

WITHIN RANGE

outward from the center.

Eye diameter was about
10 miles at landfall.

Strongest winds near eye
wall. Decreasing winds
from the eyewall outward.

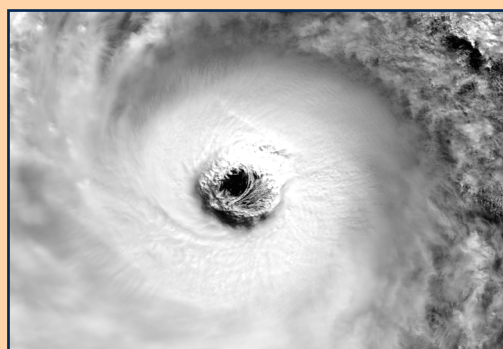
Winds shift as eye
passes over the area.

HURRICANE SEASON:

REMEMBERING INIKI

CONTENTS

June 2020 will mark the 78th anniversary of America's most historically significant naval victory: the Battle of Midway. Find out more about how PMRF played a key role in that historic moment.



September 11, 1992 was the date the tropical storm known as hurricane Iniki devastated the island of Kauai. Hear some of our own ohana talk about their experiences as they remember Iniki.

MA2 Yamashita has competed with the All-Navy Wrestling team since 2009 and competed all over the world. Read more about what drove him to the sport and what is next for his wrestling career.

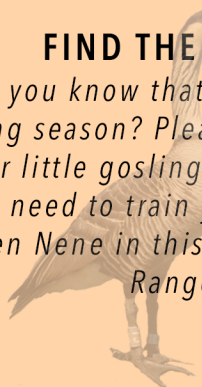


ALSO IN THIS ISSUE:

- Prepared, Not Scared.
- "Are you ready to PCS?"

FIND THE NENE!

Did you know that it is still Nene nesting season? Please keep your eye out for little goslings on the road and if you need to train your eye, find the hidden Nene in this issue of "Within Range."



PMRF TRIAD



Capt. Tim Young
Commanding Officer



Cmdr. Rich Schmaeling
Executive Officer



CMDCS William Eickhoff
Senior Enlisted Leader

Pacific Missile Range Facility Barking Sands (PMRF) is the world's largest instrumented multi-environment range capable of supporting surface, subsurface, air, and space operations simultaneously. There are more than 1,100 square miles of instrumented underwater range, 42,000 square miles of controlled airspace and 21 million square miles of extended range when needed.

PMRF Public Affairs: Tom Clements, MC1 Erickson Magno, MC2 Sara Trujillo



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September 1-7



**Make a Plan to Prepare
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September 8-14



**Teach Youth to Prepare
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September 15-21



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Community's Preparedness**

September 22-30



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Barking Sands has a piece of history in Battle of Midway



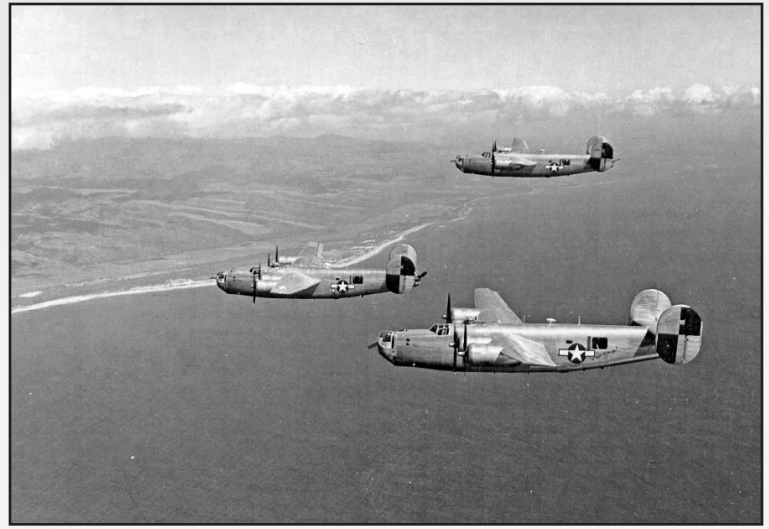
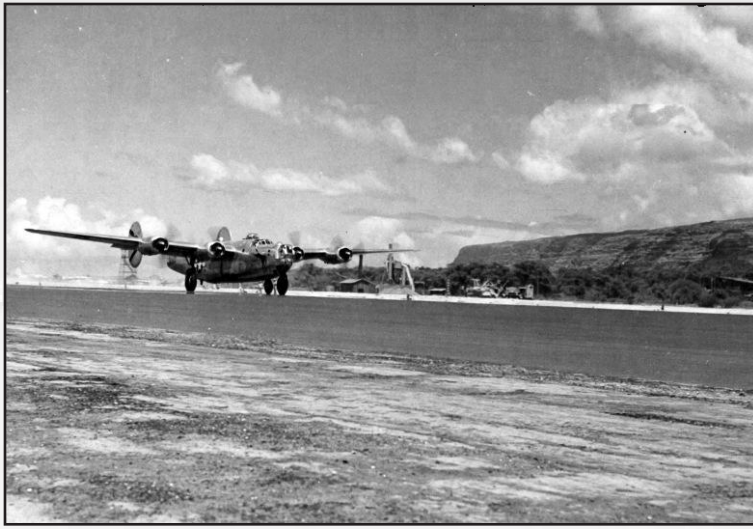
Story written by Tom Clements, Public Affairs Office, PMRF

