

(WSZE MAY GO OFF AIR)

SAIPAN, OCT. 17 (MNS) ~~H~~-SAIPAN'S TELEVISION STATION, WSZE, MAY GO OFF THE AIR AT THE END OF THIS MONTH, UNLESS STATION OFFICIALS RECEIVED SOME SORT OF ASSURANCE FROM THE GOVERNMENT THAT THE LAND THEY REQUIRE TO ERECT A NEW TOWER WILL BE LEASED. File
11

IN A LETTER TO MARIANAS DISTRICT ADMINISTRATOR FRANCISCO C. ADA, DELIVERED THIS WEEK, H. SCOTT KILLGORE, PRESIDENT OF MICRONESIAN BROADCASTING COMPANY, SAID HE AND THE MANAGER OF THE LOCAL STATION, EDGAR OLSON, HAVE CONCLUDED THAT NO PROGRESS IS BEING MADE IN NEGOTIATIONS TO MOVE THE FACILITY FROM ITS PRESENT LOCATION, AT THE ROYAL TAGA HOTEL, TO A NEW SITE AT THE DISTRICT EDUCATION COMPLEX AT LOWER BASE. KILLGORE TOLD THE DISTAD, "...I MUST PLACE A CUT-OFF DATE OF OCTOBER 31, 1974 IN WHICH WE WILL GO OFF THE AIR..." UNLESS SUBSTANTIAL PROGRESS IS MADE IN GETTING THE STATION MOVED.

SINCE FEBRUARY, MICRONESIAN BROADCASTING HAS BEEN PAYING RENT ON THE SPACE IN THE DISTRICT EDUCATION BUILDING WHERE THE AUDIOVISUAL SECTION IS LOCATED, IN THE HOPE THAT A MOVE TO THE NEW FACILITY COULD BE MADE. BUT THE STATION REQUIRES A LEASE ON A 500 BY 500 FOOT PIECE OF LAND NEXT TO THE BUILDING FOR THE TOWER. THE LAND IS REPORTEDLY IN A MILITARY RETENTION AREA, BUT ACCORDING TO KILLGORE VERBAL AGREEMENT FOR THE LEASE HAS BEEN OBTAINED. "BUT," HE TOLD MNS THURSDAY, "WE CAN'T GET ANYTHING IN WRITING."

"I DON'T WANT TO TAKE THE STATION OFF THE AIR," KILLGORE ADDED, "BUT I CERTAINLY DON'T WANT TO GO AROUND AND AROUND ON THIS FOR ANOTHER YEAR. WE'RE IN A TIGHT MONEY MARKET NOW, KUAM (GUAM'S TV STATION, ALSO OWNED BY KILLGORE) COLLECTIONS ARE NOT WHAT THEY WERE, AND A LOT OF OUR MONEY HAS GONE OUT TO SUPPORT THAT SAIPAN OPERATION.

"WE'RE AT THE POINT, AFTER SIX YEARS, OF SAYING THAT IF WSZE CAN'T BE BROUGHT TO SOMETHING CLOSE TO PAYING ITS OWN WAY, WE'VE GOT TO CLOSE IT DOWN." THE SAIPAN STATION IS LOSING \$2,000 A MONTH, KILLGORE SAID.

GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS WERE LARGELY UNAVAILABLE FOR COMMENT ON THE SITUATION THURSDAY, ALTHOUGH DAVID MARATITA, DISTRICT PUBLIC AFFAIRS DIRECTOR, SAID A MEETING WAS TO BE HELD FRIDAY MORNING AMONG THE GOVERNMENT AGENCIES INVOLVED TO SEE WHAT CAN BE DONE.

ON SEPTEMBER 17, DISTAD ADA WROTE A LETTER TO KILLGORE, CHARGING THE COMPANY WITH SEVERAL SPECIFIC VIOLATIONS OF THE LEASE AGREEMENT ON THE DISTRICT EDUCATION SPACE, INCLUDING NON-PAYMENT OF RENT AND UNAUTHORIZED RENOVATIONS MADE TO THE FACILITY. STATION OFFICIALS SAY THAT THE RENT IS NOW PAID AND CURRENT, AND THEY CONTEND THAT THE RENOVATIONS WERE AUTHORIZED BY A DISTRICT EDUCATION OFFICIAL WHO WAS DESIGNATED AS THE GOVERNMENT'S "AGENT" ON MATTERS RELATED TO USE OF THE SPACE. THAT OFFICIAL IS NO LONGER IN THE TRUST TERRITORY, AND THUS COULD NOT BE CONTACTED FOR COMMENT.

