

Torii Teller

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MARINE CORPS AIR STATION IWAKUNI, JAPAN

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Tenjin district off-limits to Station

CPL. DAVE BONI
Combat Correspondent

Due to two recent events, the Tenjin District of Fukuoka has been declared off-limits between the hours of 8 p.m. to 6 a.m. for service members aboard Marine Corps Air Station Iwakuni.

This order, (MCAS Order 5800.17) states that violators of this new liberty policy will be subject to disciplinary action under the Uniform Code of Military Justice.

"In the past month alone, we have had two cases of violence against service members here," said Sgt. Maj. David Allison, Station sergeant major. "In order to protect our Marines and Sailors, we needed to make the area off-limits between those hours when violence is most likely to occur."

The most recent case left three service members hospitalized after seven were assaulted by a large group of Japanese. One of the service members required medical evacuation due to the severity of his injuries.

According to the sergeant major, service members need to do a better

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Pegasus inspires Iwakuni

LANCECPL RUBEN D. CALDERON
Combat Correspondent

Marine Heavy Helicopter Squadron 463 arrived here last week from Marine Corps Base Hawaii and will be staying for six months on a unit deployment program.

The Hawaii based squadron arrived with an armada of approximately 130 Marines and Sailors, and eight CH-53D helicopters.

"We came to support III Marine Expeditionary Force and participate in the various exercises that will take place, here, within the following months," said Capt. Andy R. Needles, HMH-463 weapons tactics inspector.

While deployed here, HMH-463 will participate in numerous exercises in the Republic of Philippines, Thailand, Korea and Okinawa, Japan.

HMH-463 will be part of Exercise Cobra Gold in Thailand, Philippine Interoperability Exchange in the Philippines, and other exercises yet to be determined, said Capt. Ron E. Gaines, HMH-463 director.

"The last time HMH-463 was here in Iwakuni was September 2002 to March 2003. Back then our pilots and our squadron were good," said Needles. "But now, we have the best pilots in the Marine Corps."

While here, the squadron will continue pilot training, proficiency and correctiveness, said Gaines.

The same type of training will apply to airframe technicians, flight line mechanics and expeditors of the squadron,



Lance Cpl. Ruben D. Calderon

One of eight CH-53D helicopters from Marine Heavy Helicopter Squadron 463 is secured on the flight line here, awaiting future deployments to exercises in the Philippines, Thailand and Korea.

according to Cpl. Christian A. Perez, HMH-463 expeditor.

"Everyone always stays busy. That's the way the squadron continues to be the best. Especially for me, I'm the one who is always ordering different parts. But the same goes for everyone. Everyone is always pressing on to get the birds up in the sky.

"Pegasus is a great bunch of guys I enjoy working with," ended Perez.

HMH-463, commanded by Lt. Col. Henry B. Mathews II, took over for Marine Heavy Helicopter Squadron 362, who returned to Kaneohe Bay, Hawaii, after their six month tour.

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IWAKUNI WEATHER



Today
Partly Cloudy
High: 71



Saturday
Partly Cloudy
High: 69



Sunday
Rain
High: 69

www.iwakuni.usmc.mil

Election year do's and don'ts

PRESS RELEASE

Department of Defense

During an election year, many active duty military members may wish to get involved in campaigning for their favorite candidate. What are the limits to their participation? Department of Defense Directive 1344.10, which covers political activities by members of the armed forces on active duty states that an active duty member of the armed forces:

- May register, vote, and express his or her personal opinion on political candidates and issues, but not as a representative of the armed forces.
- May promote and encourage other military members to exercise their voting franchise, if such promotion does not constitute an attempt to influence or interfere with the outcome of an election.
- May join a political club and attend its meetings when not in uniform.

- May serve as an election official if such service is not as a representative of a partisan political party, does not interfere with military duties, is performed while not in uniform, and with the prior approval of the Secretary concerned.

- May sign a petition for specific legislative action or a petition to place a candidate's name on an official election ballot, if the signing does not obligate the member to engage in partisan political activity and is done as a private citizen and not as a representative of the armed forces.

- May write a letter to the editor of a newspaper expressing the member's personal views on public issues or political candidates, if such action is not part of an organized letter-writing campaign or concerted solicitation of votes for or against a political party or partisan cause or candidate.

- May make monetary contributions to

a political organization, party or committee favoring a particular candidate or slate of candidates.

- May display a political sticker on the member's private vehicle.

The same Defense Directive 1344.10, states that active duty members of the armed forces may not engage in certain activities. Members of the armed forces:

- May not use official authority or influence to interfere with an election, affect the course or outcome of an election, solicit votes for a particular candidate or issue, or require or solicit political contributions from others.

- May not be a candidate for civil office in federal, state or local government, or engage in public or organized soliciting of others to become partisan candidates for nomination or election to civil office.

- May not participate in partisan political

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Torii Teller

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Editorial content is edited, prepared and provided by the Public Affairs Office of Marine Corps Air Station Iwakuni, Japan.

All queries concerning news and editorial content should be directed to the Public Affairs Office, Building 1, Room 216, MCAS Iwakuni, Japan. Call 253-5551.

The *Torii Teller* welcomes Letter to the Editor submissions. Letters are the opinion of the writer only. Submissions can be edited for clarity and space. Letters can be dropped off at the Public Affairs Office or sent via e-mail to varnadorebl@iwakuni.usmc.mil or dillardcs@iwakuni.usmc.mil.

**PSC 561 Box 1868
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Torii Teller sinks to new low

STAFF SGT. COLIN M. COOPER

Letter to Editor

"Leaders Forget Field Day", are you asking me or telling me? Be careful on how you answer this question young man. Maybe you are not educated on how billeting is assigned and the responsibilities for those quarters? But my real question is who put you up to this? What I'm led to believe is that the Torii Teller is lacking the letters it needs for the "Letter to the Editor" section and you are it's editorial suicide bomber. Maybe you were told, "hey LCpl Tustin, write a letter about those nasty SNCO quarters (bldg 330) and let's see what kind of feed back we get".

Are you looking for the "stay in your pay grade" response? I hope I'm not being misled and you are really not that naive. Because in order to make a complaint you should be first

well educated on every aspect of the topic or will fail at your attempt to file the appropriate complaint. I'm very curious, you are a Combat Correspondent and judging by your writing skills you may have been a waiver for that occupational field.

Anyhow, I shall give you what you desire. First you should just begin to thrash yourself for jumping into something that is really no business of you own. In fact just post yourself at the corner of that intersection (bldg 330) and begin mountain climbers until you vomit and if someone asks what you are doing, just tell them, "I'm climbing Mt. Fuji". How in the world are you going to be a Combat Correspondent if you cannot research or get the full story? (Ask those kind people at the Kintai Inn)

I'm very impressed with the Torii Teller for sinking to a new low! I really don't believe that this Marine just

conjured up this opinion. Really, it would be like me saying that all of those Marines/Sailors living in those other barracks are sabotaging the immaculate grounds of the SNCO barracks. Nonsense, let's not get off topic here. I'm not really upset, you see I don't blame you for the silly little letter you wrote. You're just a pawn in a bigger publishing game.

So here is your memorandum for the record. Eat your Wheaties, learn your general orders, understand all your individual training standards and be careful what you write. You just might have a chance to understand what it means to have a career in the Marine Corps. If not, well you just might find yourself holding a trash can walking around those same SNCO barracks singing a new tune like, "Hootie hoot, don't pollute, don't be a dirty birdie, put your trash in the trashcan"!

