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(WASHINGTON HEARINGS)

WASHINGTON, D.C., NOV. 13 (KNS)---THIS IS AN ACTIVE TIME FOR MICRONESIAN AFFAIRS IN THE U.S. CAPITAL OF WASHINGTON, D.C. FOLLOWING LAST WEEK'S HEARINGS BEFORE THE CIVIL AERONAUTICS BOARD ON THE SAIPAN-JAPAN AIRLINE ROUTE CASE WHICH DREW MORE THAN A DOZENS OF MICRONESIA'S TOP LEADERS, ARE BUDGET HEARINGS BEFORE THE U.S. CONGRESS SET FOR THIS WEEK AND NEXT, MEETINGS WITH THE DIRECTOR OF THE OFFICE OF ECONOMIC OPPORTUNITY CONCERNING THE FUTURE OF THE MICRONESIAN LEGAL SERVICES PROGRAM, AND MOST SIGNIFICANTLY THE SEVENTH ROUND IN THE MICRONESIAN STATUS NEGOTIATION.

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THE BUDGET HEARINGS HAVE BEEN DELAYED SEVERAL TIMES. THE LATEST DEALY IN TRUST TERRITORY TESTIMONY BEFORE THE APPROPRIATION'S SUB-COMMITTEE HEADED BY CONGRESSWOMAN JULIA BUTLER HANSEN OF WASHINGTON, CAME LATE MONDAY AFTERNOON WHICH IS EARLY TUESDAY MORNING (NOV. 13) SAIPAN TIME WHEN A SCHEDULED HEARING HAD TO AGAIN BE POSTPONED.

HIGH COMMISSIONER EDWARD E. JOHNSTON AND MEMBERS OF HIS BUDGET STAFF, CONGRESSMAN RAYMOND SETIK REPRESENTING THE JOINT COMMITTEE ON PROGRAM AND BUDGET PLANNING OF THE CONGRESS OF MICRONESIA, DIRECTOR OF THE OFFICE OF TERRITORIAL AFFAIRS, STANLEY S. CARPENTER, AND THE DEPUTY REPRESENTATIVE FOR THE MICRONESIAN STATUS NEGOTIATIONS, JAMES M. WILSON, ARE ALL NOW SCHEDULED TO APPEAR BEFORE THE COMMITTEE TUESDAY AFTERNOON. THEY WILL BE ASKING FOR CONGRESSIONAL SUPPORT OF A SUPPLEMENTAL BUDGET APPROPRIATIONS OF \$3.2 MILLION FOR NEEDED CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PROJECTS AS WELL AS SUPPORT FOR A MICRONESIAN CONSTITUTIONAL CONVENTION, AND A PROGRAM OF EDUCATION FOR SELF-GOVERNMENT IN MICRONESIA.

IN ADDITION, CONGRESSMAN SETIK WILL BE ASKING FOR AN ADDITIONAL \$5 MILLION FOR SUCH PROJECTS AS THE PALAU BRIDGE AND

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NEW SHIPS FOR INTER ISLAND SERVICE IN THE TRUST TERRITORY. FOLLOWING THE HEARINGS BEFORE THE HOUSE SUB-COMMITTEE, THE TRUST TERRITORY SUPPLEMENTAL BUDGET IS DUE TO BE CONSIDERED BY A SUB-COMMITTEE OF A SENATE APPROPRIATION'S COMMITTEE CHAIRED BY SENATOR ALAN BIBLE OF NEVADA. THAT HEARING IS TENTATIVELY SCHEDULED FOR TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 20TH.

SUBJECT OF CONSIDERABLE SPECULATION FOR MICRONESIA IS THE ACTION THAT WILL BE TAKEN BY THE DIRECTOR OF THE OFFICE OF ECONOMIC OPPORTUNITY ALVIN ARNETT, ON HIGH COMMISSIONER JOHNSTON'S VETO OF A \$600,000 REFUNDING GRANT FOR THE MICRONESIAN LEGAL SERVICES PROGRAM. UNDER THE ECONOMIC OPPORTUNITY ACT, ARNETT HAS THE POWER TO OVERRIDE THE VETO IF HE WISHES, OR HE COULD LET THE VETO STAND.

