Roi rat Conrad Nakasone swings in to chip his ball during a scramble match against Kwaj golfers in the 2017 Atoll Cup Golf Tournament.
Remembrance Day is annually observed in the Marshall Islands on March 1 and by members of the international community. The day honors the lives of those who both suffered and survived the impact of nuclear testing. It is commemorated on the anniversary of the 1954 Castle Bravo thermonuclear hydrogen bomb test at Bikini Atoll.

The day also marks an occasion to remember the continued international commitment to peace in the nuclear age. In recognition of Remembrance Day, the excerpts that follow offer perspectives on the events of March 1 and the relationship between the United States and Marshall Islands 63 years after the Operation Castle tests. The two nations continue their partnership together, and share in common a value of mutual respect, prosperity and peace.

The United States, and the worldwide population owes the Marshalls a debt of gratitude.

Today, our responsibility is to remember and honor those affected by nuclear testing. For many of you, you remember family members and loved ones. I am pleased to be here with you to honor their memory and to be here with you to thank you for being our strategic partner and our friend. We have a long way to go to reach the goal of a world with no nuclear weapons.

But we have made progress. Today we know better than to test, even in places considered at the time to be "remote.” Of course, if you live there, it’s not remote. It is home! And a homeland is a singular place. It’s a place in your mind. Where you were raised. Where you fell in love and married and had your children. For many elders it is now a place to return to one more time. I can imagine that to pack up and leave for another island, which was never home, was difficult for the people of Enewetak, Bikini, Rongelap, and Utrik. Words cannot describe your sacrifice.

Excerpt, 2013 Nuclear Remembrance Day Remarks by Thomas Armbruster, Former U.S. Ambassador to the RMI

While the United States will and must maintain a safe, secure and effective nuclear deterrent for as long as nuclear weapons exist, we have properly refocused our nuclear policy for the 21st century.

As outlined in the 2010 Nuclear Posture Review (NPR), we are now on a path that confronts the threats we face today and those on the near horizon. This allows us to work with allies and partners to pursue arms control and disarmament measures that can lead us down the path towards a nuclear-free world.

Mindful of the devastating human consequences of nuclear war, the United States has also clearly stated that it is in our interest, and that of all other nations, that the nearly 70-year record of non-use of nuclear weapons be extended forever. We also concluded that the time for a complete and total ban on nuclear explosive testing is long overdue. U.S. ratification of the Comprehensive Nuclear Test-Ban Treaty (CTBT) is a pivotal part of this effort.

Ratification of the CTBT is central to leading other nuclear weapons states toward a world of diminished reliance on nuclear weapons, reduced nuclear competition, and eventual nuclear disarmament. The United States now maintains a safe, secure and effective nuclear arsenal through the science-based Stockpile Stewardship program without nuclear explosive testing, which the United States halted in 1992.

The United States will be patient in our pursuit of ratification, but we will also be persistent. It has been a long time since the CTBT was on the front pages of newspapers, so we will need time to make the case for this Treaty. Together, we can work through questions and concerns about the Treaty and explosive nuclear testing. Our answers to those questions continue to grow stronger with the proven and increasing capabilities of the Stockpile Stewardship program and the verification system of the Treaty, including the International Monitoring System.

This is not just a security issue; this is an issue of humanity, of health, of morality.

We are the stewards of this Earth and we owe it to those who have fallen – to those who suffer still – to work together, one step at a time, until nuclear explosive testing is banned worldwide, getting us one step closer to our goal of the peace and security of a world without nuclear weapons.

Excerpt, 2014 Nuclear Remembrance Day Remarks by Rose Gottemoeller, the Deputy Secretary General of NATO

The Kwajalein Hourglass is named for the insignia of the U.S. Army 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 and using a network printer by Kwajalein Range Services editorial staff.

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One of the four mojen (or “domains”) comprising all native Marshallese from Ralik Chain atolls in the Marshall Islands hosted an exceedingly rare ceremony Thursday, Feb. 16 on Ebeye.

