

# THE IWAKUNI APPROACH

Issue No. 29 Vol. 6 | Marine Corps Air Station Iwakuni, Japan



## ASAN FURY 2013

VOLUNTEERS CLEAN UP BUS STOPS

| PAGES 6-7

CPL. B. A. STEVENS

Lt. Cmdr. Denise Wallingford, Marine Aircraft Group 12 chaplain, repaints a smiley face during a United Services Organization community relations project in Guam July 28, 2013. Wallingford set up a total of four community relations projects during exercise Asan Fury.

## MWSS-171 prepares for ITX

CPL. J. GAGE KARWICK  
IWAKUNI APPROACH STAFF

Marine Wing Support Squadron 171 prepares to head out to Twenty-Nine Palms for an Integrated Training Exercise to better train its Marines in an expeditionary environment.

MWSS-171 plans to deploy its forces to California as a squadron size force.

"The integrated training exercise allows MWSS-171 to deploy as a squadron and accomplish all of its mission-essential tasks in a single field training evolution," said Lt. Col. Howard Eyth, MWSS-171 commanding officer. "The great advantage to our going to ITX this time is that we not only get to fill the aviation ground support role for Marine Aircraft Group 14 during ITX 6-13, but we also get to deploy a large number of our Marines to focus

on unit level training."

With more than 80 military occupational specialties included in MWSS-171, the squadron plans to bring as many as they can for the exercise.

"We need motor transportation assets to transport materials around the forward operating base, engineers to build the berms and station, we need com guys for constant communication," said Capt. Roy I. Agila, MWSS-171 S-3 officer. "Also, it gives us the chance to go to a place where there is no airfield and set up a FOB so we can maintain the airfield."

With their area of operations being mainly the south pacific region, MWSS-171 looks to expand their operational capacities in different environments to prepare for any situation.

"We are an aviation ground

SEE EXERCISE ON PAGE 3

## Social Media, is it a problem?

CPL. J. GAGE KARWICK  
IWAKUNI APPROACH STAFF

With the rising use-and-abuse of social media outlets, and people taking a more active role in all forms of participation with these sites, it should not come as a shock to anyone that servicemembers can get into a lot of trouble for posting, forwarding, liking, etc..., certain information online.

The military breaks internet posts down into two basic categories: official and unofficial posts.

According to "Marine Corps Social Media Principals," set forth by "Defense Media Activity - Marine Corps Element," unofficial posts are:

"Unofficial internet posts are considered any content about the Marine Corps, or even related to the Marine Corps that are posted on any internet site by Marines in an unofficial and personal capacity;

SEE MEDIA ON PAGE 3

## VMFA (AW)- 242 departs Guam, arrives in Australia

SGT. CHARLES MCKELVEY  
IWAKUNI APPROACH STAFF

**ROYAL AUSTRALIAN AIR FORCE BASE TINDAL, Australia** — Marine All-Weather Fighter Attack Squadron 242, known as the "Bats," transitioned from Andersen Air Force Base, Guam, where they participated in Exercise Asan Fury, to Royal Australian Air Force Base Tindal, Australia, to begin

Exercise Southern Frontier Aug. 5, 2013.

The Marines and sailors of VMFA(AW)-242 traveled alongside support elements from Marine Wing Support Squadron 171, Marine Aviation Logistics Squadron 12 and Marine Aircraft Group 12 to the remote base located in Australia's Northern Territory.

"Our primary mission for Exercise Southern Frontier is air to surface, whether that is basic air to surface or low-altitude tactics," said

Capt. Michael Reid, the flight officer for VMFA(AW)-242.

Reid, who has been with the squadron for almost three years said LAT training is something the aircrew does not get to do very often and that this would be his first opportunity with the squadron.

"We are trying to get about 16 new LAT

SEE AUSTRALIA ON PAGE 3



### BUCKET

Marines help complete bucket list | P. 4



### KIDS


Kids will be kids | P. 5



### SOCCER

Check out the Undefeated | P. 11





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*The Iwakuni Approach welcomes Letter to the Editor submissions. Letters must include a full name and unit, if applicable. Anonymous letters and comments will not be published. Letters are the opinion of the writer only. Submissions may be edited for clarity and space. Letters can be dropped off at the Public Affairs Office or sent via e-mail to iwakuni.pao@usmc.mil. Please submit all content at least two weeks in advance of projected publication date for review.*

PSC 561 Box 1868  
FPO AP 96310-0019  
Phone 253-5551  
Fax 253-5554

# CHAPLAIN’S CORNER

## 'Pay it forward'

LT. ALEXANDER J. CHO  
MWSS-171 CHAPLAIN

A couple weeks ago I ate lunch at JD’s Grille with Chaplain Zavala (the newest chaplain at MCAS Iwakuni, who is a great chaplain and I encourage everyone to get to know her) and an O-5 Navy commander. It was a great time filled with mentorship, advice and a delicious Iwakuni Burger.

