

(AIRPORT CONCESSION AWARDED)

SAIPAN, JULY 9 (MNS) ~~74~~ INTERNATIONAL SHOPPERS LIMITED, A GUAM-BASED FIRM, HAS BEEN SELECTED AS THE BEST OVER ALL BIDDER FOR THE CONSTRUCTION OF THE PRIME CONCESSION AT THE NEW SAIPAN INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT.

INTERNATIONAL SHOPPERS' BID, THE HIGHEST OF THREE WAS \$5,000,000 IN A PREPAID MINIMUM CONCESSION FEE, INCLUDING THE HIGHEST MINIMUM IMPROVEMENT COST BID AT \$400,000.

OTHER BIDDERS INCLUDED SAIPAN MAYOR VICENTE D. SABLAN AND SAIPAN DUTY-FREE SHOPS LIMITED.

THE PRIME CONCESSION WILL INCLUDE A DUTY FREE SHOP, A COFFEE SHOP, AND A COCKTAIL LOUNGE.

IN A PREPARED STATEMENT, MARIANAS DISTRICT ADMINISTRATOR FRANCISCO C. ADA SAID, "WE HAVE CONSIDERED ALL ASPECTS OF THIS MOST IMPORTANT VENTURE AND THE OVERWHELMING RESULTS WERE FOR ME TO RECOMMEND THAT THE BEST OVER-ALL BID WAS THAT OF INTERNATIONAL SHOPPERS LIMITED."

ADA'S RECOMMENDATION, ALONG WITH AN ANALYSIS BY AIRPORT CONSULTANT LEIGH FISHER, WERE FORWARDED TO HIGH COMMISSIONER EDWARD JOHNSTON FOR HIS REVIEW.

"THE HIGH COMMISSIONER," ADA CONTINUED, "NOTIFIED ME ON TUESDAY, JULY 2ND, THAT HE HAD MADE HIS DECISION TO SELECT INTERNATIONAL SHOPPERS LIMITED." THE HIGH COMMISSIONER SIGNED THE FOREIGN BUSINESS PERMIT FOR INTERNATIONAL SHOPPERS.

ACCORDING TO ADDISON MARROW, MARIANAS PROGRAM AND BUDGET OFFICER, THERE WERE SEVERAL ITEMS WHICH WERE CONSIDERED TO DETERMINE THE BEST BID. THEY WERE EXPERIENCE, MANAGEMENT AND MERCHANDISING STAFF, MARKETING PROGRAM, PLANS FOR TENANT IMPROVEMENTS, THE HIGHEST PREPAID MINIMUM CONCESSION FEE, AND THE HIGHEST MINIMUM IMPROVEMENT COST.

"AS FAR AS WE ARE CONCERNED," MARROW SAID, "THE BEST BID IS INTERNATIONAL SHOPPERS, ANY WAY YOU LOOK AT IT."

MARROW SAID THAT THE TOTAL COST OF CONSTRUCTING THE TERMINAL AND ITS ASSOCIATED STRUCTURES WILL BE \$5,000,000.

"THAT WAS ONE OF THE REASONS THAT WE NEEDED THE MONEY-FOR THE BID WE TOOK," HE SAID. "IT WAS ALMOST IMPOSSIBLE TO GO TO ANY OTHER BID BECAUSE THIS ONE WOULD END UP WRITING ITSELF OUT."

THERE HAS BEEN SOME CONTROVERSY REGARDING ADDITIONAL OFFERS SUBMITTED BY SAIPAN DUTY FREE SHOPS, LTD., MARROW SAID. JOETEN ENTERPRISES AND THE NAURU GOVERNMENT WERE THE JOINT SPONSORS OF SAIPAN DUTY FREE SHOPS. IN THEIR BID, THEY ATTACHED ADDITIONAL BIDS TO THE MAIN FORM. THIS WAS CONTRARY TO THE INSTRUCTIONS GIVEN BY THE GOVERNMENT.

"WE KEPT THEM IN," MARROW SAID, "BECAUSE THEY ARE A LOCAL COMPANY. AND," HE NOTED, "THE BIDDING INSTRUCTIONS ALSO SAID THAT THE DISTAD COULD AMEND THESE REGULATIONS AT HIS DISCRETION."

WHEN ANALYZED BY FISHER, JOETEN'S TOTAL BID CAME TO \$5,915,000. INTERNATIONAL SHOPPERS TOTAL BID, MARROW SAID, WAS FOR \$7,300,000. SUPPORTERS OF THE JOETEN/NAURU BID HAD SAID THAT THEIR BID WAS THE HIGHEST.

"THE MICRONESIAN PEOPLE AS A WHOLE," MARROW POINTED OUT, "ARE GOING TO BENEFIT MOST BY THE GREATEST AMOUNT OF MONEY WE CAN GET. IT IS GOING TO KEEP THEM," HE CONTINUED, "FROM PUTTING THEIR CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT MONEY INTO THE AIRPORT. WE CAN SPEND IT ON SCHOOLS, HOSPITALS AND OTHER VALUABLE SERVICES."

INTERNATIONAL SHOPPERS OPERATE DUTY FREE CONCESSIONS IN SWEDEN, SAN FRANCISCO, HONOLULU, AND GUAM.