One of the mojen’s chiefs, Iroij Kotak Loeak, ascended to the apex of traditional power and respect in the Marshalls, becoming the Loeak domain’s newest paramount chief, or iroijlaplap.

Loeak’s rise to the rank of paramount chief was not necessarily news in and of itself. With a total of 10 paramount chief positions in the RMI, new iroijlaplap are appointed from time to time. What set Loeak’s “kairojoj” (or coronation) apart from others, however, is his lineage. Born from a full-blood iroij (Marshallese for “chief”) father and a full-blood leroij mother, he is the first full-blood iroij to take the mantle of paramount chief over a clan in more than 40 years in the archipelago.

This was big news in the Marshall Islands, and scores of high-ranking RMI and foreign officials flew into Bucholz Army Airfield on Kwajalein and travelled to Ebeye to witness the ceremony at the Ebeye United Church of Christ, Feb. 16.

“Many of us are 40 years old, and we haven’t seen one coronation,” said master of ceremonies Reginald White to a crowd of hundreds inside and outside the church. He shared the stage with special speakers Iroij Michael Kabua and Iroij and former RMI president Christopher Loeak, both of whom underlined the importance of the event and congratulated the iroijlaplap.

Anointing oil in hand, the Rev. Lawson Matauto approached Loeak and poured oil onto the chief’s head, a traditional symbol of ascension to the rank of iroijlaplap, and brought Leroij Hyphen Neimed to the front to place the chieftain’s crown atop his head, completing the ceremony.

Newly-anointed Iroijlaplap Loeak took a few minutes to address his people, RMI government officials, U.S. Army Garrison-Kwajalein Atoll Command staff, foreign dignitaries and others guests. He emphasized the importance of preserving traditional Marshallese customs while also fostering full, productive cooperation between the nation’s traditional leaders and the elected political representatives of the republic.

“I look forward [to] working closely in friendly cooperation with our government as we shall aspire toward our nation-building efforts to the benefit of many communities throughout the republic, and ask to remain vigilant in safeguarding our traditional values and way of life which are truly blessings from our eternal father in Heaven,” he said.

FROM LEFT: Loeak addresses the guests, including chiefs from several RMI atolls, high-ranking political figures, foreign dignitaries, USAG-KA Command staff and the general public, during his coronation ceremony, or “kairojoj,” Feb. 16. Loeak is crowned by Leroij Hyphen Neimed. Newly anointed, Loeak takes a moment to shake hands with ceremony guests at the Ebeye United Church of Christ.

KEY POINTS

- A mojen, or “domain,” consists of several individual clans, all grouped together under a single paramount chief, or iroijlaplap. You can think of a mojen as a “super clan.”
- Mojen exist only in the Ralik Chain. There are four mojen comprising the Ralik Chain, the Kabua domain being the most recognizable to USAG-KA residents. In the Ratak Chain, the traditional power and political structure is different. Instead of clans combining to form mojen, they exist as wholly separate entities, with each paramount chief presiding over smaller amounts of land, compared to those of the mojen in the west.
- There are 10 iroijlaplap in the Marshalls. One for each mojen in the Ralik Chain. And one for each individual clan or geographic area in the Ratak Chain.
- Iroijlaplap wield major power among the people in their domain and throughout the Marshalls. The Council of the Iroij, a special administrative body at the nation’s senate in Majuro, gives them a voice when it comes to decision making by the RMI’s democratically elected leaders.
ROI RATS SNATCH ATOLL CUP FROM TEAM KWAJALEIN

BY JORDAN VINSON

For the first time in years, Roi-Namur residents and friends defeated Kwajalein golfers in the Atoll Cup, an annual head-to-head tournament pitting golfers from Roi and Kwaj against one another.

With a final score of 7.5 points to Kwaj’s 6.5, the Roi team eked out a win in a match that was tied until the final competitors on the course walked onto hole nine. A singles match between Kwaj golfer Pat Dowell and Roi’s Hesbon Jokas wound down with a couple of putts left on the green. Gathered around the green like extras in a scene from “Caddyshack,” members of both teams watched in a hushed silence as Jokas sank the putt his team needed to put the rats over the top and take the title.

