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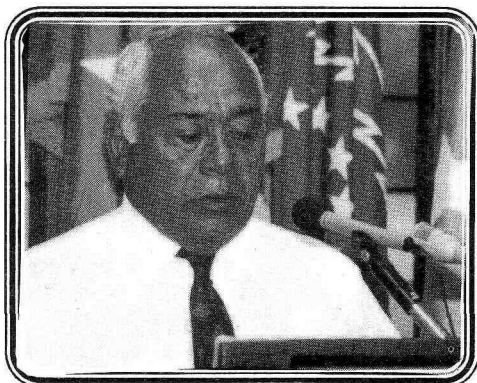
## *President Olter sends Yuletide Message*

PALIKIR, Pohnpei (FSM INFORMATION SERVICE) - The President of the Federated States of Micronesia, his Excellency Bailey Olter, on December 22, 1994, delivered his Christmas Message from his cabinet room in Palikir. His Message was broadcast live throughout the FSM. The following is the full text of the President's Christmas Message.

"The Vice President, his family and employees of the National Government join me and my family in wishing all citizens of the Federated States of Micronesia a very Merry Christmas and Happy New Year. We hope that

a new goal for ourselves. And most importantly, a time to celebrate the birth of Jesus Christ.

"Christmas should also be a special time for our nation, we must learn the lessons of Christmas: the joy of giving and the importance of peace. We shall look forward to the challenges of the future which I believe we can find a measure of comfort and strength in the progress we have made in maintaining



*X-MAS MESSAGE-Above is President Bailey Olter delivering his Christmas message in the Cabinet room.*

peace and harmony at home and in projecting a strong and stable image abroad. This is made possible because of your strong commitment to our nation. We shall dedicate our-

the new year will bring all of you greater security, happiness, good health, and prosperity.

"Christmas is a special time of the year for gathering, to bring joy, peace and hope to our family, relatives, friends, and in a larger sense, to our communities. It is a time for giving and receiving, a time to reach out and help those in need and pray that the Lord touches their hearts and bless them with the spirit of the seasons, a time of joyful celebrations, promise of hope and peace and a time to reflect on the past and set

selves to face the challenges that lie ahead of us with the same determination as we had faced challenges of the past

"As we begin 1995, let us all join together in the best spirit of cooperation and determination so that the foundation we lay for our emerging nation will be strong, rewarding, and enduring. It is most appropriate that during this holiday season we give careful thought to the future.

"Again, a very Merry Christmas and Happy New Year to all."

## **CFSM adjourned 2nd Special Session**

PALIKIR, Pohnpei (FSM INFORMATION SERVICE) - Congress adjourned its 2nd Special Session called to confirm the nomination of the Director of National Elections and the national Election Commissioner for Pohnpei State and to pass the supplemental budgets for the national government, according to a release from Congress.

Congress confirmed Max Melarme as Director of National Elections, a nomination which came after the initial nominee, Samson Alpet, who declined to accept the post after confirmation by Congress due to technical and personal reasons.

Congress adopted a resolution withdrawn from the J&GO Committee and placed on Resolution Calendar for action. The resolution is for the nomination of Andon Amaraich to the position of Chief Justice of the FSM Supreme Court. Amaraich has been serving for the past years in the capacity of Acting Chief Justice. The release went on to say that among the qualifications mentioned in support of the nomination, senators said that he was not only a prominent leader in the FSM, but he was very instrumental in the negotiation of the Compact of Free Association between the FSM and the United States. His qualifications for the position are further strengthened by his close affiliation with the Supreme Court over the past several years. Amaraich now has the distinction of being the first FSM citizen to assume the position of Chief Justice of the FSM Supreme Court.

Congress also passed a bill that redefined the employees' dependent un-

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der the National Employee's Health Insurance Plan, allowing for a broader definition, enabling more members of an employee's family to be eligible for coverage under the Plan. It also made the Plan optional for national government employees rather than mandatory.

Another bill passed calls for an appropriation to reimburse the U.S. Department of Education for some specific funds given twice to the College of Micronesia.

In another area, election for the members of the next FSM Congress, the 9th Congress, will be in March 1995 and the 9th Congress will convene in May. A recent amendment to the election law took away the authority of the national election commissioners to designate special polling places within and outside the FSM. Voters who are outside their polling places will have to request absentee ballots in order to cast their votes in this coming (March 1995) election.

Also the 8th FSM Congress, before adjourning its 4th Regular Session on Nov. 9, 1994, enacted 25 pieces of legislation and adopted 16 resolutions, according to Special Assistant for Legislative Affairs Tony Otto.

#### **BILLS PASSED:**

C.B No. 8-146 - a proposed amendment to sections 8 and 11 of Article IX of the FSM Constitution to provide that all members of Congress shall be elected for 4-year terms.

