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Federated Development Authority met in Pohnpei

PALIKIR, Pohnpei (FSM INFORMATION SERVICE) - The Federated Development Authority (FDA) which has the responsibility of approving all loans from the Investment Development Funds (IDF) met August 23, this year in Palikir with President Bailey Olter chairing the meeting.

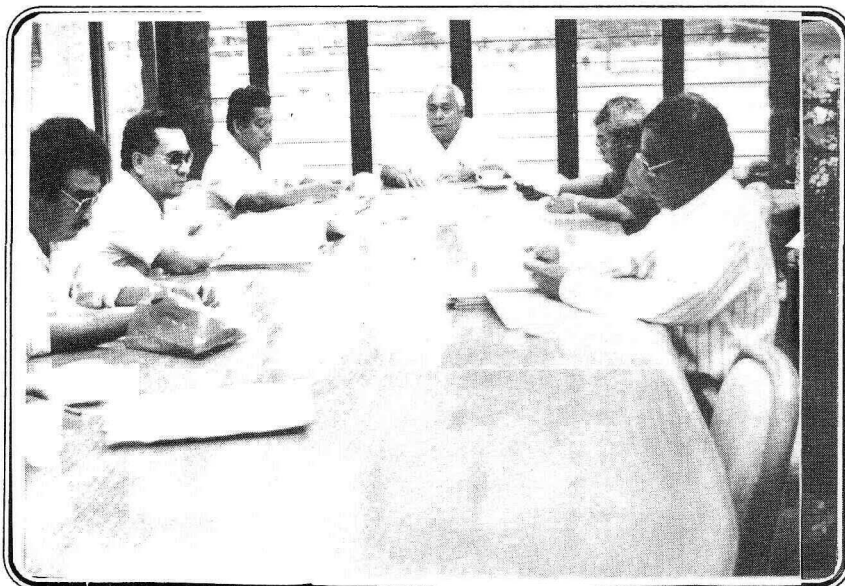
President of the FSM Development Bank (FSMDB) Manny Mori reported the status of the Investment Development Fund (IDF) which has a balance of approximately \$8.3 million. Mori reported that Yap State's sub-account of \$200,000 was recently increased to \$400,000 as a result of WAAB Company paying up its loan.

The FDA approved a request by Mori to transfer the accounting and disbursement responsibilities of IDF from the FSMDB to the Executive Director of the IDF Board of Advisors, Asterio Takesy, Secretary, Department of Resources and Development.

FDA approved an amendment to the IDF guidelines which would lower the minimum IDF loan from \$250,000 to \$100,000. The purpose given was that the balances in the sub-accounts are declining. Loans below that amount may be covered by regular loan funds from the FSMDB.

FDA approved a loan application by AHPW company for \$620,000, from the Pohnpei State sub-account. This was supported by Pohnpei State officials. AHPW is a company in Pohnpei which processes black pepper and makes

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FDA MET IN PALIKIR - The members of FDA met in Palikir, August 23, 1993. Left to right are Lt. Governor of Pohnpei Victor Edwin, sitting in for Pohnpei Governor Johnny David; Kosrae Governor Thurston Siba; Vice President Jacob Nena; President Bailey Olter (Chairman); Yap Governor Petrus Tun, and Chuuk Governor Sasao Goulard.

FSM & Argentina established diplomatic relations

PALIKIR, Pohnpei (FSM INFORMATION SERVICE) - The FSM recently has established diplomatic relations with the 37th country. The Governments of the Federated States of Micronesia and the Republic of Argentina signed, on July 27 this year, in New York, the instrument to establish diplomatic relations between the two countries, according to a release from the Department of External Affairs.

Signing on behalf of the FSM was its Permanent Representative to the United Nations, Yosiwo P. George, and on behalf of Argentina was its Permanent

Ambassador to the United Nations, Emilio J. Cardenas.

The decision to establish diplomatic relations is based on the desire to contribute to the strengthening of international peace and security on the basis of respect for the principles and purposes of the Charter of the United Nations and International Law.

Argentina is a country in South America, its capital city is Buenos Aires. Its population is over 32 million, with an annual growth rate of 1.2 percent according to the 1990 demographic fig-

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FDA

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buttons from trochus shells.

FDA did not consider the loan application by Micronesian Canning Corporation Limited, a request for \$1.7 million to start canning beer and other types of foods; and another from the EEM company which application was not ready for distribution but was supported by the FSM Development Bank.

An application from Chuuk was approved to borrow \$1.18 million, the remaining balance in Chuuk State's sub-account for the Chuuk Fresh Tuna, Incorporated.

