

# THE KWAJALEIN HOURGLASS



## THIS WEEK

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KWAJALEIN BOY SCOUT ETHAN ACOSTA, RIGHT, COORDINATED THE RESTORATION OF KWAJALEIN'S COMMEMORATIVE MURAL HONORING ISLAND MILITARY FAMILIES.

# 1944 CHRISTMAS LETTERS FROM ROI-NAMUR

By Stuart Deane  
Newburyport Daily News

In this authorized reprint from the Newburyport Daily News, Stuart Deane, of Newburyport, Maryland, tells a story through his father's postcards.

His father sent them from Roi-Namur and Hawaii during his station on the islands in 1943- 44. The postcards, mailed during the holiday season, reflect a jovial post-Flintlock scene on an atoll that had experienced so much bloodshed only months before.

In the spirit of Christmas, I revisit the letters of my father, written from the Pacific during the years that he served with the U.S. Navy in World War II. He essentially wrote home to my mother each day as she waited with me on her parents' farm in northern Vermont.

In one sense, I felt like I was invading a privacy in reading the letters of a young husband and wife, longing to be together, but I had a standing invitation from my mother to do so. Some 60 years after they were written, shortly after my mother's death, I did so.

Dad was a welfare and recreation officer who was an ROTC V-12 instructor at Yale University when I was born in New Haven in June 1943. Soon thereafter, he was shipped out for Pacific duty, and Mother returned to Vermont.

His first assignment was at Kanehoe Bay, Naval Air Station in Hawaii, where he was in charge of teaching swimming and setting up recreational activities for the servicemen stationed there. That included stops by touring Major League baseball players and USO shows of touring singers and actors from Hollywood.

The bulk of his Pacific duty, however, was spent performing the same role on the Kwajalein Atoll in the Marshall Islands, halfway between Hawaii and Aus-

tralia. It was an isolated post, usually referred to by my father as "the rock."

Here are some excerpts from his holiday letters.

**Dec. 23, 1943:** "Am all settled in new quarters at my permanent station, and everything seems very nice. The athletic facilities at this station are just about perfect, all types of athletic fields and a beautiful fifty-meter swimming pool. Report at the athletic office tomorrow morning. All in all, it looks like darn good duty ... Harry James is on the radio now. His music sounds pretty good. Do you people listen to the radio much up on the farm? Will be thinking of you Christmas Eve, also New Year's. Hate to miss all these precious moments away from you."

**Dec. 25:** "Here it is, Christmas morning, but just another day out here. Sure wish I were home to spend the holiday with you and Stuie and all the folks on the farm. A day like this is really hard to take when you've been used to being home on Christmas with those you care very much for.

Wished you a Merry Christmas at midnight last night. Did you hear me? "Had a very nice party last night in one of the hangars. As each man went in, he was presented with a bag of candy, two chocolate bars, five packages of cigarettes and a couple cigars. That was quite a gift, wasn't it? They also had some local entertainers who put on a show — not bad at all. Saw the real hula danced for the first time. I'll still take the American style of dancing.

Hope we have a good dinner this noon. I see by the paper that the servicemen throughout the world are going to have the best. I'm ready right now. All the higher-ups seem to be pretty optimistic about the war at this point. They must base their statements on something definite ... How did Stuie get along with his first Christmas? I can just see him giggling and laughing all over the place ... "

**Dec. 26:** "Spent a very quiet holiday looking around the station a little more and getting acquainted here and there. Had a wonderful Christmas dinner. The most important thing was missing — you and the home atmosphere ... How are you and your folks coming along with the ration books? Out here they are unheard of, just go in a store and buy as you please. Hope the days of rationing will be over soon. You have enough to do at home without that extra burden to worry about ... "

The following June, Dad was shipped further out into the Pacific to Roi-Namur on the Kwajalein Atoll. Here, he spent his second Christmas away from home, where a second son he had never seen had since been born.

**Dec. 25, 1944:** "Here it is Christmas day, and I sure hope it's a merry one for you and the boys and the last one that we have to spend in this manner. The program went off fairly well last night. The new band made its debut along with the choir, but it was a tough job trying to get the men to sing carols. Guess they all find it difficult to get the Christmas spirit, the same as me ... Had a swell 5 to 4 ball game yesterday, which was the only unusual thing during the holiday season. As we threw baseballs out here, you folks back home threw snowballs ... Having a real turkey dinner tonight, not the canned variety, either ... How I miss you this holiday season and all other times. Couldn't get to sleep last night thinking so much about you and the boys. I believe a million things went through my mind ... "

The war would wind on for another eight months, but by the next Christmas, Dad would be home to get reacquainted with his wife, the son he had left behind at age three months and the son he had never met. Normalcy would return.

## IN DECEMBER



**FLU, FLU CHRISTMAS?**  
Don't let the flu get you down. Visit the Kwajalein Hospital to get your flu vaccine. For more information, call 480-2223 or 480-2224.



**NATIONAL COOKIE DAY**  
A mainstay of Christmas Eve and holiday potluck dinners are Christmas cookies. Each year in December, we celebrate this tasty treat.



**IT'S DECEMBER**  
The Latin namesake for the month is "Decem," or 10, harkening back to its ancient position in the 10-month Roman calendar.



**CELEBRATE UNDERDOG DAY**  
Everyone loves an underdog. On the third Friday in December, rally around players and sports teams whose appeal is less about strength and more about struggle.

## 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.

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Garrison Commander.....Col. Thomas Pugsley  
Garrison CSM.....Command Sgt. Maj. Ernest Miller  
Public Affairs Officer.....Mike Brantley  
Editor.....Jessica "JD" Dambruch



## KWAJALEIN BOY SCOUT LED RESTORATION OF MURAL HONORING ISLAND MILITARY FAMILIES

BY JESSICA DAMBRUCH

Since 2007, Kwajalein’s large hibiscus flower mural honoring island military members has become a beloved landmark.

Over the years, the warm tones of the mural faded in the island’s harsh sunlight, and green molds invaded its delicate leaf and petal motif.

Despite the state of its decay, for Kwajalein Boy Scout Ethan Acosta, the faded landmark was a meaningful challenge to tackle as a culminating Eagle Scout community service project.

Acosta and his team of volunteers worked multiple weekends through the fall to restore and refresh the mural, which is now complete, and visible along Lagoon Road.

Volunteer painters included members of Acosta’s Boy Scout Troop 801, high school students, parents, teachers, friends and neighbors. Over the weekends they worked, painters restored the wall’s

surface and applied coats of base layer paint to the design. Next, they produced small detail work to make the flowers truly bloom out of the design.

In the past weeks, compliments and commendations have flowed into Acosta for the project.

In thanks for his efforts, during his recent visit, Lt. Gen. Daniel Karbler, commanding general of U.S. Space and Missile Defense Command, made special recognition of Acosta’s efforts to support the community by awarding him a challenge coin.

Former Kwajalein residents Beverly and Jim Vencill coordinated the first effort to recognize island military-connected families who have served on Kwajalein since 1944. Vencill, secretary to the USAKA commander, proposed an initial memorial concept in 2005. The original wall was funded with community donations and a fish fry dinner held at the Veterans Hall.



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PHOTOS COURTESY OF THE ACOSTA FAMILY

1) Painters work to restore Kwajalein’s memorial wall—a Boy Scout service project adopted by Kwajalein Boy Scout Ethan Acosta toward the completion of his culminating Eagle Scout activities. 2) Lt. Gen. Daniel Karbler, commanding general of U.S. Space and Missile Defense Command, awarded Acosta a challenge coin to honor his efforts.