C.B No. 8-207 - further amend Title 55 of the FSM Code to establish a Foreign Assistance Fund as authorized by Article XII, section 1 (b) of the Constitution.

C.B No. 8-275 - reducing members of the Board of Directors of the FSM Airline Corporation from seven to five. All members are appointed by the President and approved by the Congress.

C.B No. 8-281 - appropriating \$2,930,000 for educational needs in the States. Use of funds for travel and for the purchase of vehicles is prohibited.

C.B. No. 8-285 - changing the allottee of certain funds previously appropriated for Chuuk.

C.B No. 8-287 - appropriating \$1,080,000 for public health programs in the States.

C.B No. 8-290 - further specifying the apportionment of certain funds previously appropriated for school needs in the FSM and designating the allottees.

C.B No. 8-291 - appropriating \$158,000 for the nation wide Housing and Population Census.

C.B No. 8-292 - appropriating \$47,110 to pay costs in connection with the Energy Conference and the Fuel Contract Negotiations.

C.B No. 8-293 - authorizing the FSM to subscribe to 71 additional shares in the Asian Development Bank; \$12,064 is to pay for one of these shares, and \$844,445, is authorized for payment of the remaining 70 shares.

C.B No. 8-294 - appropriating \$380,000, to support the needs and programs of tourism entities in the FSM; with a breakdown as follows: National Government, \$80,000, and each of the four states \$75,000.

C.B No. 8-297 - appropriating \$14,000, to reimburse the Chuuk Congressional Office for handling and wharfage of the boats provided pursuant to the Japanese Access Agreement between the MMA and Japan.

C.B No. 8-314 - further amending P.L. 7-24, as amended, to modify the uses of funds previously appropriated for Pohnpei's public projects.

C.B No. 8-316 - appropriating \$550,000 for funding of programs in Chuuk and Pohnpei.

C.B No. 8-317 - appropriating \$3,050,000 for economic and social development projects in all four states, with a breakdown as follows: FSM Airline Corporation-\$500,000, Chuuk, \$800,000; Pohnpei, \$1.2 million; Yap, \$300,000; and Kosrae, \$250,000.

C.B No. 8-318 - re-appropriating certain lapsed funds under Public Law 7-17 in the amount of \$446,995.

C.B No. 8-320 - re-appropriating certain lapsed funds under Public Law 7-117 in the amount of \$519,400.

C.B No. 8-325 - re-appropriating certain lapsed fund under Public Law 7-96 in the amount of \$251,746.

C.B No. 8-326 - further modifying the uses of funds previously appropriated by P.L. No. 7-96 and changing the allottees.

C.B No. 8-340 - further amending existing laws to change the uses of funds in Chuuk State.

C.B No. 8-341 - modifying the uses of funds previously appropriated for Chuuk State.

C.B No. 8-342 - modifying the uses of funds previously appropriated for Chuuk

State.

C.B. No. 8-344 - amending existing laws to modify the uses of funds in Chuuk State.

C.B No. 8-346 - reallocating funds previously appropriated for Pohnpei State.

C.B No. 8-347 - a proposed Constitutional amendment to allow a state in the FSM, at its option, to add a surtax upon taxes, duties and tariffs based on imports.

#### **RESOLUTIONS ADOPTED:**

C.R No. 8-75 - approving the Grant Application for 1994 State Based Programs to Reduce the Burden of Diabetes in FSM.

C.R No. 8-78 - approving the Maternal and Child Health Program grant application.

C.R No. 8-79 - approving the FSM Childhood Immunization Program grant application.

C.R No. 8-82 - approving the Mental Health Information System grant application.

C.R No. 8-84 - confirming Kenchy James as a member of the Social Security Board.

C.R No. 8-87 - approving Pohnpei Community Health Center grant application.

C.R No. 8-92 - approving the JTPA grant application for 1995.

C.R No. 8-95 - approving a Fishing Agreement between the MMA and the Taiwan Deep Sea Tuna Boatowners and Exporters.

C.R No. 8-97 - confirming the nomination of Ermes Siales as National Government Election Commissioner in the State of Chuuk.

C.R No. 8-100 - confirming the nomination of Fran Defngin as the National Government election commissioner in the State of Yap.

C.R No. 8-101 - confirming the nomination of Kun Olter as National Government election commissioner in Kosrae State.

C.R No. 8-102 - congratulating the Republic of Belau on the occasion of its becoming an independent nation.

C.R No. 8110 - approving the Goals 2000 State and Local Education Systematic Improvement Program proposal.

