

VOLUME 65 NUMBER 84

AUGUST 9, 2025

THE KWAJALEIN HOURGLASS





📷 COURTESY PHOTOS



JOINT MISSION PARTNER WIRED FOR SUCCESS: HOW THE TELECOM TEAM POWERS KWAJALEIN'S INFRASTRUCTURE

HOURLASS REPORT

By Annette Monk, Information Management Associate

From enabling live broadcasts to keeping emergency services online, the Telecom Team on Kwajalein Atoll is the silent force ensuring the island stays connected to the world. Leading the team is Robert K. Lassend, a veteran of the U.S. Army Signal Corps, who began his telecom career in 1996 and now serves as Infrastructure Lead and Subject Matter Expert (SME) with NET-COM supporting the U.S. Army Kwajalein Atoll.

Robert began his journey in 1996 when he joined the U.S. Army and entered the Signal Corps, where he quickly found his passion for communications. He was drawn

to the global mission, the challenge, and the impact that communications have on every aspect of military and civilian life. After earning his security clearance and gaining extensive experience, he saw the long-term potential in telecom — especially as a career after military service.

Now, with over 25 years in the field, Robert leads with experience, discipline, and an unwavering standard for excellence.

Kwajalein's beauty is matched by its technical challenges. The salt-laden air corrodes metal quickly, and many of the island's systems run on 40+ year-old copper wiring that has suffered decades of submersion and saltwater exposure. These



conditions result in frequent failures, slow speeds, and the need for full infrastructure replacements — especially as demand for bandwidth increases.

Robert and his team combat this by modernizing systems using fiber optic technology, which provides speed, reliability, and future-proof performance.

Despite the environmental and logistical challenges of working on a remote island, the Telecom Team continues to deliver mission-critical upgrades:

The team has worked tirelessly on numerous projects the past year and will continue in supporting U.S. Army Kwajalein Atoll. Some projects are pending UXO (unexploded ordnance) clearance before trenching can proceed — a critical safety step for all underground infrastructure work.

From fiber to function, a team of nine works under Robert's leadership — each playing a critical role in supporting the island's infrastructure:

- Robert Lassend – SME & Infrastructure Lead: U.S. Army Signal Corps veteran; in telecom since 1996. Known for holding high standards and focusing on organized, functional systems. "Losing standards creates chaos," he says. He emphasizes growth, feedback, and craftsmanship.

- Mat Hood – Senior Technician: On Kwajalein for 5 years; brings deep technical knowledge and reliability.

- Karl McGuire – Lead Technician: 2.5 years with the team; takes point on field-work and training.

- Joshua Wilcutt – Infrastructure Tech: Two years on the team. Also Robert's son.

- Terence Ivy – Infrastructure Tech: Celebrates his one-year mark next month.

- Devon Canavan – Infrastructure Tech (Roi side): Supports Roi-Namur site op-

erations.

- Eryk Westby – Infrastructure Tech / CAIRS System: Six months in; manages internal phone systems and operations.

- Ruben Lassend – Infrastructure Tech: Seven months with the team; another of Robert's sons.

- Chris Johnston – CAD Designer: Nine months creating telecom layout designs and construction blueprints.

Team Motto: *"Neither doldrum nor rain nor heat nor gloom can keep our technicians from the swift completion of their scheduled projects."* ▼





COLLAGE BY MELISSA DETHLEFSEN USING COURTESY PHOTOS

COMMUNITY

PRESERVING A WINDOW INTO THE PAST: THE DEBRUM COLLECTION

HOURLASS REPORT

By Christy Wagnon; CYS Deputy Director

Deep in the heart of the Marshall Islands lies a cultural treasure that has survived war, weather, and time—the DeBrum Collection, an unparalleled photographic ar-

chive capturing life in the Marshall Islands from the late 1800s to the early 1900s. Today, thanks to a groundbreaking preservation effort, this priceless collection of glass plate negatives has been digitized and restored for future generations.

The man behind the

lens was Joaquim DeBrum (1860s–1930s), the son of a Portuguese trader and a Marshallese woman. His unique heritage gave him a rare perspective, enabling him to document both the traditional culture of his mother's people and the sweeping changes brought by Western

influence.

DeBrum's photographs are more than portraits; they are historical narratives. They show the rhythm of daily life, the artistry of handicrafts, and the dignity of Marshallese leaders—juxtaposed with the emerging influence of European and American traders. His work chronicles a pivotal era in history, providing a glimpse into a culture balancing continuity and transformation.

The collection—nearly 2,500 glass plate negatives ranging in size from 2"x3" to 8"x10"—is nothing short of miraculous. During World War II, when Japanese forces occupied the Marshall Islands and U.S. bombing campaigns loomed, Joaquim's son, Leonard DeBrum, risked everything to save his father's legacy.

