

OPERATION TOMODACHI

For updates on Operation Tomodachi, please check the Marine Corps Air Station Iwakuni website: <http://www.marines.mil/unit/mcasiwakuni>

Recruiters

chime in on reputations | P. 4

Kokutaiji

takes win in Good Will tournament | P. 11

IWAKUNI APPROACH

Issue No. 12 Vol. 4 | Marine Corps Air Station Iwakuni, Japan

COs shed light on Operation Tomodachi

LANCE CPL. CHARLIE CLARK
IWAKUNI APPROACH STAFF

Col. James C. Stewart, Marine Corps Air Station Iwakuni commanding officer, hosted a town hall meeting at the Sakura Theater here March 17 to explain and answer questions about MCAS Iwakuni's involvement in the relief efforts in northern Japan. Col. Stephen G. Nitzschke, Marine Aircraft Group 12 commanding officer, talked with the station community before the town hall meeting.

Because of our long standing and close relationship with our Japanese counterparts on a daily basis, we are able to coordinate government of Japan requests and rapidly respond with critically needed capabilities and supplies in times of crises.

The station community of MCAS Iwakuni is safe from the growing health hazard the nuclear power plant has become since the earthquake and ensuing tsunami.

"No one here in Iwakuni is in any danger whatsoever," said Nitzschke.

The radiation that everyone

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MCAS Iwakuni responds to crisis



Operation Tomodachi photo story | P. 6 & 7

SGT. DANIEL K. BROWN

Cpl. Ryan K. Phetsouphan, Headquarters and Headquarters Squadron, inspects the pallets by the Japan Maritime Self-Defense Force that will be flown to Misawa Air Base, Japan for humanitarian aid in support of Operation Tomodachi, here, March 18. Relief supplies, personnel and equipment have been pumped in by all means, air, sea and land pumped out across the more than 500 mile trek to the front lines in northern Japan where aid can be directed to where it's needed most.

Emotional, physical, mental relief en route to northern Japan

PFC. CAYCE NEVERS
IWAKUNI APPROACH STAFF

C-12s carrying cargo and personnel made the more a journey to Atsugi, Japan, to deliver relief supplies and spiritual aid in support of Operation Tomodachi, March 16.

In the aftermath of the earthquake and ensuing tsunami that rocked northern Japan, the station has become a rally point for Operation Tomodachi, the U.S. military's support effort to provide humanitarian relief to the Japanese people.

Because of the monumental

undertaking, even the station's C-12 fleet, Marine Transport Squadron Iwakuni, has been tapped to assist with supply and personnel transportation toward northern Japan.

While the station has become a hub for III Marine Expeditionary Force personnel and supplies, Atsugi has become a humanitarian relief effort forward operating base.

In addition to the cargo these C-12s ferried, this particular flight carried a little something extra: a chaplain and his

SEE COMFORT ON PAGE 3

Station comes together for relief efforts

LANCE CPL. CHARLIE CLARK
IWAKUNI APPROACH STAFF

Station personnel volunteered to collect donations at the Marine Corps Exchange, Commissary and the Thrift Store here Saturday and Sunday for the humanitarian relief effort.

A private organization spearheaded the effort in gathering volunteers to help gather needed supplies for disaster victims in northern Japan.

The Thrift Store was the hub for the donations to be sent, sorted, labeled and packaged.

"This was a collaborative effort," Gwen Peterson, Thrift Store manager, said.


Thrift Store and other personnel

contacted different organizations and got the word out to the community that they were joining forces and help ing collect supplies all together. Several organizations came forward to further help with the relief effort.

Some of the organizations that helped were the Japanese and American Society, Matthew C. Perry High School and the local Boy Scouts of America troop 77.

"The scouts, both the cub pack and the troop, have supported this effort 100 percent," said Joel Eittreim, cub master and committee member for troop 77. "The staff and scouts have come over to the Commissary to spend anywhere from one to three hours

SEE DONATIONS 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

‘Peace in the chaos’

LT. ROBERT E. MILLS
STATION
COMMAND CHAPLAIN

Just one week ago, a huge earthquake and tsunami struck northeastern Japan. The tragedy took many thousands of lives, destroyed much property and left hundreds of thousands of people homeless and displaced.

A nuclear emergency quickly began at nuclear power plants damaged by the twin disasters.

As you read this article, two full weeks of listening to the news, checking the Internet, and getting official and unofficial information will have passed.

In that time you have heard some truth, some blatant error, and many times a mix of both.

In times like this, with fast-moving events, it is really important to remember that truth has a date-time stamp.

What was true last night may no longer be true because the events have changed or the policies have been flexed to meet new realities.

Does this mean we should distrust our leaders here in Iwakuni, or think that they are

trying to hide important things from us? No.

