

(NGIRAKED ON ESG)

SAIPAN, OCT. 4 (MNS) ⁷⁴ - THE CHAIRMAN OF THE PALAU DELEGATION TO THE MICRONESIAN CONSTITUTIONAL CONVENTION SAID ON SAIPAN THIS WEEK THAT THE CONGRESS OF MICRONESIA AND THE ADMINISTRATION SHOULD BE BLAMED FOR THE SEPARATIST MOVEMENTS COMING TO THE FORE IN MICRONESIA. file

JOHN O. NGIRAKED, WHO IS ALSO A MEMBER OF THE PRE-CONVENTION COMMITTEE THAT HAD JUST COMPLETED A TOUR OF ALL SIX DISTRICTS, SPOKE ON THE HEADQUARTERS TASK FORCE ON EDUCATION FOR SELF-GOVERNMENT PROGRAM "DIALOGUE FOR MICRONESIA." 11

NGIRAKED POINTED OUT AS EXAMPLES THE CURRENT NEGOTIATIONS BETWEEN THE CONGRESS OF MICRONESIA JOINT COMMITTEE ON FUTURE STATUS AND THE UNITED STATES, THE U.S. NEGOTIATIONS WITH THE MARIANAS AND ON TOP OF THESE, THE UNITED STATES AND THE CONGRESS OF MICRONESIA CALLED FOR THE HOLDING OF A NATIONAL CONSTITUTIONAL CONVENTION. "THE CONFUSION," HE SAID, "IS COMPOUNDED BY THE ACTION OF THE ADMINISTRATION AND THE CONGRESS OF MICRONESIA FOR NOT PROPERLY COORDINATING THESE EVENTS."

THE FORMER SENATOR OF THE CONGRESS OF MICRONESIA ADDED THAT HE COULD NOT BLAME THE PEOPLE OF MICRONESIA IF THEY LOSE DIRECTION. "THE PEOPLE OF PALAU ARE LOST AT THIS POINT," HE STATED, "SO THEY SAY, 'LET'S GET ORGANIZED AT HOME.'"

REGARDING A VERY SMALL TURNOUT OF VOTERS IN THE MARSHALLS FOR DELEGATE ELECTION TO THE CONCON LAST JUNE, NGIRAKED SAID THAT, TECHNICALLY, THE SMALL PERCENTAGE OF PEOPLE WHO WENT TO THE POLLS DOES NOT AFFECT THE VALIDITY OF THE ELECTION. "WE COULD PERHAPS DISCUSS THE MORALITY OF THE MATTER," HE CONTINUED, "BUT TECHNICALLY, THE LEGALITY OF THE ELECTION IN THE MARSHALLS IS NOT IN QUESTION." ASKED WHETHER THERE IS A POINT IN HOLDING A CONSTITUTIONAL CONVENTION WHEN ONE DISTRICT IS REPRESENTED BY PEOPLE WHO DO NOT SEEM TO REFLECT THE VIEWS OF A STRONG POLITICAL FACTION OF THAT DISTRICT, NGIRAKED STATED THAT THE IMPORTANT THING TO KEEP IN MIND IS TO PROVIDE THE PEOPLE OF THE MARSHALLS ALL THE OPPORTUNITIES AND THE NECESSARY MEANS TO ATTEND THE CONSTITUTIONAL CONVENTION AND TO PARTICIPATE IN IT. "THE FACT THEY DIDN'T TAKE ADVANTAGE OF THAT OPPORTUNITY," HE ADDED, "WAS THEIR CHOICE, NOT ANYBODY ELSE'S."

