

THE IWAKUNI APPROACH

Issue No. 9 Vol. 6 | Marine Corps Air Station Iwakuni, Japan

Bengals have success during Cobra Gold 2013

Cpl. Vanessa Jimenez
IWAKUNI APPROACH STAFF

Marine All Weather Fighter Attack Squadron 224 returned to Iwakuni Feb. 26, 2013, after participating in Cobra Gold 2013 from Feb. 11 through Feb. 21.

Cobra Gold is a recurring multinational and multiservice exercise, which takes place annually in Thailand, developed by the Thai and U.S. militaries. In its 32nd iteration, it is designed to advance regional security by exercising a multinational force from nations sharing common goals and security commitments in the Asia-Pacific region.

"We had three primary training objectives for Cobra Gold," said Lt. Col. Peter L. McArdle, VMFA(AW)-224 commanding officer. "Number one and stated goal of the exercise is bilateral training with the Royal Thai Air Force. In addition, we had two other assets that we were there to support: 5th (Air Naval Gunfire Liaison Company) and an Air Force (Special Tactics Squadron team) in their joint terminal air controller training in preparation for an upcoming combat deployment."

This year marks the 180th year of strong Thai-

SEE **BENGALS** ON PAGE 3

Branch Health Clinic Iwakuni Nationally recognized

Lance. Cpl. J. Gage Karwick
IWAKUNI APPROACH STAFF

The Robert M. Casey Medical and Dental Branch Health Clinic personnel met in the station chapel here for their Captain's Call and an award ceremony here Feb. 28, 2013.

The Clinic received a highly prestigious award for its efforts toward medical readiness.

"Iwakuni does an outstanding job," said Navy Capt. Mark Turner, Medical Corps, Medical Hospital Yokosuka commanding officer. "They really are rock stars. They recently received National Quality Assurance level three, which is a nationally-recognized primary-care standard, and it is very difficult to achieve."

Aside from the clinic itself, individual sailors and civilians received awards to recognize their hard work in successful station medical-readiness statistics.

"I received a Navy Achievement Medal for my actions during my three years of work here at the Branch Health Clinic," said Petty Officer 3rd

SEE **AWARD** ON PAGE 3

U.S., Japan build cultural ties during Friendship Concert | Pg. 6 & 7



SGT. CHARLES E. MCKELVEY

A student from Suo-Oshima Town Municipal Wada Elementary School performs a drum solo during the U.S.-Japan Friendship Concert at Sinfonia Iwakuni, March 2, 2013. The students performed the song "Mutsu Daiko" and then combined with students from Matthew C. Perry Elementary School to perform "U.S.-Japan Friendship Daiko."

FRIENDS


U.S. strengthens ties with JGSDF | P. 4

GAME

Roll for damage, bro! | P. 5

BOWLING

NWO gets the strike | 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

‘Juggling life’

Lt. Travis Coffey
MAG-12 DEPUTY CHAPLAIN

In a captivating speech during a university commencement a few years ago, Brian Dyson, Coca-Cola CEO, spoke of the relations of work to our other commitments. He charged those in attendance to compare their lives to a juggler. Imagine life as a game in which you are juggling five balls in the air.

You name them –WORK, FAMILY, HEALTH, FRIENDS and SPIRIT – and you’re keeping all of these in the air.

You will soon understand WORK is a rubber ball.

Meaning, if you drop it, it will bounce back, but the other four balls are made of glass.

If you drop one of these, they will be irrevocably scuffed, marked, nicked, damaged or even shattered and they will never be the same.

Dyson challenged those

graduates to understand that and to strive for balance in their life. He then shared a few suggestions for doing that.

- 1.) Don’t undermine your worth by comparing yourself with others. It is our differences which make us special and unique.
- 2.) Don’t set your goals by what other people deem important; set them because they are important to you.
- 3.) Don’t take for granted things closest to your heart. Cling to them as you would your life, for without them, life is meaningless.
- 4.) Don’t let life slip through your fingers by living in the past or future. By living your life for today, one day at a time, you will live all the days of your life.
- 5.) Don’t give up when you have something to give. Nothing is over until you stop trying.
- 6.) In striving for growth, don’t be afraid to humbly admit you are less than perfect. This is the fragile thread which binds us together. We need each other.
- 7.) Don’t be afraid to encounter risk. By taking chances, we learn how to be brave.
- 8.) Don’t shut love out of your life by saying it’s impossible to

find. The quickest way to receive love is to give it, the fastest way to lose love is to hold it too tightly; and the best way to keep love is to give it wings.

- 9.) Don’t run through life so quickly you forget where you’ve been, or where you are going.
 - 10.) Don’t ever forget a person’s greatest emotional need is to feel appreciated.
 - 11.) Don’t be afraid to learn. Knowledge is weightless, a treasure you can always carry easily. Don’t use it or any words carelessly...neither can be retrieved.
 - 12.) Life is not a race, but a journey to be savored each step of the way. Yesterday is history, tomorrow is a mystery, but today is a gift, which is why we call it “the present.”
- Maybe we can find a few suggestions from Dyson for ourselves and not drop any of the balls we may have in the air. As we live out our “present” day, juggling work, family, health, friends and spirit, may we all strive for the balance he describes in our journey of life.
- Thanks for your service and sacrifice and have a blessed week!



