

(SODIUM ARSENITE SPILLED ON YAP)

YAP, MAY 10 (MNS)---SOME 35 GALLONS OF DEADLY SODIUM ARSENITE HAS BEEN SPILLED BY ACCIDENT AND RUN INTO A RIVER ADJACENT TO THE AGRICULTURAL STATION IN YAP WHERE THE DEADLY COMPOUND WAS STORED IN DRUMS, IT WAS REPORTED BY YAP DISTRICT PUBLIC INFORMATION OFFICER WILFRED GORONGFEL THIS WEEK.

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THE INCIDENT WAS DISCOVERED ABOUT TWO WEEKS AGO WHEN A YAP RESIDENT FROM RULL MUNICIPALITY RAN INTO SOME DEAD FISH, CRABS, AND SEVERAL SPECIES OF BIRD IN A LAGOON AND THE REEF WHERE THE RIVER EMPTIES.

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ACTION HAS BEEN TAKEN BY THE DISTRICT ADMINISTRATION ON YAP WARN THE PUBLIC OF THE POSSIBLE CONTAMINATION IN FISH AROUND THE AREA FROM LUWEECH VILLAGE TO WORWOO VILLAGE BORDERING COLONIA, THE DISTRICT CENTER.

AN ECOLOGIST WORKING FOR THE TT ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION BOARD MRS. MARGIE FALANRUU, IN TRYING TO PREVENT ANY FURTHER DAMAGE BY THE CHEMICAL COMPOUND, HAS NOTIFIED TT HEADQUARTERS ON SAIPAN OF THE INCIDENT, ASKING FOR ADVICE AND HELP IN DISPOSING OF THE REMAINING DEADLY SODIUM ARSENITE.

THE MAGISTRATE OF RULL HAS SENT A MESSAGE TO HEADQUARTERS AS FOLLOWS: "ON BEHALF OF RULL MUNICIPALITY ENDANGERED SINCE THE ESCAPE OF THE DEADLY ARSENIC COMPOUND, WE URGENTLY APPEAL FOR YOUR IMMEDIATE PRIORITY ATTENTION TO EFFECT THE FOLLOWING: ARRIVAL OF FEDERAL OR OTHER EXPERTS TO EVALUATE THE HAZARDS; REMOVAL FROM YAP OF SOME 250 REMAINING GALLONS OF ARSENIC COMPOUND DECLARED UNLAWFUL FOR USE SOME YEARS AGO; AND SEEKING YOUR FULL SUPPORT OF YAP ACTING DISTAD AND TTEB STAFF ECOLOGIST AND OTHER DISTRICT PERSONNEL IN THIS URGENT MATTER WHICH REQUIRES YOUR RELIEF EFFORTS."

A SPOKESMAN OF THE HEADQUARTERS ENVIRONMENTAL AGENCY SAID THIS WEEK PEACE CORPS VOLUNTEER WILLIAM BREWER, AN ECOLOGIST FOR THE TTEB, IS LEAVING FOR YAP SATURDAY (MAY 11) TO ASSIST YAP DISTRICT IN FINDING WAYS AND MEANS TO SOLVE THE PROBLEM.

(MUCH SAIPAN HOUSING SAID "INADEQUATE")

SAIPAN, MAY 10 (MNS)---ABOUT ONE-THIRD OF SAIPAN'S HOUSES ARE CONSIDERED TO BE "STRUCTURALLY INADEQUATE," AND WOULD NOT WITHSTAND THE NEXT SERIOUS TYPHOON, ACCORDING TO A PRELIMINARY REPORT ON HOUSING CONDITIONS ON SAIPAN PREPARED BY THE MARIANAS DISTRICT PLANNING OFFICE. THE SAIPAN WEEKLY NEWSPAPER MARIANAS VARIETY CARRIES NEWS OF THE REPORT IN ITS MAY 10 EDITION.

