

Deployed brother, sister reunite after 10 years apart



By Master Sgt. Benjamin Wilson,
407th Air Expeditionary Group Public Affairs
U.S. AIR FORCES CENTRAL COMMAND

January 16, 2017

SOUTHWEST ASIA -- U.S. service members ordinarily have to say goodbye to family as they head out for deployments, but one deployment brought a brother and sister together after 10 years of separation.

U.S. Air Force Tech. Sgt. Mary Jane Palumbo and her brother, U.S. Army Staff Sgt. Quincy Mora, were able to meet outside a military air terminal in Southwest Asia for a couple of hours as he forward deployed closer to the fight.

Both brother and sister are currently deployed in support of Operation Inherent Resolve to militarily defeat Daesh, also referred to as Islamic State of Iraq and the Levant.

Palumbo, 134th Expeditionary Fighter Squadron aviation resource manager, last saw her brother when he was on his way home from his first tour in Iraq.

She was vacationing in Hawaii when he stopped for a layover en route to their hometown of Pohnpei, Federated States of Micronesia.

Palumbo and Mora, an AH-64 Apache mechanic deployed from Ft.

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U.S. Air Force Tech. Sgt. Mary Jane Palumbo, 134th Expeditionary Fighter Squadron aviation resource manager, and her brother, U.S. Army Staff Sgt. Quincy Mora, AH-64 Apache mechanic, embrace one another as they meet for the first time in ten years Jan. 7, 2017. The siblings are both deployed in support of Operation Inherent Resolve. (U.S. Air Force photo/Master Sgt. Benjamin Wilson)(Released)

FSM court deliberating on merits of motion to dismiss in the Sea Cucumber harvest case

By Bill Jaynes
The Kaselehlie Press

January 25, 2017

Pohnpei, FSM—Since July 20, 2016, Young Sun International and Pohnpei State have been barred from executing a contract to harvest sea cucumbers for export after the FSM Supreme Court issued a temporary restraining order (CA 2016-014). Six months after that restraining order was issued, the court is still hearing and ruling on what amounts to preliminary motions on the "sea cucumber case".

Currently the court is deliberating on an evidentiary hearing on a motion to dismiss that was filed by attorney Joseph Phillip on behalf of Young Sun Incorporated on the matter of whether or not the Mwoalen Wahu en Pohnpei has legal standing to bring suit. Pohnpei State's attorneys joined that motion and David Angyal, attorney for the Mwoalen Wahu filed an opposition.

The motion to dismiss claimed that the Mwoalen Wahu no longer

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Australia hosts "Australia Day" celebration in Pohnpei
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Vietnamese "Blue Boats" caught fishing illegally in New Caledonia, PNG
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FSM Assistant Attorney General Commissioned into the U.S. Navy Judge Advocate General Corps (JAG)

On January 24, 2017, Mr. Clayton Lawrence took the oath of office and was commissioned into the United States Navy Judge Advocate General's Corps (JAG) as Lieutenant Junior Grade (LTJG) Clayton Lawrence. LTJG Dylan Berns from the Naval Mobile Construction Battalion Eleven, the Construction Civic Action Detail Liaison Officer at the U.S. Embassy in Kolonia, administered the oath.

Ambassador Robert Riley congratulated LTJG Lawrence in his opening remarks, saying, "We are honored to host this special occasion and we are sorry that we will be losing you at the Department of Justice - you've been a great help to all of us. On the other hand, you will be moving on to greater things and we certainly wish you the best on this new journey and I hope that everything goes on as you wish." LTJG Lawrence expressed his gratitude to the many wonderful families and friends that have supported him in achieving his

goal of becoming a Navy JAG. LTJG Lawrence moved to Micronesia in March 2014 and served as an Assistant Attorney General for the State of Pohnpei under Attorney General Judah C. Johnny. After serving the state of Pohnpei, he joined the FSM Department of Justice in May 2015 as an Assistant Attorney General. Shortly thereafter, he was designated Chief of the Litigation Division by Attorney General Joses R. Gallen, becoming responsible for, among other things, instituting criminal investigations and proceedings, and representing and defending all civil actions and proceedings involving the FSM.

In 2015, he initiated a scholarship at Xavier High School in Chuuk State that pays four years of a student's tuition. It is awarded to a student who demonstrates academic excellence and financial need.

FSM national government, state government, Australian Embassy, and U.S. Embassy officials as well as close friends and family of LTJG Lawrence joined in the occasion. The American Ambassador and Embassy staff congratulates Clayton Lawrence and wish him fair seas and following winds.



LTJG Dylan Berns from the Naval Mobile Construction Battalion Eleven, the Construction Civic Action Detail Liaison Officer at the U.S. Embassy in Kolonia, administered the oath.



FSM national government, state government, Australian Embassy, and U.S. Embassy officials as well as close friends and family of LTJG Lawrence joined in the occasion

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Bill Jaynes
Managing Editor

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Contrary to earlier report, O3B did not figure into FSMTC's fiber optic repair backup plan

By *Bill Jaynes*
The Kaselehlie Press

January 26, 2017

Pohnpei, FSM—Two days after The Kaselehlie Press published its article on fiber optic repairs that affected the FSM, repairs were completed and FSM Telecommunications Corporation immediately began migrating the services for their Pohnpei ADSL customers back to the fiber optic line to restore service to pre-repair levels.

Last evening FSMTC notified me that my article on the preparations that FSMTC had made to prepare for the repairs contained some errors fundamentally involving mentions of services I said were provided by O3B. They said that FSMTC never utilized the services of O3B in the backup plans and in fact that company was never considered. The method used to route and provide domestic and international services was changed for the

period of time that the fiber optic line was being repaired, but the services of O3B were not used.

We also said that the crew making the repairs was from Tyco. They were from TE Subcom.

The information that we published was from our understanding of more than a week of email exchanges with one of FSMTC's representatives. Errors in the article were apparently introduced by our misunderstanding of some of the responses and requests for clarifications to dozens of questions that we asked.

FSMTC said that they would be issuing their own press release on the matter but at press time, that press release still had not been received.

A corrected version of the article can be found on our website at www.kpress.info.

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Dry Litter Piggeries have positive effects in Awak

The community of Awak is in the process of implementing pig pen conversions to the dry litter system for piggeries in the community that sit alongside the Awak River. In past years, the river has been so polluted with piggery waste that it has not been safe for recreational use. In fact, in 2012, the University of Hawaii did water quality testing on this river that showed the lower Awak River Watershed had 6,450 mpn/100ml of *E. coli* bacteria (see Table 3 below). This process of converting pig pens to dry litter, which began in 2014, is starting to see an improvement in the water quality of the Awak River and it has also been improving the livelihoods for those people who run them.

The community project, funded by the GEF Small Grants Programme in Pohnpei, FSM, is set to convert 15 piggeries to the dry litter system to help reduce the amount of contaminants to the community's rivers and streams. In 2015 more than half of the piggeries within the project zone have been converted to dry litter. In 2015, EPA did a water quality analysis of the area and found that at the 6 test sites, none of them were safe for recreational use. Then, on January 16, 2017, EPA carried out another water quality analysis of the Awak River and stream. Results of this year's test showed improvements from previous years. (see table below) Conversion of the piggeries to a dry litter system helps reduce the number of pathogens found in the stream to a safer level so that community members can utilize it for recreational uses without worry of getting sick.

Of the six (6) samples collected and tested, the test results show that 2 of the samples do not meet the standard for recreational use and 4 of the samples meet the recreational standard which is <576 of total *E. coli* bacteria. The standard for drinking water is that no *E. coli* should be present in the samples.

