

Indonesian Ambassador to the FSM presents credence

PALIKIR, Pohnpei (FSM INFORMATION SERVICE) - Ambassador Poedji Koentarso from the Republic of Indonesia to FSM on December last year, presented his credentials to President Bailey Olter at the Cabinet Room in the presence of the Ambassador's wife and three other member of his delegation. Present at the ceremony were Vice President Jacob Nena, Acting Chief Justice Andon Amaraich,

Governor Johnny David, members of the diplomatic corps and the Cabinet and other officials.

The Ambassador in his remarks said it was a great honor for him to be accredited by His Excellency President Soeharto as Ambassador of the Republic of Indonesia to the FSM and to present his credentials to President Olter. On behalf of Soeharto he conveyed the President's sincere greetings and wishes

for President Olter's personal health and happiness and for the success and prosperity of the Micronesian people.

In reference to the FSM, the Ambassador commented on the fact that FSM is a young nation which recently achieved full

membership in the international community, but noted, that FSM has, "a long history particularly the perseverance of the strong desire to maintain the autonomy despite all the challenges and objection she has to face." "Today," he said, "the FSM has formalized friendly relations with many countries, and I am happy to note that Indonesia is among one which has established diplomatic relations since July last year." For these, the Ambassador praised as achievements of which the people of the FSM should be proud. He said that after the FSM gained its independence, its nation-building effort concentrate on the development of its economy. With this, he alluded to the fact that a principal aim of our foreign policy embodied in the preamble to our Constitution is to promote our economic development. The Ambassador added by quoting the preamble of the FSM Constitution which says, "We extend to all nations what we seek from each, peace, friendship, cooperation, and love in our common humanity," adding, "and wished us

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INDONESIAN AMBASSADOR PRESENTS CREDENCE - Ambassador of Indonesia Poedji Koentarso (right) presents his credentials to President Olter (left). In the back is Secretary Resio S. Moses.



THE NATIONAL UNION

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President Olter visited Peoples Republic of China

PALIKIR, Pohnpei (FSM INFORMATION SERVICE) - President Bailey Olter becomes the 2nd FSM President to visit the People's Republic of China on a State-Visit September last year.

This visit comes at the invitation of President Yang Shangkun of China. President Olter traveled with First Lady Amalia, FSM Secretary of External Affairs Resio S. Moses, FSM Ambassa-

dor to Japan Masao Nakayama, Deputy Assistant Secretary for Asian Affairs Lorin Robert, Foreign Service Officer Jane Jimmy, and Elieser Rospel from Information.

This visit which marks the first visit to China by President Olter and the second formal visit by a FSM President and a third visit by a FSM President. President John R. Hagelgarn visited

China on a State-Visit early 1991 when China and FSM signed an agreement on economic and technical cooperation under which China was able to extend assistance to the FSM in the form of an interest free loan and a USD400,000 grant. The first FSM President, President Tosiwo Nakayama, accompanied by the Governors and Lt. Governors of

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the FSM States, visited China on an informal official visit at the invitation of Mr. Ron Yiren, Chairman of CITIC, Chinese International Trust and Investment Corporation and Vice President of the National People's Congress.

President Olter met with President Yang Shangkun and Premier Li Peng. In these meetings the Leaders appraised each other on their respective foreign policies in the region and around the globe as well as discussed Sino/FSM relations with the view to strengthen bilateral cooperation and mutual understanding on global issues impacting the two countries.

The global environment and particularly the issue on global warming and climate change which is high on the foreign policy of the FSM was raised by the President impressing on the Chinese Leaders the urgency of global action to reduce and retard the emissions of greenhouse gases. The President asked the leaders of China for China's support in the efforts to sufficiently strengthen the Convention on Climate Change which was signed by all nations present at the Rio Earth Summit last June.

Moses visited China on his first visit as Foreign Minister of the FSM and his second visit to China after his earlier visit with President Nakayama in 1987, when he was Governor of the State of Pohnpei. Secretary Moses held ministerial meetings with his counterpart, Chinese Foreign Minister Qian Qichen and with the Minister of Agriculture. In his meeting with Foreign Minister Qian Qichen, Secretary Moses appraised the Foreign Minister on FSM's foreign policy and reaffirmed the One-China policy of the FSM which recognized the Government of the People's Republic of China as the sole legal government of China and that Taiwan is an integral territory of China.

This policy, although forbids formal and official contacts with the authorities of Taiwan, allows for free commercial contacts between the people on Taiwan and people in the FSM.

In his meeting with the Minister of Agriculture, Moses used the opportu-

nity to appraise the Minister on the economic situation in the FSM and the important role Agriculture plays in the lives of the people of the FSM and the future of the FSM. With the long and well established reputation of China in the area of Agriculture, the Secretary raised the point that FSM is eager to learn from the Chinese and would invite general agreement from the Minister and the Chinese Government for assis-

tance and cooperation in the development of agriculture in the FSM and the need for the officials of both governments to discuss specific areas in agriculture where China can best assist.

Open invitations to Chinese businessmen to invest and set-up joint venture enterprises, and extension of cooperation and technical assistance, grants, loans, scholarships to the FSM were made by the President and Secretary.



FAREWELL IN BEIJING - From left to right are First Lady Amalia (partially hidden), President Olter, interpreter, and President Yang Shangkun.

CDA Board voted to increase coconut price

PALIKIR, Pohnpei (FSM INFORMATION SERVICE) - The FSM Coconut Development Authority (CDA) Board of Directors convened their meeting, last November in Pohnpei and voted to increase copra price by ten cents for each of the three grades, effective Dec. 7, 1992.

The new copra price are, Grade one, fifteen cents (\$0.15 cents); grade two, fourteen-and-a half cents (\$0.145); and grade three, fourteen cents (\$0.14).

The decision was based on available funds for copra purchase, as well as the sudden decline, noted by the Board, in copra production in the FSM.

The new price will remain in effect until the next price review by the Board against international world market price.

At the meeting the Board elected Ben Santos of Pohnpei as CDA's new Chairman. President Bailey Olter appointed Santos to represent the National Government on the CDA Board, a board established by law. Santos' appointment took effect November 12, 1992. Santos is a businessman in Pohnpei who replaces Marcelino Actouka on the Board.

Other members of the CDA Board are Adelino Lorens, Pohnpei State, Patrick Sogaw, Yap, Arthur Ansin, Chuuk, and Eric Waguk, Kosrae.

One of the Board's primary responsibilities is to set the purchase price of copra in the FSM. The Authority under Executive Director, Namio Nanpei, is responsible for the administration of the Board, development and promotion of coconut and its products in the FSM. The Board enters into contracts with several copra buyers in the four FSM States to purchase from local producers, dried copra. It in turn, buys from local buyers and then negotiate with and sells the copra to crushers in Japan.

Secretary Moses addressed UNGA

PALIKIR, Pohnpei (FSM INFORMATION SERVICE) - Secretary of the Department of External Affairs Resio S. Moses, on returning from Beijing, last September, went into preparation for another important meeting, the United Nations General Assembly (UNGA) which he addressed on Oct. 7, 1992, according to a release from External Affairs.

This marks the 2nd time the FSM addressed the UNGA since it joined the UN on Sept. 17, 1991 and the first time for the Secretary of External Affairs to address the General Assembly. The address to the General Assembly will afford the FSM Government to appraise that World Body of policies and views of the FSM on a host of issues facing the international community including the important issue of the Global Environment, and international cooperation and efforts to address other global issues such as peace, hunger, disease, human rights, economic development, and the light of less fortunate members of the community of nations.

Tabai visited FSM

PALIKIR, Pohnpei (FSM INFORMATION SERVICE) - The Secretary General of the Forum Secretariat, the Honorable Ieremia Tabai, GCMG, arrived Pohnpei in December and was met upon arrival by Deputy Secretary of External Affairs John Mangefel, Protocol Officer Jeske Iehsi and Deputy Assistant Secretary Kandhi A. Elieisar, according to a release from the Department of External Affairs.

The purpose of the visit is to allow the Secretary-General to meet with officials of the FSM for open exchanges of views on regional as well as specific issues of FSM's relationship with the South Pacific Forum. The visit is the first in his capacity as Secretary General of the Forum Secretariat.

While in Pohnpei, he paid courtesy calls on the President Olter and Vice President Jacob Nena, Secretaries Resio S. Moses, Dr. Eliuel Pretrick, and Acting Secretary Sialas Henry, and Governor Johnny David. President Olter hosted a reception in honor of Tabai before he left enroute Kiribati.

Japan study Fisheries project in Pohnpei

PALIKIR, Pohnpei (FSM INFORMATION SERVICE) - At the FSM Government's request, the Government of Japan dispatched a study team to conduct a Basic Design Study, Dec. 2-13 last year, on the Pohnpei Artisanal Fisheries Support Station Project. The team was sponsored by the Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA) under the leadership of Mr. Noboru Tazoe, Chief Fisheries Officer of the Office of the Overseas Fisheries Cooperation, Fisheries Agency, according to a release from External Affairs.

The study team, during its stay, held discussions with appropriate officials from the Pohnpei State and National Governments, and conducted a field survey at the study area. In the course of their discussions and field survey, both parties arrived at the main elements of the study which will aid in the preparation of the Basic Design Study report. A Minutes of Discussions on the project was signed, December 11, this year by Deputy Assistant Secretary for Asian Affairs Lorin Robert and leader of the team Tazoe. The objective of the Project is to promote small-scale fisheries by providing necessary facilities and equipment for improving living conditions.

Micro Women Caucus held in Pohnpei

PALIKIR, Pohnpei (FSM INFORMATION SERVICE) - The first Micronesian Women's Sub-regional Caucus which convened, December 7, at the FSM Capital in Palikir with the theme "Women's Health: Hope for a Brave and Healthy New Micronesia." The Caucus was hosted by the FSM National Women's Advisory Council and Pohnpei State Women Association.

The conference drew more than 50 official delegates and observers from the Northern Marianas (CNMI), FSM, Guam, Marshall Islands, and Palau. Unfortunately Kiribati and Nauru were not able to send participants to the Caucus. Discussed in the Caucus include: the progress reports on country action plans, family health/drug and alcohol abuse; AIDS; and Non-Communicable disease and nutrition related diseases. Another report was by the South Pacific Commission representative.

President Bailey Olter addressed the Caucus with invocation by Fr. Curran, S.J.; opening remarks by Dr. Eliuel Pretrick, Secretary of Human Resources; and welcoming remarks by Johnny David, Pohnpei Governor. The closing was by Vice President Nena.

An all-day traditional activity was hosted by the Pohnpei Traditional Leaders at Mwelihlap, Nett, Iso Nahnken en Nett's residence.

Marshalls is being selected as the sight of the next caucus.

1993 Mobile Games

PALIKIR, Pohnpei (FSM INFORMATION SERVICE) - President Bailey Olter said he support the holding of the 1993 Mobile Games in Pohnpei, responding to a letter he received from Acting President of Mobil Oil Micronesia E. A. Svitil indicating that Pohnpei Governor Johnny P. David has written to officials of Mobil Oil Micronesia, indicating that Pohnpei will be "honored to host the 1993 Mobil Games."

Olter also informed Mobil Oil that further inquiries should be directed to the Secretary of Human Resources, Dr. Eliuel Pretrick. Olter said he is pleased with the decision to hold the Games in Pohnpei and look forward to, "enjoying the activities of our young people."

Mobil Oil Micronesia, Inc. has always held a special feeling of closeness to the people of Micronesia, said Svitil, adding, "we support an active community involvement with all islands, our interest has always been more than just to provide petroleum products so vital to the islands' movement, but more importantly to the interest to interact with its people."