C.R No. 8-112 - providing that a special session of Congress will be convened at a date and venue to be decided

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## MLFC held its first organizational meeting

PALIKIR, Pohnpei (FSM INFORMATION SERVICE) - Micronesian Longline Fishing Company (MLFC) held its first organizational meeting since stock sales commenced in November. The meeting was held in Kolonia, December 6, 1994. At the meeting the following persons were elected to the Board of Directors: Aloysius Tuuth, Sailas Henry, Bellarmine Helgenberger, Max Malame, Reed Nena, Marstella Jack, and Peter Sitan, CEO of National Fisheries Corporation (NFC). The new Board will meet to choose a Chairman, President, Vice President, Secretary, and Treasurer, according to MLFC.

MLFC will be operating six new longline vessels in FSM built with funds made available by the Asian Development Bank (ADB) loan. The Chief Operating Officer of the Company is Mr. Gerald Russo.

Of the 50,000 voting shares offered, around 10 percent have been sold and applications are being processed for sale of another 20 percent.

There has been considerable interest in purchasing MLFC's 50,000 non-vot-

ing shares by FSM municipalities.

Anyone interested in MLFC stock can obtain information and purchase shares at MLFC and NFC offices in Pohnpei, at Pacific Tuna Industries in Kosrae, at Chuuk Fresh Tuna in Chuuk State, and Yap Fresh Tuna in Yap State.

Common stock is sold exclusively to FSM citizens or FSM government agencies. Stock may be purchased at \$20 per share.

President Bailey Olter informed Acting President of Micronesian Longline Fishing Corporation (MLFC), Peter Sitan, that the prospectus issued for the newly created fishing company was reviewed and was found to be in good order and he approved.

MLFC was created to receive part of the loan the FSM Government obtained from ADB while the rest will be used to improve the administrative functions of the FSM Dept. of R&D.

The law which authorized the borrowing for the MLFC also required MLFC to sell shares of the company to FSM citizens. To do this, the company must have an approved prospectus or description of the company which will be used to publicize MLFC's public offer.

Copies of the President's letter were sent to the Company's Board.

## MLFC offering shares

The Micronesian Longline Fishing Company, Inc. (MLFC), is offering sale of 45,750 Voting Common Shares to the citizens of the FSM beginning November 17, 1994. The cost per share is \$20.00.

MLFC is a private company to be owned by private citizens of the FSM. MLFC is financed by a loan from the Asian Development Bank through the National Government.

For more information on purchasing shares and the MLFC, please contact the following offices in the respective states.

In Pohnpei: Micronesian Longline Fishing Company, Inc., Tel: (691) 320-5632, Fax: (691) 320-4771; or National Fisheries Corporation, 2nd Floor PAMI Building, Kolonia, Tel: (691) 320-2529/5486/5381, Fax: (691) 320-2239.

In Chuuk: Chuuk Fresh Tuna, Inc., Tel: (691) 330-2809, Fax: (691) 330-2808.

In Yap: Yap Fresh Tuna, Inc., Tel: (691) 350-2543, Fax: (691) 350-2544.

In Kosrae: Kosrae Sea Venture, Inc., Tel: (691) 370-2122, Fax: (691) 370-2124.

## WAN charter approved

FSM President Bailey Olter approved a Charter for a non-profit women's organization called the FSM Women Association Network (FSM-WAN) upon the recommendation of the FSM Department of Resources and Development. The Charter was signed by President Olter on Nov. 16, 1994. The Corporation is wholly owned by FSM citizens and it is established for non-profit purposes.

## Chuuk and FSM Government officials meet

PALIKIR, Pohnpei (FSM INFORMATION SERVICE) - An Official Delegation headed by Chuuk Governor Sasao Goulam met with FSM President Bailey Olter, Vice President Jacob Nena and cabinet members on Tuesday, November 29, 1994, in the President's Cabinet Room.

Chuuk State is developing its fishing industries. In so doing, it has entered into a joint venture with a foreign partner from the United States. In this partnership, Chuuk State put up \$10.5 million through its medium term note borrowing as its equity share. Its partner, however, has not put up any equity contribution, an official said.

In their meeting with the President, Chuuk Governor and his U.S. partners requested the FSM Government to commit itself for an equity contribution of \$10.5 million. In response, FSM officials requested a copy of the joint venture documents for review before making a decision. The Delegation was

unable to produce the requested documents which rendered the FSM officials unable to make the commitment the Delegation was seeking.

The Chuuk Delegation also sought the FSM Government's assurance that the remaining \$40 million Investment Development Fund (IDF) money will be earmarked for this Joint Venture. This money was authorized under the Compact as compensation for the elimination, by the U.S. Congress of certain benefits from tax and economic provisions included in the initial original Compact documents. No definitive agreement was reached on this issue.

Twenty million dollars have been appropriated to the FSM and been loaned out for economic development projects in various FSM States by the FSM Development Bank. The FSM is requesting the U.S. Congress to appropriate \$40 million it authorized in the Compact. So far, no action has yet taken by U.S. Congress.

