

THE KWAJALEIN HOURGLASS



AMERICAN FORCES BOMBARD KWAJALEIN ISLAND WITH ARTILLERY DURING OPERATION FLINTLOCK IN 1944. EARLY FEBRUARY MARKS THE ANNIVERSARY OF THE BATTLE FOR THE ATOLL.

 FILE PHOTO

THIS WEEK

REMEMBERING DYESS
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**LT. COL. AQUILLA "JIMMIE" DYESS U.S. MARINE CORPS
COMMANDER OF THE 1ST BATTALION 24TH MARINES
JANUARY 9, 1909—FEBRUARY 2, 1944**

REMEMBER BIG RED

BY JESSICA DAMBRUCH

This week marks the anniversary of Operation Flintlock, the WWII battle to liberate the Marshall Islands. As you commute to work and home across the battlefields each day, take a moment to honor the brave men who fought and died here.

The Kwajalein Hourglass honors U.S. Marine Corps Lt. Col. Aquilla "Jimmie" Dyess, commander of U.S. Marine Corps 1st Battalion 24th Marines, 4th Marine Division, who fought and fell in battle on Namur Feb. 2, 1944.

As a youth, Dyess earned the rank of Eagle Scout. In July 1928 he saved two swimmers from drowning while on vacation at Sullivan's Island off the coast of Charleston, South Carolina. For his lifesaving act, Dyess was awarded the Carnegie Medal for heroism during peacetime. He attended Clemson College, where he trained as an architect before working as a summer camp counselor and general contractor.

In 1931, Dyess earned an appointment as a second lieutenant in the Army Infantry Reserve, and in 1936 he transferred to the Marine Corps Reserve as a first lieutenant.

He preferred to be called Jimmie. His friends called him "Big Red." To his men, it is an understatement to say Dyess was bold—they knew him for his bravery as a leader. Cpl. Frank Pokrop was among the Marines on Roi-Namur in early February 1944. He recalls watching Dyess often stand above the trench line while enemy fire strafed his Marines—all to get a better look at the front, to direct his men. Dyess was always leading at the front of the charge, always leading.

On Feb. 2, Dyess stood once again to assess the battlefield when he was struck in the head with a single shot, killing him instantly. He was only 35 years old. He left behind a wife and daughter.

Dyess was laid to rest in the 4th Marine Division Cemetery on Roi-Namur.

In 1948, he was reinterred in his home state of Georgia, at Memorial Park Cemetery in Augusta.

To date, Dyess is the only person in history to receive both the Carnegie Medal and Congressional Medal of Honor. In addition to his civilian and military honors, in January 1945, the USS Dyess, a Gearing-class destroyer, was christened in Texas by Connor Cleckley Dyess, the late lieutenant colonel's wife.

To this day, Dyess is remembered well in his home state. The Jimmie Dyess Symposium convenes annually to honor Veterans and commemorate Dyess' life. State Route 383, a major roadway in Augusta, Georgia, is now known as the Jimmie Dyess Parkway.

Also in Augusta, in 2013, the Young Marines national youth organization chose Jimmie Dyess as the namesake for their unit. On Roi-Namur, a memorial commemorates the sacrifice of Lt. Col. Dyess and his men, just outside Dyess Army Airfield.

IN JANUARY



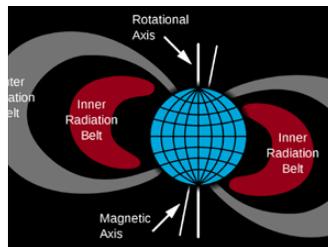
MARTIN LUTHER KING JR.

In January, we remember and honor the life and achievements of civil rights activist Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.



NATIONAL PIE DAY

Not to be confused with pi, We have Boulder, Colorado, to thank for this quirky pastry celebration, occurring each year on January 23.



EUREKA!

On Jan. 31, 1958, the United States confirmed the existence of the Van Allen belt—a band of charged particles suspended in Earth's magnetosphere.



