

(WILLIAMS-SALII MEET)

SAIPAN, DEC. 21, (MNS)---THE CHAIRMAN OF THE UNITED STATES AND CONGRESS OF MICRONESIA FUTURE STATUS DELEGATIONS HAVE AGREED THAT, DESPITE THE BREAKUP OF THE SEVENTH ROUND OF TALKS IN WASHINGTON, D.C. LAST MONTH OVER FINANCE, THERE SHOULD BE ANOTHER ROUND OF TALKS IN THE NEAR FUTURE. SENATOR LAZARUS SALII AND AMBASSADOR F. HAYDN WILLIAMS HAVE ALSO AGREED THAT MEETINGS OF TECHNICAL EXPERTS FROM BOTH SIDES SHOULD TAKE PLACE AS SOON AS POSSIBLE TO BEGIN EXPLORING ALTERNATIVES IN THE FINANCE MATTER, AND LAYING THE GROUNDWORK FOR THE NEXT ROUND OF NEGOTIATIONS.

THESE TWO AGREEMENTS WERE THE OUTCOME OF A MEETING HELD THIS WEEK ON SAIPAN BETWEEN THE AMBASSADOR AND THE SENATOR, THEIR FIRST SINCE THE SEVENTH ROUND ENDED IN WASHINGTON ON NOVEMBER 21. AMBASSADOR WILLIAMS WAS ON SAIPAN TO HEAD THE U.S. DELEGATION IN THE THIRD ROUND OF MARIANAS STATUS NEGOTIATIONS, WHICH ENDED WEDNESDAY (DEC. 19).

"WE HAD A GOOD MEETIN," SENATOR SALII SAID FRIDAY, "AND IT RESULTED IN TWO IMPORTANT DECISIONS. ONE, THAT WE SHOULD ATTEMPT TO HOLD ANOTHER ROUND OF NEGOTIATIONS WHEN BOTH SIDES ARE READY, TO PICK UP WHERE WE LEFT OFF IN WASHINGTON.

"SECONDLY, WE AGREED THAT THERE SHOULD BE SOME JOINT GROUNDWRK CARVED OUT BY THE TWO SDIES...THAT THIS SHOULD TKAE PLACE AT THE 'EXPERT' LEVEL, AND THAT IT SHOULD BE CARRIED OUT INFORMALLY. THESE MEETINGS WOULD BE SIMPLY TO TAKE A LOOK AT THE TRUST TERRITORY SITUATION TODAY AND PROJECT THE NEEDS OVER THE NEXT TEN OR FIFTEEN YEARS, AND SEE IF SOME KIND OF AN UNDERSTANDING CAN BE REACHED ON THE FINANCE SECTION OF THE DRAFT COMPACT."

THE SENATOR, WHO IS CHAIRMAN OF THE JOINT COMMITTEE ON FUTURE STATUS, SAID HE AND AMBASSADOR WILLIAMS DID NOT DISCUSS ANY SPECIFIC DATE FOR RESUMPTION OF THE TALKS. BUT HE SAID THEY DID TALK IN TERMS OF THE "END OF JANUARY," FOR THE UNITED STATES TECHNICAL ADVISORS ON FINANCE TO COME TO SAIPAN TO BEGIN THE INFORMAL JOINT DISCUSSIONS. THIS WOULD BE DURING THE SECOND REGULAR SESSION OF THE CONGRESS OF MICRONESIA; THUS, ALL OF THE MEMBERS OF THE JOINT COMMITTEE WOULD BE ON HAND.

SENATOR SALII ADDED THAT HE PLANS TO SEEK, ON BEHALF OF THE JOINT COMMITTEE, TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE FROM THE EXECUTIVE BRANCH OF THE TRUST TERRITORY GOVERNMENT FOR THE INFORMAL DISCUSSIONS.

"IT IS MY PLAN TO ASK THE HIGH COMMISSIONER TO LET THE JOINT COMMITTEE ON FUTURE STATUS USE EXPERTS WE HAVE IN THE EXECUTIVE BRANCH, PARTICULARLY THOSE IN PROGRAM AND BUDGET, FINANCE, AND PLANNING ACTIVITIES," THE SENATOR SAID. HE ADDED THAT PLANNING CHIEF PHILLIP CHAMBERLAIN AND PROGRAM ANALYST WILLIAM QUINN ARE IN FACT ALREADY AT WORK ON SPECIAL PROJECTS REQUESTED BY THE JOINT COMMITTEE.

