

The Micro Scope

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Letter to the Editor

Gentlemen:

Can you imagine any single event that would develop more enthusiasm among the youth of the Trust Territory than a MICRONESIAN OLYMPIC GAMES? And afterward representation at the South Pacific Games?

There has been some talk recently about holding these Olympics in Saipan, and somehow I have the feeling that they're going to happen. I believe that our government will take the lead in overall organization, that our educators and Peace Corps volunteers will handle the training of athletes, that our district administrators will make facilities available, that individuals and local companies will donate equipment and prizes and that High Commissioner Norwood will give his personal support.

With everyone cooperating, I can see over 1000 athletes competing at the district level to be among the 200 individuals who would take part in the Olympics. In fact, it seems to me that over one-fourth of the people of Micronesia would be directly involved in this undertaking in one way or the other.

There is only one problem - where do we get \$25,000 to transport the athletes and officials to the site of the Olympics? Perhaps one-third of this could be raised from district legislators and donations, but certainly not all of it. So it looks like it is back to Mr. Norwood with a plea for funds for our first Micronesian Olympic Games. I wonder if it would help if we added billiards and horseshoe pitching in the list of events?

Very truly yours,
MOBIL OIL MICRONESIA, INC.
John E. Pilshaw
Manager

COVER - Idesiar Techur of Palau's Economic Development Office holds a four-foot crocodile taken in his district.

Photo by Pete Guerrero

U.S. Congressmen Plan 21-Day Tour of Micronesia

A delegation of United States Congressmen are planning a 21-day visit of Micronesia in November.

The congressmen will be flying to Hawaii for the convention sessions of the National Reclamation Association. After the convention the congressmen will visit Micronesia.

The delegation is from the House Interior and Insular Affairs Committee. Hugh L. Carry (D-N.Y.) is chairman of the committee. He said that he hopes to bring four members of the committee with him.

Micronesian Air Service Called 'Grossly Inadequate'

Air service in Micronesia has been called "grossly inadequate" by an official of the Territory of Guam, the Civil Aeronautics Board, in Washington, D.C.

Associate Chief Examiner of the Aeronautics Board said recently that the air service in Micronesia is "insufficient to meet postal needs, from the viewpoint of both frequency and airlift capability."

Cable Operating After 9-Day Break

Manila -- A transpacific cable linking the United States with the Philippines was fully operational again Tuesday after a nine-day break.

Restoration of the cable, one of the longest communication links of its kind in the world, began Monday night after a Japan based repair ship completed work on a corroded segment of the complex system twelve and a half miles off the coast of the Philippines.

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CULTURE

Yap: Land of Stone Money

The majority of the Yapese people live by gardening, harvesting and fishing. The crops they grow include taro, yam, sweet potatoes, bananas, Polynesian chestnuts, breadfruit, papaya, oranges, cassava, coconuts, pineapples and tobacco. Chickens and pigs are raised, but are usually eaten only on special occasions. For fishing purposes the Yapese usually use traps, spears, large nets, hook and line or stone fish weirs.

Land is the most important property and almost all of the existing land is owned by Yapese. Land not only provides subsistence and building materials, but also determines a person's status and role in the society. A man becomes chief because of the land he owns and a Yapese saying is, "The man is not chief, but the land is chief."

Yap is well known as "The Land of Stone Money." Very large circular shaped stones with a hole in the middle were brought from Palau to Yap before European times on canoes and rafts over 300 miles of ocean and later in large sailing ships. Some stone money was brought to Yap from Guam. The German administration (1900 to 1914) recognized the importance of this money and held the stone money in their possession when the Yapese would not follow orders. The more valuable stone money is that from Palau, and the value depends on how hard it was to get the money to Yap and not on how large or how old it is.

Orange-colored shell necklaces - some with whale teeth - and pearl oyster shells are other things of value which are used in ceremonies and other important rites.

Western clothes are worn by Yapese who come into the district center or who live near by, but in the villages traditional clothes are usually worn. Yapese clothing holds great meaning for the people. The men wear loin cloths called *thu*, and upon reaching early manhood add a bunch of hibiscus bark which passes between the thighs and is attached to the front and back of the *thu*. In the past, but less so today, the color of a man's *thu* told his class standing. The women dress in full and heavy waisted grass skirts and upon reaching womanhood add a black cord which is looped around the neck.

The traditional Yapese house is large and has six sides. It has a steep thatched roof which puts out at both top ends. This type of house is quite rare today and has been replaced by smaller houses with corrugated iron or thatched roofs. Most villages have a large men's house where the men come to talk and sleep.

About ninety per cent of the Yapese are Christians. Most are Roman Catholic, but there is a protestant missionary on Yap proper. The native religion, with its priest-magicians and sacred places is still believed even among many of the Christians. However, there seem to be few new and younger men being trained as magicians.