CREATIVITY MONTH

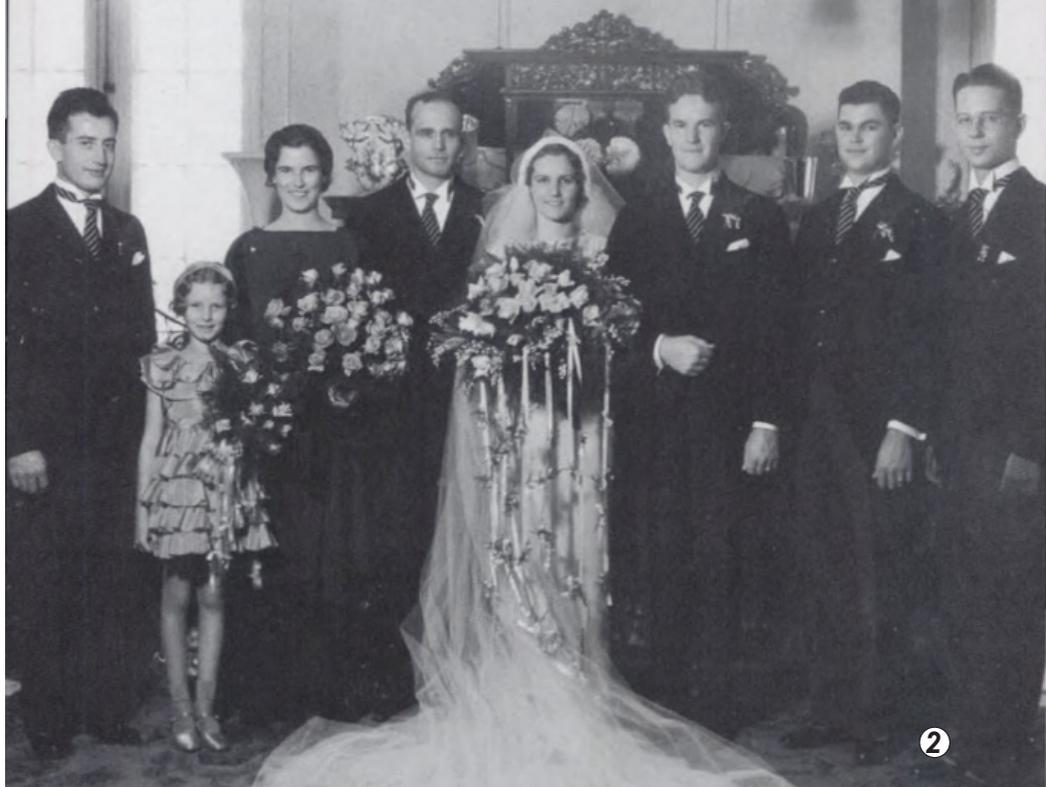
Be creative! Use the month of January as an opportunity to get into art, drawing, photography or another creative activity.

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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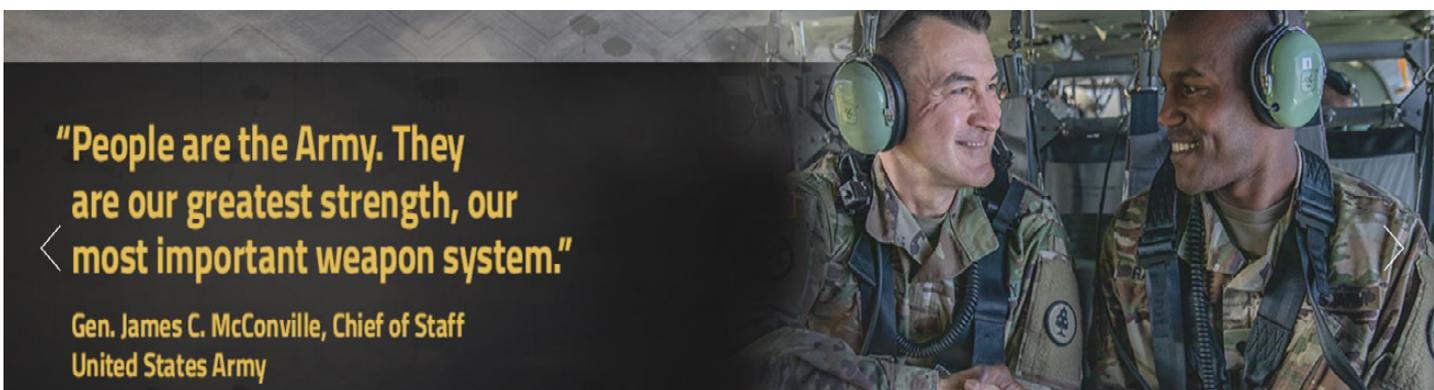
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📷 PHOTO BY AUGUSTA MUSEUM OF HISTORY

