

# Department of State TELEGRAM

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11 ACTION INT-08

INFO OCT-01 EA-11 CG-00 PM-06 E-11 COM-08 SCI-05 INR-06

L-03 H-02 P-03 PRS-01 USIA-12 10-12 (RSR-

RSR-01) RSC-0

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P 130620Z JUN 72 ZNZ+1 FM HICOMTERPACIS SAIPAN TO ALDISTAD TERPACIS LNO GUAM LNO KWAJ COMNAVMARIANAS CINCPAC CINCPACREPGUAM/TTPI USNAVINVSERVO GUAM AMEMBASSY CANBERRA COMTWELVE/SAN FRAN CALIFORNIA SECSTATE HQ USARBCO-MACHINATO/TTPI-LNO INFO SEC DEF JCS CNO CHINFO CINCPACELT

DEPARTMENT OF STATE A/CDC/MR
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CGFMFAC
COMCBPAC
NAVEACENGCOM HDQTRS
PACDIVNAVFACENGCOM
HICOMTERPACIS LND HONO

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UNCLAS (SECTION I OF II)
AMEMBASSY CANBERRA/COMTWELVE/NOT
ADDEES PASS INFO
CANBERRA FOR POL SECTION

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COMTWELVE FOR AMBASSADOR WILLIAMS SECSTATE PASS TO DEPT INT/SEC INTERIOR/DASTA OSN (OIL TO BE REMOVED FROM SHIP)

GUAM, JUNE 13, (MNS) -- THE U.S. COAST GUARD IS MAKING ARRANGEMENTS TO HAVE THE OIL AND FUEL REMOVED FROM THE TANKS OF THE MXV SOLAR TRADER. THE SHIP HAS BEEN GROUNDED ON THE REEF AT WEST FAYU ATOLL IN YAP DISTRICT SINCE LAST DECEMBER. THE DEFUELING OPERATION IS AIMED AT PREVENTING A POTENTIALLY SERIOUS OIL SPILL.

GUAM PORT CAPTAIN JAMES R. MEEKER SAID TUESDAY (JUNE 13)

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THE OWNERS OF THE SOLAR TRADER HAVE INDICATED THEY WOULD LIKE
THE COAST GUARD TO ARRANGE FOR THE DEFUELING OF THE SHIP, SINCE
THEY LACK THE EQUIPMENT TO UNDERTAKE SUCH AN OPERATION. THE
COAST GUARD WILL CONTRACT WITH A PRIVATE COMPANY FOR THE JOB, AND
THEN BILL THE SHIP OWNERS.

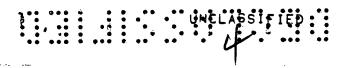
MEEKER SAID MARIANAS MARITIME COMPANY OF GUAM HAS AGREED TO DO THE WORK, USING EQUIPMENT TO BE OBSTINED FROM THE PHILIPPINES. A U.S. NAVY AMPHIBIAN WILL FLY THE SALVAGE MASTER OF THE COMPANY, EBELIO B. VILLENA, TO WEST FAYU ON WEDNESDAY TO INSPECT THE GROUNDED FREIGHTER. BY THE END OF THIS WEEK, SAID MEEKER, A CONTRACT WILL BE LET AND THE COAST GUARD WILL HAVE SOME IDEA HOW LONG THE OPERATION WILL TAKE.

HE ADDED THAT THE COAST GUARD IS ONLY INTERESTED IN THE REMOVAL OF THE OIL, AND NO ATTEMPT WILL BE MADE TO SALVAGE ANY OF THE REMAINING CARGO ON BOARD THE SOLAR TRADER. SHE HAD A LOAD OF JAPANESE AUTOMOBILES DESTINED FOR AUSTRALIA WHEN SHE WENT AGROUND.

A COAST GUARD PLANE FLEW OVER THE SHIP LAST WEEK, AND MEEKER SAID THERE WERE NO INDICATIONS SO FAR OF ANY SERIOUS DIL POLLUTION. HE SAID WHILE SOME OIL HAS ALREADY LEAKED OUT OF THE SHIP, IT IS

PAGE FOUR RUHGSAA4532 UNCLAS
ONLY A "LIGHT AMOUNT," AND THERE IS NO EVIDENCE OF OIL ON THE
BEACHES OF WEST FAYU.

