

FROM: Ponape Island Affairs Office to the People of the Ponape District

Vol. 2 No. 6

Kolonia, Ponape, Caroline Islands

MESSAGE FROM THE DISTRICT ADMINISTRATOR

Greetings to you all:

As you all know we are making a great effort to increase the economy of the islands through exports.

Our fish pen program will be one of our most important exports. To make this possible it is necessary that the fish be picked up by a refrigerated vessel. At the time of Captain Pier's visit I was sure that we had the necessary vessel. However, he did not feel that we would be in a position to produce enough fish to make the voyage pay. Now, however, there is another smaller vessel being outfitted in Guam which might be used for this purpose. I had intended to go to Guam at once to confer with the owners but am delayed until after the High Commissioner's party leaves. I hope that the people of the Ponape District will not be discouraged at the difficulties involved in obtaining the refrigerated transportation. Eventually we will have that transportation. This vessel cannot only haul fish but can also haul produce, if the market in Guam and the transportation costs will permit it.

Before the next field trip I expect to have all the information necessary to either go ahead with our plans, at a specified date, or to delay them until we have a specific date for the arrival of a refrigerated vessel at the various islands of the Ponape District.

In the last year and a half we have made much satisfying progress along these lines and we hope that it will not take much longer to have regular reefer ship service from Ponape District to Guam.

Your District Administrator,
H. M. HEDGES

UNLESS YOUR CONGRESSMAN ATTENDS CONGRESS SESSIONS YOU ARE NOT REPRESENTED AND YOUR THINKING, WISHES AND INTERESTS ARE NOT TAKEN CARE OF. SEE THAT YOUR CONGRESSMAN ATTENDS CONGRESS MEETINGS!

DISTRICT ADMINISTRATOR'S ADDRESS TO PONAPE CONGRESS

When the Ponape Island Congress opened its fall session on 22 September, Hedges, the District Administrator, gave the following address:

"Members of the Nobles' House and Members of the Peoples' House I welcome you to the Fall 1954 session of the Ponape Congress. I would like to call your attention to the progress we have made toward our many goals:

I will begin with the Land Situation which is the basis of our present economy. By December 31st of this year 95% of the people of Ponape District will be on their own land whether it be German title or United States homestead. Then will begin our era of pride of ownership, development, and production.

In the field of medicine we have built a new isolation ward and very shortly a new x-ray building will be in operation. A new Nursing School under Miss Ingram assisted by Miss Sadler is in operation. The dispensaries in the municipalities are being improved. The health aids are being brought into the hospital for more training.

The Intermediate School is now staffed and operated by Ponapeans. We have enrolled more students than we have the funds to support. We hope that the municipalities will make enough food donations to cover the deficit. These days education is important. I hope all districts realize that education for their children means a better life for everyone. The Education Department continues to train the teachers so that they can give the best instruction to your children.

Pac
DU568
PTN4

JUN 10 10 49 AM '75
UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII LIBRARY

Due to lack of funds it was necessary to discontinue the expansion of the Matalanim Plantation. Now the Plantation must support itself from the sale of copra. The balance of this plantation will be opened to homesteading.

Our own Ponapean Congress has progressed a long way toward self government. Congressmen consult with their people and convey the will of the majority at the sessions. You have passed several wise resolutions that have become district laws. Let me give you a word of caution. Only work on laws that are vital to the welfare of Ponape. Never pass a resolution that is impossible to enforce. The Government of the municipalities is rapidly improving. Councils representing the people have been elected to assist and advise the Chief Magistrate and the Nanmarki. Municipal public works has been organized. Work on office, schools, dispensaries, roads, bridges, paths, and docks has been started.

Commercial development, while slower than we had hoped, is steadily progressing. In 1954 fiscal year 88,000 pounds of fish were frozen and exported. This does not include the fish sold locally. The first export shipment of salt fish has just been sent to Guam. Fish pens in the outer islands have been built. When Ponape people have finished their pens and the reefer ship is obtained, this industry will go far. Our first export shipment of pork was sent to Guam. Pigs do well in Ponape, I expect pork to easily develop into one of our major exports.

