

THE KWAJALEIN HOURGLASS

Volume 41, Number 24

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



(Photo by KW Hillis)

USAKA's resident archaeologist, Dr. Boris Deunert, brushes dirt away from the edge of a Japanese bunker window, buried in ALTAIR's fenced area on Roi-Namur.

Bones, ordnance found during trench digging

By KW Hillis
Feature Writer

The bones of least two people of Asian descent from the World War II era, bones of an individual predating WWII and more than 180 pieces of ordnance have been unearthed on Roi-Namur near ALTAIR during the past few weeks.

Overseen by USAKA's resident archaeologist, Dr. Boris Deunert, and unexploded ordnance personnel, the land inside

ALTAIR's fence was being trenched up to install new saltwater piping to provide a redundant cooling pipe going to ALTAIR.

The trench, a long wound in the earth, crossed in front of ALTAIR and, except for a few feet of untouched earth and roadway, continued into the fenced area by the radar. Huge pieces of green pipe, laid end to end by the side of the trench,

(See *PETRIFIED*, page 4)

Cholera may have been spread by contaminated hands touching water

By Peter Rejcek
Associate Editor

The handling, transportation and storage of water — not the water itself — may have been a link in a widespread chain of cholera cases on Ebeye that claimed six lives last December, according to the findings of a visiting physician with the Centers for Disease Control.

Dr. Mark Beatty, a CDC Epidemic Intelligence Service officer, said that while the disease is transmitted by a fecal-oral route, when "contaminated hands or dirt get into water and the water is consumed, the cycle is complete.

"Contaminated water is a common method of cholera transmission," he added.

Beatty presented his findings to members of the

Kwajalein Hospital staff earlier this month. Dr. Eric Lindborg, Kwajalein Hospital chief medical officer, said one "association" that Beatty found during his month-long investigation is that many of the cholera cases involved water that had been transported from Kwajalein using various types of containers.

"It's just an association. There may be other variables," he said.

Lindborg emphasized that it was not the water itself, but the transportation, handling and storage of the water once it left Kwajalein that apparently transmitted the disease.

"It is clear that the Kwaj water, as it comes out of the tap ... is and has been safe," Lindborg said.

Beatty said several measurements (See *HEALTH*, page 7)

Transportation continues bumpy ride at Roi BAC

By KW Hillis
Feature Writer

Roi-Namur residents focused on air and ground transportation issues at the Roi Bachelors' Advisory Council meeting last Wednesday afternoon.

Attendees questioned procedures at the Roi Aviation office, citing their inability to contact office personnel unless a plane is imminent or on the ground, lack of manifesting support, manifested people being bumped and flights leaving Roi empty when passengers are waiting.

"They are essentially closed to the public except for when the planes are on the ground or coming in," said Margaret Thompson, BAC B-building representative.

The problem of getting manifested on weekends, when Aviation Scheduler Faith Fullerton is off-island (See *GROUND*, page 5)

It's not your mother's cooking, but it's served up with care

By Paul King

I was recently sitting in my office, listening to my favorite radio station, CPN. A Rolling Stone classic was playing — one of my favorites, "Memories," — and it got me to thinking. These thoughts were rather profound, so I felt a need to share. To provide another clue as to my thought process, I was deciding where to eat lunch that day.

I closed my eyes and thought back to the meals my mother provided on a daily basis. Not to give her or my age away, because she would kill me, but if I describe a meal, most of us could reflect and better understand the point I am about to make.

A wonderful bowl of iceberg lettuce served with a mealy vine-ripened tomato and onions the size of dominos served with a pleasingly sweet salad dressing of unknown origin.

A delicious, fully cooked pork chop, "well done" to prevent the onset of trichinosis, accompanied by an ample portion of the best darn green beans available at the time, simple to prepare — open the can, boil to perfection, add copious amounts of butter, salt to taste — and the final touch, Mom's favorite mashed potatoes, complete with a significant



amount of lumps and, of course, for dessert, as the package reads, home-baked chocolate chip cookies!

