



TRUST TERRITORY OF THE PACIFIC ISLANDS
OFFICE OF THE HIGH COMMISSIONER
SAIPAN MARIANA ISLANDS 96950

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CABLE ADDRESS
HICOTT SAIPAN

MONTHLY REPORT

SEPTEMBER 1972

EDUCATION

Dr. Tom Brown and Dr. Macke Williams joined the Headquarters Department of Education staff.

Augustine Moses was designated Acting Assistant Director for the Division of Elementary and Secondary Education on an interim basis.

The six recipients of the Congress of Micronesia College Preparatory Scholarship grants departed their districts and are enrolled at the Hawaii Preparatory Academy.

Project Pacific, a consortium effort by the Departments of Education in American Samoa, Guam and the Trust Territory designed to field-test the Hawaii English Program in the Pacific territories, was implemented in Koror Elementary School and in the Marianas at the second and third grade levels.

The project director was in Palau during the first week of school to assist the project teachers in beginning the program and to administer tests of English comprehension and reading skills. A meeting was held with the parents of participating students to explain the goals of the project, demonstrate the new materials and equipment and to encourage them to get involved with the programs.

A Trust Territory wide Math Consortium was held this month at Ponape. Each District Math Specialist attended and reported the programs of his or her district with the Micronesian Math Program. Tentative arrangements were made for the formation of a Mathematics Task Force in each district. The Consortium also decided not to purchase a commercial text for the remainder of the first through eight grade program, but to write its own.

Formal announcement has been received from the East-West Center of forthcoming training programs in Archives and Ethnomusicology. One person and an alternate are to be selected for each of these programs to represent the Trust Territory.

The Micronesian Maritime Center started a new group on their six months training program. Captain Dewey Huffer came to Saipan to work on personnel and finances of the School as it is shifted from MDTA project to a TT budgeted program. The ship is now in Moen until students are on board.

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Pats was awarded a contract for the continuance of the VITCOM (Vocational Institutional Teacher Club of Micronesia) program at PATS. This program provides special English, math and teacher training to encourage students to become Vocational Teachers.

The MDTA Annual Report has been submitted with much emphasis on the lack of funding from Washington to meet the manpower needs throughout the Trust Territory

FINANCE

Jack Beeman was appointed Chief of Finance and Accounting Division. He is a graduate of the University of Colorado, has 23 years experience in financial management, systems development and business administration.

Tentative planning continues for the needed implementation of a new, fully-integrated Financial Management System. The effective date has not been established and is still several months away. Final approval is pending of funding for re-analysis and up-dating of proposed systems.

The Data Processing Division has demonstrated that mechanized and computerized operations can be maintained effectively during periods of power problems. All payrolls have been processed by due dates in spite of frequent emergency changes in power source as well as in work schedules.

HEALTH SERVICES

Dr. Masao Kumangai assumed the position of Director of Health Services, replacing Dr. William M. Peck, who has been reassigned.

U.S. Surgeon General Dr. Jesse Steinfeld visited the Trust Territory, stopping in Saipan, Yap and Palau. He was accompanied to the Western Districts by Dr. Arobati Hicking, Deputy Director of Health Services. The purpose of his visit was to acquaint himself with problems of the delivery of Health Services to the Trust Territory and to aid in solving them.

Dr. Francisco T. Palacios, Communicable Disease Officer, returned following six months' study in the United States.

Mr. Nachsa Siren has joined the Environmental Health Special Task Force appointed by the High Commissioner, investigating conditions throughout Trust Territory.

Mrs. Elizabeth Camacho has been appointed interim Principal of the Trust Territory School of Nursing until the recruitment of a permanent Principal has been consummated.

PUBLIC AFFAIRS

Community Development--Women's and Youth Programs Coordinator, Mrs. Hattie Baker, attended USDA sponsored meetings in San Francisco to discuss child nutrition and food distribution operations. She also worked with Marianas District officials in planning a feeding program for needy households. Mrs. Baker was presented with a Certificate of Appreciation from USDA for her work in setting up the Kili feeding program.

