

# CONZAPAPER



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February 24, 1961

-- "Sentinel of the Senyavins". Editor: R.J. Umhoefer.  
 Contributing Editors: Hal Forester, Diane Sammet,  
 Paul T. McNutt. Foreign News: Bob Rivard.  
 Features: Bill Taliaferro. Typographer: Harriet  
 Weinrich. Staff Artists: Ed Iwaniec, Mary DuPont.  
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 tory of the Pacific Islands.

## PONAPEAN BAEDEKER...

OR, "THERE'S A LONG, LONG TRAIL A-WINDING"

Dr. George Ruhle is a compactly built man - close-cropped grey hair and a ready smile - who has been with the U. S. forestry service for 35 years. This week, after a fortnight of exploring the wilderness of the Palaus, "Doc" Ruhle popped in at Kolonia for a brief look at the rain forests of Ponape. This is a capsule account of an eight-hour trek into the mountainous country that divides the districts of Uh and Net.

The intrepid party numbered six - our guide Alek, reputed to be 64 years of age and the only qualified botanist on Ponape, Agriculturist Ed Iwaniec, his cacao assistant Isidro Alfons, former Boy Scout Bob "Have No Fear" Rivard, Dr. Ruhle and your correspondent. It was a party made up of many talents - and at least one fallen arch. Logistically we were in pretty good shape - armament provided by the pistol-packin' Rivard (property of his wife - the pistol, that is), C rations, canteens and thermos jugs of water, dried apricots, pencils and paper, cameras, topo map (which bore little or no resemblance to where our expert guide took us), and - except for the barefooted Alek - a splendid assortment of foot-gear. About the only things we didn't have on the safari were walkie-talkies and a compass - but that comes later in the story.

After a pleasant hour's stroll from the Tawenjokola River bridge to within hailing distance of the old mission at Auak, we turned inland on a well-marked trail that angles sharply up the north flank of the range. "Doc" and Ed were jabbering Latin at each other just like two erudite old Romans as they stopped to discuss the flora along the way. It was a grey, overcast morning, cool and dry, and the gentle trades caressed us as we climbed.

At our first rest stop - a Ponapean shelter in a small, level clearing that would fetch a good price as a homesite back in Hawaii - we ate Malayan apples, drank water piped in from a mountain stream, and looked at Langar Island away to the north. Then we continued climbing with Alek in the van, bounding up the trail like an antelope, until we reached the demarcation between the strand below us and the secondary forest - the undisturbed forest, Ed calls it. Here the variety of trees and shrubs was fantastic and the Latin cascaded out impressively. For about a mile we walked along a narrow ridge, canopied by trees on both sides. We thought how much our wives would have enjoyed it - without the climb to get there. We emerged onto a heavily wooded plateau, stopped at a large clearing and broke out the rations. We were in the primary forest now and the trees were taller, straight and regal-looking.

Above the plateau the trail was not so well-travelled. Although Alek frequently had to hack away the branches of fallen trees, Ed remarked on how good the trail

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## NEW HICOM LIKELY

The following news item with a Washington dateline of February 23 is printed as received with no editing.

"Peter Coleman and Delmas Nucker will be replaced as Governor of American Samoa and High Commissioner of Pacific Trust Territory informed sources said today. The sources did not say who would replace the two officials. Wilfred Goding, a member of the Senate Commerce Committee staff, is under consideration for the High Commissioner's position, a source said. E. L. Norwood, of Castle and Cooke in Hawaii, also has been mentioned in connection with this job. It was understood that Coleman would be given a new position in the Territory's Office of the Interior Department, but it was not known whether he would be assigned to Washington or elsewhere."

## WORLD NEWS IN BRIEF

Flight engineers voted to end their six-day old wildcat strike and six U. S. airlines resumed normal passenger and cargo operations. The engineers were not striking against their airlines but against their union which proposed to ally them with the Pilots Union. This move would require the engineers to become qualified as pilots and upon qualification would move to the end of the Pilot Association's seniority list. The engineers already have their own seniority list. A three-man Presidential Commission will study the problem during a 90-day period during which the engineers will return to work. One of their demands before agreeing to Secretary of Labor Goldberg and President Kennedy's plea to return to work was that they would not be disciplined by their employers. Earlier, Western Air Lines had said it would fire all of its engineers and hire pilots trained as engineers. The other major air lines affected by the strike had made statements several days ago that they would not punish their returning engineers in any manner. Some 3500 engineers were involved in the United States most costly airline walkout. Some 80,000 men and women were left idle in the industry while the men were on strike. The strike cost airlines \$30,000,000.