The Games are now in their 6th year with the FSM participating since 1989. The Planning Committee, and the Governor Staff and President's representative are working together to ensure a smooth coordination and implementation of the Games criteria.

4 Phillip challenged his colleagues on IMF membership

THE NATIONAL UNION, August to December 1992

Palikir, Pohnpei (FSM INFORMATION SERVICE) - After its membership to the United Nations, FSM government initiated to gain membership to the International Monetary Fund (IMF) in October, 1991.

In July of this year, 139 IMF member nations voted in favor of the FSM, receiving 91 percent of total maximum votes to become a full IMF member. A pending legislation to authorize FSM's membership to IMF was awaiting action, until Congress decided to defer action last October session. However, Senator Claude H. Phillip of Kosrae challenged his fellow Congressmen to reconsider approving the IMF proposal once again.

In his remarks to Congress, Senator Phillip urged his fellow Congressmen to reconsider approving the IMF and World Bank Memberships. He added, "I continue to believe there are strong reasons to support these memberships." Phillip said that the main reason for the special session was the reorganization of the College of Micronesia. He noted that the Congress has made a commitment to provide higher education to their citizens with the College, and the World Bank has provided over \$1 billion in financial assistance for education throughout the world. He said, "By failing to approve our membership, the Congress has turned away from the opportunity to seek access to a large source of education funding."

Senator Phillip also questioned why Congress has rejected the request from the Executive Branch. He said he did not believe that Congress lacked the opportunity to ask questions about the matter. In fact, he said they had all the time and could make the time to know more about IMF.

Phillip's main concern was that his fellow Congressmen were "letting people down by failing to cooperate, by failing to work with the Administration." He concluded by urging the senators to reconsider having another session and take action on some of the proposals they have deferred.

The International Monetary Fund is an international organization that deals

with problems of foreign exchange, and balance of payments for member countries. If FSM becomes a member of the IMF, technical assistance in the areas of economics, foreign exchange problems,

banking management, trade deficit, and mobilization of savings will be given to the FSM. In addition, FSM would be entitled to obtain loans for the government.

Commercial Fisheries meeting held in Palikir

PALIKIR, Pohnpei - (FSM INFORMATION SERVICE) - FSM Department of Resources and Development Secretary Asterio Takesy called a three-day informal Commercial Fisheries Development meeting last July at the Central Facilities Building in Palikir, urging 22 participants representing private and governmental sectors from all four FSM states to exchange ideas, share problems and solutions, in an effort to promote meaningful communication within the Commercial Fisheries Industry of the FSM.

The purpose of the Conference was to assemble people in the Fisheries, both from the private and government sectors to identify and share problems existing within the operations of Fisheries sectors.

Committed to the fisheries policy, Takesy said the administration supports the development of the private sector. He opened the meeting saying, "I thought of suggesting a meeting of this nature following on from the adoption of the FSM Nation-wide Fisheries policy, namely: Declaring commercial fisheries development the highest nation-wide priority as a means of generating government revenues, foreign exchange, income and employment; and maximizing the total stream of benefits derived from its 200 EEZ and by the same token, conserve resources. We now face the tougher aspect of the policy - implementing it."

In an interview with the Secretary, he stated, "The only way to coordinate our actions and have all the fisheries projects complement each other is to have a meeting such as this where we can talk about the problems and resolve them as a team." Takesy added, "Those people who work at the technical level of the private sectors are the ones who understand the problems and factors affecting the development of fisheries projects.

With their knowledge, they can assist in improving profit and efficiency."

He also pointed out the complexity of the Tuna Fisheries Industry, noting, "It involves high technology and International marketing that is very dynamic, and knowing this we must anticipate changes occurring rather than react to them." In his remarks, Takesy urged the 22 participants, stating, "Together let us protect the considerable investment we have made in the fisheries sector, particularly in the tuna industry."

Takesy hoped as a result of the meeting that the participants would have a better understanding and appreciation of their respective roles in the fisheries sector. According to one of the participants R&D Chief Moses Nelson, "The conference was very helpful."

The participants engaged in discussions relating to boat insurance, marketing, fisheries training, and other relevant agendas.

Participants were: Antonio Ovalle, FSM Dept. of Finance; Peter Sitan, John Diplock and Craig Herberer, Micronesian Maritime Authority; Tashiro Ludwig, Pohnpei Conservation and Resources Surveillance; Hilary Conrad and Toshiuki Rudolph, Economic Development Authority; Lew Brooks and Jack Sigrah, Kosrae Dept. of Conservation & Dev.; Mike McCoy and Robert Grant, Yap Fishing Corporation; James Movick, Fabian Nimea and Phyllis S. Mendic, National Fisheries Corporation; Milan Kamber, Caroline Fisheries Corp., Guam; Kapilly Capelle, Caroline Fisheries Corp., Pohnpei; Tony Otto, Office of the President; Pedro Harris, FSM Office of Planning & Statistics; Nachsa Siren, FSM Dept. of Human Resources; Moses Nelson and Lucille Apis, FSM Resources & Dev.; Mathias Mangmog, Dept. of Transportation; Nelson Kilafwukun, R&D Standing Committee, FSM Congress.

Ruben retired from Finance

PALIKIR, Pohnpei (FSM INFORMATION SERVICE) - President Bailey Olter presented a certificate of appreciation to Mrs. Anna Andrew Eliou Ruben, a FSM's Division of Revenue's employee upon her retirement, in a ceremony held in President Olter's Cabinet Room, December 17, 1992. The ceremony was attended by the Secretary of Finance, Aloysius Tuuth, heads of the Department's Divisions.

Finance Department paid for all expenses involved in Ruben's travelled to and from Pohnpei for the ceremony.

Born to Mr. and Mrs. Andrew Eliou on Losapw island, Chuuk State, on August 24, 1932, she later attended and completed the Christian Training School during the Summer of 1956, on Dublon, Chuuk.

Upon graduation, two important and events lasting took place in her life, on June 23, 1956 she was wedded to Henry Ruben of Fefan and together they raised a family of about eight (8) children and several grand children, and; during the same year she started her employment career when became a Clerical Trainee in the Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands' Truk District Government under Larry Anderson, her first supervisor.

Her starting salary then was an hourly rate of seventeen-and-half cents or \$14.00 bi-weekly.

Three years later she was re-assigned to personnel in the District Administrator office where she worked in both the Finance and Supply offices.

Ruben joined the FSM Finance Department's, Division of Revenue in 1973 where she worked until her retirement last month.

During all her years of employment with both the Government of the Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands and FSM Government she commuted by motor boat from Fefan, her place of residence, to Moen now renamed, Weno her place of employment.

OLTER VETOED

ACT NO. 7-124

PALIKIR, Pohnpei (FSM INFORMATION SERVICE) - President Bailey Olter vetoed Congressional Act No. 7-124, which would have amended certain sections of Title 34 of the FSM Code and repealing others to allow lending institutions, or banks, to use "floating interest rates."

The measure was supported by the representatives of the banks who testified before the Committee to which it was assigned.

In his veto message to Speaker Fritz, President Olter said that the "people and enterprises in a developing country like the FSM cannot afford to pay increased interest rates." Adding that the "present usury law has served us well and should not be changed."

Olter said that FSM's investment of \$3 million dollars in the Bank of the FSM shows Government's desire to infuse capital for development.

In concluding his letter President Olter suggested a study of interest rates as it relates to development, before allowing for higher interest rates.

Report on assistance by Farmers Home Administration

POHNPEI, Palikir (FSM Information Service) - The United States Department of Agriculture's Program in the FSM, the Farmers Home Administration (FmHA), which was made available to the citizens of the Federated States of Micronesia (FSM) under the Compact of Free Association between the FSM Government and the United States Government, and is under the Area Supervisor, Shelten G. Neth, released the program's report for the period ending September 30, 1992.

FmHA in Pohnpei helped 193 very low income families and senior citizens of Pohnpei State in helping improving their homes to the level of safe, decent, and sanitary during fiscal year 1992.

The loans and grants totaling \$721,900 were made under the program services of assisting families to repair or improve their dwellings and who need credit but can not obtain it from the private lenders.

Neth said that during the twelve months ending September 30, FmHA provided 158 loans totaling \$608,400 and 35 grants totaling \$113,500 in Pohnpei. FmHA, appropriated a total of \$951,780 in loans and \$234,750 in grants under program of services to the FSM.

FmHA is a credit agency of the U.S. Department of Agriculture.

In Pohnpei, it provides loan and grant assistance to very low income owner-occupants to repair and improve their dwellings. The repair

will result in removal of health or safety hazards, thereby making the dwelling safer and more sanitary for the occupants, their families, and community. Farmers Home in Pohnpei also provides loans for new construction of homes. The amount of assistance is unlimited, just enough funding to finance a construction of a typical home with modest size and design.

Farmers Home Administration Office in Pohnpei approved the first two types of this new type of house financing scheme of \$30,000 each and both projects are under construction. Several applications for new construction packages averaging between \$45,000 to \$60,000 are being processed.

6 CCM extention program sponsored debate

Palikir, Pohnpei (FSM INFORMATION SERVICE) - The Community College of Micronesia (CCM) Extension Program sponsored a debate consisting of three teams proposing to resolve whether the National Government Central power should be decentralized to States or Local Governments, at the CCM facilities in Kolonia, last July. Debators CCM student Luwik Rameres and UH Law student Emilio Musrasrik were awarded first place after arguing for Central power to be decentralized to the state governments.

Two other teams participating in the debate included College of Micronesia Land Grant Program Director Ismael Lebehn and Genevieve Mangefel from the Information Office, Pohnpei State Senator Herman Semes and CCM student Ioanis Primo. Lebehn and Mangefel argued to centralized power at the National level, while Semes and Primo argued against it. Each team received a 100 points before proceeding with their arguments. Fifty points were given for content and the other fifty for style, overall preparation and timing.

The debate was conducted by CCM Political Science Instructor Simon Kihleng with fellow CCM faculty Library Director Takeo Syne, Continuing Education Coordinator Fernando Scalien and Business and Elementary Education Professor Richard Womack as judges.

Presenting their arguments first were Primo and Semes who argued against centralized power at the National level by emphasizing that, "More governmental responsibilities and funding necessary to support such responsibilities should be given to local governments." Semes urged his opponents to use a pyramid as a model for our governmental system which the National government stands at the top, the state government, middle, and the local government at the bottom. He reinforced the importance of the local government being at the bottom as the form of the foundation.

However, Lebehn and Mangefel disagreed with their opponents. Both based their arguments on the FSM

Constitution, reinforcing a call to unity. Mangefel argued that, "If power is given to the state government to handle their own affairs, our nation the FSM, will become a laughing stock of the world community." She urged the state and local governments to share the power equally with the National Government so that things will be done. Lebehn agreed with his colleague and argued that FSM citizens need to stick together. He added, "We need a big brother or father, the National Government.

Musrasrik and Rameres presented

their arguments, proposing that power at the national level should be decentralized to state and local governments. Musrasrik argued for a reexamination of revenue sharing formula, adding that "The states need a greater share of tax revenues to meet tremendous functional responsibilities such as adequate health services, education, maintenance and development of infrastructure, and fighting major crimes." Both debators argued to reexamine national and state relationships in order to be more responsive to the nation's needs.

Nena's message on 1st Anniversary - UN member

PALIKIR, Pohnpei (FSM INFORMATION SERVICE) - Sept 17, 1992 marks the first anniversary of the Federated States of Micronesia's membership in the United Nations. It was on September 17, 1991, when FSM took its seat in the United Nations as a full member after nearly 40 years as a Trustee of the Organization from 1947 to 1986. The Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands which the FSM was a part until 1986 was established under the United Nations Trusteeship System to oversee the social economic and political development of the islands under the Administration of the United States of America, according to a release from the Department of External Affairs.

