forces in simulated air-to-air and air-to-ground combat scenarios.

The exercise tests the ability of the ROK to defend itself against an invading force and incorporates all branches of the U.S. military and ROK forces, according to exercise officials.

During Foal Eagle, MAG-12 F/A-18 Hornets flew simulated combat missions, from MCAS Iwakuni, over the Republic of Korea in a combined effort with the ROK Air Force to wipe out the "Red Air" and to support the U.S. and ROK troops operating on the ground. MAG-12 usually deploys to Yecheon Air Base, ROK, but operated out of Iwakuni this year

due to fiscal and logistical restraints.

In-flight refueling was crucial to mission accomplishment and was achieved with support from VMGR-152 and the 909th Air Refueling Squadron, both based in Okinawa.

Additionally, Marines from MWSS-171, MALS-12, VMFA(AW)-242, and VMFA(AW)-225 were inserted into Yecheon to provide ground re-fueling which gave the air-to-ground missions more time in the training ranges.

"The exercise was designed to improve integration at each level of command in a joint and combined environment as well as provide an opportunity to evaluate internal processes and procedures," said Maj. Jason D. Pejisa, MAG-12 action officer for Exercise Foal Eagle 2009.

Overall the exercise was successful from many perspectives.

U.S. and Korean forces were able to identify keys to success that will further enable them to conduct successful integrated combat

operations.

"At the end of the day, we fulfilled the commander's intent," said Pejisa. "As a MAG, we overcame fiscal, logistical and planning limitations unique to this year's exercise."

"MAG-12 was extremely impressed by the professionalism of every Marine that supported each sortie we generated, from turning wrenches here in Iwakuni to fueling jets from austere Yecheon to representing the MAG as a liaison in Osan."

"The intellect, tactical execution, and flight leadership from the aircrew was second to none and it was apparent in flight."

"The exercise duration did not allow a gradual increase in complexity."

"From the first to last mission, our squadrons safely executed joint, bi-lateral, large force on force, and multi-plane engagements while overcoming challenging weather, significant language barriers, and integration of airspace and air forces with very different operating procedures."

New Iwakuni police division aids discourse

POLICE FROM PAGE 1

Japanese believe in building stronger relationships," he said. "This building strengthens relationships and we're always invited."

In addition to the new room, the facility also boasts easy accessibility.

"Also, most of the officers speak English, which makes communication not only better for Japanese, but for Americans too," said Akito Tsuchida, an 11-year police veteran.

The koban always has a representative available.

If a person needs assistance and all officers are out of the building, an exterior live camera phone allows those seeking help to communicate directly with Iwakuni Police Headquarters.



SGT. ROBERT DURHAM

Officers of the newly founded Safety Patrol Iwakuni look on during the opening ceremony of Iwakuni's new police substation, Kowashima Koban, near four corners in Iwakuni April 3. The safety patrol was designed to improve communication between base personnel and local nationals.

Accident battery tests station emergency services' readiness

CASUALTY FROM PAGE 1

Headquarters and Headquarters Squadron were transformed into victims and spectators of the simulated crash. They were given injuries ranging from smoke inhalation to broken arms and chest wounds.

"It was really fun," said Lance Cpl. Thang T. Nguyen. "It was great to see everyone acting the part to complete the exercise."

Before the exercise, the simulated wounded and dead were instructed on how to act in a manner that would best meet the training needs. Some were completely unconscious while

others could only respond to pain or acted hysterical just to add to the chaos.

At approximately 2 p.m., the crash occurred. Air station emergency services were called to respond to the incident in order to exercise and evaluate their capabilities in preparation for the Friendship Day air show.

Lying on the cold pavement of the flight line, the victims waited for the rescue team to arrive.

In an actual event, the worst of the casualties would have been airlifted to hospitals off base but for training purposes were separated from the remaining victims. The others were sent

to a triage center to assess their wounds.

From the triage center, the victims whose wounds were more critical were taken off base and the rest were taken to the Robert M. Casey Medical and Dental Clinic here.

Aircraft Rescue and Firefighting, medical personnel, the station fire department, and the Provost Marshal's Office all participated in making this event come together.

"We do this to make sure all of the emergency services around the station can work together and work cohesively in an incident like this," said Johnson.

The mass casualty event is an

evolution that happens annually to prepare for Friendship Day, but they plan on conducting more of them to make sure the station is prepared throughout the year, said Johnson.

The purpose of this exercise was to increase the proficiency of all first responder personnel in response to an aircraft mishap or emergency while civilian spectators are in close proximity. The exercise also served to confirm the functionality and effectiveness of each first responder agencies' tactics, techniques and procedures.

"Overall, the event went very well this year," Johnson concluded.

Corps Question

Q. Who is eligible to get a post office box here?

A. All personnel on accompanied tours, regardless of parent unit, all Department of Defense civilian employees, all unaccompanied personnel assigned or attached to any unit permanently stationed aboard Marine Corps Air Station Iwakuni, all personnel assigned to the Branch Health Clinic, the resident Naval Criminal Investigative Service, employees of Matthew C. Perry schools and members of the American Forces Network are eligible.

