

# THE IWAKUNI APPROACH

Issue No. 30, Vol. 1

Friday, August 8, 2008

Marine Corps Air Station Iwakuni, Japan

## Commandant: Exercise your right to vote

### Becoming eligible to vote starts by completing FPCA

ALMAR 029/08

HEADQUARTERS MARINE CORPS

The Presidential Election will be held Nov. 4. To vote in the election, you must be registered. I encourage all Marines, other service members attached to a Marine command, all authorized family members and civilian Marines to exercise their right to vote in-person or by absentee ballot.

If you are deployed or stationed outside your state of legal voting residency, you must complete a Federal Post Card Application to register to vote or to request an absentee ballot. The most frequent barrier voters encounter when voting absentee is insufficient ballot transit time. Register now to eliminate this potential problem. If you need a FPCA or assistance in completing the FPCA, see your unit voting assistance officer or visit the Marine Corps voting Web site at [www.manpower.usmc.mil/voting](http://www.manpower.usmc.mil/voting). You can also obtain additional information from the Federal Voting Assistance Program Web site at [www.fvap.gov](http://www.fvap.gov).



I encourage everyone to exercise your right to vote. Register now, make your vote count. Semper Fidelis.

James T. Conway,  
General, U.S. Marine Corps,  
Commandant of the Marine Corps

For more information on voting absentee overseas, see contributing writer David Naseer's article "Voting is a 4-step process," on **p. 3**.

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## JMSDF FAW-31 welcomes new commander



Rear Adm. Shoji Otani, commanding officer of Japanese Maritime Self-Defense Force Fleet Air Wing 31, salutes fellow military personnel during a change-of-command ceremony held at Hangar 4 here Aug. 1. Otani relieved Rear Adm. Masanori Uetsuki. Photo courtesy of Fleet Air Wing 31 Public Affairs

COMPILED BY  
THE IWAKUNI APPROACH

The former department head of the Maritime Staff Office here assumed command of Japanese Maritime Self-Defense Force Fleet Air Wing 31 during a change-of-command ceremony at Hangar 4 here Aug. 1.

Rear Adm. Shoji Otani succeeded Rear Adm. Masanori Uetsuki, who had held the position since March 2006.

Otani, a Miyazaki Prefecture-native, entered the JMSDF in March of 1977 and has since served in a number of capacities, including commanding officer of JMSDF Aviation Squadron 9 in Naha, Okinawa.



Marines attending the Corporals Leadership Course report for a service C uniform inspection July 31 outside Barracks 1686 here. During the three-week course, Marines will learn leadership traits, sword manual and characteristics of a noncommissioned officer. Photo by Lance Cpl. Ashley M. Howard

## CORPORALS COURSE: 30 NCOs begin three weeks of education

LANCE CPL.  
ASHLEY M. HOWARD  
IWAKUNI APPROACH STAFF

Corporals Leadership Course class 2-08 kicked off July 15. In it are 30 Marines interested in furthering their leadership skills.

The three-week course consists of close order drill, uniform inspections, an overnight stay at a bivouac site, leadership classes, physical training, night patrols and hikes.

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## INSIDE IWAKUNI



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Editorial content is edited, prepared and provided by the Public Affairs Office of Marine Corps Air Station Iwakuni, Japan. All queries concerning news and editorial content should be directed to the Public Affairs Office, Building 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.*

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# CORPS SAFETY

## 101 Critical Days of Summer General recreation

SUBMITTED BY THE STATION SAFETY OFFICE

### Fishing

- Always hold the hook or lure tightly in your fingers. Flailing hooks may catch anything they come in contact with.
- Carry a wire cutter or sharp pliers and disinfectant in your first aid kit. Be careful when dislodging lures and hooks which have gotten snagged on submerged branches, brush, or roots.
- If your lure gets snagged underwater, don't try to break it free by reeling in the line.
- Point the tip of your pole toward the water when you're casting, not toward your companion or over their heads.
- When landing a fish, work from the rear of the boat and use a net. Learn how to handle the fish properly. Some species have stiff spines in their fins which can cause painful injuries.
- If you are snagged by hook, don't try to back it out. Instead, push it through the skin until the point and barb are exposed. Snip them off and also snip off the eyelet. Pull the hook through the skin following its natural arc. Clean the wound and apply a disinfectant. Watch for infection.
- When walking, break down your fishing pole. If you can't, carry it with the tip trailing you and the hook or lure firmly attached to a hook holder on the pole.
- To avoid drowning, which is the most common cause of fishing-related deaths each year, do the following:
  - ◊ Always wear your personal flotation device (PFD).
  - ◊ Don't go fishing after heavy rain and storms.
  - ◊ Don't overload the boat. Load the boat properly, keeping the heaviest loads in the middle and bottom of the boat.

◊ If the boat capsizes, stay with it until help arrives. Don't remove your clothing or boots. They will help keep you afloat by holding air and also help keep you warm.

### Wading

- Never wade alone.
- Let someone know where you will be.
- Wear a PFD, and a shoe or boot that will provide maximum traction on the slippery rocks underfoot.
- Unseen holes or drop-offs are a dangerous hazard. Test each step carefully in advance by taking a tentative shuffle step.

### Basketball

- Officiated games decrease the risk of injury occurrence. Enforcement of rules assists in decreasing the incidence of injury.
- Be aware of the environment around you. Prior to participating in basketball, look for predisposing risk factors on the court such as foreign objects, towels, gym bags, water, etc.
- Proper hydration during activity is recommended.

### Softball

- Be aware of the environment around you. Check the playing fields for any predisposing risk factors such as divots, holes, soft drink tops, glass, etc. Fences should be a reasonable distance from fair territory, in good repair, and contain no exposed edges.
- Alcohol consumption should be discouraged during participation in any sporting activity.
- Liquid and nutrition replenishment is recommended to decrease exposure-related illness.
- Screened in dugout or similar enclosures will assist in prevention of injury to offensive players and the non-playing members of the defensive team.
- Have a shaded area prepared in case someone needs to be moved away from under the sun.

## CHAPLAIN'S CORNER

### 'God, I need help!'

CHAPLAIN A. R. KUSS  
COMMAND CHAPLAIN

Many times over the years as a chaplain, people have said to me, "Chaplain, remember my family in your prayers."

"I'll say a prayer for you."  
"Prayer got me through the tough times."

