

THE IWAKUNI APPROACH

Issue No. 8 Vol. 6 | Marine Corps Air Station Iwakuni, Japan



CPL. VANESSA JIMENEZ

An F/A-18D Hornet aircraft conducts fixed-wing aerial refueling Feb. 19, 2013, after taking off from Wing One Royal Thai Air Force Base, Nakhon Ratchasima, Kingdom of Thailand, during exercise Cobra Gold 2013. Thailand and the U.S. are committed to working together in areas of common interest for the betterment of regional security and, through exercises like CG 13, strengthening the alliance between the two nations. The aircraft is assigned to Marine All Weather Fighter Attack Squadron 224, Marine Aircraft Group 12, 1st Marine Aircraft Wing, III Marine Expeditionary Force.

Hercules refuel Hornets midair during Cobra Gold 2013

Cpl. Vanessa Jimenez
IWAKUNI APPROACH STAFF

NAKHON RATCHASIMA, Kingdom of Thailand – F/A-18D Hornets received fuel from KC-130J Hercules aircraft midair during fixed-wing aerial refueling operations Feb. 19, 2013 after taking off from Wing One Royal Thai Air Force

Base, Nakhon Ratchasima, Kingdom of Thailand, as a part of exercise Cobra Gold 2013. The Hercules are assigned to Marine Aerial Refueler Transport Squadron 152, Marine Aircraft Group 36, 1st Marine Aircraft Wing, III Marine Expeditionary Force, and the Hornets are with Marine All Weather Fighter Attack Squadron

224, MAG-12, 1st MAW. Cobra Gold is a recurring multinational and multiservice exercise, which takes place annually in Thailand and was developed by the Thai and U.S. militaries. "Our overall mission for Cobra Gold is to support the (air combat element), provide fixed-wing aerial refueling, and provide

aerial delivery for troops," said Maj. Marlin D. Williams, detachment officer-in-charge and pilot with VMGR-152. "We also came here to do some additional unit training to get ourselves proficient in other portions of Marine aviation and to get our pilots more proficient in their air

SEE **HERCULES** ON PAGE 3

Iwakuni Marine wins Far East Division Championship

Lance. Cpl. B. A. Stevens
IWAKUNI APPROACH STAFF

After marksmen fired countless rounds down range and the smell of gunpowder lifted, an Iwakuni Marine emerged as a champion and bearer of two gold shooting badges.

Staff Sgt. Elliott A. Stanton, Marine Aircraft Group 12 electronic management system alternate manager, brought gold

to Iwakuni after finishing first in pistol and fourth in rifle at the Far East Divisional Championship, Camp Schwab, Okinawa, Japan, Jan. 18 – Feb. 1, 2013.

The Marine Corps hosts divisional shooting matches where the top 10 percent receive shooting badges. The best, such as Stanton, are then selected to go to the championship.

SEE **SHOOTER** ON PAGE 3

Station cub scouts celebrate during Blue and Gold Banquet

Lance Cpl. J. Gage Karwick
IWAKUNI APPROACH STAFF

Station Cub Scouts hosted their annual Blue and Gold Banquet to present awards and promotions to scouts here Feb. 22, 2013, in the Matthew C. Perry Elementary School cafeteria.

Along with promotions and awards, the scouts also partook in a birthday celebration for the

Boy Scouts of America.

"This year, we are having a space theme," said Robert A. Russell, troop 77 new cubmaster.

Russell also added that during the ceremony, the scouts will say goodbye to their current cubmaster." Cub troops have many opportunities to experience new and exciting events other children don't get

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Freedom and equality | P. 4



EGRESS

Learn how to do barrel rolls | P. 5



YOUTH

Let them shoot baskets | P. 11



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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

Time for Lent

Lt. Fulgencio L. Legaspi
H&HS STATION
CHAPLAIN

Lent is the 40 days of preparation prior to Easter and starts on Ash Wednesday. Lent comes from the Germanic word “Lenz,” meaning “Spring.” That is why the Lenten season falls on spring time. Lent is a time for us to reflect on “life” because the life of spring follows the dead of winter. During Ash Wednesday, Catholic Christians in particular place ashes on their foreheads as a reminder that our lives are dust and to dust we shall return. During this time of Lent in Christian tradition, an individual will deny something and spend a lot of time in prayer and perseverance to help get through it. The three pillars for the celebration of Lent are prayer, fasting and almsgiving.

Regardless of religious affiliation or lack thereof, an individual can practice these three pillars because of the spiritual and physical benefits they offer.

One of the good things in fasting is we detoxify our bodies. Through fasting, one can practice self-control and discipline as one denies the natural desires of the flesh. During spiritual fasting, the believer's focus is removed from the physical things of this world and intensely concentrated on God.

One who prays connects the person to God and to higher beings. As we pray, we become stronger and better. I remember the popular saying: “A person who does not pray seven days makes one weak.”