Constructive criticism suggested, vice insults

STAFF SGT. BRENDA VARNADORE

Press Chief

The Torii Teller chose to run the opinion piece by Lance Cpl. Adam Tustin in the April 2 edition because we will run anyone's opinion, regardless if we agree with it or not, as long as it does not discredit any one person or cause any personal attacks.

Sometimes, we will ask for edits to grammar and for clearer transitions of thoughts expressed by the author prior to publishing an article, but decided to publish the above commentary with exception, due to the author's comments toward the *Torii Teller*.

Staff sergeant, you may think a Marine can request a waiver to come into public affairs, but coming from the recruiting side of things, I can tell you that I personally did not waive anyone for this field who I interviewed.

It is well known among recruiters, there is no lack of people trying to get the small number of quotas available for the 4341 field of public affairs.

As you may know, the Marine Corps has made their recruiting mission for more than seven years, and there are many young men and women who are not only qualified to come into the 4341 field, but have to fight for the chance.

Additionally, we rarely lack commentaries here at the *Torii Teller*. You should know since we receive commentaries from you regularly stating that we produce propaganda.

If we do lack a commentary, I will write one myself (I have only written one since I have been here, about trash around the Station coincidentally).

As far as the Marine being educated and having integrity in regard to every aspect of the topic he wrote on, I believe he does, especially if he is picking up trash every day in front of the SNCO barracks.

Since the article appeared, the SNCO barracks has been almost litter-free on the outside, it is always clean inside. I am educated on this, since I live there. Obviously Lance Cpl. Tustin's commentary made a difference.

I have picked up trash myself (but have also realized it probably isn't my fellow SNCOs doing the littering). The commentary probably made my fellow SNCOs, who live in the barracks, more aware of the trash lying around.

As Marines, it is our responsibility to set the example, not to litter and to pick up trash if we do see it lying around.

As far as the lance corporal beginning mountain climbers until he vomits, or even holding a trash can walking around my barracks singing a new tune, I will refresh your memory with a certain Marine Corps Order, 1700.28, the Corps' policy on hazing.

To quote the above order, "Marines are our most precious asset. We will protect them through fair, scrupulous, and unbiased treatment as individuals – caring for them, teaching them, leading them. It is the obligation of each member of the chain of command, from top to bottom, to ensure that this sense of fairness is constant and genuine. Every Marine will treat every other Marine with dignity and respect."

If that doesn't ring any bells, I will share another excerpt from the order on hazing, "How we recruit, train, and instill in Marines our core values and a sense of integrity and accountability, equip them to do their jobs, and treat them with dignity, care and concern must be our principal emphasis. This is a leadership issue. This is a warfighting issue. Marines do not go into harm's way, make the sacrifices they always have or give up their precious lives because they have been hazed or initiated into some self-defined, 'elite' subculture."

The mission of the Station's newspaper, as it is on every base throughout the Marine Corps, is to provide command information to service members and their family members. The secondary mission is to motivate junior enlisted and officers into reenlistment.

We print stories our chains of command ask for and also what our audience has requested.

Staff sergeant, you have, on several occasions called us a tabloid, specifically in your commentary printed Oct. 10, 2003. You are right about that. What I don't think you understand, however, is tabloid is the size of the paper, not the content. The *Torii Teller* continuously wins awards in its category.

Both contributors of the April 2 edition, Lance Cpls. Tustin and Foster are both trained combat correspondents, but work on the other part of our military occupational specialty, broadcasting (AFN, not PAO).

Regardless of whether you agreed with them, you have attacked Marines for basically doing their job, provided no constructive criticism, and have illustrated (even if jokingly) a bad example of leadership.

Annual road taxes due soon

COMPILED BY
TORII TELLER STAFF

in yen, at Iwakuni City Hall on the fourth floor.

Residents with heavy vehicles can make payments at the government office building adjacent to Sinfonia Iwakuni, on the first floor.

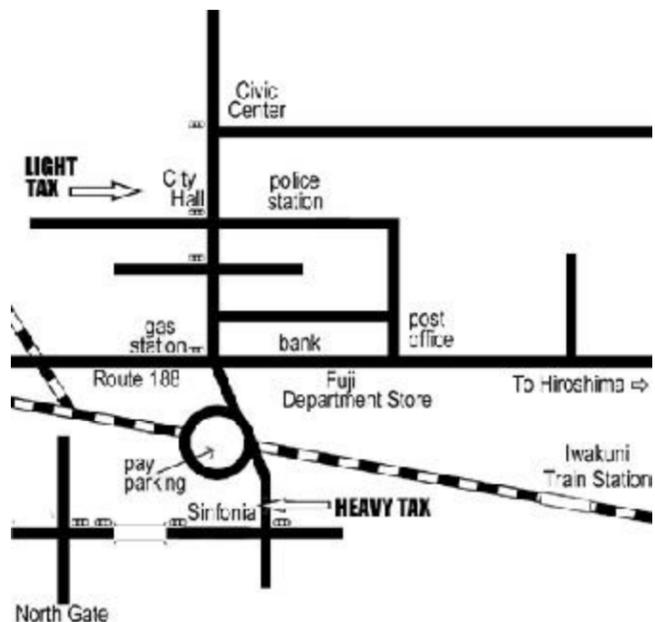
All personnel with privately-owned vehicles are required to pay Japanese road taxes during the month of April each year for the use of roads in Japan.

After taxes are paid, personnel can report to the Pass and Registration Office at Provost Marshal's Office, 8 a.m.

to 4 p.m., Monday through Friday to have the 2004 Station decal affixed to their vehicles.

For more information and maps, call the Pass and Registration Office at 253-3161.

Station residents with vehicles have to make payments for Japanese road tax,



Annual Road Tax Prices



① Indicates prefecture of the automobile registration
② Indicates the amount of road tax you must pay

Heavy:	11E.11Y series	¥32,000
	33E. 300 series (4,400cc and over)	¥22,000
	33Y. 300 series (4,500cc and below)	¥19,000
	44E. 44Y series	¥7,500
	55E. 55Y. 500Y series	¥7,500
Light:	Yamaguchi 50,40 series	¥3,000
	Yama A series (400cc and over)	¥1,000
	Yama B series (400cc and below)	¥1,000
	Iwakuni A.B.C series	¥500

Marines off-load in Korea

CPL JESSICA M. MILLS
Combat Correspondent

PYONGTAEK NAVAL BASE, Republic of Korea — More than 300 Marines from Combat Service Support Detachment 77 assisted with a Maritime Prepositioning Force (MPF) off-load of the Military Sealift Command ship MV 1st Lt. Jack Lummus at Pyongtaek Port, here, March 8 - 9 in support of Freedom Banner/Foal Eagle '04.

According to Lt. Gen. Wallace C. Gregson, Marine Forces Pacific commanding general, these exercises demonstrate the capability of III Marine Expeditionary Force, and the Republic of Korea's Marines to rapidly form and employ a combined Marine Expeditionary Force in order to conduct combined operations.

The CSSD-77 Marines — who are from Marine Corps Base Hawaii and Camp Hansen, Okinawa — worked jointly with Marines from Combat Service Support Detachment 36 to complete the off-load of 406 vehicles and weapons systems in less than 20 hours. The Marines worked in 12-hour shifts, and although exhausted, did not stop working until the off-load itself was complete.

