



## PMRF Welcomes New Commander

Story by Stefan Alford, photos by MC2 Mathew J. Diendorf

"I relieve you." With those three words, Capt. Bruce W. Hay officially took over as commanding officer of Pacific Missile Range Facility from Capt. Nicholas Mongillo at a change of command ceremony Thursday, July 11.

Nearly 500 people gathered at the base operations hangar to say goodbye to the Mongillo family and welcome Hay and his wife Susie, including Admiral Cecil D. Haney, Commander of the U.S. Pacific Fleet; Rear Admiral Richard D. Williams, Commander of Navy Region Hawaii; and Kauai Mayor Bernard Carvalho Jr.

"I am joining an extended ohana of people who care deeply about this special and sacred place," said Hay as he became the 25th Naval officer to hold the PMRF post.

In addition to the customary change of command protocols, the ceremony featured some unique cultural traditions, such as a welcoming prayer and "permission to enter" chant to the local spirits and a hula presentation.

"This is truly special," said Admiral Haney. "You won't see this at any other Navy changes of command and it reflects the relationship between (PMRF) and the community."

The strengthening of that relationship during Mongillo's tenure was praised during the



**Capt. Bruce W. Hay (right) relieves Capt. Nicholas Mongillo as PMRF commanding officer.**

ceremony in remarks by the mayor, as well as at the reception following at Shenanigans by Kauai State Reps. Derek Kawakami and Jimmy Tokioka. They all lauded Mongillo's efforts to increase beach access along the PMRF shoreline for the public, something Hay said he encourages and plans to continue, along with being a "vocal and proactive advocate for the base and the island."

Hay added that he was "humbled (in) joining the PMRF team who built and continually improved the Navy's premier location for multi-environment fleet training. This team has also made PMRF the obvious choice for the leading edge of ballistic missile defense. I will be your greatest champion and promise to lead us well."

Leading PMRF well is something Mongillo also took to heart upon

assuming command in June 2010.

"My goal was to make PMRF better," he said, "and it is better. The facilities and capabilities are improved and we are positioned to further grow in scope and importance in the coming years. With the rebalancing of the Nation's priorities to the Pacific and Asia, PMRF is a growth industry even in these downsizing times."

But aside from the mission, in a sometimes emotional reflection on his distinguished 27-year Navy career as he prepares for retirement, Mongillo cited the Aloha spirit of Kauai in having a profound effect on him and his wife Jackie.

"We came, we listened, we

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## 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 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 [pmrfoambudsman@yahoo.com](mailto:pmrfoambudsman@yahoo.com).



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**Officers assigned to PMRF felt it was appropriate to give outgoing commanding officer, Capt. Nicholas Mongillo, a "showering" of gifts after his final flight with PMRF.**

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**Commanding Officer:** Capt. Bruce W. Hay  
**Senior Enlisted Leader:** ADCS Rolan E. Jiao  
**Editor:** Stefan Alford

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

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*Hula Halau Ka Lei Mokihana O Leina Ala performs Ike Ike One Kani A O Nohili to signify the transfer of responsibility of the Nohili area from one commander to another.*



*(Up) Capt. Bruce W. Hay gives remarks during the ceremony. (Down) Kaleo Nui performs Aloha Oe following the ceremony. Aloha Oe was sung to bid farewell to Capt. Mongillo and family.*



*(From left) Capt. Nicholas Mongillo and Capt. Bruce W. Hay salute during the national anthem.*

learned," he said. "We embraced Hawaii – the culture, traditions and history. I was a 'caretaker' of Native Hawaiian lands and worked hard to balance the community's desire for base and beach access with the requirements for force protection, safety and protection of endangered species and the environment.

"Jackie and I learned family, or 'ohana,' is key on Hawaii," he added. "Kauai is one big family and PMRF is one big family. We all work together to accomplish the mission and are thankful for the opportunity to be a part of this special place called Kauai."



# Awards at Quarters



*(Right to left) Electronics Technician 1st Class Kristin Fries is named PMRF Sailor of the Quarter. Naval Aircrewman (Mechanical) 2nd Class Michael Aguirre is named PMRF Junior Sailor of the Quarter. Master-at-Arms 1st Class Brenda Urbina is awarded her 5th Good Conduct Medal.*



*(Right to left) Hull Technician 2nd Class Tiffani Carlin is presented with a certificate for completing the Naval Security Force Sentry Course. Senior Chief Aviation Machinist's Mate Rolan Jiao is awarded the Navy and Marine Corps Commendation Medal. Cora Saligumba is presented with a Letter of Appreciation.*



*(Right to left) Marvin Minei is recognized for 10 years of government service. Kris Blackstad is recognized for 15 years of government service. Mark Marsh is recognized for 25 years of government service*

## RSAI balances security with public's right to beach access

*Story by Stefan Alford*

To accommodate future range operations, ensure safety, and guarantee continued public access to its shoreline here, PMRF has developed a Range Safety and Access Initiative.

