

(KAREPA VISIT)

SAIPAN, MAR. 1 (MNS)---THE TRUST TERRITORY IS PLAYING HOST THIS WEEK TO PAPUA NEW GUINEA DIPLOMAT RALPH KAREPA, WHO STOPPED ON PONAPE AND SAIPAN ON HIS WAY FROM WASHINGTON TO PORT MORESBY. 11

KAREPA HAS COMPLETED A TOUR OF DUTY IN WASHINGTON WITH THE DIPLOMATIC CORPS, WHERE HE SERVED MOST RECENTLY AS A REPRESENTATIVE OF PAPUA NEW GUINEA INTERESTS AT THE AUSTRALIAN EMBASSY. AUSTRALIA HAS ADMINISTRATED THAT TERRITORY FOR SEVERAL YEARS. AND IN DECEMBER 1973 SAW PAPUA NEW GUINEA ACHIEVE SELF-GOVERNMENT, WITH COMPLETE INDEPENDENCE EXPECTED SOMETIME IN THE NEXT SEVERAL MONTHS. IN THE NEW GOVERNMENT, KAREPA IS TO SERVE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF FOREIGN RELATIONS AND TRADE. 1974

IN AN INTERVIEW WITH MICRONESIAN NEWS SERVICE, KAREPA SAID THAT HIS NEW POSITION WILL INCLUDE RESPONSIBILITY FOR "LOOKING OUT FOR OUR GOVERNMENT'S POLICIES TOWARD THE UNITED STATES, THE UNITED NATIONS, AND POSSIBLY THE SOUTH PACIFIC AREA."

SPEAKING OF THE PROCEDURES BY WHICH PAPUA NEW GUINEA WILL MOVE FROM SELF-GOVERNMENT TOWARD FULL INDEPENDENCE, KAREPA SAID THAT AN OFFICIAL TIMETABLE FOR THIS TRANSITION IS TO BE ESTABLISHED AT THE NEXT MEETINGS OF THE COUNTRY'S PARLIAMENT. THAT BODY IS SCHEDULED TO HEAR A REPORT ON CONSTITUTIONAL DEVELOPMENT DRAWN UP BY "AN EXPERT COMMITTEE OF WELL-KNOWN CONSTITUTIONAL LAWYERS, WHO WERE HIRED BY THE GOVERNMENT TO ASSIST IN PLANNING THIS DEVELOPMENT." THE COMMITTEE, HE SAID, HAS BEEN WORKING ON THEIR REPORT FOR THE LAST TEN OR FIFTEEN MONTHS. PARLIAMENT IS SCHEDULED TO CONVENE IN ABOUT TWO WEEKS, KAREPA ADDED, AND AT THAT TIME THE REPORT WILL BE DEBATED AND THE TIMETABLE FOR INDEPENDENCE WILL BE ADOPTED.

AT THIS POINT, KAREPA SAID, THE ONLY MATTERS FOR WHICH AUSTRALIA AS TERRITORIAL ADMINISTRATOR IS RESPONSIBLE ARE DEFENSE FOREIGN AFFAIRS. EVENTUALLY, UNDER FULL INDEPENDENCE, THESE AREAS WILL BECOME THE RESPONSIBILITY OF THE PAPUA NEW GUINEA GOVERNMENT, HE SAID, "AND WE'LL BE TOTALLY ON OUR OWN."

KAREPA SAID THAT THE PROCEDURES ESTABLISHED OVER THE LAST FEW YEARS FOR MAKING THE TRANSITION FROM ONE STATUS TO ANOTHER HAVE BEEN MUTUALLY PLANNED BY AUSTRALIAN AND PAPUA NEW GUINEA OFFICIALS. "THERE WAS A GREAT DEAL OF GIVE AND TAKE IN THIS MATTER," HE SAID. "THE AUSTRALIANS WOULD COME TO US AND ASK WHAT WE WANTED TO DO ON CERTAIN SPECIFIC THINGS, AND TOGETHER TO DO, BUT ALSO ON THE BASIS OF WHAT WE WERE CAPABLE OF DOING. GENERALLY, I'M VERY HAPPY PERSONALLY AT THE PROGRESS WHICH WAS MADE AND THE WAY OUR GOALS HAVE BEEN ACHIEVED."

