

(ENEWETAK RESPONSE DELAYED)

SAIPAN, NOVEMBER 1 (MNS) ²⁴ - A DELAY OF NEARLY TWO MONTHS IN THE RESPONSE OF THE PEOPLE OF ENEWETAK TO PLAN FOR THE CLEANUP AND REHABILITATION OF THEIR ATOLL HAS BEEN REQUESTED BY THEIR LEGAL COUNSEL, THE MICRONESIAN LEGAL SERVICES CORPORATION.

THE RESPONSE WAS TO HAVE BEEN FILED BY NOVEMBER 11, BUT TED MITCHELL, MLSC DIRECTOR, SAID ON PONAPE THIS WEEK THAT HE HAS ASKED LT. GEN. WARREN D. JOHNSON, DIRECTOR OF THE DEFENSE NUCLEAR AGENCY, TO POSTPONE THAT RESPONSE UNTIL JANUARY 1. THE PEOPLE OF ENEWETAK ARE TO GIVE THEIR VIEWS ON A DRAFT ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STATEMENT ON THEM IN EARLY SEPTEMBER.

"THE PRINCIPLE REASON FOR THE DELAY," MITCHELL TOLD MNS, "IS THAT ANOTHER FIELD TRIP TO UJELANG IS NECESSARY, AND WE HAVE BEEN INFORMED THAT THE TRIP CANNOT BE SCHEDULED BEFORE EARLY DECEMBER."

MITCHELL INDICATED HE IS NOT UNHAPPY AT THE DELAY, SINCE IT WILL ALLOW ADDITIONAL TIME FOR SEVERAL SCIENTIFIC EXPERTS RETAINED BY MLSC TO GIVE THEIR EVALUATION OF THE IMPACT STATEMENT. HE SAID NINE SCIENTISTS, INCLUDING SEVERAL RADIOLOGISTS, RADIO BIOLOGISTS AND RADIO PHYSICISTS, HAVE BEEN ASKED TO GO OVER RELEVANT PORTIONS OF THE STATEMENT AND EVALUATE IT. ALSO INVOLVED IN THE EXAMINATION OF THE PLAN ARE MARINE AND TERESTRIAL ENVIRONMENTALISTS, AND AN ANTHROPOLOGIST WHO IS AN EXPERT IN THE "FORCED RELOCATION" OF PEOPLES.

A LARGE CONTINGENT OF LEADERS FROM UJELANG, WHERE THE PEOPLE OF ENEWETAK NOW RESIDE, MET WITH GENERAL JOHNSON, DIRECTOR OF TERRITORIAL AFFAIRS STANLEY S. CARPENTER, DEPUTY HIGH COMMISSIONER PETER T. COLEMAN, AND OTHER OFFICIALS ON ENEWETAK IN SEPTEMBER. THERE THEY LEARNED THAT PORTIONS OF THEIR ATOLL, WHICH WAS USED FOR ATOMIC TESTING FROM 1947 TO 1958, ARE STILL RADIOACTIVE AND UNSUITABLE FOR HABITATION AT THIS TIME. THEY ALSO HEARD PLANS FOR A \$35 MILLION DOLLAR, THREE-YEAR CLEANUP PROGRAM TO REMOVE DEBRIS AND RADIOACTIVE MATERIAL FROM THE ATOLL, AND A REHABILITATION PROGRAM THE INCLUDES NEW MAJOR ISLANDS IN THE SOUTHERN PORTION OF THE ATOLL WHICH ARE NOT RADIOACTIVE CONTAMINATED.

THE DEFENSE NUCLEAR AGENCY HAS RESPONSIBILITY FOR THE CLEANUP, WHILE THE DEPARTMENT OF INTERIOR AND THE TT GOVERNMENT ARE RESPONSIBLE FOR THE REHABILITATION PROGRAM. LAST MONTH IT WAS LEARNED THE U.S. CONGRESS HAS REFUSED, AT LEAST FOR THIS YEAR, TO FUND CLEANUP PROGRAM. DISCUSSION OF ALTERNATIVE FUNDING IS REPORTEDLY TAKING PLACE, AND MITCHELL SAID HE STILL EXPECTS A MEETING TO BE SCHEDULED SOON IN WASHINGTON TO GO OVER THE PROBLEMS CAUSED BY THE FUNDING TURNDOWN.

