

# THE IWAKUNI APPROACH

Issue No. 36 Vol. 5 | Marine Corps Air Station Iwakuni, Japan



**MV-22 Ospreys conduct first flights in Japan | P. 6 & 7**

SGT. DANIEL K. BROWN

Marine Corps aircrews begin conducting MV-22 aircraft functional check flights and pilot proficiency flights aboard Marine Corps Air Station Iwakuni Japan, Sept. 24, 2012. These flights, which will occur during the next several weeks, will take place mostly over water, with any over land portion conducted within the MCAS Iwakuni airspace and traffic pattern. The aircraft is part of Marine Medium Tiltrotor Squadron 265. VMM-265 aircraft are based at, and will operate out of Marine Corps Air Station Futenma. Basing the Osprey in Okinawa will significantly strengthen the United States' ability to provide for the defense of Japan, perform humanitarian assistance and disaster relief operations and fulfill other Alliance roles.

## CFC kicks off with home-run derby, chili cook-off

LANCE CPL. B. A. STEVENS  
IWAKUNI APPROACH  
STAFF

Station residents gathered at the baseball field across from Building One Sept. 21, 2012, for the Combined Federal Campaign kickoff.

The kickoff consisted of a chili cook-off, as well as a home-run derby contest.

According to the CFC website, the mission of the CFC is to promote and support philanthropy through a program

which is employee-focused, cost-efficient and effective in providing all federal employees the opportunity to improve the quality of life for all.

"The CFC has given over six billion dollars since the 1960s," said 1st Lt. German Alicea, station finance officer and CFC community area project officer. "It gives us an opportunity to have our servicemembers on board the station to go ahead and give to specific organizations that they believe in, whether that organization is for disease

research, preventing hunger or simply preserving a right that we believe in."

The CFC provided servicemembers with various charities to choose from and a free lunch.

"Basically, you pick a charity, it could be the USO, health centers or the Red Cross. They are non-profit organizations so they give a lot of what they receive," said Staff Sgt. Jay Santiago, station outbound staff noncommissioned officer-in-charge.

The servicemembers who

hosted the event were all volunteers, some were even on leave.

"I'm out here for two reasons, one is I love grilling, grilling is always a good time. And two, I think it is important for people to get educated on what types of charities are out here and donate to something that they can relate to while feeling good about themselves," said 2nd Lt. Andrew Smith, volunteer grill worker and station financial

SEE CFC ON PAGE 3

## Matthew C. Perry High School hosts homecoming week

LANCE CPL. B. A. STEVENS  
IWAKUNI APPROACH STAFF

Matthew C. Perry Schools hosted homecoming week from Sept. 17-22 here.

Homecoming week started with spirit week, where students dressed up to a different theme every day. Themes included Nerd Day, Back-In-Time-Day, Hawaiian Day, Comic Convention Day and Sports Day.

"When you are in the United States, homecoming is a really big thing and for us to be able to replicate that in an overseas environment allows for the students to have some of the things they would back at home," said Lorenzo Brown, M. C. Perry High School

principal.

Homecoming was put on for high school students, but many station residents appreciated the effort as well.

Students were given hallways to decorate, as well as golf carts to act as class floats. Judging of hallways took place Sept. 20, 2012. Parents came to admire the hallways for two hours after school Sept. 20, 2012.


On Sept. 21, 2012, the school hosted a pep rally. After the pep rally, students prepared for the parade, which started at M. C. Perry High School, circled around the station Commissary and ended back at the high school.

"There is only one high school on Iwakuni, so whether you have a student in this school or

not is irrelevant, homecoming is a chance to be unified as a community and rally behind the school," said Brown.

Students took advantage of the homecoming opportunities with a surprising amount of costumes all week.

"Homecoming allows students to work together and display teamwork whether they are building floats, decorating hallways or they have to prepare teams for the pep rally," said Brown. "At the end of the week, we all come back together as Matthew C. Perry High School. I have been in Japan for 13 years and this is the smallest school that I've worked for, yet I've seen more spirit here than any other school I worked for."



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# CHAPLAIN’S CORNER

## Changing Within

LT. CMDR. L. LEE  
H&HS COMMAND  
CHAPLAIN

A Marine goes into a restaurant during his leave back in the States and orders Sprite. The waitress brings him a cup of Sprite.

“Would you like to order anything else,” she asks.

He hesitates but shockingly splashes the waitress with his Sprite.

“What did you do that for?” The waitress asks.

He replies, “I have some kind of disorder with Sprite. Every time I see it, I lose control and splash it on others.”

Feeling extremely remorseful he quickly exits the restaurant.

The waitress shouts in anger, “Don’t come back until you get some help!”

Two weeks later, the same Marine comes into the same restaurant and the same waitress waits on him. He orders Sprite again.

The waitress asks, “Well, did you get some help?”

“Oh, yes. I called Military One Source and went to see a

psychologist,” the Marine replies.

The waitress replied, “Well, good. What would you like to order?”

“I would like to have a Sprite, please,” said the Marine.

The waitress leaves and returns with a Sprite.

“Thank you very much,” he said.

He then took the cup of Sprite and again splashes the waitress.

In shock, the waitress asked, “I thought you said, you got some help?”

“I did. They told me I have Obsessive Compulsive Disorder and there’s nothing to worry about,” he said.

With the exception of unknown viruses, when we have issues within ourselves, we find it easy to label it or identify them.

Our society has become quite efficient in dealing with legal matters by following instructions and regulations.

More often than we would like to admit, we fail to give proper treatment to help the needs of Marines and sailors.

We’ve become good at identifying and labeling the symptom, giving the medical or psychological definition, getting rid of the guilt, and reminding of the legal ramifications in case it should happen again.

Thus, this person is not actually

receiving treatment or cure for their inner issues, but getting an education, a dose of fear and retribution, minus the guilt.

I realize it is very difficult and time consuming to help everyone.

