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Department of State

TELEGRAM

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PAGE 02 121153Z

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(HICOM SIGNS 17 BILLS)

SAIPAN, APRIL 12 (MNS)---TRUST TERRITORY HIGH COMMISSIONER EDWARD E. JOHNSTON SIGNED A TOTAL OF 17 BILLS INTO LAW WEDNESDAY (APRIL 12.) THE BILLS WERE PASSED BY THE CONGRESS OF MICRONESIA DURING ITS RECENT SESSION IN PALAU. THE THREE MOST SIGNIFICANT MEASURES TO BECOME LAW

PAGE THREE RUHGSAA4398 UNCLAS

WERE THE ADVICE AND CONSENT ACT, SENATE BILL 190, WHICH NOW BECOMES PUBLIC LAW 4C-48 AND WHICH PROVIDES FOR ADVICE AND CONSENT BY THE CONGRESS OF MICRONESIA ON MAJOR ADMINISTRATIVE APPOINTMENTS, INCLUDING DISTRICTS AND DEPARTMENT DIRECTORS; SENATE BILL 196, WHICH BECOMES PUBLIC LAW 4C-49, REVISING THE MERIT SYSTEM FOR GOVERNMENT EMPLOYEES; AND SENATE BILL 197, NOW PUBLIC LAW 4C-50, DECLARING CERTAIN PUBLIC LANDS IN THE KAGMAN AND MARPI AREAS OF SAIPAN AVAILABLE FOR AGRICULTURAL AND VILLAGE HOMESTEADING.

ALL THREE OF THESE MEASURES HAD PREVIOUSLY BEEN VETOED BY THE HICOM, ALTHOUGH IN SUBSTANTIALLY DIFFERENT FORMS. THE BILLS WERE ALL RE-CONSIDERED AND RE-WRITTEN BY THE CONGRESS TO TAKE INTO ACCOUNT THE PREVIOUS OBJECTIONS OF THE ADMINISTRATION.

SENATE VICE-PRESIDENT OLYMPIC BORJA OF THE MARIANAS, WHO WITNESSED THE SIGNING OF THESE BILLS IN THE HICOM'S OFFICE ALONG WITH LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL MAMORU NAKAMURA, WAS CLEARLY PLEASED THAT THEY HAD BECOME LAW. THE ADVICE AND CONSENT MEASURE, SAID SENATOR BORJA, "SHOULD BE CONSIDERED A VERY IMPORTANT STEPPING-STONE TOWARD SELF-GOVERNMENT." MAJOR

PAGE FOUR RUHGSAA4398 UNCLAS

ACCOMPLISHMENT," ADDING THAT "FOR THE FIRST TIME, ALL MICRONESIAN GOVERNMENT EMPLOYEES WILL BE PAID AND CLASSIFIED UNDER A SINGLE PLAN," REGARDING THE KAGMAN- MARPI BILL, WHICH HE HAD SPONSORED, SENATOR BORJA SAID, "THIS WILL OPEN NEW VISTAS OF AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTIVITY, LIVING COMFORT AND PRODUCTIVE DEVELOPMENT FOR THE MARIANAS DISTRICT."

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Department of State

TELEGRAM

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PAGE 03 121153Z

IN ADDITION TO THESE THREE MAJOR BILLS, OTHER MEASURES WHICH WERE SIGNED BY THE HICOM EITHER ON WEDNESDAY OR LATE TUESDAY ARE: HOUSE BILL 195, NOW PUBLIC LAW 4C-44, AMENDING THE TRUST TERRITORY CODE RELATING TO APPLICATIONS FOR BUSINESS PERMITS; HOUSE BILL 196, NOW PUBLIC LAW 4C-45, EXPANDING THE POWERS OF THE DISTRICT ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT BOARDS; HOUSE BILL 197, NOW PUBLIC LAW 4C-46, PROVIDING CERTAIN POWERS TO BE GIVEN TO THE DISTRICT REPRESENTATIVES OF THE LABOR DIVISION CHIEF; SENATE BILL 113, NOW PUBLIC LAW 4C-47, PROVIDING \$300,000 FOR CERTAIN PUBLIC IMPROVMENT PROJECTS IN PONAPE DISTRICT.

