

THE KWAJALEIN HOURGLASS

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U.S. Army Kwajalein Atoll, Republic of the Marshall Islands

Paintball games declared illegal

By Barbara Johnson
Feature Writer

The message is aimed at all paintball players: The RMI government doesn't allow the use of paintball guns on any of the atoll islands.

"Under RMI revised codes, paintball guns are considered a dangerous weapon," said Kevin Dykema, chief of police, explaining that this is because of the CO₂ cartridge used to propel the paintballs.

Anyone who is caught using paintball guns, is subject to action from the RMI police, Dykema said, adding, "If [people are] caught, the weapon is confiscated, they are ticketed and they have to appear in an RMI court."

What happens after that? "It's up to the judge," he said.

During an investigation into an unrelated matter, the RMI police were told that Ameri-

(See RESIDENTS, page 9)



(Photo by Peter Rejcek)

Leroy Kisling, left, shows Col. Curtis L. Wrenn Jr., USAKA commander, a map he carried with him onto the beaches of Betio Island, Tarawa Atoll, Republic of Kiribati, 58 years ago during an amphibious assault by the 2nd Marine Division during World War II. Sheila Wrenn looks on from the back.

USAKA observes 58th anniversary of bloody battle at Tarawa Atoll

By Peter Rejcek
Associate Editor

TARAWA ATOLL, REPUBLIC OF KIRIBATI — Leroy Kisling drags a finger along the 58-year-old map, recalling his first visit to the beaches of Tarawa Atoll nearly six decades ago. For a moment, a flood of nostalgia chokes him to silence.

It's no tourist map he holds, but part of the invasion plans the former Marine sergeant carried onto Red Beach No. 3 when the 2nd Marine Division assaulted Betio Island in its campaign to usurp Tarawa Atoll, and the rest of the Gilbert Islands, from the Japanese during World War II.

Today, Nov. 20, exactly 58 years later, on another beach, Red Beach No. 2, everything is peaceful. The only invasion is a horde of young, shirtless Kiribati boys, curiously watching the events unfold as Kisling tosses a wreath off the infamous beach and into the shallow reef a few feet below.

"I feel like I've come on a trip of a

lifetime," said Kisling, 78, a demolitions expert with F Company, 2nd Battalion, 18th Marine Regiment attached to the 8th Marine Regiment under Maj. Henry Crowe. "I always wanted to come."

The dream was made possible by Kisling's nephew, Larry Robinson, who accompanied his uncle to this far-flung atoll in the Republic of Kiribati, a part of a chain of islands formerly known as the Gilberts. Kisling's son, Leroy Jr., as well as several other veterans and family members crossed the Pacific to visit the famous battlefields in Kiribati and the Marshalls as part of an organized tour.

"This has been a healing process for him," Kisling Jr. said.

Said Robinson, himself a retired Marine pilot who fought in Vietnam, "It meant so much to him and me."

The Battle of Tarawa, Nov. 20-23, 1943, represented the first domino to fall to American forces in their long Pacific

(See TARAWA, page 4)



(Photo by Peter Rejcek)

A canal runs through it

Canals run throughout the city of Lijiang, China in Yunnan Province, drawing obvious comparisons to Venice. We conclude our two-part series about Vietnam and China in today's four middle pages.

Editorial

Family, BQ resident input sought on library question

What does right look like? All of you have heard me ask that question. Now, I'm asking myself that question... what does right look like for the Grace Sherwood Library and for the overall community? I have vacillated on a decision about the library and decided to ask you — the community — for your help.

I am strongly considering swapping facility locations for the Unaccompanied Personnel Recreation Center, or UPRC, and the library. In short, the library would move to the current UPRC, Building 511; and the UPRC would relocate to the second floor of Building 804 (currently the library and community activities), with the intent of this becoming a community recreation center. If necessary, we would entertain the possibility of select hours for unaccompanied personnel and the community-at-large, but will address that issue if and when we decide to make this switch.

We've temporarily put the brakes on re-carpeting the library. It needs a lot more than new carpet. It desperately needs four things: a ground-floor entrance, a restroom, space for the new computer stations, and a separate, closed-off space for children. We talked about relocating *The Hourglass* and the CPN office belonging to the chief engineer, so the library could expand into that space. It's an affordable plan, but it doesn't give the



library sufficient space, a ground-floor entrance or a restroom. So, it doesn't answer the mail.

The UPRC stems from the days when BQ residents did not have private rooms. Now, all BQ residents have private rooms. There are approximately 720 BQ residents. Statistically, the UPRC has 34 to 45 patron visits per day in a 50-day period. That does not include the local bands that practice in the soundproof room or fluctuation during high-TDY periods. During a recent 30-day period, the library averaged 42 patrons a day, also with some variance.

With the limited space and resources on the island, I cannot—in all good conscience—continue to ignore the fact that this is not the best use of space and resources, nor is it the best for the overall community. I need to ask you—the community—to fairly and objectively consider moving the library into the existing UPRC.

With appropriate office space for Community Activities, they are willing to relo-

cate, so their current area and the current library area could become the community recreation center. I believe there is a synergy to be gained by having our bowling center downstairs and a community recreation center upstairs—a new center that would include all of the pool tables and other games, a new CyberCafé, the large-screen TV viewing room and an expanded video game area. The soundproof room, for our local bands to practice, would relocate as well.

The truth is, as the commander, it is my responsibility to do what is best for the collective all ... maybe not every *individual*, but the best for *all*. I ask for your fair consideration of the proposal and your fair support. Take a walk through both current facilities with *eyes wide open* ... and with an open mind. Imagine the UPRC as the new library and visualize the current library/Community Activities space as an open, neighborhood community center. We're looking for ways to better serve the entire community in a cost-effective way, and this concept answers the mail.