Submit your Corps Question by e-mailing iwakuni.pao@usmc.mil.

10 CLC-36 Marines return home



From left to right, Cpl. Bryan Morgan, Lance Cpl. Justin McDougall, Cpl. Neilon Baptiste, Cpl. Brian Reda, Sgt. Eric Duran, Cpl. Tara Highbaugh, Cpl. John Hildebrant, Lance Cpl. Kevin Bett and Cpl. Sergio Lopez of Combat Logistics Company 36 strike a triumphant pose here April 1 after the breakfast welcoming them home from their nearly year-long tour in Iraq. During their tour, most of the Marines got their first, long field environment experience and were able to bask in the joy of working long hours, adjusting to the climate, going long spans of time without bathing and disposing of their own bodily waste.

WHEN ONE FIGHT ENDS, ANOTHER CAN BEGIN

CPL. JOSEPH MARIANELLI
IWAKUNI APPROACH STAFF

“Boom, boom, boom, boom,” one of them howls with a hearty chuckle.

In the sea of Marines eating breakfast and moving about, they seem stuck together, attached by invisible bonds stronger than steel.

They move about not as individuals but as an amoeba.

“They definitely came back tighter, night and day,” said Staff Sgt. Ajene Webley, deputy family readiness officer for Combat Logistics Company 36. “You can definitely see they’ve grown a bit.”

For the 10 CLC-36 Marines who returned from Iraq March 28, the breakfast was a welcome home, a thank you for their support of Operation Iraqi Freedom and, perhaps most importantly, the beginning of their reintegration.

While in Iraq, Sgt. Eric Duran, Cpl.’s Neilon Baptiste, Jonathan Brain, Tara Highbaugh, John Hildebrant, Sergio Lopez, Bryan Morgan, Brian Reda, and Lance Cpl.’s Kevin Bett and Justin McDougall assisted in retrograding the 9th Engineer Support Battalion’s gear.

Essentially, a retrograde is packing up all the equipment used by a unit, or units, during deployment and moving it back to garrison or the next front.

Think of it as a child’s toy chest. All the toys have been scattered throughout a day of

playing and they all need to be picked up and put back into the chest.

Of course, instead of scattered throughout, say a house, the “toys” were scattered in Iraq over a lengthy campaign and every piece needed to be inventoried, coded based on condition and packed up to be physically moved.

“Retrograde is probably the worst part,” said Webley. “In the same respect it’s a good thing because you’re going home.”

Besides the arduous task of retrograde, the Marines had to adjust to the field environment.

“Burning your own feces is definitely an experience,” said Highbaugh.

Other memorable experiences and echoed sentiments included not being able to shower for a month and a half, the dramatic climate change, hours worked and the constant threat of insurgent attack.

On top of all that, these 10 Marines were not attached to a group of familiar faces and were expected to do more than just their specific jobs.

Deploying with a large home unit is a big misconception about deployments in general, Gunnery Sgt. Rafael Miranda, CLC-36’s operations chief, said.

“You’re never going to do your own job, be with the same people,” he said. “That’s where the band of brothers comes in.”

Despite the pressures during the deployment, they all expressed the same sentiment, “everybody should go at least

once.”

Even though their mission in Iraq is complete, in some ways, the battle could easily be rekindled here, and it’s also why a welcome home is so important.

“It’s part of their reintegration,” said Ruthann Morales, a counselor with Marine and Family Services. “When you leave it’s nice to see people care to have you back.”

A host of issues can arise upon return to the garrison environment.

Just hearing the Marines talk about it, they agreed the garrison feel was very different — saluting again, working regular hours, getting liberty time and not having to be look out for possible improvised explosive devices were just a few of the examples mentioned.

But there are more potential issues because these Marines have been in a combat mindset for almost a year.

They have been responsible for their gear at all times, something as simple as a roommate moving their shoes can cause an issue to surface, said Morales. It’s important for Marines returning from deployment to understand all the possible issues.

Because of the potential for dormant psychological issues to explode, transition and reintegration time is critical for these Marines.

“Everyone needs to be aware they’ve been in an isolated environment,” said Morales. “Just give them time.”

When one battle ends, it seems there’s always another battle waiting.



Marines of Marine Air Control Squadron 4 hump three miles before starting their Warrior’s Mess Night to strengthen ties and unwind at a warehouse north of Penny Lake here April 3. One of the debatable rumors on how Warrior’s Mess Night started in the Marine Corps is with Marines stationed in China during the Boxer Rebellion of 1900.

MACS-4, H&HS Marines join ranks of past warriors

PFC. CLAUDIO MARTINEZ
IWAKUNI APPROACH STAFF

The thunderous sounds of Marines laughing, clapping hands and cheerful fists pounding on tables rang off the walls of a warehouse here as Marines enjoyed an evening filled with food, drinks, frivolities and traditions.

It was an evening that imitated the gathering and celebrations held by warriors hundreds of years ago in history.

Marines of Marine Air Control Squadron 4 and Headquarters and Headquarters Squadron gathered at a Warrior’s Mess Night to strengthen ties and unwind at a warehouse by Penny Lake here April 3.

