司令官の相談室

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

CMDCM Wayne E. Smith, Command Master Chief

New CFAY Web site URL – Effective immediately, the new CFAY Web site URL is *www.cnic.navy.mil/yokosuka*.

Kannonzaki Beach Clean up – Volunteers are needed to participate in the Kannonzaki Beach clean up, 10 a.m. to noon, March 14. Volunteers should meet at Kenritsu Say-sho-nen no Mura across from Perry Park by 9:30 a.m. to register. Red flags will mark the location. Please bring gloves, hat, towel, sun block, etc., for this event. Please travel by train if possible as parking is available but limited. Contact CFAY Public Affairs Office Community Relations section Fumiyo Sato at 243-2566 or by e-mail to fumiyo.sato@fe.navy.mil for directions or for more information.

DDYJ to Host Supply Exposition – Defense Distribution Depot Yokosuka Japan (DDYJ) will host a supply exposition aboard Yokosuka base in building 1907 from 1 to 4 p.m., March 19. Defense Logistics Agency commands from all installations within Japan will be on hand to provide useful information and demonstrate their logistical capabilities and representatives from Fleet Industrial Supply Center and Surface Deployment and Distribution Command will present information about their mission and the services they provide. The DDYJ booth will also feature tours of the local warehouse and other facilities. Contact DDYJ at 243-3992/3993 for more information.

AFN TV and Radio outage – Twice a year, American Forces Network (AFN) TV and radio experiences complete outages due to sun spot and solar flare activity. The current period of sun outages will subside after March 13. AFN loss of signals can last as long as 15 to 20 minutes at a time. The outages affect on base as well as off base residents. Sun outages occur when satellites "eclipse" the sun and their signals are overpowered by solar radiation. Local sun outages occur at military installations throughout the Kanto Plain when the sun is at its highest point in the sky. However, because of the number of satellite hops it takes for the AFN signal to arrive in Japan, local viewers and listeners might see temporary disruptions of their TV and radio signals a few times during peak sun outage days.

Installed Fire Protection Systems – Fire protection systems that are installed and positioned in a building or area are specifically intended to protect both life and property. It is everyone's responsibility, especially the facility manager to ensure that these systems are well maintained (clean, serviceable, clear of obstruction) and that these systems are not being used inappropriately or vandalized. Parents are asked to educate their children of the importance of these systems (sprinklers, smoke detectors, fire extinguishers) and how it is a big part of their safety.

Higher Social Security Payment – If you have served on active duty any time from 1957 through 2001 you may qualify for a higher social security payment because of your military service. Up to $1,200 a year of earnings credited at time of application. Bring your DD214 to the Social Security Office when you apply. This benefit is not automatic, you must ask for it to receive it. Visit the Social Security Web site at www.ssa.gov/retire2/military.htm for more information.

Wednesday Lunch Time Bowling League – Participants are needed to start up a Wednesday lunch time bowling league. Teams will consist of two or more people with up to six persons on a team roster. Cost is $6 per person per week ($4.50 for bowling, $1.50 for prize fee). All prize money will be awarded two weeks prior to the end of the league. Contact Gary Gardner or Mike Kemp at 243-6110 or Rand Lee at 243-6115 to sign up or for more information.

Q: I am a Department of Defense (DoD) contractor on Yokosuka Base and will be bringing my family here in September. Because of the costs DoD contractors have to pay for our children to attend Department of Defense Dependent Schools (DoDDS), my wife will be homeschooling our two children. I have seen articles and read parts of DoD policies in regards to homeschooled children being able to access on-base school facilities. What facilities and assistance do homeschooled children receive? i.e., library, computers, research materials and are homeschooled children eligible to participate in school sport's programs?

A: 'Space created-tuition paying' students at the elementary level may use the library. Parents may contact the local school registrar for more information. Secondary 'space created-tuition paying' students wishing to play sports will be assessed a fee based on the current DoDD school year tuition rates chart based on the number of sports played. Interested parents should contact the local high school for more detailed information.

Q: Why is the commissary only open for express shoppers from 8 to 9 a.m.? I work a 12 hour night shift and get off work at 7 a.m., which means I have to wait two hours to buy my family groceries there or buy all my food at the Autoport. Why doesn't the commissary better accommodate the needs of Sailors who work nights?

A: Thank you for your recent Action Line question regarding the operating hours of the Yokosuka Commissary. The number of commissary operating hours is based on payroll, staffing and the needs of the base and community. At the present time, we are open seven days a week, Monday through Friday, 9 a.m. to 8 p.m., and Saturday and Sunday, 9 a.m. to 7 p.m. With no additional funding or payroll, the commissary is also open from 8 to 9 a.m., Monday through Friday, for early bird shopping which allows our shoppers to purchase 15 items or less. This brings the total to 80 operating hours a week. There are no other commissaries in Japan, Korea or Okinawa that are open 80 hours or more. With input from the local command and community, the current operating hours meet the needs of the Yokosuka military community. If you have any further questions, please contact the Yokosuka Commissary Director Totolua Ripley at 243-7562.

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.

Annual road tax, vehicle decal issuance

By CFAY Security

Annual road tax for your vehicle is paid every spring. Payments, which must be made in yen, can be made at the Kanagawa Tax Office for regular sized cars and trucks. Payments for motorcycles and mini-cars can be made at the local city hall or ward office, starting April 1. In accordance with U.S. Forces Japan Policy Letter, vehicles are to be registered at the closest military installation of which vehicle owners are assigned.

Road Tax will be collected at the Fleet Theater, March 24, 26 and 27 from 9 a.m. to noon and 1 - 2:30 p.m. and April 16 and 17 from 9 a.m. to noon and 1 - 2:30 p.m. This service onboard Yokosuka is also intended for Ikego residents. Road tax collection for those vehicles registered in Negishi will be at the Morale, Welfare and Recreation (MWR) classroom, Bldg. 19045, in Negishi Housing April 13 - 14 from 9 – 11:30 a.m. and 12:30 – 2:30 p.m.

The amount of road tax to be paid depends on the type of vehicle, which can be determined by the number shown on the top of the license plate. The respective tax amount is as follows:

• 44Y, 400Y, and 56Y, 57Y, 58Y, 500Y, 529Y plates	7,500 yen
• 33Y, 300Y, 329Y plates 4.5L and below	19,000 yen
• 4.6L and above	22,000 yen
• 11Y, 100Y plates	32,000 yen

Base decals must be affixed to the top center of the front windshield, next to the Japanese inspection sticker. The current Japanese inspection sticker, current base decal, installation sticker and rank decals (if applicable) should be the only decals affixed to the windshield. All other decals and inspection stickers from the previous years must be removed. Contact the Vehicle Registration office at 243-5011/5896 for more information.

Commander Fleet Activities Yokosuka
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