

(MICRONESIAN CLAIMS CHAIRMAN TERMINATED)

SAIPAN, MAY 29 (MNS)---THE CHAIRMAN OF THE MICRONESIAN CLAIMS COMMISSION, BEN. M. GREER, HAS BEEN NOTIFIED THAT HIS SERVICES WILL BE TERMINATED EFFECTIVE JULY 6. THE ACTION WAS TAKEN ABOUT TWO WEEKS AGO BY THE NEWLY-NAMED CHAIRMAN OF THE FOREIGN CLAIMS SETTLEMENT COMMISSION OF THE U.S., J. RAYMOND BELL. 1974 11

IN A LETTER TO SECRETARY OF THE INTERIOR ROGERS C.B. MORTON, THE LEADERSHIP OF THE CONGRESS OF MICRONESIA HAS CRITICIZED THE ACTION AND URGED THAT GREER BE RETAINED IN HIS POSITION UNTIL THE STATUTORY END OF THE MICRONESIAN CLAIMS PROGRAM ON OCTOBER 15, 1976.

MICRONESIAN NEWS SERVICE HAS LEARNED THAT GREER WAS GIVEN A TELEGRAM FROM BELL EARLIER THIS MONTH BY F.T. MASTERTSON, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF THE FOREIGN CLAIMS SETTLEMENT COMMISSION, IN WHICH BELL INFORMED GREER THAT HIS CURRENT EMPLOYMENT AGREEMENT WILL NOT BE RENEWED.

"I DO NOT KNOW THE REASONS," GREER SAID WEDNESDAY (MAY 29). "I HAVE NOT BEEN GIVEN ANY, EXCEPT THAT IT WAS INDICATED TO ME THAT THE CHAIRMAN (BELL) WANTED SOMEBODY ELSE TO FINISH THE PROGRAM."

GREER SAID IT WAS HIS UNDERSTANDING WHEN HE CAME TO MICRONESIA TWO YEARS AGO THAT HE WOULD COMPLETE THE PROGRAM, WHICH WAS BEGUN UNDER THE MICRONESIAN CLAIMS ACT OF 1971 PASSED BY THE U.S. CONGRESS. HE WAS APPOINTED CHAIRMAN OF THE PROGRAM BY LYLE S. GARLOCK, WHO WAS CHAIRMAN OF THE U.S. CLAIMS SETTLEMENT COMMISSION AT THE TIME. GARLOCK WAS REPLACED AS CHAIRMAN LAST NOVEMBER BY BELL.

GREER SAID HE HAS ASKED FOR AN EXTENSION OF SEVERAL MONTHS ON THE JULY 6 TERMINATION DATE, BUT HAS NOT RECEIVED ANY RESPONSE TO THAT REQUEST. HE ALSO SAID HE IS LOOKING INTO HIS RIGHTS AS A U.S. CIVIL SERVICE EMPLOYEE AS THEY MAY RELATE TO HIS APPOINTMENT AS CHAIRMAN OF THE MICRONESIAN CLAIMS COMMISSION. THE CLAIMS ACT OF 1971 SPECIFIES THAT THE MEMBERS OF THE MICRONESIAN CLAIMS COMMISSION SERVE AT THE PLEASURE OF THE CHAIRMAN OF THE FOREIGN CLAIMS SETTLEMENT COMMISSION OF THE U.S.

COMMENTING ON THE PLANNED REPLACEMENT OF GREER, SENATE PRESIDENT TOSIWO NAKAYAMA AND HOUSE SPEAKER BETHWEL HENRY TOLD SECRETARY MORTON: "IT IS OUR BELIEF THAT SUCH A MOVE IS BOTH UNWARRANTED AND UNWISE AS, REGRETTABLY, IT WOULD ADD YET ANOTHER UNNECESSARY AND COMPLICATING FACTOR TO THE CURRENT LIST OF PROBLEMS FACING MICRONESIA.

"THE BUSINESS OF THE MICRONESIAN CLAIMS COMMISSION HAS BEEN PROCEEDING SMOOTHLY AND WITHOUT FANFARE WITH MR. GREER ENJOYING THE SUPPORT OF THE MICRONESIAN COMMISSIONERS AS WELL AS THE CLAIMS STAFF. BECAUSE OF THIS, THE WORK OF THE COMMISSION IS NOT A MATTER OF CONTENTION AMONG MICRONESIANS WHICH IT SO EASILY COULD BE."

THE LETTER CONCLUDED: "WE WOULD LIKE TO RECOMMEND THAT MR. GREER BE CONTINUED IN HIS CAPACITY AS CHAIRMAN AND THAT HE BE SUPPORTED IN WASHINGTON SO THAT THIS SENSITIVE MATTER OF MICRONESIAN CLAIMS SETTLEMENT CAN BE CONTINUED WITHOUT UNNECESSARY DISTURBANCE AND COMMOTION."

