

THE IWAKUNI APPROACH

Issue No. 14 Vol. 6 | Marine Corps Air Station Iwakuni, Japan



PHOTO COURTESY OF VMA-513

Marine Attack Squadron 513 flies over the Wake Islands in transit to Japan. The Nightmares spent December and January in Okinawa, Japan, before coming to Iwakuni.

VMA-513 ends storied history of deployments in Iwakuni

Cpl. B. A. Stevens
IWAKUNI APPROACH STAFF

Marine Attack Squadron 513, also known as the Nightmares, arrived in Iwakuni early February to support the 31st Marine Expeditionary Unit. VMA-513 joined Marine Aircraft

Group 12 March 20, 2013, upon completion of the support. The Nightmares are participating in Foal Eagle in Korea for the remainder of April and will then head back to Marine Corps Air Station Yuma, Ariz.

The unit is also doing its best to make the most of its time in

Japan while helping out the local community.

"We went to the Kintai Bridge cleanup," said Sgt. Maj. Raquel R. Painter, VMA-513 sergeant major. "A lot of our Marines have also taken advantage of the opportunity to go up to Hiroshima and view the sites."

The squadron is also planning a professional military education trip to Iwo Jima before it leaves.

Despite making the most out of their time in Japan, the deployment will also be remembered as their last.

SEE NIGHTMARES ON PAGE 3

Other means to pay for college besides TA

Cpl. B. A. Stevens
IWAKUNI APPROACH STAFF

The Marine Corps, along with the Army, Air Force and Coast Guard, all cut Tuition Assistance as a way to reduce costs during a time of fiscal challenges.

As of March 21, 2013, Congress reinstated TA for all branches except the Coast Guard. It's times like this when servicemembers

realize there are additional ways to fund college classes and earn a degree.

"There have always been other resources for paying tuition," said Brian Rebo, Marine Corps Community Services personal professional-development technician. "One thing you may want to do is ask the college

SEE TUITION ON PAGE 3

VMAQ-4 Seahawks roar above Pacific sky

Sgt. Charles McKelvey
IWAKUNI APPROACH STAFF

Electronic countermeasures.

This is the mission of the EA-6B Prowler operated by Marine Tactical Electronic Warfare Squadron 4 currently participating in the Unit Deployment Program aboard Marine Corps Air Station, Iwakuni.

"VMAQ-4 is a standard Prowler squadron and our mission is electronic warfare in support of the Marine air ground task force," said Maj. Bart Macmanus, VMAQ-4 executive officer. "What we provide is radar and communication jamming for airborne and ground forces."

With a third of their current

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CHIEF

120 years and counting | P. 4



Hazmat


Who you gonna call? HazMat! | P. 5



Uniforms

Making Marines look good since 1775 | P. 6&7





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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

‘Strength in Numbers’

Lt. Alexander J. Cho
MWSS-171 CHAPLAIN

When I was in junior high school, I wanted nothing more than to be in the National Basketball Association. This dream led me to the basketball court every day after school where I practiced my jump shot, my ball handling and my free throws. By myself, I practiced every day without fail. My sophomore year in high school, I tried out for the basketball team and it was a complete shock to me. I had practiced so much, but I wasn’t familiar with playing with others. Instead of just me on the

court, I had nine other players and one coach on the sideline yelling at me. Needless to say, I made it to the final cut and the coach said I wasn’t going to make the team because I didn’t know how to play with the team. After that experience, I found a great group of friends and we played basketball as a team. I learned while individual effort can be beneficial, it is only through others we can truly be challenged and grow.

The same concept applies to our Christian walk. I know many Christians who do not understand why we go to church and attend Bible study. Is our salvation based on how many times we go to church? No. Will God judge us based on how many Bible studies we attend? No.

Then what’s the point? Growth. Acts 14:27 reads, On arriving there, they gathered the church together and reported all that God had done through them and how he had opened a door of faith to the Gentiles.” It is edifying, encouraging and challenging to gather with others of the same beliefs and fellowship. We can share what we are going through, help others who are experiencing difficulties, learn from each other and most importantly of all, worship together.

I encourage those who read this to be bold and take the time to find a church where you can grow. Find a group of friends where you can be challenged to grow. Talk to your chaplain if you have any questions regarding church, bible study or fellowship.

Got News?

Got News?

Got News?