However, there might be a better way of helping Marines and sailors than the cookie cutter approach of dealing with personal inner issues.

We might not like it, but a lot of the inner personal issue stems from our sinfulness.

Our society frowns when someone calls it a “sin.” Truth has never been popular. As a Christian chaplain, I know of only one thing that helps us deal with our sinfulness – Christian Spirituality.

We all stand naked before our Creator since he knows everything about us. The best thing about spirituality is that our God is so willing to cure and get rid of our sinfulness.

The very best of humanity can only leap so far, whereas God’s love and grace surpasses every height and depth.

Perhaps, it’s time to give up trying so hard trying to be “good.” All we have to do to find the remedy/cure for our sinfulness is to come to our Creator.

# Warning signs and risk factors of suicide

HEATHER PAYNE  
MCCS BEHAVIORAL HEALTH  
PROGRAM BRANCH

September is the month when fall begins, but it is also Suicide Awareness Month. Suicide is the eleventh leading cause of death among the United States, but it is the second leading cause of death in the military with combat being the first.

With the numbers of suicide in the military rising how can we help? Helping can be as little as recognizing the warning signs and risk factors of it. Warning signs are not always obvious, but if a person is knowledgeable on the topic, then they can help.

Warning signs serve as a signal that a suicide attempt may be imminent and need to be addressed immediately when noticed.

The warning signs of suicide include the following:

1. Talking about dying, including talk about suicide, dying, or harming oneself,
2. Preparing to die such as putting affairs in order, tying up loose ends, and giving things away,
3. Looking for ways to die such as preoccupation with means to die by suicide and seeking to obtain means to kill oneself,
4. Recent loss or humiliation through death, divorce, or occupation,
5. Change in personality or emotions including sadness, withdrawal, being tired, or indecisive,
6. Change in behavior such as losing interest in things important to the person,
7. Change in sleep patterns, such as insomnia,
8. Change in eating habits, which includes loss of appetite or overeating,
9. Low self esteem, including feeling worthless and saying “everyone would be better off without me,” and
10. No hope for the future.

Not everyone is at risk for committing suicide, but understanding the risk factors, which are anything that increases the likelihood that people will harm themselves, is key to getting someone

at risk the proper help. One thing to remember is that risk factors are not always the causes of suicide.

Risk factors are divided into four categories:

1. Situations,
2. Behaviors,
3. Physical changes,
- and 4. Thoughts and Emotions.

A person may fall into one category and not another, so being attentive and proactive can possibly save someone’s life.

Situational risk factors include: family history of suicide or violence, sexual or physical abuse, financial problems, history of alcohol or substance abuse, isolation, death of a close friend or family member, and unmanageable stress.

Behavioral risk factors include previous suicidal behavior, extremes in behavior, changes in behavior, and impulsive or aggressive tendencies.

Physical changes risk factors include disturbed sleep patterns, lack of energy, sudden change in appearance, and lack of interest in appearance.

Thoughts and emotions risk factors include deep sadness or guilt, anxiety and stress, loss of self worth, feelings of hopelessness, and a sense of powerlessness and helplessness.

Suicide is a serious issue not only in the military community but in the civilian community as well. Just taking a moment of your time to ask someone how they are doing can make a difference.

Just keep in mind that there are people on MCAS Iwakuni who can help a person that is showing signs of suicide. If you know someone showing signs of suicide, please contact the proper authorities to get them help.

On MCAS Iwakuni you can contact the Unit Chaplain, Branch Medical Clinic, or Counseling Services. Marine and Family Programs Division, Behavioral Health Program Branch

Heather Payne, Substance Abuse Prevention Specialist 253-6652

## CFC FROM PAGE 1

management specialist.

Donors may give as much as they wish to an organization of their choosing. Charities within the CFC have no limit on the amount of money they can receive.

Servicemembers were not limited to just donating at the kickoff. The CFC will hold events aboard station for the next two months and even offers a website for those interested in learning more.

“People who want to give but weren’t able to come out can do it at their own discretion at home from their computer,” said Alicea.



LANCE CPL. B. A. STEVENS  
2nd Lt. Andrew Smith, station financial specialist, flips hamburger patties at the Combined Federal Campaign home-run derby and chili cook-off adjacent to Building One here Sept. 21, 2012.



LANCE CPL. B. A. STEVENS  
A table full of Combined Federal Campaign home-run derby and chili cook-off souvenirs await station residents across from Building One here Sept. 21, 2012. The CFC kickoff was a completely free event. All charities within the CFC are nonprofit organizations.



LANCE CPL. B. A. STEVENS  
Smoke rises from a grill at the Combined Federal Campaign home-run derby and chili cook-off located adjacent to Building One here Sept. 21, 2012. The CFC has given more than six billion dollars since the 1960s. All charities which are a part of the CFC are nonprofit organizations.

# Guam International Coastal Cleanup receives help from Exercise Valiant Shield 2012 participants

LANCE CPL. BRIANNA TURNER  
OKINAWA MARINE STAFF

**COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANAS, Guam** — Participants in Exercise Valiant Shield 2012 took a break from their training to assist the local community during the 18th Annual International Coastal Cleanup on Guam Sept. 15, 2012.

The coastal cleanup is a combined effort from local government agencies, businesses, private and non-profit organizations, federal agencies and the U.S. military, according to a news release from the Guam Coastal Management Program (GCMP).

“This is the largest volunteer event in Guam, and we are happy to see so many people come out every year to help protect the ocean from marine debris,” said Thomas Morrison, Bureau of Statistics and Plans director, one of the lead agencies involved in the cleanup.

Many of the servicemembers living on Guam or visiting for Valiant Shield came out to give the community their support.

Thirty six Marines from Marine All-Weather Fighter Attack Squadron 225, currently attached to Marine Aircraft Group 12, 1st Marine Air Wing, participated in the cleanup by visiting one of 18 locations around the island to remove litter from parks and beaches.

