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**NEW ZEALAND ENVOY PRESENTS CREDENCE** - New Zealand Ambassador to the FSM John Mills (right) presents his credentials to Acting President Jacob Nena (left) in a brief ceremony held January 15, 1997, at the Cabinet Room in Palikir, Pohnpei. Right (sitting) is Ambassador Chen Yong-cheng and partially hidden is U.S Charge d' Affaires Cheryl Martin.

## New Zealand & Great Britain present credences

PALIKIR, Pohnpei (FSM INFORMATION SERVICE) - In separate ceremonies on January 15 and 20, 1997, Acting President Jacob Nena received the letter of recall of the former Ambassador of New Zealand to the FSM and letters of credence from Ambassador-designate John Mills of New Zealand and Ambassador-designate Vernon Marcus Scarborough of Great Britain, to the FSM, respectively.

The ceremonies were held in the President's Cabinet Room were attended by Cabinet Members, other officials and members of the Diplomatic Corps.

In the January 15 ceremony,

Ambassador Mills said, he is deeply honored to have presented his credentials as Ambassador of New Zealand to the FSM, adding he will do his best to live up to the high standards set by his predecessors.

He brings with him the warmest assurances from the Governor-General, and the Government of New Zealand, of continuing goodwill and support for the FSM.

"Although our links are relatively new, we take pride in the fact that they go back to 1988, when New Zealand was one of the first countries to establish diplomatic relations with the Federated

(See CREDENTIALS, Page 2)

## FSM & Japan exchange notes for constructing vessel to replace MS Caroline

PALIKIR, Pohnpei (FSM INFORMATION SERVICE) - The Secretary of the FSM Department of External Affairs Asterio Takesy and Charge d' Affaires ad interim Kiyoshi Nishikawa, Embassy of Japan in the Federated States of Micronesia, signed an Exchange of Notes, on behalf of their governments, in a ceremony held at the Department of External Affairs, February 12, 1997, for the project of constructing an inter-island vessel for the FSM Government.

For the implementation of the project, the Government of Japan will extend to the Government of the Federated States of Micronesia a grant aid up to One Billion Two Hundred Fifty-Eight Million Yen, says Nishikawa in a remarks during the ceremony.

This project is to provide the FSM with a new landing craft type vessel to replace the existing vessel "Caroline Islands" and to improve sea transportation capability of the FSM, transporting large cargoes, food and medicine, necessary supplies for subsistence of small-scale fishing operations such as fuel oil, fishing gear and materials, and to transport local products from the rural villages to markets in the FSM.

I believe that an increase of the vessel's operation, Nishikawa stated, will contribute to the activation of social and economic activities in the rural villages and to improving the standard of living of the village people in the outer islands

(See EXCHANGE OF NOTES, Page 3)

States of Micronesia following approval of your Compact with the United States. Our relations are gaining strength all the time as we get to know each other better."

The Ambassador wished Nena well and pledged his country's support for Nena as he carries the burden of his present office.

"In the field of international affairs our countries share a number of concerns," he said, "including the desire to keep our region free of pollution and of hazardous materials that could affect the health of future generations. We have a common approach on environmental issues, in particular the danger posed by human activities that could lead to destructive climate change. But probably the most vital international interest we have in common at present is the development of appropriate arrangements for conservation and management of the region's fish stocks, in order to ensure that these resources will continue to support future generations. We have worked closely with you in the past on this issue, and we pledge our support in the future."

work. Gladly he said, "... the countries relationship is already a warm one, "adding that his task will be to do all he can to strengthen it for the two countries mutual benefit." His predecessor pointed out that the two countries have a common commitment to fisheries, agriculture and tourism as sectors that make major contributions to [our] economies. "There is much that we can do," he said, "to help and support each other in these areas. Another area of common interest is that of economic reform and restructuring. We know from our own experience that this is not an easy road."

He said, "We see our country's modest programme of development assistance to the Federated States of Micronesia as a continuing and important strand in our relationship. At a time when the overall level of development assistance available to the region is tending to fall, we remain aware of the need to make the most effective contribution we can to the prosperity of our own region. We believe the greatest contribution we can make is to help you meet the needs you yourselves identify in the area of training and human resource development. We in New Zealand are proud of what we have been able to do so far to assist in this process, but we are also aware that your young students have a lot to teach us in return. Their presence enriches our country as much as it does yours, and we welcome their presence among us. As time goes by they will also become an important link in the chain of goodwill that binds our two countries."

very simple one - just a wish for the continuing life and health of the person or persons addressed. Kia ora," he said.

