

"One China Policy" - see Page 3



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FSM and D&A Co. signed consultancy agreement

PALIKIR, Pohnpei (FSM INFORMATION SERVICE) - FSM through External Affairs entered into an agreement with D & A Engineering Company Limited of Japan regarding consultancy services for the project on the improvement of Pohnpei Artisanal Fisheries Support Station. The agreement, signed on May 12, this year, outlined that stipulated services are responsibilities of the respective parties consistent with the Exchange of Notes which was signed earlier.

Among other services, the consultant will be involved in tendering and selecting a contractor for the project. To be consistent with the Exchange of Notes, the contractor has to be a Japanese trading firm with some trading experience in the Pacific, has branch offices or affiliated companies in the Pacific Countries and has enough capacity to construct buildings.

The financing of the project was made possible through a grant totalling up to One Hundred Million Yen, given by Japan to the FSM through an Exchange of Notes signed on March 26, 1993 in Guam. The aggregate cost of the consulting services by D&A Engineering Company is Japanese 9,693,000 Yen.



PRESIDENT SIGNED IMF LAW - President Olter (sitting), on June 16 this year, in the Cabinet Room, signed Congressional Act into Public Law No. 8-3, appropriating \$1,200,000 to provide funding for the payment of the membership quotas and subscriptions of the FSM in the IMF, IBRD, IFC, IIDA, and MIGA. Witnessing the signing were the Secretary and Assistant Secretary of the Department of Finance Aloysius Tuuth and Ihlen Joseph respectively.

FSM gained Membership in IMF

PALIKIR, Pohnpei (FSM INFORMATION SERVICE) - President Olter received on June 25, this year, an official communication from the Ambassador of the FSM to the United States of America Jesse Marehalau that the FSM have joined the International Monetary Fund (IMF) and World Bank, June 25, 1993, in the FSM, and June 24, 1993 in Washington, D.C., when Secretary

Aloysius Tuuth signed, the IMF's Articles of Agreement and the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development's (IBRD) Articles of Agreement in Washington D.C.

The FSM became the 176th member of the IBRD, which is the World Bank Group's main lending arm that provides loans at market rates to member coun-

(Continued on Page 2)

Nena heads FSM delegation to Human Rights Conference

PALIKIR, Pohnpei (FSM INFORMATION SERVICE) - A delegation headed by Vice President Jacob Nena attended the United Nations Conference on Human Rights in Vienna, Austria, June 14 to 25, this year.

Other members of the delegation were Yosiwo P. George, FSM Ambassador and Permanent Representative to the UN; Leo A. Falcam, Senator, FSM Congress; Mathias Maradol, First Secretary, Permanent Mission of FSM to the United Nations.

President Olter, on June 4, 1993, sent a letter to the UN Secretary General, His Excellency Dr. Boutros Boutros-Ghali informing him of the FSM Government's intention to participate in the UN's Conference on Human Rights.

The President requested that the FSM delegation be accredited to participate in the conference.

Gallen to represent FSM to Uncitral Symposium

PALIKIR, Pohnpei (FSM INFORMATION SERVICE) - FSM Attorney General Camilo Noket last April, recommended to the United Nations Office of Legal Affairs in Austria that Jose Gallen represent the FSM at the 5th Uncitral Symposium on International Trade Law to be held in Vienna.

Gallen currently heads the Division of International Law in the Attorney General's Office, has previously served in the office of FSM's Ambassador to the United Nations at which time he was accredited to represent the FSM in all of the Main Committees of the UN General Assembly and the principal organs, recommended Noket.

Gallen also advises the FSM Government on its international bilateral and multilateral negotiations. His participation in the symposium will broaden his knowledge of the international trade law, Noket concluded.

FSM and Guatemala established diplomatic relations

PALIKIR, Pohnpei (FSM INFORMATION SERVICE) - The Department of External Affairs announced the establishment of diplomatic relations between the Federated States of Micronesia and the Republic of Guatemala, in order to ensure friendly and cooperative relations.

The establishment of diplomatic relations between the two countries is in accordance with the purposes and principles of the United Nations Charter and with reference to relevant provisions of the Vienna Convention on Diplomatic Relations.

The signing of the letters of agreement took place on May 13, 1993, in New York between His Excellency Yosiwo P. George, Permanent Representative of the FSM to the United Nations, signing on behalf of the FSM, and His Excellency Julio Armando Martini Herera, Permanent Representative of Guatemala to the United Nations signing on behalf of Guatemala. Guatemala is the 36th country with which the FSM has diplomatic relations.

