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# IWAKUNI APPROACH

Issue No. 26, Vol. 2 | Marine Corps Air Station Iwakuni, Japan

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## INDEPENDENCE DAY



SGT. JOSH COX

Independence Day fireworks illuminate the night sky above Marine Corps Air Station Iwakuni, July 4. Read more on Independence Day events and history on pages 6 and 7.

## Malaysia's Air Warrior concludes

CPL. JOSEPH MARIANELLI  
IWAKUNI APPROACH STAFF

**KUANTAN, Malaysia** — Exercise Air Warrior culminated with Marine All-Weather Fighter Attack Squadron 225 providing air-to-ground support for an amphibious assault followed immediately by an air-to-air four-versus-four here July 1.

Although the official ceremony closing the exercise was July 2, the final event was an all-out simulated beach assault bringing all the elements of Exercise Cooperation Afloat Readiness and Training together in a small-scale instantiation of a Marine Air Ground Task Force.

"We had components of the Navy working with the Malaysian Navy, with the amphibious assault and then we integrated with the air component," said Lt. Col. Douglas W. Pasnik, VMFA(AW)-225 commanding officer. "It really shows the power of the MAGTF."

Air Warrior provided the VMFA(AW)-225 pilots an opportunity to put their training to the test against the Mikoyan MiG-29s of the Malaysians.

"The biggest challenge is a lot of our aircrew have combat experience," said Pasnik. "They've been to Iraq; they have a lot of flying hours. Air Warrior gave us an opportunity to fight a fourth generation potential adversary."

For a number of the younger pilots, on both sides, this was their first opportunity to get practical experience against the real equipment of a potential adversary.

"An F/A-18 pilot simulating a MiG-29 is still going to fly like an F/A-18 pilot," said 1st Lt. Steve Bradford, a VMFA(AW)-225 pilot.

"The Malaysians have some young pilots as well, so it was a great learning opportunity for them," said Pasnik.


Even though the training here provided more experience for the pilots, the Marines supporting their efforts from the ground were able to get their hands dirtier than usual.

"From a maintainer's standpoint, our job never changes no matter where we are," said Cpl. Jimmy Rapaglia, a VMFA(AW)-225 aviation life support systems specialist. "When they actually train, they break (F/A-18s) more often."

As with anything, everyone working

SEE **WARRIOR** ON PAGE 3





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*The Iwakuni Approach welcomes Letter to the Editor submissions. Letters must include a full name and unit, if applicable. Anonymous letters and comments will not be published. Letters are the opinion of the writer only. Submissions may be edited for clarity and space. Letters can be dropped off at the Public Affairs Office or sent via e-mail to iwakuni.pao@usmc.mil. Please submit all content at least two weeks in advance of projected publication date for review.*

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# CHAPLAIN’S CORNER

## ‘Calling for Air Support’

LT. ROBERT E. MILLS  
STATION CHAPLAIN

A few months ago, I wrote an article called, “Driving through the Kill Zone.” That article talked about depression and some of the best techniques to deal with it. You may remember that depression can be like an enemy, just waiting to ambush us when we least expect it. The article talked about convoy training and how we are trained to react when we are ambushed by insurgents. There are several steps, but the two most basic steps are: Drive through the kill zone, and call for air support.

The article also talked about some ways to ‘drive through the kill zone’ of depression. It mentioned eating more healthy foods, getting good exercise, getting outside in the sunshine and staying away from stimulants and depressants. These are some basic ways to deal with depression — to keep ourselves moving, physically, mentally, and emotionally.

Today, I want to talk about calling for air support. When you feel depressed, the thing you want to do is to just be left alone.

Unfortunately, that can also be very dangerous, especially if your depression is severe and you are

feeling suicidal. It is at that critical time when it is most important to call for air support. What I mean by calling for air support is finding someone to help you. That person could be a friend, a mental health professional, a Marine Corps Community Services counselor, or a chaplain. We are all here to help you when you are feeling depressed. The important thing to understand is that you have to let someone know that you are in trouble.

You need to reach out and let someone help you with the issues that you are facing. When a convoy is ambushed, you can bet that the radios get busy very quickly getting the word out that something bad is happening and getting help on the way right away. When you are ambushed by depression, you need to do the same thing. Let someone know!

With the very high rate of suicide in the military right now, we need to keep a very careful eye on each other too. When you see the Marine next to you having a hard time with life, call for air supports now. When the sailor whom you work with is struggling, find somebody to help. When your family member or a civilian worker is suffering with something, reach out and get them the support they need.

There are professionals on this base who are trained to help, and they can!

Depression is a serious problem. When you are dealing with it, drive through the kill zone and call for air support. We will be there to give you the support you need.

7. Keep a close watch on your air supply during each dive. This is especially true for a "new" diver until a history of consumption is determined.

8. Schedule your deepest dive first. Every dive increases the amount of nitrogen in your body's tissue. Allow time for your body to outgas nitrogen from your system to prevent decompression sickness.

9. Know the depth of the water where you are diving. Frequently sport divers do not pay close attention to the maximum depths attained.

10. Depending on a number of variables (cold, stress, fatigue, etc) nitrogen under pressure can have a narcotic effect on the body at depths at or in excess of 100 feet salt water. If you or a dive partner displays behaviors similar to that of an intoxicated person, you should return to a shallow depth. When your mental alertness is restored, abort the dive.

11. Make dives on a no-decompression schedule. Plan each dive, maximum depth and time limits prior to the dive. Stick to your dive plan. Come up slowly to reduce the chances of experiencing decompression sickness/illness upon ascent.

