

(CARPENTER APPOINTED TO SPC)

WASHINGTON, SEPT. 30 (MNS) ⁷⁴ THE WHITE HOUSE HAS ANNOUNCED THE APPOINTMENT OF STANLEY S. CARPENTER TO SERVE AS SENIOR U.S. COMMISSIONER TO THE SOUTH PACIFIC COMMISSION.

CARPENTER IS THE DIRECTOR OF TERRITORIAL AFFAIRS AT THE U.S. DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR. AS DIRECTOR HE HAS ADMINISTRATIVE OVERSIGHT RESPONSIBILITIES FOR THE GOVERNMENTS OF AMERICAN SAMOA AND THE TRUST TERRITORY AND THE FEDERAL COMPTROLLER FOR GUAM, ALL IN THE PACIFIC AREA.

CARPENTER WILL CONTINUE IN THAT POST AS WELL AS HIS SPC DUTIES. HE SUCCEEDS WILLIAM B. TAYLOR, WHOSE TERM EXPIRED. CARPENTER IS CURRENTLY ATTENDING THIS YEAR'S SPC MEETING IN THE COOK ISLANDS IN HIS NEW CAPACITY AND IS EXPECTED TO RETURN TO WASHINGTON ABOUT OCTOBER 14.

(POLITICAL ACTIVITIES BY GOV'T EMPLOYEES)

SAIPAN, SEPT. 30 (MNS)---TRUST TERRITORY DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC AFFAIRS STRIK YOMA HAS ISSUED A REMINDER TO ALL GOVERNMENT EMPLOYEES THAT ANY POLITICAL ACTIVITY DURING GOVERNMENT WORKING HOURS IS PROHIBITED, AS LISTED UNDER THE CODE OF PUBLIC REGULATIONS. THE REMINDER WAS ISSUED AS MICRONESIA MOVES INTO THE CAMPAIGNING SEASON FOR THE CONGRESS OF MICRONESIA GENERAL ELECTION.

IN A MEMORANDUM DATED SEPTEMBER 27, YOMA CITED PART 15.2, TITLE 61, OF THE CODE OF PUBLIC REGULATIONS, WHICH STATES: "EMPLOYEES OF THE PUBLIC SERVICE SYSTEM SHALL NOT:

- A. USE THEIR OFFICE OR OFFICIAL INFLUENCE TO INTERFERE WITH AN ELECTION OR TO AFFECT THE RESULTS OF AN ELECTION,
- B. USE THEIR OFFICIAL AUTHORITY TO COERCE ANY PERSON OR POLITICAL PARTY IN REFERENCE TO ANY POLITICALLY RELATED ACTIVITY,
- C. BE OBLIGATED TO CONTRIBUTE TO ANY POLITICAL FUND OR RENDER SERVICE TO ANY POLITICAL ACTIVITY,
- D. SOLICIT OR RECEIVE POLITICAL CONTRIBUTIONS FROM ANYONE WHILE ON GOVERNMENT TIME OR ON GOVERNMENT PROPERTY,
- E. CAMPAIGN FOR ANY CANDIDATES FOR PUBLIC OFFICE DURING OFFICIAL WORKING HOURS."

THE PUBLIC AFFAIRS DIRECTOR POINTED OUT THAT ANY GOVERNMENT EMPLOYEE WHO VIOLATES ANY OF THESE REGULATIONS WILL BE DISCIPLINED.

(PRE-CON COMMITTEE IN PALAU)

KOROR, SEPT. 30 (MNS)---THE PRE-CONVENTION COMMITTEE OF THE MICRONESIAN CONSTITUTIONAL CONVENTION WAS IN PALAU FOR THREE-DAYS LAST WEEK MEETING WITH THE PALAU DELEGATION TO THE MICRONESIAN CONSTITUTIONAL CONVENTION (CONCON) AND PALAU'S TRADITIONAL CHIEFS. OTHER MEETINGS WERE HELD WITH THE PALAU LEGISLATURE'S EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE, AND THE PEOPLE OF PELELIU MUNICIPALITY, PALAU PUBLIC INFORMATION OFFICER DAVID NGIRMIKOL REPORTS.

THE PRE-CONVENTION COMMITTEE WAS HEADED BY VICE-CHAIRMAN LEO A. FALCAM, DISTRICT ADMINISTRATOR FOR PONAPE DISTRICT.

