

## The Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands

*Statement by Edward J. Johnston<sup>1</sup>*

First of all, may I state that it is again a pleasure to appear before the distinguished members of the Trusteeship Council and to report on the state of affairs in the Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands during the past year. I can assure you that Senator Tun [Petrus Tun, Senator from Yap, Congress of Micronesia], Representative Haruo [Sasauo Haruo, Representative from Truk], and I look forward to our discussions with you at this session of the Council and stand ready to answer any and all questions which you may have concerning our trust territory.

Perhaps it would be well to begin our 1971 report to this Council by discussing with you the progress we have made in certain specific areas in response to the recommendations of the United Nations Visiting Mission of 1970. Although time does not permit our discussing in detail every recommendation contained in the very thorough and excellent report of the 1970 Visiting Mission, we will now review some of the highlights of this report.<sup>2</sup>

A major recommendation of the Visiting Mission was that the Congress of Micronesia be more intimately involved in the budgetary process of the trust territory and that this financial participation in trust territory matters should also be extended to the district legislatures in each of our six administrative districts. I am

<sup>1</sup> Made before the 38th session of the United Nations Trusteeship Council on May 26 (USUN press release 73). Mr. Johnston is High Commissioner of the Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands and U.S. Special Representative on the Trusteeship Council.

<sup>2</sup> U.N. doc. T/1713.

pleased to report to this distinguished Council that this has been accomplished to a great degree during the past year. For the first time, the budget which we present to the Congress of the United States for approval has been the product of a joint effort beginning at the district level. Each district administration has received priorities from its district legislature and has forwarded these priorities to trust territory headquarters. They have then been consolidated into one trust-territory-wide budget which has been presented to, acted upon, and subsequently approved by the Congress of Micronesia. The annual budget upon which our government operates, therefore, is no longer a product of the administering authority submitted to Micronesians only for comment but is truly a Micronesian product in every respect.

The members of the Visiting Mission very correctly identified as one of Micronesia's greatest problems the existence of a number of pay plans and salary scales throughout the government of the trust territory. In this respect, the executive branch of the trust territory government has prepared and presented to the Congress of Micronesia a proposed solution to our multiple pay-scale problem. After thoroughly considering and debating the administration's proposal for a new trust territory merit plan to cover all employees in two regular and two special sessions, the Congress of Micronesia has now passed and forwarded to the High Commissioner a new job classification and pay plan which should go far toward a complete solution of Micronesia's wage problems. Since the bill was passed by the Congress of Micronesia

only a few days ago, it is not possible at this point to discuss with this Council the details of the plan, but I can assure you that it will be thoroughly reviewed by the executive branch immediately, and I am sure that it will represent an equitable pay plan for all of our trust territory employees for the future.

High on the list of priorities in the Visiting Mission's report was the need for development of more locally generated revenues by the trust territory government. We are happy to report that the fourth Congress of Micronesia in its first regular session did pass an act providing for the trust territory's first income tax on individuals and businesses and that this act was signed by the High Commissioner into Public Law 4C-2 early this year. The act becomes effective on July 1, 1971, and we will begin collecting the tax at that time. It is estimated that the new tax law will at the start produce annual revenues of roughly \$2½ million, to be appropriated by the Congress of Micronesia.

#### **Transportation and Communications**

The 1970 Visiting Mission, as had its predecessors, stressed the need for improvement in the fields of transportation and communication in Micronesia. During the past year, our new and modern voice communications system has been virtually completed, so that five of our six administrative districts are now linked with each other and, through Saipan, to the rest of the world. We are at long last able to communicate with each other in clear, relatively secure voice communication. The sixth district (Palau) should be hooked into the system within the relatively near future. To augment this system, we have placed great stress on the improvement of single-sideband-radio facilities on our more remote islands to link them with the district centers and the new communication system. It is our intention to eventually equip every one of our populated islands not only with an operational radio but with standby equipment to be immediately put into operation in the event of failure of the primary system. We have made great strides toward the accomplishment of this goal during the past year.