## WINTERTIME IS FOR GHOST STORIES

BY JESSICA DAMBRUCH

As the winter holidays are a perhaps the best time of year to read scary stories, it is wholly appropriate that you should find this article about scary fiction in the December 24 Kwajalein Hourglass.

The longstanding wintertime tradition of telling ghost tales was in danger of being lost in Victorian England when Charles Dickens published “A Christmas Carol.” The book proved so popular that it breathed life back into celebrations of Christmas, and inextricably linked ghost fiction with the wintertime once again.

If you don’t believe this is a thing, harken back to “The Turn of the Screw,” by Henry James, or “Christmas Meeting,” by Rosemary Timperley, both ghost stories set in the

deep wintertime.

So, if you’re stressed out from winter shopping or other things, read scary stories.

In considering that topic last December earlier in the pandemic, K.W. Colyard of bookriot.com shared insights about scary fiction and how it can give us a safe place to explore and even act from a place of strength.

“Horror has the power to heal and to strengthen us,” Colyard said. “From it, we learn how to recognize and navigate danger, death, and dying. At a time when so many are still dying from a global pandemic about to enter its third year, we need spooky stories to help us cope together, now more than ever.”

This winter, we’re going to resurrect the tradition on island with the help of some

very serious writers, which I am delighted to report we have in abundance. The fifth and sixth grade students at George Seitz Elementary School visited with me in September for a scary story writing project which has become an annual Kwajalein Hourglass initiative. What they produced has terrified me—which, of course, was the point.

So, this winter, while you’re enjoying your cocoa, consider sharing some of these scary stories with your loved ones.

One of my favorite writers is Roald Dahl, who is perhaps best known for his young adult literature, like “Charlie and the Chocolate Factory.” Dahl is also a masterful writer of speculative fiction and a shrewd editor. It was only after careful study of hundreds of ghost stories that he dared

to curate an anthology featuring writers whom I now love.

We carry good stories with us for our whole lives. For years, I’ve kept my copy of Dahl’s “Book of Ghost Stories” close at hand. It’s falling apart, and the pages are wrinkled and folded. I cannot bear to buy a new copy. I have carried the book with me for years—even to the Millican Family Pool, where I inadvertently once set it down in a puddle of water. It is a permanent fixture in my library, as I hope the stories that follow will be in yours.

To the student writers—thank you for your patience while we prepared your stories for publication. We appreciate each one of you and thoroughly enjoyed reading all your spooky tales. Some of them were so frightening that they have been gently edited for publication so that we do not frighten away our readers.

[Click here to read the stories!](#)

# ISLAND HOLIDAYS PAST

U.S. Army Garrison-Kwajalein Atoll welcomes Santa to town this year on Dec. 4, but his arrival is not the only island tradition celebrated over the years. Check out these gems from The Kwajalein Hourglass Archives.



Standing room only: The scene at the Island Memorial Chapel Christmas Eve Candlelighting Service in December 2019. Contact the chapel at 480-3505 for information about this year's ceremony.

## CHORUS TO PERFORM "MESSIAH"

The Kwajalein Hourglass, Nov. 29, 1991

The Kwajalein Christmas Chorus will perform "Messiah," a sacred oratorio by George Frideric Handel, Sunday at 7 p.m. Sunday in the Island Memorial Chapel.

The 48-member chorus, along with soloists and instrumentalists, will present selections from the oratorio, concluding with the chorus, "Hallelujah."

Handel composed "Messiah" in 1741. It is his most successful and best-known oratorio, as well as one of the most frequently performed major sacred works. It was last performed on Kwajalein in 1983.

This year's presentation will include 10 of the choruses, and solos by Steve Thomas, Karen Eastburn, Alix Taylor, Ginny Briskle and Cheryl Shields. Sharon Cann will play piano assisted by Sarah Chiu, Nathan Ahlgren on flute and Francesca Dillman on oboe. Director for the ensemble is Dick Shields.

The use of cameras or recording devices will not be permitted during the performance. Anyone wishing to record or photograph the work is invited to the rehearsal on Wednesday at 7:30 p.m. in the chapel.



### THE NIGHT BEFORE CHRISTMAS

'Twas the night before Christmas. Our land was dark.  
 Not a creature was stirring; not even a shark.  
 The stockings were hung on the wall with great care.  
 (Since there aren't any chimneys, we all put them there.)  
 The children were nestled in their beds tight.  
 Even Mr. Mugu was sleeping that night.  
 Mama in her muumuu, and I in my cap  
 Had just settled down for a long winter's nap.  
 When out on the reef there arose such a clatter  
 I sprang from my bed to see what was the matter.  
 Away to the window, my go-aheads flopping  
 I pulled up the blinds to see what was popping.  
 The moon, glowing down on the white coral sands,  
 Made up for snow, lacking in tropic lands.  
 When, what to my wondering eyes did appear,  
 An outrigger canoe, and eight tiny reindeer  
 And a little old driver so lively and quick  
 That I knew in a moment it must be Saint Nick.  
 More rapid than speedballs, his coursers they came  
 And he whistled and shouted and called them by name,  
 "Now Dasher, Now Dancer, Now Prancer and Vixen,"  
 "On Comet, on Cupid, on Donder and Blitzen"  
 "Fly over the palm and pandanus tree,  
 "And onto the roof you will carry me."  
 Then in a twinkling I heard on the roof,  
 The prancing and pawing of each little hoof.  
 Yet before I had managed to turn back around,  
 Santa himself in the room I found.  
 And Santa was the strangest sight I had seen  
 He wore an aloha shirt all made of green,  
 And bright red bermudas, a colorful set  
 And his bag of toys was a fishing net.  
 Sandals he wore, instead of his boots,  
 And he smoked a pipe of pandanus roots.  
 A jaunty straw hat he wore on his head  
 And his once rosy cheeks were now tanned instead.  
 He spoke not a word but went straight to his work  
 And filled all the stockings, then turned with a jerk.  
 He smiled a broad smile, then gave me a bow  
 And disappeared quickly, I don't quite know how.  
 Then from the window I managed to view  
 Santa, speeding away in a flying canoe.  
 And I heard him explain as I took a last look,  
 "Merry Christmas to all, and to all yours, Yuletide!"

Original poem by Pat Holmberg

Special thanks goes out to Kwajalein historian Bill Remick for providing the author's name for this beloved piece of island holiday history. The original poem above was written by former island resident Pat Holmberg. It ran in "The Kwajpodge," the George Seitz Elementary School student newspaper, on Dec. 22, 1961. Over the years, The Kwajalein Hourglass has adapted, reprinted and occasionally added to the original. For your enjoyment, here is the piece as it was originally published.



The Kwajalein Christmas Chorus takes a deep breath between selections (Photo by Jackie Siple).

## CHRISTMAS CHORUS ELECTRIFIES CROWD

By Melinda Larson  
 Feature Writer  
 Nov. 29, 1991

The Kwajalein Christmas Chorus electrified the audience during their performance of George Frideric Handel's "Messiah," Sunday, at the Chapel. Directed by Dick Shields, the chorus adeptly led the audience through the variety of modes illustrated musically by the 17th century oratorio, or music drama.

The abbreviated rendition of the oratorio illustrated the foundations of Christianity that paralleled the prophecy of Christ's coming. His birth, life, death and resurrection.

The final number, "Hallelujah," turned the entire audience into a part of the chorus, as they stood and joined in singing of the resurrection.

