



the KINTAI
shimbun

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'One more, you got it!'

*Marines max out during strength,
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Sept. 14, 2007

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Shoes meet street in show of support

by Lance Cpl. Noah S. Leffler
Shimbun Staff

Honoring those lives lost on September 11, 2001, and in the ensuing Global War on Terror, 410 station residents took to the streets for the America Supports You 2007 Freedom Walk on Tuesday.

With heads held high, the men, women and children proudly marched from the parade field in front of Building One to the Marine Memorial Chapel, symbolizing the strong resolve of all who refuse to live in a world of terror and oppression.

“It’s up to us to define how we are going to remember the events of 9/11,” said Col. Michael A. O’Halloran, station commanding officer and native of State College, Pa. “The enemies of our nation would have us hang our heads and commiserate on a day like today, but they don’t understand Americans. Americans get up, Americans knock the dust off and Americans move forward with perseverance and rededication.”

Before being treated to lunch courtesy of Marine Corps Community Services, participants filled the chapel for a brief service.

Guest speaker Lt. Col. Gary A. Kling, Headquarters and Headquarters Squadron commanding officer and Phoenix native, stressed the importance of commemorating the historic day and urged everyone to remain steadfast in their commitment to freedom.

“You always look forward to the future, but you have to know the past and learn something from it,” Kling said. “If you don’t learn anything from it, you’re not doing justice to the people whose lives were lost.”

“Every day when the national anthem plays, that should be your internal Freedom Walk,” he added. “That should be your daily commitment.”

What began in 2005 as a way for Pentagon employees to pay tribute to the lives lost on 9/11 has blossomed into a demonstration of remembrance and support with more than 220 Freedom Walks taking place this year throughout the United States and nine other countries. Helping coordinate Tuesday’s walk was Lydia D. Orozco, IronWorks Gym assistant health promotions director and native of Chesterfield, Mo., who said the turnout showed the air station’s outstanding support for its fighting men and women.



Lance Cpl. Noah S. Leffler

Lt. Col. Gary A. Kling, Headquarters and Headquarters Squadron commanding officer and native of Phoenix, speaks to residents in the Marine Memorial Chapel during the America Supports You Freedom Walk Sept. 11.

“It’s a big community event,” Orozco said. “This is my second (Freedom Walk), and it seems there’s a lot more people this year. I hope they really take time to appreciate what the Marines and sailors do here as well as remember those who have lost their lives.”

The freedom walk held a special significance for some young participants like Ted J. Barks, a 10th grade lance corporal in Mat-

thew C. Perry High School’s Junior Reserve Officers’ Training Corps program, who hopes to someday join the ranks of those he marched for.

“I’m just here to support the Marines,” Barks said. “This means a lot to me because someday in the future there’s going to be Freedom Walks and I’ll be one of the Marines I’m supporting today.”

VAQ-141 welcomes new commanding officer

by Lance Cpl. Cindy G. Alejandrez
Shimbun Staff



Lance Cpl. Cindy G. Alejandrez

Cmdr. Michael D. McKenna, Electronic Attack Squadron 141 commanding officer and native of Missoula, Mont., addresses his sailors about the squadron's upcoming deployment aboard the USS Theodore Tuesday.

Cmdr. Michael D. McKenna took the reins from Cmdr. Craig A. Clapperton as the new commanding officer of U.S. Navy Electronic Attack Squadron 141 during a change of command ceremony at the squadron's hangar here Tuesday.

VAQ-141 deployed here from Naval Air Station Whidbey Island, Wash., as part of the Unit Deployment Program and employs the E/A-6B Prowler aircraft.

Before saluting his replacement and handing over his command, Clapperton, native of Pittsburgh, Pa., thanked the guests and praised his sailors for their work.

"The sailors have worked incredibly hard," said Clapperton. "Every day it's just an amazing amount of work. We've always put one more hurdle out in front of them and they always found a way to get over it. The innovation, dedication and sacrifice they make and the talent and expertise in those folks, the fact that they get 35 jets to fly every day and be combat ready - it's just inspiring to watch these guys."

Clapperton will soon report to his next assignment at the Naval War College in Newport, R.I.

McKenna, native of Missoula, Mont., attended Aviation Officer Candidate School through the Naval Cadet Aviation program's commissions and flight training for civilian college students. McKenna was designated a naval aviator and commissioned in 1989 at Naval Air Station Meridian, Miss. He completed A-6E Intruder training at Naval Air Station Oceana, Virginia Beach, Va., and then reported to the U.S. Navy Attack Squadron 85 for his first tour in the fleet.

Since then McKenna served in support of Operations Desert Shield and Desert Storm while aboard the USS America. He then earned a Bachelor of Science in Applied Mathematics before transitioning to the EA-6B Prowler and serving with U.S. Navy Electronic Attack Squadrons 135 and 134. Among his accomplishments with the Prowler squadrons are tours in support of Operations Northern Watch and Southern Watch, which monitored and controlled the air space in the Middle East.

SEE VAQ ON PAGE 4



Lance Cpl. Cindy G. Alejandrez

Cmdr. Craig A. Clapperton, Electronic Attack Squadron 141's outgoing commanding officer and native of Pittsburgh, Pa., shakes hands with Cmdr. Michael D. McKenna, VAQ-141 commanding officer and native of Missoula, Mont., Tuesday.

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In 2003 McKenna attended the Naval War College where he received his Masters in National Security and Strategic Studies. He then completed a joint staff tour at U.S. Colo., before reporting to VAQ-141 where he formerly served as the squadron's executive officer.

"This is a great squadron, they have a great history and were led by a great, outgoing skipper," said McKenna, praising Clapperton's tenure as commanding officer.

