

Olter proclaimed Dec. 1993 Accident Prevention Month

PALIKIR, Pohnpei (FSM INFORMATION SERVICE) - President Bailey Olter declared the month of December 1993 as National Accident Prevention Month to which was observed throughout the FSM.

A Presidential Proclamation signed by Vice President Jacob Nena, November 29, 1993, "... called upon all citizens, governmental agencies, public and private institutions, businesses, hospitals and schools throughout the FSM to promote awareness of causes of driver impairment, laws intended to further reduce and prevent impaired driving, and opportunities to established safer and healthier norms regarding the use of alcohol and other drugs for all citizens, particularly young people."

Drivers and pedestrians impaired by alcohol and other drugs are becoming a public concern throughout the FSM, resulting in deaths, injuries and causing hardships for many people.

The recent public education effort has proven that deaths caused by alcohol use can be prevented by employing
(See PROCLAMATION, Page, 2)

Assistant Secretary of Interior visited FSM



TURNER VISITED FSM - Assistant Secretary of the U.S. Department of Interior Leslie Turner visited the FSM as a familiarization visit and called on the President, Vice President, and Secretary of External Affairs. She toured the FSM Capital and new COM-FSM campus. From left to right are: President Bailey Olter, Assistant Secretary Turner, and Vice President Jacob Nena.



THE NATIONAL UNION

PEACE • UNITY • LIBERTY

AN OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF THE PEOPLE OF FEDERATED STATES OF MICRONESIA

Volume 14

Palikir, Pohnpei, December 1993

Number 11

FSM mourns for FSM Senator Iosi Ludwig

PALIKIR, Pohnpei (FSM INFORMATION SERVICE) - Chuuk State Representative from the Northern Namoneas in the FSM Congress, the Honorable Iosi Ludwig, 51, died in Pohnpei Hospital, December 17, 1993.

FSM President Bailey Olter immediately issued a proclamation ordering all FSM Flags within the FSM, aboard its vessels and its overseas Embassies and offices, be flown half-staff for four consecutive days.

A State Funeral was held at the FSM



Senator Ludwig

Congress Chamber, at the Nation's Capital in Palikir, December 18, 1993, attended by President Bailey Olter and FSM and State officials, family, relatives and friends. The body was then flown to Chuuk State the same day.

President Olter, Amaraich and other officials accompanied the body and Mrs. Ludwig, the children, and relatives to Chuuk where he was laid to rest.

Upon arrival in Weno, Chuuk State, Governor Sasao H. Gouland and other

(See, LUDWIG, Page 2)

2 ICAO present plan to its council for adoption

PALIKIR, Pohnpei (FSM INFORMATION SERVICE) - The International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO) Special Committee for monitoring and coordinating the development and transition planning for a future air navigation system (FAM Phase II), completed its work by presenting a global coordinated plan for adoption by ICAO Council, according to FSM Dept. of Transportation and Communication.

(See ICAO, Page 3)

Ludwig

(Continued from Page 1)

officials, relatives and friends were awaiting with an honor guard, and in a motorcade proceeded to Logan Memorial Church in Mwan Village where a funeral service attended by President Olter, Governor Goulard, Speaker Jack Fritz, and Andon Amaraich and other National and State officials, family members, relatives and friends. At the end of the funeral service, the body was taken by the family for burial.

Ludwig died after a long bout with a kidney ailment which was complicated by heart and liver failure, said Pohnpei Hospital's Dr. Aminis David. As his health became seriously affected by his complications, the late Senator Ludwig moved to Pohnpei with his family where he underwent regular hemodialysis treatments until his death.

Ludwig was elected to the Seventh Congress to fill the seat formerly held by former Senator Nick Bossy who did not seek re-election for health reasons. The late Senator Ludwig was re-elected March 1993 to his second term in Congress, a seat which he held until his death.

Ludwig was a long time public servant in Chuuk State prior to his election to Congress. He served in numerous positions in Chuuk Education Department including Principal of Chuuk High School and Chief of Higher Education. A holder of a Masters Degree in Education and a Bachelor's Degree from the University of Guam. Ludwig was a graduate of Pacific Islands Central School (PICS), the only high school then operated by the TTPI Government.