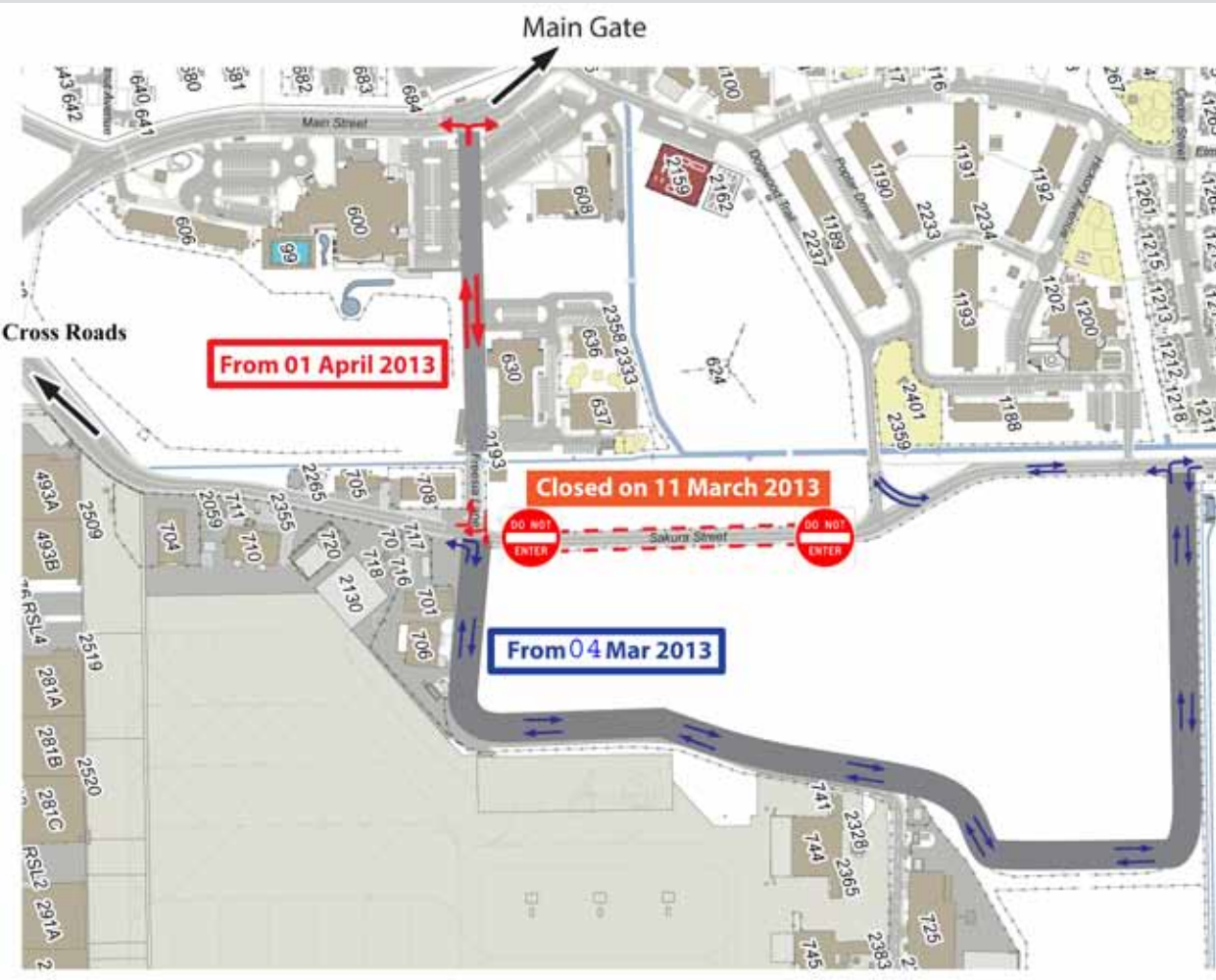
Almsgiving is a form of assisting the needy as prompted by works of charity. Almsgiving makes a person other-oriented, as opposed to self-centered.

Some things for us to remember during Lent: 1. It's a time to fast.

2. It's a time to pray. 3. It's a time for almsgiving and doing charitable works. 4. It's a time to do something positive to make progress in life. 5. It's a time for us to reflect that we are dust and to dust we shall return. 6. It's a time to love as God loved us. 7. It's a time to reach out to others. 8. It's a time to change for the better. 9. It's a time to deny the self and abstain from sin. 10. It's a time to have a game plan to attain salvation.

The prophet Isaiah (Isaiah 1:16-18) urges us to do something; “Wash and make yourselves clean. Take your evil deeds out of my sight; stop doing wrong. Learn to do right; seek justice. Defend the oppressed. Take up the cause of the fatherless; plead the case of the widow. Come now, let us settle the matter,” says the Lord. “Though your sins are like scarlet, they shall be as white as snow; though they are as red as crimson, they shall be like wool.

DPRI road construction



With the continual upgrading of the air station and its residential living capacity, the Defense Policy Review Initiative Integrated Program Management Office will open a bypass road March 4, 2013, which will travel from the intersection by the armory and Sakura Theater past the recycling center, connecting to the north side portion of the base. The four-way intersection from the Sakura Theater to the three-way intersection will close March 11, 2013. A road slated to open April 1, 2013, will connect Main Street and Newell Drive. The road will run between Club Iwakuni, the Provost Marshal's Office and the Sakura Theater.