In addition to the water quality improvements, dry litter piggery owners are enjoying the benefits of using less water in their piggeries, thereby saving money and resources, enjoying a piggery without the smell of pig waste, and are making extra income by selling the composted dry litter pig waste to farmers for organic fertilizer. One farmer, when asked, said she is making up to \$300 per month selling fertilizer from her dry litter piggery. Other pig farmers are having a hard time meeting the demand of the agricultural farmers to supply them with fertilizer, and all of them that have their own gardens, are reaping the benefits of growing bigger and healthier crops from using this dry litter pig fertilizer.

Pohnpei State and the nation have targeted expanding dry litter piggeries in Pohnpei and around in the other states under the GEF5 funding cycle for environmental projects. The positive results that the Awak community has seen is proof that dry litter piggeries are a great way to improve the environment and people's lives. These results also help count towards FSM meeting its commitment to the UN's Sustainable Development Goals. The office of EPA has complimented the work of the Awak Youth group, CSP, and all partners that are working on the project. Our dream of having a closer recreation area for our loved ones may one day

be achieved if we all commit to improving our environment and our lives with this important project. With the on-going efforts of the Pohnpei Women's Advisory Council which is working to amend the

EPA piggery law to require all pig pens be converted to dry litter, we may one day see this dream come true.

Water Testing Results	Site 1A main stream	Site 2A main stream	Site 3C main stream	Site 4C intersection	Site 5B main stream (church)	Site 6 secondary stream
Total <i>E. coli</i> bacteria						
2015 results	1200	1400	210	5200	5500	5200
2017 results	170	230	380	570	2000	1100

Table 3. Profile sampling of 8 rivers and stream systems on Pohnpei Island, 2012.

River or Stream System	Municipality	Upper Watershed (A) <i>E. coli</i> (mpn/100 ml)	Mid Watershed (B) <i>E. coli</i> (mpn/100 ml)	Lower Watershed (C) <i>E. coli</i> (mpn/100 ml)
Awak	U	45	285	6,450
Kipar	Kiti	30	120	220
Soukirouhn	Kiti	187	1,141	1,819
Mand (Spring)	Madolenihmw	115	1,030	2,100
Mand (Fall)	Madolenihmw	180	250	270
Pailir Crossing	Sokehs	NA	NA	820
Nanpil	Nett	294	NA	1,043
Dauen Neu	Kolonia	NA	>24,000	>24,000
Nintu	Kolonia	NA	>24,000	>24,000
Average ± S.E		151.8 ± 36.0 ^a	585.2 ± 214.7 ^a	1,983.7 ± 947.3 ^a

...Cucumber Case

Continued from front page

exists and even if it did, Mr. Salvador Iriarte, as Iso Nahnken of Nett is not part of the Mwoalen Wahu and wouldn't have standing to represent any such entity. The motion was based in part on a letter dated April 8 written by Sokehs Paramount Chief Herculano Kohler to Pohnpei Governor Marcelo Peterson informing the Governor that the Mwoalen Wahu had been dissolved. It said that when the court ruled in September that the Mwoalen Wahu had standing to bring suit on the matter, it did so without some facts in evidence.

The court set an evidentiary hearing date for January 6 but rescheduled that hearing for January 11 in order to provide time for a State official to compile documents the attorney for the Plaintiffs had subpoenaed.

Pohnpei State put Paramount Chief Herculano Kohler on the stand to testify that he did send the letter. He testified that he considered there to be a "Mwoalen Wahu" but not a "Mwoalen Wahu en Pohnpei". He also reiterated the defendants claim that the Nahnkens are not part of the "Mwoalen

Wahu".

Under cross examination by the Plaintiffs' attorney, Mr. Kohler said that there have been meetings of the Mwoalen Wahu since he sent the letter to the Governor, but that only two or three of the members had been present. The Plaintiffs' attorney presented Mr. Kohler with records from the Pohnpei State Public Affairs office showing that at each of the subsequent meetings of the Mwoalen Wahu since April 2016 there were no fewer than four members present including him. The records also showed that Nahnkens were also present. He also presented Mr. Kohler with records showing that he and other members of the Mwoalen Wahu had received stipends from Public Affairs for fuel costs for attending the meetings.

The Plaintiffs' attorney called Billston Charley, Pohnpei's Public Affairs Liaison to the Mwoalen Wahu, to the stand. He brought records showing the agendas and minutes of the meetings of the Mwoalen Wahu and also financial records showing stipends paid out to the members. When questioned he confirmed that the Pohnpei State Government provides minutes of the

meetings to the Attorney General's office and that no one in the government treated the Mwoalen Wahu any differently than they had before Mr. Kohler's letter was received.

At press time the Court had not yet rendered a decision on the motions to dismiss. If the Court grants those motions it will mean that the contract to harvest sea cucumbers will be able to move forward, barring any appeals. If it does not grant the motions to dismiss, the court will schedule hearings to begin to hear evidence from both sides to determine whether the Court should issue a permanent injunction to continue enjoining the execution of the sea cucumber harvest contract pending the outcome of the lawsuit on the merits. That is unless defendants file another preliminary motion of some sort that the court agrees to consider.

There is one outstanding motion for the court to consider that was entered by defendants, Young Sun Incorporated. Their attorney filed a motion for a summary judgment on their counterclaims against the Conservation Society of Pohnpei (CSP). CSP has filed an opposition to that motion.

Handover ceremony of the project for procuring a cesspit cleaner truck in Kosrae State



On January 23, 2017, a handover ceremony was held at the repair shop of Department of Transportation and Infrastructure, Kosrae State Government, for the Project for Procuring a Cesspit Cleaner Truck in Kosrae State, which provided US\$96,940 for Department of Transportation and Infrastructure under the grant aid scheme called Grant Assistance for Grass-roots Human Security Projects. The aim for this project is to improve the environment and the sanitation in the community by conducting almost all of the cesspits cleaning in Kosrae state.

At the handover ceremony, the Government of Japan handed over a cesspit cleaner truck to Department of Transportation and Infrastructure (DT&I). Following the handover ceremony, under the auspices of Japanese engineers dispatched from manufactory of vehicle provided, hands-on training on use and maintenance of cesspit cleaner truck was held.

In his speech during the ceremony, Mr. Koji Sugiyama, Deputy Chief of Mission at the Embassy of Japan, presented his remarks hoping that the car will be used for a long term period by being maintained well. Representing DT&I, Acting Director Thansley Kinere acknowledged the Embassy of Japan for the

generous grant. He also stated that the vehicle will help protecting the environment in communities in Kosrae state.

Present at the ceremony were Mr. Osamu Nedlic, Administrative Officer at DT&I, and staffs of DT&I and the Embassy of Japan.

THE NEXT ISSUE OF THE KASELEHLIE PRESS WILL BE RELEASED ON: February 13, 2017

Deadline for submission of articles or advertisements for this issue is the end of working hours on: Wednesday February 8, 2017

FISHERIES AWARENESS CAMPAIGN T-SHIRT DESIGN COMPETITION

CRITERIA and TERMS & CONDITIONS

1. Design must include a picture of a tuna or have some relevance to tuna.
2. Design may be original photos/drawings and/or words/phrases relevant to the tuna fishery, including management, conservation, development, sustainability and social responsibility.
3. Design should be done preferably with a photo editor (such as Illustrator or Photoshop). Hand drawings may also be submitted and if chosen as the winning entry, entrant agrees to minor alterations being made for printing/publication purposes.
4. The design must be original and cannot contain third party copyright logos or material.
5. Multiple entries are allowed.
6. Preferably, the design should be authentic to Micronesia or Micronesian culture(s).
7. Competition is open only to FSM high school students.
8. Send your designs to jemendiola28@gmail.com by the deadline (February 20, 2017).
9. By entering the competition, entrants agree to be bound by these terms and conditions and agree that if their entry is chosen as the winning design, it may be used without charge, including any modifications thereof, for the NORMA Fisheries Awareness Campaign and/or other FSM NORMA promotional material.