The RSAI consists of a written policy that formalizes the existing rules for beach access, as well as a U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) proposed

modification of the current danger zone in waters of the Pacific Ocean off the Pacific Missile Range Facility (PMRF) at Barking Sands, Island of Kauai, Hawaii.

Currently, PMRF's danger zone is situated near the north launch pads, but the modification is necessary to include planned launches from a southern pad as part of the University of Hawaii and NASA's Super Strypi project.

As proposed, the danger zone would extend along approximately seven miles of shoreline adjacent to PMRF and range seaward between 2.96 and 4.16 nautical miles. The public comment period on the action was open July 1 to July 31 and USACE is now compiling the data received.

"Public access to the beaches

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# NGIS earns Four-Star Accreditation

Story and photo by Stefan Alford

The Navy Gateway Inns and Suites at PMRF recently received Four-Star accreditation following a stringent CNIC inspection by a team from the Navy Lodging Accreditation Program, CNIC Millington, Tenn., May 21.

“They were extremely pleased with the vast improvement of our program as a whole,” said Lodging Manager Erika Burton, explaining the inspections occur every two years and PMRF bettered the Three-Star rating it received in 2011.

“While we strive to obtain Five-Star status, this confirms our dedication in providing high-quality services and products,” added Burton. “This inspection is thorough. For example, they count sugar packets, cups, hangars, undo bed linen and inspect that reports are re-

viewed daily, comments on comment cards are taken for action and personnel training is current.”

The inspection team examined a number of areas, to include guest contact, housekeeping and custodial services, personnel management, financial management, logistics, and general requirements. The team specifically inspected NGIS rooms in several buildings, the front desk operations, laundry facility and storage areas, as well as speaking with the five-member staff.

Other things the inspectors note are customer service relations between staff and lodging patrons, building exteriors, grounds maintenance, trash receptacles and sign placements – as well as compliance with safety, security and health standards.



PMRF MWR employee, Lorna Dela Cruz, assists a customer at the NGIS front desk.

“Navy Gateway Inns and Suites are standardized for the most part, wherever you go,” said Burton. “I think what makes each site unique is its staff and we have a great staff here at PMRF. Our team has worked extremely hard to get where we are today. It’s a group effort,

## PMRF welcomes new NRH commander

Photo by Stefan Alford

Rear Adm. Richard L. Williams (center), commander Navy Region Hawaii, along with Vice Adm. William French (right), commander, Navy Installations Command, meets with PMRF department heads. Williams took command of Navy Region Hawaii July 10 relieving Rear Adm. Fernandez L. Ponds.



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for swimming, fishing, surfing, etc., will not be affected except during launches and training events, in line with current policy,” said former PMRF Commanding Officer Capt. Nicholas Mongillo, in initiating the action last month. He noted that such events historically occur an average of 25 times per year, from anywhere between 30 minutes to a few hours at a time. “To the general public and tour boat operators familiar with PMRF’s shoreline, beach and water access is business as usual.”

The U.S. Navy conducts missile defense activities, test missile launches, and training activities at PMRF. The modification is necessary to protect the public from hazards associated with range operations, test and training activities,

and increased force protection conditions.

Public access to the area would be provided to the maximum extent practicable as is current policy, emphasized new PMRF Commanding Officer Capt. Bruce Hay. Under the RSAI, the proposed danger zone would be closed to the public only during range operations, test and training activities, and force protection conditions that are determined to pose a hazard to the general public, which is also no change from existing policy. In addition, only those sections that might pose a hazard would be closed and not the entire shoreline, said Hay.

To strengthen agreements emphasizing the public’s right to beach access along PMRF’s shoreline, the RSAI includes an official instruction that ensures current accesses will remain in

effect to benefit all users. The written directive makes it clear that when authorizing civilian beach access, the PMRF Commanding Officer must balance four competing priorities, the first of which is public access to the beach. The other three are force protection measures, public safety during range operations, and protection of threatened and endangered animal and plant species and habitat designated as critical pursuant to the Endangered Species Act.

Various levels of public access to the beaches and water areas along PMRF’s seven-mile coastline have existed for decades.

After the Sept. 11, 2001, terrorist attacks, most civilian

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**The DOD Family Delivers  
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**01 June 2013 – 31 August 2013**

**FEDS Feed Families Campaign**

Children and Families are in great need of donated food this summer.

Starting 01 August 2013, PMRF Federal Employees (Military & Civilians) will join together to collect food for the Kauai Independent Food Bank

Please bring non-perishable food items and place them into designated boxes located at NEX, Subway, Hangar, Security, Range, Admin, Supply/Finance, Ready Supply, Range Systems, KTF, MWR Outdoor Adventure Center & North Gate

Donated items will be picked up weekly on 09, 16, 23 and 30 August 2013

NEX – Pat Huber  
Range – ADCS Jiao  
Ready Supply – Les Aki

Subway – Colleen Chandler  
Security – MA1 Muzzana  
KTF – Reuben Martinez

POC’s:

Hangar – AWS1 Weiss  
Supply/Finance – Xavier Ignacio  
MWR Outdoor Adventure Center – Lorna Dela Cruz

Admin – HMC Oglesby  
Range Systems – Neil Balason



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beach access was restricted. In 2005, PMRF introduced the Morale, Welfare and Recreation (MWR) Guest Card Program. This program allows card-holding civilians to access PMRF through the main gate, travel unrestricted to Majors Bay recreation area or Shenanigans beach restaurant, use Majors Bay and Shenanigans facilities, and access beach areas. In August

2012, PMRF further relaxed beach access along its north and south boundaries to facilitate walk-in civilian beach use.

