

THE IWAKUNI APPROACH

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Marine Corps Air Station Iwakuni, Japan

Officer monitors to visit station in October

LANCE CPL. DAN NEGRETE
IWAKUNI APPROACH STAFF

The Officer Assignment Branch (MMAO) will visit the station Oct. 13 to afford station officers the opportunity to talk one-on-one with their respective monitors.

Officers looking to permanently change duty stations or rotate are especially encouraged to speak individually with their monitors.

The monitors will be at the station chapel's social hall from 1 p.m. to 5:30 p.m. on Oct. 13 to conduct interviews and provide assignment counseling.

"Within each career field, there's a natural career progression path officers must follow," said Capt. Randall W. Smith, station adjutant. "When you sit down with your monitor, you have the opportunity to receive career advice as far as the best possible career progression."

"The monitors know which career path an officer must follow to get promoted to the next rank and gain command," Smith added. "They will tell officers to look at certain billet vacancies rather than others to better assist them in gaining command."

As in the enlisted sector, officer assignments are ultimately based upon the needs of the Marine Corps.

However, the monitors can try to match an officer's duty preference with the needs of the Marine Corps.

"By speaking with your monitor, you will walk away with a good idea of what will be available by the time you PCS," Smith said.

"It's far better than playing e-mail tag

SEE VISIT ON PAGE 3

Station firefighters learn urban search, rescue



Station firefighters train with Urban Search & Rescue Consulting International Sept. 17. Over four weeks, US&R instructors taught the firefighters breaching and breaking, shoring, crane operations, building an A-frame and airbag usage. Photo by Lance Cpl. Joseph Marianelli

LANCE CPL. JOSEPH MARIANELLI
IWAKUNI APPROACH STAFF

Station firefighters have been training with Urban Search and Rescue Consulting International here since the beginning of September.

The course is designed to train rescue techniques in structural collapse situations using search and reconnaissance to find victims and then properly remove or cut through rubble safely to extract the victim.

Over the four week course, US&R instructors taught the firefighters breaching and breaking, shoring, crane operations,

building an A-frame and airbag usage.

As a final examination, the firefighters are required to perform in a scenario based skills evaluation that requires them to invoke all the skills they have learned.

"They'll be setup in their command structure like in an incident and they will have to request parts and pieces as they really would," Stephen Wright, US&R's lead instructor, said. "Then they'll be given potential victim locations by the recon that they'll do."

"They'll figure out where they should start first and then go

SEE FIRE ON PAGE 3

Domestic Violence Awareness Month programs begin

SHERMONA M. HART
VICTIM ADVOCACY

All over the United States communities are coming together to show their support in fighting domestic violence. MCAS Iwakuni is no different; as a community we are concerned about abuse.

Our year-round effort against domestic violence begins this month.

The Family Advocacy Program (FAP) and Victim Advocacy Program conduct an annual public awareness campaign at every installation in October during National Domestic Violence Awareness Month.

Acts of domestic violence are attempts by a spouse to gain power and control over their partner. Many methods may be used to do this. One means of gaining power may be physical, by using force or a weapon. Power might also be

SEE FAP ON PAGE 3

INSIDE IWAKUNI



Former Kamikaze pilot visits, speaks here

4



One man does make a difference

5



CFT Tour visits, trains Iwakuni

6-7



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CHAPLAIN'S CORNER

CHAPLAIN A.R. KUSS
COMMAND CHAPLAIN

"Colors! Colors!" were the words yelled across the soccer field the other night. It surprised me to look up to see youth standing still, in respect and with almost military bearing. The scene could have been taken from a public service announcement, encouraging others to respect the flag and promote patriotism.

Two verses came to mind from the Book of Proverbs. In Proverbs 22:6, we are instructed to value the training of youth, "Train a boy in the way he should go; even when he is old, he will not swerve from it." The sage tells us that what we learn and how we train is the path we will follow to old age.

The training of our youth is of paramount importance for our society. Our schools, teachers, coaches and religious leaders, all share in this important formation. However, parents are always the primary and the greatest influence in the formation of youth. It is parents who reflect the values they try to share with their children. It is the parent who daily attends to the emotional and

physical needs of the child. It is the parent who first loves and models love to a child. It is important to self assess ourselves what we pass on to our families and, from there, to our society. We can see what is important to adults by watching what is important to their children.

I was also reminded of Proverbs 29:17, "Correct your son, and he will bring you comfort, and give delight to your soul."

The youth who yelled, "Colors!" was doing what was right by showing respect, something taught by family and others around him.

The training of youth must be done with encouragement, with firmness and with purpose, to ensure that by the age of 18 a well-rounded adult may take their rightful place in society. Parents rightfully take pride when their son or daughter supports and defends our nation.

Respect and honor are given to the adult who does noble deeds of service and self-sacrifice.

It is training, discipline and loving support that enable these values to be lived by youth and adults.

From the editor's desk

Service members' political restrictions

SGT. JOSH COX
IWAKUNI APPROACH STAFF

In the coming weeks, the 2008 presidential hopefuls will gather in a few select American cities to debate controversial issues and gain support from voters.

As exciting as this historical election may be, it is important to note that federal civilian employees and service members have a list of political limitations to follow during this time.

According to MARADMIN 511/08, federal employees and service members are encouraged to "exercise their rights and obligations of citizenship without violating statutes, regulations and policies prohibiting official involvement or the appearance of official involvement in partisan political activities."

Basically, this means we all may register to vote and take part in our responsibility to vote as American citizens, but there are a few rules governing our involvement in campaigns and elections.

"Most federal civilian employees may

actively participate in political activities on their own time and outside the federal workplace," the MARADMIN states.

However, "there are significant restrictions on fundraising, running for office in partisan elections, using one's official authority or influence to interfere with or affect the result of an election, and engaging in such activities in any federal workplace."

Generally, a federal civilian employee cannot run for office, but a federal civilian may take an active role in managing a partisan campaign or participate in other partisan political activities off government property.