Fearing that bombs would shatter the fragile plates, Leonard gathered the plates, loaded them into a canoe, and paddled under the cover of night to a nearby island. There, he buried them in the sand, ensuring their survival through the devastation of war. After World War II ended and peace returned to the islands, Leonard retrieved the plates and safeguarded them for decades. Without his courage, this irreplaceable record of Marshallese heritage might have been lost forever.

For years, the plates were stored in less-than-ideal conditions on an outer island, exposed to heat, humidity, and salt air. The plates cracked, mold crept in, and some suffered irreparable damage. Eventually, the collection was relocated to a climate-controlled facility, but by then the race to preserve it was already underway.

Glass plate negatives are delicate. Each is essentially a piece of history etched in light sensitive coating—an artifact that, once lost, cannot be replaced. Recognizing this urgency, the Marshallese Cultural Center launched an

ambitious project to digitize and restore the collection.

Once digitized, the images underwent meticulous restoration in Adobe Photoshop. This included correcting tonal ranges, repairing cracks, and reversing decades of wear—while preserving authenticity. The original plates remain stored in climate-controlled conditions, while the digital files offer a “second life” for the images.

The final archive includes high-resolution digital scans of all plates, restored images saved for publication and educational use, archival-quality prints for exhibitions, and a searchable electronic database with historical context and commentary.

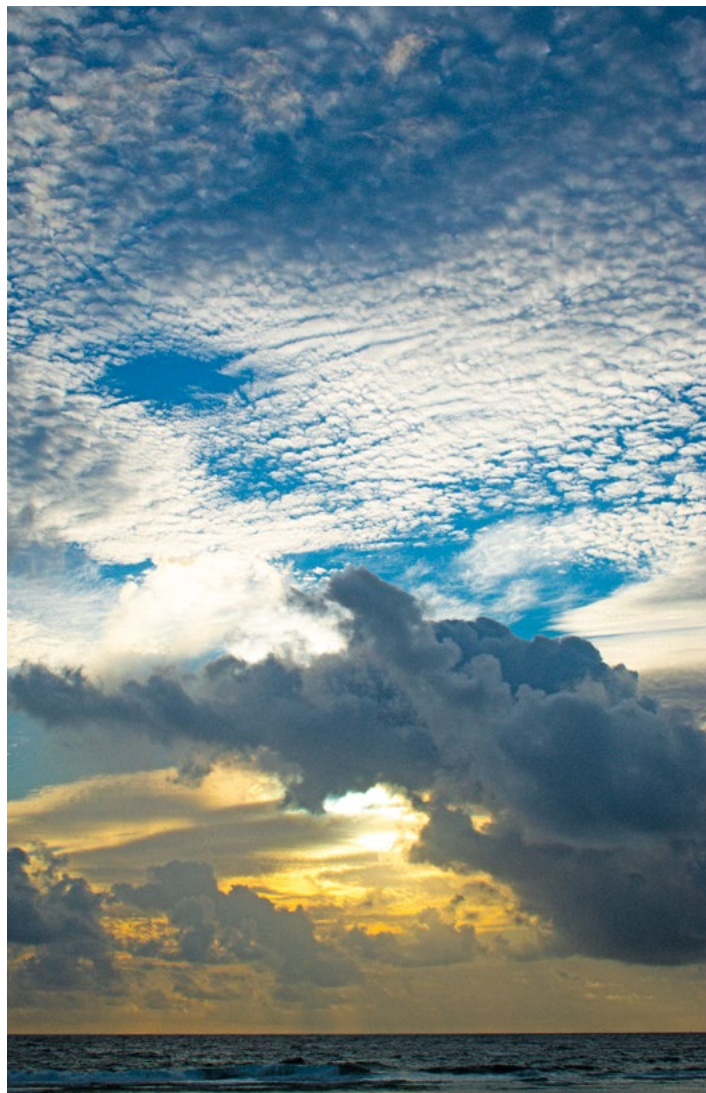
Technical preservation is only part of the story. To enrich the historical record, the project team has interviewed elders—including Leonard DeBrum himself, who at the time was 85 years old. His recollections, recorded on audio and video, provide invaluable context about the people and places in the photographs. These oral histories are transcribed and linked to the corresponding images, creating

a living archive where visuals meet voices.

The DeBrum Collection is more than a set of images—it is a time capsule that connects Marshallese communities to their roots and shares their heritage with the world. As technology opens new doors, the project aims to bring these images to outer islands where internet access may be limited, through CDs and other offline solutions.

The significance of the DeBrum Collection extends beyond the Marshall Islands. It documents one of the Pacific’s most dramatic cultural transitions—from isolation to global engagement—through the lens of a man deeply rooted in both traditions. For historians, anthropologists, and the Marshallese people, it is an irreplaceable resource.

As Cris Lindborg, former curator of the Marshallese Cultural Center, puts it, “The DeBrum photographs capture a world that no longer exists. Preserving them is preserving identity, memory, and the heartbeat of a culture.” ▼



IT'S KITTEN SEASON

Interested in Adopting a Kwaj Cat?