Welcoming Ambassador Mills, Nena said he is pleased that those who were present were able to join him to welcome the Ambassador and his wife on their first visit to the FSM, and to receive him as New Zealand's Ambassador extraordinary and plenipotentiary to the FSM. The Ambassador's visit makes him and his wife, FSM's first very important visitors during the new year said Nena.

Nena said that the generous support of New Zealand in the FSM's human resource development through the provision of scholarships and training for FSM citizens is very much appreciated. Nena noted in particular this year's scholarship awards to six FSM students to attend colleges and universities in New Zealand. "This is a commendable opportunity for our citizens to receive quality education, which I hope continues in the years to come."

New Zealand's contributions in the Joint Maritime Surveillance of the FSM's Exclusive Economic Zone is also very much welcomed and appreciated, said Nena. "Indeed, it is important considering FSM's shortcomings in surveillance capability and the need to maintain the sustainability of our fisheries stocks. These assistance have contributed significantly to our nation-building efforts, and we deeply appreciate New Zealand's support in this regard."  
(See CREDENTIALS, Page 6)



# Exchange of Notes

(Continued from Page 1)  
of the FSM.

Nishikawa concluded by stating his hope that the project will lead to further promotion of mutual understanding and friendly relationships between Japan and the Federated States of Micronesia.

Secretary Takesy welcomed and greeted Mr. Nishikawa and his party to the ceremony saying he has both official and personal interest in the FSM-Japan relations, and "... this happy occasion, and we should have more and more of this kind of occasion."

Takesy stated that the inter-island vessel project is an "important and historic occasion in the history of economic cooperation between Japan and the FSM as this is the first major grant aid project to be implemented [received] by the national government."

"Today's festive occasion," Takesy stated, "is a living testimony to the current state of our governmental relations that is strong, amicable and friendly, and deeply rooted in our traditional links. Our relations today have not only reached a new heights but have also grown and become more sophisticated and intrinsically complicated. It is therefore incumbent upon our two governments to work together and cooperate even more closely in this day and age of dynamic global change."

Takesy declared, "I, for one, strongly believe in the traditional links of our relations which transcends and goes beyond the usual government-to-government relations between two sovereign nations. As we now approach the dawn of the new millennium, I would like to believe that we do not only need each other, but we belong to one another. Our interaction will take on new proportions and new thoughts for our mutual benefits."

Takesy told Nishikawa to convey to his government FSM's sincere gratitude and appreciation for the generous support and assistance that the government of Japan continue to extend to FSM's government. Japan's generous assistance-be it in the provision of fishing boats, road equipment, or dock and port extension - is indeed very much appreciated by the government and the people of the FSM. They are not only making significant contributions to FSM's nation-building effort, but strengthening the friendship that the peoples of the two countries have come to enjoy. "They are improving our everyday lives for which we are truly

grateful."

Takesy continued, "we have made mention during the consultative group meeting and the first roundtable talks, my government has made some modest progress in our efforts for economic development. But much more remains to be done, and we will continue to look to Japan for support and assistance, namely in areas of transport infrastructure, marine resources, tourism, agriculture, private sector development, human resources development, just to name a few."

Takesy said the project for the inter-island vessels for fishing villages is timely and could not have come at as more opportune time. Since a reliable transport system is an indispensable part of any economic development effort, there is no doubt that the lives of the 40 percent of the nation's population living on the outer islands will be improved as more frequent trips are made, transporting much needed supplies, goods, heavy equipment and services to the people. "It is our hope that this project will not only facilitate the growth of fishing activities and commerce among the islands, but will usher in also a new innovative thinking and fresh ideas to better our own lives. This is congruent to the self-help philosophy of the Japanese ODA, an approach that we, also subscribe," he added.

"I will be remiss to conclude without

acknowledging the professionalism and caliber of the departments and offices for with their technical expertise and know-how, we would not have come to this happy and satisfactory juncture. I would like to thank the JICA technical experts, and the Department of Transportation and Communications, and the Department of Resources and Development for their hard work and diligence in putting together the specifications and details of the project," Secretary Takesy concluded.

The ceremony was also attended by the Secretary of the Department of Transportation and Communication, Lukner Weilbacher; Secretary of the Department of Resources and Development Sebastian Anefal; members of their respective staff; and the Executive Director of the Micronesian Maritime Authority, Bernard Thoulog.