Federal civilian employees may also assist in voter registration drives and contribute donations to a partisan party or candidate. However, federal civilians may not solicit or receive these contributions.

They may also publicly endorse a candidate in a private capacity. This means that you may disclose your political preferences to family and friends, but you shouldn't volunteer this information to the media or masses. The best thing to remember is to steer clearly away

from the media and the microphone at political rallies and functions.

Federal civilian employees and service members may display one bumper sticker on a personally owned vehicle. They may not wear campaign badges or buttons on government premises and may not display campaign materials such as pictures, posters, coffee mugs, mouse pads, etc., at work.

Campaign materials cannot be distributed in the workplace or over government e-mail systems.

To be safe, feel free to slap a Colbert '08 bumper sticker on your car, but leave everything else at home. Believe me, one lone bumper sticker is enough to gain a lot of attention.

According to the MARADMIN, "Marines and other members of the armed forces on active duty are subject to more restrictive rules concerning political activities."

Restrictions for federal employees and those set forth apply to service members on active duty.

Marines and sailors may register to

SEE VOTE ON PAGE 3

Corps Questions

Q: What partisan campaign materials are service members authorized to display?

A: According to MARADMIN 511/08, Marines are only authorized to display only one campaign bumper sticker on a POV on government property. Marines are not authorized to wear other buttons or display campaign materials (signs, mugs, mouse pads, pictures, posters, etc.) on government property, to include housing areas.

FIRE FROM PAGE 1

from there with all the procedures they've learned in the past," he added.

For the most part, the training was smooth sailing on the instructor side.

"They have a great team effort and can-do attitude, which makes all the difference in the world," said Wright of the firefighters. "They're eager to learn and they want to complete any missions we give them."

As might be expected, the real issue was related to the language barrier.

"There's always a hunt for a word — if we lose one thing in translation we can lose a finger," said Wright.

In order to combat translation errors, Wright and his instructors made sure to explain everything several times before each training exercise.

As well, during the exercise, Wright and his instructors were always watching to ensure proper technique and execution.

FAP FROM PAGE 1

gained through destroying property, such as sentimental items, throwing food or dishes, or putting a fist through a wall. Verbal threats, isolation, or extreme jealousy are psychological forms of control. Ultimately, violence that occurs in the home may eventually enter the bedroom where it may take the form of sexual assault or marital rape.

It is important to realize that abusers are not perpetually violent. They are often abusive only in their own homes. In addition, the abuse follows a pattern that includes non-violent periods. It is in fact this pattern that makes it more difficult for victims to leave, because they know the batterer can be very loving at times.

This also can make it difficult for the community to believe the victim, because the person they know seems harmless. This is all part of the cycle of violence. It begins with the couple seemingly happy. The abuser might buy gifts for their spouse, apologizing for past events. However, this stage does not last, and soon tension starts to build as the abuser becomes more and more

angry, and in need of control. Many victims describe this stage as "walking on eggshells." They know the violence is imminent. Eventually, the tension is broken, and a crisis occurs when the abuser uses one or several of the methods described above to demonstrate his/her power over the home.

It is at this stage that spouses and children are most often hurt. After the violence ends, tears and apologies may be shared but the cycle eventually repeats itself, each time growing progressively worse.

The most frequently asked question about domestic violence is why victims stay.

Statistics show however that most victims don't stay but in fact leave up to eight times during the relationship. Victims return to the abuse for many reasons, maybe the foremost being the lack of resources they encounter once on their own. Victims also fear reporting violent incidents because they feel the report will affect their spouse's chance for promotions and pay increases or will result in their spouse's discharge. To help reduce the economic disincentive that discourages victims from reporting abuse by a service member, Congress authorized DOD in 1993

Despite the lengthy training that appears excruciatingly tedious, such as moving one of three more than 2,000-pound concrete blocks in a mere two hours, the firefighters have enjoyed the training and ability to learn new skills.

Fire Capt. Toshifumi Ichih and firefighter Hironobu Moriguchi said the teamwork was the most enjoyable part of training.

That teamwork and enjoyment will play a crucial role in the firefighters' ability to sustain the new techniques.

The sheer number of techniques learned over the course of the month-long training isn't something easily retained.

"It's very hard to remember," said Ichih and Moriguchi, "but we need to continue to do these techniques or we will forget easily."

In order to maintain their readiness, all firefighters attempt the course said Deputy Fire Chief Takuya Fukii.

Despite the rigors, Fukii, Ichih and Moriguchi all said the training was very fun.

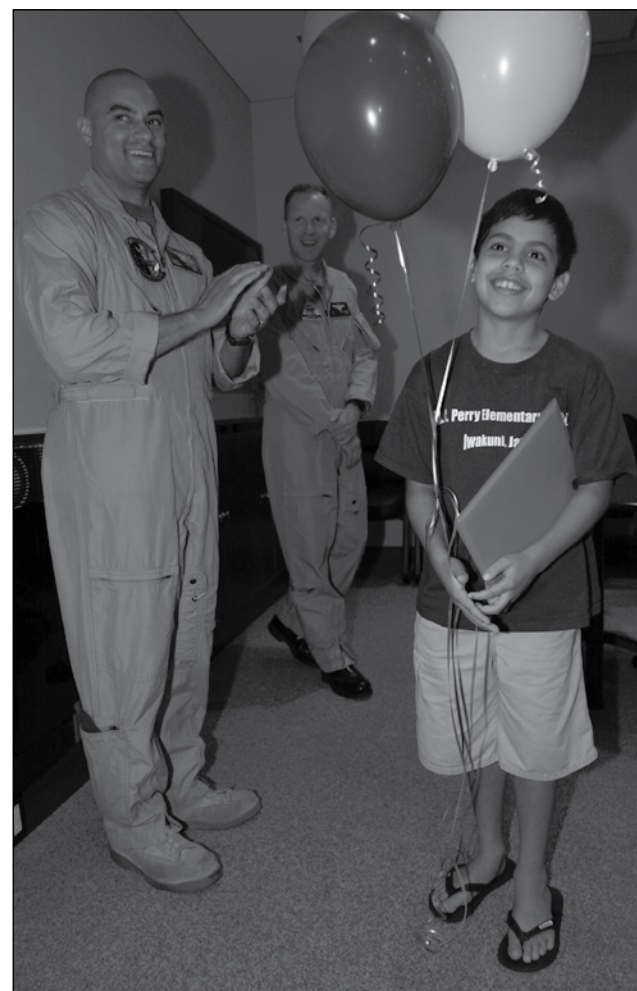
to provide financial support and other benefits to spousal abuse victims. DOD provides transitional compensation for up to 36 months to family members when a service member is discharged from the military or has been court-martialed for abusing a family member.