Call **480-2017** or stop by the **Vet Clinic** to inquire and gather the paperwork.

Foster Parents also wanted!

Call or Email us your information if you would like to become a Kwaj Cat foster parent!

kwajvetclinic@acuityinternational.com

E-wareness: Fluorescent Light Bulbs



Florescent light bulbs contain mercury and should be handled carefully to prevent breakage. Households should return spent bulbs to Self-Help where they collect the glass light bulbs for recycling.

MARSHALLESE TRANSLATION

Florescent light bulb ko ewor juon men iloaer etan mercury im jej aikuj in lukkun in kejbarok ad jibwi bwe ren jab rub. Aolep florescent light renaj aikuj in ilok nan Self-Help elkin kojbal ii nan aer maron buki im recycle'i.



Front Cover: Sunset Ray by Melissa Dethlefsen

Back Cover: Pastel Sunset by Melissa Dethlefsen

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.
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PHOTO BY HEATH CHRISTIE

COMMUNITY

PROTECT WHAT YOU LOVE: PADI AWARE AND LOCAL DIVE FOR DEBRIS EFFORTS

HOURLASS REPORT

By Christy Wagon; CYS Deputy Director

Scuba divers see firsthand the beauty—and fragility—of our underwater world. Marine ecosystems face growing threats from pollution, climate change, and human impact. That's why PADI AWARE Foundation exists: to protect the ocean through global action and community involvement.

PADI AWARE Foundation is a nonprofit organization dedicated to ocean conservation. Its mission is simple yet powerful: "Drive Local Action for Global Ocean Conservation." Working alongside the diving community, PADI AWARE promotes education, advocacy, and hands-on pro-

grams that empower divers to make a difference.

PADI AWARE's core focus areas include marine debris removal through its flagship program, Dive Against Debris, which empowers divers to collect and report underwater trash, contributing vital data to global research efforts. The foundation also focuses on policy and advocacy, working with governments and NGOs to influence legislation that protects marine life and ocean ecosystems. In addition, community education plays a key role, with conservation-focused dive courses and public outreach initiatives designed to raise awareness and promote sustainable practices worldwide.



PHOTO BY HEATH CHRISTIE

On July 6, following the Fourth of July fireworks, there was a Dive for Debris event to help clean up the lagoon. The team successfully removed 50 pounds of debris, proving that divers can make a real difference in protecting our local waters. This effort was about more than just clean-up—it's part of a global initiative to reduce marine litter and safeguard marine life.

As debris dive participant Sandee Colby shared, "there is so much more debris out there! It's like a debris field, but it's at 95ish feet so you run out of air before you get as much as you would like—but it's totally fun and satisfying to get it out of the lagoon." The next time you're diving off Emon Beach, bring a collection bag and help keep our waters clean. Every piece we remove makes a difference!

Whether you collect debris during your dive or find the site clean, please report your dive details. Every report helps track conditions, identify trends, and support efforts for cleaner oceans.

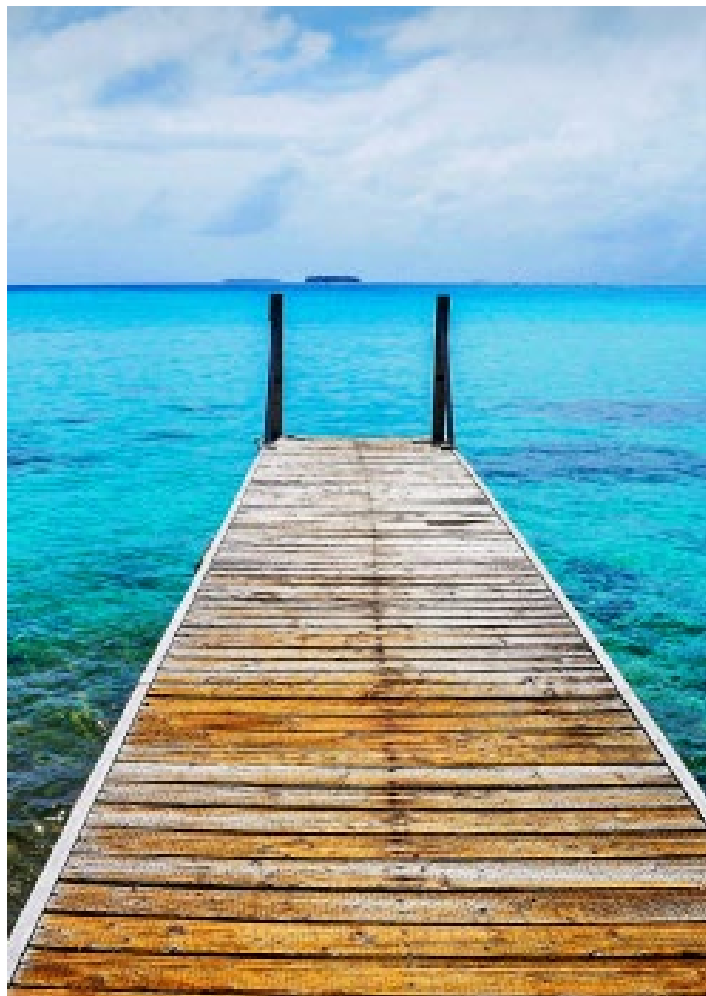
Send your report to:
Heath Christie at heath-christie1@hotmail.com

