

# Japan APPU visits FSM, strengthens ties

KOLONIA, Pohnpei (FSM INFORMATION SERVICE) - The Japan Asian-Pacific Parliamentarians' Union (APPU) national group arrived Pohnpei February 3rd, to commemorate with FSM officials here the establishment of diplomatic relations between FSM and Japan which took effect on Dec. 16, 1988.

The Japan APPU delegation upon arrival here were met by Speaker Jack Fritz, Vice Speaker Elias Thomas, Senator Tony Otto and other Officials.

The Japan delegation, during receptions hosted in its honor, praised the FSM for the new relationship, wine-toasted the leaders, paid

courtesy calls on President John R. Haglglam and Speaker Jack Fritz, and toured the FSM capital site at Palikir before departing Pohnpei on February 4.

The APPU delegation included: member of House of Representatives and former Minister of  
*(Please see APPU, Page 7)*



## THE NATIONAL UNION

PEACE • UNITY • LIBERTY

AN OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF THE PEOPLE OF FEDERATED STATES OF MICRONESIA

Volume 10

Kolonia, Pohnpei, February 1989

Number 2

## FSM Formalizes Ties With Philippines

KOLONIA, Pohnpei (FSM INFORMATION SERVICE) - A diplomatic note in response to Republic of the Philippines' note of August 1988 regarding the establishment of formal diplomatic relations between the FSM and the Philippines was signed and presented by FSM External Affairs Secretary Andon Amaraich to his counterpart Philippines Secretary of Foreign Affairs the Honorable Raul S. Manglapus during a ceremony held January 30, 1989, at the International Convention Center, on Roxas Blvd. in Manila, Philippines.

The secretaries also signed two separate Philippines-proposed agreements on technical and cultural cooperation, which if rati-



**AMARAICH MEETS PRESIDENT AQUINO** - Republic of the Philippines President Corazon Aquino, second from right, is greeting FSM External Affairs Secretary Andon Amaraich during Amaraich's January 31 courtesy call on the President at President Aquino's office. Looking on from far right is Philippines Foreign Affairs Secretary Raul S. Manglapus and Mrs. Amaraich, far left.

fied or approved by the two respective governments will serve as umbrella agreements for cooperation in the two concerned areas.

Manglapus announced to the press during the occasion that the Philippines plans to open an embassy on Pohnpei this year.

After the signing ceremony, bilateral talks were held to ascertain how the two countries could proceed with their bilateral relations under the agreements. It was agreed that as an initial step, a Philippine economic mission to the FSM will be undertaken.  
*(Please see PHILIPPINES..., Page 4)*

# Singeo named COM Chancellor

## Executive Director's position abolished

KOLONIA, Pohnpei (FSM INFORMATION SERVICE) - The College of Micronesia (COM) Executive Director and Acting Chancellor Dr. Singeru Singeo was appointed by the COM Board of Regents as COM Chancellor during their 1989 annual meeting held here on January 16-20.

The position of Chancellor had not been filled since it was vacated by the first COM Chancellor Dr. Edward Donovan of Nevada in the late 1979. Marcelino Umwech of Truk was then appointed by the Board to the position of Chancellor in an acting capacity. Loren Peterson took over the position of Acting Chancellor when he was appointed Executive Director of the COM system. Upon resignation, Peterson was replaced by Dr. Singeo in 1983 as Executive Director and Acting Chancellor.

Recently, the Chancellor's position was re-advertised twice in 1988 before closing in late December last year, to enable the Board to attract as many candidates as possible in their consideration before final selection was made, COM officials said, adding that the position of COM Executive Director is now abolished and replaced by the position of Chancellor.

The Board of Regents, which became the governing body when COM was chartered in 1978, also re-elected Alfred Capelle of Majuro, Marshall Islands, as Rector; Damian Sohl of Pohnpei as Vice Rector; and elected Johnson Torbiong of Palau as Secretary/Treasurer replacing former Trust Territory Government-appointee Dr. John Salas of Guam.

Regents' major topic of discussion during the meeting was focused on the review of the Land Grant Program, a status which was granted in 1980 and continues under the Compact of Free Association, and to see if its services can be provided to all FSM and partner countries.

The Regents, COM chief executives and staff of the college system were also briefed and given a one-day workshop by two staff from USDA (the U.S. government department responsible for distributing the land grant-funds).

The Board also discussed ways to improve personnel system so that it ad-

dressed the needs of the staff and made recommendations that the issue of a separate salary schedules for management, faculty, and classified employees as well as an "across-the-board" percentage adjustment to the COM's current salary schedule which has not been updated since 1980 to be taken up at a subsequent meeting to be held in Truk State on the 10th of April.