Does this meal bring back memories and vivid recollections of those meals some of us dreaded? Well, I have to say Mom is now one exceptional cook, and her Eggplant Parmesan is better than any I have ever eaten, anywhere!

Here on Kwaj, I consider us a big family, and in my eyes, if we all think back to those family meals — some were quite good, others at times, questionable. But, as we almost always did, we ate the items we truly enjoyed and tolerated or possibly squirreled away the others, hidden in a paper napkin so as not to carry that feeling of guilt about those starving children in some unknown land with nothing to eat when Mom saw you had not cleaned your plate.

So, what's my point? Sodexo Marriott is not part of a big conspiracy to intentionally provide the island with limited selections or charge the perceived unreasonable prices to line the pockets of corporate America. We are here to provide a service to the community, and at times under very difficult circumstances.

We are all aware that it would be nice to have access every day to all those wonderful fruits and vegetables, fresh fish and the Angus Certified beef that can be purchased quite easily back home.

But in reality, the efforts put forth, not just by Food Services, but by our island procurement group, the retail personnel and of course, the mail room team and everyone else making do in the retail operations with the limitations we periodically experience, being 2500 miles to the most significant provider, are pretty unbelievable.

My suggestion is, take the time to periodically thank these groups and their staffs once in a while. They do work very hard in providing our residents and guests with a varied, well-balanced selection of many items on a daily basis and deserve an "atta boy or girl" once in a while.

Buckminster and Friends — By Sabrina Mumma

The Kwajalein Hourglass

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School survey finds staff morale high in most cases

By Barbara Johnson
Feature Writer

The results of a teacher morale survey, administered to school staff earlier this month, did not support concerns about low teacher morale, teacher representative Dick Shields reported to the School Advisory Committee at Wednesday night's meeting.

The survey was administered by teacher members of the local North Central Association accreditation steering committee as a result of comments made by Kwajalein Family Action Plan delegates in January expressing concern over staff morale and teacher turnover rates.

"One issue, teacher morale, was an area that we thought should be identified and we wanted to collect concrete data," Shields said.

The survey was returned by 44 staff members from the elementary and junior-senior high schools, about 90 percent of the total staff. The results showed that teachers are basically satisfied with their work environment, Shields said.

The survey was divided into three sections: school life, benefits and quality of life.

In the school life section, teachers were asked eight questions about how they felt about the classroom environment, the overall school environment, personal and professional communication among the staff, quality of interaction with parents and students and if teaching on Kwajalein gave them satisfaction. Staff members rated each element on a scale of one to five, with five being the most favorable.

Highest rated was interaction with students, with 30, or two-thirds, of the responses at five and 11 responses at 4. The areas receiving the lowest ratings were personal and professional interaction among teachers, with two-thirds of the responses at three and four.

In response to the question, "Does teaching on Kwajalein give you satisfaction," 35, or three-fourths, of the respondents gave it a rating of four or five.

90 percent of polled respond to questions

Most of the responses to the school life section were in the fours and fives, Shields reported, adding, "The results were better than what we anticipated from anecdotal evidence."

The results of the second section, benefits, were more spread out, and more toward the center, Shields said.

The benefits section asked about salary, retirement, insurance, housing and annual leave. Highest marks were for annual leave, with 32 at four or five, and lowest were for retirement, with 19 ones and 7 twos.

The third section, one question about general quality of life at Kwaj, showed a response of about two-thirds fours and fives, with a few threes, Shields said.

"It showed that basically teachers were satisfied," said Karen Ammann, school superintendent. "I was pleased that people were happy with their work environment."

The committee also compiled statistics on another issue of concern arising from the KFAP committee, teacher turnover rates. Shields reported that the district is currently right on the average turnover rate of 26 percent, compiled from 1983 to the present. Last year's rate was 26 percent, and the previous year was 27 percent, Shields said.