12. Gain specific information about local diving areas. Profit from the experience of others.

13. Study weather reports and long-range forecasts to determine if conditions are acceptable for diving. If caught in a rip current, relax and ride along with it until it diminishes enough to swim clear. If sea-state conditions cause you to hesitate before entering the water, that is your "internal" sig-

# Air Warrior culminates with air-to-air battle

WARRIOR FROM PAGE 1

together and doing their part helped to make this year’s Air Warrior a success.

“Everyone that’s doing their thing is important to the mission,” said Pasnik.

Even the support of the Malaysians cannot be dismissed.

“(The Malaysians) are fabulous people,” said Pasnik. “We couldn’t have asked for a better host.”

“They were very flexible with training hours,” he added.

Overall the exercise was a great success and beneficial for all involved.

“We should come here more often,” said Pasnik. “It was a great opportunity.

Exercise Air Warrior is a multi-lateral exercise demonstrating joint and multinational capabilities and improving interoperability between the United States and Malaysia.



Cpl. Danny Moore Jr., a safety equipment mechanic with Marine All-Weather Fighter Attack Squadron 224, adjusts safety equipment on a F/A-18 aircraft here July 1. VMFA(AW)-224 recently returned from a deployment in support of Exercise Northern Edge aboard Eielson Air Force Base, Alaska.

# Making a declaration

LANCE CPL. CHRIS KUTLESA  
IWAKUNI APPROACH STAFF

To be frank, when I realized the 96 was approaching I didn’t give two thoughts to the idea of Independence Day, nor did I take into account what the whole thing meant. But now that the holiday has come and gone, I’m left wondering ‘what the heck did all that mean,’ specifically for myself.

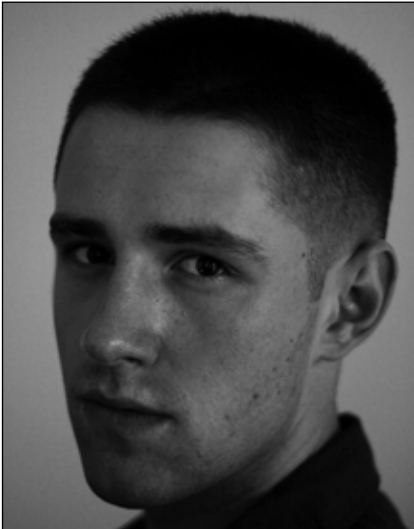
The fireworks, barbeque and pool parties always seem to overshadow what I am supposed to be celebrating. When talking about Independence Day on a station full of service members, I don’t think anyone would question our patriotism.

Most of us joined the service for one reason or another because we have some sort of love for our country. All of us on this station have and are making some sort of a sacrifice for our country. I wonder if our sacrifices change our views of Independence Day.

Simply put, Independence Day is the celebration of our country’s birth and in turn, our freedom. The holiday is unique, as it prompts us to evaluate what our freedom means.

For myself, freedom has taken many definitions over the years. As a youngster my idea of freedom was directly connected to the amount of grape soda and dunk-a-roos I could consume before getting yelled at.

As teenager, freedom was that thing I felt I had to obtain through rebellion, minimum curfews and



LANCE CPL. CHRIS KUTLESA

bubble I had been living in. Outside my home I began witnessing a whole new level of poverty that I had never experienced before.

Coming from Los Angeles I had seen poverty before, my parents

# “I wanted to do something important and I wanted to be involved in the way the world was turning.”

Lance Cpl. Chris Kutlesa

little excited since I hadn’t been anywhere on that side of the globe. I settled in quite comfortably. My room was amazing, I had a maid, room service and the food wasn’t that shabby either. For a couple weeks I rarely wandered far from my quarters, but when I finally did I quickly realized the

small shacks a dirt pathways.

These people seemed stagnant like they knew they weren’t going anywhere, as if they had been placed in a caste system and they knew there was no point in trying.

I began to truly understand freedom from their lack of it. Before, freedom was all about me, but at that moment I began to see how important it was to be shared. With an uprising movement playing out in my head my goals began swiftly changing.

All the things I held so dear to my heart — money and power, seemed so cold and worthless at that very moment. I evaluated myself and I was disgusted, but not in despair. I knew I could make a change, but I also knew it would have to be quick and dramatic.

I wanted to do something important and I wanted to be involved in the way the world was turning. My peers argued politics in a classroom but I wanted to get my hands dirty.

What better way to get dirty than to join the Marine Corps?

It might have been a rash decision, but in my head it all made sense and still does to this day.

Whether fighting in combat or pushing papers, I am apart of an organization that shares and protects freedom.

For me, freedom went from something I thought was free and giving, to something that should be cherished and fought for. All phony cliches aside, we are all apart of something very real. We have sacrificed so many of our own freedoms so that other can enjoy.

I think we can all agree no matter what you define as freedom, it is worth sharing.

Independence Day is over, but our mission of freedom continues.



# New York: Marine, service members become citizens alongside Statue of Liberty

SGT. RANDALL A. CLINTON  
NEW YORK CITY  
PUBLIC AFFAIRS

**NEW YORK CITY** — On America’s birthday, seven service members took the Oath of Citizenship under the shadow of the Statue of Liberty, Liberty Island, N.Y., July 4th.

A Maine, sailor and five soldiers stood on stage and pledged their allegiance to the United States of America, a country they had sworn to defend years earlier.

