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Burnin' up

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Stretching ONE!

Residents stretch, flex for Yoga Day | P. 11

IWAKUNI APPROACH

Issue No. 3 Vol. 4 | Marine Corps Air Station Iwakuni, Japan



LANCE CPL. JENNIFER PIRANTE

HICKAM AIR FORCE BASE, Hawaii – Marine helicopter mechanics with Marine Heavy Helicopter Squadron 363 inspect CH-53D Sea Stallion components here Jan. 12 as the squadron gears up for Lava Viper 2011. Lava Viper is a pre-Afghanistan deployment exercise implemented to establish unit cohesion and squadron readiness in a forward deployed environment.

Lucky Red Lions lift for Lava Viper 2011

LANCE CPL. JENNIFER PIRANTE
IWAKUNI APPROACH STAFF

HICKAM AIR FORCE BASE, Hawaii — Fifteen Marines with Marine All-Weather Fighter Attack Squadron 533 and Marine Aircraft Group 12 landed here Jan. 8 as an advance party to support and

prepare for exercise Lava Viper 2011.

Lava Viper is an exercise implemented to establish unit cohesion and squadron readiness in a forward deployed environment.

The mission of Lava Viper 2011 is to provide assault support aviation services to 1st

Battalion, 3rd Marines while simultaneously enhancing and sustaining MAG-24's combat readiness and warfighting capabilities.

VMFA(AW)-533 is slated to provide close-air support as

SEE **MECHANICS** ON PAGE 3

Stateside-like cable services, high speed Internet to the rescue

LANCE CPL. MIRANDA BLACKBURN
IWAKUNI APPROACH STAFF

Digital Cable Television and high-speed internet provided by Americable are scheduled to be available on base in June.

"In February or March of last year, a need was identified to bring cable television services to Marine Corps Air Station Iwakuni," said Alex Adame, the contract administrator. "This contract brings stateside-like television cable services to the base, as well as high speed Internet."

Different options and pricing packages will be available for customers to choose from.

The free military tier includes the American Forces Network channels, Commander's Channel, weather channel and local Japanese channels and will stay available for those who do not want to purchase from Americable.

The Digital Basic television plan provides station residents with 49 digital video channels for \$52.95 a month, while the Expanded Digital plan provides 84 digital video channels for \$73.95 a month. Both plans also include 40 digital music channels.

Other premium channels and pay-per-view can be purchased.

"It's pricey for a reason," said James Smith, the Americable regional manager for Japan. "We're bringing 55 channels of video from the U.S. over here. The circuits to get that video here are not great, so

SEE **CABLE** ON PAGE 3

Service members get schooled on Hazardous Waste Management Plan

LANCE CPL. MIRANDA BLACKBURN
IWAKUNI APPROACH STAFF

Station Environmental conducted an annual initial hazardous waste handlers class here Jan. 13-14 for service members who handle or come in contact with hazardous waste and hazardous minimization on a regular basis.

The class covered Marine Corps Air Station Iwakuni Order 5090.8, the Hazardous Waste and Non-regulated Waste Management Plan.

"There is a rule that we have to provide this training for the safety of employees who use hazardous materials or have it stored in their work places," said Chris Yoneda, station

SEE **ENVIRONMENTAL** ON PAGE 3



Blocks of crushed, recycled aluminum cans sit at the recycling center during an initial hazardous waste handlers class here Jan. 13-14. The class covered Marine Corps Air Station Iwakuni Order 5090.8, the Hazardous Waste and Non-regulated Waste Management Plan.

LANCE CPL. MIRANDA BLACKBURN

CHAPLAIN'S CORNER

'A True Friend Indeed'

LT. ANTHONY BAKER
MWSS-171 CHAPLAIN

It has been many years since my friend sat in the holding cell, awaiting his judgment and sentence. It is a cold and lifeless place, no windows or lights to speak of.

In fact, when the cell was still active back in the day, there were no stairs at all. A prisoner had to be lowered inside through a small hole, which if you looked into you wouldn't be able to see anything at all, just blackness.

I imagine that when my friend was slowly lowered into that hole bit by bit, he felt as if the darkness was swallowing him up, never to be seen or heard of again, much like an unfortunate animal caught in the clutches of a boa constrictor slowly realizing its fate, bit by bit.

As he sat in the darkness, I am sure that hints of his captors' plan trickled down to him through the

tiny hole as they talked of what they were going to do the next day. Maybe they shouted at him through the opening at different times throughout the night, their insults echoing off the chamber walls, ensuring that he would get no rest in the darkness. There is no telling what evil spirits accompanied him in the darkness, sent there to discourage. There is no telling what thoughts from within that were tempting him to go do something that was not in his nature to do.

It was just a matter of time before his captors came for him. As they called for him, they would have been surprised at how little resistance he gave them. Not as if there were no fight or no spirit left in him, there was plenty of resolve and determination left in him. In place of fear was a calmness and peace in him that surpassed their understanding. They forcefully escorted him away. His judgment, sentencing,

torture and execution would take place later that day.

I visited that jail cell most recently. It is bleak, it is lonely, it is an abyss. Thinking about that dark gloomy chamber, I come to the sobering realization that I should have been in there and not my friend. That is so often how justice works, right? The wrong people get punished for crimes they didn't commit. Such was the case here.

So I live for him now. Why? Not because my friend was so young when he died but because I love him for doing what he did for me. And what he did for you. Sacrifice so great changes the way you see the world and how you live life. Love so great changes the hearts of men.

My friend would say this on his last night, "Greater love has no man than this: to lay down his life for his friends." And he did. What a friend we have indeed.



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ENVIRONMENTAL FROM PAGE 1

safety director.

The training went over every aspect of hazardous minimization, proper usage and storage of hazardous materials and waste, proper reporting procedures, and cleanup procedures.

"This training is necessary so we know that each section is proficient in performing proper procedures while staying safe," said Chuck Hill, an environmental protection specialist with Station Environmental and instructor for the class.

