

(FALCAM ADDRESSED PONAPE LEGISLATURE) 1975

File

PONAPE, MAY 12 (MNS)---THE CONTRAVERSIAL BILL TO ESTABLISH THE SALARY OF THE MEMBERS OF THE PONAPE DISTRICT LEGISLATURE BECAME LAW SUNDAY WITHOUT DISTRICT ADMINISTRATOR LEO A. FALCAM'S SIGNATURE, ACCORDING TO FRANCIS SIMEON, PROGRAM DIRECTOR OF WSZD RADIO STATION ON PONAPE.

THE BILL, WHICH HAS THE HISTORY OF A VETO, WAS TRANSMITTED TO FALCAM'S OFFICE DURING THE EARLY DAYS OF THE REGULAR 50-DAY SESSION. IN AN ADDRESS WEDNESDAY (MAY 7) TO THE LEGISLATURE, FALCAM SAID THAT NO OTHER SINGLE SUBJECT IN PONAPE DISTRICT HAS EVER ATTRACTED MUCH ATTENTION IN TWO YEARS THAN THE SALARY BILL FOR THE LEGISLATORS. HE SAID, HOWEVER, THAT SOME POINTS OF CONCERN EXPRESSED BY THE ADMINISTRATION ON THE BILL HAD NOT CHANGED.

"IT SEEMED UNUSUAL THAT THE ENTERTAINMENT FUNDS ARE AVAILABLE TO INDIVIDUAL MEMBERS AS WELL AS THE LEGISLATURE AS A WHOLE," FALCAM POINTED OUT. "I STILL DO NOT AGREE WITH THE SALARY LEVEL OUTLINED IN THE BILL."

CONCERNING THE FUTURE POLITICAL STATUS ISSUE, THE DISTRICT ADMINISTRATOR SAID THAT THE COMMISSION ON FUTURE STATUS CREATED BY THE LEGISLATURE NEEDS MORE MONEY. THE LEGISLATURE HAS AUTHORIZED \$10,000 FOR THE COMMISSION. FALCAM SAID THAT THE COMMISSION NEEDS ABOUT \$32,000 TO COMPLETE ITS WORK.

EXPRESSING HIS FEAR OF THE UNSTABLE FUTURE, FALCAM SAID HE FEARS A TIME WHEN IT WILL BE NECESSARY TO REDUCE THE SCOPE OF SOME PROGRAMS AND THUS RELEASE EMPLOYEES WHO WILL NO LONGER BE ABLE TO BE ON THE PAYROLL. HE SAID THAT SUCH PROGRAMS AS THE SCHOLARSHIP, AID TO NON-PUBLIC SCHOOLS, AND THE GRANT IN AID PROGRAM FACE POSSIBLE AND DRASTIC REDUCTION OR TOTAL ELIMINATION BECAUSE OF LACK OF FUNDS. "WE MUST FIND SOURCES OF REVENUE LOCALLY AND SET ASIDE FUNDS TO REPLACE THE DIMINISHED GRANTS FROM U.S. GOVERNMENT," FALCAM POINTED OUT. HE CALLED ON THE LEGISLATURE TO BE PREPARED TO FUND THESE PROGRAMS AND TO BEAR SOME OF COSTS IN RUNNING THEM.

THE PONAPE TRANSPORTATION AUTHORITY CREATED BY THE LEGISLATURE TO CONSTRUCT ROADS, DOCKS, CHANNELS AND TRANSPORTATION FACILITIES RECEIVED \$90,000. ACCORDING TO FALCAM, THERE ARE NO FUNDS ALLOCATED FOR PARTS, SUPPLIES, OFFICE EXPENSES OR ADMINISTRATIVE SALARIES. "THE CIVIC ACTION TEAM TRAINEE PROGRAM IS DESIGNED SO THAT \$1,000 REPRESENTS ONE TRAINEE FOR ONE YEAR. WE ASKED FOR \$20,000. WE APPRECIATED THE \$8,000 YOU AUTHORIZED," FALCAM SAID.

STRESSING TOURISM AS AN EXPANDING INDUSTRY IN PONAPE DISTRICT, THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE URGED THE LEGISLATURE TO RECONSIDER FAVORABLY THE \$21,000 REQUESTED. THE ADMINISTRATION RECEIVED \$14,000.

REGARDING AGRICULTURE DEVELOPMENT, THE PONAPE DISTRICT ADMINISTRATOR INDICATED THAT THE FARMERS TRAINING PROGRAM WILL NOT BE MATERIALIZE AT PRESENT BECAUSE THE \$32,000 PROPOSED BY THE ADMINISTRATION TO FACILITATE THE PROGRAM DID NOT PASS.

