Marine Corps Air Station, Iwakuni, Japan

Vol. 26 No. 34 May 29, 1981



Memorial Day Activities Abound



Japanese Typewriter

Two questions that have often been asked by those on their first visit to Japan are "how many letters does a Japanese typewriter have," and "how many words-per-minute can the average person type?"

Unlike their American counterparts, Japanese word merchants must do a bit more than peck away with two fingers to use a "wabun taipu" or Japanese typewriter."

The average Japanese typist, who, by-the-way, must spend about six months in a formal typing school, is considered qualified if she can type 40-45 words-per-minute or 450 characters in 10 minutes. This may seem slow by Western standards, but the Japanese typist uses a complex machine capable of transmitting more than 5,000 symbols to paper, including three sets of Chinese-Japanese characters, numbers and the English alphabet.

To understand the seemingly monumental task of recognizing a character or combination of characters the Japanese use to communicate in their written language, one must first understand something of the kanji origin.

The Chinese script, which the Japanese began adopting at the close of the sixth century A.D., was pictorial in origin.

The first characters were rough outlines of material objects they were intended to represent. By combining two or more of these symbols other characters were made, suggesting abstract ideas,

Since their creation several thousands of years ago, until the second century A.D. when the characters were standardized much as they appear today, the kanji underwent gradual changes of form and lost its primitive pictorial appearance.

The 1,850 characters commonly used today are the ones prescribed by the Ministry of Education of Japan in November, 1946, for use in newspapers and magazines, a measure that was taken to simplify the Japanese written language.

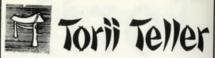
Until this legislative act was passed, approximately 4,000 characters were used for newspapers and magazines, a number that even many Japanese found difficult to readily recognize. The act also prompted typewriter manufacturers to standardize their machines' characters so that they could type standard Chinese-Japanese kanji as well as "kana" (a less structured character), and "Romaji" or English letters.

Unlike the Western typewriter which has a keyboard, the Japanese typewriter has hundreds of characters set in a metal plate, which is inserted in the lower front section of the machine.

The typewriter's carriage sits above the characters on highly oiled rails attached to the typewriter's frame, enabling the carriage to move freely. Centered on the carriage, and extended over the plate is a small lever device. When the butt of this device is centered over a slot holding a character and punched, that character is picked up, slammed on the paper and returned to the slot.

The 18-inch carriage is much like that of the English typewriter, in that the paper is inserted in the same way and the spacing levers and manual carriage rotator are on both ends of the carriage. Adjustments can be made so that the carriage will type either across the paper or in Oriental style, from top to bottom.





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Memorial Day Activities Abound



Our Cover

Whether preparing for the grueling 26-mile Kintai Marathon or heading for homeplate during a 20-team softball tournament, Memorial Day weekend activities were aplenty. For more on the weekend events see pages 6 and 7.



Lieutenant Colonel Jack Wagner, Commanding Officer of VMA(AW)- 121, steadies Lance Corporal Randall Cowan who peels away part of the eight to signify VMA (AW)-121's achievement of 39,000 accident free flight hours. The ceremony marked more than a decade of Green Knight dedication to safety.



Williams

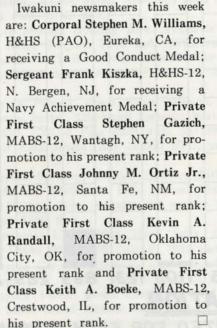


Kiszka



Gazich

Newsmakers





Ortiz



Randall



Boeke

M.C. Perry Graduation Set

The 11-member class of 1981 will graduate from M.C. Perry High School during a ceremony next Friday at 7:30 p.m. in the Marine Memorial Chapel.

Colonel S.F. Shea, MCAS Commanding Officer, will be the guest speaker and graduates Brian Hearney and Kevin Kelley will receive special honors as the class valedictorian and salutatorian, respectively.

There will be a reception immediately following the graduation ceremony in the Sumo Room of the Officer's Club for parents and friends of the graduates.

Members of the M.C. Perry High School Class of 1981 are: Tammy Cicora, Monique Davis, Ron Davis, Lee Ann Dugan, David Hansen, Brian Hearney, Jake Hicks, Kevin Kelley, Lori Lance, Tony Nolly and Patricia Strickland.

