

# DAILY BULLETIN

OFFICE OF SAMOAN INFORMATION

# PAGO PAGO

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ASO LUA, APERILA 18, 1967

## AMERICAN SAMOA MARKS FLAG DAY WITH PAGEANTRY, MUSIC

By TOM KASER

OSI Information Officer

Flag Day, the biggest day of the year in American Samoa, was celebrated here yesterday amidst Polynesian pageantry and music. More than 5,000 Samoans jammed the Fagatogo malae for the 67<sup>th</sup> annual observance of the raising of the American flag in what was formerly Eastern Samoa.

Samoans sat on rooftops, in coconut trees, along the main street and in grandstands to watch a parade, humerous displays of Polynesian singing and dancing, contests of coconut-husking, and even a tug of war, among other things.

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It was like a Polynesian state fair.

In a brief speech that started the festivities, Governor H. Rex Lee called American Samoans "the most dedicated people(to the U.S.) living under the American flag." He noted that Samoa has given freely of its youth in four wars that involved the United States.

Referring to the 17 Samoans who have been killed so far in Viet Nam, Lee honored "our courageous brothers who are giving their best, and even their lives, in Viet Nam."

Lee, who has been in office longer than any of his 36 predecessors, noted numerous gains the territory has made since he began his tenure in 1961 -- especially the establishment of the world's largest educational television system.

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The highlight of the events, however, was the traditional fautasi race in Pago Pago Bay, the finest natural harbor in the South Pacific.

The longboats, each carrying about 40 oarsmen, raced for the finish line in a tropical rainstorm that disappeared as fast as it came. The village of Pago Pago won the race.

The entire day's activities were filmed by a documentary film team from the U.S. Information Agency, which is in Samoa to do a documentary on the territory's ETV system. The film will be 30 minutes long, color, sound, translated into fifty languages and made into more than hundred copies for worldwide distribution. Though yesterday's news told of American Flag burnings in England, France and at an American university, in Samoa it was a day of honor for Old Glory.

## FLAG DAY COMPETITION RESULTS ARE ANNOUNCED

Here are some of the results of weekend competitions held as part of the 67<sup>th</sup> observance of Flag Day in American Samoa:

Fautasi Race: Won by Pago Pago; second, Vatia; third, Fagatogo; fourth, Atu'u.

Sasa and Ma'ulu'ulu Dance: Won by Atu'u; second, Vailoatai; third, Fagaitua.

Singing Contest: Won by Malaeloa; second, Fagaitua; third, Atu'u.

Tagati'a: Won by Futiga; second, Faga'itua; third, Atu'u.

Tologa: Won by Vailoatai; second, Faga'itua; third, Atu'u.

Lafoga: Won by Vailoatai; second, Faga'itua; third, Atu'u.

The tug-of-war was won by the Nurse of the Hospital of American Samoa over the Women's Health Committee. In a men's tug-of-war contest, the Western District defeated the Eastern District.

THREE WOMEN HURT IN AUTO ACCIDENT IN NU'UULI

Three women, a mother and two daughters, from Pava'ia'i are in the Hospital of American Samoa as a result of an automobile accident early Sunday afternoon in Nu'uuli.

The women are: Agiga Galoia, 49, fracture of the right leg, condition satisfactory; Avasa Galoia, 25, chest fracture, condition satisfactory; and Fa'atupu Galoia, 21. The latter is being held for examination.

Details of the accident were unavailable.

NEW ZEALAND PLANE CHECKS FLIGHT STATION FACILITIES HERE

A two-engine DC3 flight check plane belonging to the government of New Zealand was here early last weekend to check the navigational aide of the Federal Aeronautics Administration (FAA) station at Pago Pago International Airport.

The plane, piloted by Commander Lawrence McPhail, arrived Friday morning and departed Saturday morning for the Cook Islands and Tahiti. An FAA spokesman here said the plane would assist in closing down an airport at Aitutaki atoll in the Cook Islands because it is not used enough to warrant continued operations.

Prior to about a year and a half ago, the FAA used to flight check its instruments here with its own plane, which came here regularly from the FAA Pacific Region Office in Honolulu. But the acquisition of a new jet plane for this purpose made it more economical to hire the New Zealand plane to check the FAA navigational station in American Samoa.

PERSONS WARNED TO STAY OUT OF DOCK CONSTRUCTION AREA

Assistant Attorney General Frank Swett today issued the following announcement:

"Construction in the dock area at the port terminal has required the curtailment of both pedestrian and vehicular traffic. Any unauthorized persons found intruding in the posted area will be prosecuted for trespassing.

"The public is reminded that defacing, destroying, mutilating or removing any government fence, sign or other property is a felony punishable by a fine, not exceeding \$5,000, imprisonment for ten years, or both."

PEACE CORPS WILL SEND 300 VOLUNTEERS TO WESTERN SAMOA

The Peace Corps has announced it is sending 300 volunteers to Western Samoa, the first independent nation in Polynesia.

Corps Director Jack Hood said that the volunteers would set up health, education and agriculture programs when they start arriving.

Prime Minister Fiame Mataafa said that while Samoans are determined to preserve their ancient culture: The six-year-old nation realized the value of modern health services and wants the peace corps "to help us with our problems."

Western Samoa faces serious development problems compounded by one of the world's fastest growing populations.

The Corps began a nationwide drive yesterday college and university campuses to recruit volunteers for the project.

The Corps also is planning to distribute to collegians about 100,000 copies of a lavishly illustrated brochure describing the program in detail.

A spokesman said the University of Hawaii was being considered as a training site for the project.

Mata'afa was refused foreign aid when he visited Washington last year. He said at the time if he could not get help from the free world he was prepared to go to

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