Fortunately, the Marine Corps offers these victims a greater chance to escape the violence.

Domestic violence is viewed as a community issue and is treated primarily through the coordinated efforts of the Provost Marshals Office, the Family Advocacy Program, and the command. With the support of these agencies the family's needs are assessed, assistance and counseling is provided, and the offender is held accountable. To ensure support for the victim, a victim advocate is available twenty-four hours a day, seven days a week to ensure the victim's rights, provide information, and offer emotional support.

There is hope for families experiencing domestic violence. If you find yourself in an abusive home, or know someone who is, please call the Family Advocacy Program at 253-4526 or PMO at 253-3303 (names of reporting parties are confidential). Help is available.

Not too young to make a difference...



Tommy O'Halloran is congratulated after receiving a letter of appreciation from the station inspector's office Sept. 19. O'Halloran earned the award, signed by the commanding general of Marine Corps Bases Japan, for his involvement in an AFN voting commercial. Photo by Lance Cpl. Dan Negrete

VOTE FROM PAGE 2

vote, encourage others to vote and make financial contributions to a partisan party or candidate. They may also participate in the Federal Voting Assistance Program, and display the one bumper sticker on a POV.

Service members cannot display banners, posters or other large political signs on a POV or at a residence on a military installation. This restriction also applies to privatized housing areas.

Leaders may not use their official authority or influence to affect the outcome of an election.

Service members may not participate in partisan political fundraising activities, march in political parades, speak at political gatherings or perform clerical duties for a partisan political

party or candidate during a campaign. Service members cannot wear a uniform at a political rally or function.

Service members may attend these rallies and gatherings, but should keep a low profile.

For service members, the guidelines are simple — register to vote, vote freely, be modest in your political opinions and steer away from the media and the microphone.

Why are these restrictions in place?

Mixing service members and federal civilians with political activity is typically a conflict of interest. The military or federal government cannot appear to endorse a particular partisan political party or candidate.

For more information about MARADMIN 511/08, contact the station Staff Judge Advocate's office.

VISIT FROM PAGE 1

with each other."

Following the interviews, a social will be held in the Officer's Club.

"Attending the social is another opportunity to meet face to face with the person that's eventually going to plan your best move," Smith said.

Officers interested in speaking with their monitor should contact Smith at 253-3912 or e-mail him at randall.w.smith@usmc.mil prior to Oct. 1.

TOWN HALL MEETING

Col. Michael O'Halloran, MCAS commanding officer, will host a town hall meeting Oct. 22 from 6 p.m. until 8 p.m. This meeting is designed to update station residents on the state of affairs and to respond to community questions. Col. O'Halloran will be accompanied by his department heads and representatives from MCCS and the Branch Health Clinic. The event is open to all air station residents. Please submit your questions in advance by dropping them off at the Town Hall drop box at the Commissary, sending them via e-mail at iwakuni.pao@usmc.mil, by calling the Public Affairs Office at 253-5551, or by using the Interactive Customer Evaluation (ICE) Web site. To access the Town Hall concerns comment card on the ICE Web site, click the ICE icon on the bottom left side of the station homepage (www.iwakuni.usmc.mil). Then click on either "Administration" or "Communication."



Masayuki Matsumuro, a former kamikaze pilot, visited the station Sept. 17 to share his experience with American service members. Matsumuro's suicide mission was cancelled after the Atomic bomb was dropped over Hiroshima on Aug. 6, 1945. He returned home to learn his entire family was killed by the bomb. Photo by Lance Cpl. Dan Negrete.

A kamikaze's story

LANCE CPL. DAN NEGRETE
IWAKUNI APPROACH STAFF

In the final stages of World War II, the Japanese military developed a suicidal attack unit called the "Special Attack Force" as a last ditch effort to tip the balance of war in Japan's favor.

The unit was comprised solely of volunteers; all young, inexperienced pilots who reveled at the idea of sacrificing themselves in battle like true samurai warriors.

These daring pilots, known in history as kamikazes, sunk a total of 34 allied ships, and due to the nature of their mission, very few survived the war to tell their story.

One survivor, Masayuki Matsumuro, visited the station Sept. 17 to share his experience with American service members.

Matsumuro entered the Japanese Naval Aviation School in 1943 at the age of 14, and after one year joined the Special Attack Force which began experimenting with human guided attack missiles called "Oka."

These missiles were attached to the body of a G4M2 Betty Bomber and released during flight. The pilot manning the missile would then guide it toward an enemy target, knowing full well he'd be killed in the process.

"These pilots were not brainwashed or insane," said Matsumuro. "They died to defend their country and families."

Toward the end of the war, only young, inexperienced pilots remained, he said.

"There was (only one) method in which these inex-

perienced pilots could effectively fight, and that was to use everything as a weapon and become a human bullet," Matsumuro said.

Upon receiving orders to go on his suicide mission, Matsumuro was given a few days special leave to spend time with his family in Hiroshima and say his last fare-

"These pilots were not brainwashed or insane. They died to defend their country and families."

Masayuki Matsumuro
Former kamikaze pilot

wells.

Fate, however, would have something different in store for Matsumuro.

On the morning of Aug. 6, 1945, Matsumuro took a train from Hiroshima station to return to his squadron in Oita, Kyushu. Two hours and 15 minutes after he got off the train, the Atomic bomb was dropped in Hiroshima.

