

# Tomodachi Times

One Wing, One Mission, One Cause

Volume 1, Issue 19

Y O K O T A   A I R   B A S E ,   J A P A N

1 April 2011

## NEWS BRIEFS

### Pass & Registration

Customer Support Hours  
0730-1230 - usual AW customer support  
1230-1630 - DBIDS issue/registration and contractor support **only**

### MPS New Hours

#### Mon- Thurs

0730-1200

#### Friday

0900-1200  
For after hours emergency's call the FSS UCC 225-3667/3668

### Prayer Services

#### Traditional Chapel

Orthodox Liturgy 9am  
Catholic Mass 915am  
Traditional Protestant 11am  
Catholic Mass 5pm

#### Contemporary Chapel

Gospel 11am  
Contemporary Protestant 5pm

### Samurai Café hours

Daily

### Breakfast

4:30am-8am

### Lunch

11am-1pm

### Dinner

4:30pm-7:30pm

### Midnight Meal

11pm-1am

## Yokota's eyes and ears in Operation Tomodachi

by Master Sgt. Kimberly Spinner  
374th Airlift Wing Public Affairs

When engaged in a large effort like Operation Tomodachi, military units need a centralized way to process and coordinate mission-essential details. The organizations comprising Yokota's command center have filled that need since the earthquake and tsunami struck northern Japan, March 11.

One of these organizations, the Emergency Operations Center, has worked on a strategic level to coordinate emergency preparedness, emergency management and disaster management functions here at Yokota.

The EOC, along with its partner organizations, then relays this information to wing leadership in the Installation Control Center, so that they can make informed decisions regarding the base's assets and personnel.

"The Installation Control Center and Emergency Operations Center serve as the central hub for agency coordination and information flow across the entire 374th Airlift Wing," said Lt. Col. Karl Kent, 374th Airlift Wing ICC director. "Each and every person on the ICC/EOC floor is critical to managing and facilitating the Wing's herculean efforts in support of Operations Tomodachi and Pacific Passage."

The ICC and EOC are just two of the command center components. Seated just a few feet from the EOC and ICC are another group of individuals, the Command Post Airmen.

"Even though we are a small unit, we play a big role in making sure people get what they need," said Staff Sgt. Sharon Santayana, 374th Airlift Wing com-



YOKOTA AIR BASE, Japan -- Representatives from Yokota Air Base's Installation Control Center and Emergency Operations Center work together to collect and track information March 28 in support of Operation Tomodachi. Operation Tomodachi is the U.S. Air Force's effort to provide humanitarian assistance and disaster relief to the government of Japan in the wake of the March 11 disasters. (U.S. Air Force photo/Staff Sgt. Jonathan Steffen)

mand and control.

On top of all of their other duties, the command post personnel directly support the EOC and, in some cases, act as the interim EOC until the actual EOC can get established.

Command Post operations have increased since the start of Op-

eration Tomodachi, but the command and control personnel remain positive and ready to do what needs to be done to accomplish the mission.

"It makes me feel really good to help out our host nation, and I am glad to do it," said Sgt. Santayana.

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The Command Post personnel provide command, control, communications, and information support to the base by receiving and relaying command and control instructions.

Not only do they relay messages but they also initiate quick reaction checklists in support of situations like suspected or actual sabotage, nuclear incidents, natural disasters, aircraft accidents or incidents, evacuations, dispersal, and aerospace anomalies.

Another organization in the command center, the Maintenance Operation Center, experienced a sudden spike in operations when 11 commercial aircraft were diverted to Yokota after the 8.9 magnitude earthquake. Shortly thereafter, Yokota also became host to a number of aircraft

from other units that deployed here to help with the relief effort.

"We monitor all flying for all of our aircraft and transient aircraft as well" said Airman 1st Class Matthew Knef, 374th Maintenance Operations Squadron weapons systems coordinator. "We've been super busy because it's been non-stop the whole time."

MOC personnel monitor and coordinate sortie production, maintenance production, and the execution of the flying and maintenance schedules by relaying information to base agencies.

"Without us coordinating fuel requests, parking, bio and other needs, the aircraft couldn't make it down range," said Staff Sgt. Daniel Demarco, 374th Maintenance Operations Squadron weapons systems coordinator.

The information that flows through the MOC plays a crucial role in informing wing leadership's decisions and accomplishing the mission while keeping people safe.

"The MOC is the eyes and ears of the 374th Maintenance Group Commander, said Master Sgt. Benjamin Williams, Maintenance Operations Center Superintendent. "Their dedication and attention to detail help keep maintenance and operations personnel safe."

The hard work and dedication of the command center personnel were instrumental in the success of Operatoin Tomodachi.

"It feels good to be able to be a part of something as important as Operation Tomodachi," said Airman Knef. "I'm proud to be part of the team."