Speaking about the survey results, Shields said the committee was pleased about teacher morale, but still would like the turnover rate to be lower.

Some issues were identified that will be addressed through proper channels, Shields said.

Teacher recruitment

Ammann reported on her February teacher recruiting trip to the University of Northern Iowa Overseas Placement Fair.

The district will replace six elementary school teachers, three junior-senior high school teachers, a psychologist and a preschool training and curriculum coordinator this year.

Contracts were offered to seven

teachers, a psychologist and a preschool training coordinator, Ammann said. Several candidates are still being interviewed.

"We're in good shape for next year," she said, adding that the district is communicating with the new teachers by e-mail, and they have already started getting to know each other.

She said that the Iowa fair is the largest fair of its kind in the U.S., with 800 to 900 candidates attending, and there are always far more candidates than they can interview.

Artist-in-Residence

Elementary school teacher Janice Riordan gave an update on Kwajalein's first Artist-in-Residence, children's author Donna Guthrie, who will be at Kwajalein for a week beginning April 20.

Riordan distributed Guthrie's tentative schedule at the meeting, and it shows a week packed with activities. She begins with a PTO welcoming party, and moves on to school assemblies, classroom visits, lunches with student groups, a community evening book signing, a community writing workshop and a teacher in-service.

The community book signing will be Monday, April 23, from 9 a.m. to 12 noon. Students can bring in their collections, and Guthrie will share details about her new book, *Collect This*.

Aloha Airlines contributed the round-trip plane ticket to Kwaj for the Artist-in-Residence.

Student teachers

Five student teachers from Majuro and two College of the Marshall Islands instructors will be at Kwajalein the first week in April. In a program chaired by Cris Lindborg, and with grants from the Yokwe Yuk Women's Club, the student teachers will visit classrooms from preschool to eighth grade, according to teacher Debbie Mawhar, who is helping coordinate their visit.

After their classroom visits, they will meet with teachers to talk about ways they can use what they have observed and things they can do in Majuro schools to make good use of what they have.

Petrified bones may be carbon tested ...

(From page 1)

waited to be installed. Near the far end of the fence, three workers carefully removed the earth from the trench with small trowels, stopping to sift the dirt through a wire screen.

Inside the fence, near ALTAIR's front door, Deunert pointed to the place in the trench where the Asian bones were found, along with ordnance and bits of metal and other scrap.

"This is a bomb crater," he said, pointing to a curving, darker layer of soil and debris in the wall of the trench. "They filled it in [with] whatever they had — expended and unexpended ammunition and, of course, body parts."

Parts of at least two bodies of Asian descent were found in the filled-in bomb crater, he said. Deunert explained that without a full skeleton, from the few bones found it is impossible to determine if they are Japanese or Korean, who were also on the island during WWII.

"We would like to return the bones to Japan ... it's really hard to tell what's Japanese and what's Korean," Deunert said, explaining that the bones were reburied in the same site after analysis and added to the archaeological database, since Roi-Namur is a national historic battlefield site.

Walking toward the back of ALTAIR's fenced area, Deunert pointed to whitened bones in the area where an archaeological team, led by Randall Taitrik, was carefully removing the dirt by hand.

"We found more bones and parts of what we presume to be an early necklace," Deunert said, explaining that the soil color and composition indicate that the burial spot predates WWII. "[The bones] are almost petrified ... if we get permis-



(Photo by KW Hillis)

Carefully removing and sifting dirt, Johnny Aroneang, left, Henry Capelle, behind the sifter, and Jelton Riclon look for additional bones and artifacts in ALTAIR's back yard.

sion, we will radiocarbon date these bones."

Pieces of shell that are presumed to be a necklace will be taken to a specialist at the Bishop Museum in Honolulu to determine if a hole found in one of the pieces was naturally formed or not, he said.

