

THE KWAJALEIN HOURGLASS



STAFF SGT. RICHARD HUDDLESTON, SPACE NCOIC FOR 3RD MULTI-DOMAIN TASK FORCE, STANDING, AND SGT. ROBERT MILLER, SPACE NCO, PRACTICE USING SATELLITE COMMUNICATION EQUIPMENT IN SUPPORT OF THE INDO-PACOM THEATER-WIDE JOINT PACIFIC MULTINATIONAL READINESS CENTER 24-01 ROTATION.

MIKE BRANTLEY

TEAM KWAJ 2
CELEBRATES HOLIDAYS

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WHERE IS TEAM KWAJ THIS WEEK?



Team Kwaj recently celebrated the Holiday Parade and Tree Lighting Ceremony with a special guest appearance by Santa and Mrs. Claus on Dec. 2. Pictured here, USAG-KA Commander Col. Drew Morgan shares the mic with Santa as he describes the evening.



U.S. ARMY PHOTOS BY JESSICA DAMBRUCH

Ri-katak students from the Kwajalein School System perform a dance routine during the Tree Lighting Ceremony Dec. 2.

TEAM KWAJ CELEBRATES HOLIDAYS WITH TREE LIGHTING

BY JESSICA DAMBRUCH

A visit from Santa and Mrs. Claus, dancers performances, music by Kwajalein's DJ Dmack and an island-style blizzard were among the festive moments from this year's annual Tree Lighting Ceremony and holiday parade.

Coodinated by MWR, the evening began with a community parade featuring music by the Kwajalein High School Marching Band and vehicles decorated for the winter holidays. Personnel from the Reagan Test Site joined the parade with two innovative entries: carts decorated with a miniature radome and rocket.

The night's entertainment included an abridged battle

from "The Nutcracker" by Carrie Corley's second-grade class and dance performances choreographed by Allena Childress. The community specially thanks the Ri-Katak student dancers for their holiday performance.

To kick off the holidays, USAG-KA Commander Col. Drew Morgan called upon Santa Claus and the graduating class of 2024. Together, they pushed the "big red button" to light the island's holiday palm tree. Following the event, community members enjoyed a vendor fair, food and beverage sales and a holiday movie.

Happy holidays, Kwajalein! Enjoy these photos from the ceremony.



USAG-KA Commander Col. Drew Morgan greets Team Kwaj at the annual Holiday Parade and Tree Lighting Ceremony on Dec. 2 in Kwajalein's downtown area.

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. Drew Morgan
Garrison CSM.....Command Sgt. Maj. Ernest Miller
Public Affairs Officer.....Mike Brantley
Editor.....Jessica "JD" Dambruch
Communications Specialist.....Stephen Elson



U.S. ARMY PHOTOS BY JESSICA DAMBRUCH

1) Island residents get ready to drive their mini model of a radome with other decorated carts in the holiday parade. 2) Kwajalein High School Marching Band played festive holiday tunes throughout the ceremony. 3) Students from Carrie Corley's class present an abridged battle from "The Nutcracker." 4) Santa Claus, far right, and Mrs. Claus, center, wave from their parade vehicle, while a helpful security elf, far left, maintains a safety perimeter for the distinguished holiday guests. 5) Together with friends and family, April Pacileo, left, and Aurora Yancey, right, wave from their parade vehicle, decorated with a model rocket. 6) Dance performing group "Santa's Sweets" strut their stuff during an island-style blizzard. 7) The Kwajalein Hourglass climbed to the top floor of a BQ to get a better look at the festive decorations on the USAG-KA Command Reindeer Cart.

USAG-KA COMMANDER DISCUSSES MENTORSHIP, FAMILY, AND THE PATH FORWARD

HOURLASS REPORT

NASA astronaut and U.S. Army Garrison-Kwajalein Atoll Commander Col. Drew Morgan recently joined the AFN staff to discuss leadership and the relationships, mentors and individuals who have helped him continue to strive for success.

Mentors make all the difference in the world—and not just for military careers.

If you're a professional striving for excellence in your career, mentors are a critical piece to that.

Over the years, I've developed some incredible relationships with impressive leaders. I've strived to pay their wisdom forward to the officers, Soldiers and people with whom I've worked.

I am "off script" in my career. I am still an active NASA astronaut. Only one other Army astronaut left NASA to return to the Army almost 30 years ago. Bob Stewart was his name. Even then, that move was a little bit off script.

NASA still has stakes in me. After completing my tour here, I may potentially return to NASA for another space flight and a return to the International Space Station.

I'm not sure that that's necessarily the path that I want to choose. The reason I made the decision to step away from NASA is due to the encouragement of two mentors in particular.

One was Gen. James Dickinson, who is currently the U.S. Space Command commanding general. When I was at NASA, he was my senior rater.

Right before I flew in space, as late as the night before I launched, I talked to him on the phone.

He kept saying, "You know, after your spaceflight, we could bring you back into the Army in a way that gives you an opportunity to give back."

I wasn't receptive to the idea initially because I was really focused on my mission. Over the course of my spaceflight, and after returning, I started to give it some thought.

I really would be interested in an Army command. I had

the right mentors in place to help me plot that course. When I returned, Dickinson had moved on to U.S. Space Command, and Lt. Gen. Daniel Karbler had assumed command of USASMD. He picked up that conversation and helped me plot that out.

In general, Dickinson had mentioned Kwajalein. Specifically, he mentioned how being here in the middle of the Pacific with limited resources while being dependent on external support is very much like being on a space station. I do think about our utilities, our supply lines and things like that in terms similar to being on the space station.

Kwajalein was also a command that made a lot of sense for me in its diplomatic aspect and as an astronaut in an international program. The interface with our U.S. Embassy, the Army and government are important aspects of this job. It seemed like a good fit.

No one cut me any slack as I worked to get here. I had to do all the things that any officer who was going to pursue command must do. I had to finish studies at the Army War College. I had to go through the command assessment program and many other things.

Long story short, Gen. Dickinson and Lt. Gen. Karbler paved a path forward, and here I am.

I am thankful to those two mentors. It's been great.

They have been terrific leaders.

I see elements of my own leadership maturing and developing in their image.

The most influential leader in my life has been my wife, Stacey—an incredible leader, a leadership coach by trade and an important arm of my leadership here as my community advisor, community liaison and my principal advisor. She's critical in that. We had the opportunity



to have a "whole family" approach to Kwajalein. We lived in Houston for ten years. It was a significant sacrifice to pick up and move all the way around the world to the Pacific.

My oldest child was out of the house. My oldest daughter is a senior this year, so I moved her right before her senior year. She was on board with that.

Not many teenagers have the level of maturity to see what a great opportunity this would be. She was all for it. So, I'm just proud of my family.

They had the bravery to pick up and move here and be part of this because they knew that we would all have to be part of this experience. We had to be all in, or we weren't going to be successful. I'm very proud of them for that.

My decision of whether to pursue a return to space will come while I am still here. I don't know if that's necessarily the path that I'll follow or what my family and I want.

I'm very excited about being back in the real Army and back in the Department of Defense.

FOR KWAJ COMMAND TEAM INFO & UPDATES



TEAM KWAJ COMMANDER



@TeamKwajCommander

KEEP FOLLOWING



U.S. ARMY GARRISON - KWAJALEIN ATOLL



NASA ASTRONAUT ANDREW "DREW" MORGAN



@AstroDrewMorgan



U.S. ARMY PHOTO BY MIKE BRANTLEY

Staff Sgt. Richard Huddleston, space NCOIC, 3rd MDTF, monitors live signals from unit satellite antennas using a spectrum analyzer outside the Kwajalein Emergency Operation Center.

