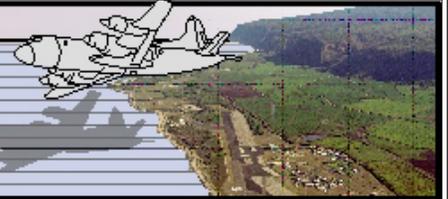


# Within Range



Vol. 10 No. 1

Pacific Missile Range Facility

Monday, February 11, 2013

## PMRF WRB Pulls up Possible Tsunami Debris off Nohili Point

*U.S. Navy Story by MC2 Matt Dierdorf.*

Military targets aren't the only things the Weapon Recovery Boat (WRB) teams are pulling out of the waters at the Pacific Missile Range Facility (PMRF). On January 18th while supporting a Seaborne Powered Target (SEPTAR) mission, WRB-102 recovered a Japanese buoy roughly 2 nautical miles west of Nohili Point.

"From a distance we could see something floating in the water and it wasn't moving," said WRB 102's captain, Bob Ryder. "As we got closer we thought it was a capsized boat. We continued to get closer and saw that it had Japanese writing on the side." Ryder radioed into PMRF's range operations to inform them of the find. The WRB team determined that the floating buoy posed a navigational hazard so they reversed up to the buoy and used the same recovery procedures they would use with recovering a training target. "Our boat has a tailgate that we drop to recover training targets," said Matt Munar, the boat engineer. "We lowered that, hooked up a winch to the buoy and pulled it into our well-deck."

After the recovery the crew carried on with their mission. "We tried to translate the Japanese text by using the internet on our smartphones," said Ed Horner, WRB 102 advance crewman, "but we could only find a few words."



*Photo by Dennis Rowley*

Upon returning to Port Allen, the team's crane operator hoisted the buoy off the boat and onto the pier, where it was wrapped in plastic to protect against the introduction of any unknown invasive species. Dennis Rowley, Range Complex Sustainment Coordinator at PMRF, was notified and took photographs and samples of the barnacles attached to the buoy for testing. The photos were sent to the Department of Land and Natural Resources (DLNR) and National Oceanic Atmospheric Administration (NOAA). Subsequently, additional samples were collected by John Burger, also a Range Complex Sustainment Coordinator at PMRF, as directed by NOAA staff, preserved, and forwarded to NOAA for identification.

PMRF has been informed by NOAA about the origin and type of marine growths found on the buoy, and that they seem to be consis-

tent with other growths that can be traced back to other recovered Japanese tsunami debris. "At least one species, though being alien to Hawaii, was not a potential concern following recovery of the buoy," said Burger. "This is attributed to the onboard security by the WRB crew, who encased the buoy in plastic immediately after docking and relocated it to a secure location away from the pier."

NOAA sent the photo of the inscription to the Japanese Consulate. Rowley said. "They informed us that the buoy was in fact Japanese, and came from Onahama port of Fukushima.

There is no solid evidence that it was part of the tsunami debris, but it is a possibility." PMRF's security department scanned the buoy for radiation and it was

***Buoy, Contd. on Page 3***

## Commanding Officer's Hot Line: Ext. 4435

You can call the Captain with your question/concern too. Dial 335-4435 any time, seven days a week! The purpose of the hotline (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 [pmrfoambudsman@yahoo.com](mailto:pmrfoambudsman@yahoo.com).



P  
M  
R  
F  
  
S  
n  
a  
p  
s  
h  
o  
t

***“You leave and I’m going to ring your neck!” Manu Kai Program Manager, Jim Eken demonstrates his feelings about Barking Sand’s Fire Chief Manuel Neves’ selection as the new Honolulu Fire Chief.***

*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 [tom.clements@navy.mil](mailto:tom.clements@navy.mil) or [mathew.diendorf@navy.mil](mailto:mathew.diendorf@navy.mil).

**Commanding Officer:** Capt. Nicholas Mongillo  
**Senior Enlisted Leader:** HMC James Oglesby  
**Editor:** Tom Clements

**Executive Officer:** Cmdr. Garron Morris  
**Staff:** MC2(NAO/AW) Mathew J. Diendorf

**Buoy, Contd. from Page 1**

determined to be within normal levels and not a hazard to human health.

