

(ESG WEEK)

SAIPAN, JA. 28 (MNS)---HIGH COMMISSIONER EDWARD E. JOHNSTON HAS ANNOUNCED THE OFFICIAL OPENING OF THE TRUST TERRITORY-WIDE PROGRAM OF EDUCATION FOR SELF-GOVERNMENT.

IN DECLARING THE WEEK OF JANUARY 28 "EDUCATION FOR SELF-GOVERNMENT WEEK," THE HIGH COMMISSIONER STATED THAT THE PROGRAM IS DESIGNED TO PREPARE MICRONESIAN VOTERS TO MAKE THEIR OWN DECISIONS BASED ON THE BEST INFORMATION AVAILABLE. HE EMPHASIZED THAT THE PROGRAM WILL NOT ATTEMPT TO INFLUENCE THE POPULATION TOWARDS ANY PARTICULAR STATUS ALTERNATIVE BUT WILL, ON THE OTHER HAND, PROVIDE OBJECTIVE AND FACTUAL BACKGROUND AND MATERIAL ON ALL OF THE STATUS OPTIONS.

THE ESG PROGRAM IS COORDINATED BY A TASK FORCE MADE UP OF STAFF MEMBERS PRIMARILY FROM THE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC AFFAIRS AND THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION, WITH PARTICIPATION AS WELL FROM OTHER DEPARTMENTS. UNDER THE OVERALL DIRECTION OF DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC AFFAIRS STRIK YOMA, THE TASK FORCE IS DEVELOPING THE PROGRAMS PREPARED FOR PUBLIC USE.

IN PROVIDING ADDITIONAL INFORMATION CONCERNING THE ESG PROGRAM, YOMA EXPRESSED SATISFACTION THAT SEVERAL DISTRICTS--PALAU, MARIANAS AND YAP--HAVE ESTABLISHED COUNTERPART COMMITTEES AND TASK FORCES WHICH WILL ASSIST IN THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE PROGRAM AT THE DISTRICT LEVEL. IN OTHER DISTRICTS THERE ARE ALREADY PUBLIC AND NON-PUBLIC GROUPS WHICH WILL BE ASKED TO ASSIST.

THE HIGH COMMISSIONER'S REMARKS, BROADCAST ON RADIO IN THE SIX DISTRICT CENTERS AND ALSO ON TELEVISION ON SAIPAN, COMPARED ESG TO "MAKING THE PLANS FOR A NEW POLITICAL HOUSE FOR MICRONESIA," AND EMPHASIZED THE NEED FOR COOPERATION AND PARTICIPATION FROM ALL LEVELS OF MICRONESIAN SOCIETY. HE ASKED FOR INTER-DISTRICT COOPERATION AND UNDERSTANDING. "THE CHOICE OF A NEW GOVERNMENT, LIKE THE HOUSE THAT IS FINALLY BUILT, WILL REFLECT YOUR UNDERSTANDING OF YOUR NEEDS AND ASPIRATIONS FOR YOUR OWN FUTURE AND THE FUTURE OF YOUR CHILDREN."

PUBLIC AFFAIRS DIRECTOR YOMA ALSO STRESSED THAT THERE ARE NO EASY ANSWERS TO THE PROBLEMS OF STUDYING THE VARIOUS ALTERNATIVES. A MAJOR EFFORT WILL BE MADE TO PROVIDE LOCAL TRANSLATIONS OF THE VARIOUS PROGRAMS AND A HEAVY EMPHASIS WILL BE PLACED ON PERSONAL CONTACT IN PUBLIC MEETINGS AND DISCUSSION SESSIONS. THE HIGH COMMISSIONER STATED THAT SUCCESS WILL BE MEASURED PRIMARILY BY THE PARTICIPATION OF THE GENERAL PUBLIC.

AS A PART OF ESG WEEK, THE PUBLIC AFFAIRS DEPARTMENT ANNOUNCED THE BEGINNING OF SEVERAL PROGRAMS FOR THE ESG EFFORT.

FIRST AMONG THOSE LISTED WAS A SERIES OF 14 FIVE MINUTE RADIO PROGRAMS WHICH WILL OUTLINE OR SUMMARIZE THE VARIOUS POLITICAL ALTERNATIVES NOW AVAILABLE TO THE TRUST TERRITORY.