McKenna also addressed his sailors about the squadron's upcoming deployment aboard the USS Theodore.

"I am looking forward to taking over and continuing that (work ethic) to get us ready for a deployment next September."

During their speeches both sailors pointed out the day was not only significant to them because of their new assignments, but also to all service members because it was the anniversary of the attacks at the Pentagon and the World Trade Center.

"It is very significant. Not all of us were in the military at the time. A lot of people joined because of September 11, because of



Lance Cpl. Cindy G. Alejandrez

Cmdr. Craig A. Clapperton, Electronic Attack Squadron 141's outgoing commanding officer and native of Pittsburgh, Pa., shakes hands with Cmdr. Michael D. McKenna, VAQ-141 commanding officer and native of Missoula, Mont., Tuesday.

their call to duty and patriotism," said Lt. Vika M. Russell, VAQ-141 personnel officer and native of Oak Harbor, Wash.

and very much about serving his country," she added.

"It just goes along with our skipper's way of life and how he views things, very patriotic

‘Come in, take a look’

JMSDF gives residents glimpse of Force

by Lance Cpl. Chris Dobbs
Shimbun Staff

The Japanese Maritime Self-Defense Force opened its doors to local residents during its annual Open House Festival on the JMSDF flight line here Sunday.

More than 4,000 people attended the festival, which provides entertainment for area residents while promoting a better understanding of the JMSDF, according to JMSDF Petty Officer 1st Class Fumiaki Yasumizu, Fleet Air Wing 31 public relations representative.

The event’s most popular attraction was the chance to go on a flight in either the US-1A rescue flying boat or the MH-53E minesweeping and transport helicopter. One hundred thirty patrons selected at random got the chance to go on a short flight in the US-1A. Another 15 got a ride in the MH-53E.

“It’s incredible to be able to do that,” said Natsu Yamada, a native of Iwakuni who flew in the US-1A. “This is the only time I will get to do this.”

Visitors also gathered around JMSDF and Marine Corps fixed-wing aircraft and helicopters which were on display on the flight line. Many Japanese were excited to interact with

the Marine pilots on hand, according to 1st Lt. Russ Henos, 212 squadron pilot and native of San Diego.

“They were very eager to talk to us and see our aircraft,” said Henos, who displayed an F/A-18. “It was good to interact with them. They smiled a lot and seemed to really enjoy our presence.”

Adjacent to the flight line, the guests strolled through a row of tents set up for the event. They ate steak and chicken shish kebabs while perusing JMSDF and Marine Corps uniform items, T-shirts and souvenirs.

“It’s good shopping,” said Kumiko Yoshioka, a native of Iwakuni. “I’d like (the weather) to be cooler, but we’re still having a good time.”

To beat the heat, visitors found shade in one of the flight line hangars where they relaxed, listened to live music, ate lunch and watched their children play.

“The kids are having fun,” said Yoshioka. “They’ve been playing and laughing all day.”

In the afternoon, the Ozuki Air Training Squadron drill team formed up on a makeshift parade deck in front of one



Lance Cpl. Chris Dobbs

A Japanese Maritime Self-Defense Force MH-53E minesweeping and transport helicopter taxis on the runway during the annual JMSDF Open House Festival here Sept. 9.

of the hangars. Displaying teamwork, precision, discipline and the spirit of the JMSDF, they put on a flawless performance that left spectators in awe.

“They are very impressive,” said Yoshioka. “They must practice a lot. They are very good.”

As the day winded down, the visitors took one last look at the aircraft and displays before calling it a day. Whether they stayed for only a short time or the entire event, the smiles on their faces indicated they had enjoyed themselves.

“It was a beautiful day, and I think everyone had a lot of fun,” added Yasumizu.

Homecoming: CLC-36 reviews UFL mission

by Pfc. Kyle T. Ramirez
Shimbun Staff

Combat Logistics Company 36 prepared for its departure Sept. 6 after nearly four weeks of supporting Marine Wing Support Squadron 171 in the role of camp commandant unit here throughout the duration of Exercise Ulchi Focus Lens 2007.

Exercise UFL 2007 is a combined-forces exercise, largely computer generated, training Republic of Korea Marines and U.S. Marines to unite forces in a real-world battle.

“As a logistics company, we assisted (Marine Wing Support Squadron 171) in furnishing intermediate levels of supply to this command post,” said Capt. Rodney K. Mims, CLC-36 logistics officer and Miami native.

CLC-36 provided services including postal, currency dispersing, Internet communication, and rations supply.

“MWSS-171 was acting camp commandant for the duration of UFL,” said Capt. Anthony R. Westfield, MWSS-171 engineer operations company commander and native of Westfield, N.J. “We needed CLC-36 to help provide all the logistical elements of a command post in order for the participating Marines to be fully equipped for the exercise.”

Many Marines from CLC-36 were tasked with duties outside of their occupation.

“Some supply clerks became motor transportation operators. Some mechanics and welders became security personnel. Our armory technician became a supply chief,” said Cpl. Salvador B. Luna, CLC-36 warehouse clerk and native of Hutchinson, Kan. “What you do out here depends on whatever your unit needs you to do at that time to complete the mission at hand.”

CLC-36 departed the Port of Pohang Sunday via High Speed Vessel, beginning the 12-hour voyage back to Iwakuni.

“I’ve been looking forward to coming home but I will miss being in the field, living in the tents with my Marines,” said Petty Officer 2nd Class Ruben A. Fonseca, CLC-36 hospital corpsman and Los Angeles native. “This exercise may have been short, but Marines can learn a lot from those who have done this before. This isn’t the first time I’ve been here so I have a lot of information to pass on to Marines who are out here for the first time.”

