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INFO OCT-01 INT-08 SS-20 EA-11 L-03 H-03 PRS-01 PA-04

INR-10 SPC-03 EB-11 PM-07 /096 W

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P 081604Z FEB 74 ZNZ1  
FM NCOMTERPACIS SAIPAN MARIANAS ISLANDS  
TO ALDISTADS TERPACIS  
TT LNO GUAM MARIANAS ISLANDS  
TT LNO KWAJALEIN MARSHALL ISLANDS  
COMNAVMARIANAS GUAM MARIANAS ISLANDS  
CINCPACREP GUAM/TTPI 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  
CINCPACAF HICKAM AFB HI  
RUEHDT /US MISSION TO UN NEW YORK NY  
CGPMFPAC CAMP H M SMITH HI  
COMCBPAC PEARL HARBOR HI  
NAVFACENGCOMHQ ALEXANDRIA VA  
PACNAVFACENGCOM PEARL HARBOR HI

TT LNO HONOLULU HI  
SAMTEC VANDENBERG AFB CA  
CDRUSARBCO MACHINATO JA

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SECTION 02 OF 03

TINIAN TO GO TO COURT TO END THE UNITED STATES IMPOSED CANCELLATION  
OF A HOMESTEAD PROGRAM ALONG WITH ALL BUSINESS APPLICATIONS AND  
PERMITS ON TINIAN.

EXPLAINING THE DILEMMA, ATALIG SAID: "THE UNITED STATES IS

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OBLIGATED TO PROMOTE THE ECONOMIC ADVANCEMENT AND SELF-SUFFICIENCY OF MICRONESIA AND TO PROTECT THE LANDS AND RESOURCES OF ITS PEOPLE BUT AT THE SAME TIME IT HAS THE RIGHT TO USE THESE LANDS FOR STRATEGIC PURPOSES. CONSEQUENTLY, WE HAVE BEEN FACED WITH THE PERPLEXING SITUATION WHERE THE SECRETARY OF THE INTERIOR SPEAKS ABOUT SELF-GOVERNMENT AND MICRONESIANS MAKING THE DECISIONS, AND A NEW FOREIGN INVESTMENT POLICY, AFTER THE U.S. GOVERNMENT HAS DECLARED A UNILATERAL MORATORIUM ON TINIAN."

HE SAID BECAUSE OF THE STATUS QUESTION, MANY MEMBERS OF THE CONGRESS MIGHT CONSIDER THE MORATORIUM A DISTRICT MATTER, HOWEVER,

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ATALIG REMINDED THE HOUSE: "...WE ARE STILL A TRUSTEESHIP AND WE ARE STILL ALL WORKING HERE TOGETHER FOR THE BEST INTERESTS OF ALL THE PEOPLE OF MICRONESIA."

ASKING THE HOUSE TO CONSIDER SERIOUSLY WHAT WILL HAPPEN IF SUCH MORATORIUMS ARE DECLARED IN THE FUTURE FOR PALAU, FOR THE MARSHALLS, TRUK, YAP OR PONAPE, ATALIG SAID: "SHALL TINIAN THEN BECOME THE PRECEDENT FOR WHAT WILL HAPPEN IN THE FUTURE?"

ATALIG SAID THE CONGRESS MUST SET A PRECEDENT AND AN EXAMPLE AND NOT ALLOW SUCH A SITUATION TO EXIST FOR FEAR OF WHAT THE FUTURE MIGHT BRING. "WE CANNOT SIT IDLY AND CALMLY AND WATCH THE RIGHTS OF OUR PEOPLE BE ABUSED BECAUSE...AMERICAN BLOOD WAS SPILLED ON OUR ISLANDS."

"THESE PEOPLE OF TINIAN DESERVE THEIR DAY IN COURT," HE SAID. "I HOPE THIS CONGRESS WILL USE ITS RESOURCES AND AUTHORITY TO RIGHT THE WRONG THAT HAS BEEN IMPOSED ON THE PEOPLE OF TINIAN."