Singeo said that the three Micronesian governments (FSM, Republics of the Marshalls, and Palau) met in Guam last December and expressed their governments' desire to extend the treaty beyond its expiration date of September 30, 1989, with details of the funding and its duration to be discussed in another meeting which was being scheduled for March 7, 1989, on Guam.

"One of my objectives as a Chancellor for this year is to assist the campuses and extension centers develop their facilities. The new campus in Palikir is long overdue; the Majuro campus needs additional facilities; Micronesian Occupational College (MOC) in Palau needs renovation of its buildings; Truk center needs a building, so do Yap and Kosrae, but on a smaller scale," Singeo said, adding that the college will be working closely with Micronesian governments to see that the it offers programs that will assist the economic development plans of the nations as it is the thrust of the local college system to support the needs of the Micronesian communities in skill training and in general education of citizens of the three countries.

"In regards to managing such a complicated system, the management style is that of a team approach. I do not make major decisions without consulting the other members of the COM Management Team which includes the Presidents of MOC, and the Community College of Micronesia (CCM), and the Director of Land-Grant, and the Administrator of Majuro campus. Working as a team, we also propose policies for the Board's consideration. As a multi-campus system owned bly multi-nations lthe COM cannot be managed effectively the other way. An effective team of chief executive officers wroking under clear leadership

of the Board of Regents is important in that it does not only provide sound administrative structure, but more importantly it provides a means for the College to be in touch with local communities which the College serves" said Singeo.

During the Board of Regent's annual meeting here, several committees were also established to handle the many issues which the Board would like to deal with in the next year. The Executive Committee members are officers Capelle, Sohl and Torbiong. The committee deals with governments, handles all matters related to the Treaty, approves the budget and annual reports to the three Microneisan governments, and pursues federal program eligibility of the COM as a unified institution with multiple campus.

Finance and Investment Committee members are: Dr. Ansito Walter, Truk; Minister Phillip Muller, Marshalls; and Katharine Kesolei of Palau. This committee deals with funds and other resources of COM, including evaluating investment managers, reviewing the tuition structure and developing strategies to increase operating revenues of campuses and centers.

Personnel and Organization Committee members are: Secretary Dr. Eliuel Pretrick, Pohnpei; Hanson Sighah, Kosrae; and Sebastian Anefal of Yap. This committee deals with internal systems and structures through activities such as personnel system review, classification and compensation studies, system and instrument plans for evaluating chief executive officers, and oversight of land-grant integration process with the campus programs.

Dr. Singeo is a 1975 graduate of Loma Linda University, Loma Linda, California, with a doctorate degree in Dentistry and was California-licensed to operate dental office and business in California. He recieved a BA degree in Biology from the Pacific Union College, Angwin, California. Dr. Singeo also attended the University of Guam majoring in Biology and Busniess Education. He later attended California State University at Chico, majoring in Business Management and Administration.

(Please see SINGEO, Page 6)

# Pohnpei wins basketball title

KOLONIA, Pohnpei, (FSM INFORMATION SERVICE) - Pohnpei All-Stars blazed to a 130-113 victory over Kosrae Jan. 31, capturing the first FSM national basketball championship title as a widely enthusiastic crowd screamed their delight in the packed Seventh Day Adventist Gym here, Joan King of the JK Report on Micronesia said.

"It's like the NBA at SDA," quipped Kosrae coach Steven Leathly, during the exciting final game of the double elimination tournament which matched Kosrae, Pohnpei and Truk, King reported, adding that the games were refereed by Marianas Sports Officials Association members Al Lopez and Steve Denight.

President John R. Haglegam said at the opening ceremony which was held three days earlier at Community College of Micronesia (CCM) Gym that "Having nationwide

energies and financial resources to make these games a reality. I think what these people have demonstrated to us, both in government and private circles, is a classic example of how the private sector and the motivated, concerned citizens can help in the social development of our nation. Your kind contributions and your spirit of lending a hand when your assistance is needed is highly appreciated. I ask you to keep up this spirit."