JNR Conducts Campaign

The Japanese National Railway is conducting a campaign for railroad

The purpose of the campaign, which will run until June 10, is to remind people of the dangers to children playing unattended near railroad tracks, crossing tracks while the barrier is down and obstructing the tracks or throwing things at passing trains.

The railway cites four deaths and two injuries last year as a result of such conduct.

They also claim a significant rise in the number of cases involving rocks and other objects being placed on railroad tracks, endangering passengers and cargo. Do you know where your children are playing?

Sales Position Open

The Civilian Personnel Office is accepting applications from adult family members to fill a position as a greeting cards stock and sales person. Working hours will be 20 hours per week with a flexible schedule at \$3.45 per hour. The employer is seeking someone who will be at the Air Station one year or more. Interested persons may contact the Civilian Personnel Office located in building 552 at the Main Gate.

Hospital Closure Today

Due to special commitments, the Branch Hospital has announced that all routine services will be closed after 11:30 a.m. today, for the afternoon. Emergencies will be seen in the Emergency Room.

Kintai Marathon Largest Held Yet The Far East Network Viewing Guide

The 13th Semiannual Kintai hope of reaching their goals dur-Marathon held Sunday proved to be the biggest marathon yet, with 391 runners participating in the semiannual event, held in Iwakuni City. Sanctioned by the Amateur Athletic Union and hosted by MCAS Iwakuni, the Kintai Marathon drew runners from many Far East commands. Okinawa was represented by approximately 25 runners, Sasebo had six runners entered, and two American women from Yokosuka were also entered. MCAS Iwakuni was represented by a field of 15 runners.

The cool breeze and early morning light rain helped to reduce the heat and humidity for the runners who tackled the arduous and winding 26-mile, 385-yard course. By the 8 a.m. starting time, all the runners were massed at the start line ready to go. The sharp report of the starting gun set them off, with the

ing the 13th Seminnual Kintai

Throughout the first half of the race the main body of runners stayed together, taking full advantage of the cool weather to set a hard and steady pace. The pace may have been the undoing of some of the runners. Three hundred and ninety-one runners began the race, but when it was over, 331 had finished, with 60 runners deciding not to punish their bodies beyond repair.

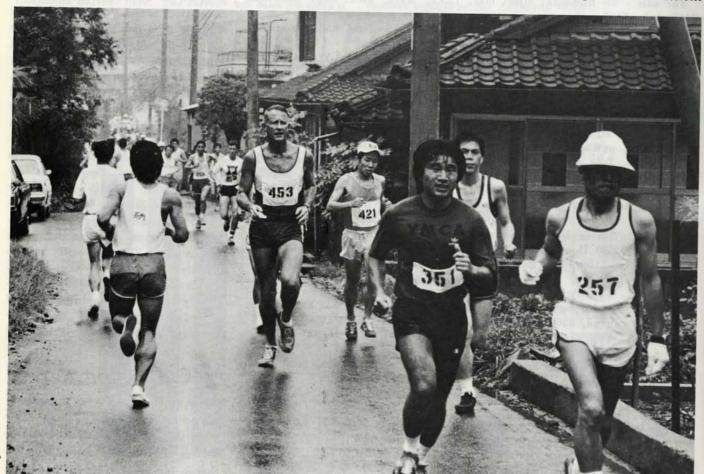
The steady plodding of the runners carried them the first half of the course, and they were soon headed for the finish line. Iwakunian, Akihiko Seki, in the 20-29 age group, was the first to cross the line with a time of 2:19:12, Tadao Matae, who was breathing down Seki's neck, finished only three seconds behind him.

In the same age group lstLt Jim Brocksmith of the 3d Combat Engineers Battalion, Okinawa, was the first American to finish. His time of 2:25:19, placing him fourth overall in the marathon.

The young Marine officer trained very hard for this race, running 80-90 miles weekly. A veteran of 12 years of running he placed 23d in the Marine Corp Marathon held annually in the nation's capitol. Of the sixteen women entered, Mrs N. Platt. of Yokosuka, was the first American woman to finish with a time of 3: 31:37. Tomie Ogata was the first female finisher with a time of 3:19:2.

