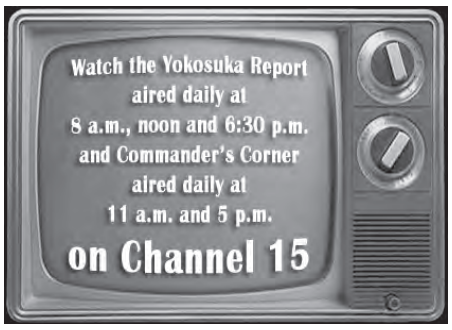
Capt. Daniel L. Weed, Commander, Fleet Activities Yokosuka

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 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.



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Heads Up Yokosuka!

Community announcements/Action line

Rickert Drive Tunnel Repairs – The tunnels on Rickert Drive will be under repair until Aug. 9. Usage will be reduced to single lane, two-way traffic during the day with total tunnel road closure in the evenings from Feb. 26 to May 17 and July 13 to 31. Alternate routing of traffic during the evening will be provided. Stock Yard area parking will be secured. Temporary fleet parking will be provided by Gridley Tunnel exit.

Traffic Advisory – Clement Boulevard will be reduced to one lane between McCormick Street and Kauffman Street from 8 a.m. to 6 p.m. Feb. 1 to April 1. Traffic controllers will direct traffic during this repair period. Clement Boulevard will be open to two-lane traffic after 6 p.m. each day. Leahy Street will be completely closed to vehicle traffic between McCormick Street and Green Bay Drive from March 15 to April 5.

USO Calendar of Events for March 12-19 – The following is the USO Yokosuka calendar of events:

• March 12: TGIF Night featuring a free food buffet for single and unaccompanied active duty Sailors starting at 5:30 p.m.

• March 13: Movie Night with free pizza and popcorn starting at 5:30 p.m.

• March 17: Game Night starting at 5 p.m.

USO Yokosuka hours of operation are Monday through Friday from 2 to 10 p.m. and 11 a.m. to 10 p.m. on Saturday and Sunday. Contact USO Yokosuka at 241-3030/4894 for more information.

COMPASS Yokosuka Spouse Mentoring Program – The next COMPASS Yokosuka Spouse Mentoring program begins March 16 through 19 at the Community Readiness Center in room 223 from 5:30 to 9 p.m. This is our only night class offered during the year. All spouses welcome. Dinner is provided and childcare will be reimbursed. Call Shelle Napier at 264-7270 for more information, or log onto our Web site www.gocompass.org to register for the class.

Spring Festival Chili Cook Off – Does your chili pack some flavor? Put it to the test at the Spring Festival Chili Cook Off March 28. All types of chili are welcome for entry. Winners will be chosen based on flavor not heat. The cook off will be judged by representatives of CFAY, a tenant command and the city of Yokosuka. The winning recipe will be presented to the city of Yokosuka. Sign up no later than March 1. Contact MAC Parnell Cross at parnell.cross@fe.navy.mil or NCC Tasha Wright at tasha.wright@fe.navy.mil for more information.

CFAY CPOA Dining Out – All chief petty officers are invited to attend Commander Fleet Activities Yokosuka (CFAY) Chief Petty Officer Association (CPOA) Dining Out April 1 at 6 p.m. in the Bamboo Room of the Chief Petty Officer's Club. Retired BMCM Rudy Boesch, a Navy Seal and oldest competitor on the first season of the hit TV show "*Survivor,*" will join CFAY Commanding Officer Capt. Daniel Weed as a guest speaker. E-mail to lisa.wimbush@fe.navy.mil or michael.marino@fe.navy.mil for tickets or for more information.

Cape Fox Professional Services Motorcycle Rodeo – A Motorcycle Rodeo will be held at the Yokohama North Dock Motorcycle Training Range to promote safe motorcycling from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. April 10. Registration begins at 9 a.m. All licensed Status of Forces Agreement (SOFA) sponsored motorcycle riders are invited to participate. Riders must use their own street legal, properly registered motorcycles to participate. Spectators are invited and welcome to attend. Cape Fox Professional Services certified motorcycle safety instructors will hold four primary events to include a slow speed race, poker run, a relay race and a timed circuit course. Prizes including an iPod will be awarded. E-mail to cdelzatto@captefoxit.com to sign up or for more information.