Haglegam concluded in saying, "I wish to congratulate the players and coaches from the states for being selected as representatives of their respective states in these national championship games. I urge you to do your best and to show good sportsmanship and do not forget that this is the opportunity to put these qualities in each of you to a test. Having said that, I wish each of you

Tournament coordinator and Pohnpei Sport Council Administrator Jim Tobin said that this was the largest crowd of people for any basketball tournament he had seen in the seven years he had lived on Pohnpei State. There were about 1,500 people gathered to watch Sunday's (Jan. 29) game between Pohnpei and Truk. He concluded by saying that Pohnpei Broadcast Station, WSZD Radio, for the first time was broadcasting live the basketball championships to the general public.

An all-tournament team selected by the referees and Tobin to represent the FSM in the Oceanic Basketball Championships to be held in August this year in Tahiti includes: Alik Isaac, Elwell Palik and Lowary Lowary from Kosrae team; Mark Nanpei, Tim Franklin, Charles Edwin and Jake Une, Pohnpei team; and Masi Karen, and brothers Big Mack Kasenen, and K.N. Kasenen of Truk team, King reported.

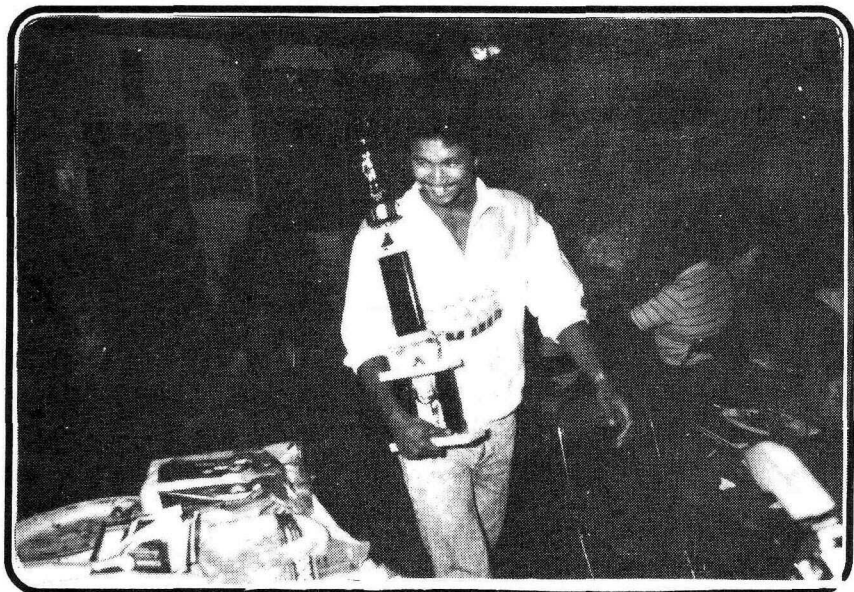
Invitations are being given to 22 of the week's tournament players to try out in May for the Tahiti games. Twelve players will be selected to be the FSM team, according to Tobin, King said.

Pohnpei basketball team won Saturday's (Jan. 28) game against Kosrae 97 to 84, and the Sunday's (Jan. 29) game against Truk 100 to 92. Kosrae won the Monday (Jan. 30th) game with Truk 83 to 80 which was also held at the SDA Gym.

Mark Nanpei of Pohnpei who scored a total of 84 points in his three games was named most valuable player. Top scorer of the tournament was Alik Isaac of Kosrae who totaled 89 points in his three games.

The major sponsor of the National Basketball Championships was the Bank of Guam who contributed \$2,500. Other sponsors include: Continental Air Micronesia, Phoenix of Micronesia, Isamu Nakasone Store and Maria's Video. The games was hosted by Pohnpei Sports Council.

Other officials present at the opening ceremony were FSM Chief Justice Edward King, Chief of Staff Ieske Ieske, Special Assistant to the President for Governmental Affairs Luey Luey, and Pohnpei State Justice Department Director Daro Weital representing Pohnpei State Governor Resio S. Moses.



**POHNPEI WINS BASKETBALL CHAMPIONSHIP - Tim Franklin of Pohnpei team accepts the Championship trophy during the award ceremonies held at the Tiny Bubbles Restaurant in Nett.**

sports competitions of this nature is important. I think it is one of the ways in which friendship and understanding among players, coaches and our people in general can be cultivated, developed and enhanced. For these reasons, I want to thank the Pohnpei Sports Council in taking the initiative to organize these games. Apart from that, I want to pay my sincere commendation to the private businesses, individuals, and everyone who have contributed their

the best of luck and successful championship games."

Former FSM President Tosiwo Nakayama who is the Bank of Guam Vice President was present at both games. He said that he always thought that baseball was the main sport in the FSM, but after watching the well played basketball games and the large number of turnout, he realized that basketball is now a major sport in the FSM too.