The chapel was filled to capacity several minutes before the opening act, but, the night before the opening, the clear, cool night encouraged latecomers to enjoy the music on outdoor seats on the grass, surrounding the Chapel.



*Kwajalein's original "Silver City," in this undated U.S. Space and Missile Defense Command photo.*

## A UNIQUE HOLIDAY "GIFT": THE PRINZ EUGEN ARRIVES ON KWAJALEIN ATOLL

BY SHARON WATKINS-LANG, USASMD C HISTORIAN

### The Prinz Eugen

**The Prinz Eugen** came to be a part of the Kwajalein landscape in late December 1946.

A part of Nazi Germany's Kriegsmarine, the Prinz Eugen, a 654-foot, 15,000-ton German heavy cruiser, was launched in 1938 and entered service in 1940. Named for the 18th century Austrian general, Prince Eugene of Savoy, the Prinz Eugen first saw combat in Operation Rheinübung and the Battle of the Denmark Strait, an attempt by the German Navy to break out into the Atlantic Ocean in May 1941.

The Prinz Eugen and the Bismark battled the British battlecruiser, HMS Hood, and the HMS Prince of Wales battleship. During the battle which destroyed the Hood and damaged the Prince of Wales, the Prinz Eugen was redirected to raid Allied merchant shipping. Following a period in Occupied France for repairs, the Prinz Eugen returned to Germany and later deployed to Norway.

Three days after arriving, the cruiser was torpedoed by the Trident, a British submarine, and returned to Germany for repairs. After returning to active service, the ship deployed to the Baltic Sea and the Eastern Front to provide artillery support against the advancing Soviet army. In May 1945, the Prinz Eugen was surrendered to the British in Copenhagen and subsequently transferred to the Americans.

In 1946, the American Congress authorized atomic weapons testing at the Bikini Atoll. Operation Crossroads was designed to assess nuclear effects on naval vessels and determine the vulnerabilities. A flotilla of 95 target ships, including the Prinz Eugen, was assembled. Some ships were sunk in the initial airborne blast. More were sunk in the second test, conducted underwater a few weeks later.

The Prinz Eugen, on the outer limits of the test zone, was not affected by



U.S. ARMY PHOTO BY JESSICA DAMBRUCH

*The wreck of the German heavy cruiser USS Prinz Eugen rests in the waters of Kwajalein Atoll in August 2020.*

either blast. A collection of 50 ships, which had survived the blast to include the USS Saratoga, the USS Pennsylvania and the Prinz Eugen were towed to Kwajalein and anchored off Echo Pier. For the next several months, they were subject to inspection teams and decontamination squads which studied the effects of the two blasts and radioactivity upon the ships.

On Dec. 21, 1946, the Prinz Eugen began to take on water and list. Fearing the ship would block the harbor, Kwajalein Commander, Commodore George A. Seitz, ordered the ship be pushed across the lagoon and beached. These efforts failed as prevailing winds pushed the ship broadside on the reef. The Prinz Eugen officially capsized on Dec. 22, 1946 off Carlson Island.

There the ship has remained for decades, periodically leaking oil into the lagoon, as it gradually rusted away. The U.S. Navy addressed this issue in 2018. During a three-month operation, the Navy successfully removed 228,900 gallons of oil trapped in 173 of the fuel tanks

in the submerged hull. This mission eliminated the potential of a catastrophic release and helped preserve the local marine life.

### George Seitz Elementary School

**The presence of** a school system was one feature which factored as an asset for Kwajalein as teams scouted the globe for a site suitable for the new Nike-Zeus missile defense test program.

The Navy had opened an elementary school in 1947. By 1959, elementary instruction for students in grades one through eight was housed in three wooden buildings on the northeast side of the island.

A single-story building housed the principal's office, the library and some classrooms. The remainder of the classrooms were in two single-story structures. With one principal and 10 teachers the school system supported approximately 200 students. At this

See "SMDC," continued on p. 14



U.S. ARMY PHOTO

Col. Charles Gambill, the Safeguard Site Activation Director for Missouri, presents the Safeguard Briefing to the local community on Oct. 12, 1970.

“SMDC,” continued from p. 13

time there was no high school instruction on the island.

Students in grades 9-12, assisted by two teachers, continued their education through a correspondence program from the University of California. Students typically took four courses per semester, and annual tuition fees for this program were \$270.

With the expected influx of personnel and dependents with the Nike-Zeus program and to support recruiting efforts, additional facilities would be needed. Construction for the George Seitz school, named for Commodore George A. Seitz, USN, Commander of Kwajalein and Governor of the Marshall Islands in 1947, began in 1960.

The school opened two years later, albeit with a modest high school curriculum. (Continuing Education was also important to these new personnel and a University of Hawaii extension program was established at the same time.)

The student population soon outgrew the facility and “panelfab” buildings were added in 1964 to provide additional classroom and fine arts (music) space.

By 1967, an image of the George Seitz School, located in the dependent housing area, shows a compact campus almost filled to capacity with nearly 700 students in grades 1-12.

These issues were soon addressed. In January 1969, the construction projects for the Kwajalein Junior/Senior High School and the Ivey school for elementary students were due for completion.

### Safeguard

The SAFEGUARD Anti-Ballistic Missile system, the first missile defense system deployed by the United States, was initially planned as a multi-phased deployment.

By 1971 construction was underway at the North Dakota, Colorado and Montana locations. The second phase called for additional sites in Sedalia, Missouri, near Whiteman Air Force Base, Warren AFB, Wyoming and the National Capital Region. The locations were selected based upon a computer study of 90 sites across the nation.

On Jan. 7, 1971, a plan for five sites was publicly announced for Sedalia/Whiteman AFB—a Missile Site Radar and four remote Sprint launch sites, with no immediate plans for construction. In March, authorization to proceed was granted and Whiteman was designated the Fire Control Center.

Initial assessments called for an influx of more than 2,000 people (workers and dependents) with construction scheduled to begin later that year. The expected completion date for the site, which would have 900 permanent Army employees (Soldiers and civilians) was 1976. A year later in 1972, the authorization was rescinded and the Malmstrom Air Force Base, Montana site became the FCC.

**For more information on the Prinz Eugen, visit <https://www.kbis-marck.com/prinzeugen.html>.**

## ONE ARMY FAMILY ONLINE AND OFFLINE

**Army regulation 600-200** describes the harmful practice of bullying.

“Bullying is any conduct whereby a service member or members, regardless of service, rank or position, intends to exclude or reject another service member through cruel, abusive, humiliating, oppressive, demeaning, or harmful behavior, which results in diminishing the other service member’s dignity, position or status. Absent outside intervention, bullying will typically continue without any identifiable end-point.

Bullying may include an abuse of authority. Bullying tactics include, but are not limited to, making threats, spreading rumors, social isolation, and attacking someone physically, verbally or through the use of electronic media.”

