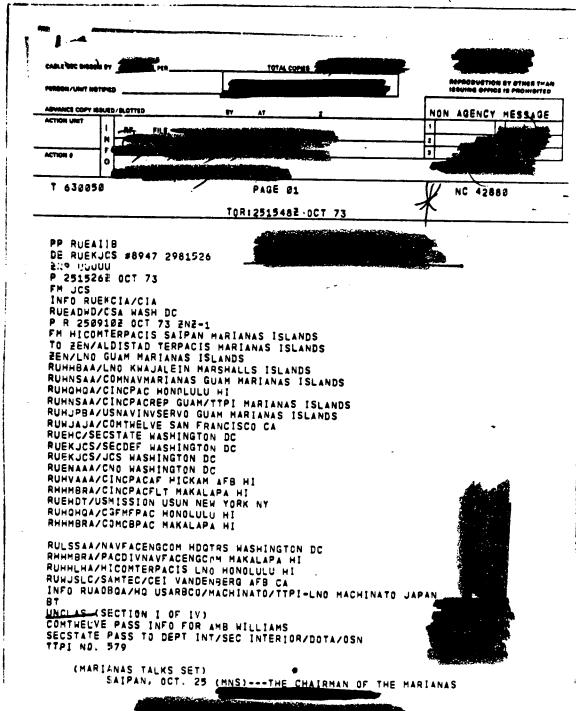
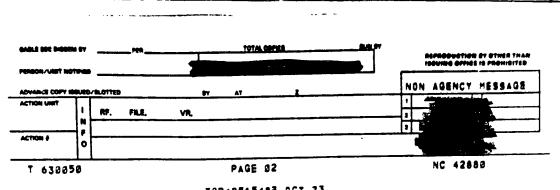
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POLITICAL STATUS COMMISSION, SENATOR EDWURD PANGELINAN, MET THIS WEEK IN SAN FRANCISCO WITH U.S. AMBASSADOR FRANKLIN MAYDN WILLIAMS TO DISCUSS PLANS FOR THE NEXT ROUND IN THE MARIANAS STATUS TALKS. HERE IS THE COMPLETE TEXT OF A JOINT STATEMENT ISSUED BY THE THO MEN AT THE CONCLUSION OF THEIR MEETING:

"SENATOR EDWARD PANGELINAN, CHAIRMAN OF THE MARIANAS POLITICAL STATUS COMMISSION AND AMBASSADOR FRANKLIN HAYDN WILLIAMS, THE U.S. NEGOTIATOR FOR THE U.S.-MARIANAS POLITICAL STATUS TALKS, CONCLUDED THO DAYS OF INFORMAL MEETINGS IN

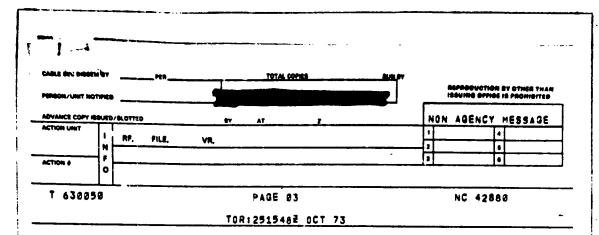
SAN FRANCISCO TODAY BY JOINTLY ANNOUNCING THAT THE NEXT FORMUL TALKS BETHEEN THE MARIANAS AND THE U.S., LOOKING TOWARDS A POLITICAL UNION OF THE NORTHERN MARIANAS WITH THE U.S. UPON TERMINATION OF THE TRUST TERRITORY, WILL TAKE PLACE IN DECEMBER.

DECEMBER.

"AFTER REVIEHING PROGRESS THAT HAD BEEN MADE DURING THE
MAY-JUNE 1973 NEGOTIATIONS, AND THE FURTHER WORK WHICH HAS BEEN
ACCOMPLISHED SUBSEQUENTLY BY JOINT WORKING SUB-COMMITTEES IT
HAS AGREED THE TALKS WOULD OPEN ON DECEMBER 6, 1973 ON SAIPAN.

"THE AGENDA WILL INCLUDE A REVIEW OF SOME OF THE LEGAL
AND CONSTITUTIONAL QUESTIONS LEFT OVER FROM THE LAST NEGOTIATING
SESSION, A FURTHER EXCHANGE ON THE FUTURE FINANCIAL RELATIONSHIP
BETHEEN A COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANAS AND THE UNITED
STATES GOVERNMENT, AND A CONTINUATION OF THE DISCUSSION OF
THE FUTURE DISPOSITION OF PUBLIC LAND NOW HELD IN FOR THE
PEOPLE BY THE TRUST TERRITORY GOVERNMENT, AND FUTURE U.S. LAND
REQUIREMENTS IN THE MARIANAS. CHAIRMAN PANGELINAN AND
AMBASSADOR HILLIAMS ALSO AGREED THAT A PRELIMINARY EXCHANGE OF
VIEHS ON TRANSITION TO SELF-GOVERNMENT AND THE CALLING OF A
MARIANAS CONSTITUTIONAL CONVENTION HOULD BE USEFUL.

