

THE IWAKUNI APPROACH

Issue No. 30 Vol. 6 | Marine Corps Air Station Iwakuni, Japan



SGT. CHARLES MCKELVEY

Lance Cpl. Ryan Schladitz, left, instructs Lance Cpl. Michael Smith, both aviation ordnancemen with Marine All-Weather Fighter Attack Squadron 242, on the proper way to load 20mm training practice rounds into an F/A-18C Hornet during Exercise Southern Frontier Aug. 8, 2013, at Royal Australian Air Force Base Tindal, Australia. Southern Frontier is conducted annually to enhance flight operations and maintain proficiency as well as maintain interoperability between allied and partner nations.

Ordnance picks bombs up, aircrew puts them down

SGT. CHARLES MCKELVEY
IWAKUNI APPROACH STAFF

ROYAL AUSTRALIAN AIR FORCE BASE TINDAL, Australia — One of the goals for Marines during this year's iteration of Exercise Southern Frontier, in Australia's Northern Territory, is to gain qualifications.

Some of those qualifications involve live ordnance; and where there is ordnance, there are ordnance Marines.

"The training here is not just for the aircrew it's for all the shops involved," said Sgt. Cody Craven, an ordnance day crew supervisor with Marine All-Weather Fighter Attack Squadron 242. "This (detachment) is specifically an ordnance related (detachment). So if the pilots are able to drop ordnance then they are able to get their

SEE **ORDNANCE** ON PAGE 3

Japan's Naval future visits MCAS Iwakuni

CPL. B. A. STEVENS
IWAKUNI APPROACH STAFF

Japanese students of Japan Maritime Self Defense Force Officer Candidate School in Etajima, Hiroshima, visited Marine Corps Air Station Iwakuni Aug. 5-6, in an effort to better understand America's military role in the Pacific and build relations.

The visit hosted approximately 200 members and included a bus tour of the station, an opportunity to see aircraft on the flight line and also a chance to eat American styled fast food at the Crossroads Food Court.

Each day the candidates were broken into two groups, while one group toured the station the other would walk along the flight line. The groups would then switch. After the bus and flight line tours were complete, candidates ate lunch.

"They saw the F/A-18, Prowlers, and Ospreys," said U.S. Navy Lt. Colin Raunig, personal exchange officer at the Japanese Maritime Self Defense Force Officer Candidate School in Etajima.

Akamatsu Shinji, naval flight instructing officer and participant, added that seeing the jets was a rare opportunity and many of the members had never been on an American base before.

During the tour, participants bonded with Marines and spoke about the differences in militaries such as physical standards, uniform regulations and ranks.

SEE **CANDIDATE** ON PAGE 3

Bats gets low altitude tactics, qualified

SGT. CHARLES MCKELVEY
IWAKUNI APPROACH STAFF

ROYAL AUSTRALIAN AIR FORCE BASE TINDAL, Australia — Aircrew from Marine All-Weather Fighter Attack Squadron 242, Marine Aircraft Group 12, 1st Marine Aircraft Wing, are obtaining initial and renewing existing low

altitude tactic qualifications during Exercise Southern Frontier at Royal Australian Air Force Base Tindal, Australia, which began Aug. 5, 2013.

The squadron made LAT training a priority while in Australia's Northern Territory because it is not possible to conduct the training while at their

SEE **ALTITUDE** ON PAGE 3



PHOTO COURTESY OF VMFA(AW)-242

The view from the cockpit of an F/A-18C Hornet during low altitude tactics training Aug. 8, 2013.

UDP

Welcoming
VMFA-112 &
VMAQ-2 | P. 4



MOTIVATION

A look into
Sgt. Maj.
Ferral | P. 5



FUJI

Racing to
the top
| 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

'True Humility'

LT. CMDR. LOUIS LEE
COMMAND CHAPLAIN

Winston Churchill knew how to not think more highly of himself than he ought to think.

He was once asked, “Doesn’t it thrill you to know that every time you make a speech, the hall is packed to overflowing?”

“It’s quite flattering,” replied Winston. “But whenever I feel that way, I always remember that if instead of making a political speech I was being hanged, the crowd would be twice as big.”

Winston Churchill was a humble man.

Often we meet people who are overinflated with egotism and vain pride. Our society is inundated with narcissism and self-love.

Just watch the reality TV shows, or log into FaceBook, MySpace, Instagram, LinkedIn, and so many trends in our culture.

Research shows narcissism is on the rise and it all points to one

thing, “me!”

This is nothing new, since the creation of this world, man has always been in love with himself. However, now days, we do it so much better, faster, and efficiently.

There is a subtle danger of being narcissistic.

Heightened self-love can become a defense mechanism, a primary tool for manipulation, become a habitual liar and deceiver, as well as possess “the world owes me” mentality.

However, the greatest loss for narcissists would be the lack of happiness and joy.

It is too high of a price and too serious to ignore.

Then, how can we become selfless or altruistic so as to attain joy in life without lie, deceit, manipulation, and entitlement mentality?

In other words, how can we become a good, decent Marine or Sailor?

I believe the key is in knowing what humility is. What is humility?

The Scripture tells us in the Epistle of Philippians 2:3, “Do nothing out of rivalry or conceit,

but in humility consider others as more important than yourselves.”

Humility is not thinking less of yourself – but thinking of yourself less.

In other words, humility is not forcing to think lower or less of yourself.

We need to see who we are as we are. True humility is spending less time thinking about yourself and more on others.

It’s about helping and serving others, especially those who need our help.

Your focus isn’t on you – it is on others. Your focus is on other people.

You are people centered – rather than self-centered. The person that thinks he’s humble – is not. The humble person doesn’t even know it, because he’s focusing on everybody else.

The book of Proverbs tells us: “A man’s pride will bring him low, but the humble in spirit will retain honor.”

Proverbs 29:23 (NKJV). Practice humility because it will bring honor to you.

Think less of yourself and more of others! This is the path to true humility.

Marines get wet, wild at WaterWorks

STORY AND PHOTO BY
PFC. ALISSA P. SCHUNING
IWAKUNI APPROACH STAFF

The Single Marine Program hosted a pool party at the WaterWorks Outdoor Pool, as part of the Commander’s Cup, aboard Marine Corps Air Station Iwakuni August 9, 2013.

