

THE KWAJALEIN HOURGLASS



FROM LEFT: USAG-KA COMMANDER COL. DREW MORGAN, STACEY MORGAN, REPUBLIC OF THE MARSHALL ISLANDS PRESIDENT DAVID KABUA AND IROIJLAPLAP MICHAEL KABUA COMMEMORATE THE DEC. 18 TEAM KWAJ HOLIDAY PARTY WITH A PHOTOGRAPH AT QTRS. 241.



MIKE BRANTLEY

TEAM KWAJ 2
CELEBRATES THE HOLIDAYS

STUDENTS GIFT 4
CARLOS COMMUNITY

ROI RESIDENTS 6
RECEIVE TEAM KWAJ TAB



U.S. ARMY PHOTO BY JESSICA DAMBRUCH

Iroijlaplap Michael Kabua, center, gives Stacey Morgan, right, and USAG-KA Commander Col. Drew Morgan, left, a home-made ornament for the Team Kwaj holiday tree. Kabua was one of several distinguished guests and visitors who joined the Morgan family at Qtrs. 241 on Dec. 18 for the community-wide gathering.

SPECIAL GUESTS CELEBRATE HOLIDAYS WITH TEAM KWAJ

BY JESSICA DAMBRUCH

Family and friends gathered at the home of Col. Drew Morgan, USAG-KA commander, and Stacey Morgan, for the first Team Kwaj Holiday Open House on Dec. 18. Each visitor added their own special ornament to the Team Kwaj holiday tree and provided a dessert to share.

As the evening continued, special distinguished visitors and guests joined the party.

“Kwajalein is important to the Republic of the Marshall Islands and our country, and this is our home,” Morgan said, in his address to guests. “This is where we live and work, and this is our home and the community’s home, and we welcome you all to it. My wife, Stacey, and I have

been planning this event for a couple of weeks, and it’s our pleasure.”

Morgan specially recognized two distinguished guests, Iroijlaplap and Kwajalein Atoll Michael Kabua, and Republic of the Marshall Islands President David Kabua.

RMI First Lady Ginger Kabua also attended. Together, she and a delegation member added decorations to the Morgan family holiday tree.

“I feel really fortunate that I am able to join this gathering,” Kabua said. “I wish you all good health and a Merry Christmas.”

“It’s our honor to have everybody here in our home,” Morgan said. “So, please, enjoy yourselves. Have a Merry Christmas.”

1) Guests and visitors to Qtrs. 241 enjoy snacks, beverages and the chance to socialize during the Team Kwaj Holiday Open House Dec. 18. 2) The TEAM KWAJ holiday tree at Qtrs. 241 began to feature new ornaments as the party progressed, each family and attendee adding their own representative ornament that described their Kwaj story or a personal tale. This snowflake ornament from Allie Snow aptly describes her last name and the winter weather that typically ushers in the Christmas holidays.



U.S. ARMY PHOTO BY MIKE BRANTLEY, USAG-KA PUBLIC AFFAIRS OFFICER



U.S. ARMY PHOTO BY JESSICA DAMBRUCH

THE KWAJALEIN HOURGLASS

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U.S. ARMY PHOTOS BY JESSICA DAMBRUCH



1) USAG-KA Commander Col. Drew Morgan, right, shares his service history with Republic of the Marshall Islands President David Kabua, left, during the gathering. 2) TEAM KWAJ members come bearing treats. Pictured here, Laura Ladd leads the way. 3) Members of the Karmozyn family check out the TEAM KWAJ holiday tree. 4) Maj. Daekwang Choi, center, shares conversation with Iroijlaplap Michael Kabua, left. 5) Savory and sweet treats are arranged on the Morgan family dining table for guests to enjoy.



U.S. ARMY PHOTOS BY JESSICA DAMBRUCH

Carlos students and staff sing a thank you song in appreciation for student visitors from Kwajalein who provided gifts, toys and household items in an annual gift drop. The event, Holidays on Carlos, is entirely led and organized by Kwajalein School System students.

KWAJ STUDENTS BUILD COMMUNITY WITH HOLIDAYS ON CARLOS

BY JESSICA DAMBRUCH

Wearing Santa hats, wuts, sunglasses and colorful Pohnpei skirts, early on Dec. 4, National Honor Society Students from Kwajalein High School students boarded a catamaran from U.S. Army Garrison-Kwajalein Atoll to share the spirit of the holidays with community members on neighboring Carlos islet.

Their gift-giving event, Holidays on Carlos, is an entirely student-driven initiative of the NHS. The service project provides an opportunity for Kwajalein to form stronger connections with their Carlos neighbors.

Months ahead of the gift delivery day, the NHS students advertised the service project and collected items donated at drop-boxes placed around the island.

They also purchased foods and other materials on Ebeye to add to their gifts, said NHS advisor Kendra Robinson.

“Our students did all of the planning, purchasing and coordination for this event,” Robinson said. “We are proud of them for the effort they make to bring the islands together.”

At the Carlos schoolhouse, rows of Carlos students watched as the bounty of off-loaded boxes and gifts began to stack high. There were big gift boxes intended for each household, containing food, hygiene products and other useful household goods.

Piled next to these were gift bundles for students and young children wrapped in bright red paper.

Sturdy student chair desks

were arranged in a row—a gift for the open-air Carlos classrooms.

“They have been organizing this for months. It was so neat to see them pull off a great event,” said KHS Principal Matt Gerber, of the gift drop.

Shaded by old-growth breadfruit trees and swaying palms in the school’s courtyard, NHS President Akku Kabua wished happy holidays to all gathered, and the students and their teachers shared greetings and gifts.

The Kwajalein students got out sheet music and instruments—with an occasional jangling silver bell on a lanyard—to perform holiday songs and classic winter carols. Student musicians from the Tri-M Music Honor Society, and vocalists from the George Seitz Elementary School Advanced Vocal Ensemble joined in to lend their talents and raise their voices.

After the visiting Kwaj musicians and vocalists played, the Carlos students returned a musical thank-you.

Singing traditional carols in English and Marshallese, with ukulele accompaniment provided by Carlos school Principal Bojen Jorju.

