

(PALAU LEG. SPECIAL SESSION ENDS)

KOROR, DEC. 9 (MNS) 74 THE FIFTH PALAU DISTRICT LEGISLATURE, SENCOND SPECIAL SESSION, ADJOURNED LAST WEEK ON WEDNESDAY (DEC. 4) AFTER MEETING FOR TWO DAYS, ACCORDING TO PUBLIC INFORMATION OFFICER DAVID NGIRMIDOL.

IN THE OPENING SESSION, PALAU DISTRICT ADMINISTRATOR THOMAS O. REMENGESAU INFORMED THE LAWMAKERS THAT THE SPECIAL SESSION WAS CALLED TO DISCUSS THE PALAU LEGIALATURE'S POSITION ON THE ISSUE OF THE RETURN OF PUBLIC LANDS. "I WISH THAT DURING THIS SPECIAL SESSION," REMENGESAU SAID, "WE SHALL ALL JOINTLY REACH AN AVENUE WHERE WE CAN MUTUALLY FOLLOW AS A PATH TOWARD THIS PARTICULAR IMPORTANT ISSUE FOR THE BENEFIT OF OUR PEOPLE OF PALAU." IN CONCLUDING HIS REMARKS, THE DISTAD BID THE LEGISLATORS A FRUITFUL SESSION.

SPEAKER ITELBANG LUII SPOKE IN SOME LENGTH TO STRESS THE IMPORTANCE OF THE SPECIAL SESSION TO DISCUSS THE VITAL ISSUE AND TO ATTEMPT TO IRON OUT THE DIFFERENCES AS FAR AS THE RETURN OF PUBLIC LAND IS CONCERNED.

THE SPEAKER FURTHER STATED THAT THE REASON FOR CALLING THE SPECIAL SESSION WAS TO SET THE POSITION OF THE PALAU LEGISLATURE SO THAT WHEN THE LEADERSHIP OF THE LEGISLATURE GOES TO HONOLULU, THROUGH THE INVITATION OF THE UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT, THOSE LEADERS WILL HAVE THE TRUE WISHES AND DESIRES OF THE PALAUAN

PEOPLE EXPRESSED THROUGHT THEIR ELECTED REPRESENTATIVES.

LEGISLATOR BAULES SECHELONG THEN INTRODUCED A RESOLUTION "RELATIVE TO CLARIFYING THE POSITION OF THE PALAU LEGISLATURE WITH RESPECT TO THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT POLICY ON THE RETURN OF PUBLIC LANDS FROM THE TRUST TERRITORY GOVERNMENT TO THE PEOPLE OF PALAU DISTRICT."

DURING THE DISCUSSION ON THE FLOOR IT BECAME CLEAR THAT THE MAJORITY OF THE MEMBERS OF THE LEGISLATURE SUPPORTED THE RETURN OF PUBLIC LANDS THROUGH AN EXECUTIVE ORDER. LEGISLATOR SANTOS OLIKONG, WHO WAS THE SOLE OPPONENT OF THE RESOLUTION, SAID HE BELIEVED THAT THE PALAU LEGISLATURE SHOULD MAINTAIN ITS POSITION AS STATED IN PALAU LEGISLATURE RESOLUTION 74-23, WHICH WAS ADOPTED DURING THE OCTOBER SESSION.

LEGISLATOR OLIKONG FURTHER INFORMED THE FLOOR DURING THE COURSE OF DISCUSSION THAT HE HAD RECEIVED A CALL FROM THE CHAIRMAN OF THE CONGRESS OF MICRONESIA JOINT COMMITTEE ON FUTURE STATUS, SENATOR LAZARUS SALII, THAT THE PALAU LEGISLATURE SHOULD CONSIDER NOT ADOPTING THE RESOLUTION SUPPORTING THE REQUEST FOR RETURN OF PUBLIC LANDS THROUGH EXECUTIVE ORDER.

CHIEF UHERBELAU, MEMBER OF THE TRADITIONAL LEADERS, INFORMED THE LEGISLATURE THAT HE HAS ALSO RECEIVED A CALL FROM THE TWO HIGH CHIEFS, HIGH CHIEF EBEDUL AND ACTING HIGH CHIEF REKLAI, ASKING THE LEGISLATURE NOT TO ADOPT THE RESOLUTION SUPPORTING THE RETURN OF PUBLIC LANDS THROUGH EXECUTIVE ORDER.

DURING THE HEARING THAT SAME DAY, SEVERAL MEMBERS OF THE GENERAL PUBLIC EXPRESSED THEIR VIEWS ON THAT ISSUE. OTHER MEMBERS EXPRESSED CONCERN OVER THE FACT THAT THERE IS A GRAVE POSSIBILITY THAT THE LEADERSHIP OF PALAU MIGHT SPLIT ON THIS VITAL ISSUE, WHICH WILL LEAVE THE ADMINISTERING AUTHORITY IN THE MIDST OF CONFUSION.