Include the following information:

- Dive Site
- Dive Leader & Number of Divers
- Max Depth
- Dive Time
- What Was Found –

Include item descriptions, number of pieces, and estimated weight

PADI AWARE connects divers worldwide through programs like Dive Against Debris. These initiatives turn recreational dives into meaningful conservation actions—because the ocean needs advocates, and who better than those who explore it? As PADI says: "Seek Adventure. Save the Ocean." Together, we can protect what we love—one dive at a time. ⚓



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.



PHOTOS BY CHRISTY WAGNON

COMMUNITY

WHY WE'RE CAPTIVATED BY SUNSETS—ESPECIALLY NEAR THE EQUATOR

HOURLASS REPORT

By Christy Wagon; CYS Deputy Director

Few natural events stir emotions like a sunset. Across the globe, people pause to admire the sky's vibrant farewell to the day. Social media fills with photos. For a few moments, everything slows down. But what makes sunsets so captivating—and why do they feel especially breathtaking on Kwajalein in the summertime?

Sunsets are a sensory experience. Visually, they paint the sky with deep reds, warm oranges, and golden light—colors known to evoke comfort, and peace. Psychologically, they offer a built-in invitation to pause. In today's fast-paced world, watching a sunset can be grounding and awe-inspiring. Research even shows that experiencing awe in nature, such as during a sunset, can reduce stress and increase life satisfaction.

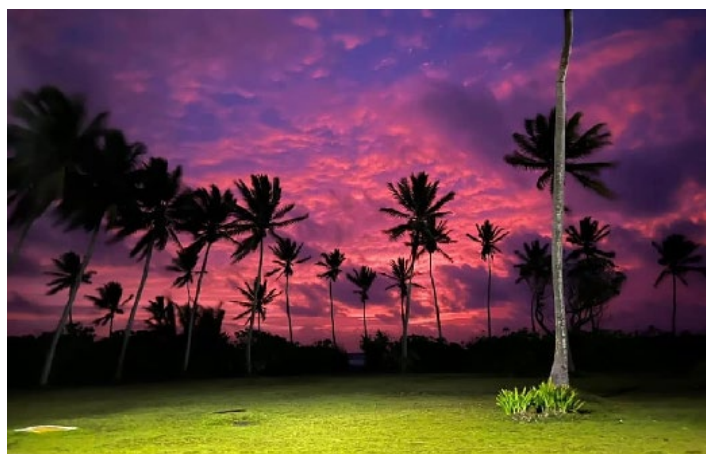
While sunsets are beautiful everywhere, those near

the equator—like the ones on Kwajalein—are particularly dramatic in the summer months. The sun sets more vertically at the equator, making twilight brief and so shift in color is more intense. Within minutes, the sky can shift from daylight to fiery red to deep indigo, creating a striking visual show.

Tropical climates also enhance the show. Warm, humid air scatters light in a way that intensifies reds and oranges. In island regions, sea spray and tiny salt particles further diffuse sunlight, enhancing the brilliance of sunset colors. With minimal air pollution—common in remote oceanic locations like Kwajalein—sunset hues appear even more vivid and saturated.

Clouds also play a key role. Scattered cumulus clouds often form in the late afternoon and evening in tropical regions. These clouds catch the sun's low rays, reflecting layers of glowing color across the sky. The resulting effect is almost cinematic—rich in texture, contrast, and dimension.

Across cultures and continents, people are drawn to sunsets for the same reasons: to feel calm, to reconnect, or simply to be awed. In equatorial summer settings, sunsets become more than a routine—they're a daily highlight. In a world full of distractions, the sunset is a reminder to pause, look up, and be amazed. X





YYWC SUNSET SOCIAL

September 8, 2025
Emon Beach Pavilion
6:30–8:00pm

Join us for a fun, family–friendly event and discover how you can help support education in the Marshall Islands and Micronesia! Enjoy games for all ages, delicious food and drinks, and a raffle with exciting prizes for both kids and adults.



Kwaj Smoke Off

Think you're the top grill master on Kwajalein? Prove it at the first annual YYWC Sunset Social Smoke Off!

Pick your protein, fire up the grill, serve your samples, and let the community decide the winner.

Ready to compete?

Sign up here:

<https://forms.gle/8XVbtTkuSU4gzNqg8>





Even though we are in a remote location that is difficult to get to, we still need to be vigilant and aware of our surroundings here at our home on Kwajalein Atoll.