MEETING WITH THE MEMBERS OF THE PALAU LEGISLATURE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE, THE PRE-CONVENTION COMMITTEE WAS TOLD THAT THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE PREFERRED TO HAVE THE CONCON HELD IN JULY OR AUGUST NEXT YEAR. THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE ALSO ASKED THE PRE-CONVENTION COMMITTEE TO LOOK INTO THE POSSIBILITY OF OBTAINING FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE TO FINANCE THE PALAU CONSTITUTIONAL CONVENTION. THE MATTER WILL BE GIVEN SPECIAL ATTENTION BY THE COMMITTEE, ACCORDING TO NGIRMIKOL.

IN A MEETING WITH THE PEOPLE OF PELELIU MUNICIPALITY, THE COMMITTEE WAS FACED WITH WHAT THE PEOPLE CALLED "A VERY IMPORTANT ISSUE" FACING THE PEOPLE OF PALAU TODAY--THAT IS THE WAR CLAIMS

SETTLEMENT. IT WAS POINTED OUT THAT THE PEOPLE OF PELELIU HAVE BEEN SUFFERING FOR ALMOST 30 YEARS DUE TO THE OUTCOME OF WORLD WAR II. IT WAS FURTHER EMPHASIZED THAT BEFORE MICRONESIA ENTERS INTO A NEW GOVERNMENT, THE WAR CLAIMS ISSUE MUST BE SETTLED.

THE LAST MEETING OF THE PRE-CONVENTION COMMITTEE WAS A DINNER MEETING WITH PALAU'S TRADITIONAL CHIEFS. DURING THE MEETING, THE CHAIRMAN OF THE PALAU DELEGATION TO THE CONVENTION, JOHN O. NGIRAKED, INFORMED THE TRADITIONAL CHIEFS OF THE BACKGROUND HISTORY AND THE PURPOSE OF THE PRE-CONVENTION COMMITTEE. HE SAID THAT BECAUSE OF THE DIFFERENCES AMONG ALL DISTRICTS, THE COMMITTEE IS TRAVELING THROUGHOUT MICRONESIA, MEETING WITH MICRONESIAN LEADERS WITH RESPECT TO WHEN SHOULD THE ACTUAL CONVENTION BE HELD AND OTHER RELATED MATTERS WHICH THE PRE-CONVENTION COMMITTEE MIGHT BE USING AS GUIDELINES IN PREPARING FOR THE MICRONESIAN CONSTITUTIONAL CONVENTION.

AS TO THE DATE OF THE ACTUAL CONVENTION, THE TRADITIONAL LEADERS AGREED TO LET THE PRE-CONVENTION COMMITTEE KNOW OF THEIR DECISION AFTER THEY HAD MET WITH PEOPLE OF PALAU.

ACCORDING TO NGIRMIDOL, THE OUTCOME OF THE MEETING DID NOT PRODUCE ANY DEFINITE ANSWER BUT IT WAS UNANIMOUSLY AGREED THAT THE PEOPLE OF PALAU NEED MORE TIME TO PREPARE THEMSELVES BEFORE THE CONCON ACTUALLY TAKES PLACE.

ANOTHER INTERESTING ISSUE BROUGHT UP DURING THE MEETING WAS THAT IT IS THE WISH AND DESIRE OF THE TRADITIONAL LEADERS THAT THE TRADITIONAL SYSTEM OF GOVERNMENT OF PALAU, WHERE EVERYBODY WAS HAPPY AND THERE WERE NO CRIMES AS COMPARED TO THE PRESENT SYSTEM, BE INCLUDED IN THE MICRONESIAN CONSTITUTIONAL CONVENTION, NGIRMIDOL REPORTS.

FALCAM THEN ASKED THE TRADITIONAL LEADERS ABOUT THE AMENDMENT IN THE CONCON BILL TO INCLUDE THE TRADITIONAL LEADERS AS FULL VOTING MEMBERS. THE RESPONSE WAS FAVORABLE, AS ONE TRADITIONAL LEADER POINTED OUT BY SAYING, "WE DO NOT WANT TO BE LIKE A WOOD-CARVING AT THE CONVENTION WHICH SERVES ONLY ONE PURPOSE, AND THAT IS FOR DECORATION. WE REPRESENT A GOOD NUMBER OF PEOPLE. AS WE HAVE BEEN SINCE WE INHERITED OUR POWERS AND THEREFORE, WE MUST HAVE RIGHTS TO VOTE IN THE MICRONESIAN CONSTITUTIONAL CONVENTION."

(ESG GROUP ON PONAPE)

PONAPE, SEPT. 30 (MNS)---MORE THAN FOUR HUNDRED HIGH SCHOOL, PONTEC, AND COMMUNITY COLLEGE OF MICRONESIA STUDENTS ATTENDED A SERIES OF MEETINGS WITH MEMBERS OF THE HEADQUARTERS TASK FORCE ON EDUCATION FOR SELF-GOVERNMENT (ESG) IN PONAPE LAST WEEK, ACCORDING TO PONAPE BROADCAST STATION MANAGER HALVORSEN JOHNNY.