MLSC DIRECTOR TED MITCHELL HAS COME TO WASHINGTON FROM SAIPAN TO DEFEND HIS PROGRAM. IN ADDITION SEVERAL OF THE MICRONESIAN CONGRESSMEN AND OTHER LEADERS HERE IN WASHINGTON FOR THE STATUS TALKS, BUDGET HEARINGS OR THE AIRLINE ROUTE HEARINGS HAVE TAKEN THE OPPORTUNITY TO MEET WITH ARNETT AND GIVE HIM THEIR VIEWS ON THE SUBJECT. MONDAY AFTERNOON, ARNETT MET WITH A GROUP OF SIX REPRESENTING THE CONGRESS AND AFTERWARD

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A SPOKEMAN SAID THE DIRECTOR OF OEO WILL HAVE A DECISION ON THE VETO BY WEDNESDAY NOON, (WASHINGTON TIME.) THE SPOKEMAN ALSO SAID THE OEO HEADQUARTERS HAVE BEEN RECEIVING COUNTLESS LETTERS AND TELEGRAMS IN SUPPORT OF THE LEGAL SERVICES PROGRAMS AS WELL AS NUMEROUS INQUIRIES FROM UNITED STATES CONGRESSMEN AND SENATORS.

A PETITION CONTAINING MORE THAN 520 SIGNATURES WAS ALSO RECEIVED MONDAY FROM TRUK DISTRICT SUPPORTING THE MICRONESIAN LEGAL SERVICES PROGRAM. OEO DIRECTOR ARNETT MET ALSO LAST WEEK WITH HIGH COMMISSIONER JOHNSTON AND MR. CARPENTER TO DISCUSS HIS REASONS FOR VETOING THE MLSC GRANT.

WITH ALL OF THESE EVENTS OF CONCERN TO MICRONESIAN TAKING PLACE IN WASHINGTON, THE EVENTS OF MOST SIGNIFICANT IS STILL THE SEVENTH ROUND OF STATUS TALKS, DUE TO OPEN TUESDAY MORNING (WASHINGTON TIME.) SOME OBSERVERS FEEL IT MAY BE THE MOST IMPORTANT ROUND IN THE STATUS TALKS TO DATE. THE TWO DELEGATIONS HEADED BY SENATOR LAZARUS SALII AND UNITED STATES AMBASSADOR F. HAYDN WILLIAMS WILL MEET INFORMALLY TUESDAY IN CLOSE SESSION TO DISCUSS THE QUESTION ON THE RETURN OF PUBLIC LAND ON WHICH THE UNITED STATES ISSUED A FORMAL POLICY STATEMENT A WEEK AGO.

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THE FORMAL OPENING PLENARY SESSION OF THE TALKS IS EXPECTED TO COME ON WEDNESDAY, (WASHINGTON TIME).

THE OFFICE OF MICRONESIAN STATUS NEGOTIATIONS HERE IN WASHINGTON HAS RELEASED A PRESS STATEMENT ABOUT THE OPENING OF THE TALKS WHICH SAYS IN PART ..."FOR ABOUT THE PAST TWO YEARS NEGOTIATIONS HAVE BEEN PROGRESS BETWEEN MICRONESIA AND THE U.S. ON A COMPACT OF FREE ASSOCIATION PROVIDING FOR A TERMINATION OF A TRUSTEESHIP AGREEMENT ON TERMS WHICH WILL GRANT SELF-GOVERNMENT TO THE MICRONESIAN PEOPLE AND ASSIGNED TO THE UNITED STATES RESPONSIBILITY FOR MICRONESIA'S DEFENSE AND FOREIGN AFFAIRS. THEY HAVE PREVIOUSLY ACHIEVE MUTUALLY AGREED DRAFT LANGUAGE FOR THE COMPACT'S PREAMBLE AND FOR ITS TITLES RELATING TO INTERNAL AFFAIRS AND DEFENSE AND FOREIGN AFFAIRS. THE SESSION OF TALKS GETTING UNDERWAY THIS WEEK IS EXPECTED TO BEGIN WITH A BRIEF DISCUSSION OF THE U.S. GOVERNMENT'S RECENT DECISION TO RETURN TO LOCAL CONTROL IN MICRONESIA A SUBSTANTIAL AMOUNT OF PUBLIC LAND WHICH THE U.S. HAS BEEN HOLDING IN TRUST FOR THE PEOPLE OF MICRONESIA SINCE 1945.