# Philippines to open embassy soon

(Continued from Page 1)

Exploratory discussions were also held on the FSM-proposed Medical Referral agreement and extradition treaty.

The possibility of referring FSM patients to the government-owned Heart, Lung, and Kidney centers and Children's Medical Center of the Philippines were discussed. Pohnpei State has been referring patients to the privately-owned Makati Medical Center in Manila. Kosrae State recently signed a service agreement also with Makati Medical Center.

Secretary Amaraich, who was on an official visit to the Philippines at the invitation of the Philippine Government, also called on President Corazon Aquino, Secretary of Health, Mr. Alfredo Bengzon, Jr.; Secretary of Justice, Mr. Sedfrey Ordoñez, and had a working lunch with the Secretary of Labor, Mr. Franklin Drilon.

The Secretary was also invited as a special guest of the Food Export Association of the Philippines where he invited the members to look into the possibility of what they could do in terms of assistance or participation in the development of a food processing industry in the FSM. Amaraich and his delegation also visited the Spanish-built walled city of Intramuros and its historic Fort Santiago.

One of the highlights of the trip took place in a military ceremony in Rizal Park where Secretary Amaraich paid tribute to the Philippines heroes in placing a wreath on the monument for the Philippines national hero, the Spanish-martyred father of Philippines Independence, Dr. Jose P. Rizal.

In addition to matters regarding implementation of the signed agreements and the exploratory discussions on medical referral and extradition treaty, Secretary Amaraich also sought and was assured by President Corazon Aquino of the Philippine government's support for the FSM's Asian Development Bank (ADB) membership and establishment of diplomatic relations with other ASEAN (Association of Southeast Asian Nations) countries during Secretary's call on the President.

The Secretary's wife, Mrs. Pwerech Amaraich, presented President Aquino a fine handicraft appropriately woven into a

shape of a heart, symbolically alluding to the President's first name of "Corazon," a Spanish word for "heart."

Following the call on the President, the Secretary and his delegation were given a conducted-tour of the Presidential Palace, Malacañang, where they saw numerous memorabilia left by former President and Mrs. Marcos. The tour of Malacañang, which dated back to the Spanish era and used to be occupied by Spanish governors

Government of the Philippines for recognizing the independence and full sovereignty of the FSM people. Amaraich expressed hope that countries who see the FSM status as less than independence or sovereign, will come to accept reality as the Philippines, Japan, USA, Australia, New Zealand, Israel and the others who have recognized the FSM government. Amaraich further remarked how absurd and incongruent it is that the substantive issue of the full sover-



**FSM AND PHILIPPINES SIGN DIPLOMATIC NOTES - FSM External Affairs Secretary Andon Amaraich, second from left, and Philippines Foreign Affairs Secretary Raul S. Manglapus, third from right, are signing the notes which formally established the diplomatic ties between FSM and the Philippines during a ceremony held on January 30, 1989, at the International Convention Center, in Manila, Philippines.**

and American governor-generals of the Philippines prior to Philippine Independence, was impressive.

On the evening of January 31, Secretary Manglapus hosted a reception in honor of Secretary and Mrs. Amaraich in which high ranking government officials and members of the diplomatic corps were present. Following the formal introductions, Manglapus remarked that formal diplomatic ties between the FSM and the Philippines have been established, adding that the Philippines will establish an embassy in Pohnpei before the end of the year and that the ambassador will be a career officer.

In response, Secretary Amaraich thanked Secretary Manglapus and the

eighty of the FSM is questioned because of a procedural issue at the United Nations which itself is founded to protect self-determination.

"The practical effect of this," the Secretary continued, "is that some states, especially some European countries, have not recognized even the FSM passport, and some UN agencies have not extended their assistance programs fully to the FSM."

Toasts were exchanged between the two foreign affairs secretaries, in honor of their respective presidents and countries. The reception was highlighted by traditional Filipino dances performed by the world-famed Bayanihan Dance Troupe, who in its finale

(Continued on Page 5)



# in Pohnpei

(Continued from Page 4)

beautifully sang the Pohnpeian "Sokehs me Pihlolo" song and was joined by the Secretary and Mrs. Amaraich and the FSM delegation. It was learned that a member of the troupe had taped a rendition of the song from members of the FSM delegation during the previous night. It is encouraging to know that the Bayanihan now has an FSM song in its repertoire.

Amaraich also met with various resident ambassadors of Thailand, Indonesia, Malaysia, Brunei, Australia, USA, New Zealand, Japan and the Netherlands and the President of ADB to seek their support for the FSM membership in the Bank and to explore diplomatic relations with the other Asian countries.