The Asian bones have already been reburied, along with a note indicating where and when they were found, said Tom Kane, USAKA/KMR Environmental coordinator. Unless an American body is found,

that is what is done with WWII human remains.

As to the nearly petrified bones that predate the war, Kane said, "In concert with the historic preservation plan, if we find [Marshallese] human remains, we notify the Mar-

shallese."

Permission from the RMI's deputy archaeologist has been received to send the nearly petrified bones for radiocarbon dating, Kane said.

Meanwhile, the ordnance is being stored in an unexploded ordnance bunker and will be destroyed next month on Illeginni, said Clarence Williams, Launch Ordnance technician.

As for the safety and stability of the ordnance found during the dig, Williams said, "They're okay, if you don't mess with them."

During the last part of April, Deunert is scheduled to return to Roi-Namur to oversee the last part of the trench that will provide the backup salt water-cooling pipe to TRADEX.



(Photo by KW Hillis)

This shell and others found during trenching may be part of a necklace predating WWII. They will be examined in Honolulu.

"We found more bones and parts of what we presume to be an early necklace."

—Boris Deunert
Archaeologist

Ground transportation needs being addressed ...

(From page 1)

or when the need arises within a day of the flight, was brought up. Fullerton is currently the only person authorized to manifest people on the flights.

Representatives also said that while the number of personnel at the office increased, the service decreased when the 1900Ds started flying.

To respond to concerns, Aviation Services Manager Lott Lawson will be at the Roi terminal from 3 p.m. to 5 p.m. March 31. (See Lawson's response on this page.)

To help with manifesting, a person from Kwaj is being trained, said Joe Johnson, Aviation Department airfield manager.

Lack of ground transportation once Roi residents arrive on Kwajalein via the 1900Ds is also a problem, according to representatives.

BAC members gave various examples of walking to dental and hospital appointments, to classes as far away as the CRC or to jobs at Building 1010. No shuttle bus is available, and the work bus is gone by the time the plane from Roi lands.

"[We're] acquiring a number of bikes and are going to put them inside the terminal ... to protect them from the elements," said Todd Seitz, BAC chairman, explaining that Roi residents will have the combinations for the locks.

Transportation will work with the people coming to Kwaj from Roi, said Bert Godlewski, USAKA/KMR Transportation Equipment specialist. Workers are already authorized to fax a form to Automotive requesting a scooter or vehicle. If five or more people are attending a class on Kwaj, the shuttle may be an option, he said.

If, due to an injury, a person cannot ride a bike, any medical authority may authorize a vehicle for the person's use while on Kwaj, Godlewski said.

B-boats and banking

RSE Residential Services Manager Lloyd Jordan announced that a new B-boat with a canopy is on order, along with equipment to update the Tradewinds Theater sound system. In addition, a credit card machine is available for use this week at Gimbel's. It will take MasterCard,

Visa and debit cards.

A second Bank of Guam teller has been added to cut down on the Saturday payday lines, Jordan said. In another move to reduce the lines until a computer connection is completed between Roi and the bank on Kwaj, tellers are bringing a bank listing to Roi each day.

"There shouldn't be a problem," Jordan said in response to residents' concerns about any security or con-

fidentiality breach. "We will make sure only the tellers have the print-out and that they are destroyed at the end of each day."

Roi residents are requested to look at the operating hours of each service or office and "push collectively" for any needed changes, Seitz said, commending the residents for "collectively trying to put your voices together and letting them be heard by the command as one voice."

Lawson responds

[Editor's Note: The following is from Lott Lawson, Aviation Services manager, in response to the concerns of Roi-Namur residents.]

To clear the air is something that we in Aviation have tried to do with the inception of the Beech 1900 Aircraft.

Aviation has briefed Roi residents and written many articles for the Hourglass. At the last town hall conducted by Col. Curtis L. Wrenn Jr., Joe Johnston gave a complete picture to those that attended of the schedule, monetary issues and failure of the Roi populace to utilize the flights when they were scheduled in three different formats to verify usage.