COPIES OF THE LETTER WERE SENT TO SENATOR J. BENNET JOHNSTON, JR., OF LOUISIANA AND REPRESENTATIVE PHILIP BURTON, JR., OF CALIFORNIA, AS WELL AS TO BELL, DIRECTOR OF TERRITORIAL AFFAIRS STANLEY S. CARPENTER, AND TRUST TERRITORY HIGH COMMISSIONER EDWARD E. JOHNSTON. 08777

(ALL USERS: PLEASE CREDIT CONGRESS OF MICRONESIA)
(MORTON WILL PERMIT KUSAIE DISTRICT)

SAIPAN, MAY 29 (CONGRESS RELEASE)---THE SECRETARY OF THE DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR, ROGERS C.B. MORTON, HAS

RESPONDED FAVORABLY TO A CONGRESS OF MICRONESIA RESOLUTION WHICH REQUESTS THAT THE ISLAND OF KUSAIE BE ESTABLISHED AS A SEPARATE ADMINISTRATIVE DISTRICT WITHIN THE TRUST TERRITORY.

IN A LETTER RECEIVED WEDNESDAY (MAY 29) BY CONGRESS OF MICRONESIA CHIEF HOUSE CLERK ASTERIO TAKESY, MORTON SAID: "IT GIVES ME PLEASURE TO INFORM YOU THAT I PLAN TO HONOR THAT REQUEST;" CON, HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 39 WHICH WAS ADOPTED DURING THE PREVIOUS REGULAR SESSION OF THE CONGRESS.

HE CONTINUED: "WE ARE ALL AWARE THAT KUSAIE HAS UNIQUE SOLUTIONS FOR UNIQUE PROBLEMS."

SECRETARY MORTON NOTED THAT THE RESOLUTION TRANSMITTED TO HIM "SPECIFICALLY REQUESTS THAT SECRETARIAL ORDER NO. 2918 BE AMENDED TO EFFECT THE CHANGE." HE POINTED OUT THAT THE SECRETARIAL ORDER HAS BEEN MADE A PART OF THE DEPARTMENTAL MANUAL, "THUS CHANGES MADE WILL BE MADE IN THE FORM OF AN AMENDMENT TO THE MANUAL.

MORTON INDICATED: "THE OFFICIAL TEXT OF THE AMENDMENT HAS NOT YET BEEN DRAFTED." HE ASSURED THE CONGRESS THAT THE "NECESSARY LANGUAGE WILL BECOME EFFECTIVE WITH SUFFICIENT LEAD TIME TO INSURE A SMOOTH TRANSITION TO SEPARATE DISTRICT STATUS BY JANUARY 1, 1977." HIS LETTER CONCLUDED: "THE DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR IS PLEASED TO BE ABLE TO ACCOMMODATE THE WISHES OF THE PEOPLE OF KUSAIE."

KUSAIE ISLAND HAS A POPULATION OF ABOUT 3,989 PEOPLE. IT IS THE FOURTH LARGEST ISLAND IN MICRONESIA AND IS LOCATED APPROXIMATELY 395 MILES FROM THE DISTRICT CENTER IN PONAPE AND 400 MILES FROM MAJURO, THE DISTRICT CENTER OF THE MARSHALL ISLANDS.

(MOC ASKS ACCREDITATION)

PALAU, MAY 29(MNS)---THE MICRONESIAN OCCUPATIONAL CENTER IN KOROR, PALAU, HAS APPLIED FOR ACCREDITATION BY THE WESTERN ASSOCIATION OF JUNIOR COLLEGES, ACCORDING TO ASSISTANT DIRECTORS JOHN SHICKICH AND MIKE LITTLER. THE STORY WAS CARRIED IN WEDNESDAY'S (MAY 29) EDITION OF THE PACIFIC DAILY NEWS.

WITH ACCREDITATION, STUDENTS WILL BE ABLE TO TRANSFER CREDITS FOR COURSES TAKEN IN MOC TO OTHER ACCREDITED JUNIOR COLLEGES. CREDIT FROM MOC HAS BEEN ACCEPTED BY SEVERAL COMMUNITY COLLEGES ONLY IN HAWAII IN THE PAST, SAID EDUCATION SPECIALIST PHILLIP CUMMINS. THE EVALUATION IS EXPECTED NEXT SUMMER.

"THE EVALUATION IS A BIG STEP," SAID SHICKICH, "TO MEET CERTAIN STANDARDS IN FACILITIES, CURRICULUM AND TEACHER CERTIFICATION TO STAY ACCREDITED."

OF MAJOR IMPORT, CUMMINS SAID, IS THE ASSISTANCE MOC WILL RECEIVE FROM THE ACCREDITATION TEAM COMMITTEE IN THE STATES IN EXAMINING THE SCHOOL'S GOALS AND PROGRAMS "TO SEE IF WE'RE ACCOMPLISHING WHAT THE SCHOOL WAS SET UP FOR."

THE STAFF IS BEING UPGRADED, EIGHT NEW CLASSROOMS ARE OUT ON BID AND TWO NEW DORMITORIES ARE BEING CONSTRUCTED, THE DAILY NEWS REPORTED. UPON COMPLETION OF THIS WORK, THE STUDENT POPULATION OF 300 IS EXPECTED TO JUMP TO 450, SHICKICH SAID. THE SCHOOL'S TEACHING STAFF CONSISTS OF ABOUT 40 INSTRUCTORS.