“We want to make an effort to keep their

shores clean,” said U.S. Navy Lt. Travis E. Coffey, the Deputy Chaplain with Headquarters, Marine Aircraft Group 12, and a participant in this year’s cleanup. “It is important to leave the environment in better condition than when we came.”

While the event is very large in Guam, it is held on a regular basis elsewhere as well.

“The International Coastal Cleanup is not just in Guam, it is an endeavor to clean our coastlines that takes place all over the U.S.,” said Christine Camacho, Guam Coastal Management Program special events coordinator.

Participants logged everything they picked up during the cleanup. The records from this year’s cleanup will then be sent to the Ocean Conservancy in Washington D.C., where the data is published by geographic location and used for environmental studies.

The event will not only help keep the coastlines clean and provide material for studies, it will also greatly benefit the schools on Guam.

“The aluminum we collect actually goes to the schools because they participate in an ‘I Recycle’ program, which is used for the financial benefits of the all the schools on Guam,” said Camacho. “It becomes a little competition for the schools to collect the most cans.”

The cleanup also helps the community get back in touch with Guam’s indigenous Chamorro culture.

“One of the biggest reasons I think this is so important is because it ties the community back to the land,” said Camacho. “On Micronesian Islands, our livelihood originally came from the land. This program can get us involved and help us remember where we came from.”

This is a community-sponsored event, which would not be possible without the support of so many participants, according to Camacho.

“We have families, organizations, Tae Kwon Do groups and military members who come out to support this,” said Camacho. “The servicemembers are invited because they are a part of this community. There are a lot of servicemembers who live and train on this island. It is very important that we involve all parts of our community.”

The servicemembers supporting Valiant Shield 2012 couldn’t agree more.

“Community relations like this give the Marines an opportunity to get out of their work spaces and get into the community to show we care,” said Coffey. “It is not just about the opportunity to train here, its important for us to give back.”



The Marine Aircraft Group 12 color guard marches on the colors during National Prisoner of War and Missing in Action Recognition Day at the Vietnam Memorial here Sept. 21, 2012. National POW/MIA Recognition Day has taken place on the third Friday of September since the late 1970s.

# POW, MIA Recognition Day: Gone but not forgotten

LANCE CPL. J. GAGE KARWICK  
IWAKUNI APPROACH STAFF

Marines, sailors, retirees and station residents gathered at the Vietnam Memorial here Sept. 21, 2012, to pay respect to prisoners of war and those still missing in action from wars and conflicts throughout the years.

The ceremony is an annual event held every third Friday of September and is put together by the unofficial retirees association aboard station for The United States National Prisoner of War and Missing in Action Recognition Day. This recognition started in the late 1970s .

“We had a reception for prisoners of war and those missing in action that have been in captivity and are still being held or still

missing,” said David L. Daggett, master of ceremonies for the POW and MIA memorial. “We wanted to show our support to their families and loved ones.”

Nearly all military installations around the globe fly the National League of Families POW/MIA flag, which is a largely-recognized symbol of those still missing or prisoners. The flag, designed in 1971, features a white disk with the silhouette of a young man with his head bowed, a watchtower with a guard on patrol and a strand of barbed wire, the letters POW/MIA with a white five pointed star separating them. Below the white disk is a white and black wreath above the motto “You Are Not Forgotten” written in white capital letters.

“This is an annual event to help us remember

and keep us mindful of those whom have gone to war and given their lives,” said Cmdr. Dean Hoelz, Marine Aircraft Group 12 chaplain. “Those who remain prisoners and those who have yet to be found, we want the families to know that we will not stop looking. It helps bring closure to the families whom have loved ones still missing or have died. They want to know what has happened to them. We often say, ‘You don’t leave any one behind.’ So, it’s important that we bring them back to give them a proper burial back in the United States or unite them with their families.”

The MAG-12 color guard presented a marching of the colors to honor the event, and a memorial participant placed a bouquet at the foot of the memorial.



Michelle C. Crespin lays a bouquet at the Vietnam Memorial here during National Prisoner of War and Missing in Action Recognition Day ceremony Sept. 21, 2012. Crespin is the wife of a Marine and has several family members associated with the military.



DHAKA, Bangladesh — Cpl. Tyler D. Teigen, a Marine Wing Support Squadron 171 combat engineer, measures a form before installing rebar in Dhaka, Bangladesh, Sept. 6, 2012. MWSS-171 went to Bangladesh as a part of an Engineering Civil Action Program to enhance the relationship between the United States and Bangladesh by building the second story of Hazi Joynuddin High School.



DHAKA, Bangladesh — Cpl. David B. Waldbillig, a Marine Wing Support Squadron 171 combat engineer, works with Bengali soldiers to cut plywood in Dhaka, Bangladesh, Sept. 6, 2012. MWSS-171 went to Bangladesh as a part of an Engineering Civil Action Program to enhance the relationship between the United States and Bangladesh by building the second story of Hazi Joynuddin High School.



DHAKA, Bangladesh — Marine Wing Support Squadron 171 Marine Pfc. Jon L. Beirsdorf stuccos a brick wall in Dhaka, Bangladesh, Sept. 20, 2012. MWSS-171 went to Bangladesh as a part of an Engineering Civil Action Program to enhance the relationship between the United States and Bangladesh by building the second story of Hazi Joynuddin High School.

# MWSS-171 Marines press forward toward mission accomplishment

LANCE CPL. TODD F. MICHALEK  
COMBAT CAMERAMAN

**DHAKA, Bangladesh —** Marine Wing Support Squadron 171 completed the most pivotal task in rebuilding the second story of the Hazi Joynuddin High School in Dhaka, Bangladesh, Monday, Sept. 17, 2012, by placing 1,700 cubic feet of concrete, roughly 110 tons, onto the forms they’ve been building.

Marines have worked tirelessly for the past two weeks to get to this point, often for 10-12 hours at a stretch.

