



TRUST TERRITORY OF THE PACIFIC ISLANDS

OFFICE OF THE HIGH COMMISSIONER

SAIPAN, MARIANA ISLANDS 96950

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MONTHLY REPORT

April 1972

EDUCATION

Selection of 44 Congress of Micronesia Scholarship Awards for the school year 1972-73 was announced by the High Commissioner.

Announcement was also sent to the District Directors of Education regarding the College Preparatory Scholarships provided by the same Public Law 4C-63 in the amount of \$50,000. Each District has been asked to select its best student to complete the two final high school years in a college preparatory boarding school.

Arrangements were completed with three radio stations in Honolulu for the re-broadcasting of the T.T. Government radio program, "THE WEEK IN REVIEW" as a public service for Micronesian students and others living in Honolulu to help them keep abreast of current developments in Micronesia.

Plans are underway for the first AREA MANPOWER INSTITUTE FOR THE DEVELOPMENT OF STAFF, scheduled for four to six weeks this summer, involving approximately 40 participants from all six districts.

FINANCE

Procurement and Supply--A week long conference of all District Supply Officer's plus the Supply representatives from Guam, Ebeye and Kusaie, was held on Saipan. Deputy High Commissioner Peter T. Coleman and Director of Finance R. A. Peterson welcomed the representatives. General supply areas were covered and new procedures discussed.

HEALTH SERVICES

The ninth meeting of the Trust Territory Health Council was held in Saipan. To enhance the consumer participation and influence in Council meetings, special consultants from California and Hawaii attended. From the University of California School of Public Health were Dr. Alberta Parker and Dr. Cyril Roseman; Mr. Gordon Soares from the U.S. Public Health Service, San Francisco, Region IX, and Mrs. Sylvia Levy, Director of Comprehensive Health Planning from Hawaii.

Nachsa Siren, Chief, Division of Environmental Health, and Dr. W. M. Peck, Director of Health Services, accompanied Dr. Jesse Steinfeld, the Surgeon-General of the United States, on a trip to the Eastern Districts to familiarize him with Health Services in the Trust Territory.

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Dr. Francisco Palacios departed for the States for a six-months Communicable Disease Center planned training and observation course.

Dr. Richard Krugman of the National Institutes of Health investigated an outbreak of respiratory disease in Truk District.

#### PERSONNEL

Routine.

#### PUBLIC AFFAIRS

The early part of the month was devoted to work on the many measures passed by the Congress of Micronesia during the Second Regular Session of the Fourth Congress, which required action by the High Commissioner. All enacted legislation was reviewed by the Director prior to submission to the High Commissioner.

Ambassador W. Tapley Bennett, Jr., U.S. Representative to the United Nations Trusteeship Council, toured all districts of the Territory except Palau where the status negotiations were in progress. He was accompanied by Deputy Director of Public Affairs Strik Yoma.

At the conclusion of the fourth round of status negotiations in Palau, Ambassador Haydn Williams and Captain William Crowe, USN, visited Saipan. The Director of Public Affairs coordinated travel arrangements for their trip through the Eastern Districts.

The Director's office completed arrangements for a State Department Leader Grant tour of the United States for Palau District Legislature Speaker Itebang Luii, accompanied by Palau Deputy District Administrator Haruo Remeliik.

Assistance was given to the Clerks of the two Houses of the Congress of Micronesia in planning and making arrangements for a month-long trip to the United States to observe the operations of their counterparts in the State legislatures of Illinois, Michigan, New York and California as well as the Congress of the United States.

The Deputy Director attended a Congress of Micronesia leadership meeting in Majuro, after which he traveled to Honolulu to participate in the Pacific Conference of Legislators.

The Director, along with the Special Consultant to the High Commissioner, was invited by the Chairman of the Joint Committee on Future Status, Congress of Micronesia, to accompany him and the Director of the committee staff to the Waigani Seminar at the University of Papua-New Guinea, April 30-May 5, and arrangements were completed for this travel.

#### PUBLIC WORKS

Jesse Brown arrived to assume the duties of Supervisory Construction Inspector.

The Chief of Contract Construction went to Truk for the final inspection of the Courthouse. The Contractor's request for the inspection was premature and another inspection is scheduled for May 15.

