

(MS MICRONESIAN PRINCESS ARRIVES ON SAIPAN)

SAIPAN, SEPT. 12 (MNS) ⁷⁴---MICRONESIA'S FIRST OF A PLANNED SERIES OF EIGHT FIELD TRIP VESSELS, THE M.S. MICRONESIA PRINCESS, BERTHED AT THE SAIPAN CHARLIE DOCK EARLY THURSDAY MORNING (SEPT. 12). THE SHIP WAS SEVERAL DAYS OVERDUE BECAUSE SHE HAD TO CHANGE COURSE ON HER WAY TO SAIPAN TO AVOID TYPHOON SHIRLEY.

THERE WAS AN OPEN HOUSE THURSDAY DURING WHICH GOVERNMENT EMPLOYEES, SCHOOL STUDENTS AND THE GENERAL PUBLIC TOURED THE SHIP. THE PRINCESS WILL LEAVE FOR YAP THIS WEEK, TO REPLACE THE MS JAMES COOK, WHICH HAS TO GO TO DRYDOCK.

A TRANSPORTATION DIVISION SPOKESMAN SAID THAT AFTER SERVING YAP AND PALAU, THE MS MICRONESIA PRINCESS WILL PROCEED TO TRUK, PONAPE AND THE MARSHALLS PERFORMING FIELD TRIP SERVICES IN EACH DISTRICT. THE PERMANENT ASSIGNMENT OF THE SHIP WILL BE DETERMINED AFTER ITS INITIAL SERVICE. THE "HOME PORT" OF THE NEW SHIP IS LISTED AS KOROR, HOWEVER.

BUILT BY THE DAE-SUN SHIPBUILDING AND ENGINEERING COMPANY, LTD., THE 242-FOOT SHIP WAS DESIGNED, CONSTRUCTED AND EQUIPPED SPECIFICALLY TO MEET THE REQUIREMENTS OF TRANSOCEANIC SUPPORT AND INTRA-DISTRICT SERVICE FOR MICRONESIA.

THE 1300 TON SHIP IS CAPABLE OF CARRYING 800 TONS OF CARGO WITH A TOP SPEED OF 15 KNOTS. MAXIMUM DECK PASSENGER CAPACITY IS MORE THAN ONE HUNDRED, WHILE PASSENGER CABINS CAN ACCOMMODATE TWELVE. IT IS ALSO CAPABLE OF CARRYING UP TO THIRTY-SIX TWENTY-FOOT CONTAINERS, DEPENDING ON THE CARGO SHE WILL CARRY. THE SHIP'S CREW OF TWELVE, IS HEADED BY MASTER JOHN ONGRUNG OF PALAU DISTRICT.

(CONGRESS EXCEEDS APPROPRIATION FUNDS)

SAIPAN, SEPT. 12 (MNS)---SPECIAL ASSISTANT TO THE HIGH COMMISSIONER FOR LEGISLATIVE AFFAIRS (SA/LA) N. NEIMAN CRALEY, JR., SAID THIS WEEK THAT THE AMOUNT OF MONEY APPROPRIATED DURING THE FIRST SPECIAL SESSION OF THE FIFTH CONGRESS FAR EXCEEDED THE FORECAST REVENUE FROM TAXATION AND OTHER SOURCES WHICH THE CONGRESS MIGHT EXPECT TO RECEIVE.

CRALEY TOLD MNS THAT THE EXPECTED REVENUE FOR THE CONGRESS IS \$1.3 MILLION, BUT CONGRESS PASSED APPROPRIATION BILLS TOTALLING NEARLY \$3 MILLION. HE POINTED OUT THAT CERTAIN PROGRAMS CANNOT BE FUNDED UNTIL SUCH TIME AS FUNDS BECOME AVAILABLE.