Present on the Japanese side besides Nishikawa were Japan Embassy's First Secretary Susumu Nakagawa; Japan Overseas Volunteers Association (JOVC) Coordinator Makiko Goto; JOVC Senior Coordinator Hiroaki Nagasawa; President of the Pohnpei-Japan Community Club in Pohnpei and General Manager of FSM Telecommunication Corporation Takuro Akinaga; and the advisor to the Pohnpei-Japan Community Club Norio Nakamatsu.



**GROUP PHOTO - Ambassador of Great Britain to the FSM Scarborough after presenting his credentials to Acting President Jacob Nena, had a group photo with Nena, cabinet members, Pohnpei Governor Del Pangelinan and members of the Diplomatic Corps.**

## 4 News from the Department of External Affairs

..... The FSM Government has accepted the appointment of His Excellency Delfin Colome Pujol as Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the Kingdom of Spain to the FSM. Mr. Pujol is the current Ambassador of Spain to the Philippines where he resides, and he succeeds Ambassador Herminio Marales who was accredited to the FSM on October 7, 1992, about five months after the establishment of diplomatic relations between the FSM and Spain.

..... FSM Acting President Jacob Nena, sent a condolence message to His Excellency Jiang Zemin, President of the People's Republic of China, expressing great sadness on the passing of the great leader of the Chinese people, Deng Xiaoping.

..... The Department has been informed by the Embassy of the Republic of Korea in Fiji of a grant award to the FSM in the aggregate amount of US\$30,000 for the provision of equipment and a trainee in Deep Sea and Coastal Fishing Technology, under the Korean Government's 1997 International Cooperation Program.

..... The FSM Government has granted diplomatic clearance to a Dassault-Brequet Mystere Falcon 900 to enter FSM airspace and land at the Pohnpei International Airport, as requested by the Government of Japan.

..... The President of the Federated States of Micronesia, His Excellency Bailey Olter, and First Lady Amalia were transported to Pohnpei on February 24, 1997 from Houston on U.S. Military Medical Evacuation Aircraft. Upon arrival at the Pohnpei International Airport, the President and his family were warmly welcomed by many well-wishers which included relatives and friends, government officials, traditional leaders, and members of the resident diplomatic corps. They were also met by an honor guard.

..... The Department has requested the assistance of Their Excellencies and Chiefs of Diplomatic Missions resident in Pohnpei relaying to their respective home governments an "Invitation to Bid" on the procurement of drilling rigs and ancillary equipment required for

the implementation of the FSM/ADB Water Supply and Sanitation Project.

..... The FSM Embassy in Suva has informed the Department of a scholarship being awarded to Ms. Brihmer Johnson by the U.N. Population Fund (UNFPA) to study population at the University of the South Pacific. Ms. Johnson has been working at the FSM Office of Planning and Statistics.

..... The Deputy Assistant Secretary for Multilateral Affairs, Mr. Jeem Lippwe, and the First Secretary at the FSM Embassy in Suva, Mr. Osaia Santos, participated in a training attachment at the United Nations Development Program in Suva for one week. The training emphasized formulation and appraisal of projects, implementation of projects, financial reporting and accountability, and auditing and methods of accessing UNDP project support costs.

..... First Secretary Osaia Santos represented the FSM in the first meeting of the Executive Board of the Pacific Arts Council, which was held in Noumea, March 3-7, 1997.

