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ACTION IO-03:

INFO OCT-01 SS-10 PM-04 INR-08 EA-06 PRS-01 L-04 PC-04

AID-10 /051 W

119451

P 121109Z MAY 71 ZNZI  
 FM DISTAD TRUK  
 TO HICOMTERPACIS SAIPAN  
 ALDI TERPACIS  
 LNO GUAM  
 LNO KWAJ  
 COMNAVMARIANAS  
 CINCPAC  
 CINCPACREPGUAM/TTPI  
 USNAVINSERVO GUAM  
 SEC INTERIOR  
 INFO SEC STATE  
 SEC DEF  
 JCS  
 CNO  
 CHINFO  
 CINCPACFLT  
 CINCPACF  
 CINCUSARPAC  
 CGFMFPAC

*442 - See last page  
 file*

COMCBPAC  
 EIC/STARS AND STRIPES/TOKYO  
 HICOMTERPACIS LNO HONO  
 NAVFACNGCOM HDQTRS  
 PACDIVNACFACENGCOM  
 HICOMTERPACIS PID  
 GRNC

UNCLAS (SECTION I OF II)  
 CONGRESS OF MICRONESIA)

TRUK, MAY 12 (MNS)---THE MARIANAS DELEGATION'S BOYCOTT OF THE  
 FOURTH SPECIAL SESSION OF THE CONGRESS OF MICRONESIA HAS ENDED.

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FOUR OF THE FIVE MEMBERS OF THE DELEGATION ARE NOW IN TRUK, FOLLOWING THE ARRIVAL WEDNESDAY (MAY 12) OF SENATORS OLYMPIO BORJA AND EDWARD PANGELINAN AND REPRESENTATIVE CARLOS SHODA.

THE ONLY MEMBER OF THE DELEGATION NOT NOW PARTICIPATING IN THE SPECIAL SESSION IS REPRESENTATIVE HERMAN GUERRERO WHO, ACCORDING TO SENATOR PANGELINAN, HAS "PERSONAL" REASONS FOR NOT COMING TO TRUK. HE IS NOT EXPECTED TO JOIN HIS COLLEAGUES AT THE SESSION. THE FIFTH MEMBER OF THE DELEGATION, REPRESENTATIVE

PAGE THREE RUHGSKK4515 UNCLAS  
FELIPE ATALIG, ARRIVED IN TRUK SATURDAY.

BOTH THE SENATE AND THE HOUSE POSTPONED THE START OF THEIR WEDNESDAY MORNING SESSIONS IN ORDER THAT THE CONGRESS LEADERSHIP COULD GO TO THE TRUK AIRPORT AND GREET THE MARIANAS MEMBERS. THEY WERE GREETED IN THE SAME WAY THAT THE OTHER CONGRESS MEMBERS HAD BEEN WHEN THEY ARRIVED, WITH COLORFUL LEIS AND MARMARS. SENATOR PANGELINAN SAID HE AND THE OTHERS WERE "VERY GRATEFUL" FOR THIS WARM RECEPTION AND FOR THE HOSPITALITY OF THE PEOPLE OF TRUK.

FROM THE AIRPORT, THE MEN DROVE DIRECTLY TO THE DISTRICT LEGISLATURE BUILDING, WHERE THE DELAYED SESSIONS THEN BEGAN WITH SENATORS BORJA AND PANGELINAN AND REPRESENTATIVE SHODA RESPONDING TO THE ROLL CALL FOR THE FIRST TIME. BEFORE BORJA AND SHODA ANSWERED WHEN THEIR NAMES WERE CALLED, HOWEVER, EACH MADE A BRIEF STATEMENT. THEY PLEDGED TO WORK HARMONIOUSLY WITH THE CONGRESS FOR THE GOOD OF ALL MICRONESIA DURING THE SESSION, DESPITE THEIR EARLY ABSENCE AND THEIR DIFFERENCES ON THE QUESTION OF FUTURE POLITICAL STATUS.

IN THE SENATE THERE WERE NO BILLS ON THE CALENDAR FOR FINAL ACTION, BUT THE VOTE ON ONE JOINT RESOLUTION SPARKED A LENGTHY

PAGEE FOUR RUHGSKK4515 UNCLAS  
DEBATE. THE RESOLUTION WAS TO DIRECT THE JOINT BUDGET COMMITTEE TO SET ASIDE FUNDS FOR CONSTRUCTION OF A FUTURE PERMANENT CAPITAL OF MICRONESIA. SEVERAL SENATORS THOUGHT THEY SAW AN IMPLICATION IN THE RESOLUTION, AND SENATOR AMBILOS IEHSI (PONAHE) VICED IT WHEN HE ASKED, "ARE WE MOVING OUT OF SAIPAN? WHAT IS WRONG WITH THE PRESENT CAPITOL OF MICRONESIA?"

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SENATOR ISAAC LANWI (MARSHALLS) RESPONDED THAT "SAIPAN AS THE CAPITOL OF MICRONESIA IS JUST TEMPORARY. THE LOCATION OF OUR CAPITOL IS UP TO THE MICRONESIAN PEOPLE."