"HIS MAJESTY" O'KEEFE

During the late Spanish and early German times there was an enterprising trader and owner of a fleet of ships named "His Majesty" O'Keefe, who set up headquarters on Yap and sailed throughout the Pacific and along the Malay coast.

Through his knowledge of Yapese culture and his appreciation of the significance of the Yapese stone money, O'Keefe learned how to make the Yapese increase their production of copra and drapang (sea slugs), which he sold in Hong Kong for a large profit.

In the end, O'Keefe met his death during a tropical storm in the waters of Micronesia.

Peace Corps: To Promote World Peace and Friendship... Through Involvement

The Peace Corps, created by John F. Kennedy in 1961, was the first overseas volunteer program to be financed by a government. Its purpose, as stated in the law which formally established the Peace Corps is:

"To promote world peace and friendship by making available to interested countries Americans who will:

Help the people of these countries meet their needs for trained manpower;

Help promote a better understanding of the American people on the part of the peoples served; and

Help promote a better understanding of other peoples on the part of the American people."

Today, just six years after the birth of the American Peace Corps, there are 18 government supported programs in existence responsible for about 19,000 volunteers serving in 94 countries and territories of Africa, Asia, Latin America, and the Pacific region. Countries sponsoring these programs are: Australia, Austria, Belgium, Canada, Denmark, France, Germany, Israel, Japan, Liechtenstein, the Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, the Philippines, Sweden, Switzerland, the United Kingdom, and the United States. Programs are currently being planned in Finland and Italy.

One of the criticisms of volunteer organizations such as the Peace Corps is that while they may help in a small way in a few small areas, they do little to influence the fundamental investments, reorganizations, and reforms upon which the true and long term economic development of many countries depend. Although it is true that the single volunteer will have made only a tiny dent in the problems of the nation in which he serves, the daily contact which he has with the people with whom he is working, the exchange of ideas and beliefs, the learning of new customs and the sharing of knowledge is having a great effect in spreading the volunteer movement throughout the world. Massive loans and financial donations to help developing countries have been tried; skilled advisors and technicians have been sent to provide administrative and technical guidance and although these have been a success, they lack the power of involving the people. The money has fed hungry people and bought badly needed supplies and equipment. The advisors and technicians have built bridges, schools and hospitals, but when the money is exhausted and when the advisors return home, many of the projects which they started are discontinued due to a lack of understanding and communication with the people. Volunteer programs establish close ties with the people in such a way that the knowledge and work continues to grow long after the volunteer returns home. This can be seen in the growth of domestic volunteer programs. Programs started by countries who have seen the value of aid through involvement and which wish to use their own volunteers to help themselves.

Today 18 countries, mostly in North and South America and Asia, are financing programs drawing on the energy and skills of their own youth for important development work. Nearly 14,000 volunteers are participating in these programs already and their potential for future growth is virtually unlimited.

In Africa, the trend is toward National Service volunteer programs, which provide education and skill training for youth while they serve as volunteers in their country's national development projects. These programs are now operating in 19 countries and account for some 50,000 volunteers. The young people in these programs volunteer to help their country while helping themselves learn new skills. If, in each developing nation, a healthy percentage of the hundreds of thousands of young people bursting into the economy could be inspired to volunteer and train for work in their country's development program, the impact on the total economy would be very significant. Since 1962 this has been happening throughout the world.

Vietnam Presidency Won by Thieu With 35 Percent of the Vote

Saigon -- Unofficial but virtually complete returns from South Vietnam's presidential elections showed these results:

Nguyen Van Thieu - 1,638,902
Truong Dinh Dzu - 800,285
Phan Khac Suu - 502,732
Tran Van Huong - 464,638

The total vote was approximately 4.8 million out of 5.8 million registered voters.

In winning the presidency, Chief of State Thieu collected slightly more than 35 percent of the votes.

Before the election, Thieu himself predicted his ticket would win 40 per cent of the votes.

Saipan Legislature Wants More U.S. Military Bases

The Mariana Islands District Legislature supports the establishment of military installations on Saipan, Tinian, Rota, and the Northern Islands. The legislature also repeated a request for reintegration with Guam.

Resolution No. 56-1967, introduced by the Honorable Daniel T. Muna, of Saipan, fully supports the desire on the part of top military advisors in the Defense Department, who, according to an article in U. S. NEWS & WORLD REPORT on August 7, 1967, to fortify Saipan, Tinian, and Rota to create a buffer between Red China and the United States mainland and to, at the same time, have forward bases out of range of intermediate-range ballistic missiles, but close enough to function as a defense for the continental United States.

In the same resolution the introducer states that the Mariana Islands became a part of the Trust Territory because of a historical accident that occurred in the language of the Treaty of Paris, which should have read "Guam and the Mariana Islands," as they have been one people, for more than 300 years, and urges the administration to exercise its right to declare the Mariana Islands into an administrative union with the Territory of Guam.