THE ESG TASK FORCE HAS ALSO DISCUSSED SEVERAL KINDS OF CONTESTS FOR TT SCHOOLS AND VARIOUS HANDOUTS DESIGNATED TO CALL ATTENTION TO THE PROGRAM.

ACCORDING TO YOMA, THE PROGRAM IS DESIGNED IN TWO PHASES. THE FIRST PHASE WILL LAST FOR ABOUT 2 YEARS, OR UNTIL A VOTE OR PLEBISCITE IS HELD WHICH WILL INDICATE THE PREFERENCE OF THE MAJORITY OF MICRONESIANS. THIS PROGRAM WILL AIM AT PREPARING VOTERS FOR THAT PLEBISCITE.

THE SECOND PHASE WILL CONTINUE UNTIL THE CONCLUSION OF THE TRUSTEESHIP AGREEMENT AND IS DESIGNED TO FAMILIARIZE THE CITIZENS OF THE TRUST TERRITORY WITH THE PROCESS OF GOVERNMENT IN GENERAL AND PROVIDE THE MEANS TO A BETTER UNDERSTANDING OF CIVIC RIGHTS AND RESPONSIBILITIES UNDER THE SEVERAL POSSIBLE STATUS CHOICES.

AS PART OF THE PROGRAM, GEORGE CALLISON, A MEMBER OF THE TASK FORCE AND SPECIAL ASSISTANT TO THE DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC AFFAIRS, HAS ARRANGED A SATELLITE CONFERENCE CALL WITH NEW GUINEA AND FIJI TO DISCUSS THE XPERIENCES THEY HAVE HAD IN POLITICAL EDUCATION. (THE PEACESAT CONFERENCE WILL BE HELD ON TUESDAY, JANUARY 29. AT 12:30 P.M.)

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2

THE ESG PROGRAM IS THE RESULT OF A MEETING IN HAWAII LAST OCTOBER DURING WHICH THE HIGH COMMISSIONER, AMBASSADOR HAYDN WILLIAMS, AND SENATOR LAZARUS SALII AGREED THAT POLITICAL EDUCATION WOULD BE THE RESPONSIBILITY OF THE EXECUTIVE BRANCH OF THE TRUST TERRITORY GOVERNMENT.

IN A SPECIAL APPROPRIATION, THE U.S. CONGRESS ALLOCATED \$100,000 FOR FUNDING FOR THE PROGRAM IN THE REMAINDER OF FISCAL YEAR 1974, WITH ANOTHER \$100,000 EARMARKED FOR FISCAL YEAR 1975.

(CONGRESS SESSIONS BRIEF)

SAIPAN, JAN. 28 (MNS)--BOTH HOUSES OF THE CONGRESS OF MICRONESIA HELD BRIEF SESSIONS MONDAY (JAN. 28), WITH FLOOR ACTION IN BOTH CHAMBERS CONTINUING TO BE LIGHT.

IN THE HOUSE, ONE BILL WAS FILED, AND THREE WERE INTRODUCED, ALL OF THEM APPROPRIATION MEASURES, AND ONE PASSED FIRST READING.

FILED UPON RECOMMENDATION BY THE HOUSE COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION AND SOCIAL MATTERS WAS A MEASURE TO EXPAND THE EXISTING LAW ON HISTORICAL SITES AND ANTIQUITIES IN ORDER TO CREATE A COMPREHENSIVE LEGAL FRAMEWORK FOR THE ESTABLISHMENT OF A TERRITORY-WIDE SYSTEM OF PARKS AND PROTECTED HISTORIC SITES AND STRUCTURES, (HB 184). THE BILL WAS A CARRYOVER FROM THE LAST SESSION OF CONGRESS. ACCORDING TO THE COMMITTEE, THE BILL WAS BASED ON A COMPREHENSIVE STUDY MADE BY RUSSELL A. APPLE OF THE U.S. NATIONAL PARK SERVICE IN 1972. THE COMMITTEE FELT THAT IT WOULD BE INAPPROPRIATE TO PASS THE BILL FOR TWO REASONS. FIRST, "MOST PEOPLE IN EACH DISTRICT WOULD PREFER TO HAVE HISTORIC PRESERVATION AND PARKS DEVELOPMENT PLANNED AND CONTROLLED AT THE DISTRICT LEVEL," AND SECONDLY, THE RECENT ANNOUNCEMENT ON THE RETURN OF PUBLIC LANDS TO THE DISTRICT GOVERNMENTS MAKES MUCH OF THE SCHEME OF THE BILL UNWORKABLE.

