

# THE IWAKUNI APPROACH

Issue No. 24 Vol. 5 | Marine Corps Air Station Iwakuni, Japan



LANCE CPL. J. GAGE KARWICK

PACIFIC OCEAN — Lance Cpl. Vinson Gallardo with Marine Aerial Refueler Transportation Squadron 152 watches the skiff containing the two men after dropping a life raft to them during a search-and-rescue mission June 6, 2012. This was the first time Gallardo has ever had to utilize the life raft stored on the aircraft as well as the entire crew's first-search-and-rescue mission.

## Marines locate two missing men and coordinate rescue

LANCE CPL. J. GAGE KARWICK  
IWAKUNI APPROACH STAFF

**APRA HARBOR, Guam** — Marines with Marine Aerial Refueler Transport Squadron 152 of Marine Aircraft Group 36, Marine Aircraft Group 12, and Marine Wing Communications Squadron 18 banded together to successfully conduct a search and rescue mission June 6, 2012.

The Marines were in search of two men, Juay

Akhem, 32, and Bryan Mull, 24, who had been missing for almost three days.

The Coast Guard had assumed command of rescue operations, and received permission from Marine Forces Pacific to receive aerial assistance from the Marines who were in Guam participating in Exercise Geiger Fury 2012.

"I heard about the mission last night and I can't explain exactly how I felt, but I knew I had to be a part of the effort to find these

two men in some way," said Staff Sgt. Elliott Stanton MAG-12, section 6, search and rescue volunteer. "I couldn't help but think what if that was me out there, floating in a little boat with no food or water. If it was me out there and the only thing I saw for days was a C-130 flying over me and painted on the side of it in bold letters, "Marines," that is truly inspiring."

SEE **RESCUE** ON PAGE 3

## MALS-12 says goodbye to lean, green MALS-12 Marine

CPL. KENNETH K. TROTTER, JR.  
IWAKUNI APPROACH STAFF

Marine Aviation Logistics Squadron 12 said farewell to its outgoing commanding officer and welcomed its new commander in a change-of-command ceremony at the Marine All-Weather Fighter Attack Squadron 242 hangar here June 12, 2012.

Lt. Col. Charles A. Redden, outgoing C.O. relinquished command to Lt. Col. Michael Gonzalez, oncoming C.O.

Redden's illustrious career stretches across nearly 20 years within the Marine Corps, with stops in MALS-14, MALS-11 and a myriad of other places in between. Redden was regarded with high esteem

by his subordinates and leaders, in particular, Col. Christopher J. Mahoney, Marine Aircraft Group 12 C.O., who remarked on the correlation of Redden's deliberate pacing and interaction with his fellow officers and staff noncommissioned officers. He attributes this to Redden's willingness to be involved with his command.

"You've got a command here that is leaving behind a tremendous product," said Mahoney. "It is not by mistake. It is not by happenstance. It is by deliberate planning, engaged leadership and following up on all results."

The evidence to support Mahoney's

SEE **CHANGE** ON PAGE 3

## H&HS bids farewell to former CO


LANCE CPL. BENJAMIN PRYER  
IWAKUNI APPROACH STAFF

Maj. Frederick L. Lewis, oncoming Headquarters and Headquarters Squadron commanding officer, took the place of Lt. Col. Michael R. Coletta, former H&HS commanding officer, during the H&HS change-of-command ceremony, which took place inside the Marine All-Weather Fighter Attack Squadron 242 hangar here June 11, 2012.

After the ceremony, Col. James C. Stewart,

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# CHAPLAIN’S CORNER

## ‘Rejoice what is found’

LT. J.G.  
ALEXANDER J. CHO  
MWSS-171 CHAPLAIN

I cannot stand losing things, but of course it happens. Being the third Friday of the month, I had my Khakis (Navy equivalent to Service Charlies) all laid out and neatly pressed. I showered, put on my uniform, my shiny black shoes and realized I did not have my cover.

I looked everywhere: in drawers, closets, the kitchen and the bathroom.

It was nowhere to be found. I sat down, retraced all my steps and remembered I put it under my pillow. I ran to my pillow, turned it over and there it was. A quick shout came out and I had this great feeling of accomplishment.

Luke 15:8-10 discusses that same feeling of

finding something that was lost. It's called the Parable of the Lost Coin and it reads:

“Or suppose a woman has ten silver coins and loses one. Doesn’t she light a lamp, sweep the house and search carefully until she finds it? And when she finds it, she calls her friends and neighbors together and says, ‘Rejoice with me; I have found my lost coin.’

In the same way, I tell you, there is rejoicing in the presence of the angels of God over one sinner who repents.”

God rejoices every time a sinner repents and turns towards him.

How great is it to know all of us are truly loved by our Lord?

It's amazing news, yet humbling at the same time. If you are reading this, please know GOD LOVES YOU.

Even though you are a sinner, you can still turn towards God and HE WILL REJOICE.

God desires to have a personal relationship, so I end with this question: Will you turn towards God so he can rejoice at what is found?

## Go back where you came from and shave your face

EDITORIAL BY: GUNNERY SGT. BRYCE R. PIPER, IWAKUNI APPROACH STAFF, PUBLIC AFFAIRS CHIEF

### POP QUIZ

Q. Male Marines don't have to shave on weekends because:

- a) They're on leave or liberty
- b) Skin should be allowed a "day of rest"
- c) Marines are required to be clean shaven
- d) It makes me look like Chuck Norris

Q. I wear torn and ragged clothes on liberty because:

- a) They make me look "edgy"
- b) I blew all my money on alcohol
- c) Torn or ragged clothes are not acceptable
- d) The fence I jumped to escape PMO was really pointy

Q. Japanese love it when I hoot and holler in town because:

- a) Gaijin are funny
- b) I scare their children into behaving
- c) They're not really fond of it
- d) I can't stop the motivation

Q. I don't bother with the greeting of the day anymore because:

- a) I'm not a boot
- b) In civilian clothes, the C.O. is just "Bob"
- c) I give a greeting because it shows respect for self and others
- d) What time is it anyway?

Q. I drink until I can't stand up because:

- a) I'm immature and have no idea when to stop
- b) I'm immature and have no idea when to stop
- c) I should probably ease up after a few
- d) I'm immature and have no idea when to stop

Q. NCOs don't have to correct others because:

- a) Intrusive leadership is too intrusive
- b) The last time I did it I got a shotgun blast to the face
- c) I tactfully correct Marines and sailors when they're wrong
- d) How can I correct others when I'm jacked up?

Q. Civilians and dependents don't have to follow base regulations and standards because:

- a) They can't get an NJP
- b) Rules were made to be broken
- c) They do, and I'm responsible for my dependents
- d) It's the hardest job in the Marine Corps

Q. I sag my pants because:

- a) I like to look like an idiot
- b) It makes it hard to run from PMO
- c) answers a, b and d
- d) It is not acceptable for servicemembers at any time

### HEADQUARTERS FROM PAGE 1

Marine Corps Air Station Iwakuni commanding officer, took the time to praise the former H&HS leader, addressing him by his call sign.

