



Day honors veterans past and present

By Jim Bennett
Editor

The people of Kwajalein honored America's veterans Saturday in a ceremony at the battle memorial.

"You [veterans] have fought our wars, seen your buddies fall," said Col. Curtis L. Wrenn Jr., USAKA/KMR commander. "You remind us that unless we are strong and watchful and prepared, we may once again face the terrible roar of our enemies' guns, and men and women will again be asked to lay down their lives to defend their country."

Craig Seiler, commander of American Legion Post 44 on Kwajalein, echoed the colonel's sentiments.

"We veterans fought to end war," he said. "We fought because of the recklessness of a few people, and we showed that people will not be subjected to tyranny without a fight."

On behalf of veterans and in honor

(See *SERVICE*, page 4)



Dave Bustamante, of the American Legion, places a wreath at the battlefield memorial as part of the Veterans Day ceremony Saturday.

(Photo by Jim Bennett)



(Photo by Jim Bennett)

From left, Bill and Ed Huth talk about memories of World War II over coffee. The two brothers, both veterans, are on island visiting Bill's daughter, Nancy Jones, and her family. Bill served in the European Theater, while Ed served in the Pacific.

Brothers-in-arms

Huths tell tales of war

By KW Hillis
Feature Writer

For Army veterans and brothers Ed and William Huth, Veterans Day on Kwajalein sharpened memories about their comrades in arms and the war they fought.

During his Veterans Day speech, Col. Curtis L. Wrenn Jr., USAKA/KMR commander, recognized the brothers for their service to the country during World War II.

"If you've ever been in combat, it's not an experience you'll ever forget," said Bill, drinking coffee with Ed at the home of his daughter Nancy Jones Friday.

Bill was drafted in 1943 and, because of a bad eye, was assigned to a special services group.

"I became a librarian in the Army," Bill said. "In March of 1944 ... we were all put in the infantry, where I really didn't belong because of my bad eye."

(See *BROTHERS*, page 7)

Letters to the Editor

SMDC CG writes on Veterans Day

MEMORANDUM for all U.S. Army Space and Missile Defense Command Personnel

SUBJECT: Veterans Day 2000

1. Each year, the nation sets aside Nov. 11 as a day to honor the heroism and sacrifice of America's soldiers, past and present. In 1926, Congress originally established Armistice Day as a memorial to the ending of World War I, the "war to end all wars."

In 1954, Congress changed the holiday to Veterans Day as a day on which we honor all veterans of past wars and those who presently serve the cause of freedom around the world.

2. As our nation honors all veterans, the U.S. Army Space and Missile Defense Command specifically recognizes the active duty men and women serving this command. To show my appreciation for our service members, I have designated Monday, Nov. 13, 2000, a training holiday for military personnel.

3. Be aware of the hazards involved

with your activities and be alert to avoid situations that put you in danger. You have a great safety record at work. Put the same risk management skills you use on the job to work at home and play; they are good for any situation.

4. It is my sincere desire every employee of the U.S. Army Space and Missile Defense Command enjoy a memorable, accident-free Veteran's Day weekend. Let us enjoy this holiday without a serious injury or fatality.

5. Thanks to the nation's veterans and to all those presently serving in the armed forces.

John Costello
Lieutenant General, U.S. Army
Commanding

Chairman pays homage to veterans

Today marks the first Veterans Day of the 21st Century. As we have done since 1919, Americans pause to salute the brave men and women who have served in the Armed Forces of the United States.

This day was originally set aside as

a day of observance for those who fought and died in the "Great War," World War I — the "war to end all wars." Obviously, World War I was not the end of warfare; in fact, it was the precursor of warfare throughout the 20th Century. So with history as our guide, members of our Armed Forces undoubtedly will be called upon to go into harm's way in the new century. Our men and women in uniform, serving around the globe today, stand ready to answer that call.

In 1954, Veterans Day became a tribute to all those who have served America in all wars. It is fitting to note that this change came on the heels of another important conflict, the Korean War. During this commemoration of the 50th anniversary of the Korean War, we should pay honor to our veterans of that conflict. Their great sacrifice embodies the spirit of selflessness in the face of overwhelming deprivation and hardship.

