The goal of the Pacific ALLIES internship is to prepare next generation leaders for challenges they will face in the 21st century. It encompasses bringing cadets, midshipmen and college students together to understand the effects of climate change on national security. This internship utilizes Kwajalein Atoll as a living laboratory.

The Marshall Islands is strategically important to the United States due to its central location in the Pacific Ocean. Due rising sea levels, the Marshall Islands are at a high risk of coastal flooding. Erosion may leave the islands uninhabitable soon. This internship consists of preparation and meetings at UH Manoa, and then a month spent in RMI working with high school students and the community. This year the focuses were completing Google street view of the island of Ebeye and conducting a demographic survey with the students and in conjunction with the disaster planning for the local government.

The demographic survey and Google street view created baseline information for disaster preparedness as the threat of inundation of RMI increases. Through these projects, we were able to work with the local community and forge relationships built on trust in the Pacific.

Opportunities:
- From this internship, we were able to:
  - Establish relations with the host nation
  - Interact with local high school students and introduce them to the Coast Guard
  - Work with a foreign exchange Naval Academy Cadet from Singapore and recent graduate from Whitman College
  - Meet the US Ambassador and Japanese Ambassador
  - Attend a party hosted by the royal family
  - Brief US INDOPACOM, CG D14, and the Center for Excellence in Disaster Management and Humanitarian Assistance.
  - Collaborate with Pacific ALLIES, Pacific Resources for Education and Learning (PREL), and UH Manoa

A day in the life
- One week was spent at UH Manoa in order to meet the Pacific ALLIES team, Coast Guard District 14, and US INDOPACOM prior to departing to RMI. Most of this week consisted of planning projects that would be undertaken while in the Marshall Islands, as well as contacting points of contact on the island. After arriving in the Marshall Islands, a month was spent conducting disaster preparedness with the local government and high school students at a summer camp. A demographic survey and Google street view of the island was conducted with the students. A final week was spent at UH Manoa once again to brief CG D14 and US INDOPACOM, along with the Center for Excellence in Disaster Management and Humanitarian Assistance.
- Much of the time spent while we were in RMI was at Gueguegee, an island where the Spartan Summer Camp was held. Daily routines were dependent upon whether we would be teaching students how to create a Google Street View or if we were planning on conducting a demographic survey. After breakfast with the students, mornings were used to meet with government officials or prepare Google Street View lessons for the afternoon. If a demographic surveys was scheduled, both the morning and afternoon were utilized. While mornings were generally reserved for students to attend academic classes, the afternoons were filled with Marine Science activities, snorkeling, sports, and traditional weaving and fishing.

Discussion and Conclusions
- Continuing connections with CG District 14 and PACOM can further increase their interest in the region and help promote the Marshall Islands through climate change.
- Developing further friendship with the Marshallese will benefit US-RMI relations and increase trust in the Pacific.
- Continuing the demographic survey and working further with the local government will increase disaster preparedness in the region.
- Additional Google street view will help archive the effects of sea level rise and rate of erosion on the island over time.
- There is much room for further marine science research, especially revolving around coral reef health and issues such as coral reef bleaching or the loss of coral reef environments in the region.

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