AFTER TWO DAYS OF "HEATED" DEBATE, THE RESOLUTION WAS ADOPTED. HUNDREDS OF HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS, TEACHERS AND OTHER PALAUAN DIGNITARIES ATTENDED THE SESSION.

(HOMESTEAD COMMITTEE MEETING)

SAIPAN, DEC. 9 (MNS)--MARIANAS DISTRICT ADMINISTRATOR FRANCISCO C. ADA MET WITH HIGH COMMISSIONER EDWARD E. JOHNSTON LAST WEEK ON THE HOMESTEAD ISSUE IN THE MARIANAS.

ACCORDING TO A RELEASE FROM THE OFFICE OF THE DISTRICT ADMINISTRATOR, THE MEETING, HELD ON WEDNESDAY (DEC. 4) OF LAST

WEEK, BROUGHT TOGETHER THOSE RESPONSIBLE FOR THE HOMESTEADING POLICIES AT THE TRUST TERRITORY (TT) HEADQUARTERS, DISTRICT ADMINISTRATOR'S STAFF AND SEVERAL MEMBERS OF THE MPSC.

THE DISCUSSION CENTERED AROUND THE TIMELY PROCESSING OF MORE THAN 120 TINIAN HOMESTEAD APPLICATIONS AWAITING DISPOSITION AND MORE THAN 1600 UNPROCESSED APPLICATIONS ON SAIPAN AND ROTA. THE HOMESTEAD ISSUE ON TINIAN, THE NEWLY FORMED HOMESTEAD COMMITTEE OF THE MARIANAS STATUS COMMISSION INSISTS, WAS OF THE HIGHEST PRIORITY.

ACCORDING TO THE RELEASE, THE HOMESTEADING PROGRAM GENERALLY FOR THE ENTIRE MARIANAS NEEDS ADDITIONAL FUNDING. DISTAD ADA INDICATED THAT HE WILL TAKE INTO ACCOUNT THE INDICATIONS BY THE MARIANAS DISTRICT LEGISLATURE AND THE MPSC THAT TINIAN'S HOMESTEADERS ARE ONE OF THE HIGHEST PRIORITIES.

THE HIGH COMMISSIONER, THE RELEASE STATES, WILL MAKE SUFFICIENT FUNDS AVAILABLE FROM THE HEADQUARTERS DIVISION OF LANDS AND SURVEYS WHICH, TOGETHER WITH ON-GOING FUNDING PROGRAM, WILL MAKE THE HOMESTEADING PROGRAM IN THE MARIANAS DISTRICT CURRENT.

DISTAD ADA PROMISED ACTION WILL COMMENCE NO LATER THAN THE FIRST OF JANUARY, 1975.

PRESENT AT THE MEETING WERE: JOSE R. CRUZ, CHAIRMAN OF THE HOMESTEAD COMMITTEE, MPSC CHAIRMAN EDWARD PANGELINAN, U.S. AMBASSADOR FRANKLIN HAYDN WILLIAMS AND HIS DEPUTY JAMES WILSON, AND KOZO YAMADA, CHIEF OF THE LANDS AND SURVEYS DIVISION.

(KUSAIEAN STUDENTS FAVOR APPOINTED DISTAD)

KUSAIE, DEC. 9 (MNS)---THIRTY-SEVEN KUSAIEAN STUDENTS AT THE UNIVERSITY OF GUAM MET RECENTLY WITH THE LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL OF THE PONAPE DISTRICT LEGISLATURE AND DISCUSSED AT LENGTH PUBLIC LAW 5-77, WHICH MAKE THE ISLAND OF KUSAIE THE SEVENTH DISTRICT OF MICRONESIA EFFECTIVE JANUARY 1, 1977.

THE STUDENTS ALSO DISCUSSED THE TRANSITIONAL PERIOD, THE DISTRICT GOVERNMENT AND OTHER RELATED ISSUES, WAYS OF RAISING REVENUE, THE NUMBER OF LEGISLATORS ANTICIPATED, WHETHER THE 1976 CONGRESSIONAL ELECTION WOULD SELECT THE SENATORS AND REPRESENTATIVES FROM KUSAIE DISTRICT.

ACCORDING TO ALEX PHILLIP, THE STUDENTS WERE CONCERNED ABOUT THE EXECUTIVE BRANCH OF THE GOVERNMENT AND WHETHER THE DISTRICT ADMINISTRATOR SHOULD BE APPOINTED OR ELECTED. SOME FAVORED THE ELECTION OF THE DISTAD WHILE OTHERS EXPRESSED FEARS THAT SINCE KUSAIE GOES BY FAMILY TIES, AN APPOINTED KUSAIEAN DISTAD WILL APPOINT HIS RELATIVES TO TOP GOVERNMENT POSTS.