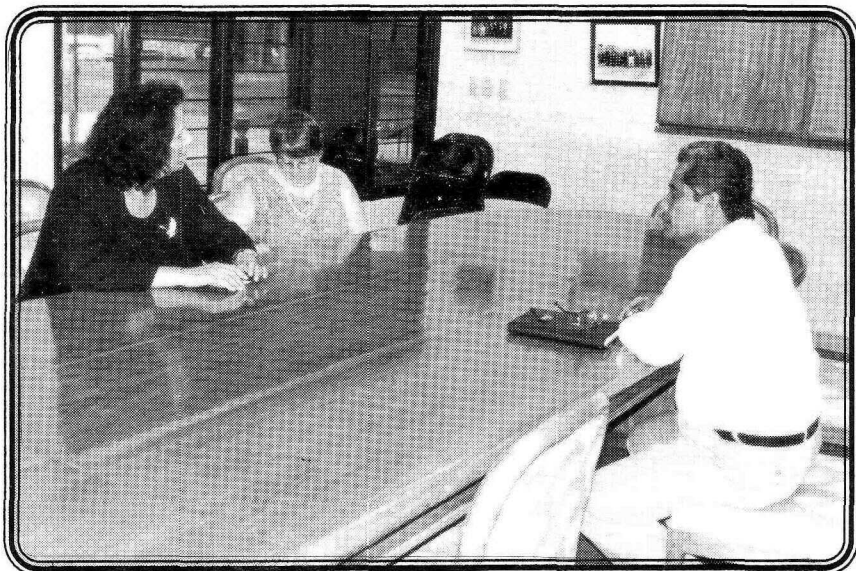
..... The FSM Embassy in Suva has advised the FSM Government of the appointment of Mr. Stephen Vete as UNAIDS Country Program Advisor for the Pacific based at the WHO office in Suva. Mr. Vete will assist WHO-

member countries like the FSM in their AIDS program.

..... The FSM Ambassador to the United States, His Excellency Jesse B. Marehalau, signed and concurred to a grant in the total amount of \$14,000, by the USDOJ Office of Insular Affairs, for the FSM Office of Planning and Statistics. The grant will provide travel and per diem funds for FSM representatives to attend the OIA and U.S. Bureau of Census workshops and training during FY 1997-1998.

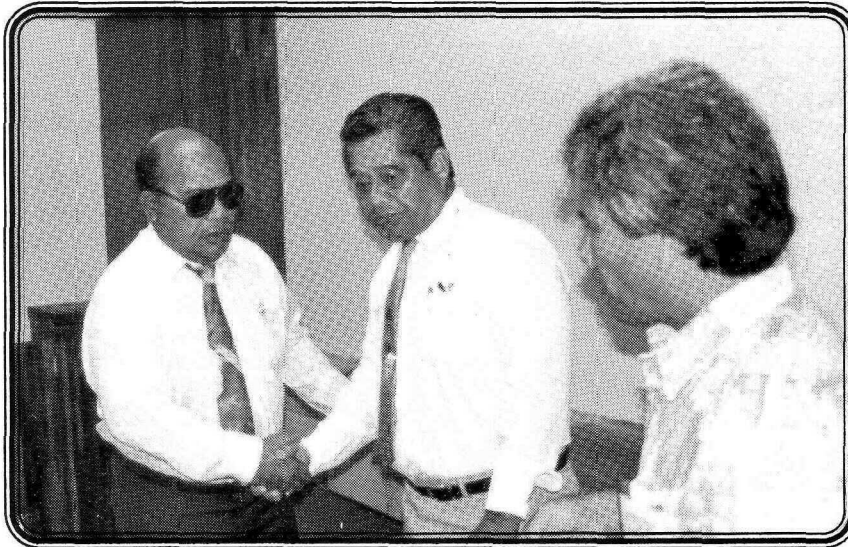
..... The FSM Embassy in Washington D.C., submitted an application by the Pohnpei Utilities Corporation in the aggregate amount of \$456,000 for funding consideration under the OIA Operations and Maintenance Improvement Program (OMIP). The State of Pohnpei will supplement the amount aimed to support the continued development of its Pohnpei Utilities Corporation.

..... The Department has sought further membership information in the World Federation of United Nations Associations (WFUNA) and the United Nations Educational Scientific, and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) through the FSM Permanent Mission in New York, the former on the possibility of establishing an FSM Chapter. Pohnpei State and the National Historic Preservation Office have inquired about FSM becoming a member of UNESCO in early 1997.



**FORMER U.S. AMBASSADOR TO FSM VISITS ACTING PRESIDENT** - Former Ambassador to the FSM Aurelia Brazeal (left) is making a courtesy call, January 30, 1997, on Acting President Jacob Nena during her visit to the FSM. She was accompanied by Charge d' Affaires, Ms. Cheryl Martin. From left to right Former Ambassador Aurelia Brazeal, Charge d' Affaires Ms. Cheryl Martin, and Acting President Jacob Nena.





**ACTING PRESIDENT MEETS NAURU PRESIDENT** - FSM Acting President Jacob Nena greets the President of Nauru, His Excellency Rubin Kun, at the Pohnpei International Airport VIP Lounge, January 30, 1997. President Kun made a brief stop in Pohnpei on his way to Nauru after attending the Palau Presidential Inauguration. Left to right are President Kun, Acting President Nena, and Chief of protocol Kodaro Gallen.

