

Koa Kai comes to PMRF



SEPTAR supports exercise
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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 pmrfoambudsman@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.



Chief Engineman Michael Ramsey, SEPTAR LCPO, reacts when questioned by a recent tour group on the cost of the SEPTAR boats, how fast they can go, what their range is, how the antennas work... "Gees, I don't know, I'm retiring soon... I just did a brain dump on all that info so I can study up on the Wal-Mart Greeter's Manual." Photo by Stefan Alford.

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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.

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

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

PMRF program to reduce bird fallout a success

By Stefan Alford

The Shearwater Fallout Season, Sept. 15 – Dec. 15, concluded at PMRF with an impressive achievement – a 100 percent reduction in fallout of the Newell’s shearwater and Hawaiian Petrel seabirds.

“No fallout of birds in 2013 is 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 over 80 percent reduction in fallout in 2012, and now zero fallout this season.”

The physical changes included full implementation of a “dark sky” program that improved lighting conditions so that the birds would be less distracted.

“Because these birds leave the nest – or fledge – for the first time at night, they have no practice flights,” explained Burger. “It’s all or nothing, and the inland-dwelling species may have to fly several miles to reach the ocean where they can land and rest. Their navigation systems utilize moon and starlight, and the presence of unshielded and intense coastal lighting along their flyways results in confusion and disorientation.



Lights used to reduce bird fallout in a parking lot at PMRF. Photo by John Burger.

Similar to moths around a light, the fledglings circle the area until becoming exhausted or striking an object. 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.”

Lighting improvements were coordinated with energy conservation initiatives – converting from conventional lamps to LEDs, using full-cutoff fixtures to prevent viewing of the light source from above. This resulted in a “dark sky” combined with energy savings, said Burger. Solar powered fixtures are also full-cutoff design and horizontally mounted. Where high-wattage fixtures mounted above the horizontal are required for safety or security, they are equipped with “green” lamps.

“Kauai has the largest population of ground-nesting seabirds in the main Hawaiian Islands,”

said Burger. “Both Migratory Bird Treaty Act (MBTA) and ESA-protected species of shearwaters nest on Kauai, as well as petrels.”

Both the Newell’s and Hawaiian Petrel are listed under the Endangered Species Act (ESA) as ‘Threatened’ -- just one step above “Endangered” and two steps above extinction, explained Burger.

“This issue has always been about lights, poles, towers and wires distracting, injuring, or killing inexperienced, fledgling seabirds dropping out of their nests typically between Sept. 15 and Dec. 15 each year,” added Burger.

PMRF has been leading the effort to follow what has already been determined to be “best management practices,” while concurrently testing potential strategies to further reduce fallout.

“Anyone who has driven on Barking Sands after dusk has observed the various loca-

Shearwaters, continued Page 5



PMRF helps train Army, Marines during exercise

By PMRF Public Affairs, photos by MC2 Mathew J. Diendorf

Pacific Missile Range Facility members and equipment participated in the integrated maritime exercise Koa Kai 14-1, Jan. 24 - 31.

PMRF's airfield was used as a forward staging base for the U.S. Army's 25th Cavalry Artillery Brigade (CAB) and Marine Corps units conducting helicopter operations. In addition, portions of the water range were used by Navy surface ships, and PMRF's Seaborne Powered Target (SEPTAR) boats played a key role in the week-long training.

SEPTAR used five High Speed Maneuverable Surface Targets (HSMST) to act as ad-

Seaborne Powered Target Division (SEPTAR) Sailors assigned to the Pacific Missile Range Facility, brief a strait transit training exercise with multiple U.S. Navy ships during exercise Koa Kai. Photo by Mass Communication Specialist Mathew J. Diendorf.

versaries during two strait transit exercises. Transit exercises are designed to test the participating ships ability to navigate safely, while also dealing with threats that could be encountered transiting straits in hostile waters. During the transit, the ships were confronted with multiple possible threats, including low-flying aircraft and small boats.