THE SEPT. 17 LETTER ALSO CHARGED THAT MICRONESIAN BROADCASTING HAD NOT PAID ITS UTILITY BILLS--STATION OFFICIALS SAY THEY HAVE NOT BEEN BILLED--AND THAT NO FORMAL AGREEMENT WITH THE DISTRICT REGARDING UTILITIES HAS BEEN FORWARDED TO THE DISTAD OFFICE AS REQUIRED BY THE LEASE--STATION OFFICIALS SAY THEY APPLIED TO THE DISTRICT PUBLIC UTILITIES AGENCY IN APRIL FOR SUCH AN AGREEMENT, AND AS OF THIS WEEK HAVE GOTTEN NO ACTION.

EARLY THIS YEAR, MICRONESIAN BROADCASTING WAS GRANTED A RENEWED BUSINESS PERMIT THAT INCLUDED PERMISSION FOR A COMMERCIAL AM AND FM RADIO STATION, WHICH KILLGORE HOPED WOULD ASSIST IN PUTTING THE OPERATION IN THE BLACK. "WE HAVE ASKED AND NEVER RECEIVED PERMISSION FOR AN FM AND AM FREQUENCY," KILLGORE SAID IN HIS LETTER TO THE DISTAD.

"WE GET LOTS OF COOPERATION, BUT NO ACTION" THE GUAM

11532

BROADCASTING EXECUTIVE ADDED.

KILLGORE SAID THE STATION'S LEASE AT THE ROYAL TAGA HAS EXPIRED, AND FOR SEVERAL MONTHS NOW THEY HAVE BEEN PAYING RENT FOR TWO LOCATIONS. "WE'VE GOT ALL THE EQUIPMENT INSTALLED (AT THE DISTRICT EDUCATION COMPLEX)," HE STATED, "WE'RE PAYING RENT DOWN THERE, AND WE CAN'T USE ANYTHING. TAKING THE STATION OFF THE AIR IS NOT A THREAT--IT'S NOT INTENDED TO BE. WE ARE LOSING MONEY UP THERE (ON SAIPAN), DAY AFTER DAY, AND THERE'S JUST SO MUCH OF THAT WE CAN TAKE. IT'S AS SIMPLE AS THAT."

(ALL USERS: PLEASE CREDIT CONGRESS OF MICRONESIA)
(SHIPPING SURVEY SET)

SAIPAN, OCT. 17 (CONGRESS RELEASE)---THE CONGRESS OF MICRONESIA'S JOINT COMMITTEE ON RESOURCES AND DEVELOPMENT WILL BE CONDUCTING A SURVEY OF TRUST TERRITORY SHIPPING NEEDS THROUGHOUT THE SIX DISTRICTS, BETWEEN OCTOBER 21 AND NOVEMBER 12.

THE COMMITTEE, HEADED BY REPRESENTATIVE SASAUO HARUO OF TRUK, PLANS TO CONDUCT HEARINGS AND MEET WITH LOCAL LEADERS THROUGHOUT THE DISTRICTS, INCLUDING MEMBERS OF ALL THE DISTRICT LEGISLATURES, LOCAL TRANSPORTATION OFFICIALS, BUSINESSMEN, AND ALL OTHER INTERESTED PERSONS INVOLVED IN SEA TRANSPORTATION IN MICRONESIA.

THE JOINT COMMITTEE WILL BE ASSISTED BY MR. DANKE KOLUDROVIC, A REGIONAL ADVISOR ON SHIPPING AND OCEAN FREIGHT RATES OF THE ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COMMISSION FOR ASIA AND THE PACIFIC (ESCAP). KOLUDROVIC HAS BROAD EXPERIENCE AS A SHIPPING CONSULTANT AND WILL MAKE RECOMMENDATIONS FOR ESTABLISHING A VIABLE SURFACE TRANSPORTATION SYSTEM IN MICRONESIA.

SINCE THE TERMINATION OF THE EXCLUSIVE SHIPPING FRANCHISE OF TRANSPACIFIC LINES LAST FEBRUARY AS RECOMMENDED BY A CONGRESS OF MICRONESIA REPORT ON SHIPPING, NO SINGLE SHIPPING LINE HAS OPERATED THROUGHOUT THE DISTRICTS. AT THAT TIME THE ADMINISTRATION PLEDGED TO INSTITUTE A PERMANENT SHIPPING PLAN FOR MICRONESIA, AT THE REQUEST OF THE CONGRESS BUT SINCE THEN NO SUCH PLAN HAS BEEN ANNOUNCED, AND A TEMPORARY SHIPPING ARRANGEMENT THAT PERMITS NINE DIFFERENT COMPANIES TO CALL AT SPECIFIED MICRONESIAN PORTS STILL REMAINS IN EFFECT.