Aviation has and continues to respond to any and all suggestions; the problem we are having is, when there is a problem identified, there is no recommended solution included. The days when the solution was to "throw money at it" are over with ...

To try and meet the many varied needs expressed by Roi residents we have gone through three different schedules with the 1900 to see which best served the KREMS workers' requirements, as well as the Roi residents. We did this by passenger counts, which showed the Army and us which flights were cost-effective.

To answer all the questions, I am coming to Roi March 31 and will be available to discuss concerns from 3-5 p.m. at the Roi terminal.

Some questions raised as to window times are affected by how much time the workers have to be a sounding board to previously answered questions. Like all managers, I must manage overtime, and to accomplish this we utilize split shifts. Someone will be available to answer questions on a scheduled basis; this time will be posted at Roi on the terminal office door.

The noon flight issue is moot; there will be no noon flight changes at all, as this is a funding issue — if we move a flight to the noon period each day, we would have to cancel one of the flights that support range personnel. We cannot do this, as the aircraft are for that very purpose — to support the range.

As was previously stated at the last town hall meeting, we are limited to a 150-flight hour schedule each month. The only way this can be exceeded is by direction of the commander or his representative.

We have been conducting passenger counts and time checks on all flights since last October. The second aircraft from Roi, which loads the Roi commuters, arrives on Kwaj within 5 minutes of the first aircraft. The average load is nine passengers. We are not going to change this procedure, as it is the most cost-effective.

Again ... we have to be a cost-conscious operation. As to TDY folks bumping Roi reverse commuters, we have asked our customers to utilize the reservation system also, or put in a Transportation Request for additional support requirements. Hopefully, if everyone tries to help out, we will be able to meet most needs. Incidentally, reverse commuters, as of March 27, will all be hard-seated.

Aviation is doing everything we can to alleviate problems we have control over, but ... in today's world of reduced funding, we are limited to our options. We have worked very closely with Community Services, the hospital and with the Roi residents to provide an effective and professional service to all.

We will continue to look for ways to improve, and ask only when someone has a complaint, to also have a suggestion on how we can correct the problem.

Emerson, Dewalt recall products

From staff reports

In cooperation with the U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission, Emerson Tool Co. is recalling about 3.7 million Craftsman radial arm saws for repair. These radial arm saws were sold without a guard that covers the entire blade.

Consumers have come into contact with the blade or have been hit by pieces of wood kicked back by the saws, resulting in about 300 reported injuries. Emerson is offering a free repair kit that provides a complete blade guard.

The recalled Craftsman 8-, 8¼-, 9- and 10-inch radial arm saws have a model number beginning with 113, usually located on the base of the saw. The brand name "Craftsman" and the store name "Sears" are written on the saws.

For more information, call Emerson at 1-800-511-2628 anytime, or visit the firm's website at www.radialarm-sawrecall.com.

Also in cooperation with the U.S. CPSC, DeWalt Industrial Tool Co. is voluntarily recalling about 825,000 battery chargers (model DW9116) for repair. These chargers are for 9.6- to 18-volt batteries used with DeWalt cordless tools. Metal clips inside the chargers could come loose and stick through the chargers' vents, possibly resulting in consumers receiving an electrical shock.

DeWalt has not received any reports of injuries with these chargers.

The battery chargers are model number DW9116, which is written on the front and bottom of the charger housing. The chargers are black with yellow lettering. "DeWalt" is written on the front of the chargers. The recalled chargers have date codes from 9927EM through 9952EM and 0001EM through 0031EM located on the bottom of the charger. Chargers with a yellow or green dot sticker near the date code already have been repaired, and are not recalled.

For more information, call 1-888-388-3273 between 8 a.m. and 4:30 p.m. ET Monday through Friday, or go to DeWalt's web site at www.dewalt.com.



