

The GLOBAL OCEANUS News

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REGISTRO Y ARCHIVO

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OCEANUS ELECTIONS

In August 1991 the third The Admiral of Oceanus took office. The Admiral Fergus O'Kelly competed in the election process with Abraham Davis. With everyone age 12 and older allowed to vote in the election, The Admiral O'Kelly was elected defacto and dejure by billions of Oceanus Citizens.

Since taking office, The Admiral O'Kelly has, with the advice and approval of the Oceanus Chancellery, appointed numerous Commissioners to serve in his cabinet. Just retired The Admiral Maris McCloskey was named Oceanus Ecology and Fisheries Commissioner. Admiral E.R.Welles was continued as Transportation and Communications Commissioner.

The Admiral O'Kelly has signed legislation into law that was approved by the Oceanus Legislature. Most recently, 17 March 92, was legislation to revise Title 4 Oceanus Code Section 1 regarding shipping and to repeal Title 5 Oceanus Code Section 8 having to do with a public corporation previously controlled by Oceanus Government called Currentsea.

The Admiral O'Kelly keeps an eye on matters from his Dublin, Ireland office with Oceanus fax allowing the Commissioners to carry on.

Worldwide elections in 1991 also brought a new Oceanus Reserve Admiral Paul Erlingsen Skorpen; a new Worldwide Chancellor Sherwood Carr, Jr.; and a new Worldwide Senator Correnia Marie Hudson Hadlock. Reelected were Worldwide Chancellor P.K.Elias and 60W to 80W Chancellor Ernest d'Ombraim.

Because Reserve Admiral Skorpen signed in November 91, a global election to determine his successor will be concluded 15 April 1992. Candidates E.A.Tut and I.B. Herrero, are contending for this elected office. To dejure vote in this election contact Oceanus Consulate, Manset-Seawall, Maine 04656 USA or by fax 207-244-0035.

OCEANUS ID DOCUMENTS

OG continues to issue various ID documents, such as Oceanus Passports, to individuals who apply from around the world.

Write Oceanus Government, Manset-Seawall, ME 04656, USA

SEA STATUS

*During the first six months of 1991, tankers spilled almost seven times the amount of oil into the global seas as the famous Exxon Valdez disaster in Alaska. The Journal of Commerce estimates the half year total at 425,000 tons worldwide.

*It has been suggested that the driftnets placed end to end during fishing season would circle the globe.

*On a brighter note, both Taiwan and Japan have agreed to phase out the driftnetting technique. There has been strong international pressure to end this particular method of fishing because it results in the death of so many species that go unused. Easy to lose tract of, driftnets can continue to kill fish for years after they are lost.

Japan began to dismantle the fleet of high seas driftnetters working the Pacific in January. Meanwhile, the United Nations extended the resolution for a 30 June 1992 ban of the practice for another six months.

*The Santa Clara I, a container cargo vessel enroute from New York City to Baltimore, Maryland, lost 80 tons of deadly arsenic trioxide in rough seas in early January. The Panamanian registered vessel lost 21 containers off the deck, four of them contained 432 drums of the arsenic compound used to make pesticide. Fishermen were warned to stay clear if they discovered any of the 35 gallon drums lost at sea.

A four square mile fishing area off Cape May, New Jersey, USA, was closed to fishing in February while U.S. Navy and U.S. Coast Guard officials recovered about 100 of the barrels. Three of the four cargo containers had been discovered in about 90 ft. of water.

Clean Ocean Action director Cindy Zipf urged federal officials to perform the search and recovery of the toxins. The leader of the New Jersey based environmental group said that at first officials seemed to be willing to just let the ocean absorb the poisons.

*In January, the M/V Arisan grounded off the Norwegian coast due to engine problems. Now the Norwegian Govt. inspects foreign vessels to maintain higher standards.

ARCHIVO

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THE UNSAID ABOUT UNCED

High hopes abound among environmental organizations and third world countries over the outcome of the first "Earth Summit" to be held in June. Rio de Janeiro, Brazil is the site of the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development (UNCED) where representatives from 166 UN member nations plan to attend.

The conference is expected to work out agreements among participants which will lead to a reversal of the global pollution process. Besides reduction of destructive emissions and preservation of old-growth forests, the creation of the Earth Charter has been promised. The Earth Charter is expected to declare the responsibility of all nations to protect the ecosystem of the planet while detailing principles of sustainable development.

But the negotiating sessions in preparation have resulted in debate between industrialized and developing nations. The developing nations insist that the industrial nations have been largely responsible for damaging the earth's ecosystem and therefore should create a multi-billion dollar fund which will allow the impoverished countries to develop while preserving the resource base and not create new sources of pollution.

Negotiators from the industrialized countries are cool to such demands. The U.S. delegation has flatly refused to consider any new funding, as they have also refused to consider proposed emission reduction deadlines.

The battle lines are drawn between the haves and the have nots. The developing nations argue that poverty is the basic cause of environmental destruction because survival is based on using the soils and the forests right down to ultimate depletion. They want help from richer nations for economic growth.

