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Congress approves national plan

KOLONIA, Pohnpei - The Third FSM Congress approved during the final day, Jan. 17, of its fourth special session a bill giving it the right to approve amendments to the Five-Year Economic Development Plan, after ratifying the plan on Jan. 16, according to Congress Information Office releases.

Vice Speaker Joab Sigrah of Kosrae presided over the final day of the 10-day session, as Speaker Bethwel Henry departed Jan. 16 with President Tosiwo Nakayama to attend the second inauguration Jan. 21 of President Reagan in Washington, D.C.

Floor amendments changed the voting requirement from a two-thirds to a simple majority of the Congress to ratify substantive amendments to the plan in the amendments procedures bill.

The plan which is comprised of the four state plans and the national objectives for fiscal 1985-89 was completed by the National Plan Task Force with the assistance of U.N. advisors and submitted Dec. 14 by the President to the Congress.

The President transmitted Jan. 11 to the Speaker a series of corrections to the plan which the

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RECEIVES PALIKIR DEED - President Tosiwo Nakayama, left, is receiving the deed to 134,288 acres of Palikir land for construction of the FSM national capitol from Pohnpei Public Land Authority Board of Trustees Chairman Heinrick Iriarte during a reenactment in the President's office of the Jan. 15 deed signing and presentation ceremony in the Palm Terrace Restaurant with Land Authority Commissioner Yasuo Yamada looking on.

FSM deeded land for capitol

KOLONIA, Pohnpei - Pohnpei state officials deeded 134,288 acres of Palikir land to the national government for its new capitol as "an expression of total support for the Constitution of the FSM," Gov. Resio Moses said during a ceremony Jan. 15 in the Palm Terrace Restaurant here.

In accepting the quitclaim deed, President Tosiwo Nakayama said that the FSM will seek additional funding from the U.S. government to complete the capitol complex.

The U.S. Congress provided \$3.-92 million in fiscal 1985 as part of its present commitment of \$13.4 million for construction of the capitol at Palikir which the

FSM estimates will cost \$24.9 million to complete, according to Budget Officer Del Pangelinan.

Construction bids are expected to be opened in April and the contract let by the end of May, if the U.S., FSM and Pohnpei state environmental permits are obtained by then, according to an Office of Planning and Statistics official.

The President said that "we expect the U.S. government to be generous enough to deliver the promise they made way back to provide financing for the construction of this facility."

He said that "it was the United

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FSM to gain ownership of UMDA, Air Micronesia

KOLONIA, Pohnpei - The FSM national government will gain majority ownership of Air Micronesia, Inc., and its route certifications when its Nov. 17 agreement with Continental Airlines goes into effect, according to Attorney General David Nevitt.

United Micronesian Development Association minority stockholders, including Larry Hillblom and People of Micronesia, Inc., are attempting to block the agreement with a lawsuit filed Jan. 18 in the U.S. District Court in Saipan which accuses Continental and FSM officials of participating in illegal bribery and conspiracy acts to give Continental control of Air Mike.

Nevitt called the charges "untrue and frivolous."

The suit asks for \$149 million in damages and a preliminary injunction to stop Continental's purchase of UMDA stocks, until the case is settled.

It names Continental; its parent corporation, Texas Air Corp.; Continental chairman Frank Lorenzo; Daniel Purse; Phillip Bates; Barry Simon; the FSM government; Nevitt; FSM Washington attorney Barry Israel; FSM External Affairs Secretary Andon Amaraich; UMDA; Isidoro Rudmich of Palau; Arthur Irons; J. Thomas Utley; Edward Cotter; Donald C. Williams, and Air Micronesia, Inc.

In a separate suit, the U.S. District Court in Saipan issued Dec. 17 a temporary restraining order at the request of Aloha Airlines, which owns 10 per cent of Air Micronesia, against action by the UMDA board to allow Continental to purchase UMDA stocks for the FSM.

The restraining order was modified Dec. 19 by acting U.S. District Judge Robert A. Hefner to allow the UMDA board to act, but not implement the decision, until after a hearing on a temporary injunction sought by Aloha. The hearing is scheduled for late March.

The FSM entered negotiations with Continental in October to guarantee continued airline service in Micronesia, Nevitt said.

The UMDA board voted during a Dec. 21 meeting in Pohnpei to approve the acquisition of UMDA shares by the FSM through Continental Airlines, Nevitt said.

The action is the first step in the implementation of the agreement initialed Nov. 17 by FSM and Continental officials in Guam to authorize Continental to purchase a majority of the shares in UMDA, which owns 60 per cent of Air Micronesia, and transfer those

shares to the FSM along with 30 per cent interest in Air Mike/owned by Continental.

Air Micronesia and Continental will then enter into a new joint venture with Continental operating the air service and guaranteeing continued air service in Micronesia, Nevitt said.