## Acting President issues a statement on the shipment of high level radioactive waste

PALIKIR, Pohnpei (FSM INFORMATION SERVICE) - FSM Acting President Jacob Nena issued the following statement on the shipment of high level radioactive waste by the Pacific Teal, which shipment is approaching or passing through the FSM waters. "The Government of the Federated States of Micronesia is extremely concerned about recent plan for shipment of high level radioactive waste through its waters, and calls on the governments involved in the Transboundary movement of hazardous and radioactive waster program to stay clear of the FSM Exclusive Economic Zone."

"The FSM Government has made known its position that it firmly stands behind the position taken by the South Pacific Forum that any shipment of radioactive waste should be carried out in accordance with the highest international safety and security standards, in a manner which satisfactorily address all possible contingencies, and in full consultation with Forum countries."

"It is also the view of the FSM Government that the shipment carried out by Pacific Teal is a blatant show of disregard for the long standing concern of the region over the Transboundary movement of toxic and hazardous wastes and is in contravention of relevant

provisions of the Waigani Convention to which the FSM and many Forum Island Countries are a party. The FSM Government calls on the responsible parties to the shipment of high level radioactive waste to own up to retrieving the materials should accidents occur."

## New Zealand offers 1998 Scholarships to FSM

PALIKIR, Pohnpei (FSM INFORMATION SERVICE) - Acting President Jacob Nena on March 17, 1997, informed Secretary of the Department of Education, Dr. Catalino Cantero of a communication from the New Zealand Ambassador in Kiribati, formally inviting the FSM to submit nominees for New Zealand scholarships for the 1998 academic year. The scholarships are available for study either in New Zealand or for study in a third country such as Fiji.

Nena in his communication to Dr. Cantero also attached copies of the new NZODA scholarship application form including the New Zealand Student Handbook for reference and information.

"Your office is requested to disseminate the information in all four states as soon as possible and to coordinate the application process so that we may submit the most qualified students to represent the FSM," Nena

## Longtime FSMDB President voted out by the FSMDB Board

PALIKIR, Pohnpei (FSM INFORMATION SERVICE) - The Board of Directors of the FSM Development Bank has voted unanimously to remove Emanuel (Manny) Mori from his position as President of the FSM Development Bank, according to a January 28, release from the FSM Development Bank Board Chairman William Iriarte.

The Board's action was taken at its first quarterly meeting of 1997 which was held in Chuuk on January 13 and 14, this year.

The Board of Directors of the FSM Development Bank acknowledged and thanked Mr. Mori for the numerous contributions he made to the Bank during his 16 year tenure as President. It also acknowledged that the deteriorating economies of the four States of the FSM demand urgent and dramatic changes from its main source of development funding, and the Board felt that these changes could best be carried out by someone less intimately tied to the history and development of the Bank.

The search for Mr. Mori's replacement is underway. The Board hopes to hire a new President of the Bank sometime within the next 60 days. In the meantime, Mr. Mori has agreed to stay on and assist during the transition.

The Board of Directors of the FSM Development Bank is made up of two representatives from the FSM National government, and one representative each from each of the four states. Current Members of the Board are: Hilary Tacheliol (Yap), Marion Henry (Chuuk), William Iriarte (Pohnpei), Gerson Jackson (Kosrae), Herolyn Movick and Patrick Mackenzie (FSM Government).

stated.

It is advised that the deadline for submission to the Department of External Affairs be August 1, 1997 so that we may meet Wellington's August 15 deadline. Please coordinate with the Department of External Affairs so that the application process for the 1998 academic year is objective, smooth and efficient and we are able to submit a list of qualified candidates in order to optimize benefits to the nation.

Zealand's contributions in that regard," he stated.

"At the international scene," he said, "our cooperative undertakings are numerous and significant, especially on issues affecting island nations, such as, in the areas of environment, climate change and sustainable development, among others. We look forward to continuing such excellent working relationship in the years to come."

In accepting the Ambassador's credentials Nena assured the Ambassador and his government of his strong desire to further strengthen the existing relations between the two countries and their peoples, concluding that he looks forward to working closely with the Ambassador in that regard.

In the January 20, 1997, ceremony Ambassador Scarborough presented his letter of credence to Nena thanking Nena for receiving him, adding that he is sad that President Olter is ill and he and his wife offer their heartfelt wishes to the President and his family for his recovery.

