

THE IWAKUNI APPROACH

Issue No. 27 Vol. 5 | Marine Corps Air Station Iwakuni, Japan



CPL. VANESSA JIMENEZ

ROYAL AUSTRALIAN AIR FORCE BASE TINDAL, Australia — Capt. Timothy J. Farag, Marine Fighter Attack Squadron 232 logistics officer and F/A-18 pilot, approaches the runway before conducting flight training here July 16 as part of Southern Frontier 2012. SF12 is an annual, unilateral training exercise hosted by the Royal Australian Air Force allowing Marine Aircraft Group 12 F/A-18 squadrons the opportunity to focus on Offensive Air Support training in order to improve squadron readiness.

Marines arrive, turn up heat in “Land Down Under”

CPL. VANESSA JIMENEZ
IWAKUNI APPROACH STAFF

ROYAL AUSTRALIAN AIR FORCE BASE TINDAL, Australia — American forces arrived here July 13, 2012, to kick off Exercise Southern Frontier 2012, and then take part in the multilateral Exercise Pitch Black 2012.

Both exercises are conducted annually to enhance flight

operations and maintain proficiency as well as maintain interoperability between allies and partner nations.

“I think being able to train with all the different countries is fantastic,” said Lt. Col. Travis S. Kelley, Marine Fighter Attack Squadron 232 commanding officer. “Especially working with the Australians. They’re a lot like Marines when it comes to their mentality and the way they do

business. It’s a great opportunity for us to get to work with them. It’s in both our best interest and the Aussies’ to better that relationship because they’re such a strong ally in the region.”

During the exercises, elements of Marine Aircraft Group 12, 1st Marine Aircraft Wing, III Marine Expeditionary Force, and 5th Air Naval Gunfire Liaison Company, III MEF Headquarters Group, III MEF, will conduct solo and

multilateral training to maintain readiness.

Iwakuni-based Marine Aircraft Group 12 Headquarters, Marine Fighter Attack Squadron 232, Marine Wing Support Squadron 171 and Marine Aviation Logistics Squadron 12 service members will also participate in this exercise.

Okinawa-based service members with Marine Wing

SEE **FRONTIER** ON PAGE 3

Reading new books, eating new foods, learning new things

LANCE CPL. J. GAGE KARWICK
IWAKUNI APPROACH STAFF

Children and their parents gathered in the station library here July 11, 2012, to take part in Delicious Discovery Day.

Participants not only learned how reading is beneficial, they had a chance to see a variety of books from different regions. Putting the “delicious” in the discovery, they enjoyed tasty treats and dishes from other countries and cultures with which the kids and their parents may not have been familiar.

SEE **DELICIOUS** ON PAGE 3

Station residents parade for Fourth

LANCE CPL. BENJAMIN PRYER
IWAKUNI APPROACH STAFF

Station residents came together July 4, 2012, to celebrate the history of America during the Stars-and-Trikes Parade, which trailed through the station’s Monzen district.

“It was nice to bring a little bit of home here, to help people not feel so far away from home” said Genny Stiller, station resident.

SEE **PARADE** ON PAGE 3

Station welcomes Japanese children with open arms

LANCE CPL. BENJAMIN PRYER
IWAKUNI APPROACH STAFF

Children from Iwakuni-Kawashimo Yochien (kindergarten), a local school, and chaperones came aboard station July 11, 2012, as part of a more than 25-year tradition for an hour of fun using the IronWorks Gym indoor pool.

The kids arrived at the pool at approximately 11 a.m.

“We love having the kids

here,” said Stephanie Brown, Marine Corps Community Services aquatics director. “They’re so cute!”

Only the senior class of Iwakuni-Kawashimo participates in the trip, giving younger students something to aspire for when they reach their final year in kindergarten.

“Every year at the beginning of July or the end of June, I expect to get an e-mail from the school saying

SEE **KAWASHIMO** ON PAGE 3



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The Iwakuni Approach welcomes Letter to the Editor submissions. Letters must include a full name and unit, if applicable. Anonymous letters and comments will not be published. Letters are the opinion of the writer only. Submissions may be edited for clarity and space. Letters can be dropped off at the Public Affairs Office or sent via e-mail to iwakuni.pao@usmc.mil. Please submit all content at least two weeks in advance of projected publication date for review.

PSC 561 Box 1868
FPO AP 96310-0019
Phone 253-5551
Fax 253-5554

CHAPLAIN’S CORNER

‘The Significance of Corps Values’

LT. CMDR. L. LEE
COMMAND CHAPLAIN

Several years ago, I watched General Colin Powell give an interview in a news program. As I watched his interview, it became very clear he was a man of passion and conviction. Among many things, he said the problem with our youth today was a lack of core values. This message has been stuck in my mind for years and echoes loud and clear as I see young Marines and sailors struggle with life’s issues and problems.

Born as a son of a Jamaican immigrant in Harlem in 1937, General Colin Powell grew up in a tough neighborhood where most youngsters got into trouble, but he transcended his environment by setting goals and a vision in life. When he retired from the

Army after 35 years of service, he had risen to the rank of 4-star general, ultimately becoming the 12th Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, the highest position in the Department of Defense. Not only are his background and personal achievements impressive, but his message is timeless and inspiring to all of us. General Powell’s intelligence, endurance, and committed practice of taking personal responsibility for his actions are refreshing in today’s “blame-the-other-person” world. For me, what resonated the most is his belief in obtaining personal core values.