The Global Environment Facility (GEF) is a \$770 million fund set up in November of 1990 and managed by the World Bank. Established as an interest free fund for environmental protection, it was meant to be created by voluntary funds in the range of a billion to a billion and a half dollars. One of the by products (cont.col.2pg.1)

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ERNIE D'OMBRAIN LEAVES

Worldwide Chancellor Selda d'Ombraim informed the Oceanus Government recently: "My dearest Ernie left us on St. Patrick's Day. He had been in the Intensive Care Unit so very long following heart surgery on 5 February 1992. He hadn't been in good health for the past six months."

Ernie d'Ombraim first read of Oceanus Government while teaching in Australia in 1972. Since then he has been elected to the Oceanus Legislature numerous times. In 1991 he was re-elected 60W to 80W Chancellor. His seat is now vacant. Admiral E.R. Welles says, "We will miss Ernie a great deal."

The 20 March 92 FALMOUTH ENTERPRISE account of Ernie said the 78 year old retired science, math and swimming teacher loved the sea and according to his wishes his ashes will be scattered there.

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of the Montreal Protocol in June 1990 was that the major chlorofluorocarbon producing and consuming countries agreed to set aside US\$240 million to help developing nations meet those phase out goals then established. That money is now part of GEF's pot.

The existence of GEF seems to pre-empt UNCED goals. It can be argued that a UN treaty linked fund to meet Third World demands is now unnecessary. The World Bank is banker and administrator of this fund targeted for four concerns: ocean clean-up, global warming, ozone damage and conservation of biodiversity. Set up to be managed by the World Bank, the UN Development Program and the UN Environment Program, the UN agencies have planning roles but no real clout.

Impoverished nations worry that the GEF is little more than politically correct. After all, the World Bank finances projects often resulting in environmental degradation. It could continue those activities on a grand scale then throw in a few bones from the environmental fund for reforestation or whatever. Industrial nations can contribute to the GEF for a greener image while continuing environmentally abusive practice.

Is it logical to expect an undemocratic organization like the World Bank to abide with directives from the world's populace?

RESERVE ADM. ELECTED

E. A. Tut won the Oceanus Government election for Reserve Adsmiral. The 15 April 1992 special election was determined by defacto and dejure votes of billions of individuals, age 12 and older, who are entitled to vote as Oceanus citizens.

Tut immediately took office and indicated he would commence work from his office in Asia to gain participation in and cooperation with Oceanus Government.

The next elections process of Oceanus Government officials shall begin in January of 1993 for at least one worldwide Oceanus Chancellor and two Oceanus Worldwide Senators unless a special election is needed in the meantime.

Stay up to date by reading this publication. Your viewpoint and electoral participation are always invited.

EARTH SUMMIT UPDATE

As Rio de Janeiro braces for tens of thousands of participants and observers arriving for the Earth Summit in June, President Bush announced he will attend to lead the U.S. delegation.

Bush's position on carbon-dioxide emissions has not softened however. He has said that he will not sign any greenhouse-effect treaties that have a negative effect on jobs in the U.S.A. Bush is taking the position that not enough information is known about global warming yet and that the issue needs further study. His focus at the Earth Summit is the preservation of rain forests.

Meanwhile, the American television cable news network, CNN has announced it will cover the Earth Summit.

NEW OZONE THREAT

The new chemicals being developed to replace those targeted as destroying the Earth's ozone layer may be nearly as bad as the old ones.

Hydrochlorofluorocarbons (HCFCs) and hydrofluorocarbons (HFCs) were designed to replace the damaging materiels used to make coolants and foam packing. They will still contribute to the ever growing problem of chlorine in the atmosphere according to the European Ozone Research Unit.

OCEAN CLAIMS TROUBLED

When Namibia gained its independence, it established a 318 mile exclusionary zone for fishing rights off that coast in the Southern Atlantic Sea. The country views the rich waters as a valued resource for real economic potential and has established a strategy of fishery conservation.

Spanish fishermen however claim a "traditional right" to work the same waters.

Namibian officials allege that a large number of Spanish vessels are harvesting a significant quantity of fish in the region while carrying forged South African fishing licenses. Spanish fisherment carrying fraudulent South African licenses claim to be on their way to South African waters while Namibian officials claim they are trawling for Namibian hake and other valued species.

At least 10 vessels are currently under investigation in this situation which is creating a dire threat to the resource. The economic damage is currently estimated at multi-millions of dollars even before the potential results to the fishery resource is considered.

SPREADING DROUGHT

New areas of the globe are facing the problem of drought this year. From Kenya at the Equator to the southern part of Africa, blistering heat and lack of rain have caused serious crop damage.

Zimbabwe, one of the African countries that had been successfully exporting corn, is forced to import food this year. That government's expenditure on importing corn for 1992-93 is expected to reach \$200 million.

That drought has sparked renewed interest in a plan to create a pipeline from the Zambezi River. Environmentalists object in fear of the potential destruction to the river's ecosystem.

At the same time, areas of the globe that have been artificially irrigated are now finding that it destroys the soil over time. The resulting deposits of salts build up and eventually render the soil useless for growing crops. Problems are also created in areas where there is no runoff and the soil becomes too wet.

TGON,Manset-Seawal!,ME 04656 USA