My parents taught me at an early age to keep the difficult things in life simple so other things can fall into the proper place and receive proper attention. My parents taught me that the only way to do this is to pray. In the leisure of summer, I want to share some things I was taught so that you too may practice the most powerful tool at our disposal, prayer.

Simply, I was taught to pray every day, to pray periodically throughout the day

and to be aware to whom I was listening and addressing. Like all the essentials of life, prayer needs to be practiced each day to stay fully conscious of the Divine. Praying for even short times is like staying hydrated or keeping up our energy through eating; it keeps us spiritually strong. It needs to be given time, space and opportunity to impact our lives.

Second, I need to be aware of whom I am listening to and who I am addressing. Listening to the Divine at prayer, like listening to another person, is not a passive thing. I must put aside my notions and ideas to focus on what the Divine is trying to communicate. Sometimes while praying, there is silence. Sometimes there are words or directives but always the awareness that I am not alone.

Third, I must take seriously the time and opportunity prayer gives me to speak from the heart the things that are important in my life. The words I use to

speak to the Divine need to reveal the openness, gratitude and love that I owe. Sometimes I use a book to express my thoughts. Sometimes I use scriptures to help express myself or even use it to begin dialogue. Most of the time, I just quiet my mind to make room and time for the Divine, and speak from the heart.

Finally, prayer is a matter of spending time in the presence of the Divine. We become better at it with routine practice. Prayer can occur at any time or place and for many reasons.

Library, bookstore and clergy bookshelves are full of theological, scriptural and anecdotal methods of prayer. The practice of prayer can sound difficult and complicated to many people, while for others as natural as any conversation.

I encourage you to continue to pray or return to a routine of prayer or if you would like some assistance, stop by and visit with a chaplain.

As the commercial says, "Just do it."

## Voting is a 4-step process

DAVID NASEER  
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

As a voter, it is your responsibility to ensure you are eligible to vote, register before the deadline, keep your contact information up to date, vote your ballot when you receive it and ensure you follow directions on the registration and

ballot.

To register, fill out the SF-76 Federal Post Card Application.

You can either get a copy from your Unit Voting Assistance Officer or obtain a copy from:

[www.manpower.usmc.mil/voting](http://www.manpower.usmc.mil/voting) or  
[www.fvap.gov](http://www.fvap.gov).

Follow the directions for your state

also located online at the listed Web sites. To be eligible, you must be a U.S. citizen, at least 18 years of age, stationed away from home or home-of-record outside the continental United States. States may impose other requirements. For additional questions, call the Station Inspector's Office at 253-3033 or 253-3428.

1. Citizen completes and mails a Federal Post Card Application Form SF-76.
2. A local state election official approves the submitted registration request or requests further information.
3. Local election official mails an absentee ballot to citizen.
4. Citizen votes and mails the absentee ballot back to the local election official in time to meet his state's deadline.



Marines from Marine Aircraft Group 12 participated in a noncommissioned officer appreciation day Aug. 1 at locations around the station. The NCOs participated in a Combat Fitness Test, close order drill, Marine Corps Martial Arts Program training and fired pistols at the Indoor Small Arms Range. Photo courtesy of Sgt. Jonathan O. Bass

## News Briefs

### Press pause for Obon

The Iwakuni Approach will not be published during Obon, an annual Buddhist event for commemorating one's ancestors that is observed from Aug. 13 to 16 in many regions of Japan and in mid July in other regions. Although Obon is not a Japanese national holiday, many people take vacations during Obon to visit their hometowns. An Obon festival is scheduled to start at 5 p.m. on Saturday on the parade deck in front of Building 1.

### PMO asks residents to abide by station orders

The Provost Marshal's Office highly encourages residents aboard the station to abide by all air station regulations. Please take note of the following so you can do your part to ensure this installation is a safe home for all residents. Please be sure you do not use a cell phone while driving a vehicle on or off the installation. Every passenger of a motor vehicle — personal or government — must wear a seatbelt. Also, be sure that when you are riding a bicycle you have a proper bicycle

helmet, properly fitted and secured on your head. Earphones are not permitted to be worn outside, except on the seawall. When leaving your vehicle unattended, even for a brief stop, leaving the keys in the ignition and the engine running is prohibited. For our motorcyclists, bicyclists, skaters and skateboarders, be sure you are wearing mandatory personal protective equipment per MCASO P5560.8A. The MCAS Iwakuni orders can be found on the Station intranet.



## CMC unveils Vision and Strategy 2025 document Part II

1ST LT. PATRICK BOYCE  
HEADQUARTERS MARINE CORPS

While the Marine Corps has always excelled in conventional maneuver warfare, it is clear that hybrid forms of conflict will require a more hybrid approach to operations across a spectrum of military operations, from training host nation soldiers, to support of civil authorities, to noncombatant evacuations, to prolonged counterinsurgency operations. These concepts embody the “no better friend, no worse enemy” approach, which will serve, according to The Capstone Operational Concept, to ideologically defeat our nation’s enemies, deny them the hearts and minds of susceptible populations, and prevent conflicts before they happen.

“This long war will be a generational

one that requires fostering relationships and rooting out extremists,” said Col. Doug King, Capstone Concept author and director of Marine Corps Combat Development Command. “We need to be in a position where we can help build partners’ capacities in order to enable them to better prevent regional conflict. This is done by increasing our forward presence in vulnerable places.”

The forward projection of U.S. power to provide both military assistance and humanitarian aid will be accomplished most directly through the use of Seabasing, which ties directly to the Marine Corps’ maritime and expeditionary nature and abilities, abilities that haven’t seen much demonstration recently due to the protracted ground war in Iraq. Most of the world’s hotspots within the “Arc of Instability”

are accessible from the sea, the Marine Corps’ backyard.

“Seabasing enables regional partnership, both political and military, a port and airfield at sea,” King said. “This enabling concept will allow us to close, assemble, employ, sustain and redeploy joint forces from a protected, highly maneuverable sea base thereby giving us tremendous advantage when responding to crisis, alleviating suffering, or defeating adversaries.”

According to The Capstone Operational Concept, being supplied and being based from the sea will keep the Corps flexible and decrease its heavy footprint onshore, while still providing a persistent presence to deter extremist enemies from operating within the range of the Corps’ projected power.

