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THE KWAJALEIN HOURGLASS





PHOTOS BY ANTHONY CARNELLI

COMMUNITY

BEFORE THE ALARM: HOW THE FIRE INSPECTORS KEEP KWAJALEIN SAFER

HOURLASS REPORT

By Anthony Carnelli,
Hourglass Story Writer

Four seasoned firefighters work their way through Kwajalein's buildings one room at a time — checking sprinkler pipes for corrosion, testing exit signs, noting the boxes stacked too close to electric panels. It's methodical, team-based, and focused on the small details that become big problems when nobody's watching — whether it's a faulty sprinkler, dead batteries in a smoke alarm or a corroded piece of mechanical equipment.

For the atoll's fire inspection team, the mission is straightforward — inspect every single structure for fire and life safety. But, in an en-

vironment where vulnerable infrastructure meets saltwater air and relentless corrosion, prevention carries more weight than most places in the world.

On Kwajalein, prevention is shaped by geography as much as policy. Salt air accelerates corrosion, many facilities are decades old, and repairs can hinge on parts or specialized support that may not be immediately available. Inspectors say that combination makes it especially important to catch small hazards early — before they have a chance to compound.

Buildings across Kwajalein, Roi-Namur, and Meck are inspected at least annually, with structures assigned on a monthly rotation. Schools get extra attention — month-

ly drills where inspectors position themselves around the building to time evacuations and confirm every student is accounted for.

It's a routine built around readiness — not just for inspectors, but for everyone who lives and works inside these walls.

The Team

Four inspectors cover the islands in the atoll: Jason Mitchell, Chris Robinson, Lee Pennington and Alan Williams. All four are experienced U.S. firefighters who have 20+ years' experience in the field. They came to Kwajalein carrying habits built stateside — the discipline, the attention to detail, the instinct to look twice. But how they conduct the work here is

different, and they've adapted.

“One of the biggest things with fire services is that you have to be able to adapt and overcome,” Mitchell said. “It's about finding a piece of old equipment that you can use that has multiple purposes. Always think about how many uses you can find for one piece of equipment.”

Mitchell alluded to one example: a fire extinguisher. He explained that most people see a red cylinder on the wall that one uses to put out a small fire. The atoll's firefighters and inspectors see it as a tool that can mark an escape route in smoke, identify a rally point in chaos, or break a window when a door won't open. That mindset — resourceful, practical, always

thinking ahead — shapes how they approach every room and structure.

The team-based model matters here. Stateside, inspections often happen solo. On Kwajalein, they work together deliberately.

“Working as a team gives you more eyes,” Mitchell said. “You can see 10 different inspectors come through and look at a building, and they’ll all see 10 different things.”

Performing Fire Drills

Monthly fire drills at Kwajalein schools provide the inspection team a different kind of role — less about checking equipment and more about watching how preparation holds up in practice.

When a fire drill begins, inspectors are already in position around the building. They time the evacuation. They watch the exits. They confirm that teachers complete roll call and account for every student. The questions they’re answering aren’t just about speed — Do students



ABOVE: A student is selected to pull the school’s fire alarm during each scheduled drill.

know where to go? Do staff know their responsibilities? Does the plan work the way it’s supposed to?

Sometimes before a drill starts, inspectors will pull a student aside to see what they’ve retained.

“We’ll pull a kid to test if

they know what to do, see if they’ve been paying attention to things they’ve been taught before,” Pennington said.

The students’ favorite part? Getting the chance to pull the alarm.

According to the inspection team, most drill partic-

ipants perform well. They understand the expectations, know the routes and take the drills seriously. The approach — prevention as education rather than enforcement — appears to be working.

How Inspections Work

The team arrives and works through each building methodically. Mitchell prefers to start at the bottom, work his way around, then move counter-clockwise through the middle floors before finishing at the top — making sure nothing gets missed. While some inspect, one takes notes for the report that follows.

In a Bachelor Quarters building, that means hallways, mechanical rooms, laundry rooms, electrical rooms — each checked for the same core issues. Fire extinguishers: inspected, dated, pressure checked. Exit signs and emergency lights: functioning or not. Sprinkler heads: correct type for the space, pipes intact. Electrical rooms: no overheating, no exposed wiring, no combus-





ABOVE: Salt air corrosion and everyday hazards keep Kwajalein's fire inspectors constantly on alert.

tible storage. Even staircases get a look — anything with more than three stairs needs a railing.

Findings go into a Service Order Request that moves up the chain of command. The inspectors note violations and recommend fixes. What happens next is up to department managers.

Kwajalein's Defining Challenge

The island shapes the job, and the job shapes how the inspectors move through each building.

Saltwater air accelerates deterioration in ways that most of the U.S. mainland infrastructure does not face at the same level. Metal corrodes faster. Systems age harder — and what may look solid on the surface of a building or room may be weakening underneath.

"The biggest fire hazard on Kwajalein, Roi-Namur, and Meck is structural instability caused by severe rust from the saltwater air," Williams said.

Structural instability means weakened supports, increased collapse risk, and infrastructure that can fail

without warning. During one inspection, the team discovered a sprinkler pipe so corroded an increase in water pressure could have caused it to fail immediately. At that point, the team notes it and makes the recommendation to have it replaced.

Corrosion isn't the only concern — it's the scale. According to Robinson, a number of fire extinguishers across the atoll need servicing at any given time. The environment doesn't stop wearing things down.

Laundry rooms come with their own quiet risks. Dryer lint that isn't cleared after each use, along with vents or hoses clogged by mold or debris, can become fuel for a fire. Inspectors advise cleaning dryer vents every six months. Lint builds up out of sight, and it ignites far more easily than most people realize.

The Common Occurrences

Some hazards come from the environment. Others come from people — not from carelessness, but from the routines that develop when life gets busy and space

runs short.

"The biggest violations we see are daisy-chaining and also people blatantly blocking emergency exits because they were either complacent or ran out of room in other parts of their building," Pennington said.

Daisy-chaining: plugging extension cords or power strips into each other creates serious risk, especially in older buildings that may not necessarily have the most up-to-date wiring. Blocked exits happen when storage space runs short and an emergency door looks like unused space. These mistakes aren't malicious, but they're still violations that need to be noted and reported.

Prevention Through Relationships

The team's approach to fire prevention is straightforward: identify issues that come with aging structures, document them with recommendations, and route the findings through the proper channels. Just as important, inspectors say, is the conversation that happens in the moment — explaining what they see and building trust

with the people who work in the buildings every day.

"These guys are really great with community awareness and community outreach — talking with people and building relationships," Mitchell said.

When that cooperation is in place, the team said, the difference shows. They pointed to the Space Fence facility as a strong example: clean, coordinated, and guided by a preinspection game plan, and said it helps reduce avoidable hazards before they escalate.

Quiet Work, Real Impact

Buildings across the atoll. Monthly assignments. Annual inspections. Four experienced firefighters walking hallways, checking equipment, documenting findings, and moving to the next structure.

Prevention means catching problems early, when they're still small and fixable. It's work that rarely makes headlines — but it keeps people safer, one structure, one drill at a time. ▾



Front Cover: LTG Smith Kwajalein Atoll Visit by Sherman Hogue

Back Cover: Roi's Sandy Beaches by Isaiah Matthews

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

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PHOTOS BY SHERMAN HOGUE

COMMUNITY

AN INFORMATIVE VISIT: IMCOM LEADERSHIP TOURS U.S. ARMY GARRISON KWAJALEIN ATOLL, REINFORCING COMMITMENT TO PACIFIC INFRASTRUCTURE AND PERSONNEL

HOURLASS REPORT

By Sherman Hogue, Garrison Public Affairs Officer

In a significant demonstration of senior leadership engagement, the U.S. Army Garrison Kwajalein Atoll (USAG-KA) recently had the distinct honor of hosting the command team from the U.S. Army Installation Management Command (IMCOM). Lieutenant General James M. Smith, the Commanding General of IMCOM, and Command Sergeant Major Corey J. Perry, Command Senior Enlisted Leader IMCOM, made their inaugural visit to the remote but strategically vital Pacific atoll. They were joined by the IMCOM Pacific Command Team, comprising of Director Ms. Brenda L. McCullough and Command Sergeant Major Derek G. Wise, for what was described

as a highly informative and comprehensive tour of the garrison's diverse and critical facilities.

