

Dec 1973

(CONGRESSIONAL VISIT)

SAIPAN, DEC. 26 (MNS)---MEMBERS OF THE U.S. HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES INTERIOR SUBCOMMITTEE ON TERRITORIAL AND INSULAR AFFAIRS WILL VISIT THE MARIANAA ISLANDS DISTRICT NEXT MONTH, ACCORDING TO AN ANNOUNCEMENT THIS WEEK FROM SPECIAL ASSISTANT FOR LEGISLATIVE AFFAIRS N. NEIMAN CRALEY, JR.

CRALEY SAID SUB-COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN PHILLIP BURTON OF CALIFORNIA, AND REPRESENTATIVES THOMAS S. FOLEY OF WASHINGTON AND WILLIAM M. KETCHUM OF CALIFORNIA WILL MAKE THE TRIP. ALSO IN THE VISITING GROUP WILL BE DELEGATES TO THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES ANTONIA B. WON PAT OF GUAM AND RON DELUGO OF THE VIRGIN ISLANDS, BOTH OF WHOM ARE ALSO MEMBERS OF THE SUB-COMMITTEE.

THE DELEGATION WILL ARRIVE ON SAIPAN FROM GUAM SUNDAY, JANUARY 6 FOR MEETINGS WITH VARIOUS TT OFFICIALS. A SPECIAL MEETING IS SCHEDULED WITH THE HIGH COMMISSIONER AND MEMBERS OF HIS CABINET. THE CONGRESSMEN HAVE ALSO EXPRESSED AN INTEREST IN MEETING WITH THE PRESIDING OFFICERS OF THE CONGRESS OF MICRONESIA, AND WITH THE CHAIRMEN OF BOTH THE MARIANA ISLANDS POLITICAL STATUS COMMISSION AND THE CONGRESSJOINT COMMITTEE ON FUTURE STATUS. CRALEY SAID TIME WOULD NOT PERMIT THE MEN TO VISIT THE OTHER DISTRICTS OF THE TT DURING THIS TRIP, BUT THEY DO PLAN TO STOP BRIEFLY ON BOTH TINIAN AND ROTA ON THEIR WAY BACK TO GUAM TUESDAY, JANUARY 8.

IN ADDITION TO THE TT, THE DELEGATION WILL ALSO VISIT GUAM AND AMERICAN SAMOA DURING THE JANUARY TRIP.
(SAIPAN TRAFFIC DEATH RECORDED)

SAIPAN, DEC. 26 (MNS)---SAIPAN RECORDED ITS THIRD TRAFFIC FATALITY OF 1973 WEDNESDAY (DEC. 26). THE VICTIM WAS 12 YEAR-OLD DONALD D. DELA ROSA, THE SON OF MR. AND MRS. ANTONIO DELA ROSA OF GARAPAN VILLAGE, SAIPAN.

POLICE SAID THE YOUTH, WHO ACCORDING TO WITNESSES WAS APPARENTLY SLEEPING ON THE HIGHWAY, WAS STRUCK BY A CAR SHORTLY BEFORE SEVEN WEDNESDAY MORNING IN FRONT OF THE GARAPAN SHOPPING CENTER. HE DIED SEVERAL HOURS AFTER THE ACCIDENT AT DR. TORRES HOSPITAL.

THE NAME OF THE DRIVER OF THE CAR WAS NOT RELEASED PENDING COMPLETION OF A POLICE INVESTIGATION INTO THE ACCIDENT.
(COMMITTEE CONTINUES WORK)

SAIPAN, DEC. 26 (MNS)---THE TRUST TERRITORY FUEL CONSERVATION COMMITTEE IS CONTINUING TO WORK ON THE PROBLEM OF ALLOCATION OF FUEL AND PETROLEUM PRODUCTS AMONG THE VARIOUS PROJECTS AND ACTIVITIES IN MICRONESIA, ACCORDING TO DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC WORKS JAMES WHEELER, THE VECE-CHAIRMAN OF THE COMMITTEE.