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by the presiding officer of Congress.

C.R No. 8-113 - extending the session for one more day.

C.R No. 8-115 - increasing the budget ceiling for FY 1995 from \$37 million to \$41 million.

## Governor seats for Yap and Kosrae were captured by Figir and Mackwelung

PALIKIR, Pohnpei (FSM INFORMATION SERVICE) - Election returns from the States of Yap and Kosrae on November 8, 1994, as reported by the two states are as follows. In both States the following four people are the winners of the seats for Governor and Lt. Governor. Yap votes counted showed that gubernatorial and lieutenant governor candidates Vincent Figir and Mathias Kuor, respectively, running on one ticket and unopposed won the two top seats in that state government. In the State of Kosrae, Moses Mackwelung (present FSM Congress Member) won the seat for the Governor with the seat for the Lieutenant Governor won by Gerson A. Jackson. Both Governor and Lt. Governor in Kosrae were running on separate tickets.

In Yap Election District #1, those who won the six seats for that particular district include incumbent senator elect Clement Mulalap, senator elect Ted Rutun, incumbent senator elect Tony Ganngiyan, and Robert Ruecho', senator elect James Mangefel, and incumbent senator elect Stan Kensof.

For Election District two to five respectively, the winners are incumbent senator elect Al Fong, incumbent senator elect Mathew Halelu, incumbent senator elect Santus Wichimai, and senator elect Sabino Sauchomal.

For the Kosrae legislature the three representative seats for Malem were won by incumbent senator elect Hiteo Shrew, incumbent senator elect Palikkun Shrew and Senator elect Semeon J. Phillip

For Lelu, the five representative seats were won by incumbents senator elect Albert T. Welly, Fred N. Skilling, William O. Tosie, and Tadas A. Sighrah and Senator elect Steven J. Sighrah

For the representative seats for Tafunsak, the four who won the seats were incumbent senator elect James R. Palsis, incumbent senator elect Josaiah H. Saimon, incumbent senator elect Kiyus Jackson, and senator elect Akiyusi L. Palsis.

For the two representative seats for Utwe precinct, the winners are incumbents senator elect Patterson Benjamin, and Renster Andrew.



**AMBASSADOR OF INDIA VISITED FSM** - Ambassador of India to the Philippines Shyamala B. Cowsik (right), visited the FSM and called on Vice President Jacob Nena (left).

## Micro. students participated in MASSIP

PALIKIR, Pohnpei (FSM INFORMATION SERVICE) - Six University of Hawaii (UH) students from Micronesia and American Samoa participated in an eight-week natural resource management internship pilot program known as Micronesia and American Samoa Student Internship Program (MASSIP), according to a release from UH at Hilo.

Funded by a grant from the U.S. Dept. of Interior's Office of Territorial and International Affairs (OTIA), MASSIP is a partnership program with the U.S. affiliated island entities, Pacific Island Network, UH Hilo, Pacific Aquaculture Development Program, UH Manoa, and the Sea Grant College Program.

There is a growing need for local natural resource management expertise to address the islands' concerns about environment and resources. This technical expertise usually comes from outside regions. MASSIP aims to develop expertise locally by sending students home on internships that respond to locally-defined island needs.

Those involved in the current program include Steven George from Kosrae State, a senior economic major at UH Hilo who completed an internship with the Kosrae Island Resource Management Program (KIRMP) where he assisted with the development of Kosrae's first land use plan and public education and outreach programs.

The Pohnpei State Department of Forestry and the Nature Conservancy sponsored UH Hilo business adminis-

tration major Juan Pedro's project on Ecotourism: A Sustainable Development Option for Pohnpei's Watershed.

Samuel Olter, a UH Hilo senior majoring in business adm., worked with the Kosrae Tourism Division and assisted with the development of a community education outreach program on the proposed Utwe-Walung Marine Park.

UH Hilo junior marine science major Charles Jacob participated with the College of the Marshall Islands and the Environmental Protection Authority on Majuro Atoll, investigating the environmental health and water quality of Majuro's coastal waters and several outer atolls.

Kevin Polloi, a UH Hilo marine science major, worked with the Palau Marine Resource division and assisted University of Guam researchers on Palau's coral reefs.

William Hunter completed an internship with the Department of Marine and Wildlife Resources (DMWR) and the Hyatt Hotel on Saipan where he learned about operating a reverse osmosis system. He is a junior majoring in travel industry management at UH Manoa.

Other UH Hilo MASSIP program coordinators include Jenny Samaan, International Student Advisor, and Dr. Craig Severance, Professor of Anthropology, who along with Jim Mellon, are responsible for locating and contacting potential agency sponsors to serve as internship sites.

For more info. on MASSIP program, please call telephone 933-3617.