The Commander’s Cup is a year long competition between units aboard station and ends with the Gladiator Challenge. The unit that comes out on top earns \$300 toward unit funding.

“It’s just a way to keep everyone active at sports,” said Pamela G. Young, SMP administrative assistant.

After Marines were full on hotdogs, hamburgers and drinks provided by SMP staff members, the pool party was ready to begin.

A Wet T-shirt Relay started off the evening events. Team members were positioned at each end of the pool. The member wearing the T-shirt would swim to the opposite end and pass off the shirt until the race was completed. The winning team took home Super Soakers and second place walked away with a SMP T-shirt.

The second competition was a Dolphin Relay Race. Competitors pushed a beach ball across the pool using only their nose. First place contestants earned SMP bags with a portable iHome speaker inside and second place contenders received mini Super Soakers.

The final event was the Belly Flop competition which included the highest value prizes of the



Participants race to the finish line during a Single Marine Program Pool Party Dolphin Relay Race at WaterWorks Outdoor Pool aboard Marine Corps Air Station Iwakuni, Japan, August 9, 2013. Single Marine Program hosts monthly events to entertain single and unaccompanied Marines.

night.

“The Belly Flop competition takes the most courage so it had the main prizes,” said Young.

First place won a portable DVD player and second place attained a music player speaker docking station.

Attendees could be found jumping from the diving board or tossing around a beach ball when competitions were not under way.

“I think it was a good turnout,” said Cherielyn S. Detimmermam, SMP operations assistant.

“We try to do at least one big event a month...then we do smaller events like pool tournaments and pingpong tournaments throughout the month,” said Young.

The SMP events are important, because they give Marines a chance to build camaraderie and meet new people. It helps

Marines get involved, explained Detimmermam.

Single and unaccompanied Marines are encouraged to give suggestions as to what events they would be interested in attending in the future.

“We do surveys and ask people what they like,” said Young. “We are always open to suggestions from single and unaccompanied Marines to make it more fun here for them.”

The fun times will continue Sept. 20, when SMP is scheduled to host a Murder Mystery Dinner Party. Sign-ups start Sept. 6 for the parts, which include four female and four male roles.

Marines, who are not inclined to join in on any upcoming SMP events, are encouraged to take part in surveys on events to draw interest for other Marines to participate.

ORDNANCE FROM PAGE 1

qualifications, and in the process I’m able to get all the members in my team qualified as well.”

While at Marine Corps Air Station Iwakuni, Japan, the squadron cannot use live ordnance. This forces the squadron to train with inert ordnance as opposed to live, high explosive ordnance, which they can use at SF13.

“I like to think of this as a real combat environment,” said Craven. “It’s basically practice for if we get that call to go and drop ordnance for real.”

Craven said the procedures they follow during SF13 are the same procedures they would use if they were doing the mission in a combat zone.

“We take it slow, and we have a checklist for absolutely everything we do,” said Craven. “We go by the numbers for everything, and make sure everyone is doing everything safely so we have no mishaps.”

Another benefit of SF13 is the ability to train junior Marines in a safe, but real-time situation.

“The most important thing a junior Marine can learn here is the high paced required for a live ordnance (detachment),” said Craven. “Whenever we are doing inert ordnance, the pace is much slower, so here, they need to be on the ball, ready to make quick decisions, ready to have a whole bunch of changes happen throughout the day, and be able to hustle to get the aircraft out on time so that aircrew can get that training.”

One difficulty the ordnance Marines face is adapting to the changing environments of differ-



SGT. CHARLES MCKELVEY

Lance Cpl. Dallin Haynie, an aviation ordnanceman with Marine All-Weather Fighter Attack Squadron 242, reverses a short airfield tactical support loader after loading ordnance on an F/A-18C Hornet, during Exercise Southern Frontier at Royal Australian Air Force Base Tindal, Australia, Aug. 8, 2013.

ent exercises and detachments.

“We’re concerned with operations and making things flow,” said Lance Cpl. Ryan Schladitz an aviation ordnanceman and team leader with VMFA(AW)-242. “The good thing about coming out here, and it’s different everywhere, is how we adapt to the situation we have; the different layouts of the flight line and the different rules of the different countries.”

Besides operations and flow, Craven and Schladitz, both stressed the importance of getting

the job done right, the first time.

“There’s a ton of trust with this job. We go by the saying ‘trust but verify,’” said Schladitz. “Everything we do is double-checked by another Marine. I check everything my junior Marines do, and a sergeant, then checks everything that is checked by me. Everything goes up until that final inspection, and we say the aircraft is good. It’s really important on us, because everything has to be good because one little slip up can result in a

(dud) bomb.”

Schladitz says one thing he keeps in mind is how his work helps the Marines on the ground, and that is what he and his fellow Marines train to every day.

“If we go into the fight, and there are Marines on the ground that need air support they rely directly on us to make sure our weapon systems work,” said Schladitz. “They rely on us, as well as the pilots, to make sure they get those bombs and rounds on target.”

ALTITUDE FROM PAGE 1

home station, Marine Corps Air Station Iwakuni, Japan.

“Where we are in our (area of responsibility) really inhibits pilot training in regards to low altitude tactics. In Japan, we are forced to fly and adhere to host country rules, which inhibits us from going below 500 feet,” said Maj. Frank Savarese, the pilot training officer for VMFA(AW)-242. “We have a wonderful opportunity to come down to Australia and take advantage of all of these ranges that Australia has to offer to us, which allows us the opportunity to fly low.”

Savarese said the squadron would obtain almost 14 initial LAT qualifications during the exercise hosted by the RAAF. In addition to gaining qualifications, the training also boosts the aircrews’ skillset and proficiency.

“It builds confidence in our pilots, especially the young pilots and weapon systems officers,” said Savarese. “If for whatever reason we do have to enter into a conflict, and we have to execute any sort of low altitude ingress, this will just help build our habit patterns for combat.”