Guatemala is a country in Central America, located directly North of El Salvador and West of Honduras. Its population is little over nine million, has an annual growth rate of 2.6 percent and is predominantly Roman Catholic.

Guatemala became independent on September 15, 1821, from Spain, thus, Spanish is the main language. Agriculture is the mainstay of Guatemala's economy, accounting for 25 percent of its Gross Domestic Product (GDP), employing 60 percent of its labor force and supplies two-thirds of its exports.

Olter emphasized to the FSM States to reiterate the "One China Policy"

PALIKIR, Pohnpei (FSM INFORMATION SERVICE) - FSM has established diplomatic relations with 36 countries since achieving independent status, most recently relation with Guatemala. Embassies with residence in the FSM are Australia, the People's Republic of China, the Republic of the Philippines and the United States of America. The Philippine Embassy was closed on the 30th of June 1993, according to the External Affairs.

In that context, the FSM officially recognizes and deals diplomatically with the Government of the Peoples Republic of China (PRC).

FSM President Bailey Olter wrote to the FSM State Governors a letter dated April 16, 1993, reiterating the "One China Policy" of the FSM which recognizes Beijing as the legitimate Government of China. The President's letter was prompted by the recent visits of State officials to Taiwan which gives the appearance of official relations and dialogues between FSM States and Taiwan authorities, even when such dialogues are fronted by businesses in Taiwan, over which China's Resident

Ambassador has expressed his country's disapproval. Such "official contacts" as direct communications, visits of officials, agreements between officials, among other things are considered within the diplomatic arena and should be handled in an appropriated manner.

Olter, however, said that the "One China Policy" is flexible to the extent that commercial and unofficial contacts are possible and encouraged. "I urge that our contacts and relations with Taiwan are maintained within the scope of our diplomatic relations with the People's Republic of China." Olter stated that because it may be difficult at times to clearly distinguish what may be politically motivated, "I strongly urge that we consult when such cases arise." Adding that Taiwan can be an excellent source for investment and business partnerships in the FSM, he urged for increased cooperation, but all should be maintained within the framework of FSM's diplomatic relations with PRC.

Copies of the Presidents letter were sent to the Congress Speaker, State Speaker, and the President of the Chuuk State Senate.

A Task Force comprised of nurse representative

PALIKIR, Pohnpei (FSM INFORMATION SERVICE) - The nurses of the FSM for the past ten years, have been formulating legislation aimed at regulating the nursing profession. From 1992 to 1993, a Task Force comprised of nurse representatives from each of the states of the FSM drafted the legislation that is being presented to the members of the National Congress at the present time.

The nursing profession is the largest health profession in the FSM. Currently, there are several types of nurses, each with different educational preparation, functioning in the health care system of the country: graduate nurses who have prepared through college education; practical nurses who have prepared through established hospital-based programs; registered nurses who have prepared through college education and are licensed in another jurisdiction, such as the United States; and advanced practice nurses, such as nurse midwives or nurse practitioners. In 1989, the Government estimated that the number of graduate nurses in the FSM totalled 112 and the number of practical nurses totalled 108. Thus, in 1989, there were roughly 220 nurses in the FSM. These numbers have no doubt increased.

All nurses are currently licensed under the Medical Health Care Licensing Act of 1986, Chapter 2, Title 41. This Act established a Medical Health Care Licensing Board to issue licenses for health professionals in the FSM and to promulgate regulations on health professions. In 1987, under Public Law No. 5-21, the Board established in the Medical Health Care Licensing Act was re-defined as the Secretary of the Department of Health Services. Thus, all health care licenses are now issued by the Secretary of the Department of Health Services.

The current system of licensure has resulted in nurses being licensed in the FSM, particularly nurses from foreign jurisdictions, without meeting minimum standards of proper nursing practice. In addition, to date no regulations on any health professions have been promulgated by the Medical Health Care Licensing Board.

The proposed Nursing Practice Act would lift the nursing profession out from under the current licensing and regulatory scheme and establish a separate Board of Nursing to license and regulate the profession. While a Special Advisory Council on Nursing

("Council") could be created under the current Medical Health Care Licensing Act of 1986, Section 204 (2), this Council is not the same as the Board of Nursing proposed under the Nursing Practice Act. Under the Medical Health Care Licensing Act of 1986, the Special Advisory Council on Nursing would have only advisory powers and would not be a permanent Council. Nurses see themselves as a distinct profession, with unique issues and concerns demanding the attention of a permanent, specialized Board of Nursing.