CUB FROM PAGE 1

to encounter.

“During the rank ceremony, they are going to earn their rank, and then whatever other awards like belt loops,” said Russell. “They can earn belt loops based on many things, such as bowling, bicycling, or even snowboarding.”

To many, involvement in scouting and teaching the young carries its own rewards.

“Anything where we get to teach kids and help them have fun with a purpose is really great for them,” said Russell. “Presenting awards to the kids and making them feel good about themselves is even better.”

Many of the volunteers, including Russell, have children involved with the troop.

Some volunteers even see distinct similarities between the military and scouts.

“Just like the Marine Corps, Boy Scouts helps kids experience different places, different cultures and life styles,” said Michael Barnaby, Tiger Den Leader.

“I have three boys myself and two are in cub scouts,” said Russell. “Any way I can teach my kids and other kids’ things about science or the aspects of life is a great feeling. I want my kids to have the same



LANCE CPL. BENJAMIN PRYER

Edwin Sanchez, father of Kento Sanchez, Cub Scouts Troop 77 wolf scout, pins an award on his son's uniform during the Blue and Gold Banquet, which took place inside the Matthew C. Perry Elementary School cafeteria here, Feb. 22, 2013.

experiences and more experiences I have had in mine. I grew up in scouting and I want my kids to be intelligent and to experience the

things that not a lot of kids get to do; camping, hiking and good team building experiences.”

HERCULES FROM PAGE 1

skills.”

In its 32nd iteration, CG 13 is designed to advance regional security and ensure effective response to regional crises by exercising a robust multinational force from nations sharing common goals and security commitments in the Asia-Pacific region.

“We’re integrating the Thai Air Force into mainly air-to-air missions and we’re training together,” said Capt. Michael Stroup, a pilot with VMFA(AW)-224. “This annual exercise helps us integrate better because Thailand is one of our oldest allies and it helps us become familiar with each other so if we ever do need to work together in a major conflict, then we’ll be used to it from this background experience.”

Providing fuel for participating air elements makes VMGR-152 an integral part of CG 13.

“Aerial refueling is very important for us, especially in the Marine Corps because we are an expeditionary service,” said Stroup. “For example, we are based out of Beaufort, S.C., and we’re in Thailand. As you can imagine, that took a lot of aerial refueling to get our

airplanes all the way over here, so we can operate the way we need to in order to support the guys on the ground.

Whether it’s with Marine refuelers or Air Force assets, the refueling capability makes us able to go much farther and do a greater number of missions,” he added.

Although one of VMGR-152’s missions is aerial refueling, it is not their only mission; they support operations on a variety of different platforms.

“Our primary mission is to conduct aerial refueling of jets, helicopters and tiltrotor aircraft for III MEF,” said Lt. Col. Jason W. Julian, commanding officer and pilot with VMGR-152. “We also conduct assault support missions, which include aerial delivery of troops and cargo, logistics moves of cargo and personnel. We could have battlefield-illumination missions, and we can even go in some place and conduct a rapid-ground refueling mission by setting up a site on the ground for jets and helicopters that don’t have an aerial refueling capability.”

The bilateral training conducted by the refueling squadron supports the strong Thai-

U.S. relationship.

“We’ve been doing aerial delivery with the Thai Marines and they actually jump out of our aircraft, along with the U.S. reconnaissance Marines,” said Williams. “I think the importance of this exercise is the bilateral training that we get, the unit cohesiveness we achieve amongst ourselves, and the cohesion we build with the participating countries.”

Regardless of the mission, VMGR-152 continues to contribute to CG 13 and the Marine Corps by accomplishing its various capabilities.

“We always appreciate when the tanker guys are around because running out of fuel in an airplane is not like running out of fuel in a car where you can just pull over, take an empty gas can, and walk down the road to get fuel,” said Stroup. “Running out of gas for us can be life threatening, so we always love to see a big, beautiful tanker out there to go up and get some gas from. We really appreciate the job everyone does on those airplanes that puts them in the spot they need to be so we can find them, get the fuel we need, and go complete the mission.”

SHOOTER FROM PAGE 1

Stanton said the competition started with classes concerning marksmanship given by the Marine Corps shooting team.

Shooting begins with the M16A4 service rifle. After going through different courses of fire, shooters then use the M9 service pistol, shooting the pistol from 50 yards with one arm.

“I don’t consider myself to be a great shooter, I’m consistently learning new things,” said Stanton. “I’ve put in the effort, not with a live weapon in my hand, but I was practicing mentally. In my office I have a (Marine Corps Martial Arts Program) training

pistol that I cut out sights on and I have a target on my wall. In the middle of doing paperwork, every so often I would stop, pick it up and just do some snap-ins. Visualizing myself winning was something that I did that I think a lot of other people probably didn’t do and that’s what put me on top. I can’t express how important the mental part of shooting is. If you think about it, all you’re doing is holding a three or four pound pistol up in the air and trying to hold it still.”

