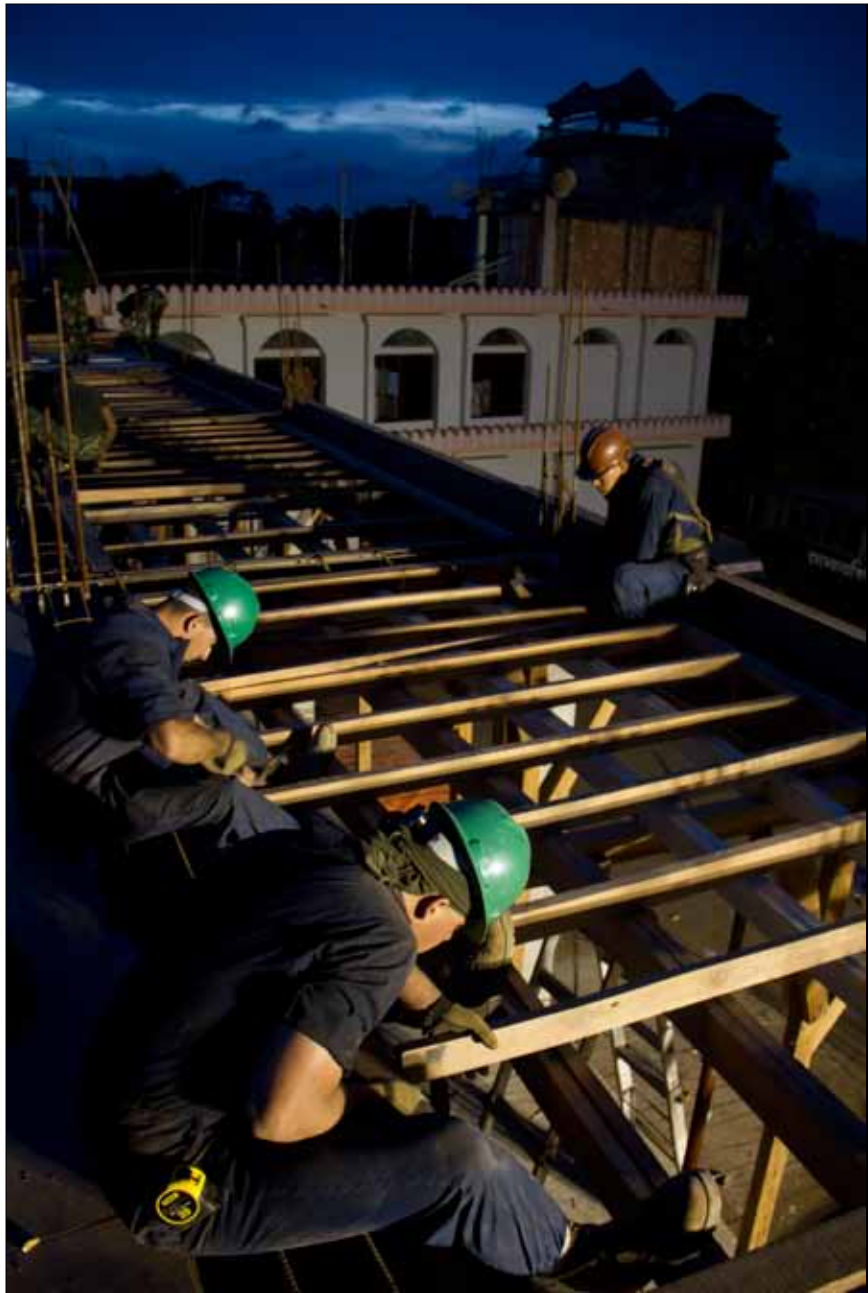


THE IWAKUNI APPROACH

Issue No. 38 Vol. 5 | Marine Corps Air Station Iwakuni, Japan



LANCE CPL. TODD F. MICHALEK

Marine Wing Support Squadron 171 Marines work during the night in Dhaka, Bangladesh, Sept. 13, 2012. MWSS-171 went to Bangladesh as part of an Engineering Civil Action Program to enhance the relationship between the United States and Bangladesh by building the second story of Hazi Joyuddin High School.

MWSS-171 stays vigilant, prepared for all things

LANCE CPL. B. A. STEVENS
IWAKUNI APPROACH STAFF

Marine Wing Support Squadron 171 continues to train all over the globe. In the past few months, the unit contributed Marines to five different exercises across the globe.

MWSS-171 deployments send their Marines all over the world to include Korea, Australia, Bangladesh, Guam, Thailand and even back to the U.S.

"Recently, we had Marines in Twentynine Palms and Bangladesh," said Sgt. Maj. Albert Diaz, MWSS-171 sergeant major.

The goal of the Bangladesh operation was to build a second floor on a schoolhouse while working side-by-side with Seabees and the local army.

Other deployments, such as to Twentynine Palms allow MWSS-171 Marines to train on equipment they cannot use aboard station due to lack of training area or ranges.

"The main mission of the exercise was to get our Marines used to using their crew served weapons and familiarize them with convoy operations," said Diaz.

Many Marines in the unit return from an exercise only a few weeks before they deploy to another location.

"The benefit we get from staying as busy as we do is that the Marines hone their skills

and gain the confidence that is required for them to operate the equipment," said Lt. Col. Howard Eyth, MWSS-171 commanding officer.

Marines who arrive to MWSS-171 straight from their school normally hit the ground running.

