

1974

(NEW PLAN FOR TT FISHERMEN)

SAIPAN, JAN. 24 (MNS)---DIRECTOR OF RESOURCES AND DEVELOPMENT WYMAN X. ZACHARY ANNOUNCED A SPECIAL PLAN THIS WEEK WHICH IS AIMED AT PUTTING A NUMBER OF QUALIFIED MICRONESIAN FISHERMEN ONTO TUNA FISHING VESSELS WHICH THEY CAN OWN AND OPERATE THEMSELVES.

THE PLAN CALLS FOR A NEW DESIGN FOR A FISHING BOAT FOR FISHING IN TRUST TERRITORY WATERS--ONE WHICH WOULD REPLACE THE OKINAWAN-JAPANESE TYPE OF BOAT PRESENTLY BEING USED IN OFFSHORE TUNE FISHING WHICH IS OF ANCIENT DESIGN AND NOT NEARLY AS PRODUCTIVE AS MODERN FISHING BOATS.

ACCORDING TO ZACHARY, THESE OKINAWAN VESSELS, MADE OF WOOD, ARE EXPENSIVE AND INEFFICIENT TO OPERATE. THEY CARRY ONLY LIMITED QUANTITIES OF BAIT UNDER POOR CONDITIONS, HAVE POOR CREW ACCOMMODATIONS, TRAVEL VERY SLOWLY, AND HAVE A VERY LIMITED RANGE, THUS MAKING IT IMPOSSIBLE TO FISH MORE THAN 50 MILES OFFSHORE. IN ADDITION, THE BEST HOOKING LOCATIONS OF THESE VESSELS ARE HIGH ABOVE THE WATER, MAKING IT DIFFICULT FOR THE FISHERMEN TO LAND THE LARGER TUNA.

IN ORDER TO OVERCOME THESE VARIOUS DIFFICULTIES, THE NAVAL ARCHITECT OF MARINE RESOURCES DIVISION, WENDELL H. CALKINS, IN CONSULTATION WITH VAN CAMP SEA FOOD COMPANY, LOCAL FISHERMEN AND OTHER STAFF MEMBERS, HAS DESIGNED A NEW STEEL LIVE-BAIT TUNA FISHING VESSEL WHICH SHOULD REMEDY ALL OF THE FAULTS OF THE PRESENT FISHING FLEET.

THE DESIGN PROVIDES A SHIP WITH A RANGE OF 1,500 MILES, ABLE TO TRAVEL AT A SPEED OF NINE KNOTS AND CARRY A CREW OF 14 MEN, 61 FEET IN LENGTH WITH A 19-FOOT BEAM AND A FIVE FOOT DRAFT, AND A FISH CAPACITY OF 29 TONS IN INSULATED HOLDS. THE FISHING BOAT HAS BEEN LITERALLY DESIGNED AROUND THE BAIT WELLS, WHICH ARE USED TO CARRY LIVE BAIT FISH TO THE FISHING GROUNDS AS WELL AS TO STORE THE TUNA. NORMAL BAITING PRACTICES PRESENTLY CALL FOR THE CONCENTRATION OF BAIT IN A NET AND THEIR TRANSFER INTO THE WELLS OF THE VESSEL BY BUCKETS AND SCOOP NETS. RESEARCH AT THE UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII HAS CLEARLY DEMONSTRATED THAT THIS TYPE OF HANDING CAUSES A LARGE PERCENTAGE OF THE BAIT TO DIE AND FURTHER WEAKENS THE BAIT SO THAT MOST OF IT DIES WITHIN A 24 HOUR PERIOD.