June 2020 will mark the 78th anniversary of America's most historically significant naval victory: the Battle of Midway, a multi-day engagement fought June 3-7 of 1942. Widely considered a turning point in World War II's Pacific theater, the U.S. victory at the Battle of Midway significantly curbed Japan's offensive capabilities, shifting the tide of the war strictly in the Allies' favor.

In May 1942, when Barking Sands/Mānā

was designated an Army Air Force station, it was officially called Barking Sands Army Air Base (AAB). The airbase was still under construction at this time, but most of the barracks and administration buildings were completed. The first of many flying units to arrive was the 91st VP Squadron (Navy), which consisted of PBY5 torpedo planes. VMF-223 and VMF-224 (Marine Air Group 24), consisting of seven or eight fighter planes and about 25 enlisted men each, also arrived at Barking Sands at this time to train in night-fighter interception.

Not long after the AAF established its



presence at Barking Sands, American forces met the Japanese head-on in the Pacific in the momentous Battle of Midway. On June 3rd, the 42nd Bomb Squadron (Heavy) landed six B-17s, under the command of Major George A. Blakely, at Barking Sands en route to the imminent sea battle. Using Barking Sands as a launching point, the B-17's took off at 2:05 p.m. to arrive at Midway that evening. The 42nd, part of the larger 11th Bombardment Group, assisted in bombing the Japanese fleet in the battle.

American air power planners predicted that injured or returning aircraft might

make landings at any island that could be reached, including Kaua'i. Specifically, Barking Sands was put on warning of the potential for B-17s to land at the base. Historical records differ on whether or not this actually happened, however one unit history makes mention of numbers of injured aircraft flying into Barking Sands.

Sources: Pacific Missile Range Facility Cultural Landscape Report, Final, August 2011; VC-66 Unit History, 1944; Naval History and Heritage Command.

REMEMBERING INIKI



Photos from the National Archives Catalog
Story by MCI Erickson B. Magno

Mother nature, a force stronger than any person, can take action in a flash. From dead silence, clear skies to high-speed gusts that top 145 miles per hour, the change is instantaneous. Before the storm, panic set across the island with people scavenging for supplies or rushing to the airport to take the first flight out. For others, fear set in as they took shelter in their home while simultaneously watching the homes of others dissipate before their very eyes. Five hours of enduring one of the world's strongest storms left the island recovering for years. On September 11, 1992, the island of Kauai was hit by one of the strongest tropical storms in history, Hurricane Iniki.

June 1 is the start of hurricane season for the Central Pacific area and runs until November 30. At the Pacific Missile Range Facility (PMRF), there are regular exercises that cover procedures for when a tropical storm hits the island but for some, living through the storm taught much more.

Rosanne Shimogawa, a PMRF financial analyst, is a Kauai native. She called her family as soon as she heard that Iniki was changing directions and was headed right for the island.

"I was a senior in high school when [Hurricane] Iwa hit in 1982, so I knew what to expect and knew panic would not help our situation," said Shimogawa.

"Especially because I had a 2-year-old son. I was worried about my entire family. My parents stayed in their home with my grandparents while my in-laws went to my sister-in-law's home in Lawai Valley. Although we were in the same subdivision, we lived on opposite ends so we would not know how anyone was doing until the storm had passed."

Shimogawa remembers seeing the devastation that mother nature was capable of.

