

U.S. CONGRESSMAN ENI F. H. FALEOMAVEGA

REPORTS TO THE PEOPLE

CONGRESS OF THE UNITED STATES, HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, WASHINGTON, D.C.

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SAMOA RECEIVES \$33.84 MILLION FROM CONGRESS FOR ROADS

The Congress recently passed a six-year Transportation bill, HR 2400, which includes \$33.84 million in highway funding for American Samoa. The legislation, the "Transportation and Equity Act for the 21st Century" (TEA-21), was signed into law on June 9, 1998, by President Clinton.

I am extremely pleased that our extensive work the past two years with the leadership of the House Transportation Committee has resulted in American Samoa receiving almost \$34 million to address the Territory's critical highway needs for the next six years.

Included in the bill are two provisions (earmarks) I introduced specifically setting aside \$12 million for two high priority demonstration projects in Samoa. Despite federal Department of Transportation opposition to demonstration projects, the \$12 million Congressional appropriation will ensure that, first, our village rural roads leading to the main highway will be paved and, second, that vital improvements to the territorial highway's drainage system will be made. With this specific allocation of funds, the safety of Samoa's village roads will be significantly improved, benefiting both drivers and pedestrians, especially our young children who walk to school.

As the only territory in the Pacific to secure demonstration project funding, Samoa's 56,000 residents will receive the same amount allocated to Puerto Rico, which has over 3.7 million residents.

The transportation bill enacted into law also provides American Samoa with close to \$22 million over 6 years from the National Highway System program, protecting our annual Federal Highway allocation and increasing it by 10 percent.

The debate and negotiations over the transportation legislation were especially acrimonious in this Congress because of the 18.4 cents-a-gallon federal gas tax, which is collected nationally and which funds the transportation bill. In many states, residents contribute more in federal gas taxes than the state receives through the highway programs which are funded by the transportation bill. Other states



Congressman Faleomavaega and U.S. Secretary of Transportation Rodney E. Slater. Among other issues, they discussed the \$33.84 million in highway funds Faleomavaega fought for and received on behalf of American Samoa.

receive more than they contribute. The funding inequality has created resentment, pitting states against each other. Given this heated atmosphere in Congress and the fact that the federal gas tax is not collected in the territories, we are very fortunate to receive \$34 million in benefits under the transportation bill.

I wish to thank the Honorable Nick Rahall, Ranking Democratic Member of the House Surface Transportation Subcommittee, the Honorable Bud Schuster, Chairman of the House Transportation Committee, and the Honorable James Oberstar, Ranking Democratic Member of the House Transportation Committee, for their support of my requests for funds to build and repair Samoa's deteriorating roads.

MAUA E SAMOA \$33.84 MILIONA MO ALATELE MAI LE KONEKRESI

Na pasia taluai nei e le Konekeresi le pili mo Aualatele mo le ono tausaga o i luma, pili HR 2400, lea e a'afia ai le tusa ma le \$33.84 miliona mo alatele i Amerika Samoa. O lea tulafono ua ta'ua ole TEA-21 (Transportation and Equity Act for the 21st Century) na sainia fa'aletulafonoina e Peresitene Clinton ile aso 9 o luni, 1998. Ua matua'i fa'afiafiaina a'u ile galuega na taumafai iai mo le lua tausaga ua mavae ma nisi o ta'ita'i o le Maota o Sui ile Komiti o Alatele. O lea ua fa'atinoina ua mafai ai ona maua lenei fesoasoani maoa'e mo le fa'aleleia o aualatele ole teritori mo le ono tausaga o i luma.

