

The *This bi-weekly publication is \$1.00*  
**KASELEHLIE PRESS**

HAPPY NEW YEAR!

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# Christmas in Weno, Chuuk!



Businesses, groups and individuals contributed to the holiday parade.

Floats were provided by:

Rotary Club of Truk Lagoon, LeiSide Store, PII/Kramer Construction, Truk Stop Hotel, Saramen Chuuk Academy, Xavier High School, Friends of Xavier, and SHIP/HOOPS

## Three juveniles arrested for the U beating death of Kose Ketinter

By Bill Jaynes  
 The Kaselehlie Press

**Pweikamw, Saladak, U, Pohnpei** – A young resident of Pweikamw, U made a gruesome discovery. She found the badly beaten body of 38 year old Kose Ketinter lying by the side of the road on Tuesday morning. He had been dead for several hours before the body was found.

Three juveniles with an average age of 16 were arrested and charged with the murder. Due to their age their names were not released to the press.

Captain Cerley Araceley, detective with the Pohnpei State Police Department said that police received a call at 10:00 in the

morning on the 29th of December informing them of the discovery.

He said that the murder occurred sometime between 2 and 3 a.m. Police knew the approximate time of the beating death because “there were confessions made,” by at least one of the three juveniles arrested for the crime.

Araceley said that all three of the teens had been drinking heavily. He did not say if Ketinter had also been drinking.

At press time the three young men were still in jail. A bail hearing was scheduled for the morning of New Year’s Eve at the Pohnpei State Supreme Court.

## Two Mapusi men arrested for the Christmas Day murder of Erlino Remei

By Bill Jaynes  
 The Kaselehlie Press

**Mapusi, Pohnpei** – In the last hours of Christmas Day a street fight broke out in Mapusi, Pohnpei that ended with the death of 36 year old Erlino Remei. Mariano John, who was supposed to have been providing security services for the Dollar Up Store was arrested for allegedly crushing Remei’s skull with a large rock. Brian Edwin was also arrested as an accessory to the murder. Both of the men are from Ngatik an outer island of Pohnpei.

Police say that alcohol was a central factor in the crime. They said that both John and Edwin had been drinking heavily during the evening.

Remei had been drinking sakau en Pohnpei (kava) and witnesses say that he had only had one or two beers as a kapohpo. Sakau drinkers often finish with a beer as a chaser that cements the feeling generated by the sakau, a feeling of numb well being rather than the violent intoxication so often associated with alcohol consumption (sakau en wai).

Witnesses say that at approximately 11:00 that night Remei noticed a young woman crying on the sidewalk outside of the Mid-town Tire Shop where he worked in Mapusi. Remei, who was both deaf and mute went to the young woman to try to console her, a

See “Christmas Death” on page 6

# Deep Sea fiber optic cable vessel "The Durable" visits Pohnpei

By Bill Jaynes  
The Kaselehlie Press

**Pohnpei, FSM**—The Reliance class vessel the Durable owned by Tyco Electronics made a stop in Pohnpei on the 29th of December in order to clear customs and immigration before continuing to run a fiber optic cable through the FSM's Exclusive Economic Zone. The long touted and anxiously awaited cable has spurs to the Marshall Islands and to the FSM. Both countries have found it possible to gain from the needs of the Kwajalein missile base for high speed communications.

The Durable will pick up the line run last month into Pohnpei's harbor at a point approximately 90 nautical miles north of Pohnpei. It will continue that line out to sea to connect with the line which has already been run from Majuro, and Kwajalein and then will continue the line West to Guam. Assuming that there are no complications that fiber optic line will reach Guam by the 21st of January.

After the line is "lit up" or made active, the communications bandwidth available to the FSM will increase dramatically in all of the states.

