司令官の相談室

Capt. Daniel L. Weed, Commander, Fleet Activities Yokosuka

CMDCM Wayne E. Smith, Command Master Chief

Visa Waiver Program Travel Changes – The Department of Homeland Security (DHS) initiated the Electronic System for Travel Authorization (ESTA), a new online system that is part of the Visa Waiver Program (VWP) this past August. The ESTA web-based system is now open for voluntary applications but becomes mandatory Jan. 12. Once ESTA is mandatory, all nationals or citizens of participating VWP countries who plan to travel to the United States for 90 days or less for temporary business or pleasure under the VWP will need to receive an electronic travel authorization prior to boarding a U.S. bound airplane or cruise ship. Anyone traveling using VWP will need to ensure to process ESTA at least 72 hours prior to departure. This is applicable not only for official travel such as Temporary Additional Duty (TAD), Emergency Leave travel and medical evacuation (MEDEVAC) but also for your private travel. Visit the U.S. Embassy Web site at http://tokyo.usembassy.gov/e/visa/tvisa-esta2008.html or the Electronic System for Travel Authorization Web site at: https://esta.cbp.dhs.gov/esta/esta.html?_flowExecutionKey=_cDF02137F-CF9C-11CE-9929-C2D7A8FDD806_kA0E1E0C7-8022-4497-57F8-7A4123696F7D for more information.

AOB/ICR Class Now Five Days – The weekly Area Orientation Briefings and Intercultural Relations class (AOB/ICR) is now a five-day program. Classes start on Mondays at 8:45 a.m. Tuesday walk-ins will be turned away and will have to attend at a later date. Attendance at AOB/ICR is a prerequisite to attending the Driving Safety Lecture and Test (DSL) on Friday. AOB/ICR is facilitated by Commander Fleet Activities Yokosuka (CFAY) Fleet and Family Support Center (FFSC). The DSL is facilitated by the CFAY Safety Office. At present, both the AOB/ICR and DSL programs are conducted at the Benny Decker Theater. In the spring of 2009, AOB/ICR and the DSL will relocate to the 4th floor of the new Community Support Facility, Bldg. 3655, across from the commissary. With the new five-day schedule in place, AOB/ICR and DSL will not be held in any week that has a national holiday. If needed, child care vouchers are provided to attendees for the duration of the class. For more information call FFSC at 243-3372.

DBIDS Registration – Don't forget to register in the Defense Biometric Identification Data System (DBIDS)! Due to the updated Non-combatant Evacuation Operation (NEO) plan and increase in force protection and random anti-terrorism measures, all military, civilian employees, Navy contractors and their family members including children 10 years of age and older, Master Labor Contract (MLC) employees and local contractors onboard Yokosuka Base or assigned to afloat units are required to register in DBIDS. Personnel that are currently registered in DBIDS but have had changes to their profile must come in and update their information. The DBIDS registration office is located at the main gate inside building 1495. Customer service hours are Monday through Friday from 7 a.m. to 4 p.m.

横須賀基地に関係する軍人、軍属、契約従業員及び10歳以上のご家族、MLC従業員、契約業者の方は全て指紋認識データシステム（DBIDS）に登録する必要があります。既に登録された方で、データに変更がある方は、1495ビルのDBIDS登録事7所でデータの更新を行って下さい。受付は月～金曜の午前7時から午後4時まで。

Q: I have numerous people within my chain of command that are inquiring about the medical centers with the base. Concerns are Exceptional Family Member (EFM) children with severe medical issues and how hospitals can accommodate for the conditions. These concerns are associated with mainly pulmonary and cardiology conditions. A response or contact information to one of these centers would be greatly appreciated.