Here’s why we should trust the leaders here. (By the way, nobody asked me to write about this, I’m just doing it because I think we all need a reminder).

As most of us heard and saw at the town hall meeting March 17, the station leadership has been working very hard since the disaster began to gather critical information, make good decisions, prepare for all possibilities, and generally, to keep us all safe.

They have stayed up late, sometimes all night, gotten up early and have been reaching out for every scrap of information, official and unofficial, to develop situational awareness of what is happening and courses of action that would be best in every possible scenario.

Does that mean they won’t make mistakes?

No, it doesn’t because they are human beings.

What it does mean is that they are getting many very intelligent people together, experts in many fields, and comparing their points of view and their recommendations for what we



Vice Admiral Allen G. Myers, commander, Naval Air Forces, U.S. Pacific Fleet, presents the Naval Aviation Enterprise award to Staff Sgt. Olen L. Argo, a Marine Aviation Logistics Squadron 12 electronics technician, at the Power Station here March 11 for his hard work and dedication. Argo recieved the award for leading an advanced Lean Six Sigma Continuous Process Improvement Black Belt project to investigate and correct a problem with aircraft maintenance repair impacting readiness in Marine Air Group 12.

COs town hall meeting relieves, informs station community

MEETING FROM PAGE 1

fears won’t affect the station.

“The weather patterns cannot carry the isotopes this far to the west,” Michael Cox, station chemical, biological, radiological, nuclear and enhanced conventional weapons officer said. “The amount of radiation that’s being put into the atmosphere is not reaching high enough to be carried for any significant distance.”

The station’s food and water supplies cannot be contaminated either.

“The commissary is well stocked with supplies as well as the shops out in town,” he

said. “Our water supply comes from a disaster-sociated facility. I have no reason to believe any contamination will come down this way.”

MCAS Iwakuni’s role in the relief efforts is important.

“We are serving as a resupply hub,” Stewart said. “The most important job we can do right now is to help push supplies to where they are needed.”

Marines who were scheduled to join in Foal Eagle 2011, have been reassigned to help with the relief effort.

“MAG-12s focus will shift to Operation Tomodachi,” said Nitzschke. “MAG-12 will help with the evacuations.”

Stewart answered questions the audience in

attendance, watching on the American Forces Network and listening on Power1575 radio station had.

“What can we do here to help ease our friends and families who are watching all the news stateside and think the whole country of Japan is destroyed?” asked an audience member.

A daily reminder such as an email, phone call or simple text message saying that you’re OK will help your friends and family have peace of mind concerning our situation and keep us focused on the mission, said Stewart.

For the latest information about MCAS Iwakuni’s during this difficult time, go to www.marines.mil/unit/mcasiwakuni.



Station residents pack humanitarian aid donations in support of Operation Tomodachi here March 20. MCAS Iwakuni is an essential strategically located air and sea port supporting Operation Tomodachi as a logistical and resupply hub.

C-12s help carry load, move care packages up north

COMFORT FROM PAGE 1

religious program specialist.

During catastrophic events, there is an obvious need to help those directly affected; however, those directly providing support may need assistance as well.

“We are going to go and take care of Marines and sailors who are working first hand on the humanitarian efforts,” said Navy Lt. Mark A. Torres, Marine Aircraft Group 36 chaplain. “We are there to help emotionally, physically and mentally.”

Torres and his assistant were going up to Atsugi to help and support in any way possible.

They will provide religious services and a resting sanctuary for any who become overwhelmed during the relief effort.

In more ways than one, providing support to the first responders vital to a successful operation.

“I am excited, I get to help my Marines and sailors, I am here to make sure they are safe, emotionally as well as physically,” said Seaman Greyson C. Harrelson, a MAG-36 religious program specialist.

The use of the C-12s is just another way in which MCAS Iwakuni continues its commitment to supporting the Japanese people and their relief efforts.



Seaman Greyson C. Harrelson, Marine Aircraft Group 36 religious program specialist, and Lt. Mark A. Torres, MAG-36 chaplain, receive a pre-flight brief in the C-12 hanger here March 16 before riding in a C-12 to Atsugi, Japan, in support of Operation Tomodachi.

Recruiters help build Corps future

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

Before there were drill instructors, there was the recruiter. The first in a long line of many who will eventually influence a Marine's life, the recruiter is an integral role in the Marine Corps.

The recruiter shares the burden of helping shape and strengthen the Marine Corps, a responsibility he/she shares with the drill instructor counterparts.

In order for drill instructors to accomplish their mission of transforming civilians into Marines, they must first have recruits to do so. That is where the recruiter comes into play.

