

THE IWAKUNI APPROACH

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Hawks fly in to Asan Fury

CPL. B. A. STEVENS
IWAKUNI APPROACH STAFF

ANDERSEN AIR FORCE BASE, Guam — Marine All-Weather Fighter Attack Squadron 533, the Hawks, based out of Marine Corps Air Station Beaufort, S.C., is now participating in Asan Fury 13.

Asan Fury 13 is a deployment for training exercise taking place in Guam.

The Hawks departed Marine Corps Air Iwakuni, where they are currently forward deployed under the unit deployment program and flew to Andersen Air Force Base, Guam to participate in the month-long exercise.

"Guam allows us a unique opportunity to conduct some live ordnance training," said Lt. Col. Kevin O'Rourke, VMFA(AW)-533 commanding officer. "We've got quite an array of ordnance that we will be expending; everything from 20 millimeter gun rounds to 1,000 pound laser guided bombs."

Dropping live ordnance is only one of many training evolutions the Hawks will be conducting during Asan Fury.

"We're going to be working on Fighter Attack Instructor certification preparation, Forward Air Control Airborne qualifications and also conducting training for our newer aircrew," said O'Rourke.

The Hawks also plan to prepare its aircrew for the upcoming Weapons and Tactics Instructor Course scheduled to begin in September.

The squadron's aircrews are working extended hours, preparing ordnance and conducting maintenance on aircraft, but they are not the only ones. Pilots also get the chance to conduct air-to-air combat simulated training with help from the air force, which they cannot get in Japan due to the restricted air space and restrictions on ordnance.

"They are getting to do a lot of good training that they couldn't do earlier in this deployment," said Sgt. Maj. Derrick Mays, VMFA(AW)-533 sergeant major. "So it's keeping them busy." The Marines and sailors are also taking advantage of the liberty opportunities Guam offers, from historic battlefields to world

SEE **HAWKS** ON PAGE 3



DRAGON FIRE 2013

CLC-36 GETS OUT THE BIG GUNS | PAGES 6-7

CPL. BENJAMIN PRYER

Cpl. Dakotah Reynolds, a motor transportation operator with Combat Logistics Company 36, participating in Exercise Dragon Fire 2013, yells before firing an M2 Browning .50 Caliber Machine Gun as part of a training evolution near Combined Arms Training Center Camp Fuji July 15. The purpose of DF13 is to increase CLC-36's ability to function in a combat environment, build esprit de corps and facilitate engaged leadership. In pursuit of these goals, Marines will conduct live-fire exercises, participate in mentorship discussion groups, physical training events and finish with a motivational hike up Mount Fuji.

Marines perfect basic rifleman skills during live-fire training

CPL. BENJAMIN PRYER
IWAKUNI APPROACH STAFF

COMBINED TRAINING CAMP FUJI, JAPAN

Combat Logistics Company 36 servicemembers refreshed basic marksmanship skills during a live-fire training range, located near Combined Arms Training Center Camp Fuji, as part of Exercise Dragon Fire 2013, July 12.

"We did table three training, which is pretty much close-combat marksmanship," said Sgt. Delshan Martinez, a motor transportation operator for CLC-36. "It includes facing movements, controlled pairs and hammer pairs. It's for when the enemy is right in front of you and you have to know how to take control of the situation and make sure the enemy is off-set by your marksmanship fundamentals."

Some of the marksmanship

fundamentals Martinez mentioned included tactical-speed reloading, knowing how to stay vigilant by not letting your eyes down and keeping your gaze oriented down range on your target, and being able to get your weapon back in the fight as quickly as possible.

"These Marines could go to combat at any time... so they have to be ready to face that enemy. And not knowing what might happen, they have to be ready to adapt and overcome when the situation gets bad," said Martinez. "For a lot of these Marines, it's their first time doing table three since they got out of boot camp, so for a lot of the training, it's muscle memory; you just have to keep doing it and practicing to get better at it."

Dragon Fire 13 is CLC-36's annual battle skills training exercise that focuses on



CPL. BENJAMIN PRYER

Sgt. Emily Gavidia, an administration noncommissioned officer in charge with Combat Logistics Company 36, loads 5.56mm ammunition into a magazine during a live-fire training exercise, which took place at a range near Combined Arms Training Center Camp Fuji, as part of Exercise Dragon Fire 2013 July 12.

MOVING!

Dragon Fire 2013 executes maneuvers | P. 4

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Club Iwakuni's second kitchen supervisor | P. 5

SOCCER

Seahorse Soccer Camp teaches basics | P. 11



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CHAPLAIN'S CORNER

'Strength'

LT. J.G. LA TOYA V. ZAVALA
STATION CHAPLAIN

You're going through a lot. Stress is taking its toll. Important things are affected: your eating habits, your sleeping habits, CFT/ PFT/PFA scores, relationships breaking down, bad habits picking up, things you used to enjoy don't move you anymore, and other things are going down that you probably don't want me to mention in this article. So let me ask you,

Where does your strength come from?

Where do you get the motivation to carry on, to wake up the next morning, to go to work and be your best? Where do you get the stamina to persevere through the rough times, to make it to the finish line, to get to the light at the end of the tunnel? What keeps

you from spiraling downward to a point of no return? This is an important question to answer, because you are going through a lot. We all are. We are in a foreign country, with lots of restrictions. Many of us are far away from family and friends.

On top of that, your individual stressors cannot compare to anyone else's. Changes in relationships, changes in your finances (or no changes in your finances), changes in your command, sudden illness or death, on and on and on...

Where does your strength come from?

