

Wakako

HIGHLIGHTS

May 1, 1974

OFFICE OF THE HIGH COMMISSIONER
TRUST TERRITORY OF THE PACIFIC ISLANDS
SAIPAN, MARIANA ISLANDS



May 1 Proclaimed Law Day Micronesia

"Young Micronesia! Lead the way. Help preserve good laws, change bad laws and make better laws." This is the slogan Trust Territory Deputy High Commissioner Peter T. Coleman announced in proclaiming today, May 1, Law Day Micronesia.

In his proclamation, Coleman said: "It is fitting that Law Day be devoted to this worthy purpose, for without laws and independent courts, the freedoms we enjoy would be meaningless.

"To each new generation of Micronesian citizens comes a new opportunity and responsibility to provide new leadership, fresh wisdom and foresight for Micronesia," Coleman added.

Coleman said that as Micronesia moves toward self-government the responsibilities of leadership will pass to today's generation of youth. The Deputy HiCom stated that this 12th annual territorial observance of Law Day Micronesia is directed toward youth and the law.

In emphasizing the importance of law to youth, Coleman said every effort will be made to assist Micronesian young men and women, who comprise nearly one-half of our population, in gaining a better understanding of the law and the legal process and their leadership responsibilities.

"We can be justly proud of Micronesia's youth for they are playing an active role in the continuing growth of our Territory; these young citizens are learning the ideals of Micronesia by taking a concerned interest in community

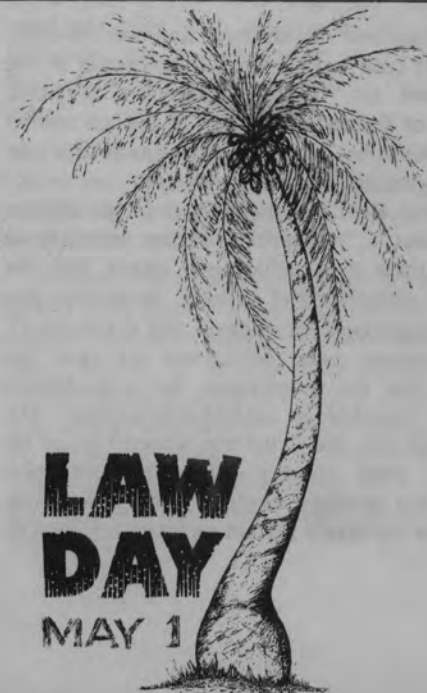


Recipient of the 1974 Attorney General's Award for Law Day is Truk District Presiding Judge Soukichi Fritz.

action programs embracing student government, civic, social, business, religious and educational activities," Coleman said.

The Deputy HiCom concluded by saying: "I am confident that our youth will carry out the responsibilities that will soon be thrust upon them with great credit to our islands."

**YOUNG
MICRONESIA,
LEAD
THE
WAY**



U.N. Session Scheduled

The forty-first session of the United Nations Trusteeship Council will convene in Council Chambers in New York on Monday, June 3, 1974, according to word received from the U.S. Mission to the United Nations. Once again this year, the Trust Territory will be represented at the hearings by High Commissioner Edward E. Johnston as Special Representative on the U.S. Delegation. Congress of Micronesia Senator Wilfred Kendall of the Marshalls and Representative Joab Sigrah of Kusaie, Ponape District, will be present as Special Advisors to the U.S. Delegation. Principle U.S. Delegate to the Council is Ambassador Barbara White, who toured several districts of the Trust Territory recently.

The Presidency of the Trusteeship Council is held by member nation representatives on a rotating basis. It is anticipated that Sir Laurance McIntyre of Australia will assume the Presidency this year and preside over the Council session. Council members—representing France, the United Kingdom, the Soviet Union, the People's Republic of China, Australia and the United States—will also hear presentations from representatives of the government of Australia as the Administering Authority over the Territory of Papua New Guinea, which recently assumed full self-governing status. The Pacific Trust Territory presentation on activities in Micronesia over the past year is listed before the Australian report on this year's agenda.