Often decked out in their dress blue deltas or charlies, the recruiter serves as a contrast to his overly dramatic counterpart. But it is that contrast which helps recruiters in fulfilling the needs of the Marine Corps.

An essential aspect of recruiting is the ability to engage people in everyday conversation.

"We go out and area canvas," said Staff Sgt. Richard Guzman, a former recruiter in Houston, TX. "You look for people."

In the process of looking for potential recruits, public speaking becomes crucial. Recruiters attempt to sell the Marine Corps to those willing to listen.

Timidity, Guzman said, greatly hinders mission accomplishment.

"I had all the techniques and knowledge down but when I was actually out there, it was difficult," said Guzman. The difficulty arose from the task of approaching random strangers and engaging them in conversation said Guzman.

Guzman said he overcame that barrier through constant repetition by talking to

people he encountered while searching for potential recruits.

"Rejection was the biggest pitfall for me," said Master Sgt. Rodney Buentello, former recruiter in San Antonio, TX now headquarters and Headquarters Squadron S-3 chief. "I kind of took it as my mom telling me no, but once you learned to get used to the rejection, 'no' is just a word."

Buentello compared it to being a college football scout.

"You have to sit down with applicants and their parents and sell the Marine Corps," said Buentello. "We have to take these kids off the streets, convince them the Marine Corps is good to go, then go to boot camp and get yelled at for three months."

Recruiters are often faced with the task of continuously finding able bodies throughout the year to fill the needs of the Marine Corps. It is a task that often starts early in the morning and ends sometimes late in the night.

Recruiters do not have the added benefit of a concrete schedule as compared to drill instructors. This has given rise to a misconception about recruiters and their schedule throughout the day.

"Drill instructors have a set schedule. Recruiters don't. You've already got the recruit there. He's got nowhere to go," said Buentello.

In the process of searching for potential recruits, recruiters must maintain their professional lives and their personal lives. Trying to find balance in that equation can prove difficult for some but can be balanced by careful planning and patience.

"If you start forgetting about your family, then eventually your family is going to forget about you," said Buentello. "So if I had an hour or two lunch break, I would set up a lunch date with my wife or go grocery

shopping with her, all the while still looking for applicants."

Often times, recruiters' family members will aid in the search for finding potential recruits, giving them that extra push to meet their quota but also bringing families closer together by finding a common thread. Time becomes vital in that respect.

Staff Sgt. Jon L. Colbert, from recruiter in Memphis, Tenn. not Headquarters and Headquarters Squadron career planner and, explained how he managed to do both.

Colbert remarked that often times his wife would assist him in finding potential recruits during her own workday.

Colbert also added that every day was still different, citing that a fine line needed to be maintained when tying both professional and personal lives together.

For some recruiters, the negative thoughts civilians have of the Corps can make recruiting difficult. The media and entertainment industries have often aided in perpetuating this perception of the Corps.

"People think you're lying to kids," said Guzman. "I took offense to that."

Recruiters and drill instructors form a symbiotic relationship. Recruiters provide drill instructors with potential recruits who may become Marines and drill instructors make sure the individuals recruiters send to them are of the highest standards. It is through this relationship that they work together to allow the Marine Corps to be what it is today.

To the men who have served as the soft-spoken ambassadors for the Corps, they know that their continued service, self-sacrifice and scrutiny have helped to ensure the continuation of the Corps for years to come.



JAMES J. LEE

Sgt. James Thyden, recruiter from Alexandria, Va. talks with a potential recruit Andy Thong, a 24-year-old grocery store clerk, in the food court of Springfield Mall in Alexandria May 9, 2006. Recruiters are often faced with the task of continuously finding able bodies throughout the year to fill the needs of the Marine Corps. It is a task that often starts early in the morning and ends sometimes late in the night.

Navy corpsmen tasked with welfare of entire squadron throughout UDP deployments

CPL. MARCEL BROWN
IWAKUNI APPROACH STAFF

KORAT ROYAL THAI AIR FORCE BASE, Thailand — Since the early 1800s, Navy corpsmen have been the backbone of naval and Marine Corps healthcare.

In every significant battle in Navy and Marine Corps history, Navy corpsmen have fought side-by-side with Marines and sailors doing all they can to keep their fellow service members alive.

With different illnesses and injuries encountered daily, Navy corpsmen's job proficiency is constantly tested.

During deployments or back at their home station, Marine Corps Air Station Beaufort, S.C., the VMFA(AW)-533 medical team is tasked with keeping medical readiness above the standard and providing healthcare to approximately 300 Marines with a staff of three.

"(Marine wing support squadrons) have a lot more corpsmen, so you have more leniencies in your job," said Petty Officer 2nd Class Gabriel B. Fortes, Marine All-Weather Fighter Attack Squadron 533 medical leading petty officer. "In MWSS, you have more people watching your back. Here, you have to know your stuff and work by yourself."