On the second day of the class, the students were taken on a field trip around the air station to view hazardous minimization sites, hazardous-water-accumulated areas, above-ground storage tanks, oil water separators, recycling areas and contractor sites.

The class also focused on how to keep the air station environmentally clean.

It's important to remind people they are part of the solution, said Melanie Bengston, environmental director here.

"The environmental job that

we're doing here is all in support of the mission," she said. "Whatever we do is to keep us operating so we have areas to train and safe places to live."

At the end of the class, the students were evaluated on their knowledge of the course materials.

"I feel that I am completely prepared to head back to work with the knowledge I've gained from this training and make sure that procedures are followed properly and thoroughly," said Lance Cpl. Kelly Marable, a Marine Wing Support Squadron

171 bulk fuels specialist.

A refresher course for the initial hazardous waste handlers class will be held today. A more advanced, two-week Hazardous Waste Operations and Emergency Response class will be held in March.

To sign up for further environmental training, contact Station Environmental at 253-4854.

Other important phone numbers are the hazardous minimization center at 253-3706, the hazardous waste center at 253-3634, and Station Safety at 253-6381.

Cable TV, high speed Internet available soon

CABLE FROM PAGE 1

we do have higher rates than what you have in the states. Our company strives very hard to keep the prices as low as possible."

News and sports channels will continue to air live, but all other channels will be reprogrammed to air at stateside-like times.

"So a movie that aired at 8 o'clock Sunday night in the states would air at 8 o'clock Monday night here," said Smith. "The key reason for doing this is to keep prime time programming in a prime time."

Parental controls are available and passwords can be set for certain channels, programs, and even for certain times of the day.

Americable has four types of set top boxes available for monthly lease: E940 Digital Only with a \$115 deposit and monthly fee of \$3; 1850 Digital and Analog with a \$160 deposit and monthly fee of \$4.25; 4250 Digital (High Definition capable) with a \$240 deposit and monthly fee of \$6.50; and 8300 Digital with Digital Video Recorder with a \$435 deposit and monthly fee of \$12.50.

For those who live in the barracks, only one box can be purchased per room. There is no limit to the amount of boxes purchased for other households.

Americable also offers three high-speed Internet packages.

Chief Warrant Officer 3 Roger A. Escobar, the station telephone officer, said the high-speed Internet offered will be substantially faster than the Internet offered by the station telephone office and is comparable to stateside Internet.

All packages include five e-mail addresses; 500MB of personal webpage hosting; virus and spam e-mail filtering; cable modem with Ethernet cable and a one-time \$50 registration fee.

The high-speed Internet packages offered include three Mbps for \$41.95 per month, 10 Mbps for \$64.95 per month or 15 Mbps for \$79.95.

Customers will also receive a 15 percent discount on Internet services when packaged with either the Digital Basic or Expanded Digital plans.

If any services are disconnected due to non-payment, all services will be disconnected until payment is received.

In order to reconnect services, the past due balance must be paid in addition to a reconnect fee and the next month's payment, depending on when services are reconnected.

For additional information on the services to be offered, visit www.americablejapan.com.



HICKAM AIR FORCE BASE, Hawaii — A Marine Heavy Helicopter Squadron 363 CH-53D Sea Stallion files in support of Lava Viper 2011 here Jan 12. The CH-35D Sea Stallion is a heavy-lift transport helicopter used for assault support operations.

VMFA(AW)-533 provides CAS

MECHANICS FROM PAGE 1

well as support Marine Air-Ground Task Forces during the exercise.

According to Capt. Kyle Haire, weapons systems training officer with VMFA(AW)-533, there were a lot of moving parts involved in the preparation and planning of the exercise.

Prior to the exercise, the main objective was to establish effective communication and workspace, and make sure equipment was available to accomplish the mission.

"It requires a lot of coordination," said Haire. "We're getting ready to provide close air support to help (1st Battalion, 3rd Marines) facilitate their training and work directly with the Marines."

The Marines continued to employ operational risk management and applied oversight to ensure the effectiveness of the exercise before things get rolling.

Gunnery Sgt. James Walker, ordnance staff noncommissioned officer-in-charge with VMFA(AW)-533, said one of the most important elements of preparing for an exercise is establishing rules and procedures.

"As (advanced echelon), my role is to coordinate with our Air Force counterparts supporting us from Hickam and also our Marine counterparts supporting us from (Kaneohe Bay)," he said. "The first thing we do is establish rules and procedures

for those guys in regards to things we can and cannot do out here."

Once the advanced party coordinated workspace, storage availability and communication between Kaneohe Bay and Hickam Air Force Base, it was time to stage gear.

"We can't do our job without the gear we need," said Walker. "It's good to know that stuff was already here before the aircraft and personnel got here. Once we get ready to kick off operations and start rolling, everything should already be set up and in place."

According to Sgt. Kyle Schneider, ground support equipment with VMFA(AW)-533, it is vital to the mission that the unit is supported by the gear supplied.

Prior to the mission, Marines with VMFA(AW)-533 are tasked to make sure all the gear is where it needs to be.

The hardest part about coordinating gear is transporting it to the desired location, said Schneider.

"If we don't have the gear, the jets don't fly," he added. "We have to make it happen and find gear to make it work because if something ever goes down on the jets, they need gear to operate."

Once the VMFA(AW)-533 Hornets land in Hickam for exercise Lava Viper, the work will be non-stop, but with all elements properly in place, operations are expected to run smoothly.



Interested in becoming a DJ?

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



LANCE CPL. MARCEL BROWN

KADENA AIR BASE OKINAWA, Japan — Capt. Dave Leppelmeier, Marine All-Weather Fighter Attack Squadron 225 pilot, prepares to take control of an F/A-18 Hornet during a hot pit, hot seat changeover here Dec. 22. During hot pit, hot seat training, aircraft remain running while power line technicians refuel the aircraft and new aircrew takes charge of the aircraft.