Stanton’s roommate during the competition also observed the time and effort Stanton put into the competition.

“If I had to describe it in one word, dedicated, he was totally and 100 percent dedicated,” said Staff Sgt. Robert W. Fairman, MAG-12 communications staff noncommissioned officer-in-charge.

Fairman went on to say Stanton would videotape himself shooting and watch it afterward to assess his technique.

“I told myself that none of these people shooting were doing what I was doing, I bet you they weren’t snapping in at their desk, I bet you they didn’t have a shooting journal, I bet you they don’t have pictures on their wall where they’ve already won,” said

Stanton.

Although Stanton did exceptionally well during competition, he took away both a learning experience and prizes from the shooting range.

“This is the best kept secret in the Marine Corps, because it will improve your shooting, not just rifle range but shooting overall,” said Stanton.

Although Stanton received a gold medal in both pistol and rifle, he will not be able to compete in the championships at Camp Lejeune because he is changing duty stations. Stanton said despite not competing this year, he looks forward to future competitions.

Station residents celebrate freedom, equality during Black History Month luncheon



Martin Rosales, Matthew C. Perry Elementary School student, speaks during the African American/Black History Month Celebration, which took place inside the Club Iwakuni Landing Zone here, Feb. 21, 2013. Rosales, who won the M. C. Perry Schools Black History Month Writing Contest with his presentation, displayed his first place slideshow.

Story and photos by
Lance Cpl. Benjamin Pryer
IWAKUNI APPROACH STAFF

Marine Corps Air Station Iwakuni residents attended an African American/Black History Month Celebration inside the Club Iwakuni Landing Zone here, Feb. 21, 2013.

Gunnery Sgt. Alvin P. Cruz, station Equal Opportunity Advisor, welcomed those attending with opening remarks. "The importance of the black history celebration and all observance celebrations is cultural awareness," said Cruz.

While the luncheon may only last for a few hours out of one day in February, the meaning associated with the celebration is the culmination of hundreds of years of progress toward equality for all races.

"This day, to me, means that freedom has come," said Martin Rosales, Matthew C. Perry Elementary School student.

Rosales, who won the M. C. Perry Schools Black History Month Writing Contest with his presentation, displayed his first place slideshow.

Rosales continued by saying that he feels privileged to have

the opportunity to present his work to those who attended the luncheon.

Stepping into the limelight after Rosales, Chief Warrant Officer 3 Marlon T. Porche, Marine Wing Support Squadron 171 maintenance management officer, was the event's guest speaker.

"With all the senior officers on this base, for them to choose me, is great," said Porche. "I was honored and it was a great privilege."

Porche spoke with great passion and personal effect as he shared his emotion with the crowd.

"I wish my children were here

to see this and experience this with me," said Porche. "I think family is so important, most Black Americans don't know their history, don't know their roots and if you don't know where you come from, you're destined to repeat it."

Porche said the main driving point for his words were to help people realize that slavery was just becoming taboo in the U.S. 150 years ago, and that so much has changed over such a short time.

"If Abraham Lincoln hadn't signed the Emancipation Proclamation, I wouldn't be here speaking today," said Porche.



Edmund Smith, retired Master Gunnery Sgt., speaks during the African American/Black History Month Celebration, which took place inside the Club Iwakuni Landing Zone here, Feb. 21, 2013. While the luncheon may only last for a few hours out of one day in February, the meaning associated with the celebration is the culmination of hundreds of years of progress toward equality for all races.

Chief Warrant Officer 3 Marlon T. Porche, Marine Wing Support Squadron 171 maintenance management officer, speaks during the African American/Black History Month Celebration, which took place inside the Club Iwakuni Landing Zone here, Feb. 21, 2013. Porche spoke with passion and personal effect as he shared his thoughts. "I wish my children were here to see this and experience this with me," said Porche. "I think family is so important, most Black Americans don't know their history, don't know their roots and if you don't know where you come from, you're destined to repeat it."



Marines from Marine Wing Support Squadron 171 prepare to simulate a roll over inside a Mine Resistant Ambush Protected Egress Trainer in building 268 here, Feb. 20, 2013. The MRAP Egress Trainer is designed to simulate a Cat II Cougar 6X6 rolling over, whether by an improvised explosive device or by accident. The MET is equipped with four cameras to monitor the inside of the simulator and has 4 emergency stop buttons in case of an emergency.

Motor-T engages roll overs during Egress training

Story and photos by
Lance Cpl. James Smith
IWAKUNI APPROACH
STAFF

Marines from Marine Wing Support Squadron 171 Motor Transportation Company practiced combat procedures in a Mine Resistant Ambush Protected Egress Trainer at building 268 here, Feb. 20, 2013.