"WE DON'T WANT TO SEE A FAMILY SYSTEM," (IN THE GOVERNMENT) SAID ONE STUDENT. "ON THE OTHER HAND," ADDED ANOTHER STUDENT, "IF THE HIGH COMMISSIONER APPOINTED THE DISTRICT ADMINISTRATOR HE WOULD BE MERELY AN EXTENSION OF THE HIGH COMMISSIONER, AND NOT THE PEOPLE OF KUSAIE."

SOME FAVORED AN APPOINTED DISTRICT ADMINISTRATOR, ACCORDING TO PHILLIP. DEFENDING AN APPOINTED DISTAD, ONE STUDENT BLUNTLY STATED THAT KUSAIEAN PEOPLE VOTE FOR FAMILY TIES, RELIGIOUS CONNECTIONS, FRIENDSHIP, BUT NOT QUALIFICATION, THEREFORE IT WOULD BE BETTER TO HAVE AN APPOINTED KUSAIEAN DISTAD.

"WE SHOULD HAVE AN APPOINTED DISTAD, BUT NOT A KUSAIEAN," SAID ANOTHER STUDENT. ANOTHER SAID, "WE SHOULD HAVE AN APPOINTED DISTAD WHETHER HE IS A KUSAIEAN, PALAUAN, TRUKESSE, OR MARSHALLESE, AND SEE HOW IT WORKS. IF IT DOESN'T WORK ACCORDING TO THE WISHES OF THE PEOPLE OF KUSAIE, KUSAIEAN PEOPLE COULD PETITION FOR AN ELECTED DISTAD."

AFTER A LONG DEBATE ON THE PROS AND CONS OF THE ISSUE, A ROLL CALL VOTE WAS TAKEN DURING THE MEETING. NINETEEN VOTED FOR AN APPOINTED DISTAD, FOURTEEN AGAINST AND FOUR WERE UNCOMMITTED.

BECAUSE A LARGE NUMBER OF STUDENTS FAVORED AN APPOINTED DISTRICT ADMINISTRATOR, THE STUDENTS MET AGAIN TO MAKE A FORMAL

STATEMENT OF THE DECISION ON THEIR POSITION AND ADDED THE PROVISION THAT ALL APPOINTMENTS MADE BY THE DISTRICT ADMINISTRATOR OF KUSAIE FOR HIGH GOVERNMENT POSTS SHOULD GET THE APPROVAL OF THE KUSAIE DISTRICT LEGISLATURE.

PUBLIC LAW 5-77 WAS PASSED BY THE FIFTH CONGRESS OF MICRONESIA IN ITS LAST SESSION ON SAIPAN.

THE THIRD PONAPE DISTRICT LEGISLATURE ALSO PASSED A BILL CREATING A SPECIAL COMMITTEE OF FOUR TO STUDY AND MAKE RECOMMENDATIONS TO THE LEGISLATURE ON THE TRANSITIONAL PERIOD FOR THE ESTABLISHMENT OF KUSAIE AS A SEPARATE ADMINISTRATIVE DISTRICT.

(HISTORIC PRESERVATION PROGRAM)

SAIPAN, DEC. 9 (MNS)---TRUST TERRITORY HIGH COMMISSIONER EDWARD E. JOHNSTON HAS APPOINTED SIX MEMBERS TO THE HISTORIC PLACES REVIEW BOARD, A SPOKESMAN FOR THE DIVISION OF LANDS AND SURVEYS SAID THIS WEEK.

THEY ARE: YVONNE BREWER, ARCHEOLOGIST; TOM SHEEHAN, ARCHITECT; MAYNARD NEAS, HISTORIAN; AND DWIGHT HEINE, DAVID RAMARUI, AND IGNACIO V. BENAVENTE, MEMBERS.

THE BOARD HELD ITS FIRST MEETING LAST WEEK ON SAIPAN AND DISCUSSED THE THREE BOOKS AND OTHER MATERIALS PREPARED UNDER THE SUPERVISION OF HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER NEIL CHASE.

THE BOARD SELECTED SIC POSSIBLE SITES FOR INCLUSION IN THE NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORICAL PLACES. THEY ARE: THE JAPANESE LIGHTHOUSE AND THE JAPANESE HOSPITAL ON SAIPAN; THE TAGA HOUSE ON TINIAN; LATTE STONE QUARRY ON ROTA; NAN MADOL RUINS IN PONAPE AND THE SPANISH WALL IN KOLONIA, PONAPE.

THE BRANCH OF LAND RESOURCES AND LAND USE, DIVISION OF LANDS AND SURVEYS SPENT THE LAST TWO WEEKS OF NOVEMBER ON THE SELECTION, DETERMINATION, EVALUATION AND NOMINATION OF HISTORIC SITES IN THE TT FOR SUBMISSION TO THE NATIONAL PARK SERVICE, DEPARTMENT OF INTERIOR.

