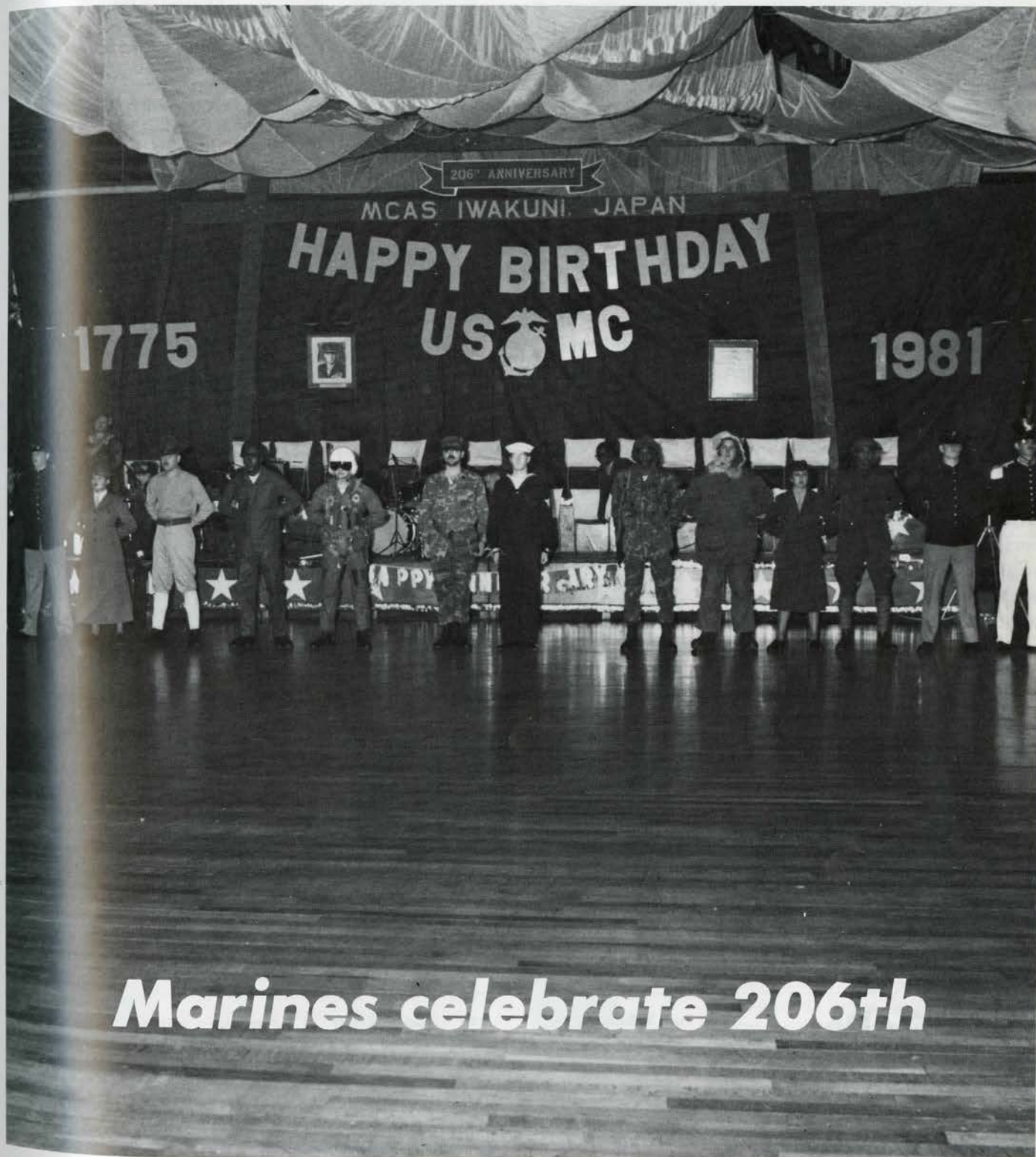


Torii Teller



Marine Corps Air Station, Iwakuni, Japan

Vol. 27 No. 7 November 13, 1981



Marines celebrate 206th

Young Adult Day

It's a common occurrence for Western children to dress in their parents' old clothes and pretend to be adults. In Japan, there is a special day set aside for such activities, however, when Japanese children dress as grown-ups to celebrate "Shichi-go-san," it's more than just a game.

