

(DEFENSE OFFICIAL TO VISIT MARIANAS)

SAIPAN, SEPT. 25 (MNS) --- ONE OF THE TOP CIVILIAN OFFICIALS IN THE UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE WILL VISIT SAIPAN AND TINIAN THIS WEEK.

WILLIAM P. CLEMENTS, JR., DEPUTY SECRETARY OF DEFENSE, WILL ARRIVE ABOARD A SPECIAL MILITARY AIRCRAFT FRIDAY MORNING (SEPT. 27) AT 10:00 A.M. HE WILL SPEND THE DAY IN MEETINGS WITH TRUST TERRITORY GOVERNMENT AND MARIANAS DISTRICT OFFICIALS, AND TOURING SAIPAN AND TINIAN BY HELICOPTER. A LUNCHEON AT THE SAIPAN CONTINENTAL HOTEL IS ALSO PLANNED, HOSTED BY DEPUTY HIGH COMMISSIONER PETER T. COLEMAN.

THE PURPOSE OF THE VISIT IS TO ENABLE CLEMENTS TO OBTAIN A FIRST HAND VIEW OF THE PRESENT AND PLANNED MILITARY FACILITIES ON GUAM AND IN THE TRUST TERRITORY. HE WILL SPEND THURSDAY ON GUAM. WHILE THERE HE WILL MEET WITH THE GOVERNOR, THE SPEAKER OF THE GUAM LEGISLATURE, AND OTHER OFFICIALS, ACCORDING TO INFORMATION PROVIDED BY THE MILITARY LIAISON OFFICE ON SAIPAN.

"HOPEFULLY, MY VISIT WILL ASSIST US IN CONTINUING TO FOSTER HARMONIOUS WORKING AND PLANNING RELATIONSHIPS BETWEEN THE MILITARY AND CIVILIAN COMMUNITIES," CLEMENTS SAID IN A STATEMENT THIS WEEK.

WHILE TOURING SAIPAN AND TINIAN, THE DEPUTY SECRETARY AND HIS PARTY WILL MAKE SPECIAL VISITS TO THE TANAPAG MILITARY RETENTION AREA ON SAIPAN, WHICH IS THE SITE OF A PROPOSED U.S. MEMORIAL PARK, THE HARBOR AREA ON TINIAN, AND THE WORLD WAR TWO ATOMIC BOMB PIT SITES ON TINIAN.

ACCOMPANYING CLEMENTS WILL BE MORTON I. ABRAMOWITZ, DEPUTY ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF DEFENSE FOR EAST ASIA AND PACIFIC AFFAIRS; ROBERT I. MARTENS, DIRECTOR, OFFICE OF REGIONAL AFFAIRS, BUREAU OF EAST ASIAN AFFAIRS, OF THE DEPARTMENT OF STATE; BRIGADIER GENERAL JOHN G. JONES, MILITARY ASSISTANT TO THE DEPUTY SECRETARY OF DEFENSE; AND JOSEPH E. ZAICE, ASSISTANT TO THE SECRETARY OF DEFENSE.

REAR ADMIRAL G. STEVE MORRISON, CINCPACREP FOR GUAM AND THE TRUST TERRITORY, MAJOR GENERAL CHARLES F. MINTER, SR., COMMANDER OF THE EIGHTH AIR FORCE, AND REAR ADMIRAL WILLIAM R. MCCLENDON OF THE CINCPAC STAFF IN HAWAII WILL ALSO ACCOMPANY DEPUTY SECRETARY CLEMENTS ON HIS TOUR OF THE MARIANAS.

(REKLAI HOSPITALIZED)

SAIPAN, SEPT. 25 (MNS) --- PALAU'S HIGH CHIEF REKLAI WAS FLOWN FROM KOROR TO GUAM WEDNESDAY AFTERNOON (SEPT. 25) AND TAKEN TO THE GUAM NAVAL HOSPITAL.