E lua ni aiaiga fa'apitoa ua tu'ueseina ai le \$12-miliona mo galuega taua lava i Samoa. E ui sa iai se fa'atu'iese malosi o le Ofisa o Aualatele mo galuega fa'apea (demonstration projects) peita'i, ole aiaiga fa'apitoa o le \$12-miliona ua fa'amausaliina ai; muamua, o auala i tua i nu'u ma alalafaga o lo'o feso'ota'i ma le alatele a le Malo, o ia auala ole a fa'a-taina. Lua, ole fa'atauaia lea ole fa'aleleia atili o autafa ane o alatele ia lelei ona tafe ane ai le vai (tulou) ma le otaota ia sa'o ona fa'ama-maina e aunoa ma le toe fa'alavelaveina o auala. Ua ave fa'olei fesoasoani tautupe ma ala e fa'aleleia atili ai le puipua ole saogalemu o aualatele i o tatou nu'u ma alalafaga, e le gata mo e o lo'o fa'afeoina ta'avale ma le mamalu o i latou o lo'o feoa'i i luga o alatele aemaise nai a tatou fanau, le to'atele oi latou o savavali i a'oga ile taeao ma le afiafi.

Ua na'o Amerika Samoa lava le teritori ile Pasefika ua mafai ona maua lea fesoasoani. Pe a fa'atusatusa atu la, na'o le 56,000 tagata e aumau i o tatou motu, peita'i, e tutusa le aofa'i ua tatou maua ma Puerto

Rico, le teritori tele lea e silia ma le 3.7 miliona tagata e nonofo ai. Ole isi vaega ole nei \$34-miliona, o le tusa lea ma le \$22-miliona mo le ono tausaga o i luma ua maua mai le polokalama tau auala tele vavave lea e masani ona tatou maua i tausaga ta'itasi. Ua puipua ai le aofa'i mo i tatou mai lea vaevaega, ma ua fa'aopoopoina e tusa ma le 10%. Na matua'i vevesi felafolafola'iga ole nei pili ile Konekeresi ona ole lafoga mo le kesolini lea e 18.4 sene ile kalone, o lo'o totogi aga'i ile Malo Tele. Ole nei lafoga o lo'o fa'atupeina le pili mo Alatele lea ua pasia (TEA-21). Ua ala ona gugulu le tele o sitete ona o nisi e te-le le lafoga latou te lafoina, ae ititi la latou vaega na maua i le vaevaaina o tupe mo Alatele; a'o isi e ititi le lafo ae te-le tupe maua. Ua ave le le gatusa ole vaevaaina o tupe maua ma mea ua gugulu ai le tele o sitete. Ae tu'u ane ile tele o teritori, e le lafoina se

(Fa'auau ile itulau 3)



Congressman Faleomavaega pictured here with His Holiness Lhamo Dhondrub, the 14th Dalai Lama. As a high-ranking Member of the House International Affairs Subcommittee on Asia and the Pacific, Faleomavaega remains concerned about U.S. interests in the Asia-Pacific region, which includes Tibet -- an issue he discussed with the Dalai Lama. Far right is Mrs. Hina Faleomavaega.

LARGE SHIPMENT OF BOOKS TO ARRIVE IN SAMOA SOON

On July 13, 1998, three truck loads of books and educational equipment left Washington D.C., on their way to California where they will be put on a ship bound for American Samoa. In addition to the books, donated by the Library of Congress and schools districts in the area, the shipment also includes a few computers, PA systems, video players, and a wide variety of other equipment designated specifically for use by schools in American Samoa.

This will be our third shipment in the past twelve months. With this shipment, the total number of books collected and transported to American Samoa is now well over 100,000.

NEW POLICY ON ROTC PROGRAM FOR SAMOAN U.S. NATIONALS

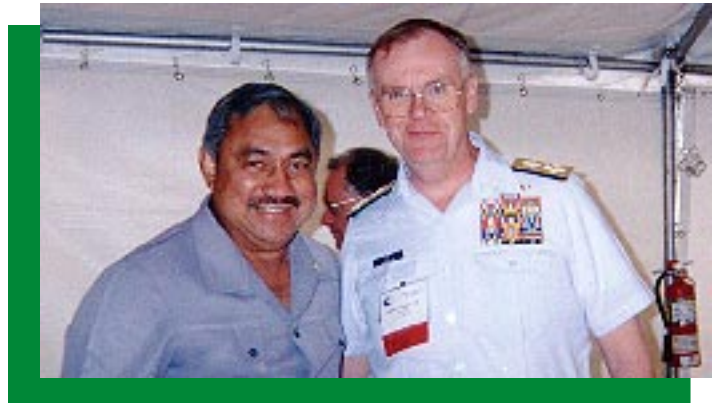
A few weeks ago, I met with Dr. Wayne Sellman, director of Accession Policy for the Department of Defense, concerning eligibility for U.S. Nationals to participate in the Reserve Officer Training Corps (ROTC) scholarship program. At this meeting, Dr. Sellman briefed me on the results of a recent DOD study of this issue. The study was undertaken pursuant to language directing such a study which I inserted in last year's Defense Authorization Act (Public Law 105-85). Under current interpretation of federal law, U.S. Nationals are not eligible to participate in the ROTC scholarship program.