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

You must have your title to pay tax

Support the campaign, pay April 1- April 30

All payments must be made in yen

Heavy Vehicle Information

Plate:	Cost:		Plate:	Cost:
100Y	¥ 32,000		50A, 40A, 580A	¥ 3,000
33E, 33Y, 300Y, 300E	¥ 22,000	more than 4,501cc	YAMA A, B	¥ 1,000
329Y, 330Y, 331Y	¥ 19,000	less than 4,501cc	IWAKUNI A, B, C	¥ 500
44Y, 400Y, 55Y, 500Y, 529Y, 530Y, 531Y, 500E	¥ 7,500			

- April 24 through 26, tax collectors from the city will be at the Provost Marshal’s Office pass-and-registration section for heavy vehicle owners to pay their tax on station from 9 a.m. - 3 p.m.
- Heavy vehicles can otherwise pay road tax on the first floor of the New Symphonia Building from 8:30 a.m. to 5:15 p.m. Parking is free in the rear of the building.
- Once your road tax is paid, bring the following to the pass and registration section of the PMO building, to receive your new base decal:
 - Japanese title, secondary insurance, the vehicle or motorcycle, Japanese Compulsory Insurance (JCI), SOFA license and AFID card, recycling fee receipt and new road tax receipt.

Light vehicle and motorcycle information

- Light Vehicles and motorcycles owners will pay road tax on the second floor of City Hall located across from the police station from 8:30 a.m. to 5:15 p.m. Validated parking is free.
- Maps to the new Symphonia building and City Hall can be obtained from the PMO pass and registration section. For any other questions, contact pass-and-registration at 253-3135.
- To avoid the long lines of the “last-minute rush” at PMO, please pay your road tax and renew your decal early in April.
- April 30, the PMO pass-and-registration section will only process 2013 Road Tax registration and licenses. No other business will take place during this time.

Failure to pay road tax can result in the impoundment of your vehicle.

NIGHTMARES FROM PAGE 1

“VMA-513 is deactivating, so the squadron is actually being shut down,” said Maj. Andrew P. Diviney, VMA-513 executive officer. “All the Marines in the unit will either be transferred out to other Harrier units or F-35 units. VMA-513 will cease to exist on July 13, 2013.”

Morale hasn't been an issue while in Japan, despite the unit's decommission approaching.

“When we first got the news it was right before we started gearing up for the (Unit Deployment Program) and a lot of Marines were disappointed,” said Painter. “We are one big family here, but the good thing is that most of them are going to other units together.”

The unit also maintained its performance and mission capabilities despite the troubling times.

“As we have downsized our unit ... I've been incredibly impressed with how the Marines have moved and kept the aircraft going,” said Diviney. “The level of readiness that we've been able to achieve during this deployment has really impressed me.”

Painter also added the unit has some really high-caliber Marines and she has not seen



Lance Cpl. Adam Duvall, Marine Attack Squadron 513 aviation technician, works on an F/A-18 inside a hangar here, April 5, 2013. VMA-513 joined Marine Aircraft Group 12 March 20, 2013. The Nightmares are participating in Foal Eagle in Korea for the remainder of April and will then head back to Marine Corps Air Station Yuma, Ariz.

such hard-working Marines anywhere else in her career.

The end may be drawing near for VMA-513, but the memories of its illustrious deeds will always remain.

“I’m very proud to be a part of this unit as it deactivates,” said Diviney. “Our patch dates back to 1944... so 69 years of service and to be the last executive officer, I’m proud of that.”

TUITION FROM PAGE 1

you’re attending if they offer any scholarships or grants. There are some colleges right now that offer current students a free class.”

Many colleges also accept College Level Examination Program (CLEP) test. CLEP tests allow students an opportunity to test out of a class without attending it, provided they pass the test.

“Applying for the Pell Grant is something

that we are pushing pretty hard,” said Rebo. “The Pell Grant is awarded based off of last year’s tax information. You can be awarded up to \$5,550 for the school year.”

Rebo added that representatives trained on how to apply for the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FASFA) Pell Grant are in the library and will sit down with servicemembers and assist them in the application process.

“Another thing people can do is brush up

on their math or English skills by taking the Online Academic Skills Course,” said Rebo.

The course is free to active duty servicemembers and to diagnoses an individual's current skills and increase academic proficiency. Step-by-step directions on how to take the course are available at the Education Office in Building 411.

Regardless of TA's fate, servicemembers are encouraged to keep pursuing degrees.

Prowlers train to put enemies in jam

SEAHAWKS FROM PAGE 1

deployment in the books, VMAQ-4, also known as the “Seahawks,” has increased not only their operational tempo, but also their operational effectiveness.