The training simulator is made to represent an MRAP Cat II Cougar 6X6 rolling over, whether by an Improvised Explosive Device or by accident. "This vehicle is a top-heavy vehicle, so at 28 degrees it will begin to flip," said Manuel Rendon, MRAP Egress Trainer instructor, operator and maintainer. "The purpose of the training is to show Marines what 28 degrees is, on the left and right side, and as it begins to roll, prepare them for that actual roll."

The MET holds 11 Marines: a driver, co-driver, eight passengers and a gunner in the gunner's nest. All the seats are fortified with five-point seat belt harnesses, plus a full-body harness for the gunner.

"I did recovery missions in Iraq in 2005 and we had a Humvee roll over where there was a Marine we couldn't get out," said Rendon. "The military discovered that these accidents could be prevented."

Marines practiced evacuating the MET, providing security and getting the injured away from danger.

"I control how the MET moves and how far it turns at the front of the machine," said Rendon. "I can see what goes on inside with the four cameras posted inside."

For some Marines, this was their first time being in, or even near, a MET.

"I honestly didn't know what to expect," said Pfc. Ashley Ackermann, MWSS-171 motor-T vehicle operator. "It was chaotic and nobody knew what was going on... I definitely feel more prepared after doing this."

At the end of each session, the Marines would get together to discuss what they did and didn't do.

Rendon said he tells Marines to check how to get in, how to get out and to check their surroundings because there may come a time where they need to execute an evacuation.

"This machine gives you a small taste of what to expect," said Ackermann. "There are several ways that a Humvee can roll over."

According to the MET course outline binder, serious injuries to gunners have dropped by 80 percent due to the training. The MET is available for use by any unit.



Pfc. Juan Alonso, Marine Wing Support Squadron 171 motor transportation vehicle operator, enters the Mine Resistant Ambush Protected Egress Trainer in building 268 here, Feb. 20, 2013. The MRAP Egress Trainer is designed to simulate a Cat II Cougar 6X6 rolling over, whether by an improvised explosive device or by accident. At the end of each session, the Marines would get together to discuss what they did and didn't do. According to the MET course outline binder, serious injuries to gunners have dropped by 80 percent due to the training. The MET is available for use by any unit.

H&HS Marines play pistol poker during Top Shot Shootout



LANCE CPL. JAMES R. SMITH

Marines choose which cards they intend to shoot for their poker hand at the Top-Shot Shootout pistol-poker tournament held at the Indoor Small Arms Range here, Feb. 22, 2013. Participants had to shoot at targets that were pasted with a full deck of playing cards in a random order.



LANCE CPL. JAMES R. SMITH

Staff Sgt. Robert Fairman, Headquarters and Headquarters Squadron Special Intelligence Communications staff noncommissioned officer-in-charge, takes aim at a target during the Marine Corps Pistol Qualification speed reload drill before competing in the Top-Shot Shootout pistol-poker tournament at the Indoor Small Arms Range here, Feb. 22, 2013. The speed reload drill was implemented to be a tie breaker in the event of a tie.

Lance Cpl. James Smith
IWAKUNI APPROACH STAFF

Marines from Headquarters and Headquarters Squadron tested their marksmanship skills as they competed in the Top-Shot Shootout pistol-poker tournament, held at the Indoor Small Arms Range here, Feb. 22, 2013.

The contest combined pistol marksmanship skills with the classic game of poker. When five Marines out of the nine competitors made it to the finals, the game changed to Texas Hold’Em. Officials pasted a full deck of playing cards in a random order on the targets so that no targets were the same.

Staff Sgt. Osvaldo Rosario, ISAR staff noncommissioned officer-in-charge, said the idea for this competition was brought up by Maj.

Elizabeth Pham, H&HS executive officer, and was organized by ISAR staff.

“Last year, we did something similar for officers only, but with rifles,” said Rosario. “It was a similar game with the cards, only it was slightly different. It was straight poker, not the breakdown from poker to Texas Hold’Em.”

As the tournament progressed, it came down to two Marines: Master Sgt. Randal Southern, H&HS air traffic control SNCOIC, and Staff Sgt. Joaquin Moreno, H&HS aircraft recovery production control chief. Both managed to shoot the same cards and tied with a straight flush (nine through king of hearts) in the final round.

“On the winning hand, I knew that it was going to be a straight flush,” said Southern. “My strategy was to

shoot the Ace and Jack of Hearts. I’m glad I shot the Jack first. If I shot Ace, I would have been out. I’m just lucky I saw the Jack first and then I had the opportunity to shoot the ten.”

With both Marines ending up with the same exact hand, it came down to the tie-breaker.

Before the competition, participants started with a speed reload from the Marine Pistol Qualification Course. The point behind the speed reload drill was to give the participants a chance to warm up their skills and the score would decide the winner in the event of a tie.

“The tie-breaker was the make it or break it for this competition,” said Rosario. “We set up for a tie-breaker, but we weren’t expecting it.”

Out of a possible 300, Southern scored 294 against Moreno’s score of 273, declaring Southern the winner.

“I missed out on the chance to compete in the shootout in Okinawa, but I was glad to compete and had the opportunity to shoot,” said Southern.

