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# MicronesianReporter

SECOND QUARTER 1975



## Micronesian Claims Commission:

Its  
Origin

And  
Goals



**cover story:**

**MICRONESIAN CLAIMS COMMISSION: ITS ORIGIN AND GOALS** — by David Rogers — 8

**articles:**

**HISTORIC AND CULTURAL PRESERVATION IN MICRONESIA** — by Dirk A. Ballendorf — 13

**THE COMMUNITY COLLEGE OF MICRONESIA:**

**IN SEARCH OF TOMORROW** — by Alicia E. Ada — 18

**COLLEGE LIFE: MICRONESIAN STUDENTS IN AMERICA** — by Susan Morikawa — 21

**THE FLYING MISSIONARY** — by Martin G. Yinug — 32

**A MAN WHO LOVES HIS JOB** — by Sally Pickard — 35

**THE WRECK OF THE RANIER** — by John W. Perry — 41

**feature:**

**CHOWANOC CRUISES THROUGH ISLANDS** — by Lieutenant Commander Jim Bateman — 27

**FOOTNOTE** — 44

**departments:**

**THIS QUARTER'S WORTH** — 1

**WHO'S WHO** — 1

**INTERVIEW:** Francisco C. Ada — 2

**DISTRICT DIGEST** — 36

**CREDITS:**

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## **MicronesianReporter**

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# This Quarter's Worth

More than three decades ago, myriad lives were senselessly lost and properties violently destroyed in World War II. The people of Micronesia were not accountable for this war yet they lost lives and properties worth millions of dollars. Japan and the United States, which were "morally" responsible, did not take any concrete action to compensate the people of Micronesia until 1969. Subsequently, the Congress of the U.S. passed the Micronesian Claims Act to accommodate the people's grievances. The Act set up the Micronesian Claims Commission to deal with the war "damages" and to compensate the people of Micronesia. The Commission, which is so important to Micronesians, is our cover story, written by the Commission's director, David Rogers, to describe its origin, functions, and goals.

The readers, in this issue of the Reporter, are offered a timely essay on how to preserve the culture and history of Micronesia. With the impact of acculturation getting stronger everyday and with the knowledge that the cultures of these once-enchanted islands are definitely endangered, it is proper that some efforts be taken now in the line of "historic and cultural preservation." A prolific and inquisitive contributor to the Reporter—Dr. Dirk Ballendorf—offers his thought-provoking views on how to preserve the culture and history of Micronesia.

We think the articles—"Community College of Micronesia: In Search of Tomorrow" and "College Life: Micronesian Students in America" will

find their ways to colleges and universities... The Congress of Micronesia recognized a man whose "long and arduous efforts" have established an air service in Yap. The Rev. Edmund Kalau and his co-pilot, Maurice Pickard, are subjects of "The Flying Missionary" and "A Man Who Loves His Job" respectively... The readers are taken on a cruise to some exotic islands of the Eastern Carolines. The islands are still "fresh and new", as a photo album captured by an enthusiastic traveler's roving camera will attest... Finally, the readers are offered a historical perspective of a shipwreck in Ujae in 1884 and also a review of a fantastically beautiful film, "Sea of Eden", filmed (mostly underwater) in Palau.

## Who's Who

...in this issue of the Reporter

**DAVID ROGERS** has been Chairman of the Micronesian Claims Commission since October 1974. Formerly a trial lawyer in California, he served for five years as Director of the Peace Corps Program in India. He holds a BA degree in Liberal Arts and a Law Degree from Harvard University.

**DIRK A. BALLENDORF**, Senior Analyst in the Peace Corps Director's Office in Washington, D.C., was with the Peace Corps/Micronesia (1966-1968). Ballendorf has maintained a scholarly interest in Micronesia, and the articles resulting from his research have been published in several previous editions of this magazine.

**ALICIA E. ADA** is a Teacher Training Specialist at the Community College of Micronesia on Ponape, where she teaches English. A native of the Philippines, she has made Micronesia her home since her marriage to a Ponapean in 1970.

**SUSAN MORIKAWA** is a former Peace Corps volunteer in Ngarchelong, Palau (1966-1968). Feeling concerned about

the Micronesian college students in America, Susan, who lives on Saipan with her husband and two children, offers a rare, in-depth look at the conditions and problems that these students encounter in that faraway country.

**LIEUTENANT COMMANDER JIM BATEMAN** has been Military Liaison Officer to the Trust Territory since August 1974. Graduated from Philadelphia College of Art with a BS degree in Industrial Design in 1966, he was commissioned in the U.S. Navy following Officer Candidate School. His most recent duty was as a student at the Naval War College, Newport, Rhode Island. During a recent cruise aboard the USS Chowanoc (AFT-100), his roving camera captured these impressions of some of the islands of the Eastern Carolines.

**MARTIN G. YINUG** offers in his first article to this magazine an assessment of the Reverend Kalau's mission in Yap. Yinug, Administrative Assistant for the Yap Delegation to the Congress of Micronesia and Chairman of the Yap District Task Force on Education for Self-Government, received a BA degree in Political Science from California State University (formerly San Francisco State College) in 1972.

**SALLY PICKARD**, a free-lance writer, has a BA degree in Speech from Northwestern College in Minneapolis, Minnesota. The Pickards have three children and are making their home on Yap. Sally's husband, Maurice, whom the article is about, flies the Evangel aircraft for Pacific Missionary Aviation.

**JOHN W. PERRY**, a former Peace Corps volunteer in the Marshalls (1967-1969), is a Washington, D.C. based writer-researcher. He is a frequent contributor to the Reporter: "Micronesia's Unloved Islands: Ujelang", "On the Go: Tarawa", "The Jaluit Incident: 1880" and now "The Wreck of the Ranier: 1884".

# INTERVIEW:

## Francisco C. Ada

*Francisco C. Ada has the distinction of being the most senior among the present District Administrators and the second Micronesians to become a District Administrator (the first being Dwight Heine of the Marshalls). Born in 1934 in Garapan, Saipan, Ada attended elementary school on Saipan where he completed ninth grade in 1951. Education beyond the elementary grades has meant leaving home for many Micronesians. Frank Ada left home shortly after his graduation from elementary school to pursue higher education: first as a student at the Father Duenas Memorial High School on Guam, and later as a college student at the University of Hawaii, where he graduated in 1961 with a BA degree in Political Science.*

*Coming home from Guam in 1955 with a diploma, he started teaching at the Marianas District Intermediate School, where he taught Social Studies and English for two years. The Marianas District then was administered by the Department of Navy, which offered him in 1957 a scholarship to study at the University of Hawaii. Ada, at the University of Hawaii, also had the distinction of serving for one year (1960) as the President of the International Students' Association.*

*Frank Ada has held several important posts in the Trust Territory Government: Marianas District Political Affairs Officer (1962-66), Assistant District Administrator for Public Affairs (1966-1969), Marianas District Administrator (1969-present). Additionally, he has had numerous responsibilities in local affairs and has participated in the changes that have taken place in the Trust Territory.*

*The Reporter, prior to the Interview, selected Ada "as the most appropriate person to be interviewed" because he "is the most senior among the present DistAds", and because his "district is the most materially developed among the six districts both in the government and private sectors." Inquisitive, deeply-perceptive, and articulate, District Administrator Ada—interviewed by the Reporter in his Office at the Civic Center, Saipan—carefully considered each question and responded with candor.*

**REPORTER:** Where did you go to school?

**ADA:** I attended elementary school on Saipan, then went to Guam for high school. I graduated from the University of Hawaii in 1961 with a B.A. degree in Political Science.

**REPORTER:** When did you complete elementary and high school?

**ADA:** I completed elementary school, or rather ninth grade, on Saipan in 1951, and high school on Guam in 1955.

**REPORTER:** Then in 1955 you went to the University of Hawaii?

**ADA:** No, I came back to Saipan and taught for a few years at the Intermediate School. In 1957, I was awarded a scholarship under the Naval Administration, which was



administering the district at that time, to attend the University of Hawaii from 1957 to 1961.

**REPORTER:** What subjects did you teach at Intermediate School?

**ADA:** English and Social Studies.

**REPORTER:** After graduating from the University of Hawaii, what was your immediate job with the Trust Territory Government?

**ADA:** In 1961, the Marianas, except Rota, were still under the Naval Administration. I taught from 1961 to 1962 at the Intermediate School. You might call it a junior high school, with grades up to nine. There was no high school on Saipan at that time; the only high school was PICS (Pacific Islands Central School) on Ponape. Then on July 2, 1962, the Department of the Interior took over the administration of the Marianas. Headquarters was moved from Guam to Saipan. I was then appointed District Political Affairs Officer. In June 1966, I was appointed Assistant District Administrator for Public Affairs. At that time the second man in command was called Assistant District Administrator rather than the present title of Deputy District





Administrator. In May 1969, I was appointed District Administrator.

**REPORTER:** Who was the Marianas District Administrator before you?

**ADA:** Peter T. Coleman, our present Deputy High Commissioner.

**REPORTER:** Were you the first Micronesian to become District Administrator?

**ADA:** No, I was the second. The first was Mr. Dwight Heine of the Marshalls, who became the District Administrator of his home district.

**REPORTER:** When you were a student at the University of Hawaii, did you have a prior understanding or notion that someday you would become the District Administrator of your home district?

**ADA:** No, as a matter of fact, I was really thinking of pursuing a teaching career. That was what I wanted at that time. When I was told to move from the school to the district administration office as a political affairs officer, I was kind of reluctant. I wanted to stay in education; I liked teaching. I never really had an ambition to become a district administrator. I just wanted to be a teacher. I never thought about becoming the district administrator of the Marianas.

**REPORTER:** At one time you served as Chief Clerk for the Congress of Micronesia. When did you serve in that position?

**ADA:** When the Congress of Micronesia was established in 1965, I was on loan to the Congress from the District Administration. I was the first Chief Clerk of the House. Strik Yoma, presently the Trust Territory Director of Public Affairs, was the Chief Clerk of the Senate. We set up the Congress procedures, forms, procedures of legislative transactions, how to file and number a bill, committee reports, transmittal letters. These things are still in existence although they have been improved. I was on loan for two consecutive sessions.

**REPORTER:** You hold the highest executive post in the Marianas District. Would you briefly explain the functions of your office?

**ADA:** As District Administrators, and this applies to my five colleagues, we are the representatives of the High Commissioner as well as the chief executives in the districts. In other words, we are responsible for just about everything in the districts. I think the job of District Administrator is comparable to that of any chief executive in any given area.

**REPORTER:** Is your present work challenging?

**ADA:** This job is very challenging, indeed, as is any office of similar nature.

**REPORTER:** Would you cite a specific instance that stands out in your memory that makes your work interesting?

**ADA:** Everything is interesting; everything is challenging because I'm working for the welfare of the people even though my position is appointed. I have one thousand employees to supervise. We have public services to perform: education, public works, finance, personnel and health programs. Even though Saipan is known to many as a sophisticated area, it still has many problems similar to the problems other districts are confronted with, such as the shortage of water, power, the need for additional classrooms, roads, and garbage disposal. Endless things that make this job interesting.

**REPORTER:** In your tenure as District Administrator, what stands out in your memory as your most important accomplishment?

**ADA:** I cannot single out one particular thing. Everything is important to me. We have accomplished a lot in the six years of my administration. We have upgraded our power capability because of the increasing demands. We have also upgraded or built more classrooms. We have upgraded all areas. We are building a modern international airport with nice terminal facilities which will accommodate our flourishing tourist industry. We have increased our production in agriculture. It is encouraging to note that many farmers have begun to depart from the concept of subsistence farming, that is farming a little bit for their families. These farmers are now looking at it as a commercial enterprise and they are making money in their ventures. If you compare production of 1970 and 1974 you see the increase in agriculture production. Just the other day I was talking to our Customs and Tax people, and they said in this calendar year there has been a decrease in importation of fresh food. This corresponds to the increase in production. This is a healthy thing. I hope we maintain this trend. Our Agriculture Department is actively planning programs to assist farmers. The District Legislature and the Congress of Micronesia have allocated funds to farmers. These are the kinds of things that are important. As you know, we have over 100,000 people in Micronesia and another 100,000 in Guam within our geographical location. We are talking about a little over 200,000 people to feed. We have producers on Saipan; if they are coordinated right, that can feed these people. So, everything is important. If we build ten additional classrooms, that is important. If we hire doctors, that is important, too, because of the health problems. If we upgrade our agricultural production, that is also important because it is economic development.

**REPORTER:** You mentioned that the construction of Isley International Airport will be completed by September of this year?

**ADA:** We hope by September the contractors will complete the airfield itself and one of the five buildings. We will start operating from there. The other four buildings are presently under construction and should be completed by summer of next year. As to the old airport, we will abandon it because I cannot see any reason to maintain two airports.

**REPORTER:** Roads on Saipan are paved. Would you consider this a major accomplishment of your administration?

**ADA:** The major roads, both here and on Tinian, were built during military times, 1945 to 1962. The street paving during my administration is in the various villages. The money that made the paving possible came from the Saipan Land Trust Fund. We were not able to pave all the streets, but the most travelled streets in the villages. We would like to do more, but we do not have the funds. So there really is no *magic* to this kind of thing. The magic really is money. If you have money you can pave roads, you can build things. Even if a genius comes, if he does not have the money he cannot build anything.

**REPORTER:** The Marianas District has experienced tremendous economic strides under your administration. What, in your opinion, is the key to good economic development?

**ADA:** The leaders and the people here have accepted the concept of competition and the fact there are certain ventures that cannot be financially undertaken by Micronesians. They have permitted outside investment to come in to be involved in economic development beyond the Micronesian capabilities. For instance, we have permitted Ken Jones (of Guam) to build the Royal Taga Hotel. Before the Taga was built, there was no hotel of such size on Saipan. Upon the completion of the hotel, the tourist industry started. The Hafa Adai Beach Hotel was then started. That increased the number of tourists. And the Continental Hotel was built. There again was an increase of tourism. All you have to do is compare the figures. In the last five years there has been a 40% increase in tourists. I share these feelings of identifying areas which Micronesians cannot undertake financially. I encourage competition. We now have four major supermarkets. This is good because there is competition. The more fair, reasonable competition there is, the better it is for the people. If they do not like to shop at a particular market because another market offers a better price or better quality, they have a choice. I think our people and leaders have accepted the fact that free, fair and open competition is a very healthy thing. They have accepted the fact there are many economic ventures that cannot be undertaken financially by Micronesians. These are the businesses that are being permitted to come in and participate in economic development. At the same time, these ventures enable Micronesians to participate by purchasing stock. The Continental Hotel, Duty Free, which will handle the prime concession at the new airport, Dillingham, and other corporations, have stock available to Micronesians.

**REPORTER:** It is good to note that tourism in your district is successful. Why is it that more tourists come to your district than other districts?

**ADA:** It is because of our geographic location with Guam. Saipan is only a twenty-five minute plane ride from Guam, and the Japanese tourists who come to Guam want to take advantage of this. I believe the other districts will in due time have more tourists. I think the airline and hotel people here are helping promote it in advertising Saipan and Micronesia. We do encourage tourism because this is a potential source of revenue to this district. We encourage the development of tourism, and at the same time we add some safeguards and control. We encourage the development of hotels, but there will come a time when we will have to slow down the construction so as not to overbuild. We are trying to improve our accommodations, such as historic sites. Saipan has many historic places resulting from World War Two that the Japanese like to see. There are multiple reasons for the success of tourism in this district.

**REPORTER:** Why is it that Saipan has a better program of taking care of or beautifying the natural or historic places than the other districts?

**ADA:** This is the result of the work of our tourism people. We have a Tourism Office. We also have a Tourist Commission, a very active one. We have Micronesian tour guides, the hotels and airlines promotions. I'm sure the other districts are beginning to develop theirs. There are many equally beautiful, scenic, historic places in all the districts. Everyone here is helping to make our tourism program successful. The District Legislature appropriates funds each year. The Saipan Municipal Council also appropriates money to hire people to maintain our historic places. We have some 30 students under the CETA program, who are working under the District Tourism Office to keep our scenic areas clean. So everyone is helping, the government as well as the





private sector. We try to keep the island clean so visitors will enjoy their stay with us. The concept of working together is a very good one.

**REPORTER:** More than one airline is seen landing on Saipan. Would you elaborate?

**ADA:** Actually, there are only two airlines landing on Saipan: Air Micronesia and Air Pacific. There are occasional charter flights by Pan American. Majuro is serviced by two airlines: Air Micronesia and Air Nauru. Air Nauru even lands on Ponape for fueling. Again, Air Pacific is a Guam-based company and does land here.

**REPORTER:** Do you think more airlines are needed to serve Saipan in light of the increased number of tourists?

**ADA:** I do not know whether the volume of tourists now would warrant multiple airlines; probably in the future, when the volume becomes economically feasible. We all know that Air Micronesia serving the whole Micronesia is not financially healthy. The Saipan-Japan route is another matter. Concerning the route from here to Guam and other parts of Micronesia, I doubt that the flow of passengers would make it economically feasible for two major airlines. An air taxi concept, such as Air Pacific, is making out all right. No, at this time the volume of tourists does not warrant additional airlines.

**REPORTER:** Saipan, needless to say, is comparatively better in many respects, due to the excellent effort on your part. Does the presence of Headquarters on Saipan make your administration feel it is being constantly or daily watched by the High Commissioner?

**ADA:** No, I don't think so. The High Commissioner has confidence in the six District Administrators. I don't think people should conjecture that because the High Commissioner resides on Saipan we are being watched. This district is economically healthy because of the cooperation of everyone. We are



trying to do our best. We increased our power capability to meet the needs of the private sector. There are more permanent houses. The Saipan Housing Authority, which is financed by the Congress of Micronesia and U.S. federal funds, is actively trying to build modern houses. People want modern appliances and this takes power and water. They want tap water, electric stoves and all the modern appliances, and these consume power. We are not increasing power because Headquarters is here. We are doing this to help our people. We have to keep the island clean. We cut the grass along the roads because everyone uses the roads. Simply, we want to do a good job so everybody will enjoy the comfort and convenience, and enjoy living here.

**REPORTER:** The present High Commissioner has been praised by numerous resolutions of the Congress of Micronesia and several district legislatures for doing commendable work for the Micronesians. Do you share such a belief? Or how is the working relationship between your district administration and Headquarters?

**ADA:** I certainly share the feeling of many Micronesians that High Commissioner Edward E. Johnston is doing outstanding work, not because I was appointed by him but because we can all see the many programs that have been accomplished in the districts and at Headquarters under his

administration. Even though there are many problems in Micronesia, there are still many accomplishments. High Commissioner Johnston has continued to seek more funding for the Trust Territory. So I would like to echo the sentiments of the Congress of Micronesia, the district legislatures, and the many others, for the outstanding work the present High Commissioner is doing. I have an excellent working relationship with him and his staff. I've never had any major problems with Headquarters or the other districts. After all, we are part of the family and we want to work and cooperate as much as possible with Headquarters and the other districts.

**REPORTER:** Has the working relationship between the executive and legislative branches of your district government been productive?

**ADA:** We have an excellent working relationship with the district legislature even though there may be times when we have differences in approaching problems. The legislature's participation in reviewing the district's budgets and priorities is helpful in identifying the areas of priorities. I would like to reiterate that there are times when we have differences of opinion, but that is a very healthy thing in a democratic government. At such times we meet and exchange ideas. It is helpful to me to get the legislature's ideas on the approach to problems. I'm sure the legislature has benefited from ideas from the executive branch. We have an excellent, productive relationship. The district legislature has actively supported the various projects by appropriating funds. Community halls, recreational facilities, the tourism office are a few of the many projects that have been accomplished by appropriations from the district legislature.

**REPORTER:** Recently the Marianas District Legislature became full-time, and that was a historic milestone since it was the first legislature to achieve full-time status. Would you comment on this?

