



Remembering an icon

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Commanding Officer's Hot Line: Ext. 4435

You can call the Captain with your question/concern. Dial 335-4435 any time, seven days a week! The purpose of the hot line (record-a-phone) is to provide all PMRF military members, families, civil service and contractor employees the opportunity to communicate directly with the CO. Some suggestions are:

- Safety suggestions/violations/unsafe practices, ideas to improve safety and promote safety awareness.
- Ways to improve morale, working or living conditions.
- Suggestions on how to save taxpayer dollars, cut costs, save energy, reduce labor man hours, etc.
- Security violations and/or recommendations for strengthening physical security and safeguarding classified information.
- Any positive things (events, programs, policies, benefits, etc.) that you feel are particularly good.
- Any negative things you feel should have the CO's attention.
- Suggestions for improving disaster preparedness (tsunamis, hurricanes, fires, etc.)

You need not identify yourself to leave a message, but if you would like a staffed response, please do so. If reporting a problem, please try to recommend a workable solution. Some of the questions or problems reported will be answered in the Within Range.

A good point of contact for issues involving Navy families is the PMRF Ombudsman, Victoria Diendorf who can be reached at: Cell 635-5364 or email at pmrfombudsman@yahoo.com.

And, remember the chain of command. Your first step with a suggestion should be to try it out on those you work with or the personal responsible for the department.



Tam Tran, range systems department head, pleads with PMRF security personnel, before being thrown on the ground, that RSS was NOT on the list of banned websites. Photo by MC2 Mathew J. Diendorf.

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Within Range is published monthly by the Pacific Missile Range Facility Public Affairs Office. Questions, concerns and comments can be directed to the Editor at stefan.alford@navy.mil or mathew.diendorf@navy.mil.

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PMRF icon leaves lasting memories

By Stefan Alford

The Pacific Missile Range Facility family suffered the tragic loss of its longest continually-employed team member when Administration Officer Sharon Yamagata passed away unexpectedly Aug. 23.

A base-wide memorial service is planned Monday, Sept. 15, at 11 a.m. in the hangar.

Sharon had worked at PMRF since May 1967, after graduating from the University of Hawaii at Manoa with a degree in business administration.

"She was a leader, friend, mentor and more to countless PMRF employees over the last 45 years and will be sorely missed," wrote Capt. Bruce Hay, commanding officer, in a message to all base employees.

Sharon leaves behind a legacy of service for the Navy, and remembrances for many whose lives she touched here.

"When I came to PMRF in July 1967, Sharon was already here working for the government," recalled Eleanor Ragasa, general services supervisor with base contractor Manu Kai. "There were only about 27 government personnel working and I was working for the contractor with approximately 200 personnel. Sharon would call on me on various occasions for help whereby she had me doing all the command's base orienta-



Sharon Yamagata, circa 1985, at PMRF

tions. I drove around the base with visitors and new employees."

"Sharon, as we all know, was a determined person," Ragasa continued. "What Sharon wanted, Sharon got and I learned early on not to disagree with her. This is how we became personal friends. Together we planned (social) activities for the base. We had get-togethers every Friday after work for both government and contractor supervisors. This was the good old days when we together solved the weekly problems. She and I belonged to the Busi-

ness and Professional Women's Club and traveled around for conventions. I will miss her as a friend and associate and will always remember her famous words to me, 'We can do it Miss Ely.' And we did."

PMRF Human Resources Officer Marie Paiste worked with Sharon in the administration section for the past 20 years and remembered her as "very giving."

"She would always take us out to lunch or cook lunch for us once a week," said Paiste.

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Congratulations to PMRF's newly selected Chiefs

Chief Fire Controlman (Select) Joshua Nash and Chief Electronics Technician (Select) Chad Morris, pose for a photo before going to Oahu to participate in Chief Induction events with all CPO selects in Navy Region Hawaii. Photo By MC2 Mathew J. Diendorf.

Shearwater fallout season begins Sept. 15

By Stefan Alford

September 15 marks the official start of the 2014 shearwater fallout season, which runs through Dec. 15.

Last year's efforts to mitigate fallout of the Newell's shearwater and Hawaiian Petrel seabirds resulted in a 100 percent success rate at the base, and led to recognition by the County of Kauai for the base's natural resources efforts. The achievement was also one of the reasons that PMRF was awarded the prestigious Secretary of the

Navy environmental award for best natural resources program for small installations.