“We are trying to do a lot of training,” said Macmanus. “This is the first time Prowlers have been out here in a while, so we are trying to reeducate people, mainly on the capabilities that we bring to the fight.”

In the six-year gap since the aircraft's presence here, the roar of the Prowlers fell silent over the Western Pacific's sky, mainly due to operations in Iraq and Afghanistan.

”There is a generation who has done nothing but (Operation Iraqi Freedom and Operation Enduring Freedom) and they never got the chance to do a UDP,” said Macmanus. “I’m lucky in that my first deployment was a UDP out here, in 2004, and now I’m back out here 9 years later.”

Although now fully employed, the unit's mission in OEF and OIF varied from what the Marine Corps now expects of its electronic experts.

“Being back out here is a totally different mindset and it’s good to get us back out here,” said Macmanus. “It is more dynamic out here and it requires a lot more work to understand your mission set.”

Macmanus also said one of the unique opportunities of this UDP is the ability to

work with other military branches, such as the U.S. Air Force, stationed at Osan Air Base, Republic of Korea.

“With the vacuum that’s been here since the Prowlers have been gone, there’s a lot of resident knowledge that has been lost,” said Macmanus. “So, we’re just trying to reeducate the masses on what are our capabilities and what we bring out here, not just with the Air Force, but the Marines as well.”

Some of those Marines learning wear a Seahawk patch of their own. The squadron departed with many Marines deploying for the first time.

“One of the deployment’s advantages is the Marines’ ability to experience a higher operations tempo without the pressure of supporting combat missions,” said Gunnery Sgt. Joshua C. Rothman, VMAQ-4 quality assurance chief.

“We do the same whether our aircrew is flying actual combat missions or flying training missions,” said Rothman. “We provide (the aircrew) with a safe aircraft to do whatever their mission is. Jets break the same whether they’re in training or in combat, so our work schedule is based off of what they need to get done.”

The increased workload allows junior Marines hands-on experience and gives them an opportunity to maintain the aircraft under the eyes of experienced Marines.

“In Iraq or Afghanistan you’re not going to let your junior guy sit there and try to figure out what the problem is,” said Rothman. “Here, although they’re training missions and it’s important to get (the aircraft) out, there is a little more time. You can let that new guy sit there and try to figure it out by himself. You’re going to supervise him and make sure he is not doing anything unsafe, but it’s a great learning experience.”

The Seahawks focus mainly on training. However, Q-4 Marines are always ready to execute their mission of jamming enemies. While it’s not putting rounds down range, their presence in the combat arena is certainly felt. “You can’t really see the effects,” said Macmanus. “It’s not like there is a bomb going ‘boom.’”

The effects refer to a varying level of electronic warfare delivered by the hands of as many as three electronic counter measure officers in the Prowler cockpit.

“There is a huge shift in the mindset, going away from kinetic fires and dropping bombs,” Macmanus said. “Sometimes the targets are easier to attack electronically than they are kinetically.”

While absent in the Pacific, the Prowler’s reputation became comparable to an old novel with a bookmark. The Seahawks now re-open that book and prepare to write new chapters, almost 45 years in the making.

“Navy chief! Navy pride!”

Navy chiefs celebrate 120 years of service

Cpl. Kenneth K. Trotter Jr.
IWAKUNI APPROACH STAFF

Chief petty officers across the station celebrated 120 years of their rank at the R.G. Robinson Mess Hall here, April 1, 2013, during a cake-cutting and birthday celebration.

Congress established the rank of chief petty officer, one of the more recognized enlisted ranks in the Navy, April 1, 1893.

“This is a significant day, as all the chiefs all around the globe are celebrating,” said Master Chief Petty Officer Gilbert Ermitano, base Navy senior enlisted advisor.

Those who rate the title chief petty officer are seen not only as technical specialists, but leaders. That focus of leadership is why chiefs have achieved a rank respected by their subordinates and trusted by their senior leadership. This has also given rise to the adage of “chief knows.”

“The Navy chief ... is the backbone of the

Navy, as we provide leadership and guidance to run the Navy through good times and also challenging times,” said Ermitano. “It’s inherent in our position as the term ‘ask the chief’ is a household term in that it means seeking guidance, leadership and words of wisdom.”

The birthday celebration was not only a time for reflection on the illustrious history and contributions of chief petty officers, but also as a light to future generations of chiefs who will one day take the mantle.

“We are the mentors for our personnel under our charge and we make sure that they are provided the right tools, training and guidance as they will be our replacements and we want to set them up for success,” said Ermitano.