An alap, or landowner, stepped forward to thank her visitors and to provide gifts for teachers and active-duty personnel and their spouses as a token of welcome.

In the course of her special remarks, she acknowledged and thanked the many individuals and companies who have supported the school and Carlos community with their generous gifts over the



A Carlos alap is joined by young students during a musical performance by visiting musicians and vocalists from Kwajalein High School and George Seitz Elementary School on U.S. Army Garrison-Kwajalein Atoll. Beside them are a portion of the giftwrapped packages provided by the Kwajalein students to the Carlos community.

years.

Following the music, the quiet schoolhouse courtyard was transformed into a lively holiday party.

A multitude of small hands tore through the red and green giftwrap, as Carlos kids tear apart the packaging to check out the toys and kid-sized sports equipment from Kwajalein.

Volleyballs sail through the air, kickballs bounce across the concrete slab, and small hands take hold of colorful chalks to sketch designs on the pavement.

The mood was joyful.

Before the Kwaj visitors

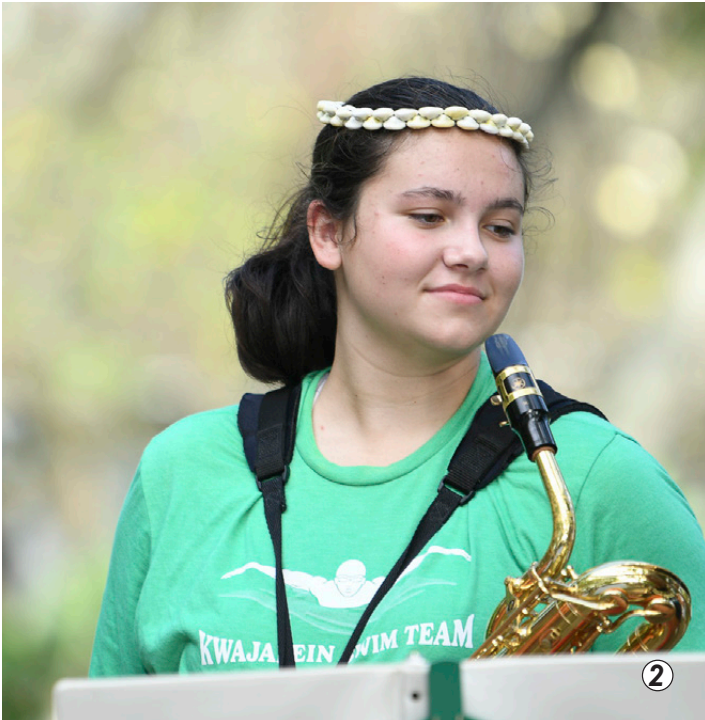
departed, they had helped to amplify the holiday spirit on Carlos.

Robinson said she appreciated how the student-led initiative allows connections to form between the communities on Carlos and Kwajalein.

“The program has gone on for so many years that a lot of the Carlos community is starting to recognize some of us,” Robinson said. “It’s great to be able to go back, and then, to interact, to know that we’re continuously going to this community. We’re seeing them grow up with us. Getting to continue to be a part of that is great.”



U.S. ARMY PHOTOS BY JESSICA DAMBRUCH



U.S. ARMY PHOTO BY STEPHEN ELSON

1) Visiting Kwajalein School System students sing holiday carols and tunes for students and community members on Carlos. 2) Saxophonist Rachel Harper gets ready to perform with student musicians. 3) Kwajalein High School National Honor Society President Akku Kabua, right, and RMI Host Nations Specialist Mike Sakaio, left, address the Carlos community. 4) Students from both islands enjoy a friendly game of volleyball. 5) It's Mike again—this time with a ukulele and an impromptu holiday performance.



U.S. ARMY PHOTO BY STEPHEN ELSON

USAG-KA Commander Col. Drew Morgan, right, discusses the route for the morning heritage walk with attendees on Roi-Namur, Dec. 8.

ROI-NAMUR RESIDENTS EARN TEAM KWAJ TABS

BY JESSICA DAMBRUCH

TEAM KWAJ now includes several Roi residents and employees this month, after members of the USAG-KA Command team visited the island to participate in two days of Roi community activities and events, Dec. 6 - 8.

Town halls, tab meetings, sports and special TEAM KWAJ activities awaited the Roi community, as several members prepared to check the last events off their list to earn their tabs.

Events began Dec. 7 with an early morning kickball game, followed by town hall meetings for the Roi workforce and RMI workforce, respectively.

On Dec. 8, USAG-KA Commander Col. Drew Morgan led the first-ever Team Kwaj heritage march, a 6-mile walk around the island to learn more about its history.

Following the march, Morgan met with community members to verify their tab requirements were completed.

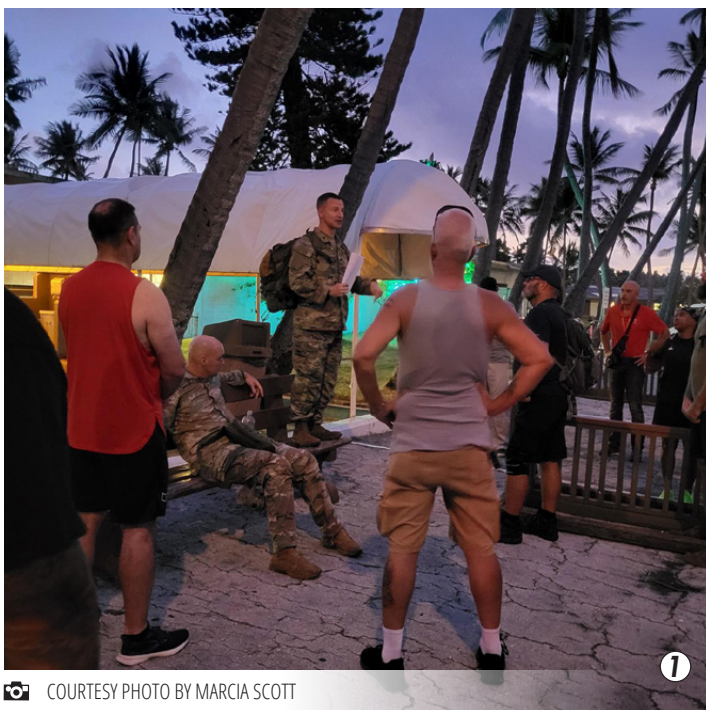
A tabbing ceremony took place later that afternoon, in which participants received their Team Kwaj tabs and commemorative swag for their hard work.



