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DE RUHGSAA #0459 1340810
ZNR UUUUU
P 140810Z MAY 74 ZNZ1
FM HICOMTERPACIS SAIPAN MARIANAS ISLANDS
TO ZEN/ALDISTADS TERPACIS
ZEN/TT LNO GUAM MARIANA ISLANDS
RUHHBAA/TT LNO KWAJALEIN MARSHALL ISLANDS
RUHNSAA/COMNAVMARIANAS GUAM MARIANAS ISLANDS
RUHNSAA/CINCPACREP GUAM/TTPI GUAM MARIANAS ISLANDS
RUHQHQA/CINCPAC HONOLULU HI
RUHJPBA/NAVINSERVO GUAM MARIANAS ISLANDS
RUWJAJA/COMTWELVE SAN FRANCISCO CA
RUEHC /SECSTATE WASHINGTON DC
RUEKJCS/SECDEF WASHINGTON DC
RUEKJCS/JCS WASHINGTON DC
RUENAAA/CNO WASHINGTON DC
RHHMBRA/CINCPACFLT MAKALAPA HI
RUHVAAA/CINCPACAF HICKAM AFB HI
RUHQHQÁ/CGFMFPAC PEARL HARBOR HI
RHHMBRA/COMCBPAC PEARL HARBOR HI
RULSSAA/COMNAVFACENGCOM ALEXANDRIA VA
RHHMBRA/PACNAVFACENGCOM PEARL HARBOR HI
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SECTION 01 OF 03
COMTWELVE PASS INFO FOR AMB WILLIAMS
SECSTATE PASS TO DEPT INT/SEC INTERIOR/DOIA OSN
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(MARSHALLS STATUS COMMISSION NAMED)

MAJURO, MAY 15 (MNS)---THE SPEAKER OF THE MARSHALL ISLANDS DISTRICT LEGISLATURE, THE NITIJELA, ATLAN ANIEN, ANNOUNCED IN MAJURO WEDNESDAY (MAY 15) THE OFFICIAL ESTABLISHMENT OF THE MARSHALL ISLANDS POLITICAL STATUS COMMISSION. ANIEN ALSO ANNOUNCED THE NAMES OF THE EIGHT MARSHALLESE WHO WILL SERVE ON THE COMMISSION.

IMPLEMENTATION OF DISTRICT LAW 20-34, WHICH WAS PASSED LAST YEAR AND PROVIDED FOR THE COMMISSION, WAS DELAYED DUE TO CERTAIN TECHNICAL FLAWS IN THE ORIGINAL LEGISLATION. THE NITIJELA CORRECTED THOSE DURING ITS SESSION LAST MONTH THROUGH AN AMENDMENT THAT BECAME DISTRICT LAW 21-1, PROVIDING FOR AN EIGHT-MEMBER COMMISSION WITH FOUR TO BE NAMED BY THE SPEAKER OF THE NITIJELA, TWO BY THE DISTRICT ADMINISTRATOR, AND TWO TO BE SELECTED FROM THE MARSHALLS DELEGATION TO THE CONGRESS OF MICRONESIA.

SPEAKER ANIEN ANNOUNCED THAT THE FOLLOWING PEOPLE WILL SERVE ON THE COMMISSION: IROIJ KABUA KABUA, IROIJI NAMO HERMIOS, IROIJ ALBERT LOEAK AND NITIJELA REPRESENTATIVE JINA LAVIN, ALL SELECTED BY THE SPEAKER; SENATOR AMATA KABUA AND REPRESENTATIVE ATAJI BALOS FROM THE CONGRESSIONAL DELEGATION; AND MARSHALLS DISTRICT DIRECTOR OF EDUCATION KINJA ANDRIKE AND DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC AFFAIRS TONY DEBRUM, APPOINTED BY DISTAD OSCAR DEBRUM

IROIJ KABUA KABUA IS THE PARAMOUNT IROIJ OF THE SOUTHERN MARSHALLS, CENTRAL MARSHALLS AND PORTIONS OF THE WESTERN MARSHALLS. IROIJI NAMO HERMIOS IS PARAMOUNT IROIJ OF THE NORTHERN MARSHALLS. AND IROIJI ALBERT LOEAK IS PARAMOUNT IROIJ OF THE CENTRAL MARSHALLS AND PORTIONS OF THE WESTERN MARSHALLS. JINA LAVIN REPRESENTS THE EASTERN MARSHALLS IN THE NITIJELA.