VMFA(AW)-533 falls under the Unit Deployment Program, a program created by the commandant of the Marine Corps to reduce the number of unaccompanied tours and improve unit continuity by deploying units to the Western Pacific for approximately six-month intervals.

Unlike hospital corpsmen attached to clinics, honor roll corpsmen graduates are selected from their military occupational specialty school to serve as the primary caregivers for squadrons like VMFA(AW)-533.

"The main difference between a corpsman at a clinic and a corpsman in an operational billet is that a corpsman in an operational billet tends to work more independently," said Lt. Justin M. Whitley, VMFA(AW)-533 flight surgeon. "They're more directly involved with hands-on patient care, making decisions for themselves and treating things on the scene."

In order to be attached to a fixed wing squadron or an infantry unit, graduating corpsmen must take the first step by choosing to be operational.

"Initially, you usually go through an MWSS to understand how the squadrons work because most MWSS have a lot of corpsmen to supervise you," said Fortes. "If you excel in MWSS, they'll pick you to fill those positions as senior corpsmen leave."

After being selected and assigned, the Navy corpsmen are tasked with maintaining medical readiness for the selected squadron with a staff of approximately one corpsman to every 100 Marines.

"I think what separates an average corpsman from a good corpsman is not just being able to see a patient and get facts, but to take those facts and develop a diagnosis and treatment plan going forward," said Whitley. "And that's what being operational gives you: the ability to assess the patient and make a plan."

Not only do operational corpsman treat their patients, they also have to consider the most mission essential treatment when administering patient care.



CPL. MARCEL BROWN

KORAT ROYAL THAI AIR FORCE BASE, Thailand - Petty Officer 2nd Class Gabriel B. Fortes (Center), Marine All-Weather Fighter Attack Squadron 533 medical leading petty officer, monitors a Marine Corps Martial Arts Program brown belt course during exercise Cope Tiger here March 15.



CPL. MARCEL BROWN

KORAT ROYAL THAI AIR FORCE BASE, Thailand - Seaman Daniel E. Truelove, Marine All-Weather Fighter Attack Squadron 533 aviation medicine technician, performs a routine medicine inventory during exercise Cope Tiger here March 15.

"The pilots have to maintain their flight status, so when somebody comes in, we try to find a way to treat them in a way that will take care of them but at the same time, won't damage their capability of deploying and operating," said Fortes.

With such a small staff, the responsibilities of an operational corpsman may seem stressful, but there are several benefits with the job.

"You can do more out here simply because you're the only person out here," said Fortes. "In a hospital, you might have a nurse fighting with you to do a stitch or give an (intravenous). Here, you're the only one who knows how to do it."

Along with gaining hands-on training in their job, operational corpsmen also get more career advancement options being attached to a squadron.

"They say it's a lot easier for corpsmen attached to squadrons to pick up rank faster," said Seaman Daniel E. Truelove, VMFA(AW)-533 aviation medicine technician.

Above the professional benefits, both Truelove and Fortes said the biggest benefit is gaining the respect, camaraderie and brotherhood from the Marines they are tasked to care for.

"I love my Marines, and they know that," said Truelove. "I can go out there and PT with them or just have a good time with them any time. I wouldn't have it any other way."

"Especially in an operational situation, corpsmen really are the backbone of medical," said Lance Cpl. Dustin Fesler, VMFA(AW)-533 maintenance control expeditor. "We couldn't function without them. They ensure our safety."

During the rest of the UDP deployment and beyond, the VMFA(AW)-533 medical team will strive to maintain medical readiness for their fellow service members and keep VMFA(AW)-533 in the fight.

Operation Tomodachi

MCAS Iwakuni goes rapid fire on humanitarian aid

CPL. JOSEPH MARIANELLI
IWAKUNI APPROACH STAFF

Since the earthquake off the coast of Sendai, Japan, and ensuing tsunami, which swept through and nuked the coastal regions of northern Japan March 11, a deluge of relief efforts have filtered through the air station to support Operation Tomodachi, the U.S. armed forces humanitarian relief efforts toward Japan.

As a strategic co-located air and sea port, the station acts as an operational heart by providing an essential logistical and resupply hub.

Relief supplies, personnel and equipment have been pumped in via all means, air, sea and land and then pumped out across the more than 500-mile trek to the front lines in northern Japan where aid can be directed to where it's needed most.

"Every asset within the Marine Expeditionary Force and the U.S. military is being applied ... whether it is by land, sea or air," said Col. James C. Stewart, Marine Corps Air Station Iwakuni commanding officer during a brief of station personnel.