Continental will get 80 per cent and Air Micronesia, Inc., 20 per cent of the joint venture profits which reflects Continental's present beneficial ownership interest in Air Mike and UMDA, he said.

The Marshall Islands and Palau governments may also participate, if they elect to subscribe to the agreement.

"The primary purpose of this joint venture is to insure preservation of air service throughout Micronesia and to place control of Air Micronesia, for the first time, completely in the hands of Micronesians," Nevitt said.

Nevitt said that Continental and FSM attorneys would attempt to have the suit moved to the U.S. District Court in Houston, Continental's headquarters.

The agreement received approval by the Continental board of directors and the U.S. Bankruptcy Court in Houston approved Continental's acquisition of UMDA shares for transfer to the FSM.

The agreement includes Continental commitments to maintain inter-island service through Micronesia at least at November, 1984, frequency levels, as long as the agreement is in effect, replacing a service commitment which would end next year; to provide air service to Kosrae; to develop tourism; to provide employment opportunities for Micronesians with Air Mike and Continental, and to provide \$100,000 for scholarships for 10 Micronesian students per year.

It also authorizes Air Micronesia, Inc., to obtain new international routes and service agreements with other airlines, if the joint venture has no interest in operating those routes.

Continental will write off the \$20-\$25 million accumulated deficit owed by Air Micronesia, Inc., which would enhance the opportunity for early profit returns to Air Mike, while retaining a 10 per cent of gross management fee during the next three years and 3 per cent of gross, plus 10 per cent of net profits, after that.

Continental would assist in establishing, or promoting local commuter service and would explore the establishment of regul-

ar cargo service throughout Micronesia under the new joint venture.

Continental will continue to operate and manage Continental-Air Micronesia operational and management control of the new joint venture and Air Micronesia, Inc., will appoint four to the joint venture 12-member management committee and will have veto power over decisions relating to its service commitment.

Implementation of the FSM-Continental agreement will end the 18-month battle between Continental and the UMDA board over control of Air Micronesia.

UMDA controls 60 per cent of Air Micronesia, Inc.; Continental, 30 per cent, and Aloha Airline, 10 per cent.

FSM will gain approximately 65 per cent of UMDA stock through transfers from Continental and Peoples of Micronesia, Inc., with the Marshall Islands, Palau and private interests the owning the remaining shares.

With the transfer of Continental's 30 per cent interest in Air Micronesia, the FSM will control 90 per cent of Air Mike and Aloha will retain 10 per cent interest.

Continental agreed to purchase the 11,303 UMDA shares owned by Truk Trading Co. at \$60 a share to transfer to the FSM, but Larry Hillblom of Peoples of Micronesia, Inc., Saipan, offered \$90 a share for the TTC stock, so Continental increased its offer to \$80 and TTC accepted, according to Nevitt.

Continental filed Dec. 20 a suit in the FSM Supreme Court here against Hillblom to regain the \$20 a share difference in the cost of the TTC shares, plus \$1 million in punitive damages.

Continental also will exercise its option to purchase 13,000 shares acquired by its UMDA board member John Thomas Utley to transfer to the FSM, if Utley prevails in Northern Marianas court litigation challenging his option on 9,000 UMDA shares.

Continental will transfer a total of 55,343 of the presently authorized 100,000 UMDA shares to the FSM.

Hillblom in October assisted Peoples of Micronesia, Inc., in purchasing about 25,000 shares of UMDA stock at \$7.50 a share and transferred ownership of 10,000 shares to the FSM and about 5,000 each to the Marshalls, Palau and Northern Marianas, to thwart the attempted takeover of UMDA by Continental.

FSM deeded Palikir land

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States who forced us out of Saipan by agreeing to negotiate separately with Saipan, and in return the United States government said we will assist you to relocate to where ever you decide you should be located."

Nakayama said that the promise to fund the capital relocation was "made by responsible government officials" and "that promise should be delivered and we shall go after it."

Heinrich Iriarte, Pohnpei State Public Lands Authority board of trustees chairman who signed the quitclaim deed transferring the land to the FSM, said in Pohnpei-an, "This is given as a token of our support for unity, cooperation and understanding and for the promotion of our nation's development."

"I am of the understanding that building our nation's capitol will serve the purpose of identifying ourselves as one nation among the community of nations surrounding our area," Iriarte said.

The governor said that the state expects the national government to adhere to the terms set by the legislature, requiring the FSM occupy the Palikir land within five years and to limit residential construction on the deeded property to four houses, one each for the President, Vice President, Speaker and Chief Justice.

Iriarte noted that the negotiations between the national government and state land entity have taken some time, about two years, but the governor said that it "does not mean a negative attitude of our state toward you."