FSM, Palau and Marshalls signed college Treaty

PALIKIR, Pohnpei (FSM INFORMATION SERVICE) - The signing of the Treaty among the Governments of the Republic of the Marshall Islands, the Federated States of Micronesia, and the Republic of Palau on April 1, 1993, has bestowed upon the College of Micronesia a public corporation status of the three political entities and provides for three colleges, one to be located in each of the three nations. The Treaty, signed in Honolulu, Hawaii by officials representing the three governments also provides for the continuation of the Centers for Continuing Education and maintains the land grant status of the College, according to Robert Jackson.

The College of Micronesia is governed by a three-member Board of Regents, one member representing each of the three respective governments. Representing the Government of the FSM on the Board is Bermin F. Weilbacher, who is the Vice President; Government of the Marshalls, Phillip Muller, President; and the Government of Palau, Yoichi K. Rengiil, Secretary and Treasurer.

At the COM Central Office is an Executive Director, Dr. Singeru Singeo, who serves as the Resident Instructor (RI) or Academic Program Director; the Director of Cooperative Extension Service (CES), Anita R. Suta who is serving in an acting capacity; and the Director of Agricultural Experiment Station (AES), Engly Ioanis who is also serving in an acting capacity. During its September meetings on Koror, the COM-BOR made its selection of the CES Director, but since the position is part of the USDA System it requires the concurrence of USDA Secretary of Agriculture is needed. The Board also appointed Ioanis to serve as Acting AES Director while the preparation and search for a permanent director is being pursued.

The three colleges: the College of Micronesia - FSM, located in Kolonia, Pohnpei; the Palau Community College (PCC), located in Koror, Palau; and the College of the Marshall Islands (CMI), located in Majuro, Marshall Islands, are each administered separately by a President and each college is governed separately by a local Board of Regents/Trustees. The President of PCC is Francis Matsutaro, the President of CMI is Dorothy Nook, and the search for the COM-FSM President has ended with

the appointment of Susan R. Moses. The overall total enrollment at the three Colleges is approximately 1,400 students, including both full-time and part-time students, and students taking courses at the three Continuing Education Centers. All three Colleges are offering Certificates of Achievement and Associate of Science and Associate of Arts degree programs.

The Treaty also provides for financial support by the three signatory governments. For the period beginning October 1, 1993, and for the fiscal years thereafter, the signatory governments shall contribute \$75,000 to COM to defray costs associated with the operations of the Executive Director's office and staff. This annual contribution shall be apportioned among the three governments on the basis of each government's proportional representation on the Board, as follows: RMI, \$25,000; the FSM, \$25,000 and the ROP, \$25,000.

Each of the three respective governments shall be responsible for the costs associated with the instruction of students and operations and maintenance of the colleges, within their respective country. Tuition costs for students and other costs not otherwise paid for by Pell Grant or Scholarships shall be borne by the country of which the student is a citizen. Tuition rates charged to students who are citizens of the country where the college is located shall be the rates charged to students of the other signatory nations attending that college.

Proclamation

(Continued from Page 1)

comprehensive community-based strategies to further reduce and prevent these tragedies.

Vice President Nena said in his memorandum to all Cabinet Members that experience has taught that accidents tend to increase during the Christmas and New Year holidays and urged their proper action and support.

The Department of Health Services has been designated the responsibility of coordinating with National and State Offices and providing the necessary information for the promotion of public awareness and participation in 1993's activities relating to the National Accident Prevention Month, December 1993.

The Vice President encouraged everyone to get involved and make the month, December 1993, a safer and happier holiday.

FEMA informed FSM that requested fund is being obligated

PALIKIR, Pohnpei, (FSM INFORMATION SERVICE) - Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) Office in Region IX, San Francisco, has informed the FSM's President's Special Assistant for Disaster and Special Programs that the monies requested by the FSM under the program Hazard Mitigation Grant Projects have been obligated, according to FEMA's October 4, 1993, letter.

Two projects funded for Yap State include \$110,885 obligated as FEMA Hazard Mitigation Grant Project matching funds for communication equipment procurement, to be matched by in-kind contributions or cash by Yap State. The second project is an obligation of \$313,716 by FEMA as its 50 percent contribution to be soft matched by Yap State for a food crop disaster prevention and recovery project.