ALSO SIGNED INTO LAW WERE: SENATE BILL 40, NOW PUBLIC LAW 4C-36 AMENDING THE TT CODE RELATING TO WRONGFUL DEATH ACTIONS FOR THE DEATH OF A CHILD; SENATE BILL 80, PUBLIC

PAGE FIVE RUHGSAA4398 UNCLAS

LAW 4C-37, RELATING TO RECIPROCAL ENFORCEMENT OF SUPPORT; SENATE BILL 111, NOW PUBLIC LAW 4C-38 APPROPRIATING FUNDS FOR THE DEVELOPMENT OF MARINE RESOURCES ON A COMMERCIAL BASIS; SENATE BILL 121, NOW PUBLIC LAW 4C-39, AMENDING TWO SECTIONS OF THE TT CODE TO PROVIDE FOR CONTEMPT OF CONGRESS; SENATE BILL 142, NOW PUBLIC LAW 4C-40, AMENDING PUBLIC LAW 4C-13 DEALING WITH WEAPONS CONTROL; SENATE BILL 151, NOW PUBLIC LAW 4C-41, WOULD PROVIDE FOR A BOAT-BUILDING PROGRAM IN TRUK DISTRICT; SENATE BILL 172, NOW PUBLIC LAW 4C-42, ADDS NEW PROVISIONS TO TITLE 49 OF THE TT CODE RELATING TO NONRESIDENT WORKERS AND PROVIDES FOR DISTRICT REVIEW OF ALIEN WORKER CONTRACTS; AND SENATE BILL 178, NOW PUBLIC LAW 4C-43, AMENDING TITLE 19 OF THE TT CODE AND ADDING NEW SECTIONS TO ESTABLISH A FISHERIES ZONE OF THE TRUST TERRITORY.

THESE WERE THE ACTIONS TAKEN BY THE HICOM UP UNTIL 3:00 P.M WEDNESDAY AFTERNOON. SEVERAL BILLS WHICH REQUIRED ACTION ON APRIL 12 WERE STILL PENDING, AND THE HICOM HAD UNTIL MIDNIGHT WEDNESDAY TO ACT ON THEM.

(NOTE TO EDITORS AND NEWS DIRECTORS: MICRONESIAN NEWS SERVICE WILL CARRY A REPORT ON ADDITIONAL BILL SIGNING,

PAGE SIX RUHGSAA4398 UNCLAS

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Department of State

TELEGRAM

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PAGE 04 121153Z

THURSDAY, AND AGAIN ON FRIDAY.)  
PALAU LEGISLATURE SESSION CONTINUING)

PALAU APRIL 12, (MNS)---THE PALAU DISTRICT LEGISLATURE,  
CURRENTLY MEETING IN KOROR, HAS RECEIVED A THIRD RESOLUTION  
FOR CONSIDERATION CONCERNING THE FUTURE POLITICAL STATUS  
ISSUE AS THE STATUS TALKS CONTINUE IN PALAU.

THE RESOLUTION, INTRODUCED AT THE SESSION TUESDAY  
(APRIL 11), WAS OFFERED BY LEGISLATOR TADAO NGOTEL, WHO HAS  
ALREADY INTRODUCED A PREVIOUS RESOLUTION WHICH HAS BEEN OF  
INTEREST TO THE STATUS NEGOTIATORS. THAT PREVIOUS RESOLUTION  
WOULD HAVE THE LEGISLATURE OPPOSE ANY USE OF LAND FOR MILITARY  
PURPOSES OR THE STATIONING OF ANY MILITARY PERSONNEL IN PALAU  
DISTRICT AND HAVE THE AREA DECLARED A SO-CALLED NEUTRAL ZONE.