# FSM mourns for the late Senator Kalisto Rafalopei

THE NATIONAL UNION, November to December 1994

Palikir, Pohnpei (FSM INFORMATION SERVICE) - President Bailey on Nov. 22, 1994, ordered that all flags of the FSM be flown half-mast across the nation, paying tribute to the untimely passing of one of leaders of the FSM, the second senator to die in office during the 8th FSM Congress. Two-year-term Senator, Kalisto Refalopei of Chuuk State, representing Faichuuk in the FSM Congress passed away, Nov. 21, 1994, at the Guam Memorial Hospital where he was admitted after complaining of chest pain. The other senator who passed away during the 8th FSM Congress was Iosi Ludwig of Chuuk.

According to information from the FSM Congress, Senator Refalopei was in Guam with some congressional staff following up on some projects when he was taken to the hospital. It is not clear if an autopsy was done on the body, so the official cause of death is still unknown, stated a release from Congress. However, people close to the incident suspected the cause of death as heart failure. There are no other details available.

The Declaration by the president requested the FSM people to repect and mourn the sudden death of the Honorable Kalisto Rafalopei, a Senator of the 8th FSM Congress, highly respected and a person of honor and wisdom.

The funeral, according to those who attended, was one of the largest official funerals held in the FSM. Bishop Amando Samo conducted the Mass at the Family Meipin or Holy Family Church. The Mass was attended by national and state officials, and other dignitaries, family members, friends and people of Chuuk.

Following the funeral services the body was taken to the FSM Supreme Court Chamber in Weno for the public to pay their last respects before the body was transported by boat to Refalopei's own island in Faichuk for burrial.

The entire Mass and State Funeral were carried via satellite and broadcast live over the radio stations in all FSM states.

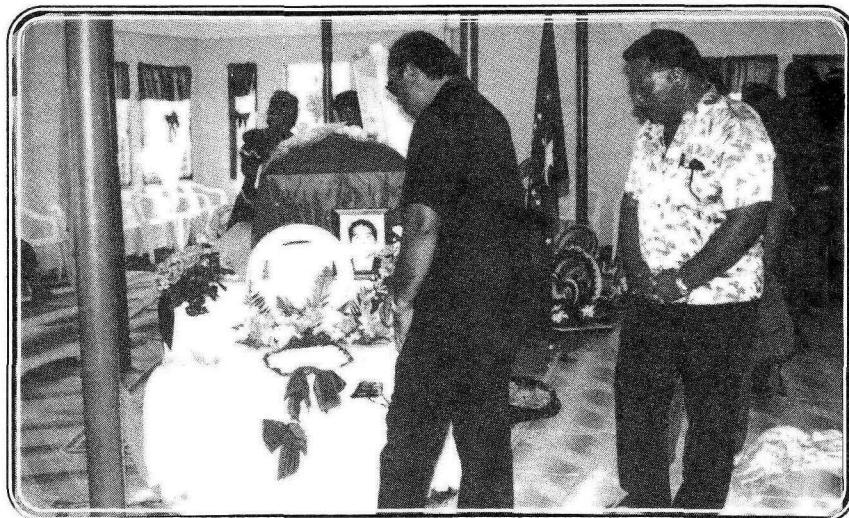
Attending the funeral from the National Government was a delegation headed the President.

The late Kalisto Refalopei was the

longest serving senator among the members of the Eighth FSM Congress, having been a member of Congress since his election to the First FSM Congress in 1979. Refalopei was also a member of the FSM Interim Congress during which he served on the Appropriations and Health Matters Committee. He was the last link to FSM's legislative past as

During the Fourth Congress, he served as Vice Chairman of the Committee on External Affairs and became its Chairman in the Fifth Congress.

Refalopei was admired by many for his political say in spite of his humble educational background. He attended Truk Intermediate School and Faichuk Project School. His long political career



*CFSM PAYS RESPECT - Above are Speaker Jack Fritz (front) and Floor Leader Joseph Urusemal (back) paying their respects to late Senator Kalisto Refalopei during the funeral held on his Island in the State of Chuuk.*

the sole active member of Congress who also served in the now defunct Congress of Micronesia under the old Trust Territory Government.

The only remaining original member of the First Congress of the FSM, Senator Peter M. Christian, from Pohnpei, gave a brief eulogy, saying the Senator was a dedicated representative of his people and that he is a member of his family. Refalopei's brother Kashmiro Otokichy, on behalf of his and Refalopei's family, expressed appreciation to all who attended the funeral.