“The most time-consuming part of our project was building the form work and tying in the rebar,” said 1st Lt. Brett Harber, acting MWSS-171 detachment officer-in-charge.

The work was tedious but needed to be done quickly. Because the concrete was scheduled to arrive Sept. 17, the Marines had to be on schedule, otherwise they ran the risk of not completing the second story of the school.

“When you schedule a concrete placement in Bangladesh, it is tricky to cancel it a day before, so when you set a timeline it is very important to stick to the timeline and it was very important that we worked hard each and everyday up to this point go get that done,” Harber said.

The concerted effort of each Marine involved in the project allowed the concrete placement to be carried out

as planned. With the help of Bengali soldiers and five contractors, the Marines were able to place nearly 110,000 tons of concrete in eight hours.

Shoveling the concrete and leveling it off were incredibly physically challenging tasks. To keep the workflow moving at steady pace, Marines and Bengali soldiers would rotate working shifts.

In getting the concrete placed, the Marines had accomplished the most essential part of their mission in Bangladesh. From here on out, Marines are afforded the luxury to move at their own pace.

“Today’s work went a lot faster than I expected,” said Harber. “The Marines did an excellent job. They worked incredibly hard, incredibly well with each other and they worked well with the Bangladesh Army. They did an outstanding job. It went a lot smoother than I expected it to. Overall, it was a very successful day.”

Teachers and administrators of the school have seen the Marines working for the past two weeks on what seemed like the same thing, over and over again.

With the placement of the concrete they are now able to see the project coming together.

“They seemed very pleased with today,” said Harber. “Actually seeing the work we’ve been putting in coming to fruition and seeing a product in place.”



DHAKA, Bangladesh — Marines Sgt. Brian D. Davis, right, and Cpl. Kenneth R. Hornung, both Marine Wing Support Squadron 171 combat engineers, work with a Bengali soldier in Dhaka, Bangladesh to install rebar Sept. 6, 2012.



Marine Corps aircrews begin conducting MV-22 aircraft functional check flights and pilot proficiency flights aboard Marine Corps Air Station Iwakuni Japan, Sept. 21, 2012. These flights, which will occur over the next several weeks, will take place mostly over water, with any over land portion conducted within the MCAS Iwakuni airspace and traffic pattern. The aircraft is part of Marine Medium Tiltrotor Squadron 265. VMM-265 aircraft are based at and will operate out of Marine Corps Air Station Futenma. Basing the Osprey in Okinawa will significantly strengthen the United States' ability to provide for the defense of Japan, perform humanitarian assistance and disaster relief operations and fulfill other Alliance roles.



SGT. DANIEL K. BROWN

Marine Corps aircrews begin conducting MV-22 aircraft functional check flights and pilot proficiency flights aboard Marine Corps Air Station Iwakuni Japan, Sept. 21, 2012. The MV-22 flies twice as fast, carries nearly three times the payload and has four times the range of the CH-46 helicopter, enhancing the U.S.-Japan Security Alliance.

## MV-22 conducts first functional check flights in Japan

“The arrival of MV-22 Osprey tiltrotor aircraft in Japan has been the subject of much public interest. The Marine Corps has worked closely with our Government of Japan partners to ensure a smooth transition of the aircraft into Japan. The basing and operation of the MV-22 in Japan is an example of the United States’ commitment to the Pacific and the importance of the US-Japan Alliance.

Since 2007, the Marine Corps has been continuously using the MV-22 in extreme environmental conditions and during 14 combined deployments to Iraq, Afghanistan, and aboard amphibious shipping. The revolutionary capabilities of the aircraft, combined with basing in Okinawa, would significantly strengthen the ability of III Marine Expeditionary Force to assist in the defense of Japan,

perform humanitarian assistance and disaster relief operations, and fulfill other Alliance commitments.

Safety is our number one priority when operating our aircraft, to include both the safety of our aircrew and our community. The Osprey has and continues to operate safely in the United States. Senior Government of Japan officials have flown safely in Ospreys on both the east and west coasts of the United States.

It is important to note that when we operate the aircraft, the majority of MV-22 flight operations would be in the fixed-wing mode while the helicopter (vertical take-off and landing or VTOL) and conversion modes would primarily be used during take-offs and landings and when the aircraft operates in training areas and landing zones.

As with all our flight operations, to the maximum extent practicable, we look to avoid over-flight of densely populated areas. Although the aircraft would operate in helicopter and conversion modes as it moves in and out of Marine Corps Air Station Futenma airspace and traffic pattern, all operations would be focused on safe execution and minimized noise signatures.

It is important to reemphasize that the MV-22 has an excellent safety record, as it ranks among the very safest of all U.S. military aircraft when reviewing the key metric of the first 100,000 hours of flight.

Our most valuable relationships are with our community neighbors - we consistently do our utmost to keep our community safe, and will continue to do so as MV-22 Ospreys arrive in Okinawa.”

CPL. VANESSA JIMENEZ  
IWAKUNI APPROACH  
STAFF

Marine Medium Tiltrotor Squadron 265 aircrews conducted MV-22B Osprey functional check flights aboard Marine Corps Air Station Iwakuni Japan Sept. 21, 2012, marking the first time the Osprey has flown in Japan.

Once VMM-265, a part of Marine Aircraft Group 36, 1st Marine Aircraft Wing, III Marine Expeditionary Force, completes functional check flights and pilot proficiency flights at MCAS Iwakuni, its Ospreys will be based at and operate out of MCAS Futenma.

Basing the Osprey in Okinawa will significantly strengthen the United States’ ability to provide for the defense of Japan, perform humanitarian assistance and disaster relief operations, and fulfill other alliance roles.

The aircraft first arrived in Japan at the end of July to the port facility here via commercial ship from San Diego, Calif.

After arriving, the Ospreys

were off-loaded, inspected, and prepared for flight operations.