THE BILLS OFFERED THIS MORNING INCLUDE: A BILL ASKING FOR \$350,000 FROM THE CONGRESS GENERAL FUND TO SUPPLEMENT THE TT HOUSING LOAN FUNDS TO CARRY OUT THE PURPOSE OF PL-5-37, (HB 241); REQUESTING \$255,800 TO DEFRAY THE OPERATIONS AND CONTINGENT EXPENSES OF THE REVENUE DIVISION OF THE DEPARTMENT OF FINANCE FOR FY 1975, (HB 240) AND ANOTHER BILL WHICH ASKS FOR \$200,000 FROM THE CONGRESS GENERAL FUND FOR EMERGENCY SUPPORT OF THE SIX DISTRICTS CAA'S (HB 239).

THE SENATE PASSED ON FINAL READING A BILL AMENDING CERTAIN SECTIONS OF THE SOCIAL SECURITY ACT RELATING TO RETIREMENT BENEFITS. THE BILL NOW GOES TO THE HOUSE FOR ITS CONSIDERATION. THE SENATE ALSO ADOPTED A HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION EXPRESSING CONDOLANCES TO THE FAMILY OF THE LATE PALAU DISTRICT PRESIDING JUDGE PABLO RINGANG.

TWO NEW BILLS AND TWO NEW RESOLUTIONS WERE OFFERED IN THE SENATE. THEY WERE: A BILL CONCERNING THE ALLOCATION OF GASOLINE AND DIESEL FUEL (S.B. 236); AND A BILL MAKING CERTAIN TECHNICAL AMENDMENTS TO THE TT CODE TO COMPLY WITH THE MICRONESIAN CLAIMS ACT, (S.B. 235).

THE BILL REGARDING GASOLINE AND FUEL ALLOCATIONS WAS INTRODUCED BY SENATOR OLYMPIO T. BORJA (MARIANAS). IT WOULD PROVIDE, AMONG OTHER THINGS, THAT THE DISTAD OF ANY DISTRICT OR THE CONGRESS OF MICRONESIA COULD DECLARE A FUEL EMERGENCY

IN A DISTRICT AND THEREBY BE AUTHORIZED TO IMPOSE A RATIONING

SYSTEM. IT FURTHER DECLARES THAT SUCH AN EMERGENCY ALREADY EXISTS IN THE MARIANAS, AND OUTLINES STEPS TO BE TAKEN BY THE DISTAD TO SET UP A RATIONING OR DISTRIBUTION SYSTEM FOR GASOLINE BASED ON LICENSE PLATE NUMBERS FOR REGISTERED VEHICLES. A SYSTEM WHICH WOULD ALLOW ALLOCATION OF GASOLINE ON THE BASIS OF ONE FULL TANK OF GAS PER WEEK IS ALREADY SCHEDULED TO GO INTO EFFECT ON FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 1, AND PREPARATIONS ARE BEING MADE TO BEGIN DISTRIBUTION OF RATIONING IDENTIFICATION CARDS ON TUESDAY, JANUARY 29.

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3

RESOLUTIONS INTRODUCED MONDAY INCLUDED A JOINT RESOLUTION REQUESTING THE HIGH COMMISSIONER AND THE DIRECTOR OF EDUCATION TO SEEK MEMBERSHIP FOR THE TRUST TERRITORY IN THE EDUCATION COMMISSION OF THE STATES; AND A JOINT RESOLUTION WHICH REQUESTS THE TT WATER TRANSPORTATION RATE REVIEW BOARD TO REQUIRE TRANSPAC TO SUBSTANTIALLY REDUCE FREIGHT TARIFFS ON CHICKEN FEED, HOG FEED, AND FERTILIZERS ENTERING THE TRUST TERRITORY.