The proposed Nursing Practice Act is a peace of national legislation which would regulate the practice of nursing. The Constitution of the Federated States of Micronesia, through a 1990 amendment, vests the National Government with the power, "to promote education and health by setting minimum standards." (Constitution, Article IX, Section 2 (r)). Arguably, this power includes the power to enforce such standards.

While states will adopt these minimum standards, they are also free to create and enforce standards that exceed the minimum standards established by the National Government. However, the Nursing Task Force believes that it is in the National interest of the FSM to have a single standard governing entry into practice for the nursing profession. Separate state standards may prove confusing, and worse yet, may actually restrict nurses from working freely among the states. Nurses wanting to practice in one state may not meet the entry standards established by that state. Although states can certainly control the practice of nursing within their boundaries, the flow of nurses seeking work from state to state is arguably of "indisputable national character" as set out in the Constitution of the Federated States of Micronesia, Article VIII. Much like interstate commerce, the flow of nurses seeking work between the states is in the national interest. Thus, the Nursing Task Force believes that, at the very least, regulations governing how a nurse can enter practice in the FSM should be under national control and one, unified standard should be established.

Under the proposed Act as currently drafted, states are well-represented on the Nursing Board. Four-fifths of the Board consists of members representing the states. In addition, the Nursing Task Force that

drafted the Nursing Practice Act and the regulations that will be issued pursuant to the Act consisted of three members of each state. Thus, the states were assured maximum input in determining how the practice of nursing in the FSM should be regulated.

The Nursing Practice Act is a means of regulating the practice, educational preparation and title use for nurses in the FSM. The main purpose of the Act is "...to promote, preserve and protect the public's health, safety and welfare by regulating the practice of and educational preparation and title use for the nursing profession..." (Section 902). The Act will establish a Board of Nursing to regulate the nursing profession (Section 904). The Nursing Board will be housed in the Department of Health Services and is therefore funded by the National Government. The Board comprises five members, including graduate nurses from each state who are FSM citizens and one member representing the National Government (Section 904). The members from each state will be recommended by their respective governor to the President of the FSM, who will appoint them. The national member will be recommended by the Secretary of the Department of Health Services and appointed by the President. The members will serve three year terms, except that initial Board members will have staggered terms decided by lot. No Board member will serve more than two consecutive terms. Board members are immune from civil suits and indemnified for their actions in their role as Board members (Sections 922 and 913).

The Board will be vested with certain powers under the Act (Section 914). These powers include: a) the power to establish and enforce minimum requirements to enter into the practice of nursing in the FSM; b) the power to develop and enforce minimum standards for nursing practice and education, including requirements for continuing education; c) the power to license nurses and renew licenses; d) the power to promulgate regulations and issue guidelines on the practice or education of nurses; e) the power to implement a disciplinary process, including instituting fines and to restrict practice or limit the license of individuals determined by the Board to be a risk to the public's health, safety or welfare; f) the power to impose and

(Continued on Page 5)

from each of the States put together Nurse Act

(Continued from Page 4)

collect reasonable fees; g) the power to assemble and remunerate ad hoc committees or an individual to advise the Board when necessary; and h) the power to grant prescriptive authority to advanced practice nurses, such as nurse practitioners, if the advanced practice nurse is properly licensed and working under a collaborative agreement and protocol with a licensed physician.

The Board will establish minimum standards for the practice and education of nursing through regulations promulgated pursuant to the Act. The Board will have the power to enforce the standards, going to court if necessary [Section 914. (i)].

The Board will regulate how a nurse enters into practice by requiring an applicant to formally apply to the Board for a license and having the Board favorably review necessary documents (proof of education and training, proof of an existing current license to practice nursing in another jurisdiction, and proof of good character, for example). The regulations will condense the category of nurses to registered nurses (which will now include graduate and practical nurses).

Nurses in a field of advanced practice, such as nurse midwives, nurse practitioners, or nurse anesthetists must present proof of licensure as registered nurses and certification for advanced practice from another jurisdiction. In addition, advanced practice nurses must provide to the Board a letter signifying an agreed arrangement with a collaborating physician and health care institution in the FSM.

