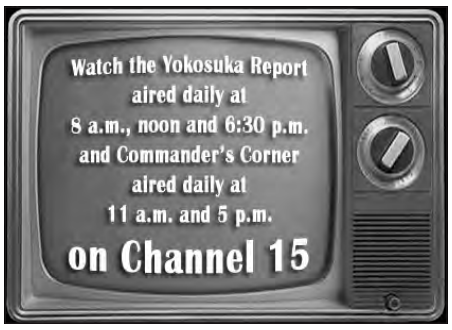
Capt. David A. Owen, Commander, Fleet Activities Yokosuka

CMDCM Gregory Vidaurri, Command Master Chief

Action Line correspondence may be edited for length and readability. Your questions, suggestions and "Bravo Zulu" comments are appreciated. Address concerns with your chain of command or directly with the parties involved, at the lowest level possible. If you don't get results, send an e-mail to CFAYactionline@gmail.com. We welcome your feedback, especially if it is of a general nature and can help others. To contact the Seahawk, call 243-5607/3003 or send an e-mail to: CFAYactionline@gmail.com.



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Community announcements/Action line

Annual Spring Festival – The Spring Festival base event scheduled for March 27 has been cancelled. There is no rescheduling of the event at this time.

Marriage Enrichment Workshops – Marriage Enrichment Workshops provided by the *USS George Washington* (CVN 73) (GW) Command Religious Ministries Department will be held April 21 from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. at the Chapel of Hope. Contact the GW Chaplain's Office at 243-7454 or by e-mail to howardb@cvn73.navy.mil to sign up or for more information. These workshops directly contribute to family resiliency and help promote healthy relationships.

Life After Kinnick Resource Room to Open – A ribbon cutting ceremony will open Kinnick High School's new Life After Kinnick (LAK) Resource Room April 21 at 5 p.m. on the school's campus. Kinnick's Continuous School Improvement co-chair Chey Hickey sought to significantly enhance the school's support for students preparing for life after high school. Kathleen Thomas, a Kinnick substitute teacher recently toured the Bahrain School and shared her observations of a resource room there designed to help students plan for college. Their collaboration resulted in this new LAK Resource Room, a place where students can come to find inspiration, motivation, information, resources and guidance, to begin to continue and to finalize their individual post-secondary planning. From ninth-grade to 12th-grade, students will find appropriate self-assessment tools, career and college preparation information in publications and online. Most importantly, the resource room provides a permanent and dedicated space for students to work on their plans for the future with guidance from teachers. E-mail to Cheytoria.Hickey@pac.dodea.edu for more information.

Deadline for Seahawk submissions – Deadline for submissions to the Seahawk is the Thursday before the next Seahawk edition. E-mail your submissions to Seahawk-Umitaka@fe.navy.mil. Contact the Seahawk editor by e-mail to Seahawk-Umitaka@fe.navy.mil or call 243-2567/3003 for specific submission requirements or for more information.

Q: I have an issue with the fleet gym enforcing the rules. I was told I had to leave the gym because my kids were too young to be in the gym (basketball area). The manger didn't explain the rules to me, he just said you have to go and walked away. I left and the next day I went and talked to his supervisor. He told me that was what he was telling them to do. He went and copied two different parts of Commander Fleet Activities Yokosuka instruction COMFLEACTINST 1710.64F (enclosure 10 and 23) and enclosure 1 of Bureau of Naval Personnel instruction BUPERSINST 1710.11C. I told him this is not what the instructions say and I should be able to bring my kids to the basketball court with me. Per enclosure 10 of COMFLEACTINST 1710.64F, bottom of paragraph "F" states: "In support of fleet Sailors, patrons at Fleet Gym must be 15 years of age or older. Per enclosure 23 of COMFLEACTINST 1710.64F, Paragraph 2a states: "Children under ten years of age are not permitted use of the gymnasium unless accompanied by an adult or attending a class." My kids are not using the gym they were just sitting in the gym watching me play basketball. They were not up running around or in the way of the game. I have been here three years and never had a problem with my kids sitting in the stands until now. I was very upset because this is my time with my children and getting some extra exercise. My kids actual like watching me play basketball and they were sitting down being very good. Is there any way there can be some clear cut information put out. We have rules for a reason and I have no problem abiding by them just as long as they are enforced the right way. Thank you.