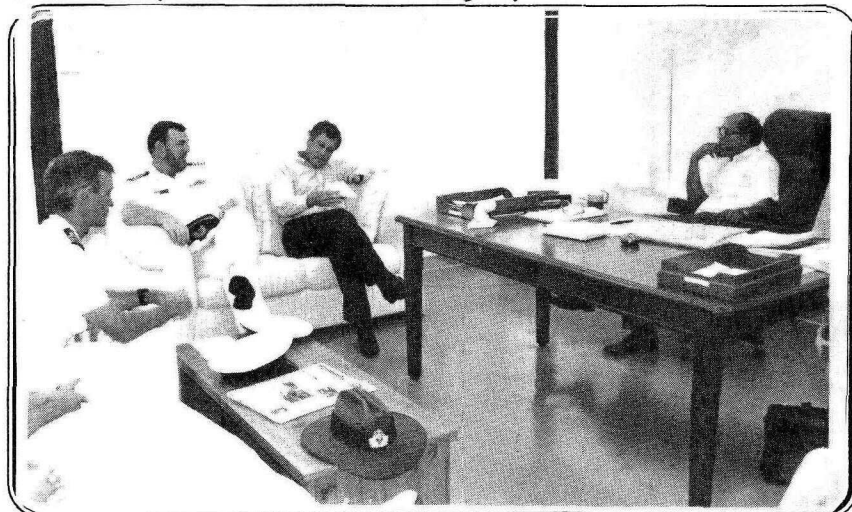
FDA also gave its provisional approval on three state projects: a fishing base operation proposal, a joint venture with a U.S. Company to provide direct air service to Guam and Saipan from Kosrae and a ship repair facility for a total of \$2.7 million from the Kosrae State sub-account. The IDF and FSMDB must review the applications within 45 days of the receipt of the applications and make its final recommendations to FDA.

FDA members stated that FSM must work towards obtaining the remaining \$40 million authorized for IDF by the United States Congress to fund the remaining projects for which there are no funds currently available.

The FDA was briefed on the FSM investment programs by Secretary of Finance Aloysius Tuuth, Investment Advisor H. David Grace and financial consultants.

The Secretary of Finance requested approval of an investment management contract between the FDA and Capital Guardian Trust Company whose parent company is governed by laws of the State of California, but the branch which will be handling the FSM's International Investment Portfolio is located in Singapore. Following a lengthy discussion, FDA approved the Contract but deleted a provision which authorized the Money Manager to vote proxies.

A proposed resolution seeking FDA's endorsement of C.B. 8-26 pending before Congress was deferred at the requests of Kosrae and Pohnpei. President Olter as Chairman of FDA, suggested the matter be dealt with in the State and National Leadership Conference (SNLC). The Bill, if passed and signed into law, will convert the present FSM Development Bank into a corporate body, allowing it to borrow money from foreign sources and open itself to equity participation as a genuine bank, rather than as a government lending agency.



HMAS IPSWICH ON SEPT. 3, - under the command of Lt. Commander Peter Kraus Ran, with FSM Patrol ships FSS Palikir and FSS Micronesia, completed the first phase of a combined surveillance exercise. HMAS Ipswich conducted a series of visits throughout the Pacific Region. The purpose of her visit to Pohnpei is to express Australia's goodwill toward the FSM and to support the National Police Maritime Wing in Maritime Surveillance. Coinciding with Ipswich's arrival was the visit of two Senior Naval Officers from Australia who conducted discussions with President Bailey Olter and Senior Government Officials on a range of subjects concentrating on Regional Fisheries and Surveillance issues. Above are the officials of HMAS Ipswich with Ambassador Peter Stanford called on the Secretary of the Department of External Affairs, Resio S. Moses.

Argentina

(Continued from Page 1)

ures. It has a per capita income of US \$2,217.

It is the second South American country with which the FSM has established diplomatic relations, the first being Chile.

Lehn Diadi Bridge Dedicated

PALIKIR, Pohnpei (FSM INFORMATION SERVICE) - A newly constructed bridge across Lehn Diadi River in Madolenihmw was dedicated, July 10 by the Traditional Chiefs, FSM and Pohnpei State officials and the people of Madolenihmw, according to a High Traditional Chief of Madolenihmw.

The dedication was hosted by the highest traditional leaders, Isipahu Ilten Shelten and Iso Nahnken Johnny Hadley with about 300 Madolenihmw residents.

Among the invited officials were the FSM President Bailey Olter, Pohnpei Governor Johnny David, State Senator Midion Neth representing the Speaker of Pohnpei Legislature and other officials.