At the Roi-Namur Country Club, Roi team captain Jeff Jones hoisted the beloved crystal Atoll Cup in the air and riled his troops in a post-match celebration, while Kwaj golfers gave each other a heavy dose of friendly ribbings for failing to win their individual flights.

The results of the tournament follow on page five.
2017 ATOLL CUP TOURNAMENT RESULTS

Scramble

- Milton Barnett/Conrad Nakasone (Roi) tied Ralph Gary/Geary Shotts (Kwaj)
- Mike Ellison/Danny Bittner (Kwaj) def. Ricky Everette/Normen Sablas (Roi)
- Rhina Hampson/Donna Brown (Kwaj) def. Tedrik Taidrik/Jerry Wilken (Roi)
- Bob Nast/Tommy Drabek (Roi) def. Jeremy DeWitt/Jim Stepchew (Kwaj)

Better Ball

- Joi Whipple/Trina Ellison (Kwaj) def. Pam Frase/Deb Crawford (Roi)
- Jim Friedenstab/Jim Thomson (Roi) def. Tyler Bodnar/Ross Gilchrist (Kwaj)
- Rob Ewbank/Parker Seegmiller (Roi) def. Glenn Hibberts/Flynn Gideon (Kwaj)
- Rhina Hampson/Donna Brown (Kwaj) def. Tedrik Taidrik/Jerry Wilken (Roi)
- Bob Nast/Tommy Drabek (Roi) def. Jeremy DeWitt/Jim Stepchew (Kwaj)
- Mike Ellison/Danny Bittner (Kwaj) def. Ricky Everette/Normen Sablas (Roi)
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- Rob Ewbank/Parker Seegmiller (Roi) def. Glenn Hibberts/Flynn Gideon (Kwaj)

Singles

- Tracy Hampson (Kwaj) def. Ray Moyer
- Chad McGlenn (Roi) def. John Finley
- Greg Whitehead (Roi) def. Jeff Wase
- Jason Seltzler (Kwaj) def. Robin Badayos
- Kenny Leines (Kwaj) def. Kent Arnold
- Hesbon Jokas (Roi) def. Pat Dowell
- Jeff Jones (Roi) def. Vernon Adcock

Roi-Namur’s Parker Seegmiller tees off at hole one on the back nine Sunday, Feb. 19, at the Roi-Namur Golf Course.

CLOCKWISE FROM TOP LEFT: Kwajalein’s Glenn Hibberts smashes his ball down range. The Jims (Jim Thomson, left, and Jim Friedenstab) square up their shots during better ball match play against Tyler Bodnar and Ross Gilchrist. Roi’s Ricky Everette douses Roi team captain Jeff Jones with a cold one in a sneak attack during the Roi team’s celebration following the tournament. A ladies-only flight pauses for a photo; from left: Pam Frase, Deb Crawford, Joi Whipple and Trina Ellison.

The Kwajalein Hourglass
LEFT: Roi Automotive employee Watak Kabua, photographed Saturday, Feb. 18, is pumped for the weekend. RIGHT: Kwaj golfer Glenn Hibberts is spotted Feb. 19 hunting for something he lost in the jungle overgrowth during the Atoll Cup tourney, Feb. 19.

LEFT: Jerry Baxter, driving, and friend Anna Liza deliver cold drinks to golfers during the 2017 Atoll Cup, Feb. 19. RIGHT: Roi rat Tommy Drabek is all smiles during his scramble match against Kwaj golfers, Feb. 19.

LEFT: The grill masters take a break from firing up hotdogs for hungry golfers during the tournament. RIGHT: Kwaj golfer Jim Stepchew sizes up his shot during his match against Bob Nast and Tommy Drabek, Feb. 19.
TOP: Tiny royals and fairy princesses read with Midori Hobbs at Fairy Tale Day at Grace Sherwood Library. Freddy Fluhrer and mom Paula make a new suit of recyclable armor at the Library, Feb 22.