“Joey, this celebrates your successful completion of two years of the toughest job on this installation,” said Stewart. “You got to learn a myriad of things that bases and stations have to do, day in and day out, to be ready at a moment’s notice, to switch from the daily operations, to support any exercise in any theater engagement of our (Marine Expeditionary Force), to immediately respond when Mother Nature comes calling, and you did that phenomenally well.”

Stewart touched on the intricacies of Coletta’s position as H&HS C.O. and the difficulties that came with it.

“As Headquarters and

Headquarters Squadron, it is hard sometimes to define your matrix of success when literally you own every Military Occupational Specialty on the chart in the Marine Corps and about half of them in the naval service,” said Stewart. “Every one of those gentlemen and ladies wake up in the morning and has a focus and a job to complete. But it's not like any other squadron, where it's about production of sorties, numbers flown, tons lifted; you have to search for those metrics. And sometimes, as the H&HS C.O., you're left to wonder, "Have I truly been successful?" So, as the previous commander and as one of your squadron mates, let me tell you that you have been absolutely successful.”

Stewart then turned to greet Lewis and his family as new additions to the MCAS Iwakuni community.

“Welcome to the family,” said

Stewart. “This may be your first time in Japan, but everything that we know, every major success we’ve seen in the past, we know that together we will be even more successful as we prepare every one of the Marines and sailors to support the operational forces, to build the next generation of an installation that will provide world premier support to our operating forces. You’re exactly the right person, you have the pedigree, you have the training, you have the instinct, trust those instincts, they will see you to great success.”

Along with the change-of-command ceremony, Coletta was also awarded his second Meritorious Service Medal, this time for exceptional performance as the H&HS commanding officer.

“The experiences in this command over the past two years have been tremendous,”

said Coletta. “I have grown and learned so much. To the Marines and sailors of H&HS, you have risen to every occasion and I thank you for doing what you do, or else this wouldn’t be possible.”

The stage was then passed to Lewis, who showed his eagerness in his new position with his addresses to all those attending the ceremony.

“Friends, family, neighbors and citizens of Japan, thank you for coming out to our change-of-command,” said Lewis. “Thank you all for volunteering to serve your country in a time of war, when the other 99.9 percent of America has not. Thank you for your service. It is an honor and a privilege to be standing up here as your commanding officer and I look forward to the next two years together. God bless America and Semper Fi.”

## Mariners found, Marines help rescue

RESCUE FROM PAGE 1

“This truly says something special about the Marine Corps that in short notice we were able launch and get the mission underway and successfully complete it,” said Capt. Joseph Lennox, pilot with VMGR-152 and search and rescue volunteer. “That’s the kind of thing the American people expect out of us, to be able to conduct a mission at the drop of a hat and accomplish it professionally, and we definitely proved that today.”

The two men were adrift in the Pacific in a 23-foot skiff with a 40 horse-power outboard motor.

“We were about three hours into our search pattern given to us by the Coast Guard when suddenly there was a small orange dot in the middle of the vast blue of the Pacific barely noticeable from the window of the cockpit,” said Lennox.

After spotting the men, the Marines circled the vessel a few times to assure the men they had them in sight and the Marines were going to take care of them.

10 miles away from the two men the Marines spotted the Solar Africa, a Liberian tanker which the Marines were able to establish radio contact to inform them of the situation. The ship crew members agreed to help.

CHANGE FROM PAGE 1

claim of Redden’s ability to galvanize and make MALS-12 mission ready was supported by Mahoney pointing to several F-18s on the flightline.

“That is the meaning of Marine Aviation Logistics Squadron 12,” said Mahoney. “It is also our strength.”

Addressing him personally, Mahoney said Redden was able to accomplish this with the “four Ps:” people, program, planes and performance.

“You knocked it out of the ball park, Charlie, on all four components,” said Mahoney.

Though Redden was being recognized for his endeavors as MALS-12 C.O., he acknowledged those who helped him accomplish the squadron’s mission, from senior ranking officers to the

“As soon as we saw that tanker we knew we had to try to get their help, because there is only so much we could do from the air,” said Capt. Michael Smith, pilot with VMGR-152 and search and rescue volunteer. “We guided that ship to the raft we had dropped for the two men containing some food and water. The ship then proceeded to send out a small motored raft to pick up the men who were adrift and bring them back to the tanker. We stayed circling above until we were sure the men were safely aboard the tanker then proceeded back to base having completed the mission.”

The Marines, having been given short notice orders and conducting themselves in a professional military manner possible, teamed

Marines under his charge.

“To the officers and staff NCOs of MALS, this is not about me today, this is what we at MALS do,” said Redden. “I’ve been blessed with tremendous officers and staff NCOs here, who are not afraid to think outside the box and be creative. We cannot overnight things easily out here. We have to think well in advance to mitigate future problems. Thank you very much for all your efforts.”

Redden turned and thanked MALS-12 personally for its hard work and how they will continue to set the example with Gonzalez.

“Thank you for all your hard work these last two years,” said Redden. “You all set the example, met every challenge and defeated every challenge. I know you’ll continue to do so with the same with (Lt. Col.) Gonzalez and thank you for all your hard work.”



PACIFIC OCEAN – Lance Cpls. Eric Bruning and Vinson Gallardo with Marine Aerial Refueler Transportation Squadron 152 carry a life raft containing food and water as well as a radio and other survival tools which was dropped to the two men adrift below during a search-and-rescue mission June 6, 2012. The raft was dropped close enough for the two men adrift to finally receive fresh water and food.

with the Coast Guard and good samaritans of the Solar Africa.

After having been adrift for almost three days and all prior search efforts having been in vain, the two men are now able to return home, possibly never meeting the Marines who first found them and aided in their rescue.



Lt. Col. Michael Gonzalez, oncoming Marine Aviation Logistics Squadron 12 commanding officer, takes the MALS-12 guidon from Lt. Col. Charles A. Redden, outgoing MALS-12 commanding officer, during the MALS-12 change of command ceremony at the Marine All-Weather Fighter Attack Squadron 242 hangar here June 12, 2012, as Sgt. Maj. Gerard J. Calvin, MALS-12 sergeant major, renders a salute. Redden thanked his staff NCOs and fellow officers, saying he would not have the success he has now without them.

When in doubt, "C" your way out.