Having said all of that, you tell me ... what does right look like? I need you to read the facts given above again, and think about this. Do you support the switch, yes or no? I encourage your feedback. Catch me in the street. Share your

(See *COMMANDER*, page 3)

The Kwajalein Hourglass

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Buckminster and Friends ————— By Sabrina Mumma



Aviation reducing 1900D flight schedule

By Peter Rejcek
Associate Editor

Lighter loads and one less available plane are trimming two flights off the 1900D week-day schedule.

The new schedule, found as an insert in today's *Hourglass*, is effective Dec. 4. The last morning flight and one afternoon flight Tuesday through Saturday will be eliminated, according to John Koehler, Flight Operations manager.

"There are fewer commuters, so we need fewer trips up there," Koehler said.

One additional 12:05 p.m. flight has been added to Fridays, but the late Wednesday flight has been eliminated.

The late flights on Saturdays, along with weekend flights, remain unchanged. However, the afternoon flights on weekdays

will be staggered after the first two flights, which leave at the same time.

"We tried to work out something that will make everyone happy," Koehler said.

Weekday flights average 70 hard-seat commuters every day, according to Koehler, a number that is expected to continue to fall as range modernization comes to fruition.

Another reason for the schedule change involves off-island maintenance to one of the aircraft, Koehler explained. The plane is headed to Wichita, Kan., next week for "heavy maintenance" and is expected to be gone about two months, he said.

Koehler said he did not anticipate any further changes to the flight schedule at this time, but added no flights are scheduled for Christmas Day or New Year's Day.

Range operation scheduled for Friday

From the Command Safety Office

A range operation is scheduled for Friday, Nov. 30. Caution times are 12:01 p.m. through 8:30 p.m.

In conjunction with this operation, a caution area will exist within Kwajalein Atoll. See map in last Friday's *Hourglass* for details.

Bigej Island, including the inner reef, is specifically excluded and is not a part of the mid-atoll corridor. An additional caution area extending from Kwajalein Atoll north into the broad ocean area is defined on the maps in Friday's *Hourglass*.

In order to ensure clearance of non-mission support personnel from the mid-atoll corridor by the window opening time, Kwajalein Police Department island clearance procedures will begin at approximately 7:30 a.m. today and continue until evacuation has been accomplished. Egress of all air and sea craft will be required when requested by authorized clearance personnel. Subsequent to lagoon clearance, the hazard area will be in effect until mission completion.

In conjunction with this operation, a Kwajalein met rocket launch is scheduled as soon as possible after the launch from Meck Island on Friday, Nov. 30. For caution areas, see maps in Friday's *Hourglass*.

In the event of a mission slip, the caution times and areas will be in effect for the following days:

- 12:01 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 1.
- 12:01 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 2.

Questions regarding the above safety requirements for this mission should be directed to the Command Safety Office, range safety officer, 51910.

Kom ruwainene

"Kom ruwainene" is the Marshallese way to say, "Welcome."

GERRY and BONGJA (BJ) WOLF arrived at Kwaj Nov. 15. They came from Spokane, Wash., and retirement after 31 years in the military.

Gerry is chief, USAKA Community Services Division.

This is the Wolf's second tour. They were at Kwaj from April 1999 to February 2001.

They say, "It is always hard to leave family and friends behind; we wish we could bring them all with us. But knowing that's not possible, we left them with an open invitation to visit. If home is where you hang your hat, it's good to be home."

BMDO: IFT-7 to mirror July missile defense test

(Defense Daily, Nov. 20) The Ballistic Missile Defense Organization plans to conduct the next intercept flight test in its ground-based midcourse missile defense program on Nov. 29 (CONUS time).

All of the preliminary ground checks indicate the test will go on time, but that will still be subject to the final pre-flight reviews that will take place over the course of the next week.

The test will follow the same profile as the flight test conducted this past summer, including the use of a single balloon decoy.

During the July 14 test a modified Minuteman ICBM target provided by Lockheed Martin was launched from Vandenberg AFB, Calif. A prototype interceptor carrying a Raytheon-built Exoatmospheric Kill Vehicle was launched on a Lockheed Martin payload launch vehicle about 20 minutes later and 4,800 miles away from the Reagan Test Site at Kwajalein Atoll.

About 10 minutes after its launch, the kill



vehicle distinguished the target from the balloon decoy and intercepted it.

The hit marked the second successful intercept for the program.

The addition of more complex countermeasures will be integrated into future test scenarios, according to Air Force Lt. Gen. Ronald Kadish, director of BMDO.

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Commander

(From page 2)

thoughts with a letter to the editor. Give us your yes or no vote by calling the Commander's Hotline, 51098. Or, you can e-mail your vote to luanne.fantasia@usaka.smdc.army.mil, or mail it to USAKA Public Affairs, Box 26, Local.

I need to make a decision soon after the holidays and will share that with you at the next Kwajalein Town Hall, Thursday,

Jan. 10, 2002, 6 p.m. in the MP room.
Are you with me? Hooah!

Change: Father Francis X. Hezel's presentation on Micronesian and Marshallese issues has been moved from the Religious Education Building to CRC Room 6 at 7 p.m. on Thursday. The event is open to the public.



Leroy Kisling, right, tosses a wreath off of Red Beach No. 2 on Betio Island and into the Tarawa Atoll lagoon Nov. 20 in memory of the more than 1,100 Marines killed during an amphibious assault against the Japanese-held island 58 years ago during World War II. Susan Chadd, far left, lost her father on Wotje Atoll during an air raid; Tarawa was the last place he was seen alive.

