

VOLUME 58 NUMBER 4

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THE KWAJALEIN HOURGLASS




THIS WEEK

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Gen. John Hyten, commanding general of the U.S. Strategic Command (center), spends some time getting to know the faces of RTS and USAG-KA during a Jan. 19 visit to Kwajalein Atoll.

 Nikki Maxwell

STRATCOM COMMANDER MEETS RTS, USAG-KA

BY JORDAN VINSON

Air Force Gen. John Hyten, the newest commanding general of U.S. Strategic Command, flew into Bucholz Army Airfield last week to meet the men and women of the Ronald Reagan Ballistic Missile Defense Test Site and U.S. Army Garrison-Kwajalein Atoll.

Head of the unified combatant command controlling the U.S. Army Space and Missile Defense Command, Hyten now oversees all missions and operations comprising STRATCOM. Those missions range from the Air Force Global Strike Command's offensive nuclear weapons programs and the Air Force Space Command's satellite launch and space surveillance missions, to orbital debris tracking operations and national missile defense tests at Kwajalein Atoll.

Hyten spent his day on Kwajalein Atoll Jan. 19 touring RTS capabilities on Kwajalein and Roi-Namur, receiving briefings on the Air Force Space Fence project, garrison operations and quality of life resources for island residents. At the end of his one-day visit, Hyten presented the Expeditionary Warfare Specialist pin to Seabee Builder 3rd Class Tracal Davis of Naval Mobile Construction Battalion 11 and recognized a handful of outstanding RTS and USAG-KA performers by presenting them with his command coin.

"Kwajalein is an amazing place," Hyten said. "This is my fourth time here, but the first time since taking command. In my opinion, the strategic mission here is not understood broadly enough. The mission here changes the world, and we need to make sure we take care of you because you take care of us."

Nominated by former President Barack Obama last November, Hyten replaced Navy Adm. Cecil Haney, who is expected to retire. Hyten served as commander of the Air Force Space Command prior to taking over STRATCOM.



FROM TOP: STRATCOM Commander Gen. John Hyten congratulates NMCB 11 Seabee Builder 3rd Class Tracal Davis for becoming an expeditionary warfare specialist and for recently leading two high-profile construction projects on Kwaj and Ebeye. RTS Range Director Lt. Col. Andrew Koschnik briefs Hyten on RTS capabilities. Hyten thanks RTS Information Assurance Manager Gary Kohler for his work during the internet cable repair project.

U.S. Army photos by Nikki Maxwell



THE KWAJALEIN HOURGLASS

The Kwajalein 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.

The Kwajalein Hourglass is an authorized publication for military personnel, federal employees, contractor workers and their families assigned to U.S. Army Garrison-Kwajalein Atoll. Contents of the Hourglass are not necessarily official views of, or endorsed by, the

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RMI Liaison to USAG-KA Lanny Kabua, Col. Michael Larsen, Maj. Holly Maness and RMI Secretary of Foreign Affairs Bruce Kijiner pause for photo during a commendation ceremony held for Maness Jan. 21 at the RMI Liaison Office.

USAG-KA HOST NATIONS DIRECTOR RECOGNIZED FOR EXEMPLARY SERVICE

HOURLASS REPORT

The Marshall Islands government extended special thanks Jan. 21 to Maj. Holly Maness, the outgoing director of USAG-KA's Host Nation Directorate. She had served in the post since Jan. 2015 and was indispensable in nurturing positive, constructive relations between the garrison and the host nation, said RMI government representatives.

As director of the Host Nation Directorate, Maness was in charge of supervising the command's responsibilities as described under the Compact of Free Association between the RMI and the U.S., a task that demands expertise in strengthening the garrison's relationship with the Republic of the Marshall Islands.

In his address, RMI Secretary of Foreign Affairs Bruce Kijiner said the commendation for Maness was a symbol of the RMI government's continued support for a strong relationship between the Marshall Islands and the United States. Maness was commended for exceptional perseverance in enhancing that relationship, Kijiner said. The Major noted in her closing remarks that she is grateful to have served the United States and USAG-KA at the Host Nation Directorate and that she hopes the positive relationship continues for many years to come.

Kijiner was joined in attendance by RMI Liaison to USAG-KA Lanny Kabua, USAG-KA Commander Col. Michael Larsen, Command Sgt. Maj. Angela Rawlings, Deputy Garrison Commander Jenifer Peterson, RMI Relations Specialist Michael Sakaio and Maj. Daniel Lacaria.

After two years of duty at USAG-KA, Maness will return to the United States, taking a new post in Washington, D.C.



Courtesy of USAG-KA Host Nations



FROM TOP: Maj. Holly Maness is presented with a gift to help her stay on "island time." The Major poses with young members of the visiting Jobwa Stick Dance team in October 2015, one of many events that Maness directly contributed to as USAG-KA's Host Nation Activities director.



LIVING OFF THE GRID

BY JORDAN VINSON

LEFT: Marine Department Diver Derek Glasscock displays a damaged section of the fiber optic cable structure during a dive operation. **ABOVE:** The Dependable cable ship works with Marine Department vessels while a commercial dive team handles cable repair work on the reef.

Communications technicians on Kwajalein flipped the switch last week, restoring high-speed commercial and residential internet connections to thousands of online media-starved residents of the Marshall Islands.

Three weeks had passed since the 57,000 people in the archipelago could freely access the internet and enjoy online banking, Netflix and Hulu streams, software updates, Facebook, online research and YouTube videos. With access restored, routers in people's homes and at Wi-Fi hotspots buzzed, transmitting the signal needed to access the World Wide Web: They had been relinked to the online services that have carved out such an important footprint in their daily lives.

Facebook, for one, received a storm of posts and uploads in the days after access was returned. Communities throughout Kwajalein Atoll, from Roi-Namur and Enniburr, to Ebeye and Kwajalein joined the nation's main population center in Majuro in a form of celebration.

Ebeye resident Andy Rodoñez, the special assistant to the Kwajalein Atoll Mayor Hirta Kabua, explained the immense relief he and his colleagues felt when access to the internet returned.

"It came back as a surprise," Rodoñez said Wednesday on Ebeye. He and other Kwaja-


lein Atoll Local Government staff were in the middle of a meeting, and someone popped her head in the door and relayed the news. Everyone scattered, he said.

"As someone said that there was internet, everybody disappears," Rodoñez said. "Everybody went to his room and started pounding [social media]."

The internet blackout stemmed from what U.S. officials are calling a power anomaly that had occurred along a section of the fiber optic undersea cable line the nation uses for its high-speed internet communications. Installed in 2009, the cable originates in Guam and stretches east through thousands of miles of open ocean, through the Federated States of Micronesia and onward into the Marshalls, making it the primary thoroughfare for online business, government and personal communications in this area of the world.