PRIZES

The winner of the competition will receive \$100 and their design will be used for the Fisheries Awareness Campaign, including but not limited to t-shirts. All cash awards are as follows:

- 1st Prize:** \$100 + free t-shirt + 1 GB flashdrive
- 2nd Prize:** \$75 + free t-shirt + 1 GB flashdrive
- 3rd Prize:** \$50 + free t-shirt + 1 GB flashdrive

DEADLINE

February 20, 2017



...Reunited

Continued from front page

Lewis, Washington, were born and raised in the Federated States of Micronesia along with their 9 other brothers and sisters.

The family was big, but they were close, according to Palumbo. They all lived in one house with her grandmother growing up, and although there were separate rooms for the adults, the children would spread out in the living room with sheets and blankets at night.

“For most Americans when you’re 18, you’re an adult, you move out,” she said. “For us it doesn’t matter. We can still live together even if you are married with kids; we still are really close.”

Growing up in such a close family added to the difficulty of leaving for basic training, but Palumbo said she wanted to test herself and see if she could succeed in the military.

That is why she joined the Army directly after high school.

Although it was hard to leave her family, she said it was an exciting new experience.

It wasn’t until she decided to start a family of her own that she knew she had to make a change.

“I had my oldest son and I didn’t really want to move around that much with the baby so that is why I got out [of the active duty military],” Palumbo said. “Then I moved to Vermont and that’s when I joined the Vermont Air National Guard.”

The Air National Guard gave Palumbo the stability she felt she needed to raise a family and the kind of support structure she had growing up in Pohnpei.

“The guard, they take care of you and your family,” she said.

Even though she decided to plant new roots in Vermont, Palumbo said keeping in touch with her extended family is important to her.

That is why she called up her brother last summer to make plans to meet for Christmas. Unfortunately, he was tasked to deploy.

It was not until November 2015, when Palumbo herself was tasked for deployment that she realized this set of unlikely circumstances was destined to reunite brother and sister after ten years apart.



REQUEST FOR EXPRESSION OF INTEREST RE-ADVERTISEMENT!!

Deadline extension to February 10, 2017



The Government of the Federated States of Micronesia's National Oceanic Resource Management Authority (NORMA) has received financing from the World Bank toward the cost of the Pacific Regional Oceanscape Program, and intends to apply part of the proceeds for an Electronic-Reporting/Electronic-Monitoring (ER/EM) Coordinator based in Pohnpei, FSM. The ER/EM Coordinator services include:

General Scope of Work

- Oversee and coordinate vessel and onboard electronic reporting of data and information for NORMA.
- Coordinate all work on video electronic monitoring activities of NORMA.
- Establish and implement e-reporting and e-monitoring procedures including implementation of standards in equipment, data collection and storage.
- Install and provide trainings or tutorials in use of hardware and software to observers and fishing companies in e-reporting and e-monitoring.
- Assist in implementation of e-reporting and e-monitoring trials and/or transitioning of NORMA to full programs when appropriate.
- Ensuring secure storage and accessibility of e-reporting and e-monitoring data from collection to data analysis/utilization.
- Work closely with NORMA staff and partners in the FSM, the Pacific region and internationally in areas related to e-reporting and e-monitoring and represent FSM interest in meetings as may be assigned.
- Assist with other duties as may be assigned by the Chief of Research Division.

Minimum Qualifications and Short-listing Criteria

- Bachelors Degree in computer science or related field. An Associates degree could be considered if extensive relevant professional experience is proven.
- 2 years relevant professional experience.
- Relevant IT skills/experience with android based devices, operating database systems, Microsoft Word, Excel, Access, and Internet Browsers.
- Demonstrated experience in supervising staff and in delivery training and providing necessary guidance.
- Good written and oral communication skills, especially report writing.
- Proven ability to work independently and under limited supervision.
- Project management experience and/or skills.

Additional Desirable Qualifications

- A general understanding of the technical aspects of E-Reporting and E-Monitoring
- Experience working in Tuna fisheries sector and with Pacific Islands.

Remuneration

- Salary will be based on the Local Labor Market Payscale and/or depending on qualifications.
- This will be a 2-year full-time position under contract with FSM NORMA subject to renewal based on performance.

Application

The FSM NORMA invites consultants to indicate their interest in providing the above mentioned services by submitting electronic and/or hard copies of a) Letter of Interest, b) CV or resumé, c) support Degrees/Certificates and d) three 3 reference letters to NORMA no later than February 10, 2017. Selection will be in accordance with the procedures set out in the World Bank's Guidelines: Selection and Employment of Consultants by World Bank Borrowers (January 2011 edition). Full Terms of Reference (TOR) can be obtained from:

NORMA, FSM National Government
Attn: OKean Ehmes, PROP Coordinator
P.O Box PS-122, Pohnpei, FM 96941
Office Telephone: 691-320-2700/5181
Email: moria.joseph@norma.fm. Copy to okean.ehmes@norma.fm

Low-lying Micronesia hopes Trump reconsiders his stand on climate change

Reuters

January 17, 2017

Tokyo—The Federated States of Micronesia hopes U.S. President-elect Donald Trump changes his view on climate change, its foreign minister said on Tuesday, adding that global warming poses the biggest threat to low-lying island countries.

Trump, set to take office on Friday, dismissed climate change as a hoax during his election campaign and vowed to pull the United States out of the Paris climate agreement, a deal among nearly 200 countries to curb global warming.

After his November election victory, he said he was keeping an open mind on whether to pull out of the accord. Some of his selections for top jobs in his administration are also skeptical about climate change.

Micronesia's foreign secretary, Lorin Robert, told a news conference in Tokyo he hoped Trump would have a change of heart.

"The greatest threat to us Pacific island countries is climate change," Robert said following a meeting of foreign ministers and other representatives from Japan, Australia, New Zealand and 14 Pacific island nations.

"I hope that the next president of the United States will have a different view, in the matter of days, when he takes his office because I know in his heart he will have an appreciation what Pacific islanders are all about."

Pacific island nations including Kiribati and Tuvalu are facing the brunt of climate change with rising seas and more violent storms raising grave doubts about their futures.

British climate change scientists on Monday asked British Prime Minister Theresa May to press Trump to acknowledge climate change risks and support international action to slow global warming.

The countries taking part in the Tokyo meeting included the Cook Islands, Fiji, Kiribati, the Marshall Islands, Micronesia, Nauru, Niue, Palau, Papua New Guinea, Samoa, the Solomon Islands, Tonga, Tuvalu and Vanuatu.

(Reporting by Kiyoshi Takenaka; Editing by Robert Birsell)

Governor Officially Designates Co-Chairs, Reorganizes 2018 MicroGames Organizing Committee

COLONIA, Yap (Civic Affairs)

On December 29, 2016, the Office of the Governor transmitted a memorandum to the Yap State Leadership. The memorandum shared the official designation of co-chairs for the 9th Micronesian Games Organizing Committee, as well as the reorganization of the Committee.

Governor Tony Ganngiyan, in his memo, shared with the State Leadership that—after convoking with Speaker Ted Rutun, FSMNOC Secretary General Jim Tobin and FSM Secretary of Education Kalwin Kephas, as well as the respective Presidents of the Micronesian Games Council and Palau NOC—a collective decision was made to reorganize the Organizing Committee for the 2018 MicroGames. The reorganization was made to better spearhead all the essential preparations for Yap State to host the games in summer 2018.