"No fallout of birds in 2013 was the first season in over 10 years that we have not recorded a single bird down," said John Burger, PMRF Range Complex Sustainment Coordinator, who attributes the success to "the net result of physical changes, combined with an educational outreach program to PMRF's Ohana and guests on Barking Sands, that resulted in zero fallout."

Each night from approximately

mid-September to mid-December, hundreds to thousands of young shearwaters that have recently hatched in the mountains and along the coast of Kauai will be taking flight for the first time as they leave their nests behind and fly out to sea, explained Tom Savre, PMRF Natural Resources Biologist.

Unfortunately, many of Kauai's young shearwaters may not make it to the open ocean on their inaugural flight as they will

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"She was an excellent baker. That's why we are all healthy here in admin. She would always bring in a cake and other goodies for our birthdays -- sometimes two months in advance because she had our birthdays listed wrong on her calendar. But that was okay, we got to enjoy her delicious desserts more often."

"Sharon was a very caring and loving person," added Steven Niau, PMRF range control coordinator, who was a Class of 1962 Waimea High School classmate of Sharon's. "She was full of charm with an outgoing personality, that's

what made her cheerleader of the year in high school. Everyone that got to know her, loved her."

Another longtime friend and PMRF employee shared her thoughts as well.

"Sharon and I were also Class of 1962 at Waimea High School, and we worked in admin back in the 70's," said Pauline Kupo, now a general supply specialist who has been employed at PMRF since May 1970. "Although I moved to other departments, we still maintained a close working, as well as personal relationship. She was a great cook and baker and loved sharing her ono goodies -- cakes, mochi,

prune mui, and dips.

"Her family was her pride and joy and she loved providing the best for them," Kupo added. "She loved her work and when we spoke last she told me she would work for two more years before retiring. She was truly an icon at Admin and PMRF and we are grateful for her services and devotion to duty.

"She loved to sing 'Aloha 'Oe' for dear friends leaving our shores for other assignments or retiring and now it's our turn to bid her fond farewell and aloha," said Kupo. "She is already missed."

PACIFIC MISSILE RANGE FACILITY PRESENTS

THE 239th NAVY BALL

Oct. 10, 2014

Grand Hyatt Ball Room, Poipu

5:30 p.m. to midnight

To purchase tickets contact:

LT Tegegne	335-4732
LT Cook	335-4982
ASC Gillig	335-7953
HT2 Carlin	335-7910
MC2 Diendorf	335-4892
Keiko Puu	335-4749

Prices	
E7 and above/Civilians	\$70
E5-E6	\$35
E4 and below	Free

Formal attire for civilians, dinner dress whites jacket for officers and full dress whites for enlisted.

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have to fly over developed areas and encounter unexpected hazards.

This time of year, said Savre, is known as “shearwater fallout season” because many of the birds – now listed under the Endangered Species Act as threatened – “fall out” on the ground after collisions with tall poles, towers, high wires, or due to exhaustion after becoming disoriented by bright, artificial lights that interfere with their natural internal navigation system.

“Similar to moths around a light, the fledglings circle the area until becoming exhausted or striking an object,” said Burger. “Once on the ground, they are unable to fly because their legs are adapted for swimming – mounted too far back on the body to be able to balance and run on land. They then become targets for predators including both feral animals and domestic pets.”

PMRF has been leading the effort to follow what has already been determined as “best management practices” to cooperate in conservation efforts for these birds by:

- Minimizing the amount of external lighting used on the base, especially during fallout season (unnecessary lights are turned off and lower intensity bulbs are used where feasible);
- Replacing conventional fixtures and lamps with “dark sky compliant” fixtures and LEDs, protecting bird and saving energy at the same time.



The Deputy Assistant Secretary of the Navy (Installations and Environmental) Donald Schregardus presents the Secretary of the Navy Natural Resources Award (small installation) to PMRF Executive Officer, Cmdr. Mark Johnson, and the environmental team, Sept. 9. Photo by MC2 Mathew J. Diendorf.