Savarese said one scenario, which LAT might be used is

when there is multiple surface to air missiles in the area that would prevent an aircraft from striking the target sets from a medium or high altitude environment. He added that the aircrew may have an opportunity to enter the area unseen, undetected or with minimal detection from a low altitude environment.

“Low altitude tactics is very difficult at first, a lot of scan goes into flying in a low altitude environment, and it’s very hot,” said Savarese. “There is a lot of (gravitational force) involved in low altitude environments, so there is an awful lot of training that goes into building a pilot up and getting him ready and prepared to fly in low altitude.”

Low altitude currency is one of the quickest things a pilot and weapon systems officers can lose. Outside of 30 days, aircrew are no longer LAT current, so they have to continue to build these skill sets to be able to train to a low altitude environment, said Savarese.

Pilots and weapon systems officers are not the only ones experiencing LAT during the month-long training exercise. The squadron ensured other personnel, vital to the aircrews’ mission, had the opportunity to experience the training.

“As a flight surgeon, I want to

get close to the pilots, and I want to learn what they are about, and what kind of experiences they have in the aircraft to better know what sort of things they have to deal with,” said Navy Lt. Nathan Oehrlein, a flight surgeon with Marine Wing Support Squadron 171.

Oehrlein said learning those things is important so he can best say whether the pilots and weapon system operators are safe to fly or not.

“The sheer enormity of the tasks involved that the pilots has to work; the memorization of the altitudes and air speeds of the markers he has to hit, means that he pretty much has to be pretty close to 100% every time he goes up into the aircraft,” said Oehrlein. “Even minor things such as illnesses, congestions, headaches or personal issues can detract from some of that. When you are at a low altitude-training environment or actually getting shot at in the field, one mistakes or one missing of the target can put you in a dangerous situation.”

Appreciating that, and really knowing that, helps me kind of relate, as well as gives me a little bit of experience so I can say ‘hey I know what it takes, I’ve seen you guys do it, and I know I couldn’t.’

CANDIDATE FROM PAGE 1

“They seem incredibly focused and optimistic,” said Raunig. “I think we are very fortunate to have them as our allies in the Pacific.”

Although the talk was causal, the bigger picture was still well within sight.

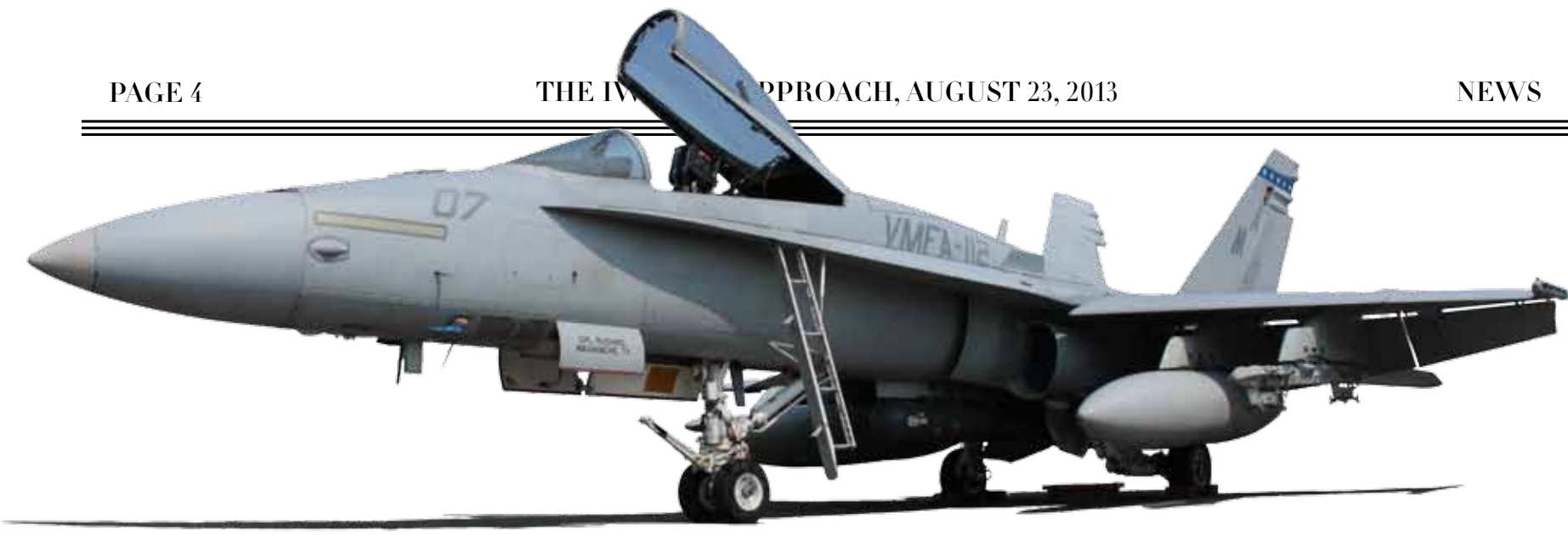
“The lines between Japan and America are important,” said Raunig. “The better we are able to create a stronger bond and understand each other, the better we are able to accomplish the mission and work cohesively to ensure that we are providing defense for the Japanese. All this also allows the American military forces to better accomplish our mission in the Pacific.”

The soon to be Japanese naval officers also recognized the importance of a strong relationship between the US and Japan.

“Events such as this give the Japanese Self Defense Force and American military a good opportunity to build a good relationship into the future,” said Akamatsu.

Each day the tour ended with a visit to the last Japanese Zero hanger left on MCAS Iwakuni. Candidates were given the chance to look inside the cockpit of a replica Zero fighter and observe some remaining artifacts from the World War II era.

The event only lasted two days, but it left a positive impression on the schools command who wishes to continue events like this in the future.



COWBOYS

strap back into saddle, activate for UDP

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

Marine Fighter Attack Squadron 112 arrived to Marine Corps Air Station Iwakuni early August as the newest F/A-18 Hornets on the Unit Deployment Program.

"The Cowboys," are a reservist squadron from Naval Air Station Joint Reserve Base Fort Worth, Texas, and were told that they would be activating to support the UDP in Sept. 2012.