U.S. ARMY PHOTOS BY BARBARA DAVIS



1) USAG-KA Commander Col. Drew Morgan, far right, and residents of Roi-Namur read a historical walking tour placard together during the first-ever Roi-Namur TEAM KWAJ heritage march, Dec. 8. 2) Morgan, left, leads new members of TEAM KWAJ in reciting pact tenets.



COURTESY PHOTO BY MARCIA SCOTT

1



COURTESY PHOTO BY REANECKKIA BERRY

2



U.S. ARMY PHOTOS BY STEPHEN ELSON

3



4



5

1) Early-risers on Roi gather at the dining facility to meet USAG-KA Commander Col. Drew Morgan before the first-ever Roi heritage walk on Dec. 8. 2) High-fives all around after a community kickball tournament on Dec. 7. Morgan addresses ruck attendees at Roi's Japanese cemetery. 4) Surrounded by Roi's lush jungle, Morgan, right, and ruck participants check out a historical marker. 5) Morgan, far left, and USAG-KA Command Sgt. Maj. Ernest Miller, far right, commemorate a Roi tabbing ceremony on Dec. 8 with visitors and Roi residents.



Evan Gill, far left, and Dr. Sarah Willis, right, present during the Yokwe Yuk Welcome Club "Talks on the Rock" series

YYWC BROUGHT TALKS ON THE ROCK TO RMI

COMMUNITY CONNECTION

By Amber Bates, Yokwe Yuk Welcome Club

For the last few years, the Yokwe Yuk Welcome Club has been hosting the Talks on the Rocks series on Kwajalein.

This year as a part of the education series there have been talks on the Kwajalein MIA project and on the history of Bikini Atoll and wreck diving there.

In an effort to share more of these educational opportunities with our local neighbors, the club has partnered with the College of the Marshall Islands to offer lectures at their Ebeye location.

On Nov. 13, Evan Gill gave a talk about the unique history of Bikini Atoll in light of the atomic testing that was done there and shared about his experiences scuba diving the wrecks in the lagoon left after the testing.

Dr. Sarah Willis with Massachusetts Institute of Technology, Lincoln Laboratory, gave a talk about our solar system on Nov. 27 and looks forward to being able to bring over a telescope so that the students can get a closer view of some of the planets she discussed.

Ricky Raymond, director

of the Ebeye CMI campus, had this to say about Evan's talk: "Once again we want to express thanks to the visiting team that came from Kwaj to CMI Kwajalein Campus. The students were really happy for the visit.

"They have heard of Bikini and its nuclear legacy on the RMI, but to be able to see what it's like now is quite amazing. The students were very interested in the history aspect of the presentation.

"It also allowed them to think about what they want

to become in the future. In all, the presentation allowed students to think about the nuclear legacy of yesterday, its impact today and of the future generation.

"Overall it was an educational experience through the lens of the visiting team as they captured the beauty under the deep blue lagoon of Bikini."

YYWC President Amber Bates said that the club is thrilled to be working with CMI islands and hopes to be able to present more lectures

in concert with them.

Staff have asked about future talks focusing on life skills and career development. Those in the Kwajalein community interested to support this project at CMI should reach out to Bates.

For more, check out the YYWC Facebook page.



YOKWE YUK WELCOME CLUB'S

QUARTERLY OPEN BOARD MEETING

Keep up with club happenings and voice your opinion

JAN.9 | 6 P.M. | CRC 6

U.S. Army Garrison-Kwajalein Atoll has resumed processing U.S. passports.

Please contact the USAG-KA Passport Facility at the following email address to schedule an appointment or if you have any questions:

usarmy.bucholz.id-pacific.mbx.usag-ka-passports@army.mil



U.S. EMBASSY MAJURO

The U.S. Embassy Majuro is committed to promoting harmonious and safe communities. We are happy to partner with IOM on programs for students, youth, and adults that encourage them to afford equal dignity to marginalized and vulnerable populations. Kudos to the muralists who painted the beautiful art installation at the College of the Marshall Islands.

1944 CHRISTMAS LETTERS FROM ROI-NAMUR

By Stuart Deane
Newburyport Daily News

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Here are some excerpts from his holiday letters.

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

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

Wished you a Merry Christmas at midnight last night. Did you hear me?

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

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

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

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

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

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

ISLAND HOLIDAYS PAST

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



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

KWAJPODGE

Ed. No. 7 KWAJALEIN M. I. DECEMBER 22, 1961

THE NIGHT BEFORE CHRISTMAS

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

Original poem by Pat Holmberg

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

CHORUS TO PERFORM "MESSIAH"

The Kwajalein Hourglass, Nov. 29, 1991

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

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

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

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

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



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

CHRISTMAS CHORUS ELECTRIFIES CROWD

By Melinda Larson
Feature Writer
Nov. 29, 1991

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

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

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

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



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

A UNIQUE HOLIDAY “GIFT”: THE PRINZ EUGEN ARRIVES ON KWAJALEIN ATOLL

BY SHARON WATKINS-LANG, USASMDC HISTORIAN

The Prinz Eugen

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

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

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

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

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

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



U.S. ARMY PHOTO BY JESSICA DAMBRUCH

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

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

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

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

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

George Seitz Elementary School

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

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

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

See “SMDC,” continued on p. 9



ONE ARMY FAMILY ONLINE AND OFFLINE

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

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

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

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

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

“SMDC,” continued from p. 11

time there was no high school instruction on the island.

