

1974

(TT FUEL DOLE UPPED BY MOBIL)

SAIPAN, FEB. 20 (MNS)---MOBIL OIL HAS INCREASED THE TRUST TERRITORY'S FUEL ALLOCATION FROM 38 PERCENT TO 96 PERCENT OF ITS CONSUMPTION FROM JANUARY TO SEPTEMBER 1973, ACCORDING TO THE FEBRUARY 20TH ISSUE OF THE PACIFIC DAILY NEWS.

A MOBIL OIL MICRONESIA SPOKESMAN SAID THE COMPANY ALSO ANNOUNCED A SLIGHT DROP IN THE PRICE OF BULK FUEL LAST WEEK. ACCORDING TO THE SPOKESMAN, THE REDUCATION WAS ABOUT 3 CENTS A GALLON, AND MIGHT GIVE COMMERCIAL GAS STATIONS AN INCENTIVE TO LOWER PRICES OF GAS, WHICH NOW RETAILS FOR 57 CENT A GALLON ON SAIPAN.

IT WAS INDICATED THAT MOBIL OIL, TOGETHER WITH A GOVERNMENT INSTITUTED GASOLINE RATIONING PLAN THAT WENT INTO EFFECT FEB. 1, HAVE WORKED TO EASE THE GAS PAINS ON SAIPAN.

DEALERS REPORT THAT MOST DRIVERS ARE ASKING FOR FILLUPS. ONCE THEY BUY ANY GASOLINE, THEIR 4-BY-8 INCH RATION CARDS ARE PUNCHED AND NO DEALER IS TO SELL THEM MORE UNTIL THE FOLLOWING WEEK.

A SPOKESMAN FOR MARIANAS DISTRICT PUBLIC WORKS TOLD THE DAILY NEWS THAT ELECTRICITY-SAVING EFFORTS ALSO ARE MAKING THE POWER PLANT PICTURE LOOK GOOD FOR FEBRUARY. IT NOW APPEARS "VERY LIKELY" THAT SAIPAN "WILL NOT NEED FURTHER PLANNED POWER OUTAGES TO KEEP WITHIN ITS CURRENT MONTHLY QUOTA OF 263,600 GALLONS OF DIESEL FUEL.

MOST OTHER AREAS OF MICRONESIA ARE WELL WITHIN THEIR FUEL ALLOCATIONS. SAIPAN'S PROBLEMS WITH THE FUEL SHORTAGE WERE THE MOST SEVERE IN THE TT.

(PRAISE FOR CENSUS PROGRAM)

SAIPAN, FEBRUARY 23 (MNS)---THE SEVERAL HUNDREDS OF PEOPLE WHO PARTICIPATED IN THE TRUST TERRITORY CENSUS PROGRAM CAME IN FOR HIGH PRAISE THIS MONTH FROM A RESEARCHER AT THE EAST-WEST CENTER POPULATION INSTITUTE IN HAWAII.

ANTHROPOLOGIST MICHAEL LEVIN, WHO WORKED ON THE COMPUTER PROGRAMING AND ANALYSIS OF THE TT CENSUS FIGURES AT THE EAST-WEST CENTER OVER THE PAST SEVERAL MONTHS, SAID IN A LETTER TO HIGH COMMISSIONER EDWARD E. JOHNSTON:

"THE CENSUS WAS SO BEAUTIFULLY EXECUTED FOR COMPUTER ANALYSIS THAT WE ARE STILL AMAZED THAT THE TABLES WERE COMPLETED IN SUCH A SHORT TIME." HE CONTINUED, "FROM THESE TABLES IT IS OBVIOUS THAT THE CENSUS ENUMERATORS DID AN OUTSTANDING JOB IN THE FIELD, AND THAT THE CODERS AND CHECKERS WERE ABLE TO WITHSTAND WHAT IS ORDINARILY A VERY TEDIOUS AND BORING JOB TO GIVE US DATA WHICH WERE VIRTUALLY ERROR FREE. IN FACT," THE LETTER SAID, "THERE WERE FEWER THAN ONE PERCENT ERRORS IN THE TOTAL SET, WHICH CONTAINED 139,000 CARDS. NOT ONLY IS THE PERCENTAGE LESS THAN WOULD NORMALLY BE EXPECTED, IT IS ALSO THE LOWEST PERCENTAGE OF ERRORS THAT WE HAVE EVER SEEN FOR A CENSUS OF THIS NATURE."

