

THE IWAKUNI APPROACH

Issue No. 12, Vol. 1

Friday, March 28, 2008

Marine Corps Air Station Iwakuni, Japan

U.S. Troops make ready as ROK exercise commences



F/A-18D jets belonging to Iwakuni's newly arrived Marine Fighter Attack Squadron (AllWeather) 533 taxi toward the flight line aboard Yecheon Air Force Base, Republic of Korea March 18 for missions as part of Exercise Foal Eagle 2008. The exercise is a bilateral rear exercise that trains service members to succeed in a field environment. Lance Cpl. Kyle T. Ramirez

LANCE CPL. KYLE T. RAMIREZ
IWAKUNI APPROACH STAFF

YECHEON AIR FORCE BASE, Republic of Korea (March 28, 2008) — For 47 years Republic of Korea defense posts have opened their gates to conduct training exercises that ultimately prepare them for Pacific conflicts.

Each year brings new weapons, new players and thus new tactics to be examined on the peninsula, tasking aviation units, including some from Iwakuni, to make their way into the evolving environment.

Exercise Foal Eagle, the aviation element of the country's annual training suite, employs the hands of approximately 1,150 U.S. troops including nearly 750 Marines and sailors from Iwakuni to test the abilities of the Republic of Korea to defend itself with allied assistance.

The rear exercise's main components include providing defense against invading forces and interfering with hostilities on rear-area targets.

Iwakuni's Marine Aircraft Group 12, its

SEE FOAL ON PAGE 3

Iwakuni service members take part in sexual assault prevention survey

LANCE CPL. CHRIS DOBBS
IWAKUNI APPROACH STAFF

Representatives from the United States Forces Japan Sexual Assault Prevention and Response Task Force listened to what Iwakuni service members thought of the station's sexual assault prevention program during a visit here March 19.

The visit was part of the task force's evaluation of U.S. military installations' sexual assault prevention programs and an idea-generator for how those programs could be improved.

The team met with a group of approximately 60 Marines and sailors, and presented information and statistics about sexual assault and its effects before asking the participants for their input on the subject.

"Obviously you all are not the perpetrators or

SEE ASSAULT ON PAGE 3

Hawks swoop in after Foal Eagle

LANCE CPL. KYLE T. RAMIREZ
IWAKUNI APPROACH STAFF

Iwakuni welcomed Beaufort-based Marine All Weather Fighter Attack Squadron 533 to the air station March 21.

The station's newest Unit Deployment Program squadron was one of the first in recent history to deploy into theater providing air support during Exercise Foal Eagle 2008.

Replacing Beaufort's Marine Fighter Attack Squadron 312, which was deployed here for six months, the squadron brought approximately 10 F/A-18D jets,

SEE ARRIVE ON PAGE 3

An F/A-18D fighter jet belonging to Marine All-Weather Attack Squadron 533 awaits maintenance personnel at its hangar here. The Beaufort-based squadron was introduced during Exercise Foal Eagle 2008 and is here for six months as part of its Unit Deployment Program.

Photo by Lance Cpl. Kyle T. Ramirez



INSIDE IWAKUNI



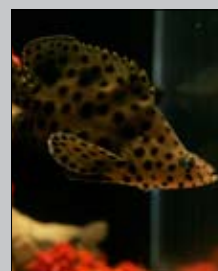
Foal Eagle units clean up CBRN defense

4



NCO earns silver star for combat heroism

5



Aquarium offers a glimpse into the sea

6-7



**Commanding Officer/
Publisher**
Col. Michael A. O'Halloran

Public Affairs Officer
Maj. Guillermo A. Canedo

Public Affairs Chief
Master Gunnery Sgt.
John A. Cordero

Operations Chief
Sgt. Edward R. Guevara Jr.

Editors
Cpl. Lendus B. Casey
Lance Cpl. Noah S. Leffler

Press Chief
Cpl. Josh Cox

Combat Correspondents
Lance Cpl. Chris Dobbs
Lance Cpl. Kyle T. Ramirez

"This weekly newspaper is an authorized publication for members of the military services stationed overseas and their families. Its contents do not necessarily reflect the official views of the U.S. Government, the Department of Defense or the U.S. Marine Corps, and does not imply endorsement thereof."

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

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

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.

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

CHAPLAIN'S CORNER

Easter leftovers

CHAPLAIN DENIS COX
MAG-12 CHAPLAIN

Easter is one of the grandest days of the year. Spirits are high as many gather to celebrate Christ's resurrection from the dead and gather with families to consume Easter ham and hunt for Easter eggs.

It's too bad that Easter is only one day, because it is a truly enjoyable day. But that was last weekend, now we are left with Easter leftovers. Our Easter lilies are still in bloom, but will soon fade from white to brown. Some ham remains from the Easter dinner and will be served as a leftover all this week. Many of the colored Easter eggs will be peeled and converted into deviled eggs or egg salad sandwiches. The chocolate Easter rabbits and chocolate eggs will soon be gone. That's the way it is.

But should the truth of Easter be a leftover as well? The answer is yes. For the spirit of Easter is a marvelous feeling of peace and joy. We have peace of mind knowing we are at peace with God, because all of our sins are forgiven through the crucified Savior. And we have great joy in our heart, knowing Christ has risen from the dead and has thus proven that He has conquered death.

The Apostle Peter expressed this Easter joy when he wrote, "Though you have not seen him, you love him; and even though you do not see him now, you believe in him and are filled with an inexpressible and glorious joy, for you are receiving the goal of your faith, the salvation of your souls," (1 Peter 1: 8-9). We do not see Christ physically, visibly, literally, but we do see Him through the eyes of faith. We see Him as the risen Lord who has won eternal salvation for us, and that gives us great joy now and every day. So even the leftovers of Easter's truth will never fade because He lives!

For better look at military life, think L.I.N.K.S.