Attend inaugurations
KOLONIA, Pohnpei - FSM President Tosiwo Nakayama and Congress Speaker Bethwel Henry returned Jan. 28 to Pohnpei, after attending the second inaugurations of U.S. President Reagan, Jan. 21, in Washington, D.C., and Republic of Palau President Haruo Remeliik, Jan. 26, in Koror.
The President and Speaker left Jan. 16 and were accompanied to Washington and Palau by FSM Security and Investigations Acting Deputy Chief Lester Ruda.
FSM External Affairs Secretary Andon Amaraich accompanied them to the inauguration of Remeliik.

Congress approves national plan

(Continued from Page 1)

Resources and Development Committee reviewed and recommended that the Congress adopt with the plan.

The resolution ratifying the plan contains a clause giving the President authority to make in consultation with the Speaker technical revisions to the plan prior to its publication.

The President will submit the published version to the U.S. government as required by Section 211 (b) of the Compact of Free Association.

Congress also passed on the final day a bill appropriating \$57,500 from the U.S. grant special fund for expenses resulting from litigation on claims for lands needed for the national capital in Palikir.

It defeated a bill to extend the fisheries development matching grant authorization date, because it passed earlier in the session a bill authorizing \$1 million annually for matching grants to the states on a one to one basis for resources development.

It also defeated a bill to establish an FSM Monetary Authority which had been pending since its first regular session in May, 1983.

It adopted bills allowing Yap and Pohnpei to reapportion state public projects funds.

The session began with Gary Takeuchi of Hawaii serving as the new legislative counsel, replacing Mike Berman who resigned in June, 1984, after four years in the position.

Resolutions approved during the session:

-Ask the U.S. Congress to appropriate sufficient funds to ensure full payment of all FSM citizen war claims adjudicated under the 1971 Micronesian Claims Act and not wait for the Japanese government to appropriate funds for such purposes.

-Express sympathy and condolences to Vice President Bailey Olter and his family for the death of his son, Einstein Olter.

-Express sympathy and condolences to the Senator Elias Thomas and his family for the death of his son, Widmark Thomas.

-Express sympathy and condolences to the people of the Republic of the Marshall Islands, family and friends of the late Dwight Heine.

-Confirm the nominations of Manuel Sound of Truk and Santiago Joab of Pohnpei as an FSM Board

of Education members.

-Express gratitude to Pohnpei leaders and people for quitclaiming land required for the national capitol in Palikir.

-Express sympathy and condolences to the family and friends of the late Fritz Muritok of Truk.

-Express concern of the Congress for the U.S. Weather Service failure to provide advance notice to the Mortlock Islands in Truk and Kapingamarangi and Nukuoro atolls in Pohnpei prior to their being struck by Tropical Storm Elsa.

-Ask the FSM President, Trust Territory High Commissioner and Federal Emergency Management Agency to take all appropriate action to assist the people in the areas hit by the tropical storm.

-Commend all individuals who spent long hours working on the National Economic Development Plan.

TSL overrides vetoes

MOEN, Truk - The Truk State Legislature on Dec. 27 overrode vetoes by Gov. Erhart Aten of the \$26.4 million fiscal 1985 operational budget appropriations and State Living Standard Allowance Act, according to State Information Specialist Dechuo Jain.

In a Dec. 24 veto message, the governor said that the budget appropriation included \$2 million less than requested for non-personnel costs and exceeded Interior Department grant funds by \$173,000.

Aten also criticized a provision in the new budget to allow the legislature to draw money from the general fund, rather than "funding vital government services such as health care and transportation," Jain said.

In his living standard allowance veto message, Aten told Speaker Simion Innocenti that there was no specific appropriation for the allowance for state government employees, nor a statistical study to indicate why \$35 per employee was adequate, or proper.

3 nurses hired

LELU, Kosrae - The Kosrae State Hospital hired Nov. 14 three recent graduates of the Community College of Micronesia Nursing School in Saipan, including Carolee Timothy and Ilean H. Edwin as clinical nurses and Roslyn Sighra as a public health nurse, according to a State Information Office release.

Skills program to start in Truk

KOLONIA, Pohnpei - The U.N. Development Program and International Labor Organization sponsored Trade Training and Testing skills development and certification program will be extended to Truk in February, according to T3 Program Coordinator Henry Hickey.

The program began in Pohnpei last June under the direction of the FSM Labor Division with the training of counterpart instructors in electrical, construction and mechanical skills to provide instruction and testing for basic, intermediate and final certification.

Hickey said that during his Jan. 20-23 planning visit to Moen, Gov. Erhart Aten authorized the use of buildings in the Logan Memorial Church complex to be re-

novated for the three skills workshops, the State Public Works Director offered the use of shop equipment for on-the-job training and the U.S. Air Force Civic Action Team commander offered the use of heavy equipment to clear land at the site and repair the access road.

At the time of his visit, more than 50 applicants responded to the first radio announcement that the program was to begin in Truk, he said.