"My whole family was reduced to ashes instantly that morning," said Matsumuro. "Ironically, my mission was cancelled and I survived the war."

Matsumuro's eyes grew red with hatred and con-

tempt toward the American service members occupying his homeland following Japan's capitulation.

His hate brewed on for months.

One day, however, he had an encounter with an American G.I. that would change his perspective forever while riding on a local train with his soon-to-be wife.

"That day, a drunk American soldier got in our car and started bothering my fiancé," he said. "All the memories of my family came back to my mind, and I became furious, so when he got off the car I followed him and threw him down into a pit."

He did this in front of American military policemen and was immediately detained and thrown in an American military jail.

He waited in jail for one week, wondering when he would be executed.

"(Then) one day I was taken to the military court inside the camp, which was a total surprise to me," he said. "They even had a lawyer for me, (but) the most unbelievable thing is that the American soldier I threw into the pit admitted he had been drunk and bothering my fiancé."

At that point, Matsumuro's view toward Americans changed forever.

"I truly admired the young American who stood up and told the truth at the trial," Matsumuro added.

Today, Matsumuro's goal is to advocate friendship between the United States and Japanese citizens, both old and young.

He has declared to devote the rest of his life toward this mutual friendship and urges his American friends to stay honest and brave.

Selflessness in a selfish world

LANCE CPL. JOSEPH MARIANELLI
IWAKUNI APPROACH STAFF

"It was unbelievable the scope of the situation and it's not common to see — the rubble pile was unimaginable, so large and so widespread was the devastation."

Approximately eight days after the Sept. 11 attacks, Stephen Wright, lead instructor with Urban Search & Rescue International, set foot on ground zero to aid rescue efforts.

"The weight that was imposed by the amount of rubble and the type of rubble — you can't just cut that with anything, you have to wait on special equipment," said Wright. "That's a challenge to be patient and wait for the parts and pieces to come up and to keep that vigilant we're gonna find somebody, we're gonna find somebody ... but to keep on not finding somebody that's tough, that's tough."

After 10 days, Wright and his team rotated out of ground zero to go home in Texas.

Now, he's here — he and his instructors, Nick Guillen, Mark Hair and Scott Hill, are teaching the station's firefighters urban search and rescue techniques for the month of September.

As he moves around, watching the station firefighters practice the skills he and his instructor team have taught them, there's something very calming about him.

He doesn't seem to have any anger about him, just a wise, collected guy making sure everything is going smoothly and pointing out details to watch for during each exercise.

At 54, Wright has probably seen more human suffering first-hand than most will see in a lifetime and he's still going strong.

"I was on shift as a medic for awhile, but being gone so much you run out of vacation so fast, so I'm a part-time medic," said Wright. "When I get home, I'll take some shifts and then I'll be gone again."

Before becoming a paramedic, Wright was a firefighter, but felt there was more he could do.

"I was all this first," said Wright waving a hand toward the exercise area set up for the firefighters. "Then I decided instead of saying ok here's a band-aid, I can do something else."

"Cause I could do all of this, but I wanted to keep learning stuff so I pursued that, and that's been rewarding as well," he added.

In reality, Wright does still do a lot of what he did as a firefighter as he and his other instructors are all members of a Federal Emergency Management Agency task force.

"We still go out the door," said Wright. "We just came back from Hurricane Dolly — we would be going to Hurricane Ike if we were home."

Wright's company travels all over the world teaching urban search and rescue techniques to firefighters.

The most interesting part about Wright seems to be his response to why he even got into this line of work — he simply doesn't know.

Despite not knowing, he expressed in a low excited tone, as emphatically as it seemed he could be, that he enjoys almost everything related to his pursuits, but teaching is especially exciting.

"I guess probably the most rewarding



Stephen Wright, lead instructor with Urban Search and Rescue Consulting International, demonstrates the use of house jacks for station firefighters here Sept. 17. During the demonstration, Wright showed the instability of the jacks and how they must be handled properly and safely. Photo by Lance Cpl. Joseph Marianelli

thing is passing some of the stuff on to other guys," said Wright, "That means a lot — to see it click."

As with most things, not everything is always candy and nuts.

"The tough stuff is back when you gotta deal with kids," said Wright. "Don't get me wrong it's tough to see anybody in a bad

way, but it's tough to see kids especially."

But, this particular training exercise has an added cherry on top for Wright and his team.

"These guys are here for y'all, if something happens they're coming after you, and that's a good thing," said Wright. "So that means a lot to us training them."



Station congratulates new chief petty officers following pinning ceremony

Station Sgt. Maj. David J. Wimberly congratulates newly promoted Navy Chief Travis F. Young at a promotion ceremony held at the station chapel Sept. 16. Trevis and five others were promoted to chief that day. Photo by Lance Cpl. Dan Negrete

CFT



Cpl. Bryan McDonnell demonstrates the a low crawl during the fire and maneuver portion of Training and Education Commands Combat Fitness Test exhibition at Penny Lake field here Monday. During the fire and maneuver portion, a Marine starts out in the prone, jumps up springing to the next cone, drops to perform a low crawl to the next cone, rises to do a modified high crawl to the next cone set where the Marine will weave to the casualty. Photo by Lance Cpl. Joseph Marianelli



Cpl. Shane Fischer and Sgt. Miguel Ballate demonstrate the ammo-can lift during Training and Education Command's exhibition of the Combat Fitness Test at Penny Lake field here Monday. During the ammo-can lift, a Marine must hold the can approximately chest high, then left the can using leg and arm power, as necessary, straight into the air until the arms lock out and then return the can to the chest position as many times as possible in a two-minute period. Photo by Lance Cpl. Joseph Marianelli



Sgt. Shane Worley demonstrates the second portion of the Combat Fitness Test's fire and maneuver drill during Training and Education Command's combat fitness test exhibition at Penny Lake field here Monday. After the casualty rescue portion of the fire and maneuver drill, Marines will pick up two 30-pound ammo cans and go back through cone setup that they went through for the casualty lift portion. Photo by Lance Cpl. Joseph Marianelli



Cpl. Bryan McDonnell carries Cpl. Shane Fischer using the fireman carry during Training and Education Command's Combat Fitness Test exhibition at Penny Lake field here Monday. After navigating the cones via crawls and runs, Marines will lift a simulated casualty and use a casualty lift to bring them back to the first weaver cone and then proceed to fireman carry them back to the starting point at which point. Photo by Lance Cpl. Joseph Marianelli

TECOM demonstrates Combat Fitness Test

LANCE CPL. JOSEPH MARIANELLI
IWAKUNI APPROACH STAFF

Several Marines "got some" PT" Monday when they participated in Training and Education Command's CFT demonstration at Penny Lake field here.

