

(TINIAN GROUP RETAINS GUAM COUNSEL)

SAIPAN, APRIL 23 (MNS)---A FORMER MEMBER OF THE MARIANAS POLITICAL STATUS COMMISSION HAS JOINED WITH TWO OTHER RESIDENTS OF TINIAN IN RETAINING A PRIVATE LAW FIRM TO PREPARE A POSITION PAPER ON BEHALF OF THE TINIAN PEOPLE WHO OPPOSE U.S. MILITARY PLANS FOR THE ISLAND.

113M

1974  
11

THE GROUP IS HEADED BY MARIANAS DISTRICT LEGISLATOR AND FORMER STATUS NEGOTIATOR HERMAN MANGLONA, AND INCLUDES TINIAN COUNCILMAN SYLVESTRE CRUZ AND FORMER COUNCIL SPEAKER FELIPE MENDIOLA. THE MEN WERE TO TRAVEL TO GUAM TUESDAY (APRIL 23) TO CONSULT WITH THEIR NEW LEGAL COUNSEL, THE GUAM LAW FIRM OF ARRIOLA, CUSHNIE AND STEPHENS, ACCORDING TO A KJQR RADIO NEWS REPORT.

THE POSITION PAPER WILL DEAL MOSTLY WITH THE OPPOSITION OF SEVERAL TINIAN PEOPLE TO THE PROPOSED U.S. MILITARY LAND REQUIREMENT FOR APPROXIMATELY TWO-THIRDS OF THE ISLAND, THE RADIO REPORT STATED. COUNCILMAN SYLVESTRE CRUZ PLANS TO OFFER A RESOLUTION DURING THE FORTHCOMING COUNCIL MEETING WHICH WOULD REQUEST THE MARIANAS POLITICAL STATUS COMMISSION TO DISCONTINUE NEGOTIATIONS ON TINIAN'S MILITARY REQUIREMENTS UNTIL THE VIEWS OF THE PEOPLE OF TINIAN HAVE BEEN EXPRESSED FULLY. CRUZ HOPES TO INTRODUCE THE RESOLUTION BEFORE THE NEXT ROUND OF STATUS TALKS BETWEEN THE MARIANAS STATUS COMMISSION AND THE U.S., TENTATIVELY SCHEDULED TO BEGIN MAY 15.

LEGISLATOR MANGLONA SAID THE POSITION PAPER WILL BE PRESENTED TO THE PEOPLE OF TINIAN FOR PUBLIC REFERENDUM. SHOULD THE PAPER BE APPROVED, THE MARIANAS POLITICAL STATUS COMMISSION WOULD THEN BE ASKED TO GO TO TINIAN WHERE THE POSITION PAPER WOULD BE PRESENTED TO THEM. THE LAW FIRM RETAINED BY THE GROUP WILL ALSO BE ON TINIAN FOR THE PRESENTATION OF THE POSITION PAPER, MANGLONA SAID. HE ADDED THAT THE LAW FIRM WILL BE THE GROUP'S LEGAL COUNSEL DURING THE COURSE OF NEGOTIATIONS BETWEEN THE MARIANAS GROUP AND THE U.S. DELEGATION.

MARIANAS POLITICAL STATUS COMMISSION CHAIRMAN EDWARD DLG. PANSELINAN TOLD MNS TUESDAY HE BELIEVES THE PEOPLE OF TINIAN ARE ALREADY BEING REPRESENTED BY TWO CAPABLE TINIAN REPRESENTATIVES ON THE COMMISSION. HE ADDED THAT THE COMMISSION WILL LISTEN TO THESE REPRESENTATIVES OF TINIAN AS ELECTED BY THE TINIAN MUNICIPAL COUNCIL UNDER THE LAW WHICH ESTABLISHES THE MARIANAS STATUS COMMISSION. HE SAID HE REGRETS THAT MANGLONA RESIGNED FROM THE COMMISSION AND THAT IF HE WANTS TO REPRESENT THE WISHES OF THE PEOPLE OF TINIAN HE SHOULD HAVE STAYED ON THE STATUS COMMISSION.