Chuuk State gets \$80,000 for typhoon-reinforcement of the broadcast building for the first phase.

The total obligation for this supplement amounted to \$537,321. Of this amount \$10,536 is for grantee's administrative costs, \$17,984 for Yap's administrative costs as subgrantee, and \$4,200 for Chuuk State as subgrantee.

Pohnpei State received \$12,398 for typhoon proofing of Nanpohnmal Road Phase I, FSM's administrative cost share is \$394. Pohnpei State received as subgrantee \$744 also received is \$23,202 for phase II of the same project.

Pohnpei State Agriculture Division received \$207,700 for its Food Security and Nursery Bank Project. The total obligation for this supplement is \$247,434, of which \$7,224 is for FSM's administrative cost and is for \$9,308 for the Pohnpei State's administrative costs. Both amounts require 50 percent matching from the local funding sources or an in-kind contribution.

Kosrae State under the Hazard Mitigation Grant Project got a total obligation of \$63,391. Of this amount \$1,846 is for FSM's administrative costs and \$3,329 for Kosrae's administrative costs. FEMA informed the FSM that its funds cannot be spent for vehicles as was contemplated by the State.

FEMA's official indicated that if the non-federal match is "soft-match" that is, the use of services, materials, sup-

plies, local labor, equipment, property, etc., these non-federal contributions must meet the following criterion: directly benefit the project covered by the Hazard Mitigation Grant Project grant; must be identifiable; must constitute costs that would be allowable under the Hazard Mitigation Grant Projects; must apply only to one project; and lastly, must be verifiable.

No in-kind contribution from grantee, sub-grantee or third-party can count toward satisfying the matching requirement of 50 percent unless they are veri-

fiable from the grantee or sub-grantee's records.

FSM is eligible to apply for Hazard Mitigation Grant Project grants up to a total of \$2.3 million during FY 1994, if the FSM can match the 50 percent of the amounts applied for, said Chutomu Nimwes. This program is available to FSM, States, Municipal Governments or non-government organizations, so long as they can meet the matching requirements. They are included in the President's disaster declaration, Nimwes said.

ICAO

(Continued from Page 2)

The concept now known as ICAO Communications, Navigation, Surveillance and Air Traffic Management (CNS/ATM) Systems, is essentially the application of today's high technologies in satellites and computers, data link and advanced flight deck avionics to cope with tomorrow's growing operational needs. In doing so, it will make obsolete much of today's expensive ground-based equipment which uses line-of-sight technology and which therefore has inherent limitations. But it will produce economies, efficiencies and greater safety.

The provision of satellite communication, navigation and surveillance services involves many elements, including air traffic service (ATS) facilities, terrestrial networks, earth stations, spacecraft and airborne facilities. The objective of the global plan is to provide a progressive and coordinated worldwide implementation of these elements in a timely and cost-beneficial manner. The plan therefore provides guidelines for use by regional bodies, states, service providers and users for transition from current ground-based air navigation system to the future satellite-based system. It also functions as a benchmark for the evaluation of implementation progress.

In addition to the global plan, the Committee completed a comprehensive document entitled "The ICAO CNS/ATM Systems: Coping with Air Traffic Demand" intended for use by executives as an aid in the rapid understanding of the CNS/ATM system and the progress that has been made within States and regions towards global implementation.

In another report, the Committee set out the status of research, development,

trials and demonstrations and a view of the future ATM system made possible by CNS technology. Perhaps most importantly, the Committee also presented the latest thinking on the institutional factors, including guidelines for acceptable aeronautic mobile-satellite services (AMSS), global navigation satellite system (GNSS) and aeronautical telecommunication network (ATN) institutional arrangements, and considerations of alternative financial and cost recovery mechanisms.

Finally the Committee supported the idea presented by Dr. Assad Kotaite, President of the ICAO Council, that a task force be set up to get the implementation of CNS/ATM quickly on track. It was the Committee's view that the task force would be a practical means of convening, without drawing on ICAO resources, a high-level group of persons with the necessary expertise in a short time. The overall objective of the task force is to advise the Council by mid-1994 on the most effective means of implementing the global plan, including implementation priorities, funding arrangements and resources needed.

