

(SEARCH FOR MISSING EIGHT DISCONTINUED)

SAIPAN, APRIL 3 (MNS) --- THE SEARCH FOR THE BODIES OF EIGHT PERSONS MISSING FROM A BOATING ACCIDENT LAST WEEK BETWEEN SAIPAN AND TINIAN HAS BEEN OFFICIALLY CALLED-OFF, RADIO KJQR REPORTS. IN NOTIFYING THE DISTRICT ADMINISTRATOR OF ITS DECISION TO DISCONTINUE THE SEARCH, POLICE CAPTAIN JOSE MAFNAS POINTED OUT THAT ALTHOUGH THE SEARCH HAS BEEN CALLED-OFF, THE POLICE WILL CONTINUE TO "KEEP THEIR EYES OPEN" FOR THE MISSING BODIES.

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NO TRACE OF THE EIGHT PEOPLE HAS BEEN FOUND. THEY WERE TRAVELLING TO SAIPAN IN AN 18-FOOT MOTOR BOAT WHEN THE BOAT CAPSIZED. FIVE OF THE THIRTEEN PEOPLE ON BOARD WERE RESCUED BY FISHERMEN AND WERE TAKEN ASHORE.

AT ONE POINT DURING THE SEARCH LAST WEEK, OFFICIALS ESTIMATED THAT MORE THAN 17 PRIVATE BOATS FROM SAIPAN AND TINIAN WERE SCOUTING IN THE ROUGH SEAS BETWEEN THE TWO ISLANDS IN THE AREA WHERE THE BOAT WAS BELIEVED TO HAVE SUNK. FUEL FOR THE VOLUNTEERS WAS PROVIDED BY THE DISTRICT ADMINISTRATION.

THIS WEEK A CROSS WAS ERECTED AT TAGON POINT ON TINIAN TO COMMEMORATE THE LOST PASSENGERS. THE MEMORIAL CROSS WAS ERECTED BY THE FAMILIES OF THE LOST PASSENGERS, ACCORDING TO MARIANAS DISTRICT DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC AFFAIRS DAVID MARATITA,

(SPC VEGETABLE COURSE)

SAIPAN, APRIL 3 (MNS) --- THE HEADQUARTERS AGRICULTURE DIVISION IS CONDUCTING A TWO-WEEK TERRITORIAL TRAINING COURSE ON VEGETABLE PRODUCTION AND MARKETING IN COOPERATION WITH THE SOUTH PACIFIC COMMISSION. THE TRAINING BEGAN TUESDAY, APRIL 2 ON SAIPAN.

MICHAEL LAMBERT, TROPICAL AGRICULTURIST FOR THE SPC, IS THE PROGRAM DIRECTOR. THE SPC HAS PROVIDED TWO CONSULTANTS FOR THE TRAINING. THEY ARE WILLIAM KIDSTON, MARKETING OFFICER, DEPARTMENT OF PRIMARY INDUSTRIES, QUEENSLAND, AUSTRALIA AND DEREK NISSEN, HORTICULTURIST, HORTICULTURAL FIELD STATION MANAGER OF QUEENSLAND AGRICULTURAL COLLEGE. PROGRAM COORDINATOR IS LEO MIGVAR, CHIEF OF AGRICULTURAL EXTENSION, TRUST TERRITORY. ACCORDING TO MIGVAR, THE MARIANAS DISTRICT AGRICULTURE STAFF IS PROVIDING THE FACILITIES AND RESOURCES PERSONNEL FOR THE TRAINEES.

THERE ARE 39 PARTICIPANTS ATTENDING THE COURSE FROM ALL THE DISTRICT AGRICULTURE DEPARTMENTS, VOCATIONAL AGRICULTURE, PRIVATE SCHOOLS AND COMMUNITY ACTION AGENCY. MOST OF THE PARTICIPANTS ARE FROM THE MARIANAS.

THE COURSE HAS BEEN PROGRAMMED TO PROVIDE A MAXIMUM OF FIELD WORK AND DEMONSTRATIONS AND A MINIMUM OF THEORY AND LECTURES. THE MAJOR EMPHASIS IS ON THE PRESENTATION OF RESULT DEMONSTRATIONS WHICH CAN BE SIMPLY TRANSLATED INTO THE TEACHING TECHNIQUE OF "SEEING IS BELIEVING."

A FIELD EXCURSION IS PLANNED FOR THE WEEKEND OF APRIL SIX AND SEVEN TO TINIAN TO OBSERVE THE FARMING OPERATIONS UNDER IRRIGATION AS WELL AS DRY LAND FARMING, MIGVAR SAID.