A project the U.S. government organized to correct the power anomaly in the line was slated to last a week. But repair teams assigned to the project reported difficulty early on in finding the physical location of the problem. Later, dive teams discovered damage to the protective armoring surrounding the cable—damage likely caused by severe weather episodes that have kicked up heavy seas in the area over the past couple of years. The added work pushed the project end date out another two weeks.

With rationed access to the internet via the country's National Telecommunications Authority satellite bandwidth space, the pace of

 U.S. Army photos by Jordan Vinson and David Casbarra

I don't remember how many times I picked up my phone to Google something and then said, "Oh, wait."

—Majuro resident Jack Niedenthal

business—private, for-profit and governmental—had slowed to a crawl. The nation was getting three percent of the bandwidth it previously had, forcing businesses and government agencies to take a number, get in line and await access to MIN-TA's satellite terminal to upload and download essential documents.

"It left us hanging," Rodoñez said. "Because, you know, we have a lot of contacts from outside, and we were waiting for responses for all the things we wanted."

Performing tasks as routine as processing the incoming regular cargo supply ship at the islet's port became a headache. With no ability to download the ship's manifest, Rodoñez said, inspections on incoming cargo and transportation logistics can become a crapshoot.

"Without proper communication, it's a disaster," he said.

Other RMI residents reported witnessing what one could call withdrawal symptoms. As the internet outage extended, they were forced to terms with the reality of an unconnected life, not only in terms of business communications, but personal entertainment and communications with friends and family overseas.

"The way I saw it here is that ... a lot of people are so used to these internet things that, when it went down, I think they were not really prepared," said an Ebeye official Wednesday who wished to remain unnamed. "They didn't anticipate what was going to happen. It was the same thing in Majuro."

One Majuro resident could probably write a movie script on the impact of the outage on the atoll residents' daily lives. Jack Niedenthal, a Majuro-based filmmaker, celebrated the return of the high-speed connection. In addition to regaining access to his stream of foreign and indie films on Netflix, he's now once again able consult gearheads in online forums regarding maintenance and repairs for his two Volkswagen Beetles he drives around in around Majuro.

"Not being able to do that drove me crazy," Niedenthal wrote to the Hourglass Tuesday.

More importantly, he can now get in contact with loved ones living overseas and use Google to keep up to date with the outside world.

"My mother is 82 and living 8,000 miles away. And I like to talk to her via Magic Jack," Niedenthal wrote. "I wasn't able to do this. Also, I felt a huge limit of access to information. ... I don't remember how many times I picked up my phone to Google something and then said, 'Oh, wait.'"

The people of the RMI endured government rationing of state satellite bandwidth and zero access to non-essential online communications for longer than they had anticipated. Officials associated with the repair agreed the outage went far beyond what they had hoped for; but they also emphasized that the repairs were both unavoidable and crucial in ensuring the fiber optic cable remains safe and operational well into the future.

USAG-KA Commander Col. Michael Larsen sympathized with those who endured the brunt of the outage, such as those enrolled in online university courses. At the same time, he said it was also an opportunity for people to disconnect and enjoy healthier, unconnected pursuits.

"Although the duration of the internet outage was quite inconvenient and lasted much longer than expected, I personally think it was nice to temporarily take a step back in time and experience what life was like before high speed internet," Larsen said. "Moreover, I greatly appreciate all of the effort that went into fixing the problem. ... And I most sincerely appreciate all of the island residents' patience during the time window."

With the fiber optic cable back in operation, RMI citizens and many USAG-KA residents now have a unique point in history to look back on: three weeks living off the grid. Some will look back on the time period as some of the most frustrating days of their adult lives. Others will look back on those three weeks with fondness.

"Without the internet, I felt calm, less stressed, more focused, and my thoughts were clearer," Kwaj resident Midori Hobbs wrote to the Hourglass Thursday. "When we regained internet access, I purposefully remained offline to a certain extent to maintain this increased sense of well-being. Something as small as no internet right before bed or the first thing when I wake up has made a huge impact."

Fellow USAG-KA resident Grant Day echoed Hobbs.

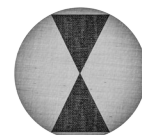
"I experienced some inconvenience not being able to Skype or Facebook with family or friends, and an online class had to be delayed," Day wrote. "However, generally it was nice for the family to have a break from the internet, Netflix, Amazon, etc. We read books made of paper; we played board games; we had more face-to-face conversations; and we socialized more outside the house too. You don't realize how dependent you are on the web until you can't google a recipe or find the name of an actor on IMDb."

For many, there was no excuse to not go enjoy a day at the beach and get involved in community events and programs.

"Overall, I think it was great for the community to help people connect again," said Kim Yarnes. "There were more people out at the beach than I have seen in years. Last year we had two people attend the open play clinic for basketball. This year we had 22."



Andy Rodoñez, special assistant to Kwajalein Atoll Mayor Hirata Kabua, discusses the headaches experienced on Ebeye during the high-speed internet outage in the Marshall Islands.





FROM TOP: Ebeye resident and community volunteer Dennis Yates mans a tractor Jan. 25 while he helps construction workers complete the Ebeye Health and Wellness Center, a community facility scheduled to open Feb. 9. Ebeye children play outside after school Jan. 25

📷 U.S. Army photos by Jordan Vinson

FROM TOP: SMDC Commander Lt. Gen. James Dickinson meets the crew of the KMRSS Worthy last week. Dickinson tours Kwajalein hospital. Dickinson speaks with MIT scientist Shawn Beguhn at a Kiernan Re-entry Measurement Site radar on Roi-Namur.

📷 U.S. Army photos by Nikki Maxwell



LEFT: Kwaj resident Jeff Robinson mans his table of items during the Jan. 21 Swap Meet event on Kwaj. **RIGHT:** U.S. Ambassador to the RMI Karen Stewart talks last week with juniors and seniors at Kwajalein High School about career paths in the State Department. She fielded questions about what it takes to enter the Foreign Service and what the job prospects currently look like.



LEFT: Sean Connell prepares paperwork for Ebeye residents purchasing items at his table during the Jan. 21 Swap Meet event. **RIGHT:** At least a couple of hundred Kwaj and Ebeye residents meet during the Swap Meet to exchange cash for used items.

USAG-KA POLICIES ON PROTESTS, PICKETING AND SIMILAR DEMONSTRATIONS

USAG-KA is a military installation and is thus a non-public forum. Accordingly, unless prior approval is obtained through the Garrison Commander, it is unlawful for any person on US-AG-KA to:

1. Display symbols or other materials likely to arouse anger, alarm, or resentment.
2. Engage in protests, public speeches, marches, sit-ins, political displays, or demonstrations.
3. Interrupt or disturb any activity or event, including but not limited to: meals, training, formations, ceremonies, parades, reviews, classes, court-martial, hearings, athletic contests, clinics or camps, performances, competitions, speeches, or other military business.
4. Obstruct movement on any street, road, sidewalk, pathway, or other thoroughfare.
5. Utter to any person abusive, profane, indecent, or otherwise provocative language that by its very utterance tends to excite a breach of the peace.
6. Distribute or post publications, including pamphlets, newspapers, flyers, leaflets, and other printed materials, except through regularly established and approved distribution outlets and places.
7. Circulate petitions or engage in picketing or demonstrations for any purpose.
8. Engage in partisan political campaigning or electioneering.
9. Disobey a request from DA Civilian Police or security guards, or other competent authority to cease an unlawful activity, disperse, move along, or leave the installation.

Engaging in these prohibited activities may result in adverse administrative action, up to a bar from the installation.

KWAJALEIN REMEMBERS ASMOND ARELONG

Courtesy of Kim Yarnes



Asmond "Bossy" Arelong, center, gets his groove on with other Community Activities staff during a CA "Mock Rock" in 2009.

HOURLASS REPORT

Former long-time KRS Community Activities associate Asmond Arelong passed away Jan. 10, leaving his family and friends on Ebeye and Kwaj in mourning. He is survived by six children and seven grandchildren, and his kindness and spirit are dearly missed.

By the time Arelong had become the official leader of the Community Activities crew, his natural talent for leadership had yoked him with an affectionate nickname: Bossy. Arelong retired in 2012 as a KRS recreation specialist. After a combined 20 years of service on Kwajalein, he earned the respect of his managers and the appreciation of the Kwaj community. His long tenure with CA meant Arelong knew the setup for every event. His ideas and ingenuity led to many of Kwajalein's current traditions.

Arelong was a man of unshakable integrity. In 2004, he received a letter of sincere appreciation from the chief of Armed Forces Entertainment for his dedication and honesty. After finding a large sum of money lost by a visiting band member, Arelong had tracked down the owner and returned the missing funds. He was additionally recognized by former USAG-KA Commander Col. Brown with a letter of thanks for his support of a change of command ceremony. For Independence Day in 2009, the CA team tried to host a new competitive event: Mock Rock, a mashup of lip-sync and dance. The CA crew performed a demonstration to introduce the idea to the community. Arelong laughed throughout the whole performance as he led the CA crew in performing "Y.M.C.A."

Later in life, even as Arelong worked on his jungle of a patio garden from a wheelchair, he retained his signature optimism. His practice was to move plants, using the wheelchair footrest, around the patio to give them optimal water and sun. In retirement, Arelong became active in the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints. He was instrumental in translating the Book of Mormon into Marshallese and gave language lessons to missionaries he befriended. Arelong appreciated the fellowship and support he received from his congregation and returned it by coordinating programs and helping with events.

Perhaps more than anything, Arelong's dreams describe him best: He longed to own an inflatable bouncy castle where neighborhood kids would be welcome to play. The work he did was never just work: It was how he brought joy to himself and his community.



BY JORDAN VINSON

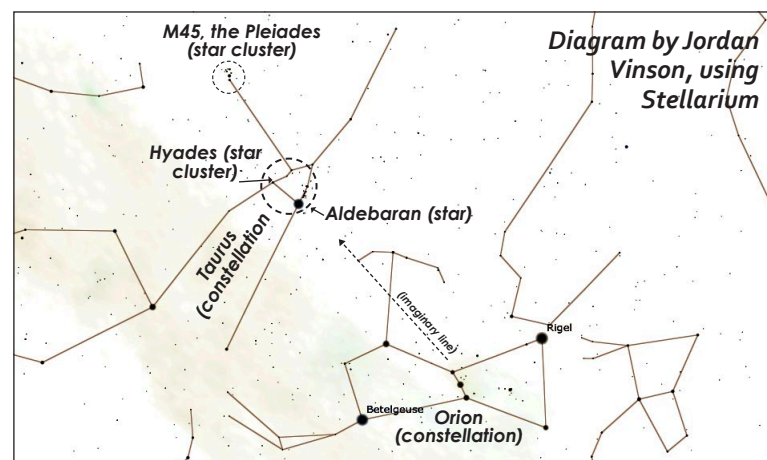
Orion the Hunter is great at and all. But the famous winter constellation also points to gems lying in other nearby constellations that are fun to explore.

From our vantage point in the Marshall Islands, look straight up around 9 p.m., and you'll see Orion lying on his side, facing "upward." If you follow his three-star belt "upward," you'll see the 13th brightest star in the sky. That's Aldebaran, a star that is 40 times the size of the sun; 125 times brighter than the sun; and whose size would almost completely occupy all the area within Earth's orbit (were it to take the place of the sun).

Aldebaran is the anchor of the constellation Taurus the Bull, a long constellation, which from our location on the planet looks a humungous, elongated tuning fork, the length of which exceeds that of Orion. (From northern latitudes, the constellation more often is oriented differently, taking on the appearance of a strange, elongated bull, hence the name.)

Hidden in Taurus next to Aldebaran is the Hyades Cluster, a beautiful, V-shaped open star cluster formed by 100 bright stars and other dimmer members. Look through a pair of binoculars, and you'll easily make out its structure. Because it is one of the closest star clusters to the local solar system—only 150 light years distant—astronomers have used Hyades as a sort of measuring stick to determine other distances in the universe.

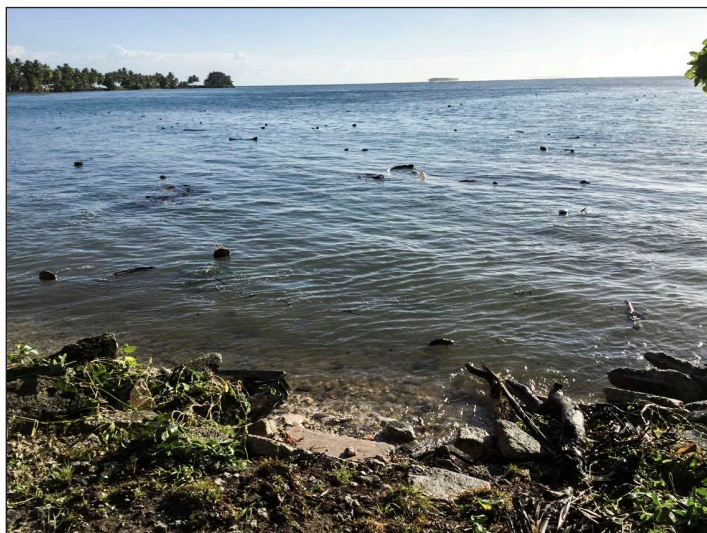
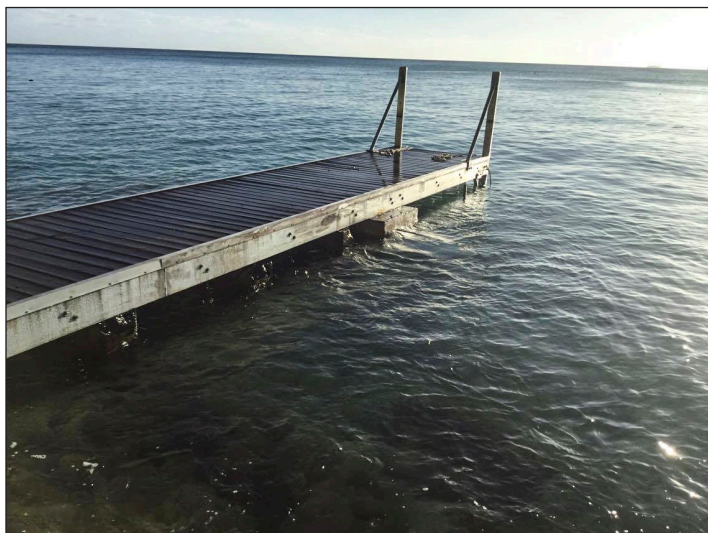
Continue that imaginary line from Orion's belt through Aldebaran, and you'll run into M45, aka the Pleiades—the most famous and brightest star cluster in the sky. Also commonly known by the Ancient Greek mythological name "the seven sisters," the cluster has been observed and interpreted by all varieties of human civilizations across the planet for thousands of years. According to legend, Aldebaran (an Arabic derivation of "the follower") represents the fiery eyes of Taurus, the protector of the seven sisters, and stands guard against Orion's advances as he strives to make Merope, the brightest star in the cluster, his wife.



Sources: Stellarium, "A Guide to Backyard Astronomy"



LEFT: Jerry Baxter, standing, films the memorial ceremony held for late Roi rat Bryan Stigler Jan. 13. **RIGHT:** Scott Maddox tells of Stigler's lightning-fast fire extinguishing skills during Stigler's 10 years of work at the Roi-Namur Power Plant.



High waters tip the scales at Roi-Namur Jan. 13. At left, the new dock at the Roi-Namur Dolphins Scuba Club shack is nearly swamped. At right, waves whipping onto the island wash sand, coconuts and palm fronds into the ocean.

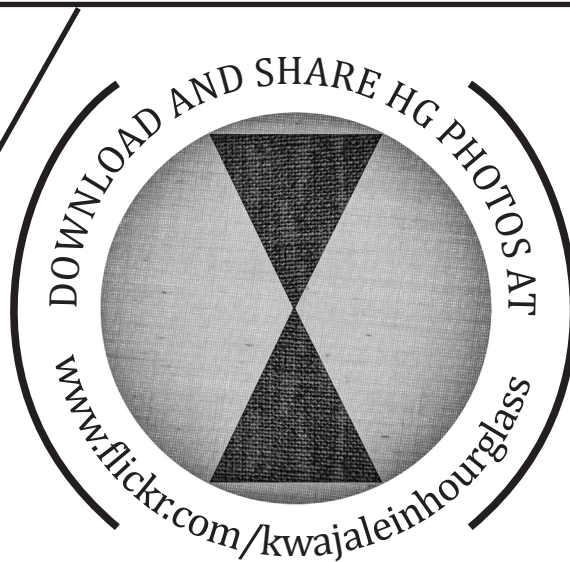
T · H · U · M · B · S U · P



THUMBS UP to the Marine Department. I know that other departments played their part, but the internet would not be fixed if not for the Marine Department. The department adapted to changing schedules and last minute requests. The entire department worked long hours and sailed in rough seas. The USAV Patriot did a wonderful job maneuvering in a strong current to bring in the cable.

The USAV Patriot crew received high praise from the cable ship C/S Dependable. The LCM 8605 got stuck in a storm on the first day and did a fantastic job getting everyone home safe. The LCM 8605 worked a 12-hour day on the second day in an effort to finish the job. Great job to the entire KRS Marine Department on this project.

Chief Warrant Officer 3 David Casbarra



HERO OF THE WEEK



HOURLASS REPORT

USAG-KA's Hero of the Week is Gary Kohler, the Information Assurance manager at the Reagan Test Site. Kohler recently completed a small act of heroism. He was the technical liaison for all repair activities related to the internet outage on Kwajalein. This included overseeing prior maintenance work in preparation for the repair and overseeing the action onboard the Dependable cable ship—the floating center of operations at the work site—while dive crews performed the repairs on the cable.

Kohler described his month-long stay on board the Dependable as enjoyable, saying that it was a great, but challenging, professional and personal experience, requiring a weeklong transit from Guam aboard the Dependable and about two weeks of work aboard the ship while repairs progressed.

Long story short? Everyone in the Marshall Islands now has high-speed residential and commercial internet access again.

On Kwajalein, Kohler oversees all communications departments, operations and personnel for the test site. Before coming to Kwajalein 1.5 years ago, he worked in both the private and public sectors, working in telecommunications, cyber security and communications, in the United States and at overseas sites.

Kohler lives on Kwajalein with his wife Kim and sons Roland and Truman. In their free time, they enjoy boating, snorkeling, fishing and relaxing by the beach.



U.S. Army photo by Jessica Dambruch



Q. Can accommodation be made for shift workers to pick up meals at the dining facility?

A. There are no changes to the current procedures. There are exceptions identified in SPI 1319 (Ordering and Billing of Employee Meals) for those who are authorized by their management for a take-out meal.

Q. Why is the Zamperini dining facility often out of such basic items as milk, eggs, cheese, etc.?

A. Decreased food availability is most often a result of delays in the supply chain and/or shortages from the supplier. We do everything we

Kwajalein Range Services wants your feedback on how our programs are going. Take part in on-going surveys to voice your opinion on everything from the Kwajalein Hourglass and Mongolian Night at Café Roi, to the Hobby Shop and the Small Boat Marina. Click on the "We Want Your Feedback" icon on the USAG-KA Web intranet home page and type away. Here are this month's comments.

can to ensure that basic foods are available to the dining facility.

Q. Could the dining facility provide just unsweetened iced tea? If this isn't possible, could the iced tea be labeled so that patrons can see which product (sweetened/unsweetened) is available to them?

A. Thank you for your comment. The new dispensers will be labeled so that diners can see which teas are available to them during meal times.

Q. What is being done to keep the downtown area of Kwajalein clean and presentable?

A. Custodial staffing now provides an employee to clean the downtown area daily while Solid Waste continues to collect trash each

day. Additionally, Buildings & Grounds provides grounds maintenance on an as-needed basis.

Q. Is it possible to move the adult soccer season to the dry season in an effort to avoid game cancellations due to weather?

A. The sports seasons are set up to accommodate softball as the priority, because it brings in the most participants. There needs to be a break between the soccer and softball seasons so that the field lines can grow back in. Therefore, soccer is scheduled in the fall. Unfortunately, this past fall was significantly wetter than most years: We had 18.7 inches of rain last October alone. This was 164% above average! We understand the rescheduling of games can be frustrating, but it is done with safety as the top priority.



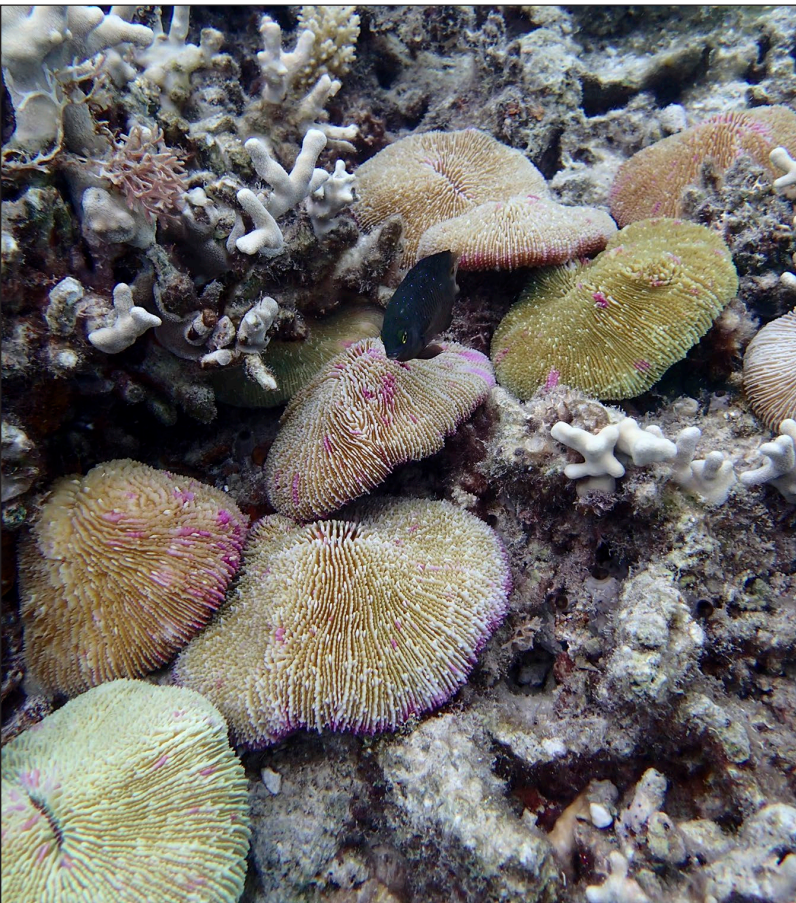
BY JORDAN VINSON

Featured below is a species of circular coral animals commonly known as mushroom corals (*Fungia* sp.). Members of the Fungiidae family, *Fungia* genus members are often solitary species, living alone throughout the marine waters of the Pacific. The exception is *Fungia* sp., featured below, which is a colonial animal that often amasses in great numbers on reefs.

An individual looks like a large mushroom top—hence the species' common and scientific name—with a slit cut in the top of its bodies, which serves as a mouth.

Unlike many corals, which spend their entire lives building their coral structures onto surrounding rocks, dead reef and other corals, mushroom corals only spend their juvenile years attached to a substrate. Reaching maturity, they separate from their substrate and spend the rest of their lives as free-living individuals, though grouped together with other members of the genus.

The species is abundant in the Marshall Islands.



Mushroom corals (*Fungia* sp.), a common free-living species in the Marshall Islands lie in shallow water along the reef between North Point on Kwaj and Little Bustard.

U.S. Army photo by Jordan Vinson

The Kwajalein Hourglass

MARSHALLESE LANGUAGE DIRECTIONS

Ion	North
Rok	South
Rear	East
Rilik	West
Lon	Up/above
Lal	Down
Ewi/la	Where
Ako	How about
Mon-wia	Store

MARSHALLESE SAYINGS PROVERBS AND MAXIMS

Kandrikdrik kan yokwe.

Share whatever small food you have with love.

Botoktok ej kur.

"Blood calls."

(This is similar to blood is thicker than water).

Ekmouj jab meloklok lioneen.

"The parrotfish does not forget his surge channel."

When a parrotfish swims up from the ocean to the reef through a surge channel, it will not return through another route. This saying reflects the belief that Marshallese, no matter where they are, will never forget their home island or their customs.

Jab koror ion kuro, bwe kuro wot lal.

"Don't paddle over there for groupers, for there are groupers underneath you."

Value what one has, don't give up what you have to pursue risky endeavors.

Juum Ettor.

The expression "juum ettor" is a pronouncement from mother to daughter, in which the young girl assumes responsibility for carrying on the traditions of her lineage. The symbol of this accountability is the "deka-in-nin"—or pandanus leaf pounder—which is given by mother to eldest daughter along with responsibility of the family land in accordance with matrilineal tradition.

Made of the dese shell of the giant clam, this instrument is quite heavy and polished from many years of use. Pandanus leaf must be softened by pounding before it can be plaited into sleeping mats or the intricately designed two-piece "nieded"—or skirt.

Source: "United States Army Kwajalein Atoll Marshallese Primer"

ARMY GAME STUDIO APP WINS TRIPLE AWARDS AT INDUSTRY CONFERENCE

EXTERNAL REPORT

By Kathleen Edwards
AMRDEC Public Affairs

Software Engineering Directorate's Army Game Studio developed an educational app, which won three awards at the annual Interservice/Industry Training, Simulation and Education Conference in Orlando, Fla recently. STARS: Elements was a triple winner of Best Mobile game, Students' Choice and the prestigious People's Choice Award chosen by attendees at I/ITSEC.

"It was great for the Army Game Studio because getting the Student's Choice Award means Army STARS is really connecting with the target audience," said Frank Blackwell, program manager, Army Game Studio.

The Army Game Studio, in collaboration with U.S. Army Science, Technology, Engineering and Math experts and educators, developed the innovative app for high school chemistry teachers to help their students learn and visualize the foundations of chemistry. STARS: Elements features visual learning tools that lets students explore the periodic table, elements and atomic structure. Through interactive models, games and challenges, students get virtually hands on with elements and atoms and are able to learn information in a unique and entertaining way.

According to iitsec.org, "I/ITSEC is the world's largest modeling, simulation and training conference. It consists of peer-reviewed paper presentations, tutorials, special events, professional workshops, a commercial exhibit hall, STEM events for teachers and secondary students and the Serious Games Showcase & Challenge."

"SGS&C began when leaders felt a strong need to stimulate industry creativity and generate institutional interest toward the use of digital game technology and approaches for training and education," stated SGS&C website.

To qualify for SGS&C, entries were required to have clearly defined, measurable learning objectives, provide players with a clearly identified challenge/problem, make use of game play dynamics and/or gaming technology and provide players with positive/negative feedback



U.S. Army photo

with respect to progress toward the game's challenge and achievement of learning objectives.

After the submission period closed, the challenge entered the evaluation period where a panel of evaluators determined the winners of the awards in each category. Middle and high school students from various school systems played and evaluated select games to collectively select the winner of the Students' Choice Award. Finalists were provided free entry to the conference as well as space in a booth to demonstrate their game to a worldwide training, simulation and education audience.

"To be the first game ever to win three awards at the I/ITSEC Serious Games Showcase and Challenge was very rewarding. Developing a game that is both educational and fun is pretty difficult so winning the awards proved to us that industry and students appreciate our work," said Marsha Berry, deputy director, Army Game Studio.

One of AMRDEC's three main priorities is to recruit, develop and retain experienced workforce to enable

AMRDEC to continue to provide our core technical capabilities for the foreseeable future. "We created U.S. Army STARS: Elements because STEM careers are becoming increasingly vital to the success of our nation in both civilian and military sectors," said Russell Patishnock, U.S. Army marketing strategist. "This valuable learning game helps us share Army technology for free with students and teachers to aid in STEM education."

The U.S. Army Aviation and Missile Research, Development, and Engineering Center is part of the U.S. Army Research, Development and Engineering Command, which has the mission to provide innovative research, development and engineering to produce capabilities that provide decisive overmatch to the Army against the complexities of the current and future operating environments in support of the Joint warfighter and the nation. RDECOM is a major subordinate command of the U.S. Army Materiel Command.

FROM SCI-FI TO SMDC HISTORY

EXTERNAL REPORT

By Sharon Watkins Lang
SMDC Command Historian

In space and missile defense history, 1984 saw one of the first steps in a move from science fiction to reality. Although President Ronald Reagan announced his initial concept for the Strategic Defense Initiative in March 1983, it was not until December 1984 that the first elements were officially chartered.

On Dec. 20, 1984, the Secretary of the Army John O. Marshall, Jr. issued the first Project Manager Charters for the High Endoatmospheric Defense Interceptor, or HEDI, and the Exoatmospheric Reentry-vehicle Interceptor Subsystem, or ERIS.

Both project offices were to be located at 106 Wynn Drive, in Huntsville, Alabama, with functional and administrative support provided by the Ballistic Missile Defense Systems Command, or BMDSCOM. Both project managers reported through the BMD-

SCOM commander to the Ballistic Missile Defense program manager.

At this early stage the missions, as defined by the charters, were very similar. The managers were responsible for centralized management and direction of their projects in keeping with Army regulations, Department of Defense directive and instruction and related guidance. The two projects were to "support a BMDSCOM integrated technology demonstration."

To that end, they were to be interoperable with the various BMDSCOM technology development initiatives that included efforts in: the Airborne Optical Adjunct, AOA; the Terminal Imaging Radar, TIR; and the Battle Management/Command Control and Communications, BM/C3.

There was, however, a distinct difference in the two missions. While a nonnuclear intercept of the approaching reentry vehicle was the end goal for the two interceptors,



LEFT: High Endoatmospheric Defense Interceptor, or HEDI launch. RIGHT: Exoatmospheric Reentry-vehicle Interceptor Subsystem, or ERIS, launch.

U.S. Army photos

they pursued a different approach. The HEDI mission statement described an interceptor that "[would] receive commit instructions and handover data from the BMD radar and battle manager; launch and flyout to the predicted intercept point; initiate onboard homing; home to the target reentry vehicle (RV); fuze and detonate a nonnuclear warhead, and achieve RV kill."

The ERIS interceptor meanwhile following the home to the target reentry vehicle was designed to intercept and achieve a nonnuclear kill of the RV.

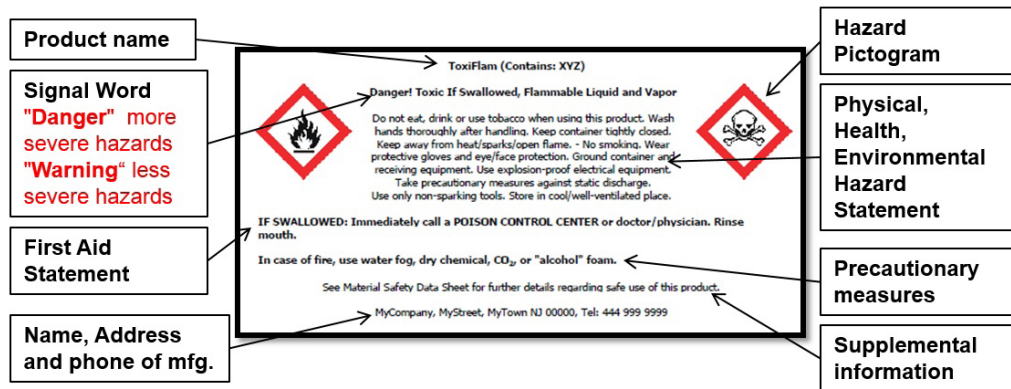
In many respects, this divergence in the mission reflects the status of the missile defense technology in 1984. During the summer, the Homing Overlay Experiment, or HOE, demonstrated the feasibility of a kinetic energy intercept in the exo-atmosphere. Thus the ERIS was to physically intercept its targets. It would be two more years, however, before the Flexible Lightweight Agile Guided Experiment, or FLAGE, would prove that a kinetic intercept was possible within the atmosphere. As a result at this point the HEDI was to be equipped with a warhead.



GHS and Chemical Labeling

The GHS is an acronym for The Globally Harmonized System of Classification and Labeling of Chemicals.

This United Nations (UN) proposal was adopted by OSHA and provides minor changes to our current Hazard Communication program with internationally standardized labeling and Safety Data Sheet (SDS*) requirements. To the right are some of the labeling updates you will start to see on workplace chemicals.



WEEKLY WEATHER OUTLOOK

RTS WEATHER STATION STAFF

Scattered showers are expected Sunday evening through Tuesday morning; expect isolated showers at other times. A Small Craft Advisory is likely Saturday, Jan. 28, with a possibility of extending into Sunday. We expect winds to decrease below advisory levels for Monday and remain at 15-20 knots for the remainder of the week.

WEATHER TRENDS: Expect brisk trade winds and isolated showers this past week. The southern portion of the atoll has experienced more showers than Roi, but average precipitation amounts have been registered on Kwajalein. Shower activity should start increasing late Sunday into Tuesday morning, later becoming isolated for middle of next week.

CAUTION-OUTLOOK: Climate models show a possibility of a weak Madden Julian Oscillation (MJO) to impact our weather 7-14 days from now. MJO is a wave that travels around the planet at tropical latitudes. It typically visits every 30 to 90 days at various amplitudes. MJO's typical impact is a 'wet' phase for a few days, followed by a 'dry' phase. Average rainfall in February is only 3.3 inches for the month.

COMMANDER'S HOTLINE

HAVE SOMETHING THE USAG-KA
COMMANDER SHOULD KNOW ABOUT?

CALL THE COMMANDER'S
HOTLINE AT 51098 TODAY!



Sexual Harassment/Assault Response and
Prevention (SHARP) Contact Information

Capt. David Rice
SHARP Victim Advocate

Work: 805 355 2139 • Home: 805 355 3565
USAG-KA SHARP Pager: 805 355 3243/3242/3241/0100
USAG-KA SHARP VA Local Help Line: 805 355 2758
DOD SAFE Helpline: 877 995 5247

From a 1967 Kwajalein Hourglass



	SUNRISE SUNSET	MOONRISE MOONSET	HIGH TIDE	LOW TIDE
SUNDAY	7:10 a.m. 6:54 p.m.	7:49 a.m. 7:56 p.m.	5:09 a.m. 3.9' 5:19 p.m. 4.9'	11:02 a.m. -0.6' 11:40 p.m. -0.8'
MONDAY	7:10 a.m. 6:55 p.m.	8:37 a.m. 8:48 p.m.	5:41 a.m. 4.0' 5:51 p.m. 4.8'	11:35 a.m. -0.6' -----
TUESDAY	7:10 a.m. 6:55 p.m.	9:24 a.m. 9:40 p.m.	6:14 a.m. 4.0' 6:25 p.m. 4.7'	12:12 a.m. -0.8' 12:10 p.m. -0.5'
WEDNESDAY	7:10 a.m. 6:55 p.m.	10:10 a.m. 10:33 p.m.	6:49 a.m. 3.9' 7:00 p.m. 4.4'	12:45 a.m. -0.6' 12:47 p.m. -0.3'
THURSDAY	7:10 a.m. 6:56 p.m.	10:57 a.m. 11:26 p.m.	7:28 a.m. 3.7' 7:39 p.m. 3.9'	1:20 a.m. -0.4' 1:28 p.m. 0.1'
FRIDAY	7:10 a.m. 6:56 p.m.	11:45 a.m. -----	8:15 a.m. 3.5' 8:27 p.m. 3.4'	2:00 a.m. 0.0' 2:19 p.m. 0.5'
FEBRUARY 4	7:10 a.m. 6:56 p.m.	12:35 p.m. 12:20 a.m.	9:16 a.m. 3.3' 9:34 p.m. 2.8'	2:48 a.m. 0.3' 3:32 p.m. 0.9'

LUNCH

Sunday

Roast Chicken
Baked Ziti
Eggs Benedict

Monday

Citrus Chicken
Breakfast Pizza
Roasted Potatoes

Tuesday

Sweet & Sour Pork
Chicken Chopsuey
Chef's Choice

Wednesday

Beef Stroganoff
Chicken Caesar Wrap
Parslied Noodles

Thursday

BBQ Pork Sandwich
Chicken Bechamel
Roasted Potatoes

Friday

Coconut Chicken
Fish Du Jour
Roasted Potatoes

January 28

Italian Sausage Sandwich
Spaghetti Ala Caprese
Chef's Choice

DINNER

Sunday

French Dip Sandwich
Kwaj Fried Chicken
Chef's Choice

Monday

Taco Bar
Refried Beans
Spanish Rice

Tuesday

BBQ Chicken
Three Bean Chili
Onion Rings

Wednesday

Steak Night
Crispy Garlic Chicken
Baked Pot./Condiments

Thursday

Huli Huli Chicken
Augratin Potatoes
Chef's Choice

Friday

Hamburger Steak
Mediterranean Chicken
Parslied Potatoes

January 28

Herb Baked Chicken
Shepherd's Pie
Three Cheese Macaroni

Captain Louis S. Zamperini Dining Facility

*MENU CURRENT AS OF JAN. 26

COMMUNITY CLASSIFIEDS

HELP WANTED

Visit USAJOBS.GOV to search and apply for USAG-KA vacancies and other federal positions.

KRS and Chugach listings for on-Island jobs are posted at: Kwajalein, Roi-Namur and Ebeye Dock Security Checkpoint locations; outside the United Travel Office; in the Roi Terminal/Post Office; at Human Resources in Bldg 700 and on the "Kwaj-web" site under Contractor Information>KRS>Human Resources>Job Opportunities. Listings for off-island contract positions are available at www.krsjv.com.

FOR SALE/YARD SALES

Osprey, 21 foot catamaran sailboat. \$7000. Includes 5hp motor, solar power, VHF radio, stereo, shower, mast (new as of May, 2013), all extras (misc supplies and tools). Needs some repairs (starboard center beam and trailer). Call DJ on Roi: 5-6313 daytime, 5-6056 evening.

COMMUNITY NOTICES

Kwajalein Yacht Club's monthly meeting. Saturday, Jan. 28, at 6:30 p.m. at the Yacht Club. Questions? Call Ursula LaBrie at 51951.

Roi-Namur Dolphins Scuba Club membership renewal deadline

is Jan. 31. All current members should have received an email with details. Contact RND Secretary, JoDanna Castle with questions. roidolphins@gmail.com

Kwaj B Boat License Class. Tuesday, Jan. 31, 6:30-8:30 p.m. Wednesday, Feb. 1, 6:30-8:30 p.m.

Self-improvement seminar. 6-7:30 p.m., Feb. 2, CRC Room 1. EAP will define areas of your life that need improvement, formulate goals for your life, then map out baby steps toward these goals. Call EAP at 55362/52223 to register.

Merbabes Swim Class. Friday, February 3, 1:30pm - 2:00pm. Come enjoy an American Red Cross Parent/Child Swim Lesson. Class is for children ages 6 months - 3 years. All participants must be accompanied by an adult in the water. The purpose of this class is to develop a comfort level in and around the water. Swim diapers are required for children who are not potty-trained. Cost is FREE! For questions, contact Cliff at 5-2848.

The Christian Women's Fellowship monthly luncheon will be held on Sunday, 6th of February, 2017, @12:30 in the REB.

Bike savvy volunteers are wanted for a free maintenance event! When: Saturday, Feb. 18, 4-6:30

p.m. Where: Field behind AAFES. Interested in putting your bike skills to good use? Contact Jason Huwe at 52525. Bike Blessings provided by IMC Interdenominational Congregation in partnership with Community Activities

Turn off your lights, computer, and TV when not in use. Don't let the water run continuously when brushing your teeth. Use cotton or recycled material bags instead of plastic. Recycle or reuse your plastic bags and used paper.

E-Talk: Coral reefs are one of the most spectacular and fragile of underwater environments, covering less than one percent of the ocean floor but supporting an estimated 25 percent of all marine life. Even though they are located in the tropics, coral reefs benefit people and the natural world far beyond their boundaries. Coral reefs are in trouble around the globe: 11 percent of the world's coral reefs have been lost and another 16 percent were severely damaged during the 1998 El Niño event. Scientists predict that another 32 percent may be lost in the next 30 years if human threats are not reduced.

Next town hall meetings. Feb 23: Kwaj RMI workforce at Chapel 1300-1430. Kwaj Residents at the MP room from 1830-2030. Feb 24: Roi RMI Workforce at 1300. Roi Residents at 1430.

DENTAL CLINIC BILLING UPDATE

Kwajalein Dental Clinic is making some changes for the better. The Dental Clinic billing process has been updated to align with the hospital billing processes. Effective Oct. 1, 2016 Kwajalein Dental Clinic is billing insurance directly. Patients will receive a monthly statement from the dental office with any charges. This eliminates the need for patients to pay and then wait for checks to cash from insurance. In the event you do receive a check from your insurance company, please bring those payments directly to the dental clinic to be posted to your account. Our goal is to always be transparent in our processes and to be available to you for any questions or concerns you may have. We are here for you.

CHECK YOUR BADGE ✓
ALLOW PLENTY OF TIME TO COMPLETE ALL BADGE RENEWAL PROCESSES.



www.army.mil/kwajalein

Check out USAG-KA's website for garrison and community news, links to each directorate and other helpful information. Have thoughts or suggestions? Send them to the USAG-KA Public Affairs Office at Nikki.l.maxwell.civ@mail.mil.

Café Roi

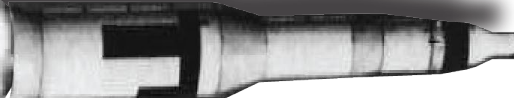
*MENU CURRENT AS OF JAN. 26

LUNCH

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	January 28
Roast Chicken	Mussels Marinara	Jamaican Patties	Blackened Chicken	Roast Beef Sandwich	Salmon Cakes	Kalua Pork
Hamburger Steak	Chopped BBQ Pork	Southwestern Roast Beef	Pork Chops	Roasted Turkey	Cuban Sandwich	Fish Sandwich
Vegetable Frittata	Egg and Cheese Sand.	Mashed Potatoes	Stir Fry Vegetables	Mashed Potatoes	Potatoes O'Brien	Veggie Fried Noodles

DINNER

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	January 28
Enchilada Casserole	BBQ Chicken	Herb Porkloin	Huli Huli Chicken	Fried Chicken	Mongolian BBQ	Hamburgers and Hot Dogs
Santa Fe Chicken	Spare ribs	Caribbean Seafood Curry	Corn on the Cob	Roast Pork	Beef or Chicken Lumpia	Beef Tamales
Borrocho Beans	Baked Beans	Black Beans	Baked Potatoes	Mashed Potatoes	Corn Dogs	Tater Tots



Thursday, Jan 25, 1990

*A Publication of the United States Army
Kwajalein Atoll, Marshall Islands*

Volume XXX No 4

U.S. soldiers capture Kwaj, Roi 46 years ago

By Megan Moore
Associate Editor

Next week marks the 46th anniversary of the Kwajalein invasion. Nearly 200 U.S. ships, 14 squadrons of bombers and 22,000 troops were dispatched to our little neck of the Pacific to engage in a battle that resulted in the deaths of nearly 5,000 Japanese and Korean men and about 150 American soldiers.

According to Hourglass research records, U.S. field artillery set up on Carlson disbursed 29,000 rounds of ammunition on Jan. 31 while fighters dropped 15 1,000-pound and 2,000-pound bombs on Kwajalein. Maj. Gen. Charles H. Corlett (for which the Corlett Recreation Center was named) led "Operation Flintlock."

The first wave of American soldiers from the Army's 7th Infantry Division landed at 9:30 a.m. on Feb. 1, 1944, a short way from what is now the Japanese Cemetery at Kwajalein's west end.

With amphibious tanks as backups, 1,200 men advanced. The 32nd Regimental Combat Team surged along the ocean-side and the 184th pushed on along the lagoon shoreline. Despite pre-landing bombardment, both divisions met with heavy resistance. However, within the next seven hours, American forces managed to push onward some 1,600 yards from their original landing sites.

The 32nd held their defensive position about where the weather station sits today and the 184th holed up just west of the Range Command building.

On the second day of battle the 32nd advanced until the two Japanese strongpoints, "Cat" — near the Kwajalein Country Club and "Corn" at the east end of the runway — fell. While the 32nd made advances, the 184th met heavy resistance in the area where the fresh water tanks are now.

The third day was the costliest for U.S. forces. Over 54 men died and 255 were wounded. As the 184th forged through smoke and flying debris, they came upon the "admiralty area" which is now the intersection of 9th Street and Lagoon Road. The 32nd continued their mission and made their way past what is now the Richardson Theater and up to the adult pool area. Just after sunset on Feb. 3, 1944, a bugle sounded around the Echo Pier, followed by a fierce attack by American troops as another Japanese stronghold was rendered helpless.

On the last day, the 32nd forged through the last 150 yards to Bunker Hill, near Qtrs. 223. It was there that the Japanese had a 5" gun emplacement. PFC Fred Henry Bucholz led the attack to dismantle the gun and died in the effort. In recognition for his efforts, Kwajalein's airfield was named in his honor.

After four days of fighting, Kwajalein Island was turned over to U.S. garrison and defense forces. Since 1944, the island has been a Naval base, the Kwajalein Missile Range and more recently, the U.S. Army Kwajalein Atoll.

Up north, the 4th Marine Division secured the island of Roi-Namur in just one day.



U.S. Army File Photo

Raising the flag

Two U.S. soldiers stand atop Bunker Hill in 1944. It was one of the last Japanese footholds that fell to American forces on Kwajalein.

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Check out daily news and community updates on the official U.S. Army Garrison-Kwajalein Atoll Facebook page.

www.facebook.com/usarmykwajaleinatoll