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PONAPE-PER -May 26, 1961

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"Sentinel of the Senyavins". Editor: R.J. Umhoefer Contributing Editors: Hal Forester, Diane Sammet, Paul T. McNutt. Features: Bill Taliaferro. Typographer: Harriet Weinrich. Staff Artists: Ed Iwaniec, Jim Zaiger. Published weekly in Ponape, E. C. I., Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands.

NEWS BRIEFS

Two busloads of Freedom Riders were arrested in Jackson, Mississippi, and charged with failing to obey an order of a police officer and breaches of the peace. The Freedom Riders are groups of Negroes and Whites who are touring the South and using the White and Colored waiting rooms in violation of local law. There has been bloodshed in other Southern localities and to date the most seriously wounded Freedom Rider was a 22-year old White youth who was knocked unconscious by police when he resisted being removed from a waiting room reserved for Negroes. U. S. Attorney General Robert Kennedy asked the Freedom Riders, who generally begin their trips from Washington, D. C., to stop their trips because of the danger of too many innocent bystanders being hurt. Negro leaders indicated that they would pay no attention to Kennedy's plea. The head of the new revolutionary government in South Korea called off plans to visit President Kennedy when the U.S. State Department failed to grant him and his party visas. President Kennedy is expected to go before Congress today with a 5500-word address concerning what he called "urgent emergency matters". President Kennedy's going before Congress personally is an unprecedented move; normally Presidents have gone before the Congress at this time only for the purpose of declaring war or some other grave matter of national concern.The United States Government announced that officially it would stay out of the plans to raise \$15 million for the tractors demanded by Fidel Castro in exchange for what he calls "prisoners of war". Although President Kennedy announced this policy, he said he would encourage the American people to support this fund drive and had in fact been one of the instigators of the plan. A committee of prominent Americans, including Eleanor Roosevelt, is meeting today in Miami to launch the fund drive. The Geneva talks on Laos have come to a standstill as government representatives there await the Khrushchev-Kennedy meeting in Geneva. A new coast-to-coast flight record was setyesterday when an aircraft flew from Ontario, California to New York in two hours, 48 minutes. The average speed was 871 miles per hour. Defense Secretary McNamarra told a Senate appropriations committee that the U.S. was lagging behind Russia in its intercontinental missile program and that it would not catch up with the Soviets until late 1963.Vice-President Lyndon Johnson returned to Washington from his trip to the Far East after having given assurances to the people that the United States would take any steps necessary in the defense against Communism. After a brief reating with President Kennedy, Mr. Johnson said that he felt sure that the President would ask Congress for substantial increases in foreign aid because it was essential first to overcome the poverty that is rife in the Far East.

MEMORIAL DAY TUESDAY

All Government offices including the U.S. Post Office will be closed Tuesday, May 30, Memorial Day.

THANK YOU, LADIES

To Mesdames Iwaniec and Mooney who did the flowers and table decorations, to Mrs. Weinrich and her bevy of talented cooks for the delicious and attractively served food, to Mrs. Peacock and Miss Mukaida for getting out the invitations, to Mr. Mooney for keeping the grog flowing, and to Mesdames Umhoefer, Sammet, Migvar and McNutt for the late supper, my sincere thanks for a splendid performance.

All of the members of Assistant Secretary Carver's party were impressed with the community spirit and ability of all of you.

R. J. Umhoefer

WHITE ELEPHANT SALE TONIGHT

Bring a bit of small change with you to the cinema tonight. The local small fry club, the Musketeers, are having a sale of antiques and just-what-you-alwayswanteds before movie time. The selection is limited and the prices low, so don't be late. Proceeds will go to a fund for a cha cha party to welcome Mr. Glenn Murakami and to farewell a couple of lads and lassies who are going on leave soon.

PRICES ARE HERE

Mr. and Mrs. Willard Price arrived today for a short visit. (See last week's paper for PRICE QUOTATIONS). Willard and Mary Price were here in 1936 and have returned to do an article for the National Geographic on the new look in Micronesia. The Prices visited PICS this afternoon, will look over the Agricultural Station tomorrow morning before leaving for Nan Matal. They will depart Ponape next Wednesday on flight 401/30.

PACKAGE STORE HOURS

Package store hours at Club Kolonia will be 5:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m. Monday through Friday, effective June 1, 1961. Sale of package goods, however, will be made whenever the Club Manager is at the Club, in addition to the hours mentioned above.

NEED EXTRA COPIES OF "REPORTER"

The March-April (Yap Special) issue of the Micronesian Reporter is in great demand at Yap. Those who do not keep their copies are earnestly requested to donate them to those who are anxious to have a copy. Your copies may be turned over to the Administration Office for forwarding to Yap.