Plans were completed to send Mary Hicking (Assistant Troop leader) and Maria Aldan (Marianas Women's Interest Officer) to attend the National Council of Girl Scouts in Dallas, Texas, this month.

The housing enabling legislation on call at the recent special session of the Congress of Micronesia was filed before final action could be taken. Housing Advisor, Jim Richardson, is assisting on plans for an alternate bill that hopefully will be acceptable to the Congress in January.

Discussion is underway with the Marshalls District which hopefully will lead to the beginning of a program for the elderly. A similar effort is being taken with the Community Development Office on Kusaie.

PUBLIC WORKS

Fred Wolfe, Electrical Specialist II, reported for duty. He is assigned to the Operations & Maintenance Division.

Part II, Phase II of the Air-Conditioning & Refrigeration Training School commenced this month, attended by trainees who successfully finished Phase I.

Leon Brown, Refrigeration & Air-Conditioning Technician, returned from Los Angeles after completing the Sears, Roebuck Refresher Course in repair and maintenance of household appliances.

The Contract Construction Division received bids on and awarded contracts for three projects involving alterations and additions to Headquarters buildings.

DISASTER CONTROL

Ralph D. Burns, formerly with OEP, was placed under contract as a Disaster Consultant, and in company with the Disaster Control Officer and members of his staff, visited Headquarters and all districts of the Trust Territory to review the status of the District Disaster Plans and to assist in their development.

Concurrently with the visit to the districts to review their Disaster Plans, meetings were held with district staffs to review the broad approach to the 1973 Census scheduled for next May.

Dr. K. Groenewegen of the South Pacific Commission arrived in Saipan to commence work with the Census Office in development of the final plan and to meet with the Census Commission to be appointed early in October.

RESOURCES AND DEVELOPMENT

Lands and Surveys--William Bartels, Asia Mapping Surveyor Ponape, travelled to review mapping procedures and problems in the Ponape District.

Mariane Bermudes transferred to Marianas District Planning Office as Assistant District Planner.

The Palau District Land Commission issued its first 57 Determinations of Ownership. Any Determination of Ownership which is not appealed to the High Court within 120 days will mature to a complete title.

The Land Commissioners and staff attended a meeting in Ngermid Hamlet to explain the registration program to the chiefs and landowners and to give instructions about the clearing of boundary lines.

Economic Development--The Special Assistant/Business Advisor and the Economic Development Technician spent the month in Palau updating and correcting the books of the Palau Boatyard.

The Chief of Economic Development, Chief of Tourism Branch, and the Tourism Specialist attended the Joint-Guam-Trust Territory Tourism Meeting in Guam. The meeting was held primarily to discuss ways and means in which Guam and the Trust Territory can jointly sponsor promotional activities for the upcoming PATA Conference and Workshop in Tokyo next February.

The Chief of Tourism Branch left for Ponape and Truk to assist these two districts in putting in writing their tourism goals and objectives. He will also be helping these districts in developing tourism budget for FY 74 and FY 75.

The Economic Development Loan Fund Board approved 33 direct loans and two Guaranty Loans with total amount of \$127,992.00. More than half of the loans are for fishing and farming projects, while the remaining are for working capital, store expansion, u-drive and construction.

TRANSPORTATION AND COMMUNICATIONS

Jose S. Borja, Marine Engineer Technician resigned to enter a four-year course of study in Marine Engineering at the Massachusetts Maritime Academy.

Wayne C. Thiessen returned from home leave to resume his duties as Chief of Transportation.

James Hapdei and Chris Kaipat, Second Officer and Third Officer, respectively, of the MV PACIFICA, left Saipan to attend a three-month Navigation training program at the Pacific Maritime Academy in Honolulu.

MARIANAS

The District Administrator traveled to Honolulu with the Program and Budget Officer to meet with the Frank Parsons Company regarding Isley Field.