This Veterans Day, I challenge every American to consider the sacrifice of those who lost their lives in our Nation's struggles to preserve liberty and freedom. Whether attending a

(See LETTERS, page 3)

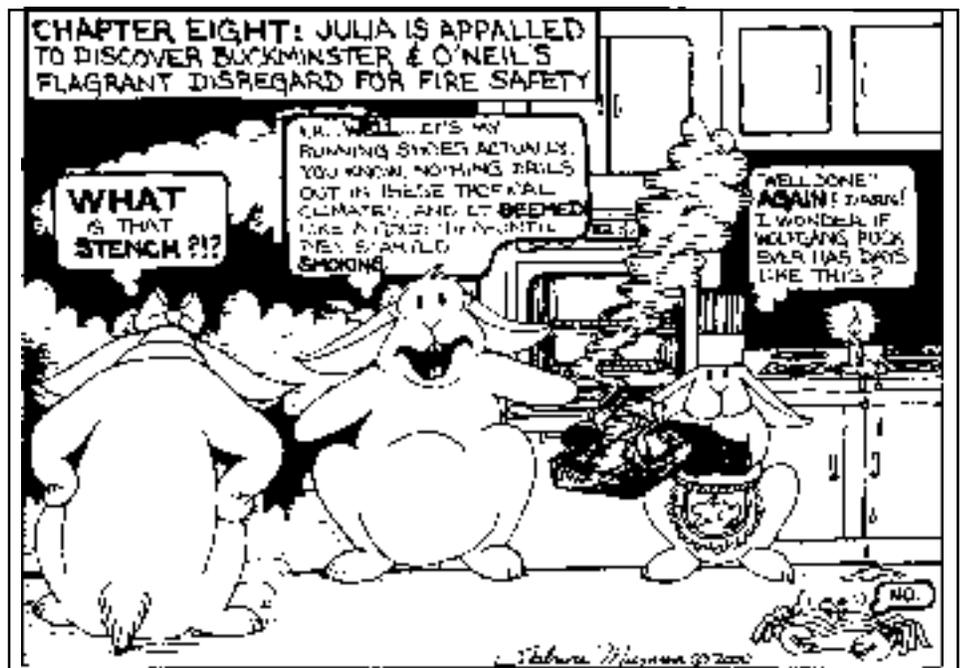
The Kwajalein Hourglass

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The Hourglass is named for the insignia of the U.S. Army 7th Infantry Division, which liberated the island from the forces of Imperial Japan on Feb 4, 1944.

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Buckminster and Friends — By Sabrina Mumma



DoD surveys absentee ballot voting program

Special to the American Forces Press Service

WASHINGTON — As the 2000 presidential election has shown, every vote counts, including service members' absentee ballots.

To improve the absentee balloting program for the next election cycle, DoD officials are surveying military absentee voters.

Thousands of U.S. service members serving out of state vote via absentee ballots. After each election, officials at the Federal Voting Assistance Program examine their processes and work with Congress to improve the program for the next election.

Voting officials sent surveys to a random sample of U.S. citizens covered under the Uniformed and Overseas Citizens Absentee Voting Act beginning Nov. 6.

This year, for the first time, participants will have the option of filling out the paper version of the survey or responding to the survey over the Internet. Officials urge respondents to use the electronic version of the survey because it takes less time to complete than the paper version. The voting office analyzes the results to determine how voting assistance offered to U.S. citizens may be improved. Only people involved in collecting or preparing the information for analy-

sis will have access to completed questionnaires and only group statistics will be reported.

Questions regarding the survey may be referred to Elaine Perna at 1-800-483-VOTE (8683), local (703) 588-1584, DSN 425-1584 or by clicking the "Toll-free Numbers" heading listed on the home page of the Web site at <http://www.fvap.ncr.gov/>.

For written questions or comments, the office address is Director, Federal Voting Assistance Program, Department of Defense, Washington Headquarters Services, 1155 Defense Pentagon, Washington, D.C. 20301-1155. The e-mail address is vote@fvap.ncr.gov.