This projected power ashore would

include not only the ability to conduct major combat operations if needed, but also civil affairs and humanitarian missions to improve the quality of life for allied or host-nation populations.

“In order to help nations prevent problems in their own back yard before they occur, we have to go out and help these people,” King said. “Helping other nations provide better security and infrastructure to their people will take a bite out of the extremists’ ability to set up shop and spread their radical influence.”

Assisting in these humanitarian efforts would potentially be several new units called Security Cooperation MAGTFs, which would build partnerships with host nations, through

SEE STRAT ON PAGE 8

## FLIR techs expand skills, cross-train with VFA-94

LANCE CPL. JOSEPH MARIANELLI  
IWAKUNI APPROACH STAFF

**R**OYAL AUSTRALIAN AIR FORCE BASE TINDAL, Australia (July 25, 2008) — They trudge through the darkness in the late hours of the night, walking from hangar to hangar performing preventative maintenance, checking components and repairing or replacing aircraft parts as needed.

Most of the work they do isn’t required of them or even part of their job, but they strive to improve themselves.

In order to combat deployment downtime and pick up some new skills, forward-looking infrared technicians with Marine Aviation Logistics Squadron 12 are expanding their skill sets by lending a hand to Naval Strike Fighter Squadron 94 during Exercise Southern Frontier 2008.

Although the FLIR Marines have their own job to do, it only focuses on one part of the F/A-18.

When there aren’t any issues with that piece of equipment, they spend their time cross-training with the VFA-94 aviation electronic technicians.

“We’re out here to maintain FLIR, make sure it’s up and running for all their flight missions,” said Lance Cpl. Helena Almaguer, MALS-12 FLIR technician. “When there are no issues we just go out and cross-train with VFA-94.”

In order to learn more about the aircraft, the MALS-12 Marines follow the VFA-94 aviation electronic technicians on their nightly maintenance tours.

“They are just following right along with us,” said Petty Officer 2nd Class Zebulia Reid, aviation electronic technician with VFA-94. “This is what we normally do.”

FLIR technicians are responsible for conducting release checks, which ensure that the electronic components that release ordnance are functioning properly.



Petty Officer 3rd Class Andrew Rendina, a Naval Strike Fighter Squadron 94 aviation electronics technician, explains the responsibilities of the person in the cockpit during release checks to Lance Cpl. Helena Almaguer, a Marine Aviation Logistics Squadron 12 forward-looking infrared technician. During the release checks, the person in the cockpit must press the same buttons or switches the pilot would when firing ordnance so that the electrical signals can be verified at the release points. Photo by Lance Cpl. Joseph Marianelli

Although the checks must be performed every seven days, the jets’ tiered schedule means they don’t all have to be done in one night.

During their time with VFA-94, the Marines have worked on a number of other systems related to communication and navigation, including the Global Positioning Satellite system and radar.

According to Almaguer, when a jet is going to be grounded for awhile, the technicians will remove good components from that jet to use in other jets.

“We call it ‘remove and replace,’” Almaguer said. “I’ve done that with radar components and items in the cockpit.”

The process provides a two-fold advantage by improving combat readiness and allowing parts to be swapped as a means of determining what components need replacing.

“Let’s say it’s a transmitter—we’ll pull it off of this jet (and) put it in another one,” Almaguer said. “Basic troubleshooting says if that fixes the problem then obviously that component is known to be bad.”

The FLIR technicians say they choose to take on the additional duties in the interest of mutual job cooperation.

“Anything that’s not FLIR-related is just extra work that we don’t have to do,” said Sgt. William A. Smith, MALS-12 FLIR technician. “We’re just doing that to help them out and make things smoother for them.”

“It’s a win-win situation,” Almaguer added. “We learn something and it tests their teaching qualities, allowing them to fine tune them on us.”

According to Smith, the benefits of helping the VFA-94 technicians are paid right back to the FLIR technicians.

In the past FLIR technicians have not always been welcomed by other squadrons, he said.

However, by helping the VFA-94 technicians, mutual respect is created allowing the Marines to do their job in conjunction with the sailors.

For Almaguer, tackling different tasks is always exciting, and working with the VFA-94 technicians has been a low-stress educational environment.

“I like to learn new things, I figure I may as well fill my time with something worthwhile,” Almaguer said.

“Learning all this is not even the icing on the cake—it’s the cherry.”

# TARGET 732

## IWAKUNI’S WORLD WAR II HISTORY UNLOCKED



Clouds of smoke rise from what is now Marine Corps Air Station Iwakuni during an Allied Forces bombing mission in August 1945. 44 B-24 Liberator bombers dumped 129 tons of ordnance on Iwakuni during World War II. Maxwell Air Force Base, National Archives and Records Administration

CWO-3 J.T. LACKIE  
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

Just in front of the station chapel stands the “Zero” hangar riddled with the silent scars of war.

Ever since I was first stationed here as a young lance corporal I had heard many stories about what happened at the air station during World War II. I heard or read that it was strafed in July 1945; that it was bombed by B-29 in May 1945; that the station was never bombed; and that the Zero hangar is the only one remaining in the world. I set off to find out exactly what happened to this air station during the Second World War and to uncover what the remaining hangar had to tell.

According to Torao “Tiger” Okuda, the hangar’s volunteer caretaker and WWII veteran of the Japanese Army, Taiwan Division, there were a total of six concrete hangars built and thirty or more earth revetments to protect and store fighter aircraft on the air station. Many of these concrete hangars were constructed not by skilled professional workers, but by the helping hands of adolescent children. In Japanese, these concrete hangars are called “Entaigou,” were of the Japanese Navy design and, unlike today, had no front windows, dirt floors and were covered with earth for camouflage. Interestingly, under normal circumstances the concrete would be reinforced with metal rebar. However, by the time these hangars were constructed, metal was becoming a very scarce resource within Japan.

With the lack of metal to reinforce the concrete, “take” or bamboo was used as a substitute and is still visible today ever so slightly protruding from spots in the ceiling. Sixty-three years ago, the station boundaries extended to the railroad tracks. The base’s hangars and revetments were located between the current aircraft parking ramps

and the tracks with others as far out as Atago mountain. I soon discovered that this type of hangar was actually very common throughout Japan and that many still dot the landscape on Honshu, Shikoku and Kyushu islands.