3RD MULTI-DOMAIN TASK FORCE TRAINS ON KWAJ AS PART OF JPMRC

BY MIKE BRANTLEY / USAG-KA PUBLIC AFFAIRS

Recently, Soldiers from the 3rd Multi-Domain Effects Battalion (MDEB), 3rd Multi-Domain Task Force (3rd MDTF) based out of Fort Shafter, Hawaii, conducted communications training on U.S. Army Garrison-Kwajalein Atoll in support of the Joint Pacific Multinational Readiness Center.

“We are part of the Joint Pacific Multinational Readiness Center here in the Pacific, just like the National Training Center at Fort Irwin, California or the Joint Readiness Training Center at Fort Johnson, Louisiana,” said Lt. Col. Jeffrey Little, 3rd MDEB battalion commander. “This (JPMRC) is a chance for units in the Pacific to go forward so we’re not sending our equipment back to the mainland.”

“We are working with our allies and partners on this rotation—we’re a split operation—we have forces on Oahu, the Big Island of Hawaii, and here on Kwajalein. We are practicing our long-wave communications and synch of long-range fires and effects with non-kinetic effects, to support the rotational unit doing operations at Pohakuloa Training Area on Hawaii.”

The Joint Pacific Multinational Readiness Center is the Army’s Combat Training Center in the Pacific theater, training Army, joint, ally and partner forces in the region and under the conditions in which they will most likely operate—from tropic, jungle, eight-island archipelago in Hawaii to the extreme cold weather, high altitude arctic Alaska. JPMRC generates joint readiness and ensures their forces remain available to the Joint Force.

The MDTF is “the newest formation in the Army—transforming the approach to warfare, Little explained. It is the combination of multiple disciplines and a new approach to support the Joint Force.

“Here in the Pacific, we provide a range of capabilities from long-range precision fires with the integration of non-kinetics. That’s the power of the Task Force’s battalion—integrating space, cyber, electronic warfare, intelligence and signal to converge effects against targets of interest.”

He added that the MDEB is the horsepower behind the MDTF, and is what gives the multi-domain portion of the Task Force.

“We are aligned to U.S. Army Pacific as a theater asset, unlike other organizations that are lower echelon; we are a theater asset. We’re designed and tailor-made to integrate with the Joint Force with our communication systems.

“Previously, units such as the 25th ID in Hawaii or 11th Airborne Division in Alaska had to ship their equipment back and do training at NTC or JRTC. It was a loss of training value and was harder to bring in allies and partners.

“JPMRC allows us to practice in the environment and bring our allies and partners, increasing interoperability with not just the U.S. forces but the allies and partners in the region as well as exercise and experimenting with equipment in realistic environments such as here in Kwajalein.”

Staff Sgt. Richard Huddleston, space NCOIC for 3rd Multi-Domain Task Force, said he provides space control/space effects in support of a multitude of missions. “Space Effects means that we observe satellite communication signals to have a better understanding of space domain awareness



U.S. ARMY PHOTO BY MIKE BRANTLEY

Capt. Bruno Frigerio, communications officer, 3rd MDTF and Sgt. Dominick Green, seated, respond to a positive voice and data communication transfer inside the Kwajalein Ham Radio station.

to understand more what we’re doing and what our enemies are doing.

This was the first time the unit has deployed to Kwajalein Atoll since COVID restrictions lifted here last year.

“USAG-KA has been awesome with enabling our training, from providing life support to allowing us the Emergency Operations Center facility to set up our equipment, to use some of their existing infrastructure capabilities to connect our equipment,” said Little. “The people on the island have really helped us out in support of our training and learning what we’re doing and how we can integrate our exercises and our capabilities with what they provide here.”

His unit supports operations with mission-tailored force packages, called multi-domain cells.

“We’re given a task; this is your mission and objectives, and from there we look at the skill sets across the task force,” Little said. “For this cell here to practice long-range communications and sensing in the environment, we’ve pulled together our space, EW and signal company into one cell. There is a cell on PTA practicing long-range sensing and communications with EW and signal.”

He added that “we have a long-range fires element that we’re integrating with out in Palau. We build the packages based off what the mission requirement is for that location.”

Why is what you and your battalion do important to the nation?

“What we do as a battalion is important to the nation,” said Little. “We are helping to modernize how the Army is going to operate—how we bring new capabilities and new equipment online faster for large-scale combat operations and multi-domain operations—how we synchronize and integrate non-kinetic effects with long range fires.

“As we go forward and are designed to work with the Joint Force and with our partners and allies in the theater, we are practicing learning new techniques and learning to talk the joint language and our multi-partner language. We work forward into the environment to have a presence there to help support our national objective and show we are here forward, designed to keep a free and open INDO-PACOM in the Pacific.”

ENVIRONMENTAL TAKES STEPS TO BEAT COCONUT RHINO BEETLE

HOURLASS REPORT

The coconut rhinoceros beetle, or CRB, is a potential ecological threat on Kwajalein. The beetle has been present in Hawaii since 2013 and in Guam since 2008. It was recently identified on Majuro in September in the vicinity of the Amata Kabua International Airport, according to an October 13 article in The Marshall Islands Journal. Beetle larvae and numerous infested palm trees both been identified near the airport vicinity.

The adult CRB does not bite or sting humans. It can grow to 1-2 inches in length and is known for aggressively attacking coconut palms and other tropical fruit-bearing plants, such as banana, agave, sugarcane and pineapple. The beetles will leave large holes ranging from one to two inches in the palm trees that will eventually kill the tree. It also attacks several other species of palm trees, according to the U.S. Department of Agriculture website.

The beetles can infest mulch and green plant waste and is known to cross borders by traveling in international cargo and passenger luggage.

Keeping the CRB out of U.S. Army Garrison-Kwajalein Atoll is a priority for contract and Army environmental authorities who continue to work on plans to mitigate the hazards posed by the invasive species.

Environmental authorities on Kwajalein have discussed options with Army Environmental Command experts and technical advisors at the University of Hawaii to deter the invasive pests should they make their way to Kwajalein. University personnel have provided CRB traps to be deployed in areas where cargo and passengers may offload.



U.S. ARMY PHOTO



PHOTO BY HAWAII.GOV

1) An adult coconut rhinoceros beetle climbs atop a pile of coconut compost. 2) In this photo from Hawaii.gov, a CRB panel trap is installed in a tree. The beetles are attracted to the trap with the help of a pheromone, and are collected in the plastic cup located at the base of the trap. The community is asked to please not interfere with the traps after Vector Control personnel begin to place them around neighborhoods and worksites on island.

On Kwajalein, the long black traps will be deployed in areas near the main entry points, such as the air terminals and marine docking areas such as the Dock Security Checkpoint and the Barge Slip Ramp. Other possible deployment sites may include areas close to the ground near vegetation waste sites. No beetles have been identified to date, but with almost daily flights from Majuro and routine cargo vessels, the Garrison does not want to take any risk.

Soon, the island's Vector Control team

will hang detection traps and place improvised ground traps in and around luggage and transit areas in hopes of capturing these unwanted pests. The community is requested to avoid disturbing the installed traps. More details will be shared regarding the potential impact to island vegetation and any action needed in the coming weeks.

In the event you observe or discover a large beetle, please contact the LOG-CAP Pest Control Department at 480-3434.