Women's Leadership Symposium

Join us and be inspired by some of the most motivational & empowering women right here in Iwakuni!

Guest Speaker: 3dMLG SgIMaj SgIMaj Tamara Fode

Tuesday, 19 Mar 2013

0715-1600

At The Club Iwakuni Grand Ballroom

Business casual civilian attire

PSC 611et Alvin P. Cruz (Station 10A)
253-4196 / 040-8543-2789

MCAS Iwakuni presents:

Women’s History Month Celebration



SURVIVORS OF SUICIDE SUPPORT GROUP

SOS provides a safe place to feel understood and supported, find hope and strength, and help others do the same. Groups are open to anyone impacted by suicide, including family, friends, coworkers, and those who have contemplated suicide in the past.

Groups will be held on the second floor of Yujo Hall Thursdays April 18 - May 23, 2013.

For more information call the station chapel at 253-3371, or for inquiries email Madelyn Santiago at madelyn.santiago@med.navy.mil or Lt. j.g. Barbara Bentley at barbara.bentley@med.navy.mil

Corpsmen, Marines participate in EMT course

Cpl. Kenneth K. Trotter Jr.
IWAKUNI APPROACH STAFF

Robert M. Casey Medical and Dental Health Clinic corpsmen and station Aircraft Rescue Firefighting Marines started training in the Emergency Medical Technician Basic Course at Building 411 and the Branch Health Clinic here, Feb. 23, 2013.

The course qualifies servicemembers with certifications as EMTs not only in their respective services, but in the civilian world, should they decide to separate from the military.

“It gets them prepared for the national exam so they can be certified in the United States to work as an EMT,” said Petty Officer 3rd Class Valentin Schmid, senior BHC EMT instructor. The course encompasses the length and breadth of the basic comprehension of human anatomy and physiology, from the understanding and working of cells to more complex issues involving multiple organ systems.

“We’re going over cell structure and pathology, as well as what to do in a crime scene,” said Schmid. “It’s a very dynamic class. You learn a

little bit of everything about the human body and emergency medicine.”

With the certification, the servicemembers will position themselves to compete against their civilian counterparts, even while still in the service.

Hospitals and daycare facilities are but a few possibilities servicemembers may have if they complete the course, take the national exam, and become certified said Schmid.

The course takes place twice a year and encompasses four weeks of information. The course in the civilian world is six months long. The challenge for the EMT instructors lies in making sure all the condensed information is cohesive and accurate.

For some, they found the amount of knowledge crammed into such a short time surprising, but managed to push through thus far.

“It was a lot,” said Lance Cpl. Aaron Hosenfeld, a station ARFF Marine. “Monday, it was three chapters and yesterday, it was two chapters; seventy pages on Monday and yesterday was almost 40 and we had to learn the entire muscular-skeletal system. It’s a lot of stuff.”

The EMT-B course is open to any servicemembers who are granted command approval for the course. The course not only allows servicemembers to advance their civilian careers whenever they leave the service, but it can also increase the job proficiency for certain Marines such as those who are ARFF.

“I’m doing this because whenever we respond to emergencies I’d like to be emergency personnel on scene,” said Hosenfeld. “I’m trying to get as many (certifications) under my belt.”

Though being a first responder to an accident and improving one’s chances of success within and outside the military are warranted goals, the chance to help others and follow the same path as those who helped others is just as important to some.

“My mom is a doctor, so I’d like to follow in her footsteps,” said Hosenfeld.

At the conclusion of the four-week course, the servicemembers are slated to take the national registry exam in order to become certified as EMTs. The National Registry of Emergency Medical Technicians governs the exam.

AWARD FROM PAGE 1

Class Andrew Barr, a hospital corpsman. “Performing such actions as supply petty officer, maintaining supplies for the clinic, overseeing central sterilization and maintaining all the medical equipment and instruments for sterile procedures the providers perform on a day-to-day basis.”

Along with the award ceremony, this was also a time for the senior leadership in Yokosuka to interact and address those stationed here who may have questions or concerns about how the clinic will move forward in providing healthcare, training and opportunities for the sailors on base and the Navy as a whole in the more financially tight times ahead.

“With the federal budget going on right now, sequestration, and also Continuing Resolution, it’s important that we continue to take care of our patients and one another,” said Turner. He expanded on how the medical staff will improve its spending efficiency in light of current budgeting restraints.

“We are looking into being more energy efficient with our supplies and using them more effectively,” said Turner. “We are also looking at how we can get our patients cared for more locally, if possible, instead of having to medically evacuate more serious cases to Okinawa.”