Fonseca gave advice to junior Marines throughout the deployment on the importance of proper hydration and hygiene practices.



Pfc. Kyle T. Ramirez

Marines from Combat Logistics Company 36, along with other units deployed to Camp Mu Juk, willingly follow the educated guidance of Lance Cpl. Walter C. Jimison, CLC-36 embarkation chief and Los Angeles native, hoping to return home when all the work is done. The unit returned to Iwakuni Sept. 10 after nearly four weeks of supporting Marine Wing Support Squadron 171 in the role of the camp commandant unit.

“If there’s one thing Marines should learn from being on deployment, it’s how to take care of their feet,” said Lance Cpl. Andrew J. Tiner, CLC-36 nuclear biological chemical defense specialist and Lake Jackson, Texas, native. “I’m glad we had doc here to help take care of us so we could complete our jobs out here. It just goes to show how everyone’s presence is necessary.”

Upon returning to Iwakuni, CLC-36 will continue to operate as a logistics company while waiting for its next scheduled deployment to South Korea during exercise Foal Eagle 2008.

Red Cross rallies residents for semi-annual sale

by Lance Cpl. Noah S. Leffler
Shimbun Staff

Station Red Cross held its semi-annual Sophie Sale at the Matthew C. Perry High School cafeteria Saturday and Sunday.

The sale offers a variety of affordable antique items from China and Korea. The proceeds go directly to the Red Cross and will help fund the non-profit organization's volunteer programs. An item purchased during the sale may help a service member receive an emergency message from back home or go toward someone's lifeguard or CPR certification.

“(The sale) is the only fundraiser we do on the air station, so it's very important to us,” said Jocelyn Townsend, Station Red Cross manager and Oklahoma City native. “That's where our funding is for all our volunteer programs and events.”

Residents perused an assortment of furniture including cabinets, wine bars, tables,

chairs and chests. The kaiden danzu, a versatile step-like storage unit that dates back to the 17th Century, is often one of the biggest draws, according to vendor and sale name-sake Sophie Tung.

“We have probably 75 percent real antiques (dating) from 1860 to 1910 and 25 percent newer furniture,” the Taiwan native said. “People like to have something they bought in Japan to bring home and show the culture.”

“Our prices are very reasonable, probably the best in Japan,” she added.

The sale, which has been an air station staple since 1999, had nearly 30 customers packing the crowded cafeteria by 9 a.m. on its opening day. Tung said not only the hunt for a rare piece or great deal, but camaraderie and a friendly atmosphere keep familiar faces coming back year after year.

“It's like a gathering,” said Tung. “It's not just ‘sell, sell, sell’ or ‘buy this.’ We chat and



Lance Cpl. Noah S. Leffler

Nai Mir, London native and vendor, explains the threading of an oriental rug to Gertrude (left) and Lisa Sweetland during the semi-annual Sophie sale at the Matthew C. Perry High School cafeteria Saturday.

have a good time, and I think that's why people enjoy this. The (Red Cross) volunteers are really wonderful, so I like coming for their company.”

For Nai Mir, regular Sophie Sale vendor and

native of London, the sale is a chance to share his love of antiques, especially oriental rugs, with those curious about their origins.

“It's rewarding to us because you meet so

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Lance Cpl. Noah S. Leffler

Iwakuni resident Aliette Cuadro and children Elise and Jazlyn spend time perusing the selection of Chinese and Korean antiquities during the semi-annual Sophie Sale at the Matthew C. Perry High School cafeteria Sept. 8.

REDCROSS CONTINUED FROM PAGE 7

many people who want to learn about the pieces ... and in the long run if you're doing the job right you're always welcomed back to the community."

"We take great pleasure in getting antiques, finishing them and sharing their histories,"

"In 1998 (the Red Cross) saved my life in Okinawa, and since then I've had the desire to help out."

- Nai Mir

he added.

Mir also understands the importance of the Red Cross's cause of people helping people; were it not for their service in expediting him to a hospital nearly 9 years ago, a 107-degree temperature may have been fatal. By lending his expertise during the sale he is contributing to an organization he is very grateful for.

"In 1998 (the Red Cross) saved my life in Oki-



Lance Cpl. Noah S. Leffler

Iwakuni resident Aliette Cuadro and baby Elise examine a piece of furniture during the semi-annual Sophie Sale at the Matthew C. Perry High School cafeteria Sept. 8.

nawa, and since then I've had the desire to help out," he said.

Ultimately, it was this spirit of helping out that made customers so willing to come down, look around and contribute some cash.

"It's great because Sophie has something dif-

ferent at every sale," said Lisa Sweetland, a native of Levittown, Pa. "But knowing everything is going to the Red Cross makes spending the money that much easier."

'You got served'

Break dancers bring fun, funk to Club Iwakuni

by Lance Cpl. Noah S. Leffler
Shimbun Staff

The excited crowd's wild taunts and cheers egged on the two men in the center of the dance floor. With cold stares and puffed chests the competitors stood face-to-face sizing each other up, knowing tonight only one would walk away the victor. Without warning, the smaller of the two struck quickly and deftly, landing the first blow of many to take place over the next two minutes.

Theirs was not a clash of fisticuffs, however, as these two and more than 20 others joined in the melee of moves during in the Rhythm Section 2-on-2 Dance Battle at the Club Iwakuni Landing Zone Friday night.

The battle featured teams of two break dancers going head-to-head in two-minute rounds. One b-boy (slang for break dancer)

would take the floor and bust a move to the hip-hop beats mixed by special guest DJ Haightz. A member of the opposing team would then try to outdo him by performing a more difficult or flashy trick. The teams continued back and forth in this manner until their two minutes ran out.