On Aug. 9, 1945, fury was unleashed on the air station as 44 B-24 Liberator bombers from the 7th Army Air Force Okinawa, released 129 tons of 500-pound general purpose bombs on what was known to the air crews as Target No. 90.30-732. Their orders: “bomb its airstrip and destroy any fighters they have in revetments.”

From the book “11th Bomb Group (H); The Grey Geese”:

“At 12:15 p.m. we turned from our initial point 20 miles east of Iwakuni and steered into our final run. Heavy flak bursts began to crowd us, filling the air space we had to fly in. To bomb accurately, the bombardier needed at least 45 seconds of straight and level flight. It was amazing how long 45 seconds can seem, but at last the cry of “Bombs away” from “Puddle,” our bombardier, we veered sharply to the right, diving to loose altitude and evasive action to defeat the accuracy of the Japanese gunners.”

-Jack Schwartz, navigator, “B-24 Pacific Passion;” 7th Army Air Force, 11th Bomb Group, 431st Bombardment Squadron.

The allied forces completed their bombing raid mission with no aircraft lost. Three of the concrete hangars were destroyed; most of the earth revetments and runway were rendered unusable and the air station was operationally left in ruins. Despondently, I also discovered through archived local newspapers articles and individual diaries that a substantial number of civilians had also perished during this raid as many sought shelter inside at least one of the non-reinforced concrete hangars. Two of the remaining hangars would survive the subsequent allied occupation; one located behind AIU insurance was converted into a

home and lived in for over 40 years before being torn down. The other was converted into a storage warehouse which now houses the replica Zero fighter donated to the base in 1984.

So, after many hours of research in libraries, archives and countless talks with aging veterans like Okuda, I finally found out what happened to the air station. The shrapnel scars on this remaining hangar did have a story to tell us. The wounded concrete building not only stands to remind us all of the devastating effects war can bring, but also reminds us of the birth of our peaceful and long-lasting friendship with our host nation, Japan.

I discovered something even more important, that Building M6-10 stands ever-silent as a testament of our past. Many pass it daily without even giving it a second glance, and sometimes people never visit it during their entire tour. I discovered kids throw rocks on it, that drunken people climb on it, and that people leave trash and beer bottles around it. I would like to believe that we, as a community, are better than that.

I would ask everyone of the air station community to take time to visit the Zero hangar and explore the replica Mitsubishi A6M Zeros aircraft. If anything, just occasionally take time to stop by and politely say “ohayo gozaimasu” to Tiger. This 82-year-old gentleman deserves our time, as he has been faithfully volunteering - without pay - nearly every day for the past 23 years caring for this monument to both war and peace.

For more information on the Zero hangar or the day the air station was attacked, readers may contact either the writer or Okuda. The hangar hours of operations are normally from 9 a.m. to 11 a.m. every day of the week. Donations for the upkeep of the hangar and Zero aircraft are accepted by Okuda and encouraged by the author.



# CORPORALS COURSE

## Three weeks of NCO training kicks off for Corps' newest leaders

COURSE FROM PAGE 1

"The course is used to hone in on the leadership traits that NCOs already have," said Sgt. Kaylenne M. Holmes, one of the course instructors. "It's nothing to be afraid of."

The classes are taught by staff noncommissioned officers and senior NCOs, who intend on having the Marines leave with a better sense of being a leader.

Instructional classes start with the Marines reading the NCO creed, a paragraph highlighting the goals of an

NCO.

"It's not easy," said Cpl. Travis E. Tucker, class leader and an aviation ordnance technician with Marine Aviation Logistics Squadron 12 here. "But all around it's awesome."

Close order drill is practiced from the first training day to the eleventh training day, with an evaluation following. Marines in the class must pass the test on drill with a score of 80 percent or higher in order to graduate the course.

The Marines are tested on sword manual and how they lead a detail

of their peers through precise drill maneuvers.

The PT consists of an initial physical fitness test, a four-mile run, a three- and five-mile hike, a combat fitness test, a final physical fitness test and a director's run.

A five-mile hike is scheduled to take place at an undisclosed site where activities such as land navigation, night patrols and shooting will take place.

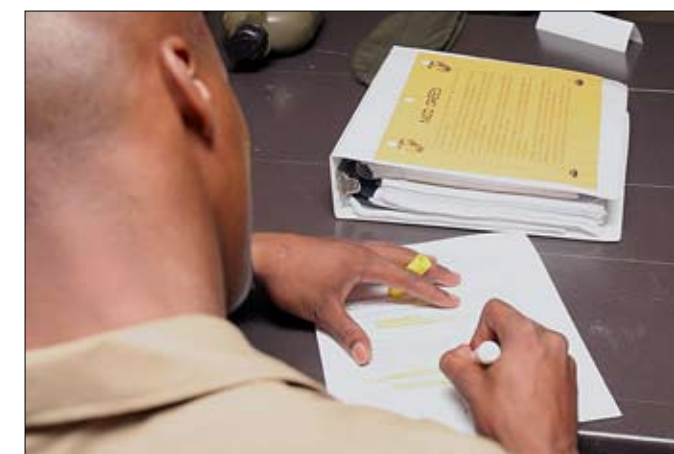
Corporals course students will also shoot at the Indoor Small Arms Range during their stay at the bivouac site.

The instructors condition the Marines with a three-mile hike in order to prepare them for an up coming five-mile hike.

Six separate uniform inspections are conducted throughout the corporals course.

"All of the activities done during the course are geared at giving the Marines the right tools that are essential in becoming a better NCO," Holmes said.

The course graduation will be held Aug. 15 in the Marine Memorial Chapel at 10:30 a.m.