ASKED TO COMMENT WHETHER THE OTHER DISTRICTS SHOULD FOLLOW THE EXAMPLE OF PALAU AND CALL A CONVENTION TO DRAFT A CONSTITUTION BEFORE THE IT-WIDE CONVENTION IS HELD, THE CHAIRMAN OF PALAU DELEGATION TO THE CONCON REPLIED THAT HE WOULD "NEITHER RECOMMEND NOR DISCOURAGE SUCH A STEP." HE SAID LOCAL CONSTITUTIONAL CONVENTION COULD BE USEFUL TO SHOW THE CONCERN AND AWARENESS OF THE PEOPLE. HE POINTED OUT THAT DELEGATES COULD LATER USE THIS INFORMATION AT THE MICRONESIAN CONVENTION. SOME DISTRICTS, ON THE OTHER HAND, THINK IT WOULD BE IMPROPER TO DO ANYTHING AT THE DISTRICT LEVEL UNTIL THE FRAMEWORK OF THE NATIONAL CONSTITUTIONAL HAS BEEN CONSTRUCTED, ACCORDING TO NGIRAKED. HE SAID THAT HE FELT BOTH LINES OF REASONING ARE VALID IN LIGHT OF THE VARYING CIRCUMSTANCES IN THE DIFFERENT DISTRICTS.

REGARDING THE PARTICIPATION OF THE MARIANAS DISTRICT IN THE CONSTITUTIONAL CONVENTION, THE PALAUAN ATTORNEY SAID THAT UNTIL THE TIME COMES WHEN THE MARIANAS IS OFFICIALLY SEPARATED FROM MICRONESIA, THAT DISTRICT SHOULD PARTICIPATE IN THE CONVENTION.

INQUIRED WHETHER HOLDING A TERRITORY-WIDE CONVENTION NEXT YEAR IS TOO EARLY, HE SAID MOST PEOPLE SEEM TO THINK THAT THE FURTHER OFF THE CONVENTION, THE BETTER. "THE IMPORTANT FACTOR," NGIRAKED EXPLAINED, "IS THE AMOUNT OF TIME NEEDED TO PREPARE FOR THE CONVENTION AND TO GET THE PEOPLE IN A STATE OF READINESS TO FACE THIS QUESTION. THE LAW IS NOT SPECIFIC ON THIS AND THERE IS NOTHING IN IT TO PREVENT THE PRE-CONVENTION COMMITTEE FROM SETTING THE CONVENTION DATE AFTER 1975--EVEN FIVE YEARS FROM NOW."

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NGIRAKED SAID HE PERSONALLY FEELS THE WHOLE YEAR OF 1974 SHOULD TOTALLY BE DEDICATED TO AN INTENSIVE POLITICAL EDUCATION PROGRAM.

ASKED WHETHER SUCH A PROGRAM, EVEN IF IT WERE EXTENDED BEYOND 1975 WOULD HELP ACHIEVE UNITY IN MICRONESIA, HE REPLIED: "YES, I THINK ONE REASON MICRONESIA UNITY IS FALLING APART IS THE LACK OF PROPER AWARENESS OF WHAT'S GOING ON AND THE LACK OF VIGOROUS LEADERSHIP AT ALL LEVELS." HE SAID THE PEOPLE OF MICRONESIA NEED TO THINK ABOUT THEIR COMMONALITY, NOT THEIR DIFFERENCES.

IN A CLOSING STATEMENT, NGIRAKED URGED ALL THE LEADERSHIP IN MICRONESIA TO TRY TO WORK TOWARD UNITY. "I THINK THE VIABILITY OF OUR PEOPLE AS A NATION, DEPENDS ON THE WILLINGNESS OF THE PEOPLE TO SEEK THEIR FUTURE TOGETHER, AND THEIR WILLINGNESS AND DETERMINATION TO MAKE CERTAIN SACRIFICES TO ACHIEVE THIS. NO NATION DESERVES INDEPENDENCE, OR ANY FORM OF SELF-GOVERNMENT, IF IT IS NOT WILLING TO MAKE SACRIFICE WHEN IT IS TIME TO DO SO." HE CONCLUDED THAT IT IS HIS HOPE THAT MICRONESIA WILL GO DOWN IN HISTORY AS A NATION THAT WILLINGLY MADE SUCH SACRIFICES IN ORDER TO UNITE ITS PEOPLE.