Following the remarks by the host and invited officials praising the workmanship and financial assistance without which the completion of the bridge could not have been possible, and ribbon cutting ceremony, a traditional feast was held in concluding the occasion.

The original bridge was constructed by the Ponape Housing Co-op of Madolenihmw during the late 1960's, with funds appropriated by the Congress of Micronesia. It was destroyed by flood during Typhoon Axel No. 934, which struck Pohnpei, February 7, 1992.

The new Lehn Diadi Bridge was constructed at a total cost of \$277,080, of which 75 percent or \$207,810 was part of typhoon damage recovery funds from the United States Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) and 25 percent or \$69,270 was from the FSM National Government. The 25 percent matching fund was required by U.S. law that provide such assistance, according to Chutomu Nimwes, Special Assistant to the President for Disaster and Special Programs.

The new bridge is one of the biggest bridges built on Pohnpei. With its completion, traffic across the river will no longer be hampered by bad weather as was the case after the old bridge was destroyed.

Maritime Code to CFSM

PALIKIR, Pohnpei (FSM INFORMATION SERVICE) - Vice President Jacob Nena, on behalf of President Bailey Olter submitted to Congress on May 25, 1993, a Revised Proposed Maritime Code for the FSM.

The covering letter stated that the vast majority of interstate and foreign commerce of this nation is conducted by water. The existing laws governing maritime activities enacted during the Trust Territory period are now obsolete and must be updated to be applicable with the present day state of maritime activities.

"This new bill will provide a comprehensive framework on which extensive and detailed regulations may be built to ensure that we are in control of our shipping and commerce by sea," the letter further stated.

Excluded are defense force vessels, small crafts or any boats used solely within lagoons, unless they interfere with foreign and interstate commerce. It will regulate the use of the national flag of the FSM on board vessels.

All vessels over 40 feet in length owned by Micronesian citizens, corporations, and corporations holding a foreign investment permits are included provided their principle place of business is in Micronesia. It also provides for rebate of registration fees if a certain portion of its crew are FSM citizens.

It requires all registered vessels to meet safety requirements established by the FSM Government. Regulations shall be issued by the Secretary of the Department of Transportation and Communication regarding "dangerous goods," which regulation's shall be consistent with international conventions on the Maritime Dangerous Goods Code, the Load Lines, and the Safety of Life At Sea. Regulations on tonnage measurement of ships, and for preventing collisions at sea will also be issued.

A Chapter provides for a Board of Marine Inquiry which sets forth procedures to be followed by the Board and how to appeal the Board's decisions to the Trial Division of the FSM Supreme Court.

Chapters on Seamen Certificates, Employment and Welfare are also included. Along with a chapter on the rights of seamen who are left behind, abandoned, or unjustifiably discharged, Corporal punishment against a seaman is prohibited.

FSM proposed Maritime Code has been repeatedly submitted to previous Congresses, but has continually failed to receive favorable consideration.



FSM & JAPAN SIGNED AGREEMENT - Secretary of External Affairs Resio S. Moses and President of OFCF Mr. Kerichi Unno signed on August 13, 1993, a Minute of Understanding on Aid to Micronesian Maritime Fisheries Academy. Witnessing the signing are from left to right: Mr. Hirokazu Chubachi from OFCF, NFC President Peter Sitan, Attorney General, FSM, Camilo Noket, Acting Secretary of Transportation and Communication Paulino Rodriguez, Secretary of Resources and Development Asterio Takesy, MMA Executive Director Bernard Thoulag, (partially hidden), and Deputy Assistant Secretary for Asian Affairs Lorin Robert.

Social Security Benefits increases

The following table shows the approximate benefit increases in Social Security Benefits effective July 1, 1993 per P.L. 7-118, according to the Social Security UPDATE.

If your were receiving the following as of June 1993	Your benefit is as follows starting July, 1993	Approx. Benefit Increase
\$43.20	\$50.00	\$6.80
50.00	50.93	0.93
60.00	61.11	1.11
70.00	71.29	1.30
80.00	81.48	1.48
90.00	91.67	1.67
100.00	101.85	1.85
110.00	112.04	2.04
120.00	122.22	2.22
130.00	132.41	2.41
140.00	143.06	3.06
150.00	154.17	4.17
160.00	165.28	5.28
170.00	176.39	6.39
180.00	187.50	7.50
190.00	198.61	8.61
200.00	209.73	9.72
210.00	223.62	13.61
220.00	238.43	18.43
230.00	253.25	23.24
240.00	273.63	33.62
250.00	303.25	53.25
260.00	332.88	72.88
270.00	362.51	92.51



HEADS OF THE PACIFIC IN NAURU - Posing for a group photo were the Heads of Governments who met in Nauru in August 1993.