Before the Durable reached Pohnpei's port on the 29th of December the company made arrangements to invite eight people from the FSM to tour the high tech cable laying vessel. Included in the tour were FSM Vice President Alik Alik, Pohnpei's Lt. Governor Churchill Edward, FSM Secretary for Transportation, Communication, and Infrastructure Frances Itimai, FSM Telecommunications Chief Operating Officer John Sohl, FSMTC Plant and Engineering Department Manager, Joe Johnny, Pohnpei Port Authority Marketing Manager Pius Roby, and Kaselehlie Press Managing Editor Bill Jaynes. Iso Nahnken of U, Ihlen Joseph was invited as well but had a commitment to Pohnpei Traditional Leaders that precluded his attendance.

The tour was conducted by Captain Alan Smith, Commander of the vessel.

The vessel stores its cable in cable tanks. It has a capacity of 4000 nautical miles of cable of which there are four types aboard, double armor, single armor, special purpose application and light weight. The various types of cable are used as the ocean bottom conditions and depth of water dictate.

The vessel itself is 139 meters in length and

21 meters wide. Rather than the propellers that commercial freighters use to propel themselves through the water, the Durable has four thrusters, two of which can rotate 360 degrees. It allows the vessel incredible maneuverability which is necessary for the task of laying cable. The ship can turn completely around in its radius of only 69.5 meters. The ship can "hold station," or stand still in the ocean, in winds as high as 65 knots.

There are 60 crew members working aboard the Durable which is one of six vessels of its class owned by Tyco Electronics. The company also owns two other smaller vessels. One of those vessels was in Pohnpei last month and brought the cable spur to shore. Tyco's 6 Reliance class vessels, including the Durable currently operate all over the world including the Indian Ocean, the Red Sea, the East and West Coasts of the United States, and the equatorial and western Pacific.

Head Splicer Lyle Davis demonstrated how fiber optic cables are spliced using a computerized process. Every splice in a cable used for communication purposes creates some signal loss. The demonstration splice Davis made during the tour was estimated to have caused only .01 decibels of signal loss. Losses of .1 decibels and above are rejected.

The company places a signal amplifier every 120 kilometers. When the amplifiers are be-

ing spliced into the line the ship slows to a knot and a half.

According to Chief Engineer Salvador "Sal" Vela, cable is fed from the tanks on Linear Cable engines with a 16 ton capacity and a maximum speed of 8 knots. If more weight capacity is needed the crew makes use of one of two Cable Drum Engines located port and starboard each of which has a thirty ton capacity.

The bridge is a computerized highly technical marvel. The ship is powered electrically and has several generators aboard to supply the power needed.

The ship was only in port for one night and departed at 11:00 on the 30th of December. While they were in Pohnpei some members of the crew were allowed shore leave to explore what Pohnpei night life there was to experience on that holiday evening.

"I hope to return to the island some day," said Chief Mate Kevin Plunkett. "It is one of the most beautiful places I have ever been."

Captain Smith, an American who has lived in South America for approximately 20 years told Vice President Alik that he also hoped to return to Pohnpei for a vacation with his wife and son. While he was here he said that though his daylight time on island was limited he hoped to get a chance to sample Pohnpei's world famous surfing.



FSM Vice President listens carefully as the Durable's Captain Alan Smith explains the computerized cable controls and monitoring systems on the bridge



The Tyco Electronics Fiber Optic Cable ship, the Durable at the Pohnpei Port in Dekehtik, Pohnpei

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Bill Jaynes  
Managing Editor

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# U.S. Performs Christmas Drop in Micronesia

*Embassy of the United States of America Kolonia*

From December 16 -19, U.S. Air Force (USAF) C-130 aircraft parachuted more than twelve tons of donated items to Pacific Islanders throughout Micronesia during the 58th annual Operation Christmas Drop. The humanitarian exercise is the longest running organized air drop in the world and one of the largest charity efforts in the Pacific.