The event was the second of its kind Club Iwakuni has ever hosted, according to Rhythm Section brainchild and avid break dancer Stewart "Stu" Hines, a Club Iwakuni bartending backup.

"I came here as a Marine four years ago and I started to break dance, but I had no one to practice with," said the Staten Island, N.Y., native. "I was practicing by myself for maybe five months, but there was never anything going on at the club so it was like I was practicing for no reason. I felt like if I had an event, people like me would have a chance to use whatever they're practicing."

Through word of mouth and Marine Corps Community Services advertising, news of the battle got out; and attendees found themselves vying for a spot in the standing-room-only crowd at the Landing Zone. Their involvement was key, however, as they determined who won throughout the evening.

"We use the audience's ovation to judge," Hines said. "The emcee points at one team and we see how much noise they make ... like in a rap battle."

Noise was something the audience was more than happy to provide as competitors unloaded an arsenal of moves including hand and head stands, multiple spins and even the occasional robot. While several Americans got in on the action, the participants were overwhelmingly Japanese, much to the surprise of Team Soulja Boyz member Dejuantez Sims.

"This is my first battle, and I have to say the talent gets an 11 out of 10," said the native of Birmingham, Ala. "All night I've seen a lot of krump dancing versus the b-boy style, and (those styles) are the best of the best."

The evening's best dancers hailed from Hiroshima's Alpark Crew, who were invited by fellow member Hines. Throughout the



Lance Cpl. Noah S. Leffler

An Alpark crew member performs a headspin during the Rhythm Section 2-on-2 Dance Battle at the Club Iwakuni Landing Zone Sept. 7.

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Lance Cpl. Noah S. Leffler

Alpark Crew member and Hiroshima native, Tsuyochi Hara, shows off his contortionist skills during the Rhythm Section 2-on-2 Dance Battle at the Club Iwakuni Landing Zone Sept. 7. The battle featured teams of two break dancers going head-to-head in two-minute rounds.

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night the crew, paired into two-man teams, seemed to dominate the floor, conceding only one match to their American competitors.

“I’m pretty sure nobody’s ever seen break-

dancing like this,” Hines said. “I think I’m OK, but all my friends (from Alpark) are really, really good.”

True to Hines’s word, two Alpark members took the evening’s top honors after the final dance-off. Although the match was a tour-de-

force show of poppin’, lockin’ and droppin’ in which no punches were pulled, the champions left the dance floor good sports, happy to be able to compete in a new locale against new opponents.

“I’m pretty sure nobody’s ever seen break dancing like this ... I think I’m OK, but all my friends (from Alpark) are really really good.”

- Stewart Hines

“We had some great American competitors,” said one Alpark member who would only go by the moniker “Eric.” “A battle is just that – a battle. But in the end, we all walk away as friends.”

