

(FINAL BILLS RECEIVED)

SAIPAN, APRIL 15 (MNS)---THE OFFICE OF THE HIGH COMMISSIONER ON SAIPAN HAS RECEIVED THE FINAL PIECES OF LEGISLATION TO BE OFFICIALLY TRANSMITTED FROM THE 1974 SESSION OF THE CONGRESS OF MICRONESIA. THEY INCLUDE TWO NEW HOUSE BILLS, AND A HOUSE BILL ALREADY DISAPPROVED BY THE ADMINISTRATION, BUT RE-PASSED BY THE CONGRESS.

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THE HIGH COMMISSIONER HAS TWENTY DAYS IN WHICH TO CONSIDER THE RE-PASSED BILL. IT IS A MEASURE DESIGNED TO PUT A STOP TO THE PRACTICE OF EXPATRIATES AVOIDING THE PROVISIONS OF LAWS GOVERNING FOREIGN BUSINESS ACTIVITY BY VIRTUE OF EITHER BEING MARRIED TO, OR ADOPTING, MICRONESIAN CITIZENS (HB 3). THE BILL MAKES CERTAIN CHANGES IN THE DEFINITION OF "NON-CITIZEN" IN THE BUSINESS PERMIT LAWS.

ONE OF THE FIRST BILLS TO PASS DURING THE RECENT SESSION ON SAIPAN, THE MEASURE WAS VETOED BY THE HIGH COMMISSIONER BECAUSE IT WAS THOUGHT TO BE DISCRIMINATORY, AND POSSIBLE ILLEGAL. THE CONGRESS REJECTED THIS REASONING IN RE-PASSING THE LEGISLATION. IF THE ADMINISTRATION FINDS IT STILL CANNOT APPROVE OF THE BILL, IT WILL HAVE TO BE SENT TO THE SECRETARY OF THE INTERIOR FOR FINAL DISPOSITION.

THE NEW LEGISLATION RECEIVED INCLUDES THE BILL TO ESTABLISH A MICRONESIAN DEVELOPMENT BANK, AND APPROPRIATING \$140,000 AS THE INITIAL FUNDING FOR THIS ENTERPRISE (HB 246); AND A BILL APPROPRIATING \$659,000 FOR GENERAL STUDENT SCHOLARSHIPS, ESTABLISHMENT OF A STUDENT LOAN FUND, PARTIAL TRUST TERRITORY SCHOLARSHIPS, AND THE PURCHASE OF A BUS FOR USE BY MICRONESIAN STUDENTS AT THE UNIVERSITY OF GUAM (HB 254). THE HICOM HAS THIRTY DAYS FROM THE DATE OF RECEIPT TO TAKE ACTION ON THESE MEASURES.

ALL 46 BILLS PASSED DURING THE SESSION HAVE NOW BEEN RECEIVED, AND TEN ARE STILL UNDER CONSIDERATION. THE REST HAVE BEEN ACTED UPON, WITH 31 SIGNED INTO LAW, AND FIVE VETOED.

(COLEMAN PROCLAIMS LAW DAY)

SAIPAN, APRIL 15 (MNS)---"YOUNG MICRONESIA; LEAD THE WAY. HELP PRESERVE GOOD LAWS, CHANGE BAD LAWS AND MAKE BETTER LAWS." THIS IS THE SLOGAN TRUST TERRITORY DEPUTY HIGH COMMISSIONER PETER T. COLEMAN ANNOUNCED THIS WEEK IN PROCLAIMING LAW DAY MICRONESIA, WHICH WILL BE ON MAY 1ST THIS YEAR.

IN HIS PROCLAMATION, COLEMAN SAID: "IT IS FITTING THAT LAW DAY BE DEVOTED TO HIS WORTHY PURPOSE, FOR WITHOUT LAWS AND INDEPENDENT COURTS, THE FREEDOMS WE ENJOY WOULD BE MEANINGLESS.