At the end of the meal, the waitress gave us our checks. When we took our wallets out, the commander took our checks and said he would take care of the bill as long as we “pay it forward” to others that we know.

How great is that phrase?

To “pay it forward” means whatever blessing we receive should not be kept to ourselves,

but we should share that same joy felt with others.

There are many blessings we can pass on: Receiving a free meal, learning a new tactic in a video game, learning a new skill at work or finding a new restaurant that serves delicious food.

The same concept applies to us even when we suffer. Suffering is a difficult time for anyone to go through, but it’s through the grace of God, perseverance and the comfort of others that we are able to get through difficult times.

God promises to bring us something good in our darkest times.

In this article, I want to focus on the joys of comfort that we can offer each other.

When I was in high school, my parents lost their jobs, and I had no source of income. Paying bills was difficult and putting food on the table was impossible.

We would not have gotten through this difficult time without

the help of friends.

There were many days when we would open the front door to our house and find food on the doorstep.

Our friends knew we had nothing to eat and they comforted us by providing us meals. I will never forget that comfort. So now, when I know someone who is suffering in the same way, I can “pay it forward” and provide meals for them.

Friends, no one has gone through more suffering than Jesus Christ and no one comforts us more than Jesus Christ.

2 Corinthians 1:4 says of him, “who comforts us in all our troubles, so that we can comfort those in any trouble with the comfort we ourselves receive from God.”

All the blessings and comfort that we receive, I urge everyone to “pay it forward” because that comfort might be what someone needs today.

## August Promotions

### VMFA(AW)-242

**Lance Cpl.**  
Beauchemin, Jeremy P.  
Hinkley, Jacob M.  
Porter, Jordan C.  
Smith, Michael J.  
Trimble, Kathleen E.

**Cpl.**  
Kane, Brendan J.  
Keown, Nathan A.  
McGhee, Timothy J.  
Moncur, Tyler J.

**Sgt.**  
Castellanos, Victor H.

**Gunnery Sgt.**  
Heyner, Erich J.

### MALS-12

**Lance Cpl.**  
Damarputra, Harley  
Kong, Borooun D.  
Martinez, Rico D.  
Pollack, Christopher A.  
Radayev, Oleksandr O.  
Sloan, Levi A.

**Cpl.**  
Bond II, Jeffrey A.  
Crane, Christopher N.  
Davis, Hamadi R.  
Dominguez, JosephFrancis O.  
Hairston, Cory J.  
Khan, Akbar S.  
Merrill, Justin D.  
Muehleip, Paul J.  
Neverson, Desmond J.  
Petrus, Kevin A.

**Gunnery Sgt.**  
Adams, Scotty R.  
Milsop, Joshua L.

### H&HS

**Lance Cpl.**  
Boles, Christopher J.  
Cheatham Jr., Jemal A.  
Dean, Terrick O.  
Evansfreeborn, Keith M.  
Gardner, Jacob E.  
Guffie, Lance G.  
Gustavsen, Mitchell S.  
Laboy, Rafael  
Roberts, Chewanda D.  
Tovar, Jeremias

**Cpl.**  
Leinen, Channing D.  
Weirich, Travis J.  
White, Joshua D.

**Sgt.**  
Edmundson, John A.  
Lor, Wa

**Staff Sgt.**  
Campos, Joel

**Gunnery Sgt.**  
Marlin, Mark F.

### MAG-12

**Lance Cpl.**  
Akakpo, Gratia A.  
Ament, Sean M.  
Drewniak, Jonathan K.

**Cpl.**  
Rodrigues Jr., Peter T.  
Vuksta, Shawn M.

### MACS-4 Det B

**Lance Cpl.**  
Worthing, Jordan D.

### MWSS-171

**Lance Cpl.**  
Allen, Kaylee A.  
Baker, Cody R.  
Black, Brandon L.  
Bradley, Tyler E.  
Dunbar, Aaron G.  
Gamino, Ryan J.  
Harris, Laking  
Jones, Desirae L.  
Sabo, Jordan S.

**Cpl.**  
Collins, Dylan A.  
Degener, Kyle M.  
Edwards III, William M.  
Ellis, Joshua C.  
Gourley, Alexander J.  
Hefferly, David F.  
Peralta, Jhonatan S.  
Post, Nicholas H.  
Walston, Brad C.

**Sgt.**  
Napoleon, Otarius L.

### CLC-36

**Lance Cpl.**  
Alcaraz, Alexis A.  
Aroche, Edgar E.  
Helton, Tyler M.  
Pinaula, John C.  
Colbert, Jacorrie M.

**Cpl.**  
Reynolds, Dakota L.

## MWSS-171 gets ready for twenty-nine palms

EXERCISE FROM PAGE 1

support unit that does not have a ground location to train on here in Iwakuni,” said Agila. “So we will take every opportunity we can to train in California. In California, there is every opportunity to train in whatever we want to.”