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

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

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

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

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

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

Safeguard

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

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

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

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

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



U.S. ARMY SPACE AND MISSILE DEFENSE COMMAND

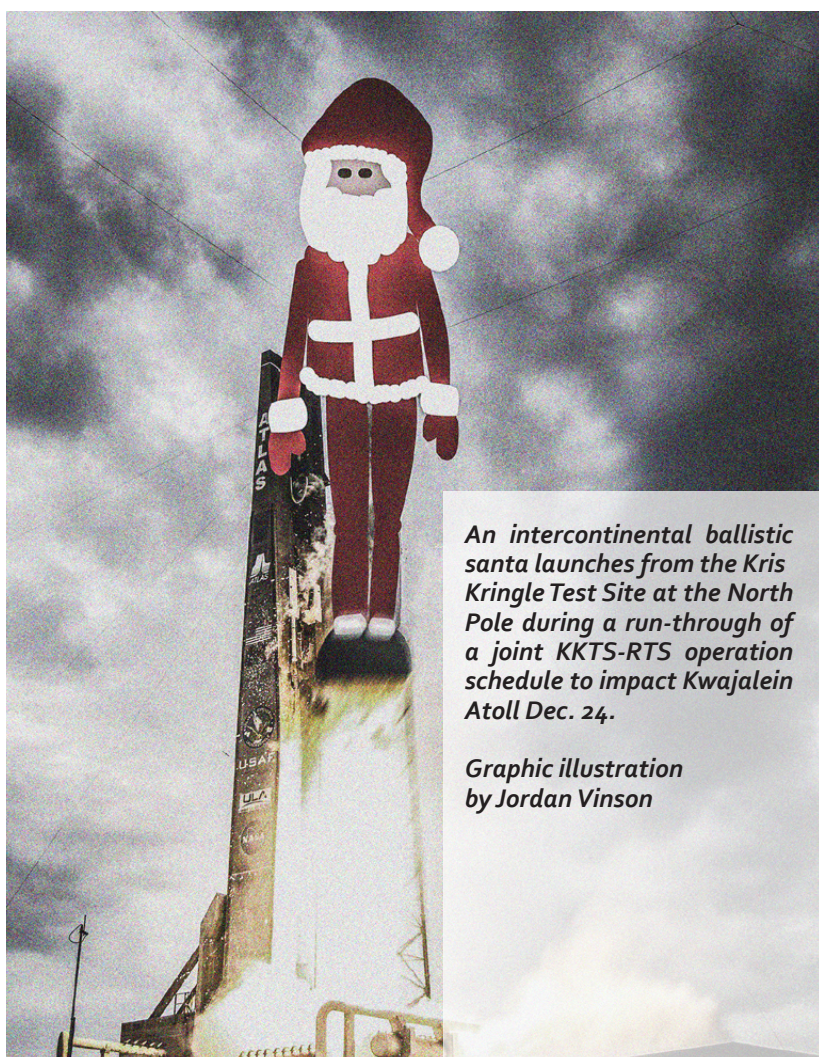
OUR MISSION TAKES US ABOVE AND BEYOND. CLICK TO READ MORE AT [HTTPS://WWW.SMDC.ARMY.MIL/](https://www.smdc.army.mil/)

Kwajalein Christmas

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

anonymous

From Dec. 24, 1992 Kwajalein Hourglass



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

Graphic illustration
by Jordan Vinson

HOLIDAY SECURITY TIPS

HOURLASS REPORT

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

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

1. Current, Ongoing and Future Operations Details

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

2. Critical Infrastructure

Examples: Location, capabilities, weakness, airfields, communications

3. Force Protection

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

4. C4I Locations, Capabilities and Vulnerabilities

Examples: COOP, disaster plans, nodes

5. Organizational Capabilities, Limitations and Vulnerabilities

Examples: inspection results, AAR, surveys

6. General Officer and VIP Itineraries

Examples: Schedules, locations, special protective measures, visitors

7. Budget and Resource Information

Examples: Allocation, prioritization, shortfalls, contract specifics

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

Examples: Assessment, government control

9. Personally Identifiable Information

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

10. Detailed Casualty, Damage or Incident Reports

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



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

Find out where Santa is going next with a little help from North American Aerospace Defense Command, or NORAD, by visiting <https://www.noradsanta.org/en/>.



MUSICAL NOTES

HOLIDAY MUSIC TRADITIONS

KWAJALEIN HOURGLASS ARCHIVE

By Elizabeth Nolan

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

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

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

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

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

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

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



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

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

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

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

ADOPTION

MARSHALLESE LANGUAGE LESSON

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

Helpful Words

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

Common Phrases

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

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

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

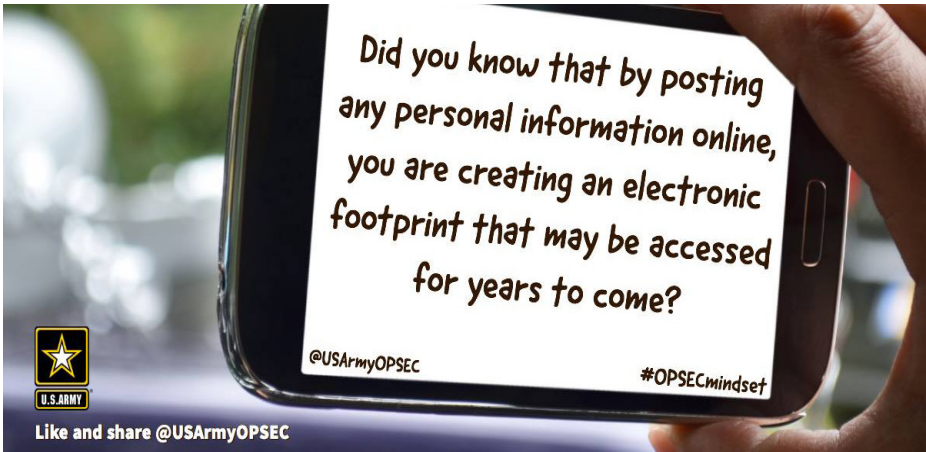
Aet, etan jinen im jemen?
Yes, what are the parents’ name?

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

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

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

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



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.