IN MAKING THE ANNOUNCEMENT OF THE STATUS COMMISSION'S FORMATION, SPEAKER ANIEN POINTED OUT THAT OF IMMEDIATE CONCERN TO THE COMMISSION AT THE PRESENT TIME, OTHER THAN ROUTINE ORGANIZATIONAL MATTER, WOULD BE INTENSIVE CONSULTATION WITH THE PEOPLE OF THE MARSHALLS ON EXACTLY WHAT THEIR ASPIRATIONS ARE IN TERMS OF POLITICAL STATUS FOR THE MARSHALLS. "THIS WILL MEAN PUBLIC MEETINGS WITH THE PEOPLE, NOT ONLY IN THE DISTRICT CENTERS BUT IN EACH AND EVERY ONE OF THE OUTER ISLANDS AND ATOLLS AS WELL," THE SPEAKER SAID.

THE COMMISSION IS EXPECTED TO HAVE ITS FIRST ORGANIZATIONAL MEETING BEFORE THE END OF THIS WEEK, AT WHICH

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TIME THE EIGHT MEMBERS WILL SELECT FROM AMONG THEMSELVES
A CHAIRMAN.

RECENT RESOLUTIONS OF THE NITIJELA HAVE MADE IT CLEAR
THAT A MAJORITY OF THE ELECTED LEADERS OF THE MARSHALLS ARE
MOVING THE DISTRICT TOWARD SEPARATE STATUS NEGOTIATIONS WITH
THE UNITED STATES. NITIJELA RESOLUTION 18, ADOPTED IN
MARCH, INFORMED THE UNITED NATIONS OF THAT INTENTION. A
LARGE NUMBER OF THE TRADITIONAL LEADERS IN THE MARSHALLS, THE
IROIJ, HAVE ALSO INDICATED THEIR SUPPORT FOR THE SEPARATIST
MOVES.

THUS FAR THERE HAS BEEN NO OFFICIAL REQUEST TO THE
UNITED STATES TO OPEN SEPARATE TALKS WITH THE MARSHALLS,
HOWEVER, AND THE UNITED STATES POSITION REMAINS ONE OF
HOPING THAT A SINGLE POLITICAL SOLUTION CAN BE WORKED OUT
FOR ALL OF THE PEOPLE OF THE MARSHALL AND CAROLINE ISLANDS.
(WILLIAMS OPTIMISTIC)

SAIPAN, MAY 15 (MNS)---THE HEAD OF AMERICA'S NEGOTIATING
TEAM IS OPTIMISTIC ABOUT THE ROUND OF TALKS ON THE FUTURE
POLITICAL STATUS OF THE NORTHERN MARIANAS WHICH BEGAN
WEDNESDAY (MAY 15) ON SAIPAN.

AMBASSADOR F. HAYON WILLIAMS SAID THIS WEEK THAT THE
QUESTION OF LAND WILL BE THE MAJOR ITEM ON THE AGENDA, ADDING:
"WHEN WE FINISH WITH THE LAND ISSUE, WE WILL HAVE GONE
THROUGH MOST IF NOT ALL OF THE MAJOR ITEMS IN THE NEGOTIATIONS."
THE AMBASSADOR SAID HE IS HOPEFUL THAT A DRAFT "COVENANT" OF
COMMONWEALTH FOR THE MARIANA ISLANDS DISTRICT WILL COME OUT
OF THE CURRENT ROUND OF TALKS, EXPECTED TO LAST THROUGH THE
END OF MAY.

