

THE  
SAIPAN

VOL. 1, NO. 11

# Free Press

A NEWSPAPER TO FREE THE SOUL AND PULSE OF THINGS WHICH AFFECT SAIPAN & MICRONESIA

## BAR FLIES & WOLVES IN CONGRESS

The Sixteenth Saipan Legislature is experiencing difficulty in registering a quorum in several important congressional sessions. It was reported that legislators left their homes to attend congress meetings, but they never reach the Hall of Congress. It was reliably said that legislators seen in a bar or in the boozery with girl companions at the time when the Legislature was badly in need of members to register a quorum. Legislators should be more attentive to their obligations as representatives of Saipan and leave other affairs as secondary matters.

(Next time we'll print the names of absentee legislators).

## A DISREGARD TO OUR LAWS

The FREE PRESS many times and again reminding the appropriate agency of the government to insure that no one is conducting a business on Saipan without a license. Municipal Ordinance No. 24 is not only meant for Saipanese merchants. It embraces anyone in business within this municipality. Like many other illegal business activities in the island, the Bank of America has been on business here for so many years without a license. Business License Officer and Tax Collector Antonio R. Guarrero should do something about this.

## A LETTER FROM PONAPE

A prominent resident of Ponape has written a letter to a friend on Saipan. The letter is about former T.T.-H.Q. Asst. Political Affairs Officer Ido Falcam who is presently Ponape's Assistant District Administrator. It says that many Americans employed by the T.T. on Ponape are against the appointment of Falcam, a Micronesian to a top government post. The letter went on further saying that Falcam is not qualified for the post.

Leo Falcam was appointed by the High Commissioner solely on the basis of his broad experience in government and educational achievement. Moreover, he is a Micronesian who speaks the native language and knows more the problem of Ponape than these big-mouth, jealous-big-shot hungry wolves. There are many other qualified and competent Micronesians like Falcam who are still "assistant-assistant to the assistant deputy, so and so officer". The High Commissioner is to be commended for appointing Falcam to his present post.

## SECOND RATE TEACHERS ???

A respectable congressman from Guam the other day told a FREE PRESS reporter that he was deeply surprised to see many of former Guam school teachers now teaching in Saipan Public Schools. He said that some of these teachers are exceptionally qualified but many are FIRED or DISMISSED as teachers on Guam for reasons he declined to say. He said that he is very much sympathetic with the Micronesian and that it should receive all top-rate teachers and not just "anybody".

Needless to say, however, perhaps Director of Education Robert Gibson is off guard, or maybe HE'S BEEN TOO LONG and too tired to do anything about education here, as was implied by the HONOLULU STAR-BULLETIN of December 4th.

## INTERESTING

Another typhoon hit Saipan marking a third destruction of our homes and properties. These days there are no such things as boom-ducking second-hand materials to build homes, etc. However, this problem can be solved by making an immediate availability of loans, something similar to the one the public are furnished in the United States, such as our neighboring island of Guam. Moreover, what has happened to the recommendation to use \$100,000 from the Land Trust Fund to assist needy people here to build or repair their homes. This money (Land Trust Fund) is owned by the people of former Saipan District, and this same people through their representatives in Congress asked that this money be made available for home construction. There are many Saipanese presently staying in tents and patch-up homes, some are staying like sardines with their relatives due to lack of homes. The Government should do something about this grave problem and not just ~~-----~~ agents REPORTS and REPORTS to show the United Nations that some thing is being done to alleviate the situation.

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