A: Since we are fortunate enough to have two fitness centers here in Yokosuka, the Purdy Fitness Center is geared to a more family oriented environment. We offer family oriented activities, classes and programs, while the Fleet Gym offerings target our Sailor community. As a result, the rules are different for each demographic. As you stated in your letter, Enclosure 10 of COMFLEACTINST 1710.64F, Paragraph "F" states, "In support of Fleet Sailors, patrons at Fleet Gym must be 15 years of age or older." This is posted throughout the facility and enforced by staff. We apologize if the staff did not explain the rule to you and why you were being asked to leave. The only time we do allow children, are for functions that are specific to families, such as intramural basketball tournaments, martial arts classes, bazaars, high school basketball games and such and then only in the area the activity is taking place. During those times, the children must be under direct supervision of their guardian. We thank you for pointing out the apparent inconsistencies in the instruction and we are in the process of revising this at the time this response is being written. With that said, the policy for the Fleet Recreation Center will stay as is.

Q: I currently reside in Ikego Housing and am very pleased with the housing and maintenance that's provided; however, for the last few months, I've began to notice dog feces everywhere. This is my first time experiencing such behavior from dog owners, and with our living in a country where animal feces are cleaned up immediately after exposed, this same law needs to be practiced or reinforced. Being a runner, it's very disgusting to accidently run in such, not to mention the little ones who play out at Ikego. There are many areas that dog owners can take their pets for toilet usage; however, I've seen dog feces on side walks, the track field, streets and on steps leading up to housing areas. Not just one time, but various times, to the point where I've got to complain now to express my concerns. Also, not just little sweet dogs, but large dogs as well. At first, I thought it wasn't worth complaining or bringing to your attention, but when I ran on this past Sunday, leaving my unit heading down the hill, towards the front gate, I witnessed a large pile of dog feces on the side walk, which I became extremely upset. I have a toy poodle, and I've cleaned up her feces whether in my own backyard or outside around Ikego Housing. To me, it's no different than flushing the toilet after our usage, being considerate of the next person in line. Bottom line is, we are in Japan where this is practiced and probably a law, and we should do the same on base as well as off base. I would appreciate it if a law was in place or reinforced if one is in place, for dog owners to clean up after their dog and be more considerate of others that live in base housing.

A: Thank you for your comments. Keeping a pet in military family housing is a privilege. Pet owners' responsibilities are set forth in numerous regulatory documents, including a Policy Memorandum Statement signed by the base commanding officer; COMFLEACTINST 6200.1(Series) "Immunizations, Registration, Housing, and Control of Pets"; and the Family Housing Handbook provided to all residents of military family housing. Copies of these documents may be obtained from the Housing Services Center. These documents clearly states that pet owners shall clean up and properly dispose of their pets' excrements. Pets that are not under proper control and that defecate on, or interfere with the public right of way or on property not of their residence, are considered to be public nuisances. Residents found in violation of pet policies are subject to losing the privilege keeping pets in military family housing.

Q: My wife is active duty Navy and I am a local hire federal employee. My wife and I had just recently had a baby. Eight months prior to her delivery, we registered on the Child Development Center (CDC) "non-active" waiting list for infant day care (Tier II eligibility). When we moved over to the "active" waiting list, we were third on the list behind two dual military couples. We were told there is a 6-8 month wait for full time care at the CDC if no other Tier I eligible babies need care which will increase the wait. As a stop gap measure while we are on the waiting list, they recommended part time care through CDC and MWR. At one of those offices we were told that the part time care offered is spotty and unreliable at best. They also told us there are very few options for infant care in Yokosuka. So, we have a newborn baby, jobs we need and spotty and, or unreliable daycare. Why doesn't CFAY increase the capacity for infant care if there is a documented need for active duty Sailors?

A: Each age group at this time is at full capacity and each age group also has a wait list, averaging 6-8 months. We continue to meet the Navy's mission by prioritizing dual and single military. Hourly care is available and can be guaranteed with reservations. Reservations can be made up to 30 days in advance at all CDCs based on space availability. Part time infant care is available through Child Development Homes (CDH) based as well on space availability. I'm not sure who made the comment you mentioned about "spotty and unreliable" but all CDC/CDH programs go through a very intensive (twice per year) inspection process and offer very stable environments for participants until full time care becomes available through Central Enrollment.