As for progress in our age-old and continuing problem of transportation among our 100 popu-

lated islands and in connecting us with the rest of the world, I can report that the trust territory government has acquired an additional two field-trip vessels, plus time charters of two privately owned vessels, making a total of 13 ships now in service. Our outer islands are receiving service at the rate of a 30-day minimum and most of them every 20 to 25 days. One result of this increased service and its regularity has been an increase of copra production at the rate of 1,000 tons annually in each of the past 2 years. Over the next 5 years, if we are successful in securing the revenues which we have budgeted, our entire fleet of overaged vessels will be replaced by new and modern vessels designed specifically for service in Micronesia.

The commercial air service throughout the trust territory by Air Micronesia, with its over 1,100 Micronesian stockholders, has continued to play an important part in the development of our area. This regular commercial air service has been supplemented by air taxi services in two of our districts, the Marianas and the Marshalls, and we look forward to similar services in other areas in the near future. The Island of Kusaie, a subdistrict center in the Ponape District with over 4,000 population, has now been master planned, and the greatest priority will be given to the construction of an airfield and considerable improvement to their now inadequate harbor and dock facilities.

In regard to our oceangoing contacts with the outside world, we have during the past year held public hearings and continued negotiations with Micronesian Interocean Line, Inc., which have already contributed to great improvement in service and I am sure will continue to make further progress in the future.

We have continued our program, which we discussed with this Council last year, of using local contracting capabilities to build additional school classrooms and dispensaries. By this method we have almost doubled the number of classrooms and dispensaries which had been previously scheduled for the past fiscal year and have awarded more than \$2 million to local contractors since the program began.

The need for low-cost housing projects throughout Micronesia, which was stressed by the Visiting Mission, has resulted in a budget appropriation of \$500,000 to start the program

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in each of our six districts. We are currently involved in the process of creating housing authorities in each district. Officials of our administration and the Congress of Micronesia have studied and investigated low-cost housing projects in other areas, and I am sure that by next year's meeting of the Council we will be well underway with this program.

The executive branch of the trust territory government is certainly in complete agreement with the Visiting Mission's conclusions regarding a need for much stricter control of firearms in the Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands. I am sure you will be pleased to note that the Congress of Micronesia, in its special session which just concluded on May 22, did pass and send to the High Commissioner a bill providing for such strict control of firearms throughout Micronesia.

### Improvements in Education

The field of education has always been of great concern to the members of this distinguished Council, and the 1970 Visiting Mission made a number of suggestions concerning our Micronesian educational system.

One recommendation was that we should improve and expand our vocational and technical education throughout the trust territory. At the present time, a concerted effort is being made to bring into existence a comprehensive vocational program in each district to supplement the technical programs now going on at the Micronesian Occupational Center in Koror in the Palau District. This action is in direct reaction to the mission's recommendation and also the manifest desires and aspirations of the Micronesians themselves. Last November the Micronesian Occupational Center reached the second stage of its operation with 300 students enrolled in 14 occupational training areas. This program is being supplemented by vocational training at the secondary level in each district, and in fiscal years 1971 and 1972 new facilities are being built to house the vocational training programs.

One unique and most valuable phase of our vocational education program began in January of 1971 with the opening of a seamanship institute on the Island of Dublon in the Truk

District to train 40 young Micronesians to man the vessels of our inter-island transportation fleet. This long-range training effort unfortunately received a setback recently when Typhoon Amy virtually destroyed the physical facilities of the school. However, on a visit to the school site just the day following the typhoon, I was pleased to note that the spirit of both the instructors and the students remained undaunted, and I am sure that the program will be continued despite the present physical handicaps and that the school itself will shortly be rebuilt. These various programs which I have briefly described to you have already resulted in making a practical course of vocational education available to roughly 60 percent of our students at the secondary level.