MEANWHILE, CONGRESSMAN TIMOTHY OLKERIIL OF PALAU DELIVERED A CRITICAL SPEECH CONCERNING THE GENERAL WORK OF THE CONGRESS TO DATE IN TERMS OF MAJOR ISSUES CONFRONTING MICRONESIA, FROM POLITICAL STATUS, CURRENT SHIPPING CRISIS, THE CONSTITUTIONAL CONVENTION, RETURN OF PUBLIC LANDS AND FOREIGN INVESTMENT.

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IN HIS STATEMENT, THE PALAU CONGRESSMAN CALLED UPON MEMBERS OF CONGRESS "TO GET DOWN TO BUSINESS AND LEGISLATE ON VITAL ISSUES" AND STOP WASTING TIME DEBATING AND ARGUING OVER "TRIVIAL

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MATTERS" OR PASSING MINOR LEGISLATION WHICH WILL BE REPLACED WHEN THE NEW MICRONESIAN GOVERNMENT IS FORMED.

OLKERIIL URGED CONGRESS TO FIRST TACKLE THE ISSUES WHICH, ALTHOUGH TEMPORARY IN NATURE, DESERVE "OUR IMMEDIATE ATTENTION..."

SPEAKING ABOUT MICRONESIA'S MOVEMENT TOWARDS FULL SELF-GOVERNMENT, OLKERIIL SAID: "BEFORE THE FULL REIGN OVER INTERNAL AFFAIRS IS TURNED OVER TO US, WE GO THROUGH THE WHOLE PROCESS OF CHANGING THE WHEELS OF POWER IN MICRONESIA. WE CANNOT SIT BACK AND EXPECT THE U.S. TO VOLUNTARILY AND FREELY HAND OVER CONTROL OVER OUR INTERNAL AFFAIRS." HE ADDED THAT CONGRESS MUST INDICATE TO THE UNITED STATES HOW, WHEN, AND WHY MICRONESIA WANTS SELF-GOVERNMENT.

OLKERIIL AGAIN ECHOED THE POSITION OF THE PALAU DELEGATION IN TERMS OF POLITICAL STATUS PRESENTED IN BOTH HOUSES LAST WEEK, ADVOCATING A LOOSE FEDERATION OF STATES AS THE MOST SUITABLE POLITICAL ALTERNATIVE FOR ALL OF MICRONESIA. HE EMPHASIZED: "WE DO NOT WANT THE CONGRESS TO CONTINUE TO ENACT LAWS WHICH ONLY

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PERPETUATE" THE STATUS QUO. HE POINTED OUT THAT HIS PEOPLE WANT CHANGE "AND WANT IT FAST AND IF THE CONGRESS WHICH HAS THE POWER TO EFFECT CHANGE, REFUSES TO BRING ABOUT CHANGES, HIS DISTRICT "MAY BE FORCED" TO TAKE THE MATTER INTO ITS OWN HANDS."

THESE ISSUES DEMAND SOLUTION FROM THIS SESSION." HE SAID THE CURRENT SESSION IS "WITHOUT DIRECTION" TAKING INTO ACCOUNT THE FACT THAT CONGRESS HAS COME HALFWAY THROUGH ITS FIFTY-DAY SESSION AND HAS DONE VERY LITTLE IN TERMS OF LEGISLATION TO MEET MICRONESIA'S PROBLEMS.

(SUMMARY OF FIRST HALF OF SESSION)

SAIPAN, FEBRUARY 8 (MNS)---ALTHOUGH THE OUTPUT OF LEGISLATION IS ONLY ONE MEASURE OF THE ACTIVITY AND EFFECTIVENESS OF A SESSION OF THE CONGRESS OF MICRONESIA, IT IS THE ONE MOST COMMONLY USED AND UNDERSTOOD BY THE LAYMAN, BY THIS STANDARD, THE SECOND REGULAR SESSION OF THE FIFTH CONGRESS HAS NOT BEEN PARTICULARLY ACTIVE SO FAR, ALTHOUGH THE NUMBER OF PIECES OF LEGISLATION TECHNICALLY UNDER CONSIDERATION EXCEEDS 500.