## Toys for Tomodachi

As part of the current relief efforts, wing leadership sponsors 'Toys for Tomodachi,' a toy drive for Japanese families displaced by the recent earthquake and tsunami. Donations can be brought to the base chapel through April 7. Officials stress that **only pocket-sized toys** should be donated, as the recipient families have to carry all their belongings wherever they go. Once all the toys are collected, the chapel staff will sort and prepare them for transport to shelters in the northern part of the country.

For more information, call 225-6692.

**Be FOD aware. Even the smallest piece of trash can cost millions in damage.**

**Due to Yokota's involvement in relief efforts, TEPCO is trying to avoid turning the power off here. In the meantime, please continue to conserve energy.**

## *Have questions, comments or suggestions?*

Email [tomodachiresponse@yokota.af.mil](mailto:tomodachiresponse@yokota.af.mil) and let us know. Not every email will receive a response, but we will read them, and use them to help us improve our processes, spread information and clear up any rumors.

## FSS Restaurants - Hours of Operation

*Current as of 30 March 11*

The 374th Force Support Squadron is proud to support Operation Tomodachi, and our personnel and facilities have been very active in the mission. As a result, some of our daily operations are on hold. In addition, some civilian FSS employees voluntarily evacuated. Again, this impacts some of our daily operations, but only temporarily. In fact, some of our facilities are already back to normal operations! Please know that we are constantly evaluating our resources and personnel in an attempt to provide you with outstanding service.

Thank you for all that you're doing to support Operation Tomodachi. We appreciate your support and understanding as we work to do the same.

<p><b>Bangkok Express • 227-5811</b>  <b>Located in Tomodachi Lanes Bowling Center</b>                  Sun-Thu 11am-10pm                  Fri/Sat 11am-11pm                  Hol/Exr 11am-8pm</p>	<p><b>Route 16 • 225-8685</b>                  Mon-Thu 11am-11pm                  Weekends: Fri 11am until Sun 11pm</p>
<p><b>Café Kirara • 225-8293</b>  <b>Located in the Yuko Community Center</b>                  Mon-Sat 10:30am-8:30pm                  Sun/Hol Closed</p>	<p><b>Rickenbacker's Coffee Shop (Kanto Lodge) • 224-2003</b>                  Daily 6am-8pm  <b>Rickenbacker's Coffee Shop (Enlisted Club) • 227-8820</b>                  Closed</p>
<p><b>Charlie T's • 227-8837</b>                  Mon-Thu 6:30am-10am (a la carte); 11am-1:30pm;                  5pm-9pm (Closed for dinner on Wed)                  Fri 6:30am-10am (a la carte menu); 11am-1:30pm;                  5:30pm-9:30pm                  Sat 7am-1pm (a la carte); Closed for lunch; 5:30pm-9:30pm                  Sun 7am-11am (Sunday breakfast); Closed for lunch &amp;                  dinner</p>	<p><b>Samurai Café • 225-8870</b>                  Daily (7 days) during Operation Tomodachi                  Breakfast - 4:30am-8am                  Lunch - 11am-1pm                  Dinner - 4:30pm-7:30pm                  Midnight Meal - 11pm-1am</p>
<p><b>Chico's Chophouse &amp; Seafood Grill • 225-8526</b>  <b>Located in the Officers' Club</b>                  Wed-Sat 5pm-9:30pm                  Sun-Tue Closed</p>	<p><b>Sunrise Bakery • 225-8917</b>                  Mon-Fri 6:30am-12pm                  Sat 7am-11:30am                  Sun/Hol Closed</p>
<p><b>Chili's Grill &amp; Bar • 225-2131 • (210) 547-9946/9947</b>  <b>(To-Go)</b>                  Mon-Tue 11am-9pm To-Go Only*                  Wed-Sun 11am-4pm To-Go Only*; 4pm-10pm Full-Service                  *Customers may remain in the restaurant to eat during "To-Go" hours</p>	<p><b>West Side Deli Productions • 225-7475</b>  <b>Located in the Taiyo Community Center</b>                  Mon-Fri 11am-8pm                  Sat/Sun/Hol Closed</p>
<p><b>Officers' Club • 225-8526</b>                  Lunch – Tue-Fri 11am-1:30pm                  Dinner – Tuesdays 5-9:30pm</p>	<p><b>West Side Deli Delivery • 225-7474/7475 • 227-8830/8831</b>                  Mon-Thu 11am-9:30pm                  Fri 11am-10:30pm                  Sat/Sun 5pm-9:30pm</p>

*For the latest information on what's going on in FSS, please visit our website at [www.yokotasupport.com](http://www.yokotasupport.com) or "like" us on Facebook at "Yokota Force Support Squadron." Both our website and Facebook page are updated continuously.*

## **FSS UPDATE – RE-OPENINGS, CANCELLATIONS, CLOSURES, ETC.**

*Original dates of cancelled events noted*

### Aero Club –

Flight operations are cancelled until further notice.

### Airman & Family Readiness Center –

All programs for the week of March 28<sup>th</sup> through April 1<sup>st</sup> are cancelled with the exception of the Pre-Separation Briefing.