"Any Marine that changes stations from here is going to be an asset because this is the busiest unit that I've ever been a part of," said Gunnery Sgt. Timothy Thompson, MWSS-171 training chief. "If I was to receive a Marine from this unit, I know he would be proficient in his job regardless of what rank he is."

Marines are capable of packing up and moving on a moment's notice and can be gone for months.

"For me personally, I think it's a great experience, it gets kind of tiring moving from one place to another so often, but at the same time, it makes time spent in Japan go by a lot faster," said Cpl. Jesse Hayden, MWSS-171 motor transportation operator. "This is my first duty station and I didn't really know what to expect coming out of the schoolhouse, but I think moving around so much now will make being somewhere else that much easier," said Hayden.

MWSS-171 exemplifies the Marine Corps motto: adapt and overcome. With Marines deployed in exercises throughout the world, MWSS-171 proves its alacrity by upholding its symbolic phrase, "In Omnia Paratus," ready for all things.

Get Ready Day prepares station resident for life-or-death situations

LANCE CPL. CAYCE NEVERS
IWAKUNI APPROACH STAFF

When disaster strikes, who will be ready? Station residents attended Get Ready Day, held by Semper Fit Health Promotions, at Yujo Hall here Sept. 18, 2012, to learn what information and supplies they will need to be prepared.

Information was presented to the station residents by Semper Fit, Robert M. Casey Medical and Dental Clinic, Environmental, station Weather and the American Red Cross.

Preparation is key to save lives during disasters such as tsunamis, floods, earthquakes, hurricanes, tornadoes and disease outbreaks.

According to the American Public Health Association website, as a general rule of thumb, a three-day to one-week supply of food and water should be kept in the home at all times.

Keeping a stockpile of food that does not require refrigeration or a microwave is the safest bet in case no electricity is available the APHA website also stated.

Other items in case of emergencies include flashlights, batteries, manual can openers, radios and copies of important documents such as birth certificates, passports, marriage certificates, etcetera.

Depending on the circumstances and family needs, extra medical supplies or other necessities may be required.

APHA website recommends placing the emergency preparedness supplies somewhere where there is less temptation to borrow from the supplies. Preparedness supplies expiration date checks should happen at least once or twice a year.

To find out what type of supplies to put in emergency stockpiles, the APHA has a free checklist available at their official website.


Another topic discussed during Get Ready Day was Noncombatant Evacuation Operation during emergencies.

NEOs evacuate personnel who are not essential to continuing the mission in case disaster strikes.

Most NEO participants are spouses and children. In certain cases, where children have only one or dual-military parents, the parents must give a special power of attorney for temporary custody to an acquaintance who is going on the NEO, said Jeffrey Fleming, Marine Aviation Logistics Squadron 12 family readiness officer.

Making sure shots are up to date and how the Navy and Marine Corps Relief Society can help during emergencies were also discussed.

Information on specific disasters, other emergencies, checklists and more can be found at the official APHA website at <http://www.getreadyforflu.org/newsite.htm>.



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Editorial content is edited, prepared and provided by the Public Affairs Office of Marine Corps Air Station Iwakuni, Japan. All queries concerning news and editorial content should be directed to the Public Affairs Office, Building One, Room 216. Call 253-5551.

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

Trust

LT. T. L. SKELTON
STATION CHAPLAIN

When asking someone their definition of trust, there can be various answers. However, trust is most often defined as confidence, a confidence we have in those we work with, friends and most importantly, loved ones.

For many, loved ones are the significant others in their lives.

When we say we love someone, especially in relationships, most of us understand this includes trust and confidence that the person would never intentionally hurt or harm us.

Unfortunately, too often this is not the case. Because of our infallibility as humans, we have a tendency to lack in this area.

While it may never be an actual intent to break the trust or confidence of those who have regarded us so highly, it happens.

When trust is broken or special confidence is betrayed, an emotional breach is created, which often leads to the demise of the relationship.

Many recover and do well while others simply limp along. They learn to live with the betrayal, but never truly restore their trust and confidence back with the individual.

Is it possible to truly restore the trust and confidence in any relationship? Yes, I do believe it is possible. However, it will require a lot of hard work and dedication from all involved and divine intervention.

There is a saying that states, “The family that prays together stays together.”

I will admit there is some truth to this statement.

Prayer is nothing more than communication or a conversation with God.

We are always reminded that the key to any healthy relationship is communication. There is no difference in our communication

with God than with each other.

Allowing God to be the focal point of your relationships and how we treat others will help build those trusting relationships we desire. This can only work if everyone is in agreement.

Amos 3:3 NIV states, “Do two walk together unless they have agreed to do so?”

The answer of course is no, if they haven’t agreed or yes, if they have agreed. There has to be a mutual understanding and desire to move forward. Move forward from the day when you decide to restore your relationship and rebuild your trust. Will it happen overnight? No, because the broken trust didn’t happen overnight, but in time it will heal. What better way to strengthen your relationship than building upon a solid foundation in Christ? Philippians 4:13 NIV states, “I can do everything through Him who gives me strength.”

This includes rebuilding and restoring trust and confidence in any broken relationship.

LOCAL STUDENTS SHOWCASE LANGUAGE SKILLS AT 51ST ANNUAL JAS SPEECH CONTEST

JAMIE TIPPIT
SPECIAL SUBMISSION

For the last 50 years, The Japanese American Society (JAS) has hosted an annual speech contest. Speech contests are held throughout Japan and are extremely popular. The purpose is to allow participants to present original composed speeches in a language other than their first language. The participants are placed in different categories based on their school grade and proficiency levels and judged by local educators from both Iwakuni City and Marine Corps Air Station Iwakuni. This year, the JAS event will be held at the Sinfonia Iwakuni on Nov. 4, 2012. Our contest is advertised in both Yamaguchi and Hiroshima Prefectures. It averages around

100 participants, both American and Japanese, and is unique for the following reasons.

