

(CONGRESSMEN ARRIVE)

SAIPAN, JAN. 7 (MNS)---A DELEGATION OF VISITING UNITED STATES CONGRESSMEN ARRIVED ON SAIPAN EARLY SUNDAY (JAN. 16) FOR A BRIEF VISIT. THE FIVE MEN, ALL MEMBERS OF THE HOUSE INTERIOR SUB-COMMITTEE ON TERRITORIAL AND INSULAR AFFAIRS, WILL BE ON SAIPAN UNTIL TUESDAY AFTERNOON, WHEN THEY WILL RETURN TO GUAM WITH A BRIEF STOPOVER ON TINIAN.

HEADED BY SUB-COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN REPRESENTATIVE PHILLIP BURTON OF CALIFORNIA, THE GROUP INCLUDES REPRESENTATIVES THOMAS FOLEY OF WASHINGTON AND WILLIAM KETCHUM OF CALIFORNIA, AND DELEGATES TO CONGRESS ANTONIO B. WON PAT OF GUAM AND RON DELUGO OF THE VIRGIN ISLANDS.

HIGH COMMISSIONER EDWARD E. JOHNSTON, MARIANAS DISTRICT ADMINISTRATOR FRANCISCO C. ADA AND A NUMBER OF OTHER OFFICIALS MET THE VISITORS AT SAIPAN'S KOBLER FIELD. DISTAD ADA AND HIS STAFF HOSTED THE CONGRESSMEN AT A LUNCHEON, WHICH WAS FOLLOWED BY AN AFTERNOON TOUR OF SAIPAN AND A RECEPTION AT THE ROYAL TAGA HOTEL THAT EVENING, ALSO HOSTED BY THE MARIANAS DISTRICT.

DURING A THREE-HOUR MEETING MONDAY MORNING WITH THE HICOM, DEPARTMENT DIRECTORS AND THEIR DEPUTIES, AND OTHER MEMBERS OF THE HICOM'S CABINET, CHAIRMAN BURTON NOTED THAT IT HAD BEEN ABOUT SIX YEARS SINCE AN OFFICIAL U.S. CONGRESS DELEGATION HAD TOURED ANY PART OF THE TRUST TERRITORY. AT THAT TIME, HE SAID, COMMITTEE MEMBERS SPENT MORE THAN THREE WEEKS VISITING THE DISTRICTS AS WELL AS CONFERRING WITH OFFICIALS ON SAIPAN.

THE MEETING WITH THE CABINET PROCEEDED WITH QUESTIONS FROM THE CONGRESSMEN, WHICH TT OFFICIALS ANSWERED, THE DISCUSSION RANGING OVER VIRTUALLY THE ENTIRE SCOPE OF GOVERNMENT OPERATIONS IN MICRONESIA. THERE WERE BASIC QUESTIONS, ABOUT NUMBERS OF SCHOOLS AND HOSPITALS AND SO FORTH, AS WELL AS QUESTIONS ABOUT THE MORE DETAILED ASPECTS OF THE ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT LOAN FUND, THE BANK OF MICRONESIA, THE LAND SURVEY PROGRAM AND OTHER CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PROJECTS, THE ROLE OF THE PEACE CORPS IN THE TERRITORY, AND THE NEWLY-EXPANDED POLITICAL EDUCATION PROGRAM.

THE CONGRESSMEN ALSO ASKED THE CABINET MEMBERS TO SUGGEST WAYS IN WHICH THE INTERIOR COMMITTEE COULD HELP THE TRUST TERRITORY GOVERNMENT ACHIEVE ITS GOALS. THE NEARLY UNIVERSAL ANSWER WAS THAT THE TT COULD USE MORE MONEY; SEVERAL OTHERS SUGGESTED THAT CONGRESSIONAL VISITS SUCH AS THE CURRENT ONE COULD CONTRIBUTE SUBSTANTIALLY TO A BETTER UNDERSTANDING OF TT PROBLEMS OF LOGISTICS AND SUPPORT TO THE SIX DISTRICTS AMONG THOSE WHO MUST MAKE DECISIONS ABOUT MICRONESIA FROM 10,000 MILES AWAY IN WASHINGTON, D.C.

FOLLOWING THE CABINET MEETING, SPECIAL ASSISTANT FOR LEGISLATIVE AFFAIRS, N. NEIMAN CRALEY, JR., WHO IS HIMSELF A FORMER U.S. CONGRESSMAN FROM PENNSYLVANIA, HOSTED THE DELEGATION AT A LUNCHEON AT HIS HOME. MONDAY AFTERNOON THE CONGRESSMEN WERE TO MEET WITH MEMBERS AND STAFF OF THE CONGRESS OF MICRONESIA, AND MONDAY EVENING THE CONGRESS AND HIGH COMMISSIONER WERE TO JOINTLY HOST A RECEPTION AT THE CONGRESS CHAMBERS.