I am pleased the DOD is sympathetic to our concerns and is taking steps to change its policy in order to improve this situation for U.S. Nationals. Under the new DOD policy, U.S. nationals in the ROTC program will be able to enroll in ROTC courses and otherwise participate fully in the program. Their status will be conditional, but can be adjusted upon completion of an application for U.S. citizenship.

Federal immigration law requires U.S. nationals to reside in a state of the United States for three months before they can apply for U.S. citizenship. ROTC cadets or midshipmen on conditional status will be eligible to apply for U.S. citizenship after this three month period. Additionally, the Immigration and Naturalization Service has agreed to process requests for citizenship within three months from the time applications for citizenship are received. This means that in most cases, conditional status would last only six months, after which the student would become a citizen and be moved to regular ROTC status.

The DOD will also support changing federal law to authorize ROTC students in conditional status to receive the monthly stipend of \$150.00 received by other ROTC students.

I am very pleased with the support demonstrated by the Department



Faleomavaega and Commandant of the U.S. Coast Guard Admiral James L. Loy. They discussed the future of the Coast Guard's presence in American Samoa. In addition to safety and rescue responsibilities, the Coast Guard monitors the U.S. tuna fleet based in American Samoa

of Defense toward including U.S. nationals in this officer candidate program, and I am glad we are moving toward a resolution of this problem.

Thanks to U.S. Army ROTC instructors Major Glen Lefiti and Master Sergeant Fatuesi Fatuesi for bringing this matter to my attention.

SUIGA I LE POLOKALAMA ROTC MO SAMOA

Sa ma feiloa'i ma Dr. Wayne Sellman i ni nai vaiaso ua mavae. O ia lea ole ta'ita'i ole Vaega e faia aiaiga o le Ofisa o Vaegaau a le Malo Tele (Department of Defense, DoD). Sa talanoaina le agava'a o Nasionale ole lunaite Sitete (tagatanu'u o Amerika Samoa) mo sikolasipi a le polokalama o le ROTC (Reserve Officers Training Corps.) Na fa'aailoa mai e Dr. Sellman le fa'ai'uga ua feagai male su'esu'ega na faia e le Ofisa o Vaegaau e tusa ai ma le gagana sa 'ou u'una'iina i le tausaga ua mavae i le tulafono PL 105-85 (Defense Authorization Act), lea na fa'atunuina lea su'esu'ega (study) ia faia. I lalo o fa'aupuga o lo'o iai nei le tulafono, e le agava'a Nasionale o le lunaite Sitete i sikolasipi a le ROTC (vagana ai e ua sitiseni.)

Ae ua 'ou fa'afetaia le malolo mai o se finagalo ole DoD e tusa ma si o tatou fo'i lagona, ina ia sui le fa'aupuina ole tulafono o iai nei. Ua iai se fuafuaga ile DoD e suia lana aiaiga ina ia mafai ona agava'a tagatanu'u o Amerika Samoa po'o Nasionale mo sikolasipi ia a le ROTC i se tulaga va'ava'aia (conditional basis). E tusa ma lea tulaga va'ava'aia, o le a mafai e Nasionale ona latou a'oa'oina mataupu ole ROTC ma iai atoatoa i totonu o le polokama. I lalo o tulafono tau

femalaga'iga a le Malo Tele, e ao ile Nasionale ole lunaite Sitete ona aumau i totonu o so'o se sitete o Amerika mo le tolu masina ae le'i talosagaina lona sitiseni. O alo ma fanau a Samoa ile ROTC o lo'o iai i lea tulaga va'ava'aia o le a agava'a mo le talosagaina o sitiseni pe a mavae le tolu masina. Ma le isi mea lelei ua tula'i mai ai, ua fa'apea mai le Ofisa o Femalaga'iga ma le Fa'asitiseniina o Tagata (INS, Immigration & Naturalization Service) e amata galulue i latou mo talosaga fa'asitiseni pe a maua vave ile 3-masina. Lona uiga, na'o le ono lava masina e o'o iai le tulaga va'ava'aia ona ave lea ma sitiseni se alo o lo'o a'oa'oina ma ulufale ai ile polokalama tumau ole ROTC.