August 2025 marks the sixteenth year of dedicated focus on Antiterrorism Awareness Month, a critical period for reinforcing the security of our Army communities.

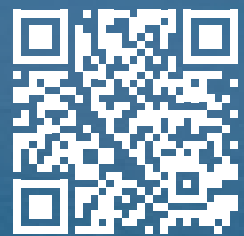
Our capacity to deter adversaries and prevail in any operational environment - from competitive engagement to large-scale combat - hinges on the proactive security posture of every USARPAC team member.

Through collective vigilance and decisive action, we will reinforce our defensive posture and decisively "Get in Position to Compete, Fight, and Win."

**"If you See Something,
Say Something"**

Call USAKA Law Enforcement at 480-4445

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 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.

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.



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.



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

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 jabdwot 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 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 James 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

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:
Audrey.Hughes@gov2x.com
Wilson.Kaisha@gov2x.com
...or stop by Bldg. 856, Rm 101





**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.**

KWAJ EYECARE IS COMING TO THE ISLAND

From July 29th –
August 16th, 2025

Scan QR code to schedule
your appointment!

Drinking Water Standard

The US Army Kwajalein Atoll (USAKA) Environmental Standards (UES) requires public notification when the Kwajalein and Roi-Namur Water Treatment Plants (WTPs) turbidity monitoring and testing procedures are not met. Turbidity from each filtration unit at the WTPs are monitored by inline continuous monitoring equipment capable of recording data at least every 15 minutes. The Kwajalein and Roi-Namur inline continuous monitoring systems have been inoperative for several months. Water operators are collecting manual grab samples for turbidity analysis every 4 hours. Repair or replacement projects for the continuous monitors are being evaluated. Turbidity is the cloudiness or haziness of a liquid caused by particles that are generally invisible to the naked eye and by itself does not cause microbiological contamination. Drinking water from several distribution sites are analyzed weekly by the Kwajalein Hospital Laboratory for microbiological contaminants. There is no threat to public health or the environment resulting from the inoperative inline monitoring equipment. No health-based restrictions are necessary for the normal use of drinking water. If you have questions, please contact the V2X Environmental Department at 480-0722.

Jorraan Eo Ilo Drinking Water Standard

Mottan kakien ko an US Army Kwajalein Atoll (USAKA) Environmental Standards (UES) ej aurok bwe ren karon jukjuk in bed eo ioon Kwajalein im Roi-Namur kon wawein liklik dren ko im etali elane lum in dren eo ejjab jejjot nan wawein etale ko im katak kaki. Lum in dren ko ilo kajojo kein liklik ko an WTPs rej jonok wot im walok aer alikar ilo kein jerbal ko im naaj koman einwot in mae ien data ko renaj alikar aolep 15 minit. Kein jerbal kein an dren ioon Kwajalein im Roi-Namur rekar jab jerbal iumwin jejo allon ko. Rijekal in dren ro rekar wonmanlok wot im ebok dren nan kamelmel im lale elane elap ejake eo an lum ilo dren ko. Kilen kakomanman lak im tiljek lok jirik kon dren ko ekar bok jikin nan lale im kajeon kajako lum ko ilo dren iumwn kajojo 4 awa. Ejjelok joraan elap im kauwotata enaj jelet ejmour eo ilo juon kabijuknen eo elane ej koman katak kein jen kein jerbal ko an lale dren eo. **Ejjab jelet ejmour non karon im rejan ikkijeen kojerbal dren in non aikuij ko jet.** Elane ewor am Kajitok kir V2X Environmental ilo 480-0722.

Now Showing at the Yuk Theater

Saturday, August 2

"Sonic The Hedgehog 3" (2024)
(PG) 110 min.

Sunday, August 3

"The Terminator" (1984)
(R) 107 min.

Saturday, August 9

"Mufasa: The Lion King" (2024)
(PG) 118 min.

Sunday, August 10

"A Few Good Men" (1992)
(R) 138 min.

Saturday, August 16

"Shrek Forever After" (2010)
(PG) 93 min.

Sunday, August 17

"A Complete Unknown" (2024)
(R) 161 min.

Saturday, August 23

"Sing 2" (2021)
(PG) 110 min.

Sunday, August 24

"Nosferatu" (2024)
(R) 132 min.

Saturday, August 30

"A League of Their Own" (1992)
(PG) 128 min.