Though the financial constraints of the near future may seem frustrating, BHC will continue to push forward and provide the type of healthcare and service station residents have come to expect, as evidenced by Barr’s recognition in an award ceremony.



A U.S. Marine FA-18D Hornet takes off from Wing One Royal Thai Air Force Base, Nakhon Ratchasima, Kingdom of Thailand Feb. 18 during exercise Cobra Gold 2013. The Hornet is assigned to Marine All Weather Fighter Attack Squadron 224, Marine Aircraft Group 12, 1st Marine Aircraft Wing, III Marine Expeditionary Force.

BENGALS FROM PAGE 1

U.S. relations.

The U.S. has enjoyed relations with Thailand longer than any other country in Asia and both countries are committed to working together in areas of common interest for the betterment of regional security. The alliance and partnership continues to grow and strengthen.

“The bilateral training with the Thais was awesome and a great opportunity to further our relationship with them both personally and professionally,” said Maj. Matthew Brown, VMFA(AW)-224 operations officer. “This is my first time flying with the Thai Air Force, but there’s several senior guys in the squadron who have flown with them many times and it is very encouraging to hear them talk about how much better our relationship gets every year. That’s why we’re there, to build those relationships. So it was actually very rewarding to see

that process is progressing.”

During CG 13, VMFA(AW)-224 was able to conduct 450.8 flight hours, 230 sorties, and the squadron dropped ordnance weighing a total of 63,378 pounds.

Even though the exercise was successful, the Marines didn’t find success without first working through some obstacles.

“A large portion of our gear was supposed to arrive in Thailand so we could begin dropping ordnance February 4,” said Brown. “That gear did not arrive until literally about midnight February 6. The ordnance Marines did an awesome job of turning that ordnance around so we could actually start training the next day.”

Marine Aerial Refueler Transport Squadron 152 also held an essential role in helping VMFA(AW)-224 achieve their success from the exercise.

“We were only capable of bringing 10 of the 12 airplanes due to some long-term maintenance issues, but VMGR-152 came through huge for us by providing aerial

refueling at a level we weren’t expecting,” said Brown. “Their support essentially allowed us to fly the original training plan and hit every operational goal we were hoping to hit but with 20 percent less of our combat power. If they hadn’t been able to come through to provide the support we needed as far as aerial refueling, we would’ve flown 80 less sorties and probably 150 less flight hours.”

While numbers and statistics show how successful an exercise was, those numbers would be impossible to achieve without the dedication and hard work shown by every individual Marine.

“I’ve got great Marines and they do great things,” said Sgt. Maj. Patrick I. DeHerrera, VMFA(AW)-224 sergeant major. “They’re very proficient in their jobs, they stay out of trouble and I can’t be more proud of them. They did some great things for us and to me, I think this is the most ready squadron of the Marine Corps and we proved it while we were out here.”



SGT. CHARLES E. MCKELVEY

Capt. Sean Roberts, a FA-18/D Hornet pilot with Marine All Weather Fighter Attack Squadron 224, points out different parts of a FA-18/D to members of the Japan Ground Self Defense Force during a recent visit to Marine Corps Air Station Iwakuni, Japan, Feb. 28, 2013. The JGSDF soldiers visited MCAS Iwakuni to learn more about the Marine Corps lifestyle and to improve on their English-speaking skills. This visit was a follow up to the yearly JGSDF English Seminar.

Japanese Army visits MCAS Iwakuni to build on English skills



SGT. CHARLES E. MCKELVEY

Gunnery Sgt. Nathan K. Lanham, an Aircraft Rescue Firefighting section leader, leads a tour for Japan Ground Self Defense Force soldiers of ARFF facilities here Feb. 28, 2013.

Lance Cpl. B. A. Stevens
IWAKUNI APPROACH STAFF

The Public Affairs Office hosted Japanese servicemembers aboard station in an effort to build intercultural relationships as well as communication skills here, Feb. 27 to March 1, 2013.

The Japanese servicemembers toured the station's Zero Hangar, the IronWorks Gym, Marine Wing Support Squadron 171's motor transportation facility, and several other locations throughout the base.

"This is a very nice opportunity to study English and how Marines live aboard the base," said Capt. Taiki Shiraki, Japan Ground Self Defense Force officer in charge of the event. "It also gives us a chance to see what Americans like to do in their free time and what hobbies they may have."

Master Sgt. Hiroshi Saito, senior enlisted member during the event, also said he thinks events such as this help build the relationship between the United States and Japan.

Two Japanese members even went as far as getting

the infamous Marine Corps haircut, the "high and tight."

"I've learned a lot of military terminology and got to see some of the Marines' equipment," said Shiraki.

Shiraki added that he was very impressed at how professional Marines treat their jobs and how welcoming they were.

"My favorite part about being aboard the station was seeing the fighter aircraft and all of the equipment," said Shiraki.

Shiraki even got the unique opportunity to fly an F-18 in the flight simulator.

Aside from all work, there was some play. The host servicemembers taught American football to the JGSDF soldiers.