Marines who were scheduled to attend Foal Eagle as well as High Speed Vessels for use elsewhere have been reassigned to assist with relief efforts.

C-130, CH-46 and HSV Westpac Express assets from Okinawa and the U.S. bolstered by MCAS Iwakuni's own C-12 and ground assets have been the main transportation fleet.

Meanwhile, personnel all over the air station have been tasked with palletizing cargo,

standing watch or preparing for any other contingencies.

As of Tuesday, more than 1.5 million pounds of food, water, cargo, supplies and equipment, either have been prepared or transported to distribution hubs more directly connected to the affected areas.

Travelling with all that cargo have been more than 1,200 passengers to either facilitate cargo transportation or provide assistance on the front lines.

To move this plethora of support personnel and equipment, Marines and sailors have put in more than 300 flight-hours over the course of 196 sorties during the past 11 days.

This time commitment doesn't even factor in the countless hours personnel have put in preparing, loading, unloading and internally transporting cargo.

Not to mention the countless hours put in across the air station to support the operation through less direct means.

"Every piece of paper you prepare, every truck you load and every scan you do serves to help those most affected by this tragedy," said Stewart.

Many posts and watches have been added to enhance the station's ability to respond.

"This is our Iraq and Afghanistan," said Lt. Col. Michael R. Coletta during a brief of station personnel.

And this is just the beginning.

"There is more and more work to be done to aid those who were affected," said Stewart during a brief of station personnel.

As a result, the air station will continue to support Operation Tomodachi until recovery efforts are complete and Japan is restored.



SGT. DANIEL K. BROWN

Japanese workers, along with Marines and sailors push pallets of food into a C-130T from Fleet Logistics Support Squadron 62, Naval Air Station Jacksonville, Fla., that will be flown to Misawa Air Base for humanitarian aid in support of Operation Tomodachi here March 18.



LANCE CPL. KASSIE L. MCDOLE

A III Marine Expeditionary Force CH-46 helicopter lands aboard Marine Corps Air Station Iwakuni, Japan, to support Operation Tomodachi, March 13. Within less than 24 hours of the earthquake off the coast of Japan and ensuing tsunami's devastation of northern Japan, III MEF assets were landing on the air station carrying cargo, personnel and equipment to aid with humanitarian relief.



CPL. ANDREA M. OLGUIN

(ABOVE) Marines load gear and humanitarian aid supplies onto a C-12 for transport to Atsugi, Japan, in support of Operation Tomodachi here March 16. MCAS Iwakuni is an essential strategic co-located air and sea port supporting Operation Tomodachi as a logistical and resupply hub. (RIGHT) CLC-36 Marines secure cases of bottled water to a 7-ton truck here in support of Operation Tomodachi Tuesday. C-130, CH-46 and HSV Westpac Express assets from Okinawa and the U.S. bolstered by MCAS Iwakuni's own C-12 and ground vehicle assets have provided the transportation fleet that has distributed more than 1.5 million pounds of humanitarian aid and will continue distributing aid.



CPL. ANDREA M. OLGUIN



CPL. ANDREA M. OLGUIN

Marines from various units with III Marine Expeditionary Force disembark here in support of Operation Tomodachi, March 13. Because of the base's long standing and close working relationship with its Japanese counterparts on a daily basis, it is able to coordinate government of Japan requestes and rapidly respond with critically needed capabilities and supplies in times of crises.

CORPS NEWS

HIGHLIGHTING MARINES AND SAILORS AROUND THE GLOBE



STAFF SGT. DANIELLE M. BACON

ABOARD USS KEARSARGE, at sea — A Marine Medium Tiltrotor Squadron, 26th Marine Expeditionary Unit's AV-8B Harrier jump jet returns to USS Kearsarge for fuel and ammunition resupply while conducting air strikes in support of Joint Task Force Odyssey Dawn, March 20. Joint Task Force Odyssey Dawn is the U.S. Africa Command task force established to provide operational and tactical command and control of U.S. military forces supporting the international response to the unrest in Libya and enforcement of United Nations Security Council Resolution 1973. UNSCR 1973 authorizes all necessary measures to protect civilians in Libya under threat of attack by Qadhafi regime forces. JTF Odyssey Dawn is commanded by U.S. Navy Admiral Samuel J. Locklear, III.

26th MEU aims to safeguard Libyans, key city

CAPT. RICHARD K. ULSH
26TH MEU

USS Kearsarge, at sea — In an effort to safeguard the Libyan populace and infrastructure in and around the city of Ajdabiyah from further attacks by regime forces, 26th MEU, as part of Joint Task Force Odyssey Dawn, launched a second round of strikes by AV-8B Harrier jump jets, March 20.

