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INFO OCT-01 RSR-01 RSC-01 SS-14 IO-12 EA-11 PM-06 L-03
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COMTWELVE/SAN FRAN CALIFORNIA
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HQ USARBCO-MACHINATO/TTPI-LNO
INFO SEC DEF
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DEPARTMENT OF STATE A/CDC/MR

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COMTWELVE FOR AMBASSADOR WILLIAMS
SECSTATE PASS TO DEPT INT/SEC INTERIOR/DASTA OSN.
(SALII COMMENMENT ADDRESS)

PALAU, JUNE 16 (MNS)--THE CHAIRMAN OF THE CONGRESS OF
MICRONESIA'S JOINT COMMITTEE ON FUTURE STATUS, SENATOR LAZARUS
SALII OF PALAU, HAS CALLED ON THE UNITED STATES TO BEGIN
IMPLEMENTING CERTAIN SPECIFIC TRANSITIONAL STEPS TO PREPARE
MICRONESIANS FOR THE TAKE-OVER OF THE GOVERNMENT WHEN THE
PRESENT TRUSTEESHIP IS ENDED.

IN A SPEECH TO GRADUATING SENIORS AT PALAU HIGH SCHOOL IN

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KOROR, THE SENATOR DESCRIBED THE STEPS AS "URGENT," AND SAID
THEY "SHOULD BE TAKEN IMMEDIATELY."

HE CALLED FIRST OF ALL FOR THE CREATION OF A "COMMISSION
ON NATIONAL UNITY. THIS COMMISSION," HE SAID, "SHOULD BE
EMPOWERED TO REVIEW EVERY GOVERNMENT PROGRAM TO INSURE THAT
THEY CONTRIBUTE TO THE STRENGTHENING OF A SENSE OF NATIONAL UNITY
IN MICRONESIA. IT WILL HAVE THE FUNCTION OF SETTING UP
NATIONAL UNITY GUIDELINES TO BE FOLLOWED BY THE GOVERNMENT IN
THE ALLOCATION OF FUNDS AND OTHER RESOURCES."

SECONDLY, SENATOR SALII PROPOSED THE CREATION OF A
"COMMISSION ON TRANSITION, TO BE COMPOSED OF MEMBERS OF THE
CONGRESS OF MICRONESIA AND OTHERS APPOINTED FROM THE RANKS OF THE
EXECUTIVE BRANCH. THIS COMMISSION," HE CONTINUED, "SHOULD
IMMEDIATELY GET BUSY SETTING UP TARGET DATES FOR THE TAKING OVER
OF GOVERNMENTAL RESPONSIBILITIES BY MICRONESIANS, AND FOR THE
TURNING OVER OF GOVERNMENTAL PROPERTY AND FACILITIES FROM THE
TRUST TERRITORY TO THE FUTURE GOVERNMENT OF MICRONESIA." TRAINING
OF MICRONESIANS TO TAKE OVER KEY GOVERNMENT POSITIONS SHOULD
BEGIN NOW, HE ADDED.

THE THIRD STEP THAT THE SENATOR URGED IS THE ENACTMENT BY

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THE CONGRESS OF MICRONESIA OF LEGISLATION TO CREATE A
CONSTITUTIONAL CONVENTION. THIS CONVENTION, HE SAID, SHOULD BE
GIVEN ONE YEAR FROM THE DATE IT FIRST CONVENES TO PRESENT A
CONSTITUTION TO THE MICRONESIAN PEOPLE FOR THEIR APPROVAL.

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FINALLY, SENATOR SALII RECOMMENDED THAT A REVIEW OF THE ENTIRE EDUCATIONAL SYSTEM IN THE TRUST TERRITORY SHOULD BE UNDERTAKEN AT ONCE.

"UNLESS THE GOALS OF EDUCATION IN MICRONESIA TODAY ARE RELEVANT TO THE KIND OF SOCIETY WE WISH TO SEE IN MICRONESIA TOMORROW," HE SAID, "WE SHALL HAVE WASTED EVERYONE'S TIME, EFFORT AND MONEY." HE SAID HE WAS MAKING THIS RECOMMENDATION AS ONLY ONE MEMBER OF THE CONGRESS, BUT NOTED THAT THE SAME TYPE OF REVIEW HAS BEEN ADVOCATED BY OTHER CONGRESSMEN, MOST RECENTLY REPRESENTATIVE POLYCARP BASILIUS OF PALAU BEFORE THE U.N. TRUSTEESHIP COUNCIL.