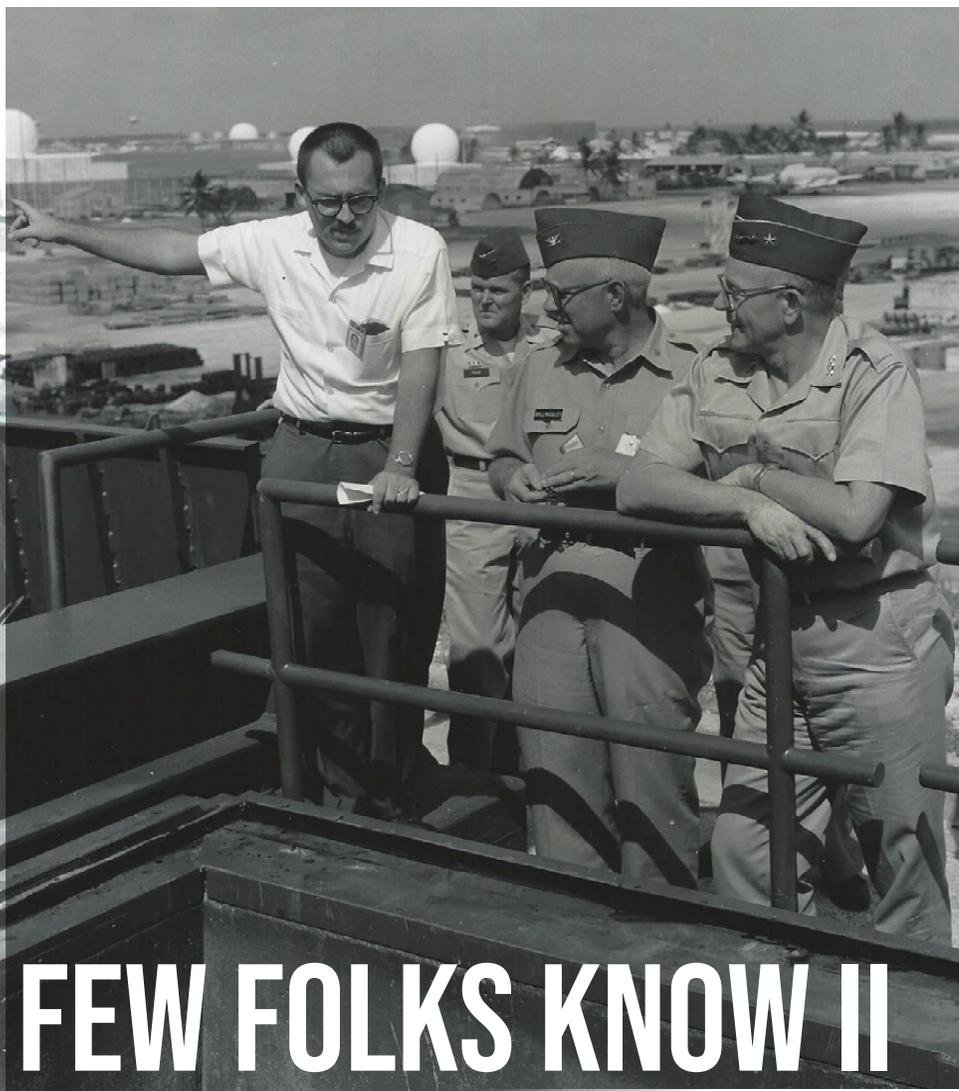


1) A military portrait of Lt. Col. Jimmie Dyess. 2) Pictured at the wedding of Connor Cleckley and Aquilla James Dyess on November 7, 1934 are, from left to right, Claud Caldwell, Mary Cleckley (Creson), Mrs. Cleckley, Dr. Hervey Cleckley, Connor Cleckley, Aquilla James Dyess, Preston Motes and John Lawrence Dantzler. 3) Displayed at the Augusta Museum of History are military and civilian awards Dyess received. To date, Dyess is the only person in history to receive both the Congressional Medal of Honor in WWII for heroic action and the Carnegie Medal, an award to honor heroism during peacetime. 4) An exhibit at the museum displays artifacts and personal effects that belonged to Dyess. 5) The USS Dyess (DD-880), a Gearing-class destroyer was named in honor of Dyess' bravery in the Marshall Islands. In this 1962 photo, it is underway in the Mediterranean Sea. The USS Dyess was christened in a ceremony Jan. 26, 1945, by Dyess' wife, Connor Cleckley Dyess.



"People are the Army. They are our greatest strength, our most important weapon system."

Gen. James C. McConville, Chief of Staff United States Army



FEW FOLKS KNOW II

📷 COURTESY PHOTO BY STAN SHOLAR

In this 1965 photo, Stan Sholar, left, leads distinguished U.S. Army visitors on a site tour of the Kwajalein Missile Range at a Nike Zeus launch cell.

"I felt I was reading about a sniper of my own life on 1960's Kwajalein, over 55 years ago," wrote Stan Sholar in an email to the Kwajalein Hourglass.

Sholar, a former Kwaj resident and Kwajalein Hourglass reader, was responding to "Few Folks Know," a Jan. 30, 2020 article by former KHG Editor Jordan Vinson chronicling the first anti-satellite weapon developed on Kwajalein.

Sholar actively worked during the project early 1960s and was inspired by the article to write his own account of island life and range history.

COMMUNITY CONNECTION / STAN SHOLAR

The Zeus anti-ballistic missile interceptor, undergoing research and development testing in 1960s Kwajalein, was upgraded to an anti-satellite capability, and put into service as a weapon of the U. S. Army. It was securely stored on the island and ready around the clock, 24 hours per day. If directed by the Army, it could bring down a satellite with a nuclear warhead.

I may be the only living person who remains from that Douglas Aircraft Company team of 70 engineers and technicians. As Field Station Director and Site Manager for Douglas, I was very much involved with this highly classified mission, whose story can now be told. Having served earlier in the Regular Army in Germany, I was in effect conscripted into service once

again, albeit in a very unusual relationship, being a civilian contractor.

The missile defense environment has always been subject to scrutiny in three areas: impact on arms stability, cost and effectiveness. In the early 1960s, U.S. Secretary of Defense Robert McNamara became aware that the Nike Zeus system was not cost effective. One needs only look at the large complex of radars in earlier Kwaj photos to see the remnants of the Zeus Acquisition Radar transmitter and receiver, discrimination radar, two target track radars and the missile track radars on the battery control Building.

Inside these facilities were current state of the art computing facilities. If implemented in today's technology, they could all essentially be held in one's hand.

The teams under Bell Telephone Labs that operated these systems were, of course, dedicated to pursuing the demonstration that hitting a bullet with a bullet was feasible—one of many Kwaj firsts. Yet, we all recognized that as intercontinental ballistic missile threats evolved into fusillades of many reentry vehicles, assigning a resource like a target track radar to each incoming RV was not practical. Also, a ground-based command guiding radar loses accuracy as an interceptor flies away, limiting the range considerably.

Two particular technology breakthroughs helped establish the practicality of such systems against the growing threat: phased array multi-purpose radars for searching threats and perform-

ing discrimination functions and infrared sensors in the noses of interceptors that provided homing capability where accuracy improved as the distance to the target decreased.

