

(COPRA DECLINING ON WORLD MARKET)

SAIPAN, SEPT. 18 (MNS) ~~74~~ A RECENT REVIEW OF THE WORLD MARKET SITUATION REVEALS THAT THE PRICE OF COPRA, THE TRUST TERRITORY'S PRINCIPLE EXPORT COMMODITY, HAS DROPPED BY ABOUT \$240 PER TON, ACCORDING TO EUSEBIO RECHUCHER, DIRECTOR OF RESOURCES AND DEVELOPMENT.

RECHUCHER, WHO IS ALSO CHAIRMAN OF THE TT COPRA STABILIZATION BOARD, SAID DESPITE THE DECLINE THE BOARD WILL CONTINUE TO MAINTAIN THE PRESENT PRICE OF COPRA TO PRODUCERS IN MICRONESIA AS LONG AS THE COPRA STABILIZATION FUND CAN SUSTAIN IT. THE PRICE REACHED AN ALL TIME HIGH OF 400 PER TON IN AUGUST OF THIS YEAR. THE BOARD PAYS PRODUCERS FOR THEIR CROP, AND THEN MARKETS THE COPRA FOR THEM.

THE REASON FOR THE WORLD PRICE DECLINE IS ATTRIBUTED TO AN INCREASED SUPPLY OF COPRA ON THE WORLD MARKET, COUPLED WITH A WEAKENING OF OIL PRICES, RECHUCHER SAID.

(ALL USERS: PLEASE CREDIT CONGRESS OF MICRONESIA)
(WASHINGTON BUDGET HEARINGS SET)

SAIPAN, SEPTEMBER 18, 1974--(CONGRESS RELEASE)--TWO MEMBERS OF THE JOINT COMMITTEE ON PROGRAM AND BUDGET PLANNING OF THE CONGRESS OF MICRONESIA WILL LEAVE THE TRUST TERRITORY ON THURSDAY (SEPT. 19) FOR WASHINGTON, D.C. TO TESTIFY BEFORE THE U.S. CONGRESS ON LEGISLATION TO RAISE THE AMOUNT OF MONEY FOR THE TT FOR FISCAL YEARS 1975 AND 1976.

CHAIRMAN RAYMOND SETIK, OF TRUK, AND CO-CHAIRMAN BAILEY OLTER, OF PONAPE, WILL APPEAR BEFORE TWO SUBCOMMITTEES OF THE U.S. CONGRESS TO SUPPORT A REQUEST FOR AN INCREASE OF THE PRESENT \$60 MILLION CEILING TO \$75 MILLION FOR FY 1975 AND \$80 MILLION FOR FY 1976. THE TWO SUBCOMMITTEES ARE THE U.S. SENATE'S SUBCOMMITTEE ON TERRITORIES AND INSULAR AFFAIRS CHAIRED BY SENATOR J. BENNETT JOHNSTON, JR. (D-LOUISIANA) AND THE HOUSE SUBCOMMITTEE ON TERRITORIAL AND INSULAR AFFAIRS CHAIRED BY CONGRESSMAN PHILLIP BURTON (D-CALIFORNIA).

HEARINGS IN THE HOUSE ARE SCHEDULED FOR SEPTEMBER 26, AND IN THE SENATE FOR SEPTEMBER 27. THE JOINT COMMITTEE WILL APPEAR AND TESTIFY FOR THE ADDITIONAL FUNDS, WHICH WILL INCLUDE MONEY FOR CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PROJECTS SUCH AS BUILDINGS, ROADS, DOCKS, AMONG OTHERS, FOR THE TWO FISCAL YEARS. THEY MAY ALSO TESTIFY ON THE REHABILITATION PROJECT FOR ENEWETAK ATOLL.

IF THE CEILING LEGISLATION IS APPROVED BY THE U.S. CONGRESS AND SIGNED INTO LAW BY PRESIDENT FORD, MEMBERS OF THE CONGRESS OF MICRONESIA AND THE EXECUTIVE BRANCH OF THE TRUST TERRITORY GOVERNMENT WILL HAVE TO RETURN TO WASHINGTON, D.C. AT A LATER DATE TO APPEAR BEFORE THE APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEES OF THE U.S. CONGRESS TO SUPPORT A SPECIFIC APPROPRIATION AUTHORIZED UNDER THE NEW CEILINGS.