PRIORITIZED CRB-SURVEILLANCE TRAPS DEPLOYMENT AREAS

PRIORITY AREAS:

BAAF-TERMINALS AREA: 3 TRAPS

HARBOR & DSC AREA: 2 TRAPS

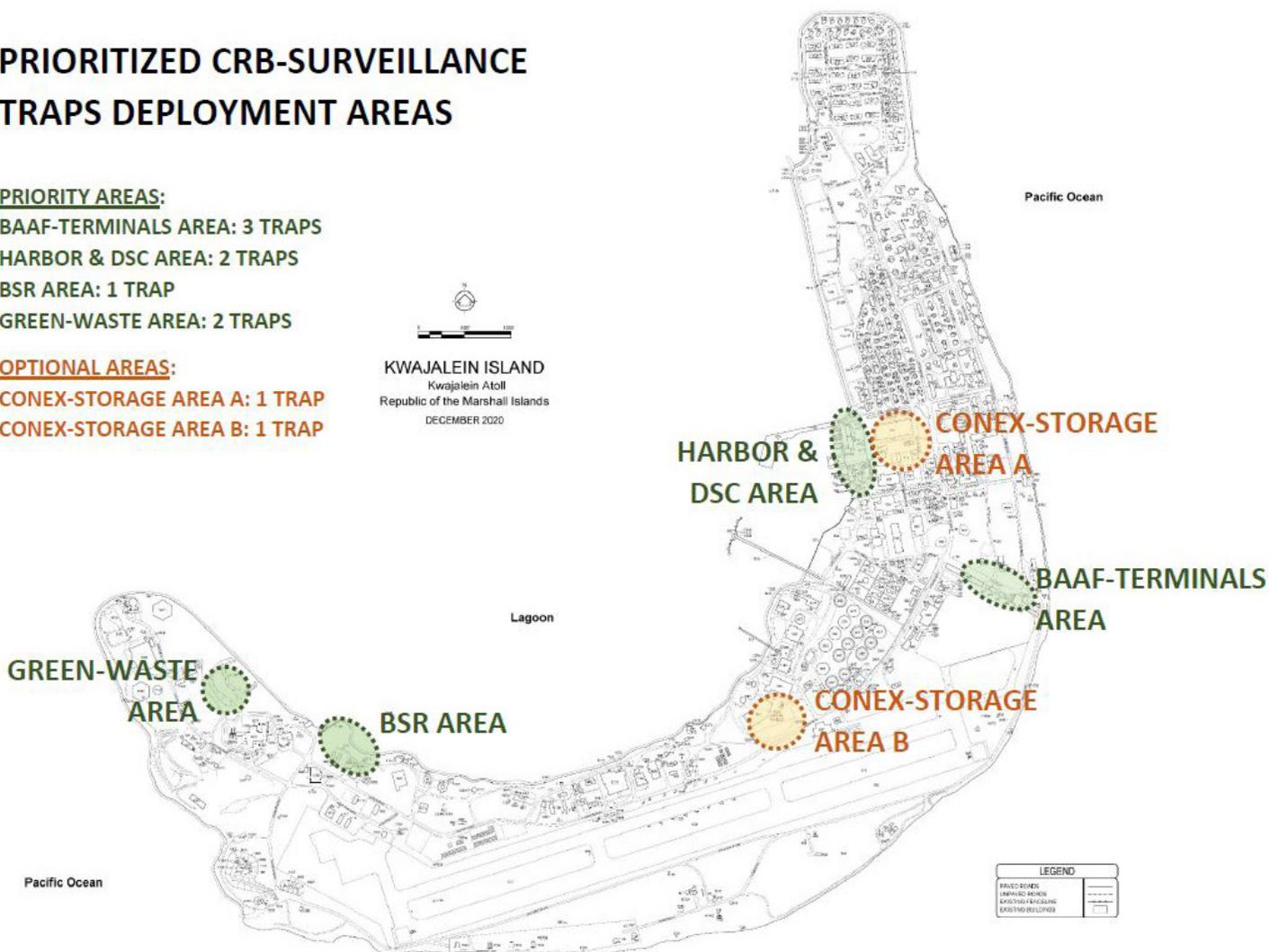
BSR AREA: 1 TRAP

GREEN-WASTE AREA: 2 TRAPS

OPTIONAL AREAS:

CONEX-STORAGE AREA A: 1 TRAP

CONEX-STORAGE AREA B: 1 TRAP





U.S. ARMY SPACE AND MISSILE DEFENSE COMMAND HISTORY

An undated photograph of the USS Observation, courtesy photo from U.S. Army Space and Missile Defense Command. The vessel made regular visits to Kwajalein during the post-WWII Navy era.

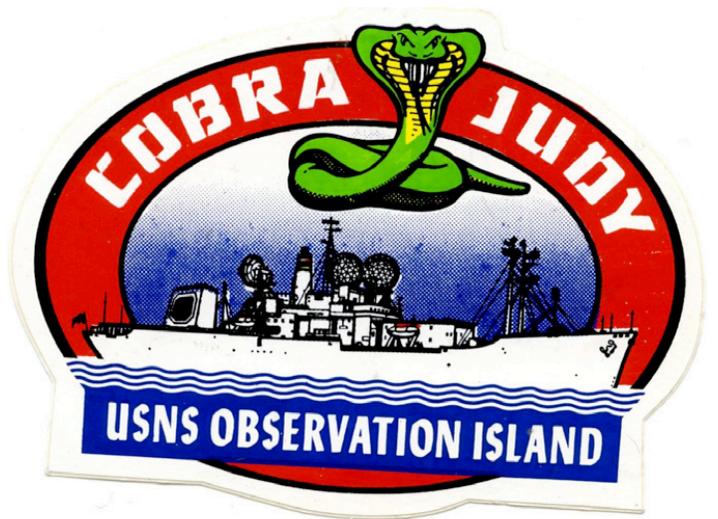
BY SHARON WATKINS-LANG, USASMDC HISTORIAN

Sixty five years ago, in December 1958, the U.S. Navy commissioned the USS Observation Island. Originally known as the SS Empire State in the early 1950s, the ship made three voyages before it joined the National Defense Reserve Fleet.

It was acquired by the Navy in 1956 and converted to the USS Observation Island (E-AG154) equipped to launch missiles (e.g. 28-foot test versions of the Polaris) in support of the Fleet Ballistic Missile Program.

In 1972, the USS Observa-

tion Island returned to the reserve fleet where it remained until 1977. In that year, the Military Sealift Command placed it into service as a Range Instrumentation Ship, the USNS Observation Island (T-AGM-23), part of the Special Missile Ships Program in May 1981. Equipped with a AN/SPQ-11 Cobra Judy phased-array radar on its stern, the USNS Observation Island was a frequent visitor to the Kwajalein Missile Range providing support to the various launches and research programs until 2014 when it was once again deactivated.



COURTESY OF U.S. ARMY SPACE AND MISSILE DEFENSE COMMAND

ISLAND REORIENTATION

PUBLIC SAFETY ANNOUNCEMENT

Ever hear the siren test and wonder what it means? Here are the basics of the garrison's siren warning system.

PENDING DISASTER AND SIREN WARNING SYSTEM

Two short blasts repeated five times at 25 second intervals. Tune radio to 101 FM and TV channel 14-1.

EVACUATE TO SHELTERS

One three-minute warble.

FIRE RECALL

One minute steady blast

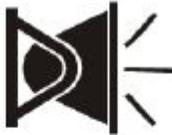
KPD RECALL

One 10-second blast, a 10-second pause, 10-second blast and a 10-second pause. The entire sequence will repeat.