Southern is slated to receive a plaque from Lt. Col. F. Lance Lewis, H&HS commanding officer, in the near future.

“I’m completely happy with how it went today,” said Rosario. “We had a great competition. A lot of Marines over here gave it all they had to make it to the top.”

The tournament finished with ATC winning yet another H&HS event, but it’s safe to say all the Marines who participated gave it their best shot.



LANCE CPL. JAMES R. SMITH

Cpl. Luis Lozano (left), Indoor Small Arms Range operations chief, and Sgt. Ricky Johnson (right), ISAR operations chief, record the cards shot on the targets at the Top-Shot Shootout pistol-poker held at ISAR here, Feb. 22, 2013. The ISAR held a similar contest last year for officers using rifles.

CORPS NEWS

HIGHLIGHTING MARINES AND SAILORS AROUND THE GLOBE

2nd Tanks makes teamwork, efficiency 1st priority

Cpl. Marco Mancha
2ND MARINE DIVISION

MARINE CORPS BASE CAMP LEJEUNE, N. C. — “It takes ten hands to score a basket,”

-John Wooden, former head coach at UCLA, winner of 10 NCAA National Championships (seven in a row).

Alpha Company, 2nd Tank Battalion, 2nd Marine Division, put their solidarity to the test during a three-week long training exercise here, Feb. 1-22.

Tanks lined up across the seemingly endless and rough terrain with their smoothbore cannons sighted downrange. Within every M1A1 Abrams Main Battle Tank are four tank crewmen, each with a specific, yet equally important job required to operate the armored beast.

The tank commander, or TC, gives

the signal to fire a round once it is loaded. A TC assumes leadership and responsibility for the vehicle and crew, and is similar to a coach who directs his team's every move on the court and assures everyone is on the same page.

“Once the crews are comfortable with each other, their work... becomes a lot smoother,” said Sgt. Jabari Stamps, a tank commander with the company. “You’ll see their time of engagements go down and you become a lot more efficient within your tank.”

Tank crew efficiency is crucial to effectively engaging an enemy. Stamps, a Chicago native, and his team of Marines improved their skills after successfully launching hundreds of assorted rounds at numerous targets.

A total of 12 tank crews successfully completed their semi-annual gunnery qualifications,

all while increasing their gunnery skills. Cpl. Richard Brown of Brooklyn, N.Y., said the gunnery exercise was very “helpful” in preparing his Marines for a deployed environment.

“I feel this helps the junior Marines because they come out here and really get to learn their job hands-on,” explained Brown, a gunner with the company. “The training gets the Marines where they need to be to react to a combative situation in a better manner.”

Brown, who deployed to Afghanistan in 2011, is now second in command behind his TC and is responsible for targeting enemy threats. The TC relies on the gunner, like a coach relies on his team captain, to lead his teammates to victory.

Teamwork is just as important when the tank crew is between

missions. It’s up to the tank crew to keep their tank running smoothly by performing hours of maintenance. The monstrous vehicle requires up to 10 hours of maintenance for every hour it is operating.

At the end of the day, however, Marines like Brown and Stamps don’t mind putting in the excruciating hours of maintenance because to them it’s completely worth it.

“My favorite part of the training is just to be around the Marines because you get to just have fun,” concluded Stamps. “This, to me, is one of the most competitive jobs in the Marine Corps because everyone wants to outshoot everybody. Still, anytime you get to come out and shoot this is great and I love it. How many people get to do that?”



CPL. MARCO MANCHA

Marines with 2nd Tank Battalion, 2nd Marine Division, prepare to conduct a live-fire training mission. Within every M1A1 Abrams Main Battle Tank are four tank crewmen, each with a specific, yet equally important job required to operate the armored beast.

COMMUNITY BRIEFS | CLASSIFIEDS

Briefs

Substance Abuse Prevention

If you or anyone you know is struggling with substance abuse or for more information on services provided, please contact the Substance Abuse Counseling Center at, 253-4526 or visit Building 411 Room 219.

CREDO Okinawa

CREDO Okinawa is scheduled to be in the Iwakuni area hosting a Marriage Enrichment Retreat at the Kure Hankyu Hotel March 7-9, 2013. Sign up begins Feb. 1. There is room slated for 15 couples; eight E-5 and below, seven E-8 and above. For more information, contact Petty Officer Second Class Raymond Suiter at 253-3371 or raymond.j.suiter@usmc.mil.

Off-limit Establishments

The following establishments in Iwakuni and Hiroshima are hereby 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.
- Spice Ecstasy
- 4-4 Nagarekawa, Naka-ku Hiroshima City, Japan
- Buri Buri Nomi
- 1-18 Horikawa-cho, Naka-ku Hiroshima City, Japan
- Joint
- 3-22 Yayoi i-cho Naka-ku Hiroshima City, Japan

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.

Siren Test For Tsunami Warning

Iwakuni City is scheduled to blow a test siren March 11, 2013, for the coastal areas as the Meteorological Agency issues a tsunami warning for the Seto Inland Sea in Yamaguchi Prefecture. For more information, contact the Iwakuni City Risk Management Office at 0827-29-5119, or the Yuu Branch Local Promotion Office at 0827-63-1111.