THE TALKS BEGAN WITH A WORKING SESSION WEDNESDAY
MORNING AT THE CONTINENTAL HOTEL. THE USUAL OPENING PLENARY
SESSION THAT HAS MARKED THE START OF PREVIOUS ROUNDS OF
NEGOTIATIONS WAS NOT HELD THIS TIME, BOTH SIDES AGREEING
INSTEAD TO GET RIGHT TO WORK ON THE ISSUES FACING THEM.

"LAND IS CERTAINLY GOING TO BE A MAJOR ITEM," WILLIAMS
TOLD MNS DURING A LENGTHY INTERVIEW TUESDAY AFTERNOON. "WE
WILL BE RESUMING WHERE WE LEFT OFF IN DISCUSSING ARRANGEMENTS
FOR SATISFYING UNITED STATES LAND REQUIREMENTS IN THE
MARIANAS. WE WILL BE TAKING UP EMINENT DOMAIN, THE QUESTION
OF LAND ALIENATION, THE RETURN OF PUBLIC LANDS AND JUST
GENERALLY THIS WHOLE SUBJECT OF LAND...WE HOPE THAT OUT OF
THESE DISCUSSIONS WILL COME COMMITMENTS REGARDING U.S. LAND
REQUIREMENTS," THE AMBASSADOR SAID.

WILLIAMS MADE IT CLEAR THAT THE UNITED STATES INTENDS

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TO RETURN TO THE PUBLIC DOMAIN ALL LANDS FOR WHICH THERE IS NO IMMEDIATE NEED, INCLUDING THOSE PRESENTLY INCLUDED IN THE CATEGORY OF SO-CALLED "MILITARY RETENTION" LANDS. HE SAID THE AMERICAN REQUIREMENT FOR LAND ON TINIAN REMAINS AS PUBLICLY DESCRIBED LAST YEAR, WHEN IT WAS SAID THAT THE U.S. HOPES TO ACQUIRE ROUGHLY TWO-THIRDS OF THE ISLAND FOR A MAJOR MILITARY INSTALLATION.

ASKED ABOUT RECENT MOVES ON TINIAN TO RETAIN A LAW FIRM AND PREPARE A POSITION PAPER ON BEHALF OF THE PEOPLE OF TINIAN WHO OPPOSE THE U.S. LAND REQUIREMENTS THERE, AMBASSADOR WILLIAMS SAID: "THE UNITED STATES WILL CONTINUE TO NEGOTIATE WITH THE DULY-APPOINTED MARIANAS POLITICAL STATUS COMMISSION, WHICH INCLUDES TWO MEMBERS FROM TINIAN. I WOULD THINK THAT ANY GROUP IN THE MARIANAS CONCERNED WITH THE TALKS WOULD MAKE THEIR VOICES HEARD THROUGH THEIR MEMBERS ON THE STATUS COMMISSION."

THE AMBASSADOR ADDED THAT IN HIS VIEW THE MARIANAS COMMISSION HAS DONE AN EXCELLENT JOB OF PREPARING FOR THESE NEGOTIATIONS. "I REALLY DO THINK THAT THE MARIANAS COMMISSION HAS WORKED VERY HARD," HE STATED. "THE LEVEL OF THEIR PARTICIPATION AND THE SERIOUSNESS WITH WHICH THEY APPROACH THEIR TASK HAVE BEEN QUITE IMPRESSIVE."

TURNING TO THE QUESTION OF THE NEGOTIATIONS BETWEEN THE U.S. AND THE JOINT COMMITTEE ON FUTURE STATUS OF THE CONGRESS OF MICRONESIA, AMBASSADOR WILLIAMS SAID HE AND HIS DEPUTY, JAMES WILSON, WILL MEET ON SAIPAN IN MID-JUNE WITH

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