The Corporals Leadership Course class leader, Cpl. Travis E. Tucker, highlights important information during a leadership class July 31 in the corporals course classroom. Photo by Lance Cpl. Ashley M. Howard



Corporals Leadership Course instructor Sgt. Kaylenne M. Holmes corrects the class leader, Cpl. Travis E. Tucker, on his rank structure during a leadership class July 31 in the corporals course classroom. Photo by Lance Cpl. Ashley M. Howard



The three-week Corporals Leadership Course started July 25 and will end with a graduation in the Marine Memorial Chapel Aug. 25. The course teaches Marines to be proficient noncommissioned officers. Photo by Lance Cpl. Ashley M. Howard



Marines attending the Corporals Leadership Course execute a dress-right-dress drill movement while practicing close order drill on the parade deck July 28. During the three-week course, the Marines will learn leadership traits, sword manual and other characteristics of a well-rounded noncommissioned officer. Photo by Lance Cpl. Ashley M. Howard



Students at the Corporals Leadership Course are inspected by course instructors as part of a daily exercise. Photo by Lance Cpl. Ashley M. Howard



# AROUND THE CORPS



Col. W. Blake Crowe, commanding officer of Marine Barracks Washington, pins the Navy and Marine Corps Achievement Medal on Sgt. Chesty XII, the former mascot of the Barracks, during his retirement ceremony in Washington, July 25. Photo by Lance Cpl. Chris Dobbs

## Chest XII retires during Marine Barracks ceremony

LANCE CPL. CHRIS DOBBS  
MARINE BARRACKS 8TH & I

### SGT.

Chesty the XII's six-year tenure as the official mascot of the Barracks came to an end during a retirement ceremony here

Friday.

Approximately 100 guests were on hand for the ceremony, which featured the "President's Own," The United States Marine Band, "The Commandant's Own," The United States Marine Corps Drum and Bugle Corps, and the Silent Drill Platoon.

The six-year-old mascot and his successor, Pfc. Chesty the XIII, sat abreast one another on center walk as they were honored by participating Marines.

Chesty the XII, a fawn and white pedigree English bulldog who enlisted in the Marine Corps on March 30, 2002, will spend his years in retirement at home with his caretakers, Gunnery Sgt. Michael Mergen and his wife, Gunnery Sgt. Kristin Mergen, who are both members of the The President's Own.

During his six-year career, which marks the longest tour in Barracks' mascot history, Chesty XII made an appearance at every Evening Parade and participated in several other events in the national capitol region, most notably the Marine Band's "Music in the Schools" series. For his devotion to duty, Chesty XII was awarded a Navy and Marine Corps Achievement Medal.

"After every parade, Chesty XII sat patiently as he was photographed a myriad of times with children and other guests of the Barracks," said Col. W. Blake Crowe, MBW commanding

officer, after presenting the award to Chesty. "We owe him some much deserved compensation time and leave, which he'll get the chance to burn during the next few months."

Retirement will mark the first time Chesty XII has taken leave in six years. The break will give him a chance to do some of his favorite things, which include taking naps and playing with small toys and basketballs, according to Gunnery Sgt. Michael Mergen. "He's a handful," Mergen said. "Our daughters love to play with him, and they're glad he's retiring, because they'll have more time to spend with him."

Now that Chesty the XII has been relieved of his duties as the Barracks' mascot, he can go back to being an ordinary bulldog. However, if the one-year-old Chesty the XIII cannot live up to the standards expected of a Barracks' mascot, Chesty the XII will be called back to duty until a new mascot is found. But for now, he can kick his legs out, chew on his favorite toy and be proud of his service.

"We're very proud of him," Mergen said. "He made an excellent mascot."

As the Marine Band concluded Friday's ceremony with the performance of the Scottish song, "Auld Lang Syne," Chesty the XII officially marched off center walk for the last time. While the song goes, "Should old acquaintance be forgot," rest assured...

Chesty the XII's service to country and Corps will always be remembered.

Good night, Chesty the XII, wherever you are!

STRAT FROM PAGE 4

military to military training, include native-language speakers, and conduct civil affairs operations, such as improving host nation agriculture and access to water and electrical power. It is the intent of these units to increase both the security and domestic strengths of their host nations, creating better economic and social opportunities for the indigenous population so they would be less prone to either support or join extremist groups.

Indeed, all units, not only the special Security Cooperation MAGTFs, must be prepared to embrace the flexibility inherent in Seabasing and being multi-capable across the range of conflict down to the smallest unit level. Therefore, force structure implications will stress decentralized operations, adaptability to more austere environmental conditions, and the establishment of compact and separate command elements with their own geographic focus. This increased flexibility will be designed allow units to respond quicker and with more initiative to regionalized threats and activities.

It is through these improved flexibilities and capabilities that the Marine Corps is planning to ideologically defeat our enemies in the Long War by denying them both harbor nations or civilian populations from which to draw either security or comfort. As vulnerable nations that are partners with the U.S. improve their security and stability, extremist groups will continue to lose support and credibility. At the same time, the Corps will continue to do what it does best by focusing on the individual Marine and improving hard and realistic training that will prepare Marines for often uncertain conditions.

While the publications of the Vision and Strategy 2025 document and The Capstone Operational Concept document are only the opening salvo in the transformation of the Marine Corps into an even more adept and adaptable fighting force, as guidance ultimately begets implementation, it is worth every Marine's time to review these documents to get a heads-up in how the Corps will counter the many challenges of the Long War.

## Community Briefs

### PMO Lost and Found

The Provost Marshal's Office Lost and Found section has various lost items that have been turned in, dating as far back as 2006. Currently we have the following items:

- Keys · Wallets and their contents · a thumbdrive
- Credit cards · Jewelry
- Passports · Cell phones
- Dog tags · Electronics
- Compact disks

If you have misplaced anything, please call PMO at 253-5105 or e-mail [carrie.morse@usmc.mil](mailto:carrie.morse@usmc.mil).

### CTC Registration for Term 1

Central Texas College registration for Term 1 is from Aug. 4 to Aug. 22. The class is from Aug. 25 to Oct. 19. Distance learning and traditional

classes are available. For more information, call 253-3631 or e-mail [iwakuni.jpn.pfec@ctcd.edu](mailto:iwakuni.jpn.pfec@ctcd.edu).

### Marine and Family Services volunteer needed

Marine and Family Services is excited to announce the advent of an advisory committee. The board will consist of members representing the full spectrum of our military community, including active duty, military spouses and civilian employees aboard the air station. Quarterly meetings will provide a forum to facilitate improvements and expansion of programs currently offered through Marine and Family Services. We are searching for eight volunteers willing to contribute time and big ideas.

Please contact Marine and Family Services at 253-6439 if you are interested in this unique volunteer-opportunity.

### Marine and Family Services monthly retreat for spouses

Marine and Family Services will be offering a renewal retreat in support of spouses of deployed Iwakuni service members. The daylong getaway will be offered monthly at popular tourist locations in-and-around Iwakuni. All expenses will be paid, including childcare. Please contact Marine and Family Services at 253-6439 to learn more.