"The one thing that comes to mind 28 years later is being able to see the tremendous amount of barometric pressure," said Shimogawa. "Sliding glass doors started to bow in the pressure and trap doors popped into the ceiling. We were lucky because the home we were at was at the end of the cul-de-sac. So much of the weather passed over the house until the storm turned and started coming at us from the south west. Roofs blew like rags thrown into the wind, trees cracked, objects like 2-by-4 boards and buckets became grenades, asphalt shingles flew around like dust storms, and leaves covered every car in the cul-de-sac, even those in garages."

For many Kauai locals, it's a time to ensure that their families and loved ones are prepared in case of any tropical storm.

Thomas Nizo, a facilities operations specialist at PMRF, emphasized the importance of preparing your household so that you can effectively take care of other people.

As a native of Kauai, Nizo had also experienced going through Hurricane Iwa during his younger years.

“We as locals on Kauai are all prepped for it now,” said Nizo. “Going through Hurricane Iwa back when I was in the third grade, then Hurricane Iniki, I think people over the last two [hurricanes] have learned how to be prepared. I myself have three military grade storage lockers already prepped with a lot of supplies just in case something happens.”

Nizo, 48, was born and raised on Kauai. For him, it was all about taking care and helping out his community.

“My main takeaway from Hurricane Iniki was to go out and help your community,” said Nizo. “To take care of other people that need help and encourage that throughout the community, it’s something I carry on today as one of my main mantras in life.”

After the storm, Nizo volunteered as a part of the American Red Cross to help distribute food and supplies to shelters.

“It was a crazy 6 to 8 months after but it was rewarding,” said Nizo. “Seeing the community come together and help their neighbors was a heartfelt time for Kauai.”

The local community’s experiences can help others who have never been in a hurricane. That knowledge can help others in preparing for this hurricane season.

“My advice would be to prepare your household,” said Nizo. “Get water, food and all the necessities. The preparation also has an after effect, so know that there’s not gonna be a lot of comforts. The way you survive something like this is by helping and creating relationships with others. Especially on Kauai, it’s not every man for himself here, it’s a community. Be prepared to get to know your neighbors and if you’ve had differences in the past, throw them out the window. Sometimes in tragedy, good things can come of it.”

The definition of family in the culture of Kauai goes past genetic bloodlines. It spreads into the local community where everyone is considered family.

“Having no water, no power and sometimes no fuel for your vehicles is no fun, but Kauai is such a giving island,” said Shimogawa. “We had cookouts with the neighbors so the food in the freezer wouldn’t go to waste and many times we made enough to share with others at each meal.”

With the start of hurricane season, preparations should be a continuous activity. The nature of living on the island is peaceful but can change in a moment’s notice. It’s at this time where we can begin or continue preparations for your home and your families.



The thing I regret most in life, both on and off the mat is fighting scared and not being the best person I could be

MA2 Yamashita

COURAGE AND STRENGTH THROUGH THE DARKEST HOURS

Story and photos provided by MA2 Yamashita

Drenched in sweat, laying on the locker room floor, he was gasping for air as he was in the midst of losing 8 pounds with only a few more to go that day. With only a couple hours until weigh-ins, he thought of throwing in the towel because it was killing him. He literally felt like he was dying, but then how could he quit when someone actually did die just 4 days earlier?

Master-at-Arms 2nd Class Bobby Yamashita's father, Masakazu Yamashita, passed on Oct. 11, 2016 from colon cancer.

"My Dad was the man, who could make anyone laugh and he lived his life carefree," recalled an emotional Yamashita. "He would embarrass me a lot, which made me say some hurtful and mean things to him, that I'll never be able to forgive myself for. But no matter how much pain I may have caused him he always loved me and just had the kindest heart to everyone and that's what hurts the most. I'll never be half the man he ever was." His dad got him into judo at the age of six in his hometown of Northglenn, Colo., and he started wrestling in the 8th grade.