In the course of the meeting, the representative of the Russian Federation confirmed the commitments made by Russia with regard to the use of the Russian GLONASS system for international civil aviation needs and provided information on step-by-step implementation of plans and time frames for the deployment of the system, stressing the fact that the guarantees for the international use of the system under the aegis of ICAO remain unchanged. During ICAO's Tenth Air Navigation Conference, Sept. 1991, both the U.S.A. and U.S.S.R. agreed to make available their global navigation satellite systems for the use of international civil aviation.

4 *Postal Services released stamp issue on FSM leaders*

THE NATIONAL UNION, December, 1993

PALIKIR, Pohnpei (FSM INFORMATION SERVICE) - The FSM is commemorating four of its past prominent leaders, one from each of the four states, who contributed greatly to the development of this country. They epitomized the strength character and fabric of the Nation in the balancing act of preserving tradition and heritage while pushing forward toward modernization and change.

The first FSM leader to appear in an FSM stamp was Ispahu Samuel Hadley, the ranking traditional leader of Pohnpei. He was in the PATS commemorative issue of 1990. Ispahu Hadley was a respected leader and was a driving force in Pohnpei's ratification of the National Constitution.

This issue is the first of a series of "Local Leaders of Micronesia" to be issued annually. An abridged profile for these four leaders follows:

AMBILOS IEHSI (1935-1981). Ambilos Iehsi was the first Secretary of the Department of Resources and Development of the FSM National Government. He was born on June 22, 1935, on Pingelap Atoll, Pohnpei State. He attended Pingelap Elementary School, Pohnpei Intermediate School, Pacific Islands Central School in Chuuk, the College of Guam, and the University of Hawaii where he received his Bachelor of Arts in Political Science in 1965 as an East-West Center Fellow. He was a Dean of Students at Pohnpei Islands Central School (PICS), a teacher at the Pohnpei Junior High School, and the Political Affairs Advisor in Pohnpei. Elected to the Congress of Micronesia in 1967, he became the Floor Leader of the House during his first term. In 1969, he was elected to fill a vacancy in the Senate where he served for ten years, first as Chairman of the Committee of Resources and Development, and later as Floor Leader and Vice President. He served as the Micronesian Advisor to the U.S. Delegation at the Trusteeship Council Meeting in New York. He was a pioneer in the establishment of the FSM. He was known for his independence, intelligence, forthrightness, and great sense of humor.

ANDREW ROBOMAN (1905-1992) Chief Andrew Roboman was born on December 22, 1905, in Meerur village of Tomil Municipality, in the State of Yap. His contributions to the development of Yap and the newly forming



Federated States of Micronesia, in the words of his contemporary, "...cannot be expressed adequately in words for they are tremendous and enormous."

Yap Legislature declared that he made immeasurable political, economic, and social contributions to the development of Yap as a Traditional Chief, a government official, and a great statesman. He was President of Yap Island Council until it was succeeded by the Council of Pilung. He then became Chairman of the new Traditional Chiefs Council and remained in this position until his passing. As Chairman of the Council of Pilung, he was the ranking traditional leader in Yap. Chief Roboman was an influential behind the scenes leader in the FSM States and National Leaders Conferences that discussed the implementation of the Constitution. The strong feeling of unity in Yap and Yap's strong preservation of tradition and culture can be attributed to the wise guidance and leadership of Chief Roboman.

JOAB N. SIGRAH (1932-1988). Joab N. Sigrah was the first Vice Speaker of the FSM Congress. He attended elementary school in Kosrae, Pohnpei Intermediate School, Pacific Islands University of Hawaii and became a teacher. He was soon elected to Kosrae Municipal Council and the District Legislature. He served in both Houses of the Congress of Micronesia and was influential in convincing that body to establish Kosrae as a separate district, an act which guaranteed Kosrae's status as a state in the FSM. He served in the First to the Fourth FSM Congresses as Kosrae's at-large member. Throughout these terms he was the Vice Speaker. After his terms in Congress, he served as an Associate Justice in the Kosrae Supreme Court a position he held until he passed away on November 2, 1988. He was a pioneer in political develop-

ment in the FSM, a conscientious representative of his constituents and a great mediator.