IN TWO RECENT DECISIONSN WHEELER SAID ADDITIONAL FUEL WAS ALLOCATED TO THE U.S. MILITARY CIVIC ACTION TEAM WORKING ON ROTA, IN THE MARIANAS ISLANDS. TO ENABLE THEM TO COMPLETE THE RE-SURFACING OF THE ROTA AIRFIELD, AND FUEL WAS MADE AVAILABLE IN PONAPE TO THE M/S SAIGON, A SHIP CHARTERED BY HANIL CONSTRUCTION COMPANY, A FIRM WHICH IS PRESENTLY WORKING ON SEVERAL PROJECTS IN THE PONAPE AND MARSHALL ISLANDS DISTRICTS. THE SHIP IS CARRYING CONSTRUCTION MATERIALS FOR THOSE PROJECTS. WHEELER SAID. AND WAS

GIVEN ENOUGH FUEL IN PONAPE TO ENABLE IT TO SAIL TO MAJURO. HANIL WILL BE RESPONSIBLE FOR OFF-SETTING THIS EXTRA FUEL ALLOCATION, WHEELER EMPHASIZED.

THE COMMITTEE HAS ALSO ADDED ANOTHER MEMBER, MARIANAS DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC WORKS ANTONIO C. TENORIO. OTHER MEMBERS ARE SPECIAL ASSISTANT FOR DISTRICT AFFAIRS J. BOYD MACKENZIE, DIRECTOR OF FINANCE RONALD PETERSON, AND BUDGET OFFICE ROBERT TOOTHMAN REPRESENTING THE CONGRESS OF MICRONESIA. DEPUTY HIGH COMMISSIONER PETER T. COLEMAN IS ALSO A MEMBER AND CHAIRMAN OF THE GROUP, BUT HE IS CURRENTLY ON THE U.S. MAINLAND.

THE COMMITTEE MET AGAIN MONDAY AFTERNOON WITH RONALD CHAVAKO, GUAM AND TT REPRESENTATIVE FOR MOBIL, THE COMPANY WHICH SUPPLIES ALL OF THE PETROLEUM NEEDS OF THE TRUST TERRITORY UNDER AN EXCLUSIVE CONTRACT. WHEELER SAID CLOSE COMMUNICATION IS BEING MAINTAINED WITH MOBIL BY THE COMMITTEE. LATER IN THE DAY CHAVAKO ALSO MET WITH HIGH COMMISSIONER EDWARD E. JOHNSTON TO REVIEW THE FUEL SITUATION.

AFTERWARD, CHAVAKO SOUGHT TO REASSURE THE PUBLIC, SAYING THAT MOBIL IS DOING ALL THAT IT CAN TO INSURE A FAIR AND EQUITABLE DISTRIBUTION OF FUEL RESOURCES. PARTICULARLY WITH REGARD TO GASOLINE ON SAIPAN, WHERE LONG LINES HAVE BEEN FORMING OUTSIDE FILLING STATIONS FOR SEVERAL DAYS NOW, CHAVAKO SAID THAT MOBIL IS KEEPING A DAILY TABULATION OF GASOLINE CONSUMPTION PATTERNS, AND "IS ALLOCATING TO ENSURE A CONTINUED SUPPLY" OF FUEL.

LINES AT THE FILLING STATIONS ARE RESULT OF PEOPLE GETTING INTO A PANIC WHEN THERE IS NO REASON FOR IT, CHAVAKO INDICATED. HE SAID HE AND SAIPAN MOBIL REPRESENTATIVE "LUCKY" TARKONG MADE A SPOT CHECK OF A DOZEN OR SO CARS IN LINE AT ONE SAIPAN STATION WEDNESDAY, AND FOUND AT LEAST FOUR THAT DID NOT NEED GAS--THEIR TANKS WERE ALREADY MORE THAN HALF FULL. CHAVAKO SAID ONE DRIVER ADMITTED THAT HE HAD JUST GOTTEN GAS AT ANOTHER STATION, AND WAS IN HIS SECOND LINE-UP OF THE DAY.