“It’s a time honored tradition that all Marines look forward to,” said Gunnery Sgt. Mark Rausch, a radar watch chief with MACS-4 detachment bravo. “This is a good way for all of us to come together and just mingle and enjoy having a good moral-building camaraderie event.”

MACS-4 Marines started the evening with a three-mile hump from the Airfield Operations building to a warehouse north of Penny Lake with their faces tactically painted, clad in desert cammies and load bearing vests with canteens.

Once the Marines arrived at their destination and the meal was ready to be served, Rausch who acted out the President of the hall for the night, yelled out the traditional words of “I proclaim this meal fit for human consumption.”

Once those words reached the



Marines enjoy a laugh together during Warrior’s Mess Night to strengthen ties and unwind at a warehouse north of Penny Lake here April 3. Marines tactically painted their faces and were clad in desert cammies and load bearing vests with canteens for the evening’s event.

Marines ears, they lined up with their plates in hand ready to serve themselves a feast made up of beef, mashed potatoes, corn, bread, cookies, soda and beer.

Continuing the traditions of Warrior’s Mess Night, without warning a Marine would stand at attention and yell out the phrase “Mr. Vice, I respectfully request permission to shed a tear for Lord Admiral Nelson,” to ask permission to use the restroom.

Marines would fill the hall with laughter and jeering as Marines requesting permission often stuttered and were ordered to sit down by a Marine all referred to as Mr. Vice, acting the part of Vice President of the hall.

Marines continued the night’s

said Rausch. “The number one tradition I think is the camaraderie.”

Marines in attendance would serve each other drinks and strengthen their comradeship through jokes and conversation as the night wore on.

“I love it,” said Cpl. Jason Green, an air traffic control specialist with MACS-4. “This is the best way of group camaraderie. You get everybody together and you get to share some other experiences that you might not be able to at the work place.”

The evening gave an opportunity for more experienced Marines to share another side of the Marine Corps never experienced by junior Marines.

“This is the first time I did a Warrior Night,” said Cpl. Amanda Austill an air traffic controller with Headquarters and Headquarters Squadron.

“It’s just fun to hang out with the people you work with and hear them come up with some stories.”

The evening was an echo of celebrations filled with traditions and laughter warriors have had all throughout history.

While some say the tradition of Warrior’s Night began with Marines in China during the Boxer Rebellion, a lot of people say it points back to times when warriors would get together and have one last meal before they went into battle, Rausch said.

Either way it is a tradition that all the members look forward to participating in, said Rausch. “Overall it’s to foster good unit moral and esprit de corps.”



LANCE CPL. DANIEL NEGRETE
A friendly deer walks along the sea shore at Miyajima Island during a Cultural Adaptation Program tour April 3. Miyajima is known for the deer that coexist with the local and tourist population on the island.



LANCE CPL. DANIEL NEGRETE
A centuries-old temple rises as an iconic landmark on Miyajima Island. The Cultural Adaptation Program here offers tours to a variety of local attractions. The next tour to Miyajima is scheduled for June 19.



PFC. MIRANDA BLACKBURN
A monkey hides behind some foliage at a high point on Miyajima Island. Monkeys can be spotted occasionally on the island as they tend to shy away from humans.



LANCE CPL. DANIEL NEGRETE

Miyajima Island has been renowned as a world cultural heritage site for its shrines, temples, unique culture and exquisite natural beauty. The island has hundreds of miles of trails for hiking and nature enthusiasts. The island is laden with waterfalls, lush forests, hidden shrines and view-points that make it a prime getaway for service members and residents here.



LANCE CPL. DANIEL NEGRETE

Cherry blossoms adorn the entrance to Miyajima Island during the spring. This entranceway leads to the temples, shrines and natural wonders that have earned the island recognition as a world cultural heritage site.

New arrivals and adventurous spirits can take advantage of free bus tours to local venues

LANCE CPL. DANIEL NEGRETE
IWAKUNI APPROACH STAFF

The Cultural Adaptation Program here offers guided bus tours to local attractions at minimal cost to participants the first and third Fridays of every month.

The tours are designed to familiarize new arrivals with the air station and other local venues, but are also open to those who are interested in traveling and exploring Japan.

“Although the tours are meant for new arrivals, they are also open to all Status of Forces Agreement personnel and their dependents age 5 and older,” said Hiroe Ruby, Information and Referral specialist. “Active duty service members can sign up for the Friday tours, regardless of how long they’ve served here, as long as they request permission through their immediate chain of command.”

Active duty service members will not be charged leave or

required to request special liberty to go on a tour.

However, they must go to the Information and Referral Relocation Office in Building 411 and receive an authorization form to give to their chain of command confirming their participation.

Up to 40 people can attend each tour on a by-reservation basis only.

The bus tour begins with a brief orientation of the station and different programs offered by Marine Corps Community Services.

The bus then proceeds to one of many destinations selected by the Cultural Adaptation Program.

The destinations include Miyajima Island, Hiroshima, Kintai Bridge, Aeon and Alpark malls and the Chicken Shack in Yanai.

“We recommend participants bring at least 5,000 Yen for their personal expenses on each tour,” said Taeko Yokoyama,

Youth Cultural Program event coordinator.