At first the soldiers didn't understand the game, but by the end of it they were able to catch long passes and even throw spirals.

Although the event only lasted two days, it was an experience that will last a lifetime. Some JGSDF are slated to return in the summer, when they will increase their English-speaking proficiency and break more barriers between the cultures.



SGT. CHARLES E. MCKELVEY

A Japan Ground Self Defense Force soldier receives a haircut at the northside barbershop during a recent visit to Marine Corps Air Station Iwakuni, Japan, Feb. 28, 2013. Two JGSDF soldiers opted to get an authentic Marine Corps haircut, a high and tight, during the three-day visit.



LANCE CPL. JAMES R. SMITH

A figurine from Warmachine and Hordes, a table-top strategy game, sits on a table during gameplay at the Iwakuni Community Gaming Club held at Yuri Tower here, March 2, 2013.



LANCE CPL. JAMES R. SMITH

(From left to right) Janis Price, station resident, Lance Cpl. Caleb Just, Headquarters and Headquarters Squadron bulk-fuel specialist, Sgt. Leroy Grubbs, Marine Aviation Logistics Squadron 12 aviation ordinance collateral duty inspector, and Louise Tindel, station resident, play Cards Against Humanity at Yuri Tower here, March 2, 2013. The gaming club plays several games, including table-top strategy games, board games and card games. Those who have no experience playing any of these games are encouraged to participate.



LANCE CPL. JAMES R. SMITH

Kali Martinez, station resident, paints model figurines that make up her Horde army at the Iwakuni Community Gaming Club held at Yuri Tower here, March 2, 2013. The gaming club meets every other Saturday at the community room in Yuri Tower (building 658) and has flyers posted on their Facebook page, forums and other information.

Exercise your mind, not your thumbs

Lance Cpl. James R. Smith
IWAKUNI APPROACH
STAFF

The Iwakuni Community Gaming Club gathered at Yuri Tower's (Building 658) community room here to exercise their minds in a day of table-top strategy, board and card games, March 2, 2013.

"Exercise your mind, not your thumbs," it's the statement of the gaming club," said Sgt. Marcus Martinez, Marine Aviation Logistics Squadron 12 aircraft armament equipment noncommissioned officer-in-charge and Iwakuni Community Gaming Club president. "The games we play here require much more thought and strategy than your average 'Call of Duty' game."

Among the games played, Warmachine and Hordes takes predominance as the top game played at the gaming club.

Martinez said the objective of the game is similar to the game of chess, where the goal is to kill the opposing player's warlock or warcaster, which is similar to chess's king.

Even those who don't have any experience are welcome to learn how to play the game.

"These gaming experiences give people the ability to learn, grow their minds and develop from their mistakes," said Lance Cpl. Caleb Just, Headquarters and Headquarters Squadron bulk-

fuel specialist and gaming club member. "I've played a couple of role-playing games, but with Warmachine and Hordes, I had no experience at all."

Table-top strategy games may not appeal to everyone, but the gaming club offers more games, such as "Clue," which require contemplating strategies. Some members bring their own type of games to the gaming club for others to try as well.

"Most of the players here play 'Dungeons and Dragons' and various other pen-and-paper (Role Playing Games)," said Martinez. "So if you're interested, you can play, or run, some of those kinds of games."

The gaming club may offer many different games, but their main goal is to bring people with the same kinds of personalities together.

"I came in thinking I wasn't going to find a lot of the good friends that I have now," said Just. "This gaming group is a great opportunity to be yourself amongst a group of people who are themselves. You don't see this type of group anywhere else."

Whether someone is a servicemember or dependent, experienced or not, the Iwakuni Community Gaming Club is a place where station residents can come together with a common goal of learning new hands-on gaming opportunities.

Friendship Concert builds cultural ties through love of music

Suo-Oshima Town Municipal Wada Elementary School students perform during the U.S.-Japan Friendship Concert, which took place inside the Sinfonia Iwakuni, March 2, 2013. The concert consisted of multiple songs and performances by several local Japanese schools and Matthew C. Perry Elementary and High School students.



LANCE CPL. BENJAMIN PRYER

Lance Cpl. Benjamin Pryer
IWAKUNI APPROACH STAFF

Matthew C. Perry Elementary and High School students, along with several Japanese schools, participated in the U.S.-Japan Friendship Concert, which took place inside the Sinfonia Iwakuni March 2, 2013.

The concert provided the perfect medium for American and Japanese youth to mingle and exchange the gift of culture through music.

"This was my second concert at the Sinfonia and it's a new experience every time," said Ashley Starnes, M. C. Perry High School student and concert participant. "I think it's amazing two different cultures can connect through the love of music. Having the opportunity to perform and interact with other Japanese teenagers is a memory I'll always cherish."

The performance included a medley of famous song renditions, including the "Sohran Folk Dance," "The Cha Cha Slide," "Amazing Grace" and more.

"I thought this was the best (concert) so far," said Allen Strawbridge, M.C. Perry High School music teacher. "I couldn't be more proud of my students. It's a lot of hard work, but in the end,

it's worth it. And I think they get a lot out of it too."

