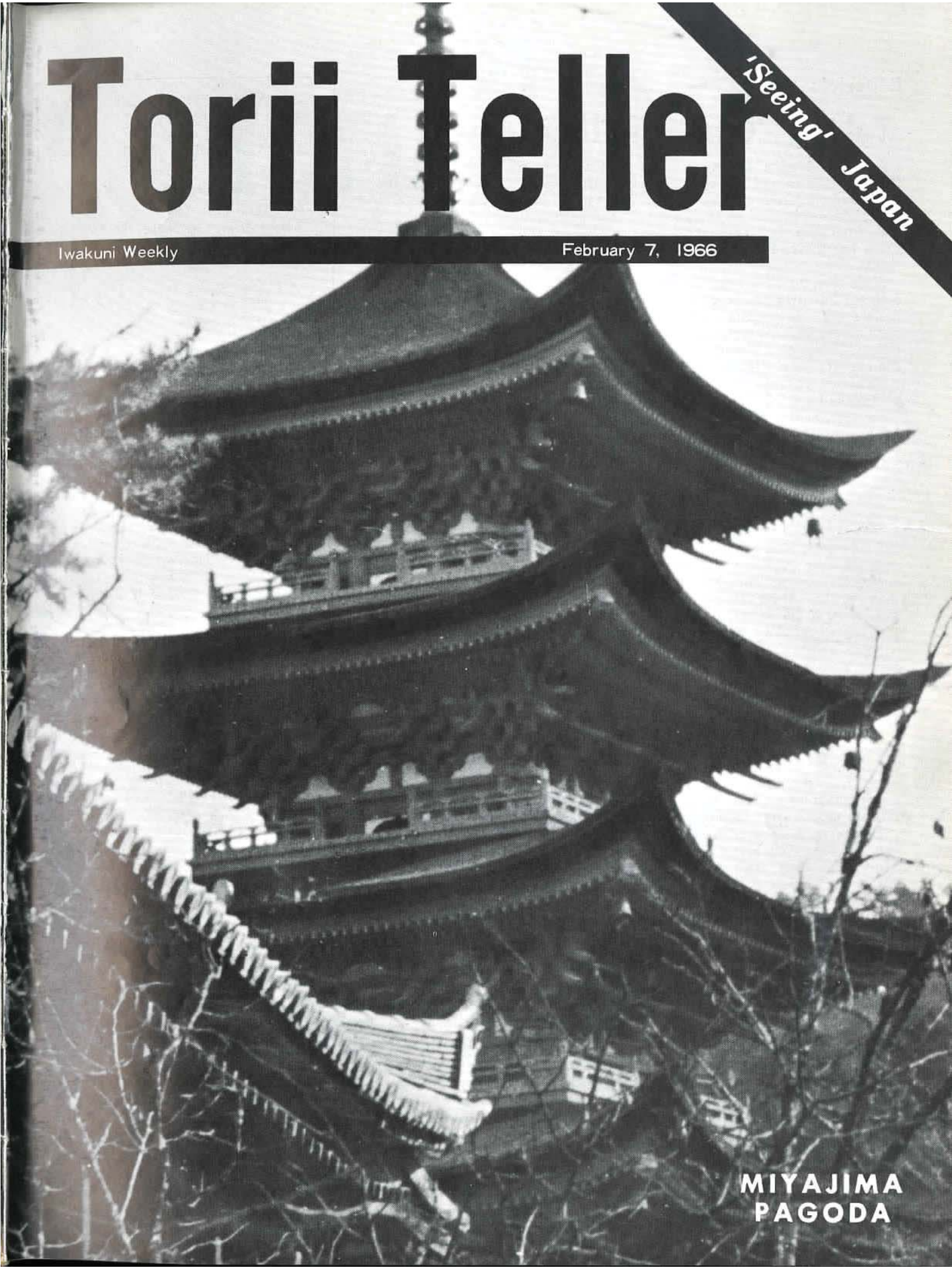


Torii Teller

'Seeing' Japan

Iwakuni Weekly

February 7, 1966



MIYAJIMA
PAGODA

Travel

'Seeing' Japan

The average serviceman who spends a year or more in the Far East finally returns to the States — and his friends and family back home begin by asking, "Where did you visit while you were in Japan?" The fellow fumbles through his wallet for a few pictures, then allows: "There wasn't much to see where I was at." But if he had gotten out of the club, off base and into the country he could have told them about the friendly people, the beautiful scenery, the mysterious temples and shrines that make Japan a land most interesting.