(The following was prepared for release by the U.N. Office of Public Information.)

Appeals for a more equitable and effective international economic system marked the opening of the Sixth Special Session of the General Assembly on raw materials and development in New York last month.

Initial debate brought diverse views about whether the recent sharp increases in oil prices were cause or effect of wider economic disorders, but there was general agreement that the latter presented very grave hazards for the world.

Six Heads of State and Government and over 60 other officials of Cabinet rank were present or expected as the Assembly convened on Tuesday afternoon, 9 April. Leopoldo Benites of Ecuador, President of the last regular Assembly, was chosen by acclamation to guide the new session. It was expected to last three weeks.

Secretary-General Kurt Waldheim said in an address that the session was a "recognition of the necessity to redress the disparities that afflict our world and the contrasts between affluence and poverty, frustration and opportunity, conspicuous consumption and destitution". If a sense of urgency was maintained, he said, the Assembly could "lay the foundations for a worldwide economic system founded in equity and justice". Mr. Waldheim suggested that the Assembly concentrate on six key problems — mass poverty, the precarious food situation, population pressure, energy, military spending, and the inadequate monetary system along with inflation.

Micronesia's First International



Attending the 30th session of the Economic Commission for Asia and the Far East in Colombo, Sri Lanka, were (front row, left to right) Chief of Agriculture Bermin Weilbacher, Senator Amata Kabua (Chief Delegate for Micronesia), and Dwight Heine, Special Consultant to the High Commissioner. Second row from left, Congress of Micronesia Legislative Counsel Kaleb Udui, and House Speaker Bethwel Henry. This was the first time the Trust Territory has attended the ECAFE meetings as a full-fledged Associate Member. The TT Delegation supported a proposal to change the name of ECAFE to ESCAP, Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific.

New Public Laws

As of the end of the day on Tuesday, April 30, the Office of the High Commissioner had taken action on several more bills passed during the recent session of the Congress of Micronesia. The following list indicates new public law designations and other action on legislation, and includes only those bills acted upon since the last issue of Highlights, April 15:

—Public Law 5-83: Appropriating money to continue certain vocational agriculture programs.

—PL 5-84: Relating to the importation of non-resident workers.

—PL 5-85: Relating to the definition of non-citizen for purposes of the TT foreign investors permit act. (This legislation had been passed by the Congress, disapproved by the High Commissioner and re-passed by Congress and re-transmitted to the HiCom. The High Commissioner signed the bill into law after his previous veto had been overridden.)

The following Bills were disapproved:

—A Bill extending the life of the Salary Act of 1973 through the end of Fiscal Year 1975, providing for Congress of Micronesia advice and consent on the appointments of certain Division Chiefs in the government service and for periodic rotation of District Administrators, among other things.

—A Bill relating to abandoned watercraft.

As of this date, Executive Branch action on Congress passed legislation was pending on five additional bills.

Conference Participants Return from ECAFE Meetings

In its first appearance as an associate member, the Trust Territory Delegation to the 30th Session of the Economic Commission for Asia and the Far East (ECAFE) suggested changes in that organization and also supported a successful effort to have ECAFE's name changed.

While the TT Delegation, headed by Senator Amata Kabua of the Congress of Micronesia, maintained a low-profile, it made an effective maiden speech which drew much attention. The TT also joined with the Philippines and the Cook Islands to push through a resolution which renamed ECAFE the "Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific" (ESCAP), according to Special Consultant to the High Commissioner Dwight Heine, who attended the meeting.

Senator Kabua, according to information received by the Legislative Counsel's Office of the Congress, noted in his opening speech that Micronesia was "one of the smallest," and yet "one of the largest" member countries of the Commission, and proceeded to discuss the problems of the Trust Territory in relation to those of other Asian and Pacific countries.

The Marshalls Senator delivered his remarks on March 30 during the second day of debate and review of the social and economic situations in the commission's region. The ECAFE meeting, which was held from March 27 to April 5 in Colombo, Republic of Sri Lanka (formerly Ceylon) was attended by nations ranging from the United States and the People's Republic of China to Fiji and the Cook Islands.