The concert's final piece was a joint performance by all the students of The Beatles' "Hey Jude," further enforcing the concert's influence on strengthening intercultural bonds.

"I think it's amazing we don't speak the same language, but music is so universal that we're able to perform together," said Strawbridge. "When I direct a big group of Japanese people, they don't understand what I'm saying, but they know music."

While the musical performance kept many in attendance occupied for the duration of the concert, the musicians and their audience had time afterward to celebrate and recap the day's events.

"My favorite part of the concert is the banquet afterwards," said Starnes. "While everyone is eating, we gather in small circles on the floor and introduce ourselves. While conversing, photos are taken, names are exchanged, and there's laughter throughout the room. It's the best part."

This is the third Friendship Concert to take place in Iwakuni. While the first and third took place in the Sinfonia, the second concert took place inside the Iwakuni Civic Hall.

Iwakuni Municipal Kawashimo Elementary School students perform the "Sohran Folk Dance" during the U.S.-Japan Friendship Concert, which took place inside the Sinfonia Iwakuni, March 2, 2013. The concert consisted of multiple songs and performances by several local Japanese schools and Matthew C. Perry Elementary and High School students.



SGT. CHARLES E. MCKELVEY



Iwakuni Municipal Kawashimo Elementary School students perform the "Sohran Folk Dance" during the U.S.-Japan Friendship Concert, which took place inside the Sinfonia Iwakuni, March 2, 2013. The concert consisted of multiple songs and performances by several local Japanese schools and Matthew C. Perry Elementary and High School students.

LANCE CPL. BENJAMIN PRYER

CORPS NEWS

HIGHLIGHTING MARINES AND SAILORS AROUND THE GLOBE

Logistics support vital to success of Operation Dynamic Partner

1st Lt. Nicole Yuhas
REGIONAL COMMAND SOUTHWEST

CAMP LEATHERNECK, Afghanistan — Combat Logistics Regiment 2 proved its capabilities vital to the success of retrograde operations, providing tactical logistics support to Regimental Combat Team 7 during Operation Dynamic Partner in Helmand Province, Afghanistan, Feb. 9 – 18, 2013.

The overall intent of the operation was to safely extract all equipment and troops located aboard Village Stability Platform Shurakay prior to demilitarizing the site in the Upper Gereshk valley.

According to Capt. Brian McCarthy, the CLR-2 transportation operations officer, CLR-2 was the only unit able to support the operation's robust logistical requirements.

"Aside from the catch-all generic [tactical logistics support], they needed medium and heavy-lift capabilities from the [logistics combat element]," explained McCarthy. "Additionally, they needed mobile refueling capability...and they also looked to us to provide landing support Marines to run the flow of the [Rearm, Refuel, and Resupply Point]."

"The big problem set for Shurakay... was picking up the 20-foot containers from the VSP and some other breakable items that had to be retrograded," said McCarthy.

VSP Shurakay was comparatively smaller than other similar sites and the routes to and from were difficult within which to maneuver. Consequently, the only type of vehicle that could be used to load and backhaul the equipment was the Logistics Vehicle System Replacement (LVS)R) MKR-18 cargo vehicle. CLR-2 is the only unit, here, able to support

this vehicle requirement.

More commonly referred to as 'self-loaders', these cargo trucks are equipped with a Load Handling System capable of loading and offloading containers.

Transportation Support Company, CLR-2, provided two convoy logistics patrols, with 16 LVS trucks embedded in each. These two convoys provided the heavy-lift capability necessary to retrograde all mission essential equipment and operational gear from VSP Shurakay back to Camp Leatherneck.

According to the convoy commanders, the majority of the loads were standard, primarily utilizing the LVS vehicle system to load 28 20-foot containers. However, there were some additional irregular loads, equipment that they normally do not move, for which there was no standard procedure for strapping them down.

"We brought everything back; even some stuff that they didn't think was possible," said 1st Lt. Anthony Cox, 2nd Platoon commander for TS Company. "Everyone in the loading area did an outstanding job even as [enemy] rounds were impacting near them and overhead."

"The fact that my Marines successfully provided logistics support with irregular loads over rough and uneven terrain resulted in overall success in extracting everything that was on the load plan back to the R3P and then retrograding it back to [Camp] Leatherneck," said Cox.

After arriving back at the R3P, the regiment's landing support and bulk-fuel Marines were working to keep things running smoothly. The landing support Marines directed traffic and coordinated the flow of equipment and personnel. The bulk-fuel Marines managed the refuel site, initially housing 27,000 gallons

of fuel, which sustained all mechanized assets throughout the operation.

The shift in focus from a decade of counter-insurgency operations to the current retrograde operations has thrust logistics support to the forefront in execution. This change is apparent as CLR-2 was temporarily the main effort during the backhaul phase of the operation.

"We see even now that this is not something the ground combat element can do themselves," explained 1st Lt. Christopher Brennan, 4th Platoon Commander for TS Company. "They need tactical logistics support."

