



TRUST TERRITORY OF THE PACIFIC ISLANDS

OFFICE OF THE HIGH COMMISSIONER
SAIPAN, MARIANA ISLANDS 96950

CABLE ADDRESS
HICOTT SAIPAN

MONTHLY REPORT

JANUARY 1973

EDUCATION

Representatives of the Title I Program from the U.S. Office of Education, Mr. Charles Dell and Mr. Gus Cheatham reviewed district projects in Truk and Saipan and met with HQ Staff members in a critique of their findings and over-all Title I operation in the Territory.

The Scholarship and Student Services Officer was in Honolulu from January 3rd to 13th attending the conference of the Trust Territory Manpower Advisory Council. Among matters covered by the Council while in Hawaii were: scholarship selection for the school year 1973-74; meeting with school officials and Micronesian students to exchange views concerning the Trust Territory Scholarship Program; and, recommendations by the Council with regard to scholarship program.

Language Development Program Coordinator went to Honolulu on January 12 to meet and talk with Dr. Topping, his staff and the participants of the Micronesian Orthographies Project at the University of Hawaii. On January 17, he left Hawaii to go to Suva, Fiji to participate in the South Pacific Commission Workshop/conference on Radio Broadcast as supplementary to the Tate Oral English series. This will hopefully, be started sometime this summer on a trial basis and to be fully implemented later next year.

During January the Social Studies Curriculum Task Force completed work on a 180 page collection of Ponapean oral history, folklore, and mythology entitled POHNPEI NI MWEHIN KAWA or OLD PONAPE. The book is bilingual containing a Ponapean text as well as an English version.

The Ponape-based Task Force is developing a Pictorial History of Micronesia for use in elementary schools in all districts. The Yap-based Task Force continues in the development of the eight grade materials.

All audiovisual materials for MICRONESIA THROUGH THE YEARS have been completed.

Magazine subscriptions for high schools, prisons, hospitals and public libraries have begun arriving and are being sent out.

MDTA Coordinator met with Manpower Advisory Council MDTA Committee to discuss additional funding of training program for the Tourism Industry of the Trust Territory as a whole.

FINANCE

PROCUREMENT AND SUPPLY DIVISION--Mr. Jesus S. Guerrero, Chief, Depot Operations Branch, departed Saipan on 17 January 1973 to attend a one week Warehouse Operations

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Management Course and two week Personal Property Management Course at the Naval Supply Center, Oakland, California.

The Appointment of Mr. Jesus P. Mafnas as Chief of Revenue Division became effective on January 21, 1973. Messrs. Eulogio Inos and Juan Evangelista were also appointed as Acting Chiefs, Tax and Non-Tax Revenue Branches, respectively.

Health Services--Dr. Arobati Hicking, Deputy Director of Health Services, met with other members of the DHEW and DOI Task Force, and later met with the Surgeon General in Washington.

Dr. Ngas Kansou, DDHS/Truk, attended the Fourth Conference of Directors of Territorial Health Services held in Noumea, New Caledonia, on behalf of the Department of Health Services.

A Cervical Cancer Detection Program has been initiated in the Marianas District.

A training seminar on Environmental Pollution was held in Ponape District from January 9 to 20. The purpose of the seminar was to prepare the district sanitarians for their new tasks of monitoring and fighting pollution, which are being added to their original sanitation work. Consultants from the U.S. Navy in charge of environmental health on Guam, the University of Hawaii, Water Pollution Control Department of the government of Guam, and the U.S. Coast Guard were instructors of the 14 sanitarians from the districts who attended this seminar.

Mr. Ernest Libby, Medical Equipment Repair Specialist, was in the Nauru at the request of their officials, to repair their x-ray machine.

PUBLIC AFFAIRS

Broadcast--Only one major change in personnel occurred during the month; Dusty Frederick, Station Manager at WSZD, Ponape, was terminated, at his own request, by the Ponape District Administrator, who appointed Halvorsen Johnny as Acting Station Manager.

No formal training is going on at the present time. Paul Savercool, Broadcast Trainer, is attending the Defense Information School at Fort Benjamin Harrison, Indiana, where he is taking the Information Officer course. Two more announcer training sessions are planned at Broadcast Center during the remainder of the fiscal year.