At the conclusion of the event the runners enjoyed a meal of hot dogs and hamburgers, while they soothed their aches and pains, discussed strategy with fellow runners and made plans for the autumn marathon scheduled for November.

-Sgt Andra E. McNeill



Braving an early morning rain some of the 391 runners their way through the long and winding course. The This year's field of runners was the largest yet.

early morning rain and cool temperature gave the runentered in the 13th Semiannual Kintai Marathon make ners a respite from the eventual heat they all dreaded.

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FEN Notes

FEN features "Roots: The Next Generation" with Parts I and II to be telecast Thursday at 7:50 p.m. Parts III and IV can be seen Friday at 7:50 p.m., with Parts V and VI scheduled for Thursday, June 11 at 7:50 p.m. The concluding Part VII will air Friday, June 12, at 8:20 p.m. The next to last episode of "Soap" can be seen this Thursday at 11:15 p.m. following the TV 73 Late Report. The final episode will be scheduled during the telecast week of June 8. The program "Soap" has left the airwaves in the States, with its future unknown at this time. Reminder: "The Incredible Hulk" returns Sunday, June 7, at 7:35 p.m. and "Eight is Enough" is back on your TV screen Tuesday, June 9, at 6:30 p.m. The program "Real People" will return to FEN TV during the last week of June with "Dallas" back Friday, July 3, at 9:10 p.m.

MSat Dave Lane

=FEN TV 73 Movies=

Saturday - 10:10 p.m. - Marriage is Alive and Well Stars Joe Namath, Jack Albertson and Judd Hirsch. A wedding photographer's intriguing assignments provide him with an intimate and often startling perspective on the subject of matrimony.

Sunday - 3:30 p.m. - Duncan's World Cast includes Larry Tobias, Don Morrill and Marion Mitchell. A young boy with an affinity for animals and nature, is harrassed by a gang of young hoodlums.

Sunday - 10:05 p.m. - A Great American Tragedy (1972) Stars George Kennedy and Vera Miles. A family experiences economic realities of life when the aerospace engineer (Kennedy) gets laid off.

Monday - 10:15 p.m. - South of Tana River From the FEN library, synopsis not available.

Tuesday - 10:20 p.m. - Green Eyes Starring Paul Winfield, Rita Tushingham and Jonathan Lippe. A young Vietnam veteran, disillusioned and uncertain about his future, journeys back to Southeast Asia, where he desperately searches for the son he left behind.

Wednesday - 10:20 p.m. - The Devil's Rain A horror flick starring Ernest Borgnine, Eddie Albert and William Shatner. A leader of a cult of devil worshipers searches for a satanic book stolen from him 300 years before. Without it, he can't deliver souls to hell.

Thursday - 7:50 p.m. - Roots: The Next Generation An all-star cast in the true story of an American family, based on the books 'Roots' and 'Search' by Alex Haley. Tonight, FEN features Parts I and II of this VII part series.

Friday - 7:50 p.m. - Roots: The Next Generation (Part III & IV) Friday - 11:15 p.m. - Dracula's Great Love Synopsis not available.

Sakura Theater Presents

Today - 6 p.m. - Simon - PG - As an associate professor, Alan Arkin is brainwashed by eccentric scientists into believing he is an alien from outer space. (97 min)

Today - 8:30 p.m. - A Change of Season - R - Anthony Hopkins gets the middle age itch and cheats on his wife, Shirley McLaine, with a young coed, Bo Derek. (102 min)

Saturday - 6 p.m. - The Little Mermaid - G - free

Saturday - 8:30 p.m. - Disco Fever - PG - Fabian, a teen idol, is ready for a comeback. Phoebe Dorin is willing to manage him if he performs his old bubble gum music. (98 min)

Sunday - 6 p.m. - Smokey and the Goodtime Outlaws - PG -Turner and Dennis Fimple, J.B. and the Salt Flat Kid, a couple of musically inclined buddies from a small town in Texas drive to Nashville only to become the suspects of a kidnapping. (96 min)

Sunday - 8:30 p.m. - Born Again - PG - In this biographical drama, a former counsel to Nixon has flashbacks of the past Watergate incidents, while serving a brief prison sentence. Dean Jones and Anne Francis star.