The annual operation first began in December of 1952 when islanders on Kapingamarangi waved to the crew of a USAF WB-50 flying overhead. In the spirit of the holiday season, the Airmen gathered what supplies they could, packed them into a canister, attached a parachute and dropped the goods to the islanders. Since then, through the cooperation of local and U.S. military communities in the Asia-Pacific region, Operation Christmas Drop has delivered over 800,000 pounds of supplies to thousands of residents living on remote islands in the Federated States of Micronesia and

the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

Volunteers from Andersen Air Force Base, the University of Guam, local government, businesses, community members and professional and charitable organizations prepared this year's operation. They raised money and collected toys, clothing, fishing equipment, sporting goods, food items and tools for delivery to various communities spread out over 1.8 million square miles.

Brigadier General Phil Rhulman announced that the Air Force's efforts would provide islanders with over 25,000 pounds of food and supplies. Said Rhulman, "The spirit of Christmas is obviously behind what we do." Addressing volunteers, long-time Christmas Drop

volunteer Bill Hagen explained that "for most of us Christmas falls on specific days in our calendar, but this year, on fifty-one islands, Christmas will begin as it has for

over half a century, when you, the [U.S.] Air Force show up carrying Santa in the Sky."



*36th Airlift Squadron pilot Captain Adam Cole writes a holiday greeting to the recipients of one of the boxes packed in support of Operation Christmas Drop on December 17.*



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Items listed are at an already discounted price, other discounts may not apply.

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# Micronesian pilot flying high with Japan Airlines

By Pamela Duffy

Johnny Kanku Aliksa Duffy flies the Japan to Seattle route on



Japan Airlines. Thousands of pilots fly for hundreds of airlines throughout the world but Duffy was born in Kosrae. He grew up in Kosrae and in Majuro and Ebeye, of the Republic of the Marshall Islands. The fact that he is flying for a major airline and that he is Kosraean makes his a bit of a Cinderella story.

Duffy attended Majuro Co-op School and Ebeye Jabro School as a child. His parents, Jim Duffy from Michigan and Sepe Aliksa Duffy of Lelu worked as teachers on both Majuro and Ebeye. The Duffy's always encouraged their children to reach their potential and never to give up on their goals. They constantly said that it doesn't matter if you were raised on a little island called Ebeye, an island that doesn't even appear on most maps, anyone, anywhere can accomplish great things.

Duffy received a Continental Micronesia

Scholarship and earned a commercial pilot certificate from Mustang Aviation in Springdale Arkansas in 1993. His first flying job was with Caroline Pacific Airlines servicing Chuuk.

He served as the Flight Engineer on Boeing 727 flying grade A tuna for the National Fisheries throughout Micronesia. Later he became the First Officer and ultimately became the Captain in that B727.

In 2001 he accepted a position as First Officer flying B737-700 for Aloha Airlines. In 2008 he became a Captain with Aloha Airlines.

He piloted Aloha Airlines' last flight to Johnston Island and Kwajalein. He found it useful and sometimes funny to be trilingual on previous flights. He always spoke English, Kosraean and Marshallese when he made his welcoming speech to passengers on Aloha airlines in. He said that local Micronesian passengers often looked around the cabin in bewilderment. Apparently they didn't expect one of their own to be in charge and piloting the aircraft.

After Aloha Airlines shut down operations in March of 2008, Duffy applied for a position at Air Japan/ANA, a subsidiary of All Nippon Airways. All Nippon Airways is one of the two national airlines in Japan based in Tokyo. The screening is very thorough both physically and mentally. It is extremely difficult to get through the screening process and many applicants washed out of the program.

Once he passed the intensive screening phase he was offered a position as First Officer on a Boeing 767 which can hold up to 296 passengers and has a gross weight of approximately 200 tons. After the job offer a new pilot for Air Japan/ANA had to also pass the Japan Civil Aviation Bureau Captain's training program and also score passing marks on a stringent check out flight.

Only approximately 35% of those who began the screening process ultimately went to work for Air Japan/ANA after an average of 8 months of intense training.

Duffy has been flying for over fifteen years but said that it was the most difficult program he has been through as a pilot.