THE INITIAL REACTION OF THE PEOPLE OF ENEWETAK TO THE DRAFT ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STATEMENT WAS "RESERVED," ACCORDING TO MITCHELL. HE SAID WHILE THE PEOPLE APRECIATED THE TIME AND EFFORT THAT WENT INTO THE STUDY, THEY ARE VERY CONCERNED THAT ONE OF THE ISLANDS TO WHICH THEY HAD HOPED TO RETURN, ENGEBI, CANNOT BE OCCUPIED. HE SAID HE CANNOT BE MORE SPECIFIC ABOUT THEIR RESPONSE TO THE STATEMENT UNTIL AFTER THE DECEMBER FIELD TRIP.

TRUST TERRITORY PLANNING OFFICIALS, AND OFFICERS OF HOLMES AND NARVER, THE CALIFORNIA COMPANY WHICH PREPARED BOTH THE IMPACT STATEMENT AND THE ENEWETAK MASTER PLAN, WILL ALSO GO TO UJELANG IN DECEMBER, MITCHELL SAID. THEY WILL DISCUSS WITH THE PEOPLE CHANGES IN THE MASTER PLAN NECESSITATED BY THE RADIOLOGICAL FINDINGS IN THE ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STATEMENT.

11870

(DRINKING PERMIT LAW IN TRUK)

TRUK, NOVEMBER 1 (MNS)---TRUK DISTRICT BECOMES THE THIRD DISTRICT IN THE TRUST TERRITORY TO IMPOSE A DRINKING PERMIT LAW, NOHA RUBEN, TRUK PUBLIC INFORMATION OFFICER REPORTED THIS WEEK. THE OTHER TWO DISTRICTS ARE PONAPE AND PALAU.

THE NEW LAW, WHICH IS SLATED TO GO INTO EFFECT NOVEMBER 1, HAS BEEN POSTPONED BY DISTRICT ADMINISTRATOR JUAN A. SABLAN UNTIL DECEMBER 1 DUE TO LACK OF PRINTED IDENTIFICATION CARDS.

WHEN THE NEW TRUK DISTRICT LAW GOES INTO EFFECT, A PERMIT WILL BE REQUIRED TO ANYONE WHO BUYS AN ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGE. RUBEN ALSO REPORTED THAT BUSINESS ESTABLISHMENTS SELLING LIQUOR WILL BE REQUIRED TO ASK ANY CUSTOMER TO SHOW HIS I.D. CARD BEFORE PURCHASING ANY LIQUOR.

A "REGULAR" I.D. CARD, GOOD FOR ONE YEAR FROM THE DATE OF ISSUE WILL COST \$6 DOLLARS; AND A "TEMPORARY" CARD FOR 30 DAYS WILL COST ONLY \$3 DOLLARS. THE I.D. CARDS WILL BE ISSUED AT THE POLICE STATION ON MOEN, TRUK'S DISTRICT CENTER.

ACCORDING TO THE LAW, ANY PERSON WHO BUYS, POSSESSES OR CONSUMES LIQUOR WITHOUT HAVING AN I.D. CARD WILL BE GUILTY OF MISDEMEANOR PUNISHABLE BY UP TO A \$500 FINE OR SIX MONTHS IN PRISON OR BOTH.

(PAN AM WINS A ROUND)

SAIPAN, NOVEMBER 1 (MNS)---TRUST TERRITORY HIGH COMMISSIONER EDWARD E. JOHNSTON ANNOUNCED IN HIS CABINET MEETING THIS WEEK THAT PRELIMINARY REPORTS FROM WASHINGTON INDICATED THAT CIVIL AERONAUTICS BOARD ADMINISTRATIVE LAW JUDGE GREER M. MURPHY HAS RECOMMENDED THAT PAN AMERICAN WORLD AIRWAYS BE AWARDED THE SAIPAN-TOKYO ROUTE.

HIGH COMMISSIONER JOHNSTON SAYS THAT JUDGE MURPHY, IN RECOMMENDING THAT PAN AM SHOULD BE SELECTED TO SERVE THE ROUTE, GAVE CONSIDERABLE WEIGHT TO THE WISHES OF THE PEOPLE OF MICRONESIA AS A WHOLE BUT GAVE A GREATER WEIGHT TO THE WISHES OF THE PEOPLE OF THE MARIANAS SINCE THEY ARE THE ONES THAT WILL BE MOST AFFECTED.

CONTINENTAL AIR/MICRONESIA, PAN AMERICAN WORLD AIRWAYS AND NORTHWEST ORIENT AIRLINES ARE THE MAJOR CONTENDERS FOR THE ROUTE.

JUDGE MURPHY'S 180-PAGE REPORT WILL BE PRESENTED TO THE FULL CAB FOR REVIEW AND RECOMMENDATIONS. THE FINAL DECISION RESTS WITH THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES.