First, the contest is a community service event for our organization; therefore, we waive the typical registration fee of 1,000 yen which other contest coordinators charge throughout Japan. This is greatly appreciated by our participants and reflects positively on JAS and MCAS Iwakuni.

Second, our speech contest is the only contest in all of Japan that is open to elementary school-age students. It is truly a unique opportunity we are offering the youth in this area. Because of its immense popularity, we are discussing ways to allow for a larger number of students in this age range to participate.

Third, and most importantly, our speech contest has what

other contests do not. We have categories specifically designed for American participants giving speeches in Japanese. In the past, we had MCAS Iwakuni active duty Marines, spouses, Department of Defense civilians and students from Matthew C. Perry Schools participate. Some of the adult participants take Japanese classes from JAS and others from the University of Maryland University College or other schools. Many of the students participating in this contest learn Japanese in the DoD Education Activity schools, the Japanese school system, such as yochien and shogokko, or through Kumon and other tutoring programs. This year, JAS will provide tutoring at no cost to the students, to help them prepare for the contest. This is a unique

opportunity for the residents of MCAS Iwakuni not only to show off their language skills but also to interact positively with the community. It helps participants to get comfortable speaking in front of large groups, as there are approximately 300 people in attendance each year.

The purpose of JAS is to strengthen the bonds of friendship and understanding between the citizens of the U.S. located here at MCAS Iwakuni and the Japanese citizens of the local community. The primary means of accomplishing this goal is through education, social and cultural opportunities.

For more information about the speech contest, please call the JAS Office at 253-4744 or email office@jas-iwakuni.org.

October Promotions

MWSS-171
Lance Cpl.
Asplin, Bradley
Basil, Christopher
Beiersdorf, Jon
Cuyler, Zachary
Goudreau, Maxwell
Hayes, Evan
Jorgenson, Nathaniel
Lewis, Joseph
Lynn, Damian
Mendezrodriguez, Marco
Montalvo Jr., Jose
Nurdin, Halim
Romulus, Benjamin
Sanchez, Jorge
Tibbetts IV, Roy
Woodfin, Kenneth

Cpl.
Alcisto, Tyler
Arbuckle, Zachary
Canas, Victor
Clark, Dakota
Costorf, Bryan
Curtis, Sheldon
Hayden, Jesse
Jackson, Dana
Kalman, Corey
Karwatka, Mark
Lavigne, Eric
Morris, Alexander
Mortiz, Mishael
Paramore, Shazyia
Paulino, Steven
Rodriguez, Frank
Shure, Ronald
Silloway, Tyler
Smith, Matthew
Stewart, Adam
Tsosie, Elwood

Sgt.
Burgan, Kevin
McGlone, Joshua
Shull, Emily

Staff Sgt.
Beaton, Mark

MALS-12
Lance Cpl.
Aulibrice, Daphner
Farris, Tiroy
Khan, Akbar
Lovely, Aariel
Ong, Gerald
Shane, Akeem
Sheehan, Matthew

Cpl.
Barrera, Jorge

Sgt.
Camacho, Gilberto
Tabor, Shane

Staff Sgt.
Gutierrez Jr., Martin

MAG-12
Lance Cpl.
Daehnke, Joshua
Motley, Larry
Ortiz, Russell

Cpl.
Rutherford, Rebecca

Staff Sgt.
Putnam Jr., Allen

VMFA(AW)-242
Lance Cpl.
Chanchavaccapriel, Carmen
Maldonado, Henry
Taylor, Thomas
Thomas, Davon
Veley, Jacob
Watts Jr., Terrance

Staff Sgt.
Franklin, Daniel

MACS-4 Det-B
Staff Sgt.
Johnson, Kelly
Ortega, Christopher
Saenz, Richard

H&HS
Lance Cpl.
Bennett, Adam
Hinojasa IV, Tony
Martin, William
Rayis, Anthony
Taylor, Dylan
Walters, Thomas
Winterringer, James

Cpl.
Cleary, Tremain
Rhoades, Nicholas

Sgt.
Ritchie, John

Staff Sgt.
Pacheco II, Joseph

CLC-36
Lance Cpl.
Brewer, Logan
Gastelum, Jacob
Gordon, Levi
Lee, Jordan
Lucas, Jonathan
Pritchett, Korey
Reynolds, Dakota
Wood, Anthony

Sgt.
Adams, Dustin
Brantley, Geoffrey
Echeverria Jr., Dener

Staff Sgt.
Somtakoune, Morakoth

Want to see how the lessons worked? Join the Japanese American Society at our

51ST Annual Speech Contest

Sunday, November 4th, 1 to 4pm Sinfonia Hall Downtown Iwakuni, Japan

Free Tutoring is Available to American Participants
For more Information, call the JAS Office at 253-4744

AFN Iwakuni conducts live broadcasting



Lance Cpl. Amy Douglas, American Forces Network Broadcaster, delivers the news update inside the AFN building here Oct. 10, 2012. AFN Iwakuni continues to give live news briefs to be ready for emergencies.



Lance Cpl. Amy Douglas, American Forces Network Broadcaster, delivers the news update inside the AFN building here Oct. 10, 2012. AFN delivers a live broadcast at the end of each month. They also host a live radio show daily.