HIGH COMMISSIONER JOHNSTON, WHILE URGING EVERYONE ON SAIPAN,--WHERE THERE ARE MORE AUTOMOBILES THAN ANYWHERE IN THE TT--TO REDUCE THEIR DRIVING AND ELIMINATE UNNECESSARY TRIPS, ALSO EXPRESSED THE FEELING THAT THERE IS NO REAL "CRISIS" IN FUEL SUPPLIES. HE INDICATED HE WILL BE MEETING WITH MARIANAS DISTRICT OFFICIALS THURSDAY TO DISCUSS THE SITUATION.

"I INTEND TO HAVE A VERY THOROUGH DISCUSSION WITH THE DISTAD, AND TO WORK WITH HIM TO SOLVE THE DUAL PROBLEMS OF GASOLINE CONSUMPTION BY PRIVATE VEHICLES AND POWER CONSUMPTION BY THE GOVERNMENT AND THE PRIVATE SECTOR," THE HICOM STATED. "I STILL WANT TO USE THOSE METHODS OF SOLVING THE PROBLEM WHICH WILL DEFINITELY SOLVE IT, BUT AT THE LEAST POSSIBLE INCONVENIENCE TO THE PEOPLE RESIDING IN THIS DISTRICT."

(WILSON LETTER RELEASED)

SAIPAN, DEC. 26 (MNS)---IN THE WAKE OF A PUBLIC NEWS RELEASE FROM MARIANAS CONGRESSMAN FELIPE O. ATALIG LATE LAST WEEK CONCERNING A DISCUSSION BETWEEN HIM AND U.S. DEPUTY REPRESENTATIVE FOR MICRONESIAN STATUS NEGOTIATION JAMES M. WILSON, JR. THE OFFICE OF MICRONESIAN STATUS NEGOTIATION HAS RELEASED THE CONTENTS OF A LETTER WRITTEN TO REPRESENTATIVE ATALIG BY WILSON.

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THE LETTER WAS WRITTEN BEFORE CONGRESSMAN ATALIG MADE THE ISSUE PUBLIC, ACCORDING TO STATUS LIAISON OFFICER MARY VANCE TRENT. IT IS BEING RELEASED NOW BECAUSE THE CONGRESSMAN CHOSE TO MAKE THE LETTER HE WROTE TO WILSON CONCERNING DIFFERENCES BETWEEN THE TWO MEN THAT AROSE OUT OF A CONVERSATION AT SAIPAN'S ROYAL TAGA HOTEL TUESDAY EVENING, DECEMBER 18, A MATTER OF PUBLIC RECORD. MISS TRENT INDICATED WILSON HAD NO DESIRE TO PERPETUATE ANY ARGUMENT, BUT SIMPLY WISHED TO CLARIFY DIFFERENCES OF OPINION WHICH EXIST OVER WHAT WAS SAID DURING THE CONSERVATION.

THE WILSON LETTER STATES:

"MY RECOLLECTION OF THAT PARTICULARS, AND I AM DISTRESSED THAT YOU SEEM TO HAVE TAKEN CERTAIN REMARKS PERSONALLY. THEY WERE NOT SO INTENDED.

"ON THE SUBJECT OF HOMESTEADS ON TINIAN, I BELIEVE I MADE THE POINT THAT THERE WERE BY OUR INFORMATION 83 AGRICULTURAL AND 15 VILLAGE HOMESTEAD APPLICATIONS OUTSTANDING AS OF THE END APRIL OF THE 83. WE WERE ADVISED BY TRUST TERRITORY OFFICIALS IN SAIPAN THAT ONLY A VERY FEW OF THE APPLICATIONS SPECIFIED THE LAND AREAS DESIRED BY THE APPLICANTS, THUS MAKING IT IMPOSSIBLE TO PROCESS THEM. THERE WASN TO MY KNOWLEDGE, NO INTIMATION THAT THERE WERE 83 APPLICANTS WHO WERE DENIED PUBLIC LANDS BECAUSE THEY HAD FAILED TO IMPROVE THEIR HOMESTEAD LOTS.