"And that's what we do," Brennan continued. "We deliver. Whether it's a front haul or large backhaul, that's what we are here for."

More than two months of deliberate planning went into ensuring the success of the operation. VSP Shurakay was anticipated to be the most problematic VSP to close due to its isolated location and kinetic environment.

It required all elements of the Marine Air Ground Task Force to interface together and accomplish the mission.

"Everything went relatively according to plan," said 1st Lt. Silvio Bettinelli, the CLR-2 liaison officer for the operation. "There were some friction points, but we anticipated hitting those friction points. We knew stuff like that was going to happen, so we planned for it."

"Overall, it was a very successful mission. We got all of our gear and all of our people out of there without any casualties – that defines a successful mission," he concluded.

Operation Dynamic Partner was one of many retrograde operations scheduled to occur as U.S. forces continue to withdraw and close bases.



SGT. ANTHONY ORTIZ

U.S. Marines with Transportation Support Company, Combat Logistics Regiment 2 (CLR-2) resupply themselves with meals ready to eat (MREs) during Operation Dynamic Partner in Helmand province, Afghanistan, Feb. 12, 2013. CLR-2 provided tactical logistics support to Regimental Combat Team 7 (RCT-7) in order to extract equipment from VSP Shurakay to facilitate its demilitarization.

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.

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.

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

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.

Marriage Enrichment Workshop

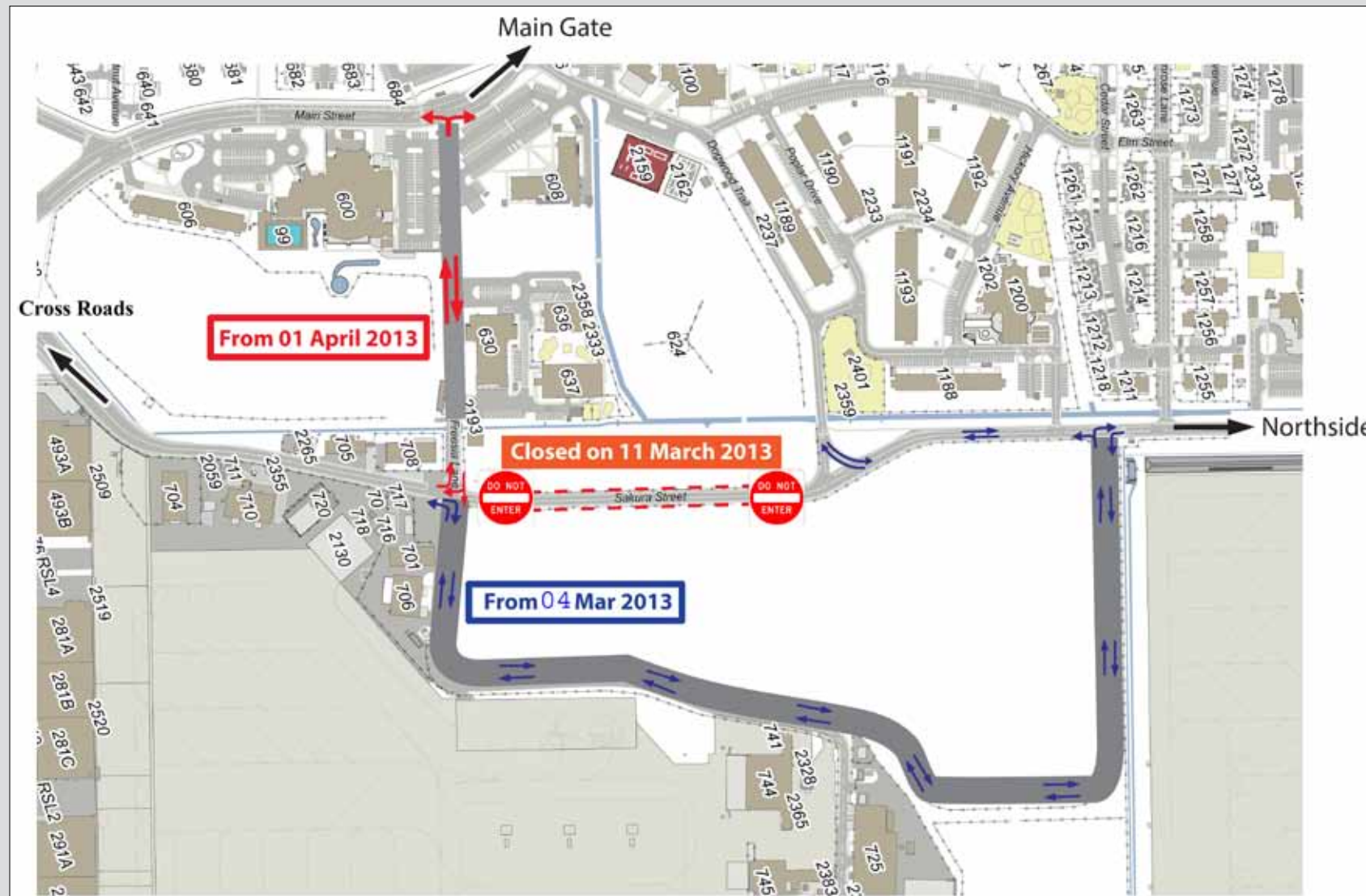
There will be a marriage enrichment workshop Friday, March 15, from 8:30 a.m.-3:30pm at Yujo Hall. The intent of this session is to help new and seasoned married couples reduce risk factors and raise protective factors in their marriage.