As a member of the FSM Congress, Senator Refalopei served on many of its committees and in different capacities. His most recent committee assignment included that of being Vice-Chairman of the Eighth FSM Congressional Committee on Ways and Means. He was also the Chairman of the current Chuuk Congressional Delegation. During the Seventh Congress, he chaired the Committee on Transportation and Communications, and was Vice-Chairman of the Committee on Resources and Development.

began when he was elected as a member of the Chuuk District Legislature. He then went on to run for a seat in the Congress of Micronesia and won it over some highly educated opponents. During his first term as member of the Congress of Micronesia, he was said to have brought along an interpreter to help over-come the language difficulty. His quick grasp of the political lingo and concepts necessitated the return of his interpreter even after the first term was up.

Although the late senator will be remembered as a formidable foe by his political opponents, Refalopei will surely be missed by his colleagues for his leadership and friendship.

Officials of the national and state government went to Chuuk to pay their last respects to the late senator. Many congressional staff members accompanied the national senators to the funeral.

Senator Kalisto Refalopei was born on July 16, 1946 on the island of Wonei in Chuuk State. He is survived by his children and wife, the former Mandalay Weital of Madolenihmw, Pohnpei State.

## 6 Dec. 7, 1994, declared as World Aviation Day

PALIKIR, Pohnpei (FSM INFORMATION SERVICE) - President Bailey Olter declared Dec. 7, 1994, as World Aviation Day in the Federated States of Micronesia, celebrating the 50th anniversary of the founding of the International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO).

Formed 50 years ago, in 1944, it represents the collective aspirations of human civilization to ensure that the hostility which aviation technology contributes during war will not dominate the air after the wars have ended.

In becoming a member, the FSM fully associates itself with the principles of international cooperation in the development of civil aviation for peaceful purposes to serve humanity.

The President's proclamation was issued on November 28, 1994. Banners hung across main street in Kolonia Town and over the entrance to the FSM Capital in Palikir announcing December 7th, as World Aviation Day.

## UN grants Forum observer status

PALIKIR, Pohnpei (FSM INFORMATION SERVICE) - FSM Department of External Affairs reported that the United Nations has granted the South Pacific Forum observer status. This action gives the Forum access to UN General Assembly meetings without having to be sponsored by a *bona fide* member.

Following the adoption by the General Assembly of the resolution granting the Forum observer status, the Forum Secretary General, Ieremia Tabai, took the floor to deliver a statement on behalf of the Forum thanking the General Assembly for its favorable consideration of its request.

The representative of Canada spoke on behalf of Western Europe and other states welcoming the Forum into the organization.

With the increasing importance of the Sustainable Development of Small Island States which is being promoted by the South Pacific Forum in coordination with the member countries and related international organizations, its observer status will greatly be enhanced.

## Olter sent agreement relating to sea-bed resources to Congress for ratification

PALIKIR, Pohnpei (FSM INFORMATION SERVICE) - President Bailey Olter transmitted to Congress for its review and ratification, the Agreement Relating to the Implementation of Part 11 of the UN Convention on Law of the Sea which the Government signed, Aug. 10, 1994. Part 11 Agreement relates to the resources at or beneath the sea-bed.

Under the Convention, Olter said, the sea-bed and subsoil beneath the sea-bed have been designated as "... the common heritage of mankind." Part 11 and related provisions establish a regime for the management and control of the sea-bed and ocean floor and the subsoil and implementations by establishing balanced control and fair decision making mechanisms in management and use of

the sea-bed area and its resources.

The FSM acceded to the entire Law of the Sea Convention on August 29, 1991. The Convention came into force on November 16, 1994. At present, several major countries including the U.S. and have not acceded to the Convention.

The draft resolution submitted to Congress for its ratification was deferred during the recently concluded regular session. In making the motion to defer action, Yap Senator Isaac Figir, Chairman of the Congress Standing Committee on External Affairs, expressed his disappointment saying that if the President wanted positive action by Congress on the resolution, he could have transmitted the packet to Congress earlier in the session.

## December is National Accident Prevention Month

PALIKIR, Pohnpei (FSM INFORMATION SERVICE) - President Bailey Olter, on December 1, 1994, issued a Proclamation stating that the month of December is National Accident Prevention Month throughout the FSM.

In so doing, President Olter called upon all citizens, government agencies, public and private institutions, businesses, hospitals and schools throughout the FSM to promote awareness of causes of driver impairment, existing and proposed laws intended to further reduce and prevent impaired driving, and opportunities to establish safer and healthier norms regarding the use of alcohol and other drugs for all citizens, particularly young people.

Car accidents resulting from drunkenness or the use of drugs have affected both drivers and pedestrians. They have caused physical and emotional injuries. They have caused many fatalities. Over the past eight years, admissions in the hospitals from alcohol or drug related car accidents have grown significantly.

However, it has also been proven that public education can help reduce alcohol-related accidents, admissions, impairment and even death. Therefore, a comprehensive community-based concerted effort must be begun to combat driving tragedies or accidents.

