



DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY

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

BMDSC-RKE-0

18 Apr 79

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

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1. Subject meeting was held 17 April 1979, 0930, in the Trust Territory Conference Room, Ebeye.

2. Members present were:

Mrs. Joyce Savage	Community Rep Kwajalein
Mr. Melaran Jelke	Marshallese Work Force Rep
Mr. Larry Edwards	DISTAD Rep Kwajalein Atoll
Mr. Yashio Bolkeim	Chief Magistrate Kwajalein Atoll
Mrs. Alice Buck	Community Rep Kwajalein
Mr. Scott Stege	TTLNO, HICOM Rep
Mr. Danien Ishoda	Ebeye Business Community Rep
Mrs. Lise Bobo	Womens Club Rep Ebeye
Mr. Jabju Habenni	Ennubirr Rep
Mrs. Pat Cataldo	Community Rep Kwajalein
Mr. R. E. Haley	KMR TTLNO
Mr. Oscar de Brum	DISTAD Marshalls & Distinguished Guest

3. Mrs. Buck opened the meeting with a prayer.

4. Mr. Haley introduced new committee member Mrs. Joyce Savage; Alternate Ebeye Womens Club Rep, Mrs. Lise Bobo; and distinguished guest Mr. Oscar de Brum, DISTAD Marshalls. In old business he advised the committee that Mr. Bolkeim's report at the last meeting relative to an indefinite stay on Mann Island by some mid-atoll corridor people was valid. The problem did arise but was settled through the efforts of Mr. Abios Mawilon, senior landowner from Mann Island and DISTAD Rep Larry Edwards. He reported that considerable progress had been made on procedures which will assist Ebeye merchants obtain food and supplies through Global Associates' channels. He announced that the mid-atoll corridor would be open next week for approximately five weeks and plans have been made to return people to the islands in the corridor. He added that the mid-atoll corridor returnees usually need support on these trips and are particularly interested in building materials for temporary shelters. The KMR assists by collecting salvage lumber, empty drums, HANDCLASP material, and any other items which could be useful. However, this is all we can do because we are not authorized to use KMR funds to make purchases for the Marshallese people. Only TTPI government funds can be used for this purpose and TTPI is not budgeted to assist mid-atoll corridor returnees. Mr. Haley suggested that the Kwajalein Womens Club (YYC) might be able to assist in this matter.

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Mrs. Savage said that her main purpose for being on the committee is to report committee problems to the YYWC.

5. Mr. Stege said that Mr. Sabiston had talked to him about the increase in visitors coming from Ebeye to Kwajalein. He asked that Mr. Haley explain why Marshallese visitors are restricted from unlimited access to Kwajalein. Mr. Haley explained that there were several reasons why Kwajalein cannot accommodate Marshallese visitors unless there is a legitimate reason for such visits. It is primarily a question of limited facilities on Kwajalein, limited transportation to and from Kwajalein and the concept that Kwajalein is a work area not a visitors center. One day last week Ebeye officials issued so many visitor passes that scheduled transportation could not handle their return to Ebeye from Kwajalein without putting on an extra boat. These special trips cost money and man-hours that the KMR logistic support contractor cannot afford. Further, KMR transportation between Ebeye and Kwajalein is geared to accommodate KMR workers. Any large number of visitors can prevent workers from getting to and from work. Mr. Stege said he had heard that Marshallese security guards were being taken off the dock security checkpoint. Mr. Haley was not aware of this or any problem involved but talked to the security officer after the meeting. He learned that the security department is required by the Global Associates contract Scope of Work to provide a system of rotation of all security and law enforcement personnel through all functions of security and police activities at KMR. The Security Department is predominantly a US hire work force with limited Marshallese augmentation. Therefore, it is not possible to consistently man the dock control checkpoint with a Marshallese constable without ignoring contractual requirements.

6. Mrs. Buck said that the Micronesian Handicraft Shop had a considerable number of unclaimed checks that had been written in payment for handicraft received from Kwajalein Atoll people. She asked that announcements be made on AFRS and Ebeye TV urging the people involved to collect their checks. She also wished to advise handicraft makers that the handicraft shop is over-supplied with shell necklaces. Mrs. Buck then discussed alternatives for the Ebeye Library. She said Mrs. Schulkind had offered space in her education center for a library. The committee appreciated but rejected this offer because her facility would be closed evenings when the library would be of most service to Ebeye people. Mr. Edwards said he would find an appropriate room for the library and make arrangements for it to be staffed evenings. Mrs. Savage said the Womens Club would collect paperback books for the library. Mr. Edwards said he is already getting magazines from the Kwajalein Post Office to be distributed through the library.