**ADA:** The idea of a full-time legislature is not unique here. The Ponape legislature has repeatedly asked for full-time status. In my opinion, there is sufficient work here to warrant a full-time legislature. I approved the bill because I felt confident that it was time for individuals to decide whether they were going to work full-time for the executive branch or the district legislative branch. This is a healthy development because the elected district legislators will now devote all their time and attention to the problems of the people and planning projects. It was difficult for them to work for the executive branch and the legislature at the same time because they had to take leave every time the legislature convened. This sometimes disrupted our programs too, because their time was divided between the two branches of government. Because they spread themselves too thin, I felt it was good to make the legislature full-time. Now they can devote their attention and energy to the tasks of the legislature.

**REPORTER:** When did the full-time legislature come into effect?

**ADA:** On April 1 of this year.

**REPORTER:** Does this mean they are full-time legislators, no longer working for the executive branch of your government?

**ADA:** That is correct. They all have resigned their positions in the executive branch and are now full-time legislators.

**REPORTER:** Your district has more local newspapers than the other five districts of Micronesia, and this roughly means "there is more freedom or democracy" exercised in your district. Are you comfortable with this freedom?

**ADA:** Yes, certainly. I think freedom of the press and freedom of speech are two of the most important ingredients in any democratic society. When we start censoring freedom of speech and freedom of the press, that will be a dangerous situation. I am certainly comfortable with the people exercising their freedom.

**REPORTER:** Specifically what the Reporter would like to inquire about is the amount of freedom exercised by many different people in your district. For instance, the teachers in your district have gone on strike or have a history of strikes, and this is a very healthy thing in any democratic government. Would you care to comment on this?

**ADA:** I don't think there have been many strikes in this district. The strikes were for legitimate reasons even though sometimes their demands were unreasonable. In general the teachers' reasons for striking were legitimate. They did not really want to strike because they are responsible individuals; they care for the children. But their job classification was approved in September of last year and the pay scale was not made effective. Anyone who has experienced that can understand the effect on the teachers' morale. We were able to resolve the situation by sacrificing in other areas: supplies, travel. We did not receive additional funds from Headquarters. We did it here. I advised the District Director of Education that we would have to sacrifice and to discipline ourselves financially in order to defray the cost of the raise in teachers' salaries. We did not receive special assistance from Headquarters.

**REPORTER:** Since the time you were teaching in the Intermediate School, have you noticed any major improvement in the area of curriculum?

**ADA:** I believe there have been major improvements. We are talking about almost twenty years ago when I was teaching. The teachers now are better prepared. They have more training, seminars, workshops. Last year we initiated a University of Guam extension service on Saipan. This is convenient for our teachers as well as others who won't have to go to Guam to get a college education. They can now attend classes on Saipan. The University professors come here to conduct classes, especially in the



summer. These are some of the things that are very helpful in upgrading the skills, training, and knowledge of the teachers.

**REPORTER:** There are many people who want to homestead in Saipan. Do you have enough land to accommodate so many people who would like to homestead on Saipan?

**ADA:** We have sufficient land in the Marpi and Kagman areas to accommodate some 300 or 400 applications. Our biggest problem is funding. Recently we received funds from the Congress of Micronesia, so we have started to survey and develop these areas. We are also working on further subdivisions of land around Navy Hill. There is some government land which is not suitable for agricultural purposes but suitable for village-life development. We have identified Marpi and Kagman as excellent areas for homesteading. But again, it will take money to survey the areas; it will take money to bring in water and electricity. Yes, Saipan has adequate land to accommodate our people, but the lack of funds at this time makes it difficult to homestead the people.

**REPORTER:** You mentioned that when the new international airport is completed next year, the old airport will be left unused because you do not see any reason to operate two international airports on such a small island. Would it be possible to use Kobler airport and the adjacent areas for homesteading?





**ADA:** Kobler Field is military retention land. At this time I do not know what the Land Advisory Board and the District Planner would have to say or what will happen to the old Kobler airport. As a layman looking at Kobler, I certainly feel that it can become a site for village-life development. But we have to keep in mind the safety aspects of living there, because Kobler is adjacent to Isley Field. I do not know whether the FAA will consider living at Kobler too good an idea. But looking at it as a layman, your suggestion has merit and certainly I have that in mind.

**REPORTER:** Would you offer a clear, unbiased explanation of what is going on politically in the Marianas regarding the status issue?

**ADA:** The people, through their representatives in the district legislature and in the Congress of Micronesia, have formed the Marianas Political Status Commission. The mandate of the Commission, through the people of the Marianas, demands a closer political affiliation with the United States. The records will show the people of this district expressed this desire as early as fifteen years ago—their desire for a closer and permanent relationship with the United States. What is going on now is the answer to that expression. In my opinion, the people, collectively or individually, have the right to express what kind of political status they desire. Earlier we talked about freedom in a democratic society. This is one of the ingredients of a free society: the right for an individual to express what kind

of political status he wants. Any individual in any part of the world should have the right to express what kind of government he wants.

**REPORTER:** In case the desire or political aspiration of the Marianas is for a commonwealth of the United States, obviously the Trust Territory Headquarters will be moved from Saipan and be placed in one of the five remaining districts in Micronesia. Would you comment on what will happen to the people of the Marianas District who are working for the TT Government?

**ADA:** We know the new Marianas government will not be able to absorb the entire number of local residents now working for the Trust Territory government. We will absorb as many as we can. Also, there are many people from the Marianas working at Headquarters who can still perform great services to the Trust Territory government. It would be extremely expensive for the Trust Territory Government to hire a clerk-typist who needs housing, transportation, and other benefits, from one of the other districts when clerk-typists are available locally. So, in my opinion, this is in the interest of the Trust Territory Government too. From the standpoint of economy, it will be wise to continue utilizing the skills of the people of the Marianas. I think the people from the Marianas who work for the Trust Territory Headquarters will continue in their jobs.

**REPORTER:** Would the transfer of Headquarters from Saipan to one of the other districts of Micronesia have an adverse effect on the economy of your district?



**ADA:** It would definitely have adverse effects here because of the number of people at Headquarters and the income they spend in the local stores.

**REPORTER:** Micronesia is geographically located in the Western Pacific. Although one district has taken a different road politically, all the districts are geographically situated in the same ocean. The waves that wash the shores of your district also wash the shores of the other districts. Even though the Marianas becomes a commonwealth because of the political aspirations of the people, it is often mentioned that the other districts can still be friendly neighbors with the Marianas. How do you perceive this sort of situation?

**ADA:** Even if the Marianas attain a separate political status, we cannot geographically segregate our islands. I am sure the leaders and the people of the Marianas District share the feeling that we will continue to work together and help each other. For instance, there are two Samoas. One is under the United States, and the other is an independent nation; but they are working together. I see no reason why all of us in Micronesia, including Guam, cannot continue to help each other in the areas of economic development, cultural exchange, education. I see a great future for Micronesia. Although there may be a loose federation among the districts of Micronesia, we can work together harmoniously. It would be good to consider establishing a common market. Again, it is my hope that all of Micronesia (although some areas may have different political statuses) will be able to work together and help each other. If the Marianas can be of assistance to the other districts, whatever the type of government they have, I am sure they will be interested in sharing our skills and knowledge. I am also sure that skills and knowledge of the other districts, which we lack, will be cordially welcomed in the Marianas. There is no room for animosity in this part of the world. We should all work and help each other.

# Micronesian Claims Commission:

by David Rogers

September of this year will mark the thirtieth anniversary of the end of hostilities between the United States and Japan. September 1975 will also mark the beginning of the final year of a four-year program to assess losses and make payments to Micronesians for the death and destruction unleashed on these peaceful islands by that war.

The Micronesian Claims program, initiated in 1972, has been to date the subject of satisfaction and frustration, appreciation and vituperation, success and failure, to both its implementors and its beneficiaries. The frustration engendered by a wait of thirty years for a claims program and the apparent insufficient funds available to pay complete compensation, overshadow what otherwise would be considered a thorough and sensitive implementation of a program born of the best interests of compassion and justice.

Confusion arises at the outset due to the joining in one program of two separate and distinct claims programs, implemented simultaneously by one commission yet requiring application of different rules of law obtaining differing results in seemingly similar situations. To add further to the confusion, responsibility for adjudication of claims and payment of awards is divided between two separate agencies and departments of the United States Government. To attempt to clarify some of this confusion and to explain the ambivalent reactions to the program some background information and review of the operation of the program to date may be helpful.

## Its Origin And Goals

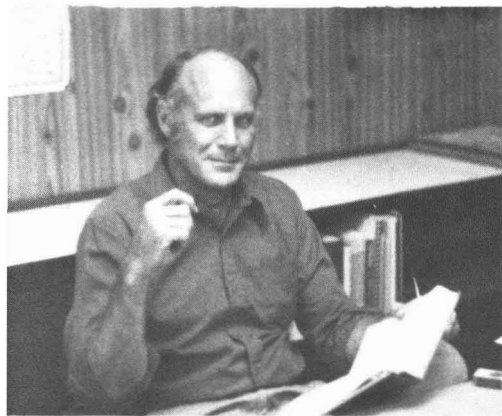


*Bomb craters on Saipan 1944 — thirty years later a claims program*

*The cost of war — Garapan City in 1944*







*Claims Commission Chairman David Rogers*



*Commission Vice Chairman Wally Witkowski reviews claims file.*



*Micronesian Commissioner Jose C. Cabrera signs one of six thousand awards to date.*



*Commissioner John B. Rulmal checks a legal point with Staff Attorney Gene Mathews.*

*\*Commissioner Robert Bowles on home leave while these pictures were taken.*

For some years prior to the outbreak of war, Japan, which controlled Micronesia under mandate from the League of Nations, fortified a number of islands, taking and destroying land, trees and crops and displacing landowners. With the outbreak of war the islands were further fortified, and as the United States forces started their drive across the Pacific, devastation was brought to the islands by intense aerial and naval bombardment and the bloody battles for possession of many of the islands. Even where invasion did not occur, as in Truk, heavy bombing and an effective blockade transformed the landscape and brought a heavy death toll, much of it from starvation.

Upon securing a number of islands, United States forces used the land to construct major facilities in the form of airfields, storage depots, fuel and ammunition dumps, and barracks. Over two hundred fifty thousand troops were housed on Saipan alone in preparation for an expected invasion of Japan. During the years immediately after the war, much of this land was returned, however often in a badly damaged condition, no longer suitable for agriculture. Other land was kept by the United States, being used in large part for construction of permanent public buildings and roads. Although the intention was stated numerous times that compensation would be paid for this land, a comprehensive compensation program was never put into effect.

A significant distinction underlies the question of responsibility for claims resulting from direct hostilities, and the second category of claims arising from United States activities following the securing of the various islands. Under longstanding principles of international law there is no responsibility on the part of a belligerent to compensate even neutrals for damage done as a direct result of combat hostilities. On the other hand, principles of law confirm the repeated declarations of the United States that compensation was "owing"

for the use of private property after the securing of an island. This fundamental difference in responsibility in part explains certain differences in treatment afforded the two classes of claimants.

The history of the "War Claims Program" goes back to the end of the Second World War. The Treaty of Peace between Japan and the United States which came into force in 1952 contained in Article 4(a) a statement that claims of Micronesians along with certain other matters would be the subject of "special arrangements" between Japan and the United States.

Negotiations between Japan and the United States, acting on behalf of the Micronesian people, started soon after the signing of the Peace Treaty. While not denying the existence of legitimate claims by the people of Micronesia, Japan took the position that they were more than offset by Japanese property abandoned in Micronesia at the time of the repatriation of Japanese nationals to Japan shortly after the war. The discussions thus reached apparent deadlock until 1966 when, at the urging of the United Nations, intensive negotiations were undertaken which finally came to fruition in 1969. By executive agreement reached in that year the United States agreed to contribute \$5,000,000 into a Micronesian Claims Fund, while Japan would waive its asserted claims and would contribute the equivalent of ¥1,800,000,000 having a value at the time of the agreement of \$5,000,000. The agreement called for the Japanese contribution to be in goods and services which, through a highly complicated process, would be converted into an equivalent dollar contribution by the Trust Territory Government into the Micronesian Claims Fund. The agreement contemplated that the United States would administer (and pay the cost of administering) this Fund to see it was distributed to meritorious Micronesian claimants.

To implement this agreement, the United States Congress, after one

unsuccessful attempt, passed Joint Resolution 617 commonly called the Micronesian Claims Act. The Act contained two Titles. Title I of the Act provided for consideration of claims "... directly resulting from the hostilities between the Governments of Japan and the United States between December 7, 1941, and the dates of the securing of the various islands of Micronesia by United States Armed Forces...". In line with the lack of legal responsibility to pay such claims, the Act clearly specified that payment of these claims was an *ex gratia* contribution, i.e., a gift, and that claims in this category would be paid out of the approximate \$10,000,000 in the Micronesian Claims Fund established by the agreed contributions of the United States and Japan.

Added to the statute as Title II was a separate claims program to consider claims for the taking and use of land, personal injuries and death arising between the date of securing of an island and July 1, 1951, and "... caused by the United States Army, Navy, Marine Corps, or Coast Guard, or individual members thereof, including military personnel and United States Government civilian employees, and including employees of the Trust Territory government acting within the scope of their employment...". No claims "fund" was established for payment of such claims, but rather \$20,000,000 was authorized by the Act to effect payment.

The Act created the Micronesian Claims Commission to assist Micronesians in filing claims; to review all claims and evidence in support thereof; and to make awards in amounts to be determined by the Commission, guided by principles of international law and the laws of the Trust Territory. The Act then delegated to the Secretary of the Interior, or his designee, the responsibility to make payment of the awards issued by the Commission.

The composition of the Commission was unique in that it provided for appointment of five commissioners, two of whom were to be Micronesians appointed from a list nominated by the Congress of Micronesia.

The statute which created the Micronesian Claims Commission also defined its length of life by requiring it to wind up its affairs within three years of the last date for filing claims. The Commission, therefore, must complete its task by October 1976. A staff of attorneys, field representatives, secretaries and other administrative personnel was authorized to assist the Commission.

Preliminary work was commenced in July 1972, the full Commission being appointed by October of that year. The Commission's first task was to publicize the program and to assist potential claimants in preparing claims according to regulations promulgated by the Commission. This was completed between October 1972 and October 15, 1973, which latter date constituted the deadline for filing of all claims.

Radio and the press were utilized to inform the Micronesians of the program. Chiefs and elders were visited and the program explained. Where the Commission was aware of earlier filings under several previous attempts to register claims, an attempt was made to contact the claimant. Finally a crew of attorneys and field representatives fanned out through the islands, both explaining the program and assisting the claimants in filling out claim forms. There has been little criticism of the magnitude of the efforts to inform the people. Some people do claim that they did not hear of the program. Others were aware, but thought they were hearing idle promises and did not bother to file. Their later attempts to file after the deadline, while finding sympathetic consideration by the Commission, present serious difficulties because of the mandate of the Act that claims had to be filed within the deadline to be adjudicated by the Commission.

A wide variety of claims was presented. Claims due to death from combat activities or starvation; personal injuries; damage to and loss of personal property; forced labor; and damage to and use of land, comprised most of the claims although a few unexpected claims arose such as the claim for loss of a good ghost, which (who) apparently fled when the invasion neared.

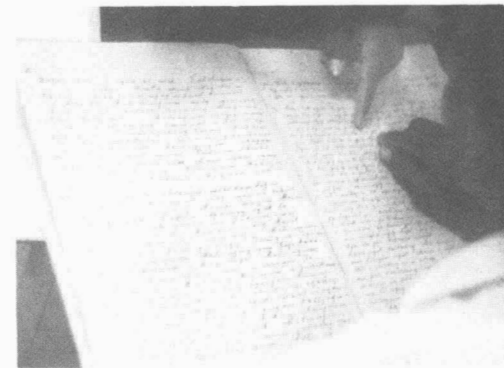
Ten thousand seven hundred claims were filed. The number far exceeded anyone's expectation. The mere task of sorting, indexing, and coding this number of claims was formidable.

With the filing deadline over, the claims indexed and sorted, the Commission staff in late 1973 started its main function of investigation, review, and adjudication of the filed claims.

Even a cursory review of the claims showed that many were woefully incomplete. Some contained only the name of the claimant and his signature. Few details concerning land sizes or extent of damage or loss were given. It became apparent to the Commission that in most cases further development would be needed including a personal interview with the claimant. Local claimants were called into field offices established in the district centers to give detailed information concerning their claims.

Simultaneously, staff from the Commission, and the Commissioners themselves, went throughout the islands to remote villages, a stack of claim files

*A wartime diary is carefully scrutinized to reconstruct events of 1942.*





under their arms, to meet personally with claimants to obtain detailed information about their losses.

One of the most positive impacts of the program has been the reaction to this individualized attempt to listen to individuals. Seldom has a Government program been able to foster such interpersonal contact between government agent and beneficiary at the local level. Despite criticisms arising from thirty years' wait and ultimately the amount of payment received, the memory of one program where a government agent was willing to come, sit, and listen to the concerns of ordinary citizens will remain.

After the interviews are conducted and the investigation completed by the staff of the Commission, the information gathered is submitted to the entire Commission which, after study and discussion, makes an award contained in a written decision.

In reaching its decisions, the Commission has been presented with many both novel and difficult challenges. For example, under established principles of law, the Commission was required to value losses as of the date the losses occurred. Thus, one of the first tasks presented to the Commission was the determination of values of damaged and destroyed property in the early nineteen forties.

To accomplish this task, various Japanese and American economic surveys were reviewed. Discussions were held with elders from the villages. Established copra prices were calculated against known production and life cycles of individual trees to affix values to coconut trees. Possible production per acre plus the hardship of being deprived of family lands were combined to establish a value per acre of loss of use of land during the war. A difficult decision faced the Commission in determining a value to put on claims for loss of life. After lengthy consideration, the Commission established a formula dependent upon the age of the decedent.

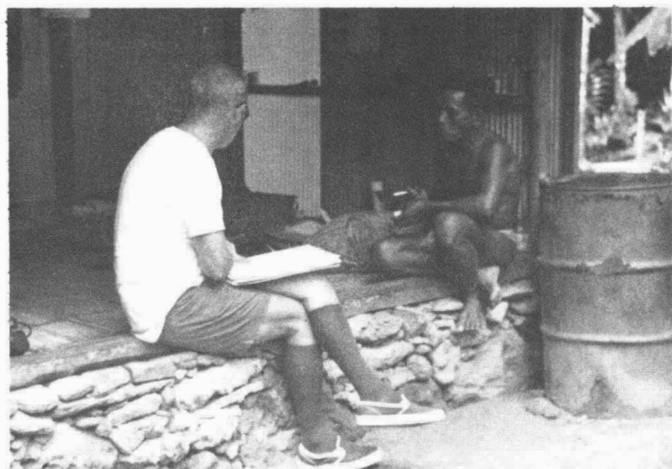
Wartime damages occurred over thirty years ago. Statistically a generation has passed since the destruction. Memories of those alive at the time have of necessity dimmed. Sources of information presently available are often secondhand. A forty-year-old claimant today, at best, can describe events of the war as seen through the eyes of the child he then was. To meet the challenge of establishing the facts after passage of so much time, the staff of the Commission in addition to careful interviews, sought out diaries kept at the time, and studied accounts of the Second World War, aerial reconnaissance photographs, and

damage surveys accomplished at the time of securing the islands to assist in providing information against which to judge claims. Still, at best, the determinations of damages are educated estimates.

In adjudicating Title II U.S. post secure uses, more accurate data and records were available to the Commission, but the Commission was faced with the challenge of placing "rental" value and "damage" value on land used and destroyed for agricultural purposes. Any issue touching on "value" of land in Micronesia raises strong reactions among the people who populate these tiny dots in the limitless ocean, where land has a personalized and infinite value. After extensive study the Commission fixed an annual rental value of \$90 an acre, and a damage figure of up to \$1,500 an acre for agricultural land totally destroyed for agriculture. Because of the differing responsibility of the United States under Title II, the Commission added interest to both sums.