THE CHAIRMAN AND CO-CHAIRMAN WILL BE ACCOMPANIED BY HOUSE SPEAKER BETHUEL HENRY, AND CONGRESS OF MICRONESIA PUBLIC INFORMATION SPECIALIST BRIAN FARLEY. ACCOMPANYING THE COMMITTEE FROM THE EXECUTIVE BRANCH ARE: WILLIAM J. QUINN, PROGRAM ANALYST, AND MRS. BERNICE DIAZ, BUDGET ANALYST, BOTH FROM THE BUDGET OFFICE. MARSHALLS DISTRICT ADMINISTRATOR OSCAR DEBRUM IS ALSO SLATED TO ACCOMPANY THE TWO MEMBERS OF CONGRESS TO THE HEARINGS. THE DELEGATION WILL BE IN WASHINGTON, D. C. FOR ABOUT TEN DAYS.

(ALL USERS: PLEASE CREDIT CONGRESS OF MICRONESIA)
(GUERRERO CONCERNED ABOUT LEGAL ASSISTANCE)

SAIPAN, SEPTEMBER 18, 1974--(CONGRESS RELEASE)--MARIANAS REPRESENTATIVE HERMAN O. GUERRERO EXPRESSED CONCERN THIS WEEK OVER WHAT HE DESCRIBED AS A "STEADILY DECREASING" QUALITY OF

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LEGAL ASSISTANCE PRESENTLY AVAILABLE TO THE PEOPLE OF MICRONESIA.

SPECIFICALLY CITING THE OFFICE OF THE PUBLIC DEFENDER OF THE TRUST TERRITORY, GUERRERO SAID EFFECTIVENESS HAS BEEN "SEVERELY CRIPPLED" BY ATTEMPTS OF THE TRUST TERRITORY GOVERNMENT TO REMOVE ROGER ST. PIERRE DURING THE PAST YEAR. ADDING THAT THE APPOINTMENT OF AN "ACTING" CHIEF PUBLIC DEFENDER, MR. LEO MCSHANE, SINCE THEN, "HAS DONE NOTHING TO CORRECT THE SITUATION, GUERRERO SAID:

"IT IS THE PEOPLE OF MICRONESIA WHO ARE THE REAL VICTIMS OF THE FIGHT BETWEEN THE ADMINISTRATION AND MR. ST. PIERRE, IN THEIR LOSS OF NOT ONLY EFFICIENT AND EFFECTIVE LEGAL ASSISTANCE, BUT ALSO IN THEIR LOSS OF A GOOD LEGAL COUNSEL, MR. ST. PIERRE."

ST. PIERRE, WHO WAS OFFICIALLY REMOVED FROM HIS POST LAST YEAR, IS STILL ENGAGED IN A LEGAL BATTLE OVER HIS EMPLOYMENT STATUS. THE TT GOVERNMENT HAS SOUGHT HIS REMOVAL ON THE GROUNDS THAT HE ACCEPTED A GIFT FROM A CLIENT IN 1969. CONTENDING THAT HE IS AN EMPLOYEE OF THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT AND THUS VIOLATED FEDERAL REGULATIONS. HOWEVER, ST. PIERRE MAINTAINS THAT HE IS AN EMPLOYEE OF THE TRUST TERRITORY GOVERNMENT AND NOT SUBJECT TO SUCH REGULATIONS.

GUERRERO SAID IN AN INTERVIEW THAT THE MAJORITY OF THE SENTIMENTS EXPRESSED BY THE PEOPLE OF MICRONESIA, THROUGH THEIR ELECTED LEADERS, HAS OVERWHELMINGLY BEEN IN FAVOR OF ST. PIERRE'S IMMEDIATE REINSTATEMENT, AND AGAINST HIGH COMMISSIONER EDWARD E. JOHNSTON'S ORDER TO FIRE ST. PIERRE, WHO HAS HELD THE POST OF CHIEF PUBLIC DEFENDER OF THE TRUST TERRITORY FOR THE PAST 12 YEARS. THE MOST RECENT EXPRESSION OF SUPPORT CAME DURING THE SPECIAL SESSION OF THE CONGRESS OF MICRONESIA WHERE A SENATE RESOLUTION WAS UNANIMOUSLY ADOPTED URGING HIS IMMEDIATE REINSTATEMENT.