Under certain circumstances the Board may discipline a health institution, defined in the Act as "any health agency, organization, hospital, or clinical facility, private or public, employing nurses or providing a site for clinical training of nursing students" (Section 903). Institutions have an obligation to report violations of the Act to the Board of Nursing (Section 920). If they do not, and the Board becomes aware of it, the Board may impose a fine not exceed \$1000 on the institution. Institutions employing nurses also have an obligation not to compel nurses to practice beyond their scope of education and training. The maximum fine per violation for an institution will be \$1,000. The Board is not obligated to impose disciplinary action, but may do so in its discretion.

The Board may also discipline licensees

under the Act (Section 918) for failing to maintain the minimum standards established in the Act, engaging in unprofessional conduct as described in regulations, or otherwise violating the Act.

The Act incorporates the FSM Administrative Procedures, found in Chapter 1, Title 17 of the FSM Code. Chapter 1, Title 17, establishes the mechanisms for an agency such as the Nursing Board to make regulations and to impose disciplinary actions. Chapter 1, Title 17, also establishes hearing requirements for persons aggrieved by the Board's actions. Even after the hearing, an individual can appeal to the Supreme Court of the FSM, which can compel the Nursing Board (or any other agency) to correct its actions under certain circumstances. The Nursing Practice Act amends the Administrative Procedures to require that disciplinary hearings be closed to the public unless the petitioner requests in writing that the hearings be open to the public (Sec. 915).

One of the main concerns of the Nursing Board will be to establish minimum standards for nursing practice. The minimum standards will be stated in regulations promulgated pursuant to the Act. In the minimum standards it will establish, the Board will require that nurses practice only within

the boundaries of their education and training. In addition, the Board is empowered to set standards for continuing education requirements for nurses as a condition for license renewal [Section 915, (f)].

Several actions are exempt from the proposed Nursing Practice Act (Section 923). These include: a) the practice of nursing that is an integral part of a nursing education program, provided that nursing students are supervised; b) the rendering of assistance by anyone in the case of an emergency or disaster; c) the incidental care of the sick by member of the family, friends, domestic helpers or persons primarily employed as housekeepers, provided that such care does not constitute the practice of nursing within the meaning of this Act; d) the practice of spiritual healing in accordance with religious beliefs; e) the practice of any other occupation or profession licensed under the laws of the FSM, provided that the practice does not constitute the practice of nursing within the meaning of this Act; f) the practice of traditional healing arts as customarily employed by citizens of the FSM; and g) nurses who are employed outside of the FSM who enter the FSM to provide temporary nursing care to a patient during transport into or out of the FSM.



NURSE ACT TASK FORCE - The Task Force which put together the Nurse Act had a photo session in front of the Congress Chamber with the Secretary of the Department of Human Resources Dr. Eliuel Pretrick, and the Task Force's consultant.

President Olter told the 1993 graduating class that they are the future of their families of Pohnpei

PALIKIR, Pohnpei (FSM INFORMATION SERVICE) - President Bailey Olter, on June 2nd this year, addressed the 225 graduates of the class of 1993 at the Pohnpei Island Central School (PICS).

President Olter expressed his deep appreciation for the invitation to address the graduates. Olter recalled briefly the history of what is known as PICS or Pohnpei Island Central School. It began in 1946 and evolved from the Pacific Islands Teacher Training School (PITTS) (Truk) Chuuk where he was once a student to today's PICS in Pohnpei.

Olter referred to a famous quotation which says that it is not important where you are, but where you are going. He said that they, the graduates, are the future of their families of Pohnpei, of the FSM and of the world; they must shape the future which is now open to them. They must apply themselves, and be contributors in whatever their endeavors. They should put a smile on their faces, take the challenges head-on and not shy away. But they must be aware of the problems.

President Olter congratulated the State officials for their resolve to enroll all the graduating eighth graders at PICS next school year. He said that this is a commendable policy, adding that quality of education must be kept as a priority. "Knowledge," he said, will set you free. The future of this Nation depends on you, "You are it," concluded His Excellency Bailey Olter.

In his Valedictorian speech, James Poll reminded his fellow graduates that they entered PICS four years ago as school children. But now they are graduating as adults. Having learned much during their four years, has prepared them to venture into the various walks of life that await them. "We," he said, "have overcome the problems of high school life and must make our dreams a reality."