"A lot of people don't understand the reserves; they have certain thoughts, biases or expectations," said Lt. Col. Michael Jeffries, commanding officer of VMFA-122.

Jeffries added that Marine Aircraft Group 12 gave a warm welcome to the unit and treated them the same as any active squadron.

"The squadron is about half reserve half active," said Sgt. Maj. Scott Miller, VMFA-112 sergeant

major. "The unit practically flies every day."

Miller added that this UDP is a great opportunity for the active and reservist Marines in the squadron to work together to achieve their mission.

"We activated on April 1st of this year," said Jeffries. "We basically had three months to do our pre-deployment training plan whereas most units usually start about six months out."

VMFA-112 worked diligently up until the last minute to make sure everything was on track for their deployment.

The Cowboys received their last F/A-18 three days before leaving.

Jeffries said that they got the jet on a Friday, worked to get it up to speed all weekend, flew the acceptance flight Monday morning and launched the aircraft Monday afternoon.

The high tempo work load is showing no signs of slowing down.

The Cowboys have an extremely

active schedule while in the Pacific.

"The majority of the squadron will be here for about five and a half weeks," said Jeffries. "We're sending a small unit down to the Philippines to do some (close air support) training. At the end of September we are taking the squadron down to Malaysia to fight the MIG 29's. Sometime at the end of October or early November we are going to Kusan, Korea, for a few weeks and then at the end of November into early December we are going down to Guam. There is still talk about adding a few more things into it. It just depends where they tell us to go."

The Cowboys are also using their fully active time to progress in their military careers.

"I've got the reserve Marines undivided attention for 10 months, three months prior to getting out here, six months while we are here and a month when we get

back," said Jeffries. "That's going to be huge, it takes a long time to get all the qualifications in the reserves, but now they've got the time so they can progress in their (military occupational specialty)."

Marines of VMFA-112 have a very busy schedule ahead of them, but they seem to be looking forward to the challenge.

"I think they are very excited about being here, for the reserve Marines, and even for the active duty Marines, it's a pretty unique opportunity to do a UDP," said Miller.

The Cowboys are even trying to plan a professional military education trip to Iwo Jima during their stay in Iwakuni to learn about the unit's role during the World War II Pacific Campaign.

With PME trips, a plethora of exercises and MOS training ahead of them the Cowboys have a very busy six months, but seem to have an optimistic outlook on it all.

VMAQ-2 takes over Prowler operations, maintenance on station

PFC. D. A. WALTERS
IWAKUNI APPROACH STAFF

Marine Tactical Electronic Warfare Squadron 2, the "Death Jesters," arrived aboard Marine Corps Air Station Iwakuni, Japan, in support of U.S. Pacific Command with the unit deployment program to replace VMAQ-4, Aug. 7, 2013.

VMAQ-2 was commissioned Sept. 15, 1952, originally known as VMC-2.

VMAQ-2, currently stationed out of MCAS Cherry Point, N.C., deployed in 1990 to support Operation Desert Shield and Desert Storm on one of their most successful and memorable tasks, where they flew more than 500 combat missions.

July 1, 1992, VMAQ-2 was the largest tactical squadron in Marine Aviation and was reorganized into VMAQ-1, VMAQ-2 and VMAQ-3.

The EA-6B Prowler is VMAQ-2's designated aircraft. It is a twin-engine, mid-wing electronic warfare aircraft and a part of the U.S. Armed Forces since 1971.

Some Marines within VMAQ-2

are new to Japan and the Pacific region, and according to Capt. Jonathon A. Leach, assistant operations officer for VMAQ-2, the squadron is here and ready to take charge of their duties and show Iwakuni, Japan, what they are all about.

"The entire squadron is very excited to be here, and to show what the Prowler itself can do out here in the Pacific area," said Leach. "All the enlisted maintainers are looking forward to getting out here and really putting the VMAQ-2 stamp on the community and squadrons on base."

According to Leach, VMAQ-2's mission is to reintegrate the squadron in the electronic warfare aspect in the Pacific, bring their capabilities to this theater, and get back into the traditional role supporting the Marine Air Ground Task Force and Marine Expeditionary Force.

"Electronic Warfare is the denial or degrading the enemy's ability to use the electromagnetic spectrum," said Leach. "In a nutshell, we are able to deny the enemy the ability to use their

electromagnetic devices; anything that uses energy, i.e. radars. We deny them that capability."

Sergeant Major Adam Moore, VMAQ-2 sergeant major, stressed the fact he wants his Marines to get out and experience the new culture of Japan outside of their working hours.

"I think the biggest challenge is, understanding the culture and knowing and reminding their selves that they are ambassadors to the United States," said Moore.

Moore expressed his sincere belief in his squadron's ability to set the example for other squadrons to follow.

"We just came back in October from Afghanistan. A majority of our squadron was with me then, so they are going to set the bar higher," said Moore. "I'm biased. I will always say my squadron is number one, as any sergeant major would, and I'm going to make sure each one of these Marines feel the same way."

Recently returning from

Afghanistan, the "Death Jesters" are here to undertake mission accomplishment and are well aware what it takes.

The new squadron aboard station, VMAQ-2, knows the importance of their mission and is confident that they are able to provide support when it is needed, according to Moore.



SERGEANT MAJOR HAS UNSTOPPABLE MOTIVATION

PFC. D. A. WALTERS
IWAKUNI APPROACH STAFF

While motivation is a trait that most Marines have, it is an attribute that stands out in some Marines more than others.

According to Sgt. Maj. Peter W. Ferral, Headquarters and Headquarters Squadron sergeant major, his motivation started from birth.

"I come from a Marine Corps family. My father was a Chief Warrant Officer 4 and he spent close to 34 years in the Marine Corps and instilled in me what it's like to be a Marine," said Ferral. "The honor, courage and commitment are what he gave and taught me as values."

Ferral decided to follow in his father's footsteps and begin his own Marine Corps journey after a motivated childhood.

Ferral reported to his first duty station, Marine Barracks Washington 8th & I, after graduating from Marine Corps Recruit Depot San Diego and Infantry Training School, where he continued to develop his love for all Marine Corps things.