LANCE CPL. B. A. STEVENS
IWAKUNI APPROACH STAFF

American Forces Network Iwakuni does something here not many other stations in the Marine Corps or Department of Defense do. They go live. AFN Iwakuni conducts live news broadcasts on a monthly basis and live radio broadcasts on a daily basis.

“The importance of live broadcasting is immediacy,” said Gunnery Sgt. Troy Ruby, AFN Iwakuni station manager. “At any time we would need to go to a live broadcast, we know the process and steps to put a broadcaster on live to pass emergency information efficiently and quickly.”

The live broadcast looks the same to viewers, the only way to tell the broadcast is live is by the actions of the broadcaster.

“We use to have a bug, the little AFN logo, that would say live, but the machine for that stopped working so it looks the same as a recorded news broadcasting would,” said Ruby.

Viewers may not know the broadcast is live, but to the ones relaying the news, it is evident.

“Even though the viewers aren’t aware that the broadcast is live, we do,” said Lance Cpl. Amy Douglas, AFN broadcaster. “The more I go on a live broadcast, the more comfortable I am with it. At first I was hesitant, but once I get on the air my training from school kicks in.”

A live broadcast puts trust and confidence on behalf of the command in the hands of the Marines and sailors on air.

Ruby added AFN Marines record TV broadcasts weekly, with the goal of treating each one as if it were live.

Even though the broadcast is live, the news topics are generally the same as a recorded broadcasting would be.

“We always have local news, weather, sports as well as command information that needs passed,” said Ruby.

Pulling off a live TV broadcast requires significant manpower and everyone has to be in sync for the operation to run smoothly.

“You have to have camera operators, directors as well as anchors and a lot of stations just don’t have the manpower to support the operation,” said Ruby.

Working at AFN Iwakuni, offers Marines and sailors opportunities many stations can’t.

“I’m really proud to be a part of AFN because it’s such a unique opportunity,” said Douglas. “It offers an experience that few people in my job field will ever be afforded.”



A Matthew C. Perry Elementary School student works on his homework during power hour at the Youth and Teen Center here Oct. 1, 2012. Tutors assist students with homework to ensure it is done correctly. If the tutors have trouble answering a student’s question, they use a 24/7 tutoring website.

Youth Teen Center hosts children's homework hour

LANCE CPL. B. A. STEVENS
IWAKUNI APPROACH STAFF

Students from Matthew C. Perry Elementary School gather Monday through Thursday, 3-4 p.m., for homework hour at the Youth and Teen Center here.

The program has been in place for seven years. Students have 30 minutes directly after school to unwind but as soon as 3 p.m. hits, its work time. Tutors assist students to ensure they do their assignments correctly.

“They have so many things going on at school, so if they don’t have that extra time they can come here,” said Keesah Barnes, Marine Corps Community Services program assistant and student tutor.

Students take part in activities outside of school as well, making time management an essential part of their day.

“At 4:15 p.m., most of the kids will leave and go to whatever youth sports they are in,” said Eugene Clark, director of the Youth and Teen center.

During school months, many parents and students are busy and have strict time schedules.

“During the school year, students have a substantial work load and many kids are in youth sports,” said Clark. “The Marines and sailors aboard the station are working and many of them don’t get off until 4:30 or 5 p.m. Our goal is to have their homework completed before they go home so parents can check it after dinner and be prepared for the next day.”

The hour of homework assistance provided by the Youth and Teen Center can be beneficial to everyone.

“This is a win-win situation for everyone,

the school, parents and kids,” said Clark.

The homework hour rewards students who attend often and complete their homework in a timely manner.

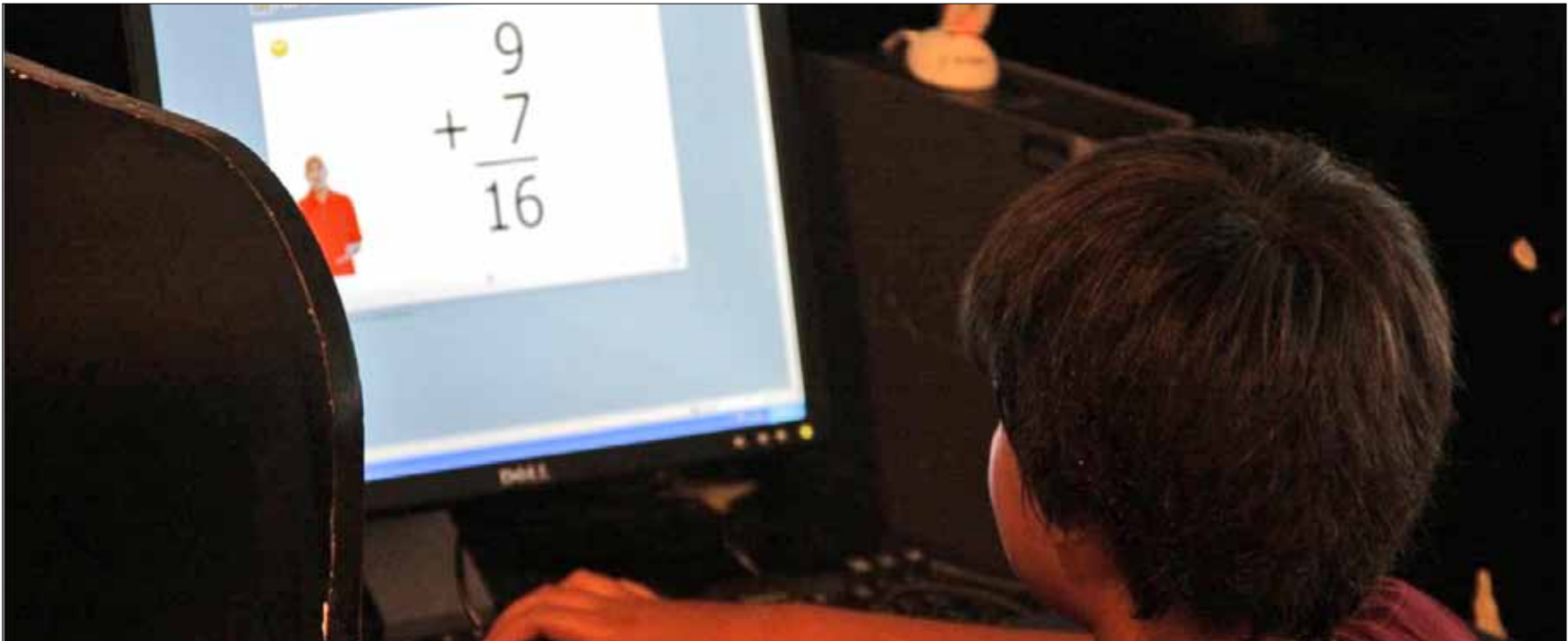
“We give incentives at the end of each month such as snacks and refreshments,” said Clark. “The goal is to keep them motivated, dedicated and coming back.”