(Photos by KW Hillis)



Best of the best

Above: Naomi Coleman, right, and Spencer Mawhar watch their basketball teammates during the Kwaj All-Star Game Friday night. More than \$800 was raised during the game and half-time show, said Tahara Moreno, fundraising coordinator. The funds will help send the basketball teams to a tournament on Majuro starting April 7.

Left: Cheerleader Paul Mawhar, 14, and other members of the squad, urge both teams to win during the All-Star Game. The boys had three days to learn how to be cheerleaders.

White hosts first community UMUC lecture

By Peter Rejcek
Associate Editor

Hoping for a vacation to China? Wait about 200 million years and it won't cost you a dime.

Thanks to the same geological forces that shaped Kwajalein and the Marshall Islands, the island chain will eventually find itself pasted onto the Asian continent, according to Dr. David White, UMUC visiting lecturer.

White explored the atoll's distant geological past and far-flung future

during a community lecture sponsored by the University of Maryland University College Friday at the CAC.

About 75 people attended the lecture, which will likely be the first in an ongoing series by the school.

"We're going to do more like this," said Eve Cran, UMUC field representative.

White's lecture covered volcanism, the formation of atolls and his hypothesis that eventually Mother Nature will relocate Kwaj to Asia.

"You have a very complex situation here," he said.

Boeing rocket flaws delay missile defense program

(BLOOMBERG, March 22, 2001)
Technical problems with a new Boeing Co. rocket that's supposed to carry the warheads of the U.S. missile defense system have delayed its first flight by at least four months, according to a Pentagon official.

Boeing was to have launched its new three-stage booster rocket by April; the flight now won't occur until at least August, a spokesman said.

The problems include poor bonding in adhesives for rocket components and flaws with the device used to detonate the rocket if it goes haywire.

Although slight by the standards of Pentagon development programs, the delay is yet another setback to the missile defense test program ... And it underscores that no matter what technology or plan the Bush administration embraces, progress often rests on the most mundane of engineering issues, an analyst said.

"The cumulative effect on the pro-



gram is to erode confidence that the system can be deployed as fast as enthusiasts want it," said Steven Hildreth, a missile defense analyst for the non-partisan Congressional Research Service.

"That doesn't mean it can't be done, but these things keep popping up," he said.

"Program officials are sure these issues can be resolved," said Air Force Lt. Col. Richard Lehner, a spokesman. "The components receiving design and/or material changes are all existing technologies used for years

in many existing space and missile programs.

"Boeing officials are in the process of reviewing production procedures, design instructions and quality control," Lehner said.

Instead of actually launching the new booster to demonstrate its basic flight characteristics, the Pentagon now plans a dry run at Vandenberg AFB, Calif., next month to test all the ground functions that must be accomplished before a launch.

The Pentagon plans to launch two Boeing boosters later this year, starting in August, Lehner said.

The booster won't actually launch a warhead in an intercept test until at least June 2002, or about 18 months behind schedule, said the Pentagon's director of Operational Test and Evaluation.

(Reprinted by permission of Ballistic Missile Defense Organization. Use of articles does not reflect official endorsement.)

Health officials urge vigilance to prevent another outbreak ...

(From page 1)

sure were recommended to safeguard against another outbreak.

"We recommended use of safe water vessels — jugs with spouts," he explained through an e-mail interview last week. "The idea being that the opening is too small to allow hands or cups to fit in and then contaminate the water. The spout makes dispensing easier, and again decreases the risk of contamination that could occur during water transfer."

Beatty said he also advised Ebeye public health representatives to replace the municipal water system, so that tap water will be safe to drink.

"A big undertaking to be sure, but it will not only prevent cholera but other diarrheal diseases," he said.