THE 1973 HOUSING SURVEY COUNTED 2,388 HOUSING UNITS ON SAIPAN, AND SAID 925 ARE DETERIORATED WOOD FRAME BUILDINGS IN POOR CONDITION. IN ADDITION, THERE ARE 713 CONCRETE STRUCTURES AND 750 WOOD FRAME HOMES CONSIDERED TO BE IN GOOD CONDITION, ACCORDING TO THE REPORT.

"IN SPITE OF A PHENOMENAL INCREASE IN HOUSING CONSTRUCTION SINCE THE DESTRUCTIVE FORCES OF TYPHOON JEAN (IN 1968)," REPORTS MARIANAS VARIETY, "THE HOUSING SITUATION FOR THE MAJORITY OF SAIPANESE HAS NOT GREATLY IMPROVED SINCE THE WORLD WAR TWO INVASION WHEN SOME 15,000 TO 20,000 PERMANENT RESIDENTIAL UNITS ON SAIPAN WERE TOTALLY DESTROYED."

IN 1967 THERE WERE 1,249 HOUSES ON SAIPAN, BUT VIRTUALLY ALL OF THESE WERE EITHER TOTALLY DESTROYED OR SEVERELY DAMAGED BY TYPHOON JEAN. TO TEMPORARILY MEET THIS HOUSING EMERGENCY, SOME 450 TEMPORARY UNITS OF PLYWOOD WERE BUILT BY THE U.S. OFFICE OF EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS. THEY WERE MEANT TO LAST THE TWO OR THREE YEARS IT WOULD TAKE TO REBUILD NEW PERMANENT HOUSING, BUT ACCORDING TO THE REPORT,

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"FIVE YEARS LATER (IN 1973) OVER 400 ARE STILL BEING USED AS HOMES."

THE REPORT CONTINUES BY POINTING OUT THAT BECAUSE OF INSUFFICIENT MONEY AND THE PRESENT TREND TO ESCAPE THE 20-PERSON, THREE FAMILY HOUSEHOLDS WHICH ARE COMMON TODAY, MOST OF THE PRESENT, DILAPIDATED HOMES WILL NOT BE REPLACED, PROPER SANITARY FACILITIES WILL NOT BE BUILT, AND A LARGE QUANTITY OF POORLY BUILT HOMES WILL BE CONSTRUCTED.

~~"ADD TO THIS THE POORLY PLANNED RESIDENTIAL SUBDIVISIONS, UNPAVED DUSTY ROADS, INADEQUATE TO NON-EXISTENT RECREATION FACILITIES OR NEIGHBORHOOD OPEN-SPACE AND YOU HAVE THE GRIM PICTURE THAT IS HOUSING FOR THE VAST MAJORITY OF SAIPANESE,"~~ THE REPORT STATES.

THE DOCUMENT GOES ON TO SUGGEST THAT HOUSING MAY BECOME "THE MOST SERIOUS PROBLEM OF THE 80S" ON SAIPAN. THE BASIC COST OF A THREE BEDROOM CONCRETE HOME HAS JUMPED FROM \$9,000 IN \$16,000 TODAY, THUS PUTTING SUCH PERMANENT HOUSING EVEN FARTHER OUT OF REACH OF LOWER INCOME FAMILIES.

SOME 700 NEW CONCRETE HOMES HAVE BEEN BUILT IN RECENT YEARS, HOWEVER, BUT THESE ARE OCCUPIED MOSTLY BY HIGHER-INCOME SAIPANESE AND ALIENS, MANY OF WHOM RENT THE HOMES. THE REPORT STATES: "...RENTABLE HOUSING WILL BECOME A GOOD BUSINESS AND THE RENTAL RATES WILL BE HIGH. IN THE END MOST OF THE HIGHER INCOME ALIENS AND SAIPANESE WILL BE LIVING IN ADEQUATE HOMES WHILE THE MAJORITY OF THE ISLAND'S RESIDENTS WILL CONTINUE TO INHABIT RUNDOWN HOMES IN NEAR SLUM NEIGHBORHOODS."

PROJECTIONS FOR A 1980 POPULATION OF 18,000 INDICATE A NEED FOR ABOUT 4,200 RESIDENTIAL UNITS. THIS MEANS THAT 1,800 NEW UNITS WILL HAVE TO BE BUILT PLUS THE NEEDED REPLACEMENT OF SOME 900 PRESENT UNITS, ACCORDING TO THE NEWSPAPER ACCOUNT.