TUESDAY'S SCHEDULE INCLUDES A MEETING WITH MEMBERS OF THE MARIANAS POLITICAL STATUS COMMISSION, A LUNCHEON HOSTED BY THE COMMISSION, AND AN AFTERNOON TOUR OF TINIAN AND MEETING WITH THE ISLAND'S LEADERSHIP.

THE CURRENT VISIT IS ONE OF TWO OFFICIAL U.S. CONGRESSIONAL VISITS TO BE MADE TO THE TRUST TERRITORY

11

THIS MONTH. IN ABOUT TWO WEEKS, TWO OTHER MEMBERS OF THE SUB-COMMITTEE ON TERRITORIAL AND INSULAR AFFAIRS, CONGRESSWOMAN PATSY T. MINK OF HAWAII AND CONGRESSMAN LLOYD NEEDS OF WASHINGTON, WILL TOUR MAJURO, PONAPE AND TRUK.
(TINIAN VISITS)

SAIPAN, JAN. 7, (MNS)---THE ISLAND OF TINIAN WILL BE A

PL } BUSY PLACE THIS MONTH, AS TEAMS OF SPECIALISTS CONTINUE TO CARRY OUT DEVELOPMENTAL STUDIES AIMED AT THE PREPARATION OF AN ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STATEMENT AND OTHER PRELIMINARY WORK IN PREPARATION FOR THE ESTABLISHMENT OF A UNITED STATES MILITARY INSTALLATION ON THE ISLAND.

THE STUDIES ARE BEING CARRIED OUT IN ACCORDANCE WITH AN AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE U.S. NEGOTIATING TEAM ON FUTURE STATUS AND THE MARIANAS POLITICAL STATUS COMMISSION, WHEREBY CERTAIN PRELIMINARY IMPACT STUDIES COULD BE UNDERTAKEN BY THE U.S. RELATED TO THE MILITARY BASE PLANS, EVEN THOUGH FINAL AGREEMENT IN THE STATUS NEGOTIATIONS HAS NOT BEEN REACHED.

CURRENTLY ON TINIAN IS A TEAM OF EIGHT PERSONNEL FROM THE UNIVERSITY OF GUAM, HEADED BY DR. ROBERT JONES, DIRECTOR OF THE MARINE LABORATORY AT THE SCHOOL. THIS TEAM, WHICH TRAVELLED TO TINIAN ABOARD A CHARTERED VESSEL FROM GUAM AND IS STAYING ABOARD THE BOAT FOR THE DURATION OF THEIR STUDY, IS CONDUCTING THE MARINE SURVEY PORTION OF THE ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STUDY.

A SECOND TEAM OF RESEARCHERS, WHICH ARRIVED THIS WEEKEND ON SAIPAN AND WILL TRAVEL TO TINIAN LATER THIS WEEK FOLLOWING MEETINGS WITH GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS ON SAIPAN, IS TO CONDUCT A SOCIO-ECONOMIC STUDY ON THE ISLAND. THE TEAM IS HEADED BY MANUEL EMILIANO, A CIVIL ENGINEER WITH PACIFIC AIR FORCE HEADQUARTERS AT HICKAM AIR BASE IN HAWAII, AND INCLUDES A NUMBER OF STAFF PERSONNEL AND GRADUATE RESEARCH ASSISTANTS FROM THE UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII'S SCHOOL OF SOCIAL WORK AND THE RESEARCH CORPORATION OF THE UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII. THEY ARE EXPECTED TO REMAIN ON TINIAN UNTIL ABOUT THE MIDDLE OF JANUARY.

MEANWHILE, A THREE-PERSON TEAM OF MEDICAL SPECIALISTS FROM THE PACIFIC AIR FORCE WILL CONDUCT A ONE-DAY HEALTH SURVEY ON TINIAN THIS MONTH. IT IS TENTATIVELY SCHEDULED FOR JANUARY 11. THE TEAM INCLUDES A PHYSICIAN, A VETERINARIAN AND A NURSE.