# Eyth takes reins on MWSS-171, new CO in charge

LANCE CPL. NICHOLAS RHOADES  
IWAKUNI APPROACH STAFF

Lt. Col. Howard C. Eyth III, oncoming Marine Wing Support Squadron 171 commanding officer, assumed command from Lt. Col. Michael C. Taylor, former MWSS-171 commanding officer, during the MWSS-171 change-of-command ceremony here June 11. Col. Christopher Mahoney, Marine Aircraft Group 12 commanding officer, spoke of the accomplishments Taylor and his Marines made during their recent deployment to Guam and Tinian. "I watched him go and put together the largest expeditionary exercise that MAG-12 has undertaken since Chu Lai in 1965 in Vietnam," said Mahoney. "I watched half of their strategic lifts get cut out from under them for reasons we had no control

over, and yet still brought all the capabilities to the field that we needed to execute, not a small undertaking. I watched them echelon ashore on the small island of Tinian with no fuel, no electricity, no billeting, and no food. Within hours, food, electricity, billeting and KC-130s were coming in and pumping up fuel bladders to give them fuel and BAM!, a combat capability came to life within hours on a remote island in the Pacific, fifteen hundred miles away."

Mahoney said his thanks to Taylor and the Taylor family, and then turned to Lt. Col. Eyth and spoke about the family he now is a part of.

"We have a great team here with everybody from station, to wing, to MEF. Welcome," said Mahoney. "We tend to move out fairly quickly, we tend to throw

objectives out in front of us, and we have a reputation now to crush them. Welcome aboard, I am looking forward to working with you."

After Mahoney finished his comments with a motivating 'Oorahh,' Taylor took the floor and spoke about his time here as MWSS-171 commanding officer.

"I have to say the number of extreme highs has significantly outnumbered the lows, and it's largely due to the quality of the individuals you are looking at before you and there are a lot of them," said Taylor. "I average about 535 Marines throughout my three years, every single one of them a superb American and superb individual. But the quality of leadership I saw from the noncommissioned officers, staff NCOs and officers was some of the best I have seen in all of my

time in the Marine Corps."

Like the passing of the unit guidon moments before, as Taylor passed the microphone to Eyth, it again symbolized the passing of the squadron to a new commanding officer.

"It is both my honor and distinct privilege to be given the responsibility of taking command of this very fine organization," said Eyth. "As far as I am concerned, this is the finest Marine wing support squadron in the Marine Corps. I do this knowing full well the reputation and legacy of leadership that Lt. Col. Michael Taylor leaves behind and I will endeavor every day that I am in command to fulfill that solemn promise which every incumbent commander holds in the forefront of his mind, which is to give his all so we may be ready for all things."



LANCE CPL TODD F. MICHALEK

Marine Wing Support Squadron 171 Marines salute Col. Christopher J. Mahoney, Marine Aircraft Group 12 commanding officer, at the MWSS-171 change-of-command ceremony at Marine All-Weather Fighter Attack Squadron 242's hangar here, June 12, 2012.



LANCE CPL TODD F. MICHALEK

Col. Christopher J. Mahoney, Marine Aircraft Group 12 commanding officer, presents the Meritorious Service Medal to Lt. Col. Michael C. Taylor, right, outgoing Marine Wing Support Squadron 171 commanding officer, at the squadron's change of command ceremony at Marine All-Weather Fighter Attack Squadron 242's hangar here, June 12, 2012. The ceremony marked transfer of command from Taylor to incoming MWSS-171 commanding officer, to Lt. Col. Howard Eyth.

## MAG-12 receives new sergeant major

LANCE CPL. BENJAMIN PRYER  
IWAKUNI APPROACH STAFF

Sgt. Maj. Drew C. Benson relinquished his responsibilities as Marine Aircraft Group 12 sergeant major to Sgt. Maj. David M. Reeves, former sergeant major for 3rd Battalion, 4th Marines, during a relief-and-appointment ceremony that took place on the parade deck here June 11.

After the relief and appointment of the sergeants major, Col. Christopher Mahoney, Marine Aircraft Group 12 commanding officer, took the time to praise his former sergeant major.

Mahoney touched on the importance of Benson's relationships with his family, junior officers,

other staff noncommissioned officers and Mahoney himself.

"We're two very different people," said Mahoney. "You are balanced – I said different, I didn't say opposite. You reason everything through and you've been an absolute great counter-weight to my command philosophy and my command actions. ... That relationship has been crucial to the things we have accomplished as a group, most recently down in the Marianas and all over this theater in the past year, and you have been a huge part of that."

He added, "Sergeant Major Benson, I appreciate all the good you have done to make us better in delivering combat power."

"Sergeant Major Reeves," con-

tinued Mahoney. "We tend to move quickly, we tend to bring a big hammer when we come and we tend to swing it. You come with a great reputation. We'll integrate you into the family very rapidly, and then we'll be ready. Welcome aboard, Sergeant Major Reeves."

Taking the microphone after Mahoney, Benson gave words of thanks to all those who supported him in his 15 months as the MAG-12 sergeant major and ended with words of encouragement to Reeves.

"In the short time we've gotten to know each other, I know you're the right guy for the right job, and you'll be ready to help Colonel Mahoney take this group to

the next level," said Benson. "God bless, fair winds and following seas."

The stage was then passed to Reeves, who showed eagerness in his new position with his address to those in attendance.

"Colonel Mahoney, it's going to be a pleasure and I look forward to working with you," said Reeves. "Sergeant Major Benson; in the short time we've gotten to know each other, I appreciate all you've done for me and I know you've done a great job here and you'll do well at your next command. And to the Marines and sailors, I look forward to serving as your sergeant major and serving with you on your crew here at The Ready Group."

# Children, servicemembers exchange cultural differences

CPL. KENNETH K. TROTTER, JR.  
IWAKUNI APPROACH STAFF

Station servicemembers visited and spent time with the Higashi Hoikuen Preschool children in Iwakuni as part of a community relations event June 15.

Volunteers spent the day learning about Japanese culture and teaching their own in return.

"We went up there to teach English by reading books and had recess with the kids," said Maurene Comers, Headquarters and Headquarters Squadron community relations coordinator. "In a way, it helps us learn more of their culture and they learn about us as well. It's a great interaction between us and the Japanese."

Approximately 26 individuals spent time with the children. The volunteers arrived amid a torrent of excitement and anticipation as the children quickly greeted them with warm smiles and waves.

The number of volunteers who attended the event was

somewhat surprising to those who had taken part in prior community relation events.

"Last time we had seven people," said Shatryce Hill, community relations volunteer.

For Hill, this was not her first foray in interacting with children.

"I love kids," Hill said. "I always try to volunteer to do something. This is my second time, but this is a different school."

The volunteers broke into several groups. Some taught 5 and 6-year-old children, helping them understand different letters in the alphabet.

"We played around with the kids, taught them English and got to know them a little better," said Hill.

After volunteers finished teaching the children, they went outside to take part in a relay. Children and volunteers broke into different teams. The groups rotated out several times as they raced against each other, all the while laughing and smiling.

After performing the relay once more, the children grabbed many volunteers by hand and went to various places on the playground. The volunteers spent the remainder of the day playing with the children on ropes, monkey bars and having fun together. The children sent the volunteers off by saying they hoped to see them again in Japanese. The volunteers responded back in Japanese by saying they will come again.

