VMA-513 draws end to 69 years of service

LANCE CPL. JAMES R. SMITH
IWAKUNI APPROACH STAFF

Since World War II, Marine Attack Squadron 513 conducted operations in the Pacific. After 69 years since their activation, the "Flying Nightmares" took their last flights out of Marine Corps Air Station Iwakuni, Japan, May 24, 2013. VMA-513 flew their fleet of six AV-8B Harrier II aircraft to Kadena Air Base, Okinawa, Japan, before the unit heads back to Marine Corps Air Station Yuma, Ariz., for its decommissioning July 15, 2013.

"The point here is that we are ending a true warfighting legacy," said Lt. Col. Samuel Smith, VMA-513 commanding officer. "It’s sad that we are wrapping that up, but I think we’re doing it in the right way.”

Smith also touched on how the unit’s final deployment would be in the same place the unit initially activated in 1944. For the squadron’s last deployment, they performed to their highest capability in the last six months in Japan. "We’ve been able to put out more

Col. Mahoney hosts final PT with 'Ready Group'

PFC. D. A. WALTERS
IWAKUNI APPROACH STAFF

Col. Christopher J. Mahoney, Marine Aircraft Group 12 commanding officer, hosted a motivational run here for all of MAG-12 and subordinate units, May 24, 2013.

The motivational run had all members of MAG-12 present, which totaled 2,035 Marines. "To get 2,000 people at one place at one time and look out over all the Marines is really gratifying and motivating," said Mahoney. According to Mahoney, the one and only reason MAG-12 exists is for presence and projection of combat power.

When Mahoney saw all the Marines of MAG-12 at the run, it was not only motivating to him, but symbolized something a little

MMA fighters grapple, leave servicemembers baffled

PFC. D. A. WALTERS
IWAKUNI APPROACH STAFF

Servicemembers gathered at the Ironworks sports courts to learn basic strikes, kicks and grappling techniques from professional mixed martial arts fighters in an MMA Clinic, May 22, 2013.

Professional MMA fighters Anthony Njokuani, Todd Duffee, Matthew Brown and Kurt W. Shrouise came to MCAS Iwakuni, Japan, as part of the Armed Forces Entertainment Tour. Shrouise, a former enlisted Marine, 41 years old and native of Denver, Colo., started boxing at the age of 11, which led him to furthering his fighting knowledge in Brazilian jiu-jitsu. "I was a really aggressive kid,” said Shrouise. “My dad, who was an international Judoka (a Judo participant), tried to find

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Giving back more than cookies | P. 5

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Samurai dominate, again | P. 11
**News**

**The IWAKUNI APPROACH, May 31, 2013**

**MMA fighters host alarm station during Armed Forces Entertainment tour**

**GRAPPLE FROM PAGE 1**

The break in, or the tendency of the Marines to adhere to certain frame of mind while they are in combat, was a behavior that was commonly observed in the Marine Corps Air Station Iwakuni, Japan. All Marines are required to be able to react quickly and have the ability to react in any situation. The Marines must be able to be able to react quickly and make the necessary decisions in order to protect their lives and the lives of those around them.

Marines are a combat-ready force of approximately 20,000 personnel. They are trained to fight in any kind of environment and are prepared to take on any challenge.

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IWAKUNI APPROACH STAFF

Station recognizes contributions of Asian Americans, Pacific Islanders

Station and local residents took part in the Asian American/Pacific Islander Heritage Month celebration at the Club Iwakuni ballroom here, May 22, 2013.

The celebration demonstrated to station and local residents a part of American culture and how these Asian and Polynesian extraction contributed to American society.

Everyone makes an impact in American history,” said Chief Warrant Officer 2 Jana Tang, Headquarters and Headquarters Squadron personnel officer and event coordinator. Tang cited the president as an example, his humble beginnings in Hawaii and ascension to the presidency.

“Several different cultures came together and showed their love for their country while still being patriotic to the country they’re serving,” said Pfc. Kristen K. Kahlouwek, a HHHS facial budget technician. “From a Marine standpoint, it’s a way of showing what makes us, me. Whether black, white or somewhere in between, Americans are a diverse group. No matter what adjective is placed before America is comprised of a multitude of nationalities. It is impossible to recognize all the contributions made. Hopefully, awareness months such as this, allow people to have a better appreciation for all the cultures of the U.S. and the one who supported me and made sure I was successful. It allows me to appreciate her and everyone who came before me. For Tang, who is a mother, she hopes her daughter can appreciate and recognize the sense of admittance in knowing one comes from a proud, diverse people.

