

THE KWAJALEIN HOURGLASS



THIS WEEK

SON OF WWII SAILOR

FOLLOWS FATHER'S FOOTSTEPS 2

SEC OF VA TALKS

ADMINISTRATION SUCCESSES 4

OP FLINTLOCK

A STEP-BY-STEP BREAKDOWN 9

LEATHERNECKS OF THE 24TH REGIMENT, 4TH MARINES DIVISION, ASSAULT JAPANESE POSITIONS ON NAMUR ON THIS DAY 76 YEARS AGO DURING THE AMERICAN INVASION OF THE MARSHALLS.

 U.S. MARINE CORPS

Leathernecks on Kwajalein with .50 calibre machine gun.

IT'S BEEN THE EXPERIENCE OF A LIFETIME: SON OF KWAJ-BASED WWII SAILOR

FEATURE / JORDAN VINSON

Joe Orlowski had heard the stories before. They are tales of Navy Sailors' hijinks, vicious barracuda attacks and azure blue waters cradling a tiny tropical island somewhere way out past Hawaii. They are stories Orlowski's father, the late Joseph Orlowski, had told Joe and his family of his time serving as a mechanic in the U.S. Navy while on Kwajalein from 1944 to 1945.

These stories, and the admiration he has for his father, had driven Joe to find a way to visit the far-flung place his father called home during the sunset years of World War II. Just last week that dream came true.

As official guests of the U.S. Army Garrison-Kwajalein Atoll Command, Joe and his wife Deetz took the opportunity last week to spend three nights on the garrison, where they toured the WWII battlefield sites on Kwajalein and Roi-Namur and got to see the airfield where Joe's father worked to help fuel America's island-hopping campaign westward across the Pacific toward Japan. They dined with their hosts, took lots of pictures and enjoyed the speed of life—or lack thereof—of the tiny tropical island community Joseph Orlowski temporarily called home.

During Joe's and his wife Deetz' visit, they explained a bit about Joseph's experience serving as a Sailor on Kwajalein more than 70 years ago.

When Joseph enlisted in the Navy, he was assigned to a destroyer and shipped out to Kwajalein, Joe said, arriving only a few months after the cataclysmic bombardment of the islands that took place during Operation Flintlock, from late January to early February 1944. Most of the island was completely razed, but the Japanese airfield was quickly cleared and improved upon. That's where Joseph spent much of his time on the island.

"He worked in the motor pool with the Seabees," Joe said. "It was all about the airfield—you know, finishing it—this and that. His job was to keep the trucks and jeeps running."

In addition to Joseph's special authorization—as an enlisted man—to yell at officers prone to riding their clutches and prematurely wearing them out, he and his buddies had a special connection to an officer or officers' mess attendant which granted them clandestine access to a magical elixir that eluded many enlisted service members deployed on the island: beer. After getting busted with the beer during an inspection of their barracks, "They said, 'Well what are we going to do now? They're on to us,'" Joe explained. "So, anyway, they get [more] beer and dad told me they would hide the beer in the cesspool. Tie it to a rope, drop it down the cesspool. I said, 'Dad, are you kidding me?' He said, 'No, I'm not kidding. You pull it out of there, you throw it in the ocean for a little while, and it's just fine.'"

Joseph served on Kwajalein until he was honorably discharged Dec. 9, 1945. Joe doesn't know how his father got from Kwajalein to Honolulu, but he was set to fly from Honolulu onward to San Francisco, Detroit and Connecticut to officially end his Navy service. Packed and ready to fly out of Honolulu, Joseph placed his bags on the plane and headed back to the terminal to say goodbye to his buddies. A natural raconteur, he got to talking and ended up missing his flight, which later crashed, killing all onboard, Joe recounts his father telling him.

"He was a regular, Greatest Generation type of guy," Joe said. "Came here, did what he did and went back to work as a welder." After raising his son Joe, Joseph lived out the rest of his life in Derby, Connecticut. He passed away in 1980, leaving behind a lifetime of memories and stories for his family to reflect on.

By the end of 2019, roughly 40 years after Joseph's passing, the Orlowskis were ready to pull the trigger on a trip to Hawaii, a life-long dream of Deetz's. Joe, discovering his father was stationed on Kwajalein, looked at his wife and said, "Well if we go to Hawaii, I want to go to Kwajalein," Deetz explained, smiling. "And I looked at him, and I said, 'Where the (obscurity) is Kwajalein?' It took us an hour to find Kwajalein on a map."



Jordan Vinson



ABOVE: Joe Orlowski and his wife Deetz, on Kwajalein Jan. 24 before flying off to Maui, Hawaii. **LEFT:** Orlowski's father, far left, during his tour on Kwajalein in 1944-1945 (courtesy of Joe Orlowski).

Getting to Kwajalein was trickier than the Orlowskis had expected. They didn't know where to begin seeking permission to visit, Deetz explained. But with help from the office of their congressman, Tom Rice, of South Carolina's 7th district, their request to visit was eventually routed through to USAG-KA's Protocol Officer Rick Krewson and Col. Jeremy Bartel. Bartel quickly approved their request to visit the garrison and brought them on as official guests, to the Orlowskis' surprise.

"A lot of people were very instrumental," said Joe, of his trip getting approved. "Col. Bartel was extremely instrumental. He was so receptive of the idea, and Rick Krewson and the United States Army really made this happen for us. I got my bucket list thing checked off."

Finally able to see with his own eyes the weird little island his father told him about throughout the years, Joe said the real-life images are, of course, much better than his father's scrapbook of monochrome photos back home, cherished though they are.

"It just all came into focus," Joe said before boarding a plane to take him and Deetz back to Hawaii. "It's actually a little bigger than I thought it was, but it's an awesome place to be. And, you know, just meeting the people here. It's such a close community. It seems like such a happy community. And they do such good work here, and they keep us safe. It's been the experience of a lifetime, and I'll never forget it."

THE KWAJALEIN HOURGLASS

The Kwajalein Hourglass is named for the insignia of the U.S. Army's 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 U.S. Government, Department of Defense, Department of the Army or USAG-KA. It is published Saturdays in accordance with Army Regulation 360-1.

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EBEYE ROUGHED UP BY BATTLE DURING FLINTLOCK CAMPAIGN

When looking back on the ravages of war that befell Kwajalein Atoll during American forces' island-hopping campaign in WWII, most people look to the action that occurred on the islands of Roi, Namur and Kwajalein. But there were dozens of smaller, micro battles that took place on the smaller islets surrounding those larger islands. Japanese defenders could be found on islets from Enubuj and Bigej in the south, to Ennuebing and Enniburr in the north.

Space and Missile Defense Command Historian Sharon Watkins Lang gives us a brief rundown on the action that occurred on Kwajalein's neighbor to the north: Ebeye.

—Jordan Vinson

COMMUNITY CONNECTION

By Sharon Watkins Lang, SMDC Historical Office

We tend to focus on the islands of Kwajalein, Roi and Namur, but we could take this opportunity to recount the events on one of the other islands.

Ebeye, known by the code name Burton, housed a Japanese garrison of approximately 1,000 troops in support of the seaplane base, with its adjacent ramps, hangars, machine shops, warehouses and infrastructure protected by pillboxes and machine gun emplacements, as well as anti-aircraft and dual-purpose guns.

Given the nature of the garrison, Ebeye, like Kwajalein and Roi-Namur, was subjected to weeks of advance bombardments prior to D-Day: Jan. 31, 1944. On D-Day +3, the 17th Regimental Combat Team's Battalion Landing Team 17-1 effected a virtually unopposed landing on Ebeye at Orange Beach. As they moved north through the island, they met increasing resistance from Japanese troops sheltering in the remains of the pillboxes, dugouts and air raid shelters. Nevertheless, by nightfall they had cleared more than half of the island.

On the second day, a successful air strike called on an ammunition dump ended the Japanese efforts, as no additional resistance shots were fired after the explosion. At 11:30 a.m., 3d Battalion, 17th Infantry relieved BLT 17-1, and Ebeye was declared secured 40 minutes later.

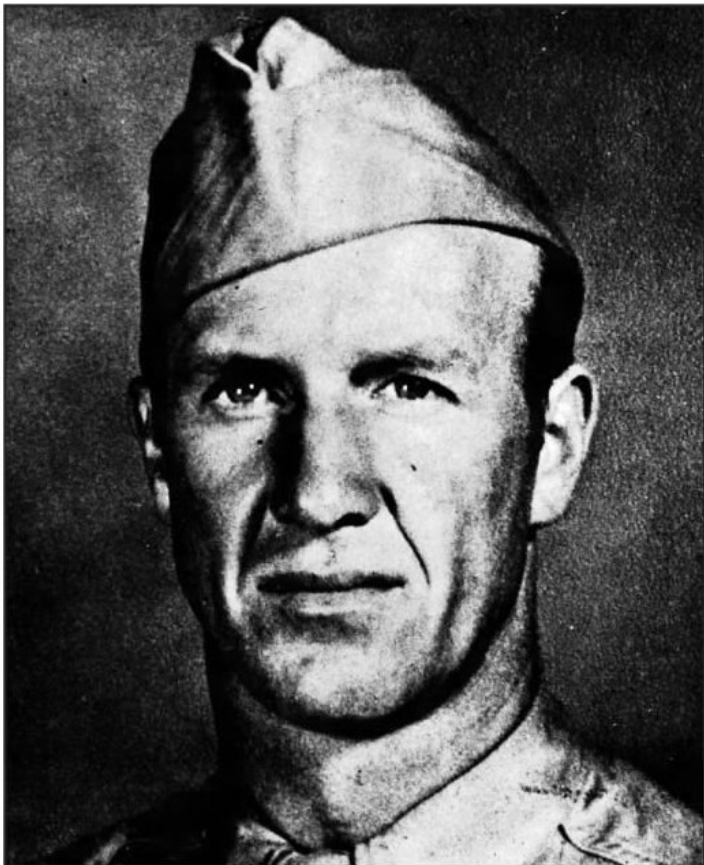
The seaplane ramp, used to shuttle Japanese planes in and out of the lagoon, is seen near the bottom-right of the included photograph.



Ebeye, code named Burton, is bombed by American forces during Operation Flintlock in February 1944.

Courtesy of SMDC Historical Office

BUCHOLZ, NAMESAKE OF KWAJ AIRFIELD, WAS FLINTLOCK HERO



Courtesy of SMDC Historical Office

Private 1st Class Fred Bucholz

COMMUNITY CONNECTION

By Sharon Watkins Lang, SMDC Historical Office

Bucholz Army Airfield, the official name of the international airport on Kwajalein, gets its namesake from U.S. Army Private 1st Class Fred Bucholz. He was killed in action on Kwajalein during the U.S. incursion against Japanese defenders in Operation Flintlock in 1944.

Already recognized for bravery during the engagements on Attu in the Aleutian Islands, Bucholz was taken down by enemy gunfire on Feb. 4, 1944 during a heroic offensive charge against Japanese pillboxes and blockhouses. He was awarded the Distinguished Service Cross for his actions in battle.

The citation for his Distinguished Service Cross reads: "When his infantry platoon leader was hit by an enemy bullet and fell in an area exposed to accurate enemy fire on Kwajalein Island, on February 4, 1944, he left his own covered position and rushed in to the exposed area, dragging the officer to the security of a shell hole. Shortly thereafter, the advance was stopped by heavy fire coming from one end of the large blockhouse. An arrangement of pillboxes to the left prevented any movement around the left flank and forced the attacking troops into a direct frontal attack on the enemy position. Sizing up the situation, he ran over the open ground between the front lines and the blockhouse and threw a hand grenade into the opening. He was killed as he moved away from the opening in an effort to cover it with his rifle fire."

Bucholz is buried in the National Memorial Cemetery of the Pacific in the Punchbowl Crater in Honolulu, Hawaii. During his service in the Army, he earned the Purple Heart, the Distinguished Service Cross and the Bronze Star.



Mike Brantley / USAG-KA PAO

The Secretary of Veterans Affairs, the Honorable Robert Wilkie, third from left, spoke with veterans of all of the Armed Services at The Sergeant Solomon Sam Sports Center in Majuro, Jan. 20, 2020, following the ninth inauguration of the Republic of the Marshall Islands president. The sports center is named for Sam, who was the first loss for the RMI in the U.S. war on terrorism, dying Dec. 4, 2008 in Mosul, Iraq.

INTERVIEW WITH SECRETARY OF VETERANS AFFAIRS

BY MIKE BRANTLEY / USAG-KA PUBLIC AFFAIRS

The Secretary of Veterans Affairs, the Honorable Robert Wilkie, stopped here on Kwajalein Atoll last week and made time to sit down with us to share his thoughts on his tenure as secretary, the importance for caring for our veterans, and the mission of the Kwajalein Atoll.

Secretary Wilkie, sworn in July 30, 2018, previously served as the acting Secretary of Veterans Affairs as well as the Under Secretary of Defense for Personnel and Readiness. Secretary Wilkie is a colonel in the U.S. Air Force Reserve assigned to the Office of the Chief of Staff.

Mike Brantley: As the Secretary of Veterans Affairs, what are your main priorities in regards to veterans and their care?

Secretary Robert Wilkie: Well, I've got to live up to Abraham Lincoln's pledge, to take care of Americans who have fought, when he created this institution and laid down the foundations of the second inaugural. The last three acts of his life were to create the first three Soldiers Homes – one in Maine, one in Ohio and one in Wisconsin.

In terms of running an organization as

large as VA, the first thing is to restore morale. In the last year, we've gone from 17 out of 17 in terms of best places to work in the federal government, to six. We have the highest approval ratings we've ever had -- patient approval ratings at 90%. But the other part of the priorities after that is taken care of is to make sure that the veteran is the center of his health or her health, not the institutional needs of VA, the prerogatives of bureaucracy, and that is to give that veteran a choice.

Since June 6 when we kicked off the mission act, we've sent more than 1.7 million Americans into the private sector when either they live too far away from us or we don't have what they need. The third is to make sure that we are prepared to be a 21st Century healthcare administration, making an electronic health record, modernizing our HR, and modernizing our business practices. So, all of those things tie into the last, and it's fourth, but it is usually first, and that is customer service. That's to make sure that we are welcoming to America's veterans. We serve 9.5 million in 170 hospitals.

MB: How has veteran care improved under your tenure?

RW: Well, what I think has happened is that because we have put the premium

on customer service and we have held people responsible in ways that no other federal department does, under this president we have relieved over 8,000 people. The other improvement comes from getting the employees involved in leadership. Pushing decision making down to the hospital and clinic level I think one of the problems VA has had for too many years, and this is a bipartisan criticism, is that too many people in my seat just started issuing directives, directive after directive that may have been fine for one situation but not fine for the entire organization. So customer satisfaction is at an all-time high and because we've instituted some things that those of us in the military, particular in the Air Force and the nuclear Navy knows a higher liability organization, we are making sure that people at whatever level of VA have a say in how they work and what the organization does.

MB: What is your impression of Kwajalein and its mission?

RW: It's great to be on an Army post. You know, for me it could be Fort Sill or it could be Fort Bragg. I grew up in those two places. There's no place like it. And even though Kwajalein is far away from the mainland of the United States, it's still the same spirit. It's wonderful to see people who are happy to be here.



The Secretary of Veterans Affairs, the Honorable Robert Wilkie, sixth from left, flanked by the newly-elected President of the Republic of the Marshall Islands, David Kabua, right, and the U.S. Ambassador to the RMI, Karen Stewart, met with 10 of the 33 Marshallese senators following the inauguration ceremony in Majuro, Jan. 20, 2020.

There are a lot of places in the Army and some in the Air Force, where they are there and they're not happy to be there because of the distance that installation may be from where they want to be. But everywhere we go people are so happy to be here. It takes a great spirit because you're in a really confined world here. But, people are happy. They like each other. It's a family and it's a wonderful thing to see.

MB: If you had a room of veterans in front of you, what points would you like to make to them, and why?

RW: Our mission is to serve. Our mission is to serve them. Our mission is to make sure their needs come first and our mission is to make sure that we have a department that is ready for this century to serve their needs. I would point out that all of the surveys that have been done, our own or the Veterans of Foreign Wars, our customer satisfaction rate is sitting at 90%. There's no private healthcare system in the country that comes close to that and I'm very proud of that.

MB: As an Air Force Reserve colonel, tell me about what it means for you to serve as both a military officer and as the Secretary for Veterans Affairs.

RW: Still serving in the military keeps me grounded. I've felt that way as the undersecretary of defense, I've felt that way as the assistant secretary of defense and I've felt that way in the National Security Council under Dr. (Condoleezza) Rice. I don't mean to impugn people but I've always felt that having that experience in uniform, standing in ranks at some time in a life, is important when dealing with national security so that you never treat a paratrooper, a tanker or an artilleryman as a pin on a map. That's a real flesh and blood American out there. And the same thing goes for this job. It's important because I come from a culture where my family has served going back hundreds of years. It's important to understand the culture and speak the language. There's no other culture like the military. The police aren't it; the firefighters aren't it, (not) football players. Having that experience in uniform I think is the most important thing for me and keeping my-

self grounded for as many years in the military as they'll let me.

MB: What do you get personally and professionally from serving the veterans?

RW: It's the greatest professional honor of my life. I was not expecting this call. I was very happy helping Gen. Mattis. But I found 400,000 people, most of whom could be doing something else, particularly our doctors and nurses. They have an affection for people who have served. Now 40% of the people in VA have worn the uniform and that's important. To be able to help at the other end of the national security continuum, we do things that no other country in the world does, perhaps Israel being the exception. Even in our Allied countries, once you put away the uniform you are sort of put away. We don't do that. I want to make sure that we never return to those days that I saw as a child when my father, a senior officer in the 82nd Airborne Division, could not wear his uniform off post in the 1970s because of the Vietnam effect. That's in southeastern North Carolina. That's not Cambridge, Massachusetts or Berkley, California. That's Richard Nixon country. And that stayed with me. Woe be to the country if we ever return to those days. That's always in the back of my mind.

MB: Your father, who passed away in 2017, served as an Army artillery commander. Do you think he would be proud of the Department of Veterans Affairs today?

RW: I think he would be very proud. From the moment I was aware, he made sure that I knew what the Army family was about. I was privileged to meet a lot of very great people, particularly as Vietnam drew down so many field grade officer level and the junior general level, so many heroes of Vietnam were plunked at Fort Bragg and I got a chance to meet them and listen to them. I used to sit at the top of the stairs and listen to them talk and I had a chance to at least shake hands with people like Matthew Ridgway and Omar Bradley, both of whom had commanded the All-American division. I first met Don Rumsfeld when he was the SecDef the first time, of course how many years later was I working for him? That is the world that I grew up in, and he would be

very happy. I have Gen. Bradley's desk. He was the administrator of the Veterans Administration right after World War II and I just shake my head every time I sit down there that I'm in his personal desk. I have his picture up above it.

MB: Do you have anything you'd like to add?

RW: This Veterans Affairs department is not the Veterans Affairs department that made some very sad headlines in 2014, 2015, 2016. Are we going to have a bad apple, sure, in an organization of 400,000, you're going to have that. But we've turned a tremendous corner and I will also say that we are leading the national fight against a crisis that is engulfing the entire country and that is suicide.

I'm leading the president's task force on suicide prevention. I think it's important for veterans to be in the lead because most Americans believe at some level what it means to put on a uniform and what happens when that uniform comes off. I'll be reporting to the president in March and we'll offer a national roadmap on suicide prevention. We'll be able to get funds out to remote parts of America to find those veterans we don't see. Right now 20 American Soldiers a day take their lives. But of those 20, we don't see 14, and the majority of those are Vietnam veterans. So, these are people who have been angry, and in most cases, out of touch with the American government since Lyndon Johnson was president and he left Washington 51 years ago on Monday (Jan. 20). That's how long some of these problems have been building. So if we can help the country I think we'll be doing a double service. It is a great honor. I see us an extension of service and it's a very proud moment for me every time I am able to talk to veterans and help with this organization because I am surrounded by great people. Part of the turnaround is that everybody around me has significant military experience. Mike (Mike Meador is special assistant to the secretary), is retired military. My chief of staff, Col. Powers, 30 years in the Air Force. The head of our veterans health administration is former deputy surgeon general of the Army. Why is that important? Because we understand. It's impacted us, it's impacted our families, and I think that's helped the change.

A LOOK BACK IN TIME

Volume 34, No 1

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

Wednesday
January 5, 1994

News Briefs

Mini-mall grand opening

A ribbon-cutting grand opening of the new mini-mall is scheduled at 12 30 p m Monday USAKA Commander Col Gene Hazel will speak, and there will be drawings for prizes. The beauty shop will offer free haircuts and stylings, the travel agency will give away luggage, and Tape Escape will have free movie rentals. You must be present to win. Everyone's invited, so don't miss the fun!

Order ice now!

All organizations and vendors who require ice for the World War II commemoration must place their orders with the ice plant by Jan 18. Call 3408 to place your order.

Concession meeting

Organizations and individuals sponsoring booths/concessions for the World War II commemoration should attend the requirements meeting on Tuesday, 4 30 p m at the Yokwe Yuk Club. Bring your questions. All logistics will be discussed.

Get in the parade!

You're needed for the **biggest parade ever** at Kwajalein Atoll. There will be awards for the best company, organization, and individual entries. There will even be a decorated bicycle division with awards. Contact Darlene at 4831W or 2376H with your entry. The deadline is Jan 31.

Entertainers wanted

Entertainers are needed for an extravaganza of entertainment for the 50th anniversary commemoration "Picnic at the Park" on Feb 7. Contact Roy Clemans at 1404 if you would like to perform. Entry deadline is Jan 31.

Congress approves MILCON request

Kwajalein to get another BQ

As Wallace O'Connor/Pacific International construction crews work at the site of new bachelor quarters behind the Yokwe Yuk Club, bids are out for the construction of a second BQ on an adjacent site.

Gene Dohrman, team chief in USAKA Engineering and Housing Branch, says that official notification was recently received that the U S Congress has approved construction of the \$10 million unaccompanied personnel housing (UPH) project on Kwajalein as part of USAKA's FY94 military construction (MILCON) program.

The Surf BQ and the Yokwe Yuk tennis courts will be demolished to provide land for the second BQ. Two new courts will be constructed in an open area near Echo Pier on 6th St.

"The new tennis courts will be completed and ready to use before demolition of the existing ones begins," assures Dohrman.

Dohrman thinks the bachelors will be happy with the new BQs, which are designed to comply with

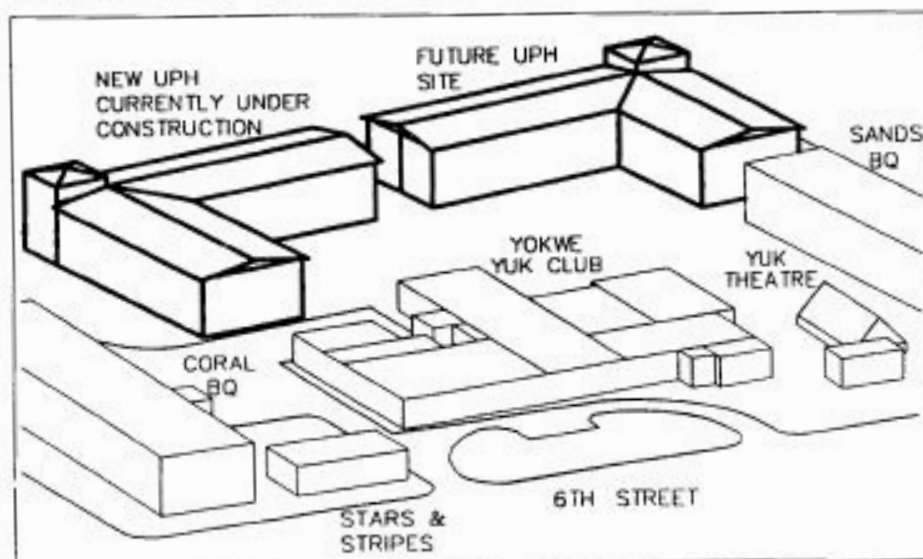
USAKA's standard for unaccompanied personnel housing.

"The second BQ will be like the one under construction except that it will have 88 instead of 100 rooms," says Dohrman. "Each private room will have a private bath, kitchenette, and its own thermostat control for the air-conditioning."

"Interiors will be color-coordinated with wall-to-wall carpeting and wall covering throughout the building," Dohrman continues. "Every floor will have a laundry room and a small lounge. The exterior of the building will be covered with a synthetic stucco that doesn't require periodic painting. The attractive stucco will provide insulation and minimize maintenance."

Dohrman expects that the contract will be awarded in March and construction will start this summer. The BQ currently under construction should be completed in the spring of 1995, and the second one should be completed by early 1996.

(Continued on page 3)



The new bachelor quarters complex (Drawing by J R Bradley)

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Kwajalein Hourglass

Friday
February 4, 2000



(Photo by Michael Maurer Sr.)

Catch of the day

This 116-pound blue marlin was caught by (left to right) Michael R. Maurer Sr., with NMD visitors Lt. Col. Johnnie Bone, George Williams, Maj. Gen. Willie Nance and Col. Tim McKaig late last month. Not pictured: Buck Blackwell.

Moonshine beams in latest Commodore's Cup race

By Peter Rejcek

Not even a spinnaker could propel Rod Godfrey's *Bellwether* past the speedy *Moonshine*, which sailed to victory in Monday's third installment of the Commodore's Cup Series.

The two vessels began the battle for first place near the end of the fourth leg of the race, a long beat that allowed the larger boats to pass the leader, Mike Herrington's Cal-20, *Shadow*.

But Bruce Premo's *Moonshine* proved too quick in the second half of the race, even when Godfrey threw a spinnaker on the runs.

The 13.2-mile race is one of the longest courses in the series, according to Commodore Hal Dunn. There are a total of six courses that will be run four different times throughout the duration of the Cup series, which is in its inaugural year. To qualify for the Cup, boats must race in at least half of the 24 races.



Lt. Gen. Douglas Gabram (left) assumes command of the Installation Management Command Jan. 22 at Joint Base San Antonio-Fort Sam Houston. (Photo Credit: Ms. Brittany Nelson (IMCOM))

LT. GEN. DOUGLAS GABRAM ASSUMES COMMAND OF IMCOM

EXTERNAL REPORT

By **Brittany Nelson**

Lt. Gen. Douglas Gabram assumed command of U.S. Army Installation Management Command Jan. 22 at Joint Base San Antonio-Fort Sam Houston.

Gen. Gus Perna, commanding general of Army Materiel Command, promoted Gabram in a private ceremony prior to the assumption of command.

Gabram assumed command from Maj. Gen. Timothy McGuire who has served as acting commanding general since August 2019.

Perna thanked McGuire for his work as interim commander. McGuire will now return to his role as Deputy Commanding General of IMCOM.

"Maj. Gen. McGuire, your leadership belongs in a book as an example for all of us," said Perna. "Over the past five months you have demonstrated personal, moral and physical courage. You are a remarkable leader and it is my honor to serve with you every day."

Perna went on to describe his confidence in Gabram as IMCOM's next CG.

"Lt. Gen. Gabram is a great Army leader, and IMCOM is a great Army team," said Perna. "I feel confident that general Gabram will take IMCOM's work to the next level. My one-word piece of advice to him during the passing of the colors was 'press.'"

Perna pointed out the Chief of Staff of the Army's number one priority is people. "The chief believes that if we take care of Soldiers, Families and Civilians, our Army will remain strong for the long term. IMCOM is the quarterback of that solution."

Perna continued, "In his new role, Gabram will lead the or-

ganization responsible for the safety, care and morale of over 1 million Soldiers and their Families. This is one of the Army's most sacred responsibilities."

Speaking directly to the IMCOM workforce, Perna stated. "You are the unsung heroes of our Army. Because of you, our Families feel protected and safe as their loved ones deploy to war. Thank you for your professionalism and selfless service."

During Gabram's opportunity to speak, he mentioned the importance of success at home and down range.

"I have been privileged to lead Soldiers in combat many times," said Gabram. "I know that if we fail to get it right at our installations, we could get it wrong in combat, and this will not happen."

He also mentioned he is prepared to take command and support all the command does to help the Army.

"I look forward to taking on our mission of serving and supporting Soldiers, Civilians and Families and strengthening the readiness of our Army," said Gabram.

Before assuming command, Gabram was the director for Test at the Missile Defense Agency at Redstone Arsenal, Alabama. He was responsible for planning, programming, budgeting, staffing and managing a comprehensive Ballistic Missile Defense System test program to field an integrated and effective capability to the warfighter.

Before that he served as the commanding general for U.S. Army Aviation and Missile Command (AMCOM).

As part of the Army Installation Management Reform Initiative, in January 2019 the Secretary of the Army made the decision to realign IMCOM to Army Materiel Command as a Major Subordinate Command with an effective date of March 1, 2019. This move improves how the Army integrates and delivers base support, services and facilities to enhance readiness and the well-being of Soldiers, Families and Civilians.



📷 Jordan Vinson

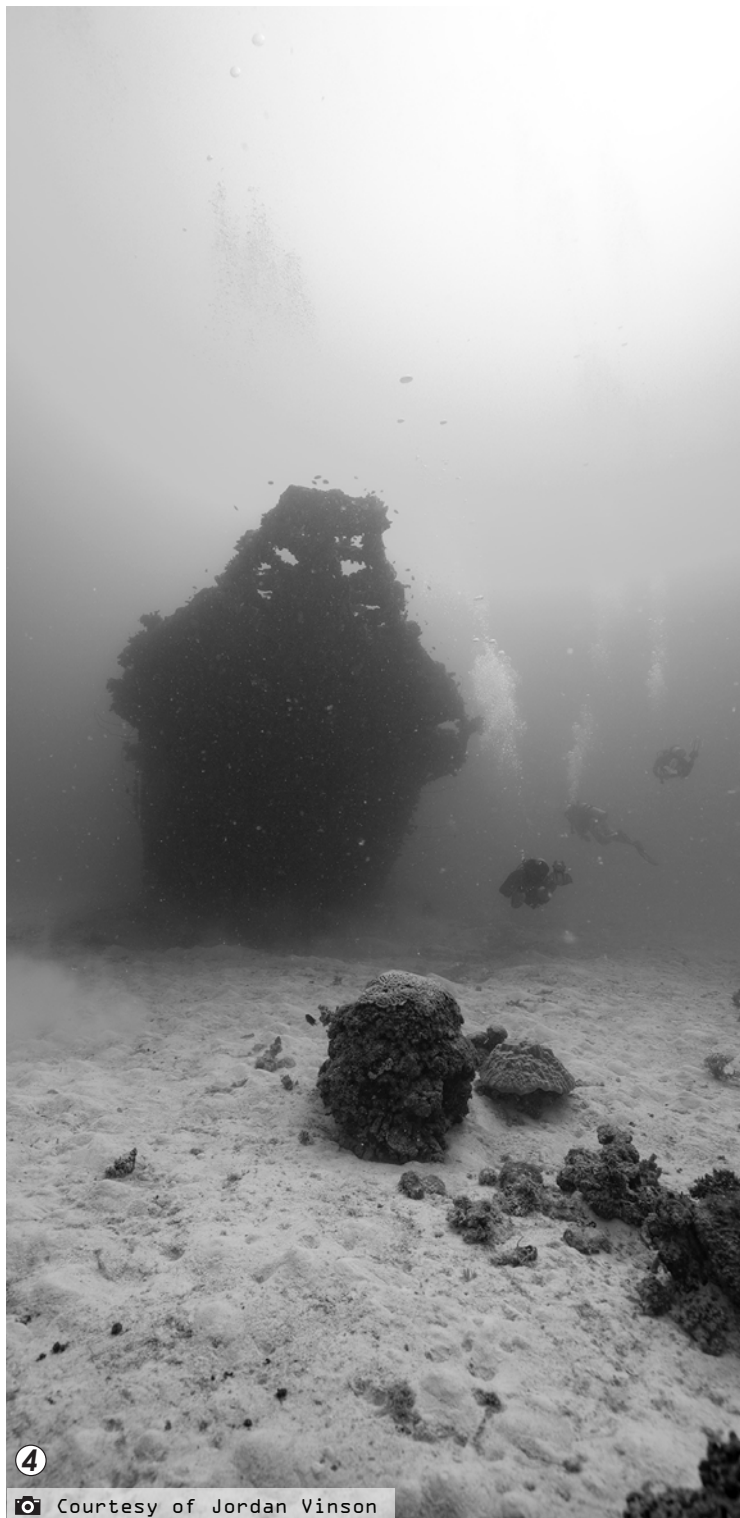
1) A few minutes of sunlight poke through thick clouds on Kwajalein Monday, the tail-end of a weekend filled with heavy winds and rain showers. 2) Joe Orłowski, second from right, and his wife Deetz join USAG-KA Protocol Officer Rick Krewson, far left, and Col. Jeremy Bartel in a group photo prior to the Orłowskis' departure from the garrison. The couple were official guests of USAG-KA Command and flew in to Kwajalein to see the island on which Orłowski's father served as U.S. Navy Sailor following Operation Flintlock. 3) U.S. Ambassador to the Republic of the Marshall Islands, Karen Stewart, receives a plaque of Kwajalein and a cased RMI flag as farewell gifts from U.S. Army Garrison-Kwajalein Atoll Commander, Col. Jeremy Bartel, in Majuro, Jan. 20, 2020. Bartel attended the ninth inauguration of the president of the RMI.



📷 Jordan Vinson



📷 Mike Brantley, USAG-KA PAO



📷 Courtesy of Jordan Vinson

4) Buddies dive the Shell Island Wreck together in a recent dive trip from Kwajalein.

This special edition of the Kwajalein Hourglass, printed Feb. 5, 1994, was produced to commemorate the 50th anniversary of the battle between American and Japanese forces in the Marshall Islands in late 1943 and early 1944. In the following-

pages, former Hourglass writers and editors and contributing writers explain the historical context behind the American invasion while providing a day-by-day rundown of the battle and the sacrifices made by the men involved. —Jordan Vinson



Special Edition



THE KWAJALEIN HOURGLASS

Volume 34, No 10

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

Saturday
February 5, 1994

Victory in the Marshalls paved the way to Tokyo

By Jane Toma

There were many bombs dropped during World War II. But few were as devastating to the Japanese as the one Adm. Chester Nimitz dropped on Dec. 6, 1943, when he proposed a radical revision of Operation Flintlock — the invasion of the Marshalls.

Nimitz's Central Pacific commanders recoiled in shock. Nimitz proposed to abandon their plans to take Maloelap and Wotje. Instead, he wanted to concentrate the forces for a strike at the heart of the Marshalls, Kwajalein Atoll.

Most of the Pacific commanders opposed the bold new plan. They feared it was too risky to strike deep inside the perimeter of the Marshalls with several powerful bases and hundreds of airplanes within striking range.

Nimitz overrules others

But Nimitz felt that carrier forces and land-based fighters and bombers from the Gilberts could eliminate Japanese air power. Kwajalein would be easier to take. And with the world's largest lagoon, would make a better staging base for future operations.

Nimitz's will prevailed, and 50 years ago, with the most powerful invasion force ever assembled to that time, American forces seized Kwajalein Atoll. Considered by military historians as the most successful amphibious operation, the invasion of the Marshall Islands, code named Operation Flintlock, served as the model for future operations in the



Headlines back home bring good news after Tarawa

Pacific and paved the road to Tokyo.

The Japanese expected to be attacked in the Marshalls, but not at Kwajalein, which was not as heavily defended as bases at Wotje, Maloelap, Mili, and Jaluit — a big payoff for striking at the center instead of the perimeter.

Significant operation

Operation Flintlock was one of the most significant operations in the Pacific Campaign. The seizure of the Kwajalein Atoll was the first capture of Japanese pre-war territory. It pierced the Japanese defense perimeter. It took strategic control of the Marshalls away from the Japanese. It severed Japanese lines of commu-

nication. It shortened the Pacific campaign. Loss of American life was less than one percent.

Masterful planning, naval and air superiority, and heavy preliminary bombing characterized the operation.

American forces assaulted Majuro, which was undefended, on Jan. 30, 1944, one day prior to the invasion. Two weeks after the seizure of Kwajalein Atoll, American forces captured Eniwetok.

Left to wither

Waiting for reinforcements that never came and continuously harassed by air raids, the remaining garrisons in the Marshalls were bypassed and left isolated, powerless, and doomed to "wither on the vine."

With their eastern flank penetrated, the Japanese could not hold the Bismarks, Solomons, or New Guinea.

Ahead of schedule

Land-based air raids and reconnaissance flights enabled the neutralization and bypassing of Truk and allowed American forces to seize the Marianas and Philippines well ahead of schedule.

The war was shortened and many American lives were saved. Many Japanese garrisons slated for invasion were effectively neutralized and bypassed. The drive through the Pacific was accelerated, and the seizure of the Marianas was advanced six to 12 months. The Marianas brought Japan within range of America's big B29s and the final blows to end the war.

The road to the Marshalls began early

A history of the strategy leading up to the invasion of the Marshalls

By Jane T ma

Strategic planning in the Pacific started at the turn of the 20th century with the American acquisition of distant possessions in the Pacific. In 1904, following Japan's attack on Russia, Lt. Gen. Adna R. Chaffee, Army Chief of Staff, proposed that the recently formed Joint Board (of the Army and Navy) provide war plans involving cooperation between the Navy and the Army in the event of war. That request gave rise to the color plans — a series of war plans designated as a specific color corresponding to a specific nation. The Orange plans, contingency plans for war with Japan, were reviewed and revised up through the 20s and 30s. They called for an assault through the Central Pacific. Military planners studied the Orange plans and applied them to their strategy in the Central Pacific campaign.

More than one color

The advent of the Axis coalition gave rise to another series of war plans, based on multiple nations — the Rainbow plans. Rainbow 5 called for alliance with Britain and outlined the American/British objectives at the outbreak of the war. It called for the Central Pacific offense to take a back seat to the war with Germany. The campaigns in the Pacific would be primarily defensive,

with limited offenses until Germany was defeated. The defense of Australia and New Zealand was vital.

Japan's early success in the war invalidated the Rainbow 5 plan's fundamental strategy and postponed the offensive provisions in the Pacific. Japan had weakened the U.S. Pacific Fleet, snatched the Philippines, Wake, Guam, the Gilberts, Malaya, Burma, and the Netherlands Indies, and advanced into New Guinea and the Solomons close to Australia.

Two great commands

On March 30, 1942, the Joint Chiefs organized the Pacific theater into two commands — the Southwest Pacific under Gen. Douglas MacArthur in Australia and the Pacific Ocean Area under Nimitz in Hawaii. The primary mission of the two commands was to defend communication lines between the U.S. and Australia, contain the Japanese, and prepare for amphibious offensives. In early 1942, the U.S. sent a substantial number of forces to Australia.

Time to strike

By the middle of 1942, Japan had overextended herself and was defeated at Midway and in the Coral Sea. Crippled by the loss of four aircraft carriers and hundreds of planes, the Japanese fleet no longer advanced. The time was ripe for the Allies to take the offensive.

Pacific forces began their advance through the Solomons and New Guinea and halted Japan's southward expansion.

At the Casablanca Conference in January 1943, Adm. Ernest King and Gen. George Marshall persuaded the British to keep offensive pressure on the Japanese in the Central Pacific by utilizing resources already available in the Pacific and not hurting the primary offensive in Europe. Offensive pressure in the south would also help keep Australia and New Zealand secure.

Trident Conference

On May 11, 1943, the Combined Chiefs of Staff met at the Trident Conference to re-examine the Pacific Strategy. They proposed a Central

Pacific offense, which included the Marshalls. The Central Pacific offensive, as opposed to the southern route leading to the Philippines preferred by MacArthur, was shorter and more direct. It did not require as many troops and supplies, utilized the U.S. Fleet to its best advantage, and would isolate Japan from her overseas empire.

Battle-tested troops

By the end of May 1943, American war planners had proposed the invasion of the Marshalls for October. However, the assault required two divisions of "battle-tested shock troops with amphibious training," since it would be the first U.S. assault against a fortified atoll. The only qualified troops available were the 1st Marine Division in the Southwest Pacific, under MacArthur, and the 2nd Marine Division in the South Pacific. Transferring those troops would deprive those regions of their only amphibious divisions with combat experience and presented several political and military risks.

The Joint Planners and JCS agreed that MacArthur's campaign should not be interrupted, but concluded that the Central Pacific drive could be launched anyway. The Joint War Plans Committee was ordered to prepare a plan to assault the Marshalls for November or December.

Not an easy task

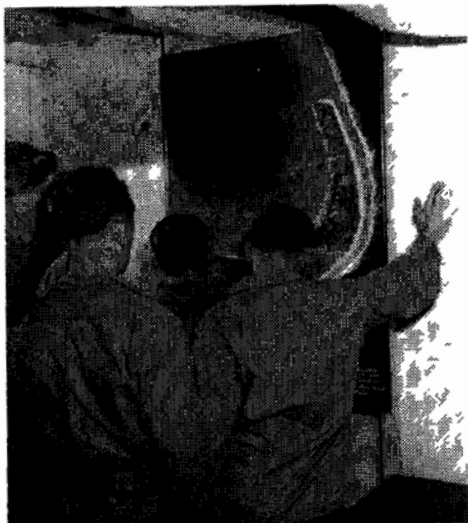
The committee had to produce a plan that would not interrupt MacArthur's operation. Yet they required his troops for an invasion of the Marshalls. Unable to solve the problem, they presented a new plan that called for seizure of the Gilberts as an alternate course of action.

The Joint Chiefs agreed to assault the Gilberts in November 1943, as a prelude to a drive in the Marshalls. Seizure of the Gilberts would require fewer troops and would provide air bases to be used in strikes against the Marshalls and Carolines.

Lessons learned

The seizure of Tarawa validated American amphibious doctrine. But casualties were high. American plan-

(Continued on page 18)



Military officials view an aerial view of Kwajalein

Operation Flintlock -- Southern Kwajalein Atoll

by Pat Cataldo

Fifty years ago, U S forces undertook one of the most complicated campaigns in military history — the assault and capture of major Japanese naval and air bases in the Marshall Islands

Out of the battles, which involved landings on 30 islands, arose a new and highly successful mode of amphibious warfare that sped the end of World War II

What follows are a series of stories of the invasion of southern Kwajalein Atoll, written as battlefront communiques

Jan. 30, 1944 — Kwajalein Island lies battered and burning tonight after two days of pulverizing naval bombardment and intensive bombing and strafing by land- and carrier-based planes

The fires of destruction on Japan's principal naval base in the Marshalls are visible to men of the 7th Infantry Division (the "Hourglass Division"), veteran troops who wait for D-Day aboard vessels of the Southern Attack Force

Roi and Namur islands, center of Japan's air power in the Marshalls, are under attack from planes and ships of the Northern Attack Force, while men of the 4th Marine Division, not yet tried in battle, also wait for D-Day

This afternoon, the battleships *Massachusetts*, *Indiana*, and *Washington* pounded Kwajalein with 1,000 rounds of 16-inch ammunition — an average of one 250-pound shell every 15 seconds of the four-hour bombardment

The attacks on Kwajalein, Roi, and Namur began early yesterday. Though weather was squally and skies were overcast, planes from the carriers *Cowpens*, *Monterey*, and *Bunker Hill*, positioned southwest of Kwajalein, took off an hour before sunrise for the first bombing run on Kwajalein's airfield and nearby buildings

Despite intense and accurate anti-aircraft fire, the bombing and strafing continued over the entire island throughout the day

At Roi and Namur, planes from the carriers *Essex*, *Intrepid*, and

Cabot began their assault at dawn, dropping 2,000-pound bombs on runways and scoring numerous hits on hangars, fuel dumps, and gun positions. Ninety-two Japanese aircraft were based on Roi, but U S planes at once gained command of the air, and after 0800, no Japanese planes were seen airborne

B-25s, flying from bases in the Gilbert Islands, joined in the attack to drop 23 tons of bombs on Kwajalein and 15 tons on Roi

More than 400 sorties were flown over Kwajalein, Roi, and Namur by carrier-based planes. U S losses totaled four Hellcats and a torpedo-bomber over Kwajalein. No U S ship was attacked by enemy aircraft

In related actions of the past two days, the airstrip at Majuro has been completely neutralized by air attack, and Japanese installations on Wotje, Maloelap, Jaluit, and Mili have been severely damaged by bombing and strafing runs

7th Infantry troops ashore near strongholds

Jan. 31, 1944 — After a series of highly successful amphibious landings, American troops are ashore tonight on four small islands near Kwajalein and on five islets flanking Roi and Namur. They are tightening the noose on these two major Japanese strongholds in the Marshalls. Every objective was gained, with U S casualties classified as very light

In actions today around Kwajalein Island (code name, Porcelain), U S troops captured Enubuj (Carlson), Ennylabegan (Carlos), Gea (Carter), and Ninni (Cecil) islands, and brought Gea Pass under U S

control. American casualties were one dead, two wounded

Forty-eight 105mm howitzers have been set up on Enubuj and are harassing Kwajalein, as heavier 155mm guns are rapidly being landed. The naval bombardment of Kwajalein's defenses continues, and destroyer *Wall* is delivering harassing fire on Ebeye (Burton), Japan's chief seaplane base in the Marshalls. It is known to harbor several hundred Japanese troops

At the northern end of the atoll, the 25th Regimental Combat Team
(Continued page 4)



Japan's communications center on Enubuj (Carlson) Island was taken at noon Jan. 31, with 20 prisoners. Fuel dump is in foreground, with communications facility in background



When Carlson was secure, 7th Infantry troops brought 105mm and 155mm howitzers ashore, registered on Kwajalein Island (visible in background), and began delivering pre-invasion fire.

(From page 3)

of the 4th Marine Division has secured five islets near Roi and Namur at a cost of 18 American dead, eight missing, and 40 wounded. Artillery has been established ashore, and North Pass is safe for the passage of ships.

As night falls, fresh landing troops are poised for tomorrow's strikes against Kwajalein, Roi, and Namur, the main objectives of this invasion.

The action today began at dawn, when battleships *Pennsylvania* and *Mississippi* began firing on the western end of Kwajalein Island. By 0830, Enubuj, Ennylabegan, Kwajalein, Ebeye, and South Gugeegue (Beverly) were being systematically raked by the fire of four battleships, three cruisers, and four destroyers.

In preparation for landings by the 17th Regimental Combat Team on Enubuj and Ennylabegan, more than 2,000 rounds of 5-inch shells were poured on the two islands. Twenty-one tons of bombs and 50,000 rounds of 50-caliber ammunition were expended by 51 escort carrier planes in bombing and strafing runs.

U.S. troops captured Enubuj at noon, taking 20 prisoners after very light resistance. Within an hour, divisional artillery began coming ashore, and by 1800 the howitzers

were registered on Kwajalein.

Opposed only by a few Japanese firing light rifles and automatic weapons, the 17th RCT captured Ennylabegan by 1300 without a single American casualty. Organization began immediately to set up supply dumps and repair stations.

The landing on Gea was made shortly after dawn by B Troop, a provisional unit made up of men of the 7th Cavalry Reconnaissance Troop and Co. B, 111th Infantry. After a short fight, the island was secured at 0930. Twenty-two Japanese were killed and one taken prisoner. American losses were one killed and one wounded.

Ninni, which, with Gea, guards an important entrance to the lagoon, was captured by A Troop at 1230 hours. The men first mistakenly landed on Gehh, next island northwest of Ninni, after fighting strong currents and off-shore winds in their rubber landing craft. The error was discovered after a brief reconnaissance, during which four Japanese were killed and two taken prisoner. When troops proceeded to Ninni, they found it unoccupied and took possession at once.

A unique part of today's operation was the use, for the first time in the Pacific, of an underwater demolition

team. At 1000 hours and again at 1600, this team worked its way to within 300 yards of the beach at the western end of Kwajalein Island, where U.S. forces will land tomorrow. They were searching for underwater obstacles and anti-boat mines.

As light faded this evening, troops of the 32nd and 184th RCTs of the 7th Infantry moved from transports to LVTs. They are scheduled to make the initial landings on Kwajalein Island in the morning.

D-Day on Kwajalein

Feb. 1, 1944 — After a near-perfect amphibious assault this morning on beaches at the west end of Kwajalein Island, troops of the 32nd and 184th Regimental Combat Teams and the 767th Tank Battalion have advanced approximately one-third the length of the island against stiffening Japanese resistance.

The most devastating naval, artillery, and air bombardment yet seen in the Pacific began at dawn and continued until H-Hour. At one time, two shells per second were hitting specific targets and areas ahead of the assault troops.

Altogether, nearly 7,000 14-inch, 8-inch, and 5-inch shells hit Kwajalein today from supporting naval vessels alone. Most of them landed on the main beaches before the assault.

Field artillery on Enubuj (Carlson) expended 29,000 rounds of 105mm and 155mm ammunition. Heavy bombers flew from Tarawa to drop 15 1,000- and 2,000-pound bombs on the landing area. Carrier-based dive and torpedo bombers and fighters flew a total of 96 supporting sorties.

As the landing craft started for shore, Navy aircraft made a last strafing run. Artillery shells from Enubuj were still hitting the beach when the LVTs were within 35 yards.

The first wave of troops landed exactly on schedule at 0930 at Red Beach 1 (in the vicinity of the invasion beach marker). One minute later, troops went ashore at Red Beach 2 (near USAKA Photo Lab).

Within 12 minutes, 1,200 men and their equipment had landed without a single casualty, and amphibious tanks had advanced 100 yards.

(Continued on page 5)



Men of the 7th Infantry in LVTs head for Kwajalein. Landing on Red Beach 1 was at 0930 and on Red Beach 2 at 0931.

Artillery shells from Carlson were still hitting the beach when the LVTs were 35 yards from shore.

Twelve hundred men were landed without a single casualty.

attack at dawn on the day after his cause becomes hopeless."

Today's action began at 0715, when men of the 32nd and 184th Regimental Combat Teams and 767th Tank Battalion moved forward after 15 minutes of preparatory fire from artillery on Enubuj (Carlson) Island.

Advancing along the ocean side, the 32nd, with support tanks, reduced two Japanese strong points — "Cat" (in the vicinity of the Country Club and golf course) and "Corn" (at the east end of the runway). Corn was protected by an elaborate tank trap that extended nearly halfway across the island.

These troops are dug in for the night in the abandoned trenches and shell craters around the tank trap.

The 184th, in its push up the lagoon side, met considerable resistance in the area now covered by fresh water tanks. There, the rubble of a large number of buildings offered enough cover for Japanese snipers and machine gun crews. Because tanks assigned to the 184th had been loaned to the 32nd for assault on "Corn" strong point, the infantry advance has been temporarily stalled.

The 184th has taken positions for the night on a line slightly westward of that of the 32nd.

(Continued on page 6)

(From page 4)

to support the troops as they organized.

So effective was the pre-landing bombardment that Japanese resistance was at first largely confined to sporadic small arms fire as the 32nd RCT advanced along the ocean side, and the 184th RCT moved forward on the lagoon side.

By 1130, determined Japanese resistance had developed, but U.S. troops continued their advancement. By about 1800, they had driven approximately 1,600 yards along the length of the island from the landing beaches.

The 184th has established defensive positions for the night on a line inland of the lagoon (just west of Bldg 1010), with the 32nd dug in on a line inland from the ocean (in the area of the weather station).

American casualties at the end of the first day of the Battle of Kwajalein Island are 17 dead and 46 wounded. Japanese casualties are estimated at 500 killed, 11 captured.

Second day

Feb. 2, 1944 — At the end of the second day's fighting on Kwajalein Island, hopes are high for a speedy victory tomorrow. But U.S. troops are wary and watchful tonight for "Banzai" — suicide counterattacks — by the 200 to 300 Japa-

nese believed to be the only enemy survivors.

Reports from prisoners indicate that 1,000 to 1,200 Japanese were killed in the assault today, and that remaining defense positions are in ruins, with all communications broken.

Orders have come from the headquarters of Maj. Gen. C. H. Corlett, Commander of the 7th Infantry Division, to be alert, as "the Japanese soldier makes his suicide counter-



M-4 tank from the 767th Tank Battalion moves up in support of the 32nd RCT as they advance along the ocean side to reduce strong point "Corn."

(Continued from page 5)

U S casualties for the day total 11 killed in action and 241 wounded

In 70 sorties today, carrier-based planes dropped 40 tons of bombs and expended 20,800 rounds of 50-caliber ammunition. No Japanese aircraft has been seen operating in the entire Marshall Islands area.

Naval units of the Kwajalein Island Defense Group and transports carrying reserve forces arrived in the lagoon today. The hospital ship *Relief* also arrived today.

Teenager views battle

On board the *Relief* was an 18-year-old pharmacist's mate named Erwin Hood who returned to Kwajalein 24 years later as a Global Associates employee.

Hood recalled, "The *Relief* was the oldest hospital ship in service then. It was commissioned sometime in the 20s. We were told that it carried the largest naval gun at Kwaj — probably the largest in the world. The gun was an 18-inch model constructed for a battleship that was never built. We were told that the gun was used as ballast on the *Relief*."

When the *Relief* moved in to receive wounded, it was the first time a hospital ship had been positioned so close to shore during an invasion.

"At Kwaj, we took on about 300 American casualties in two hours' time. The crew gave up their beds, and most of us slept on the decks during the trip to Pearl." Hood said. "We also took on about 20 prisoners of war. One of them disappeared on the trip back. As near as we could figure out, he had committed suicide by jumping out a porthole."

The crew could see the smoke of battle from the ship, and they followed the action over the radio on the *Relief*.

"An LVT would go by carrying GIs into shore, then it would pick up wounded and bring them to the ship," remembered Hood. "A lot of GIs on Kwaj had fought before in the Aleutians, but tropical warfare was something else. They had a rough time of it before it was over — and none of them seemed sorry to leave Kwaj behind."



Maj. Gen. Charles H. Corlett, center, 7th Infantry Division commander, confers on Kwajalein beachhead with regimental staff officers.

Day Three

Feb. 3, 1944 — U S infantrymen pushed forward today against a fanatically determined and heavily defended enemy to gain another thousand yards in the Battle of Kwajalein.

It was the costliest day yet for American troops on the island, with 54 killed in action and 255 wounded.

Last night's estimates by prisoners of 200 to 300 Japanese survivors proved to be way off the mark. The 184th Regimental Combat Team reports 800 to 1,000 Japanese killed in their area. In one huge blockhouse alone, 200 dead were found, most of them apparent suicides. The 32nd reports an additional 300 enemy dead in the advance along the ocean side.

U S troops had expected to make a rapid advance to the north end of Kwajalein today, but the 184th ran

into serious trouble shortly after it moved out at 0715.

As infantrymen approached the Admiralty area (around what is now the intersection of 9th St. and Lagoon Rd.), they came without warning upon the most heavily fortified area of the island.

Facing them on the near edge of this area stood a great blockhouse of reinforced concrete. Fifty yards beyond, nearly undamaged by bombardment, were two huge shelters of thick, reinforced concrete, steel plate, and logs under a mound of sand several feet thick.

Other underground shelters and concrete blockhouses, intact and active, were scattered through dense ruins, rubble, and trees.

One observer described it as "trying to fight one's way across the

(Continued on page 7)



Day Three was the costliest day of the Battle of Kwajalein 255 wounded, 54 killed

(From page 6)

landscape of a nightmare " Small, often isolated, groups of infantry with rifles and whatever demolition charges they could carry or drag, blasted out one nest of Japanese after another

Smoke and flying debris were so thick that units operating 10 yards apart were unaware of each other's presence

One building was found to be empty To prevent its possible re-entry by enemy troops, it was demolished and set afire

Later it was discovered that the building had contained all the beer, sake, and candy the Japanese had on Kwajalein Only a few bottles of beer were saved

The 32nd RCT had an easier time of it From their jump-off point to about the location of the Terminal Building, there was little resistance

Then a pillbox off to the left (about where the projection booth of Richardson Theater is situated) caused a temporary halt Demolition charges and 75mm shells from medium tanks drove the enemy out one by one

With resistance continuing light, the 32nd has advanced to the area of the Adult Pool

As night falls, the threat of Japanese counterattack increases Some incidents have occurred as far as

1,000 yards behind the 32nd's advance positions

Just after sunset, a bugle was heard among the Japanese at the foot of the pier at 6th St, followed by a headlong attack by screaming Japanese They were cut down to the last man

Illuminating shells and naval searchlights, together with sporadic artillery and naval fire, are being employed to lessen the chance of night attack But the American troops on Kwajalein are tensely awaiting the expected dawn charge **Ebeye**

Another phase of the Battle of Southern Kwajalein Atoll began this

7th Infantry victorious in Battle of Kwajalein

Feb. 4, 1944 — The Battle of Kwajalein is over

At dusk today, men of the 32nd Regimental Combat Team surged across the last 150 yards of the island, over-running the one remaining bunker and gun emplacement (now known as Bunker Hill, near Qtrs 223)

Across the lagoon, two and a half miles to the north, U S troops can see where another American victory was won today Ebeye was declared fully secured at 1537, after the 17th RCT made a fast, almost unop-

posed, advance from the pier to the north shore

morning when the 17th Regimental Combat Team made an amphibious assault on Ebeye (Burton), chief Japanese seaplane base in the Marshalls

Among Japanese facilities there are more than 120 machine shops, warehouses, and other buildings A 100-yard-wide concrete ramp for seaplanes extends about 300 yards along the northern lagoon shore, with large hangars and repair shops nearby A 160-yard concrete pier extends into the lagoon about midway along the coast

This morning's preliminary naval and air bombardment was so effective that on the landing beach (lagoon side, south end of Ebeye) and for 200 yards inland, no live Japanese were encountered

The advance proceeded steadily northward, slowed somewhat by enemy pillboxes and a large number of individual rifle pits in which Japanese soldiers lie concealed, waiting for a chance to fire on U S troops from behind

Though resistance is determined, it seems to consist mainly of individual and small group action without apparent direction Some Japanese were discovered fighting with spears made of bayonets attached to poles

The 17th RCT has taken defensive positions for the night on a line about 50 yards south of the pier **Big Buster, Little Buster**

Big and Little Buster, between Kwajalein and Ebeye, were also taken under fire today, and occupation was completed by 1630

posed, advance from the pier to the north shore

The final action on Kwajalein began at sunrise, shortly after 0700, when the 32nd pushed off from last night's bivouac (near the Adult Pool) for an advance along the ocean to 6th St, where the team was to fan out for a sweep over the entire island to the north end

Almost immediately, there was heavy fire from Japanese who had been bypassed yesterday (near the Pacific Bachelor Quarters) The ad-

(Continued on page 8)

(Continued from page 7)

vance was stalled for nearly three hours, as units turned aside to clean out positions firing on them

At the same time, the 184th RCT was encountering pockets of determined resistance in the area between the Admiralty and the lagoon (around 9th St and Lagoon Rd)

Today, for the first time since the landings, the enemy has surrendered in considerable numbers. Many have been isolated, without water, for the past two days

Thirty-one Koreans and a Japanese scurried out of one building after the 184th brought up a loudspeaker and Nisei interpreters, who broadcast promises of food, water, and immunity from harm. More than 90 prisoners were taken by the 184th during the morning

In another area, men of the 32nd covered five Korean prisoners with BARs and moved them from shelter to shelter while the prisoners persuaded others to surrender. In less than an hour, 33 prisoners were taken

By 1300, the 184th had reached its objective at the foot of the pier. After cutting off enemy withdrawal across 5th St, the 184th turned its attention to a thorough mop-up of areas to the rear. By 1430, all enemy action had been overcome on the lagoon side from landing beaches to the pier

The 2nd Battalion, 32nd RCT, was in position north of 6th St at 1345 to begin its final assault (through what is now the trailer and old housing area). The ground was a tangle of debris interlaced with trenches, many of which contained long-dead bodies. The stench of decay and the acrid odor of burned palm wood filled the air

With satchel charges, grenades, and ultimately flame throwers, the 32nd cleared dugouts and still-active pillboxes and blockhouses

When the weary victors reached the northern tip of the island at 1920, organized resistance had ceased

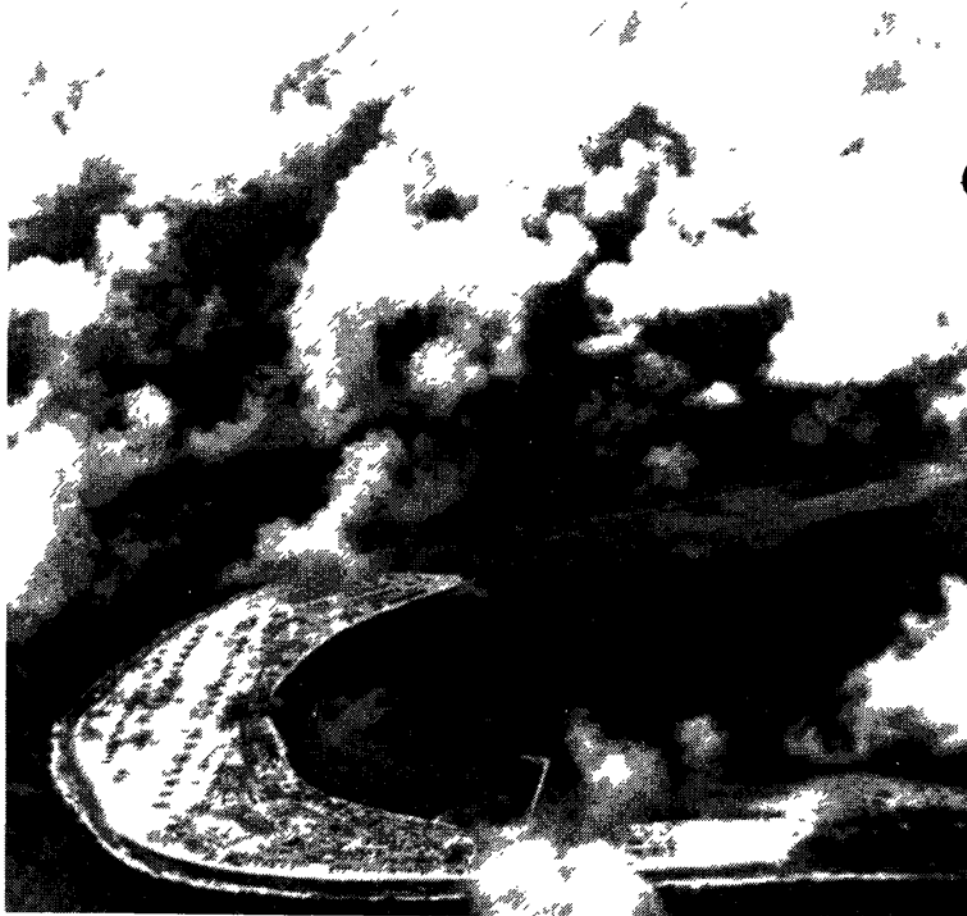
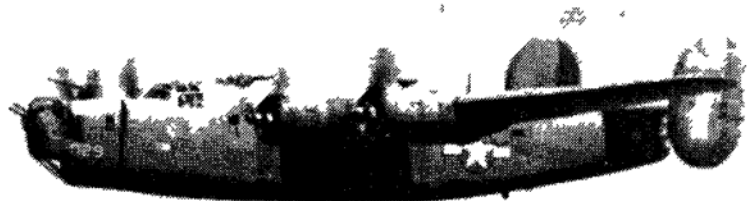
Occupation of southern atoll complete

Feb. 5, 1944 -- The Southern Invasion Force today completed occupation of Southern Kwajalein Atoll from Ennugeliggelap in the west to Gellinam in the east

American losses were 142 dead, 2 missing in action, 845 wounded. The best estimate of enemy losses

in Southern Kwajalein Atoll is 4,938 dead and 206 prisoners, including 127 Koreans

Feb. 6, 1944 -- After a day spent burying enemy dead, the men of the 32nd and 184th RCTs turned Kwajalein Island over to garrison and defense forces



B-24 bomber flies over Kwajalein en route to one of the daily bombing runs on Truk in the summer or fall of 1944. Seabees and Army Engineers rebuilt the bomb-damaged Japanese airstrip in less than 30 days. Not construction on Kwajalein. There were 10,000 Army, Navy, and Marine troops on Island and an additional 5,000 Navy personnel on Ebeye

Operation Flintlock — Northern Kwajalein Atoll

Excerpt d fr m
The Fourth Marine Division
By Robert Sherrod

There is no doubt in my mind that the historians will decide, when the final returns are in, that the Central Pacific was the main stroke against Japan. This was the campaign where the 4th Marine Division fought all its battles — at Roi-Namur, Saipan, Truan, and Iwo Jima.

The 4th Marine Division was in combat a little over 60 days in World War II. But in those 60-odd days, the division saw more action than many divisions see in 600 days — action as fierce as any troops ever saw.

The price the division had to pay was heavy — as it must be on small, vital targets. It amounted to about 75 percent of the original divisional strength. It takes men to stand such losses and come up as determined as ever. The 4th had men.

Setting records

The 4th Marine Division set three new records on its first operation. It became the first division to go directly into combat from the United States; it was the first to capture Japanese mandated territory in the Pacific; and it secured its objective in a shorter time than that of any other important operation since the attack on Pearl Harbor.

For weeks the coming battle had been known only by its code name, "Operation Flintlock." Not until the big convoy had passed the Hawaiian Islands was its destination revealed to all hands — the twin islands of Roi-Namur in the Kwajalein Atoll of the Marshall Islands. Simultaneously, the U.S. Army's 7th Infantry was to invade Kwajalein Island.

During the 18-day voyage to the atoll, the Marines had plenty of time to study their objective. With Tarawa

fresh in their minds, the prospect of hitting a small, heavily defended beach was not too cheerful.

Operation maps showed numerous installations — coast defense guns, heavy and medium antiaircraft guns, machine guns, blockhouses, a total of 52 pillboxes, numerous antitank trenches, rifle trenches, and barbed wire. Added to this, the two islands of Roi-Namur were hardly more than overgrown sand spits. Roi measured 1,200 by 1,250 yards at its widest points; Namur was 800 by 900 yards — neither island a square mile in size. An estimated 3,000 enemy troops were there to defend them. It was not a pleasant prospect.

Against this, however, was a preponderance of striking power. The task force that accompanied the

The 4th Division was part of the Northern Landing Force, under the command of Maj. Gen. Harry Schmidt. Ground operations as a whole, including Kwajalein Island, were under the 5th Amphibious Corps, Maj. Gen. Holland M. Smith commanding. The Joint Expeditionary Forces were commanded by Rear Adm. Richmond K. Turner, USN, and the Northern Attack Force, of which the 4th Division was the landing force, was under the command of Rear Adm. Richard L. Conolly, USN.

Pre-invasion bombing

Two days before D-Day, ships of the naval task forces and aircraft of the Fast Carrier Force in support of the 4th Division systematically began to bomb and shell every square yard of Roi-Namur. Three battleships

— the *Tennessee*, *Maryland*, and *Colorado* — five cruisers, and 19 destroyers combined in a non-stop barrage which laid 2,655 tons of steel on the islands.

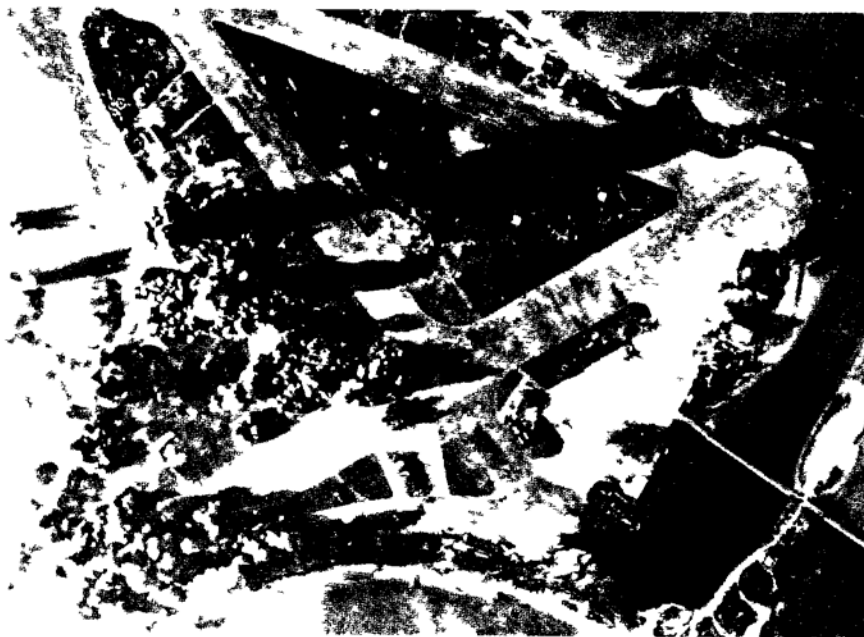
It was planned to land the 14th Regiment, with its 75mm pack howitzers and 105mm howitzers, on five small islands that flanked Roi-Namur. Two of these islands flanked the entrance to the lagoon. By seizing them, we could secure passage that would allow us to assault Roi-Namur from inside the lagoon. From these flanking

islands, the artillery was to set up its guns, get the ranges, and give close fire support to the assault troops. This was Phase One of the operation; it took place Jan. 31, 1944.

Phase One

The seizure of the small islands on either side of Roi-Namur fell to

(Continued on page 12)



Roi airfield under U.S. attack. Note the causeway that connected Roi to Namur, at right.
(Photo from Battles of Kwajalein and Roi-Namur)

Marine and Army divisions to the Marshalls was the largest in the Pacific to that time. The assemblage of carriers, battleships, cruisers, and destroyers which preceded and convoyed the transports was a reassuring sight to the Marines who lined the rails. Our infantry, furthermore, would out-number the defenders two to one.

(Battle of Roi-Namur, from page 11)

the 4th Division's Scout Company and 25th Regimental Combat Team. To the Scout Company and the 1st Battalion of the 25th Marines went the honor of being the first to land on an enemy-defended island in the Marshalls. They went ashore at 0958 on the seaward side of Ennuebing and Mellu islands southwest of Roi-Namur. Ennuebing was secured at 1055 and the larger Mellu at 1209. Artillery came ashore within an hour.

The 2nd and 3rd battalions of the 25th landed on three other islands southeast of Roi-Namur—Ennubirr, Ennumennet, and Ennugarret. They were secured by nightfall; artillery landed on the following morning.

Flag on a coconut tree

On Ennubirr, the 2nd Battalion raised the first American flag in the Marshalls—on a coconut tree. This battalion seized an important communication center containing great quantities of American-made radio equipment.

Phase Two

The attack on Roi-Namur was Phase Two of the operation. This was to be made from the lagoon side by the 23rd and 24th Regimental Combat Teams, each landing two battalions abreast on the islands' four beaches. The 1st and 2nd battalions of the 23rd were to strike Beaches Red 2 and 3 on Roi, and the 2nd and 3rd battalions of the 24th were assigned Beaches Green 1 and 2 on Namur. The day was Feb. 1, 1944. For most of the men in the division, this was the first time under fire.

D-Day, Feb. 1, 1944

Early in the morning, the amphibian tractors rumbled down the ramps of the LSTs, and the LCVPs were swung over the sides of the transports. The ships were still far out in the lagoon, and the smoking island was but a streak of sand and haze in the distance. H-Hour was set for 1000, but shortly after the boats began to rendezvous, word came that the landing had been delayed. Men in the boats waited nervously.

Shortly after 1100, the assault units were waved over the line of departure, 4,000 yards from the

shore. Naval gunfire began to hurl its final salvos against the beach, dive bombers plummeted to drop 1,000-pound blockbusters on installations not yet completely demolished, fighter planes came over for strafing runs. It was the heaviest and most perfectly coordinated concentration of pre-landing bombardment yet seen in the Pacific.

Planes crippled, enemy fleeing

And it paid big dividends. The first waves hit the beach at 1200. On Roi, the large, three-strip airfield was dotted with crippled Japanese planes and wrecked defenses. All but a few hundred of the enemy had fled to nearby Namur, which afforded better protection against the shelling. When assault companies of the 23rd landed, the situation seemed almost too good to believe. Opposition had been completely disorganized, and the beach was virtually undefended.

By 1217 the regiment had reached Phase Line 0-1, and the good news was radioed to the commanding general: "This is a pip. Give us the word and we'll take the island." The order came back to halt and reorganize, but the tanks and two supporting companies had pushed ahead. They were recalled to keep them from being shelled by naval guns.

Tough going on Namur

On nearby Namur the going was not so easy. Here the Japanese had set up a stronger defense in the form of fire trenches and pillboxes. Thick vegetation gave them excellent concealment and served as camouflage. Although the naval shelling had killed and wounded many hundreds, there was still a sizable, although dazed and disorganized, force remaining.

The 2nd Battalion, on the right, received only a little scattered small-arms fire from the beach and pushed inland some 200 yards against light opposition. The 3rd Battalion, on the left, ran into trouble immediately from several undamaged pillboxes. Many men were hit as they stepped from the landing boats. The assault companies were ordered to by-pass the pillboxes and leave them for demolition teams. The companies reached the Phase Line 0-1 by 1400, paused to reorganize, and waited for tanks and halftracks to come up.

"The whole island has blown up"

Meanwhile, the 2nd Battalion moved ahead rapidly. Suddenly a large enemy blockhouse, used as a storage place for aerial bombs and torpedo warheads, exploded without warning. An immense tower of

(Continued on page 13)



Marine tanks lumber ashore as additional troops and supplies land on Roi Island. View from the battered remains of the Japanese administrative building.

(Photo from The Fourth Marine Division)



Japanese blockhouse explodes on Namur

(Photo from The Battles of Kwajalein and Roi Namur)

(Battle of Roi-Namur, from page 12)

smoke and rubble including many torpedo warheads shot into the sky. Concussion felled men in every direction and fragments of metal and cement caught dozens before they could jump into shellholes. An officer vividly described the scene:

"An ink-black darkness spread over a large part of Namur such that the hand could not be seen in front of the face. Debris continued to fall for a considerable length of time, which seemed unending to those in the area who were all unprotected from the huge chunks of concrete and steel thudding on the ground about them."