Hill said being able to participate in the relay and cheer on the kids was a unique and important opportunity to interact with the children, as it shows the children there is more to U.S. servicemembers than just the military.

That sentiment is one Comers said she hopes other servicemembers have the opportunity to experience here in Japan.

"I don't believe you should do this to get an award," said Comers. "We need to give back to them as they give back to us. We're in their country, we owe it to them."



CPL. KENNETH K. TROTTER, JR.

Children cling to Jacob McClinton, a volunteer, during a community relations event at the Higashi Hoikuen Preschool in Iwakuni June 15, 2012. The volunteers spent the morning teaching the children letters and words in English. Once they finished, they participated in a relay race, played with the children on monkey bars and ropes. The event helped the children and the volunteers learn about each other's cultures.



Blake Chaffin (left), community relations volunteer, and several other volunteers display reading cards to children at the Higashi Hoikuen Preschool in Iwakuni June 15, 2012.

CPL. KENNETH K. TROTTER, JR.



Sandra Stewart, community relations volunteer, plays "duck, duck, goose" with children during a community relations event at the Higashi Hoikuen Preschool in Iwakuni June 15, 2012.

CPL. KENNETH K. TROTTER, JR.



CPL. KENNETH K. TROTTER, JR.

Hugo Giraldo, community relations volunteer, helps a child across a monkey bar during a community relations event at the Higashi Hoikuen Preschool in Iwakuni June 15, 2012. After the official relay was concluded, the children grabbed several of the volunteers and took them to different points on the playground. At the morning's conclusion, the children said goodbye in Japanese and for the volunteers to come again. The volunteers replied back saying they would.



# Corpsmen, we call them Doc, reflect on history of serving

*“When a Marine goes down, everyone calls for a doc, but when a corpsman goes down, everything stops,” —Unknown.*

LANCE CPL. NICHOLAS RHOADES  
IWAKUNI APPROACH STAFF

Navy Corpsmen and guests gathered in celebration of their 114th birthday here at the Club Iwakuni Ballroom June 15, 2012.

“The overall mission of the ball is to help us remember what our heritage is,” said Petty Officer 2nd Class Luke R. Peet, committee president and Robert M. Casey Branch Health Clinic preventative medical technician. “There are a lot of junior sailors here at the clinic, so it’s that one day a year to take time from the clinic and to reflect on everything that is related to the overall awesomeness of being corpsmen.”

The corpsmen displayed many traditions in their ball, including the bell to represent high-ranking officers entering or exiting the deck, a cake-cutting ceremony, an empty chair to represent fallen corpsmen and a recitation of the Corpsman Pledge.

“When a corpsman graduates ‘A’ school, he recites the Corpsman Pledge and the pledge brings up everything that you need to do your job correctly,” said Peet. “Every year at the Corpsmen Ball, we renew that oath that we took so it can remind us of what we need to do to accomplish the mission and fill the role of being a United States Navy corpsman.”

Corpsmen all work toward the same goal, but perform a variety of tasks in order to complete their mission of keeping servicemembers healthy and mission capable.

“The corpsmen rate is unlike any other billet or specialties in the military. Only corpsmen are trained to do all the different things they

can do,” said Navy Capt. Shawn Niemann, Senior Medical Officer at Branch Health Clinic. “Being the largest rate in the Navy, they can do a multitude of tasks, from the most junior corpsman assisting providers in a normal outpatient call, all the way up to being the only medical provider on a ship or out with Marines and doing all kinds of sub-specialty type of jobs,” said Niemann.

Some of the sub-specialty jobs corpsmen perform include preventative medicine, pharmacist technician, radiology technician, and other specialties depending on where a corpsman is stationed and his or her training skill set.

A corpsman’s job will change profoundly depending on where they are in the field, meaning aboard ships, with Marines on the ground, or in garrison. It is the difference between a clinic, full-sized hospital or whether they work alone, in a group, or a full team providing one vital mission, said Niemann.

The Corpsman Ball is an old tradition used to pay respects for their history and what every corpsman can accomplish on a daily basis.

“This ceremony truly represents the hard work that Navy corpsmen have done in the past and all the responsibilities we have to live up to,” said Seaman Seth B. Anderson, corpsman.

Anderson said it was great to see such a variety of people from around base come out to show respect for what corpsmen do. “I had an amazing time being able to celebrate another great and successful year, not only for the clinic, but also for all the Navy corpsmen around the world, past, present and future.”



LANCE CPL. NICHOLAS RHOADES

Petty Officer Third Class Scotti Hargrove, Robert M. Casey Branch Health Clinic corpsman, stands proudly as she recites the Navy Corpsman Pledge here at the Club Iwakuni Ballroom June 15, 2012. The corpsmen displayed many traditions in their ball, including the bell to represent high-ranking officers entering or exiting the deck, a cake-cutting ceremony, an empty chair to represent fallen corpsmen and a recitation of the Corpsmen Pledge.



LANCE CPL. NICHOLAS RHOADES

Seaman Aaron Chrostowski (left) and Petty Officer Third Class Andrew Barr, Robert M. Casey Branch Health Clinic corpsmen, stand solemnly behind an empty chair during the Corpsman Ball in the Club Iwakuni Ballroom here June 15, 2012. The table honors fallen corpsmen.



LANCE CPL. NICHOLAS RHOADES

Corpsmen and guests alike bow their heads in remembrance of fallen corpsmen who risked their lives to save men and women and all those who sacrificed for freedom during the Corpsman Ball in the Club Iwakuni Ballroom here June 15, 2012. Navy Corpsmen have more Medals of Honor than any other rate with an astounding 22 medals awarded, most of them posthumously.



LANCE CPL. NICHOLAS RHOADES

The ceremonial Navy Corpsman cake awaits the cake cutting ceremony while corpsmen enjoy the celebrations during the Corpsman Ball in the Club Iwakuni Ballroom here June 15, 2012. The Corpsman Ball celebrates the hard work and dedication Navy Corpsman display daily by keeping military members healthy and helping to ensure the military is always mission capable.



LANCE CPL. NICHOLAS RHOADES

Navy covers sit still while corpsmen enjoy the celebrations during the Corpsman Ball in the Club Iwakuni Ballroom here June 15, 2012. The Corpsman Ball celebrates the hard work and dedication Navy Corpsman display daily by keeping military members healthy and helping to ensure the military is always mission capable.



# CORPS NEWS

HIGHLIGHTING MARINES AND  
SAILORS AROUND THE GLOBE

## Greater Cleveland area poolees take oath of enlistment at Progressive Field

LANCE CPL. MICHELLE PIEHL  
3RD MARINE AIRCRAFT  
WING

**CLEVELAND** — Nearly 50 poolees from the greater Cleveland area took the oath of enlistment at Marine Night before the Cleveland Indians took on the Pittsburgh Pirates at Progressive Field June 15, during Marine Week Cleveland, which ends June 17.