Core values are the beliefs we hold near and dear to our hearts. We are who we are based on our core values and beliefs. Without core values, individuals, families, companies, institutions and nations can and will drift. Once

we start drifting, our decision-making process will be governed by external circumstances rather than our internal compass. I believe this is what is happening to our culture and the absence of core value is in proportion to “what’s-in-it-for-me” mentality. This is the reason why we often make poor choices in spite of having a strong gut feeling that it’s the wrong choice. Unless one has a solid foundation of core values, chances are someone will keep on “drifting,” or it won’t take much to stop that person from doing what is “right.”

Personally, I find the Scripture to be one of the best places to find good core values. Read the Gospels and watch our Lord plant seeds of core values to his disciples. By planting core values in those wayward disciples, our Lord changed human history forever. Our faith must be accompanied by solid core values in order to validate our genuine faith. Are you up to it?

SUMMER SAFETY: Typhoon Awareness

Are you ready for the Typhoon season? Here are some general facts you should know about Tropical Cyclone Conditions of Readiness (TCCOR), typhoon categories, emergency shelters and phone numbers. For more information, contact your Unit Typhoon Coordinator or read the Destructive Weather Bill MCASO P3140.3Y

TYPHOON CATEGORIES:

TYPHOON CAT 1

- Wind speeds of 64-82 knots.

TYPHOON CAT 2

- Wind speeds of 83-95 knots.

TYPHOON CAT 3

- Wind speeds of 96-113 knots.

TYPHOON CAT 4

- Wind speeds of 114-135 knots.

SUPER TYPHOON

- Wind speeds greater than 136 knots.

EMERGENCY SHELTERS AND EMERGENCY NUMBERS:

DISASTER SHELTERS

- The IronWorks Gym, Building 1010, 253-6578 and M.C. Perry Gymnasium, Building 555, 253-3447

OFF BASE RESIDENTS

- Are accepted at on-station shelters after TCCOR II has been set. A stay for 48 hours should be anticipated.

To get the current Typhoon conditions, call 253-3005.

FOR INFORMATION ON HOW TO PREPARE YOUR TYPHOON KIT GO TO PAGE 10.

GRAPHIC ILLUSTRATION BY SGT. KYLE T. RAMIREZ

Red Devils begin multilateral training in Australia

FRONTIER FROM PAGE 1

Communications Squadron 18, Marine Aerial Refueler Transport Squadron 152 and 5th Air Naval Gunfire Liaison Company are also slated to participate in the exercises.

The exercises will consist of field training events to include call-for-fire and flight operations. Exercises will focus on close-air support, air interdiction, offensive anti-air warfare, and suppression of enemy air defenses.

Southern Frontier is an annual, unilateral training exercise hosted by the Royal Australian Air Force. This exercise allows MAG-12 F/A-18 squadrons the opportunity to focus on offensive air-support training in order to improve squadron readiness.

This year, Marine Fighter Attack Squadron 232 will be the focus of Southern Frontier.

“My expectations for Southern Frontier are to generate some flight-leadership qualifications,” said Kelley. “It’s my goal as VMFA-232 squadron to generate those codes. These are hard-to-get training requirements and if we don’t get them here, it’s going to be very difficult to get them back in the rear.”

PB12 is intended as a means for participant militaries to practice large-scale offensive counter-air and offensive-air support missions in large, multinational formations. By conducting these activities, SF12 and PB12 help to enhance readiness, increase interoperability of forces, and strengthen regional partnerships

to effectively respond to regional challenges.

Pitch Black is designed to facilitate large-force training and coalition interoperability out of Royal Australian Air Force Base, Darwin. Countries slated to participate in the exercise with American forces include: The Australian Defense Force, Royal Thai Armed Forces, Singapore Armed Forces, New Zealand Defense Force, Malaysian Armed Forces, French Armed Forces, British Armed Forces, Indonesian National Armed Forces and a component operating through NATO.

“By working with our multinational partners, we’re supporting our country’s goals and continuing military engagement that’s part of our mission,” said

Maj. Dustin J. Byrum, VMFA-232 operations officer. “The ranges in Australia also provide us with really good training opportunities. They create a great opportunity to employ all of our capabilities and demonstrate what the MAGTF [Marine Air Ground Task Force] can do.”

More than 280 Japan-based servicemembers are scheduled to participate in the two exercises. Marines will employ the use of F/A-18s and KC-130J aircraft. During the two exercises, Marines will produce approximately 350 sorties and drop 85,000 pounds of ordnance.

Southern Frontier 2012 and Pitch Black 2012 will take place between mid-July and mid-August.

DoD summer reading program fills kids with knowledge

DELICIOUS FROM PAGE 1

Delicious Discovery Day started with the children gathered together on the floor as Stacey Kobe-Bellika, supervisory librarian, read the children’s book, “Yoko”.

“This is part of our summer reading program, which is part of a Department of Defense wide program,” said Kobe-Bellika. “Every military base everywhere has the same theme for their summer reading program, and this year’s theme is ‘Reading Is Delicious,’ so today we are doing a Delicious Discovery Day. We want to introduce kids and their families to foods from other countries that they may have not tried as well as some books they may have not yet read, so today is about promoting new things.”