"This is one of the largest off-loads ever for such a small port," said Staff Sgt. Joseph Kelly, the landing force shore party staff noncommissioned officer with Combat Service Support Group 3. "But our Marines met the mission with full confidence and exceeded all of our expectations. We had expected the off-load to take 24 to 36 hours, and they blew us away."

The off-load consisted of various types of vehicles and weapons systems such as tanks, highly mobile multi-wheeled vehicles, medium tactical vehicle replacements (7-ton MTRVs), landing assault vehicles, amphibious assault vehicles, trams, logistical vehicle systems and howitzers, among many others. Once off-loaded, Marines drove these vehicles in convoys to the disassociation lot located on the 2nd Fleet ROK Naval Base here.

During the disassociation process, Marine representatives from all of the major subordinate commands (such as 3rd Marine Division, 12th Marine Regiment,



Cpl. Jessica M. Mills

Landing Assault Vehicles are staged for the convoy to the disassociation lot aboard 2nd Fleet Republic of Korea Naval Base, Pyeontaek, Republic of Korea, in support of Freedom Banner/Foal Eagle '04.

Force Service Support Group 3 and III MEF) assisted CSSD-77 and CSSD-36 Marines in removing all unneeded stock list (SL-3) gear off the tactical vehicles and equipment.

Because these vehicles and weapons systems are part of the MPF, they are configured for a crisis situation and include all of the components that may be needed. But since the equipment is only being used for training exercises, all of the excess gear must be removed, inventoried, shrink-wrapped and stored for preservation until the end of the exercises.

Once the major subordinate commands sign receipts listing all of the equipment and stored SL-3 gear they receive, the vehicles are moved to the Arrival, Assembly, Operations Element to prepare for travel to the appropriate training areas.

"The AAOE is the launch point for major subordinate commands," said Chief Warrant Officer Lyndon T. Snider, officer in charge of the disassociation lot, "and once these exercises are over, these vehicles will come back to my lot for reassociation, and finally regeneration.

"We are going to put it back the same way we received it - war materiel and all," Snider added. "It will be as ready as it was before."

NEWS BRIEFS

CLUB ISSUES

The first Wednesday of every month, the Enlisted and SNCO club advisory board committees meets to discuss issues and to vote on new initiatives for club activities. Each command is asked to provide a primary and alternate representative in writing. Contact your sergeant major and request to be appointed to your respective advisory board to make a difference in your club. Meetings are open to all service members. In order to have a vote, you have to be an appointed member.

SLEEVES UP

The optional period for wearing sleeves up on the utility uniform ends on the first Monday in May. Sleeves must be worn up beginning on the first Monday in May.

FLOWERS FOR RESIDENTS

Family Housing Self-Help will have flowers available for residents beginning April 27. Self-Help is open Monday through Saturday, 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., Building 1285.

AUTOMATED TIME/TEMPERATURE ANNOUNCEMENT SYSTEM

Dial 112 to hear the current time and temperature in English, and dial 115 to hear them in Japanese. Call the Telephone Office at 253-5555 if you have any questions.

Overseas marriages may cause headaches

CPL. DAVE BONI

Combat Correspondent

Service members wishing to marry while stationed overseas need only to follow the strict guidelines set forth in order to successfully complete the process.

Although the paperwork is lengthy and tedious, assistance is available at the Staff Judge Advocate's Office here to answer all of the soon-to-be honeymooner's questions.

"The first thing a service member must do when they decide to get married in Japan is come and pick up the guide," said J. Sakamoto, Staff Judge Advocate legal assistant. "The marriage guide explains everything you need to know, whether you are getting married to a foreign national or an American. Read the information thoroughly before you take your next step."

The next step taken will be to ask the service member's commanding officer for an approval of marriage overseas, upon completion of the required documents. After going through the chain of command to request permission

Expeditious naturalization gives citizenship sooner to spouses

CPL. DAVE BONI

Combat Correspondent

In recent years, the process for non-U.S. citizen spouses wishing to become U.S. citizens could take up to three years.

Now, expeditious naturalization cuts the time down to a little more than 18 months.

Naturalization is the process for foreign nationals to become U.S. citizens.

Expeditious naturalization is the process to become a citizen without waiting for the three-year residency, as the United States requires.

"Your spouse is eligible for expeditious naturalization because you are a member of the U.S. armed services or an employee of the U.S. government and are working overseas for at least 18 months, according to an employee contract or military orders," said Junko Sakamoto, Staff Judge Advocate legal assistant.

Guidelines also state one year must be left on the service member's contract or military orders at the time of the naturalization.

Sakamoto said it is best to apply for citizenship as soon as a service member arrives on Station.

"If you're on accompanied orders, which is three-years, it is best to give yourself ample

time because the process may take longer than 18 months," she said.

After the decision to become a U.S. citizen is made, an Immigrant Visa Petition, Form I-130 must be completed. To apply for the expeditious naturalization, certain documents must be in order. A proof of U.S. citizenship (U.S. spouse), foreign spouse's birth certificate with English translation, marriage certificate, divorce or death certificates showing termination of all marriages will be required before the process can begin.

A letter from commanding officers for the military or from a U.S. government agency on official letterhead certifying the official date or rotation from overseas services, and fingerprints are also required. Overseas applicants can do this at a U.S. military law enforcement office, local embassy or consulate.

"Once the paperwork is filed, which can take more than six months, an interview is held on American soil," said Sakamoto. "You may request to have the interview in either Guam or Hawaii due to your overseas location."

"We can help you through the processes every step of the way. All we ask of you is to be patient and help us help you," she said.

For further information or questions, call SJA at 253-5594.

help the process go smoothly.

"People come into my office and want to rush the process so they can get married right away. I'm sorry, but we have to follow all the rules and military orders," said the legal assistant, who has seen her fair share of tears after explaining the rules to those who wished to marry immediately.

"If you complete the paperwork correctly and do all of the other requirements, the process should take less than a month from start to finish," she added.

One of the biggest headaches Sakamoto deals with is the inability of potential newlyweds to obtain the right legal documents. In order to properly register, original documents with official seals must be presented. Copies will not be accepted at all.

"People need to understand this should not be a very quick and easy process. Like being in the military; preparation is key, as should be getting

married. There is no need to hurry. Take your time and everything will work out," she said.

For more information, call SJA at 253-5594/5591.

Station volunteers recognized with awards

PFC. LYDIA DAVEY

Combat Correspondent



"Unless someone like you cares a whole awful lot, things aren't going to get better, they're NOT!" These words, spoken by Dr. Seuss's Lorax,

reflect the importance of volunteerism.

More than 200 Marines, Sailors and family members gathered at Club Iwakuni April 6, to honor Station volunteers.

"Recognizing volunteers is something that should be done often," said Station Commanding Officer Col. David Darrah during a speech at the reception. "We depend on these folks to aid family readiness and to help create a stable working environment for the Marines and Sailors here."

Darrah noted that the act of volunteering is a fine American tradition with a rich heritage. "The

spirit of volunteerism is what makes Iwakuni the community it is," he added.

During the reception, volunteers from 20 Station organizations were recognized.

Throughout the year, individuals donate their time and resources to everything from visiting orphanages to hosting radio shows to working in local schools.