THE REPORT RECOMMENDS THE STUDY OF NEW TECHNIQUES OF MASS PRODUCTION, PREFABRICATION OR MODULAR CONSTRUCTION, ALONG WITH ADOPTION OF A DEFINITE POLICY ON LOW COST HOUSING, AND, IN THE WORDS OF THE REPORT, "GREATER CONSIDERATION OF THOSE WHO ARE NOT FINANCIALLY ABLE TO BUILD BETTER HOUSING." THE USE OF PUBLIC LAND IS SUGGESTED AS A MEANS OF PROVIDING BOTH LAND AND MONEY FOR THOSE WHO NEED HOMES BUT CANNOT AFFORD TO PAY FOR THEM. DESIGNING HOMES THAT REFLECT THE SAIPANESE WAY OF LIFE IS ALSO EMPHASIZED.

THE REPORT CONCLUDES THAT "HOUSING PROBLEMS MUST BE LOOKED UPON IN THEIR CONTEXT WITHIN THE GREATER SOCIAL AND ECONOMIC PROBLEMS IN THE MARIANAS, AND ONLY APPROPRIATE SOLUTIONS SHOULD BE CONSIDERED."

(DISTAD'S AGENDA)

SAIPAN, MAY 10 (MNS)---THE TENTATIVE AGENDA HAS BEEN SET FOR THE NEXT SEMI-ANNUAL CONFERENCE OF THE TRUST TERRITORY DISTRICT ADMINISTRATORS WHICH WILL BE HELD IN TRUK BEGINNING MONDAY (MAY 13), ACCORDING TO SPECIAL ASSISTANT FOR DISTRICT AFFAIRS J. BOYD MACKENZIE.

AMONG THE TOPICS TO BE DISCUSSED ARE BOATING SAFETY, WITH LT. RICHARD DIEN OF THE COAST GUARD AIR-SEA RESCUE CENTER ON GUAM AS THE GUEST SPEAKER ON TUESDAY; THE MICRONESIAN CONSTITUTIONAL CONVENTION, COVERED BY THE ATTORNEY GENERAL'S OFFICE AND DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC AFFAIRS; A REVIEW OF ALL LEGISLATION PASSED AND SIGNED INTO LAW DURING THE CONGRESS OF MICRONESIA'S LAST SESSION; DIVING SAFETY REGULATIONS; FOREIGN LABOR AND INVESTMENT LAWS; AND THE UPCOMING CONGRESS OF MICRONESIA SPECIAL SESSION.

THE TT BUDGET FOR THE NEXT THREE YEARS WILL ALSO BE COVERED INCLUDING BOTH OPERATIONS AND CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT

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PROJECTS, CERTIFICATION OF LANDS, AND SEA TRANSPORTATION.

EXPECTED TO ATTEND THE WEEK-LONG CONFERENCE FROM TT HEADQUARTERS ARE HIGH COMMISSIONER EDWARD E. JOHNSTON; SPECIAL CONSULTANT DWIGHT HEINE; AND PROGRAM AND BUDGET OFFICER WILLIAM D. OYLER IN ADDITION TO MACKENZIE.

THE SIX DISTRICT ADMINISTRATORS ARE: FRANCISCO C. ADA, MARIANAS; THOMAS O. REMENGESAU, PALAU; LEO A. FALCAN, PONAPE; JUAN A. SABLAN, TRUK; AGUIGUI, YAP; AND OSCAR DEBRUM OF THE MARSHALLS.

(MEDICAL PROGRAMS FUNDED)

SAIPAN, MAY 10 (MNS)---THE TRUST TERRITORY DIRECTOR OF HEALTH SERVICES, DR. MASAO KUMANGAI, AND DR. ELIUEL PRETRICK, DISTRICT DIRECTOR OF HEALTH SERVICES FOR PONAPE, ATTENDED THE PACIFIC BASIN COUNCIL AND THE REGIONAL ADVISORY GROUP MEETINGS OF THE REGIONAL MEDICAL PROGRAM OF HAWAII WHICH WERE HELD IN HONOLULU ON APRIL 24 AND 25, 1974.