PETRUS MAILO (1902-1971). Born two days after Christmas in 1902, Chief Petrus, as he was popularly known, was the son of a Traditional Chief of Weno, Chuuk (formerly Moen, Truk). He was known for his courage, humility, simplicity, leadership, and wisdom, and was an exceptional government and business leader in Chuuk and throughout Micronesia. He was a champion of the movement toward self-government and was a focal point of unity among his people. He was a wealth of traditional historical. A very traditional man, he was yet able to embrace new ideas for his people. When Weno Municipality received its Charter, he was elected its first Mayor and remained Mayor until his passing. He served in the Truk Legislature and was elected to the First Congress of Micronesia. He was the unanimous choice for the Vice Speakership of the House even though he spoke little English. He served in the first and the second Congresses then decided to devote his time to his work as Mayor. Besides his government positions, he was a member of the boards of several successful business endeavors and a member of the Truk Government Scholarship Board, which was the only Government source of funds in the then Truk District. He was one of the most respected and best recognized traditional and elected leaders throughout Micronesia.

These stamps are available at all Post Offices throughout the Nation and at the Philatelic Bureau in Kolonia, Pohnpei, beginning September 16, 1993. Everyone is encouraged to utilize these stamps which are available for a limited period of 12 to 18 months, after which they will be withdrawn.

Dr. Cantero followed-up education opportunity for FSM 5

THE NATIONAL UNION, December, 1993

PALIKIR, Pohnpei (FSM INFORMATION SERVICE) - FSM Education Secretary Dr. Catalino Cantero in his trip to the United States visited the officials of the Louisiana State University (LSU) in Baton Rouge and Xavier University (XU) in New Orleans to follow-up on an earlier visit made by Vice President Jacob Nena who said he was impressed by the LSU officials' apparent willingness to help the FSM. Dr. Cantero followed up on discussions held on an earlier visit by former Governor of Kosrae State Yosiwo P. George to XU.

President Bailey Olter earlier sent an introductory letter to U.S. Senator Bennett Johnston informing him of Cantero's trip to LSU. During the visit the topics reportedly explored were the establishment of program(s) articulation between LSU and COM-FSM; a COM-FSM faculty upgrade program for Master of Arts (MA) or doctorate degrees; LSU assistance to COM-FSM to develop a program to train trainers on LSU campus or on Pohnpei; LSU assistance in summer faculty upgrading in Pohnpei or at LSU; LSU assistance to COM-FSM in working toward a four year college status; LSU assistance to COM-FSM in its Land Grant program by working with the FSM through Senator Bennett Johnston's office for a possible separate Land Grant; LSU assistance to assist FSM citizens enrolled at LSU as undergraduates, graduates or in professional training programs; LSU assistance to the FSM Government, if needed, in its research on economic development in the areas of fisheries, aquaculture, agriculture, and so forth.

In the State of Louisiana, Land Grant plays a central role in economic development, particularly in agriculture, fisheries and aquaculture. LSU has assisted countries such as the Philippines, Malaysia, Indonesia, and African and Central American countries to identify financial sources from the United Nations Development Program (UNDP), the United States International Development Agency, the World Bank and the Asian Development Bank (ADB) and providing technical assistance in proposal writing.

Cantero recommended that COM-FSM and Xavier University enter into an agreement that will enable COM-FSM students to transfer to Xavier University without cost to the COM-FSM while benefiting from the University's financial resources. With LSU, it was recommended that a reciprocal agreement between LSU and COM-FSM for academic, technical, and student ex-

change utilizing in-state tuition privileges and fees would be good. Each party would recognize the curriculum and degrees offered by the other, provide immigration assistance, logistics, information and publication exchange.

Judges attended General Jurisdiction course

PALIKIR, Pohnpei (FSM INFORMATION SERVICE) - FSM Associate Justice Martin Yinug and Yap State Chief Justice Samuel Falanruw and Associate Justice Constantine Yinug attended the General Jurisdiction course at The National Judicial College in Reno, Nevada from September 26 through October 15, 1993, according to a release from the College.

The General Jurisdiction Course examined substantive law, and skills and trial techniques from the judicial viewpoint. The course focused on a multitude of legal and procedural topics and judicial responsibilities while also addressing the professional needs of all judges, whether urban, small-town, or

Each would also provide assistance in securing funding from public as well as private sources, human development, scientific research and more. Finally, such an agreement could be cancelled by mutual written agreement.

rural. The course also provided an appropriate orientation for those special court judges who sit on such cases on pro tem or associate basis.