O le a sapaapaia foi e le DoD le suiga o le tulafono a le Malo Tele, ia mafai ai e fanau o lo'o ile tulaga va'ava'aia ile ROTC ona maua le ta'i \$150.00 i le masina e pei ona maua e fanau a'oga o le polokalama tumau a le ROTC. Ua lagona ai lava le fiafia ile lagolago mai a le Ofisa o Vaega'au o tatou alo ma fanau o e ua ta'ua o Nasionale ole lunaite Sitete ile nei polokalama taua a le militeri mo fitafita ua ave ma ofisa. Fa'afetai ua aga'i i se tulaga lelei feutana'iga mo le nei mataupu taua mo nai o tatou tagatanu'u ma ana tupulaga fai a'e.

JUNE 29TH AUTONOMY DAY IN FRENCH POLYNESIA

In late June, I accepted an invitation from the President of French Polynesia, the Honorable Gaston Flosse, to attend this year's Autonomy Day as his personal guest. I appreciated President Flosse's invitation to attend this special event which has been held on June 29th each year since 1984 — when the French government granted more autonomy to the territorial government of French Polynesia.

While we have had our differences over the issue of French nuclear testing in the South Pacific, I have always had the highest respect for President Flosse as the duly elected President of French Polynesia. During our discussions, I challenged the controversial conclusions of the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) study on Moruroa and Fangataufa Atolls. The IAEA report concluded that despite 30 years of nuclear testing involving 178 nuclear detonations, the radioactivity on the atolls does not present a danger to humans, animals and plants.

I also brought up the issue of New Caledonia (another French Territory in the South Pacific) and its quest for greater autonomy

from French rule through the Noumea Accord. I am certain the Noumea Accord will have serious implications not only for New Caledonia but Tahiti and other French Pacific possessions such as Wallace and Futuna Islands, which are situated only 300 miles northwest of American Samoa.

As a member of the House International Relations Subcommittee on Asia and the Pacific, I have long been concerned by French nuclear testing in the South Pacific. When France resumed testing in 1995, I introduced legislation in the United States Congress urging the French Government to consider the long-term damage these nuclear tests were imposing on French Polynesia and the ecosystem of the entire South Pacific. My Congressional Resolution further urged France to cease and desist from all nuclear testing in our region.

Overall, my meetings with President Flosse and other French Government officials went very well. We agreed to meet periodically to discuss these matters which have been of crucial importance to the people of the Pacific.

FEILOA'IGA MA LE PERESITENE O TAHITI, AFIOGA GASTON FLOSSE

Ile fa'ai'uga o luni sa 'ou taliaina ai se vala'aulia aloa'ia mai le Peresitene o Tahiti, le Afioga Gaston Flosse, ina ia 'ou 'auai ile nei tausaga i lo latou tuto'atasi. Oute fa'afetaia ai le Afioga Flosse ua mafai ai ona 'ou molimauina lea aso fa'apitoa, luni 29, ua fa'amanatuina pea talu mai le tausaga 1984 lea na tu'uina atu ai e le Malo o Farani le tele o le sa'olotoga e pulea ai lava e lea teritori o Farani lona lava faigamalo. Ua ta'ua o Farani Polenisia po'o le atumotu o Tahiti e pei ona lausilafia e i tatou. E ui ina iai nisi taimi ma te fe'ese'esea'i ai ma le Afioga Flosse ona o mataupu tau niukilia e a'afia ai le Malo o Farani i le Pasefika i Saute, peita'i, e maualuga pea ia te a'u le ava ma le fa'aaloalo ia te ia o le Peresitene Filifilia o le atu Farani Polenisia.