MIDDLE: Ace mechanics Angel Bolton and Jim Cassey volunteer skills at Island Memorial Chapel’s Bike Blessings event, Feb. 18. Nearly 40 visitors received free repair assistance at this event.

LEFT: Girl Scout troops from the Kwajalein Atoll celebrate World Thinking Day, Feb. 21, at the Kwajalein Jr./Sr. High School Library with keynote speaker Gina Hinton.
USAG-KA’s Hero of the Week is Roi Automotive Dispatcher Junior Keju. A 22-year veteran of the Automotive shop, Keju has done everything from driving the island’s work buses to handling administrative duties in the office and filling in for the department supervisor.

As a dispatcher, Keju is a key link in the chain needed to get automotive parts on the island to keep the department’s fleets of utility trucks, pickup trucks, golf carts and other vehicles moving.

“I’m in KEAMS all the time,” he says, explaining the process that goes into opening and closing work and product orders at a fast clip.

It’s the type of job that keeps him enthused, he says: “I’ve been here almost 23 years. I love my job.”

In his free time he enjoys fishing and spending time with his family on Third Island. And if needed, he can be called on to help tend bar at the Outrigger.

“I just like to help out,” he says with a smile.

UNITED CHECK-IN TIMES

Monday, United 155—3:30-4:45 p.m.
Tuesday, United 154—11-11:30 a.m.
Wednesday, United 155—2:30-3:45 p.m.
Thursday, United 154—11:30 a.m.—Noon.
Friday, United 155—3:30-4:45 p.m.
Saturday, United 154—11-11:30 a.m.

ATI CHECK-IN TIMES

Early departures—7:45-8:15 a.m.
All other departures—8-8:30 a.m.

*Check with your ATI flight representative to confirm check-in and flight departure times.
USAG-KA SPORTS

BASKETBALL

RESULTS LAST WEEK

FEB. 15
The Tennis Players def. Unforgettable 37-26
And One def. Monstars 29-28
Spartans I def. Unknown 53-42
Faith def. Hoopless 56-41

FEB. 16
Space Jam def. Vikings 2-0
Spartans II def. Outkasts 52-37

FEB. 17
And One def. Unforgettable 27-25
The Tennis Players def. Monstars 53-21
Spartans I def. Hoopless 65-29
Faith def. Fun-Da-Mentals 56-33

A LEAGUE RECORDS

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WATER POLO

RESULTS LAST WEEK

FEB. 14
Zissou def. El Polo Loco 23-16
Spartans def. Turbo Turtles 53-47
Chargoggog def. Tyler’s Angels 35-31

FEB. 18
Spartans def. Chargoggog 38-22
El Polo Loco def. Tyler’s Angels 34-24
Turbo Turtles def. Zissou 35-30

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NOTICE OF AVAILABILITY

USAG-KA Draft Document of Environmental Protection For Dredging and Filling

The U.S Army Kwajalein Atoll Environmental Standards (UES) require the operating of USAG-KA activities with the potential to affect the public health and environmental must be defined in Document of Environmental Protection (DEP). The standards further provide the regulatory agencies and the public be allowed to review and comment on a Draft DEP. The Draft DEP for Dredging and Filling Activity provides the requirements and limitations for the procedures of dredging and filling in water or near the shore structures at or near USAG-KA.

The public is invited to review and comment on the Draft DEP. The Draft DEP and the USAKA Environmental standards are available for review at the Grace Sherwood Library (Kwajalein), the Roi-Namur Library and the RMI Environmental Protection Agency on Majuro and Ebeye. Questions regarding the Draft DEP can be directed to: Derek Miller, U.S Army Garrison-Kwajalein environmental engineer.

Written comments can be directed to:
Derek Miller
derek.d.miller14.civ@mail.mil
U.S Army Garrison-Kwajalein Atoll
Attn: USAG-KA Environmental Engineer
CMR 701-BUILDING 730
APO AP 96555-9998

A period of at least 30 days will be provided for the public comment. Comments should be postmarked no later than March 24.
WEEKLY WEATHER OUTLOOK

WEATHER DISCUSSION: In the past two weeks we have received 0.43 inches of rainfall, which is about 1.2 inches below normal for that period. However, the total accumulation for the month is still above average due to the heavy rains on Feb. 8.