THE FIRST MEETING HELD BY THE GROUP WAS WITH THE PONAPE TEACHER EDUCATION CENTER (PONTEC) TRAINEES. THE TRAINEES, ALONG WITH OTHER EDUCATION PERSONNEL, ASKED QUESTIONS REGARDING THE ESG PROGRAMS AND OTHERS AS THEY RELATE TO POLITICAL STATUS.

PRIOR TO THE QUESTION AND ANSWER SESSION BETWEEN THE TWO GROUPS, GEORGE CALLISON, SECOND VICE-CHAIRMAN OF THE TASK FORCE, EXPLAINED THE HISTORY OF THE ESG PROGRAM AND WHAT MICRONESIANS SHOULD EXPECT FROM IT. "CURRENTLY," HE SAID, "THE HEADQUARTERS TASK FORCE ON ESG IS PUTTING TOGETHER PROGRAMS THAT MAY BE USEFUL TO ALL MICRONESIANS IN DEVELOPING POLITICAL UNDERSTANDING AMONG THEM." HE INDICATED THAT THE ESG IS CONCENTRATING ON TWO TYPES OF PROGRAMS. ONE IS THE SHORT RANGE PLAN DEALING WITH THE ADULTS, WHILE THE OTHER IS ON A LONG RANGE BASIS, DEALING WITH THE YOUNG PEOPLE IN MICRONESIA. CALLISON ALSO SAID THAT MEMBERS OF THE TASK FORCE ARE SOLICITING AS MUCH INFORMATION

POSSIBLE FROM THE PEOPLE OF MICRONESIA IN MEETINGS SUCH AS THESE FOR ESG PROGRAM IMPROVEMENT PURPOSES.

AFTER MEETING WITH PONTEC TRAINEES, THE ESG GROUP MOVED TO THE COMMUNITY COLLEGE OF MICRONESIA WHERE MORE THAN 50 STUDENTS REPRESENTING ALL DISTRICTS OF MICRONESIA ATTENDED. NOT MANY QUESTIONS WERE ASKED, ACCORDING TO JOHNNY, BUT ONE STUDENT WANTED TO KNOW HOW THE TASK FORCE ON ESG CAN UNDERSTAND THAT MICRONESIANS ARE READY FOR SELF-GOVERNMENT AND HOW MUCH EFFORT COULD THE ESG TASK FORCE GUARANTEE IN MAKING EVERY MICRONESIAN FULLY UNDERSTAND THE POLITICAL ALTERNATIVES NOW BEFORE THEM.

SOME OF THE SUGGESTIONS MADE TO TASK FORCE MEMBERS REGARDING ITS PROGRAMS WERE THAT ALL MATERIALS ON ESG BE MADE AVAILABLE TO THE SCHOOL CURRICULUMS IN MICRONESIA, AND THAT MORE VISITS SHOULD BE EXTENDED TO THE MUNICIPALITIES AND OUTER ISLANDS. ONE COMMON THEM BROUGHT BEFORE THE ESG GROUP IS THE MORE PEOPLE ARE INTERESTED IN ESG MATERIALS THAT CARRY TRANSLATIONS IN THE LOCAL VERNACULAR.

THE MEETING WITH PICS STUDENTS WAS AN INTERESTING ONE, ACCORDING TO JOHNNY. SEVERAL QUESTIONS REGARDING POLITICAL STATUS WERE ASKED BY STUDENTS CURRENTLY TAKING ACOURSE ON "PROBLEMS OF MICRONESIA." SOME OF THE QUESTIONS WERE: WHO WILL BE CITIZENS OF MICRONESIA UNDER A NEW GOVERNMENT TO BE FORMED? WHAT IS THE BEST FORM OF POLITICAL STATUS FOR OUR ISLANDS TO TAKE? HOW WOULD MICRONESIANS BE PROTECTED FROM THE GROWING DEPENDENCE OF THE MONEY ECONOMY? AND, IS THE NINETY DAY PERIOD FOR THE CONSTITUTIONAL CONVENTION SUFFICIENT TO COMPLETE THE CONSTITUTION?

SEVERAL PICS STUDENTS EXPRESSED THEIR CONCERN THAT MORE MICRONESIANS TODAY ARE MOVING INTO THE DISTRICT CENTERS AND ARE INCREASING THEIR DEPENDENCE ON THE MONEY ECONOMY. THEY SAID THIS IS BEGINNING TO CREATE PROBLEMS IN THAT SUCH PEOPLE WILL TEND TO FORGET THE VALUES AND LIVES UNDER THE USUAL TRADITIONAL SET-UP.