Complex legal issues have also confronted the Commission. Such an apparently simple issue as who are eligible claimants turned out to be far from simple. The Micronesian Claims Act defined Micronesian inhabitants as those who became citizens on July 17, 1947, or who, if alive, would have

*Vice Chairman Witkowski interviews a Yapese claimant, Chief Kenmed.*



*Palau claimants meet with Commission representatives.*



become citizens on July 17, 1947. Under a literal interpretation of this section, no one became a citizen of the Trust Territory on that date, as citizenship of the nonsovereign territory did not exist until at least 1952.

As these issues are resolved, and written decisions issued, Commission rules then require that the decision be personally presented to the claimant. If the claimant resides on a remote island, delivery itself may take months. After delivery the claimant is given 30 days to review the award and determine if he is satisfied with the amount. If he is not, he is entitled to have the award reviewed by the Commission after submitting further documentation or, if he chooses, after an oral hearing to present any additional testimony, documents, or witnesses he may choose. Such hearings are arranged for a time and place at the claimant's convenience. After review of any such further evidence or arguments by a claimant, or if he chooses an attorney on his behalf, the Commission renders a final decision. After such final decision, or if no hearing is requested by claimant after 30 days from delivery of the decision, the Commission certifies the decision to the designee of the Secretary of the Interior, who by statute is responsible for making payment of the awards of the Commission.

At this juncture, where the Secretary of the Interior takes over his responsibility for payment, has arisen misunderstanding, frustration, and resultant criticism of the program. The criticism has centered over payment of the Title I war damage claims. (The manner of payment of Title II postwar claims presently awaits a determination by the Secretary of the Interior.)

The problem which has caused frustration to all concerned is this: the Commission had issued awards of over \$12,500,000 under Title I by the time it was half-way through adjudicating the total number of claims. This was true even though the Commission, following the mandate of the statute, had assessed

values as of the date of loss, which are substantially less than current values, and had not granted interest on the amount of losses under Title I. With this amount of awards having been issued by that time, it was clear that the Micronesian Claims Fund, limited as it is to approximately \$10,000,000, would be insufficient to pay more than a fraction of the total damages which would be assessed by the Commission by the close of the program.

Faced with the dilemma of limited funds, yet desiring that every claimant ultimately get a share of the fund, the Secretary of the Interior, under authority given him in the Act, determined that an initial payment of up to \$1,000 would be made for death awards, and an initial payment of sixteen percent would be made on all other awards. Upon completion of all adjudications, when the total of all awards would be known, the remaining fund would be distributed on a pro rata basis to all claimants.

While this appears objectively to be the only equitable way out of the dilemma, its implementation has understandably brought frustration to the expectations of a claimant who after thirty years receives an award assessing his damages. As required by the Act, he is then required to sign a release of his claim, and then receives a check for but a small fraction of what the Commission had determined his losses to be.

The result of this frustration has been the voicing of strong disappointment and resentment. Although neither the Commission nor the representatives of the Secretary of the Interior caused the basic problem of an insufficient claims fund, nor are they in a position to alter the causes of the frustration, however, as the people who are located on the scene, they have had to bear the brunt of this resentment.

Thus a program which in its conception represents the highest of motives and which has been favorably received in its implementation, which

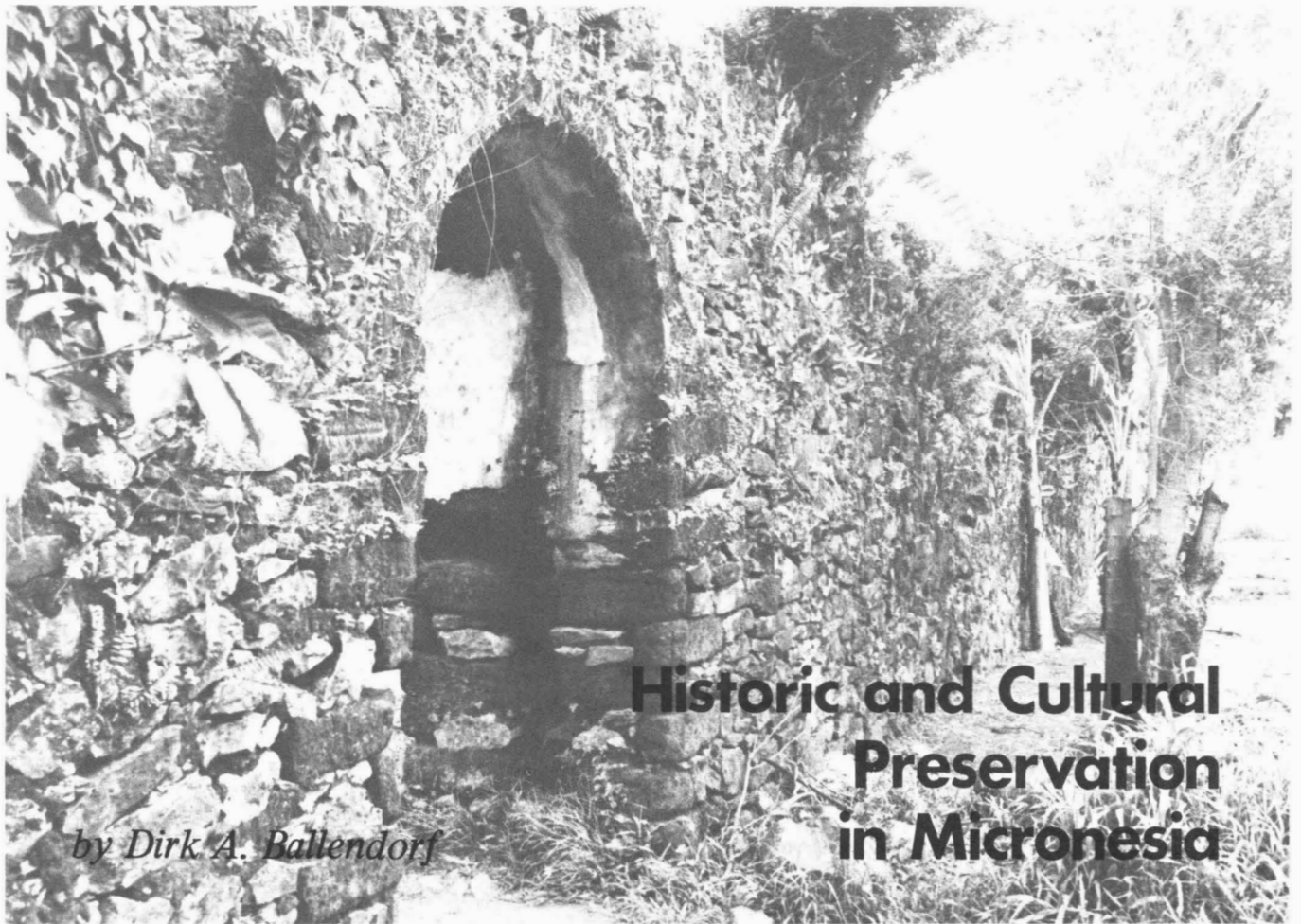


*The trunk of a car serves as a "claims office" in Yap.*

evidenced a personalized concern for individual Micronesians, has unfortunately become the subject of sharp criticism.

Yet despite the complexity of the program and the criticism at times voiced, the Micronesian Claims Commission has moved steadily forward with its assigned task. By April 1975, the midway point for completing adjudications, 60% of all claims had been completed and the pace of adjudications was increasing as the Commission sought to carry out its purpose as stated in the preamble to the Micronesian Claims Act to "... meet a longstanding Micronesian grievance and promote the welfare of the Micronesian people."

The ultimate accomplishments of the claims program cannot yet be placed in perspective. Hopefully, it will represent a fulfillment by the United States of its moral and legal responsibilities as administering authority of the Micronesian people, and serve as a measure of patiently awaited justice for an innocent people caught in the maelstrom of world events; and perhaps, after the laborious efforts to assess the impact of hostilities upon the economic and social fabric of this insular society, the record established can serve as a lesson for the student of history of the measurable, tangible price of war.



## Historic and Cultural Preservation in Micronesia

by Dirk A. Ballendorf

*Spanish Wall* —Still standing, it is the wall of the fort built in 1886 by the Spaniards for administrative and military headquarters in Kolonia, Ponape. It represents the occupation of Ponape by Spain, the first of a series of foreign occupations. The wall has been accepted by the U.S. National Park Services for preservation with a federal share of \$75,000.

A sense of history and historic preservation relates to a country like the awareness of personality and being relates to an individual. Without personality an individual is without identity. Without an awareness of historic roots a country's people have little purpose and no national spirit. Some people think of history and historic preservation as the adoration of objects and the cognition of facts and past events in books. It is this and more: historical awareness is places and events in a continuum of day to day experience. Awareness of this continuum may not always be conscious, but it is nevertheless there and may have periods of greater or lesser awareness among people.

In Micronesia there was a great period of awareness prior to outside intrusion by the West. One gets a glimpse of it through scholarly writings about early Micronesians:

(Micronesians are) robust and more vigorous than Europeans . . . (and are) a very attractive people. Their mode of life is simple (but this is not to infer that) they are of a low order of intelligence. They live in good houses . . . (The Chamorros) have a high sense of honor and truthfulness . . . (they) worship spirits (and) pay reverence to their ancestors. (They) believe in the immortality of the soul. (Socially) they refrain from loud talk and violent threats (and are) most desirous of independence.<sup>1</sup>

The above account is typical of those commenting upon pre-Western Micronesians. They were a people with hopes, fears, and sensitivities which provided them with purpose, direction, and self-awareness. Their traditions were oral, not written, but still very real and served to solidify their identity.

1. Rowland Hill Harvey, *History of the Mariana Islands*, master's thesis, University of Southern California, 1920, citing: Chas. Le Gobien, *Histoire des îles Mariannes*, etc. Nicholas Pepie, Paris, 1700, and Juan Gonzales y Mendoza, *History of China*, 2 Vols., Hakluyt Society, London, 1854.



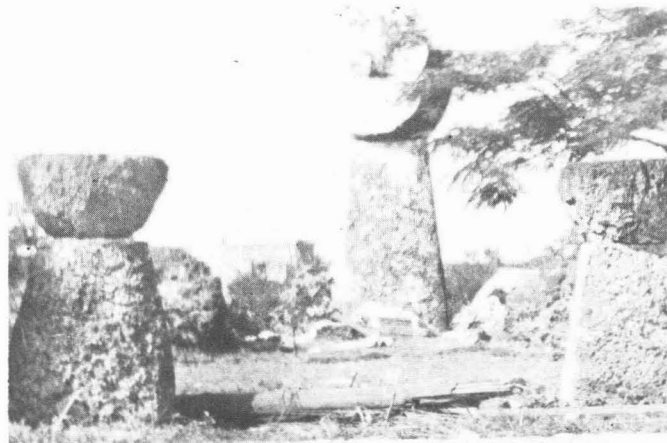
All this began to change with the advent of the Spanish. It is curious that when one people begins to exert influence upon another little thought and less action is given by the dominators to understanding the vital elements of the dominated culture. The Spanish were tenacious, even brutal, in imposing their culture, and in some cases—the Marianas for example—all but obliterated the Micronesians.

Rebellious Chamorros were subdued . . . There were sporadic uprisings, but the islanders took an oath of allegiance to Spain in 1681. The natives took on more and more Spanish customs. They learned to wear clothes, raise corn and meat animals; they were taught to spin, sew, weave and tan hides. They were soon forging iron, cutting stones, and building European-type houses. . . . In 1680, when a typhoon destroyed most of the native homes in the Marianas the Spaniards were able to round up the stunned people and move them to assigned areas. By 1698 the depopulation of all islands outside of Guam was complete except for a few hundred escapees who hid in mountain retreats. The proud Micronesians were reduced drastically in numbers by warfare, disease, and uprootings by the Spaniards. The missionaries estimated a population of 70,000 to 100,000 in 1668. The census of 1710 showed only 3,672, and in 1756 it listed only 1,600. Adelbert von Chamisso, German poet and naturalist, who went around the world with the Russian explorer, Otto von Kotzebue in 1817, said the sad history of the Chamorros was known in Europe. Kotzebue quotes Chamisso as saying in 1821 that the natives could not bear foreign domination and resorted to hanging themselves, infanticide, and abortion.<sup>2</sup>

While the Spanish apparently had little regard for the merits of the Micronesian culture and society as they found it, they did pay some small attention to the antiquities and monuments they discovered. Don Felipe de la Corte, Spanish governor in the Marianas from 1855 to 1866, published his memoirs in 1870 and included a description of the *latte* stones in the Marianas. Written observations of Micronesian culture actually started in 1521 with Pigafetta, Magellan's chronicler. And in 1683 the Jesuit, Father Garcia, published in Madrid, the life of the infamous missionary Fray Diego Luis de Sanvitores, in which is contained an historical narrative of the Marianas.<sup>3</sup> The first definite archaeological observation about

Micronesia contained in Western literature is Lord Anson's description and sketch of the very large stone columns (House of Taga) on Tinian which he visited in 1742.<sup>4</sup>

*Taga House (Latte Stones) on Tinian; according to legends, Taga—the "Paul Bunyan" of the Marianas—built a stone house on this site. The shafts and cap stones weigh several tons. This has been accepted by the U.S. National Park Services for preservation with a federal share of \$2,000.*



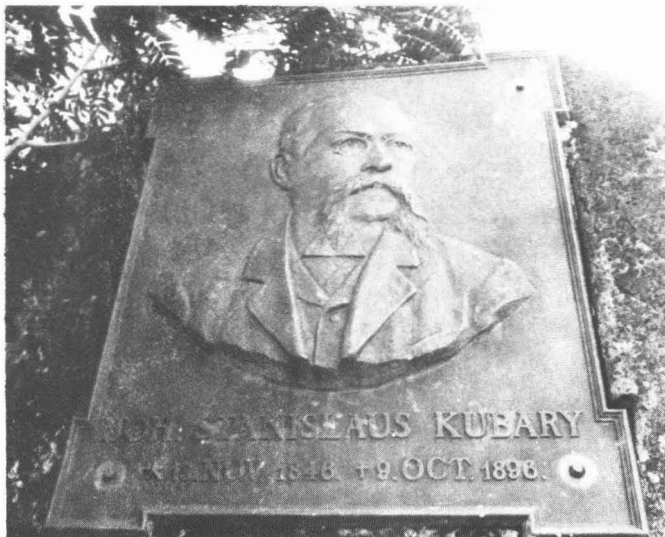
Such written observations of Micronesia and her "historical things" represent the beginnings of modern, western-style historic preservation in Micronesia. But, as far as is known, the Spanish made no official attempts at projects which were of historical or archaeological importance. Instead, private individuals, usually non-Spanish, made the most significant contributions during the more than three hundred years of Spanish tenure in the islands. Foremost among these were Jan Stanislaus Kubary, a German-Pole who made extensive collections and investigations in Palau and Ponape during the latter part of the nineteenth century; F.W. Christian, a Britisher, whose published work on the Carolines appeared in London in 1899, and three Germans, Kramer, Thilenius, and Hambruch, whose careful anthropological work was accomplished in 1908-10 and finally published in Germany in 1936-38. There were others—and Kramer, Thilenius and Hambruch actually post-dated the Spanish times—but these are perhaps the most important.

Jan Stanislaus Kubary was an especially interesting personality and is worth a digression here. He came to the Carolines in 1871 as a young man of twenty-two. He was sent by and worked for the German businessman, Johann Cesar Godefroy, whose trading company at the time operated throughout the Pacific. Besides trading, Godefroy established a museum in

2.Elizabeth Anttila, *A History of the People of the Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands*. . . . Dissertation, University of Texas, 1965, pp 90-91.

3.Portions of this very important source appeared in the *Guam Recorder*, 1936-39.

4.Lord George Anson was a British Commodore who, in 1740 took a fleet to cruise off the Pacific coast of Peru and New Spain to harass the Spanish. He sailed on around the world and spent some time at Tinian in 1742. His fleet returned to England in 1744.



The statue of Johann Stanislaus Kubary now stands prominently in Kolonia, Ponape. Kubary, a German-Pole, came to the Carolines in 1871 and made extensive "historical and archeological" collections and investigations in Palau and Ponape during the latter part of the nineteenth century.

Hamburg, Germany, where he accumulated various and valuable collections from all over the Pacific. Kubary was perhaps his most famous collector and published, in 1873, what might be described as the first scientific ethnographic notes made from extended observation in the Palaus.<sup>5,6</sup>

Kubary's work was enhanced by his ability to quickly learn the language of Palau, gain the confidence of the people to the extent that he could participate directly in the culture as well as to observe it, and by his profound, total commitment and dedication to his task. In Ponape, which later became his Micronesian home, he gathered large collections of *flora* and *fauna*, and completed extensive and detailed ground plans of the Nan Madol ruins which were the most precise up until that time. They took a great deal of time to complete and required a great deal of physical effort. When the House of Godefroy closed down in 1879 Kubary found ways to continue his work in Micronesia and remained there until his death in 1896. He consulted, in some depth, scientifically and socially, with F.W. Christian; their paths crossed on Ponape. Christian described Kubary as a champion of historical, cultural, and scientific interests:

For many years in these remote islands he (Kubary) devoted a grand and tireless energy to clearing up problems which have troubled so many European scientists, who from an armchair in their studies at home, are

sometimes inclined to settle off-hand, with a few indifferent strokes of a pen, questions, the weight of which they have only tested with a crooked finger. Only too often those who have borne the burden on their shoulders are pushed aside into unthanked oblivion. Those can sympathize best who have endured the scorching heat... the inclement rain torrents... fever and bad food, thirst and sleeplessness, the opposition of superstitious natives abroad, and the indifference of men at home, such measures as the world metes out to the man who ventures to seek out new facts or new methods of arranging facts. Such men as Kubary during their life receive little thanks, but their praise should be a grateful duty to all who honor pluck and enterprise.<sup>7</sup>

Kubary's work, as well as that of Christian, Hambruch and others, has generated interest in Micronesian natural history and anthropology and has inspired the work of others who have followed and continue to follow. The Germans made a number of specific and very thorough investigations and also promoted a great deal of practical and applied activity contingent upon their investigations. An understanding of Micronesian *flora*, and how Micronesians traditionally practiced agriculture, led the Germans to make huge investments in practical agriculture. The Japanese followed this example during their tenure in the islands, although their pursuit resulted in tremendous exploitation and eventual loss of concern over the Micronesians as a people. As their administration progressed the Japanese did less and less to promote scientific research and more and more in the way of increasing their own gain.

It has been the Americans who have done most in the interest of historic preservation and in the promotion of scientific investigations which have shed more light and insights into Micronesia's past. During and immediately after World War II the United States Commercial Company (USCC) enlisted the aid of many scholars and experts to pursue Micronesian studies. On July 18, 1947 the Americans instituted a civil administration in the islands. Extensive study and planning was undertaken at this time which resulted in the most comprehensive anthropological and scientific studies ever attempted in Micronesia being carried out between 1947 and 1949. Scholars from the Pacific Science Board, various universities, and museums were sent to the islands to participate in the Coordinated Investigation of Micronesian Anthropology (CIMA).

5. Jan S. Kubary, "Die Palau-Inseln in der Sudsee", *Journal des Museum Godefroy*, Heft IV, Hamburg, 1873.

6. Captain Henry Wilson's visit to Palau in 1873 yielded ethnographic material, published by Keate in London in 1788, but Kubary's experience was much longer and more extensive.

