Within Range

Vol. 10 No. 9 | Pacific Missile Range Facility | October 2013

PMRF joins local school in coastal cleanup

By PMRF Public Affairs

More than 50 Sailors, civilians and students picked up 214 lbs. of liter and debris along the PMRF shoreline Oct. 1 as part of Hawaii's overall participation in the annual International Coastal Cleanup (ICC) program. A dozen elementary school student volunteers from Ke Kula Niihau O charter school in Kekaha helped with the effort.

The promotion of cooperative conservation has been the guiding principle behind PMRF's highly successful and award-winning natural resources conservation program, according to John Burger, range sustainment coordinator and the base's ICC project coordinator who received the trash bags and gloves for the effort from the state.

"While Hawaii is participating in the ICC program that goes by 'Get the Drift and Bag It,' here in the islands, PMRF has a history of beach cleanups and supporting debris research that predates our ICC participation," he said. "It's been environmental stewardship in practice."

Although there has always been an effort to keep the beaches along the base clean, PMRF formally started the cleanup with a small group of volunteers In 2005, Burger said. "PMRF was the only participant on Kauai as the command recognized the importance of the effort at that time, so we continued with annual sweeps to include this ICC event."

John Burger, PMRF range sustainment coordinator, weighs trash picked up off the beach fronting PMRF. Photo by MC2 Mathew J. Diendorf

The type of refuse collected varies, said Burger.

"We are fortunately on the lee side, so wind-blown debris is minimal," he explained. "However, we do get a variety of debris that is fairly consistent – almost entirely plastic: containers, lids, fragments and crates, as well as lines from fishing monofilament to hausers up to eight inches in diameter,

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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.

PMRF Snapshot

Photo courtesy of Susan Nawai

The Outrider Angels pose for a photograph that ultimately won MWR's Fanadict contest. It's nice to see their enthusiasm despite the Steelers' play this year being more terrible than the towel.

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

Shearwater fallout season began Sept. 15

By Tom Savre, PMRF Natural Resources Biologist

September 15 marked the official beginning of the 2013 shearwater fallout season.

Each night over the next three months, from roughly 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 very first time as they leave their nest site behind and fly out to sea.

The first flight is an important event in the life cycle of a young seabird as it marks the transition from dependent juvenile being fed by its parents to independent adult foraging for itself on the open sea. But unfortunately many of Kauai's young shearwaters may not make it to the sea on their inaugural flight as they will have to fly over developed areas of Kauai. In the dark they encounter unexpected hazards such as tall poles, towers, and suspended wires that obstruct their flight path. Bright artificial light also interferes with their natural internal navigational system.

This is especially true for Newell's shearwaters and Hawaiian petrels, the two shearwater species that nest in the central upland regions of Kauai on high mountain ridges. These birds may need to fly more than 10 miles over land to reach the sea. This is one reason why these two species have become so rare and are now protected by law. Both the Newell's shearwater and the Hawaiian petrel are listed under the Endangered Species Act (ESA) as "Threatened" - one step above "Endangered" and two steps above extinction.

This time of year is known as "shearwater fall out season" because many shearwaters end up on the ground on Kauai during this time of year. The birds "fall out" after collisions with poles, towers, or high wires, or due to exhaustion following the erratic flight behavior caused by bright artificial lights. You may see some of these birds on the ground dead, injured, or too exhausted to fly. They could be lying on the side of the road, in a parking lot, or even in your front yard. And they could be found anywhere around the island during this time of year.

This is why for many years the people of Kauai have been working to find ways to reduce the hazards that cause birds to fall out and provide help to fallen birds if possible. Organized efforts on Kauai to help these birds include the Save our Shearwaters (SOS) program and the work of the Kauai Endangered Seabird Recovery Project, the State of Hawaii DLNR/Division of Forestry and Wildlife (DOFAW), the United

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NAVY BALL GOLF TOURNAMENT

OCTOBER 11TH STARTING @ 0800 WARM UP & 0900 TEE OFF

POIPU BAY GOLF COURSE

LOCATED AT THE GRAND HYATT

4 PERSON TEAMS/ BEST BALL SCRAMBLE/ SHOTGUN START

Entry fees are $70 a person. Space is limited, so sign up and pay to ensure your team has a spot in the tournament!

PRIZES WILL BE GIVEN FOR:

- LONGEST DRIVE
- BEST DRESSED INDIVIDUAL & TEAM
- CLOSEST TO THE PIN (2)
- BEST AND WORST TEAM SCORES

For more information contact Lt. Cook or AWS1 John Weiss @ 808-335-4732/4310

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States Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS), and the Kauai Island Utility Cooperative (KIUC).