IN ORDER TO REMEDY THIS PROBLEM, THE NEW TUNA VESSEL HAS BEEN DESIGNED WITH UNDERWATER DOORS, WHICH WILL MAKE IT POSSIBLE TO ACTUALLY SWIM THE BAIT INTO THE LIVE WELLS, THUS ELIMINATING THE NEED TO HANDLE THE BAIT WITH NETS AND BUCKETS. IN ADDITION, WATER WILL BE SUPPLIED TO THE BAIT WELLS BY PUMPS WHICH WILL DOUBLE THE PRESENT BAIT CARRYING CAPABILITY OF A SIMILAR SIZED VESSEL. BY UTILIZING OVERFLOW WELLS, LOSS OF BAIT WILL BE REDUCED BY ELIMINATING THE NORMAL "SLOSHING" ACTION WHICH TAKES PLACE IN PRESENT OPEN-TYPE WELLS.

THE VESSEL HAS ALSO BEEN DESIGNED TO BE OPERATED AS SIMPLY AS POSSIBLE. COMPLICATED EQUIPMENT AND MACHINERY HAS BEEN RESTRICTED TO A MINIMUM IN ORDER TO INSURE AGAINST MECHANICAL BREAKDOWNS. PLANS AND SPECIFICATIONS FOR THE VESSEL HAVE BEEN CIRCULATED TO SHIPYARDS THROUGHOUT THE FAR EAST, HAWAII, AND THE UNITED STATES. THOSE YARDS INTERESTED IN BIDDING ON THE CONSTRUCTION OF THIS VESSEL HAVE BEEN REQUESTED TO SUBMIT BIDS IN TWO WAYS, INCLUDING A PROPOSAL WHEREBY THE VESSELS WILL BE BUILT WITHIN THE TRUST TERRITORY AT PRIVATE YARDS. THE SHIPYARDS HAVE BEEN ADVISED THAT IT IS THE DESIRE OF THE GOVERNMENT TO HAVE THE VESSELS BUILT WITHIN THE TRUST TERRITORY UTILIZING AS MUCH MICRONESIAN LABOR AS POSSIBLE AND THEREBY REDUCING DELIVERY FEES FOR THE FINISHED VESSEL. IN ADDITION, BY BUILDING THE BOATS IN THE TT, THE MICRONESIANS WILL BE INTRODUCED TO A WHOLE NEW ARRAY OF MECHANICAL SKILLS SUCH AS SHIPFITTING, SHIPYARD WELDING, STEEL LAY-OUTS, MODERN AMERICAN PRACTICE IN MACHINERY, PIPING AND ELECTRICAL INSTALLATIONS.

PLANS AND SPECIFICATIONS FOR THE VESSEL HAVE ALSO BEEN

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CIRCULATED THROUGHOUT ALL OF THE DISTRICTS AND MEETINGS HELD WITH LOCAL FISHERMEN TO ENCOURAGE THEM TO SUBMIT LOAN REQUESTS FOR THE CONSTRUCTION OF THESE BOATS. VAN CAMP SEA FOOD COMPANY IS ALSO CONSIDERING THE FEASIBILITY OF REPLACING THEIR FLEET WITH THESE VESSELS. WELL-KNOWN MICRONESIAN FISHERMEN HAVE ALREADY REQUESTED INFORMATION ON THE VESSELS AND HOW TO OBTAIN THEM.

IT IS HOPED THAT CONSTRUCTION BIDS FOR THESE BOATS WILL BE LOW ENOUGH SO THAT A NUMBER OF THEM CAN BE BUILT FOR EXPERIENCED MICRONESIAN TUNA FISHERMEN. PRELIMINARY ESTIMATES BASED ON KNOWN ANNUAL PRODUCTION FIGURES FOR VESSELS WHICH HAVE BEEN FISHING FOR VAN CAMP OVER THE YEARS, INDICATE THAT IT SHOULD BE POSSIBLE TO AMORTIZE THE TOTAL COST OF THE VESSEL IN A FEW YEARS WHILE STILL PAYING THE MICRONESIAN CREW MEMBERS EXCELLENT EARNINGS.