Stephanie Blattner, Chairman of Volunteers for the Red Cross, works with civilian and military personnel to coordinate volunteer projects Station-wide.

Red Cross volunteers can be found at the Dental Clinic, at Armed Forces Network, teaching baby-sitting classes, water safety classes, cardiopulmonary resuscitation and working at community events throughout the



Pfc. Lydia Davey

Col. David Darrah thanks a volunteer at the Volunteer Appreciation Reception at Club Iwakuni April 6.

year, said Blattner.

"I think it's great that the command gives Marines time off to volunteer," she said. "Without our volunteers, the office wouldn't function."

Volunteering benefits not only the community, but the individual providing services as well, noted Blattner.

By completing courses such as the Dental Assistance Program, individuals may become certified in a particular field.

Additionally, volunteering creates a valuable reference network and provides civilians and Marines with the opportunity to build their resumes, Blattner said.

The Red Cross also stands out as an organization willing to track the number of hours an individual works.

"When a Marine leaves this duty station, we can transfer a record of his

hours to a Red Cross office at his destination. A record of hours served comes in handy when the Marine goes up for a promotion or award," said Blattner.

According to Blattner, the week of April 19-23 has been designated as National Volunteer Week.

Special events provide entertainment

STORY AND PHOTOS BY
LANCE CPL GIOVANNI LOBELLO
Combat Correspondent

Five gentlemen help provide entertainment for the Station. The faces of these five gentlemen are popular when attending Marine Corps Community Services events. They may be known as the group of civilian workers with the best jobs on the Station. They appear at all events held in Iwakuni, hangout, enjoy the evening and then go home.

The men from the special events section on Station do more than just sit and twirl their fingers at events. What they are seen doing for the most part, is enjoying the fruits of their labor.

"One of our responsibilities is the entertainment at the club," said John Pace, special events/entertainment manager. "What we try to do is create new events that match the demographics of the Station which is always changing. For example, we just had a Latin Fiesta today at 8 p.m. in the Club Iwakuni Ballroom."

"When entertainers come, we are the first impression of Iwakuni they get when we pick them up from Fukuoka," he said.

According to Chris Reitman, entertainment coordinator, "We put stuff out there because we feel like there's a call for it. Sometimes though when we do a new event, it flops."

The techno night is an example of how it may seem like the community is supporting a certain event, but when it comes down to it, no one shows up, said Alex Perkins, special events coordinator.

In order for the special events section to perform events that Marines want, suggestions have to be



Col. Dave Darrah, Station commanding officer, cuts an opening ceremony ribbon in support of Marine Corps Community Services special events.

given by the Marines themselves.

"We are always looking for feedback from the community," said Sedric Stewart, special events assistant. "Once we put on an event that has been requested, it is also very important support is shown for the events we are able to schedule. Our job here is to make your stay in Iwakuni fun."

It is one thing to suggest ideas for concerts and shows and preach on how much Marines would like to see something and another when the time comes and no one shows. In order for the special event staff to do shows, they need Marines to show up and participate. To continue bringing the same shows, they need just as much participation or even more.



Chicago Honeybears dazzled the Marines during the July 4 celebration as a part of the entertainment last year.

Information on shows that will be scheduled around the Station can be found in various places.

"One source would be on the Internet at the

MCCS Web site, The Week in Preview, and flyers in the barracks along with many other advertisements which can be found through-

out the Station," said Jared Blagburn, special events assistant.

To submit ideas or comments, call the special event office at 253-3727.

"We can't always guarantee we will do what you ask, you just don't know unless you talk to us," said Pace. "The group we have covers all ages from high school to grandfathers so we can do it all. We love our job and want to hear from the Marines to make Iwakuni the best possible experience."



ELECTION from Page 1

cal management or campaigns, or make public speeches in the course thereof.

- May not solicit or receive a campaign contribution from another member of the armed forces or from a civilian officer or employee of the United States for promoting a political objective or cause.
- May not speak before a partisan political gathering of any kind for promoting a partisan political party or candidate.
- May not use contemptuous words against officeholders described in 10 USC 888.
- May not perform clerical or other duties for a partisan political committee during a campaign or an election day.
- May not solicit or otherwise engage in fund-raising activities in federal offices or facilities, including military reservations, for a partisan political cause or candidate.
- May not sell tickets for, or otherwise actively promote political dinners and similar fund-raising events.

- May not allow or cause to be published partisan political articles signed or written by the member that solicits votes for or against a partisan political party or candidate.
 - May not serve in any official capacity or sponsor a partisan political club.
 - May not participate in any media or group discussions as a partisan advocate.
 - May not conduct a political opinion survey.
 - May not march or ride in a partisan political parade.
 - May not display a large political sign, banner, or poster on a private vehicle (bumper stickers are allowed).
 - May not participate in any partisan effort to provide voters with transportation to the polls.
 - May not attend partisan political events as an official representative of the armed forces or while in uniform.
- For more information, consult DoD Directive 1344.10 or individual unit voting assistance officers.

TENJIN from Page 1

job of taking care of one another and practicing situational awareness.

"In both incidents a small group of Marines were attacked by Japanese gangs in large numbers in the same district. Our Marines and Sailors have to watch their back and that doesn't mean only in Fukuoka, but also in Hiroshima, Osaka and Tokyo as well," said Allison. "Alcohol is your worst enemy. The judgment goes right out the window once you get all liquored up, so maybe you shouldn't drink so much next time and you will know what is going on."

The sergeant major also preached a term most Marines and Sailors hear before the start of every weekend.

"Accountability is everyone's responsibility," said Allison. "It is as easy as letting your immediate chain of command know where you are going."

Currently, the Navy Criminal Investigate Service is conducting an investigation in coordination with the Fukuoka police.

Residents take advantage of exercise

STORY AND PHOTOS BY
LANCE CPL. GIOVANNI LOBELLO
Combat Correspondent

A noncombatant evacuation operation exercise evacuated approximately 85 family members from the Station April 7, to Osan, Korea.

Residents were a part of a NEO that demonstrated what would take place in case a threat was imminent to the Station.

The exercise started April 5 at NEO night. Once there, residents were manifested and briefed on what steps would need to take place in case of a real-life scenario. Explanations of previous NEO evacuations were explained, as well as what is expected in the NEO package. A brief of the importance of having all records updated was also given.

After the brief, they were instructed to be at the gym, April 7 at 5:30 a.m. Upon arrival, all participants' passports were scanned into the system and they given boarding passes for the flight.

"For everyone to get logged in the system, it took approximately an hour, which is pretty fast for the amount of people that were involved," said Master Gunnery Sgt. Chauncey Lovely, airfield operations staff noncommissioned officer in charge.

Once in Korea, residents went through immigration and were told to report at 3 p.m. for the flight back to Iwakuni. Following a last immigration inspection, residents simulated flying out of an endangered area in a short amount of time.

"This is a great exercise because we now know what to expect in case something indeed does happen," said Regina Parsons. "I didn't know what to expect before today. But now, after being involved, everything seemed to run smoothly and quickly. After being involved in this NEO, I feel very safe in case something does happen."

According to Jerrie Dickerson, who has now

been apart of two NEO exercises, "Last time we went to Okinawa and one of the main differences was dealing with immigration. In Okinawa, we did not deal with immigration at all. But getting inspected by immigration is not necessarily a bad thing, especially with the events that are taking place around the world right now."