(Photos by Peter Rejcek)

Tarawa survivor: 'I had never seen such a beautiful place' ...

(From page 1)

campaign of island warfare. It also represented some of the bloodiest fighting, with more than one thousand Marines, Navy officers and men killed, and another 2,300 wounded.

"We thought it was going to be easy," Kisling said of the invasion, shaking his head. But he just as quickly grows nostalgic again, recalling the first peaceful evening on the island under a full moon. "I had never seen such a beautiful place."

But it was far from easy or beautiful Nov. 20. Casualty rates for the first wave of Marines attempting to reach the beaches hit as high as 75 percent. Among those killed, and someone Kisling knew personally, was 1st Lt. Alexander Bonnyman Jr., who

posthumously received the Medal of Honor for his actions during the battle.

Nearly 5,000 Japanese soldiers and Korean laborers died during the four-day battle. Only a handful of the enemy surrendered.

Susan Chadd's father, a B-24 pilot, survived Tarawa — but that lonely atoll would be the last place he was seen alive. He was soon killed during a raid on Wotje Atoll in the Marshall Islands. Chadd was only about six months old at the time.

"It's very emotional," she said of the visit to Tarawa and Betio Island. "I feel it's a funeral in a way."

A contingent of dignitaries from USAKA

attended the ceremony, including Col. Curtis L. Wrenn Jr., USAKA commander, and his wife Sheila. Kwajalein Pipes and Drums members Greg Horner and Stephan Notarianni played "Amazing Grace" at a brief ceremony at the Battle of Tarawa memorial site, before participants walked a few short blocks to the beach for the wreath ceremony led by Kisling.

Kwaj resident Dan Thibodeau, American Legion #44 post commander and Marine, also attended the ceremony. He said moments like these are as much felt as seen and heard.

"It's an honor to be with [these] people, and it will change your life," he said.

Marine veterans, family members and Kiribati locals gather for prayers during a service at the Battle of Tarawa memorial site.



Piper Greg Horner from Kwajalein plays "Amazing Grace" during a service at the Battle of Tarawa memorial site on Betio Island.

Crossing Borders

A scenic view of a mountain range with a road and a person in the foreground. The mountains are covered in lush green vegetation, and the sky is a clear, pale blue. A person is visible on the road in the lower right, looking towards the mountains.

A Journey Into Vietnam and China II

The limestone pinnacles surrounding the city of Yangshou, China, make this southern region of the country very popular with both foreign and domestic tourists.

We imagined ill-mannered guards bristling with weapons and baggage searches so thorough that they would yank out every bristle on our toothbrushes.

Instead: Another stamp in the passport, a poke at my dirty backpack and we were in China. I've had more problems with my liquor card at Ten-Ten.

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Tiger Leaping Gorge in Yunnan Province offers some challenging hikes.

In fact, travel throughout China is much easier than we thought possible, despite language barriers (our guide, a tall, lanky Aussie named Bruce, knew a little Mandarin, so that did help push things along at times; a phrasebook with Chinese characters is also invaluable). The most difficult parts, recalling a journal entry, were “the journeys themselves — mad bus rides at top speeds, two-wheeling it across curves.”

China is huge; we had no illusions of trying to see the entire country. Instead, our tour was concentrated mostly in Yunnan Province, which abuts the so-called Autonomous Region of Tibet. Our trip would take us through the province’s blue-collar capital, Kunming, and then steadily northwest and up in altitude to the popular town of Dali, the dusty Tibetan-influenced city of Zhongdian and finally to the centerpiece of the tour, Tiger Leaping Gorge, where the famous Yangtze River has its source.

From there we would return to civilization via the picturesque towns of Lijiang and Yangshou in Guangxi Province. At that point, the plan grew vague, as the tour ended and we were left on our own to figure out how to cross the country in its north-south entirety to reach Xi’an, home of the Terracotta Warriors, and Beijing, cradle of Chinese power, home of the 2008 Olympics and fast-food capital of the country.

In the south

China is as diverse as it is big. For the first part of our trip, we spent much of our time in the rural parts of the country, mostly staying in guesthouses not unlike the ones we stayed in while in Hanoi, though usually sans air conditioning, and later private toilets and showers.

In Dali, a popular watering hole for the

shoe-string traveler, thanks to a multitude of quaint guesthouses, a plethora of western-style restaurants and a picturesque lake with cormorant fishing, we settled down for a few days of hiking and biking. Sometimes only the architecture and cobblestone streets of the town reminded us we were in a land far from the corner 7-11: One evening, at Dali Old Guesthouse No. 5, where the rooms surround a traditional, rectangular courtyard, the bar had a showing of the new *Planet of the Apes* on (a pirated) DVD.

But Dali is something of an anomaly. The further into the hinterland we trekked, the more simple the accommodations and the villages. In Zhongdian, with only a few main, modern roads, much of the city is still mired in mud, where homes are all traditional courtyard affairs, their entrances flanked by pairs of guardians, normally lions or dragons. A short bike ride from town, we found a Buddhist monastery modeled after Tibet’s capital of Lhasa, with brown and tan buildings built in tiers up the side of a hill.

Again, we found anachronisms and contradictions: Bald-headed Buddhist priests in deep amber robes speaking on cell phones, and costumed children charging one yuan (about 12 cents) to allow you to take their picture.

However, by



the time we reached the town of Haba, a peasant village that would serve as the launching point for our gorge trek, we had little insulation from the poverty and simplicity of this region.