SENATOR SALII ALSO SAID HE WILL INVITE THE DISTRICT ADMINISTRATORS TO PARTICIPATE IN THE DISCUSSIONS THEMSELVES, AND TO HAVE THEIR BUDGET AND PLANNING OFFICILAS TAKE PART, IN AN EFFORT TO ARRIVE AT THE MOST ACCURATE POSSIBLE VIICTURE OF THE PROJECTED NEEDS OF THE TT OVER THE NEXT SEVERAL YEARS. HE SAID THE JOINT COMMITTEE WILL WANT TO EXPECIALLY LOOK AT EACH DISTRICT'S FIVE YEAR PLAN.

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ASKED WHETHER THIS APPROACH REPRESENTS SOMETHING OF A CHANGE IN THE MICRONESIAN WAY OF LOOKING AT THE FINANCE QUESTION, SENATOR SALII ACKNOWLEDGED THAT IT MAY BE. BUT HE SAID THERE REMAIN TWO ASPECTS OF THE FINANCE QUESTION, ONE BASED ESTIMATED NEEDS OF THE GOVERNMENT OF MICRONESIA, AND ONE, WHICH THE MICRONESIANS WILL HAVE TO DECIDE, BASED ON WHAT THEY FEEL THE DEFENCE AND FOREIGN AFFAIRS PREROGATIVES THEY TURN OVER TO THE UNITED STATES UNDER THE COMPACT OF FREE ASSOCIATION ARE WORTH.

THE CHAIRMAN OF THE JOINT COMMITTEE WAS ALSO ASKED FOR HIS REACTION TO A COMMENT MADE RECENTLY BY A COMMITTEE MEMBER, SENATOR JOHN MANGAFEL OF YAP, TO THE EFFECT THAT "NOTHING" WAS ACCOMPLISHED DURING THE SEVENTH ROUND OF TALKS.

"EVERYBODY CAN EVALUATE AND ANALYZE AND SPECULATE PUBLICLY," SALII REPLIED, "AND PERHAPS FROM THE STANPOINT THAT NO NEW TITLE WAS FORMALLY ADDED TO THE DRAFT COMPACT, JOHN MAY BE RIGHT IN SOME RESPECTS.

"BUT," HE CONTINUED, "THE PUBLIC LANDS WERE RETURNED. THE JOINT COMMITTEE ACCEPTED THAT U.S. POLICY...AND ALSO, WE WERE ABLE TO GET A FULL PICTURE OF CURRENT UNITED STATES THINKING ON THE OTHER TITLES...WE CAN EVALUATE THEM NOW, BEFORE THE NEXT ROUND.

"WE ALSO SAW A CHANGE IN THE U.S. APPROACH TO THE FINANCE TITLE, AND WE WERE ABLE TO OBTAIN A COUNTER-FIGURE, EVEN THOUGH IT WAS NOT SATISFACTORY.

"I THINK," SENATOR SALII CONCLUDED, "THAT IN TOTAL WE CAN SAY THAT THERE WAS A LOT ACHIEVED IN WASHINGTON LAST MONTH."
(ALL USERS: PLEASE CREDIT CONGRESS OF MICRONESIA)
(ATALIG AND WILSON ARUGUE)

SAIPAN, DEC. 21, (CONGRESS RELEASE)---A HEATED EXCHANGE OF WORDS BETWEEN REPRESENTATIVE FELIPE Q. ATALIG, WHO REPRESENTS TINIAN, AND DEPUTY REPRESENTATIVE JAMES WILSON OF THE OFFICE OF MICRONESIAN STATUS NEGOTIATIONS, TOOK PLACE AT THE CLOSE OF A PARTY TUESDAY NIGHT (DEC. 18) AT THE ROYAL TAGA HOTEL.

THE EXCHANGE TOOK PLACE AT A RECEPTION HOSTED BY THE MARIANAS POLITICAL STATUS COMMISSION FOR THE U.S. NEGOTIATING TEAM, AND WAS WITNESSED BY SEVERAL GUESTS AND BYSTANDERS.

