



Volume V, No. 8

February 21, 1963

MORE POLIO CASES AT MAJURO

NONE HERE AS IMMUNIZATION PROGRAM CONTINUES

Polio, the serious disease which struck in Kwajalein earlier this year, is still raging in the Marshalls district center at Majuro, according to Doctors Herrmann and Roberto, the U.S. Public Health Service team here to assist local medical personnel in immunization work. Although the epidemic is under control at Kwajalein, over 50 cases have been noted in Majuro and more are expected. So far there have been five confirmed and two doubtful deaths in the district. All travellers going to the Marshalls are being given vaccine. All travellers leaving the Marshalls must have the vaccine before they are permitted to depart.

Doctor Herrmann spoke with fellow worker Dr. Bryan by radio telephone yesterday. Dr. Bryan, at Kwajalein, said the Marshalls medical teams have covered almost the entire district but requested his team mates return to the Marshalls this week to help give a final knockout to the virus among the Marshallese. Dr. Bryan will proceed to Truk on Sunday, February 24, to carry the vaccination program to that district. Other districts in TT will receive the Sabin I vaccine in the huge immunization program directed by High Commissioner Coding.

Doctors Herrmann and Roberto arrived in Ponape this week. They found Dr. Ciro Barbosa, District Director of Public Health, and staff well organized and ready to go into a crash program of immunization in this district. By the end of the second day of work, over 50% of the island population had received the two drops of Sabin I oral polio vaccine. At close of work Wednesday, 5,781 doses of vaccine had been given locally. According to the medical team, a person requires between six and seven days to develop immunity after taking the vaccine.

In addition to giving the vaccine to all people, the medical team checked people who had come to Ponape from the Marshalls by plane and ship since the outbreak of the disease on Kwajalein to see if they had developed symptoms of the disease. Their findings have been negative thus far.

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PALAU TO HAVE 2 ASST. DISTADS

In a dispatch news release this week, High Commissioner M.W. Goding announced the following personnel changes in the interest of effecting maximum personnel utilization in view of the Territory's accelerated education program and expanded program in economic development. Dr. William Vitarelli, currently Community Development Officer on the Program Staff, has been reassigned to a newly defined position, Assistant District Administrator, Palau District, in charge of social, political, economic and cultural activities.

Dr. Vitarelli has had considerable experience in the Trust Territory as well as in previous employment in the fields of social and community development and in general education. His assignment to Palau in this important position is in line with our administration's overall plan to stress development in the areas of education and community affairs.

Mr. Takeo Yano, currently Administrative Services Officer, Palau District, will be promoted to the position of Assistant District Administrator in charge of administrative affairs. Mr. Yano will be the first Micronesian to hold the position of Assistant District Administrator in the field of general administration.

Mr. Laurence K. Anderson, currently Assistant District Administrator, Palau District, who has an extensive background in the Trust Territory financial and general administrative procedures, is being reassigned to a position on the staff of the comptroller in Headquarters, a move intended to strengthen the financial management of operations in Headquarters. These personnel changes will become effective March 1, 1963.

SAIPAN M.O. GETS WHO FELLOWSHIP

High Commissioner M.W. Goding has announced that the World Health Organization has granted a fellowship for study in public health administration to the Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands. This course of study is to be done at the University of the Philippines at Manila and will cover those subjects pertaining to the statistical and recording aspects of diseases.

The costs of this fellowship will be shared by the World Health Organization and the Trust Territory Government.

Dr. Francisco Palacios of Saipan has been approved as the candidate for this year's scholarship and will leave for the Philippines in May.

TWO ARE PROMOTED

The High Commissioner has promoted Dr. Alexander Pannelo from Medical Officer C-1 to Senior Medical Officer C-2 effective February 17. Mr. Clemente Materne, Superintendent of Elementary Schools, has been promoted to the C schedule at the 1-a level. Mr. Materne was formerly in a B-8 classification.

