

(SPECIAL SESSION CONTINUES)

SAIPAN, AUGUST 6 (MNS) ⁷⁴ MEETING ON WHAT WAS TO HAVE BEEN THE FINAL DAY OF THEIR 15-DAY SPECIAL SESSION TUESDAY (AUG. 6), CONGRESS OF MICRONESIA MEMBERS WERE TOLD OFFICIALLY THAT HIGH COMMISSIONER JOHNSTON HAS GRANTED THEIR REQUEST FOR AN EXTRA THREE DAYS, MEANING THE SESSION WILL NOT END UNTIL FRIDAY AT MIDNIGHT.

THE HICOM TOOK THE ACTION LATE MONDAY AFTERNOON, GIVING THE LAWMAKERS MORE TIME TO CONSIDER THE SEVERAL COMPLICATED AND LENGTHY PIECES OF LEGISLATION STILL PENDING IN THE AREAS OF DRUG CONHRO, AMENDMENTS TO THE CONSTITUTIONAL CONVENTION, SALARY PLAN REFORM AND THE RETURN OF PUBLIC LANDS.

BOTH HOUSES MET TUESDAY MORNING TO DEAL WITH A NUMBER OF MEASURES ON FINAL READING, AND THEN ADJOURNED UNTIL WEDNESDAY MORNING TO ENABLE COMMITTEES TO CONTINUE THEIR WORK.

IN THE SENATE A BILL THAT WOULD AMEND THE PRESENT GOVERNMENT WORKERS SALARY PLAN TO PROVIDE FOR CERTAIN INCENTIVES FOR LOCAL-HIRE AND THIRD COUNTRY NATIONAL WORKERS PROVED TO BE THE MOST TROUBLESOME. THE MEASURE (SB 348) HAS THE SUPPORT OF THE ADMINISTRATION, WHICH CONTENTS THAT MANY BADLY NEEDED EMPLOYEES WHO FALL INTO THESE CATEGORIES MAY BE LOST TO THE GOVERNMENT UNLESS SOMETHING IS DONE TO IMPROVE THEIR SALARY SITUATION. UNDER PRESENT LAW WORKERS IN SUCH CATEGORIES ARE FINDING THEIR SALARIES PROGRESSIVELY REDUCED.

SENATOR ANDON AMARAICH (TRUK), CHAIRMAN OF THE JUDICIARY AND GOVERNMENTAL OPERATIONS COMMITTEE WHICH CONSIDERED THE BILL, SAID HE COULD NOT GO ALONG WITH IT, POINTING OUT THAT TO PASS IT WOULD MEAN THE REVERSAL OF CERTAIN PRINCIPLES ADOPTED BY THE CONGRESS OF MICRONESIA JUST TWO YEARS AGO. HE INDICATED HE WAS UNCONVINCED BY THE ADMINISTRATION ARGUMENTS IN SUPPORT OF THE MEASURE, AND SAID FOR THE FIRST TIME IN HIS TENURE AS COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN HE HAS SIGNED A REPORT WITH THE NOTATION THAT HE DOES NOT CONCUR WITH IT. HIS COLLEAGUE FROM PONAPE, SENATOR AMBILOS IEHSI, ALSO SAID HE FOUND HIMSELF "IN A BIND" ON THE BILL, NOTING THAT HE HAS SOME RESERVATIONS ABOUT THE WAY THE LEGISLATION WAS HANDLED. HE INDICATED HIS FEELING THAT THE DEPARTMENTS CONCERNED, PRIMARILY THE EDUCATION AND HEALTH SERVICES DEPARTMENTS, DID NOT MAKE ANY "SERIOUS ATTEMPT" TO REPLACE THEIR EXPATRIATE LOCAL HIRE AND THIRD COUNTRY NATIONAL EMPLOYEES WITH MICRONESIANS.

WITH FOUR SENATORS EXCUSED FROM THE SESSION, VOTING ON THE MEASURE WAS CLOSE. ON THE FIRST ROLL CALL, SIX SENATORS EITHER VOTED "AYE" OR ABSTAINED TWICE--WHICH IS COUNTED AS AN AFFIRMATIVE VOTE--WHILE TWO, SENATORS AMARAICH AND OLYMPIO BORJA (MARIANAS), VOTED NO. UNDER THE RULES OF THE SENATE THE BILL, HAVING FAILED TO GAIN THE NECESSARY MAJORITY VOTE OF THE MEMBERSHIP, WAS THEREFORE DECLARED TO HAVE FAILED.