In her Salutatory speech, MaryJane Mora said that the world is waiting for them. They must work hard and persevere. She advised her fellow graduates that they must set goals and then they



PICS GRADUATION 1993 - President Olter, on June 2nd, addressed the 225 graduates of the class of 1993 at the Pohnpei Island Central School (PICS). The President told the graduates, they are the future of their families of Pohnpei.

must take actions to make their dreams come true. By carefully attending to the small details, she continued, the big ones will take care of themselves. However, she said that their true successes will only be measured by how "we help our people," she concluded by saying PICS will be remembered.

PICS Principal Ewalt Joseph made the presentation of graduates while the Director of the Pohnpei Department of Education Daro Weital accepted the graduates. Their diplomas were presented to them by the Lt. Governor of Pohnpei State, the Honorable Victor Edwin.

Of the 225 students, the top 10 students with a grade point average of 3.5 or above included seven students majoring in academic subjects, two in business and one in agriculture.

Twenty special certificates were also awarded; included were seven in agriculture, six in business, five in academic studies, one in mechanic and one in trade and industries.

Other distinguished guests attending the graduation ceremony included Pohnpei Legislature Speaker, the Honorable Kasiano Joseph, Senator Annes Lebehn, Deacon Etwel Pelep who gave the Invocation, Rev. Salter Etse who gave the Benediction, the parents of the graduates, the faculty, and friends of the 1993 graduating class.

11 completed CHA training with PBMOTP

PALIKIR, Pohnpei (FSM INFORMATION SERVICE) - The first ever Community Health Assistant Training Program in Pohnpei was held at the Medical Officer School campus on May 7, this year which marks a significant event in the history of Pohnpei State Department of Health Services, according to a release from the Pacific Basin Medical Officers Training Program (PBMOTP).

The graduates of the program spent nine months participating in an intensive and comprehensive program to prepare them to be providers of primary health care services in the scattered dispensaries throughout Pohnpei Island, and on the state's outer atolls of Pingelap, Mwoakilloa, Sapwuahfik, Nukuoro, and Kapingamarangi.

The trainees were taking written, oral, and practical final examinations in the areas of primary health care, community health, maternal and child health, emergency medicine and first aid, and dispensary administration/management.

The training efforts have been supported by a \$38,000 Pacific Health Initiative Grant from the Public Health Services of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services. The 1991 grant proposal was a collaborative effort of the FSM Department of Health Services, the Pohnpei State Department of Health Services, and the PBMOTP of the John A. Burns School of Medicine of the University of Hawaii.

The trainees, representing all of the municipalities in Pohnpei State, were selected early 1992 from among more than 100 applicants to the program. Selections were based upon previous work performance evaluation, academic background, the application documents, and interviews.

Training activities included classroom instruction and community outreach work provided by the Fifth Year PBMOTP students, and supervised "hands-on" skill development at the Pohnpei State health clinics, the Kolonia Community Health Center, and various outreach clinics operated by the PBMOTP, called the "Clinics Without Walls." Trainees also traveled to

(See CHA, Page 7)

(Continued from Page 6)

Pingelap for the outer island health dispensaries.

Since the operation of a well run health care delivery facility involves more than just the actual provision of treatment to patients, trainees studied the functioning of all of the support services such as medical records, x-rays, laboratory, pharmacy, medical supply, and administration. Students also undertook rotations in dental health and environmental sanitation.

The CHA trainees who graduated are: Monalisa Benjamin from U Municipality; Amanda John from Nett; Hosan Ernest and Delihda Isaac from Pingelap; Yoster George and Boya Maruame from Kapingamarangi; Marciano Edmund and Kehn Albert from Mwoakilloa; Drusihla Frank from Kolonia; Luther Silbanuz from Madolenihmw; and Agatha Anthon from Kittu.

It is expected that most of the Community Health Assistant Graduates will begin work in the State's dispensary system by the end of the year. Fifth Year students of PBMOTP will continue to work with the CHA's to provide continuing educational support and to monitor their on-the-job performance.

Officials from Australia and China to visit FSM

A Parliamentary Delegation from the Government of Australia will visit the FSM, July 9 through 11 this year. The delegation will be headed by Mr. Les Scott and three other members of Parliament and a secretary, according to a release from the Department of External Affairs.