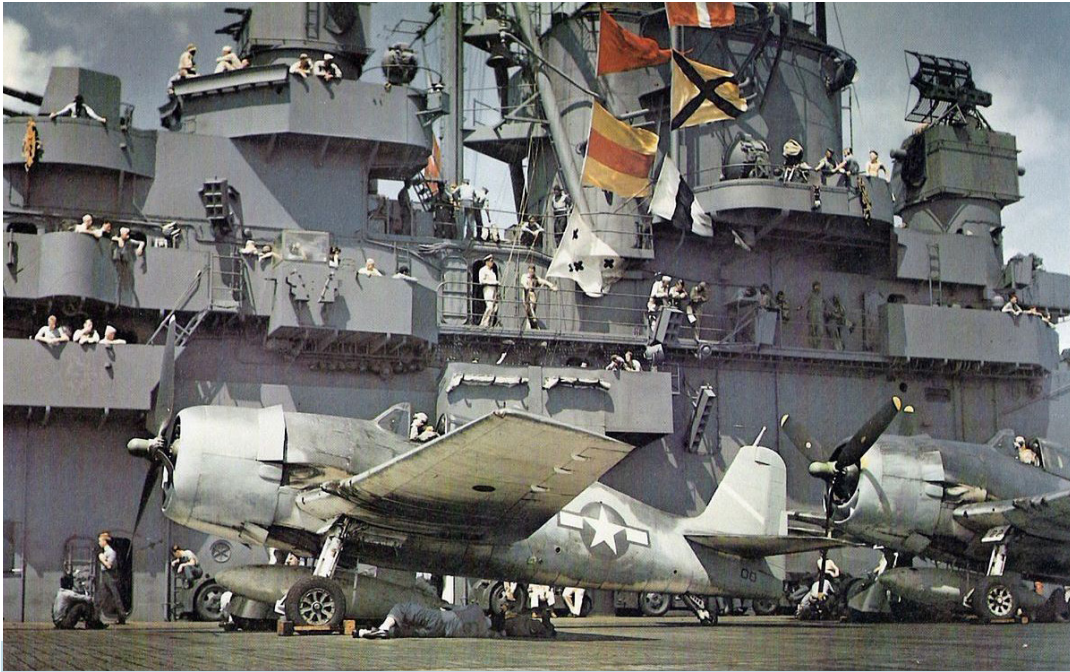
According to the regulation, every service member and civilian who lives and works on Kwajalein Atoll deserves the right to work and live in an environment free of hostility. Please, think twice before you post.



# U.S. ARMY SPACE AND MISSILE DEFENSE COMMAND

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# THE BATTLE FOR KWAJALEIN / PART 2



The U.S. Navy aircraft carrier USS Yorktown, pictured in Aug. 31, 1943 during the raid on Marcus Island. Lt. Cmdr. James H. "Jimmy" Flatley, Commander of Air Group 5, sits in his Grumman F6F-3 Hellcat before takeoff. During the Battle of Kwajalein, the Yorktown's aircraft continued to fly air cover over the atoll from Jan. 29 through 31, and from Feb. 1 to 3. (U.S. Navy photo by Lt. Charles Kerlee)

This week, we continue our exploration of the battle to liberate Kwajalein Atoll.

These stories come from a report by former Kwaj resident and Kwajalein Hourglass editor Pat Cataldo. They were printed in 1994 in a special edition for the 50th anniversary of the Battle of Kwajalein.

What follows are a series of stories on the invasion of Kwajalein Atoll, the fulcrum of Operation Flintlock, with a focus on Kwajalein Island, where the Army's 7th Infantry would take on the men of Japan's 6th Base Force, 6th Defense Force, amphibious brigades, naval special landing forces and South Seas detachments.

## Jan. 31, 1944 7th Infantry Troops Ashore Near Strongholds

After a series of highly successful amphibious landings, American troops were ashore on four small islands near Kwajalein and on five islets flanking Roi and Namur. They closed in on the two major Japanese strongholds. Every objective was gained. U.S. casualties were classified as light.

In Jan. 31 actions around Kwajalein island (codename: 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 105-mm howitzers were set up on Enubuj

and harassed Kwajalein, as heavier 155mm guns rapidly landed. The naval bombardment of Kwajalein's defenses continued, and the wall of destroyers delivered harassing fire on Ebeye (Burton), Japan's chief seaplane base in the Marshalls. It was known to harbor several hundred Japanese troops.

At the northern end of the atoll, the 25th Regimental Combat Team of the 4th Marine Division secured five islands near Roi and Namur at a cost of 18 American dead, eight missing and 40 wounded. Artillery was established ashore, and North Pass was later safe for the passage of ships.

As evening fell, fresh landing troops were poised for the next day's strikes against Kwajalein, Roi and Namur, the main objectives for the invasion.

The action began at dawn, when battleships Pennsylvania and Mississippi began firing on the western end of Kwajalein. By 0830, Enubuj, Ennylabegan, Kwajalein, Ebeye and South Guegeegue (Beverly) were 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 poured onto the 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.

The landing on Gea was made shortly after by B Troop, a provisional unit made up of men of the 7th Cavalry Reconnaissance Troop and Co. B, 11th Infantry.

After a short fight, the island was secured at 0930. Twenty-two Japanese were killed, and one was taken prisoner. American losses included one killed and one wounded.

U.S. troops captured Enubuj at noon, taking 20 prisoners after very light resistance. Within an hour, divisional artillery began coming ashore. By 1800, the howitzers were registered on Kwajalein.

Ninni, which with Gea, guards an important entrance to the lagoon, was captured by A Troop at 1230. The men first mistakenly landed on Gehh, the next island northwest of Ninni, after fighting strong currents and offshore 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.

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.

A unique part of the day'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 within 300 yards of the beach at the western end of Kwajalein island where U.S. forces landed the next day.

They searched for underwater obstacles and anti-boat mines.

As light faded on Jan. 31, troops of the 32nd and 184th Regimental Combat Teams (RCTs) of the 7th Infantry Division moved from transports to LVTs. They were scheduled to make the initial landings on Kwajalein the next morning.

## Feb. 1, 1944 A Day on Kwajalein

After a near-perfect amphibious assault on beaches at the west end of Kwajalein, troops of the 32nd and 184th RCTs, and the 767th Tank Battalion 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.



A B-24J bomber flies over the island of Kwajalein, softening up Japanese defense positions in anticipation of the ground assault.

# Kwajalein Christmas

We haven't got rooftops all covered with snow,  
Or horse-drawn sleighs with our families in tow,  
Our windows aren't frosty from wintry winds,  
We do have sand castles, but we haven't snowmen.  
The carollers we see wear shorts and T-shirts  
Our fake Christmas trees have never seen dirt.  
Nothing is sacred here anymore,  
I mean Santa Claus barefoot! Now that's really poor  
O K, let's be honest, we dream now and then  
About a white Christmas, but well then again  
When we've finished with presents  
And all those great things  
We couldn't go diving or water sking  
Or go to the beach to work on our tan  
Or take kids to Emon to play in the sand.  
And how could we miss the day-after barbecues  
Or a Commander who plays Father Christmas, not Scrooge,  
And where else can you ride your bike in a tux  
To go have pupus at a place called the Yuk?  
Now why would you want all the ice and the snow,  
The hustle, the busile with folks on the go  
With no time for stopping your bike for a spell  
To chat with a neighbor to see if he's well?  
And what would happen to your Christmas mood  
If you shopped in a mall crowded with people who're rude?  
So stop thinking how sad to be stuck in the surt  
People pay thousands for our Kwaj Christmas fun!  
anonymous

From Dec. 24, 1992 Kwajalein Hourglass



An intercontinental ballistic santa launches from the Kris Kringle Test Site at the North Pole during a run-through of a joint KKTS-RTS operation schedule to impact Kwajalein Atoll Dec. 24.

Graphic illustration by Jordan Vinson

## HOLIDAY SECURITY TIPS

COMMUNITY CONNECTION

By Brad Reed,  
RTS Security Manager

During the holiday season we tend to share more photos and communicate more with friends and family. As you do so we'd like to remind you to practice good operational security: OPSEC.

Be aware of what is in the background of your photos, don't take photos of restricted areas and remember that sharing the following information is prohibited.