We have just received a shipment of pure blood pigs from Japan. They are now available at the Agricultural Station to everyone for breeding purposes. Our Palikar cattle pasture has been in successful operation for many months. A shipment of pure blood Brahman-crossed bulls have been received and distributed. Very soon one of these bulls will be sent to the Palikar pasture. Pure bloods will be available for breeding purposes at the Agricultural Station.

A few years from now cacao will be one of our principal exports. 50,000 seeds and seedlings have been distributed in the last year. World renowned cacao experts agree that Ponape has a natural climate for cacao. Vegetable production is increasing but it is still far below the demand. It is encouraging to know that the successful vegetable store sells more vegetables to Ponapeans than to the Americans. Now that Not and Palikar are both producing, I expect this business to develop exports to Majuro, Truk, and ships. The Agricultural Station is continually experimenting with good grasses and spice plants. The Fiji imported plants are doing well.

You can see by this message that Ponape has a great future. Together we will develop it.....Kaselehlie."

THE COOPERATIVE HAS NOW BEGUN TO HANDLE YOUR COPRA IN PONAPE DISTRICT. I.T.C. WILL LEAVE PONAPE BY THE END OF THE YEAR. THE COOPERATIVE NEEDS YOUR 50¢ PER BAG CAPITAL FUNDS

PONAPE ISLAND CONGRESS MEETS

The Ponape Island Congress met in joint session on September 22. After greetings from the District Administrator (published elsewhere in this paper) the Island Affairs Officer reviewed the two items on the congress agenda. The first covers tax on trochus and the second is the most important piece of work that Congress may ever be asked to consider. This is the drafting of suggestions for a basic land law for Ponape Island, covering disposition of land to include inheritance and wills. The two congress houses met separately for discussions on the 23rd, the 24th and the 25th after which they recessed until October 6. We hope to give you a full account of this important fall session of congress after it adjourns.

The Soupeidi members were in good attendance. The following congressmen attended this most important session in the Peoples' House:

Martin C. of Not	Ikinas of U	Rensper of Matalanim
Dohnis of Not	Damian of U	Takeshi H. of Matalanim
Thomas of Not	Iohkop of U	Isinari of Matalanim
	Kiosi S. of U	
Alperdo of Kiti		Paulus of Jokaj
Alfred S. of Kiti		Iokapus of Jokaj
		George of Jokaj
Carl Koshler of Kolonia, Chairman of House		Erwin of Jokaj

IS THE NAME OF YOUR ELECTED CONGRESSMAN LISTED IN THE ABOVE GROUP OF REPRESENTATIVES WHO ATTENDED THIS IMPORTANT SESSION? IF NOT, YOU WERE NOT REPRESENTED AT CONGRESS AND YOUR DESIRES AND WISHES WERE NOT MADE KNOWN. WHY DID NOT YOUR CONGRESSMAN ATTEND CONGRESS TO REPRESENT YOU??? THE MAN YOU ELECT TO REPRESENT YOU MUST BE PRESENT AT A CONGRESS MEETING IF YOUR WISHES ARE TO BE HEARD!!

IMPORTANT VISITORS VISIT WITH THE PONAPE CONGRESS

Mr. William A. Arnold, head of the Insular Affairs Division, Office of Territories, Department of Interior, United States Government, and our former High Commissioner, Mr. Frank J. Midkiff, arrived from Majuro on Saturday afternoon the 25th of September and went from the dock to the Courthouse in Kolonia where they met with the members of the Ponape Congress in joint session.

Mr. Midkiff, in addition to showing Mr. Arnold the Trust Territory which our former HiCom loves so well, was also making the trip to say goodbye to his many islander friends. Mr. Arnold came from America to see the Trust Territory for himself so that he could properly be your friend back in the United States Government. Mr. Hedges, our District Administrator, introduced the two visitors.

