

(NURSING CLASS DELAYED)

SAIPAN, AUGUST 15 (MNS) 74 DEPUTY DIRECTOR OF HEALTH SERVICES DR. AROBATI HICKING ANNOUNCED THURSDAY (AUG. 15) THAT THE TRUST TERRITORY SCHOOL OF NURSING ON SAIPAN WILL DELAY OPENING OF ITS NEW CLASS UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE. THE CLASS WAS SCHEDULED TO BEGIN SEPTEMBER 3.

THE REASON FOR THE POSTPONEMENT, DR. HICKING EXPLAINED, IS THAT THE CONGRESS OF MICRONESIA DID NOT APPROVE AMENDMENTS TO PUBLIC LAW 5-51, THE SALARY PLAN LAW, WHICH WOULD HAVE AFFECTED THE SALARIES OF SOME OF THE EXPATRIATE LOCAL HIRE NURSING INSTRUCTORS AT THE SCHOOL.

UNDER THE PRESENT LAW, THESE NURSE INSTRUCTORS WILL NOT BE ABLE TO CONTINUE THEIR WORK, HE SAID, BECAUSE THEY WILL NOT ACCEPT REDUCTIONS IN THEIR SALARIES REQUIRED BY THE LAW.

DR. HICKING SAID NOTICE HAS BEEN SENT TO ALL DISTRICTS NOT TO SEND THEIR STUDENTS TO SAIPAN UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE. SOME STUDENTS HAVE ALREADY ARRIVED ON SAIPAN FOR THE START OF THE NEW CLASS, AND THEY WILL REMAIN UNTIL THE SITUATION OF THE NURSING INSTRUCTORS IS RESOLVED.

THE TT SCHOOL OF NURSING PRESENTLY HAS ABOUT 30 STUDENTS, AND AN ADDITIONAL 30 TO 35 WERE EXPECTED FOR THE NEW CLASS. THREE EXPATRIATE LOCAL-HIRE INSTRUCTORS HAVE INDICATED THEY WILL RESIGN RATHER THAN ACCEPT A REDUCTION IN THEIR SALARIES.

(KOREAN BOAT AGROUND)

SAIPAN, AUGUST 15 (MNS) ---A 954-TON KOREAN FISHING VESSEL, THE F/V PAINMACHI NO. 2, WAS REPORTED AGROUND AT NGULU ATOLL IN YAP DISTRICT THIS WEEK.

ACCORDING TO TT MILITARY LIAISON OFFICER, LT. CMDR. ALAN PENDLETON, THE FISHING VESSEL WAS CARRYING EIGHTEEN CREWMEN. ANOTHER KOREAN FISHING VESSEL, THE M/V PAINWANG NO. 15, RESCUED THE CREWMEN LATE WEDNESDAY AFTERNOON (AUG. 14).

A MERCHANT VESSEL, THE M/V STAR COLUMBIA, PICKED UP THE DISTRESS SIGNAL AND WAS STANDING BY ON THE SCENE FOR 15 HOURS. ACCORDING TO PENDLETON, THE STAR COLUMBIA WAS UNABLE TO SEND IN A RESCUE BOAT BECAUSE OF HIGH SEAS.

THE DISTRESS SIGNAL WAS COPIED BY VARIOUS NAVAL COASTAL MARINE STATIONS. THE GUAM SEA AND AIR RESCUE COORDINATING CENTER WAS NOTIFIED BY A CABLE FROM AN AUSTRALIAN STATION.

THERE ARE NO INDICATIONS AS TO WHERE THE RESCUE VESSEL THAT PICKED UP THE KOREAN CREWMEN IS HEADING.

MEANWHILE, THE SIXTEEN CREWMEN OF THE F/S KOYO MARU NO. 1, THAT WENT AGROUND ON MINTO REEF IN PONAPE DISTRICT, WERE RESCUED AND BROUGHT TO MOEN, TRUK DISTRICT EARLY WEDNESDAY MORNING (AUG. 14). THE CREWMEN WERE PICKED UP BY TWO JAPANESE FISHING BOATS THE M/V TAIYO MARU NO. 11 AND KOMOYASU MARU NO. 13. THE CREW MEMBERS ARE EXPECTED TO BE FLOWN HOME SOMETIME THIS WEEK.