WHEN THE SIXTH CONGRESS MEETS IN JANUARY OF NEXT YEAR, THEY WILL APPROPRIATE MONEY FOR THEIR OPERATIONS AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES. RIGHT NOW, CRALEY SAID, THE CONGRESS IS \$1.7 MILLION IN THE RED. THIS WILL BE COMPOUNDED BY THE FACT THAT THE CONGRESS PASSED REVENUE SHARING LEGISLATION WHICH WILL REDUCE THEIR REVENUES BY NEARLY 20 PERCENT, PUTTING THEM IN A "CRITICAL FINANCIAL STATE," ACCORDING TO CRALEY.

THE CONGRESS, CRALEY SAID, HAS BEEN OPERATING WITHIN A DEFICIT FOR THE PAST FEW YEARS AND "EACH YEAR IT SEEMS TO GET WORSE."

THE MCOM'S SPECIAL ASSISTANT INDICATED THAT IF THIS PRACTICE CONTINUES, WHEREBY THE CONGRESS KEEPS PASSING APPROPRIATION MEASURES THAT FAR EXCEED THEIR REVENUES, THERE WILL COME A TIME WHEN EITHER FUNDED PROGRAMS HAVE TO BE DISCARDED FOR FUTURE CONGRESSIONAL SESSIONS WILL HAVE

TO BE CONTENT TO DO WITHOUT LEGISLATING FUNDS BECAUSE ALL AVAILABLE REVENUES WILL HAVE BEEN TIED UP BY EARLIER LEGISLATION.

(ST. PIERRE CASE ISSUED)

SAIPAN, SEPT. 12 (MNS)---TRUST TERRITORY HIGH COURT CHIEF JUSTICE HAROLD W. BURNETT RULED WEDNESDAY (SEPT. 11) THAT THE FINAL DETERMINATION OF CHIEF PUBLIC DEFENDER ROGER ST. PIERRE'S CASE "SHOULD BE LEFT TO THE CIVIL SERVICE COMMISSION."

HE ALSO RULED THAT THE ORDER PREVENTING THE HIGH COMMISSIONER'S DECISION TO REMOVE ST. PIERRE WILL REMAIN IN EFFECT, ACCORDING TO A REPORT IN THURSDAY'S (SEPT. 12) PACIFIC DAILY NEWS.

JUDGE BURNETT DISQUALIFIED HIMSELF JUNE 11 FROM RULING ON WHETHER ST. PIERRE IS A TT GOVERNMENT EMPLOYEE AND THEREFORE, NOT SUBJECT TO THE U.S. CIVIL SERVICE COMMISSION REGULATIONS. BUT ON REHEARING LATER IN JUNE. HE RECONSIDERED HIS POSITION TO RULE ON THE CASE. ST. PIERRE IS REPRESENTED BY FORMER ASSISTANT PUBLIC DEFENDER BEN ABRAMS.

"I, IN FACT, BEAR NO PREJUDICE OR BIAS OR AGAINST EITHER PARTY TO THIS ACTION," READS BURNETT'S ORDER.

ST. PIERRE CONTENDS THAT HE IS A TT EMPLOYEE AND NOT AN EMPLOYEE OF CIVIL SERVICE SYSTEM. THE GOVERNMENT HAS TAKEN THE POSITION THAT ST. PIERRE IS A CIVIL SERVICE EMPLOYEE AND THEREFORE HIS ACTION IN ACCEPTING A GIFT FROM A MARSHALLESE CLIENT IN 1969 WAS ILLEGAL.

BURNETT STATED IN HIS RULING THAT HE FINDS ST. PIERRE IS AN EMPLOYEE OF THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT BECAUSE HIS "PROMOTION WAS PROCESSED THROUGH THE DEPARTMENT OF INTERIOR, HE RECEIVES A POST-DIFFERENTIAL, PARTICIPATES IN THE CIVIL SERVICE RETIREMENT ACT AND THE COMMISSION'S GROUP LIFE INSURANCE AND HEALTH BENEFIT INSURANCE PLANS."