Aug. 16: “This is the basic accommodation all of us had been expecting — a room with a stone floor, two beds, a desk encrusted with wax due to the candlelight (the only power in the entire village is a small generator here) and a worn couch. The public shower is around the corner; the hot water must first be heated.” We won’t speak of the restroom ...

We felt this, in many ways, was the real China, where the majority of people are still peasants, thin, wiry and strong. A day trip from Haba to a hill village of minority people called the Yi further opened our eyes to the poverty that exists for millions and millions of people.

“Lunch at the Yi village brought out the entire populace, it seemed. An attractive people [sharp, tanned features], but their hair is not so black, almost streaked with red (someone suggested they might have a vitamin deficiency). [At the same time] very grubby; dirty, torn clothes; but the young women

[who danced for us] put on their finest festival dresses — multi-colored costumes with elaborate headdresses shaped like an old-fashioned nun habit ...

“Most of the music was provided by a dilapidated tape recorder that kept breaking down — at one point, one of the tapes had been completely devoured, and finally the men ...

put all the batteries into a carved out piece of log, putting wires on both ends, along with a pair of scissors. It worked!”

These people, whose homes are one-room, dirt-floor hovels, dominated by a large wok-like pot in one corner and a worn mattress for a bed in another, treated us like visiting royalty that day. They even supplemented our lunch with “baked potatoes, buckwheat bread (tasteless and heavy) and tea. Not the most tasty meal, but certainly one of the most memorable.”

Left: The Terracotta Army is an awe-inspiring sight outside of Xian, China.

Turning north

The memories from those days in the rural south are many, too many to do justice here. The trek into the gorge itself began the day after our visit to the Yi, and a few lingering calluses still remember the six-hour hike into the gorge — the persistent rain that caused the chocolate-covered river below us to foam and triggered dangerous landslides along the vertiginously high trails — and the eight-hour trek out.

The denouement to the tour took us to Lijiang by local bus, packed like proverbial sardines, and then by air and chartered bus to Yangshou. Lijiang, with its well-preserved old town of canals and cobblestones, is a main tourist attraction for wealthy Chinese. In fact, it was amazing to see so many plump people after being in the company of peasants for so long.

From an Aug. 23 entry after leaving Lijiang:

“A f t e r several days of being denied some semblance of civilization, we all typically went overboard and hit the roads to shop and eat. This is where the fat cat Chinese come, as well — we had been among peasants so long that I was shocked to see so many meaty Asians.”

Yangshou, another well-known town among the budget travelers

of Asia, is set among some 20,000 limestone peaks. Another place well-suited to while away several days biking, caving and sampling the town’s many restaurants. Exploring the countryside is easy, as there are literally hundreds of guides available, meaning rock-bottom prices to hire a bicycle. Our local guide, Farmer Tang (with his own business card and motto, “Hang with Tang”), proved a wealth of information not only about local geography but history, as well.

Like many places in China, Yangshou had more than its share of entrepreneurs, selling a greater variety of souvenirs, junk and food than you’ll find on the entire Internet. Almost anywhere in the country you could buy “authentic” Chinese scroll pictures of water buffalo and rice paddies or Mao’s infamous “little red book” or even kitschy antique alarm clocks, with little counterrevolutionaries waving tiny red books in sync with the second hand. Bargaining is the norm: They start ridiculously high and you

counter with an equally insulting low bid; incredulous laughs are exchanged and the haggling begins.

But in Yangshou we met perhaps the hardest vendors in this country of 1.3 billion people — the water sellers. Skinny and poor, these folks would follow us from one destination to the next during a bike ride through the limestone countryside.

“Water. Cold water.” “No, thank you.” “Cold cola, cold cola.” “No, really, thanks a lot.” “Cold...” And so it went.

In fact, the most tenacious, and in hindsight, probably the most in need, actually followed us up one of those tall, limestone peaks — an exhausting climb. Every hundred steps: “Cold water,” said one woman, my personal vendor, in bedraggled clothes, lugging a little blue cooler along — all the way to the top and back, in a hot humidity that makes Kwajalein’s weather seem almost temperate.

Back at the bottom, “Cold water?” Eyeing her with a mixture of exasperation, disbelief



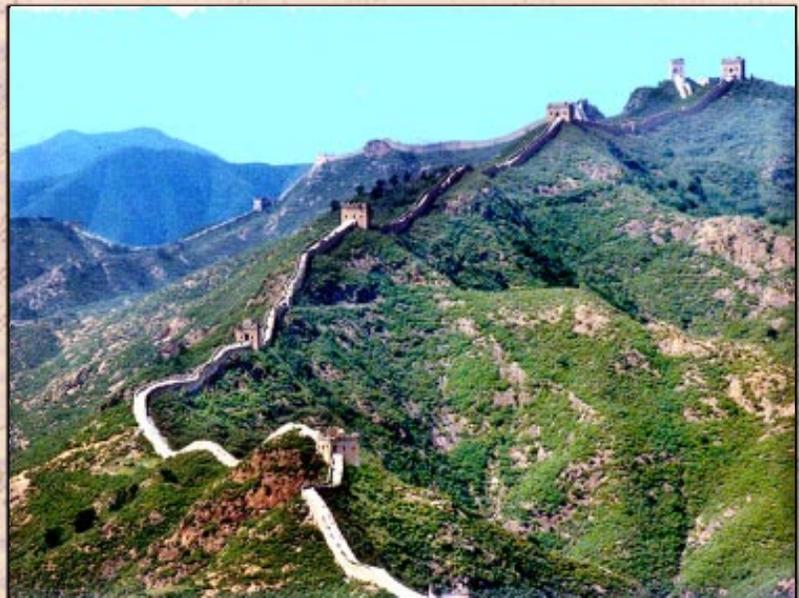
This Yi village woman in southern China seems as ageless as the country she lives in.

and respect, I bought two bottles of water and wondered at the willpower and perseverance of this woman and her people.