DR. KUMANGAI ANNOUNCED FRIDAY (MAY 10) THE COUNCIL'S APPROVAL OF FUNDS TO CONTINUE SUPPORT OF THE TRUST TERRITORY HEALTH ASSISTANT'S TRAINING PROGRAMS AND ALSO FUNDS FOR A PHYSICAL THERAPY TRAINING PROJECT; OTOLOGY; CLEFT LIP AND PALATE PROJECT; AND CERVICAL CANCER DETECTION PROGRAMS FOR PONAPE AND THE MARIANA ISLANDS DISTRICTS.

(VOCATIONAL REHABILITATION PLAN)

SAIPAN, MAY 10 (MNS)---DIRECTOR OF HEALTH SERVICES DR. MASAO KUMANGAI ANNOUNCED FRIDAY (MAY 10) THAT THE VOCATIONAL REHABILITATION PLAN FOR THE TRUST TERRITORY OF THE PACIFIC ISLANDS HAS BEEN COMPLETED AND APPROVED. TRUST TERRITORY HEALTH SERVICES ALREADY HAS RECEIVED \$602,500 FOR FUNDING OF VOCATIONAL REHABILITATION OPERATIONS AND PROGRAMS FOR FY 1974 IN THE TRUST TERRITORY.

ACCORDING TO DR. KUMANGAI, A VOCATIONAL REHABILITATION CONFERENCE WILL BE HELD IN SAIPAN ON MAY 13 AND 14. ALL THE DISTRICT DIRECTORS OF HEALTH SERVICES AND THE VOCATIONAL COORDINATORS OF THE SIX DISTRICTS IN THE TRUST TERRITORY WILL BE PRESENT AT THE CONFERENCE.

THE PURPOSE OF THE CONFERENCE WILL BE: TO SET UP GUIDELINES IN TERMS OF VOCATIONAL REHABILITATION OPERATIONS AND PROGRAMING; TO REVIEW THE STATE VOCATIONAL REHABILITATION PLAN FOR IMPLEMENTATION; AND TO DISCUSS AND SET UP THE VOCATIONAL REHABILITATION PLANS AND ACTIVITIES FOR FY 1975.

(TWO MICRONESIANS WIN EWC GRANTS)

SAIPAN, MAY 10 (MNS)---TWO MICRONESIANS HAVE BEEN SELECTED FOR EAST-WEST CENTER GRANTS FOR THIS COMING SCHOOL YEAR, ACCORDING TO HERMAN T. GUERRERO, TT SCHOLARSHIP CO-ORDINATOR.

THEY ARE: MRS. ELIZABETH RECHEBEI FROM THE MARIANAS DISTRICT, WHO IS NOW WORKING AT THE TT HEADQUARTERS EDUCATION DEPARTMENT, AND ANTHONY JETNIL FROM THE MARSHALLS DISTRICT.

THE TWO ARE EXPECTED TO BE AT THE EAST-WEST CENTER IN HAWAII IN AUGUST THIS YEAR TO BEGIN THEIR STUDY. MRS. RECHEBEI WILL PURSUE A COURSE OF STUDY IN THE FIELD OF EDUCATIONAL PSYCHOLOGY, WHILE JETNIL WILL STUDY EDUCATIONAL ADMINISTRATION.

THREE STUDENTS ARE ALREADY AT THE E-W CENTER ON SIMILAR GRANTS: CARL HEINE, FROM THE MARSHALLS, CLEMENT MULALAP OF YAP; AND IGNATIUS SOUMWEI FROM TRUK.

ONE ADDITIONAL STUDENT ALSO HAS BEEN SELECTED FOR THE AMERICAN FIELD SERVICE INTERNATIONAL SCHOLARSHIP, ACCORDING TO GUERRERO.