The outbreak is believed to have started around Dec. 17 and was brought under control by Jan. 7, according to Lindborg. Six people died as a result of the disease, and scores of others were stricken ill. Cholera causes severe diarrhea, which in turn causes dehydration and possibly shock through the loss of bodily fluids. It is treated by antibiotics and fluids.

Health officials said the outbreak was relatively brief, thanks to the quick action by medical professionals on both Ebeye and Kwaj.

"The Ebeye Hospital and local Ministry of Health officials moved quickly to contain the outbreak and deserve credit for this," Beatty said.

The source of the disease remains a mystery, but Lindborg said lab tests found no evidence linking the

strain here to the one that ran through Pohnpei for six months last year.

"There is no evidence for that," he said.

While the outbreak has petered out, health officials warn that the disease does have a foothold here now.

"It is likely to reoccur, but not just on Ebeye — anywhere in the RMI," Beatty said. "We hope that continued vigilance will reduce the likelihood of another outbreak. However, he said that with the water treatment system in place on Kwajalein, along with the well-established sanitary procedures, an outbreak here is virtually impossible.

"The ... outbreak of cholera is over based on stool cultures collected since Jan. 7, but cholera can live in the environment for years," Beatty added. "It only takes one person to forget to practice good hand-washing and meal preparation, and they could get ill with cholera."

Beatty noted that one isolated case would not necessarily lead to another outbreak as long as everyone else was following good hygiene, food safety and safe-water practices.

Said Lindborg, "There are lessons learned that need to be applied every day to prevent outbreaks in the future."

Health officials urge that water that someone is unsure of should be boiled vigorously — until it bubbles — for at least one minute before it's used. Good hygiene and hand-washing are also easy ways to prevent cholera, they said.

Beatty said continued surveillance is also key to avoid another outbreak.

See you at the movies!

Saturday

Rugrats in Paris: The Movie (G, New Release)

In this sequel to the surprise-hit animated feature, *The Rugrats Movie*, Chuckie and his buddies get into all sorts of mischief in the City of Lights, with Chuckie looking to find a suitable mother for his single dad. (Voices of Susan Sarandon, John Lithgow, Tim Curry) (78 minutes)
Richardson Theater, 7:30 p.m.

Dead Man Walking (R)

A man on death row asks Sister Helen Prejean to be his spiritual counselor, and to do what she can to stay the execution. Despite his suspect argument that he's innocent and reprehensible racist attitude, the sister takes him under her tutelage. Susan Sarandon and Sean Penn were both nominated for Oscars for their performances. Tim Robbins directed. (120 minutes)
Yokwe Yuk Theater, 8 p.m.

Charlie's Angels (PG-13, New Release)

They're beautiful, they're brilliant, and they can kick your butt — the most glamorous private eyes in the world are back in this big-screen adaptation of the popular 1970s television series. The Angels are sent into action when an electronics genius is kidnapped, along with an invention that can monitor voice communication anywhere in the world. (Cameron Diaz, Drew Barrymore, Lucy Liu, Bill Murray, Tim Curry) (98 minutes)
Tradewinds Theater, 8 p.m.

Sunday

Charlie's Angels (PG-13, New Release)

Richardson Theater, 7:30 p.m.

Dead Man Walking (R)

Tradewinds Theater, 7:30 p.m.