The big cities

It must have been that strength of character that built the Terracotta Warrior army.

From Yangshou, we left the countryside behind and took a flight to Xi’an, one of
(Next page)



A Buddhist monastery outside the town of Zhongdian, China, mirrors the city of Lhasa, Tibet, and is located near the border of the Autonomous Region of Tibet.



China's top tourist sites thanks to the 1974 discovery of an amazing archaeological wonder — a larger-than-life-size army of Chinese warriors dating back some 2,000 years.

These soldiers of pottery are all the more amazing in that each face is entirely unique — no two are alike, at least that's what all the signs and guidebooks say. The faces are reputed to have been based on the workers who had labored to create the soldiers, which number about 6,000 and are located in three separate museums that double as excavation sites.

The city itself, the ancient capital, is probably only worth a day or two at best. It's large, crowded and polluted, like many of the metropolises of the north and east. Beware of particularly adept pickpockets lurking in the underground sidewalks of the city center, where unsuspecting tourists like us congregate to watch early morning tai chi and wander the street shops.

From Xi'an, we caught our first overnight train in China, a fairly comfortable coach with six bunks in each compartment. While not as luxurious as what's called a soft-sleeper, these hard-sleepers assure you a comfortable spot to snooze, unlike hard seating, where throngs of Chinese mercilessly compete for elbow room. The crowds anywhere can be merciless. On arriving at Beijing, we queued up in the taxi line only to watch helplessly as countless Chinese forced their way ahead of us. So much for being in the cradle of civilization.

In all fairness, however, Beijing is a world-class city — enormous, as if each block on our map was in actuality the length of a football field. While our hotel was “just around the corner” from Tiananmen Square, it took us a brisk 25-minute walk to reach it.

Despite the crowds and breadth of the blocks, Beijing is worth the visit: The Forbidden City, the Summer Palace, Mao's famous dimpled face looking over Tiananmen Square and, of course, a McDonald's at every corner.

Beijing is also ideal for Great Wall trips.

Count on at least one day for each major sight, especially if you want to steer away from the crowds and hordes of souvenir peddlers at the Great Wall. A six-hour, round-trip bus ride to a place called Simatai is worth the journey, where this section of the wall, which stretches from horizon to horizon, enjoys less infrastructure, meaning fewer visitors and vendors. A visit certainly stirs the imagination, wondering what life must have been like for a sentry assigned to this post, looking to the north where a Mongol horde might come pouring across the hills like ants violently stirred from their nest.

At the Forbidden City, bring good walking shoes, a reliable map and an insatiable desire to see throne rooms, jade treasures and lots of Chinese tourists taking pictures of themselves in front of every square inch of marble and glass.

But Beijing is not just about palaces and Peking duck. Be sure to explore the *hutongs*, the labyrinthine neighborhoods that honeycomb off from the city's main arteries. Here the common city folk live their lives in the narrow alleys: Old men with glazed, blind eyes smoking their bamboo pipes; street after street of market stalls, where vendors grab onto you with a grip like steel; where one of the 12 million bikes in the city dodges by you, carts, children and the odd pet; and people, hundreds and thousands of people ...

The question you're most often asked after returning from a trip is, ‘What did you enjoy most?’ I would answer, ‘the people.’ The people who danced for us, who sheltered us, who wanted our picture just because we're blond and hairy, the people who harassed us and helped us, the people we traveled with ...

To quote an old cliché: It's not the destination, but the journey. And journeys are as much about the people we meet as the places we visit.

Before You Go

Documents: American tourists will need to get a visa for entry into China. Several types of visas are available, depending on how many entries you plan to make. Passports must be sent along with a visa application to a Chinese embassy. There are several online agencies that will perform this service, though the cost is as much as the visa itself. However, this may be worth it, especially if you plan on traveling to more than one destination in Asia.

Getting There: Lots of options. We took Continental to Guam and then used the Internet (www.ticketplanet.com) to get there and back for about \$1,000.

Where to Stay: Depends on where you are. In some isolated locations, there may be only one little guesthouse, which will only cost a few dollars. It's possible to spend several hundred per night in a city like Beijing, which has prices comparable to any big metropolis.

Getting Around: Foreigners are not allowed to drive in China. In towns, taxis are de rigueur. Make sure the driver turns on the meter and keep a map handy or you may be taken for a ride. Buses and trains for longer distances are reliable and generally seem safe. Air travel, for cross country trips, is decently priced. Make sure you save an extra 50 yuan for the ubiquitous departure tax at the airports. Bigger cities charge 90.

Tours: For those looking for something off the beaten track, but don't want the hassle of booking trains and hotel rooms, Intrepid Travel does a variety of cheap tours in China, Vietnam and throughout Asia. See their Web site at www.intrepidtravel.com.

Veterans asking to support America's new war

By Staff Sgt. Marcia Triggs
Army News Service

WASHINGTON, D.C. — In extraordinary numbers, veterans are inquiring how they can support America's first war of the century.

Those inquiries, however, do not yet equate to large numbers of veterans coming back to active duty.

"The week after Sept. 11, we received over 200 telephone calls, and are processing 200 applicants, but it will be another month before I will know if the calls lead to an increase in recalls," said Lt. Col. Brett Floro, chief of officer accessions at the Total U.S. Army Personnel Command.