Mr. Arnold addressed Congressmen and told them how delighted he was to be in Ponape and that he thought Ponape was the most beautiful island he had ever seen. He was particularly impressed with our green mountains and the impressive Jokaj Rock. He stated he was asked to give the people of Ponape the greetings of President Eisenhower; Secretary of the Department of Interior, Mr. McKay and from Mr. Strand, the Chief of the Department of Territories who visited you last winter. Mr. Arnold said that Mr. McKay hoped to come to visit the Trust Territory before too long and that it was even possible that President Eisenhower would make a tour of our islands some day.

Mr. Arnold said that after working in Washington on behalf of the islanders he felt he could understand them better if he visited them himself. This is important to the islanders to see the people who look after their interests in the United States and important to the officials to see what the people are like and what they are doing. As an example, after the visit of Senator Cordon he was so impressed with you people that he presented a program to the United States Congress which resulted in an allotment of \$700,000 for permanent improvements during the coming year in the Trust Territory. This is the first money to be allotted for permanent improvements since the Interior Department took over from the Navy. As you can well see this will have far reaching beneficial effects on our people. The Department of the Interior hopes to spend about \$10,000,000 during the next ten years on permanent construction in the Trust Territory.

Mr. Arnold talked of the Trust Territory Headquarters moving from Hawaii to Guam to be closer to the people. Eventually the headquarters will be located in the Trust Territory itself. Unfortunately, Mr. Midkiff, because of his many other responsibilities in Hawaii, could not transfer to Guam and it was with great regret that President Eisenhower accepted his resignation. However, because of his great interest in our peoples, Mr. Midkiff has promised to act as an advisor whenever he is needed. Mr. Delmas Nucker who has been to Ponape twice on visits and has worked very hard for our islands in the Office of Territories in the United States, is in charge of the headquarters as Deputy High Commissioner. Mr. Arnold assured the congressmen that Mr. Nucker would do all he could for our islanders.

Mr. Arnold ended his address by saying how sorry he was that he couldn't stay on Ponape longer....he said he'd like to stay a month at least and get acquainted with the people well....also he wished he could go fishing here. He reminded us all again of what a lovely island we had here and complimented the congressmen on the fine island peoples here, especially the beautiful children, of whom he knew our people were very proud, as they should be.

Mr. Hedges then presented Mr. Midkiff, the former High Commissioner, whom you people all know and also well know of his interest and work on behalf of our islanders. Mr. Midkiff said how sorry he was that his commitments in Hawaii forced him to resign and repeated what Mr. Arnold had said about his always being willing to act as an advisor to the Trust Territory Government to help the islanders. He assured the Congressmen of Mr. Nucker's interest and great abilities. Mr. Midkiff had tears in his eyes as he said goodbye to the people whom he admires and is so interested in.

The Kepina then reminded the congressmen how fortunate we were to have Mr. Arnold visit us and Mr. Midkiff come to say goodbye. Mr. Hedges invited all the congressmen to a party at his home that evening where the gentlemen could visit informally with our distinguished guests.

PROGRAM OF VISIT OF OUR DISTINGUISHED GUESTS

When Mr. Arnold and Mr. Midkiff arrived at the dock on Saturday afternoon of September 25, they immediately addressed the members of the Ponape Island Congress. In the evening Mr. and Mrs. Hedges entertained the visitors and all the members of congress at a dinner party where the Ponapeans got to know our visitors better. The Nanmarki and Magistrate of Not Municipality, Max Iriarte, made an appropriate speech to Mr. Arnold, Mr. Midkiff and Mr. and Mrs. Hedges on behalf of the congressmen.

Sunday morning early our guests were taken to Matalanim for an inspection of the Trust Territory Plantation. After lunch the party made a tour of Nan Matal and then attended a traditional Sakaw feast with the Matalanim people in Lehpweltik in Tamworoi. Here a group of dancers entertained the visitors and the people presented gifts of food (bananas, yams and pigs) to Mr. Arnold and Mr. Midkiff. After a brief inspection of the Catholic Mission plantation here the party returned to Pohlengas to spend the night. Here the plantation workers performed a most exciting stick dance in costume.