VMFA(AW)-225 is thrown in hot seat during Okinawa unit level training

LANCE CPL. MARCEL BROWN
IWAKUNI APPROACH STAFF

KADENA AIR BASE OKINAWA, Japan — Marine All-Weather Fighter Attack Squadron 225 power line technicians conducted “hot pit, hot seat” training here Dec. 22.

“In between flights, you have to do entirely new inspections, so the purpose of the hot pit, hot seat is so the aircrew can switch out without ever shutting down the aircraft,” said Sgt. Anthony Jefferis, VMFA(AW)-225 power line day crew noncommissioned officer-in-charge.

Not only are the engines hot while pilots switch out, the F/A-18 Hornets land and are refueled while running. “It’s a dangerous situation; you have fuel going into an airplane with basically a fire behind it,” said Staff Sgt. Jay C. Barnard, power line division chief.

The purpose of conducting hot pit, hot seat training is to refuel, inspect, replace pilots and get the aircraft back in the sky as quickly as possible. “Normally the aircraft would have to land and do a turn-around inspection, which takes a half an hour. Ordnance has to safe it, which takes 10 to 15 minutes. Then the aircrew would have to walk to the aircraft and do a pre-flight inspection, which takes another 15 to 20 minutes,” Jefferis said.

This hour-long evolution is cut nearly in half during a speedy hot pit, hot seat changeover.

“We stage Marines out by the hot fueling pits waiting for the aircraft to come in,” said Jefferis. “They taxi them in, park them, hook up the fuel receptacle, refuel them, disconnect and get out of there.”

After the aircraft is refueled, power line technicians conduct a quick but attentive top-to-bottom aircraft inspection before new aircrew take charge.

“When the old aircrew gets out, they have a brief 30-second discussion about whether there’s anything to look for in the aircraft,” said Jefferis. A power line technician, designated as the wingman, goes through a functions check with the pilots before giving them the “OK” for takeoff.

“Our guys are put into a position of leadership to coordinate that movement,” said Barnard. “It’s good experience for them to coordinate all these moving parts.”

Hot pit, hot seat changeover situations can be useful during combat engagements when aircraft need to be quickly turned for reengagement.

“That’s the big picture; these Marines getting out there and doing their job to get these aircrew where they need to be when they need to be there,” said Barnard. “There’s always a sense of urgency when we do everything.”

After the hot pit, hot seat changeover is completed, power line technicians conduct all routine inspections before new pilots take charge of the aircraft.



LANCE CPL. MARCEL BROWN

KADENA AIR BASE OKINAWA, Japan — Marine All-Weather Fighter Attack Squadron 225 pilots prepare to switch aircrew during a hot pit, hot seat changeover here Dec. 22. Power line technicians perform a top-to-bottom inspection of aircraft while pilots switch out.



LANCE CPL. KENNETH K. TROTTER JR.

Petty Officer 2nd Class Tiffany A. Declue (left), an emergency vehicle operator, and Petty Officer 1st Class Katie A. Zirkle (center), an emergency medical technician, check on a pilot as part of the Night Mishap exercise Jan. 12. The exercise simulated the aftermath of an aircraft crash. Along with base emergency medical services, Marines of the Provost Marshal’s Office were also on hand to assist with the exercise.

Night exercise tests station’s response time to crisis

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

Personnel of Marine All-Weather Fighter Attack Squadron 242, Aircraft Rescue and Firefighting, and the Robert M. Casey Medical and Dental Clinic took part in exercise Night Mishap here Jan. 12.

The exercise revolved around the scenario of an aircraft landing on another aircraft on the flight line.

“The purpose of the exercise was to assess our readiness and be able to determine and identify shortfalls in our pre-mishap planning and procedures,” said Capt. Andrew J. Kurtz, VMFA(AW)-242 ground safety officer.

The reason for the exercise was to test the various members’ response time in the event of a mishap. The mishap involved two aircraft, one having just landed on the flight line, and the other on approach.

The scenario unfolded with the air traffic control tower clearing the aircraft in the air to land believing the aircraft that had recently touched down was off the flight line. What followed was the airborne aircraft landing on the ground aircraft. The elements of an injured pilot and explosion were also part of the exercise.

The explosion was simulated by the ARFF team using a large amount of fuel. Within seconds, members were battling the towering inferno. Marines worked to contain the blaze by battling it with water hoses on foot and

who has participated in a simulated fire once before from the perch of a fire truck.

Corpsmen from the BHC and Marines from the Provost Marshal’s Office were at the crash site within minutes of the dispatch call. As the fire subsided, the victim was secured for transport by the medical response team and PMO. The response team took their time to make sure the victim was properly secured before departing.

“We treated it just like any other emergency call,” said Petty Officer 2nd Class Tiffany A. Declue, a BHC emergency vehicle operator.

Several involved in the exercise had been exposed to a similar scenario.

“I enjoyed it. It gave a better idea of what could happen,” said Petty Officer 1st Class Katie A. Zirkle, an emergency medical technician.

The exercise was kept secret to add the surprise element to the exercise to not only test the teams’ response time but to also show how rapidly events can unfold in a real situation.

“Through this exercise everyone will understand how quickly the chain of events happen,” said Kurtz. “Without actually going through the exercise, it’s hard to see how all those pieces need to be played together and actually work.”

The exercise tempo was fast paced and smooth.



LANCE CPL. KENNETH K. TROTTER JR.

Aircraft Rescue firefighters work quickly to subdue a controlled blaze that was part of the Night Mishap exercise Jan. 12. The blaze towered over the Marines as they sprayed at the fire’s base to control it. This was the first exercise of its kind at the base.

others atop fire trucks. Battling the fire up close was a unique experience, said Pfc. Jacob Cave, a turret man with the ARFF team.