The U.S. Army Recruiting Command, which handles prior-service enlisted soldiers and reservists, reports that it has also received an increased amount of inquiries since Sept. 11, but not a significant increase in prior-service enlistments.

A communications specialist in Colorado Springs, Colo., realized two days after the attack that he needed to step up and do the right thing for his country, he said.

"I got out of the Army as a captain after I got married because I was having to spend a lot of time in the field, but if my country needs me to, I'll sit in a field out in the middle of nowhere," said Johnpaul

Arnold, a former tactical communications officer.

During an over-the-phone interview, Arnold's voice started to crack as he talked about his father, a veteran of the Vietnam War.

"I know that this is going to be a major sacrifice, but I heard the call, and I'm responding," Arnold said.

"I admire the veterans who have fought for our country, and I just want to do my part," Arnold added. His application is being processed, but he's confident that he will be issued orders.

Before the attack on America, both PERS-COM and USAREC had programs in place to accept veterans.

Call to Active Duty was enacted in fiscal year 1997 when a shortage of aviation warrant officers was identified, Floro said. The program was extended to officers who are qualified in branches that have slots that need to be filled, he said.

Retired aviators also fall under the Call to Active Duty program, but they have to go through the

U.S. Army Reserve Personnel Command for more information.

"We are not offering any incentives for officers that come back in," Floro said. "We're advertising this program for officers who realize that they miss being part of the Army team, miss being part of this family and want to get back to a unit."

The initial contract for officers who come back to active duty is three years. The intent is to fulfill a career, not complete the minimum, Floro said. However, in order to fulfill a career, applicants must be able to meet

certain criteria.

Officers have to be able to complete 20 years of active federal commission service before they reach age 55. Their previous years on active duty will count toward their recall time, Floro said.

Prior enlisted officers would have to be able to complete 10 years of active federal commissioned service prior to completing 20 years of active federal service.

Out of the 200 applications that PERSCOM is currently processing, Floro said as long as they meet the career qualifications, he doesn't see any reason why they won't get approved.

"The biggest cause for disapproval will come from those who were separated from the Army because of disability," Floro said.

Acceptance into the military for prior-service soldiers will depend on their last discharge, said Frank Shaffery, deputy director of recruiting operations for USAREC.

"We do not process retirees here, and we do not accept individuals who were barred from reenlistment," Shaffery said. "Any person that has displayed poor performance or poor character will be denied re-entry, unless he goes through PERSCOM and gets a waiver."

Bonuses are being offered to people who enlist for combat arms specialties. But, Shaffery said, USAREC would never give an individual a better opportunity to come in off the street than they would give a soldier who re-enlists.

More information on the officer Call to Active Duty Program is available at www.perscom.army.mil/opdistacc/calltoAD.htm or www.goarmy.com for prior service members.

"... if my country needs me to, I'll sit in a field out in the middle of nowhere ..."

— Johnpaul Arnold
former tactical
communications officer

Residents urged to cease paintball games, send guns home ...

(From page 1)

cans had been seen on Bigej Island shooting paintball guns, Dykema said.

The RMI police notified USAKA Tuesday that anyone caught using the guns would be ticketed and the weapon would be confiscated.

The RMI considers anything that shoots a projectile a weapon, and according to Marshall Island laws, they have never been allowed, Dykema said, adding, "Bigej is the one we've been told about, but the rule applies to the whole atoll."

The RMI has jurisdiction on the outer islands, Dykema explained. Here on Kwajalein and Roi, if someone is caught, they are charged, the weapon confiscated and they appear at

USAKA for adjudication.

Resident Chris Robbins, who says he has played paintball a couple of times, describes the game as a very safe one.

"From what I've been involved with, safety is the number one concern," he said. Everyone wears a safety mask, something like a hockey goalie's, he explained, along with gloves and clothes that cover any exposed skin. "If anything, [players are] overly safe," he said.

Robbins said that the paint pellets are non-toxic and biodegradable. Players always clean up, he explained, adding that they pick up any trash they find and leave the place cleaner than they found it.

About three months ago, there was a request from RSE Community Activities to make paintball an authorized community activity, said Maj. Mark Harmon, provost marshal. The command denied the request in writing due to legal and liability issues, he said.

If people currently have these markers, or guns, Dykema said they should take them in to the police department to be held there until they can take them off island, or they should mail them home. You can ship the gun, but not the cartridge, he said.

Saying that the police department hopes that getting the word out will put a stop to the activity, Dykema said, "It's better to be informed and then make an informed decision."

Classified Ads and Community Notices

HELP WANTED

The following on-island positions are open with Raytheon. For more information or to submit a resumé or application, call HR employment, Andrea Dixon, 53705.

COORDINATOR, Housing Services. Full time. Seeking responsible, detail-oriented individual to fill critical position in the Housing Services office. Responsibilities include maintaining computer database for all housing keys, assisting with administrative tasks and coordinating Housing Services customers and personnel. Experience with customer service helpful.

DESK CLERK, Kwaj Lodge. Part time. Seeking flexible individual to work the front desk at Kwaj Lodge. Flexible schedule to help cover call-outs and last-minute schedule changes a must. Previous hotel or customer-service experience helpful.

RECREATION AIDE, UPRC. Seeking hard-working, enthusiastic, responsible, self-motivated individual to work about 15 hours per week, evenings and weekends. Duties include patron count, cleaning and customer service.