This fiscal year has also seen an all-out effort to comply with the mission's recommendation to create and implement a relevant Micronesian curriculum. Toward this end, a territory-wide "Curriculum Council" has been set up, with almost total Micronesian participation, and through its efforts teaching materials in social studies, mathematics, and vernacular languages in the various districts are now in use in the classrooms. You have our assurance that we will vigorously pursue this effort to make the curriculum in our school system more totally responsive to the desires and needs of the Micronesians themselves.

Also of great importance in the general field of education has been the fine leadership exhibited by the Manpower Advisory Council, which serves in the capacity of assessing the needs for certain specialized training throughout the trust territory and in setting priorities for scholarships for advanced training for many of our best qualified young people. To make all phases of our educational program continually more responsive to Micronesian desires, the High Commissioner has appointed a trust-territory-wide school board. The members of this board were just recently approved by the Congress of Micronesia as was required under the statute which set up the board, and it should hold its first meeting in the very near future.

You will recall that at last year's meeting of the Council we announced the creation of the Community College of Micronesia in the Ponape District. This institution has, during the

past year, greatly improved the standard of our teacher training by not only training new qualified teachers but upgrading the qualifications of those already in the school system. Realizing the importance of this first institution of higher learning in Micronesia's history, we have had prepared for us a master plan for its physical development, are currently constructing a road to the proposed site, and will begin construction of the new facilities in fiscal year 1972.

The Trusteeship Council has long stressed the need for improvement in the trust territory in the fields of agriculture, marine resources, and general economic development. While progress in this area is admittedly not yet phenomenal, there has been a decided improvement during the past year. As you are well aware, during the past several years many studies have been made, and it seemed at times as though the studies had far exceeded the actual production efforts. In addressing an economic development seminar involving citizens from each of our six districts early this year, I stressed that we should now leave the era of studies and planning of projects and enter the era of actual production, production which would provide a viable economy for all Micronesia for the present and for the future.

#### **Agricultural Gains**

May I now cite some specific gains which we have made in the field of agriculture. Vegetable production has risen from 157,000 pounds and a value of \$19,000 in fiscal year 1969 to over 1,350,000 pounds and a value of over \$200,000 in fiscal year 1971. In fiscal year 1971, we began our first major production of bananas, a very popular commodity throughout the Pacific, with a production of 32,000 pounds and a value of \$3,000. Due largely to a ranching effort on the Island of Tinian in the Marianas District, our production of meat for domestic consumption and export to Guam has risen from 21,000 pounds and a value of \$9,000 in fiscal year 1969 to 140,000 pounds and a value of over \$70,000 in fiscal year 1971. The production of our most exotic crop, the famous Ponape pepper, has continued to grow steadily throughout the years, with a fiscal year 1971 production of over 12,000 pounds and a value of \$7,500.

In line with our increased emphasis on production rather than study, the trust territory government Department of Resources and Development entered into a contract several months ago with Mr. Harry Tsutsui of Hawaii, a man with over 20 years' experience with tropical poultry raising in Hawaii, the Philippines, and Thailand. Since his arrival in the trust territory in November of 1970, Mr. Tsutsui has visited all six districts and has talked 40 Micronesians into entering the field of poultry farming and is presently working with 26 other persons interested in developing poultry farms. From one to seven new poultry farms are now in successful operation in each district as a result of this program. Part of the success is attributable to a special tropical-type poultry building designed specifically for conditions in Micronesia by Mr. Tsutsui and capable of holding a minimum of 2,000 birds. When Mr. Tsutsui arrived the trust territory was producing some 8,500 chickens per year. It is predicted now that within the next 18 months, the total will be raised to 24,000 chickens, an annual yield of 300,000 dozen eggs valued at over \$300,000, and another 50-percent increase in production possible by March 1972. We cite this merely as an example of our progress and can assure you that similar programs in other phases of agriculture and marine resources are being instituted and will produce dramatic results in the near future.

The above examples are the results of an effort by the administration of the trust territory in line with the recommendations of the Visiting Mission to fully utilize the agricultural potential of the land and the people of Micronesia. We have been most encouraged by our results in this field of endeavor.