SCHOLARS ABROAD . . .

by Podis Pedrus

ICHIRO ANNES

Ichiro Annes is the young man who used to be known as Ichiro Peter. The change is the result of an error made when he first registered at the George Washington High School. According to Ichiro, his full name was recorded when he registered. It was later revealed, he said, that the registrar's office didn't record his last name, Peter, but instead recorded his second name, Annes, as his last name. This is his second year on Guam and he hopes to graduate this year from Tumon High School.

Coming to Guam two years ago was a challenge for the then 20-year old Ichiro when he and several other Ponapean students made a try for sponsorship on Guam. He feels it is educationally profitable to stay with sponsors because he learns a variety of new customs from people of a different culture and background.

He was born on Kusaie, the home of his mother. His father, a carpenter and mechanic at Ohwa Mission, is from the island of Ngatik. It is not surprising to know why Ichiro speaks Kusaiean, Ngatikese, and Ponapean. Of course he speaks English and is learning some Spanish here.

Prior to his coming to Guam Ichiro had attended the Ponape Intermediate School (now Ponape High School) for four years. Before this he attended the Kolonia elementary school. He hopes to continue his education by going to college after he graduates from high school. His interest lies in the fine arts, especially in painting and music.

KIDDIES' PICNIC TOMORROW

The Washington's birthday picnic at Langer Island will get underway tomorrow morning when the M-boat departs Kolonia dock at 10:00 o'clock. Parents are requested to accompany their children, and other interested club members are invited. Picnickers are to bring their own lunches. Beverages will be on sale at Langer. The M-boat will return from Langer at 2:00 p.m.

BOOK CLUB MEETS TONIGHT

The Ponape Book Club will meet at Bob and Carole Rivards' quarters tonight at 7:30.

COULDN'T STAY AWAY

Friends of Betty O'Connell, former secretary to High Commissioners Nucker and Goding, are pleased to hear that she is returning to Saipan, according to the H-Q News.

PICS VARIETY SHOW NEXT WEEK

This week and next student salesmen from PICS will come to your door with tickets for their annual Variety Show to be presented this year on March 1 and 2. Tickets are 75 cents for a reserved seat, 50 cents for general admission, 25 cents for students, and 10 cents for pre-school children. Tickets may also be purchased at PICS from Alexander Namie or at the door the night of the performance, if there are any seats left. Curtain is at 7:00 p.m.

Those who have never seen a PICS Variety Show have a treat in store. Daichy Robert, chairman of the event, has announced that this year the districts are presenting island dances and songs never before done at PICS. An innovation is two completely different shows on Friday and Saturday nights. Each district will present one dance or song each night. This provides variety for those who attend both shows and a shorter program each night.

A wide selection of refreshments will be on sale during the intermission. The program is designed to give the audience a rare opportunity to see traditional dances from Ponape, the Marshalls, Truk, Palau, and Yap all in one evening. Proceeds are for the Student Association.

MORE POLIO AT MAJURO CONTINUED

A navy plane is going to Kusaie today with a medical team and vaccine to immunize the Kusaie people. With three teams in the outer areas of Ponape Island today, and plans to continue the work over the holiday tomorrow, Ponape immunization work will be well underway toward completion by this weekend. Response of local people to the program has been most heartening to the medical teams. People have appeared readily at designated points and very little time has been wasted in establishing a huge buffer of polio-immunized people. The medical authorities are hopeful they can complete the job in time to prevent even one case of polio in this area. Teams are working in Awak, Uh and Kiti today. They will go to Ohwa and Metalania tomorrow.

A BOY FOR THE ADAMSES

Jack and Yvette Adams are the proud parents of a son, born Monday night, February 18, at 11:45 at the Ponape District Hospital. Naming the boy has been deferred until his father and grandfather return from Rabaul. Mrs. Adams was attended by Dr. Ciro Barbosa. The baby weighed in at six pounds nine ounces.

SHIPPING NEWS

M/V Kaselehlia returned from the Eastern field trip early this morning. She will depart for Guam Sunday evening at 6:00 o'clock to load cargo for here. M/V Pacific Islander is expected here April 2 and the M/V Gunners Knot is scheduled to arrive here April 22. M/V Tungaru is expected from Rabaul on or about February 28. She entered the Kokopo Road slipway on February 19.