

(SALARY BILL VETOED; NON-CITIZEN BILL SIGNED)

SAIPAN, APRIL 29 (MNS)---TRUST TERRITORY HIGH COMMISSIONER EDWARD E. JOHNSTON ACTED OVER THE WEEKEND ON TWO MORE BILLS PASSED BY THE CONGRESS OF MICRONESIA. THE HIGH COMMISSIONER SIGNED ONE INTO LAW WHILE VETOING THE OTHER. 1974

SIGNED WAS A BILL RELATING TO THE DEFINITION OF "NONCITIZEN" FOR PURPOSES OF THE FOREIGN INVESTORS BUSINESS PERMIT ACT. THE BILL STATES THAT A NONCITIZEN IS ANY PERSON WHO IS NOT A TRUST TERRITORY CITIZEN, OR A MICRONESIAN WHO IS MARRIED TO A NONCITIZEN, OR IS UNDER THE AGE OF EIGHTEEN AND WHO IS ADOPTED BY PARENTS, AT LEAST ONE OF WHOM IS NOT A TT CITIZEN; OR ANY COMPANY, CORPORATION, OR ASSOCIATION IN WHICH A PERSON WHO OWNS ANY INTEREST IS NOT A TRUST TERRITORY CITIZEN AS DEFINED PREVIOUSLY. THE PURPOSE OF THIS MEASURE IS TO PREVENT PERSONS FROM USING A MICRONESIAN SPOUSE ON ADOPTED CHILD IN ORDER TO GET INTO BUSINESS IN THE TRUST TERRITORY. THE BILL IS NOW PUBLIC LAW 5-85.

THIS PARTICULAR BILL WAS DISAPPROVED BY THE HIGH COMMISSIONER PREVIOUSLY, BUT THE CONGRESS REPASSED THE MEASURE AND RETURNED IT TO HIM FOR RECONSIDERATION.

IN A LETTER TO THE CONGRESSIONAL LEADERSHIP ACCOMPANYING THE BILL, THE HIGH COMMISSIONER STATED: "WE STILL FEEL THAT THIS ACT IS DISCRIMINATORY AGAINST MICRONESIANS WHO HAVE MARRIED OR BEEN ADOPTED BY NON-TRUST TERRITORY CITIZENS AND ARE NOW BEING SUBJECTED TO RULES AND REGULATIONS NOT IN EFFECT AT THE TIME OF THEIR MARRIAGE AND/OR ADOPTION."

THE HICOM STATED EARLIER THIS YEAR THAT IF THE BILL WERE ENACTED INTO LAW, IT "COULD WELL BE SET ASIDE BY THE COURTS AS BEING ILLEGAL." HE POINTS OUT IN HIS CURRENT LETTER THAT THE NEW LAW "WILL BE TESTED BY SOME MICRONESIANS NOW CLASSIFIED AS "NONCITIZENS" AS A RESULT OF THIS LEGISLATION." HE SAID, HOWEVER, THAT DESPITE HIS CONTINUING OBJECTIONS HE CANNOT JUSTIFY FORWARDING THIS LEGISLATION TO THE SECRETARY OF THE INTERIOR, AS WOULD HAVE BEEN REQUIRED IF HE HAD DISAPPROVED OF IT A SECOND TIME.

THE HIGH COMMISSIONER VETOED A MEASURE TO EXTEND THE LIFE OF THE SALARY ACT OF 1973 UNTIL JUNE 30, 1975, AND TO PROVIDE FOR THE ADVICE AND CONSENT OF THE CONGRESS OVER CERTAIN DIVISION CHIEFS WITHIN THE GOVERNMENT, AND FOR THE PERIODIC ROTATION OF DISTRICT ADMINISTRATORS, AMONG OTHER THINGS (SB 276)

THE HICOM DISAPPROVED THIS BILL ON SEVERAL GROUNDS, HE STATED IN A LETTER TO THE CONGRESS LEADERSHIP. FIRST, THE ACTING LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL OF THE CONGRESS HAS ADVISED THE HICOM THAT THE LEGISLATION IS INCOMPLETE. CERTAIN POSITIONS LIKE THE PUBLIC DEFENDER, SPECIAL CONSULTANT, AND SPECIAL ASSISTANT WERE NOT MENTIONED IN THE SALARY PORTION OF THE BILL.