A MOTION TO RECONSIDER CARRIED, ONE OF THE MISSING SENATORS ENTERED THE CHAMBER, AND AT THE END OF THE DAY'S CALENDAR THE BILL WAS AGAIN PUT TO A VOTE. THIS TIME SENATORS AMARAICH AND BORJA REVERSED THEIR NEGATIVE POSITIONS AND THE BILL CARRIED, WITH ONLY SENATOR TOSIVO NAKAYAMA, WHO WAS NOT PRESENT FOR THE FIRST VOTE, VOTING IN THE NEGATIVE. THE BILL NOW GOES TO THE HOUSE FOR FURTHER CONSIDERATION.

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THREE OTHER BILLS WERE PASSED BY THE SENATE TUESDAY ON FINAL READING. THEY ARE ALL APPROPRIATION BILLS, AS FOLLOWS: \$350,000 FOR VARIOUS PUBLIC PROJECTS IN PONAPE DISTRICT (SB 330); \$350,000 FOR PALAU DISTRICT (SB 361); AND \$348,000 FOR THE MARIANA ISLANDS DISTRICT (SB 365). ALL THREE NOW GO TO THE HOUSE FOR FURTHER ACTION.

ON THE RESOLUTION CALENDAR, THE SENATORS ADOPTED A JOINT RESOLUTION FROM THE HOUSE COMMENDING U.S. CONGRESSWOMAN JULIA BUTLER HANSEN FOR HER WORK ON BEHALF OF THE PEOPLE OF MICRONESIA, AND CONGRATULATING HER ON HER RETIREMENT (HJR 151).

HOUSE MEMBERS ALSO CONCERNED THEMSELVES WITH APPROPRIATION BILLS TUESDAY, PASSING THREE ON FINAL READING AND SENDING THEM TO THE SENATE. THEY ARE: \$357,000 FOR VARIOUS PUBLIC PROJECTS IN THE MARIANAS DISTRICT (HB 360); \$239,000 FOR COMPLETION OF TWO PROJECTS IN THE MARSHALLS DISTRICT (HB 266); AND \$88,000 FOR THE PURCHASE OF FOUR SCHOOL BUSES FOR MAJURO, IN THE MARSHALLS DISTRICT (HB 271).

A SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION URGING THE UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT TO CONTINUE FUNDING THE MICRONESIAN LEGAL SERVICES CORPORATION UNTIL THE TERMINATION OF THE TRUSTEESHIP AGREEMENT (SJR 124) WAS ALSO ADOPTED, THUS COMPLETING CONGRESSIONAL ACTION ON THE MEASURE.

ALSO ADOPTED WAS A RESOLUTION REQUESTING THE MARIANAS DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION TO EXPEDITE IMPLEMENTATION OF ITS MILK PRODUCTION PROJECT ON THE ISLAND OF TILIAN, AND REQUESTING THE AGRICULTURE DIVISION OF THE TT GOVERNMENT TO CONDUCT A STUDY OF THE PROJECT TO BETTER FACILITATE ITS OPERATION (HJR 140). THE MEASURE NOW GOES TO THE SENATE.

NO NEW MEASURES WERE INTRODUCED IN THE HOUSE TUESDAY, BUT IN THE SENATE TWO JOINT RESOLUTIONS AND A BILL WERE OFFERED. THE BILL WOULD ADD AN ADDITIONAL \$120,000 APPROPRIATION TO THE CONSTITUTIONAL CONVENTION LAW, AND ALLOCATE THE MONEY TO THE DISTRICT LEGISLATURES FOR APPROPRIATION (SB 372). ONE OF THE RESOLUTIONS WOULD AUTHORIZE THE HIGH COMMISSIONER TO ACCEPT FROM THE FEDERAL AVIATION ADMINISTRATION A GRANT OFFER FOR THE DEVELOPMENT OF A MASTER PLAN FOR AN AIRPORT ON KUSAIE (SJR 133). THE OTHER ASKS THE HICOM TO DEVELOP A HEALTH INSURANCE PROGRAM FOR THE TT, AND PROPOSE LEGISLATION TO THAT EFFECT (SJR 132).