THE FOLLOWING DAY ATALIG WROTE A STRONGLY WORDED LETTER DESCRIBING THE INCIDENT WHICH HE SENT TO WILSON WITH COPIES TO SEVERAL HIGH OFFICIALS.

THE DISCUSSION RELATED TO THE HOMESTEADING PROGRAM ON TINIAN WHICH WAS TERMINATED BY THE TRUST TERRITORY ADMINISTRATION, ACCORDING TO ATALIG'S LETTER. WHAT CONCERNED ATALIG MOST WAS THE "ATTITUDE AND BEHAVIOR" DISPLAYED BY MR. WILSON IN TERMS OF THE MARIANAS/U.S. NEGOTIATIONS.

DURING THE FIERY DISCUSSION, THE AMBASSADOR'S DEPUTY ASKED IF ATALIG WAS IN AGREEMENT WITH THE WORK OF THE COMMISSION. THE CONGRESSMAN RESPONDED THAT HE WAS NOT IF WILSON'S ATTITUDE WAS ANY KIND OF EXAMPLE OF THE APPROACH BY THE UNITED STATES.

ACCORDING TO ATALIG'S LETTER, MR. WILSON MADE THE STATEMENT THAT IF CONGRESSMAN ATALIG DOES NOT LIKE IT, THEN HE SHOULD MOVE OUT--THAT HE HAD NO BUSINESS ON THE ISLAND. THE CONGRESSMAN WROTE THAT WHILE HE IS NOT ANTI-AMERICAN, HE IS HOWEVER, AGAINST ANY PERSON WHO IS DISRESPECTFUL OF THE FEELINGS AND OPINIONS OF ANOTHER PERSON OR OTHER PEOPLE.

CONGRESSMAN ATALIG'S LETTER FURTHER NOTED THAT HE IS NOT AGAINST THE GOALS AND OBJECTIVES OF THE CURRENT MARIANAS TALKS, BUT RATHER AGAINST THE FREQUENTLY "HIGH-HANDED APPROACHES AND ARROGANCE" DISPLAYED IN THE ATTITUDES OF CERTAIN PEOPLE ON THE U.S. NEGOTIATING TEAM. "WE ALL REALIZE THAT AMERICA IS A POWERFUL NATION, BUT THAT RECOGNITION SHOULD NEVER LEAD ONE TO A 'BELLIGERENT AND OVERBEARING' ATTITUDE WHEN DEALING WITH THE CITIZENS OF ANOTHER SMALLER COUNTRY." HE ADDED.

THE VERBAL EXCHANGE STARTED WHEN THE AMBASSADOR'S DEPUTY ASSERTED THAT SOME 83 APPLICANTS FOR HOMESTEADS ON TINIAN WERE BEING DENIED BECAUSE THEY FAILED TO IMPROVE THEIR PROPERTY. ATALIG REFUTED WILSON'S ASSERTIONS AND STATED THAT IF THAT WERE THE CASE THEN LETTERS OR NOTICE OF NONCOMPLIANCE WOULD HAVE BEEN SENT TO THOSE APPLICANTS. ATALIG CONTINUED THAT THE 83 APPLICANTS WHOM WILSON REFERRED TO AS HAVING BEEN DENIED HOMESTEADS DUE TO NONCOMPLIANCE WERE NEW AND THUS THERE WAS YET NO NEED TO PROVE COMPLIANCE. THIS, ACCORDING TO ATALIG, WAS CONFIRMED BY TINIAN MAYOR ANTONIO S. BORJA.

THE MARIANAS CONGRESSMAN WAS AN INVITED GUEST AT THE RECEPTION THAT EVENING WHEN THE VERBAL EXCHANGE OCCURRED. HE NOTED THAT HE WAS NOT MAKING THE INCIDENT KNOWN TO THE PEOPLE FOR THE SAKE OF PUBLICITY BUT RATHER HE FEELS THAT THE "ATTITUDE AND ARROGANCE" MANIFESTED BY HIGH AMERICAN OFFICIALS TOWARD HIS PEOPLE MUST BE BROUGHT TO THE ATTENTION OF THE PUBLIC.