Conditions set forth by the U.N. Security Council towards resolving the unrest in Libya included the removal of Libyan Leader Muammar al-Qadhafi's forces from Ajdubiyah.

These latest strikes by the MEU aimed at preserving the sanctity of the city and the safety of the civilians within it.

"Our primary concern was ensuring the people inside Ajdubiyah were safe from Qadhafi's artillery and tanks," said Col. Mark J. Desens, commanding officer of 26th

MEU. "Everything we are seeing following these strikes indicates that his forces are now less capable of threatening the town than before."

Joint Task Force Odyssey Dawn is the U.S. Africa Command task force established to provide operational and tactical command and control of U.S. military forces supporting the international response to the unrest in Libya and enforcement of United Nations Security Council Resolution (UNSCR) 1973. UNSCR 1973 authorizes all necessary measures to protect civilians in Libya under threat of attack by Qadhafi regime forces. JTF Odyssey Dawn is commanded by U.S. Navy Admiral Samuel J. Locklear, III.

For more information on the 26th MEU, visit <http://www.marines.mil/unit/26thmeu> or follow us on Facebook and Twitter, @26MEU. Still and video imagery are available at <http://www.dvidshub.net/units/26MEU>.



STAFF SGT. DANIELLE M. BACON

ABOARD USS KEARSARGE, at sea — A Marine Medium Tiltrotor Squadron, 26th Marine Expeditionary Unit's AV-8B Harrier jump jet returns to USS Kearsarge for fuel and ammunition resupply while conducting air strikes in support of Joint Task Force Odyssey Dawn, March 20. Joint Task Force Odyssey Dawn is the U.S. Africa Command task force established to provide operational and tactical command and control of U.S. military forces supporting the international response to the unrest in Libya and enforcement of United Nations Security Council Resolution 1973. UNSCR 1973 authorizes all necessary measures to protect civilians in Libya under threat of attack by Qadhafi regime forces.

COMMUNITY BRIEFS | CLASSIFIEDS

Briefs

Japanese Language course

A spring course is scheduled every Tuesday April 12 – July 12 7 – 9 p.m. at the Iwakuni Shimin Kaikan civic hall training room. For more information, call 253-5551. Only 40 seats are available on a first come first serve basis.

Americable Activation

Americable is scheduled to begin service activation in certain areas of the base. Tune in to channel 37 for more information.

Temporary Mess Hall

Building 240 is designated as a temporary mess hall. Hours of operation are 6 – 7:30 a.m. and 11 a.m. – 1 p.m. Monday – Friday. The special shuttle bus will continue to run during the dinner and dinner/brunch meal periods.

ARC Classes

Adult, Child, Infant & Standard First Aid classes are scheduled 8:40 a.m. – 4:30 p.m. Saturday. The fee is \$40.

Fellowship Breakfast

Christian fellowship and group discussion breakfasts are scheduled 6:30 – 7:15 a.m. every Wednesday at the north side mess hall. For more information, call Chaplain

Bruce West at 253-3371 or John Cordero at 253-5301 or 080-3217-3205.

PMO Lost and Found

Contact the Provost Marshal's Office Lost and Found if you have lost anything around the installation. Examples may include: Cell phones, keys, digital cameras, bicycle helmets, etc. To recover lost items or for more information, call 253-4929.

Lending Locker Program

The lending locker program is available to provide small home appliances and utensils for incoming and outgoing command sponsored members for up to 60 days inbound and 30 days outbound. A copy of PCS orders are required to check-out items and the program is by appointment only. The lending locker is located in Building 411 Room 101. For more information, call 253-4929.

School Registration

Kindergarten registration is scheduled to be held in the Matthew C. Perry Elementary School gym 8 – 11 a.m. and 1 – 2:30 p.m. Monday. Children must be five years old on or before Sept. 1 to be registered. There is a sixth grade parent night scheduled 5 p.m. April 19. Parents with children scheduled to attend M.C. Perry High

School for seventh grade during the 2011-2012 school year. Registration for sixth graders going into the seventh grade is scheduled Tuesday until April 6. Parents must come to the school to register their children for the 2011-2012 school year. Check immunizations with the nurse before going to register. Registration for Sure Start is scheduled to begin for the 2011-2012 school year in April. Children must be 4 years old on or before Sept 1. Re-registration for all enrolled students is scheduled Monday to April 1. All students must re-register or complete a student withdrawal form if executing a permanent change of station. Students returning for the 2011-2012 school year are expected to attend school through June 16.

Mothers of Preschoolers Volunteer Opportunities

Mothers of Preschoolers is looking for volunteers to work with their MOPPETS ages 0-5 years old. If you would like to help, call at 253-2031.

New Religious Services

A new men's ministry is scheduled to be held 7 a.m. every Saturday at the chapel. For information on the new study, Gospel in Life, contact Chaplain West at 080-4000-9378 or 253-3371.