I la ma'ua feiloa'iga ma talanoaga ma le Peresitene fa'atasi ma (Flosse Fa'auau ile itulau lona 3)



Faleomavaega and Hawaii Lt. Governor Mazie Hirono discussed funding for special federal programs which provide assistance to Samoans living in Hawaii and other parts of the mainland.

FY99 INTERIOR BUDGET PASSES U.S. HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

The U.S. House of Representatives recently approved a fiscal year 1999 appropriations bill for the Department of the Interior and related agencies. The legislation includes \$23 million for the operations of the American Samoa Government and \$10.1 million for CIP's, as proposed by President Clinton. The level of funding in these two categories is the same as that which ASG is receiving in the current year.

The House acted as anticipated with regard to American Samoa, and the action is consistent with the 1995 agreement on territorial funding, which is viewed as very favorable to American Samoa.

Total funding for the bill is \$13.4 billion, which is \$800 million less than President Clinton requested, and \$700 million less than what is being spent this year. Funding for the Forest Service, some Energy Department programs, and education and health programs for American Indians all received significant cuts. Overall funding for the Office of Insular Affairs was cut by \$3.3 million. Given the substantial cuts in other areas, American Samoa has done very well.

The Senate Committee on Appropriations passed its version of the Interior Appropriations bill with a reduction of \$230,000 for ASG's government operations. As this newsletter went to press, a date for consideration by the full Senate had not been set. Any differences between the House and Senate bills will need to be resolved in a House-Senate Conference Committee, and the President's advi-



The two Polynesians in the U.S. Congress, Congressman Faleomavaega and Hawaii's U.S. Senator Daniel K. Akaka, in front of a statue of King Kamehameha in the U.S. Capitol. They briefly discussed the status of the Interior Appropriations bill which contains American Samoa's CIP and government operations funding—currently pending in the U.S. Senate.

sors are considering recommending the President veto the bill because of several provisions not related to territorial funding.

TUPE FA'ASOASOA TAUSAGA GALUE 1999

Taluai nei lava ile Soakomiti a le Maota o Sui mo Tupe Fa'asoasoa a le Initeria, na pasia ai tupe faigaluega mo le Initeria ma isi ofisa vavalalata ile tausaga galue 1999. O lenei pili e aofia ai le \$23-miliona mo le fa'agaioiina o le Malo o Amerika Samoa, fa'apea ai ma le isi \$10.1-miliona na talosagaina e Peresitene Clinton mo galuega fia fausia pe fia fa'aleleia i le atunu'u lea e ta'ua o tupe o le "CIPs" (Capital Improvement Projects). Na faia lava fa'ai'uga a le Soakomiti e pei ona maitauina mo Samoa, ma ailoga e iai ni suiga pe a o'o atu i luma o le Maota atoa mo felafolafoa'iga. E tutusa lava le faiga nei pei ona iai ile maliliega ile 1995 mo le fa'atupeina o le teritori; ma o se tulaga lelei lea mo Amerika Samoa.

Ole pili lea mo le Initeria o le aofa'i na pasia e \$13.4-Piliona; e \$800-miliona e la'ititi ai mai le aofa'i na talosagaina e Peresitene Clinton, ae \$700-miliona e itiiti ai mai le tupe fa'aalu o le nei tausaga galue (1998). E tele ofisa ua toeseina pe fa'aitiitia a latou tupe

Tupe mo le alatele mai le itulau 1

lafoga ole kesolini ile Malo Tele; ae fa'afetai o lea ua maua se fesoasoani ma manuia ai tatou ile \$34-miliona mo le fa'aleleia o a tatou aualatele.

Oute fa'afetaia ai le Afioga Nick Rahall, o le Temokarasi maualuga lona tofi i le Soakomiti a le Maota o Sui i Mataupu tau Alatele, fa'apea le Afioga Bud Schuster, o le Ta'ita'iaoa o le Komiti o Alatele, ma le Afioga James Oberstar, o le Temokarasi maualuga lona tofi i lea komiti. O la latou fesoasoani malosi i a'u talosaga ma le augani atu ina ia alofagia alatele o Samoa ua tele ona fa'aleagaina ma fia fa'aleleia.