Rescheduled

Kwajalein Scuba Club is hosting

SCUBA SANTA

Emon Beach Scuba Shack
December 23, 2023
at 6:30 p.m.



ANNOUNCEMENTS

POST OFFICE OPEN DEC. 23. The Kwajalein Post Office will be open for mail pickup on Saturday, Dec. 23, from noon to 6 p.m.

DFAC PRICE INCREASE. Food service rates are expected to increase on Jan. 2, 2024. This is an annual Department of Defense initiative. Prices will be announced as soon as they are available.

ANGEL TREE IS JAN. 14. The third annual Angel Tree program will take place Jan. 14 at 1 p.m. in the AAFES Food Court. Contact CW2 Nate or Melissa Elkins, or David House, at 480-3421/0133 for more information. The RMI Liaison Office is open Tuesday through Saturday from 10 a.m. – 5:30 p.m.

CRC GYM Closure. The Corlette Recreation Center Gym is now open to the public and will be utilizing open air circulation in place of the air conditioning unit. The gym will be warmer than usual while condensation issues are addressed. Call 480-9205 and email Richard.jameson1@gov2x.com with questions.

2024 PCB Management Training (ENV-190). Required training for contractors and tenants that manage PCB items will be conducted by the Environmental Services Department in January and February 2024. Kwajalein: Religious Education Building (REB) Conference Room. Wednesday, Jan. 24, 2024, from 9 – 11 a.m. Roi-Namur: TRADEX Conference Room, Thursday, Feb. 1, 2024, from 9 – 11 am. Please call the Environmental Services Department at 480-2633.

DERELICT BIKE REMOVAL. All derelict bikes will be removed from BQ parking areas by Jan. 1, 2024, by Sheltering and Billeting personnel. Before January 1, please remove any damaged and unserviceable bikes, or they will be retrieved and discarded at Solid Waste Management.

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.

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.

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.

CHILD & YOUTH SERVICES. All youth must be register at the US-AG-KA Child & Youth Services to participate in activities. Call 480-3796 for information.

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

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

CYS TEEN BBQ. Sunday, Jan. 21 from 5 – 7:30 p.m. at the Namo Weto Youth Center. Students are required to register at the Youth Center to attend. For more, call 480-3796.

CYS TEEN BEACH CLEAN-UP. Sunday, Jan. 28 at 1:30 p.m. Teens, do you need service hours? Do your part for the environment by meeting at the Namo Weto Youth Center at 1:30 p.m. to be part of a trash pick-up crew.

DINING
SHORT ORDER MENU
USAG-KA Warrior Restaurants
Available Now on Kwaj, Meck and Roi

- Grilled Zamperini Burger*
 - Grilled Turkey Burger*
 - Grilled Italian Sweet Sausage *
 - Grilled Bratwurst*
 - Shredded BBQ Pork*
 - Philly Cheesesteak*
 - Chicken Tenders*
 - Chicken Nuggets*
 - Corndog*
 - Hotdog*
 - Vegan Black Bean Burger*
 - Vegan Chicken Tenders*
 - French Fries
 - Onion Rings
 - Tater Tots
 - Sweet Potato Fries
 - Jalapeno Peppers
 - Grilled Onion Slices
 - Grilled Mushrooms
 - Chili
 - Baked Beans
 - Sliced American Cheese
- *Starred Items served daily

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.



VARIETY SHOW AUDITIONS!

Open to adults and 6th-12th graders

AUDITION #1

Sat., Jan. 27
4 - 6 P.M.

Location:
MP ROOM

AUDITION #2

Sat., Feb. 10
4 - 6 P.M.

Must be able to attend the DRESS REHEARSAL on Sat., March 16 from 4 - 7 p.m. & the VARIETY SHOW on Sun. March 17 starting at 6 P.M.



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**

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.

EVENTS

PARADE OF LIGHTS AND SCUBA SANTA 2023. Sponsored by the Kwajalein Yacht Club and the Kwajalein Scuba Club. Dec. 23 at sunset. Visit the Emon Beach Scuba Shack to watch the parade and to meet Santa after his night dive.

Call 480-4198, visit the MWR Desk in the Grace Sherwood Library, Bldg. 805, and visit the Kwajalein Community Events Facebook page.

MWR FOOSBALL Tournament. Dec. 28 at 6:30 p.m. in the Adult Rec Center. Call 480-4198 for information.

MWR 8-BALL Tournament. Dec. 20 at 6:30 p.m. in the Adult Rec Center.

MWR NEW YEARS' EVE BEACH VOLLEYBALL. Sunday, Dec. 31 from 5:30 – 7:30 p.m. at Emon Beach.

MWR KWAJ NYE. Food vendors wanted for 5:30 – 9:30 p.m. at the Emon Beach main pavilion or from 10 p.m. – 2 a.m. at the Oceanview Club under an event tent. To register, contact the event coordinator at kara.larson@gov2x.com. Proof of certificate is required before and during an event. Free courses are available at <http://alison.com>. All food and beverage vendors must be food safety certified. For more, contact Yessenia.johnson.mil@army.mil.

NYE BEACH VOLLEYBALL. Sunday, Dec. 31, from 5:30 – 7:30 p.m. For more information, call 480-3133.

VARIETY SHOW Auditions. Open to adults and students in grades 6 – 12 at the MP Room. Audition 1 is Saturday, Jan. 27, 4 – 6 p.m. Audition 2 is Saturday, Feb. 10, from 4 – 6 p.m. Participants must be able to attend the dress rehearsal on Satur-

day, March 16 from 4 – 7 p.m. and the Variety Show on Sunday, March 17, beginning at 6 p.m. Event sponsored by USAG-KA CYS.

E-WARENESS

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

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

FACILITIES & HOURS

Kwaj Post Office will be open Dec. 23, from noon - 6 p.m.

MWR facilities will be closed on

Monday, Dec. 25; Cart Rentals, Salon, Hobby Shop, Family Pool, Library, Marina, Oceanview Club, Country Club and CRC Gym.

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.