"THE PEOPLE OF MICRONESIA WERE PROMISED BY THE SECRETARY OF THE INTERIOR ROGERS MORTON, LAST JANUARY, THAT THE UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT, IN HIS WORDS, "MUST AND WILL DO EVERYTHING POSSIBLE TO HELP US ASSUME THE RESPONSIBILITIES OF A SELF-GOVERNING PEOPLE," SAID GUERRERO. "WE HAVE ASKED FOR ST. PIERRE'S REINSTATEMENT BECAUSE WE FEEL HE CAN BEST PROVIDE THE LEGAL COUNSEL WE NEED FROM A PUBLIC DEFENDER. BUT WE ARE BEING DENIED WHAT WE HAVE ASKED BECAUSE ST. PIERRE HAS DONE HIS JOB IN MICRONESIA TOO WELL TO SUIT OUR HIGH COMMISSIONER AND HIS SUPERIORS IN WASHINGTON, D.C., "HE CONTINUED.

GUERRERO SAID THE PEOPLE OF SAIPAN STILL REMEMBER ST. PIERRE'S SUCCESSFUL DEFENSE OF A SAIPAN YOUTH SEVERAL YEARS AGO WHEN HE WAS CHARGED WITH SETTING FIRE TO THE HICOM'S OFFICIAL RESIDENCE.

"ST. PIERRE WAS ONLY DOING HIS DUTY AS AN ATTORNEY AND AS PUBLIC DEFENDER. YET I BELIEVE THIS WAS THE MAJOR CAUSE OF THE GOVERNMENT'S DECISION TO REMOVE HIM," GUERRERO STATED.

NOTING THAT AN ADMINISTRATIVE LAW JUDGE OF THE DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR RECOMMENDED THAT ST. PIERRE NOT BE REMOVED AND MERELY BE SUSPENDED FOR 90 DAYS FOR ALLEGEDLY BREACHING FEDERAL REGULATIONS, GUERRERO SAID SECRETARY MORTON SHOULD RECONSIDER AND OVERRULE JOHNSTON'S ORDER TO FIRE ST. PIERRE.

"OTHERWISE, THE PEOPLE OF MICRONESIA BECOME THE VICTIMS OF WHAT APPEARS TO A PERSONAL AND VINDICTIVE DECISION TO REMOVE MR. ST. PIERRE. THIS IS ONE THING THE PEOPLE, THEIR CONGRESS, AND THEIR LEADERS, WILL NOT TOLERATE," DECLARED GUERRERO. HE SAID APPROPRIATE ACTION WILL BE TAKEN TO INSURE THAT CONTINUED UNJUSTICES AGAINST THE WISHES OF THE PEOPLE ARE NOT CARRIED OUT IN THE FUTURE.

(HEALTH SERVICES PRAISED)

SAIPAN, SEPT. 13 (MNS)---FOLLOWING A VISIT TO THE TRUST TERRITORY LAST MONTH, AN OFFICER OF THE AMERICAN MEDICAL ASSOCIATION HAS WRITTEN TO HIGH COMMISSIONER EDWARD E. JOHNSTON PRAISING THE HEALTH CARE FACILITIES IN MICRONESIA.

DR. JOHN S. COWAN, DIRECTOR OF THE AMA'S DEPARTMENT OF INTERNATIONAL MEDICINE, VISITED MICRONESIA ALONG WITH THE CURRENT AMA PRESIDENT, DR. MALCOLM TODD.

"WE WERE VERY IMPRESSED WITH WHAT WE SAW OF THE HEALTH CARE DELIVERY SYSTEM AND THE HEALTH TRAINING PROGRAM IN THE TRUST TERRITORY," DR. COWAN WROTE. "WE BELIEVE GREAT PROGRESS HAS BEEN MADE IN MEDICAL PROGRAMS IN THE TRUST TERRITORY AND THAT YOU HAVE SOME VERY CAPABLE PEOPLE LOOKING AFTER THESE MATTERS"

DR. COWAN ALSO TOLD THE MICOM THAT THE AMA IS LOOKING INTO THE COMPLAINT OF MICRONESIAN PHYSICIANS THAT THEY ARE EXCLUDED FROM SOME ADVANCED TRAINING IN THE UNITED STATES BECAUSE THEY DO NOT HAVE M.D. DEGREES. "BOTH DR. TODD AND I ARE VERY SYMPATHETIC IN THIS REGARD AND WILL DO WHAT WE CAN TO ALLEVIATE THE PROBLEM," DR. COWAN SAID.