Graduates of the first recent Lifestyles, Insight, Networking Knowledge Skills general session here pose for a photo at Yujo Hall Friday. The five-hour L.I.N.K.S. program is designed to educate status of forces agreement personnel on many aspects of military life including duties, customs and courtesies, benefits, pay and allowances, deployments, changing duty stations and investing in the community.

"This whole program we're doing here is very Iwakuni-specific," said Molly Rogers, Marine Corps Family Team Building life skills trainer and deployment specialist. "We're really trying to focus on what we have here, what's available out the gate, and what unique circumstances we have here we can inform families about."

For more information on the next L.I.N.K.S. program, contact MCFTB at 253-3754. Photo by Lance Cpl. Noah S. Leffler

Final day to submit Friendship Day requirements

Submit unit or private organization consumable or non-consumable reports to the Provost Marshal's Office by today.

PMO cannot accept any reports after today. Any unit or private organization intending to sell consumable or non-consumable items at Friendship Day 2008 must get approval from the Provost Marshal's Office. For more information, contact Customs and Immigration, Building 779. Call 253-5418 or 253-3303.

Hours of operation are from 7:30 to 11:30 a.m. and from 1 p.m. to 4 p.m.



"Metal Boot Camp" — A live 1-hour radio theme program that features the "harder edge" of rock music. It is hosted by fictional characters associated with boot camp. Mondays – Fridays, 1 – 2 p.m. except holidays, on Power 1575.

FOAL FROM PAGE 1

subordinates and assisting augments began arriving here Feb. 27, setting up bivouac sites and

command operation centers to cater for arriving troops and the coming weeks.

Navy Capt. David B. Emich, MAG-12 commanding officer, said he hopes the exercise identifies weaknesses in the way the group deploys forward.

"Operationally, we get to fine-tune our tactics, techniques and procedures, making us more efficient," he said. "The flying portion is very aggressive this year. We're flying roughly 40 percent more this year than we have in past years."

More than 100 night-and-day-flying missions, totaling to more than 400 flight hours with the ROK 7th Air Force Wing, are completed during the actual

five training days of Exercise Foal Eagle, a coordination effort that takes nearly a year to plan, according to Gunnery Sgt. Adrian Sena, MAG-12 operations chief.

Sena said before the event's conclusion, "MAG-12 should be able to evaluate group effectiveness in a highly dynamic scenario while becoming familiar in the ROK host facilities."

The exercise also tests ground troops' ability to succeed in a field environment.

This year's exercise is different from those in the past in that ground-readiness training was conducted before any aviation training took place, a separation planned by MAG-12 officials to prevent spreading troops too thin.

Before any actual training days, Marine Wing Support Squadron 171, the MAG-12 ground support unit, practiced chemical biological radiological neurological

explosive (CBRNE) response procedures, command post security, runway repair as well as anti-terrorism force protection (ATFP).

Commenting on the ground training, Emich said, "Our MWSS and all ground forces attached to MAG-12 get to practice in a field environment under fairly realistic conditions."

Iwakuni personnel began arriving home from the exercise March 21 and will continue to send back manpower and equipment until April 1, including those exercise participants who moved to Camp Mujuk's port facility to travel home via High Speed Vessel.

THE IWAKUNI APPROACH ONLINE
www.iwakuni.usmc.mil

ASSAULT FROM PAGE 1

you wouldn't be here," said Navy Capt. Sandra T. Buckles, task force team member and USEJ information officer, addressing the audience. "But, as you all know, (the perpetrators') actions affect all of us."

Buckles emphasized the fact that nearly every sexual assault case involves alcohol as well as the irreversible effects cases have on the U.S. military's relationship with its host country. She then turned the stage over to the participants, asking them what they thought about the current program and how it could be improved.

Some participants suggested more engaging television commercials on the subject, better initial training and more frequent sustainment training. Others thought the current program was good enough.

"(Sexual assault prevention) is pretty much common sense," said Lance Cpl. Jeffrey Petty, class participant and Headquarters and Headquarters Squadron personnel administrator. "(Service members) need to learn to control their behavior and remember that 'no means no.'"

Petty added the class was effective as an idea-generator and gave service members the opportunity to share ways to prevent sexual assault.

Col. Thomas N. Goblen, task force team member and USEJ logistics officer, proposed extending the military sponsorship program to unaccompanied service members. The program allows service members to be assigned to a newcomer to provide them with information about the base and its surroundings.

"We have an informal sponsorship program at my shop, and I think it's very effective," said Cpl. Andrew Milner, class participant and American Forces Network broadcast journalist. "I think it helps (newcomers) start off on the right foot."

Other participants suggested more advertising for non-alcohol related activities and creating a play about sexual assault prevention.

The task force took note of the suggestions and thanked the service members for their input.

"We've received a lot of great feedback, a lot of good ideas so far," Buckles said. "We really appreciate the service members' contributions."

Iwakuni was one of the task force's last stops before it creates enhanced sexual assault programs tailored to each installation based on the feedback it received, according to Buckles.

ARRIVE FROM PAGE 1

maintenance equipment as well as approximately 200 Marines and sailors.

VMFA(AW)-533 has plans to participate in upcoming Pacific deployments with Marine Aircraft Group 12. Sgt. Maj. Jamie A. Deets, the squadron's senior enlisted advisor, said the squadron will be providing close-air support, increasing a force in readiness.

"We hope to get as much as we can from unit training during this deployment as well operational training in the Pacific theater," Deets said.

VMFA(AW)-533 left the Republic of Korea for Iwakuni just hours after the exercise's conclusion — at 2:30 a.m. March 21. The squadron made

a night-time evolution from Yecheon Air Force Base to Osan Air Base in order to arrive here early Friday morning.

Since its arrival last week, the squadron has gone through several briefings and is stretching its legs in the Iwakuni area while recovering from Exercise Foal Eagle, according to Staff Sgt. Vanessa L. McCarthy, VMFA(AW)-533 administration chief.

McCarthy said, "A lot of us are anxious to explore the local area after the training in Korea."

During Foal Eagle, the squadron completed more than 500 flight hours in 33 sorties.