“It offers a different perspective,” said Cave,

“I have a Dream”: Day of remembrance for fallen civil rights leader

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

Jan. 17th is Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.'s birthday. It is a day that has been set aside by our country in recognition of a man's heroic, iconic and nonviolent stance against the racial, social and economic injustices during the Civil Rights Movement. It is the only holiday that celebrates a private citizen.

And in commemoration of that holiday a tribute for King was held here at the Marine Memorial Chapel Jan 14. King's name has become synonymous with nonviolence. A shining example of what patience, love and brotherhood can accomplish when tested in the fires of bigotry and ignorance.

King spoke eloquently of a time in America's history when "...one day this nation will rise up and live out the true meaning of its creed: 'We hold these truths to be self-evident, that all men are created equal.'" Beautiful words, but what does this mean for the Marine Corps? What does it mean for the current generation of Marines? For America?

Just as sure as the seasons change, so do the demographics of a nation. The nation, as King knew it, was a powder keg at the time of his "I Have a Dream" speech. Violence toward minorities was blatant. Those who fought for civil liberties were subjected to some of the vilest cruelties man could place on another man: the snapping, salivating jaws of the police dog ordered to attack his master's brother; marchers knocked down by water so powerful it cut through flesh down to their bones. Racial turmoil and angst were at an all time high.

"The times have changed in comparison to those days," said Sgt. Maj. Gerard J. Calvin, Headquarters and Headquarters Squadron sergeant major. "Obvious and blatant racism is no longer visible as it was back then."

Just as it was back then, the Marine Corps was there. Initially, the Corps was reluctant to allow members of color within their ranks until former President Harry Truman made it mandatory that the military be desegregated.

The first African Americans to join the Corps were not trained at Parris Island, a place renowned today for making Marines. Instead, nearly 20 years prior to King's untimely death, African American Marines received their initial training at Camp Montford Point, N.C. Recruits endured prejudices even after the presidential order. The railroad tracks separated the recruits from the neighboring town of Jacksonville, lending weight to the proverbial phrase "wrong side of the tracks." Recruits were cautioned not to enter the racially charged town for fear of the recruits' safety. Neither were recruits allowed to enter Camp Lejeune without a white officer. But the Corps has made great strides since the inception of the first African American Marines.

As the fight for social and racial equality have grown in the years, it could be said that maybe King's message has been lost on today's youth.

"Times have changed," said Calvin. "Progression is being made. It's not been completely lost. It's not as strongly emphasized based on the progression that's being made."

Retired Sergeant Major Alford L. McMichael became the 14th Sergeant Major of the Marine Corps and the first African American appointed to that position in July 1999. Since that time, two more men of color have held that position.

Over the years, the Corps has opened its doors to Marines of every race, gender and creed. Tested in the fires of boot camp, Marines are trained not to see color. The old saying "brothers-in-arms" is

drilled into a recruit's impressionable, young mind. A Marine's skin color is irrelevant in the midst of combat.

The Marine Corps is often called a family, and family is always important when change happens. A military family is unique. Constant moving and the arduous task of raising children coupled with the more difficult task of balancing these responsibilities while a Marine is deployed will test any family. Through these tests, families are exposed to something King hoped would one day be commonplace.

"Both of my children were born in my time in the Marine Corps," said Calvin. "They have been accustomed to a diverse environment. Since my daughters were born, we have lived in integrated neighborhoods, various different cultures, overseas. The diversity was different from when I was brought up."

Prior to joining the Corps, he grew up in a predominantly black neighborhood.

The Corps has helped bridge the gap of racial tension and brotherhood into its newest generation of Marines and also the nation. The need for the Corps to be an expeditionary force in readiness has required that many of our service members be exposed to different cultures and races. An example can be found in the Vietnam War. An entire generation of Marines was exposed to a culture most would not have experienced had they not served.

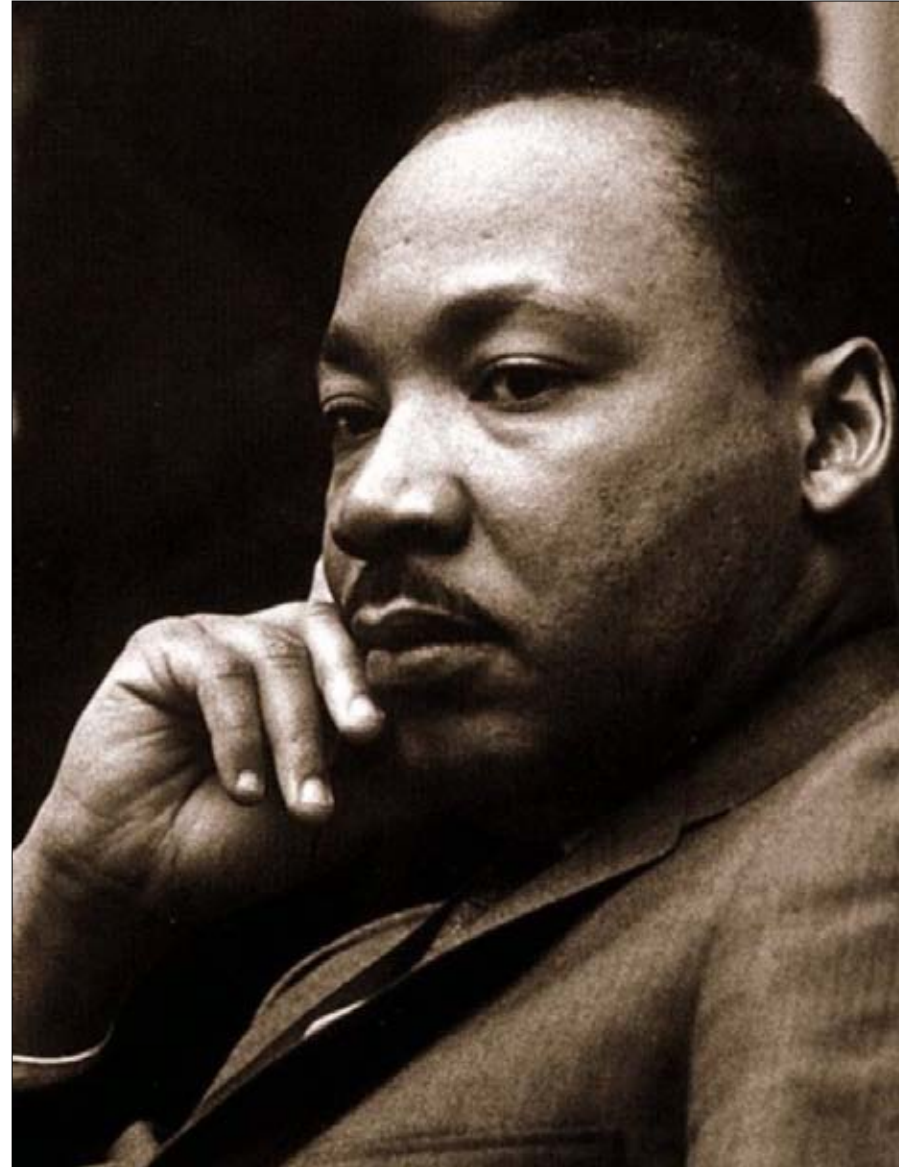
How has King's message affected those who were not born when his message was first spoken? And is the message still pertinent?

