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Japanese Entertainment



YOUNG GEISHA DRESSED AS SAMURAI WARRIOR

Japanese Music and Dances

In Japan there is a clash between homespun art forms versus ready-made entertainment, with music and dance acting as a bastion in defense of artistic Japanese entertainment.

For the Japanese, self-entertainment through music and dancing is easy. They see beauty in the cultural arts and nature, and the Japanese man seeks his form of entertainment from both, whether it be in his own home or elsewhere.

Japan is still a man's world. The husband is king in his domestic domain. The wife's place is in the home, and she rarely takes part in any social

functions, finding enjoyment in her numerous daily tasks.

As a rule, the Japanese businessman, after ending a day's work, seeks the soothing, peaceful setting of a garden, some music and dancing and a cup of tea. He may find these either in his own home or in a tea house.

Japanese entertainment begins with the koto, a 13-stringed Japanese harp, and the samisen, or banjo. The samisen is the most common, and gives an effect surprisingly similar to American banjo music.

While the samisen player strums and sings, a girl will dance, telling a story

through her movements and dance steps. Tales acted out through dancing may be a story of love or one of tragedy or even one of ancient times when the Samurai warrior was in his heyday. Dances are characterized by grace and motion, fast or slow, bringing the entire body into play.

Each hand or body movement has a significant meaning, and in order to understand the dance, one must know the story. The basic prop used by a dancer is a fan, which when closed may represent a spear or sword, or when opened a mirror or piece of

can not afford to raise all of their children.

Training for Geishas begins at a very early age, usually between five and seven. By the time these girls reach their 18th birthday they are perfectionists in the Japanese arts of music, singing, dancing, poetry, tea ceremonies, elocution and recitation. Their charm, wit and glamour are honed to a fine edge.

Upon completion of their primary training, the girls are called "shikomu," or little pupils, and attend a special school. They then graduate to "maiko,"



INSTRUCTOR AND STUDENTS OF VARYING AGES

writing paper.

Most Japanese homes have their own gardens, and the ability to play at least one musical instrument and perform various types of dances is a must for at least one daughter in every Japanese family.

If the husband should choose to spend a night out he would go to a tea house, where in the solitude of a single room he would be entertained by Geisha girls, professional entertainers in the arts of song and dance.

Geisha girls for the most part are born into their profession through heredity. However, some young girls are sold into the profession when a family

or student of the arts, around the age of 16 and enter the Geisha academy for a period of 23 months. On completion of this course they are dubbed "debutts" or full fledged Geishas.

The services of a Geisha are extremely expensive, but they tend to enhance a host's prestige and are generally hired to entertain groups of businessmen.

Whether a Japanese man seeks entertainment presented by one of his daughters in their own home or from a perfectionist Geisha in a tea house, the entertainment is cultural, colorful and extremely artistic and always in semi-private surroundings.



ENTERTAINERS BOW AT THE END OF PERFORMANCE



FAN USED TO PORTRAY SHYNESS



DANCER'S FAN USED AS KNIFE



FAN USED AS SPEAR BY YOUNG GEISHA STUDENT



MUSICIAN AND DANCER TELL THE STORY

Sports

Netters Take Over

The Station Intramural Volleyball season officially got under way here Feb. 13 with both Navy and Marine squads seeing action the first three nights. Public Works and VP-50 pushed forward with early leads in their respective leagues by remaining undefeated thus far in the season.

In opening night games in the American League, VMA-224 proved too strong for H&MS-12 and Public Works held to a thin margin to defeat the Station Hospital team. National League action Feb. 13 saw VP-28 dropping H&HS-17 and VP-50 taking the last two games to win over H&HS-1.

Feb. 14 in the American league, MARS-17 downed the netters from VMA-224 and NAMD rolled over FAW-6 as they won the first two, 15-6 and 15-6. MABS-17 fell to H&HS-1 in the only National League game.

VMA-211 romped over H&HS-17 and VP-50 dropped VP-28 in the National League Feb. 15. H&MS-12 bounced back from their first defeat to win the first two games with 15-0 scores, claiming a win over Station Hospital, and FAW-6 fell to undefeated Public Works to supply the American League action.

Another Bullseye

MCAS Iwakuni's GySgt. Robert C. Cates fired a grand aggregate score of 1446x58V of a possible 1500 points, to win the championship of the All-Japan Pistol Tournament at Yokota Air Base Feb. 16. More than 60 top marksmen from Army Navy Air Force and Marine Corps bases throughout Japan competed in the one-day event.