The bus ride is free for participants, but participants must pay for their own meals and other transportation, such as the ferry ride to Miyajima.

Dates are subject to change if the first or third Friday of each month falls on a U.S. or Japanese holiday.

In case of inclement weather, the tours will go to shopping malls in Hiroshima.

“It’s great that the base offers free tours like these,” said Pfc. Justin R. Codes, a new arrival here who participated in a recent tour to Miyajima. “Thanks to this program I was able to taste Japanese culture for the first time and explore a place I probably would have never known about.”

Questions about upcoming tours can be directed to the Information and Referral Relocation Office by calling 253-6161. All reservations must be made in person.



LANCE CPL. DANIEL NEGRETE

The main town on Miyajima Island offers plenty of culinary delights and local treats for visitors to feast on. Shown here are plain and mugwort rice cakes served grilled on a stick.

Scheduled Cultural Tours	
April 17	Kintai, downtown, You Me Town
May 8	Aeon (Diamond City) Mall
May 15	Chicken Shack, Yanai White Wall Street
June 5	Peace Park, Hiroshima Castle area
June 19	Miyajima Island
July 10	Peace Park, Hiroshima Castle area
July 17	Alpark Mall
Aug. 7	Miyajima Island
Aug. 21	Kintai, downtown, You Me Town
Sept. 4	Aeon (Diamond City) Mall
Sept. 18	Chicken Shack, Yanai White Wall Street
Questions about upcoming tours can be directed to the Information and Referral Relocation Office by calling 253-6161. All reservations must be made in person.	

CORPS NEWS

HIGHLIGHTING MARINES AND
SAILORS AROUND THE GLOBE

Corps' premiere air-controllers back with 11th MEU



SGT. SCOTT M. BISCUITI

FORT HUNTER LIGGETT, Calif. — Members of one of the 11th Marine Expeditionary Unit's fire control teams establish an observation post prior to calling in close-air support during a live-fire exercise March 29. The FCT from 1st Air Naval Gunfire Liaison Company set up its post by establishing communication with multiple entities, getting the direction and distance to targets at the range and verifying their own location. The training was part of the MEU's larger Marine air-ground task force exercise that concluded Thursday.

FORT HUNTER LIGGETT, Calif. — Capt. Robert Suarez establishes communication with range control at the Stony Valley range prior to calling in close-air support during a live-fire exercise March 29. Suarez is the officer in charge of the MEU's supporting-arms liaison team.



SGT. SCOTT M. BISCUITI

SGT. SCOTT M. BISCUITI,
11TH MARINE
EXPEDITIONARY UNIT

FORT HUNTER LIGGETT, Calif. — After years of estrangement from Marine expeditionary units, 1st Air Naval Gunfire Liaison Company personnel, or Anglico, the Corps' air controllers, are once again back with the 11th MEU to do what they do best — bring death from above.

Due to constant operations in both Iraq and Afghanistan, Anglico Marines and sailors have been engaged in coordinating close-air support and indirect fire there.

MEU leaders requested a detachment from 1st Anglico to deploy with them later this year. Subsequently, when the 11th MEU deploys later this year, it will be the first of the three West Coast MEUs in several years to take such a detachment, said Lt. Col. Robert C. Rice, 11th MEU operations officer.

As resident experts in all things that go boom, Anglico personnel are highly specialized at directing and controlling air support, not only from U.S. aircraft, but allied aircraft as well.

"Anglico is a phenomenal asset," said Maj. Brent Johnson, the MEU's air officer.

"They'll provide a greater capability. Operationally, we can provide better air support with Anglico personnel."

Over the past several years, Anglico units have been very air-centric; that is, their focus has

been on calling in aircraft instead of naval guns and artillery to destroy enemy targets.

Even though some systems are not widely used, Anglico personnel are proficient in all aspects of fire, including mortars, artillery and naval gunfire, said Capt. Robert Suarez, the officer in charge of the MEU's supporting-arms liaison team, or SALT.

Though small in number, the MEU's Anglico detachment has as much air controlling capability as an entire infantry battalion, said Suarez.

The MEU's Anglico complement consists of 18 members. Three officers serve as joint-terminal attack controllers, or JTACs, and are the only ones certified to authorize fire missions. Two fire control teams consisting of five Marines each set up observation posts and engage enemy targets. Overseeing the FCTs and operating as a fire support coordination center is the SALT.

Even though combat operations are Anglico's bread and butter, they bring greater capabilities to training as well.

"We provide the MEU commander with the capability to plug into any allied unit operating in theater," Suarez said. "But if we do bilateral training, we have the ability to liaison with them too."

With all the contingencies a MEU faces, having an Anglico detachment with a catchy motto means one thing: No matter where they go, "Lightning from the sky, thunder from the sea," is only a call away.

Adding fuel to the firepower: Yuma's VMA-214 trains for Afghanistan

LANCE CPL. GREGORY AALTO
MARINE CORPS AIR STATION YUMA

TWENTYNINE PALMS, Calif. — A Marine Harrier squadron based in Yuma, Ariz., trained for rapid ground refueling and rearming here March 23-27 in preparation for the unit's upcoming deployment to Afghanistan.