BOTH HOUSES WILL CONVENE 10:00 A.M. TUESDAY MORNING.  
(CONSTRUCTION OF PALAU'S BRIDGE)

SAIPAN, JAN. 28 (MNS)---WORK ON THE CONSTRUCTION OF RENRAK BRIDGE IN PALAU DISTRICT WILL BEGIN IN FEBRUARY, ACCORDING TO THE TRUST TERRITORY DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC WORKS, JAMES R. WHEELER.

WHEELER SAID THAT A KOREAN CONSTRUCTION COMPANY (AJU) THAT SUBMITTED THE LOWEST BID, AMONG SEVERAL BIDDERS, HAS BEEN SELECTED TO CONSTRUCT THE BRIDGE FOR \$4.5 MILLION DOLLARS.

THE MONEY FOR THE CONSTRUCTION OF THE BRIDGE WAS MADE AVAILABLE FROM SUPPLEMENTARY APPROPRIATIONS THAT THE U.S. CONGRESS APPROVED FOR THE TRUST TERRITORY LATE LAST YEAR, IN ADDITION TO FUNDS IN THE REGULAR TT BUDGET APPROPRIATIONS.

PRELIMINARY PREPARATIONS SUCH AS ERECTION OF A ROCK CRUSHER PLANT AND OTHER AUXILIARY SUPPORT FACILITIES FOR THE PROJECT ARE EXPECTED TO BE COMPLETED AT THE END OF MARCH, BEFORE THE ACTUAL CONSTRUCTION OF THE BRIDGE CAN BEGIN.

ACCORDING TO WHEELER, THE PROJECT WILL BE COMPLETED IN ABOUT TWO YEARS. THE RENRAK BRIDGE WILL CONNECT BABELTHUAP WITH KOROR, REPLACING THE FERRYBOAT THAT IS PRESENTLY BEING USED TO TRANSPORT CARTS AND PASSENGERS ACROSS THE RENRAK CHANNEL.

(SHIP AND FISHERMEN RESCUED)

SAIPAN, JAN. 28 (MNS)---THE M.V. RAN ANNIM WAS RESCUED AT SEA LAST WEEK WHEN THE M.V. PACIFICA BROUGHT EQUIPMENT TO RECHARGE ENGINE BATTERIES TO THE STRANDED SHIP SOME 270 MILES SOUTH OF SAIPAN, ACCORDING TO LT. COMMANDER ALAN R. PENDLETON, CINCPAC REPRESENTATIVE FOR GUAM AND THE TRUST TERRITORY.

PENDLETON SAID THE RAN ANNIM LEFT TRUK JANUARY 19TH FOR A VOYAGE TO SAIPAN WHEN THE SHIP EXPERIENCED A MECHANICAL FAILURE, RESULTING IN ABOUT SEVEN DAYS DRIFTING AT SEA. ACCORDING TO PENDLETON, A MERCHANT VESSEL SPOTTED THE STRANDED SHIP AND REPORTED IT TO THE U.S. COAST GUARD ON GUAM AND SUBSEQUENTLY THE AIR AND SEA RESCUE CENTER ON GUAM WAS NOTIFIED.

AN AIRCRAFT FROM THE NAVAL AIR STATION ON GUAM ASSIGNED TO THE SEARCH OPERATION SPOTTED THE RAN ANNIM AND RELAYED ITS POSITION TO THE M.V. PACIFICA THAT BROUGHT THE NECESSARY EQUIPMENT TO THE STRANDED SHIP. THE RAN ANNIM ARRIVED ON SAIPAN LAST FRIDAY (JAN. 25) AND ITS ENGINE IS NOW IN OPERATING CONDITION.

ANOTHER RESCUE OPERATION WAS PERFORMED SATURDAY (JAN. 26) FOR TWO FISHERMEN WHO WENT ON A FISHING TRIP FRIDAY MORNING AND THEIR MOTOR FAILED TO OPERATE PROPERLY. THE FISHERMEN ARE: JOSE B. PANGELINAN OF SAIPAN AND PAUL YIDEMAR OF ULITHI IN THE YAP DISTRICT.