"THE TALKS WILL THEN TURN TO WORK ON BOTH TITLES OF THE

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COMPACT OF FREE ASSOCIATION WHICH HAVE NOT YET BEEN ADDRESSED. MOST IMPORTANT OF THE REMAINING TITLES ARE THOSE RELATING TO CONTINUED ECONOMIC AND FINANCIAL TIES BETWEEN MICRONESIA AND THE UNITED STATES. PROVISION FOR AMENDMENT AND POSSIBLE TERMINATION OF THE COMPACT, AND THE TRANSITIONAL STEP BY WHICH MICRONESIA WILL ATTAIN SELF GOVERNMENT. IT IS ANTICIPATED THAT UNDER THE TERMS OF THE FINAL NEGOTIATED AGREEMENT, UNITED STATES WILL CONTINUE TO PROVIDE THE ISLANDS ECONOMIC SUPPORT AS THEY WORK TOWARD SELF-SUFFICIENCY."

THIS WAS A PORTION OF A PRESS RELEASE ISSUED MONDAY IN WASHINGTON BY THE OFFICE OF MICRONESIAN STATUS NEGOTIATIONS HEADED BY AMBASSADOR WILLIAMS. THE TALKS ONCE AGAIN, WILL GET

UNDERWAY BEGINNING TUESDAY WITH A CLOSE SESSION ON THE LAND ISSUE, AND WEDNESDAY MORNING (WASHINGTON TIME), WITH AN OPEN PLENARY SESSION TO FORMALLY OPEN THE SEVENTH ROUND OF STATUS TALKS.

(EDB APPROVES FIVE)

SAIPAN, NOV. 13 (MNS)---FIVE NEW APPLICATIONS FROM FOREIGN COMPANIES WISHING TO DO BUSINESS IN THE MARIANAS DISTRICT HAVE BEEN APPROVED BY THE DISTRICT'S ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT BOARD, ACCORDING TO THE FRIDAY EDITION OF GUAM'S PACIFIC DAILY NEWS.

APPROVED WAS THE ARCHITECTURAL AND ENGINEERING FIRM OF JUAN C. TENORIO AND ASSOCIATES OF GUAM, ON THE CONDITION THAT 34 PERCENT OF ITS CAPITAL STOCK BE MADE AVAILABLE TO MICRONESIANS AND THAT OWNERSHIP BE OPEN TO ANYONE EMPLOYED IN THE COMPANY.

ALSO APPROVED WAS MICRONESIAN DISTRIBUTING COMPANY, A JOINT VENTURE OF J.C. TENORIO ENTERPRISES OF SAIPAN AND TUCOR SERVICES OF CHICAGO, THE SOLE DISTRIBUTOR OF JOHNNY WALKER PRODUCTS. THE NEW COMPANY WILL MARKET AND DISTRIBUTE ALCOHOL, TABACCO, BEER AND SOFTDRINKS.

TURTLE TOURS OF MICRONESIA, INC., WAS APPROVED TO INITIATE

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A TOURIST DEVELOPMENT ON SAIPAN SIMILAR TO GUAM'S TURTLE COVE. THE BOARD STIPULATED THAT THE COMPANY MUST MAKE ITS BUSES AVAILABLE FOR LEASE TO LOCAL SAIPAN TOUR OPERATORS.

MICROMED, HEADED BY MICHAEL J. COUSINS, RECEIVED THE GO AHEAD TO BEGIN A WHOLESALE BUSINESS IN PROPRIETARY MEDICINES, MEDICAL SUPPLIES AND OTHER DRUGS, ON THE CONDITION THAT IT COMMENCE OPERATIONS NO LATER THAN 12 MONTHS AFTER RECEIVING THE PERMIT. COUSINS IS A FORMER TRUST TERRITORY HEALTH SERVICES EMPLOYEE.

THE RENEWAL APPLICATION OF DILLINGHAM CORPORATION OF MICRONESIA WAS ALSO APPROVED FOR THE PRODUCTION AND MARKETING OF AGGREGATE AND CONCRET PRODUCTS, ASPHALTIC CONCRETE AND WHOLESALE SALES OF CEMENT.

THE APPLICATIONS HAVE BEEN SENT TO THE HIGH COMMISSIONER WHO WILL MAKE THE FINAL DECISION. THE MARIANAS BOARD ALSO SET NOVEMBER 27 FOR HEARINGS ON THE FOREIGN BUSINESS PERMIT APPLICATIONS OF MARIANAS TROPICAL CLUB, ALDAN, MCGARRY AND ASSOCIATES, GUAM PUBLICATIONS AND A PERMIT AMENDMENT FOR PALMER, WIGGS AND HESTON.