INVENTORY MANAGEMENT SPECIALIST. Temporary full time. Research and review stock material requests with supported customers; research items in federal- and Web-based systems to ensure accurate catalog information; work with acquisition and procurement staffs to update catalog database; optimize stock levels for items using material requirements planning (MRP) and inventory control techniques. Individual must have strong PC and administration skills and be fluent in English and able to work independently.

Raytheon off-island positions are updated weekly in the Career Opportunities Book at the HR counter, Bldg. 700.

FOUND

BAG containing cards at the Craft Fair. Call 54142 and leave a message.

CLASSES AND COURSES

MAKE A fruit basket in one night. Kwajalein Art Guild offers a beginning basket-weaving class tomorrow, 6-9 p.m., in the Art Annex. Cost is \$25. Pick up forms on the mini-mall bulletin board. For more information, call Karen, 51391, after 4:30 p.m., or Michelle, 55319, after 4:30 p.m.

FOR SALE

COMPUTER: Pentium II 400, 128 MB SDRAM, 12 gig hard drive, 42x CD ROM, 56k modem, DIVA TNT 16 MB graphics card, Sound Blaster Live, 15" monitor, \$550. Call 54374.

DOUBLE-jogging stroller, \$50; single-jogging stroller, \$35. Call 52763.

HEIRLOOM-quality solid wood convertible crib, \$400 or best offer; changing table, \$100; alphabet puzzle floor mat as seen in The Right Start, \$50. Call 53713.

REDUCED FOR quick sale. Offshore rescue/survival kit in excellent condition, in floatable Pelican box featuring ACR 406 Mhz Satellite 2 EPIRB, four Solas-grade Paines Wessex parachute flares, two Paines Wessex lifesmokes, four Paines Wessex handheld flares, emergency strobe, signal mirror and dive light, paid \$1,400, will sell for \$800; deluxe 11-piece, extra-large Santa costume with toy bag, \$200; Premium folding tumbling mat, \$50; Samsonite Pullman hard-sided suitcase with wheels, \$45; Call Mike, 52694.

PCS SALE. Wooden TV trays, Onkyo six-CD player, surround-sound speakers, rocker/recliner love seat, computer desk, microwave, printer, Playstation games, air cleaner, card table, file cabinet, mens and womens Huffy aluminum bikes. Call 54337, evenings.

1997 SEADOO jetski and boathouse, lots of extras, \$5,200. Call Wil, 52687.

SWIM FINNS, child's size extra-small, \$10; womens rollerblades, size 5, \$10; skateboard, \$20; soft-sided carry-on luggage, \$10. Call 52197.

UNDER-SINK water filter, \$50; Malibu outdoor light set with spotlights, \$50. Call 54530.

26" PHILLIPS color TV, \$300; VCR, \$50,

both only two years old; single-speed Huffy bike, only six months old, \$50. Call Brent, 56906, Monday-Saturday, 7 a.m.-5 p.m.

SNORKELING OUTFIT: mens large size fins, vest, booties and weights with belt; cordless speaker/recording telephone, 900 Mhz, excellent condition. Call 59585 or pager 167.

SCUBAPRO regulator with octopus and gauges, \$175; DACOR regulator with gauges, \$150; Subaquatic regulator with octopus, \$50; ScubaPro Classic BCD with AirII, \$75; green 40" x 63" curtains 14 panels, \$70; artificial Christmas tree, \$15; wooden space-saver bathroom shelves, \$25. Call 52622.

MINOLTA 3xi 35mm camera, 35-80mm lens, 75-300mm lens, includes Cokin filter system, six filters, polarizer, UV filter and camera bag, \$425. Call 52425.

BLINDS for old housing, \$5 each; 55-gallon black acrylic aquarium with oak stand and complete accessories, \$300 or best offer; large snorkeling vest, \$10; two-door filing cabinet, \$15. Call 54558.

FENCE. Call 52667.

ROLLERBLADES, mens size 12, \$20; wakeboard with bindings and tote bag, \$600; fishing reel with 200 lb. test line, \$150; mens large scuba shortie wetsuit and

Holiday Concerts



Dec. 3	Community Band Carol Concert featuring the CDC singers, 9:30 a.m., on Macy's porch
Dec. 6	Elementary School Band and Choir Concert
Dec. 10	Community Chorus Concert featuring Handel's Messiah
Dec. 12	High School Band and Choir Concert
Dec. 13	Junior High Band and Choir Concert
Dec. 19	Primary Grades Concert

All concerts in the MP room except the Macy's porch concert

Classified Ads and Community Notices

booties, size 10, \$35; 55-gallon aquarium with stand, complete with accessories, \$850 or best offer. Call 52295, before 8 p.m.

MINI RACOR fuel filter, separates water from fuel, \$40; manual power-lift outboard engine bracket, model 65012, allows use of long-shaft engine, 50-250 hp, on short transom. Call 51161.

BAG BOY golf cart, excellent condition, \$55; junior golf clubs and bag, \$20; Sony five-CD player, \$95; rollerblades, size 4 and 5, \$10-\$15; two rollerblade carrying cases, \$5 each; kids knee and elbow pad sets, one medium and one large, \$5 each; kids silver skate helmet, \$10. Call 54643.

GUITAR and music magazines, \$20 takes all. Call 51713.

LITTLE TYKES dollhouse, excellent condition, \$200; jungle gym, \$25. Call 53585.

COMMUNITY NOTICES

GRACE SHERWOOD Library has copies of

Internet Explorer 6.0 with public Internet installation instructions.

BQ FIRE DRILLS are being conducted through Saturday. Times are no earlier than 3 p.m. and no later than 3:30 p.m.