"IN ASSESSING THE RECORD OF THE PUST TEN MONTHS SINCE THE OPENING OF THE TULKS LEADING TO A POLITICAL UNION OF THE NORTHERN MURIANAS AND THE U.S., SENATOR PANGELINAN AND AMBASSADOR WILLIAMS EXPRESSED SUTISFACTION WITH THE SOLID UCCOMPLISHMENT IN THE NEGOTIATIONS TO DATE. BOTH ALSO EXPRESSED CONFIDENCE THAT FURTHER PROGRESS WOULD BE MADE AT THE DECEMBER MEETING TOWARD APMUTUALLY ACCEPTABLE AGREEMENT WHICH HOULD BE SUBMITTED TO THE CONGRESS OF THE UNITED STATES.



THE MARIANAS DISTRICT LEGISLATURE AND TO THE PEOPLE OF THE NORTHERN MARIANAS FOR THEIR AVPROVAL IN THE FORM OF A PLEBISCITE."
(ULL USERS: PLEASE CREDIT CONGRESS OF MICRONESIA)
(SENATE HEARINGS COMPLETED)

SAIPAN, OCT. 25 (CONGRESS RELEASE) --- THE CONGRESS OF MICRUNESIA'S SENATE COMMITTEE ON JUDICIARY AND GOVERNMENTAL OPERATIONS COMPLETED A SERIES OF HEURINGS INTO THE STATE OF THE JUDICIARY AND LAW ENFORCEMENT IN THE TRUST TERRITORY THIS WE EK ON SAIPAN.

THE COMMITTEE, CHAIRED BY SENATOR ANDON AMARAICH OF TRUK. HAS BEEN TRAVELLING THROUGH THE EASTERN AND WESTERN DISTRICTS

HOLDING A SERIES OF HEARINGS ON THE SAME SUBJECT PRIOR TO THE SAIPAN HEARINGS.

ALTHOUGH A REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE'S FINDINGS IS YET TO BE WRITTEN FOR THE COMMITTEE'S REVIEW BEFORE IT IS SUBMITTED TO CONGRESS DURING THE FORTHCOMING SESSION IN JANUARY, SENATOR AMARAICH SPOKE IN GENERAL TERMS OF SOME OF THE PROBLEMS HIS COMMITTEE LEARNED ABOUT FROM THE HEARINGS

COMMITTEE LEARNED ABOUT FROM THE HEARINGS.

THE TRUK SENATOR SAID: "THE STATE OF THE JUDICIARY AT THIS TIME IS PRETTY SAD. IT IS OUR IMPRESSION FROM THE HEARINGS THAT THERE IS GREAT NEED TO IMPROVE THE QUALITY OF SERVICES RENDERED BY THE HIGH COURT, WHICH IS NOT MEETING THE NEEDS OF THE PEOPLE." HE CONTINUED: "HE HAVE MORE THAN 100 HIGH COURT CIVIL CASES WHICH HAVE BEEN PENDING FOR MORE THAN THO YEARS. A NUMBER OF THESE CASES HAVE BEEN TRIED BY THE JUDGES BUT HAVE BEEN UNDER ADVISEMENT FOR SEVERAL YEARS WITHOUT ANY JUDGMENT. IT APPEARS TO THE COMMITTEE THAT THE HIGH COURT COULD REALLY IMPROVE IN THE SCHEDULING OF CASES SO THAT VERY

OLD CASES COULD BE DISPOSED OF "
SENATOR AMARAICH ALSO SPOKE OF THE "LACK OF LEGAL EDUCATION AND LEGAL TRAINING" WHICH ALSO HAS CONTRIBUTED TO THE

INEFFECTIVENESS OF THE COURT. HE SAID HIS COMMITTEE MET WITH THE DIRECTO R OF THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION, HIS DEPUTY, AND THE SCHOLARSHIP OFFICER AND ASKED WHAT, IF ANYTHING, THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION WAS DOING IN THE FIELD OF LAW.