The Delicious Discovery Day featured foods from a mix of several different cultures from around the world.

“We have food from Mexico, Greece, Italy, Japan, the Caribbean, Hawaiian cultural, Scandinavia and several others,” said Kobe-Bellika. “It’s not just learning about foods and books from other countries, but also other cultures.”

The children seemed eager to try the different foods on display while they sat on the floor and listened to the reading of “Yoko”.

“I’m having a lot of fun, I really like reading and the food is really good, a little different than normal, but it’s still good,” said Evie Smolenski, 8, child participant. “I like reading a lot of books, classic books, chapter books and things like that. I have a lot of favorite books. Some are the ‘Harry Potter’ series, the ‘Diary of a Wimpy Kid’ series and a whole bunch of others. I have a lot of books on my book shelf and have so many favorites.”

Children eagerly walked around the displays intent on trying new things. As the event drew to a close, they left with an appreciation for new books and foods.

Let freedom ring! Stars-and Trikes participants take to streets

PARADE FROM PAGE 1

“It was a great opportunity to make new memories and remember the old traditions we would do if we were back in the states.”

The parade started with the singing of The Star-Spangled Banner and a lesson about the Fourth of July.

Children gathered before the parade and learned about America’s independence.

“We wanted to make sure the kids understood the importance of their heritage,” said Stiller. “It can be a little difficult while you’re over here to remember your own holidays when you spend so much time accepting and learning about the Japanese. Even without the fireworks everyone is so used to, I’d say the parade was really inspiring.”

Even when rain fell on those participating, the spirit of the moment remained alive.

“The turnout for the event was even better than we expected,” said Stiller. “We were anticipating maybe 25 to 50 people to show up, but when everyone got there it looked like almost 100 people had shown up. Even when it started pouring on everyone, not a single person left.”

A party was held the day before the parade, where decorations were available for those who wanted to add a personal touch to their tricycles and bicycles. Banners were also made and carried by participants.

With such a great turnout for a first-time event, participants said their hopes are high to make this parade annual.

“Hopefully next year we can have another parade and it’ll be even bigger and better,” said Wendy Lewis, station resident. “I know they we’re trying to get

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HEAT simulator rolls Marines through training

CPL. CHARLIE CLARK
IWAKUNI APPROACH STAFF

Station Installation Personnel Administration Center Marines trained in the Humvee Egress Assistance Trainer here July 11, 2012.

The HEAT simulates a rolling-over Humvee, which occurs when a top-heavy load, improvised explosive device or unfavorable road and weather conditions flip a Humvee.

The HEAT simulator rotates in a full 360-degree rotation, which allows for upside down or side-flipped egress scenarios.

The HEAT is one of two machines here which simulate military vehicles rolling over. The other is the Mine Resistant Ambush Protected Egress Trainer.

The training ensured the Marines would know what to do in the event they are in an overturned Humvee.

"You can't always depend on your job to keep you safe while in the military," said Staff Sgt. Tressia K. Rakestraw, station IPAC personal management branch staff noncommissioned officer-in-charge. "As Marines, we step out of our box a lot in order to complete the mission. The HEAT training pushes the Marines out of their comfort zones and gets them ready for what they might be doing in the future."

Although several examples of flipped Humvees came from combat operations in Iraq and Afghanistan, there have been instances at installations as close as Okinawa where Humvees rolled over. Lives were lost during those accidents.

There have never been such accidents aboard station, said Justin Taylor, HEAT instructor, but Marines train for any occurrence because safety is the first line of defense in preventing injuries.

"Marines train like we fight," said Rakestraw. "This training helps show my Marines what their brothers and sisters experience in a combat environment and how they too can stay safe and help others if this situation should happen to them."

The IPAC Marines received

required training classes and medical approval before donning flak jackets, Kevlar, rubber rifles, goggles and elbow and kneepads before entering the HEAT simulator.

"When I first climbed into the simulator, it was really fun because you're with your fellow Marines experiencing something new and different together," said Lance Cpl. Casey J. Woerpel, IPAC travel claims clerk. "After it started to spin, I started to focus on what I would do next to keep myself upright and help the other Marines to get out of the machine and set up a security perimeter around the simulator."

Sgt. Trelane D. Johnson, IPAC noncommissioned officer-in-charge, and Sgt. Aldo Pena, Personal Management Branch NCOIC with station IPAC, trained to become HEAT simulator trainers during the classes and exercises.

The HEAT simulator cannot train Marines for every situation, but specific scenarios are part of the training. During the training, one of the four Marines in the simulator was assigned to be an injured passenger. The three other Marines in the Humvee had to get the injured Marine out of the simulator and provide security.

After each run through the machine, the Marines were briefed about what they did correctly and what they needed to improve upon during the next simulation.

"It's good to get out of your billet description and do the things other Marines do and experience," said Woerpel. "This has opened my eyes to how scared Marines were in these situations and how brave they had to be to live through it."

The IPAC Marines scheduled for the different IPAC sections to receive HEAT training at different times so each Marine would have plenty of time in the simulator.

With the HEAT training under their belts, the IPAC Marines continue to train as Marines fight.