topics to discuss will include: communication danger signs, forgiveness, events and hidden issues and good communication. Couples will work intimately together during this workshop to truly understand each other's feelings and needs. For more information, contact Neda Amaya at 253-3542, or email amayan@usmc-mccs.org.

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.

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, and passes 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 be closed 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.

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

YANAI HINA MEGURI

When: Feb. 15 - March 31, 9 a.m. - 5 p.m.
Where: Furuichi Kanaya (white wall area) and Chuo (retro street) in Yanai City, Yamaguchi Prefecture.
What: Approximately 20 stores and houses, along with the retro street, will display their hina dolls. Admission varies on location: the house of kunimori is 200 yen for adults and 100 yen for children. For more information, contact Shigehiko Kunimori at 0820-22-8077.

MUSASHI AND KOJIRO'S BATTLE AT GANRYU ISLAND

When: Every Saturday, Sunday and Japanese Holiday from March 23 - June 23, 11:30 a.m., 1 p.m. and 2 p.m.
Where: seaside stage, Kamon Wharfs, Shimonoseki, Yamaguchi Pref.
What: On April 13, 1612, Musashi Miyamoto dueled Kojiro Sasaki on Ganryu Island. A short play will be done in commemoration of this battle. Admission is free, no reservations necessary. For more information, contact the Shimonoseki City Tourism Office at 083-231-1350.

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 8, 2013 7 p.m. Broken City (R) 10 p.m. A Haunted House (R)	Monday, March 11, 2013 7 p.m. A Haunted House (R)
Saturday, March 9, 2013 4 p.m. Escape from Planet Earth (PG) 7 p.m. Zero Dark Thirty (R)	Tuesday, March 12, 2013 Theater closed
Sunday, March 10, 2013 4 p.m. Parental Guidance (PG) 7 p.m. The Last Stand (R)	Wednesday, March 13, 2013 Theater closed
	Thursday, March 14, 2013 7 p.m. Mama (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 \$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 APPROACH CULTURAL LESSONS



Kanji Adventures
RADIO CALISTHENICS

ラジオ体操
Rajio Taiso

Radio exercises promotes Japanese nationals' health and proper posture and were started in Japan in November 1928, featuring Swedish, Danish and other styles of rhythmic movement. The spread of the exercises nationally took place in 1929. Two years later, the Association of Radio Exercises was established in Tokyo. The association promoted exercise during summer vacation. After a time, it became a custom and evolved into an obligation to the Japanese people. The exercises were twofold as it served to get them up early and organized for their daily routines, and also it promoted their health and companionship. A militaristic flair crept into the broadcasts, which the post-WWII occupying government found slightly unsettling. Soon, the Japan Broadcasting Association made the exercise more graceful and rhythmic. The exercise was restored and renamed the National Keep-fit Exercise. It is played for ten minutes at 6:30 a.m. every day and another ten minutes at 8:40 a.m., noon and 3 p.m. Monday through Saturday on Nippon Hoso Kyokai (NHK). Many companies and civil workers, along with the Japan Self Defense Force, exercise with the music during lunchtime.



Raul Zepeda, NWO bowler, concentrates as he prepares to place a carefully aimed shot during his final game of the series of the intramural bowling season at the Strike Zone bowling alley here, Feb. 27, 2013. Each team in the intramural bowling season integrated servicemembers from several units who registered to participate. The season officially started Feb. 25, 2013.

Intramural Bowling STRIKES competition amongst servicemembers

Lance Cpl. James R. Smith
IWAKUNI APPROACH STAFF

Slams, crashes and cheers filled the lanes of the Strike Zone bowling alley here as servicemembers stepped to the line in an intramural bowling game Feb. 27, 2013. Each team integrated servicemembers from several units who registered to participate in the season, which started Feb. 25. "It's fun being able to mingle with Marines from different units," said Raul Zepeda, NWO bowler. "This kind of competition is great for camaraderie." With the stage set, the 9'ers proceeded to butt heads against NWO as they began their second game of the season. For some, it would be their first time

competing in a league game. "At first, I was nervous because I've never played in a league before," said Jordan Lee, 9'ers bowler. "After a while, I just told myself it was normal bowling. Then I started to relax and played normally." Things started off with a bang as bowlers constantly scored high with spares and strikes. Game two in the series brought excitement as Chawa Pearson, NWO bowler, scored six strikes in a row and finished the second game with a score of 216. Frustration set in as the series winded down to the third and final game. Pearson managed to get four more strikes in the third game, giving his team much-needed points.