"I'm appreciative of the fact that we're recognizing a man who changed a lot of lives and tried to end racism," said Sgt. Matthew Palermo, a Marine Corps Community Services Marine. King's message of brotherhood has not fallen on deaf ears, especially within the Corps.

"It doesn't matter what color you are, creed, gender or sex," said Palermo. "We're all Marines. We're expected to perform at a certain level."

That, at the end of the day, is what King's message really emphasized. Not merely colorblindness, but stripping away all limitations that we place on someone. When the hand of brotherhood and friendship is extended, it can change lives.

Lance Cpl. Caden Lister, a Headquarters and Headquarters Squadron radio technician, said he believes King's message truly did bring us together as a nation. Besides the obvious effects



STOCK PHOTO

Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. sits in solemn silence as he prepares to meet with former President Lyndon B. Johnson. King was not only an outspoken proponent of civil rights for those in the states, but for those worldwide. As the Vietnam War went from a war of months to years, King became an outspoken critic of the war and policies associated with it.

of desegregation, it changed the next generation's overall mindset on how people are seen.

But there are those who do not wish to see Dr. King's message of universal equality realized, enemies within and outside of our borders. For some it is born out of a deep-seated hatred that is rooted in a self-supposed, ancient superiority. Others merely acquire a monetary gain from the awfulness of discrimination. But for others, it is born from plain ignorance.

"No matter how good things get, there will always be ignorance," said Palermo. "I think what we are doing already is as effective as it can be. We have equal opportunity representatives for every command. If you think you're being treated unfairly because of your skin color, they will listen to you."

The only true weapon against hatred is knowledge, compassion and understanding. By showing not just the Corps but our nation that though we are indeed a melting pot of religions, races, sexes and creeds, it is those differences that unite us. King knew that. He gave his life for that philosophy so that we may live it out, if not in his lifetime, then in the generations to come. Even after King's birthday has come and gone, we as a people should remember that he died to unite us not merely as a nation but as a world.



STOCK PHOTO

Here Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. extends a hand greeting hundreds of thousands of civil right supporters line up along the Washington Monument to listen to him render his famous "I Have a Dream" speech. Over 200,000 were attendance that day as he delivered one of his most memorable, oft-quoted speeches.



STOCK PHOTO

Onlookers and wellwishers scramble over one another in an attempt to shake the hand of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. as he continues on in his vehicular procession. Whenever King came to the South, reactions such as this were common amongst his followers. The prospect of seeing King prompted many to travel from all across the country to meet him.



Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. speaks to his supporters as the American flag waves in the background. As the Civil Rights Movement progressed, King became more outspoken of various problems that not only plagued African Americans but Americans as a whole.

STOCK PHOTO

CORPS NEWS

HIGHLIGHTING MARINES AND
SAILORS AROUND THE GLOBE*Marines see school attendance soar in Afghanistan*

FORWARD OPERATING BASE CAFFERETTA, Afghanistan — Staff Sgt. James Jordan, with the civil affairs team, in support of 1st Battalion, 8th Marines, Regimental Combat Team 2, distributes school supplies at a local school in Now Zad, Jan. 9. The civil affairs Marines have been working with the teachers since they arrived here in December of last year, giving out supplies such as pens, pencils and papers.



FORWARD OPERATING BASE CAFFERETTA, Afghanistan — Barezai students take a break from their lessons as their teacher talks to Marines from the civil affairs team, in support of 1st Battalion, 8th Marines, Regimental Combat Team 2. When the Marines first arrived here, an estimated 200 students were in attendance, now nearly 500 children attend classes daily.

LANCE CPL. GLEN SANTY
REGIMENTAL COMBAT TEAM 2

FORWARD OPERATING BASE CAFFERETTA, Afghanistan — As Marines entered the school, chants of children hushed to a whisper. "Salaam Alikum," said the teachers to the Marines, warmly welcoming them into their classrooms.

When the Marines of the civil affairs team in support of 1st Battalion, 8th Marines, Regimental Combat Team 2, arrived to Now Zad, an estimated 200 students were in attendance at the schools in the local area. Now nearly 500 children attend classes here daily. "We're extremely happy with the number of kids we see in the school right now," said Cpl. Dustin Brians, a civil affairs specialist, in support of 1st Bn., 8th Marines, RCT-2. "There are more and more kids there every week and attendance continues to grow."

One teacher noted that classroom attendance has more than doubled in recent months, indicating that the local children in the area want to learn.

During class, students learn about the Koran and other religious studies. Their classes also include mathematics, geography, spelling and even some English.