"This deployment method seemed to test our capabilities as a squadron," said Deets. "Korea turned out to be very successful — a great way to start the deployment."

Children gather eggs during hunt



Children rush to gather eggs filled with candy in an air station-wide Easter egg hunt at IronWorks Gym March 22. Hundreds of children and their families participated in the hunt. Photo by Cpl. Josh Cox

News Briefs

CATV seeks volunteers

The community access television system, which operates channels 18, 22 and 23, is currently searching for anyone over the age of 18 to volunteer their time to help keep programming running. Any questions, comments or concerns can be directed at 253-5631.

2008 Japanese Culture Fest

The 2008 Japanese Culture Festival will be hosted Sunday, noon to 5 p.m., at M.C. Perry School's library, cafeteria and staff lounge. The admission will be Free, and will offer so much to see and do. Immerse yourself in the culture of Japan. For more information, contact the Japanese American Society Iwakuni at 253-4744.

2008 Post Office Closures

May 5: Closed Friendship Day
May 26: Closed Memorial Day
July 4: Closed Independence Day
Sept. 1: Closed Labor Day
Oct. 13: Closed Columbus Day



Republic of Korea Air Force personnel wait to decontaminate vehicles wearing mission-oriented protective posture gear on the flight line here March 18 during chemical reconnaissance avoidance training as part of Exercise Foad Eagle 2008. Photos by Lance Cpl. Kyle T. Ramirez

U.S., ROK troops gear up for scrub down

LANCE CPL. KYLE T. RAMIREZ
IWAKUNI APPROACH STAFF

YECHON AIR FORCE BASE, Republic of Korea (March 28, 2008)— Individual sections from Marine Wing Support Squadron 171 took it upon themselves to conduct bilateral training with their Korean counterparts here during Exercise Foad Eagle 2008.

Even though the exercise is widely associated with aviation, testing the capabilities of ground troops has gained popularity as well.

Chemical biological radiological nuclear (CBRN) specialists from MWSS-171 and the Republic of Korea

Air Force geared up on the flight line to conduct annual chemical reconnaissance avoidance (CRA) training as part of the Foad Eagle training set.

Cpl. Bryan D. Dill, CBRN CRA noncommissioned officer-in-charge said the training was done beside the Koreans to learn from each other's way of decontaminating troops and vehicles.

"We set up a two-lane decontamination station with the Koreans," said Dill. "Once all vehicles and personnel have passed through the lanes, we should all be clean."

Marines used super tropical bleach and water, scrub brushes and spray wands to decontaminate vehicles. In the next lane over, ROK participants cleaned

equipment and conducted Detail Troop Decontamination, a process that cleanses troops safely from out of their mission-oriented protective posture gear.

Lance Cpl. Jonathan R. Bisarra, a MWSS-171 CBRN specialist went through the ROK detail troop decontamination and said, "The Koreans have more gear than us, but we're able to accomplish the same task."

By the event's conclusion, the five-man Marine team decontaminated one 7-ton medium tactical vehicle replacement, one high mobility multipurpose wheeled vehicle as well as two Korean vehicles in less than 30 minutes.

"The process usually takes anywhere

from 10 to 15 minutes to thoroughly clean a vehicle," Dill said. "We were able to decontaminate a lot quicker than we did last year because of our training preparation."

Marine participants who were not CBRN specialists had to go through a CRA class as a prerequisite.

Cpl. Mitchell Sistrunk, a MWSS-171 motor transportation operator, summed his experience by saying, "It was very useful and seemed to go a lot smoother than past times."

Sistrunk said he believes decontamination practice is very crucial to operational readiness in a theater where chemical warfare was once widely used.



Marines from Marine Wing Support Squadron 171 assist in decontaminating a vehicle wearing mission-oriented protective posture gear on the flight line here March 18.



Republic of Korea Air Force personnel wait to decontaminate vehicles wearing mission-oriented protective posture gear on the flight line here March 18.

NCO displays uncommon valor in Iraq



Maj. George D. Hasseltine, former Company F commander, 2nd Battalion, 7th Marine Regiment, pins the Silver Star Medal on Cpl. Ian M. Dollard, rifleman, March 21 on Lance Cpl. Torrey L. Gray Field at Marine Corps Air Ground Combat Center. Dollard braved enemy bullets to rescue his platoon commander from an enemy ambush during his deployment to Iraq in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom 06-08. Photos by Cpl. Ray Lewis

CPL. RAY LEWIS
1ST MARINE DIVISION

MARINE CORPS AIR GROUND COMBAT CENTER, TWENTYNINE PALMS, Calif. (Mar. 21, 2008) — Any Marine would brave enemy fire to rescue a wounded comrade when you have friends that "got your back."

Cpl. Ian M. Dollard exemplified that sense of brotherhood when he risked his life to save a fellow Marine.

For his actions while deployed in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom, Dollard received the Silver Star — the nation's third highest award for combat heroism.

His former company commander, Maj. George D. Hasseltine, pinned the award on Dollard during a ceremony on Lance Cpl. Torrey L. Gray Field here March 21.

The date was June 24, 2007. While checking a vehicle, Dollard and his men were attacked by automatic machine gun fire.

According to the award citation, Dollard promptly returned fire with his weapon so his Marines could come to the aid of a Marine who was wounded in the attack. Then Dollard and his men

started receiving automatic machine gun fire from a second position, which inflicted two gunshot wounds to his platoon commander.

Dollard wasn't going to let the enemy get away with that. He said adrenaline and suppressive fire from his Marines helped him run to the sound of the enemy's gunfire.

Without regard for his personal well-being, Dollard narrowly avoided enemy bullets to reach his commander. He then shielded his commander from danger, only to get struck himself, taking two rounds to his upper torso body armor.

He was dazed but still insisted to provide first aid to his commander. Then he dragged the lieutenant 25 meters and continued to provide first aid.

Seconds later, Dollard was struck in the leg by small arms fire. He refused medical care, then directed his fire team to tend to his commander's wounds.