Located on the campus of the University of Nevada, Reno, the Judicial College was featured in 1991 on CBS's "60 Minutes" as the leading national training and education center for trial judges. This perception was further endorsed in a 1993 "Eye to Eye" segment on violence in the courtrooms. Since the College was founded in 1963, more than 30,000 certificates of completion have been issued to graduates, including U.S. Supreme Court Justices Sandra Day O'Connor and David Souter, the release concluded.

MMFA graduated 11 of its students

PALIKIR, Pohnpei (FSM INFORMATION SERVICE) - Vice President Jacob Nena on December 16, 1993, addressed the Micronesian Maritime Fisheries Academy (MMFA) Graduating Class of 1993, in Yap.

The Micronesian Maritime and Fisheries Academy graduated 11 of its students. The 11 students completed their 20 weeks training at the Academy.

The students are from Kosrae: Jimmy J. Jack, Arthur H. Sigrah, Peter P. Tilfas, and Alik K. William; Pohnpei: Raymondo A. David, Arnold W. Oliver, Helden L. Lipai, and Franklin U. Eliam;

and from Yap: Dave L. Yelaimai, William W. Filmwai, and David D. Rosmotil.

The graduation ceremony was held at the MMFA Complex (the former Coast Guard Loran Station), followed by a bamboo dance, a luncheon, and a visit to the cultural center in Map Municipality, culminating the day's activities with a farewell dinner and Christmas celebration by MMFA staff at Manta Ray Restaurant.

Accompanying Vice President Nena to the graduation was his Special Assistant Josaiah Waguk.



1993 MMFA GRADUATION - Above are the MMFA graduates in a group photo with Vice President Jacob Nena and other officials.

6 First FSM female to become medical doctor



FIRST FSM FEMALE DOCTOR - Above is Dr. Perman in a photo session with the President and other FSM officials after the President presented an award of academic achievement to Dr. Perman. From left to right are: President Bailey Olter, Ieske Iehsi, Dr. Perman, John Mangefel, Marstella Jack, and Jane Jimmy.

PALIKIR, Pohnpei (FSM INFORMATION SERVICE) - FSM President Bailey Olter presented a special certificate of academic achievement to Dr. Mailing Perman of Pohnpei State, in recognition of her outstanding academic achievement in the MBBS VI Program

at the Fiji School of Medicine in Suva. Dr. Perman graduated on December 3, 1993 with distinction, earning the highest mark in Community Medicine, Dr. John Berrand's Prize for top student, and Head of School's Prize for Head of Student.

The President presented the award in a brief ceremony held in his Cabinet's room. Present for the ceremony were the Deputy Secretary of External Affairs John Mangefel, Chief of Protocol Ieske Iehsi, Deputy Assistant to the Secretary for Information and Research Marstella Jack and Foreign Service Office Jane Jimmy.

Dr. Perman is 23 years old, making her the youngest and first female medical student from the FSM to have ever graduated with high honors at a regional institution. She was in the second batch of FSM students under the AIDAB sponsorship who were sent to Fiji in 1987 to attend the University of the South Pacific.

Dr. Perman plans to do one year of internship at the Colonial War Memorial Hospital in Fiji, before she decides which medical field she wishes to practice, Public Health, Internal Medicine, Obstetrics, or Gynecology. Her first medical advice is to her fellow medical students, medicine is tough, but if you persevere with determination and discipline, success becomes just as easy.

President Olter proclaimed World Mental Health Day in the FSM

PALIKIR, Pohnpei (FSM INFORMATION SERVICE) - October 9, 1993 was proclaimed by FSM President Bailey Olter as World Mental Health Day in the FSM, joining the World Federation for Mental Health of the United Nations. The proclamation made reference to the 1948 United Nations (UN) Universal Declaration of Human Rights, which says in part, "...the inherent dignity and equal and inalienable rights of all members of the human family, and the common humanity of persons everywhere; that all member states of the UN are committed to the goal of Health for All by the year 2000, as set forth by the World Health Organization (WHO); which includes health of the mind and emotions as well as body..."

This year's celebration aimed at achieving respect for the rights of those diagnosed as having mental and emotional disorders; expanding prevention programs among vulnerable populations; encourage treatment of those in need; and promoting optimal mental and emotional health of the peoples of the world.

