



Department of State

TELEGRAM

10/14/25 OMSN

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2. Congress preview
3. New Caledonia joins Peaceat
4. Forms officer designated

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COMTWELVE PASS INFO FOR AMB WILLIAMS
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(NOTE TO EDITORS AND NEWS DIRECTORS: THE SECOND REGULAR SESSION OF THE FIFTH CONGRESS OF MICRONESIA BEGINS ON SAIPAN MONDAY, JANUARY 14, AND WILL RUN FOR A MAXIMUM OF 50 CALENDAR

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DAYS, ONCE AGAIN THIS YEAR MICRONESIAN NEWS SERVICE WILL PROVIDE A DAILY "COVERAGE OF RECORD" OF THE SESSION, WHICH WILL BE PART OF A SEPARATE DISPATCH FROM OUR CONGRESS NEWS BUREAU, SINCE THE REGULAR MNS COVERAGE OF NEWS EVENTS NOT RELATED TO THE CONGRESS WILL CONTINUE, YOU CAN EXPECT TO RECEIVE TWO MNS DISPATCHES ON MOST DAYS DURING THE CONGRESS SESSION, RATHER THAN THE USUAL ONE. PLEASE WATCH FOR THESE EXTRA DISPATCHES. WE ALSO ANTICIPATE A LARGER NUMBER OF

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SPECIAL NEWS RELEASES FROM THE CONGRESS OF MICRONESIA DURING THE SESSION, SINCE THE STAFF RESEARCHERS AND WRITERS IN THE LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S OFFICE HAS BEEN EXPANDED. SO IN SUMMARY, YOU WILL BE RECEIVING A GREAT DEAL OF MATERIAL DURING THE CONGRESS FROM MNS, AND IN ADDITION THE SIX DISTRICT RADIO STATIONS WILL ALSO HAVE SPECIAL REPORTS AND INTERVIEWS COMING TO THEM FROM THEIR REPORTERS ON SAIPAN FOR THE SESSION. WE HOPE SOME EXTRA EFFORT WILL BE EXPENDED BY EDITORS AND NEWS DIRECTORS TO DIGEST AND, IF NECESSARY, EDIT ALL OF THIS MATERIAL INTO A PACKAGE THAT WILL BE OF MAXIMUM INFORMATIVE BENEFIT TO THEIR PARTICULAR AUDIENCE. THE FOLLOWING SPECIAL ADVANCE REPORT ON THE UPCOMING SESSION WAS PREPARED BY MICRONESIAN NEWS SERVICE REPORTER FRANK ROSARIO FOR USE THIS WEEKEND.)

(CONGRESS PREVIEW)

SAIPAN, JAN. 10 (MNS)---THE SECOND REGULAR SESSION OF THE FIFTH CONGRESS OF MICRONESIA CONVENES ON SAIPAN ON MONDAY, JANUARY 14. THE SESSION WILL RUN FOR 50-CONSECUTIVE DAYS CONCLUDING MARCH 4TH ON OR BEFORE 12 MIDNIGHT.

THE OPENING DAY, LARGELY CEREMONIAL, WILL HAVE FEW

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LEGISLATIVE ACTIVITIES, BUT BOTH PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE TOSIWO NAKAYAMA AND HOUSE SPEAKER BETHWEL HENRY ARE EXPECTED TO MAKE OPENING REMARKS, OUTLINING WHERE THE CONGRESS SHOULD FOCUS ITS ATTENTION DURING THIS SESSION.

THIS WILL BE THE SECOND TIME THE CONGRESS HAS MET ON SAIPAN

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SINCE THE FIRE IN FEBRUARY, 1971 THAT DESTROYED THE MEETING CHAMBERS AND CUT SHORT THE FIRST REGULAR SESSION OF THE FOURTH CONGRESS, THAT FIRE SENT THE CONGRESS TO THE OTHER DISTRICTS, BEGINNING A PROCESS OF HOLDING SESSIONS AWAY FROM SAIPAN THAT SAW SPECIAL SESSIONS HELD IN TRUK AND PONAPE, AND A REGULAR SESSION IN PALAU BEFORE THE LAWMAKERS RETURNED TO SAIPAN LAST YEAR FOR THE START OF THE FIFTH CONGRESS.