Though MWSS-171 is an aviation

support squadron, there are times when aviation support Marines have been called to action on the ground.

“Every Marine is a rifleman, a modern day prime example of that is...Bad guys infiltrated the wire in Camp Bastion, and who stopped them, the air wing guys, not the grunts,” said Maj. Gary F. Humphries, MWSS-171 squadron operations officer.



Lance Cpl. Mark Karwatka and Cpl. Joshua Velasquez, motor vehicle operators with Marine Wing Support Squadron 171 hook up a humvee to tow back to their compound in a vehicle recovery exercise at the Marine Corps Air Ground Combat Center, Twentynine Palms, Calif., Sept. 11, 2012, during last year’s Integrated Training Exercise.

## Northern Territory hosts Iwakuni based squadron

AUSTRALIA FROM PAGE 1

qualifications for our junior aircrew, and we are looking to refresh LAT qualifications for more senior aircrew,” said Reid.

While the Bats just finished training in Guam, a completely new opportunity awaits them in Australia. The remote location offers the aircrew a vast amount of land to train on, which Guam could not.

“The difference in Guam is that they do have an air-to-ground range however, most of the range is over water and we don’t have any specific targets,” said Reid. “It doesn’t give us the ability to find a target, and have to pick it out; it’s just ‘there’s the island, go drop a bomb on it.’ Here, we have the low-altitude-training ranges, and the ability to go down low. We also have some range

complexes where we get to pick out targets and focus on finding the actual target that we want to drop on.”

Reid said one of the additional advantages of SF13 is they have the ability to see where their bombs impact. This allows the aircrew to verify if they did, or did not, hit their target and then improve.

While Australia offers many benefits for training, it also presents the squadron with a challenge, logistics.

“Guam is three to four days to get logistical support from Iwakuni, here it is closer to eight to ten days,” said 1st Lt. James Cope, the material control officer for VMFA(AW)-242.

Reid said the long wait for support is mainly due to the strict rules and customs of Australia, but also to the increased distance of about 1,400 miles from their previous

location in Guam.

In order to prevent any unnecessary downtime for the aircraft, Cope explains they maintain a strict inspection cycle.

“Every 7, 14, 28 ... days, there are certain systems that get checked and it is really intensive on the F/18s,” said Cope.

Cope said the reason for such regimented inspections is mainly due to the age of the aircraft.

However, these inspections ultimately lead to preventing downtime and help reduce the amount of unscheduled maintenance required.

With the stage set for SF13, the only thing left for the Marines to do is execute.

Whether it is the aircrew conducting low altitude training or maintainers keeping the aircraft mission ready, the Bats are ready for the task.

## The good, bad, ugly of social media

MEDIA FROM PAGE 1

these include personal comments, photographs, video and graphics. Internet sites include social networking sites, blogs, forums, photo and video sharing sites, and other sites, to include sites not owned, operated or controlled by the Marine Corps or Department of Defense.”

“Even if you think you are posting for your friends or just your close relatives to view, it’s out there,” said Maj. Elizabeth Pham Headquarters and Headquarters Squadron executive officer. “Out in the open and it can be misconstrued. It can be thought of in different ways not intended and it can actually come back to them in a negative way.”

In accordance with the same reference mentioned above, official posts are:

“Official internet posts involve content released in an official capacity by public affairs Marines, Marine Corps Community Services marketing directors, or commanders designated as releasing authorities.”

Lately, many social media sites have sprung up that will take photos, videos and posts from other servicemembers’ pages and use them as their own. Taking an active part in these sites could inadvertently result in diminishing the reputation of the Marine Corps, and perhaps even the unsuspecting servicemember who, more than likely, never intended to be a part of the site in the first place.

“Also remember if you go to these sites that have been trending a lot lately,” said Pham. “You could be causing another Marine harm. They can feel put down and if that happens - a kind of blue-on-blue fire if you will - how can they have faith in their fellow Marines again.”

According to MARADMINs 365/10 and 181/10:

“Marines are personally responsible for content they publish on social networking sites, blogs or other websites. Marines must be actually aware that they lose control over content they post on the internet, and that many social media sites have policies that give these sites ownership of all content and information posted or stored on those systems.”

Do not post classified or controlled unclassified information: tactics, troop movements, force size, weapon systems details, etc. When in doubt, Marines should contact their unit operations officer, security officer, intelligence officer, or public affairs officer for guidance. Remember, when making statements online you are being viewed as the authority on that topic and may appear to be speaking on behalf of the entire command or even as a spokesperson for the Marine Corps depending on the targeted audience or venue.

“Blogging sites allow you to talk about whatever you want to, because that is your opinion and it is a free country,” said Pham. “However, always remember other people will see what you post and read it, and it can be traced back to you. Though you may post something not intended to hurt someone, it can be perceived by some to be hateful or demeaning without that being the intent.”