- Switching to green lights where other options are not practicable, as they have been shown to cause less disorientation for birds flying at night than full spectrum lights;

- Shielding and redirecting lights to eliminate skyward light pollution as light sources that are not visible from above are less likely to cause problems for birds flying overhead;

- Collecting all seabirds that fall out on base and keeping records on where and when the birds were found (live birds can be rehabilitated and released and information about where the birds were found can help identify possible problem areas to fix);

- Providing an SOS (Save Our Shearwaters) aid station on base (near the main gate on Tartar Drive) to allow people to drop off any grounded birds that they find; and

- Coordinating and participating in banding training for SOS seasonal staff at the Beach Cottages Wedge-tailed Shearwater nesting colony.

The Wedge-tailed Shearwaters that nest on base are not catego-

rized as “threatened” like the Newell’s shearwater and Hawaiian petrel, but are still protected under the migratory bird treaty act. PMRF continues to provide support for these birds by fencing off nesting areas, conducting predator control base-wide for stray animals, educating employees and visitors to the base to minimize accidental crushing of their burrows in the sand, and previously mentioned light reduction measures.

PMRF residents can help reduce the potential harm to these unique seabirds by minimizing outdoor lighting during this season and remaining vigilant for downed birds, not only on base but anywhere on island. Any live, grounded seabirds found off base can be brought to the nearest SOS Aid Station located at all fire stations around the island. For all birds found on PMRF (alive or dead) please call 335-7507 during duty hours or 346-3427 after duty hours and report the time, location and circumstances under which the bird was found.

PMRF Sailor wins top Navy public affairs award

By Stefan Alford

When the senior-ranking official in your career field calls from the Pentagon, one can't be blamed for first thinking, "Oh no, what did I do?"

But despite Mass Communications Specialist 2nd Class Mathew Diendorf's initial trepidation, the message from one-star admiral select Dawn Cutler was congratulatory.

The acting Chief of Navy Information, who leads the Navy's public affairs community of more than 2,500 communication professionals, was calling to let the PMRF Sailor know he had been selected as the service's Enlisted Public Affairs Officer of the Year.

Diendorf earned the Thompson-Ravitz Award for Excellence in Public Affairs in the individual category for his achievements in 2013, a five-month portion of which he filled the role as the installation's PAO while the civilian position was vacant.

"It was a shock," he said of the call, having forgotten all about the submission forwarded by his supervisor in February. "I do remember telling (PMRF PAO) Stefan (Alford) not to even bother when he was writing the nomination package because it seemed like a waste of time."

The reason for his skepti-



MC2 Mathew Diendorf talks to students at St. Theresa's Elementary School about being a naval photographer during a career day event. Photo by Stefan Alford.

cism wasn't based on duty performance, but because previous winners have all been several enlisted ranks higher than Diendorf.

"I knew he deserved it and had a great chance," said Alford. "Despite the rank disparity, he had not only run the office by himself for the first part of the year, but he'd also been involved in some high-profile, high-visibility missions here with the likes of NASA and the Missile Defense Agency."

In fact, the first sentence of Diendorf's award nomination read: "Single-handedly ran

the public affairs operations of the world's largest, multi-instrumented training and test range to garner positive publicity for multi-million dollar Department of Defense programs in national and international media markets."

While 11 unit-level awards are presented, only three individual selections are made for the categories of best public affairs junior officer, junior civilian and enlisted.

"These awards recognize

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PMRF security trains for active shooter



Master-at-Arms Seaman Brian Walters, right, Master-at-Arms 3rd Class Joshua Duff, left, and Master-at-Arms 2nd Class James Caudill, respond to an active shooter scenario during a recent training exercise. The exercise was part of Citadel Pacific 2014, a four-day training event designed to enhance the training and threat response readiness of Navy security forces worldwide to installations and units. (U.S. Navy Photo by Mass Communication Specialist 2nd Class Mathew J. Diendorf/Released)



Above: PMRF Assistant Fire Chief Janice Kimata coordinates building evacuation response procedures with Master-at-Arms 2nd Class Brittney Kellerman, center, and Master-at-Arms 1st Class Sigfredo Callazo, during the active shooter scenario during Exercise Citadel Pacific 2014. Right: Master-at-Arms 3rd Class Joshua Duff, provides security while Master-at-Arms Seaman Anthony Clugston searches a suspect during the active shooter drill. The four day Navy-wide training exercise focused on threat response readiness of Navy security forces to installations and units (U.S. Navy Photos by Mass Communication Specialist 2nd Class Mathew J. Diendorf/Released)



RIMPAC Concludes with Enhanced Cooperation among Nations

By MC2 John Sorensen

The world's largest international maritime exercise, Rim of the Pacific (RIMPAC) 2014, concluded with the participation of 22 nations, 49 surface ships, six submarines, more than 200 aircraft and 25,000 personnel in and around the Hawaiian Islands and Southern California, August 1.