ONE DATE THAT IS TENTATIVELY SET FOR THE COMING SESSION IS THE ANNUAL STATE OF THE TERRITORY ADDRESS FROM HIGH COMMISSIONER EDWARD E. JOHNSTON, THAT WILL BE FRIDAY, JANUARY 18 AT TEN A.M. BEFORE A JOINT SESSION OF THE HOUSE AND SENATE, AND OF COURSE THE PUBLIC IS INVITED TO ATTEND THIS AND ANY SESSION OF THE CONGRESS, AND ANY OF THE MANY COMMITTEE HEARINGS THAT ARE OPEN TO THE PUBLIC AS WELL DURING THE COURSE OF THE SESSION.

OBSERVERS FROM BOTH THE CONGRESS OF MICRONESIA AND THE

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EXECUTIVE BRANCH FORECAST THAT THE COMING SESSION WILL BE THE MOST PRODUCTIVE EVER. SENAT PRESIDENT TOSINO NAKAYAMA (TRUK) SAID ON SAIPAN THIS WEEK THAT THIS SESSION MORE THAN 500 PIECES OF LEGISLATION WILL BE INTRODUCED, OR RECONSIDERED. SPECIAL ASSISTANT FOR LEGISLATIVE AFFAIRS N. NEIMAN CRALEY, JR., SAID THAT AT THIS POINT, THE CONGRESS STILL HAS 338 PIECES OF LEGISLATION PENDING SINCE THE FIRST SESSION. SO IF THE CONGRESS IS GOING TO END UP WITH 500 BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS, AS SENATOR NAKAYAMA PREDICTS, THEY WILL HAVE THEIR WORK CUT OUT FOR THEM. "THAT'S A VERY INTERESTING FIGURE," CRALEY SAYS. "IT IS GOING TO GIVE THEM A TREMENDOUS WORKLOAD, PARTICULARLY SINCE LEGISLATION LEFT OVER AT THE END OF THIS SESSION WILL DIE IN DECEMBER UNLESS CONSIDERED IN A SPECIAL SESSION DURING SUMMER OR FALL."

SENATE VICE-PRESIDENT LAZARUS SALYE (PALAU), WHO IS ALSO CHAIRMAN OF THE CONGRESS JOINT COMMITTEE ON FUTURE STATUS, SAYS THAT ONE OF THE KEY SUBJECTS TO BE DISCUSSED DURING THE SESSION IS THE CONSTITUTIONAL CONVENTION BILL, THE BULK OF THE EXPENSE HAS ALREADY BEEN PROVIDED FOR BY THE U.S. CONGRESS, WHICH PASSED A SUPPLEMENTAL BUDGET REQUEST WHICH

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INCLUDES \$450,000 TO BE USED DURING THE CONVENTION. THE
PALAU SENATOR EMPHASIZED THAT THE CONSTITUTIONAL CONVENTION
BILL MUST BE PASSED THIS YEAR BECAUSE THE FUNDS ALLOCATED
BY THE U.S. MUST BE OBLIGATED BEFORE THE CURRENT FISCAL YEAR
RUNS OUT ON JULY 1. IN VIEW OF THAT, SENATOR SALII SAID,
"THERE MAY BE CREATED A SMALLER GROUP AUTHORIZED BY THE
CONGRESS TO HANDLE THAT MONEY AND TO SEE THAT MONEY AND TO
SEE THAT IT IS OBLIGATED." HE INDICATED THAT THE CONVENTION
MIGHT BE HELD THIS SUMMER, PROBABLY IN MAY OR JUNE IN PALAU
DISTRICT. "THE PROBLEM NOW IS, IF IT IS HELD IN MAY OR JUNE,
DO WE HAVE ENOUGH TIME TO ELECT THE DELEGATES... MAYBE THE
DELEGATES NEED NOT BE ELECTED. MAYBE THE DISTRICT
LEGISLATURES WILL SELECT MEMBERS TO ATTEND. IT IS NOT
NECESSARY TO ELECT ALL THE DELEGATES, THEY CAN BE BY
APPOINTMENT," SENATOR SALII SAYS.