The tournament, sponsored by the Zama-Sagami Rod and Gun Club, consisted of both individual and team competition in .22 caliber, center fire and .45 caliber events.

Sgt. Lawrence Morrone, also of Iwakuni, placed third in the individual competition with a score of 1427x43V.

In team competition, the MCAS team copped first place in the .22 caliber event with a team score of 1136x40V of the possible 1200 points. Cates fired a 292, Morrone a 288, Cpl. J. Alberius a 269 and MSgt. Henry O. Carmichael a 287 to compile the winning team score.

Navy in ComNavFor

VP-28 placed four men on the Navy all-star team which will represent Fleet Air Wing-6 in the Commander Naval Forces Japan Double Elimination Bas-

ketball Tournament at Atsugi Feb. 25 through March 2. The team was selected from Navy units which supported teams in the Intramural Leagues aboard the Station in the past season.

Selected for the team were: Deene Nielan, Don Reuter, Hobert Smith and Bill Gannaway from VP-28; Mitch Engle, Bill Chandler and Richard Hogan from VP-50; Bob Johnson and Bob Stafford from FAW-6; and Al Kuewa from NAMD. Don Hibson will coach the All-Star squad.

There will be no Marine teams from MCAS in the ComNavFor tourney because of conflicting dates with the CG Cup tourney



WOOD IN ACTION
Putting the Itia in Sumo

Sumo Success Story

The ancient Japanese sport of Sumo wrestling is enjoyed each year by millions of spectators and hundreds of amateur and professional participants, including three Marines stationed with the 1stMAW at MCAS Iwakuni.

Recently the Marines, Cpls. William Wood and Paul O'Neal and LCpl. Gerald Carter, entertained the Japanese public by performing the Champion's Entrance Ceremony on a nationwide TV network.

The Marines' interest in sumo was generated by Carter more than a year ago as he watched matches on Japanese TV.

Under the guidance of Yoshiteru Yamamoto, assistant judo instructor at the Air Station, Carter began training for amateur matches. He then encouraged O'Neal and Wood to join him in

forming a sumo team.

Their present team record is five championships in six amateur tourneys. Carter is ranked a "yokozuna" (amateur) Wood an "ozeki" (amateur) and O'Neal is working toward a designation.

Firm believers in the physical benefit derived from sumo wrestling, the Marines work out daily with judo, karate and other exercises.

Sumo, one of the most popular sports in Japan, is more than 900 years old.

Non-Japanese seeing sumo for the first time usually are not impressed. After witnessing several professional bouts, they become familiar with the rules and become dedicated to the sport.

Out of respect to the traditions of the sport and their Japanese opponents, the three Marines perform the salt throwing ceremony (to drive away

evil spirits) the foot-stomping ceremony (to stamp out evil) and the hand movements (to show opponents the wrestler has no fear)

The three Marines believe they can foster interest in this ancient Oriental sport upon returning to the United States.

Awards Banquet

Lt.Col. C. M. Canan, CO, VMA-211, accepted the commanding officer's Athletic Excellency Trophy from Col. W. C. Lemke, Deputy CO, MCAS, on behalf of the squadron at a banquet here Feb. 14. The trophy was awarded on the points collected in organized athletics from July 1 to Dec. 31, 1962.

The VMA-211 basketball team, which finished second to H&HS-1 in the Intramural play aboard the station, was awarded a team trophy and individual awards.

Odds 'n Ends

Tax Tips

Any person who sold his principal residence during 1962 is required to report the sale in his 1962 federal income tax return.

Payment of any additional federal income tax due because of that sale may be postponed, provided the person buys another principal residence within four years, and remains on active military service.

Full details and assistance in filing federal income tax returns may be obtained from either the Wing or Station Legal Assistance Officers.

Translation Service

A translation service conducted by the Welfare and Morale Committee is available to all servicemen and their dependents here at MCAS Iwakuni.

Translations will be made either from Japanese to English or vice versa.

Fees for the translation service begin at ¥100 for an 8X10-inch page to ¥5,000, depending upon the nature of the page contents.

A few of the documents listed by the committee for translation are family registers, background extracts from them, personal history statements, marriage procedures, medical certificates, letters, news articles and various contracts. Items dealing with arts, science or technical writing will also be translated.