Mr. Amaraich was accompanied by his wife, Pwerech, FSM International Affairs Chief Masao Nakayama; FSM-Guam Liaison Officer Wilton Mackwelung; Assistant Attorney General Joses Gallen and Department of Human Resources Staff Dr. Kiosi Aniol.



**APPU ARRIVES AT POHNPEI AIRPORT** - Member of House of Representatives and former Minister of Foreign Affairs and Japan APPU national group delegation Head the Honorable Yoshio Sakurauchi, standing right, is greeted upon arrival February 3 at the Pohnpei Airport VIP's lounge, by the FSM APPU national group president, FSM Congress Speaker Jack Fritz, standing left and Congress Vice Speaker Elias H. Thomas, sitting at the far left corner. (See related story on Page 1)

## Overdue Travel Vouchers to be settled

KOLONIA, Pohnpei (FSM INFORMATION SERVICE) - President John R. Haglegam has approved the extension of the emergency regulations up to March 31, 1989, but cautioned that all travel funds be accounted for.

The official memorandum which was addressed to the FSM Finance Secretary with copies to FSM Congress Speaker, FSM Supreme Court Chief Justice, Attorney General, members of Cabinets and heads of independent agencies and signed by Vice President Hiroshi H. Ismael on behalf of the President regarding travel authorizations and travel advances. Following is the full text of the memorandum:

"As you know, I have approved the emergency regulations that extend, until March 31, 1989, the transition period during which you will have authority and discretion to waive certain Financial Management Regulations. Since government officials will have had ample time to come into full compliance with the new Financial Management System by March 31, I do not intend to extend the transition period again.

"Most of the waivers that have been sought and granted during the transition period have involved government travel, especially the requirement that government officers and employees submit vouchers or make reimbursement to the government for previous travel before receiving new travel authorizations and travel ad-

vances. This is a serious problem because these government travelers have not accounted for public funds entrusted to them.

"This memorandum outlines the steps I want you to take to address the problem.

"First, before you waive the Financial Management Regulations concerning travel authorizations and travel advances for any official or employee of the Executive Branch, I want you to consult with both the traveler and me to satisfy yourself that the vouchers owed will be submitted or reimbursement made. In this connection, please encourage Executive Branch travelers seeking waivers to use the allotment procedure authorized by the Regulations.

"Second, although the discretion is yours in cases of waivers sought by travelers in other Branches or independent offices, I suggest that you consider consulting with both the traveler and the Head of such Branch or office to similarly satisfy yourself.

"Third, the Heads of Branches and independent offices should help solve the problem created by travelers in their Branch or office who have received public funds for travel but who have not properly accounted for such funds by submitting vouchers or making reimbursements. In order to provide the Heads of Branches and independent offices with the information necessary to address this problem, I hereby direct you to submit a separate monthly report to the Head of each Branch or independent office. Such report shall list (1) the name of each traveler in that Branch or

office who has outstanding travel vouchers and (2) for each such traveler, the number of TA's for which vouchers are overdue and the amount of travel advances received but unaccounted for. Please send the first such report no later than March 31, 1989, if the Department of Finance is able to prepare such reports by then.

"Fourth, in order to ensure that government employees and officials know when your Department considers them delinquent in submitting vouchers or making reimbursement and in order to provide them an opportunity to correct any mistakes or misunderstandings, I hereby direct you to send a monthly notice to each person your Department determines to be delinquent in this regard. Such notice should include information about the dates of the TA's for which vouchers are overdue, the amount of travel advances that the person has not accounted for, and statement of the steps (if any) the person may take under the Administrative Procedure Act 17 F.S.M.C. 108 (Supp. 1987) in response to your determination. Please send the first such notices no later than March 31, 1989, unless the Department of Finance is unable to prepare such notices by then.

"Finally, please consult with the Attorney General to develop a procedure whereby appropriate legal action will be taken in the FSM Courts with respect to government travelers (including former government officials and employees) who have failed to submit travel vouchers or make reimbursements within a reasonable time.

# FSM embassy established in Fiji, Alik named interim envoy

KOLONIA, Pohnpei (FSM INFORMATION SERVICE) - A Presidential Order has established the FSM Embassy in Fiji with the appointment of former External Affairs South Pacific Affairs Deputy Chief Alik L. Alik of Kosrae as charge d'affaires ad interim to the Republic of Fiji until such time as the FSM President appoints an ambassador to Fiji.