The first event of the night was Brig. Gen. Joseph L. Osterman, Marine Corps Recruiting Command commanding general, swearing in the soon-to-be Marine recruits. Then the Marine Corps Base Quantico Band performed, the Holy Angels Church Choir sang the National Anthem and Sgt. Maj. of the Marine Corps Michael P. Barrett threw the first pitch of the game.

Though the poolees were excited to swear their oath on Progressive Field, many said they were more excited to see Barrett, Commandant of the Marine Corps Gen. James F. Amos and the rest of the Marines who invaded Cleveland for Marine Week.

Meeting the commandant was inspiring, said Kevin D. Love, a poolee out of Recruiting Sub-Station Maple Heights.

“When I shook his hand, it was such an honor to keep doing what I am doing and push myself to be the best,” said Love, who is slated to leave for recruit training in December.

Love has big plans for his Marine Corps career.

“I’ve been interested since I was a freshman,” said Love. “I want to serve the best I can and possibly become an officer someday. The leadership and brotherhood is something strong in the Marine Corps. I have a passion for what the Marine Corps does.”

Love said he has high hopes for recruit training. He is working towards enhancing his leadership skills to stand out and be recognized.

Throughout Marine Week, Love showed that willingness to stand out from his peers and lead the way by volunteering at the pull up bar challenge in Public Square for far longer than others. He was at the square from 8 a.m. to 8 p.m. daily.

“I’ve known Love a long time,” said Sgt. Calvin Hudson, a Maple Heights recruiter, originally from Birmingham, Ala. “He’s really family-oriented and dedicated to his Marine Corps training. He works hard to be a good leader.”

Jonathan D. M. Robinson, also a poolee out of RSS Maple Heights, joined the poolee program for the pride of being “once a Marine,

always a Marine.”

“I want to gain insight to know who I am and who I want to be,” said Robinson, who is slated to leave for recruit training in November. “Marines are the first in and the last out. I want to better myself and do things to help others.”

“Robinson is dedicated to the Marine Corps,” said Hudson, his recruiter. “He does what he is asked and works out a lot to stay in shape. He’s a good kid. He’s very responsible.”

Swearing in on the field was a motivating experience for both poolees.

“I’m pretty excited,” said Robinson, grinning ear-to-ear.

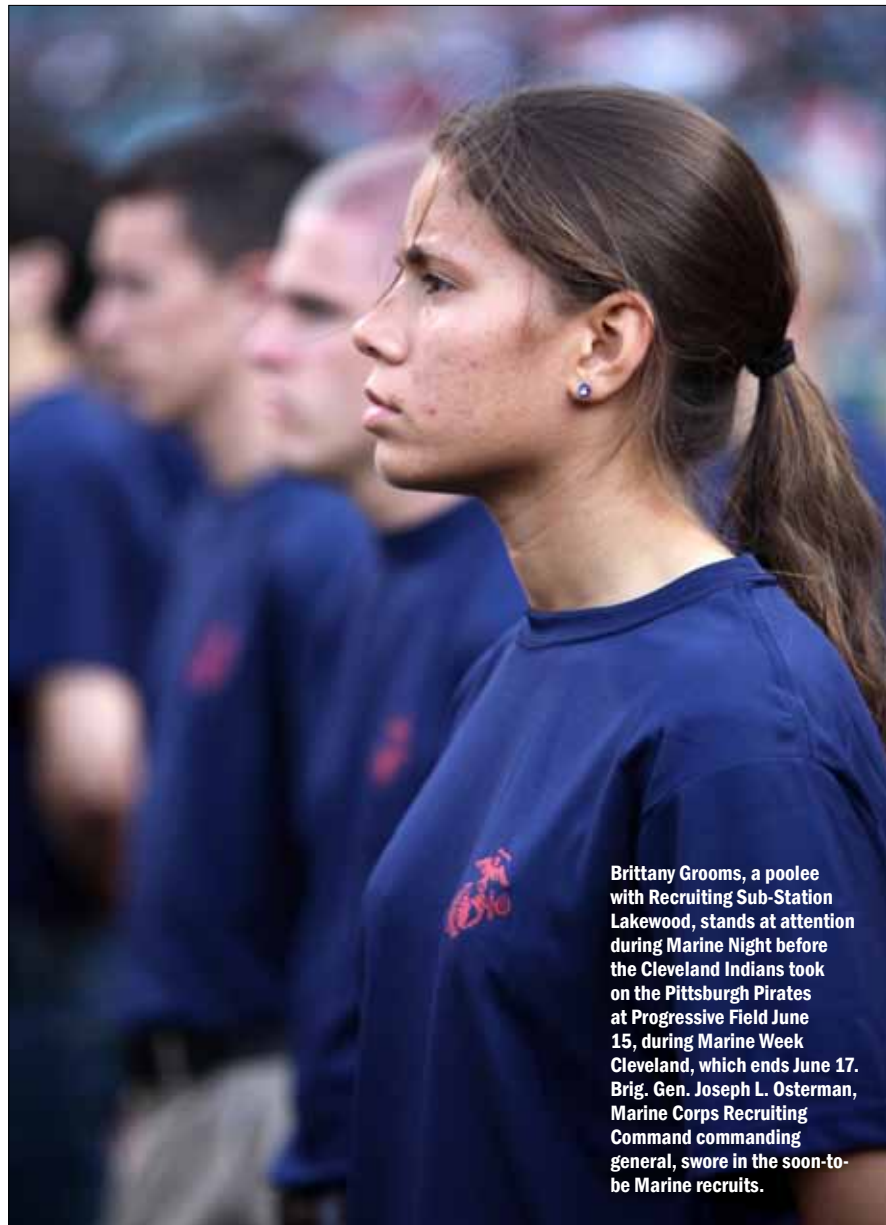
Robinson described the ceremony as an opportunity to inspire others to do something good, and a chance to show their pride.

“Knowing you’re doing such a great thing to represent and protect is amazing,” said Love.

Swearing in at their hometown major league baseball stadium is a great occasion not just for these poolees but also their community, said Osterman.

“It’s a great opportunity to let people see some of the best young men and women in a big, public forum,” said Osterman. “It sets the standard and shows Cleveland what a great quality of Marines we have.”

“Marine Week has been fantastic,” said Osterman. “The city has opened with welcome arms. Cleveland continues to show patriotism and love for Marines.”



Brittany Grooms, a poolee with Recruiting Sub-Station Lakewood, stands at attention during Marine Night before the Cleveland Indians took on the Pittsburgh Pirates at Progressive Field June 15, during Marine Week Cleveland, which ends June 17. Brig. Gen. Joseph L. Osterman, Marine Corps Recruiting Command commanding general, swore in the soon-to-be Marine recruits.