The upcoming week will be a continuation of the past seven days with light, isolated, “drive-by” showers or “sunshowers.” Expect average to below-average precipitation. Trade winds are increasing with the possibility for a need of small craft advisories Saturday through Monday. Small craft criteria used on Kwajalein is 20 knots of sustained wind speeds for a period of four hours.

SATURDAY/SUNDAY/MONDAY FORECAST: Expect winds reaching near small craft advisory levels, from 18-23 knots, and isolated light showers.

MID-WEEK FORECAST: Trade winds remain brisk at 18-23 knots with the continued possibility of small craft advisories. Stray, short and light isolated showers are expected.

SEXUAL HARASSMENT/ASSAULT RESPONSE AND PREVENTION (SHARP) CONTACT INFORMATION
Capt. David Rice
SHARP Victim Advocate
Work: 805 355 2139 • Home: 805 355 3565
USAG-KA SHARP Pager: 805 355 3243/3242/3241/0100
USAG-KA SHARP VA Local Help Line: 805 355 2758
DOD SAFE Helpline: 877 995 5247

LUNCH
Sunday Roasted Chicken
Baked Ziti
Chef’s Choice

DINNER
Sunday French Dip Sandwich
Kwaj Fried Chicken
Chef’s Choice

*MENU CURRENT AS OF Feb. 22
The Kwajalein Hourglass Saturday, February 25, 2017 / Volume 58 Number 8

COMMUNITY NOTICES

Construction Announcement – Macy’s West Side Update. AAFES retail vendors are open to the public. The sidewalk on the north side of the Bali Shop will be closed to the public. From 7th street the access road between the Shopette and Macy’s retail vendor area will also be closed temporarily during movement of materials. For your safety, from 7th street, use alternate routes during these temporary operations.

George Seitz Elementary School Book Fair. Open to students Thursday, March 2 from 8:30 a.m.-5 p.m. Open to the public Friday, March 3, from 8:30 a.m.-7 p.m., at George Seitz Elementary School. Donate new and gently used books, games or puzzles at the George Seitz Elementary School office, Shopette, Surfway, Post Office or High School Library. Questions? Call Cindy Engen at 5-2495 or Jane Sholar at 5-1815.

The Family Pool and the Adult Pool on Kwaj will both be closed Feb. 22-25 while divers clean the intake pipes used to supply the pools with water. Kwajalein Yacht Club’s monthly meeting Saturday Feb. 25, 6:30 p.m. at the Yacht Club. Happy Hour begins at 5:30 p.m. Meeting starts at 6:30 p.m.

and Dinner at 7 p.m. Poc Ursula LaBrie 5-1951.

Rich Theater Family Fun Double Feature. Saturday, Feb. 25, 6 p.m. at the Rich Theater. Concession Sales and Carnival Games Kick Off at 6 p.m. Trolls (Rated PG (94 minutes), 7:30 p.m. Fantastic Beasts and Where to Find Them, Rated PG-13 (140 minutes), 9 p.m. Co-sponsored by Kwajalein Schools and Community Activities.

Vets Hall Dance Classes. Come on down to the Vets Hall Feb. 26 and join in the dance classes with Josh Parker. All styles of dance will be taught starting with upbeat Latin dances, Salsa and Meringue. There is no charge for the lessons. Doors open at 6 p.m., class begins at 6:30 p.m. Questions call Jan Abrams or Mike Woundy.

The YYWC Basket Auction is coming in March. The event is a community fundraiser for our neighboring Marshallese schools. If you are interested in donating a basket item, please contact Amy Spock at 50899.

Celebrate Dr. Seuss’s birthday on Thursday, March 2 at the Grace Sherwood Library at 3:30 p.m. Enjoy special readings of Dr. Seuss books, crafts, and more. KRS Community Activities, 5-3331, Bldg 805, 2nd Floor.