Public schools in Saipan and Tinian opened on September 5. Schools in Pagan and Rota delayed opening until September 11 because of the flu epidemic. Later, the Tinian school had to be closed temporarily as a result of the epidemic.

Total enrollment for school year 1972-73 is 4,304. (Grades 1 - 7, 2,755 and grades 8 - 12, 1,547.

Visitors included His Excellency Hammer DeRoburt, President of the Republic of Nauru; Mr. Stanley Carpenter, Assistant Secretary of the Department of Interior; a group of Japanese from the Memorial Service, Okinawa; and members of the 20th Air Force with their dependents.

Dr. Steinfeld, U.S. Public Health Surgeon General visited the Dr. Torres Hospital.

Robert M. Huston was assigned as District Land Management Officer.

MARSHALLS

Jesus Sablan, Public Works Headquarters Electrical Division, arrived to work on Power Distribution Project. William Lemley, White Superior Representative, arrived to look over and take charge in the start-up and run-out of our new 750 KW Generator. Frank Ferraro is still in the district working on the Caterpillar 500 and White Superior 750 Generator units.

Thirty-percent of the Public Works personnel on sick leave due to the influenza epidemic affecting the district.

An Honorguard ceremony was performed by the Department of Public Safety in honor of the High Commissioner of the Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands.

The general operation of radio station WSZO was normal except for several planned and unplanned power outages in which we will continue to be affected by until our stand-by generator is available.

Over 250 political and non-political and public service announcements were broadcast.

WSZO newsmen continue meeting both incoming and outgoing dignitaries on Air Micronesia and Air Nauru flights. Among those interviewed were High Commissioner Edward E. Johnston, Mr. Atkinson, Congressmen Sasao Haruo, Olter Paul, Hans Wiliander, Dr. Conard, District Administrator Oscar de Brum, Deputy District Administrator Edmund Gilmar, District Director of Public Works Jim Pualoa, President Hammer de Roburt of the Republic of Nauru, District Director of Health Service John Iaman, Vice-Principal of the Marshall Islands High School, Mr. William Nelson and the Superintendent of the Elementary Schools, Leander Mellan.

The Marshall Islands High School and Rita Elementary School were closed September 26 due to an influenza epidemic. Classes will be resume on October 2.

Plans for a Combination Public Boat Launch Ramp and Boat Building Facility at the Marshall Islands High School have been completed. Construction by MIHS building trades will begin shortly.

An epidemic of influenza broke out in the district center. It victimized both the young and adult population. There was about 5% pneumonia complications with two deaths among old people with previous chronic lung disease.

The following atolls have been infected with the influenza virus: Kwajalein, Likiep, Maloelap and Ebon. A Navy ship, the SS Grasp which was exposed to the same flu epidemic in Guam, visited Mili, Jaluit, Kili and Ebon. It is expected that these atolls will have an outbreak of the flu. Mr. Oshiro, TT Health Educator, visited the district and started Health Education Training Techniques with the staff.

The hospital received part of the long awaited aspirin and anti-biotic drugs toward the end of the month. It came during the peak of the epidemic. The major part of this shipment was sent out to the infected outer-islands.

Graduation ceremonies were held for nine Health Assistant Trainees. The new graduates will be sent out to man the outer island dispensaries.

The AEC Medical Team worked on the exposed Rongelapese and Utirikese in Majuro using the Armer Ishoda Memorial Hospital facilities. The doctors delivered a talk on Diabetes Mellitus to the staff.

Dr. Jeton Anjain and Kimra Riklon, Dental Assistant, made a special trip to Rongelap and Utirik Atolls with the Atomic Energy Commission team, and examined and treated 58 patients.

Agriculture Agent Kiba Phillip completed a seednut run covering the Atolls of Jaluit, Lae, Ujae, Bikini, Likiep, Maloelap and Aur. 8,000 seednuts were delivered to Bikini and another 8,000 delivered to the rest of the atolls.