"The HSMST is a great tool to use in transit exercises," said Boatswain's Mate 2nd Class Raymond Prevatt. "We can run 45 knots right at the ships and this gives them realistic training

for the Sailors working on the bridge, in combat systems and the security teams."

"I was stationed on a guided missile frigate and received the same training from SEPTAR out of Mayport, Fla., before being stationed here at PMRF," Prevatt said. "It gave us a realistic view of what a strait transit could be like."

SEPTAR also provided targets for live fire training to surface vessels, helicopters and fixed wing aircraft.

"We have two sizes of Low

Koa Kai, continued Page 6

PMRF, PAF partnership highlights career opportunities

By Stefan Alford

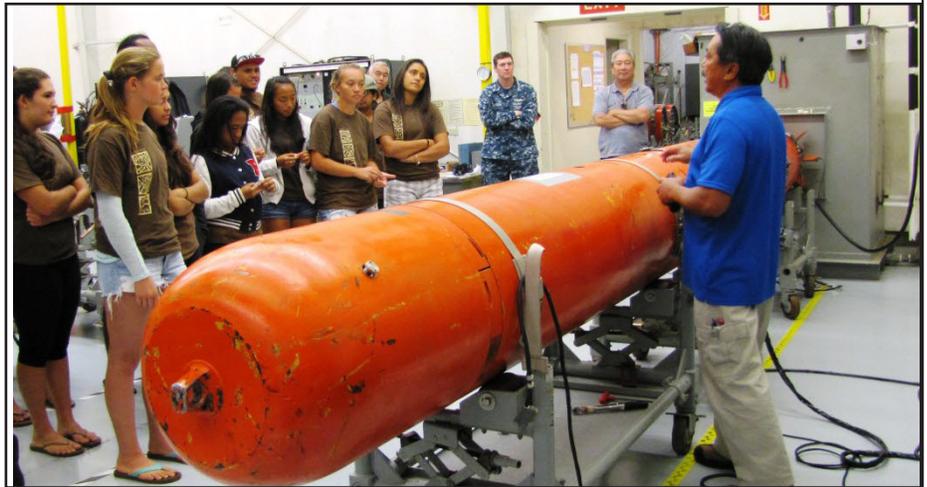
Approximately 40 Kauai charter school students at the middle and high school grade levels toured PMRF facilities during two recent visits.

The students from Kawaikini and Ke Kula Ni'ihau schools were part of Pacific American Foundation (PAF) sponsored field trips Jan. 16 and 23 designed to highlight both high-tech jobs available on Kauai and encourage them to pursue studies in STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Math) career fields.

PMRF is the largest high-tech employer on the island, and third overall with nearly 1,000 employees (behind county/state government and the tourism industry).

Since PMRF has a long tradition of employing multi-generational families, and because 50 percent of its workforce has called Kauai home for more than five years and 95 percent reside in the local community, PAF partners with the base to encourage local students to consider a high-tech career that would allow them an opportunity to stay on island.

"The Kauai Career Development Project includes engaging with some of the 750-plus civilian contractors at PMRF to learn about their pathway to where and how they got into PMRF," explained Mel Date, career development facilitator



Students from Kawaikini Charter School learn about the Navy's MK-30 underwater target from a range technician. (Courtesy photo, Maran Osakoda).

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tions where 'green lights' are installed," said Burger. "First tested in 2010, we found that while the green spectrum may be less distracting, the single most critical factor in protecting against fallout was to have the lamps at or above 175 watts installed in recessed fixtures such that the lamp was not visible from above the horizontal plane of the fixture -- flat with the ground and recessed inside."

With its reduction in the 2012 season, PMRF environmental specialists applied the lessons learned to correct problems. These changes contributed to the 100 percent success rate in 2013.

"Of the three fallouts we experienced in 2012, none were fatal and all could be attributed to high-wattage light sources (400-1,000 watts)," explained Burger. "Two were from a portable generator at Kokole Pt. that was immediately extinguished, and one was from improperly aligned full-cutoff fixtures. Following immediate corrective action, there were no more fallout events during the 2012 season."

