VOLUME 65 NUMBER 55

THE KWAJALEIN HOURGLASS

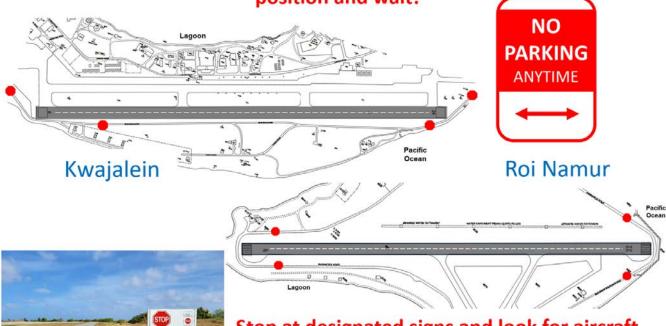


KWAJALEIN & ROI NAMUR, STOP FOR AIRCRAFT!!



Please remember to stop and look both ways for aircraft on: Zeus Blvd., Ocean Rd., Perimeter Rd., Pandanus Rd., Eleanor Wilson Rd.

If aircraft are on approach or taking off, you must hold your position and wait!





Stop at designated signs and look for aircraft landing or taking off. If you see an aircraft, hold your position at the stop sign and wait until the aircraft has landed or departed before moving.



EARN YOUR TEAM KWAJ TAB!

THE KWAJALEIN HOURGLASS

The Kwajalein Hourglass is named for the insignia of the U.S. Army's 7th Infantry Division, which liberated the island from the forces of Imperial Japan on Feb. 4, 1944. The Kwajalein Hourglass is an authorized publication for military personnel, federal employees, contractor workers and their families assigned to U.S. Army Garrison-Kwajalein Atoll.

Contents of the Hourglass are not necessarily official views of, or endorsed by, the U.S. Government, Department of Defense, Department of the Army or USAG-KA. It is published Saturdays in accordance with Army Regulation 360-1.

Phone: Defense Switching Network: 315-480-5169 Local phone: 480-5169

Garrison Commander	Col. Drew Morgan
Garrison CSMComma	nd Sgt. Maj. Ernest Miller
Public Affairs Officer	Sherman Hogue
Editor	Muhammad Rasheed
Communications Specialist	Stephen Elson
Media Capture	Melissa Dethlefsen
Reporter	Christy Wagnon



ABOVE: A door to the Outrigger Bar & Grill lies inthe dirt along with other scattered debris.

ROI NAMUR MEGAWAVE | A LOOK BACK CAN KWAJ SURVIVE?

EXTERNAL REPORT

By Mike Gruss and Cat Hofacker; Aerospace America

The waves knocked down doors, upended furniture and tipped over bookshelves, leaving flooding in its wake and an unspoken question: Is this the future?

The scene was January 2024 on the island of Roi-Namur, the second largest among the 100 slivers of land that form Kwajalein Atoll in the Pacific Ocean, an oblong ring of islands 1,100 kilometers north of the equator. About 120 U.S. military personnel and contractors live and work on Roi-Namur to run its rocket launch pad, radars and telescopes. This island is about the quarter the size of Key

West and is home to the majority of surveillance equipment within the Ronald Reagan Ballistic Missile Defense Test Site, which comprises 1.9 million square km of ocean and multiple missile launch sites on various islands.

"Kwaj," as military people call the atoll and the surrounding test range, is a focal point for U.S. missile defense testing and the surge of hypersonic weapon experiments that the U.S. has embarked on to try to catch up to China on the technology.

A bright light trails across a cloudy night sky above the ocean, with a small illuminated island in the distance.

"Because it is so wide open, it allows us to test without

having the fear or the risk of causing any damage to personal property, infrastructure, personal land or any injury to people," Army Col. Juan Santiago, who directs the Reagan Test Site from Redstone Arsenal in Huntsville, Alabama, tells us.

Also, the atoll's position near the equator puts its telescopes and radars in the closest possible proximity to satellites positioned high over the equator in the geo-belt. In particular, U.S. officials view the Millimeter Wave Radar on Roi-Namur as one of the finest-resolution imaging radars in the world, perfect for "space object identification," according to a 2012 article in the journal of the MIT Lincoln Laboratory. The atoll is also well-positioned for getting an early look at Chinese missile and weapon tests over the Pacific.

The tradeoff is the watery surroundings 7,000 km from Australia and 8,000 km from the continental U.S. Kwaj is literally in the middle of the Pacific Ocean.

"This is like the space station. It's remote and isolated and resupply is not frequent and not assured," Army Col. Andrew Morgan tells us. As a NASA astronaut who spent nine months on the International Space Station in 2019 and 2020, he should know. Morgan is now commander of U.S. Army Garrison-Kwajalein Atoll on Kwajalein Island, the atoll's largest island, about 80 kilometers from Roi-Namur and half as

big as Key West. Kwajalein Island is less desolate than Roi-Namur. About 1,300 personnel are stationed there, including their spouses and children who attend the one school with two campuses for various ages.

An assignment to either island is a unique experience. "Under any circumstances, it's a difficult place to work and operate because of its remoteness and its austerity, but also the environmental conditions that it's located in," Morgan says.

The flooding of Roi-Namur underscored what scientists have contended for years: that such events are indeed the future for low-lying places such as Kwajalein as seas continue to rise due to climate change. Roi-Namur's average elevation is 2 meters, and its highest point, Mount Olympus, is a 17.5 meter tall artificial hill with a rocket launch pad on top.

The climate threat to Roi-Namur and the rest of the Reagan Test Site has arrived just as China is making inroads in space and on hypersonic weaponry, and the atoll's facilities may be needed most by the U.S.

On Roi-Namur, seawater poured through the bachelor quarters, rendering air conditioning units worthless, disrupting power distribution and wreaking havoc on the dining facility. The Army promptly evacuated 80 of the 120 personnel who live on the island and began "Operation Roi Recovery," a months-long cleanup effort.

The proximate cause of this damage? A cyclone that formed days earlier near Japan and moved eastward. The sea under the storm rose to meet the lower pressure above, where powerful counterclockwise winds whipped up waves that radiated outward and settled into rolling swells. The storm came no closer than several hundred kilometers to Kwajalein, but shortly after the sun set last Jan. 20, the swells met the shallows on the north side of Roi-Namur, morphing into 4.5 meter tall waves that crashed into the northernmost point of the atoll for about half an hour.