The visit served as a crucial opportunity for the IMCOM command team to gain a firsthand, on-the-ground perspective of the unique operational environment and living conditions at Kwajalein Atoll. As the senior leaders responsible for the management of all Army installations worldwide, their personal assessment of USAG-KA's infrastructure, services, and community well-being is invaluable. The trip underscored IMCOM's unwavering commitment to ensuring that even the most remote garrisons are properly resourced and maintained to support both the strategic mission and the quality of life for the soldiers, civilians, contractors and families who call these distant posts home. For

LTG Smith and CSM Perry, this first-ever journey to Kwajalein Atoll provided a foundational understanding that cannot be replicated through briefings and reports alone.

Upon their arrival, the IMCOM leadership was warmly welcomed by the USAG-KA command team Colonel Matthew Cannon, Commander U.S. Army Garrison – Kwajalein Atoll and Command Sergeant Major Stanely Jackson along with USAG-KA staff. The itinerary was mapped out to cover the full spectrum of the garrison's responsibilities. The command team was escorted across the island by a series of subject matter experts, each providing detailed walking briefs within their respective areas of expertise. This hands-on approach allowed for candid discussions, direct observation of ongoing projects, and a clear-eyed assessment of the challenges

and triumphs of operating a complex installation in the heart of the Pacific.

A primary focus of the tour was the well-being of the Kwajalein community, with extensive visits to the residential areas. The team inspected both legacy and newly constructed Army Family Housing, gaining an appreciation for the ongoing efforts to modernize living quarters and enhance the quality of life for families stationed thousands of miles from the continental United States. They also toured the Bachelors Quarters, recognizing the importance of providing comfortable and safe accommodations for unaccompanied personnel. The visit extended to the heart of the community: the Child & Youth Services (CYS) programs with visits to the Child Development Center (CDC) and the "Namo Weto" Youth

Center (YC). Here, the command team observed the critical role these facilities play in supporting working families and providing a nurturing, enriching environment for the youngest members of the Kwajalein family.

The operational and logistical backbone of the garrison was also a key area of inspection. The tour included a detailed overview of the island's fuels areas, which are the lifeblood of the atoll's power generation and transportation capabilities. At the airfield, the IMCOM team received a briefing on air traffic control operations, highlighting the atoll's role as a vital logistical hub for military and research activities in the region.

A significant portion of the tour was dedicated to the mission support marina, a facility that underscores the unique maritime nature of the garrison. Here, the command team reviewed one of the largest fleets of Army-owned watercraft. These vessels are not for recreation but are the essential connective tissue for the atoll, which is spread across numerous islands. The subject matter experts briefed the leadership on how this diverse fleet is key to supporting the mission and daily operations, facilitating the transport of personnel, equipment, and supplies between Kwajalein, Roi-Namur, and other islets. This logistical capability is paramount for the sustenance of the community and the direct support of the Ronald Reagan Ballistic Missile Defense Test Site's strategic mission, making the marina a hub of constant and critical activity. The group broke for lunch at the Zamperini Dining Facility which not only provided an assessment of the quality and provision of food services, a cornerstone of morale and readiness for all personnel, but also allowed some one-on-one discussions with section directors.

Recognizing that health and welfare are paramount,

the tour included a comprehensive stop at the Kwajalein Hospital. The command team was briefed on the medical and dental services available to the community, understanding the unique challenges of providing healthcare in such a remote location. The tour also highlighted the garrison's commitment to morale, welfare, and recreation (MWR), with visits to the small boat marina and other recreational facilities that provide essential outlets for relaxation and community bonding. Finally,

a stop at the Provost Marshal Office provided insights into the security and law enforcement operations that ensure the safety and good order of the installation.

The visit by LTG Smith, CSM Perry, Ms. McCullough, and CSM Wise was more than a simple inspection; it was a powerful statement of support and a testament to the "People First" philosophy that guides the U.S. Army. The detailed, hands-on nature of the tour ensured that the senior leaders left with a deep and nuanced under-

standing of Kwajalein's mission, its infrastructure needs, and the resilient spirit of its community. The insights gained during this initial trip will undoubtedly inform future resourcing decisions and strategic planning, ensuring that the U.S. Army Garrison Kwajalein Atoll remains a premier, mission-ready installation for years to come. ▼









PHOTOS BY ANTHONY CARNELLI

COMMUNITY

ELEMENTARY SCHOOL WINTER CONCERT SHOWCASES STUDENT SKILL, COMMUNITY COLLABORATION

HOURLASS REPORT

Students displayed months of preparation in a packed Multipurpose Room performance.

The Elementary School Winter Concert arrived a month late — and that was exactly the plan.

When George Seitz Elementary students finally took the stage of the Multipurpose Room on Friday, January 23, the packed room of enthusiastic parents, siblings, and staff saw why — weeks of rehearsal had polished the performance to a shine. Even Santa Claus and Mrs. Claus made a surprise appearance, giving children the opportunity to take photos in case they missed the chance during Christmas.

The concert, led by K-6 music teacher Ashley Wright with band direction from Kyle Miller, showcased the

island's youngest musicians in a program spanning everything from traditional carols to a unique percussion arrangement. Originally slated for December, the event was pushed to January so that everyone could get an even finer "product," as Wright told the audience.

The concert highlighted the massive amount of preparation, organization and collaboration it took to put on performances with fine-tunes precision. Some of the youngest elementary students in the concert sight-read music while playing, a testament to the skill they developed.

Asked how the concert turned out, Wright said, "it absolutely met my expectations. The concert was wonderful. Everybody did above and beyond, as always. I'm very proud of them."

Fourth grade student and performer, Lenore R. captured the work behind the performances: "I think we started right after the end of November. We've been practicing and practicing."

The evening moved through a range of styles and age groups. K-2 students opened with "Jingle Bells" before launching into "The Winter Wiggles," a number that had young performers dancing while Wright conducted and moved right alongside them. Third and fourth graders performed a TRASH Percussion arrangement of "Pat-a-Pan," the traditional French carol written in 1720.

The audition-based advanced local ensemble of fourth, fifth, and sixth graders delivered one of the evenings highlights — "Peace

on Earth." Student soloists Lenore, AquaPlu and Lucas led the piece. Introducing the song, Wright addressed the audience: "I think we can all agree that we can never have enough peace on earth and need more than ever. And I think our children are the best ones to deliver this message."

High school musicians supported their younger peers with guitar, drums and bells, alongside Kwajalein schools teacher Jonathan Jahnke. The concert closed with the entire assembly performing "We're George Seitz," the official school song.

George Seitz principal Jerrod Gertsema addressed the crowd: "It's really great here on Kwaj how we have such a wonderful opportunity to provide our students with all these great opportunities. To

be able to perform, to be able to play and have fun while learning and having great experiences.”

Wright credited the cross-generational effort. “We had students and teachers choreographing the dances. We had collaboration between parents and teachers to get things done, and we had vertical alignment with our older students providing instrumental music for the singers, she said. “The collaboration always makes concerts like these stand out.”

Wright also gave a meaningful “thank you” to the custodial staff who prepared the venue on short turnaround and acknowledged her husband Kyle’s contributions: “He’s the one who gets the parts from the publisher, and he helps to transcribe them. He helps to put a lot of the behind-the-scenes stuff together, the logistics with light, sound and equipment. Without him, 50% of this wouldn’t exist. So, it takes two of us.”

Lenore R., who had a solo, said performing felt natural. “In kindergarten, I sang in front of a crowd alone for our talent show, so I was a bit more comfortable,” she said.

She also warmly credited her teacher to her musical talent growth: “Mrs. Wright really helps me get the per-

fect pitch, project-out, and really helps me be loud and feel confident with my music. And she also gives us perfect opportunities, like solos or duets.”

Asked which performance resonated most, Wright didn’t hesitate: “I think most of the students and parents

would say, and if you’re asking me, it was ‘Peace on Earth.’ It was one of the highlights of the concert, especially the message. It’s very timely for right now in our world.” As for her students: “oh, they’re extremely special. They inspire me every day.