24th South Pacific Forum met in Nauru

NAURU (FSM INFORMATION SERVICES) - FSM President Bailey Olter while in Nauru attending the 24th South Pacific Forum, August this year, signed with New Zealand Prime Minister, the SPREP agreement.

The President and his delegation on the way back from Nauru stopped in Majuro to attend the dedication of the new Capitol Building for the Republic of the Marshall Islands at the invitation of the Republic's President Amata Kabua. The capital complex is a four-story building, reportedly, costing approximately \$10 million, which will house both the Parliament and the President and his Ministries.

Prior to the dedication, President Olter attended the 24th South Pacific Forum in the Republic of Nauru on the 10th and the 11th of August. The President and his delegation left Pohnpei to Majuro then to Nauru. The Post-Forum Dialogue was held on the 12th and 13th, of the same month, according to a release from the Department of External Affairs.

The 24th Forum Meeting of the Heads of Governments of the 15 Pacific Member Countries is an annual summit of political leaders to discuss a host of issues of regional interest, among which are environmental concerns as they relate to sustainable development of small

island developing states; economic concerns relating to cooperation and coordination in utilization of foreign assistance; political issues emphasizing the New Caledonia situation; and security and law enforcement concerns.

The President's delegation consisted of First Lady Amalia, Chief of Staff Bermin Weilbacher, FSM Ambassador to Fiji Alik Alik, Assistant Secretary for South Pacific Affairs Tadao Sigrah, Foreign Service Officer Jane Jimmy, and Elieser Rospel from the Office of Information.

Ambassador Alik and Sigrah left for Nauru earlier to attend the preparatory meetings, joined the Presidential Party upon its arrival. Sigrah left Pohnpei earlier to join Ambassador Alik Alik to attend the Pre-Forum meetings to finalize the agenda.

This is the second time Nauru has hosted the Forum Meeting. The first time was the Seventh Forum in 1976. Next year's meeting will be hosted by Australia in Brisbane.

The members of the Forum include the Heads of Governments of the Federated States of Micronesia, Papua New Guinea, Cook Islands, Nauru, Solomon, Marshall Islands, Kiribati, Tonga, Western Samoa, New Zealand, Fiji, Australia, Vanuatu, Niue, and Tuvalu.

A high level delegation from t

PALIKIR, Pohnpei (FSM INFORMATION SERVICE) - FSM Vice President Jacob Nena and State Councillor and Secretary General of the State Council of the People's Republic of China, Mr. Lou Gan held a round table discussion in the President Cabinet Room, August 9, in Palikir.

Also present at the discussion with Vice President Nena were Secretary and Deputy Secretary of the Department of External Affairs, Resio Moses and John Mangefel; Secretary of the Department of Resources and Development, Asterio Takesy; Director of the Office of Budget, Patrick Mackenzie; Acting National Planner James Mormad, and Assistant Secretary for Asia, Pacific, and Multilateral Affairs Jesse Raglmar-Subolmar.

Present with Mr. Lou Gan were Mr. Zhang Yanning, member of the Standing Committee of the National Peoples Congress and Assistant Minister, Tian Runzhi, Ministry of Trade and Economic Cooperation.

The Vice President opened the discussion by welcoming State Councillor Mr. Lou Gan and his party, and proceed to express the FSM Government's appreciation for the continued cordial bilateral relationship which exists between the two governments.

Thanking the Government of the People's Republic of China for its support for the FSM membership in the United Nations, he said the FSM will always look to China for assistance in areas of political, economic and social development.

In the economic area, he stated that the FSM would seek assistance for its long-term developments in agriculture, fisheries and tourism. Adding that manpower training and development in these

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SIGNING SPREP AGREEMENT - FSM President (left sitting) and New Zealand Prime Minister (right, sitting) are signing the SPREP agreement in Nauru.

he People's Republic of China headed by Mr. Lou Gan visited the FSM

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areas are vital.

The Vice President reassured Mr. Lou Gan and his delegation of the FSM's "One-China Policy," adding that the relationship with Taiwan is purely commercial in nature.

In response, State Councillor and Secretary-General Lou Gan said that China is concerned about political stability and mutual relations with developing countries. Thus China attaches great importance to President Bailey Olter's State visit to China last year and other visit by the Honorable Jack Fritz, Speaker of the FSM National Congress.