Monday morning the party visited the Oa Christian Training School of the Protestant Mission and the Catholic Mission School and Church at Awak. Here the school children sang very nicely for our visitors. In the afternoon the party briefly visited the Catholic Church in Kolonia and the Administration activities here. Leaving the Agricultural station they visited the Kapinga Village in Porakeit. Here they were entertained with singing and dancing by the girls of the village, followed by singing and dancing by the men, during which the visitors were treated to a big islander feast. After the feast the Kapinga people presented Mr. Arnold and Mr. Midkiff with gifts of handicraft.

After a party given them by the American Community at their club on Monday evening, our welcome visitors left early Tuesday morning for Truk. Both gentlemen expressed their appreciation for the welcome the Ponapeans gave them. They wish that each of you know how much they enjoyed their visit with you! Their chief regret was that they could not visit longer with you hospitable people

Are you paying your Municipal Public Works Improvement Tax either in cash or in work for your municipality in lieu of cash????????????????????

COPRA

I.T.C. begins closing down its operations in Ponape District on October 1. The Ponape Co-op has signed a contract with ITC until December 31 of this year to handle the copra purchasing and collection in our district. As early as October of last year it was agreed upon by all municipalities that 50¢ per bag would be deducted from each bag of copra sold by a producer and this money would be credited to the producer in the form of shares of stock in the cooperative. In this way capital was to be raised for the cooperative's operations. The 50¢ a bag collections were begun in the outer islands but had not been started on Ponape Island. They are now being collected at the ITC warehouse on Not Point. These 50¢ per bag collections from your copra are credited to your account toward the purchase of \$10 stock certificates in the cooperative. They will continue until sufficient capital has been accrued for full operations in the handling of the Ponape District's copra. Then you will begin to draw interest on your investment.

The Copra Stabilization Fund will continue in operation for the benefit of all the islanders in the Trust Territory. The Copra Stabilization Board will continue to set the price throughout the Trust Territory at which copra will be purchased.

The cooperative must accrue necessary capital at once to purchase your copra. It is not believed that you would want to deposit your copra at the warehouse on Not Point, receive a receipt and then wait 3-4 months until the copra was picked up and sold on the world markets and the money finally returned to Ponape to pay you. You want your money when you take your copra to the warehouse. The cooperative needs operating capital to buy your copra from you, pay rent on the ITC warehouse and pay salaries and expenses of the copra handlers. Your cooperation with this program is 100% for your own benefit.

The Elementary School Teachers' salaries are paid from the import taxes collected by the Ponape District Treasurer

FOOD FOR THE INTERMEDIATE SCHOOL

Classes at the Intermediate School began on the sixth of September with an enrollment of 116 students, twenty of them being girls. This is the largest enrollment the school has had since it began. To help feed these many people the Education Department has asked if the people of the District would be willing to contribute food which they have in excess. This problem was talked over with the officials of the five municipalities of Ponape, and letters were written to the officials of each of the out-islands on the field trip ship. Four municipalities of Ponape Island...Matalanim, U, Kiti, and Jokaj said they would help by sending food. Matalanim promised to assist for the month of September and three trips were made with the school boat to that District where the school received a little food.

The out-islands have shown that they are very willing to help. On the first trip the people of Nukuoro gave twenty-eight chickens and promised more chickens and dried and salted fish on the next field trip. Ngatik sent the school 521 pounds of taro (simihtin), while Kusaie gave 352 pounds of soft taro (mwang), 963 pounds of oranges, 921 pounds of bananas, and 83 pounds of wet taro (sawa). Pinglap sent a box of salt fish and promised to have more next field trip. Mokil has promised to help with dried and salted fish on the next field trip. We are looking forward to the food contributions from Ponape Island Municipalities for this program. Your cooperation will be appreciated.

Are you paying your Municipal Public Works Improvement Tax either in cash or in work for your municipality in lieu of cash????

KAPINA OPENS U.N. DAY BASEBALL TOURNAMENT

At an impressive ceremony on Saturday morning, September 25, the District Administrator, Mr. Hedges, presented the trophies to the winners of the 4th of July baseball tournament. First place, a gilt statuette with the individual names of the winning team members engraved on it was presented to the Kolonia "C" Team. Second place trophy was given the Kusaie Teachers Team while third place trophy was given to the Administration Employees Team.