With the program running for seven years straight, it has adapted over time.

“Every year something new is added. Last year, we added the tutor website,” said Clark. “The website allows students to get help on things the tutors might not know. It was added last year but is utilized more this year.”

The overall mission of the hour is to please everyone.

“If the kids and parents are happy, we’re happy,” said Clark.



A Matthew C. Perry Elementary School student works on his homework during power hour at the Youth and Teen Center here Oct. 1, 2012. The goal of homework hour is to have students' homework completed so that the student is adequately prepared for the next school day. The homework hour allows students extra time to finish tasks they may not have had time to complete during the school day.

Adventure waits at Sandankyo Gorge

SGT. CHARLES E. MCKELVEY
IWAKUNI APPROACH STAFF

The average unaccompanied Marine spends approximately 63,899,200 seconds in Japan during a two year tour at Marine Corps Air Station Iwakuni.

Many of these seconds waste away while Marines complain about being stuck in Japan or sitting around their barracks, oblivious to the adventures awaiting them.

One of these adventures could be a trip to the Sandankyo Gorge, less than a 90 minute drive from MCAS Iwakuni.

The gorge is also accessible by bus and is about one hour from the Hiroshima bus station.

Sandankyo remained unknown to the public until approximately 1910 when Nanpo Kuma, a photographer from Hiroshima, discovered its beauty and value. Kuma's efforts were complete when the area received designation as a national place of scenic beauty in 1925 and as a national special place of scenic beauty in 1953.

The Sandankyo Gorge consists of the Shibaki River, a tributary to the Ota River. The Shibaki flows through fault valleys to form a large number of falls and rapids extending 10 miles.

One of the highlights of Sandankyo is Sandantaki Falls, or Three-Step Falls. Some of its visitors call this area the most beautiful spot in the Sandan Valley.

Sandantaki Falls is just one of the many falls to visit while negotiating the river-lined trails.

Nidantaki Falls, an area accessible only via riverboat, waits behind a six-foot wide passage through sheer cliffs. The falls are one of the must-see treasures and to get to their location, one must navigate a four-mile trek.

In addition to the Sandankyo Gorge, there are other sights, such as the Sandankyo-onsen Hot Spring and Mt. Osorakan-zan, where a forest creates a canopy above the mountaintop.

For those interested in visiting Sandankyo, Marine Corps Community Services is slated to host a trip Nov. 3, 2012. The trail requires moderate skill and is appropriate for most fitness levels. An adult must accompany attendees less than 18 years old. Bus transportation leaves from Ironworks Gym. A \$15 transportation fee is due at the Outdoor Recreation Office when signing up. Registration opens this week. For more information, call 253-3822.



A sign describes the process for visitors to call for a riverboat to come pick them up at Sandankyo Gorge. There are various locations where visitors can see hidden areas of the gorge that are viewable only by riverboat. Visitors can take a ride on the riverboats for 400 yen per person.



A bridge spans the width of the Shibaki River, which flows approximately 10 miles, allowing hikers to continue their journey throughout Sandankyo. After many years, adverse weather destroyed some parts of the trail requiring repairs such as the bridge to be made.



One of the highlights of Sandankyo is Sandantaki Falls or Three-Step Falls. Some of its visitors call this area the most beautiful spot in the Sandan Valley.



Many waterfalls like this line the 10 miles of trails at Sandankyo Gorge. Hikers must navigate the trails to visit some of the most treasured sights such as Nidantaki and Sandandaki, which are the largest waterfalls in the area.



A riverboat captain navigates through the narrow passages that lead Sandankyo Gorge visitors to a hidden waterfall called Nidantaki. Sandankyo was brought to the public's eye when Hiroshima photographer Nanpo Kuma discovered the natural beauty of the location in 1910.

CORPS NEWS

HIGHLIGHTING MARINES AND SAILORS AROUND THE GLOBE

Stocked up, moving out: Mobile post exchange serves Marines anywhere

CPL. TIMOTHY LENZO
COMBAT LOGISTICS BATTALION

FORWARD OPERATING BASE JACKSON, Afghanistan — The mobile exchange is a service civilians might not know about. But to Marines serving in Afghanistan, it is something to look forward to.