SAIPAN, JUNE 13, (MNS) -- THE PRESIDENT OF THE MARIANAS
TERRITORIAL PARTY, JESUS P. MAFNAS, HAS FILED A FORMAL PROTEST





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WITH DISTRICT ADMINISTRATOR FRANCISCO C. ADA, CHALLENGING THE VALIDITY OF SUNDAY'S MUNICIPAL ELECTION. THE STAGE IS THUS SET FOR A MAJOR BATTLE OVER THE CONDUCT OF THE ELECTION, WITH THE TERRITORIAL PARTY AND ITS DEFEATED CANDIDATES ON THE ONE HAND CHARGING FLAGRANT VIOLATIONS OF THE ELECTION LAWS, AND THE POPULAR PARTY, WHICH SWEPT THE ELECTION, UPHOLDING THE RESULTS. MAFNAS SAID TUESDAY (JUNE 13) THAT THE TERRITORIAL PARTY IS

PREPARED TO GO TO COURT, IF NECESSARY, TO GET THE ELECTION DECLARED NULL AND VOID. HE HAS ASKED DISTAD ADA TO RESPOND TO THE PROTEST BY WEDNESDAY. FOR PURPOSES OF REGULATING THE CONDUCT OF ELECTIONS. THE DISTRICT ADMINISTRATOR IS ALSO THE ELECTION COMMISSIONER. HE TOLD MICRONESIAN NEWS SERVICE THIS WEEK, HOWEVER, THAT HE DOUBTS HE HAS THE POWER TO DECLARE AN ELECTION NULL AND VOID. A COURT BATTLE MAY THEREFORE BE NECESSARY.

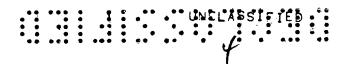
IN ITS PROTEST, THE TERRITORIAL PARTY CHARGES THAT REGISTRATION

PAGE FIVE RUHGSAA4532 UNCLAS INFORMATION WHICH WAS BROADCAST PRIOR TO THE ELECTION FAILED TO STATE THAT ALL VOTERS WOULD HAVE TO RE-REGISTER, REGARDLESS OF WHETHER THEY HAD VOTED IN PREVIOUS ELECTIONS. THE PROTEST ALSO CHARGES THAT IN TWO DISTRICTS, TANAPAG AND SUSUPE, NUMEROUS NON-REGISTERED VOTERS WERE ALLOWED TO VOTE. (VOTES IN TANAPAG WERE NOT COUNTED, PENDING AN EXAMINATION OF ALLEGED IRREGURITIES.

THE PROTEST DETAILS OTHER REPORTED VIOLATIONS, INCLUDING THAT THE BALLOT WAS NOT PREPARED ACCORDING TO LAW, AND THAT IN ONE INSTANCE A UNITED STATES CITIZEN WAS ALLOWED TO VOTE. MAFNAS SAYS EVEN HE WAS NOT ALLOWED TO VOTE, DESPITE THE FACT HE IS, HE CLAIMS, PROPERLY REGISTERED.

IN THE ELECTION SAIPAN'S INCUMBENT MAYOR VICENTE D. SABLAN WAS RE-ELECTED OVERWHELMINGLY ON THE BASIS OF UNOFFICIAL RETURNS. HE COLLECTED 1,099 VOTES, TO 543 VOTES FOR CHALLENGER LUIS A. BENAVENTE . BENAVENTE WAS SUPPORTED BY THE TERRITORIAL PARTY, WHILE SABLAN RECEIVED THE ENDORSEMENT OF THE POPULAR PARTY. THE POPULAR PARTY ALSO SWEPT ALL FIFTEEN SEATS IN THE MUNICIPAL COUNCIL, WITH EACH CANDIDATE ELECTED BY A VOTE MARGIN ROUGHLY EQUIVALENT TO THAT OF MAYOR SABLAN.

DISTRICT ADMINISTRATOR ADA SAID TUESDAY AFTERNOON THAT





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THE RESULTS OF THE ELECTION ARE STILL BEING REVIEWED BY
THE POARD OF ELECTION JUDGES, AND HAVE NOT YET BEEN MADE
OFFICIAL. HE SAID DISTRICT OFFICIALS WERE DOING THEIR
BEST. TO INVESTIGATE AND RESPOND TO THE COMPLAINTS MADE BY
THE TERRITORIAL PARTY.
(COCA-COLA FIRE)

SAIPAN, JUNE 13, (MNS) = + A MONDAY EVENING (JUNE 12) FIRE ON SAIPAN DESTROYED A LARGE WAREHOUSE AT THE COCA - COLA BOTTLING PLANT . SMOKE AND FLAMES FROM THE BLAZE COULD BE SEEN OVER MOST OF THE ISLAND.

