

micronesian dances performed for visiting journalists

WHEN a group of leading U. S. press correspondents who are stationed in Japan visited Guam late in January 1962, one of the highlights of their tour was an evening function at the residence of High Commissioner and Mrs. M. W. Goding.

Beginning with a buffet supper, the event proved gay and exotically Micronesian. In a bright outdoor setting, Yapese and Palauan dances were presented by young Micronesians attending the College of Guam, while a Micronesian orchestra provided music for the performances.

Four Yapese men - Cyril Uluch, Louis Ruemoon, Fanoway Salvador, and Luke Tman - performed two famous Yapese dances: "Gamel" (Bamboo Dance) and "Parugabut" (Sitting Dance) with all the characteristic jumping and shouting which have made these exhibitions perhaps the most exciting of all the Micronesian performances.

A group of six young Trust Territory women enacted the famous "Matmatong" (Marching Dance) of Palau. They were Fermina Simon, Maria Louisa Mesebluu, Sanae D. Ngiraked, Misae Fritz, Hermana Emul, and Joanna Gulibert. Climax of the evening's entertainment came as these charming young women, in traditional fashion, placed their leis upon the shoulders of male guests, and invited them to dance. Later in the evening there was general dancing. For this, some of the Micronesian performers still wore their grass or coconut-frond skirts. Others had quick-

ly changed to smart U. S. fashions, the type of clothes they ordinarily wear.

The visiting correspondents for whom the function was given included A.M. Rosenthal of the New York Times, Edwin Q. White and Harold Buell of the Associated Press, Mrs. Lee Martin of U.S. News and World Report, William O'Neill of American Broadcasting Company and North American Newspaper Alliance, LeRoy Hansen of United Press International, Edward Neilan of Copley News Service, Lt. Col. J. P. Kelly and Ernest Richter of the Pacific Stars and Stripes, and M/Sgt. Thomas Rhone of Press Liaison Service, who escorted the group from Tokyo.

The tour of the correspondents was sponsored by Maj. Gen William Kingsbury, Commander, Third Air Division, in cooperation with High Commissioner M. W. Goding, Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands; Rear Adm. John S. Coye, Jr., Commander Naval Forces Marianas, and Governor Bill Daniel of Guam.

Liaison officers who coordinated the plans for the tour included Maj. John R. Ruehle, Chief of Information, 3rd Air Division SAC, Andersen Air Force Base, who was Project Officer for the tour of the visiting correspondents; Lieut. Comdr. Joseph J. Gorski, Service Information Officer, Commander Naval Forces Marianas, and Ed Engledow, Press Secretary, Government of Guam. The Trust Territory phase of the Guam tour was arranged by the Office of the High Commissioner, with various Headquarters personnel assisting.

Trust Territory Receiving World-Wide Publicity

The story is going the rounds about the man who kept hearing references to Micronesia as a group of his friends talked.

Not being "up" on affairs of the world, he asked impatiently, "Mike Who?" World-wide publicity centering on the Trust Territory is fast making Micronesia a familiar term - not a strange name belonging to Mike somebody. (Although not identical, Micronesia and the Trust Territory are practically synonymous.)

Al Rosenthal's feature along with pictures, written during his visit to Yap and Palau following a tour of Guam with other

U. S. journalists stationed in Japan, has found its way to the front page of the Times' Paris edition, following publication in the New York edition.

The New York Times is only one of thousands of newspapers and radio stations, both foreign and U. S., which currently have been carrying information about the Trust Territory as a result of the U. S. correspondents' tour to Guam. AP, UPI, and practically all of the media represented by the visiting journalists, have printed news and feature articles, also photographs of the Trust Territory.