The legacy of the chief petty officer was reiterated by others in attendance.

“We have to set an example for the young sailors, so when they become the ones who lead, they know what to do,” said Chief

Petty Officer Jose Afafe, the Robert M. Casey Medical and Dental Clinic patient administration lead chief petty officer and administration officer. “It’s our job to make sure they become successful.”

The chiefs gathered at the mess hall where a white cake trimmed in blue and gold waited to be cut. The “saltiest,” or oldest chief present, Ermitano, and the most junior chief, Chief Petty Officer Maurene Comers, a Headquarters and Headquarters Squadron logistics specialist, garnered the honor of cutting the cake. Next, Master Chief Petty Officer of the Navy Michael D. Stevens’ birthday message was read aloud. At the conclusion of the cake cutting, the chiefs cheered three times with the cry of “Navy chief! Navy pride!”

With 120 years of dutiful service under its belt, the chief rank shows no signs of losing its luster.



CPL. KENNETH K. TROTTER

Chief Petty Officer Maurene Comers, a Headquarters and Headquarters Squadron logistics specialist, and Master Chief Petty Officer Gilbert Ermitano, station Navy senior enlisted advisor, cut the ceremonial cake at the R. G. Robinson Mess Hall here April, 1, 2013, in celebration of the 120th birthday of the chief petty officer rank, established April 1, 1893.

Protecting yourself against HAZMAT

Compiled By
IWAKUNI APPROACH STAFF

Industrial chemicals and toxic waste can come in many forms such as household detergents and air fresheners. Hazardous materials can potentially be anywhere and can affect urban, suburban and rural areas, by way of a chemical spill on a highway to groundwater contamination to naturally occurring methane gas.

The Chemical Manufacturers Association

estimates in an average year, one out of every three trains and one out of every 10 trucks in the United States is carrying hazardous materials.

Hazardous materials are substances or materials which, because of their chemical makeup, can pose a potential risk or damage to organisms, great and small, and their surroundings. Every stage of use with hazardous materials is inherently and potentially dangerous.

Hazardous materials may be stored and

produced in a myriad of places we often encounter, such as a gas station, which uses gasoline and diesel; hospitals, which can house radioactive and extremely flammable materials and homes that utilize gas for water heating or cooking.

Approximately 1.5 billion tons of hazardous material is transported in some form across the United States.

More than half of that is hauled by trucks on the nation's highways, which can potentially cause a chemical spill.

WHAT TO DO

1 If you witness a hazardous materials accident, spill or leak, call 911, the Iwakuni Fire Department, ARFF, or PMO.

2 If you hear a warning signal, turn on your radio or television for further information from emergency response personnel. Follow all instructions carefully.

3 Stay away from the incident site in order to minimize your chances of contamination.

4 If you are caught outside during an incident, try to stay upwind, uphill, and upstream, –hazardous materials can quickly be transported by wind and water.

5 If you are in a motor vehicle, close off ventilation and shut your windows. This will reduce the possibility for contamination or inhaling hazardous material.

6 In certain circumstances, you will be requested to Shelter In Place (SIP), rather than evacuate.

7 Remain in protected, interior areas of the building where toxic vapors are reduced, and keep your radio with you.

8 Remain in protected, interior areas of the building where toxic vapors are reduced, and keep your radio with you.

9 Avoid contact with any spilled liquid materials, airborne mist or condensed solid chemical deposit. Keep your body fully covered and wear gloves, socks and shoes – although these measures may offer minimal protection.

10 Avoid eating or drinking any food or water which may be contaminated.

11 If you learn that you will be sheltered indoors, fill the bathtub and large containers with water. Be prepared to turn off the intake valve in case authorities advise you to do so.

HAZARDOUS MATERIAL PLAN



Go inside.



Close all windows and doors.



Turn off ventilation systems (heating and air-conditioning, and fireplace.)



Go into a room with the fewest doors and windows and seal the room.



Stay in the room until told by the authorities that it is safe to come out.

How to prepare

■ Warning sirens or horns. These outdoor warning systems may not be heard if you are indoors or inside vehicles.

■ Emergency Broadcast System. AFN Power 1575 AM disseminates community emergency information.

■ Residential route alert. PMO vehicles with public address systems travel routes to notify people of an emergency situation.

■ Announcements over cable television. In some communities, including ours, cable systems are equipped to allow emergency response forces to relay FPCON's and MOPP levels on cable television stations.