The information and techniques employed at PMRF have been presented to conservation groups on Kauai, a conference on Oahu, and formally to the Kauai County Council to help spread awareness of PMRF's effective conservation and resource management -- both electrical and biological. PMRF has also shared its lessons learned with DoD partners in Hawaii.



Awards *Congratulations to Master-at-Arms 1st Class James Stinyard and Hull Technician 2nd Class Tiffani Carlin for being named PMRF's Sailor of the Quarter and Junior Sailor of the Quarter for 1st Quarter 2014.*

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Cost Modular Targets (LCMT), 24ft and 16ft," said Electrician's Mate 2nd Class Michelle Ramiro. "And we can set up the LCMT to be a target for many different weapons systems."

The Sailors maneuver the targets out to a designated spot on the range, hook up a 1,000 foot tow line from the HSMST to the LCMT, set the HSMST to remote control so range control can operate the vessel up to 60 miles away.

AGM-114 Hellfire, Harpoon Anti-ship missile, AGM-65 Maverick, 5-Inch 54-caliber (Mk 45) lightweight gun, and crew-served weapons are some of the weapons systems that SEPTAR configures the targets for use.



Army UH-60 Black Hawks from the 25th Combat Aviation Brigade (25th CAB) prepare to launch during exercise Koa Kai.

"Koa Kai," Hawaiian for "Sea Warrior," prepares independent deployers in multiple warfare areas, while also providing training in a multi-ship environment, according to the official release from Naval Surface Group Middle Pacific Public Affairs. Participating units conducted

integrated flight operations, anti-surface and anti-submarine training.

"Koa Kai provides an opportunity to exercise multiple warfare disciplines to ensure our ships maintain warfighting readiness

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and the capability to operate forward on short notice," said Rear Adm. Rick Williams, Commander, Naval Surface Group Middle Pacific and Navy Region Hawaii. "Koa Kai is integrated, challenging, state-of-the-art training for our sea warriors here in the Middle Pacific that helps us achieve full deployment readiness."

Williams added, "We will show, test and assess our capabilities in coordination with the Navy's premier testing and training range -- Pacific Missile Range Facility."

Hawaii-based surface combatants regularly deploy to the Asia Pacific region and often train with international partners while on deployment. Koa Kai 14-1 was led by U.S. Third Fleet with seven Hawaii-homeported surface ships, as well as two San Diego-based ships.



(TOP) SEPTAR boats assigned to PMRF wait to begin a strait transit training exercise with multiple U.S. Navy warships during exercise Koa Kai. **(BOTTOM)** A UH-1Y Venom from Marine Light Helicopter Squadron (MLHA) 367 takes off from Pacific Missile Range Facility during exercise Koa Kai.

PAF, continued from Page 5

with PAF, who has brought students to the range since 2012.

As such, the students tour areas that employ longtime Kauai residents and have an opportunity to talk with them about educational and career tracts focused on possible future employment at the base. Among the stops are aerial targets, underwater targets, the north launch pad, the C-26 aircraft and Croman helicopters in the hangar, and

the hydrophone shop.

Letting local students know about the types of possible careers available on base is something that Capt. Bruce Hay, PMRF Commanding Officer, espouses regularly to Kauai educators and public school administrators.

"If we can show them that they don't have to relocate to the mainland in order to pursue certain interests in engineering, aeronautics and other STEM-related fields, then we can hopefully attract a growing workforce of local talent and incur less job

turnover," said Hay. "We have a lot of Kauai residents that have worked here for 20, 30, 40 years or more. It's good for us and it's good for them."

"We have received great comments from the students and teachers," added Date. "This project was designed for the Kauai community. Many of the founders of PAF are retired senior military officers who are Hawaiians, and some were born and raised on Kauai. This is their way of giving back to the Hawaiian community of Kauai."