Marine Attack Squadron 214, slated to deploy in the coming weeks, sent 22 Marines to Twentynine Palms' Strategic Expeditionary Landing Field, which simulated conditions at a combat zone airfield.

Much like a NASCAR pit stop, the Marines swiftly taxied the jets and pumped hundreds of gallons of fuel and loaded various munitions to return the Harriers to the fight as fast as possible.

The training is a direct response to what the squadron

may be asked to do in Afghanistan, said Maj. Roger Hardy, VMA-214 executive officer.

The unit refueled using Marine Wing Support Squadron 374's pumps at the landing field as well as transferring it directly from one of Marine Aerial Refueler Transport Squadron 352's parked KC-130J aircraft. After gas tanks were topped, VMA-214 plane captains directed the Harriers to the ordnance loading area of the taxiway. Once there, ordnance Marines attached 500-pound bombs to the Harriers' wings and sent pilots back to the skies.

All went smoothly during the training with the exception of some equipment failure.

"The training went great for our first time. We got to work the minor kinks out. That's the reason we do this training," said Sgt. Maj. Derek Fry, VMA-214 sergeant major.



LANCE CPL. GREGORY AALTO

TWENTYNINE PALMS, Calif. — Marine Attack Squadron 214 ordnance technicians watch as their squadron's AV-8B Harriers take off from Strategic Expeditionary Landing Field March 25. Twenty-two Marines from VMA-214, based in Yuma, Ariz., participated in rapid ground refueling and rearming training for their upcoming deployment to Afghanistan.

COMMUNITY BRIEFS

Love Languages

The chapel is offering a class to adults to help couples learn each other's love language 8:30 a.m. – 3 p.m. April 18. The registration deadline is April 16. To register, call the chapel at 253-3371. Childcare is available and lunch will be provided.

Boosting Your Baby's Brain

Bring your 1- to 12-month-old baby to learn various brain-boosting activities through games, songs and more Monday and 10 – 11 a.m. April 20. For more information, contact the New Parent Support Program 253-6553.

Change in Aviation Medicine at BHC

Aviation Medicine and audiograms are no longer operating on a walk-in basis. Aviation Medicine physicals will be conducted in the mornings and audiograms will be conducted in the afternoons. For an appointment, contact the appointment desk at 253-3445.

Library Pajama Party

A night of stories, games and fun with cookies and milk for a bedtime snack is scheduled for 6 – 7 p.m. April 21. For more information, contact the Victim Advocacy Program at 253-4526.

Month of the Military Child: Play Mornings

An interactive play group for 0- to 5-year-old children is scheduled for 10 – 11:30 a.m. April 14, 21 and 28 in the community room of Building 656. Those participating should bring a copy of immunization records. All residents and personnel are encouraged to wear pink on these days. For more information, contact the New Parent Support Program at 253-6553.

Common Sense Parenting Information Table

Marine and Family Counseling Services staff will have informational handouts, books and videos available on display regarding parenting and child abuse prevention in the kiosk area of the Crossroads Mall 11 a.m. – 1 p.m. Tuesday. For more information, contact the Victim Advocacy Program 253-4526.

Baby and Me Coffee and Tea Fun Time

Learn about baby sign language, games, songs and other helpful topics with your baby while meeting other parents and your favorite breakfast beverage 10:30 – 11:30 a.m. April 16, 23, and 30. For more information, contact the New Parent Support Program at 253-6553.

Month of the Military Child Celebration

Marine Corps Community Services is scheduled to host a celebration in honor of the Month Military Child at the MAC Dome here 1 – 5 p.m. Saturday. For more information, call 253-5549.

Blue Ribbon Campaign

April is National Child Abuse Prevention Month. Blue ribbons will be passed out all month to wear in support. For more information, contact the Victim Advocacy Program at 253-4526.

"Pista Sa Nayon" Town Fiesta

The 14th Annual "Pista Sa Nayon" town fiesta is being held at the Club Iwakuni Ballroom at 5 p.m. May 30. Tickets are \$35 and include an international buffet menu. For more information, call 253-6084.

3rd Annual Station-wide Easter Egg Hunt

There will be an Easter egg hunt 11 a.m. – 1 p.m. Saturday beginning at the north side football field. Peter Cottontail and a balloon artist will be on hand. For more information, call 253-6454.

Budget for Baby Class

The Navy-Marine Corps Relief Society is holding a monthly Budget for Baby class in Building 1100, Room 148. To sign up or for more information call the NMCRS office at 253-5311.

Dating and Teen Relationships

The Youth and Teen Center's Smart Girls and Torch Club, Keystone members will receive Teen Dating Violence and Prevention Training 5:30 – 6:30 p.m. Monday. The focus of this program is to teach teenagers how to recognize the signs of an abusive relationship. For more information, contact the Victim Advocacy Program at 253-4526.

Money Management for Pre-Teens

An information course to teach money management techniques and dispel mistaken impressions about money for 10- to 12-year-old children is scheduled for 3:30 – 4:30 p.m. April 21. For more information, contact the Victim Advocacy Program at 253-4526.