DIRECTOR OF R&D ZACHARY CONCLUDED BY SAYING THAT IF THE VESSELS CAN BE FINANCED THROUGH THE MARINE RESOURCES DEVELOPMENT LOAN FUND AND BUILT AT A FIGURE WHICH WILL MICRONESIANS WILL SOON BE FISHING THE OFFSHORE WATERS OF THE TRUST TERRITORY IN VESSELS WHICH THEY OWN AND OPERATE THEMSELVES.
(HICOM ACTS ON MORTON MESSAGE)

(SAIPAN, JAN. 24 (HNS))---TRUST TERRITORY HIGH COMMISSIONER EDWARD E. JOHNSTON HAS ANNOUNCED THE STEPS HIS ADMINISTRATION IS TAKING IN RESPONSE TO THE MESSAGE DELIVERED TO THE PEOPLE OF MICRONESIA WEDNESDAY (JAN. 23) BY SECRETARY OF THE INTERIOR ROGERS C.B. MORTON. THE INFORMATION IS CONTAINED IN A LETTER WRITTEN BY JOHNSTON TO THE SECRETARY, IN REPLY TO THE SECRETARY'S LETTER WHICH ACCOMPANIED THE FILMED AND TAPED MESSAGE MORTON DELIVERED.

"YOUR MESSAGE CONTAINED MUCH OF GREAT IMPORTANCE TO THE FUTURE OF THIS AREA," THE HICOM TOLD THE SECRETARY, "AND I FEEL SURE THAT THE RESPONSE TO THE POLICIES AND GOALS DISCUSSED IN YOUR MESSAGE WILL BE FAVORABLE." HE ADDED THAT THE FILMS OF THE SPEECH WILL BE GIVEN THE WIDEST POSSIBLE DISTRIBUTION THROUGHOUT THE ENTIRE TRUST TERRITORY.

IN REPLY TO SPECIFIC COMMITMENTS MADE BY SECRETARY MORTON IN THE ADDRESS, THE HICOM SAID HE HAS GIVEN THE CONGRESS OF MICRONESIA ASSURANCE OF THE FULL COOPERATION AND RESOURCES OF THE EXECUTIVE BRANCH OF THE TT AND U.S. GOVERNMENTS IN SECURING THE PASSAGE OF A CONSTITUTIONAL CONVENTION BILL AND EXPEDITING THE WORK OF SUCH CONVENTION.

THE HIGH COMMISSIONER SAID WORK HAS ALREADY BEGUN ON ASSEMBLING THE BASIC COMPONENTS OF AN EXPANDED AND ACCELERATED CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM FOR THE FIVE-YEAR PLANNING PERIOD OF FISCAL YEARS 1976 THROUGH 1980.

"OUR CURRENT APPROPRIATION AUTHORIZATION EXTENDS THROUGH FISCAL YEAR 1975 AT THE 60 MILLION DOLLAR LEVEL," HE STATED. "EVEN PRIOR TO YOUR POLICY ANNOUNCEMENT, WE HAVE BEEN PLANNING ON THE BASIS OF AN INCREASE IN THE CEILING TO 70 MILLION DOLLARS FOR FISCAL YEARS 1978-1980. DURING RECENT DISCUSSIONS WITH

BOTH AMBASSADOR (F. HAYDN) WILLIAMS AND THE LEADERSHIP OF THE CONGRESS OF MICRONESIA'S JOINT COMMITTEE ON FUTURE STATUS, IT WAS AGREED THAT WE SHOULD MAKE EVERY EFFORT TO INTEGRATE OUR PROGRAM AND FINANCIAL PLANNING WITH THE BASIC ANALYSIS OF FINANCIAL REQUIREMENTS FOR THE FUTURE GOVERNMENT OF MICRONESIA DEVELOPED FOR THE STATUS NEGOTIATIONS.

Remarkable how
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"ACCORDINGLY," THE HIGH COMMISSIONER'S LETTER TO SECRETARY MORTON CONTAINED "WITH THE ASSISTANCE OF MEMBERS OF YOUR STAFF WE ARE COMPLETING DATA ON CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT REQUIREMENTS WITHOUT REGARD TO FINANCIAL CONSTRAINTS. THESE DATA SHOULD PROVE VERY HELPFUL IN DEVELOPING OUR STRATEGY IN LINE WITH YOUR NEW POLICY. WE SHALL HAVE A PLAN IN YOUR HANDS AT THE EARLIEST POSSIBLE MOMENT WHICH WILL ACCORD WITH YOUR ANNOUNCED POLICY GOALS AND WHICH WILL REFLECT A CONTINUING HIGH DEGREE OF COOPERATION BETWEEN EXECUTIVE AND LEGISLATIVE BRANCHES AT ALL LEVELS OF THE TRUST TERRITORY GOVERNMENT."

