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# This Quarter's Worth

## Micronesian Neighbors

The tiny independent Micronesian island Republic of Nauru receives special attention in this issue of the *Reporter*. Nauru's physical size belies its importance to its northern Micronesian neighbors, and for this reason we feel that it is time to become acquainted with her peoples and their plans for the future. Those plans are based on an aggressive economic investment policy centering around Nauru's central Pacific location (transportation services) and the continuing harvest of natural marine phosphates providing ready capital for economic expansion on a grander scale than the island's own physical limitations will allow.

The articles which appear here, beginning on page 9, would not have been possible without the personal cooperation of Nauru's President, His Excellency Hammer DeRoburt, and of his government staff. For this cooperation we are grateful.

## Contrasts

Father Francis X. Hezel's article on the introduction of Truk to the western world in the 19th century stands in stark contrast to the photographic impressions on the several pages which follow it. On the one hand, a description of the seemingly irreversible beginnings of exposure of the Trukese to people, things and ideas of another world. On the other hand, pictures of people of the outer islands of the Carolines which appear to have remained unchanged from those early

days. But the evidence of change is there: rubber swim fins in one picture, school books in another, the steel machete in a third.

But it is somehow comforting to know that in spite of the changes, island life maintains a stability often lacking in more mobile societies. The photos from Puluwat and Pikelot were taken before and during a long canoe voyage from Puluwat to Guam in the Marianas. The voyage was carried out for the express purpose of teaching a young man of Puluwat how to navigate the canoe over long distances.

## Silver Jubilee

Father Hugh Costigan, the founder of Ponape Agriculture and Trade School, often tells the story of his decision to enter the priesthood. "I was growing up in the depression," he says. "And I looked around the neighborhood, and saw that the fattest guy on the block was the priest. That's when I decided, 'I'm gonna be one of them.'"

Apocryphal or not, Fr. Costigan's calling has led him to spend the last twenty-five years in Micronesia. The Congress of Micronesia conferred honorary Trust Territory citizenship on him at its Palau session this year; and friends gathered on Ponape in December to honor him at a Silver Jubilee celebration. The *Reporter* this quarter reprints excerpts from a booklet prepared for the occasion as Fr. Costigan reminisces about the lean years for PATS in the beginning and talks of the relatively less lean years which appear to lie ahead. —*J.M.*

# Who's Who

... in this issue of the *Reporter*

**Jon A. Anderson** was traveling for the Public Information Division again this quarter, this time to Nauru. How to get there, what there is to do when you arrive, and what the future holds for this unique island Republic are the subjects for our cover story and the *Reporter's* On The Go feature.

**Francisco M. Diaz** heads the Marianas Tourist Commission, an increasingly active policy and promotion board created by the Marianas District Legislature a few years ago. Information gathered by PIO staffer **Guadalupe C. Borja** in brief interviews with Japanese tourists on Saipan supplements Frank's analysis of the visitor industry's problems and potentials.

**Francis X. Hezel, S.J.**, last wrote for the *Reporter* in early 1971, discussing the Spanish Capuchin activities in the Carolines. A social studies teacher at Truk's Xavier High School, Father Hezel has co-authored two Micronesian social studies texts for use in secondary schools.

**Carlos Viti** is a former Peace Corps Volunteer now working as a photographer for the Department of Education. The Department's photo resources library has grown immensely since Carlos began collecting material several months ago.

# *Outer Islands – Impressions*

*A photo album by Carlos Viti*



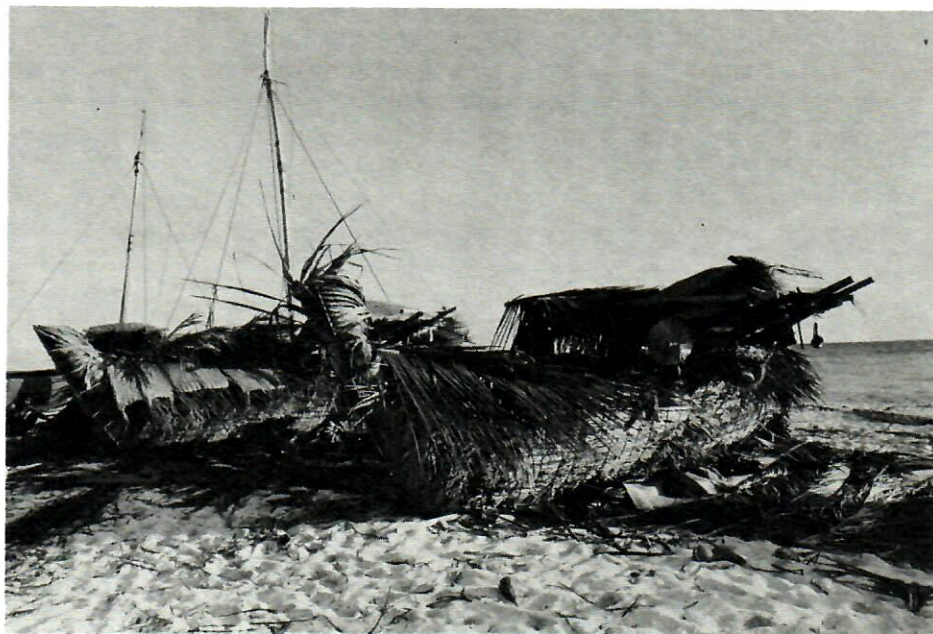


*Ikuliman, considered by some to be the greatest living navigator and canoe builder on Puluwat. The canoe behind him is "Santiago;" Ikuliman built it and has sailed it to Guam. Below, a Puluwat canoe sails out the pass on a fishing trip. Opposite page, pushing a canoe from its shed into the water.*





*Canoes from Puluwat and Satawal which were sailed to Pike-lot. The covering of coconut palm fronds lashed to the canoes protects their breadfruit hulls from the sun, preventing cracks.*





*Above, Puluwat girls, dressed up in their best lava lavas and tortoise shell belts. At left, a Puluwat woman weaves a man's thu, or loincloth, with natural fibers and store-bought thread.*



*Puluwat school boys and a young girl.*







*Pikelot is an uninhabited turtle island northwest of Puluwat. Canoes on a voyage from Puluwat to Guam stopped there for about a week. At left, turtle tracks on the beach at Pikelot. Below, a captive turtle.*





*At right, a feast of turtle eggs.*