LAST SESSION OF THE CONGRESS, THE CONSTITUTIONAL CONVENTION
BILL PASSED THE SENATE, BUT THE HOUSE TOOK NO ACTION ON IT,
MUCH TO THE DISAPPOINTMENT OF SENATOR SALII WHO FOUGHT HARD
FOR ITS PASSAGE. EXTENSIVE HEARINGS ON THE BILL WERE HELD
WITH REPRESENTATIVES FROM ALL SIX DISTRICTS INVITED TO GET

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THEIR THINKING ON THE MATTER. THE MARIANAS DELEGATION ASKED
TO BE EXCLUDED FROM THE CONVENTION BECAUSE THEY CONTEND
THAT THEY ARE OPTING FOR A DIFFERENT POLITICAL STATUS,
CLOSER TO THE UNITED STATES.

STATUS ISSUES, THE RETURN OF PUBLIC LANDS TO MICRONESIA,
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT, PRICE CONTROL LEGISLATION AND THE PAY
SCALE ARE SOME OF THE MAJOR ISSUES WHICH THE CONGRESS WILL
FACE THIS SESSION.

SENATOR SALII POINTS OUT THAT ON THE STATUS ISSUE,
THERE WILL BE SOME RECOMMENDATIONS FOR CONSIDERATION BY
THE CONGRESS AS A RESULT OF THE HEARINGS CONDUCTED BY THE
JOINT COMMITTEE ON FUTURE STATUS IN ALL SIX DISTRICTS OF
MICRONESIA. HOWEVER, THE STATUS COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN ADDS
THAT "SINCE THE LAST ROUND DID NOT RESULT IN ANY REAL
AGREEMENT... THE STATUS ISSUE WILL NOT BE DISCUSSED AT LENGTH

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THIS SESSION," HE DECLINES TO ELABORATE ON THE RECOMMENDATIONS THAT ARE IN THE REPORT UNTIL SUCH TIME AS THE CONGRESS MEMBERS RECEIVED THE REPORT OF THE JOINT COMMITTEE.

GRALEY FEELS THE STATUS ISSUE COULD BECOME A MAJOR ITEM IN THIS SESSION "PARTICULARLY IN VIEW OF WHAT APPEARS

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TO BE THE MARKED CONTRAST BETWEEN THE MARIANAS NEGOTIATIONS,
THAT SEEM TO BE MOVING AHEAD FAIRLY RAPIDLY, AHT THE REST OF
THE MICRONESIAN NEGOTIATIONS THAT SEEM TO BE KIND OF LAGGING A
LITTLE BIT BEHIND."
REGARDING THE U.S. POLICY ON THE RETURN OF PUBLIC
LANDS IN MICRONESIA, THE SPECIAL ASSISTANT FOR LEGISLATIVE

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AFFAIRS CONSIDERS THIS TO BE A SOURCE FOR "MAJOR LEGISLATION THIS SESSION." THE SENATE VICE-PRESIDENT AGREES, SAYING, "THIS WILL BE A KEY PIECE OF LEGISLATION. CONGRESS WILL HAVE TO CONSIDER AND IMPLEMENT THE RECENTLY ANNOUNCED POLICY WITH RESPECT TO THE RETURN OF THE SO-CALLED PUBLIC LANDS IN MICRONESIA TO THE RIGHTFUL OWNERS. THAT POLICY WAS FORMED IN SUCH A WAY THAT IT IS NECESSARY FOR THE CONGRESS TO PASS ENABLING LEGISLATION BEFORE THE DISTRICT LEGISLATURES

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CAN ACT."