Jobs

Commissary Merchandiser

SARVIS Inc. is currently looking for a part-time commissary merchandiser, 48 hours per month. Workplace is Iwakuni Commissary/DeCA CDC. Experience in retail or commissary merchandising is preferred. For more information, e-mail Mr. More at tmore_sarvis@yahoo.com

Americable International Positions

Americable International Japan Inc. is now accepting applications for office manager, customer service representative, CATV/Internet installer and installer technician positions here. For more information, visit www.americablejapan.com. Applications and resumes may be sent to resume@americablejapan.com.

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. Send all inquiries and resumes to mkenat@cwtsatotravel.com. No phone inquiries.

English Teachers

Two positions are available to teach English in Tokuyama every Friday 6 p.m. – 8 p.m. For more information, call 253-6868.

Brief and Classified Submissions

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

Emergency Phone Numbers

- Antiterrorism Force protection: 253-ATFP (2837)
- Life, limb or loss of vision threatening emergencies while on the air station: 119 or 911. From a cell phone or for bilingual capability: 082-721-7700.
- For security issues, contact the Provost Marshal's Office: 253-3303. To report without talking to a person, Crime Stoppers: 253-3333.
- Sexual Assault: To make a confidential report of sexual assault or harassment, contact the victim advocate at 253-4526 during working hours. For after hours, weekends and holidays, call 090-9978-1033 or 080-3427-0835. You can also call the installation Sexual Assault Response Coordinator at 253-6556 or 080-5865-3566.

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 MCGS Productions at 253-3727 for details.

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, calling 253-5551 or stopping 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 7 a.m. Men's Ministry
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
Tuesdays 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



HAJI HANIF KHAN, Afghanistan — Lance Cpl. Marvin Lopez, 20, combat engineer, Engineer Company, Combat Logistics Battalion 3, 2nd Marine Logistics Group, shovels dirt during a bridge construction project in Haji Hanif Khan, Afghanistan, March 9. The combat engineers and heavy equipment operators of CLB-3's Engineer Company have conducted several civil development and military construction projects throughout Afghanistan since they arrived in October. Do you have your own photo to submit? Submit your photos to the Public Affairs Office by e-mailing them to iwakuni.pao@usmc.mil or submit them in person at the Public Affairs Office in Building 1 Room 216. Entries will be judged by the Iwakuni Approach Staff and the top selection will run in the next edition of the Iwakuni Approach. For more information call 253-5551.

SAKURA THEATER

Friday, March 25, 2011
7 p.m. The Roommate (PG-13)
Premier
10 p.m. Hall Pass (R)

Saturday, March 26, 2011
1 p.m. Rango (PG)
4 p.m. The Roommate (PG-13)
7 p.m. The Mechanic (R)
Premier

Sunday, March 27, 2011
1 p.m. Rango (PG)
4 p.m. The Rite (PG-13)
7 p.m. The Mechanic (R)

Monday, March 28, 2011
7 p.m. The Dilemma (PG-13)
Last Showing

Tuesday, March 29, 2011
7 p.m. The Rite (PG-13)

Wednesday, March 30, 2011
7 p.m. No Strings Attached (R)

Thursday, March 31, 2011
7 p.m. Country Strong (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
Cream of mushroom soup, Creole soup, sauerbraten, hot and spicy chicken, fried rice, oven glo potatoes, fried zucchini, calico corn, dinner rolls, potato salad, mixed fruit salad, standard salad bar, congo bars, double layer marble cake with butter cream frosting and blueberry crunch

Tuesday
Cream of potato soup, chicken noodle soup, southern fried chicken, barbecue beef cubes, steamed rice, buttered pasta, black eye peas, Creole squash, corn bread, macaroni salad, deviled potato salad, standard salad bar, chocolate chip cookies, spice cake with butter cream frosting and lemon meringue pie.

Wednesday
Cream of broccoli soup, vegetable soup, tempura fish, pepper steak with brown gravy, steamed rice, oven glo potatoes, glazed carrots, club spinach, dinner rolls, potato salad, country style tomato salad, standard salad bar, peanut butter cookies, double layer devil's food cake with butter cream frosting and cheese cake.

Thursday
Tomato soup, cream of chicken soup, baked ham macaroni and tomatoes, fried shrimp, fettuccini noodles with alfredo sauce, grilled cheese sandwich, tempura vegetables, peas and carrots, dinner rolls, macaroni salad, German tomato salad, standard salad bar, sugar cookies, strawberry shortcake with whipped topping and vanilla cream pie.