EARLIER IN HIS SPEECH TO THE GRADUATING STUDENTS LAST WEEKEND, SENATOR SALII IMPLIED STRONGLY THAT HE FEELS THE UNITED STATES HAS DELAYED THE RESOLUTION OF MICRONESIA'S TRUSTEESHIP. BECAUSE "WE ARE WEAK AND THE UNITED STATES IS STRONG," HE SAID, "WE HAVE TO NEGOTIATE...WE HAVE TO NEGOTIATE BECAUSE THE UNITED

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STATES FOR REASONS OF ITS OWN HAS NOT SEEN FIT TO RETURN OUR RIGHTS VOLUNTARILY..." THE U.S., HE ADDED, "CAN AFFORD TO DELAY THE RESOLUTION TO THE TRUSTEESHIP IN MICRONESIA, IF IT FAILS TO GET WHAT IT WANTS IN THE NEGOTIATIONS. BY DELAYING THE UNITED STATES MAY ALSO BE HOPING THAT MORE DISTRICTS, OUT OF IMPATIENCE OR OTHER REASONS, WILL DISSENT FROM THE POSITION OF THE CONGRESS OF MICRONESIA, AND THEREBY UNDERMINE THE ABILITY OF THE CONGRESS TO NEGOTIATE WITH THE UNITED STATES FOR A FUTURE THAT MAY BE LESS ADVANTAGEOUS TO THE UNITED STATES, EVEN IF EMINENTLY SUITED TO MICRONESIA."

IN THAT REGARD, SENATOR SALII SAID HE HAS BEEN "GREATLY IRRITATED" BY REPORTS THAT AFTER THE PALAU STATUS TALKS, "CERTAIN MEMBERS OF THE OTHER DELEGATION TRAVELED TO THE OTHER DISTRICTS TO TALK TO MICRONESIANS WHOSE POSITIONS ABOUT THE FUTURE OF MICRONESIA DIFFER FROM THE POSITION OF THE CONGRESS OF MICRONESIA." THIS HE DESCRIBED AS "A BLATANT MOVE TO UNDERMINE THE NEGOTIATING POSITION OF THE CONGRESS OF MICRONESIA, THROUGH DIRECT CONTACT WITH MICRONESIANS NOT INVOLVED WITH THE NEGOTIATIONS." THE U.S. HE SAID, "SHOULD LIVE UP TO ITS PLEDGE NOT TO BYPASS THE CONGRESS OF MICRONESIA AND MAKE DIRECT CONTACT WITH THE POPULATION OF

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MICRONESIA."

SENATOR SALLI DELIVERED HIS SPEECH JUST ONE MONTH BEFORE THE U.S. DELEGATION AND THE JOINT COMMITTEE ARE DUE TO SIT DOWN IN WASHINGTON, D.C. TO CONTINUE THE STATUS NEGOTIATIONS. IT IS HOPED THAT OUT OF THE WASHINGTON TALKS WILL COME A DRAFT COMPACT OF ASSOCIATION THAT CAN BE PRESENTED TO THE CONGRESS OF MICRONESIA DURING ITS PROPOSED SPECIAL SESSION IN PONAPE IN AUGUST.

(STATUS REPORT ISSUED)

SAIPAN, JUN 16 (MNS)---THE CONGRESS OF MICRONESIA'S JOINT COMMITTEE ON FUTURE STATUS WAS RELEASED ITS REPORT ON THE FOURTH ROUND OF NEGOTIATIONS ON MICRONESIA'S FUTURE STATUS, HELD IN APRIL IN PALAU. RELEASE OF THE REPORT CAME JUST A LITTLE MORE THAN A WEEK AFTER THE U.S. DELEGATION TO THE TALKS RELEASED ITS REPORT.

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