THE LETTER FROM THE EAST WEST POPULATION INSTITUTE CAME TO THE HIGH COMMISSIONER AS PRELIMINARY CENSUS TABLES WERE BEING RELEASED ON A TERRITORY-WIDE BASIS FOR THE FIRST TIME THROUGH THE HICOM'S NEWSLETTER "HIGHLIGHTS." THE TABLES ARE CONTAINED IN A SPECIAL SIX-PAGE INSERT INTO THE FEBRUARY 15TH ISSUE OF THE NEWSLETTER AND CONTAIN LISTINGS OF THE POPULATIONS FOR EACH INHABITED ISLAND OR MUNICIPALITY IN THE SIX TT DISTRICTS, WITH A BREAKDOWN FOR TOTAL RESIDENT POPULATION AND TT CITIZEN RESIDENT POPULATION ONLY. ALSO, POPULATION BY HOME AREA IS LISTED FOR ISLANDS OR MUNICIPALITIES. HOME AREA POPULATION FIGURES, REQUESTED BY THE LEADERSHIP OF THE CONGRESS OF MICRONESIA FOR REAPPORTIONMENT PURPOSES, ARE A SPECIAL CATEGORY OF FIGURES GATHERED FOR A SPECIAL PURPOSE, AND ARE SUBJECT TO DEFINITIONS AS LISTED ON THE COVER PAGE OF THE SPECIAL HIGHLIGHTS SECTION OF CENSUS FIGURES.

07-75

HIGH COMMISSIONER JOHNSTON, IN COMMENTING ON THE RESULTS OF THE CENSUS PROGRAM, SAID THAT SPECIAL CREDIT FOR THE SUCCESS OF THE LENGTHY AND COMPLICATED JOB SHOULD GO TO CENSUS COORDINATOR WILLIAM STEWART. IS AN INDUSTRIAL ECONOMIST IN THE DEPARTMENT OF RESOURCES AND DEVELOPMENT. HE TOOK OVER THE CENSUS JOB AFTER THE PROGRAM WAS WELL UNDERWAY WHEN THE PREVIOUS CENSUS COORDINATOR DIED SUDDENLY LAST YEAR.

STEWART, IN TURN HAS BEEN ESPECIALLY COMPLIMENTARY OF HIS STAFF ASSISTANTS, TATSUO ADACHI AND CESAR DUMATOL, AND OF THE WORK DONE BY HEALTH SERVICES STATISTICIAN ALAN KAY. "IN ADDITION," STEWART SAID, "IT CANNOT BE FORGOTTEN THAT THE CENSUS WOULD NEVER HAVE BEEN SUCCESSFULLY COMPLETED ON SCHEDULE WITHOUT THE HARDWORK OF THE PEOPLE WHO WORKED IN THE FIELD--THE ENUMERATORS AND THEIR SUPERVISORS WHO WERE ON THE ONE-HUNDRED OR SO INHABITED ISLANDS OF THE TERRITORY IN SEPTEMBER LAST YEAR TO DO THE ACTUAL INTERVIEWING FOR THE ENUMERATION."

STEWART ADDED THAT THE CENSUS PROGRAM WAS UNDOUBTEDLY THE LARGEST EFFORT OF ITS KIND EVER UNDERTAKEN BY THE TRUST TERRITORY GOVERNMENT. "THE PROGRAM INVOLVED THE DEPARTMENT OF PERSONNEL, THE DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION AND COMMUNICATIONS, THE PLANNING DIVISION, THE PUBLIC INFORMATION, PUBLICATIONS AND BROADCAST DIVISION, THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION AND THE HEALTH SERVICES DEPARTMENT AS WELL AS THE OFFICES OF THE DISTRICT ADMINISTRATORS, WHO LENT THEIR COMPLETE SUPPORT TO THE PROGRAM."

THE PLAN FOR THE TT CENSUS WAS DRAWN UP BY SOUTH PACIFIC COMMISSION DEMOGRAPHER DR. K. GROENEWEGEN IN 1972.