HE IS DION GIDEON NETH FROM PONAPE WHO WILL JOIN TEN OTHER MICRONESIAN STUDENTS WHOSE NAMES WERE EARLIER ANNOUNCED. THEY WILL BE LEAVING FOR THE U.S. MAILAND IN JULY TO COMPLETE THEIR HIGH SCHOOL EDUCATION THERE.

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(PERSONNEL TRAINING)

YAP, MAY 10 (MNS)---TRUST TERRITORY DEPUTY DIRECTOR OF PERSONNEL PODIS PEDRUS ARRIVED IN YAP WEDNESDAY (MAY 8) TO CONDUCT A THREE-DAY TT PERSONNEL REGULATIONS COURSE, ACCORDING TO YAP PUBLIC INFORMATION OFFICER WILFRED GORONGFEL. CLASSES ARE BEING HELD IN THE YAP DISTAD CONFERENCE ROOM WITH 25 DEPARTMENT AND ACTIVITY HEADS AND A NUMBER OF SUBORDINATE SUPERVISORS ATTENDING.

THE FIRST DAY'S SESSION RESULTED IN ACTIVE PARTICIPATION BY THE GROUP. PEDRUS' PRESENTATION AND LEADERSHIP WERE RECEIVED WITH ENTHUSIASM BY THE DEPARTMENTAL MANAGERS AND A LIVELY INTEREST WAS NOTICED THROUGHOUT THE SESSION, GORONGFEL SAID.

MRS. HARRIET WEINRICH, DISTRICT PERSONNEL OFFICER, INDICATED THAT THIS IS THE FIRST TIME IN THE HISTORY OF YAP THAT A HEADQUARTERS PERSONNEL OFFICIAL HAS CONDUCTED SUCH A COURSE IN THE DISTRICT. PEDRUS IS SCHEDULED TO DEPART FOR PALAU ON SATURDAY (MAY 11). THE COURSE CONCLUDED ON FRIDAY (MAY 10).

(SUOMI COLLEGE HONORS)

SAIPAN, MAY 10 (MNS)---SEVERAL MICRONESIAN STUDENTS ATTENDING SUOMI COLLEGE IN HANCOCK, MICHIGAN WERE HONORED IN CEREMONIES HELD RECENTLY. IN RECOGNITION OF THE WIDE-RANGING CONCERNS OF CAMPUS LIFE, AWARDS WERE GIVEN IN MANY FIELDS OF ACTIVITY.

HIGHLIGHTING THE AWARDS CEREMONY WERE TWO SPECIAL HONORS FOR ACADEMIC ACHIEVEMENT, AND THE NOMINATION TO "WHO'S WHO IN AMERICAN JUNIOR COLLEGES." THE SUOMI COLLEGE HONOR SOCIETY IS AN ORGANIZATION WHEREBY HIGH ACADEMIC STUDENTS IN THE FRESHMEN AND AND SOPHOMORE CLASSES ARE ELECTED BY THE FACULTY. THIS YEAR'S NEW MEMBERS FROM THE TT ARE DANIEL RESCUE, A FRESHMENT FROM TRUK DISTRICT; AND HIDEO TERHETEET, A SHOPHOMORE FROM PALAU DISTRICT.

TWO MICRONESIAN STUDENTS WERE ELECTED TO "WHO'S WHO IN AMERICAN JUNIOR COLLEGES." THEY ARE LORENZA PEDRO AND HIDEO TERHETEET, BOTH FROM PALAU DISTRICT. SEVERAL OTHER TRUST TERRITORY STUDENTS WERE RECOGNIZED FOR CHAMPIONSHIP PERFORMANCES IN INTRAMURAL SPORTS ACTIVITIES WHICH INCLUDE WOMEN'S AND MEN'S VOLLEY BALL TEAMS, BOULING, WATER POLO AND TABLE TENNIS.

"SUOMI COLLEGE IS PROUD OF THE ACADEMIC AND SOCIAL CONTRIBUTIONS WHICH STUDENTS FROM THE TRUST TERRITORY ARE MAKING TOWARD A FULFILLING AND CREATIVE CAMPUS LIFE STYLE," STATED A NEWS RELEASE FROM SUOMI COLLEGE.

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