

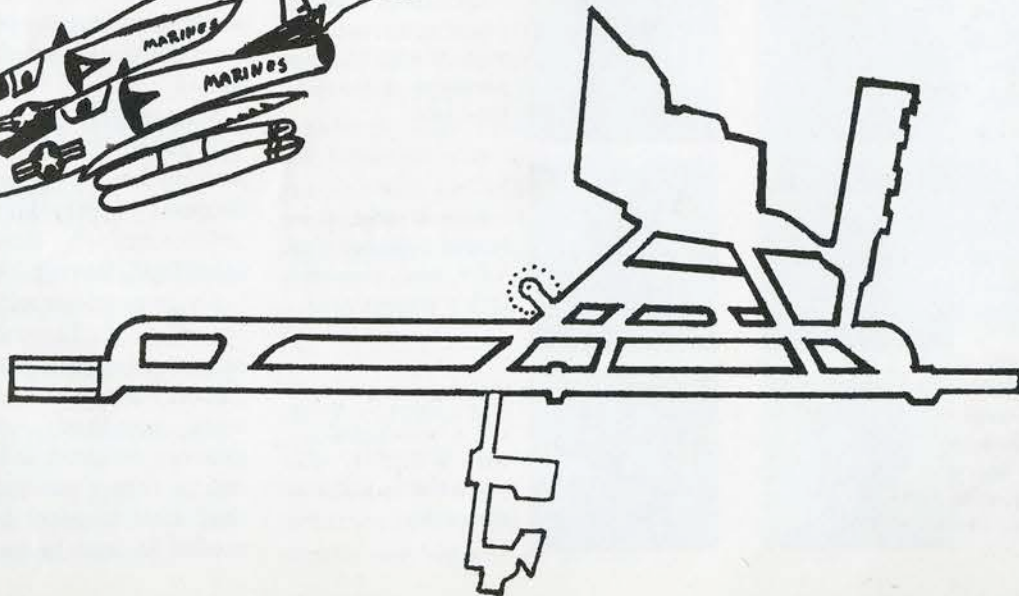
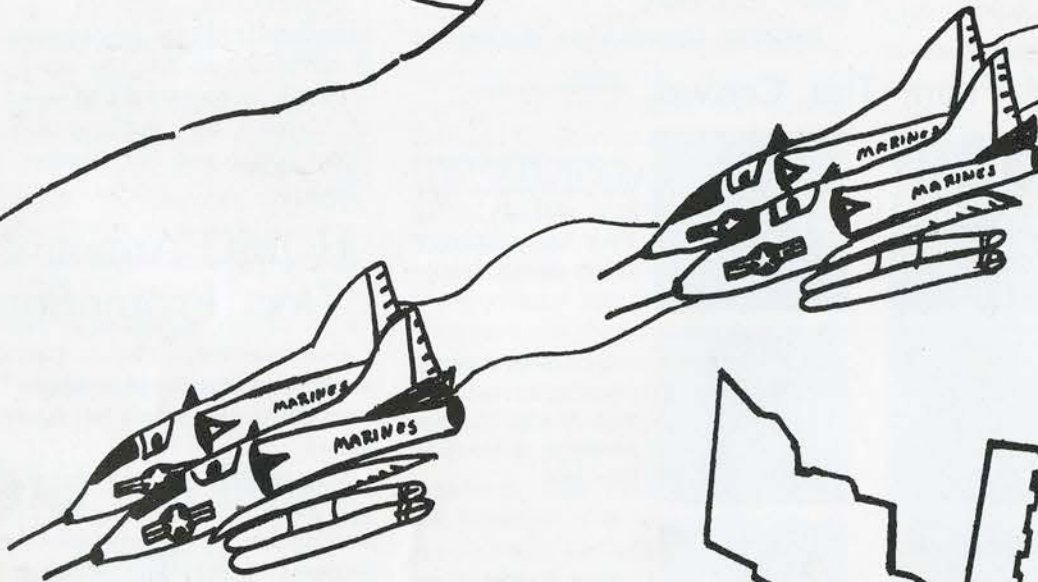
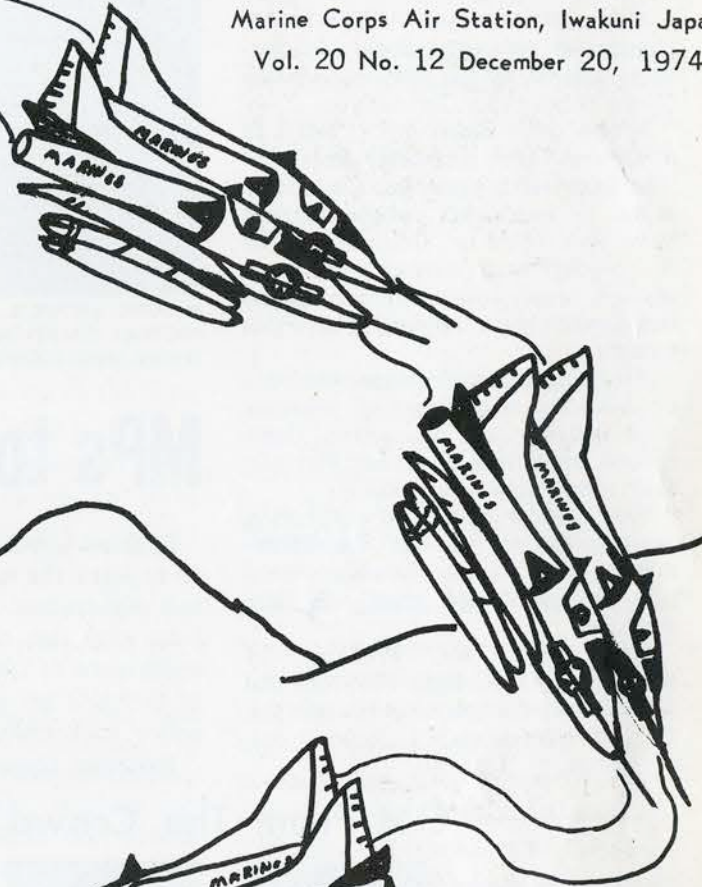
Torii Teller