Storm-driven waves are of course an entirely natural phenomenon. But from 1990 to 2020, the seas around the atoll rose 11 centimeters, as measured by Europe's altimeter-equipped Sentinel satellites. This, says coastal scientist Curt Storlazzi, made the damage worse, and is just the start of what faces the atoll in the years ahead. Up to 20 cm of additional sea level rise is forecasted by the United Nations' World Meteorological Organization through 2050.

When that happens, it won't take a cyclone as strong as last year's to do lots of

damage. "Now, a smaller wave with shorter periods can run as far inland as a much bigger storm with bigger waves and longer periods did when sea level was lower," explains Storlazzi, of the U.S. Geological Survey. He has analyzed flooding of the atoll going back to 2008.

And so, the clock to reimagine the islands' infrastructure is ticking. A 2018 study led by Storlazzi predicted that seawater would soak into Kwaj's already brackish groundwater, making it too salty for the existing water treatment plant to render it drinkable through reverse osmosis. The saltwater intrusion will mean no potable water by 2035, Storlazzi and his teammates predicted in a report for the Defense Department, "The Impact of Sea-Level Rise and Climate Change on Department of Defense Installations on Atolls in the Pacific Ocean."



Morgan, the garrison commander, has an idea. "It's a highly humid environment, so there's a lot of water stored in the air, and we can collect that," he says. He's referring to water reclamation, in which water is extracted from the ambient air to produce potable water.

In addition, DARPA has funded research through its Atmospheric Water Extraction program to develop small, lightweight, low-powered, distributable systems for the daily needs of roughly 150 people. The roughly 1,400 people on Roi-Namur and Kwajalein Island consume 20 million liters of water a month, according to Army budget documents.

An ever bigger issue lurks, however. By the most optimistic calculations, in 85 years Kwajalein's islands will flood so regularly that operations there would be impossible. There will be some mitigating effects from the changing climate, namely slightly lower wave heights on average in deep waters, slower wind speeds and less frequent typhoons. But these "will likely be insignificant in comparison to the impact of projected increases in sea level in the region."

Take a scenario in which the sea level rises 40 centimeters. In that case, at least half of Roi-Namur would be flooded by the distant effects

of a storm like the one last January. And during these floods, more infragravity waves could hit the shoreline. These irregularly shaped waves formed by the wind can rise to several meters and exacerbate flooding. In addition, warmer water means more coral bleaching events, in which the individual coral polyps expel the algae that nourish their cells and gives them their color. This means smoother reefs that allow more runup and flooding from waves.

It's challenging, but Morgan and Santiago aren't in their roles to give up on Kwajalein. The atoll is "an ideal place to demonstrate climate resilience," Morgan says. He has a message for senior Pentagon and service leaders who visit, "Let's make this the Epcot Center for Climate Resilience, for the Army, for the Pacific, for the DoD."

Among the possibilities: studying new paints and coatings that could be applied over existing paints on radar components to reduce rusting. Morgan says Kwajalein is well-known for its "highly corrosive sea spray that devours any sorts of metal and even plastics after a time." Unlike a Navy cruiser, Kwajalein can't be taken into dry dock for a season and reemerge sparkling.

Another option would be to modernize the radars.

"We can go from analog to more digital, more of a digital footprint," explains Santiago. "And so what that'll help us do is reduce the components and parts that we have to keep on hand that, again, are also challenging, because you have to maintain those in a climate-controlled environment so that those spare parts don't rust."

Also, where applicable, structures could be rebuilt away from the most flood-prone areas and made so they stand a meter or so higher than the projected sea level rise. Already, housing on Roi-Namur is located on higher ground than other parts. (The 2018 report notes how cameras installed there as part of another study stopped working because water ruined the batteries.)

The Army's fiscal 2025 budget request and five-year spending plan proposes spending roughly \$2.2 billion to operate the site during that period. That includes at least \$1.2 million in fiscal 2025 for research on mitigating climate risk.

The first half of 2024, though, was a race to get Kwajalein back in shape. As many as 10 launches of ballistic missiles or hypersonic weapons occur from the atoll each year. A test of unarmed intercontinental ballistic missiles in February had to be

rescheduled, but in June, the team on site conducted three tests that month. U.S. leaders refer to Kwajalein as the premier place to test hypersonic weapons.

On Roi-Namur: "We haven't been able to get back to rebuilding the chapel or rebuilding the outdoor theater, because those just have not been priorities relative to getting bachelor quarters and dining facilities and radar systems and runways up and running," Morgan says. "Anytime you flood a building, of course, that means that you're going to have to gut it."

He adds: "Overall, it's a little bit of a quality of life setback. Certainly, the sense around here is that it's going to be a long time before we ever get back to even where we were, let alone better than where we were."

But looking long-term, he is upbeat, despite the warning shot and predictions of further sea level rise.

"Kwajalein's best days are still ahead of us," he says. "Our leaders recognize Kwajalein is important and it was in a fragile state, and that we're going to need to reinvest in it heavily to get it back recovered, and need help to achieve its full potential over the next decade or two. Because it's important now — It's more important now than it has been in many decades."









ABOVE: The Kwajalein Time Capsule from earlier this week, out in front of the former Yokwe Yuk Club.

BELOW: Dan Foss construction crew buries the Time Capsule 25-years-ago.

COMMUNITY A YEAR OF KWAJALEIN, FROZEN IN TIME

HOURGLASS REPORT

"Hello, Mr. Hisle? I was given your number by US-AG-KA. I was hoping I could get some old Window on the Atoll footage from your team. My name is Bob Paradise."

Thus began a fun, wonderful and quirky adventure as can only happen here on Kwajalein, an adventure that will end—if you will endulge us, Dear Reader—with a call to action for the community.

Bob Paradise asked our Audio Visual Manager Randy Hisle for a package of archival files of the Kwaj Current's predecessor product for his personal enjoyment, as he used to be a Kwajalein resident himself. Bob wanted to indulge himself in nostalgic feel-good by binging on the local shows from his era. Randy obliged him with the requested file copies and thought nothing else about it. Later in November 2024, Bob would reach back in to thank Randy again and let him know he really enjoyed the viewings. He also asked, "When are you guys going to open the Time Capsule?"

"The what now?" Randy was genuinely confused.

"Oh, boy are you in for a special treat. Look up the January 2000 episode labeled 'Vault 2000,' if you please. Then call me back," said Bob with a chuckle. Randy went on to do just that, and found his confusion quickly turn to amusement, then ignited interest.