Mr. Lou Gan said it is gratifying to see much progress in the FSM following its independence just seven years ago and its improved standards of living. He praised the FSM for its abundant fishery resource, and beautiful scenery for tourism development.

The reform instituted in China 20 years ago has continuously shown annual increases in agricultural sectors, forestry, fisheries and manufacturing. Although the current standard of living is still low compared with other countries, by the year 2000 it will be higher, even with its annual population growth rate of 16 million, he said.

Turning to China's Foreign Policy, Mr. Lou Gan said his country would safeguard peace, and support establishment of a new world order in which all countries should participate in international cooperation. China also supports non-interference in internal affairs of other countries, and believes that countries should treat each other equally.

On regional issues, he said China supports peace and stability in the Pacific and Asia regions; peaceful economic development; state sovereignty; strengthening regional cooperation; and protection of ecology.

Commenting on its economic policy towards the FSM, Mr. Tian Runzhi, Assistant Minister, Ministry of Foreign Trade and Economic Cooperation, said the FSM and China now have a good economic relationship and that during the next two years, the museum and convention center project which are being financed through interest-free loans by the People's Republic of China to the FSM will materialize.

Mr. Tian Runzhi indicated that his government is willing to provide technical cooperation on other projects, including those that FSM funding assistance is provided for by a third country, citing as an example, an airport project

[in Chuuk] which was constructed by Chinese International Company.

His government is willing to provide training with its 130,000 technical personnel currently deployed in 170 countries around the world.

China is willing to enter into bilateral trade with the FSM in finished products, and also textile manufacturing, and electronic machinery, if the FSM is so inclined, adding that additional staff is being assigned to the Chinese Embassy in Pohnpei to foster commercial and economic relations between the two countries.

Secretary Moses, in clarifying the

ciency in agriculture which includes the ability to feed itself, import substitutes, as well as exportation of any excess.

In tourism, Takesy said FSM supports ecotourism development which protects the environment and the local cultures and traditions.

In fisheries the emphasis is in off-shore large-scale tuna development and limited near-shore fishery development. In the three areas of priority he said FSM welcomes foreign investment. Manpower development is another priority, FSM therefore, welcomes training assistance in both public and private sectors. Takesy concluded by thanking



FSM & CHINA SIGNED AGREEMENT - Resio S. Moses (right-sitting), Secretary of the Department of External Affairs, and Mr. Tiar Runzhi (left-sitting), Assistant Minister, Ministry of Foreign Trade and Economic Cooperation, are signing an agreement on the 2nd China loan to the FSM. Back, left to right are Mr. Zhou Wenzhong, Deputy Director, Department of American & Oceanian Affairs, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Mr. Li Qiping, Ambassador of the People's Republic of China to the FSM; Mr. Zhan Yanning, Member of Standing Committee of the National People's Congress; Mr. Lou Gan, State Councillor and Secretary General of the State Council; Jacob Nena, Vice President, FSM; Asterio Takesy, Secretary of Resources and Development; Patrick Mackenzie, Director, Budget, John Mangefel, Deputy Secretary, Department of External Affairs; and James Mormad, Acting National Planner.

FSM's foreign policy quoted from the Preamble of the FSM Constitution which says "...we extend to all what we seek from each: peace, friendship, cooperation and love in our common humanity". Moses echoed the FSM's stance on the "One-China Policy" adding that the relationship between the two countries is strong and most lively and the Delegation's visit will further the relationship.

Secretary Takesy amplified the FSM's development priorities which are in agriculture, fisheries and tourism. In agriculture, he said that FSM aims at progressing toward eventual self-suffi-

Mr. Lou Gan and his Delegation for the assistance received by the FSM for its giant clam development project in Kosrae which is being supervised by his department.

An agreement was signed by Moses and Mr. Lou Gan on economic and technical cooperation.

The delegation visited the FSM, in August, headed by Mr. Luo Gan. State Council is the highest organ of the State Administration, comprised of the Premier, Vice Premier, State Councillors, Ministers in charge of commissions and ministers, the Auditor General, and the Secretary General.

6 Scientists visited FSM to gather information on "Green House Effect"

PALIKIR, Pohnpei (FSM INFORMATION SERVICE)- Two Scientists were in the FSM for one week in August to gather environmental information, relevant particularly to sea-level rise and the "Greenhouse Effect." Dr. John E. Hay from the University of Auckland, New Zealand, and Professor Kerry R. McGregor from the University of Papua New Guinea were detailed to conduct information gathering and report their findings to the South Pacific Environmental Program (SPREP). This is in response to a request earlier made by the FSM Government. The result of the study would provide information necessary for the FSM to establish policies relative to its development programs which are environmentally sound.