Persons desiring this service may contact either Miss Yoko Yamaguchi at Ext. 3502 or Mr. Mitsuharu, Ext. 3072, or see them in the Industrial Relations Office, Bldg. 552 at the main gate.

'541 to Beaufort

Brigadier General John F. Dobbin, Assistant Wing Commander, 1st MAW gave a sayonara speech to Marines of VMF (AW)-541 NAS Atsugi, Jan. 28.

Following the General's introduction to the squadron by Lt. Col. Fred J. Gilhuly MAG-11 executive officer, the general spoke to the assembly expressing deep appreciation for the unit, its outstanding accomplishments and commented on its five carrier deployments, including some 700 carrier landings.

The squadron won recognition during Operation "Pine Needle" when it completed the first mass movement of the entire unit non-stop from the U. S. to Japan.

Shortly after the squadron arrived in Japan, Major General Frederick E. Leek, 1stMAW commander, presented the squadron CO, Lt. Col. Charles E. Crews, the 1962 Chief of Naval Opera-

tions Aviation Safety Award. This was the second year VMF (AW)-541 won the safety award, having received it for 1961.

In December 1962 the squadron ended three years of operations, setting a new mark in aviation history when they established a record of 20,000 accident-free-flying hours.

The squadron was relieved by VMF (AW)-235, commanded by Lt. Col. Jesse V. Booker, upon their arrival via four KC-135 MATS aircraft.

The two squadrons relieved one another, with VMF (AW)-235 holding the fort at Atsugi while VMF (AW)-451 moved lock, stock and barrel into the space formerly occupied by its replacement at MCAS Beaufort, S. C.

Free Service

Want to take a trip go on a sight seeing tour attend Japanese festivals or professional sports events?

Travel and hotel arrangements can be made for these things without setting a foot off Iwakuni station.

The Special Services Travel Bureau, located in Bldg. 144, will handle all details for servicemen and dependents stationed here.

Upon application, bureau assistants will explain requirements for travel, places to see or things to do in various cities, or arrange sight-seeing tours. Other incidentals performed by the bureau are ticket reservations for air, train or bus, tax exempted, including seating arrangements and hotel accommodations at destination.

Information may also be obtained regarding future events.

Lose Weight - or Promotion

"If he gets himself in good condition we hope to be able to recommend him for promotion to corporal."

The speaker was Sgt. William J. Dunning of the Marine Corps Recruit Depot and Camp Matthews. Dunning, in addition to his other duties, is one of three sergeants responsible for correcting a troublesome case of overweight.

The offender placed on the Corps' "fat man's list" three months ago is a lance corporal whose trouble was that he just couldn't stay away from the mess hall.

"He was in terrible shape," Dunning recalls. "The Marines at MCRD had been overfeeding him to the point where his weight had cracked his paws. But he's much better now."

In Dunning's eyes that's undoubtedly true, but LCpl. Charger, the Leather-necks' eight-year old bulldog mascot, regards his new diet with bared

fangs and a disgruntled growl.

His regular weight checks show that he's down to 53 pounds after the bulging 65 he carried when his new custodians took over. But on what? No steaks, chops and other succulent leftovers from mess hall kitchens. Just dog food. (AFPS)

Gourmets Visit Iwakuni

The Marine Corps has announced that one of its food services teams, a group of experts who visit Marine bases to improve the chow will soon visit Iwakuni, according to the Navy Times.

The team is expected here within the next month according to a schedule released to the Times.

Disbur Sense

Confused on how your pay is computed for the month? Here's the way it is done according to Station Disbursing. Pay which is normally received on the fifth of the month is the money earned during the last half of the previous month. Pay received on the twentieth is the amount earned to the 15th of that same month.

Also, some information on allotment registration and deductions. Allotments registered by the 20th of a given month normally come out of the serviceman's pay beginning the first day of the month following the month of registration. This will cause a decrease in the man's pay of the 20th of that month. The allottee should receive the first check between the 1st and 5th of the next following month. An example of this is: Member registers an allotment this February. This man will receive less pay than normal on the pay day of the 20th of March. The allottee should receive the first check within the first five days in April.



PHOTO OF THE WEEK
Shrine at Miyajima blanketed by snow
By LCpl. James J. Cahill, H&HS-1