MWR Guest Card holders will continue to enjoy Main Gate access, 365 days per year, unless heightened FPCON is in effect, said Hay. North and south beach boundary walk-in access is expected to exceed 300 days per year. PMRF estimates that the only times north and south boundary walk-in beach access will be restricted, or limited, is during

heightened FPCON levels, during hazardous range operations, or to protect endangered species.

Current beach access conditions along PMRF's shoreline can be found via a link on Facebook at: <https://www.facebook.com/#!/PacificMissileRangeFacility>

Or at the public website at: [http://www.cnrc.navy.mil/regions/cnrh/installations/pacific\\_missile\\_range\\_facility\\_barking\\_sands/om/beach-access.html](http://www.cnrc.navy.mil/regions/cnrh/installations/pacific_missile_range_facility_barking_sands/om/beach-access.html)

**Safety Corner - Sharing the road safely with school buses**



*From National Safety Council*

School buses are one of the safest forms of transportation on the road today. In fact, according to the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, riding a bus to school is 13 times safer than riding in a passenger vehicle and 10 times safer than walking to school. The reality of school bus safety is that more children are hurt outside the bus than inside as passengers. Most of the children who lose their lives in bus-related crashes are pedestrians, four to seven years old, who are hit by the bus or by motorists illegally passing a stopped school bus. For this reason, it is necessary to know the proper laws and procedures for sharing the road safely with school buses:

- All 50 states have a law making it illegal to pass a school bus that is stopped to load or unload children.
- School buses use yellow flashing lights to alert motorists that they are preparing to stop to load or unload children. Red flashing lights and an extended stop sign arm signals to motorists that the bus is stopped and children are getting on or off the bus.
- All 50 states require that traffic in both directions stop on undivided roadways when students are en-



*Photo courtesy of Corbis.com*

tering or exiting a school bus.

- While state laws vary on what is required on a divided roadway, in all cases, traffic behind the school bus (traveling in the same direction) must stop.
- The area 10 feet around a school bus is where children are in the most danger of being hit. Stop your car far enough from the bus to allow children the necessary space to safely enter and exit the bus.
- Be alert. Children are unpredictable. Children walking to or from their bus are usually very comfortable with their surroundings. This makes them more likely to take risks, ignore hazards or fail to look both ways when crossing the street.
- Never pass a school bus on the right. It is illegal and could have tragic consequences.

**PMRF changes speed limits**



Driving from the NEX toward building 105 and the operation's side of PMRF, the speed limit has been changed from 35 to 45 mph. The speed limit will then drop to 35 mph at Range Operations building and again to 25 mph after the Admin building. Once past the hangar, the speed limit changes again to 40 mph.

## Wish you were here - Photos from the Fleet



ARLINGTON, Va. (July 15, 2013) Vietnam Veteran Hospital Corpsman 3rd Class Michael B. Judd's remains are laid to rest at Arlington National Cemetery. On June 30, 1967 Judd was aboard a CH-46A Sea Knight helicopter that was lost in Thien-Hue Province, Vietnam. In 2012, joint recovery teams began excavating the crash site and recovered human remains and aircraft wreckage from the helicopter that Judd was aboard. Judd was laid to rest with full military honors. (U.S. Navy photo by Mass Communication Specialist 2nd Class Todd Frantom/Released)



MAJURO, Marshall Islands (July 12, 2013) Sailors and Marshallese children participate in aerobic exercises to promote a healthier lifestyle at Delap Park during Pacific Partnership 2013. Working at the invitation of each host nation, U.S. Navy forces are joined by non-governmental organizations and regional partners that include Australia, Canada, Colombia, France, Japan, Malaysia, Singapore, South Korea, and New Zealand to improve maritime security, conduct humanitarian assistance and strengthen disaster-response preparedness. (U.S. Navy photo by Mass Communication Specialist 2nd Class Carlos M. Vazquez II/Released)



CORAL SEA (July 15, 2013) Aviation Boatswain's Mates (Equipment) 3rd Class Ian Manosa, left, from Batangas, Philippines, and Leopoldo Rios, from Austin, Texas, inspect a buffer hook on the flight deck of the aircraft carrier USS George Washington (CVN 73) during flight operations in support of Talisman Saber 2013. Talisman Saber is a biennial training event to improve Australian Defense Force and U.S. combat readiness and interoperability as a combined Joint Task Force. (U.S. Navy photo by Mass Communication Specialist 3rd Class Paolo Bayas/Released)