Officers' Spouses Club Scholarship

Applications for the OSC scholarship are available to Matthew C. Perry High School seniors and dependent spouses through the School Guidance Office and the Education Center. Applications are due April 15. For more information, call 253-2581.

Child Abuse Recognition and Reporting Seminar

Learn symptoms and indicators of possible child abuse/neglect, appropriate reporting and community response noon – 1 p.m. Wednesday in Building 411 Room 217.

Continued ON PAGE 10

SAKURA THEATER

Friday, April 10, 2009

7 p.m. Friday the 13th (R)
Premier
10 p.m. Push (PG-13)
Premier

Saturday, April 11, 2009

1 p.m. The Pink Panther 2 (PG)
4 p.m. Confessions of a Shopaholic (PG)
Premier
7 p.m. Push (PG-13)
10 p.m. Friday the 13th (R)

Sunday, April 12, 2009

1 p.m. Confessions of a Shopaholic (PG)
4 p.m. Push (PG-13)
7 p.m. Friday the 13th (R)

Monday, April 13, 2009

7 p.m. Confessions of a Shopaholic (PG)

Tuesday, April 14, 2009

7 p.m. Inkheart (PG)
Last Showing

Wednesday, April 15, 2009

7 p.m. Underworld 3: Rise of the Lycans (R)
Last Showing

Thursday, April 16, 2009

7 p.m. Madea Goes to Jail (PG-13)

General Admission: Ages 12+ are \$2.50/ Ages 6-11 are \$1/ Children ages 5 and under admitted free. For more information, visit www.mccsiwakuni.com or call 253-5291.

253-5291

CLASSIFIEDS

Continued FROM PAGE 9

For more information, contact the Victim Advocacy Program at 253-4526.

Helping Families during Deployment
Sesame Street has created an educational program that will play through April on channel 18 to help military families with feelings, challenges and concerns experienced during various phases of deployment, pre-deployment and homecoming. For more information, contact the Victim Advocacy Program at 253-4526.

Japanese Language Classes
Yamaguchi International Exchange Association is sponsoring Japanese language courses for foreigners 7 – 9 p.m. Tuesdays beginning Tuesday until July 7 in the Iwakuni Civic Hall training room. There are 40 seats available. To take the class, sign up at the Public Affairs Office, Building 1, Room 216 or contact the Public Affairs Office at 253-5551 for more information. Classes range from beginner to advanced beginner level three, and the fee is 500 yen per term.

Mess Hall Menu

Monday
Cream of mushroom soup, Creole soup, sauerbraten, hot and spicy chicken, fried rice, cream of mushroom soup, oven glow potatoes, fried zucchini, calico corn, dinner rolls, double layer marble cake with butter cream frosting, blueberry crunch.
Specialty Bar: Pasta

Tuesday
Cream of potatoes soup, chicken noodle soup, southern fried chicken, bbq beef cube, steamed rice, buttered pasta, black eye peas, Creole squash, cornbread, chocolate chip cookies, spice cake with butter cream frosting, lemon meringue pie.
Specialty Bar: Taco

Wednesday
Cream of broccoli soup, vegetable soup, tempura fish, pepper steak, steamed rice, oven glow potatoes, glazed carrots, brown gravy, dinner rolls, club spinach, peanut butter cookies, double layer devil's food cake with butter cream frosting, cheese cake.
Specialty Bar: Barbeque

Thursday
Minestrone soup, cream of chicken soup, Creole macaroni, fried shrimp, fettuccini noodles, afredo sauce, grilled cheese sandwich, tempura vegetables, tempura vegetables, peas and carrots, dinner rolls, cocktail sauce, sugar cookies, strawberry shortcake, vanilla cream pie.
Specialty Bar: Deli sandwich

Friday
Clam chowder soup, minestrone soup, braised beef and noodles, braised beef and noodles, braised beef and noodles, baked fish, mashed potatoes, fried cabbage, mix vegetables, chicken gravy, dinner rolls, banana bread, shortbread cookies, Dutch apple pie.
Specialty Bar: Mongolian

4-Man Scramble Golf Tournament
The Fil-Am Iwakuni 4-Man scramble golf tournament will start at noon April 18. Free food and drinks along with trophies for 1st, 2nd and 3rd place. Proceeds from this event will be donated to a Children's Orphanage Charity in the Philippines and to a local Iwakuni orphanage. \$29 for non-members, \$19 for members. Green fee included. Open to all personnel. For more information, call 253-6084.

Girl Scouts Summer Camp 2009
The Girl Scouts Summer Camp 2009 is being held June 21–27 in Tama Hills, Japan. Deadline to sign up is May 15. Visit www.westpacificgirlscouts.com or call 098-970-2323 for more information.

1995 Mazda MPV
JCI good until Oct. 2010, 4-door green van. \$3000 with road tax paid or \$2500 without. For more information, call 090-8505-2818 (cell) or e-mail chris_leighann.junkins@yahoo.com.

1990 Skyline GTR
Grey GTR and several thousand dollars in aftermarket parts not installed. \$8,500 for everything, e-mail for a link to pictures. For more information, call 080-3474-8856 or e-mail potwic@gmail.com.