Although not a national holiday, Shichi-go-san, or seven-five-three festival in Nov. 15, each year throughout Japan, and, though the celebration is associated with Shintoism, it is celebrated by all faiths.

Thought to have originated more than 400 years ago, Shichi-go-san, is a day when girls, ages seven and three, and boys five and three years old are dressed in adult clothing and taken by their parents to visit local shrines to thank the dieties for their young lives and ask for favors.

It is believed that through the act of dressing in adult clothing that youngsters will be recognized as members of the community, though not yet adults.

In the past, boys were dressed in "montsuki" or family crested kimono coat and "hakama," a type of shirt-pants worn on formal occasions. Today, however, boys may also wear formal western style clothing. Girls, on the other hand, still wear the traditional kimono, complete with "obi" sash and sandals.

On this day youngsters are given a bag of special candy and toys appropriate for the occasions. The candy is called "chitose-ame" (literally, 1,000-year-candy) which comes in a bag that has the figures of an old man and old woman on it. The old man called "Jo" and the woman, called "Uba," symbolize long life and happiness, and are often featured on decorations that depict joyous occasions.

A favorite toy for the occasion is the figure of a small rotund boy riding a bear. The figure is that of "Kintaro" a strong boy who is said to have become friendly with wild animals in his district, and enjoyed wrestling with bears and performing feats of strength. A rotund doll called "Daruma" is another favorite toy for the occasion. Daruma is a doll with a round base that makes it pop back up when knocked down. This unique toy comes with one eye painted, with the promise that when it brings its owner good luck, the other eye must be painted on its smiling face.

Those who visited any of the area stores this week probably noticed an abundance of sales promoting "grown-up" clothing for youngsters to take advantage of the celebration. □



Torii Teller

MCAS, FPO Seattle, WA 98764
CO, MCAS Col S. F. Shea
PAO CWO-4 C. E. Cannon
PA Chief GySgt D. A. Delgado

Torii Teller Staff

Editor Sgt D. A. McGinty
Design Sgt C. A. DeMar
Reporter Cpl S. M. Williams
Interpreter Mr. S. Suga
Admin. Support Ms. M. Fukushima

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Chaplain's Call



Protestant Services:

Sun., 10 a.m.
Vespers, 7 p.m.
Sunday School, 9-10 a.m.
at M.C. Perry School
Ladies Bible Study - Mon.,
9:30-11:30 a.m. at
Chapel Annex
Fellowship Hour - Wed.,
6 p.m. at Qtrs. 509

Catholic Mass:

Sat., 6 p.m.; Sun., 9 a.m.;
Mon.-Fri., 11:45 a.m.
CCD - Sun., 10:15-11:30
a.m. at M.C. Perry School
Adult Bible/Inquiry Class -
Thurs., 7-9:30 p.m.

Jewish Services:

Fri., 7 p.m. at the Chapel

LDS:

Sun., 1 p.m. at the Chapel
Church of Christ:
Sun., 9 a.m. at the Chapel
Annex



our cover

Standing tall, Marines display uniforms of the past and present at the Staff NCO Birthday Ball. Marking the 206th year of defense of the Nation and the world, the birthday was honored with birthday balls by staff NCOs and enlisted on Sunday, officers on Monday and special lunches at Dining Facilities 222 and 1577 on Tuesday. For more info, see pages 4 and 5.

To the M.P. on the scene it's real, but in reality, fortunately it's not. Sergeant Randy Abel, (in truck), and Sergeant David Plumley, (on ground), assist Master Sergeant Bill Titter, (standing left), in monthly PMO training. Here, the training concerns the first M.P. at the scene of an accident. In this case, it's Private First Class Jeffrey Heck who explains what he saw and how he would react. The Quality Control section of PMO conducts 5 days of training out of every 25 days.



JACFA Speech winners named

The Japanese American Cultural Friendship Association held a speech contest in the Labor Hall of Iwakuni City Sunday, drawing more than 250 spectators, 38 Japanese speakers and four American orators.