Next, the 14 teams to play in the U.N. Day tournament drew for their place and challenging team for the opening games.

Saturday morning September 25 the Kolonia "B" Team, the "EAGLES" won 7 to 1 from Matalanim "B" Team.

Saturday afternoon the Kolonia "C" Team, the "COMETS" won 8 to 2 from the Kiti "B" Team.

Sunday the 25th the Kusaiens Team beat the American Personnel Team 29 to 2 while on Sunday afternoon the YANKS Team lost 4 to 5 to the winning Jokaj Team.

On Saturday and Sunday of 2-3 October the Kiti "A" team won from the Palikar "A" team 5 to 4, the Co-operative team won from the Kiti "C" (Wone) team 6 to 5 and the Matalanim team won from the Palikar "B" team 9 to 1.

IMPORT TAXES

On any goods you import from outside the Trust Territory; whether for your own use or for resale to others, you must pay import taxes except on foodstuffs and on bonafide gifts (a gift you receive for which you make no payment of cash, labor or kind). Gifts you order for another are taxable. Roland Poll, the Ponape District Treasurer, has his office in the Court House in Kolonia. It is open from 0800 to 1200 from Monday through Friday for your convenience to come in and pay your import taxes.

The District Treasurer reports that the balance of Import Tax funds in his control as of 30 September were \$3,565.26 with September Elementary School Teachers' salaries as yet unpaid. He will report the balance in the Import Tax fund monthly in this paper for your information.

UNLESS YOUR CONGRESSMAN ATTENDS CONGRESS SESSIONS YOU ARE NOT REPRESENTED AND YOUR THINKING, WISHES AND INTERESTS ARE NOT TAKEN CARE OF. SEE THAT YOUR CONGRESSMAN ATTENDS CONGRESS MEETINGS!

HOMESTEADING

It is anticipated that the first group of 15 family heads from Greenwich Atoll and the first 15 from Pinglap Atoll will be brought to Ponape Island on the early-November field trip to begin the homesteading program at Matalanim Plantation. That portion of the plantation not to be retained for development and use by the Trust Territory Government is to be homesteaded by the peoples of Micronesia. The Kapinga and Pinglap people are being brought in first because of the serious over-crowding of their atolls.

Are you cooperating with the Intermediate School food program? The school enrolled many more pupils this year than they can feed on their limited budget. They are depending on YOU for help with the food program.

PROTESTANT MISSION NEWS

The Rev. and Mrs. Ernest Hayhow and two sons are scheduled to arrive on Tuesday's plane, October 5. They come from Waterbury, Connecticut to help in the Mission work in the Ponape District.

The Ohwa Christian Training School opens Monday, October 11. There will be 15 returning and 62 new students.

As usual there will be evening gospel services in the Kolonia Church during the United Nations celebration, October 22-24.

Two Sunday school rallies were held during September. Wapar and Tamon had theirs jointly at Wapar, September 18; while Kolonia, Jokajpa, and Palikar joined for their program and picnic at Kolonia, September 25. The remaining two rallies will be held at Ohwa and Ronkiti, October 16 and 30, respectively.

REMEMBER, U.N. Day is OCTOBER 24. U.N. Day activities start on Friday the 22nd with the Agricultural Fair. Field and track events are on Saturday the 23rd. Championship Baseball Game and water events will take place on Sunday the 24th while dances representing the different municipalities will be presented on Sunday evening in the Plaza in Kolonia.

SHIPS

The big CHICOT is due to arrive in Ponape on October 11 with cargo and mail from Guam. She will go to Majuro and return through Ponape on October 29 bound for Truk.

The M/V ROQUJ is due in Ponape about November 5 for the Eastern Atoll and Southern Atoll field trips. If you intend to travel on either of these two ships make your reservations early with the Finance and Supply Officer, Mr. Braddon-Walker.