1991 Honda Legend
JCI good until March 2010, 3.2L V6, fast, automatic everything, six CD changer. \$2,000. For more information, call 253-2753.

1994 Nissan Skyline
Manual Transmission, mechanically sound, some cosmetic damage, but a nice car. CD player, cold A/C, new front tires, fast car. \$1200 OBO. 253-6199 (work) or 080-3506-4367 (cell).

1990 Mitsubishi Topo
JCI good until Aug. 2010, GPS in dash,

CD changer, AM/FM stereo, rear seats fold flat for cargo, 30-40 MPG, plenty of power for mountain driving. \$2,850, payments accepted, must be paid off by June 9. For more information, call 253-6439 (work) or 090-3905-9992.

1996 Toyota Hilux Surf
JCI good until April 2010, push-button 4WD, 3.4L gas engine, great heat and A/C, well maintained with oil changes every 5,000km or three months. Comes with roof rack, stereo, amplifier, subwoofer and more. Perfect for skiing, snowboarding and camping. Valued at \$7,000, asking \$4,800. For more information, call 253-3595 (work) or 080-3591-4508 (cell).

Miscellaneous

Items for Sale
Whirlpool washer and dryer - \$150
Pink Razor three-wheel scooter - \$15 OBO
For more information, call 080-3474-8856 (cell) or e-mail potwic@gmail.com.

Coffee Table
Distressed wrought iron base, glass top. Paid \$550, asking \$125 OBO. For more information, call 253-2866.

Yamaha Piano
Dark cherry color, sounds good, 58" long, 26" wide, 51" tall. \$900. Located less than four kilometers off base. A small truck can be driven up to the living room door to load the piano. For more information, call 080-3752-5440 (cell).

Bundled TV, VCR and DVD Player
19" Panasonic, TV, Sony DVD player and JVC S-VHS player remotes and cables included. For more information call 253-2753.

To submit an advertisement request, click the news link, then the classifieds link and then the request form link on the station Web site to open an advertisement request form. Submit the form via Web site, or send an e-mail to iwakuni.pao@usmc.mil. Alternatively, you can submit in person at the Public Affairs Office, Building One, Room 216.

- The deadline for submissions is Monday at 4:30 p.m.*
- The request is effective for one week. If you want to extend a previously submitted ad for an additional week, notify the Public Affairs Office at 253-5551.*



A Station Aircraft Rescue Firefighter works feverishly to save a mock victim during the mass casualty exercise here April 1. The mass casualty exercise was a test of emergency services aboard station in preparation for Friendship Day 2009.

IYAOYAS come out on top through teamwork, superior numbers



Marine All Weather Attack Squadron 224 players defend their side of the court as an IYAOYAS player aims to score a point during a game April 1 for the Spring Intramural Basketball season at the IronWorks Gym. The score during half time was 21-17 with the IYAOYAS in the lead.

Spring Intramural Basketball Standings as of April 2, 2009

Team	Games Played	Wins	Losses	Win %
Untouchables	5	5	0	100%
Head Hunters (H&HS)	5	4	1	80%
Hand Selected (H&HS)	4	3	1	75%
MALS-12 Da FAM	7	5	2	71%
VMFA-242 Bats	4	2	2	50%
Fil-Am	4	2	2	50%
IYAOYAS	4	2	2	50%
VMFA(AW)-225	2	1	1	50%
CLC-36 Dragons	5	1	4	20%
MAG-12 Sharp Shooters	7	1	6	14%
B - Tribe	4	0	4	0%
VMFA(AW)-224	2	0	2	0%
171 Destroyers	1	0	1	0%
Total Games Played	27			

PFC. CLAUDIO MARTINEZ
IWAKUNI APPROACH STAFF

IYAOYAS defeated Marine All Weather Attack Squadron 224 44-31 during the Spring Intramural Basketball Season at the IronWorks Gym here April 1. Using teamwork and superior numbers, IYAOYAS was able to take the lead over VMFA(AW)-224 early in the game.

"It was all teamwork, strategy and a little practice," said Keenan Roves, an IYAOYAS player. "Mostly it was teamwork and strategy."

IYAOYAS dominated the court passing the ball from player to player, flying past the VMFA(AW)-224 players.

Refusing to be conquered so early in the game, VMFA(AW)-224 did its best and was able to keep the score neck in neck with IYAOYAS for the first half of the game.

Despite VMFA(AW)-224's efforts to gain control of the ball, the IYAOYAS got the upper hand and were able to close out the first half with a score of 21-17.

"I can just say they out ran us," said Maxwell Blaetz a VMFA(AW)-224 player. "They beat us to the ball every time, but we put up a good fight."

After the first half of the game, the IYAOYAS came out strong, quickly taking a 10-point lead over VMFA(AW)-224.

Wanting to get out of the rut,

VMFA(AW)-224 scored a few times to come within five points of IYAOYAS only to be rejected and defeated in the end.

IYAOYAS won the game by using teamwork and its superior numbers.

IYAOYAS outnumbered VMFA(AW)-224 players by approximately 2-to-1.

For the number of players VMFA(AW)-224 had on its team, the team played pretty well, said Roves.

VMFA(AW)-224, coming out of a recent loss and having to overcome a team with greater numbers, was still able to play a good game.