LANCE CPL. MICHELLE PIEHL



Aaron Johnson, a poolee with Recruiting Sub-Station Maple Heights, takes the oath of enlistment with fellow greater Cleveland area poolees during Marine Night before the Cleveland Indians took on the Pittsburgh Pirates at Progressive Field June 15, during Marine Week Cleveland, which ends June 17. Brig. Gen. Joseph L. Osterman, Marine Corps Recruiting Command commanding general, swore in the soon-to-be Marine recruits. Then the Marine Corps Base Quantico Band performed, the Holy Angels Church Choir sang the National Anthem and Sgt. Maj. of the Marine Corps Micheal P. Barrett threw the first pitch of the game.

LANCE CPL. MICHELLE PIEHL

# COMMUNITY BRIEFS | CLASSIFIEDS

## Briefs

### Off-limit Establishments

The following establishments are hereby off-limits:

- The multi-tenant building “NOW,” Tenant occupant’s names change frequently. Past names for this building include, Ran, Massage Parlor, Welcome American, Follow Me and F-18.
- Hiroshima’s Tougan Goods Company.

### Thrift Store Volunteers

Volunteer positions available. Applicants should be outgoing, willing to have fun and highly motivated. We are also looking for a board member treasurer with book keeping experience. Board members and store volunteers must attend all store meetings. All positions are volunteer, non-compensated positions. For more information, call Patty or Sharon at 253-4711 or e-mail thrift\_store@yahoo.com.

### Friendship Day program and coin sets

Marine Corps Community Services is selling the remaining 500 “2012 Friendship Day program and coin sets” at the cash cage at the Marine Corps Exchange. The set costs \$20 For more information, call Sean McHenry at 253-6373.

### Return Shopping Carts

Patrons must return shopping carts to the commissary instead of leaving them outside of the barracks and housing.

### Girl Scouts

The Iwakuni Girl Scouts is looking for fun-loving, devoted women and men who want to make a positive impact on the lives of young girls. If you are interested in becoming a leader, coleader, board member or parent volunteer, e-mail iwakunigs@gmail.com.

### Like To Draw?

The Iwakuni Approach is looking for artistic people with a sense of humor to submit cartoon drawings. If you are interested, bring your drawings by the Public Affairs Office, Building 1, Room 216. Public Affairs approves editorial content for cartoons published each week.

### Mothers of Preschoolers

MOPS offers fun support and encouragement for mothers of newborns to age five. Meetings are the 1st and 3rd Thursday each month. Volunteers are

also needed to help with the children’s program. For more information, call Sarah Spencer at 253-2303 or visit [www.facebook/IwakuniMOPS](http://www.facebook/IwakuniMOPS).

### 2012 Summer Reading Program

MCAS Iwakuni Library would like to announce registration begins this month for a shared summer reading program open to all military families. This year’s theme is “Reading Is So Delicious.” For more information on the program, call the station library at 253-3078 or send an e-mail to [OMBIWALIBRARY@usmc-mccs.org](mailto:OMBIWALIBRARY@usmc-mccs.org).

### Emergency Phone Numbers Reminder

Put these numbers in your wallet and phone:

- Anti-terrorism force protection hotline: 253-ATFP (2837).
- Life limb or loss-of-vision threatening emergencies while on the air station: 119 or 911. From a cell phone or for bilingual capability: 082-721-7700.
- For security issues, contact the Provost Marshal’s Office: 253-3303. To report without talking to a person, Crime Stoppers: 253-3333.
- Sexual Assault: To make a confidential report of sexual assault or harassment, contact the victim advocate at 253-4526 during working hours. For after hours, weekends and holidays, call 090-9978-1033 or 080-3427-0835. You can also call the installation Sexual Assault Response Coordinator at 253-6556 or 080-5865-3566.

For more information, call Lance Cpl. Christopher Korsikas at 253-4929 or 253-3306.

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### PMO Lost and Found

Contact the Provost Marshal’s Office Lost and Found if you have lost anything around the station. Examples include helmets, cameras, cell phones, etc. For more information, to report lost items or to claim lost items, call Lance Cpl. Christopher Korsikas at 253-4929 or 253-3306.

### Brief and Classified Submissions

To submit a community brief or classified advertisement, send an e-mail to [pao@usmc.mil](mailto:pao@usmc.mil). Include a contact name, a phone number and the information you would like to be published. You may submit your brief or advertisement in person at the Public Affairs Office, Building 1, Room 216 or you may call 253-5551. Please ensure you provide all requested information to simplify the request process.

ACTIVITIES  
family time

# FUN

# July 4th

ADVENTURE AWAITS YOU THIS INDEPENDENCE DAY.

## On Base Specials

**Strike Zone**  
Free Bowling all day with cosmic bowling finishing up the evening. There will be entertainment outside for the kids, weather permitting, from 11 AM - 4 PM.

**Food Court**  
Celebrate our nation's freedom with free deliveries all day. Any guest check ending with "76" gets a free scoop of ice cream from Baskin Robbins.

**Club Iwakuni**  
In celebrating our 236<sup>th</sup> birthday, all deserts are \$2.36 at JD's Grille. Free Mongolian BBQ for those guests with a meal prices within .25¢ of \$17.76.

**Sakura Theater**  
Free Movies showings at 1, 4 and 7 PM and a free corn dog for each guest. For movie listings, keep up to date at [www.mccsiwakuni.com/sakura](http://www.mccsiwakuni.com/sakura).

## Upcoming Fireworks Festivals

Events may be cancelled due to weather, contact Information and Referral for time, location and additional festivals at 253-4197. Public transportation is recommended, parking will be limited. Plan on arriving early for a good viewing area.

**Shin-Minato Firework Festival**  
July 21, 8-9 PM  
Watch the fireworks from Iwakuni port area. There will be food vendors and other entertainment available.

**Hiroshima Port**  
July 28, 8-9 PM  
A very popular display of about 10,000 fireworks at Hiroshima Port. Fireworks display will starts at 8 PM.

**Kintai Fireworks Festival**  
August 4, 8 AM - 9:30 PM  
Kintai Bridge area, Iwakuni  
6,000 fireworks will be set off over Kintai Bridge. There is plenty of other entertainment through the day including food vendors, Taiko drum, brass band and more.

**Miyajima Fireworks Festival**  
Aug 11, 7:50-8:50 PM  
Around 5,300 fireworks are launched from boats just off the north shore of Miyajima Island. The fireworks are best viewed from around Itsukushima Shrine.