THE TWO MEN HAVE ARRANGE TO HAVE A SERIES OF AMA SCIENTIFIC AND MEDICAL PUBLICATIONS SENT TO THE LIBRARIES OF THE SIX DISTRICT HOSPITALS IN THE TT. THEY ARE ALSO SENDING AN AMA PLAQUE TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE MICRONESIAN MEDICAL ASSOCIATION, DR. MINORU UEKI OF KOROR, COMMEMORATING THE VISIT AND THE "EXCELLENT EXPERIENCE" THE TWO AMERICAN DOCTORS HAD IN GETTING TO KNOW MANY OF THE PHYSICIANS IN MICRONESIA.

DR. COWAN ASSURED THE HIGH COMMISSIONER THAT THE AMA WILL CONTINUE TO MAINTAIN LIAISON WITH THE TT THROUGH THE DIRECTOR OF HEALTH SERVICES, DR. MASAO KUMANGAI, AND SAID THE AMA WILL "...DO WHAT WE CAN TO ASSIST IN ADVANCING THE MEDICAL PROGRAMS OF THE TRUS TERRITORY."

(HOTEL SETS GRAND OPENING)

SAIPAN, SEPT. 13 (MNS)---THE NEW SAIPAN CONTINENTAL HOTEL, LARGEST AND MOST EXPENSIVE IN THE TRUST TERRITORY WILL HOLD ITS OFFICIAL GRAND OPENING AND DEDICATION CEREMONIES FRIDAY (SEPT. 12), ACCORDING TO AN ANNOUNCEMENT RELEASED BY CONTINENTAL AIRLINES THIS WEEK.

THE 185 ROOM HOTEL WAS CONSTRUCTED AT A COST OF \$8.5 MILLION DOLLARS ON AN ELEVEN ACRE SITE ADJACENT TO SAIPAN'S MICRO BEACH, WITH EVERY ROOM HAVING A VIEW OUT OVER THE LAGOON. THE HOTEL ALSO FEATURES TWO RESTAURANTS, A 19TH CENTURY-STYLE TRADER BAR, A SWIMMING POOL, SHOPS AND A PITCH-AND-PUTT GOLF COURSE.

"THIS IS A FIRST FOR THE CENTRAL PACIFIC," SAID G. EDWARD COTTER, PRESIDENT OF CONTINENTAL HOTELS, INC., A WHOLLY OWNED SUBSIDIARY OF THE AIRLINE. "THE SAIPAN CONTINENTAL IS A TRULY TOP-FLIGHT INTERNATIONAL HOTEL WITH ALL THE MODERN AMENITIES EXPECTED BY TRAVELERS TODAY."

AN ESTIMATED 350 GUESTS ARE EXPECTED TO ATTEND THE DEDICATION CEREMONIES, WHICH WILL BEGIN AT 5:00 P.M. WITH REMARDS BY COTTER, HOTEL MANAGER HANK HICKOX, AND MARIANAS DISTRICT ADMINISTRATOR FRANCISCO C. ADA. RAMON CATHOLIC AND SHINTO BLESSINGS WILL BE GIVEN, AND A 200-FOOT RIBBON WILL BE CUT. THIS WILL BE FOLLOWED BY A COCTAIL RECEPTION AND BUFFET AND, AT ABOUT 9:15 P.M., A FIREWORKS DISPLAY.

A NUMBER OF TOP TRAVEL WRITERS FROM THE U.S. WILL ATTEND THE OPENING, INCLUDING REPRESENTATIVES FROM NEWSWEEK AND HOLIDAY MAGAZINES, UNITED PRESS INTERNATIONAL, AND THE LOS ANGELES TIMES SYNDICATE, ACCORDING TO OPERATIONS

DIRECTOR TOM DAWSON. HE TOLD MNS WEDNESDAY THE SAIPAN CONTINENTAL DEDICATION HAS GENERATED MORE INTEREST IN THE INTERNATIONAL PRESS THAN ANYTHING CONTINENTAL AIRLINES HAS EVER SPONSORED, AND THE HOTEL, AND SAIPAN, ARE BEING WIDELY PROMOTED IN THE TRAVEL INDUSTRY IN BOTH THE U.S. AND JAPAN.

THE SAIPAN CONTINENTAL HAS ACTUALLY BEEN OPEN TO THE PUBLIC SINCE MARCH, WHILE FINAL STAGES IN THE CONSTRUCTION CONTINUED. IT IS ONE OF THREE HOTELS IN THE TRUST TERRITORY OPERATED BY CONTINENTAL. THE OTHERS ARE IN PALAU AND TRUK.