The warfighter exchange service team runs the mobile exchange unit, traveling throughout the area and reaching the Marines on the front lines. The truck is a store on wheels, complete with cashier and security.

“We take a 20-foot container and make a store out of it,” said Sgt. Christopher Sherrill, a Marine Corps Community Services noncommissioned officer with Combat Logistics Regiment 15. “We stock the shelves in it like you would see in a regular store.”

Once the container is filled, the Marines travel to different bases throughout the area. The mobile store is stocked with everything including canned food, protein powder, hygiene gear and magazines.

“We bring the stuff of a normal exchange out to the Marines who don’t have access to one,” said Sherrill from Mount Ulla, N.C.

Marines live in a variety of different conditions when deployed. Many smaller bases do not have a store to purchase extra

food or supplies from. Sherrill and his team provide the Marines with a store on wheels.

“It fills a gap for the Marines,” said Sgt. Tyler Sylvester another NCO with the team. “Sometimes they don’t have care packages coming out to them, so when we pull up with our truck, the Marines are always happy to see us.”

The arrival of the truck helps build morale for the Marines.

“It’s something to look forward to,” said Lance Cpl. Mark Sullivan, a Marine with Charlie Company, 1st Battalion, 7th Marine Regiment, Regimental Combat Team 6. “I really appreciate any time they show up.”

The size of the base often dictates how long the store will stay. Sometimes it will travel to several bases on the same day, at other bases the store will stay for two or three days.

Occasionally the team has been creative to reach the Marines.

“We’ve actually set up our truck outside the wire,” said Sylvester. “There was one time we set up in a local town because the base couldn’t fit us.”

Outside the wire is a military term that means being outside the walls and safety of the base.

The team tries to hit each base every 21 days. The team serves between 1,500 to 2,000

Marines and average 300 to 500 Marines at each base.

“Right now we have six bases that have less than 10 Marines,” said Sylvester. “As long as there is just one or two Marines at a location, we will try to get there.”

The team usually travels by ground convoy between the bases. Improvised explosive devices are prevalent in Afghanistan, but the team focuses on the service they provide to the Marines and not the dangers involved in getting there.

“We are out here to take care of the Marines,” said Sherrill. “That’s what I like about my job. I enjoy helping people.”

The Marines appreciate the truck too, often trying to accommodate the team as much as possible.

Sylvester said they often do not have power or housing when they reach their destination, but the Marines will find them some. He added the Marines bring them chow and water while the team works to keep the truck open. For the Marines, it is one way to say thank you.

Soon the truck will pack up and leave this base. The team will head out to a new location in Helmand province and provide other Marines the opportunity to shop at the traveling mobile exchange.



CPL. TIMOTHY LENZO
Sgt. Christopher Sherrill, a noncommissioned officer with the warfighter exchange service team, Combat Logistic Regiment 15, supervises Marines inside a mobile store, Sept. 25, 2012. The store is in a container stocked with the normal things an exchange on base has.



CPL. TIMOTHY LENZO
Marines buy food, protein powders, hygiene gear and other useful items from a mobile exchange, Sept. 25, 2012. Marines with Combat Logistics Regiment 15 travel throughout the area to Marines, bringing them the services of a regular store.



CPL. TIMOTHY LENZO
Sgt. Tyler Sylvester, a noncommissioned officer with the warfighter exchange service team, Combat Logistics Regiment 15, works the cash register outside the mobile exchange, Sept. 25, 2012. The team supplies 1,500 to 2,000 Marines with a store at bases without an exchange.

COMMUNITY BRIEFS | CLASSIFIEDS

Briefs

Active-Reserve Career Information
Marines seeking information about transitioning to the Reserve component should contact Gunnery Sgt. Robert Noyes, Okinawa Active-Reserve Career Planner, at (315) 622-6004 or send him an e-mail at robert.noyes@usmc.mil.

Unit Reporting Numbers
When filling out envelopes for Combined Federal Campaign donations, the unit reporting number required corresponds to a person's unit. Unit reporting numbers for the station include:

- 1480006-Robert M. Casey Medical and Dental Health Clinic
- 1480008-Department of Defense Dependents School Matthew C. Perry Elementary School
- 1480009-DoDDS M.C. Perry High School
- 1480021-Defense Commissary Agency Iwakuni
- 1480031-Marine Corps Community Services Food & Hospitality
- 1480032-MCCS Services
- 1480033-MCCS Retail
- 1480034-MCCS Semper Fit
- 1480035-MCCS Marine & Family Services
- 1480036-MCCS Support
- 1480037-MCCS Miscellaneous/Executive Office/Internal Co.
- 1480038-H&HS Provost Marshal's Office
- 1480039-H&HS Logistics
- 1480040-H&HS Operations
- 1480041-H&HS Facilities
- 1480042-H&HS Administration
- 1480100-Iwakuni Friends

VRAP
The Veterans Retraining Assistance Program provides eligible veterans, those 35 to 60-years-old, with education benefits for up to 12 months of training. For more information, visit www.benefits.va.gov/VOW or call 888-442-4551.

Mothers of Preschoolers
MOPS offers fun support and encouragement for mothers of newborns to age five. Meetings are the 1st and 3rd Thursday each month. Volunteers are also needed to help with the children's program. For more information, call Sarah Spencer at 253-2303 or visit www.facebook.com/IwakuniMOPS.