7. Mr. Bolkeim asked if radios could be issued to people returning to mid-atoll corridor islands for emergency purposes. Mr. Haley said this would require eleven radios and that KMR did not have them. He said that the corridor people also wanted cement to repair their water catchments but KMR

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could not finance cement purchases. After the meeting had adjourned, Mr. de Brum said he had called the Nitijela to ask them to finance these requirements and that the Nitijela would purchase the eleven radios and cement and send these items to Ebeye on next available transportation. Mr. Bolkeim asked that Ennubirr (third island) have a radio to contact Roi-Namur. Mr. Haley said he thought there was radio communication between Roi-Namur and Ennubirr. After the meeting he called Mr. Schmersahl, Roi-Namur Global Manager, who confirmed that there is radio communication between Roi-Namur and Ennubirr. The TTPI medic on Ennubirr has a radio that connects with the Roi-Namur net. Mr. Bolkeim said that the Marshallese village on the south side of Ennylabegan (Carlos) was getting electricity and the north side village was not. He asked if the northern village could get electricity. Mr. Haley was not aware that either village was getting electricity but would investigate. Mr. Bolkeim said that Global had helped the residents of Ennubirr clean up their island after the storm damage resulting from Typhoon Alice. He asked if Global could go over to Ennubirr on a regular basis to keep the island clean. Mr. Haley said that the KMR and its contractors always assist in emergencies such as Typhoon Alice but could not assist on a regular basis. This discussion filtered down to a requirement for a push cart on Ennubirr to be used for hauling garbage and debris to the dump. Mr. Edwards will follow-up on getting a push cart for this purpose. Mr. Bolkeim thanked KMR and Global for delivering water to Ennubirr when it was needed during an especially dry spell. Mr. Bolkeim concluded by thanking DISTAD Rep Edwards for his hospitality to the committee. Coffee, soft drinks, cookies and cake were served to committee members throughout the meeting. The cookies and cake were delicious.

8. Mr. Jelke asked if the committee members representing Marshallese workers, i.e., himself and Mr. Habenni from Roi-Namur, could be administratively excused from work (no loss of pay) to attend committee meetings. Mr. Haley said he would check with the Global Resident Manager, Mr. McAfee, on this question. Mr. Jelke suggested that at each meeting each committee member contribute \$1.00 to a fund to be used for a committee Christmas party. Committee members unanimously agreed. Mrs. Buck was designated party treasurer and members contributed their dollars. Mr. Jelke complained that security chased several ladies out of the laundromat one evening. Mr. Haley asked what time. Mr. Jelke said a little after 5:00 p.m. Mr. Haley said the problem of Marshallese ladies using the laundromat had surfaced at a previous meeting. At that time KMR was asked to permit the ladies to remain at the laundromat after 4:30 p.m. The committee agreed that the cut-off time at the laundromat should be changed from 4:30 to 5:00 which would give the ladies additional laundry time and still permit them to catch the boat to Ebeye. Mr. Haley was unaware of the security guard incident but advised Mr. Jelke that 5:00 p.m. was the established time for the ladies to vacate the laundromat and signs are posted to remind them of this cut-off time. Mr. Jelke asked if Marshallese fishing boats could buy gas at Ennylabegan when needed to get to Ebeye. Mr. Haley checked with outer-island management personnel who said in an emergency gas

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has been sold to Marshallese boatmen at Ennylabegan and this practice will continue on an emergency basis. Mr. Haley added that no KMR facility can be used for routine purchase of gas. Mobil Oil supplies the Marshalls with fuel. KMR does not compete with Mobil and does not maintain small boat gas stations. Mr. Jelke asked if Global Marshallese employees could go to the Kwajalein Hospital for routine physical exams. Mr. Haley thought not, but will check with Global. Mr. Jelke asked if the Ebeye Credit Union could get an excessed vehicle from Kwajalein. Mr. Haley said the KMR excesses vehicles to the Trust Territory government. Mr. Edwards said it would be improper to turn a vehicle over to a private enterprise such as the Credit Union.

9. Mr. Edwards said that somebody on Roi-Namur had been telling people it was TTPI policy to limit space available air transportation from Roi-Namur to Kwajalein to 15 Marshallese passengers. Mr. Haley said that this is a KMR policy not a TTPI limitation. The reason for the restriction is, as in the case of boat transportation, the problem of backlogging people at Ebeye/Kwajalein and not having sufficient space for returnees. Mr. Stege said that in a conversation with Colonel Reeve he understood that Colonel Reeve was going to lift this restriction. After the meeting Mr. Haley talked to Colonel Reeve and verified that there would be no arbitrary figure used (15). However, controls would be established if the space available air transportation privilege is abused or backlogging occurs. Mr. Edwards said there was a man on Ebeye who represented the Dale Carnegie Courses and that classes were being inaugurated. He said the course was presented on Majuro and funded by the government. On Ebeye many people would like to take the course but Ebeye cannot fund it. Price per student is \$351. He said he would welcome funding from any charitable source to finance this program. His suggestion stirred little enthusiasm.

10. Mr. Ishoda asked if the Ebeye businessmen could get a breakout of the transportation cost on the sample food item costs that Global had prepared for their last meeting. Mr. Haley will ask for the figures.

11. Mrs. Cataldo expressed committee appreciation for the hospitality received on Ebeye.

12. The meeting adjourned at 1130.


R. E. HALEY
KMR, TTLNO

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Each Attendee