THE HIGH COMMISSIONER WENT ON TO MENTION THE PLANNED SECOND SUPPLEMENTAL BUDGET REQUEST FOR THIS FISCAL YEAR, WHICH IS TO BE SUBMITTED SHORTLY TO THE U.S. CONGRESS. HE ALSO SUGGESTED THAT IT MIGHT BE APPROPRIATE LEGISLATION TO INCREASE THE FY 1975 CEILING ABOVE 60 MILLION DOLLARS, IN VIEW OF SHARPLY RISING COSTS FOR SUCH THINGS AS FUEL.

TURNING TO SECRETARY MORTON'S ANNOUNCEMENT OF NEW POLICY FOR FOREIGN INVESTMENT, HIGH COMMISSIONER JOHNSTON SAID THE TRUST TERRITORY ADMINISTRATION'S PLAN FOR PROCEEDING TO IMPLEMENT THIS POLICY WILL BE FORWARDED TO THE DEPARTMENT OF INTERIOR PRIOR TO MARCH 1. ALSO PRIOR TO THAT DATE, HE SAID THE DEPARTMENT WILL RECEIVE A FORECAST OF MANPOWER NEEDS IN THE TT FOR THE NEXT THREE YEARS. "A PROJECT ON WHICH WE HAVE BEEN WORKING CONTINUALLY SINCE THIS ADMINISTRATION BEGAN IN 1969."

THE HICOM ALSO SAID IT IS HOPED THAT PROPOSED LEGISLATION FOR IMPLEMENTING THE NEW U.S. POLICY ON RETURN OF PUBLIC LAND CAN BE SUBMITTED TO THE CONGRESS OF MICRONESIA FOR CONSIDERATION NOT LATER THAN FEBRUARY 1.

CONCERNING THE EDUCATION FOR SELF-GOVERNMENT PROGRAM, ON WHICH SECRETARY MORTON PLACED GREAT EMPHASIS IN HIS ADDRESS, THE HICOM SAID THAT THE WEEK OF JANUARY 27 THROUGH FEBRUARY 2 WILL BE DESIGNATED EDUCATION FOR SELF-GOVERNMENT WEEK THROUGHOUT MICRONESIA.

"AT THE START OF THE WEEK EACH DISTRICT WILL HEAR ON RADIO OR SEE ON TELEVISION THE MESSAGE WHICH I HAVE PREPARED TO OFFICIALLY BEGIN THE PROGRAM," SAID THE HIGH COMMISSIONER.

"MY COMMENTS WILL BE FOLLOWED BY A MESSAGE FROM THE DISTRICT ADMINISTRATOR IN EACH DISTRICT.

"DURING EDUCATION FOR SELF-GOVERNMENT WEEK," HE CONTINUED, "WE WILL BEGIN A SERIES OF BRIEF, CONCISE RADIO PROGRAMS AND, AT THE SAME TIME, WILL BEGIN DISCUSSIONS AND DEBATES IN SCHOOLS AND COMMUNITIES THROUGHOUT THE TRUST TERRITORY. WE WILL KEEP YOU REGULARLY POSTED ON THE PROGRESS OF THIS NEW PROGRAM," THE HICOM TOLD SECRETARY MORTON.

(AIR MIKE CUTS FLIGHT)

JAN. 24 (CONTINENTAL RELEASE)--CONTINENTAL/AIR MICRONESIA, IN RESPONSE TO THE GROWING FUEL SHORTAGE IN MICRONESIA, IS VOLUNTARILY REDUCING ITS SCHEDULE SO AS TO SAVE MORE THAN A QUARTER OF A MILLION GALLONS OF FUEL A YEAR WHILE STILL MAINTAINING AN ADEQUATE LEVEL OF SERVICE DUGGAN, VICE PRESIDENT AND GENERAL MANAGER FOR AIR MICRONESIA.