(ALL USERS PLEASE CREDIT THE CONGRESS OF MICRONESIA)
(BORJA ON ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT)

SAIPAN, AUGUST 6 (CONGRESS RELEASE) ---A THIRD SPEECH ON ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT MATTERS WAS DELIVERED TUESDAY IN THE SENATE BY SENATOR OLYMPIO T. BORJA.

THE MARIANAS SENATOR, REFERRING TO THE "BANANA SPEECH" OF SENATOR MANGEFEL THE PREVIOUS DAY, SAID THAT THIS WOULD BE "A COMPLEMENT OF MANGEFEL'S REMARKS: LET'S CALL IT MY 'COCONUT SPEECH.'"

SAYING THAT "THERE IS NO WAY THAT WE IN MICRONESIA WILL HAVE A SECURE POLITICAL STATUS IN THE FUTURE, IF WE DO NOT HAVE A SECURE AND STABLE ECONOMY," BORJA SPOKE OF SEVERAL AREAS WHICH NEEDED EMPHASIS, INCLUDING A MINIMUM WAGE, TRANSPORTATION, COPRA AND FOREIGN INVESTMENT.

ON THE MINIMUM WAGE SENATOR BORJA SAID THAT SENATE BILL NO. 358 WAS "VERY IMPROTANT." THIS BILL WOULD CREATE A COMMISSION ON MINIMUM WAGES AND MAKE RECOMMENDATIONS TO THE CONGRESS.

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"IT IS A FACT THAT SINCE 1971--DESPITE AN INCREASING RISE IN THE COST OF LIVING--THE MINIMUM GOVERNMENT WAGE HAS REMAINED UNCHANGED. IN EFFECT, THE BUYING POWER OF ALL WORKERS HAS BEEN CUT BY ABOUT 30 TO 50 PERCENT BECAUSE OF INCREASED COST OF GOODS" AND HAS "AFFECTED THOSE PEOPLE AT THE LOWEST LEVELS OF THE PAY SCALE THE MOST."

RELATED TO THE COST OF LIVING ISSUE, HE SAID WAS SHIPPING COSTS FOR GOODS IMPORTED INTO MICRONESIA.

"I STRONGLY FEEL THAT MORE STUDY AND MORE IMPROVEMENTS CAN BE MADE IN ORDER TO REDUCE SHIPPING COSTS FOR OUR CONSUMERS AND THUS...ASSIST THOSE CONSUMERS ON THE LOWER END OF OUR WAGE SCALE," HE SAID.

"CERTAINLY IT IS MANDATORY AS A PART OF SUCH A PLAN TO IMPROVE THE GOVERNMENT MUST IMPROVE BOTH PORT FACILITIES AND WAREHOUSING CONDITIONS IN ALL OF THE DISTRICTS." HE ADDED.

LAUNCHING INTO THE "COCONUT" PART OF HIS SPEECH, HE SAID THAT THERE WAS A "NEED TO REEVALUATE THE WAY IN WHICH MICRONESIAN COPRA IS SOLD ON THE WORLD MARKETS TODAY."

SOME 20 YEARS AGO, WHEN WE DID NOT KNOW HOW TO MARKET COPRA OR WHERE TO FIND MARKETS, IT MADE SENSE TO PAY FEES TO A MIDDLEMAN AND TO MAINTAIN A COPRA STABILIZATION BOARD TO ASSIST US IN MARKETING COPRA," HE STATED.

HE NOTED THAT TIMES HAD CHANGED, AND THAT IT WAS NOW "SENSIBLE" TO LET THE DISTRICTS HANDLE THEIR OWN COPRA MARKETING AS OUTLINED IN SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 126 AND 127.

"AT PRESENT, DESPITE THE HIGH PRICES, WHICH RANGE FROM \$600 TO \$700 A METRIC TON, OUR PRODUCERS ARE ONLY RECEIVING ABOUT 35 PERCENT OF THIS AMOUNT; AT \$252 A METRIC TON, WITH THE REMAINDER BEING EATEN UP BY THE COPRA STABILIZATION FUND AND THE UNITED MICRONESIA DEVELOPMENT ASSOCIATION," HE CONTINUED.

HE POINTED OUT THAT THE STABILIZATION FUND NOW HAD SOME \$2 MILLION IN RESERVE, BUT THAT AN INCREASED PERCENTAGE OF PROFIT WAS NOT BEING PASSED ON TO THE PRODUCER.