“I hope she has a sense of responsibility, appreciation and uphold all that she is,” said Tang of her daughter. “She’s not just Asian American, she’s also African American, Irish and Native American. I want her to appreciate everything her heritage has brought.”

For some, this was a way to be patriotic, in the sense of they are paying tribute to the U.S. through their heritage and giving back to the community, too.

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“It allowed me to recognize what my family has accomplished,” said Tang. "My mother came here to the United States and worked hard to get where she’s at. She’s the one who supported me and made sure I was successful. It allows me to appreciate her and everyone who came before me."

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Marines receive Advanced Water survival training aboard station

CALL, J. GAGE KARWICK
IWAKUNI APPROACH STAFF

Marines toughed out one week of intense pool training to obtain their Water Survival Advanced certification at the WaterWorks outdoor pool here, May 20-24, 2013. Obtaining their WSA qualification allows Marines to become safety swimmers and assist a Marine Corps instructor of Water Survival with larger classes. For the past few days, we have been conducting WSA, Water Survival Advanced,” said CPL Tiffany L. Baker, Marine Aviation Logistics Squadron 12 Marine Corps instructor of Water Survival. “It is a weeklong course and at the end, if you pass, you are certified and qualified to become a safety swimmer, which means for every safety swimmer a MCWSS has with the WSA qualification, they can add five more students in the pool at a time.” Some students attend the course merely to advance their swim qualification. Others have bigger plans for the future. “I am doing this because I want to go to MCWSS school later this summer and this course is the best preparation for it,” said CPL Andrew Purvis, MALS-12 aviation ordnanceman and WSA student. “This is great for helping in the advancement of your career as a Marine, helping other Marines become better swimmers.” Water survival is an important aspect toward Marine Corps readiness. A standard of readiness with the coined term, ‘Marines are amphibious’ at the very root of the purpose of the Marine Corps. “For the entire base, there are only two Marines that are MCWSS certified,” said Baker. “By getting more Marines WSA qualified we can train more Marines faster and hopefully get a few of those to the MCWSS course to help with keeping their units readiness level where it needs to be.”

With the completion of the first WSA course conducted aboard Marine Corps Air Station Iwakuni, hopefuls wonder when the next course will be. “We want to host more of these classes in the future,” said Baker. “We were able to coordinate with Marine Corps Community Services Aquatics Division and they helped us with using the outdoor pool the week before it opened.”

The WSA course is a long stretch from MCWSS. However, it has proven in the past to be a strong basis for those wishing to attend the MCWSS course with a better grasp on the techniques of proper water survival.

“I am doing this because I want to go to MCWSS school later this summer and this course is the best preparation for it,” said CPL Andrew Purvis, MALS-12 aviation ordnanceman and WSA student. “This is great for helping in the advancement of your career as a Marine, helping other Marines become better swimmers.”

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CORPS NEWS

MWSS-274 Marines qualify with heavy weapons

Lance Cpl. Andrew C. Dickerson
MARINE CORPS AIR STATION CHERRY POINT


The purpose of the course is to teach non-infantry Marines proper machine gun employment and to ensure they have the necessary skills to defend their unit's position in a real-world scenario.

During the two-week course, the Marines learned proper operating procedures and basic fundamentals of the MK-19 automatic grenade launcher, the M240B medium machine gun and the M2 .50-caliber heavy machine gun.

During the two-week course, the Marines completed more than 20 hours of classroom instruction, said Sgt. Milton L. Winrow, a machine gun instructor at the school.

The Marines performed great, said Winrow. “They more than exceeded the expectations I set for them.”

Winrow said before coming to the course, he hoped to gain better understanding of the weapons systems and have the knowledge he needs to instruct others as well. He said he now feels confident in his abilities and looks forward to teaching his counterparts.

“Once you get into the field and you are out there you learn the capabilities of the machine gun and the gunner and you start understanding the limitations of the weapon systems, and you can use that to your advantage as an instructor. And you’re able to better train your unit and pass on our knowledge to others in different units.”

STATION CHERRY POINT, MARINE CORPS AIR STATION

The Okinawa Crede is scheduled to host a Family Enrichment Seminar for adults from July 17-19, 2013. Children five years and older are invited to participate and each family may bring two children max. For more information, contact the chapter at 253-3371.

Infertility Seminar

An Infertility Seminar is scheduled for June 13, 2013, at 5 p.m. in the Robert M. Casey Medical and Dental Branch Health Clinic lobby. Dr. Atsushi Tanaka, a local gynecologist and infertility specialist, will speak about the different non-TRICARE infertility treatment options. The seminar is open to anyone interested. For more information, contact the TRICARE representative at 253-3126, or your Primary Care Manager via Relay Health messages.