7. F.W. Christian, *The Caroline Islands*, (London: Methuen and Company, 1899), page 96.

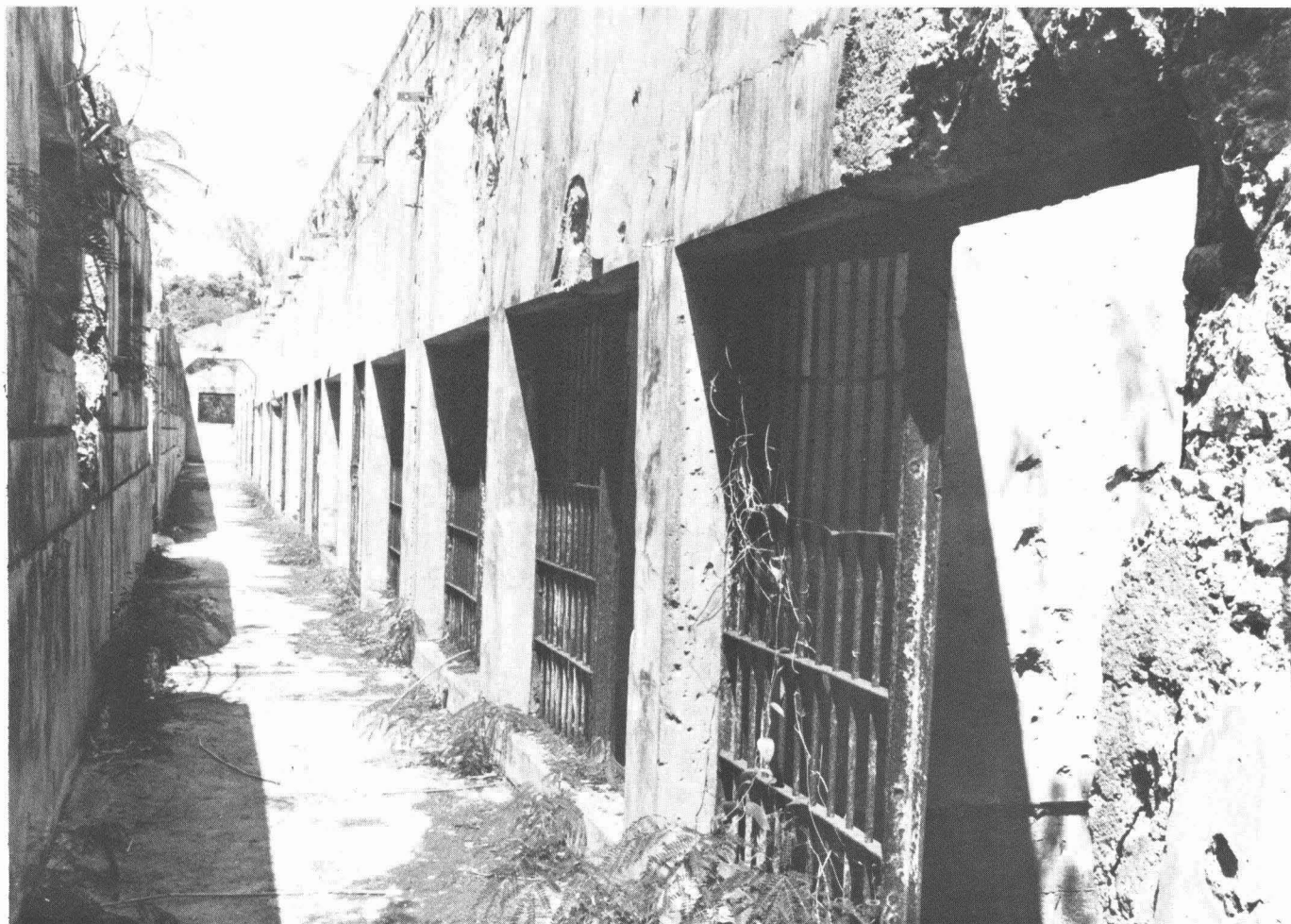
Never before or since has such quantity and quality of study and research been achieved. Professor Leonard Mason of the University of Hawaii, who participated in the effort has provided a comprehensive overview:

The U.S. naval military government and the U.S. Commercial Company in 1946 cooperated in the Economic Survey of Micronesia. In the following year, the Pacific Science Board (National Academy of Science-National Research Council), with funds from the Office of Naval Research, launched the Coordinated Investigation of Micronesia (CIMA). Nearly 40 anthropologists from 20 universities and museums undertook field work in the Marshalls, Carolines, and Marianas, from 4 to 6 months each. Their research reports have appeared independently as monographs and journal articles since that time.<sup>8</sup>

Historical research on Micronesia was an important by-product of these various studies and this research has been—and continues to be—significant in preservation work.

In addition to research efforts, public education was instituted by the Americans, and this policy—that every Micronesian should have the opportunity to go as far in school as their abilities prescribed—has done a tremendous amount to foster an historic awareness on the part of Micronesians. The first Micronesians to graduate from American colleges in the early 1950's did so with degrees in the social sciences—anthropology, history, and education. Of the many U.S. contract teachers who came to the islands after the war many have developed and used local history curricula and materials. Museums have been started.<sup>9</sup> Folklore has been gathered<sup>10</sup> and promulgated through expanding media facilities.

*Japanese Jail—It was constructed in Garapan, Saipan, during the Japanese era, but it was only partially completed when the U.S. Armed Forces invaded Saipan in 1944. The famous American aviatrix, Amelia Earhart, was alleged to be imprisoned here.*

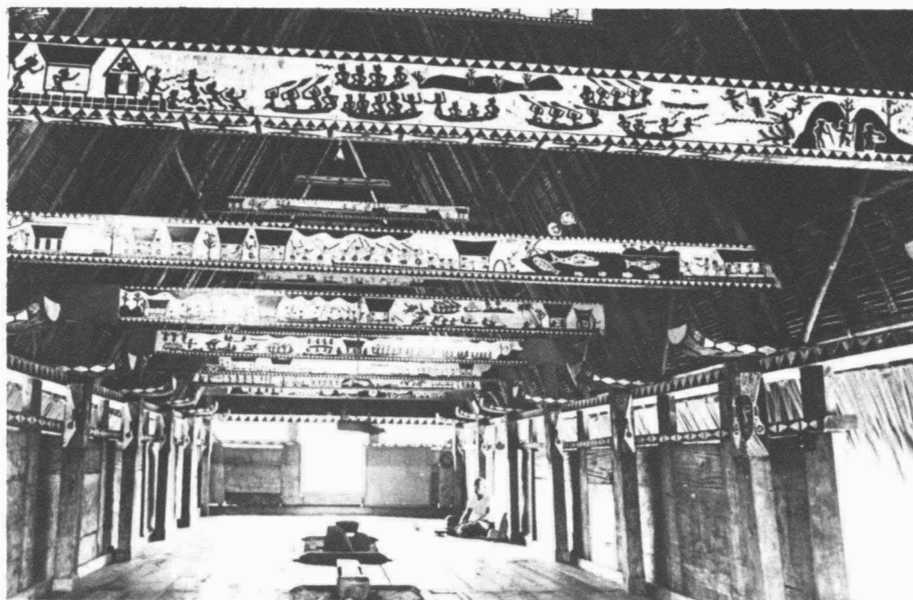


8. Leonard Mason, *Anthropological Research in Micronesia*, Anthropologica, N.S., Vol. XI, No. 1, 1969, pp. 85-86.

9. In the Palau District Hera and Bob Owen have devoted twenty years of their lives and much of their own money to creating a museum. The District Legislature took an interest and is now supportive. An authentic "bai" (traditional men's house) has been built. The Yapese have also built a museum and now display a collection of traditional materials and artifacts. Similar projects are underway in other Districts.



*Interior of Palau Museum Bai,  
men's meeting house,  
showing elaborate traditional  
paintings on the beams.*



While all this has been encouraging, it is clear that much more needs to be done. Even with the recognition of the importance of Micronesian culture, and its awareness on the part of Micronesians, there still has not been the educational effort required for the equal Micronesian practice and participation in the fields and disciplines of social science. Although there are many Micronesians with undergraduate degrees, and many more now studying social sciences in colleges and universities, there are still no Micronesian Ph.D. anthropologists, psychologists, historians, and others: no one to compete on an equal professional basis with Americans and others in these disciplines. There are more than three hundred years of Spanish archives in Madrid which deal with Micronesia, and yet, as far as is known, there is not one single Micronesian studying Spanish in order to investigate them; similarly in the case of the existing German documents.

But there is reason for optimism, and Micronesians themselves have played a part in initiating direction. In its Third Regular Session in 1967, the Congress of Micronesia passed PL 3-34 relating to historic preservation in the Territory. At the Fifth Regular Session in 1974 two money bills were introduced, but, unfortunately, neither carried. On July 1, 1973, however, a great boost was given when President Nixon signed into law S-1201, which by its section 101(b), made Micronesia eligible to receive federal funds under the historic preservation program administered by the National Park Service. The following year saw the appointment of an historic

preservation officer at Saipan to begin the furtherance of programs for historic preservation.

Extensive surveys must now be made in the islands. Large reporting and documentation efforts are called for. All this, however, should not be undertaken without the total involvement of the Micronesians at every step of the way. Not only must they participate in the gathering and documentation of information, they must also be encouraged and assisted in carrying on the work of preservation. No investigation of any historic site—either active in the field or passive in the library—should be undertaken without a Micronesian working side by side with a qualified professional. At every opportunity young people, especially students, should be brought along in the effort. The surveying of Micronesian historic sites can and should become part of the high school curriculum. Students participating should be encouraged to go on for further study in relevant fields which will equip them for subsequent professional pursuit. This work will never end.

How will the next four hundred years look in retrospect to a future scholar with regard to historic and cultural preservation in Micronesia? Will they be similar to the last four hundred years—obliteration of culture, and neglect? Will preservation, in the broadest sense, be the bailiwick, almost solely, of a few interested and concerned scholars? Or will it all be different: will Micronesians assume the leadership and direction? Will they be the ones to interpret their own culture and past on an equal basis with the finest non-Micronesian practitioners? Time will tell. And time now must be wisely invested.

10. Recently, a lot of folklore, historic and ethnographic salvage through interviewing and recording on tape has been done. The Palau Community Action Agency pioneered in this effort under the leadership of Kathy Kesolei. This work is being furthered now in other districts in connection with the new Bilingual/Bicultural Programs in Education which have been set up by the Trust Territory Education Department and which are assisted through the University of Hawaii.

# THE COMMUNITY COLLEGE OF MICRONESIA:

*by Alicia E. Ada*

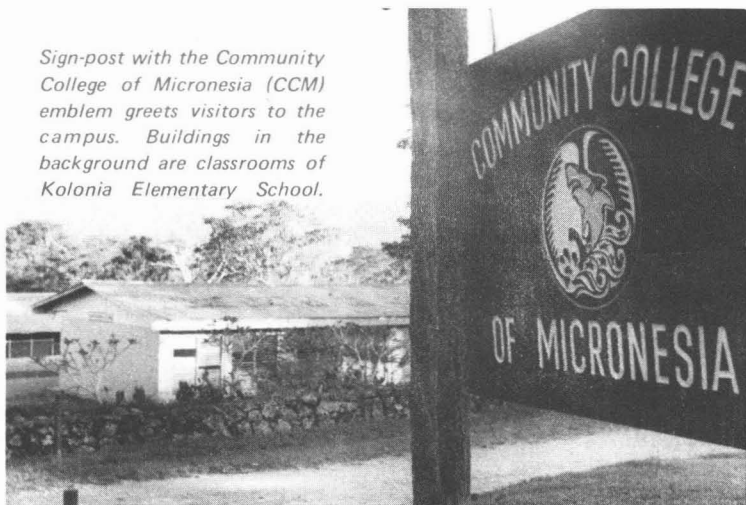
## IN SEARCH OF TOMORROW

A careful observer could hardly miss the changes, subtle as they were, in the appearance of the Community College of Micronesia campus during the pre-Easter week in 1975 when a team from the Western Association of Schools and Colleges visited the College. Did the janitor in charge of the grounds, caught by a holiday mood, decide to trim the lawn and weed the garden? Did the maintenance men find at last the time to use that extra can of paint which had been lying in the corner to whitewash the walls? In the interior—offices and classrooms—the changes were more obvious: tidier desk tops, shinier floors, less cluttered shelves, cheerier faces of both staff and students.

The reason for this quiet transformation was an event the significance of which many Micronesians were unaware. Significant indeed for the stature of this institution; namely, the evaluation visit by a three-man Accreditation team of the Western Association of Schools and Colleges. The expressed purpose of this year's visit which is the second of its kind (the first was in 1973) was to determine whether or not to grant CCM's request for a renewal of its candidacy for accreditation status. If renewed, CCM could then push harder for full accreditation in 1976.

What is *accreditation*? What does it amount to? Why the big hassle to get it? To an institution of learning, *accreditation* is the equivalent of a certificate for teachers, a medical license for physicians, and admittance to the bar for lawyers. In other words, it is

*Sign-post with the Community College of Micronesia (CCM) emblem greets visitors to the campus. Buildings in the background are classrooms of Kolonia Elementary School.*



a tacit recognition that the institution is qualified and equipped to provide the knowledge and skills which it purports to do and that it has reached the standard of quality set by the academic community.

Another value is attached to the accredited status: social acceptance. One hears of non-accredited colleges being derogatorily dismissed as "fly-by-nights". While on the other hand, an accredited college speaks for itself; one does not waste time extolling its virtues, advertising its good points, praising its merits—its status sticks out like the stars on a military uniform.

Moreover, accreditation is a powerful lever in the articulation process between a two-year college like CCM and four-year institutions. For although in truth,

*Dr. Harry Wiser (center), of the Western Association of Schools and Colleges, meeting with CCM students during this year's Accreditation visit.*



accreditation does not guarantee full transfer of credits earned at CCM, it strengthens CCM's posture vis-a-vis the four-year colleges in the "bargaining" for credit transfer.

The result of the evaluation visit was an *unqualified affirmation* of CCM's continuing candidacy status. Among the comments made by the team members to the administration and the staff was praise for the apparent existing high morale, and for the visible improvements made since the last visit in the utilization of physical resources.

### In Justifying the Need for a Comprehensive Community College in Micronesia

That Micronesia desires and needs a comprehensive institution of higher learning is a fact that few Micronesians will dare dispute. This need stems from practical necessity (keeping education dollars within Micronesia) and an emergent *social and political consciousness*. An argument impinging on the political theme of Unity in Micronesia has been considerably kicked around in enlightened circles. It is argued that a place where students from all six districts can come together, live with, and learn from each other would contribute a lot in attaining this national goal. In the light of the secession movement of some districts and the growing concern over Micronesia's future political status, this argument assumes a heavier weight and import. There is no denying the impact of a recognized institution of higher learning. To a people, it is a sacred symbol of national unity along with the flag, the coat of arms, and the anthem. To Micronesians, it could be a strong and cogent rallying point in these troubled times—something of value and pride which they had all built together and which each one would be unwilling to give up. In more personal terms, an institution of such nature can be compared to the strong sons and

*CCM students beam proudly in front of CCM sign marking entrance to the campus. The emblem, a shark rising from a background of palm leaves and cushioned on a sea-bed with six stars, was chosen by CCM students and staff from among several entries.*



*A "typical" CCM facility is this Enewetak prefabricated metal building housing the college library. Considered adequate a few years back when CCM was exclusively an elementary teacher training center, the problem of space for reference books has come up with the addition of new programs — in Business, Nursing, Special Education, and Secondary Vocational Education.*

beautiful daughters which a man and his wife had produced together, of whom they can be justly proud, and in whom they have attached their fondest hopes and ambitions. Can it be denied that of all the reasons that make these two stay together, that enable their union to endure, this is foremost to consider? In the same way, a full-bloomed and vigorous Community College, as one of Micronesia's cherished children, can foster the cohesion and unity of the parent country.

Aside from the benefit accruing to the country in terms of national unity, the presence of a recognized and comprehensive Community College can reinforce the international posture of Micronesia. Here we have in mind the experience common to every Micronesian who has had occasion to represent his country abroad.





*A front view of the CCM campus; the Enewetak prefabricated metal building is the Boys' dormitory.*



*The CCM cafeteria staff in front of the cafeteria. This facility, a property of the Ponape District Department of Education, is "on loan" to CCM.*

When delegates from different countries gather to discuss their respective social and political institutions, the subject of education is most likely touched. "What is the terminal point in your educational system?" The target information is actually whether or not a college or university exists where one comes from. At such times, the Micronesian delegate finds it a blessing to be able to cite the presence of a Community College of Micronesia and to stress its pre-accredited status. Otherwise, his country would run the risk of being looked down at as belonging more to the Middle Ages rather than to this 'enlightened' era of the twentieth century. To reiterate, one can imagine the pride a prestigious institution of higher learning can bring to this developing nation.

Another argument of a socio-political dimension is the recent one advanced by the Education Department in the voice of its dignified and respected Director, Mr. David Ramarui. In his foreword to the "Palikir Report" (Mackinlay, Winnacker, McNeil and Associates, 1974), Mr. Ramarui asserts that "no institution (outside of a college based in Micronesia) can be expected to adapt its programs, curriculum and services to the unique needs of Micronesia and Micronesians." What are the "unique needs" of Micronesia, from an educational viewpoint? Foremost among them is the need to train its leaders, professionals, and technicians. This is imperative if

Micronesia is to survive as a social and political entity. The educated elite must be able to identify themselves with the common people—farmers and fishermen—so as to win the latter's confidence and support. Precisely, what the country needs in leadership positions are what the social scientists recognize as *bicultural persons*: individuals who can move in and out of both cultures, traditional and Western, and relate successfully to both. Clearly, no institution outside of Micronesia can be expected to cater to this unique need; only a local institution with a curriculum developed from a thoughtful and deliberate hybridization of traditional and modern educational philosophies, goals and objectives.

#### **CCM's Plea: A Room to Grow**

In view of the Community College of Micronesia's enormous potential for growth provable by its bright prospects for full accreditation and inevitable due to the acknowledged need for its continued presence, we can only reiterate its plea for a more suitable physical environment. For like the coconut tree, it can flourish only if it is allowed room to spread its roots in the mother earth and its branches out to the sun. The only way possible for the Community College of Micronesia to flourish is through the consistent and serious efforts of its guardians, the Micronesian people.

by Susan Morikawa

# College Life: Micronesian Students In America

No one really knows how many Micronesian students are away at school. The 1973-74 Health, Education and Welfare figures show 115 Micronesian post-secondary students, while the official Trust Territory records show that the total for the same period is 969. The latter figure is, at best, an approximation. Unofficial estimates put the number close to 1200, and for the current school year, at nearly 1500 students in post-secondary schools throughout the world, most of them in over 120 schools scattered across the U.S. mainland. Yet, we know little of their experiences so far from home. They are sent away to cope with a new culture and environment, and the primary contact with them once they've gone is through their letters asking for assistance.

Justino Carlos, a Kapingamarangi student at Tusculum College in Tennessee, writes, "I am trying to go on to college for several years until I get a degree, but I haven't got that damn money, money, money. My mind is full of wishful thinking, wishing and praying to get a scholarship." At another time he writes, "I have financial problems and I need financial aid desperately. I am short \$546.60 for this quarter, and it's got to be paid by October 15. This bothers me. If I don't pay my bills by the given date, they're going to kick me out of school. Since I have no money at all, I would have to say good-bye to the world and maybe say hello to hell."

Much money, but little advice on how to handle it, is available to Micronesian students from various sources—federal grants, Congress of Micronesia scholarships, Trust Territory scholarships, loans, work-study scholarships from the schools they attend—but for many students it is hard to know who to approach for help. One letter begins: "I may have to ask for your assistance again because it does not seem to be easy to ask anyone else." But calls for assistance may not elicit the desired help or support as one disappointed student notes: "It seems that nobody gives a damn to help straighten out Micronesian scholars' problems throughout the world or outside the TT."

There are those who are deeply concerned about Micronesian students. Arnold Palacios, a student at

Portland State College, writing to one such individual expressed his appreciation: "I would like to extend my extreme gratitude for all the advice that you have given me. I will not forget the help that you have given. I know that there are a lot of wonderful people in this world that go out of their way to help others, and I am glad I ran into one." Another student writes, "Thanks for your letter. It's always great to hear from you. Everytime I get a letter from you, somehow I feel a lot more confident of what I'm here for. Although I try hard I still don't get much improvement, so then I feel a little discouraged. I'm not ashamed to tell you that I am looking to you as an important person in my life. During the time when my desire for education was not too certain, you were there to assure me I could do it. So, I'll go on trying even though it's tough. Nothing is better than knowing that someone like you is around to help in case of trouble."