Please join us for Quizufo Friday, March 3 at 7:30 p.m., at The Vets Hall. Special guest host Jeff Robinson will present a spectrum of trivia to challenge us. Contact Mike Woundy or Neil Dye with questions.

CYS Start Smart Soccer Registration: March 3–March 25. Season Dates: April 12–May 10. Cost is $75.00 per player. Open to all registered CYS Youth Age 7 - Grade 6. For program questions, contact Cecilia or 5-1275.

The Kwaj Lodge will experience a brief power outage at 9 p.m. to connect an emergency generator on Sunday, March 5.

The following facilities will experience a seven hour power outage starting at 11 p.m., Sunday, March 5: 557-Amargo Radio Shack; 605-Echo Pier (Warehouse, Marine); 607-Marine Dept. Office (Harbor Control); 611-Tide Gauge Building; 620-Shore Power Systems; 621-Echo Pier Restroom; 623-Dock Security Checkpoint (DSC); 626-Sewage Lift Station; 658-Brandon Field Lights; 662-Richardson Theatre Projection Booth; 664-Richardson Theater; 669-Brandon Lenswell; 671-Religious Education Center; 675-Marshallese Cultural Center; 683-Memorial Chapel and Office; 789-Marina Office/ Marina Maintenance Shop; 801-Adult Pool; 802-Skateboard Park; 818-Basketball Court; 1646-Daily Field Rest Rooms;

The following facilities may experience a one hour power outage starting at 4 a.m. on Monday, March 6:

The Food Service Department has decided to resume its deliveries of phone messages. The messages will be received between 8 a.m. and 10 a.m. for delivery that evening.

Please allow 5 business days’ notice to turn off general lighting. Maintain sufficient lighting levels for safety.

Make sure you restart your computer every day. Please call the IT Help Desk @ 5-2444 for more information.

Please allow business days’ notice when requesting a loaner laptop or projector. Please call the IT Help Desk @ 5-2444 for more information.

Safely Speaking: Take Five for Safety. Look for potential hazards, and take action to prevent them before you start a job.

E-Talk: Universal Wastes. Examples of these wastes found on USAKA are intact lead batteries, lithium batteries, mercury batteries, NiCd batteries (dry and wet) and intact fluorescent tubes.

E-Talk: Universal Wastes. Examples of these wastes found on USAKA are intact lead batteries, lithium batteries, mercury batteries, NiCd batteries (dry and wet) and intact fluorescent tubes.
Local man spears mahi mahi

While free diving oceanside near SAR Pass DynCorp radar technician Rick Jeffress speared an eight pound mahi mahi on Jan 29. “This is extremely rare for spearfishing,” said Jeffress, a seven-month resident of Kwajalein. “Only a handful of divers SCUBA included have ever been able to accomplish this because mahi mahi tend to stay in the open ocean. Lately they’ve been staying closer to the shore line.”

Paul Hubert Jeffress’ dive buddy taught Jeffress to spearfish. This was Jeffress’ first mahi mahi. “We were blue water hunting off the reef wall. We’re lucky we didn’t see any sharks after we speared the mahi,” said Jeffress.

Jeffress is originally from Fresno, Calif.

Blackout Tonight

Range operations will require all local residents to black out all exterior lights in the housing area tonight during the required blackout period beginning (earliest at 2030) when the street lights and the rotating beacon on the water tower are turned off and continuing until these lights are again turned on. Interior lights are not affected. There is no “Take Cover” requirement for this operation.

Except for emergency vehicles, no vehicles will be operated during the blackout (while the street lights and the rotating beacon on the water tower are off).

In connection with this operation, hazard areas will exist in the ocean within a 200 nautical mile radius of Kwajalein and in the Kwajalein atoll on the islands and in the lagoon between a line joining Boger and Yabbeno and a line joining Bigj and Gea. All personnel and craft are requested to stay out of the above hazard areas between 1930 tonight and 0230 tomorrow morning.