IN ADDITION, THE LEGISLATION WOULD REDUCE THE SALARIES PAID TO TRUST TERRITORY CITIZENS OCCUPYING THE POSITIONS OF ATTORNEY GENERAL, DISTRICT ADMINISTRATOR PUBLIC DEFENDER, SPECIAL CONSULTANT, SPECIAL ASSISTANT, OR DIRECTOR OF ANY DEPARTMENTS AND THEIR DEPUTIES. "THE REDUCTION PROPOSED BY THE LEGISLATION," THE HICOM POINTED OUT, "AMOUNTS TO A MINIMUM OF \$4,000 PER YEAR AND A MAXIMUM OF \$6,000 PER YEAR."

"AT THE SAME TIME," CONTINUED THE HICOM'S LETTER, "THAT THE CONGRESS WAS REDUCING BY \$4,000 TO \$6,000 SALARIES PAID TO MICRONESIANS SERVING IN KEY POSITIONS WITHIN THE EXECUTIVE BRANCH, CONGRESS WAS INCREASING THE SALARY OF YOUR HIGHEST PAID EMPLOYEE, THE LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL, TO A "SUPER UNGRADED POSITION" OF \$26,863 PER YEAR, AND THIS ACT HAS ALREADY BEEN SIGNED INTO LAW. IF WE ADOPTED BOTH SALARY PROPOSALS, THE LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL WOULD RECEIVE \$6,863 MORE THAN ANY MICRONESIAN DIRECTOR OR DISTRICT ADMINISTRATOR, THIS IS ADDITION TO "FRINGE BENEFITS OF THE POSITION: FREE HOUSING AND UTILITIES, AMONG OTHERS".." SUCH FRINGE BENEFITS HAD BEEN CITED BY THE SENATE JUDICIARY AND GOVERNMENTAL OPERATIONS COMMITTEE IS REPORT AS ONE OF ITS REASONS FOR REDUCING THE SALARIES OF MICRONESIAN DIRECTORS AND DEPUTY DIRECTORS IN THE EXECUTIVE BRANCH. 05/02/74

THE HIGH COMMISSIONER NOTED THAT THE STARTING SALARY OF AN ASSISTANT LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL WOULD BE \$19,000 A YEAR UNDER THE BILL, \$4,000 MORE PER YEAR THAN WHAT WAS PROPOSED FOR DEPUTY DIRECTORS AND DEPUTY DISTRICT ADMINISTRATORS--"MANY OF WHOM HAVE SERVED IN THESE POSITIONS FOR SEVERAL YEARS."

HE EMPHASIZED THAT "IF THE SALARIES ARE INCREASED FOR KEY MEMBERS OF YOUR STAFF (CONGRESS), WE DO NOT FEEL THAT THE PROPOSED DECREASE WITHIN THE EXECUTIVE BRANCH IS FAIR AND EQUITABLE."

THE HICOM ALSO STATED THAT THE ADMINISTRATION IS STILL NOT PREPARED TO ADD TO THE ADVICE AND CONSENT PROCEDURE CERTAIN DIVISION CHIEFS. "WE HAVE OPPOSED THIS APPROACH IN THE PAST AND WE STILL FEEL IT IS IMPROPER TO PLACE THESE CAREER PUBLIC SERVICE POSITIONS WITHIN THE ADVICE AND CONSENT PROCESS," THE HICOM SAID.

THE ADMINISTRATION ALSO STRONGLY OBJECTED TO THE ROTATION OF DISTRICT ADMINISTRATORS EVERY TWO YEARS WITHIN EACH DISTRICT, SAYING IT IS "IMPRACTICAL AND UNREALISTIC...."

THE HICOM THEN REMINDED THE CONGRESSIONAL LEADERSHIP THAT THE DEPARTMENT OF PERSONNEL STANDS READY TO WORK WITH THE CONGRESS IN ORDER TO IMPROVE THE PRESENT TT PUBLIC SERVICE SYSTEM ACT AND THE SALARY ACT OF 1973. "WE ARE PREPARED," THE HICOM STATED, "TO CONTINUE TO WORK WITH THE APPROPRIATE COMMITTEES OF THE CONGRESS TO DEVELOP THE LEGISLATION NECESSARY TO MEET OUR NEEDS AND WHICH WILL BE ACCEPTABLE TO BOTH THE CONGRESS OF MICRONESIA AND THE EXECUTIVE BRANCH."

