

Pat Cataldo



DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY

HEADQUARTERS, KWAJALEIN MISSILE RANGE
BOX 26, APO SAN FRANCISCO 96555

BMDSC-RKE-0

20 March 1979

SUBJECT: Meeting of the Kwajalein Atoll Inter-Island Community Relations Committee

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1. The subject meeting was held 13 March 1979, 1000 hours, in the KMR second floor conference room, Terminal Building, Kwajalein.

2. Members present were:

Iroij Lejolan Kabua
Mr. Larry Edwards
Mr. Yashio Bolkeim
Ms. Maryln Bukida
Mrs. Alice Buck
Mr. Scott Stege
Mr. Danean Ishoda
Ms. Pat Cataldo
Mr. Robert Haley

Iroij
DISTAD Rep Kwajalein Atoll
Chief Magistrate Kwajalein Atoll
Womens Club Rep, Ebeye
Community Rep Kwajalein
TTLNO, HICOM Rep
Ebeye Business Community Rep
Community Rep Kwajalein
KMR TT Liaison Officer

3. Iroij Lejolan Kabua was asked to open the meeting with a prayer. He deferred to Mrs. Buck who gave the invocation.

4. Mr. Haley reviewed Old Business. He said most of the problems presented at the last meeting had been solved and summarized as follows:

a. Approximately 100 people had been returned to nine corridor islands during the past four weeks Range downtime. An LCU is leaving from Kwajalein to return these people to Ebeye on 15 March 1979. The mid-atoll corridor will be open again on or about 17 April for approximately five weeks.

b. An arrangement has been made with the Kwajalein radio station to reserve 1230 as the time when the Marshallese people should be tuned in for important community announcements if they occur.

c. A new Kwajalein Womens Club representative will be tentatively seated on the committee (Mrs. Joyce Savage). The Kwajalein Womens Club is aware of the need for library books on Ebeye and will assist the Ebeye library program. The KMR Postmaster will save excess magazines for the Ebeye library and hospital.

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d. Investigation of the purchase of alcoholic beverages on Roi-Namur by Marshallese workers living on Roi-Namur revealed that Rep. Ataji Balos and Ennubirr community leaders had requested Mr. Schmersahl, Global Outer Islands Manager, to impose the restriction. Mr. Haley talked to Mr. Balos about the restrictions and asked if they should be lifted. Mr. Balos conferred with Ennubirr leaders and arrived at a new interpretation of restrictions. The restriction on sale of hard liquor at the bar for Marshallese workers billeted on Roi-Namur should not be changed. However, sale of bulk beer should be permitted as long as these bulk sales are consumed on Roi-Namur. Ennubirr residents want no alcoholic beverages on Ennubirr. They said that any Marshallese worker billeted on Roi-Namur who provides beer to Ennubirr should lose his bulk beer buying privileges or be fired. This new policy was implemented. Unfortunately, a few days after the new policy took effect a Marshallese resident of Ennubirr became intoxicated and assaulted another person with a knife. Investigation is in process to determine if the intoxicated man got his alcoholic beverages through a Marshallese worker billeted on Roi-Namur.

e. Reverend Pijja Matauto was not present at the meeting. Mr. Haley asked if anyone had heard from him relative to representation on the committee by religious leaders. No one had. However, when the meeting was over, Mr. Haley found Reverend Matauto's letter of resignation from the committee on his desk (copy attached).

f. Mr. Edward's request for an additional hand radio on Ebeye was approved.

g. Mr. Stege's and Mrs. Buck's investigation of flight and boat schedules revealed that there is no problem making connections between a Roi-Namur flight and the 0815 boat to Ebeye.

h. With reference to Mr. Maie's request for assistance in clearing the island of North Loi, Mr. Edwards said that the TT would assist him by providing a front-end loader and operator.

5. New Business:

a. Iroij Lejolan Kabua emphasized that KMR should not permit people to shop KMR retail facilities using his name as a justification for making purchases. He was tired of being criticized by KMR for incidents arising from people using his name without authority. Mr. Haley assured him that KMR did not blame him for creating these problems.

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b. Mr. Bolkeim said he was sick and would not have come to the meeting except that he had heard reports that a Marshallese man was planning to go to Mann Island with his family and stay there indefinitely. Mann is in the mid-atoll corridor. Mr. Haley told Mr. Bolkeim that he, Mr. Edwards and Mr. Stege were aware of this development and that Mr. Edwards was taking action to solve the problem. Mr. Haley thanked Mr. Bolkeim for coming to the meeting to inform us of this situation. He said the KMR very much needs this type of assistance from the Marshallese community. Problems that involve a potential breach of the Mid-Atoll Corridor Agreement are of utmost importance to KMR. The best support committee members and their associates can offer KMR is assistance in recognizing and solving these problems. Iroij Lejolan Kabua said that he and his people would do everything possible to assist in these matters and it was his opinion that nobody should be in the mid-atoll corridor unless he has permission from KMR. Mr. Edwards said that Abios Mawilon, the senior landowner on Mann Island, was going to Mann to insure that the people there know they must evacuate the island for upcoming missile tests.

c. Mr. Ishoda wanted to know what type and how much USDA free food was coming to Ebeye. He needed this information to develop food supply stock levels for the commercial stores on Ebeye. Not knowing what food stuff is coming to Ebeye for free issue presents quite a problem for merchants who order food for general sales. He was informed that the Barge Islander is supposed to have about 20 containers of USDA food aboard for delivery to Ebeye. It arrives 15 March 1979. Mr. Edwards said he has scheduled a meeting with Ebeye businessmen to discuss this entire problem Friday evening, 16 March 1979.

6. The members voted to hold the next committee meeting on Ebeye, 0900 hours, 10 April 1979, in the TTPI Headquarters conference room. The meeting adjourned at 1120 hours.

1 Incl
As stated


ROBERT E. HALEY
KMR TT Liaison Officer

DISTRIBUTION:
Each Attendee
Plus Reverend Matauto

EBEYE UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST
P. O. Box 64
Ebeye, Kwajalein,
Marshall Islands 96970

13 MARCH 1979

Mr. Robert Haley
Chairman,
Inter Atoll Relation Committee
Kwajalein, Marshall Islands

Dear Mr. Haley:

Good morning from Ebeye.

In the light of our discussion last meeting concerning the complaint came from the other demoninations here on Ebeye, for not having a representative in the committee, that really make me feel strongly that I must withdraw my name (as a representative of our church) from the IARC, in order to make them happy, and the others who have the same kind of feeling, and also to safeguard whatever hard-feelings which may be created within and without the committee due to my present and membership of the committee. Therefore, I like to let you know, and the committee as a whole that I am going to resign from the committee with all my respect and with a clean and good conscience.

I'm very sorry that I had no time to talked with the other leaders from the other denominations about this matter. As a matter of fact, I feel that an invitation from the committee or the chairman should be sent to whoever you think he should be in the committee ^{from} either denominations. But this is the way in which the IAR Committee originally formed.

Inclosing I like to express my sincere thanks and appreciation for everythings we have shared in the committee with one another (efforts, exchange conversations, debates, thoughts, coffee, funs) for the sake and good of other people of our communities. I also like to say how happy I was to be with you during the mettings ^{we} have had in the past. Finally, I like to ask you that if I can be of any help to whatever problems and issues discuss in the committee please don't hasitate to call upon me at any time.

I wish you all the successes in your meeting now, and those in the days to come. Have a good meeting, and have fun.

My wife join me in sending our YOKWE to you and your family on the island.

Sincerely yours,

P Matauto

Pijja Matauto, Pastor,
Ebeye United Church of Christ

Dad!