



FALL 2020 ISSUE

IAP COMMUNITY UPDATE

IAPMARINE@USMC.MIL

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A MESSAGE FROM THE PROGRAM MANAGER

The last few months have been a very busy time for us all, adjusting to new work and family routines in the COVID-19 environment. As we gather momentum operating in this new environment I wanted to update the community on how the program is progressing. First, and foremost...training and operations continue. Although we have definitely had to be more flexible in how our IRTers execute their POIs, and what countries we can send our Marine to, IAP Marines in training are navigating their regions, learning how to operate within the current travel restrictions, and supporting training and operations for the DoD worldwide. I have been very impressed by the maturity, flexibility and initiative our IAP Marines in training have shown working through the challenges associated with the COVID-19 environment in order to meet the training and educational goals needs of the Service.

As we continually look to improve the program, and how it supports the Commandant's vision of the Marine Corps in the next 10 years, we are taking a hard look at where our FAO, RAO, and FAS billets are located. While we have been responsive in shaping our IAP demographic from a training and education perspective, I feel that we have more work to do in how and where IAP Marines are employed. Since Manpower is a zero sum game right now, we are having to take a very disciplined approach as to where we will prioritize our efforts in the coming years. Since the number of FAO/ RAO billets is not likely to increase in the coming years, a re-prioritization of the billets that we currently have is the most probable course of action. In our re-prioritization we will seek to ensure that our billets are both geographically relevant and appropriately placed in order to make sure that the MARFORs and MEFs are able to take full advantage of the training and education that FAOs receive.

Lastly, IAP "stories from the field" help to highlight the value of the program to senior leaders in the Marine Corps. While I am interested in showing how IAP Marines serving in FAO billets are being leveraged by their respective commands, I am also interested in showing how IAP Marines who are working within their primary MOS are able to provide support to the Marine Corps, from an International Affairs perspective, regardless of region. My goal here is to show that while we are regional "Joint Strategic Effects operators", our education and international experiences are valuable in any Security Cooperation or Pol-Mil engagement.

PROGRAM UPDATES

- **LREC Sustainment Program (LSP):**
FY21 LSP is now open. Please note that we are under the FY21 Continuing Resolution until 11 DEC 2020. We must receive all requests by 1 DEC 2020 for approval and processing. You must have a FAO/RAO/FAS MOS and a current DLPT to request funds for language sustainment or meet the JFAO Phase II sustainment course requirements to request funds for attendance to regional sustainment courses. Priority is to your principal assignment language. You must show a proficiency (3/3) in your principal language or an immediate validated requirement if you wish to be considered for an additional same-region 2nd or 3rd language. Additionally, priority for funding will go to FAO's below 2/2 and FAS' below 1/1 preparing for FAO/FAS assignment and DLPT. All TAD LSP requests must be command endorsed. Requirements, instructions, and templates can be found at the following webpage: <http://www.hqmc.marines.mil/ppo/Units/Strategy-and-Plans-Division-PL/International-Affairs-Branch-PLU/International-Affairs-Programs/IAP-Resources/>

- **FAO Program:**

If you are interested in conducting your FAO and RAO utilization tour next year, you should start communication with your Primary MOS monitor and PLU-8 for cognizance and concurrence now. This helps us to identify any problems we might have with the monitors letting you go on your payback tour. We are expecting to receive available billets in November and intend to finalize slating in early January.

- **FAO/RAO/FAS/PEP's In-Action Photos:**
DLNSEO is looking for high-definition photos capturing FAO/RAO/FAS/PEP's in action. Please send your photos with a quick description of what you're doing to: IAPMarine@usmc.mil
- **IAP Intelink Sharepoint Website:**
We have established an Intelink Sharepoint website containing FOUO administrative documents that we are not allowed to upload to our Marines.mil open source website. IAP Marines can reference AAR's, and SITREPS at the following link: <https://intelshare.intelink.gov/sites/internationalaffairsprogram>



Capt Felipe Bayona, MPEP to Brazil Fleet Marine Force Command, meets with the Brazilian Commandant of the Marine Corps at the Comando-Geral do Corpo de Fuzileiros Navais, Ilha das Cobras, Rio de Janeiro.