Even after a vehicle arrived to the Marines' rescue, Dollard still refused medical attention until his wounded Marines were treated first.

Dollard's parents are extremely proud of their son's accomplishments.

"Ever since he was born I knew he was going to be special," said Judy Dol-

lard, mother of Cpl. Dollard, of Pleasant, Calif. "It was something that I just felt. He always was that kind of guy that stood up for his friends."

Cpl. Dollard's father said he didn't expect anything like this.

"I know he worked hard in Iraq," said Todd Dollard, father of the Silver Star Medal recipient. "It's nice to have something like this to focus it all. Everybody we've talked to about this [has] been supportive of this."

Cpl. Dollard's former company commander flew here from Arizona to be a part of ceremony.

"I wanted to recognize his achievement and the achievements of the company," said Hasseltine, Company F's commander during the time of Dollard's heroic actions.

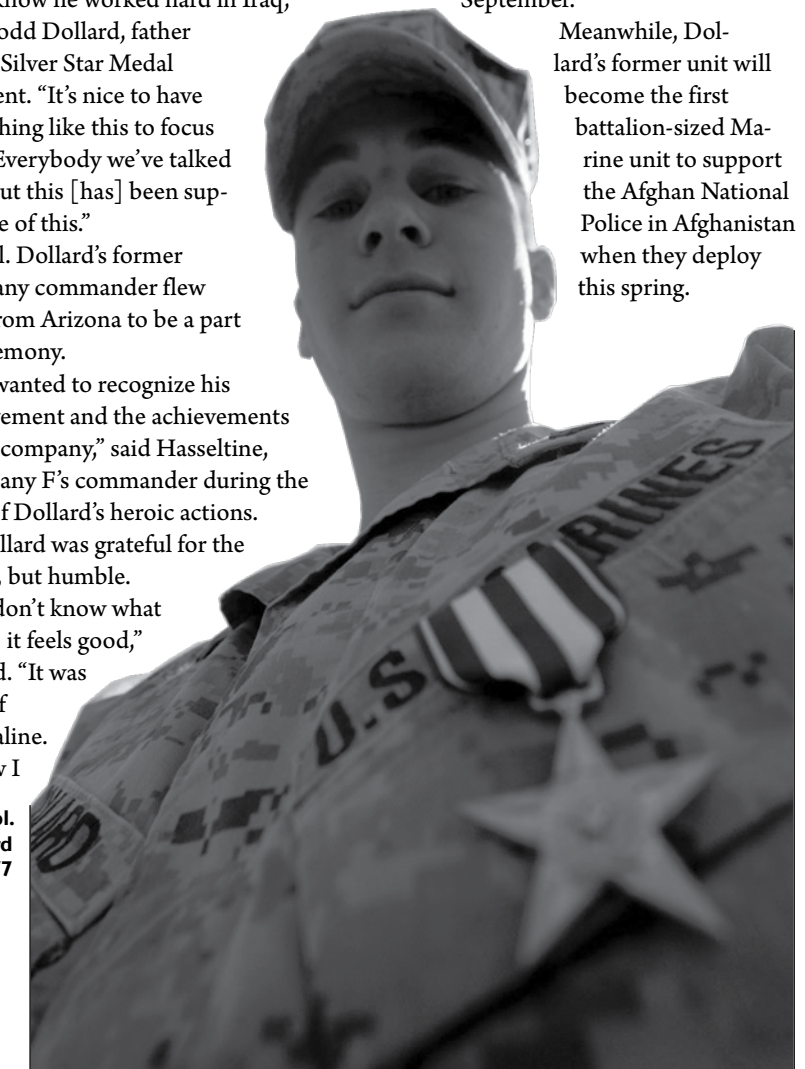
Dollard was grateful for the award, but humble.

"I don't know what to say; it feels good," he said. "It was a lot of adrenaline. I know I

had machine guns doing their job, so I felt safer."

Dollard currently works as a life-guard at one of the recreational swimming facilities here and will do so until his Marine Corps contract expires in September.

Meanwhile, Dollard's former unit will become the first battalion-sized Marine unit to support the Afghan National Police in Afghanistan when they deploy this spring.



Cpl. Ian M. Dollard, rifleman, wears the Silver Star Medal he was awarded Mar. 21 on Lance Cpl. Torrey L. Gray Field at Marine Corps Air Ground Combat Center Twentynine Palms, Calif. Dollard earned the decoration for actions exhibiting combat valor during his deployment to Iraq with 2/7 in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom 06-08.

MIYAJIMA AQUARIUM

COME EXPERIENCE WET, WILD WORLD OF LOCAL SEA LIFE

Lance Cpl. Noah S. Leffler
IWAKUNI APPROACH STAFF

Restless with barracks fever? Tired of hitting the same old spots out the gate? Want to experience a myriad of sea life without the wet suit or scuba gear? Look no further than the Miyajima Aquarium.

Perfect for Iwakuni newcomers, wildlife lovers or simply those with a day off and nothing to do, the nearby aquarium is teeming with more than 470 species of furry, finned and feathered friends waiting to make your acquaintance.

Inside, a maze of tanks allows visitors to view a host of silly, slimy and sometimes scary creatures from the Seto Inland Sea and elsewhere around the world.

Children and adults alike can marvel at the antics of the finless black porpoise or try and visually unravel a mass of menacing morays. The luminescent jellyfish make for an interesting light show, and the electric eels' voltage meter may shock first-time viewers.

Outside, two large exhibits give guests a chance to watch several of the aquarium's residents show off their skills.

During the daily sea lion show, the aquatic acrobats perform an array of tricks from jumping through hoops to playing musical instruments, and the penguin pool puts visitors inches away from the playful birds.

Need a break?

Grab a bite to eat and take a seat near the multi-section koi pond.

With hourly feedings, shows and interaction opportunities, the Miyajima aquarium is the perfect place for those looking to get off base and experience some local sea life.