Marines must adhere to policy in Department of Defense Directive 1344.10 when posting political content. Also, Marines should take care not to express or imply Marine Corps endorsement of any opinions, products or causes other than those already officially endorsed by the Marine Corps.

When posting to sites or hosting your own, always consult the social media guidelines, MARADMINs, Marine Corps orders for guidance; if still unclear, refer to the public affairs office for additional guidance on what can and can’t be posted, shared, said forwarded, etc. And remember, what you post, even if you delete it, is never gone, it never goes away, it simply goes to another place. Nothing online is “EVER” truly gone; to make matters worse, you lose complete control over content once it is posted. So, be safe and refer to MARADMINs 365/10 and 181/10, and Marine Corps Orders on social media guidance and all other pertinent publications relating to proper use of social media.



# Marines, sailors help build earth buckets

STORY AND PHOTOS BY  
CPL. B. A. STEVENS  
IWAKUNI APPROACH STAFF

**ANDERSEN AIR FORCE BASE, Guam** — While some Marines and sailors who participated in exercise Asan Fury 2013 worked hard and took advantage of the great training opportunities, some went above and beyond by donating their time off and giving back to the community.

A total of eight volunteers gave up part of their Saturday to help build earth bucket kits with Island Girl Power, a group in Guam that informs females about the dangers of drugs and alcohol.

“Earth buckets are sub-irrigated planters that conserve both water and soil,” said Juanita Blaz, Island Girl project manager. “The design uses mainly recycled items and allows the plant to be watered from the bottom up. The plastic liner holds moisture in to keep top soil moist. Unlike other planters that need to be watered daily, these planters only need to be watered every three-to-five days.”

Building these buckets required: two buckets, a drill, a saw, rope, a funnel, zip ties and a plastic tube.

According to Blaz the process involves drilling a series of small holes in the top bucket, which will allow water to run through, said Blaz. A larger hole is drilled for a pipe so the plant can be watered from the bottom up, the largest hole is cut out with a saw and used as a reservoir. Overflow holes are drilled into the side of the bottom bucket to prevent drowning the plant. The final

step is placing a plastic cover over the bucket to prevent water from evaporating.

“We selected food grade buckets so that we can increase food sustainability by planting tomatoes, eggplants..., and beans,” said Blaz.

Island Girl Power is hoping to build 200 kits by spring 2014.

“Thanks to the help of the Marines, our total comes to nearly 50 completed earth bucket kits,” said Blaz.

Marines have a rich history on the island of Guam and the locals haven’t forgotten it.

“For the most part, Guam is still extremely grateful to the Marine Corps for their liberation, so Marines are kind of part of their extended family,” said Cpl. Sarah Mast, Marine All-Weather Fighter Attack Squadron 242 airframes mechanic.

The event ended with Island Girl Power feeding volunteers a local Guam meal and sharing some information about local plants.

Although the event only lasted half a day, it produced plants and relationships that will grow in the future.

“Community relation events aren’t just an opportunity for a Letter of Appreciation, or a chance to get out of work,” said Mast. “Marines often get a bad reputation here in the Pacific, the only way we can change it is to get out into the community and show them our good side, the protectors of the people, puppy-saving side. The military is extremely active in helping its community here on Guam, and the locals’ reactions to our presence when we show up reflect their gratitude and respect.”



Lt. Cmdr. Denise Wallingford, Marine Aircraft Group 12 Chaplain, slices an old butter container to allow water through during the Island Girl Power community relations project July 27, 2013. Island Girl Power rewarded the volunteers by feeding them after the project was complete.



Lance Cpl. Austin J. Gilbert, Marine Aircraft Group 12 aviation electronics specialist, drills a hole in the bottom of a bucket during the Island Girl Power community relations project July 27, 2013. Island Girl Power rewarded the volunteers by feeding them after the project was complete.



Karah Shindelar, Camp Adventure staff member, and a Japanese child show each other their paper cranes at the station's School Age Care Center during the Minamigouchi and Kitagouchi Iwakuni city branches visit July 30, 2013. Along with other activities, Japanese children and parents taught American children how to build paper cranes.

## Youth Cultural Exchange program allows chances to make new friends

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

Japanese children from the Minamigouchi and Kitagouchi Iwakuni city branches arrived aboard station with their parents to spend the day with American children at the School Age Care Center here, as part of a Youth Cultural Exchange Program July 30, 2013.

Joining the children were teens from Youth and Teen Center, and staff members from Camp Adventure and the School Age Care Center.

Station residents may travel to get out and see Japanese culture of the surrounding area, but what people may not see is Japanese locals coming aboard station to understand more about American culture.

Takashi Kawamoto, Iwakuni City Hall Minamigouchi branch director, accompanied the children on their field trip to observe the Japanese youths' interaction with the American children.