AS OF THE COMPLETION OF THE 25TH DAY OF THE 50-DAY

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SESSION, ONLY TWO BILLS HAD PASSED FINAL READING OF BOTH HOUSES AND BEEN SENT TO THE HIGH COMMISSIONER. IN ADDITION, FINAL LEGISLATIVE ACTION HAS BEEN COMPLETED ON SIX JOINT RESOLUTIONS. IN THE TWO HOUSES, THE ACTION LOOKS LIKE THIS: THE SENATE HAS PASSED ELEVEN BILLS ON FINAL READING, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES HAS PASSED SEVEN BILLS ON FINAL READING, AND ADOPTED ELEVEN JOINT RESOLUTIONS.

IN ADDITION, A TOTAL OF 28 BILLS HAVE BEEN FILED, ALL BUT ONE OF THEM IN THE HOUSE, AND FIVE JOINT RESOLUTIONS HAVE BEEN FILED, ALSO ALL BUT ONE IN THE HOUSE.

WHEN IT COMES TO INTRODUCING NEW LEGISLATION, THE CURRENT SESSION HAS BEEN EXTREMELY ACTIVE. DURING THE FIRST HALF, NEARLY 250 NEW MEASURES WERE INTRODUCED. IN THE HOUSE, THERE WERE 84 BILLS OFFERED, ALONG WITH 36 JOINT RESOLUTIONS AND 4 RESOLUTIONS. SENATORS HAVE INTRODUCED 102 BILLS, 15 JOINT RESOLUTIONS AND THREE RESOLUTIONS.

VIRTUALLY ALL OF THESE NEW MEASURES REMAIN UNDER CONSIDERATION BY THE VARIOUS COMMITTEES, AS DO MANY OF THE MEASURES LEFT FROM LAST SESSION. THE STATISTICS MAKE IT CLEAR THAT THE REMAINING DAYS OF THIS CONGRESSIONAL SESSION

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WILL BE BUSY ONES.

(CHRISTMAS ON APRIL FOOLS DAY)

SAIPAN, FEBRUARY 8 (MNS)---CHRISTMAS SHOULD BE CELEBRATED IN MICRONESIA NEXT YEAR ON APRIL FOOLS DAY. THAT, AT LEAST, IS THE CONTENTION OF TRUK CONGRESSMAN RAYMOND SETIK, WHO INTRODUCED A RESOLUTION TO THAT EFFECT DURING FRIDAY'S SESSION OF THE CONGRESS OF MICRONESIA.

SAYING HIS JOINT RESOLUTION IS "VERY, VERY IMPORTANT," SETIK OFFERED HIS MEASURE FOR THE CONSIDERATION OF HIS COLLEAGUES, AND IT WAS DULY ASSIGNED TO ALL STANDING COMMITTEES OF THE HOUSE.

THE MEASURE READS: "WHEREAS, THE PEOPLE OF MICRONESIA ARE LARGELY DEPENDENT UPON OCEAN TRANSPORTATION FOR THE

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DELIVERY OF MUCH OF THE MATERIAL TRAPPINGS OF A CHRISTMAS SEASON, INCLUDING, BUT NOT LIMITED TO, MANY TYPES OF FOOD, GIFTS, AND SPIRITS, IF NOT SPIRIT, AND;

"WHEREAS, UNFORTUNATELY FOR THE PEOPLE OF MICRONESIA, OCEAN SHIPPING IN THE TRUST TERRITORY IS PROVIDED BY TRANSPACIFIC LINES, INC., AND;

"WHEREAS, AS THE RESULT OF THE ALLEGED SERVICE PROVIDED

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