CPL. CHARLIE CLARK

Lance Cpl. Angel A. Velizcruz, station Installation Personnel Administration Center unit diary clerk, climbs out of the top gunner's hatch of the Humvee Egress Assistance Trainer here July 11, 2012. The IPAC Marines received required training classes and medical approval before donning flak jackets, Kevlar, rubber rifles, goggles and elbow and kneepads before climbing into the HEAT simulator.



CPL. CHARLIE CLARK

Justin Taylor, lead Humvee Egress Assistance Trainer instructor, teaches Station Installation Personnel Administration Center Marines how to set up and what to do when they exit the simulator here July 11, 2012. The HEAT simulator rotates in a full 360-degree rotation which allows for upside down, flipped on side and top gunner hatch egress scenarios.



CPL. CHARLIE CLARK

Lance Cpl. Casey J. Woerpel, station Installation Personnel Administration Center travel claims clerk, pulls his goggles over his eyes before entering the Humvee Egress Assistance Trainer here July 11, 2012. The HEAT simulator trains Marines in the situation of a Humvee rolling over, which occurs when a top-heavy load, improvised explosive device or unfavorable road and weather conditions flip a Humvee.

CLC-36 departs for Exercise Dragon Fire II

LANCE CPL. TODD F. MICHALEK
COMBAT CAMERAMAN

Combat Logistics Company 36 embarked on Exercise Dragon Fire II the morning of July 8, 2012.

Sixteen Marines and one corpsman met at the CLC-36 warehouse at 4:00 a.m. to take a convoy of eight tactical vehicles on the approximately 500-mile drive from Iwakuni to Camp Fuji, Japan. The Marines spent about an hour putting the finishing touches on their gear and ensuring the vehicles were ready for the journey.

Many of the motor transport operators were junior Marines, which made the convoy an excellent learning opportunity.

Gunnery Sgt. Antony Simmons, a CLC-36 convoy commander, said the convoy relates to combat in many ways, "In that you do deal with traffic, and that in other countries they can be very aggressive out there on the highways. The mentality I was trying to get across to the Marines every time we stopped was to allow the traffic to come in and out. In country, you have to relax a little bit so they don't have bad feelings about us being in their country."

The Marines performed well on the convoy, but some mechanical issues caused delays.

"We had one vehicle go down within 45 minutes of leaving the air station," Simmons said.

The vehicle pulled over to the side of the road and Simmons directed traffic around the Marines working on the Humvee. While the incident may seem like a hindrance to the mission, it actually created a very relevant real-world training scenario.

"We assessed it within fifteen minutes and couldn't get it up and running, so we decided to tow it to the next rest stop, exactly as planned, and from that point we took it back and got another vehicle," Simmons said.

Although the challenge presented to the Marines was unexpected, it was a helpful experience.

"Most of the drivers out there were junior Marines driving some big trucks on small roads," Simmons said. "All-in-all, the experience of a convoy gives the drivers confidence and know-how."

The convoy lasted two days. The Marines spent the night at a rest area in Osaka. As the sun rose over the horizon the next morning, the Marines took to the road again and arrived at Camp Fuji that afternoon.

The long hours and challenges on the road served as a good experience and perfect segue into the upcoming training of Exercise Dragon Fire II.



LANCE CPL. TODD F. MICHALEK

Cpl. Nicholas J. Durbin, a motor transportation operator with Combat Logistics Company 36, examines a humvee which broke down on the way to Camp Fuji from Marine Corps Air Station Iwakuni, for exercise Dragon Fire II July 8, 2012. Dragon Fire is an annual exercise held by CLC-36 to give Marines a chance to conduct infantry training in a field environment.



LANCE CPL. TODD F. MICHALEK

Gunnery Sgt. Antony Simmons, a convoy commander with Combat Logistics Company 36, adjusts the mirror to check for traffic before switching lanes in the NK23, known as a 7-ton, during a convoy from Marine Corps Air Station Iwakuni to Camp Fuji for Exercise Dragon Fire II July 8, 2012. Dragon Fire is an annual exercise held by CLC-36 to give Marines a chance to conduct training in a field environment.



LANCE CPL. TODD F. MICHALEK

The Combat Logistics Company 36 convoy arrives in Fujiyama, Japan, after driving from Marine Corps Air Station Iwakuni, for Exercise Dragon Fire II, July 9, 2012. Dragon Fire is an annual exercise held by CLC-36 to give Marines a chance to conduct infantry training in a field environment.

ARFF Marines welcome local orphanage aboard station, provide smiles, fun

ARTICLE AND PHOTOS BY
LANCE CPL. BENJAMIN PRYER
IWAKUNI APPROACH STAFF

Tsuta Children's Home children were welcomed aboard station Saturday by Aircraft Rescue Fire Fighter Marines and their families for a day of fun and enjoyment.

"We are a proud sponsor of the Tsuta Children's Home and we try to do at least two, maybe three events with them every year," said Master Sgt. Joseph P. Beall, ARFF staff noncommissioned officer-in-charge. "This has been going on for more than 30 years."

ARFF Marines started the day by bringing the children and their chaperones to the IronWorks Gym pool to play games and swim.

Afterwards, the Marines and Japanese traveled to the ARFF fire station for more fun activities.

"This is definitely a good thing for the Marines and for the kids," said Beall. "The Marines have a good time with the kids and our children have a good time playing with our guests. It's just a great event to get hang out with people from in town."