Radio coverage of the first Regular Session, 5th Congress of Micronesia, is proceeding well. Through the first three weeks, tapes were sent out to the district broadcast stations on an average of 27 per week.

Public Information--Bonifacio Basilius arrived on Saipan to assume the position of Assistant Chief of the Division.

The 1973 Briefing Materials document was compiled and sent to the Print Shop. The Division also prepared, printed and distributed a new organization chart for the Executive Branch of the Government. The High Commissioner's State of the Territory Address was compiled, printed and distributed.

Micronesian News Service staff established an office at the Congress Annex for coverage of the Congress session. Also, back copies of MNS releases dating from 1967 to 1972 were sent to the Microfilm systems production center for transference to Microfilm.

Community Development--During January, the High Commissioner approved four grants-in-aid. One provided \$13,500 to the Saipan Municipal Government, matched with \$5,800, to purchase a Backhoe Loader. Two others were to Ponape District for recreational tennis courts in Kolonia and road construction in Net Municipality. Their grants totaled to \$25,000 with an additional \$2,800 pledged by the municipalities. Moen, Truk, received \$6,600 to renovate its municipal jail and police station.

PUBLIC WORKS

During the month, the Planning Division prepared and submitted to H.U.D. its application for a Planning Grant; printed and distributed to all the districts the Planning Division Status Report; printed and sent to Truk, the Tol Island Master Plan.

Operations and Maintenance--The Electrical Technician assisted the Marianas District Public Works electrical crew in placing the Kobler Airfield runway lighting system into operation. He also worked on the installation of the panel board and the standby generator.

The Safety Administrator, has informed the districts of the availability of safety training for their Safety Officers at the Naval Ordnance Systems Command Safety School in Indiana. Favorable response from two districts has been received; the same is expected from the remaining four districts.

Channel blasting operation in Rota was performed by the TT Demolition Team. The Sugar Dock channel opening on Saipan was also completed.

The Engineering Technician (Water & Sewer) inspected the water systems in Yap and Palau and performed final inspection prior to acceptance of the Peleliu and Angaur Water Systems. Mr. Irving also prepared a list of materials required for the complete rehabilitation of the Yap Water Treatment Plant.

RESOURCES AND DEVELOPMENT

Economic Development--The Chief of Economic Development, the Assistant Chief, and Staff met with a group of business executives from the mainland during their visit to Saipan. The group visited Saipan, Koror, Moen and Kolonia and was accompanied by the Assistant Chief throughout their visit of the Territory.

The Chief of Tourism Branch visited Truk to assist in the organization of the Truk Tourist Commission and has made final preparations on the photo exhibits for the PATA Conference, to be held in Japan in February 1973. Thirty-five District Tourist Commission representatives and local businessmen from the six districts have been scheduled to participate in this conference.

The new revision of the "Guidelines for Doing Business in the Trust Territory of the Pacific Island" was received and copies have been widely distributed.

The EDLF Board during the month approved 3 guaranteed loans (aggregating \$145,000) and approved 29 direct loans (aggregating \$81,800).

More than 75% of the total loans approved were for fishing and farming projects.

Agriculture--The Entomology Technician, aside from carrying out routine work at the Biology Laboratory, collected four hundred ten (410) *Gonaxis quadrilateralis* and twenty three (23) *Euglandina roses*. These two predatory snails of the giant African snail will be sent to be released on Fefan Island and possibly on another island in Truk District. The snails were requested by Truk District Agriculture Extension Supervisor.

The Chief Conservationist continued work on a general information bulletin on the role of conservation in the Trust Territory.

A list of planting material available in Palau to be used in a landscaping program for the Micronesian Occupational Center grounds in Koror was prepared.

Lands and Surveys--Norman P. Knott, Chief, Land Resources Branch, separated from employment with Trust Territory Government effective January 19, 1973, at the conclusion of his contract. Anastasio Brobesong, Land Resources Specialist, has been appointed acting chief, Land Resources Branch effective January 21, 1973.