In your situation, you may be feeling like Job. The scriptural account tells us that Job was severely tested. He lost all of his children to a storm. He lost his sheep and oxen to a fire. His camels were stolen. Most of his servants died in the calamities. He was suddenly afflicted with a skin disease. His wife did not support him, and his friends not only abandoned him, but they

accused him. Everything that could go wrong did go wrong (See Job 1 for the reason why). Nevertheless, he persevered. He kept the faith. He fought until the end. He won the race. Everything he had was restored to him and multiplied.

Where does your strength come from?

Job declared: “But if I go to the east, he [God] is not there; if I go to the west, I do not find him. When he is at work in the north, I do not see him; when he turns to the south, I catch no glimpse of him. But he knows the way that I take; when he has tested me, I will come forth as gold.”

I encourage you. If you are not going through a hard time, you will. This is the way of life. In these hard times, we may not be able to understand. We may not be able to see or feel Him. But like Job, you can be sure... God is there. Draw your strength from him and you will come out as gold.

For more information on this topic, see your chaplain today.

IPAC: who's pulling the strings?

CPL. J. GAGE KARWICK
IWAKUNI APPROACH STAFF

Throughout the military services, there are administrative specialists who handle and process most, if not all, of the administrative paperwork pertaining to each individual servicemember.

Though all servicemembers must, at some point, meet with an administrative specialist, not all are familiar with what they do, don't do, can and cannot do.

“We report entries into our system, which is the Marine Corps Total Force System,” said Chief Warrant Officer 4 Sandy Alvarez, Headquarters and Headquarters Squadron Installation Personnel Administrative Center director. “We go by manuals and we are not the deciding factor whether or not someone gets commuted rations or travel money for their dependents. That is something that needs to be approved by the command and Headquarters Marine Corps. As administrators we process paperwork, and I think that is the most common misconception when people think that IPAC is not fair. We simply go by what has been approved by the command and what has been annotated through certain regulations. We are never the deciding factor.”

When a servicemember gets an award or some achievement, he wants to make sure that it is annotated in his records. But, there are many rumors and stories about how ‘IPAC didn't enter it in the system,’ ‘IPAC messed up my pay,’ these are common issues raised to the attention of the administrative specialists.

“Since most people don't understand what we do or completely understand the systems and process that we deal with, they tend to believe that their problems are not going to be solved,” said Lance Cpl. Mason McGerry, H&HS IPAC administrative specialist. “Or something they did, a school or a course, won't end up in the system to show that they did it. They come to us to reaffirm what they have been told or heard, stories of things not going into the system, which most of the time is completely inaccurate.”

Marines know accountability is of utmost importance, and stressed to all servicemembers from day one of recruit training.



Lance Cpl. Leticia R. Gonzales, Headquarters and Headquarters Squadron administrative specialist, sorts through paper work before forwarding information to Headquarters Marine Corps July 23, 2013.

Hawks improve mission readiness during Asan Fury



CPL. B. A. STEVENS

Capt. Aaron F. Gajewski, a Marine All-Weather Fighter Attack Squadron 533 F/A-18 pilot, departs from Andersen Air Force Base, Guam, July 19, 2013. The Hawks aircrew works many hours to receive substantial training.

HAWKS FROM PAGE 1

class diving.

Community relations projects, hosted by the Marine Aircraft Group 12 chaplain, will afford another opportunity for some of VMFA(AW)-533's Marines to see and help the local community.

The Hawks are also coordinating professional military education trips to increase the unit's knowledge about the importance of Marines on Guam.

Whether it's dropping bombs or learning about a pivotal Marine battle of World War II, the Hawks will be keeping busy participating in Asan Fury, making themselves a more mission ready and combat capable unit.

Marines conduct training while sleeping under stars

CPL. BENJAMIN PRYER
IWAKUNI APPROACH STAFF

COMBINED ARMS TRAINING CENTER CAMP FUJI, Japan — “The Marines out there definitely made me proud,” said 1st Lt. Zully Pasindo-Rubio, Exercise Dragon Fire 2013 Officer in Charge, while walking back to her barracks room aboard Combined Arms Training Center Camp Fuji, still wearing her flak and Kevlar from a four-day bivouac and training evolution.

Marines arrived at Landing Zone Buzzard, their bivouac site, July 10, 2013, for an austere and exhausting field-environment experience.

Fog enveloped the site, cutting visibility down to a few meters, but servicemembers continued to construct their tents.

“We got here and it was dark, but we had to set all the tents up and put them where they wanted us to sleep, so we're sleeping on a hill, in the dirt. It wasn't very comfortable,” said Lance Cpl. Blake Seekamp, a Provost Marshal's Office Marine with Marine Corps Air Station Iwakuni and DF13 augment. “I probably sweat the whole night, woke up soaked, even wetter than when I went to bed, but it is what it is. It's worth it being out here though. It's not the Comfort Inn, you're out in the field, this is what the field is supposed to be.”

While tent sites were separated to place officers and staff noncommissioned officers apart from junior Marines and non-commissioned officers, all servicemembers participated in the training evolutions.

“I think it is really great for the junior Marines to see their officers and staff non-commissioned officers out there with them,” said Pasindo-Rubio. “A lot of us are used to being in an office environment. Where often

times the only time junior Marines really see their officers is at a brief and the only time they see their staff NCOs is if their sergeants couldn't take care of a problem, so it had to go one step higher. They are not really used to seeing us in an environment where we are out there leading them from the front and trying to enhance their combat readiness through instruction and observation.”

Even with officers and staff NCOs present during training, a heavy emphasis still shined on the bread and butter of Marine Corps.

“I don't know what you saw, but I saw small-unit leadership and it was awesome,” said Pasindo-Rubio. “All I had to do was tell a sergeant, ‘this is what your platoons are doing tomorrow, go get it done,’ and there they go. The staff has truly been impressed with how the sergeants have developed thus far during this exercise.”