THE CONGRESSMAN'S LETTER WENT ON TO SAY, "IT IS FORTUNATE THAT MR. WILSON IN HIS CAPACITY AS A SUBALTERN IN MR. WILLIAMS'S COTERIE DID NOT EPITOMIZE THE APPROACH OF THE U.S. DELEGATION. IF THIS WERE TRUE, THEN I CAN FORESEE A TROUBLED FUTURE FOR THE STATUS NEGOTIATIONS."

CONGRESSMAN ATALIG CONCLUDED BY SAYING INDIRECTLY HE HOPED THAT WILSON WOULD BE REPLACED AND THAT "...IT WOULD BE UNFORTUNATE IF ANY MISUNDERSTANDING FROM THIS INCIDENT WERE ALLOWED TO MAR IN ANY WAY (WHAT) I BELIEVE TO BE THE PLEASANT AND USEFUL RELATIONS BETWEEN THE UNITED STATES AND MICRONESIA--ESPECIALLY THE MARIANAS DISTRICT. I LOOK FORWARD TO THEIR CONTINUATION FOR THE MUTUAL BENEFIT OF OUR RESPECTIVE COUNTRIES," THE LETTER ENDED. (ARCHEOLOGICAL EXPEDITION TO TRUK)

TRUK, DEC. 21, (MNS)---A UNIQUE ARCHEOLOGICAL EXPEDITION IS TO GET UNDER WAY THIS WEEKEND IN TRUK DISTRICT, WHERE A TEAM OF RESEARCHERS FROM JAPAN HOPES TO DISCOVER IN AN ANCIENT RUIN CLUES TO THE ORIGIN OF THE PEOPLES OF THE PACIFIC.

HEADED BY JUN TAKAYAMA, AN ARCHEOLOGICAL LECTURER AT TOKAI UNIVERSITY, AND CONSISTING OF 15 MEMBERS, THE TEAM WILL CARRY OUT ITS WORK ON MOUNT FAUBA, A MOUNTAIN ON THE ISLAND OF TOL IN THE TRUK LAGOON. IT WAS THERE THAT THIS SAME TEAM DISCOVERED, A YEAR AGO, AN ANCIENT RELIC THAT THEY FEEL HOLDS GREAT PROMISE FOR FURTHER RESEARCH. THE RELIC, WHICH ACCORDING TO A REPORT FROM TETSUYA SUMI, A WRITER FOR KYODO NEWS SERVICE IN JAPAN, IS ESTIMATED TO HAVE BEEN BUILT AROUND THE YEAR 1,000 A.D., IS ABOUT 150 METERS LONG AND 120 METERS WIDE. IT IS LOCATED ON LAND OWNED BY SUSUMU AIZWA, CHIEF MAGISTRATE OF TOL, WHO RETURNED RECENTLY FROM JAPAN WHERE HE WORKED WITH TAKAYAMA IN PLANNING FOR THE CURRENT EXPEDITION.

KYODO NEWS REPORTS THAT LAST YEAR, WHEN AIZAWA FIRST GUIDED THE RESEARCHERS TO THE SITE DEEP IN THE JUNGLE, THE MEN FOUND THE RELIC IS SURROUNDED BY STONE WALLS MADE OF BASALT. TAKING AWAY PART OF THE TREES AND SHRUBS COVERING THE SITE, THEY FOUND A STONE PAVEMENT LOOKING LIKE A TABERNACLE AND THE REMAINS OF DWELLINGS AND DITCHES. IN A SHELL-MOUND THAT WAS PARTIALLY EXCAVATED, THEY FOUND AN AX MADE FROM A GIANT CLAM, A PESTLE MADE OF CORAL, FISH AND HUMAN BONES. NEWSWRITER SUMI REPORTS THAT IT IS ESTIMATED THE DWELLING SITE WAS OCCUPIED BY ABOUT 150 PERSONS.

IN THE CURRENT EXPEDITION THE RESEARCHERS PLAN TO FELL ALL THE SHRUBS AND TREES COVERING THE RELIC, AND EXCAVATE SHELL MOUNDS ON A LARGER SCALE. THEY HOPE TO FIND EARTHENWARE WHICH WILL GIVE IMPORTANT CLUES TO THE ORIGIN OF THE PEOPLE OF THE SOUTH PACIFIC. ALTHOUGH THERE ARE SEVERAL THEORIES, MANY FACTS ABOUT THE ORIGIN OF THE PEOPLE WHO POPULATE THE ISLANDS OF POLYNESIA AND MICRONESIA REMAIN UNKNOWN.