Ambassador Scarborough said that the establishment of formal diplomatic relations and his appointment is the proof of Great Britain's continuing interest in the FSM and shows Great Britain's desire to help FSM develop within its own constitutional and democratic structures. As a key member of the UN Trusteeship Council the United Kingdom took a close interest in the progress of the FSM and its sister Micronesian entities towards self-government and independence.

"Like you, Britain is please to share close ties and friendship with the United States of America and we are conscious of the importance of this relationship for the Federated States of Micronesia, I hope we can complement it in some modest way," he said.

The Ambassador stated that he is also privileged to join his other diplomatic colleagues, particularly representatives of the other Commonwealth Pacific States with whom the FSM has diplomatic relations. Britain has a long and emotional attachment to the Pacific arising from historical and mostly maritime ties. It goes back to the early Captain navigators like Wallis in 1767, Cook, Bligh, Marshall and James Wilson of the vessel

Duff in 1797. It has continued without interruption ever since, through successive phases of missionaries, traders, merchants and administrators.

"It may seem that a country so distant as ours has no longer any interest in the Pacific and it is true that this Region is not of vital relevance to our national security or prosperity. Yet we do take an interest in the Pacific Nations and have a continuing commitment to their prosperity. The annual flow of UK development funds to the Pacific region is considerable, as is our contribution through the European Union (EU) - around 16 percent of its aid budgets. Perhaps not large in global terms - but substantial per capita of local population. Britain is actively represented in the Region, maintaining five resident diplomatic Missions in the Island States, more than any 'out of area' power," he said.

The Ambassador added, "We continue to represent Pitcairn Island in the South Pacific Commission and are active participants in the annual Post-Forum Dialogue with the South Pacific Forum, generally always at senior Ministerial level."

"This is a reflection of our wider, global interests and of the increasing interdependence of the modern world," he said, "The United Kingdom has a general interest in the political stability of the Region and the continuation of democratic and accountable governments as part of its general interest in stability and democracy worldwide. We have a general interest in ensuring that the Pacific Way of looking at the world, its approach to international problems, continue to be in tune with ours and that of our closest allies. As in your country, the great majority of Pacific island states have constitutional, democratic, parliamentary systems of government. Like yourselves many of them are members of the UN and vote as we do, sharing common objectives. We wish to continue to support our friends in and around the Pacific in ensuring these young democracies survive and flourish."

Ambassador Scarborough said he is honored Nena accepted him as Britain's Ambassador to the FSM and extended best wishes from Her Majesty's

Government and the people of the United Kingdom, concluding with his offer of warmest good wishes to all the people of the Federated States of Micronesia for a happy and prosperous future.

Nena after accepting Ambassador Scarborough's credentials and welcoming the Ambassador and his wife to the FSM, said, on behalf of the people and government of the FSM, "it is my pleasure to receive and accept your letters of credence as the ambassador extraordinary and plenipotentiary of the United Kingdom to the Federated States of Micronesia."

He assured the Ambassador of his strong desire and commitment to working closely with him and his government to advance the two countries' mutual interests. Nena added that the FSM takes pride in its relations with the United Kingdom formally established over four years ago. "There is a lot to learn from the United Kingdom being one of the most resourceful and powerful nations in the world," he said. "On the international scene, FSM and United Kingdom have a healthy and cooperative relationship," he said, "and we look forward to years of it in such important areas as climate change and the environment, human rights, sustainable development, and in other important areas." Nena stated that he is confident the FSM-UK relations will continue to flourish in the years to come and will thrive based on the interests and values that we share. Nena said that the accreditation of the Ambassador is another important step in the two countries' mutual desire to strengthen the friendly relations between them. "I look forward to working closely with you, Mr. Ambassador, in this regard," Nena concluded.

After each Ambassador presented his credentials, courtesy calls were made on Acting President Nena and other top officials of the FSM National Government, Pohnpei State Government, and foreign diplomats in Pohnpei.

Officials in the Department of External Affairs conducted guided tours of the Nanmadol ruins, a landmark of the State of Pohnpei.