Presidential Order Number 6 stated that the establishment of the Embassy of the FSM in Suva, Republic of Fiji, is in the best interest of the FSM Government.

Alik arrived Fiji March 1 to prepare the office and get it ready to be opened 27 March, 1989.

The duties of the ambassador and embassy staff include the transaction of government business between the FSM and Republic of Fiji Government, regional and international organizations with offices Suva. Subject to concurrence of the Fiji Government, the FSM ambassador may be cross-accredited to other countries in the South Pacific. In addition, the ambassador and his staff will assist, as necessary and proper, citizens and officials of the FSM who are in the Republic of Fiji or in other nations of the South Pacific region.

Alik said, "Establishing an Embassy of the FSM in the Republic of Fiji to represent the FSM in the South Pacific Region reflects the interest of the FSM government to maintain and to strengthen friendship and cooperation with countries in the region on matters of mutual interest in the region and in the world at large. It is further a step-forward to gain a rightful place in the world community of nations with recognized capacity to conduct international relations on equal basis with other Independent nations."

Alik attended a para-legal program at the University of Hawaii Law School, Honolulu, Hawaii; Graceland College, Iowa; United States International University at Hawaii, and was a 1973-graduate of Kosrae High School.

He served as Kosrae High School Counselor, FSM Supreme Court Law Clerk, and South Pacific Affairs Foreign Service Officer.

He graduated from the three-month

Australian Diplomatic Training Course in 1984 and also attended the first phase of the Micronesian Diplomatic Training Course at the U.S. Foreign Service Institute in Virginia in 1988.

Alik previously served as chairman for Kosrae State Environmental Protection Board and a member of Kosrae State Schol-

## Singeo

(Continued from Page 2)

He passed the California State Board Examination (1975), was adjunct instructor at the School of Dentistry, Loma Linda, California, 1981-82, . Dr. Singeo attended the University of Guam, on Guam, majoring in Biology and Business Education; LaSalle Correspondence School majoring in Business Management and at the California State University, Chico, California, majoring in Business Management and Administration.

Prior to being appointed COM Executive Director and Acting Chancellor in 1983, Dr. Singeo was the Development Officer for COM, Director/Instructor at the TTPI-MOC Dental Nursing School and in 1975-77 was

arship Board. He has represented the FSM government in a number of meetings in the South Pacific region and was the chairman of the Forum Secretariat Budget Committee meeting in 1988.

Alik is married to former Shra C. Lonno of Kosrae and they have two children, Ursula and Greg.

a staff dentist, Pohnpei Health Services Department for Pohnpei District.

He formerly served as chairman of the Board of Directors, Palau National Museum, MOC faculty senate member, and member of the Palau Political Status Negotiating Team, 1981-82; member of Board of Corporation, Palau Marine Research Inst.; and presently member of the Omicron Kappa Upsilon (honor dental society, US); Honorary Board of Directors, The Micronesian Institute, Washington, D.C.

Dr. Singeo, who is originally from Palau, is married to former SeNellie Phillip of Pohnpei who is the Pohnpei State Executive Director of Community Action Agency here.



**FISH TALKS** - The Micronesian Maritime Authority continues its fishing talks held Feb. 15-21 at the FSM Liaison Office in Guam with representatives of Guam based Japanese long liners and a portion of Korean purse seiner fleet. An increase in the range from \$1.6 to \$1.8 million for the period from March 1989 to Feb. 1990 is expected. An extension of the contracts which expired midnight of Feb. 28, for portion of the Korean purse seiner fleet failed to conclude because MMA disagreed with the fee level and the non-compliance of catch report filing requirement of current agreement. Participating in the Guam Talks from left are: MMA Executive Director Peter Sitan; Senator Nick Bossy; MMA Chairman Secretary Andon Amaralch; Congress Vice Speaker Elias Thomas; FSM Resources and Development Secretary Marcelino Actouka; President Kato of Kashyu Tokyo Office and Mr. Iwashita from Guam Kashyu Office.



# APPU

(Continued from Page 1)

Foreign Affairs and Head of the delegation the Honorable Yoshio Sakurauchi; member of House of Representatives and former Minister of Construction and Advisor to APPU the Honorable Tatsuo Ozawa; member of House of Representatives and former Minister of Health and Welfare the Honorable Motoharu Morishita; member of House of Representatives the Honorable Shunjiro Karasawa; member of the House of Representatives the Honorable Katsutsugu Sekiya; APPU Japan National Group Secretary-General Tsutomu Tadakuma; and Ms. Yomiko Ishiguro an interpreter from Nippon Hoso Kiokai (NHK).