"IT ONLY MAKES SENSE THAT THE DISTRICTS SHOULD BEGIN HANDLING THEIR OWN MARKETING SO THAT IDEALLY 75 TO 80 PERCENT...CAN BE RECEIVED BY THE HARD-WORKING COPRA MAKER," HE REMARKED.

SENATOR BORJA CLOSED BY SAYING ANOTHER AREA WHICH MERITS THE CONGRESS' CONCERN WAS THAT OF FOREIGN INVESTMENT, AND THAT SENATE BILL NO. 277 WHICH WOULD GIVE GREATER CONTROL AND AUTHORITY TO THE DISTRICT ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT BOARDS WAS IMPORTANT SINCE A NEW POLICY WAS ANNOUNCED BY THE SECRETARY OF THE INTERIOR. UNFORTUNATELY, HE NOTED THIS AREA WAS NOT INCLUDED IN THE CALL, BUT HE URGED THAT IT SHOULD BE "A PRIORITY ITEM FOR ACTION BY THE SIXTH CONGRESS OF MICRONESIA.

"THESE ARE MY SENTIMENTS ON THESE PARTICULAR ISSUES, MR. PRESIDENT AND IT IS MY HOPE THAT THE CONGRESS WILL ACT FAVORABLY ON THEM AS IS APPROPRIATE WITH OUR RESPONSIBILITIES," HE CONCLUDED.

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(CALL USERS: PLEASE CREDIT CONGRESS OF MICRONESIA)
(PEDRO SPEAKS ON MARIJUANA)

SAIPAN, AUGUST 6 (CONGRESS RELEASE)---REPRESENTATIVE TARKONG PEDRO OF PALAU URGED THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES TUESDAY TO ADOPT LEGISLATION TO CONTROL THE USE OF MARIJUANA IN A SPEECH IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

ARGUING THAT WIDESPREAD USE OF THE SUBSTANCE MIGHT MAKE MICRONESIA A "HAVEN" FOR MARIJUANA USERS, CONGRESSMAN PEDRO SAID SUCH OUTSIDE INFLUENCES "AT A TIME WHEN MICRONESIA IS STRIVING TO BUILD A NEW NATION" COULD BE DETRIMENTAL TO DEVELOPMENT.

"I THINK THIS SHOULD BE OUR PRIME CONCERN WHEN STUDYING HOUSE BILL 359," THE CONTROLLED SUBSTANCES ACT HE SAID. "AN INFLUX OF FOREIGNERS COMING TO OUR ISLANDS JUST TO SMOKE THIS CONTROVERSIAL 'WEED,' AS ALREADY PROVEN IN SEVERAL OTHER ASIAN COUNTRIES, INEVITABLY PRODUCES PROBLEMS," PEDRO NOTED. HE SAID, FOR EXAMPLE, THAT NEPAL HAS ENACTED STRONG IMMIGRATION RESTRICTIONS AFTER HAVING TO DEPORT MANY PERSONS CONSIDERED UNDESIRABLE, AND THAT DEVELOPING COUNTRIES IN AFRICA HAVE EVEN GONE AS FAR AS TO RESTRICT THE IMPORTATION OF ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES BY IMPOSING HIGH TAXES.

THE PALAU REPRESENTATIVE ALSO EXPRESSED CONCERN OVER THE EFFECTS CONTINUED LEGALIZATION MIGHT HAVE ON MICRONESIANS CUSTOMS, SOCIETY AND LIFE STYLE IN GENERAL.

"SOME WITNESSES THAT HAVE APPEARED BEFORE OUR COMMITTEE HAVE ARGUED IN FAVOR OF LEGALIZATION STRESSING THE CIVIL LIBERTIES ASPECT OF STRICT LAW ENFORCEMENT," HOWEVER, REP. PEDRO SAID THESE MAY "INDEED BE VALID ARGUMENTS IN A BIG, MODERN COUNTRY AS THE UNITED STATES. BUT ON THE OTHER HAND," HE NOTED, "THIS IS MICRONESIA, AND THIS IS A SMALL UNDEVELOPED NATION TRYING TO PULL ITS POLITICAL, ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL STRUCTURES TOGETHER. OUR CLANS AND TRADITIONAL FAMILY STRUCTURES," HE ARGUED, "DETERMINE FOR THE MOST PART, OUR OWN WAYS OF DOING THINGS, INCLUDING WHAT WE ARE AT LIBERTY TO DO AND WHAT NOT TO DO."