From the youngest danc-

ers wiggling through winter songs to high schoolers lending their instruments in support, the evening proved that on Kwajalein, music education is a collaborative community endeavor. ▾



COLD SYMPTOMS



SNEEZING



LOSS OF APPETITE



RUNNY NOSE



LOW GRADE FEVER



SORE THROAT



LACRIMATION

FLU SYMPTOMS



COUGH



FATIGUE



MUSCLE PAIN



HIGH FEVER



HEADACHE



CHEST PAIN

FLU OR COLD?

COURTESY IMAGES

COMMUNITY

WASH YOUR HANDS, PROTECT YOUR NEIGHBOR: CLINIC URGES VIGILANCE AS FLU SPREADS

HOURLASS REPORT

By Anthony Carnelli, Hourglass Story Writer

Hospital Clinic staff share practical steps to protect yourself and your neighbors during a late-season surge.

The familiar rhythm of close quarters on Kwajalein — office doors opening and closing, shared counters at the dining facility, colleagues gathered around a conference table—makes for a tight-knit community. It also makes for an environment where one cough can ripple through your workplace fast. So far this year, that reality has hit home as influenza has aggressively moved through the atoll.

Staff at the Kwajalein Hospital Clinic say the best defense isn't dramatic — it's

the basics done consistently: vaccination, clean hands, and staying home when you're contagious.

A Late Season Surge

The flu has hit hard across the atoll, with Ebeye bearing the brunt. "It's been so bad that the hospital actually was overrun in Ebeye with it, so there have been a lot of really sick people," said Dr. Shawn Wilson, chief medical office at the Kwajalein Hospital Clinic.

Jayme Schroeder, a nurse anesthetist on temporary duty from Alaska, explained that the timing isn't unusual for isolated communities in the south pacific. "At least from my perspective, being in Alaska, we tended to also have a late flu season rela-

tive to the rest of the United States," he said. "I think this has to do with travel and areas with smaller populations."

Dr. Wilson noted that the atoll's geographic position means flu season can extend beyond the mainland. "We're in an interesting place because geographically we get people from all over the place," he said. "Like in Alaska, the flu season may go all the way into May, so we could still get influenza late, here."

Meanwhile — "The hospital clinic has been busy. We have a respiratory panel that'll give us back a variety of results, and that's one that we've been seeing a lot is flu A," Schroeder said —referring to one of the main types of influenza circulating this season.

Breaking the Chain

Vaccination remains effective at this stage. "You can still get vaccinated, and that is a viable way to help break the chain," Dr. Wilson said.

While it's still possible to catch the flu after vaccination, Schroeder noted that symptoms are typically less severe. The vaccine is available at the hospital clinic.

Beyond vaccination, the most effective measures are simple. Dr. Wilson emphasized hand hygiene and avoiding touching your face. "Soap and water and the little alcohol-based wipes that are all over here actually kill the virus very good," he said. "if you don't bother to wipe your hands on your eyes, put them in your mouth and nose, well, then the virus has a harder

time getting there.”

Disinfectants like Clorox and Lysol are equally effective on surfaces. “They’re super effective,” Schroeder confirmed. “You spray that on a virus, a bacteria, anything... it will kill it.”

Cough etiquette also matters. “I see people cough into their hands, right? No, cough in your elbow, use tissue, get rid of it,” Dr. Wilson said. “This virus floats around in droplets from people coughing, sneezing, or if you’re really, really close, just the breathing can come across that way. “You have to get some of these droplets into your respiratory system to get infected.”

The virus can also linger on surfaces. “It’ll last on a hard table without pores in it for about two days,” Dr. Wilson added. The good news: standard disinfectants work well, and the virus survives less than an hour on warm skin.

If You Get Sick

Most people can manage flu symptoms at home with rest,

fluids, and over-the-counter medications. “If you have the flu-like symptoms or you got body aches, headache, fever, cough, you can use cold medicines,” Dr. Wilson said. “You don’t necessarily need to come see me.” Schroeder also stressed that “hydrating is the most important thing.”

One common misconception: antibiotics won’t help. “In terms of the flu, again, it’s a virus. We really don’t have great medical treatments for viruses,” Schroeder said. The focus is supportive care — rest, hydration, and medication to ease symptoms while your body fights it off.

However, certain warning signs warrant medical attention: “If you start having serious trouble breathing or you’ve got asthma or some other problem, the fever isn’t going away after about five days,” Dr. Wilson explained. “If someone’s acting confused, we did have someone pass out. So, if you’re really dehydrated, you’re not keeping fluid. Or if you got bet-

ter and then suddenly you got worse a couple days later, some people do develop pneumonia late.”

The contagious period typically runs three to five days once symptoms appear. “Once your fever is gone without cheating with Tylenol or Motrin, then you’re okay for being back around people,” he added.

Resources

Masks are available in the hospital clinic’s front lobby. “There’s some in the front lobby where you can just walk in that sliding door and grab one,” Dr. Wilson said — adding, “Please disinfect your hands before you contaminate the whole box with your flu, though.”

For those who need to be seen, making an appointment is preferred, though emergency coverage is available for severe cases.

Schroeder, who has been soaking up the sun since arriving from minus 45 degree weather in Alaska, of-

fered perspective on staying healthy. “Go to the gym, good nutrition, good sleep,” he said. And if you do get sick, light activity can help: “If you’re able to get out, go for a walk, generally some physical activity, even if you’re not feeling great, can make you feel a little better rather than just lying in bed all day.”

“The real winner is our immune system,” Schroeder said. “That does the heavy lifting. We just have to support it.”

The small habits add up. A hand washed before grabbing a door handle. A cough directed into an elbow. A day spent home instead of pushing through. These aren’t dramatic gestures — they’re the quiet acts of consideration that help keep the Kwajalein Atoll community healthy and uncompromised. ▾





PHOTO BY ISAIAH MATTHEWS

COMMUNITY

From Kumasi to Kwajalein: A Path Shaped by Service

HOURLASS REPORT

By **Isaiah Matthews**,
Hourglass Story Writer

Patrick Donkor's, a supplies and support services assistant support specialist, journey to Kwajalein did not follow a straight line. It began in Kumasi, Ghana, where discipline and structure were part of daily life, long before he ever imagined working on a remote atoll in the Republic of the Marshall Islands.

"I grew up in Kumasi with my parents," Donkor exclaimed. "My dad was very strict and very disciplined, so you had to be disciplined as well. That stayed with me."

In 2019, Donkor applied for the U.S. Diversity Visa Program. After interviews, medical screenings and background checks, he was approved. He arrived in the United States in 2021, settling in Virginia and starting

work in information technology. Not long after, he made another decision that would shape his future, joining the U.S. Army.

"This country gave me a great opportunity," Donkor stated. "The best way I felt I could give back was to serve."

Although he initially considered infantry, Donkor chose a finance military occupational specialty, believing it would allow him to influence more people and explain the benefits of service to others. He said that approach worked, noting he encouraged several people to join the military.

Military service also opened doors professionally. Tuition assistance helped him continue his education, and the discipline and training he received prepared him for government contracting and his current role as a Triple S assistant support spe-

cialist on Kwajalein.

Before arriving in the Marshall Islands, Donkor had deployed to Kuwait. He said contracting assignments felt like a continuation of service. When the opportunity to work on Kwajalein came up, he accepted.

"I love exploring, and I love serving," he said with a smile. "The Marshall Islands is a beautiful place. When I saw the lagoons and the nature, I knew I wanted to come."

Living and working on a remote atoll came with adjustments. Being far from family is the hardest part, he said, especially compared to stateside assignments. Still, Donkor has found connection through his coworkers and the local community.

"My family is far, but home is here," said Donkor. "My team here is my family."

He sees familiar patterns between Ghanaian and Mar-

shallese culture, especially the close-knit nature of extended families and the way communities look out for one another.

"In Ghana, everybody knows everybody," he stated. "I see that same thing here."

Some challenges remain. Donkor misses Ghanaian food and admits isolation can creep in at times. To stay connected, he relies on regular video calls with family and friends and often fields questions from people back home about immigration, education and military service.

There have been defining moments along the way. During military training, Donkor suffered stress fractures in both legs and spent weeks on crutches. He was given the option to leave but chose to stay.