Duffy has been flying for Air Japan/ANA for a year and a half and currently commutes between Japan and Seattle Washington. ANA is going through a big expansion, due to the increase in their number of slots at the Haneda, Tokyo Airport. The airline has ordered several of the Boeing 787 Dream Liners which they expect delivery on by next year.

Duffy thinks that his prospects are good to become a Captain and has set his sights on that goal.

*(Editor's note: Pamela Duffy works in the Kwajalein Police Department. She is justifiably proud of her brother. She said, "This is an encouraging story for all Micronesian young people. They too can make it! They don't have to be rich or come from a rich family or go to a US standard or otherwise well equipped school. They could be raised in Ebeye. They could come from a small town like Katem, Kosrae, or any other small Micronesian village or town and still make it. They have to believe in themselves and keep at it. If they have real determination and a goal they will find people willing to back them up financially to help them reach their goals. I believe that they will find that they can succeed if they are determined!!")*

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**NOTE:**  
FSMTCeLL subscribers cannot send or receive text messages while in an international location at this time.

\*Destination and terms apply

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# President Mori's 2009 Christmas Message



I have the pleasure to extend on behalf of Vice President Alik, cabinet members, our families, and all of us here in Palikir, our season's greetings and best wishes for a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year. On this occasion, please allow me at the outset to thank our Almighty for His many blessings, for His love, and for His guidance as we continue to lead our government and people for these last two years.

I want to acknowledge also the support, encouragement, and advice from our churches throughout the Nation, as well as the important role that our traditional leaders play in our respective communities. In the spirit of the holiday season, I want to thank you all for your leadership, and the cooperation and support that you have given in the name of our people and betterment of our nation.

For the remaining two years of our administration, I would ask that we not only stay the course that we have set for ourselves, but reaffirm and rededicate ourselves to strengthening the ties that bind us together as one people and one Nation.

Specifically, I would ask that we accelerate the momentum now in place throughout the nation in implementing our infrastructure development projects. These include those provided under the Compact as well as those generously donated by our development

partners and friends.

Equally important also are Health and Education sectors that will continue to command our attention, requiring resources and support at all levels of government. Climate change and food security are now the subject of much discussion at the global arena, having far reaching impacts on our natural resources in agriculture and fisheries, as well as in our daily lives. The most recent Climate Change meeting in Copenhagen, which I attended, only confirmed the difficult challenges we face as a Pacific small island developing nation.

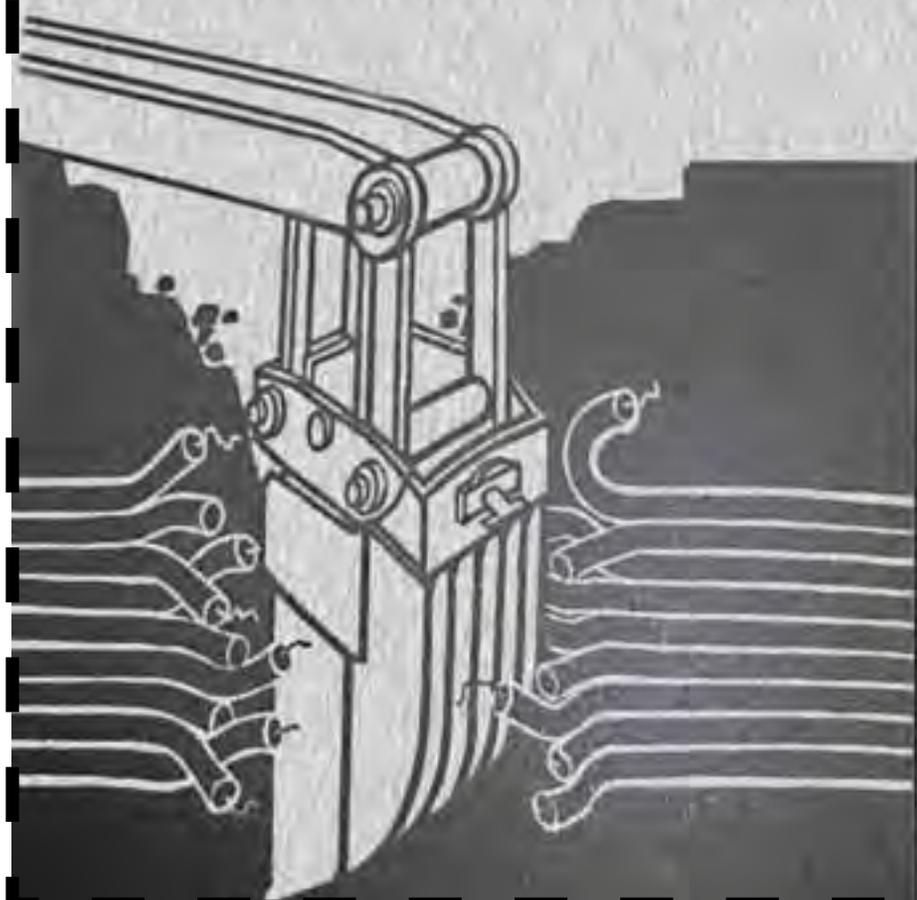
But in spite of all these challenges, I have every confidence in the resilience and commitment of our people and in the unity of our nation. It is for this reason that I seek your continued support in our outreach visit to our outer island communities in the New Year with the hope to further bring your national government to our outer island communities.