Hosted by U.S. Pacific Fleet, RIMPAC 2014 was led by U.S. Vice Adm. Kenneth Floyd, commander of the U.S. 3rd Fleet (C3F), serving as the combined task force (CTF) commander. RIMPAC is designed to enhance cooperation of the combined forces and improve individual war fighting competencies.

"The relationships that are forged at RIMPAC span oceans and years," said Floyd. "RIMPAC is a unique opportunity for us to get to know each other, to train together, and provide some level of trust when we are out on the high seas together in the future. It is the only exercise that can do so to this scale."

This year's exercise included units and personnel from Australia, Brunei, Canada, Chile, Colombia, France, India, Indonesia, Japan, Malaysia, Mexico, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, People's Republic of China, Peru, the Republic of Korea, the Republic of the Philippines, Singapore, Tonga, the United Kingdom and the United States. The training syllabus included



JOINT BASE PEARL HARBOR-HICKAM, Hawaii (July 15, 2014) People's Liberation Army (Navy) medical officers and Sailors man the rails as the Military Sealift Command hospital ship USNS Mercy gets underway from Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam during Rim of the Pacific (RIMPAC) Exercise 2014. (U.S. Navy photo by Mass Communication Specialist 3rd Class Pyoung K. Yi/Released)

amphibious operations, gunnery, missile, anti-submarine, and air defense exercises, as well as military medicine, humanitarian assistance and disaster response, counter-piracy, mine clearance operations, explosive ordnance disposal, and diving and salvage operations.

Royal Australian Navy Rear Adm. Simon Cullen, CTF deputy commander, said RIMPAC helped international participants hone the skills that are critical to ensuring the safety of sea lanes and security on the world's oceans.

"This was an opportunity for the participating nations to take advantage of the excellent training infrastructure and ranges that are available in the Hawaiian Islands," Cullen said. "It enabled individual units to conduct

training that they could not otherwise have in their own waters."

RIMPAC 2014 marked the first time that Japan led the scenario-driven humanitarian assistance/disaster relief (HA/DR) response portion of the exercise that facilitated training and certification for expeditionary forces to respond to foreign disasters as a crisis response adaptive force.

Japan Maritime Self-Defense Force Rear Adm. Yasuki Nakahata served as commander of HA/DR operations.

"Through this exercise, we were able to show a well-coordinated effort similar to the United Nations or a civil/military coordination center and

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Navy Families Get More Time on Overseas Screening

From Navy Personnel Command
Public Affairs MILLINGTON, Tenn

Life just got easier for Navy families going overseas with their Sailor with the release of a Navy message Sept. 3.

Previously Sailors and their families had to wait for hard-copy orders to start their overseas screening. Now a Letter of Intent (LOI) will allow them to start the process.

“A working group was convened to evaluate the current overseas screening process and it came up with some recommendations.

They recommended Navy Personnel Command issue a Letter of Intent (LOI) once a Sailor is identified for an overseas billet,” said Capt. Chris Harris, director, Distribution Management. “The LOI would go to the Sailor’s command and allows the Sailor and dependents to begin the overseas screening process immediately, instead of waiting for orders.”

According to NAVADMIN 203/14, official orders will not be released until by Navy Personnel Command (NPC) until screening is complete and the Sailor and

family members are eligible. Sailors have to complete overseas screening within 30 days of receiving the LOI. Their families have 60 days. If they don’t complete the screening within that window, they will automatically be considered for reassignment to a needs-of-the-Navy assignment.

“We know that delays are sometimes unavoidable, due to circumstances beyond a Sailor’s control, so waiver requests will be considered by NPC,” said Harris.

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conduct our mission with all pertinence. This is a great step forward for all of Japan and a great impact to an international society,” Nakahata said.

RIMPAC 2014 had two new participants this year, Brunei and the People’s Republic of China. Additionally, RIMPAC participants who sent a ship

for the first time to participate in RIMPAC 2014 included Colombia, India, Indonesia and Norway. This year also marked the first time hospital ships participated in RIMPAC. The Chinese hospital ship, Peace Ark, and USNS Mercy (T-AH 19) conducted personnel exchanges, military medicine exchanges and medical evacuation and

mass casualty training, further highlighting the valuable capability hospital ships bring to the Pacific.