### 1. Current, Ongoing and Future Operations Details

Examples: Mobilization, deployment schedules, stationing, logistical shortfalls, readiness levels, rosters

### 2. Critical Infrastructure

Examples: Location, capabilities, weakness, airfields, communications

### 3. Force Protection

Examples: RAM measures, emergency response, new or emerging technology, access control, gaps, physical security

### 4. C4I Locations, Capabilities and Vulnerabilities

Examples: COOP, disaster plans, nodes

### 5. Organizational Capabilities, Limitations and Vulnerabilities

Examples: inspection results, AAR, surveys

### 6. General Officer and VIP Itineraries

Examples: Schedules, locations, special protective measures, visitors

### 7. Budget and Resource Information

Examples: Allocation, prioritization, shortfalls, contract specifics

### 8. Threat Details to U.S. Forces, Agencies, Partner Nations

Examples: Assessment, government control

### 9. Personally Identifiable Information

Examples: HIPPA, FOUO, LE-Sensitive, hiring actions, alert roster

### 10. Detailed Casualty, Damage or Incident Reports

Examples: SIR, police, Report of Survey 15-6 results



Since Kwajalein is located in time zone one, the atoll is one of the places he visits first. That means you can track his progress around the world.

Click the image to find out where Santa is going next with a little help from North American Aerospace Defense Command, or NORAD. You can also visit <https://www.noradsanta.org/en/>.



# MUSICAL NOTES

## HOLIDAY MUSIC TRADITIONS

KWAJALEIN HOURGLASS ARCHIVE

By Elizabeth Nolan

**There is one** musical masterpiece that towers above all others; the glorious oratorio Messiah composed by George Frideric Handel.

From its debut in Dublin, Ireland in 1742, Messiah has continued to increase in popularity, developing into a musical tradition that has become synonymous with Christmas. Performances of this beloved work occur worldwide every year.

George Frideric Handel was originally born in Halle, Germany in 1685, and spent the latter part of his life in England. As a composer he was prolific, contributing to every genre of music including opera and oratorio. Handel singlehandedly established the genre of English oratorio.

An oratorio is a large-scale narrative musical work created around a sacred theme, usually for choir, soloists and orchestra. It is performed without the theatrical tools of scenery, costume or action. The narration is either dictated by the choir or the soloists.

Composed in less than twenty-four days, Messiah had the following words written at the end of the original manuscript: “soli Deo gloria,” or “Glory to God alone.”

This postscript signified that Handel believed he had been divinely inspired to compose Messiah. Soli Deo gloria was one of the five Solas adopted by the Reformers following Martin Luther’s 95 theses; sola scriptura, sola fide, sola gratia, solus Christus, and soli Deo Gloria.

The biblical text used in Messiah comes predominantly from the Book of Isaiah, but also features extracts from



*A portrait of the composer George Frideric Handel. The painting is attributed to Balthasar Denner.*

other books such as Matthew, Malachi, Luke, Acts, Revelation and 1 Corinthians. It was compiled by Charles Jennens, who had written a number of libretti for Handel, and was adapted from the King James Bible, the Coverdale Psalter and the Book of Common Prayer.

As a member of a choir, or as a member of the audience, every performance of Messiah still brings a renewed sense of wonder and reverence for such an exciting and influential work.

At a performance in Fort Worth in 2018, this writer had the great fortune to witness an audience of more than two thousand people stand to their feet and sing along to the Hallelujah Chorus. This performance by the Fort Worth Orchestra and the Southwestern Master Chorale, was simply breathtaking. Christmas celebrations would not be complete without a performance of this musical treasure, a testament to the genius and longevity of Handel’s compositional prowess.

# ADOPTION

## MARSHALLESE LANGUAGE LESSON 16

Many Americans adopt Marshallese children, and informal adoption is a significant part of Marshallese culture. However, to safeguard the interests of the children in the Marshall Islands, government has legislated tighter controls in recent years and prospective parents need to research all legal aspects before proceeding with an adoption.

### Helpful Words

Ninnin	baby
Ajri	child/youngster
Leddik	girl/female
Laddik	boy/male
Laajiriri	adopt
Ejmour	health
Aiboojoj	beautiful
Rittolok	older
Diklok	younger
Kanne	fill out
Likatu	(f) pretty
Lakatu	(m) handsome
Jinen	mother
Jemen	father

### Common Phrases

**Ewi jinen im jemen ninnin e aiboojoj?**  
*Where are the parents of this beautiful baby?*

**Leddik im laddik rane rej kanne pepa turim.**  
*That girl and boy filling out forms next to you.*

**Pepa in kaajiriri men kan ke?**  
*Are those adoption papers?*

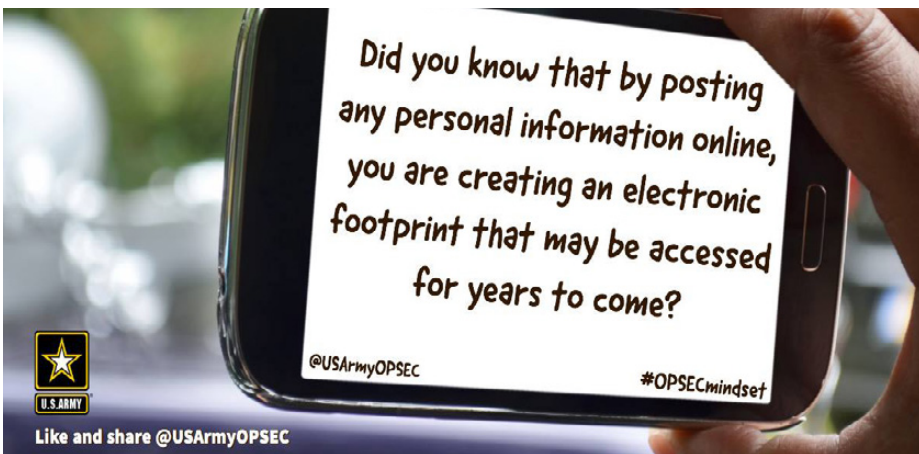
**Aet, etan jinen im jemen?**  
*Yes, what are the parents’ name?*

**Etair in Carson im Meylu.**  
*Their names are Carson and Meylu.*

**Ediklok wot jinen im jeman ninnin kanne raanb kein.**  
*Babies’ parents are younger, nowadays.*

**Aet im menin ejjab emman nan ejmour ko aer.**  
*Yes, and this is not good for their health.*

**Jej aikuij katakin ajri rane bwe ren kotta aer rittolok.**  
*We have to teach the youngsters to wait until they are older.*



Like and share @USArmyOPSEC

# DEAR KATHERINE

JOHN D. SCHNEIDAU WRITES FROM KWAJALEIN

This week, *The Kwajalein Hourglass* continues the letters of Lt. Cmdr. John D. Scheidau, who wrote home to his wife, Katherine, as his tank landing ship, USS Addison County, LST-31, performed mission support operations during its January 1944 voyage to Kwajalein Atoll.

It is now the afternoon of D-day. The bombardment has been going on since dawn. There has been no sign of enemy planes yet, nor is it likely there will be any as our air cover is strong enough to maintain complete control of the air. There are far more than 1,000 fighters to protect us. I can't tell you exactly how many there really are, and the above figure is very low compared to the actual. It has been a picnic for us so far as we have nothing to do today at all and will not take part until tomorrow.

The lessons learned at Tarawa were applied here, and instead of risking many men by a direct assault on the biggest base, they took adjacent lightly defended islands this morning and set up artillery units on top of them to shell the big island until its defenses are reduced. The ships will also bombard it, of course, and have been doing so all day.