In the 1977 Referendum on the Constitution of FSM, the Marshall Islands, and Palau decided to be on their own by voting against the Constitution. Chuuk, (formerly Truk), Pohnpei [Kosrae was then part of Pohnpei], and Yap overwhelmingly ratified the FSM Constitution and became the founding states of the FSM. When Kosrae became a separate state from Pohnpei the FSM became a Federation of four states.

Vice President Jacob Nena in his message to the people of the FSM on Sept. 17, 1992, shared a bit of the past when he said, "I am sure most of you remember those Trust Territory days when October 24 was a major holiday and the U.N. Visiting Missions were the highest level visits to our shores. We received each UN Visiting Mission and its member with great awe and bewil-

derment.

Being in their presence was equivalent to being in the presence of some super powerful being. They had all the power. We didn't. Our destiny was tied to the simple stroke of their pens it seemed. So our people would go to great extent to put on the most lavish welcome, the most lavish reception, and the best traditional dances to entertain them. All [just] to make sure they remembered us when they returned to where they came from.

The Vice President in his statement told the people of the FSM that today, "We acknowledge with pride our nation's membership in the United Nations. Early this year the FSM took part in its first United Nations [Visiting] Mission to Palau. Those are achievements that the people of FSM should be proud of. This historic day should be remembered for all times by generations of our people."

Vice President Nena then invited the people of FSM to join him and President Bailey Olter in extending to all nations and all peoples what the framers of the FSM Constitution enshrined in its preamble saying, "We joined them [the framers of the FSM Constitution] today to extend to all peoples and all nations what we seek from each nation around the globe: Peace, Friendship, Cooperation, and Love in our common humanity. This is our foreign policy and our inherent commitment to international cooperation in this era of interdependency among nations.

SPF established Greenhouse monitoring project in the Pacific

PALIKIR, Pohnpei (FSM INFORMATION SERVICE) - The concerns about changing sea levels due to global warming, particularly for the low-lying coral atolls, gave birth to the South Pacific Sea Level and Climate Monitoring Project, a joint initiative of the South Pacific Forum and member countries.

Drawing on Australian and regional scientific and financial resources, the project will accurately record variation in long-term sea levels in the South Pacific, making this data available for the Pacific Islands countries.

The project was established to set up high resolution monitoring stations in eleven island countries to measure the relative motions of land and sea at each station.

This is to carry out a supplementary survey and geodetic program to measure movements of the crust at other strategic sites in each country with respect to the reference station. In this way, these measurements can be used to identify localized problems from changes to sea level and movements of the earth.

The project will identify changes to sea levels with reference to similar network of stations in Australia, whether these changes are due to thermal expansion of the ocean, contributions from land ice, or changing properties of water from different ocean zones.

To collaborate with on-going international geodetic programs, which may be incorporating satellite altimetry and radio astronomy, to provide a measure of regional vertical control, and exchange information and data with international Climate Change organizations. This will help understanding of the complex problem in changing sea level.

AIDAB will administer the project, and NTF was contracted to manage and develop the project.

A site will be selected for monitoring in the FSM. A person will also be selected to take a four weeks training on monitoring to be conducted in Adeleide, Australia, according to the Secretary of the Health Services, Dr. Eliuel Pretrick.

Nakayama appointed FSM Ambassador to China

PALIKIR, Pohnpei (FSM INFORMATION SERVICE) - President Bailey Olter has appointed Masao Nakayama, present FSM Ambassador to Japan, residing in Tokyo, as FSM's Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary to the Peoples' Republic of China, according to a letter to President of the Peoples Republic of China His Excellency Yang Shangkun.

President Olter in his letter said that Ambassador Nakayama is well aware of the mutual interests shared by China

FSM negotiated 2.4M with TDSTB&E

PALIKIR, Pohnpei (FSM INFORMATION SERVICE) - FSM Maritime Authority (MMA) and Taiwan Deep Sea Tuna Boatowners and Exporters Association signed an agreement at the China Restaurant, in Kolonia, the evening of October 16, 1992, granting permission to the Association's Purse Seine boats to fish in the FSM's Fishing Zone Starting November 1, 1992 and ending October 1993, for an agreed total fee of \$2.4 million U.S. Dollars, an increase from 1991's fee of \$2,024 according to J. Raglmar-Subolmar, MMA Chairman. The new agreement would also require the Association's member vessels to stop transshipment at sea but to bring those operation to ports. The MMA expected additional benefits from this arrangement, of \$200,000 to \$300,000 to the local economies. The Association has also agreed to provide catch report to the Authority for each voyage in respective of where each operation take place.

The agreement will be transmitted to Congress for its action as required by FSM laws.

The negotiations took place October 15-16, 1992 between the Taiwan Deep Sea Tuna Boatowners & Exporters Association led by Chu Ming, Chairman of the Association and his associates and the MMA Chairman J. Raglmar-Subolmar and its staff.

and the FSM and his (Olter's) desire for a cordial friendship between the FSM and China and will carry out his duties in a manner fully acceptable to President Yang Shangkun.

Olter requested President Shangkun to receive Nakayama with full confidence and full credence of his representation on behalf of the FSM Government.

Ambassador Nakayama earlier in December 1992, travelled to Beijing where he presented his letter of credentials to President Yang Shangkun.

FSMBA admitted to PIBA

PALIKIR, Pohnpei (FSM INFORMATION SERVICE) - The FSM Broadcasting Association (FSMBA) was admitted into the Pacific Islands Broadcasting Association (PIBA) as the sole authority to act on behalf of the Federated States of Micronesia (FSM) replacing the FSM Information Office which has played this role until the change. The FSMBA links the FSM's public broadcasters in the four states of Yap, Chuuk, Pohnpei and Kosrae.

The FSMBA was established in 1991, when the radio station managers of V6AI, Yap; V6AH, Pohnpei; V6AJ, Kosrae; and V6AK, Chuuk, established the Federated States of Micronesia Broadcasting Association (FSMBA) by obtaining a charter from the FSM Government. Its current officers are as follows: Chairman, Peter Gramafel, Yap; Secretary-Treasurer, Joe Commor, Chuuk, both serve a two year term.

As a member of PIBA the FSMBA will, henceforth, assume the coordinations responsibilities of the PIBA sponsored programs, trainings, in addition to attendance in annual assemblies and special meetings, as maybe called from time to time, and ensuring that payment of annual membership fee in PIBA is remitted on a timely manner.

The 5th annual assembly of PIBA, as well as its sister organization the Pacific Islands News Association (PIN) was held in Alofi, Niue, September last year, where the FSMBA's membership request was approved. The assembly was attended by some 80 delegates from radio and television broadcasting and news paper organizations from the Pacific island countries. The FSM Information Office was represented by Broadcast Information Specialist Esikel Lippwe at the conference.

8 FSM and Colombia established relations

PALIKIR, Pohnpei (FSM INFORMATION SERVICE) - FSM and the Republic of Colombia governments desirous to strengthen their friendly relations and to develop cooperation between the two nations in accordance with the purposes and principles of the United Nations Charter and respect for their sovereignty, signed a Communique on September 8, 1992, in Tokyo, establishing diplomatic relations at a non-resident ambassadorial level. Signing on behalf of the FSM and Colombia are Ambassador Masao Nakayama and Ambassador Rodrigo Villamizar respectively. Colombia is the 31st country to establish formal, diplomatic relations with the FSM.

Colombia is also the third South American country, besides Chile and Peru, to establish diplomatic relations with the FSM. Colombia has approximately 33 million people of which 95 percent are Roman Catholics. Its natural resources are crude oil, natural gas, coal, iron, ore, nickel, gold, copper and emeralds. Colombia achieved its independence from Spain, July 20, 1810. Besides being a member of the United Nations, Colombia holds membership status in the Group-77, General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade, Organization of American States, International Monetary Funds, International Labor Organization and World Health Organization, to name a few.

FSM & Japan signed MOD

PALIKIR, Pohnpei (FSM INFORMATION SERVICE) - A Minutes of Discussion (MOD) was signed last July between the Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA) and the Federated States of Micronesia (FSM).

JICA has decided to conduct a Basic Design Study on Electric Utilities Upgrading Project in Pohnpei. The study team was headed by Mr. Takahiro Ikari, Officer, Grant Aid Division, Economics Cooperation Bureau, Ministry of Foreign Affairs. Mr. Ikari and Jesse Raglmar-Subolmar, Chief, Division of International Affairs, Department of External Affairs signed the MOD witnessed by Nick Solomon, Special Assistant to Governor, Office of Budget, Planning, and Statistics, Government of Pohnpei State.

The object of the study is to upgrade the power generating and distribution in Pohnpei State. According to the MOD, the government of the FSM will coordinate the project with the Pohnpei government's implementation.

The JICA team conducted a study beginning July 5 to July 31 last year. Draft report was completed in October and a final report in November of upon approval of draft report contents.

FSM employees on contract to report on accomplishment

PALIKIR, Pohnpei (FSM INFORMATION SERVICE) - All FSM employees on Special Contracts, Independent Contract or Other Contract arrangements have been advised by the Director of Administrative Services to submit to his office a written report on their job accomplishments or failures at least fifteen (15) days prior to the expiration date of their contracts, according to a letter from the Office of Administrative Services.

President Bailey Olter, on October 16, 1992, issued guidelines for renewal or extension of any contracts and directed the Office of Administrative Services to monitor to ensure compliance.

Failure to comply with the guidelines which include submission of reports will result in disapproval or denial of the renewal or extension of such contracts, the letter concluded.

Outstanding high school student for CTAHR

PALIKIR, Pohnpei (FSM INFORMATION SERVICE) - Rare opportunities and stimulating challenges were provided to 26 sophomores and juniors from public and private high schools in Hawaii, Micronesia, American Samoa, Guam and the Commonwealth of the Northern Marianas by a National Science Foundation Young Scholars Program, according to a release from the College of Micronesia (COM).

The six-week program sponsored by the College of Tropical Agriculture and Human Resources (CTAHR) at the University of Hawaii at Manoa (UH) enabled outstanding students to work with CTAHR's mentor scientists in fields such as Agricultural Engineering, Agronomy and Soil Science, Animal Science, Entomology, Environmental Biochemistry, Horticulture, Plant Molecular Physiology, and Plant Pathology. The National Science Foundation (NSF) grant paid for the expense of the participants including their room, board, and transportation.

All participants including Ronald Yow of Yap High School, spent the morning learning about career opportunities in agriculture, visiting research facilities on Oahu, discussing ethical problems in science, and developing communication skills. Their afternoons were spent working with scientist

mentors in their laboratories. Six weeks of dedicated hard work culminated in a research paper and formal presentation. Yow's mentor was Dr. Eduardo Trujillo of the Department of Plant Pathology.

Encouraged to be "competent and confident" by Director Dr. Sylvia Yuen, Associate Dean for Academic Affairs, the students showcased their research project in the State and District Science Fairs, symposia, publications, and other forums.

The National Science Foundation Young Scholars Pacific Program is with funds from the NSF, offered during the summer to outstanding high school students who have shown interest in science and who will enter grades 11 or 12 during the Fall of the next school year. Through COM Land Grant Program, Micronesia which includes the FSM states, Palau, and the Marshall Islands had participated in this program during the past five years. The Micronesian scholars for last four years were Baron Mendiola, Pohnpei, 1988, and Jacynth's Uehara, Palau, 1991. If funds are again made available by NSF to the College of Tropical Agriculture and Human Resources at UH for next summer, announcement will be made through Land Grant Program offices throughout Micronesia for selection of the Micronesian scholar for this year.