In the area of general economic development we have continued to push for an increase in the funds available to our Economic Development Loan Fund to \$5 million, as recommended by the Visiting Mission, and have made major progress in the general field of tourism. In this connection, Mr. Mike Ashman, formerly our Chief of Public Information, has been placed in charge of developing our tourism program. Since the executive and legislative branches of the trust territory government share the con-

cern of the Trusteeship Council that tourism in Micronesia must be developed as a viable economic asset without in any way destroying the beauty or the cultures of the area, Mr. Ashman is currently in the process of setting up a tourism commission of Micronesian citizens in each one of our six districts to properly monitor and direct this important phase of our overall economic development. During the past year, all hotels in the various districts formerly operated by the government have been turned over to the private sector and are now being operated by those who were successful in a process of competitive bidding for the right to take over and operate the hotels.

Although we have referred previously to our desire to replace scholarly studies with actual production, this should in no way be construed as an abandonment of proper economic planning for the trust territory. This is a great concern of the Congress of Micronesia as well as of our administration, and I am sure we will work closely together in this regard.

One final area of comment on the report of the Visiting Mission of 1970 is in relation to United States military retention lands throughout the Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands. I am pleased to announce a continuing reduction of the acreage of military retention lands, and with the recent release of all military retention lands in the Truk District, a total of 21,141 acres have been released during the past few years. Military retention lands now exist in only two districts—the Marianas and the Marshalls—and this problem is under continued study by both the legislative and executive branches of the trust territory government.

#### **Other Major Accomplishments**

So much for specific comments on the 1970 Visiting Mission's report. Now if I may, in the next few minutes I should like to review with you briefly some of the other major accomplishments throughout Micronesia which have occurred since the last meeting of this Council.

Ambassador Phillips has previously referred to the war claims legislation now pending before the Congress of the United States and has stated that I will brief you on the status of other United States legislation pertaining to the Trust

Territory of the Pacific Islands.<sup>3</sup> Several matters of continuing concern to this Trusteeship Council are now under consideration by the United States House of Representatives, having been passed by the United States Senate. This legislation pertains to war and "post-secure" claims, freer access to the United States by Micronesian citizens, and increasing the funding of our Economic Development Loan Fund to \$5 million.

The United States Congress has increased the appropriation ceiling for the trust territory to \$60 million for fiscal year 1971. Fifty million dollars of this amount has already been appropriated, and a supplemental appropriation of \$10 million is now being considered on the floor of both the United States Senate and the United States House of Representatives. A continuing effort is being made to include the trust territory in various United States Federal programs which would be beneficial to the citizens of Micronesia. One example of this is a proposed amendment to a Federal statute which would make the trust territory eligible for assistance in the development of airfield facilities.

Very shortly after Typhoon Amy struck the Truk District, Mr. Ralph Burns, the Regional Director of the United States Office of Emergency Preparedness, paid a personal visit to the Truk District and inspected the damage. Based on his subsequent recommendations, the President of the United States has now declared the Truk District a major disaster area, and United States Federal funds will be available for rehabilitation of the typhoon damage to both the public and private sectors.

An important educational development not previously discussed with the Council is our new program for those children who need special education. During the past year, we have begun this program by training a basic corps of teachers in education of deaf children and others who are mildly physically or mentally handicapped. Although this program has had a modest beginning, I am sure that it will continue to grow and be most important in the

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<sup>3</sup> For a statement by Christopher H. Phillips, U.S. Representative on the Trusteeship Council, see USUN press release 69 dated May 26.

overall educational development of the trust territory.

In previous reports to the Council, it has frequently been mentioned that land is one of the most important factors in the whole picture of life in Micronesia. We have previously outlined for you the land cadastre program instituted by the executive branch with the full cooperation of the Congress of Micronesia. This program is now well underway and as of March 31, 1971, had produced the following results:

1. Control surveys had been 100-percent completed in all six districts, and land commissions had been fully implemented in five of the six districts.

2. 1,053 parcels had been surveyed and monumented.

3. 2,765 preliminary inquiries had been held.