NASA offers student internships at PMRF

By Stefan Alford

NASA is looking for three local Hawaiian college students to participate as interns in the planned Low Density Supersonic Decelerators (LDSD) project here this summer.

In a message from NASA's Range Services Management Office at the Wallops Flight Facility, Va., the program is hoping to attract college sophomores or juniors from STEM-degree tracks (Science, Technology, Engineering, Math) for the launch operations internship at PMRF.

The selected college interns will support day-to-day mission operations as part of the launch operations group, according to the internship opportunity posted at: <https://intern.nasa.gov/ossi/web/public/guest/searchOpps/index.m?solarAction=view&id=8504>

Applicants can apply at the link above. The interns will also become familiar with scientific ballooning, supersonic decelerator technology, solid-fueled rocket motors, range operations, and countdown operations.

Each intern will be assigned to a mentor who will be responsible for their detailed duty assignments.

The goal of the internship is to introduce students to career possibilities within NASA and the U.S. Navy.

Students must be U.S. citizens and residents of Hawaii. Students will be responsible for their own lodging and transportation on Kauai for the duration of the internship and there is no relocation allotment associated with the internship.

John Paul Jones replaces Lake Erie

From Naval Surface Force, U.S. Pacific Fleet Public Affairs

The U.S. Navy announced Jan. 7, that USS John Paul Jones (DDG 53) will swap homeports with USS Lake Erie (CG 70) this summer. USS Preble (DDG 88) will also leave San Diego for Hawaii this summer to replace the decommissioned frigate, USS Reuben James (FFG 57).

Moving the two guided-missile destroyers to Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam will provide updated, advanced Aegis capabilities to Commander, Naval Surface Group Middle Pacific (CNSGMP). It will also allow Lake Erie, a Ticonderoga-class guided-missile cruiser, to proceed to San Diego for a scheduled, extended docking ship repair availability (EDSRA).

Lake Erie is expected to replace John Paul Jones as a rotational Ballistic Missile Defense (BMD) deployer out of San Diego once the EDSRA is complete. John Paul Jones and Preble are Arleigh Burke-class guided-missile destroyers that can operate independently and perform key roles in support of a carrier strike group, expeditionary strike group or surface action group.

John Paul Jones is currently the most technologically advanced ship within the BMD program and will be used in that capacity to support the Navy and Missile Defense Agency testing program. Recently, the ship was updated with the latest Aegis BMD capability to engage ballistic missiles with the SM-3 missile.

DDGs are capable of sustained combat operations

supporting forward presence, maritime security, sea control and deterrence. These combatants operate in a network centric warfare environment and execute multi-mission tasking to include air, surface, undersea, space and cyber warfare. DDGs coordinate with units of a task group to conduct naval operations and execute the Maritime Strategy under a naval component commander.

USS Reuben James, the last remaining guided-missile frigate homeported in Hawaii, was decommissioned July 18, 2013 after nearly 30 years of distinguished naval service.

Maintaining the most technologically advanced ships support the United States and its commitment to the security, stability and prosperity of the Indo-Asia-Pacific region.

PMRF in the Community



(TOP) Chief Engineman Zachary Davenport (left) and Electronics Technician 1st Class Chad Morris volunteer as judges for the Waimea Canyon School science fair. Photo by John Burger. **(RIGHT)** From left, PMRF Commanding Officer Capt. Bruce Hay talks about PMRF's test and training mission to members of the House and Senate Armed Services Committees and Missile Defense Agency during their staff delegation visit Jan. 13. The group toured the north and south launch pads, Kauai Test Facility, Aegis Ashore deckhouse and launcher, Eternal Memorial and Viewing Site (pictured), and Makaha Ridge and Kokee facilities. Photo by Stefan Alford.