"Before the explosion, the large blockhouse was conspicuously silhouetted against the skyline. After the explosion, nothing remained but a huge water-filled crater. Men were killed and wounded in small boats a considerable distance from the beach by the flying debris."

"Two more violent explosions, but lesser in intensity than the first, occurred among the assault troops during the next half hour."

The battalion suffered more than half of its total battle casualties in this swift moment, and its advance was held up temporarily.

By this time, the Japanese were

recovering somewhat and beginning to offer fiercer resistance. The battle for Namur was not going to be easy. The 3rd Battalion, with tanks in support, pushed ahead at 1630.

First Medal of Honor

A platoon under Lt John V Power soon encountered a pillbox that was spraying death all along the Marine lines. They rushed it, trying to lob grenades through the gunport or to get a place-charge against it. But the fire was too hot. They decided to work around the pillbox and attack from the rear. Lt Power led the way. As he approached the doorway, a bullet caught him in the stomach, but he didn't stop. To the amazement of the Japanese, he charged forward, emptying his carbine into the narrow slot of a door. A Marine pulled the lieutenant back into the safety of a bomb crater, where he died a few minutes later. Lt Power was posthumously awarded the Medal of Honor. (See story, page 17)

There were many other acts of heroism on Roi-Namur that day, not all of them were recorded. Typical

was the action of Pfc Richard Scheidt. A bullet hit Scheidt in the arm a few minutes after he was ashore on Namur. A corpsman bandaged the wound, and Scheidt stayed with his company. At one point, his platoon inadvertently pushed too far forward and was ordered to withdraw.

Upon reaching the new position, Scheidt saw a Marine, Edward Mann, a hundred yards ahead of the lines, wounded in the eyes, unable to see to make his way back. Bullets were spraying the field. Despite his wound, Scheidt went forward alone.

There was no way to lead the blinded comrade back except to stand up, he unfastened the sling of his rifle, gave Mann one end, and started back to his lines. Marines stopped firing to avoid hitting them, and, with Japanese soldiers blazing away, the two men made it. Scheidt was later awarded the Silver Star.

Slow going

The 24th's 2nd Battalion, held up by the three violent explosions in its midst, got under way again at 1700.

(Continued on page 14)



On the landing beach at Namur. Yokohama Pier is in the background.



Marines warily approach one of the many large blockhouses

(Battle of Roi-Namur, from page 13)

The going was slow through stiffening resistance in the rubble of destroyed buildings. By 1530, when the order came to dig in for the night, the battalion had achieved a maximum advance of 300 yards. The 3rd Battalion's forward elements were within a few hundred yards of the island's northern shore. Its right flank, however, angled sharply back to tie in with the 2nd Battalion. The two battalions set up perimeter defense for the night.

A hundred s parat fights

Across the causeway on Roi, the 23rd Regiment raced ahead after resuming the attack at 1600. The enemy, thoroughly disorganized from our shelling, put up no single, well-planned defense. Instead, there were a hundred separate fights by individuals and small groups without unified command. Under such conditions, the Japanese soldier is a brave and stubborn fighter. On Roi, the enemy took to the partially covered drainage ditches that surrounded the airstrips, popping up to fire into the rear of our troops. This caused some confusion and not a few casualties, but the position of the enemy was hopeless. Demolitions and flame throwers routed them out, and riflemen picked off those

who did not choose to blow themselves up with their own grenades. By 1800, six hours after the landing, and with less than three hours of actual offensive assault, Roi was declared secured.

Second Medal of Honor

There was little opportunity for individual heroism on Roi, but one man, Pfc Richard B. Anderson, found himself in a position to save several comrades from death or injury from a hand grenade. He was killed, but his comrades were unhurt, and for this self-sacrifice Anderson was posthumously awarded the Medal of Honor. (See story, page 17.)

By late afternoon, men could pause for breath and look around them for the first time. The ruins through which they had fought were indescribably fascinating. There was hardly a recognizable trace of what had been the Japanese headquarters. On Roi, the gaunt skeletons of a hangar and an operations building were all that remained standing. On Namur, only three buildings, all severely battered, had survived our shelling. There were a large administrative building, a concrete radio station, and an ammunition storage building.

Thousands of shells had exploded on the island, leaving the ground

pitted with craters. Shattered breadfruit and coconut palms stood at fantastic angles. Japanese dead were sprawled over the island by the hundreds in shellholes, near ammunition dumps, in the ruins of buildings, most of them were horribly mutilated by the bombardment.

Sheets of corrugated iron were strewn everywhere, twisted, ripped, full of holes. Concrete pilings on which barracks had rested stuck out of the ground in rows like tombstones.

On Roi, many Japanese planes, caught when our shelling began, lay like giant birds pinned helplessly to the ground, their wings broken.

Doves, chickens, pig, and goose

Yet, in the midst of this carnage, a few traces of normal life remained. A dovecote on top of the concrete radio station was untouched, and birds nested there, oblivious to the noise of battle. A pig, several chickens, and a very large goose had somehow escaped death and wandered about unconcernedly.

But the battle was not over. The last few hundred Japanese on Namur, pocketed against the north-
(Continued on page 15)



Devastated landscape of battle

(Battle of Roi-Namur, from page 14)

ern shore, determined to die in traditional Japanese style. Under cover of rain and darkness made eerie by bursting star shells, they staged a *Banzai* attack against the 24th Regiment's 3rd Battalion. Companies I and L received the brunt of the attack, which lasted, on and off, for several hours.

At one point, it was necessary to pull back our lines to a more secure position. This led to one of the most remarkable series of incidents of the battle, an example of the spirit of comradeship between Marines and Navy corpsmen.

Courageous Navy corpsman

Pharmacist's Mate 1st Class James V. Kirby, a member of the 3rd Battalion's aid station on the beach, was sent up to the front during the late afternoon to assist company corpsmen. Arriving there, he worked with the wounded for some time and then collected a group of them a short distance behind the lines to await stretcher bearers. But darkness overtook them. Orders had been given to fire on anyone moving about at night, and the litter teams had to stay on the beach. Kirby settled down with his charges to sweat out the night.

He didn't know what was coming. When the Japanese counterattack came, and the 3rd Battalion had to pull back, Kirby found himself — and the wounded — between the enemy and his own troops. He could not go back for help without endangering the lives of the wounded. He got them into a large bomb crater, administered first aid, cheered them up, and gave them cigarettes, which they smoked under the blackout of a poncho.

In the crossfire

When the Marines charged forward to regain their old positions, Kirby found himself in the crossfire of battle. He could hear the cries and groans of newly wounded, and, crawling out of his hole to find them, led them to the safety of the crater. There he dressed their wounds before returning to new cries in the darkness.

One of the cries that split the night was that of Pfc Richard K.

Sorenson. He had hurled himself on an enemy grenade to save the six comrades with him in a shellhole. (See story, page 17.)

Kirby reached Sorenson in time to tie a severed artery and stop the bleeding, which would surely have cost Sorenson his life. He took Sorenson to the hole where the other wounded lay and treated him throughout the night.

Third Medal of Honor, Bronze Star

When daybreak came, and the Japanese *Banzai* had been completely broken, a crew of corpsmen advanced to search for Kirby. They found him and a total of 15 wounded. He had won a 12-hour tilt with death. For his meritorious service, he was later awarded the Bronze Star. And Sorenson — whose action had saved his six companions — lived to receive the Medal of Honor.

Father and son

Tragedy struck in many places that night, but no death was more tragic than that of Pfc Jack Brown, a member of the 24th Regiment's 3rd Battalion. Nineteen-year-old Jack had stowed away on the transport so he could be with his father, Cpl Earl Brown, 44. Father and son had been in the same company, but when it was time for the division to ship out,

Jack was hospitalized with a minor illness and transferred to another outfit. "Pop" had boarded the ship alone. Just before the division sailed, Jack was found stowed away, and was taken off and arrested.

Cpl Brown's wife phoned the commandant's office in Washington and told the story of her husband's and son's efforts to be together. The charges against Jack were dropped, and he joined his old company. Father and son were together all during the trip to the Marshalls.

Jack hit the beach first and was killed during the night when the Japanese counterattacked. Pop went on fighting — alone.

Isolated bands of Marines

Only a few isolated bands of desperate Japanese were left to oppose the last phase of the battle for Namur. When morning came, tanks and halftracks moved up to support the final push, blasting pillboxes, blockhouses, and other fortifications. Cpl Michael Giba told how his tank ran up to the edge of a bomb crater, stopped, and was soon swarming with enemy troops.

"I looked out the periscope," Giba said. "A Japanese lay down on the turret and looked me right in the eye. He seemed kind of puzzled about

(Continued on page 16)



The battle draws to an end, and weary Marines take the road back



Samurai swords, rifles, and beer received top billing on the souvenir hunting list

(Photo from The Fourth Marine Division)

(Battle of Roi-Namur, from page 15)

just what to do. Then he rose to a squatting position, removed a grenade from his picket, held it against the periscope, pulled the pin, and lay down on top of it. The periscope was broken, but none of us was hurt. The Japanese was killed."

Thus the battle drew to an end. The Third Battalion had jumped off at 0900, the 2nd and 1st moved up at 1000. The island was declared secured at 1215, 24 hours and 15 minutes after the landing.

Fourth Medal of Honor

But there was to be one last-minute tragedy before the flag went up officially on Namur. Lt Col Aquilla J. Dyess, commander of the 1st Battalion, 24th Marines, was leading his men against the last pocket of Japanese when he was caught in a burst of enemy machine-gun fire. He was killed instantly — the highest ranking officer to lose his life in the operation. Lt Col Dyess was posthumously awarded the Medal of Honor (See story, page 17). His was the fourth for the division during the engagement — probably an all-time record for 24 hours of fighting.

Phase Three

Phase Two of the operation was now over, and Phase Three began — mopping up all the islets in the northern two-thirds of the atoll.

The battle for Kwajalein Island was still in progress when the 25th Regiment began its sweep down the atoll. The 2nd Battalion followed the arm that extended southeast from Roi-Namur, while the 1st moved to the southwest. During the next seven days, they reconnoitered the string of islets, finding an occasional stray band of Japanese, a few friendly natives, or nothing.

Where the reef curves almost due west, the 3rd Battalion relieved the 1st and continued to drive toward Ebaddon, extreme westernmost isle of the atoll. Then they followed the reef in a general southeasterly direction to complete the circuit.

Altogether, the 25th Regiment secured 53 islands, with names like Boggerlapp, Marsugalt, Gegibu, and Oniotto harder to pronounce than to capture.

Meanwhile, the 15th Defense Battalion came ashore to garrison Roi-Namur. Marshall Islanders who had lived on the islands were helped back to their homes and paid in

U.S. currency to help clear the wreckage and bury Japanese dead. On Roi, tractors, bulldozers, trucks, and jeeps ground endlessly, bringing in supplies, ammunition, and material for installations and clearing away debris. Over the blasted Japanese operations building flew a huge American flag.

On both Roi and Namur, much of the reconstruction of the islands was done by Seabees. For the first time in the Pacific, they had been trained and equipped as part of a regular Marine Corps landing force. With the 20th (Engineer) Regiment, they unloaded ammunition, brought in supplies, laid a portable plank road on the beach, recovered unexploded shells, cleared the airfield, and set up a water-distillation plant.

The inferno of Feb. 12, 1944

On Feb. 12, the Japanese hit the jackpot. A small group of planes, flying high, dropped a few incendiary bombs on Roi Island. One of them struck our ammunition dump and a moment later the whole island was an exploding inferno.

The raid lasted only five minutes, but the bombardment from the ammunition dump continued for four hours. Casualties were numerous, and it was later estimated that damage to our supplies and equipment amounted to \$1 million.

A great victory

With the capture of Kwajalein Atoll, the United States had strategic control of all the Marshall Islands. Japanese garrisons on Mili, Wotje, Maloelap, and Jaluit were by-passed and isolated. Japanese communications south from Wake Island had been severed. We had acquired another stepping stone on our march across the Pacific. The lagoon furnished an excellent staging base. The airfields brought Truk and other islands in the Carolines within our range. For a small price, we had won a great victory.

The 4th Marines reached Maui during the period Feb. 21-25, but there were some who would not come back. A total of 190 Marines had been killed and 547 wounded during the brief engagement. Overnight, the "green" 4th had become veterans. We had captured 264 prisoners, while another 3,472 enemy troops lay buried on tiny Roi-Namur.

CYS February Spotlight

Child Development Center

STEAM Afternoons

Join the CDC as we explore science, technology, engineering, art and mathematics.

- Tuesdays-Swimming at Millican Family Pool, 1 p.m.
- Wednesdays-Functional Fitness at 1 p.m.
- Fridays-Storytime at the Grace Sherwood Library, 1 p.m.
- Saturdays-Reading Buddies with Ms. Crump's third grade class, 2:10 p.m.

Upcoming CDC Events

Yoga on the patio. Stretch for it in this relaxing stretch program. Meets Feb. 20

Classroom Valentine's Day Celebration Feb. 14

Start Smart Sports. Fitness is fun in this program for children aged 3-5 years.

Soccer. Season runs until Feb. 13

Mini-Golf. Registration is open until Feb. 11. Season begins Feb. 27.

Baru Classroom Special Reminders

Saturdays are Water Play Days. Please send your child with swim clothes, a swim diaper (if needed), a towel, and dry clothes.

School-Age Care

Mentor Program

Meets daily 7- 8:30 a.m.

Teamwork is the highlight of this fun, new program, as School-Age Care kids mentor the CDC "littles" in fun projects and activities.

Open Rec

This free fitness program for K-6 students meets first and third Saturdays from 4:30-6:30 p.m.

Art February with 4-H Program

This free program meets Wednesday and Friday from 5-6 p.m. We get into visual arts in February.

Functional Fitness—Join this free program physical exercise activity program. Meets Wednesdays from 2:30-3 p.m.

K-6 Sports Programs

CYS K-6 cheerleading and soccer run until Feb. 11. Come on down and check the action on the field.

Sports Carnival

Get fit bit by bit with this fun program. Registration runs through Feb. 11. Season runs Feb. 25-March 21

Special Events at SAC

Feb. 7- Kite-flying

Feb. 21- Treasure Hunt

Feb. 28- 4-H Celebration of Learning

Daily Focus.

Let SAC help you foster your child's growing talents and interests with our special

one-day activity programming: Art Tuesdays; STEM Thursdays; Recreation Fridays; Character & Leadership Development Saturdays

Namo Weto Youth Center

Sundays

Drama Club 4 p.m. Feb. 4 and 16

Tuesdays

Keystone Club at 11:30 a.m.

TedEd Power Hour at 4 p.m.

Wednesdays

Photography Club will meet at 5 p.m.