"TO EACH GENERATION OF MICRONESIA CITIZENS COMES A NEW OPPORTUNITY AND RESPONSIBILITY TO PROVIDE NEW LEADERSHIP, FRESH WISDOM AND FORESIGHT FOR MICRONESIA," COLEMAN ADDED.

COLEMAN SAID THAT AS MICRONESIA MOVES TOWARD SELF-GOVERNMENT THE RESPONSIBILITIES OF LEADERSHIP WILL PASS TO TODAY'S GENERATION OF YOUTH. THE DEPUTY HICOM STATED THAT THE 12TH ANNUAL TERRITORIAL OBSERVANCE OF LAW DAY MICRONESIA ON WEDNESDAY, MAY 1, WILL BE DIRECTED TOWARD YOUTH AND THE LAW.

IN EMPHASIZING THE IMPORTANCE OF LAW TO YOUTH, COLEMAN SAID EVERY EFFORT WILL BE MADE TO ASSIST MICRONESIAN YOUNG MEN AND WOMEN, WHO COMPRISE NEARLY ONE-HALF OF OUR POPULATION, IN GAINING A BETTER UNDERSTANDING OF THE LAW AND THE LEGAL PROCESS AND THEIR LEADERSHIP RESPONSIBILITIES.

"WE CAN BE JUSTLY PROUD OF MICRONESIA'S YOUTH FOR THEY ARE PLAYING AN ACTIVE ROLE IN THE CONTINUING GROWTH OF OUR TERRITORY;

THESE YOUNG CITIZENS ARE LEARNING THE IDEALS OF MICRONESIA BY TAKING A CONCERNED INTEREST IN COMMUNITY ACTION PROGRAMS

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EMBRACING STUDENT GOVERNMENT, CIVIC, SOCIAL, BUSINESS, RELIGIOUS AND EDUCATIONAL ACTIVITIES," COLEMAN SAID.

THE DEPUTY HICOM CONCLUDED BY SAYING: "I AM CONFIDENT THAT OUR YOUTH WILL CARRY OUT THE RESPONSIBILITIES THAT WILL SOON BE TRUST UPON THEM WITH GREAT CREDIT TO OUR ISLANDS."

STICKERS, POSTERS AND OTHER MATERIAL PROMOTING LAW DAY, 1974 ARE PRESENTLY BEING DISTRIBUTED BY THE TT ATTORNEY GENERAL'S OFFICE.

('73 WAS ACTIVE YEAR FOR CO-OPS)

SAIPAN, APRIL 15 (MNS)---ANNUAL BUSINESS STATISTICS FOR COOPERATIVE AND CREDIT UNION ACTIVITY IN THE TRUST TERRITORY FOR 1973 HAVE BEEN RELEASED BY THE COOPERATIVE AND CREDIT UNION SECTION OF THE RESOURCES AND DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT'S ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT DIVISION.

COOPERATIVE GROSS SALES AND REVENUES FOR THE YEAR ENDING DECEMBER 31, 1973 SHOWED 7.7. MILLION DOLLARS WORTH OF BUSINESS, A 22 PER CENT INCREASE OVER THE PREVIOUS YEAR. MORE THAN FIFTY COOPERATIVES ARE OWNED AND OPERATED BY AND FOR OVER 12,000 MICRONESIANS, WHO HAVE INVESTED ABOUT A MILLION DOLLARS OF THEIR MONEY IN SHARES, BRINGING TOTAL ASSETS TO MORE THAN FOUR MILLION DOLLARS, A SPOKESMAN SAID. GROWTH IS STEADY AND UPWARD, WHEN LOOKING AT THE TREND DURING THE PAST SEVERAL YEAR. HE POINTED OUT.