It is well understood the evolving programs tested on Kwajalein and Meck over the ensuing decades that followed Nike Zeus—among them, Spartan, Sprint, HOE, Site Defense and the Ground Based Interceptor system—led to successful deployment of the defenses in place today. It remains that the very beginnings of this thread of advances was with the Nike Zeus research and development program.

As many on Kwajalein have seen from viewing missions, the time of an RV reentry into the earth's atmosphere is short. In the early days, the matter of discriminating targets from decoys was achieved by letting the atmosphere filter out the lighter and more draggy imposters. This led to a requirement that an interceptor get to the point of intercept in a very short time, meaning high acceleration right from the time of launch.

The 25,000-pound Zeus with 450,000-pound thrust lasting for just five seconds accelerates at 20 g's to over 3,000 feet per second before the second stage sustainer even comes into play. People on the island at the time would never forget the island shaking loudness of the spectacular launches from Mount Olympus.

After Zeus demonstrated its antiballistic missile interceptor capabilities, the expanded requirement to intercept satellites was quite a stretch, impacting many of the subsystems' redesign. Ironically, another Douglas Aircraft product—the Delta booster, which had origins as deployed ICBMs in England, also known as Thor-Delta—also became a candidate for an anti-satellite weapon and was being tested on Johnson Island as Kwaj Zeus anti-satellite operations commenced.

The solid-propellant Zeus had the advantage of being more rapidly available to launch, whereas the liquid fueled Delta required more time. However, designed as an ICBM, Delta was inherently able to reach higher satellite altitudes whereas Zeus was limited to lower altitude intercepts. Nevertheless, such debates did not keep the U.S. and Army from placing Zeus online for a period of time.

This is where the story gets up close and personal for me.

There had been successful intercepts by the new DM-15S anti-satellite Zeus against artificial simulated satellite targets at the testing grounds of White Sands and Point Mugu before I arrived with my family on Kwaj as Chief Engineer for Douglas in February 1963. The stage was dramatically set for the ultimate tests against real satellites.

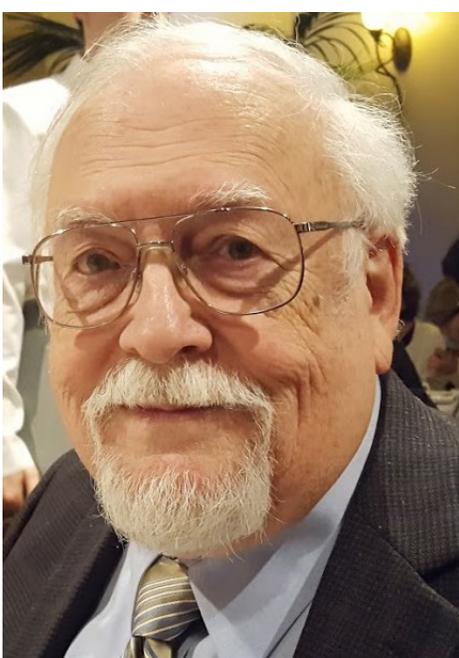
Our arrival had been delayed several weeks because of the ongoing polio epidemic particularly problematic for the people of Ebeye. This epidemic was ultimately quashed by the Salk "dead-virus" vaccine, with many wives of employees on Kwaj volunteering to help the afflicted children on Ebeye.

My son Robert was just 6-years old and ready for Kindergarten with Ms. McClure. Robert—he goes by Bob,



📷 COURTESY PHOTO BY STAN SHOLAR

A day at the beach: This 1963 Sholar family photo was taken shortly after the Sholars arrived on Kwajalein. Stan Sholar, center, is pictured with his children Robert, left, Laura, right and Danny.



Author Stan Sholar in a courtesy photo.

these days--returned to Kwaj as a Global Associates employee when I led the Site Defense Program on Meck, 1976 - 1980, and still today works as a Department of the Army employee. He lives on Kwajalein with wife Jane, a hospital nurse, and a daughter in senior high school, Julia.

Without using a warhead but measuring the miss distance at closest approach, the tests against live targets were expected to be successful. Nevertheless, there were problems with some of the first trials. As with most systems under development, the success rate improved. The last nine Zeus missions were all successful.

An article in the Jan. 30, 2021 Kwajalein Hourglass noted there was a failure due to a missile track radar problem. That story is interesting. To achieve a higher reach to satellite orbits, we added more aluminum to the solid propellant mixture of polybutadiene acrylic acid to the level of 16 percent, thus increasing the specific impulse of the first stage booster.

The Zeus' launch cells on Mt. Olympus, long since filled in because of treaty negotiations with the Soviets, were large, underground "u-tubes" 60-feet deep.

These allowed the tremendous initial blast of rocket exhaust gasses to turn the corner and emit from the exit end.

Unfortunately, this exhaust was in line with the line of sight to the Missile Tracking Radar on top of the Battery Control Building. The Zeus was a very cooperative target in that it had a transponder that would return pulses to the MTR.

While in the cell, the MTR communicated via a dish at ground level with the intent of slewing to the missile's antennae when it left the silo. However, the aluminum, being a conductor even in ionized state, attenuated the signal such that the MTR never picked up the missile, which was command destructed.

Such is life in developing systems.

The fix was to install a large V-shaped steel structure that split the exhaust plume, allowing the MTR to see through to the missile. Tying the flame splitter down so it did not get launched was an exercise in salt water and coral concrete strength in shear and tension.