Delightful Day. While a Marine or sailor is stationed at Iwakuni he can start by taking trips of one or more days to spots of interest in this area. Special Services tours leave for different places each week, or a man can go out on his own.

A beautiful point to begin with would be the Shuhodo Caves, near the town of Ogori, about 64 miles south of Iwakuni. The trip to the enormous caverns can be made in one day on the available trains and buses that run regularly. The caves lie beneath the southern part of the Akiyoshi Plateau, are formed by an underground stream that still flows from where no



HAGI SHOP WITH FAMOUS POTTERY

Plus temples, shrines, ponds and summer bitter oranges.

one seems to know. The true depth of the caves is also still unknown, but they can be explored to a safe 1.2 miles. A succession of waterfalls, pools, streams and basins, along with numerous stalactites and stalagmites of fantastic shapes and forms, provide a delightful day of sightseeing.

Famous Oranges. While the tourist is in this same area he can also visit the city of Hagi, some 25 miles from the caves. Hagi City, in Yamaguchi Prefecture, nestles along the Japan Sea. The Abu River flows through the city, which is surrounded by picturesque mountains on three sides. Hagi was made the capitol of two provinces by feudal lord Terumoto Mori in 1604, is counted as one of the three oldest cities in Japan. Many of its houses are still fenced in by earthen adobe walls. Hagi is famous for its "natsu mikan," or summer bitter oranges, and earthen wares, is also dotted with numerous shrines and temples surrounded by beautiful ponds. For picture taking purposes, Hagi could be considered one of the most beautiful cities in Japan.

North of Hagi is Yamaguchi, a city of 88,000 people and no industry within its limits. Yamaguchi is famed for its many temples and shrines, the great Xavier memorial church built in honor of St. Francis Xavier who spread the Catholic religion and Christianity across Japan in 1551, and for its numerous hot springs spas. A gala festival, sponsored by the spas and temples, is held in the city April 5-7, with dancing and parading through the streets continuing for two days.

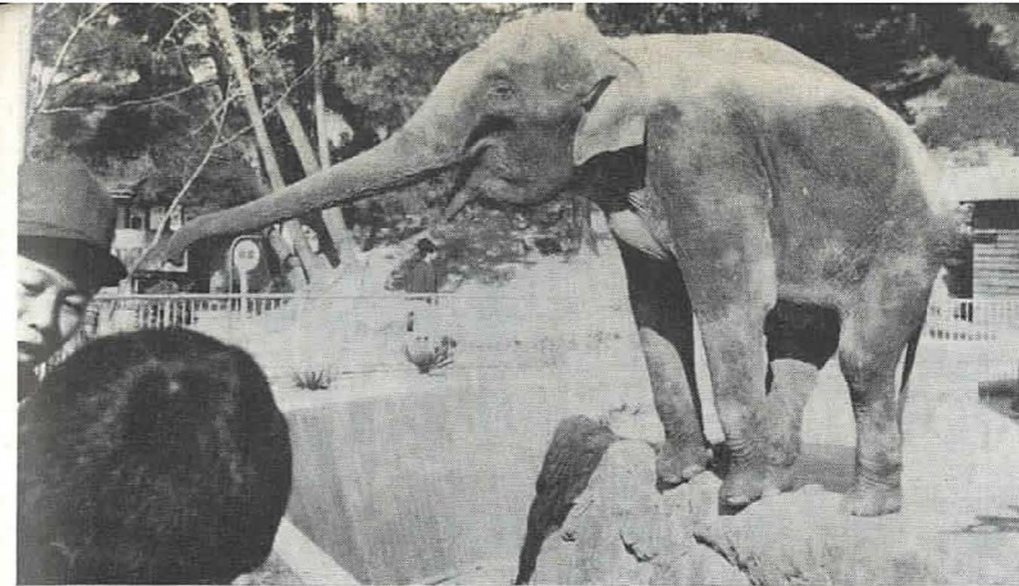
Great Festivals. Persons who like zoos should visit Tokuyama City, 35 miles south of Iwakuni. The collection there is one of the largest in southern