Members of the Official Delegation also included House of Representatives Speaker Bethwel Henry of Ponape as Alternate, Special Consultant to the High Commissioner Dwight Heine as Deputy Representative, and Congress Legislative Counsel Kaleb Udui and TT Agriculture Chief Bermin Weilbacher as Advisors.

In his prepared remarks Senator Kabua admitted that as associate members, the Trust Territory has yet to "learn much about the inner workings and full capacity" of the commission in providing assistance to countries under ECAFE. However, he pointed out that certain economic problems and social ills faced by larger countries of the commission are similar in nature to problems of island nations in the Pacific such as the Trust Territory.

Despite this, Senator Kabua, who is Chairman of the Senate Committee on Resources and Development of the Congress of Micronesia, said that they found the findings and recommendations sent by ECAFE agencies to the secretariat "to have little if any direct application and relevancy to our Pacific Island Countries."

Chief Delegate Kabua also pointed out that one agenda item of the conference lumped together the "problems and concerns of the land locked countries (those countries which are surrounded by other countries and have no access to the ocean) and those of the developing Pacific States . . . for consideration and action by this Commission."

Speaking for the Trust Territory, he proposed that "ECAFE give some consideration toward establishing within the Secretariat a section, or a division whose sole purpose and primary function shall be to monitor and give surveillance to developmental needs of the Pacific Island countries."

Kabua then asserted that the idea of the Pacific Islands as places where "care-free . . . islanders merrily live from day to day" without economic and social problems was a false one promoted by movie-makers and travel writers and that there are "problems in our island paradise (which) are indeed unique and require special attention and consideration."

He listed as some of the special problems of the Trust Territory those of communication and transportation over great distances, growing distinct center populations, housing, and the gap between subsistence and monetary economics. He also noted that while the Pacific Island areas had been negatively affected by certain modern, jet-age influences, such technological advances had yet to solve problems of food and fuel cost increases, pollution, uncontrolled exploitation of marine resources and other problems.

Senator Kabua then noted that ECAFE, which has both developed and developing nations as members could assist in attacking some of these problems since "the task of nation building and of improving the livelihood of our people both in quantity and substance is indeed prohibitive without technical and financial assistance from the developed countries."

In concluding his remarks, Senator Kabua said that the Trust Territory Delegation supported the proposal by the Philippines and Cook Islands to change the Commission's name from "Economic Commission for Asia and the Far East, (ECAFE)" to the "Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP)."

Later in the Commission's deliberations on Resolution No. 12 to change the name, Advisor Bermin Weilbacher indicated support of the Trust Territory Delegation for this move, for two reasons. First, he said that using the word "Pacific" will show that "this Commission concerns itself not only with developmental needs of the Asian Countries but also the needs of the Pacific Countries." Second, he noted that the term "Far East" is a colonial term.

"In this day and age, there is to us no longer any place called the "Near East" or the "Far East." There is only one 'Asia' and there is only one 'Pacific Ocean,' " Weilbacher concluded.

Speaker Henry and Special Consultant Heine returned to the Trust Territory shortly after conclusion of the 30th session on April 5. Senator Kabua, Udui, and Weilbacher then traveled to Indonesia, Singapore and Malaysia to study matters relating to shipping, economic development and foreign investment. It was expected that they would be joined in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia, by Deputy High Commissioner Peter T. Coleman for a meeting of the Asia Development Bank from April 25 to April 27th before their return.

DATES TO REMEMBER--

May 5 - Voter Registration

May 14 - Candidate Filing Deadline

June 4 - Election Day



VOTE FOR THE FUTURE —

CONSTITUTIONAL

CONVENTION

DELEGATE **E**LECTION

Briefly

Dr. Cecilia Cooper, a Mental Health Specialist, has joined the Department of Health Services. She comes to the TT from Massachusetts where she was Chairman of the Department of Rehabilitation Services at Springfield College. Dr. Cooper's responsibilities in the TT will include establishment of mental health programs throughout the Territory. She will also be responsible for the alcohol and drug abuse programs in the TT.