Ambassador of Spain to the FSM presents credentials

PALIKIR, Pohnpei (FSM INFORMATION SERVICE) -First Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary to the FSM from the Kingdom of Spain presented his credentials to President Bailey Olter, Oct. 7, 1992 in a brief ceremony held in the President's Cabinet Room.

Ambassador Herminio Morales who arrived Pohnpei Oct. 6, is the current Spanish Ambassador to the Philippines. Before leaving Pohnpei on the 8th of October, Morales called on President Olter, Vice President Jacob Nena, and Acting Secretary of External Affairs John Mangefel. Morales also called on Ambassador Li Qiping, Ambassador of China to the FSM, Peter Stanford, Ambassador of Australia to the FSM, Emmanuel Contreras, Charge de' Affaires of the Philippine Embassy to FSM, Donald Ahern, Charge de' Affaires of the U.S. Embassy to FSM, and the Governor of Pohnpei State Johnny David.

Spain and FSM established diplomatic relations over four months ago. Considering the four centuries of rules over the Caroline Islands by Spain from the early 1500's to late 1800's, this event is historic in the relations between Spain and the FSM which is made up of the Caroline Islands, and which was named after Queen Caroline of Spain, according to a release from the Department of External Affairs.

Ambassador Morales in his remarks said, he is happy and honored to be the first Spain Ambassador to the FSM. Morales emphasized that Spain has been here for a long time and though far away, he thinks FSM and Spain are near at heart and he will be near in the Philippines where he resides as Ambassador to the Philippines.

"I come with the purpose to enforce, enhance, and strengthen our relations

culturally, politically, and economically," said the Ambassador as he conveyed his Majesty King Juan Carlos I's message stating, "We are very far away, but we are near in our hearts."

Morales in closing his remarks asked for the cooperation of the President and the FSM Government in carrying out his responsibilities as Ambassador to the FSM.

President Olter in response after welcoming the Ambassador to the FSM, its Capital, and to the growing number of diplomatic corps in the FSM said, he is further gratified and honored to have accepted Morales' letter of credence

with the establishment of diplomatic relations we hope to revitalize our important historical and cultural ties with Spain."

Olter assured Morales and the esteemed government of Spain of his personal desire and commitment to develop and strengthen the established relations. "What we have accomplished today," said Olter, "marks the beginning of a journey into the future for both of our countries. It will require the dual and strong commitment by our two countries to achieve our shared interest in the community of nations and our strong and mutual desire for strong bilateral relations between the FSM and Spain."

The President expressed his wish in seeking support from Spain in the current global effort on a host of global concerns and in the protection of the global environment which is the central concern of the FSM.

"I would like to call particular attention to the vital need of the global community," said the President, "to strengthen and implement the convention on climate change. The

support of the government of Spain in this historic undertaking will be remembered with deep gratitude by our future generations. As our Nation is but a young nation, we look to Spain and our other friends in the European Community for assistance and support in our current nation-building efforts."

President Olter assured Ambassador Morales that the FSM is committed to work closely with the Ambassador to assure both nations and their peoples, of strong and lasting friendship. The President concluding by conveying through Morales to his Majesty King Juan Carlos I his personal best wishes for the King's good health and for the prosperity of the people of Spain.



COURTESY CALL ON THE PRESIDENT - Ambassador of Spain to the FSM had a group photo with the President, his cabinet and the Governor of Pohnpei. Front row, left to right: Chief of Staff Bermin Weilbacher, Deputy Secretary, External Affairs John Mangefel, Governor Johnny David, Vice President Jacob Nena, President Bailey Olter, Ambassador Morales, Attorney General Camillo Noket, and Administrative Services Director Kohne Ramon. Back row, left to right: Secretary of Transportation and Communication Robert Weilbacher, Secretary of Finance Al Tuuth, Secretary of Health Services Dr. Eliel Pretrick, Budget Director Patrick Mackenzie, Secretary of Resources and Development Asterio Takesy, Public Defender Joseph Phillip, and National Planner Marcelino Actouka.

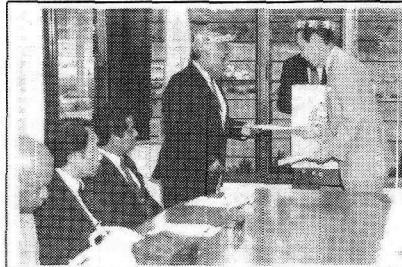
which marks a new chapter in the diplomatic relations between the FSM and Spain.

Olter noted that the FSM which comprises the Caroline Islands does not consider Spain a stranger to its shores. "The very name," said the President, "of the Caroline Islands was coined in the name of a noble person of Spain. There are tangible imprints of Spanish legacy in our country as we can see in the names used by many of our people Pedro, Francisco, Pablo and many others and the fact that more than half of our population are of Catholic faith. Our long history with Spain has indeed played a major role in our own history and culture to the present and

10 Ambassadors to FSM from Japan, United Kingdom, and Pap

PALIKIR, Pohnpei (FSM INFORMATION SERVICE) - Japan's current ambassador to the U.S.A. Takakazu Kuriyama presented his credentials to President Bailey Olter, September 4 last year to become Japan's third Ambassador to the FSM in a brief ceremony held in the President's Cabinet Room. In a simple ceremony, which was presided over by Secretary of External Affairs, Resio S. Moses, Ambassador Kuriyama and President Olter made brief remarks highlighting the important commitments to work closely with each other. Ambassador Kuriyama pointed out that FSM and Japan have enjoyed cordial and friendly relations, adding that "Since the initiation of diplomatic relations on December 16, 1988, both sides worked hard to further the tradition of our successful association."

President Olter in his statement pointed out the fact that the accreditation of Ambassador Kuriyama represents another very important point in the long relationship between the government and people of the FSM and the government and people of Japan. The President pointed out that although the diplomatic relations between FSM and Japan is "but a mere three and half years old, the human relations and ties between the people of the FSM and Japan goes back to the beginning of the century. "These historical, cultural, and ethnic ties... have worked to build the strong foundation upon which rests our formal and diplomatic relations today," said Olter. The President added that he was gratified, "to note the excellent state of our bilateral relations today." Japan's readiness to extend its foreign aid to the FSM even before FSM assumed independence stands as a great gesture of commitment and friendship, said Olter. He extended FSM's gratitude for all the assistance continues to extend annually to FSM in the form of grants, technical assistance, scholarships, among others. The President concluded by saying that he is mindful of the dynamic changes taking place in [the Pacific] and in the world which have brought an end to the Cold War Era and the possible dawning of the so called "New World Order" of peace, democracy, human rights, and prosperity for all nations, large and small, developed and developing. He added that in all these welcomed changes around the globe including the flourishing of newly independent states in Eastern Europe, Russia, and elsewhere, he ear-



JAPAN AMBASSADOR PRESENTS CREDENCE - Ambassador Takakazu Kuriyama presents his credentials to President Olter in the presence of the Cabinet, diplomatic corps, and other state and national officials. From left to right are: Secretary Al Tuuth, Governor Johnny David, Vice President Jacob Nena, Olter and Kuriyama. Partially showing is Secretary Resio S. Moses.

nestly hope the importance FSM and Japan attach to their relations and the long established cultural ethnic ties between their two peoples continue to command the focus of the two government's attention."

Ambassador Kuriyama in his remarks after conveying the Emperor of Japan's desire for the friendly relations between the two countries said, "The FSM and Japan have historically enjoyed cordial and friendly relations since the initiation of diplomatic relations on Dec. 16, 1988. Both sides have worked hard to further the tradition of our successful association."

Kuriyama said he felt very much honored and privileged to have been appointed to serve in strengthening the bond between the two countries and that he is determined to do his best to fulfill the various duties with kind advice and assistance from the President.

The Ambassador concluded saying on behalf of the government and people of Japan he extended his wishes for the President's continued good health and for further prosperity of the FSM and its people.

A dinner was hosted in the evening by President in honor of Ambassador Kuriyama, Mrs. Kuriyama and Counsellor Mitsuo Watanabe at the Village Hotel.

Again the President and Ambassador Kuriyama made brief remarks at the conclusion of the dinner expressing gratitude and aspects of their nations policies and views on matters of mutual interests.

Ambassador Kuriyama in his brief remarks expressed his gratitude to President Olter and the FSM for all the hospitality that have been extended to them during their brief stay in Pohnpei. He expressed his agreement with President

Olter on the special nature of the relations between Japan and the FSM which has evolved and shaped by the shared cultural and ethnic ties that exist between the two countries. He pointed out that Japan considers FSM special because the geographical location of the FSM makes it important to Japan and Japan considers the FSM as the bridge between Japan and the rest of the Pacific. The Ambassador alluded to the fact that Japan is ready to cooperate in not just fisheries but others including the environment as component of the policy of Japan which addresses matters of importance to the Pacific and Asia. Ambassador Kuriyama stressed the importance of viewing all issues in terms of their wider applications to both the Pacific and Asia.

President Olter in his remarks at the dinner said that with the accreditation of Ambassador Kuriyama is the hope of every citizen of the FSM for the future cooperation between the FSM and Japan. He said, "much has been accomplished in the development of our bilateral relations, but a lot remains before the two governments to do to realize the fruits of our well established cultural and ethnic relationships." President went on to stress that "the FSM remains much behind in the development of its economy not only to serve its people but to allow the FSM the opportunity, the courage, and the insight to cooperate fully with Japan and other nations." He said, "FSM's "ability to do its part as a member of the Pacific Community of nations will...depend on its ability to...develop the resources available to [it] for our mutual benefit." FSM's decision to assume its sovereignty," said the President, "was based not just on the benefits from its association with other governments and membership in international organizations, but on commitment to learn what is expected of our country and do our part, however small, to contribute to the resolutions of international issues facing our region and the global community."

The President said that among the three major areas on which FSM's future depends are fisheries, agriculture, and tourism and told Ambassador Kuriyama that fisheries hold the best hope development and as such he asked Ambassador Kuriyama "that Japanese assistance toward the development of fisheries in the FSM be given priority, because our nation, the lives of our

(Continued on Page 11)

a New Guinea presented their credentials to President Olter

(Continued from Page 10)

people, and.....our ability to carry out shared commitments in the region and in the world depends on it." The President concluded saying that "protection of the globe environment because of its importance to all nations, must be placed at the center stage of the foreign policy(ies) of all nations, developed and developing." The so called "New World Order" said the President, "will only be such if the protection of the global environment is placed at the center of global consideration and action." He asked Japan "to continue with the positive positions it has taken....to strengthen the Convention on Climate Change." Saying to do less would tantamount to suicide for our low islands and other similarly placed island states in the Pacific and throughout the world."

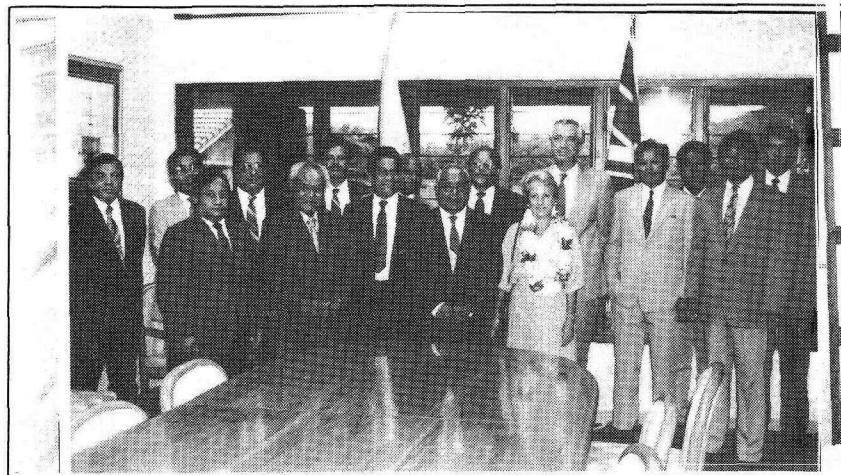
President Olter thanked the government of Japan for the decision to accredit a senior and most experienced Ambassador in the likes of Mr. Kuriyama to the FSM.