Esprit de Corps, is defined by Merriam-Webster Dictionary as, "the common spirit existing in the members of a group and inspiring enthusiasm, devotion, and strong regard for the honor of the group."

Esprit de Corps is what Marines live and breathe in the Marine Corps, according to Ferral.

"There was one saying I was taught when I was a (private first class) and that was, 'The best unit in the Marine Corps is the one that you're in,'" said Ferral.

Hearing that phrase influenced Ferral to start taking more pride in himself, his unit and his title of United States Marine.

With pride came more motivation. Ferral said when he was a young private first class and lance corporal, he was accused of being too motivated.

On one account, when Ferral was a lance corporal, he was presented with a challenge.

"Another lance corporal said to me, 'You know, if you're so motivated, then why don't you wear your Alphas out on liberty,'" said Ferral.

"You know what, that's a good idea. I'll wear my Alphas out on liberty

tonight," Ferral responded.

Ferral changed into Alphas that night after liberty call sounded and went to a club in downtown Georgetown, Washington, D.C.

Ferral became a drill instructor later in his career where he saw the principles of leadership, which his previous leaders taught him, become more clear and meaningful.

"All those little things you learn about leadership reinforce motivation and that's what I have been doing for the past 27 years," said Ferral.

His motivation is reinforced when other Marines show motivation by improving themselves, learning new lessons and showing it the same way he used to at a younger age, said Ferral.

"Every Marine fails from time to time, but when I see that lesson learned and I see the growth of a Marine from the transition from a lance corporal to a corporal and they realize why their higher ups did what they did, that reinforces my motivation," said Ferral.

Ferral said, his family is one of the largest factors to his motivation and his drive to carry on as far as he has today.

"Without my wife and daughter and their

support through the past 17 years, I don't think I would be where I am today, even with the motivation of Chesty Puller," said Ferral with a chuckle. "What a wife and family do really puts it into perspective of what it is to be a Marine, and why I'm serving the Marine Corps."

Master Sgt. Lionel A. Saulsberry, department chief and station postal chief, has worked with Ferral since his arrival on station in July 2011.

Saulsberry compared Ferral's motivational impact on the Marines under him as steel sharpening steel.

"The fact is that (his motivation) is not fake, it's genuine," said Saulsberry. "Sergeant Major Ferral is genuine. It's good to be surrounded by people who constantly bring up the morale. In my opinion, it challenges me and other Marines to step up their game."

Motivation for Ferral comes from his life experiences, Chesty Puller and family, but overall Ferral concluded his Marine Corps motivation in a simple phrase: "It's for the love of the Marine Corps over many years. I love what it stands for, and I love being a Marine."



PFC. D. A. WALTERS

Sergeant Major Peter W. Ferral, Headquarters and Headquarters Squadron sergeant major, gives Pfc. David S. Dignetti, H&S aviation operation specialist, a positive counseling for his Hard Charger of the Week achievement Aug. 19, 2013. Growing up in a Marine Corps household, joining the Marine Corps out of high school, and due to positive leaders and role models throughout his days as a junior Marine, Ferral has been equipped with the tools to give him the ability to lead from the front and motivate younger Marines. When Ferral sees younger Marines leading from the front and motivating all Marines, regardless of rank, he said that is what keeps him motivated.

Navy Corpsmen winch into action

STORY AND PHOTOS BY
SGT. CHARLES MCKELVEY
IWAKUNI APPROACH STAFF

ROYAL AUSTRALIAN AIR FORCE BASE TINDAL, Australia — When a Navy corpsman or flight surgeon treat patients at Marine Corps Air Station Iwakuni, Japan, they most likely do so in a clinic during sick-call hours.

Corpsmen and flight surgeons, from MWSS-171, experienced search-and-rescue winch training during Exercise Southern Frontier 2013.

Southern Frontier is an exercise hosted by the Royal Australian Air Force in the Northern Territory. U.S. Marine Corps participation consists of elements of Marine Aircraft Group 12, 1st Marine Aircraft Wing, III Marine Expeditionary Force operating at Royal Australian Air Force Base Tindal.

“We are part of (Exercise Southern Frontier’s) search-and-rescue team,” said Petty Officer 3rd Class Jayney Hoegh, a corpsman with MWSS-171. “We did training to prepare us for an emergency. I don’t have much experience with (search- and-rescue) so we are doing the training in case anything were to happen.”

While Hoegh and her fellow sailors are not actually doing the winching, they learned to apply their skills during a medical response situation involving helicopter support.

“There is an actual winching team with the search-and-rescue unit,” said Hoegh. “They help us get to the patient. They put us on the ground, we grab the patient, get him stabilized, and then they put him on the helicopter and take him to the nearest medical facility.”

Once on the ground, the corpsmen take action by assessing the patient and treating identified conditions.

Hoegh said she learned from the SAR team how to assess the patient in order to stabilize them for the flight, and the importance of treating the patient in a time efficient and effective manner before getting them on the helicopter.

For Hoegh, the training was an experience, however, for others like Petty Officer 2nd Class Raymundo Soria, the lead corpsman for MWSS-171, it’s his future.

Soria, who is scheduled to attend Navy SAR training, said the opportunity to work with the Australians gave him an inside look at just how demanding the job is.

“I see how physical it can be, coming down and physically assessing the patient and getting them back up,” said Soria. “It really is a lot of work and definitely challenging.”

Soria said some of the things he enjoyed about the training were getting familiar with SAR exercises and becoming comfortable in the air.

“I got more excited, and a more in depth look at search and rescue,” said Soria. “I respect it a lot more. I’ve always respected it, but I definitely got to see what they do now, and it’s amazing.”



Petty Officer 3rd Class Jayney Hoegh, a corpsman with Marine Wing Support Squadron 171, returns to the search-and-rescue helicopter using the onboard winching system, Aug. 9, 2013, during Exercise Southern Frontier. During the exercise, the sailors worked with members of the SAR unit aboard Royal Australian Air Force Tindal, Australia.