President Olter urge all FSM citizens to take part in the activities designated for the observance of World Mental Health Day.

In a memorandum to all Cabinet Members about the occasion, President Olter relayed to them the invitation he received from the Federation for Mental Health and the World Health Organization (WHO) to participate in this year's Second Annual Mental Health Day, October 9, 1993.

"I am endorsing our country's participation by the attached signed proclamation. Please stand ready to assist the Department of Health Services which will be coordinating all the promotional activities regarding our involvement." Copies of his memorandum were sent to all state governors.

Vitamin A Deficiency and Vermox campaign in Chuuk

7

THE NATIONAL UNION, December, 1993

WENO, Chuuk (FSM INFORMATION SERVICE) - The Vitamin A Deficiency and Vermox (VADAV) campaign gained full support from government leaders and the general public. Vitamin A capsules and vermoz were distributed on September 20 and 21, to all 1-12 years old children, and despite the rains, concerned parents brought their children to the distribution centers in Weno and the lagoon islands. Over 90 percent of children were presented for treatment.

Chuuk State's Governor Sasao H. Goulard, understanding the ill effects of the high vitamin A deficiency rate in Chuuk state and his concern for the serious effects of this on the future of the innocent children of Chuuk State, issued a proclamation on Vitamin A on May 4, 1993. Likewise, the Senate of Chuuk State's Legislature adopted a resolution on Vitamin A deficiency on September 8, 1993, and expressed their full support and unequivocal assistance to the vitamin A capsule distribution campaign and other educational programs promoting the consumption of local foods rich in vitamin A. The Speaker and the Representatives indicated that they are ready to assist in every way to decrease the high prevalence of Vitamin A deficiency in Chuuk.

Government and non-government agencies, religious leaders and service organizations and the general public were mobilized. Health personnel and staff on Weno, lagoon islands and outer islands worked together in educating the public and the distribution of the vitamin A capsules, statewide.

The Vitamin A deficiency campaign does not end here. It will be conducted every six months (September and March) of each year until the level goes down to one percent or less. Continuous efforts and support of the Chuukese population therefore, are vital to provide a sustained reduction in Vitamin A deficiency throughout the state.

To continue to decrease Vitamin A deficiency level in Chuuk, the Health Services Department, conducts a regu-

lar nutrition education at the Public Health's Well-Baby and Pre-natal Clinics on Mondays and Thursdays. The same is done at the OB and pediatric wards of the hospital.

UNICEF, at the request of Chuuk State's Department of Health Services provided a consultant for technical assistance in the initial design of the Vitamin A deficiency eradication campaign, and will continue to supply the essential Vitamin A capsules over the early emergency period. UNICEF Technical assistance is also provided through the Family Food Production and Nutrition (FFPN) Project Coordinator, based at the Department of Health Services and Agriculture to improve the sustained availability and utilization/consumption of Vitamin A rich foods throughout Chuuk State in the long term future.

The Department of Agriculture on the other hand, promotes and distributes planting materials rich in Vitamin A and provides technical assistance. Workshops on nutrition education and health which include food production (home gardening) and cooking demonstrations at the village level have already been conducted in Uman, Fefan, Udot, and Weno. The same assistance

will be extended to the outer islands as soon as possible.

Let us remember that one's knowledge of food production, food values and the right kind of food to eat is an important way to combat the high prevalence of Vitamin A deficiency and other nutritional problems like diabetes, hypertension, anemia AND hearing disease.

In recognition of these efforts, the Public Health staff wishes to thank all the participants and supporters of this campaign who in one way or another did their part to contribute to the impressive success of the campaign. "Our appreciation goes most especially to the Director of Health Services, for his untiring support and encouragement throughout the campaign; to Public Affairs (V6AK staff); to the Department of Agriculture, to Department of Education staff, to the mayors of municipalities, to all the Health Assistants at the lagoon and outer islands, and to all parents. We believe that our commitment, cooperation and collaboration can indeed, successfully improve the nutrition and health of the children of Chuuk. Thank you very much for your support," a source at FSM Health Dept.