COMMUNITY

Lt. Col. Thomas A. Wagener retires after honorary service

Lt. Col. Thomas A. Wagener, Station Judge Advocate, shakes hands with Col. James C. Sweeney, Marine Corps Air Station Iwakuni commanding officer, during Wagener’s retirement ceremony, which took place as the parade deck in front of Building One, May 31, 2013. Wagener served more than 20 years in service, which he started as a motor transportation officer.

MCAS Iwakuni Tax Center is located on the first desk in Building 608 at the Station Judge Advocate’s office. Hours of operation are Monday - Friday 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. The deadline for taxes is June 17.

Tax filers need to bring the following:

- Proof of a valid social security number or ITIN for both the tax filer and all dependents claimed on this year’s tax return
- W-2 wages and tax statement
- Form 1099 (interest statements from banks earned on savings checking accounts)
- Child care expenses
- Proof of alimony paid and SSN of person paid alimony. Court ordered document stating divorce and powers of attorney
- Mortgage interest statement
- Individual retirement account (IRA) contributions
- Dividends, interest, and capital gains and losses from the sale of stocks, bonds or property
- Stock or bond certificate information

The general deadline for filing your tax year 2012 federal income tax return is April 15. For those stationed overseas the continental U.S., the deadline is June 15. Call the tax center at 253-9591 for more information.
**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
- **Monday—Thurs.**
  - 11:30 a.m. Weekday Mass
- **Protestant**
  - 10:30 a.m. Protestant Service
  - 10:30 a.m. Children’s Church
  - 1:00 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
  - 9:45 a.m. AWANA (Hldg. 116)
- **2nd Saturday**
  - 7:30 a.m. Men’s Discipleship
- **2nd and 4th Saturday**
  - 10 a.m. Seventh Day Adventist
- **Buddhist**
  - Sunday
  - 11 a.m. Buddhist Meeting

For information regarding divine services, religious education or any other church-related religious program or chapel activity, call the Marine Memorial Chapel at 253-0511.

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**OUT AND ABOUT: Japan**

**YAMAGUCHI HOTORU FESTIVAL (Firebug Festival)**

The Yamaguchi Hotaru Festival is a week-long celebration, with the main event taking place June 13, 2013. Several of the streets near the local river will be illuminated and full of souvenir and food stands. The firebug viewing will begin at approximately 5 p.m. The viewing area of the festival is an approximate 10-minute walk from the JR Yamaguchi station.

**RICE PLANTING FESTIVAL**

A traditional rice planting festival will take place June 14, 2013, at Sumiyoshi Tatsuya Shrine, Osaka. The festival dates back more than 1,700 years. While rice planting occurs throughout all of Japan, the Sumiyoshi Tatsuya Shrine event is unique for its display of ritual observances and ceremonial, ancient procedures. The ceremony includes a tilling of the fields by oxen, dancing and singing by locals, and a procession of people clad in full Samurai armor. The main performance is the Sumiyoshi Ondori, a dance by 150 girls.

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

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**SAKURA THEATER**

**Monday, June 3, 2013**
- 7 p.m. Opening (Pg-13)

**Tuesday, June 4, 2013**
- 4 p.m. The Big Wedding (R)
- 7 p.m. Pain & Gain (R)

**Saturday, June 1, 2013**
- 7 p.m. The Big Wedding (R)
- 9 p.m. Scary Move 3 (Pg-13)
- 7 p.m. Pain & Gain (R)

**Sunday, June 2, 2013**
- 4 p.m. Scary Move 3 (Pg-13)
- 7 p.m. Pain & Gain (R)

The movie schedule is subject to change. Please check www.mcwakuni.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.mcwakuni.com or call 253-5291.

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**The Tale of Genji**

The Tale of Genji Monogatari is a classical Japanese literature written by Murasaki Shikibu, a Japanese noblewoman, in the early years of the 11th century, around the peak of the Heian period. Sometimes called the world’s first modern novel: a central character and events happen and characters evolve simply by growing older. The work does not make use of a plot; instead, events happen and characters evolve simply by growing older.

For updates, or call the Sakura Theater at 253-5291.

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**Sports**

**PERRY’S QUEST FOR THE THIRD STAR**

If you don’t win, you don’t deserve it. Life is full of big moments and memories. This is about to be a big moment for you, no matter what the outcome. So let’s go out and not let four of failure hinder our success.”