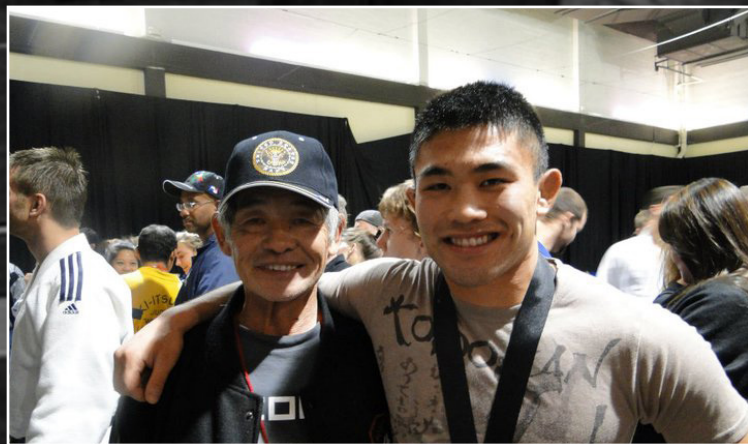
"I've been grateful to have judo and wrestling in my life because it has taught me so many things such as having gratitude, humility and dealing with adversity," exclaimed Yamashita. "Getting to travel all over the world has been awesome."

Yamashita joined the Navy right out of high school in 2006. He was ready to get out of the house and start his naval career.

"I'm blessed every day to be in the Navy and will never take this job for granted," said Yamashita. "I've had a lot of ups and downs in the Navy but I always try to learn and do my best to have a positive impact with the guys that I work with. I can't tell you how much I appreciate all the support I get when I get to represent the Navy in judo and wrestling. It truly means the world to me."

While representing the Navy in judo, Yamashita has competed in India, Brazil, Kazakhstan and Korea in the military Olympic Games. Those events consisted of 7,000 athletes from over 100 countries competing in 26 different sports.

"Those have been some of the greatest times in my





life,” said Yamashita. “From the opening ceremonies in our dress uniforms, to the brutally tough competition, getting to meet all the different cultures, the social gatherings and closing ceremonies, it was just all an unbelievable and amazing experience.”

Yamashita had success at the junior levels winning 10 national championships including winning the Triple Crown in 2001 and made the Junior Pan-American team in 2004. But as he got older and transitioned into senior level judo he struggled as his sloppy technique and reckless style was exposed when he faced better and stronger competition.

“When I was younger I didn’t have the best technique but I truly believed nobody in the country worked harder than me,” said Yamashita. “As I got older I saw that their skills got better and that’s what separated them from the rest of the pack. I knew I had to change my ways and get better.”

As Yamashita started to develop better techniques and strategies, it catapulted him to capture a bronze in 2011 at Orlando and silver in 2015 at Dallas, at the Senior National judo championships. Also in 2015, Yamashita had a breakthrough performance capturing 6th place at the senior national Greco-Roman championships, which made him the first All-American in 11 years for the Navy.

“The Navy only gets to train consistently for a few months out of the year,” said Yamashita. “So to do this against colleges, our counter service members and other training sites, who get to train regularly is one of the



greatest accomplishments of my life. I didn’t even think it was possible but my coach always pushed me and believed I could always do it. This is a moment I will always cherish forever.”

Yamashita has been on the All-Navy wrestling team 8 times as a competitor and has helped coach the team the past couple years. Yamashita’s intensity, self-motivation and accountability are a few of the reasons he was selected to be the next coach for the Navy.

“I never really thought I would be in a position to coach a team,” said Yamashita. “It has definitely been a challenging but exciting experience for me so far. I’m passionate about this program and I try to lead by example. I want my team to be fearless, especially against the best in the world.”

On Oct. 16, 2016, 5 days after his Dad passed, Yamashita competed at the Irwin Cohen Memorial judo tournament in Chicago. After a hard fought first round victory, he would go on to have a comeback upset win over the #1 seed in the quarterfinals before losing in the semi-finals. He would beat a Canadian in the consolations but would fall to another Canadian in the bronze medal match. He finished the day going 3-2 for a 4th place finish but remains as a performance he is most proud of.

“I decided to compete because I just felt like this was something I needed to do for my dad,” said Yamashita. “It was a tough weight cut and I remember getting sick the night before but it was nothing compared to how much pain I saw my Dad was in. Even though I didn’t place, I was proud of the way I competed and never gave up. Before every match I told my Dad I love you and let’s do this!”

The memory of his dad’s strength and courage in his darkest hours pushed Yamashita out of his comfort zone leading him to face his fears.

“The thing I regret most in life, both on and off the mat is fighting scared and not being the best person I could be,” said Yamashita. “It sucks, and it’s not a good feeling. I don’t want my guys to feel that disappointment and I hope they’ll accomplish things that I never came close to achieving.”



ARE YOU READY TO PCS?

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