HEARINGS IN THE DISTRICTS ARE EXPECTED TO BEGIN OCTOBER 21. THE EXACT TIMES AND DATES OF THE MEETINGS WILL BE ANNOUNCED LOCALLY IN EACH OF THE SIX DISTRICTS.

(REMELIHK AND MOSES TO AUSTRALIA)

SAIPAN, OCT. 17 (MNS)---PALAU DEPUTY DISTRICT ADMINISTRATOR HARUO REMELIHK HAS ACCEPTED AN INVITATION FROM THE GOVERNMENT OF AUSTRALIA TO TOUR THAT COUNTRY NEXT MONTH.

REMELIHK WILL REPRESENT THE EXECUTIVE BRANCH. HE WILL ACCOMPANY PONAPE REPRESENTATIVE RESIO MOSES WHO IS REPRESENTING THE CONGRESS OF MICRONESIA. BOTH OFFICIALS HAVE BEEN INVITED TO VISIT AUSTRALIA FOR THREE WEEKS UNDER A PROGRAM ADMINISTERED BY THE AUSTRALIAN DEPARTMENT OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS.

THE TRIP IS BELIEVED TO BE THE FIRST TIME MICRONESIAN LEADERS HAVE VISITED A COUNTRY OTHER THAN THE UNITED STATES AS OFFICIAL GUESTS OF A FOREIGN GOVERNMENT. NO WORD HAS YET BEEN RECEIVED AS TO THEIR ITINERARY.

(THE LADY CANDIDATE) (AN MNS FEATURE BY FRANK ROSARIO)

SAIPAN, OCT. 17 (MNS)---MICRONESIA IS ONE AREA WHERE POLITICS AND WOMEN DON'T SEEM TO MIX VERY WELL. AT LEAST, IT ISN'T OFTEN THAT A LADY MAKES A TRY FOR POLITICAL OFFICE IN THE TRUST TERRITORY, AND NO WOMAN HAS EVER HELD A SEAT IN THE CONGRESS OF MICRONESIA.

CARMEN MILNE BIGLER HOPES TO CHANGE THAT. SHE IS THE ONLY FEMALE RUNNING FOR OFFICE IN THE NOVEMBER 5 CONGRESS OF MICRONESIA GENERAL ELECTION, AND SHE SAYS SHE IS "VERY OPTIMISTIC" ABOUT IT.

MS. BIGLER, 35, IS AN ADULT BASIC EDUCATION SPECIALIST AT THE MARSHALL ISLANDS DISTRICT DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION. ON SAIPAN THIS WEEK FOR AN ABE CONFERENCE, SHE SAID SHE THINKS HER CHANCES OF WINNING A SEAT IN THE CONGRESS THIS YEAR ARE "PRETTY GOOD".

SHE IS OPPOSING INCUMBENT REPRESENTATIVE JOHN HEINE IN THE FIFTH REPRESENTATIVE DISTRICT. IT IS A FOUR-WAY RACE, WITH HEMOS A. JACK, A TRIAL ASSISTANT FOR THE MICRONESIAN LEGAL SERVICES CORPORATION IN THE MARSHALLS, AND CHUJI CHUTARO, HEALTH PLANNER FOR THE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH SERVICES, THE OTHER CANDIDATES.

"I GUESS I WANTED TO RUN BECAUSE I FELT THAT MY ELECTION DISTRICT WAS NOT WELL REPRESENTED IN THE CONGRESS," MS. BIGLER SAYS. "I WAS REALLY NOT SATISFIED WITH SOME OF THE THINGS THAT THE CONGRESS HAS DONE."

ASKED HOW SHE FEELS AS THE ONLY WOMAN RUNNING FOR ELECTION, THE LADY CANDIDATE SAID, "I DON'T FEEL ANY DIFFERENT. I BELIEVE THAT THERE ARE WOMEN THAT CAN DO THE JOB THAT MEN CAN. I THINK THAT THERE ARE MANY CAPABLE WOMEN JUST LIKE THERE ARE MANY CAPABLE MEN."

THE ADULT BASIC EDUCATION SPECIALIST POINTED OUT THAT MOST PEOPLE IN THE MARSHALL ISLANDS FELT THAT THE 20 PERCENT TAX RETURN TO THE DISTRICTS IS REALLY "NOT FAIR. SOME PEOPLE SAY IT'S BETTER THAN NONE BUT MANY STILL PREFERRED 50 PERCENT. AND AS FOR ME, I THINK I WOULD PREFER 50 PERCENT TOO," SHE SAID.

