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Site Choice Explained

MAJURO, (MNS)—Staff Members of the Congress of Micronesia held a news conference in Majuro Monday to give the reasons why the Congress leadership has decided to hold its next regular session in Koror, the Palau district center.

According to reports received from WSZO radio news in Majuro, which covered the news conference, the announcement of the site selection was made by acting Legislative Counsel Mamoru Nakamura. He told that the leadership had also considered invitations to host the session from three other districts—Ponape, Truk, and the Marianas.

Congress of Micronesia attorney Steve Miller represented the leadership in saying that the reason for choosing Palau was to give the people of other districts the chance to see their Congress in action. Miller said the leadership felt that by rotating the sessions of the Congress from district to district, they can develop a tool for furthering political education.

Congress administrative officer John Leekley stated that holding the session in Palau will complicate matters of logistics far more than if the session were held on Saipan. However, Leekley said he feels the difficulties can be overcome and the benefits will be worth the extra effort needed to make the session a success.

The second regular session of the fourth congress will convene Jan. 10, 1972 in Koror, and will run for a maximum of 50 calendar days. Palau will thus become the third district to host a Congress session. A special session in May of this year was held in Truk, and all previous sessions have been held on Saipan in the Marianas.