Sgt. Nilton Arrubla Torres, 1st Marine Corps Recruiting District, administrative clerk, the lone Marine of the group to become citizens, had put off the overwhelming amount of citizenship paperwork for the better part of his six years as a Marine.

“I wanted to vote, so I thought I should become a citizen,” he explained. “I’m fighting for this country so I might as well do it,” Arrubla Torres explained before the ceremony.

“I would start to do it but then I would see all the paperwork, the forms, and I would think... not right now.”

As a Marine, his citizenship paperwork would be expedited no matter the occasion, a nod to his chosen profession, but being selected for the 4th of July ceremony streamlined the process even more.

“I put the papers in about a month and a half ago, and it usually takes about six months. But because of this special event, here I am,” said Arrubla Torres. “This is the place where most people, when they were coming to the United States a long time ago, it’s the first thing they were seeing and here I am.”

Hours after their naturalization ceremony, Secretary of the Interior Ken Salazar, Sen. Bob Menendez, Congressmen Anthony Weiner, representing Brooklyn, N.Y., and Gregory Meeks, representing Jamaica, N.Y., New York Gov. David Patterson, New Jersey Gov. Jon Corzine, Sen., New York City Mayor Michael Bloomberg, famed documentarian Ken Burns and other dignitaries cut the red tape at the base of the Statue of Liberty, officially opening the

crown to visitors for the first time since the terrorist attacks of 9/11.

Before the ribbon cutting ceremony Burns remarked that this event would stand as a symbol. “to those who perpetrated those acts and those who aimed to limit our freedoms. Once again we will have a chance to get inside her head.”

With the musical accompaniment of the Albany Ga., Marine Corps Band, Burns closed the ceremony and announced that this ceremony represents a milestone in American history.

“Now as we gather here on this 232nd Independence Day, we celebrate a new day for the Statue of Liberty and a new era for America.”

Earlier that day, the seven service member received a special tour of the Statue including the crown, a sneak peak at an American liberty soon to be restored. Arrubla Torres emigrated from Medellin, Colombia in 1998 and works near New York City had never visited the statue. Climbing the tight spiral of more than 200 stairs to reach the crown helped correct a myth he was told when he first arrived in the country.

“I was told there was a restaurant at the crown, but then on July 4th I found out there was space for no more than ten people. Going up the stairs is the best part because every so often you would think you were already at the top just to find out you had to keep pushing more,” he said.

While the opening of the crown drew crowds and put the event on a national stage, each politician joined in a chorus of support for the new citizens.

“Ceremonies like this can’t help but strike you on so many levels,” said Jane Holl Lute, Homeland Security Deputy Secretary and a retired Army major.

“For me personally because my grandparents came here as immigrants, as a soldier I’m so very proud of what these young men have done today and what they represent in service to their country before their country ever had to ask. It’s extremely moving.”



**NEW YORK CITY** — The Albany Marine Corps Band plays during the reopening ceremony for the Statue of Liberty crown and a naturalization ceremony for seven service members, July 4. The top of the statue had been closed since the terrorist attacks of 9/11. The band plays for more than 250,000 people each year while touring the country.



**Sgt. Nilton Arrubla Torres, 1st Marine Corps Recruiting District administrative clerk, views the Statue of Liberty crown July 4. Arrubla Torres was one of seven service members to take the Oath of Citizenship on Liberty Island before the crown reopened to the public.**

# Bringing life to Iwakuni



**Back (from left to right): Master Sgt. Christopher Wikel, his wife Nansie and son Zachary. Front (from left to right) Riley and Matty Wikel. The Wikels (pictured above) have gone through extensive fertility treatment to add to their family of five. Eight weeks after the implantation from Dr. Atsushi Tanaka at St. Mother’s Hospital, the Wikels discovered they were pregnant with twins.**

## Building a family by seeking fertility treatment

PFC. MIRANDA BLACKBURN  
IWAKUNI APPROACH STAFF

For many couples, having children may come easy or even as a surprise. But in some cases, some people end up trying to have children for years with no success.

Being adopted as a child, watching foster children filter in and out of my home, and watching my sister struggle with fertility drugs and artificial insemination has given me first-hand insight on the frustrations of building a family.

Being in the military and overseas might make one feel out of luck when it comes to infertility issues, but that is certainly not the case.

Living in Japan can actually make fertility treatment a little easier and a lot less expensive.

Master Sgt. Christopher Wikel, the chief investigator for the criminal investigation department here, and his wife, Nansie Wikel, are one of many military couples from Iwakuni who have gone to St. Mother’s Hospital in Fukuoka, one of the premier fertility clinics in Asia,

for the their fertility needs.

The Wikels visited the hospital’s Web site after two years of struggling with the adoption process.

“We wanted a 3-5 year old,” said Nansie. “We had an approved home study and all of our recommendations were done, but there were too many transition problems.”

“We spent so much money, and we just couldn’t accomplish it,” said Wikel.

After a year’s worth of discussion, the Wikels settled on the decision to seek fertility treatment and try to have another child of their own.

After visiting the St. Mother’s Web site, the Wikels scheduled a consultation with the hospital director, Dr. Atsushi Tanaka.

“Dr. Tanaka is a very knowledgeable man,” said Wikel.

With a Master’s Degree in obstetrics and gynecology and a doctorate in reproductive technology, Tanaka has become proficient in the most current implantation techniques, advanced ultrasound techniques and holistic medical treatments. Tanaka also speaks fluent

Japanese and English, and has performed numerous procedures for personnel aboard the station.

After visiting with Tanaka, the Wikels decided on going through with the surgery and treatment.