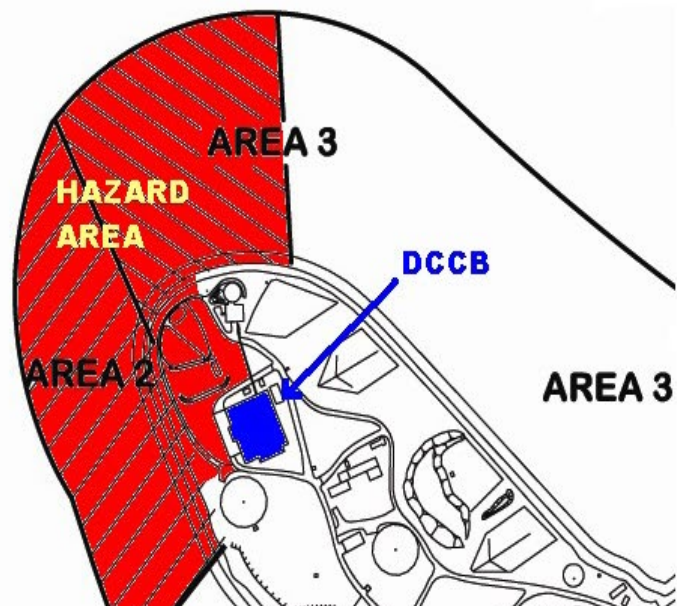


All showtimes start at 7:30 p.m.



Chenega will be conducting a small arms range on 13 Aug. 2025 from 0800hrs to 1200hrs.

Please observe the RED FLAG hazard area. If you have any questions, contact CPT Johnson at 480-9046.



UV Safety Awareness Month — Protect Your Vision This July!

July is UV Safety Awareness Month, and with Kwajalein's strong sunbeams at their peak, safeguarding your eyes against UV exposure is more important than ever. Our trusted eye doctor, Dr. Will Black, answers KEY questions to help you keep your vision healthy year round.

1. How does UV exposure affect long-term eye health, and what conditions can it cause or worsen?

Long-term UV exposure accelerates aging and damage to critical eye structures. Over time, it can lead to:

- **Cataracts** (clouding of the lens)
- **Macular degeneration** (progressive loss of central vision)
- **Pterygium** (a growth on the cornea, "surfer's eye")
- **Photokeratitis** (corneal "sunburn," causing pain, redness, and swelling)
- Potentially **Cancers** of the eyelid and surrounding skin.

Even brief, intense UV exposure—like glare off reflected water—can cause acute damage, which contributes to cumulative harms.

2. What are the most effective ways to protect our eyes from UV damage, especially in sunny or tropical environments?

To minimize UV exposure:

- **Wear sunglasses rated "100% UV" or UV 400**, blocking UVA & UVB up to 400 nm.
- **Choose wraparound or large-frame styles** to protect against side UV rays and protect surrounding skin.
- **Add a wide-brimmed hat**—this can cut UV around your eyes by ~50%
- **Avoid peak sun hours** (10 a.m.–4 p.m.) and monitor UV index levels above 4!
- **Evaluate your sunglasses** if they are older, scratched, or if you are unsure of their UV protection and proper fit.

Bonus: Consider **polarized lenses** for glare-heavy activities! Remember, they also must also be 100% UV protective in addition to the polarization.

3. Are all sunglasses equally protective, or should we look for specific features or certifications when choosing UV-blocking eyewear?

Not all sunglasses offer the same level of protection. When choosing:

- Look for labels stating "100% UV protection" or "UV 400."
- Lens tint darkness does not equal UV safety—always check the UV rating.
- Inspect optical quality: no distortions—check tile lines through your lenses.
- Polycarbonate lenses offer impact resistance ideal for active wear.

Eyes Matter. Eyecare Matters – Make UV Protection a Daily Habit

Special Offers at Kwaj Eyecare (July 29 – August 19, 2025)

- Get a comprehensive eye health exam.
- Has your current eyewear evaluated for UV protection?
- Discuss personalized recommendations for UV eye protection.
 - o Prescription and non-prescription options available.

Schedule an Exam online: www.kwajeyes.com **or call** the Kwajalein Hospital at 480 2223.

Protecting your eyes today means healthier vision for tomorrow. Enjoy Kwaj safely!

Cheers!

Dr. Will Black – Kwaj Eyecare



Kwajalein Art Guild: Call for Photographers!

Submit for the 2025 Photography Show & 2026 Calendar



Deadline: August 16, 2025



Submit to: artguildkwajalein@gmail.com

Submission Guidelines:

- Landscape orientation only
- Will be cropped to 13x19 if not already
- Minimum file size: 500 KB
- No filters or editing applied after submission
- Photographers receive a printed copy of their submission



Show us the island through your lens!



Remember the 3-R's of UXO Safety!



RECOGNIZE



RETREAT



REPORT

Unexploded ordnance are munitions that fail to detonate during live fire training. They are **extremely dangerous** and could explode if tampered with, even though the Kwajalein ordnance is 80-years-old.