CONGRESSMAN FELIPE O. ATALIG, WHOSE ELECTION PRECINCT INCLUDES TINIAN, EXPRESSED HIS SURPRISE AT THE ACTIONS TAKEN BY THE GROUP HEADED BY LEGISLATOR MANGLONA. "THE PROPOSED MOVEMENT TO PRESENT A POSITION PAPER TO THE MARIANAS POLITICAL STATUS COMMISSION, ON BEHALF OF THE PEOPLE OF TINIAN, HEADED BY LEGISLATOR MANGLONA WILL SERVE NO USEFUL PURPOSE OTHER THAN TO CREATE CONFUSION AMONG THE PEOPLE OF TINIAN AND TO HINDER THE CURRENT STATUS NEGOTIATIONS," ATALIG SAID. HE POINTED OUT THAT THE GUAM-BASED LAW FIRM HAS NO BUSINESS IN THE STATUS TALKS.

BERNARD HOFSEIDER, ONE OF THE TWO TINIAN REPRESENTATIVES ON THE STATUS COMMISSION, TOLD MNS THAT WHATEVER THE OUTCOME, HE WILL GO ALONG WITH WHAT THE MAJORITY OF THE PEOPLE OF TINIAN WANT AS AN ELECTED REPRESENTATIVE. HE SAID HE WILL CHECK WITH THE PEOPLE OF TINIAN CONCERNING THESE RECENT DEVELOPMENTS. THE OTHER MEMBER OF THE STATUS COMMISSION FROM TINIAN IS JOSE R. CRUZ, WHO COULD NOT BE REACHED FOR COMMENT TUESDAY.

(STATUS NEGOTIATION IN JUNE)

SAIPAN, APRIL 23 (MNS)---THE NEXT ROUND OF NEGOTIATIONS BETWEEN THE U.S. GOVERNMENT AND THE JOINT COMMITTEE ON FUTURE STATUS OF THE CONGRESS OF MICRONESIA WILL PROBABLY TAKE PLACE IN EARLY JUNE ON SAIPAN, ACCORDING TO SENATOR LAZARUS SALII (PALAU), CHAIRMAN OF THE JOINT COMMITTEE.

THE SENATOR SAID THE DATE AND LOCATION WILL BE PROPOSED BY HIS COMMITTEE TO THE U.S. SIDE, AND ARE SUBJECT TO THEIR AGREEMENT, BUT THAT SUFFICIENT PROGRESS HAS BEEN MADE IN INFORMAL DISCUSSIONS INVOLVING THE TWO SIDES DURING THE PAST FIVE MONTHS TO WARRANT ANOTHER FORMAL ROUND OF NEGOTIATIONS.

SENATOR SALII AND TWO OTHER MEMBERS OF THE JOINT COMMITTEE MET EARLY THIS MONTH IN CARMEL, CALIFORNIA WITH AMBASSADOR F. HAYDN WILLIAMS, THE PRESIDENT'S PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE FOR MICRONESIAN STATUS NEGOTIATIONS, AND OTHER MEMBERS OF THE AMERICAN DELEGATION. THE PALAU SENATOR REPORTED TO HIS COMMITTEE ON THOSE MEETINGS WHILE ON GUAM.

"THE TALKS WITH AMBASSADOR WILLIAMS INVOLVED A REVIEW OF THE DRAFTS ON TITLES FOUR THROUGH TWELVE OF THE DRAFT COMPACT OF FREE ASSOCIATION," SALII TOLD MNS TUESDAY (APRIL 23). "THESE INCLUDE THE TITLES ON FINANCE, U.S. LAWS APPLICABLE IN MICRONESIA, TERMINATION OF THE COMPACT, TRADE AND COMMERCE, IMMIGRATION AND TRAVEL, CITIZENSHIP AND NATIONALITY, AMENDING THE COMPACT, AND SETTLEMENT OF DISPUTES.

"ON THE BASIS OF WHAT HAPPENED IN CARMEL, THE COMMITTEE ON GUAM DETERMINED THAT THERE IS ENOUGH IN THE WAY OF PROGRESS TO JUSTIFY ANOTHER ROUND OF FORMAL TALKS," THE SENATOR REPORTED.

NINE OF THE TWELVE MEMBERS OF THE JOINT COMMITTEE ATTENDED THE GUAM MEETING. AMONG THOSE MISSION WAS CO-CHAIRMAN EKPAP SILK OF THE MARSHALLS, WHO SENT A TELEGRAM SAYING HE COULD NOT ATTEND FOR PERSONAL REASONS. SILK DID, HOWEVER PARTICIPATE IN THE MEETINGS WITH AMBASSADOR WILLIAMS DURING THE FIRST WEEK OF APRIL IN CALIFORNIA.

