

# Yapese Joining Parley; Unity Discussed

PONAPE — Traditional leaders from Yap, delayed by a lack of funds, will join traditional leaders from Truk and Ponape here for a conference.

Leaders from the Marshalls have rejected the idea of attending, citing protocol as one reason. Also not attending are traditional leaders from Palau. No reason has been given for their absence, though the meeting here coincides in part with a meeting of the Palau District Legislature.

The other district representation missing here is the Marianas where there are no traditional leaders.

The second day session of the Micronesian traditional leaders conference was devoted to discussions on Micronesian unity, an issue considered to be the top among all other topics to be considered during the two-week conference.

The chairman of the Micronesian unity session, Heinrich Iriarte, stressed that during the course of this conference, the traditional leaders must bear one thing in mind: They want cooperation, love and one voice. He noted that several obstacles exist: One, there is an apparent lack of cooperation; another is money which is a divisive factor

between the districts and the third is playing politics which will further divide them. Fujita Bossy, mayor of Moen, Truk, was the first speaker of the Truk traditional delegation. He pointed out that one difficulty was that the namwarkis had not met before the meeting. During the afternoon session, Bossy and Johnny Moses, namwarki of Uh municipality, shook hands to signify cooperation between Truk and Ponape Districts.

Ioanis Artui, namwarki of Sokehs raised a question in regards to a leadership grant which enabled some Micronesian leaders to visit the United States. He wondered why the grants are not being used for Micronesian leaders to visit the other districts. Iskia Sony, interpreter for Truk traditional leaders clarified that by saying that the U.S. State Department is the source of the grants and the authority which administers them.

It was indicated during the discussion that the leaders wanted to use the money. Tol Magistrate Susuma Aizawa moved that an attempt be made to get the money. Tol motion passed. Another motion was made and passed which will proclaim the expressed unity demonstrated earlier.