Japan — 650 animals of 160 different species — and covers 35,800 square yards. Shows put on by the animals during the weekends cost a mere 50 yen for adults, 20 yen for children.

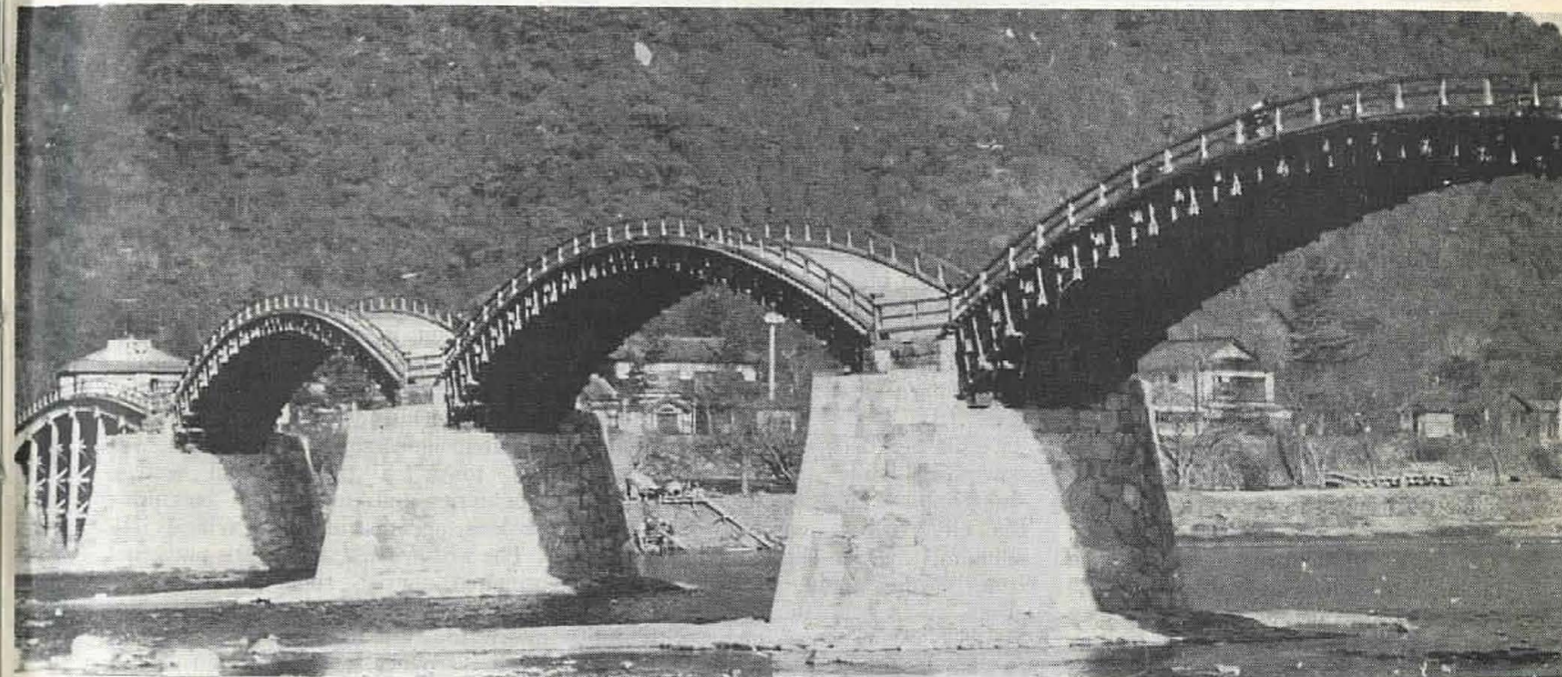
Closer still to the air station is Yanai. Up until 12 years ago Yanai was just a village, but in 1954 it merged with neighboring villages and became a city. It is now a vast commercial center of both land and sea transportation. Located on the Inland Sea, it has many swimming resorts, is also noted for the great festivals that are held there throughout the year.