"When we got here, we almost always had to speak in Pashtu to the children," said Lance Cpl. Bowen Yu, a civil affairs specialist, in support of 1st Bn., 8th Marines. "Now when we're walking down the street, they'll come up saying 'What's up?' or 'How are you?' which is great."

In the expectation of more students, Marines and teachers have already laid plans for major renovations on the current building.

"The old school the kids were going to was basically destroyed," said Brians, 24, from Annapolis, Md. "The roof had collapsed in a lot of the rooms. The glass windows were all shattered and broken, and the doors were off their hinges."

Since then, Brians and his team, along with local Afghan workers have helped to clean up the schools, and are working to improve the existing buildings the children currently receive classes in.

Once the funding and paperwork is complete, the construction phase of renovating the school will begin.

Working together with local contractors, the people of Now Zad and Marines are building a brighter future for Afghanistan.

"This is a great program for Afghanistan," said Yu, 23, originally from Hong Kong and recruited out of Las Vegas. "When we're gone, these kids will be running this place. Giving them a place for an education is the least we can do."

COMMUNITY BRIEFS | CLASSIFIEDS

Briefs

Operation Comfort Care
Marine Corps Family Team Building is collecting donations outside of the Marine Corps Exchange and Commissary throughout the month of January. To volunteer or for more information, call 253-3542 or visit www.mccsvolunteering.org.

Commander's Cup Challenge

A volleyball single elimination tournament is scheduled 11 a.m. - 1 p.m. today at the IronWorks Gym sports courts. For more information, call 253-5051.

Station Tax Center

The Station Tax Center, located in Building 608 (SJA side), is scheduled to be open 8 a.m. - 4 p.m. Jan. 25, for single Marines and sailors. For all others, the Tax Center is scheduled to be open Mon-Fri 8 a.m. - 4 p.m. beginning Feb. 1 and by appointment only every Saturday in the month of February. The Tax Center will begin taking appointments on Jan. 31. For more information, call 253-5951, 253-3540, 253-5591, 253-5962.

Mammograms

The "MammoVan" quarterly visit is scheduled Jan. 31 - Feb. 4. Patients requiring their annual mammography scan should contact their primary care manager and obtain a radiology referral. They may then schedule an appointment Jan 21 - 28 at the clinic's Radiology department.

DeCA Sponsored 2011 Scholarships for Military Children Program

Scholarship applications are available in commissaries worldwide and online at <http://www.commissaries.com> - choose the "News & Info" tab and then the "Scholarship Info" tab. Applications are also available at <http://www.militaryscholar.org>. Applications and any essays must be turned in to the Commissary by close of business Feb. 22. For more information, call 253-4873.

Girl Scout Cookies

Girl Scout cookies are scheduled to be available every weekend at the Marine Corps Exchange and Commissary. To volunteer or for more information, call 253-3542 or visit www.mccsvolunteering.org.

Matthew C. Perry Varsity Cheer Clinic

There is a \$20 varsity cheer clinic for 1st through 8th grade children scheduled 2:45 p.m. - 5 p.m. Feb. 9 and 10. Cheerleaders will perform Feb. 11 at the high school homecoming game. To sign up or for more information, visit or call the Matthew C. Perry Elementary or High School office.

Parent Support Program Baby Boot Camp

The new Parent Support Program is scheduled to host a baby boot camp at the Marine and Family Services building in room 222 here 8:30 a.m. - 4 p.m. today. The baby boot camp is being held to assist in

preparing expectant moms and dads to be confident and competent parents. Basics of infant development, baby safety, newborn care, couples communication, and learn about the community resources will be taught. Whether you're first or third, this is a fun and interactive class for everyone. For more information or to sign up call 253-6553 or 253-5043.

Operation Comfort Care

Marine Corps Family Team Building will be collecting donations throughout the month of January outside of the Marine Corps Exchange and Commissary. To volunteer or for more information, call 253-3542 or visit www.mccsvolunteering.org.

Vehicles

1998 Toyota Spacio

JCI good until February 2012. Asking \$1,500 without JCI or \$2,500 with the JCI. Car is in good shape and clean. For more information, call 253-2540, 080-3705-2974 or e-mail jessica.lang@pac.dodea.edu.

1997 Honda SMX Wagon

JCI good until April 2012. Asking \$3,000. Car is in excellent condition and maintained regularly. For more information, call 253-6242, 090-649-0498 or e-mail Sean at seangkimhan@hotmail.com.

1999 Harley Davidson Road King

JCI good until July 2012. Asking \$13,000. Motorcycle is well maintained with lots

of upgrades. For more information, call 253-6242, 090-649-0498 or e-mail seangkimhan@hotmail.com.

1995 Nissan Rasheen

JCI good until June 2011. Asking \$2,500. Car is in good condition. For more information, call 253-5255 or 080-3518-4364.

Jobs

WIC Overseas Iwakuni

Choctaw Archiving Enterprise has a full-time job for a Certified Professional Authority nurse, nutritionist, or registered dietitian in the Women, Infants, and Children Overseas Program in Iwakuni. Position requires a BS in Nutrition, Nursing, or Home Economics. Experience in prenatal, maternal, or infant nutrition preferred. Must have references, U.S. citizenship, U.S. driver's license and Status of Forces Agreement status. Employment conditional upon satisfactory background check. For immediate consideration, please e-mail resume and cover letter to: virginia.johnson.ctr@misawa.af.mil or fax to 226-9585.

Exchange New Car Sales

New Car Sales has high income potential jobs available for Status of Forces Agreement personnel. Sales training will be provided to selected applicants. For more information, call 080-3243-4689.

English Teacher

An English teacher is needed to take over a class in downtown

Iwakuni. For more information call 253-7716.

Travel Counselor

CWTSatoTravel has a travel counselor position available at the government travel office here. This position is responsible for booking air, car and hotel reservations for military travelers in official duty status using the SABRE CRS. Desirable for the candidates to have travel agency or airline experience, and SABRE CRs experience. Knowledge of government travel regulation is also preferred. Please send all inquiries and resumes to mkenat@cwtsatotravel.com. No phone inquiries please.