BOTH MEN WERE RESCUED SATURDAY AFTERNOON BY A HELICOPTER FROM THE NAVAL AIR STATION ON GUAM. EARLIER SATURDAY, A NAVY HU-16 STARTED THE SEARCH FOR THE MISSING MEN AFTER LEAVING ADMIRAL NOEL GAYLER, COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF-PACIFIC, AND HIS PARTY ON SAIPAN. A P-3 TYPE OF AIRCRAFT FROM THE NAVAL AIR STATION ON GUAM THEN LATER JOINED THE SEARCH OPERATION AND SPOTTED THE STRANDED FISHERMEN SOME 40 MILES WEST OF SAIPAN.

(SPC MEDICS CONFERENCE)

SAIPAN, JAN. 28 (MNS)--- DEPUTY DIRECTOR OF HEALTH SERVICES DR. AROBATI HICKING HAS BEEN DESIGNATED TO REPRESENT THE TRUST TERRITORY AT THE FIFTH CONFERENCE OF DIRECTORS OF TERRITORIAL HEALTH SERVICES, ACCORDING TO A SPOKESMAN FROM THE TT HEALTH SERVICES.

THE CONFERENCE WILL BE HELD FEBRUARY 11TH THROUGH THE 15TH AT PORT MORESBY, PAPUA NEW GUINEA.

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4

DR. HICKING WILL PRESENT A PAPER ON "PRE-SCHOOL CHILD HEALTH IN THE TRUST TERRITORY." HICKING WILL TAKE ACTIVE PARTICIPATION IN THE EVALUATION OF HEALTH PROGRAMS IN NUTRITION, FISH POISONING, AND DENGUE FEVER. HICKING NOTED THAT HIS PARTICULAR "FEVER" IS NOT COMMON IN THE TRUST TERRITORY AT THE PRESENT TIME, HOWEVER.

TOGETHER WITH THE OTHER DELEGATES, OBSERVERS OF THE HEALTH DEPARTMENT AND THE SOUTH PACIFIC MEDICAL RESEARCH COMMITTEE OF NEW ZEALAND, THE DEPARTMENT OF TROPICAL COMMUNITY HEALTH OF THE LIVERPOOL SCHOOL OF TROPICAL MEDICINE OF UNITED KINGDOM, THE HEALTH DEPARTMENT OF THE NORTHERN TERRITORY AUSTRALIA, THE SCHOOL OF PUBLIC HEALTH OF THE UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII, THE WORLD HEALTH ORGANIZATION AND THE UNIVERSITY OF PAPUA NEW GUINEA, WILL ALSO ATTEND THE CONFERENCE.

THE CONFEREES WILL DISCUSS, AMONG OTHER THINGS, A SPECIAL PROJECT IN NUTRITION INVOLVING THE PRODUCTION OF FOOD AND THE DIFFUSION OF BETTER NUTRITIONAL HABITS. THE PROJECT WILL REQUIRE AN EDUCATIONAL STAFF, AND THE COOPERATION OF AGRICULTURALISTS, FISHERIES STAFF AND ECONOMISTS.

DR. GUY LOISEL, WHO IS PROGRAM DIRECTOR OF THE SOUTH PACIFIC COMMISSION, WILL HEAD THE CONFERENCE.

AS REQUESTED BY THE DIRECTORS OF TERRITORIAL HEALTH SERVICES AT THEIR LAST MEETING, THE MAIN THEME OF THE TECHNICAL DISCUSSIONS WILL BE "PRE-SCHOOL CHILD HEALTH" WITH SPECIAL EMPHASIS ON NUTRITION. A CONSULTANT, PROFESSOR ROY SMITH, HAS BEEN PROVIDED BY THE UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII.

THE DIRECTORS WILL ALSO EXAMINE SOME SERVICES WHICH THE COMMISSION CAN MAKE AVAILABLE TO ASSIST THEIR DEPARTMENTS; EXCHANGE OF EPIDEMIOLOGICAL INFORMATION, PROVISION FOR SPECIALISTS, GRANTS FOR STUDY TOURS, AND ASSISTANCE TO APPLIED RESEARCH.