Such individuals, unfortunately, are far from numerous. The Trust Territory has no official attitude where students are concerned, and only those students with contacts on Capitol Hill really get heard. The rest struggle with heavy study loads, far removed from the support of family and their own cultural base. Tee Pangelinan, a student at the University of Hawaii, complains of registration: "My feet hurt, my backbone is about to crumble in, my head hurts, my eyes hurt, but I am all through with registration! I will be

*"We are all Micronesians," the students say; perhaps the farther away they are from Micronesia, the more unified the Micronesians become.*

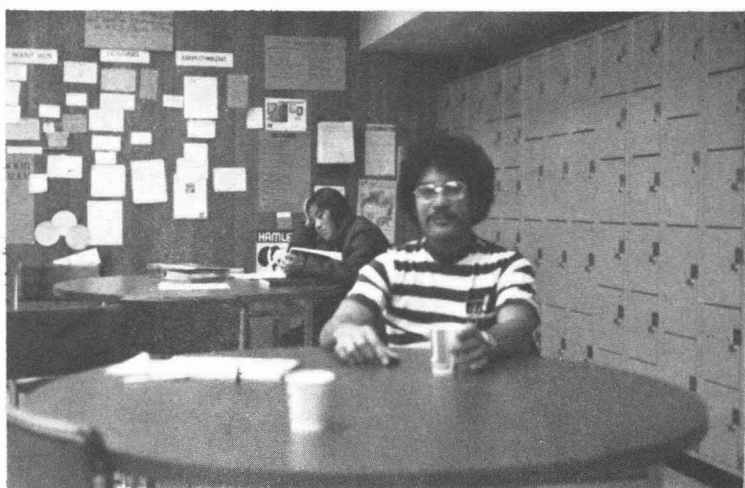
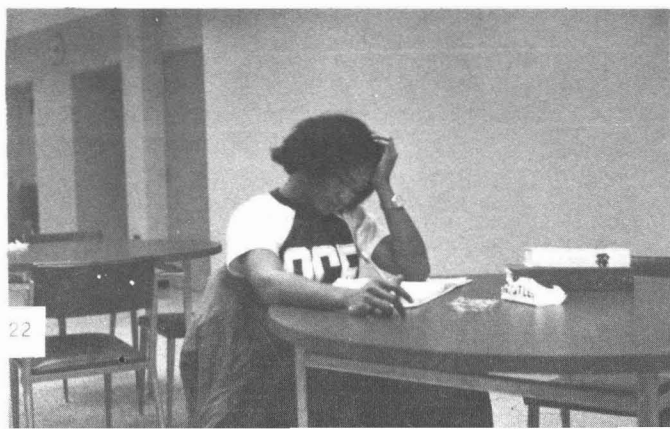


carrying 16 hours this semester. My mind is just about gone, but I am still managing to pass for normal.” Escolastica Taitano, studying in her third year at OCE (Oregon College of Education), writes, “Wow! It seems to me that I have to really strive for survival and accomplishments in order to finish school.” Feeling isolated, Jess Togawa, a student in law enforcement at Central Missouri College, writes, “I am having a difficult time trying to adjust myself to my new environment, the school, the weather, and the people here. My worst problem is being away from the family . . . as far as the school is concerned, it is okay. The University is offering good courses in law enforcement. But since I am the only Micronesian here, I feel very much like an outcast.”

There are sizeable concentrations of Trust Territory students at some schools, especially in Michigan and on the West Coast, but many students, like Jess Togawa, have the experience of being the only Micronesian at their school. For such students, small colleges seem to offer a warmer atmosphere since students usually live in the dorms, eat in the cafeteria, and may even get invited to faculty homes. Justino Carlos puts it this way: “I chose a private college because I am not on scholarship, and most of all I am from a poor family. Students at private colleges can live in the dorms and eat from the college cafeteria. If poor scholars go to public colleges, they would die of hunger and thirst.”

Even though life may go a little easier for students at small, private colleges, the studies are demanding and often leave little extra time for making new friends. Evence Beches, at Central Washington State College, finds that “the town is alright and so are the people except I have not met many of them for the reason that I always stay in the library. Boy! Have I been in the library enough! I live most of my time there during the day, even some nights. It sure is tough to stay in a higher institution. I think that my courses are too hard for me.” One OCE student admits, “I am not doing well in my studies, but I will try to make it.

*“In college, we learn to stand on our own feet. College life is different from high school life,” writes a student.*



*Micronesian students, confronted with myriad cultural differences in the new environment, are able to adjust and to overcome “culture shock.”*

It is really hard for us. I have to read my textbooks every night in order to catch up with classes. It is really not like high school life. I thought I could stop sometimes and play like in high school, but I can’t because of one assignment after another.”

Though the work may be demanding, it helps to feel that your teachers are good. One OCE student writes, “School is very hard, but I still can tolerate it. For sure, come Fall, I’ll meet my Waterloo, but not like at CCMNS. There it was also hard, but mostly because of the relationship between students and teachers. It is very hard here, but teachers use techniques for individualizing instruction which I think is very important to us learners.” After her first day of classes at Northwestern College of Business, Edith Guerrero reports, “I am so excited to let you know that I like it. It’s what I really want—Intensive Secretarial Skills—and most of the girls who have attended this school said they really learned a lot and are holding good jobs with good salaries now.”

Justino Carlos finds the hard work worthwhile, writing: “I can positively conclude that Tusculum College is *tough* but well worth it.” He finds “little time to do anything but studying and doing homework.” A Yapese student in Michigan finds his experience more troubling. “It’s been very frustrating for me here at Northern. I’ve already told you how he got me stuck at Northern, followed by the illness, and now this. For whatever it’s worth, let me tell you it’s been especially tough to take this school, a school I didn’t really want to attend in the first place. I’m sure you suspected my reluctance to come back to Northern Michigan University and I truly hate my





*Rigid college schedules do give way to relaxation, often over some Americanized Micronesian food and with other Micronesians.*

record here because I know it could have been different. You probably know I'm systematic and a perfectionist to some degree. Believe me, this kind of a record does not make me happy at all and it has been a major drawback to my mental process. Sorry if I've taken too much of your time, but I had to let off steam to someone who can listen and understand," he writes.

Many students are concerned about the lack of communication between the TT and students and express a need for someone to act as a student coordinator on the mainland. Ignacio Stephen, a student at Lane Community College, writes: "Last summer when I was back in Truk, I talked with the Student Coordinator about some problems the students have, especially communication with the student services back in Micronesia, and the problem of students choosing or ending up in the wrong college. The answer I received concerning communication problems between the office and the students is that there is just too much work for the Student Coordinator in Truk, and maybe in the other districts, too, so that no time can be devoted to communication with students abroad. That started me thinking..." Writing from OCE Marty Rodriguez says, "In talking with most of the Micronesian students at OCE and with a few from Portland University, four main concerns are expressed clearly by the students." Among these concerns he lists the "need for a student coordinator and the need for very careful arrangements for travel from Micronesia to the students' destinations in the U.S. so the students are not put in an unsafe situation." He recommends that a "student

coordinator be established here at OCE for the purpose of helping out, in any way possible, all the students that are at schools in Oregon."

Where there is a high concentration of Micronesian students at one school, there is a growing concern for their public image. Ignacio Stephen writes, "I am with you in your concern about Micronesians being stereotyped by the Monmouth community. I consider the matter as an important goal to prevent. I have talked about drinking with some of the Trukese guys repeatedly. I also asked everyone in our club to consider this situation very seriously and to prevent any bad incidents from occurring." In another letter he writes, "I saw the list of prospective OCE students from Micronesia. It is amazing that OCE got the publicity it has in Micronesia. What I am trying to say is that I think it would be much better to sprinkle the Micronesians around in other colleges. I am afraid of Micronesian visibility and behavior when they are concentrated in one town." Bernard Billimont expresses his concern: "We really tried to show all the instructors good behavior so they will select or accept other Micronesian students in the future. I really understand that we have to be good in this college because we are the first Micronesians to attend this school and we should do the best we can."

Getting together with other Micronesian students is important and helps when common problems can be shared to diminish feeling of isolation. Students in Oregon have formed the Micronesian Club of Oregon for the purpose of 1) encouraging personal awareness of individual and group problems, 2) giving guidance to those in need, 3) formulating activities to promote goodwill and closeness between each other, 4) appropriating funds for social events. Membership is open to Micronesians and other interested people, and members are fined for missing general meetings without good reason. Ignacio Stephen, president of MCO, elaborates: "We are organizing a club for several important reasons. Giving guidance between us, the

*These Micronesians are getting acquainted with each other; soon they become one group in the new environment.*





*Student and President, Micronesian and American, one costume and another—college may really be the true "melting pot."*



*The "home away from home" for many Hawaii Micronesian students, Hale Manoa dorm at East-West Center, forms background for representatives from three districts.*

students, is our most important objective. This club would also be a scene of discussion of events concerning the public back home as well as a social setting where the students can sit together and socialize. In this way, closeness and understanding of each other would be on hand. Although we are scattered all over the state, we try to meet once a month to get something going."

One way students stay in touch with Micronesia is by sharing their own culture with others by preparing special foods typical of their island or by performing traditional songs and dances. Much preparation and practice went into songs and dances recently presented at Oregon College of Education by Micronesian students. Anticipating the event, Ligoy Dabchuren writes, "Well, our Micronesian dance is coming up December 7, and that means we have to shake our naked butts. We just bought our thaw last night." The students taught each other their native songs and dances, and Elizabeth Ritchey, Admissions Clerk at OCE reports, "OCE was provided a most delightful evening of song and dance (especially dance!) last Saturday night by the Micronesian club—our students aided by some students from other colleges. I'll bet it was the first time some of them had really been thawed out since they got here! Ligoy was in fine fettle, and Jacob Umang was terrific—so was Manuel P.—all of them were great—that Timothy Tithin—um. I guess these three especially delighted me because they are so shy usually but the dancing turned on their uninhibited spirits. I just loved it and would not have missed it. The

best part of it all was that they were all having such fun." A student, Jesse Mailuw, also writes, "Our show was last Saturday night. Anyway, these people really enjoyed watching. They told us that it was a very good show and they also wanted us to go to Portland to dance there, perhaps next weekend."

Information and news from home is especially missed by students away at school. Micronesian politics remain a big concern and students don't want to get out of touch. One University of Hawaii student writes, "Many things have been happening, but mostly political. The Covenant, the Plebiscite, etc. . . are being explained to the Marianas students by the congressmen and senators and whoever feels like meeting with the students. All types of questions are being raised among college kids. I wonder about the rest who are not as fortunate as we here. They probably don't know too much and as a result cannot ask questions. Boy, I wonder what will happen . . ." Another student says, "Thanks a lot for the articles about future status . . . I have a big favor that I want to ask you. Would you send me a copy of the I-Gaseta, Marianas Variety, Free Press, Highlights, and anything that you see of interest in the newspaper, at least once a week if it's possible?"

Micronesian students share news from home with new friends, spreading the word about Micronesia, its people, its history. Fred Ruben explains, "The reason I asked for the article about Bikini is to help make my point in my speech class. My teacher really wants to hear about it. I just found some articles about Bikini in

our library and I'm going to give a speech about Micronesia in front of the class on the first of the month. I have a classmate from China, and she is going to give a speech about the Communist party in China."

The exchange of ideas and experiences with people from different cultures and different parts of the world can have a very strong impact on the students. As their world expands, there is much food for thought and reflection. Amato Elymore, a student at OCE, muses, "I have seen and experienced many things since I arrived that are especially disturbing to someone from another culture. The main problem I have observed is misunderstanding. The feelings or customs we have in our own place are entirely different from other places, right? This is a problem where people from different cultures meet. Some of the Micronesians say 'When in Rome do what the Romans do.' Yes, it is right, but not always right. I think to choose and understand is the most important part of it. But sometimes I know I'm unwanted in my group. I hope they understand I am an individual." Speaking of getting to know new people, he writes, "We were eating at a party and talking about Micronesia. There were many people from all over the world, from Europe, South America, Africa, Japan, and the Philippines. I was so happy because at first I was afraid of my English. I thought they would speak perfect English. I think I spoke as well as they did. Imagine Manno and I represented Micronesia and we really enjoyed being with those people. They were really curious about our islands, how we live, our needs, what happened long ago and now, about our government. I enjoyed it so much. It's more like international education."

For some students, relating to American students can be a problem. One student writes, "I know that some of us don't get along with American students, and I don't know the reason why. The way I figure it is that some of us lack the ability to communicate with Americans. We still have the feeling that they will ignore us because of our color. Some students are ashamed to talk because they might make a mistake and look stupid." Yet, for the most part the experiences of Micronesian students sound much the same as those of their American friends. Deliver Salle, a special education major at OCE, concludes one letter saying: "Well, it's about two o'clock in the morning and these guys are still up. Able is writing letters, Stan is just lying on the couch, and Jacob is sitting on the other couch eating oranges. William came down from Salem yesterday and spent the night at Jesse's apartment and tonight is staying here. He is already sleeping. I went to Jesse's apartment and stayed just for a few minutes watching TV, then back to the

apartment." William Sana, telling of his birthday celebration, sounds like many other college students: "December 26 was my birthday so those two Trukese guys bought a turkey for me. Albino was the cook, but he almost burned the oven. He put the turkey inside a fry pan without noticing that the handle was made of wood. So when the oven got hot, the wood burned. Luckily, Nicholas came out from the living room and couldn't even see anything in the kitchen because it was filled with smoke."

Most Micronesians find the cold winters of the U.S. mainland very hard to adjust to. After a meeting at OCE between the students and two TT officials, Leo Williams writes of the problems discussed: "The other problems were how the students adjust to the climate. Cold weather clothing is the problem . . . many of us don't have blankets, winter coats, sweaters, you name it!" Fellow student Jacob Umang complains, "Oh man! It's getting colder and colder here, and I'm freezing to death, but I won't buy any long-Johns . . . Please do send me some sunshine from Saipan." Fred Ruben, a student in Washington State, writes, "The weather here is very, very cold. I couldn't stay outside for ten minutes. The snow is coming close from the mountains. I just can't imagine what the middle of winter will be like. I wish I were in Micronesia so I wouldn't feel so cold." But Stan Sablan, studying at OCE, knows the cold is a problem to be overcome. He says, "The weather is getting colder and colder, but don't worry! We can manage. We're men and women already. Right? Right! That's what keeps me from giving up in this strange weather." Although adjustment to the cold weather can be a continuing problem, the first experience with snow is truly

*These students enjoy playing frisbee.*





memorable. William Sana, studying in Oregon, writes of his first snow. "Guess what—last night snow came and we all ran outdoors and played. I thought I had reached Heaven. At first I thought it was a heavy rain until a friend of mine from Thailand told me that it was real snow. Anyway, we played in the snow and I really loved it. I just loved it and I did not even know why. We went back indoors and then to bed. The morning came and the sun was high and melted all the snow. Everybody was sad, even me." Ligoy Dabchuren is even more exuberant: "I went with my friend to her home town called Lebanon last weekend and we went to the mountains and man—guess what! I saw SNOW! It was fantastic. I just jumped in the snow and put some on my head and it was fun. Well, I really don't know how to explain, but it was far-out. I wish Amato was here so he could see me swimming in the snow. Well, I saw snow with my own eyes. I won't forget the date which is November 2, 1974—I saw SNOW and I thought it was the end of the Earth."

Snow may be thrilling when experienced for the first time, but the sunshine and warmth of Micronesia

is never forgotten. One student writes, "I'm sure you are busy but happy with the sunshine there. Wish you could send some here so I can feel it." Familiar island foods are also remembered with longing. Ismael Robert admits, "Honest, your letter really made me salivate. Especially that sashimi and breadfruit. You know what? Right after I finished reading your letter, I lied down and went into a deep dream about Saipan and those beautiful flowers all along the roads." Another student confesses, "Life here is cool, but I still love Saipan."

The educational experiences of Micronesian students are as varied as the students themselves. Though the information available about them comes from a small percentage of their total number, it is certain they do have problems and need support. As Edith Guerrero writes, "This is one sure thing I learned in college—to stand on my own two feet and not to depend on others. One thing sure in life is hardship leads to success."

## in the next quarter

LAND DEVELOPMENT AND ITS ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ON MICRONESIAN ISLANDS . . . Norden H. Cheatam, a former Forestry-Conservation Officer for the Trust Territory and now a field representative of the Natural Land and Water Reserves System at the University of California in Berkeley, offers a special report on land development and its impact on Micronesian islands.

FORESTRY AND ITS ROLE IN MICRONESIA . . . David T. Fullaway, presently the Chief of Forestry in the Trust Territory, presents his views on forestry and its role in Micronesia.

A PHOTO ALBUM OF PALAU MUSEUM . . . This year is the twentieth anniversary of the Palau Museum. The museum was established in 1955 by Mrs. Hera Ware Owen and the Women's Club of Palau: "why not have a permanent showing of the relics, souvenirs and artifacts which are typically and historically Palauan?"

A look at the Micronesia's underwater environments and the problems that threaten their continued existence, by William A. Brewer, Environmental Specialist at the Trust Territory Environmental Protection Board . . . These and whatever our far-flung correspondents volley our way will be in the next quarter.

# Chowanoc Cruises Through Islands

as told to Derson Ramon  
by Jim Bateman

The USS Chowanoc (AFT-100) conducted a surveillance cruise to several islands of Ponape and Truk districts from March 21-April 3, 1975. The operational objectives of the cruise were to display a US Naval presence in the Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands, to obtain information relative to violations of the Micronesian waters by foreign vessels and frequency of sighting of poacher, and to promote general goodwill and provide contingency medical evacuation.

The islands that the USS Chowanoc visited included Ponape, Mokil, Pingelap, Kusaie, and several islands in Truk District. Lieutenant Commander Jim Bateman (TTPI LNO), Lieutenant Commander Jim Owens (30th Naval Construction Regiment Civic Action Team Officer), Lieutenant Commander Larry Guinney (USN orthopedic surgeon from Naval Regional Medical Center, Guam), and Journalist Seaman Apprentice (JOSA) Eric Hompe were among the passengers on board the ship when it departed Guam on March 21 for the lovely paradises of the Eastern Caroline Islands.

A brief call was made at the tropical rain-garden of Ponape to embark these additional passengers: Congressman Joab Sigrah of Kusaie; LTJG Saunders, Officer in Charge, Civic Action Team, Ponape; TT Chief of Community Development William Allen; and Mr. Deniong Jack, medex from Ponape. After the ship left Ponape a medical call was made at Mokil Atoll, some 90 miles east of Ponape, in response to an urgent request from Ponape Deputy District Administrator Bermin Weilbacher, to determine the condition of a ten-year-old girl injured in a propane lantern fire. The USS Chowanoc arrived at the .48-square-mile atoll at night and the isles could barely be seen in the darkness.

*Children as well as adults thronged the shore on Pingelap to greet the ship and its crew.*



*Arrival of a ship at an outer island is treated as a holiday. People put away their daily chores just to see the ship and its crew.*



*Medex Deniong Jack of Pingelap (left) conversing with his parents, who he had not seen for fourteen years. When his family was located, a tearful reunion followed.*





*A USS Chowanoc crew member on watch in the pilot house of the ship.*

*Drinking fresh coconut milk for the first time was enjoyable for the captain (right) and officers.*



*The dock at Kusaie is a Mogas barge.*



However, a two-man party went ashore on the pitch black evening of March 24 in local boats to assess the situation. After examining the girl, it was decided that medical evacuation was unnecessary, due largely to local Peace Corps dispensary aide Peter Smith's treatment.