"You might not be here in 25 years, but this will: The Kwajalein Time Capsule!" began the episode's cheerful narration. "I think there's a very excellent representation of items from the island. Everything from current periodicals, newspapers, video tapes, music, hospital t-shirts, local clubs and organizations, businesses, companies, everything from the police department, all the way to USAG-KA to community activities, AFRTS and other organizations."

The episode went on to feature an assortment of charming and interesting personalities—including Simone Smead, Deputy Commander Lt. Col. David Stoddard, Dan Foss and others—who gathered for a spirited and hopeful Time Capsule burial event right in front of the old Yokwe Yuk Club. THE happening spot back on that Saturday, January 8, 2000, the Yuk Club was now a sad and condemned mess, patiently awaiting the care, attention and funds required to bring the beloved venue to won-

deful life once again. Your friendly community Hourglass editor saw historical photos of the enlivened Yuk Club back when it flourished. Legends like the Rat Pack, Bing Crosby, Perry Como and Nat King Cole wouldn't have been out of place there, crooning the regulars out of their socks (or whatever).

Randy watched the video until the end with MWR's Stephen Elson, and with a glance, the two promptly left the AVD/AFN building, hopped onto their bicycles, and rode over to the Yuk Club. With a renewed focus, the building managed to look even worse than it normally did. Neither of the two held personal memories of the Yuk Club in its hey-day, but it had long ago faded into the anonymity of the Kwajalein background as they moved about in their daily island lives. But that wasn't what they were actually there for.

Randy and Stephen hopped off their bikes, dutifully parked them in the designated racks, and walked over to stare down at what looked for all the world like just a regular old, nondescript manhole—if they had ever bothered to look at it all all before. Stephen tapped a smart phone-sized impression in the concrete with his toe. "Is that where the plaque used to be?"

"Must be," said Randy. "Assuming they actually made one for it. What's cool is that the Time Capsule is actually here and it's still sealed. In another couple of months, it'll be the 25th anniversary to the day when it was buried. I love it when a fun and interesting story drops in our laps like this. Let's head on back. I need to tell the Public Affairs Officer about this. I'm sure Sherman will get a kick out of it." Sherman Hogue did indeed get a kick out of it, and promptly reported the find to Garrison leadership, where it disappointingly has continued to tarry up until today.

Randy shared the story with MWR's leadership, the team that originally organized the burial, hoping it would gain traction.

Melissa Dethlefsen, another member of the community, reached out to Rich Feagler, the former station supervisor and executive producer of Window on the Atoll, who was also present at the Time Capsule burial event. Rich shared his thoughts:

"It's hard to believe the Time Capsule is about to be opened. Suddenly, I feel old! I outlasted a Time Capsule? Guess I'm not a kid anymore. Haha! Back then, no one expected the Time Capsule to outlast the Yokwe Yuk Club. The Yuk Club was the central gathering place for everyone on Kwajalein. We had many good times there, so it made sense to bury the Time Capsule right in front of it."

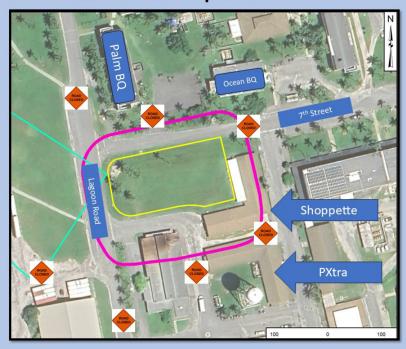
Unfortunately, it seems that this interesting piece of Kwajalein history is being overlooked as the island's busy daily life continues. Perhaps a few words from the community can help bring attention to this forgotten relic and ignite some action?





Public Notice – UXO Clearance Operations

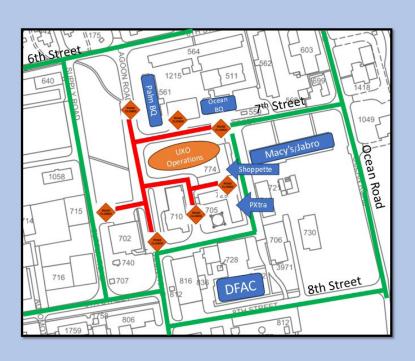
- The following facilities
 <u>must</u> be vacated NLT 1900
 each night Monday-Friday
 17 Jan thru 17 May
 - Shoppette Building 774
 - PXtra-Building 729
- Palm BQ residents should only use the Northern entry/exit doors
- Ocean BQ residents should only use the Eastern entry/exit doors

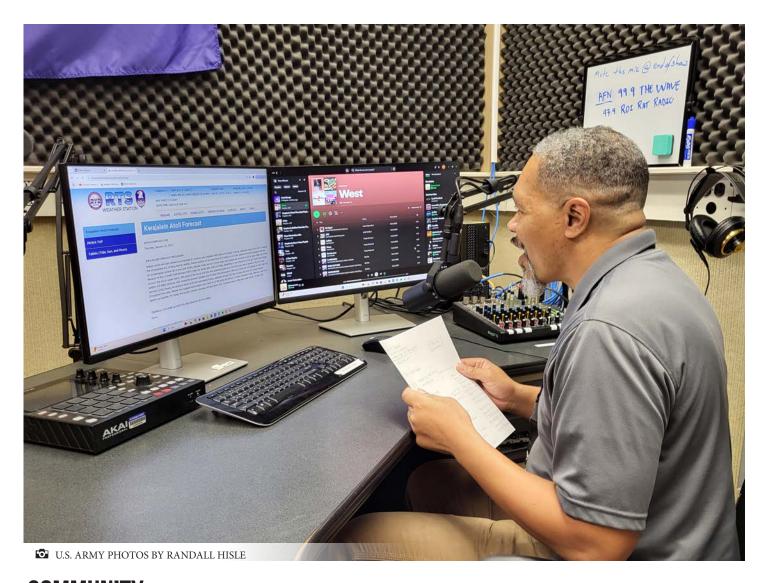




Road Closures

- Do not cross any barriers. If the barriers remain up after 0400, do not cross.
- UXO Clearance Operations are ongoing in the area overnight
- Lagoon Road and 7th Street adjacent as shown will be closed
- Roads in red will be closed each night Monday-Friday 17 Jan thru 17 May
- Roads will be closed from 1900 0400
- · Ocean road is unaffected
- Any questions reach out to Mike Flinchbaugh at 480-4255





COMMUNITY THE ENDURING MAGIC OF LOCAL RADIO

HOURGLASS REPORT

"I was thinking something like 'Master Muhammad,' or 'Master Mo," said Randy Hisle with a grin.