MS BIGLER WOULD NOT COMMENT ON THE SEPARATIST MOVEMENT NOW COMING TO THE FORE IN THE MARSHALLS DISTRICT. SHE ADMITTED THAT SHE DOESN'T KNOW HOW MANY PEOPLE ARE FOR THE SEPARATIST MOVEMENT AND HOW MANY ARE FOR UNIFICATION. "THE MARSHALL ISLANDS POLITICAL STATUS COMMISSION IS WORKING ON THAT, TRYING TO GET THE CONSENSUS OF THE PEOPLE ON THE POLITICAL STATUS ISSUE," CANDIDATE BIGLER POINTED OUT.

A MEMBER OF THE TRUST TERRITORY BOARD OF EDUCATION FROM THE MARSHALLS, MS. BIGLER IS REALLY CONCERNED ABOUT THE "POOR" EDUCATIONAL SYSTEM IN THE TRUST TERRITORY AS A WHOLE AND ESPECIALLY IN THE MARSHALLS. SEVERAL YEARS AGO, THE CONGRESS OF MICRONESIA DECLARED THE MARSHALL ISLANDS AN EDUCATIONAL DISASTER AREA, SHE POINTS OUT.

"MY PLATFORM IS THAT I WOULD LIKE TO SEE THE MARSHALL ISLANDS IMPROVED IN EDUCATION AND PUBLIC HEALTH AND JUST ABOUT EVERYTHING. RIGHT NOW THE MARSHALL ISLANDS IS REALLY POOR AND BEHIND IN EVERYTHING," SHE EMPHASIZED.

EXPRESSING MORE OF HER CONCERN ABOUT THE EDUCATIONAL SYSTEM IN THE MARSHALLS, MS. BIGLER ADDED: "I HAVE AN UNDERSTANDING THAT THE JALUIT HIGH SCHOOL CONSTRUCTION IS BEING HINDERED BECAUSE OF LACK OF FUNDS. I'D LIKE AN ANSWER FOR THIS, AND WHY THERE IS NOT ENOUGH MONEY FOR THE COMPLETION OF THIS HIGH SCHOOL.

CONCERNING THE CONSTITUTIONAL CONVENTION DELEGATES ELECTED FROM THE MARSHALLS, MS. BIGLER SAID THAT IN SPITE OF THE SMALL TURNOUT IN THE MARSHALLS, "IT'S UP TO EACH OF THE DELEGATES WHETHER THEY WANT TO ATTEND THE CONSTITUTIONAL CONVENTION OR NOT." SHE SAID, HOWEVER, THAT HOLDING A DISTRICT CONSTITUTIONAL CONVENTION FIRST IS "NOT A BAD IDEA."

"IT WILL GIVE EACH DISTRICT DELEGATE SOMETHING TO TAKE TO BE INCLUDED IN THE CONSTITUTIONAL CONVENTION," SHE SAID.

THE FIFTH REPRESENTATIVE DISTRICT CANDIDATE COMES FROM A FAMILY OF SIX, WHICH INCLUDES ONE BROTHER AND FOUR SISTERS. SHE IS THE FOURTH IN THE FAMILY.

MS. BIGLER GRADUATED FROM THE PACIFIC ISLANDS CENTRAL SCHOOL IN PONAPE IN 1961. SHE RETURNED TO THE MARSHALLS AND WORK AT THE INTERMEDIATE SCHOOL THERE, THEN QUIT HER JOB TO CONTINUE HER EDUCATION AT THE UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII FROM 1963-67, GRADUATING WITH A B.A. DEGREE IN ANTHROPOLOGY.

SHE THEN WENT BACK TO THE MARSHALLS AND TAUGHT FOR TWO YEARS AT MARSHALLS HIGH SCHOOL. IN 1969 SHE WENT TO THE UNIVERSITY OF GUAM AND TOOK SUMMER COURSES BEFORE RETURNING TO THE MARSHALLS AND TEACHING SCHOOL AGAIN FOR SIX MONTHS. SHE ALSO WORKED IN THE MARSHALL ISLANDS COMMUNITY ACTION AGENCY FOR TWO YEARS PRIOR TO HER CURRENT JOB ASSIGNMENT.

MS. BIGLER IS MARRIED TO NOEL BIGLER FROM CALIFORNIA. THEY HAVE THREE CHILDREN.