“In the beginning, the kids were a little bit shy, but in the end, they enjoyed it very much,” said Kawamoto. “With this, the kids now have the confidence to interact with children from other places if they decide to leave Japan.”

With every collaboration there is an impression made; whether that impression is influential,

or something forgotten a few minutes later, it could affect someone later down the line.

Marcy R. Pearson, Marine Corps Community Services Family Programs school age director, said she hopes that through this social interaction experience children see even though there may be a language barrier, Japanese and Americans are the same.

“A lot of people sometimes think Americans are bossy, mean or we are not polite, but when they see we have the same characteristics, I’m hoping it impacts them to see we are not as aggressive as some people think Americans are,” said Pearson. “I think of Americans as being a melting pot; seeing where other people may come from, some from a strong Japanese culture,

and understanding how to play with other kids, I’m hoping it helps them acknowledge another culture.”

According to Pearson, the overall goal of the Youth Services Program is to help the children experience the culture of Japan and take these experiences with them throughout their travels in life.



Courteney Harbour, left, a Camp Adventure staff member, teaches a Japanese child how to play foosball at the station's School Age Care Center during the Minamigouchi and Kitagouchi Iwakuni city branches visit July 30, 2013. The Minamigouchi district is for children of southern Iwakuni, and the Kitagouchi is for children from northern Iwakuni.





CPL. B. A. STEVENS

Cpl. Sarah Mast, an airframe mechanic with Marine All-Weather Attack Squadron 242, helps paint over graffiti at a United Services Organization community relations event in Guam, July 28, 2013. The project was put together to help preserve the artwork at childrens' bus stops.

# ASAN FURY 2013

## Marines help make bus stops beautiful again

CPL. B. A. STEVENS  
IWAKUNI APPROACH STAFF

### ANDERSEN AIR FORCE BASE, Guam

— Marines stationed in Iwakuni, currently deployed to Guam for exercise Asan Fury, donated their weekend to help re-paint vandalized bus stops July 28, 2013. The brightly-painted bus stops were originally painted and maintained by a local artist who has since passed away. Shortly after his passing, vandals graffitied the stops.

"We had about 13 Marines come out and work with volunteers to help re-paint about eight or nine bus stops vandalized with graffiti," said Eric Williams, United Service Organization Guam project manager. "We solicited from the Marine Corps because our volunteer base doesn't allow us to do such a large project."

Williams added that the bus stops were spread out across an approximately 15-mile area all over Guam.

"It's always nice to give back to the community of somewhere where you're staying, so I do a lot of events like this," said Cpl. Sarah Mast, Marine All-Weather Fighter Attack Squadron 242 airframes mechanic. "The bus stop we painted was covered in vulgarity and foul language, but it looks a lot better now than when we first started."

Mast also free-hand painted the seal of Guam on the bus stop, because the stencil provided was too big.

"The bus stops are primarily used by kids, because their school year starts during the rainy season, but the entire community uses these bus stops; and painting the bus stops helps the island look more attractive," said Williams.

All this work took place on a Sunday, a day usually spent recovering and preparing for the next week.

"There are so many other things they could be doing with their time, but they decided to come together and help out the community," said Williams. "It was a good deed."

Although the USO rewarded Marines for their good deed by hosting a party with food and entertainment, the community is sure to be appreciative as well.

"The island of Guam is very patriotic and pro-military," said Williams. "The Marines played a very significant role in liberating the island. A lot of our island community looks up to the Marine Corps, and they look up to Marines, specifically. To see them doing not only their own duty as professional military servicemembers, but to come out and work with other community members to help the island says a lot for the Marine Corps and the units; they're building positive relations with the community."

Although most of the Marines currently in Guam are scheduled to depart soon, their hard work, and the time they sacrificed, is sure to leave a positive impression for years to come.



SGT. CHARLES MCKELVEY

Staff Sgt. Corey D. Gulley, Marine All-Weather Fighter Attack Squadron 242 Aircraft communications navigation weapons systems technician, re-paints a mural alongside the road during the USO community relations event July 28, 2013. Marines showed their attention to detail by mixing colors provided to make a perfect match.



CPL. B. A. STEVENS

Cpl. Sarah Mast, an airframe mechanic with Marine All-Weather Attack Squadron 242, helps paint over graffiti at a United Services Organization community relations event in Guam, July 28, 2013. The USO rewarded volunteers by hosting a party with food and beverages after the work was completed.



# CORPS NEWS

HIGHLIGHTING MARINES AND  
SAILORS AROUND THE GLOBE



SEAMAN APPRENTICE EDWARD GUTIERREZ

A Landing Craft Air Cushion, piloted by sailors assigned to Naval Beach Unit 7, makes its approach into the well deck of the forward-deployed amphibious assault ship USS Bonhomme Richard while conducting an amphibious landing training exercise in support of exercise Talisman Saber 2013, July 20. The Bonhomme Richard is the flagship of the Bonhomme Richard Expeditionary Strike Group and, with the embarked 31st Marine Expeditionary Unit, is currently participating in exercise Talisman Saber 2013, a biennial exercise that enhances multilateral collaboration between U.S. and Australian forces for future combined operations, humanitarian assistance and natural disaster response.