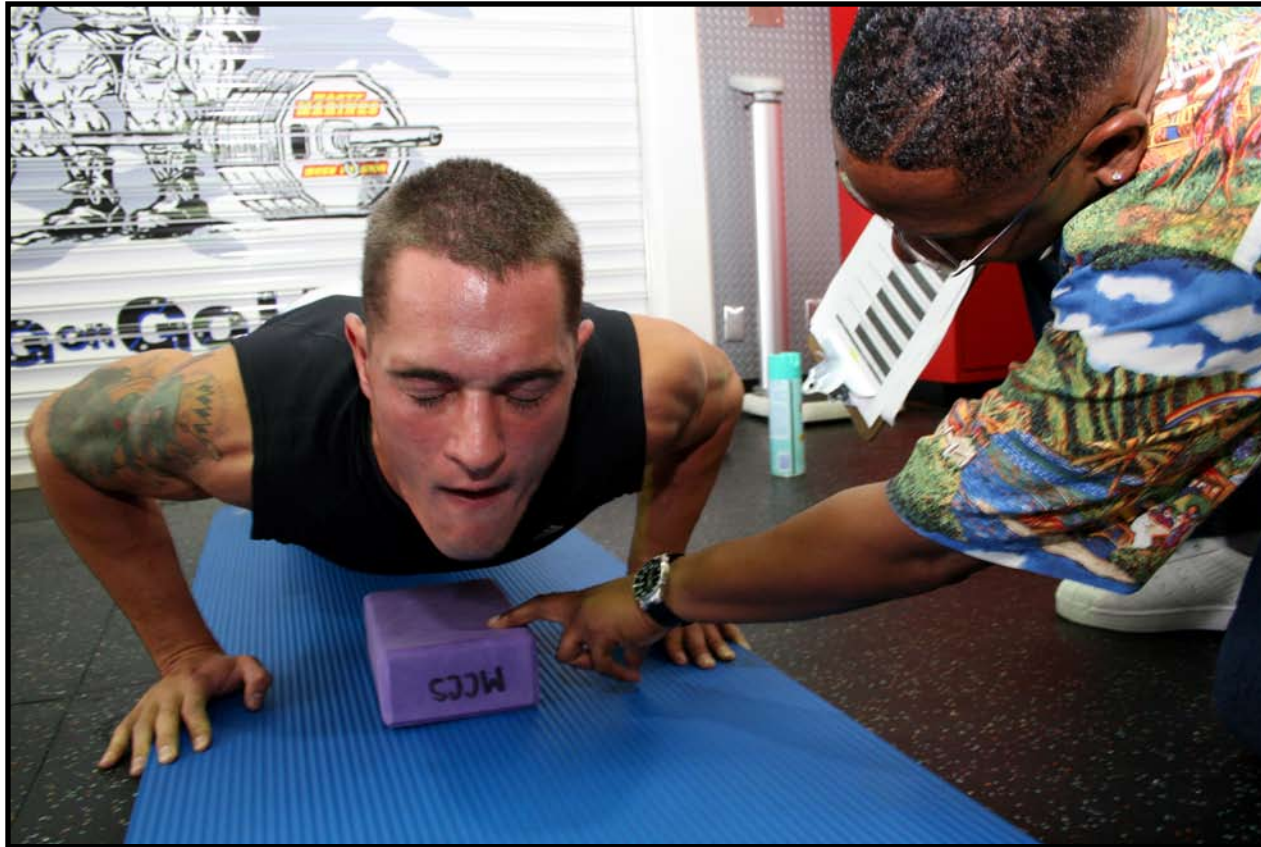


Lance Cpl. Noah S. Leffler

An Alpark crew member prepares to preform a headspin during the Rhythm Section 2-on-2 Dance Battle at the Club Iwakuni Landing Zone Sept. 7.

‘Just one more, you got it!’

Marines max out during strength and endurance challenge



Lance Cpl. Chris Dobbs

Cpl. Micah Parsons, Aircraft Rescue Fire Fighting specialist and native of Chicago, executes a max set of push-ups during the Strength and Endurance Unit PT challenge at IronWorks Gym here Friday.

by Lance Cpl. Chris Dobbs
Shimbun Staff

Station service members did pull-ups, dips, push-ups and sit-ups until their muscles were unable to eek out another rep, as they tested the limits of their muscular stamina during the Strength and Endurance Unit PT challenge at IronWorks Gym here Friday.

Aircraft Rescue Fire Fighting (ARFF), or “Crash Crew,” pulled its weight better than the rest of the competition, combining for a total of 780 reps, narrowly eclipsing Marine Aviation Logistics Squadron power plants, who finished with 777 reps.

Crash Crew was the first team to tackle the circuit course of exercises, as each team member went to his designated workout station and waited in the ready position.

“Five ... four ... three ... two ... one,” said an event official before blowing a whistle, signaling the start of the exercise. The service members pumped out as many reps as they

could until they reached muscular failure or the two-minute time limit.

“Come on, you got a few more,” said a gym patron who was working out at the time of the competition, cheering on the participants. “Let’s go.”

From the competitors’ clinched jaws, red, perspiring faces and groans of exhaustion, it was obvious they were giving it everything they had.

“Those push-ups wore me out,” said Cpl. Micah Parsons, ARFF specialist and native of Chicago, to his teammate after completing a challenge-high 74 pushups.

After completing one exercise, participants had just 15 seconds to move to the next exercise. Parsons added that having to do dips immediately after push-ups was the most challenging part of the event.

“It was pretty tough to recover in that amount of time.”

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Lance Cpl. Chris Dobbs

Pfc. Brandon White, Aircraft Rescue Fire Fighting specialist and native of Racine, Wis., performs a max set of crunches during the Strength and Endurance Unit PT challenge at IronWorks Gym here.

ENDURANCE CONTINUED FROM PAGE 11 they would need a lot of reps to challenge Crash Crew for the title.

After each member of the Crash Crew team completed all four exercises, the Marines sat back and watched as the remaining teams pushed, pulled, dipped and crunched.

Up next was “Power Plants,” who figured

“(Crash Crew) looked pretty intimidating because of their size,” said Lance Cpl. Chris Nordie, MALS-12 power plants engine mechanic and native of Lewisville, Texas. “We just did the best we could, knowing that

we could compete with them.”

Recovery’s team entered the challenge at the last minute and had to work extra hard with only three participants.

“We had already burned ourselves out once, and then we had to do it again,” said Cpl. Ryan Cole, Recovery assistant crew leader and native of St. Augustine, Fla., who had to perform push-ups twice. “You don’t have much left the second time. It was pretty exhausting.”

After Recovery had squeezed out their last rep, the participants gathered to hear where their hard work had put them on the scoreboard. Breathless, with their hands on their hips, the exhausted Marines anxiously listened to the totals, which were read in reverse order.

“Third place, with a total of 699 reps ... Recovery. Runner-up with 777 reps ... Power Plants.” ARFF team members threw their arms into the air, knowing they had claimed the top spot.

“It’s pretty motivating, just getting out here representing Crash Crew,” said Pfc. Brandon White, ARFF specialist and native of Racine, Wis.



Lance Cpl. Chris Dobbs

Lance Cpl. Trenton Tucker, Aircraft Rescue Fire Fighting specialist and native of Detroit, executes a max set of dips during the Strength and Endurance Unit PT challenge.

The Strength and Endurance PT challenge was part of the President’s Challenge, which awards “party funds,” or money that can be used for unit events, to unit teams during a variety of monthly events. Next month’s event is the Gladiators, which is the Challenge’s year-ending, daylong event. Service members interested in participating should contact Health Promotions at 253-6359.



Mr. Chol-I Kim, self-proclaimed "Mayor of Mu Juk" and native of Chinhae, South Korea, addresses his audience of Marines and sailors before the kick off of the Mu Juk Festival at the newly constructed concert stage here Aug. 30.



South Korean belly dancers wave nervously backstage in their traditional dancing attire before their cue to appear in the Mu Juk Festival here Aug. 30.

MU JUK FESTIVAL 2007

by Pfc. Kyle T. Ramirez
Shimbun Staff

U.S. Marines and sailors and Republic of Korea Marines and sailors participated in the annual Camp Mu Juk Festival at the newly constructed concert stage here Aug. 30.

The four-hour festival comprised several song and dance routines by various Korean entertainers and Marines on a 500-foot stage with a surround-sound public address system and a laser-light system piercing through the fogged air.