Ten Micronesian students have been selected for American Field Service International Scholarships to complete their high school educations in the U.S. during the next school year. They are: Carina Taitano and Glenn Taro (Marianas); Jackeo Relang and Juliet Jelke (Marshalls); Manasseh Temol (Palau); Mary Relech and Arlain Ansin (Truk); and Mario J. Sukulbech, John B. Soholith and Grace S. Gogchigol (Yap).

Ponape Agriculture and Trade School is sponsoring a teacher training program in vocational education starting in October. The PATS program will be offered in either a one-year or a two-year course, with the two-year course leading to an Associate of Science degree. Interested applicants should contact district departments of education for more information.

Annual business statistics for cooperative and credit union activity in the Trust Territory for 1973 have been released by the Department of Resources and Development. They show co-op gross sales and revenues for the year ending December 31 at \$7.7-million, representing a 22 percent increase over the previous year. More than 12,000 Micronesians—about ten percent of the population of the Territory—are members of fifty cooperatives. Credit unions transacted \$4-million worth of loans in 1973. More than half of these loans were made for home improvements, according to a recent survey. In addition, credit union savings increased by 27 percent, to \$3.4-million. More than 10,000 Micronesians participate in the programs of the Territory's 46 credit unions.

The first application for a Trust Territory business permit from a foreign applicant other than a United States citizen has been received by the Economic Development Division. The application has been accepted under new procedures announced in January by Interior Secretary Rogers C.B. Morton, whereby the restrictions on foreign investment in the TT were lifted effective April 1, 1974. The applicant is John H. Robinson, a British subject and Insurance Claims Adjuster, who proposes to make available to the public and business community in Micronesia professional adjusting services in handling all types of average loss claims resulting from shipping cargo losses. In addition, Robinson proposes to provide marine surveying and consultancy services.

Not quite a year ago, the Yap District Legislature passed a law which levied a tax on bottles and cans in which soft drinks and beer are sold—one penny tax per can or bottle—with the provision that the money go into a special fund. Money in the fund would be used to pay 20 cents a case to those who collected the cans or bottles after they had been used and discarded. The idea behind the law was to discourage littering—and according to people in Yap, the law has been extremely effective. Almost daily, youngsters and grownups alike arrive in trucks or boats to deliver huge quantities of empty, discarded cans (see photos below). A clerk at the District Legislature building tallies the numbers of cans and bottles and pays the collectors; the empties are being stockpiled behind a seawall near the legislature in an area a little more than 1,000 square feet. One recent visitor to Colonia reported that the district center seemed unusually clean to him—and that may be the result of the "bottle tax."



Cows to Yap, Cows to Tinian



The Coast Guard assisted the TT Agriculture Division by airlifting three purebred Santa Gertrudis cattle from Saipan to Yap aboard the monthly logistics flight for the Yap Loran Station. Capt. William B. Smith, Chief of Animal Health Services accompanied the cattle on the flight. The cattle will be used to study the feasibility of establishing a breeding herd on Yap similar to herds on Saipan and Ponape. (Photos above by US Navy)



More than 700 cattle traveled by more conventional means from New Zealand to Tinian in the Marianas, arriving by boat a few weeks ago. The herd of dairy cattle were purchased by Marianas Development Corporation for the purpose of establishing a dairy operation to supply the fresh milk and dairy products needs of the entire TT, once the dairy is well established. The ship also brought a few sheep to Micronesia (photo left below). The sheep are to be used in laboratory work in connection with the dairy farm and cattle ranch operations on Tinian.



HIGHLIGHTS

Jim Manke, Editor
Rhonda Holland, Assistant Editor
Nick Guerrero, Graphic Artist

Public Information Office

TRUST TERRITORY of the PACIFIC ISLANDS
Saipan, Mariana Islands 96950