THE HIGH COMMISSIONER STILL HAS SIX MORE BILLS AWAITING ACTION OUT OF THE 46 THAT WERE PASSED DURING THE MOST RECENT CONGRESS SESSION.

(SEARCH CONTINUES FOR MISSING BOAT)

SAIPAN, APRIL 29 (MNS)---A SEARCH IS CONTINUING FOR THE 22-FOOT MOTOR BOAT WHICH WAS REPORTED MISSING IN THE MARSHALL ISLANDS LAST WEEK, ACCORDING TO TT MILITARY LIAISON OFFICER LT. CDR. ALAN R. PENDLETON.

THE BOAT WAS REPORTED TO HAVE LEFT LIB ISLAND MONDAY (APRIL 22) WITH NINE PEOPLE ON BOARD AT AROUND 4 P.M. AND WOULD NORMALLY TAKE SIX HOURS TO REACH EBEYE. PENDLETON INDICATED THAT THE MISSING BOAT WAS NOT REPORTED OVERDUE UNTIL THURSDAY (APRIL 25) THREE DAYS AFTER IT LEFT LIB.

PRELIMINARY SEARCH OPERATIONS WERE COMMENCED THURSDAY BY A C-54 AIRCRAFT FROM KWAJALEIN. A C-130 AIRCRAFT FROM BARBERS POINT IN HAWAII WAS DISPATCHED TO REPLACE THE C-54 IN THE SEARCH OPERATION, FRIDAY (APRIL 26). PENDLETON SAID IF THE BOAT IS NOT LOCATED WITHIN THREE DAYS, OR 72 HOURS, THE SEARCH MAY BE CALLED OFF, UNLESS THERE IS A VERY GOOD PROBABILITY THAT CONTINUING THE SEARCH WILL PRODUCE SOME HOPEFUL RESULTS.

THE BOAT IS OWNED BY THE COMMUNITY OF LIB ISLAND WITH A POPULATION OF JUST UNDER 100 PEOPLE. IT CARRIED SOME WATER AND COCONUTS, BUT LITTLE IN THE WAY OF SAFETY GEAR.

(WATERWORKS OPERATORS SCHOOL)

SAIPAN, APRIL 26 (MNS)---SIXTEEN MEN FROM ALL SIX DISTRICTS OF MICRONESIA HAVE COMPLETED A WATERWORKS OPERATORS SCHOOL AT LOWER BASE TRAINING CENTER ON SAIPAN. THE COURSE WAS HELD FROM EVERY WORKDAY FROM APRIL 1 TO APRIL 26.

THE COURSE MODERATOR WAS WILL GILBERT, OF HEADQUARTERS PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT, AND THE PRINCIPAL INSTRUCTOR WAS DR. N. U. RAO, DEPUTY DIRECTOR, CENTRAL HEALTH ENGINEERING RESEARCH INSTITUTE, NAGPUR, INDIA. OTHER INSTRUCTORS WERE WILLIAM BREWER, A MICROBIOLOGIST FROM THE ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION BOARD; DR. MASAO KUMANGAI, DIRECTOR OF HEALTH SERVICES; LOU IRVING, WATER AND SEWER TECHNOLOGIST; ANTONIO TENORIO, MARIANAS DISTRICT DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC WORKS; SEBASTIAN ONGESII, ACTING EXECUTIVE OFFICER, ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION BOARD; PEDRO TENORIO, A HYDROLOGIST IN PRIVATE PRACTICE; DR. JACK HELKENA, DIRECTOR OF DENTAL SERVICE; OMER ROLLER, SANITARY ENGINEER, ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION BOARD; ISAMU ABRAHAM, DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH SERVICES

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HEALTH EDUCATOR; AND DORIS THOMPSON, PUBLIC SERVICE CAREERS INSTRUCTOR, HEADQUARTERS TRAINING DIVISION.