ALL CLEAR

One 20 second blast. This blast also sounds each work day at 6 p.m.

New to Kwajalein? Need a refresher on where to go? No worries: The Kwajalein Hourglass can help. Check back here each week for island how-to's. To submit a request for information or a helpful tip, write to kwajaleinhourglass@vectrus.com.

| | |
|--|--|
|  <p>Pending Disaster Two short blasts repeated five times at 25</p> |  <p>Evacuate to Shelters One three minute warble</p> |
|  <p>Fire Recall One minute blast</p> |  <p>All Clear One twenty second blast</p> |
|  <p>KPD Recall One ten-second blast - ten-second pause - ten-second blast - ten second pause repeated once.</p> | |

US, UK, AUSTRALIA ANNOUNCE TRILATERAL DEEP SPACE ADVANCED RADAR CAPABILITY INITIATIVE

EXTERNAL REPORT

Press Release by the Secretary of the Air Force Public Affairs

The United States, United Kingdom and Australia announced a trilateral initiative called the Deep Space Advanced Radar Capability today following the signing of a Memorandum of Understanding in September.

The new program is designed to provide 24/7, all-weather capabilities that will increase the ability to detect, track, identify and characterize objects in deep space. The memorandum of understanding between the three countries will last 22 years.

“The Deep Space Advanced Radar Capability will leverage the geography of the United States, Australia, and the United Kingdom to further enhance our collective space domain awareness: the ability to track, identify and characterize space objects. Space domain awareness is foundational to responsible space operations, and it is essential for responding to activity in space, whether that activity is routine or hostile,” said U.S. Assistant Secretary of Defense for Space Policy, Dr. John Plumb.

DARC offers higher sensitivity, better accuracy, increased capacity and more agile tracking than current radars capable of tracking objects in Geosynchronous Earth Orbit. Its ability to provide global monitoring extends beyond inclement weather and daylight, which are limitations of current ground-based optical systems. The capability will also be used to protect the essential services that rely on satellites and communication from space, including everyday aspects of modern life such as mobile phones and TV.

“As the space domain rapidly evolves, we must continue taking deliberate



SPACE FORCE PHOTO BY JOSHUA CONTI

A Falcon 9 rocket launches from Cape Canaveral Space Force Station, Fla., Jan. 3, 2023.

steps to ensure our collective ability to operate safely, and our nations are uniquely positioned to provide that capability on a global scale,” said U.S. Chief of Space Operations Gen. Chance Saltzman.

“As the world becomes more contested and the danger of space warfare increases, the U.K. and our allies must ensure we have the advanced capabilities we need to keep our nations safe,” U.K. Defense Secretary Grant Shapps said. “Today’s announcement of a global radar network (DARC), based across the U.K., U.S. and Australia, will do just that, empowering the U.K. to detect, track and identify objects in deep space.”

Site surveys performed in the U.S., U.K. and Australia confirmed that these locations are optimally positioned to provide full coverages of the GEO.

“From its Australian site, the DARC will integrate with other DARC sites in the United States and the United King-

dom. This will provide a space domain awareness capability to deter nations from undertaking activities that are against Australia’s interests by providing continuous global detection and observation of satellites in space,” said Australian Lt. Gen. John Frewen, Chief of Joint Capabilities. “Working with our AUKUS partners continues to deliver advanced military capabilities contributing to a safe, more secure and prosperous Indo-Pacific region.”

AUKUS has accelerated the delivery of the DARC initiative, and DARC will improve interoperability between the AUKUS partners, a key priority of the AUKUS Advanced Capabilities Program, termed “Pillar II,” is a bold, generational opportunity for AUKUS to harness and uplift our innovation enterprises and industries, remove barriers to cooperation and together develop advanced capabilities for our warfighters.

All three sites are expected to be operational by the end of the decade.

Join us for a
Holiday
Commander's Call

Dec. 15, 4 – 5 p.m.
Oceanview Club

Share the holiday spirit, team
camaraderie and see who has
earned the coveted Team Kwaj
Tab!

TEAM KWAJ



PHOTO BY SPACE FORCE SENIOR AIRMAN SAMUEL BECKER

A Falcon 9 rocket launches a satellite at Cape Canaveral Space Force Station, Fla., Aug. 3, 2023.

MORE NATIONS MEET TO ADDRESS SPACE SECURITY

EXTERNAL REPORT

By David Vergun, DOD News

The Defense Department participated in a meeting of the Combined Space Operations Initiative Principals Board, known as CSpO, in Berlin.

The annual event, held this week, brought together DOD political and military space leadership from the U.S., Australia, Canada, France, Germany, New Zealand, the United Kingdom, and also welcomed three new members of CSpO: Italy, Japan and Norway.

The 10 members of CSpO discussed opportunities to further advance both operational cooperation and information sharing for the space domain.

Established in 2014, the initiative is a multinational partnership. Its stated mission is to generate and improve cooperation, coordination and interoperability to sustain freedom of action in space, optimize resources, enhance mission assurance and resilience, and deter conflict. Defense leaders discussed the emerging security challenges and explored ways to cooperate to prevent conflict in space.

The nations' representatives emphasized the need to continue to promote a rules-based international order and responsible behavior in space, while collaboratively addressing challenges to the safety and security of space-related operations.

Participants from the U.S. included John Plumb, assistant secretary of defense for space policy; Space Force Gen. Chance Saltzman, chief of space operations; and Army Gen. James Dickinson, commander of U.S. Space Command.

"Cooperation with our allies and partners is essential to promoting responsible space operations and protecting our interests in the domain. Expanding this cooperation in the space domain is one of my top priorities, and I was extremely proud to have Italy, Japan and Norway participate at the principals' board for the first time. Through CSpO, we will collectively work to reinforce the safety, security, stability and long-term sustainability of space," Plumb said.

"The CSpO Initiative is an important forum for improving coordination and integration while striving toward combined space operations. We appreciate the opportunity to meet with our allies and find avenues to optimize resources and build resilience," Dickinson said.

"The U.S. Space Force is committed to deterring conflict and reinforcing the security of the space domain," said Saltzman. "Our partnerships are strengthened through CSpO, and this coalition of like-minded nations enhances our ability to address the complex challenges we collectively face."

TRACK SANTA WITH HELP FROM NORAD

EXTERNAL REPORT

Every day of the year, NORAD defends North America using an all-domain and globally integrated approach to track everything that flies in and around Canada and the United States. On Dec. 24, NORAD adds a special mission: tracking Santa.

Like many origin stories, NORAD's mission to track Santa began by accident. In 1955 a young child, trying to reach Santa, dialed the misprinted phone number from a department store ad in the local newspaper. Instead of calling Santa, the child called the Continental Air Defense Command (CONAD) Operations Center in Colorado Springs, Colo.

Air Force Col. Harry Shoup, the commander on duty that night who answered the child's phone call, was quick to realize a mistake had been made and assured the child he was Santa.

After more incoming calls, Shoup assigned a duty officer to continue answering calls and a tradition was born, that continued when NORAD was formed in 1958.

Each year since, NORAD has dutifully reported Santa's location on Dec. 24 to millions of children and families across the world. Because of the support, services and resources generously provided

by volunteers and our government and corporate contributors, NORAD Tracks Santa has persevered for more than 65 years.

In fact, what started because of a typo has flourished and is recognized as one of the Department of Defense's largest community outreach programs.