Here at PMRF we continue to cooperate in conservation efforts for these birds by:

- Minimizing the amount of external lighting used on the base especially during fall out season (unneeded lights are turned off and lower intensity bulbs are used where feasible);
- Switching to green lights where possible (green lights 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 (light sources that are not visible from above are less likely to cause trouble for birds flying overhead);
- Collecting all seabirds that fall out on base and keeping good records on where and when the birds were found (live birds can be rehabilitated and released by SOS personnel, information about where birds were found will help us identify problem areas that can be fixed);
- Providing an SOS (Save Our Shearwaters) aid station on base (near the main access gate) 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.

Conservation efforts are ongoing for our local shearwater nesting population at our Recreational Beach Cottage Wedge-tailed Shearwater Colony.

The Wedge-tailed Shearwaters that nest on the base are not "Threatened" like the Newell's shearwater and Hawaiian petrel, but are still protected under the migratory bird treaty act and species of concern in Hawaii due to impacts of human activity along the coast where these birds nest. PMRF continues to provide support for these birds by fencing off nesting areas, conducting predator control base-wide for stray animals that could impact these birds on their nesting sites, educating employees and visitors to the base to minimize accidental crushing of their burrows in the sand, and all of the light reduction measures described above to make flying at night safer for these seabirds.

An adult wedge-tailed Shearwater in it's borough. Photo by Dr. Andre F. Raine, Kauai Engangered Seabird Recovery Project coordinator.

PMRF has been leading the effort to follow what has already been determined to be best management practices for the benefit of these seabirds, while concurrently testing strategies that could further reduce fallout.

Anyone who has driven on Barking Sands after dusk has observed the various locations where "green lights" are installed.

Green lights were first tested at PMRF in 2010, but while the green spectrum may be less distracting for the birds, we found that the single most critical factor in protecting against fallout is to install all lamps above 175 watts in recessed fixtures aimed flat to the ground so that the lamp is not visible from above the horizontal plane of the fixture.

In 2011, as part of PMRF's energy conservation efforts, new, white LED fixtures were installed at various locations on-base that also met the "dark sky" criteria: horizontally mounted/recessed light sources that are not visible from above the fixture.

These replaced higher-wattage lamps/fixtures, conserve energy while further protecting the birds. Light sources greater than 175 watts that could not be turned off for safety or security reasons, were changed to green lamps in hooded or partially-shielded fixtures.

The 2011 results were significant: none of the problematic zones where shearwaters had frequently experienced injury or fatality in the past had any fallout. These historical danger zones for night flying seabirds included both PMRF and KTF launch facilities at the north end of the base, the buildings in the vicinity of the Imiloa Road Gate in the middle section of the base, and buildings between Shenanigans and the Tartar Drive Gate on the south end of the base.

KTF voluntarily followed our lead with their lighting program and illuminated the 96-foot tall tower at Pad 42 for a month during fallout season with four 400 watt

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shielded green lamps and experienced no fallouts. The fallouts that did occur were at new locations, one of which was remote and fully dark-sky compliant. We learned that the average fallout reduction with a compliant lighting program was around 40%. PMRF experienced more than an 80% reduction.

The 2012 season experienced only three fallouts at PMRF. None of these were fatal and all could be attributed to high-wattage light sources (400-1,000 watts). Two were from a portable genset at Kokole Point 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.

PMRF residents can help reduce the potential for harm to these unique seabirds by minimizing outdoor lighting during this season and remaining observant for downed birds not only on base but anywhere on the island during your off-base activities.

Bring any live birds you find off-base to the nearest SOS Shearwater Aid Station located at all Fire Stations around the island.

For live fallout birds found on-base at PMRF: please transport them to the SOS Aid Station located just inside the main entrance gate on Tartar Drive.

For all birds found on PMRF (alive or dead) please call 335-7507 during duty hours or 346-3427 (cell phone) after duty hours and report the time, location, and circumstances under which the bird was found.

Longtime PMRF member reflects on past, future

By Stefan Alford
PMRF Public Affairs

Stu Burley in front of the Guided Missile Unit 90 barracks at Bonham Fields, Barking Sands in February 1959.

In 1957, Elvis Presley was leading a musical revolution and had yet to be drafted into the Army, "I Love Lucy" was the most watched show on television, Dwight D. Eisenhower began his second term as President, the Soviet Union launched the first satellite into space, and Hawaii was still two years away from becoming a State.

And on January 4th of that year, the first contingent of Navy personnel arrived at Bonham Field, Barking Sands (the precursor to Pacific Missile Range Facility). Among that initial group of seven was a tall, young Seaman Apprentice (E-2) from upstate New York named Stewart Burley – and he's been here ever since.