Navy Lt. Nathan Oehrlein, right, a flight surgeon with Marine Wing Support Squadron 171 discusses search-and-rescue techniques with Mick Gablonski, a search-and-rescue crewman with the Commercial Helicopter Company SAR, during Exercise Southern Frontier 2013, Aug. 9. Southern Frontier is being conducted to help enhance readiness, increase interoperability of forces, and strengthen regional partnerships to effectively respond to regional challenges.

CORPS NEWS

HIGHLIGHTING MARINES AND
SAILORS AROUND THE GLOBE

Marines demonstrate humanitarian aid capabilities



CPL. CODEY UNDERWOOD

Lance Cpl. Adrian E. Boyett Jr. searches a role-player during humanitarian assistance training Aug. 9, in the Shoalwater Bay Training Area, Queensland, Australia, as part of the 31st Marine Expeditionary Unit's certification exercise. The training was designed to test the 31st MEU's ability to assist a community cut off from food, water and medical attention. For the protection of the personnel and equipment, the military police team searches every civilian who enters the site. Boyett is a military police team leader with Combat Logistics Battalion 31, 31st MEU.

CPL. CODEY UNDERWOOD
III MARINE EXPEDITIONARY FORCE
/ MARINE CORPS INSTALLATIONS
PACIFIC

SHOALWATER BAY TRAINING AREA, QUEENSLAND, Australia — With one knee resting on the crusty, dry soil, the Marine peered down the road and watched as the loose dirt broke apart under the weight of the approaching trucks.

As the trucks passed, destined for a nearby community, he could see their beds were loaded with food, water and medical supplies. The Marine logistics team was on the scene, and those effected by a recent natural disaster would now receive the assistance they requested.

Marines and sailors with Combat Logistics Battalion 31 and Battalion Landing Team 2nd Battalion, 4th Marine Regiment, attached to the 31st Marine Expeditionary Unit, conducted humanitarian assistance training Aug. 9, in the Shoalwater Bay Training Area, Queensland, Australia, as part of the 31st MEU's certification exercise.

The humanitarian assistance mission was designed to test the 31st MEU's ability to assist a community cut off from food, water and medical attention.

Tasked to assess the situation and provide assistance, the 31st MEU sent its logistics combat element supplied with everything a community would need to maintain its health, crops and structures.

"The humanitarian assistance mission provides the local civilians the necessary supplies they would need to sustain their everyday life, including food, water, gas,

shelter and electricity," said 1st Lt. Jake M. Sharry, the humanitarian assistance officer in charge with CLB-31. "It is the most likely mission the 31st MEU will face because we are in the Asia-Pacific region where typhoons are known to cause problems."

In order to begin assisting the distressed population, role-played by Marines, the humanitarian assistance team first established a distribution site, quickly established stations using vehicles and existing structures for distributing supplies and managing relief efforts.

For the protection of the personnel and equipment, concertina wire is placed around the perimeter while the military police team searches every civilian who enters the site.

"When we are conducting the hasty search at the entrance, we are looking for big-ticket items that could be a danger to others," said Sgt. Michael D. Mansholt, the platoon sergeant with Military Police Platoon, CLB-31. "We're looking for weapons, drugs and any other contraband that could cause harm."

After the search is complete, civilians needing medical attention are escorted to the medical station where corpsmen diagnose and treat health problems.

A helicopter was available to transport patients to the USS Bonhomme Richard for further treatment if their ailments were beyond the treatment capability of the field medical station.

Individuals who did not need medical care moved directly from the search area to the food and water distribution station where Marines handed out a three-day supply of potable water and food for each person.

"By handing out the food and water, I am able

to interact with the role-players and improve my interpersonal skills," said Cpl. Luis D. Ramirez, a motor vehicle operator with CLB-31. "(This scenario) gives us an awesome chance to train for a real-life situation where we can lend a helping hand to those in need."

The ability to provide humanitarian assistance and disaster relief is one of many capabilities the 31st MEU tests during the certificate exercise, ensuring preparedness for any contingency the unit may face while patrolling the Asia-Pacific region.

The 31st MEU is the Marine Corps' force in readiness for the Asia-Pacific region and the only continuously forward deployed MEU.



CPL. CODEY UNDERWOOD

Cpl. Luis D. Ramirez hands out meals ready to eat to a role-player during humanitarian- assistance training Aug. 9, in the Shoalwater Bay Training Area, Queensland, Australia, during the 31st Marine Expeditionary Unit's certification exercise. The training was designed to test the 31st MEU's ability to assist a community cut off from food, water and medical attention. The 31st MEU is the Marine Corps' force in readiness in the Asia-Pacific region and is the only continuously forward deployed MEU. Ramirez is a motor vehicle operator with Combat Logistics Battalion 31, 31st MEU.

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.

Crime Stoppers

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

Lending Locker Program

The lending locker program is available to provide small home appliances and utensils for incoming and outgoing command sponsored members for up to 60 days inbound and 30 days outbound. A copy of PCS orders are required to check-out items

and the program is by appointment only. The lending locker is located in Building 411 Room 101. For more information, call 253-4929.

NMCRS Quick Assist Loans

The Iwakuni Navy Marine Corps Relief Society is providing 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.

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@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. You may submit your brief or advertisement in person at the Public Affairs Office, Building 1, Room 216 or you may call 253-5551. 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.

Cub scouts blast-off for three-day day camp

STORY AND PHOTO BY
LANCE CPL. ANTONIO J. RUBIO
IWAKUNI APPROACH STAFF

Cub Scouts Troop 77 gathered for their three-day day camp at Penny Lake fields aboard Marine Corps Air Station Iwakuni, Japan, Aug. 16 – 18, 2013.

Troop 77 scouts gather weekly and host one major event at the end of summer. This year, in an effort to support the camp, Explosive Ordnance Disposal Technicians from Marine Wing Support Squadron 171 and the Provost Marshal's Office K-9 team came to show the kids their job skills.

PMO's K-9 team demonstrated the dogs' skills of being able to sniff out bombs and narcotics, listen to verbal and non-verbal signals and ability to catch enemies with their pure strength.

EOD demonstrated the capabilities of the robots they use when searching for explosives. The equipment is controlled from a safe distance, while the claw maneuvers through dirt and rubble, to avoid any possible blast radius if any improvise explosive devices were discovered.