The Senate Ways and Means Committee approved President Kennedy's anti-recession proposal to extend unemployment benefits. It was the first Kennedy-sponsored plan to receive full approval of a Congressional committee. In addition, the President asked for a 350 million dollar Children's Aid Program to assist children of unemployed parents.

Secretary of Defense Robert McNamara said that no effort would be spared to give the U. S. sufficient power to deter any possible aggressor interested in using atomic weapons. He pointed to the accelerated program for missile-carrying submarines and the efforts to remove the present-day bottle-necks in the missile program as part of the new Administration's attempts to establish sufficient retaliatory powers. He stated that in this day and age it was more important to have retaliatory capability than it was to fire the first shot.

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## SHIPPING NEWS

The M/V Escolohia will return from Kusaie Sunday morning at 8:00. She will depart on a special SFT March 3 (see Page 5 for details). Latest word on the Gunners Knot indicates she will depart Truk sometime Tuesday, February 28.

## REGINALD GAINES DIES

An official notice from the High Commissioner's office received Tuesday afternoon said, "Regret to advise Fisheries Specialist Reginald Gaines died early 21 February at Koror." Later the same day, unofficial word was received from Koror via a private source that Gaines had committed suicide. No further details were available at the time.

## NEW PAA SCHEDULE

This Pan American World Airways revised flight schedule becomes effective February 28 at Guam:

- MONDAY - Arrives from Honolulu and U. S. mainland at 4:40 A.M. and leaves for Manila and points beyond at 5:40 A.M.
- TUESDAY - Arrives from Manila at 10:20 P.M. and leaves for Honolulu and U. S. mainland at 11:20 P.M.
- WEDNESDAY - Arrives from Honolulu at 10:40 A.M. (cargo and mail only - no passengers).
- THURSDAY - Leaves for Honolulu at 2 A.M. (cargo and mail only).
- FRIDAY - Arrives from Honolulu at 4:40 A.M. and leaves for Manila at 5:40 A.M.
- SATURDAY - Arrives from Manila at 10:20 P.M. and leaves for Honolulu at 11:20 P.M.

## TRUSTEESHIP SERIES PART 2

Article 74 of Chapter XI (Declaration Regarding Non-Self-Governing Territories) provides that, "Members of the United Nations also agree that their policy in respect of the territories to which this Chapter applies, no less than in respect of their metropolitan areas, must be based on the general principle of good-neighborliness, due account being taken of the interests and well-being of the rest of the world, in social, economic, and commercial matters."

## IT'S THE LAW...

Section 765 of the TT Code prohibits the starting of fires to clear land, including the burning of stumps, logs, brush, dry grass or fallen timber, without the prior written permission of the District Administrator or his authorized representative. Whether permitted or not, no fires may be started during a heavy wind or without sufficient help present to control it. In addition, any fire started must be attended by the person setting it or his competent agents until put out.

## FOUND

One dark blue umbrella found on roadway in front of Umhoefer house night of February 23. Owner may claim at Sheriff's office.

# U.N.V.M. EXPRESSES GRATITUDE

Majuro  
17 February 1961

Dear Mr. Neas,

On behalf of all the members of the Visiting Mission, I wish to express our deep gratitude to you, to all members of the staff and to the people of Ponape District for the kind co-operation and assistance and the generous hospitality extended to us during our stay in your District.

We shall carry with us happy memories of our visit to the District under your charge.

Yours sincerely,

/s/ C. Salamanca  
/t/ Carlos Salamanca  
Chairman, United Nations  
Visiting Mission

Mr. Maynard Neas  
District Administrator  
Ponape

## MEETINGS NEED HDQTRS OK

Department Heads desiring to set up conferences, meetings, special classes, etc., for Micronesian or American personnel, or travel itineraries for official visitors, which require space aboard Trust Territory aircraft or ships, are requested to notify the Deputy High Commissioner of the proposed dates in writing.