Feiloaiga ma Flosse mai le itulau 2

nisi o ta'ita'i o lea faigamalo, sa 'ou lu'itauina ai le fa'ai'uga le mautonu a le Vaega Fa'avaomalo i Mataupu tau Enetia mai Atomika (International Atomic Energy Agency) lea e fa'apea, a mavae le 30-tausaga po'o le fa'a-178 ona fa'apaina o niukilia fa'ata'ita'i, o le a leai se afaina i gataifale ma le a'u tusa ai ma le soifua o tagata, manu ma la'au. Sa 'ou fa'atuina foi lea o le mataupu e tusa ma Niu Kaletonia (o se tasi foi o teritori o Farani i le Pasefika i Saute,) lea o lo'o naunau mo lona fo'i tuto'atasi mai le pule'aga a le Malo o Farani e tusa ma le maliliega na faia i Noumea. E iai lo'u taofi mautu i lalo o le maliliega lea na faia i Noumea e iai tulaga ogaoga e ono tula'i mai e le gata mo Niu Kaletonia ma Tahiti, ae fa'apea a'i nisi motu o le Pasefika o lo'o pulea e Farani e iai Ualesi ma Futuna. E tusa ma le 300-maila le mamao mai Samoa.

I lo'u tofiga la o iai i le soakomiti ale Maota o Sui i Mataupu Fa'avaomalo e aofia ai Asia ma le Pasefika, ua leva ona 'ou manatu mamafa i su'esu'ega ma le fa'aaogaina o niukilia e le Malo o Farani o lo'o faia i le Pasefika i Saute. Ina ua fa'aaauuina a latou faiga ia fa'aniukilia i le tausaga 19__, sa 'ou fa'auluina ai se pili i le Konekeresi a le lunaite Sitete ia u'una'iina malosi ai Farani e mafautau loloto ma taga'i mamao i tulaga faigata e o'o iai le lumana'i o motu ole atu Pasefika ona ua fa'aleagaina i nei su'esu'ega fa'aniukilia. O lea i'ugafono sa 'ou fa'auluina HR ____, na matua'i fautuaina ai Farani ina ia fa'amuta ma fa'agataina su'esu'ega uma fa'aniukilia i o tatou motu a tuaoi ma gataifale i le Pasefika.

Matagofie uma tulaga na iai fonotaga ma Peresitene Floss ma nisi o ta'ita'i Falani i le Polenisia. Na matou ioeina ai e tatau lava ona fai ma feiloa'i ma talatalanoa i mataupu e ono afaina ai le nonofo lelei ma Farani, o se atunu'u ua leva ma tele tausaga o aveva ma tatou uo mamae.

faigaluega, e iai le Vaega o La'autetete; nisi o polokalama a le Ofisa o Enetia; o polokalama tau le soifua maloloina ma a'oa'oga, fa'apea ma polokalama mo tagatanu'umoni o Amerika, o Initia (American Indians). I le ofisa lava ia o le OIA (Office of Insular Affairs) lea e a'afia ai Amerika Samoa, e \$1.3-miliona ua toeseina. A fuafua atu la i le tetele o tupe ua fa'aitiitia mo isi ofisa ma isi vaega, e matua'i tulaga lelei lava Amerika Samoa ile mea lea ua iai.

I le fa'atalanoaina ole nei mataupu, sa lelei lava alumaga na feagai ai ma le soakomiti. Ole fa'atu'iesega tele o le fa'atupeina lea o le National Endowment for the Arts (NEA). Sa leai se tupe na fa'atulagaina ile pili mo lenei ofisa, ae ua iai le naunautu'iga i le itu Temokarasi e palotaina i luma o le Maota lea mataupu pe afai e le fa'atupeina le NEA.

Lea ua mae'a le soakomiti, o le a tu'uina atu nei le pili o Tupe Fa'asoasoa a le Initeria i le Komiti aoao o Tupe Fa'asoasoa mo sa latou feutana'iga. E le'i mautinoa le aso mo lea feiloa'iga.