While in Pohnpei the two scientists met with FSM officials, Pohnpei State officials, private businessmen and local people. However, they regretted that due to the limited time allowed to them, they were not able to visit other states besides Pohnpei.

The scientists were interviewed by the staff of the President's Information Office. One of the topics discussed was the causes of climatic changes, another, more complicated topic was the sea-level rise and the greenhouse effect, which they stated is a result of human activities which pollute the atmosphere such as smoke from industries, emissions from car engines and power generators, destruction of forests by timber harvesting which can cause soil erosion, use of propellants in spray cans, use of chlorofluorocarbons (CFC's) in air-conditioners and refrigerators which destroy the ozone layer permitting the harmful ultra-violet radiation from the sun to penetrate to the earth's surface, destroying small living things and causing an increase skin cancer.

The warming of the ocean can affect the balance in the environment causing erratic weather patterns, typhoons and sea level rise which may affect the livelihood on the outer low islands and atolls. The warmer the climate, the more water vapor the air holds creating more clouds which radiate infrared energy downward thus warming the earth.

The scientists said that the FSM would benefit, in the long run, by a policy which is geared towards safeguarding the environment in its development programs. Although, the activities in the FSM have negligible impact on the environment, if governments can develop strategies to cope with present variabilities and extremes, they are likely

to be better able to respond to future challenges.

They added that there is the danger of a "do nothing" response. It may cost more to rectify if the situation gets more serious, than if the government adopts preventive measures geared towards slowing the sea-level rise in its current planning process.



BUDGET CONFERENCE HELD IN PALIKIR -The 2nd annual budget conference was held in Palikir with participants from the States and FSM Budget Office. Participants were from Pohnpei: Jackson Lebehn, Nick Solomon, Larry Goddard, Akilino Susaia, and Ausen T. Lambert. FSM National Government: Patrick Mackenzie, Joe Tom Walter, Santus Talugmai, Reed G. Nena, Nick Andon, Klasdin Lihpai, Esiri Edward, Rumina Edwin, and Brigida Etger. Kosrae: Alik S. Isaac, Gerson A. Jackson, and Frank Lonno. Chuuk: Frank Choly may, and Krescio Billy. And Yap: Sebastina Anefal and Kensely Ikosia. And from the FSM OPS were National Planner Marcelino Actouka, and Reedson Abraham. The consultant was Tom Bertone.

MCH Service Block Grant for FY 1994

PALIKIR, Pohnpei (FSM INFORMATION SERVICE) - The public is invited to review and comment on the Maternal and Child Health (MCH) Services Block Grant Application for Fiscal Year 1994, specifically with respect to the three project components of (A) Preventive and Primary Care Services for Pregnant Women, Mothers and Infants up to Age One; (B) Preventive and Primary Care Services for Children and Adolescents; and (C) Family-Centered, Community-Based, Coordinated Care and the Development of Community-Based Systems of Care for Children with Special Health Care Needs. Additional information include programs budget information for each of the three components plus an aggregated budget; assurances, i.e., new and existing; annual plan; and FY 1992 MCH Annual Progress Report.

Copies of the MCH Block Grant application are available at the office of the Secretary, Department of Health Services, FSM National Government, Palikir, Pohnpei. The Secretary can be reached at telephone number (691) 320-2619/2643 or Fax (691) 320-5263.

Written comments may be sent to Dr. Eliuel K. Prettrick, Secretary, Department of Health Services. Comments received from any person/s or agency/ies after July 9 will be forwarded directly to the Maternal and Child Health Bureau, U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Rockville, Maryland.

Briefs

Alik presented credence to Israel

FSM Ambassador to Fiji Alik Alik presented his credentials to the President of Israel on June 7, this year. The Ambassador also presented his credentials to the King of Tonga on July 1, 1993.

FSM & Fiji signed immigration agreement

The Governments of Fiji and the FSM on July 14, 1993, entered into an agreement regarding reciprocal immigration treatment of their respective nationals and citizens entering and remaining in either country for three months without visa requirements. Signing for the FSM was Ambassador Alik Alik accompanied by First Secretary Gabriel Ayin and signing for Fiji was the Deputy Prime Minister/Minister for Foreign Affairs and External Trade Felipe Bole.

PINA held 1994 meeting in Fiji

The Pacific Islands News Association (PINA) member countries met in Suva, Fiji in July 1993. The FSM was represented. The 1994 annual meeting will be hosted by Western Samoa. In Fiji, Prime Minister Sitiveni Rabuka opened the Conference at the University of the South Pacific Campus.