The LUCKY, the Kapinga ship, after a long trip which ended in Truk is now over-due from Kapinga and the southern islands. We will give you the story of this trip of the LUCKY next month. We hope the LUCKY will now make an Eastern Island run.

The Reverend Kaercher of Truk purchased George Higgins' boat, the MANSUNG MWAHU, and put it in first class condition. The Reverend Kaercher will take this small ship to Truk for Protestant Mission work there.

The Nanpei ship, M/S CULVER, has made no trips outside Ponape. It is busy hauling Nanpei copra from Ant Atoll.

UNLESS YOUR CONGRESSMAN ATTENDS CONGRESS SESSIONS YOU ARE NOT REPRESENTED AND YOUR THINKING, WISHES AND INTERESTS ARE NOT TAKEN CARE OF. SEE THAT YOUR CONGRESSMAN ATTENDS CONGRESS MEETINGS!

CODE OF THE TRUST TERRITORY

We hope that before the month is over we will have the Code completely translated into Ponapean, assembled in book form and distributed to the Municipal officials, Community Court Judges, and others, to be used to properly interpret the laws of the Trust Territory on your behalf. We shall continue to attach chapters of the Code to this paper for your information and study. This month you will find chapters 7 and 18 attached.

NEWS ABOUT PEOPLE

Mr. Hedges, the District Administrator, left for Guam on September 28 to confer with Mr. Nucker, the new head of the Trust Territory Government. His chief reason for going was to make definite plans regarding export of Ponape District products (fresh fish, dried fish, pork, bananas, Kusaie Oranges, and other items).

Dr. Robert Harry, one of the scientists who visited Kapinga this summer, arrived in Kolonia on 30 September to make a study of our fish and life in our waters.

District Court Judge Tullena K. of Malem Village, Kusaie, and Community Court Judge Shiro Sigrah (and assistant Clerk of Courts) for Kusaie, visited in Kolonia between the June and the September field trips. They conferred with the District Clerk of Courts, the district Judges and the Sheriff with regard to their work.

Mr. Bob Johns has just been transferred to Ponape Weather Bureau to replace Mr. Moses Burrows who was transferred to Waka Island. Mr. Johns is now the tallest man in our district; he is almost as tall as Mr. O'Donnell was.

The Kepina accompanied Kalio Artui, Magistrate and Nammarki of Jokaj, for a visit to Pakin Atoll last month. Mr. Hedges was pleased with what he saw on Pakin and enjoyed his visit with the people very much.

Mrs. Lolita Hohnsbean, Mrs. Sproat and Mr. and Mrs. Ihara are visiting in Japan. They went on the GUNN, RSKNOT and are expected to return in October.

Mr. Shigamasa Tamanaha, who has many friends on Ponape from his 1952-1953 employment here with ITC, has returned to assume new duties in the Finance and Supply Department.

Mr. Arthur Herrman, longtime resident and businessman in Kusaie, who underwent an operation on his foot this summer, is recuperating nicely at the Hospital in Kolonia, his many friends will be glad to hear.

Mr. George Wolfhagen, medical aide from Ngatik, returned to Ponape for a refresher course at the hospital. His pretty sister, Moira, has returned to Ngatik as health aide.

Mr. Carlos Gtscheit, longtime resident and trader in Ponape departed for Japan on September 15 for a short business visit.

Francisco Ohno of Porakeit and Adelina Iriarte of Not returned to Guam for schooling after spending summer vacation on Ponape.

Four students from Ponape District left for Hawaii on August 18 for advanced schooling on their Trust Territory Scholarships. We should be proud of these boys: Kozo Yamada, Bethwel Henry, Daro Weital, and Joab Sigrah.

THE COOPERATIVE HAS NOW BEGUN TO HANDLE YOUR COPRA IN PONAPE DISTRICT. I.T.C. WILL LEAVE PONAPE BY THE END OF THE YEAR. THE COOPERATIVE NEEDS YOUR 50¢ PER BAG CAPITAL FUNDS

The Elementary School Teachers' salaries are paid from the import taxes collected by the Ponape District Treasurer