(DROSTHOLM VISITED SAIPAN)

SAIPAN, OCT. 4 (MNS)---HILMAR DROSTHOLM, PRESIDENT OF THE DROSTHOLM PRODUCTS INCORPORATED OF COPENHAGEN, DENMARK, VISITED SAIPAN THIS WEEK AT THE INVITATION OF THE COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT DIVISION. DROSTHOLM FIRM HAS PIONEERED THE TECHNOLOGICAL DEVELOPMENT OF THE BUILDING SYSTEM CALLED LATOREX WHICH IS BEING WIDELY INTRODUCED IN A NUMBER OF DEVELOPING NATIONS IN THE TROPICAL AND SUBTROPICAL AREAS OF THE WORLD.

LATOREX IS A TRADE NAME FOR BLOCKS FORMED FROM LATERITIC SOILS SUBJECTED TO HIGH PRESSURE, HEAT, MIXED WITH LIME AND UTILIZING SPECIAL MACHINERY MANUFACTURED BY THE DANISH FIRM. LATERITIC SOIL IS COMMONLY RECOGNIZED BY ITS CLAY AND REDDISH COLOR NORMALLY FOUND IN AREAS OF VOLCANIC ORIGIN.

THROUGH JOINT EFFORTS OF THE CONGRESS OF MICRONESIA AND THE EXECUTIVE BRANCH, DROSTHOLM WAS REQUESTED TO TEST SOIL SAMPLES FROM THE HIGH ISLANDS OF THE TRUST TERRITORY AND TO VISIT THE DEPOSIT SITES OF LATERITE. SAMPLES FROM SAIPAN AND BABELTHUAP, ALREADY TESTED IN DENMARK HAVE PROVEN TO BE OF VERY HIGH COMPRESSIVE STRENGTH THAN THE COMPRESSIVE STRENGTH OF CONCRETE BLOCK.

DROSTHOLM VISITED A NUMBER OF SITES FOR THE PAST FEW DAYS ON SAIPAN AND WAS NOTICEABLY IMPRESSED BY THE SIZE AND EQUALITY AS WELL AS VARYING COLORS OF THE DEPOSITS. HE WAS ASSISTED IN HIS SURVEY BY LAND MANAGEMENT AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT DIVISION PERSONNEL.

TRUST TERRITORY DEPUTY HIGH COMMISSIONER PETER T. COLEMAN SAID THAT HE WAS VERY IMPRESSED WITH DROSTHOLM'S PRESENTATION OF POSSIBLE PRODUCTION OF CONSTRUCTION MATERIALS LIKE BLOCKS IN MICRONESIA THROUGH THE USE OF LOCAL RESOURCES. HE INDICATED THAT IT WOULD MEAN A SUBSTANTIAL REDUCTION IN THE COST TO ALL PEOPLE WHO WISH TO BUILD THEIR HOMES. "THE STUDY SAMPLES WHICH HAVE BEEN TAKEN WILL BE COMING SOON AND AT WHICH TIME WE'RE GOING TO LOOK VERY CLOSELY INTO IT WITH THE HOPE OF MOVING RAPIDLY IN SETTING UP A RESOURCE FACILITY OF THIS TYPE IN MICRONESIA."

IT IS HOPED THAT THE LATOREX SYSTEMS WHICH WOULD MAKE USE OF THE TERRITORY'S SOIL AND LIMESTONE RESOURCES WILL RESULT

IN THE DEVELOPMENT OF AN ECONOMICAL AND LOCALLY PRODUCED BUILDING MATERIALS FOR HOUSING AND OTHER CONSTRUCTION USES. COLEMAN SAID.

(PCL AGENDA)

SAIPAN, OCT. 4 (MNS)---THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE OF THE PACIFIC CONFERENCE OF LEGISLATORS (PCL) MET RECENTLY IN AMERICAN SAMOA TO DISCUSS PLANS FOR THE PCL CONFERENCE ON SAIPAN IN NOVEMBER 19TH THROUGH NOVEMBER 24TH.

THE PRESIDENT OF THE PCL, MARIANAS DISTRICT LEGISLATOR DANIEL T. MUNA INDICATED THAT SIR ALBERT HENRY, PREMIER OF THE COOK ISLANDS, HAS AGREED TO PARTICIPATE AS A GUEST SPEAKER OR SEND ONE OF HIS MINISTERS AS A GUEST SPEAKER.