Children played in the massive bouncy house, ate the food cooked by the Marines, and played soccer, "cornhole" and tug-of-war. Smiles lit up everyone's face, Japanese and station resident, throughout the entire day.

"Every kid in the world loves to get some kind of attention, even between the Japanese kids and Americans," said Beall. "The language barrier can be a tough thing, but just to be able to see a kid smile, that's universal."

After a water-balloon game followed by a free-for-all water-

balloon fight which left the participants soaked yet smiling and laughing, the ARFF Marines and local Girl Scouts brought out gifts, home supplies and other living essentials they donated to the children's home.

"We worked hard selling food, shirts and coins in our booth during Friendship Day and this is our reward," said Beall. "It's good to show we're not just stuck here on the other side of the air station, but we want to reach out and help the community."

After Marines helped load up the children's bus with the supplies, people said their last goodbyes, some even taking group photos to remember the day.

As the bus pulled away, Japanese children waved as Marines and their families waved back, hoping they would meet again soon.



Aircraft Rescue Fire Fighting Marines wave goodbye to Tsuta Children's Home children and chaperones as they leave the ARFF fire station here July 14, 2012. ARFF Marines and their families took the children to the IronWorks Gym pool and to their station for a day of fun, food and activities. ARFF plans to bring the Tsuta children back for a Christmas party later this year.



Tsuta Children's Home children and chaperones clap while being presented gifts from Aircraft Rescue Fire Fighting Marines and station Girl Scouts inside the ARFF fire station here July 14, 2012. ARFF Marines and their families took the orphanage children to the IronWorks Gym pool and then to their fire station for a day of fun, food and activities.



Tsuta Children's Home children and Aircraft Rescue Fire Fighting Marines and their families have a water-balloon fight outside the ARFF fire station here July 14, 2012. "This has been going on for more than 30 years," said Master Sgt. Joseph P. Beall, ARFF staff noncommissioned officer-in-charge.



Tsuta Children's Home children and station residents throw water balloons outside the Aircraft Rescue Fire Fighting fire station here July 14, 2012. ARFF Marines started the day by bringing the children and their chaperones to the IronWorks Gym pool to play games and swim.



Tsuta Children's Home children play inside a bouncy house at the Aircraft Rescue Fire Fighting fire station here July 14, 2012. "Every kid in the world loves to get some kind of attention ... but just to be able to see a kid smile, that's universal," said Master Sgt. Joseph P. Beall, ARFF staff noncommissioned officer-in-charge.



A Tsuta Children's Home child plays with a soccer ball inside the Aircraft Rescue Fire Fighting fire station here July 14, 2012. ARFF and local Girl Scouts used money earned from Friendship Day 2012 to buy donations for the children's home.

CORPS NEWS

HIGHLIGHTING MARINES AND SAILORS AROUND THE GLOBE



CPL. ANTHONY WARD JR.

NAHR-E SARAJ, Afghanistan- Vehicles maneuver down the road as a part of route clearance for Operation Jaws in Nahr-e Saraj, Afghanistan, June 22, 2012. The ten-day operation brought together Air Force Explosive Ordnance Disposal and Marine Corps and Army route combat engineers to rid the area of roadside bombs.

Combat Engineers aid mobility in Afghanistan

CPL. ANTHONY WARD, JR.
I MEF PUBLIC AFFAIRS

NAHR-E SARAJ, Afghanistan — Marines with 1st Combat Engineer Battalion, 1st Marine Division (Forward), performed route clearance, June 19-29, 2012, in support of Operation Jaws in Nahr-e Saraj, Afghanistan.

During the operation, the Marine combat engineers, paired with Army engineers and Air Force explosive ordnance disposal teams, travelled through the district, exploiting and removing improvised explosive devices to facilitate Marines' and Afghan soldiers' safer travel in the district.

"We had two engineer elements, one on the west side of the river and one on the east side," said Capt. Christopher Y. Kim, mobility assault company commander for 1st CEB.

The main mission was to provide troop mobility and gap-crossing capabilities to aid infantry maneuvering and delivery of supplies, Kim added.

The operation brought together many different elements and called for each one to play a key part.

Marines with 1st Tank Battalion aided in providing over-watch security, along with partnered teams of Afghan National Army soldiers and Marines from 1st Battalion, 7th Marine Regiment.

This multi-pronged effort proved fruitful as the Marines pushed throughout the battle space, uncovering numerous IEDs.

"On the east side there were about 13 IEDs found," said Kim. "On the west side we found two."

The other supporting units found more IEDs, including an anti-tank explosive during the operation.

Uncovering these homemade bombs works toward the goal of establishing a safer Afghanistan.

"It's all about freedom of movement throughout the battle space," said Staff Sgt. Gerhard Tauss, platoon sergeant for 2nd platoon, MAC, 1st CEB. "If route clearance isn't utilized properly, then you have vehicles driving all over the place taking IED strikes."

Having route clearance sweep through an area dramatically decreases the chance of IED strikes against Marines and equipment, added Tauss.

The Marines of 1st CEB conducted the operation under the constant threat of the enemy.

Insurgents fired mortars, rocket-propelled grenades and smalls-arms weapons at the Marines.