IN CLOSING, CONGRESSMAN PEDRO TOLD THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES: "LET'S DEVOTE OUR EFFORTS TOWARDS 'FREEING MICRONESIA,' NOT MARIJUANA," HE SAID. "I SAY NATION-BUILDING IS THE ULTIMATE AIM OF THIS CONGRESS AND I WILL NOT VOTE FOR ANY MEASURE, HARMLESS OR OTHERWISE, WHICH COULD POSSIBLY HOLD US BACK IN ACCOMPLISHING THIS TASK."

(COPRA PRICE UP 150 PERCENT)

SAIPAN, AUGUST 6 (MNS)---IN A SPECIAL MEETING OF THE COPRA STABILIZATION BOARD, HELD ON SAIPAN, MONDAY (AUGUST 5), THE BOARD MEMBERS VOTED TO INCREASE THE PRICE PAID TO COPRA PRODUCERS TO AN ALL TIME HIGH. ACCORDING TO EUSEBIO RECHUCHER, CHAIRMAN OF THE COPRA STABILIZATION BOARD AND DIRECTOR OF RESOURCES AND DEVELOPMENT, THE INCREASE WILL BE THE HIGHEST LEVEL PAID FOR COPRA SINCE 1950, AND RAISES THE PRESENT PRICE PAID FOR ONE SHORT TON OF COPRA OVER 150 PERCENT.

THE NEW PRICES WHICH WILL TAKE EFFECT AUGUST 19 ARE AS FOLLOWS: FOR COPRA DELIVERED TO THE DISTRICT CENTERS, \$400 FOR GRADE ONE, \$390 FOR GRADE TWO, AND \$380 FOR GRADE THREE; FOR COPRA PICKED UP BY TT FIELD TRIP VESSELS AT OUTER ISLAND LOCATIONS, \$375 FOR GRADE ONE; \$365 FOR GRADE TWO AND \$355 FOR

GRADE THREE; AND, FOR COPRA PICKED UP BY PRIVATE SHIP OWNERS AT OUTER ISLAND LOCATIONS, \$365 FOR GRADE ONE, \$355 FOR GRADE TWO AND \$345 FOR GRADE THREE.

RECHUCHER INDICATED THAT THE BOARD HOPES THAT THE \$35 DIFFERENCE IN THE PRICE PAID FOR COPRA AT THE DISTRICT CENTERS AND THAT PAID FOR COPRA PICKED UP BY PRIVATE BOAT OWNERS IN THE OUTER ISLANDS WILL ENCOURAGE THE PRIVATE SHIP OWNERS TO BRING THE COPRA FROM THE OUTER ISLANDS TO THE DISTRICT CENTERS TO SELL.

THE BOARD ALSO VOTED TO RENEW THE UNITED MICRONESIAN DEVELOPMENT ASSOCIATION COPRA CONTRACT FOR ONE YEAR ONLY PENDING THE RESULTS OF A REPORT BEING SUBMITTED BY THE CONGRESS OF MICRONESIA COMMITTEE ON RESOURCES AND DEVELOPMENT.

(ABRAMS WILL RESIGN)

SAIPAN, AUGUST 6 (MNS)---THE TRUST TERRITORY'S OUTSPOKEN ASSISTANT PUBLIC DEFENDER BENJAMIN ABRAMS REVEALED MONDAY (AUGUST 5) THAT HE WILL RESIGN FROM HIS POSITION EFFECTIVE SEPTEMBER 9.

ABRAMS INDICATED THAT HE HAS BECOME DISILLUSIONED WITH THE PROSPECTS OF FURTHER SERVICE IN THE TRUST TERRITORY. HE MENTIONED THAT THE ATTITUDE OF SOME ADMINISTRATION OFFICIALS MADE IT DIFFICULT FOR HIM TO PURSUE HIS OFFICIAL DUTIES.

THE TRUST TERRITORY'S CHIEF PUBLIC DEFENDER, ROGER L. ST. PIERRE, SAID THAT ABRAMS' RESIGNATION WAS "THE WORST THING THAT HAS HAPPENED TO THE TRUST TERRITORY. IT WILL BE A VERY LONG TIME," ST. PIERRE STATED, "BEFORE ANYONE AS CAPABLE AND AS DEDICATED AS BEN COMES OUT HERE AGAIN. I'M SORRY TO SEE HIM GO."