THE NEXT STEP INTERNATIONAL SHOPPERS FACE, MARROW SAID, WILL BE TO PROVIDE \$4,800,000 AS A BALANCE ON THEIR BID TO THE GOVERNMENT. HE INDICATED THAT A CHEQUE FOR THAT AMOUNT

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WILL BE GIVEN BY THE END OF THE WEEK.

MARROW SAID THAT THE MONEY WILL BE PLACED IN AN ESCROW ACCOUNT IN THE SAIPAN BRANCH OF THE BANK OF AMERICA.

THE BIDS FOR THE CONSTRUCTION OF THE PRIME CONCESSION BUILDINGS ARE EXPECTED TO BE OPENED IN OCTOBER. THE TERMINAL FACILITIES, SAID MARROW, ARE EXPECTED TO BE COMPLETED BY JUNE, 1976.

(ESG PEACESAT CONFERENCE)

SAIPAN, JULY 9 (MNS)---MEMBERS OF THE HEADQUARTERS EDUCATION FOR SELF-GOVERNMENT TASK FORCE ARE PLANNING A LONG-DISTANCE DISCUSSION BY SATELLITE TO THE COOK ISLANDS LATER THIS MONTH. TASK FORCE MEMBERS HOPE TO DISCUSS THE POLITICAL RELATIONSHIP OF THE COOK ISLANDS IN FREE ASSOCIATION WITH NEW ZEALAND, IN A PROGRAM DESIGNED TO GAIN FURTHER INSIGHT INTO THIS POLITICAL STATUS AND TO GATHER MATERIAL FOR POSSIBLE USE IN THE TRUST TERRITORY ESG EFFORT.

ACCORDING TO PEACESAT COORDINATOR GEORGE CALLISON, THE PREMIER OF THE COOK ISLANDS, SIR ALBER HENRY, IS SCHEDULED TO TAKE PART IN THE DISCUSSION AT THE RAROTONGA PEACESAT TERMINAL ON MONDAY, AUGUST 5. HE POINTED OUT THAT WHILE THERE ARE SOME MARKED DIFFERENCES IN THE FREE ASSOCIATION ARRANGEMENT WHICH THE COOK ISLANDS HAVE WITH NEW ZEALAND WHEN COMPARED WITH THE FREE ASSOCIATION RELATIONSHIP NOW UNDER DISCUSSION BETWEEN FIVE OF MICRONESIA'S DISTRICTS AND THE UNITED STATES, THE POLITICAL STATUS DISCUSSION SHOULD DEVELOP SOME VALUABLE INFORMATION FOR MICRONESIA'S ESG PROGRAM.

IT IS EXPECTED THAT SEVERAL MEMBERS OF THE CONGRESS OF MICRONESIA WILL ALSO PARTICIPATE IN THE DISCUSSION.

(RUSTPROOFERS APPLY, FISHERMAN REJECTED)

SAIPAN, JULY 9 (MNS)---A CAR RUSTPROOFING FIRM HAS APPLIED FOR A FOREIGN INVESTORS BUSINESS PERMIT, WHILE AN APPLICATION FOR A PROPOSED YAP BASED FISHING INDUSTRY HAS BEEN REJECTED, ACCORDING TO THE ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT DIVISION OF THE DEPARTMENT OF RESOURCES AND DEVELOPMENT.

THE MARIANAS AUTOMOTIVE CLINIC, INC., HAS APPLIED TO OFFER CAR RUSTPROOFING SERVICES ON SAIPAN. THEIR LOCAL AGENT IS DANIEL L. CAMACHO. THEIR APPLICATION HAS BEEN FORWARDED TO THE MARIANAS DISTRICT ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT BOARD.

THE YAP BOARD HAS REJECTED THE APPLICATION OF GUNTHER W. MOTHE AND COMPANY. THEY APPLIED FOR A PERMIT TO START A FISHING INDUSTRY IN YAP.

MOTHE AND CO. WAS GRANTED A SIMILAR PERMIT IN 1971, BUT IT WAS REVOKED LAST YEAR AFTER THEY FAILED TO IMPLEMENT THEIR FISHING COMPANY THEN.

THE YAP ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT BOARD, WITH THE CONCURRENCE OF THE HIGH COMMISSIONER, STATED THAT THE YAP FISHERIES PROGRAM WILL SOON PROVIDE THE SAME SERVICES PROPOSED BY MOTHE AND CO.

(INCOME TAX TIME AGAIN)

SAIPAN, JULY 9 (MNS)--- THE CHIEF OF THE REVENUE DIVISION, JESUS P. MAFNAS, ANNOUNCED TUESDAY (JULY 9) THAT SECOND QUARTER TAX RETURNS SHOULD BE FILED NO LATER THAN JULY 31ST. THE SECOND QUARTER PERIOD WAS FROM APRIL 1ST TO JUNE 30TH.

"ALL BUSINESS, EMPLOYERS AND INDIVIDUALS," MAFNAS SAID, "THAT CANNOT MEET THE JULY 31 DEADLINE MUST REQUEST IN WRITING FOR EXTENSION" TO HIM.

(NOTE TO EDITORS AND NEWS DIRECTORS: MNS ERRED IN YESTERDAY'S

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STORY ABOUT THE MICRONESIA DAY PROCLAMATION IN SAYING THAT
THE HOLIDAY WAS TO BE ON THURSDAY, JULY 12. THAT DATE FALLS
ON FRIDAY, NOT THURSDAY. PLEASE CORRECT THIS ERROR IF THERE
IS ANY FURTHER USE OF THIS STORY.)

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