A STORY CARRIED ON FRIDAY'S PACIFIC DAILY NEWS (NOV. 1) STATED THAT JUDGE MURPHY CONCLUDED HIS REPORT IN THREE POINTS: 1) NO APPLICANT SHOULD BE DISQUALIFIED ON ANY MISCONDUCT; 2), LOCAL CIVIC SUPPORT IS DIVIDED, BUT THERE IS SIGNIFICANT SUPPORT FOR BOTH CARRIERS; AND 3), CONDUCT OF PARTIES SHOULD HAVE NO EFFECT IN CHANGING JUDGE MILTON SHAPIRO'S ORIGINAL DECISION THAT PAN AMERICAN SHOULD BE SELECTED TO SERVE THE ROUTE.

THE BATTLE FOR AIR RIGHTS BETWEEN SAIPAN AND TOKYO IS NOW ONE STEP CLOSER TO A FINAL DECISION, BUT THAT DECISION IS NOT EXPECTED UNTIL NEXT YEAR, THE DAILY NEWS STORY STATED.

CONTINENTAL/AIR MICRONESIA GENERAL MANAGER BARRIE DUGGAN LEFT SAIPAN THIS WEEK FOR LOS ANGELES TO ATTEND A MEETING WITH CONTINENTAL'S OFFICIALS TO DETERMINE THE AIRLINE'S POSITION ACCORDING TO JUDGE MURPHY'S FINDINGS. CONTINENTAL AIR MICRONESIA PRESENTLY IS SERVING ALL SIX DISTRICTS OF THE TRUST TERRITORY.

EARLIER THIS YEAR THE CIVIL AERONAUTICS BOARD CONDUCTED HEARINGS ON SAIPAN TO DETERMINE WHERE THE PEOPLE OF MICRONESIA REALLY STAND ON THE AIRLINE ISSUE. REPRESENTATIVES FROM THE SIX DISTRICTS OF MICRONESIA TESTIFIED AT THAT HEARING. THE CONGRESS OF MICRONESIA ADOPTED A RESOLUTION FAVORING CONTINENTAL/AIR MICRONESIA FOR THE ROUTE.

11871

(PALAU U.N. DAY FESTIVITIES)

PALAU, NOVEMBER 1 (MNS)---THE PEOPLE OF PALAU DISTRICT CELEBRATED ONE OF THE MOST COLORFUL AND WELL ATTENDED PALAU ANNUAL FAIRS WHICH CULMINATED ON THE UNITED NATIONS DAY (OCT. 24).

DEPUTY HIGH COMMISSIONER PETER T. COLEMAN WHO ATTENDED THE ONE-WEEK CELEBRATION AT THE INVITATION OF THE ANNUAL FAIR COMMITTEE WAS A GUEST SPEAKER.

AFTER A WEEK-LONG CELEBRATION WHICH FEATURED COMPETITIONS BETWEEN VARIOUS MUNICIPALITIES, SCHOOLS, AND GROUPS IN TRACK AND FIELD EVENTS, VOLLEYBALL, BASKETBALL, FISHING, SWIMMING, DANCES AND A SERIES OF BASEBALL GAMES BETWEEN PALAU SENIOR LEAGUE ALL-STARS AND GUAM SENIOR LEAGUE ALL-STARS, THE U.N. DAY CELEBRATION BEGAN.

WITH COLORFUL BANNERS AND FLOATS WHICH SUMBOLIZE VARIOUS HISTORICAL EVENTS AND IDEOLOGIES, THE PARADE STARTED IN FRONT OF THE KOROR MUNICIPAL OFFICE WITH THE POLICE HONOR GUARD LEADING THE PARADE. THE PARADE ENDED IN FRONT OF THE PALAU LEGISLATIVE HALL, WHERE A NUMBER OF PALAUAN DIGNITARIES INCLUDING THE DEPUTY HIGH COMMISSIONER, DELIVERED A BRIEF REMARKS.

PERHAPS THE BEST FLOAT, ALTHOUGH THERE WERE MANY, WAS THE FLOAT DISPLAYED BY MEMBERS OF THE MAIBEREL, A WOMEN'S ASSOCIATION OF KOROR MUNICIPALITY. THE FLOAT SYMBOLIZED PALAU ISLANDS AS THEY HAVE BEEN ADMINISTERED BY THREE FOREIGN POWERS. THE FLOAT WAS SPECIFICALLY ARRANGED IN SUCH A WAY THAT THE WOMEN WEARING PALAUAN TRADITIONAL CUSTOM LED THE LINE FOLLOWED BY THE GERMAN, JAPANESE MILITARY FORCES AND FINALLY, BY THE SEABEES WHO REPRESENTED THE UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT.