Marc Lange, the boys’ soccer coach of Matthew C. Perry High School, walked around the room, talking objects off of bookshelves, whiteboards and walls. He showed his boys soccer balls signed by former team members, trophies that players dedicated to their coaches as a token of their appreciation, photographs which captured the countless memories of soccer that Lange as well as dozens of former players enjoyed.

Lange gave a motivational speech to his boys’ varsity soccer team before the 2013 Far East Pacific Division II DoDEA soccer championship game, hosted on Marine Corps Air Station Iwakuni, Japan. The Samurai would appear in the championship match for the 4th consecutive year and attempt to win the title for the third time in four years.

In order to achieve their goal, the Samurai had to compete against seven other teams, including the Daegu High School Warriors, the Edgren High School Eagles, the E.-J. King High School Cobras, the Okinawa Christian International School Crusaders, the Osan American High School Cougars, the Youngs International School Guardians and the Zama American High School Trojans. Soccer matches began May 20, with pool play to determine seeding. The Samurai earned the top seed in group B, winning all three matches.

In double-elimination bracket play, the Samurai beat the Cobras 4-0, the Trojans 4-0, and the Cougars 2-0 to earn a spot in the championship match. Osan American High School managed to win their way back into the championship match.

On May 23, the championship match began at 3:30 p.m. at the Perry high school field. The first and second goals were scored by Perry junior Gaku Lange. The Cougars pulled one back before half-time and the first half ended with the scores at 1-1 in favor of Perry. In the second half, the Samurai took control of the match and their strong defense made sure the ball stayed on the opposite side of the field. The Samurai scored their third goal through Perry sophomore Jan Cudovics, whose long throw-in bounced off a Cougar defender and into the goal, making the final score 3-1.

The final whistle sounded and the remaining team members as well as Coach Lange surged onto the field. The boys then gave their thanks to Osan American High School, the referees, and finally the supportive crowd. Everyone then retreated to the high school gym, where awards were presented, including the Far East Championship banner. The Perry boys were awarded, including All Far East, which went to Gaku Lange, senior Yosuke Millop, sophomore Justin Hill, and junior Calvin Barker. The best offensive award went to Gaku Lange, and best defensive player went to Yosuke Millop. The Golden Boot award, given for the most goals scored during the tournament, was awarded to Gaku Lange, who scored 14 goals.

Gaku Lange, the very star, was so strong this year.

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Gaku Lange, the very star, was so strong this year.
His darkroom work produces bright results

Flipping through the pages of the Torii Teller, a picture of a plane captain guiding a Harrier in grabs the readers attention. It’s sharpness comes from the concentration of the photographer, but his production is from the hardwork of one man.

Ozako Tadahiro, or Snap as he is called, is the film developer for Training & Audiovisual Support Center (TAVSC). He takes care of all black & white, color, and slide film.

“Snap does 99.9% of the work in the Torii Teller as far as photo developing is concerned. He also shoots the pictures in the studio,” remarked Sgt. Malcolm Jones, a TAVSC photographer.

“Snap is really good in the technical aspects and is capable of doing any job in the photolab. He’s very good at what he does,” emphasized Jones.

Snap’s small frame and modest manner belies his abilities. He responds to questions politely without boasting or bragging about his knack for film developing.

For the past two years, Snap has been working at TAVSC, coming off ten years as a member of the Japanese Maritime Self Defense Force (JMSDF) where he received his training in photo developing.

Not only does Snap develop, he also takes pictures. “He’ll just say he processes, but he sometimes goes out and shoots too. However, he doesn’t work on classified material. The Marines do that,” replied Cpl. Mark Maynard, motion picture photographer.

“It may seem odd to process film all day, but for Snap dealing with pictures is an enjoyment that is also carried on into his personal life.”

“As long as I have free time, I’ll shoot pictures especially Japanese events and festivals. I also like to take pictures of children,” remarked Snap.

Since he was a young child, Snap has wanted to do photography. This was the main reason for joining JMSDF since he wanted to be a photographer.

Now the next step for Snap is to study the various aspects of shooting with a video camera.

For now, he’s taking each job as it comes. “He’s always willing to do what needs to be done. Snap’s very professional and diligent,” replied Jones.

This professional attitude brings about a friendly working environment. “I learn a lot because there is a difference between Japanese and American photography as far as equipment is concerned,” Snap remarked.

As he continues to learn new aspects of photography, Snap works on and keeps the days from becoming too long, developing what went on that day.

By LCpl. Velda McCoy

(top) Ozako Tadahiro focuses in on his subject. Studio pictures are one of Ozako’s many jobs at TAVSC.
(left) Taking a break, Ozako Tadahiro, or Snap as he is called, often takes time to check the quality of his workmanship.