Since the March 11, 2011 tsunami in Japan, different debris has washed ashore along the beaches of Hawaii and the west coast of the United States.

"Most of the light-windage debris (objects that have a high proportion of their mass above the water line) has already washed ashore on the northwest coast of the United States," said Larissa Leroux, Outreach Specialist for the International Pacific Research Center at the University of Hawaii's School of Ocean and Earth Science and Technology.

"What we're seeing now is the intermediate-windage debris



Photo by Dennis Rowley

that is re-circulating westward and hitting the Hawaiian Islands. It is expected to continue for the next six months or longer. The low-

windage items are still drifting toward the northwest coast, and little is known about these items."

## Opportunities Amidst Fiscal Challenges

By Rear Adm. Frank Ponds

Commander, Navy Region Hawaii and Naval Surface Group Middle Pacific Senior Navy Leaders are addressing the challenges of a year-long Continuing Resolution.

Last week, Chief of Naval Operations Adm. Jonathan Greenert provided guidance on near-term, reversible actions being taken now. In March the Navy also faces the possibility of significant additional budget reductions because of sequestration.

At MIDPAC we are belt-tightening by planning for delayed ship maintenance of the guided-missile destroyer USS Chafee, expected to defer \$35 million in costs this fiscal year. Although this needed maintenance may have to be postponed, planning for the work will continue so we can recover quickly when fund-

ing is provided by Congress.

Fuel costs are one of our greatest expenditures, so we will also look for more ways to conserve, optimize and innovate our operations and training on the waterfront. We need everyone's help as we look for ways to save – without impacting mission readiness or force protection. The Navy in Hawaii continues to be a leader in renewable energy and conservation of resources, and we need to continue the momentum where we can.

As we balance ship operations, flying hours and general training in the face of possible sequestration, Navy leaders are acutely aware of the hidden costs these measures bring.

In his guidance published Jan. 25, the CNO made it clear that we must "preserve overseas and forward-deployed readiness to the maximum extent possible." That means our stateside installations

may feel a brunt of the budget shortfalls.

Until Congress passes an appropriations spending bill, we must take action immediately to reduce obligation rates of the Navy's operation and maintenance (OMN) account at both Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam and PMRF.

In headlines and news stories, we see words like "cancel," "curtail," "defer," "freeze" and "furlough" – with speculation of what may lie ahead for the remainder of this fiscal year. So, it is imperative we all stay aware and informed. We need clear facts about the current situation and plans to deal with potential budget shortfalls that may affect every region, including ours.

Vice Adm. William French, Commander, Navy Installations

**Resolution, Contd. on Page 4**

### ***Resolution, Contd. from Page 3***

Command, recently directed region commanders to review base operating support contracts; defer phased maintenance; limit contract support services; defer vehicle maintenance; and curtail all regional facility sustainment, restoration and modernization projects until further notice. He authorized a civilian employee hiring freeze, reduction in temporary employee levels, and suspension of non-mission-essential travel.

Regions are to plan for a possible government-wide furlough of civilian personnel that might be one-day-per-week starting in April. Such furloughs, should they become necessary, would be centrally managed by DOD, and we would follow their guidance.

Vice Adm. French made it clear that we must target reductions to all available service and procurement contracts to the maximum extent possible before civilian

furloughs will be considered.

Non-appropriated fund (NAF) activities are not directly involved in the continuing resolution and are exempt from proposed furlough actions, but there may be an impact to many NAF operations if there is reduced patronage and revenue.

All of these plans and discussions are measured and prudent, near-term and reversible. They are steps we must consider now, especially in the face of fiscal uncertainty in the future. They affect our waterfront and shore-front operations, including Pearl Harbor Naval Shipyard and other tenant commands.

The Department of the Navy is not alone in this challenge. The other services are being forced to take belt-tightening initiatives, too.

Fortunately, our top civilian and military leaders recognize that we are in the center of our Navy's efforts to rebalance in the Pacific. Navy Region Hawaii and Naval Surface Group Middle Pacific

have critical mission-essential responsibilities for warfighting readiness. Our leaders know we must maintain our capability to operate forward while supporting fleet, fighter and family.