SANITARIANS FROM THE DEPARTMENTS OF HEALTH SERVICES OF EACH DISTRICT ALSO PARTICIPATED IN THE COURSE FOR TWO WEEKS.

LECTURE MATERIAL FOR THE WATERWORKS OPERATORS SCHOOL INCLUDED THE HYDROLOGIC CYCLE, WATER CHARACTERISTICS FROM DIFFERENT SOURCES, LABORATORY TESTS FOR QUALITY CONTROL, WATER USE PATTERS, WATERBORNE DISEASES, METHODS OF TREATING WATER, AND CONSUMER COMPLAINTS AND PUBLIC RELATIONS. MAN'S ABSOLUTE DEPENDENCY ON WATER FOR THE BUILDING AND MAINTENANCE OF A CIVILIZATION WAS EMPHASIZED IN A MOVIE. ANOTHER MOVIE ILLUSTRATED THE PUBLIC HEALTH AND SANITATION ASPECTS OF WATER.

THE PARTICIPANTS WENT ON MANY FIELD TRIPS TO SEE DIFFERENT PARTS OF THE SAIPAN WATER SYSTEM. THEY TOURED CATCHMENT AREA. THEY ALSO VISITED MOST OF SAIPAN'S WELL FIELDS AND DONNIE SPRING. AT MAUI I, AN INFILTRATION GALLERY NEAR ISLEY FIELD, SOME OF THE MEN RODE AN ELEVATOR DOWN INTO THE 100-FOOT-DEEP SHAFT.

IN THEIR LABORATORY SESSIONS, THE WATERWORKS OPERATORS LEARNED HOW TO SAMPLE BOTH FRESH AND WASTE WATERS TO DETERMINE THEIR PHYSICAL, CHEMICAL, AND BIOLOGICAL QUALITIES. THE MEN PARTICULARLY LEARNED HOW TO TEST FOR SALINITY; CHLORINE CONTENT; PH; COLIFORM BACTERIA; AND ALGAE IN WATER. THESE HOME DISTRICTS.

CERTIFICATES OF COMPLETION WERE AWARDED TO THE FOLLOWING: MAX MOROS, AND HARRISON MIKEL, OF PALAU; JESSE IDOSI AND FRED NICK, OF PONAPE; GEORGE HATNAIL, BENET MAKEIAN, AND KINE ANJAIN, OF THE MARSHALLS; MANGARFIR, AND TONY NGIRAILILD, OF YAP; LEONARD CAMACHO, EPIPHANO CABRERA, GABRIEL MANGLONA, LEONARDO DIAZ, AND VICENTE MAGOFNA OF THE MARIANAS; AND MASAI MANUEL, AND EZRA SIONGAU, OF TRUK.

(NEW EMPLOYEES FOR TT HEADQUARTERS)

SAIPAN, APRIL 29 (MNS)---A MANAGEMENT INTERN, PHIL DAVID FROM PINGELAP ATOLL IN THE PONAPE DISTRICT, HAS JOINED THE HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF PERSONNEL IT WAS ANNOUNCED THIS WEEK BY DIRECTOR OF PERSONNEL ARTHUR A. AKINA.

DAVID'S APPOINTMENT BECAME EFFECTIVE LAST WEEK, HIS PROGRAM INCLUDE INTENSIVE TRAINING IN THE VARIOUS ASPECTS OF CLASSIFICATION AND COMPENSATIONS.

HE IS A GRADUATE OF THE UNIVERSITY OF GUAM WHERE HE MAJORED IN PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION. HE FINISHED HIS LAST YEAR OF HIGH SCHOOL AT THE J.F. KENNEDY HIGH SCHOOL ON GUAM IN 1968.

ALSO NEW ON THE TT STAFF IS REDLEY KILLION FROM TRUK, WHO RECENTLY JOINED THE HEADQUARTERS ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT DIVISION AS A MANAGEMENT INTERN. KILLION GRADUATED FROM THE UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII IN 1973 WITH A MAJOR IN ECONOMICS. HE COMPLETED HIS HIGH SCHOOL EDUCATION AT MARIST HIGH SCHOOL IN THE STATE OF OREGON IN 1970.

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