"My guys did fantastic. I am super proud of them," said Tauss. "We got into a firefight, and they performed admirably, exactly how we trained them to. They kept their cool and I am lucky to have them in my platoon."

"I think it was an extremely successful mission," said Kim. "We made sure that over-watch positions and ground forces were able to get in where they needed to, when they needed to. We made sure all the major lines of communications were clear of explosive hazards."

By conducting route clearance, 1st CEB provided the troops assigned to the Nahr-e Saraj district with peace of mind, allowing them to concentrate on their task at hand.



CPL. ANTHONY WARD JR.

Staff Sgt. Gerhard Tauss launches an unmanned aerial vehicle prior to conducting operations in the scouted area in Nahr-e Saraj, Afghanistan, June 20, 2012. Tauss is the platoon sergeant for 2nd platoon, Mobility Assault Company, 1st Combat Engineer Battalion, and operated in support of Operation Jaws as a part of the route clearance effort.

COMMUNITY BRIEFS | CLASSIFIEDS

Briefs

Pass and Registration Construction

Pass and Registration will have a construction project beginning July 23, 2012, which is expected to last two weeks. Services will continue at one window during the first week. This will have no effect on the Japanese Pass Section. For more information, contact Barry E. Harwell at 253-3135.

facilities and services on Wednesday, July 25, starting at 6 p.m. For more information, contact Ryan Curtis at 253-5284.

Mothers of Preschoolers

MOPS is an encouraging group for pregnant mothers and moms of children ages six and younger. Now holding summer playdates, visit www.facebook.com/iwakunimops for times and locations, or email iwakunimops@yahoo.com

Thrift Store Funds

The Thrift Store gives the funds generated from the generous donations they receive back to the community. If your organization is hosting a community event in need of supplies, or wondering how they will fund their next community relations project, your Thrift Store may be able to help. For more details, contact Sharon Rostkowski at 253-4711

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.

Seawall Closures

Sectioned portions of the seawall have closed for construction scheduled through April 2013. The affected area of the seawall includes any portion of the seawall after the "NO THROUGH PATH" sign. Take extra care because construction

vehicles will pass through. The affected areas will shut down completely when heavy equipment is transferred. For more information on the closures, call Walter Chan at 253-5004.

Speed Limit Change

The speed limit on Newell Dr., located next to the Northside Marine Mart, is now 30 km/h. The station is in the process of changing the posted speed limit signs.

Return Shopping Carts

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

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.

Active-Reserve Career Information

Marines seeking information about transitioning to the Reserve component should contact Gunnery Sgt. Robert Noyes,

Okinawa Active-Reserve Career Planner, at (315) 622-6004, or send him an e-mail at robert.noyes@usmc.mil.

Station Eagle Scouts

If any Eagle Scouts aboard station wish to provide support or participate in raising new scouts to Eagle, contact the troop at Iwakuni.BSA.Troop77@gmail.com

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.

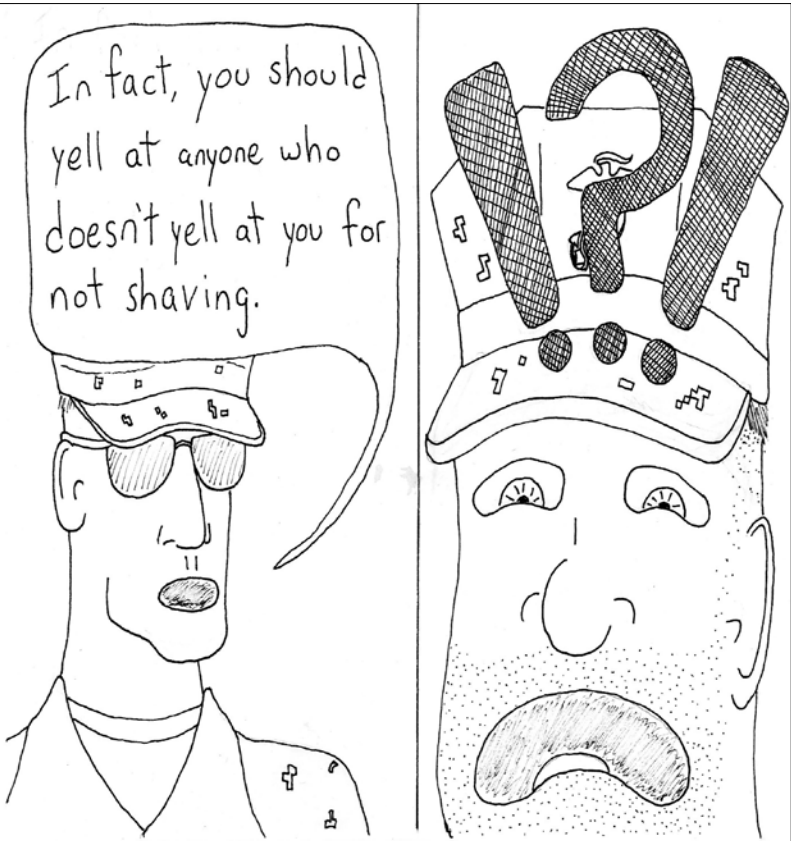
Off-limit Establishments

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.

Brief and Classified Submissions

To submit a community brief or classified advertisement, send an e-mail to iwakuni.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. Ensure you provide all requested information to simplify the request process. Deadlines are 3 p.m. every Friday.