Better Communications Planned As Media Conference Ends

The training of Peace Corps Volunteers on the island of Udot has finally ended and most of the new volunteers are now on their way to their districts and new homes. A few of the new volunteers who are specialists in Communications traveled first to Saipan to take part in a two week Mass Media Conference. The conference, which began on August 27, started with only six of the new Peace Corps Volunteers, because of transportation difficulties, but when the second week of the conference began seven more volunteers had arrived to participate in the conference. Other people present at the conference include representatives of newspapers and radio stations from all six Trust Territory districts and speakers and directors of the conference from the Trust Territory Headquarters offices.

The purpose of the conference is to complete plans for improved communications throughout the Territory. Some of the plans which are being discussed include: a Trust Territory wide newspaper that will include both world and local news, letters, features and photographs from all districts; increased news coverage and public service programs on district radio stations; improved district newspapers; heightened photographic coverage; and support of programs in education, agriculture, public health and long range planning.

100 Room Hotel Planned Near Guam Airport

A six-story 100 room hotel is being planned for Guam. The hotel, called the Guam International Hotel, will be located a quarter mile from the airport.

A shopping center, with space available for 12 business units, will be built next to the hotel. Total cost for the entire complex is estimated to be between a million and a half to two million dollars.

The initial project will be located on a four acre section, most of which has already been cleared.

No date for the opening of the hotel has been announced. Plans are still being finalized.

Developer of the project is Herman C. S. Fong of the Commercial Development Co.

Viet Cong Outline Plans For Vietnam Unity

Tokyo, Sept. 2 -- The Communist Viet Cong released Friday a Four-Point "Political Program" setting the basis of their action "U.S. aggression" and for national rehabilitation and unification.

Hanoi's official news agency distributed the contents of the program on the eve of South Vietnam's Presidential and Senatorial elections Sunday in an apparent move aimed at psychological effects on voters.

VNA quoted the program as saying "The South Vietnam National Front for Liberation pledges itself to strive, shoulder to shoulder with the Vietnam Fatherland Front (North Vietnam), to fulfill gloriously common task of fighting against U.S. aggression to liberate the South, defend the North and proceed toward the peaceful reunification of the Fatherland."

The program added the Viet Cong "rely mainly on their own means" in carrying on the war while striving to win the sympathy, support and assistance of the world people.

The four points laid down in the program were: 1. "Unite the entire people, fight the U.S. aggressors, save the country," 2. "Build an independent, democratic peaceful, neutral and prosperous South Vietnam," 3. "Re-establish normal relations between South and North Vietnam, and work toward reunification of the Fatherland," and 4. "Carry out a peaceful and neutral foreign policy."

Japan Socialist Party in Okinawa To Study Political Situation

Tokyo -- The Japan Socialist Party, the number one opposition of the ruling Liberal-Democratic Party, sent a team to Okinawa Tuesday to study the political situation on the U.S.-administered islands.

The Japan Socialist Party has called for the return of Okinawa administration to Japan. The government of Prime Minister Eisaku Sato has expressed hope that the Okinawan issues will be settled "in a manner that would strengthen ties" between the United States and Japan.

9 Killed, 36 Wounded In Egyptian-Israeli Dispute

Jerusalem -- Trouble flared again along the Egyptian-Israeli border, and many Arab teachers boycotted the first day of classes in the Israeli-held West Bank region protesting changes in texts that had been used in the former Jordanian schools.

Soviet warships were reportedly returning to Port Said and Alexandria after a major exchange of gunfire broke out between Egypt and Israel early Monday.

The battle, which began as a skirmish between Israeli patrol boats and Egyptian shore batteries lasted nearly all day.

Egypt claimed eight civilians were killed and 35 wounded in Israeli shellings of the canal cities of Port Suez and Port Tufiq. It also said a hospital and Greek and Indian ships had been hit. Israel listed its casualties as one killed and one wounded.

The shellings were the first outbreak along the 104-mile canal since August 26 and the first major incident since a U.N. truce team began patrolling the area in July.

Baseball Standings -- September 5, 1967

AMERICAN LEAGUE

	WON	LOST	PCT	BEHIND
Minnesota	76	59	.563	---
Boston	77	61	.558	1/2
Chicago	75	60	.556	1
Detroit	75	61	.551	1-1/2
California	69	65	.515	6-1/2
Washington	65	72	.474	12
Cleveland	63	74	.468	12
Baltimore	61	72	.459	14
New York	61	76	.445	16
Kansas City	56	78	.418	19-1/2

NATIONAL LEAGUE

	WON	LOST	PCT	BEHIND
St. Louis	86	51	.628	---
Chicago	76	64	.543	12-1/2
Cincinnati	73	64	.533	13
San Francisco	73	64	.533	13
Philadelphia	69	64	.519	15
Atlanta	69	65	.515	15-1/2
Pittsburgh	66	70	.485	19-1/2
Los Angeles	61	73	.455	23-1/2
Houston	55	83	.399	31-1/2
New York	53	83	.390	32-1/2