The winners were: Naoko Wake, Yoshiko Hiroto and Yukinori Watanabe in the elementary school category; Kyoichi Nomura, Tomoyuki Hiroyasu and Yoshiko Shimagawa for the junior high division; Hatsumi Miyamoto, Kiyomasa Matsuda and Eichi Tanaka in the senior high division and Kayo Okazaki, Norimasa Matsuyama and Ikurou Nishikori in the college/adult group. For the Americans, the honors went to George Nuenzer, Scott McMillan and Jackie Morrison. □



Bishop



Harding



Reyna

Newsmakers

Iwakuni Newsmakers this week are: Private First Class Edward E. Bishop, VMA-533, Norfolk, VA, for promotion to his present rank; Corporal Wendell N. Harding, PMO, Farmville, VA, for promotion to his present rank and his selection as Marine of the Quarter for the first quarter; Lance Corporal David M. Reyna, Det. A, Sonora, TX, for promotion to his present rank and selection as Marine of the Quarter from July to September; Sergeant Michael F. McKenzie, H&MS-12, Cleveland, OH, for promotion to his present rank; Corporal James G. Apriesnig, Det. A, Milwaukee, WI, for his selection as NCO of the Quarter from August to October, and Private First Class Kevin A. Randall, MABS-12, Oklahoma City, OK, for receiving a Letter of Appreciation. □



McKenzie



Apriesnig



Randall

TB seals on sale

It is once again time for the Japan Anti-Tuberculosis Fund Drive. This fund drive, which is now being held throughout Japan is referred to as the Double Barred Cross Seal Campaign. The colorful seals, which portray various sporting events and have a double barred cross on them, may be added to parcels or letters. Packets of fifty seals are offered in exchange for a donation of \$4 or ¥1,000. Volunteers will be at tables in front of the Main Exchange and Wingside Seven Day Store from 10 a.m. - 2 p.m., today to offer the seals and accept donations.

Tuberculosis in Japan affects us all. The Iwakuni area alone has had 71 new cases of tuberculosis documented since the first of this year through September. As members of the community, we are all susceptible to tuberculosis, so come out today and support the Double Barred Cross Seal Campaign. □

Unclaimed items sold

According to the Exchange Office here, patrons who have unclaimed items in the wrapshop, tailor, dry cleaning, watch repair, cobblers, or bicycle shop over 90 days, must pick them up within 30 days or the items will be sold. □

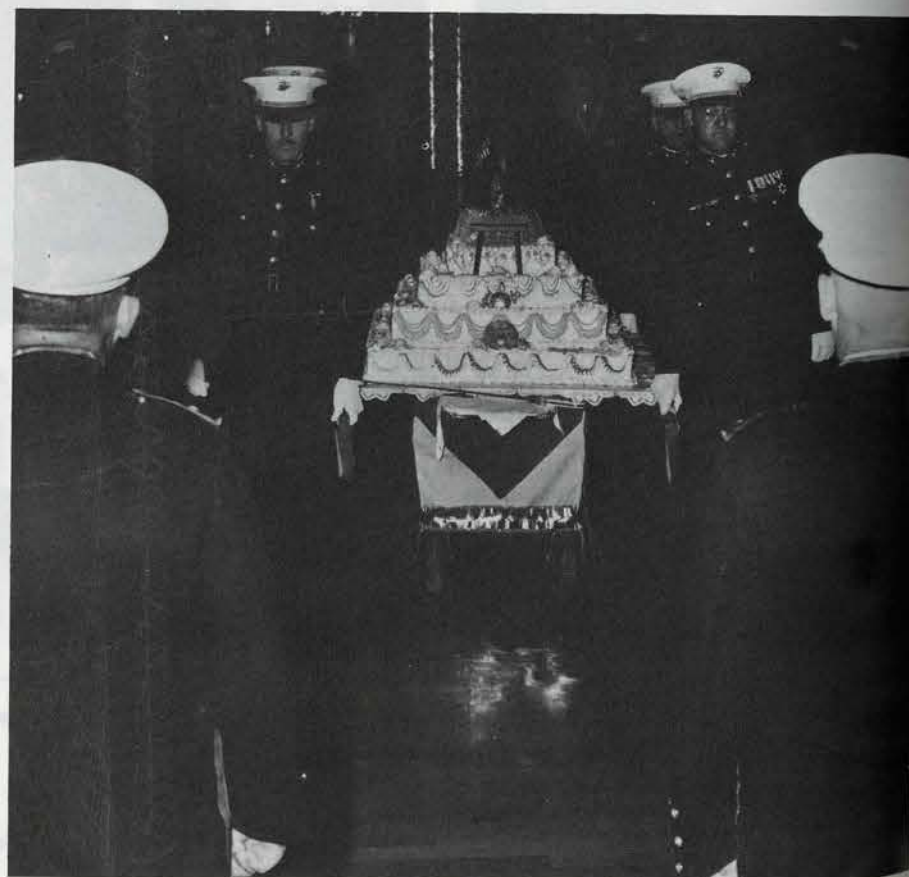
MCAS Iwakuni hosts 206th with "Semper Fi" pride and style

Marking more than two centuries of history-making professionalism, pride and traditions, the United States Marine Corps celebrated its 206th birthday Tuesday.