KUNI TOONS: SNCO LOGIC



INFOTAINMENT

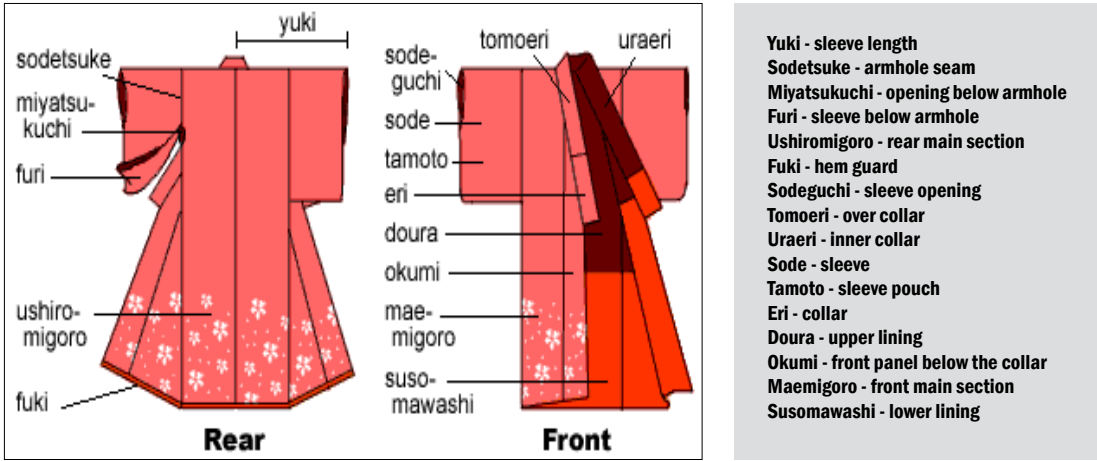
Chapel Services

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	9:30 a.m. Lutheran Service 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 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 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

Kanji Adventures



One of the world's instantly recognizable traditional garments is the Japanese kimono. The word kimono means "clothing," and until the mid-19th century, was the form of dress worn by everyone in Japan. That changed slowly with the import of suits, dresses and other western fashions during the Meiji Era. Thanks to the popularity of ukiyo-e woodblock prints in the West at the beginning of the last century, the kimono-clad maiden became one of the quintessential images of Japan. There are different types of kimono for different occasions and seasons, including those worn by men. Other than those worn daily by some older people or performers of traditional arts, kimono are a much less common sight these days but are still widely worn on special occasions such as weddings and graduation ceremonies.

SAKURA THEATER

Friday, July 20, 2012 7 p.m. The Amazing Spider-Man (PG-13)	Tuesday, July 24, 2012 1 p.m. Brave (PG)
Saturday, July 21, 2012 4 p.m. Brave (PG) 7 p.m. The Dictator (R)	Wednesday, July 25, 2012 1 p.m. Madagascar 3: Europe's Most Wanted (PG)
Sunday, July 22, 2012 3 p.m. Madagascar 3: Europe's Most Wanted (PG) 7 p.m. The Amazing Spider-Man (PG-13)	Thursday, July 26, 2012 1 p.m. Flushed Away (PG) 7 p.m. What to Expect When You're Expecting (PG-13)
Monday, July 23, 2012 1 p.m. Hotel for Dogs (PG) 7 p.m. The Dictator (R)	

The movie schedule is subject to change. Please check 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 or call 253-5291.

Prepare Your Typhoon Kit

- Flashlight (keep batteries separate)
- Battery-powered Radio (keep batteries separate)
- Batteries
- Canned and packaged food with can and bottle opener (2 to 3 days of supply)
- 2 to 3 days supply of water (1 gallon of drinking water per person per day)
- First aid supplies
- Prescription medication (if applicable)
- Baby articles (if applicable)
- Hand Cleaner / Wet Naps
- Inventory check list (keep your kit updated)

Don't forget to refresh your supplies once used

Family fun with swim, run

LANCE CPL. J. GAGE KARWICK
IWAKUNI APPROACH STAFF

Families gathered to participate in the Marine Corps Community Services Splash-and-Dash race at the WaterWorks pool here July 14, 2012. The race's objective was for participants in teams of fathers and sons, fathers and daughters, mothers and sons, and mothers and daughters, to swim the length of the 50-meter pool, get out, get dressed and race around the block. "This is the first Splash-and-Dash event we have had," said Mai Tajima, MCCS recreation specialist. "Kids swimming and running together with one of their parents as a team builds a good relationship, strong bonds and fond memories for families." Two different age categories competed in the

race. The younger age group was from age nine and younger. The older age group was 10 and older. "We had two age categories and they were 9 years old and under and 10 and over," said Tajima. "Both groups had a 50-meter swim. The teams in the nine and under category ran one lap around the course, which is one kilometer. The 10 and over group ran 2k for their second part of the race." Strong moral values and sense of community can be established in children at a young age, and participating in athletic events with a parent can help children grow in body and mind, said Wendy Lewis, Splash-and-Dash participant. "It's absolutely mandatory, as far as I'm concerned, for parents to get out and exercise with their kids," said Lewis. "Then, in between exercises, they eat a healthy and nutritional diet. Participating in group activities and family-oriented events such as this will help our kids grow up to become healthy, strong-willed and competitive adults." As competitors pushed themselves, spectators encouraged them from the sidelines. "I see everyone is enjoying themselves cheering for their families and the other competitors," said Tajima. "This was a very family-friendly event, as well as my first time putting on an event like this for kids, and I loved it. This gives me ideas on what other events we can put on in the future. So in the future the station residents can expect more events like this to participate in with their kids." The Splash-and-Dash is one of many events MCCS puts on for families aboard station. The participation of station residents is encouraged to build stronger community relations and to spend quality time with one's family.