The spot visited most by local servicemen is famous Kintai Bashi, or bridge, and Iwakuni Castle above on Shiroyama Mountain near Iwakuni City's outskirts. The five-arch bridge, originally built in 1673, was washed away in 1674. Rebuilt the same year, Kintai Bashi lasted this time until 1950, when it was again carried away by heavy rains. Rebuilt still another time, it stands today as one of the greatest tourist attractions in Japan. The castle was built in 1603 after five years of work. In 1615 an imperial decree ordered the castle destroyed, and the site remained vacant for 347 years until the castle was rebuilt in March 1962.

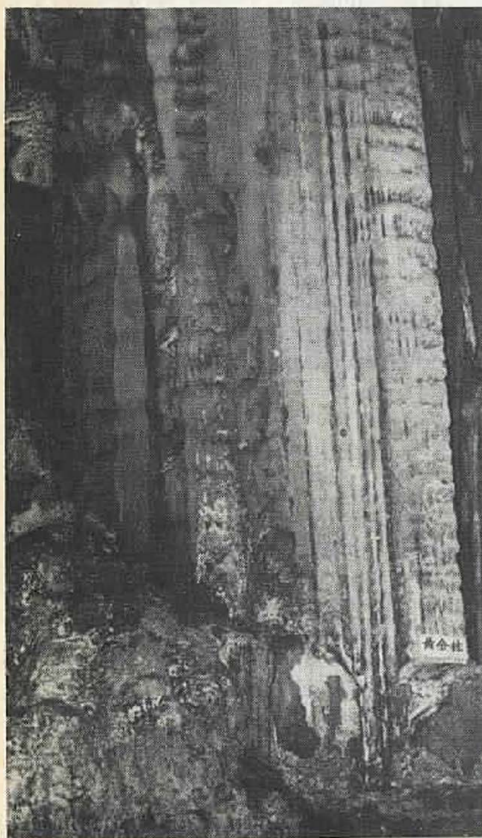
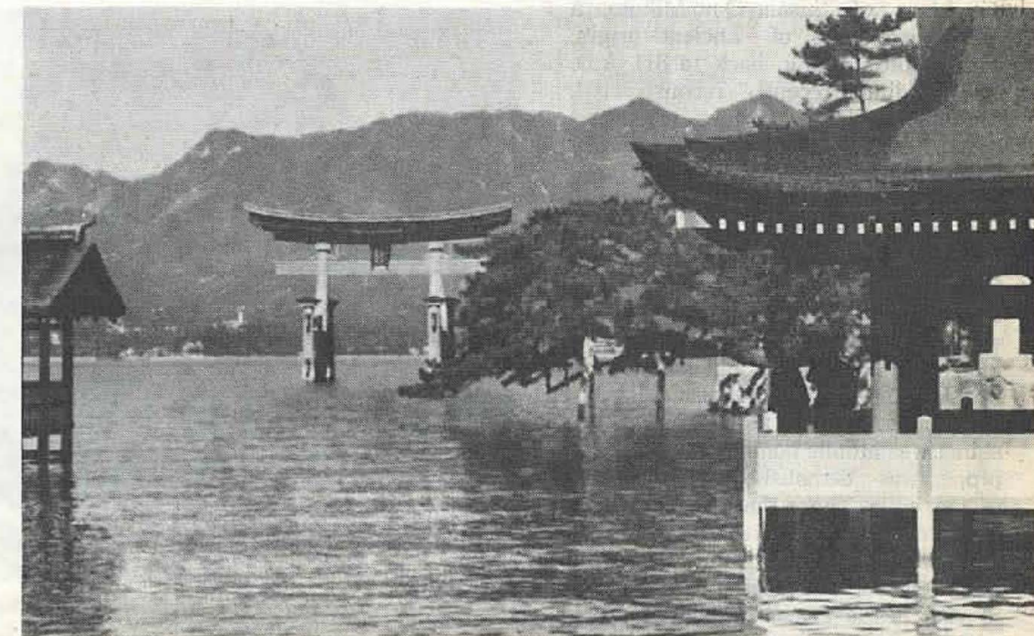
Stone Torii. North from the air station is the island of Miyajima, also called Itsukushima. To get to the island a traveler must first stop at the town of Miyajimaguchi and transfer to a ferry boat. To see the entire island would take about two days. The famous vermilion torii 530 feet off shore is the first object of interest. Made of camphor wood, the huge torii is 53 feet high and 38 feet wide between the inner columns, differs from most torii in the unusual form of its pillars.