NEW YEAR'S EVE PARTY

Sunday, Dec. 31

10 p.m. – 2 a.m. at the Oceanview Club

**DJ DMACK
CHAMPAGNE BAR
BALL DROP AT MIDNIGHT
FOOD VENDORS**



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 reser-
vation 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 reser-
vation 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.

For more information, please call
480-3364 or email Chief Gregory
Collins at gregory.collins@gov2x.
com.

FLIGHTS

****Please note that all flights are sub-
ject to change.**** For the latest up-
date on your flights on United, ATI or
Air Marshall Islands:
ATI: 480-2169; AMI: 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 sched-
ule reservations and for correspon-
dence related to flights, email
LCVKwajaleinFlyRoi@wsp.com.

HEALTH

KWAJALEIN HOSPITAL WALK-IN
CLINICS. Available to the commu-
nity now, 1:30 – 6 p.m. Flu shots are
also available on a walk-in or ap-
pointment 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 vac-
cine dose. To register, please email
judy.wiser@internationalsosgs.us, or
call 480-2223 for additional ques-
tions.

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 no-
tify Kwaj Vet Services before vaca-
tion. A pet sitter authorization form
for treatment is required prior to de-
parting Kwaj. Reach Vet Services at
480-2017 Tuesday through Saturday
from 7:30 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.

2023 KYC Boat Parade of Lights Dec. 23 @ Sunset

Visit our Community
Events Facebook page
or Grace Sherwood
Library for more
information



MWR B-Boat use for this
special event approved to
decorate B-boats and
participate.
Register at Kwajalein
Small Boat Marina
Or Contact
Rick Jameson
480-9205





KWAJ SALON staff cannot treat
headlice. Thank you for your under-
standing.

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

- Psychological assessments
- Counseling
- Anxiety and depressive disor-
ders
- Family distress
- Post-traumatic stress disorder
assessment and counseling
- Job-and-work related counsel-
ing
- Cross-cultural adjustment issues
in counseling
- Crisis management consulta-
tion
- Conflict mediation/resolution
- Addiction counseling
- Consultation on violence in the
workplace
- Crisis management for employ-
ees assigned to USAG-KA

EAP services are also available to
the management structure to im-
prove employee retention, per-
formance improvement plans,
workplace resilience, and the de-
velopment of people manage-
ment skills to build and maintain ef-
fective teams. Employee Assistance
Program counselor (EAP) Kenneth
Thomas MHS, LPC, LCADC, can be
reached at kenneth.thomas@inter-
nationalsosgs.us or 480 – 5362.

PRAYER AND PRAISE NIGHT. Every
first Sunday at 7 p.m. in the large
chapel on Kwajalein. This open wor-
ship night is free and open to every-
one.

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



ISLAND MEMORIAL CHAPEL CHRISTMAS SERVICES

**Saturday, Dec. 23
5:30 p.m.**
Catholic Fourth Sunday
of Advent Mass

**Sunday, Christmas Eve
Dec. 24, 8:15 a.m.**
Protestant Traditional Ser-
vice

9:15 a.m.
Catholic Fourth Sunday
of Advent Mass

11 a.m.
Protestant Contemporary
Service

5 p.m.
Catholic Christmas Eve
Mass

6 p.m.
Catholic Dessert Social
(all are invited)

7 p.m.
Community Candlelight
Service
(all congregations includ-
ed)

**Monday, Christmas Day
Dec. 25, 9:15 a.m.**
Catholic Christmas Day
Mass

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.

ARKEL International is hiring. Send CVs and resume to christopher.fuents@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>.

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



CAN YOU GIVE TWO HOURS A MONTH?

The Bargain Bazaar & Mic Shop are looking for new volunteers

Contact YYWCinfo@gmail.com for information on how to get involved



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.hrsmart.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 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

**Additional Hours Open Dec. 23, from noon - 6 p.m.
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.

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.



What's the weather?

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

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. Call 480-4135.

SURFWAY DELIVERY
Surfway has discontinued 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.

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 EBEEYE
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. Choose knee-length shorts or trousers. Avoid wearing excessively short shorts or swimwear in public.

CLOTHING FOR WOMEN
DRESSES OR SKIRTS: Wear knee-length or longer dresses, skirts, or sarongs. Loose-fitting and lightweight fabrics are recommended. Select modest tops that cover the shoulders and avoid low necklines or revealing clothing. Hats or caps are useful for protecting yourself from the sun, especially during the hot daytime hours. 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.

- KWAJALEIN FIRE DEPARTMENT HOLIDAY SAFETY TIP**
- Live cut trees are not permitted in the garrison's dining facilities, bachelor quarters, hospital, dispensary and Macy's.
 - Place live holiday trees a minimum of three feet from 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 flame retardant decor.
 - 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.

ZAMPERINI AND ROI DFAC

CHRISTMAS HOLIDAY MENU COST \$11.20

DEC. 25, 11 A.M.-1 P.M.

GUEST SPEAKER CHAPLAIN MICHAEL KLEIN

MAIN COURSE

Roast Turkey
Honey Glazed Ham
Steamship Round
Lobster Tail
Savory Bread Dressing
Loaded Mashed Potatoes
Macaroni and Cheese
Collard Greens
Corn on the Cob
Asparagus Spears

SALADS

Potato Salad Shrimp Pasta Salad
Ambrosia Salad

Hey, little artists! Get your coloring game on because we've got a Gingerbread coloring station that's absolutely free for you at Zamperini DFAC!