THE UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT HAS PUBLICLY DECLARED ITS INTENTION TO PUT A MAJOR JOINT-USE MILITARY INSTALLATION ON TINIAN, AN ISLAND WHICH WAS THE SCENE OF SUBSTANTIAL U.S. MILITARY ACTIVITY IN THE YEARS DURING AND IMMEDIATELY FOLLOWING WORLD WAR II. EXACT DETAILS OF THE BASE, INCLUDING HOW MUCH LAND ON THE ISLAND WILL BE OCCUPIED BY THE MILITARY, REMAIN A SUBJECT OF NEGOTIATIONS IN THE MARIANAS STATUS TALKS WHICH ARE CONTINUING. NO FINAL AGREEMENT ON U.S. MILITARY LAND REQUIREMENTS IN THE MARIANAS HAS BEEN REACHED, ALTHOUGH THE MARIANAS STATUS COMMISSION HAS INDICATED A GENERAL AGREEMENT TO ACCOMODATE THOSE REQUIREMENTS.
(PRESIDENT SIGNS BILL)

SAIPAN, JAN. 7 (MNS)---WORD WAS RECEIVED OVER THE WEEKEND THAT ON THURSDAY, JANUARY 3, AT THE WESTERN WHITE HOUSE IN SAN CLEMENTE, CALIFORNIA, PRESIDENT RICHARD NIXON SIGNED INTO LAW A SUPPLEMENTAL APPROPRIATION BILL FOR FISCAL YEAR 1974 THAT INCLUDES MORE THAN TEN MILLION DOLLARS FOR THE TRUST TERRITORY OF THE PACIFIC ISLANDS.

TT GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS ARE NOW TAKING ALL OF THE NECESSARY PRELIMINARY STEPS SO THAT WHEN THE APPORTIONMENT OF THESE FUNDS IS ACTUALLY RECEIVED, THEY CAN BE OBLIGATED AS QUICKLY AS POSSIBLE, ACCORDING TO WILLIAM D. OYLER, PROGRAM AND BUDGET OFFICER.

INCLUDED IN THE BILL IS MONEY FOR A NUMBER OF IMPORTANT CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PROJECTS, INCLUDING THE PONAPE HOSPITAL, JALUIT HIGH SCHOOL, AND PALAU BRIDGE, AS WELL AS FUNDING FOR A MICRONESIAN CONSTITUTIONAL CONVENTION, EDUCATION FOR SELF-GOVERNMENT, AND A STEPPED-UP PROGRAM OF SURVEYING OF PUBLIC LAND.

TT AND CONGRESS OF MICRONESIA OFFICIALS TRAVELLED TO WASHINGTON, D. C. IN NOVEMBER TO TESTIFY IN SUPPORT OF THE BILL. THE PRESIDENT'S ACTION LAST WEEK MARKED THE SUCCESSFUL CONCLUSION OF AN EFFORT THAT BEGAN WHEN THE CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT MONEY THAT WAS ORIGINALLY INCLUDED IN THE TRUST TERRITORY'S APPROPRIATION FOR FY 1974 WAS REMOVED BY CONGRESSIONAL ACTION.

(KUSAIE ISLAND FAIR)

KUSAIE, JANUARY 7 (MNS)---THE PEOPLE OF KUSAIE, IN PONAPE DISTRICT RECENTLY HELD AN ISLAND-WIDE FAIR FOR THE FIRST TIME. THE FAIR WAS MADE POSSIBLE BY THE KUSAIE ISLAND COUNCIL, ACCORDING TO ALEX PHILLIP IN A REPORT TO THE MICRONESIAN NEWS SERVICE FROM KUSAIE.

FUNDS FOR THE PRIZES CAME FROM THE KUSAIE RECREATION ASSOCIATION, KUSAIE FARMERS COOPERATIVE ASSOCIATION, THE FAIR COMMITTEE, GOVERNMENT EMPLOYEES, BUSINESSMEN AND THE MICRONESIAN CONSTRUCTION COMPANY, PHILLIP SAID.

THREE MAJOR ITEMS WERE DISPLAYED DURING THE FAIR. THEY ARE PRODUCE, HANDICRAFT AND MEAT. CROPS INCLUDED TARO, BREADFRUIT, SUGAR CANE, BANANAS, DIFFERENT VARIETIES OF CITRUS FRUITS, CAEBAGES, CORN, GREEN ONIONS, EGG PLANTS, POTATOES, TAPIOCA AND WATER MELONS.

IN THE HANDICRAFT CATEGORY, THERE WERE FANS, MATS, AND PURSES OF ALL KINDS AND SIZES AS WELL AS WOODWORK. THE LAST GROUP, MEAT, INCLUDED PIGS, LOBSTERS, DIFFERENT KINDS OF FISH, CHICKENS, GOATS, CATTLE, FRESH WATER EELS AND OCTOPUS. PRIZES WERE AWARDED IN EACH CATEGORY, AND MOST ITEMS WERE OFFERED FOR SALE FOLLOWING THE FAIR.

BT

0010

NNNN

00034