"I think if I'm going to be training under you, "I responded. "I'll just use a variant of your own radio name. Maybe like 'Rockin' Rasheed." Randy laughed as he led the way back to the guts of the office for my first lesson.

"Listen, I just want you to know how much we appreciate you stepping up to train as a Radio DJ," he said. "Trust me, we can use the

backup." The Audio Visual Manager pointed to a couple of two-foot-long audio patch cables attached to one of several complex devices neatly arranged on some IT shelf racks. "The first thing we'll do is make sure these are un-patched." Randy grabbed the cables and pulled out one of the ends, leaving them to dangle. "Now, anything you do with the radio equipment in the booth won't go out on the air. Just remember to plug them back in when you're done, or the next DJ will be broadcasting silence or as we say in the broadcasting, dead air." I carefully made a note of this information as we headed back to the booth. Randy pulled out the chair and hesitated, then he sat down and pulled himself up to the microphone. Apparently, he considered allowing me to sit in the pilot's chair while he performed his mentoring duties. "Have you spoken on the radio before?"

"I have not." I took in the nearly overwhelming sight of mutliple buttons, dials and knobs on the AFN-Radio Board that sat to the right of the two monitors, aware that in the old days there were probably a LOT more.

Randy assured me that it



U.S. ARMY PHOTOS BY RANDALL HISLE

was not a problem, and then flowed into his training spiel. Complete with platitudes, amusing quips, a few obligatory pop cultural references, and demonstrations of his Rockin' Randy DJ voice, he provided a rundown of every aspect of my new Radio DJ duties. At first, he paused frequently so I could catch up on my notes, but soon he found his rhythm, delivering information at a steadier pace. I made a note to double-back on much of it. With so much information, there was a need for a more detailed step-bystep at a slower pace, both for my own comprehension, as well as the formal documentation required for the program.

"Now you see we have two software products we're using," said Randy with a clear disapproving tone. "The younger guys prefer this one," He pointed to a bright green circle logo and explained the inherent problems that came with going in that direction. "But this is the one I use. Admittedly, it's a little more cumbersome."

"I prefer to use the one with the fewer inherent problems," I said. "It's <u>all</u> Greek to me right now, so I don't mind tackling the more challenging application at this stage of my training. I do have one question about all of this though." I waved my hand at the equipment. "Why radio?"

"What do you mean," asked Randy, genuinely puzzled.

"Why are we holding onto this old technology when there appears to be a lot more modern options available? What's the appeal?" Randy looked up at the ceiling and frowned slightly, and responded thoughtfully. "Well," he began slowly, with a bit of a defensive tone. "Radio allows you the freedom to listen to music while doing other things, like audiobooks..."

"But we have audiobooks," I interrupted. "Why do we need radio?"



"It's an alternative media Another way to reach out to the local community."

"Ah. It's strength is the local focus." I was starting to get it. Randy warmed to the topic when he saw me taking notes again.

Randy's expression brightened as he saw me writing. "Exactly. Radio offers local programming, news, and weather, plus a variety of music. You can listen at home, in the car, or wherever. We can even host interviews with people in the community stuff that genuinely matters to the audience."

He paused, searching for the right words. "Radio is personal," he said finally. "It connects people in a way that bigger, flashier technologies just don't. Sure, communication will keep evolving, but radio isn't going anywhere. It sticks around because it has heart. It ties the community together."

I nodded, starting to see the bigger picture. Maybe radio wasn't just an old technology—it was a bridge between people, woven with stories, voices, and the human touch that made it irreplaceable.

2025 Postage Price Change

Effective January 19, 2025, New Shipping Service Price Change will implement to all RSS.

Product	Current	New Price
Priority Mail Express Flat Rate Envelope	\$32.00	\$31.40
Priority Mail Express Legal Flat Rate Envelope	\$32.20	\$31.65
Priority Mail Express Padded Flat Rate Envelope	\$32.75	\$32.25
Priority Mail Flat Rate Envelopes	\$10.45	\$10.10
Priority Mail Legal Flat Rate Envelope	\$10.75	\$10.40
Priority Mail Padded Flat Rate Envelope	\$11.20	\$10.85
Priority Mail Small Flat Rate Box	\$11.00	\$10.65
Priority Mail Medium Flat Rate Boxes	\$19.30	\$19.15
Priority Mail Large Flat Rate Boxes	\$26.00	\$26.30

Priority Mail by weight

. . .

USPS Ground Advantage by weight

Check new price by zone in Notice 123 List

Check new price by zone in Notice 123 List

AFN TV: UPGRADES, RESTORATIONS, AND CHANNEL LINEUP UPDATES:

Restored Channels:

• AFN Prime Atlantic, Prime Pacific, Spectrum, Family, Alt. Prime, Alt. Movies.

HD Upgrades:

 Roller, Guide, KTV, and Weather channels now in HD for sharper clarity. Improved signal quality for News, Sports, and Sports II.

Important Notes for Older TVs:

- Kwajalein: Perform an auto-scan; select "Antenna (Air)."
- Roi: Auto-scan; select "Cable."
- Meck: No changes.





AFN TV: UPGRADES, RESTORATIONS, AND CHANNEL LINEUP UPDATES:

New AFN Line-Up:

- 16.1: Prime Atlantic (HD, Time Delayed)
- 16.2: News (Live HD)
- 16.3: Prime Pacific (Live)
- 17.1: Sports (Live HD)
- 17.2: Sports 2 (Live HD)
- 17.3: Alt Prime (Live)
- 18.1: Roller (HD)

- 18.2: Guide (HD)
- 18.3: Alt Movies (Live)
- 18.4: Spectrum (Time Delayed)
- 19.1: Family (HD, Time Delayed)
- 19.2: Movies (HD, Time Delayed)
- 20.1: Weather (HD)
- 20.2: KTV (HD)
- 20.4: **NHK** (SD)
- 20.5: KPIC (SD, unchanged).



ABOVE: Artist's depiction of the concerned citizens' query.

COMMUNITY

POSTMASTER UNIVERSITY | 2025 POSTAGE PRICE CHANGE

HOURGLASS REPORT

On November 15, 2024, the United States Postal Service® filed notice with the Postal Regulatory Commission (PRC) for Shipping Services price changes to take effect January 19, 2025. The proposed adjustments were approved by the Board of Governors of the USPS this week.

Although Mailing Services price increases are based on the consumer price index, Shipping Services prices are primarily adjusted according to market conditions. The Governors believe these new rates will keep the Postal Service competitive while providing the agency with needed revenue. As we previously announced, the Postal Service will not be raising prices in January for our Mailing Services.

