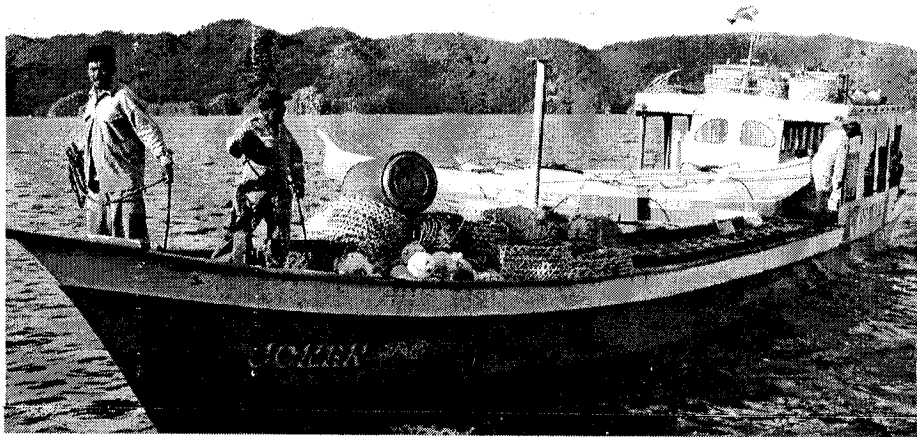


# Illegal fishers nabbed in Tobi

ANOTHER group of foreign fishermen who entered and fished in Palau waters unlawfully was caught by officers of the Marine Law Enforcement Division about 100 yards from Tobi Island on Sunday, April 13, 2003.

The *F/B JC Man*, an unlicensed carrier vessel, had on board approximately 1,000 pounds of fresh fish when apprehended. The law enforcers aboard the *PSS President H.I. Remeliik* detained the erring fishing vessel and escorted it to Koror, arriving on Wednesday, April 16. On the same day, the Attorney General's Office charged the vessel, its captain, and engineer with illegal entry into the country and illegal fishing in its waters. The court granted the government's request to have the fish sold as soon as possible.

The *F/B JC Man* was apprehended during Operation Bigeye III, a joint surveillance operation with the Federated States of Micronesia. Justice Minister



*The foreign fishing boat F/B JC Man (above), which entered and fished illegally in Palau waters, was apprehended by authorities in Tobi Island last Sunday, April 13, with some 1,000 pounds of freshly-caught fish aboard.*

Contributed photo

commended the officers of the *Remeliik* for carrying their duty responsibly from apprehension to the filing of charges.#