THE NEW RESOLUTION IS TITLED AS FOLLOWS: "A RESOLUTION  
RESPECTFULLY URGING THE JOINT COMMITTEE ON FUTURE STATUS TO  
BREAK OFF THE FOURTH ROUND OF NEGOTIATIONS NOW BEING HELD IN  
PALAU DISTRICT IF IN ITS OPINION THE U.S. IS NOT RESPONDING  
FAVORABLY TO THE MICRONESIAN OFFER OF FREE ASSOCIATION."

THE BODY OF THE RESOLUTION STATES ESSENTIALLY THAT  
LEGISLATOR NGOTEL DOES NOT WANT PALAU DISTRICT TO BE REMEMBERED  
AS THE DISTRICT WHERE MICRONESIA WAS COMPELLED TO ENTER INTO AN  
ASSOCIATION WITH THE UNITED STATES BY WHICH MICRONESIANS WOULD  
LOSE CONTROL OVER THEIR LIVELIHOOD AND DESTINY.

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Department of State

TELEGRAM

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PAGE 01 121456Z

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ACTION INT-08

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AMEMBASSY CANBERRA
COMTWELVE/SAN FRAN CALIFORNIA
INFO SECSTATE
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Department of State

TELEGRAM

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PAGE 02 121456Z

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THE RESOLUTION FURTHER URGES THAT MICRONESIA SEEK FINANCIAL AND TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE FROM JAPAN, BRITAIN, RUSSIA, FRANCE CHINA, TAIWAN AND OTHER CONTRIES AND INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS TO ESTABLISH A LONG RANGE TIME-TABLE, PLANS AND PROGRAMS FOR THE ESTABLISHMENT OF AN INDEPENDENT STATE OF MICRONESIA.

NEITHER THE SO-CALLED MILITARY LANDS RESOLUTION NOR THE RESOLUTION OFFERED TUESDAY, NOR A PREVIOUS MEASURE ADVOCATING

PAGE THREE RUHGSAA4410 UNCLAS

INDEPENDENCE FOR PALAU AND MICRONESIA HAS YET BEEN ADOPTED BY THE LEGISLATURE.

MEANWHILE, THE STATUS TALKS CONTINUE AT THE PALAU CONTINENTAL HOTEL. NEGOTIATING TEAMS FOR BOTH THE U.S. AND MICRONESIA HELD A BRIEF JOINT SESSION LATE MONDAY AFTERNOON AND ANOTHER MEETING WAS SCHEDULED FOR LATE TUESDAY AFTERNOON MOVING TOWARD A CONCLUSION OF THE MEETINGS LATER THIS WEEK. (ECONOMIC WORKSHOP)

SAIPAN, APRIL 12, (MNS)--THE TRUST TERRITORY DEPARTMENT OF RESOURCES AND DEVELOPMENT'S ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT WORKSHOP WILL BE HELD APRIL 24-28 AT SAIPAN'S ROYAL TAGA HOTEL.

MORE THAN 30 PARTICIPANTS ARE EXPECTED TO ATTEND THE MEETING, WHICH WILL BE OPENED BY HIGH COMMISSIONER EDWARD E. JOHNSTON AND DEPARTMENT DIRECTOR WYMAN X. ZACHARY.

SPEAKERS WILL INCLUDE MARIANAS DISTRICT ADMINISTRATOR FRANCISCO C. ADA; ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT DIVISION CHIEF G. DUDLEY DAMBACHER; DAVID NAKAGAWA, HAWAII REGIONAL DIRECTOR OF THE SMALL BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION; CARL HEINE, STAFF DIRECTOR TO THE CONGRESS OF MICRONESIA JOINT COMMITTEE ON FUTURE STATUS AND OTHERS.

PAGE FOUR RUHGSAA4410 UNCLAS

FROM THE PRIVATE SECTOR, SPEAKERS WILL INCLUDE JOSEPH C. TENORIO, PRESIDENT OF J.C. TENORIO ENTERPRISES; DAVID SARLAN, VICE PRESIDENT AND GENERAL MANAGER OF MICROL CORPORATION; EARNEST MILNE, PRESIDENT OF MICRONESIA INSURANCE UNDERWRITERS

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Department of State

TELEGRAM

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AND NICK SONGSONG, UNITED MICRONESIA DEVELOPMENT ASSOCIATION.  
THE WEEK-LONG WORKSHOP WILL INCLUDE DISCUSSIONS ON FOREIGN AND DOMESTIC INVESTMENTS; AGRICULTURAL DEVELOPMENT; MARINE RESOURCES; THE ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT LOAN FUND (EDLF); POLITICAL DEVELOPMENT IN MICRONESIA; COOPERATIVES AND CREDIT UNIONS; TOURISM AND LAND UTILIZATION.