As a strategic part of the

Delivering for America 10-year plan, these proposed changes will support the Postal Service in creating a revitalized organization capable of achieving our public service mission — providing a nationwide, integrated network for the delivery of mail and packages at least six days a week — in a cost-effective and financially sustainable manner over the long term, just as the U.S. Congress has intended.

The PRC will review the changes before they are scheduled to take effect. The complete Postal Service price filing, with prices for all products, can be found on the PRC website under the Daily Listings section at https://prc.arkcase.com/portal/docket-search/daily-listings. The Mailing Services filing is Docket No. CP2025-1.

The price tables are also available on the Postal Service's Postal Explorer website at pe.usps.com/PriceChange/Index.

Please Note:

- The Postal Service generally receives no tax dollars for operating expenses and relies on the sale of postage, products, and services to fund its operations.
- The United States Postal Service is an independent federal establishment, mandated to be self-financing and to serve every American community through the affordable, reliable and secure delivery of mail and packages to 169 million addresses six and often seven days a week. Overseen by a bipartisan Board of Governors, the Postal Service is implementing a 10-year transformation plan, Delivering for Ameri-
- ca, to modernize the postal network, restore long-term financial sustainability, dramatically improve service across all mail and shipping categories, and maintain the organization as one of America's most valued and trusted brands.
- The Postal Service continues to offer a great value for shipping with our reliable service to the American people.
- Rate changes will support the \$40 billion of investments in people, technology, and infrastructure and continue the modernization and improvement of the Postal Service's operations and customer experience.

Our Postal Service PSAs are brainstormed-developed by James Smith & Glenna Carter.

EARN YOUR TEAM KWAJ TAB

- 1. Attend Col. Morgan's TEAM KWAJ brief (either Teammate or Community version), read and adhere to the TEAM KWAJ Teammate Pact, presented at initial town halls, and periodically thereafter.
- 2. Attend the Island Newcomer's Briefing.
- 3. Attend at least one group greeting at air terminal for personnel arriving on island. Make them feel welcome and show them we are happy they are on Kwaj with us.
- 4. Attend at least two garrison after-hours team-building or social events (TEAM KWAJ Happy Hour, Commander's Call, Hail/Farewell).
- 5. Attend at least two TEAM KWAJ PT/Wellness sessions. Become a regular attender!
- 6. Visit Marshallese Cultural Center in last 3 months prior to tab award.
- 7. Visit Ebeye, Third island or Majuro in last 3 months prior to tab, use a Marshallese phrase or two and visit a store/restaurant.
- 8. Tell three co-workers how to earn the TEAM KWAJ tab.

- 9. Swim, snorkel, boat or paddle on the lagoon at least once with a teammate.
- 10. Complete the TEAM KWAJ Circle-island 6-mile ruck march/walk/bike and read all historic battlefield markers. This is an organized USAG-KA hosted event several times per year.
- 11. Mission Partner wild card event—discuss with your supervisor any additional organizational requirement. Could be knowledge-based, achievement-based, or physical challenge.
- 12. Final event, "Board of Review" -- meet with Col. Morgan face-to-face individually or in a small group with all requirements fulfilled. Schedule with garrison front office. Discussion items may include but are not limited to; TEAM KWAJ pact "Healthy Community of Excellence," Kwaj history, Marshallese culture, military/strategic missions and their significance, and future operational potential.

Once you have the first 11 items completed, contact Terri Wilson at 480-4322 or at terri.l.wilson20.civ@army.mil to set up a date/time with the commander for the final event.







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

FOR KWAJ COMMAND TEAM INFO & UPDATES



TEAM KWAJ COMMANDER







@TeamKwajCommander







J.S. ARMY GARRISON - KWAJALEIN ATOL



NASA ASTRONAUT ANDREW "DREW" MORGAN

• O @AstroDrewMorgan



Kwajalein



NEVER FORGET.

https://kwajaleinmiaproject.us/

COMMUNITY CLASSIFIEDS

Submit Announcements to the Roller Channel and The Kwajalein Hourglass

OPEN CALL FOR ANNOUNCEMENTS The island community is invited to submit listings for jobs (Hourglass classifieds only), events and for sale items; announcements; department trainings; safety updates; public service messages; and thank-you messages.

Preparing Your Message

For questions about your messaging, please reach out to the USAG-KA Public Affairs Office at 480-4848.

Ads should always include a point of contact, phone number and/or email address.

Private parties, fundraisers and events requesting and/or accepting donations are typically not allowed for publication per AR 360-1. Fundraisers and support activities for private and schools-based organizations, scouting groups, civic clubs and other listings may be subject to a legal counsel review to determine their eligibility for publication.

Formatting Your Listings

It is recommended that graphical advertisements and announcements intended for the Hourglass and the AFN Roller Channel be formatted as PowerPoint slides.

Graphic designers are asked to maintain a generous margin (.75-1-inch) around all sides and to size fonts no smaller than pt. 20.

If your Roller Channel advertisement requires a special expiration date, please note this for the Roller team in the body of your message.

Deadlines for Submissions

Send advertisements for the Kwajalein Hourglass and the AFN Roller Channel to kwajaleinhourglass@gov2x.com on Wednesdays by close of business/Thursday morning.

Roller Channel ads are accepted on a rolling basis by 4 p.m. for a mid-week and late-week update. Ads received after 4 p.m. will be loaded in the next update. Please ensure you submit ads in good time to ensure timely upload.

For more information, reach out to the USAG-KA Command team through the USAG-KA Facebook page.

HELP WANTED

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

Atmospheric Science Technology, LLC, has an immediate opening for a meteorologist. This full-time, salaried position is located on Kwajalein. Eligible applicants will have a master's or bachelor's degree in meteorology/a related field, with two years of forecasting experience. Experience in Doppler or dual-polarized weather radar or satellite interpretation is preferred. To apply or learn more, contact Dottie Thomas, director of human resources, at dottiethomas@n8tivesynergy.com; call (256) 836-5316 direct and visit https://recruiting.paylocity.com/

recruiting/jobs/Details/2337159/Atmospheric-Science-Technology-LLC/Meteorologist—Kwajalein-Island.