Nena opened Education Director's meeting in Kosrae

FSM Vice President Jacob Nena opened in Kosrae, the State Directors of Education's Conference held, August 17 to 19, this year. The Conference discussed a wide range of educational issues, including the issue of Teachers' Training and certification, said Yosiro Suda, Administrator of the Division of Federal, Community and Foreign Assistance Programs.

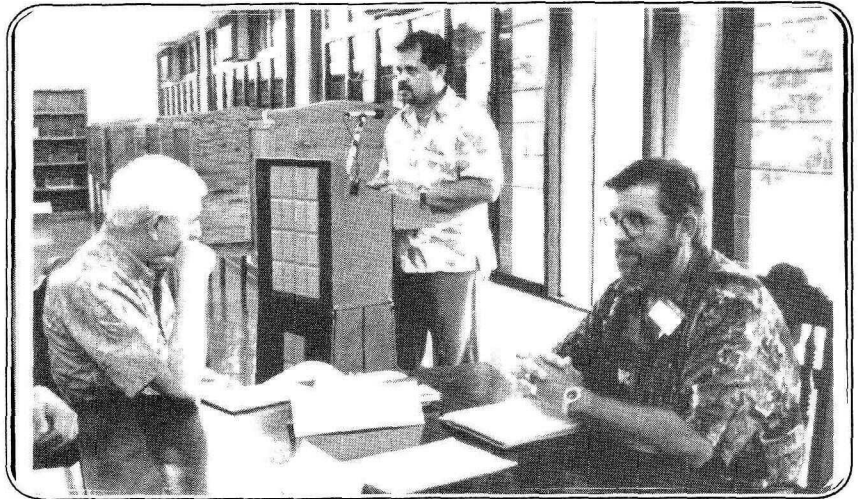
The FSM Government has adopted a policy which require all elementary school teachers to have at least an Associate degree in order to qualify to teach. To achieve this goal, the State and National Governments have initiated training programs to help incumbent teachers who have not met the minimum requirements. These programs are available from the College of Micronesia-FSM and also the University of Guam for courses which are not available at COM-FSM.

The funds for the training of teachers is made available by the U.S. Government, the Congress of the FSM and various State Legislatures.

The Conference was attended by State Directors of Education, the Secretary of the FSM Department of Education and their staff.

FSM signed MOU with OFCF

The FSM Government entered into a Memorandum of Understanding with the Overseas Fisher Cooperation Foundation (OFCF) by the signing of MOU on August 3, 1993. signing on behalf of OFCF was Mr. Adachin on behalf of Mr. Kenichi Unno, the



AVIATION MEETING IN POHNPEI - The annual Aviation Director's Pacific Basin Sub-Regional Workshop met in Pohnpei, August 4-5, 1993, with welcoming remarks by Robert Weilbacher, Secretary of Transportation and Communication and opening remarks by Donald Ahern, Consul, American Embassy, FSM. Participants were from the FAA in U.S., Hawaii and Guam; Marshall Islands; Mariana Islands; Guam Airport Authority; Palau; American Samoa; Department of Transportation and Communication, FSM National Government; and Airport Managers and officials in charge of airports and Civil Aviation in Chuuk, Kosrae, Pohnpei and Yap States.

OFCF President and on behalf of the FSM was the Deputy Secretary of External Affairs, the Honorable John A. Mangefel for Secretary of External Affairs, the Honorable Resio S. Moses.

The objective of the project is to recondition fisheries-related facilities as described in the Implementation Plan with emphasis on repairing and restore those fisheries related facilities for use in the development of fisheries. The project is expected to last until March 31, 1994. According to the MOU, OFCF is expected to provide all the technical and logistical assistance necessary to the FSM Government providing needed funds and the location, among other things to facilitate the execution of the project.

Pretrick as guest speaker at Youth Conference in Kosrae

The Secretary of Health Services, Dr. Eliuel K. Pretrick, was guest Speaker at a conference of the Youths of Kosrae, according to the Department of Health Services.

A wide variety of topics were addressed including drug and alcohol problems among young people, balanced diets and women's role in society.

Pretrick, from there, went to Honolulu to attend the Conference of the Pacific Islands Health Officers Association (PIHOA) sponsored by Hawaii's Health Department. The Conference include the Directors of Health from the four FSM States, the Republic of Palau, Guam, the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, the Republic of the Marshall Islands, and the State of Hawaii.