From 1957 until his retirement from civil service in 2004, Stu (as he's more commonly known) was a Sailor, a contractor and a government service employee at Barking Sands. These days, as the president of the Navy League's Kauai Chapter, he's still very much a presence at the base – he has attended every single one of the 25 change of command ceremonies for the base's commanding officers and continues to observe major Missile Defense Agency launches from the range.

He's literally a walking, talking history of the Navy's earliest days at Barking Sands and the service's evolving mission in testing and training – many of the programs which he helped bring here through marketing the range's assets during his tenure as a supervisory program analyst.

But back in '57, there was only a runway surrounded by a vast expanse of ocean and a lanky, displaced Sailor with a vision.

"My dream, for the longest time, has been to launch a satellite out of Hawaii," he said. "And of course it should be launched out of PMRF because we have range safety, radars, telemetry… we have it all."

"It all" started with the Regulus missile operations that Stu and the first group of Sailors came in to set up. He was a guided missileman – "the elite of the Navy they called us."

But when they arrived, there was "nothing out here. There was one Air Force major here who was like the caretaker of the facility," he recalled. "That's why we have 'Major's Bay' out here (the recreational area), named because of that Air Force major."

"Anyhow, we were preparing the Regulus missile for launch from here," he continued. "Those launches came off the submarines from down near the Big Island back then, and we'd remote control fly them up here to land on the runway. In fact, the blue missile that's out front (of the North gate) had like 11 flights because these were practice Regulus missiles."

The submarines would surface, he explained, launch the Regulus and "it would come all the way up through the Hawaiian chain at 35,000 feet. There was usually a chase airplane following it. Then we'd land them on the runway."

"As a guided missileman, I did… well, everything," he said, only half-joking. "We did all the electronic packages, the telemetry packages, the dump system, the

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Stu Burley, circa 1957

airframe, the tires, the boosters… in addition to working on control and range safety. We were on the flightline too, running the firefighting ops when Air National Guard planes would come in."

And as missile operations were in their infancy, so were the associated protocols.

"Nowadays, for range safety here, we have aircraft that go out and look around, boats that clear the water, radars looking out there… back then when we'd go to launch, we'd just stand on the end of the berm in front of the launchpad like this (simulating a hand over his eyes and peering into the distance), 'Okay, good to go!' (signaling thumbs up) and 'BOOM!' right out over the top of us."

Something else that isn't done anymore but that was relatively commonplace back then was "hitch-hiking" at the end of the runway, according to Stu.

"I used to go back and forth to Oahu," he recalled. "I'd hitch-hike on the Coast Guard C-130. I remember one time I was at Barbers Point coming back and I was out on the runway in a pair of rubber slippers, short pants, tank-top shirt and my little duffel bag with my thumb out. Of course if you try to do that today, they'll put you in jail. So this plane stops and a guy gets out and asks 'Where you going?' 'I need a ride to Bonham,' I told him and he said 'Come on, we'll take you.'

"Well, we get over here and land and they tell me 'You have to get off the back. We'll lower the back.'

'Can't I go out the door?' I asked. 'Nope, it's broken.' Well, okay, so they lower the back of the aircraft and I go walking down the ramp and there's six side boys all in whites saluting me and there's the commanding officer and I'm like 'Oh, hi guys,' and the CO yells 'Burley! What… what… what are you doing? Get in my office!"

"I guess the Coast Guard guys were having a little fun and had called ahead and reported that they had an admiral on board

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PMRF observes UN International Day of Peace

Pastor Tom Iannucci, with the Breath of Life Christian Ministries in Lihue and also a police chaplain with the Kauai Police Department, speaks to Sailors, base employees and family members at the Pacific Missile Range Facility's observance of the United Nations International Day of Peace, April 21. To celebrate this year's theme of "Education for Peace," more than 25 children contributed their artwork representations of their visions of world peace through the PMRF Child Development Center and Youth Center. Capt. Sal Aguilera, the Navy Region Hawaii's command chaplain from Oahu, also provided words of hope and encouragement toward a world vision of peace for all nations. (Photo by MC2 Mathew J. Diendorf)

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and the admiral wanted side boys for his arrival. I could hear them laughing up a storm inside."

In 1959, when his enlistment was up, Stu wasn't sure what he wanted to do, but he said he was having fun in the Navy and was dating a local girl, so he extended a year. And after that year, he wound up staying yet another year at Barking Sands, until finally separating after six years of service in 1961. By then, he was married and not looking to leave Kauai.