ASKED TO COMMENT ON RUMORS THAT HE AND AMBASSADOR WILLIAMS HAD AGREED THAT THE STATUS NEGOTIATIONS FROM NOW ON WILL BE CONDUCTED ON THE BASIS OF FIVE DISTRICTS RATHER THAN SIX, EXCLUDING THE MARIANAS, SENATOR SALII SAID SUCH REPORTS ARE "ABSOLUTELY FALSE." HE EMPHASIZED THAT THE POSITION OF THE JOINT COMMITTEE ON FUTURE STATUS REMAINS UNCHANGED: THAT THE COMMITTEE IS NEGOTIATING FOR MICRONESIA'S FUTURE POLITICAL STATUS ON THE BASIS OF ALL SIX DISTRICTS, MARIANAS INCLUDED. THIS IS THE OFFICIAL POSITION OF THE CONGRESS OF MICRONESIA AND THE JOINT COMMITTEE LACKS AUTHORITY TO CHANGE THAT POSITION, SALII NOTED.

THE SENATOR SAID THAT WHILE ON GUAM HE AND THE OTHER COMMITTEE MEMBERS ALSO HELD INFORMAL TALKS WITH MEMBERS OF THE GUAM POLITICAL STATUS COMMISSION. HE DESCRIBED THESE AS "GETTING TO KNOW EACH OTHER" DISCUSSIONS, AND SAID IT WAS AGREED THAT IT WOULD BE DESIREABLE FOR THE TWO GROUPS TO MAINTAIN CONTACT FROM NOW ON. NOTHING SPECIFIC WAS DECIDED AT THE MEETINGS, AND NO CONCLUSIONS WERE REACHED ON MATTERS AFFECTING THE TWO STATUS COMMISSIONS, HE SAID.

(LCU SINKING)

SAIPAN, APRIL 23 (MNS)---A GOVERNMENT OWNED LANDING CRAFT UTILITY (LCU) WITH ITS CREW OF EIGHT AND CARRYING 100 TONS OF TNT FROM ENIVETOK ATOLL IN THE MARSHALLS DISTRICT IS REPORTED TO BE SINKING 100 MILES EAST OF ENIVETOK. THE LCU WAS BOUND FOR MAJURO, ACCORDING TO FRANCIS A. BALDWIN, CHIEF OF OPERATIONS AND MAINTENANCE, DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS.

THE LCU IS TRANSPORTING EXPLOSIVES TRANSFERRED FROM THE MILITARY IN ENIVETOK TO THE TRUST TERRITORY GOVERNMENT FOR CHANNEL BLASTING PROJECTS IN THE MARSHALLS DISTRICT.

09250

ACCORDING TO BALDWIN, THE LCU ENCOUNTERED ROUGH SEAS AND BEGAN TO FLOOD. THE CREW MEMBERS HAVE UNLOADED EVERYTHING POSSIBLE FROM THE LCU TO KEEP IT AFLOAT, AND THE BOAT WAS STILL FLOATING TUESDAY AFTERNOON. THE CREWMEN HAVE TAKEN TO A LIFEBOAT, HOWEVER.

A MILITARY AIRCRAFT OUT OF KWAJALEIN HAS REACHED THE SCENE AND WILL MONITOR THE YAP ISLANDER, A TT FIELD TRIP VESSEL WHICH IS ON HER WAY FROM EBEYE TO THE SCENE. GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS HAVE DECIDED TO AIRDROP WATER PUMPS AND A RADIO TO TRY AND SAVE THE SHIP.

BALDWIN SAID THE TNT ABOARD THE LCU IS NOT IN ANY DANGER OF EXPLODING.

(SAIPAN CABLE TV BY 1975)

SAIPAN, APRIL 23 (MNS)---SAIPAN RESIDENTS WILL HAVE CABLE TELEVISION AVAILABLE TO THEM BEGINNING IN EARLY 1975, ACCORDING TO THE LATEST ESTIMATE OF THE TIME IT WILL TAKE TO CONSTRUCT FACILITIES AND STRING CABLE BY LEE M. HOLMES, PRESIDENT OF MICRONESIA CABLE TV COMPANY.