NEVER touch UXO and report the location of **ANY** suspected UXO to the UXO Team **IMMEDIATELY** at:

Phone: 480-1550/1433

Email: Darren.r.Wheeldon.ctr@army.mil



WEEKLY TROPICAL WEATHER THREAT OUTLOOK

RIS WEATHER STATION STAFF

Discussion:

At 30 days into July, we recorded 11.30 inches of rain, which is 1.77 inches above normal for the month. So far in 2025, we have only received 31.38 inches of precipitation, which is 9.70 inches below normal for the year. Kwajalein Atoll is now in a moderate drought, which is an improvement over the severe drought conditions that it had been experiencing. July sees daily showers for at least part of the atoll. Shower coverage looks to be elevated through the first half of the weekend, but beyond that, coverage looks to decrease considerably heading into next week. Over the next few days with the passage of the troughs that bring us the heavier showers, there will be an elevated thunderstorm risk, as the troughing means a more favorable environment for lighting. There were no thunderstorm days over the last seven days. A thunderstorm day is defined as an "in situ" lightning strike within five miles of the weather station or thunder heard. The Madden-Julian Oscillation (MJO) will be trending toward its negative phase for the West-

ern Pacific next week, which will favor decreased precipitation for the Atoll. The Intertropical Convergence Zone (ITCZ) is currently well-organized, but it will become more fragmented across the western Pacific by the end of the weekend and next week. This will result in drier conditions for that time period, although there will still be periodic shower chances generated by areas of localized trade wind convergence. The El Nino Southern Oscillation (ENSO) is in ENSO-neutral conditions. With the end of La Nina, the transition to ENSO-neutral favors increased shower coverage, entering the rainy season. Sea surface temperatures (SST) in the central Pacific between the RMI and the Date Line are now at about normal. Besides increased rainfall, these warming near normal SSTs tend to favor tropical cyclone development, but the RMI is still outside its climatological peak tropical cyclone season.

Tropical Cyclones:

Hurricane Iona currently resides south and a little bit west of Hawaii and has a low chance of passing near Wake as a Tropical Storm around the Tuesday-Wednesday

timeframe. Otherwise, no significant tropical cyclone activity expected to affect anywhere in Micronesia or the Mariana Islands. We are now in the tropical cyclone season for the western Pacific, though not quite at its peak.

Damaging West Winds / Westerly Swell:

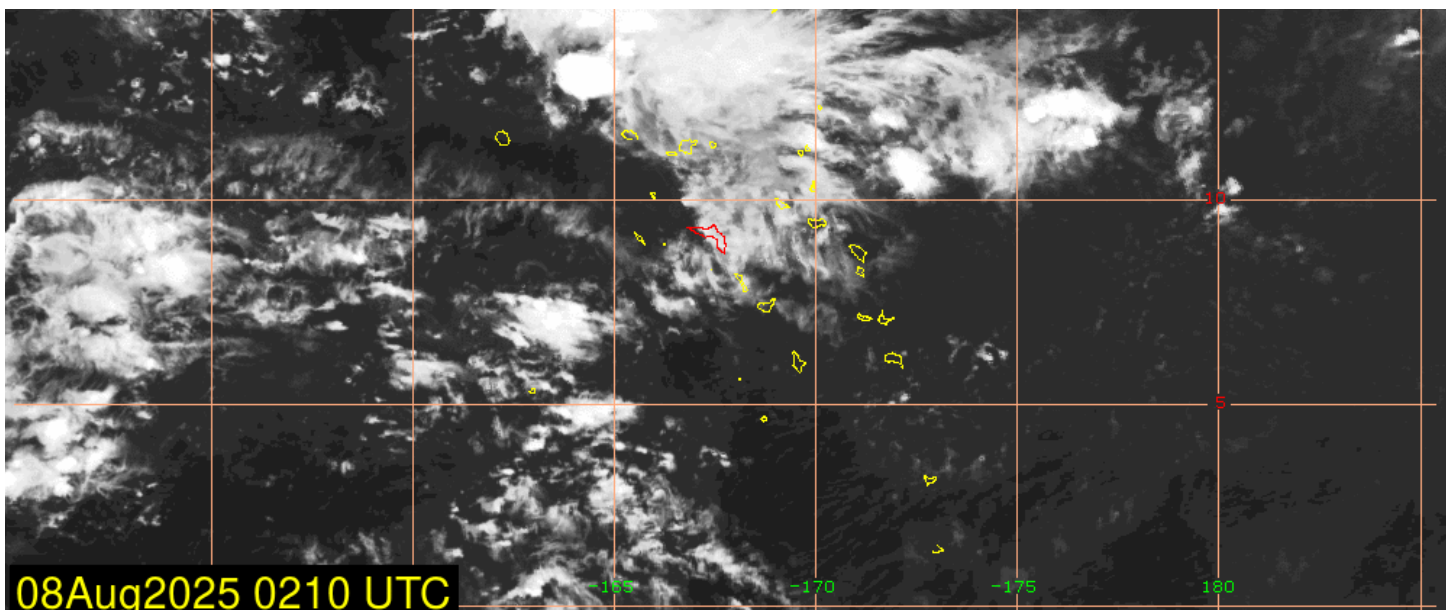
Very low risk. Most of Micronesia is northeast trade wind dominant. There may be some brief periods of light westerlies triggered by outflow from shower activity, but the intensity and duration of these should not be strong enough to be hazardous.