Joanis Bartolome, the Pohnpei construction counterpart instructor, arrived Jan. 26 in Truk and Welly Welles, electrical counterpart, and Jesse Sidney, mechanical counterpart, arrived Jan. 29 to begin preparation of the workshop buildings, with Hickey and Bill Brown, the last ILO expert in Pohnpei, were to follow Feb. 2.

The purchase of a pickup for the project was authorized and tools are being sent to Truk, Hickey said, adding that "if we get the workshop finished, we hope to start Feb. 11" classes for trainees and Trukese counterpart instructors.

"If everything goes in Truk as expected," Hickey said, "it is planned to implement the program in Yap in June and in Kosrae approximately four months later."

The FSM is one of 12 South Pacific countries where the T3 skills development and certification program is being implemented by the ILO and UNDP.

Johnny David Wins in runoff

KOLONIA, Pohnpei - Pohnpei Housing Authority Director Johnny David, who ran second in the Dec. 21 special election for lieutenant governor, received 59.7 per cent of the votes in the Jan. 18 runoff balloting to defeat FSM Education Chief Daro Weital, according to State Election Commissioner Samson Alpet.

The unofficial totals, including absentee ballots, were 5,615 votes for David and 3,790 for Weital with about 80 per cent of some 12,000 registered voters in the state participating.

Weital led the field of eight candidates Dec. 21 with 1,634 votes, while David was second with 1,548 votes, according to the unofficial returns following that election.

David will replace Lt. Gov. Strik Yoma who was found dead Sept. 2 in a Honolulu hotel room, when he is sworn in, after the election results are certified Feb. 1, according to Alpet.

The vote by municipality, including absentee ballots, was:

| | DAVID | WEITAL |
|----------------|-------|--------|
| Madolenihmw | 331 | 1,388 |
| Uh | 410 | 661 |
| Kitti | 1,587 | 226 |
| Sokehs | 1,294 | 226 |
| Nett | 601 | 374 |
| Kolonia | 510 | 220 |
| Pingelap | 168 | 330 |
| Mokil | 198 | 46 |
| Ngatik | 279 | 35 |
| Nukuoro | 135 | 68 |
| Kapingamarangi | 100 | 213 |

David received two and Weital three absentee ballots not assigned to municipalities.



DAVID

Nominations approved

KOLONIA, Pohnpei - The Pohnpei State Legislature approved Jan. 16 five nominations by Gov. Resio Moses to the State Tourist Commission, according to a State Information Office release.

The five men include incumbents Alex Luzama, special assistant to the governor for commercial affairs, and Koropin Kermen, Catholic deacon for Kitti, and new members, Kolonia businessman Martin Christian, Pohnpei Postmaster Isamo Welles and Air Micronesia customer sales agent Torry Kendall.



NEW LEGISLATORS SWORN IN - Pohnpei State Legislature Speaker Salter Etse, left, is administering the oath of office Jan. 16 to, from left, Dachuo Johnson of Madolenihmw, William Eperiam of Kitti and John Walter of Sokehs who were elected Dec. 21 to three new legislative seats which were created by the Pohnpei State Constitution which went into effect on Nov. 8.

Olter wins math prize

MOEN, Truk - Petrus Olter of Pohnpei, a Xavier High School senior, became the first Micronesian to win a prize in the worldwide Australian Mathematics Competition, after completing the 1984 math test last spring with 100 other participants, according to Xavier Communications Consultant Christine Grieco.

Olter, who has been involved with math and computers throughout his high school education, is planning to enter the Australian Mathematics Competition, again, this year, according to Ms. Grieco.

Briefs.....

KOLONIA, Pohnpei - The Pohnpei Farmer Home Administration office provided \$513,390 in loan and grant assistance to 253 low-income and disadvantaged families during fiscal 1984, according to FmHA Area Supervisor Shelten Neth.

The Rural Housing 504 loans and grants and 502 non-subsidized loans and grants are used to renovate and repair existing housing, he said.

The Pohnpei FmHA office has provided about \$4 million, including settled accounts, to more than 1,000 low-income families and senior citizens in the state, according to Neth, who said the housing program budget could be increased, if the 7 per cent delinquency rate is reduced.

Neth, who returned Nov. 16 to Pohnpei from a two-day FmHA Western Pacific Territories Supervisory Conference in Guam, also announced the appointment of Oliod Robonei of Sokehs as assistant to Chief Construction Inspector Francisco W. Abraham to supervise municipal inspectors.

LELU, Kosrae - Bank of Hawaii Pohnpei Branch Manager Don Holland announced here Dec. 20 the appointment of Lawdin Talley to be Kosrae branch supervisor, according to a State Information Office release.