My fellow citizens and friends, I want to express our personal gratitude for your individual efforts in making our FSM a wonderful place to live. From all of us here in Palikir, we wish you a Merry Christmas and a prosperous Happy New Year.



Thank you and God bless.

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**K-Press Perspective**

**Some State Police Officers say ignorance made their jobs tougher this Holiday Season**

Some members of the Pohnpei State Police department have said that the law passed by the State Legislature to partially lift the ban on alcohol sales during the holidays has made their job tougher.

While interviewing two police officers about the facts of the two murders that occurred over the holiday season I asked if they had noticed any difference between the rate of this year's holiday alcohol related violence and that of last year's when there was an alcohol sales ban over the holidays. Their reaction was emphatic. "Definitely, this year is much worse," said Officer Kasner Aldens. "You're right. This is Pohnpei not New York City. We don't have murders here but there were two this month."

Captain Cerley Araceley, Pohnpei State Police's Captain of the Detectives didn't show for a 9:00 in the morning appointment with The Kaselehlie Press to discuss those murders. I was told that he had worked extremely late the night before and was asked to come back in an

hour. When Captain Araceley did arrive he told me that he had been at the hospital with a stabbing victim the night before. Yet another alcohol related violent act. It was certainly an excellent excuse for missing the earlier appointment and I bore him no ill will.

On New Year's Day the day shift commander of the Pohnpei State Police said that overnight there had been a number of incidents of alcohol related fighting and drunken disorderly conduct. And yes, he agreed, it was probably tougher this year than last.

Three days before deadline I asked the Director of the Department of Public Safety if he could provide statistics on the crime rate during Christmas Eve and Christmas Day this year as compared to last year. He either forgot or was diverted by other more urgent matters and those statistics never arrived.

Anecdotally however, all of the officers I spoke to agreed that part of the problem was a misunderstanding of the

new law by business people in Pohnpei. Several store owners on island apparently thought that the ban on alcohol sales had been lifted entirely when in fact there was still an island wide ban on the sale of alcohol for off premises consumption. Even some store owners who previously would never have considered selling alcohol before 10:00 in the morning which, until the law was amended they were prohibited from doing, sold alcohol on Christmas Eve and Christmas day. At least some of those store owners apparently now know what the law says and put signs up in their stores saying that carryout sales of alcohol are prohibited on New Year's Eve and New Year's Day.

But other store owners still hadn't gotten the message. Maybe it was because they didn't know what the new law said or they simply chose to ignore it.

While driving past one major grocery store on that day I saw three people loading three separate cases of beer into three separate vehicles. It was the second time I had passed the store on that day but the first time I only saw one man loading a case of beer into a taxi and another walking out the door with a six pack.