The purpose of the visit is to develop cordial relations with the FSM Congress, observe the conduct of political affairs and operation of the Congress, explore ways by which Australian Parliament can assist the FSM Congress, investigate opportunities for promoting closer relationship between the FSM and Australia in regional cooperation, assess the commercial investment climate, examine the impact of environmental problems in the region, and to observe the operation of Australian Aid Program in the FSM.

The delegation is desirous to pay courtesy calls on FSM President Bailey Olter, Speaker of Congress Jack Fritz, Governor Johnny David, Pohnpei State and other government officials.

The FSM Officials are making arrangements for a boat ride to Nandauas and Kepirohi Waterfall for the delegation in addition to lunches and dinner receptions. In another related activity, A high level delegation of the People's Republic of China's is scheduled to visit the FSM from August 7-10, 1993, according to the Department of External Affairs release.

The eleven member delegation will be headed by His Excellency Luo Gan, State Councillor and Secretary General of the State Council. 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.

Details of their visit are being discussed between the Department of External Affairs Officials and the Resident Ambassador of the People's Republic of China.

PALIKIR, Pohnpei (FSM INFORMATION SERVICE)- President Olter on May 21 this year, addressed the 1993 graduates of Microneisian Occupational Center in Palau.

President Olter's delegation include Wilton Mackwelung, FSM Consul General on Guam and Henry Stephen, a Pohnpeian staff of Guam's Pacific Data Company, who joined the Presidential Party from Guam to provide media coverage of the trip.

Fifty six students graduated this year include 12 from the Republic of the Marshall Islands; 3 from Kosrae State; six Pohnpei State; 7 from Chuuk State; 5 from Yap State of the FSM and 23 from the Republic of Palau. Three students from Palau received their Associate of Arts (AA) Degrees; receiving their Associate of Science (AS) Degrees were five Palauan, one Chuukese and two Pohnpeian and forty-five students received their Certificates of Achievements (CA), among them were 12 Marshalllese; 21 FSM and 23 students from Palau, as reported by the College Central Office in Pohnpei.

The graduates were awarded Associate of Arts (AA) Degrees in the fields of Liberal Arts and Associate of Science

(AS) Degrees in Electrical Technology; Political Science; and Business Education. Certificates of Achievement (CA) were awarded to those who successfully completed their studies in Electrical Technology; General Office Clerk; Small Engine and Outboard Motor; Agricultural Science; Air Conditioning and Refrigeration; Appliance Repair; Automotive Mechanic Technology; Clothing Construction and Design; Business Accounting; Food Service; General Electronics Technology; Heavy Equipment & Diesel Mechanics; Occupational Home Economics and Police Science.

College of Micronesia-Palau was formerly known as the Micronesian Occupational Center (MOC). This year's graduation exercises would be the first to be held since the restructuring of the College of Micronesia System which now grants autonomous control over its campus located in each hosting country.

New Copra Price for grades one to three

PALIKIR, Pohnpei (FSM INFORMATION SERVICE) - A new set of prices for grade one to grade three for copra purchased in the FSM will take effect on July 4, 1993. This information is contained in a letter from the Manager of the Coconut Development Authority (CDA), Namio O. Nanpei, to President Bailey Olter, dated June 14, 1993.

The new prices will be as follows: for grade one, it will be 10 cents per pound or \$200 per ton; for grade two, will be 9 and-a-half cents per pound or \$190 per ton; and for grade three, it will be 9 cents per pound or \$180 per ton.

Nanpei explained that the decision to change the copra price was made by the FSM CDA Board of Directors after careful review of the current international prices and available copra stabilization funds. He also requested President Olter that information on this new set of copra prices take effect July 4th this year be widely disseminated to all copra producers in the FSM.

22 young FSM citizens took Oath to join U.S. Arm Forces

PALIKIR, Pohnpei (FSM INFORMATION SERVICE) - More young men and women from the FSM were inducted the U.S. Armed Forces, May 21, this year, with a solemn ceremony held at the United States of America Embassy in Pohnpei, where 22 young men and women from the FSM took their Enlistment Oath administered by Lt. Col. Donald E. Ahren, retired, United States Air Force, according to U.S. Embassy release.

In welcoming the distinguished guests which includes the parents and friends of the enlistees, Her Excellency Aurelia E. Brazeal, the United States Ambassador to the Federated States of Micronesia

said that the occasion substantiated the U.S. and FSM relationships, and both nations have rededicated themselves to the protection of "our shared values." Democratic standards to which the FSM and the United States subscribe remain the best guide for both nation's citizens during this period of profound change and uncertainty that began with the end of the cold war.