**NATIONAL ELECTION WORKSHOP** - The FSM National Election Officials met in a two-day workshop January 20-21 on Pohnpei. The issues discussed in the workshop were review of the election Code, 9 FSM; Emergency Election Rules and Regulations, absentee provisions of 9 FSMC election forms, documents intended to be used in the up-coming election, and using Internet to cut communication costs. Other issues discussed and submitted to National Election Director were a proposed 1999 election budget, names of the current polling places in each election district, and names of the election workers in each state. Front row from left to right: Moses Santos, Pohnpei National Election Commissioner; Emiko Boaz V6AH Radio; Marlynn Anton, Election Staff; Heinrich Stevenson, Assistant National Election Director; and Snyder H. Simon, National Election Administrative Officer. Back row from left to right, Jessie Mangarfir Yap Assistant National Election Commissioner; Iskia E. Sony Chuuk, National Election Commissioner; Max Mallarme, National Election Director; Robert Richie, Assistant FSM Attorney General and Kun J. Olter, Kosrae National Election Commissioner. The instructors for the workshop were National Election Director Mallarme, Assistant National Election Director Stevenson, Assistant Attorney General Richie, and Larry Raiget from External Affairs Department.

## ***CFSM to have consent of deputy ambassadors, permanent representatives, and consul generals***

PALIKIR, Pohnpei (FSM INFORMATION SERVICE) - Acting President Jacob Nena in a January 21, 1997 letter, informed Congress Speaker Jack Fritz that, he has signed Congressional Act No. 9-127 into law, designating it P.L. No. 9-128, without comment.

The Act makes it a requirement for all appointments of deputy ambassadors, (assistant ambassadors) and permanent representatives and consul generals to have advice and consent of FSM Congress. It amended title 2 of the FSM Code as amended on Presidential appointments.

Standing Committee Report No. 9-224, submitted by the Committee on External Affairs, which recommended passage of C.B. No. 9-48, stated that the Committee, "... firmly believes that the Constitution requires the Congress' advice and consent to the President's nomination of ambassadors in order to ensure that ambassadors are persons who will truly represent the interest of the FSM as a whole and can effectively

speak for the Nation as a whole."

The report further stated that deputy ambassadors or assistant ambassadors frequently act for ambassadors in the ambassador's absence, exercising ambassadorial powers and prerogatives even though their appointments have no advice and consent of the Congress.

The committee is aware, the report further stated, that permanent representatives and consul generals may have frequent occasion to exercise powers and prerogatives very similar to those of ambassadors, even though their appointments have not had the advice and consent of the Congress.

"CB. No. 9-48 is designed to ensure that no person will be in a position to exercise ambassadorial or ambassador-like powers and prerogatives as a representative of the FSM without the Congress having the opportunity to consider whether that person will truly represent the interests of the FSM as a whole and can effectively speak for the Nation as a whole," the report concluded.

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Government agencies may request advisory services, including short term advisors on specific fields from ESCAP through the Division of UN and Multilateral Affairs in the FSM Department of External Affairs.

In another matter, Acting President Jacob Nena in a March 6, 1997 letter informed Secretary of Education, Dr. Catalino Cantero, that Ms Karen Prosser will visit the FSM to offer six full scholarships for 1997, two each for Pohnpei and Chuuk and one each for Kosrae and Yap. These scholarships are from the Junior Statesmen Foundation which Prosser is the National Summer Programs Director.

Nena asked Dr. Cantero to coordinate Prosser's visit from April 6 to the 11, 1997. Nena said he hopes the young citizens of FSM will benefit from the program. Nena said Dr. Cantero to properly inform the States so they will be prepared to meet with Prosser and to begin selecting students who will represent the FSM.

Prosser will also visit the Republic of Palau to promote the Junior Statesmen Foundation's program.

Participants are outstanding high school students, boys and girls in grades 10 to 12. This year's participants will be at Stanford, Princeton, Yale and Northwestern Universities from June 30 to July 25; July 6 to July 31 at The University of Texas, and July 13 to August 3 at the Georgetown University.

## Newly appointed FSMASA members hold first meeting in Palikir

PALIKIR, Pohnpei (FSM INFORMATION SERVICE) - The newly appointed members of the FSM Amateur Sports Association (FSMASA) convened their first meeting at the FSM Capital in Pohnpei, February 17, 1997, to set the policies for the upcoming Second FSM Games to be held in Kosrae State, July 16 to 26, 1997.