Participants in the Marine Corps Community Services nine and younger age group of the Splash-and-Dash race stand by at the starting line at the WaterWorks pool here as their parents instruct them July 14, 2012. The Children in the nine and younger age group swam the length of the 50 meter pool.



Anthony Baggs and his son, Colson, participants in the Splash-and-Dash race at the WaterWorks pool here, cross the finish line at the end of the one kilometer run July 14, 2012. The father-and-son duo finished the race with a time of 8 minutes and 30 seconds.



Wendy Lewis and her son, Logan, Splash-and-Dash participants in the nine and younger age group, begin their lap around the block for a one-kilometer race at the WaterWorks pool here July 14, 2012. The Splash-and-Dash brought parents and their kids together as a team.

The Iwakuni Time Machine

In the July 20, 1979, issue of the Torii Teller, Marines reported on Marine Aircraft Group 12 visiting Akebono Orphanage, prompted by Machiko Hamamoto, now known as Mama-san, the Japanese summer delicacy of eels, an adjustment to equal promoting scores, meritorious promotions reductions and Selective Reenlistment Bonus Program revisions announced.

FEATURE



Machiko Hamamoto

MAG-12 Visits Orphanage

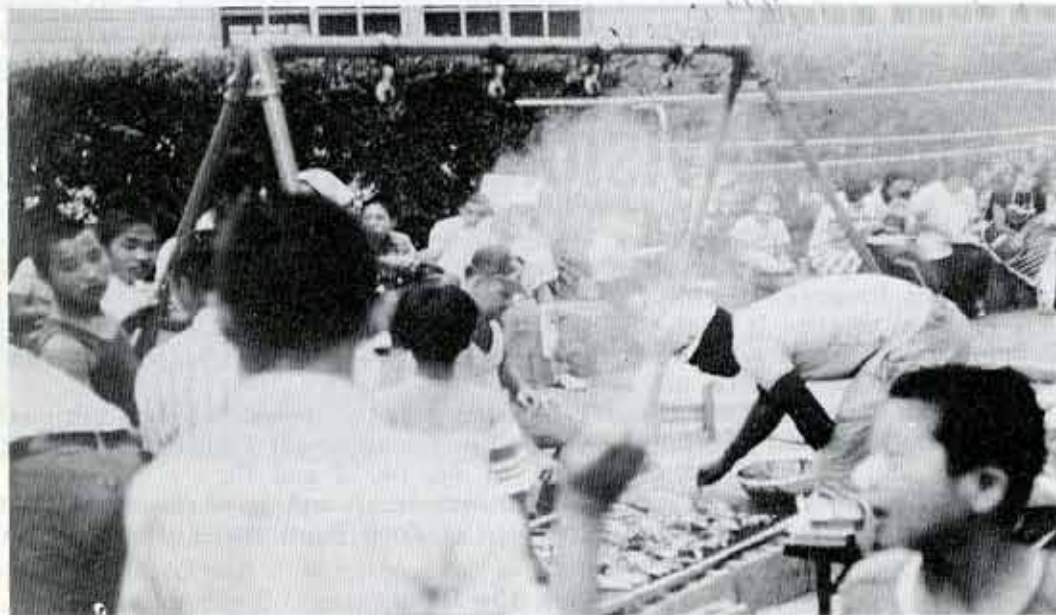
By GySgt. Mike Littlejohn

Ralph Waldo Emerson once wrote "...The only way to have a friend is to be one." To the Marines of Marine Aircraft Group (MAG)-12 those words have a special meaning. It reminds them that they indeed have many friends.

Members of the unit, through the efforts of Machiko Hamamoto, a civilian employee at the unit, have made frequent trips to various local orphanages within the Yamaguchi Prefecture, lending a helping hand and spreading cheer to eager youngsters.

Prompted by Ms. Hamamoto, MAG-12 Marines paid a visit to the Akebono Orphanage, on the eastern end of Oshima Island for an overnight camp out and barbecue party. Entertained by youngsters who performed traditional Japanese folk dances, the Leathernecks found that language and cultural differences posed no problems to having a good time.

According to LCpl. Steve VanAustin, one of the coordinators of the trip, "I don't think anyone will forget the look of thanks that flashed in the faces of the children. It makes it all worthwhile."



Machiko Hamamoto, top left, is MAG-12's coffee mess mama-san, who arranges the trips this group takes. She is widely known to them, yet is said to be shy. At left, GySgt. Paul Patton has the honor of cooking the chow. LCpl. Obie Baker actively takes part in the star dance at bottom left, and at bottom right is a Japanese youngster dressed up for the festival dance.



Photos by GySgt. Charles Smith & LCpl. Steve VanAustin