“It was so easy,” said Nansie.

After medications and procedures, Nansie had two eggs implanted and for eight weeks thought that only one had made it.

During their eighth ultrasound, the Wikels discovered they were pregnant with twins.

“I was shocked,” said Nansie. “The whole time we thought there was only one.”

Nansie reminds other couples to take into account that the only expenses covered by TRICARE are the medications and ultrasounds, but overall, the expenses are about half as much as they would be in the United States.

“I hope more people take advantage of this opportunity now that they know the options are out there,” said Wikel.

“If you have questions, it’s worth going out there to talk to Dr. Tanaka,” Nansie said.

St. Mother’s offers many

FIRSTVISIT EXPENSES	
Counseling...	5,740 yen
2nd examination...	1,310 yen
Semen analysis...	840 yen
Ultrasound examination...	5,250 yen
Hystrosal-pingography...	5550 yen
Blood group test...	580 yen
Blood analysis (Hepatitis, HIV, HTLV-D)...	221,000 yen



# SERVICE MEMBERS CELEBRATE INDEPENDENCE



Firework Facts: The value of fireworks imported from China in 2007, representing the bulk of all U.S. fireworks imported (\$217 million). U.S. exports of fireworks, by comparison, came to just \$14.9 million in 2007, with Japan purchasing more than any other country (3.8 million). Source: Foreign Trade Statistics

SGT. JOSH COX

Independence Day fireworks illuminate the night sky above Marine Corps Air Station Iwakuni, July 4. Congress officially recognized Independence Day as a federal holiday June 28, 1870. Source: The Library of Congress

MR. BARACK OBAMA  
PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

Hello and Happy Fourth of July, everybody. This weekend is a time to get together with family and friends, kick back, and enjoy a little time off. And I hope that's exactly what all of you do. But I also want to take a moment today to reflect on what I believe is the meaning of this distinctly American holiday.

Today, we are called to remember not only the day our country was born – we are also called to remember the indomitable spirit of the first American citizens who made that day possible.

We are called to remember how unlikely it was that our American experiment would succeed at all: that a small band of patriots would declare independence from a powerful empire; and that they would form, in the new world, what the old world had never known – a government of, by, and for the people.

That unyielding spirit is what defines us as Americans. It is what led generations of pioneers to blaze a westward trail.

It is what led my grandparents' generation to persevere in the face of a Depression and triumph in the face of tyranny. It is what led generations of American workers to build an industrial economy unrivalled around the world. It is what has always led us, as a people, not to wilt or cower at a difficult moment, but to face down any trial and rise to any challenge, understanding that each of us has a hand in writing America's destiny.

That is the spirit we are called to show once more. We are facing an array of challenges on a scale unseen in our time. We are waging two wars. We are battling a deep recession. And our economy – and our nation itself – are endangered by festering problems we have kicked down the road for far too long: spiraling health care costs; inadequate schools; and a dependence on foreign oil.

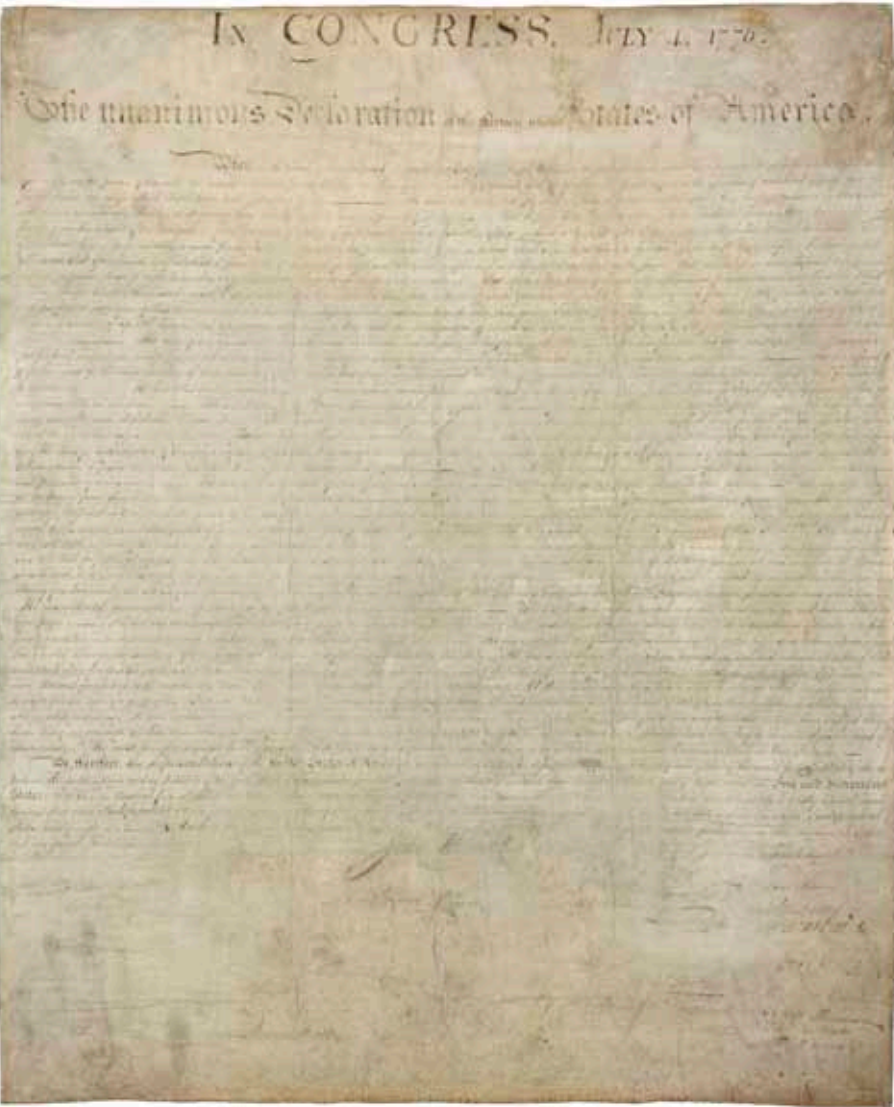
Meeting these extraordinary challenges will require an extraordinary effort on the part of every American. And that is an effort we cannot defer any longer.