"I had a purpose," he said. "I wanted to serve, and I didn't want to give up."

On Kwajalein, small moments still stand out, like seeing the full moon rise over the ocean or watching waves surge unexpectedly high along the shoreline. “The first time I saw it, I had to run back,” he said with a laugh.

Looking back, Donkor describes his path as challenging but meaningful. He hopes people understand that his journey is rooted in service, not convenience.

“Think about what you can do for your community and

your country,” said Donkor. “If you serve with a clean heart, you will get more than you expect.”

For Donkor, that philosophy has carried him from Kumasi to Virginia, through military service, and finally

to a small atoll in the Pacific, where home, for now, is exactly where he stands. ▲





THE **minute** HAND

A USAGKA Community Information Update

Upcoming Comms Outage- There will be an interruption of communications services on Feb 9th, 8pm to Feb 10th at 8am. This **WILL** affect Allied Telesis, GOV Networks and off island calls.

UXO Clearance- The UXO Clearance Team will conduct nighttime intrusive excavation operations in support of the DP2025-68 & DP2025-90 Cascade Water Tower project.

Nightly operations: 8:00 PM – 3:00 AM

Phase 2: Monday, February 9 – Saturday, February 14

Phase 3: Monday, February 16 – Saturday, February 21

Phase 4: Monday, February 23 – Saturday, February 28

Kamolol Day - Kamolol Day is Mon 9 Feb starting at 5pm on Ebeye at the Wilimer Bolken, Loio' En Weto Community Center. Originally a celebration of RMI's Liberation during WWII, it is now referred to as Kamolol (Thankfulness) Day. Attire is dresses for females covering the shoulder. Pants, collared shirt, and closed toe shoes for males. Green is the official color for Kwajalein Atoll so if you have green, wear green. There will be an extra ferry at 4pm.

BIG GAME Meal - The Zamperini DFAC will have an event focused meal along with the TVs tuned in for the upcoming BIG GAME. Lunch rate (\$7.25) from 11am-1pm and the dinner rate (\$6.25) from 1pm-3pm.



THE **minute** HAND

A USAGKA Community Information Update

Jobs - Join the team! USAG-KA has multiple job openings:

Protocol: <https://www.usajobs.gov/GetJob/ViewDetails/855899200>

General Engineer:

<https://www.usajobs.gov/GetJob/ViewDetails/855922400>

Supervisory General Engineer:

<https://www.usajobs.gov/GetJob/ViewDetails/855921700>

Environmental Engineer:

<https://www.usajobs.gov/GetJob/ViewDetails/855924600>

IT Specialist:

<https://www.usajobs.gov/GetJob/ViewDetails/855927700>

CIE – COL Cannon and CSM Jackson are hosting the next Community Information Exchange will be conducted February 12th, 6:30 in the Multi-Purpose room.

AAFES Job Fair - AAFES is holding a job fair at the DSC Sat. Feb 7 12:30pm -3:30pm

Parent Teacher Conference - The next round of Parent Teacher Conferences will be from 12-14 Feb

Art Annex - The Art Annex has been re-homed to room 247 at the elementary school due to the old Art Annex location being requiring repairs.



THE **minute** HAND

A USAGKA Community Information Update

Boat Captain Class-

- **Kwajalein:** Feb 23rd and 25th 5pm.
- **Roi:** Feb 27th 5:30pm

Sign up at the Small Boat Marina or call 480-3643

Volunteers Needed - Kwajalein Jr/Sr High

School is looking for volunteers to participate in our College, Career, and Military Fair on March 12, 2026, from 2:00–3:00 PM in the MP Room. Interested should contact Mrs. Parra at:

parrac@kwajaleinschools.org

ATC - If you have not noticed, the old ATC Tower and structure have started shrinking. Just this past week the **cab** was removed: the tower “cab”, also known as the control room, is the heart of the air traffic control tower. It is where the tower controllers are stationed, overseeing and directing air traffic operations.

Facility Managers - Would you like to be the Facility Manager for your BQ or Work building? Facility Managers aid the work orders and maintenance efforts around the Atoll. To get more info or sign-up email Naomi Halsey at: Naomi.Halsey@gov2x.com

Optometry Visit - The Optometrist will be here from 27 Jan to 17 Feb. Email www.kwajeyes.com to see the doctor.



THE **minute** HAND

A USAGKA Community Information Update

Life Support Areas (LSA) - We are replacing the legacy term “Man Camp” with LSA. New signs are going up to name/identify each LSA to clarify the purpose of these spaces and to aid in emergency situations.

Drive with Care - For everyone’s safety, we urge all commuters to exercise caution when driving. Please share the road with bike commuters and pedestrians.

Forklifts - Forklifts need to be used in their designated locations, i.e. warehouse forklifts should not be transporting items down the road and road machine should not be in the warehouse areas.

Airfield **STOPS!!!!** - The airfield stop signs on the perimeter road are there for a reason! Come to a full stop look BOTH ways on the runway and in the sky to check for planes before proceeding. You will be ticketed if found in violation.

Private Boat Yard- While the efforts so far have been outstanding, please continue to clean up the private boat yard. Hazmat can be coordinated through the Small Boat Marina.

Zamperini DFAC Remodel - The DFAC in the LSA area will open Feb time frame. After a month of overlap, the first half of the Zamperini dining area will close for remodel.



THE **minute** HAND

A USAGKA Community Information Update

Non-Potable Water Restriction -

Please limit non-potable water usage to less than 30 minutes a day during the dry season.

Containers - Do you have a container on the Atoll?

Matson, Company Storage, or even boat yard. DPW needs to know.

Email: usarmy.bucholz.smdc.list.shipping-receiving@army.mil

Keep Kwaj Clean - From your work to home we

need to all work diligently to keep our island home clean.

Misuse of vehicles - Work vehicles, even

contractor owned, are not permitted to be used for personal reasons: shopping, gym time, picking up personal mail, etc etc.

ARMA - Need something fixed in your housing, BQ or Office?

Go to ARMA : [ARMAhttps://www.armymaintenance.com/arma](https://www.armymaintenance.com/arma)

or call 480-3550

HAZMAT Items - Separate out household hazardous

waste (flammables, corrosives, aerosols, etc.) and place in an individual container next to the trash bins during normal trash days.

To arrange large pickup call 480-8858.



THE **minute** HAND

A USAGKA Community Information Update

ICE - To voice your concerns or to say GOOD JOB visit the Interactive Customer Evaluation page for Kwajalein at: https://ice.disa.mil/index.cfm?fa=site&site_id=984

The Roller on Youtube – Did you know the Roller is on Youtube? From the home page click on the Crest with the “LIVE” indicator on it. [U.S. Army Garrison Kwajalein Atoll Live Stream](#)

Catch the Airwaves - For music and info Kwajalein: 99.9^{FM}/102.1^{FM}/104.1^{FM}, Roi-Namur 97.9^{FM} – Roi Rat Radio

Access to USAG-KA - Do you have someone coming to Kwajalein? Check out the regulation that controls entry to USAG-KA: https://home.army.mil/kwajalein/7317/4363/4868/USAG-KA_Reg_190-10_Entry_and_Exit_Control_Signed_MAR2026.pdf

- **Day Pass Form:**
https://home.army.mil/kwajalein/4217/6064/8721/USA-KA_FORM_2_Day_Pass.pdf – Then needs to be sent to the DSC Mailbox at: usarmy.bucholz.id-pacific.mbx.usag-ka-dsc@army.mil
- **Overnight Guests Form 480:**
https://home.army.mil/kwajalein/7617/6481/7510/Form_480_Overnight_Guests.pdf – Then emailed to E/E: usarmy.bucholz.id-pacific.mbx.usag-ka-e-e@army.mil