"Inevitably, time is not on our side", stated Governor Ganngiyan in his memo, "since we are only a little over a year now before the games begin and all efforts on our part now is paramount whether you are in the public sector, private sector or in your respective communities".

Governor Ganngiyan officially designated Yap Sports Council Chairman Liyon Sulog and Director of Youth & Civic Affairs Francis I. Itimai as the Co-Chairs of the 9th MicroGames OC. He also tasked the co-chairs to undertake the following tasks:

1. To re-evaluate the tasks assigned to the Organizing Committee and all the various sub-committees as to ensure that all the preparatory tasks and arrangements are undertaken to have Yap ready to host the 2018 MicroGames; and

2. To re-organize the Organizing Committee and all the existing sub-committees to ensure that the assigned co-chairs and members are proactive in undertaking their assigned tasks so as to meet the given timelines.

The Governor ended his memo by wishing all a prosperous New Year, and thanked all for their assistance and efforts thus far in ensuring that the necessary preparations for the state to be a good host are undergoing. "We all must be mindful that we are not only anticipating very important people to be in our humble State during these games but also over 2,000 spectators [and] athletes. It is imperative that all planning and preparations are in place way before the games begin and I can only solicit your kind cooperation with the two co-chairs of the OC".



JOB ANNOUNCEMENT
FSMTC VA. NO. 01-17



DATE: January 04, 2017
POSITION TITLE: President/Chief Executive Officer
LOCATION: FSM Telecommunications Corporation (FSMTC) Headquarter, Kolonia, Pohnpei, Federated States of Micronesia.
COMPENSATION:
 • Salary: Depending on Qualification
 • Use of Assigned Company Vehicle
 • Medical and Life Insurance
 • Housing if recruited outside of the Federated States of Micronesia
 • Entitled to FSM Social Security retirement system, vacation leave, FSMTC Retirement Plan, Internet and other services at no charge as stipulated in the Company policies.

SUPERVISOR
 Reports to: FSMTC Board of Directors
JOB SUMMARY:
 Under the general direction of the FSMTC Board of Directors, the essential functions of the job of President/CEO are to lead, plan, coordinate, research, analyze, and implement development strategies with primary aims to improve and expand the productivity of the Corporation, within the context of its mandate to provide telecommunication connectivity for the people of the Federated States of Micronesia.

DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

- Oversee all operations and business activities to ensure they produce the desired results and are consistent with the overall strategy and mission.
- Lead the Corporation in setting strategy and direction, modeling and setting the Corporation's culture, values, and behavior.
- Motivate subordinates to advance employee engagement and develop a high performing team.
- Review financial and non-financial reports to devise solutions for improvements
- Analyze problematic situations and provide solutions to ensure the Corporation's survival and growth.
- Maintain a deep knowledge of the market, industry and customer community.
- Formulate policies and planning recommendations to the Board; decides or guides courses of action in operation by staff.
- Responsible for the coordination of Board's meetings and formulation of materials needed for Board meetings. Advises the Board.
- Ensures staff and Board have sufficient and up-to-date information. Interfaces between Board and employees and between the Corporation and community.
- Looks to future for change opportunities. Responsible for the implementation of strategic goals and objectives of the Corporation.

- Recommends yearly budget for Board approval and manages Corporation's resources within those budget guidelines according to current laws and regulations.
- Assures the Corporation and its mission, programs, products and services are consistently presented in strong positive image in the communities it serves.
- Performs other related duties as assigned by the Board of Directors.

KNOWLEDGE, SKILLS AND ABILITIES

- Knowledge of the country and company policies, procedures, and guidelines.
- Knowledge of the businesses and the telecommunications industry.
- Excellent communication and presentation skills.
- Ability to communicate effectively using verbal and written skills.
- Ability to maintain a high degree of confidentiality as necessary.
- Ability to prioritize and give direction for completion of tasks and projects.
- Skills in making digital presentations.
- Ability to work independently and be self-directed.
- Excellent skills in organization and time/priority management.
- Ability to manage time of self and others to accomplish goals.
- Ability to provide supervision and direction to subordinate employees.

QUALIFICATION REQUIREMENTS

At least, a Baccalaureate degree from an accredited college with 10 years of work experience in business administration, public administration, telecommunications or related field with 5 years in an executive post. Ability to work extended non-traditional hours is required.

APPLICATION PROCESS:

1. Detailed resume and employment application form. Employment application form can be obtained at the FSMTC website: [http:// www.fsmtc.fm](http://www.fsmtc.fm).
2. Two (2) reference letters or written statement on why the applicant should be chosen for this job.
3. Require to provide Police clearance from his/her respective country
4. Must be legally authorized for entry to FSM
5. Photo of Applicant
6. Copies of degree(s)
7. Selected applicants will be interviewed for this job by members of the FSMTC Board of Directors
8. Only short listed applicants will be contacted
9. Selected applicant will commence work late April, 2017



JOB ANNOUNCEMENT
FSMTC VA. NO. 02-17



DATE: January 04, 2017
POSITION TITLE: Executive Vice President/Chief Operation Officer
LOCATION: FSM Telecommunications Corporation (FSMTC) Headquarter, Kolonia, Pohnpei, Federated States of Micronesia.
COMPENSATION:
 • Salary: Depending on Qualification
 • Personal Use of Company Vehicle
 • Medical and Life Insurance
 • Housing if recruited outside of the Federated States of Micronesia
 • Entitled to FSM Social Security retirement system, vacation leave, FSMTC Retirement Plan, Internet and other services at no charge as stipulated in the Company policies.

SUPERVISOR
 Reports to: President/Chief Executive Officer
JOB SUMMARY:
 Supports the work of the company's chief executive officer focusing on the establishment and optimization of day-to-day operations in the company.

EXAMPLES OF DUTIES

- Advises the management team on key planning issues and make recommendations on important business decisions.
- Directs and participates in acquisition and growth activities to support overall business objectives and plans.
- Develop, establish, and direct execution of operating policies to support overall company policies and objectives.
- Strategic planning and resource allocation. Demonstrates successful execution of business strategies for company products and services.
- Establish operational processes/process improvement.
- Ensure quality control of all company output as pertains to customer acquisition and delivery of services. Participate in capital marketing development of the company.
- Ensure all department heads are fully informed of operational objectives.
- Set operational and / or performance goals for each department which are aggressive, achievable and tied to long-term goals.
- Develop, establish, and direct execution of operating policies to support overall company policies and objectives.
- Establish and monitor performance reporting systems.
- Monitor department performance against performance goals to ensure that progress is being made.
- Conduct regular meetings with department heads to ensure that priorities are clear and coordination

- is good.
- Ensure activities comply with organizational requirements for quality management, legal stipulations, and general duty of care.
- Facilitate resolution of issues between departments.
- Take charge in high-priority crises.
- Performs other related duties as assigned.

KNOWLEDGE, SKILLS AND ABILITIES

- Ability to lead, plan and manage change.
- Passion, or the willingness to become immersed in work.
- High-level interpersonal and oral communication skills, with demonstrated capacity to cooperate and communicate effectively with people at all level.
- High-level analytical and writing skills.
- Ability to work autonomously and under limited direction, to exercise sound judgment, take initiative and be flexible.
- Ability to generate respect and trust from employees and the public.
- Demonstrated organizational and administrative skills, ability in problem-solving, priority-setting and working on deadlines.
- Strong organizational skills
- Strong time management skills
- Strong negotiation skills
- The ability to set priorities

QUALIFICATION REQUIREMENTS

Any combination equivalent to graduation from a recognized college with a bachelor degree in business administration, public administration, or related field plus five (5) years of experience in office management or staff work.

