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P 131007Z FEB 74 ZNZ:  
PM HYCOMTERPACIS SAIPAN MARIANAS ISLANDS  
TO ALDISTADS TERPACIS  
TT LNO GUAM MARIANAS ISLANDS  
TT LNO KWAJALEIN MARSHALL ISLANDS  
COMNAVAMARIANAS GUAM MARIANAS ISLANDS  
CINCPACREP GUAM/TPI GUAM MARIANAS ISLANDS  
CINCPAC HONOLULU HI  
NAVINSERVO GUAM MARIANAS ISLANDS  
COMTWELVE SAN FRANCISCO CA  
RUEHC /SECSTATE WASHINGTON DC  
SECDEF WASHINGTON DC  
JCS WASHINGTON DC  
CNO WASHINGTON DC  
CINCPACFLT MAKALAPA HI  
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RUEHDT /US MISSION TO UN NEW YORK NY  
CGPMFPAC PEARL HARBOR HI  
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1. Administration  
Considering Bill

2. Mr. Isid Alies  
(Medical Ofcr - Eleye Th)

3. Business Permit  
Activity

4. Environmental  
Action To Be Shown

SAMTEC VANDENBERG AFB CA  
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COMTWELVE PASS INFO FOR AMB WILLIAMS  
SECSTATE PASS TO DEPT INT/SEC INTERIOR/DOIA/OSN  
TPI NO. 07

(ADMINISTRATION CONSIDERING BILL)  
SAIPAN, FEBRUARY 13 (MNS) - THE OFFICE OF TRUST  
TERRITORY HIGH COMMISSIONER EDWARD E. JOHNSTON HAS FORMALLY  
RECEIVED THE FIRST TWO BILLS TO BE PASSED BY THE CONGRESS  
OF MICRONESIA DURING ITS CURRENT SESSION. THE BILLS ARE

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A MEASURE RELATING TO THE APPOINTMENT OF SPECIAL POLICE CAPTAINS (SB 171), AND A BILL DESIGNED TO PUT TO A STOP TO THE PRACTICE OF NON-CITIZENS USING A MICRONESIAN SPOUSE OR ADOPTED CHILD AS A "FRONT" IN ORDER TO AVOID COMPLIANCE WITH THE FOREIGN BUSINESS PERMIT ACT (HB 3).

THE FIRST BILL WAS FORMALLY TRANSMITTED TO THE NCOM FROM THE CONGRESS LATE FRIDAY AFTERNOON, FEBRUARY 8, WHILE THE SECOND WAS RECEIVED TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 12, UNDER THE

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TERMS OF SECRETARIAL ORDER 2918, THE NCOM HAS TEN DAYS AFTER THE DATE OF RECEIPT TO CONSIDER THESE BILLS. THUS ACTION ON SB 171 MUST BE COMPLETED ON MONDAY, FEBRUARY 18, AND ACTION ON HB 3 BY FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 22.

BOTH BILLS ARE PRESENTLY UNDER REVIEW BY THE ATTORNEY GENERAL AND OTHER CONCERNED OFFICIALS WITHIN THE EXECUTIVE BRANCH. THE HIGH COMMISSIONER CAN EITHER SIGN THE BILLS, DISAPPROVE OF THEM AND RETURN THEM TO THE CONGRESS, OR TAKE NO ACTION, THEREBY PERMITTING THEM TO BECOME LAW WITHOUT HIS SIGNATURE.

(DR. ISHODA DIES)

GUAM, FEBRUARY 13 (MNS)---THE MEDICAL OFFICER-IN-CHARGE OF THE EBEYE FIELD HOSPITAL IN THE MARSHALL ISLANDS, DR. TREGAR ISHODA, DIED AT THE GUAM NAVAL HOSPITAL TUESDAY (FEB. 12). DR. ISHODA WAS FLOWN TO GUAM MONDAY AFTER BECOMING ILL SUDDENLY. THE CAUSE OF DEATH WAS NOT IMMEDIATELY ANNOUNCED.

THE 49-YEAR OLD MEDICAL OFFICER WAS A GRADUATE OF THE GUAM SCHOOL FOR MEDICAL PRACTITIONERS UNDER THE U.S. NAVY, WHICH HE ATTENDED FROM 1948 THROUGH 1958. AFTER HIS TRAINING IN GUAM, HE WORKED AT TRUK HOSPITAL FOR TWO YEARS BEFORE BEING

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TRANSFERRED TO MAJURO HOSPITAL. HE HAD WORKED ON EBEYE, IN THE KWAJALEIN ATOLL, FOR THE PAST SEVEN YEARS, DURING WHICH HE SAW THE CONSTRUCTION OF A NEW MEDICAL FACILITY TO SERVE THAT ISLAND'S MORE THAN 5,000 INHABITANTS.

DIRECTOR OF HEALTH SERVICES DR. MASAO KUMANGAI PAID

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TRIBUTE TO THE WORK OF DR. ISHODA WEDNESDAY ON SAIPAN, AND EXPRESSED HIS CONDOLENCES TO THE FAMILY. DR. ISHODA'S FATHER WAS A WELL-KNOWN DOCTOR IN THE MARSHALLS DURING THE JAPANESE TIME, AND HIS BROTHER, THE LATE DR. ARMER ISHODA, WAS ALSO A WELL-KNOWN MEDICAL OFFICER IN MAJURO. MAJURO'S HOSPITAL IS NAMED AFTER DR. ARMER ISHODA.

DR. TREGAR ISHODA IS SURVIVED BY HIS WIFE AND FIVE CHILDREN, AS WELL AS BY TWO BROTHERS AND THREE SISTERS. (BUSINESS PERMIT ACTIVITY)

SAIPAN, FEB. 13 (MNS)---ONE NEW BUSINESS PERMIT WAS APPROVED, THREE WERE DISAPPROVED, AND ONE NEW APPLICATION WAS RECEIVED, ACCORDING TO THE WEEKLY SUMMARY OF FOREIGN BUSINESS PERMIT ACTIVITY FROM THE ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT DIVISION OF THE RESOURCES AND DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT.

HIGH COMMISSIONER EDWARD E. JOHNSTON HAS APPROVED THE

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APPLICATION OF INTERNATIONAL SHOPPERS, LIMITED, TO OPERATE HOTEL SHOPPING ARCADES IN THE MARIANA ISLANDS DISTRICT, UPON FAVORABLE RECOMMENDATION FROM THE MARIANAS DISTRICT ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT BOARD. CARLOS BLANCO IS THE LOCAL MANAGER OF THE FIRM.

THE HICOM HAS SENT LETTERS TO THREE FIRMS NOTIFYING THEM THAT THEIR APPLICATIONS HAVE BEEN DISAPPROVED. ONE IS SWINERTON AND WALBERG, A CONSTRUCTION FIRM WHICH WANTED TO DO BUSINESS IN THE MARSHALL ISLANDS, WHICH WAS TURNED DOWN ON RECOMMENDATION OF THE MARSHALLS ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT BOARD BECAUSE THERE WAS NO PROVISION FOR MICRONESIAN OWNERSHIP OR PARTICIPATION IN THE FIRM.

THE APPLICATION OF HOLMES MANAGEMENT COMPANY TO OPERATE A CABLE TELEVISION SYSTEM IN THE MARSHALL ISLANDS WAS ALSO DISAPPROVED, BECAUSE THE LOCAL BOARD HAS DECIDED TO APPROVE A SIMILAR APPLICATION FROM ANOTHER COMPANY, PACIFIC COMMUNICATIONS CORPORATION. HOLMES MANAGEMENT HAS ALREADY RECEIVED A CABLE TV PERMIT FOR THE MARIANAS. LEE HOLMES OF GUAM IS THE PRINCIPAL OFFICER OF THE COMPANY.

THE THIRD APPLICATION DISAPPROVED BY THE HIGH COMMISSIONER

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WAS THAT OF A COMPANY DOING BUSINESS AS GROWTH INTERNATIONAL REALTY, WHICH WANTED TO OPERATE IN THE MARIANAS. THIS COMPANY SELLS WHAT IS TERMED "UNDIVIDED INTEREST" IN REAL ESTATE IN AUSTRALIA. THE APPLICATION WAS TURNED DOWN BECAUSE THE INVESTMENT IS "HIGHLY SPECULATIVE" IN NATURE, AND BECAUSE THERE WAS SOME QUESTION ABOUT THE METHOD OF OPERATION OF THE COMPANY. SALESMEN FROM THE COMPANY HAVE BEEN RETAINED ON SAIPAN BY A MICRONESIAN-OWNED BUSINESS, HOWEVER, AND THEY ARE ATTEMPTING TO SELL THE AUSTRALIAN PROPERTY ANYWAY. POTENTIAL INVESTORS SHOULD BE CAREFUL ABOUT INVESTING IN ANY PROPERTY THAT THEY HAVE NOT THEMSELVES VISITED AND INSPECTED.

THE ONLY NEW FOREIGN BUSINESS PERMIT APPLICATION RECEIVED DURING THE PAST WEEK WAS FROM HOME INSURANCE COMPANY, WHICH WANTS TO ENGAGE IN THE SELLING OF NON-LIFE INSURANCE IN THE MARIANA ISLANDS DISTRICT. THE APPLICATION HAS BEEN SENT TO THE MARIANAS ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT BOARD FOR CONSIDERATION. (ENVIRONMENTAL FILM TO BE SHOWN)

SAIPAN, FEBRUARY 13 (MNS)--THE TRUST TERRITORY ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION BOARD HAS ANNOUNCED THAT THE FILM "CLOUD OVER THE CORAL REEF," WHICH WAS PARTIALLY FILMED IN THE MARSHALL ISLANDS, WILL BE SHOWN ON SAIPAN TELEVISION STATION WSZE ON THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 21, IMMEDIATELY FOLLOWING THE EVENING NEWS.

THE FILM DICTS THE THREAT TO LIVING CORAL REEFS CAUSED BY SOIL EROSION RESULTING FROM POOR CONSTRUCTION AND LAND MANAGEMENT PRACTICES AND IMPROPER FARMING TECHNIQUES. THIS FILM, MADE IN HAWAII AND IN THE MARSHALLS, GRAPHICALLY DOCUMENTS THE NEEDLES DESTRUCTION TO LIVING REEFS AND THE FISH AND SHELLFISH ON WHICH THE PEOPLE OF MICRONESIA HEAVILY DEPEND FOR FOOD AND INCOME, A SPOKESHAN FOR THE BOARD SAID.

THE SPECIAL TELEVISION FILM SHOWING WILL BE INTRODUCED BY A MEMBER OF THE ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION BOARD, AND COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC ARE INVITED ABOUT THE FILM. INFORMATION ON OBTAINING THE FILM FOR SHOWING IN OTHER AREAS MAY BE HAD BY WRITING TO THE CHAIRMAN, ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION BOARD, HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH SERVICES, SAIPAN, 96950.

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(KUSAIE RESOLUTION ADOPTED IN HOUSE)

SAIPAN, FEB. 13 (HNS)---THE ISLAND OF KUSAIE TOOK ANOTHER STEP CLOSER TO ITS DREAM OF BECOMING A DISTRICT WEDNESDAY (FEB. 13) WHEN THE MEMBERS OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES UNANIMOUSLY ADOPTED A JOINT RESOLUTION URGING THE SECRETARY OF INTERIOR, THROUGH THE HIGH COMMISSIONER, TO MAKE KUSAIE A SEPARATE ADMINISTRATIVE DISTRICT, (HJR 30). THE MEASURE WILL NOW GO TO THE SENATE FOR FURTHER CONSIDERATION. 979  
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A DELEGATION OF ISLAND LEADERS FROM KUSAIE WATCHED FROM THE HOUSE GALLERY AS THE HISTORIC RESOLUTION WAS PLACED ON THE CALENDAR. REPRESENTATIVE POLYCARP BASILIUS (PALAU) RECALLED THAT SINCE 1966, EACH YEAR THE LEADERS OF KUSAIE HAVE ASKED TO BE MADE A SEPARATE DISTRICT, AND HAVE JOURNEYED TO THE CONGRESS SESSIONS TO PRESS THEIR CASE. HE URGED HIS COLLEAGUES TO ADOPT THE RESOLUTION.

AFTER THE VOTE, REPRESENTATIVE JOAB SIGRAH (PONAPE), WHO REPRESENTS KUSAIE IN THE CONGRESS, THANKED HIS COLLEAGUES ON BEHALF OF THE PEOPLE OF KUSAIE FOR APPROVING THEIR DESIRE TO BECOME THE TRUST TERRITORY'S SEVENTH ADMINISTRATIVE DISTRICT. (SEE FOLLOWING STORY FOR FURTHER COVERAGE OF THE KUSAIE RESOLUTION.)

ADOPTION OF THE KUSAIE MEASURE WAS THE HIGHLIGHT OF THE 31ST DAY OF THE CONGRESS OF MICRONESIA'S CURRENT SESSION ON SAIPAN. IN THE SENATE FOUR BILLS WERE PASSED ON SECOND READING, AND ONE WAS FILED. THE FOUR APPROVED ARE SENATE BILLS, AND MUST BE CONSIDERED BY THE HOUSE.

PASSED WERE: AN APPROPRIATION BILL OF 77,000 FOR THE INSTALLATION OF NAVIGATION LIGHTS IN THE MARSHALLS (SB 187); A BILL TO CLARIFY THE INTENT OF THE CONGRESS THAT THE STUDENT LOAN FUND ESTABLISHED UNDER PUBLIC LAW 5-11 SHOULD BE A REVOLVING FUND (SB 232); A MEASURE THAT WOULD REMOVE THE FUNCTION OF PLANNING FROM THE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS, AND MAKE THE PLANNING OFFICE A PART OF THE HIGH COMMISSIONER'S STAFF (SB 240); AND A BILL THAT WOULD ELIMINATE THE PRESENT 1,000 TAX DEDUCTION FOR ANYONE EARNING MORE THAN 5,000 A YEAR (SB 291).

THE SENATORS FILED A BILL THAT WOULD HAVE GIVEN THE VARIOUS DISTRICT LEGISLATURES CONCURRENT AUTHORITY TO NATURALIZE TT CITIZENS WITH THE CONGRESS OF MICRONESIA (SB 264), ON THE GROUND THAT THIS IS A FUNCTION PROPERLY RETAINED BY THE NATIONAL CONGRESS, SINCE CITIZENSHIP IS A NATIONAL, NOT A DISTRICT, DECISION.

THE SENATORS ALSO ADOPTED TWO RESOLUTIONS. ONE WOULD ASK THAT THE FUNDING FOR THE BIKINI REHABILITATION PROJECT BE SEPARATE AND DISTINCT FROM THE MARSHALL ISLANDS BUDGET ALLOCATION (SJR 90). THE OTHER ASKS THE U.S. TO EXTEND THE BENEFITS OF FEDERAL PROGRAMS FOR FARMERS TO MICRONESIA (SJR 91). BOTH MEASURES GO TO THE HOUSE FOR FURTHER CONSIDERATION.

HOUSE MEMBERS HAD A SHORT DEBATE ON THE PERENNIAL BILL TO PROVIDE THAT 50 PER CENT OF TAX REVENUES BE RETURNED TO THE DISTRICTS, WHEN THAT MEASURE CAME UP FOR FIRST READING WEDNESDAY. SEVERAL ATTEMPTS WERE MADE TO DEFER ACTION, AND THERE WAS CLEARLY A DIVIDED HOUSE, BUT THE BILL FINALLY PASSED ON FIRST READING BY A VOTE OF ELEVEN TO SIX, (HB 229). THE BILL MUST STILL PASS SECOND READING BEFORE IT IS SENT TO THE SENATE.

TWO NEW BILLS WERE INTRODUCED IN THE HOUSE. THEY ARE: AN APPROPRIATION OF 30,000 TO CONSTRUCT AN ADDITIONAL WATER CATCH ENEELD AREA ON SAIPAN (HB 302); AND A MEASURE TO CREATE A CUSTOMARY LAW COMMISSION THAT WOULD DEVELOP A PROGRAM FOR IDENTIFICATION, CODIFICATION AND ESTABLISHMENT OF A LEGAL SYSTEM BASED ON CUSTOMARY LAW IN MICRONESIA (HB 303). C7049

IN THE SENATE WEDNESDAY, FIVE BILLS AND FIVE JOINT RESOLUTIONS WERE INTRODUCED. THE BILLS ARE: AN APPROPRIATION OF 150,000 FOR DISTRICT MUSEUMS (SB 300); AN APPROPRIATION OF 30,000 FOR PROGRAMS DIRECTED TOWARD THE ENCOURAGEMENT AND PRESERVATION OF THE CULTURES OF THE PEOPLE OF MICRONESIA (SB 301); AN APPROPRIATION OF 10,500 FOR THE ROTA MUNICIPAL SCHOLARSHIP FUND (SB 302); ANOTHER APPROPRIATION OF 50,000 TO PROVIDE FUNDS FOR THE VARIOUS MUNICIPAL SCHOLARSHIP FUNDS IN THE MARIANAS (SB 303); AND AN APPROPRIATION OF 50,000 AS A GRANT-IN-AID TO ROTA MUNICIPALITY (SB 304).

THE JOINT RESOLUTIONS INCLUDE ONE WHICH WOULD EXPRESS THE THANKS OF THE CONGRESS OF MICRONESIA TO ALVIN J. ARNETT, DIRECTOR OF THE OFFICE OF ECONOMIC OPPORTUNITY, FOR REINSTATING THE FUNDING GRANT FOR THE MICRONESIAN LEGAL SERVICES CORPORATION WHICH WAS VETOED BY THE HIGH COMMISSIONER LAST YEAR (SJR 94); A MEASURE REQUESTING THE SECRETARY OF INTERIOR TO AMEND OR REVOKE SECRETARIAL ORDER 2902 AS IT RELATES TO AIR AND SEA TRANSPORTATION, SO THAT THE CONGRESS OF MICRONESIA CAN HAVE A VOICE IN DECIDING MATTERS RELATING TO THESE TWO VITAL AREAS OF THE ECONOMY (SJR 95); A RESOLUTION CONGRATULATING SIR ALBERT HENRY, PREMIER OF THE COOK ISLANDS, ON HIS BEING AWARDED THE KNIGHTHOOD OF THE BRITISH EMPIRE (SJR 96); ANOTHER EXPRESSING THE SENSE OF THE CONGRESS WITH REGARD TO RECENT ACTIONS OF THE OFFICE OF MICRONESIAN STATUS NEGOTIATIONS CONCERNING THE ISLAND OF TINIAN (SJR 97); AND A RESOLUTION ASKING THE UNITED STATES TO TAKE SUCH ACTION AS MAY BE NECESSARY TO MAKE TRUST TERRITORY CITIZENS LIVING IN THE TT, WHO ARE SURVIVORS OF U.S. CITIZENS, ELIGIBLE FOR SOCIAL SECURITY BENEFITS (SJR 98).

BOTH HOUSE OF THE CONGRESS ARE IN RECESS UNTIL TEN THURSDAY MORNING.

(ALL USERS PLEASE CREDIT THE CONGRESS OF MICRONESIA)  
(KUSAIE RESOLUTION)

SAIPAN, FEBRUARY 13 (CONGRESS RELEASE)---THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE CONGRESS OF MICRONESIA GAVE ITS UNANIMOUS SUPPORT TO A RESOLUTION ADVOCATING THE ESTABLISHMENT OF KUSAIE ISLAND AS A SEPARATE TRUST TERRITORY ADMINISTRATIVE DISTRICT WEDNESDAY.

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 39 WAS ADOPTED BY A VOICE VOTE SHORTLY AFTER REPRESENTATIVE POLYCARP BASILIUS OF PALAU DELIVERED REMARKS IN WHICH HE SAID THE CONGRESS SHOULD SUPPORT THE ASPIRATIONS OF THE PEOPLE OF KUSAIE SO THEY COULD BE ALLOWED "GREATER FREEDOM TO DEVELOPE THEMSELVES AND THEIR ISLAND IN CONCERT WITH OTHER DISTRICTS" IN MICRONESIA. BASILIUS TOLD THE HOUSE THAT KUSAIE'S OBJECTIVE AS A SEPARATE ADMINISTRATIVE DISTRICT WAS CONSISTENT WITH HER HISTORY AND CULTURE, CONSISTENT WITH DEMOCRATIC PROCESSES, AND CONSISTENT WITH "COMMON SENSE."

"THIS CONGRESS HAS TACITLY APPROVED THE PRESENT STATUS NEGOTIATIONS IN THE MARIANA ISLANDS DISTRICT," HE SAID. "THE DESIRES AND THE DIFFERENT NEEDS OF THE MARIANAS ARE AN ACCOMPLISHED FACT. THE SAME HOLDS TRUE FOR THE PEOPLE OF KUSAIE."

BASILIUS EXPLAINED, HOWEVER, THAT THEY DO NOT WANT TO BECOME SEPARATE FROM THE REST OF MICRONESIA. "...THEY RATHER BE ALLOWED TO BECOME A STRONGER PART OF MICRONESIA WITH THEIR OWN PARTICULAR IDENTITY."

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CREATION OF KUSAIE AS A SEPARATE DISTRICT WOULD ALSO IMPROVE ECONOMIC CONDITIONS THERE, ACCORDING TO BASILIUS, BECAUSE ROADS, AN AIRPORT, DOCK FACILITIES COULD THEN BE COMPLETED RAPIDLY. HE POINTED OUT THAT SUCH A MOVE WOULD ALSO HELP PONAPE AND THE MARSHALLS DISTRICT ECONOMICALLY THROUGH LIVESTOCK AND VEGETABLE EXPORTS TO THOSE AREAS.

THE PALAU CONGRESSMAN, WHO CHAIRS THE HOUSE COMMITTEE ON JUDICIARY AND GOVERNMENTAL RELATIONS, WHICH REPORTED FAVORABLY ON HEARINGS HELD ON THE KUSAIE QUESTION, DOWN-PLAYED ANY SUGGESTIONS THAT THEIR SUPPORT MIGHT BE INTERPRETED AS "INCITING SEPARATISM IN MICRONESIA."

"KUSAIE IS ONE OF THE CLEARER EXAMPLES IN MICRONESIA WHERE THE PEOPLE HAVE ALWAYS BEEN SEPARATE, OR DIFFERENT, IN LANGUAGE, CUSTOM, AND TRADITION." BASILIUS ADDED, HOWEVER, THAT THE ECONOMIC BENEFITS FOR KUSAIE THAT WOULD ACCOMPANY DISTRICT-STATUS WOULD PROMOTE UNITY AND A CLOSER RELATIONSHIP WITH OTHER DISTRICTS.

KUSAIE ISLAND, THE FOURTH LARGEST LAND MASS IN MICRONESIA, IS NOW PART OF THE ADMINISTRATIVE DISTRICT OF PONAPE, AND HAS A POPULATION OF JUST UNDER 4,000 PEOPLE. THE KUSAIEANS HAVE PETITIONED FOR A SEPARATE ADMINISTRATIVE STATUS SINCE 1966.

(RECHUCHER HEARING HELD)

SAIPAN, FEB. 13 (MNS)---A PUBLIC HEARING WAS HELD TUESDAY (FEB. 12) BY THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON JUDICIARY AND GOVERNMENTAL OPERATIONS, CHAIRED BY SENATOR ANDON AMARAICH OF TRUK, TO CONSIDER THE APPOINTMENT OF EUSEBIO RECHUCHER OF PALAU FOR THE DIRECTORSHIP OF THE DEPARTMENT OF RESOURCES AND DEVELOPMENT.

RECHUCHER'S NOMINATION WAS TURNED DOWN LAST JULY WHEN IT WAS CONSIDERED BY THE JOINT COMMITTEE ON ADMINISTRATIVE APPOINTMENTS, ALSO CHAIRED BY SENATOR AMARAICH. HOWEVER THE NOMINATION WAS AGAIN SUBMITTED TO THE CONGRESS LAST MONTH BY HIGH COMMISSIONER EDWARD E. JOHNSTON. IT IS THE ONLY MAJOR ADMINISTRATIVE APPOINTMENT CURRENTLY UNDER CONSIDERATION BY THE CONGRESS, WHICH UNDER TERMS OF THE LAW MAY GIVE ITS ADVICE AND CONSENT.

ON HAND TO TESTIFY DURING THE FIRST DAY OF THE HEARING WERE: N. NEIMAN CRALEY, JR., SPECIAL ASSISTANT FOR LEGISLATIVE AFFAIRS, WHO REPRESENTED THE HIGH COMMISSIONER; WYMAN K. ZACHARY, THE PRESENT DIRECTOR OF RESOURCES AND DEVELOPMENT; FRANCISCO C. ADA, DISTRICT ADMINISTRATOR IN THE MARIANAS; AND A NUMBER OF INTERESTED CITIZENS FROM BOTH GOVERNMENT AND THE PRIVATE SECTOR, WHO COMPLETELY FILLED THE SPECTATORS SECTION OF THE SENATE CHAMBER, WHERE THE HEARING TOOK PLACE.

"EUSEBIO IS PREPARED AND READY TO ASSUME THE DUTIES OF DIRECTOR." THOSE WERE THE WORDS OF NEIMAN CRALEY, THE FIRST TO TESTIFY ON THE NOMINATION. ON BEHALF OF THE HICOM HE EXPRESSED STRONG SUPPORT FOR THE NOMINATION, NOTING THAT RECHUCHER HAS SERVED AS ACTING DIRECTOR OF THE DEPARTMENT ON NUMEROUS OCCASIONS, AND THAT HE HAS ALSO SERVED AS CHAIRMAN OF BOTH THE ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT LOAN FUND AND THE COPRA STABILIZATION BOARD. IN THESE CAPACITIES, SAID CRALEY, HE HAS REPEATEDLY DISPLAYED HIS CAPACITY FOR HANDLING THE JOB.

ASKED WHAT WOULD HAPPEN SHOULD THE CONGRESS AGAIN REJECT THE NOMINATION, CRALEY AFFIRMED THAT THE SAME NAME WOULD AGAIN BE SUBMITTED. HE CONCLUDED HIS TESTIMONY BY ASKING FAVORABLE CONSIDERATION OF THE APPOINTMENT.

NEXT TO TAKE THE STAND WAS WYMAN ZACHARY. IN HIS INTRODUCTORY REMARKS, HE POINTED OUT THAT IT WAS PROBABLY BECAUSE OF TESTIMONY LAST YEAR THAT RECHUCHER WAS NOT GIVEN FAVORABLE CONSIDERATION BY THE CONGRESSMEN. HE SAID THAT HE FIRMLY BELIEVES THAT RECHUCHER SHOULD BE CONFIRMED THIS TIME, AND

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THAT HE HAS PROVEN HE IS QUALIFIED FOR THE POSITION. HE TESTIFIED THAT RECHUCHER HAS GAINED CONSIDERABLE ADDITIONAL EXPERIENCE SINCE HIS ORIGINAL NOMINATION, INCLUDING REPRESENTING THE TT AT SEVERAL INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCES.

THE LAST TO TESTIFY WAS DISTAD ADA, WHO SAID THAT HE IS "WHOLEHEARTEDLY IN SUPPORT" OF THE RECHUCHER NOMINATION. HE POINTED OUT THAT RECHUCHER HAS BEEN VERY SYMPATHETIC TO THE NEEDS OF THE DISTRICTS. HE WAS INSTRUMENTAL IN PUSHING THE IDEA OF RETURNING THE LAND CERTIFICATION TO THE DISTRICTS, HE NOTED, AND APPROVED LOANS THAT WERE OF IMPORTANCE IN PROMOTING TOURISM IN THE MARIANAS. ADA SAID: "I AM A MICRONESIAN, AND I AM PROUD TO BE HERE TO TESTIFY FOR ANOTHER MICRONESIAN FOR A HIGHER POSITION."

AFTER THREE HOURS OF TESTIMONY, THE HEARING WAS RECESSED TO CONTINUE AT A LATER DATE, NOT YET SPECIFIED.

(ALL USERS PLEASE CREDIT THE CONGRESS OF MICRONESIA)  
(PANGELINAN'S STATEMENT ON STATUS SEMINAR)

SAIPAN, FEBRUARY 13 (CONGRESS RELEASE)---DURING WEDNESDAY'S SENATE MEETING (FEB. 13) SENATOR EDWARD PANGELINAN OF THE MARIANAS SUBMITTED FOR INSERTION IN THE SENATE JOURNAL, A PREPARED STATEMENT HE DELIVERED AT THE UNIVERSITY OF GUAM SEMINAR ON THE FUTURE POLITICAL STATUS OF MICRONESIA, GUAM AND ANY INTER-RELATIONSHIP OF THE TWO."

ACCORDING TO PANGELINAN'S STATEMENT, THE LAST TEN YEARS HAVE REVIVED THE AGE-OLD QUESTION OF WHETHER MAN CAN GOVERN HIMSELF IN THE MIST OF PROBLEMS BROUGHT ABOUT BY TECHNOLOGY VERSUS THE QUESTION OF WHETHER ONCE ADEQUATE POLITICAL SKILLS COULD BE USED BY MAN TO "DETERMINE HIS DESTINY." PANGELINAN'S STATEMENT NOTED THAT THE MARIANAS POLITICAL STATUS COMMISSION WHICH HE HEADS IS SEEKING THE "BEST OF BOTH POSSIBLE WORLDS, A DEGREE OF SELF-GOVERNMENT NEVER BEFORE ACHIEVED BY THE PEOPLE OF THE MARIANAS AND FOR THE FIRST TIME...TO BE COMBINED WITH THE STRENGTH AND SECURITY MADE POSSIBLE BY A CLOSE WORKING AND POLITICAL RELATIONSHIP WITH THE UNITED STATES."

THE SENATOR'S STATEMENT OUTLINED THE HISTORY BEHIND THE PRESENT MARIANAS/U.S. NEGOTIATIONS STATING: "THE MARIANAS PEOPLE HAVE PERSISTENTLY EXPRESSED THEIR DESIRE FOR CLOSER AND MORE SECURE TIES WITH THE UNITED STATES." THIS EXPRESSION, ACCORDING TO THE STATEMENT, HAVE COME IN THE FORM OF RESOLUTIONS PASSED INTO MEETINGS, MUNICIPAL COUNCILS, THE DISTRICT LEGISLATURE AND THROUGH REFERENDA OF THE PEOPLE.

A BRIEF SUMMARY OF WHAT HAS TRANSPIRED DURING THE MARIANAS/U.S. NEGOTIATIONS WAS ALSO OUTLINED IN THE STATEMENT. IT POINTED OUT THAT THE MARIANAS POLITICAL STATUS COMMISSION HAS NO DESIRE TO HAMPER OR UNDERCUT THE NEGOTIATIONS OF THE JOINT COMMITTEE OF THE CONGRESS OF MICRONESIA SINCE TERMINATION OF THE TRUSTEESHIP AGREEMENT CAN ONLY OCCUR SIMULTANEOUSLY FOR ALL DISTRICTS OF MICRONESIA.

PANGELINAN'S REMARKS NOTED THAT CONCURRENT WITH THE MARIANAS NEGOTIATIONS, EFFORTS ARE UNDERWAY TO IMPROVE THE STATUS RELATIONSHIPS PRESENTLY IN FORCE BETWEEN THE U.S. AND GUAM, THE VIRGIN ISLANDS, AND PUERTO RICO. IT ALSO NOTED THAT ALTHOUGH THE UNITED STATES HAS NO INTENTION OR DESIRE TO "IMITATE THE PUERTO RICO EXPERIENCE AND ALTHOUGH THE TERRITORIAL FRAMEWORKS AS NOW EXIST IN GUAM AND THE VIRGIN ISLANDS HAVE BEEN EVOLVING AND IMPROVING OVER THE YEARS, THEY FALL SHORT OF THE LOCAL SELF-GOVERNMENT REQUIRED BY THE MARIANAS."

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THERE IS ALSO A CRITICAL NEED FOR CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT IN THE MARIANAS AND THAT PRESENTS A UNIQUE OPPORTUNITY FOR IMPLEMENTATION OF AN OVERALL PLAN FOR THE ISLANDS, THE STATEMENT SAID. BY THE ORDERLY IMPLEMENTATION OF THOSE PLANS, ACCORDING TO THE STATEMENT, THE MARIANAS COULD MOVE QUICKLY TOWARD ECONOMIC SELF-SUFFICIENCY WHILE "AVOIDING THE PERILS OF UNCONTROLLED GROWTH AND DEVELOPMENT THAT HAVE PLAGUED GUAM AND THE VIRGIN ISLANDS."

IN TERMS OF U.S. MILITARY LAND REQUIREMENTS IN THE MARIANAS, THE STATEMENT INDICATED THAT THE PEOPLE OF THE MARIANAS ARE PREPARED TO MAKE LAND AVAILABLE TO MEET THE U.S. DEFENSE ROLE IN THE WESTERN PACIFIC IN RETURN FOR A LONG-TERM ASSURANCE OF ECONOMIC AND FINANCIAL SUPPORT BY THE U.S. PANGELINAN'S REMARKS POINTED OUT THAT THESE QUESTIONS ARE STILL UNDER NEGOTIATIONS AND MUST BE FREELY DECIDED BY THE PEOPLE OF THE MARIANAS.

THE SENATOR'S STATEMENT ALSO MENTIONED THE FAMILIAR AND MAJOR DIVISIVE FACTORS AFFECTING POLITICAL MODERNIZATION AND UNITY IN MICRONESIA SUCH AS GEOGRAPHICAL DISPERSION OF THE ISLANDS, THE SEVERAL EXISTING LOCAL LANGUAGES AND ETHNIC DIVERSITY. IT NOTED THAT THE DEMOCRATIC POLITICAL DEVELOPMENT WHICH HAS OCCURRED UNDER THE SPONSORSHIP OF THE U.S. LEADERSHIP MIGHT BE CONSIDERED BY SOME AS A "DIVISIVE RATHER THAN A UNIFYING FORCE."

THE STATEMENT, HOWEVER, NOTED THAT DESPITE ALL THESE FACTORS WHICH WORK AGAINST MICRONESIAN UNITY, THERE ARE OTHER POWERFUL FORCES WHICH TEND TO BRING MICRONESIANS TOGETHER SUCH AS THE ESTABLISHMENT IN 1964 OF THE CONGRESS OF MICRONESIA; DEVELOPMENT OF FREQUENT AIR SERVICE AMONG THE DISTRICTS WHICH BRING PEOPLE INTO FREQUENT CONTACT; MICRONESIANS ATTENDING SCHOOLS IN COMMON INSTITUTIONS OF LEARNING BOTH WITHIN AND OUTSIDE OF MICRONESIA AND THE USE OF THE ENGLISH LANGUAGE AND OTHERS, ALL OF WHICH HAVE CONTRIBUTED TO THE "PAN-MICRONESIAN IDEAL."

ALL IN ALL, THE EVENTUAL POLITICAL DESTINY OF MICRONESIA REMAINS TO BE SEEN, THE STATEMENT INDICATED, WHICH IF IT WERE TO BECOME "INDEPENDENT" WOULD BE THE LARGEST NATION-STATE IN THE PACIFIC. THE STATEMENT QUESTIONED WHETHER ANY NATION, EVEN LONG-ESTABLISHED AND POWERFUL ONES ARE ANY LONGER "INDEPENDENT." IT CONCLUDED THAT "INTERDEPENDENCE" NOT ONLY ECONOMICALLY BUT PERHAPS POLITICALLY COULD BE A REALITY IN THE FUTURE AMONG NATIONS OF THE WORLD.

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