ACCORDING TO LT. CMDR. PENDLETON, THE LOCATION OF THE GROUNDING BOAT'S POSITION REPORTED BY THE MICRONESIAN NEWS SERVICE IN ITS AUGUST 12 DISPATCH WAS INCORRECT. MNS REPORTED THAT THE BOAT WENT AGROUND ON MURILO ATOLL IN TRUK DISTRICT, BASED ON INFORMATION OBTAINED FROM THE TT IMMIGRATION OFFICE.

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(BUSINESS TAX CHECK BEGINS)

SAIPAN, AUGUST 15 (MNS)---CHIEF OF THE REVENUE DIVISION, JESUS P. MAFNAS, ANNOUNCED THIS WEEK THAT HIS DIVISION HAS STARTED SURVEYING THE BUSINESSES IN THE TRUST TERRITORY TO INSURE COMPLIANCE WITH THE THREE YEAR OLD TRUST TERRITORY INCOME TAX LAW.

MAFNAS EXPLAINED THAT IN ADDITION TO JUST INSURING COMPLIANCE WITH THE LAW, HIS STAFF WILL OFFER SUGGESTIONS TO TAXPAYERS ON HOW TO MAINTAIN SIMPLY AND ACCEPTABLE BOOKKEEPING AND ACCOUNTING RECORDS. THEY WILL ALSO BE AVAILABLE TO ANSWER QUESTIONS REGARDING THE LAW, MAFNAS STATED.

"THE LAW IS NEW, AND WE KNOW THERE ARE STILL MANY PROBLEMS AND UNANSWERED QUESTIONS IN THE MINDS OF THE TAXPAYERS," MAFNAS CONTINUED. "IF THESE PROBLEMS AND QUESTIONS ARE LEFT UNATTENDED THEN THERE WILL CERTAINLY BE MORE CONFUSION."

THE REVENUE DIVISION STAFF HAS SURVEYED OVER FORTY BUSINESSES IN THE MARIANAS DISTRICT. THE SURVEY REVEALS THAT MANY OF THE BUSINESSES NEED ASSISTANCE IN ORDER TO COMPLY WITH THE LAW, MAFNAS NOTED. "MOST OF THE BUSINESSES ARE HAPPY TO COOPERATE WHEN THEY REALIZE WE ARE SIMPLY TRYING TO HELP THEM MEET THEIR TAX OBLIGATIONS. OUR PRIMARY OBJECTIVES ARE TO INSURE COMPLIANCE WITH THE LAW AND TO ASSIST THE TAXPAYERS WITH THEIR TAX QUESTIONS AND PROBLEMS. WE WANT TO HELP THEM," SAID MAFNAS.

HARRY BARBER AND JOHN EVANGELISTA OF THE REVENUE DIVISION, ALONG WITH THE DISTRICT REVENUE OFFICERS, WILL BE CONDUCTING THE SURVEYS IN THE EASTERN DISTRICTS FROM AUGUST 15 THROUGH SEPTEMBER 11. THEY WILL SPEND APPROXIMATELY ONE WEEK IN EACH DISTRICT. THE SCHEDULES FOR THE WESTERN DISTRICTS WILL BE ANNOUNCED AT A LATER DATE, MAFNAS CONCLUDED.

(KWAJALEIN FULL AGAIN)

KWAJALEIN, AUGUST 15 (MNS)---THE TRUST TERRITORY LIAISON OFFICER ON KWAJALEIN, MURPHY OWNBEY, HAS ADVISED HEADQUARTERS THAT THERE WILL BE NO ACCOMMODATIONS AVAILABLE ON KWAJALEIN FOR THE PERIOD FROM AUGUST 27 THROUGH SEPTEMBER 10.

THUS ALL PERSONS, OFFICIAL OR UNOFFICIAL, MUST HAVE CONFIRMED ACCOMMODATIONS THROUGH OWNBEY'S OFFICE BEFORE TRAVELING TO KWAJALEIN.

ALL DISTRICTS ARE BEING ADVISED TO LIMIT THEIR OFFICIAL TRAVEL TO KWAJALEIN UNTIL RESTRICTIONS ON ACCOMMODATIONS ARE LIFTED.