Ambassador Kuriyama was formerly the Vice Minister of Foreign Affairs of Japan before he became Ambassador to the United States and became the Ambassador to the FSM as well.

White presents credence

PALIKIR, Pohnpei (FSM INFORMATION SERVICE) - Ambassador Derek White from the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland (UK) presented his credentials to President Bailey Olter last August in the Cabinet Room. Also present at the ceremony were Vice President Jacob Nena, Cabinet Members, diplomatic corps, other distinguished guests and officials from the national and Pohnpei State Governments. Prior to the ceremony, Ambassador White and Secretary Resio Moses signed a Memorandum at the Department of External Affairs, formally establishing diplomatic relations between the FSM and the United Kingdom. White payed courtesy calls on President Olter, Vice President Nena, Speaker Fritz, Secretary Moses, Secretary of Resources and Development Astero Takesy, the resident heads of diplomatic missions and other national and state officials.

During the Presentation of Credentials Ceremony, Ambassador White thanked the President and expressed, *inter alia*, his pleasure to be the first British and European Ambassador to the FSM and in joining his other diplomatic colleagues. The Ambassador noted the close relationship the FSM has with the United States, and indicated UK's interest in complementing it



UK AMBASSADOR HAD PHOTO SESSION WITH OLTER - Ambassador White after presenting his credentials to President Olter, had a photo session with the President's his Cabinet, and Pohnpei State official. From left to right, front row are: Chief of Staff Bermin Weilbacher, Executive Officer of the Governor Podis Pedrus representing the Governor, Deputy Secretary of External Affairs John Mangefel, Vice President Jacob Nena, President Olter, Mrs. White, Ambassador White, Secretary of R&D Astero Takesy, and National Planner Marcelino Actouka. Back row, left to right are: Director of the Office of Administrative Services Kohne Ramon, Attorney General Camillo Noket, Secretary of Transportation and Communication Robert Weilbacher, Secretary of Finance Al Tuuth, Secretary of External Affairs Resio S. Moses, Public Defender Joseph Phillip and Director of Budget Patrick Mackenzie.

in some modest way. In addition, the Ambassador mentioned Great Britain's general interest in contributing to the stability and betterment of the Pacific region, "in ensuring these young democracies survive." The Ambassador further stated that Great Britain has a, "general interest in ensuring that the Pacific way of looking at the world, its approach to international problems, continues to be in tune with ours and that of our closest allies."

In his speech, President Olter responded by conveying his personal pleasure to welcome the Ambassador and his wife to FSM and his gratification for the establishment of diplomatic relations between the FSM and UK. He pointed out with appreciation the efforts by Great Britain in the termination of the forlorn trusteeship status and Britain's assistance in supporting FSM's membership in the United Nations and other international bodies. President Olter noted the contribution of Great Britain in moulding the so-called "New World Order" citing the global warming phenomenon as a necessary ingredient which requires concrete global effort. For this, the President said, "In our view the 'New World Order' can only be a new world order if the protection of the global environment is given prominent considerations and attention by the international community and especially by the industrialized nations of the world." The President went on to acknowledge with appreciation the positive contribution by the United Kingdom and the European Community to the global efforts to control the emission of greenhouse gases which threaten

human existence. This theme was reechoed in a later speech by the President at a reception in which he asked the European Community and its member states to continue, "their exemplary efforts to strengthen the Convention on Climate Change signed at the Rio Summit by addressing critical issues in the convention."

Ambassador White residing in Kiribati becomes the first accredited Ambassador from UK to the FSM. White was accompanied by wife.

Raka-Nou presents credence

PALIKIR, Pohnpei (FSM INFORMATION SERVICE) - The first Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of Papua New Guinea (PNG) to the FSM Maimu Raka-Nou, presented his credentials to President Bailey Olter, Aug. 17th, in a brief ceremony held in the Cabinet Room, Palikir, Pohnpei.

FSM Secretary of External Affairs Resio Moses conducted the ceremony.

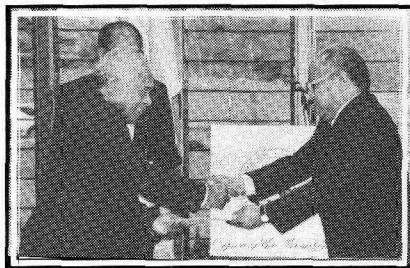
Presented were cabinet members, the diplomatic corps, and Pohnpei state officials.

Ambassador Raka-Nou said in his remarks, "It is a tangible evidence of the continuing and growing commitments by our countries to ensure that steady and meaningful progress is made in our relations."

(See RALA-NOU, Page 12)

(Continued from Page 11)

Raka-Nou noted that FSM and PNG are small and developing countries. "Our countries also share similar historical experiences. Furthermore, we are members of the South Pacific Forum which is a paramount political decision-making body in the region. On the basis of these, our two countries have shown commitment to regional is-



CREDENTIALS PRESENTATION - Raka-Nou (right) is presenting his credence to President Olter (left) in a brief ceremony held at the Cabinet room. In the back is the Secretary of External Affairs Resio S. Moses.

sues, such as environment protection, drift-net fishing, decolonization and other development issues," he said.

The Ambassador said he was honored to have played a small part in ensuring the outcome of the conclusion of the International Maritime Treaty.

As Ambassador of PNG to the FSM, Raka-Nou said he will work together with the government in promoting closer and friendly relations between the two countries.

President Olter, in his remarks said, "The event which all of us are here to witness this morning marks the beginning of a new chapter in the developing history between the government and people of Papua New Guinea and the government of the Federated States of Micronesia."

Olter noted that he is gratified and honored to receive and accept the Ambassador's credence as Papua New Guinea's first Ambassador to the FSM. The President told the Ambassador, the two countries share common interests in marine boundaries, fisheries, and urged that their governments must continue to work closely in collective effort to develop exclusive economic zone resources to the mutual benefit of the two countries and the region.

"At the 23rd South Pacific Forum in Honiara, certain member countries and

one non-member country signed the Niue treaty on Fisheries Surveillance and Law Enforcement," said Olter, adding, "As two countries with shared common fisheries interests, I believe the treaty provides us the opportunity for further cooperative arrangements in

surveillance and law enforcement of our Exclusive Economic Zones (EEZs) with a view to ensure compliance by distant water fishing nations with our established terms and conditions."

The Ambassador was accompanied by his wife.

Indonesia

(Continued from Page 1)

praised as achievements of which the people of the FSM should be proud. He said that after the FSM gained its independence, its nation-building effort concentrate on the development of its economy. With this, he alluded to the fact that a principal aim of our foreign policy embodied in the preamble to our Constitution is to promote our economic development. The Ambassador added by quoting the preamble of the FSM Constitution which says, "We extend to all nations what we seek from each, peace, friendship, cooperation, and love in our common humanity," adding, "and wished us success in our efforts to improve the welfare of the people and play an important part in contributing to the progress of the world."

The Ambassador further made comparative reference to Indonesia's Independent and active foreign policy designed to serve the national interest especially to support national development in all spheres of life, and for the purpose of establishing a world order based on freedom, lasting peace and social justice. He pointed out their success in promoting economic development by way of a more open economy and the establishment of a liberal trade and investment regime, and indicated that his country is ready to share its valuable experience in economic management with other developing countries. An example of their willingness to share this experience is the establishment of the Technical Cooperation Among Developing Countries (TCDC) which offers training in various field of economic and social activities more than a decade ago.

The Ambassador also alluded to the geographical linkages between Micronesia and Indonesia as archipelagic

states, their strategic location in the Asia-Pacific region and their cultural and ethnic ties. Similarity in ideas regarding faithfulness to cultural values and tolerance of positive influences from the outside world were cited by the Ambassador as the principal facto in cementing the relationship of the two nations.

The Ambassador pledged to do the best of his ability in promoting and further strengthen the bonds of friendship that happily exist between the two nations based on their common interests, mutual respect and mutual trust. "It is along with this spirit," he added, "Your Excellency, that I shall contribute my share in expanding and widening the areas of cooperation between our two countries." With this he asked the encouragement and support of the President and the government and the understanding and goodwill of the Micronesian people. He concluded saying that he looks forward to a happy and mutually fruitful mission, and offered again his sincere wishes for the good health of the President and the prosperity of the people of the FSM.

The President in his response after welcoming the Ambassador and his wife, and delegation that the credential ceremony was a happy occasion for the people of the FSM affirming the historic common ties between their two peoples. Olter commented on, "this common ancestral heritage," as providing strong foundation on which the diplomatic relations established a little over a year ago between Indonesia and the FSM will grow. He further expanded on this theme by recalling historical accounts of interactions brought about by sea-farers from Southeast Asia (Indonesia included) who sailed to the

(See INDONESIA, Page 13)

Dr. Pretrick opened Mental Health Program Conference

13

PALIKIR, Pohnpei (FSM INFORMATION SERVICE) - Secretary of Human Resources Dr. Elieu K. Pretrick opened last April, a week long Conference for the Mental Health Program. The conference was attended by the members of the Mental Health Counsel, non governmental organizations representatives the Peace Crops, women or-

Indonesia

(Continued from Page 12)

tion of friends such as Indonesia for areas of mutual interests which he referred to them later on as sustainable development of the environment as embodied in the Rio Declaration; appropriate social and economic development of rural areas and indigenous inhabitants; as well as promotion of the concept of archipelago in international legal norms and principals. These among others, are issues that are unique to us as island archipelagic state, said the President.

He recognized that Indonesia is a major player in the Asia-Pacific Region and he made significant achievements in its nation-building efforts. The President indicated that Indonesia's reservoir of national experience can be a learning model for the FSM.

Olter pledged his cooperation in working with the Indonesian Ambassador and affirmed that the diplomatic relations between the two countries can only be strengthened through and active and cooperative engagement in the areas of common interests. He concluded saying he was grateful and privileged to receive the Ambassador's credentials as the first Indonesian Ambassador to the FSM, a gesture of lasting friendship.



DIOPULOS AWARDED - An award of \$500 was presented to Aileen Diopulos as she won the Mobile scholarship. Witnessing the presentation from left to right are: Erhart Aten, Diopulos, Yalmar Helgenberger, Daro Weital, and Paul Gallen. Cecile B. Terlaje presented the check to Diopulos.

ganizations, church groups, individual family and the employees of the FSM States and the National Governments Mental Health Programs.

The conference operated under the guidance of the FSM Mental Health Program Coordinator Dr. Annette Zimmern, directed and consulted by an Australian Psychiatrist who is also a World Health Organization (WHO) consultant, other consultants from a professional group experting in alcohol, drug abuses and operates over 50 hospitals in the United States, the Mercy International Organization (MIO), Micronesian Consultants and few others expertises in alcohol, substances and drug abuses.

"The conference has provided the FSM Mental Health Counsel 1992 Annual Meeting the opportunities to meet, reviewed activities, have inputs into the programs and to make sure that projects' goals are meeting the community needs. Each counsel members attending the Conference was able to take part in the decision making, evaluating activities and worked closely on the objectives and goals to meet the needs of FSM citizens. "I think for the past three years Mental Health activities has increased a great deal." he said.

The conference discussed the rapid increased in population, the high rate of suicide in the FSM especially among the young men, and ways to share and to minimize this problems. Dr. Pretrick said that population is increasing rapidly because people in the community don't plan well and which causes problems to the present societies, adding, "We have to understand that there is a high rate of suicide in the FSM especially among the young men and again these are some of the things that the Mental Health Counsel have reviewed and the conference discussed ways to share and to minimize this problems. Mental Health Program is not an easy program because it is not very easily seen, its accomplishments through the programs. There are many causes and factors that are creating these problems and each one occurs every day."