Island Memorial Chapel Christmas Services Schedule

Saturday, Dec. 23

5:30 p.m. - Catholic Fourth Sunday of Advent Mass

Sunday, Christmas Eve, Dec. 24

8:15 a.m. - Protestant Traditional Service

9:15 a.m. - Catholic Fourth Sunday of Advent Mass

11 a.m. - Protestant Contemporary Service

5 p.m. Catholic Christmas Eve Mass

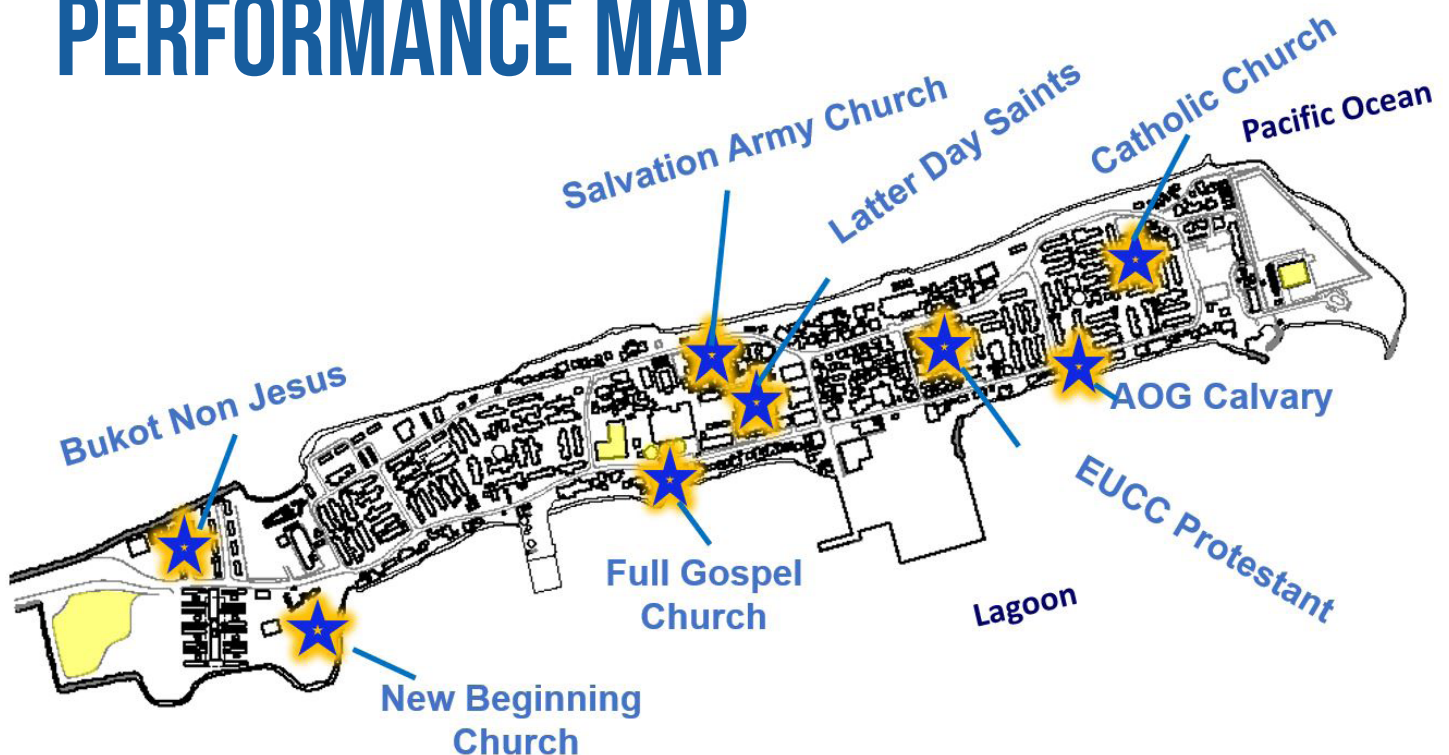
6 p.m. - Catholic Dessert Social (*all are invited*)

7 p.m. - Community Candlelight Service
(*all congregations included*)

Monday, Christmas Day, Dec. 25

9:15 a.m. - Catholic Christmas Day Mass

EBEYE CHRISTMAS JEPTA CHURCH PERFORMANCE MAP



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

Jepta performances begin at 1 p.m. on Dec. 25. The ferry will run on the Monday weekend

Schedule. Pick up a copy of the schedule at the Dock Security Checkpoint. When planning your Christmas Day visit, visitors to Ebeye are reminded to be respectful of social customs.

Men are asked to wear long pants and nice shirts with sleeves. Neither shorts nor tank tops are permitted. Women should wear modest garments that cover shoulders and knees.



A FRIENDLY E-WARENESS REMINDER FOR WHAT NOT TO MAIL TO KWAJ

APO AP 96555 Mail Restrictions

One of the many restrictions for mail to ZIP Code 96555 is a prohibition on fruits, vegetables, live animals and live plants.

Please do not order these items to be delivered to APO AP 96555. Live plants are prohibited in the mail.

For a complete list of restrictions to all post office destinations, see the most recent Postal Bulletin pull-out section at the post office.

For a list of restrictions specific to 96555, go to: <https://postcalc.usps.com/MilitaryRestrictions> and enter zip code 96555. For more information on mailing restrictions to Kwajalein, keep reading.

Other than for the Priority Mail Express Military Service and the exceptions listed below, a customs declaration PS Form 2976 or PS Form 2976-A is required for all items weighing 16 ounces or more, and for all items (regardless of weight) containing potentially dutiable mail contents (e.g., merchandise or goods) addressed to or from the 96555 zip code.

Other than the exceptions listed below, all PMEMS mailpieces—regardless of mail contents or weight—addressed to or from this ZIP Code must bear a properly completed PS Form 2976-B. The surface area of the address side of the mailpiece must be large enough to contain the applicable customs declaration. The following exceptions apply to known mailers, who for this purpose are defined as follows:

- Business mailers who enter volume mailings through business mail entry units or other bulk mail acceptance locations, pay postage through advance deposit accounts, use permit imprints for postage payment, and submit completed postage statements at the time of entry that certify that the mailpieces contain no dangerous materials prohibited by postal regulations. Such business mailers are exempt from providing customs documentation on non-dutiable letters and printed matter.
- All federal, state, and local government agencies whose mailings are regarded as "Official Mail." Such agencies are exempt from providing customs documentation, except for any items addressed to a post office to which this restriction applies.
- Firearms of any type are prohibited, except firearms mailed to or by official U.S. government agencies. This restriction does not apply to firearms mailed from this zip code, provided ATF and USPS regulations are met. Antique firearms do not require an ATF form.
- Replica weapons and inert explosive devices such as grenades and weapons parts are prohibited.
- Fruits, vegetables, live animals, and live plants are prohibited.
- All alcoholic beverages, including those mailable under Publication 52, Part 421 are prohibited.
- Synthetic cannabinoids used to stimulate the central nervous system commonly known as "synthetic marijuana," "K2," or "Spice" are prohibited.
- Priority Mail Express Military Service is not available.