The CNO has asked for our "cooperation and collaboration" in meeting the budgetary challenges ahead. He and CNIC have pledged to keep us all informed. I ask that each of you take the initiative to learn more on your own about what Congress is doing to pass an appropriations bill to fully fund the FY13 National Defense Authorization Act. Learn more by visiting the Navy Live blog (<http://navylive.dodlive.mil/>) or other Navy.mil and Defense.gov sites. Read updates in Ho'okele. Stay informed, engaged and involved as we meet these challenges together.

Thank you for your ongoing support on behalf of our entire Navy ohana in Hawaii.

## **PMRF Fire Chief Neves Named the New Honolulu Fire Chief**



*Story and Photos by MC2 Matt Diendorf*

Barking Sands Fire Chief Manuel Neves was presented with a certificate of appreciation from Manu Kai program manager, Jim Eken, on February 5th, recognizing his tenure at PMRF. "In recognition of your commitment to excellence in support of the Pacific Missile Range Facility and Manu Kai operations



and maintenance contract, your subject matter expertise and capable leadership offered clear testimony to Manu Kai doing essential things in extraordinary ways," stated the certificate.

The Honolulu Fire Commission announced that Neves was selected to be Honolulu's next Fire Chief, effective February 16.

"The relationships we have established here at PMRF between the Navy, Federal Government and Manu Kai truly embraces the Hawaiian concept of 'Lokahi,'" said Neves. "We have created unity through harmony and balance by working together to surpass the established service objectives. I will miss the relationships, both personal and professional. Though short, I have truly enjoyed my stay here at PMRF."

Neves entered the fire service with the Honolulu Fire Department in 1979. He worked his way up the ranks as fire fighter, captain and battalion chief, before becoming an assistant chief in 2006. Neves became the Barking Sands Fire Chief in 2011.



**EAT TUESDAY**

**SOCIAL HOUR**

**AT**

**SHENANIGANS**

**TUESDAY**

**FEB 12<sup>TH</sup>**

**4:30-6:30**

**GAMES, PRIZES & GREAT PUPU'S**

**For More Info Call 335-4346**



# Valentine's Day Prime Rib Buffet

## Thursday, February 14th

5:00pm-9:00pm

Adults = \$28.00 / 10-14 yrs = \$18.00 / 5-9 yrs = \$12

Mick's famous Prime Rib

Crab Laced Ono

Chicken Marsala

Steamed Rice

Buttery Herbed Pasta

Oven Roasted Potatoes

Salad Bar

Dinner Rolls

Chef's choice Soup of the day

Assorted Desserts

*Modified Menu: Pizza & desserts*

Reservations highly recommended. Please call 808-335-4708 M-F (8:30am-4pm) or 808-335-4706 between

4pm-8:30pm to make a reservation.

# NI'HAU SWIM CHALLENGE



**FEBRUARY 01 – APRIL 01, 2013**  
**Niihau Swim Challenge**

MWR wants to encourage patrons to get in the pool, stay in shape and give more incentive to do some cross-training. Plus participants will earn a nice hoodie/sweat-shirt for their effort.

This challenge will be demanding but is

still attainable and participants will reap the benefits of cross-training by adding a full body, non impact activity to their routine.

Participants will have until April 1 to complete the distance of 17 miles, which is 749 laps. MWR will also allow use of the rower in the gym (using the rower will require more distance).

**Additional pool hours:** To help achieve this challenge MWR will open the pool on Tue, Wed, and Thu, mornings from 7 to 8 a.m. for Niihau Challenge participants.

Sign up now at the Fitness Center @ 335-4379

## Safety Corner - Baseball and Softball Season



SACRAMENTO, Calif. (July 22, 2012) Lt. j.g. Daniel Glenn, assigned to Explosive Ordnance Disposal Mobile Unit (EODMU) 3, throws the honorary first pitch at a Sacramento River Cats baseball game while wearing a bomb suit during Sacramento Navy Week. Sacramento Navy Week is one of 15 Navy weeks planned across America for 2012. Navy weeks are designed to show the investment Americans have made in their Navy and increase awareness in cities that do not have a significant Navy presence. (U.S. Navy photo by Mass Communication Specialist 2nd Class Daniel Stevenson/Released)

**Pitching Too Long or Too Many Innings** -- Many injuries occur from excessive pitching. Most organized baseball leagues have guidelines about the number of innings that can be pitched, usually based on the player's age. While there is no concrete guideline for the number of pitches allowed, a reasonable approach is to count the number of pitches thrown and use 80 to 100 pitches as a maximum in a game, and 30 to 40 pitches in a practice. Any persistent pain should disqualify a person from playing until pain subsides.