Sepe Levinson, the second full-time employee, and two part-time employees, Lucy Skilling Allen and Lorna M. Sigrah, arrived Jan. 14 with Talley in Pohnpei to begin 30-60 days of training, before opening Kosrae's first bank branch which is expected during March, according to Holland.

LELU, Kosrae - The Kosrae Transportation Authority board of directors elected Semeon Sigrah its chairman during Nov. 16 organizational meeting according to a State Information Office release.

Other members are the four chief magistrates, Aliksa P. Sigrah of Ielu; Lipan Kephak, Malem; Alik Palsis, Tafunsak, and Makoto Edmond, Utwa; Lt. Gov. Moses Mackwelung, representing the governor's office; Sterkis Abraham, the speaker's office, and Idosi Jesse, Public Works Department.

LELU, Kosrae - The Kosrae Scholarship Board award Dec. 14 loans to Quidy Benjamin and Sisang Clarence to attend the University of Guam; Forester Nena, Hawaii Pacific College, and Anang Welley, Eastern Arizona College, according to a State Information Office release.

First FSM postal inspectors named

KOLONIA, Pohnpei - The appointments of Herlino Makaya and Aurelio Joab as the first FSM postal inspectors and Dion Neth as the Postal Service financial officer were announced Jan. 28 by Postmaster General Leo A. Falcam.

Falcam also reported the four state postmasters agreed that the FSM Postal Service should have

Mexico Highlands University, Las Vegas, before becoming a teacher in Awak.

Attending the Postmasters' Conference were Isamo Welles, Pohnpei; Lyndon Abraham, Kosrae; Mrs. Mayumi Iomongo, Truk, and John Gisong, Yap, in addition to Falcam and his staff.

The postmasters "discussed and

concluded that the FSM must have its own philatelic bureau to promote, sell and market our stamps within the FSM and outside," Falcam said.

"All the postmasters feel very strongly that philatelic sales to outside collectors and dealers have increased to the point that they cannot handle them and run their offices at the same time, and we in the central office feel the same way," he said, adding that he will include proposed authorization and funding for a philatelic bureau manager and sales clerk in the fiscal 1986 Postal Service budget.

"One of our major decisions was to handle Postal Service revenues by ourselves," Falcam said, "in keeping with Public Law 3-13 which created the Postal Service as an independent agency."

He said the Postal Service established its own bank account to deposit its revenues and periodically write checks to the FSM general fund.

The postmasters "reviewed and agreed in principle to the Postal Service portion of the National Development Plan," Falcam said.

They discussed plans for a Postal Service substation at the new FSM capitol complex in Palikir to handle mail for the complex, Community College of Micronesia when it moves to Palikir, Sokehs and Kitti.

The postmasters reviewed a proposal pending in the FSM Congress to gradually reduce Postal Service salaries over the next five years to bring them in line with national government merit system pay classifications, he said, noting that Postal Service employees are being paid by the U.S. Postal Service at its salary levels through July 13, when the FSM Postal Service will have to take over its own payroll.

The FSM Postal Service was inaugurated July 12, 1984.



MAKAYA

JOAB

its own philatelic bureau and handle its revenues, during the first FSM Postmasters Conference here Jan. 14-18.

The appointments of Makaya, 33, a Pohnpei Public Lands Authority realty technician from Madolenihmw, and Joab, 28, an Awak Elementary School teacher in Uh, were effective Jan. 28 and are subject to their completing training at the U.S. Postal Service Training Institute, Potomac, Maryland, scheduled for March 17-May 31, according to Falcam.

Neth, 28, a Pohnpei state budget officer and former FSM planning specialist, will begin Feb. 11.

He is a native of Madolenihmw who was graduated from Avon, Ohio, High School and the University of Guam with a B.A. degree in finance and economics, and who completed Nov. 28 a three-month course in management and finance at the International Training Institute, Sydney, Australia.

Makaya is a native of Kolonia who attended PICS high school here, was graduated from McKinley High School in Honolulu and attended Brigham Young University in Hawaii, before serving a Pohnpei Communications Center radio operator, Pohnpei Community Action Agency community organization manager and elementary teacher in Kolonia and Madolenihmw.

Joab, who was born in Awak, was graduated from PICS high school and the Community College of Micronesia here and received a B.A. degree in political science and industrial education from New



NETH

Lack of training seen in killing

KOLONIA, Pohnpei - The FSM Supreme Court Appellate Division cited the need to adequately train and supervise municipal police officers in affirming the murder conviction of former Fefan Island policeman Robert Loch in the Feb. 6, 1983, beating death of his cousin, Chinup.

In a Dec. 20 opinion signed by FSM Chief Justice Edward King and designated justices Mamoru Nakamura, Palau Supreme Court Chief Justice, and Herbert D. Soll, Northern Marianas Commonwealth Court judge, the court concluded "that the defendant's violent actions far exceeded the degree of force allowed of a police officer under the circumstances."