■ Telephone Alert Server. This method uses an automated system to ring up area telephones and provide a recorded emergency message when telephones are answered. There is also an E-mail notification system for the station.

Whattodoafteranincident

1. Do not return home until local authorities say it is safe.

2. Upon returning to your home, open windows, vents and turn on fans to provide ventilation.

3. If a person or item has been exposed to a hazardous chemical or may be contaminated and could contaminate other people or items you should:

■ Follow decontamination instructions from your local authorities. (Depending on the chemical, you may be advised to take a thorough shower. Or, you may be advised to stay away from water and follow another procedure.)

■ Seek medical treatment for unusual symptoms that may be related to the hazardous material release.

■ If medical help is not immediately available and you believe you may be contaminated, remove all of your clothing and

shower thoroughly (unless local authorities say the chemical is water reactive and advise you to do otherwise). Change into fresh, loose, warm clothing and seek medical help as soon as possible.

■ Place exposed clothing and shoes in tightly sealed containers without allowing them to contact other materials, and call local authorities to find out about proper disposal.

■ Advise everyone who comes in contact with you that you may have been exposed to a toxic substance.

4. Find out from local authorities how to clean up your land and property.

5. Report any lingering vapors or other hazards to your local emergency services office.

For more information, contact Michael Cox, CBRNE Protection Officer, at 253-6930 or via email at Michael.D.Cox@usmc.mil.

Marines display uniforms with pride for M. C. Perry youth



Matthew C. Perry Elementary School students watch the Parade of Uniforms, which took place inside the Matthew C. Perry High School Gymnasium here, April 4, 2013. All those who volunteered for the event were servicemembers from Marine Aviation Logistics Squadron 12.



Sgt. Jorge I. Sanchez, Marine Aviation Logistics Squadron 12 volunteer, exhibits a Korean War Era Marine Corps uniform to Matthew C. Perry Elementary School students during the Parade of Uniforms display, which took place inside the Matthew C. Perry High School Gymnasium here, April 4, 2013. Volunteers posed for photographs with each class attending the event.

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

Marine Aviation Logistics Squadron 12 servicemembers put on Marine Corps uniforms new and old during a Parade of Uniforms display, which took place inside the Matthew C. Perry High School Gymnasium here, April 4, 2013. The event gave young M. C. Perry students the chance to see and hear about the illustrious history of the Marine Corps.

"I think it's important to bridge the gap," said Sgt. Justin Daniels, MALS-12 aviation electrician. "As a military child, times can be hard, especially with parents getting deployed out here in Japan. You don't have the comforts of home. I think it's pretty important to show the kids what their parents do and the uniforms their parents wear and the pride we have in our heritage as Marines."

A short description about the era and wars of the time accompanied every uniform displayed.

"We don't have the usual nine-to-five job, and sometimes, the nation's defense calls for us to go overseas for seven to eight months at a time," said Daniels. "It leaves the kids pretty sad. There is a gap, so to speak, with a parent missing. Things can get stressful at the house, so it is important to let the kids see what their parents do and to understand the importance of what their parents do. It's not that they're neglecting them. It's a pretty big sacrifice to put the United States and their families before themselves."

In April, the Month of the Military Child, extra attention and consideration goes out to the members of a military family who may get overlooked in the regular routine.

"They live this life," said Jeffrey Fleming, MALS-12 family readiness officer. "They're in this lifestyle, day in and day out. They know mom and dad go to work, but they don't know what mom and dad do and why they have to move every three years. It's important for us to recognize our children of the military and show them we respect them for what they go through. We need to make them feel proud. They go through a lot of things a normal civilian child wouldn't go through."



Cpl. Matthew S. Smith, Marine Aviation Logistics Squadron 12 volunteer, gives high fives to Matthew C. Perry Elementary School students after the Parade of Uniforms display, which took place inside the Matthew C. Perry High School Gymnasium here, April 4, 2013. Volunteers posed for photographs with each class attending the event.



Volunteers sing the Marines' Hymn during the Parade of Uniforms, which took place inside the Matthew C. Perry High School Gymnasium here, April 4, 2013. M. C. Perry students also sang several patriotic songs after the presentation.