Camp Zama Half Marathon – The 14th annual Camp Zama Half Marathon will be held at Sagami Depot Sunday, April 18, from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Additionally, there will be a men's and women's 5K and 10K run and a parent-child 2k run for parents with child in grades 1-4. All events are free to Status of Forces Agreement (SOFA) sponsored ID card holders and there will be special awards for SOFA participants. The cutoff date for registration is March 20. Call 263-7980 or 263-5995 for more information or to obtain a registration form.

Q: It doesn't seem right that Americable holds a monopoly on Internet service for the bases and offers substandard service and expensive prices. We pay for Internet service speeds that we are not even getting. Why is this happening and why is nothing being done about it?

A: Americable does not have a monopoly on Internet service for the Navy bases. In fact, SoftBank (formerly JENS) also offers Digital Subscriber Line (DSL) service and when Americable initially began offering Internet service in 2003, all customers were SoftBank DSL customers. I believe you can still purchase the J-Spot cards or have the service in your home from them. You can also pay approximately $65 per month for a cellular device that will provide internet access here in Japan from a variety of vendors. We did begin experiencing network congestion during the peak times of 8 to 11 p.m. in late November when the fleet returned. Americable is in the final phase of a three-step plan to address this issue. Specifically, in November we installed new software which enables us to better monitor and control network traffic. In mid-January, we installed new equipment which doubled the capacity of our infrastructure on the Yokosuka and Atsugi bases. After the installation of this equipment, we no longer see any congestion within our plant. However, the third phase of the plan includes doubling the size of our connection to the Internet gateway. We ordered this new circuit in December and our vendor has completed their initial survey and levels checks but has yet to provide us with a firm installation date. Due to the size of the circuit we have ordered, our vendor must bring additional fiber onto the base and their tentative projected installation date is early April but we are pressing them to move this date up. Finally, neither Americable nor any other Internet Service Provider guarantees speed. If you are leasing a circuit and not just a service (usually for business purposes and even then there is language in the service level agreement regarding overhead and other factors that may affect speed), the pricing increases dramatically. We pay our vendor for a leased circuit and even with the prices we must pay them there are still times when they must do maintenance and replace equipment. Even though our speeds are quoted as BE (Best Effort) and you receive those speeds most of the time, they may be less during high traffic periods but we believe that the final phase of our upgrade will remedy even this issue.

Desktop alert system now online in Navy Region Japan

By MC3 Dominique Pineiro,
CNFJ Public Affairs

Space and Naval Warfare (SPAWAR) systems command remotely installed new software on all OneNet Non-classified Internet Protocol Router Network (NIPRNet) computers throughout Navy Region Japan Feb. 19.

The new software, called Computer Desktop Notification System (CDNS), causes color-coded pop-up windows to appear at the bottom right corner of the NIPRNet computer screen.

"CDNS is a mass notification system that can be used to send pop-up notifications to every unclassified OneNet workstation in the Far East," said Commander U.S. Naval Forces Japan (CNFJ) Communication Networks (N6) Senior Field Engineer Jonathan Harmer. "The system is also capable of sending e-mail notifications to any e-mail address. It is designed to give installations another means of distributing important information."

Blue or green pop-up windows are information or test messages, yellow or red will be used to warn users of potential harmfully situations.

"Types of notifications may vary depending on what sort of notices commanding officers would like sent out," said Harmer. "But aside from system tests, critical weather conditions such as Tropical Cyclone Conditions of Readiness (TCCOR) or heat index flag colors are possible notifications that people could see in the future."

CDNS announcements transmit under the authority of installation commanders or CNFJ, and pop-up windows are considered official notifications.

Created by a company called AtHoc and installed by SPAWAR, CDNS supports the computer network portion of a wide-area alert and notifications systems.

OneNet customers can "right – click" on the purple sphere client icon, located in the windows taskbar at the lower – right portion of the screen, to learn more about CDNS services and settings.