Gospel Choir
Gospel choir practice will be held every Thursday night in preparation for the 2012 Annual Christmas Concert. For more information, call Billie Scott at 080-3272-5902 or e-mail billiej316@gmail.com.

Community Rooms
Community room inspections are required in order to rent a community room. Patrons reserving community rooms risk losing their reservation by missing their inspection appointment. To schedule a community room or get more information, call Housing at 253-3341.

Time Machine Submissions
If you have a specific year you would like to see represented on the Iwakuni Time Machine Page, please contact the Public Affairs Office at Building 1, Room 216, or call 253-5551. If you would like your request to run in an upcoming week's paper, please submit at least three weeks in advance.

PMO Lost and Found
Contact the Provost Marshal's Office Lost and Found if you have lost anything around the station. Examples include helmets, cameras, cell phones, etc. For more information, to report lost items or to claim lost items, call Lance Cpl. Christopher Korsikas at 253-4929 or 253-3306.

Emergency Phone Numbers Reminder
Put these numbers in your wallet and phone:
• Anti-terrorism force protection hotline: 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.

Off-limit Establishments
The following establishments are off-limits:
• The multi-tenant building "NOW," Tenant occupant's names change frequently. Past names for this building include; Ran, Massage Parlor, Welcome American, Follow Me and F-18.
• Hiroshima's Tougan Goods Company.

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. Appointments are 8 a.m.- 3:30 p.m. For more information, call 253-6161.

Like To Draw?
The Iwakuni Approach is looking for artistic people with a sense of humor to submit cartoon drawings. If you are interested, bring your drawings by the Public Affairs Office, Building 1, Room 216. Public Affairs approves editorial content for cartoons published each week.

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 to be published. You may submit your brief or advertisement in person at the Public Affairs Office, Building 1, Room 216 or you may call 253-5551.

KUNI TOONS: JUST A PINCH

SO, WE'RE GONNA DRILL OUT TWO CAVITIES.

THEN, WE'LL FILL THEM IN NICE AND EASY.

RUMBLE RUMBLE RUMBLE RUMBLE RUMBLE RUMBLE

DON'T STRUGGLE. YOU'LL ONLY FEEL A SLIGHT PINCH.

SUBMITTED BY PATRICK ROY

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
Mon. — Thurs.	11:30 a.m. Weekday Mass
Protestant	
Sunday	9:30 a.m. Lutheran Service 10:30 a.m. Protestant Service 10:30 a.m. Children's Church 10:30 a.m. Church of Christ Meeting 1 p.m. Contemporary 5:30 p.m. FLOW (Youth Group)
Monday	7 p.m. Men's Bible Study
Tuesday	9 a.m. Ladies' Bible Study 5 p.m. Working Women Bible Study
Wednesday	10:30 a.m. Ladies' Tea 5:45 p.m. AWANA (Bldg. 1104)
2nd Saturday	7:30 a.m. Men's Discipleship
Bahai	
Sunday	11 a.m. Bahai Meeting

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

THE IWAKUNI APPROACH CULTURAL LESSONS

Kanji Adventures: Raijin

Lord Raijin, or Raijin-sama, is the Japanese god of lightning, thunder and storms. He is often depicted as a demon with red or blue skin. He has at his disposal a set of several drums which produce thunder and lightning as weapons. At his side is the wind god, Fujin. Raijin is one of the many gods and goddesses in Japanese mythology and provides an explanation for lightning and thunder.

Raijin-sama is known to have a companion beast called "Raiju," which means "thunder beast." Raiju was often depicted as a wolf or fox swathed in lightning. Its howls were said to be the cause of thunder.

Westerners may know Raijin by his Western name, Raiden, a character in the game Mortal Kombat. In it he is fitted in traditional Chinese monk attire with a broad-brimmed straw hat. This archetype can be traced back to the 1986 cult classic, "Big Trouble in Little China." In it, there are three characters who have varying characteristics of Raijin.

Raijin was also rumored to eat the navels or abdomens of young children. Parents often encouraged their children to hide their belly buttons during thunderstorms to keep Raijin from whisking them away.



Rai - thunder Kami/Shin- god

SAKURA THEATER

Friday, October 12, 2012
7 p.m. Trouble With the Curve (PG-13)
10 p.m. The Watch (R)

Monday, October 15, 2012
7 p.m. Step Up Revolution (PG-13)

Saturday, October 13, 2012
4 p.m. The Odd Life of Timothy Green (PG)
7 p.m. Step Up Revolution (PG-13)

Tuesday, October 16, 2012
Theater closed

Sunday, October 14, 2012
4 p.m. Diary of a Wimpy Kid: Dog Days (PG)
7 p.m. Looper (R)

Wednesday, October 17, 2012
Theater closed

Thursday, October 18, 2012
7 p.m. Trouble With the Curve (PG-13)
10 p.m. Looper (R)

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 \$3/ Ages 6-11 are \$1.50/ Children ages 5 and under admitted free. For more information, visit www.mccsiwakuni.com or call 253-5291.

This week in Samurai sports

The Matthew C. Perry High School football team traveled to Commander Fleet Activities Yokosuka, Japan (CFAY) Oct. 6, 2012, to take on the Nile C. Kinnick Yokosuka High School Red Devils in a frustrating 14-6 loss. Defense was a main focus of the game, with both teams giving their all.

The Samurai tennis team traveled to northern Honshu this weekend to compete in interscholastic tennis matches against the Edgren High School Eagles.