COORDINATOR FOR THE WORKSHOP THIS YEAR IS WILLIAM STEWART. (MAJURO WEATHER STATION AWARDED)

MAJURO, APRIL 11, (MNS)---THE NATIONAL WEATHER SERVICE STATION IN THE MARSHALL ISLANDS DISTRICT, WSO MAJURO, HAS BEEN AWARDED THE "UPPER AIR STATION OF THE YEAR" AWARD FOR 1971 IN THE PACIFIC REGION.

WSO MAJURO IS THE FIRST MICRONESIAN WEATHER STATION TO BE AWARDED A COMMEMORATIVE PLAQUE SINCE IT WAS ESTABLISHED IN 1967 BY THE NATIONAL WEATHER SERVICE PACIFIC REGION.

THE AWARD WAS PRESENTED TO OFFICER-IN-CHARGE, WILLIAM EXLEY BY MARSHALL ISLANDS DISTRICT ADMINISTRATOR OSCAR DE BRUM. ALSO PRESENT DURING THE SHORT CEREMONY WERE IROIJ

PAGE FIVE RUHGSAA4410 UNCLAS

JOKA KABUA AND PACIFIC REGION HEADQUARTERS REPRESENTATIVE OF THE DIRECTOR OF NATIONAL WEATHER SERVICE PACIFIC REGION, STEPHEN FORTENBERRY.

RUNNER-UP FOR THE 1971 "UPPER AIR STATION OF THE YEAR" AWARD WAS WSO YAP. THE 1971 RACE WAS CLOSE WITH YAP FINISHING ONLY 45 POINTS BELOW MAJURO'S TOTAL OF 7,049 POINTS FOR THE YEAR.

(DESIGNER FOR SAIPAN HOTEL)

SAIPAN, APRIL 12, (MNS)---THE PRESEIDENT OF CONTINENTAL HOTELS, INCORPORATED, G. EDWARD COTTER HAS ANNOUNCED THE SELECTION OF SAM CHANG OF CHANG ARCHITECTS AND ASSOCIATES, INCORPORATED OF HONOLULU AS THE DESIGNER FOR THE NEW SAIPAN CONTINENTAL HOTEL.

COTTER SAID THE HOTEL INTERIOR WILL BE DESIGNED BY BOB ZIMMER OF INTERGRAPH, LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA. "WE ARE VERY PLEASED TO HAVE SUCH A TALENTED AND EXPERIENCED ARCHITECT FOR OUR SAIPAN HOTEL," SAID COTTER, "AND SUCH A CAPABLE SPECIALIST FOR THE INTERIOR DESIGN OF THIS DELUXE HOTEL."

CONSTRUCTION FOR THE NEW SAIPAN CONINENTAL HOTEL IS

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Department of State

TELEGRAM

UNCLASSIFIED 458

PAGE 01 121248Z

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ACTION INT-08

INFO OCT-01 IO-12 EA-11 PM-06 INR-06 SA-03 L-03 H-02 P-03

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 AMEMBASSY CANBERRA  
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Department of State

TELEGRAM

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USCAR FOR TTPI LNO  
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DESIGNER FOR THE NEW SAIPAN CONTINENTAL HOTEL. THE HOTEL INTERIOR  
WILL BE DESIGNED BY BOB ZIMMER OF INTERGRAPH, LOS ANGELES,  
CALIFORNIA. CONSTRUCTION FOR THE NEW SAIPAN CONTINENTAL HOTEL IS  
SCHEDULED FOR THE FALL OF 1972 AND IT SHOULD BE READY FOR  
OCCUPANCY BY JANUARY 1974.

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