In recognition of the Government of Japan’s concerns about the aircraft’s safety, the United States Government refrained from any MV-22B flight operations in Japan until the results of mishap investigations were presented to the Government of Japan and the safety of flight operations was confirmed.

This information was presented to the Government of Japan during September.

The Marine Corps will modernize its fleet with MV-22B tiltrotor aircraft and remove CH-46E helicopters from service on a one-to-one basis.

The aircraft combines the vertical capability of a helicopter with the speed and range of a fixed-wing aircraft. With its proprotors in the vertical position, it can take off, land, and hover like a helicopter. Once airborne, its proprotors can be rotated, transitioning the aircraft to a turboprop airplane capable of high speed, high-altitude flight.



SGT. DANIEL K. BROWN

Marine Corps aircrews begin conducting MV-22 aircraft functional check flights and pilot proficiency flights aboard Marine Corps Air Station Iwakuni Japan, Sept. 21, 2012. Ministry of Foreign Affairs guests, media and Japanese officials came aboard Marine Corps Air Station Iwakuni, Japan, to learn about the safety capabilities and operation of the MV-22.

**Lt. Gen. Kenneth J. Glueck, Jr., III Marine Expeditionary Force commanding general**

# CORPS NEWS

HIGHLIGHTING MARINES AND  
SAILORS AROUND THE GLOBE

## Marines and sailors from Special-Purpose Marine Air-Ground Task Force Africa train with elite Djiboutian forces

1ST LT. DOMINIC PITRONE  
SPECIAL PURPOSE MARINE AIR-  
GROUND TASK FORCE AFGHANISTAN

**DJIBOUTI CITY, Djibouti** — Marines and sailors from Special-Purpose Marine Air-Ground Task Force Africa began a four-week training evolution with Djibouti's Groupe d'Intervention de la Genarmrie Nationale, Aug. 25, 2012.

The GIGN is Djibouti's premiere paramilitary crisis response force. They are expected to be able to respond to an emergency situation in Djibouti City in less than 30 minutes. The unit is made up of volunteers from Djiboutian defense and law enforcement forces. After volunteering, members go through a yearlong selection process before being able to join the unit.

"There is one year of training that requires the volunteers to maintain high physical and technical abilities," said Lt. Ilias Aden Abdillahi, the commander of the GIGN. "The first year of training is very difficult. If the trainees don't pass they are eliminated and not able to be part of the unit."

For four weeks, roughly 60 students from the GIGN will work with Theater Security Cooperation Team-3 of Special-Purpose MAGTF Africa to be familiarized with

American weapon systems and American medical skills.

"We're working with the GIGN on combat marksmanship, tactical combat casualty care, close quarters battle, as well as sniper and observer employment. These are skills that keep the GIGN mission capable and ready at a moment's notice while defending their country. During our four-week mission we'll work to add to the skills that the GIGN already possess and to add to their capabilities. At the conclusion of the training package we'll conduct a comprehensive final exercise that brings all the skills together" said Capt. Daniel Hyman, assistant team leader, SCT-3. This is the first time these Marines and sailors have worked with the GIGN, but the members of the GIGN were familiar with the U.S. Marines and appreciate the Marine Corps culture.

"This is our fourth time training with U.S. Marines. We are satisfied to work with Marines for their professionalism. We share many ideas and have a similar culture to the Marines," said Abdillahi. "We would like to work more with them. We are fortunate as we are the only unit in the Djiboutian National Security Service that gets American training." The GIGN uses a number of different weapon systems, but the training with Special-Purpose

MAGTF Africa will familiarize members of the GIGN with the M4 service rifle, M9 service pistol, and M24 sniper weapon system. The Marines are also teaching searching techniques and Marine Corps martial arts.

"We are training with our new American weapon systems and this helps us to know how to use these weapons and share the proficiency that the Marines have on these weapons," added Abdillahi. "These weapons systems help us better integrate with our police forces."

Many of the Marines from the Special-Purpose MAGTF have worked with militaries from partner nations before, and that experience provides insight to their work in Djibouti with the GIGN.

"I think that the GIGN share a lot of our values and they're motivated," said Staff Sgt. Matthew MacArthur, team chief, SCT-3. "It's pretty obvious that these guys have worked with Marines before."

Special-Purpose MAGTF Africa is made up of more than 120 Reserve Marines and sailors from 32 different units. The Special-Purpose MAGTF supports U.S. Africa Command and Marine Forces Africa by conducting U.S. Department of State sponsored security cooperation missions in the continent of Africa.



1ST LT. DOMINIC PITRONE

Cpl. Daniel Middleton, a marksmanship instructor with Special-Purpose Marine Air-Ground Task Force Africa, coaches a member of Djiboutian Groupe d'Intervention de la Gendarmerie Nationale during a combat marksmanship training event, August 30, 2012. The Marines and sailors of Special-Purpose MAGTF Africa are in Djibouti training with the Djiboutian Groupe d'Intervention de la Gendarmerie Nationale to build on close quarters combat, medical, and sniper skills. Special-Purpose MAGTF Africa is made up of over 120 Reserve Marines and sailors from 32 different units. The Special-Purpose MAGTF supports U.S. Africa Command and Marine Forces Africa by conducting Department of State sponsored security cooperation missions in the continent of Africa.

# COMMUNITY BRIEFS | CLASSIFIEDS

## Briefs

### 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.

### MCX News

Effective Sept. 1, 2012, credit options at all Marine Corps Exchange facilities are limited to the Military Star and all major credit cards. Layaway is no longer available. While existing layaway agreements will be honored, all MCX facilities will discontinue layaway programs to comply with Department of Defense instructions 1330.09 and 1015.15.

### WaterWorks Pool Closing

The WaterWorks Pool is scheduled to close Sept. 30, 2012, for the season. For more information, contact the aquatics office at 253-4966.

### Thrift Store Funds

The Thrift Store gives funds generated from donations they receive back to the community. If your organization is hosting a community event, 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.