ABRAMS, WHO RECENTLY BEGAN A SECOND TWO-YEAR CONTRACT, HAS BEEN INVOLVED IN A NUMBER OF CONTROVERSIAL LEGAL BATTLES, THE MOST NOTABLE OF WHICH HAVE BEEN THE ST. PIERRE AND BERMUDEZ CASES.

ABRAMS' DEFENSE OF MARIANO BERMUDEZ LED TRUST TERRITORY CHIEF JUSTICE HAROLD W. BURNETT TO INVALIDATE IT CODE STATUTES WHICH PROHIBITED THE USE OF MARIJUANA IN MICRONESIA. ABRAMS, AND FORMER MARIANAS PUBLIC DEFENDER ARTHUR ROTHENBURG, WERE JAILED WHEN THEY ATTEMPTED TO PREVENT POLICE OFFICIALS FROM EXAMINING ST. PIERRE'S PRIVATE FILES.

A GRADUATE OF THE UNIVERSITY OF MIAMI SCHOOL OF LAW, ABRAMS WAS PART-OWNER OF A SHIPPING COMPANY BEFORE WORKING FOR THE FLORIDA PROSECUTOR'S OFFICE.

THE MARSHALL'S DISTRICT PUBLIC DEFENDER FROM 1972 TO 1973, ABRAMS INDICATED THAT HE AND HIS WIFE WILL TRAVEL AFTER THEY LEAVE SAIPAN.

(BALLY GUAM APPLICATION RECEIVED)

SAIPAN, AUGUST 6 (MNS)---AN APPLICATION TO DO BUSINESS IN THE MARIANA ISLANDS DISTRICT AS A FOREIGN CORPORATION HAS BEEN RECEIVED FROM BALLY GUAM CORPORATION, ACCORDING TO THE WEEKLY ANNOUNCEMENT OF FOREIGN BUSINESS ACTIVITY FROM THE ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT DIVISION OF THE DEPARTMENT OF RESOURCES AND DEVELOPMENT.

THE COMPANY PROPOSES TO ENGAGE IN THE BUSINESS OF LEASING, BUYING, SELLING, IMPORTING, TRADING, EXPORTING AND SERVICING OF COIN-OPERATED AMUSEMENT DEVICES, COIN-OPERATED PHONOGRAPHS AND VENDING MACHINES AND THEIR PARTS AND ACCESSORIES THEREOF,

ACCORDING TO THE APPLICATION.

BALLY GUAM IS A UNITED STATES CORPORATION, VIRTUALLY ALL OF THE STOCK OF WHICH IS OWNED BY THE BALLY MANUFACTURING COMPANY OF CHICAGO, ILLINOIS. TAKEN SHARES ARE ALSO OWED BY WILLIAM T. O'DONNELL AND SAM KLEIN OF CHICAGO, AND JOHN PANGELINAN OF GUAM, WHO ARE LISTED AS THE CORPORATIONS BOARD OF DIRECTORS. ALL THREE ARE U.S. CITIZENS.

THE COMPANY MAKES NO PROVISION FOR MICRONESIAN OWNERSHIP IN ITS APPLICATION, ALTHOUGH PEDRO P. TENORIO OF SAIPAN IS LISTED AS ITS LOCAL AGENT. TENORIO IS A TRUST TERRITORY CITIZEN AND A MEMBER OF THE CONGRESS OF MICRONESIA. THE COMPANY'S LOCAL ATTORNEY IS SENATOR EDWARD DLG. PANGELINAN, ALSO A MEMBER OF THE CONGRESS.

THE COMPANY ENVISIONS AN INITIAL CAPITAL INVESTMENT OF \$50,000 IN ITS TRUST TERRITORY OPERATION, WITH AN EVENTUAL INCREASE TO TWICE THAT AMOUNT. IT PROPOSES TO COMMENCE OPERATIONS IMMEDIATELY UPON BEING GRANTED A BUSINESS PERMIT.

THE APPLICATION HAS BEEN FORWARDED TO THE MARIANAS DISTRICT ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT BOARD FOR CONSIDERATION AND RECOMMENDATION.

(TT TO PARTICIPATE IN POULTRY CONGRESS)

SAIPAN, AUGUST 6 (MNS)---THE TRUST TERRITORY WILL BE PARTICIPATING FOR THE FIRST TIME THIS YEAR IN THE FIFTEENTH WORLD POULTRY CONGRESS TO BE HELD IN NEW ORLEANS, LOUISIANA.