HE FURTHER POINTED OUT THAT, "I CANNOT AVOID THE SHOWING IN THE RECORD THAT THE ONLY INQUIRY YET MADE DIRECTLY TO THE COMMISSION DEMONSTRATED THAT GENERAL COUNSEL WAS UNABLE TO MAKE A DETERMINATION ON FACTS PRESENTED TO HIM.

"THE FOREGOING LEADS ME TO CONCLUDE THAT THE FINAL DETERMINATION SHOULD BE LEFT TO THE CIVIL SERVICE COMMISSION," BURNETT CONCLUDED. "THE STAY HERETOFORE ORDERED (PREVENTING THE REMOVAL OF ST. PIERRE) IS CONTINUED PENDING SUCH DETERMINATION," THE ORDER STATED.

COMMENTING ON BURNETT'S RULING, ST. PIERRE SAID IT "THROWS EVERYTHING RIGHT BACK WHERE IT WAS; WE'LL HAVE TO WAIT AND SEE WHAT THIS KIND OF ORDER ENGENDERS." ST. PIERRE ADDED THAT IN TRYING TO PLEASE EVERYONE, BURNETT HAD IN HIS VIEW PLEASED NO ONE.

(PACIFIC CONFERENCE OF LEGISLATORS)

SAIPAN, SEPT. 12 (MNS)---PLANS ARE UNDERWAY FOR THE 1974 PACIFIC CONFERENCE OF LEGISLATORS, WITH AN EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING SCHEDULED FOR SEPTEMBER 17TH IN AMERICAN SAMOA.

THE MEETING WILL REVIEW FINANCIAL PLANS FOR THE CONFERENCE TO BE HELD NOVEMBER 19TH TO THE 24TH ON SAIPAN, ACCORDING TO A RELEASE ISSUED THIS WEEK. IN ADDITION, GUEST SPEAKERS WILL BE SELECTED AND THE PROGRAM OF ACTIVITIES WILL BE FINALIZED. THE COORDINATOR OF THE CONFERENCE, WILLIAM NABORS OF SAIPAN, WILL PRESENT 10837

PROGRESS REPORT ON PLANS FOR THE CONFERENCE.

THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE WILL ALSO TAKE FORMAL ACTION ON THE APPLICATION FOR PCL MEMBERSHIP BY THE PALAU DISTRICT LEGISLATURE.

THE PLANNING MEETING IS BEING SCHEDULED TO COINCIDE WITH THE PACIFIC ISLANDS DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION TOURISM MEETING, AS MANY OF THE SAME PERSONS ARE INVOLVED IN BOTH ORGANIZATIONS.

APPROXIMATELY 12 OF THE 18 EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEMBERS WILL BE PRESENT AT THE MEETING, INCLUDING THE HONORABLE HAKAUO SONISH AND HONORABLE KACHO EKO OF TRUK. CONGRESSMAN DANIEL T. MUNA OF THE MARIANAS DISTRICT LEGISLATURE IS THE CURRENT PRESIDENT OF THE PACIFIC CONFERENCE OF LEGISLATORS.

(JAPAN-HAWAII ECONOMIC MEET)

SAIPAN, SEPTEMBER 12 (MNS)----MEMBERS OF THE JAPAN-HAWAII ECONOMIC COUNCIL HEARD A DETAILED BRIEFING ON MICRONESIA'S DEVELOPING ECONOMY THURSDAY (SEPT. 12), AND INDICATED A GOOD DEAL OF INTEREST IN INVESTMENT POSSIBILITIES IN THE TRUST TERRITORY.

