

Inside the

OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT

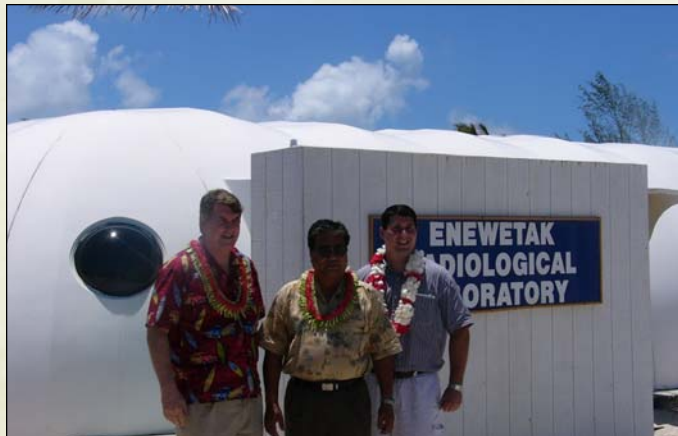
Republic of the Marshall Islands

A C C O U N T A B I L I T Y : T R A N S P A R E N C Y :
G O O D G O V E R N A N C E : S E R V I C E A B I L I T Y

“These are difficult and complex matters, but I firmly believe that the U.S. Government will recognize the need to address them in a fair and just manner.”

Kessai H. Note

ENEWETAK AND BIKINI VISIT



President Note middle with DOE Official in Enewetak...June 16, 2005 (Photo Courtesy of Japan Foreign Office in Majuro)

President Kessai H. Note made a visit with U.S. Department of Energy officials to Enewetak and Bikini last week. While in Enewetak, the delegation met with the community, along with Enewetak Senator Ishmael John and the Ministers of Foreign Affairs and Transportation and Communications.

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The famous “crater” in Bikini where the Bravo shot was detonated on March 1, 1954.....June 16, 2005 (Photo Courtesy of Japan Foreign Office in Majuro)

SILK: "THIS IS NOT SOMETHING NEW"



R&D Minister John M. Silk

Resources and Development Minister John M. Silk delivered the keynote address during the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) Rural Development Program's ceremony last week Thursday in Majuro.

"Today, we are here to launch a new program called the "Self-Help Housing Program," said Silk. "This program is unique in that it requires the borrowers to help each other in the actual construction of their homes. In other words, you borrow the funds; build your own home with the help of other participants in the program, and without contracting out the work."

In return of the program, the USDA pays for a supervisor to over-see the construction and to give advice to the home owners and builders. "This is not something new," Silk added. "In fact, it reinforces the concept of 'kumit' or 'dri-jo-im ukoj' or joint together for a common purpose."

The program, which began in 1990 has assisted 1,835 families to repair and improve their homes and has provided over 10 million dollars in grants and loans. The RMI also received over 2 million dollars and more than 400 thousand dollars in grants from the Housing Preservation Program.

Currently, the program has expanded to Ebeye, Ailinglaplap, Namdrik, Ebon, Jaluit, Likiep, Wotje, Mejit and Ailuk. During typhoon Gay, the program assisted residents of Maloelap, Aur, Wotho and Enewetak. It has given out loans to 86 fami-

lies in the amount of \$887,340 and grants to 86 more families

The Minister took the opportunity to thank "the Government and people of the United States and their generosity and the USDA, Rural Development Program and its officials" for the "support and kind understanding."

"A lot of Marshallese people are now living in decent and safe homes because of you and the program," said Silk of Amon Tibon of Marshall Islands Development Bank and and Zed Zedhkeia of Rural Development. He added that Tibon and Zedhkeia's "can do attitude" contributed to the success of the program.

Marshall Islands' President Kessai H. Note was the first program manager prior to becoming a member of the First Constitutional Nitijela (Parliament) in 1979.