No plans should be finalized until authorization is received. In addition to the proposed date, the following is also requested: (1) the subject of the conference, meeting, etc., (2) length of the session, (3) number of delegates from the districts or headquarters, (4) anticipated travel requirements, via ship or aircraft, for personnel between districts or between districts and Guam.

Interested Distads and Department Heads will be advised of the most convenient travel times for all concerned.

## NEXT PLANE: MARCH 6

According to the schedule published by Headquarters earlier this month, there will be no plane out of Guam for Ponape or Majuro until March 6.

## LET'S LEARN PONAPEAN

Peter and Mary have just finished their meal and Nohno gets them out of the house to play.

Se mwengehier, oh med.  
Menlau, Nohno, menlau.  
Piter, Meri, komwa sohte men kohla  
mwadong?

Kohla mwadong nan caroahr.  
Kohla tang pohn caroahr.  
Piter, wahda noumw kidio.  
Meri, wahda noumw kisin serio.  
Ira pahn iang komwa mwadong.  
Piter, wahda omw wahn korohko.  
Ke kak alu pohn caroahr.  
Iet ei wahn korohko.  
I mwahukin ira.  
I aluhkin irahier.  
I aluhkiher pohn caroahr.  
I mwahuki aluhki wahn korohko.  
Piter, nei kisin seri pil kak alu.  
P pahn seuwese ih.  
Kilang, Ester kak alu.  
E kak alu mwahu.  
E kak alu oh tang.  
Noumw kidio pil kak alu oh tang.

We are finished eating, and full.  
Thanks, mother, thank you.  
Peter, Mary, you are not going to play?

Go play on the beach.  
Go run on the beach.  
Peter, take your doggy.  
Mary, take your little baby.  
They will play with you.  
Peter, take your stilts.  
You can walk on the beach.  
Here are my stilts.  
I like them.  
I have walked with them.  
I have walked on the beach.  
I like to walk with my stilts.  
Peter, my little baby also can walk.  
I will help her.  
Look, Ester can walk.  
She can walk well.  
She can walk and run.  
Your doggy also can walk and run.

## CHANGE IN SOUTHERN FT

The Southern Field Trip scheduled to depart Ponape March 7 as a congressional lift will leave instead on Friday, March 3. It will carry passengers to Ngatik, Nukuoro, and Kapingamarangi, but will have no field trip party or traders. Limited cabin space will be available for dependents of Trust Territory personnel desiring to make the trip. Fares are not charged, but all meals must be paid for by passengers. Would-be tourists are advised that time ashore at Ngatik and Nukuoro will be limited to two hours at the most. About seven hours will be spent at Kapingamarangi. Bookings should be made with the Assistant District Administrator no later than Wednesday, March 1. The M/V Kaselehlia will return to Ponape Thursday morning, March 9.

## SOGGY, WHAT?

Mr. Bill Taliaferro, the man who rarely talks about the weather because he suspects there isn't much he can do about it, reports that during the 24-hour period ending at 8:00 a.m. today, SEVEN inches of rain fell on Kolonia Towan and environs.

# MESSAGE FROM OUR PRESIDENT

PRESIDENT MINTZER, THAT IS

A regular club meeting was held last night. The rain did not dampen the spirit of those in attendance. The way to a dictatorship was paved by due democratic procedures and inadequate bylaws. The following motions were seconded and passed:

1. Paint the club biege;
2. Have a \$500.00 March party;
3. Elect new Executive Board monthly;
4. Set aside \$100.00 to repair the front door;
5. Raise dues to \$5.00 per person bi-monthly.

Though this is not a true picture of what did take place - remember IT COULD HAVE!

Protect your club from possible mistakes occasioned by disinterest and/or inconvenience. --The President

## WORLD NEWS CONTINUED

Over 6,000 persons are homeless in floods resulting from record breaking rains in Louisiana, Alabama, Georgia, and Mississippi. Many are being rescued by helicopters and cared for in emergency aid stations set up in churches and public buildings. Meanwhile, the north and west sections of the U. S. were buffeted by snow storms.