NO REPORT ON CHIEF REKLAI'S CONDITION WAS AVAILABLE BY MID-AFTERNOON BUT A SPOKESMAN FOR THE TRUST TERRITORY LIAISON OFFICE ON GUAM SAID THE CHIEF WAS BELIEVED TO BE SUFFERING FROM PNEUMONIA. CHIEF REKLAI IS 73 YEARS OLD.

CHIEF REKLAI, LOMISANG NGIRATELBADEL, IS ONE OF TWO HIGH CHIEFS IN THE PALAUAN TRADITION. THE OTHER IS HIGH CHIEF IBEDUL, YUTAKA GIBBONS.

(COST-OF-LIVING STUDY IN TT)

SAIPAN, SEPT. 25 (MNS) --- AN EXPERT WITH U.S. GOVERNMENT AND FOREIGN COUNTRY EXPERIENCE IN THE AREA OF PRICE INDICES AND FINANCIAL MATTERS WILL BE VISITING THE TT SHORTLY TO "ASSIST IN ANALYZING AVAILABLE INFORMATION RELATIVE TO THE COST-OF-LIVING AND ALSO TO ADVISE ON DEVELOPING METHODS FOR THE USE OF PRICE INDICES," ACCORDING TO MANNY SABLAN, ASSISTANT CHIEF, ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT DIVISION, DEPARTMENT OF RESOURCES AND DEVELOPMENT.

MARVIN TOWNE, OF VIRGINIA, WILL WORK CLOSELY WITH PERSONNEL FROM THE DEPARTMENT OF RESOURCES AND DEVELOPMENT AND THE PROGRAM AND BUDGET OFFICE DURING HIS STUDIES. HE WILL BE IN THE TRUST

TERRITORY FOR APPROXIMATELY SIX WEEKS, ARRIVING IN EARLY OCTOBER.

HE WILL ALSO BE MEETING WITH OTHER OFFICIALS IN THE GOVERNMENT AND WITH APPROPRIATE LEADERS OF THE CONGRESS OF MICRONESIA DURING HIS VISIT.

ACCORDING TO SABLAN, THE STUDY IS NEEDED TO DETERMINE THE EXTENT OF INFLATION IN MICRONESIA. HE SAID PRELIMINARY INDICATORS APPEAR TO SHOW THAT THE GENERAL PRICE LEVEL IN MICRONESIA PROBABLY HAS BEEN INCREASING, AS IS THE CASE IN ALMOST ALL COUNTRIES ABROAD.

TOWNE PLANS TO VISIT ALL DISTRICTS OF THE TRUST TERRITORY. INFLATION MEANS "THE TOTAL AGGREGATE IN TERMS OF GOODS AND SERVICES EXCEEDS AVAILABLE PRODUCTION," EXPLAINED SABLAN. "THERE IS MORE DEMAND FOR SUCH GOODS AND SERVICES, AND THE ECONOMY DOES NOT HAVE PRODUCTION TO SATISFY THE DEMANDS," HE POINTED OUT.

"IN THE CASE OF THE US, INFLATIONARY PROBLEMS TAKE ON A DIFFERENT PERSPECTIVE. BASICALLY, THEIR PROBLEM IS MORE OF EXCESS SUPPLY OF MONEY VERSUS LIMITED PRODUCTION. THIS MEANS, IN SIMPLE ECONOMIC TERMS, THAT TOO FEW GOODS AND SERVICES ARE BEING CHASED BY AN ABUNDANT SUPPLY OF MONEY. THE CIRCULATION AND SUPPLY OF MONEY IN MICRONESIA IS UNKNOWN AND THEREFORE, WE HAVE NO IDEA WHETHER THE INHERENT CHARACTERISTICS OF INFLATION IN MICRONESIA ARE SIMILAR TO THE INFLATION IN THE U.S. OR IN OTHER CURRENCY COUNTRIES," THE ASSISTANT ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT CHIEF SAID.