SELECTION OF HISTORIC SITES FROM PALAU, YAP, TRUK AND MARSHALL ISLANDS HAVE NOT BEEN RECEIVED TO DATE, THE SPOKESMAN EXPLAINED.

IN ADDITION TO THE \$100,000 GRANT MADE AVAILABLE TO THE TT FOR HISTORIC SITES PRESERVATION, CHASE HAS REQUESTED AN ADDITIONAL \$250,000 FOR FISCAL YEAR 1975 FROM THE CHIEF, DIVISION OF GRANTS, NATIONAL PARK SERVICE.

(MANGAR APPOINTED TRADITIONAL CHIEF)

SAIPAN, DEC. 9 (MNS)---IN A SPECIAL CEREMONY HELD WEDNESDAY (DEC. 4) AT THE GARAPAN GARDEN HOTEL ON SAIPAN, PATRICK B. MANGAR WAS CONFERRED THE HONORARY TITLE OF TRADITIONAL CHIEF (PILUNG IN YAPESE) BY THE SPEAKER OF THE YAP ISLANDS DISTRICT LEGISLATURE JOACHIM FALMOG, THE NEWLY ELECTED MAYOR OF RUUL MUNICIPALITY FERNANDO FALEUAATH, AND CHIEF FRANCISCO LUKTUN. CONGRESSMAN LUKE M. TMAN AND DEPUTY DISTRICT ADMINISTRATOR EDMUND GILMAR WERE PRESENT AT THE CEREMONY.

MANGAR WAS RECENTLY APPOINTED TO THE POSITION OF ASSISTANT CHIEF IN THE DIVISION OF LEGISLATIVE LIAISON AT THE HEADQUARTERS PUBLIC AFFAIRS DEPARTMENT.

ACCORDING TO YAPESE CUSTOM, THE TITLE PILUNG IS CONSIDERED A VERY HIGH HONOR.

IN HIS REMARKS CONFERRING THE TITLE OF PILUNG, THE SPEAKER OF THE YAP DISTRICT LEGISLATURE: "WE ARE VERY HAPPY TODAY TO CONFER UPON YOU THIS TITLE AND FROM NOW ON YOU ARE ENTITLED TO ALL THE PRIVILEGES AND HONOR THAT GO WITH IT.

"WE WANT YOU ALSO TO BE THE SPECIAL REPRESENTATIVE OF THE YAPESE PEOPLE HERE ON SAIPAN AND AT THE TRUST TERRITORY HEADQUARTERS," FALMOG SAID. CONGRATULATORY REMARKS WERE MADE BY ALL WHO WERE PRESENT AT THE CEREMONY.

MANGAR IS FROM THE VILLAGE OF TENFAR IN YAP, A LOW RANKING VILLAGE IN THE YAPESE CASTE SYSTEM. IT IS CONSIDERED RARE FOR LOW CASTE YAPESE TO BE GIVEN THE TITLE PILUNG. MANGAR ATTEND THE GAGIL ELEMENTARY SCHOOL AND ST. MARY'S JUNIOR HIGH SCHOOL ON YAP.

AFTER GRADUATING FROM THE GEORGE WASHINGTON HIGH SCHOOL ON GUAM, HE ENROLLED AT THE UNIVERSITY OF GUAM WHERE HE RECEIVED AN ASSOCIATE OF ARTS DEGREE AND SUBSEQUENTLY A BACHELOR OF ARTS DEGREE IN ENGLISH LITERATURE AND POLITICAL SCIENCE. HE IS NOW A CANDIDATE FOR A MASTERS DEGREE IN PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION WITH THE UNIVERSITY OF OKLAHOMA.

PRIOR TO HIS APPOINTMENT AT THE HEADQUARTERS, MANGAR WAS EMPLOYED IN YAP AS A STATISTICAL RECORDER, ASSISTANT CLERK OF COURTS AND ASSISTANT TO FINANCE OFFICER.

HE WAS YAP'S REPRESENTATIVE IN THE MICRO-OLYMPICS COMMITTEE AND ALSO SERVED ON CENSUS COMMITTEE. AND IS PRESENTLY A MEMBER OF THE HEADQUARTERS TASK FORCE ON EDUCATION FOR SELF-GOVERNMENT (ESG).

MANGAR WAS FORMER AN INFORMATION SPECIALIST AT THE HEADQUARTERS PUBLIC INFORMATION DIVISION. HE IS A CERTIFIED JOURNALIST, A CERTIFIED U.S. WEATHER BUREAU METEOROLOGICAL TECHNICIAN, AND CERTIFIED INSTRUCTOR FOR THE UNIVERSITY OF NEBRASKA, SAIPAN CENTER.