Now is the time to lay a new foundation for growth and prosperity. Now is the time to revamp our education system, demand more from teachers,

(Right) The original Declaration of Independence now exhibited in the Rotunda for the Charters of Freedom in Washington D.C. is faded from inadequate 19th century preservation methods. An accurate transcription of the Declaration of Independence can be found on Archives.gov.

**“We hold these truths to be self-evident, that all men are created equal, that they are endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable Rights, that among these are Life, Liberty and the pursuit of Happiness ...”**

*Declaration of Independence*



parents, and students alike, and build schools that prepare every child in America to outcompete any worker in the world.

Now is the time to reform an unsustainable health care system that is imposing crushing costs on families, businesses, large and small, and state and federal budgets. We need to protect what works, fix what's broken, and bring down costs for all Americans. No more talk. No more delay. Health care reform must happen this year.

And now is the time to meet our energy challenge – one of the greatest challenges we have ever confronted as a people or as a planet. For the sake of our economy and our children, we must build on the historic bill passed by the House of Representatives, and make clean energy the profitable kind of energy so that we can end our dependence on foreign oil and reclaim America's future.

These are some of the challenges that our generation has been called to meet. And yet, there are those who would have us try what has already failed: who would defend the status quo. They argue that our health care system is fine the way it is and that a clean energy economy can wait. They say we are trying to do too much,



PFC. MIRANDA BLACKBURN

Raven Palmer poses with her bowling pin after winning a free game for bowling a strike during the first anniversary celebration of the Strike Zone's opening here July 4. The Strike Zone offered a variety of bowling games along with tons of great deals, raffled off hourly prizes, and made sure everyone's first game of bowling was free.

that we are moving too quickly, and that we all ought to just take a deep breath and scale back our goals. These naysayers have short memories. They forget that we, as a people, did not get here by standing pat in a time of change. We did not get here by doing what was easy. That is not how a cluster

of 13 colonies became the United States of America. We are not a people who fear the future. We are a people who make it. And on this July 4th, we need to summon that spirit once more. We need to summon the same spirit that inhabited Independence Hall two hundred and thirty-three years

ago today. That is how this generation of Americans will make its mark on history. That is how we will make the most of this extraordinary moment. And that is how we will write the next chapter in the great American story. Thank you, and Happy Fourth of July.

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Timeline Information  
The Charters of Freedom Archives  
<http://www.archives.gov>

Presidential Address  
<http://www.whitehouse.gov>

## DECLARATION TIMELINE

1716

The American colonists were loyal British subjects who celebrated the coronation of their new King, George III.

1774

The sole governing authority presiding over the tumultuous events of the American Revolution between 1774 and 1789 was a body known as Congress.

JUNE 1776

In June, 1776, as Thomas Jefferson composed a draft of the Declaration of Independence from a second floor parlor of a bricklayer's house in Philadelphia, the largest invasion force in British military history was headed for New York Harbor.



On July 4, 1776, Congress completed its editing of the document that reduced the text to 25 percent and formally adopted the Declaration.

JULY 1776

On July 19, Congress ordered that a formal copy of the Declaration be prepared for members to sign.



AUGUST 1776

On Aug. 2, the final parchment – the one presently displayed in the nearby case – was presented to Congress and the signing began.



CORPS NEWS

HIGHLIGHTING MARINES AND SAILORS AROUND THE GLOBE

# Operation Khanjar spears ahead



Marines from 1st Battalion, 5th Marine Regiment, Regimental Combat Team 3, Marine Expeditionary Brigade-Afghanistan, prepare to board a UH-60L Black Hawk helicopter here July 2 during the launching of Operation Khanjar. Marines and Afghan soldiers and police launched a major operation in central Helmand Province as forces from MEB-Afghanistan and Afghan National Security Forces moved into towns and villages along the Helmand River valley in an effort to secure the local population from the threat of Taliban and other insurgent intimidation and violence.

STAFF SGT. JUAN VARA

## Marines, sailors launch largest Marine-led offensive since Vietnam

PUBLIC AFFAIRS OFFICE  
2ND MARINE  
EXPEDITIONARY BRIGADE

**CAMP LEATHERNECK, Helmand Province, Islamic Republic of Afghanistan** — U.S. Marines and Afghan soldiers and police launched a major operation in central Helmand Province July 2 as forces from Marine Expeditionary Brigade-Afghanistan (Task Force Leatherneck) and Afghan national security forces moved into towns and villages along the Helmand River valley in an effort to secure the local population from the threat of Taliban and other insurgent intimidation and violence.

Nearly 4,000 Marines and sailors from Regimental Combat Team 3, Combat Logistics Regiment 2 and the MEB-Afghanistan Command Element constitute the bulk of the U.S. forces conducting Operation Khanjar (Strike of the Sword),

along with approximately 650 Afghan National Army and Afghan National Police forces. Marine Aircraft Group 40 and Task Force

bat the ongoing insurgency, including Operation Panchai Palang (Panther Claw) initiated last week by Task Force Helmand, the

forward in peace.”