Open seven days a week, entrance is 1,050 yen for adults, 520 yen for junior high and high school students, and 310 yen for children.

For directions or more information, contact the Information, Tours and Travel Office at 253-4377, or call the aquarium at 0829-44-2010.



A vivid school of surgeon fish swim in a cylindrical tank at the Miyajima Aquarium.



A pair of sea lions follow their trainer off the Outdoor Court Sea Lion Stage after their daily show at the Miyajima Aquarium.



A pair of stingrays swim side-by-side in the tank at the entrance of the Miyajima Aquarium. The aquarium is home to more than 470 species of sea creatures.



A pint-size dwarf crocodile, named Kotaro, reaches up for a drink of water at the Miyajima Aquarium. Photos by Lance Cpl. Noah S. Leffler



Luminescent jellyfish and multi-colored lights put on a glowing show at the Miyajima Aquarium.

Shu, a 3-year-old resident of the Miyajima Aquarium, waits to begin the daily penguin walk where visitors can pet and play with the birds throughout the aquarium.

AROUND THE CORPS

Resupply missions feed the wolves

LANCE CPL. JESSICA N. ARANDA
3RD MARINE AIRCRAFT WING

ALASAD, Iraq (March 20, 2008) — The 3rd Marine Aircraft Wing (Forward) keeps supplies stocked across the area of operations through weekly resupply missions, including deliveries to “feed” the Marines at Combat Outpost Timberwolf.

Located in the mountainous terrain near the Euphrates River, the outpost is supplied by Marine Heavy Helicopter Squadron 361 and a Helicopter Support Team.

The HST Marines load pallets of supplies, guide the helicopter into the landing zone and externally connect the cargo to the helicopter.

“We assure the Marines working in remote areas have their necessities when they need them,” said Sgt. Eric Solano, the Arrival/Departure Air Control Group staff noncommissioned officer-in-charge. “Loading the supplies externally ensures the aircrew can fly into a hot-zone and hover overhead without having to touch the deck. Airlifts are faster than convoys and they alleviate the risk of putting Marines in harm’s way.”

“If it takes two hours for a convoy to deliver these supplies, then that’s two hours the Marines are exposed to potential threats,” added

“We assure the Marines working in remote areas have their necessities when they need them.”

— Sgt. Eric Solano
Arrival/Departure Air Control Group staff

Solano, a San Fernando Valley, Calif., native. “We eliminate that risk.”

To rig each external load, the landing support specialists attached to the HST withstand hurricane-like winds as the massive helicopter hovers above their heads.

While focusing on properly connecting the load to the helicopter, the Marines also focus on the safety of the team.

“As the safety NCO, my main job is to keep an eye on everyone and everything that’s going on,” said Cpl. Michael Hernandez, a landing support specialist with Combat Logistics Battalion 6.

Each resupply is a chance for us to put our training into play, explained Hernandez.

The helicopters most commonly transport pallets of bottled water, food, fuel and mail.

“External lifts are the fastest way to transport equipment,” said Capt. John Mitchell, a pilot with Marine Heavy Helicopter Squadron 361. “We can carry larger things which wouldn’t otherwise fit inside the helicopter. By supporting outposts such as Timberwolf, we are giving the Marines the necessary sustenance to maintain their post and do their job.”



Landing Support Specialists with Combat Logistics Battalion 6’s Helicopter Support Team signal the crew chief of the CH-53E during an external lift March 17. To maintain safety precautions, communication between the Marines on the ground and the air crew is critical. Photos by Lance Cpl. Jessica N. Aranda



Landing Support Specialists with Combat Logistics Battalion 6’s Helicopter Support Team battle the high-speed rotor wash of the CH-53E Super Stallion during an external lift March 17.



A landing support specialist with Combat Logistics Battalion 6’s Helicopter Support Team connects the static wand to the CH-53E Super Stallion to ground the aircraft before rigging the external load.

Community Briefs

Blue Ribbon Campaign
April 1 - 30. Show your active support for the prevention of Child Abuse by receiving the Blue Ribbon, the symbol for Child Abuse Prevention Month. Ribbons will be passed out around the community all month. For more

information, contact Marine & Family Counseling Services at 253-4526.

Talk, Listen Connect: Help Families During Military Deployments
April 1 - 30. Sesame Street presents “Talk, Listen, Con-

nect,” a bilingual educational outreach initiative designed for military families. This program helps children to cope with feelings, challenges and concerns experienced during various phases of deployment, redeployment and homecoming. Tune into Channel 18. For more information, contact Marine & Family Counseling Services at 253-4526.

Month of the Military Child Parent Lunch
April 3, 10:45 a.m. – noon, at the cafeteria, Matthew C. Perry Elementary School. April is designated Month of the Military Child and National Child Abuse Prevention Month. Help celebrate the lives of military children in our community by enjoying lunch with your child. Let’s highlight the importance of fostering protective, nurturing environments for them. For more information, contact Marine & Family Counseling Services at

253-4526.

Acquaintance Rape Seminar - CHOICES (date changed)
April 4, 11:30 a.m. - 1:00 p.m. at the Marine Memorial Chapel Library. Restricted reporting policies will be reviewed and discussed using hypothetical and real-world examples. Participants will be encouraged to ask questions and engage in the discussion.