Kikaha Solutions 30th Signal Battalion Network Enterprise Center, U.S. Army Garrison-Kwajalein Atoll is now partnered with Kikaha Solutions. Please visit www.kikahasolutions.com for more information and to submit applications. To navigate the site, click on "Careers," scroll down, and click on "search opportunities and apply." Enter job code 11326 and select search.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

AFH Construction Is Ongoing. Nan, Inc. Construction is scheduled to commence the telecommunication scope of work for the FY21 Kwajalein Army Family Housing project in our community from February – September 2024. Residents and commuters should be aware of possible changes in traffic patterns and to plan their routes accordingly. Nan, Inc. Construction is committed to minimizing any inconveniences, and we will strive to ensure a smooth and efficient construction process.

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.

CAC Office. Before your visit to the Common Access Card Office, ensure all paperwork is





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

completed by your human resources representative before making an appointment. Bring two forms of government-issued IDs with you. Walkin 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.

Demolition at the Capt. Louis S. Zamperini Dining Facility. Phase three of the Zamperini DFAC demo has begun and is projected to be finished March 2026 for the dining and serving area. Be careful around the dining facility during the phases

Do Not 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. Contact the Kwajalein Archaeology Office at 480-8867.

Driver's Licensing Classes. Kwaj: Every Wednesday, Bldg. 856, Rm. 101, 9 a.m. for RMI, 1 p.m. for Expats. Preregistration is encouraged. Space is limited. Roi Classes: Every second Friday in C-building. 9 a.m. - RMI, 11 a.m. for Expats. No preregistration required. To register, email wilson.kaisha@gov2x.com, audrey.hughes@gov2x.com, and/or george.parker3@gov2x.com, or call 480-3376.

Emergency Management. 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.

E-Wareness: It is each driver's responsibility to ensure vehicles are not leaking fluids other than air conditioning condensate. Call 911 to report spills and arrange with automotive for routine maintenance. Please call Environmental at 480-0722 with questions. Ej an ri-kator eo eddo non lolorjake bwe wa eo ejjab leak jabdewot oil ijelak in drennin air condition eo jen wa eo. Ne elon jabdwot leak/lutok in oil jen wa eo, Kiir 911 non report- e lutok eo. Ak kiir Environmental ilo 480-0722 non kajitok.

Fire Safety Tips. Some pets are chewers. Watch pets to make sure they don't chew through electrical cords. Pets are curious. They may bump into, turn on, or knock over cooking equipment. Keep pets away from stoves and countertops. Make sure pets are included in your family's fire evacuation plan. Build an evacuation kit for each pet in your

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; 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 schedule reservations and for correspondence related to flights, email LCVKwajaleinFlyRoi@versar.com.

How to dress in the RMI. Out of respect for the Marshallese culture, residents are asked to dress appropriately when visiting Ebeye, Third Island, or anywhere within Kwajalein Atoll. Women should wear clothing to cover shoulders and knees. None are permitted to wear shorts when visiting churches on Ebeye. Men should wear long slacks to church.

Kwaj Small Boat Marina hours are 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.

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.

Operational Security. See something, say something. All employees on USAG-KA are required to receive annual Threat Awareness and Reporting Program training provided by KRO; Reporting: Report suspicious activities to the Kwajalein Resident Office at 480-9859/1293/8006 at Bldg. 1163.

PCS & Vacation Tips. 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



ACUITY KWAJALEIN HOSPITAL V2X



Acuity International is pleased to begin providing services at Kwajalein Hospital on October 1, 2024.

There will be no interruption in the current level of medical or dental services.

To reach the Hospital, please see contacts to the right:

Occupational Health Services

kwajohdteam@acuityinternational.com

Dental Clinic

kwajdentalclinic@acuityinternational.com

Veterinary Clinic

kwajvetclinic@acuityinternational.com

Smith with questions at 480-3461 and james-.e.smith2295@army.mil.

Salon Walk-Ins. Surfside Salon Walk-In Appointments are available on Fridays from 1:30 - 6 p.m.

Smoking. 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.

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

Upcoming Changes to Entry/Exit Procedures. Beginning June 1, please send all access requests to USAG-KA Entry and Exit at U.S. Army Bucholz AAF ID-Pacific Mailbox USAG-KA E-E: usarmy.bucholz.id-pacific.mbx.usag0ka-e-e@ army.mil. The current inbox of U.S. Army Bucholz AAF 311 Sig Cmd Mailbox USAG PMO will be monitored for 30 days after the initial changeover to ensure a smooth transition. Your patience is appreciated during this transition period.

Millican Family Pool Hours. Closed for cleaning on Thursdays. Open noon to 5 p.m. Tuesdays, Wednesdays, Fridays and Saturdays. Open 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. Sundays and Mondays.

The NEC Testing Center Is Open to the Community - Giving you the head start you need to thrive! - Open Tuesday through Saturday by appointment

Authorized Pearson VUE Test Center. Schedule A test Today!

NEC testing Center, 480-4344, FN 1008-131 **ACUITY International**

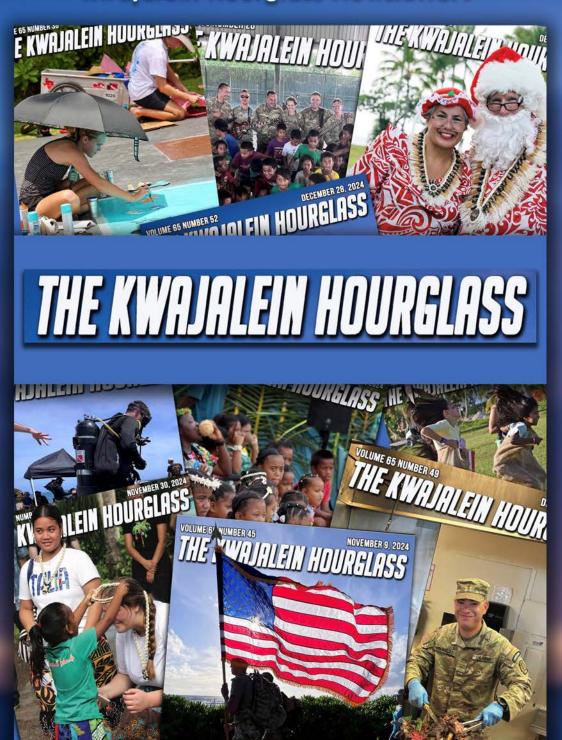
Job Postings for this contract have "Marshall Islands" in the job title. https://acuityinternational.com/careers/ Anyone interested please reach out directly to

Melani.Gebhardt@acuityinternational.com

All-Year Licensing Classes Kwajalein: Wednesdays, Bldg 856/Rm 101 Roi Namur: Every 2nd Wednesday, Bldg C • 0900 hrs (RMI) • 1300 hrs (Expats) REGISTRATION - None required for Roi Namur. Kwajalein registration encouraged as space is limited. Call 480-3366 or email: George.Parker3@gov2x.com Kaisha.Wilson@gov2x.com



Want to receive timely links and files for the very latest Kwajalein Hourglass Newsletter?