While training for DF13 could be conducted while exercise participants stayed in their squadbays, a key message would be lost without such a field experience.

“I think it's important for Marines to experience what it feels like to be in the field even if it is only for a few days. I think that as a Marine Corps we've gotten away from remembering how to survive without all of our creature comforts,” said Pasindo-Rubio. “Sometimes, our nation is going to call us to do things that are going to require that we accept discomfort and we need to be prepared to do that. It was uncomfortable out there. They had no showers, and it was black flag for three of the four days we were out there. They were out there moving around all day, and all they had to come home to was a tent in the middle of the field with no creature comforts, and yet they were still motivated.

I think the bivouac also served to build Esprit de Corps. Some of the Marines might not realize it, but they were forced to work together in a way they never do in garrison. In garrison, the expression, “looking out for the Marine to your left and to your right,” tends to mean making sure your liberty buddy does not do something that will result in an (Non Judicial Punishment) or worse. However, here, during this training they were able to see the true significance behind it. They will be looking back on the good and bad experiences they had during this exercise for years to come.”

With a mix of Meals Ready to Eat and hot chow, bivouac residents pushed through the day's blazing sun and night's humid grasp.

“It's been hot and muggy, but it's been fun getting out in the woods and doing some training, getting away from Iwakuni where you're stuck in garrison,” said Seekamp. “I think this kind of training is important because Marines get stuck in the mindset that they're, ‘in the Kuni,’ where nothing is going to happen to them, but they need to stay trained and combat ready because that's what we are: we're Marines. We're the first ones to go into combat.”

Just as Marines have endured rigorous conditions in the past, through Vietnam, Iraq, Afghanistan and more, DF13 provided participants with a taste of what such a real-world experience might feel like.

“After you do this, you'll know what it's like and you'll know how to deal with it,” said Seekamp. “Somebody else did this before us, we're doing it now and someone else will do it in the future. There are Marines out there right now doing stuff harder and in more suck than we are and there's going to be Marines following right in our footsteps, doing the same things we are.”

ready state.

“This refreshes the Marines' memory a little bit, and getting back to the basics is definitely the best start,” said Stuck. “You have to start from the bottom and work your way to the top if you want to truly succeed.”

RIFLEMAN FROM PAGE 1

improving individual and collective combat skills of CLC-36 Marines and sailors with an emphasis on weapons-familiarization training.

“I think this training is good for the Marines to

get out in the field and perfect the skills we need to be combat ready,” said Lance Cpl. Brian L. Stuck, a motor transportation mechanic with CLC-36. “It always starts with the basics. If you don't know how to break down and clean your weapon

basically, then you won't be able to do it quickly or in combat; slow is smooth and smooth is fast. I'm really glad I got to come out here.”

Stuck also said the Marines received hip pocket classes on topics to include: attack support,

fire support and some tactics used for ambushes. Even though Marines perform training like this through recruit training and Marine Combat Training, it requires a constant perseverance to keep skills refined in order to maintain a combat



CPL. BENJAMIN PRYER

Cpl. Angel Velizcruz, noncommissioned officer in charge of the inbound unit dairy section, Installation Personnel Administration Center, Marine Corps Air Station Iwakuni and augment with Combat Logistics Company 36 for Dragon Fire 2013, shouts to his third fire team to perform a fire team rush during a training evolution that took place near Combined Arms Training Center Camp Fuji July 16.

CLC-36 Marines practice maneuver-under-fire training during Exercise Dragon Fire 2013

CPL. BENJAMIN PRYER
IWAKUNI APPROACH STAFF

COMBINED ARMS TRAINING CENTER CAMP FUJI, Japan — “Servicemembers with Combat Logistics Company 36 performed maneuver-under-fire drills on a training range near Combined Arms Training Center Camp Fuji as part Exercise Dragon Fire 2013 July 16.

Servicemembers switched off between performing buddy rushes and firing M240B Light Machine Guns to enact a combat scenario.

“Operating and functioning under chaos, that’s what the battlefield is about,” said Chief Warrant Officer 2 Aaron Isaac, maintenance officer for CLC-36. “Everything on the battlefield is chaos; nothing goes as planned, nothing goes right and everything is messed up. The fog of war sets in quick, fast and in a hurry. This is as close as we can get to simulating covering fire from your machine-gun teams while they’re advancing on a target.”

Rehearsing buddy-rush techniques also gave small-unit leaders a chance to guide

their fire teams and practice leadership skills.

“I had three fire teams in my squad, and I made sure that each fire team buddy rushed toward the enemy while having the other two fire teams providing covering fire,” said Cpl. Angel Velizcruz, noncommissioned officer in charge of the inbound unit dairy section, Installation Personnel Administration Center, Marine Corps Air Station Iwakuni and augment with CLC-36 for Dragon Fire 2013. “Coordination like that is important in order to keep the enemy suppressed and to allow the running team to get closer to the enemy. We’re trying to get into a better position where we can attack them with small-arms fire. I think my squad did really well. We maintained our dispersion, and the fire team leaders took charge of their teams excellently.”

Given the rarity training events like this are for the Marines and sailors of CLC-36, courses-of-fire such as this can prove to be a determining factor for if a Marine is prepared to perform his primary job as a rifleman in any situation.

“This simulates a real-life scenario and prepares the Marines for combat,” said Velizcruz. “This is what you’re going to see if you go to combat; you’re going to have enemies in front of you and your suppressive fire behind you and you’re going to need to be able to remain calm and controlled so you can perform your mission.”



CPL. BENJAMIN PRYER

Petty Officer Third Class Rick Yao, an aviation technician with Marine Aviation Logistics Squadron 12, augmented to Combat Logistics Company 36 for Exercise Dragon Fire 2013, yells to his fire team to perform buddy rushing techniques during a maneuver-under-fire drill at a training range near Combined Arms Training Center Camp Fuji July 16.