While it was true that the Legislature did pass the law quite late in the year it also seems that very little was done to educate the business owners about what their amendments meant to the conduct of their holiday business.

However, The Kaselehlie Press ran a page two article about the law in the December 9, 2009 issue but apparently even some of the store owners who sell the newspaper sold alcohol on Christmas Eve and Christmas Day. The headline was in no way misleading. It said, "Pohnpei lawmakers PARTIALLY lift holiday ban on alcohol sales." It then went on to list the details of the law which were really not that hard to understand.

In a nut shell, no one anywhere on the island was authorized on Christmas Eve, Christmas Day, New Year's Eve, or New Year's Day to sell alcohol to anyone for the purposes of carry out consumption.

The law had several other provisions and changes that my article also discussed which might have been a bit harder to understand but the basic fact of the ban of alcohol sales for off premises consumption on holiday ban days was pretty stinkin' clear.

See, this is where I get to say that I personally think that if alcohol is legal to sell on one day of the year it should probably be available for sale on all

days of the year including the days that people most want to make merry. Of course, that thinking is a bit flawed because while some people do in fact get merry after a few drinks some of them turn into raging lunatics.

I know that the ban this New Year caused me personally to buy more than I ever do at one time just in case; actually, two cases if the truth be known. I may have been alone in that reaction but I somehow seriously doubt it. I know that many people in Pohnpei don't plan ahead in that way so perhaps my reaction was not a system wide reaction and therefore probably doesn't serve as a good example of why I think the law is basically flawed and actually encourages over consumption.

BUT, it doesn't matter what I think. The Pohnpei Legislature amended the alcohol law. We ran a prominent story about it even if it did take two weeks to get the Legislature to give us a copy of it so that we could do so. Information was out there even if it was scant and unless I've missed my guess, ignorance of the law is not allowable as a defense. I mean you can't say, "Honestly, officer I didn't know that it was illegal to smack John Doe over the head with a bat." Would we really expect the law enforcement community to say, "Oh you didn't? Well that's just fine then. Now you know. Don't do it again."

Civil disobedience by ignoring the law and doing whatever we darn well please is still punishable under the law and actually is usually the point of civil disobedience

I asked the Pohnpei Detectives if they knew what kind of alcohol Mariano John and Brian Edwin who are charged with the Christmas murder of Erlino Remei were drinking. They didn't know. I asked them if they had discovered which store sold them the alcohol and when they had purchased it. They didn't know that either.

I'm only guessing based on nine years of living here but I would almost bet that they bought the alcohol during the alcohol sale ban days because that's often the way it goes here. I can't help but wonder then if the store owner who made that sale, if in fact it was illegal, feels any sense of remorse whatsoever. I also wonder if the store owner should be held culpable for selling the alcohol that seems to have led to murder; if not criminally so perhaps at least civilly.

We should all be responsible for acts; responsible to ourselves and also responsible to each other.

Well enough of that. Happy New Year to you all! I truly hope that yours is a good year!