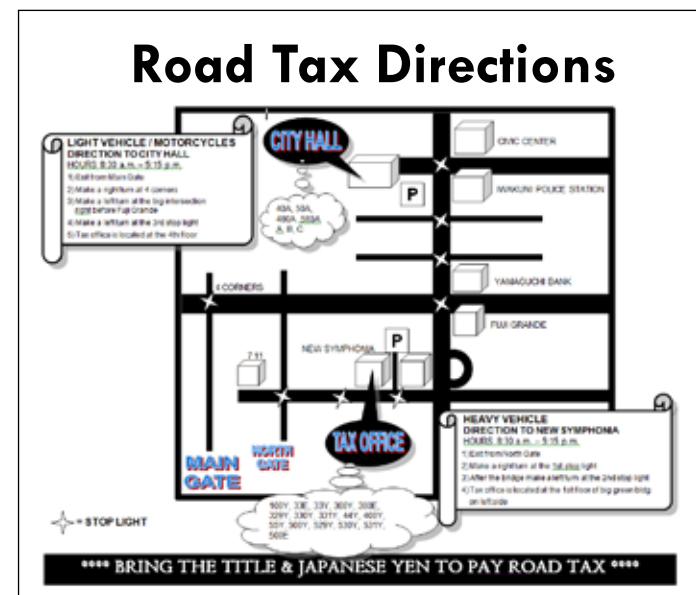
Do not leave your child unattended: Child Abuse & Neglect
April 5, noon – 2 p.m. The Victim Advocacy Program will be distributing flyers on Marine Corps Bases Japan Child Supervision Guidelines at the Marine Corps Exchange. Instances of unattended children in areas under the cognizance of this command have resulted in numerous and recurring incidents. For more information, contact Marine & Family Counseling Services at 253-4526.

Common Sense Parenting Information Table
April 8, 11 a.m. – 1 p.m. Marine and Family Counseling Services staff will have

informational handouts, books and videos available on display regarding parenting and child abuse prevention in the kiosk area of the Crossroads Mall. For more information, contact Marine & Family Counseling Services at 253-4526.

Month of the Military Child 2.5k Fun Run
April 11, check-in at 11:30 - 11:45 a.m. Join us behind the Ironworks Gym on the Seawall for a 2.5K Kid’s Fun Run. This event is open to all youth and teen. Every participant will receive an award for participating. For more information, contact Marine & Family Counseling Services at 253-4526.

Boosting Baby’s Brain
April 16, 10 – 11 a.m. Can you make your baby smarter? You bet - you are the best IQ-boosting tool your baby has! Bring your baby (1-12 months) to learn various brain-boosting activities through infant massage, sign language, games, songs, and more. Registration is required due to limited space. For more information, contact New Parent Support Program at 253-6553.



Chapel Services

Roman Catholic	
Saturday	4:30 p.m. Confession 5:30 p.m. Vigil Mass
Sunday	8:30 a.m. Mass 9:45 a.m. Religious Education
Protestant	
Sunday	9:30 a.m. Sunday School 10:30 a.m. Protestant Service 1:00 p.m. Spanish Fellowship
Wednesday	6:00 p.m. Awana (Bldg. 1104) 6:00 p.m. Bible Study
Church of Christ	
Sunday	9:30 a.m. Bible Study 10:30 a.m. Worship Service
Latter Day Saints	
Weekdays	6:30 a.m. Youth Activities
Islamic	
Friday	Noon Prayer
Jewish	
Friday	6:00 p.m. Shabbat
Teen Programs	
For times, call 253-5183: high school meetings, junior high meetings, HS and JR Bible studies, retreats, service projects, mission trips, Special Events Volunteer Training and Mentoring, Parent Support Groups	
For information regarding divine services, religious education or any other command religious program or chapel activity, call the Marine Memorial Chapel at 253-5218.	

M.C. Perry Elementary School

Faith Guevarra, Madison Melton, Bryce LeDrew, Noah Chavez-Nordberg, Keanu Saechang and Antonio Paloschavez observe the habitat of butterflies at the Hiroshima Insectarium. Photo courtesy of Matthew C. Perry Elementary School

insects in action, but they too became very active during the study trip. Students crossed over the Bridge of Rascals, a big suspended bridge made of ropes and logs, while also climbing up rugged terrains to take in many spectacular views of the park. This study trip offered Harwell’s class the opportunity to explore the beauty of Hiroshima in a fun and educational way.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

April 3
End of 3rd Quarter

April 4
Teacher Work Day – No school

April 6 – 11
Spring Break

First grade Field Trip
By Netra Harwell
The students in Netra Harwell’s first grade class visited the Hiroshima Insectarium as the culmination of a study on the life cycle of the butterfly. The students using the knowledge they learned were in search of butterfly eggs, using hand lenses since they were well aware of the fact that these eggs are unable to be seen clearly by the naked eye. The butterflies are housed in a

dome filled with various flowers not to mention more than 500 colorful butterflies of 10 different species, including a rare butterfly that can usually only be seen in Okinawa. The insectarium also included areas set aside to explore various insects, flowers, and a video information center that provided some information in both English and Japanese. The students were excited to be able to observe the habits of insects up close. Students observed

THE IWAKUNI APPROACH Classifieds

AUTOMOBILE

1994 Mazda Proceed

Must sell immediately. Great condition, runs great, power windows, power sun roof, 3rd row seating, plenty of room, CD player, American size SUV. Asking \$2,500 or best offer. For more information, call 253-5950 (work) or 080-3584-2794 (home).

Two sergeants looking for car

We are moving to Japan with a family in June '08 and are looking to purchase two reliable vehicles once we arrive. If anyone is getting rid of a vehicle and wants to e-mail us at nichol.fuentes@usmc.mil we will look at it once we get there. To contact us, call 443-866-2794 (work) or 832-286-6226 (home).

1992 Mitsubishi Pajero

Drives Great! Asking for \$3,500. JCI good through Sept '09. 4WD, strong A/C, CD player, new tires. Available April 21. For more information, call 253-2478 (home) or 253-5348 (work)

Miscellaneous

Lead Singer Wanted

Local Iwakuni rock band, Molotov Cocktail, is seeking a singer/front man to join its established lineup. Musical influences for the band include Judas Priest, AC/DC, Green Day, John Mellencamp, Lynard Skynard, The Beatles, The Clash, Billy Idol, Nirvana, Guns 'n' Rose, etc.

The following songs will be used during the audition process:

R.O.C.K in the USA
Knocking on Heaven's Door
Shook Me All Night Long
Breaking the Law
For more information or to arrange a private audition with the band, call 253-3254.