CORPS NEWS

HIGHLIGHTING MARINES AND SAILORS AROUND THE GLOBE

India Company trains with French Legionnaires

Cpl. Kyle N. Runnels
26TH MARINE EXPEDITIONARY UNIT

NIMES, France — The French Foreign Legion was established March 10, 1831, and comprises members from 140 countries, but less than 8,000 people in the world don the beret and claim the title, French Legionnaire. For three days, Marines and sailors from 26th Marine Expeditionary Unit had the privilege of training alongside them. Marines and sailors assigned to India Company, Battalion Landing Team 3/2, 26th Marine Expeditionary Unit, trained with the 6th Light Armored Brigade, 2nd Foreign Legion Regiment, 5th Company, at Le Camp Des Garrigues in Nimes, France, March 26-28, 2013. The United States Marine Corps is founded on its traditions, discipline, and its core values – honor, courage and commitment. Some say no other fighting force in the world compares to its intense training and discipline, but Marines and sailors of India Co. would argue the French Foreign Legion rivals that history. “Our mission was to build an ongoing relationship with the 6th Light Armored Brigade,” said Staff Sgt. Matthew K. Easley, a Woodbridge, Va., native, and platoon sergeant with India Co. “The French Foreign Legion has a lot of similarities to the Marine Corps as far as esprit de corps. Their tactics are very similar with only a few minor differences, but the way they train, equip and prepare as a whole - as a global force in readiness - is very similar to how we operate.” Many of the Marines have never stepped foot on the soil of a foreign country, let alone trained with some of the most elite members of that nation’s military, but that didn’t stop the bond between brothers who share common mindsets and values from forming almost instantly between the two

companies. “The Marines and French Legionnaires meshed well together from the start,” said 1st Lt. Daniel M. Dellamonica, executive officer of India Co. “They share the same warrior ethos and have very similar ways of thinking.” The Marines and French Legionnaires split up by platoon and trained in a cohesive manner, sharing tactics, techniques and procedures, weapon familiarization and stories. They conducted multiple live-fire ranges, movement to contact exercises, and a two-company, night-infiltration movement that culminated in executing a hasty, blank-fire company attack. It was often said for most recruits going through recruit training in the French Foreign Legion, the hardest part was not the physical aspect, but the requirement to learn French. The noncommissioned officers, whose average age is 36, ensured that happened. “One of the main things I took away from this exercise is not all of them are French,” said Easley. “Many of them are foreigners. It is necessary for them to speak French, so in order for them to do so they have to expand their minds and learn; their NCOs are a real core in enforcing the mental standpoint in being a legionnaire. It is one of the things I will take back with me to the Corps. I would like us to go back in the direction where the NCO is the driving force behind the mental development of junior Marines.” At the end of the exercise, India Co.’s executive officer hoped this exercise built confidence in the Marines if they ever deploy with a foreign nation. “I hope the biggest thing the Marines take away is the fact they are able to go into a foreign country with another foreign ally and be able to employ themselves and adjacent units without any major problems and always being able to complete the mission,” said Dellamonica.



U.S. Marines and Sailors assigned to India Company, Battalion Landing Team 3/2, 26th Marine Expeditionary Unit (MEU), observe military operations on urban terrain tactics used by French Legionnaires assigned to the 6th Light Armored Brigade, 2nd Foreign Legion Regiment, 5th Company, aboard Le Camp Des Garrigues, Nimes, France, March 27, 2013. 26th MEU is deployed to the 6th Fleet area of operation. The MEU operates continuously across the globe, providing the president and unified combatant commanders with a forward-deployed, sea-based, quick-reaction force. The MEU is a Marine Air-Ground Task Force capable of conducting amphibious operations, crisis-response and limited contingency operations.



U.S. Marines and Sailors assigned to India Company, Battalion Landing Team 3/2, 26th Marine Expeditionary Unit (MEU), provide security from a berm while conducting a movement to contact exercise in tangent with French Legionnaires assigned to the 6th Light Armored Brigade, 2nd Foreign Legion Regiment, 5th Company, aboard Le Camp Des Garrigues, Nimes, France, March 27, 2013. 26th MEU is deployed to the 6th Fleet area of operation. The MEU operates continuously across the globe, providing the president and unified combatant commanders with a forward-deployed, sea-based, quick-reaction force. The MEU is a Marine Air-Ground Task Force capable of conducting amphibious operations, crisis-response and limited contingency operations.

COMMUNITY BRIEFS | CLASSIFIEDS

Briefs

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

Craft Fair
A Spring craft and information fair is scheduled to take place April 20, 2013, inside Crossroads Mall from 9 a.m.-3 p.m.

Thrift Store Yard Sale
The station’s Marine Thrift Store is scheduled to host a community yard sale April 20, 2013, from 9 a.m.- 1 p.m. Anyone who wishes to sell their old belongings may reserve a table for free. Limited table space is available. No home businesses. For more information, contact Oana Ivanoff at 253-4711.