AIZAWA, THE LANDOWNER AND A FORMER PITCHER ON A JAPANESE PROFESSIONAL BASEBALL TEAM, HAS GIVEN HIS PERMISSION FOR THE RESEARCH WORK AT THE SITE. TRUK DISTRICT ADMINISTRATOR JUAN SABLAN SAID THIS WEEK HIS ADMINISTRATION WILL OFFER EVERY POSSIBLE COOPERATION WITH THE UNIVERSITY TEAM, BUT EMPHASIZED THAT ANY ARTIFACTS TURNED UP WILL REMAIN THE PROPERTY OF THE PEOPLE OF TRUK, AND, WITH ALLOWANCES OF TIME FOR SCIENTIFIC STUDY OF THEM, WILL BE MADE AVAILABLE FOR DISPLAY IN A TRUK MUSEUM OR OTHER APPROPRIATE PUBLIC PLACE.

THE CURRENT EXPEDITION EXPECTS TO COMPLETE ITS WORK AT THE TOL SITE IN EARLY JANUARY, SABLAN SAID.
(SANTA'S SAILORS BRING GIFTS)

SAIPAN, DEC. 21, (MNS)---SANTA'S SAILORS WERE IN THE TRUST TERRITORY THIS WEEK, BRINGING GIFTS TO TWO DISTRICTS WITH PLANS TO TRAVEL TO SEVERAL MORE BEFORE THE END OF THE HOLIDAY SEASON.

A U.S. NAVY PLANE FROM NAVL AIR STATION, AGANA, GUAM, LANDED THURSDAY (DEC. 20) AT ROTA AND TINIAN IN THE MARIANAS, LEAVING MORE THAN 700 GIFTS WITH THE DISTAD REPS ON THOSE ISLANDS FOR DISTRIBUTION TO THE SCHOOLCHILDREN. ANOTHER PLANE EARLIER DELIVERED SOME GIFTS TO PONAPE AND PALAU DISTRICT, AND VISITS ARE SCHEDULED FOR TRUP AND YAP AS WELL.

BECAUSE OF THE ENERGY CRISIS, THE PROGRAM FOR THIS YEAR'S GIFT DISTRIBUTION FLIGHTS IS DIFFERENT FROM PREVIOUS YEARS, WHEN SPECIAL AIRCRAFT WERE MADE AVAILABLE. THE FUEL SHORTAGE HAS FORCED EVERYONE TO TIGHTEN THEIR BELTS A LITTLE, INCLUDING THE MILITARY, AND SO THIS YEAR THE FLIGHTS FOR TRUST TERRITORY CHILDREN ARE BEING FLOWN TO THE DISTRICTS ABOARD REGULARLY SCHEDULED RE-SUPPLY FLIGHTS FOR OTHER MILITARY ACTIVITIES IN THE DISTRICTS, SUCH AS THE CIVIC ACTION TEAMS AND COAST GUARD STATIONS. THIS HAS ALSO MADE THE SCHEDULE A LITTLE HARDER TO PREDICT, AND IT MAY NOT BE POSSIBLE TO GET ALL THE FLIGHTS DELIVERED PRIOR TO CHRISTMAS, BUT A SPOKESMAN SAID DELIVERIES WOULD BE CONTINUED INTO JANUARY IF NECESSARY.

THIS IS THE FIRST YEAR IN THE PAST 19 THAT THERE HAS BEEN NO JOINT-MILITARY SPONSORED CHRISTMAS AIR DROP. THE FUEL SHORTAGE ALSO DICTATED DISCONTINUATION OF THAT PROGRAM. BUT THE NAVY PERSONNEL ELECTED TO GATHER AND DISTRIBUTE THEIR GIFTS THIS YEAR ANYWAY, HOPING THAT SOME WAY WOULD BE FOUND TO GET THEM DELIVERED.

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AND ON SOME FLIGHT, THE TRADITIONAL VISIT OF SANTA CLAUS WILL ALSO TAKE PLACE, RED SUIT, WHISKERS AND ALL. THIS HAS BEEN A PART OF THE NAVY'S CHRISTMAS FLIGHTS FOR SEVERAL YEARS, DELIGHTING YOUNG CHILDREN IN THE DISTRICTS.