"My wife…" he recalled with a smile, "she picked me up one day and bought me a beer and a hamburger. Six months later we were married."

Her name was Kuuipo Gail Kaiwa from Kekaha and they were married 51 years, until she passed away last year. Through marriage, Stu extended his association with the base at Barking Sands.

"Her dad was the public works foreman out here during the war and he named all the streets on the base," he said.

After leaving the Navy, he found a temporary job on base as a supply stockman at $50 a week. Then he heard of an opening for the operations coordinator position (equivalent to the current range operations officer). There was a lot of technical writing involved as part of the job and Stu told the hiring authorities, "Hey, I can do that."

"They were like, 'Really?'" he remembered. "This was on a Friday, so I said, 'Yep, Monday I will come in here and write a technical report for you."

At that time, there was a technical writing program in Honolulu, so Stu called them and said he needed their course book rushed to him right away. He got it on a flight that evening and spent the entire weekend studying it.

Stu Burley with a Regulus I missile in front of the Bonham Field tower, Barking Sands, in May 1957.

"So I went back in Monday," he said, "and they asked me to write a technical report on something. Well, I just read the whole manual, so I said 'Piece of cake.' Knocked it right out and they said 'Whoa, you're hired.' So I became the ops coordinator. So I went from supply stockman, which is the lowest guy on the totem pole, to way up there in charge of everything – every operation, every launch, every mission we did. I mean, we had a general manager, but I came right under him as a civilian contractor. All of the sudden I'm coordinating operations, timecards, work schedules…"

In 1968, the Navy created the range scheduling officer position and Stu moved into the civil service career field to fill that job and the role of program manager for fleet operations.

During the next 20 years, he would be instrumental in shaping the course of PMRF. He helped establish the first underwater range in the Pacific, he became program manager for submarine operations and initiated the "Hollywood" series of submarine commanding officers qualifying courses conducted semi-annually off PMRF, and he helped kick off "some little" fleet exercise called Rim of the Pacific in 1971.

"They asked me if I wanted to be program manager for this thing they were putting together called RIMPAC, so I said 'Sure, why not?'" He recalled. "I started that by getting New Zealand and Australia involved, along with the U.S., United Kingdom and Canada for the first one."

RIMPAC has since grown to 22 nations as of the last exercise in 2012. It's held biennially in June and July of even-numbered years and is the world's largest international maritime warfare exercise.

Despite all of those accomplishments, he never lost sight of his dream to launch a satellite into space from PMRF.

"I went to (the late) Senator

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(Daniel) Inouye and I asked him, 'Can you fund a satellite launch facility?' He said he couldn't do it because he couldn't give that many millions of dollars to one organization. He told me to wait until I got out of the (employ) of the Navy and talk to him again.

The intervening years from 1994 – 2004 kept Stu busy as not only PMRF's supervisory program analyst and head of the fleet division, but also taking on the responsibilities of the newly established director of marketing to support business development and bring new customers to the range, such as MDA and the Aegis programs.

Since his retirement almost 10 years ago, he's kept active and continued pursuing his dream through involvement as an associate director with the Hawaii Space Grant Consortium and the Hawaii Space Flight Lab, as well as being appointed to the Governor's Aerospace Advisory Committee.

He remembered Sen. Inouye telling him to come back and see him about the satellite idea after leaving government service, so he did.

Stu Burley speaks with a delegation of Japanese forces about PMRF's operational support capabilities in 1977. (All photos courtesy of Stu Burley)

"When I retired, I asked him again and he said, 'Well, I can't just give you the money, we'll have to get a sponsor.' So he looked around and finally decided we'll go through the University of Hawaii, so he started to fund them and the dream started to come true."

That dream looks to become reality next spring when UH in conjunction with NASA plans to launch a micro-satellite from the launch pad being constructed at PMRF's southern end as part of the Super Strypi program.

So, through seven decades since the Soviet Union sent the first satellite into space and Stu Burley first arrived at Barking Sands, a satellite will be going up from the place Stu helped position toward that goal. Rest assured, he'll be here to watch.

PMRF bids farewell to Galley

On Friday, Sept. 20, The Menehune Inn galley served its final meal consisting of prime rib, crab legs or shrimp, baked potato and all the trimmings.

More than 200 customers showed up to eat and say goodbye.

The galley staff passes on "a big mahalo and aloha to all for your patronage and friendship since we first opened over 39 years ago."

MDA conducts successful intercept test at PMRF

By Missile Defense Agency Public Affairs
Photo by MC2 Mathew J. Diendorf

The Missile Defense Agency (MDA), U.S. Pacific Command, U.S. Navy Sailors aboard the USS Lake Erie (CG 70) and test controllers and support personnel on the ground at Pacific Missile Range Facility successfully conducted a flight test Sept. 18 of the Aegis Ballistic Missile Defense (BMD) system.