Swell / Tide Inundation for Kwajalein Atoll and Wake Island:

We are currently experiencing low (neap) tides, as we are near a half-moon. Tides will increase throughout the next week as we head toward the full moon, but they will remain under five feet. Winds will be near-normal for July, averaging around 10-12 knots, although there may be periods of near-calm conditions with light and variable winds as we are now getting into doldrum season. There will be gusty winds possible near

any heavy showers that occur, particularly if those showers occur off to our immediate east. A Small Craft Advisory (SCA) may be issued for short periods of time on the open lagoon and ocean during instances of gusty outflow. High Surf Advisory (HSA) conditions are not expected for the next seven days.

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

RIS WEATHER STATION STAFF

WEATHER DISCUSSION

Unseasonably dry conditions and light winds are expected across the Kwajalein Atoll for Saturday and the weekend. The Inter-Tropical Convergence Zone (ITCZ) is currently fragmented and disorganized, and it is having little influence on the weather across the area. Sunday into Sunday night, a weak atmospheric wave will move through that may bring a modest increase in shower activity as well as a slight chance of a stray thunderstorm during that time period. Otherwise, shower coverage appears unlikely to exceed stray on Saturday or Monday. Winds will generally be east-northeasterly in the upper single digits on Saturday, before becoming east-southeasterly and decreasing a couple of knots on Sunday as the wave moves through. On Monday, a doldrum-like pattern will set in and allow winds to become very light and variable.

SATURDAY

Partly sunny with stray showers. Winds NE-EE at 5-10 knots with higher gusts possible near showers.

SUNDAY

Partly sunny with isolated showers and a possible stray thunderstorm. Winds E-SE at 3-8 knots with higher gusts possible near showers.

MONDAY

Mostly sunny with stray showers. Winds light and variable with gusts in the teens possible near showers.

NEXT WEEK

Drier than average conditions look to continue into next week as well. A couple more modest atmospheric waves may move through and bring periods of in-

creased shower coverage, but the timing of these events is uncertain. Winds look to remain light, with additional periods of doldrum-like conditions possible. ☒



	SUNRISE SUNSET	MOONRISE MOONSET	HIGH TIDE	LOW TIDE
SUNDAY	6:41 a.m. 7:08 p.m.	7:54 p.m. 7:10 a.m.	4:49 a.m. 4.8' 5:12 p.m. 3.9'	11:12 a.m. -0.7' 11:06 p.m. -0.5'
MONDAY	6:41 a.m. 7:07 p.m.	8:38 p.m. 8:03 a.m.	5:22 a.m. 4.9' 5:44 p.m. 4.0'	11:42 a.m. -0.7' 11:41 p.m. -0.6'
TUESDAY	6:41 a.m. 7:07 p.m.	9:21 p.m. 8:55 a.m.	5:54 a.m. 4.8' 6:17 p.m. 4.1'	12:12 p.m. -0.7' -----
WEDNESDAY	6:41 a.m. 7:07 p.m.	10:04 p.m. 9:46 a.m.	6:28 a.m. 4.5' 6:52 p.m. 4.0'	12:17 a.m. -0.4' 12:44 p.m. -0.5'
THURSDAY	6:41 a.m. 7:06 p.m.	10:49 p.m. 10:39 a.m.	7:03 a.m. 4.1' 7:30 p.m. 3.9'	12:56 a.m. -0.2' 1:16 p.m. -0.2'
FRIDAY	6:41 a.m. 7:06 p.m.	11:38 p.m. 11:34 a.m.	7:40 a.m. 3.5' 8:15 p.m. 3.6'	1:40 a.m. 0.2' 1:50 p.m. 0.1'
AUGUST 16	6:41 a.m. 7:05 p.m.	----- 12:33 p.m.	8:25 a.m. 2.8' 9:15 p.m. 3.3'	2:34 a.m. 0.7' 2:31 p.m. 0.6'

FOR QUESTIONS ABOUT ISLAND LIFE AND ARMY REGULATIONS, PLEASE CALL THE COMMANDER'S HOTLINE AT 480-1098. FOLLOW THE USAG-KA FACEBOOK PAGE TO RECEIVE INFORMATION AND UPDATES REGARDING SAFETY INFORMATION, EVENTS, AND OFFICIAL COMMAND ACTIVITIES.



A scenic sunset over a turquoise ocean. The sky is filled with soft, colorful clouds in shades of pink, orange, and blue. The sun is low on the horizon, casting a warm glow across the water. In the foreground, dark, silhouetted pine branches hang down from the top of the frame. The ocean is a vibrant turquoise color, with gentle waves visible. The horizon line is straight, separating the sea from the sky. The overall mood is peaceful and serene.

Until Next Week!

✕