Monday

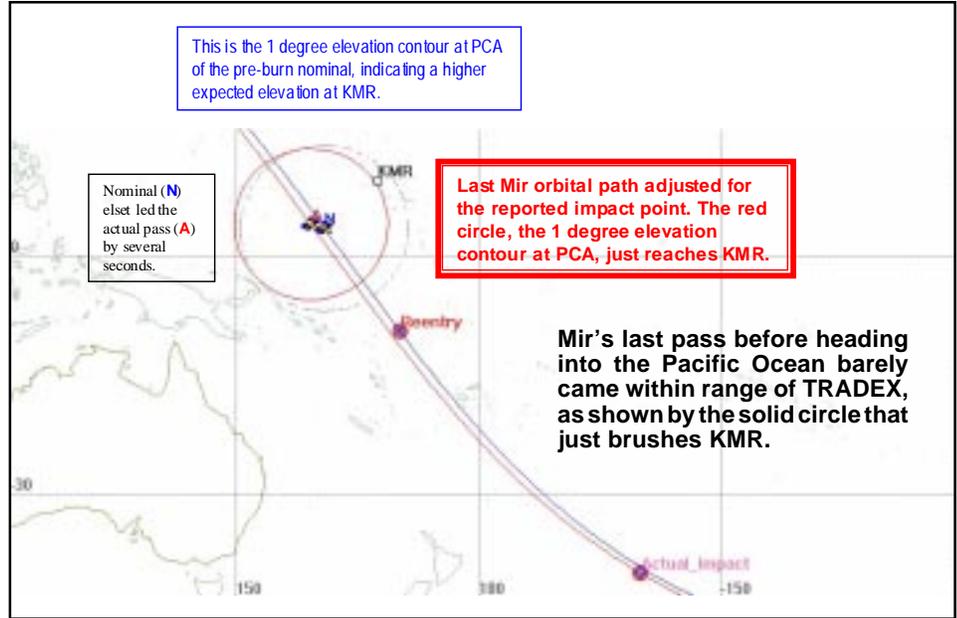
Rugrats in Paris: The Movie (G, New Release)

Richardson Theater 7:30 p.m.

Charlie's Angels (PG-13, New Release)

Yokwe Yuk Theater, 8 p.m.

**What's playing?
Call the Movie Hotline, 52700.**



TRADEX glimpses Mir before Pacific plunge

By Peter Rejcek
Associate Editor

Performing the "post-mortem" on TRADEX's coverage of Mir's final orbits, TRADEX Systems Engineer Steve Six sounds like he's still sitting at the edge of his seat, wondering how the radar spotted the doomed space station before it plunged into the Pacific.

It did. Barely.

"We were unbelievably lucky to have seen it," Six said a day after the Mir took its historic dive. "It was extremely difficult. It barely popped above our horizon."

That final pass occurred at about 5:40 p.m. Friday, local time.

TRADEX detected the station while scanning just above the horizon and

relied that information to the Space Control Center at Cheyenne Mountain.

"They had instantaneous confirmation that we had it," Six said.

TRADEX had been tracking the Mir for more than a week — twice a day — before it was deorbited Friday, according to Denise Comeau, TRADEX sensor leader. TRADEX and ALTAIR personnel tracked it 17 times between March 15-23.

"It was exciting. The last two passes were barely above our horizon and were challenging. We're very happy," Comeau said.

The operation to crash Mir went off without a hitch. Pieces of debris offered a spectacular show to observers in Fiji before plunging into the ocean.

WEATHER
Courtesy of Aeromet



Sun • Moon • Tides



Tonight: Partly cloudy with isolated showers.
Winds: Northeast-east at 8 to 13 knots.
Tomorrow: Mostly sunny with isolated showers.
Winds: Northeast-east at 5 to 10 knots.
Temperature: Tonight's low 79°
Tomorrow's high 86°
March rain total: 0.98"
Annual rain total: 6.26"
Annual deviation: -4.97"
Call 54700 for continuously updated forecasts and sea conditions.

	Sunrise/set	Moonrise/set	High Tide	Low Tide
Tuesday March 27	0650/1859	0816/2047	0530, 5.7' 1743, 5.6'	1137, 0.5' 2348, 0.6'
Wednesday March 28	0649/1859	0859/2137	0557, 5.7' 1812, 5.3'	1208, 0.6'
Thursday March 29	0649/1859	0944/2229	0627, 5.6' 1842, 4.9'	0014, 0.8' 1241, 0.9'
Friday March 30	0648/1859	1033/2325	0700, 5.3' 1917, 4.4'	0042, 1.1' 1321, 1.3'