Each year, the NORAD Tracks Santa Web Site receives several million unique visitors from more than 200 countries and territories around the world. Volunteers typically answer more than 130,000 calls to the NORAD Tracks Santa hotline from children across the globe.

In addition to the phone line and website, children and the young-at-heart can track Santa through our mobile apps and our social media platforms:

Facebook

<https://www.facebook.com/noradsanta>

Twitter

<https://twitter.com/NoradSanta>

YouTube

<http://www.youtube.com/NORADTracks-Santa>

Instagram

https://www.instagram.com/noradtrackssanta_official

NORAD Tracks Santa Website

<https://www.noradsanta.org>

NORAD Tracks Santa Newsroom

<https://noradsantanews.com/newsroom>





NOAA PHOTO

The opah, the only known fully warm-blooded fish, is a valuable species for commercial and recreational fishermen. However, researchers do not have a full understanding of the basic biology and ecology of this species. NOAA's Southwest Fisheries Science Center began collecting biological samples from opah in 2009 and initiated an electronic tagging program in 2011. Scientists hope to continue tagging opah to learn about their movements and range. This research will provide the basic life history information necessary for future population assessments and management. NOAA Fisheries is also working with the seafood industry to help reduce waste during the processing of opah.

Are all fish cold-blooded?

EXTERNAL REPORT

The opah is the only known fully warm-blooded fish that circulates heated blood throughout its body.

Not all fish are cold-blooded. In 2015, researchers with the NOAA Southwest Fisheries Science Center revealed the opah, or moonfish, as the first fully warm-blooded fish. Although not as warm as mammals and birds, the opah circulates heated blood throughout its body, giving it a competitive advantage in the cold ocean depths from 150 to 1,300 feet below the surface.

Its body temperature isn't the only thing that makes this fish stand out from the rest in its environment. Most fish living in the dark and chilly depths rely on

ambush to catch their prey, but the agile opah is fast and efficient, flapping its bright red pectoral fins to race through the water. The constant flapping of its fins heats the opah's body, speeding its metabolism, movement, and reaction times.

About the same size as a large automobile tire, the opah is equipped with specialized blood vessels that carry warm blood to its gills to rewarm the blood that cools as the fish breathes and absorbs oxygen from the water.

These heat-exchanging blood vessels minimize the loss of body heat to the opah's cold environment, ensuring a warm core body temperature, increasing muscle output and swimming capacity, and boosting eye and brain function.

The opah is also able to stay in deep water longer without risking reduced function to its heart and other organs because the fatty tissue surrounding its gills, heart, and muscle tissue acts as insulation against icy waters.

The opah is one of the most colorful of the commercial fish species, and is particularly popular in Hawaii. It is overall red with white spots and turns a silvery-grey when it dies. Its fins are crimson, and its large eyes are with gold. The fish's large, round profile is thought to be the origin of its "moonfish" nickname.

These combined characteristics certainly make this "warm-blooded fish" unique among the many wondrous creatures of the ocean.



COCONUT CRABS ARE A PROTECTED SPECIES

This coconut crab, photographed by USAG-KA resident Art Bennis on Roi, is one of many on USAG-KA-maintained islands that are protected by environmental standards enforced by the Army and the Marshall Islands.

PUBLIC NOTICE

The Environmental Standards for U.S. Army Garrison-Kwajalein Atoll identify the coconut crab as a protected species. For this reason, USAG-KA residents and personnel should not touch, harass, injure or kill coconut crabs.

The coconut crab (*Birgus latro*), known locally as barulep, is a type of land-based hermit crab. Unlike other hermit crabs, the coconut crab does not make use of a shell beyond the juvenile stages of its life. It is this characteristic that allows the coconut crab to grow so large in size.

Despite their name, coconut crabs have a varied diet which includes other fresh fruits and even meats, usually smaller crabs or dead animals. They use their strong sense of smell to locate food when they emerge from their burrows to hunt at night and, typically, remain inside their burrows during the day to protect themselves from the heat.

Coconut crabs can be found on many of the small islands throughout the Pacific and Indian Oceans. The state of their population remains unknown. For this reason, some nations have given this species protected status.



Check out more news and entertainment about Kwaj life on the USAG-KA YouTube Channel, at <https://www.youtube.com/USArmyGarrisonKwajaleinAtoll>.

THE CLASSIFIEDS

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



Holiday Pallet Tree Contest Facebook Reaction Challenge

Post pics of your decorated tree in the Kwajalein Community Events Facebook thread Or submit pictures to Kara.Larson@Vectrus.com.

1 point for each “Like”; 2 points for each “Laugh” and 3 points for each “Love.”



Prizes for top three pallet trees!
All voting ends 6 p.m. on Dec. 19



ACTIVITIES

HOLIDAY KARAOKE NIGHT. Saturday, Dec. 9, from 8 p.m. – midnight at the Oceanview Club. Enjoy holiday-themed music at this special event.

HOLIDAY-THEMED SCAVENGER HUNT, FOR TEENS. Thursday, Dec. 21. Meet with your team at 5:30 p.m. at the Namu Weto Youth Center. Students are required to register with the Youth Center to attend.

TEEN HOLIDAY PARTY. CYS-enrolled youth are invited to a potluck and white elephant gift exchange at the Namu Weto Youth Center Dec. 22, at 4:30 p.m. Bring one gift. Do not bring candy or soda. Register at the youth center. Call 480-3796 for more information.

TEEN MOVIE MARATHON. HOME ALONE Movie Marathon for CYS-enrolled youth at the Namu Weto Youth Center. Saturday, Dec. 23 at 5 p.m. Register at the youth center. Call 480-3796 for more information.

CAC OFFICE. Before your visit to the Common Access Card Office, 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. CAC Office Hours, Bldg. 835, are Tuesday – Saturday, 8 a.m. – 4 p.m.; (Lunch: noon - 1 p.m.). Call 480-8496.

BIKES

Attention BQ Residents: All derelict bikes will be removed from parking areas by Jan. 1, 2024, by Sheltering and Billeting personnel. Before Jan-

uary 1, please remove any damaged and unserviceable bikes, or they will be retrieved and discarded at Solid Waste Management.

CARTS

MWR is currently in Beta Testing with a select group of people to develop a new rental booking system. The link was recently shared outside of the testing group. This system is not ready for the public. Please refrain from using the link and visit the cart rentals facility for all future reservations. Thank you for your understanding and continued support.

DRIVER LICENSING CLASSES

Kwajalein Driver Licensing classes meet Wednesdays, 9 a.m. – Classes for RMI Workforce; 1 p.m. – Classes for expat Workforce. Classes are in Bldg. 856 RM 101 Vehicle Maintenance Compound. Space is limited. Registration is encouraged. For more information, call 480-3376. To register, email brian.arnett@vectrus.com and kaisha.wilson@vectrus.com.

Roi Driver Licensing classes meet second Wednesdays in C-building. No registration needed. Class times are as follows: 9 a.m. – Classes for RMI Workforce; 1 p.m. – Classes for expat Workforce.

E-BIKES

In the event of a spill of a hazardous material, waste, or petroleum product: Recognize – If it's safe, identify the material; Retreat – evacuate; and keep others out; and Report – Call 911. For more information contact Environmental at 480-0722. Ilo ien en ej wor lutok in men ko rekauwatata, kobej, oil im men ko erlok wot: Kile - Ne ejjab kauwatata, lale kein rot; Jenliklik - Etal jen e, bobrae

an ro jet; kebake; Konnaan - kiir lok 911. Nan melele ko relaplok, call e Environmental ilo 480-0722.