(AGREEMENT SIGNED)

SAIPAN, APRIL 3 (MNS) --- AN AGREEMENT HAS BEEN SIGNED TO RELOCATE THE OKINAWAN PEACE MEMORIAL FROM SUSUPE, SAIPAN, TO THE MARPI AREA, ACCORDING TO A NEWS REPORT FROM SAIPAN'S KJQR RADIO. THE AGREEMENT WAS SIGNED BY DEPUTY HIGH COMMISSIONER PETER T. COLEMAN AND THE DIRECTOR OF HEALTH AND WELFARE OF THE OKINAWA PREFECTURE, TSUNEMI HIRAYASU, ON SAIPAN LAST WEEK.

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THE PEACE MEMORIAL WILL BE CONSTRUCTED SOUTH OF THE JAPANESE LAST COMMAND POST IN MARPI AREA. THE TRUST TERRITORY GOVERNMENT REQUESTED THE RELOCATION BECAUSE THE MEMORIAL IS ENCOUCHING ON HOMESTEAD LAND. CONSTRUCTION OF THE MONUMENT HAS BEEN CONTRACTED TO BENAVENTE CONSTRUCTION COMPANY, A LOCAL CONTRACTOR.

THE PROJECT IS NOW UNDERWAY AND IS EXPECTED TO BE COMPLETED IN ABOUT THREE WEEKS, DIRECTOR HIRAYASU INDICATED THAT THE DEDICATION WILL BE HELD OFF UNTIL JULY OF THIS YEAR TO COINCIDE WITH THE ANNUAL PRIGRIMAGE OF OKINAWA BEREAVED FAMILIES TO SAIPAN WHICH NORMALLY TAKES PLACE DURING THE SUMMER.

(MASTER PLAN FOR BABELTHUAP)

SAIPAN, APRIL 3 (MNS)---A MASTER PLAN FOR ONE OF MICRONESIA'S MAJOR ISLANDS--BABELTHUAP--HAS BEEN COMPLETED, ACCRODING TO PHILIP N. CHAMBERLAIN, CHIEF OF THE HEADQUARTERS PLANNING DIVISION OF THE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS.

CHAMBERLAIN SAID THE PLAN WAS PREPARED BY HAWAII ARCHITECTS AND ENGINEERS, INC., BASED IN HONOLULU, WITH ASSISTANCE PROVIDED BY THE TRUST TERRITORY GOVERNMENT. HE SAID THIS IS THE LAST OF THE MASTER PLANS TO BE PREPARED BY OUTSIDE CONSULTANTS FOR THE MAJOR ISLANDS IN MICRONESIA. FUTURE MASTER PLANS WILL BE PREPARED BY THE PLANNING DIVISION'S STAFF, CHAMBERLAIN STATED.

IN PREPARING THE PLAN, HAWAII ARCHITECTS AND THE REPARSENTATIVES OF THE TT GOVERNMENT WORKED VERY CLOSELY WITH THE LEADERS OF BABELTHUAP, IN PALAU DISTRICT, IN DRAWING UP A PLAN WHICH REFLECTS THE NEEDS AND GOALS THE PEOPLE HAVE SET FOR THEMSELVES IN THE FUTURE, CHAMBERLAIN EXPLAINED.

THE 81-PAGE REPORT WILL BE DISTRIBUTED TO GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS CONCERNED, MEMBERS OF THE CONGRESS OF MICRONESIA AND THE PEOPLE OF PALAU.

THE CHIEF OF PLANNING SAYS THAT THE PLAN WILL SERVE AS A USEFUL BLUEPRINT IN THE PROCESS OF BUDGET PREPARATION FOR FUTURE PROGRAMS IN PALAU DISTRICT. RECOMMENDATIONS AND GOALS SET UP BY THE PLAN WILL ALSO BE USED AS GUIDELINES FOR FUTURE DEVELOPMENT OF BABELTHUAP, THE TRUST TERRITORY'S LARGEST ISLAND. BABELTHUAP HAS A POPULATION OF ONLY 3,771 PEOPLE.

THE PLAN TAKES INTO CONSIDERATION THE EXISTING CONDITIONS ON BABELTHUAP, INCLUDING TOPOGRAHY, CLIMATE, SOILS, ECOLOGICAL SYSTEMS, POPULATION, LAND TENURE PATTERNS AND EXISTING LAND USE. IT ALSO NOTES THE POTENTIALS AND THE PROCESS OF TRANSITION NOW GOING ON THE ISLAND, MILITARY INTERESTS AND CIRCULATION SYSTEMS AS WELL.

