

PRESIDENTIAL PROCLAMATION NO. 10-27

AN OUTSTANDING CITIZENSHIP AWARD IS BESTOWED UPON MADERNGEBUKED THOMAS O. REMENGESAU, SR.

Born on November 28, 1929 in Ngaraard Village, Mr. Thomas O. Remengesau attended and completed the Japanese School for the natives in Ngaraard Village and further completed his Japanese education in Koror in 1942. After World War II, Mr. Remengesau attended the Post War American School System in Ngaraard Village and went on to complete his early American schooling in Koror from 1947 to 1949.

Mr. Thomas O. Remengesau went on to further his higher education at Pacific Islands Teacher Training School in Truk from 1949 to 1951 and further attended George Washington High School in Guam from 1951-1953.

In 1955, he received a United Nations Fellowship/Scholarship to conduct a field study in the area of public administration in Western Samoa, then a U.N. trust territory administered by New Zealand and Western Samoa was in the process of organizing a Constitutional Convention for Independent Island Nations. In 1956, immediately after Western Samoa, Mr. Thomas O. Remengesau, Sr. attended the University of Hawaii from 1956 to 1957;

In the summer of 1957, Mr. Thomas O. Remengesau, Sr. returned home and became Economic Development Advisor and a Member of Koror Municipal Council and later in the same year he became the Speaker of the Palau Legislature. In 1961, his political career was interrupted briefly so he could finish the final two (2) years of his education at the University of

Hawaii, where he completed his major in Public Administration at the end of the summer of 1963.

Returning home from the University of Hawaii, Mr. Thomas O. Remengesau, Sr. became the Assistant District Administrator for Public Affairs from 1965-1970. In 1970, he was appointed to be the District Administrator (Chief Executive Officer) of Palau District, a position he held until 1979. He is the only Palauan who became the District Administrator in Palau and the longest serving native Micronesian District Administrator during the Trust Territory Administration.

Furthermore, from 1979-1981, he resided in Saipan (CNMI) where he worked as the Deputy Director for Planning and Statistics, Office of the High Commissioner.

From 1981 to 1986, Mr. Thomas O. Remengesau, Sr. became the Minister of Justice for the Palau Constitutional Government where he helped implement policies and procedures that are still utilized today. Mr. Thomas O. Remengesau, Sr. went on to become the Vice President and Minister of Justice during one of the Republic's most challenging periods in its young history - from 1986 to 1988. In 1988, by succession he became President of the Republic of Palau to serve the remaining terms of the late President Lazarus Sali. While serving as the President, he also held the position of the Vice President and the Minister of Justice at the same time.

Mr. Thomas O. Remengesau, Sr. retired from his distinguished public service to the nation at the end of 1988. In 1989, soon rafter his retirement, he became Maderngebuked, the Traditional Paramount High Chief of Ngaraard State and since then he serves as the Chairman of the House of Chiefs of Ngaraard State Olbetibel (Legislature) and a Member of Palau Council of Chiefs from 1989 to the present.

Maderngbuked Thomas O. Remengesau, Sr. is listed in the Dictionary of International Biography in recognition of his exemplary services to the people and the government of his country. A biography is currently being written about his many achievements and successes.

To those who are present here today, let it be known that Maderngbuked Thomas O. Remengesau, Sr.'s life history shall be an example for all generations to emulate as a model for hard work, perseverance and great professional and personal achievements.

Now therefore, by the powers vested in me as the President of the Republic of Palau, and on behalf of all grateful citizens, I hereby bestow upon Maderngbuked Thomas O. Remengesau, Sr. the distinct honor of an ***OUTSTANDING CITIZEN OF THE REPUBLIC OF PALAU***, together with all the rights and privileges accorded such distinction on this 1st day of October, 2010.

/s/

JOHNSON TORIBIONG
PRESIDENT
REPUBLIC OF PALAU