(TWO MEDICAL OFFICERS APPOINTED)

SAIPAN, FEB. 20 (MNS)---DIRECTOR OF HEALTH SERVICES DR. MASAO KUMANGAI HAS ANNOUNCED THE RECENT APPOINTMENT OF TWO MEDICAL OFFICERS, ONE FOR THE PALAU DISTRICT AND ONE FOR THE MARIANAS DISTRICT. THE NEW APPOINTEES ARE DR. HELEN TARO AND DR. HELEN JONATHAN.

BOTH DR. TARO AND DR. JONATHAN WERE AWARDED TRUST TERRITORY SCHOLARSHIPS IN OCTOBER, 1967. THEY BOTH ATTENDED THE FIJI SCHOOL OF MEDICINE IN SUVA, FIJI, WHERE THEY RECEIVED THEIR DEGREES IN 1973. DR. TARO HAS BEEN ASSIGNED TO WORK IN THE MARIANAS DISTRICT AND DR. JONATHAN WILL BE WORKING IN HER HOME DISTRICT, PALAU.

AT PRESENT, THERE ARE 37 TRUST TERRITORY MEDICAL OFFICERS WORKING IN VARIOUS DISTRICT HOSPITALS IN THE TT.

(REPORT ON ALCOHOLIC PROBLEMS IN TT)

SAIPAN, FEBRUARY 20 (MNS)---A REPORT RELEASED BY THE OFFICE OF THE HIGH COMMISSIONER THIS WEEK INDICATES THAT ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES CONSTITUTE THE SIXTH LARGEST SINGLE CLASS OF COMMODITIES IMPORTED INTO MICRONESIA, AMOUNTING TO A DOLLAR VALUE OF ABOUT \$1,633,247, OR SIX PERCENT OF THE TOTAL VALUE OF ALL IMPORTS OF THE TRUST TERRITORY. THE RESEARCH DOCUMENT ALSO INDICATES THAT ALCOHOL ABUSE IS A MAJOR SOCIAL PROBLEM IN MICRONESIA.

THE 79-PAGE REPORT WAS PREPARED BY FRANCIS B. MAHONEY FOR THE TRUST TERRITORY GOVERNMENT UNDER A CONTRACT WITH JAMES R. LEONARD ASSOCIATES, INC.

THE REPORT SAYS THE VOLUME OF IMPORTS OF BEER, SPIRITS AND WINE FOR THE TERRITORY AS A WHOLE IN THE FOUR YEAR PERIOD 1969-1972 HAS MORE THAN DOUBLED. THE REPORT NOTES THAT IN SOME DISTRICTS, SUCH AS TRUK, THE INCREASE HAS BEEN NEARLY FIVE-FOLD. THE ONLY EXCEPTION IS PONAPE, WHICH SAW A DROP IN ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGE IMPORT, PRESUMABLY BECAUSE FOR TWELVE OF THOSE 48 MONTHS ALL BARS IN THAT DISTRICT WERE CLOSED.

THE REPORT POINTS OUT THAT DESPITE THIS DRAMATIC INCREASE, THE 1972 PER CAPITA CONSUMPTION RATE OF ALCOHOL IN MICRONESIA, EXTRAPOLATED FROM IMPORT DATA, WAS \$29 PER PERSON, MUCH LOWER THAN THAT OF THE UNITED STATES FOR THE YEAR 1971, WHICH WAS \$39 PER PERSON.

THE REPORT NOTES THAT THE PER CAPITA FIGURE MAY BE DECEPTIVE, FOR THE SALE OF LIQUOR IS NOT LEGALLY PERMITTED IN THE MAJORITY OF MUNICIPALITIES, BUT TENDS TO BE CONFINED TO THE SIX DISTRICT CENTERS AND A FEW OTHER SO-CALLED "WET" MUNICIPALITIES.

THE STUDY ASSERTS THAT 75 PERCENT OF THE ALCOHOL IMPORTED INTO MICRONESIA IS CONSUMED BY 25 PERCENT OF THE POPULATION IN THE DISTRICT CENTERS AND OTHER "WET" MUNICIPALITIES. THE GROUP OF "HEAVY CONSUMERS" IS A HIGHLY VISIBLE MALE POPULATION BETWEEN THE AGES OF 14 AND 25. AMONG THIS GROUP, THE REPORT POINTED OUT, PER CAPITA CONSUMPTION RATES ARE ESTIMATED TO HAVE RANGED BETWEEN A LOW OF \$80 AND HIGH OF \$183 IN THE SEVERAL DISTRICTS DURING 1972.