**MC CS**  
MARINE CORPS

## Iwakuni Scholars

The following station residents are the newest Iwakuni Scholars and have earned their degrees:

Timothy E. Banks, Masters in International Relations  
Michael Pritchard, BS in Management and Finance  
Alice J. Garcia, BS in Criminal Justice  
James M. Hicks, BS in Liberal Arts  
John Stewart, BA in History  
Gary Bernhardt, BS in Human Services and Management  
Shelly Bothwell, BS in Management  
Janina Narciso, AA in General Curriculum  
Richard Limon, AA in General Studies  
Marlon Porche, AA in Management Studies  
Jordan Brown, AA in General Studies  
Arthur Doers, AA in General Studies



INFOTAINMENT

Chapel Services

Roman Catholic	
Saturday	4:30-5:15 p.m. Confession 5:30 p.m. Mass
Sunday	8:30 a.m. Mass 9:45 a.m. Religious Education
Mon. – Thurs.	11:30 a.m. Weekday Mass
Protestant	
Sunday	10:30 a.m. Protestant Service 10:30 a.m. Children's Church 10:30 a.m. Church of Christ Meeting 1 p.m. Contemporary 4:30 p.m. Lutheran Service 5:30 p.m. FLOW (Youth Group)
Monday	7 p.m. Men's Bible Study
Tuesday	9 a.m. Ladies' Bible Study 5 p.m. Working Women Bible Study
Wednesday	10:30 a.m. Ladies' Tea 5:45 p.m. AWANA (Bldg. 1104)
2nd and 4th Saturday	10:30 a.m. Seventh Day Adventist Meeting
2nd Saturday	7:30 a.m. Men's Discipleship
Bahai	
Sunday	11 a.m. Bahai Meeting

For information regarding divine services, religious education or any other command religious program or chapel activity, call the Marine Memorial Chapel at 253-3371.

THE IWAKUNI APPROACH CULTURAL LESSONS

岩国 白蛇 – Kanji for Iwakuni White Snake.  
イwakuni シロヘビ – Katakana for Iwakuni White Snake.  
いわくに しろへび – Hiragana for Iwakuni White Snake.

The Iwakuni White Snake is considered to be a very rare and blessed creature, just its presence is said to bring good luck and fortune to those who find them in their houses. The white snakes are said to be messengers of Bente, the Japanese goddess of wealth. A small hut is set up next to Kikko Park near the Kintai Bridge, which houses several white snakes that are put on display for tourists and locals to see every day.

The Iwakuni White Snake is deemed a national treasure by the Japanese government.

The Iwakuni White Snake is an albino variant of the Japanese Rat Snake, a medium-sized snake found throughout the majority of Japan's mainland. Adults reach a length of between one and two meters and a girth of about five centimeters. Ordinary colors of the snake range from pale yellow-green to dark blue-green.

The Japanese Rat snake hibernates for three to four months, mates in spring and lays 7-20 eggs in early summer.



LANCE CPL. CAYCE NEVERS

SAKURA THEATER

<b>Friday, June 22, 2012</b> 7 p.m. Men in Black 3 (PG-13) 10 p.m. The Five-Year Engagement (R)	<b>Monday, June 25, 2012</b> 1 p.m. The Pirates! Band of Misfits (PG) 7 p.m. Men in Black 3 (PG-13)
<b>Saturday, June 23, 2012</b> 4 p.m. The Three Stooges (PG) 7 p.m. Snow White and the Huntsman (PG-13)	<b>Tuesday, June 26, 2012</b> 1 p.m. The Three Stooges (PG)
<b>Sunday, June 24, 2012</b> 4 p.m. The Pirates! Band of Misfits (PG) 7 p.m. Prometheus (PG-13)	<b>Wednesday, June 27, 2012</b> 1 p.m. The Pirates! Band of Misfits (PG)
	<b>Thursday, June 28, 2012</b> 1 p.m. The Three Stooges (PG) 7 p.m. Snow White and the Huntsman (PG-13)

The movie schedule is subject to change. Please check [www.mccsiwakuni.com/sakura](http://www.mccsiwakuni.com/sakura) often for updates, or call the Sakura Theater at 253-5291 for the latest schedule.

General Admission: Ages 12+ are \$3/ Ages 6-11 are \$1.50/ Children ages 5 and under admitted free. For more information, visit [www.mccsiwakuni.com](http://www.mccsiwakuni.com) or call 253-5291.

Mess Hall Menu

<b>Monday:</b> Corn chowder, Chinese barbecue diced pork, red pepper glazed fish, pork fried rice, orange carrots amandine, fried cabbage, Chinese egg roll, dinner rolls, macaroni salad, potato salad, coleslaw, bear claws, cinnamon crumb top muffin, blueberry pie, velvet pound cake, brownies, chocolate cream pudding parfait, Jell-O parfait.	<b>Tuesday:</b> Corn chowder, sukiyaki, barbecue beef cubes, home fried potatoes, steamed rice, cauliflower parmesan, southern style greens, cream gravy, dinner rolls, macaroni salad, potato salad, coleslaw, long johns, banana muffins, lemon meringue, devil's food cake, chocolate buttercream frosting, shortbread cookies, bread pudding, Jell-O parfait.	<b>Wednesday:</b> French onion soup, Swiss steak with brown gravy, mustard dill fish, steamed rice, garlic roasted potato wedges, fried cabbage with bacon, mixed vegetables, brown gravy, dinner rolls, macaroni salad, potato salad, coleslaw, snails, quick cherry coffee cake, blueberry pie, white cake, buttercream frosting, brownies, vanilla pudding parfait, Jell-O parfait.	<b>Thursday:</b> New England clam chowder, beef stroganoff, pork adobo, pork fried rice, steamed pasta, scalloped cream style corn, peas with onions, brown gravy, dinner rolls, macaroni salad, potato salad, coleslaw, kolaches, apple coffee cake, cherry crunch, bananacake, buttercream frosting, macadamia coho chunks, chocolate parfait, Jell-O parfait.	<b>Friday:</b> Tomato soup, fried catfish, chili macaroni, grilled cheese, franconia potatoes, steamed pasta, succotash, broccoli parmesan, mushroom gravy, corn muffins, macaroni salad, potato salad, coleslaw, cinnamon rolls, quick French coffee cake, blueberry pie, carrot cake, cream cheese frosting, chocolate chip cookie, chocolate pudding parfait, Jell-O parfait.
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MCAS Iwakuni men practice yoga for Father's Day

Train your mind

Soothe your body

LANCE CPL. BENJAMIN PRYER  
IWAKUNI APPROACH STAFF

Station residents participated in the first Zen for Men hatha style yoga class inside the IronWorks Gym aerobics room here June 16, 2012.

The goal of the class was to introduce this type of exercise to men who may have been apprehensive to participate in a yoga class.

"In honor of Men's Health Month, Father's Day and for military in general, we thought we would try something new, because often times it's intimidating for men to want to come into a yoga class for several reasons," said Barbara Roman, Marine Corps Community Services SemperFit Division fitness coordinator. "Number one, being the amount of women normally in a yoga class and num-

ber two being the intimidation factor of poses, fancy poses they might not be able to get into or they might not know they can get into."

While the idea of yoga may seem alien to men who consider the only form of working out to be running many miles or bench pressing their body weight, yoga provides a plethora of benefits which may be unknown to them.