MEB-Afghanistan is a subordinate unit of NATO’s International Security Assistance Force.

The combined U.S. and Afghan mission is to provide security for population centers along the Helmand River valley and connect local citizens with their legitimate government while establishing stable and secure conditions for national elections scheduled for August as well as enhanced security for the future.

“What makes Operation Khanjar different from those that have occurred before is the massive size of the force introduced, the speed at which it will insert, and the fact that where we go we will stay, and where we stay, we will hold — build and work toward transition of all security responsibilities to Afghan forces,” said Brig. Gen. Larry Nicholson, commanding general of MEB-Afghanistan.

**“Where we go we will stay, and where we stay, we will hold — build and work toward transition of all security responsibilities to Afghan forces.”**

Brig. Gen. Larry Nicholson

Pegasus, the Combat Aviation Brigade of the U.S. Army’s 82nd Airborne Division, provided assault support and other aviation support for the mission.

Similar operations in Helmand and Kandahar provinces have been underway as part of a concerted effort by the International Security Assistance Force to com-

## COMMUNITY BRIEFS

**SOFA Testing Center**  
The SOFA Driving License Testing Center has moved from the LRC in Bldg. 360 to the LRC in Bldg. 497.

**UMUC Academic Advisor Visit**  
An Academic advisor will be available Aug 10, 11, and 12. Appointments must be made in advance by contacting the Iwakuni UMUC Office. Each appointment will be 30 minutes in duration, in a private classroom, one-on-one with an academic advisor. To make an appointment, please call the UMUC office at 253-3392.

**IronWorks Co-op Program**  
There are now openings with the Ironworks Co-op Program. This program is open to parents with children 5 and under. We

meet 9:15 – 11:15 a.m. every Mon., Wed., Fri. For more information, call 253-2836 or e-mail heather\_long@yahoo.com.

**The Biggest Saver Coupon Contest**  
The Personal Financial Management Office is conducting a contest for all authorized patrons of the MCAS Iwakuni commissary May 1 – July 31. The person who saves the most money in coupons during the three-month contest will win an hour long massage. Take your receipts to the Personal Financial Management Office in Building 411, Room 201. Once a month, a coupon class will be conducted in Building 411, Room 217, to assist patrons with finding the right coupons and discussing savings options. For more

information, call 253-6250.

**MAG-12 Fraud, Waste and Abuse Information**  
The new Fraud, Waste, and Abuse officer for all MAG-12 units is Capt. Augusto D. Ramirez. Please report any instances of FWA to the MAG-12 FWA hotline number, 253-6123. For immediate action, call 090-6861-7127 at any time.

**New Taijutsu Group**  
A new taijutsu group is in the works here in Iwakuni, any Takamatsuden is ok. This will not be an official dojo, simply a place to learn, share and maintain proficiency. Those interested and for further information, e-mail iwakuni.taijutsu@gmail.com.

**Japanese American Society Survival Japanese Class**  
This class begins July 9, noon to 1 p.m., at the Japanese American Society Office (Bldg. 261) and continues every Thursday in July. Learn the basics of Japanese, getting around off base, greetings and basic interactions. Class size is limited. Registration deadline is July 1. For more information contact the JAS at 253-4744.

**Coupon Distribution Program**  
The Coupon Distribution Program is available for all here courtesy of Marine and Family Services. Coupons are donated by various donors and are good until six months past the expiration date. Stop by Building 411 and pick up free coupons, look for the baskets marked “Free Coupons”. For more information, please contact MFS at

253-6161.

**Academic Advisor Visit**  
Academic advisors wukill be visiting the station August 10, 11, and 12. Appointments must be made in advance by contacting the Iwakuni UMUC Office. Each appointment will be 30 minutes in duration, in a private classroom, “one-on-one” with an academic advisor. To make an appointment please call the UMUC office at 253-3392.

**Summer Reading Program**  
Open to children ages 5 to 12. The library is scheduled to host a variety of art and craft projects every Tuesday at 10 a.m. to encourage children to be more creative with their minds. The Tuesday programs will include guest speakers and books on art, poetry, theater and dancing. Children interested in participating can sign up from now until July 28.

*To submit an advertisement request, follow the classified link on the station Web site and click on the advertisement request form link. Submit the form via the Web site, or send the e-mail to iwakuni.pao@usmc.mil. Alternatively, you can submit in person at the Public Affairs Office, Building 1, Room 216.*



**"Eat your 80s"** - A live 1-hour radio show that features the best of 80's music. Noon to 1 p.m. Tuesdays and Thursdays, except holidays, on Power 1575.