ALTHOUGH IT IS COMMONLY THOUGHT THAT ALCOHOLIC ABUSE CONSTITUTES A SERIOUS PROBLEM FOR ALL MICRONESIAN MALES, THE CRITICAL GROUP WOULD SEEM TO BE IN THE YOUNGER RANKS OF THIS POPULATION OF "HEAVY CONSUMERS." ACCORDING TO THE REPORT, THIS SEEMS TO BE THE CAUSE OF A HIGHER CONCENTRATION OF CRIMINAL CONVICTIONS AMONG MALES BETWEEN THE AGES OF 15 AND 25.

THIS FACT SUGGESTS THAT SPECIAL SOCIAL AND CULTURAL FACTORS MAY BE AT WORK, IN ADDITION TO PSYCHIC AND METABOLIC DEFICIENCIES, THAT RENDER THIS SEGMENT OF THE POPULATION PRONE TO THE DYSFUNCTION OF PROBLEM DRINKING. THE REPORT SUGGESTS THAT THIS GROUP IS IN PARTICULAR NEED OF SPECIAL ATTENTION APART FROM THAT WHICH MAY BECOME AVAILABLE THROUGH THE HEALTH SERVICES DEPARTMENT'S ANTI-ALCOHOLISM GRANT OF \$1.5 MILLION.

THE REPORT SAYS THAT VIOLENT CRIMES AND SO-CALLED "CRIMES OF PASSION" SEEM TO BE ALCOHOL-RELATED IN MICRONESIAN SOCIETY. THE REPORT INDICATED THAT THOSE CRIMES APPEAR TO HAVE A HIGHER INCIDENCE IN THE DISTRICTS OF YAP, PALAU AND TRUK, WHERE SUSTAINED CONTACT WITH THE WEST CAME LATER, USUALLY IN THE LAST QUARTER OF THE 19TH CENTURY, AND MORE ABRUPTLY; ALSO WHERE THE CLASH BETWEEN TRADITIONALLY EXPECTED BEHAVIOR PATTERNS AND SO-CALLED WESTERN VALUES IS MOST ACUTE.

EVIDENCE FROM THE MARIANAS AND TO A LESSER EXTENT THE MARSHALLS, SUGGESTS THE EXPOSURE TO ALTERNATIVE PATTERNS OF USING ALCOHOL CAN IN TIME PRODUCE ALTERNATIVE BEHAVIORS WHICH WOULD BE LESS THREATENING SOCIALLY AND LESS PHYSICALLY HAZARDOUS, THE REPORT STATES.

AMONG OTHER THINGS, THE REPORT IDENTIFIES A NUMBER OF CONTRADICTORY SOCIAL CAUSES OF "ALCOHOLIC ABUSE TO POREDOM" FOR WANT OF ALTERNATIVE RECREATIONAL AND OCCUPATIONAL ACTIVITIES, INDICATING THAT THIS FEELING IS SHARED BY OTHER MEMBERS OF THE COMMUNITY. ALSO THE REPORT NOTES THAT YOUNG MEN HAVE DEVELOPED "EXALTED MATERIAL EXPECTATIONS" AND NEW VALUES OF PERSONAL LIBERTY AND ADVANCEMENT THAT ONLY A VERY FEW YOUNG MICRONESIANS ARE ABLE TO SATISFY. THE REPORT POINTS OUT THAT DEINING, PARTICULARLY IN THE TRADITIONAL ALL-MALE PATTERN, PROVIDES A TEMPORARY RELEASE FOR THESE FRUSTRATIONS, ADDING THAT DISTRICT CENTER BARS BRING TOGETHER MEN OF DIVERSE LOCALITIES, FAMILIES AND TRADITIONS AND THUS "TEND TO CREATE A THREATENING RATHER THAN A SUPPORTIVE SITUATION."