Brief and Classified Submissions

To submit a community brief or classified advertisement, send an e-mail to iwakuni.pao@usmc.mil. Include a contact name, a phone number and the information you would like published. Alternatively, You may submit your brief or classified ad in person at the Public Affairs Office, Building 1, Room 216 or you may call 253-5551. However you choose to submit, ensure you provide all requested information to simply the request process and ensure your request is processed properly. The deadline for submissions is 3 p.m. every Friday. Submissions will run the following Friday on a space-available basis. The Iwakuni Approach staff reserves the right to edit submissions for space and style.

U.S.-Japan Friendship Concert

A free concert featuring Matthew C. Perry, Iwakuni municipal Higashi junior high school and Iwakuni municipal Kawashimo junior high school is scheduled for 3 p.m. Jan. 30 at Sinfonia Iwakuni Concert Hall.

Doors are scheduled to open at 2 p.m.

Public transportation is recommended to avoid traffic congestion.

For more information, call 082-223-7153.

got news?

Do you have an idea for a story or need coverage for an event? We are here for you. Contact the Public Affairs Office two weeks in advance of projected publication date for review by e-mailing iwakuni.pao@usmc.mil, call 253-5551 or stop by Building 1, Room 216.

INFOTAINMENT

Chapel Services

Roman Catholic
 Saturday 4:30-5:15 p.m. Confession
 5:30 p.m. Mass
 Sunday 8:30 a.m. Mass
 9:45 a.m. Religious Education
 Tues. - Fri. 11:30 a.m. Weekday Mass
 Wednesday 6 p.m. Inquiry Class for adults

Protestant
 Saturday 9:30 a.m. Seventh-Day Adventist
 Sabbath School
 11 a.m. Seventh-Day Adventist
 Divine Worship
 Sunday 9:30 a.m. Sunday School, Adult
 Bible Fellowship
 10:30 a.m. Protestant Service
 11 a.m. Children's Church
 4:30 p.m. Lutheran Holy
 Communion Service
 (Small Chapel)
 Wednesday 6 p.m. Awana (Bldg. 1104)
 6:15 p.m. Adult Bible Study
 (Capodanno Hall Chapel)

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

Latter Day Saints
 Weekdays 6:30 a.m. Youth 12-17 Activities

Teen Programs
 • High School Meetings (Club - grades 9-12)
 • Junior High Meetings (Club JV - grades 7-8)
 • HS&JR Bible Studies
 • Retreats
 • Service Projects
 • Missions Trip
 • Special Events Volunteer Training & Mentoring
 • Parent Support Group
 Call 080-4177-2060 or e-mail jletaw@ClubBeyond.org

For information regarding divine services, religious education or any other command religious program or chapel activity, call the Marine Memorial Chapel at 253-3371.

Photo of the week



LANCE CPL. ANDREW D. JOHNSTON

MARJAH, Afghanistan - Marines with 2nd Battalion, 9th Marine Regiment and Afghanistan National Army soldiers debark CH-53E helicopter during Operation Integrity, in Marjah, Helmand Province, Afghanistan, Jan. 15. The main purpose of the operation was to successfully cordon off a suspected hotspot for Taliban activity, search for weapon and IED caches, disrupt enemy logistical operations and gather census data on locals in the region of Sistani.

SAKURA THEATER

Friday, January 21, 2011
 7 p.m. True Grit (PG-13)
Premier
 10 p.m. The Next 3 Days (PG-13)
Premier

Saturday, January 22, 2011
 1 p.m. Yogi Bear (PG)
 4 p.m. Skyline (PG-13)
 7 p.m. Little Fockers (PG-13)

Sunday, January 23, 2011
 1 p.m. Tron Legacy (PG)
 4 p.m. True Grit (PG-13)
 7 p.m. The Next 3 Days (PG-13)

Monday, January 24, 2011
 7 p.m. Unstoppable (PG-13)

Tuesday, January 25, 2011
 7 p.m. Harry Potter and the Deathly
 Hallows Part 1 (PG-13)

Wednesday, January 26, 2011
 7 p.m. Skyline (PG-13)

Thursday, January 27, 2011
 7 p.m. Morning Glory (PG-13)

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

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

Mess Hall Menu

Monday
 Bean with bacon soup, shrimp gumbo soup, Carribean flounder, country style steak, steamed rice, macaroni and cheese, hush puppies, calico cabbage, broccoli combo, dinner rolls, potato salad, cucumber and onion salad, standard salad bar, peanut butter brownies, double-layer marble cake with butter cream frosting and banana cream pudding.
 Specialty Bar: Pasta

Tuesday
 Tomato soup, vegetable soup, lasagna, roast pork, au gratin potatoes, whole kernel corn, mixed vegetables, toasted garlic bread, cream gravy, country style tomato salad, coleslaw, standard salad bar, cherry pie, Boston cream pie and oatmeal raisin cookies.
 Specialty Bar: Taco

Wednesday
 Cream of broccoli soup, French onion soup, baked tuna and noodles, breaded pork chop creole, garlic roasted potatoes, carrots, mixed vegetables, mushroom gravy, dinner rolls, cabbage, apple and celery salad, three bean salad, standard salad bar, chocolate chip cookies, Dutch apple pie and devil's food cake with butter cream frosting.
 Specialty Bar: Barbecue

Thursday
 Manhattan clam chowder, split pea soup, chicken parmesan, Italian sausage, buttered pasta, oven browned potatoes, eggplant parmesan, cauliflower gumbo, alfredo sauce, marinara sauce, garlic bread with cheese, macaroni salad, mixed fruit salad, standard salad bar, German chocolate cake, banana cream pie with whipped topping and sugar cookies.
 Specialty Bar: Deli Bar

Friday
 Chicken noodle soup, cream of mushroom soup, southern style fried catfish, savory baked chicken, French fried cauliflower, macaroni and cheese, candid sweet potatoes, southern style greens, jalapeno corn bread, cream gravy, potato salad, country style tomato salad, standard salad bar, coconut raisin drop cookies, chocolate cream pie and double layer Florida lemon cake with butter cream frosting.
 Specialty Bar: Hot Dog

Residents stretch their way to Yoga Day

PFC. CAYCE NEVERS
 IWAKUNI APPROACH STAFF

To some people, yoga may seem like a silly, boring activity, but to those who attend the yoga classes offered at the IronWorks Gym here, it is a relaxing, stress-relieving time.