E-WARENESS: SPILL RESPONSE

Two species of Giant Clams are found at Kwajalein Atoll, Tridacna Gigas and Tridacna squamosa. Both are protected throughout the atoll by the USAKA Environmental Standards (UES) and the Endangered Species Act (ESA) Please do not harass or collect living species, and do not collect or export giant clam shells. Giant Clam shells found in pack-outs or mailed packages can result in large fines.

Ruo kain mejen wod ko rellap rej bed ilo malo in Kwajalein, juon ne Tridacna Gigas im Juon Tridactna squamosa. Mejen wod kein rej bed umin kejbarok eo an USAKA Environmental Standards (UES) im Endangered Species Act eo ak (ESA). Jouj im jab ireji ak boki mejen wod kein. Joij im jab aini, kakoni, im komakiti ak jilkinlok nan ilikin mejen wod kein. Enaj wor fine ko rellap elane mejen wod kein renaj bed ilo mweik in pack-outs ko ak ilo mail ko.

FACILITIES & HOURS

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.

MILLICAN FAMILY POOL. Closed for cleaning on Thursdays. Open noon to 5 p.m. Tuesdays, Wednesdays, Fridays and Saturdays. Open 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. on Sundays and Mondays. Closed Thanksgiving and Christmas.

KWAJALEIN SMALL BOAT MARINA hours of Operation. 7:30 a.m. – 6 p.m. Friday through Monday, and on holidays, excluding Thanksgiving and Christmas. Morning boat reservation times are from 7:30 a.m. – noon. Afternoon boat reservations are from 1 – 5 p.m.

ROI-NAMUR SMALL BOAT MARINA Hurs of Operation. 8 a.m. – 6 p.m. Friday through Monday, and on holidays, excluding Thanksgiving and Christmas. Morning boat reservation times are from 8 a.m. – 12:30 p.m. Afternoon boat reservations are from 1 – 5 p.m.

ARMA. Log in to ArMa, the Army Maintenance Application, to report issues for all buildings maintained by the Department of Public Works. Contact Public Works at 480-3550.

FIRE SAFETY

HYDRANT TESTING BEGINS. The Kwajalein Fire Department will begin annual water hydrant testing beginning next weekend. Testing will begin on the south end of the island and is expected to continue through January 2024. The community is advised to stay clear of the hydrants during testing.

For more information, please call 480-3364 or email Chief Gregory

TEAM KWAJ

Holiday Open House

hosted by Colonel & Mrs. Morgan

The Commander's Residence
Monday, December 18 from 6 - 9 p.m.

Bring a holiday treat to share and an ornament to add to the Team Kwaj tree that reflects you or your Kwaj story



Contact the USAG-KA Sexual Harassment/ Assault Response and Prevention Victim Advocate

Chief Warrant Officer 2 Nate Elkins
SHARP Victim Advocate
Work: 480-0660 or 480-3421
USAG-KA SHARP Pager:
808-580-3241
DOD SAFE Helpline: 877-995-5247

Collins at gregory.collins@gov2x.com.

FLIGHTS

Please note that all flights are subject to change. For the latest update on your flights on United, ATI or Air Marshall Islands:
ATI: 480-2169; AML: 480-3469;
United: 480-4852 or 1-800-UNITED1;
Air Terminal Services: 480-2660;
Flight Information Recording: 480-3589

UA Schedule Effective Now
Monday and Friday—UA 155 (HNL)
Check-in 2 - 4:50 p.m.
Wednesday—UA 133 (HNL)
Check-in 2 - 4:15 p.m.
Tuesday and Saturday—UA 154 (GUM)
Check-in 10:45 - 11:15 a.m.

FLYROI RESERVATIONS. To schedule reservations and for correspondence related to flights, email LCVKwajaleinFlyRoi@wsp.com.

HEALTH

KWAJALEIN HOSPITAL WALK-IN CLINICS. Available to the community now, 1:30 - 6 p.m. Flu shots are also available on a walk-in or appointment basis, Tuesday through Saturday, from 7:30 a.m. 4:30 p.m. A bivalent COVID-19 vaccine booster is available for those aged 12+ if it has been more than 120 days since their initial bivalent COVID-19 vaccine dose. To register, please email judy.wiser@internationalsosgs.us, or call 480-2223 for additional questions.

NOT FEELING WELL? Call 480-2223 to make an appointment for a COVID-19 test, Tuesday through Saturday from 7:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m. If you are not feeling well, please wear a mask when you are around others in the community.

VET SERVICES. Pet owners must notify Kwaj Vet Services before vacation. A pet sitter authorization form for treatment is required prior to departing Kwaj. Reach Vet Services at

480-2017 Tuesday through Saturday from 7:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m. KWAJ SALON staff cannot treat headlice. Thank you for your understanding.

EAP SERVICES. The EAP provides mental health services on Kwajalein, Roi Namur and Meck which include but are not limited to the following:

- Psychological assessments
- Counseling
- Anxiety and depressive disorders
- Family distress
- Post-traumatic stress disorder assessment and counseling
- Job-and-work related counseling
- Cross-cultural adjustment issues in counseling
- Crisis management consultation
- Conflict mediation/resolution
- Addiction counseling
- Consultation on violence in the workplace
- Crisis management for employees assigned to USAG-KA

EAP services are also available to the management structure to improve employee retention, performance improvement plans, workplace resilience, and the development of people management skills to build and maintain effective teams. Employee Assistance Program counselor (EAP) Kenneth Thomas MHS, LPC, LCADC, can be reached at kenneth.thomas@internationalsosgs.us or 480 - 5362.

KOMMOL TATA

The Kwajalein Golf Association would like to thank the following for their Support and participation during the recent 53rd annual Kwaj Open Golf Tournament: Arkel Inter-



UGLY HOLIDAY T-SHIRT & BEYOND CATEGORIES!



- Best Kwaj Inspired
- Most Creative DIY
- Best Couple Combo
- Funniest
- Most Likely to Regift
- All-Around the UGLIEST

Tis the Season to be Tacky!

Saturday, Dec. 16

Oceanview Club
8 p.m.



national, Tribalco, RGNEXT, David Gray, MWR and USAG-KA Command.

ISLAND MEMORIAL CHAPEL

PRAYER AND PRAISE NIGHT. Every first Sunday at 7 p.m. in the large chapel on Kwajalein. This open worship night is free and open to everyone.

CHAPEL COUNSELING AVAILABLE. For those who seek religious guidance, general counseling, and who may have questions related to family counseling, all are welcome to schedule an appointment with Ch. Brian Conner at the Island Memorial Chapel by calling 480-3505.

ROI SERVICES. Catholic Mass will take place on Roi at 6:30 p.m. on the second and fourth Fridays of each month. Protestant services will take place every first and third Friday of each month.

JOBS

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

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 reside on USAG-KA and possess a valid passport. For information and a list of required qualifications, visit https://akima.taleo.net/careersection/akimallc_cs/jobsearch.ftl. Apply online or send a resume to Jeannette McIlwain at jeannette.mcilwain@akima.com.

ARKEL International is hiring. Send CVs and resume to christopher.fuentes@arkel.com and jasper.gomez@arkel.com. Visit Arkel online at <http://arkel.com>. Call 480-1006 for more information.

ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH AND SAFETY MANAGER. KFS LLC is accepting resumes for a Health and Safety Manager to support an upcoming Environmental Project on Kwajalein. Visit <https://honuservices.jobs.net/en-US/job/health-and-safety-manager/J3N1RL6KDG9RWPTYQDF> for additional information, including the full job description, qualifications, and resume submission instructions.