### Iwakuni Toastmasters

Iwakuni Toastmasters is now offering evening and lunchtime meetings. Evening meetings are held every third Wednesday of each month from 7 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. at the Civilian Human Resources Office training room in Building 1. Lunchtime meetings are held every fourth Friday of each month from 12 p.m. to 1 p.m. at Facilities training room on the second floor of Building 360. For more information, call 253-3335.

### Club Beyond Chaplains' youth program

Club Beyond is a faith-based program that reaches out to Christian and non-Christian teens here. Club Beyond has seen 70 percent of the 200-plus high school and junior high students participate in their youth group meetings in the past two years.

Each year we have volunteer leaders PCS and need 6-8 new leaders for the upcoming school year. The local CB director will have a training seminar Aug. 23 at 2 p.m. in Yujo Hall. Those interested should contact the CB director to register. Please feel free to contact him via e-mail at [IwakuniCB@gmail.com](mailto:IwakuniCB@gmail.com) or by calling 253-5183.

### M.C. Perry Elementary PTO needs volunteers

M.C. Perry Elementary School Parents and Teachers Organization needs volunteers to help plan summer events and fundraisers for the fall. Please call 253-2180 or 253-3327 for more information.

### Boy Scouts Troop 77

Boy Scouts Troop 77 is accepting new members. Meetings are Mondays, 6 - 7:30 p.m. at Building 1111 (one block down from the Marine Memorial Chapel). For more information, call 253-3505.

### Open Play Volleyball

Open Play Volleyball for all personnel and skill level. Come out to the IronWorks Gym every Thursday and Sunday at 6 p.m. For more information, call 253-6084 (work) or 253-2839 (home).

### Information Job Fair 2008 - Marine and Family Services

August 23, 11 a.m. - 3 p.m. at Club Iwakuni. Marine and Family Services Division will offer Iwakuni residents information on various programs offered as well as employment and volunteer positions available aboard the installation. Interviews for interested applicants will be conducted during the event. Resume assistance will be

provided. MCCS will provide child care for those interviewing. Come enjoy the entertainment, food and prizes. For more information, call Marine and Family Services at 253-4526.

### Budget for Baby Class - Navy Marine Corps Relief Society

Are you financially ready for your new baby? NMCRS is offering a Budget for Baby Class on Aug. 22, noon to 1 p.m. Feel free to bring your lunch. The class provides valuable information on budgeting for you new baby.

In order to be eligible, attendees must have recently had a baby or are expecting within six months. All attendees will receive a junior sea bag with a coordinated set of bedding and clothing, a baby book, and a handmade blanket and sweater set. Call 253-5311 to sign-up.

### Operation Homefront Military Spouse Scholarship

Operation Homefront is proud to announce the CinCHouse.com scholarship for spouses of uniformed services members to attend a post-secondary university, college, accredited trade school, certificate program, vocational school or community college. Deadline for submission is extended to Aug. 15. The scholarships will be awarded to recipients on Aug. 30. Visit <http://www.operationhomefront.net/spousescholarship.asp> for details.

### Become a Volunteer Victim Advocate

Pre-registration is required. Training is Aug. 25-29, 6 - 9 p.m. Please call the Victim Advocate Coordinator at 253-4526.

## Chapel Services

### Roman Catholic

Saturday 4:30 p.m. Confession  
5:30 p.m. Mass  
Sunday 8:30 a.m. Mass  
9:45 a.m. Religious Education  
Tuesday - Friday 11:30 a.m. Weekday Mass  
Wednesday 6:00 p.m. Inquiry Class for adults

### Protestant

Saturday 9:30 a.m. Seventh-Day Adventist Sabbath School  
11:00 a.m. Seventh-Day Adventist Devine Worship  
Sunday 9:30 a.m. Sunday School, Adult Bible Fellowship  
10:30 a.m. Protestant Service  
11 a.m. Children's Church  
Wednesday 6:00 p.m. Awana (Bldg. 1104)  
6:00 p.m. Bible Study (Capodanno Hall Chapel)

### Church of Christ

Sunday 9:30 a.m. Bible Study (small chapel)  
10:30 a.m. Worship Service

### Latter Day Saints

Weekdays 6:30 a.m. Youth Activities

### Jewish

Friday 6:00 p.m. Shabbat (small chapel)

### 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.

## Sakura Theater

### Friday, Aug. 8, 2008

7 p.m. The Love Guru (PG-13)  
**Premier**  
10 p.m. The Happening (R)  
**Premier**

### Saturday, Aug. 9, 2008

1 p.m. The Dark Knight (PG-13)  
5 p.m. Kung Fu Panda (PG)  
8 p.m. The Love Guru (PG-13)

### Sunday, Aug. 10, 2008

1 p.m. The Love Guru (PG-13)  
4 p.m. The Dark Knight (PG-13)  
8 p.m. The Happening (R)

### Monday, Aug. 11, 2008

7 p.m. The Incredible Hulk (PG-13)

### Tuesday, Aug. 12, 2008

7 p.m. Sex and the City (R)  
**Last Showing**

### Wednesday, Aug. 13, 2008

2 p.m. Kung Fu Panda (PG)  
7 p.m. Get Smart (PG-13)

### Thursday, Aug. 14, 2008

7 p.m. You Don't Mess With the Zohan (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](http://www.mccsiwakuni.com) or call 253-5291.

253-5291



# THE IWAKUNI APPROACH

## Classifieds

### Automobiles

#### 2004 Honda Shadow Motorcycle

Asking \$5,000 or best offer. Bike comes with two full-face helmets, 750 cc, leather saddlebags, full windscreen and an English owners manual. It is too much bike for my husband. For more information, call 253-3337 (work) or 253-5470 (home).

#### Honda 250 Motorcycle

Bike has a fire-engine-red tank and chrome fenders, runs great and gets awesome gas mileage! Great for a beginner, just getting around Iwakuni, and sightseeing! Brand new ignition switch, recent oil change, and well maintained. Asking \$1,000. Please call 253-2213 (home).

#### 1992 BMW

Four-door sedan with 92,000-plus km has JCI insurance good until May 2009. Series 525i, black-leather

interior, bucket seats, CD player, sun roof, aluminum wheels including the spare, anti-lock brakes, power windows and locks, AC, tires more than 75 percent tread. Sedan comes with signature BMW first-aid kit and built-in tool kit, plus many extra brand new parts. For more information, call 253-6902 (work) or 253-2383 (home).