### VRAP

The Veterans Retraining Assistance Program provides eligible veterans, those 35 to 60-years-old, with education benefits for up to 12 months of training. For more information, visit [www.benefits.va.gov/VOW](http://www.benefits.va.gov/VOW) or call 888-442-4551.

### 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.com/IwakuniMOPS](http://www.facebook.com/IwakuniMOPS).

### Gospel Choir

Gospel choir practice will be held every Thursday night in preparation for the 2012 Annual Christmas Concert. For more information, call Billie Scott at 080-3272-5902 or e-mail [billiej316@gmail.com](mailto:billiej316@gmail.com).

### Time Machine Submissions

If you have a specific year you would like to see represented on the Iwakuni Time Machine Page, please contact the Public Affairs

Office at Building 1, Room 216, or call 253-5551. If you would like your request to run in an upcoming week's paper, please submit at least three weeks in advance.

### 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.

### 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 off-limits:

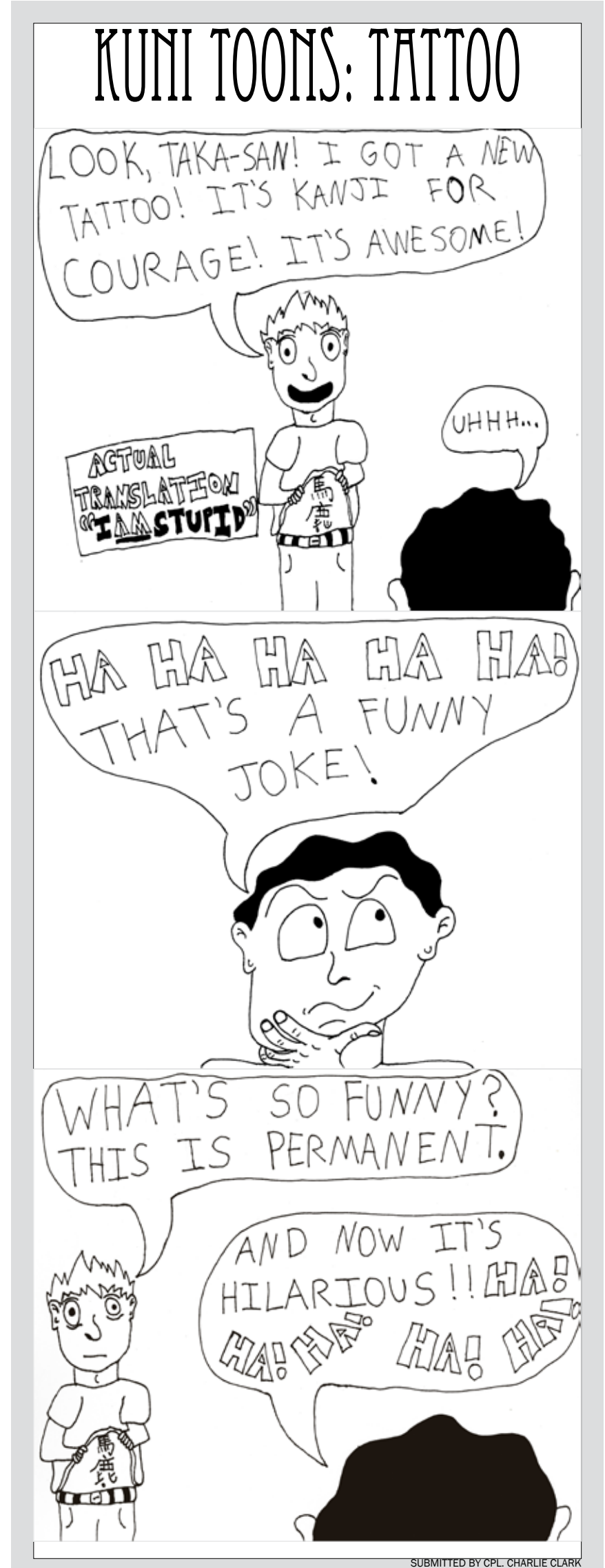
- The multi-tenant building "NOW," Tenant occupant's names change frequently. Past names for this building include; Ran, Massage Parlor, Welcome American, Follow Me and F-18.
- Hiroshima's Tougan Goods Company.

### 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.

### Brief and Classified Submissions

To submit a community brief or classified advertisement, send an e-mail to [iwakuni.pao@usmc.mil](mailto: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. Please ensure you provide all requested information to simplify the request process.



SUBMITTED BY CPL. CHARLIE CLARK

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. Mens' 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: Bonsai

Bonsai (tree cultivation) is an ancient Japanese art of growing miniature trees by using containers. Bonsai grows smaller trees from normal seeds and stock. Pruning, potting, root reduction, grafting, and defoliation are techniques that Bonsai artists use to create trees that have similar shapes and styles of full-sized mature trees.

There are many different styles of bonsai trees. The distinctions come from the different shapes that are formed by the trees' branches and all have different names. Many of these styles are shaped to imitate features of the natural world, like cascades and waterfalls. Bonsai is meant to be used to encourage contemplation, instead of being used to produce food, medicine, or yard or park-sized landscapes, like most other practices of plant cultivation. Bonsai's focus is on growing and shaping trees in containers over long periods of time.

During the 1970s, Bonsai experienced a resurgence in global popularity. Three periodicals began publication at this time. These magazines were called Bonsai Sekai, Shizen to Bonsai, and Satsuki Kenkyu.

Bonsai is accepted as a beautiful art form and a great way to find relaxation and refocus the mind. It is a unique art that is enjoyed by many people in Japan and around the world.