Parent Representatives Needed
Parent representatives are needed for the School Advisory Council and Installation Advisory Committee. The SAC meeting will take place April 16, 2013, at 3:30 p.m., and the IAC will take place April 25 at 3:30 p.m.

Off-limit Establishments
The following establishments in Iwakuni and Hiroshima 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.
•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

NMCRS
Servicemembers are encouraged to donate to the Navy-Marine

Corps Relief Society during the 2013 Active Duty Fund Drive. NMCRS is scheduled to be in the Building One auditorium April 22 from 9-11 a.m.; April 25 1:30-3:30 p.m.; and April 30 9-11 a.m. and 1:30-3:30 p.m. Servicemembers may also donate online at MOL through the "resources" tab in the upper right corner. From there, click the "Navy-Marine Corps Relief Society" link. The next page will have a link for the drive. Fill out the monthly donation, donation amount or choose another option. The allotment will then be confirmed. Donators may then request a printed receipt for their records.

M.C. Perry Elementary Parent-Teacher Conferences
Matthew C. Perry Elementary School is slated to host parent-teacher conferences April 16, 2013, to answer questions on social, behavioral and academic well-being, along with any other concerns. The conferences are scheduled to begin at noon and

continue throughout the day. For more information, contact Netra Harwell at 253-5827.

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.

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. Submissions will run the following Friday.

April Promotions

MWSS-171 Lance Cpl. Ballweg, Evan R. Dart, Kaylyn M. Lee, Roxanne M. Spoto, Christopher M.	VMFA(AW)-242 Lance Cpl. James, Ian M. Sgt. Franco, Daniel L.	H&HS Lance Cpl. Coto, Zackery L. FlohrSchutz, Levi A. Hoppe, Jonathan M. Kelly, Marvin A. Kubler, Claire E.	MALS-12 Lance Cpl. Crittenden, Johnny R. Jr. Cpl. Carden, Derrick M. Conrad, Michael C. Crosby, Zachary C. Douglas, Joshua C. Novosad, Nicholas W. Smith, Anrei J. Smith, Chance P.
Cpl. Caputa, Carmello T. Nelson, Ian R. Nurdin, Halim D. Sanabriadiatz, Randy L. Segura, John A.	MACS-4 Det B Cpl. Carey, John E.	Cpl. Defour, Joshua M. Karwick, Joseph G. Koscheski, Hannah R. Stevens, Brian A. Velicruz, Angel A.	Sgt. Lizotte, Richard L. Quinlivan, Ryan P.
1st Lt. Porter, Austin	Master Gunnery Sgt. Barentine, David J.	Capt. Friedell, Matthew	
Capt. Norton, Benjmain	MAG-12 Cpl. Kelsey, Kemmala S.		
	Lt. Col. Baggs, Anthony		
		CLC-36	Lance Cpl. Brima, Tamba A. Nazariosalazar, Ezequiel Ornelas, Samuel J.

MCAS Tax Center: Fast & Free Tax Service

The MCAS Iwakuni Tax Center is located on the first deck in Building 608 at the Station Judge Advocate’s office. Hours of operation are Monday - Friday 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. **Tax filers need to bring the following:**

■ Proof of a valid social security number or ITIN for both the tax filer and all dependants claimed on this year’s tax return	■ Mortgage interest statement
■ W-2 (wage and tax statement)	■ Individual retirement account (IRA) contributions
■ Form 1099 (interest statements from banks earned on savings or checking accounts)	■ Dividends, interest, and capital gains and losses from the sale of stocks, bonds or property
■ Child care expenses	■ Charitable contribution records
■ Records reflecting spousal or child support payments	

The general deadline for filing your tax year 2012 federal income tax return is April 15. For those stationed outside the continental U.S., the deadline is June 15.

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

ARITA TOKI ICHI (ARITA POTTERY FESTIVAL)

The Arita Pottery Festival will be held at Arita City, Saga Prefecture, April 29, 2013. The festival has continued for more than 100 years. More than 500 stores and stands populate four kilometers of streets throughout the city. Parking is available for approximately 800 people with fees. For more information, contact the Arita Town Tourist Office at 0955-46-2500.