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.

PARSONS is now accepting applications for an office clerk, heavy equipment operator, quality control technicians, concrete finisher, general labor and masonry. Please visit the Parsons office to apply or apply online <http://parsons.com/careers>.

TRIBALCO is hiring for Intermediate Systems Administrator and Networks Administrator; Senior Networks Administrator; Cyber Security Specialist; Unified Capabilities (UC) Specialist; Infrastructure Technician; and Infrastructure Drawing Specialist (AutoCad). Applicants must meet job requirements. Apply online at tribalco.com/jobs, www.kaihonua.com, and www.akima.com. Contact Tribalco Human Resources at 480-4344. Visit www.tribalco.com/careers.html. An active security clearance is required.

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. Apply at <https://qdyncorp.com/home/careers/>. You may also visit the HR Office in Bldg. 700. 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. To apply, visit rgnext.com.

SUBSTITUTE TEACHERS WANTED. Kwajalein School System is now hiring substitute teachers. Qualifications: 4-year degree; confidentiality; love of working with children; favorable status for CNACI (will receive background check after accepting offer). Send resumes to uhrenp@kwajaleinschools.org. For more information call 480-3601.

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.

TORCH TECHNOLOGIES seeks an MDA Support Analyst (Req#5588). The candidate will support the Missile Defense Agency on Kwajalein. This position is an on-island accompanied position with housing. Applicants must possess an active clearance. Please apply directly at <https://torchtechnologies.hua.hrs.mart.com/hr/ats/Posting/view/5588> For questions, email dalia.kardaman@torchtechnologies.com.

V2X JOBS. V2X has several opportunities for on-island hires: Harbor Controller I (35649), Logistics Analyst (32717), Inventory Associate (35067), and Bartender (32355). Apply online at www.careers.vec-trus.com or stop by the HR office in building 700.

NEWCOMERS

ISLAND ORIENTATION and Newcomer's Briefings occur in the REB, behind the Island Memorial Chapel. To register, email KWAJ_OSO_Ops@Vectrus.com or call 480-3511.

OPSEC. See something, say something. Counterintelligence aims to

detect and deter threats by safeguarding information vital to the preservation of national security. Be cautious about sharing work details on social media or in public settings. Participate in Training: All employees on USAG-KA (military, contractor, civilian, and local nationals) are required to receive annual Threat Awareness and Reporting Program (TARP) training provided by KRO; Reporting: Report suspicious activities to the Kwajalein Resident Office at 480-9859/1293/8006 or Bldg. 1163.

POST OFFICE

Kwaj Post Office Closures

Dec. 25, 2023 – Christmas Day; 2024:

Jan. 1 – New Year's Day;
Jan. 15 – Martin Luther King Jr. Day;
Feb. 19 – G. Washington Birthday;
May 27 – Memorial Day.

HOLIDAY MAILING DATES, 2023. For expected delivery before Dec. 5, ship by the recommended mailing dates. Ground Advantage Service: Nov 6; Priority Mail Service: Dec. 9; First class Mail Letters & Cards: Dec. 9; Priority Mail, Express Mail: Dec. 15.

PCS & VACATION TIPS. Customers must notify the post office before leaving for 30 days or PCS'ing. Per DOD 4525.6-M, mail is only allowed to be held for 30 days with or without prior notice. Mail is considered unclaimed on day 31 and will be returned to the sender. Email the post office to authorize pick up for 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.

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.

VEGETATION. Per USAG-KA Regulation 420-1, vegetation may not be planted in the ground without approved permits. Residents may be asked to remove items if planted without approval. Do not place sprouted coconuts in yards.

DON'T TAKE CULTURAL ARTIFACTS. 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. Do not remove these pieces of atoll history from Kwajalein. Contact the Kwajalein Archaeology Office at 480-8867.

EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT., If an emergency or disaster occurred, would you and your family be notified?

1) Visit the USAG-KA Emergency Management webpage, <https://home.army.mil/kwajalein/index.php/my-fort/EM>; 2) Click on "Mass Notification"; 3) Follow the registration instructions.

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

RADIO

HAM SHACK Amateur Radio Operators. All amateur operators will now be required to file for a Marshall Islands callsign. Please contact Lisa @V73ML1@gmail.com for an application and information.

FM99 THE WAVE & 97.9 ROI RAT RADIO. Tune in 7 - 9 a.m., 11 a.m. - 1 p.m. and 4 - 6 p.m. Tuesday through Saturday for live broadcasting, music, and community updates.

RF EQUIPMENT. Bringing new Radio Frequency equipment or wireless devices on island? Please contact the NETCOM Spectrum Management Office. This may require three months' approval process. Report any interference problems ASAP. Home use of commercial electronics does not require approval. For more information, please call 480-4135.

SURFWAY DELIVERY

Effective immediately, Surfway will no longer provide delivery services of groceries until further notice due to absence of contractual specifications currently rendering the service as a personal service, which is not authorized. This is permanent until further notice. We apologize for the inconvenience.

TAXI SERVICE

Call 480-TAXI (8294) or 3341 to book your ride at least 24 hours in advance of your check-in time.

WARDROBE FOR VISITING EBEYE

When visiting Ebeye in the Marshall Islands, it is advisable to dress modestly and respectfully, considering the local cultural norms and the warm tropical climate. Here are some general guidelines for both men and women by Yolanie Korab.

CLOTHING FOR MEN

Opt for lightweight, breathable fabrics such as cotton or linen to stay comfortable in the warm and humid weather. Wear collared shirts or T-shirts that cover the shoulders. Avoid sleeveless shirts or tank tops, as they may be seen as inappropriate.

SHORTS OR TROUSERS: Choose knee-length shorts or trousers. Avoid wearing excessively short shorts or swimwear in public areas.

CLOTHING FOR WOMEN

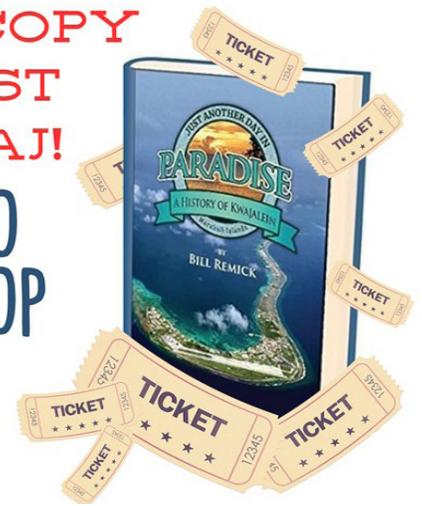
DRESSES OR SKIRTS: Wear knee-length or longer dresses, skirts, or sarongs. Loose-fitting and lightweight fabrics are recommended.

WIN A SIGNED COPY
OF THE RAREST
BOOK ON KWAJ!

TICKETS & INFO
AT THE MIC SHOP
NOV. 1-DEC. 18



OPEN MONDAY 12-2 P.M.
WEDNESDAY & FRIDAY 5-7 P.M.



Pauper's Marathon

Full Marathon or Relay Teams

Monday, Dec. 11, 2023

Race starts/ends at Namu Weto Teen Center

- Consists of 10 laps to make up 26.2 miles
- Run as an individual or create a team of 2 to 10 people
- Individual runners start at 3 a.m.; teams can start at 3 a.m. or 6 a.m.
- Contact Bob or Jane Sholar to register/ask questions at 480-0704 or janesolar@gmail.com

TOPS: Select modest tops that cover the shoulders and avoid low necklines or revealing clothing.