Dr. Pretrick quotioned the partici-

pants, "There are number of issues that I would like each one of you to consider seriously during the course of this conference. Linkage of alcohol, drug abuse, and primary health care. In the United States, there is strong emphasis to link these programs so that the programs will reach out to the communities."

He added, "I attended the World Federation of Mental Health Conference in Australia, recently in which decentralization of the services to the communities was a strong emphasize, that people in the communities will participate and also expressed their desire as to how we should provide the services to assist them."

"WHO is also at this time has an overall goal and objective in health care services and that is to make sure that Health Care Services is extended to every citizens in the world by the year 2,000. This is the World Efforts, in order to improve the Care that the people need, he said.

Dr. Pretrick said, "In the FSM we have problems of alcohol abuse which is still prevalence through out all these states. I would like to ask that each one of you try to assist to see what we can do to minimized the problem."

"You often heard our leaders said, the young people of today will be our future leaders. They must begin to show their responsibilities as the future leaders of this nation on what is happening now," he said as he called upon the participants to take the initial steps in demonstrating ways of avoiding to consume alcohol, drugs and other harmful substances. "I think each one of you," he said, adding, "should demonstrate by starting from your self that if you want to counsel the people not to consume alcohol, you should start from yourselves first, before you will be able to tell some one else not to drink. This also applies to other substances such as marijuana. It is understood that marijuana is used through out the FSM, and it can be grown locally, if this is the case. Every effort should be made in order to eliminate this problems. And so that should begin from all of us who are responsible in trying to suppress this problems."

1 4 Solomon hosted the 23rd South Pacific Forum

THE NATIONAL UNION, August to December 1992

HONIARA, Solomon (FSM INFORMATION SERVICE) - Official Opening Ceremony of the 23rd South Pacific Forum was called by the Governor General, H.E. Sir George Lepping, July 8, 1992 at the Mandana Hotel, Honiara, Salomon Islands, according to Wilfred Robert, Manager of Chuuk Radio Station who was covering the Forum for the FSM through Pacific Island Broadcast Association (PIBA).

Lepping welcomed all Forum country members saying that an area of great importance to be discussed by the Forum is the cooperation among Forum members to consider the important issues pertaining the Pacific Island region.

The key issues at the 23th Forum were environment, economics, and trade.

Concerns over the nuclear testing and disposal and other hazardous materials were other topics discussed.

Working together in cooperation with a common aspiration, he said, is the key factor towards achieving the common interest of the forum for the Pacific Island regions.

Prime Minister of Tuvalu Bikenibue Paeniu was appointed spokesman of the 23rd South Pacific Forum.

FSM President Bailey Olter in his remarks as Forum Chairman, conveyed greeting and best wishes from the FSM to the Prime Minister Governor General, Sir George Lepping and the people of the Salomon Island on the 14th anniversary of independence of Government of Salomon Island.

President Olter expressed deep concern over the issues of environmental impact within the region. Although, many countries of the Pacific have signed the convention, he hopes for a greater convention to the protection of the environment. He called for a more collective effort by the member countries towards achieving improvement in critical areas in the region.

The President also express deep concern of the transportation of plutonium within the Pacific region from the European countries to Japan. Although, preliminary assurance have been made, the President said the Forum needed to

have access to relevant information about the project.

The next day, the Niue Treaty on Fisheries Surveillance and Law Enforcement was signed. President Olter was among the members signing the treaty. Other countries signed were Cook Islands, Nauru, New Zealand, Niue, Palau, Salomon Island, Tonga, Tuvalu Western Samoa Australia, Marshall Islands, and Vanuatu. Fiji, Kiribati and Tokelau were the three countries who did not sign the Treaty. The Declaration on Law Enforcement Co-operation at the same time was endorsed.

Solomon's Ambassador to the UN,

Japan awarded \$8.5M to FSM for Pohnpei Utility

PALIKIR, Pohnpei (FSM INFORMATION SERVICE) - The Government of Japan has awarded an aggregate amount of one billion and thirty million (Y1,030,000,000), an equivalent of about U.S. \$8.5 million, to the FSM in FY 1992. The money, which was approved at a Cabinet Meeting on Nov. 6, last year, will be used in a project for the upgrading of electrical utilities in the State of Pohnpei.

The award is part of the annual General Grant Aid given by the Government of Japan on a rotational basis to the FSM states for developmental projects, and it is the first time it has exceeded the one billion limit. The money was officially handed over to the FSM through an Exchange of Notes Ceremony held at the Pohnpei Legislature, Nov. 23, 1992. Mr. Mitsuo Watanabe, counselor at the Embassy of Japan in Guam, visited Pohnpei and signed the Note for Ambassador Takakazu Kuriyama, the accredited Ambassador to the FSM. Signing on behalf of the FMS Government was Assistant Secretary J. Ragmar SUBOLMAR. At the ceremony, a report on the use of the facilities and equipment by the FSM and the "Agreed Minutes on Procedural Details" prepared by the Embassy of Japan, was submitted.

H.E. Frances Bugotu passed away on July 9. The death of the senior official brought mourn to the people of the Salomon Island and the Forum member countries as well. Lepping declared July 10 as a National Day of Mourning. Flag of the Salomon Island was flown half-mast from dawn to dusk in honor and respect of the late Francis Bugotu.

The Forum endorsed that Nauru host the 24th Forum (this year). This will be the second time Nauru hosts the Forum. Nauru first hosted the Forum in 1976. The Forum will be hosted by its member countries alphabetically beginning with Australia in 1994.

Insurance expended 7%

PALIKIR, Pohnpei (FSM INFORMATION SERVICE) - The FSM Health Insurance Plan is allowed to expend for administration of the Plan seven percent of the projected revenue, as authorized by Public Law No. 3-83.

In his letter to President Bailey Olter, Director of Administrative Services, Kohne K. Ramon, responsible for developing annual budget for the administration of the Plan, submitted a total budget of \$155,418.53 for Fiscal Year 1993, broken down as follows, Personnel Services \$72,065, Travel \$23,360, Contractual services \$34,494, and All others, which include Printing, supplies, communications, utilities and postage, \$21,500.

The budget contains the entire seven percent of the projected revenue of \$2,220,264.72, by total of 2,358 employees of FSM National, Chuuk, Pohnpei, Yap and Kosrae State Governments and College of Micronesia, FSM Telecommunication Corporation, FSM Social Security and the Development Bank currently enrolled in the Health Insurance Plan and their employers.

The Plan stipulates that Employer contributes 52 percent while employee contributes 48 percent, simply put, for every dollar contributed to the Plan the employer's pays .52 cents while enrollee pays .48 cents.

Vice President addressed the 2nd NPA C

PALIKIR, Pohnpei (FSM INFORMATION SERVICE) - FSM Vice President Jacob Nena addressed the 2nd Northern Pacific Agriculture Conference held in Pohnpei beginning November 9, Palikir, Pohnpei.

Vice President Nena and Pohnpei Governor Johnny David welcomed the participants to the conference and to Pohnpei as well.

Vice President Nena said that a major challenge is, "to increase food production to keep pace with our rapid population growth, in relation to our limited productive land mass."

The private sector is encouraged to take the lead in production and marketing while the government will focus its attention on research, extension, agricultural education, regulations or policy decision.

The second Five Year State and National Development Plan shows there is great potential in FSM agricultural development. Coconut, for example, an important crop has not received the attention it deserves due to depressed World prices, Nena said.

Export to Guam and CNMI of live-stock, vegetables, food crops and fruits are on the rise. We need to establish agro-based industries and your advise is needed, he added.

The region is fortunate to have adequate rainfall, sunlight and climate conducive to agriculture development but we must be conscious of the environment. Soil conservation must be given attention and be incorporated in the development plan.

Delegates from Guam, CNMI, SPC, Land Grant Institutions, U.S. Dept. of Agriculture Soil Conservation and ADAP were among the conference participants.

Sailas Henry, Administrator of FSM Agriculture who coordinated the conference, chaired the three-day meeting.

The conference elected its reporters and plunged into the conference agenda, beginning with the reports on current Agriculture activities in their respective areas by participants from Chuuk Dept. of Agriculture, Yap Dept. of R&D, Kosrae Dept. of Conservation and De-

velopment, Pohnpei Dept. of Conservation and Resource Surveillance, Guam Dept. of Agriculture, CNMI Dept. of Natural Resources and Soil & Water Conservation, and the FSM Agriculture Division, Dept. of R&D, College of Micronesia (COM) Land Grant, SPC United Nations Atoll Development Program, and Ponape Agriculture and Trade School (PATS).

Although the Republics of Palau and Marshall Islands were members of the conference, no representatives attended the conference.

Topics discussed were Natural Resources Management; Agriculture Finance; Farm Labor; Post Harvest Handling and Quality Control; Transportation of Agricultural Commodities and Research. Detail discussions were held on SPC program, transportation, production and export market, CNMI Land Grant, Agriculture Development in the American Pacific (ADAP) COM Land Grant, USDA Soil Conservation, Plant Protection and Quarantine, Tourism and Agriculture Linkage, Meeting the Agricultural needs of the Tourism Industry and Marketing, and Natural Resources Management and Protection.

The conference adopted 11 recommendations, some of which would require follow up or actions by the respective participants' governments or institutions. The recommendations include that FSM Government negotiates with Continental Micronesia to accord priority status for agricultural produce ensuring adequate space at minimal cost, review quarantine regulations on plants and plants products imports into Guam, and survey of animal disease status in FSM States, PATS to establish a certification scheme for agriculturists, promote understanding of the recent soil surveys, train extension officers and farmers on insect identification and control, improve exchange of agricultural information through PEACESAT, ADAP and PAIS, initiate a survey of agriculture sector's manpower needs and the FSM Government to investigate a possible agreement with U.S. to provide improved trade security for gourmet pepper.

FSM citizens eligible to participate in UN exam

PALIKIR, Pohnpei (FSM INFORMATION SERVICE) - FSM's citizens now can participate in the United Nations Secretariat Competitive Examination for the purpose of recruiting FSM nationals into the UN Secretariat's job opportunities, according to the FSM Permanent Mission at the United Nations.

The staff of the FSM Mission at the UN have reached agreement with UN officials which will enable eligible FSM citizens to participate in the national competitive examination which is scheduled to take place in Pohnpei in July 1993. Advertisement and applications for the Examination will be distributed in January 1993 to interested persons, and deadline for submission of applications has been set for the 2nd week of March, this year.

The examination contains two parts. The first part is written which will be conducted in Pohnpei by UN Secretariat representatives. Cost of participants' travel to and from Pohnpei for the written examination shall be born by the applicant or the FSM Government.

The second part is oral that will be conducted at the UN Headquarters in New York. The UN will pay for the expenses and costs related to the oral examination. Interested participants living in the United States will have to go to New York to take the exam.

The following fields will be covered in the examinations: Economics; Political Science and Administration; Social Sciences and other related fields, and Business and Management.

An applicant must be 32 years or younger and has a bachelor's degree.

The letter stated that it is important to note that this will mark the first time that FSM would participate in this recruitment processes. Thus, the Mission encouraged maximum effort and cooperation from everyone involved and the participating agencies and offices. This effort will undoubtedly open up a great opportunity and challenge for young citizens of the FSM to a world stage of experiences.

1 6 *Coconut is a versatile food plant to Pacific Islanders*

Palikir, Pohnpei (FSM INFORMATION SERVICE) - Despite some claims that coconut fat may be linked to the development of heart diseases, coconut is still the most useful and versatile food plant of the South Pacific. It is generally inexpensive, has many food and non-food uses and is an important staple in most atoll islands.