The Conference visited various health service providers including the Trippler Army Hospital and discussed patient referral matters. Training of medical personnel to improve their services was an item also discussed at the Conference.

Lost and found in Chuuk

Two men who were reported lost on their way to Weno from Onoun Island were spotted after about five days adrift some 135 miles from land.

They were rescued July 26, 1993. Their boat was towed by Yasuo Patis, an agent of the Pacific Air, to Onoun in the Halls Islands, according to a report from Pacific Air pilot Brian M. Caldwell.

After landing on Onoun Island they were served several drinking coconuts which helped rejuvenate them. One of the men returned to Weno on that day's flight, while the other remained with their boat awaiting the field trip ship.

Caldwell gave credit to the seven passengers for spotting the boat.

Caroline Pacific Air, Inc., (CPA) an FSM joint venture company. It has been operating within the past 19 months with two Beech 18 aircraft between the islands of Onoun, Ta and Weno, Chuuk.



BOH DONATED KEY RINGS TO HOSPITAL - The Manager of the Bank of Hawaii in Pohnpei, Christina Michelson (center) presented a number of key rings that glow in the dark, to the Director of Pohnpei State Health Services Damien Sohl (right), witnessed by the Chief Nurse Magdalena Walter (left).

Micronesian officials met in Pohnpei on Alcohol & Drug related problems

PALIKIR, Pohnpei (FSM INFORMATION SERVICE) - An important joint-conference on "alcohol and drug-related problems in Micronesia" began at the FSM Capital August 9th, on the theme: "Substance Abuse Prevention is Essential for the Health and Economic Development of Micronesia," began on the 9th of August, according to the Department of Health Services.

FSM Vice President Jacob Nena in his opening remarks told the Conference participants, "Alcohol abuse is a definite problem that needs attention on our islands." Nena added that statistics show that importation of alcohol in 1992 was 20 percent less than in 1991.

Although FSM has no brewery, per capita expenditure on beer alone by state was as follows: Chuuk \$12.27 per person; Pohnpei \$34.37; Kosrae \$55.31 and Yap \$65.84. These statistics, he added, can show, "this could be a problem." Nena added that given the youthful population bracket, the problem may

become more serious. Thus whatever decision is made in the conference will, "greatly impact the lives," in the FSM. Vice President Nena continued, "While we may all differ in nationality and profession, we are united together in our desire to overcome substance abuse through education and action. Substance abuse affects all on many levels. It threatens the very fabric of our cultures and the individuals in our society. There are no national boundaries for substance abuse and that is why we are gathered here from all parts of the globe. This problem touches everyone, and it is only together, through the exchange of our knowledge and experience, that we can all triumph in this struggle."

Nena concluded by saying that much good resulted from the previous conference held in Koror, Palau, in 1989, and that the Conference will produce the, "... same or better results...." With better knowledge of the problems of drug abuse, "together, we can eradicate this

problem from our lives."

The Conference was jointly sponsored by the FSM and World Health Organization (WHO) which examined such issues as drug use; identification and management of alcohol problems in primary health care; the global situation on alcohol and drug abuse and WHO programs; substance abuse medical and health education in the Pacific; the results of the 1992 to 1993 survey conducted in the FSM on youth risk behavior; a report on drug found in the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands which is called "ice;" a report on alcohol consumption in Palau; and a group discussion and suggestion for future actions by legislators, educators, and health care planners. The Conference concluded with group discussions on how to cooperate among the various jurisdictions in Micronesia.

The five-day conference was chaired by five different chairpersons; beginning on the first day with Dr. Eliuel K. Pretrick, Secretary of the Department of Health Services as chairman; followed by Dr. James Reed, from FSM Health Services; Dr. Gregory Dever, Director, Pacific Basin Medical Officers Training Program in Pohnpei; Heinrich Palik, President of the Organization of FSM Chiefs of Police; and on the last day, by Dr. Marilyn Wingfield, Director of the Mental Health and Drug Abuse Program in Guam.

The participants of the Conference included Health officials and other officials of agencies whose activities are related to drug abuse from the FSM and State Governments; American Samoa; the Republic of Palau; the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands; the Republic of the Marshall Islands; the South Pacific Commission (SPC); Vanuatu; Australia; the United States; Tasmania; the World Health Organization (WHO) Regional Office in Manila; and the Pacific Insular, Regional, Anti-substance Abuse Program (PRAAP).



PEACE CORPS IN THE POHNPEI - Below are the Peace Corps Volunteers in Pohnpei (Micro 60) who were sworn in on August 13, 1993 at the Pohnpei State Training Center in Kolonia. Their services will end in 1995.

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