The test resulted in the intercept of a complex separating short-range ballistic missile target over the Pacific Ocean by the Aegis BMD 4.0 weapon system and a Standard Missile-3 (SM-3) Block IB guided missile.

At approximately 2:30 p.m. Hawaii Standard Time, a complex separating short-range ballistic missile target was launched from PMRF on Kauai. The target flew northwest towards a broad ocean area of the Pacific Ocean.

Following target launch, the USS Lake Erie detected and tracked the missile with its onboard AN/SPY-1 radar. The ship, equipped with the second-generation Aegis BMD weapon system, developed a fire control solution and launched two SM-3 Block IB guided missiles to engage the target.

The first SM-3 that was launched successfully intercepted the target warhead. This was the first salvo mission of two SM-3 Block IB guided missiles launched against a single separating target.

This test exercised the latest version of the second-generation Aegis BMD weapon system, capable of engaging longer range and more sophisticated ballistic missiles.

This was an operationally realistic test, in which the target's launch time and bearing were not known in advance, and the target complex was the most difficult target engaged to date.

The event, designated Flight Test-Standard Missile-21 (FTM-21), was the fourth consecutive successful intercept test of the SM-3 Block IB guided missile with the Aegis BMD 4.0 weapon system. FTM-21 is the 27th successful intercept in 33 flight test attempts for the Aegis BMD program since flight testing began in 2002.

Across all Ballistic Missile Defense System programs, this was the 63rd successful hit-to-kill intercept in 79 flight test attempts since 2001.

Safety Corner - Prevent Kitchen Fires - For the Keiki

From PMRF Fire Department

Fire prevention week is October 6-13. This year we are highlighting the number one place house fires start, the kitchen.

Parents share this recipe for Fire Safety so your children won't get burned.

- Stay at least three feet from the stove

- Don't leave food cooking unattended on the stove

- Check with an adult to see if it's ok to use the microwave

- Are you tall enough? The microwave should be low enough so you can reach it without standing on a chair or stool. Your face should also be higher than the front of the door

- Stay away from things that get hot

- Young children should stay out of the kitchen when adults are cooking of carrying anything hot.

- Hot steam can hurt. Open covers slowly away from your face.

Photo courtesy of Corbis

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individually or in large entanglements. Some of the debris can be easily identified as originating from oyster cultivation in Asia or air burst fireworks or marine lubricant containers."

None of the debris found this time was quite as memorable as a glass bottle discovered in 2011, when PMRF's beach cleanup made international headlines. That was when a Sailor picked up a bottle tossed into the sea off Japan's southern coast five years earlier as part of an elementary school class project. The bottle contained four origami cranes – symbols of peace in Japan – and a photo of the school children there with a note dated March 25, 2006.

PMRF Sailors, civilians and student volunteers walk the beach from Kokole point to Shenanigan's picking up debris washed in from the ocean. Photo by MC2 Mathew J. Diendorf.

Wish you were here - Photos from the Fleet

(TOP) Aviation Ordnanceman 3rd Class William McCorkel mans a .50 cal as a member of the small craft action team participates in a fast inshore attack craft (FIAC) exercise. Bataan Sailors and 22 Marine Expeditionary Unit Marines are underway conducting routine qualifications in support of PHIBRON-MEU integrated training (PMINT). (U.S. Navy Photo by Mass Communication Specialist 1st Class RJ Stratchko/Released) **(LEFT)** Gunner's Mate 1st Class Nestor Gonzalez, attending the Riverine Crewman Course (RCC), mans the M134 Minigun aboard a Riverine Patrol Boat on Cape Fear River during the Riverine Crewman Course. This student and his counterparts in RCC and the Riverine Security Team Member are completing the Cape Fear Final Skills Assessment administered by the Center for Security Forces Learning Site Lejeune. (U.S. Navy photo by Mass Communication Specialist 1st Class Dustin Q. Diaz/Released) **(RIGHT)** OKINAWA, Japan (Sept. 22, 2013) Construction Electrician 2nd Class Dwayne Watson, assigned to Naval Mobile Construction Battalion (NMCB) 3, uses his weapon to push concertina wire away from his face while running a six-hour endurance course at the Marine Corps Jungle Warfare Training Center (JWTC). More than 60 NMCB-3 Seabees attended the eight-day JWTC course. (U.S. Navy photo by Mass Communication Specialist 1st Class Chris Fahey/Released)