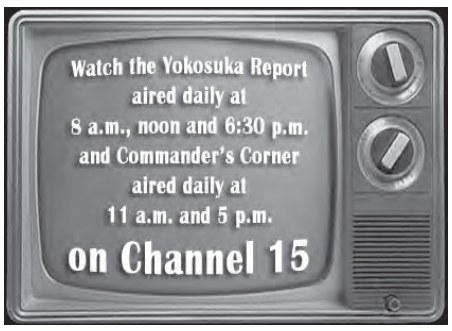
Capt. David A. Owen, Commander, Fleet Activities Yokosuka

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.



Commander Fleet Activities Yokosuka
Capt. David A. Owen

Michelle Stewart — Public Affairs Officer
Sean Dath — Lead PA Specialist

Editorial Staff

Keiichi Adachi — Photojournalist
Yuhji Kawabe — Photojournalist
Jeffrey Doepp — Photojournalist
Joe Schmitt — Photojournalist
MC2 John Smolinski — Photojournalist
Paul Long — Photojournalist
Mark Elrod — Seahawk Editor
Hideo Kaihatsu — Seahawk-Umitaka Editor

U & A Company Co., Ltd.
Kiyonori Goto — Account Executive
Ai Yoshikawa — Account Executive

COMFLEACT Yokosuka
Public Affairs Code N01PA
PSC 473 BOX 01
FPO AP 96349
Phone: 243-5607/3003

Fleet Activities, Yokosuka, Japan
SEAHAWK UMITAKA
Serving Yokosuka Base for more than 50 years

The editorial content of this newspaper is edited and approved by the public affairs office of Commander, Fleet Activities Yokosuka.

This newspaper is an authorized publication for members of the military services stationed overseas. Its contents do not necessarily reflect the official views of the U.S. Government, the Department of Defense or the U.S. Navy and do not imply endorsement thereof.

The appearance of advertising in this newspaper, including inserts of supplements, does not constitute endorsement by the Department of Defense, the Navy, Commander, Fleet Activities Yokosuka or U & A Company of the products and services advertised.

Everything advertised in this newspaper shall be made available for purchase, use or patronage without regard to race, color, religion, gender, national origin, age, marital status, physical handicap, political affiliation or any other non-merit factor of the purchaser, user or patron. If a violation or rejection of this equal opportunity by and advertiser is confirmed, the publisher shall refuse to print advertising from that source until the violation is corrected.

Published by U & A Company, a private firm in no way connected with DoD or the U.S. Navy, under the exclusive contract with the U.S. Navy.

Follow CFAY on
twitter
facebook
shutterfly

Heads Up Yokosuka!
Community announcements/Action line

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.

Blue and White Ball – Zeta Phi Beta Sorority, Inc. Phi Eta Zeta Chapter, Phi Beta Sigma Fraternity, Inc. Nu Eta Sigma Chapter will host the 3rd Annual Blue and White Ball April 14 at the Camp Zama Community Center Ballroom. The event will start at 6 p.m. For more information, call 080-4295-7677.

Temporary Morale, Welfare and Recreation (MWR) Food Court closure – The MWR Food Court on the third floor of the James D. Kelly Fleet Recreation Center will be closed April 20-21 from 9 p.m. to 6 a.m. for plumbing repairs. Scheduled hours of operation are:

- Mean Gene's Burger: 6 a.m.-7 p.m.
- Hot Stuff Pizza: 11 a.m.-8 p.m.
- Smash Hit Sub: 10 a.m.-8 p.m.

All services will be reopen at 6 a.m. April 21.

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。ゲートから職場までの区間、作業用保安帽を自転車用に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。

A quiet night – until....

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

On the sea and upon warships there are inherently many dangers and evolutions in which men and women of faint heart should never be involved. One of the most nerve-racking is that of the underway replenishment, especially at night. Two large pieces of steel weighing thousands of tons come next to each other within a couple hundred feet. They then connect to each other with lines and cables under extreme tension to transfer supplies and fuel. This can take from maybe an hour up to an entire day dependent upon the amounts to be transferred. Any miscalculation or over maneuvering can result in a collision rendering millions of dollars of damage and potentially loss of life.

It was a quiet night in the Virginia Capes with smooth seas and a clear sky displaying all the stars in the heavens shining bright. The ship had already made its approach, got connected up and fuel was flowing through the hoses into the tanks below. Only minor adjustments were being made to course and speed to keep the ship in position alongside. Then the replenishment ship started to drop back quickly, multiple speed changes were not keeping us in place. Then came the sound no Commanding Officer wants to hear during this type of evolution, six short blasts on the ship's whistle indicating an emergency break away. Somehow, the replenishment ship had lost propulsion and her engines were off-line. Even though we train to this emergency over and over again the next couple of minutes seemed to take forever. The refueling probe was released immediately, but the coupling for the aviation fuel riser got jammed. The replenishment station team tried to release it as the ships were trying to separate. There was no choice but to evacuate the station and just let the force part the hose. Well, it did not exactly part that way. Instead the riser was torn off at the deck plate, but it allowed the ships to avoid a collision. Fortunately and most importantly, nobody was hurt.

The ironic thing is right afterwards the replenishment ship Captain asked me over the bridge to bridge radio if I wanted to come back alongside for they got the engines online. To say the least my response was "No Thanks, I got enough fuel onboard". That was a true statement, but I also had gained enough grey hairs and lost enough minutes off my natural life cycle for one evening. No matter how many times you practice for an emergency or disaster you can be assured it will not happen when you expect it or the way you simulated it in your training. However, by training and being prepared you significantly increase the odds of taking good instinctive and prompt actions to avoid it becoming catastrophic.