Marine Corps Air Station, Iwakuni Japan

Vol. 20 No. 12 December 20, 1974



Cleared to Land



Events...

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1 p.m. The shooter will get one shot at a target for \$2 and a chance to win a \$10 gift certificate redeemable for Exchange merchandise.

A field meet will be held on New Year's Eve. Contact unit special services officers to sign up.

The Telephone Office will extend its hours of operation during the holidays to enable more people to call home. The office, located in Building 464, will be open from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Christmas Eve; 8 a.m. to midnight on Christmas; and 6 a.m. to midnight on Dec. 26.

Four units will host Christmas parties for children during the holidays. The 1stMAW Human Affairs Division will host a party for the Garden of Light Children's Home tomorrow. MAG-15's Marines will play Santa to children from the Yahata Gakuin Orphanage at a Christmas party Sunday at 1 p.m. Saturday's party begins at the Officers Closed Mess at 3 p.m. Visitors are invited to both parties.

On Christmas Eve, MWSG-17 and MWCS-18 will co-host a party at the Kume Kyorakuan Orphanage at Tokuyama. R&R flights are also available during the holiday season to Korea, Taipei, and the Philippines.

Christmas Spirit Infectious

The spirit of Christmas pervades the air as we anxiously await December 25, the celebration of the birth of the Christ child.

As He sacrificed in his life, so do you by your service here in the Western Pacific. You are guarding the flag of our country and of all free nations and our duty has been to stand proud to defend flag and the democratic way of life.

The holiday season this year is a joyous one as we stand under the mantle of peace on earth with good will to all men. This freedom and peaceful atmosphere that exists was not easily won. We enjoy this state because of your loyalty, dedication and endurance. To you who are far from your families and loved ones I pray that your steadfastness will sustain you until you once again join them. For those whose families are here in the Far East, the spirits of Christmas tide is infectious to us as we observe your preparations for the holiday season and the arrival of jolly St. Nick.

To one and all, a very Merry Christmas and best wishes for a healthy and prosperous New Year.

I Bring Good Tidings

And there were in the same country, shepherds abiding in the field, keeping watch over their flock by night. And, lo, the angel of the Lord came upon them and the glory of the Lord shone round about them: and they were sore afraid.

And the angel said unto them, Fear not: for, behold, I bring you good tidings of great joy, which

shall be to all people. For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Saviour, which is Christ the Lord. And this shall be a sign unto you; Ye shall find the babe wrapped in swaddling clothes, lying in a manger.

And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of heavenly host praising God and saying, Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace, good will toward men.

And it came to pass, as the angels were gone away from them into heaven, the shepherds said one to another, Let us now go even unto Bethlehem, and see this thing which is come to pass, which the Lord hath made known to us.

And they came with haste, and found Mary, Joseph, and the babe lying in the manger.