IAP IN THE NEWS

ROYAL MARINE RECEIVES BRONZE STAR

June 3, 2020, Camp Lejeune, N.C. British Royal Marine and PEP Maj. James A. Fuller, the future operations officer with 2nd Marine Regiment, received a Bronze Star for his distinctive contributions and efforts as the assistant operations officer with Task Force Southwest 19.1, U.S. Marine Corps Forces Central Command in Afghanistan in support of Operation Freedom's Sentinel and the Resolute Support mission. Fuller directly increased TSFW's combat effectiveness and operational reach in Helmand Province. (Photo on previous page by Lance Cpl. Jacqueline Parsons)

MAJ. WILLIAM EASTER WAS AWARDED THE NAVY AND MARINE CORPS MEDAL

on February 14, 2020, for his swift action and disregard for personal safety in saving the life of a drowning pregnant woman. After quickly directing two other service members to call for help, Easter rushed 300m with a life ring to the woman, fighting up to 35mph winds and 10-foot high swells for nearly an hour waiting for rescue boats. Easter is the theater security cooperation officer for the III Marine Expeditionary Force in Okinawa, Japan. (Photo on right by Lance Cpl. Hannah Hall)



CONGRATULATIONS NEW SELECTEES

MARADMIN 425/20, 459/20, 453/20

FAS Selection Results:

SSgt Christ, T.J. Europe
MSgt Starks, C.L. NE Asia

FY21 PEP Selection Results:

Capt Page, M AUS Intel Plans
Capt Drew, A.E. AUS Intel Ops
Maj Andres, E.S. AUS Intel
SSgt Marroquin, M. CHL Fire Sup
Maj Williams, S.D. COL Combat Arms
1stLt Shipley, S.G. GBR JFIG Intel
Capt Brokaw, M.A. GBR SIGINT

FY20 3Q ET Selection Results:

1stLt Drum, R.S. FAO LATAM
Capt Haviland, S.L. FAO Europe
Capt Merritts, J.T. FAO Europe
Maj Oberjuege, L.A. FAO Europe
Maj Rasmussen, E.V. RAO NE Asia
MSgt Rivera, O. FAS LATAM
Capt Shore, S.L. RAO S Asia (R)
Maj Szimonisz, J.D. RAO Africa
Capt Venetti, M.S. RAO Africa (R)
Capt Wilson, C.E. RAO Eurasia (R)
SSgt Zou, X. FAS NE Asia (R)



From left: Marine FAOs Capt Spanu, Capt Berger, Capt Wayson, Capt Burns, LtCol Bennett, and FAS GySgt Riveromontes stand on the Garmisch-Partenkirchen helipad before the Zugspitze, Germany's highest peak, for In-Region Training.

AVAILABLE OPPORTUNITIES

JOINT FAO SUSTAINMENT COURSE:

For your planning consideration, please find the dates for the upcoming JFAO Phase II regional sustainment and SEAM courses below. We will provide more amplifying information once syllabus and venues are approved and confirmed. *Dates are tentative.

TBD Early Dec* - SEAM Seminar 2 (Washington, DC)
11-14 Jan* - USEUCOM (Berlin, Germany)
1-4 Mar* - USCENTCOM (Tampa, Florida)
12-15 Apr* - USAFRICOM (Venice, Italy)
24-27 May* - USINDOPACOM (Honolulu, Hawaii)
TBD July* - USSOUTHCOM (Panama City, Panama)

An announcement has been added by "Brian Anderson" in the "NPS Marines" site at Sep 14, 2020 8:05 PM PDT

Marines,

The National Security Affairs Department at the Naval Postgraduate School is proud to announce that they are accepting applications for a new distance learning graduate certificate entitled "Great Power Competition." The faculty at the National Security Affairs Department created this sequence of courses in response to recent strategic initiatives, including Education for Sea Power. This DL certificate is designed to educate students on the nature of the Great Power Competition so they can apply critical thinking and analytical skills to support high-level decision making in both operational and staff assignments after NPS. The DL certificate will provide students up-to-date academic knowledge on the political and strategic challenges posed for the United States by the emergence of GPC with China and its re-emergence with Russia. Upon completion of the DL certificate, students will be able to analyze the factors shaping the new era of geopolitical competition among the major powers and potential U.S. responses across all dimensions of power, including diplomacy, economic competition, influence campaigns, and traditional military force.

Respectfully request that you share this email along with the attached PDF to relevant commands across the Navy and Marine Corps. This is a 13-credit graduate certificate at no-cost to Navy and Marine Corps active component officers.

<https://cle.nps.edu/portal/site/e2c3da46-0aa7-4699-94c1-b1ac0740d0dd>

Questions? Contact Us!
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