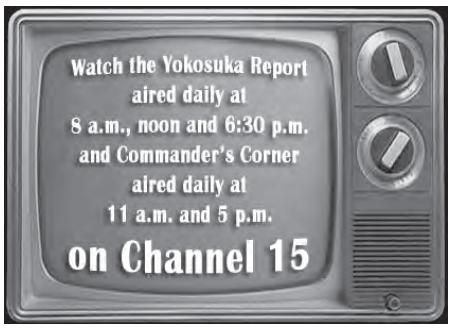
Capt. David A. Owen, Commander, Fleet Activities Yokosuka

CSCM(SW/AW) Gilbert V. Bitanga, Acting 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 email to CFAYactionline@gmail.com. We welcome your feedback, especially if it is of a general nature and can help others. To contact the Seahawk office, call CFAY Public Affairs at 243-3003 or send an email to: CFAYactionline@gmail.com.



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Heads Up Yokosuka!
Community announcements/Action line

Negishi Bazaar 2012 – CFAY Negishi Housing Detachment is scheduled to hold a bazaar April 28-29 from 9 a.m.-5 p.m. in the Negishi gymnasium.

Appointment Services Coming Soon to Personnel Support Detachment (PSD) Yokosuka – Beginning April 30, PSD Yokosuka will transition to a "by-appointment only" service system. All military personnel will be required to make appointments via their Command PASS Coordinators (CPCs). CPCs will be responsible for scheduling appointments via the PSD appointment line (TBA to CPCs). Customers without a scheduled appointment will be referred back to their CPCs for assistance. Admin, ID Cards (Monday-Friday, 8 a.m.-2 p.m.), Passports (Monday-Friday, 8 a.m.-4 p.m.), closed Wednesday for Tokyo Embassy runs), and the Cash Cage (Monday-Friday, 9 a.m.-12 p.m.) will continue to operate on a walk-in basis. Registered CPCs will have walk-in privileges at any time for any section during normal working hours. Family members and all other non-military customers seeking bona fide services will also have walk-in privileges as necessary. For more information, contact the PSD CPC Liaison, PS3 Lopez, at 243-8310, or madeline.lopez@fe.navy.mil.

Allowances Branch of the Defense Travel Management Office Survey – Every year the Allowances Branch of the Defense Travel Management Office conducts a survey to find out how much service members spent in the previous year for utilities (e.g. electricity, heating fuel, water, trash removal, and sewer fees). The data from this survey is used to determine the Utility Allowance, which is part of the Overseas Housing Allowance (OHA). Additionally, every third year, a survey is conducted to find how much Service Members spent when initially moving into their leased quarters to make them habitable (e.g. purchase of major appliances and expenses for hook-up of utilities). The data from this survey is used to determine the Move-In Housing Allowance (MIHA) Allowance, which is part of the OHA. The Overseas Housing Allowance (OHA) Utilities and Move-In Housing Allowance (MIHA) Expense Survey for Yokosuka, Japan will be available on-line from April 1-30. The survey is intended for all military personnel who reside in off-base privately-leased housing and can be accessed at: https://www.defensetravel.dod.mil/site/aprutilmiha.cfm. For more information, contact Chief Personnel Specialist Corey Dahlheim at 243-5712, or email corey.dahlheim@fe.navy.mil.

Defense Financing and Accounting Services (DFAS) scam letter warning – A letter is making the circuit purporting to be from DFAS asking military member's fiancées to register in our system entitling them to benefits in the event of the member's death. All for only a $350 fee. However, it's a scam. Please let your fellow soldiers, Sailors, airmen, Marines and families know the score. Corporate Communications advises the facebook post links to an earlier release DFAS put out in October on interaction with customers. DFAS will never send you unsolicited email messages requesting your myPay login ID and password or any other personal or financial information. We also will not send you unsolicited email messages with attachments, if you receive an email message that appears suspicious, do not click on any links or open attachments, etc.