AMONG OTHER THINGS, THE REPORT INDICATES THAT BABELTHUAP HAS A PAST HISTORY OF ABUSE OF THE DELICATE BALANCE OF MAN RESIDING IN AN ISLAND ENVIRONMENT. THE PLAN POINTS OUT THAT THE BARE AND INFERTILE HILLS OF BABELTHUAP STAND TODAY AS A REMINDER OF MAN'S INSENSITIVITY TO HIS SURROUNDINGS. IN SHARP CONTRAST WITH THE PAST, THE PLAN NOTES THAT THE MODERN PALAUAN ON BABELTHUAP IS INCREASINGLY BECOMING INDEPENDENT FROM THE NATURAL ENVIRONMENT, WARNING THAT THIS, COUPLED WITH RAPID PROPOGATION AND TECHNOLOGICAL ABUSES, CAN ALLOW THE PALAUANS TO OVERCOME THE NATURAL ENVIRONMENT.

THE PLAN SAYS THAT THE "MODERN PALAUAN HAS THE CAPABILITY OF SUBJECTING THE NATURAL ENVIRONMENT TO FAMINE AND DEATH JUST AS THE NATURAL ENVIRONMENT SUBJECTED HIS ANCESTORS TO FAMINE AND DEATH." IT POINTS OUT THAT ONE OF THE PRIMARY PURPOSES OF THE PLAN IS TO PRESENT AN ALTERNATIVE TO ABUSE OF EITHER THE HUMAN OR THE NATURAL ENVIRONMENT.

THE PLAN LISTS THE MARINE ENVIRONMENT SURROUNDING BABELTHUAP ISLAND AS THE THIRD MOST IMPORTANT NATURAL RESOURCES IN PALAU, (7793) NEXT ONLY TO THE PEOPLE AND THE LAND THEY LIVE ON. IT NOTES THAT

THE LAGOON, IN CONTRAST TO THE LAND MASS, IS INCREDIBLY RICH IN LIVING ORGANISMS. REALIZING THE IMPORTANCE OF THE LAGOON AREA, THE PLAN RECOMMENDS THAT IT BE PLANNED CONCURRENTLY WITH THE LAND MASS IN SUCH A WAY THAT ABUSE MAY BE PREVENTED, SO AS TO PRESERVE THE FOOD SOURCES FROM DEPLETION.

THE PLAN FURTHER RECOMMENDS THAT LEGISLATION AND EDUCATION SHOULD BE IMPLEMENTED AT THE TIME OF LAND USE LEGISLATION FOR THE PRESERVATION AND UTILIZATION OF THE PALAU LAGOON. IT NOTES THAT THE INNER-CORE OF ONE HALF OF THE MANGROVE FOREST IS VERY DENSE AND SHOULD HAVE LIMITED USES FOR TIMBERING AND FISH PONDS. "THE OUTER MANGROVE AREA AND THE INNER REEF SHOULD BE A VERY LOW USE AREA WITH STRONG CONTROLS FOR THE PROTECTION OF THIS MAJOR BREEDING, HATCHING, AND NURSERY ZONE THAT REPLENISHES THE SEA LIFE OF THE ENTIRE REEF," THE PLAN SAYS.

THE REPORT ADVOCATES THAT ALL MAJOR BAYS AND ESTUARIES SHOULD BE DESIGNATED LIMITED USE CONSERVATION ZONES, INDICATING THAT THESE ESTUARIES AND BAYS AND THEIR WATERSHEDS ARE ESSENTIAL TO THE CONTINUED SURVIVAL AND PRODUCTION OF REEF FISH, CRUSTACEANS, AND MOLLUSKS.

THE PLAN GOES ON TO DISCUSS LAND USE ON BABELTHUAP WITH RESPECT TO RESIDENTIAL, COMMERCIAL, INDUSTRIAL, AGRICULTURE, CONSERVATION AND VISITOR ACCOMMODATIONS.

ACCORDING TO THE PLAN, LAND USE IS ENVISIONED AS PRINCIPALLY A REGIONAL PLAN. WHILE NOTING THAT A DETAILED ZONING PLAN WOULD BE PREMATURE AT THE PRESENT TIME, THREE AREAS ON THE LAND USE MAP APPEAR CRITICAL AT THIS TIME. IT POINTS OUT THAT THESE AREAS ARE DESIGNATED CONSERVATION AREAS, BOTH IN THE LAGOONS AND THE LAND AREA, PROTECTION OF ALLUVIAL SOILS FOR AGRICULTURAL PURPOSES, AND A LAND CIRCULATION SYSTEM. THE PLAN URGES THAT "HIGH PRIORITY" BE GIVEN THESE AREAS WHEN THE PLAN IS IMPLEMENTED.