THE FIRM WAS RECENTLY GRANTED A BUSINESS PERMIT TO CONSTRUCT AND OPERATE THE TRUST TERRITORY'S FIRST CABLE TV BUSINESS, IN THE MARIANA ISLANDS. SAIPAN IS ALREADY TO LOCATION OF THE TERRITORY'S ONLY TELEVISION STATION, COMMERCIALY OPERATED WSZE-TV. ADDITION OF THE CABLE WILL MAKE A CHOICE OF CHANNELS AND PROGRAMS AVAILABLE TO VIEWERS WHO CONTRACT FOR THE SERVICE, AT AN ESTIMATED TWENTY DOLLARS FOR INSTALLATION, PLUS FIFTEEN DOLLARS A MONTH RENTAL FEE. THE COMPANY PLANS TO OFFER COLOR AS WELL AS BLACK AND WHITE PROGRAMS.

IN A LETTER TO HIGH COMMISSIONER EDWARD E. JOHNSTON RECENTLY, HOLMES SAID: "WE ARE PLEASED TO REPORT THAT WE HAVE COMPLETED THE DESIGN OF THE HEAD END (STUDIO) AND ARE AWAITING BIDS FROM THREE EQUIPMENT MANUFACTURERS. OUR CONSULTING ENGINEERS HAVE COMPLETED THE STRAND MAP FOR THE AREAS WE INTEND TO COVER, AND ARE AWAITING REPRODUCTION OF THEIR BASIC DRAWINGS AT THIS TIME. WE ANTICIPATE THE CABLE PLANT DESIGNS SHOULD BE RECEIVED BACK FROM THE CABLE EQUIPMENT MANUFACTURERS BY EARLY JUNE."

HOLMES ALSO SAID NEGOTIATIONS WITH THE MARIANAS DISTRICT GOVERNMENT ON A UTILITY POLE RENTAL AGREEMENT ARE PROGRESSING WELL. "OUR EXPERIENCE WITH CURRENT MATERIAL DELIVERY TIMES LEADS US TO BELIEVE THAT WE SHOULD BE ABLE TO BEGIN CONSTRUCTION ABOUT THE END OF THE SUMMER AND HOPEFULLY SERVICE THE FIRST SUBSCRIBER BY THE EARLY PART OF 1975."

(STATUS OFFICER CLARIFIES WILLIAMS' POSITION)

SAIPAN, APRIL 23 (MNS)---THE STATE DEPARTMENT LIAISON OFFICER ON SAIPAN FOR MICRONESIAN STATUS NEGOTIATIONS, MARY VANCE TRENT, COMMENTED TUESDAY (APRIL 23) ON A NEWS REPORT OUT OF WASHINGTON, D.C. WHICH MADE REFERENCE TO A STATEMENT BY U.S. AMBASSADOR F. HAYDN WILLIAMS IN MAJURO ON MAY 9, 1973.

"WHILE I DO NOT KNOW PRECISELY WHAT WAS SAID TO THE PRESS IN WASHINGTON, MISS TRENT SAID, "I NOTE THAT THE REPORT REFERS TO A PUBLIC STATEMENT MADE BY THE AMBASSADOR LAST MAY. HERE IS WHAT AMBASSADOR WILLIAMS SAID ON THAT OCCASION:"

"MANY MICRONESIANS CONSIDER THE QUESTION OF POLITICAL UNITY TO BE THE MOST IMPORTANT ISSUE FACED BY MICRONESIA TODAY. THE PROBLEM IS BASICALLY ONE WHICH THE MICRONESIANS MUST RESOLVE FOR THEMSELVES. HOWEVER, THE UNITED STATES HAS PURSUED THE FUTURE STATUS NEGOTIATIONS WITH THE JOINT COMMITTEE ON FUTURE STATUS IN THE HOPE AND EXPECTATION THAT A COMMON STATUS WILL BE FORTHCOMING FOR THE MARSHALLS AND THE CAROLINES. THE UNITED STATES WILL CONTINUE TO HOPE THAT OUT OF THESE NEGOTIATIONS AND, MORE IMPORTANTLY, OUT OF THE DELIBERATIONS WITHINS MICRONESIA REGARDING THE NATURE OF YOUR FUTURE GOVERNMENT WILL COME A UNITED MICRONESIA. WE CONTINUE TO BELIEVE THAT DESPITE CONSIDERABLE CULTURAL DIVERSITY AND

DIFFERING LOCAL PROBLEMS AND INTERESTS, A UNIFIED MICRONESIA WOULD BEST MEET THE ECONOMIC, SOCIAL AND OTHER NEEDS OF THE PEOPLE CONCERNED."

THE WASHINGTON NEWS REPORT DEALT WITH RECENT EXPRESSIONS OF SEPARATIST SENTIMENT FROM THE MARSHALL ISLANDS, AND U.S. REACTION TO THEM.