"We're supporting space week with a bunch of robots... and allowing the kids to see futuristic tools that the military has," said Warrant Officer Samuel Denning, Marine Wing Support Squadron 171 EOD technician. "It's important to give back to the kids and let them have a little enjoyment."

To make the event even more enjoyable, Outdoor Recreation Center provided assistance in the form of bows, BBs, and other equipment.

"It's just been a wonderful community effort," said Marlena Staley, Troop 77 Pack Committee Treasurer. "Everyone put their little bit of effort in and together we pulled it all off."

The camp offered scouts opportunities that are only available once a year.



Scouts from Troop 77 play tug-of-war with Japanese scouts from Iwakuni at Penny Lake field aboard Marine Corps Air Station Iwakuni, Japan, during the Iwakuni Day Camp "Space is the Place" event, August 18, 2013. Tug-of-war was one of many games played during Iwakuni Day Camp field day.

"It's a whole entire event that's working toward their belt loops and their ranks and all the different extra awards that they can get that they normally can't get during the year, especially the BB's and the archery," said Staley. "These are two events that they cannot do any other time except during a camp, so this is an extra special time for them because they get to actually shoot the guns and use the bows and arrows."

Arrows and BB's were replaced with water guns and wet sponges on the final day of the event, when approximately 30 Japanese Cub

Scouts came to join in on the fun.

"I am personally grateful for the American scouts inviting us today for this occasion," said Tokumi Hamura, representative from the Scouting Association of Japan and Iwakuni Scout Troops scout master.

Scouts enjoyed amphibious activities and shared a memorable day, despite the language barrier.

"It would be great if we could continue this cordial relationship between the Japan and American scouts here in Iwakuni," said Hamura.

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

MUTSUMI INSECTS KINGDOM

The kingdom open now until Aug. 31, 2013, includes forest insects, the Stag Beetle's House, and Beetle's Dome. The Kingdom is free of admission except for the Beetle's Dome, which will cost 300 yen per person. The kingdom is located in the Mutsumi area, at Takasashimo, Hagi City, Yamaguchi Pref. For open hours and other information, contact Mutsumi Insects Kingdom at 08388-8-0064.

HIDEKI TOGI & IWAO FURUSAWA CONCERT TOUR 2013 WITH COBA

Hideki Togi, a gagaku (ancient Japanese court musician), Iwao Furusawa, a violinist, and Coba, an accordionist, show their ability to work together by performing "Time After Time (Cyndi Lauper)", "Ciocârlia (Dinicu)", "Libertango (Piazzolla)", and others.

For more information, contact Shinfonia Iwakuni at 0827-29-1600.
URL: <http://www.sinfonia-iwakuni.com/event/2013/08/005791.html>
Hideki Togi's official website: <http://www.togihideki.net/en/index.html>
IwaoFurusawa's official website: <http://hats.jp/p/artist/?artist=10000007>
Coba's official website; <http://www.coba-net.com/eng/index.html/>

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

SAKURA THEATER

Friday, August 23, 2013 1 p.m. Diary of a Wimpy Kid: Dog Days (2012) (PG) 7 p.m. The Conjuring (R) 10 p.m. Grown Up 2 (PG-13)	Monday, August 26, 2013 7 P.M. Pacific Rim (PG-13)
Saturday, August 24, 2013 4 p.m. Turbo (PG) 7 p.m. Pacific Rim (PG-13)	Tuesday, August 27, 2013 Theater closed
Sunday, August 25, 2013 4 p.m. Despicable Me 2 (PG) 7 p.m. The Conjuring (R)	Wednesday, August 28, 2013 Theater closed
	Thursday, August 29, 2013 7 P.M. The Conjuring (R)

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
SENSU

扇子
せんす

Folding Fan



CPL. B. A. STEVENS

The folding fan (Sensu or Ogi) as opposed to the much older fixed or flat fan (Uchiwa) is popularly thought to have originated in Japan around 670 A.D. It was made of wooden or bamboo strips threaded together and secured by a rivet or pivot. It is not known when paper folding fans were first made, but the oldest reference to a paper folding fan (Kawahori – bat wing) appears in "Relationship with Japan of the Song History" written in 988 A.D. when it lists gifts, including Kawahori and Hi-ogi from Japan to the Song Dynasty. Showing the status, at this time, of the fan in Japan to be considered suitable as gifts for royalty. Japanese folding fans are

supposed to be closed whenever possible and may be opened only when necessary, they did not start as decorative art or craft items, but instead were an information device evolving from being used as a simple writing material to being used for communication, instructive educational tools, recording or writing instruments, symbols of status, decorative and fine arts and even as weapons. Today, most fans are sold in souvenir shops and range from small, hand-held crafts to large wall-covering decorations. In Japanese society, the fans are mostly displayed in the performance of traditional plays, sumo matches, weddings and tea ceremonies.

RUNNER GOES THE DISTANCE

Leah Daugherty wins women's division of Mount Fuji Ascent Race, talks about running

PFC. D. A. WALTERS
IWAKUNI APPROACH STAFF

Sweating, arms pumping, and the sight of an untouched finish line closer than 20 feet away, Leah Daugherty is focused on concluding the Mount Fuji Ascent race in Japan, July 26, 2013.

Leah Daugherty admits that her gift of running is a blessing, but also with that gift, she put forth hard work and dedication that led to life changing experiences.

Growing up, Leah Daugherty was influenced to run by her father, but wasn't quite sure if running was a sport she wanted to pursue.

"My dad was a Division One miler, so from a young age he started teaching me how to run," said Leah Daugherty. "When I was younger, I was intimidated by running, but I was always good at it. I played primarily ball sports throughout high school."

Leah Daugherty began running again in a club triathlon team in college while attending University of Colorado, where she met her husband, Capt. Matthew Daugherty, Marine All-Weather Fighter Attack Squadron 242

F/A-18 pilot, and eventually led her to becoming a professional triathlete.

Leah and Matthew Daugherty are both avid runners, have a love for the sport and show each other support by running together. Through Matthew Daugherty's eyes, running has helped his marriage grow in the best way imaginable.