ACADEMIES

I am presently accepting applications requesting nomination to the U.S. Service Academies. To assist me in selecting the best qualified applicants, those who can meet the high qualifying standards set forth by the academies, I will only accept applications that have a minimum Scholastic Aptitude Test (SAT) score of 1000. Please keep in mind that a SAT score of 1000 does not automatically qualify an applicant for admission. For this reason, it is recommended that all applicants take the SAT or ACT as many times as practical in order to achieve the highest score possible.

I will accept applications through December 4, 1998 for the class entering in June, 1999. I will have completed my review of all the applications by December 18, 1998, at which time I will select ten nominees whose names I will submit to each of the academies.

The law provides that one candidate from American Samoa may be enrolled in any one Academy at any given time. I am entitled to submit ten names to each Academy — those whom I believe to be the most qualified and to have the best chances of gaining admission. Presently, American Samoa has vacancies for the U.S. Air Force Academy and U.S. Merchant Marine Academy. Currently, two of my nominees, Mr. Conan Alailima and Mr. Augustino Suafoa, are attending the U.S. Military Academy and U.S. Naval Academy respectively. For more information, contact my District office in Utulei at 633-1372.



Congressman Faleomavaega with members of the American Samoa Board of Mental Health. From left: Faleomavaega, Misa Tauiliili John Hudson, Sina Malaki, Aliimau Scanlan (Faleomavaega staffer), and Henry Sesepasara. The group discussed federal funding for a variety of mental health programs in American Samoa.

MISCELLANEOUS

* I recently met with U.S. Army Staff Sergeant Ted Philip Ta'ala who was on assignment with the Explosive Ordnance Disposal detail in the White House. He is the first Samoan to work in such a capacity in the nation's most guarded home. A 1989 graduate of Leone High School, Sergeant Ta'ala is the son of Fili Fuimaono of Futiga, American Samoa, and Norine Matthews of Vancouver, Canada.

* I recently wrote to Governor Tauese advising him of a grant from the Office of Justice Programs in the U.S. Department of Justice for \$943,000 under the Byrne Formula Grant program. This year, Congress appropriated \$505 million — the largest amount ever appropriated for this program designed to fight the war on drugs. Congratulations to Governor Tauese, Laauli Filoialii, director of the American Samoa Criminal Justice Planning Agency, and their staff who were instrumental in securing this grant award.

* Senator Daniel Inouye and I have proposed an amendment to the Workforce Investment Partnership Act of 1997 to provide for an authori-

zation from Congress to establish a community center facility that will benefit the Samoan community in Hawaii as well as other Pacific Islanders. In late May, Senator Inouye and I spoke at the opening of a Business Incubator Center which will provide a support mechanism for Samoan-owned businesses in Hawaii — particularly during the start up or expansion phase of these small businesses. The program is operated by the Samoan Service Providers Association and ultimately funded by Congress.

* The Judicial Fellows Commission has informed me it is accepting applications for the 1999-2000 Judicial Fellows Program. The program provides those interested in judicial adminis-

tration with an opportunity to work in the United States Supreme Court, the Federal Judicial Center, the Administrative Office of the Courts or the United States Sentencing Commission for one calendar year. There are a very limited number of positions open to non-lawyers. These non-lawyer positions are open to anyone who can meet the basic requirements outlined in the program brochure, copies of which are available at both my offices in

American Samoa and Washington D.C.

* On June 23rd, the Senate Appropriations Committee cut \$230,000 from the American Samoa Government's operations budget (see story page 3). Based on the language in the Senate report accompanying the Interior Appropriations Bill, the committee remains very concerned about the operations of the ASG. The committee devoted more of its report to American Samoa than any other insular area, and it specifically cited lack of improvements in the fiscal management of the local government and unpaid bills owed to off-island providers of medical care. I will work with members of the Senate to restore the operations funding, but it appears the ap-

propriators are sending a signal to the local government that they want to see concrete evidence of improvement over the next few months in the areas of financial management, repayment of debts to Hawaii hospitals, and the management of the off-island medical referral program.

