

(MPSC SUPPORTS RETURN OF PUBLIC LAND)

SAIPAN, DEC. 10 (MNS)---THE RETURN OF PUBLIC LAND THROUGH AN EXECUTIVE ORDER IS BEING SUPPORTED BY THE MARIANAS POLITICAL STATUS COMMISSION, (MPSC) THE PACIFIC DAILY NEWS REPORTED IN ITS TUESDAY, (DEC. 10) ISSUE.

MPSC CHAIRMAN EDWARD PANGELINAN, IN A LETTER TO STANLEY S. CARPENTER, DIRECTOR OF TERRITORIAL AFFAIRS, SAID THAT THEY MPSC "DOESN'T AGREE IN ALL RESPECTS WITH THE POLICY STATEMENT/ANNOUNCED BY THE U.S. GOVERNMENT WHICH SETS OUT CERTIAN CONDITIONS THAT MUST BE FOLLOWED TO PROTECT U.S. LAND NEEDS, BUT "IN ANY EVENT, THE DESIRE OF THE MARIANA ISLANDS DISTRICT SHOULD BE HONORED BY THE IMMEDIATE RETURN OF PUBLIC LAND," PANGELINAN CONCLUDED HIS LETTER.

DR. FRANCISCO T. PALACIOS, MEMBER OF THE MPSC, WILL DELIVER THE LETTER PERSONALLY TO CARPENTER, WHO IS IN HONOLULU FOR THE MEETING BETWEEN REPRESENTATIVES OF THE DEPARTMENT OF INTERIOR AND DISTRICT AND CONGRESS OF MICRONESIA LEADERS.

PANGELINAN ACKNOWLEDGED "THAT LEADERS IN OTHER DISTRICTS MAY NOT AGREE WITH OUR ENDORSEMENT OF THE UNITED STATES PROPOSAL WITH RESPECT TO THE RETURN OF PUBLIC LAND BY EXECUTIVE ORDER," THE DAILY NEWS STORY STATED.

HE SUGGESTED THAT THE OTHER DISTRICT LEADERS' VIEWS AS WELL AS THOSE LEADERS IN THE MARIANAS COULD "BE RESPECTED BY RETURNING PUBLIC LAND BY EXECUTIVE ORDER ONLY TO THOSE DISTRICTS WHICH REQUESTED IT."

(PONAPE FISHERIES BOOMING?)

SAIPAN, DEC. 10 (MNS)---A TOTAL OF 190, 811 POUNDS OF REEF FISH WERE SOLD TO THE PONAPE FISHING COOPERATIVE FROM MARCH THROUGH AUGUST OF THIS YEAR, ACCORDING TO A SPOKESMAN FOR THE HEADQUARTERS DIVISION OF MARINE RESOURCES.

JESS ELAMETO, MANAGEMENT INTERN, REALIZING HOWEVER, THAT PERHAPS AN EVEN GREATER NUMBER WERE CAUGHT BUT WERE FOR LOCAL CONSUMPTION OR WERE SOLD TO OUTLETS OTHER THAN THE FISHING CO-OP, REQUESTED THE PONAPE MARINE RESOURCES PERSONNEL TO CONDUCT AN IN-DEPTH SURVEY TO DETERMINE THE VALIDITY OF HIS HYPOTHESIS.

MARINE RESOURCES PERSONNEL ON PONAPE SENT TWO ME TO KITTI MUNICIPALITY FOR A WEEK'S PERIOD (NOV. 5-11) WHERE THEY VIEWED ELEVEN TYPICAL FAMILIES. THEY WERE TO RECORD THE NUMBER OF FISHING TRIPS MADE BY THE FAMILIES ALONG WITH RECORDING THE CATCH AND THE EVENTUAL USE OF THE FISH.

"THE DATA COMPILED," ELAMETO SAID, " IS REALLY INTERESTING AS THESE ELEVEN FAMILIES CAUGHT DURING THIS TIME 1,664 POUNDS OF FISH. HOWEVER, ONLY 293 POUNDS WAS SOLD TO THE PONAPE FISHING COOPERATIVE."

"THIS IS BUT 17 PERCENT OF THE TOTAL CATCH AND IF THIS KIND OF INFORMATION HOLDS TRUE FOR THE ENTIRE YEAR AND FOR OTHER FISHING FAMILIES OF PONAPE, THEN THE 190,811 POUNDS SOLD FROM MARCH TO AUGUST COULD REPRESENT BUT 17 PERCENT OF THE FISH CAUGHT IN PONAPE DURING THE ENTIRE PERIOD," ELAMETO EXPLAINED.

WHAT HAPPENED TO THE OTHER 83 PERCENT?

ACCORDING TO THE DATA YET COLLECTED, THE ELEVEN FAMILIES SOLD 574 POUNDS OR 34 PERCENT WITHIN THEIR OWN VILLAGE AND CONSUMED 43 PERCENT OF THE FISH CAUGHT. IF THIS KIND OF INFORMATION HOLDS TRUE FOR PONAPE IN GENERAL, IT COULD IN FACT REPRESENT A TOTAL CATCH OF 2,244,840 OF REEF FISH OVER A YEAR'S PERIOD.