Col. Glenn Crane, the island's first Army commander after the Navy's command, bet me the splitter would fly. I barely won the bet, as it was left hanging by a thread after the next launch, but the MTR had no more problems tracking the Zeus after that fix.

Crane was a friend. When fellow Kwaj resident Ralph Johnson and I were denied starting a Nike Flying Club on Kwaj by former Navy commanding officer, Capt. H. D. Allen, Crane said I would have. When the Army took command on Jul 1, 1964, it happened. Crane later returned to the island as McDonnell Douglas Site Manager for the Spartan program

When the U.S. decided to place Zeus on line as the nation's first anti-satellite weapon, it impacted the operations and lifestyle of launch personnel. This included the missile crew and personnel from radars, battery control functions from Bell Labs and Western Electric and the small but critical Army staff in charge of everything in this tactical setting. To achieve the quickest response time from notification to launch, it was necessary to have the missile in the cell with as much of the countdown

achieved as practical without impacting life-as-usual. This included all tests and pre-arming operations up to T minus two hours.

As one can imagine, there was an elaborate system of communicating and rounding up personnel to get them on station in a matter of minutes. Activities such as water sports, fishing and traveling were thoroughly calculated so as to not interfere with the number one priority for everyone—namely, being on station on time.

The Zeus would normally be loaded into the cell by stage, the booster, the sustainer second stage and the third stage—or jet head—with its control surfaces that served also as control jets for exo-atmospheric operation. The warhead section of the third stage was normally loaded as an integral part.

However, instead of the warhead sections used in tests where and Adaption Kit from Sandia played the role of a live nuclear warhead providing replication of signals across the interface, we now had a real nuclear warhead which could not be preloaded in the missile that waited at T-minus two hours for many reasons.

Therefore, we developed a method for loading the jet head minus the warhead section and developed handling fixtures for checking out and separately loading a warhead section with a nuclear warhead onto the rest of the vehicle already in the launch cell.

I was the only Douglas employee on island cleared to know the real location. The crew would use a forklift to pick up an AK warhead simulator that had presumably arrived by air on the tarmac. To prove that the entire operation was sound, including all personnel logistics as well as systems, we executed four missions where short notice was given, and we collected the crews from home, snack bar, ski dock, Richardson Theater, all over--and met the required timing to launch against a real target—using a non-explosive warhead simulator or AK kit.

These were known as proficiency rounds. All were successful, including the last nine Zeus missions. The capability lasted until 1966 though information remained highly classified for many years. Few folks know—until now.

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 Enneubing 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.



COURTESY OF SMDC HISTORICAL OFFICE

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



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.

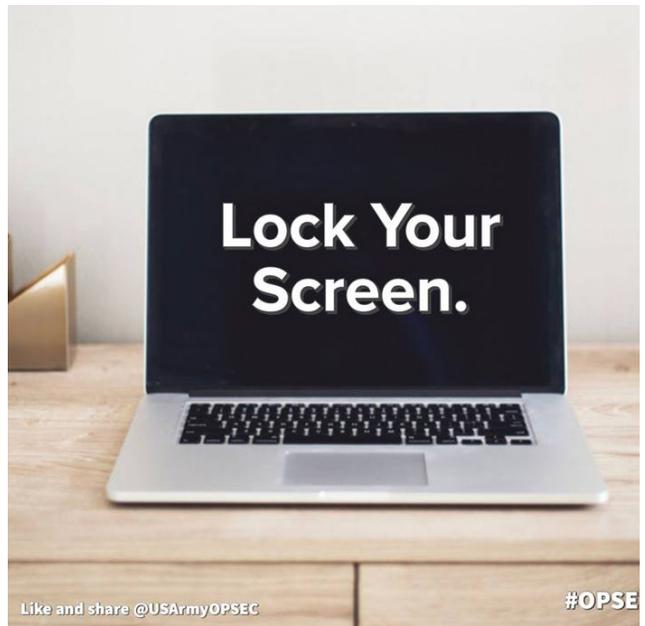
All tools are free and based on mental health practices that have proven successful with Veterans and their families. Its use is entirely anonymous.

<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 (480-5362) or the Chaplain (480-3505). Please do not hesitate to reach out.



Like and share @USArmyDPSEC

#OPSE

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.

Went out this morning with another task force to capture three more islands.

These last three were not nearly so heavily defended as the ones preceding and were cleaned up in one day.

We now hold practically the entire southern tip of the atoll and most of the northern top, including all the strong points.

Other islands can be taken whenever we get around to it as they have only small garrison forces on them.

This evening, some of our casualties were brought aboard for preliminary treatment while awaiting transfer to a hospital ship. We have a doctor aboard.

One Soldier had a bullet hole in his chest just above the heart. It was a perfectly round hold about the size of a

dime. The slug was still inside. They gave him plasma and dressed the wound with sulfanilamide.

The Doc says he'll probably recover. He didn't seem particularly bothered by it.

The other two had shrapnel wounds in their legs and arms which weren't serious. Another guy had been hit by a bullet in the wrist.

The bullet had struck his rifle and glanced off into his arm.

He said the force of it spun him around and knocked him down. Says you don't feel any pain, just a heavy blow and numbness, and it's hard to tell where you're hit until you look around for the blood. Interesting.