ACCORDING TO AMARAICH, "IT WAS OBVIOUS OUT OF THEIR TESTIMONY THAT VERY LITTLE EFFORT HAS BEEN MADE TO ENCOURAGE

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MICRONESIANS TO TAKE UP THE FIELD OF LAW AND VERY LITTLE MAS BEEN TAUGHT IN THE GOVERNMENT SCHOOLS CONCERNING THE WORKINGS OF THE COURTS AND LAW IN GENERAL." HE SAID HIS COMMITTEE INTENDS TO TRY TO ENCOURAGE THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION, THE ATTORNEY GENERAL'S OFFICE, THE JUDICIARY, AND PRIVATE ORGANIZATIONS TO START TAKING POSITIVE STEPS IN ESTABLISHING LEGAL EDUCATION AND TRAINING FOR MICRONESIANS.

THE TRUK SENATOR ALSO NOTED THAT THERE IS NEED TO IMPROVE THE HORKING RELATIONSHIPS BETHEEN HIGH COURT JUSTICES THEMSELVES AND BETHEEN THE COURT AND THOSE PRACTICING BEFORE IT. HE INDICATED, "BECAUSE OF THE QUESTIONABLE CONDUCT OF CERTAIN JUDGES AND ATTORNEYS, THE COMMITTEE FINDS THAT THE PUBLIC IS LOSING CONFIDENCE IN OUR COURTS."

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EXECUTIVE AND THE LEGISLATIVE BRANCHES. AND WASHINGTON IF WE ARE TO MAINTAIN A COMPLETELY INDEPENDENT JUDICIAL SYSTEM, " AMARAICH CONCLUDED. ACCORDING TO AMARAICH. THE COMMITTEE ON JEGO CONCENTRATED

PRIMARILY ON THE STATE OF THE JUDICIARY DURING THE SEVERAL HEEKS OF HEARINGS: DUE TO TIME LIMITATIONS: AND DID NOT GO INTO DETAIL ON THE STATE OF LAM-ENFORCEMENT OR ON MATTERS RELATING TO THE LOWER COURTS. HE SAID THE COMMITTEE PLANS TO TAKE UP THESE MATTERS AT A LATER TIME.

MEMBERS OF THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON JEGO, IN ADDITION TO

SENATOR AMARAICH ARE; SENATOR AMBILOS IESHI OF PONAPE, SENATOR LAZARUS SALII OF PALAU, SENATOR WILFRED KENDALL FROM THE MARSHALLS, SENATOR ROMAN THETUCHL OF PALAU, SENATOR PETRUS TUN OF YAP, AND SENATOR OLYMPIO T, BORJA OF THE MARIANAS. COUNSEL

FOR THE COMMITTEE IS MICHAEL A. WHITE,

MEANHHILE, SENATOR AMARAICH, HHO ALSO CHAIRS THE JOINT
COMMITTEE ON LAW OF THE SEA, LEFT SAIPAN THURSDAY MORNING
(OCT. 25) FOR HIS HOME DISTRICT OF TRUK WHERE HE IS SLATED
TO MEET WITH OFFICIALS FROM THE STATE DEPARTMENT IN MASHINGTON, ON MATTERS RELATING TO LAW OF THE SEA. (SEE FOLLOHING STORY).

AMARAICH SAID THE PURPOSE OF THE TRIP TO MICRONESIA BY THESE OFFICIALS IS PRIMARILY TO FAMILIARZE THEMSELVES WITH THE UNIQUE SITUATION OF MICRONESIA'S WATERS AND REEFS, HE SAID

THAT FOLLOWING THEIR MEETING IN TRUK THESE OFFICIALS WILL COME TO SAIPAN. AMARAICH IS ACCOMPANIED BY STAFF ATTORNEY FRED RAMP

RAMP.

(LAH-OF-SE) OFFICIALS HERE)

SAIPAN, OCT, 25 (MNS)---FOUR AMERICAN SPECIALISTS IN THE LAH OF THE SEA ARE PRESENTLY TRAVELLING THROUGH THE TRUST TERRITORY A" THE INVITATION OF THE CONGRESS OF MICRONESIA JOINT COMMITTEE ON LAH OF THE SEA, TO FAMILIARIZE THEMSELVES WITH MICRONESIAN INTERESTS IN THIS IMPORTANT AREA.

THE JOINT COMMITTEE AND THE U.S. DEPARTMENT OF STATE ARE PRESENTLY IN THE MIDST OF DISCUSSIONS AIMED AT CLARIFYING THE ROLE MICRONESIA HILL PLAY IN THE FORTHCOMING INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON LAW OF THE SEA, TO BE HELD UNDER THE AUSPICES OF THE UNITED NATIONS NEXT YEAR IN EITHER NEW YOUR CITY OR GENEVA.