APPLICATION PROCESS:

1. Detailed resume and employment application form. Employment application form can be obtained at the FSMTC website: [http:// www.fsmtc.fm](http://www.fsmtc.fm).
2. Two (2) reference letters or written statement on why the applicant should be chosen for this job.
3. Require to provide Police clearance from his/her respective country
4. Must be legally authorized for entry to FSM
5. Photo of Applicant
6. Copies of degree(s)
7. Selected applicants will be interviewed for this job by members of the FSMTC Board of Directors
8. Only short listed applicants will be contacted
9. Selected applicant will commence work late April, 2017

Send materials via certified U. S. Mail to:
 Mr. Ludickson D. Edward, Human Resources Manager
 FSM Telecommunications Corporation
 P. O. Box 1210
 Kolonia, Pohnpei FM 96941
OR Via E-mail to: ludick.edward@fsmtc.fm
Deadline for Applications: March 03, 2017

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Australia hosts “Australia Day” celebration in Pohnpei

By *Bill Jaynes*
The Kaselehlie Press

January 26, 2016

Pohnpei, FSM—The Australian Embassy hosted a reception at their housing compound to commemorate Australia Day, a commemoration of the arrival of the first fleet at Sydney Cove in 1788.

The ceremony began with a Pohnpeian sakau ceremony after which Second Secretary Eliza Woolcock welcomed the huge number of guests who had braved the weather to celebrate with the Australians.

Three girls from the Youth 4 Change choir delivered vocal performances of the Australian and FSM National Anthems.

Australia’s Ambassador George Fraser delivered the Australia Day address. In addition to being Australia’s Ambassador to the FSM, Palau, and RMI, Mr. Fraser is well read and an excellent writer.

He began his speech with a physical description of Australia as one of the “oldest and driest continents” in the world with comparable, though somewhat smaller size than the United States, Canada, or Brazil but with far fewer rivers. Australia’s comparatively small population of 24 million people tends to live where there is water in the coastal areas.

Though the Australia Day celebration commemorates what amounted to the beginning of European settlement of the continent beginning 229 years ago with the arrival of the first fleet, the Europeans were certainly not the first to arrive. Ambassador Fraser pointed out that the first settlers actually



Deputy Secretary Pretrick offers a toast to Australia and Queen with Ambassador Fraser



MC 2nd Secretary Eliza Woolcock



Sakau ceremony

arrived approximate 60,000 years ago at the dawn of mankind, “where they adapted to harsh conditions and thrived, and they developed over 250 language groups before European settlement. They now represent only 3% of our population.”

“Our greatest migrations however have come in recent centuries – Fujian Chinese in the gold-rush days; Afghan camel drivers with their animals; Japanese pearl workers; the shameful so-called ‘black-birding’ era which brought Pacific-Islanders to work on Queensland sugar fields; and the great human flows following the World Wars and regional conflicts,” he said.

“The road to our current multiculturalism has not always been a smooth one, but it has become a great success. Including the 16 or so indigenous languages still actively used, there are about 300 languages spoken today in our country...”

“You will often hear people on the (movie or television) screen or in real life say “fair go mate” as a protest against something that doesn’t appear equitable...The Australians you know are probably casual people but there are things they get serious about. We are concerned about injustice and inequity - at the government level and at

See “Australia Day” on next page

Improving Island Life



LYON

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richhebert@sagicuslaw.com
703- 951-3081 (Office)
703- 401-5814 (Cell)

...Australia Day

Continued from previous page

a deeply personal one. This is one of the reasons multiculturalism has succeeded – most Australians want to see their fellow citizens treated fairly, no matter what their origin...

“In this vein, may I mention also the wise words of His Excellency President Christian on your National Day last November when he emphasized the importance of national unity, albeit with community and cultural variety. This thinking is at the heart of Australia’s multiculturalism...

“We are truly a migrant country and many people were, and continue to be welcomed as refugees. Australia consistently ranks in the top-three countries for resettlement of refugees referred by UNHCR. We have accepted over 840,000 such refugees since 1947, however, resettlement remains a hope for many, but a reality for only a few. This is why Australia continues to provide generous amounts of flexible and multi-year humanitarian and longer-term development assistance in countries of origin and first asylum,” he said and thanked the humanitarian partners they have funded in the FSM, RMI, and the Republic of Palau.

“...We want our neighbors, in the region and elsewhere, to be secure, stable and prosperous; and we want to see a rules-based global order in commercial and political spheres. These goals are as much in Australia’s interests as for our neighbors,” he said.

Australia recently received a seat on the United Nations Security Council. For the first time it is also seeking a seat on the UN Human Rights Council. The Ambassador said Australia stands on its record of good international citizenship, particularly advancing the rights of women and girls; promoting good governance and stronger democratic institutions; promoting and protecting freedom of expression; advancing human rights for indigenous people around the world; and promoting strong human rights institutions and capacity building

As is his wont, Ambassador Fraser also used the opportunity of his speech to outline some of the scientific achievements of Australians. He said that while only half a percent of the world’s scientists are Australian, two percent of the world’s scientific developments have resulted from their work. He listed some of those surprising accomplishments, too numerous to mention in this short space.

“Australia sincerely values FSM’s cooperation in the many areas of common interest we share. I look forward to working with you to increase the breadth and depth of our countries relations over the coming year,” he said.

He then offered a toast to The President, government and people of the Federated States of Micronesia.

Deputy Secretary for the FSM Department of Foreign Affairs, Samson Pretrick spoke on behalf of the FSM. “We are grateful for the big role Australia plays in today’s society at the national, regional and international levels. You have not only accomplished so much in Australia and for Australians, but have reached out and touched so many lives in different parts of the world in education, security, human rights, volunteering and development. In our region, FSM very much recognizes and appreciates the assistance and efforts given to improve our communities at the grass-root level,” Pretrick said.

“...The friendship and goodwill between our two peoples underpin the shared political and economic relationship that we have, and I am convinced that by strengthening our people-to-people relationship, it will provide nourishment to our bilateral as well as multilateral relationship in very profound ways in the years to come.

“I would be remiss if I did not recognize the contributions that have been made by the government and the people of Australia on the ground (in the FSM) on a daily basis, such as the maritime surveillance advisors to the patrol boat program; to the FSM Transnational Crime Unit, and those who have generously volunteered their service to assist various



Ambassador George Fraser takes the cup



Youth 4 Change



US DCM Joanne Cummings



Australian "Yachties" Glen and Sue



Father Ken Urumolug

national and state entities under the Pacific Partnership for Development scheme,” he said.

He proposed a toast to the Queen and to the people of Australia.

Father Ken Urumolug presented a grace and blessing over the ceremony after which a buffet dinner replete with Australian meat pies and sausages was served.

There was to have been a demonstration of cricket and a women’s basketball game between FSM and Australians but the weather did not cooperate.



ANNUAL CONVENTION

AHMADIYYA MUSLIM COMMUNITY
FEDERATED STATES OF MICRONESIA



THEME OF THE EVENT

PEACE

LOVE & LOYALTY

Free Admission
Open to the Public
Lunch & Dinner will be served

Join us on Saturday 25th of February at our Mission Center in Kosrae for a day of Peace and Love. The Ahmadiyya Muslim Community is holding its historic 1st Annual Convention and inviting people of all religions and backgrounds to join together for a common goal of peace. The motto of Ahmadiyya Muslim Community is "Love for All, Hatred for None". We are Muslims for Peace. We are inviting people across Micronesia to join this program to help promote and spread peace and love in our communities.