*Bill Jaynes*  
Managing Editor

**Astronomical Tide Prediction**  
*January 6, - January 19, 2010*

	Pohnpei		Chuuk	
Wednesday	01/06/2010	01/13/2010	01/06/2010	01/13/2010
	12:55AM 0.7	02:56AM 2.1	12:09AM 0.0	01:42PM 2.0
	07:05AM 2.9	07:41AM 1.2	06:35AM 0.6	10:35PM -0.4
	12:38PM 1.4	02:36PM 4.0	08:58AM 0.5	
	06:47PM 3.3	09:44PM 0.5	03:54PM 1.4	
Thursday	01/07/2010	01/14/2010	01/07/2010	01/14/2010
	01:29AM 1.0	03:22AM 2.2	03:04PM 1.2	02:07PM 2.1
	08:00AM 2.9	08:19AM 1.0	11:01PM 0.0	10:33PM -0.4
	01:42PM 1.8	03:05PM 4.2		
	07:21PM 2.8	10:05PM 0.4		
Friday	01/08/2010	01/15/2010	01/08/2010	01/15/2010
	02:04AM 1.2	03:46AM 2.4	01:35PM 1.2	02:32PM 2.2
	09:18AM 2.9	08:53AM 0.9	10:35PM -0.1	10:34PM -0.3
	03:50PM 2.0	03:32PM 4.3		
	08:00PM 2.2	10:26PM 0.4		
Saturday	01/09/2010	01/16/2010	01/09/2010	01/16/2010
	02:50AM 1.4	04:10AM 2.6	12:32PM 1.4	03:54AM 0.2
	11:06AM 3.0	09:24AM 0.9	10:27PM	07:02AM 0.1
	07:45PM 1.7	03:58PM 4.3	-0.3	02:55PM 2.2
	10:51PM 1.8	10:46PM 0.3	10:38PM -0.2	
Sunday	01/10/2010	01/17/2010	01/10/2010	01/17/2010
	04:10AM 1.5	04:34AM 2.7	12:34PM 1.6	03:52AM 0.3
	12:31PM 3.3	09:53AM 0.9	10:29PM	07:41AM 0.1
	08:31PM 1.3	04:22PM 4.2	-0.4	03:16PM 2.1
	11:05PM 0.4		10:44PM -0.2	
Monday	01/11/2010	01/18/2010	01/11/2010	01/18/2010
	01:32AM 1.8	04:57AM 2.8	12:53PM 1.8	04:01AM 0.5
	05:48AM 1.5	10:22AM 0.9	10:34PM	08:15AM 0.2
	01:24PM 3.6	04:45PM 4.1	-0.5	03:36PM 2.0
	08:58PM 1.0	11:25PM 0.4	10:51PM -0.1	
Tuesday	01/12/2010	01/19/2010	01/12/2010	01/19/2010
	02:24AM 1.9	05:22AM 2.9	01:17PM 1.9	04:16AM 0.6
	06:54AM 1.3	10:50AM 1.0	10:36PM	08:47AM 0.2
	02:03PM 3.8	05:08PM 3.9	-0.5	03:53PM 1.8
	09:22PM 0.7	11:45PM 0.5	10:57PM 0.0	

# Chinese Premier Wen Jiabao: 60 hours in Copenhagen

By Zhao Cheng and Tian Fan  
Xinhua

Edited by Bill Jaynes  
The Kaselehlie Press

BEIJING, Dec. 25—Chinese Premier Wen Jiabao left Beijing for the climate summit in Copenhagen, Denmark on Dec. 16, when pessimism and disappointment were simmering among negotiators, who, after about 10 days' bargaining, found a bridge to span their rift seemed a mission impossible.

"It will be a tough task. Now I can feel how heavy my duty is to attend the meeting on behalf of the Chinese government," Wen told reporters aboard his plane en route to Copenhagen.

Nevertheless, Wen said he was confident that the talks would bear fruit. He remained steadfastly committed to China's action plan for voluntary reduction.

## Whirlwind talks with world leaders

Premier Wen's schedule on Dec. 17 was almost fully occupied by meetings with world leaders.

The Chinese premier's meeting with representatives of island countries and underdeveloped nations lasted for over two hours, the longest during his stay in Copenhagen.

Wen said although China had always urged developed nations to fulfil their funding commitments, China would not vie for even a cent with other developing countries if such a fund were available.

During the meeting with Danish Prime Minister Lars Lokke Rasmussen, Wen suggested that in order to achieve an outcome for the conference, all parties should stick to the consensus they had reached while leaving differences for future negotiations. "Now it seems to be the only way out. If we can reach a resolution of such a kind, it could well be an achievement of the talks," Wen said.

"It is unrealistic to hope to fill in the gap between nearly 200 countries in less than two days. China and the people of the world all wish for the success of the meeting, and the current priority is to crystallize a consensus," Wen said.

He told the UN chief it was important to fix on the political aspiration to deliver confidence and hope to the world.

