

DAILY BULLETIN

OFFICE OF SAMOAN INFORMATION

PAGO PAGO

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 20, 1966

ASO LUA, TESEMA 20, 1966

TAX REQUIREMENTS FOR THOSE WHO EMPLOY DOMESTIC HELP

Anyone in American Samoa who is an employer -- including any contract worker who employs domestic help -- is required to pay income taxes and social security for each employee.

Ron Peterson, Government of American Samoa comptroller, outlines the responsibilities of all such employers as follows:

1 -- Anyone who employs a person in any type of position whatsoever (including housegirl) must obtain a (federal) employer identification number from the Government Tax Office (at the rear of the Revenue Office).

2 -- The earnings of each employee must be reported to the Tax Office quarterly (every three months). At this time, the employer must pay a minimum of 2.5 percent Samoan income tax for the gross earnings of each employee. (That percentage increases if the employee has other income). In addition, the employer must pay -- also every quarter -- 8.4 percent for Social Security. (This percentage will increase to 8.8 percent as of January 1.)

Peterson points out that penalties can be imposed on any employer who avoids paying Samoan income tax and Social Security for each employee. The comptroller's office makes spot checks at various homes during daytime hours to determine whether domestic help is employed.

Peterson also notes that failure to make Social Security payments for any employee now will deprive him or her of such benefits in the future. In other words, in failing to pay Social Security you cheat not only the federal government, but also your employee.

Tax Forms Must Be Given To Employees By January 31

The following announcement was recently released by the Comptroller's Office:

"All employers (in American Samoa) are required to furnish their employees with GAS Form 371 (Wage and Tax Statement) for 1966 not later than January 31, 1967. All employers are urged to contact the Income Tax Division (Telephone 2583) to make arrangements for obtaining these forms as soon as possible."

YACHT BOUNTY SAILS FOR FIJI

This morning marked the beginning of a long-awaited adventure for Gordon Johnson and his family as they sailed the 42-foot ketch Bounty toward Fiji.

Two months ago Johnson left his job with a California telephone company, sold his home, and moved his wife and 18-month-old son to American Samoa, where he had bought the Bounty. Two months were spent in fitting out, making alterations to the living accommodations, and provisioning for the voyage.

The Johnsons, with their Swedish crew member, Roland Gillstrom, plan to spend Christmas at sea and to celebrate New Year's Eve in Suva, Fiji. Bounty probably will spend the remainder of hurricane season in the protected harbor of Suva before continuing on her cruising throughout the South Pacific.

SAMOAN DANCERS FROM HAWAII AND CALIFORNIA HERE FOR HOLIDAYS

A group of Samoan dancers who now live in Hawaii and California are presently in American Samoa visiting friends and relatives over the holidays.

Lei'a Mapu, spokesman for the group, said there are six boys and six girls ranging in age from 14 to 40. Most are students or part-time students. They earn money by performing in Hawaii and California.

Various members of the group are being interviewed intermittently over radio station WVUV. They are being asked to give their impressions of California and Hawaii.

WESTERN SAMOA PLANNING LARGE TOURISM CONFERENCE

APIA, Western Samoa -- American Samoa and Tonga are being approached to determine their interest in co-sponsoring a Visitor Development Conference in Apia the last three days of next May. **Western Samoa will pay the cost.**

Conference participants will include heads of air and sea carriers, heads of tour wholesalers, major overseas hotel chains, heads of government tourism organizations, and government officials connected with visitor activity.

A. Gerakas, director of economic development in Apia, says the conference is being financed by local businesses. It has been given the moral support of the Western Samoa cabinet. Western Samoa has offered Pilot Point as the site of the conference, and the Prime Minister is investigating the possibility of using prison labor to clear trails to points of interest.

A conference planning committee has been formed and has already had many meetings. Fofō Sunia director of tourism for the Government of American Samoa has already met with the committee. He has been invited to attend the conference, and an invitation will also be extended to the Government of Tonga. Gerakas is the conference secretary.

BOTTLES BEING USED TO STUDY CURRENTS NEAR HAWAII

HONOLULU -- Japanese tuna fishing vessels operating in the area of the Hawaiian Islands are dropping drift bottles overboard in an effort to study currents in the ares.

The Honolulu office of the U.S. Department of the Interior's Bureau of Commercial Fisheries says the bottles are also being released off the west and east coasts of Australia and adjacent to New Zealand.

It asks persons who find the bottles on the beaches to fill out the postcards inside and return it to the Bureau of Commercial Fisheries Biological Laboratory, Honolulu.

NEW AIRLINE SPEED RECORD

HONOLULU -- Canadian pacific airliner is claiming a new speed record between Honolulu and Vancouver.

Airline officials say a Canadian Pacific DC8 jetliner made the 28-hundred mile trip Sunday in four hours and 17 minutes. This betters the previous record by one minute.

Officials say the Sunday flight had 176-mile-an-hour tailwinds and reached a maximum speed of 702 miles an hour.

TELEVISION FOR TONIGHT:- (7:00) Friendly Giant (7:15) NASA Film, "Flight of the Friendship 7" (7:45) Sing Hi Sing Lo (8:00) Funny Company (8:03) Instructional Christmas Program (8:30) Tala 'Ese 'Ese (9:00) You Are There (9:30) News In Review.