#### 1994 Honda Odyssey

Asking \$1,000. JCI is good until Aug. 20, 2008. Good A/C and heater, new CD player. Must sell by Aug. 20. For more information, call 080-3402-2406 (cell).

#### 1998 Suzuki Wagon R Wide

Five-passenger, asking \$3,300, JCI good until August 2010. Runs great, excellent condition, power windows, locks lots of storage room, CD player, new brakes, new tires, and recently got a tune-up and an oil change. Only has 136,800 km/ 85,000 miles on the engine. Great gas mileage. For more information, call 253-3871 (work) or 080-3887-1724 (cell).

#### 2004 Harley Davidson Sportster

1,200cc custom. JCI good until June 2010. Asking \$7,500. If interested, call 080-3058-1918 (cell).

#### 1995 Delica Space Gear 4x4 Van

\$1,500. Must sell, taking offers. For more information, call 253-2147 (home).

#### Nissan Wingroad

Black four-door with A/C, heat, power windows, CD and cassette player. Asking \$2,200. If interested, please call 090-9843-4826 (cell).

#### 1995 Subaru Domingo

Low fuel and low maintenance. Perfect for Iwakuni. Seats six and great for driving and parking off-base. Needs JCI renewed. \$2,500 OBO. Call 253-5301 (work) or 253-2265 (home) for more information.

### Job openings

#### Part-time agent position at Sato Travel

This position is responsible for booking air, car and hotel reservation for military travelers in official duty status using the Sabre CRS. It is desirable for the candidates to have travel agency or airline experience and Sabre CRS experience. Send resumes to mkenat@ewtsatotravel.com. No phone inquiring accepted.

#### Become a Crew Chief

If you want to explore the world and venture in the skies, become a crew chief with H&HS C-12 Ops. Must have a 1st class or better swim qualification. For more information, call 253-4022.

#### Corporal's Course instructor needed

Corporal's Course is looking for motivated sergeants or staff sergeants to be instructors for the Corporal's Course. The next course starts Sept. 5, instructors will report no later than August 25. For more information, call 253-3974.

### Miscellaneous

#### Jam Band Auditions

A local vocalist/acoustic guitarist is compiling a jam band to play covers in the local area. A keyboardist, bassist,

drummer, percussionist and saxophone player are desired. Influences - Dave Matthews Band, Coldplay, City and Colour, and Rufus Wainwright. Please call 253-2356 and leave a detailed message, or e-mail inner.vision@yahoo.com.

#### Moving Sale!

Beautiful house plants - \$5 to \$20, Compact computer cabinet with two metal hinged doors light brown wood - \$25, 27-in. TV with remote - \$20, Men and women clothing - Prices vary, Women shoes (sizes 6-7) - Prices vary, Boy clothing (2t-5t) - Prices vary, Small and Med misc., kitchen/household items - Prices vary, Light brown carpet squares enough for three-bedroom townhouse. Excellent condition - \$300, If interested, please call 090-9843-4826 (cell).

#### Washer and Dryer for sale.

Asking \$400 for both. Need to sale; do not fit in off-base housing. For more information, call 253-3211 (work) or 080-3096-9755 (cell).

#### Bowflex treadclimber TC5000 for sale

Asking \$1,800. Purchased two years ago, slightly used. For more information, e-mail dawn\_larrabee@yahoo.com or 253-2611 (home), and visit www.bowflex.com.

#### Furniture for sale

One antique square Chinese tall table with two armchairs and two side chairs. Paid \$1,500 but willing to deal. One full-size, three-cushion sofa with rolled arms, two small pillows. Asking \$200 or best offer. For more information, call 253-3337 (work) or 53-5470 (home).

#### Local Artist Wanted

The Indoor Small Arms Range is currently searching for a local artist to draw and paint walls at the indoor range. For more information, call the ISAR at 253-5753

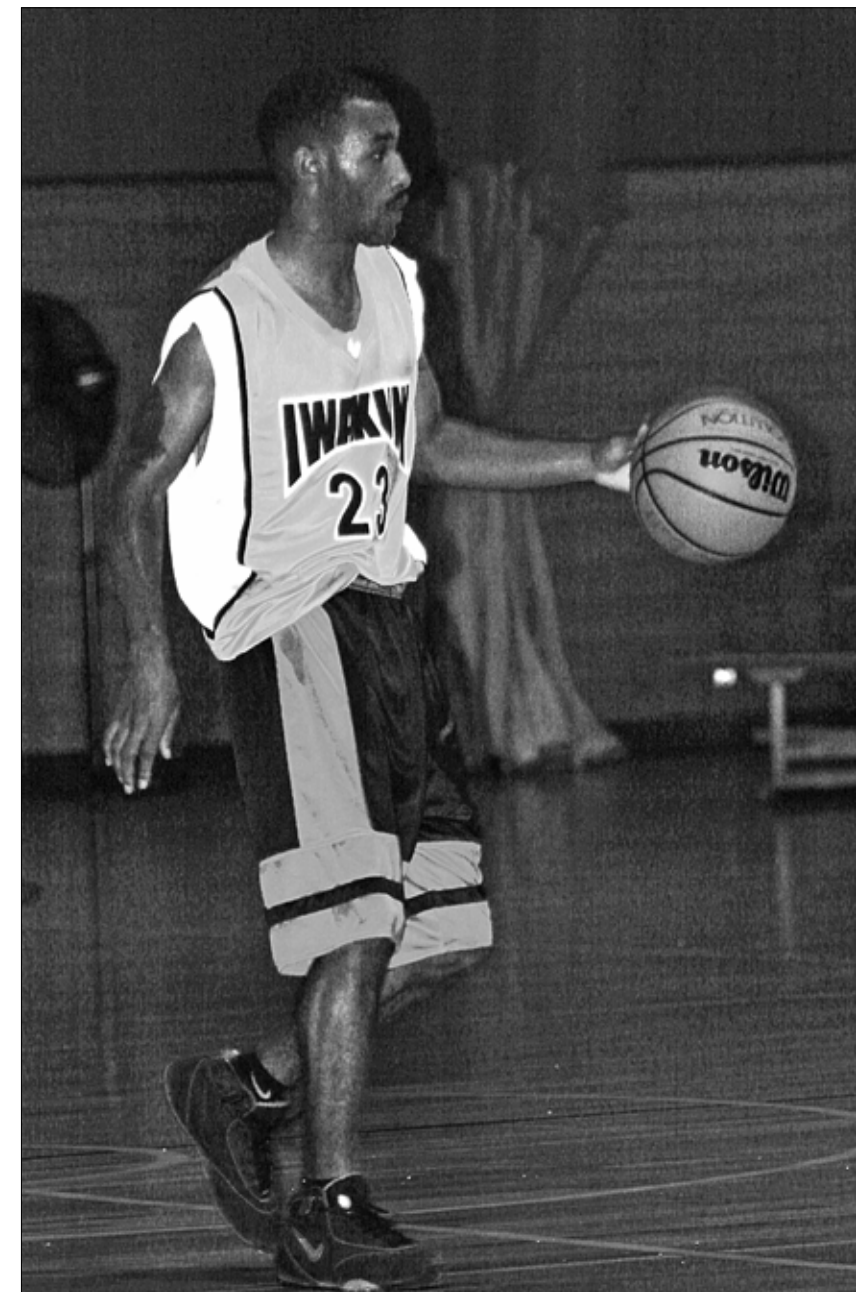
To submit an advertisement request, follow the classifieds link on the station Web site and open an advertisement request form. Submit the form via e-mail to iwakuni.pao@usmc.mil or in person at the Public Affairs Office, Building One, Room 216.