### Arts & Crafts –

Open 9:00am-6:00pm Tuesday through Saturday. Closed on Sundays.

Kanazawa & Yunokuni Forest overnight tour cancelled (Saturday, April 23<sup>rd</sup>).

### Chili's –

Operating as to-go only all day Monday and Tuesday (customers can remain in the restaurant to eat); Wednesday through Sunday lunch (11:00am-4:00pm) will be to-go only (customers can remain in the restaurant to eat); Wednesday through Sunday dinner (4:00-10:00pm) will be full-service.

### Community Centers –

Taiyo classes will resume on Friday, April 1<sup>st</sup>.

Driver's Ed Course postponed until further notice.

Vivace Schoolhouse Rock cancelled (Friday, April 1<sup>st</sup> & Saturday, April 2<sup>nd</sup>).

Flea Market (Saturday, April 2<sup>nd</sup>) postponed until Saturday, May 7<sup>th</sup>.

Party Animals Performance cancelled (Wednesday, April 13<sup>th</sup>).

Mrs. Yokota Pageant will continue as scheduled for May 21<sup>st</sup>.

### Enlisted Club –

Rickenbacker's is now open.

Bingo cancelled until further notice.

### Information, Tickets and Travel (ITT) –

Recently added tours: Ueno Park on Tuesday, April 12<sup>th</sup>; Tama Zoo on Thursday, April 14<sup>th</sup>; Fujikyū Highland Amusement Park on Saturday, April 16<sup>th</sup>; Shiraito Waterfall and Oshino Village on Sunday, April 17<sup>th</sup>; Shibuya and Harajuku on Saturday, April 23<sup>rd</sup>; Roppongi on Sunday, April 24<sup>th</sup>.

Alterations will be made to the April and May tour schedules on a week-by-week basis. Customers should contact the ITT office for the latest updates on trips and tours. Those who signed up for cancelled trips will receive a full refund.

### Natorium –

Dive-In Teen Pool Party cancelled (Friday, April 5<sup>th</sup>).

### Officers' Club –

The Adult Quarterly Membership Appreciation Night originally scheduled for March 29<sup>th</sup> will be changed to a Membership Appreciation Dinner. The quarterly dinner will be moved to April.

### Outdoor Recreation –

All remaining March trips are cancelled.

Normal hours and programming will resume on Monday, April 11<sup>th</sup>.

April trips will resume on Saturday, April 16<sup>th</sup>.

## **FSS UPDATE – RE-OPENINGS, CANCELLATIONS, CLOSURES, ETC.**

### ***Original dates of cancelled events noted***

#### Samurai Café –

Due to the mass influx of TDY personnel supporting Operation Tomodachi, the Samurai Café Military Dining Facility will discontinue serving Retirees until further notice. This is in accordance with the 374 AW supplement to AFI 34-239.

#### Samurai Fitness Center –

The Circuit Training class is cancelled until further notice.  
The Ab Ripper class is cancelled until further notice.  
The 9:00am Turbokick class is cancelled until further notice.

#### School Age Programs –

Showa Park trip cancelled (Friday, April 8<sup>th</sup>).  
Cherry Picking trip cancelled (Thursday, April 14<sup>th</sup>).

#### Tama Hills Golf Course –

Master's Tourney (Saturday, April 16<sup>th</sup>) postponed.

#### Tama Hills Recreation Area –

Tama Lodge will reopen on April 15<sup>th</sup>.  
Animation Theater cancelled (Saturday, April 9<sup>th</sup>).  
Sakura Blossom Party cancelled (Saturday, April 16<sup>th</sup>).  
Easter Extravaganza events will continue as scheduled.

#### Teen Center -

Project Catwalk & Teen After Party cancelled (Saturday, April 9<sup>th</sup>).  
Fujikyū Highland Trip cancelled (Saturday, April 16<sup>th</sup>).  
Spring Break Dance cancelled (Saturday, April 16<sup>th</sup>).

#### Tomodachi Lanes –

Block Party cancelled (Saturday, April 9<sup>th</sup>).

#### Vehicle Operations –

The car wash will re-open on Friday, April 1<sup>st</sup>.  
Service for pets traveling to Narita will be provided until further notice.

#### Vet Clinic –

Open for normal business hours on a walk-in basis. Priority will be given to those needing health certificates for departure.  
All scheduled surgeries during the month of March are cancelled.

#### Youth Programs –

Project Catwalk cancelled (Saturday, April 9<sup>th</sup>).  
Showa Park trip cancelled (Wednesday, April 13<sup>th</sup>).  
Fujikyū Highland trip cancelled (Thursday, April 14<sup>th</sup>).  
Sayama Children's Zoo and Kawagoe tour cancelled (Saturday, April 23<sup>rd</sup>).

#### Youth Sports –

All away games are cancelled until further notice.  
Youth baseball and softball start postponed.