On the next day, the Chowanoc arrived at Pingelap Atoll, geographically situated 160 miles east of Ponape. While visually inspecting the .68-square-mile atoll from seaward, it was learned that medex Deniong Jack was a native of the atoll and had not seen his family on Pingelap for fourteen years. As a consequence, the Chowanoc moved to Pingelap's lee-side and awaited local craft. Jim Sidman, the Peace Corps dispensary aide on the atoll, came out in a local boat, and transportation ashore was arranged for the TTPI LNO, medex Jack, and JOSA Hompe. Mr. Jack's family was quickly located and a tearful reunion followed.

The USS Chowanoc departed Pingelap the same day, arriving Kusaie early the next day, March 26, and moored starboard side to a Mogas barge, which was also the dock. After arriving at the 42-square-mile island, located some 300 miles southeast of Ponape, a conference with District Administrator Representative Marvin Krebs was held and a tour of potential Civic Action Team's sites was conducted. Lieutenant James Howick, the Commanding Officer, and Lieutenant Commander Jim Bateman made a call on Mr. and Mrs. Palik in response to a request from Dr. Scott Wilson, Professor of Anthropology at the University of Guam, who is married to the Palik's daughter.

Everyone was delighted with the reception and hospitality cordially exhibited by the Kusaiens, especially at the ship's picnic held in the afternoon. A

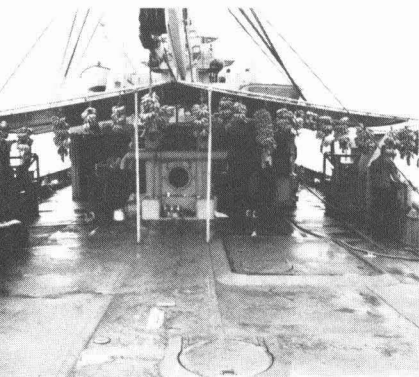
*Out of their plain curiosity, these Kusaie children came to the dock to see the ship.*







*We were requested by Professor Scott Wilson of the University of Guam to visit his parents in law, Mr. and Mrs. Palik on Kusaie. Commanding Officer James Howick (left) and James Bateman meeting with Mrs. Palik.*



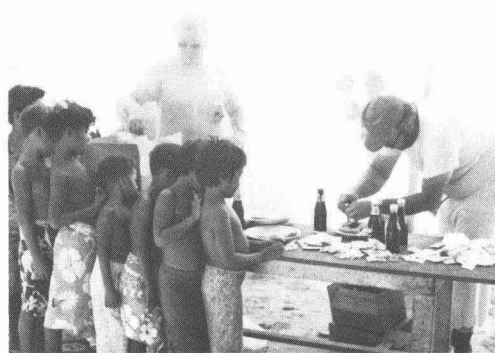
*Many local foods were given to the crew by the islanders as a token of island hospitality and appreciation. These bananas came from Kusaie.*

*Not having an airfield, Kusaie's "umbilical cord" to the outside world is the Mogas barge shown here.*



*After departing Kusaie, the ship cruised to Kapingamarangi, the southern-most island in the Trust Territory.*

*There a picnic was held in which, for many children as well as adults, it was their first time to taste hamburgers and hotdogs.*



*The eighteen-foot-draft ship could not enter the narrow lagoon passage at Kapingamarangi so we rode the local canoes to the shore.*



*Eating a diet consisting mostly of rice, fish, coconut, and taro, the people of Kapingamarangi are among the healthiest people in the Pacific.*

*The Kapingamarangi Atoll Magistrate's Council gathered in a canoe house for a presentation in which the people were given sports equipment, camping gear, and assorted foodstuffs.*



social call was made at the residence of Congressman Joab Sigrah, Congress of Micronesia, at Tafunsak, one of the four villages on the island. The TTPI LNO and the Commanding Officer of the Chowanoc, on Thursday morning March 27, presented community relations materials to the Chief Magistrate and the Council of Kusaie on behalf of Rear Admiral G.S. Morrison. Because of foul weather, sports events planned for the afternoon were cancelled. Shortly prior to our departure, Mrs. Palik made a return call on board and presented gifts. The Chief Magistrate's Council, as well as numerous private individuals, presented the crew with many baskets of local produce as a token of island hospitality and appreciation.



*An old remnant of a pre-World War II building still stands prominently on Dublon, Truk.*



*The ship, after departing Kapingamarangi, cruised to Truk, where the crew inspected several islands. Shown above is a Civic Action site on Fefan, Truk.*

The USS Chowanoc departed Kusaie at 1600, March 27. After an uneventful cruise, the Chowanoc arrived at Kapingamarangi at 0800, March 29. Kapingamarangi, an atoll located some 400 miles south of Ponape and just 64 miles north of the Equator, has a population of about 500. While lying off the lee reef, a local outrigger canoe carrying the Chief Magistrate came out around 0830 to assist the ship in entering the reef channel. However, the Chowanoc was unable to enter the channel because of her eighteen-foot draft. Leaving the ship outside the reef, the TTPI LNO accompanied the Chief Magistrate in his outrigger canoe with the Chowanoc's captain and Dr. Guinney following in the ship's rubber boat.

*Modern, comfortable living accommodations are found in all the islands visited. This house is on Fefan.*



*A man paddling an outrigger canoe at Lukunor.*



A brief presentation was made by the TTPI LNO, with school principal Apinel Mateak acting as interpreter, to the Kapingamarangi Atoll Council explaining the purpose of the visit. Shortly thereafter, a site was selected for an afternoon picnic for the crew and the islanders. During the afternoon of March 29, a community relations ceremony was held in which various sporting equipment, foodstuffs, and camping gear was presented to the people of Kapingamarangi. The Council then presented a broad array of handicrafts to the ship's company. Honoring an earlier request, the Chowanoc provided a projector, films, and screening crew to show movies Saturday evening. The entire population was on hand until the wee hours of the morning viewing the four films. The remainder of the crew, who had not visited the atoll, went ashore for general liberty on Easter Sunday.

The ship, after departure from Kapingamarangi, cruised to Truk. The ship's route was configured so as to inspect as many islands as possible en route to Moen. In this manner, the atolls of Nukuoro, Satawan, Lukunor, Etal, and Namoluk were observed. While surveying Lukunor Atoll, people were seen waving from the beach as if they were signaling. A boat approached from the atoll, and its occupant said that there was a man ashore with a broken leg requiring medical assistance. With darkness approaching, Dr. Guinney, the Chowanoc's chief corpsman, and the TTPI LNO went ashore in a local boat to determine what assistance might be rendered. Upon examination of the patient, a decision was made to medically evacuate the patient to the Truk District Hospital on Moen. The USS Chowanoc's arrival in Moen, Truk, on April 1 officially concluded the surveillance cruise to the several islands of the Eastern Carolines.



*A Civic Action Team inspecting an area on Fefan.*

*During the cruise we were always welcomed by friendly faces such as these children on Oneop island in Truk.*



*Two of the crew  
in a local boat  
going ashore at  
Lukunor Atoll,  
Truk.*





The "Evangel", a nine-seater airplane, is being used for medical evacuations and mission work in Yap District. Pilots (l to r): Edmund Kalau, Maurice Pickard.

# The Flying Missionary

by Martin G. Yinug

After almost two decades of unflagging enthusiasm and tireless efforts, the Rev. Edmund Kalau, overseer of the Protestant Mission on Yap, has clearly demonstrated that a powerful motivation "to show Christian love to the people" can be personally rewarding and socially beneficial as well.

The Rev. Kalau, who used to be an out-and-out atheist with a deep-seated, violent, socially-conditioned animus for the Russians during the Hitler era in

Germany, suddenly underwent a dramatic, almost mysterious change in outlook and character that was accountable for his determination to abjure his sinful ways. After the Second World War, the youthful Kalau ironically came under the influence of a Russian doctor who really "opened" his eyes to Christian theology, a subject which he subsequently elected to pursue. With no clear prospect for the future, the Rev. Kalau would have resigned himself to fate, had it not been for the Russian doctor who led him to God's salvation.

Under the auspices of the Liebenzell Mission Society, the Rev. Kalau first came to Micronesia in January of 1956. After an initial assignment with the Mission in Palau, he was transferred to Yap in March of 1959 as a pastor of the Mission there. Existing on the southern edge of the "Chamorro Bay" in Colonia at that time was a rickety old building which he soon replaced with a new and more permanent structure. Before building this, the present church, he completed in 1959 the house where his family resides today.

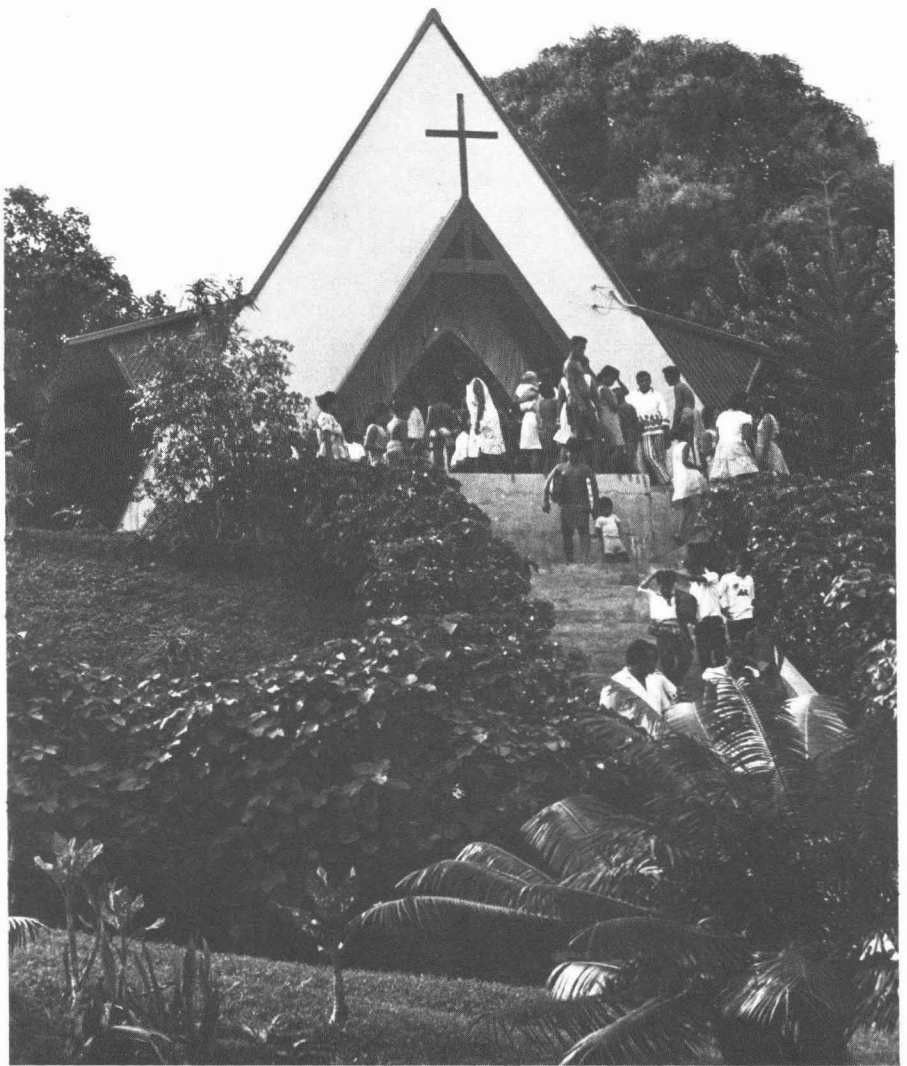
In the early days, the pastor almost single-handedly ran the Mission; but with the addition of a printshop in 1964 and a Youth Center in 1966 more hands were required to keep the Mission functioning.

Mr. Yilibuw Waath of Yap and Miss Hilde Thiem of the Liebenzell Mission in Germany made the first translated edition of the New Testament into Yapese. Copies of the New Testament, although printed in Hong Kong, have been made available to and widely read by both Protestants and Catholics on Yap.

A conscientious young Yapese man, Moon, works in the printshop. He prints all kinds of literature in six languages for all the Districts of Micronesia for both private organizations and the government, including diplomas, hymnbooks, prayer books, and letterheads. Having acquired good training in how to run the presses efficiently, Moon will soon be sent to the Navy Publications and Printing Office in Guam to study Graphic Arts and Reproduction, so that he will be capable of doing excellent photographic work in the dark room section of the printshop.

The Youth Center provides recreational and educational facilities for young people as a means of keeping them out of mischief and questionable places in the District Center. Pastor Kalau, parenthetically, is rather adamant about the general propensity of the Micronesians, and, to some extent, of some Americans residing in the Trust Territory to consume an excess amount of alcoholic beverages.

Another pastor, Heinz Hengstler, is in charge of the Youth Center and of the services at the church and in some of the far-off villages in which members of the congregation live. The Youth Center is a composite of a library, a study section, a ping-pong and pool room, and a snack bar. Across the street is an outdoor tennis-and basketball-court.



*The Rev. Kalau's church in Yap*

Having been an eyewitness to a few tragic deaths of medical evacuees en route to the District Center of Yap because of the slowness of the Government field services ships, the Reverend Kalau began many years ago to envision ways of raising enough funds to purchase a small plane which could be used for different Christian purposes including medical evacuation of sick persons, especially those living in the Outer Islands of Yap District. The people of the Mission prayed and in

time they began to receive monetary contributions from outside sources. Manufactured in Orange City, Iowa, "Kalau's plane", as it is now known in Yap, is a small twin-engine aircraft capable of carrying nine passengers including the pilot or nearly 2,000 pounds of cargo.

In July of 1974, the Rev. Kalau and another very dedicated pilot, Mr. Maurice Pickard, as a pilot-in-command, flew together in the plane from New Jersey all the way through Europe and

Asia to Yap. All together they spent 110 flight hours travelling that distance and the cost ran somewhere between six and seven thousand dollars just to deliver the plane to Yap. The inauguration flight took place on September 8, 1974 in which High Commissioner Edward Johnston, District Administration officials, Congress of Micronesia members and other Yapese dignitaries participated. The Rev. Kalau has turned the entire plane operation over to his pilot, Mr. Pickard, who is also an experienced airplane mechanic. Mr. Pickard follows a very flexible schedule in flying the plane. Regularly, he takes passengers from Yap to Ulithi and carries other passengers from Ulithi to Yap on Mondays and Fridays. On other weekdays he flies out depending on the needs of the people. He makes food drops and carries supplies for the Outer Islands High School, Department of Public Works, stores and dispensaries in the Outer Islands.

High School students in Ulithi have been hired by the Rev. Kalau and are

currently constructing an operational building for the plane at the airport in Falalop. Also, construction is underway on the main operational office building next to the plane's hangar at the Yap proper airport. Two more planes are now being repaired in Yap for the 'Mission, one of which will be used for the back-up system and the other, possibly, to be used by the Mission in another district.

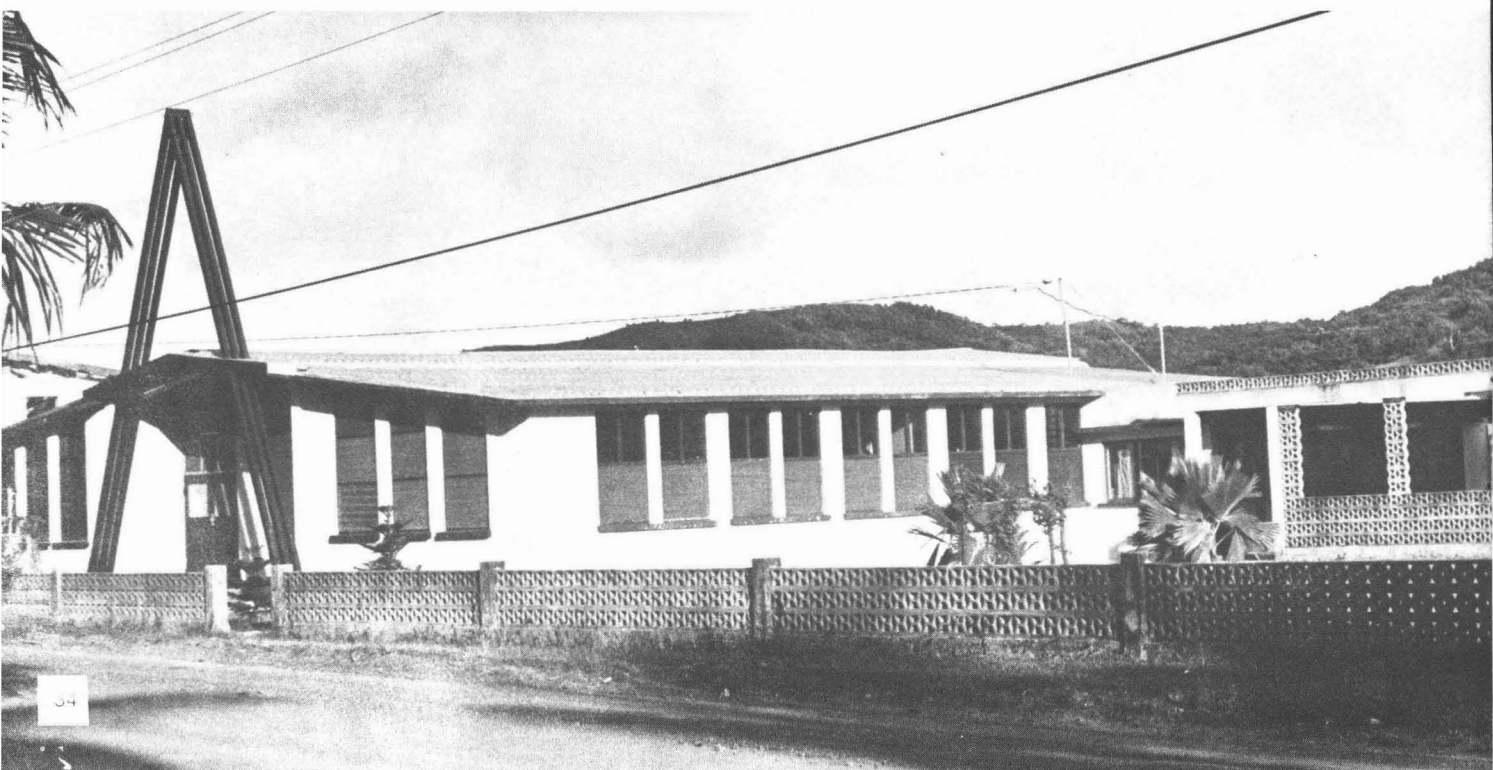
It is expensive for the Rev. Kalau and his Mission to maintain and perform the plane operation. It costs \$678.00 per month for insurance alone on the plane. The price of aviation gasoline is high--close to a dollar per gallon. Therefore, without the faithful and continuous help of the many friends of Pacific Missionary Aviation, the operation would not be possible.

The motivation to help sick people quickly reach the hospital in the District Center for emergency treatment is the primary reason that the Rev. Kalau purchased the plane. The plane is not used for profit-making. Rather, it is being used to offer God's services to the

people; and therefore, tourists are not allowed to travel on the plane unless they have obtained permission from both the appropriate Outer Islands chiefs and the Yap District Administration. Also consistent with his averred deprecation of the rampant inebriation in Micronesia, the Rev. Kalau forbids anybody from taking on board the plane any alcoholic beverages.

The Kalas have a daughter, Esther, who is now studying nursing in California. Their two sons, Norbert and Dieter, are attending a high school in the Philippines. The Rev. Kalau, in addition to being busy and hardworking in his role as overseer of all the various aspects of the Mission's work, also finds time to devote to the cultivation of his cultural interests. He has produced a number of movies of Yapese cultural events and is preparing a pictorial history of Yap for printing. He and his wife Elizabeth are very much interested in recording and preserving Yapese culture and history for future generations. They, too, should be a part of that history.

*This Youth Center, built in 1966, provides recreational and educational facilities for young people as a means of keeping them out of mischief and questionable places in Colonia, the district center, Yap.*





Maurice Pickard is a man who loves his job.

Pickard is a pilot, and last summer he flew an airplane from New Jersey to the island of Yap via Europe.