THE REPORT NOTES THAT THE TT GOVERNMENT ADMINISTERS APPROXIMATELY 85 PERCENT OF THE LAND ON BABELTHUAP ISLAND, ADDING THAT "LITTLE THOUGHT HAS BEEN GIVEN TO THE RESERVATION OF LAND FOR FUTURE PUBLIC USE." IT SAYS THAT THE ESTABLISHED RETENTION AREAS ARE TOO LARGE AND HAVE BEEN "POORLY MANAGED."

THE PLAN GOES ON TO DISCUSS LAND POLICIES PECULIAR TO EACH SUCCEEDING ADMINISTRATION, BEGINNING WITH THE GERMAN PERIOD, FOLLOWED BY THE JAPANESE AND FINALLY BY THE U.S. ADMINISTRATION. IN ITS REVIEW OF THE LAND TENURE PATTERN IN PALAU, THE REPORT SAYS: "THE PROBLEM ON BABELTHUAP ISLAND IS VERY SERIOUS AND CANNOT BE OVERLOOKED." THE PLAN CONTENDS THAT UNTIL THE TENURE PROBLEM IS RESOLVED, THE FIRST STEP TO ANY ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM CANNOT BEGIN.

"IT STANDS AS A BAR TO ANY ATTEMPT TO UPGRADE THE LIVING ENVIRONMENT OF THE PEOPLE WHICH ENVISION THE USE OF LAND AS COLLATERAL," THE REPORT ASSERTS.

THE PLAN RECOGNIZES THE IMPORTANCE OF RESIDENTIAL GROWTH AND PROPOSES THAT DEVELOPMENT SHOULD BE ENCOURAGED ALONG TRADITIONAL LINES AS BABELTHUAP BEGINS TO RE-POPULATE, EXCEPT FOR THE MUNICIPALITY OF AIRAI. WHILE RECOGNIZING THAT THE PROPOSED CIRCULATION SYSTEM EMPHASIZES CERTAIN REGIONS AND RE-EMPHASIZES OTHERS, THE REPORT SAYS IT WILL TAKE APPROXIMATELY TEN YEARS AFTER IMPLEMENTATION OF THE BABELTHUAP ROAD SYSTEM FOR GROWTH TRENDS TO RE-DEFINE THEMSELVES.

IT NOTES THAT AIRAI MUNICIPALITY IS AN EXCEPTION TO THE OTHER MUNICIPALITIES ON BABELTHUAP FOR TWO REASONS: FIRST, THE PROPOSED BRIDGE CONNECTING THE DISTRICT CENTER OF KOROR TO BABELTHUAP; AND SECONDLY, THE FACT THAT AIRAI IS THE HOME OF THE PRESENT AIRFIELD TO RECEIVE JET AIRCRAFT. THE PLAN CONTENDS THAT BECAUSE OF THESE TWO FACTORS, PRESSURE WILL INCREASE SOMEWHAT FOR RESIDENTIAL DEVELOPMENT FROM THE OVERFLOW OF RESIDENTIAL NEEDS FROM THE DISTRICT CENTER TO THIS MUNICIPALITY.

WHILE NOTING THAT INDUSTRIAL SERVICES WILL BE REQUIRED NEAR

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THE AIRFIELD TO SERVICE THE INCREASED AIRCRAFT TRAFFIC, THE PLAN SAYS THAT PRESENT GROWTH INDICATIONS OF THE RESIDENTIAL DEVELOPMENT OCCURRING NOW ARE IN CONFLICT WITH THESE INDUSTRIAL AND HIGH-NOISE AREAS RELATED TO THE AIRFIELD. THE REPORT RECOMMENDS THAT SECONDARY ROADS BE GIVEN A PRIORITY TO OPEN PRIME RESIDENTIAL AREAS IN AIRAI MUNICIPALITY THAT ARE COMPATIBLE WITH THE OTHER USES OCCURRING THERE.

THE REPORT FURTHER RECOMMENDS THAT RESIDENTIAL DEVELOPMENT PROCEED NATURALLY ALONG THE FORMER TRADITIONAL PATTERNS ESTABLISHED IN THE VILLAGES IN THE PAST. "BECAUSE MOST OF THE VILLAGES ONCE HAD MUCH LARGER POPULATIONS, THEY CAN EASILY ABSORB MUCH OF THE FUTURE RESIDENTIAL DEVELOPMENT," THE REPORT SAYS.