"To quote our Secretary of State, Mr. Christopher," said the Ambassador, she stated, "By defining the rights of individual, wherever he or she may be, Americans reaffirm our own freedom. By supporting young democracies worldwide, we strengthen the world's

oldest democracy — our own democracy in the United States.' Those of you who join the armed forces of the U.S. today join with us in defending democracy and human rights. And you strengthen the FSM'S democratic system."

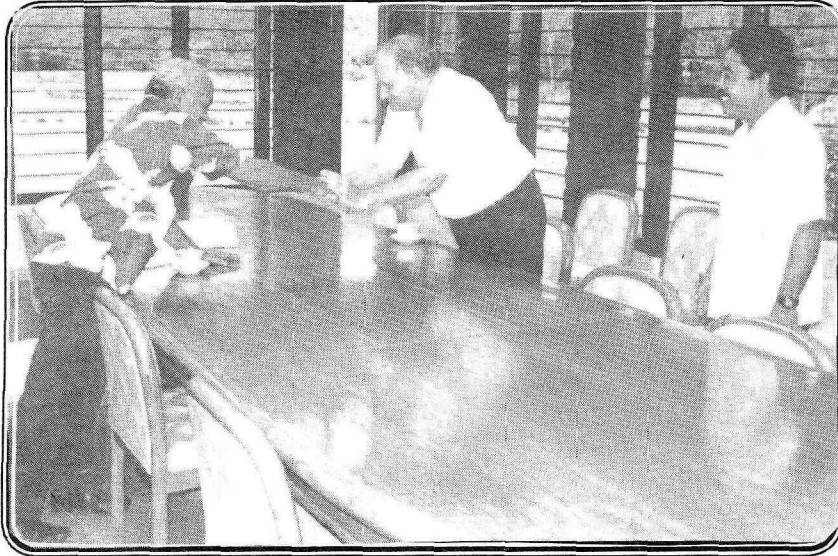
"It is fitting that this ceremony take place in the month of May," she said, adding, "President Clinton recently signed an official proclamation declaring this month as (the National Asian-Pacific American Heritage Month)." The contributions of the Pacific Americans have immeasurably enriched our great nation the Ambassador said.

"You, citizens of the FSM who choose to serve in the U.S. Military also enrich the United States. You will join the Forces which remain the national security of the FSM, as well as the United States. You have worked hard, you have chosen to serve, and you have earned your praise. Your commitment makes you nation-builders. I call on you to view your choice as a rite of passage, as a key to an open chest containing unlimited knowledge and educational opportunities," Ambassador Brazeal said.

Joining the U.S. Army were Manuel Yoma, Harbert Tom, Richard Peter, Poncy Welbert, Hainrick Panuelo, Sinter Alexander, Justino Buniag, Steveick Joseph, Martin Hallens, Danally Daniel, Mermuidy Ioanis, Pauline Edmund, MaryJane Mora and Shelly Lebehn, from Pohnpei; Ralph Waathan, Andrew Waathan and Mafel John from Yap; and Bailey Kephas, Randus Johnathan and Nixion Kephas from Kosrae.

Joining the U.S. Air Force are Nepolion Donre and Thaxton Hainrick of Pohnpei.

The enlistees who have taken their oath will be leaving their home islands to the various bases within the U.S. to begin their trainings in the fields for which they have applied starting from July 30, 1993, according to an Embassy official.



HARTUV BID FAREWELL TO FSM - Ambassador of Israel Ilan Hartuv, and his wife visited the FSM capital before returning to their home in Israel upon the Ambassador's retirement from Government Service. The Ambassador and his wife visited the Nett Cultural Center for cultural shows and were guests of honors at a dinner reception hosted by the Acting Secretary of External Affairs John Mangefel. The Ambassador paid courtesy calls on President Olter; Mangefel; Secretaries of the Departments of Resources and Development, and Health Services, Asterio Takesy and Dr. Eliuel K. Pretrick respectively. He also called on Governor Johnny David, Dean of the Diplomatic Corp and U.S. Ambassadors to the FSM, Aurelia E. Brazeal, and Ambassadors to the FSM from China, Li Qinping; and Australia, Peter Stanford. On the left is the President shaking hands with the Ambassador (right) with Intergovernmental and Chief of Protocol Ieske Iehsi looking on during the call on the President.

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