"Some men just feel that yoga is not important, that it's more geared for women," said Roman. "And my thought on that and the reason I wanted to do this was because yoga is a huge component into that ultimate fitness Marines strive for. Without that component, it all doesn't come together. You don't get the relaxation and the flexibility you need to stay healthy."

"This class focused on very deep stretches and targeting the spots we find most tense

in our military members," continued Roman. "For example, me being a fitness coordinator and doing observations, often times I notice the hip flexors are very tight with most of the Marines, because when you're doing your (Physical Fitness Test) and you're doing crunches, it is using those muscles. You constantly shorten and contract those muscles, so they never really get the chance to stretch back out, and that affects the rest of your body in some way."

"My hope was this would draw more men into the yoga classes with the ladies and just to improve relaxation, to relax the mind. If you can relax the tension in your mind, you can relax the tension in your body," she added.

Roman also mentioned hopes for a greater male turnout for yoga day, scheduled to happen in September.



LANCE CPL. BENJAMIN PRYER

Zachary Nguyen (center), Zen for Men yoga class participant, performs a pose during the Zen for Men hatha style yoga class, which took place inside the IronWorks Gym aerobics room here June 16, 2012. The origins of hathayoga are traced back to 11th century Buddhist scripture.



LANCE CPL. BENJAMIN PRYER

Station residents perform yoga poses during the Zen for Men hatha style yoga class, which took place inside the IronWorks Gym aerobics room here June 16, 2012. Hathayoga translates to, "a method utilizing physical exercise to control the body and attain union of the self."



LANCE CPL. BENJAMIN PRYER

Hiroko Yanai, IronWorks Gym yoga and aerobics instructor, gives a massage to a class participant during the Zen for Men hatha style yoga class, which took place inside the IronWorks Gym aerobics room here June 16, 2012. Asanas, or "physical postures," focus on controlled breathing and calming the mind through relaxation and meditation.



LANCE CPL. BENJAMIN PRYER

Jason Zeda (left) and other participants perform a pose during the Zen for Men hatha style yoga class which took place inside the IronWorks Gym aerobics room here June 16, 2012. The goal of the class was to introduce this type of exercise to men.



# The Iwakuni Time Machine

In the June 26, 1998, issue of the Torii Teller, Marines reported on the station changing its policy on helmet laws, crime watch, as well as a Marine Wing Support Squadron 171 Marine missing after being swept away in the flooded Ozegawa River near the Yasaka Dam. Marines also welcomed the new Marine Aircraft Group 12 commanding officer, Colonel Flock.

## News

# Corps crunches sit-up

by Cpl. Correll Heard  
Torii Teller Staff

The Marine Corps will change its physical fitness test Wednesday. According to a recent message, the Corps is "crunching" the sit-up with the crunch.

The reason for the modified sit-up is to enhance evaluation of abdominal strength and reduce the potential to injure the lower back and neck.

According to the message, the time limit is still two minutes.

The starting position will also still have the Marines on their backs with shoulder blades flat on the deck.

The knees must be flexed with both feet flat on the ground, but instead of the hands behind the head, the arms are resting against the chest or rib area during the entire exercise.

According to the ALMAR, there can be no gap between the chest or ribs and the forearms.

A repetition is completed when the upper body has

been raised from the starting position until the elbow forearms touch the thighs and the shoulder blades are again resting on the deck.

During the exercise, at no time can participants bounce or arch the lower back, and their feet must remain in constant contact with the deck.

They may, however, be assisted by having someone else hold their feet or legs below the knees.

Master Sergeant D. L. Anderson, H&HS training officer, said, "It's really hard to say whether or not the change will affect Physical Fitness Test scores. Some people are stronger on sit-ups while some are stronger crunches. I think it all may balance out."

On the other hand GySgt. Thomas Miller, H&HS training chief, said it depends on the individual Marine.

"If Marines wait until the last minute in order to prepare for the PFT, it will catch up with them."

According to the ALMAR, to ensure fairness among Marines competing for promotion to corporal or sergeant, composite score computations for the periods July '98 to March '99 will use PFT scores entered in the Marine Corps Total Force System prior to July 1, 1998.

However, effective April 1, 1999, composite score computations for all promotions to corporal and sergeant will include PFT scores recorded since July 1, 1998.

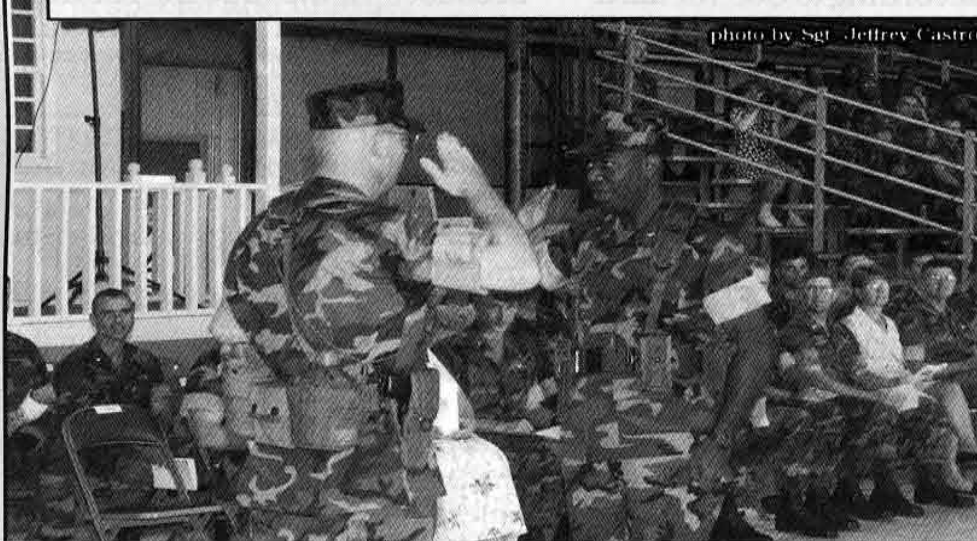
photo by LCpl. Paul Anstine



## PSD-12 Change of Command

**Major Patrick Noonan (left), PSD-12 commanding officer, receives the unit colors from Maj. Kirk Skinner, outgoing PSD-12 commanding officer, during the change of command ceremony Friday. Noonan's most recent assignment was aviation maintenance officer and executive officer for the VMFA-212 Lancers.**

photo by Sgt. Jeffrey Castro



## '171 Change of Command

**Lieutenant Colonel Bruce Anderson (left), outgoing MWSS-171 commanding officer, exchanges salutes with LtCol. Doarin Lewis, '171 commanding officer, during the change of command ceremony Tuesday. Lewis is coming from the United States Central Command, MacDill Air Base, Tampa, Fla., where he served as the Executive Officer to the Director, Logistics and Security Assistance Directorate.**