## SAKURA THEATER

**Friday, July 10, 2009**  
7 p.m. Ice Age: Dawn of the Dinosaurs (PG)  
*Premier*  
10 p.m. Public Enemy (R)  
*Premier*

**Saturday, July 11, 2009**  
1 p.m. Battle for Terra (PG)  
4 p.m. Ice Age: Dawn of the Dinosaurs (PG)  
7 p.m. The Taking of Pelham 1 2 3 (R)  
10 p.m. Transformers: Revenge of the Fallen (PG-13)

**Sunday, July 12, 2009**  
1 p.m. Ice Age: Dawn of the Dinosaurs (PG)

**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](http://www.mccsiwakuni.com) or call 253-5291.**

4 p.m. Dance Flick (PG-13)  
7 p.m. Transformers: Revenge of the Fallen (PG-13)  
10 p.m. Transformers: Revenge of the Fallen

**Monday, July 13, 2009**  
7 p.m. Public Enemy (R)

**Tuesday, July 14, 2009**  
7 p.m. Crank: High Voltage (R)

**Wednesday, July 15, 2009**  
7 p.m. Ghost of Girlfriends Past (PG-13)

**Thursday, July 16, 2009**  
7 p.m. The Proposal (PG-13)



# CLASSIFIEDS

## Automobiles

**1995 Honda Saber**  
114,000 km, reioan:ie 4 door car, A/C and heat work great, automatic transmission, CD player. JCI good until Spetember 2010. Asking \$950 OBO. For more information call 253-2600 (home) or 080-3059-0370 (cell).

**1994 Rover Mini Cooper**  
Runs great. Recent tune up. 81K km, Auto-matic, CD player, Air Conditioning. JCI due Nov 2009. \$2,500 OBO For more info call: 253-2600 or 080-3059-0370 (cell).

## Mess Hall Lunch Menu

**Monday**  
Manhattan clam chowder, chicken and rice soup, Swedish meat balls, roast turkey, buttered noodles, mashed potatoes, Louisiana style smothered squash, green beans and corn, chicken gravy, dinner rolls, macaroni salad, German style tomato salad, standard salad bar, coconut raisin cookies, double layer almond cake, chocolate cream pie

**Tuesday**  
Beef noodle soup, chicken and mushroom soup, jaeger schnitzel, grilled pork chops/sautteed peppers, mashed potatoes, rice pilaf, asparagus, scalloped cream cron, tomato gravy, brown gravy, dinner rolls, three bean salad, cucumber and onion salad, standard salad bar, butterscotch brownies, apple pie, spice cake, buttercream frosting

**Wednesday**  
Tomato noodle soup, chicken and mushroom soup, veal parmesan, spaghetti with meat sauce, pizza, mashed potatoes, club spinach, mixed vegetables, brown gravy, garlic bread, spring salad, deviled potato salad, standard salad bar, peanut butter cookies, sweet potato pie, whipped topping, coconut cake

**Thursday**  
Minestrone soup, cream of broccoli soup, ginger pot roast, Creole shrimp, steamed rice, oven glo potatoes, broccoli parmesan, peas and carrots, cheese biscuits, brown gravy, potato salad, spinach salad, standard salad bar, double layer devils's food cake, coconut pecan frosting, pumpkin pie, whipped topping, oatmeal raisin cookie

**Friday**  
Beef barley soup, Spanish soup, rock cornish hen with syrup glaze, chilli con carne, crilled cheese, steamed rice, mashed potatoes, neets with orange and lemon sauce, green bean combo, chicken gravy, dinner rolls, mixed fruit, Italian style pasta salad, standard salad bar, tunovers, bread pudding, crisp toffee bars, chocolate pudding

**1999 Mazda Demio**  
JCI good until May 2011. Seats 5. CD player. Asking \$2,000 OBO. For more information call 253-2849.

**1998 Toyota Noah**  
JCI good until September 2009. Seats 8. In good condition. Just replace battery and tires. Asking \$900 OBO. For more informa-tion call 09073770847.

**1996 Mitsubishi Delica Van**  
73,000 km, 4X4, black and gray, great condi-tion, good tires. JCI good until January 2010. Asking \$3,500. For more information cal 080-3319-5656.

**1996 Mitsubishi Van**  
Air conditioner and heater work great. New tires. JCI good until April 2011. Asking \$3,400 OBO. For more information please call 253-2873.

**1993 Toyota Celsior**  
JCI good until 2010, 4 door sedan, power stearing, seats, locks and windows, leather

interior, new battery, new belts, 6 disc changer, runs great. Asking \$3,300. For more information please call 08037247310.

## Jobs

**Now Hiring**  
Protestant Pianist  
Protestant Organist  
Christian Non-denominational Music Direc-tor  
Protestant Director of Religious Education  
Catholic Director of Religious Education  
Catholic Organist  
Catholic Choir Director  
For more information please call the Logisti-cal Contract office at 253-4233

**NMCRS Job Opportunities**  
Be that friendly person to who lets Marines and sailors know they have come to the right place when its hard to ask for help. To apply as a Client Services Assistant for the Navy-Marine Corps Relief Society, call 253-5311.

## Miscellaneous

**Items for Sale**  
Coffee table and end table. In good condi-tion, has a few scratches on the legs. Asking \$25.00 For more information, please call 253-2567.



LANCE CPL. CLAUDIO MARTINEZ  
Ikue Funakoshi, a local artist, shows examples of her sketches to a mother and daughter to inspire designs for a collage during a weekly meeting of the 2009 summer reading program hosted at the station library here June 30. Funakoshi was invited to the library as one of the guest speakers to present her art and ideas to the participating children of the program. The library has scheduled a variety of art and craft projects with guest speakers every Tuesday at 10 a.m. open to all participants of the summer reading program. Musician, artists and actors have been slated to present their skills to the children to encourage them to be more creative. The program is scheduled to run until July 28 at the station library.  
\*Correction: In the July 3 edition of the Iwakuni Approach, Belinda Pugh was identified as the supervisory technician at the station library. Pugh is actually the supervisory librarian at the station library here.