I have discussed this matter with the governor and fully support his efforts to establish a plan to repay ASG's outstanding obligations. We are pleased he has decided to establish a repayment plan and attack the problem head on. Decisive action of this nature is very difficult to take but it demonstrates true leadership.



Math Teacher of the Year from American Samoa Carol Scanlan (2nd from left) pictured here with Congressman Faleomavaega and staffer Aliimau Scanlan Jr. (far right). Carol travelled to Washington with her sister Eseta Taotua (2nd from right) to collect her award and attend a meeting chaired by First Lady Hillary Clinton. Carol and the Congressman discussed the funding status of special math programs in the territory.

NISI O MEA NA TUTUPU

* Sa ma feiloa'i taluai nei ma le alii Satini o le Army (Staff Sergeant), le Susuga a Ted Philip Ta'ala na faigaluega le-tumau i le Fale Pa'epa'e i le vaega fa'apitoa e va'aia a'upega malolosi ma fanai'a i le militeri (Explosive Ordnance Disposal). O le susuga a Ta'ala le Samoa muamua ua tofia mo lea tulaga i le maota pito leoleoina o Amerika atoa. Na fa'au'u mai Ted ile A'oga Maualuga a Leone i le 1989; o ia o le alo o le Afioga Fuimaono Fili Faasuamalie o le alalafaga o Futiga, Amerika Samoa, ma Norine Matthews o Vancouver, Canada.

*Sa fa'afeso'ota'i mai a'u e le kamupani Amerika a le QMI International, ile fia maua o se kamupani i Amerika Samoa e fa'atauina ai fa'alelei suau'u (lubricants) mo ta'avale ma masini tetele. So'o se tasi i Amerika Samoa e fia maua lenei avanoa, ia fa'afeso'ota'i mai lo tatou ofisa i Uosigitone po'o le ofisa i Utulei.

* Na 'ou tusi atu ile Kovana o Tauese Sunia e ta'u atu iai se fesoasoani mai le polokalama o le Ofisa o Mataupu Tau-tulafono e tusa ma le \$943,000 i lalo o le Byrne Formula Grant. Na

fa'atulagaina i le tausaga nei e le Konekeresi le \$505-miliona mo le nei polokalama e fo'ia ai fa'afitauli tau fuala'au ma vai laau fa'asaina. Oute fa'amalo atu ile Afioga ile Kovana fa'apea le Susuga a Laauli Filoialii, ole ta'ita'i aoao o le ofisa e fuafuaina mataupu tau tulafono ma lana 'aufaigaluega mo le fa'amautuina o auala ua maua atu ai lenei fesoasoani tele mo Samoa.

*Ua ma fa'auluina ma le Afioga ile Senatoa o Fofogao Samoa Daniel Inouye se fa'aupuga ile tulafono mo tagata faigaluega (Workforce Investment Partnership Act of 1997) ina ia fa'atagaina ai e le Konekeresi le fa'atuina o se nofoaga autu (community center) e aoga mo tagata Samoa i Hawaii atoa ma tagata o le atu Pasefika. I le fa'ai'uga o Me, sa ma auai ma le Senatoa i le tatalaina o le nofoaga fa'apitoa mo le fuafuaina ma le tau atina'e o pisinisi fou a tagata Samoa (Business Incubator Center) lea o lo'o lagolagoina e le ofisa ole SSPA (Samoan Service Providers Association). O le fa'atupeina o le nei polokalama ua maua mai i le Konekeresi a le Malo Tele.

TUSI FAITAU MO FALETUSI I SAMOA

Ia Iulai 13, 1998, e tolu uta tetele o tusi ma masini aoga mo a'oa'oga na tu'uua Uosigitone, DC e aga'i i Kalefonia mo le auina atu i va'a mo Amerika Samoa. E le gata i tusi faitau e tele na maua mai ile Faletusi ole Konekeresi (Library of Congress) ma nisi o a'oga o

ia itumalo, o lo'o ua iai foi nai komipiuta, masini fa'aleotele leo, masini video, ma nisi lava o mea e aoga mo a'oa'oga i Samoa. Ole tolu a'i lea o uta tusi ile 12-masina ua mavae atu nei; e tusa ma le 100,000 tusifaitau ua mafai ona auina atu.



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