(GRANTS-IN-AID)

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SAIPAN, NOV. 13 (MNS)---THE DIVISION OF COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT REPORTED THIS WEEK THAT FOUR HEADQUARTERS GRANTS-IN-AID WERE AWARDED TO VARIOUS COMMUNITIES DURING OCTOBER. LELU VILLAGE IN KUSAIE RECEIVED A GRANT OF \$20,000 TO CONSTRUCT THE FIRST INCREMENT OF A WATER SYSTEM. AN ESTIMATED \$35,000 WORTH OF CONTRIBUTED VILLAGE LABOR IS GOING INTO THIS FIRST INCREMENT.

A SECOND GRANT WAS TO THE AILINGLAPLAP CO-OP IN THE MARSHALLS. SINCE 1969, THE CO-OP HAS GROWN FROM 39 TO 103 MEMBERS AND A LARGER WATERHOUSE IS NEEDED. A GRANT-IN-AID OF \$9,054 WAS AWARDED FOR THIS PURPOSE WITH THE CO-OP PUTTING UP \$1,000 IN CASH AND \$600 IN-KIND AS MATCHING CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE PROJECT.

IN THE MARIANAS, THE MUNICIPALITY OF TINIAN WAS AWARDED THE FIRST INCREMENT OF A \$23,700 GRANT TO BEGIN CONSTRUCTION ON A HEAD START CENTER BUILDING SIMILAR TO THE ONE RECENTLY COMPLETED ON ROTA. THE MUNICIPALITY IS MATCHING THE GRANT WITH \$3,265 IN CASH. A SECOND INCREMENT GRANT OF \$5,687 HAS BEEN APPROVED FOR DISBURSEMENT WHEN MORE GIA FUNDS ARE AVAILABLE.

A UNIQUE GRANT-IN-AID PROJECT HAS BEEN FUNDED FOR THE EBON ISLAND COMMUNITY IN THE MARSHALLS. IT IS A SELF-HELP

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AGRICULTURAL REHABILITATION PROGRAM DESIGNED TO MAKE EBON SELF-SUFFICIENT IN THE PRODUCTION OF STAPLE FOODS SUCH AS BREADFRUIT, BANANA, COCONUT, TARO AND TAPIOCA. A GRANT OF \$8,786 WILL BE USED TO TRANSPORT TO EBON PLANTS AND CUTTINGS VALUED AT \$3,000 TO REPLACE THE OLD, UNPRODUCTIVE PLANTS NOW ON THE ISLAND. THE MARSHALLS DISTRICT AGRICULTURE STAFF IS ASSISTING WITH TOOLS AND EQUIPMENT NEEDED. THE PEOPLE OF EBON ARE CONTRIBUTING OVER \$31,00 WORTH OF MANUAL LABOR TO RESTORE THEIR GARDENS WITH THE NEW HEALTHY PLANTS WHICH WILL BE PURCHASED ON KUSAIE. HEADQUARTERS COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT CONSIDERS THIS A MODEL SELF-HELP GRANT-IN-AID PROJECT. (HEAVY EQUIPMENT OPERATORS)

SAIPAN, NOV. 13 (MNS)---A 32 YEAR-OLD PALAUAN MAN BECAME THE FIRST MICRONESIAN TO RECEIVE A CERTIFICATE OF TRAINING IN HEAVY EQUIPMENT OPERATIONS HAVING COMPLETED A MONTH-LONG TRAINING PROGRAM ON SAIPAN. KENYOTS REKEMEL, RECEIVED HIS CERTIFICATE AT THE OFFICE OF DEPUTY CHIEF OF TRANSPORTATION EWAL ELANZO FRIDAY AFTERNOON (NOV. 9).

THOMAS TAVARES, MANAGER, ROADS, HARBORS WAREHOUSES BRANCH, DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION PRESENTED THE CERTIFICATE. HE

SAID REKEMEL IS NOW CAPABLE OF OPERATING CRANES, CRAWLER AND MOBILE CRANES WITH A 60 TON CAPACITY. THE TRAINING PROGRAM WAS JOINTLY SPONSORED BY THE HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS, CENTRAL REPAIR SHOP AND THE TRANSPORTATION DIVISION.

TAVARES ADDED THAT THIS TYPE OF TRAINING PROGRAM WILL CONTINUE THROUGHOUT THE TRUST TERRITORY BY EITHER BRINGING THE TRAINEES TO SAIPAN OR TRAINING THEM ON-THE-JOB IN THEIR RESPECTIVE DISTRICTS. REKEMEL LEFT SAIPAN MONDAY (NOV. 12) WHERE HE IS TO ASSUME HIS POSITION IN THE PELELIU SHIP YARD.