Station Power Outage

A station-wide power outage is scheduled for April 5 at 10 p.m., lasting until April 6 at 8 a.m.

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.

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 community brief or classified advertisement in person at the Public Affairs Office, Building 1, Room 216 or you may call 253-5551. Please provide all the requested information to simplify the request process. The deadline for all submissions is 3 p.m. every Friday.

KUNI TOONS: HARLEM? I THINK NOT

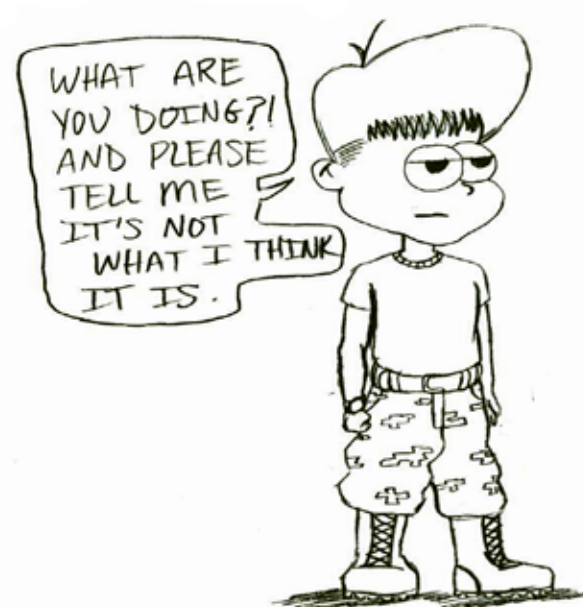


ILLUSTRATION BY CPL. MICHAEL DIAZ

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	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.

OUT AND ABOUT : Japan

HAGI FUGU MATSURI (BLOW FISH FESTIVAL)

When: March 10, starting at 10 .a.m.
Where: Hagi Sea Mart, Hagi City, Yamaguchi Prefecture
What: The event promotes the peak of the blow fish fishing season. Vendors will sell blow fish and other associated items. Admission is free. Bring yen for shopping. For more information, contact Hagi Sea Mart at 0838-24-4937.

26TH NATIONAL CONFECTIONERY EXPOSITION

When: April 19 - May 12, weekdays from 10 a.m. - 6 p.m.
Where: Hiroshima Prefectural Sports Center and surrounding areas
What: The National Confectionery Exposition is the biggest display of Japanese and western confectioneries and snacks in Japan. The exhibition is held every four to five years around Japan. Advance sale tickets will be available from now until April 18 and will cost 1800 yen. Tickets at the door will be 2000 yen. For more information, contact the exposition secretariat at 082-502-2838. For ticket information, contact the management center for ticket sales at 082-511-1611.

For more information on upcoming events visit our website at <http://www.mcasiwakuni.marines.mil/News/LocaleventInformation.aspx> or visit Information Tours and Travel located in the Crossroads Mall or call 253-4377.

SAKURA THEATER

Friday, March 1, 2013 7 p.m. Zero Dark Thirty (R)	Monday, March 4, 2013 7 p.m. Identity Thief (R)
Saturday, March 2, 2013 4 p.m. Parental Guidance (PG) 7 p.m. Texas Chainsaw Massacre 3D (R)	Tuesday, March 5, 2013 Theater closed
Sunday, March 3, 2013 4 p.m. Parental Guidance (PG) 7 p.m. A Haunted House (R)	Wednesday, March 6, 2013 Theater closed
	Thursday, March 7, 2013 7 p.m. Texas Chainsaw Massacre 3D (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.

THE IWAKUNI APPROACHCULTURAL LESSONS

Kanji Adventures
TIPPING



Tipping in Japan is not as common as it is in America. There are a few cases where tipping is acceptable; at Japanese style inns (ryokans), in the tourism industry, and in leisure activities like golfing. The general consensus is the services rendered are covered by the price given, so why pay more? Exceptional service is expected, by both the customer and the server. If you come across a situation which warrants a tip, do not hand the server cash. Put all the tip in an envelope, which may be provided, or can be found in local stores, and take the server off to the side and give them the envelope. The server may refuse the offer once or twice, but keep insisting. If it is refused a third time, the chances are they genuinely don't want it. According to Ehow's traveling tips in Japan, leave a small gift in place of cash tips. Something small, perhaps a souvenir from the states, is often appreciated. Japanese do not expect tips, so a simple thank you spoken in their language, or a small heartfelt gift, will go much further than cash.



A member of the Dribblers team attempts to make a shot while almost completely engulfed by members of the Bullets team during a Saturday morning Youth Intramural Basketball game at the IronWorks Gym sports courts here Feb. 23, 2013. The Dribblers and the Bullets are in the five-to-six-year old age group.