Friday
Clam chowder, minestrone soup, braised beef and noodles, baked fish, mashed potatoes, fried cabbage, mix vegetables, chicken gravy, dinner rolls, potato salad, spinach salad, banana bread, short bread cookies, Dutch apple pie.

Kokutaiji rip up Wolverines in Goodwill championship game

LANCE CPL. CHARLIE CLARK
IWAKUNI APPROACH STAFF

Kokutaiji dominated the Wolverines 28-11 during the 2011 Youth Sports Goodwill Basketball Tournament championship game at the IronWorks Gym sports courts here March 13.

Kyoichiro Imori, Kokutaiji center, won the tip-off against Malik Hale, Wolverines' power forward.

Both teams made four points each in the first five minutes of the first quarter.

"I felt like a fish out of water during this game but we still pulled through," Yuki Konishi, Kokutaiji small forward, said.

Imori stole the ball and was fouled. He got his team two more points coming off the line making it 6-4.

Kokutaiji distanced their lead when Yudai Sasai, Kokutaiji point guard, stole the ball and made a layup followed by Taiga Kagawa, Kokutaiji power forward, who capitalized on a rebound ending the first quarter at 10-4.

"My policy is defense first," Akio Nishi, Kokutaiji, head coach, said. "Offense will come naturally after a good fundamental understanding of defense."

The Wolverines started the second quarter with the ball, but Kagawa was quick to steal the ball twice and put four more points on the board for Kokutaiji 14-4.

Hale was the Wolverines only beacon of light during the second quarter. He put up a layup before getting injured and had to sit out the rest of the game.

Hale said when he was sent to the bench it seemed like the Wolverines momentum almost stopped, and Kokutaiji took full advantage of the opportunity.

By the end of the second quarter, Kokutaiji had a massive 25-6 lead.

Kokutaiji's Konishi started the third quarter off with a three-pointer.

Tamina L. Croom, Wolverines' small forward, ducked through the Kokutaiji defense to sink a layup making it 28-8.

Kokutaiji's defense stepped up its game to stop any more scoring attempts by the Wolverines' players for the rest of the third quarter.

"The other teams really put pressure on us during the tournament," Konishi said. "We have a strong defense, and that really helped us get the win."

Possession went back and forth at the start of the fourth quarter.

Jamarkis M. Croom, Wolverines' power forward, was fouled when he attempted a layup and came off the line with one point for his team. Rion Holmes, Wolverines' point guard, stole the ball and was also fouled.

Holmes went two for two with time running out. With a final score of 28-11, Yadai Sasai, Kokutaiji team captain, Yudai Sasai, accepted the first place trophy during the closing ceremony.

Our practices are hard but the team really comes through during games like this said Sasai.

The Japanese teams that played during the tournament look forward to coming back to play again.



Jun Watanabe, Kokutaiji power forward, jumps over Makkai Legette, Wolverines point guard, during the 2011 Youth Sports Goodwill Basketball Tournament championships at the IronWorks Gym sports courts here March 13. The Wolverines weren't able to keep Kokutaiji from taking the championship.



Kyoichiro Imori, Kokutaiji center, flew past the Wolverines defense to put up a layup during the 2011 Youth Sports Goodwill Basketball Tournament championships at the IronWorks Gym sports courts here March 13. Kokutaiji's offense dominated the second quarter by making 15 points.



CPL. ANDREA M. OLGUIN

Marines with the 31st Marine Expeditionary Unit ride in a C-130 during a flight to Matsushima, Japan, in support of Operation Tomodachi March 18. Marine Corps Air Station Iwakuni is an essential strategic co-located air and sea port which serves with the government of Japan as a logistical and resupply hub in support of Operation Tomodachi. Because of its long-standing and close working relationship with its Japanese counterparts on a daily basis, the air station is able to coordinate government of Japan requests and rapidly respond with critically needed capabilities and supplies in times of crises.



GUNNERY SGT. MICHAEL K. KROPIEWICKI

Harbor operations personnel here off-load cargo from the Combi Dock IV, 836th Transportation Battalion, Surface Deployment and Distribution Command in support of Operation Tomodachi, Japan, March 16.

Operation Tomodachi



CPL. ANDREA M. OLGUIN

Staff Sgt. Jason Humphrey, a loadmaster with Marine Aerial Refueler Transport Squadron 152, is silhouetted as he rolls up a safety harness on the back of a C-130 before departing for Matsushima, Japan, to drop off humanitarian aid supplies in support of Operation Tomodachi here March 18.



CPL. ANDREA M. OLGUIN

A Marine waits to board a C-130 that will take him to Yamagata, Japan, in support of Operation Tomodachi here March 15. Marine Corps Air Station Iwakuni is an essential strategic co-located air and sea port which serves as a logistical and resupply hub in support of Operation Tomodachi.