THE **minute** HAND

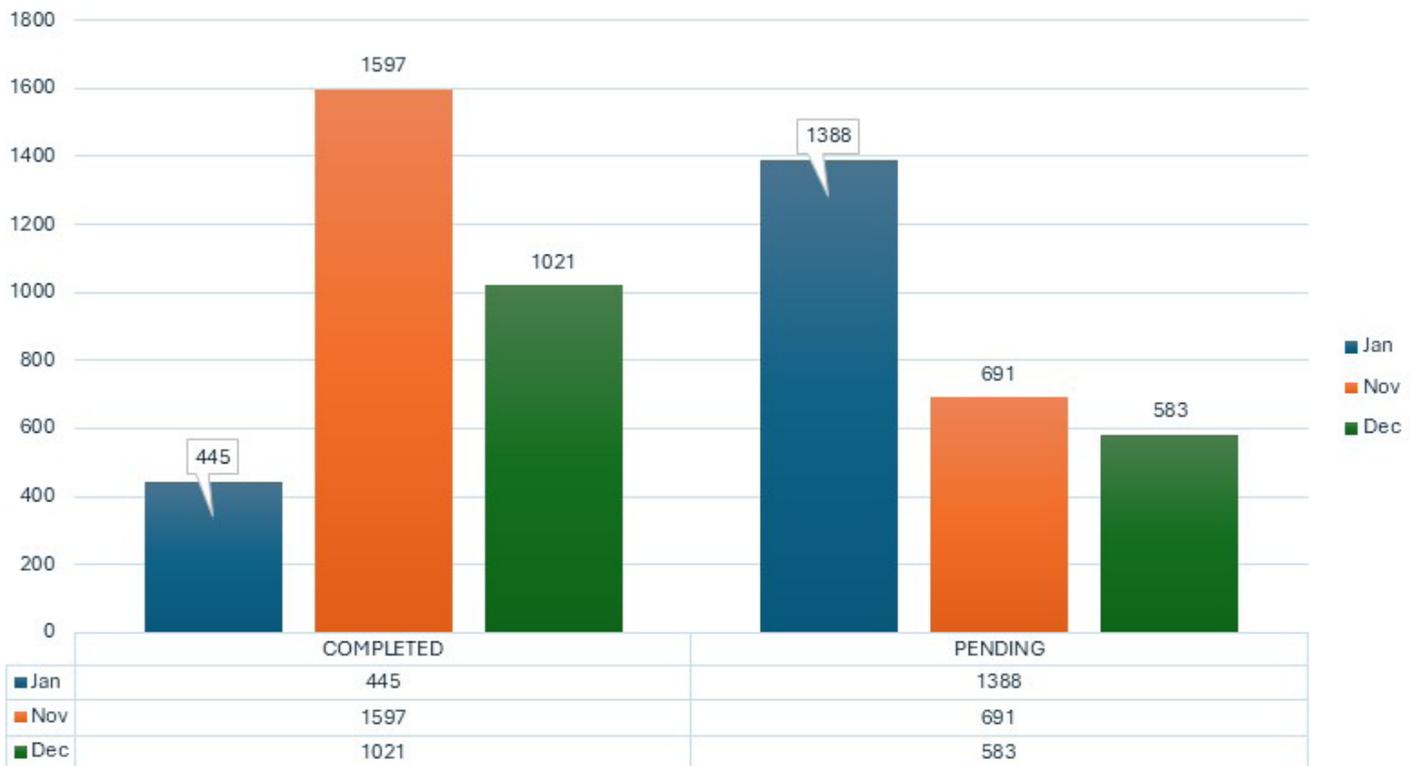
A USAGKA Community Information Update

Events - Events can be found on Kwajalein Community Events FB

- **Big Game Watch Party** - Oceanview Feb 9, 11am
- **CIE** - Next Community Information Exchange Feb 12th, 6:30 MP room
- **Valentines Party** - Oceanview Feb. 14th
- **55th Kwajalein Open Golf Tournament** - Feb 15 through the 22nd, see the Kwajalein Community Events FB Page for details.
- **KJSHS College, Carrer and Military Fair** - Mar 12 2-3pm MP room
-

Have an upcoming event? Email usarmy.bucholz.id-pacific.mbx.usaka-pao@army.mil to get the word out or to be added to the mailing list.

Work order received 5725 and completed 2288





February 2026

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT	
	1 Sweetheart Relay	2	3 BASKETBALL TOURNAMENT INNER TUBE WATER POLO	4 BASKETBALL TOURNAMENT HOBBY SHOP ORIENTATION	5 BASKETBALL TOURNAMENT	6 BASKETBALL TOURNAMENT	7 INNER TUBE WATER POLO Karaoke Night
8 QUIZZO	9 KWAJALEIN LIBERATION DAY THE BIG GAME WATCH PARTY	10 BASKETBALL TOURNAMENT INNER TUBE WATER POLO	11 BASKETBALL TOURNAMENT	12 BASKETBALL TOURNAMENT NATIONAL PRAYER BREAKFAST Community Information Exchange	13 BASKETBALL TOURNAMENT JARO FISHING TOURNAMENT	14 Valentine's DAY PARTY	
15 KWAJALEIN GOLF ASSOCIATION HOLMBERG FAIRWAYS The 56th Annual Kwajalein Open hosted by Kwajalein Golf Association. Feb 15-22	16 President's Day	17 MARDI GRAS BASKETBALL TOURNAMENT INNER TUBE WATER POLO	18 BASKETBALL TOURNAMENT	19 BASKETBALL TOURNAMENT HOBBY SHOP VASE CLASS	20 BASKETBALL TOURNAMENT	21 Karaoke Night	
22 KWAJALEIN GOLF ASSOCIATION HOLMBERG FAIRWAYS The 56th Annual Kwajalein Open hosted by Kwajalein Golf Association. Feb 15-22	23 BOAT CAPTAIN CLASS	24 BASKETBALL TOURNAMENT INNER TUBE WATER POLO	25 BASKETBALL TOURNAMENT BOAT CAPTAIN CLASS	26 BASKETBALL TOURNAMENT	27 BASKETBALL TOURNAMENT	28	

Tried to STOP, But You Can't

Has Alcohol become an OBSESSION

There is a Solution to the Problem with Alcohol

REACH OUT FOR HELP

ALCOHOLICS ANONYMOUS

ROOM 214 KWAJ RELIGIOUS EDUCATION BUILDING (UPSTAIRS)

BUILDING #671

FRIDAY-SATURDAY-SUNDAY

7PM-8PM

QUESTIONS? EMAIL: kwajchapel@gmail.com
OR CALL 480-2116



E-wareness: Trimming and Removal of Vegetation

A *Vegetation Trimming and Removal Permit* is required for the following actions:

- Complete removal of any established vegetation.
- Major trimming of vegetation, defined as greater than 20% of each plant/tree volume.

Vegetation permits are obtained through the Environmental Department by calling 480-0722.

Removal of root balls below six inches requires an approved Dig Permit from the Service Desk (480-3550).

Melim in "Vegetation Trimming & Removal" Ej aikuj wor/lon:

- Komakut jabdewot wut (i.e. wojke, ak mar)
 - Mwijmwij jen wut, kallikar an laplok jen 20% in wut kein kenono kaki ilon
- Komakut wut jen okar in 6-inch mwilal lok ej aikuj wor an "Dig Permit". Kur lok Service Dest ilo (480-3550) non bok Dig Permit.
Kur lok Environmental ilo (480-0722) non melele ko relaplok.