For those who may have been unaware, TECOM began their worldwide show Aug. 18 to demonstrate how to conduct the CFT.

"The commandant directed that we get the word spread out as wide as we could," Col. Brian J. McGuire, the physical readiness program officer for TECOM, said.

The CFT has been designed to supplement the physical fitness Test, not replace it.

"The commandant and Sgt. Maj. Kent don't think Marine Corps PT is broken," said McGuire. "These are enhancements to Marine Corps

Part of the concern is that Marines focus too much on the individual events in the PFT, and incorporation of the CFT will enhance the overall fitness of Marines.

"We don't want Marines training just for the CFT," said McGuire. "The value in the test is in the modification — it will enhance current PT."

The Marines part of the demonstration agreed that the CFT does what it's designed to do.

"It'll actually check your physical strength," said Cpl. Shane Fischer.

Besides the physical strength demands, Sgt. Shane Worley had preparation suggestions.

"Hydrate and build your cardio," he said.

CORPS NEWS

HIGHLIGHTING MARINES AND SAILORS AROUND THE GLOBE

HUNTER MENTALITY



Platoon helps Iraqi soldiers track bad guys

Lance Cpl. Daniel Brinkley, an assaultman with Company F, Task Force 2nd Battalion, 2nd Marines, Regimental Combat Team 5, exits the rear hatch of a CH-53D Sea Stallion helicopter as he moves to his position to provide security at Combat Outpost Rawah, Iraq, Sept. 16. Company F, along with Iraqi Army personnel, conducted a mission to search for a known improvised-explosive-device maker. Photo by Lance Cpl. Joshua Murray

LANCE CPL. JOSHUA MURRAY
REGIMENTAL COMBAT TEAM 5 DIVISION

RAWAH, Iraq — Marines boarded the helicopters Sept. 16 as the sun slowly peaked over the horizon, ready to execute the mission they had rehearsed. The early morning promised a comfortable flight compared to common mid-day temperatures of over 110 degrees. When they touched down at their destination, cool, calm and collected, they began their search.

The "Warlords" of 4th Platoon, Company F, Task Force 2nd Battalion, 2nd Marines, Regimental Combat Team 5 landed in al-Anbar province in search of a known improvised-explosive-device maker. The Warlords conducted the mission to support an Iraqi Army assault element.

"We are going to a small village to cordon and (search) buildings to either capture him or find out where he is hiding," said Sgt. Yardell Richardson, 22, a

section leader with 4th Platoon.

Yardell, who is from Oxonhill, Md., worked as part of the assault element for the operation and worked closely alongside the IA personnel.

"At times it's stressful because of the language barriers," Yardell said. "They get over-excited about the operation and we have to bring them back down and get them to move as a group with us."

Company F does not conduct raids without an IA assault element. With each operation Co. F. undertakes, they incorporate additional Iraqi Army personnel, paired individually with Marines.

"We have been working with Marines for a while now," said IA Maj. Raed Mohammad Abed Al Husien, the executive officer for 2nd Battalion, 22nd Infantry Brigade, 7th Iraqi Army Division. "Everyone has experience and knowledge of some sort, and Marines take their missions very seriously. Marines and the (Iraqi Army soldiers) work together and we succeed together."

Although the Marines did not capture the individual who sparked the initiation of the raid, Co. F has discovered IED-making material and insurgent equipment on previous missions.

"We've found about five IEDs and two caches consisting of all the IED components not assembled yet: mortar rounds, detonation cord, ammunition and anti-Coalition Forces propaganda," said 2nd Lt. Louis Perez, 24, 4th Platoon commander, from Tampa Bay, Fla.

Due to a decrease in enemy activity over the years, outcomes of operations do not always meet the expectations of what Marines would like, but the Marines keep pushing throughout the deployment, hoping to bring down the enemy and end once and for all insurgency in Iraq.

"We still keep the hunter mentality, and when the birds hit the deck our heads are in the game," Perez said. "The Marines want to catch somebody and feel privileged to do this."

Exchanging expertise: Nepal Army, US Marines toss ideas in Kathmandu

LANCE CPL. MICHAEL A. BIANCO
OKINAWA MARINE

KATHMANDU, Nepal — A team of 75 Nepal Army soldiers and seven Okinawa-based Marines met in Kathmandu, Nepal, for a subject matter expert exchange Sept. 1-13.

During the SMEE, 40 Nepal Army military policemen engaged with four Marine Corps Base Camp Butler military police Marines and investigators with the Criminal Investigative Division.

The Nepalese military police used two classrooms, while all 35 officers and soldiers with the Nepal Army

DPR were located in a single venue. Investigators with the Nepal Army attended classes with CID Marines. Nepalese security forces interacted with Marines with Camp Butler's Special Reaction Team.

The Nepal Army investigators and military police shared with the Marines processes for investigations and police protocol.

Nepalese commanders and soldiers learned basic Marine Corps knowledge. The Marines referenced media communications equipment, as well as technological advances and their influence on media.

The idea to engage with the Nepal

Army began when Maj. Gen. MaryAnn Krusa-Dossin, the MCB commanding general, visited Nepal as a guest speaker during the 2006 Marine Corps Ball at the U.S. Embassy.

"There has been an abundance of knowledge here," said Lt. Col. Santosh B. Poudyal, the commanding officer for the Nepal Army Signals Battalion..