And when they had seen it, they made known abroad the saying which was told them concerning the child. And all they that heard it wondered at these things which were told them by the shepherds. But Mary kept all these things, and pondered them in her heart. (LUKE 2:8-19). (AFPS)

Worship Services

Protestant - Communion Only 9:30 a.m. Worship 10:15 a.m.

Catholic - 8 and 11:45 (5 p.m. Saturday) and daily Mass and Confessions 11:40 a.m.

Sunday School - 9 - 10 a.m. (Perry School)

Latter Day Saints - 2 p.m. (Tuesday 7 p.m.)

Christian Science - Thursday 7 p.m.

Church of Christ - Worship 6 a.m.

Episcopal - Communion only 7:30 p.m. (Opened to all baptized Christians)

Dial - A - Prayer ext. 3838 All services are held on Sunday unless otherwise stated.



COL. EDWARD S. MURPHY, AIR STATION CO, CONGRATULATES SSGT. RONNIE L. PATRICK, LEGAL CHIEF WITH THE STATION STAFF JUDGE ADVOCATE'S OFFICE, ON HIS SELECTION BY THE COMMANDANT OF THE MARINE CORPS TO ATTEND THE SAN DIEGO BUSINESS COLLEGE. SSGT. PATRICK IS ONE OF SIX MARINES WHO WERE SELECTED FOR A NEW 18-MONTH PROGRAM TO TRAIN MARINES FOR THE JOB OF STENO-TYPE COURT REPORTER.

MajGen. Victor A. Armstrong
Commanding General
1st Marine Aircraft Wing

Thomas Nast Creates Santa Image

Thomas Nast, the famous nineteenth century political cartoonist, was the creator of the image of Santa as he is recognized today. Nast's drawing of this merry old Santa Claus was probably inspired by Clement Moore's description in his poem, "The Visit from Saint Nicholas."

But Santa Claus wasn't always the fat jolly-looking old man that he is now. The original European version of St. Nicholas was a tall, thin, angular man on an equally spare horse.

The early English settlers in the American colonies gave him a "new look" when they adopted the Dutch version of "Saint Nicholas" whose name was later contracted to "Santa Claus."

In 1809, Washington Irving, in his "Knickerbocker's History of New York," wrote of "Saint Nick" as the guardian saint of New York City, and described him as a jolly old

fellow with a broadbrimmed hat and huge breeches. His Saint Nick smoked a long pipe and had a trim wagon for his gifts.

Years later, in 1882, Clement Moore, a professor of divinity in a New York theological seminary, wrote his famous poem, "The Visit from Saint Nicholas."

It is believed that he is most responsible for bringing to life the

tradition of the merry Santa Claus with a sleigh, reindeer, twinkling eyes, ruddy cheeks, a nose like a cherry, and a round little belly that shook with gay laughter as the beloved Saint held his rotund sides.

Santa Claus, bringing his multitude of gifts and happiness to children around the globe, also carries the spirit of Christmas, and the message of "good will toward men." AFPS

A Brighter Christmas

On the night of Dec. 9 I had the opportunity to observe one of the finest displays of professional showmanship that I have ever seen in the Marine Corps. I had the chance to see the 1st Marine Aircraft Wing Band in concert. The Band's rendition of Leroy Anderson's "Sleigh Ride", Bing Crosby's "White Christmas" and Johnny Cash's "Ragged Old Flag" had to make each and everyone's heart beat just a little faster. To see the way these young Marines dedicated themselves in making our Christmas a little brighter makes me want to say, "Thank God." Thank God that I am an American, thank God that I am a United States Marine.

SgtMaj. C. J. Weigman, Jr.



Freedom Has Endured

The first Christmas season of our independence was a time that tried men's souls. The test of a patriot was service to Country. Out of the sacrifices of those brave men who served in 1776, and the years that followed, the dream of freedom took hold.

From the first handful of volunteers recruited by Captain Samuel Nicholas at the outset of the American Revolution, down to the present day, Marines have risen to every crisis that has threatened our cherished freedom.

Because of the bravery, sacrifice and devotion of the American fighting man, freedom has endured on this earth. And with freedom's survival, mankind's hope for eternal peace has been strengthened. For without freedom, there can be no peace — only a shadow of a dream in a darkened world.

As we move into this season of light, let us do so with the hope that the lights of the Christmas season will not fade again and that there will be peace on earth, good will toward men for all time to come.

Mrs. Cushman joins me in wishing all Marines and their loved ones the warmest blessings of this Christmas season and a very joyous New Year.

Gen. Robert E. Cushman Jr.
Commandant of the Marine Corps



Torii Teller

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