CPL. BENJAMIN PRYER

Marines with Combat Logistics Company 36, participating in Exercise Dragon Fire 2013, perform buddy rushing techniques during a maneuver-under-fire drill at a training range near Combined Arms Training Center Camp Fuji July 16. The purpose of Dragon Fire 2013 is to increase CLC-36’s ability to function in a combat environment, build esprit de corps and facilitate engaged leadership. In pursuit of these goals, Marines will conduct live fire exercises, participate in mentorship discussion groups, physical training events and finish with a motivational hike up Mount Fuji.

Part 4: Supervisor number two

Asaeda runs other half of kitchen



STORY AND PHOTOS BY
LANCE CPL. JAMES R. SMITH
IWAKUNI APPROACH STAFF

One of the past stories in this series took a look into Seiji Shoya, Club Iwakuni supervisor, but he was only one of the supervisors at Club Iwakuni.

Our last chef in this series is Yasumobu Asaeda, Club Iwakuni supervisor, who is responsible for supervising one half of the entire kitchen, and just like Shoya, he can perform any task in the kitchen.

"I call him my 'Jack of all Trades' because he does a little bit of everything," said John Bass, Club Iwakuni catering director. "If he's on the line and sees a dish go out the way it shouldn't, he will stop it, have the cook fix it and then send it out. He doesn't let anything come off the line that isn't exactly the way it's supposed to be."

With his 14 years of experience at the club, there is one aspect Asaeda enjoys about his job.

"I help improve the qualities of other chefs by teaching them," said Asaeda. "It's hard being a

supervisor because I want to teach everyone in the kitchen, but there are too many people to keep track of."

Even though numbers are against him, Asaeda's true ability comes when his leadership inside helps to create a hard-working team.

"When Yasu is on the line, he pulls the chefs together, talks to them before they start the day and tells them what to expect," said Bass.

With his years of culinary experience and skills as a supervisor, Asaeda ensures that nothing goes to the customer until it is absolutely perfect.

"I've never heard any complaints about anything he's cooked," said Bass. "People don't really know him personally, but supervisors do get very good compliments from customers."

Marines are taught that the most important troop leading step for anything is to supervise. With one supervisor running each side of the kitchen, the satisfaction of patrons at Club Iwakuni will be kept to a high standard.



Yasunobu Asaeda, Club Iwakuni supervisor, washes a pan used to complete an order during a busy breakfast rush at Club Iwakuni at Marine Corps Air Station Iwakuni, Japan, July 20, 2013. When the number of people working is low, Asaeda steps in to take care of miscellaneous tasks, such as washing dishes.



Yasunobu Asaeda, Club Iwakuni supervisor, completes chicken stir-fry while the other chefs complete orders for a busy breakfast rush at Club Iwakuni at Marine Corps Air Station Iwakuni, Japan, July 20, 2013. Before working at Club Iwakuni, Asaeda worked at the Crossroads Mall food court and the Landing Zone diner as well.



Yasunobu Asaeda, Club Iwakuni supervisor, prepares chicken stir-fry while the other chefs complete orders for a busy breakfast rush at Club Iwakuni at Marine Corps Air Station Iwakuni, Japan, July 20, 2013. When chefs need an extra hand completing orders, Asaeda steps in to assist making dishes.

BIG GUNS

CLC-36 Marines train with SAW, M240B, .50 Cal. during Exercise Dragon Fire 2103

STORY AND PHOTO BY
CPL. BENJAMIN PRYER
IWAKUNI APPROACH STAFF

COMBINED ARMS TRAINING CENTER CAMP FUJI, Japan — Servicemembers with Combat Logistics Company 36 participated in a training exercise near Combined Arms Training Center Camp Fuji, July 15 involving the familiarization of the Squad Automatic Weapon, M240B Medium Machine Gun and M2 Browning .50 Caliber Machine Gun, as part of Exercise Dragon Fire 2013.

DF13 is CLC-36's annual battle skills training exercise that focuses on improving individual and collective combat skills of CLC-36 Marines and sailors with an emphasis on weapons familiarization training. The final goals of DF13 are for CLC-36 Marines to be capable of performing Marine Corps common skills to standards set forth by the commander's intent at a minimum expense and in a time-efficient manner to develop a greater sense of unit cohesion, confidence and morale.

To ensure Marines safely and efficiently learn more about the weapons systems, instructors vigilantly watched over every firing hole, offering advice and assisting with immediate and remedial action drills as necessary.

"I'm an infantryman. I'm here to instruct the Marines of 3rd (Marine Logistics Group) in basic infantry skills; to give them the confidence to be able to become a provisional rifle platoon," said Staff Sgt. Ryan B. Page, a weapons and tactics instructor with Tactics Readiness and Training, 3rd MLG. "This is my first time with CLC-36 and so far,

I like their motivation and dedication to training."

Page also said he arrived to see sergeants from CLC-36 already proceeding with training and how that's what he looks for.

Sticking to the adage Marines are told from the start of their training, 'every Marine a rifleman,' CLC-36 servicemembers set out to practice and improve their marksmanship skills.

"We run around in the Marine Corps screaming that as our motto. Well, this is the time to show that, this is where you put your money," said Page. "If you want to run around saying, 'every Marine is a rifleman,' then prove it. These Marines are doing a pretty good job with that right now."

While not all Marines have the same degree of expertise with weapons, the training evolution sought to either refresh old skills or introduce new ones.