"In the last game we got annihilated," said Blaetz. "Today we actually came out with our heads a little higher and we actually played a great game."

While both teams agreed it was a good game, both had skills they felt they could improve on.

For the next game, VMFA(AW)-224 needs more players and needs to work on slowing its tempo down to last longer, said Blaetz.

IYAOYAS needs to improve on moving the ball around the court by passing and cutting back on some of the fouls committed during the game, said Roves.

"Compared to the other games, this game was pretty decent," said Roves.

Season Schedule

Played at 6, 7 and 8 p.m. respectively

Monday, April 13
Bats vs. VMFA(AW)-224
Hand Selected vs. Destroyers
B - Tribe vs. Da FAM

Tuesday, April 28
B - Tribe vs. Dragons
Da FAM vs. VMFA(AW)-224
Fil-Am vs. Hand Selected

Tuesday, April 14
Head Hunters vs. IYAOYAS
VMFA(AW)-224 vs. Hand Selected
Untouchables vs. Destroyers

Wednesday, April 29
Bats vs. Destroyers
B - Tribe vs. Sharp Shooters
Untouchables vs. Dragons

Wednesday, April 15
Fil-Am vs. VMFA(AW)-225
Sharp Shooters vs. IYAOYAS
Dragons vs. Hand Selected

Monday, May 11
Dragons vs. Destroyers
VMFA(AW)-224 vs. VMFA(AW)-225
Untouchables vs. Hand Selected

Monday, April 20
B - Tribe vs. Bats
VMFA(AW)-225 vs. Destroyers
Fil-Am vs. IYAOYAS

Tuesday, May 12
B - Tribe vs. IYAOYAS
Head Hunters vs. Destroyers
Sharp Shooters vs. VMFA(AW)-224

Tuesday, April 21
Untouchables vs. VMFA(AW)-224
Sharp Shooters vs. Hand Selected
Head Hunters vs. VMFA(AW)-225

Wednesday, May 13
Fil-Am vs. VMFA(AW)-224
Bats vs. VMFA(AW)-225
Head Hunters vs. Da FAM

Wednesday, April 22
Da FAM vs. Destroyers
Fil-Am vs. Dragons
Bats vs. Hand Selected

Monday, May 18
Fil-Am vs. Destroyers
Bats vs. IYAOYAS
B - Tribe vs. VMFA(AW)-225

Monday, April 27
B - Tribe vs. VMFA(AW)-224
Head Hunters vs. Untouchables
IYAOYAS vs. VMFA(AW)-225

Tuesday, May 19
Untouchables vs. VMFA(AW)-225
Head Hunters vs. VMFA(AW)-224
IYAOYAS vs. Destroyers

Two forfeits will result in the team/unit being dropped from the season, The post-season playoff is scheduled to begin May 20 and will conclude around June 3.

2009 Far East JROTC competition

M.C. Perry takes top honors in annual JROTC competition

LANCE CPL. DANIEL NEGRETE
IWAKUNI APPROACH STAFF

Matthew C. Perry High School took top honors in this year's Far East Junior Reserve Officer Training Corps Competition, here March 30 through April 1.

A total of 12 schools from Army, Air Force, Navy and Marine Corps installations from across the Pacific region came to Iwakuni to participate in the three-day competition.

The competition challenged junior cadets in marksmanship, close order drill and physical training.

The junior cadets from M.C. Perry took the top spots in all three areas.

"Some schools are good only at drill, some are good only at shooting and others can only PT," said Duane Dougherty, a retired gunnery sergeant and M.C. Perry's head JROTC instructor. "M.C. Perry on the other hand, can do it all."

M.C. Perry JROTC cadets trained in drill, marksmanship and PT up to three hours a day both before and after school for the entire month preceding the competition.

They received gold medallions in all three event areas and swept away their competition.

"It was because of all the hours we spent preparing for this competition that we were able to do so well," said Justin R. Clement, M.C. Perry's JROTC unit commander. "M.C. Perry is not known for winning Far East competitions in basketball, baseball or any other sports. However, our JROTC program has brought pride to our school two years in a row."

The M.C. Perry JROTC cadets impressed several Marine judges by showing professionalism, physical fitness, leadership traits and proficiency in marksmanship and drill.

"As a former drill instructor, I see in these cadets future honor grads, guides and squad leaders," said Gunnery Sgt. John E. Ramos, a drill evaluator at the 2009 Far East JROTC competition. "I'm thoroughly impressed with their performance and feel as though they can take on a recruit any day."



LANCE CPL. DANIEL NEGRETE

Matthew C. Perry's Junior Reserve Officer Training Corps performs close order drill during the 2009 Far East JROTC Competition here March 31. M.C. Perry took top honors in this year's Far East JROTC competition, which was held March 30 - April 1.

Kubasaki High School, Okinawa, students in the Junior Reserve Officer Training Corps drill team practice on the lawn outside the American Forces Network building here March 30. A total of 12 schools from Army, Air Force, Navy and Marine Corps installations from across the Pacific region came to Iwakuni to participate in the 2009 Far East JROTC competition.



LANCE CPL. JOHN RAUFMANN