We hope to have it ready for invasion tomorrow morning, which is when we will play our part. There is no danger involved for us, however, only for the troops that have to go ashore. Of course, it may take longer than one day to soften it up.

We get the reports over the radio from the planes that are spotting for the big ships. It is very interesting to listen to them. Some typical reports are: "Right on the button, you've flushed the enemy out of that position, and they are now running up the beach," and, "That last

salvo landed right in the blockhouse door, but I think you'll have to get it in the middle to do any good." You see, it's sort of a play-by-play description for us.

There is another force of ships that is hitting the northern section of the atoll in the same manner as we are hitting the southern, but we don't know yet how they are doing. There is a big airbase up that way.

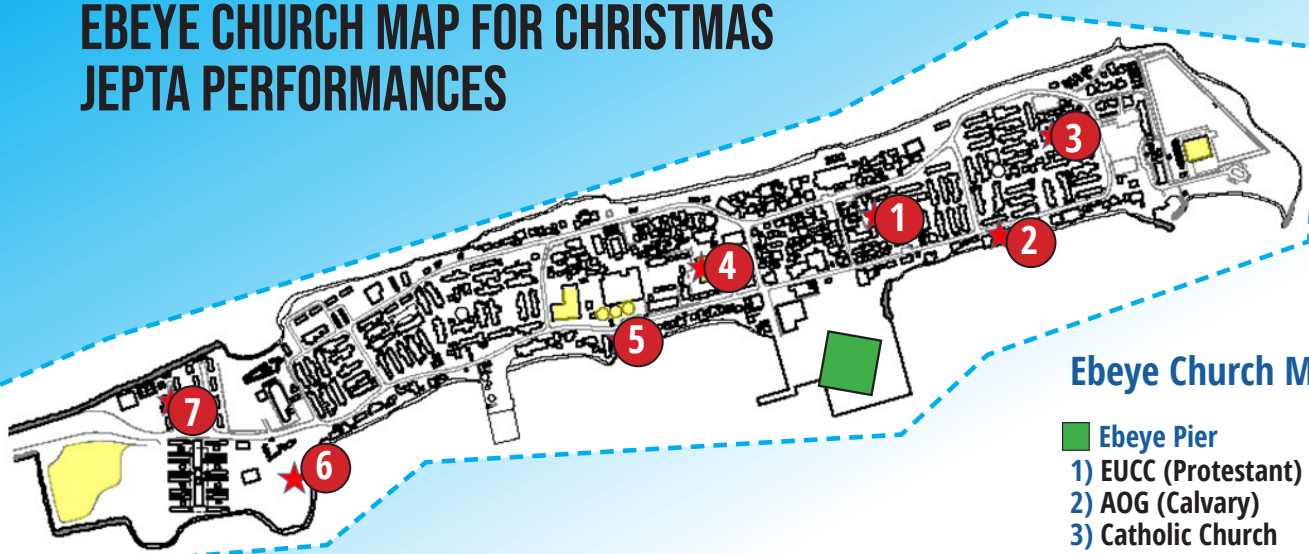
After all the beautiful weather we have been having, today, of all days, has to be rainy and dull. For that reason, we can't see much of what is happening from where we are except when there is a brief clearing in the weather. Tomorrow, however, we will be much closer in and will get a good view of the whole show.

Hope the sun is out so I can get some good pictures.



LST-31 offloads at a beach on Enghli Island in Eniwetok Atoll circa February-March 1944 in this U.S. Navy photo.

## EBEYE CHURCH MAP FOR CHRISTMAS JEPTA PERFORMANCES



### Ebeye Church Map

- Ebeye Pier
- 1) EUCC (Protestant)
- 2) AOG (Calvary)
- 3) Catholic Church  
(jepta begins at 6 p.m.)
- 4) Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints
- 5) Full Gospel Church
- 6) New Beginning Church
- 7) Bukot Non Jesus

Kwajalein residents are fortunate to have the opportunity to visit Ebeye on Christmas Day and view community music and dance performances honoring the holiday. Check with Kwajalein's Dock Security Checkpoint for special holiday ferry hours of operation when planning your Christmas Day visit.

Visitors to Ebeye are reminded to be respectful of social customs. Men are asked to wear long pants and shirts with sleeves. Neither shorts nor tank tops are permitted. Women should wear modest garments that cover shoulders and knees.

# COMMUNITY CLASSIFIEDS

The community wants to hear from you. Email announcements and advertisements to [kwajaleinhourglass@vecrus.com](mailto:kwajaleinhourglass@vecrus.com) Wednesdays by close of business. Ads received after deadline will be published in the next issue of The Kwajalein Hourglass.

## ARMY REGULATIONS

**TOBACCO USE.** USAG-KA Policy Memorandum 600-8 protects others from the negative impact of tobacco use. On USAG-KA, smoking is permitted in designated smoking areas only. Smoking and cigarette butt receptacles must be at least 50 feet from the entrance of facilities.

**CANDLES** and open flames are not permitted in BQ rooms. The Kwajalein Fire Department thanks you for keeping your neighbors safe.

**METAL DETECTORS** are not allowed on Kwajalein according to Army Regulation. Unexploded Ordnance exists and could be dangerous if disturbed.

Not allowed on USAG-KA: bow and arrow, air guns, paint ball and other projectile weapons.

**VEGETATION.** Per USAG-KA Regulation 420-1, vegetation (e.g. trees, bushes, plants) may not be planted in the ground without an approved permit. Residents may be asked to remove items if planted without approval. In addition, do not place sprouted coconuts in your yard.

## CAC OFFICE

**Bldg. 835 Office Bldg. #835**

If trying to make an appointment using a NIPR account, please visit: <https://safe.menlosecurity.com>. Follow the instructions given to access the website. It will then ask you to enter the CAC appointment website which is as follows: <https://idco.dmdc.osd.mil/idco/>.

To schedule a CAC Office appointment, visit <https://idco.dmdc.osd.mil/idco/> or search 'CAC Appointment' online. Enter 'Kwajalein' as the site location, click 'select' to the right of the map, and schedule your appointment using calendar.

**CAC Office Hours**  
**Tuesday – Friday**  
**8 a.m. – 4 p.m.**  
**(Lunch: noon - 1 p.m.)**  
**Sat. 8 a.m. – 3 p.m.**

Ensure all paperwork is completed by your human resources representative before making an appointment. Bring two forms of government-issued IDs with you to your appointment. Walk-in appointments are welcome, but there may be a wait. Questions? Call 480-8496.

## EAP SERVICES

The Kwajalein Hospital team welcomes Kenneth Thomas, the island's Employee Assistance Program counselor. Ken is a Licensed Professional Counselor and Licensed Clinical Alcohol and Drug Counselor. Clients can expect education about mental health disorders from a multicultural perspective with the goal of moving toward acceptance and ultimately to mitigate symptoms. Contact Ken at [kenneth.thomas@internationalsofsgs.us](mailto:kenneth.thomas@internationalsofsgs.us) or 480-5362. Contact 480-3550 with questions.

## FACILITIES

**RACQUETBALL COURT CODE.** Residents can obtain the door code from the MWR Desk at the Grace Sherwood Library. The code will not be given out over the phone. Contact MWR at 480-3331 with questions.

## JOBS

To research and apply for government employment opportunities on U.S. Army Garrison-Kwajalein Atoll and worldwide, visit [usajobs.gov](http://usajobs.gov). Write to [kwajaleinhourglass@vecrus.com](mailto:kwajaleinhourglass@vecrus.com) to remove your listing.