Kwajalein to Ebeye Ferry Schedule



- C-BADGE WORKERS** have priority, EXCEPT on the following runs:
 - 0650 run (arriving at Ebeye at 0715) High Schools students have priority ridership.
 - 0720 run (arriving at Ebeye at 0745) and the 1600 run (departing from Kwaj) Kwajalein School Guest students have priority rider-ship.
- On Stevedoring days, workers involved with cargo operations have priority on the 2000 ferry.
- SMOKING, TOBACCO, CHEW, BETEL NUT, EATING and DRINKING ARE PROHIBITED ON ALL FERRIES.
- Boats will not be overloaded: Maximum capacities are 150 passengers (CATs and ferries) and that number may be reduced during inclement weather or at the Captain's discretion due to safety concerns.
- Meck catamarans may operate on a dynamic schedule and will be available by calling Meck Management.
- SATURDAY ONLY – THERE WILL NOT BE A 2130 FERRY INSTEAD THE FERRY WILL DEPART AT 2200.**

EBEYE – Tuesday to Saturday

EBEYE – Sunday & Holiday

ETD	ETA EBEYE	ETD EBEYE	ETA KWAJ	TYPE VESSEL	ETD KWAJ	ETA EBEYE	ETD EBEYE	ETA KWAJ	TYPE VESSEL
0245	0310	0315	0340	FB N/1	0400	0425	0430	0455	FB N/1
0420	0445	0450	0515	FB 1	0500	0525	0530	0555	FB 1
0450	0515	0520	0545	FB 2	0600	0625	0630	0655	FB 1
0520	0545	0550	0615	FB 1	0830	0855	0900	0925	FB 1
0550	0615	0620	0645	FB 2	1140	1205	1210	1235	FB 1
0620	0645	0650	0715	FB 1	1530	1555	1600	1625	FB 1/N
0650	0715	0720	0745	FB 2	1700	1725	1730	1755	FB N
0720	0745	0750	0815	FB 1	2000	2025	2030	2055	FB N
0900	0925	0930	0955	FB	2200	2225	2230	2255	FB N
1140	1205	1210	1235	FB 2/A	Holidays only ADD extra run below				
1300	1325	1330	1355	FB	1830	1855	1900	1925	FB N
1440	1505	1510	1535	FB A	Monday				
1600	1625	1630	1655	FB A	0315	0340	0345	0410	FB N/1
1700	1725	1730	1755	FB A	0500	0525	0530	0555	FB 1
1730	1755	1800	1825	FB N	0600	0625	0630	0655	FB 1
1800	1825	1830	1855	FB A	0720	0745	0750	0815	FB 1
1830	1855	1900	1925	FB N	0830	0855	0900	0925	FB 1
1900	1925	1930	1955	FB A	1140	1205	1210	1235	FB 1
2000	2025	2030	2055	FB N	1440	1505	1510	1535	FB 1/N
2130	2155	2200	2225	FB N	1645	1710	1715	1740	FB N
(TUESDAY-FRIDAY) 2130 is final run of day					1745	1810	1815	1840	FB N
2200	2225	2230	2255	FB N	1900	1925	1930	1955	FB N
SATURDAY - No 2130 ferry; 2200 is final run of day					2000	2025	2030	2055	FB N
	FB =	Ferry	Boat		2130	2155	2200	2225	FB N



Roi-Namur / Enniburr Ferry Schedule

Tuesday to Saturday

Run Number	ETD Roi-Namur	ETA Enniburr	ETD Enniburr	ETA Roi-Namur	Vessel
1	0520	0535	0555	0610	FB
2	0730	0745	0805	0820	FB
3	1250	1305	1325	1340	FB
4	1715	1730	1750	1805	FB
5	1940	1955	2015	2030	FB

Sunday-Monday-Holiday

Run Number	ETD Roi-Namur	ETA Enniburr	ETD Enniburr	ETA Roi-Namur	Vessel
1	0650	0705	0725	0740	FB
2	0940	0955	1015	1030	FB
3	1450	1505	1525	1540	FB
4	1940	1955	2015	2030	FB

- FIRST PRIORITY: BADGE WORKERS**
- Passengers are to board and disembark ONLY at the gangway area. As deemed by the Captain, any passengers, who are unruly and pose a safety hazard to the crew, other passengers, or vessel will not be allowed to ride the ferry. Maximum passenger load is 150 passengers.
- SMOKING, TOBACCO CHEWING, BEETLE-NUT, EATING and DRINKING ARE STRICTLY PROHIBITED ON ALL FERRIES.**
- The clock kept by the ferry Captain is the official time. Departure times from Roi-Namur are mandatory times. Return times to Roi-Namur may be change slightly due to the offloading of water at Enniburr.
- Any questions? Please call the Port Captain in Kwajalein, 480-2173.

ATTENTION...

Non-Potable Water Restriction

Non-potable water usage on Kwajalein has increased over the last month and is currently greater than we can sustain.

Please restrict irrigation of grass and plants to less than 30 minutes every other day during the dry season to conserve this limited resource. Please report any suspected water leaks to the Service Desk at 480-3550.

Call Stan at 480-4400 with any questions.



ALWAYS CALL...

...if your
building's
Fire Alarm
is sounding



Kwaj Eyecare

 Dates: January 27th – February 17th

 Comprehensive Services Include:

- Eye Exams
- Treatment for Dry Eyes
- Management of Eye Diseases
- Glasses for All Ages
- Contact Lenses (including multifocal options)
- Safety Frames and Lenses

 Call 480-2223 to schedule a visit.

 Visit us online: www.kwajeyes.com

 Email: drwtblack@aol.com

Or scan the QR code.



Hours of Operation

TUESDAYS - SATURDAYS
07:30 AM - 4:30 PM

Lunch Break
11:30 - 12:30

Call the Kwajalein Veterinary Clinic
to schedule your appointment or e-mail

 **480-2017**

 **KwajVetClinic@gov2x.com**

Kwajalein Island Trash & Recycling

Residential Trash Collection	480-1760
Yard Vegetation Collection	480-1890
Hazardous Waste Pickup Line	480-8858



TRASH & RECYCLING PICKUP SCHEDULE

The Green Residential TRASH receptacles are collected every **Tuesday and Friday**.

The blue RECYCLE bins are also collected every **Tuesday and Friday**.

The large black General Solid Waste Community Containers are emptied on **Monday, Wednesday, Thursday, and Saturday**.

Safety First! Please keep any curious children away from the Compactor Truck as it feeds contents into the truck.

Recyclable materials are also collected by both solid waste and horizontal maintenance personnel, in conjunction with general trash collection. Currently the island only recycles glass, aluminum, metal, and bulk organic materials. **Cardboard and plastics are not recycled materials on Kwajalein.** These items should be placed into the general trash stream for disposal/incineration.



Residential users will be given a green trash receptacle and a smaller blue receptacle for recyclable materials. It is requested that residences place their recyclable items into the blue containers, and stack larger materials next to the bins. Lawn clippings and leaves should be bagged and placed next to bins. Palm fronds and coconuts should also be stacked up next to the bins for removal by horizontal maintenance personnel.



Kwajalein /Roi-Namur Driver Licensing

Kwajalein classes are every Wednesday.

- 9:00 a.m. Marshallese
- 12:45 p.m. EXPATS **by appointment only as class size is limited**
- Building 856, Room 101 at the Vehicle Maintenance Compound
- To register, send email to the following: George.parker3@gov2x.com and Wilson.Kaisha@gov2x.com or stop by Bldg 856, Room 101

Roi-Namur Classes are every 2nd Friday (time base on flight)



NATIONAL PRAYER BREAKFAST

SCHEDULE UPDATE

The National Prayer Breakfast schedule is **CONFIRMED**.

DATE: FEBRUARY 19, 2026

TIME: 6:30 AM | VENUE: REB

GUEST SPEAKER:

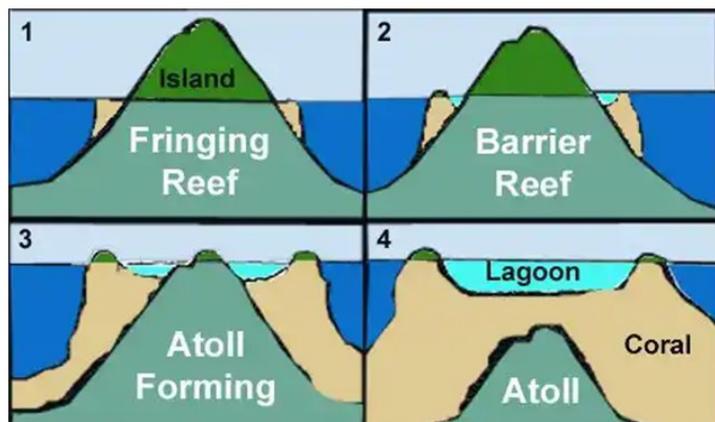
CH(Col.) Khalid M. Shabazz Ph.D, D.Min.

USARPAC Command Chaplain

All tickets remain valid and will be honored for the new date.



Atoll Formation



Atolls are formed from sunken volcanoes. Coral continues growing around, creating some of the most beautiful and biologically diverse habitats. Depending on their size and climate, atolls can take up to 30 million years to form.