ACCORDING TO BERMIN WEILBACHER, CHIEF OF THE AGRICULTURE DIVISION OF THE DEPARTMENT OF RESOURCES AND DEVELOPMENT, POULTRY SPECIALIST HARRY S. TSUTSUI WILL ATTEND THE MEETING. IT WILL LAST FROM AUGUST 11 TO THE 16.

THIS IS THE FIRST TIME, WEILBACHER SAID, THAT THE TRUST TERRITORY WILL PARTICIPATE IN A TECHNICAL WORLD WIDE CONFERENCE. "THE CONFERENCE WILL BE CONCERNED WITH EVERYTHING ABOUT POULTRY," HE SAID. "THEY WILL COVER THE LATEST IN JUST ABOUT EVERYTHING."

THE LAST TIME THE POULTRY CONGRESS WAS HELD IN THE UNITED STATES WAS IN 1939.

(TT OFFICIALS TO ATTEND MARITIME CONFERENCE)

SAIPAN, AUGUST 6 (MNS)---TWO TRUST TERRITORY OFFICIALS HAVE BEEN SELECTED TO ATTEND A MEETING OF EXPERTS IN MARITIME TRAINING TO BE HELD IN BANGKOK, THAILAND.

DEPUTY DIRECTOR OF THE DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION AND COMMUNICATIONS ELIAS OKAMURA AND GORDON TYDINGCO, MANAGER OF THE TRANSPORTATION MANAGEMENT BRANCH, WILL ATTEND THE TRAINING SESSION AS OBSERVERS. IT WILL LAST FROM AUGUST 19 TO THE 24.

REPRESENTATIVES OF MEMBER COUNTRIES OF THE CO-ORDINATING COMMITTEE OF SOUTHEAST ASIAN SENIOR OFFICIALS ON TRANSPORT AND COMMUNICATIONS (COORDCOM) WILL MEET TO CONSIDER COMMON STANDARDS OF TRAINING AND CERTIFYING MARITIME OFFICERS.

THEY WILL ALSO CONSIDER THE POSSIBILITY OF ADOPTING UNIFORM GRADES AND NOMENCLATURE OF STATUTORY CERTIFICATES OF COMPETENCY AND STANDARD MINIMUM MANNING SCALES OF VESSELS.

ALTHOUGH THE TRUST TERRITORY IS NOT A COORDCOM MEMBER, IT HAS BEEN GRANTED PERMISSION TO SEND OBSERVERS TO THE CONFERENCE BECAUSE OCEAN SHIPPING AND MARITIME ACTIVITIES ARE IMPORTANT MICRONESIAN CONCERNS.

(PALAU ART EXHIBIT HELD)

PALAU, AUGUST 6 (MNS)---THE PALAU MUSEUM RECENTLY HELD AN EXHIBIT OF PAINTINGS AND DRAWINGS CALLED "IMPRESSIONS OF PALAU."

THE PAINTINGS AND DRAWINGS ARE THE WORK OF ROGER JOHB RAIMIST, WHO HAS AUTHORED TWO BOOKS ON THE DISTRICT. ACCORDING TO PALAU'S PUBLIC INFORMATION OFFICER DAVID NGIRMIDOL, RAIMIST'S WORKS WERE ONE OF THE MOST "UNIQUE" EXHIBITS HELD IN PALAU.

HIS WORKS INCLUDED PORTRAITS OF PALAUANS, FAMOUS LANDMARKS, AND "UNIQUE IMPRESSIONS OF THE PALAU ISLANDS." RAIMIST HAS ALSO WRITTEN "VOICE FROM PALAU," AND "TIA BELAU."

THE SALE OF RAIMIST'S PAINTINGS AND DRAWINGS WILL BE USED TO STRENGTHEN A SCHOLARSHIP FUND USED TO HELP PALAUANS FURTHER THEIR EDUCATION, NGIRMIDOL SAID.

RAIMIST HAS WORKED FOR THE PAST THREE SUMMERS IN PALAU AS A CONSULTANT-TEACHER WITH THE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT. HE LIVES IN GLASSBORO, NEW JERSEY WHERE HE TEACHES MARINE BIOLOGY AND ECOLOGY AT GLASSBORO STATE COLLEGE.