TOKUYAMA CITY'S big zoo (left) covers 35,800 square yards, holds 650 animals of 160 different species. Only 35 miles south of the air station, it is one of the largest in southern Japan, has animal shows on weekends that cost adults a mere 50 yen, children 20 yen.

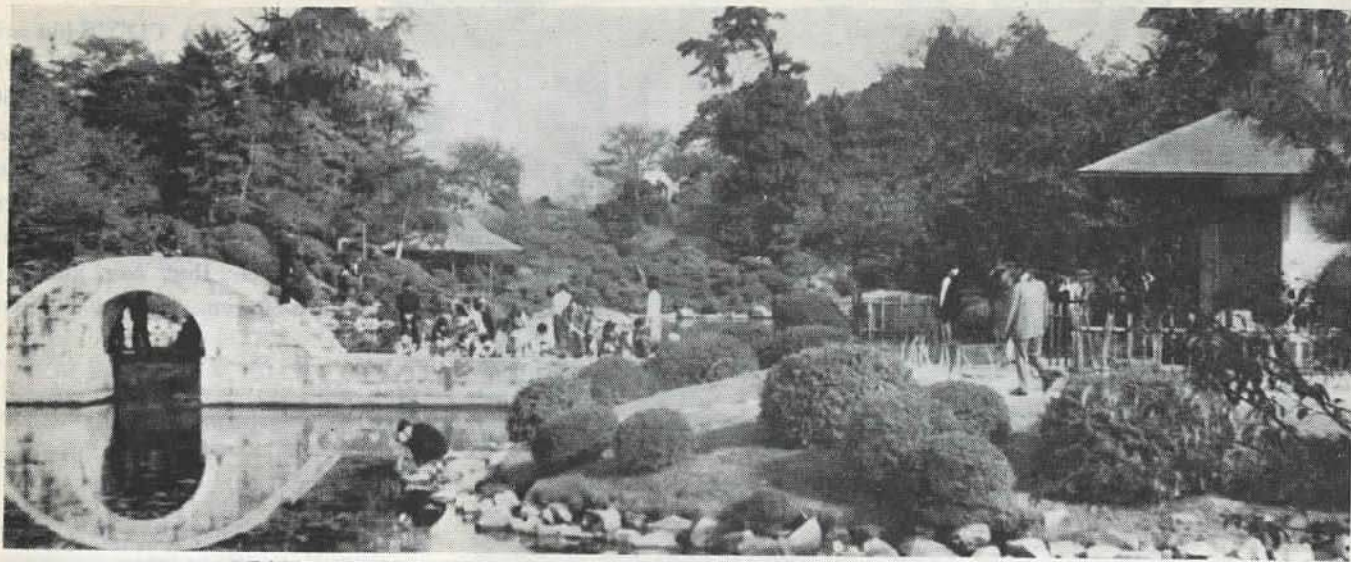


KINTAI BRIDGE (above) and Miyajima's torii and temple (right) are easily accessible, of more than passing interest. The bridge, originally built in 1673 but twice destroyed by floods, is one of the greatest tourist attractions in Japan. The island temple is famed for its Chinese-style construction, inside houses numerous relics.



SHUHODO CAVES

Second biggest in the world.