The airplane is a twin-engine Evangel made in Orange City, Iowa. It is especially designed for short strips for quick landings and take-offs.

Pickard and his wife, Sally, and their three children, Jeff, Steve, and Keith, will be living on Yap while Pickard continues to fly the airplane for PMA (Pacific Missionary Aviation).

The plane will be used mainly for accommodating the people of the outer islands, especially in medical emergencies. Already the airplane was able to get a man with acute appendicitis to the Yap hospital. The doctor stated that two hours later it would have been too late.

Pacific Missionary Aviation has begun its service by flying from Yap to Ulithi twice a week, on Monday mornings and Friday afternoons. The inaugural flight was on September 8, 1974. Included on board the three flights for this occasion were High Commissioner Edward E. Johnston, District Administrator and Mrs. Leonard Aguigui, Deputy District Administrator and Mrs. Hilary Tacheliol, Yap Senators Petrus Tun and John Mangefel, Representative Luke Tman and former Representative John Ruglimar, Chief Balermino Hatheylul, Chief Andrew J. Roboman, Speaker Joachim Falmog, and Chief of Staff for ComNavMarianas Captain William C. Dotson.

It took Pickard and his co-pilot, Rev. Edmund Kalau, five weeks to fly this plane from the States to Yap. Pickard flew from New Jersey to Labrador, Greenland, Iceland, Norway, Germany, Italy, Greece, Turkey, Iran, Pakistan, India, Thailand, Singapore, Brunei, Philippines, Palau, and Yap. Some time was spent in showing the plane to many people in Germany who had contributed greatly to this project.

One of the exciting parts of the trip was when Pickard was flying from Reykjavik, Iceland to Stravanger, Norway. He relates, "Shortly after take-off we were in the clouds. The ice was forming on the wings and in front of the airplane. The weight of the ice broke one of the antenna wires. The loose wire was interfering with the other radio antenna. So I slowed down the airplane, opened my door, and pulled in the loose wire. After we broke out into the clear, the ice slowly sublimated."

Pickard then added, "It was a long trip, and I was very busy. But I would do it again. I enjoy flying."

## A MAN WHO LOVES by Sally Pickard HIS JOB



*Pickard at controls of the Evangel aircraft*

*Pickard helps passengers board airplane at Yap.*



*People from Ulithi and Yap prepare for take-off in the PMA airplane.*



# DISTRICT DIGEST

*a quarterly review of news and events from the six districts*

## Headquarters

**H**igh Commissioner Edward E. Johnston appeared before the U.S. Congress for a series of congressional hearings, and stated that the net result of the hearings was "very favorable" . . . The High Commissioner addressed the Japan-Hawaii Economic Council and discussed the TT economic situation in Kyoto . . . Secretary of the Interior Rogers C.B. Morton has moved from the Department of the Interior to become the Secretary of Commerce. His replacement, Stanley K. Hathaway, recently resigned for reasons of health. As of presstime, an official replacement for Hathaway has not yet been named . . . Fred Monroe Zeder was designated DOTA (Director of the Office of Territorial Affairs). The 54-year-old Texas manufacturer and civic leader filled the vacancy left by Stanley S. Carpenter, who went back to the State Department . . . President Ford designated Mr. Erwin D. Canham, former Editor-in-Chief of the *Christian Science Monitor*, as Plebiscite Commissioner of the Marianas June 17 Plebiscite, when the people of the Marianas decide whether they wish to become a commonwealth of the United States . . . HiCom Johnston proclaimed July 8 as the Referendum date, when the people of Micronesia will consider these political options: Independence, Commonwealth, Free Association, Statehood, the Present Status, and others . . . A special session of the Congress of Micronesia was called by the High Commissioner and convene on Saipan beginning June 23 and ended July 3. Legislation on Base Salary Schedule for employees of the TT Executive Branch was one of the

items on the agenda . . . TT participated in the 31st session of the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP) in New Dehli, India, where the conferees focused special attention on measures for developing the island countries of the Pacific . . . Senator Wilfred Kendall of the Marshalls and Rep. Raymond Setik of Truk represented the Congress of Micronesia in the 1975 annual hearings on the TT before the Trusteeship Council . . . A bill, enacted by the Congress in its last regular session (Jan. 13-March 3, 1975), to declare the 1974 result of the Con Con election in the Marshalls null and void was vetoed by the High Commissioner . . . Marianas freshman Congressman Jose P. Mafnas, elected in 1974, resigned from the Congress to become the Marianas District Chief of Police . . . Former Attorney General of Guam, Keith L. Andrews, was appointed Special Assistant to the Attorney General . . . James V. Hall of Honolulu was appointed High Commissioner's Press Officer. The 44-year-old Hall is a graduate of the University of Iowa School of Journalism and has a MA in International Relations from the East-West Center, Honolulu . . . Twelve Micronesians were awarded International Visitor Grants by the U.S. State Department . . . Trust Territory Government experienced severe fiscal constraints during the quarter . . . The Trust Territory School of Nursing was affiliated with the Community College of Micronesia. Students majoring in nursing will spend the first year at the CCM campus on Ponape and will transfer to the TT School of Nursing on Saipan for the second year; students

majoring in other subjects will remain on Ponape . . . The second Micro Olympic (Micro Olympic II) has been suggested for July 1976, according to Chairman of the Micronesian Sports Council Felix Rabauliman. The site has not been selected. The first Micro Olympic was held on Saipan in the summer of 1969. About one hundred Micronesian athletes arrived on Saipan the latter part of the quarter to undergo vigorous training for the upcoming South Pacific Olympic slated to be held in Guam, August 1-10, 1975.

## Marianas

**T**he Mariana Islands District Legislature adjourned its 5th regular session on March 4, 1975. The Legislature, which convened its session on February 3, 1975, for a period of 30 calendar days, passed a total of 20 acts and 88 resolutions . . . About 23 police officers from the Marianas District Public Safety Department staged a three-day walkout from their jobs on March 17, 1975, demanding higher wages. A representative for the striking policemen met with District officials to iron out the problem which resulted in all the officers reporting back to duty on March 20 . . . District Administrator Francisco C. Ada signed into law Act No. 74-1975 on April 3, 1975. Act No. 74-1975, which became District Law No. 4-84, establishes full-time positions for officers and members of the Marianas District Legislature, and provides for their salaries and other purposes . . . Ms. Juana R. King of San Jose, Tinian, won the 1st prize in the Chamorro Writing Contest sponsored by the District Department of

Education... District Administrator Ada issued a notice of amendment to Saipan Municipal Ordinance No. 25-28-1974 as amended on April 17, 1975, making the importation of slot machines into the Municipality of Saipan illegal. Section 2 of the amendment, which will become effective January 1, 1976, states that it shall be unlawful to possess or own any slot machine beginning January 1, 1976... The newly established Marianas Training Center in Susupe held a one-week open house during April in which handicrafts and art shells went on sale. The handicrafts and art shells were made by the trainees.

**Yap** District Administrator Leonard Q. Aguigui visited Washington, D.C. where he attended various U.S. Congressional hearings on TT appropriations and other matters... The District Fisheries Officer traveled to Ngulu and Palau to inspect three vessels. One vessel went aground at Ngulu Atoll. Possible oil-related damage to the reef and possible salvage of worthwhile equipment were considered. The officer, while in Palau, inspected the two other ships which were forfeited to the TT Government for illegal removal of marine resources and unlawful entry into TT waters... Michael H. Allen, District Land Management Officer of Yap for the past three years, resigned his position March 1. Harold O. Temme, District Surveyor, has been Acting DLMO... The First Regular Session of the Fourth Yap District Legislature convened on May 5 for a 30-day session. Joachim Falmog, Joseph Ayin, James Mangefel, and John Iou were elected Speaker, Vice Speaker, Secretary, and Floor Leader respectively. Raphael Dabchuren, Frank Flounug, Hilary Dauel, Ambrose Minginfel, Andrew Faimau chaired the Appropriations; Judiciary and Government Operations; Resources and Development; Ways and Means; and Health, Education and

Welfare, respectively. Members of the Hold-Over Committee comprised of Speaker Falmog, Vice Speaker Ayin, and the chairmen of the Appropriations, Judiciary and Governmental Operations, Resources and Development, Ways and Means committees... The Yap High School Principal, the DistAd, the Director of Public Works, an Education Department representative, and Joseph Tamag inspected the new high school grounds to determine the work that is still needed to be done before the contract would be completed... Yap District Task Force on Education for Self-Government visited Ulithi and conducted ESG programs by having meetings and showing slides and movies. The ESG Task Force, chaired by Martin Yinug of Yap, also met with the Yap Women's Federation to discuss the four political status alternatives... The Task Force has visited all ten municipalities on Yap proper and Woleai and Ulithi atolls, and has discussed issues such as the Referendum, Constitutional Convention, and the status alternatives. The Task Force has also been meeting with the government employees and residents in Colonia, the district center... A five-member Con Con team from Ponape briefly stopped in Yap on their way home from Palau, where they had discussions on matters regarding Con Con. The team, headed by former COM representative Heinrich Iriarte of Nett, Ponape, said that the purpose of the visit to Yap was to meet with the Ponapean community in Yap and to solicit their opinions on the upcoming Convention, which is slated to be held on Saipan beginning July 12. The team also met with the DistAd, the Yap Con Con delegation, and several local dignitaries... Guam senators Ben Ada, Benigno Palomo, and Carl T. Guterrez, and Special Assistant Pete Roberto, visited Yap during the quarter and discussed with Yap officials matters pertaining to the upcoming Pacific Conference of Legislators slated for July... The Guam Recorder Society visited Yap to perform free concerts in

many schools and communities in Yap... Visitors to Yap during the quarter included personnel from Micronesian Occupational Center, Community College of Micronesia, and Headquarters. Dr. J. Ray Smith, Ms. Barbara Edwards, and Ms. Betty Jenkins, sponsored by Gannett Foundation to observe a possibility of teachers using newspapers in curriculum, also visited the district. Another group that visited the district was the TT Manpower Advisory Council comprised of representatives from all the six districts. The group visited Falalop, Ulithi, and Yap proper as well.

**Ponape** T h e n e w, seventy-thousand-dollar Ponape District Legislature building was dedicated April 26 in Colonia, the district center. Officials from Headquarters and the Congress of Micronesia attended the dedication of the building which was jointly budgeted by the Trust Territory Government and the Ponape District Legislature... The Legislature, during its recently-concluded regular and special sessions, passed 40 bills and adopted 26 resolutions. Among the bills passed was a controversial one dealing with the salaries of the members. The bill, which has become law without the signature of District Administrator Leo A. Falcam, provides a member with \$6,000 and the Speaker with \$7,000 per year... District Administrator Falcam held a series of meetings with the people of Ponape District to familiarize himself with contemporary political developments and to update the people of the district on the current developments in Ponape as well as in Micronesia. He explained to the people the importance and role of the Ponape delegates to the Constitutional Convention (Con Con) and the future political status alternatives. The alternatives are Independence, Commonwealth, Free Association, Statehood, the Present Status... The leadership of the Ponape District



Legislature met with the people of the district and discussed with them the nature of the programs and projects budgeted by the Legislature... The Ponape Con Con delegation—consisting of 12 members—visited the islands and villages of the district to explain to the people the future government of Micronesia and their role in the upcoming Con Con... An elementary school fair was held on Ponape during the latter part of the quarter. The fair was highlighted by several events which attracted the attention of the people: dancing competition, track and field events, exhibits of the students farm produce and the curriculum materials. Winners of the fair were all given cash awards... The construction of the Ponape District Museum was started in Daini section in Kolonia. The building, designated as the museum, is an old house used as a power plant during the Japanese Administration. Renovation of the building has been financed by Title VI of the CETA program. Also, the Guam Insular Arts Council has contributed \$2,500 to support the museum. Ms. Waunda Marzolf of the United States has contributed \$2,000 of her own money to the museum. The opening of the museum is planned for July 21, 1975... Uh Corporation Hotel, owned by several local people, has planned to open up for business before Christmas, 1975. Located in Uh Municipality on a lovely hill surrounded by a grassy lawn, the hotel has a nice view of the blue Ponape lagoon and the scenic Ponape International Airport. Most of the materials used in the construction of the hotel were locally collected... The Ponape District Fishing Authority approved five loans to members of the Ponape Fishermen's Cooperative Association to purchase needed outboard motors, boats, nets, and other fishing gear. The loans came from funds generated from the services the PFCA has provided foreign fishing vessels. The services included watering, fueling, repatriating of crewmen, and other necessary services. During the

quarter, the PFCA signed a contract with Saipan's Microl Corporation to service foreign fishing vessels of Tohomenka Kaisha Ltd. The contract authorizes the PFCA to act on behalf of Microl Corporation in performing such services in Ponape District.

## Palau

Palau District, during the quarter, made great political, social, and economic improvements which have not been experienced since foreigners first set foot in Palau... The Fourth Annual Palau Municipal Leadership Conference was held. Officials from Headquarters, District Government, and the private sector attended the one-week conference in which the conferees discussed matters of great concern to the people of Micronesia. Nine resolutions were adopted by the conference and were sent to appropriate officials and agencies for action... Medical officers from Micronesia held a week-long seminar in Koror where they discussed such topics as the introduction of private practice of medicine in Micronesia, mandatory autopsy, abortion, and immunization. Attending the seminar, in addition to the officers, were Palau District Director of Health Services Dr. Minoru F. Ueki, High Chiefs Ibedul and Reklai, District Administrator Thomas O. Remengesau, and Trust Territory Director of Health Services Dr. Masao Kumagai... The Palau Constitutional Convention convened in Koror to draft the Constitution for Palau District. Senator Roman Tmetuchl of the Congress of Micronesia was elected President of the Convention. Alternative draft constitutions were introduced in the Convention. The first draft advocated independence for Palau to be ruled by elected members of certain clans. The other draft advocated the form of government similar to that of the United States of America, where public officials are elected by popular vote. When these drafts have been completed, the Convention shall notify

the District Administrator that the Convention has completed its deliberation and drafting. Upon receipt of such notification, the DistAd shall transmit copies of the draft constitutions to the Palau District Legislature in its next session for consideration. Upon favorable consideration, the legislature shall enact necessary enabling legislation to provide for a popular referendum on the draft constitutions... The Fifth Palau District Legislature, Eighth Regular Session, was held during the quarter in which ten bills and ten resolutions were enacted and are now waiting for the DistAd's signature. Among the measures were a bill creating District Public Lands Authority as the legal entity to receive certain public lands in Palau District pursuant to the provisions of Secretarial Order 2969, and a resolution to create a Palau Political Status Commission... Two Palauans were selected to tour the United States under the International Visitors Grant Program for this year: Mayor of Koror Rubasch Fritz and Ms. Gloria Gibbons. They left Palau during the quarter for a one-month tour of the United States, Puerto Rico, and the Virgin Islands... The groundbreaking ceremony for Koror-Babelthup bridge was held. The ceremony drew a number of dignitaries from Headquarters, Guam, and Palau itself. Attending the ceremony were High Commissioner Edward E. Johnston, President of the Socio Construction Company Mr. B.W. Chung, and Speaker of the Palau District Legislature Iteibang Luii. It is expected that the bridge, which is 790 feet long, will be completed before March, 1977. Socio Construction Company of Guam is undertaking the project... Two Taiwanese fishing vessels ran aground on Helen Reef, 371 miles southwest of Koror. The crew of one of the ships has been repatriated to Taiwan. However, the crew of the other ship has been taken to Koror where they have been charged with illegal removal of marine resources in

Yap District. MS Micronesia Princess, a Trust Territory vessel, apprehended another Taiwanese fishing vessel (Yung Ho 112), during a regular field trip. The captain and the fishing master were convicted and were charged with unlawful removal of marine resources with a fine of \$2,000. . . . A fire resulting from faulty electrical wiring demolished a motel, an abai, and three private homes in Koror. Fire officials said they were unable to control the flames because all the buildings were constructed of wood and burned so quickly that the extinguishing equipment was useless . . . The third Palau School Fair was held during the quarter from April 29-May 2. Sports competition, speech contest, and display of handicrafts made by the students, were featured during the week-long fair . . . Three Palau police officers were selected to attend various training sessions outside the Trust Territory. Kaoru Brel and Helbert Decherong went to attend the State Police Academy in San Diego, California for four months in advance police training, while Kamesak Tudong participated in a two weeks of training held in Hawaii on various narcotics and other hard drugs . . . Dr. Horst Weisel, Political Advisor for the German Embassy in Manila, paid a visit to the district. While in the district, he met with political and economic leaders . . . Dr. Eugene Gonzales, Regional Director of the Community Services Administration (formerly the Office of Economic Opportunity), Region IX, visited Palau to observe the programs and projects carried out by the Palau Community Action Agency. He met with DistAd Remengesau and discussed the programs of the Community Services Administration . . . The first workshop for the Palau community court judges was held for a week at the Palau District Court chamber. Among the topics discussed were: rules of civil procedures, Palauan legal terms in small claim proceedings, criminal procedures, bill of

rights, government and juvenile proceedings . . . A new Civic Action Team consisting of 13 members arrived during the quarter to undertake an eight-month assignment in Palau District. The new team is headed by Ensign William L. Rudich, who replaced Lt. Steve Miller and his team.

**Truk** The President of the Pacific Conference of Legislators, Guam Senator Ben Ada, spent two days in the district during the quarter and met with District Administrator Mitaro Danis and various local leaders to discuss topics which would be included in the upcoming 7th annual Pacific Conference of Legislators to be held on Guam July 21-26, 1975 . . . Congress of Micronesia House Committee on Resources and Development, chaired by Congressman Sasauo Haruo of Truk, visited the district during the quarter and spent three days meeting with various local leaders to obtain the consensus of the leaders regarding proposals for legislation made by the Congress of Micronesia. One of them proposed legislation was the transshipment port proposal for Truk District . . . Chief of Lands and Surveys Kozo Yamada of Headquarters and Yap Senior Land Commissioner Robert Green arrived in the district to discuss and answer questions relating to Secretarial Order 2969 on the return of public lands . . . The Endangered Species Coordinator for the Pacific Islands, Eugene Kribler, and TT Chief Conservation Officer Robert Owen spent one week in Truk to assess the situation of endangered species. They traveled to several Truk lagoon islands to observe the plants and animals which are being endangered . . . The signing of Public Law 6-20 concerning the TT-wide General Referendum stirred up some minor concern among Trukese leaders. Magistrate Chairman Susumu Aizawa called a special conference and invited members of the Truk delegation to the Congress of Micronesia, Truk delegation to the Con

Con, and members of the local Education for Self-Government Task Force, to explain to the magistrates the status alternatives. Mayor Fuchita Bossy of Moen also assembled all Moen residents and invited the same resource groups to discuss and answer questions relating to the five political alternatives. DistAd Danis, during an official trip to Patta, found time to discuss the status alternatives with the local people . . . Members of the Truk delegation to the Con Con have visited most of the islands in the district to prepare themselves for the upcoming convention. The local ESG Task Force also traveled to the islands to meet and discuss with the people about the future political status of Micronesia . . . Truk participated in the Law Day observation where several speakers including COM Senate President Tosiwo Nakayama, DistAd Mitaro Danis, Truk District Legislature Speaker Koichi Sana, and other local leaders, spoke to several hundred high school students. Truk Chief of Police Frank Nifon received the 1975 Trust Territory Attorney General Award . . . A brief certificate award ceremony for two news reporters at Broadcast Station WSZC was conducted at the Truk District Administrator's Office . . . A Truk Farmers Fair was conducted for two days; a lot of farm produce was displayed. Truk Agriculturist David Idip said that this was an indication of great improvement on the part of the Trukese farmers . . . The people of Uman celebrated the 14th anniversary of the chartering of their municipality. Baseball, basketball, volleyball, and field and track events were held for two days . . . Truk District Director of Health Services Dr. Ngas Kansou departed Truk at the end of the quarter to assume his responsibilities as the Deputy Director of Health Services at Headquarters on Saipan.