Letters to the Editor cont'd.

(From page 2)

parade, a memorial service or observing the day in private, pause at the 11th hour to reflect upon and mark this occasion.

The Joint Chiefs of Staff and I join you in paying homage to our veterans for all they have done. Their actions made a difference for America and the world. Their dedication to duty has preserved our precious legacy of freedom and liberty in this great Republic.

HENRY H. SHELTON
Chairman of the
Joint Chiefs of Staff

Raytheon CEO says 'reflect' on Vets Day

On Saturday, Nov. 11, the United States observes Veterans Day. On behalf of the Leadership Team and employees of Raytheon, we wish to extend our company's deepest appreciation to all Raytheon employees and retirees, and all Americans, who have served the United States in uniform, and who do so today.

Thank you for protecting our freedoms, for standing with our allies, for deploying to regions far from home.

Who are the men and women we honor today? They are thousands of Raytheon employees, retirees and families who have sacrificed on our

behalf. A few stories are described on our intranet site, at <http://home.ray.com/feature/veteran/> including:

- Robert Taber, who served with the 8th Army during the Korean War and is the father of John Taber, a production resource for the Electronic Systems metal fabrication team in Dallas;

- Steve Peth, director for Air and Missile Defense programs in our Washington business development office and a decorated medical evacuation helicopter pilot in Vietnam;

- And Matt DellaLucca, decorated for supporting the successful combat search and rescue of a downed F-117 pilot during the defense of Kosovo; he is the son of Denis DellaLucca, an exhibit designer for Raytheon Technical Services.

I encourage you to access their stories and others on our Veterans Day intranet site, and to learn more about Veterans Day and its observance.

As employees of a major defense electronics company, we have an opportunity during this period to reflect on the importance of our work to all of our men and women in uniform. We know that "freedom is not free." Those who protect it, and us, are never far from our thoughts or our prayers.

Dan Burnham

Marine Department to hold memorial service for Begley

From Staff Reports

The Marine Department will hold a Memorial Service for Emmett Begley, 46, who died Nov. 6 on Ebeye.

Begley served as chief engineer of the *Manassas* and worked on Kwajalein for more than 20 years.

Begley will be buried on Ebeye, but funeral arrangements currently are pending.

The department, however, will hold an underway memorial service aboard the *Manassas* in the lagoon. A wreath will be placed in the water during this service. Underway time is currently scheduled for 4 p.m., Saturday, Nov. 18. Immediate family members will be invited along with Emmett's co-workers.

Space is limited, but those wishing to attend, should call Mary Harris at 53752 to reserve a place on the vessel.

A memorial service for Begley was held on the mainland Friday at First Southern Baptist Church in Rushville, Ind.

Individuals can make a memorial donation in the name of Begley to the church, 1159 South Airport Road, Rushville, Ind., 46173.

Veteran "Remember"



Kwajalein Jr./Sr. High School band, led by Dick Shields, played service songs, along with the national anthems of both the U.S. and Republic of the Marshall Islands. Soloists Nathan Holzrichter and Robbie Hamill played "Taps."



Jamie Zucker, right, of the Kwajalein Veterans, salutes.



The Kwajalein Pipes and Drums played an opening set and "Amazing Grace."

Service ...

(From page 1)

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(Photos by

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Jim Bennett)



Marine veteran Dan Thibodeau, right, sings along with the Marine Corps Hymn during the opening of the service.



Col. Curtis L. Wrenn Jr., USAKA/KMR commander, salutes after placing a wreath at the battlefield memorial.

Escort carrier carried planes and Kwajalein name

By Jim Bennett
Editor

They took names from battles, but most of the sailors simply knew them as "Kaiser's Coffins."

They were the Casablanca class escort aircraft carrier of World War II, and included the USS *Kwajalein* (CVE-98).

In the northwest corner of the Dock Security Checkpoint, a plaque commemorates the ship named for the 1944 battle on this island.