To submit an advertisement request, follow the classifieds link on the station Web site and open an advertisement request form. Submit the form via e-mail to iwakuni.pao@usmc.mil or in person at the Public Affairs Office, Building 1, Room 216.

PAY YOUR ROAD TAX AT PMO
APRIL 16, 17 & 18, 2008
9 a.m. - 3 p.m.

Japanese Tax Officials will be here at PMO! To pay road tax, you will need your title & payment in the form of yen.

Bring the following information to receive your new decal:

- Japanese Title
- Secondary Insurance
- JCI Insurance
- 2008 Road Tax Receipt
- SOFA License & AFID Card
- Your vehicle

If you have any questions please contact PMO Pass & Registration at 253-3161.

ALL PAYMENTS MUST BE IN YEN!!!

Parking will be located in the Chapel Parking Lot.

Mess Hall Menu

MONDAY, March 31

Beef with Bacon Soup, Shrimp Gumbo Soup, Caribbean Flounder, Country Style Steak, Steamed Rice, Macaroni and Cheese, Hush Puppies, Broccoli Combo, Wax Beans, Dinner Rolls, Peanut Butter Brownies, Marble Cake, Butter Cream Frosting, Banana Cream Pudding, Specialty Bar: Pasta Bar

TUESDAY, April 1

Tomato Soup, Vegetable Soup, Lasagna, Roast Pork, Au Gratin Potatoes, Toasted Garlic Bread, Whole Kernel Corn, Mixed Vegetables, Cream Gravy, Cheese Biscuits, Cherry Pie, Boston Cream Pie, Oatmeal Raisin Cookie, Specialty Bar: Taco Bar

WEDNESDAY, April 2

French Onion Soup, Cream of Broccoli Soup, Baked Tuna Noodles, Breaded Pork Chop, Mushroom Gravy, Garlic Roasted Potatoes, Carrots, Mix Vegetables, Hot Dinner Rolls, Chocolate Chip Cookies, Dutch Apple Pie, Devils Food Cake with Butter Cream Frosting, Specialty Bar: BBQ

THURSDAY, April 3

Manhattan Clam Chowder, Split Pea Soup, Chicken Parmesan, Italian Sausage, Buttered Pasta, Oven Browned Potatoes, Eggplant Parmesan, Cauliflower Gumbo, Alfredo Sauce, Marinara Sauce, Garlic Bread, Sugar Cookies, German Chocolate Cake, Banana Cream Pie, Specialty Bar: Deli Bar

FRIDAY, April 4

Chicken Noodle Soup, Cream of Mushroom Soup, Southern Style Fried Catfish, Chicken Cacciatore, Steamed Rice, Candied Sweet Potatoes, Southern Style Greens, French Fried Cauliflower, Cream Gravy, Jalapeno Corn Bread, Coconut Raisin Drop Cookies, Florida Lemon Cake with Butter Cream Frosting, Chocolate Cream Pie Specialty Bar: Hot dogs/ Polish Sausage

ROAD TAX Due April 2008

Road Tax must be paid between **April 1, 2008 ~ April 30, 2008** in order

HEAVY VEHICLE:		
PLATE		COST
100Y		¥ 32,000
33E, 33Y, 300Y, 300E,	(4,500cc & over)	¥ 22,000
329Y, 330Y, 331Y	(4,500cc & below)	¥ 19,000
44Y, 400Y, 55Y, 500Y		¥ 7,500
529Y, 530Y, 531Y, 500E		

Once your road tax is paid, bring the following to PMO Pass & Registration to receive your new base decal:

- Japanese Title
- Secondary Insurance
- 2008 Road tax receipt
- JCI Insurance
- The vehicle / motorcycle

Heavy Vehicles will pay road tax on the first floor of the New Symphonia Building (8:30 a.m. - 5:15 p.m.) (Parking is free in the rear of the building.)

LIGHT VEHICLE / MOTORCYCLE:		
PLATE		COST
50A, 40A, 480A, 580A		¥ 3,000
YAMA A, B		¥ 1,000
IWAKUNI A, B, C		¥ 500

Light Vehicles & Motorcycles will pay road tax on the 4th floor of City Hall (8:30 a.m. - 5:15 p.m.) located across from the Police Station. (Parking is Free)

Maps to the New Symphonia Building and City Hall can be obtained from the PMO Pass & Registration Section

ALL PAYMENTS MUST BE IN YEN !!!

Sakura Theater

Friday, March 28

7 p.m. Meet The Spartans (PG-13)
Premiere
10 p.m. Rambo (R)
Premiere

Saturday, March 29

2:00 p.m. There Will Be Blood (R)
Premiere
7:00 p.m. Rambo (R)
10:00 p.m. Meet The Spartans (PG-13)

Sunday, March 30

1:00 p.m. Meet The Spartans (PG-13)
4:00 p.m. Rambo (R)
7:00 p.m. There Will Be Blood (R)

Monday, March 31

7:00 p.m. Semi-Pro (R)
Last Showing

Tuesday, April 1

7:00 p.m. 27 Dresses (PG-13)
Last Showing

General admission: Ages 12+ are \$2.50 / Ages 6-11 are \$1 / Children ages 5 and under admitted free
For more information, visit www.mccsiwakuni.com or call 253-5291.

SAKURA THEATER POLICY - Patrons must be at least 10 years old to view a "PG-13" movie unaccompanied. Patrons under 10 must be accompanied by a parent or legal guardian throughout the entire movie.

SAKURA THEATER POLICY - Patrons must be at least 17 years old to view an "R" movie unaccompanied. Patrons under 17 must be accompanied by a parent or legal guardian throughout the entire movie.

Stacked

cruises past ATC, 52-30

LANCE CPL. CHRIS DOBBS
IWAKUNI APPROACH STAFF

Headquarters and Headquarters Squadron "Stacked" cruised past Air Traffic Control "Win or Go Home" 52-30 during the spring intramural basketball season at the IronWorks Gym sports courts March 19.