CREDIT UNIONS ARE THE BRIGHTEST, WITH OVER FOUR MILLION DOLLARS IN LOANS TRANSACTED DURING THE 1973 REPORTING YEAR. A RECENT ANALYSIS OF MAJOR CREDIT UNIONS SHOWED THAT MORE THAN HALF OF THESE LOANS WERE MADE FOR "HOME IMPROVEMENTS." THE AVERAGE MEMBER'S SAVING INCREASED TO \$325 DURING THE YEAR, A 27 PER CENT INCREASE OVER THE YEAR BEFORE. FORTY-SIX CREDIT UNIONS ARE OWNED AND OPERATED BY AND FOR OVER 10,000 MICRONESIAN, WHO HAVE SAVINGS IN THEM TOTALLING 3.4 MILLION DOLLARS. THIS REPRESENTS MONEY THAT MAY NOT OTHERWISE HAVE BEEN SAVED IF IT WERE NOT FOR THE CREDIT UNION MOVEMENT IN MICRONESIA, THE DEPARTMENT SPOKESMAN SAID.

THE TRUST TERRITORY GOVERNMENT'S COOPERATIVE/CREDIT UNION PROGRAM HAS ASSISTED MICRONESIANS BY POOLING A TOTAL SAVINGS OF 4.4 MILLION DOLLARS WHICH IS NOW PROVIDING GOODS AND SERVICES AT COST TO MORE THAN 22,000 MEMBERS.

(FOREIGN SERVICE SCHOLARSHIP)

SAIPAN, APRIL 15 (MNS)---TEN MICRONESIAN STUDENTS HAVE BEEN SELECTED FOR THE AMERICAN FIELD SERVICE (AFS) INTERNATIONAL SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM THIS YEAR, ACCORDING TO A SPOKESMAN FOR THE TT SCHOLARSHIP OFFICE. THE STUDENTS WILL LEAVE FOR THE U.S. MAINLAND IN JULY WHERE THEY WILL COMPLETE THEIR HIGH SCHOOL EDUCATION.

THE RECIPIENTS OF THE SCHOLARSHIPS AWARDS INCLUDE: CARINA TAITANO AND GLENN TARO FROM THE MARIANAS; JACKEO RELANG AND JULIET JELKE, MARSHALLS; MANASSEH TEMOL, PALAU; MARY RELECH AND ARLAIN ANSIN, TRUK; AND MARIO J. SUKULBECH, JOHN B. SOHOLITH AND GRACE S. GOGCHIGOL FROM YAP DISTRICT.

ACCORDING TO THE SPOKESMAN, THE STUDENTS WILL DEPART THE TT FOR GUAM JULY 12 WHERE THEY WILL HAVE A WEEK OF PRE-ORIENTATION TO LIFE IN THE U.S. AFTER THIS ASPECT OF THE PROGRAM, THEY WILL DEPART FOR SAN FRANCISCO JULY 18 WHERE THEY WILL HAVE A "GATEWAY ORIENTATION" BEFORE THEY ARE SENT TO THEIR SPONSOR FAMILIES IN THE U.S. MAINLAND.

(TEACHER TRAINING PROGRAM AT PATS)

SAIPAN, APRIL 15 (MNS)---A TEACHER TRAINING PROGRAM IN VOCATIONAL EDUCATION IS TO BEGIN IN OCTOBER THIS YEAR AT THE COMMUNITY LEADERSHIP TRAINING CENTER IN PONAPE, IT HAS BEEN

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ANNOUNCED BY THE REV. HUGH F. COSTIGAN, S.JMN DIRECTOR OF PATS.

APPLICANTS FOR THIS SPECIAL PROGRAM MAY CHOOSE EITHER A ONE-YEAR COURSE WHICH LEADS TO A CERTIFICATE, OR A TWO-YEAR COURSE WHICH LEADS TO AN ASSOCIATE OF SCIENCE DEGREE.

APPLICANTS MUST BE A HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATE OR EQUIVALENT, AND MUST HAVE SOME EXPERIENCE OR TRAINING IN EITHER MECHANICS, CONSTRUCTION, OR AGRICULTURE. THE APPLICANT MUST ALSO HAVE THE DESIRE TO BECOME A TEACHER AFTER FINISHING THE PROGRAM. FOR MORE INFORMATION OF THE PROGRAM, CONTACT THE DIRECTOR OF EDUCATION EACH DISTRICT, OR THE DISTRICT VOCATIONAL EDUCATION SPECIALIST.