"We are able to share that time together," said Matthew Daugherty. "We spend so much time doing it, that if one of us didn't enjoy it, we wouldn't spend any time together. Being able to experience the places, views, smells and sounds that you can (while) mountain trail running wouldn't be the same without the love of your life there to experience it with you. I have learned that it's generally not a good idea to say things like: 'come on' or 'why are you going so slow'...These kinds of comments while running are generally bad for the marriage."

Matthew Daugherty spoke about the beauty of his wife winning races.

"Her smile when she wins could light up the darkest night," said

Matthew Daugherty.

Leah Daugherty experienced her ups and downs through the life of a professional triathlete that brought her to a decision that caused her profession to change.

"I competed for a couple of years," said Leah Daugherty. "Running is what I've always loved, what I'm best at and what I enjoy the most. While I was doing triathlon, I just over trained and did some wrong things with my training. Nothing bad, but I was just not having fun, so I got burnt out. I stopped doing triathlons professionally and just turned back to running, and I've really been enjoying running the past two years a lot."

Leah Daugherty accomplished many achievements in her past that motivate her to keep running in order to beat her current personal records and push herself to run longer, and more difficult distances.

Leah Daugherty's most memorable past-time runs include: two 50-mile races, otherwise known as an Ultra-Marathon, one of which followed along the continental divide in Colorado and the Mount Fuji Ascent Race.

Leah Daugherty stated she has short, medium and long term goals for her running and is willing to put forth the effort to achieve them.

"Next year there are several races I want to compete in," said Leah Daugherty. "Then a mid-term goal, I would like to run in the U.S. Olympic Trials Road Marathon, so that's in probably about three years...My long term goal, I want to be running when I'm in my 60's and 70's and enjoying it and healthy."

Even though Leah Daugherty has no plans of hanging up her shoes anytime soon, she reminisces on the feelings she received during her last race when she ascended to the summit of Mount Fuji leaning forward into the cold air across the finish line to secure a first place win.

"The Fuji ascent race was a really awesome race to win," said Leah Daugherty. "I've always wanted to climb up Mount Fuji ever since I was a little kid, so to have the opportunity to run up Mount Fuji in a race, then to win that race was, "sugoi," (which means) awesome. I felt like I was on Cloud Nine."



PHOTO COURTESY OF MEGAN LATTI

The Iwakuni Time Machine

In the August 23, 1985, edition of the Torii Teller, Marines reported on the Shuhodo Cave, the Marine Aviation Ground Officer of the Year recipient and the third annual Swim-A-Cross. The highlight of this issue was a personality feature on Maj. Robert Cabanas, a former Marine Aircraft Group 12 pilot, who was selected to be an astronaut.

Personality Feature

Skyhawk pilot selected to be astronaut

by SSgt R. C. Bernal

Five-year-old Robert Cabana used to sit for hours by the runway, looking-up and watching A-4 aircraft land at the Naval Air Station in his hometown, Minneapolis. Airplanes were always his dream.

Thirty-one years later, Maj Cabana, now a Marine pilot, is still dreaming about aircraft and recently received a phone call that turned his ultimate dream into reality. He was selected for the Astronaut Pilot Program.

Cabana received the call from an official at the Johnson Space Center located in Houston. "I'm absolutely elated," said the former assistant operations officer for MAG-12 here. His face beaming with pride.

"I've wanted this more than anything I can imagine for the past couple of years," the major added. "I'm looking forward to it. It's an opportunity to do something I've really wanted and still be a Marine, which I really enjoy."

The Naval Academy graduate, with a bachelor's degree in math, has been following his dream with the Marines since choosing to join the leatherneck's organization over the Navy's. He was commissioned in 1971 with a guarantee to attend flight school.

There were waves in the clouds, however, before the future astronaut saw clear skies. He failed his eye test the first time around. In his will to be a pilot, he chose to become an A-6 bombardier navigator. He reapplied for flight school twice before he earned his wings in September 1976.

The aviator didn't stop with the fulfillment of one goal. To him, goals are a way of life. "I think as a Marine, officer or enlisted, you have to set goals for yourself. And when you achieve that goal you have to look ahead to a new one," related Cabana.

The major's next completed goal was graduating from test pilot school with distinction in December 1980. He worked two-and-a-half years as a test pilot at Patuxent River, Md. It was at Pax River that the test pilot learned more about the astronaut program.

In 1984, he applied for the program and was invited for an interview, but was not selected. The program opened up again this year and he was again called, only this time was selected.



Maj Robert Cabana

"Qualifications vary," said Cabana. Some of the requirements were: 1,000 hours of first-pilot time in a jet aircraft (He had more than 2,000); a bachelor's degree in a technical field; U.S. citizen. "They didn't say it, but they've never picked anyone who wasn't a graduate of one of the test-pilot schools."

Cabana will be an astronaut candidate for a year. The first six months will be all academics. The last six months will be in apprenticeship. "I'll be working on projects for other astronauts there, working with them and learning about the program," explained the

future astronaut. "At the end of a year, I'll have the ability to become an astronaut even if I don't fly in space."

The major added that the way the program is going now, it will probably be about two or three years after the initial training before he will be assigned a mission.

As for Cabana's future, he always tries to be the best that he can be. He presents himself with self-confidence. If it wasn't for his camouflaged uniform, a new friend would probably mistake him for a young-looking executive. His charisma would make him a shoe-in for any public relations astronaut poster.

He refuses to go along with the theme: "The Right Stuff". "I don't know if there is such a thing as the 'The Right Stuff'. I think you just have to work hard and do well."

The father of a "real fine family", as he described them, "a lovely wife, two boys and a girl," joined a group of about 91 pilots and mission specialists at the space center. "It's a pretty elite group," said Cabana. "Ninety-one out of how many in the free world have an opportunity to be an astronaut?"

"My goal is to complete the training next year and do well down there," said Cabana. "I have to give thanks to the Lord for the talent he has given me and hope I can use it to his benefit. Hopefully I'll be a good representative of the Marine Corps down there, but I'll still be able to work in a technical field and do something that is personally challenging." FF