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SAIPAN FEBRUARY 7 (MNS)---THE CHAIRMAN OF THE JOINT COMMITTEE ON FUTURE STATUS, SENATOR LAZARUS SALII (PALAU), WANTS THE CONGRESS OF MICRONESIA TO REAFFIRM THAT THE COMMITTEE IS THE SOLE AGENT WITH THE AUTHORITY TO NEGOTIATE THE FUTURE POLITICAL STATUS OF THE TRUST TERRITORY, OR ANY OF ITS PARTS.

THAT IS THE SUBSTANCE OF A JOINT RESOLUTION INTRODUCED BY SENATOR SALII WEDNESDAY (FEB 7) IN THE SENATE ON SAIPAN. THE

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RESOLUTION IS VIEWED AS A RESPONSE TO THE SEPARATE STATUS NEGOTIATIONS BEGUN IN DECEMBER BETWEEN THE UNITED STATES AND THE MARIANA ISLANDS DISTRICT.

THE RESOLUTION, IF IT IS ADOPTED BY THE CONGRESS, WOULD DECLARE "THAT IT IS THE SENSE OF THE CONGRESS THAT THE TRUST TERRITORY OF THE PACIFIC ISLANDS IS ONE SINGLE AND INDIVISIBLE POLITICAL UNIT, AND THE TRUSTEESHIP MAY NOT BE TERMINATED OR MODIFIED AS TO ONE PART THEREOF WHILE ANOTHER PART OR PARTS THEREOF REMAIN UNDER SUCH TRUSTEESHIP..."

THE MEASURE FURTHER DECLARES THAT "THE CONGRESS OF MICRONESIA, THROUGH THE JOINT COMMITTEE ON FUTURE STATUS, IS THE SOLE AUTHORITY IN THE TRUST TERRITORY OF THE PACIFIC ISLANDS WHICH IS LEGALLY AUTHORIZED AND EMPOWERED TO CONDUCT NEGOTIATIONS WITH REGARD TO THE FUTURE POLITICAL STATUS OF THE TRUST TERRITORY, INCLUDING ALL PARTS THEREOF...."

THE JOINT COMMITTEE IS PRESENTLY IN THE MIDST OF A SERIES OF NEGOTIATIONS WITH THE UNITED STATES, WITH THE CONGRESS OF MICRONESIA ON RECORD AS FAVORING A STATUS OF "FREE ASSOCIATION" WITH THE U.S. THE COMMITTEE HAS ALSO BEEN DIRECTED BY THE CONGRESS TO INVESTIGATE THE U.S. ATTITUDE TOWARD THE ALTERNATIVE

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OF COMPLETE INDEPENDENCE FOR MICRONESIA.

THE MARIANAS DISTRICT WANTS, HOWEVER, TO STRENGTHEN ITS TIES WITH THE U.S., AND LAST YEAR AMERICAN AMBASSADOR FRANKLIN HAYDN WILLIAMS AGREED, ON BEHALF OF THE U.S., TO ENTER INTO SEPARATE NEGOTIATIONS WITH THE MARIANAS. THOSE TALKS BEGAN IN DECEMBER, WITH A MEMBER OF THE CONGRESS OF MICRONESIA, EDWARD PANGELINAN, AS CHAIRMAN OF THE MARIANAS DISTRICT

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COMMISSION.

THE RESOLUTION INTRODUCED BY SENATOR SALII WAS ASSIGNED TO THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON JUDICIARY AND GOVERNMENTAL OPERATIONS FOR CONSIDERATION.

(BALOS SPEAKS ON ROI-NAMUR)

SAIPAN FEBRUARY 7 (MNS)---A BRIEF SPEECH BY MARSHALLS CONGRESSMAN AJAJI BALOS MARKED THE WEDNESDAY (FEB 7) SESSION OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES ON SAIPAN. BALOS SPOKE BEFORE INTRODUCING A RESOLUTION RELATING TO THE CONTENT OF HIS SPEECH.

HE BEGAN BY SAYING THAT THE PEOPLE OF ROI AND NAMUR, TWO ISLANDS IN THE KWAJALEIN ATOLL, ARE STILL HOMELESS AFTER MORE THAN A QUARTER OF A CENTURY. HE ADDED THAT HE WILL

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PERSONALLY LEAD THE PEOPLE OF ROI-NAMUR BACK TO THEIR HOME ISLANDS, AND IS ASKING FOR THE SUPPORT OF THE CONGRESS IN THIS.

"THE PEOPLE HAVE BEEN FORCED OFF THEIR ISLANDS AND HAVE NEVER BEEN PAID," BALOS SAID. "NOW THE ONLY CHOICE IS FOR THE PEOPLE OF ROI-NAMUR TO RETURN PHYSICALLY TO THEIR HOMELAND AND RESETTLE THERE."

CONGRESSMAN BALOS THEN INTRODUCED A JOINT RESOLUTION THAT WOULD CREATE A JOINT COMMITTEE OF ONE ON ROI-NAMUR, THE ONE MEMBER OF WHICH WOULD BE AJAJI BALOS.

ROI-NAMUR IS ABOUT 60 MILES ACROSS THE KWAJALEIN LAGOON FROM THE MAIN ISLAND OF KWAJALEIN. IT IS PART OF THE MISSILE RANGE INSTALLATION THERE, WITH ABOUT 300 EMPLOYEES IN RESIDENCE AND A LARGE AIRSTRIP, RADAR INSTALLATIONS AND OTHER FACILITIES. THE TWO ISLANDS HAVE BEEN PERMANENTLY JOINED BY A CAUSEWAY AND LAND FILL TO FORM, IN EFFECT, ONE ISLAND WITH THE JOINT NAME OF ROI-NAMUR. KWAJALEIN'S MISSILE RANGE IS A U.S. ARMY BASE.

THERE WAS NO FINAL FLOOR ACTION TAKEN IN THE HOUSE ON ANY MEASURE WEDNESDAY. IN THE SENATE, HOWEVER, FINAL PASSAGE WAS GIVEN TO A NUMBER OF BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS. PASSED ON SECOND AND FINAL READING WERE A BILL TO ALLOW TAX REFUNDS ON GOODS

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IMPORTED INTO THE IT AND THEN EXPORTED FROM OR SOLD FOR USE

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