ACCORDING TO THE REPORT, LAW ENFORCEMENT BY THE

07177

POLICE IS OFTEN LAX, AND JUSTICE IS FELT TO BE OVERLY LENIENT. THE REPORT INDICATES THAT JUVENILE LAWBREAKERS ARE UNDETERRED SINCE THERE ARE NO FACILITIES FOR JUVENILES IN THE TT PENAL SYSTEM.

THERE ARE OTHER CAUSES OF ACOHOLIC ABUSE,. TRADITIONAL AUTHORITY FIGURES, FOR ONE THING, ARE "UNSURE OF THEIR CONTROL," BEING THEMSELVES CAUGHT IN THE CONFLICT OF VALUES AND LEGAL SYSTEMS, AND AS A CONSEQUENCE, YOUNG MEN TEND TO DISREGARD THEIR DIRECTION AND ADVICE, NOTES THE REPORT. AT THE SAME YOUNG MICRONESIAN CAN EASILY ENULATE OR IDENTIFY WITH.

THE REPORT POINTS OUT THAT ACADEMIC EMPHASIS OF THE EDUCATIONAL SYSTEM OF MICRONESIA IS INCREASINGLY CREATING FRUSTRATIONS AS AN EVER INCREASING NUMBER IF YOUNG PEOPLE GRADUATE FROM THE SCHOOL SYSTEM WITHOUT MARKETABLE VOCATIONAL SKILLS. THE REPORT SAYS THE FRUSTRATIONS OF BEING EITHER UNDER-EDUCATED OR OVER-EDUCATED AND WITHOUT A SATISFYING JOB ALSO TEND TO PRODUCE DRINKING PROBLEMS

BASED ON THESE FINDINGS, THE REPORT RECOMMENDS THAT THERE IS A NEED FOR A COMPREHENSIVE PROGRAM OF SOCIAL SERVICES DIRECTED TOWARD YOUNG MEN OF THE MICRONESIAN COMMUNITY BETWEEN THE AGES OF 15 AND 25 WHO ARE CURRENTLY SO PRONE TO ALCOHOLIC ABUSE AND ITS FREQUENT CONSEQUENCE, VIOLENT CRIME.

ALSO, THE REPORT RECOMMENDS THAT A PROGRAM OF YOUTH SERVICES BE ESTABLISHED IN ORDER TO ATTRACT AND INVOLVE AS MANY YOUNG PEOPLE AS POSSIBLE IN THE PLANNING AND IMPLEMENTING OF ITS ACTIVITIES. SUCH A PROGRAM SHOULD INCLUDE SPORTS AND OTHER RECREATIONAL ACTIVITIES.

ADDITIONALLY, THE REPORT SAYS THE HIGH COMMISSIONER SHOULD BE INVITED TO INITIATE EFFORTS TO IMPROVE ENFORCEMENT AND INTERPRETATION OF THE LAW AS IT APPLIES TO THE SALE AND CONSUMPTION OF ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES, AND THE PUNISHMENT OF OFFENDERS IN ALCOHOL RELATED CRIMES, MISDEMEANORS, AND VEHICLE ACCIDENTS. SECONDLY, THE CHIEF JUSTICE SHOULD BE PREVAILED UPON TO DEVOTE AT LEAST ONE DAY OF HIS ANNUAL JUDICIAL CONFERENCE WITH MICRONESIAN JUDGES OF THE DISTRICT COURTS TO A DISCUSSION OF APPROPRIATE PENALTIES IN ALCOHOL-RELATED CASES, RECOMMENDS THE REPORT.

THIRDLY, THE TRUST TERRITORY GOVERNMENT SHOULD BUDGET FOR THE CONSTRUCTION AND STAFFING OF DETENTION FACILITIES FOR JUVENILES UNDER 18 AND FOR HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS ATTENDING SCHOOL DURING THEIR PERIOD OF SENTENCE.

AND FINALLY, THE CONGRESS OF MICRONESIA IS CALLED UPON TO STUDY AND ADOP MORE EFFECTIVE LAWS GOVERNING THE SALE OF ALCOHOL, ALCOHOL-RELATED CRIMES AT ALL AGES AND TO EFFECTIVELY PREVENT DRINKING BY UNDERAGE CHILDREN. A COPY OF THE REPORT MAY BE OBTAINED FROM THE HEADQUARTERS DIVISION OF COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT.