

(JAPANESE FISHING VESSEL SEIZED IN YAP)

SAIPAN, FEB. 1 (MNS)---ANOTHER FOREIGN FISHING VESSEL HAS BEEN SEIZED IN YAP DISTRICT, THE SECOND VESSEL TO BE SEIZED FOR ILLEGAL FISHING IN THAT DISTRICT FOR THE PAST MONTH, ACCORDING TO WORD RECEIVED FROM YAP THIS WEEK.

THE FIRST VESSEL WAS A TAIWAN-BASED FISHING BOAT WHICH WAS SEIZED AT LAMOTREK ATOLL AND BROUGHT TO YAP DISTRICT CENTER LAST MONTH FOR COURR ACTION.

THE JAPANESE FISHING BOAT SEIZED IN YAP LATER LAST MONTH WAS IDENTIFIED AS THE SHEIEI MARU NO. 8, AND THE SHIP'S CAPTAIN YOSHIKI MAYAEAKI HAS BEEN CHARGED WITH ILLEGAL FISHING WITHIN THE THREE-MILE LIMIT OF YAP DISTRICT AS WELL AS VIOLATING THE TRUST TERRITORY IMMIGRATION LAWS.

ACCORDING TO A REPORT FROM YAP, THE FISHING BOAT WAS FIRST SEEN HOVERING OUTSIDE TOMIL HARBOR SOME 2.4 MILES AWAY FROM THE REEF. THE SHIP WAS APPARENTLY WAITING TO PICK-UP YELLOWFIN TUNA LATER IN THE DAY FROM LONG LINES ESTIMATED TO HAVE BEEN STRETCHED FOR AT LEAST FIFTEEN MILES INTO THE OPEN OCEAN.

THIS FISHING LINE WAS MADE MORE VISIBLE BY FLAG MARKERS THAT COULD BE SEEN FROM THE SHIP ITSELF. AN ESTIMATED 50 TO 70 METERS OF LINE BETWEEN EACH OF THE FLOATS WAS REPORTED BY GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS WHO SEIZED THE SHIP; ALL WERE WITHIN THREE MILES OFF THE REEF. ALSO THE SHIP HAD AN ESTIMATED NINE TONS OF TUNA ON BOARD.

ACCORDING TO WORD RECEIVED FROM YAP, THE CASE AGAINST CAPT. YOSHIKI MAYAEAKI IS CONSIDERED TO BE VERY SERIOUS. HOWEVER, AUTHORITIES IN YAP HAVE INDICATED THAT THEY ARE WILLING TO COMPROMISE WITH A GUILTY PLEA TO THE CHARGE OF ILLEGAL FISHING, AND A SUSPENDED JAIL SENTENCE UPON CONDITION THAT \$10,000 FINE BE PAID BY THE SHIP'S OWNER PLUS FORFEITURE OF PART OF THE NINE TONS OF TUNA. THE MATTER HAS NOT BEEN SETTLED AT THIS WRITING.

REGARDING THE TAIWAN FISHING SHIP SEIZED IN YAP EARLIER, THE CAPTAIN HAS AGREED TO PAY A \$5,000 FINE IMPOSED ON THE VESSEL BY YAP AUTHORITIES AND THE SHIP MAY BE ALLOWED TO LEAVE YAP BEFORE THE FINE IS PAID, IF THE TAIWAN CONSUL ON GUAM CAN GUARANTEE PAYMENT OF THE FINE.

(NEW SCHOOL IN PALAU)

SAIPAN, FEB. 1 (MNS)---DIRECTOR OF EDUCATION DAVID RAMARUI HAS ANNOUNCED THAT THE HIGH COMMISSIONER HAS APPROVED THE APPLICATION OF THE SCHOOL OF THE PACIFIC, INC. AND ISSUED A CERTIFICATE OF CHARTER ON DECEMBER 28, 1973, TO ESTABLISH AND/OR OPERATE A NON-PUBLIC SCHOOL, THE NODOKNGEI LEARNING CENTER OF PALAU. THE LEARNING CENTER WILL BE LOCATED IN THE MUNICIPALITY OF NGETPANG, BABELTHUAP ISLAND, PALAU. THE NODOKNGEI LEARNING CENTER OF PALAU IS A PROPOSED PILOT PROJECT IN EDUCATION AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT. IT IS BEING FUNDED BY THE SCHOOL OF THE PACIFIC WHICH WAS ESTABLISHED BY THE JANSSE FOUNDATION FOR THE PURPOSE OF HELPING SMALL ISLAND COMMUNITIES TO BECOME SELF-SUFFICIENT EDUCATIONALLY AND ECONOMICALLY. THE CHIEF PURPOSE OF THIS "ACTION-RESEARCH" PROJECT WILL BE TO DEMONSTRATE HOW A SMALL ISLAND COMMUNITY CAN SERVE AND DEVELOP WITHIN IT'S NATURAL ENVIRONMENT AND AT THE SAME TIME RELATE FUNCTIONALLY TO THE MODERN WORLD.

THE VARIOUS LEARNING EXPERIENCES (BOTH ACADEMIC AND PRACTICAL) WILL GO HAND-IN-HAND WITH ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT PROJECTS AND WILL COMPRISE THE FUNCTIONAL CURRICULUM OF THE CENTER. ITS FORCUS WILL BE ON REAL PROJECTS THAT HOPEFULLY WILL DEVELOP SELF-RELIANCE AND ECONOMIC INDEPENDENCE. IN ADDITION TO THE PRACTICAL PROJECTS, THERE WILL BE INSTRUCTION IN COMMUNICATION ARTS, SCIENCE, GEOGRAPHY, MATHEMATICS, SOCIAL STUDIES AND OTHER ACADEMIC DISCIPLINES THAT ARE REQUIRED TO FUNCTION EFFICIENTLY IN THE MODERN WORLD.

06435

THE CHIEF DIFFERENCE BETWEEN THE TEACHING METHOD OF THE MODEKNGEI LEARNING CENTER AND CONVENTIONAL SCHOOLING IS THAT THESE ACADEMIC SKILLS WILL BE TAUGHT ON THE BASIS OF NEED FOR KNOWLEDGE TO DO A JOB. THEY WILL APPLY TO PROJECTS UNDERWAY AND WILL NOT BE ORGANIZED AS AN ARBITRARY ACCUMULATION OF INFORMATION THAT STUDENTS ARE USUALLY FORCED TO LEARN IN ORDER TO EARN MARKS AND CREDITS.
(REVIEW BOARD TO MEET)

SAIPAN, FEB. 1 (MNS)---THE TRUST TERRITORY'S WATER TRANSPORTATION REVIEW BOARD HAS SCHEDULED FIVE DAYS OF MEETINGS STARTING ON MONDAY, FEBRUARY 4. ACCORDING TO THE ANNOUNCEMENT OF THE MEETINGS, THE SESSIONS NEXT WEEK ARE BEING CALLED TO REVIEW THE SERVICES AND RATES OF THE TRUST TERRITORY EXCLUSIVE CARRIER SHIPPING LINE, TRANSPACIFIC LINES, INC.

MONDAY'S HEARINGS WILL CONVENE AT 9:30 A.M. IN THE TT GOVERNMENT HEADQUARTERS MAIN CONFERENCE ROOM. THE NOTICE OF THE MEETINGS SAYS THAT THE INITIAL HEARINGS WILL BE OPEN TO ANYONE WHO WISHES TO ATTEND.

(ATTENTION KJQR: YOU MAY WISH TO RETAIN THE ABOVE ANNOUNCEMENT FOR USE THROUGHOUT THE WEEKEND ON FEBRUARY 2 AND 3.)

("SOUTHERN MAID" YACHT MISSING)

SAIPAN, FEB. 1 (MNS)---AN AUSTRALIAN REGISTERED YACHT, THE "SOUTHERN MAID," IS PRESUMABLY LOST AT SEA FOLLOWING A VOYAGE FROM YAP DISTRICT IN SEPTEMBER LAST YEAR WHICH WAS REPORTEDLY TO TAKE HER TO HONG KONG, ACCORDING TO A SPOKESMAN FROM THE TRUST TERRITORY IMMIGRATION OFFICE AT THE HEADQUARTERS ON SAIPAN.

THE FIFTY-FIVE FOOT STEEL SLOOP DEPARTED YAP SEPTEMBER 27 LAST YEAR WITH FIVE PEOPLE ON BOARD. IN ADDITION TO THE SKIPPER AND OWNER OF THE "SOUTHERN MAID," HERVEY J.R. RAMSEY, OTHER PERSONS ON BOARD INCLUDED RODNEY W. DONALD, RODNEY K.D. SNELL, GREGORY L. WALKER AND ALIAN ROY MARKLE, AN AMERICAN CITIZEN. IT WAS REPORTED THAT MARKLE WAS PICKED UP AT RABAUL, NEW GUINEA, SEPTEMBER 14, BEFORE THE YACHT SAILED FOR YAP.

THE WHEREABOUTS OF THE "SOUTHERN MAID" WAS QUESTIONED IN NOVEMBER LAST YEAR WHEN THE YACHT FAILED TO REACH HONG KONG ON THE ESTIMATED DATE FOR ARRIVAL. SUBSEQUENTLY THE AMERICAN CONSUL THERE ALERTED THE VARIOUS PORTS AND SHIPS IN THE AREA TO LOOK OUT FOR THE MISSING YACHT, INCLUDING THE U.S. SEVENTH FLEET IN THE PACIFIC AND CLARK AIR FORCE BASE IN THE PHILIPPINES.

SINCE THEN, COMMUNICATIONS BACK AND FORTH BETWEEN THE VARIOUS AMERICAN EMBASSIES IN THE PACIFIC AREA AND THE TRUST TERRITORY GOVERNMENT HAVE NOT REVEALED ANY CLUES TO THE WHEREABOUTS OF THE MISSING YACHT.

AT THE TIME WHEN THE BOAT WAS REPORTED MISSING, GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS FROM YAP WHO HAD LAST SEEN THE "SOUTHERN MAID" COULD ONLY RECALL THAT THE YACHT DEPARTED YAP SEPTEMBER 27, PURSUING A NORTHWEST COURSE PRESUMABLY TO GO THROUGH BALINTANG CHANNEL TO HONG KONG. OTHER DETAILS OF THE VOYAGE WERE NOT KNOWN TO YAP'S AUTHORITIES.

CONSIDERING THAT THE VESSEL WAS TRAVELING IN A TYPHOON-INFESTED AREA, THE AMERICAN CONSULATE GENERAL IN HONG KONG HAS SUGGESTED THAT THE MOST APPROPRIATE AREA FOR SEARCHING THE "SOUTHERN MAID" WOULD BE OFF THE EAST COAST OF LUZON IN THE PHILIPPINES.

06436