THIS PROMPTED SENATOR PANGELINAN TO COMMENT THAT "IF WE ARE LOOKING FOR A PLACE TO HOLD THE CONGRESS SESSIONS, I THINK SAIPAN CAN OFFER THE NECESSARY FACILITIES. I AM ALSO AWARE THAT THE QUESTION OF A PERMANENT CAPITOL FOR MICRONESIA HAS POLITICAL OVERTONES," HE CONTINUED, "BUT I FEEL THAT WE MUST RESOLVE THE POLITICAL STATUS QUESTION BEFORE WE SET A PERMANENT CAPITOL OF MICRONESIA."

HIS COLLEAGUE FROM THE MARIANAS, SENATOR BORJA, SAID HE DID NOT FEEL THIS WAS THE TIME TO DISCUSS APPROPRIATING FUNDS FOR A PERMANENT CAPITAL, SUGGESTING THAT THE MONEY COULD BE USED FOR BETTER PURPOSES "AT THIS TIME." SENATOR BORJA ALSO SAID,

PAGEE FIVE RUHGSKK4515 UNCLAS

"WE WOULD LIKE TO SEE THE TRUST TERRITORY HELD TOGETHER AT THIS TIME. SAIPAN IS NOW THE PROVISIONAL CAPITOL OF MICRMNESIA AND WE WOULD LIKE IT TO REMAIN SO."

SENATOR LANWI RESPONDED THAT "IF THE MARIANAS WANTS TO SECEDE FROM THE TRUST TERRITORY, WHY NOT FIND ANOTHER SITE?"

THE DEBATE HAD VERY MUCH THE QUALITY OF A DISCUSSION THAT EVERYONE WAS READY TO GET INTO AT THE DROP OF A SUGGESTION, AND AT THIS POINT SENATOR ANDON AMARAICH (TRUK) POINTED OUT THAT THE DEBATE WAS CONSIDERABLY OFF THE POINT. "THE QUESTION OF WHERE HEADQUARTERS WILL BE LOCATED IS NOT INCLUDED IN THIS RESOLUTION," HE SAID. "BUT NO MATTER WHERE YOU WANT TO BUILD, YOU ARE GOING TO NEED MONEY," AND THE PURPOSE OF THE RESOLUTION IS SIMPLY TO SET ASIDE THAT MONEY, HE SAID.

THERE WAS STILL MORE DEBATE, HOWEVER, WITH THE SENATORS FROM THE MARIANAS MAKING THE POINT THAT THE CONGRESS IS WELCOME ON SAIPAN, AND MAINTAINING THEIR BELIEF THAT THE RESOLUTION CARRIED WITH IT THE IMPLICATION THAT THE CONGRESS WANTS TO MOVE THE CAPITOL OF MICRONESIA TO SOME OTHER DISTRICT. BUT THE RESOLUTION EVENTUALLY WAS ADOPTED OVER THEIR OBJECTIONS.

ONE OTHER JOINT RESOLUTION ADOPTED UNANIMOUSLY BY THE SENATE

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REQUESTS THE DIRECTOR OF THE PEACE CORPS, MICRONEISIA, TO "REPLACE  
AS SOON AS IS PRACTICAL ALL AMERICAN PEACE CORPS DISTRICT  
DIRECTORS WITH MICRONEISIANS." BOTH JOINT RESOLUTIONS NOW GO  
TO THE HOUSE FOR FURTHER CONSIDERATION.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, THE HOUSE VERSION OF THE  
PROPOSED MERIT SYSTEM ACT WAS UP FOR SECOND AND FINAL READING  
WEDNESDAY, BUT IN A CLOSE VOTE THAT CALLED FOR A DIVISION OF  
THE HOUSE, THE BILL WAS DEFERRED FOR ONE DAY.

IN REPORTING ON THE BILL, THE CHAIRMAN OF THE COMMITTEE ON  
JUDICIARY AND GOVERNMENTAL RELATIONS, REPRESENTATIVE OWEN PAUL  
(PONAPE), STRONGLY URGED ITS PASSAGE. HE SAID IT IS SUCH AN  
IMPORTANT PIECE OF LEGISLATION THAT IT SHOULD BE PASSED "DESPITE  
CERTAIN IMPERFECTIONS AND INEQUITIES IN THE BILL IN ITS PRESENT  
FORM."

PAUL SAID TWO REASONS FOR PASSING THE BILL ARE THAT IT WILL  
BE A SIGNIFICANT IMPROVEMENT IN THE PRESENT PAY SYSTEM FOR  
GOVERNMENT EMPLOYEES, AND IT CALLS FOR THE FIRST EFFORT OF THE  
CONGRESS TO HELP DEVISE A PAY PLAN FOR MICRONEISAN EMPLOYEES OF  
THE GOVERNMENT. HE EXPRESSED HIS DISSATISFACTION, HOWEVER, OVER  
THE FACT THAT THE BILL IN ITS PRESENT FORM WILL NOT CARRY OUT

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