

Week in Review

SUMMARY OF NEWS OF THE TRUST TERRITORY OF THE PACIFIC ISLANDS
Prepared by Micronesian News Service

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NONVOTING CON CON DELEGATES SELECTED

Five of Micronesia's six districts had selected their nonvoting traditional delegates to the Constitutional Convention by last week. Only the Marshalls remains to choose their traditional representatives to the Convention.

The Constitutional Convention Law calls upon all "recognized paramount and traditional chiefs of each administrative district" to select from their group two nonvoting representatives. In any district without traditional leaders, the district legislature and the district administrator shall appoint one representative apiece.

The following traditional leaders have been selected: Chief Ibedul Gibbons and Chief Reklai Lomisang of Palau; Chief Joseph Luktun and Belarmino Hathey of Yap; Nanmwarki Max Iriarte and Naniken Heinrich Stephen from Ponape; and, Francisco T. Palacios and Fidel Mendiola from the Marianas.

Palacios and Mendiola were chosen by the Marianas District Administrator and District Legislature.

STATUS NEGOTIATIONS WILL MEET

Senator Lazarus Salii announced that he will meet with Ambassador Franklin Haydn Williams on Guam this week.

Salii, the chairman of the Congress of Micronesia's Joint Committee on Future Status, said that he and co-chairman Ekpap Silk will meet informally with Williams to discuss when the next formal round of negotiations will be held and other matters. Their talks are expected to last for the week.

Senate President Tosiwo Nakayama and Senator Floor Leader Ambilos Iehsi will also be present at the talks.

\$375,000 GIVEN FOR FISHERIES DEVELOPMENT

A \$375,000 grant from the U.S. government was awarded to the Pacific Islands Development Commission, it was announced last week. The grant, along with a matching one from the American tuna industry, will be used to develop a Pacific tuna fishing industry.

The fishing development program will include the introduction of modern trolling methods in Pacific island waters, and efforts to increase supplies of bait fish near home ports. Robert Schoning, director of the U.S. Fisheries Service, said that he is hopeful the program can begin this month.

Senator Hiram Fong of Hawaii first introduced legislation for such a grant in 1969.

The Commission membership includes the governors of Hawaii, Guam, American Samoa, and the High Commissioner of the Trust Territory.

SOVIET CRUISE SHIP MAY VISIT TT

A Soviet cruise ship carrying 700 Japanese tourists plans to visit Micronesia during August. The S.S. Fedor Shalayapin will be chartered by the Leisure Development Center of Japan to explore potential Pacific resort areas.

David Schiele, Deputy Status Liaison Officer, indicated last week that there is no opposition within the Trust Territory government to the proposed visit. Final approval for the voyage will depend upon review of formal application for an entry permit when it is received from the Center.

The 700 tourists, mostly Japanese businessmen, will also be acting as floating "guinea pigs" on the 16 day voyage. The information gathered by the Center will be used to help determine the needs of future sea going Japanese tourists. The 21,000 ton ship will offer cultural workshops, golf lessons, and exercise classes as part of a regimented vacation program. It will be staffed by a crew of 380.

The tentative tour schedule will take the ship from Yokohama, Japan, to Guam, Rabaul, New Guinea, and then on to Truk and Saipan. The ship will arrive at Truk on August 22nd for a one day stopover. It will reach Saipan on the 25th and leave the next day for Yokohama.

BABY BOOM WANTED IN YAP

James Mangafel says he wants more babies. Mangafel, a member of Yap's District Legislature, introduced a resolution calling upon "all parents, boys and girls of child-bearing age in (Yap) ...to do everything within their power and ability to increase the population of Yap."

The Yap legislator is concerned that Yap's small population makes that district weaker politically than the other five Trust Territory districts. Yap, which has the smallest population in Micronesia, has almost 8,000 people. Truk, in comparison, has over 31,000. The Marianas, the second smallest district in terms of population, has just over 13,000 people.

Mangafel's resolution said that a Yapese baby boom would "enhance our political power and influence in Micronesia and increase the economic and social capacity of this district for growth and development."

EDUCATION DEPARTMENT RECEIVES TRAINING GRANT

The Trust Territory Education Department received last week a grant for almost \$40,000 to train Micronesian bi-lingual teachers. Marcellino Umwech, TT English Program Supervisor, said that the money will be used to "improve the competency of Micronesian teachers in the area of bi-lingual education."

30 Micronesian teachers will be sent to the University of Hawaii for a year long training program. More emphasis, Umwech indicated, will be placed on the reading aspect of bi-lingual teaching. Teachers are now being recruited, he said, and the program should begin in January.

BRIEFLY, HERE ARE SOME OTHER ITEMS THAT MADE NEWS IN THE TRUST TERRITORY LAST WEEK:

State Department Liaison Officer Mary Vance Trent completed her two year tour in Micronesia last week. She said "Micronesia has given me a gift of beauty that I shall always treasure."

The Australian High Commissioner to Nauru, Mr. L. G. Sellars, will visit Micronesia this month. His official visit will take him to Yap, Palau, and Saipan during the middle of the month.

Dean Murray Schwartz of the U.C.L.A. Law School will arrive on Saipan this week to meet with TT officials and U.C.L.A. law interns.

168 new Peace Corps Volunteers began training at seven different sites throughout Micronesia last week.

Truk District Administrator Juan Sablan said in his "State of the District" message last week that progress in the district during the past year "would not have been possible without the complete support of the legislature and its standing committees."

Four Federal Housing Authority officials will attend a TT Housing workshop on Ponape this week.

Three of Truk's best farmers ended a 10 day inspection tour of the Marianas last week.

Deak & Co., Inc., a foreign currency exchange firm, and Mid-Pac Micronesia, Inc., a heavy equipment and parts servicing company, applied for foreign business investors permits last week.

Dr. Masao Korean, a dental officer at the Ishoda Hospital in Majuro, received a license to practice medicine and surgery last week.

Stanley Carpenter, Director of Territorial Affairs, sent former TT Program and Budget Officer William Oyler a special letter of praise for his service to the TT, it was announced last week.