Steve Aiken, Construction Project Superintendent, left for Truk and Majuro to survey the proposed channel blasting sites.

#### DISASTER CONTROL

Preliminary work on the census program was started with the development of two Manual of Administration releases for the establishment of the Census Commissioner position with his functions, and the development of a program of Census Operations based upon SPC's unofficial recommendations.

Ralph D. Burns, Regional Director, Office of Emergency Preparedness, will arrive in Saipan in May, with staff and OEP Auditor to finalize Typhoon Jean and close out the project.

Present reports indicate work by OICC contractor on Typhoon Amy restoration is very slow with mobilization not complete and problems experienced in labor hiring. The Contract has been extended to April 30, 1973, as a result of re-design of the Air Terminal Building and Gymnasium.

Recommendation was submitted that no OEP assistance be requested for the Truk/Ponape Sea Wave Damage. If work proceeds it should be funded from the respective legislatures or from the Congress of Micronesia.

#### RESOURCES AND DEVELOPMENT

The Trust Territory price of copra was reduced by \$20 per ton. This was necessary to meet the declining world copra market and to stabilize the price paid to producers. The new price per ton for copra delivered to the district center is \$102.50 for Grade I; \$92.50 for Grade II and \$85.50 for Grade III.

The annual Trust Territory Economic Development Workshop convened in Saipan. The conference was opened by the Director of the Department of Resources and Development, Wyman X. Zachary. Speakers included High Commissioner Johnston; Marianas District Administrator Ada, leading businessmen and government officials.

Deputy Director Eusebio Rechucher returned to Saipan after attending the South Pacific Commission's Budget Committee meeting in Noumea, New Caledonia.

The residents of Kayangel Atoll in Palau, seized a Nationalist Chinese fishing vessel for alleged illegal entry into Trust Territory waters. It was the second such incident in two weeks.

Lands and Surveys--Kozo Yamada, Chief, Division of Lands and Surveys and Isamu Towai, Land Classification Technician, departed Saipan to attend the Seventh Regular Session, Land Reform Training Course in Taiwan, for 8 weeks.

Dennis Pacht, Acting Chief, Land Administration Branch, traveled to Rota with representatives from the Marianas Land Commission who conducted the first preliminary hearing for the Rota land cadaster program.

John Enfield of the Surveying and Mapping Branch established a 10 weeks Surveyors' short course at Micronesian Occupational Center (MOC) in Palau.

The Palau Land Commission prepared a sketch of Koror and Malakal Islands to designate the islands of a registration area. This will involve the complicated problems of ownership of land on Koror. Koror clans have disputed the Government's claim to approximately one-half of Koror Island.

Agriculture--The Chief Entomologist took part in a Palau High School conservation program radio broadcast and also made a speech to some 100 students on insecticides and pollution, during the Palau High School ecology week.

Correspondence was exchanged with entomologists in Fiji and Hawaii concerning two biological control agents - Liothrips urichi and Blepharomastix ebulealis - to control Clidemia hirta - Koster's curse weed now established on Nekken Forestry Center.

Conservation--The Chief of Conservationist testified at Palau District Legislature committee hearings on conservation legislation. He also took part in a Palau High School conservation program radio broadcast. For the first time in several years no major grassland fires were noted in Palau during the dry weather of this month.

#### MARIANAS

District Administrator Francisco C. Ada, attend the dedication of the new Youth Recreational Facilities on Tinian.

Fifty-one students from the Marianas High School participated in Youth Day, assuming the roles of top Government officials for one day.

The Honolulu Symphony Orchestra conducted concerts for the public during a 3 day visit on Saipan.

A \$9,939.00 Community Development Grant-in-Aid was approved for the construction of a Community Hall in San Jose Village.

The Marianas District hosted the annual Economic Development Conference and Workshop.

A total of \$45,000 of economic loans was approved by the EDLF Board of Directors.

District Planning Officer Thomas Sheehan became a member of the Territorial Planning Coordinating Committee, a legislative - administration body which acts as advisor to the High Commissioner.

NOTE: At closing time reports were not available from the Department of Transportation and Communication and the Palau, Marshalls, Ponape, Truk and Yap Districts.