H&HS's Tyson Bare led all scorers with 12 points. Stacked's tall, athletic team opened the game with 8 unanswered points in the first three minutes.

Following a timeout, a regrouped ATC came up with a few defensive stops while guard Esteban Ramirez and power forward Carl Fuemmeler hit a pair of jumpers to get ATC back in the game.

It was a short-lived success, however, as ATC was unable to penetrate H&HS's solid defense for most of the game.

Stacked refused to budge, allowing only challenged jump shots.

Meanwhile, on offense, H&HS capitalized on several fast breaks, displaying why they're one of the league's best teams and taking a 22-11 lead into halftime.

But like most competitors, H&HS refused to accept anything less than a performance equal to their potential.

"We're winning, but we're playing down to the other team's level right now," said Stacked Coach Chris Reitman during the break. "We're much better than what we're playing right now."

"We need to focus and play our game," Reitman added.

Thanks to Fuemmeler and guard Brian Johnson's contributions on offense, ATC hung tough early in the second half, not allowing H&HS to pull away.

But ATC was unable to sustain the effort once the shots stopped falling.

Midway through the second half, H&HS broke the game open with several more fast break conversions, establishing a commanding 44-23 lead with less than 7 minutes to go.

"Our goal is to play hard and wear out the other team in the first half," said Stacked guard Maurice Jones. "If we run them tired in the first half, then we can cruise in the second."

Though they were unable to match H&HS, the game gave ATC players the chance to see where they "stack up" and to pinpoint their weaknesses, according to center Jody Anderson.

"They're quick but they weren't that much better than us," Anderson said. "If they would have missed the same amount of layups we did, we probably would have won by 10 points."

Anderson said ATC needs to work on its shooting, defense and conditioning if it wants to compete with the league's better teams.

Meanwhile H&HS plans to continue what they're doing and is excited about the rest of the season, according to Jones.

"There's a lot of teams out here and a lot of good competition," Jones said. "We've got a good, fast team this year - probably the best Stacked has ever had."

H&HS's challengers include the Marine Wing Support Squadron 171, Marine Aircraft Group 12 and Marine Aviation Logistics Squadron 12 teams, according to Jones, who is optimistic his team will overcome them.

"Hopefully, we can go undefeated and win the championship."

The intramural season runs until April 25. Games are played Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday from 6 p.m. to 9 p.m. at the IronWorks Gym. All station residents are welcome to attend.



Air Traffic Control's Justin Cooke (#23) competes for a rebound with Headquarters and Headquarters Squadron's Ronald Hoover (#2) during an intramural basketball game at IronWorks Gym sports courts March 19. Photo by Lance Cpl. Chris Dobbs

Scoring summary:

H&HS: First Quarter, 22
Second Quarter, 30
Final, 52
ATC: First Quarter, 11
Second Quarter, 19
Final, 30
Scoring leaders:
H&HS: Bare 12, Jones 10, Valville 8
ATC: Johnson 10, Fuemmeler 8

Week 1 Standings

Stacked	2-0
FIL-AM/BHC	2-0
Outlaws	1-0
MAG-12	1-1
Untouchables	1-1
South Side	1-1
W.O.G.H.	1-1
Seabees	0-0
Logistics	0-1
CLC Dirty Ballers	0-2
IYAAYAS	0-3

Standings indicate March 17-19 game play

Weightlifters raise bar in competition

LANCE CPL. NOAH S. LEFFLER
IWAKUNI APPROACH STAFF

Slamming steel and shouts of encouragement marked the opening of the 2008 Open Bench Press Competition at the IronWorks Gym weight room Saturday morning.

The 18 novice to experienced powerlifters pushed for first place prizes in their individual weight classes as well as overall men's and women's titles.

"This is for the community," said Curtis Brown, Marine Corps Community Services athletics director. "We had spouses out here today, we had Marines, we had dependents ... we also had Japanese participation.

We wanted to attract as many people as possible," he added.

The rules were simple: before the contest, state the weight to be lifted.

Participants had three chances to put up and exceed the predetermined weight, and the highest successful attempt was recorded and entered with a formula determining the competition's top guns.

For many, the most difficult part of the event was adhering to the "exaggerated pause" lifters had to endure prior to their lift.

For women's overall winner and first-time competitor Shannon Heywood,



Junya Yamada prepares to lift 220 pounds for the 123-pound weight class title during the 2008 Open Bench Press Competition at the IronWorks Gym weight room March 22. Photos by Lance Cpl. Noah S. Leffler

holding the bar to her chest for several extra seconds was both a blessing and a curse.

"The extra pause makes it a little harder," Heywood said. "It was a little hard to get used to ... but it works your muscles more and it helps you focus on your form coming back up."

Though putting up her best attempt of 126.5 pounds wasn't easy for the 120-pound ladies champ, Heywood said the camaraderie and encouragement from her fellow competitors helped lighten the load.

"You get a lot of motivation from other people," she said. "Everybody's pretty friendly and really supportive, so it helps boost your morale and keep you going."

Abe Roman, the overall men's winner, said this support is one reason he has enjoyed the sport for more than 27 years, and encourages others to get

into the weight room, make some new friends and enjoy the benefits of pumping iron.

"You always encourage people to start somewhere and set goals," Roman said. "That's the secret for success in everything you do in your life, and weightlifting is a great way to set a goal, reach that goal and set a new goal."

Roman's son Aaron, the 114-pound winner, was one of the event's newcomers. Roman said watching his son achieve his own goals was more rewarding than putting up the tournament-high 374 pounds.

"The best part is getting to hang out with your son who is taking interest in something you've done for a long time," Roman said. "For me, that opportunity is much better than the lifting."



Abe Roman, overall men's winner of the 2008 Open Bench Press Competition, chalks his hands before his final lift at the IronWorks Gym weight room March 22.



Spectators applaud as Brian Lewis (left) shakes hands with George Smedes, winner of the 198-pound weight class, during the 2008 Open Bench Press Competition at the IronWorks Gym weight room March 22.