(MARIANAS MARINE INSPECTION BOARD)

SAIPAN, SEPT. 25 (MNS)---THE MARIANAS MARINE INSPECTION BOARD, NOW IN ITS ORGANIZING PERIOD, WILL BEGIN INSPECTING BOATS SOON WHICH ARE USED PRIMARILY FOR BUSINESS, INTER-ISLAND SERVICES AND FISHING, ACCORDING TO ITS CHAIRMAN, DAN E. AKIMOTO.

AKIMOTO TOLD MNS THAT THE BASIC FUNCTION OF THE DISTRICT MARINE BOARD WILL BE FOR INSPECTION AND CERTIFICATION OF MOTOR BOATS RANGING UP TO 65 FEET IN LENGTH. "THE INSPECTION PROGRAM IS MAINLY TO INSURE ADEQUATE SAFETY MEASURES BEING AVAILABLE ON THE BOATS AND TO SEE THAT THE BOATS ARE SEAWORTHY," AKIMOTO SAID.

"UNDER EXISTING LAWS," HE CONTINUED, "NO BOATS CAN BE OPERATED WITHOUT INSPECTION." HE POINTED OUT THAT RIGHT NOW, 99 PERCENT OF THE BOATS IN THE MARIANAS ARE UNINSPECTED.

THE BOARD CHAIRMAN FURTHER SAID THE BOARD WILL BE ISSUING REQUESTS FOR AFFECTED BOAT OWNERS TO REPORT FOR FULL INSPECTION. BOAT OWNERS WHO WISH FOR AN IMMEDIATE INSPECTION SHOULD EITHER CONTACT AKIMOTO OR PORT CAPTAIN FRANK ALDAN.

ASKED WHAT PROMPTED THE CREATION OF THE BOARD, AKIMOTO SAID THAT THE BOARD HAS BEEN IN EXISTENCE FOR SOME TIME BUT IT WAS JUST INACTIVE. THERE IS ALSO A TERRITORIAL MARINE INSPECTION BOARD, HE SAID.

THE MARIANAS DEPUTY DISTRICT ADMINISTRATOR ADDED THAT GREAT ASSISTANCE AND COOPERATION IS BEING EXTENDED TO THIS VITAL MARINE SAFETY PROGRAM BY THE U.S. COAST GUARD IN GUAM.

OTHER MEMBERS OF THE DISTRICT MARINE INSPECTION BOARD, IN ADDITION TO AKIMOTO, ARE ANTONIO TENORIO, MARIANAS DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC WORKS, VICE-CHAIRMAN; CARLOS SHODA, MARIANAS FISHING AUTHORITY DIRECTOR, EXECUTIVE SECRETARY; JOSE SEMAN, MARIANAS SANITARIAN, POLICE CHIEF ANTONIO BENAVENTE, AND PORT CAPTAIN ALDAN.

(AMERICAN SAMOA SEEKS AID)

SAIPAN, SEPT. 25 (MNS)---THE GOVERNOR OF AMERICAN SAMOA, JOHN M. HAYDON, HAS ASKED THE U.S. FEDERAL DISASTER ASSISTANCE AGENCY TO CONSIDER AID FOR AMERICAN SAMOA BECAUSE OF AN UNUSUAL DROUGHT WHICH HAS LASTED FOR THREE MONTHS AND CAUSED THE NORMAL WATER SUPPLIES TO RUN DRY FOR THE FIRST TIME SINCE 1932, ACCORDING TO THE "NEWS BULLETIN" PUBLISHED BY THE OFFICE OF SAMOAN INFORMATION.

IN A TELEGRAM TO ROBERT C. STEVENS, THE AGENCY'S REGIONAL DIRECTOR IN SAN FRANCISCO, SENT LAST WEEK, GOVERNOR HAYDON URGED STEVENS TO VISIT AMERICAN SAMOA "...TO DETERMINE AND POSSIBLY DECLARE THAT DROUGHT CONDITIONS OF SEVERE AND UNUSUAL NATURE HAVE CAUSED EMERGENCY CONDITIONS OF SUCH SEVERITY AND MAGNITUDE THAT THE GOVERNMENT OF AMERICAN SAMOA FINDS EFFECTIVE RESPONSE BEYOND OUR CAPABILITIES AS A TERRITORY OF THE UNITED STATES."

