A USMC MV-22B Osprey lands onboard HMAS *Canberra* off the north-east coast of Hawaii during *Rimpac 2016*.

transport dock USS *San Diego*. It was also the largest ever vertical lift by an ADF MRH90. A total of more than 100 pallets were moved from the underway replenishment oiler USNS *Rappahannock* to *San Diego*, shared by the Australian MRH90 and two US Navy MH-60S Seahawk helicopters. The lift was conducted simultaneously to the Replenishment At Sea-Liquid of HMAS *Canberra*, sailing in company with *San Diego* and amphibious assault ship USS *America* as part of Task Group 176.1 in Exercise *Rim of the Pacific 2016*. Flight Commander Lieutenant Commander Dom Cooper said the activity demonstrated the MRH90's maturity in the maritime support helicopter role. 'We've moved more than 30 tonnes of cargo between large ships with a lot of other aircraft in the area. With increasing wind and swell it put our core skills to the test in some challenging but very enjoyable flying.'

Canberra also successfully received a US Marine Corps MV-22 Osprey tiltrotor aircraft on its flight deck for the first time. Leading Seaman Aviation Support Michael Wenzel said the Osprey's size was impressive. 'Directing such a large aircraft to land and take-off was daunting at first. Once we got it on board and sized it up, it was excellent. We treated it just like any other aircraft.'

14 AUGUST 2016

First search and rescue for HMAS *Perth*'s MH-60R

The frigate HMAS *Perth* and its embarked MH-60R helicopter carried out a search and rescue off the coast of Seychelles on 14 August. Two people were recovered from a civilian vessel

Petty Officer Aircrew Chris Hodgkinson, Lieutenant John Flynn, Lieutenant Ben Thomson and Leading Seaman Aircrew Liam Carruthers in front of the MH-60R on the flight deck of HMAS *Perth* in August 2016.

by *Perth*'s MH-60R, callsign *Hellcat*. This was the first occasion that an RAN MH-60R, while on an operational deployment, was tasked for a rescue mission. *Perth* had been conducting a logistics and crew respite visit to the island town of Port Victoria, Seychelles, when the Seychelles Maritime Safety Agency made the support request. Seychelles Agency Director, Captain Joachim Valmont, said a fishing vessel capsized during a night crossing between the islands of Praslin and La Digue, some 45 kilometres north-west of Port Victoria. It was a late night and there were six people in the water. *Perth* immediately initiated