Ene ko ilolan aelon in rekar walok jen Volcano ko ibulen lojet. Wod ko ilojet ilo imetowan aelon in rej eddoklok ilo aer komman men ko reaiboujwoj ilo lojet eo. Bedbed wot kin jonon im oktak in mejatoto, aelon eo emaron bok 30 million yio non an eddoklok.

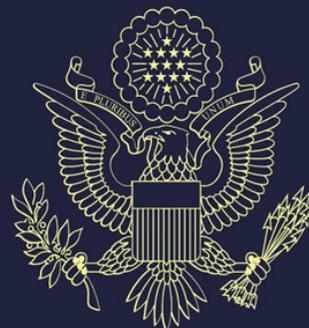
Now Available by Appointment...

PASSPORT PHOTO SERVICES

PASSPORT

Located on the 2nd floor of Bldg. 805 on Kwajalein. When taking your photo, remember the following guidance for a successful shoot:

- Directly face the camera without tilting your head.
- Have a neutral facial expression with both eyes open and mouth closed.
- Take off your eyeglasses, headphones or wireless hands-free device.
- Do not wear a uniform, clothing that looks like a uniform, or camouflage.
- Remove hats or head coverings or submit a signed statement or doctor's note that says you must wear it for religious or medical purposes.



*United States
of America*



To schedule an appointment,
contact IMD/AVD personnel at:

KwajaleinHourglass@gov2x.com



FOLLOW US AT THESE LOCATIONS



Click QR Code to jump to social page

Kwajalein



MIA Project

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 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 adver-

tisements 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.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

AFH Construction Is Ongoing. Nan, Inc. Construction is scheduled to commence the telecommunication scope of work for the Kwajalein Army Family Housing project in our community. 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 completed by your human resources representative before making an appointment. Bring two forms of government-issued IDs with you. 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.

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.



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

Sergeant First Class Darrius Hodge
SHARP Victim Advocate

Work: 480-1419

USAG-KA SHARP Pager:

808-580-3241

DOD SAFE Helpline: 877-995-5247



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 jabdewot 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 household.

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 Jose Burgos-Rivera with questions at 480-3461 and Jose.Burgos-Rivera@gov2x.com.

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

HELP WANTED

For employment with contractors within the U.S. Army Garrison - Kwajalein Atoll please check contractor company websites for employment opportunities.

book your ride at least 24 hours in advance of check-in time.

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

Kwajalein / Roi Namur Licensing Classes on Kwajalein are every Wednesday @0900 Marshallese @1245 Expats (by appointment only as class side is limited)
Classes are in Bldg. 856 Rm 101, Vehicle Maintenance Compound
Roi classes every 2nd Friday in Bldg. C, timed based on flight schedule
No registration needed for Roi classes.
To register, send email to either of the following:
George.Parker@gov2x.com
Wilson.Kaisha@gov2x.com
...or stop by Bldg. 856, Rm 101



OPSEC IS NOT RETROACTIVE.
THINK BEFORE YOU SHARE INFORMATION. ONLINE AND OFFLINE.


Like and share @USArmyOPSEC



**American
Red Cross**

Service to the Armed Forces

Volunteer Opportunity at Kwajalein Atoll

Join the American Red Cross and help bring our Services and Programs to the Kwajalein Atoll community!

Online & Virtual Training Provided

No experience needed!

We provide all necessary training. Just bring your passion and commitment to helping others!

Contact **Alana Wilson** at alana.wilson@redcross.org

Let's work together to build a more prepared and resilient community.

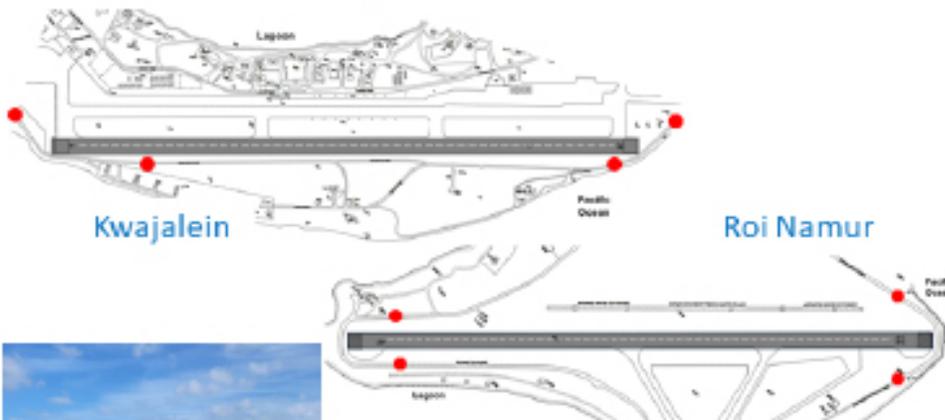


KWAJALEIN & ROI NAMUR,
STOP FOR AIRCRAFT!!



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.**

NOW SHOWING at the YUK THEATER

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 1
"A Journal for Jordan" (1988)
(PG-13) 69 min.

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 7
"Hidden Figures" (2016)
(PG) 127 min.

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 8
"The Great Debaters" (2007)
(PG-13) 126 min.

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 14
"Soul" (2020)
(PG) 100 min.

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 15
"The Color Purple" (2023)
(PG-13) 141 min.

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 21
"Mr. Malcolm's List" (2025)
(PG) 117 min.

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 22
"Devotion" (2022)
(PG-13) 139 min.

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 28
"Glory Road" (2006)
(PG) 118 min.



All showtimes start at 7:30 p.m.



WEEKLY TROPICAL WEATHER THREAT OUTLOOK

RTS WEATHER STATION STAFF

Discussion:

In January, we have received well over normal at 7.83" of precipitation, which is 4" above normal for the month with February just a bit below normal so far. Look for increased shower coverage for today (Thursday) and the second half of Saturday into Sunday. No thunderstorms occurred over the past seven days. A thunderstorm day is defined by an "in situ" lightning strike, meaning lightning is observed or thunder is heard within five miles of the Kwajalein airfield. The current lighting risk is low due to the subtropical ridge positioning and the ITCZ being set to far south for the most part. The Madden-Julian Oscillation's (MJO) is moderately established in the positive phase over the RMI, which is conducive to increased shower coverage. The Intertropical Convergence Zone (ITCZ)

has become less active and remains to the south of the RMI, as is typical in the dry season keeping the bulk of precipitation with it. El Nino Southern Oscillation (ENSO) is in la Nina conditions for our part of the Pacific. This means sea-surface temperatures (SST) between the RMI and the Date Line are cooler, having a negative impact on the RMI's rainfall coverage. It is expected that conditions will become more neutral in February having more of a positive impact on precipitation. For the 90-day period beginning on one January, precipitation is anticipated to be above normal. Below are the current Joint Typhoon Weather Center tropical information graphic and the 2-week Tropical Hazard Outlook, both of which show no threat to USAG-KA.

None for the RMI.

Damaging West Winds / Westerly Swell:

Not anticipated. We will be trade-wind dominant for the next seven days.

Swell / Tide Inundation for Kwajalein Atoll and Wake Island and Winds:

The waning half-moon will occur on the 9th with associated neap high tides all below four feet. Winds: are in their typical Windy Season levels (Ellap Kutu) in the mid to upper teens with clear-air gusts in the low 20's and especially near showers. The weekend will see the winds mostly in the upper teens. A Small Craft Advisory (SCA) may be issued on Saturday and Monday. A High Surf Advisory (HSA) is not expected.