It also said that "we harbor a strong suspicion that this tragedy is in great part traceable to inadequate care in selecting, training and supervising municipal police officers" who face the same potentially dangerous situa-

tions but work more in isolation than their state and national police counterparts.

Due to the lack of a justice ombudsman in Truk when Loch was sentenced, the court said that in the event a sentence modification motion is filed, "we trust that a careful presentence report will be prepared and that full consideration will be given to the question of whether lack of training was a significant mitigating factor here."

Loch reportedly attempted to arrest Chinup for violating a municipal ordinance prohibiting consuming intoxicating beverages and the victim drew a knife.

Loch ran to his cookhouse to get his coconut husker, a solid mangrove pole about the length of a baseball bat, and Chinup discarded the knife, according to the opinion.

Upon returning, without warning, Loch reportedly hit Chinup from behind with the husker in the upper back, neck, or head as he was walking away.

Chinup reportedly fell face up and Loch smashed him three, or more times on the face, chest and legs, while he was down and immobile. The victim did not regain consciousness and was buried the next day.

The court held that Loch's actions were reasonable in attempting to arrest Chinup the first time and in obtaining a weapon to protect himself against the knife and intimidate Chinup into submission.

"But Loch did not use the husker for either of these reasonable purposes," the opinion states. "He did not give Chinup an opportunity to submit to Loch's show of force and he did not test to determine whether Chinup intended to try to use the knife to prevent arrest."

Loch made no attempt to take Chinup into custody, as he beat the victim unconscious and walked away leaving him dead, or dying, the court found.

The court also upheld the prosecution's position that by hitting Chinup a number of times while he was lying on the ground, immobile and posing no threat to Loch, Loch demonstrated an intent to kill Chinup.

Judges seek Independence

KOLONIA, Pohnpei - Judges attending the first joint Federated States of Micronesia-Palau Judicial Seminar, Jan. 7-18, in Koror agreed that the judicial systems should be independent from the legislative and executive branches and manage their own finance and personnel systems, according to FSM National Justice Nickontro Johnny.

Palau Chief Justice Mamoru Nakamura and FSM Chief Justice Edward King welcomed participants from the Palau supreme and common pleas courts and FSM state and national courts Jan. 7 during the opening session which was addressed by Vice President Alfonso R. Oiterong.

Oiterong said that "political separation should not serve as a barrier" between the FSM and Palau "in tackling important judicial issues."

University of Hawaii law professors John Barkai and Mari Matsuda conducted the morning judicial education sessions, while afternoon sessions were devoted to discussing common issues and problems, according to Johnny.

Palau Supreme Court was represented by Nakamura and associate justices Alan L. Lane, Loren A. Sutton and Robert W. Gibson, while its Common Pleas Court was represented by judges Singichi Ikesakes and Amador D. Ngirkelau.

From the FSM Supreme Court were King and Associate Justice Richard H. Benson; Yap State Court, Chief Justice John Tharngan and Associate Justices Alfonso Rang-anbay and Joachim Falmog; Truk State Court, Chief Justice Soukichi Fritz and Associate Justice Keske Marar, and Pohnpei Supreme Court, Associate Justice Yoster Carl.

FSM law clerk Midasy Aisek, Truk state law clerk Kachuo Eko, Pohnpei court Chief Clerk Doses Halbert and Johnny were staff members attending the seminar, while FSM Justice Ombudsman for Yap Ted Rutun and Yap Probation Officer John Mooteb served as interpreters for the Yap associate justices.

Talley rehab counsellor

LELU, Kosrae - Salik Talley, a Kosrae High School graduate who started his career as a practical nurse in Pohnpei in 1969 and later became a laboratory technician, was appointed Dec. 30 Kosrae state vocational rehabilitation counsellor, according to a State Information Office release.

4 sentenced in Yap

KOLONIA, Yap - FSM Supreme Court Associate Justice Richard Benson, sitting as a designated state court judge in Yap, sentenced former State Senator Mark Loochas, 55, and Flanug (Rifiy), in his 60s, to three years probation, \$100 each in fines and weekend community service after they pleaded guilty to assault and battery here Dec. 10.

The two co-defendants from Luwech, Rull municipality, were charged originally with assault with a deadly weapon in the FSM Supreme Court, but the charge was reduced on a motion by the prosecution and the case was moved to the Yap State Court where Chief Justice John Tharngan designated Benson to preside over the case, according to a Yap State Information Office release.

In other cases tried by Benson during his session here Henry Rigogag, 32, of Makiy, Gagil, was found guilty of sexual abuse on or about Aug. 15, while on parole, and was sentenced Dec. 11 to five years in prison and participation in a work release program.

Lawrence Reyw, 29, of Maa, Tomil, pleaded guilty to sexual assault in exchange for dismissal of a kidnapping charge and was sentenced Dec. 10 to two years in prison and participation in a work release program.