The drafting of the final document must be transparent while concerns of different parties, especially developing countries, must

be taken into consideration, Wen stressed.

On the transparency issue in self mitigation actions, Wen said China was willing to conduct talks and to cooperation.

## Mysterious meeting

At a banquet hosted by Danish Queen Margrethe II on the evening December 17, Premier Wen was told that the United States would hold a small-scope meeting amongst several countries' leaders after the dinner. He learned that China was on the list of the meeting's participating countries but none of the Chinese delegation had received a notice for the mysterious meeting.

The Premier chose Vice Foreign Minister He Yafei to represent China at the meeting where he expressed strong dissatisfaction with the apparent ulterior motive displayed when the United States did not inform the Chinese delegation of the meeting.

HE said that the meeting should be transparent and no participants should impose their will on others. Any scheme in darkness, he said, would probably lead to a fruitless summit.

Just the same, other similar negotiations took place amongst other countries during the conference to propose draft resolutions.

## An impromptu meeting

When Danish Prime Minister Rasmussen or UN Secretary General Ban Ki-moon failed to show for the final segment of the UN Climate Change Conference scheduled for 10 A.M., Premier Wen made a decision to propose a meeting of the BASIC countries. The leaders exchanged views as they sat around a tea table in the hall.

Finally at 11:30 Rasmussen announced the opening of the summit.

Premier Wen was the first to deliver a speech, titled "Build Consensus and Strengthen Cooperation to Advance the Historical Process of Combating Climate Change."

At the end of his speech, Wen made a serious promise.

"It is with a sense of responsibility to the Chinese people and the whole mankind that the Chinese government has set the target for mitigating greenhouse gas emissions. This is a voluntary action China has taken in the light of its national circumstances. We have not attached any condition to the target, nor have we linked it to the target of any other country," Wen said.

"We will honor our word with real action. Whatever outcome this conference may produce, we will be fully committed to achieving and even exceeding the target."

## Last minute effort

After U.S. President Barack Obama's speech, Premier Wen held talks with him in a meeting room just behind the summit venue.

The two leaders agreed that the participating countries of the conference should achieve a political resolution as soon as possible and continue cooperation on climate change.

As soon as the talks ended, Wen asked members of the Chinese delegation to inform the Group of 77 and other BASIC countries of the Sino-American talks.

Developing and developed countries discussed the final document, but failed to make any progress as a result of a divergence of views, even though the Copenhagen climate change conference was scheduled to conclude hours earlier.

"As long as there is hope of one percent, we should not give up and must instead make 100 percent of effort," Wen told the Chinese delegation.

Wen decided to meet other leaders of the BASIC countries again in order to make a final attempt.

At 6:50 p.m., while BASIC leaders were reviewing their final common position, President Obama showed up. He stopped with one foot outside the gate and asked Premier Wen with smiles if he should wait outside or join the discussion.

Premier Wen stood up and politely invited him to join them. Obama accepted and walked around the room to shake hands with all the people present, before taking a seat to the left of Brazilian President Luiz Inacio Lula da Silva.

Premier Wen said efforts should be made to adopt a resolution in order to affirm the achievements of the meeting and build consensus. He then made clear the position of BASIC countries on several key issues.

Before the leaders of the five nations started their negotiations, President Obama briefed the leaders of BASIC countries about the latest U.S. stance, saying both sides were very close on the wording of the issues.

Applause broke out when the BASIC countries finally reached agreement with the United States on the wording of some key issues. The United States said it was willing to consult with the European Union.

The BASIC countries discussed with some other countries while the U.S.-Europe talks went on. A few more countries reviewed the draft later.

An hour later, news came that the parties concerned, agreed on the draft and were ready to submit it for a voting at the conference. It was nine hours after the scheduled conclusion of the conference.

In a recent interview with Xinhua, Wen said China would like to work with other countries, with the Copenhagen talks as a new beginning, to honor commitments, cooperate more closely and conclude the "Bali Roadmap" negotiations at an early date.