The Lady Samurai, led by Anne Naseer, overcame a 1-2 deficit to

rally for the 3-2 win.

Graysie Carreiro and Dana Alfara improved their games as well. The Lady Samurai are now 3-4-1 overall.

On the boys side, the Samurai won all five of their matches to improve to 7-0-1 and the season.

Sam Cadavos returned to his winning ways and Jon Cadavos and Gaku Lange worked well together on the doubles court.

Next weekend, the Samurai travel to Canadian Academy to compete in a Western Japan Athletic Association (WJAA) tournament.



Marine Wing Support Squadron 171 Marines climb the ropes of the obstacle course during the MWSS-171 quarterly field meet here at the IronWorks Gym Oct. 5, 2012. The obstacle course was the final event of the meet, pitting all four companies of the squadron against one another in a relay race.

MWSS-171 fosters camaraderie during field meet



Marine Wing Support Squadron 171 Marines Airfield Operations Company compete in the tug-of-war event during the MWSS-171 quarterly field meet here at the IronWorks Gym Oct. 5, 2012. Air field operations company emerged as the overall victor despite having only approximately 25 competitors.

LANCE CPL. J. GAGE KARWICK
IWAKUNI APPROACH STAFF

Marines and sailors with Marine Wing Support Squadron 171 gathered at the Ironworks Gym here, Oct. 5, 2012, to start the weekend off with a day of events during the squadron's quarterly field meet.

For MWSS-171, field meets are a way to bring all four companies of the squadron, headquarters, motor transport, airfield operations and engineers, together for a day of healthy competition.

"About once a quarter, 171 has a field meet, and we let all the companies compete against each other," said Lt. Col Howard Eyth, MWSS-171 commanding officer. "We start with a basketball tournament. We have relays in the pool and several other relays outside and we like to end it with the obstacle course relay."

A large squadron, such as MWSS-171, can make it difficult for Marines to get to know others from the different companies.

"One of the key benefits is we get to see all of our companies in one place," said Eyth. "Typically our companies are tasked out to support several various exercises and operations."

Eyth adds, it is important to get the Marines together to build strong ties and professional relationships with their command as well as the Marines around them.

The day ended with Airfield Operations Company taking the win, showing numbers do not necessarily

determine the victor.

"It feels good to come out with a small unit," said Maj. Matthew E. Halbert, MWSS-171 Airfield Operations Company commanding officer. "With the bulk of our company (on the Fleet Assistant Program) to the station or deployed in support of various exercises and operations, I definitely feel we brought a high level of competition with us. Having only about 25 competitors today, with many participating in several events, whereas the other companies having more participants to take part in the events, to compete at that level and defeat the other companies, it speaks to their drive, their motivation and fitness. To come out, compete at that level, and beat all the other larger companies says a lot. However, it was not unexpected to us. We came out expecting to win."

The level of competition could be seen throughout the day as companies wore their designated colors with pride.

"Marines are born to compete," said Eyth. "They are the truest born competitors by far, always striving to be the best at whatever it is they undertake. The thing that really motivates me is to see the level of competition the Marines bring to the field. I think it's in our blood as Marines to want to get out there and compete, and this is the perfect venue to allow the Marines to not only demonstrate their physical fitness and proficiency but also stay engaged in the squadron."

The Iwakuni Time Machine

In the Oct. 9, 1987, issue of the Torii Teller, Marines reported on Japan's athletic day, "Taiiku no hi," Gen. A. M. Gray, the 29th commandant, visiting the air station and speaking to officers and staff noncommissioned officers and a bazaar hosted by the Matthew C. Perry Parent Teacher Organization.



McGruff arrives

McGruff, the famed crime dog, arrived Sept. 30 aboard an EA-6B Prowler, courtesy of VMAQ-2, to kick off October as Crime Prevention Month aboard the Air Station.

Although it was 1980 when McGruff rose to the crime fighter spotlight through the efforts of the National Crime Prevention Coalition and the National Ad Council, he first debuted here in 1985. He has since returned annually during October to assist the Provost Marshal's Office spread the crime prevention message through the Air Station community.

McGruff's "get the people involved" approach to fighting crime focuses on fostering a greater awareness among people of actions they, as individuals, can take to prevent crime. He points out, "There are three elements to every crime--ability, desire and opportunity. The idea is to deny a criminal the opportunity. Locking your bike and participating in Operation Identification are two ways to deny crime opportunity."

For more information on crime prevention measures or Crime Prevention Month activities, call PMO's Crime Prevention Section at 3287. FF

38 firefighters graduated Fire prevention everyone's job

Fire Prevention Week, which began Sunday and ends Saturday, stresses the importance of public awareness in the prevention of fires.

The Station Fire Department is helping to bring this message to the public through numerous billboards positioned across the Air Station stressing fire prevention safety measures.

M.C. Perry School students learned this week more about what they could do to prevent fires and what equipment firefighters use, in a demonstration presented by the fire department.

In conjunction with fire prevention week, 38 Japanese firefighters graduated a two-week required training class here Oct. 2. This is the first class of this type held for DoD firefighters in Japan.



These Japanese firefighters were graduated from a required two-week training class Oct. 2 in conjunction with Fire Prevention Week. This was the first such class held for DoD firefighters in Japan.

Station Fire Chief Ben T. Suzuki, recently awarded the Meritorious Service Award, along with Lucien Imundi, president of

the National Fire Service Command Logistics Institute, New York City, were on hand to witness the graduation ceremony. FF