**Protective gear** -- Protective equipment is one of the most important factors in mini-

mizing the risk of injury in baseball. This equipment must fit properly and be worn correctly.

- Wear a batting helmet at the plate, when waiting a turn at bat, and when running bases.

- Face masks that are attached to batting helmets are available in some youth leagues. These devices can help reduce the risk of a serious facial injury if hit by a ball.

- The catcher must always use a catcher's mitt. If you play another position, ask your coach about specific size requirements for your mitt.

- Catchers should always wear a helmet, face mask, throat guard, long-model chest protector, protective supporter, and shin guards when catching batting practice

and during games.

- Most youth leagues prohibit the use of shoes with steel spikes. Instead, wear molded, cleated baseball shoes.

- Inspect the playing field for holes, glass, rocks, and other debris.

- Stay in condition year-round with some form of regular exercise. Start with something as simple as brisk walking.

- Someone (a teammate, referee or spectator) should know first aid. Make sure someone on your team carries first aid equipment, particularly ice or ice packs.

**Warm up** - Don't go straight from your car onto the field. Arrive early and warm up with a walk or an easy jog. With sports where there are bursts of vigorous activity interspersed with inactivity, it's a good idea to move around or stretch during the idle periods.

- Stretch before the game, but not when your muscles are cold. Warm up a little first, then stretch gently. Afterwards, if you have had a vigorous workout, you can stretch more intensely. Learn stretches that are appropriate for your sport.

- Drink plenty of water or other fluids such as sports drinks during and after the game.

- If you start to feel pain, discomfort or fatigue, get your coach to put in a substitute. Don't overdo it.

## Wish you were here - Photos from the Fleet

*PASO ROBLES, Calif. (Jan. 30, 2013) Builder Constructionman William Reaws, assigned to Naval Mobile Construction Battalion (NMCB) 3, readies 40mm grenades to fire from the Mk19 grenade launcher during a weapons qualifications and familiarization exercise held at Camp Roberts. Approximately 400 Seabees from NMCB 3 received training on the M240B and Mk2 .50-caliber machine guns, the Mk19 and M203 grenade launchers, and the AT4 rocket launcher in preparation for a deployment scheduled later this year. NMCB 3 provides combatant commanders and Navy component commanders with combat-ready warfighters capable of general engineering, construction and limited combat engineering across the full range of military operations. (U.S. Navy photo by Mass Communication Specialist 1st Class Chris Fahey/Released)*



*U.S. 5TH FLEET AREA OF RESPONSIBILITY (Feb. 6, 2013) Interior Communications Electrician 3rd Class Lynzi Miller practices nonlethal tactics on Cryptologic Technician (Collection) 3rd Class Laurie Volz during security reaction force basic training aboard the guided-missile destroyer USS Jason Dunham (DDG 109). Jason Dunham is deployed with the John C. Stennis Carrier Strike Group to the U.S. 5th Fleet area of responsibility conducting maritime security operations, theater security cooperation efforts and support missions for Operation Enduring Freedom. (U.S. Navy photo by Mass Communication Specialist 2nd Class Deven B. King/Released)*

*ATLANTIC OCEAN (Feb 02, 2013) Aviation Boatswain's Mate (Handling) 3rd Class Gregory Joyner braces Aviation Support Equipment Technician 2nd Class Ryan Snay as he directs an CH-53E Super Stallion helicopter assigned to Marine Medium Tiltrotor Squadron (VMM) 266 onto the flight deck of the amphibious transport dock ship USS San Antonio (LPD 17). San Antonio is participating in a composite training unit exercise (COMPTUEX) off the East Coast of the United States in preparation for a scheduled deployment this spring. (U.S. Navy photo by Mass Communication Specialist 3rd Class Lacordrick Wilson/Released)*