"WE CURRENTLY OPERATE FIVE TRIPS A WEEK BETWEEN GUAM AND PALAU, TWO OF WHICH ARE NON-STOP FLIGHTS. WE WILL CANCEL ONE NON-STOP ROUNDTRIP A WEEK ON TUESDAY, IN ORDER TO ACHIEVE THE FUEL SAVINGS," DUGGAN SAID. "WE FEEL THAT THIS REDUCTION STILL LEAVES GUAM AND PALAU WITH A RESPONSIVE AND ADEQUATE AIR SERVICES."

CONTINENTAL/AIR MICRONESIA BEGAN OPERATING FIVE WEEKLY ROUNDTRIP BETWEEN GUAM AND PALAU DEC. 15 1972, WITH THE COMPLETION OF IMPROVEMENTS IN THE PALAU AIR FIELD, WHICH PERMITTED FLIGHTS WITH CONTINENTAL/AIR MICRONESIA 727 JET AIRCRAFT. PRIOR TO THAT, SERVICE HAD BEEN THREE TIMES WEEKLY WITH THE DC-8AB.

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(FOREIGN BUSINESS PERMITS IN TTD)

SAIPAN, JAN. 24 (UPI)—A BUSINESS PERMIT WAS APPROVED THIS WEEK BY HIGH COMMISSIONER WILSON FOR JUAN C. TENORIO ASSOCIATES (SAIPAN), INC., ACCORDING TO THE WEEKLY SUMMARY OF BUSINESS ACTIVITY FROM THE DIVISION OF ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT OF THE RESOURCES AND DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT.

THE FIRM CAN NOW DO ARCHITECTURE, ENGINEERING AND SURVEYING WORK IN THE MARIANAS DISTRICT.

BUSINESS PERMITS DISAPPROVED BY THE HIGH COMMISSIONER INCLUDE THOSE FOR HOLMES MANAGEMENT COMPANY AND PACIFIC COMMUNICATIONS BOTH OF WHICH HAD APPLIED TO OPERATE CABLE TELEVISION COMPANIES APPLICATIONS BE DISAPPROVED BECAUSE OF THE HIGH COST OF INSTALLING THE EQUIPMENT; HIGH COST OF CONSUMER GOODS ADVERTISED WHICH WOULD WORK HARDSHIP ON THE PEOPLE OF TRUK; AND ALSO THE BOARD FEARED THAT EXPOSING YOUNGSTERS TO VARIOUS PROGRAMS WITH VIOLENCE MIGHT HAVE THE INDIRECT EFFECT ON INCREASING JUVENILE DELINQUENCY IN THE DISTRICT.

THE BOARD ALSO RECOMMENDED DISAPPROVAL OF THE TWO TELEVISION COMPANIES BECAUSE IT CONSIDERED IT UNFAIR THAT ONLY HOMES WITH ELECTRICITY COULD BE ABLE TO OBTAIN THE CABLE TELEVISION SERVICE AND ALSO THE FACT THAT THE FEES PAID TO THE GOVERNMENT FOR INSTALLING CABLES ON TELEPHONE POLES WOULD NOT BE RETURNED TO LANDOWNERS.

TWO COMPANIES SUBMITTED THEIR APPLICATIONS TO DO BUSINESS IN THE TRUST TERRITORY DURING THE WEEK. THEY ARE GUNTHER W. MOTHEIS AND COMPANY OF YAP WHOSE BUSINESS PERMIT WAS REVOKED LAST YEAR BASED ON RECOMMENDATION OF THE YAP ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT BOARD. THE OTHER APPLICATION CAME FROM MARSHALL ISLANDS SEA FOOD ENTERPRISES, INC. FOR THE MARSHALLS. GUNTHER W. MOTHEIS IS PRESIDENT OF BOTH COMPANIES.

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