Dickerson added to those that decided not to go what an experience they missed by not volunteering.

"The incentive of being able to spend time in Korea and go shopping made this exercise worthwhile," added Dickerson.

While Station family members were in Osan they were given the opportunity to explore one of the shopping districts in Korea.

"This was my first time in Korea and I had been told that this was an inexpensive place to go shopping," said Shelly Tinsley, Virginia Beach, Va, native. "I expected to find good deals before arriving. It was overwhelming the amount of products available, with one of their major products being purses. I also wanted to experience getting a custom made outfit."

Melissa Trent, Toledo, Ohio, native enjoyed the positive environment that Osan offered.

"The merchants here were very friendly and most things were cheap," added Trent. "Most of the prices that can be found here are nearly impossible to find back in the states. The variety of styles in one town made shopping here a unique experience. One of the things that was really good was that we were able to purchase items in dollars, avoiding the hassle of converting dollars to wots."



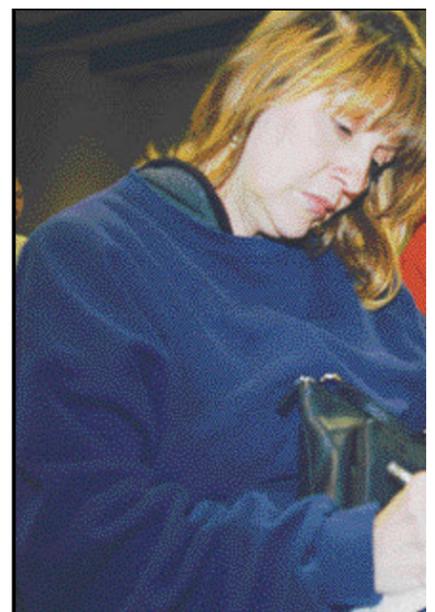
After NEO participants arrived in Osan, Korea, they were required to go through immigration and have their passports marked for both inbound and outbound flights.



NEO participants wore bracelets which were used as a means of identification and accountability for entering and exiting a location.



Lance Cpl. Jana Tang, personnel clerk, enters information into the system before anyone is allowed to leave Marine Corps Air Station Iwakuni during the Noncombatant Evacuation Exercise, April 7.



Dottie Bogan, Cynthia O'Donn that were required upon arrival





Family members arrive at Marine Corps Air Station Iwakuni after participating in a Noncombatant Evacuation Operation exercise, April 7.



...rantz filled out custom forms



More than 80 Station residents endured a one-hour trip from Iwakuni to Osan, Korea, simulating what would happen in case an imminent threat was near the Station.



Master Gunnery Sgt. Chauncey Lovely, air-field operations chief and NEO member, uses the packaging system that is conveniently available to send any items purchased back to Iwakuni.

Invasion of hope: Marines care for challenged youth

STORY AND PHOTOS BY
LANCE CPL. DAVID REVERE
Combat Correspondent

YECHON AIR FORCE BASE, Republic of Korea — Fifteen Marines on deployment in support of operation Foal Eagle in Yechon, Korea, experienced a frontline of a different kind March 17. The target was their hearts; the weapons were smiles and hugs; and the soldiers were 42 mentally challenged Korean youth at the Yechon House of Love.

The Marines visited the home for a day, donating clothes and hygiene supplies, performing landscape work, and spending time with the children.

"I didn't expect it to be the way it was," said Lance Cpl. Michael A. Collura, Marine Wing Support Squadron 171 combat engineer. "They wanted to be so close – hugging and smiling and shaking hands."

Collura found himself singing and dancing with the youth before the day was over.

"At first we were a little awkward, but it became really fun," he remarked. "We were trying to keep up with the kids and do what they did."

The children had plenty of energy to spare, and were thrilled about the Marines' presence.

According to Mrs. Yuonam Bae, the home's director, people rarely come to visit the home.

"Sometimes their parents don't want to see them," Bae said. "When the Marines come, it shows them how much they care. It shows how much God cares for them."

Lt. Timothy Gault, Marine Wing Support Squadron 171 chaplain, organized the visit as part of a developing relationship with the home over the years of the squadron's annual Foal Eagle deployment.



Cpl. Jack Weaver (left), Marine Aircraft Group 12 supply clerk, and Lance Cpl. Michael A. Collura, Marine Wing Support Squadron 171 combat engineer, dance with a child.



Cpl. Pao Hang (above) and Cpl. Lauren Torres, Marine Wing Support Squadron 171 field wiremen, work construction with children from the Yechon House of Love.

"Traditionally, we've gone to the House of Love every time we're out here," Gault said. "The commanding general has placed a very high priority on community relationship projects in Korea. It's seen as critical to maintaining good friendship in South East Asia."

A good relationship with South East Asia is important, but Cpl. Jack Weaver, Marine Aircraft Group 12 squadron supply clerk, wasn't thinking about world peace as he hugged children and shared their laughter.

"I wish we could spend more time with these kids," Weaver said. "I wish there was more we could do for them."

Weaver said his time with the children made him more appreciative.

"Not many people are grateful of who they are," he commented. "Being with these kids puts things into perspective."

"You've got to think outside yourself," Collura agreed. "If you just smile at someone, you could be making someone's day."

By the end of the visit, the mission had been



Pfc. Kyle A. Melancon, Marine Wing Support Squadron 171 hygiene equipment operator, shares a meal with a child from the Yechon House of Love.

accomplished. Something deep had taken place in the hearts of the Marines. They had been reminded again of the things that are really important.

"It's all about being selfless and thinking of other people," Collura concluded.

OUT THE GATE

Note: Japanese who do not speak English may answer the phone numbers provided.

Big Water Wheel Festival

There will be a festival held at Nekasa Iwaya Kannon, around the big water wheel, in Mikawa-cho Sunday, 9:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. Some events, including a drawing, green tea serving, a flea market, are scheduled. Admission fee is required only when attending the tea serving. It will be not cancelled in case of rain. Call

76-0314 for more information.

Classic And Modern Kimonos Exhibition

An exhibition of approximately 90 kimonos with obi and other small articles will be displayed at the Hiroshima Prefectural Art Museum Tuesday through May 23, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. It is closed on Mondays except May 3. Admission fee is required. Call 082-221-6246 for details.

Daimyo Costume Parade

The Kintai Bridge Festival Committee is looking for Americans to

participate in the time-honored Daimyo Costume Parade. The event is part of the 27th Annual Kintai Bridge Festival scheduled for April 29. Call 253-5551 for more information.

Toukasai Ceremony

This ceremony will take place with Noh performance at Itsukushima Shrine, Miyajima Island today through Sunday, 9 a.m. to evening. It may be cancelled in case of inclement weather. Admission fee is required in order to enter the shrine. For more information, call 0829-44-2020.



TORII TELLER CLASSIFIED ADS

To submit your ads or announcements: *Torii Teller* accepts ads/announcements from nonprofit organizations and groups only. Briefs run on space-available and time-

priority basis. Deadline for briefs is noon Thursday. *Torii Teller* reserves the right to edit to fit space. Stop by Building 1, Room 216 to fill out a form.

AUTOMOBILES

Mazda, MS8, 1993, sedan, 10 disc CD changer, power everything, very clean, great A/C and heat, JCI until Aug. 2004, \$1,300. Call Rob Willis at 253-4564 dwh or 253-2833 awl.