A breakfast jointly hosted by the President and Speaker in honor of the APPU visiting delegation was held morning of Feb. 4 at The Village Hotel and a luncheon hosted by the Japan APPU national group at Pohrakiet Cafe Restaurant (PCR).

During the breakfast, President Haglegam remarked that the establishment of diplomatic relations with Japan is one of the most significant events in the history of the FSM, adding, "Japan's recognition of the sovereignty of the people of the FSM, which we never lost in the decades of external rule in Micronesia, is the highest honor any nation can bestow on our nation."

Haglegam expressed his gratitude to former President Tosiwo Nakayama, who was also present during the group's visit, and the Japan APPU national group for their efforts toward paving the way for the establishment of diplomatic relations with Japan.

In conclusion, Haglegam said, "The FSM government is grateful for the continued cooperation and assistance of the Japanese government in extending valuable grants to the FSM."

Speaker Fritz after welcoming the APPU members on behalf of Congress said the FSM Congress has been involved with the APPU since FSM Congress began nearly 10 years ago as an observer, then as an associate group, and since December 1986, as a national group.

Speaker said, "We in the Congress remember that the APPU was the first international organization to extend full membership to the FSM, after termination of the trusteeship. We know this would not have come about without the support and friendship of the Japan National Group. We also know that the establishment of diplomatic relations between our nations was facilitated by your efforts. We in the Congress remain grateful for your continuing support. With your support and advice, we hope to grow into a larger role in the international area, perhaps by joining the Asian Development Bank or by host-



**SAKURAUCHI ADDRESSES FSM LEADERS** - The Honorable Sakurauchi, standing right, is addressing the FSM leaders during a February 4 breakfast banquet hosted in honor of the visiting Japan APPU national group members. The visiting group's interpreter, Ms. Yomiko Ishiguro, standing left, looks on. Among many visiting dignitaries and FSM leaders present, only few are identified on the right side of the main table counterclockwise from right are: Finance Secretary Al Tuuth; Supreme Court Chief Justice Edward C. King; Speaker Jack Fritz; President John R. Haglegam; former President Tosiwo Nakayama; Pohnpei Governor Resio S. Moses; Vice Speaker Elias H. Thomas; Pohnpei Speaker Annes Leber and External Affairs Deputy Secretary Asterio Takesy who was the Master of Ceremonies for the banquet.

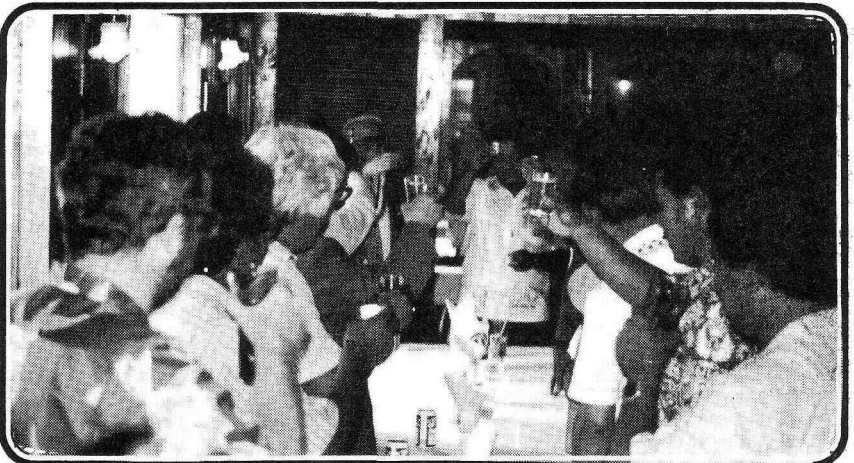
ing an APPU meeting in the future."

Sakarauchi after thanking the President and Speaker and other dignitaries for their kind words, also thanked the FSM leaders for the moment of silent prayer declared earlier by President Haglegam in respect and mourning for the former Japan House of Representatives and Japan APPU national group member, advisor and friend of Micronesia the late Honorable Daisuke Akita, and adding that he (Sakarauchi) was very pleased to see former FSM President Nakayama present at the breakfast.

He said that the delegation was representing Japan APPU national group but also conveying

the best wishes of the Takeshita Cabinet and the ruling Liberal Democratic Party of Japan. Sakarauchi also said he hoped that the visit will help create full relationship and friendship between Japan and the FSM for many years to come.