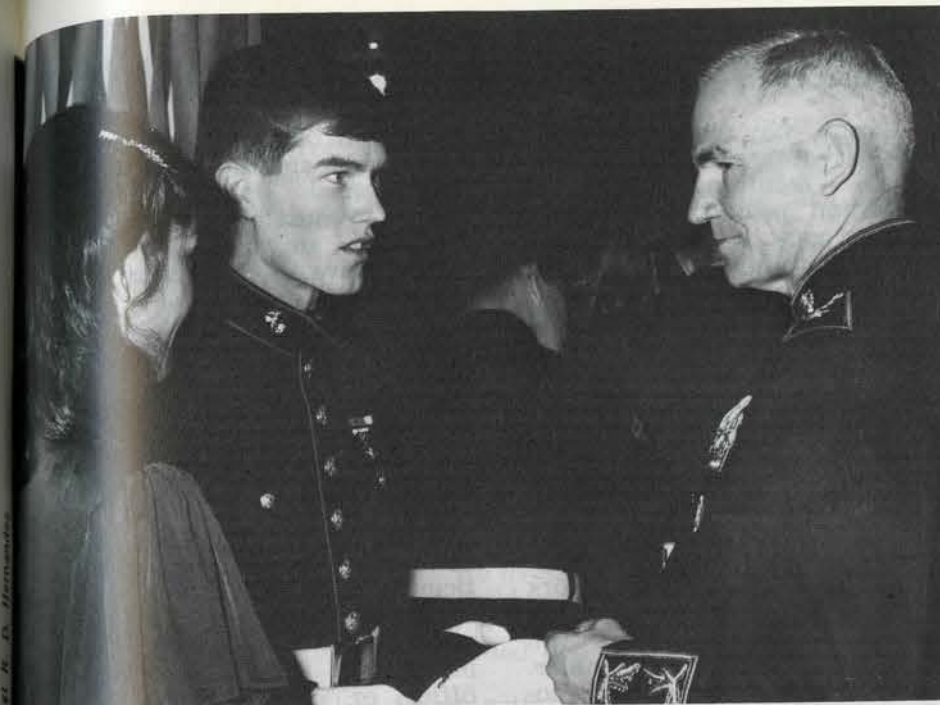
Heralded by special lunches, dinners and birthday balls around the world, the birthday once again sparked the famous Marine Corps camaraderie and brought about a heightening of Esprit de Corps. In his birthday message, the Commandant of the Marine Corps, General Robert H. Barrows, said, "For 206 years no challenge has been too great for our proud Corps. Each challenge has been met with determination, discipline, courage and esprit, qualities which have become

the hallmark of our Corps. This legacy provides the standard for all who now claim the title Marine."

Locally, the birthday was honored with birthday balls for staff NCOs and enlisted on Sunday and again for officers on Monday. Officiated by CMC's representative, Lieutenant General John H. Miller, Deputy Chief of Staff for Plans, Policies and Operations and Major General William H. Fitch, Commanding General, 1st Marine Aircraft Wing, the balls showed the pageantry, music and traditions of the rich heritage of the Corps. The birthday was also celebrated Tuesday with a cake cutting ceremony at Dining Facility 222 and special lunches at both dining facilities.



Standing proud, CMC's representative, Lieutenant General John H. Miller, (above), Deputy Chief of Staff for Plans, Policies and Operations, reminds Marines of the honor, pride and tradition that are hallmarks of the Corps, and have been for 206 years. Carrying on the tradition, cake bearers, (right), bring up the ceremonial birthday cake at the Officer's Ball.



During the Enlisted Ball, Lieutenant General John H. Miller conveys the spirit of camaraderie to Sergeant David M. Brown and his wife Mariko, (left), and Sergeant William C. Miller and his wife Susan, (below left), as Lieutenant Rena M. Esposito, (below), also carries on the spirit during a dance at the Officer's Ball. In a time tested tradition, staff NCOs march out the birthday cake, (bottom photo), at the Staff NCO Ball.



Sgt Dan C. Deans



Sgt R. D. Hernandez