Nissan Terrano, 1991, 4 door, 4WD, road tax paid, JCI until June 2005, \$2,800 obo. Call Marvin Forbes at 253-5468 dwh or 253-2716 awl.

Nissan, Skyline GTS25T, 1994, black, 2 door, 5 speed manual transmission, turbo charged with after market air intake and blow off valve, P/W, P/S, P/L, turbo timer, AM/FM/CD/cassette player, must sell, JCI until Nov. 2005,

\$4,000. Call Sgt. Ryan Fuesting at 253-5995 dwh or 253-2377 awl.

Mazda Sentia, 1992, 4 door, new tires, chrome rims, new CD stereo, P/W, P/L, runs great, JCI until Nov. 2005, \$2,000. Call MSgt. Small at 253-3918 dwh or 253-6356 awl.

Toyota Hilux Surf, 1992, 4x4, 4 door, diesel, JCI until March 2005, \$2,500. Call Scott at 080-5005-4783.

Mitsubishi Emeraude, 1993, 4 door sedan, JCI until June 2004, \$1,500 obo. Call Kris Gerber at 253-3989 dwh or 253-2030 awl.

VW Golf GLI, 1996, auto, AC, excellent condition,

JCI until July 2005, \$3,000 obo. Call Therese Fitzgerald at 253-4383 dwh or 31-7965 awl.

Toyota Hilux Surf, 1990, 4x4, CD/MP3 player, P/W, P/L, great condition, runs perfect, JCI until Nov. 2005, \$2,300. Call 253-6276 or 090-1354-2364.

Nissan Lucina, 1996, compact, new tires/battery/radio/CD player, manual, 5 speed, road tax paid, JCI until March 2006, \$1,800. Call Lt. Song at 253-3331 dwh or 23-9733 awl.

Toyota Surf, 1992, excellent condition, road tax paid, extra set of off road tires, well maintained, JCI until March 2006, \$3,500.

Call Sean at 253-5549 dwh or 253-2291 awl.

Nissan Cedric, 1992, excellent condition, road tax paid, JCI until April 2006, \$2,000. Call Sean at 253-5549 dwh or 253-2291 awl.

Harley Davidson Tour Glide Classic, 1988, mint condition, road tax paid, well maintained, ready to ride this summer, JCI until March 2006, \$8,500. Call Sean at 253-5549 dwh or 253-2291 awl.

OTHER ITEMS

Misc., free white adult female cat, de-clawed, loves attention; free gold fish ; free Chinese fighting fish. Call MSgt. Small at 253-

3918 dwh or 253-6356 awl.

Misc., dining room table with 4 chairs, natural wood color, good condition, \$60. Call 253-2487.

WANTED

Misc., summer newborn girl clothes, size 0-3 months; infant toys. Call Heather at 253-2990.

JOB OPENINGS

CHRO (253-6828)

Clinic:

-Social Worker

MCCS:

-Office Automation Assistant

DECA:

-Secretary (OA)

-Materials Handler (Intermittent)

-Sales Store Checker (Intermittent)

MCCS (253-3030)

(The following jobs are open at MCCS Personnel)

MCCS Job Listing:

-Head of Retail
-Procurement Assistant, civilian only

-Basic Replenishment, civilian only

-Senior Sales Associate, civilian only

-Leisure Travel Assistant, civilian only

-Sup. Vending Specialist, civilian only

-Mechanic Leader, civilian only

-Assistant Club Manager

-Food Service Worker, civilian only

-Family Team Building Director, civilian only

-Program Assistant, civilian only

-CDC Supervisor, civilian only

-Recreation Specialist, civilian only

-Library Technician, civilian only

-Operation Assistant, civilian only

-Recreation Attendant

-Recreation Attendant, civilian only

Go to <http://www.mccs iwakuni.com> for a complete job listing.



MOVIE SCHEDULE

FRIDAY

11 a.m./5 p.m. Kingdom Come (PG)
2 p.m./8 p.m. Pirates Of The Caribbean (PG-13)
11 p.m./5 a.m. The Recruit (R)
2 a.m. National Lampoon's Van Wilder (R)

SATURDAY

11 a.m./5 p.m. Raiders Of The Lost Ark (PG)
2 p.m./8 p.m. School Of Rock (PG-13)
11 p.m./5 a.m. The Missing (R)
2 a.m. Kiss Of The Dragon (R)

SUNDAY

11 a.m./5 p.m. Looney Tunes: Back In Action (PG)
2 p.m./8 p.m. Runaway Jury (PG-13)
11 p.m./5 a.m. Lost In Translation (R)
2 a.m. Little Nicky (PG-13)

MONDAY

11 a.m./5 p.m. Life Or Something Like It (PG-13)
2 p.m./8 p.m. The Rundown (PG-13)
11 p.m./5 a.m. Under The Tuscan Sun (R)
2 a.m. Monsters Ball (R)

TUESDAY

11 a.m./5 p.m. Jungle Book (G)
2 p.m./8 p.m. Duplex (PG-13)
11 p.m./5 a.m. The Matrix Revolutions (R)
2 a.m. Master And Commander (PG-13)

WEDNESDAY

11 a.m./5 p.m. Never Say Never Again (PG)
2 p.m./8 p.m. Malibu's Most Wanted (PG-13)
11 p.m./5 a.m. The Rock (R)
2 a.m. Memphis Belle (PG-13)

THURSDAY

11 a.m./5 p.m. Shanghai Knights (PG-13)
2 p.m./8 p.m. Intolerable Cruelty (PG-13)
11 p.m./5 a.m. Tears Of The Sun (R)
2 a.m. Interstate 60 (R)

SAKURA THEATER



SCOOPY-DOO 2

The sequel to the 2002 hit that translated the lives of Fred, Daphne, Velma, Shaggy and Scooby to the big screen as a live-action comic adventure. (93 minutes)



AGAINST THE ROPES

The daughter of a trainer, Jackie Kallen grew up skipping rope in a downtown Detroit gym alongside her uncle, a fighter himself. Now, at 36, Jackie's ready to carry on the family tradition. Trying to make her mark in the boxing world, Jackie spends a lot of her free time working the room at D'Agostino's, a pugs and thugs hangout known for its stiff drinks and bloody steaks. (80 minutes)



THE PERFECT SCORE

Six high school students band together and develop a plan to steal the answers for the S.A.T. in order to prevent the test from unfairly defining who they'll become. Each student in the group has his or her own set of circumstances that leads to the conclusion that the only way to truly decide one's own fate is to beat the system. (103 minutes)

FRIDAY

7 p.m. The Big Bounce (PG-13)
10 p.m. You Got Served (PG-13)

SATURDAY

1 p.m. Scooby-Doo 2 (PG)
4 p.m. Starsky & Hutch (PG-13)
7 p.m. My Baby's Daddy (PG-13)
10 p.m. No movie base wide power outage

SUNDAY

4 p.m. Against The Ropes (PG-13)
7 p.m. Passion Of The Christ (R)

MONDAY

7 p.m. Barbershop 2 (PG-13)

TUESDAY

7 p.m. The Big Bounce (PG-13)

WEDNESDAY

7 p.m. The Perfect Score (PG-13)

THURSDAY

7 p.m. Against The Ropes (PG-13)

This schedule is submitted by the Sakura Theater and is subject to change. For show times call the Sakura Theater at 253-5291.