FOR THE FIRST TIME SINCE THE OPENING OF THE SCHOOL IN 1969, THE SCHOOL IS ELIGIBLE FOR FEDERAL WORK-STUDY PROGRAM FUNDS WHICH WILL BE AVAILABLE IN SEPTEMBER. "WE HOPE TO RECEIVE \$55,000," LITTLER SAID.

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(PASTOR ON ROUND-THE WORLD FLIGHT)

YAP, MAY 29 (MNS)---A MISSIONARY WHO SERVES WITH THE GERMAN LIEBENZEL MISSION IN YAP DISTRICT IS CURRENTLY FLYING AROUND THE WORLD IN HIS OWN PLANE, WHICH HE HOPES TO PUT INTO SERVICE BETWEEN COLONIA AND THE OUTER ISLANDS OF YAP.

THE REVEREND EDMUND KALAU LEFT YAP EARLIER THIS MONTH TO PICK UP HIS AMERICAN-MANUFACTURED TWIN-ENGINE PLANE IN THE U.S. THE PLANE WAS DEDICATED AT SCHOOLEY'S MOUNTAIN, NEW JERSEY ON MAY 13, FOLLOWING WHICH REV. KALAU PLANNED TO FLY TO HIS NATIVE GERMANY, WHERE HE WOULD VISIT BREMEN, STUTGART AND HAMBURG. FROM GERMANY, HE WILL FLY ON JUNE 4 TO ITALY, THEN THROUGH ASIA TO THE PHILIPPINES, PALAU AND FINALLY TO YAP, ARRIVING IN ABOUT THE MIDDLE OF JUNE.

ACCOMPANYING REV. KALAU ON THE FLIGHT IS MORRIS PICKARD, A PILOT, MECHANIC AND PILOT TRAINER. THE PASTOR IS HIMSELF A FORMER FIGHTER PILOT WITH THE GERMAN AIR FORCE DURING WORLD WAR TWO.

ACCORDING TO YAP PUBLIC INFORMATION OFFICER WILFRED GORONGFEL, REV. KALAU IS BUILDING A HANGER FOR HIS PLANE AT THE YAP AIRFIELD, AND HOPES TO USE THE PLANE TO PROVIDE SERVICE TO YAP'S OUTER ISLANDS, ALTHOUGH AT THE PRESENT TIME MOST OF THESE ISLANDS LACK LANDING STRIPS OF ANY KIND.

(NEW CONSTRUCTION COMMODORE)

GUAM, MAY 29 (FROM THE DAILY NEWS)---U.S. NAVY CAPTAIN W.J. BURNS HAS BEEN NAMED THE 28TH COMMODORE OF THE 30TH NAVAL CONSTRUCTION REGIMENT (NCR) HOMEPORTED AT CAMP COVINGTON ON GUAM, ACCORDING TO A NEWS ACCOUNT IN WEDNESDAY'S PACIFIC DAILY NEWS.

THE 30TH NCR EXERCISES OPERATION CONTROL OF NAVAL CONSTRUCTION FORCE UNITS DEPLOYED THROUGHOUT THE WESTERN PACIFIC. UNITS PRESENTLY ARE DEPLOYED FROM ALASKA TO THE PHILIPPINES. CAPT. BURNS ALSO HAS OPERATIONAL CONTROL OF THE NAVY, ARMY AND AIR FORCE CIVIC ACTION TEAMS IN THE TRUST TERRITORY.

A GRADUATE OF NORTHEASTERN UNIVERSITY IN BOSTON WITH A DEGREE IN MECHANICAL ENGINEERING, CAPT. BURNS RECEIVED HIS COMMISSION FROM THE OFFICER CANDIDATE SCHOOL IN NEWPORT, R.I. IN 1960 HE RECEIVED HIS MASTER OF MECHANICAL ENGINEERING DEGREE FROM RENSSELAER POLYTECHNIC INSTITUTE IN TROY, NEW YORK.

(ELUGMAI TO ATTEND FISHERY TRAINING)

YAP, MAY 29 (MNS)---ACCORDING TO YAP PUBLIC INFORMATION OFFICER WILFRED GORONGFEL, LORENZO ELUGMAI FROM THE OUTER ISLANDS IN YAP HAS BEEN SELECTED TO ATTEND A FISHERY TRAINING PROGRAM AT SINGAPORE.

THE PROGRAM IS SPONSORED BY AN AGENCY OF THE UNITED NATIONS. ELUGMAI, WHO IS A GRADUATE OF THE OUTER ISLANDS HIGH SCHOOL IN YAP, ALSO SPENT A YEAR OF TRAINING IN FISHERY AT THE VAN CAMP COMPANY IN PALAU. HE LEFT YAP THIS WEEK FOR THE FISHERY TRAINING CENTER, CHANGI POINT, PRIMARY PRODUCTION DEPARTMENT IN SINGAPORE WHERE HE WILL SPEND ONE YEAR OF STUDY.

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