FIREMEN SAID THE FIRE APPARENTLY CAUSED BY A SHORT-CIRCUITIN THE ELECTRICAL SYSTEM, BROKE OUT ABOUT NINE POIL, FIREMEN HAD
THE FLAMES UNDER CONTROL BY ABOUT 10:15, AND THE FIRE WAS
COMPLETELY EXTINGUISHED SHORTLY AFTER MIDNIGHT. WITNESSES
SAID THE FIREMEN MANAGED TO KEEP THE FIRE FROM SPREADING TO THE BOTTL
ING

PLANT ITSELF, WHICH IS ADJACENT TO THE WAREHOUSE.

A FIRE DEPARTMENT SPOKESMAN SAID THE WAREHOUSE CONTAINED MOSTLY
BOTTLES, BOTH EMPTY AND FULL. NO ESTIMATE OF DAMAGES WAS AVAILABLE.
THE WAREHOUSE IS LOCATED IN THE LOWER BASE ARE OF SAIPAN.
(REEFER BARGES)

EOT



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CGFMPAC
COMCBPAC
HAVFACNGCOM HDQRTS
PACDIVNACFACENGCOM
HICOMTERPACIS LNG HONO

UNCLAS (FINAL SECTION OF II)
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COMTRELVE FOR AMBASSADOR WILLIAMS
SECSTATE PASS TO DEPT INT/SEC INTERIOR/DASTA OSN

SAIPAN, JUNE 13, (MNS)--\*THE TRUST TERRITORY GOVERNMENT HAS ACQUIRED TWO REFRIGERATED CARGO BARGES, THEY WILL BE ASSIGNED TO THE PONAPE AND MARSHALL ISLANDS DISTRICTS, WITH THE POSSIBILITY THAT ADDITIONAL BARGES MAY BE ACQUIRED IN THE NEAR FUTURE FOR SOME OF THE OTHER DISTRICTS.

DEPARTMENT OF RESOURCES AND DEVELOPMENT DIRECTOR WYMAN X. ZACHARY RETURNED ON SAIPAN THIS WEEK FROM SOUTH KOREA, WHERE HE NEGOTIATED THE TRANSFER OF THE BARGES FROM THE MILITARY TO

PAGE THREE RUHGSAA4538 UNCLAS
THE TT, AND COMPLETED ARRANGEMENTS FOR THEIR DRYDOCKING AND
REPAIR IN KOREA, AND THEIR DELIVERY TO MICRONESIA, HE SAID
THE BARGES WILL BE TOWED TO PONAPE AND MAJURO BY THE M/V
WANDANK IN THE NEAR FUTURE.

THE 1,050-TON BARGES ARE NON-PROPELLED REEFER VESSELS OF WELDED STEEL CONSTRUCTION, WITH A SHIP-FORMED BOW, STRAIGHY SIDES, SQUARE-RAKED STERN AND SUPERSTRUCTURE. THEY HAVE 24 INSULATED REEFER COMPARTMENTS, SIX FRESH WATER TANKS, CREW QUARTERS AND CARGO HANDLING GEAR AND WINCHES.

THE BARGES ARE 240 FEET LONG, WITH A 40 FOOT BEAM. TWO 100 KILOWATT GENERATORS AND FOUR DIESEL ENGINES POWER THE VARIOUS COMPONENTS OF THE VESSELS.

ZACHARY SAID THE ACQUISITION OF THE BARGES WAS MADE POSSIBLE THROUGH THE COOPERATION OF THE TT LIAISON OFFICE ON OKINAWA, THE TT DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION AND COMMUNICATIONS, AND THE U.S. GOVERNMENT PROPERTY DISPOSAL OFFICE IN PUSAN, SOUTH KOREA. HE ADDED THAT OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE OF THE BARGES WILL BE THE RESPONSIBILITY OF THE DISTRICTS TO WHICH THEY ARE ASSIGNED, AND THEY WILL HIRE THE TRAINED PERSONNEL NEEDED TO OPERATE THEM.

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IN ADDITION TO PONAPE AND THE MARSHALLS, REQUESTS FOR REFRIGERATED SHIPPING CAPABILITY HAVE COME FROM TRUK, AND POSSIBLY PALAU AND THE MARIANAS. ZACHARY SAID THREE ADDITIONAL BARGES ARE AVAILABLE, AND ARRANGEMENTS TO ACQUIRE THEM FOR THE TT ARE NOW UNDER WAY. THE COST OF THESE ACQUISITIONS IS NOMINAL,





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HE SAID, CONSISTING PRIMARILY OF THE DRY-DOCKING AND TOWING EXPENSES. IN EXCHANGE, THE TT GOVERNMENT OBTAINS SOME MUCH NEEDED REFRIGERATION FACILITIES FOR THE SHIPMENT AND STORAGE OF SUCH THINGS AS FISH, PRODUCE AND MEAT.

EOT