Graphic based on a photo by Raj Palgun





KWAJ WEATHER WATCH

RTS WEATHER STATION STAFF

WEATHER DISCUSSION

Our weather pattern is currently being dominated by a strong subtropical ridge to our north.

The circulation known as Invest 92W which had been influencing our weather for the last few days has dissipated.

The subtropical ridge is creating a dry northeasterly trade wind flow and suppressing shower activity.

Only stray showers are expected for Saturday, and any showers that do form will tend to be light and brief.

Shower coverage may increase somewhat on Sunday and Monday as some trade wind convergence moves through the RMI.

Winds the next few days should generally be northeasterly in the mid-upper teens, with some gusts in the low 20s.

Gusts near showers may approach or even exceed 30 knots at times as strong mid-level winds will be present throughout the period.

Thunderstorms are not expected for the next few days as upper-level temps will be relatively warm and conditions will not be favorable for vertical development of showers.

SATURDAY

Partly sunny with stray showers. Winds NNE-E at 13-18 knots with gusts up to 30 knots possible near showers.

SUNDAY

Partly sunny with isolated showers. Winds NE-E at 15-20 knots with gusts in the low-mid 30s possible near showers.

MONDAY

Partly sunny with stray to isolated showers. Winds NE-E at 15-20 knots with gusts in the low 30s possible near showers.

NEXT WEEK

A wave is expected to move across the RMI next week, and this may coincide with a weakening of the subtropical ridge.

The exact timing of this wave is uncertain, but it may lead to significantly increased shower coverage for at least a couple days next week.

Some heavy rain and thunderstorms may also occur as this feature moves through. Winds will tend to be somewhat lighter next week, in the low-mid teens, and they may become even lighter as the wave makes its way across the Atoll. However, strong gusts will be possible in and near showers.

MOVIES

All shows start at 7:30 p.m.

THE RICHARDSON THEATER

- 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.

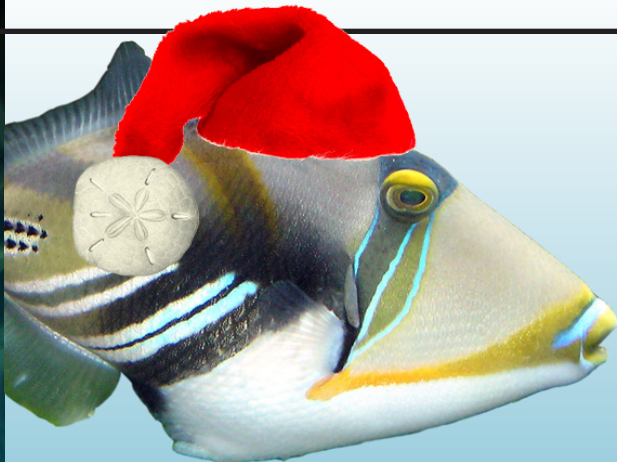
THE YUK THEATER

- Saturday, Dec. 23
"Jingle All The Way"
(PG) 89 min.
- Sunday, Dec. 24
"The Santa Clause"
(PG) 97 min.

ROI-NAMUR C-BUILDING

- Saturday, Dec. 23
Tomb Raider
(PG-13) 119 min.
- Sunday, Dec. 24
Wonder Woman 1984
(PG-13) 151 min.
- Saturday, Dec. 30
Murder on the Orient Express
(PG-13) 114 min.
- Sunday, Dec. 31
Ant Man and the Wasp
(PG-13) 118 min.
- Saturday, Jan. 6
Paul, Apostle of Christ
(PG-13) 108 min.
- Sunday, Jan. 7
Solo: A Star Wars Story
(PG-13) 135 min.
- Saturday, Jan. 13
Mama Mia! Here We Go Again
(PG-13) 114 min.
- Sunday, Jan. 14
Rampage
(PG-13) 107 min.

SUN-MOON-TIDES				
	SUNRISE SUNSET	MOONRISE MOONSET	HIGH TIDE	LOW TIDE
SUNDAY	7:00 a.m. 6:37 p.m.	4:04 p.m. 4:05 a.m.	2:14 a.m. 2.9' 2:42 p.m. 4.0'	8:10 a.m. 0.1' 9:12 p.m. -0.0'
MONDAY	7:00 a.m. 6:37 p.m.	4:56 p.m. 5:02 a.m.	3:02 a.m. 2.9' 3:21 p.m. 4.2'	8:51 a.m. -0.0' 9:52 p.m. -0.3'
TUESDAY	7:01 a.m. 6:38 p.m.	5:50 p.m. 5:59 a.m.	3:43 a.m. 3.0' 3:57 p.m. 4.4'	9:29 a.m. -0.1' 10:29 p.m. -0.4'
WEDNESDAY	7:01 a.m. 6:38 p.m.	6:46 p.m. 6:56 a.m.	4:21 a.m. 3.0' 4:32 p.m. 4.4'	10:05 a.m. -0.2' 11:03 p.m. -0.5'
THURSDAY	7:02 a.m. 6:39 p.m.	7:42 p.m. 7:51 a.m.	4:55 a.m. 3.0' 5:05 p.m. 4.4'	10:39 a.m. -0.2' 11:36 p.m. -0.5'
FRIDAY	7:02 a.m. 6:39 p.m.	8:35 p.m. 8:42 a.m.	5:29 a.m. 3.0' 5:37 p.m. 4.2'	11:13 a.m. -0.2' -----
DECEMBER 30	7:02 a.m. 6:40 p.m.	9:25 p.m. 9:29 a.m.	6:01 a.m. 3.0' 6:09 p.m. 4.1'	12:08 a.m. -0.4' 11:45 a.m. -0.0'



HAPPY HOLIDAYS
THE KWAJALEIN HOURGLASS