The performance kicked off with the South Korean and U.S. national anthems. The music used during the dances that followed ranged from traditional Korean folk music to modern rhythm and blues. Halfway through the show, the sky began to rain furiously.

"The rain had no effect on the audience. We were just as

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Col. Benjamin R. Braden, Marine Wing Support Group 17 commanding officer, watches and laughs with other Marine and sailor guests at the introduction given by Mr. Chol-I Kim, the host of the Mu Juk festival before it kicked off at the newly constructed concert stage here Aug. 30.



A South Korean pop artist laughs with the audience after revealing her age, 17, and expressing her gratitude to an audience of approximately 420 Marines and sailors from the U.S. and South Korea for their undying applause after her first large performance at the Mu Juk Festival, Aug. 30.

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Enthusiastic to see the show even though it was pouring-down rain,” said Lance Cpl. Charles P. Cannon, III Marine Expeditionary Force financial technician and Spring, Texas, native. “I enjoyed every minute of it. The dozens of lights really gave off a professional look and so did the pyrotechnics.”

Throughout the routines, fireworks exploded up-stage along with sparklers and fog.

“It was even better than I imagined. It literally had a performance for everyone to enjoy,” said Lance Cpl. Andrew J. Tiner, Combat Logistics Company 36 nuclear biological defense specialist and native of Lake Jackson, Texas. “Mr. Kim really knows how to entertain a large group of Marines.”

As a former Marine, Mr. Chol-I Kim, self-proclaimed “Mayor of Mu Juk” and native of Chinhae, South Korea, funded the festival out of love of Marines and Sailors.

“I truly believe in the old saying, ‘Once a Marine, Always a Marine’,” said Kim. “I am so gracious to have everyone here tonight to see our culture.”

A South Korean dance company performs a traditional Latin-style routine for Marines and sailors during the Mu Juk Festival at the newly-constructed concert stage here Aug. 30. Their 25-minute performance required seven costume changes from traditional Korean dress to risqué modern-style dance leotard.

MU JUK FESTIVAL 2007



A South Korean break-dancing group thrashes wildly around the newly constructed concert stage with accompanying music by hip-hop artists, “Run DMC,” during a staged break-dancing battle at the Mu Juk festival here, Aug.30.

LEAN SIX SIGMA

MAPPING YOUR VALUE STREAM

by Darrell E. Coleman
Contributing Writer

This edition I want to look at yet another tool in our Lean Six Sigma (LSS) arsenal. This tool is called the Value Stream Map (VSM). A VSM is a visual representation of all activities, both value added and non-value added which are required to bring your product or service into the hands of a customer. Creating a VSM is probably one of the most important things which can be done while answering the question “How can we improve?”

In the past, managers have often identified problems within their work environments and, before a full understanding of how the work was actually being performed, would launch an effort to improve their perception of the problems. Sometimes they would get it right, but time and again the “fix” would uncover another flaw that prompted another fix and so on. Needless to say, the efforts to improve weren’t organized in such a way to look at the entire process.

Value Stream Mapping is a tool used to create a visual representation of all the material, personnel and information flow of a delivered service. This powerful tool allows us to map the flow through all the associated process steps to the finished product. This is the Value Stream. You begin the jour-

ney by creating a Current State map - it shows you where you are. Then, you continue your lean journey with developing a Future state map - it shows you where you’re going and how you’re going to get there.

The goal of VSM is to begin to identify, demonstrate and decrease waste in the process. Waste is defined as any activity that does not add value (non-value added) to the final product or service. The VSM itself is often used to demonstrate and decrease the amount of “waste” in any system. The VSM serves as a starting point to help management and customers to recognize waste and identify the root causes of waste.

The VSM is based on actual observation, not what you ‘think’ is happening. To draw a VSM you need to begin by identifying a Value Stream. When you create a VSM, you actually walk the production (or office) floor, following the product (service), and draw a simple visual representation of the steps for the manpower, material, and information flow. The basic idea is to first map your process (called process mapping), then add in the information flow that enables your process to occur, the amounts of time each step/process takes and you are well on your way. The objective is to see where waste is occurring at the system level, and then develop a comprehensive plan to remove it.

Value stream mapping is best done as a paper and pencil exercise. This helps you to see and understand the flow of manpower, materials, and information as the product or service makes its way through the value stream. Value stream mapping is typically used in Lean events and differs from the process mapping in four ways:

- 1) It gathers and displays a much broader range of information than a process map.
- 2) It tends to be at a higher level than many process maps.
- 3) It tends to be used at a broader level, i.e. from receiving of raw material to delivery of finished goods.
- 4) It can be used to identify where to focus future projects, RIE’s and/or kaizen events.

Value Stream Mapping is a very influential tool which will help you to gain momentum in any process improvement, and get your workplace going in the right direction. As with any tool, VSM can be misused and misunderstood. You wouldn’t want to hammer a nail with a tape measure. If you need help with getting started the CPI office is pleased to work with you. If you would like additional information or training please don’t hesitate to call.

IT'S GAME DAY-EVERY DAY

by Lt. Cmdr. James L. Johnson
Station Chaplain

I love this time of year. I love everything about it. I love the cool mornings, the new school year, and, yessiree, tail gate picnics. Call me a fanatic, because I really love extra innings, sold-out stadiums, and marching bands. When the boys of summer prepare to handoff to the pigskin professionals, the best time of the sports year is upon us.

Just this week, through the magic of the remote control, I was almost simultaneously watching a pro baseball game and college football game. It was during an AFN “commercial” that I recalled some insightful thoughts and ponderings concerning the two sports. Below are musings by George Carlin on the nature of baseball and football. Does he hit a home run, I mean, score a touchdown? Maybe he strikes out or fumbles?