(LEFT) Master-at-Arms 2nd Class Brad Outhet, assigned to PMRF security, talks to 4th and 5th grade students at St. Theresa's Catholic School in Kekaha during a career day event. Photo by MC2 Mathew Diendorf. **(RIGHT)** Erik Greffath, PMRF Fit Boss, talks to Kindergarden and 1st grade students at St. Theresa's Catholic School in Kekaha during a career day event. Photo by Stefan Alford.

Two Navy warships ready for Olympics security

From *POLITICO* - Philip Ewing

Two Navy warships deployed to the Black Sea will give American commanders more options in case of a security problem at the Winter Olympics in Sochi, Russia, the Pentagon said Wednesday.

Col. Steve Warren told reporters the ships - the amphibious command ship USS Mount Whitney and the frigate USS Taylor - have orders to conduct "routine security operations and patrols" and be on hand just in case of a problem in Sochi.

"We've made it clear previously that having them in position in the Black Sea during the Sochi Olympics gives us an added capability in the region," Warren said.

The Mount Whitney arrived in the Black Sea on Tuesday, the Navy said. The Taylor is expected to arrive Wednesday.

The Gaeta, Italy-based Mount Whitney, with its crew of about 300 sailors and civil service mariners, is the flagship of the Navy's 6th Fleet. It bristles with radio and satellite communications gear, but it carries no heavy weapons. The Mayport, Fla.-based Taylor, which carries at least one helicopter, belongs to an aging class designed as Cold War convoy escorts and is on its last deployment, set to leave the fleet next year.

Warren was asked about the decision to send these two particular ships, as opposed to the amphibious transports, destroyers and others available in the fleet.

"These are the two ships the combatant commander feels are most appropriate for the opera-



TURKISH STRAITS (Feb. 4, 2014) The amphibious command ship USS Mount Whitney (LCC 20) transits the Turkish Straits while conducting maritime security operations in the Black Sea. Mount Whitney is the U.S. 6th Fleet flagship and operates with a combined crew of U.S. Sailors and Military Sealift Command civil service mariners. (U.S. Navy photo by Mass Communication Specialist 1st Class Collin Turner)

tion there," he said.

The Navy has at least two other ships - destroyers - deployed in the Mediterranean, which also could sail to the Black Sea in case of a problem in Sochi. Plus the U.S. European Command has helicopters, fixed-wing aircraft and troops based in Great Britain, Germany and elsewhere that also could respond.

For now, the Mount Whitney and the Taylor are an unsubtle reminder to Moscow that Washington remains worried about the potential security threat to the Winter Games. American officials have repeatedly offered to lend any assistance that Russia needs to preserve the security of the Winter Olympics, which have been threatened with attacks by fighters from Russia's restive Muslim regions.

The Pentagon and State Department have said they're conducting "prudent planning" to be ready in case

of a security problem in Sochi. President Barack Obama and Defense Secretary Chuck Hagel both have phoned their Russian counterparts to offer U.S. assistance if needed.

Hagel, Joint Chiefs Chairman Gen. Martin Dempsey, National Security Adviser Susan Rice and other top officials briefed Obama about Olympics security preparations at the White House on Tuesday.

"He was assured by his team that they are taking all appropriate steps regarding the safety of Americans," the White House said. "He directed them to continue to work closely with the Russian Government and other partners toward a secure and successful Sochi games and to review carefully and act on any new information that might affect the security of the games."

County of Kauai News

KPD warns public of spike in scams

From KAUAI POLICE DEPARTMENT

In light of recent scam alerts from residents and businesses, the Kaua'i Police Department is offering the public tips on how to avoid becoming a victim.

"Scams can occur over the phone, via e-mail and on the Internet," warns Assistant Chief of the Investigative Services Bureau Roy Asher. "Citizens must be proactive in protecting themselves from scams, because once someone has taken your money, it is unlikely you will get it back."

Some of the more prevalent ongoing scams involve claims that an individual has won a sweepstakes, or has a loved one who is in financial distress. It is also typical for scammers to impersonate a government agency, such as the Internal Revenue Service (IRS), particularly during the tax season.