Get on our Email Distribution List! Just send an email to:

kwajaleinhourglass@gov2x.com

Subject: Add me to the Kwajalein Hourglass Email Distro List!



Kwajalein Atoll is a significant archeological location. If you find anything, take a photo, remember where it is and notify the Public Affairs officer at Sherman.hogue.civ@army.mil but do not pick up, or remove the object.





COMMUNITY

WHAT'S TO KNOW ABOUT A SEASIDE VISITOR | PORTUGUESE MAN O' WAR

HOURGLASS REPORT

By Glenna S. Carter, SC Subcontracts Manager, Sr.

What is a Portuguese Man O' War, a marine hydrozoan found in the Atlantic, Pacific, and Indian Oceans, is like no other creature on Earth.

Here's some interesting facts about the Portuguese Man O' War

- 1. Portuguese Man O' War is named after a dangerous ship. Between the 16th and 19th centuries, when humanity spent the most time blowing each other up in the ocean, a sufficiently big and powerful sail ship was known as a manof-war, or man o' war. The inflated float of the animal resembles the Portuguese version of this warship and was therefore named after it.
- 2. Portuguese Man O' War, from an outward appearance resembles a jelly-fish, although both are members of the phylum Cnidaria with thousands of other animals, the Portuguese Man-of-war is not a jellyfish, a completely different species. A jellyfish is a single organism, while the Physalis is a complex of four zooids.
- 3. Portuguese Man O' War delivers a venomous sting that can kill its prey instantaneously. Human victims of such

stings experience pain and it can cause death if the wounds are left untreated for an extended period.

- 4. Portuguese Man O' War stings rank among the common scuba diving injuries, along with the most frequent of all, barotraumas. Their cnidocytes deliver a potent neurotoxin, which can easily paralyze small fishes. Most of the stings occur at the surface or on the beaches.
- 5. Portuguese Man O' War has a symbiotic relationship. Small creatures like Nomeus gronovii or man-of-war fish are immune to the venom-bearing tentacles and seek shelter.
- 6. The Portuguese Man O' War tentacles can reach over 30 m (100ft). The tentacles dangle into the deep and snag on anything soft enough to sting. Then they stick onto the prey (almost always fish) and inject a paralyzing toxin into them. These same tentacles then retract and pull the food item towards the individuals responsible for digesting it.
- 7. Unfortunately for the Portuguese Man O' War, the lethal sting does not deter its predators. In fact, predators, such as loggerhead turtles, ocean sunfish, and blanket octopus are well adapted to hunt the Portuguese Man O' War.
- 8. The Portuguese Man O' War, travels with the sea. The Portuguese Manof-war lacks any locomotory organs. It

simply drifts with the sea currents or sails with the sea breeze. The pneumatophore can also be temporarily deflated if the creature is threatened. It causes the creature to sink below the water. If winds or ocean currents are too strong, the Portuguese Man-of-war might accidentally land onto beaches. Even in this condition, the creature can sting.

- 9. Portuguese Man O' War don't travel alone, in fact, it is not unusual to see hundreds to thousands of these creatures floating on the sea. Entire beaches are often shut down when one such creature lands on the beach as the possibility of more of them drifting nearby is quite high.
- io. The lifespan of the Portuguese Man O' War varies, but on average, these creatures live up to several months. Factors like water temperature, availability of prey, and predation can influence their survival rate in the wild.

The more we know about these fascinating facts about the Portuguese Man of War helps us appreciate the complexity of marine life. Next time you're at the beach, keep an eye out for this intriguing yet dangerous drifter. Respect its space, and you'll avoid an unpleasant encounter!

WEEKLY TROPICAL WEATHER THREAT OUTLOOK

RTS WEATHER STATION STAFF

Discussion:

So far in January, we have received 1.33 inches of rain through yesterday, which is o.61 inches below normal for the month. We are now in the heart of the windy dry season (Ellap Kutu) here in the central RMI, and can expect only an average of about four inches this month, down from the eight inches average for December. We experienced no thunderstorm days during the last seven days, as the vertical dynamics of the atmospheric column remained mostly negative over the last week for lightning development. A thunderstorm day is defined as an "in situ" lightning strike within five miles of the weather station. The Intertropical Convergence Zone (ITCZ) has taken its normal positioning well south of the RMI, which is the primary reason for the mostly dry weather, expected to continue for the next seven days, with stray showers passing over the atoll as a result of perturbations in the speed and direction of the general trade-wind flow. This positioning of the ITCZ is the result of the southern hemisphere being in high summer at this time. The ITCZ will follow the summer

season, whichever hemisphere it is in, in this case, removing our most prolific rainmaker from the picture for our area. The Madden/ Julian Oscillation (MJO) is currently in somewhat of a neutral state over the Marshall Islands at mid-January. This phase has little effect on our area. The El Nino Southern Oscillation (ENSO) is in mild La Nina conditions with the central Pacific (ocean to the east of the RMI) actually about -0.4 degrees C below normal. Cooler temperatures in the Pacific to the east of the RMI work to temper our shower activity even more, as almost all of our precipitation producers come from the east, this cool anomaly in the central Pacific also tends to work again tropical cyclone development to the east of the RMI, where it could pose a threat to our region. We are also out of the tropical cyclone season as a whole for the western Pacific with the northern winter now climatologically in place.

Tropical Cyclones:

No significant tropical cyclone activity expected to affect anywhere in Micronesia, the Mariana Islands, Wake Island or Hawai'i. We are now in climatological winter for the northwest Pacific, which

generally bring a considerable decline in tropical cyclone activity.