Monday - 6 p.m. - No. 1 of the Secret Service - PG - After several eminent men have been murdered, No. 1 is called in to find the murderer. This secret agent spoof stars Nicky Henson and Richard

Monday - 8:30 p.m. - Shame Shame on the Bixby Boys - PG - In this Western-comedy, a small town deputy has trouble keeping his eyes on both the Bixby Boys, who are rustling cattle, and gunslingers going through town. (88 min)

Tuesday - 6 p.m. - Dirkie - G - After a plane crash Dirkie and his dog are alone in the Kalahari Desert where they are stalked by a violent hyena. (85 min)

Tuesday - 8:30 p.m. - A Change of Season - R

Wednesday - 6 p.m. - Simon - PG

Wednesday - 8:30 p.m. - Smokey and the Goodtime Outlaws - PG

Thursday - 6 p.m. - No. 1 of the Secret Service - PG

Thursday - 8:30 p.m. - Disco Fever - PG

Community Events Calendar

FCB Tickets On Sale

The hospital and dental clinic here have annouced that there are a limited number of tickets remaining for the annual "Five Corps Ball" scheduled to be held June 5, at the Kanko Hotel. Tickets are \$10 per person. Contact Karen or Vicki at ext. 5571 for tickets.

NRS Car Wash Set

For those who have waited all winter to get their cars washed, Station Crash Crew/Recovery is sponsoring the first Navy Relief Car Wash Monday. The wash will run through Friday from 10 a.m.-4:30 p.m. each day. Wash, wax, engine steam clean and vacuum is a donation of \$8; wash,

your car done by the OIC and NCOIC of Crash Crew. One Navy Relief ticket will be given for each dollar given for the wash.

Teacher Position Open

If you're interested in a position as a substitute teacher or educational aid at Matthew C. Perry School, for school year 1981-82, you may apply at the school office by submitting two copies of SF 171. Interested and qualified applicants may pick up forms at M.C. Perry School.

IDC Meeting Set

There will be a meeting of the Iwakuni Dive Club at 7 p.m. Monday, at the Dive Club House. Election of new club officers is on the agenda and all members are encourwax and vacuum is \$6 and engine aged to attend. For further informasteam clean, \$3. Come out and have tion call Steve at ext. 4128 or 4443.

What's Cookin'

Today

dinner - spareribs

Saturday

brunch - Italian surprise

Sunday

brunch - grilled steak

Monday lunch

- beef stew or fried beef patties

dinner - chicken cacciatore

Tuesday lunch

- roast beef sandwich or fried rabbit

dinner - stuffed pork chops

Wednesday

lunch - oven roast dinner - veal parmesan

Thursday

lunch - knockwurst or franks dinner - baked chicken

Friday

dinner - stuffed flounder

Club Happenings Tomodachi Club

Today - Zap Disco 7:15 p.m. Saturday - Simon 1:30 p.m., Shuric 7:15 p.m.

Sunday - Secret Service 1:30 p.m., video 7 p.m.

Monday - Zap Rock & Roll 7:15 p.m.

Tuesday - video 7:15 p.m.

Wednesday - Zap Oldies 7:15 p.m. Thursday - Zap County 7:15 p.m.

Club 19

Today - Zap Oldies 7:30 p.m. Saturday - Secret Service 7:30 p.m. Sunday - to be announced

Monday - closed

Tuesday - Disco Fever 7 p.m. Wednesday - game night

Thursday - to be announced

SNCO Club

Today - Shuric 8:15 p.m. Saturday - Change of Season 1:30 p.m., Zap Country 8:15 p.m.

Sunday - Bixby Boys 1:30 p.m.

Monday - Smokey 7 p.m. Tuesday - steak drawing

Wednesday - Zap Rock & Roll

7:15 p.m. Thursday - game night

Officer's Club

Today - to be announced Saturday - Smokey 1:30 p.m. Sunday - Change of Season 4 p.m.

Monday - Simon 7 p.m. Tuesday - to be announced Wednesday - Chinese dinner

Thursday - veal cutlets with wine sauce

PMO Sweeps Holiday Softball Tourney

The MCAS Memorial Day Softball Tournament proved to be a rousing success, with the PMO team weathering the stiff competition to win first place in the tourna-

The brainchild of GySgt Ray Mayer and SSgt E.G. Berry III, the tournament gave softball enthusiasts a chance to enjoy some good softball and do some sideline coaching.