In this connection, President Olter gave these tips: disseminate through radio, TV programs, news releases, posters, speeches contests among youths and initiate drawing contests in promoting the National Accident Prevention Month and its mission.

## Airport Manager in Yap announced closure of runway

PALIKIR, Pohnpei (FSM INFORMATION SERVICE) - Yap Airport Manager, Frederick Figir, announced in a letter the closure of Yap runway on December 4, and December 6, for repair and maintenance of the runway. Copies of Figir's letter were sent to FSM Department of Transportation and Communication; Flight Service; Director of Public Utilities and Communication; Continental Micronesia; Yap Fishing Authority; and Ting Hong and Pacific Missionary Aviation.

Yap's runway had been deteriorating, requiring constant maintenance in between scheduled airline flights. Occasionally, necessary repairs and maintenance of the runway had affected scheduled regular airline flights to Yap.

To assist Yap's runway's repair and maintenance the FSM Congress appropriated \$1 million for Yap airport and designated Yap's Governor as allottee.

## Close-Up came to Palikir for the first time

PALIKIR, Pohnpei (FSM INFORMATION SERVICE) - FSM President Bailey Olter gave the keynote address at the opening ceremony of the First FSM Close-up Program at PICS Cafeteria on November 28, 1994.

The Close-Up Program is a group of selected FSM high school students visiting the FSM Capital in Pohnpei to get to know their government.

After welcoming the students and their escorts, the President told them that they would experience how the national and state governments work and encouraged the students to ask questions of all officials with whom they came in contact to instill in them experiences of government intricacies.

The President told them they would be future leaders of this nation, and they should voice their comments on how things are going and share their hopes, fears and visions for their future. President Olter added that citizens have rights and obligations. They have an obligation to know the major issues and express their views in appropriate forums or gatherings.

The President went on to say that the FSM is a developing nation. As such there are great hopes and expectations. But there are real problems and obstacles to overcome in economic, political, social and cultural areas. To illustrate this, states and national governments have invested large sums into fisheries. But, progress has been unexpectedly slow. Great debate has started whether the FSM is going in the right direction. President Olter urged each student participant to familiarize himself with the problems and assist in formulation of future plans.

Social development is interrelated with economic development. It was discussed at the Barbados Sustainable Small-Island Development Conference in May, as well as at the South Pacific Forum at Brisbane, Australia, in September, in 1994. The Brisbane Conference, he said, endorsed the Suva Declaration which sets forth guiding principles that will allow progress toward modern economy while maintaining cultural and social identity. People are a primary resource

of a country which must be developed through education, health and equalization of opportunity.

"Our political future," Olter stated, "is in developing stage." FSM has entered into partnerships with developing island nations. As 2001, the end of the Compact period is approaching, focus is shifting from the Western to Asian donor countries who hold different policies and purposes. Coupled with the changes in the U.S. Congress as a result of the recent election in which the Democrats lost control of both houses. Those known to be friends of FSM are no longer there. FSM's UN Membership also brings with it obligations including providing quality living standards and equal opportunities. In this connection, President Olter said there is need to redefine what is appropriate for "our" society. Only accept the best of the two ways, western and traditional ways of living.

President Olter made reference to the emigration or out-migration to Guam, Hawaii or U.S., of FSM citizens in their pursuit of opportunities. He urged the students to learn the cultures of our neighbor islands and how our own governments operate in order to better understand their governmental, social and cultural structures.

The President complemented both the national, state and private sectors for their involvement, which made the Close-Up program a reality, adding that the Asian Development Bank is undertaking a major study on FSM human resources and future needs, and a report review will be held next month with a workshop in February 1995.

President Olter encouraged the participants to keep up with the planning for the future and provide their input at both national and state levels.

The President announced the development of the school-to-work program aimed at preparing students for work and life activities, consistent with the Suva Declaration and the educational reform efforts.

The students and their escorts attended the opening ceremony, including both national and state officials.



**FIRST FSM CLOSE-UP PROGRAM-** Above is President Bailey Olter addressing the Close-Up program. The opening ceremony took place at PICS auditorium.

## Investment permit granted to CTS for 25 years

PALIKIR, Pohnpei (FSM INFORMATION SERVICE) - FSM President Bailey Olter granted a Foreign Investment Permit to Consolidated Transportation Services, Inc., Federated States of Micronesia, for 25 years, ending on July 6, 2018.

The company will provide warehousing, storing and forwarding of goods, wares and merchandise; and act as an agent for Federal Express in the FSM.

The application by Consolidated Transportation Services, Inc., FSM, was earlier reviewed favorably by the Pohnpei State Foreign Investment Board whose recommendation for its approval to Pohnpei Governor Johnny David was approved and forwarded to President Olter for his final action.