"WE KNOW THAT THIS INFORMATION WILL NOT HOLD UP UNDER CLOSE SCRUTINY OVER A YEARS PERIOD BECAUSE OF THE MANY FACTORS," ELAMETO ACKNOWLEDGED, "HOWEVER, IT SHOWS A SIGNIFICANTLY GREATER CATCH THAN BEFORE REALIZED. ASSUMING THIS YEARLY PONAPE CATCH TO APPROXIMATE TWO AND A HALF MILLION POUNDS," ELAMETO CONTINUED, "THIS WOULD MEAN A YEARLY WHOLESALE VALUE OF \$900,000 OF SAVED EARNINGS THAT WOULD NOT HAVE TO GO OUT TO BUY CANNED FISH, IF THE

RESOURCES WERE NOT THERE."

THE SURVEY TURNED UP OTHER INTERESTING FACTS, ONE BEING, THAT THE AVERAGE DAILY CONSUMPTION OF FISH WAS 0.74 POUNDS PER PERSON A DAY, A VERY HIGH RATE COMPARED TO WORLD FISH CONSUMPTION RATES.

THE FIRST-OF-A-KIND SURVEY WHICH WAS DONE IN PONAPE WILL BE CONDUCTED IN THE OTHER DISTRICTS. BUT, ELAMETO POINTED OUT, A SIMILAR SURVEY WILL AGAIN BE CONDUCTED IN THE SAME AREA DURING JANUARY TO ASCERTAIN WHETHER THE STATISTICS PROVIDED TO THE HEADQUARTERS MARINE RESOURCES ARE VALID.

DURING THE ACTUAL SURVEY, THE MARINE RESOURCES STAFF STAYED IN THE VILLAGE FULL TIME TO ACTUALLY SEE HOW MUCH FISH WAS BEING PRODUCED.

(BUSINESS PERMIT ACTIVITY)

SAIPAN, DEC. 10 (MNS)---ONLY ONE BUSINESS PERMIT WAS ISSUED LAST WEEK BY THE HIGH COMMISSIONER, A WEEKLY REPORT FROM ON FOREIGN BUSINESS ACTIVITY FROM THE ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT DIVISION, DEPARTMENT OF RESOURCES AND DEVELOPMENT SHOWS.

THE PERMIT WAS ISSUED AUTOMATICALLY UNDER PUBLIC LAW 5-85, WHICH REQUIRES MICRONESIAN CITIZENS MARRIED TO NON-MICRONESIANS AND DOING BUSINESS IN THE TRUST TERRITORY TO COMPLY WITH THE FOREIGN BUSINESS LAW.

THE PERMIT GOES TO MAJURO STEVEDORE AND TERMINAL COMPANY, INCORPORATED, TO CONDUCT, OPERATE, MAINTAIN AND CARRY ON THE BUSINESS OF TERMINAL OPERATIONS, STEVEDORING, CARGO STORAGE, TRUCKING, HAULING, AND OTHER BUSINESS INCIDENTAL TO STEVEDORING AND TERMINAL OPERATIONS IN THE MARSHALL ISLANDS. PERSIDENT OF THE COMPANY IS BILIMON AMRAM, AND VICTOR MULLER, IS THE OPERATIONS MANAGER.

(ESG BI-WEEKLY PAPER FORMED)

KOLONIA, DEC. 10 (MNS)---THE PONAPE DISTRICT TASK FORCE ON EDUCATION FOR SELF-GOVERNMENT (ESG) WILL ISSUE THE FIRST BI-WEEKLY PAPER FOR THE PEOPLE OF PONAPE, HALVORSEN JOHNNY, RADIO STATION MANAGER AND A MEMBER OF ESG REPORTED THIS WEEK. THE PAPER IS PART OF THE EFFORT OF ESG MEMBERS TO INFORM THE PEOPLE OF PONAPE ON THE ISSUES BEFORE THEY DECIDE ON THEIR FUTURE POLITICAL STATUS.

THE PAPER WILL DISTRIBUTED TO GOVERNMENT OFFICES, MUNICIPAL OFFICES, CHURCHES AND OTHER PLACES. THE PAPER WILL CONTAIN ITEMS ON ESG MATERIALS, PRODUCED BY THE TASK FORCE.

THE FIRST ISSUE OF THE PAPER, NAMED "KE ESE DA ROHNG?" WILL BE ISSUED THIS WEEK ON FRIDAY (DEC. 13), ACCORDING TO JOHNNY. THE SUMMARY WILL INTRODUCE TO THE PEOPLE THE PURPOSES OF THE ESG TASK FORCE AND ITS DUTIES AS FAR AS POLITICAL EDUCATION IS CONCERNED.

THE PAPER WILL ALSO CARRY STORIES IN THE FOUR MAJOR LANGUAGES OF THE DISTRICT: PONAPEAN, KUSAIEAN, KAPINGAMARANGI AND NUKUORAN.

THE COMMITTEE ON INFORMATION AND PUBLIC RELATIONS, HEADED BY CHAIRMAN HALVORSEN, IS CHARGED WITH THE RESPONSIBILITY OF PRINTING THE PAPER AND COLLECTING STORIES FOR THE INCLUSION IN IT. OTHER MEMBERS OF THE COMMITTEE ARE TADAO SIGRAH, MOSES MACKWALENG, KIKUO APIS, BILIMON GEORGE AND SANTIAGO JOAB.

IN OTHER DEVELOPMENTS, THE "PONAPE EDUCATION FOR SELF-GOVERNMENT TASK FORCE" HAS A NEW PONAPEAN NAME, REPORTS JOHNNY. THE NEW NAME, "PWINN EN SOWESE KAVEHVEN KOPERMENT" WAS PICKED SO THAT THE PEOPLE OF PONAPE COULD BE FAMILIAR WITH THE GROUP AND ATTRACT INTERESTED PEOPLE WANTING TO KNOW MORE ABOUT POLITICAL STATUS.

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