PUBLIC DOMAIN PHOTO PROVIDED BY RAGESOSS

SAKURA THEATER

<b>Friday, September 28, 2012</b> 7 p.m. Moonrise Kingdom (PG-13) 10 p.m. Savages (R)	<b>Monday, October 1, 2012</b> 7 p.m. The Expendables 2 (R)
<b>Saturday, September 29, 2012</b> 4 p.m. Diary of a Wimpy Kid: Dog Days (PG) 7 p.m. Seeking a Friend for the End of the World (R)	<b>Tuesday, October 2, 2012</b> Theater closed
<b>Sunday, September 30, 2012</b> 4 p.m. Ice Age: Continental Drift (PG) 7 p.m. The Watch (R)	<b>Wednesday, October 3, 2012</b> Theater closed
	<b>Thursday, October 4, 2012</b> 7 p.m. Savages (R)

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.

This week in Samurai sports

The Cross Country team hosted the Japan DODEA meet last weekend, where all five female runners placed in the top 10, running 3.1 miles. Sandra Granados finished in first with 21:00 minutes, followed by Ghia Ulrey in third with a time of 22:54. Kaila Knuppel placed fifth with 23:26, trailed closely by Aimi Primus, who finished sixth with 23:35 and Cheryl Van Allen, who finished 10th with 24:10. The male team achieved three top 10 placings with Yasuki Milsop, Greg Graham and Justin Hill, who placed third, fourth and eighth with times of 19:15, 19:26 and 20:24, respectively.

The Samurai boys' tennis team earned a 5-0 record, defeating the Nile C. Kinnick High School Red Devils in all 10 matches played.

The Lady Samurai lost to Kinnick 1-9. Anne Naseer and Danielle Shoebrook beat out the Kinnick number one Girls Doubles Team with an 8-4 victory.

The Samurai football team continued its winning ways in a 42-20 rout of the Yokota High School Panthers junior varsity football team. The team amassed a total of 413 yards, all of which were on the ground, thanks in part to a dynamic hard-pounding offense and a stingy, attacking defense which so far this season has yielded only four touchdowns. They are scheduled to face the N. C. Kinnick High School Red Devils in Yokosuka on Oct. 6, 2012.



LANCE CPL. J. GAGE KARWICK

Masafumi Yasui, 25th Annual Japanese and American Goodwill Modified Triathlon individual competitor, stops for water during the four kilometer run here at the IronWorks Gym Sept. 23, 2012. Though disabled, Yasui completed the entire triathlon on his own, completing each of the three events of running, swimming and cycling. Participants came to the station from far and wide across Japan to participate in the event.



LANCE CPL. J. GAGE KARWICK

Cyclist flash by at speeds greater than 20 miles per hour, vying to finish first in the 28-kilometer bike portion of the 25th Annual Japanese and American Goodwill Modified Triathlon here at IronWorks Gym Sept. 23, 2012. The participants in the triathlon numbered more than 200, with a crowd of almost 300. Participants came to the station from far and wide across Japan to participate in the event.

Competitors push limits during 25th annual Japanese American Goodwill Modified Triathlon



LANCE CPL. J. GAGE KARWICK

25th Annual Japanese and American Goodwill Modified Triathlon participants run from behind the IronWorks Gym here Sept. 23, 2012. Participants came to the station from far and wide across Japan to participate in the event.

LANCE CPL. J. GAGE KARWICK  
IWAKUNI APPROACH STAFF

Servicemembers, station residents, civilians and Japanese citizens from near and far gathered at IronWorks Gym here for the 25th Annual Japanese and American Goodwill Modified Triathlon Sept. 23, 2012.

Participants in the event could enter to compete as individuals or as a three-man team competing in three events, running, swimming and cycling.

The race started with a one-kilometer swim then immediately transitioned into a 4k run. Competitors then hopped on their bikes for a 28k-ride around the station before finishing the triathlon with another 4k run, ending in front of the IronWorks Gym.

"We had people from all over Japan as well as station personnel come out and compete today," said Mai Tajima, Marine Corps Community Services Semper Fit division recreation specialist. "If you look around you can see the excitement on every one's faces. One lady told me she trains for this all year, just to come here and compete with Americans."

Though the triathlon is a station event, the number of Japanese and station participants varies greatly.

"We had a total of 193 Japanese and 49 U.S. for a total of 242 participants with about 200 spectators cheering for their friends and family to do their best," said Tajima. "This is a very important event. It brings the Japanese and station residents closer together."

The endurance of individual competitors attempting the entire triathlon was matched by the group teams.

"I feel incredibly wonderful and blessed to be given the opportunity from MCCS to compete with the Japanese and other station residents," said Andrew K. Barr, triathlon participant and team Honey Badger cyclist. "We have a good team put together, and I don't feel we are lacking in any particular event. Everyone here is giving it their best and that's all we can really do or ask for. I think events such as this are a good way to build team spirit and lasting ties with the Japanese."

Getting news about the races out early is a good way to recruit new participants for the event.

"The number of American participants this year has doubled from last year and greatly improved from the previous years," said Tajima. "They went from only having three teams now having six teams participate, as well as several that competed individually. We try to inform everyone as soon as possible, that way we can ensure maximum participation."

This year's overall winner was Murayama Hideto, who finished with a time of one hour 25 minutes and 22 seconds.

"We hope to see all these competitors again next year along with as many new faces we can get," said Tajima. "The more we get the harder the competition for the overall victory will be."

# The Iwakuni Time Machine

In the Sept. 18, 1961, issue of the Torii Teller, Marines reported on a disaster-control drill being held to test personnel capability to deal with a nuclear explosion, 275 children from a local elementary school being given a tour of the station by the station rifle range detail, the differences between Japan's lunar and solar calendar and the station education office seeking new teachers.

## Mud And Water Fail To Halt Cycle Track Debut

Rim deep in mud and water, the new Iwakuni Motorcycle Club race track held it's opener Sunday, Sept. 10, drawing an estimated 800 spectators. Heavy morning precipitation deterred the scheduled 1 p.m. starting time and cancelled the time-trials completely. As the afternoon progressed, the wet track proved to be a crowd thriller, as well as did some of the visiting club drivers from Tokyo and Osaka.