ISLAND ORIENTATION is tomorrow, 8-11:30 a.m., in CAC Room 6. All new arrivals and family members over 10 years of age are encouraged to attend. After orientation, join Host Nation for a trip to Ebeye, 11:30 a.m.-2:30 p.m. Bring lunch money and your K-badge to tour the town. Women should wear long dresses or modest skirts. Questions? Call Jack, 51134.

GIRL SCOUT Cadet Troop requests donations of slightly used or new books for the SDA Library. Children's to young adult are preferred. Drop off at Macy's porch or the elementary school office. Questions? Call 54530.

ATTENTION FISHERMEN and fisherwomen: Clean out your tackle boxes and boat-

houses. We are collecting small hooks, weights, bobbers, lures and lines. We need them to make fishing kits for Majetto and Ebadon kids as part of the Outer Island Christmas Drop. Call Maryjon, 52517, or Trina, 52842.

PROPERTY MANAGEMENT and Housing Services is conducting a biennial inventory of all government furniture and appliances located in Kwajalein residential facilities including BQs, trailers and hard housing through Dec. 15. There are no Furniture Warehouse deliveries during this time.

The mid-atoll corridor will be closed until further notice. This includes oceanside east reef, north of Bigej, to Gagan's oceanside east, out to the 12-mile territorial limit. The west reef and everywhere else oceanside is not affected.



It's time to welcome Santa and Mrs. Claus to Kwaj! They'll be here Saturday, Dec. 1. Santa and Mrs. Claus arrive at the airport 5-5:15 p.m. Then the Santamobile Parade is 5:15-6 p.m. The block party and the TREE LIGHTING CEREMONY begins at 6:15 p.m. in front of the Yuk Club. Food booths by Sodexo USA, music and a fun tent.

Remember, no bikes, rollerblades or skateboards allowed at the Santamobile Parade.

See you at the movies!

Saturday

A Christmas Story (1983, PG)

All little Ralphy wants for Christmas is a Red Ryder 200-shot Carbine Action BB gun with the compass in the stock. But nobody — his parents, teachers, even the store Santa Claus — seems to understand his passion, in this homage to 1940s Middle America. (Peter Billingsley) (94 minutes)

Richardson Theater, 8:15 p.m. (Late start due to block party.)

Fargo (1996, R)

The Coen Brothers take the “caper gone awry” storyline and give it their trademark twists. The plot: A used car salesman hires a couple of thugs to kidnap his wife, hoping his father-in-law will pay the ransom, which he will then split with the crooks. Instead, the duo leave a grisly trail of dead bodies in their wake. (William H. Macy, Steve Buscemi) (98 minutes)

Yokwe Yuk Theater, 8:15 p.m. (Late start due to block party.)

Legally Blond (2001, PG-13)

To impress her Harvard-bound boyfriend, a California blonde gets herself enrolled in law school. (Reese Witherspoon) (95 minutes)

Tradewinds Theater, 8 p.m.

Sunday

Legally Blond (2001, PG-13)

Richardson Theater, 7:30 p.m.

Fargo (1996, R)

Tradewinds Theater, 7:30 p.m.

Monday

A Christmas Story (1983, PG)

Richardson Theater, 7:30 p.m.

Legally Blond (2001, PG-13)

Yokwe Yuk Theater, 8 p.m.



(Photo by Gwyne Copeland)

Ross Butz, Ben Hall, Josh Koehler, Ben Ouder Kirk and Marshall Moore light the candles signifying the seven values exemplified by the Arrow of Light Award of the Cub Scouts.

Webelos accept Arrow of Light Award

By Gwyne Copeland
Contributing Writer

It was a big night for eight Webelo Scouts on Kwajalein. They are advancing to Boy Scouts and taking the highest honor Cub Scouting has to offer with them.

Ross Butz, Robby Alves, Justin Netteville, Ben Ouder Kirk, Josh Koehler, Tyler Hohbach, Marshall Moore and Ben Hall each accepted the Arrow of Light Award Friday at their monthly pack meeting.

The award is given to Cub Scouts who

exemplify the values of wisdom, courage, self control, justice, faith, hope and love. The boys lit one candle for each of the seven values.

Cub Master, David Wallner, told the boys and their families, that very few cubs earn this honor, and it's the only badge they can continue to wear as Boy Scouts and into adulthood.

He told them that it also sets them on the road to earning their Eagle Scout Award, an accomplishment achieved by only 2 percent of all Boy Scouts.

WEATHER
Courtesy of Aeromet



Sun • Moon • Tides



Tonight: Partly cloudy with isolated showers.
Winds: North-northeast at 8 to 14 knots, with higher gusts near showers.
Tomorrow: Partly cloudy with isolated showers.
Winds: Northeast at 8 to 14 knots, with higher gusts near showers.
Temperature: Tonight's low 79°
Tomorrow's high 86°
November rain total: 12.00"
Annual rain total: 66.18"
Annual deviation: -26.39"
Call 54700 for continuously updated forecasts and sea conditions.

	Sunrise/set	Moonrise/set	High Tide	Low Tide
Tuesday November 27	0646/1827	1548/0329	0159, 4.3' 1428, 4.7'	0810, 1.3' 2037, 1.4'
Wednesday November 28	0647/1827	1628/0415	0234, 4.5' 1457, 5.1'	0839, 1.0' 2110, 1.0'
Thursday November 29	0647/1827	1711/0502	0308, 4.7' 1526, 5.5'	0909, 0.8' 2143, 0.7'
Friday November 30	0648/1827	1757/0553	0340, 4.9' 1556, 5.8'	0938, 0.6' 2216, 0.5'