PRICE CONTROL LEGISLATION IS SURE TO REAPPEAR, ACCORDING TO SENATOR NAKAYAMA. "IT HAS BEEN IN THE CONGRESS IN EVERY SINGLE SESSION SINCE PALAU," THE TRUK SENATOR NOTES. HE ADDS THAT RISING FOOD COSTS, ESPECIALLY ON STAPLE FOOD ITEMS, NECESSITATED SUCH LEGISLATION. HE CITES THE RECENT INCREASE IN FUEL COST AS ONE OF THE "PRESSING REASONS" TO WORK ON THE PRICE CONTROL LEGISLATION. A PRICE CONTROL BILL PASSED THE SENATE IN THE PALAU SESSION BUT THE HOUSE NEVER TOOK ANY ACTION ON IT. "MANY OF US IN THE SENATE FAVOR THAT LEGISLATION. IT WILL HAVE LITTLE TROUBLE PASSING THE SENATE AGAIN THIS YEAR," PRESIDENT NAKAYAMA SAYS.

ON THE MATTER OF ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT, THE SENATE LEADERSHIP AGAIN AGREES THAT THERE WILL BE SOME SORT OF LEGISLATION TO IMPROVE ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT IN MICRONESIA, MOST NOTABLY IN THE AREAS OF AGRICULTURE AND MARINE RESOURCES. SENATOR NAKAYAMA SAYS: "WE WILL URGE MICRONESIANS TO PRODUCE WHATEVER WE CAN PRODUCE TO CUT DOWN ON IMPORTS OF SOME OF THE THINGS WE CAN GROW AND PRODUCE IN OUR OWN DISTRICTS." SENATOR SALII SAYS HE DOESN'T HAVE ANY SPECIFIC

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SUGGESTION "AT THIS POINT IN TIME," THOUGH HE CONSIDERS ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT TO BE AN IMPORTANT ISSUE.

THE CONGRESS ALSO MIGHT WANT TO LOOK AT THE FUEL SITUATION AND WHAT CAN BE DONE ABOUT IT. NAKAYAMA POINTS OUT THAT THE FUEL CRISIS IS UNDER STUDY BY THE CONGRESS

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LEGAL COUNSEL, AS TO WHETHER THE CONGRESS SHOULD TAKE ANY ACTION. "SINCE MICRONESIA IS NOT PART OF THE UNITED STATES, WE SHOULDN'T BE MADE TO SUFFER UNDER THE ARAB OIL EMBARGO," NAKAYAMA SAYS. HE ADDS THAT THE 12 PER CENT CUTBACK IN ONLY VOLUNTARY ON THE PART OF MOBIL, WHICH GETS ITS OIL FROM THE PHILIPPINES, EXEMPTED UNDER THE OIL EMBARGO. THIS IS NECESSARY, ACCORDING TO THE SENATE PRESIDENT, SO THAT SHOULD WORST COME TO WORST, MICRONESIA WOULDN'T BE COMPLETELY OUT OF FUEL. "I ALSO THINK THEY MIGHT WANT TO CONSIDER SOMETHING ON THIS FUEL AND POWER SHORTAGE, AND I THINK THAT WILL DEPEND A GREAT DEAL ON HOW SERIOUS THE SITUATION IS," ADDS NEIMAN CRALEY.

CRALEY GOES ON TO POINT OUT THAT ANOTHER THING THE CONGRESS WILL ACT ON IS THE SINGLE-PAY PLAN THAT WENT INTO EFFECT LAST SEPTEMBER. "THE CONGRESS HAS TO TAKE ACTION

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ON THE PAY SCHEDULE BECAUSE THE PRESENT PAY SCALE EXPIRES ON JUNE 30TH," CRALEY SAYS. HE CONTINUES: "THE CONGRESS HAS TO DECIDE EITHER THAT IT IS GOOD AND WORKING AND TO CONTINUE IT, OR DECIDE THAT THERE ARE CERTAIN DEFICIENCIES IN IT AND WORK UP ANOTHER ONE. IF THERE ISN'T ANY ACTION, IN THEORY THAT SYSTEM ENDS ON JUNE 30TH. AND THEN IN THE ABSENCE OF ANYTHING, THE EXECUTIVE BRANCH WOULD MAKE A DECISION WHETHER TO CONTINUE IT OR INSTITUTE SOMETHING ELSE. BUT THE LAW REQUIRES US TO DO THAT."