The upcoming amphibious exercises by the U. S. Marines in the Caribbean area caused some speculation in view of the tension in that area. An official spokesman said the exercises in Puerto Rico and Onslow Beach, North Carolina, were strictly "routine".

President Kennedy named the mayor of El Paso, Texas, to be the ambassador to Costa Rica. The appointment is subject to Senate confirmation.

Indonesian President Sukarno has accepted President Kennedy's invitation to visit The U. S. in April.

A proposal that the U. S. exchange food for prisoners in Red China was rejected by the President on the grounds that it might be construed as interfering in the internal affairs of Red China by pointing up their agricultural program failures during 1960. Acceptance of the exchange by Red China would be an admission of the failure to grow sufficient food for their population.

Buckingham Palace has announced that Queen Elizabeth and Prince Philip will visit Pope John XXIII in Rome May 6 at the close of a visit to Italy. The royal couple are presently in India.

The government-controlled press of Cuba has announced that Red China is supplying Cuba with free arms. Hundreds of machine guns and other weapons are being shipped by the Chinese at no cost, said Raoul Castro, Armed Forces Minister and brother of Fidel.

# TRIAL IN THE DARK

Yesterday morning about 11:00 a.m. the Power Plant Superintendent sent word to me that one of the Generator brushes was arcing and shooting sparks. Upon investigating, it appeared to be a broken or worn brush. Confident that it would be only a routine job of changing the brush, and little realizing what we were about to get into, I made the necessary arrangements for a short Power Outage of one and a half hours, to commence at 1:30 p.m.

Radio Station, Weather Station and the Assistant Distad were notified. At the stroke of 1:30, by Rolex, not local or Zulu, time, the main switch on power pole at the Power Plant was opened. The Administration building is on the Hospital transformer while the Public Works Office is on the reefer plant's, which permits them to have power, too.

The Bread Raisers Association informed me (much later in the day) that the bread had been baked in the a.m., thereby preventing a picket line at the Power Plant.

After opening the switch and securing Engine #3 which operates Generator #3, we (Kahle, Murakami and yours truly) all jumped into the Generator Pit (not to be confused with the Snake Pit) and in our crowded quarters, found that instead of a broken or worn brush, we were confronted with a misshapened slip ring, grooved, out of round and in a slightly deplorable state. After counseling our erstwhile machinist Abner, it was decided to repair said ring without removing it, after which everyone concerned was notified that it would take awhile longer for power to be restored...under-statement of the month. After much consultation and ideas kicked around, a feasible answer was found for our new problem. An inverted pipe vise (by Murakami) was secured to the brush rigging holder, a piece of pipe, then a small block of wood (2" x 6") was placed on top, then an armature turning lathe, and then with the aid of a large C-clamp we were ready to attempt to re-face the slip ring. At 1605 hours the job of re-facing commenced. At this point, the phone rang and we were queried as to how much longer. The party was satisfied it would only be a couple more hours, and we proceeded. At 6:00 p.m. - phone again - same answer. Same routine repeated at 8:00 p.m.

With the ring re-faced at 10:05 (6 hours later), the job of cleaning out the generator started. On or about 11:00 p.m. the generator was excited (as well as the rest of us) and then, lo and behold, the Ponape version of the Aurora Beaurealis, blue sparks in the coils: switch off. Switch on, again blue sparks. After several "on's and off's", only small flashes were observed, so with our fingers crossed, the generator was placed on the line and a load placed on it (electrical, not barroom jargon). Only a few blue sparks were appearing now and then, so it was decided to close the main switch in order that all you deserving Trust Territoryites could enjoy the various benefits electricity affords (time is now about 11:45 p.m.). A large disturbance was noted coming from the North, but we suddenly realized that the Ponape Community Club was having a shadowy meeting and the restoration of lights had sent those in attendance scurrying about the bar along with several roaches which had sat in one the candle-lit meeting. --B. S. Pearce

LOOK HERE!

If you're expecting a fancy dinner . . . . . better stay home

If the joint has to be dripping with decorations . . . ditto

If you're just looking for a relaxing good time and maybe a few surprises . . .