A: The responsibility of U.S. Naval Hospital (USNH) Yokosuka pediatric providers is to provide health care supervision to infants, children and adolescents, monitor their growth and development and address their acute and chronic needs. A common misconception about the hospital is that it is a naval medical center. In fact, it is a forward-deployed, level III medical treatment facility. For that reason, the hospital does not have pediatric specialists and is not equipped to provide medical care to patients with cardiac or pulmonary conditions that require specialty care. To ensure members are not transferred to this area with medical conditions that exceed the capabilities of USNH Yokosuka, stateside military treatment facilities provide overseas suitability screenings, a mechanism to identify patients with special medical or educational needs. This calls for primary care managers to screen active duty members with overseas orders and their dependents prior to departing the U.S. If any medical or educational condition is identified, the hospital is notified and determines whether or not it can support the special medical and/or educational needs of that family member. Additionally, the EFM Program assists Sailors by addressing the special needs of their exceptional family members during the assignment process. The primary goal of this program is to ensure that special needs can be met at a new assignment location. If a patient is already in Yokosuka and is found to need specialty care, he or she will be referred to an area that has the appropriate facility and level of care (usually within the U.S.), required to met the member's special needs. To learn more about the Exceptional Family Member Program, please visit the Web site: http://www.npc.navy.mil/CommandSupport/ExceptionalFamilyMember.

Q: It appears there are several cars that have been abandoned on base for quite some time. I recently took two photos; one car parked at the commissary and one parked at the Bachelor Officer Quarters (BOQ). Both vehicles were tagged as being impounded sometime ago. If the cars are abandoned could they be removed? Also, Kinnick High School is looking for a few cars to be used by students in the auto hobby shop. Seems like a win-win to me. I would even be willing to gather up some folks and push the vehicles to the high school if they still require them.

A: Thank you for your suggestion. Unfortunately vehicles that appear to be abandoned and or tagged to be impounded can not be donated to an organization do to the legality of the rightful owner can come back and claim the vehicle. The best way to get a vehicle for the auto shop students would be for the high school to advertise for personnel that plan on junking their vehicle to donate them. There is a required waiting period of 45 days prior to us being able to start the disposal process. We have limited space for storage of these vehicles until they are removed from the base.

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 cfay.pao.watch@fe.navy.mil. 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: Seahawk-Umitaka@fe.navy.mil.

Career Management Symposium schedule of events

The following is the schedule of events for the Career Management Symposium held aboard Commander Fleet Activities Yokosuka Jan. 26 - 29:

Monday, Jan. 26: Officer Briefs
- 8 - 9:30 a.m. Navy Total Force and Career Management Brief - CPO Club
- 9:30 - 10:30 a.m. PERS-41 SWO Community Brief - CPO Club
- 11 a.m. - noon SWO CO/XO Mentoring Brief - CPO Club

Monday, Jan. 26: Enlisted Briefs
- 1 - 2 p.m. CPO Leadership Brief - CPO Club
- 1 - 2 p.m. Junior Enlisted Career Management Brief - Fleet Theater
- 2:45 - 4:15 p.m. First Line Leadership Brief - Fleet Theater

Tuesday, Jan. 27: Officer Briefs
- 9:30 - noon PERS-43 Community Status Brief with Capt. Scott - CPO Club
- 3 - 4:30 p.m. Junior Officer Career Management Brief - Officer's Club
- 6 - 8 p.m. Officer Spouse/PERS 41 Brief - Officer's Club

Tueday, Jan. 25: Enlisted Briefs
- 10 - 11:30 a.m. Junior Enlisted Career Management Brief - Fleet Theater
- 1 - 2:30 p.m. First Line Leadership Brief - Fleet Theater
- 3 - 4:30 p.m. Enlisted Selection Board Brief - Fleet Theater

Wednesday, Jan. 28: Officer Briefs
- 7:30 - 9 a.m. LDO Applicants Brief (enlisted E-5 and above welcome) - Fleet Theater
- 11:30 - 1 p.m. LDO/CWO Aviation Community Brief - *USS George Washington* (CVN 73)

Wednesday, Jan. 28: Enlisted Briefs
- 7:30 - 9 a.m. CPO Leadership Brief - CPO Club
- 11:30 - 1 p.m. First Line Leadership Brief - Fleet Theater
- 1:30 - 3 p.m. Junior Enlisted Career Management Brief - Fleet Theater
- 3 - 4 p.m. FC Aegis Information Brief - Fleet Theater

Thursday, Jan. 29: Enlisted Briefs
- 9:30 - 11 a.m. Junior Enlisted Career Management Brief - Fleet Theater
- 1 - 2:30 p.m. First Line Leadership Brief - Fleet Theater

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