A Remote Sensing and Aerial Photo Interpretation course was conducted on Saipan. There were 19 trainees from the six districts as well as few Headquarters people participating in this course.

Four Certificates of Title were issued during the month.

TRANSPORTATION AND COMMUNICATIONS

Transportation--Mr. Robert M. Laird, Chief Equipment Inspection Branch, traveled to Koror/Peleliu to assist in repairs of M/S PACIFICA reverse gears. He later traveled to Ponape to inspect and repair the M/S YAP ISLANDER, thence to Truk to conduct off hire survey and inventory of M/S TRUK ISLANDER.

The M/S WANDANK towed two reefer barges from Pusan, Korea, to Truk and Yap for the Department of Resources and Development.

DISASTER CONTROL OFFICE

This office is currently developing a model District Disaster Plan which will be used as the basic guideline for each District in the preparation of its own plan.

The Disaster Relief Act of 1973 was introduced into both houses of the Congress of Micronesia in its Fifth meeting. This office testified on the Bill at a hearing with the Appropriations Committee of the House.

For the first time in a year, there were no disaster threats or warnings throughout the Territory during the one-month period.

CENSUS COORDINATION

The revised Census Plan, first drafts of the Census Supervisor's Manual and the Enumerator's Reference Manual, and allied forms were completed and distributed.

A Census Supervisor's Conference was held the last week in January and was attended by supervisors from seven areas in the Territory (two from the Marshalls). Pilot Surveys in each district are scheduled as soon as the Supervisors return to their districts. They were authorized to hire two Assistant Supervisors immediately for training and for the enumeration of two sample Enumerator Districts.

Dr. K. Groenewegen of the South Pacific Commission has negotiated on behalf of the Trust Territory an agreement with the East-West Center Population Institute to process the census data collected as of Census Night, May 15.

LNO/GUAM

20 Micronesian patients were processed for admission/treatment at Naval Hospital. 11 were admitted, 21 discharged, 0 reported dead. 30 returned home upon completion of treatment.

MARIANAS

The District Administrator traveled to Washington, D.C. to attend the inauguration of President Nixon.

The Chief of Police Antonio Benavente, was re-appointed for another three-year term during the month.

Forty-one households have been registered for the family food distribution program.

The agricultural produce sold and exported during January was \$21,125.00.

Work started on the plan to develop the former Japanese Hospital into a park.

PALAU

A group of eight U.S. Business Executives was here with Mr. Manuel Sablan, Deputy Chief, Economic Development Division of the Resources and Development Department to discuss the future of local business with the members of Chamber of Commerce, Tourist Commission and Executive Committee of the Palau Legislature. This group also met with the District Administrator to discuss major projects and the future development of the Islands.

Dredging and stockpiling of coral fill for the airfield renovation project was started. Men and equipment are working in two shifts each day, 12 hours each shift, seven (7) days a week. To date, we have a total of 8,100 cubic yards of coral stockpiled at the parking area at the airport. Dredging work will continue until the required yardage of coral is available.

Upgrade night classes at Micronesian Occupational Center were started in the areas of air conditioning, refrigeration, seamstress, and secretarial. These are pilot programs to determine whether a night program should be started in all the vocational areas available at MOC. A night class in Home Economics is offered for all MOC girl students.

TRUK

Two police officers and two fishermen left the district for Saipan to help provide congressional security while the Congress of Micronesia is in session.

Five requests worth \$16,632 in TT grants-in-aid are awaiting Headquarter's review and a sum of \$3,257 in Truk District Legislature grants-in-aid has been approved to purchase a motor vehicle for Dublon, Cooking utensils for Pulap Island and an extension of school kitchen in Parem.

Sixty two low cost housing loans have been granted by the Truk Housing Authority since the beginning of the program; this amounts to a total of \$194,660 dollars; twenty six homes have already been completed while the rest are still under construction. Sizes vary from 432 to 900 square feet per unit and cost ranges between three to five thousand dollars.

Two municipal magistrate elections were conducted in Oneap and Uman Municipalities. The incumbent magistrate on Oneap was re-elected while a new person gains the magistrate seat in Uman Municipality.

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