PLEASE COME

to our

"FECH - ING" PARTY\*

on

Saturday, March 4th

at

Klub Kolonia

7:30 P.M.

\*FEbruary-marCH party

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ATTENTION CLUB MEMBERS

Do you have a baby picture of yourself or maybe a snapshot taken when you were a toddler or a freshman in high school? If you do, please contact either Toni Castro, Rose Ownbey or Jean Taliaferro before next Saturday.

## PONAPEAN BAEDEKER CONTINUED

was despite the encroachments of Mother Nature. Rivard looked surprised. "What trail? I thought we were blazing one." Some people have a prophetic soul.

It was two o'clock. The flight bag slung over my shoulder felt five pounds heavier with every fifty yards we climbed. We were literally in the clouds now and the damp air felt good as we stood on the edge of a precipice and tried to distinguish the green lowlands far below. It was a sheer drop of perhaps 1500 feet and the shortest, quickest way back to Kolonia, said Alek. We decided to retrace our steps to the tableland and take a less drastic shortcut home. Just before reaching the clearing Rivard left the trail to snoop around an old Japanese machine gun emplacement. The rest of us trooped through the clearing and dropped off the northwest face of the plateau, leaving Isidro to wait for the Great White Hunter.

Going down, the trail was only a figment of Alek's imagination - and savvy. In a welter of gnarled trees, cunningly concealed vines, slippery moss-covered rocks, and the accumulated muck from bygone rains, every step was an adventure. "Doc" and Ed raised lusty voices in song. It was a ball. Then, for the first time, we wondered why there were only four of us. Halloo up there! We listened, then - faintly - a halloo from far above. We resumed the perilous descent. The shouts from topside were fainter now and seemed to come from the direction of the trail we had taken in the morning. Ed thought he heard a shot. I said it was a branch that had snapped off when I leaned on it for support. We paused again, debating whether Alek should go back up. Oh well, we'd all rendezvous back on the main road, so let them go. Slowly, gropingly we put one tentative foot before the other. After twenty lightyears we arrived at a leanto - and heard the others stumbling down the slope behind us. When they broke into the clearing, Rivard looked like a ghost. "For awhile I thought you'd have to tell the wife I'd be camping out for the night."

Briefly, the Great White Hunter had fallen into part of the gun revetment camouflaged by the underbrush, staggered back up and headed for the trail, missed it in his dazed condition, fired one shot ("where are you?"), retraced his steps without finding the trail, fired two shots ("everything under control but why in h--l don't you answer?"), ran onto a stream and followed it until nothing looked familiar, fired three shots ("look, fellas, I'm just plain lost"). "Pretty soon I heard somebody calling." It was Isidro to the rescue and then they started down the slope after us.

When we left the leanto it was raining like fury. There still wasn't much trail and the rocks were as treacherous underfoot as ever. We forded a stream that resembled a baby flash flood . . . walked on . . . re-forded the stream . . . walked some more . . . crossed the swollen, angry stream again and - oh well, if you can't beat 'em, join 'em, so down into the stream bed we tramped, the water ankle-deep one second, then momentarily up to our hips. Yes, gently down the stream we merrily, merrily went, then out of the stream briefly, then back in again, and pretty soon we were calmly clambering down a miniature waterfall. At this stage nothing would have surprised us. "Doc" and Ed kept right on singing - even the "Whiffenpoof Song." The boys back at Maury's don't know what real living is like.

We finally deposited Alek at his mountain home and Isidro guided us the last stretch until we hit the "belt highway." At this point, our visitor - who had

## PONAPEAN BAEDEKER CONTINUED

been handicapped by a perverse desire to look at the surroundings on the climb up and back - took off on the road like a rocket with long-legged Ed in hot pursuit. Obviously "Doc" was a fast finisher.

Your correspondent limped back to Kolonia with the remnants of a mountain plant called, in the local vernacular, "ais". According to our cacao specialist, the oily substance in the nut is an excellent paint base when mixed with red soil. The Ponapeans paint their canoes with it. Those two nature boys can have their Latin jokes and their rich voices raised in song. I'm going to open the first paint factory on Ponape - that is, if I can figure out how to get "ais" without half-killing myself again. --B.T.