## 31st Marine Expeditionary Unit demonstrates, improves tactics

LANCE CPL. ANNE HENRY  
III MARINE EXPEDITIONARY FORCE  
/ MARINE CORPS INSTALLATIONS  
PACIFIC

**SHOALWATER BAY, Australia** — As the sun rose, U.S. Marines gathered their gear and supplies and prepared to disembark U.S. Navy Landing Craft Utilities into the Shoalwater Bay Training Area July 20 during exercise Talisman Saber 13.

The 31st Marine Expeditionary Unit participated in an amphibious assault in collaboration with U.S. forces and the Australian Defence Force.

“Talisman Saber as a whole demonstrates to the world how great the partnership between Australia and the U.S. is,” said Maj. George J. Flynn, the operations officer for Battalion Landing Team 2nd Battalion, 4th Marines, 31st MEU.

Talisman Saber is a collaborative effort between Australia and the U.S. enhancing regional stability, security, and disaster relief capabilities. With so many moving pieces involved in the exercise, it was critical for the success of the mission that everything moved in concert throughout the amphibious landing.

“Upon hitting the beach we started setting up our command spot by getting communications set up in order to have command and control of the area,” said Cpl. Nathaniel A. Chrowl, a range non-commissioned officer with 2nd Battalion, 4th Marines, 31st MEU. “We must be able to track our units at all times in order to not endanger any of our Marines with blue on blue (friendly fire).”

The moment they hit the beach, Marines were thrown into a realistic combat-like environment, overcoming obstacles ranging from simulated minefields to ambushes.

“One of the main obstacles we have had to overcome here is who is friendly and who is foe, as it’s not always clear who the simulated enemy is,” said Staff Sgt. Michael W. Burkhart, an amphibious assault vehicle platoon leader with 2nd Battalion, 4th Marines, 31st MEU. “Because there are so many moving parts it’s somewhat confusing, just as it would be in a combat environment. It’s good for us to see what role we play not only in the amphibious portion of Talisman Saber but the exercise as a whole.”

Because tactics used by the Australian 3rd Brigade, the simulated enemy, are similar to those the Marines use, they received the opportunity to see the strengths and weaknesses of their own tactics face-to-face.

“There has been a lot of good coordination between the Australians and Americans on this exercise,” said Flynn. “We are getting a thinking enemy that is working against us with very similar tactics. It is a way for us to look in the mirror and analyze how we fight.”

Talisman Saber is not only dedicated to enhancing security, stability and disaster relief capabilities, it also allows those participating to build on relationships and train in a bilateral environment.

“This entire exercise has a great intent,” said Burkhart. “Our working relationship with Australia goes far back in history and it is great to continue working hand-in-hand with them.”



SEAMAN APPRENTICE EDWARD GUTIERREZ

Marines assigned to the 31st Marine Expeditionary Unit load equipment onto a Landing Craft Air Cushion prior to conducting an amphibious landing training exercise in support of exercise Talisman Saber 2013 aboard the forward-deployed amphibious assault ship USS Bonhomme Richard July 20.

## COMMUNITY BRIEFS | CLASSIFIEDS

### Briefs

#### Gospel Choir

The Gospel Choir is looking for participants. Practices occur every Friday night from 7:30- 8:30 p.m. for more information please contact Billie Scott at 080-3272-5902 or email BillieJ316@gmail.com.

#### 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.com> For more information contact Linda Brown at, 253-2419 or email [godsvessel93@aol.com](mailto:godsvessel93@aol.com).

#### Cub Scout Day Camp

August 16-18, 2013, marks the 2013 Cub

Scout Day Camp. Check in begins at 7:30 a.m. at Penny Lake and the camp lasts from 8 a.m. - 3 p.m. Scouts will accomplish requirements toward belt loops, electives and rank badges. Day Camp offers programs that draw directly from the Cub Scout advancement requirements book. The theme of the day camp is, “Space is the place!” Events include archery, BB shooting, special presentations and more. For more information, email [IwakuniPack77@gmail.com](mailto:IwakuniPack77@gmail.com). Volunteers are also needed.

#### 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.

#### Crime Stoppers

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

#### 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 Assistant

US Navy currently seeks one Dental Assistant at 3d Dental Battalion at U.S. Naval Dental Center,

Iwakuni. Minimum requirements include a Red Cross Volunteer certificate, American Dental Association graduate certificate, must have excellent healthcare administrative and outstanding patient care skill, current Basic Life Support, and three 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@espincl.com](mailto:jrussell@espincl.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](mailto:iwakuni.pao@usmc.mil). Include a contact name, a phone number and the information you would like to be published. You may submit your brief or ad in person at the Public Affairs Office, Building 1, Room 216 or you may call 253-5551. Please 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.