BEAUTIFUL AND PEACEFUL SENTEI GARDENS IN HIROSHIMA CITY

Across town, a park and monuments built in memory of the dead.

On the shore is a great stone torii built in 1905. Near it is a pagoda, or temple, that was erected about 551 years ago. It is dedicated to the Shinto gods who supposedly reside inside. The pagoda, unique because the building is of the Chinese style of construction, also houses numerous relics, such as coins, weapons, armor and furniture.

Other places to be seen on the island include the House of a Thousand Mats, where Japanese place rice-scoops on which their names have been inscribed. The custom originated in 1894 with soldiers quartered there while awaiting transportation to the Sino-Japanese war theater in China. The word "meshi-toru," meaning "rice taking" as well as "to conquer," became a kind of prayer for victory and safe return. Another famous landmark is the Itsukushima Shrine which is dedicated to Princesses Ichikishima, Tagori and Tagitsu, three daughters of Susano-O-no-Mikoto, a Shinto god. It is of ancient origin, with records dating back to 811 A.D. The buildings, recently reconstructed, consist of several shrines connected by corridors which stretch over the sea on both sides. When the tide comes in the whole complex seems to be floating on the water.

Good Shopping. North 24 miles from the air station is another famous city, Hiroshima. It is the largest city west of Kobe and the most important industrial, educational and communications center of southwestern Honshu. On August 6, 1945, at 8:15 am, Hiroshima was atomic bombed and the city proper was demolished for a radius of two miles. Since that time its people have rebuilt the entire area of destruction into a modern and interesting city. One of the most famous spots to visit is the Peace Memorial Park and the Atomic Dome. The park was

built in memory of people who died in [the blast. It consists of an exhibition hall and the Peace Museum, a monument to the children that were killed and a cenotaph.

Hiroshima has several other places worthy of a visit. The Hiroshima Castle is a replica of the old castle built in the 16th Century. The inside of the castle was rebuilt in 1958 and houses a collection of historical items from Hiroshima's past. Hiroshima is also a good city for shopping excursions. Two large department stores are downtown, while hundreds of other shops line the city's streets. Beside this, the city has a baseball team and stadium, an ice skating rink, roller rink, bowling alleys, movies and many other recreation facilities, and the Sentei Gardens whose many different flowers bloom the year around.

Up To Him. For the traveler who likes the sea there is a Special

Services yacht tour to Kosanji Island which is scheduled at different times during the year. This trip, which takes about four hours on a 90-ft. pleasure boat, passes many beautiful and photogenic islands, including Miyajima, Eta-Jima and Kurahashi, and Ondo-bridge. On Kosanji is the newest of all Buddhist temples. Still under construction, it is one of the largest combined temples in Japan. Covering 48,000 square yards of beautifully landscaped hillside, the temple compound includes some 30 structures, a bell tower, a treasure hall, gates, sanctuaries and museums, botanical gardens, an aquarium and aviaries.

The areas listed above are only the principal tourist spots in southern Japan; there are many others, just as interesting, just as near, that merely await discovery by an intrepid sight-seer. Whether or not a serviceman "sees" Japan is up to him.



KOSANJI'S BUDDHIST TEMPLE COMPOUND

Across 48,000 sq. yds. of hillside, the newest of all.

Sports

Over Their Heads

They were college students, but the problem Sunday seemed to be a little bit over their heads and difficult to grasp. Even when the University of Hiroshima cagers were able to haul the basketball down to their level, it was rough getting it back up again over the bigger, taller and more experienced H&HS-17 squadron basketball team. So, the goodwill contest held at the station gym last Sunday afternoon wasn't much of a contest after all. H&HS-17, who went undefeated in intramural play this year, nonchalantly clipped the nets from inside, outside and over the top of their opponents to rack up an easy 121-51 victory.

Outcome of the game was almost predictable before the opening whistle when Hiroshima's tallest man, 5-ft., 11-in. Kusao Tanaka, stepped up against 6-ft., 3-in. Steve Dickson for the opening tip-off. Ten minutes later, H&HS-17 had the game on ice, by half-time was leading 54-25. Long before game's end H&HS Coach Tim Staten had cleared his bench in an unsuccessful attempt to keep the scoring from getting too far out of hand.