"That period of two, three or four years we spent in the Navy seemed an eternity at that time of our youth, but it seems miniscule now," wrote Monte W. Allen of Lees Summit, Mo., in a preface to a published history of the ship. Allen served as an enlisted sailor aboard the *Kwajalein*. "But that short period of our lifespan was probably more impressive on our lives than any other time of our life. It would bring together large groups of men, together from all walks of lifestyle, and unite them for a common cause. In our case, to man the USS *Kwajalein*, forming a camaraderie we will always remember and cherish."

The story of the ship goes back to the early war years. Proposed by Henry J. Kaiser and designed by a naval architectural firm, the Casablanca class carriers were built for the speedy delivery of aircraft to fleet carriers and to transport aircraft in amphibious assaults. Escort carriers, or "Jeep" carriers, as they were sometimes known, were designed to move quickly and carry large number of aircraft.

They were not outfitted with a large complement of weapons. It carried simply one five-inch deck gun, 16 40mm anti-aircraft guns divided into eight stations, and 24 20mm anti-aircraft guns.

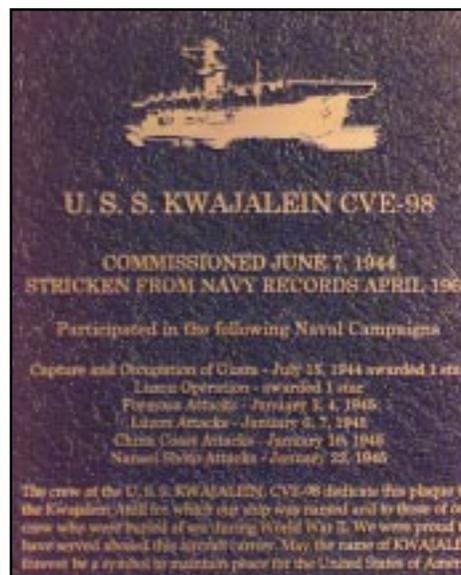
Furthermore, they had a thin bulkhead, put together with an all-welded construction using prefabricated sections. They were built in a hurry to meet the threat of the war.

In fact, 123 CVEs of various classes were commissioned between June 2, 1941, and Aug. 30, 1946. Forty-nine of them were Casablanca class.



(Photo by KW Hillis)

Roy McMaster reads the USS *Kwajalein* marker, shown below, at the Dock Security Checkpoint.



The *Kwajalein*, or "Mighty K," as it was known, was launched May 4, 1944, just three months after the battle for which it was named, and was commissioned June 7. It began its first operation July 19, 1944, steaming to the central Pacific, where it participated in the attack on Guam.

It returned to Pearl Harbor, carrying captured Japanese equipment for intelligence studies.

Later, the ship launched aircraft

in attacks at Manila, Philippines, and supplied aircraft to various carriers throughout Task Group 38.

On Dec. 18, 1944, the ship endured one of its more memorable events of the war, a typhoon. With winds exceeding 80 knots, the ship lost only three planes that had to be pushed overboard and suffered some damage to a pair of 20mm guns.

"Due to the fine ship handling of Capt. (Robert) Warrack, for which he was later awarded a letter of commendation, the USS *Kwajalein* came through the storm with very little damage," Allen wrote. "At one time the ship rolled over to port as much as 39 degrees, but after the planes were off, the rolling decreased to about 25 degrees until the storm subsided."

The ship was on its way to Pearl Harbor when the war ended Aug. 14, 1945. It was assigned the task of bringing troops home on four successive "Magic Carpet" rides, arriving from the last in February 1946.

Afterwards, the ship remained at Tacoma, Wash., in the Pacific Reserve Fleet, until it was stricken from the Navy list April 1, 1960. It was scrapped in Japan a year later.

Brothers share stories ...

(From page 1)

Assigned to the 99th Infantry, Bill received a Purple Heart for wounds received during the Battle of the Bulge in January 1945.

"We lived two to a foxhole. There were four of us there talking," Bill said, as his brother put down his coffee and gave him his full attention. "The shell came in and killed one soldier and wounded me in my eye and gave me some superficial lacerations.