Thursdays

Kwaj Clean up at the beach at 4 p.m.

Trivia Night at 8 p.m.

Fridays

"Money Matters" course at 4 p.m.

Saturdays

American Sign Language Club at 5 p.m.

Keystone/Torch Club Officers meet at 4 p.m.

Youth Center Movies

Feb. 2- Black Panther

Feb. 7- The Help

Feb. 16- Hidden Figures

Feb. 23- Selma

Special Events at Namoweto Youth Center

Youth Action Council Meeting- Feb. 7 at 6:30 p.m.

Variety Show Auditions- Feb. 9 and 16

High School Late Night Valentine Party- Feb. 15 from 9-11 p.m.

UPS Road Code- Feb. 21 and 22 at 6 p.m.

Black History Month TED Talk- Feb. 22 at 4 p.m.

Variety Show Dress Rehearsal-TBA

Parents' Corner

Parent Advisory Board Open House

Please come and get information on upcoming events and to register for activities on Saturday, February 1 all day in Central Registration.

Special Note

Many CYS programs require preregistration. If you have questions or would like to learn more about registering your child or volunteer opportunities with CYS, please contact Central Registration at 5-2158.

Upcoming CYS Closures.

February 18- President's Day

Teachers' Note

Unless otherwise indicated, all programs for the Namoweto Youth Center start or meet at the Center. Dates and times for events are subject to change. Please check in at your CYS location for the latest information.



📷 COURTESY OF USAG-KA CYS

VISIT USAG-KA CYS ON FACEBOOK FOR MORE PICTURES AND INFORMATION ABOUT OUR EVENTS AND PROGRAMS.
[HTTPS://WWW.FACEBOOK.COM/USAGKACYS/](https://www.facebook.com/USAGKACYS/)

COMMUNITY NOTICES

HELP WANTED

To research and apply for government employment opportunities on U.S. Army Garrison-Kwajalein Atoll and worldwide, visit usajobs.gov.

RGNext, LLC seeks qualified candidates to fill several open positions on Kwaj and Roi in engineering, technical and other areas. For more information and to apply, go to: www.rgnext.com.

DynCorp International (DI) is looking for qualified candidates for various positions. Current DI open positions on USAG-KA include administrative services, data analysts, education services, aviation and airfield operations, marine operations and public works among others. For more information and to apply, go to: www.dilogcap.com or contact your local HR representative.

CommunityBank

Community Bank is currently hiring for a Banking Center Service Specialist (AKA Teller). This is a part – time 20 hrs/week position for an on-Island hire. If interested submit your application and resume to www.dodcommunitybank.com. Please call Stephanie Prudence at 5-2152 if you have questions or would like more details about this opportunity.

OFFICIAL NOTICES

AA meets weekly on Tuesdays from 6:30-7:30 p.m. upstairs in the REB (Rm. 213).

Ongoing Smoking and Tobacco Cessation offered. Please call EAP at 5-5362 or make an appointment with a physician.

Internet customers can access their account and pay online. Simply visit KwajNetBilling.dyn-intl.com to log in and pay via our secure, online payment gateway using the payment method of your choice. You may also pay online for future months in advance! For support, contact us via phone @ 805-355-0843 (5-0843) or email KwajNet.Billing@dyn-intl.com.

USAG-KA 2020 Home Business License. Vendors who want to sell goods or offer services need to ob-

tain a license. Stop by the FMWR Office on the first floor of Building 805 for an application. For more information or to submit an application, contact Teresa Mitchell at 5-3400 or teresa.j.mitchell4.naf@mail.mil. Please include the following with your application: Applicable licenses and certifications; pictures and examples of goods offered; proof of insurance; and other relevant business information.

Volunteers are needed to participate in the pet cemetery upkeep program. Extra hands are needed to assist in tending garden spaces and to maintain the pet cemetery site. If you would like to offer assistance on an occasional or frequent basis, please contact Teresa Mitchell at 5-3400.

No Food and Drink on Metro Flights. Eating and drinking on Metro and helicopter flights is strictly prohibited. For your own safety and the sanitation of flights, we ask that you refrain from consuming food and beverages during flights. All drinks and snacks should be enjoyed in the air terminals or upon arriving at your destination. We appreciate your cooperation. For questions, please contact Lee Holt at 5-2102 and Fly Roi at 5-6359.

Need to report a non-emergency incidents or information? Send in secure reports online at the USAG-KA Police Department Facebook page. For more information, visit <https://www.facebook.com/kwajaleinpolice/>.

COMMUNITY

Swing Dance Class. Classes are free and everyone is welcome. Come down to the Vets hall to learn swing, ballroom, Latin and blues. Classes are Wednesdays from 7-8 p.m. All experience levels are welcome. No partner necessary. Questions? Email Natalie Bagley at natbagley@gmail.com.

Power Walk Ex. Stand strong, move forward and get to stepping with Power Walk ExClass meets Thursday and Saturday from 6 a.m.-7 p.m. Walk will begin and end at the Ivey Gym. All MWR fitness classes require a wellness class pass. For more information and to purchase your pass, visit the MWR desk at the Grace Sherwood Library and call 5-3331.

HOURLASS PHOTOS ON FLICKR



SINCE 2015, THE KWAJALEIN HOURLASS HAS POSTED WEEKLY PHOTOGRAPHS FROM EVENTS AND STORIES ONLINE FOR FREE DOWNLOAD. WHETHER YOU'VE PCS'D OR ARE A NEWCOMER, YOU CAN CHECK OUT THE LATEST AT [HTTPS://WWW.FLICKR.COM/PHOTOS/KWAJALEINHOURLASS/](https://www.flickr.com/photos/kwajaleinhourglass/) OR CLICK THE HOURLASS IMAGE.

RELIGIOUS COMMUNITY NEWS

Upcoming Chapel Events:

Feb. 4th (Tue) - Please join the Kwajalein Memorial Chapel as we celebrate its 75th Anniversary with a special service Tuesday, Feb. 4 at 6:30 p.m. in the main sanctuary. The service will be followed by a potluck in the REB for everyone to attend.

Feb. 17th (Mon) - Bike Blessing (7th Street by the Shopette) 11-2pm. Island Memorial Chapel volunteers will be available to help with free basic bike maintenance.
17th (Mon) - Theology on Tap (ARC) 630pm
Feb. 26th (Wed) - Ash Wednesday Services - both at 5pm. ID Service in the REB. Catholic Service in the Large Chapel.

Youth Fellowship
YF is held in the REB from 7-9pm in the REB on the following Mondays:
Feb 10, 24
Mar 9, 23
Apr 13, 27
May 11, 25

Prayer Group
1st & 3rd Fridays at 6:30pm in the Large Chapel

YogaFaith
Christ Centered Yoga on Mondays at 9am in the REB

Roi
ID Chaplain (1st & 3rd Fridays) at 6:30pm
Catholic Chaplain (2nd & 4th Fridays) at 6:30pm

Youth Fellowship

N/A

YogaFaith

Christ-centered Yoga on Mondays at 9 a.m. in the REB. This yoga fitness event is free.

Roi Chapel Services

You are invited to services at 6:30 p.m. on Fridays. Join the community for Interdenominational Services on first and third Fridays Catholic Services meet second and fourth Fridays

Namo Weto Youth Center Hours of Operation, as of Feb. 1, 2020:

Sunday - 2:00-9:30
Monday - Closed
Tuesday - 3:00 - 9:00
Wednesday - 2:00 - 9:00
Thursday- 3:00 - 9:00
Friday - 3:00 - 9:00
Saturday - 3:00 - 9:30

Need Housing Repairs?

Call the Service Desk at 5-3550 Tuesday through Saturday, 7:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. For after hours emergencies, call 5-3139. After going through the service desk process, if you continue to experience issues, contact us.

Derek Miller, 5-2283
derek.d.miller14.civ@mail.mil

Scott Hill, 5-0133
michael.s.hill86.civ@mail.mil

We will work with you to resolve your issue.

GOT A FLIGHT?

ATI CHECK-IN

Early departures—7:45-8:15 a.m. For all other departures, check-in begins at 8-8:30 a.m. *Check with your ATI flight representative to confirm check-in and flight departure times.

UNITED CHECK-IN

Monday, United 155—3:30-4:45 p.m.
Tuesday, United 154—11-11:30 a.m.
Wednesday, United 155—2:30-3:45 p.m.
Thursday, United 154—11:30 a.m.-Noon.
Friday, United 155—3:30-4:45 p.m.
Saturday, United 154—11-11:30 a.m.

SHUTTLE BUS SERVICE

To set up a pick-up time for the shuttle please call 5-8294 or 5-3341. If a representative cannot be reached, please leave a detailed message and your phone call will be returned as soon as possible. Shuttle services start one hour prior to check-in times for United flights and 0700 for the ATI.



HAVE YOU STARTED TRAINING FOR THE RUST MAN? BE THERE APRIL 27TH



NEED HELP? YOU'RE NOT ALONE

COMMUNITY CONNECTION / KWAJALEIN HOSPITAL

For those who have served on the front lines with the U.S. military, navigating challenges can be difficult. For those service members, Veterans and retirees within our community who experience startle responses, difficulty sleeping, a desire to isolate or increase alcohol consumption or an increase in flashbacks or nightmares, there are a variety of resources on island, online or via telephone.

Below are a few resources recommended in the VA newsletter.

1. The Veterans Crisis Line connects Veterans in crisis and their families and friends with qualified, caring VA responders through a confidential toll-free hotline, online chat and text messaging service.

Veterans and their loved ones can call 1-800-273-8255 and Press 1, chat online, or send a text message to 838255 to receive confidential support 24 hours a day, 7 days a week and 365 days a year.

<https://www.veteranscrisisline.net/>

2. The Veteran Training online self-help portal provides tools for overcoming everyday challenges. The portal has tools to help Veterans work on problem-solving skills, manage anger, develop parenting skills and more.

All tools are free and based on mental health practices that have proven successful with Veterans and their families. Its use is entirely anonymous.

<https://www.veterantraining.va.gov/>

3. AboutFace features stories of Veterans who have experienced PTSD, their family members and VA clinicians. There, you can learn about PTSD, explore treatment options and get advice from others who have been there.

<https://www.ptsd.va.gov/apps/AboutFace/>

Counseling on island is available through the EAP office (5-5362) or the Chaplain (5-3505). Please do not hesitate to reach out.

HEALTH UPDATES

HOURLASS REPORT

U.S. Army Garrison-Kwajalein Atoll works together with the Republic of the Marshall Islands Ministry of Health and Human Services to protect the Marshall Islands from the importation and spread of measles. Your continued patience and cooperation is appreciated during what the Centers for Disease Control have termed a global outbreak.

The *Kwajalein Hourglass* will continue to publish the latest health and travel advisory information. Please continue to monitor the AFN roller channel and USAG-KA Facebook page for the most current information. Island contractors should also contact their human resources departments. DACs and military personnel should contact Mary Haynes at 5-2354 with questions. Your continued patience and cooperation is appreciated.

RMI ALERT FY 20-01 UPDATE DEC. 10, 2019

Updates to RMI Government's Entry Requirements for Kwajalein residents

These measures are to protect the RMI against the importation of measles. Visitors to Kwajalein and individuals PCSing have no additional requirements to depart Kwajalein airport.

Kwajalein residents must show proof of vaccination or be younger than 6 months or older than 62 years, in order to depart Kwajalein airport (ATI included).

All passengers must show proof of vaccination or be younger than 6 months or older than 62 years, in order to board an RMI bound plane (ATI included).

For further information, DACs and Military, please contact Ms. Mary Haynes at office 5-2354. Contractors, please contact your employer.

We are still working with the RMI and our Embassy to clarify what documents will be accepted as proof of immunization status (doctor's note, yellow card, print-out, etc.) Thank you for your patience and we will update you again as soon as possible.

USAG-KA YOUTH DRIVER PROGRAM AVAILABLE THROUGH MARCH

It is not too late for island teens to learn to drive. Here are the steps youth drivers can take in order to start renting carts:

1. Youth with a valid State driver's license, learner's permit, and/or CYS Road Code proof of graduation will bring a signed parental permission form to our office. Forms can be obtained from the MWR Office in Building 805 and by calling 5-3400.

2. Once the Parental permission form is received, youth may coordinate with the Kwajalein Licensing office to obtain their Kwajalein License (we will provide them with contact information and hours of operation as they turn in their parental permission forms).

3. Licensed youth may rent and operate electric scooters the same as all other Licensed Kwajalein drivers. Youth with learners permits and/or Road Code Graduates are required to have a fully licensed driver in the front seat when the cart is in operation.

Any driving infraction will result in the youth's removal from the program. This pilot program is operating on a provisional period, expiring March 14, 2020. For more information, please contact MWR at 5-3400.

WEATHER WATCH

SHARE YOUR WEATHER PHOTOS WITH US! SEND SHOTS AND A BRIEF DESCRIPTION TO KWAJALEINHOURLASS@DYN-INTL.COM

BY RTS WEATHER STATION

WEATHER DISCUSSION

Some weak impulse or surges in trade winds will usher in some isolated showers Saturday into early Sunday morning. This activity should decrease Sunday resulting in a pleasant weekend. Trade winds during the weekend will decrease to the low-to mid teens in speed (kts). The beginning of next week looks mostly dry with some indications of a trade wind surge increasing winds to 20kts for Wednesday thru Friday.

January's precipitation total will be about 3.5 inches for Kwajalein. This is about 88% of normal. The 3-month precipitation forecast for months of Jan-Mar continues to expect above normal precipita-

tion. This is driven by higher than normal ocean surface temperatures compared to the climatological averages.

SATURDAY: Partly sunny with isolated showers (10% coverage). Winds NE-ENE at 15-20 kts.

SUNDAY: Partly to mostly sunny with stray showers (<10% coverage). Winds E-ENE at 13-18 kts.

MONDAY: Partly to mostly sunny with stray showers (<10% coverage). Winds NE-ENE at 10-15 kts.



SUN-MOON-TIDES				
	SUNRISE SUNSET	MOONRISE MOONSET	HIGH TIDE	LOW TIDE
SUNDAY	7:10 a.m. 6:55 p.m.	12:40 p.m. 12:30 a.m.	9:10 a.m. 2.8' 9:12 p.m. 2.4'	2:40 a.m. 0.7' 3:22 p.m. 1.3'
MONDAY	7:10 a.m. 6:56 p.m.	1:22 p.m. 1:17 a.m.	10:38 a.m. 2.7' 11:02 p.m. 2.1'	3:35 a.m. 1.0' 5:23 p.m. 1.4'
TUESDAY	7:10 a.m. 6:56 p.m.	2:08 p.m. 2:06 a.m.	12:34 p.m. 2.8' -----	5:14 a.m. 1.1' 7:33 p.m. 1.1'
WEDNESDAY	7:10 a.m. 6:56 p.m.	2:58 p.m. 2:59 a.m.	1:15 a.m. 2.2' 1:50 p.m. 3.3'	7:01 a.m. 1.0' 8:34 p.m. 0.6'
THURSDAY	7:10 a.m. 6:57 p.m.	3:53 p.m. 3:54 a.m.	2:26 a.m. 2.5' 2:41 p.m. 3.8'	8:09 a.m. 0.6' 9:17 p.m. 0.1'
FRIDAY	7:10 a.m. 6:57 p.m.	4:52 p.m. 4:52 a.m.	3:12 a.m. 3.0' 3:24 p.m. 4.3'	8:58 a.m. 0.2' 9:54 p.m. -0.4'
FEBRUARY 8	7:09 a.m. 6:57 p.m.	5:54 p.m. 5:52 a.m.	3:52 a.m. 3.4' 4:03 p.m. 4.8'	9:40 a.m. -0.3' 10:31 p.m. -0.8'

NO FISHING ALLOWED IN THE HARBOR AREA.