Most astounding was that Hiroshima managed to score even 51 points. They seldom got more than one shot on offense, and that was usually on a go-for-broke, Bob Cousy style lay-up in which they faked themselves out more often than the opposition. Nevertheless, two Hiroshima cagers hit in double figures: Katsutoshi Kasai and Iwao Yamaguchi, with 13 points each. Still, that wasn't enough to best any of H&HS' first five in scoring. Dickson led the H&HS-17 onslaught with 26 points, was followed by John Knox with 20. Three other H&HS men notched more than 13 points, and everybody in their line-up got into the scoring column.

Blitz on the Alleys

First place Navy Supply blitzed second place AUV three games to nothing and took total pins last Monday to pick up a total of four points in Marine-Navy bowling league action. The triple defeat dropped AUV down into a tie for third place.

IOS fought to a split 2-2 decision with NAMD, but still managed to move up to a second place tie with the King pins, each with a 7-5 record.

The King Pins swamped MABS-17 Utilities, winning all four points, to keep MABS in the league cellar. In other games FAW-6 went on a rampage, beat the Mine Shop out of all four

points and jumped from seventh place to a three-way tie with NAMD and AUV for third place.

Individually, IOS's Matt Dal Pozzo came through with the season's high game, a 236. FAW-6's George Arnett's 560 series was high for the night.

Throwing Their Way Up

Two air station judoists went to the Hiroshima Prefectural Gymnasium last week, and threw their way into next higher degrees during examinations



H&HS-17 VS HIROSHIMA

Just to big for them. held for Kodokan promotions.

Cpl. Dave V. Williams, MAMS-17, formerly a first degree brown belt, was promoted to first degree black belt, or Shodan. Navy Lt. Roger R. Stone, formerly a white belt, was promoted to first degree brown belt.

In the first round of the examination, Williams and Stone played three matches against judoists their same rank, who were also aspiring to win a new belt. Both won two of their bouts, although it was not necessarily a prerequisite for the promotion. Later the two men paired off against each other to be judged on their form and technique of executing throws and falling. Williams threw Stone nine times, then vice versa. The judges were pleased, awarded them both promotions.

At the same time last week, Cpl. Steve S. Patterson, MABS-17, a first degree black belt, was in Tachikawa competing in the Tachikawa Invitational Judo Tournament. He placed fourth despite the fact that the majority of his opponents were ranked several degrees higher than himself.

'Mac' Foster Fights On

MacArthur Foster usually ends his day a bit differently. While fellow Marines sit shooting the breeze, the 6-ft., 2-in., 190 lb. Foster whips off two or three laps around the 2d Bn., 7th Regt., camp at Chu Lai, Vietnam. "Mac's" act may seem odd considering the climate, but after all, a champ's got to keep his form.

Foster, who is right guide for the 2d Plt., "G" Co., 2d Bn., is the reigning Armed Forces and All-Marine light heavyweight boxing champion. The situation permitting, he will be back in the ring defending his crowns when tournament time rolls around this year.

Judges' Vote. The champ began fighting with gloves at the urging of his football coach after their gridiron season ended on Okinawa in 1963. That year he won the 3d Marine Division heavyweight title. At the inter-service championships held on Okinawa in January 1964, he won another heavyweight crown. He repeated the performance at a tournament in Japan the following month.

In March, Foster was entered in the All-Marine championships at Camp Pendleton, Calif. When he returned to Okinawa, he had the Corps-wide heavyweight crown on his head, and judges' vote for "Best of Champions" for his service boxing during 1964.

Second Tour. During 1965, after he had been transferred to Camp Pendleton, Foster won the San Diego AAU light heavyweight championship and outstanding boxer award, flew across country to battle his way to the All-Marine light heavyweight title at Camp Lejeune, N.C., and then came back to the West Coast to win his 21st fight and the Armed Forces light heavy crown at San Francisco.