A boat came alongside later in the night and took them off.



Officers on the deck of LST-31 enjoy fair weather in this courtesy photo from the collection of Helen Schneidau. From left: John Donald Schneidau, Jr., commanding officer; Walter Humkey, executive Officer; and John Kern, first lieutenant.

U.S. SPACE AND MISSILE DEFENSE COMMAND HISTORY

BY SHARON WATKINS-LANG, USASMDG HISTORIAN

The Army Component to the first U.S. Space Command went through several iterations. Before there was a U.S. Army Space Command, there was a U.S. Army Space Agency. On Jan. 21, 1986 a memo from the chief of the Army Space Planning Group to the chief of the Army Space Office at DA DCSOPS (Army Organization for Space) proposed that the role of an Army Space Agency would be "to consolidate management, operational advocacy and planning for army space operations, to ensure appropriate interface between combat and material developments to optimize use of space-related technology across the spectrum of Army mission in support of Airland Battle doctrine and to serve as functional area proponent for



strategic defense."

Activated later that year on Aug. 1 1986, Army Space Agency would coordinate Army space activities with the joint Space Command on space system support for land forces and assist Air Force personnel on satellite control at the Consolidated Space Operations Center. The 35-member team included Army personnel assigned to the Johnson Space Center to include the four Army astronauts.

A POLITICAL MICRO HISTORY OF THE MARSHALL ISLANDS

To understand the role of the Nitijela legislative body which meets in Majuro this month, it helps to be familiar with the history of the Republic of the Marshall Islands. Here are some highlights in the development of modern RMI politics.

The Trust Territory

In the sixteenth century Spain laid claim to the Marshall Islands and later sold it to the Germans during the Spanish-American war in 1898. Japan captured the Marshall Islands from Germany during World War I and later lost it to the United States during World War II.

Under a 1947 Trusteeship Agreement with the United Nations, the United States administered the Marshall Islands and other Micronesian countries. Under the Trusteeship Agreement the United States assumed the obligation to foster the development of political institutions such as suited for member countries of the Trust Territory.

The United States was tasked with promoting the development of the inhabitants

of the Trust Territory towards independence, according to the wishes of the peoples concerned. A bicameral Congress of Micronesia was established in 1964 of which the Marshall Islands was a part.

Political Development

In 1978 the Marshall Islands in a referendum broke away from the rest of Micronesia and opted for a separate Constitution. In 1979 its Constitution was ratified. The country gained independence and signed a compact of free association with the United States in 1986.

The 1979 constitution provides for a unicameral parliamentary system. However, the President is elected by members of the Nitijela (parliament), and serves as the head of government as well as the head of state. A consultative upper house for traditional leaders known as the Council of Irooj advises on customary issues.

Text from rmiparliament.org.



Private 1st Class John E. Mompher investigates the inside of the shattered machinery of a Japanese coastal defense gun, circa Feb. 2, 1944, with fellow Marines. (U.S. Navy photograph)



PVT RICHARD KEITH SORENSON

The son of a WWI Navy veteran and a native of Anoka, Minnesota, Medal of Honor recipient Pvt Richard Keith Sorenson graduated from high school in 1942. Wounded during the battle for Namur, Sorenson survived to accept both the MOH and a Purple Heart.

Sorenson enlisted in the Marine Corps Reserve in 1947 and in April 1954, completed the Basic School for Marine officers. He achieved the rank of first lieutenant in September 1954, and voluntarily accepted the rank of Master Sergeant upon his discharge in 1954.

During his civilian career, Sorenson worked for the Veterans Administration and served on the board of directors for the United Way and Navy League, and the regional Boy Scout Council. Sorenson died in Reno, Nevada, at the age of 80, survived by his wife and their five children.

THE NORTHERN ATOLL, 3

We continue our exploration of the phases of Operation Flintlock with the story of the battle to free Roi, and part two of an excerpt from “The Fourth Marine Division” by Robert Sherrod, which details the battle for Roi-Namur. It first ran in *The Kwajalein Hourglass* in February 1994.

The 2nd Battalion, on the right, received only a little scattered small-arms fire from the beach and pushed inland some 200 yards against the 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 bypass the pillboxes and leave them for demolition teams. The companies reached the Phase Line 01 by 1400, paused to reorganize and waited for tanks and halftracks.

“The whole island has blown up”

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

holes. 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 steel and concrete 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 waterfilled 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 gun port or to get a place-charge against it. 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.

He didn’t stop. To the amazement of the enemy, Power 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.

There were many other acts of heroism on Roi and 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, 100 yards ahead of the lines. Mann was wounded in the eyes and unable to see to make his way back. Bullets sprayed the field around him. Despite his wound, Scheidt went forward alone.

There was no way to lead the blinded comrade back except to stand up. Scheidt

unfastened the sling of his rifle, gave Mann one end, and started back to his lines. Marines stopped firing to avoid hitting them. With Japanese soldiers blazing away, the two men made it to safety. 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 underway again at 1700. The going was slow through the 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.

One Hundred Flights

Across the causeway on Roi, the 23rd Regiment raced ahead after resuming the attack at 1600. The enemy, thoroughly disorganized from the shelling, put up no single, well-planned defense. Instead there were separate fights by individuals and small groups without unified command.



