

Welcome to the first issue of 03 and 131. 03 and 131 is the approximate geographic location of the capital of Hatohebei State in the Republic of Palau.

Our first issue is dedicated to the memory of our late friend, Otong Emilio.

03 and 131 will be distributed monthly for "Friends of Tobi and Helen Reef"

If you have anything you feel should be included please let us know.

HEADLINES

The new state government was installed in July, in an afternoon ceremony in Koror.

Newly elected officials include Crispin Emilio, Governor; Sebastian Marino, Lt. Governor, and Steven Patris, Speaker of the House of Deligates.

The new state government is current working on the master plan, a 20 year economic development plan in coordination with all insular areas, the national government and the US Dept. of Interior. State leaders have given high priority to a request for technical assistance to construct an airstrip in Tobi.

The terrestrial survey by Greenpeace Int. recommends very strongly that Helen Reef should be turned into a sanctuary area for the preservation of land species including green sea turtle. This has long been a consideration of many Tobians. The survey also recommends pulling all personel off Helen Reef immediately and stationing two law enforcement officers there. This will happen in the form of two Tobians currently in training with the national police. This idea was already in motion before the recommendations by Greenpeace Int..

A 100 ft. fishing vessel ran aground in Helen last month in a very unusual marine accident. the ship ran aground, probably because of glare, on the southern tip of the reef. The unusually low and high tides caused it to ground at such an angle that the stern filled with water on the incoming tide. The vessel then sank in about 300 ft. of water.

The US Coast Guard participated in one flyover but further efforts to utilize the Coast Guard have been delayed because of the Typhoon which hit Guam the same day.

All the crew were immediately evacuated to a sister ship and fled the area. As it stands now, the ship will probably be untraceable. At least one green sea turtle is reported to have reached the beach and dyed from possible ingestion of oil soaked seaweed.

INDONESIANS REPORT THEY HAVE BEEN WARNED not to return from Helen reef. Several groups coming ashore say that Indonesian maritime patrol will arrest them if they are returning from Helen. The groups say they dodge this by telling the local police that they are returning from Mapia instead.

This action is probably due to the efforts of the Tobi governor and US Dept. of State in bringing the problem to the attention of the Indonesian government.

WEATHER REPORT

-exceptionally calm seas in Tobi and Helen
-very dry in Helen Reef with drinking water situation reaching the critical stage
-maximum temperature of 87°

03 and 131 is written for "Friends of Tobi and Helen Reef" Our address is P.O. Box 1017 Koror, Palau. This publication is non-political in nature and the writers are responsible for its content.

BRIEFS

Mike Matthews is currently working in Koror in the area of technical planning after spending 4 months on Helen Reef. Information regarding resources can be directed to him in care of State Office.

Maximo Marcello will be attending the National Police Academy in Koror in preperation for assignment in Helen Reef.

Organization of Adult Education Classes is going on this month. GED classes will be offered first and all those wishing to attend must apply through Community Organizer.

TRIP SCHEDULE

Sept. 19, Santassima Trinidad departs for all islands. (Confirmed)

Sept. 29 Gibbons II departs for all islands. (PCAA and Public Health) (Tentative)