ACCORDING TO THE REPORT, IN AREAS WHERE EXTENSIVE DEVELOPMENT IS ANTICIPATED BY THE PLAN, EMPHASIS HAS BEEN PLACED ON FUTURE GROWTH, CONTENDING THAT MOST VILLAGES COULD EASILY ABSORB "DOUBLE THEIR PRESENT POPULATION" AND STILL HAVE SUFFICIENT AREAS FOR DEVELOPMENT AND SUBSISTENCE GARDENS OF ADEQUATE AREA TO PROVIDE FOOD FOR THE INCREASED POPULATION.

ONLY ONE AREA IS RECOMMENDED BY THE PLAN FOR INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE FUTURE--AND THAT IS, THE AREA ORIENTED TO SERVICING THE EXISTING AIRFIELD. IT SHOULD INCLUDE FUEL STORAGE AND ELECTRICAL GENERATION AREAS AND A SMALL INDUSTRIAL ZONE TO BE DEVELOPED INTO THE NEW TOWN AREA IN CENTRAL BEBELTHUAP FOR A PUBLIC WORKS SUB-STATION TO SERVICE ALL OF BABELTHUAP FROM A CENTRAL LOCATION.

AS FOR AGRICULTURE, THE PLAN RECOMMENDS THAT RELATED FACILITIES AND SERVICES BE CONCENTRATED IN THE NARDOK RIVER WATERSHED AS PART OF THE PROPOSED NEW TOWN SECONDARY SCHOOL NEAR NARDOK LAKE. AT THIS LOCATION, BOTH IMPORTANT EAST AND WEST AGRICULTURE AREAS MAY BE SERVICED.

THE REPORT RECOMMENDS THAT THE ESTABLISHMENT OF PARK AREAS BE IMPLEMENTED FOR THE "ROCK ISLANDS" IN AIRAI MUNICIPALITY, THE OLD JAPANESE KILN IN NGAPPANG, THE AREA SURROUNDING THE MEGOLITHS IN NGARECHELONG MUNICIPALITY, AND AN UNDERWATER PARK TO BE ESTABLISHED ON THE REEF AREA NORTH OF NGARECHELONG.

THE PLAN PROPOSES A FEW ISOLATED SITES AS POTENTIAL LOCATIONS FOR LIMITED VISITOR ACCOMMODATIONS, EITHER IN THE FORM OF SMALL HOTELS OR A CLUSTER OF RENTAL CABINS WHICH ARCHITECTURALLY SHOULD BLEND HARMONIOUSLY INTO THE SURROUNDING NATURAL SETTING WITH OPPORTUNITIES FOR OUTDOOR RECREATIONAL ACTIVITIES. ADDITIONALLY, THE PLAN RECOMMENDS THAT THE PEOPLE OF BABELTHUAP CONSIDER MEANS TO KEEP VISITOR DEVELOPMENT WITHIN THEIR ECONOMY RATHER THAN HAVE IT CONTROLLED BY OUTSIDERS. THE REPORT WARNS THAT THE LOW UNEMPLOYMENT RATE OF THE PALAU DISTRICT IS STRAINING THE LABOR FORCE PRESENTLY--EVEN MODEST VISITOR DEVELOPMENT COULD OVERCOME THE LOCAL ECONOMY, RESULTING IN INFLATION AND A VERY HIGH RATIO OF IMPORTED FOREIGN LABORERS.

THE PLAN POINTS OUT THAT THE LIMITED VISITOR INDUSTRY DEVELOPMENT PROPOSAL IS BASED ON THE STATED DESIRES OF THE PEOPLE. IF THE VISITOR INDUSTRY SHOULD EXPAND BEYOND THIS, WITHOUT THE CONTROLS RECOMMENDED IN THE PLAN, THEN A NEW MASTER PLAN STUDY SHOULD BE UNDERTAKEN, THE REPORT SAYS.

REGARDING U.S. MILITARY INTERESTS ON BABELTHUAP, THE MASTER PLAN TAKES NOTE OF THE STATED DESIRE OF THE MILITARY FOR EXCLUSIVE USE OF A 2,000 ACRE AREA, PLUS NON-EXCLUSIVE USE OF AN ADJACENT 30,000 ACRES AS A MANUEVER AREA. THE PLAN SAYS: "THERE WOULD BE NO CONFLICT WITH THE MANUEVER AREA AND EXISTING CONDITIONS. THE IMPACT OF A 300-MAN BASE WOULD BE MODEST AND WOULD COMPLEMENT LONG-RANGE DEVELOPMENT." THE PLAN POINTS OUT THAT THE EXPRESSED MILITARY NEEDS ARE ONLY OPTIONS ON LAND FOR POSSIBLE FUTURE USE, AND ALL PLANS ARE TENTATIVE.