The yoga classes are offered every Tuesday through Saturday at the gym. Three yoga instructors are provided, and all teach a different style.

After having done yoga for 10 years, Soraya Applegate has now become an instructor at the gym.

"Yoga is my life," said Applegate. "No matter what is going on, I come to my yoga mat. It's like my sanctuary, it's what I do."

Yoga is a good way to stretch your body. It can work muscles you didn't know you had, as well as work on improving your flexibility.

Yoga is a way to take time away from the kids and relax, a time to find peace with yourself, said Michelle Crespin, a yoga practitioner.

Yoga is a relaxing exercise; it is slow paced, yet it is good for your health and your body.

"Yoga to me is being flexible, being able to put your head on the floor when stretching," said Karen Alfafara, a yoga practitioner.

Yoga is like aiming for a goal. "Yoga is a positive state of mind," said Crespin.

Yoga is a very powerful activity. Yoga makes some people feel alive, strong and empowered, said Applegate.

The instructors of the gym have scheduled a Yoga Day event 8 a.m. - 12 p.m. at the IronWorks Gym Sunday.

The Yoga Day event will show off the different types of yoga and how to execute them. There will be approximately six or more styles of yoga being taught that day.

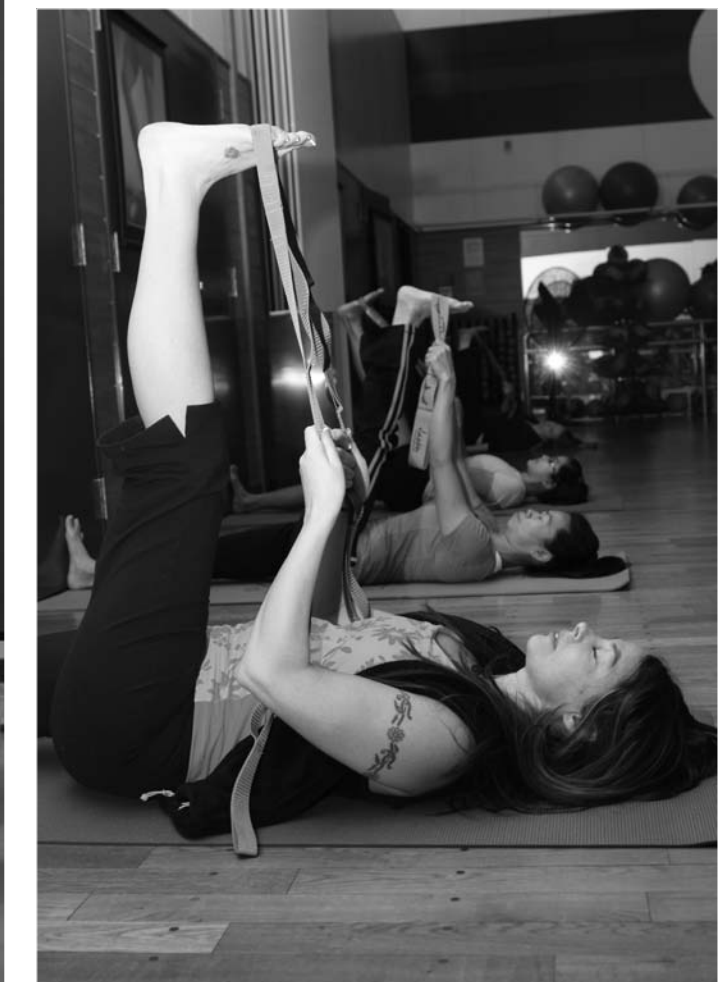
Beginning at 8 a.m. there will be classes on a new style of yoga every half hour.

All station residents are permitted to attend this event.



PFC. CAYCE NEVERS

Prakai Parsons, a yoga instructor at the IronWorks Gym here, executes a head stand while finding her center and relaxing her body to allow the blood to flow during a class taught by Soraya F. Applegate, a yoga instructor at the gym, Jan. 14. The yoga classes Parsons attended were that of a different style than the style she teaches.



PFC. CAYCE NEVERS

Soraya F. Applegate, a yoga instructor at the IronWorks Gym here, shows the people in attendance Jan. 14 how to stretch their body in ways that relaxes and calms. The people who attended the class ranged from beginners to experience yoga practioners.

Free Admission

U.S.-JAPAN Friendship Concert in IWAKUNI

M. C. Perry High School

**Iwakuni municipal
Higashi junior high school**

**Iwakuni municipal
Kawashimo junior high school**



Sun 30 Jan 2011, 3:00 PM
Doors open at 2:00 PM

Sinfonia Iwakuni Concert Hall (1F)

1-1-1, Mikasa-cho, Iwakuni-shi, Yamaguchi-ken

- About 0.8km south from JR Iwakuni Station.
(About 10 minutes by walking)
 - About 5 minute walk from Mikasa bridge bus stop.
 - About 10km away from JR Sanyo Shinkansen
Shin-iwakuni Station. (About 20 minutes by car)
- ※ To avoid traffic congestion, please use public transportation.



[POC] Local Coordination Division Planning Department Chugoku-Shikoku Defense Bureau/TEL. 082-223-7153

Hosted by Chugoku-Shikoku Defense Bureau

Supported by Yamaguchi Prefecture • Iwakuni City • MCAS Iwakuni

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