"I thought today was pretty fun. Shooting the big guns brought back some good memories," said Lance Cpl. Kyrien Clark, a brig Marine with the Provost Marshal's Office, Marine Corps Air Station Iwakuni augment to CLC-36 for DF13. I haven't touched the 50 (caliber) or the 240 yet, so this was some really good training for me. Personally, I think it's good for every Marine to be able to shoot not only their M-16s, but also the big guns. Everybody is supposed to be ready and deployable, so what happens if you get deployed and you don't know what to do with every weapon? That's rule number one, knowing what you're doing with your weapons."



Cpl. Dakotah Reynolds, a motor transportation operator with Combat Logistics Company 36, participating in Exercise Dragon Fire 2013, loads 7.62mm ammunition into an M240B during a training exercise that took place near Combined Arms Training Center Camp Fuji July 15. The purpose of DF13 is to increase CLC-36's ability to function in a combat environment, build esprit de corps and facilitate engaged leadership. In pursuit of these goals, Marines will conduct live fire exercises, participate in mentorship discussion groups, physical training events and finish with a motivational hike up Mount Fuji.



Lance Cpl. Erica Asauskas, radio operator with Combat Logistics Company 36, participating in Exercise Dragon Fire 2013, fires an M240B medium machine gun during a training evolution that took place near Combined Arms Training Center Camp Fuji July 15. DF13 is CLC-36's annual battle skills training exercise that focuses on improving individual and collective combat skills of CLC-36 Marines and sailors with an emphasis on weapons familiarization training.



A Marine with Combat Logistics Company 36, participating in Exercise Dragon Fire 2013, loads rounds into a machine gun during a training evolution near Combined Arms Training Center Camp Fuji July 15. DF13 is CLC-36's annual battle skills training exercise that focuses on improving individual and collective combat skills of CLC-36 Marines and sailors with an emphasis on weapons familiarization training. The final goals of DF13 is for CLC-36 Marines to be capable of performing Marine Corps common skills to the standards set forth by the commander's intent at a minimum expense and in a time-efficient manner that develops a greater sense of unit cohesion, confidence and morale.

CORPS NEWS

HIGHLIGHTING MARINES AND
SAILORS AROUND THE GLOBE



SGT. BEN EBERLE

Engineers with the Mongolian Armed Forces conduct preparation work on the rooftop of Erdmiin Oyun High School in the Nalaikh district of Ulaanbaatar, July 20. The MAF engineers are working alongside U.S. Marine and Washington Army National Guard counterparts to complete the school renovation project as part of Exercise Khaan Quest 2013, a regularly scheduled, multinational exercise co-sponsored this year by U.S. Marine Corps Forces Pacific, and hosted annually by the MAF. The intent of the ongoing engineering civic action program (ENCAP) project in Nalaikh is to provide valuable training for Mongolian and U.S. armed forces by boosting their interoperability, as well as demonstrate a mutual commitment to local community.

Mongolian, U.S. engineers team up to renovate school

SGT. BEN EBERLE
U.S. MARINE CORPS FORCES
PACIFIC

NALAIKH DISTRICT, Ulaanbaatar, Mongolia — Despite the generally arid climate in Mongolia's steppe, rain poses a significant threat to a high school here. A multinational team of engineers and construction specialists are working to solve that problem during exercise Khaan Quest 2013.

Marines with 9th Engineer Support Battalion, 3rd Marine Logistics Group, and soldiers from 96th Troop Command, Washington Army National Guard, have teamed up with the Mongolian Armed Force's 017 Construction Regiment to renovate Erdmiin Oyun High School, kicking off the project, July 20.

Cracks in the roof and walls have caused leaks into the school's classrooms and gymnasium and are starting to compromise the structural integrity of the building.

"The water is filling the cracks," said Army Master Sgt. Andrew Haas, site foreman and operations sergeant with 96th Troops Command. "In the winter this water freezes and expands which is causing the wall to break away."

"The roof is getting fixed, the application of the emulsion to the walls will keep rain from getting into the side of the building, and the new windows will help keep water from getting inside," Haas added. "All three together will slow down the decay of the wall and prolong the life of the building."

The team is also building a wheelchair-accessible ramp at the front entrance of the school.

"This project is very important, especially for the local people," said MAF 1st Lt. Tumurbataar Tulga, training officer for 017 Construction Regiment and Mongolian officer-in-charge at the site. "It's even better because it gives (our militaries) an opportunity to share our knowledge and learn how to incorporate our expertise."

1st Lt. Matthew Elliott, a platoon commander with 9th ESB and OIC of U.S. forces, has confidence his Marines will not only play a large part in completing the mission, but that they will also learn from the experience during this year's Khaan Quest exercise.

"The (MAF engineers') work ethic is great, they come out here and they start working right off the bat," said Elliott. "They do things differently out here ... and the way they design their roofs



U.S. and Mongolian engineers review the renovation plan from the rooftop of Erdmiin Oyun High School in the Nalaikh district of Ulaanbaatar, Mongolia, July 20. The Mongolian and U.S. armed forces are working side-by-side as part of Exercise Khaan Quest 2013, a regularly scheduled, multinational exercise co-sponsored this year by U.S. Marine Corps Forces Pacific, and hosted annually by the MAF.

is something we've never seen before."

"Our precision will probably be impressed on them a little bit, and we're definitely picking up some things from them ... they can make things work without the most state-of-the-art tools," said Lance Cpl. John M. Toniolo, a combat engineer with Alpha Company, 9th ESB. "We should both take away a lot from this."

Exposure to different tactics,

techniques and procedures provides a valuable training benefit to the exercise participants, but it will also leave a lasting impression on the surrounding community.

"I see kids walking around here, and I know that I'm not just impacting the Mongolian Armed Forces," said Toniolo. "This is something that the local community needs to use, and they'll use it every day."