## HMM-262 Ospreys head to MCAS Futenma, Okinawa



LANCE CPL. TODD F. MICHALEK

An MV-22 Osprey with Marine Medium Helicopter Squadron 262, takes off from Marine Corps Air Station Iwakuni, Japan, enroute to Marine Corps Air Station Futenma, Okinawa, Japan, August 3, 2013. The MV-22 Osprey is a highly-capable aircraft with an excellent operational safety record. The aircraft combines the vertical capability of a helicopter with the speed and range of a fixed-wing aircraft that can fly twice as fast, carry three times as much, and fly four times the range of the older, CH-46E. Its capabilities will significantly benefit the U.S.-Japan alliance, strengthen our ability to provide for the defense of Japan and an increased ability to perform humanitarian assistance and disaster relief missions.



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

SATA-HULA

Saturday Hulas celebrations, also known as Sata-Hula, will be held every Saturday July 16 - Aug. 27, 2013, from 3-9 p.m. The final festival is scheduled Sept. 3rd. During the Meiji era, almost 4,000 people immigrated from Suo-Oshima to Hawaii. Sata-Hula 2013 marks the 50th anniversary of the festival. The venue is located near the train station Sazanseto Towa of the Green Stay Nagaura H&R Sunshine Southern Seto-way.

SUIJIN (GOD OF WATER) PARK SOMEN NAGASHI

Suijin Park is a natural park that is part of the mountain stream Ryo landscape near Ofuku town. The somennagashi, or flowing somen, is when somen noodles are placed in a long tube of bamboo across the length of the restaurant. The bamboo carries ice-cold water with the somen and as the noodles pass by, diners pluck them out with their chopsticks. The somen sink is an area for park attendees to enjoy a somennagashi while overlooking the park's waterfall. The Suijin will be open from now to the second Sunday of September. The somen sink is open 9 a.m. - 6 p.m. Call 0837-56-0817 for more information on the park and somen nagashi.

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

<b>Friday, August 9, 2013</b> 1 p.m. Rio (2011) (PG) 7 p.m. The Lone Ranger (PG-13) 10 p.m. No Movie	<b>Monday, August 12, 2013</b> 1 p.m. Beauty and the Beast (1991) (G) 7 P.M. The Heat (R)
<b>Saturday, August 10, 2013</b> 4 p.m. Monsters University (G) 7 p.m. World War Z (PG-13)	<b>Tuesday, August 13, 2013</b> Theater closed
<b>Sunday, August 11, 2013</b> 4 p.m. Despicable Me 2 (PG) 7 p.m. The Lone Ranger (R)	<b>Wednesday, August 14, 2013</b> Theater closed
	<b>Thursday, August 15, 2013</b> 1 p.m. Marmaduke (2010) (PG) 7 P.M. World War Z (PG-13)

The movie schedule is subject to change. Please check [www.mccsiwakuni.com/sakura](http://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](http://www.mccsiwakuni.com) or call 253-5291.

THE IWAKUNI APPROACH CULTURAL LESSONS

Kanji Adventures  
SANSHO



山椒  
Mountain Pepper

PUBLIC DOMAIN PHOTO

Sansho, a common Japanese pepper, is a popular seasoning used in various food dishes throughout Japan. The pepper starts out growing off of Japanese prickly ashes, a bush-like plant, which produces green berries in bundles and are called budo sansho, for their grape-like resemblance. The berries are preserved in multiple ways for later use as pepper. Berries picked in early summer, while they are still green, are either boiled in soy sauce or pickled. Later, in a July harvest, berries are picked and dried to be processed into powdered sansho. Berries dried to become sansho go through a careful and tedious process. After being picked and dried, berries are spread out on the flat surface as the stems and seeds are picked out by hand. After sorting berry skins from seeds and stems, the skins are sent through a machine that crushes and powders them for later use as pepper on house hold dinner tables and restaurants. When sansho and salt are mixed, the resulting condiment is called sansho-jio, which is normally used to compliment greasy foods. Whether it's sansho or sansho-jio, this popular Japanese spice can be used on multiple foods to put a new kind of "kick" into summer.

Gaijins beat Dragons in Intramural soccer game

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



Josh Hess, Matthew C. Perry student and Gaijins goal keeper, prepares to kick the ball during an Intramural soccer game held at Penny Lake Field at Marine Corps Air Station Iwakuni, Japan, August 5, 2013. The Gaijins team is comprised of M. C. Perry students and alumni, all of which went up against a team of Marines. Prior to this game, the Gaijins won two games while the Dragons had one win and two losses.