Newer scams claim to be from reputable local businesses, such as banks and utility companies,

threatening to cut off services unless a payment is made immediately. Generally, these scammers request payment over the phone or via wire transfers.

The Better Business Bureau also issued a warning this week about a nationwide cell phone scam. Consumers have reported getting "hang-up" calls from unknown numbers. When the recipient attempts to return the missed or disconnected call, they are transferred to an internationally-based entertainment or chat line that results in unauthorized charges.

"Never send money or release your personal or financial information to an unknown individual," urged Assistant Chief Asher. "If you believe you are being contacted by a reputable business, hang up and call that company back at its publicly listed phone number."

In addition, KPD offers these prevention tips:

- Do not answer or return calls from

unknown numbers.

- Use caution when responding to unsolicited calls or e-mails, or unknown individuals on social networking sites.

- Check your bank, credit card and phone statements regularly. If you see an unknown or unauthorized charge, immediately notify your bank or service provider.

- If it sounds too good to be true, it usually is.

- Children and senior citizens are popular targets as they tend to be more trusting of unknown individuals. Responsible family members should help to keep them safe.

If you suspect a scam, please call the Kaua'i Police Department at 241-1711.

For more consumer tips and advice, visit the Federal Trade Commission website at www.consumer.ftc.gov

For more information on scam alerts from the Better Business Bureau, visit <http://www.bbb.org/us>.

eWaste collections set for Feb. 14-15 and March 14-15

From DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS

County officials are reminding the public that obsolete or unwanted electronics commonly known as eWaste can be recycled at the Kaua'i Resource Center on designated weekends.

The upcoming eWaste collections will be held on Feb. 14 and 15 and March 14 and 15.

Drop-offs can be made between 7:45 a.m. and 4:15 p.m. On-site assistance is available for offloading large items.

County officials report that since the permanent collection site for eWaste was set up last summer, participation in the program has been great.

Mayor Bernard Carvalho, Jr. expressed his delight with the public's response to the new service.

"I am very pleased that many of our residents and businesses are participating in this recycling opportunity," said the mayor. "We hope they will spread the word about this important program so others will join in the effort to keep toxic waste out of our landfill and

preserve our resources for future generations."

All collected eWaste is shipped to Electronic Recyclers International in Calif. where it is processed and recycled.

For a complete list of electronic items that are accepted for recycling in the county's eWaste Program and a calendar of the eWaste monthly collection dates, please go to the county website, www.kauai.gov/ewaste.

Anyone with questions can call the Recycling Office at 241-4841.

Wish you were here - Photos from the Fleet



(TOP) CHARLESTOWN, Mass. (Jan. 18, 2014) Visitors to USS Constitution walk near the ship's berth during a snowstorm in Charlestown Navy Yard. (U.S. Navy photo by Mass Communication Specialist 2nd Class Peter D. Melkus/Released) **(BOTTOM LEFT)** SAPPORO, Japan (Jan. 31, 2014) The 2014 Navy Misawa Snow Team endure intense winter weather, Jan. 31, 2014, as they create a snow sculpture in time for the 65th Annual Sapporo Snow Festival. The team is creating a frosty, 3-D version of the U.S. Navy Seabee's "Fighting Bee" logo. This is the 31st year that Naval Air Facility Misawa and its tenant commands have sent a delegation of Sailors to the festival to create a sculpture, and to serve as U.S. Navy goodwill ambassadors. (U.S. Navy photo by Senior Chief Mass Communication Specialist Daniel Sanford/Released) **(BOTTOM RIGHT)** SASEBO, Japan (Jan. 24, 2014) Sailors participate in a 'Polar Plunge' at Commander Fleet Activities Sasebo's to kick off the Navy-Marine Corps Relief Society active duty fund drive. The event was designed to raise awareness of services the Navy-Marine Corps Relief Society provides for Sailors, Marines and their families. (U.S. Navy photo by Mass Communication Specialist 3rd Class Mackenzie P. Adams/Released)