PHOTO BY SCOTT JOHNSON



1) Tinker, a dog who survived the bombardment of Kwajalein, is pictured here in this courtesy photo from Scott Johnson. 2) Here lies a good dog: his modest headstone was laid in honor of Tinker, who befriended many U.S. service members until he died in 1962. Photo courtesy of Bill Remick.

TINKER WAS CHIEF IN CHARGE OF DOGS

HOURLASS REPORT

When you're far from home, sometimes the best thing in the world is a friendly dog. Over the years, canines have boosted morale within the ranks as they have traveled with U.S. service members to military installations and posts around the world.

On Kwajalein, tales abound of the dogs fostered around the Pacific who came to reside on

Even the weariest and most cynical news editor will admit that dog stories are surefire. Here are a couple of samples:

We invite your attention to USS Blenny which claims to be the only sub to have a four-legged snorkeling submariner. Bozo is his name and diving is his fame. He has earned his honorary twin silver dolphins by virtue of his snorkeling abilities and time aboard Blenny.

Bozo entered the Navy as a pup nearly four years ago when a sailor bought him in Yokosuka, Japan, for 100 yen. He became a member of USS Benner.

While in Benner, Bozo was raised by Lt.j.g. Edward Kessler, Jr. They were constant companions until Mr. Kessler was transferred to the Submarine School at New London. Bozo stayed in Benner when Mr. Kessler left.

Upon completion of Sub School, Lt.j.g. Kessler reported to Blenny. On board to greet him was you-know-who, complete with service and health records.

Bozo, to date, has five Pacific crossings to his credit onboard Benner, plus numerous Atlantic trips.

the island. A few of those dogs have made their way into island history.

The April 1962 edition of "All Hands," the Bureau of Naval Personnel Information Bulletin, makes mention of four-legged individuals resident whose humble grave marker was laid on Kwajalein.

Read on to discover what the editorial staff had to say about Kwajalein and a much-beloved island pet.

Occasionally, Bozo stays in port while Blenny is at sea. Somehow, he always knows when the ship is coming in and at what pier. He's always there to meet it and leaps aboard before the gangplank can be laid down.

However, Destiny—as it must—comes to even the most favored of creatures. We must report that the last local [canine] survivor of the

Battle of Kwajalein is dead.

Tinker, then a lively black and buff puppy, was with the Japanese forces when U.S. troops too the island back in 1944. After the Japanese surrendered, Tinker was cared for by U.S. servicemen through the years. He eventually became the mascot of the Navy Communications Center.

Tinker's photograph, alongside those of naval personnel, appeared on the command identification board at the entrance. Inscribed under the picture was, "Tinker, age 19 plus (Chief in Charge of Dogs)."

Floyd B. Smith, RMC, was Tinker's principal guardian but everyone saw to it that Tinker was well taken care of.

However, in the past few months, Tinker became completely deaf, lost the sight of one eye and at long last made his way to the canine coun-

terpart of Fiddler's Green.

He was missed. This is what his shipmates had to say in The Hourglass, Kwajalein's station newspaper:

"Certainly, it goes without saying, we will all miss you here from now on. We're sure Pudge, Charcoal and Sparky, all Radionman Seamen, feel the same way about it.

Your familiar "Wroof" will no longer echo down the hall amidst all the chaos and confusion that transpires in this place daily. We are sure that your tired old eyes are once again open and looking down upon us from the land of forever after.

This time, Tinker, rest assured that they will never close again. Use them now in your eternal life among the other retired RMCs who made it there. May your wisdom blaze a trail for others to follow when it's their time to join you."

So, that's why news editors like dog stories.

—The All Hands Staff

TINKER IS DEAD

THE LAST LOCAL SURVIVOR OF THE BATTLE OF KWAJALEIN IS DEAD. SO THE STORY GOES, TINKER, AN AGED BLACK AND BUFF DOG, WAS WITH JAPANESE FORCES WHEN U. S. TROOPS BOMBARDED THE ISLAND IN 1944. AFTER THE JAPANESE SURRENDERED, TINKER WAS BEFRIENDED BY AMERICAN SERVICEMEN THROUGH THE YEARS. IN RECENT YEARS, TINKER HAS BEEN THE MASCOT OF THE NAVY COMMUNICATORS. WHEN OPERATIONS WERE MOVED FROM THE TERMINAL BUILDING TO THE NEW COMMUNICATION CENTER, TINKER CAME ALONG, TOO. TINKER MADE HIMSELF AT HOME IN THE NEW BUILDING, ROAMING THE HALLWAY, SLEEPING UNDER DESKS AND LOUNGING ON THE CORAL OUTSIDE THE DOORWAY. TINKER'S PHOTOGRAPH, ALONGSIDE THOSE OF NAVAL AND VOUGHT PERSONNEL, APPEARED ON THE COMMAND IDENTIFICATION BOARD AT THE ENTRANCE TO THE COMMUNICATION CENTER. ENSCRIBED UNDER THE PICTURE: "TINKER, AGE 19 PLUS, (CHIEF-IN-CHARGE OF DOGS)."

FLOYD B. SMITH, RMC, WAS TINKER'S MAIN GUARDIAN AT THE NEW COMMUNICATION CENTER. BUT HE WAS NOT ALONE, EVERYONE - NAVY AND CIVILIAN ALIKE - SAW TO IT THAT TINKER WAS WELL FED.

IN THE PAST FEW MONTHS, TINKER BECAME ALMOST STONE DEAF AND HE LOST THE SIGHT IN ONE EYE.