THE COOK ISLANDS IS A SELF-GOVERNING STATE IN FREE ASSOCIATION WITH THE GOVERNMENT OF NEW ZEALAND. OTHER SPEAKERS, ACCORDING TO MUNA, INCLUDE CONGRESSMAN ANTONIO B. WON PAT OF GUAM; PACIFIC ISLANDS DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, ANDREW GERAKAKS OF HAWAII; AND ROBERT ROSTHAL, DEPUTY CHIEF COUNSEL FOR THE DRUG ENFORCEMENT ADMINISTRATION, U.S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE.

TOPICS FOR THE CONFERENCE ARE IN THE PROCESS OF FINALIZATION. HOWEVER, A SPECIAL REQUEST WAS MADE BY THE HONORABLE STEFFANY OF AMERICAN SAMOA TO INCLUDE THE ENERGY CRISIS AS IT AFFECTS THE PACIFIC REGION.

(UHERBELAU NEW ATTORNEY)

SAIPAN, OCT. 4 (MNS)---A RECENT GRADUATE OF THE UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA AT LOS ANGELES (UCLA), VICTOR UHERBELAU, HAS BEEN HIRED BY THE TRUST TERRITORY ATTORNEY GENERAL'S OFFICE, LYLE RICHMOND, CHIEF OF LEGAL DIVISION ANNOUNCED.

UHERBELAU, 36 OF ANGAUR, PALAU DISTRICT, BECOMES THE SIXTH PALAUAN TO RECEIVE A LAW DEGREE. HIS EFFECTIVE DATE OF APPOINTMENT TO WORK AT THE AG'S OFFICE IS SEPTEMBER 30.

UHERBELAU RECEIVED HIS BA DEGREE FROM THE UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII IN 1966 MAJORING IN POLITICAL SCIENCE.

HIS WORK EXPERIENCES INCLUDE CLERK OF THE SENATE, CONGRESS OF MICRONESIA FROM 1967-70; MANAGEMENT INTERN AT THE PUBLIC INFORMATION DIVISION FROM 1966-67; LABORATORY ASSISTANT FOR RODENT SPECIAL RESEARCH PROJECT ON GUAM FROM 1963-64; AND TEACHER AT MINDSZENTY HIGH SCHOOL IN PALAU FROM 1960-61.

THE 36-YEAR-OLD LAW GRADUATE WAS A LAW INTERN, IN AUGUST 1972, AT THE TERRITORIAL AFFAIRS OFFICE, DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR IN WASHINGTON, D.C., AND A GRADUATE STUDENT, SUMMER INTERN AT THE UNITED NATIONS TRUSTEESHIP COUNCIL IN NEW YORK IN AUGUST 1973.

UHERBELAU AND HIS WIFE JUDY, HAVE TWO CHILDREN.

(CALENDAR CORRECTIONS)

SAIPAN, OCT 4 (MNS)---THE TRUST TERRITORY PUBLIC INFORMATION DIVISION WISHES TO REMIND THE GENERAL PUBLIC THAT THERE ARE THREE HOLIDAYS ON THE MICRONESIAN 1974 CALENDAR THAT APPEARED ON THE WRONG DATES.

TWO OF THEM APPEAR THIS MONTH. COLUMBUS DAY IS SHOWN AS THE 7TH--IT SHOULD BE ON THE 14TH; VETERAN'S DAY, WHICH THE CALENDAR SHOWS AS THE 21ST, SHOULD BE ON THE 28TH. THE THIRD HOLIDAY LISTED WRONG ON THE CALENDAR IS THANKSGIVING DAY, WHICH IS SHOWN AS NOVEMBER 21ST BUT SHOULD ACTUALLY BE ON NOVEMBER 28TH.

THE NEW 1975 CALENDAR IS NOW IN THE PROCESS OF BEING MADE. IT SHOULD BE MADE AVAILABLE IN LATE DECEMBER OR EARLY JANUARY, 1975.