SECRETARY TAKESY AND AUSTRALIAN AMBASSADOR SIGNED DOCUMENT - FSM R&D Secretary Asterio Takesy and Australian Ambassador to the FSM Peter Stanford on January 25, 1994, signed a memorandum of understanding between the governments of the FSM and Australia, concerning a project entitled "biological control of breadfruit mealybug in the Pacific." The aim of the project is to identify the most suitable parasite to control the damage inflicted on breadfruit tree by a mealybug, *icerya aegyptiaca*. Beginning in 1991, with extensive research into parasite control of mealybugs in Australia, the project has entered the final phase with experimental research in the FSM. The conclusion of the project is expected to be in 1995. The project will be implemented by the Commonwealth scientific and industrial research organization division of entomology, on behalf of the Australian Government, and by the College of Micronesia on behalf of the Government of the FSM Left to right, Stanford, Takesy and Sailas Henry, Administrator for Division of Agriculture.

CORRECTION

In the October and November Issue of 1993 (Vol. 14, No. 10) in the story regarding bills and resolutions passed and adopted by Congress, C.B. 8-97 is the amendment to Yap Public Project.

8 Congress approved 1994 Childhood Immunization Program

THE NATIONAL UNION, December, 1993

PALIKIR, Pohnpei (FSM INFORMATION SERVICE) - The 8th FSM Congress, in its 2nd Regular Session, approved the proposed 1994 Childhood Immunization Program totaling \$396,043. Of that amount \$240,513 is to be obtained from U.S. Federal Grants \$145,530 from the FSM and \$10,000 from other sources, according to Standing Committee Report No. 8-127.

The Program is to prevent the occurrence and transmission of vaccine preventable diseases, including the interruption of indigenous measles transmission, and Haemophilus influenza type B (HiB) in the FSM.

The program is a joint effort between the Dept. of Health Services in both the FSM and the States who will contribute personnel and supplies for the program.

The Federal Funds sought will be utilized for the following purposes: personnel, \$31,250; half of his time will be shared with Sexually Transmitted Disease Program; fringe benefits, \$1,563; travel, \$39,570, for State staff to attend one workshop; equipment, \$33,300, for the purchase of two trucks, a video cassette recorder, television and medical supplies; office supplies, \$2,500; contractual services, \$2,400; others, \$129,930, mostly for vaccines.

Testimony before the Committee on Health, Education and Social Affairs by Department of Health Services Secretary Dr. Eliuel Pretrick, Administrator for Preventive Health Services Sizue Yoma, and FSM Public Health Advisor Donna Wichimai, that the program is designed to combat other diseases such

as diphtheria, tetanus, polio, Hepatitis B, measles, pertussis or whooping cough, mumps, and rubella.

One of its primary goals is to improve the vaccine delivery system throughout the FSM by increasing the program cover age to include children of two years old and younger, targeting 90 percent vaccination of two-year-olds by the year 2000. The secondary goals are to increase the coverage on schedule and to improve vaccine efficiency.

Two new vaccines, one against Hepatitis B, and the other against Haemophilus influenza type B, are planned to be introduced this year. These two strains are present in the FSM, and they are dangerous. Dr. Pretrick told the Committee that about one-fifth of the people who contacted Hepatitis develop liver cancer later in life.

Beginning calendar year 1996, more money will be needed to pay for 25 to 30 percent of the vaccines used in the FSM which currently are available from UNICEF free of charge. However, the price that the FSM will pay to UNICEF will be less than that charged commercially.

During 1985 the coverage in the FSM was 75 percent and has been increasing, but has not reached the 95 percent target. Congress was told that Chuuk has the lowest coverage, followed by Pohnpei. Partly due to shortage of personnel, insufficient information on newborns and school-age children which makes tracking and keeping histories of particular individuals difficult. The Program hopes to seek assistance from the local communities, including traditional leaders, churches and schools in identifying children who need to be immunized.



CERTIFICATE OF APPRECIATION - Michael Campaign was presented a certificate of appreciation by Perdus Ehsa, Administrator for division of Personnel in recognition of his sustained superior performance for the Government of the FSM in his position as Customs Advisor.

THE NATIONAL UNION

Published by: The Office of the President/Information
FEDERATED STATES OF MICRONESIA
P.O. Box 34, PALIKIR STATION
PALIKIR, POHNPEI FM 96941