AN ISSUE THAT IS SURE TO GET CONSIDERABLE ATTENTION DURING THE SESSION IS REAPPORTIONMENT OF THE HOUSE. CRALEY, SALII AND NAKAYAMA ALL FEEL, HOWEVER, THE POSSIBILITY EXISTS THAT COMPLETE DATA FROM THE RECENT CENSUS MAY NOT BE AVAILABLE DURING THE SESSION. THE REAPPORTIONMENT OF THE HOUSE AS WELL AS OF THE DISTRICT LEGISLATURES MAY BE DISCUSSED DURING A SPECIAL SESSION IF THE CONGRESS DECIDES TO HAVE ONE.

WORKMEN'S COMPENSATION HAS COME UP AS A POTENTIAL ITEM OF INTEREST AGAIN, PENDING FROM THE FIRST SESSION, AND "THAT'S ONE TO KEEP WATCHING," ACCORDING TO CRALEY. OTHERS

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ARE: TRANSPAC PROBLEMS, THE RETURN OF THE PEOPLE OF ENIWETOK
IN THE MARSHALL ISLANDS, THE PROGRESS OF POLITICAL EDUCATION
IN MICRONESIA, AND A LAW OF THE SEA COMMITTEE REPORT ON THE
WORLD-WIDE CONFERENCE THAT WAS HELD IN GENEVA LAST YEAR AND
THE ONE TO BE HELD THIS YEAR IN CARACAS, VENEZUELA.

LAST SESSION OF THE CONGRESS, THERE WERE 300 BILLS
INTRODUCED; 62 WERE ENACTED, 52 APPROVED, AND 10 DISAPPROVED.
ONE HUNDRED FORTY-EIGHT (148) JOINT RESOLUTIONS WERE
INTRODUCED, 40 WERE ADOPTED, WHILE 10 SINGLE RESOLUTIONS
WERE INTRODUCED AND NINE WERE ADOPTED. THE CONGRESS WILL
UNDOUBTEDLY RECONSIDER THIS SESSION SOME OF THE MEASURES
THAT WERE DISAPPROVED, AMONG THEM, THE ADMIRALTY BILL,
GREATLY DESIRED BY SOME CONGRESSMEN.

SO THE 1974 CONGRESS OF MICRONESIA SESSION IS LIKELY
TO BE THE BUSIEST SESSION EVER. N. NEIMAN CRALEY CONCURS
WITH THAT. "I THINK IT IS GOING TO BE AN EXTREMELY BUSY
SESSION. I THINK SOME OF THE COMMITTEES HAVE ALREADY
INDICATED THIS BY THE ADVANCE SCHEDULES THEY'VE GOT ON
SOME OF THESE HEARINGS. THIS SESSION WILL BE ONE OF THE
MOST PRODUCTIVE EVER," HE SAYS.

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(NEW CALEDONIA JOINS PEACESAT)

SAIPAN, JAN. 10, (MNS)---THE PEACESAT NETWORK OF SATELLITE
COMMUNICATIONS GAINED ANOTHER MEMBER THURSDAY (JAN. 10) WHEN A
NEW GROUND STATION WAS TESTED SUCCESSFULLY IN NOUMEA, NEW
CALEDONIA. THE NOUMEA STATION NOW JOINS THOSE IN HAWAII, FIJI,
AMERICAN SAMOA, TONGA, NEW ZEALAND, PAPUA-NEW GUINEA AND THE
TRUST TERRITORY IN THE PEACESAT (PAN PACIFIC EXPERIMENTS IN
COMMUNICATIONS AND EDUCATION BY SATELLITE) PROJECT.