Saturday 25 February 2017

P.O.Box 726
Kosrae, FM 96944
691-370-2222/691-970-8800
AhmadiyyaMicronesia@gmail.com

@Ahmadiyya Muslim Mission Center
Pilyuul, Malem
Kosrae

1 PM to 5 PM

Letter to the Editor

Former FSM President on Dual Citizenship act*My Fellow FSM Citizens:*

I write this Open Letter to you to share my deep concern about the proposed amendment to Section 3 of Article III of our national constitution. This current provision of our national constitution requires that an FSM citizen who is also a citizen of another country should "register his intent to remain a citizen" of our country, the Federated States of Micronesia, and "renounce his citizenship of another nation" within 3 years of his 18th birthday. In plain English, it means that a minor who holds a dual citizenship of Federated States of Micronesia and the United States, for example, because he or she was born in the United States to parents who are both FSM citizens or one was FSM citizen must register his or her intent to remain FSM citizen before he or she reaches 21 years old. If he or she fails to register as FSM citizen he or she will no longer be FSM citizen, but he or she will remain as a FSM national. A national is a person who remains in FSM, but does not have the right to run for public office and participate in state and national election.

This proposed amendment is being dressed up as a dual citizenship proposal, but is not. It deletes the citizenship provision in our national constitution, and leaves nothing in its place. Some members of our national congress tell us that the FSM Congress will enact a dual citizenship law later. The issue here is that the framers of our national constitution deemed citizenship as an important national issue that the FSM citizens must have national conversation and debate it before the voters approve or reject it in a national referendum. If our congress is given the power to enact a citizenship law, you as the member of the public and keeper of our national sovereignty will have no chance to debate and discuss the issue at all, given the current practice of almost no transparency our national congress. In essence, this proposed amendment is a disempowerment of the FSM public and voters to discuss, debate, and approve or reject any proposed amendment to the citizenship provision of our national constitution. To put it the other way, this proposed amendment is an empowerment of the FSM Congress and disempowerment of the FSM public and voters.

I think we should insist that any changes to the FSM citizenship provision in our national constitution must be approved in a national referendum because citizenship is linked directly to the

ownership of land in our country. I am sure that as citizens and voters, you want to review, discuss, and debate any impact of any proposed citizenship law on your land. Here our congress is asking all of us to hand them a blank check to fashion and craft a new citizenship dual citizenship law, not knowing its impact on landownership in our country.

Now let us focus on dual citizenship itself. I think our national congress has a total misunderstanding of dual citizenship in the United States. I know that we are trying to make ourselves eligible for dual citizens of the FSM and United States. For those of us who are born here in our country, it is impossible to get that dual citizenship we coveted. We need to apply for immigration visa to migrate to the United States. We will need to meet the US government immigration law requirements. Once we are in the United States, we must go through the US naturalization process, which required us to take the OATH OF US CITIZENSHIP and pledge of allegiance. The oath of US citizenship and Pledge of Allegiance to the United States read as follows:

"I hereby declare, on oath, that I absolutely and entirely renounce and abjure all allegiance and fidelity to any foreign prince, potentate, state, or sovereignty, of whom or which I have heretofore been a subject or citizen; that I will support and defend the Constitution and laws of the United States of America against all enemies, foreign and domestic; that I will bear true faith and allegiance to the same; that I will bear arms on behalf of the United States when required by the law; that I will perform noncombatant service in the Armed Forces of the United States when required by the law; that I will perform work of national importance under civilian direction when required by the law; and that I take this obligation freely, without any mental reservation or purpose of evasion; so help me God." (Emphasis mine)

As you can see, this oath of US citizenship and pledge of allegiance to United States required us to renounce our FSM citizenship. So we become US citizens and lost our FSM citizenship. We will never get dual citizenship for the FSM and US this way.

The FSM citizens who migrated to the United States under the Compact are

not eligible to apply for naturalization to become US citizens. (This Compact restriction does not apply to the Micronesian citizens in the United States armed forces.) If the FSM immigrants want to apply for naturalization to become US citizens, they must return to the Federated States of Micronesia and apply for US immigration visa and wait for their visas approval. I do not know how long it takes the United States to approve immigration visas. However, I do know that the United States does not look favorable upon economic refugees' request for immigration visas. But suppose you are lucky and you get a US immigration visa. When you migrate to the United States using your immigration visa and at some point you will take the required Oath of US citizenship and Allegiance to the United States. At his point, and as shown in the previous case, you will renounce your FSM citizenship to become US citizen. So again, you become US citizen and lost the FSM citizenship. This pathway to dual citizenship for the FSM and US is closed as it is in the previous scenario.

The people who will be benefitting from a FSM dual citizenship law vis-à-vis the United States are the children of FSM citizens who are born in the United States and the children of mixed-marriages between FSM citizens and United States citizens. For the former group, they become US citizens by virtue of being born in the United State (jus soli) pursuant to the 14th Amendment to the United States constitution. For the latter group, they will become US citizens because one parent is a citizen of the United States (jus sanguineness). So if our country allowed dual citizenship, then these people will retain their FSM citizenship as well as their US citizenship. All of my five grandchildren are in this group because they were born in the United States. Now, because none of them have reached 21 years of age, they are dual citizens of FSM and the United States. But before each of them reach the age of twenty-one, he or she will have to choose whether to renounce his or her FSM citizenship and retains the United States citizenship. If this happens, he or she will not be able to own any land or holds elective office in the FSM. From my perspective, it will be unfortunate but it is their life and it is their choice to make. If I am still alive, I will give it my blessing. My hope is that all of them will choose to renounce their US citizenship and remain FSM citizens.

I do not favor or advocate for dual citizenship for the FSM and the United States or other countries, for that matter. To me, the essence of our country, the national sovereignty and the continual development of nationalism, are paramount. I do not want to sacrifice the essence of our country for the sake of enabling my grandchildren to acquire dual citizenship. When they grow up, they will decide for themselves, and bear any consequences. The people in this group will be the only people who can acquire dual citizenship of FSM and the United States. The issues we need to address are: How many people in this group who will benefit from a proposed dual citizenship? Is it worth enacting a dual citizenship for these people and risk allowing foreigners who are able to acquire dual citizenship for FSM and their respective countries to own land in our country?

Our country's citizenship is linked directly to our national sovereignty. Sovereignty is the supreme authority of a country to enact its own laws regarding its population and national territory within its boundary without any interference from outside. Our national sovereignty rests upon three pillars (or posts). Each of these pillars must remain strong all the time. These three pillars are (1) the territory, (2) the government, and (3) the citizens of our country. Allowing dual citizenship will weaken the third pillar because these dual citizens would have divided loyalty to our country and their other country of citizenship. Should they be loyal to the FSM or to their other country of citizenship? Citizens with divided loyalty are not compatible to a strong and robust national sovereignty.

Today our country is still struggling to develop a full blown nationalism, a prerequisite for a robust national sovereignty. Nationalism is loyalty, patriotism, and devotion to one's own country. In essence, it is a sense of national consciousness exalting one's own country over all other countries. Nationalism is the main ingredient of our national sovereignty.

The development of nationalism in our country is still in its infancy, like a Micronesian baby rolling around in its small baby mat. If we allow dual citizenship, it will be one more barrier to our country's development of full nationalism and the achievement of a strong robust national sovereignty. Our national politicians treat our nation's political development like the weather. They talk about it, but they do nothing, absolutely nothing, to enhance

Letter to the Editor (Contd.)

its development. In fact, they do the opposite. They attempt to weaken our country's political development. This so-called dual citizenship amendment proposal is a example of contradictory political development that would weaken the essence of our country's national sovereignty.

In insisting to allow dual citizenship, our national congress has come perilous close to violating Section 3 of Article XIII of our national constitution. This section makes it a "solemn obligation of the national and state governments to uphold the provisions of this Constitution and to advance the principles of unity upon which this Constitution is founded." (emphasis mine) Of course, our congress can propose amendment to our national constitution at any time, but that amendment should not be harmful to the national essence of our country. This proposed dual citizenship amendment, if it can be called that, would be harmful to our national sovereignty and it is an impediment to the development of nationalism in our country.