4. 1,265 formal hearings had been completed, resulting in the issuance of 656 preliminary titles and 500 final titles.

The program has involved Micronesians to a very great extent and, in addition to the results mentioned above, has been instrumental in the beginning of a land utilization program as recommended by this Council which has resulted in the translation of some 12,500 land records and the microfilming of almost 80,000 land records.

A longstanding need of the average Micronesian citizen has been the availability of legal services in each district. This need has now been solved by the recent institution of a lawyer's program by the United States Office of Economic Opportunity which provides two supervising attorneys for the trust territory and at least one attorney in each of our six administrative districts. These attorneys will be available on a no-fee basis to the citizens of Micronesia who have not previously had legal counsel and who would not be able to afford an attorney in private practice, even if such were available. This program was instituted at the specific request of the Congress of Micronesia and I am sure will be of great importance to the future of the trust territory.

We have continued during the past year to develop and increase the capacity of our radio

network, which reaches over 97 percent of our population and is still our most effective means of reaching the majority of our citizens. With the cooperation of the Congress of Micronesia, we are engaging in a program of increased political education for all of our people and in each of our various languages. Commercial television is now well established on Saipan, and it is projected that similar commercial television efforts will soon begin in the Truk and Palau Districts. Although the stations are operated commercially by the private sector, a few hours a day are made available to the government for such purposes as political education, adult education, and programs of general community interest.

A very hopeful sign in the development of Micronesia has been the emergence during the past year of several well-organized and financially sound local newspapers. These newspapers are produced without any government subsidy or assistance of any kind, and it is our hope that within the relatively near future each district will have at least one privately owned and privately operated newspaper.

During the past year, several amendments were made to the Secretarial order which establishes the framework of our government in Micronesia. The most important of these amendments is in relation to a subject often discussed at the meetings of the Trusteeship Council—the right of vetoing legislation given to the High Commissioner. Some of you here today will recall my pledge of 2 years ago that there would be no pocket vetoes under my administration and that upon each occasion, if I considered it necessary to disapprove legislation, I would do so by explaining in writing my reasons for such disapproval to both the Senate and House of Representatives of the Congress of Micronesia. This pledge has been carried out, and in fact, the Secretarial order has now been amended to eliminate the even remote possibility of a pocket veto. Under the current rules of operation, the High Commissioner, within a certain period of days depending on when the legislation is passed, must either approve the legislation, disapprove it by returning it with a message to

the Congress, or the bill would become law without his signature or approval. I am sure that this procedural improvement will meet with the approval of the Trusteeship Council.

#### **Micronesians in Government Positions**

On each of my two previous appearances before this Council, I have stressed one of the cornerstones of the current administration in the Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands; namely, the increased responsibility given to the Micronesian people themselves for making the basic decisions in their own government. Again this year, I can report to you considerable progress in this all-important area. In April of 1971, our trust territory Social Security system, with an enrollment of 19,000 and estimated revenues of \$400,000 per year, was placed completely under the management of a Micronesian, Mr. Yosiwo George. The expatriate employee who set up the system and supervised its operation for the first few years has now been reassigned to other duties, where his considerable capabilities for training Micronesians can be put to use.

The Territorial Office of Economic Opportunity was organized during the past year, with both a Micronesian director and a Micronesian deputy, and each of the six civic action directors under this program are also Micronesians.

Our Education Department, certainly one of the most important in the trust territory, now has a Micronesian deputy director, the Honorable David Ramarui, former Senator from Palau in the Congress of Micronesia.

In our previous discussions with this Council regarding education in Micronesia, we have reported on the progress of our TESL program (Teaching English as a Second Language). This program, the importance of which was well recognized by the recent Visiting Mission, has been greatly aided by the considerable contribution of volunteers from the United States Peace Corps. I am sure this Council will receive most favorably the news that this entire program throughout the trust territory is now headed by a Micronesian, Mr. Marcelino Umwech, of the Truk District, another example

of the increasingly important positions filled by Micronesians throughout our government.