CONDUCTING THE INITIAL TESTS FROM NOUMEA WAS PROFESSOR
KATASHI NOSE (NOH-SAY) OF THE UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII PHYSICS
DEPARTMENT, THE SAME ELECTRONICS EXPERT WHO INSTALLED THE
TRUST TERRITORY STATION ON SAIPAN, AIDED BY TWO BROADCAST
DIVISION TECHNICIANS, IN APRIL, 1973. ALL STATIONS ON THE
SATELLITE NETWORK TODAY REPORTED THE NOUMEA SIGNAL WAS AN
EXCELLENT ONE.

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PROGRAMMING ON PEACESAT WAS SUSPENDED TEMPORARILY OVER THE HOLIDAYS BECAUSE SEVERAL OF THE STATIONS - HAWAII, FIJI, PAPUA-NEW GUINEA AND NEW ZEALAND - ARE OPERATED IN CONNECTION WITH UNIVERSITIES WHICH ARE BETWEEN SEMESTERS AT PRESENT. PROGRAMMING WILL RESUME ON MONDAY, JANUARY 21 (TUESDAY, THE 22ND

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TRUST TERRITORY TIME) ACCORDING TO GEORGE CALLISON, SAIPAN
TERMINAL MANAGER, THE FIRST PROGRAM, AT 12:30 P.M. THAT DAY,
WILL INVOLVE SAIPAN, SUVA, FIJI AND LAE, PAPAU-NEW GUINEA IN
A DISCUSSION OF EDUCATION FOR SELF-GOVERNMENT, ALTHOUGH FIJI
GAINED ITS INDEPENDENCE IN 1970, PAPAU-NEW GUINEA ACHIEVED
SELF-GOVERNMENT VERY RECENTLY ON DECEMBER 1, 1973, AND LOCAL

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OFFICIALS CHARGED WITH DEVELOPING MICRONESIA'S EDUCATION FOR SELF-GOVERNMENT PROGRAM EXPECT TO GAIN VALUABLE INFORMATION THROUGH THIS SATELLITE EXCHANGE.

CALLISON IS ALSO INVOLVED IN PLANNING THE NEW EDUCATION FOR SELF-GOVERNMENT PROGRAM AS A SPECIAL ASSISTANT TO DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC AFFAIRS STRIK YOMA.

(FORMS OFFICER DESIGNATED)

SAIPAN, JAN. 10, (MNS)---TRUST TERRITORY DIRECTOR

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OF PUBLIC AFFAIRS STRIK YOMA HAS ANNOUNCED THE ASSIGNMENT OF JUNE D. WINHAM, PUBLIC INFORMATION SPECIALIST WITH THE PUBLIC INFORMATION DIVISION, AS FORMS MANAGEMENT OFFICER. SHE WILL WORK WITH THE PUBLICATIONS DIVISION IN THE EVALUATION OF ALL FORMS PRESENTLY IN USE IN THE TT GOVERNMENT, AND THE DESIGN OF NEW OR REVISED FORMS.

YOMA SAID MS. WINHAM WILL BE CONTACTING ALL DEPARTMENTS OF THE HEADQUARTERS AND DISTRICT GOVERNMENTS IN THE NEAR FUTURE RELATIVE TO FORMS NOW IN USE. IT IS ESTIMATED THAT THERE ARE BETWEEN THREE AND FOUR THOUSAND DIFFERENT FORMS IN CURRENT USE WITHIN THE GOVERNMENT, FOR EVERYTHING FROM ROUTING CORRESPONDENCE TO INVENTORY AND STOCK CONTROL. THE NEW FORMS MANAGEMENT OFFICER'S FIRST TASK WILL BE SIMPLY TO INVENTORY ALL THESE FORMS, AFTER WHICH SHE WILL UNDERTAKE AN EVALUATION OF THEM, AND FINALLY SHE WILL WORK WITH THE PUBLICATIONS AND PRINTING DIVISION IN THE DESIGN AND PRODUCTION OF NEW FORMS WHERE NECESSARY.

THE TEMPORARY ASSIGNMENT IS EXPECTED TO LAST ABOUT SIX MONTHS.

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