AKIMA is hiring for the following on-island positions: Communications Clerk (ID: TRU01101); Communications Specialist (ID: TRU01100); and Fiber / Cable Technician (ID: TRU01099). Applicants must currently reside on USAG-KA and possess a valid passport. For more information and a list of required qualifications, visit [https://akima.ta-leo.net/careersection/akimallc\\_cs/jobsearch.ftl](https://akima.ta-leo.net/careersection/akimallc_cs/jobsearch.ftl). Apply online or send resume to Jeannette McIlwain at [jeannette.mcilwain@akima.com](mailto:jeannette.mcilwain@akima.com).

**ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT.** This position provides daily administrative task support for operations at the Island Memorial Chapel. For questions or to submit a resume, please call 480-3505. Send to [kwajchapel@gmail.com](mailto:kwajchapel@gmail.com) and Ch. Brian Conner at [brian\\_conner@sbcglobal.net](mailto:brian_conner@sbcglobal.net).

CALIBRE seeks a Military Material Specialist. For more information, or to apply, visit <https://jobs.silkroad.com/calibresys/https://calibresyscareerssilkroad.com/jobs/4013>.

KAIHONUA is hiring for multiple positions. For more information or to apply, please contact Tribalco Human Resources at 480-4344 and visit <https://honuservices.jobs.net/page/kaihonua>. Applicants must meet job requirements.

NAN, INC. seeks a project engineer, welder, welding inspector, quality control manager, and site safety and health officer. To apply, visit [www.nanhawaii.com](http://www.nanhawaii.com) and contact Clint Ueatari or Kevin Short at 480-2632, 480-4995 or 480-4996.



**Sgt. 1st Class Effie Banks**  
**SHARP Victim Advocate**

**Work:** 315-480-0660  
 OR 315-480-1419  
**USAG-KA SHARP Pager:**  
 805-355-3241 #0100  
**DOD SAFE Helpline:**  
 877-995-5247



**CONTACT THE USAG-KA SEXUAL HARASSMENT/ ASSAULT RESPONSE AND PREVENTION VICTIM ADVOCATE**

# A Time For Giving

*This holiday season, give back to children in the Ebeye community.*



Pick one of the 55 angels from the tree inside the RMI Liaison Office downtown by the Mic Shop now through Saturday, Dec. 10. Each angel corresponds to a deserving boy or girl. Some things the angels need are school supplies, clothing and toys.

On Jan. 14, the angels and their families will attend a Kwajalein celebration and gift presentation to ring in the New Year. Please bring your gifts to the RMI Liaison Office no later than Jan. 7, 2023.

The RMI Liaison Office is open Tues. - Sat., 10 a.m. – 5:30 p.m. Call 480-3600 to reach the office specialists with any questions.

QUANTUM DYNAMICS, INC., is accepting resumes for positions on Kwajalein and Roi-Namur in the following areas: vehicle maintenance, transportation motor pool, movement control and custodial; and Apply at <https://qdyncorp.com/home/careers/>. Contact Dolly Bakhsh, HR manager, at 480-0782 and dbakhsh@rmi.qdyncorp.com, or Sammy Juda, administrative assistant at 480-4916 and sjuda@rmi.qdyncorp.com. You may also visit the HR Office in Bldg. 700.

QUANTUM DYNAMICS, INC., has immediate openings for the following on-island positions: Transportation Motor Pool; Production Control Clerk – GCSS-Army I; and on Kwajalein and Roi, Fault Repair and Heavy Equipment Mechanic – Vertical Lift. Contact the Human Resources manager at 480-0782 or administrative assistant at 480-4916 for more information.

RGNEXT, LLC seeks qualified candidates to fill open positions on Kwaj and Roi in engineering, technical, COMSEC and other areas. For information and to apply, visit [rgnext.com](http://rgnext.com).

**SUBSTITUTE TEACHERS.** Kwajalein School System is hiring part-time substitute teachers. These are on-island hire positions with no guaranteed hours. Minimum requirements: confidentiality, four-year degree and love of working with children in grades K – 12. Teaching certificate preferred. CNACI background check must be completed after receipt of job offer. Apply at [Careers.Vectrus.com](http://Careers.Vectrus.com), search for "substitute teacher," or, send resume and letter of application to [uhrenp@kwajalein-school.com](mailto:uhrenp@kwajalein-school.com).

**TRUESTONE** is hiring for multiple positions. Contact Tribalco Human Resources at 480-4344 and visit <https://www.akima.com/careers/>. Visit [www.tribalco.com/careers.html](http://www.tribalco.com/careers.html).

## NOTICES

**INTERNET OUTAGE.** There will be a temporary internet outage Nov. 29 and Dec. 12 – 14 from 5 – 11 p.m. The outage will be island-wide, affecting residential internet, commercial internet, banking, school, hospital and credit card readers. Equipment is being upgraded for future bandwidth and reliability improvements. Questions? Contact April Pacileo at 480-2278 during normal working hours.

**RMI ENTRY REQUIREMENTS.** Updated entry requirements for the RMI by air or seaport include the following requirements: Adults aged 18-years old and up must have completed one primary COVID-19 vaccine series. Primary series: Johnson & Johnson single dose; Pfizer completed series (two doses); or Moderna completed series (two doses) Boosters are not currently mandated. There is no vaccination requirement for children under age 18.

**TEMPORARY CLOSURE.** The oceanside perimeter road will close to pedestrian, bicycle and vehicle traffic 20 minutes prior to heavy aircraft arrivals and departures. Contact Airfield Operations at 480-2131 with any questions.

**ISLAND ORIENTATION** and Newcomer's Briefings take place in the Religious Education Building behind the Island Memorial Chapel. Email [KWAJ\\_OSO\\_Ops@Vectrus.com](mailto:KWAJ_OSO_Ops@Vectrus.com) or call 480-3511 to register. **ARMA.** Log in to ArMa, the Army Maintenance Application, to report issues for all buildings maintained



**Need to renew your passport?**  
Complete the passport application at [travel.state.gov](http://travel.state.gov).

Print the completed form and ensure you have a copy of your existing passport and other documents, including parents' identification cards, birth certificates, etc.

Photos must be from within the last six months. The applicant should not wear eyeglasses in the photo.

**Schedule of Fees**  
Adult passport renewal: \$130  
Adult passport (first time application): \$165  
Minor passport (15 and younger): \$135  
Adult Passport Card: \$30  
Minor Passport Card: \$15

Only money orders and cashier's checks payable to "U.S. Department of State" are accepted. These can be purchased from Community Bank or at the post office.

**Passport Photos Are Now Available For Free**  
Contact Host Nation Activities at 480-2103 for more information.

by the Department of Public Works. For more information, please contact DPW at 480-3550.

## POST OFFICE

**POSTAL CARETAKER.** You can designate a postal caretaker to retrieve your packages and mail from the post office when you are not able to do so. Island residents may opt to assign a caretaker when planning vacation, while self-isolating after exposure to COVID-19 or a positive COVID-19 test, and while recovering from an injury. Email your caretaker request to [von.jenkins@vectrus.com](mailto:von.jenkins@vectrus.com) and [isaac.larios@vectrus.com](mailto:isaac.larios@vectrus.com).

**ABSENCES, PCS'ING, AND YOUR MAIL.** The post office must be notified when customers leave for 30 days or PCS. Per DOD 4525.6-M, mail is only allowed to be held for 30 days with or without prior notice. On day 31, mail is considered "unclaimed" and will be returned to the sender. Send an email to the post office to authorize someone to pick up your mail and packages. When PCS'ing, provide a forwarding address. Contact James Smith with questions at 480-3461 and [james.e.smith2295@army.mil](mailto:james.e.smith2295@army.mil).