COMMUNITY BRIEFS

EDUCATION

Test Schedule

Tuesdays/Fridays - CLEP, DSST

April 28 - DLPT

April 29 - DLAB

For more information, call 253-3855.

HEALTHCARE

Anger Education & Process Group

Monday, April 26 and May 3, 11:45 a.m. to 12:45 p.m. Learn more about your own anger and its role in your life. Call 253-4526 for more information.

CHRO

CHRO Training

■ **Family Member Local Employment Orientation:** Wednesday, 8-9 a.m.

■ **RESUMIX:** Wednesday, 9:30-10:30 a.m.

■ **Outbound Family Member Priority Placement Program Brief:** Wednesday, 11 a.m. to 12 p.m.

■ **Prevention of Sexual Harassment Training:** April 26-28, 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. For more information and nomination, call 253-6828 or send e-mail to shiomuram.jp.@iwakuni.usmc.mil. Classes will be held at Building one, Room 102, CHRO training room.

MCCS

Career Resource Management Center (253-6439)

■ **Employment Overview:** Tuesday, 1-2:30 p.m.

■ **Interviewing Skills:** Thursday, 1-3 p.m.

■ **Monthly Transition Assistance (TAP) Seminar:** April 26-

30, 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

Club Iwakuni (253-3119)

■ **Collectors Showcase & Magic: The Gathering Sealed Deck Tournament:** Saturday, 12-6 p.m. Admission is free. Tournament entry fee is \$20. Collector's table fee is \$5.

■ **Administrative Professional's Day:** Wednesday, 11 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. treat your administrative professional to the all ranks Grand Lunch Buffet in the Club Iwakuni Ballroom.

MCX (253-5641)

■ **Sidewalk Sale:** Today and Saturday.

■ **Venus Jewelry:** Visit the store to see our new selection.

■ **Free Godiva:** Buy cards for throughout the year. In April MCX patrons receive a free four-piece box of Godiva chocolate with every purchase of four or more Hallmark cards. Offer good while supplies last.

Single Marine Program (253-4656)

■ **Miyajima Sight-seeing Trip,** Saturday, 10 a.m. \$10 transportation. Bring yen for food and souvenirs.

■ **Space World Amusement Park,** April 24, 8 a.m. \$20 transportation fee. Bring at least 5,000 yen for admission, lunch

and souvenirs.

■ **Yanai Go Carts,** April 25, 12 p.m. \$10 transportation and 2,000 yen for each series of laps. Long pants and long sleeve shirt are required. Shop at Mr. Max afterwards.

Youth Center (253-4769)

■ **New Zealand Village:** Saturday, 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Admission is 300 yen for children and 600 for adults. 10 seats available.

Kids Mini Health Fair

Tuesday, 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. at Crossroads Mall. Children enjoy coloring and more while learning about habits for a healthy life-style. Call 253-6359 for details.

Money Management 101

Wednesday, 8:30 a.m. to 3 p.m. Learn how to budget your money, reduce debt and plan for your future. Advance registration is required. Call 253-6352 for more information.

Filial Therapy Parent Education Seminar

Wednesday, 12-1 p.m. Call 253-4876 for details.

COMMUNITY

Officers' and Spouses' Club Golf Scramble

April 17, 7:30 a.m. Shogun start. Free lunch and prizes. \$20 registration fee and greens fees. Proceeds used in support of scholarships and activities.

Book Fair

Matthew C. Perry school is holding a book fair at the elementary school gym, Monday through April 23, 8 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. It is open 6-8 p.m. on Wednesday.

Crime Stoppers

If you have any information pertaining to a crime please call "Crime Stoppers" at 253-3333. Crime Stoppers is an answering service designed for anonymous callers to give information that would assist the Provost Marshal's Office in solving and preventing crime.

Thrift Store

The Thrift Store is open Mondays from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m., Wednesdays from 5-8 p.m. and the last Saturday of each month from 9 a.m. to 12 p.m. in Building 1117, located next to the Chapel. Volunteers and donations are always welcome. Call 253-4721 for more information.

Iwakuni Toastmasters

Toastmasters (TM) International provides an excellent opportunity to learn and practice proper public speaking and invaluable leadership skills. The TM experience also looks very good on your resume. The class meets every 2nd Thursday evening and 4th Friday at lunch. Japanese with intermediate or better English skills are welcome. Call Sallie Donahue at 253-5328 for more information.

CHAPEL SERVICES

Roman Catholic

Saturday	4:30 p.m.	Confession
	5:30 p.m.	Mass
Sunday	9:30 a.m.	Mass
	10:45 a.m.	CCD

Protestant

Saturday	9:30 a.m.	Seventh Day Adventist (second and fourth)
Sunday	8 a.m.	Traditional
	9:30 a.m.	Sunday School
	11 a.m.	Gospel Worship Service
	12:30 p.m.	Jesus Christ Apostolic Service
Thursday	6:30 p.m.	Jesus Christ Apostolic Bible Study

Church of Christ

Sunday	9:30 a.m.	Bible Study
	10:30 a.m.	Church of Christ
Wednesday	7 p.m.	Bible Study

Latter Day Saints

Sunday	1 p.m.	Priesthood/RS Meeting
	2 p.m.	Sunday School
	3 p.m.	Sacrament

Muslim

Friday	Noon	Prayer
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Jewish

Friday	6 p.m.	Shabbat
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Liturgical

1st Sunday	7 p.m.	Service
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For information regarding divine services, religious education or any other Command Religious Program/Chapel activity, call the Station Chapel at 253-5218.



Pfc. Lydia Davey

McGaffey Sings, Jokes His Way Through Japan

Denis McGaffey entertains service members at Club Iwakuni's ballroom with humorous stories of his exploits April 7. McGaffey, who has been working as a comedian for more than 25 years, stopped in Iwakuni during a tour of the Pacific. Club Iwakuni hosts a comedy night once a month.

“Swing batter, batter swing”

STORY AND PHOTOS BY
LANCE CPL RUBEN D. CALDERON
Combat Correspondent

The Station's 2004 Intramural Softball Spring Game Tournament began April 7 with 14 teams ready to slug, slide and score the two-month season.

The annual tournament is comprised of teams from not just different units, but also Station residents and family members. Regardless of who is playing, all the teams are eager and have long anticipated the start of the new softball season, according to Keith Carr, IronWorks Gym sports coordinator.

Jimmie M. Allen, coach for the Iwakuni Ladies, shares the same sentiment, “We’ve been practicing

hard and we’re a lot better than we were last year.”

The softball games will be played at both Penny Lake and the athletic field located in back of the Branch Medical Clinic.

The teams who will slug it out this season will be the Iwakuni Ladies, Headquarters and Headquarters Squadron's Crew, H&HS's Recovery, Detachment B's Air Traffic Controller, H&HS's Hitmen, Matthew C. Perry's Samurai, Marine Aircraft Group 12's Ordnance, Marine Wing Support Squadron 171's Fuels, Marine Corps Community Services' First Pitch, MWSS-171's Off N-D Woods, Marine Aviation Logistics Squadron 12's Bud, MALS-12 Avionics' Shockers, team Marine Fighter Attack Squadron 251 and Marine Tactical Electronic Warfare

Squadron 1's Raiders.