I sometimes wonder what has happened to our congress. I spent four years of my life as member of the House of Representatives of the now-defunct Congress of Micronesia. I was elected to the first FSM Congress and served for eight years. I left at the beginning of the fifth FSM Congress to serve as the second president of our country. Our congress now is not recognizable to me anymore. The FSM Congress I knew was keen on pushing our nation's national agenda, such as the Compact negotiation, participation in the UN Law of the Sea Conference, and convening the Micronesian Constitutional Convention. It was not interested in giving itself an enormous budget. In fact the mantra in congress at that time was always trimming the congress budget. Before I left the congress, the salary for each senator was \$18,000 per annum, and the official expense allowance was \$3,000 per year. These figures are puny figures in comparison to the salaries and official allowances of our national senators today. Today, members of our congress received \$27,000 in salary each year and an obscenely enormous \$120,000 of official expense allowance per member per year. For the fourteen national senators alone, the amount of their official expense allowance is a whopping total of \$1,680,000.00 per year. For a poor country such as our, this amount is morally and ethically unjustified. It is a complete rip-off of our national treasury. It is a violation

of our congress members' fiduciary relationship with the FSM public. As members of our national congress, the senators are the trustees, and the guardians of our national treasury. They should safeguard our national treasury, not raiding it for their own benefit and for enhancement of their reelection.

Another despicable practice that members of our congress are engaging in is offering scholarship of their own under their own control. This practice is good for their reelection, but it violates the separation of power between the congress and the executive branch, a main doctrine of our national constitution. The FSM Supreme Court has ruled in *Udot v FSM Finance* that this kind of practice is violative of our national constitution. And yet, members of our congress continue to engage in this kind of activity without any legal consequences.

Unfortunately, our constitution does not prescribed any penalty for violation of its provision such as the separation of power and violation of public trust and ethic by members of our congress. However, as voters, you are not entirely helpless. The purpose of election is to evaluate the performance of your representatives in our national congress. On March 3rd of this year, you will have your chance to vote. If you disagree with what is happening in our congress and the direction it has led our country, by all means express your disagreement through your vote. Send them an unequivocal message that they never forget.

I want to conclude this open letter by saying that this so-called dual citizenship proposal is bad for our country. It has the potential of allowing foreigners, when they become dual citizens, to own land in our country. Furthermore, only a small group of people can acquire dual citizenship for FSM and the United States, the main purpose of this amendment effort.

The damage a dual citizenship amendment will do to our sovereignty and nationalism is incalculable because the impact can only be measured over time. However, I encourage you to consider what I have said in this open letter before you cast your vote on the so-called dual citizenship amendment proposal.

Thank you very much and I remain
Sincerely yours,
John R. Haglegam

Vietnamese "Blue Boats" caught fishing illegally in New Caledonia, PNG

HONOLULU, 25 JANUARY 2017 (HAWAII PUBLIC RADIO) --- French Naval forces caught three Vietnamese vessels fishing illegally in New Caledonia.

Four others were detained there two weeks ago and last month Papua New Guinea's Fisheries minister described the so-called Blue Boats as a threat to national security.

While the small wooden boats will take shark fins, clams and fish, their main target is sea cucumber, also known as *beche de mer*.

Almost all of catch will be dried and exported to China, Hong Kong, Taiwan and Japan to be consumed in soup alleged to act as an aphrodisiac.

In the past, fleets of these raiders have shown up in Palau, the Federated States of Micronesia and Australia, and lately, in PNG and New Caledonia. All seven of the vessels detained this month were intercepted on a reef off Belep in northern New Caledonia and

local media quoted a French Official, wondering how and where the small boats were refuelled to be able to stay at sea so long.

Palau and Indonesia often burn the boats of illegal fishermen.

But a fisheries advisor Francisco Blaha told Radio New Zealand that, while that looks great on television, it's not enough. Blaha said the key is to warn Hanoi to control its fishermen, or face stiff penalties on its seafood exports to Europe.

"That will definitely get their attention because they depend massively on exports to the European Union, he said.

James Movick, Director General of the Forum Fisheries Agency said its members will discuss how their systems to monitor tuna pirates on the open ocean might be applicable to the inshore fishing for Sea cucumbers at a meeting later this year.... PACNEWS

Muslims of Micronesia to host historic first Annual National Convention in Kosrae

The Ahmadiyya Muslim Community's first missionary appeared in Pohnpei in 1989 and today there are Ahmadi Muslims in Kosrae and Pohnpei. The Ahmadiyya Muslim Community professes the motto of "Love for All, Hatred for None". The Religious Imam and Minister of FSM, Mahmood Kauser said "News of Muslims involved in disturbances around the world has made people think that my religion is dangerous, that is why I wish to not only share but assure everyone that my religion of Islam is a religion of peace". To help educate people of all faiths, the Community holds annual conventions around the world in nearly every country that they are established. Since the Community is established currently in more than 209 Countries and nations, it was expected that this Annual Convention would one day also be held in Micronesia. Currently, Marshall Islands has had two such conventions and in the most recent Convention, the then US

Ambassador Tom Armbruster along with representation of the President of Marshalls was in attendance and they spoke about Freedom of Religion and highlighted the humanitarian contributions of the Ahmadiyya Muslim Community. There is also an International Annual Convention of the Ahmadiyya Muslim Community held every year in London, UK where representatives of more than 90 countries and a total attendance of nearly 40 thousand join in. This convention aims to share and spread the message of Peace to people of All religions and backgrounds with an announcement of free admission and open to all public. The "Jalsa Salana" (meaning Annual Convention) is being held in Malem, Kosrae on Saturday 25th of February. Guest speakers from Kiribati, Marshalls and Mainland USA are all expected to join the program and share their thoughts of how we can attain peace and love in society.

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February 18, 2017

Saturday, 3:00PM

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COMET 2017 Schedule

Pohnpei

Date	School
1/26/2017	OICHS
1/27/2017	CCA
1/27/2017	OLMCHS
1/27/2017	MHS
1/30/2017	NMHS
1/31/2017	SDA
2/1/2017	PICS
2/2/2017	PICS
2/3/2017	PICS
2/4/2017	PSC

Chuuk

Date	School
2/1/2017	SDA
2/1/2017	Pentecostal LHA
2/2/2017	BHS
2/3/2017	Faichuuk HS
2/3/2017	Southern NHS
2/3/2017	XHS
2/4/2017	COMFSM Chuuk Campus
2/6/2017	CHS
2/6/2017	SNHS-Tonoas
2/6/2017	Nukuno HS
2/7/2017	SCA

Kosrae

Date	School
1/30/2017	COMFSM Kosrae Campus
1/30/2017	KHS

Yap

Date	School
2/8/2017	YHS
2/9/2017	SDA
2/9/2017	FCA
2/9/2017	COMFSM Yap Campus
2/10/2017	YCHS
2/10/2017	OIHS (Ulithi)

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- Please bring a pen, #2 pencil, and a non-programmable calculator.
- Please have \$5 testing fee readily available.
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Mileage 96,000km Color Silver



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Mileage 93,000km Color White

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Tapping innovative technology solutions to improve the financial and environmental performance of FSM's longline tuna fishery



NORMA

The Federated States of Micronesia's (FSM's) National Oceanic and Resource Management Authority (NORMA) is partnering with Luen Thai Fishing Venture (LTFV) and The Nature Conservancy (TNC) to pilot an Electric Monitoring (EM) program that aims to fill data gaps needs in the monitoring of the nation's lucrative longline tuna fisheries. The five vessel FSM EM pilot is part of a broader regional pilot that includes Palau, the Republic of the Marshall Islands, the Solomon Islands, the Parties to the Nauru Agreement (PNA) Office and the Pacific Community (SPC).