The Acting Secretary of the Dept. of Resources and Development then reviewed the application for the FSM, and favorably told President Olter that there is a "high degree" of need for the services offered by the company.

Among the conditions for granting the permit are that not less than 25 percent of the company's stock shall be made available to FSM citizens within the first five years. The permit does not empower the company to acquire interests in real property in the FSM, acquisition requires prior approval of the FSM President. Finally, the company shall adhere to all applicable FSM laws.

The Permit was signed by President Olter on September 23, 1994.

# 8 *FSM games being scheduled for July 9, 1995*

THE NATIONAL UNION, November to December 1994

PALIKIR, Pohnpei (FSM INFORMATION SERVICE) - FSM Games are scheduled for July 9 to 21, 1995, and preparations are being considered by the Executive Committee which met Dec. 8, 1994, in Palikir.

Dr. Eliuel K. Prettick, the FSM Health Secretary and President of the Board of the FSM Games chaired the meeting. Other members in attendance were Sosiro Yamamura, Tadao Sighra, James Mormad, Tony Otto, and Shelten Neth.

It was reported that Jim Tobin will be arriving Pohnpei shortly to begin preparation for the Games. Tobin has been hired from Guam by the Committee.

Site preparation plans are being developed for review and construction. This would include track and field, baseball and softball, table and lawn tennis, swimming and other water events, to name a few. The representative of the Office of Planning and Statistics of the National Government was advised to seek out interested and willing construction companies to assist in the preparation.

FSM States are asked to have their flags, anthems, and their Logo ready for the Games. Flags are available. But State's anthem and logo are not readily available, except for the FSM National Anthem.

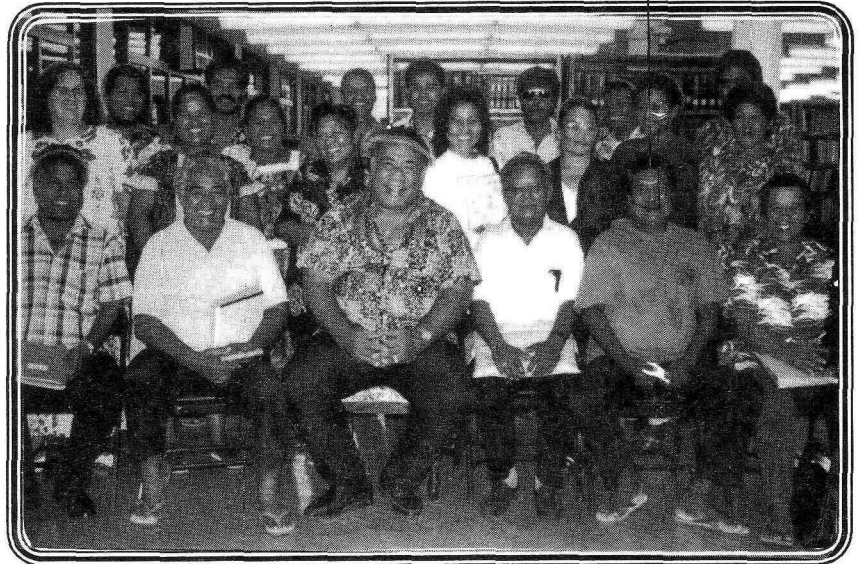
The Pohnpei member reported that Pohnpei will participate in all sports events to the contested during the Games. Other states have not made known to what extent they will participate. Neth also announced that Pohnpei's woman sprinter Rita Epina and distant runner Elias Rodriguez will represent the State at the upcoming South

Pacific Games. Both won gold medals at the Micronesian Games recently held on Guam.

The Committee also agreed to explore possible ways of raising additional funds such as donations, sponsorships, and queen contests, to name a few.

President of the FSM Games, Dr. Prettick, said he expect a colorful opening and closing ceremonies and enjoyable games.

The Committee expects to have all state representatives present at its next meeting.



*HEALTH OFFICIALS AND POLITICAL LEADERS MEET - Above are the consultant and participants of the National Maternal Child Health/Family Planning Health and Political Leader Seminar held here in Palikir, November 1994. The meeting was held at the central building in Palikir for three days.*

## *Kosrae, first state to convert development loan funds into capital stock of the FSMDB*

PALIKIR, Pohnpei (FSM INFORMATION SERVICE) - The FSM Development Bank (FSMDB) announced that Kosrae has become the first State to convert its development loan funds into capital stock of the FSMDB pursuant to State Law No. 5-195.

The bank has issued 9,000 shares, \$10 per share to Kosrae Dept. of Treasury,

as the trustee for the Government.

The FSM Congress enacted P.L. 8-47, which enables the FSMDB to capitalize its development funds and also authorizes each state, if it chooses, to purchase stocks with cash.

The FSMDB urges the other three States to take steps similar to those Kosrae State has taken.

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