COMMUNITY BRIEFS | CLASSIFIEDS

Briefs

Crime Stoppers

To report a crime, call 253-3333. Callers can leave a detailed message without having to speak to a live person.

Vacation Bible School

This year's VBS is in need of volunteers. If you like teaching, playing games, building, etc., allow your gifts and talents to be manifested in this opportunity. This year's theme is Kingdom Rock: Where Kids Stand Strong for God. VBS is scheduled August 19-23, 2013 from 5-7:30 p.m. daily. To register to volunteer or to attend, please go to <https://www.groupvbspro.com/vbs/ez/IwakuniVBS>. For more information contact Linda Brown at, 253-2419 or email godsvessel93@aol.com.

NMCRS Quick Assist Loans

The Iwakuni Navy Marine Corps Relief Society provides Quick Assist Loans to prevent active duty service members from falling prey to predatory lenders. These loans are designed to assist with short-term

living expenses up to \$500, interest-free and must be repaid within 10 months. For more information, call the Iwakuni NMCRS at 253-5311 or stop by the Marine Memorial Chapel, Room 148.

Nutrition Information Class

A Nutrition Video Tele Conference class is scheduled at the conference room in the Branch Health Clinic Aug. 16, 2013, from 11 a.m. - 12 p.m. Lt. j.g. Elaina Ortiz, U.S. Naval Hospital Yokosuka, will discuss basic nutrition information including weight management, and other topics pertaining to healthier dietary lifestyle changes. To sign up or for more information, call 253-3445. Sign up is open until Aug. 13.

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.

Contractor Gate

Recently, the Contractor Gate has experienced traffic congestion due to heavy use. Due to the congestion, the Provost Marshal's Office requests that personnel who are not contractors (Active Duty Military, JMSDF, MLC/IHA employees, etc.) access the installation via the Main Gate or Monzen Gate and refrain from using the Contractor Gate, including bicycle riders. For more information, call 253-6942.

Jobs

Dental Hygienist

The U.S. Navy currently seeks one Dental Hygienist at 3rd Dental Battalion at U.S. Naval Dental Center, Iwakuni. Minimum requirements include, a registered dental hygienist certification, must have excellent healthcare administrative and outstanding patient care skills, 3 letters of recommendation. Must successfully complete and pass a Background Investigation. This is not a civil service position. This is a full time position of 40 hours a week. Call 253-4628 for inquiries.

ESP Position

Engineering Support Personnel, Inc. is seeking qualified simulators/electronics/IT technicians for its WESTPAC COMS program. Applicants are required to have a minimum of four years electronics maintenance experience and be a graduate from a two-year electronics technician resident course or equivalent. The ability to obtain a Secret Security Clearance

is required. Positions are located at Naval Air Facility Atsugi, Japan; Marine Corps Air Station Futenma, Okinawa, Japan, and Marine Corps Air Station Iwakuni, Japan. Applicants should send their resume to John Russell at jrussell@espinc1.com or FAX to 407-206-4921.

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. Alternatively, You may submit your brief or ad in person at the Public Affairs Office, Building 1, Room 216 or you may call 253-5551. However you choose to submit, ensure you provide all requested information to simplify the request process. The deadline for submissions is 3 p.m. every Friday. Submissions will run the following Friday on a space-available basis. The Iwakuni Approach staff reserves the right to edit submissions for space and style.

Don't let a child's knowledge get set back, crack open a paperback

STORY AND PHOTO BY
PFC. D. A. WALTERS
IWAKUNI APPROACH STAFF

Children along with their parents participated in a scavenger hunt as a part of the summer reading program, Have Book – Will Travel, inside the Marine Corps Air Station Iwakuni Library July 17, 2013.

The purpose of the summer reading program is to help children continue reading and increase their knowledge through the summer, while they are between grades.

Stacey Kobe-Bellika, the station library supervisory librarian, organized the summer reading program and events.

"When kids don't read during the summer they experience what we call a 'summer reading slide,' and they basically forget everything they learned," said Kobe-Bellika. "If they don't practice reading over the summer they are going to enter the next grade lower than when they left the previous grade. We want to keep them reading so they are prepared for the next school year."

The age groups for the summer reading program are: babies, preschool, teen and adults.

For babies and preschool, they earn rewards for books they read or their parents read to them up to a maximum of 10 books. Teens earn a reward for every six hours they read, up to a maximum of 24 hours, and adults receive a reward for every book they read and complete a book review, up to a maximum of four books.

Claudia Donahue, assistant librarian

manager at the station library, said she enjoys working with kids to help them read and stay focused during the summer.

"I know what it did to me as a child not being a good reader and not reading during the summer," said Donahue. "It keeps the children at a good reading level so they don't have trouble in school."

The scavenger hunt consisted of three difficulties: easy, medium and hard.

For the babies and preschool children, if they did not want to participate in the scavenger hunt, there was a card matching game to play where they received a star sticker for matching the correct card.

Kobe-Bellika said she sees a significant improvement from beginning to end of the summer reading program.

"I think, if we talked to the teachers, they would be able to tell who was reading over the



Anya Tupps, 3, plays a card matching game during the scavenger hunt for the Have Book – Will Travel summer reading program at the Marine Corps Air Station Iwakuni library July 17, 2013. The card matching game was an alternative for small children if they did not want to participate or already completed the scavenger hunt.

summer and who wasn't," said Kobe-Bellika with a chuckle.

The summer reading program is scheduled to continue to Aug. 7, 2013. The station library hosts events every Wednesday for the summer reading program, Have Book – Will Travel, to help children of the base stay involved with reading.