Here's the play - you make the call:

“Baseball is played in a park - a baseball park.
Football is played in a stadium - often called Soldier's Field or War Memorial Stadium.

Baseball begins in the spring, the season of new life. Football begins in the fall, when everything is dying.

Football is concerned with downs. “What down is it?” Base-

ball is concerned with ups. “I'm not up. Is he up? You're up!”

In football, you receive a penalty. In baseball, you make an error. Oops!

In football, the specialist comes in to kick something. In baseball, the specialist comes in to relieve someone.

Football has hitting, clipping, piling on, spearing, personal fouls and unnecessary roughness. Baseball has the sacrifice.

In football the objective is for the quarterback, sometimes called the field general, to be on target with his aerial assault, riddling the defense, hitting his receivers with deadly accuracy, in spite of the blitz, even if he has to use the shotgun; with short bullet passes and long bombs, he marches his troops into enemy territory, balancing this aerial attack with a sustained ground attack, which punches holes in the front line of the defense.

In baseball the objective is to go home and be safe.

It has been a few years since I wore a baseball uniform, although I did play a little softball at my last command. And it's been decades since I donned shoulder pads, although I did try on a PRO football jersey at the exchange recently. To this day, I clearly remember the pure excitement of game day, of donning a uniform and representing my hometown or

college.

Yet I must confess to a far greater pride in the uniform I wear now every day. This uniform says that I have answered my nation's call, that I wear the team colors of honor, courage, and commitment. And I am truly humbled by my teammates and the noble heritage and proud history of this uniform.

The accomplishments and victories of this team put World Series and Super Bowls into perspective. Even now, uniforms brimming with strength and sensitivity, confidence and humility, pride and patriotism are completing a championship season, as the visiting team (in war, home field is NOT an advantage), with each and every member who has been in the batter's box deserving an MVP trophy. God bless us, everyone.

Military service combines a lot of the same philosophies as football and baseball. Of course it is definitely not a game, for there is infinitely more at stake. For the service member, Carlin's comparisons above are not opposites, but instead, complimentary, culminating with his objectives. The hard truth is, sometimes one must march and fight, one must serve and sacrifice, in order to have a home, in order for anyone to be safe.

So: GO MARINE CORPS! GO NAVY! GO ARMY! GO COAST GUARD! GO AIR FORCE! BEAT TERRORISM!



A 7-ton truck unloads from a High Speed Vessel used to transport Marines, sailors and gear from Camp Mu Juk, Republic of Korea to the port facility here after Exercise Ulchi Focus Lense Monday.

Lance Cpl. Cindy G. Alejandrez

COMBAT ENGINEERS PUT SKILLS TO TEST ON AL ASAD'S RUNWAYS

by Sgt. Anthony Guas
2nd Marine Aircraft Wing (FWD)

Whether it is building or renovating, combat engineers are always working hard to ensure that service members have what they need to make work or life a little better. Recently, the Marines of Marine Wing Support Squadron 271 took on a mission that has an affect on service members throughout Iraq.

The engineers of MWSS-271 have started the Rapid Runway Repair project, which is designed to fix problem areas on Al Asad's runways.

"The problem is that there are holes in the runway from where the concrete expands and contracts from the heat and it starts breaking up," explained Sgt. David Poole, a combat engineer for MWSS-271. "When you have holes in the flight-line, the planes have trouble landing or taxiing."

The repair on Aug. 11 was the second of many upcoming repairs that will be conducted by the '271 engineers. The repairs are completed in small sections, so that they do not interfere with normal operations.

"We go in and cut out the portion that is starting to come up where there are holes and we jackhammer all the stuff out and put in pavement, which is runway repair material," said Poole. "It gives it a solid surface and stops it from cracking."

The engineers have primarily been focused on minor projects around the base, before starting on the runway repair.

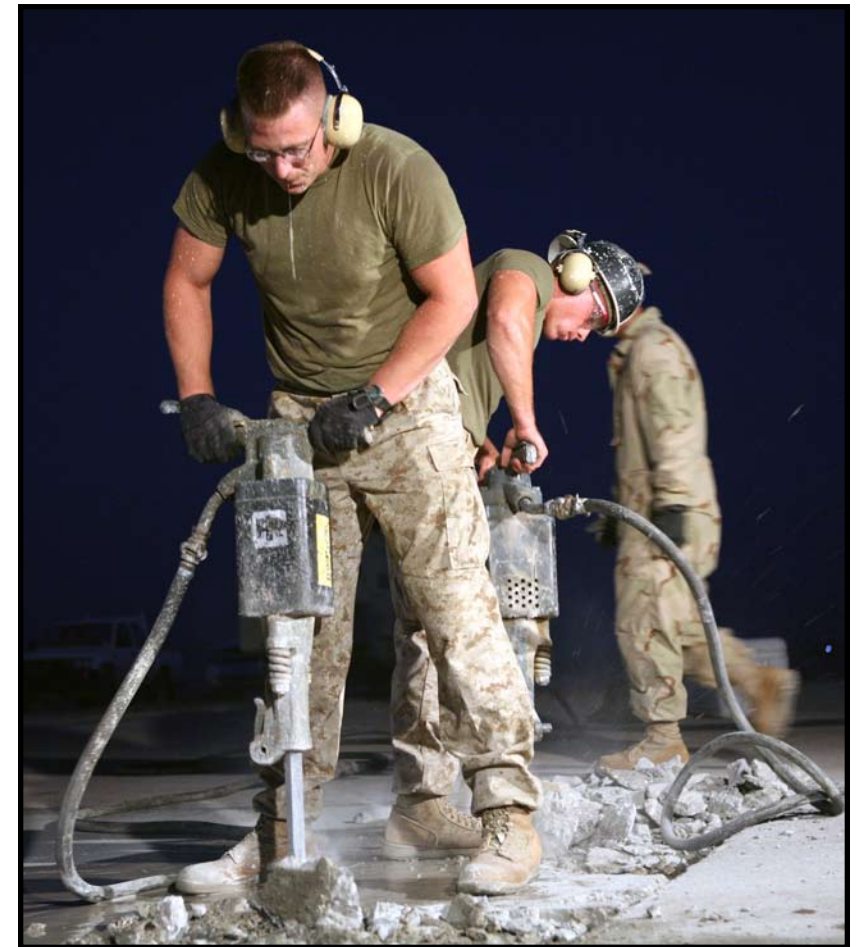
"We have been building SWA huts, gyms for units, a detention facility for (the Provost Marshal's Office), just small construction projects," said Poole. "It's a big change, definitely different. It's part of our job and I feel like I'm really doing my job out here doing (runway repair) because I know it means something."