Two years ago I reported to you that a member of our staff had been assigned full time to the development of training programs for Micronesians within the government. One of the most successful programs during the past year in this area has been the upgrading of our Micronesian secretarial force, where a number of the young ladies employed by our government and a few of the young men have learned shorthand and advanced secretarial techniques, which has enabled them to be promoted within the government. This program (again with the cooperation of Peace Corps volunteers) is continuing throughout the coming years.

Although the Peace Corps program in Micronesia is now manned by a smaller number of volunteers, the Council may rest assured it is being continued and, particularly in the program of Teaching English as a Second Language, will be continued until a sufficient number of Micronesians are properly trained to assure the permanence of the program.

A major factor in life in Micronesia the past year has been the work of the military civic action teams, seven of which are now operational throughout the trust territory. These teams have worked with municipalities and local citizens to construct roads, dispensaries, water catchments, and other badly needed civic improvements. To give you just a brief summary of some of their accomplishments, they have constructed or assisted in the construction of some 22 schoolrooms, in building or improving some 32 dispensaries, 19 recreational facilities, 23 public buildings, water catchments with a capacity of 412,000 gallons; have rehabilitated two small airfields; and have participated in the construction or improvement of 192 miles of badly needed roads. But perhaps the greatest contribution of the civic action teams has been the training, rather than the construction, phase of their activities. They have now graduated 52 trainees as skilled carpenters, masons, and other building trades and have placed them in occupations in the private sector. Another 50 trainees are currently involved in the civic action program throughout our six districts.

Although I am certain that my two distinguished special advisers, Senator Tun and Representative Haruo, will comment more specifically on this item, I could not complete this report to the Trusteeship Council without mentioning the work of the Congress of Micronesia during this past year, a year which has been marked both by great progress and by great frustrations. The fourth Congress of Micronesia began its first regular session on schedule in January of 1971. This session was abruptly interrupted before its scheduled conclusion date by a disastrous fire, obviously the work of a deliberate arsonist, which totally destroyed the meeting chambers of both the Senate and the House of Representatives and did some damage to the Senate Office Building. This unfortunate and totally irresponsible act caused the premature adjournment of the Congress and necessitated the holding of a special session which was held in the Truk District from May 5 through May 22.

Even the special session was not without its unfortunate occurrences. On the Saturday before the Monday scheduled for the convening of the special session a disastrous typhoon—Typhoon Amy—struck the Island of Truk with winds sometimes in excess of 100 knots and did over \$3 million damage to public and private buildings. Despite the damage, which included the total destruction of the airfield terminal, a group of us from the executive and legislative branches of the government were able to reach Truk early in the day following the typhoon. Within 24 hours, on the basis of one of the most amazing displays of courage and determination in the history of the trust territory or any other area, we met with the elected and traditional leaders of the Truk District, along with their District Administrator, and determined that the session of the Congress could be held on Truk and would need to be delayed only 48 hours from its scheduled opening on May 3 to a new opening date of May 5.

In our opening remarks to this historic session of the Congress of Micronesia, the first ever held away from the trust territory headquarters on Saipan, both the Honorable Bethwel Henry, Speaker of the House of Representatives, and

I commended the people of Truk for their spirit and courage and commented on the steadfast purpose of the Congress in the face of physical adversities. But perhaps the spirit of the Congress of Micronesia and the people of Micronesia was best summed up by the Honorable Amata Kabua, President of the Micronesian Senate, who concluded his brief remarks as follows:

Remember if you will that our task here will be an arduous one. I am reminded of the fabled bird of Greek legend, the phoenix, who rose from the ashes of the fire which consumed him to fly again. This Congress, in a sense, is like the phoenix. We cannot be destroyed by the loss of a building or a few records. For we will build another building and reproduce the records. Our responsibilities far transcend a few material objects. We are met here today as the representatives of all the people of Micronesia. Our arsenal of strength, mandate, and direction derive from our Micronesian citizens upon whom we base our foundation, our fortune, and our hopes for a better and brighter future. This foundation cannot be shaken nor can it be destroyed and will indeed prevail after all is said and done. We do not necessarily think the same way all of the time, but one fact stands out above all others: We are the Micronesian people and we are one. In the days ahead and in the years to come, my fellow Senators, let us not forget we have things to do—things to inspire the people of Micronesia. Let us begin that work and like the phoenix rise again to build for the future of Micronesia.