A TRUST TERRITORY GOVERNMENT SPOKESMAN FRIDAY EXPRESSED THE THANKS OF THE PEOPLE OF THE TT TO THE NAVY AND ALL THOSE ON GUAM WHO ASSISTED IN THE SANT'S SAILORS PROGRAM THIS YEAR. (CHRISTMAS GREETINGS)

SAIPAN, DC. 21 (MNS)---ANNUAL CHRISTMAS GREETINGS FROM THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES AND THE HIGH COMMISSIONER OF THE TRUST TERRITORY HAVE BEEN CONVEYED TO THE PEOPLE OF MICRONESIA.

IN A LETTER TO HIGH COMMISSIONER JOHNSTON, PRESIDENT RICHARD M. NIXON SAID:

"MRS. NIXON AND I EXTEND OUR WARMEST CHRISTMAS GREETINGS TO YOU AND THE PEOPLE OF THE TRUST TERRITORY OF THE PACIFIC ISLANDS.

"WE DO SO IN A SPIRIT OF THANKS FOR THE GREAT STRIDES THAT HAVE BEEN MADE TOWARD BUILDING A LASTING PEACE IN THE WORLD AND FOR THE SUPPORT WE HAVE RECEIVED IN THESE ENDEAVORS FROM THE MEN AND WOMEN OF THE TRUST TERRITORY OF THE PACIFIC ISLANDS.

"WE HOPE THAT THIS WILL BE AN ESPECIALLY HAPPY AND SATISFYING SEASON FOR ALL."

IN HIS ANNUAL HOLIDAY MESSAGE, HIGH COMMISSIONER JOHNSTON SAID:

"AT THIS JOYFUL TIME OF THE YEAR, WHEN CHRISTIANS THROUGHOUT THE WORLD CELEBRATE ONE OF THEIR MOST SIGNIFICANT HOLIDAYS, WE ARE HAPPY TO BE SPENDING ANOTHER CHRISTMAS IN MICRONESIA. MRS. JOHNSTON AND I HOPE THAT HIS HOLIDAY WILL BE ESPECIALLY MEANINGFUL FOR EACH OF YOU. AND AS WE LOOK TOWARD 1974, MAY THE NEW YEAR BRING A GENEROUS MEASURE OF HEALTH, HAPPINESS AND ACCOMPLISHMENT TO YOU AND YOUR FAMILIES.

"1973 WAS A YEAR OF GREAT PROGRESS FOR MICRONESIA. WE ARE SURE THAT THE NEW YEAR WILL ALSO BE A SIGNIFICANT YEAR FOR THE TRUST TERRITORY AS WE MOVE TOWARD INCREASED ECONOMIC AND POLITICAL SELF-SUFFICIENCY AND A BETTER LIFE FOR ALL CITIZENS OF THE TRUST TERRITORY.

"TO ALL OF THE RESIDENTS OF EACH DISTRICT, OUR BEST WISHES FOR CHRISTMAS AND THE NEW YEAR."

(NOTE TO EDITORS AND NEWS DIRECTORS: TUESDAY, DECEMBER 25 IS CHRISTMAS DAY AND AN OFFICAL HOLIDAY. MONDAY, DECEMBER 24, WILL ALSO BE AN OFF-DAY FOR GOVERNMENT EMPLOYEES. THUS, LET US TAKE THIS OPPORTUNITY TO EXTEND BEST CHRISTMAS WISHES TO ALL OF THE ANNOUNCERS, WRITERS, TRANSLATORS, EDITORS AND MANAGEMENT STAFF OF EACH BROADCAST STATION, AND TO THE EDITORIAL STAFFS OF EACH NEWSPAPER OR OTHER PUBLICATION UTILIZING THIS NEWS SERVICE. WE HOPE YOU ALL HAVE A VERY MERRY CHRISTMAS. WE ALSO EXTEND OUR THANKS AND BEST WISHES TO THE EMPLOYEES OF THE COMMUNICATION STATIONS, THE DISTAD OFFICES, AND ALL OTHERS WHO ASSIST IN THE TRANSMISSION AND DISTRIBUTION OF THESE MNS DISPATCHES. THE NEXT MICRONESIAN NEWS SERVICE REPORT WILL BE DATED WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 26.)