<u>Damaging West Winds /</u> <u>Westerly Swell</u>:

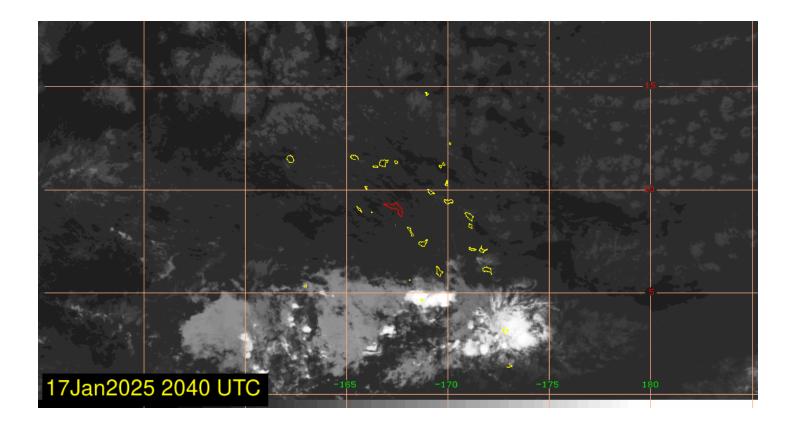
None expected. Micronesia is northeast trade wind dominant.

Swell / Tide Inundation for Kwajalein Atoll and Wake Island:

The full moon just occurred on the 13th. With its waning over the next seven days, we will move into a neap tide situation, and enter minimal high tides of under four feet, starting on the 19th. As we progress toward the New Moon on the 29th, it will be more of perigean moon (closer to the Earth), in which high tides on the 30th and 31st will be at five feet. This height is always more of a concern during the Windy Season; thus, we will be watching this carefully. Trade-winds out of the northeast will be in Windy Season fashion, and sustain mostly in the middle to upper teens and higher clear-air gusts and near any showers between 20-25 knots with a more significant bump Monday night, sustaining in the low 20s for periods of time. As is typical during January, there will be times when a Small Craft Advisory (SCA) will be issued due to periods at which winds over 20 knots will sustain for a span of at least 30 minutes. Right now, it is looking like the second half of Monday into Tuesday will see a SCA issued. The risk of the issuance of a High Surf Advisory (HSA) will remain in the picture for the second half of Friday . There will certainly be some minor splash-up / over mainly for Roi-Namur around high tide, which will occur at 1824L tomorrow.

Purpose: This weekly briefing is delivered Thursday mornings to island leadership. The intention of this briefing is to provide situational awareness of weather events that may interrupt operations and transportation around Kwajalein, to/ from Hawaii and Guam, and in the Wake vicinity. The main threat assessed in this brief is existing and potential development of tropical cyclone activity. This brief also provides an outlook of abnormal winds, sea state, and precipitation guidance for next 7 days around the Kwajalein Atoll. The distribution list will also receive updates on any developing tropical cyclone activity in the Kwajalein region that occur between the weekly outlook product.





WEATHER

RTS WEATHER STATION STAFF

WEATHER DISCUSSION

Dry and windy conditions once again look to be the norm through the end of the week and the upcoming weekend. Subtropical ridging to the north continues to promote dry, sinking motion in the upper atmosphere and suppress shower activity. There may be occasional shower chances generated by areas of localized trade wind convergence, especially late Saturday night into early Sunday. However, any showers should be brief and light. The main weather feature will continue to be the winds, with the ridging to the north generating a tight pressure gradient across the

RMI and leading to elevated wind speeds. Winds will generally be in the mid-upper teens on Saturday and Sunday, with some gusts in the low 20s and gusts as high as the upper 20s possible near showers. Starting Monday, an even stronger subtropical high-pressure system will begin building to the north and the Inter-Tropical Convergence Zone (ITCZ) will begin reorganizing to the south. This will work to further tighten the pressure gradient and increase the sustained winds a couple of knots. A Small Craft Advisory (SCA) may be needed starting some time on Monday as conditions may become hazardous for small vessels. Swells look to remain below High Surf Advisory (HSA) criteria for the time-being,

but residents should

exercise caution when venturing near north and east-facing shores around high tide.

SATURDAY

Partly sunny with stray showers. Winds will be NE-E at 14-19 knots with some gusts in the low 20s and higher gusts near showers.

SUNDAY

Mostly sunny with stray to isolated showers, especially early. Winds will be NE-E at 14-19 knots with some gusts in the low 20s and higher gusts near showers.

MONDAY

Mostly sunny with stray showers. Winds will be NE-E at 16-21 knots with frequent gusts in the mid-20s and higher gusts near showers.

NEXT WEEK

The same dry, windy pattern looks to con-

tinue through at least the early-middle part of next week. Tuesday into early Wednesday in particular looks to have sustained winds that could persist over 20 knots for extended periods of time, possibly necessitating a Small Craft Advisory. Toward the

end of the week, the ITCZ may begin to shift northward to the central RMI, which could bring a pattern change toward wetter conditions and lighter winds. However, this is a long way out and far from certain.



	State of the latest and the latest a	and the second		1000
	SUNRISE SUNSET	MOONRISE MOONSET	HIGH TIDE	LOW TIDE
SUNDAY	7:09 a.m.	11:07 p.m.	7:16 a.m. 3.3°	1:14 a.m0.1'
	6:50 p.m.	10:46 a.m.	7:19 p.m. 3.7'	1:08 p.m. 0.3'
MONDAY	7:09 a.m.	11:50 p.m.	7:47 a.m. 3.1°	1:40 a.m. 0.2'
	6:51 p.m.	11:22 a.m.	7:46 p.m. 3.2°	1:41 p.m. 0.6'
TUESDAY	7:09 a.m.		8:23 a.m. 2.9'	2:07 a.m. 0.4'
	6:51 p.m.	11:58 a.m.	8:16 p.m. 2.8'	2:20 p.m. 1.0'
WEDNESDAY	7:10 a.m.	12:34 a.m.	9:11 a.m. 2.8'	2:39 a.m. 0.7'
	6:52 p.m.	12:35 p.m.	8:57 p.m. 2.3'	3:18 p.m. 1.3'
THURSDAY	7:10 a.m.	1:20 a.m.	10:29 a.m. 2.6'	3:23 a.m. 1.0'
	6:52 p.m.	1:16 p.m.	10:36 p.m. 1.9'	5:20 p.m. 1.5'
FRIDAY	7:10 a.m.	2:08 a.m.	12:29 p.m. 2.7'	4:50 a.m. 1.2'
	6:52 p.m.	2:00 p.m.		7:57 p.m. 1.2'
JANUARY 25	7:10 a.m.	3:00 a.m.	1:29 a.m. 1.9'	6:54 a.m. 1.1'
	6:53 p.m.	2:49 p.m.	1:52 p.m. 3.1'	8:51 p.m. 0.7'

FOR QUESTIONS ABOUT ISLAND LIFE AND ARMY REG-ULATIONS, PLEASE CALL THE COMMANDER'S HOTLINE AT 480-1098.