Reyw also was granted the privilege of staying under the roof of his father-in-law two nights a week, according to a Supreme Court press release.

Foreign training assistance increased for FSM in '84

KOLONIA, Pohnpei - The FSM experienced an increase in training programs provided by Australia and other outside sources during 1984, according to monthly reports by the External Affairs Department and Personnel Office.

The year began with Kun Olter of Kosrae being accepted for the South Pacific Commission environment broadcast training course in Suva supported by Australian Development Assistance Bureau (ADAB) funds and Australia Third Country awards going to Johnny Hedson of Pohnpei to study medicine and Sidney Skilling of Kosrae to study law at the University of Papua New Guinea.

Nickolson Solomon of Pohnpei attended the 12th International Training Course in Development Planning, Nagoya, Japan, sponsored by the U.N. Fund for Population Activity (UNFPA).

Baltasar Bossy of Truk was accepted to participate in a prestressed concrete workshop in China; Acting National Planner John Sohl to attend a U.N. Development Program sponsored development planners conference in Papua New Guinea; Hermis Mendiola of Pohnpei to attend a UNDP/FAO (Food and Agriculture Organization)-SPC sub-regional plant quarantine workshop in Suva, and Micronesian Maritime Authority statistician Rosina Edwin to attend a general fisheries statistics training course in Noumea.

Conception Ruben of Truk and Naty Malgorsch of Yap were nominated to attend a U.S. sponsored family planning management workshop in Washington, D.C., and El-nory Phillip of Pohnpei to attend a dental health program workshop in Auckland, New Zealand.

Kosrae State Energy Planner Timothy P. Timothy was nominated to attend a June meeting on new and renewable energy sources focal points in Bangkok, Thailand.

Shelton Neth of Pohnpei was nominated to attend an Asian Productivity Organization (APO) sponsored rural project development course in India.

South Pacific Affairs Deputy Chief Ira Akapito became the first FSM official to complete a three-month foreign service training program in Australia.

HELP program set

LELU, Kosrae - The Kosrae State Health Services Department announced Dec. 10 the creation of its HELP (Health Education Leads to Prevention) program, according to a State Information Office release.

Herson Anson of Pohnpei was chosen to attend a New Zealand sponsored forestry seminar in the Solomon Islands; Lucas Ayin of

Yap was selected for a broadcast training program hosted by the Vanuatu government, and Kosrae Tourism Officer Madison Nena was named for a tourism development planning implementation training program in Suva.

Dion Neth of Pohnpei and Charles Chieng of Yap were awarded Australian scholarships to attend a management and finance course and Constantine Yinug of Yap a rural development course at the International Training Institute in Sydney.

Tadasy Yamaguchi and Uria Mack of Pohnpei and Harold Tername and Raphael Dabchuren of Yap were nominated to attend a Commonwealth Association of Surveying and Land Economy Pacific regional seminar in Suva.

Mathias Mangwoy of Yap and Mel-ander D. Melander of Kosrae were the FSM candidates for a two-week seminar at the Korean Maritime University on radar simulation and operational use of autoaatic radar plotting aids.

Albert Tilfas of the FSM Education Division attended an education planning and population training program in Suva and Lewis Santos of Pohnpei and Vanston Wauguk of Kosrae were awarded Australian physical and health education scholarships.

Oltrick Santos of the Pohnpei Conservation and Resource Surveillance Department was accepted for an APO sponsored small industry export-import symposium and Mathias Ewamai of the FSM Transportation Division was named to participate in a maritime search and rescue seminar and workshop in Jakarta, Indonesia.

FSM Deputy Education Chief Wel-dis Welly was nominated for a population education training regional workshop in Apia, Western Samoa.

Office of Planning and Statistics Planning Specialist Jackson Lehen was selected to attend the population education training regional workshop in Apia, Western Samoa.

Australian scholarship nominations went to Primer Enicar, Community College of Micronesia, Pohnpei, and Robert Jackson, Kosrae, in media management, and media management, and Mario Sukul-bech, Yap, rural project planning and management.

Thomas Narruhn of Truk and Man-ast Debich of Pohnpei were nominated for port management and har-

organization technique training, January-April, in Belgium.

FSM Security and Investigations acting Deputy Chief Lester Ruda attended drug identification training program and Eldoen Hel-lan of Pohnpei attended a marine pollution workshop in Suva.

FSM DSI Advisor Joe Race and Acting Chief Jack Jack attended an 11-week FBI training program in Quantico, Virginia, and 15 FSM state and national law enforcement officers completed the second Micronesian Police Academy 13-week course in Sitka, Alaska.

Seventeen FSM citizens were graduated Sept. 29 from the Micronesian Training Apprenticeship Program conducted by the U.S. Navy in Guam and 21 were selected for the next METAP group, arriving late October in Guam, according to the Personnel Office.