Both countries are learning a lot from one another, and it helps to have a balanced distribution of goals, so the countries can compliment each other on their strengths, Poudyal said.

For now, the annual SMEE only involves the military police and public affairs military occupational

specialties, but some hope it will expand to include a wide variety of specialties.

"This might be good, but we can expand and should. We are not fully exploiting this opportunity," Poudyal said.

With the army as its sole military branch, Nepal is eager to exchange training opportunities and information with the U.S.

Cultural differences do not create difficulties for service members, according to Poudyal. "We are very keen to change, and I hope to see quick, visible solutions with tangible results," said Poudyal.

Community Briefs

Rosh Hashanah Service

Tuesday at 6:30 p.m. and Wednesday at 9 a.m. at Station Chapel, Bldg. 1100. For more information, call Station's Chapel at 253-3371.

National Preparedness Month

September is National Preparedness Month for the American Red Cross. You can be "Red Cross ready." For emergencies follow three simple steps: Get a kit, make a plan, and be informed. For more information, logon to <http://www.redcross.org/beredcrossready>.

Sophie's Antique Furniture Sale

Saturday, 9 a.m. - 5 p.m., and Sunday, 11 a.m. - 4 p.m. at M.C. Perry School Cafeteria. Home delivery will be available. 1-year home layaway interest free.

Proceeds to benefit the American Red Cross Community and volunteer programs on MCAS Iwakuni. For more information, call American Red Cross at 253-4525.

Crime Prevention Awareness Month

October is Crime Prevention Awareness Month. The Provost Marshal's Office will hold an open house Oct. 4 from noon to 3 p.m. to create closer ties with the local community. All station residents are invited to attend. The event will include military working demonstrations and tours of the PMO facilities.

Purple Ribbon Campaign

Oct. 1-31. The goal of the campaign is to inform the public and community professionals of the

devastating effects of domestic violence. Since the purple ribbon is the symbol for Domestic Violence Awareness, ribbons will be passed out throughout the community all month. For more information, call Victim Advocate, Marine & Family Services Division at 253-4526.

DV Awareness Display Table

Oct. 1-31, at the Library. Come visit the Station Library and learn what you can do to prevent domestic violence. Books and videos regarding domestic violence prevention and awareness will on display and available for patrons during the entire month of October. Contact the Station Library for more information at 253-3078.

School Advisory Committee

The next SAC meeting will be held Wednesday in the Elementary School Conference room, Bldg. 553 from 4 - 5 p.m. For more information, contact M.C. Perry at 253-3327

Proclamation Signing Ceremony

Wednesday, noon, at Club Iwakuni Grand Ballroom. The Station's commanding officer will show his support by signing a proclamation against domestic violence. Members of the community will be honored with certificates of appreciation. For more information, call Victim Advocate, Marine & Family Services Division at 253-4526.

Communication Seminar

Thursday, 8:30 a.m. - 3:30 p.m.

in Room 219, Building 411. Come participate in our Couple's Communication Seminar. Couples will learn how to enhance their communication skills in an interactive and enjoyable environment. For more information, call Victim Advocate, Marine & Family Services Division at 253-4526.

Open House

Thursday, 11 a.m. - 1 p.m. at Room 219, Building 411. Marine & Family Counseling Services will host an open house for all of MCAS Iwakuni. There are many resources available to Air Station residents, by visiting and exploring the Counseling Services Branch, you can learn our purpose, meet our staff, and our volunteers. For more information, call Marine & Family Services Division at 253-4526.

M.C. Perry Schools' Fall Festival

Thursday, 5 - 8 p.m. at the field between the School Age Center and Bldg. 656. Join us for a night of fun for the entire family. The festival will include food, games, bouncers, prizes, PMO and a Fire Department display. For more information, call 253-2180.

Family Night at the Movies

Oct. 4, 4 p.m. at Sakura Theater. Get movie night right. Come enjoy a movie with family and friends at Sakura Theater to celebrate Unity Day. Unity Day is a day of celebration for the local community to show the best of who we are. Free popcorn for all children 16 and younger. For more information, call Marine & Family Services Division at 253-4526.

Hispanic Heritage Month

Oct. 8, 11:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m., at Club Iwakuni Ballroom. The Station Equal Opportunity Council

and MWSS-171 would like to invite all Station personnel to the Hispanic American Heritage Month Observance. We will be celebrating Hispanic Culture and Traditions with a Hispanic Grand Buffet, music by DJ Fernando, and various dance demonstrations. Please come out and show your support. For more information, call 253-3308.

223rd Navy Birthday Ball

Oct. 10, at Club Iwakuni Ballroom. Social hour 5 - 6 p.m., ceremony, dinner, dancing 6 p.m. - 1 a.m. Attire: Dress blue uniform, appropriate civilian attire. Tickets are on sale at the Staff NCO cash cage through Thursday. E6 and below and their guests are \$30. E7 and above, their guests and civilians are \$45. For more information, call 253-3302, 253-6647, or Club Iwakuni at 253-5416.

CAT Program at UMUC

UMUC is now offering CAT (Computer Aided Telecourse) Program. It is a self-paced multimedia learning system designed to augment the traditional course offerings of UMUC. The following courses are currently available:

- ASTR100 - Introduction to Astronomy
 - BMGT110 - Intro to Business & Management
 - BMGT364 - Management & Organization Theory
 - BMGT365 - Organizational Leadership
 - HIST156 - History of United States to 1865
 - HIST157 - History of United States since 1865
 - PSYC100 - Intro to Psychology
 - SOCY100 - Intro to Sociology
- For more information, visit or call UMUC office at 253-3392.