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

2nd Saturday 7:30 a.m. Men's Discipleship

1st and 3rd Saturday 10 a.m. Seventh Day Adventist

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

NISHIKI RIVER WATER FESTIVAL

The festival will take place Aug. 3 at the Kintai Bridge Area. Six thousand fireworks will light the sky as part of the festival starting at 8 p.m. There will be traffic restrictions around the Kintai Bridge area. In case of bad weather, it will be postponed to August 31. For more information check out our back page or, contact the executive committee of the Nishiki River Water Festival at 0827-41 -2037.

WORLD PEACE CONCERT "HIROSHIMA" 2013

Hiroshima Prefecture is developing the project “Peace Arch Hiroshima” to become the leader in sending a message about the need for a globally linked sustainable society, which presents a new way of living, based on true peace and a new vision for designing society in order to preserve the future of all humankind. As a main event of the project, the world peace concert is July 27 to August 3. Tickets are available at FuchidaGakkiten (0827-24-1500) and Tsuno Shoten at Youme town Iwakuni (0827-32-6377). For more information, contact Peace Arch Hiroshima Project Executive Committee at 082-227-6234. URL: <http://www.peace-arch-hiroshima.net/>

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, July 26, 2013
1 p.m. Hotel Transylvania (2012) (PG)
7 p.m. White House Down (PG-13)
10 p.m. The Purge (R)

Monday, July 29, 2013
1 p.m. Mirror Mirror (2012) (PG)
7 P.M. Man of Steel (PG-13)

Tuesday, July 30, 2013
Theater closed

Wednesday, July 31, 2013
Theater closed

Thursday, Aug. 1, 2013
1 p.m. Monster's Inc. (2001) (G)
7 P.M. White House Down (PG-13)

Saturday, July 27, 2013
4 p.m. The Internship (PG-13)
7 p.m. Man of Steel (PG-13)

Sunday, July 28, 2013
4 p.m. Monster's University (G)
7 p.m. White House Down (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 5 and under admitted free. For more information, visit www.mccsiwakuni.com or call 253-5291.

THE IWAKUNI APPROACH CULTURAL LESSONS



Kanji Adventures : アイスクリーム ICE CREAM

Ice Cream, it's cold, comes in a variety of flavors and, as in America, is a year-round treat for both young and old in Japan. Contrary to popular belief, ice cream is not one of those postwar imports brought to Japan by Westerners. In fact, the tasty milk by-product is not even an American concoction as some folks believe, but was imported to the states from Europe. First made in France more than 400 years ago, ice cream made its appearance in the Americas about 1769, and in Japan 100 years later. It was in 1869 that a Yokohama merchant named Fusazo Machida produced the first ice cream made for sale in Japan. Using information he had gathered from two Japanese goodwill ambassadors who had eaten the product while in the states, Machida decided to test the feasibility of making the cool dessert locally. He soon discovered his initial product was priced too high for the average citizen. At that time, a scoop of ice cream cost 50 sen (0.5 yen), and the average wage of a mill worker was about seven sen a day. The demand for ice cream tends to be much like it is in the states. However, Japanese ice cream tends to be much richer in cream than most American brands. Averaging in price from nearly 100 yen for a small cup, to upwards of 1,000 yen for a 500-gram package, ice cream can be purchased locally in most food stores.

SEAHORSE Soccer Camp teaches sports fundamentals

STORY AND PHOTOS BY
LANCE CPL. JAMES R. SMITH
IWAKUNI APPROACH STAFF

Children aboard station laughed and played while learning the fundamentals of soccer during the Seahorse Soccer Camp held at Penny Lake Field here, July 16-18, 2013.

During the three day camp, children practiced proper ball handling, goalkeeping and the most important aspect to any sport: teamwork.

"It's very fun because they're teaching us how to play soccer," said Kristine Torres, camp participant. "They've taught me how to do a really cool pull-back and how to play tricks on people, which is my favorite part."

In addition to learning the ways of soccer, counselors spent the last 30 minutes of each practice tying a religious session into the day's events.

"We are a faith-based soccer outreach program based in Southern California using the platform of soccer to engage with people," said Paul Gizzi, Seahorse Summer Camp coordinator. "We love to come here to Iwakuni and serve the kids of the armed forces that are supporting us back home."

The camp's presence here is part of their 2013 Women's Outreach Program where women learn how to become sports ministers.

Gizzi said each of the counselors raised their own money to travel to Japan.

In addition to having the opportunity to work in Japan with other sports ministers, the camp provides an opportunity for the Japanese as well.

"We have a counterpart called the Seahorse International Soccer Club and we go to support the Japanese by providing clinics and playing matches against Japanese teams," said Gizzi.

"We've hosted Japanese university teams in Southern California and get the opportunity to know them, introduce them to our culture, and they introduce us to their culture."

As the final day progressed, coaches worked with the kids culminating all their past two days of hard work for the final game of the camp.

While working with children, some of the counselors began to grow attached with some of the children while doing alternative activities such as piggy-back rides, making team cheers and even the occasional magic trick.

"What I'm seeing is the kids are hanging all over these girls," said Gizzi. "One of the things I tell them is that their parents are deployed, they don't get to see them a lot, and they're going to grow on you."

Once the final game ended, counselors, campers and parents all got together for a large water balloon fight to cool off from the blistering heat.

With their new found skills in soccer, some hope to apply those skills when it comes time for the Youth Soccer season beginning September 14, 2013.