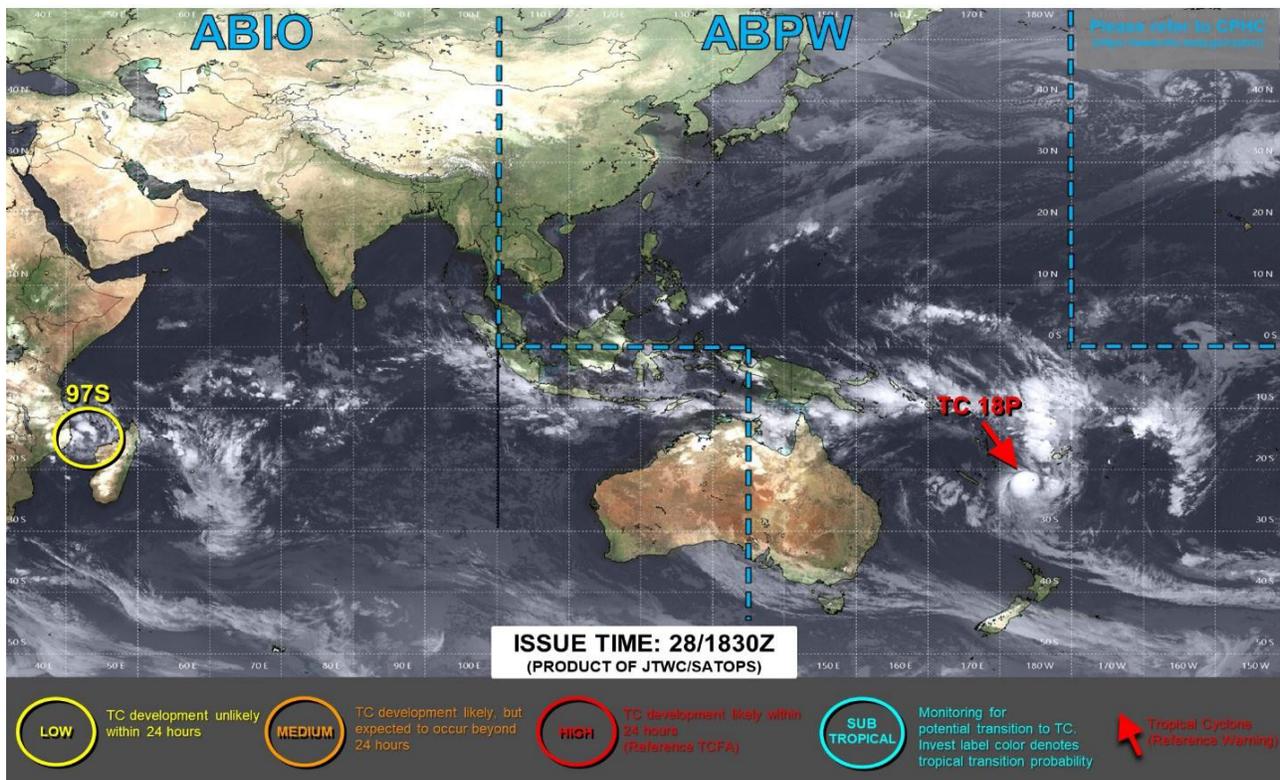
day mornings to island leadership. The intention of this briefing is to provide situational awareness of weather events that may interrupt operations and transportation around Kwajalein, to/from Hawaii and Guam, and in the Wake vicinity. The main threat assessed in this brief is existing and potential 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 products. X

Purpose: This weekly briefing is delivered Thurs-

Tropical Cyclones:



JOINT TYPHOON WARNING CENTER



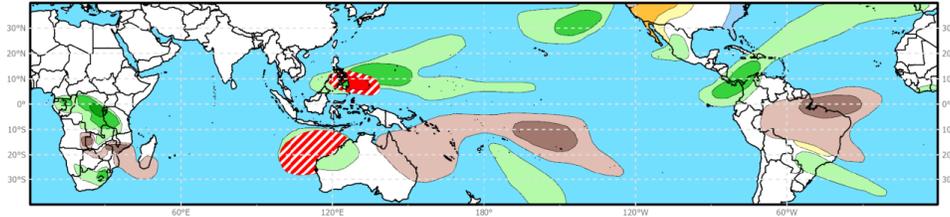


Global Tropics Hazards Outlook

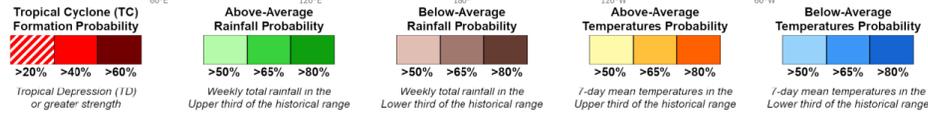
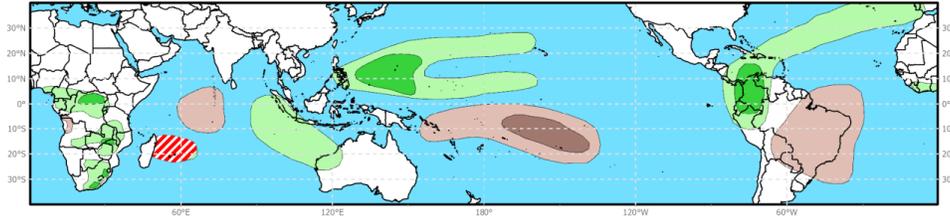
Climate Prediction Center



Week 2 - Valid: Feb 04, 2026 - Feb 10, 2026



Week 3 - Valid: Feb 11, 2026 - Feb 17, 2026



Issued: 01/27/2026
Forecaster: Long

This product is updated once per week and targets broad scale conditions integrated over a 7-day period for US interests only. Consult your local responsible forecast agency.

WEATHER

RTS WEATHER STATION STAFF

WEATHER DISCUSSION

Limited shower activity and breezy conditions are expected across the Kwajalein Atoll for the end of the work-week and the weekend. The Inter-Tropical Convergence Zone (ITCZ) and its associated shower activity will remain south of the Atoll. However, Saturday night into Sunday, they may be close enough to push some trade wind convergence through the area, which could result in a modest increase in shower coverage during this time period. A strong subtropical high-pressure system to the north will tighten the pressure gradient across the RMI, resulting in elevated winds. As of now, winds look to remain below Small Craft Advisory (SCA) criteria during this time period, but conditions will need to be monitored.

SATURDAY

Partly sunny with stray showers increasing to isolat-

ed at night. Winds NE-E at 13-18 knots with higher gusts near showers.

SUNDAY

Partly sunny with isolated showers. Winds NE-E at 13-18 knots with higher gusts near showers.

MONDAY

Partly sunny with stray showers. Winds NE-E at 13-18 knots with higher gusts near showers.

NEXT WEEK

Dry conditions and modest breezes appear likely throughout much of next week. Strong subtropical ridging to the north will push dry, sinking air into the mid-upper atmosphere which will work to suppress shower activity. The ITCZ to the south will become fragmented and disorganized, loosening the pressure gradient across the RMI and allowing wind speeds to decrease

a bit, especially around the middle of the week. ▲

SUN-MOON-TIDES				
	SUNRISE SUNSET	MOONRISE MOONSET	HIGH TIDE	LOW TIDE
SUNDAY	7:09 a.m. 6:57 p.m.	----- 11:20 a.m.	7:42 a.m. 3.4' 7:38 p.m. 3.0'	1:28 a.m. 0.2' 1:46 p.m. 0.7'
MONDAY	7:09 a.m. 6:57 p.m.	12:05 a.m. 12:01 p.m.	8:14 a.m. 3.1' 7:59 p.m. 2.5'	1:49 a.m. 0.5' 2:23 p.m. 1.1'
TUESDAY	7:09 a.m. 6:58 p.m.	12:54 a.m. 12:45 p.m.	8:58 a.m. 2.8' 8:21 p.m. 2.0'	2:12 a.m. 0.9' 3:26 p.m. 1.5'
WEDNESDAY	7:09 a.m. 6:58 p.m.	1:44 a.m. 1:32 p.m.	10:48 a.m. 2.5' -----	2:42 a.m. 1.2' 8:34 p.m. 1.5'
THURSDAY	7:08 a.m. 6:58 p.m.	2:36 a.m. 2:22 p.m.	1:50 a.m. 1.6' 1:39 p.m. 2.7'	5:46 a.m. 1.5' 8:59 p.m. 1.0'
FRIDAY	7:08 a.m. 6:58 p.m.	3:28 a.m. 3:14 p.m.	2:49 a.m. 2.1' 2:35 p.m. 3.2'	8:01 a.m. 1.2' 9:21 p.m. 0.5'
FEBRUARY 14	7:08 a.m. 6:59 p.m.	4:20 a.m. 4:08 p.m.	3:16 a.m. 2.5' 3:10 p.m. 3.7'	8:47 a.m. 0.7' 9:44 p.m. 0.1'

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

Until Next Week!