BUSINESS OPPORTUNITIES



President Note and President's Assistant Chris deBrum with Ambassador Morris and U.S. Interior officials...June 20, 2005

President Kessai H. Note was vis-

ited earlier during the week by U.S. Ambassador to the RMI Greta Morris and Interior Department (DOI) officials.

The visit was to inform the President that the DOI is looking at the RMI for a possible trade visit by potential U.S. investors looking for partnership with local businesses.

The President said that there are opportunities that the local Chamber of Commerce would want to look into.

President Note also added that the RMI's marine resources is something that U.S. investors may want to explore.

The officials were met with the Chamber of Commerce after their meeting with the President.

PRESIDENT VISITS ENEWETAK AND BIKINI



A sign welcoming visitors to Bikini, where the Bravo shot was detonated on March 1, 1954

President Note and First Lady Mary Note, along with Foreign Affairs Minister Gerald M. Zackios, Transportation and Communications Minister Michael Konelios, Bikini Senator Tomaki Juda and RMI Ambassador to the U.S. Banny deBrum joined U.S. Department of Energy Officials and the U.S. Ambassador to the RMI to Bikini. The group spent a night in Bikini after a day visit to Enewetak where they met with the local community.

The group arrived back on Majuro last week Friday.

The DOE Officials also visited Utrik and Rongelap Atolls.

New Zealand Air Force Supports RMI Patrol Boat Lomor

For the second time within 4 weeks, the Royal New Zealand Air Force has landed at the Amata Kabua International Airport. Before arriving and departing from their very brief visit to RMI, the New Zealand P3 Orion Maritime Surveillance Aircraft has undertaken extensive surveillance within RMI's Economic Exclusion Zone.

In support of the visiting aircraft, the RMIS LOMOR has been at sea, supporting the aircraft and reacting to any intelligence passed. Both LOMOR's and the aircrafts primary goals are to detect any illegal Fishing Vessels that are operating within RMI's EEZ. They are also patrolling for any other illegal activities such as people smuggling, drug running, environmental pollution and enforcing fishing licensing requirements.

So far this year RMI has been supported by Maritime Patrol Aircraft within the Operation Big Eye auspices as well as the two New Zealand Patrols. It has also planned for a P3 Orion from the Royal Australian Air Force to visit Majuro in the upcoming months.

President Receives South Korean City Official



President Note with Senator Norman Matthew and South Korean official Ei Ho Kim...July 20, 2005

President Kessai H. Note received Tong-Young City's Policy Development Advisory Committee Chairman Ei Ho Kim along with Aur Senator Norman Matthew on Monday in the Cabinet Conference Room.

Tong-Young City, one of the largest ship fishing and building city in South Korea, met with Government officials and the President to seek RMI's support in creating a closer partnership between the RMI and Tong-Young City.

By establishing a closer working relations between the RMI and Tong-Young City. The two would share ideas and cultural experiences in their economic developments.

A LOOK INSIDE THE OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT

UPCOMING EVENTS

- Thu. June 30: Cabinet Meeting
- Fri. July 1: National Holiday (Fishermen’s Day)
- Fri. July 8: World Expo (Japan)
- July 11-12: Pacific Islands Forum Core Group meeting in New Zealand
- Tue. July 19: Senate Hearing on the CCP
- July 21-24: Micronesian Presidents’ Summit (Palau)
- Sun. July 24: Mini South Pacific Games opening in Palau
- Mon. Aug 1: Marshall Islands Mayors’ Association Meeting begins
- Mon. Aug 8: 2005 2nd Session of Nitijela Opens
- September 14-16 High Level Summit (N.Y.)
- Thu. Sept 15: President to address Summit during the afternoon session
- September 17-28: UNGA General Debate

NOTE: *If you wish to make an appointment with the President or Ministers, please feel free to contact the offices at the numbers and email provided below. Otherwise, feel free to contact individual Ministers in their respective offices.*

INSIDE THE OFFICE OF
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