Travel Advisory for Japan's Golden Week Celebration – Japan's Golden Week celebration begins April 28 and ends May 6. Tradionally, the majority of Japanese employees take vacation during this period and Government of Japan (GOJ) offices are closed. U.S. Embassy Tokyo is closed April 30 and May 3 and 4. It is very difficult to conduct business in Japan during the Golden Week holiday period. Second only to the Japanese New Year holiday period, Golden Week is one of the busiest and most congested travel periods in Japan. The U.S. Defense Attaché Office Tokyo advises Department of Defense (DoD) personnel to defer official travel to Japan during Golden Week to ensure availability of hotels, transportation and access to GOJ officials. Furthermore, it is also recommended that DoD members and their families located in Japan take extra caution when traveling on roads and trainsduring this holiday period.

Bicycle Helmets – All bicycle riders must wear an approved bicycle helmet in usable condition when entering the gates on Yokosuka base. No hard hats will be allowed for use on bicycles from the base entry point to the work centers nor from the work centers to the base exit points. Hard hats are only allowed for use by personnel after they report to the work place and their work requires use of a hard hat to perform their duties. Bicycle helmets that are found not safe must be replaced before being allowed to ride a bicycle on base. This is in accordance with CFAY instruction 5800.2G. Contact CFAY Traffic Safety at 243-7354 for more information.

自転車用ヘルメットに関するお知らせ – 横須賀基地及び関連施設に入出門する際、正規の自転車用ヘルメットを着用してください。通退勤時におけるゲートから職場までの区間、作業用保安帽を自転車用として代用することはできませんが、勤務中に職場及び業務上作業保安帽の着用が義務付けられている区域、またはその区域を自転車で通過する場合のみ、代用可能です。自転車用ヘルメットが安全な使用状態に無い場合、適切な物と交換されるまで基地内での自転車の運転は認められません。上記違反者は横須賀基地指令書第5800.2G号により取り締まりを受けます。詳しくは243-7354、CFAY交通安全課までお問い合わせください。

BZ: I would like to thank Lt. Thornton at CFAY Security and his guys at ISO MA2 Herrera and MA1 Holden for their outstanding customer service in going out of their way to ensure my guest pass would be ready upon the arrival of my guest in a short period time. I was beyond satisfied with the service I received. Again, thank you Lt. Thornton and your staff for your service.

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

Bringing the heat

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

This article is not about throwing a 90+ mile per hour fast ball, but rather the coming of summer. Naturally with the change in seasons comes a pretty dramatic change in temperatures and humidity. Soon it will be that uncomfortable period where we shift between securing the steam heating systems and turning on the air conditioning. There never seems to be a perfect answer to this one, which is no surprise due to people having different comfort levels. What is cold to one is hot to another. We have actually had on the same day separate complaints come in wanting the heat turned back on and wanting the air conditioning turned on. This is actually understandable though, for different buildings tend to maintain different temperatures.

Unlike last year, at least as of this writing, we are not under the scrutiny of the local government to keep electrical usage down due to the damaged grid from the disasters of March 2011. There have been no threats of fines or rolling black outs made. However, we are being monitored and watched by higher authorities within the Department of Defense with energy conservation still being a major concern Navy wide. Therefore, I encourage everybody to be smart and conserve whenever possible. Many of the practices that were instilled last year can be applied again this summer. Examples are: turn lights out in rooms when not being used or do not run the A/C at a setting that creates frost on the windows, especially when nobody is home.

The exact date we turn the A/C on is driven by some rules set by higher authority as well. We are required to wait at least 30 days from when the heat is turned off before turning the air conditioning on. Also, the rule is that there has to be at least three consecutive days in which the average ambient temperature reaches or exceeds 78 degrees. Last year this did not happen until over half way through the month of June, but in 2010 this criteria was met during the month of May.

Therefore, when the air conditioning gets turned on is not an exact science or pre-determined date and the best thing for everybody to do to ensure it stays on is to practice good energy conservation actions.