**Marshall** DistAd Oscar DeBrum was in Saipan during the quarter to attend

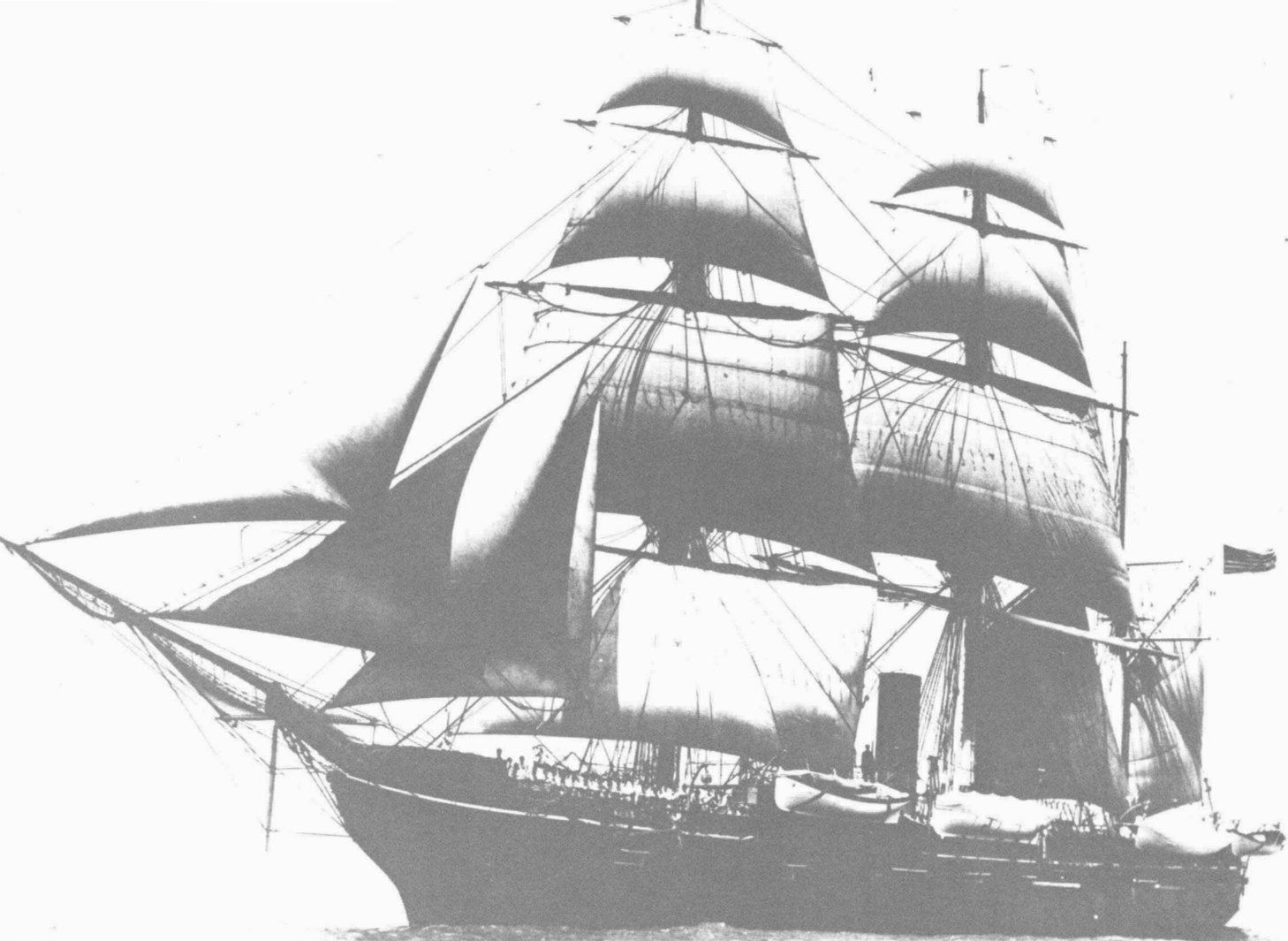
budgetary hearings and to participate in the DistAds' annual conference . . . Two Enewetak *iroijs* (chiefs) — Ioanis Peter and Binton Abraham — departed for Washington in April to discuss with U.S. government officials matters regarding the resettlement of the people of Enewetak, who live on Ujelang. Meanwhile, the U.S. Congress provided \$3 million for the clean-up of Enewetak . . . A \$10-million-dollar suit was filed in the U.S. Court of Claims in Washington against the U.S. by owners and leaders of Roi Namur, an island-complex in Kwajalein which has been used for missile tracking for the past 25 years . . . The U.S. House of Representatives passed a bill to provide \$8 million for the people of Bikini as compensation for having been displaced from their atoll 29 years ago when the U.S. used Bikini as a nuclear testing site . . . DistAd DeBrum and other local leaders took part in the first Annual Honors Assembly of the Marshall Islands High School in the latter part of May . . . 93 seniors graduated from MIHS . . . Jaluit will be opening its new high school in September with an expected enrollment of about 110 students . . . The Marshall Islands District Legislature (*Nitijela*) during the quarter passed a bill making slot machines illegal in the Marshalls . . . A formal constitution creating a *Nitijela* for the islands of Lolelapalap was executed during the quarter . . . Several members of the Congress of Micronesia, including Marshall's Representative Ataji Balos, asked the HiCom for an indefinite delay of the TT-wide Referendum, which is scheduled for July 8, 1975. "There is too much going on at one time and the people are confused," Balos was reported as saying . . . The HiCom vetoed a Congress measure to declare the results of the 1974 Con Con election in the Marshalls null and void . . . Three bars—the Reef, the Eastern Gateway, and the KITCO — were closed down for one week in May for serving beverages to persons who did not have drinking

permits . . . A Japanese tuna fishing boat ran aground at Jaluit Atoll, 147 miles southwest of Majuro, the district center . . . The new Majuro International Airport was lighted at night during the quarter . . . Power Distribution Specialist from Headquarters, George Knight, arrived in Majuro and completed his work of setting up 8½ miles of power lines from the district center's power plant to the new airport . . . The new public safety building and a new air terminal were dedicated during the quarter . . . The phone patch facility to the outer islands was improved thereby connecting the remote, isolated atolls of the Marshalls to the overseas communications network . . . Fencing of the Majuro Library-Museum was completed during the quarter . . . A historical sites preservation committee was formed . . . An agreement establishing a New Royalty and Severance Fee for quarry activities on Kwajalein was signed . . . The Atomic Energy Commission medical team conducted its routine annual survey of Rongelap, Utirik, and Bikini to examine the hydrogen bomb fallout victims . . . Dr. Gavin Southerland, an orthopedic surgeon stationed on Ponape, visited Majuro and performed 7 major surgeries . . . Charles "Chuck" Singletary, Supervisory Broadcast Technician, retired from the TT Government after serving the TT for 15 years.

#### **District Correspondents:**

Marianas, Manuel C. Sablan; Palau, David Ngirmidol; Truk, Noha Ruben; Yap, Wilfred Gorongfel; Ponape, Francisco Simeon; Headquarters, Derson Ramon; Marshalls compiled from Micronesian News Service, Monthly Reports, and the *Micronesian Independent*.





by John W. Perry

## The Wreck of the *Ranier*: 1884

*The USS Essex, a wooden screw steamer, sent to the Marshall Islands in 1884 to rescue the shipwrecked crew of the *Ranier*.*

On New Year's Day, 1884, the American merchantman *Ranier*, Orient-bound with 73,000 cases of kerosene in her hold, sailed into the Ralik chain of the Marshall Islands, passed Lae (near Kwajalein), and then stood to the northwest, on a collision course with Ujae, an atoll known to the Marshallese as "lying in the middle of the current." On the night of January 2, an hour or so after the moon had set, lookouts posted near the topgallant sail heard the rumble of breakers.

"Hard a starboard!" shouted Captain Samuel Morrison, veteran of two previous shipwrecks, moments before the 1877-ton *Ranier* slammed into Ujae's eastern rim.

The ship's first mate, Omar Humphrey, who was also Morrison's son-in-law, recalled these dangerous moments in his obscure memoir *Wreck of the *Ranier*: A Sailor's Narrative*, published in Portland, Maine in

1887. "Orders were given and executed without delay," he wrote. "Yards were laid aback with the hope the ship might back off with the assistance of anchors and hawsers."

But the *Ranier*, her aft section awash, was a doomed ship. As her masts crumbled, the quarterboats were pulled forward to protect them from falling debris. Then her 32-man crew, plus Mrs. Humphrey, passed the night on deck.

At sunrise, several canoes moored opposite the shipwreck. As the Marshallese were unarmed (whereas the Americans carried rifles), Morrison allowed them on board, hoping to win their friendship with gifts of tobacco, shirts and dungarees. Their English, he discovered, was limited to four words: captain, king, schooner and whiskey.

The *Ranier* was now abandoned. In order to lower Mrs. Humphrey into a quarterboat, she was roped to an armchair, wrapped in an American flag, and eased overboard. Once across the reef, the longboat and two quarterboats were fastened to the canoes; with the Americans in tow, the Marshallese sailed for Ujae, Ujae.

The principal chieftain of the atoll, one Elijah Bullock, met the newcomers at the lagoon's edge. Soon Morrison, the Humphreys, and the second and third mate were housed in a large pandanus hut. When petitioned off with flags from the *Ranier*, the quarters proved quite comfortable. Meanwhile the rest of the crew camped out-of-doors, in full view of the Marshallese who called them "white cannibals" and "white kanakas." Gathered around a bonfire of coconut husks, sailor and Marshallese alike watched one another until sunrise.

Next day a boatload of sailors returned from the wreck with several barrels of salted beef and pork, live chickens and turkeys, lumber and sailcloth, and some bad news: the *Ranier* had split open from stem to stern and the remains of her port side lay scattered on the reef. Thus, remarked Morrison, "the splendid new ship *Ranier* became one mangled mass of ruins."

During the first week ashore, the Americans made driftwood rafts, each fitted out with a kerosene drum containing a note describing their whereabouts in Micronesia. These rafts, similar to the famous messages-in-a-bottle so identified with island castaways, were taken to the reef and set adrift. Later, on the oceanside of the island, Morrison erected a distress signal (a strip of sailcloth attached to a stick). None of these measures, however, proved worthwhile.

For entertainment several sailors prepared a list of Marshallese phrases, translated as "Come here, I want something to eat!" "Smoke?" "Coconut to drink?" and "No good!" Other sailors fished in the lagoon or watched geckos. One bored seaman shot rats with his revolver. Mrs. Humphrey passed the time knitting an American flag from red flannel and blue dungaree; for stars she used Morrison's best white shirt.

Then the *Ranier's* steward died after a short illness. He was wrapped in a pandanus mat and buried on the northwest corner of the island. As was Marshallese custom in 1884, the grave was covered with large chunks of coral to keep the dead man's spirit from returning to haunt the island. "*Emman! Emman!*" ("Good! Good!") said Elijah as the last stone was thrown on the grave. "Steward no come back."

Morrison now decided to send the *Ranier's* longboat for help. His instructions to Second Mate Whalen Dhone and his volunteer crew were almost

suicidal: first, Dhone would sail to Kusaie; second, if aid was refused at Kusaie, he would sail to Ponape; third, if aid was again refused, he would sail to China, some three thousand miles away.

The longboat was ready to sail on January 10. Those who remained on Ujae wrote letters to distant loved ones and stuffed them inside a canvas mailbag. An hour or so later the longboat sailed to Bock Channel on the western side of the atoll. There Dhone set a course for Kusaie.

After the longboat had sailed, Morrison had another idea: he would build a schooner. Building materials included planks and iron spikes from the *Ranier* and beams sawed from a large breadfruit tree. As work progressed, Elijah sat near the hull and shouted "*Emman! Emman!*"

On March 13, after eight weeks of hard labor, the 41-foot *Ujae*, as she was named, was launched and taken to Bock Channel. On March 17 Morrison sailed for Jaluit atoll, site of a German trading station. ("White kanaka belong Jaluit plenty plenty!" promised Elijah.) He took with him seventeen sailors and several Marshallese. Those who remained behind, including the Humphreys, expected to be rescued in the near future.

When Morrison reached Jaluit on March 22, he spread the news of shipwreck. The Germans, however, were indifferent to the whole affair. Nothing happened. No schooner was sent out. Nothing was done. As Morrison had no cash for food or supplies, he was forced to borrow German marks, using the *Ujae* as collateral. Again marooned, he remained at Jaluit until April.

Meanwhile the Americans on Ujae watched the horizon for a sail. As supplies dwindled, a shirt, a handkerchief, a plug of tobacco—whatever was available—was traded for food and drink. Soon the sailors were reduced to impoverished beachcombers. When Elijah realized the Americans had no more tobacco to trade for coconuts, he crushed the bowl of his clay pipe and smoked the pipe dust. Some Marshallese now wished the white kanakas would sail to another atoll.

However, there was a moment of renewed friendship when Humphrey cured a male Marshallese of an unknown sickness. His treatment was simple: he gave the man a drink of whiskey and soaked his feet in hot water mixed with mustard. Later, one of Elijah's wives gave Mrs. Humphrey a dog, which she named Schnider.

About this time a strange incident occurred on Ujae, what Humphrey called the coming of the "spirit of Libogen." As he sat smoking a pipe filled with oakum (hemp rope fibers, used to caulk ship seams),

one of Elijah's wives delivered an important message: the Spirit of Libogen wished to speak to the white mate. Puzzled, Humphrey walked to Elijah's house further along the lagoon.

When he arrived, he found his fellow shipmates "listening with sober, long-drawn faces to the mysterious talking of an invisible spirit." Entering the hut, he seated himself next to Elijah. Again there was sound. "The voice sounded or spoke in the tone of a whistle," he recalled, "and was as mysterious as it was wonderful."

The prophesies of Libogen were then revealed. First, the sailors who had left Ujae in the longboat had been rescued; second, Captain Morrison had arrived at Jaluit; third, within two weeks a large ship would visit Ujae.

"The conversation lasted some time," wrote Humphrey, "and when finished I was told to say 'Good night, Libogen,' which I did, and was answered by 'Good night, mate,' in as plain English as I could speak myself."

The Spirit of Libogen was correct, for within two weeks the USS *Essex* neared the atoll. A cannon shot announced her arrival. Horrified, the Marshallese hid in their houses, certain the *Essex* had come to "bum-bum" (shoot) Ujae.

The ship's deck log for Easter Sunday, April 13, reads: "Fired two guns at 8:50 to attract the attention of the shipwrecked people on Ujae. At 9:35 stopped steaming to receive a whaleboat and canoe containing the mate and a portion of the crew."

"Is Mrs. Humphrey safe?" a sailor asked as Humphrey came on board. When he replied Yes, a cheer went up from the ship's crew.

Humphrey now learned what had happened to the longboat. As predicted by the Spirit of Libogen, the sailors had been rescued—taken on board a British bark near Kusaie. As the vessel had been iron-hulled and slow, her captain had continued on to Southeast Asia rather than detour to Ujae to search for shipwrecked Americans. When the sailors notified the United States Navy of the disaster, the commander of the Asiatic Station despatched the *Essex* to take on survivors.

As soon as all Americans had been evacuated from Ujae, the *Essex's* commander rewarded the Marshallese for their kindness. Among the gifts he sent on shore were four axes, six fishing lines, twenty fishing hooks, a hoe and shovel, a hundred pounds of bread and seventy-five pounds of rice. He also gave Elijah an old naval uniform and a one-paragraph note listing the *Essex's* date of arrival and departure, Ujae's proof of the safe removal of Americans.

From Ujae the *Essex* sailed to Jaluit, took on board Morrison (the other sailors had left for Hongkong via a German schooner), and then sailed for the Orient. A day or two later the Marshallese of Ujelang, an atoll some three hundred miles northwest of Ujae, hauled on shore a mysterious assortment of driftwood—the far-flung remains of the once-beautiful *Ranier*.

### Ballad of the Wreck

(by an *Essex* officer)

*The wind murmured soft o'er the ocean,  
The Ranier sped fast o'er the sea,  
With queenly and confident motion,  
To a treacherous, pitiless lee!*

*A wreck rose and fell with the surging  
Of waves dashing angry and high;  
Brave souls, from destruction emerging,  
Found refuge on lonely Ujae.*

*Three months of the weariest waiting,  
Of gloom, desolation and care!  
Till hope, turning faint and abating,  
Grew nearly akin to despair.*

*At last came the morn of salvation,  
That dawns o'er the shadows of night,  
When cheers of our glad exultation,  
Uprose with the shimmering light.*

*The Essex bore down in her beauty,  
The watchers were welcomed on board;  
The navy has done but a duty,  
Sweeter far than is wrought by the sword.*



# \* footnote

There have been a great many films made about Micronesia, and as interest in the political destiny, the tourism potential of Micronesia grows, there will be a great many more. It seems likely, however, that for camera artistry, indescribable beauty of color, and sensitive treatment of the subject, none will compare with a film currently being circulated, appropriately entitled "Sea of Eden."

"Sea of Eden" is the work of Al Giddings of Sea Films, Inc., Berkeley, California. He and his camera are no strangers to Micronesia's waters. As this issue of the **Reporter** went to press, Giddings and a crew were in the Truk lagoon completing six weeks of filming a sequel to "The Silent Warrior." The earlier film, completed in 1971, centered on the macabre discovery of a sunken Japanese submarine, the I-169, and the skeletal remains of its entire crew, immobilized a quarter of a century earlier by a swift act of war.

Filming of the sequel created more than ordinary attention because, during the first two weeks of shooting, Giddings' crew included John F. Kennedy, Jr., son of the late United States President Kennedy, and Timothy Shriver, son of Sergeant Shriver, a politically prominent figure whose candidacy for the U.S. presidency in 1976 has been insinuated.

"Sea of Eden" was filmed among Palau's uniquely beautiful rock islands, along the sheer face of the outer reefs, and in some of the mysterious sea caves and fresh

water lakes of the Palau district. It has an irresistible appeal to all who view it, whether their interest is in scuba diving, marine biology, or ecology, or consists simply of a fascination with the delicate motion and coloring of the undersea world.

When the film was premiered in March of this year at a Pacific Area Travel Association workshop in Townsville, Australia, it was accorded a standing ovation by an audience fully accustomed to the lure of tourist films.

Giddings combines unusual talents as a scuba diver and underwater cameraman with an obviously keen interest in plant and marine life, made evident not only through the photographic sequences, but also by his narration.

For instance, Giddings marvels at the compatibility of a sea anemone, damsel fish and tiny, wraith-like shrimp that normally would be bent upon mutual destruction. He shows an octopus warding off a diver's feint with a crab shell, a use of a defensive tool Giddings claims is unique in the marine world.

The divers' dark journey into stalactite festooned sea caves and on into the secluded beauty of a fresh water lake provides a singular "travel film" sequence.

Through it all, the film carries a message, subtly, quietly, yet firmly stated, and that is to not permit anything to happen in Palau to disturb the exquisite ecological balance in the "Sea of Eden."

Although prints of the "Sea of Eden" are not readily available, Continental Airlines, which participated in the film's production and distribution, has provided the Saipan office of Air Micronesia with a copy. David R. Miho, recently appointed manager of governmental and public affairs for Air Micronesia, can offer additional information.

**MICRONESIAN REPORTER INDEX IN PROGRESS**

An index for both the MICRONESIAN REPORTER and its predecessor THE MICRONESIAN MONTHLY (first published in 1951) is nearing completion and should be ready soon. A project financed by the Library Services and Construction Act, Title III, copies will be distributed by the Education Department, Library Services, to all Trust Territory libraries. Libraries outside of the Trust Territory, especially those serving students from the Trust Territory, are encouraged to apply for a copy by writing to the Education Department, Headquarters, Saipan, Mariana Islands 96950.





Two girls from Ulithi — Barbara and Juanita — and Maurice Pickard, the subject of "A Man Who Loves His Job" (page 35), prepare to board plane at Yap airport. Photograph by Jim Haas