THE COUNCIL IS AN INFORMAL ORGANIZATION OF SENIOR BUSINESS EXECUTIVES FROM THE TWO AREAS FORMED IN 1972. ABOUT 50 PEOPLE TRAVELED TO SAIPAN FOR THE ONE-DAY MEETING, WHICH INCLUDED AN OVERVIEW OF THE ECONOMIC PICTURE IN MICRONESIA BY SEVERAL SPEAKERS, LUNCHEON MEETING WITH THE SAIPAN CHAMBER OF COMMERCE, AND AN AFTERNOON QUESTION-AND-ANSWER PANEL DISCUSSION ON THE MICRONESIAN ECONOMY. THE BUSINESSMAN ALSO TOOK A BRIEF TOUR OF SAIPAN LATE IN THE DAY, AND WERE SCHEDULED TO BE THE GUESTS OF HONOR AT A RECEPTION IN THE EVENING HOSTED BY HIGH COMMISSIONER EDWARD E. JOHNSTON, WHO ALSO ATTENDED THE MEETINGS.

DIRECTOR OF RESOURCES AND DEVELOPMENT EUSEBIO RECHUCHER, DURING A MORNING ADDRESS TO THE COUNCIL, EXPRESSED THE POSITION OF THE GOVERNMENT REGARDING FOREIGN INVESTMENT.

"WE BELIEVE...THAT FOREIGN INVESTMENT SHOULD BE ALLOWED," HE STATED, "BUT ONLY WHEN AMPLE OPPORTUNITY IS GIVEN TO MICRONESIAN PARTICIPATION, OWNERSHIP AND MANAGEMENT," HE SAID IT IS THE POLICY OF HIS DEPARTMENT TO WELCOME THE UNITED STATES, JAPAN OR ANY OTHER NATION TO JOIN OUR PROJECTS ON AN EQUAL BASIS, AND TO ENCOURAGE MAXIMUM PARTICIPATION IN OUTSIDE INVESTMENT ON TERMS WHICH WILL LEAVE"...CONTROL OF OUR LANDS, RESOURCES, AND INDUSTRIES IN THE HANDS OF THE MICRONESIAN PEOPLE."

"I FEEL THAT THE ISLANDS OF MICRONESIA HAVE A STRATEGIC LOCATION IN RELATION TO THE EXPANDING PACIFIC BASIN ECONOMY," HE CONTINUED. "OPPORTUNITIES EXIST TO PARTICIPATE IN THE DEVELOPMENT OF THE TERRITORY AS A MAJOR TOURIST DESTINATION, AS A PACIFIC TRADE CENTER, AND AS THE VANTAGE POINT FOR OTHER INVESTMENT THROUGHOUT THE ASIAN-PACIFIC AREA." RECHUCHER CONCLUDED HIS REMARKS BY ENCOURAGING THE GATHERED BUSINESSMEN, WHO REPRESENT SOME OF JAPAN'S AND HAWAII'S TOP COMPANIES, TO "...TAKE FULL ADVANTAGE OF THE TRADE AND INVESTMENT OPPORTUNITIES HERE."

DURING THE LUNCHEON ADDRESS, TOSHIO SHIMANOUCHI, COUNSELLOR TO THE FEDERATION OF ECONOMIC ORGANIZATIONS IN JAPAN, TALKED OF THE PROBLEMS CURRENTLY FACING JAPAN'S ECONOMY, PRINCIPALLY INFLATION. SHOULD THE WAGE-PRICE SPIRAL CONTINUE, HE SAID, JAPAN COULD FACE A "SERIOUS SITUATION" WHICH WILL RESULT IN "WIDESPREAD BANKRUPTICES AND UNEMPLOYMENT."

NONTHELESS, SHIMANOUCHI WAS GENERALLY OPTIMISTIC, NOTING

THAT JAPANESE FOREIGN INVESTMENTS HAVE INCREASED DRAMATICALLY IN RECENT YEARS, AND SAYING THAT THE COUNTRY MUST "CONTINUE TO ENCOURAGE INVESTMENTS OVERSEAS, ALTHOUGH ON A MORE SELECTIVE BASIS." HE ADDED THAT HE EXPECTS JAPANESE INVESTMENTS IN THE U.S., AND IN U.S. AREAS SUCH AS GUAM AND MICRONESIA, TO INCREASE STEADILY.