FIVE-TO-SIX-YEAR OLDS TAKE IT TO THE HOOP

Story and photos by
Lance Cpl. J. Gage
Karwick
IWAKUNI APPROACH
STAFF

Youth Intramural Basketball continued its fierce rivalries in the IronWorks Gym sports courts here Feb. 23, 2013, as the heated Dribblers faced off against the fierce Bullets in the five-to-six-year old age group. Tensions rose as the two evenly matched teams took to the court. "Today we had another early Saturday morning game for the kids to participate in," said Luke Lindsay, Dribblers assistant coach. "It's going to be a great day and it's great for the kids." As the Bullets got the ball, each member of the Dribblers team rushed into man-to-man coverage. The players hustled back and forth, putting forth every effort to thwart any attempt by the Bullets to make a shot, even though members of the opposing teams were on familiar grounds outside of the court. "I like playing games against my friends because it's fun and we get to talk about it at school with each other," said Parker Pack, 5, Dribblers team member. The five-to-six-year old age group may rightfully

be considered young, but that did not mean their intensity diminished when either team made a basket. "Basketball is fun, I don't really know why, but I really like dribbling and shooting baskets when I get the ball," said Pack. As the game trudged onward, neither team yielded an inch. It was hooking, jabbing, shooting, and passing on a basketball court as Dribblers and Bullets made multiple shots back-to-back, yet the game continued in full fury with guidance from their respective coaches. The leaders shouted encouragement, and provided constructive remarks to build future stronger basketball players. "Our team did really well," said Lindsay. "I'm not necessarily surprised at how well they did. I know my team; I know how good they are. Every time they come out, they do a good job." The game ended with each team emerging as victors in their own way, leaving the coaches with only strong words of encouragement and their personal thoughts on coaching such a young age. "Every time I get the chance to come out with these kids it makes me feel like I'm doing something good," said Lindsay.



Dribblers assistant coach Luke Lindsay becomes a makeshift jungle gym for some of his players after a Youth Intramural Basketball game here at the IronWorks Gym sports courts Feb. 23, 2013. After the game, players shook hands and coaches spoke to their players explaining what the players did well and what they needed work on.

The Iwakuni Time Machine

In the March 5, 1976, issue of the Torii Teller, Marines reported on the pre-release education program assisting Marines in completing high school and higher education and captians Paul and Vincent Hayes being stationed together aboard MCAS Iwakuni after Paul enlisted in the Marine Corps for five years before receiving a commission, while Vincent accepted his commission after graduating college.

Captains Hayes and Hayes **Brothers combine skills for flying**

Story and photos by
Sgt. Ernie Walter

Fourteen years ago, 20-year-old Paul Hayes and his kid brother, Vincent, six-years junior, were worlds apart in the things they wanted out of life.

Paul was anxious to enlist in the Marines and Vincent was just as dead-set on going on to college. Recently, both Marine captains, they comprised the two-man crew of an F-4 Phantom jet aircraft and were just as close as any two people can be!

Captains Paul and Vincent Hayes, flying with VMFA-115 and VMFP-3 respectively, would have never dreamed years ago that someday they would rely on each others skills to successfully work as a first-class aviation team, a dream they had harbored for five years since Vincent accepted a Marine commission.

FORMER ENLISTED

But this once in a lifetime chance didn't happen over night. Paul enlisted in the Marines like he wanted and Vincent went on to college. The older Hayes served

five years as an enlisted man before applying for and receiving a commission and then eventually becoming a radar intercept officer for an F-4 jet aircraft.

The younger Hayes fulfilled his teenage goals also as he graduated from college and then accepted a Marine Corps commission and went on to flight school where he earned his wings.

REAL THRILL

Their recent dream of flying together became a reality in January when the go-ahead was given for them to share the cockpit of an VMFP-3 Phantom. "It was really a thrill," Paul related. "We've looked forward to flying together ever since Vincent received his wings."

NEVER HAD TIME

Although this is the first time the brothers have been stationed together, it isn't the first attempt they have made to fly as a team. "When Paul was stationed at Beaufort and I was at Cherry Point," stated Vincent, "we tried to arrange



FRONT AND BACK SEAT BROTHERS- Captains Paul (rear) and Vincent Hayes prepare to take-off in a VMFP-3 RF4-B Phantom for one of the most enjoyable rides of their flying careers.

a flight together. However, it just seemed that we never had the time for one reason or another. This time we did and it was a great feeling."

SEVERAL INTERESTS

Even though they were miles apart in common interests when they were growing up, they share several today.

Besides both being Marines, captains and aviators, they are both married to women named Elizabeth and each have two children. Naturally they're a boy and a girl!

A LONG WAY

The Hayes brothers have come a long way from the big brother - little brother concept of 14-years ago to a point in their lives where they effectively worked as a Marine aviation team. Some would chose to call it comradery ... the brothers call it "a strong family bond."



READY CAPTAIN HAYES? READY CAPTAIN HAYES! - Captains Vincent Hayes (left), an RF-4B pilot with VMFP-3 and Paul Hayes, an F-4 Fighter RIO with VMFA-115, recently shared the same Phantom after five years of anxious hopes.