(NEW YAP EDUCATION DIRECTOR)

YAP, SEPT. 18 (MNS)---A NEW DISTRICT DIRECTOR OF EDUCATION WAS NAMED THIS WEEK IN YAP DISTRICT. HE IS ALFONSO FANECHIGIY, WHO REPLACES JOHN PERKINS. PERKINS HAS BEEN RE-ASSIGNED TO THE HEADQUARTERS EDUCATION DEPARTMENT ON SAIPAN EFFECTIVE MONDAY (SEPT. 16).

YAP DISTRICT ADMINISTRATOR LEONARD O. AGUIGUI MADE THE APPOINTMENT ANNOUNCEMENT IN COLONIA. HE SAID THE NEW DIRECTOR HAS HAD WIDE EXPERIENCE AND TECHNICAL BACKGROUND THAT EQUIP HIM WELL TO TAKE ON HIS NEW RESPONSIBILITIES. "I HAVE A HIGH DEGREE OF CONFIDENCE IN THE NEW DIRECTOR," AGUIGUI SAID.

FANECHIGIY HAS HELD NUMEROUS EDUCATION POSITIONS IN THE DISTRICT, MOST OF THEM SUPERVISORY. HE RECEIVED HIS BACHELOR'S DEGREE FROM THE UNIVERSITY OF GUAM IN 1969, AND OBTAINED A MASTER'S DEGREE IN EDUCATIONAL ADMINISTRATION FROM THE UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII IN 1973.

WITH THE APPOINTMENT OF FANECHIGIY, THE DISTRICT DIRECTORS OF EDUCATION IN ALL SIX DISTRICTS ARE NOW MICRONESIANS, REPORTS YAP INFORMATION OFFICER WILFRED GORONGFEL.

(ALL USERS: PLEASE CREDIT CONGRESS OF MICRONESIA)

(BORJA RETURNS FROM JAPAN)

SAIPAN--SEPTEMBER 18, 1974--(CONGRESS RELEASE)--MARINAS SENATOR OLYMPIO T. BORJA RECENTLY RETURNED FROM A PRIVATE TRIP TO JAPAN WITH SOME ENCOURAGING NEWS ABOUT TRAVEL REQUIREMENTS FOR MICRONESIAN CITIZENS TRAVELING TO THAT COUNTRY.

SENATOR BORJA, WHO WAS IN TOKYO TO ASSIST HIS DAUGHTERS IN ENTERING SOPHIA UNIVERSITY, ALSO TOOK TIME TO MAKE AN UN-OFFICIAL VISIT TO THE FOREIGN MINISTRY OF THE JAPANESE GOVERNMENT TO DISCUSS CERTAIN MATTERS.

DURING HIS MEETING WITH OFFICIALS OF THE MINISTRY, HE DISCUSSED THREE GENERAL AREAS. FIRST WAS FOLLOWUP ON SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 39, WHICH REQUESTED THE GOVERNMENT OF JAPAN TO GRANT TT CITIZENS MULTIPLE-ENTRY VISAS SIMILAR TO THOSE GRANTED TO THE CITIZENS OF THE UNITED STATES. TWO OTHER AREAS OF CONCERN DISCUSSED WERE THE SIMPLIFYING OF SCHOOL REQUIREMENTS FOR NON-JAPANESE CITIZENS TO ENTER JAPAN FOR THE PURPOSE OF FURTHERING THEIR EDUCATION, AND THE NEED TO LIBERALIZE ENTRY PROCEDURES FOR MICRONESIAN CITIZENS LOOKING FOR SPECIAL MEDICAL TREATMENT IN JAPAN.

HIS MEETING, WHICH LASTED OVER AN HOUR, WAS VERY "PRODUCTIVE AND FRUITFUL" ACCORDING TO THE SENATOR.

"THEY TOLD ME THAT THEY ARE TAKING ALL OF THESE MATTERS UNDER CONSIDERATION, AND ASSURED ME THAT THEY WOULD DO THEIR BEST TO SEE THAT THESE MATTERS ARE RESOLVED IN ORDER TO FACILITATE TRAVEL AND ENTRY INTO JAPAN FOR MICRONESIAN CITIZENS," BORJA STATED.

WHILE THE MARIANAS LAWMAKER NOTED THAT THIS WAS NOT AN OFFICIAL TRIP, HE SAID THAT HIS IMPRESSION OF THE RESULTS OF THE

MEETING WAS THAT HE HAD "EVERY EXPECTATION" THAT FAVORABLE ACTION
MIGHT BE FORTHCOMING SOMETIME IN THE FUTURE WITH REGARD TO THE
AREAS FO CONCERN.