THE OTHER PART OF THE FLOAT SHOWED TWO PEOPLE REPRESENTING AMBASSADOR FRANKLIN HAYDN WILLIAMS HEAD OF THE U.S. NEGOTIATING TEAM AND SENATOR LAZARUS SALII, HEAD OF THE MICRONESIAN STATUS NEGOTIATORS AT THE NEGOTIATING TABLE. AT THE VERY END OF THE FLOAT, THERE WAS A BIG REMINDER, A PALAUAN STORY BOARD, WHICH TELLS A PALAUAN LEGEND OF A MAN WHO WENT OUT FISHING ON A CANOE AND WHILE ON AN OPEN SEA, HE SAW A TURTLE AND JUMPED OVERBOARD TO CATCH IT BUT MISSED IT.

A FEW MINUTES LATER HE FOUND THAT HIS CANOE HAD SAILED AWAY. IN CONNECTION WITH THE STATUS NEGOTIATIONS, THE FLOAT SYMBOLICALLY URGES THE MICRONESIAN STATUS NEGOTIATORS NOT TO BE LIKE THE FISHERMAN WHO MISSED THE TURTLE AND HIS SAILING CANOE AT THE SAME TIME. THAT FLOAT WON THE FIRST PRIZE.

SEVERAL PALAUAN LEADERS GAVE BRIEF REMARKS. DEPUTY HICOM COLEMAN SPOKE ON THE TOPIC OF "SELF-RELIANCE IS SELF-RESPECT." "MICRONESIA HAS TRAVELED FAR FROM THAT DAY (SINCE THE ESTABLISHMENT OF THE UNITED NATIONS) SO THAT TODAY IT IS ENTERING PERHAPS ITS MOST IMPORTANT PERIOD IN ITS DEVELOPMENT, IN THE POLITICAL, ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL AREAS," COLEMAN SAID. "THE LEADERS AND THE PEOPLE MUST NOW COME TO GRIPS WITH HARD AND REAL POLITICAL QUESTIONS WHETHER MICRONESIA MUST GROW IN PARALLEL OR IN A DIFFERENT DIRECTION."

COLEMAN CONTINUED ON TO SAY THAT "IT IS NOW TIME THAT MICRONESIANS MUST LOOK MORE INTO THE MIRROR RATHER THAN THROUGH THE WINDOW. NOW MUST BE THE TIME THAT WE RECOGNIZE THAT THE EFFORT TO BUILD MICRONESIA IS NOT ONLY IN OUR POLITICAL AND GOVERNMENT LEADERS BUT ALSO IN EVERY PERSON WHO IS PROUD TO CALL HIMSELF OR HERSELF A MICRONESIAN."

"HOW CAN I AS AN AVERAGE MICRONESIA, LET US SAY, DO MY PART TO BUILD MICRONESIA AND PALAU?" HE ASKED. "IT IS A TRUTH THAT THERE IS NO GREATER POWER THAN THE ENERGY OF THE PEOPLE IF WELL-HARNESSFD. SUPPOSING TODAY, ON THIS UNITED NATIONS DAY. EVERY MICRONESIAN, MAN, WOMAN, AND CHILD.

PLANTED ONE COCONUT, OR TARO, OR YAM, THERE WILL IMMEDIATELY BE IN ONE DAY 115,000 PLANTS THAT WILL SUSTAIN US. THAT IS THE ANSWER TO SELF-RELIANCE," COLEMAN SAID.

OTHER DIGNITARIES WHO SPOKE INCLUDED DISTRICT ADMINISTRATOR THOMAS O. REMENGESAU; HIGH CHIEF IBEDUL YUTAKA GIBBONS; SPEAKER OF PALAU LEGISLATURE, ITELBANG LUII; AND RUBASCH FRITZ, MAYOR OF KOROR MUNICIPALITY.

AFTER THE CEREMONY, ALL PENDING GAME COMPETITIONS PROCEEDED BUT THE BASEBALL GAME BETWEEN THE GUAM ALL-STARS AND PALAU ALL-STARS WAS CANCELLED DUE TO HEAVY RAIN.

(NOTE TO EDITORS AND NEWS DIRECTORS: MNS WILL HAVE A RELEASE ON THE CAMPAIGN ACTIVITIES IN THE MARIANAS AND PONAPE DISTRICTS OVER THE WEEKEND. PLEASE CHECK THE COMMUNICATION STATIONS IN YOUR DISTRICTS FOR THESE STORIES).