The fish contain polychlorinated biphenyls (PCBs) and lead at concentrations that pose unacceptable cancer and other health risks.

EMO EONOD ILO MELAN ABA IN.

Jonan polychlorinated biphenyls (PCBs) im leet ilo ek ko ijin ekomman aer baijin im remaron komman naninmej in cancer im naninmej ko jet rekawotata.

E-WARENESS

No-fishing Areas

No fishing areas exist at the Kwaj landfill and in the Kwaj, Meck, Roi, and Illeginni Harbors due to PCB and/or heavy metals contamination.

Ejjab melim enwod turin Kwaj landfill ak dump eo im bareinwot ob ko ion Kwaj, Meck, Roi, im Illeginni kin wot PCB im jonan lap in paijin ko ie rej walok jen metal ko.



The International Space Station will be visible from Kwajalein Atoll on the nights listed below. Click the individual dates below to see a sky chart illustrating the ISS's trajectory across the sky each night, the times it will appear and disappear each night and its apparent brightness throughout each night's trajectory.

Appears from

FEB. 10	NNW, 7:42 p.m.
FEB. 11	NW, 8:31 p.m.
FEB. 12	NW, 7:43 p.m.
FEB. 14	E, 7:44 p.m.
FEB. 16	NE, 6:46 a.m.
FEB. 17	E, 5:58 a.m.



INNER TUBE WATER POLO



Come on out and support Inner Tube Water Polo!

Season Dates

Now through Feb. 25
League play on Tuesday and Saturday nights

KWAJ-EBEYE - FERRY SCHEDULE
Effective November 1, 2019

EBEYE - TUESDAY TO SATURDAY					EBEYE - SUNDAY & HOLIDAY				
ETD KWAJ	ETA EBEYE	ETD EBEYE	ETA KWAJ	TYPE VESSEL	ETD KWAJ	ETA EBEYE	ETD EBEYE	ETA KWAJ	TYPE VESSEL
0245	0310	0315	0340	FB N/1	0400	0425	0430	0455	FB N/1
0420	0445	0450	0515	FB 1	0500	0525	0530	0555	FB 1
0450	0515	0520	0545	FB 2	0600	0625	0630	0655	FB 1
0520	0545	0550	0615	FB 1	0830	0855	0900	0925	FB 1
0550	0615	0620	0645	FB 2	1140	1205	1210	1235	FB 1
0620	0645	0650	0715	FB 1	1530	1555	1600	1625	FB 1/N
0650	0715	0720	0745	FB 2	1700	1725	1730	1755	FB N
0720	0745	0750	0815	FB 1	2000	2025	2030	2055	FB N
					2200	2225	2230	2255	FB N
1140	1205	1210	1235	FB 2/A	Holidays	Only	Add	Extra	Run Below
					1830	1855	1900	1925	FB N
1440	1505	1510	1535	FB A	MONDAY				
1600	1625	1630	1655	FB A	0315	0340	0345	0410	FB N/1
1700	1725	1730	1755	FB A	0500	0525	0530	0555	FB 1
1730	1755	1800	1825	FB N	0600	0625	0630	0655	FB 1
1800	1825	1830	1855	FB A	0720	0745	0750	0815	FB 1
1830	1855	1900	1925	FB N	0830	0855	0900	0925	FB 1
1900	1925	1930	1955	FB A	1140	1205	1210	1235	FB 1
2000	2025	2030	2055	FB N	1440	1505	1510	1535	FB 1/N
2130	2155	2200	2225	FB N	1645	1710	1715	1740	FB N
Saturday	Only	NO	2130 run	2200 run only	1745	1810	1815	1840	FB N
2200	2225	2230	2255	FB N	1900	1925	1930	1955	FB N
					2000	2025	2030	2055	FB N
					2130	2165	2200	2225	FB N
	FB =	Ferry	Boat						



GET CURRENT.

CLICK THE LOGO TO CATCH THE
LATEST EPISODE OF THE KWAJ CUR-
RENT ON CHANNEL 29-1.

MOVIE SCHEDULE

KWAJALEIN

Saturday Feb. 1

Possession of Hanah Grace (R)
1 hr, 25 min

Sunday, Feb. 2

Miss Bala (PG-13)
1 hr, 44 min

Monday Feb. 3

Show Dogs (PG)
1 hr, 33 min

ROI-NAMUR

Saturday, Feb. 1

The Predator (PG-13)
1 hr, 57 min

Sunday, Feb. 2

Downton Abbey (PG-13)
2 hr, 3 min



SHARP

SEXUAL HARASSMENT/ASSAULT RESPONSE & PREVENTION

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

Staff Sgt. Yadira Vazquezrodriguez
SHARP Victim Advocate
Work: 805 355 0660
Home: 805 355 2036

USAG-KA SHARP Pager:
805 355 3243/3242/3241/0100
USAG-KA SHARP VA

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

Family and friends:

Be particularly careful
not to share:

- Deployment status
- Home address
- Telephone numbers
- Location information



VISIT USAG-KA ONLINE.

For community updates, and episodes of the Kwaj Current, please visit the official USAG-KA Facebook page and YouTube channel. For command information questions, please contact Public Affairs at 5-4848.



REPUBLIC OF MARSHALL ISLANDS
2019 NOVEL CORONAVIRUS – HEALTH
TRAVEL ADVISORY & RESTRICTIONS

As of January 24, 2020

Currently the People's Republic of China is responding to a newly identified virus causing a flu-like illness, temporarily named by the World Health Organization as novel coronavirus (2019-nCoV). The virus was first detected in Wuhan city, Hubei Province, PRC, and subsequently cases of 2019-nCoV have been identified in travelers in several other countries.

The new virus is a coronavirus, which is a family of viruses that include the common cold, and viruses that cause severe acute respiratory infection. The virus can be transmitted from person to person, similar to other influenza viruses.

In response to this international disease threat, the Republic of Marshall Islands is implementing the following inbound travel restrictions for visitors to RMI. These requirements will come into force effective January 24, 2020.

All travelling passengers must complete a Special Health Screening Form to assess potential signs and symptoms and exposure to 2019-nCoV, before or on arrival to RMI.

As of Jan. 24, 2020, any traveler originating from, or transiting through the PRC, must spend at least 14 days in a country not affected by 2019-nCoV. In the event a

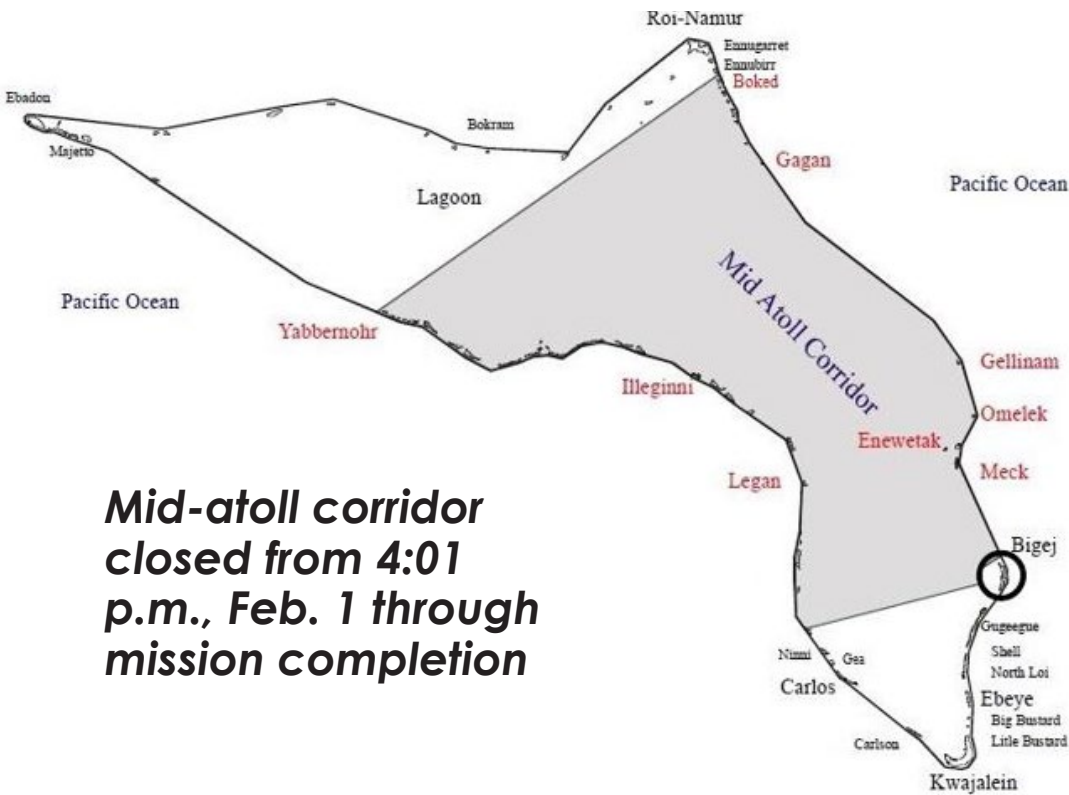


traveler arrives in RMI within the 14-day period, entry will be denied. No exceptions.

It is strongly recommended that all persons intending to travel to PRC or other affected countries postpone their travel arrangements. In the event that travel cannot be postponed, preventive measures (hand and cough hygiene) should be adhered to at all times and incoming requirements above will be applied upon return to RMI.

(SIGNED)
Jack Niedenthal
Republic of the Marshall Islands
Secretary of Health & Human Services

RANGE OPERATION NOTICE



Mid-atoll corridor
closed from 4:01
p.m., Feb. 1 through
mission completion

A RANGE OPERATION IS SCHEDULED FOR 05FEB – 06FEB 2020. CAUTION TIMES ARE 05 FEBRUARY 2020 at 8:07 P.M. THROUGH 06 FEBRUARY 2020 at 3:08 A.M. FEBRUARY 06-07 IS THE BACKUP DAY FOR THIS OPERATION. DURING THIS TIME, A CAUTION AREA WILL EXTEND INTO THE OPEN OCEAN EAST OF THE MID-ATOLL CORRIDOR.

THE MID-ATOLL CORRIDOR WILL BE CLOSED FROM 1601 HOURS, 01 FEB 2020 THROUGH MISSION COMPLETION. THE CAUTION AREA EXTENDS FROM THE SURFACE TO UNLIMITED ALTITUDE.

QUESTIONS REGARDING THE ABOVE SAFETY REQUIREMENTS FOR THIS MISSION SHOULD BE DIRECTED TO REAGAN TEST SITE (RTS) MISSION SAFETY OFFICE AT (805) 355-5625.

JUON IEN KOKEMELMEL ENAJ KOMAN ILO RAN IN WED/ THURS, 05-06 RAN IN FEBRUARY 2020. AWA KO REKAUWOTOTA EJ JEN 8:08PM AWA IN JOTA ILO 05 FEB LOK NAN 03:08AM AWA JIMAROK ILO 06 RAN IN FEBRUARY. ILO AWA KEIN BA KAKI, IJOKO RENAJ KAUWOTOTA EJ MALO KO TUREAR IN BEDBED IM ENE KO ILO IOLAP IN AELON IN (MID-ATOLL CORRIDOR).

ENE KO ILO IOLAP IN AELON IN (MID-ATOLL CORRIDOR) RENAJ KILOK JEN 4:01PM AWA ELKIN RAELEP ILO 01 (JUON) RAN IN FEBRUARY 2020 NAN NE EDEDELOK KOKEMELMEL KEIN. NE EWOR AM KAJITOK JOUJ IM CALL E LOK KWAJALEIN RANGE SAFETY OPIJA RO ILO (805) 355-5625.

**THE ADULT POOL
WILL BE CLOSED FOR RENOVATION
FEB 1st TO MAR 31st**

THE FAMILY POOL WILL BE OPEN FOR ADULT LAP
SWIM AT THE FOLLOWING TIMES:



SUN: 0400-0800 & 2015-2200
MON: 0400-0800 & 2015-2200
TUES: 0400-0800
WED: 0400-0800 & 2015-2200
THURS: 0400-0600
FRI: 0400-0800 & 2015-2200
SAT: 0400-0800



41st ANNUAL SWEETHEART RELAY

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 17TH

IN FRONT OF GRACE SHERWOOD LIBRARY

CHECK IN AT 8:30/ RACE STARTS AT 9AM

PRE-REGISTRATION BY FEB 15TH IS MANDATORY



REGISTRATION FORMS CAN BE PICKED UP FROM QTRS 473A ON PALM ST.
QUESTIONS: CONTACT BOB OR JANE SHOLAR AT 5-1815

Chapel Bike Blessings!

Monday, Feb 17th - 11-2pm

Island Memorial Chapel volunteers will be available to help with free basic bike maintenance. Come and stop by the tent on 7th Street behind the Shopette.



The Yokwe Yuk Women's Club



Thursday February 13th In Front of the MIC Shop
From 4-6pm Downtown

Proceeds to benefit educational needs throughout The Marshall Islands & Micronesia

Mardi Gras Parade & Celebration

February 23rd
5pm: Parade starts at Teen Center
5:30-8pm: Mardi Gras Celebration at Emon Beach

Music!

Crafts!

Games!

Food for Sale!

Questions? Stop by the MWR desk at the library or call 5-9331



It's time for the Mardi Gras Parade!

February 23,
starting at 5pm at the Teen Center
Get your "Krewe" together and decorate a cart for the parade!



Call 5-3331 or stop by the MWR desk at the library to register

*Registration closes Feb. 19th



Calling All vendors!

If you have a craft or concession you would like to sell at the Mardi Gras Celebration, contact MWR at 5-3331 or stop by the library to register for a table by Feb. 19th.

*\$5 fee for each table

*All vendors must have a current vendor's license

*All fundraisers must be approved by the FMWR office



**Mardi Gras Party
at the Oceanview Club!**

Sunday, February 23

9PM - 1AM

Live Band – Beads - Games



Before sharing any information, ask yourself:

WHAT COULD A PERSON DO WITH MY INFORMATION AND WOULD IT COMPROMISE THE SAFETY OR SECURITY OF MYSELF, MY FAMILY, OR THE ARMY?



Like and share @USArmyOPSEC