THE GOVERNOR POINTED OUT THAT OVER THE LAST TEN YEARS, AN AVERAGE OF NEARLY 27 INCHES OF RAIN HAS FALLEN ON TUTUILA, THE MAIN ISLAND, DURING THE THREE-MONTH PERIOD JUNE THROUGH AUGUST. THIS YEAR, THE TOTAL IS LESS THAN TWO INCHES, AND "SEPTEMBER IS OFF TO A BELOW-AVERAGE START."

THE SALINE CONTENT OF THE PRINCIPLE WELLS SERVING THE POPULATION CENTERS ON TUTUILA IS ALREADY "THREE TIMES NORMALLY ACCEPTED STANDARDS," ACCORDING TO THE BULLETIN. "SOME SECTIONS OF THE ISLAND, WHICH ARE NOT PART OF THE WELL SYSTEM, ARE BEING TRUCKED WATER," HAYDON TOLD STEVENS. "SCHOOL OPENINGS HAVE BEEN DELAYED, SINCE DRINKING WATER AND WATER FOR FLUSHING TOILETS HAS NOT BEEN READILY AVAILABLE, THEREBY CAUSING PUBLIC HEALTH HAZARDS."

THE GOVERNOR'S REPORT INDICATED THAT CASES OF HEPATITIS ARE UP, AND WATER TO OPERATE THE SEWAGE TREATMENT PLANTS IN "DANGEROUSLY LOW."

TO HELP ALLEVIATE THE SITUATION, GOVERNOR HAYDON ON SEPTEMBER 9 ORDERED THE WATER SUPPLY TO THE VAN CAMP AND STAR KIST TUNA CANNERIES SHUT OFF. "ALTHOUGH THIS DECISION WILL ALLOW WATER TO BE AVAILABLE TO THE PUBLIC FOR A LONGER PERIOD, IT WILL HAVE A SEVERE IMPACT ON THE TERRITORY," THE GOVERNOR SAID. HE NOTED THAT NEARLY 2,000 PEOPLE WILL BE OUT OF WORK--NEARLY 25 PER CENT OF THE TERRITORY'S ENTIRE WORK FORCE--AT A TIME WHEN UNEMPLOYMENT IN AMERICAN SAMOA IS ALREADY RUNNING AT ELEVEN PER CENT.

THE GOVERNOR SAID THE TWO TUNA CANNERIES, WHICH PROCESS FISH CAUGHT IN MICRONESIAN WATER AMONG OTHER PLACES, HAVE BEEN ON A CURTAILED OPERATING SCHEDULE FOR SEVERAL WEEKS, AND ARE SUFFERING SEVERE, UNRECOVERABLE FINANCIAL LOSSES WHICH WILL HAVE A NEGATIVE IMPACT ON LOCAL REVENUES OF THE GOVERNMENT. WITHOUT RAIN, SAID HAYDON, THERE IS SIMPLY NOTHING THE GOVERNMENT CAN DO.

"PLEASE REALIZE," THE GOVERNOR TOLD STEVENS, "THAT WE COULD BE HIT BY TORRENTIAL RAINS AT ANY MOMENT. UNFORTUNATELY, WE HAVE BEEN PRAYING FOR THAT FOR THREE MONTHS AND NOTHING HAS HAPPENED. WE MUST PLAN FOR A CONTINUATION OF THIS UNPRECEDENTED DROUGHT AND PLAN FOR THE WELFARE OF OUR PEOPLE."

AMONG THE PLANS UNDER CONSIDERATION IS BRINGING IN WATER BY TANKER.