## GOOD SAMARITAN/NEIGHBOR PROGRAM

From May 1 – August 31, 2009,  
submit names of anyone ages 10-17, who have been good samaritans or good neighbors to PMO in order to place them in the running for the Summer 2009 Good Samaritan/Neighbor Program award.  
The nominee must be someone who reported, prevented or stopped an unsafe or criminal act. The program is strictly anonymous. This is your chance to encourage our children to be good citizens.  
Let's award our youth for doing their part to improve our community!

Call the PMO Crime Prevention Section at 253-5105 for more information.  
Submit all nominations to the Crime Prevention Section during normal working hours.  
After normal working hours, submit nominations to the PMO Desk Sergeant, building 608.

# Golfing



LANCE CPL. SALVADOR MORENO  
A golfer follows through with a drive on the Torii Pines Golf Course during the Summer Solstice Golf Tournament here June 20. The Torii Pines Golf Course here offers patrons many opportunities to experience the classic game in an inexpensive and professional setting.

## Relax at Torii Pines Golf Course

Sgt. Josh Cox  
IWAKUNI APPROACH STAFF

Expensive golf club memberships, green fees and golfing equipment may have deterred many novice and avid golfers who would otherwise play the sport this summer.

But for Marine Corps Air Station Iwakuni personnel and their guests, the sport is certainly affordable and within reach.

The Torii Pines Golf Course here offers patrons many opportunities to experience the classic game in an inexpensive, family-friendly and professional setting. "It's easily accessible for families," said Paul Hahn, Golf Course Manager and Professional Golf Association golfer.

A complete 18-hole course, driving range and practice putting green area greet golfers 7 years old and up.

A friendly staff in the course's Pro Shop can answer questions or assist in the golf course services available. The Pro Shop also features professional equipment and repair services.

"We try to service the good player as well as the beginning player," Hahn said.

Professional instruction is available for novice golfers, or those aiming to enhance existing golfing skills. The personal, one-on-one instruction, which averages \$30 per hour, is a great way to break into the sport.

Personal instruction for novice golfers typically takes place on the driving range, which opens at 6:30 p.m. nightly for patrons. Hahn said professional golf

instruction elsewhere could easily cost twice as much.

Golf tournaments for all skill levels and ages take place throughout the year.

In fact, Torii Pines will host a Marine Corps Community Services Blind 9 Holes tournament July 18. Golfers will play all 18 holes, but only 9 holes will be scored.

Tournament officials will determine exactly which holes will be ran for score across the board.

How much does it cost to play?

\$89. That's how much it costs Status of Forces Agreement personnel to snag a 10-play card. That's easily a summer's worth of green fees — paid. But, be prepared to rent a pull cart (\$3) or golf cart (\$12) to carry clubs or people each full round.

No clubs? No worries. The Torii Pines Golf Course stocks clubs for rent from \$6.

Not satisfied with your old personal putter or wood?

Torii Pines has it covered. The Pro Shop carries Nike and Ping clubs, among others. The Golf Course will host a Nike Demo with the latest clubs from Tiger Woods July 23.

Rainy season is in effect, and when the course is forced to close, the driving range opens for those willing to tough out the weather under the covered tees. The practice cages, putting green and bunker are free of charge to use, no membership required. For more information about golf, or to register to play on the course, call 253-3402.

"It's a wonderful sport because it's a lifetime sport," Hahn added.

## TORII PINES GOLF COURSE AMENITIES

- 18 HOLES
- Driving Range
- Pro Shop
- Practice Putting Green
- Hitting cages
- Practice Bunker
- Professional instruction
- Frequent Tournaments
- Gear Demos
- Rental Clubs, Carts
- Youth and Junior Programs
- Event Packages
- Open seven days per week
- Affordable Green Fees



LANCE CPL. SALVADOR MORENO  
An official scores the Summer Solstice Golf Tournament held here June 20. Golf tournaments for all skill levels and ages take place throughout the year.



# USO COMEDY TOUR

SATURDAY, JULY 25

SHOW STARTS @ 9 P.M.

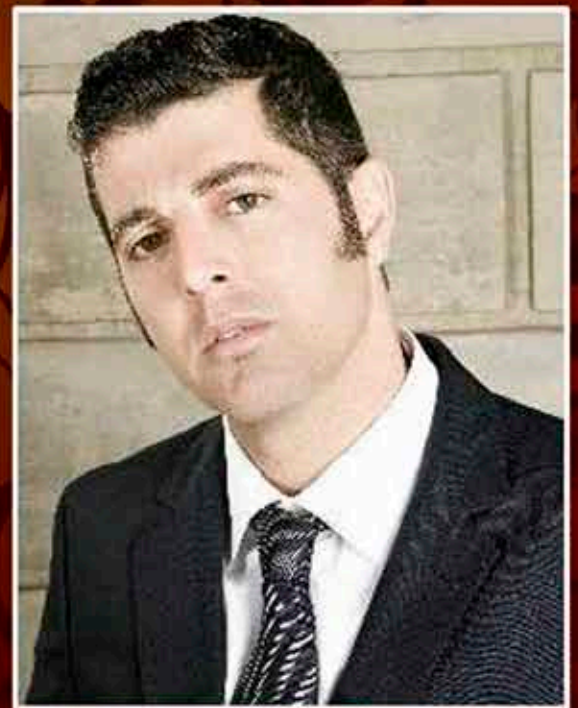
AT THE CLUB IWAKUNI BALLROOM



Steve  
Byrne



Sebastian  
Maniscalco



Sam  
Tripoli

# FREE!



ADULT CONTENT & ADULTS ONLY



253-3727 or visit [www.mccsiwakuni.com](http://www.mccsiwakuni.com)