The regular season is comprised of 174 games. After, the winners will eventually go and compete in the play-offs.

“It’s great for everyone to come together and play in these sports. Being here, it can get pretty boring and even lonely. But this gives me and the rest of my fellow Marines something fun and enjoying to do,” said Travaris T. Holmes,



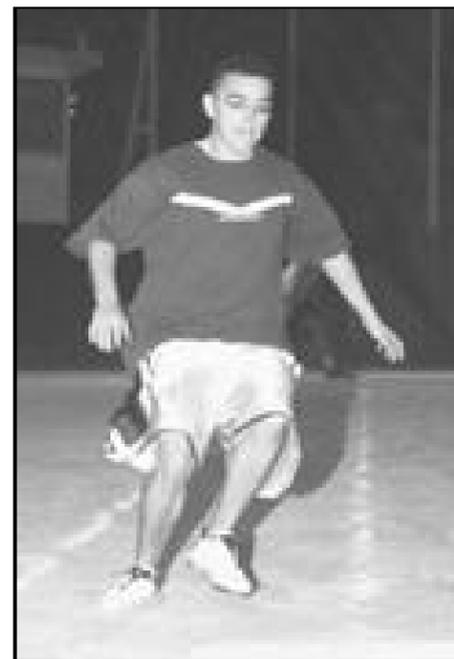
From April 7 until June 18, 14 teams comprised of different units from the Station will take it to the plate for the 2004 Intramural Softball Spring Game Tournament.

Detachment B assistant coach.

The annual tournament will finish June 18 with trophies being given out to the top teams and a cookout for all the participating teams in the league.



Scott E. Brunt, Marine Aviation Logistics Squadron 12 Bud player, hits a base hit against Detachment B's Jonathon Pacheco, first baseman, at the 2004 Intramural Softball games.



Julio Ramirez, Detachment B's leftfielder, rounds first base after hitting a double against Marine Aviation Logistics Squadron 12 Bud team, Saturday.

IWAKUNI SPORTS SCENE

FAMILY APPRECIATION DAYS

Saturday, 1-5 p.m. All games are half price at the Bowling Center. Call 253-4657 for details.

WINTER RECREATIONAL BOWLING LEAGUE ROLL-OFFS

Tuesday to April 30. Awards Ceremony is held May 7. Call 253-3490 for details.

VOLLEYBALL PLAYOFFS

Begin Monday at the IronWorks Gym. Call 253-5777 for more information.

LEVEL 3 & 4 GROUP SWIM LESSONS

Monday through April 23, children ready for Level 3 Stroke Readiness Class and Level 4 Stroke Development Class sign-up for \$30 at

the Aquatics Office. Level 3 students swim 5-5:45 p.m. and Level 4 students swim 6-6:45 p.m. For more information, call 253-4966.

SCUBA LOCKER REOPENS

Starting Monday, open Monday, Thursday and Friday evenings, 5-9 p.m. except holidays, and during the day by appointment. Call 253-6058 to check out our open water certification classes, advance level training, and the latest information on the Sea of Japan dive trips.

LIFEGUARD TRAINING

May 1, 2 and 8, 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. and May 3-7, 5-9 p.m. Both classes are held at the IronWorks Gym Indoor Pool. The Station residents age 15 and older receive basic training to become a lifeguard for \$40. Sign-up at the Aquatics Office. Lifeguard positions are open for summer employment.



Justice Lasyone, 9, and Adrian Caguiran, 9, sprint down their lanes toward victory during the 100-meter dash for children ages 7-9 at Saturday's track and field meet.

Children jump at chance to compete in track, field meet

STORY AND PHOTOS

PFC. LYDIA DAVEY

Combat Correspondent

With a sharp "Crack!" of the pistol, the competitors exploded from their starting places. Arms, lungs and hearts pumped as steady strides ate up yards of track. As the contestants

raced neck-to-neck, spectators shouted encouragement. Seconds later, a group of breathless 5-year-olds sprinted across the finish line.

More than 60 children ages five through 15 competed in the Station's second annual track and field meet. The meet was held Saturday at the Northside track in conjunction with the Month of the Military Child's Kid Fest.

"I think [the children] are excited to be out here participating today," said Semper Fit Youth Sports Coordinator Jamie D. Buning. "I like to see the kids outside exercising, away from their video games."

Children of Station residents, along with more than 25 Japanese schoolchildren, competed in the following events: 100-meter dash (all ages); shot put and javelin competition (ages 7-15); softball throw and standing long jump (ages 5-9); 1600-meter run, running long jump, discus throw and 400-meter dash (ages 10-15); 200-meter dash (ages 7-9); and an 800-meter run (ages 10-12.)

The children were allowed to compete in a maximum of three events for score, but as many as they wished for the sake of competition, said Buning.

The young competitors, accompanied by their parents/coaches, moved about between event stations. Although a handful of the children prepared for the

events, most said they came for the chance to have some fun and enjoy the free snacks and drinks.

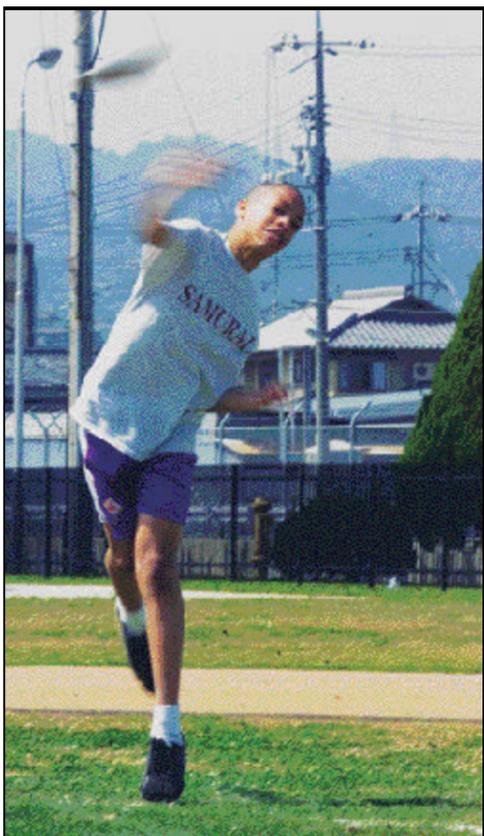
Daniel Ortiz, 12, competed in the 1600 and 800-meter runs. "I like racing," he said, and credited his mile time of 6 minutes 3 seconds to daily training, and coaching from his father and some friends. "At the end of this run, they really pushed me and encouraged me and David [Kriev] to go faster," he said.

Ortiz, who favors running in colder weather, was fairly pleased with his competition and the variety of events available. However, he said that he hopes for hurdles to be included in next year's meet.

Until then, Ortiz can take advantage of other variety offered by the Station's Youth Sports Program. According to Buning, the program



Troy Vinson, 3, displays the rewards of his athletic efforts. Vinson received second place in the softball toss, and third place in the 100-meter dash for his age group.



Travieus Shy, 13, launches a discus during Saturday's track and field meet. The meet was held in conjunction with the Month of the Military Child's Kid Fest.

offers four standard sports throughout the year: baseball, football, soccer and basketball. Special upcoming events also include a golf camp, fishing trips and a soccer camp, she added.

For more information regarding activities hosted by the Youth Sports Program, please call 253-3239.