Played May 23 and 24, the tournament drew 20 teams that played 39 action packed games over the two day period. A double elimination tournament, gave the teams a chance to lose a game and still be in the competition.

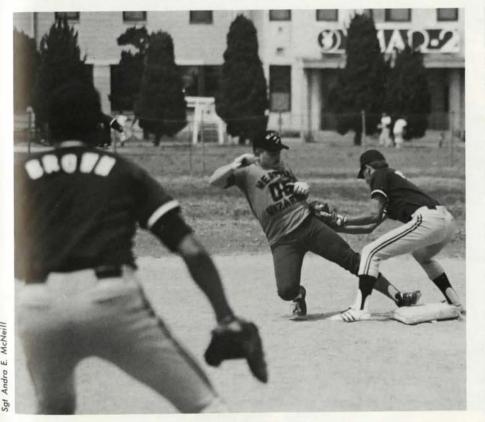
With the call of "play ball", the tournament began at 8 a.m. Saturday. Disbursing and Crash Crew/ Recovery were the first two teams to meet. Usually two high scoring teams, neither was able to score more than two runs. Two runs was enough for Crash Crew/Recovery two win their first game 2-1. With the large number of teams entered, two games were being played simultaneously. In the second game Weather, the Division III leaders, deluged MABS-15 in a 16-1 lopsided victory.

All the games were going fast and furious, a game would end and within minutes another was in progress. The smooth efficient operations of the Memorial Day extravaganza, was due to the tiring efforts of GySgt Ray 'Hondo' Mayer, SSgt E.G. Berry III, and GySgt Tom Dawson. They organized the tournament, prepared the fields and insured that the teams were on time and ready to play. The thanks for all the fun everyone had goes to these individuals for all they did.

Organized and well played, the tournament had some exciting action, PMO had a squeaker with H&MS-15. In the bottom of the seventh inning, H&MS-15 had the bases loaded with two outs, H&MS-15 needed a base hit to score a run and win the game, which would have given PMO their first lost. The next batter up smashed a line drive up the second base hole for what he thought was a sure hit. No way! PMO's second baseman, Cpl Rosevelt Baxter, made a stabbing dive catching the ball inches from the ground. His catch gave his team the chance they needed, in the eighth inning they went on to score winning 2-1.

All the teams were fired up and ready to play. Weather stunned Crash Crew/Recovery, 9-3; PMO was down 4-0 to M.C. Perry but finally came back to win 8-5; the Kintai Bombers, who took third in the tourney, defeated Det. A 6-4. Many of the teams had to play as many as eight games in one day, so by the end of the day they were exhausted. On the second day, all the remaining teams got down to some serious softball with their eyes on the trophy. In the finals, PMO stopped Crash Crew/Recovery 8-4, and won the first place spot; the Kintai Bombers placed third behind Crash Crew/Recovery and Comm-Elect Operations finished

Perhaps the real winners in the tournament were the numerous fans who filled the stands from 8 a.m. Saturday right up to the end of the final game on Sunday. Everyone looks forward to more events of this type in the future.



Weather's catcher, Cpl Charles (Gopher) Mitchell, stretches to try and elude the tag of a Crash Crew/Recovery player. Weather defeated Crash Crew/Recovery, 9-2, during the MCAS Memorial Day Slow Pitch Tournament which featured 20 teams playing good old fashion softball.

Physique Contest Set

Aficionados of body building take heed, the Mr. Hiroshima contest will be held June 7, at Hiroshima's Labor Hall. This event is a preamble to the Mr. Japan contest. Special Services is providing transportation to this event. For those taking their own transportation MSgt Gowing, NCOIC of the Fitness Center, has maps to the tournament. There is no fee for the bus, but seats are limited and anyone interested should call MSgt Gowing at ext. 3861 to reserve what few seats are left. There will be a ¥500 admission fee to the contest. MSgt Gowing has some tickets for sale. Sgt Ozell Register, Mr. Frienship title holder, will be a guest poser.

Another note to MCAS weightlifters is the MCAS Iwakuni Bench Press Contest set for June 6 at the Fitness Center. The contest will have light, middle and heavyweight classes.

Sign up is at the Fitness Center on the date of the event.