MONDAY MORNING TINKER BUMPED HIS NOSE AGAINST ONE WALL AFTER ANOTHER. IT APPEARED EVIDENT THAT TINKER HAD GONE BLIND. HE WAS TAKEN TO THE HOSPITAL, WHERE TINKER'S BLINDNESS WAS CONFIRMED.

LATER IN THE DAY, BLUEJACKETS BURIED TINKER WITH HIS WARTIME COMRADES IN THE JAPANESE CEMETERY NEAR THE OLD JOINT RECEIVER FACILITY.

BY A COMMUNICATOR

Tinker was so well loved by the Kwajalein community that he received his own obituary notice in the Kwajalein Hourglass. This excerpt from January 1962 describes the big role one small dog played in building island morale.

COMMUNITY CLASSIFIEDS

The community wants to hear from you. Email announcements and advertisements to 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

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@internationalssosgs.us or 480-5362. Contact 480-3505 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. Write to 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.taleo.net/careersection/akimallc_cs/jobsearch.ftl. Apply online or send resume to Jeannette McIlwain at 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 and Ch. Brian Conner at brian_conner@sbcglobal.net.

CALIBRE seeks a Military Material Specialist. For more information, or to apply, visit <https://jobs.silkroad.com/calibresys/https://calibresyscareerssilkroadcom/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 and contact Clint Ueatari 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:

808-480-3241 #0100

DOD SAFE Helpline:

877-995-5247



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



ENJOY PUBLIC WI-FI

Capt. Louis S. Zamperini Cafeteria,
Cafe Roi, Surfway, Roi Surfway,
the Ocean View Club and the
Sunrise Bakery

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.

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, search for “substitute teacher,” or, send resume and letter of application to 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.

NOTICES

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 air-craft arrivals and departures. Contact Airfield Operations at 480-2131 with any questions.

ISLAND ORIENTATION and New-comer’s Briefings take place in the Religious Education Building behind the Island Memorial Chapel. Email KWJ_OSO_Ops@Vectrus.com or call 480-3511 to register.



Need to renew your passport?
Complete the passport application at 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.

ARMA. Log in to ArMa, the Army Maintenance Application, to report issues for all buildings maintained 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 jon.jenkins@vectrus.com and 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.

PASSWORDS ARE LIKE TOOTHBRUSHES.

DON’T SHARE THEM
 – even with friends.



USArmyOPSEC

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 overstep 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.

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.

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.

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.



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 480-1433. You can also call CPS at 480-4445. 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 480-1433.

Kemejmej R ko 3.

- **Recognize (kile)** juon kwopej bajjok emaron Bokutan ak kein kabokkolok (UXO).
- **Retreat (Jenliklik)** bed ettolok im jab kepaak UXO eo.
- **Report (Ripoot e)** boktun ak kein kabokklok eo ien eo emokajtata non EOD ilo nomba kein (480-1433) ak CPS (480-4445).

Ken melele kein: la 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.

TAXI

MARSHALLESE LANGUAGE LESSON 21

Water taxis run between Ebeye and Kwajalein all day and into the night. They are inspected for safety equipment and are licensed to operate by the Kwajalein Atoll Local Government.

Cost is usually four dollars per person each way, and it is an expedient way to visit Ebeye. Taxis are also available to travel around Ebeye for 50 cents per person.

Helpful Words

Bojrak	stop
Etal	go
Ion	North
Rak/Rok	South
Rear	East
Ralik	West
Iar	lagoon
Lik	ocean
Kadikdik	slow down
Jarob	hurry

Common Phrases

Taxi! Ij etal nan jokkon rok. Jouj im jarob.
Taxi! I'm going to the south side. Please hurry.

Eman, konaj kwalok ia eo in bojrak ie.
Alright, you will let me know where to stop.

Ekwe emon. Ij to rear in mwene.
Alright. I'll get off east of that house.

Enot baj mwero ne ralik in ial ne.
Seems like the house is on the west side of the road.

Kwon mok kadikdik bwe jen lukkin lale mok?
Would you slow down so that I can look and make sure?

Ekwe, ij to ijin bwe ij ton konan ibben bubu.
Well, I'll get off here because I am going to talk with grandmother.

Bubu, kwaj itok jen ia?
Grandmother, where did you come from?

O, ikkar ber mwen iar.
Oh, I was at the house at the lagoon side.

Ekwe, ikkar ton bikwot iok.
Well, I was going to look for you.

E

E-WARENESS PROTECTED SPECIES

All corals and sponges
All sharks, turtles, and marine mammals
All birds, except common sparrow
All giant clams and coconut crabs
Finger/scorpion conchs
Black-lip pearl oysters
Trochus and Lambis snails
Humphead wrasse and humphead parrotfish
Giant grouper and coral trout

Do not purchase, harvest, collect, or transport protected species. Please contact the post office for direction before attempting to ship any biological specimen, including driftwood, crushed coral (sand), and shells. Remember, take care of their habitats, too.

Jab wia, madmod, ae, ak aljek men ko emoj baroki. Kurluk Post Office nan bok melele ko mokta jen jibadbad in ijileklok men ko bwinid, einwot kejoka in wojke, bok im libbukwe ko. Kememej im bar ke-jbaroke pelaakier kab mejatoto eo ie.



What's the weather?

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



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