FSMASA President, Dr. Eliuel K. Pretrick, welcomed the members on behalf of Acting President Jacob Nena and the FSM National Government. He discussed the role of the FSMASA in organizing the 2nd FSM Games and the status of the FSM in becoming a member of the International Olympic Committee. Pretrick urged the FSMASA to keep in mind the importance of unity and youth development in the FSM while making important decisions so that when they leave, they would feel a sense of satisfying accomplishment. He said that the establishment of the Sports Office in the Department of Health Services and the creation of FSMASA, enable the FSM national government to organize, and coordinate both state and national sports activities which provides opportunity for training of young athletes to share with peers from other countries friendship, goodwill and sportsmanship.

The FSM has been successful in attaining membership in various Sports Federations including baseball, basketball, table tennis, weightlifting, softball, volleyball, athletics and lawn tennis and is pursuing its membership in the International Olympic Committee (IOC) which Pretrick predicts will be possible within the next two years.

Members of the FSMASA are: FSM At-Large members: Dr. Pretrick, Bethwel Henry, Sebastian Anefal, Tony Otto, Rensley Sighra, Nick Andon, Elizabeth Yamada Wade, Willy Hawley, Johnson Asher, Tesiwo Liwy, and Kun Isaac. The State Representatives are Ted Rutun representing Yap State; Maker Palsis, Kosrae; Solpiso Salvador,

Pohnpei, and Takesy Reynold, Chuuk State. Fancy Marcus represented Chuuk to this first meeting and Lucas Carlos and Methos Edward represented Salvador and Liwy as the two Pohnpei members were off island at the time of the meeting.

The Association elected its executive board with Dr. Pretrick re-elected as President; Resnsley Sighra, Vice President; Bethwel Henry, Secretary; and Nick Andon as Treasurer.

Palsis reported that the sports facilities for the Second FSM Games should be completed by the end of May this year. Jim Tobin, FSM Sport Director, explained that Governor Moses Mackwelung has requested an additional \$180,000 matching funds from the FSM Congress to complete the construction and renovation of sports facilities on Kosrae. The FSMASA had requested from Congress, \$480,000 to fund the Second FSM Games operational budget with \$250,000 being obligated for operations, and an addition \$150,000 obligated for athletes transportation.

It was discussed and unanimously agreed that the \$150,000 breakdown would be 30 percent (\$45,000) each for Chuuk, Pohnpei and Yap, to be used for airfare and Kosrae, 10 percent (\$15,000) for ground transportation.

Additional travel costs, above the amount approved for each FSM State, would be the responsibility of each FSM State.

Tobin was asked by the members to revise the Second FSM Games operational budget, with itemized breakdowns for food, sports equipment, awards, off island officials and transportation, housing, protocol, security, and medical committees. He informed the members that the revised operational budget was \$227,000, and thus \$27,000 over budget. The members requested Tobin and Palsis to ask the Organizing Committee to consider no overtime pay to any committee member due to budget constraints, and that all

Second FSM Games workers be voluntary when not given administrative leave by Kosrae State Government.

The 1995 Queen Committee Chairwomen Irish Falcum and Penny Weilbacher reported to FSMASA that over \$170,000 is being deposited in time certificates at the Bank of the FSM. The Queen Contest Committee preferred that the funds be used for college scholarships (\$20,000) and sports facilities construction on Pohnpei; namely a new tennis facility (\$40,000) and the expansion of the Pohnpei State Gymnasium (\$85,000).

Because there are no set procedures and policies for spending funds, a working group was formed to draft procedures and policies for the Queen Contest Committee.

The number of sports, athletes and coaches per sport, and maximum size of a FSM State delegations for the Game was finalized. It was decided that athletes for the Second FSM Games must be FSM citizens. It is estimated that the delegation sizes will be, Pohnpei, 275; Chuuk, 225; Yap, 100 and Kosrae, 275, for a total of 875 athletes and coaches.

Athlete registration deadline was on May 23, 1997, and event deadline was March 28, 1997. It was agreed by the Association that a \$2,500 registration fee be paid by each FSM State delegation, payable to the FSMASA, by May 23, 1997. For uniform colors, Kosrae will remain blue, and Yap, white. Pohnpei and Chuuk were to submit their colors by February 28, 1997.

Acting President Jacob Nena in a communication to all state governors on January 21, told the governors that the 2nd FSM Games will be held on Kosrae from July 16-26, 1997. The planning and policy board for the games is the FSM Amateur Sports Association (FSMASA). The board is comprised of one representative from each of the four FSM states, nominated by each state's Governor, with the remainder of the board selected by his office.

### THE NATIONAL UNION

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