WASHIBARA SHRINE FESTIVAL

April 14, 2013, from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m., the Washibara Shrine Festival will be held at the Washibara Shrine, Tuwano Town, Yamaguchi Prefecture. The festival will include Yabusame, or the art of horseback archery. The shrine's horse riding track is approximately 270 meters long and is the oldest in Japan. Their will be a shuttle bus from JR Tsuwano Station. For more informaiton, contact the Tsuwano Town Tourist Association at 0856-72-1771, or <http://www.tsuwano.ne.jp/kanko/en/cal.html>.

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, April 12, 2013 7 p.m. Safe Haven (PG-13) 10 p.m. Side Effects (R)	Monday, April 15, 2013 7 p.m. Beautiful Creatures (PG-13)
Saturday, April 13, 2013 4 p.m. Escape from Planet Earth (PG) 7 p.m. Good Day to Die Hard (R)	Tuesday, April 16, 2013 Theater closed
Sunday, April 14, 2013 4 p.m. Escape from Planet Earth (PG) 7 p.m. Safe Haven (PG-13)	Wednesday, April 17, 2013 Theater closed
	Thursday, April 18, 2013 7 p.m. Safe Haven (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 : 土足厳禁
SHOES PROHIBITED : Dosoku Genkin



In many places in Japan, it is tradition to remove one's shoes before entering a home or restaurant. Japan has a rainy climate, which results in a lot of mud. Taking shoes off prevents the floors from becoming dirty and reduces the need to clean them as often. Many Westerners take this tradition back home with them and use it in their own personal homes. Many Japanese rooms also are used for multiple purposes. A dining room may double as a place to sleep, so it is important to keep the floors clean. It's similar to the concept of not stepping on a bed or couch. Many Japanese also believe the Tatami mat, a mat made of rice straw, is a blessing from a god. Before entering many public places, patrons may say "Do Soku," which translates to "with one's shoes on." This means shoes are acceptable to wear in the establishment.



Sayaka Takabayashi, Marine Corps Community Services SemperFit fitness instructor, performs a tire flip exercise during Strongman pre-training, which took place behind the IronWorks Gym here April 4, 2013. The Strongman competition is planned to include a tire flip, Farmer's Walk, Humvee pull and several other trials.

SemperFit conducts Strongman pre-training for upcoming competition

Lance Cpl. Benjamin Pryer
IWAKUNI APPROACH STAFF

April 4, 2013, marked the first day of the Strongman pre-training. Three fitness instructors took time out of their daily schedules in order to help a grand total of zero people who showed up for the weekly exercise block. "You know, I don't really have the answer for that," said Barbara Roman, Marine Corps Community Services SemperFit fitness coordinator, speaking on the lack of participation. "In the back of people's heads, maybe they feel they don't need to. Maybe they feel that since they go to the gym every day, they are strong. But, if they don't know a lot about their body system and how it applies to this competition, just brute strength is not going to do it." While the first training session passed without attendance, Roman said she is staying hopeful for the following training days, all of which take place Thursday from 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. behind the IronWorks Gym. "I've worked several of the Strongman competitions and I can easily identify what people need to work on," said Roman. "As a fitness coordinator, I thought it would be important to do a pre-training season. As a personal trainer, my job is to specifically train anyone for

whatever their sport may be. Every sport requires pre-training. It's difficult to go out to a competition and not know the events, not know how to perform the events or even use the equipment, which we have available." Roman said this is the first pre-training event for the strongman and the goal of the training is to condition a person's body for the specific trials, as well as familiarizing their neuromuscular system so the exercises become more of natural actions than forced movements. "Working on the actual equipment and then taking that into the gym on some of the weaknesses that were identified is essential," said Roman. "We are identifying those weaknesses for them so they will hopefully work on it for the rest of the week, so during the competition, they're ready." Roman also mentioned it is important to train right up to the competition, but leave a week before the competition to rest in order to avoid fatigue. The Strongman Competition, which is scheduled for mid-May, will consist of five events, including a log press, a farmer's walk, a Humvee pull. All the equipment and training necessary to perfect these exercises will be available during the Strongman pre-training.



Sayaka Takabayashi, Marine Corps Community Services SemperFit fitness instructor, performs a Farmer's Walk exercise during the Strongman pre-training, which took place behind the IronWorks Gym here April 4, 2013. The pre-training will continue every Thursday until the Strongman competition.

The Iwakuni Time Machine

In the April 15, 1968, issue of the Torii Teller, Marines reported on the traditional Japanese sport of Sumo, which dates back more than 2,000 years. Legend tells of the first Sumo match taking place between two gods who were fighting over land.

Torii Teller

Iwakuni Weekly

April 15, 1968