The flesh of the young coconut provides a delicious snack, the juice a refreshing and nutritious drink, the trunk and leaves have multi-purpose household uses, and the flesh of the mature nut provides oils for cooking, and for domestic and commercial purposes.

The controversial part of the nut lies in the oil extracted from the mature flesh. Some U.S. Scientists believe it contributes to the development of heart problems. This stems from the fact that coconut fat is highly saturated, its chemical composition being approximately 91 per cent polyunsaturated fat. Saturated fats have been found to raise the blood cholesterol levels in the body. For this reason it has often been labelled a 'bad' fat.

Coconut oil neither lowers nor raises blood cholesterol levels. This special neutral feature is due to the chemical composition of coconut oil. More than two thirds of the fatty acids in coconut oil are of medium chain lengths of 8-12 carbon chains (C8-C12). Fats which are composed principally of medium-chain triglycerides do not raise blood cholesterol levels when taken as part of a normal diet consisting of a variety of foods everyday. This is because medium chain fats are rapidly digested and used to provide energy for the body.

A team of researchers from the Harvard Medical School, USA, and the Food and Nutrition Research Institute in the Philippines, has been studying the effects of various fats, particularly coconut oil, on health since 1980. They feel that instead of its being 'bad' oil it may have substantial health benefits, based on its chemical structure.

Also, studies have now been done on coconut oil as part of a diet which contains linoleic acid (essential fatty acid which coconut lacks). The results

do not show that it affects the hardening of the arteries any more than other vegetable oils, even those that are highly polyunsaturated.

Studies in the Philippines, where coconut oil is six per cent of the dietary calories, show no relationship between consumption of coconut fat and disease of heart and blood vessels. When compared to the United States, where coconut provides less than one per cent of the dietary calories, the Philippines has much lower rate of cardiovascular disease. More research is needed to analyze the effects of dietary fatty acids on human health, but findings so far have prevented the passage of a Bill in the U.S. House of Representatives in 1987 to label products with coconut oils and other tropical oils as having saturated fat.

Additionally, coconut oil is being used therapeutically in some parts of the world as a high-calorie regime for the treatment of malnourished children. Given a choice of corn, peanut or coconut oil in this dietary treatment, physicians at the Tropical Metabolic Re-

search Unit of the University of the West Indies preferred the use of coconut oil because, they say, it is the least susceptible to oxidation.

Coconut fat or oil is, then, a very useful food, but can it be eaten freely? We are all only too aware that too much of any type of fat (including coconut fat) can be harmful to health, as fats are high in energy, and high intakes of them can lead to overweight and obesity.

Coconuts are normally eaten together with a variety of other foods in the Pacific. For example, coconut cream added to green leafy vegetables and starchy staples enhances flavor and taste. The fats also assist in the digestion and utilization of fat-soluble vitamins. Used this way, they do not pose a problem in the diet. However, if the total diet is high in other saturated fats from animal sources, then total fat content of the diet could be too high and contribute to the rise in blood cholesterol levels in the body.

(Adapted from Nyam News, Caribbean Food and Nutrition Institute, November 1989).

FSM ratified the UN Right of the Child

PALIKIR, Pohnpei (FSM INFORMATION SERVICE) - FSM ratified the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child, when the 7th FSM Congress in its fourth regular session last year, adopted CR No. 7-59, ratifying the Convention as adopted by the UN General Assembly on November 20, 1989.

In a recommendation letter from FSM President Bailey Olter to FSM Congress Speaker Jack Fritz urging for the ratification of the Convention, the President stated "the status of our children has always been at the center of the Micronesian heart, and the future of children is the very future of this nation." The letter further stated that the Convention represents no more than, "our customs, traditions, laws and constitutions already commit to our children, and we will be lending our example to the world by this action," he said.

The Convention on the Rights of the Child, which was signed by 150 nations and ratified by approximately 122 countries since its 1989 adoption by the UN General Assembly, has by far the most rapid ratification of any international Convention to date. It is the first legally binding human rights instruments to come into force within a year.

A formal signatory to the Convention will be made until an instrument of accession is deposited with the UN Secretary-General which is expected early this year. Some financial assistance in the areas of children's health, nutrition and education are among other benefits expected to be gained by FSM's accession to the Convention, according to the release from FSM External Affairs Department.

Briefs....

Veteran's Day commemorated

The U.S. Embassy in Kolonia, Pohnpei had another American flag raising ceremony in front of the Embassy, November 11, commemorating Veteran's Day in the U.S., when Americans remember in special ways the veterans of the U.S. Arm Forces, according to a release from the U.S. Embassy in the FSM.

Because citizens of the FSM have served and still serve in the U.S. military services, the American Embassy invited all FSM Veterans to attend the ceremony. Memory is the first measure of gratitude, and the U.S. Embassy wishes to extend to all FSM citizens, past and present, who have served in the American Armed Forces a special measure of thanks for their sacrifices.

FSM attended USMPT

FSM was one of the participants of a meeting of Island Parties to the United States Multilateral Fisheries Treaty (USMFT) held in Honolulu. During the meeting, some of the outstanding issues of the current treaty for incorporation into an extended treaty were addressed. Members of the Parties discussed a 15%/85% fund-distribution formula and division of interest of the 85% share, the one million dollars economic development funds provided for in the treaty under the administration of Forum Fisheries Agency, and administration costs of the treaty.

E-W Center provides training

Though PIDP, the East West Center will provide a special training program for Pacific islanders, according to East West Center's newsletter, PIDP Dialogue. The program will distribute a certain proportion of its total student fellowships for graduate, undergraduate, short-term vocational, technical and professional, and internship training programs of Pacific islanders. For more information, write to: Editor, PIDP Dialogue, East-West Center, 1777 East-West Road, Honolulu, Hawaii 96848.

Japan extended more grants to FSM ¹⁷

PALIKIR, Pohnpei (FSM INFORMATION SERVICE) - During the past several years, the Government of Japan has extended grant assistance to the FSM under its small-scale fisheries assistance scheme. This is over and above Japan's regular annual foreign aid and other small-scale grants to the FSM. The grants made available under the small-scale fisheries scheme enable the FSM states to implement their fisheries-related projects, as approved, following consultations between the National Government of the FSM and the Government of Japan, according to the FSM Embassy in Japan.

The recipient of this year's small-scale fisheries grant, totalling almost 67 million yen (approximately \$535,000), is the Micronesian Maritime and Fisheries Academy in Yap. While there have been concerns about the future funding of the MMFA, both the FSM and Japan recognize the importance of the Academy in the development of the FSM's fishing industry.

Managed by the Pacific Mission Aviation and staffed by an assortment of nationals of Sweden, Denmark, the Philippines, and the FSM itself, the Academy was established to provide training in basic seamanship and commercial fishing skills. The ultimate mission of the Academy is to produce not only able-bodied seamen but also, just as important, fishermen skilled in techniques of commercial fishing.

To access the grant and execute the project, a bid was held in Tokyo on the 31st of August as the offices of the Fisheries Engineering Co., Ltd., which has been designated as the consultant firm for the project. Initially, four companies submitted bid proposals but one subsequently withdrew. Among the three that remained, C. Itoh and Company (the name of which has recently been changed to "Itochu Corporation") submitted the lowest bid, hence was awarded the project.

The grant will be utilized to purchase instructional materials, such as navigational equipments, fishing gears, and other necessary tools for the Academy. Itochu Corporation is responsible for the procurement of the instructional materials.

The bidding was opened by Mr. Takafumi Toshihara of the Fisheries

Engineering Co. As the principal consultant to the FSM on the project, Mr. Toshihara is responsible for the coordination and implementation of the fisheries project.

Representing the Japanese Government at the bidding ceremonies was Mr. Shumon Yoshiara of the Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA). The FSM was represented by the Minister Plenipotentiary of the FSM Embassy in Tokyo, James A. Naich, accompanied by First Secretary John Fritz. Captain Yarl Lundstrom of the MMFA was supposed to join the FSM delegation but was stranded in Guam as a result of Typhoon Omar which prevented flights to Japan through Guam.

In his remarks, Minister Naich expressed his gratitude to the representatives of the companies that submitted bid proposals for their "active interest to assist in the development of my country's fishing industry. He also conveyed the appreciation of the FSM to the Japanese Government for its "continued support for the development and management of the FSM's marine resources, furthering noting that "fisheries is an important fundamental element in our bilateral relations and policy."

Naich observed that the project has, aside from economic objective, non-economic significance, one of which is to contribute to the deepening of mutual understanding and cooperation between our two countries," further remarking that, "while the grant amount is indeed insignificant using Japanese scale, it is a valuable assistance to a critically needed industry in the FSM." The Minister concluded his remarks by saying, "the beauty of this project is that it seeks to live out the truth of the ancient wisdom that you do not really help a man by giving him fish but by teaching him how to catch his own fish."

A week following the bid, Sept. 7, 1992, a contract was executed between the FSM and Itochu Corporation at the FSM Embassy in Tokyo. Signing for the FSM Government was Minister Naich and for Itochu Corp. was Mr. Kazutomo Shima. Witnessing the signing were FSM Ambassador to Japan Masao Nakayama, First Secretary Fritz, Consultant Toshiara, Koichi Kato of Itochu, and other staff of the Embassy.

18 Australia Embassy assists agencies with Small Grants Scheme

THE NATIONAL UNION, August to December 1992

PALIKIR, Pohnpei (FSM INFORMATION SERVICE) - Australian Ambassador to the FSM Peter Stanford, presented last June, checks to various agencies in Pohnpei for paying Small Grants Scheme recipients.

Stanford presented a check of \$7,150 to Pacific Basin Medical Officer Training Program (PBMOTP) Director Dr. Gregory Dever in assistance with the

funding of PBMOTP Construction Project of extending the dining hall, dormitory, and installing backup generator for the PBMOTP School campus.

Another check of \$11,614.75 was presented to Pohnpei State Health Services Director Damian Sohl as a contribution for a new ultrasound machine for the Hospital. A \$22,000

check was presented to the President of Nan Madol Foundation Carole Nervig for the foundation.

Stanford presented a \$10,371 check to FSM Human Resources Secretary Dr. Eliuel K. Pretrick, June 30 for Micro Computer Patient Administration System.

Another check of \$14,060 was presented to Father Cavanagh for Pohnpei Agriculture Trade School (PATS) outboard motors/switching and protective gear for generator shop projects, and another in the amount of \$3,000 to Senator Kiyus A. Jackson, Kosrae State Legislature for Tafwunsak Senior Citizens Organization.

Ambassador Stanford, July 3, presented another check of \$23,360 to Sister Maria at the Lady of Mercy Vocational Training School for classroom renovation project.

First FSM Olympic to be held in 1994

Palikir, POHNPEI (FSM INFORMATION SERVICE) - As a result of a Congressional Resolution No. 7-57, to begin organizational plans to hold an FSM Olympic games, President Bailey Olter appointed eight officials from the national and state governments to the FSM National Olympic Committee (FSMNOC), responsible for the overall planning and coordination of all activities relating to the Olympic Games.

Olter in his October 16, 1992, communication to the State Governors stated that the date previously set for the first FSM Olympic had been changed from July 1993 to July 12-22, 1994.

The committee agreed to change, allowing more time for renovation and upgrading of the existing sports facilities; States and the National Governments to prepare for the games; FSMNOC to prepare a more accurate and justifiable budget for submission to the next budget session of the FSM Congress; and to enable wide publicity

of the games within and outside FSM.

