

From Clyde Westlake
8/10/74

COM Gets Status Draft

By Joan King
Daily News Staff Writer

SAIPAN — The compact between Micronesia and the United States which is to end 30 years of American administration under the United Nations Trusteeship Agreement was introduced Wednesday to the Congress of Micronesia (COM) by Sen. Lazarus Salii and

Rep. Ekpap Silk of the joint committee on future status.

The document is the result of three years of negotiations. Provisional agreement was reached last month in Guam by representatives of both delegations.

It is expected that the final compact will be presented to COM at its next regular session in January. If congress approves

it, a plebiscite will be called so Micronesian voters can voice their opinions.

The compact includes a preamble, 12 titles and annexes A,B,C.

Title I deals with internal affairs and states: "The people of Micronesia have the right to adopt their own constitution and form a government... provided that the constitution

and laws of Micronesia shall not be inconsistent with the provisions of this compact...

"The duly constituted government of Micronesia shall have full responsibility for and authority over all matters which relate to the internal affairs of Micronesia."

Title II is concerned with foreign affairs and Title III with

(Continued on page 4)