As the last pins fell to the fury of the competitors, the NWO defeated the 9'ers with a total score of 1,856 to 1,645. "We did ok, but I know that there are a lot of areas that we can improve on," said Lee. "The only way we can get better is practice, practice, practice." With the competitive spirit spread through the air in each game, there was still some participants having a good time. "I always look forward to these games because it's the everyday stress reliever," said Zepeda. "We mostly like to bowl for fun." The season has just started for these two teams, and there are still other competitors to overcome. It's just a matter of time until the last pin falls.



The Iwakuni Time Machine

In the March 4, 1968, issue of the Torii Teller, Marines reported on the importance of registering for the 1968 elections, President Lyndon B. Johnson setting forth an executive order granting Vietnam veterans eligibility for federal employment and also wrote a separate story about the hard work and dedication put forth by the Station Weather Service.

Torii Teller

Marine Corps Air Station

Vol. 14, No. 20

Iwakuni, Japan

March 4, 1968

Kreger's Bronze

Sgt. Leonard A. Kreger, base operations, was awarded the Bronze Star Medal with combat "V" on Feb. 20 by Col. Frank A. Shook in a ceremony in the CO's office.

Sgt. Kreger was an aerial gunner on an armed Huey helicopter escorting medivac choppers when heavy enemy fire hit his 'copter and forced the pilot to land. He calmly dismantled his machine gun and moved across the terrain towards the point of heaviest contact. He proceeded to lay down a heavy volume of fire which stopped the enemy advance four times. Sgt. Kreger remained in that position for four hours until the resisting fire subsided enough to allow the wounded men to be taken aboard the choppers. He then aided in getting the wounded aboard.

The citation read in part:

"For heroic achievement in connection with operations against the enemy in the Republic of Vietnam while serving with Marine Observation Squadron Two, Marine Aircraft Group Sixteen, First Marine Aircraft Wing . . . Sergeant Kreger's courage, bold initiative and unswerving devotion to duty were instrumental in the accomplishment of the mission and were in keeping with the highest traditions of the Marine Corps and of the United States Naval Service."

Big Wheel at Wheel Watch

Private First Class Raymond J. Glanzer received a Meritorious Mast from Maj. B.F. Gordon, H&HS CO, for his outstanding alertness while assigned as wheels watch in relation to his primary duties as an Aviation Crash Crewman.

The citation read in part:

"On Sept. 19, 1967, at approximately 10 am, while being stationed at the head of runway 01 as the duty wheels watch, you observed an F-86 making a landing approach to the runway. The aircraft had just completed its right bank and was approximately 2,000 feet out when you noticed the



KREGER AND SHOOK

Congratulations from the top

aircraft still had its landing gear in the up position. You immediately activated the mirror wave-off lights and fired the flare warning system. The landing aircraft acknowledged the warning and took a wave-off, recircled the field, lowered its landing gear and made a safe landing on its second approach."

The citation also stated that again on Sept. 21, at approximately 9:40 am, PFC Glanzer's alertness and quick action was instrumental in preventing an accident that could have endangered the lives of the two men in an F-4B coming in for a landing.

ASHIYA, JAPAN - Fourteen men of the MSQ-44 Radar Scoring Unit here aided Japanese firemen in fighting a raging fire and evacuating 92 families and their personal belongings Feb. 15. Despite fifty-knot winds, the fire was finally brought under control.

The personnel of the Radar Scoring Unit donated money to help the families that were left homeless. LCdr. W.M. Haff, Officer in Charge, presented the donation to the mayor of Ashiya for distribution to the families.

From Bars to Railroad Tracks

Captains Charles J. Loof Jr., Bruce W. Ellis, Eugene S. Holmberg, William R. Wenglare, James E. Lake and John C. Watts, received promotion certificates to their present rank, Feb. 23. Col. Frank A. Shook Jr., Station CO, presented the additional bar.

English Speakers Wanted

The English Speaking Society of Ehime University on Shikoku Island has sent out the call for 10 guest instructors for their annual spring seminar.

The spring seminar is scheduled for March 25-29. It is held at Ozu City in a Buddhist temple. Ozu City is in one of the most beautiful areas in Japan. It is noted as the cradle of Japanese civilization and many reminders of that early period mark the landscape.

Guest instructors at the seminar will meet with a small group of students to aid the students in improving their English speaking abilities.

Names of prospective instructors are being taken at the Informational Services Office (exts. 2260 or 2407) until March 10. Selectees will be notified by March 15. A meeting of the selectees will be held prior to departure for the seminar.



ENGLISH DISPENSARY

Offering conversation aid

Selectees must be releasable from duties during the period of the seminar, however, permissive TAD orders will be issued for the period.

Although there is no specific qualification for the instructors, a sound background in English grammar and composition is necessary. The students are university students with several years of English study and well schooled in the intricacies of written English.