Nine Tohatsu Factory team drivers showed up for the races with two tractor-trailer loads of bikes and equipment. Four station wagons rolled in with Tokyo enthusiasts and club members.

Members of an Osaka Lassie "Pointer" club arrived with five Factory team drivers and three 90cc bikes and two 125cc entries.

Highlight of the day was the presentation of a plaque for LtCol R. L. Anderson, commanding officer of MACS-9, founders of the local motorcycle organization. The plaque presented him by his men was given in appreciation of his support and backing when the club was just starting.

Major F. R. Collen, squadron executive officer, accepted the gift during a brief ceremony in lieu of the colonel's absence.

Both the 50cc and 125cc events were taken by our Japanese visitors who displayed superb riding ability and driving know-how. Tanaka of Osaka won the 50cc to 125cc scramble on a 90cc Pointer, while Nogi of Tokyo won the later race riding a 125cc Tohatsu.

The 250cc event saw Hamil from the LST USS San Joaquin County and Ray Deeley, battling for first spot, with Deeley copping the trophy, finishing just 50 feet ahead of his rival.

Deeley again distinguished himself in the 15-lap main event besting a field of 20 motorcyclists.

## Club Championship Golf Tourney Slated

Facility duffers will have an opportunity to show their talents on the links Sept. 31 through Oct. 1 and on Oct. 7-8, when the scheduled Club Championship Golf Tournament will take place at the Facility Golf Course.

The annual 72-hole championship tournament will be open to all Station military personnel.

Qualifying rounds of 36-holes will be played between Sept. 13-27 to determine which of the four flights participants will be seeded in. The four flights will include; championship, first, second and third.

Trophies will be awarded to the winner and runner-up in each flight and the low score in the qualifying rounds will also receive an award. For further information concerning the tourney contact the Facility Golf Course at ext. 2040.

## H&HS-1 Wins 15-0 In Football Opener

After a glance at the first gridiron action of the year, local sport fans have an idea of the exciting and vigorous action in store for the 1961 season. The season's opener pitted two perennial powers, H&HS-1 and MARS-17, against each other with Headquarters coming out on the long

end of the score.

Headquarters outplayed their opponents both on offense and defense with alternating units and proved themselves ready and strong for the season. Player-coach Bob Haley commented on his team's impressive victory by saying, "The squad showed a lot of potential in its win and their ambition and enthusiasm should compensate for the lack of pre-season practice."

Both teams showed signs of weakness in the early stages of the game, but fought on even terms, exchanging two punts, until the H&HS quarterback Phil Lambert connected on one of seven passes he completed to speedy halfback Elliott King. King hauled the ball in on the five yard line and twisted his way through two would-be "tacklers" for the score.

The Martians defensive unit then settled down and held the hardcharging Headquarters backfield for the remainder of the half. The only scoring threat in the second period came when MARS tailback John Howard lofted a long spiral pass to end Jim Richards who dropped the slippery pigskin on the ten yard line.

Headquarters threatened to "run away" with the game in the second half when they moved down the field the first time they had their hands on the ball, only to be stopped cold inside MARS' ten yard stripe.

Midway through the third period the winners again struck paydirt when the Lambert-King combination again clicked, this time for a forty yard touchdown. Lambert then ran the ball over on a keeper play for the two-point conversion.



NEW COURSE--Lewis (No. 25) and Hamil (No. 26), Navymen from the USS San Joaquin County, burn through one of the "dips" in the new quarter mile Motorcycle Club race track at the slipway.

## Keglers Korner

Gunny's Gringos pulled a major upset last week in the Summer Classic Handicap League when they defeated league leading DPI four points to none. The DPI loss enabled Korny Keglers, who won four straight from the Alley Dusters, to move within two games of first place.

In other league action King Pins downed Seagrams "7" three to one and the Comics rolled over last place Pin Probers, 4-0.

Individual leaders for the evening were: the King Pins, Dees 222-553; Gunny's Gringos, Art Hendley 203 and Tom Smith 551; Seagrams "7" Durell, 205-541; and Comics, Woods, 208-524.

### BALL AND CHAIN

Team #5 continued its monopoly over the other teams in this loop with a 4-0 win over the league tail-enders, Team #7. Team #3 held tight on to its second place standing by duplicating the four point victory, with its victim being Team #1. A minor upset took place when Team #6 took three out of four from Team #8, while Team #2 was coping three from Team #4. J. Huff led all bowlers with an impressive 207 single game along with a 565 series.

### SUMMER HANDICAP

Despite Art Hendley's 194 single game and W. Enos' 544 three game total, pace setting Team #7 could manage only a four point split in their contests against Team #4. Team #5 moved up one game on the leaders with a 3-1 triumph over Team #3, while Team #1 was grabbing three points from Team #6 and Team #8 losing three to Team #2.

## FACILITY SPORTS

### FOOTBALL

#### Today

MABS-12 vs VMR-253

#### Tomorrow

H&MS-12 vs FAW-6

#### Wednesday

MARS-17 vs VP-28

#### Thursday

H&HS-1 vs FAW-6

#### Friday

VMR-253 vs H&MS-12

### MOTORCYCLE RACES

#### Sunday

Races will be held at the new race track on the slipway. Time Trials 10:30 a.m., Races 1 p.m. NOTE: All football games will be played at the Main Side athletic field starting at 4:30 p.m.

## MINATURE GOLF

Special Services has announced prices and hours of operation for the Facility Miniature Golf Course which was officially opened here Aug. 22. The 9-hole course is located behind the Station Bowling Lanes.

The miniature course will be open 4:30-10 p.m. weekdays and from 12 noon until 10 p.m. on Saturdays and Sundays with the first nine holes costing ten cents and an additional five cents for those who wish to play eighteen holes.

A big attraction at the Special Services newest recreational facility is all personnel playing the game are afforded a chance to win a free game with a hole-in-one on the tenth hole, and free games should they ace nineteenth.