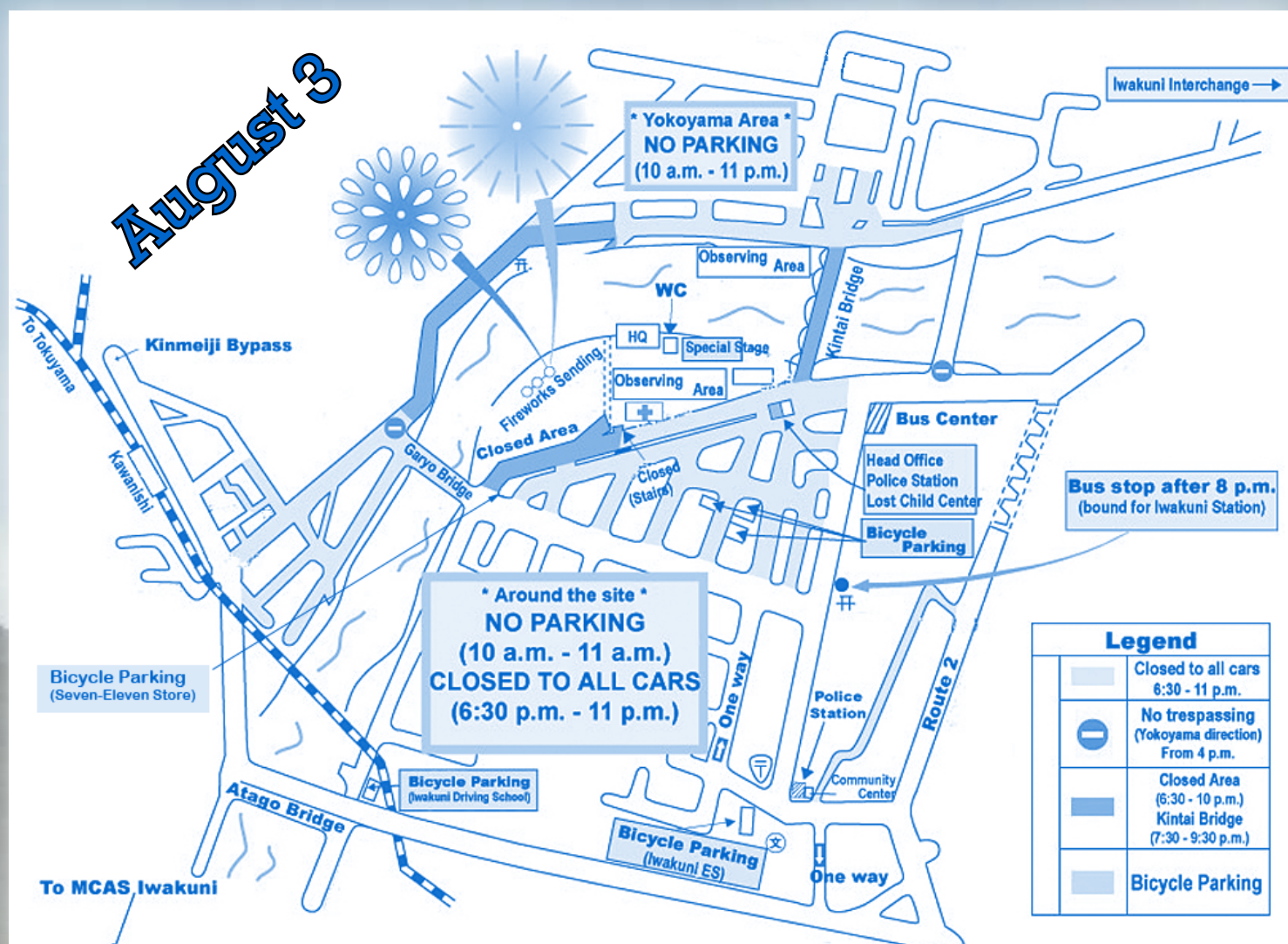


Children play against one another during a scrimmage match before their final game during the Seahorse Soccer Camp held at Penny Lake Field at Marine Corps Air Station Iwakuni, Japan, July 18, 2013. The mission of the Seahorse Soccer Camp is to communicate the message of Jesus Christ through the environment of soccer.



Sam Valdez, left, and Danielle Piper, both Seahorse Soccer Camp participants, practice passing drills during a scrimmage match before their final game during the Seahorse Soccer Camp held at Penny Lake Field at Marine Corps Air Station Iwakuni, Japan, July 18, 2013. The Southern California Seahorse is celebrating its 30th anniversary since its founding in 1983.

46th Nishikigawa River Festival



Event opens at 9 a.m. Aug. 3, 2013. Fireworks begin at 8 p.m.

Traffic restrictions are in effect Saturday near the Kintai area to make way for the 46th Nishikigawa Water Festival.

There will be no parking near the fireworks' launching area from 10 a.m. to 11 p.m., and the area is closed to all traffic from 6:30 p.m. to 11 p.m.

Designated bicycle parking spaces are available at Iwakuni Driving School (English sign at entrance), Iwakuni Elementary School, three locations at Iwakuni 1-Chome and the Seven-Eleven Kintai-kyo shop.

No swimming or rafting is allowed at designated areas.

The traffic restriction map

Shuttle buses are available between JR Iwakuni Station and the Kintai Bridge (approximately 20 minutes), and from Marifu Elementary School to the bridge (approximately 15 minutes).

Parking is available at Marifu Elementary School.

Bus schedule

■ Outbound to Kintai Bridge:

JR Iwakuni Station (bus stop No. 2), first departure 5 p.m.

Marifu Elementary School, first departure 4:30 p.m.

■ Inbound to JR Iwakuni Station (via Marifu Elementary School):

Kintai Bridge, last departure 10 p.m.

Fare (one-way):

■ JR Iwakuni Station – Kintai Bridge 240 yen for adult, 120 yen for elementary school students or younger

■ Marifu Elementary School – Kintai Bridge 210 yen for adult, 110 yen for elementary school students or younger

**** Shuttle buses will depart once full. Times may fluctuate due to gridlock and unforeseen events.**

BUS TIMES SUBJECT TO CHANGE

****In the event of bad weather the festival will be postponed until August 31.**