HEAD COVERINGS: Hats or caps are useful for protecting yourself from the sun, especially during the hot daytime hours.

SUN PROTECTION: Apply sunscreen, wear sunglasses, and carry a light shawl or umbrella for extra sun protection.

FOOTWEAR FOR MEN AND WOMEN: Comfortable shoes or sandals are suitable. Bring a pair of sandals that are easy to slip on and off when visiting home or certain establishments.

WATER PLANT.

Water Distribution personnel are continuing with annual flushing of the potable water fire hydrants and pipes on Kwajalein. Over the next three weeks, the water coming out of faucets and showers on Kwajalein in the BQ's and the Housing area may turn reddish brown from rusty cast iron pipes in the water distribution system. If your water becomes discolored, let the tap run until the water clears up. If your water turns very red for a day or two, avoid washing white clothes until the clarity of the water returns to normal. Call Stan at 480-1847 with any questions.

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.

LIGHT UP THE NIGHT

KWAJALEIN'S ANNUAL HOLIDAY LIGHTS TOUR

Get ready for Light Up The Night, Kwajalein's annual driving tour of neighborhood holiday lights and decorated quarters.

Join In The Fun

Join the community Dec. 10 at the Kwajalein High School Davye Davis Multi-Purpose Room for holiday treats, games and open-air shuttle rides through the island community to view holiday lights.

Open-air shuttle rides will run from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. While you wait for your tour, enjoy holiday music and, cocoa and snacks.

Want to Participate?

Think you've got what it takes to make your quarters the most festive holiday home? Join the tour.

Decorate your quarters or BQ window and register with MWR at the Grace Sherwood Library. Contact MWR at 480-3331 to register.

Enjoy Pictures With Santa.

Parents, bring your cameras. Santa Claus could even make a special guest appearance during Light Up The Night. Dress up in your holiday finest to snap selfies and enjoy snacks from 6:30 - 8:30 p.m.

Are You a Vendor?

If you have a craft or concession you would like to sell at Light Up the Night, please contact MWR at 480-3331 to register for a table. All fundraisers must be preapproved.

WANT TO GO?

Dec. 10

Kwajalein High School Multi-Purpose Room
6:30 - 8:30 p.m.

Contact MWR at 480-3331 for more information at 5-3331. Email kara.larson@gov2x.com to register.



KWAJ WEATHER WATCH

RTS WEATHER STATION STAFF

WEATHER DISCUSSION

Relatively dry, breezy conditions will persist through the weekend across the Kwajalein Atoll.

The subtropical ridge continues to bring a dry trade-wind flow across the area.

The only shower activity will be associated with nocturnal instability or the occasional trade wind convergence.

Thunderstorms are not expected during this time period as conditions will be unfavorable for significant vertical development of showers.

Winds will generally be east-northeasterly in the mid-upper teens, with higher gusts near showers.

These dry conditions should continue into the early part of next week. Beyond that, a strong wave will slowly move across the Atoll, leading to a period of much wetter weather for a few days.

SATURDAY

Partly sunny with stray showers.

Winds NE-E at 14-19 knots with gusts in the low 20s near showers.

SUNDAY

Mostly to partly sunny with possible stray showers. Winds NE-E at 12-17 knots with gusts in the low 20s near showers.

MONDAY

Partly sunny with stray showers becoming isolated at times. Winds NE-E at 13-18 knots with gusts in the mid-upper 20s near showers.

NEXT WEEK

The dry pattern looks to continue for the beginning of the week. Starting around Wednesday, a strong wave will begin to move across the Atoll, bringing a much wetter pattern. Increased shower coverage will likely persist for a few days, as this wave will be slow moving.

Some strong wind gusts will also be possible near showers at times. The wave appears likely to exit the Atoll by the end of next week, bringing drier conditions for next weekend.

MOVIES

All shows start at 7:30 p.m.

ROI-NAMUR C-BUILDING

For a listing of upcoming Roi-Namur movies, please contact MWR at 480-3331 or visit the Grace Sherwood Library.

THE RICHARDSON THEATER

Saturday, Dec. 9
"Polar Express" (G) 100 min.

Sunday, Dec. 10
"Ernest Saves Christmas" (PG) 95 min.

Saturday, Dec. 16
"The Muppet Christmas Carol" (G) 85 min.

Sunday, Dec. 17
"The Nightmare Before Christmas" (PG) 76 min.

Saturday, Dec. 23
"It's a Wonderful Life" (1946 original) (PG) 130 min.

Sunday, Dec. 24
"Miracle on 34th Street" (1994) (PG) 114 min.

Saturday, Dec. 30
"Jack Frost" (PG) 101 min.

Sunday, Dec. 31
"Home Alone" (PG) 103 min.

THE YUK THEATER

Saturday, Dec. 9
"Superbad" (R) 113 min.

Sunday, Dec. 10
"National Lampoon's Christmas Vacation" (PG-13) 97 min.

Saturday, Dec. 16
"Superbad" (R) 113 min.

Sunday, Dec. 17
"Crimson Tide" (R) 116 min.

Saturday, Dec. 23
"Jingle All The Way" (PG) 89 min.

Sunday, Dec. 24
"The Santa Clause" (PG) 97 min.

| | SUNRISE | MOONRISE | HIGH TIDE | | LOW TIDE |
|--------------------|-----------|-----------|----------------|------------------|----------|
| | SUNSET | MOONSET | | | |
| SUNDAY | 6:53 a.m. | 4:02 a.m. | 2:15 a.m. 3.0' | 8:14 a.m. 0.0' | |
| | 6:30 p.m. | 4:03 p.m. | 2:38 p.m. 3.8' | 9:01 p.m. -0.0' | |
| MONDAY | 6:53 a.m. | 4:53 a.m. | 2:54 a.m. 3.1' | 8:49 a.m. -0.2' | |
| | 6:31 p.m. | 4:50 p.m. | 3:13 p.m. 4.2' | 9:39 p.m. -0.4' | |
| TUESDAY | 6:54 a.m. | 5:49 a.m. | 3:33 a.m. 3.2' | 9:24 a.m. -0.4' | |
| | 6:31 p.m. | 5:42 p.m. | 3:48 p.m. 4.4' | 10:17 p.m. -0.6' | |
| WEDNESDAY | 6:54 a.m. | 6:49 a.m. | 4:11 a.m. 3.2' | 10:01 a.m. -0.4' | |
| | 6:32 p.m. | 6:40 p.m. | 4:25 p.m. 4.6' | 10:55 p.m. -0.7' | |
| THURSDAY | 6:55 a.m. | 7:51 a.m. | 4:50 a.m. 3.2' | 10:38 a.m. -0.5' | |
| | 6:32 p.m. | 7:42 p.m. | 5:03 p.m. 4.6' | 11:36 p.m. -0.7' | |
| FRIDAY | 6:55 a.m. | 8:53 a.m. | 5:31 a.m. 3.1' | 11:17 a.m. -0.4' | |
| | 6:33 p.m. | 8:46 p.m. | 5:44 p.m. 4.6' | ----- | |
| DECEMBER 16 | 6:56 a.m. | 9:52 a.m. | 6:14 a.m. 3.0' | 12:18 a.m. -0.5' | |
| | 6:33 p.m. | 9:48 p.m. | 6:27 p.m. 4.4' | 11:59 a.m. -0.2' | |



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.