"CITY WIFE" GOOD BUT NOT GREAT

We doubt that any Broadway production was ever beset by the obstacles and problems confronting Bill Taliaferro in his efforts to produce his musical comedy "The City Wife". In the face of cast members trotting off to other parts of the Territory a week before opening night and the director having to leave the production in mid-air himself for nearly a week, all hands presented a good, but not great, play for two widely different kinds of audience.

To write, compose music, and direct a three act comedy with a prologue to boot is a most ambitious undertaking anywhere, given a theatre and professional cast. To have carried through with the talent available and no theatre plus the many vicissitudes peculiar to such places as Ponape deserves a hearty pat on the back. Now that Mr. Taliaferro knows what he is really up against and has proved to himself and us that he is equal to damned near anything, we expect another show to get underway soon.

Monday night's production suffered slightly from some of the cast not projecting either their voices or the character they were portraying. This blemish was erased Wednesday night but supplanted by a little too much stage business by the upstairs and downstairs maids and their Cockney paramours, during the song by Ed Iwaniec. Both Iwaniec's voice and the music itself were too top drawer to have them both lost in the laughter provoked by those upstage larakins. This happened to a lesser degree to stand-in Taliaferro Monday night. Again a good voice and better music were engulfed by too much overacting in the background.

We liked Cynthia Iwaniec's fidgety portrayal of Lady Fidget and E. P. Furber's casting as Sir Jasper was a most fortuitous event. We liked even better the way Ray Cadwell put over the scalawag that was Sparkish. Mr. Pinchbottom saved his faulty memory and swallowed lines with a mighty fine redition of his song, and both Rivard and Forester have missed their callings in not being furniture movers professionally.

Pretty maids Nan McNutt and Shirley Umhoefer revealed excellent stage presence and projected well, as did Diane Sammet and Joan Sutcliffe as cross and starcrossed lovers. Mr. Kerner revealed an undue unfamiliarity with tennis racquets and a proclivity for acting the gangly youth we presume he was supposed to portray.

It is not an easy thing to present a bit of modernized Restoration comedy to two such different audiences as Monday night's Kolonials still wet from a smashing cocktail party and Wednesday night's very appreciative PICS student body. The cast proved equal to both, however, and why dwell much on the professional quality of the players when both cast and two audiences had a terrifically wonderful time both nights.

Bill Taliaferro wrote the book, composed the music, directed the play, and was the understudy-who-got-to-go-on for Ed Iwaniec. He did all four so well, that we wonder if he should continue driving that dusty rose jeep to and fro on this island when he might employ a better vehicle on Broadway. --R.J.U.

DIRCOM CHANGES ADDRESS

Effective May 1, 1961, the office of the Director of Communications was transferred back to Guam from where it had been transferred to Truk in November 1953.

All reports and correspondence heretofore routed to the Director of Communications CED, or the Control Station at Truk should be forwarded to Guam.

SUGGESTION, ANYONE?

The Department of the Army's 400,000 Civil Service employees have been instructed to make at least one "constructive" suggestion for improving Army operations. The month of May was designated as "suggestion month" during which all military members of the Army will also participate.

Beneficial suggestions by Trust Territory employees are welcomed and will be processed by the Administrative Assistant for forwarding to the Headquarters Incentive Assistant for forwarding to the Headquarters Incentive Awards Subcommittee,

YAMADA RECEIVES PROMOTION

District Land Title Officer Kozo Yarada, by memorandum from High Commissioner M. W. Goding based upon the recommendation of the Headquarters "C" Schedule Evaluation Board, was approved for conversion to the position of Land Titles Officer, Grade C-la, effective June 11.

Conversion to the "C" schedule of the Micronesian Title and Pay Plan not only carries an increase in salary, but confers upon the recipient the distinct honor of being among a select group of higher echelon employees in the senior professional and executive pay scale.

NEW MC DONOUGH EMPLOYEE

Lorenzo Magbaleta arrived the 16th to join Mr. Samuel Houston and Mr. Primitivo Somera in construction of the new Page barracks building and dining hall.

Mr. Magbaleta comes originally from Batac, Ilocos Norte in the Philippines. He has been employed since 1949 in Guam and Saipan by BPM as well as the Hawaiian Dredging-Pomeroy-Koster Construction Company.

HERE THEY COME ...

Passengers from Guam to Ponape on Monday's flight include Messrs. Luktum, Samuel, Jano, Keigo, Sproat, and Tiffany (Page). Majuro passengers will include Messrs. Rilloma and Salley.

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