"The other two were more seriously wounded than I. In fact, they didn't return to duty," Bill said. "My eye was okay in a couple of weeks."

Three months later, Bill went on to fight at the bridge of Remagen, the last standing bridge over the Rhine River.

Six years older than Bill, Ed joined the service in 1941 before the U.S. entered the war. He was the sergeant major for 671st Tank Destroyer Battalion.

"In 1945 we were assigned to Leyte, Philippines," Ed said. "We were there for the preparation for the invasion of Japan."

The invasion never occurred after the U.S. dropped two atomic bombs on Japan and the Japanese surrendered.

"We both came home on exactly the same day — Jan. 5, 1946," Ed said.

Bill and Ed aren't the only members of their family to serve in the military. Their brother, Dr. Thomas Huth, served as a doctor in the Korean War. Bill's son-in-law is Lt. Col. Raymond Jones, KMR commander, and his granddaughter is a sergeant in the Marines, stationed in Okinawa.

"My oldest son just retired from the Army," Ed added.



(Photo by Jim Bennett)

Brothers and veterans, from left, Ed and Bill Huth receive commander's coins from Col. Curtis L. Wrenn Jr., USAKA/KMR commander, during the Veterans Day ceremony Saturday.

"My youngest son is in the Air Force and is stationed in Turkey."

In addition to attending the Veterans Day ceremony, the Huth brothers planned to tour the island and its battlefield markers on Saturday.

Even the vegetation of the island brought back memories of the war.

"The island is a lot like the Philippines. The only difference is that we were by the seashore and about one-quarter of a mile back there were mountains," Ed said.

Next Friday, the brothers will leave Kwajalein and make the journey to their homes. Bill will return to Cincinnati and Ed to San Antonio. They will take with them memories of a World War II battlefield they never visited before.

Sailors relate stories of Kwajalein during war ...

(From page 12)

up in Kwajalein in 1944," Hemovich said. "Our job was to rake the islands with runways from one end to the other with 15-inch bombardment shells. We bombed [Kwajalein and Roi] for a month and then left."

After shelling Kwajalein Atoll, the USS *New Mexico* went to Saipan, Australia, Okinawa and the Philippines over a period of about a year.

"While we were in the Philippines we were hit in the navigation bridge, which killed a lot of Australian observers and our captain," Hemovich said. "We were also hit in the gun deck by a kamikaze while we were in Okinawa."

After a year, the USS *New Mexico* headed back to Hawaii, went through the Panama Canal and finally landed in Boston.

Hemovich, a retired industrial en-

gineer, lives in Grosse Pointe, Mich., and volunteers at a local hospital.

"Every man should have some service time to learn discipline," Hemovich added.

Robert Wanta, Merchant Marines

In 1945, a Merchant Marine ship carried second engineer Wanta to one of the small islands in Kwajalein Atoll.

"We were enroute to our final destination in the Pacific," Wanta said. "We were surprised when they had us stop near [Kwajalein]."

"[From the island], I witnessed Task Force 58, commanded by Adm. Mark Mitcher. Task Force 58 was a famous group of ships that did severe damage to the Japanese ships," Wanta said.

The Merchant Marines supplied the military machine during World War II.

"No one got guns or butter unless

we delivered it," Wanta said. "The Navy didn't deliver ammunition to the Marines. We did."

The Kwajalein Atoll island where Wanta found himself was used for rest and relaxation.

"Men would land on the island, have a couple of beers and a little rest and then go back into combat," Wanta said. "We were only there for a week."

Wanta who "wanted to go where the action was," saw combat in the North Atlantic, the Mediterranean and the Pacific.

"In fact we took 27 Seabees on their second tour of duty to Okinawa where we were attacked by a kamikaze," Wanta added. "[The Merchant Marines'] role in WWII was ignored until quite recently."

Wanta, retired, lives in Tampa, Fla., and plans to go to his local American Legion Post on Veterans Day.

See you at the movies!