I cannot overlook this opportunity to publicly commend my two distinguished special advisers and their colleagues in the Congress of Micronesia for the tremendous progress which they have again made during the past year. They have taken on the tremendous additional responsibilities of making budget determinations and have handled this task well. They have shown ever-increasing political maturity by more lively debate on the major issues of the trust territory and by passing much progressive and sound legislation to chart the future progress of all Micronesia. It has been a pleasure to work in close cooperation with these distinguished gentlemen of our Congress, and I look forward to continued cooperation between the executive and legislative branches of our government.

The future political status of Micronesia has been discussed by Ambassador Phillips and will be further discussed by our two special ad-



visers.<sup>4</sup> May I merely say that I agree with Ambassador Phillips that we look forward to additional and more productive status negotiations between the governments of the United States and the Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands and agree wholeheartedly that the appointment by President Nixon of Ambassador Franklin Haydn Williams as his personal representative and chief negotiator has certainly been an all-important step and one which is well received by the people of Micronesia.

To assist in the political education of our people and in coordination of our various programs with the administering authority, the United States State Department during the past year assigned a political adviser to the High Commissioner, and the post was filled by Mr. John Dorrance, a career Foreign Service officer with considerable experience and training in affairs of our Pacific area.

I shall always remember my first appearance before this distinguished Council and particularly the courtesy and understanding which you displayed to one who had been in office for only 5 weeks and spent only 3 of those weeks in the area of which he was the chief executive. During these past 2 years, as I promised you I would do, I have traveled as widely as possible throughout the vast area of 3 million square miles of ocean and small islands. Just last month, in fact, I completed a trip in a small water-landing plane which took us to 10 islands in three districts and a total of 20 separate villages or municipalities in 8 days. On this trip as on others, I met with many Micronesians, many of whom had never before been visited by a High Commissioner. In each area I have made it a point to meet not only with the traditional appointed and elected leaders of the community but with the youth of the community as well. For it is the young people who will hold in their hands the real future destiny of Micronesia just as they hold it in other areas of the world.

Shortly following this trip through the districts and on the occasion of the beginning of

<sup>4</sup>For statements by Senator Tun and Representative Haruo, see USUN press releases 70 and 71 dated May 26.

my third year in Micronesia, I stated and would like to repeat, in closing my opening remarks to this Council today, that "after 2 full years in Micronesia I am more convinced than ever that if we continue to work together, as men and women of determination and good faith, Micronesia can indeed begin to realize her full potential."

May I, in closing, again thank the distinguished members of this Trusteeship Council for the privilege of appearing before you today and assure you that Senator Tun, Representative Haruo, and I look forward to joining with the representatives of the United States in our discussions with you during these next few days and that we stand ready to answer any and all questions which the distinguished members of this Council may have concerning the Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands. Thank you.

## U.S. Reviews Progress in Sharing Benefits of Space Technology

*Following is a statement made in the Scientific and Technical Subcommittee of the U.N. Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space on July 6 by U.S. Representative Arnold W. Frutkin.*

USUN press release 99 dated July 6

Mr. Chairman [John Carver, of Australia]: My delegation appreciates the sentiments which you expressed on behalf of all delegations on the occasion of the tragic loss of Soviet cosmonauts. We do feel that we are in a very special position, however, to express a particular sympathy for the Soviet delegation in view of our own direct involvement in space flight and our own comparable loss at an earlier point in our own program. In view of the increasing closeness of activities between space teams of the United States and the Soviet Union in recent months, we feel the loss of these three brave cosmonauts fully as though they were our own.

I should like now to turn to the general statement which my delegation would like to put before this subcommittee. I mean first to