DURING THE AFTERNOON SESSION, THE DELEGATES HEARD KEN CHAR, PRESIDENT OF ALOHA AIRLINES OF HAWAII AND A CORPORATE OFFICER OF AIR MICRONESIA, CITE THE AIR MIKE MODEL AS A GOOD ONE TO FOLLOW FOR OTHER FOREIGN COMPANIES CONSIDERING INVESTING IN THE TT. "MORE AND MORE OF THE MANAGEMENT RESPONSIBILITY MUST BE MICRONESIAN," HE SAID, ADDING THAT HE THOUGHT AIR MICRONESIA AND ITS PARENT COMPANIES, PRIMARILY CONTINENTAL AIRLINES, HAVE DONE A GOOD JOB IN THIS REGARD.

AT THE CONCLUSION OF THE MEETING, THE COUNCIL MEMBERS ISSUED A JOINT STATEMENT SAYING THAT "OPENING OF THE TRUST TERRITORY TO FOREIGN INVESTMENT IS A MOMENTOUS STEP FOR THE PEOPLE OF THE AREA, AND WE ARE KEENLY AWARE OF THEIR DESIRE TO BE FULLY INVOLVED IN THE OWNERSHIP AND MANAGEMENT OF NEW BUSINESS VENTURES THAT THE FUTURE WILL BRING.

"SINCE THE JAPAN-HAWAII ECONOMIC COUNCIL ITSELF IS A MODEL OF COOPERATION AND MUTUAL TRUST BETWEEN ITS TWO HALVES," THE STATEMENT CONTINUED, "WE ARE CONFIDENT THAT WE CAN BRING THIS SAME SPIRIT OF COOPERATION AND MUTUAL TRUST INTO ALL OUR FUTURE DEALINGS WITH THE PEOPLE OF THE TRUST TERRITORY. WE PLEDGE OURSELVES TO THAT APPROACH."

MOST OF THE MEMBERS OF THE COUNCIL WERE EXPECTED TO RETURN TO THEIR HOMES FRIDAY, BUT A GROUP OF THEM WERE PLANNING A SPECIAL TRIP TO KOROR, PALAU OVER THE WEEKEND.

ARRANGEMENTS FOR THE SAIPAN MEETING WERE COORDINATED BY THE RESOURCES AND DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT, UNDER THE GENERAL DIRECTION OF MIKE ASHMAN, CHIEF OF THE TOURISM BRANCH.

(TT STUDENT AT MARITIME ACADEMY)

SAIPAN, SEPT. 12 (MNS)---A FOURTH MICRONESIAN HAS ENTERED THE CALIFORNIA MARITIME ACADEMY IN VALLEJO, A SPOKESMAN FOR THE HEADQUARTERS TRANSPORTATION DIVISION SAID THIS WEEK.

JOSEPHIUS TIOBECH OF KOROR, PALAU, JOINED THREE OTHER MICRONESIANS PRESENTLY ATTENDING THE ACADEMY. HE ENTERED THE MERCHANT MARINE ACADEMY ON A TRANSPORTATION DIVISION SCHOLARSHIP, WHERE HE PLANS TO MAJOR IN MARINE ENGINEERING.

THE OTHER MICRONESIAN STUDENTS PRESENTLY ATTENDING THE ACADEMY ARE EDHUND RABAULIMAN OF SAIPAN, FIRST YEAR STUDENT AT THE ACADEMY WHO IS MAJORING IN NAUTICAL SCIENCE; LUKNER WEILBACHER OF PONAPE, A SECOND YEAR STUDENT IN MARINE ENGINEERING; AND GEORGE BUCHOMAL OF YAP, ALSO A SECOND YEAR STUDENT IN MARINE ENGINEERING.

WEILBACHER AND BUCHOMAL ARE EXPECTED TO GRADUATE IN THE SUMMER OF 1976.