THOUGH THE LEGISLATURE DID NOT ACT ON THE ADMINISTRATION PROPOSAL FOR AN ESTABLISHMENT OF A PEPPER PLANTATION IN PONAPE DISTRICT, FALCAM EXPRESSED TRUST THAT THE LEGISLATURE WILL CONSIDER FUNDING SUCH PROJECT IN THE FUTURE. FURTHERMORE, FALCAM EXPRESSED HOPE THAT THE FUNDS SET ASIDE FOR SPECIAL ELECTIONS WILL BE RE-ALLOCATED TO CONDUCT THE GENERAL ELECTION LATER THIS YEAR.

14293

(KOROR-BABELTHUAP BRIDGE CONSTRUCTION BEGINS)

KOROR, MAY 12 (MNS)---GROUND BREAKING CEREMONIES FOR THE CONSTRUCTION OF THE KOROR-BABELTHUAP BRIDGE WERE HELD LAST WEEK, ACCORDING TO DAVID NGIRMIDOL, PALAU PUBLIC INFORMATION OFFICER.

THE GROUND BREAKING CEREMONY DREW A NUMBER OF DIGNITARIES AND GUESTS FROM SAIPAN AND GUAM AS WELL AS LOCAL LEADERS. HIGH COMMISSIONER EDWARD E. JOHNSTON, THE PRESIDENT OF THE SOCIO CONSTRUCTION COMPANY, B.W. CHUNG AND K. PARK, REPRESENTING THE KOREAN CONSUL ON GUAM AND ITEBANG LUII, SPEAKER OF THE PALAU LEGISLATURE WERE ON HAND TO WITNESS THE OCCASION.

"SEVERAL YEARS AGO," HIGH COMMISSIONER JOHNSTON SAID, "I BECAME FIRMLY CONVINCED THAT THIS BRIDGE IS THE NUMBER ONE PRIORITY TO AND IN THE MINDS OF THE PEOPLE OF PALAU." HE WENT ON TO SAY THAT BECAUSE OF THE EFFORT AND HELP FROM PALAU'S LOCAL LEADER, "WE WERE ABLE TO CONVINCCE THE MEMBERS OF THE U.S. CONGRESS TO PROVIDE FUNDS TO BUILD THIS BRIDGE." HE PRAISED THE SOCIO CONSTRUCTION COMPANY, THE CONTRACTOR FOR THE \$5.2 MILLION JOB, FOR THEIR TREMENDOUS ORGANIZATION IN STARTING THE PROJECT.

B.W. CHUNG, THE PRESIDENT OF SOCIO CONSTRUCTION COMPANY ASSURED THE PEOPLE OF PALAU THAT THE BRIDGE WILL BE COMPLETED BY MARCH 1977.

SPEAKER ITEBANG LUII SPOKE AND GIVE A SHORT HISTORY OF THE BRIDGE IN WHICH THE LEADERS OF PALAU AND THE HIGH COMMISSIONER HAD GONE THROUGH LOTS OF DIFFICULTIES SECURING FUNDS FOR THE PROJECT.

LUNCH WAS HELD AT ONE OF THE ROCK ISLANDS FOLLOWED BY A RECEPTION HOSTED BY THE SOCIO CONSTRUCTION COMPANY AT THE CONTINENTAL HOTEL.

ALSO ON HAND TO WITNESS THE GROUND BREAKING CEREMONY WERE: ALL CHIEFS AND ELECTED MEMBERS OF THE PALAU LEGISLATURE, MEMBERS OF THE PALAU DELEGATION TO THE CONGRESS OF MICRONESIA, THE MAYOR AND MAGISTRATE OF KOROR AND AIRAI MUNICIPALITIES, DEPARTMENT AND ACTIVITY HEADS AND HUNDREDS OF INTERESTED PEOPLE.

(TNETUHL OPPOSES REFERENDUM)

KOROR, MAY 12 (MNS)---A RESOLUTION URGING THE PEOPLE OF PALAU NOT TO VOTE IN THE FORTHCOMING TRUST TERRITORY-WIDE REFERENDUM WAS INTRODUCED FRIDAY (MAY 9), AT THE CURRENT SESSION OF THE PALAU DISTRICT LEGISLATURE, ACCORDING TO PUBLIC INFORMATION OFFICER DAVID NGIRMIDOL.

THE RESOLUTION'S AUTHOR IS JUAN POLLOI, REPRESENTING UONG-RU-YOS, CHIEF OF NGIHAL MUNICIPALITY AND A BROTHER-IN-LAW OF SENATOR ROMAN TNETUHL.