Sakura Theater

Friday, Sept. 26, 2008

7 p.m. Sisterhood of the Traveling Pants 2 (PG-13)
Premier
10 p.m. Pineapple Express (R)

Saturday, Sept. 27, 2008

1 p.m. Sisterhood of the Traveling Pants 2 (PG-13)
4 p.m. Pineapple
7 p.m. Swing vote (PG-13)
10 p.m. X-Files: I want to Believe (PG-13)

Sunday, Sept. 28, 2008

1 p.m. Space Chimps (PG)
4 p.m. Sisterhood of the Traveling Pants 2

(PG-13)
7 p.m. Pineapple Express (R)

Monday, Sept. 29, 2008

7 p.m. Space Chimps (PG)

Tuesday, Sept. 30, 2008

7 p.m. The Dark Knight (PG-13)
Last Showing

Wednesday, Oct. 1, 2008

7 p.m. Mama Mia (PG-13)
Last Showing

Catch the last showing of **The Dark Knight** this week at the **Sakura Theater**.

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.

THE IWAKUNI APPROACH Classifieds

Automobiles

2001 Toyota Altezza (Lexus IS200)

JCI runs until Sept. 2009. 80,000 km. 6-speed manual transmission. MP3/USB dual stereo. Asking \$4,000 OBO. Available Sept. 26. Call 080-3870-2217 (cell).

1993 Nissan March

Great heat and A/C. Two new tires. Great on gas. New battery. JCI until July 2010. Perfect car for Iwakuni. Cheap insurance. Asking \$1,500 OBO. For more information, call 253-4423 (work) or 253-2450 (home).

Dirt bikes for sale

Kawasaki KX-85, 7 years old. Paid new \$3,500. Asking \$1,300 OBO. Kawasaki KC110, 3 years old. Paid new \$800. Asking \$500 OBO. Helmets and gear are available. For more information, call 253-2221 (home).

Mess Hall Schedule

MONDAY

Cream of Mushroom Soup, Creole Soup, Sauerbraten, Hot and Spicy Chicken, Fried Rice, Oven Glo Potatoes, Fried Zucchini, Calico Corn, Hot Dinner Rolls, Congo Bars, Double Layer Marble Cake, Butter Cream Frosting, Blueberry Crunch, SPECIALTY BAR: PASTA BAR

TUESDAY

Cream of Potato Soup, Chicken Noodle Soup, Southern Fried Chicken, BBQ Beef Cube, Steamed Rice, Buttered Pasta, Black Eye Peas, Creole Squash, Corn Bread, Chocolate Chip Cookies, Double Layer Spice Cake, Butter Cream Frosting, Lemon Meringue Pie, SPECIALTY BAR: TACO BAR

WEDNESDAY

Cream of Broccoli Soup, Vegetable Soup, Tempura Fish, Pepper Steak, Steamed Rice, Oven Glo Potatoes, Glazed Carrots, Club Spinach, Brown Gravy, Dinner Rolls, Peanut Butter Cookies, Devil's Food Cake, Butter Cream Frosting, SPECIALTY BAR: BBQ

THURSDAY

Minestrone Soup, Cream of Chicken Soup, Creole Macaroni, Fried Shrimp, Fettuccini w/ Alfredo Sauce, Grilled Cheese Sandwich, Tempura Vegetables, Peas and Carrots, Dinner Rolls, Sugar Cookies, Strawberry Shortcake, Whipped Topping, Vanilla Cream Pie, SPECIALTY BAR: DELI BAR

FRIDAY

Clam Chowder Soup, Minestrone Soup, Braised Beef and Noodles, Baked Fish, Mashed Potatoes, Fried Cabbage, Mix Vegetables, Chicken Gravy, Dinner Rolls, Banana Bread, Dutch Apple Pie, Shortbread Cookies.
Northside Specialty Bar: Mongolian BBQ
Southside Specialty Bar: Hot Dog/Polish and Sausage Bar

1998 Toyota Bongo Van

JCI runs until Sept. 2009. In good condition. Asking \$1,800. For more information, call 090-1681-0866 (cell).

2002 Mazda Bongo Van

JCI runs until Oct. 2010. 88,000 km. In good condition. Asking \$2,800. For more information, call 090-1681-0866 (cell).

Job Openings

Local artist wanted

The Indoor Small Arm Range (ISAR) is looking for an artist to paint motivating murals on ISAR walls. For more information, call the ISAR at 253-5753 or 5602.

Program coordinator

University of Phoenix is now hiring a part-time (30 hours/week, \$11 per hour) program coordinator at the education center at MCAS Iwakuni. This is open until Oct. 10. Applicants must be a U.S. citizen or possess proper documentation to work for a U.S. company. For more information or to send a resume, contact the area coordinator for the University of Phoenix at DSN: 634-5083 (Okinawa) or e-mail: Summer.Vanpelt@phoenix.edu.

Miscellaneous

Items for sale

- Three tier cat tree: Very cute with scratching posts, toy, and fun tube. Four months old. Paid new \$90. Asking \$45 OBO.
 - COACH Gallery Watch with five interchangeable bezels: Only worn three times. Paid new \$389. Asking \$275.
 - COACH Bucket hats. Various colors, some never worn. Asking \$25 - \$40 each.
 - Plants: Various sizes and prices. Will sell all (30 plants) for \$55.
- For more information, call 253-2221 (home).

Mess Hall Mongolian BBQ

Starting this month, the Mongolian BBQ Fridays will alternate between the North and Southside Messhalls. The first and third Friday of the month, Northside will serve Mongolian BBQ. The second and fourth Friday of the month, Southside will serve Mongolian BBQ. During each messhall's off-week, the hotdog/polish and sausage bar will be served.

Hispanic Heritage Month Meal

Both the Northside and Southside Messhalls will serve Spanish Onion Soup, Mexican Chicken, Pork Chalupas, Taco, Enchiladas, Spanish Rice, Mexican Corn, Jalapeno Cornbread, Devil's Food Cake with Butter Cream Frosting and Peanut Butter Cookies Wednesday from 11 a.m. until 1 p.m. Comrats, family members and civilian employees pay \$3.85. Family members of E-4 and below pay \$3.30. Please have photo ID.