With the theme of “capable, adaptive partners” participating nations at RIMPAC 2014 demonstrated the flexibility of maritime forces to meet regional and global challenges for mutual benefit.



PACIFIC OCEAN (July 25, 2014) Forty-two ships and submarines representing 15 international partner nations maneuver into a close formation during Rim of the Pacific (RIMPAC) 2014. (U.S. Navy photo by Mass Communication Specialist 1st Class Shannon Renfro/Released)

County of Kauai News

PMRF Donates to local food drive

Kauai Independent Food Bank member Rizaldy Polentino helps load PMRF-donated food items as Naval Aircrewman (Helicopter) First Class Johnathan Weiss organizes the boxes in the KIFD van. PMRF employees donated approximately 600 lbs. of food for local distribution to the annual "Feds Feed Families" campaign that ended Aug. 28. The food drive was sponsored by the KIFD and collected just under 1,000 lbs. total island-wide. Assisting with the efforts were PMRF representatives Carlo Salvador and LesLee Aki. (Photo by MC2 Mathew J. Diendorf.)



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the most exceptional performance by individuals and public affairs teams throughout the Navy and reflect the quality of our community," said Cutler in a message announcing the results to all Navy public affairs professionals worldwide in early August. "These winners truly distinguished themselves among their peers in 2013."

As the deputy PAO at Kauai's Navy base, Diendorf is primarily responsible for the installation's community outreach program – organizing tours of the

base for various civic groups and local schools, setting up Career Day fairs and speakers to promote high-tech jobs available on the island, and coordinating the hands-on volunteer efforts of PMRF employees to assist local non-profits such as Habitat for Humanity and the National Tropical Botanical Gardens.

He also serves as the base's official photographer and editor of the monthly newsletter, "Within Range," as well as helping to update PMRF's public website and social media applications.

"We are extremely proud of the talents and expertise of all of our PMRF ohana, mili-

tary and civilian, and Mat's award is another example of the hard-working, dedicated professionals that make up our team," said Capt. Bruce W. Hay, commanding officer.

"I take a lot of pride in everything PMRF does in the community," said Diendorf. "Our Sailors and employees are doing everything from coaching football, baseball and soccer, to mentoring children in sea scouts and boys and girls clubs. It truly is an honor to receive this award and I'm just happy to be a part of it."

Wish you were here - Photos from the Fleet



ARABIAN GULF (Sept. 4, 2014) Naval Aircrewman (Helicopter) 3rd Class Mitchell D. Crowther, from Perryville, Md., ascends into a UH-1Y Huey Venom utility helicopter after leaping into the water to simulate a rescue. The aircrew is embarked aboard the amphibious assault ship USS Bataan (LHD 5). Bataan is the flagship for the Bataan Amphibious Ready Group and, with the embarked 22nd Marine Expeditionary Unit (22nd MEU) is deployed in support of maritime security operations and theater security cooperation efforts in the U.S. 5th Fleet area of responsibility. (U.S. Navy photo by Mass Communication Specialist Seaman Michael A. Fiorillo/Released)

GAGAN, Marshall Islands (Sept. 6, 2014) Construction Mechanic 2nd Class Daniel Nichols, assigned to Underwater Construction Team (UCT) 2, observes a retrieval line fed through a horizontally directional drilled conduit at the Kwajalein Missile Impact Scoring System Range. The UCT-2 Construction Dive Detachment Alfa is on a deployment to the Pacific conducting inspection, maintenance, and repair of various underwater and waterfront facilities in support of the U.S. Pacific Fleet. (U.S. Navy photo by Equipment Operator 1st Class Leroy Schnathorst/Released)



CALLAO, Peru (Sept. 1, 2014) Sailors and Marines from the future amphibious assault ship USS America (LHA 6) rugby team move the ball down field during a match against the Peruvian navy. America is traveling through the U.S. Southern Command and U.S. 4th Fleet area of responsibility on her maiden transit. The ship is scheduled to be commissioned Oct. 11 in San Francisco. (U.S. Navy photo by Mass Communication Specialist 2nd Class Ryan Riley/Released)