The Intramural Soccer season continued into its second week when Combat Logistics Company 36, Dragons, faced off against Matthew C. Perry High School Gaijins, August 5, 2013. The season began July 29 with both of these opposing teams playing two-to-three games so far. It was the first match-up between these two teams in competition. "We play with them a lot and they're really encouraging," said Sam Hess, M. C. Perry High School senior and Gaijins player. "They're always out here giving us pointers. It's nice, but they're still really good competition. It's always high intensity when we play against Marines." The Gaijins team consists of nine players, all of which are current students or recent alumni. "We are always the underdogs because we're younger," said Hess. "These guys are pretty good, but we've been winning our games, so we are looking pretty good right now." Once the game started, the Dragons rushed their opponents to intimidate them, but the Gaijins didn't back down. The two teams clashed back and forth with the Dragons scoring first. Moments later, the Dragons received another opportunity as Josh Hess, Gaijins goal keeper, lost his footing trying to stop the ball, leaving an empty net for their second goal. Frustrated, the Gaijins took time to pull each other together and gain some much needed confidence and determination, which eventually led them to scoring before the end of the first half. "Every time you're in the lead, you have that mindset of being in the clear and how it's smooth sailing ahead," said Raheem Johnson, Dragons player and coach. The Dragons laid-back mindset would come back to hurt them as the Gajins scored two goals in the first five minutes of the second half taking the lead for the first time in the game. "What happened was that the other team started passing the ball a lot more and they caught us off guard," said Johnson. "They're quick, but small. Also, they've been working together for a while." From there, the scoring continued for the Gaijins while the Dragons frustration began deteriorating their teamwork and cohesion. When the final whistle blew, the Gaijins would stand tall, winning the game with an impressive score 6-2. "Ultimately, the team knows we need to play a little bit more because we haven't practiced that much together," said Johnson. "We just need to practice more to get better." The Gaijins are currently undefeated with three wins while the Dragons have one win and three losses, but the season has just begun. With 11 teams total and the season only two weeks in, anything can happen.



Joseph Popa, black jersey, Combat Logistics Company Dragons player, attempts to block a pass from Calvin Barker, number 5, Matthew C. Perry senior and Gaijins player, to Yasuki Millsop, back, M.C. Perry alumni and Gaijins player, during an Intramural soccer game held at Penny Lake Field at Marine Corps Air Station Iwakuni, Japan, August 5, 2013.



# The Iwakuni Time Machine

In the August 5, 1994, issue of the Tori Teller, Marines reported on the 27th annual Nishiki River Water Festival, a female rifle competitor joining the Marine Corps Iwakuni children attending Camp Adventure. In this issue, Marines also reported on a female Corpsman who earned her "Wings of Gold", designating her the only qualified female search and rescue (SAR) crewman at the air station.

Feature

## Female Corpsman earns "Wings of Gold"

by Bill Doughty  
USNH Yokosuka PAO

***"Whenever the horn goes off or the beeper goes off, you're ready. Every nerve in your body is heightened to react."***

Yokosuka, Japan – You need nerves of steel when leaning out of a helicopter, hanging onto a cable, with someone's life — literally — in your hands.

HM3 Cindy Cruzan proved she has these nerves of steel recently at Marine Corps Air Station Iwakuni when she was awarded her "Wings of Gold", designating her as the only qualified female Search and Rescue (SAR) crewman at the air station.

As a SAR in-flight medical technician, Cruzan comes to work in her flight suit, often with the SAR beeper. "Whenever the horn goes off or the beeper goes off, you're ready. Every nerve in your body is heightened to react," said Cruzan.

A SAR crew must always be ready to take off in a rescue helicopter within minutes, go to an accident site immediately, and make lightning fast decisions while evaluation many variables — on the spot.



*Cruzan prepares to board a Search and Rescue helicopter at Iwakuni.*

"We go over scenarios in training," said Cruzan, "so in case of a real situation we know exactly what to do." Training helps. "I learned to be patient and think before I react. They throw scenarios at you. You need to react quickly but correctly."

The hardest part of the process for Cruzan was the waiting. That was the toughest — waiting and the anticipation. "For me this was an important milestone."

Cruzan said her success is due in great measure to the staff at the medical clinic and to the squadron. "It takes a lot of crew cooperation," she added.

"Fortunately, here in Iwakuni, we don't have too many mishaps," she said. "We don't want anything to happen, but it's good to know we're ready in case it does."

In the meantime, continuous training is the name of the game. "You have to constantly be on top of all your qualifications and constantly be aware."

As for the training... "It's not a stroll in the park, that's for sure. By the time you get off the helicopter every nerve is on end."

The 26-year-old native of Bethlehem, N.C., with nerves of steel was recently selected as Iwakuni's Junior Sailor of the Quarter. ¶



photos by Bill Doughty

*HM3 Cindy Cruzan, Search and Rescue Inflight Medical Technician.*