Today, on his second tour of duty in Vietnam, Foster, who is a sergeant, has found himself involved in an altogether different fight, spends his spare time keeping in shape for the day when a ringside bell will put him in contention for a crown again. That's about all he can do: there isn't a VC around who is in his weight class.

Bulletin Board

Two For Thursdays

The Japanese-American Cultural Friendship Association needs two men who are interested in teaching English conversation on Thursday evenings. One class will be at the Hiroshima Stock Company, the other at the Hiroshima Ladies Club.

For more information, contact the JACFA representative at the main gate, or call ext. 2701.

Weekly Menu

ENLISTED MESSHALLS

TODAY - Dinner — Grilled hamburgers and cheeseburgers with French fried potatoes. **Supper** — Roast chicken with bread dressing and giblet gravy.

TUESDAY - Dinner — Beef and pork chop suey, chow mein noodles and egg foo yung. **Supper** — Pot roast sauerbraten with mashed potatoes.

WEDNESDAY - Dinner — Braised beef with buttered noodles. **Supper** — Baked ham with pineapple raisin sauce and candied sweet potatoes.

THURSDAY - Dinner — Grilled frankfurters or chili con carne with rissole potatoes and simmered sauerkaut. **Supper** — Pan roast of beef with natural gravy and mashed potatoes.

FRIDAY - Dinner — Fried shrimp or baked veal loaf with tomato gravy and baked potatoes. **Supper** — Fried fish or beef stew with rice pilaff.

SATURDAY - Dinner — Grilled liver and bacon or Spanish corned beef with parsley potatoes. **Supper** — Stuffed pork chops with country gravy.

SUNDAY - Brunch. Supper — Grilled beef steaks with fried onions.

COM (Closed)

TODAY - Lunch — Baked meat loaf with tomato sauce and creamed potatoes. **Dinner** — Roast tom turkey with dressing and whipped potatoes.

TUESDAY - Lunch — Beef pot pie with buttered noodles. **Dinner** — Roast fresh pork with candied sweet potatoes.

WEDNESDAY - Lunch — Turkey a la king with mashed potatoes. **Dinner** — Steak night.

THURSDAY - Lunch — Grilled beef liver with onions and fried potatoes. **Dinner** — Roast veal with dressing and snowflake potatoes.

FRIDAY - Lunch — Grilled hamburgers and cheeseburgers with French fried potatoes. **Dinner** — Seafood platter with French fried potatoes.

SATURDAY - Lunch — Braised spareribs with sauerkraut and fried potatoes. **Dinner** — Roast beef au jus.

SUNDAY - Brunch. Dinner — Fried chicken with mashed potatoes.



GENERAL



LIEUTENANT GENERAL



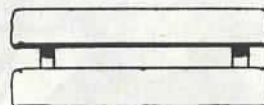
MAJOR GENERAL



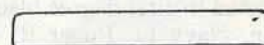
COLONEL



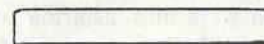
LIEUTENANT COLONEL



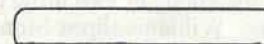
MAJOR



CAPTAIN



FIRST LIEUTENANT



SECOND LIEUTENANT



MASTER SERGEANT



TECHNICAL SERGEANT



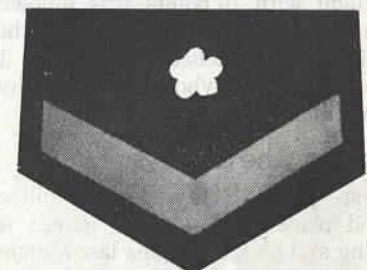
STAFF SERGEANT



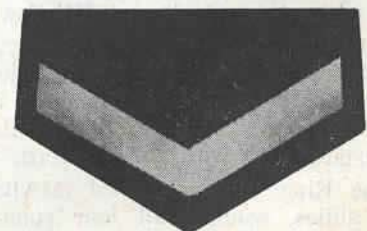
AIRMAN FIRST CLASS



AIRMAN SECOND CLASS



AIRMAN THIRD CLASS



AIRMAN BASIC

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