**OPSEC on the brain? It should be.**



**Know what you have to protect. Know how to protect it. Remember OPSEC at all times.**

## GLASS BEACH OPENING

### PUBLIC SAFETY ANNOUNCEMENT

Glass Beach will have limited access to the lower part of the beach from now until April 15, 2023, with the following restrictions.

- The top crest of the beach area, to include all vegetation near the orange fence are off limits.
- Access to the beach only at the southwest end of the orange fence line; do not pverstep the fence line.
- No large group/party gatherings are permitted. Visitors should pick up any trash before leaving the area.
- Please report any violators of these safety orders to USAG-KA
- Avoid flight-operation hours and observe all applicable airfield-runway restrictions and safety rules.

Contact Patrick Chauvey at 480-0129 with questions.



Enter your yard for the chance to win! The USAG-KA Yard of the Month program is for all residents of Kwajalein Army Family Housing. Each month, the Kwajalein Housing Office will choose three island quarters for consideration.

One lucky winner will take the prize and bragging rights for a month! Prizes could include a free MWR cart rental, pizza from the Sunrise Bakery, or a game of bowling. For more information, contact USAG-KA Public Affairs at 480-4848.

**COMMANDER'S QUARTERLY INNOVATION CHALLENGE.** Send great ideas for improvements and innovations to Col. Tom Pugsley. Winners will receive an official innovator's award and a special AAFES gift card. To submit your idea, call the Commander's Hotline at 480-1098 or email USAG-KA Public Affairs Officer Mike Brantley, at [james.m.brantley4.civ@army.mil](mailto:james.m.brantley4.civ@army.mil).

**AUTOMOTIVE LICENSING.** The Automotive Licensing Office has moved to Bldg. 808. Please visit during regular hours of operation to complete license testing and documentation.

**DON'T TAKE CULTURAL ARTIFACTS.** Remember, it is illegal to remove cultural resources from the atoll. This includes any protected species, unexploded ordnance, WWII-era artifacts and ancient Marshallese artifacts. These resources are protected under U.S. federal and RMI law. Please do not remove these pieces of atoll history from Kwajalein. For questions contact the Kwajalein Archaeology Office at 480-8867.

**NOTIFY THE VET.** Please notify Kwaj Vet Services before going on leave if you have pets. A pet sitter authorization form for treatment is required prior to departing the island. You can reach Veterinary Services at 480-2017 Tuesday through Saturday from 7:30 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.





U.S. ARMY PHOTO BY JESSICA DAMBRUCH

Santa and Mrs. Claus pose for a photo with members of the Kwajalein air terminal crew before boarding a Lakota helicopter Dec. 4, 2021.

## FLU SHOT WALK-IN CLINICS

Walk-in clinics are available at the Kwajalein Hospital Tuesday through Saturday from 1 – 4 p.m. No appointment is necessary.

### COVID-19 Reporting Reminder

If you have symptoms, isolate yourself, correctly wear a mask (over your mouth and nose), and get tested—either at home test or at the hospital. Call the hospital during business hours if you have questions. If you test positive, report your result to the hospital at 480-2223.

## MONTHLY FIRE TIP FROM THE USAG-KA FIRE PREVENTION OFFICE

### Christmas Safety

- Live cut trees are not permitted in the garrison's dining facilities, bachelor quarters, hospital, dispensary and Macy's.
- Dispose of any live greenery used to decorate when needles or leaves begin to easily fall off or the leaves turn brown. For live cut trees, choose a sturdy stand that holds at least one gallon of water.
- Place any live holiday trees a minimum of three feet away from fireplaces, radiators and other heat sources.
- Turn lights off before going to bed or leaving the home.
- Use no more than three standard-size sets of lights per single extension cord and avoid areas where the cords can become a tripping hazard.
- Choose decorations that are flame resistant or flame retardant.
- Safety first! More than one third of home decoration fires are started by candles, and more than two of every five decoration fires happen because decor was placed too close to a heat source.

**All MWR services will be closed on Christmas and New Year's**

**2023 Basketball Season**

**REGISTRATIONS BEGINS**  
 December 15 – January 6  
**Managers Meeting**  
 January 13 @ 5:30 p.m. CRC Gym

**INNER TUBE WATER POLO 2023 SEASON**

**Registration** December 15 - January 7  
**Managers Meeting** January 14, 5:30 p.m. @ Family Pool  
**Registrations at the Grace Sherwood Library**



# UXO REMINDER

PUBLIC SAFETY ANNOUNCEMENT

Unexploded ordnance should be treated like dangerous sea creatures: Look, but do not touch. You can play an important role in keeping Kwajalein safe by knowing what to do when you spot unexploded ordnance.

Remember the three R's of UXO:

- **Recognize** an item as possible unexploded ordnance;
- **Retreat** from the area of the UXO; and
- **Report** suspected UXO immediately.

If you discover an object that could be UXO, notify Kwajalein Explosive Ordnance Disposal immediately by calling 5-1433. You can also call CPS at 5-4445. Provide the following information about what you found:

- **Location.** Note helpful details like the building number, GPS coordinates and any prominent landmarks
- **Size of the UXO** as compared to common items like a football or scuba air cylinder

For a detailed refresher on UXO safety, attend the new island orientation or call Kwajalein EOD at 5-1433.

Kemejmej R ko 3.

- **Recognize (kile)** juon kwopej bajjok emaron Bokutan ak kein kabok-kolok (UXO).
- **Retreat (Jenliklik)** bed ettolik im jab kepaak UXO eo.
- **Report (Ripoot e)** boktun ak kein kabokkolok eo ien eo emokajtata non EOD ilo nombra kein (5-1433) ak CPS (5-4445).

Ken melele kein: Ia eo (nomba in ijo, GPS, kakolle in ijo, etc.); Jonan (jonan e ibben jet kain mweik - football, taan in turan, etc.).

Tiljek kon UXO kein einwot am koprok menin mour in lojet ko rekawotata. Kalimjek wot jab jibwe. Non bar kakemejmej eok, eokwe jouj im koba lok ilo Island Orientation allon otemjej.

# E

## E-WARENESS MINIMIZE HOLIDAY WASTE

**Waste generation** increases during the holidays! Help minimize waste this holiday season. Remember, the beauty of a gift itself, not in excessive packaging.

Tore eo elap an lap in lon kwobej ej ilo ein kein raurok ilo jemlok in juon yio. Jiban kadriklok an walok bwobej! Kememej, emon in juon menin lelok ejjab walok ilo box eo im jokjok in an wrap.

### DECEMBER FLIGHT CHECK-IN TIMES

#### UNITED AIRLINES

Monday

UA155 (HNL)

Check-in: 3 - 4:45 p.m.

Tuesday

UA154 (GUM)

Check-in: 10:30 - 11 a.m.

**ATI**

Check-in

8 - 8:30 a.m.

Departure Check-in

7:30 - 8 a.m.

GET READY FOR NEW YEAR'S EVE FIREWORKS!  
CHECK FOR UPDATES ON THE AFN ROLLER  
CHANNEL AND ON THE OFFICIAL USAG-KA  
FACEBOOK PAGE.

FOR MORE INFORMATION, CONTACT MWR  
AT 480-3331.

Kwajalein



MIA Project

**NEVER FORGET.**  
<https://kwajaleinmiaproject.us/>



### What's the weather?

For weather information, please click the logo to visit the RTS Weather Station online.