Introduction (To "A History of the Marshall Islands"



Gerald 'Jerry' Knight is one of the best known authors of the Pacific lore and culture currently in print today. His particular focus on the Marshall Islands has made him an accepted authority on the history of the slands. The witing of these stories, which in compilation broadly reflects the emergence of the modern day Marshall Islands form its mythical past, serves as an engrossing historical overview of a unique people.

Jerry spent more than four years on the remote atoll of Rongelap in the western Marshalls tapping into the soul of original oral versions of these enrapturing stories. The result, compiled here, is a rendition of tales by the now deceased La Bedbedin (Man This Reef). Transforming the cadence, word order, etc., of the original language into an accurate replica of the thought patterns and perceptions of his aged mentor, Jerry created a unique work of art. These stories illuminate the culture of this atoli nation in unadomed English. It reflects both the inner presence of La Bedbedin himself, and the archaic, strangely beautiful meter of this sparse, compelling language.

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canoe building training on

THAT we wonder if peo-

ple organizing this year's

Culture Week celebration

in September will make

sure that the exciting game

of "anidreb" is included in

THAT a high-level del-

egation of US government

Ebeve next month?

the festivities?

THAT there is a Micronesia Basketball Tournament planned for Guam

THAT all local governments are eligible to receive \$100,000 per year from the ROC/Taiwan government?

been beaten by Marshallese in Majuro?

Taiwan Koo's

Fishing Company for purse seiner "201" is expected

and \$3 million this year?

THAT the Pan Pacific Foods loining plant in Majuro has about 3,000 people listed on its employment rolls because it needs this many to ensure that at least 400 turn up every day?

THAT Finance Secretary Alfred Alfred, Jr. says 2012 is the year of reform for the

starting August 29 to September 3?

THAT the assault on a Taiwan purse seine vessel fishing master last week was at least the second time that a high-ranking Taiwanese officer has

THAT the RMI joint venture with

to net the RMI between \$2 RMI government?

THAT legislation for a new tax system is expected to be introduced to the Nitijela in August? **THAT** Department of In-

terior officials are in Majuro this week to review audit and fraud issues?

THAT Waan Aelon in Majel (WAM) is preparing to roll out its first six-month

islands next month, with a stop off planned for Kwajalein and Ebeye?

THAT the Cabinet is considering a plan to attack non-communicable diseases such as diabetes with renewed action and vigor?

THAT three RMI sprinters — Jamodre Lalita, Timi Garstang and Thomas Lajwi — will be going to Australia to train for a month in the lead up to the London Olympic Games?

> THAT Jambo Arts is sponsoring a "cross cultural multi-media exhi-

bition" this Friday from 10am-3pm and again Saturday from 10am-12noon at RRE's Bokanake — and you are surely invited?

THAT US Senators Jeff Bingaman and Lisa Murkowski want to know if the Rongelap ressetlement project has achieved its goals of making the island safe for resettlement?



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