In-country training programs sponsored by external sources included the FSM Telecommunications Corp. Technical aTraining Center which was established in Pohnpei by the U.N. Development Program and International Telecommunications Union. It began operating in August and was dedicated Nov. 28.

The Australian Foreign Affairs Department provided two instructors and the U.S. Interior Department provided funds to bring two participants from each of the FSM states, the Marshall Islands and Palau to the first Micronesian Area Media Training Workshop held May 7-24 in Pohnpei.

The UNDP and Food and Agriculture Organization established a goat breeding project in Madolenihmw Municipality, Pohnpei, beginning with the arrival of FAO Animal Production Officer Haresh T. Patel to train personnel from throughout Micronesia in a Regional Livestock Development Project.

1st rehab client back

LELU, Kosrae - Joab Mongkeya, who returned last month from the Hawaii Job Corps Center and established his own auto body repair shop, is the first Kosraean to complete training under the Vocational Rehabilitation Client Assistance Program, according to a State Information Office release.

The State Education Department administrative officer is the contact person for the client assistance program instituted by the Trust Territory High Commissioner and the state is planning to send two more vocational rehabilitation clients to the center, according to the release.

Singeo named COM executive director, Capelle rector

KOLONIA, Pohnpei - Dr. Singero Singeo of Palau was named College of Micronesia executive director by the COM Board of Regents, during its Jan. 22-24 annual meeting in the College of Tropical Agriculture and Science conference room here.

The board also elected Alfred Capelle of the Marshall Islands its rector; Damian Sohl of Pohnpei, vice rector, and John Salas of Guam, representing the Trust Territory, secretary-treasurer.

The Rev. Billy Kuartei of Palau; FSM Sen. Claude Phillip, Kosrae, and Sebastian Anefal, Yap, were elected members of the executive committee, in addition to Capelle, Sohl and Salas.

Capelle served as vice rector and acting rector during the past year in the absence of Truk State Education Director and COM Regent Chutomu Nimwes, who was elected rector in January, 1984.

Singeo, 37, has been serving as acting executive director since Loren Peterson, who served as COM executive director and acting

chancellor since 1980, resigned in October to go into private business here.

Singeo joined the COM headquarters staff here in 1982 as the development officer and also has been serving since then as acting personnel officer.

Singeo attended the University of Guam for two years and received a B.A. degree from Pacific Union College, Napa, California, and a Doctor of Dental Science degree Loma Linda, California, University, in 1975. He also completed graduate studies in business management at California State University, Chico.

He is married to the former Senellie Phillip, director of the Pohnpei Community Action Agency.

In other action, the board heard reports from the MOC, Community College of Micronesia, CCM Nursing School and CIAS chief executives and approved active discussion with FSM, Palau and Marshall Islands government representatives to determine whether police science, accounting and

nursing related programs could be implemented throughout the college system, according to Singeo.

"The sense of direction for the next couple of years is to establish closer working relationships with all Micronesian governments so that we can be in a position to provide, where we can, skills development to government employees as well as private sector employees," Singeo said.

"For example," he said, "in addition to our regular police science program now sponsored by MOC, the board has offered MOC facilities to be used for the conducting of the 1985 Micronesian Regional Public Safety Academy."

"For its part, MOC has agreed to evaluate and award up to 15 credit hours to officers who had successfully completed the Sitka programs as well as to those going to the 1985 academy in Palau," Singeo said.

"And to maintain fitness and upgrading, COM Continuing Education Centers will offer police science courses throughout the region, thereby enabling public safety officers to take college-level courses without leaving home," he said.

"The accounting program being sponsored by CCM aims to provide competent bookkeepers and entry level accountants to the private sector," according to Singeo, who said that a cursory survey of government and business leaders showed they "support our assessment that we need these skills in order to develop the small to medium scale businesses."

"This program also will be offered throughout Micronesia through the COM system," he said.

COM also is planning to revive an earlier plan to establish an entrepreneurship center, or centers to help its graduates find jobs, or start businesses, he said.

The board is scheduled to begin its next quarterly meeting April 30 in Palau.



COM REGENTS MEET - The College of Micronesia Board of Regents is listening to a presentation by Northern Marianas College Dean of Administration Ed Guerrero, right, during the Jan. 22 opening session of their annual meeting in Kolonia. From left clockwise are Dr. Singero Singeo, who was named COM executive director later in the meeting; board Rector Alfred Capelle of the Marshall Islands; John Salas of Guam, representing the Trust Territory, secretary-treasurer; Vice Rector Damian Sohl of Pohnpei; the Rev. Billy Kuartei of Palau; Guerrero; Bernard Helgenberger of Pohnpei, representing the Trust Territory; Claude Phillip of Kosrae, and Sue Ikertang, secretary to the executive director.

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