Other FSM high level officials present during the receptions included: FSM Supreme Court Chief Justice Edward C. King; Pohnpei Governor Resio S. Moses; FSM Congress Vice Speaker Elias Thomas and other members of the FSM Congress, Pohnpei Legislature Speaker Annes Leben and national and Pohnpei State cabinet officials.



**TOAST** - President John R. Haglegam and Japan APPU national group delegation's head Sakurauchi, at the head of the table, along with the visiting dignitaries and FSM leaders are toasting to the health of the two countries during the farewell luncheon held February 4 prior to Japan APPU group's departure.



# First Couple attends Japan funeral

KOLONIA, Pohnpei (FSM INFORMATION SERVICE) - The FSM First Couple said they were impressed with the well-coordinated schedule, the funeral rites and activities, the graciousness exhibited by their Majesties the new Emperor Akihito and the Empress Michiko and the hospitality given by the Japanese people during the funeral services held for the late Emperor Showa [Hirohito] in Tokyo, Japan.

President John R. Hagelgam said upon the couple's return Feb. 27 from Japan, where he represented the FSM to the Late Emperor Showa's state funeral, that the funeral brought to Japan some 55 heads of state or government including 163 nations and several dozens of international organizations and representatives.

The funeral, which took place at the Shinjuku Gyoen, involved one hour of Shinto religious rites before the secular state funeral activities, which included the deliveries of eulogies by Japan Prime Minister Noboru Takeshita, the Speaker of the House of Representatives, President of the House of Councillors, and Chief Justice of the Supreme Court of Japan.

Following the speeches, the heads of delegations and their spouses paid reverence to the late emperor at the Funeral Hall, a house constructed of special Japanese timbers.

The President, accompanied by the First Lady Paula Ori, and External Affairs International Affairs Chief Masao Nakayama,

had a 30-minute audience with their Majesties the Emperor and Empress.

President Hagelgam also met with members of Japan APPU national group and former Prime Minister Nakasone with whom he discussed the FSM's desire to upgrade its economic liaison office in Tokyo to an embassy.

At the reception hosted by Prime Minister

Takeshita, President Hagelgam met briefly with Takeshita, President George Bush and Nauru President Hammer DeRoburt among other leaders.

The President was paid a call by Japan Diet member Toshio Nakayama who represented the ruling Liberal Democratic Party and was interviewed by a staff writer of the Yomiuri Shimbun during the trip

## Christlib as Truk Speaker

MOEN, Truk (FSM INFORMATION SERVICE) - Former Truk State Legislature Vice Speaker Masachiro Christlib of the Hall Islands was elected as the new Speaker of the 23-member legisla-

ture during a special session held Feb. 15 on Moen at the legislature chamber, according to Truk Radio Station Manager Peter Maipi.

The 15-day special session was

called by Truk Governor Gideon Doone to elect a new speaker after the legislature top seat was left vacant following the sudden death of Speaker Fritz Hartmann of Totiw.

The legislature also elected the former Floor Leader Detor Santos of

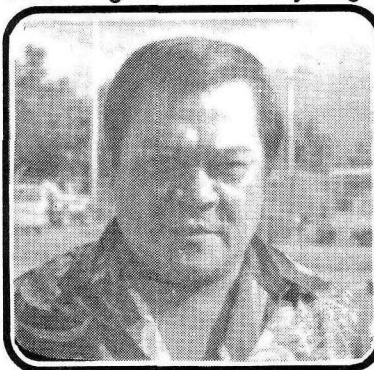
Uman as Vice Speaker and State Senator Resty Shotaro of Tol as Floor Leader, Maipi said.

"The election was smooth and went without in-fighting on the floor with only single nominations," Maipi

said, adding that February 15 also marked the end of the period of mourning for the late Speaker Hartmann.

Governor Doone was joined by Moen Assistant

Mayor Akisao Kieki and Truk State Associate Judge John Betheon in addressing the legislature during the opening day and urging the Trukese people and the legislators to work together in harmony, peace and unity.



**Christlib**

### THE NATIONAL UNION

Published by: Office of the President  
FEDERATED STATES OF MICRONESIA  
P.O. Box 490,  
KOLONIA, POHNPEI FM 96941  
Telephone: (691) 320-2548, TELEX 729-6807  
FAX: (691) 320-2785

Ketson Johnson, SAP for Public Information, Editor  
Esikiei Lippwe, Information Specialist/Broadcast  
Terry Gamabruw, Information Specialist  
Elieser Rospel, Graphic Artist  
Mary Allen Manuel, Secretary