## Dispatch from PMO

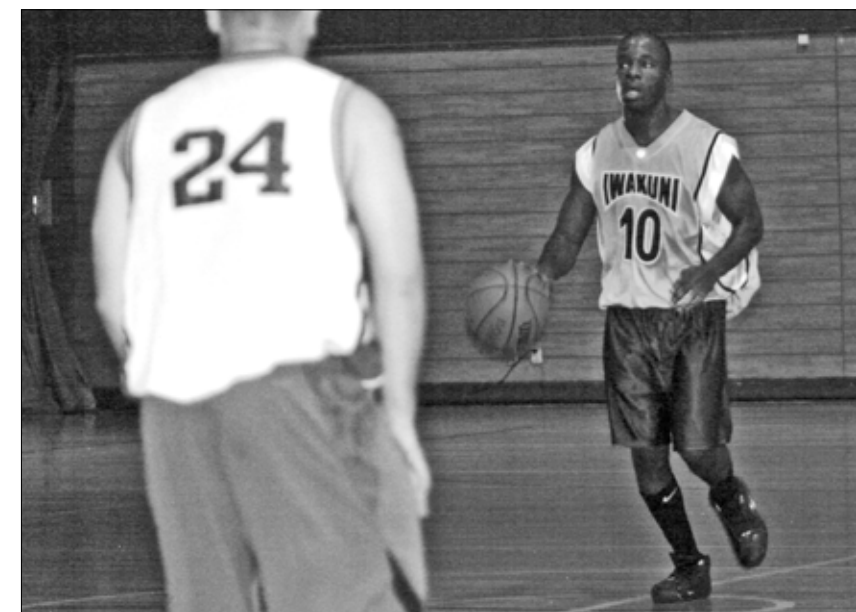
The Provost Marshal's Office highly encourages residents aboard MCAS Iwakuni to abide by all air station regulations. Please take note of the following so you can do your part to ensure this installation is a safe home for all residents. Please be sure you do not use a cell phone while driving a vehicle on or off the installation. Every passenger of a motor vehicle, personal or government, must wear a seatbelt. Also be sure that when you are riding a bicycle you have a proper bicycle helmet, properly fitted and secured on your head. Earphones are not permitted to be worn outside, except on the seawall. When leaving your vehicle unattended, even for a brief stop, leaving the keys in the ignition and the engine running is prohibited. For our motorcyclist, bicyclist, skaters and skateboarders, be sure you are wearing mandatory personal protective equipment per MCASO P5560.8A. The MCAS Iwakuni orders can be found on the Station Intranet website.



# BULLDOGS HOLD OFF FIL-AM



Bulldogs shooting guard Levander G. Gibson takes his time down the court during an intramural basketball game against Fil-Am in the IronWorks Gym here July 28. Gibson and his team outplayed Fil-Am and won the game 54-43. Photo by Lance Cpl. Ashley M. Howard



Coach and point guard for the Bulldogs, Donald Barham awaits a challenge from Fil-Am's defense during their intramural basketball game July 28 in the IronWorks Gym here. Fil-Am lost 43-54 to the Bulldogs. Photo by Lance Cpl. Ashley M. Howard



Bulldogs point guard and coach Donald Barham out-maneuvers Fil-Am's defense during an intramural basketball game in the IronWorks Gym here July 28. The Bulldogs defeated Fil-Am 54-43. Photo by Lance Cpl. Ashley M. Howard

## Defense needs work after 54-43 playoffs round loss

LANCE CPL. ASHLEY M. HOWARD  
IWAKUNI APPROACH STAFF

Cheers echoed through the stifling gym as sweat fell from the foreheads of the Fil-Am Filipino-American basketball team and the Marine Wing Support Squadron 171 S-6 (data and communication) Bulldogs.

The players battled in the IronWorks Gym here until the Bulldogs came out on top, beating Fil-Am 54-43 in an intramural basketball game July 28.

Throughout the game, Fil-Am persistently kept the Bulldogs on their toes by never letting their scores differ by more than 10 points.

Bulldogs point guard and coach Donald Barham was on the receiving end of the first foul of the game and used open shots to further his team's lead.

"We had a lot of momentum going into this game," Barham said.

The game continued lacking defense

and was a breeding ground for fouls, causing frequent free throws for both teams.

"I know we can move faster," said Fil-Am forward, Edgar D. Alalay at the end of the half, with Fil-Am down 19-29.

Going into the second half of the game, the scenario changed. Fil-Am was sneaking through the Bulldogs defense and catching up fast.

"We were making a lot of mental mistakes," Barham said. "The team started to get complacent."

Both teams battled through the thick heat as chants came from teammates on both benches, but time was running out for Fil-Am, who was still down 10 points.

Barham ended the game with two foul shots before the buzzer went off, officially ending the game in favor of the Bulldogs, 54-43.

"Both team's players are very talented," said Alalay on the sideline. "We've got to play better defense."



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