Although the MWSS-271 engineers have primarily been tasked with small projects, their performance during the first runway repair was the catalyst for more work.

"They finally decided to give us a shot at it to see how we could do it, and we ended up doing it ahead of schedule," Poole explained. "We had two nights allotted to us on the flight line, where they shut it down for us, and it didn't even take one full night. So now they see that we can and we are going to be repairing a lot more."

Just like any other group of Marines in the Corps, the engineers attribute teamwork to their success.

"Everyone gets along well and knows their job" said Poole.



Sgt. Anthony Guas

Cpl. David Strathman, a drafting and survey technician for Marine Wing Support Squadron 272 and Lance Cpl. Zach Brown, a combat engineer for MWSS-271, jackhammer a piece of runway that is being replaced, August 11.

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AL, ASAD

ENGINEERS CONTINUED FROM PAGE 18

“It’s all planned out before we get out there, so everybody knows exactly what they will be doing and when they’ll be doing it.”

If planes cannot land or taxi, then supplies cannot get where they need to be in a timely matter. The engineers understand and relish the fact that repairing the runway is essential to the overall mission here.

“(Rapid runway repair) is one of the only projects that’s an asset to the (whole) base,” said Cpl. Jessica Torelli, a combat engineer for MWSS-272. “We usually work fast and efficiently. When things need to be done, we work together pretty well.”

The first two projects went well and the engineers plan on continuing their success, according to Poole.

“We have a couple more missions signed up and all the Marines are excited,” said Poole. “This is important to the overall mission in Iraq, its not like building a desk for somebody. We are doing something that is going to be noticed and needed for the mission.”



Sgt. Anthony Guas

Cpl. David Strathman, a drafting and survey technician for Marine Wing Support Squadron 272 and Lance Cpl. Zach Brown, a combat engineer for MWSS-271, jackhammer a piece of runway that is being replaced, August 11.



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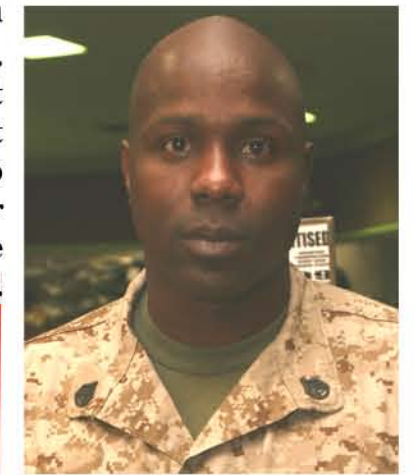


Lance Cpl. Sendy A. McAdory
Dallas

As a catholic, I honor them by praying for their family's health and well being. I also review how far we've come as a nation from that point and I think they would be happy to see the progress.

Staff Sgt. Joe N. Wilborn
Lambert, Miss.

I honor them by doing my job and doing it well. It's not just about those who lost their lives during the event, it's also about those who lost their lives trying to save them and trying to defend their honor in Iraq. I do my part by keeping my gear clean and ready so that when it's used in Iraq, it's all battle ready.



Station residents partook in a Freedom Walk Tuesday to reflect on the lives lost on Sept. 11, 2001. Many junior Marines felt the call of duty after the devastating terrorist attack and are serving in large part in response to that single event. Nearly every American was greatly affected in the aftermath in some way. So we were wondering:

**On a day-to-day basis,
how do you honor those
who lost their lives on
Sept. 11, 2001?**

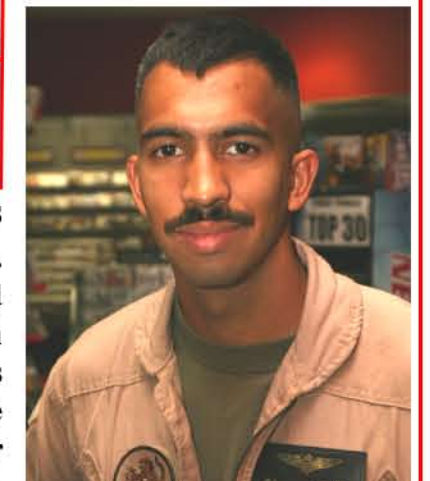


Cpl. Michael J. McSpadden
League City, Texas

Continual vigilance is how I honor them. Anybody who thinks that they're job has little effect on the large mission is wrong. I focus on excelling at my job because in the end, I know that it will have helped the mission in some way.

Capt. Michael J. Holmes
Orange Park, Fla.

I honor them by continuing in their footsteps. I work toward the same legacy they did. This doesn't just have to do with those who lost their lives on that particular day; it also has to do with those who died defending our country in the aftermath. I work toward the same goal they did in their honor.





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