Saturday

The Adventures of Rocky and Bullwinkle (New Release, PG)

In this comedy inspired by the popular cartoon series, computer-generated animated characters are blended with live actors. Fearless Leader plots to take over the world with the help of Boris Badenov (Jason Alexander) and Natasha Fatale (Rene Russo), and Rocky and Bullwinkle try to stop them. (88 minutes)

Richardson Theater, 7:30 p.m.

What Lies Beneath (New Release, R)

In this supernatural thriller, a woman believes that mysterious happenings in her house are connected to the disappearance at a nearby college of a woman student who bore a striking resemblance to her. (Harrison Ford, Michelle Pfeiffer) (126 minutes)

Yokwe Yuk Theater, 8 p.m.

Tomorrow Never Dies (PG-13)

Pierce Brosnan as Bond learns that a billionaire media mogul is manipulating world events via his satellite system and intends to start a war between England and China so he can cover it on his network. (119 minutes)

Tradewinds Theater, 8 p.m.

Sunday

A Touch of Evil (Classic, 1958)

Orson Welles directs and stars with Charlton Heston and Janet Leigh in this classic mystery. On his honeymoon with his new bride, Heston investigates a bomb explosion and incurs the wrath of the corrupt local police chief. (108 minutes)

Richardson Theater, 7:30 p.m.

Tomorrow Never Dies (PG-13)

Richardson Theater, 9:30 p.m.

What Lies Beneath (New Release, R)

Tradewinds Theater, 7:30 p.m.

The Adventures of Rocky and Bullwinkle (New Release, PG)

Tradewinds Theater, 9:30 p.m.

Monday

The Adventures of Rocky and Bullwinkle (New Release, PG)

Richardson Theater 7:30 p.m.

What Lies Beneath (New Release, R)

Yokwe Yuk Theater, 8 p.m.



(File Photo)

Sailors work alongside soldiers on the way to invade Kwajalein. After the February 1944 invasion, the island became a center for the U.S. war machine in the Pacific, used by soldiers, sailors and merchant marines.

Kwajalein links two sailors' stories

By KW Hillis
Feature Writer

Kwajalein Atoll was a brief stop for two sailors over 55 years ago during World War II. Now separated by thousands of miles, the two revisited their memories of this small corner of the Pacific in remembrance of Veterans Day.

William Hemovich, U.S. Navy

The last time Hemovich saw Kwajalein and Roi-Namur it was from the battleship USS *New Mexico* as it bombarded both islands.

"In 1944 Kwajalein [and Roi were] under Japanese control," Hemovich said. "[The atoll] had the largest lagoon, and the Japanese needed it as a stepping stone to other islands in the Pacific. I watched the Japanese go from island to island, the water was so low."

Hemovich joined the Navy in September 1943 at the age of 18 and became a water tender for boiler room number three.

"We were in Pearl Harbor and ended

(See SAILORS, page 7)

WEATHER
Courtesy of Aeromet



Sun • Moon • Tides



Tonight: Partly cloudy with isolated showers.
Winds: East to east-southeast at 5 to 10 knots, with higher gusts near showers.
Tomorrow: Partly to mostly sunny with showers becoming widely scattered.
Winds: East-southeast to southeast at 6 to 12 knots, with higher gusts near showers.
Temperature: Tonight's low 79°
Tomorrow's high 86°
November rain total: 2.76"
Annual rain total: 82.98"
Annual deviation: -4.97"
Call 54700 for continuously updated forecasts and sea conditions.
Forecasts available online: www.kmr-wx.com

	Sunrise/set	Moonrise/set	High Tide	Low Tide
Tuesday November 14	0641/1825	2041/0838	0521, 5.1' 1737, 6.1'	1116, 0.5'
Wednesday November 15	0641/1825	2141/0939	0559, 4.7' 1816, 5.8'	0002, 0.4' 1151, 0.8'
Thursday November 16	0641/1825	2243/1041	0642, 4.3' 1900, 5.4'	0047, 0.8' 1230, 1.2'
Friday November 17	0642/1825	2343/1140	0734, 3.9' 1953, 4.9'	0139, 1.2' 1316, 1.7'