Two Ball gowns for sale

- One exquisite black strapless gown, with fitted bodice that flows just below the hips. Creates an awesome slimming effect. Elegant 2 inch rhinestone band at the chest. Worn four hours and not at a previous ball. Excellent quality, approx. size 14, never altered. Asking \$325 (accessories available too).
- One beautiful red gown with spaghetti straps. Top half has a bodice overlay with few sequins and small appliques (decorations not overbearing and gaudy looking). The bottom half is very flowing with sheer material over a red satin material. Very good quality, size 14. Asking \$100.

Will email pictures upon request. Or can arrange for in-person viewing any time. Retiring and PCS'ing, not going to Ball. For more information, contact to lynareed@yahoo.com or call 253-2328 (home).

Items for sale

- Cherry-colored changing table: \$70.
 - Rainforest Papasan Swing: \$100.
 - Cloth diaper set with inserts: Barely used. \$220 for the whole lot.
 - Lot of baby girl clothes 12 months and younger: \$25 for all.
 - Exersaucer for baby: \$30 OBO.
- For more information, call 253-2505 (home).

Free kittens

Four cute balls of fluffy fur, now sweetly eating soft food and venturing from mama's side, hopefully to your home. We live near Three Corners, so you can arrange to stop by and look the little darlings over. Call 21-7977 (home).

DVDs for sale

"Quantum Leap", Seasons 1-5, \$100 OBO (sold as set). For more information, call 253-5301 (work) or 253-2265 (home).

Jam Band Auditions

A local vocalist/acoustic guitarist is compiling a jam band to play covers in the local area. Keyboardist, bassist and percussionist desired. Saxophone player and drummer recruited! Influences include Dave Matthews Band, Coldplay, City and Colour, and Rufus Wainwright. Gear used: Taylor Acoustic Electric guitar and Schecter C-1 Plus electric guitar with Peavey Tube Amplification. Call 253-2356 and leave a detailed message, or e-mail inner.vision@yahoo.com.

First time Youth Sports soccer coach returns favor



Coach Jose Canseco, a volunteer Youth Sports soccer coach, takes pleasure in teaching youngsters the art of soccer. Canseco is a single Marine residing in the barracks, and coaches for love of the sport. Photo by Lance Cpl. Dan Negrete

LANCE CPL. DAN NEGRETE
IWAKUNI APPROACH STAFF

"He's the type of person that tries to leave an impression on others and succeeds," said Natina M. Miller, Youth Sports representative, about Lance Cpl. Jose M. Canseco.

Canseco is an electronic countermeasures systems technician here but also serves as a volunteer Youth Sports soccer coach for 7-to 9-year-olds.

Growing up on the downside of advantage in an impoverished neighborhood of Oceanside, Calif., Canseco found his salvation by playing soccer and through his coaches, whom he looked up to for guidance and support.

"I didn't have a lot going for me when I was a kid since my parents were always working and were never home," he said. "Growing up, one of my soccer coaches filled in and became my biggest role model."

"My coach not only taught me how to be a good soccer player but, more importantly, how to stay out of trouble," said Canseco. "He also helped me understand the huge sacrifice my parents were making for me despite the fact they were never home."

In a way, Canseco wanted to give back to others what he received as a child. He quickly jumped on the idea of volunteering as a Youth Sports soccer coach after seeing an advertisement for it in an issue of Marine Corps Community Services "Preview" magazine.

"I wanted to help out," he said. "Soccer is something I love, so becoming a soccer coach didn't seem like such a big task."

"Besides, there's always kids out there that need someone to look up to," he added. "I hoped in a way I could be-

come that person."

Having played in youth soccer leagues as a kid and at the high school and club levels, Canseco felt ready to try something different and put his coaching skills to the test for the first time.

"As a coach, he knows what he's doing, and just like at work, he knows when to take charge," said Sgt. Michael Uribe, Canseco's supervisor and assistant soccer coach.

Canseco admits to having a timid side, but also recognizes his natural ability to take charge and distinguish himself as a leader both on and off the field.

"For some reason or another, I've almost always ended up being the captain of my soccer teams, even though growing up I always considered myself as having a shy personality," he said.

"As a Marine, I've always said in order to be a good leader it's important to know where you were and where you are now," he said. "I always try to take junior Marines under my wing, especially when they're new."

Applying these same principles to coaching soccer, Canseco has managed to win the hearts of his players as well as their parents.

"He's very patient with the kids and very soft-spoken with the parents," said Mindy A. Garner, M.C. Perry Elementary school teacher and soccer mom. "I'm really thankful as a parent that he's willing to give his time to my child and the other children, even though he's not a parent himself."

"Overall, I really enjoy coaching these kids," said Canseco. "There are a lot of challenges that come with being a coach, but the hardest one to tackle is getting the kids to understand it's not all about winning but about going out there, learning and having fun."

"THERE'S ALWAYS KIDS OUT THERE THAT NEED SOMEONE TO LOOK UP TO."

Sports Briefs

WaterWorks Pool Closure

The WaterWorks outdoor pool is scheduled to close for the season after Oct. 5.

Softball Standings

	W	L
WOLFPAC	9	0
LONGBALLS	7	1
SHRIKES	7	1
DA SLUGGERS	6	4
MAG-12	6	2
IYAOYAS	5	5
ATC LONGBALLZ	4	5

Softball Standings, cont.

VANGUARD	3	5
AVIATION SUPPLY	2	6
THE WOLF PACK	2	7
HEAVY HITTERS	2	6
MEDICALS	1	10

These standings are current as of Sept. 24.



233RD NAVY BIRTHDAY BALL
FRIDAY, OCTOBER 10
CLUB IWAKUNI BALLROOM

SOCIAL HOUR: 5 - 6 P.M.

CEREMONY, DINNER, DANCING: 6 P.M. - 1 A.M.

ATTIRE:

DRESS BLUE UNIFORM

APPROPRIATE CIVILIAN ATTIRE

TICKETS:

SNCO CASH CAGE THRU OCT. 3

E6/BELOW & GUESTS: \$30

E7/ABOVE, GUESTS, CIVILIANS: \$45

INFORMATION:

EN1 LOCKETT, DSN 253-3302

HM2 KAMARA, DSN 253-6647

CLUB IWAKUNI, 253-5416