PRIOR TO THE INTRODUCTION OF THE RESOLUTION, SENATOR TNETUHL ADDRESSED THE PALAU LEGISLATURE WHERE HE EXPRESSED HIS CONCERN SAYING THAT THE REFERENDUM IS SOMEWHAT PREMATURE. "IF I WERE THE SUPREME LEADER OF THE PEOPLE OF PALAU," TNETUHL SAID, "I WOULD ASK ALL OF THE PEOPLE OF PALAU NOT TO VOTE IN THE REFERENDUM."

SEVERAL BILLS PASSED BY THE LEGISLATURE HAVE BEEN ENACTED INTO LAW BY DEPUTY DISTRICT ADMINISTRATOR HAPUG PEMELIIK, NGIRMIDOL STATED. ONE OF THEM IS TO AMEND DISTRICT LAW 3-3-3

ONE OF THE MAJOR PIECES OF LEGISLATION STILL TO BE CONSIDERED IS A BILL TO CREATE LEGAL ENTITY TO RECEIVE THE RETURN OF PUBLIC LANDS. THE BILL IS STILL IN THE JUDICIARY AND GOVERNMENTAL AFFAIRS COMMITTEE CHAIRED BY LEGISLATOR PUNIC PENGIL. TO INCLUDE A REPRESENTATIVE FROM THE COMMUNITY ACTION AGENCY

14294

IN THE PALAU COMMISSION ON YOUTH. THE OTHER APPROPRIATES \$500 FOR THE EXPENSES OF THE 1975 PALAU SCHOOL FAIR.

(CHUCK SINGLETARY RETIRES)

MAJUPO, MAY 12 (MNS)---CHARLES "CHUCK" SINGLETARY, SUPERVISOR BROADCAST TECHNICIAN, RETIRED FROM THE TRUST TERRITORY GOVERNMENT THIS WEEK AFTER SERVING FOR ALMOST 15 YEARS.

SINGLETARY CAME TO THE TT IN DECEMBER, 1960 AND WAS ASSIGNED TO THE COMMUNICATIONS DEPARTMENT AT TRUK AS A FIELD COMMUNICATIONS OFFICER. THIS ASSIGNMENT WAS LATER CHANGED TO COMMUNICATION ELECTRONICS OFFICER WHEN THE DEPARTMENT WAS REORGANIZED IN LATE 1962. HE WAS TRANSFERRED TO SAIPAN IN THE SAME POSITION IN 1963 AND GIVEN THE RESPONSIBILITY OF DESIGNING AND BUILDING THE KAGMAN RELAY/CONTROL STATION.

IN 1966 HE WAS REASSIGNED, THIS TIME TO THE MARSHALL ISLANDS DISTRICT AS THE SUPERVISORY ELECTRONICS MAINTENANCE TECHNICIAN, A POSITION HE HELD UNTIL NOVEMBER 1969 WHEN HE WAS TRANSFERRED TO THE BROADCAST DIVISION OF THE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC AFFAIRS AS THE SUPERVISORY BROADCAST TECHNICIAN.

SINGLETARY HELPED IN THE INSTALLATION OF THE TT'S SIX BROADCAST STATIONS IN HIS CAPACITY AS A SUPERVISORY TECHNICIAN, BEGINNING WITH THE INSTALLATION OF WSZB RADIO IN PALAU IN 1961.

DURING ITS RECENTLY CONCLUDED REGULAR SESSION, THE MARSHALL ISLANDS NITIJELA (LEGISLATURE) ADOPTED A RESOLUTION EXTENDING APPRECIATION TO CHARLES SINGLETARY AND CONFERRING UPON HIM THE TITLE OF HONORARY MARSHALLESE.

SINGLETARY, WHOSE RETIREMENT WILL BE EFFECTIVE MAY 30TH, IS MARRIED TO THE FORMER WAKAYO TAUUFA OF KAUAI AND THEY HAVE THREE CHILDREN. THEY PLAN TO MAKE THEIR HOME IN HAWAII SOON.

COMMENTING ON THE RETIREMENT OF SINGLETARY, TT DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC AFFAIRS STRIK MOUA STATED THAT SINGLETARY HAS MADE THE GREATEST SINGLE CONTRIBUTION IN THE TECHNICAL ASPECTS OF THE INAUGURATION OF RADIO BROADCASTING IN MICRONESIA.

CONSTRUCTION OF RADIO BROADCASTING FACILITIES WAS INITIALLY FUNDED BY THE VARIOUS LEGISLATIVE BODIES AND THE ADMINISTRATION, AN EXCELLENT EXAMPLE OF WHAT CAN BE ACHIEVED BY JOINT EFFORTS ON THE PART OF THE EXECUTIVE AND LEGISLATIVE BRANCHES. SINGLETARY WAS ASSOCIATED WITH AND INVOLVED IN MANY OF THESE EARLY JOINT VENTURES, YOMA SAID.