Members of the committee are Secretary of Human Resources Dr. Eliuel Pretrick as the President of the committee; Special Assistant to the President for Legislative Affairs Tony Otto, Vice President; Deputy Chief of South Pacific Affairs Tadao Sigrah, Secretary; Chief of Planning Division James Mormad, Treasurer; and Deputy Administrator, Labor Division Mohner Esiel. State Representatives are Education Science Specialist Aurelio Sauder, Chuuk; Liaison Officer in Pohnpei Maker Palsis, Kosrae; Farmers Home Administration Area Supervisor Shelten Neth, Pohnpei, and Justice Ombudsman Ted Rutun, Yap.

The committee have created eight sub-committies including track and field headed by Sauder; logistics, Esiel; basketball and volleyball, Neth; baseball, Esiel; waterevents, Otto; table and lawn tennis, Palsis; weight lifting, Palsis; and food, Dr. Pretrick.

Three Postal Service inspectors sworn-in

PALIKIR, Pohnpei (FSM INFORMATION SERVICE) - FSM Postal Services complied with a regulation passed by the FSM Congress to create a Division of Postal Inspectors, by swearing-in the three inspectors in the Postal Service Inspection Division by Postmaster General Bethwel Henry. Herlino E. Makaya, Saimon Simana, and Rodick Albert were sworn-in to their new duties last July in a brief ceremony held in the Postmaster General's office.

Makaya, a native of Madolenihmw, in Pohnpei, has been a Postal Inspector since November 1984, before his promotion to FSM Chief Postal Inspector. Simana of Kuttu, Chuuk began working for the Postal services in the Division of Inspection in 1991. The third inspector is Albert, of Mwoakilloa, Pohnpei who worked as principal of the Calvary Christian Acadamy, 1985 to March last year when he joined Postal Services.

The Inspection Division of the Postal Services is charged to ensure the security and protection of mail and postal funds through periodic financial and service audits and security inspections of the post offices and philatelic bureau in FSM, overseas production and sales agent. The division also provides technical services to the Postmaster General and to the State Postmasters including training of new postal employees. The new law provides duties that include the inspector's ability to carry firearms, issue subpeonas, investigate postal crimes, and make arrests without the need for a warrent upon witnessing a felony.

Postal activities report

PALIKIR, Pohnpei (FSM INFORMATION SERVICE) - FSM Postmaster General Bethwel Henry in his monthly report commented on several subjects from administrative functions to postal revenues. Among the postal activities that occurred in August, the Palikir Station became the first post office branch to issue U.S. postal money order.

Training for the Palikir postal clerk for money orders was held at the main Post office in Kolonia.

Another subject he brought up was the amount of national stamp stock received which came to a total of \$79.00; amount dispatched was \$36,168, and balance was \$2,635, 170.26. Revenue costs for the states of Pohnpei came to \$14,921.35; Chuuk, \$7,996; Yap, \$7,052.89; Kosrae, \$3,298.69 and the Philatelic Bureau, \$4,918.06. A total of sales for the month of August was \$38, 186.99.

According to Henry, a post office branch in Ulithi is under renovation, while the Wene branch has been completed, but awaiting electrical installation. The branch on Polle island in Chuuk is ready to open, Henry stated, "except for transportation arrangement." He said the island of Mwoakilloa is awaiting cement to complete its runway for mail transport, and the island of Pingelap mail volume for the month of August was 262 pounds. Branches in Satawan, Onoun, Fais, and Woleai are under planning stated Henry.

Six enlistees to the U.S. Military were sworn-in

PALIKIR, Pohnpei (FSM INFORMATION SERVICE) - A brief ceremony of recognition was held in front of the U.S. Embassy in Kolonia, last June, to welcome a group of young citizens from Federated States of Micronesia into the United States Military.

Presence at brief ceremony Territory of Guam Navy & Marine Commander (COMNAVMAR) Lt. Cmd M. McCrabb, attending on behalf of United States Armed Forces, U.S. Ambassador to the FSM Aurelia E. Brazeal, Pohnpei State Governor Johnny P. David, Pohnpei State Senator Datchou Johnson, American Consul of U.S. Embassy Mary Shoemaker, U.S. Veteran and Pohnpei State Police Captain Frank Semens, U.S. Civic Action Team members, parents and friends of the enlisted and other officials and citizens. Series of remarks were presented by Shoemaker, David, McCrabb, Semens, and Brazeal, and Flag Raising was by Civic Action Team highlighting the occasion.

Shoemaker said that by recognizing this years recruits, "we want to express our appreciation and that of all American, for the service that young people of the FSM had given to our nation. In the years ahead. I hope many more of our young citizens will take advantage of the opportunity to learn new skills, make new friend, see new places which the U.S. Military offers."

Shoemaker added that the recruits this year shall be the first of many more to come. "Together they help bring our two nations further together as we placed in cooperation, friendships and trust the future that lies ahead," she.

Governor David said that as a developing nation, the FSM needs to have the necessary skills for its development. "For Pohnpei and the FSM States," he said, "it is obvious that we need skilled personnel for the development priorities of the State. The participation of our young people in the U.S. Armed Forces will assist in the development of needed skills. The various skilled occupation in which our young people are engaged in the services of the U.S. Armed Forces are good prepa-

ration for them when they return home. Their skills can be utilized in the areas in which they have acquired skills. Good discipline within the military is well known and will also be helpful to them."

David thanked the Government of the United States for its part in helping the young people if the FSM and wished for a continued mutually beneficial relationship between the United States and the FSM. "This program," he said, "further cements our relationship which we have enjoyed and will continue to enjoy and benefit from in the years to come."

Semens encouraged the enlistees and told them what he had to go through while in the service was not easy, but after 22 years in the service, today he enjoys the benefits.

"I kindly ask of you that you maintain a good attitude toward the United States of America, maintain that good attitude all of the time and that good attitude will carry you forward," he said.

McCrabb recognized the FSM young citizens enlisted in U.S. Armed Force, and added his congratulation to the enlistees for their selection to U.S.

Armed Forces. "Certainly," he said, "you're not going to have something inspirationally different from what Governor David and Captain Semens already said."

The enlistees are: Salmon Ponapart, John Johnson, Renjenny Jack, Michael Williams and McManus Suzuki of Pohnpei; Josey Phillip of Kosrae were recognized at the brief ceremony. Others who were not present at the ceremony due to distance to travel within, were: William Rachelur and Anthony Rutmag of Yap; Kency Edwin and Paliknoa Tosie of Kosrae.

Brazeal offered prayer to conclude the brief ceremony and said, "the occasion coincide with the 50th Anniversary of World War II and called upon those who gathered to consider the 50th Anniversary Proclamation from President Bush on June 4th which emphasizing the experiences from World War II. Such experiences gave many lessons that matched to loyalty of free people's liberty and self government to the Americans who also learned that they can not live alone at peace, but their well being is dependent on the well being of other nations far away."

Riding around the world couple visited FSM

PALIKIR, Pohnpei (FSM INFORMATION SERVICE) - Emilio Scotto and his wife on his second trip which started about over a month ago around the world on a motorcycle (The Black Princess) stopped in Pohnpei.

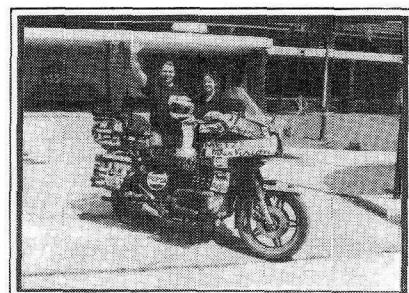
Emilio, mainly the one speaking for the couple, said the purpose of the trip around the world on a motorcycle is not just to go around the world on a motorcycle, but to meet the people.

The couple are from Argentina and Emilio started his first trip around the world by himself for six years and two years ago his wife joined him in India.

His second trip started in Los Angeles over a month ago and have about 70 countries more to visit.

Emilio said, "I have visited 144 countries, travelled 300,000 miles, used up 61 tires, 10,000 gallons of gas, 140 gal of oil, shot 60,000 pictures, used 8 passports (64 pages each), and we think we are going to travel 140,000 more miles, the distance from earth to moon."

Emilio is a correspondent for nine magazines and other papers in Europe and he mainly writes of places he visits.



THE BLACK PRINCESS - Above are the couple from Argentina with the motorcycle, The Black Princess.

Their sponsors include Pepsi Cola Co. who first sponsor his trip around the world, and Agip Petroleum, Metzeler Tire Co., Paris Vision, and others. Several airlines also sponsor the couple's travel.

When they were asked what they think of Pohnpei, they responded, "People here are friendly and they always say hello to almost everyone. Pohnpei is clean."

PALIKIR, Pohnpei (FSM INFORMATION SERVICE) - FSM Congress Speaker Jack Fritz said he is optimistic about the future of the people of the FSM in a holiday message which was delivered satellite live on the evening of December 23, from his home on Weno, the State center of Chuuk, according to a release from the FSM Congress.

The Speaker also said that Christmas is a time of reflecting on our lives and asked that those given the awesome responsibility to lead our people to inject ethical considerations in decision-making and distribution of FSM's limited wealth.

The following is the entire text of the Message:

"The Member and my family joint me in expressing our most sincere greetings and best wishes to the people of the Federated States of Micronesia during this holiday season.

The conclusion of this year brings to mind 13 years of self-government under our own Constitution, six of which have been in free association treaty with the United States of America.

A year ago, we became part of the family of the United Nations and were further strengthened by the recognition given to us by the establishment of our diplomatic relations with the neighboring island nations and other world communities.

Also last year, our nation was given a lead role by the South Pacific Forum countries, to lead the discussions and represent to other world organizations major issues which affect our communities including fishery resources and our fragile environment.

This year, we became a member of

THE NATIONAL UNION

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President sends Yuletide Message

PALIKIR, Pohnpei (FSM INFORMATION SERVICE)- The following is President Bailey Olter's Yuletide Message to the Nation on Christmas and New Year of 1993.

"My fellow citizens of the FSM - the Vice President and I and our families join your state leaders in extending to you our best wishes for a peaceful and joyful Christmas and New Year 1993.

Let us be proud of having completed another year of self-government and independence.

Let us be joyous of having lived through another year of peace and harmony amongst ourselves and our neighbors.

Let us offer our prayers to those in the world who are full of hatred - that they may love each other as we have in our common humanity - to those who are ill and hungry, that they may find food and medicine and through it all let us continue to hope for peace and prosperity and wish unity and seek freedom.

For these the basic premise of our Constitution which we solemnly promised to uphold.

the International Monetary Fund and Asian Development Bank. On the home front, the Micronesian women held a caucus in Pohnpei to discuss their role and what to do for the health of our future Micronesian family.

As we turn from external to internal rule, the Micronesian family becomes the basic unit for government survival. We have just gone through the first year to the first five-year Compact funding stepdown. While our funding decreases, our population continues to rise. Unless we are careful in managing our finances, our nation is bound for a real challenging future.

As Christmas is a time to reflect on the birth of Christ, the arrival of Son of God among men, a fulfillment of a promise made centuries ago for the salvation of mankind, so is the time to reflect on our lives.

My message for this Holiday Season is simply that we take time out to reflect

on what has brought our nation to this time of our history and learn from the lessons of the past. Four hundred years of external rule and several decades of intense development by our own leadership have brought us to where we are now. I humbly request all of us who are given the awesome responsibility to lead our people and nation forward to always inject ethical considerations in our decision-making processes to ensure fair treatment of our citizens under our laws and in the distribution of our limited wealth. I am confident that with the renewed birth of Christ in our hearts and the Almighty God's guidance and our perseverance as one people, we will not only keep our people safe and flourishing under the blessings of God but our young nation will be assured of support by the future generations of Micronesians.

May you have a Merry Christmas and a prosperous New Year."