IN ALL THE MEETINGS THE HEADQUARTERS TASK FORCE SHOWED A DRAFT SLIDE FILM ENTITLED "BUILDING A MICRONESIAN NATION." THREE CHARTS OF THE EVENT THAT MAY HAPPEN IN MICRONESIA BETWEEN NOW AND THE YEAR 2000 WERE SHOWN TO STUDENTS. THEY INCLUDED A TENTATIVE CALENDAR OF EVENTS OF MICRONESIA; INFLUENCES ON MICRONESIAN CITIZENS DECISION MAKING PROCESS; AND TWO WAYS TO MAKE MONEY IN BUSINESS. IN ALL THE MEETINGS, BOTH THE FACULTY AND STUDENTS EXPRESSED THEIR DESIRES TO HAVE SIMILAR MEETINGS IN THE FUTURE, JOHNNY REPORTED.

(ALL USERS: PLEASE CREDIT CONGRESS OF MICRONESIA)
(ATALIG CONCERNED ABOUT MILITARY VISIT)

SAIPAN, SEPT. 27 (CONGRESS RELEASE)---MARIANAS
REPRESENTATIVE FELIPE ATALIG HAS EXPRESSED CONCERN OVER THE VISIT OF THE DEPUTY SECRETARY OF THE U.S. DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE TO SAIPAN AND TINIAN FRIDAY. ATALIG SAID ALTHOUGH THE UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT HAS PLEDGED TO "PROTECT THE LANDS AND RESOURCES" OF THE PEOPLE OF MICRONESIA UNDER THE UNITED NATIONS TRUSTEESHIP, A UNILATERAL MORATORIUM ON HOMESTEADING ON TINIAN IS STILL IN EFFECT WHICH, HE SAID, "DEPRIVES THE PEOPLE OF THEIR GOD-GIVEN RIGHTS."

A TOP-LEVEL DELEGATION HEADED BY WILLIAM P. CLEMENTS, JR., DEPUTY SECRETARY OF DEFENSE, ACCOMPANIED BY VARIOUS ADMIRALS AND GENERALS, ARRIVED ON SAIPAN FRIDAY MORNING TO MEET WITH TRUST TERRITORY GOVERNMENT AND MARIANAS DISTRICT LEADERS.

"NOW WE SEE A HIGH-RANKING DELEGATION FROM WASHINGTON HAS TAKEN THE TIME TO VISIT OUR ISLANDS TO MEET WITH OUR LEADERS,"

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ATALIG SAID. "YET NO ONE IN WASHINGTON HAS FOUND THE TIME TO RESPOND TO HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 88 THAT WAS ADOPTED DURING THE LAST REGULAR SESSION OF THE CONGRESS OF MICRONESIA, WHICH DEMANDED THAT THE U.S. IMMEDIATELY TERMINATE THE MORATORIUM ON HOMESTEADING ON TINIAN."

ATALIG, WHO REPRESENTS TINIAN IN THE CONGRESS, SAID THE U.S. IS "APPARENTLY ONLY INTERESTED IN ACQUIRING LANDS IN THE MARIANAS AND NOT INTERESTED IN THE RIGHTS OF THE PEOPLE."

"TO ACHIEVE THEIR GOALS," HE SAID, "THE U.S. HAS ALSO TIMED THEIR VISIT SHORTLY BEFORE OUR CONGRESSIONAL ELECTIONS TO MEET WITH, AND SHOW SUPPORT TO, THOSE LOCAL LEADERS WHO ARE WILLING TO ACCOMMODATE THE MILITARY ON TINIAN EVEN IF IT MEANS SACRIFICING THE RIGHTS OF THE TINIAN PEOPLE."

ATALIG SAID THE CHAMORROS THAT WERE EVACUATED FROM YAP DISTRICT SHORTLY AFTER WORLD WAR TWO AND PROMISED LAND ON TINIAN ARE "STILL WAITING FOR THESE PROMISES TO BE KEPT."

"THE AMERICANS SEE US AS UNSOPHISTICATED ISLANDERS," CHARGED ATALIG. "BUT WE HAVE HEARD ABOUT THE AMERICAN INDIANS, ABOUT BIKINI, KWAJALEIN, AND ENEWETAK. WE KNOW AND UNDERSTAND HOW LITTLE OUR RIGHTS MEAN TO THEM," HE CONCLUDED.