"WITH REGARD TO THE LATTER PART OF THE CONSERVATION, I BELIEVE I OBSERVED IN RESPONSE TO YOUR REMARKS THAT THE U.S. DELEGATION WAS IN SAIPAN AT THE REQUEST OF THE MARIANAS, WHO HAD ASKED THAT WE DISCUSS THE MEANS BY WHICH THEY COULD BECOME MEMBERS OF THE AMERICAN POLITICAL FAMILY. YOU MADE CLEAR THAT YOU DID NOT WISH TO BECOME SUCH A MEMBER.

"I ACKNOWLEDGED THAT THERE WERE CERTAINLY SOME LIKE YOU WHO DID NOT WISH TO DO SO, BUT POINTED OUT THAT IT WOULD BE DIFFICULT IF NOT IMPOSSIBLE TO CARRY ON DISCUSSIONS ON FUTURE STATUS UNLESS BOTH SIDES AGREED THAT MEMBERSHIP IN THE FAMILY WAS THE COMMON GOAL. IF ANYONE FELT OTHERWISE HE HAD NO BUSINESS THERE AND SHOULD GET OUT--NOT OF THE ISLANDS, OF COURSE, BUT OF THE TALKS.

"IF YOU UNDERSTOOD THESE REMARKS OTHERWISE, PLEASE ACCEPT MY APOLOGIES. THEY WERE NOT MEANT PERSONALLY. CLEARLY NO ONE WOULD EVER WANT TO SUGGEST THAT YOU SHOULD LEAVE YOUR OWN ISLAND. IT WAS AT THAT POINT THAT I WAS SUMMONED AWAY AND SO WE HAD NO OPPORTUNITY TO CLARIFY MATTERS.

"PERHAPS OUR DIFFICULTY IS ONE OF COMMUNICATION AND A NEED TO BE MORE SENSITIVE TO EACH OTHER'S SENSIBILITIES. CERTAINLY WE SHOULD BE ABLE TO CONTINUE DISCUSSIONS SUCH AS THESE UNDER CALMER CIRCUMSTANCES AND I TOOK FORWARD TO DOING SO AT THE EARLIEST OPPORTUNITY."

WILSON'S LETTER CONCLUDED BY WISHING CONGRESSMAN ATALIG BEST WISHES FOR THE CHRISTMAS SEASON.

ATALIG, WHO REPRESENTS THE ISLAND OF TINIAN IN THE CONGRESS OF MICRONESIA, ENGAGED IN THE DISPUTED CONSERVATION WITH WILSON AT THE HOTEL FOLLOWING A RECEPTION GIVEN FOR MEMBERS OF THE TWO STATUS NEGOTIATION DELEGATIONS. THE THIRD ROUND OF MARIANAS STATUS TALKS CONCLUDED LAST WEEK ON SAIPAN, AND WILSON WAS ON HIS WAY BACK TO WASHINGTON BY THE TIME THE CONTENT OF THE CONGRESSMAN'S LETTER TO HIM REGARDING THE CONSERVATION WAS MADE PUBLIC.

(MORTON SENDS GREETINGS)

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(SAIPAN, DEC. 26 (MNS)---HOLIDAY GREETING TO THE PEOPLE OF
MICRONESIA WERE RECEIVED OVER WEEKEND FROM THE
SECRETARY OF THE UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF INTERIOR,
ROGERS C.B. MORTON. THE MESSAGE READ:

"WHILE THE CHRISTMAS LIGHT HAVE BEEN DIMMED THIS YEAR,
THE SPIRIT OF CHRISTMAS CONTINUES TO SHINE AS BRIGHT AS EVER.
BY CONTINUING TO WORK TOGETHER WE CAN MAKE 1974 A YEAR OF
OUTSTANDING ACHIEVEMENT. THE DIRECTOR OF TERRITORIAL AFFAIRS
AND MRS. CARPENTER JOIN MRS. MORTON AND ME IN WISHING YOU
THE EVRY BEST WISHES FOR A MERRY CHRISTMAS AND A HAPPY NEW YEAR."

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