Mr. Eugene Pangelinan, NORMA's CEO, noted that, "the partnership created as a result of this EM project represents a milestone for the parties involved. Using technology and innovation has always been a key component of our management efforts. Now with this partnership, we bring cutting-edge technology together with innovation from industry and NGOs that has the potential to change how we monitor and manage longline fishing in FSM and hopefully in all PNA waters."

Western and Central Pacific Ocean tuna fisheries are the largest in the world and the biggest single source of national revenue for many PNA members, a group of eight Pacific Island nations that collectively manage the majority of the region's tuna fisheries.

The region's longline fishery has suffered from chronically-low levels of human observer coverage levels aboard vessels—less than five percent in most nations--which creates a substantial challenge for monitoring the fleet fishing in FSM's waters. EM represents



a potential breakthrough opportunity to complement the region's human observer program and dramatically increase fleet and catch monitoring. EM taps high resolution cameras linked with synchronized and integrated GPS capabilities to continuously record and store all aspects of fishing operations. This will ultimately improve a multitude of areas including more accurate data on location and quantities of target and non-target catch and compliance with FSM laws and regulations as part of the agreed upon license provisions.

According to TNC's Steven Victor, "Improving data collection in FSM's longline tuna fisheries has the potential for wide-ranging impacts including improved fishery sustainability and enhanced financial returns through the reduction of illegal, unreported and unregulated fishing activities, which may cost the region as much as \$1.5 billion annually."



MCT and U Municipal Government visit Palau for a learning exchange



From January 17-22, 2017, Chief Minister Dahker Abraham and Speaker Estepan Primo of U Municipal Government joined William Kostka of the Micronesia Conservation Trust (MCT) on a learning exchange to Palau. The aim of the trip was twofold: 1) to learn about the conservation efforts in Palau, specifically about their coastal fisheries management efforts in the Northern Reefs (Kayangel and Ngarchelong) and their watershed management efforts in Babeldaob-Ngardmau; and 2) to learn about Palau's ecotourism efforts, as well as some of their ongoing challenges with the growing mass tourism in Palau. Because the visit coincided with the Inauguration of the newly elected administration, the visiting

team from U Municipal Government and MCT rep were able to attend the ceremonies. This allowed the team to meet with President Remengesau and other leaders from Palau and the region.

The reason behind this learning exchange is to assist U Municipal leaders and its communities finalize and begin implementing the municipality's own draft coastal fisheries management plan. A ceremony to adopt the plan is scheduled to take place later this month. The visit also gave the two U leaders a good sense of the types of eco-tourism activities that will be a good fit for the municipality. U Municipal leaders and other partners have begun the process

of developing an eco-tourism plan. Implementation of some of the priority eco-tourism activities will be supported by a grant from the Asian Development Bank (ADB) to the FSM/Pohnpei. Chief Minister Abraham and Speaker Primo were inspired by their visit and are also very thankful to The Nature Conservancy Palau Office and to other local partners and to the communities who generously hosted them.

Go Local Presents at CCA

On January 11, 2017 Island Food Community of Pohnpei (IFCP) staff held a workshop with the sixth graders and teacher Ms. Nancy Olter at Calvary Christian Academy (CCA). A power point presentation on the "GO LOCAL" and its CHEEF (Culture, Health, Environment, Economy, Food Security) benefits was conducted by Mrs. Emihner Johnson, Acting Executive Director of IFCP assisted by Ms. Neilynn Walter, IFCP Outreach Assistant.

After the "GO LOCAL" for CHEEF presentation, the students expressed their interest in learning how to plant local food crops by on their school ground. The additional activity will be later coordinated with CCA Principal on our planting food crop activity.

Also presented during the workshop was the MODFAT (Micronesia One Diet Fits All Today)-a guide to eating healthy locally available foods. These brochures were distributed to each of the 24 sixth graders to take home to their families. These brochures can be used as guideline for healthy eating.

IFCP would like to thank Calvary Christian Academy and Principal Jenny John for their cooperation and collaboration in the effort of spreading its "GO LOCAL" campaign.

We also would like to express our thanks to Senator Panuelo, Representative Esmond Moses, US DOI-TAP, Pohnpei State Government-DOH, FSM Dept. of Health for their funding support.

Go Local Campaign at Seventh Day Adventist School

By: Emihner L. Johnson, IFCP

Island Food Community of Pohnpei (IFCP) presents its "GO LOCAL" for CHEEF (Culture Health, Environment, Economy, Food Security) benefits at Seventh Day Adventist School (SDA) to the sixth and seventh graders on January 13, 2017. The presentation was presented by the Acting Director of IFCP, Ms Emihner Johnson 10am in the SDA Chapel to sixty four (64) 4th, 5th, and 6th graders.

The workshop started with a worship hymn by some of the students and an opening prayer by the SDA Principal. After the presentation, like the other IFCP visiting schools, there was a quiz on the "GO LOCAL" for CHEEF presentation. On the quiz activity, yellow and orange pencils with its "GO LOCAL" slogan are given to each student answering the questions correctly as incentives.

Another activity as part of this school visit is to distribute and educate on the MODFAT (Micronesia One Diet Fits All Today). These brochures were distributed to each student to take home. Explanation of the MODFAT was given by the Acting Director Johnson.

In his closing remark, Principal Edward told the students and staff that the message was a very important one that SDA will promote the "GO LOCAL" campaign by having a policy in place: Starting this week, the cafeteria will serve a Local Plate or lunch which consists of local food and fish once in a week. This is in addition to their

other healthy food policies that are already in place including, NO SODA, NO RAMEN, NO KOKO, NO WHITE BREAD, NO CHICKEN.

Ripe local bananas were served as healthy snacks provide by IFCP to the students as they exit the Chapel.

IFCP expressed their appreciation and thank deeply the SDA school and Principal for his passion and commitment to our "GO LOCAL" outreach program.

GO LOCAL PRESENTATION AT POHNPEI SAINT PAUL CHRISTIAN SCHOOL

On January 16, 2017, IFCP also presents its "GO LOCAL" for CHEEF (Culture Health, Environment, Economy, Food Security) benefits to the sixth and seventh graders of Pohnpei Saint Paul Christian School (PSPCS) in their classroom. The awareness team from IFCP consists of its Acting Executive Director and its Outreach Assistant, Ms. Neilynn Walter.

All the Activities of MODFAT training and distribution of brochures and quiz on the "GO LOCAL" presentation and quiz were conducted at PSPCS.

IFCP would like to thank the PSPCS for their cooperation and support on the GO LOCAL awareness. Special acknowledgement of thanks to Senator David Panuelo, US DOI-TAP, Dept of Health and Social Affairs, PNI State and National Government for Funding Assistance.

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2017/2018 Chinese Government Scholarship is now open for application. The scholarship offers undergraduate, master, doctoral, general scholar and senior scholar programs.

The Embassy of People's Republic of China in the FSM welcomes eligible FSM high school graduates, bachelor's degree holders, master's degree holders to apply online. Step 1, log on to www.csc.edu.cn/laihua or www.campuschina.org and fill in the application form. Your "Agency Number" is 5831. Step 2, download the completed form and print two hard copies. Then submit the hard copies and other corresponding application documents to the Chinese Embassy no later than April 16th, 2017.

For more details and inquiries, please consult the Chinese Embassy or refer to www.csc.edu.cn/laihua.

Contact person: Mr. SONG/Deqin Tel: 320-5575 E-mail: chinaemb_fm@mfa.gov.cn

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