DURING HIS STOP IN PONAPE EARLIER THIS WEEK, KAREPA MET TWO MICRONESIANS WHO HAD STUDIED AT A FORESTRY SCHOOL IN NEW GUINEA. HE SAID HE LOOKED FORWARD TO MORE CONTACTS SUCH AS THIS. "WE'VE HAD A LOT OF STUDENTS FROM THE TRUST TERRITORY ALREADY ATTEND SCHOOL IN OUR COUNTRY, AND AS OUR GOVERNMENT BECOMES MORE ESTABLISHED AND OUR POLICIES WIDEN, WE WOULD OF COURSE WELCOME MORE STUDENTS FROM OUR NEIGHBORING TERRITORIES. WE MIGHT BE ABLE TO DEVELOP A VALUABLE EXCHANGES PROGRAM TO HELP OUR PEOPLES LEARN FROM EACH OTHERS EXPERIENCES."

KAREPA SAID THAT HE HAS ENJOYED HIS TOUR OF THE TRUST TERRITORY VERY MUCH, AND THANKED ESPECIALLY THE DISTRICT ADMINISTRATOR IN PONAPE AND HIS STAFF, AND THE OFFICIALS OF THE MARIANAS DISTRICT AND AT HEADQUARTERS WHO HAD ARRANGED HIS ITINERARY.

A RECEPTION IN HIS HONOR WAS SCHEDULED FOR FRIDAY NIGHT (MARCH 1) AT THE HIGH COMMISSIONER'S RESIDENCE. THE DIPLOMAT WAS ALSO SCHEDULED TO OBSERVE SESSIONS OF THE CONGRESS OF MICRONESIA.

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(AMB. WHITE VISIT TO TT)

SAIPAN, MAR. 1 (MNS)---AMBASSADOR BARBARA WHITE, THE NEW UNITED STATES REPRESENTATIVE TO THE UNITED NATIONS TRUSTEESHIP COUNCIL, ARRIVED ON SAIPAN FRIDAY (MAR. 1) TO BEGIN A TWO-WEEK FAMILIARIZATION TOUR OF MICRONESIA.

THE AMBASSADOR IS A CARRER FOREIGN SERVICE OFFICER WHO PREVIOUSLY SERVED IN LATIN AMERICA AND ITALY. SHE WAS NAMED TO HER PRESENT POST AT THE UNITED STATES MISSION TO THE U.N. IN NEW YORK IN MAY, 1973, AND WAS CONFIRMED BY THE UNITED STATES SENATE IN OCTOBER LAST YEAR.

THE MAIN PURPOSE OF HER VISIT TO THE TERRITORY IS TO "LISTEN AND TO LEARN" FROM THE MICRONESIAN LEADERS AND THE PEOPLE OF MICRONESIA ABOUT THEIR POLITICAL, ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS IN PREPARATION FOR THE NEXT SESSION OF THE TRUSTEESHIP COUNCIL SCHEDULED FOR MAY 23 THIS YEAR.

AMBASSADOR WHITE WAS FORMERLY WITH THE UNITED STATES INFORMATION AGENCY AND IS NOW A RANKING, SENIOR AMBASSADOR IN THE U.S. MISSION TO THE UNITED NATIONS. SHE RECEIVED HER B.A. DEGREE AT MOUNT HOLYOKE COLLEGE IN MASSACHUSETTS IN 1941 AND HER M.S. DEGREE AT RADCLIFFE, ALSO IN MASSACHUSETTS, IN 1962.

AMBASSADOR WHITE WILL REMAIN ON SAIPAN FOR ABOUT A WEEK AND WILL THEN CONTINUE ON WITH HER TRIP TO THE REST OF THE TRUST TERRITORY. DETAILS OF HER ITINERARY IN THE OTHER DISTRICTS WILL BE ANNOUNCED AT A LATER DATE.

THE AMBASSADOR WILL BE ONE OF THE GUESTS OF HONOR AT A RECEPTION GIVEN BY THE HIGH COMMISSIONER AND MRS. JOHNSTON AT THEIR HOME ON SAIPAN FRIDAY EVENING.

(CARPENTER COMMENDS HOUSING COMMISSION)

SAIPAN, MARCH 1 (MNS)---IN A SPECIAL MESSAGE RECEIVED FROM WASHINGTON THIS WEEK, DIRECTOR OF THE OFFICE OF TERRITORIAL AFFAIRS STANLEY S. CARPENTER COMMENDS THE WORK OF THE NEWLY CREATED TRUST TERRITORY HOUSING COMMISSION.

IN HIS LETTER TO HIGH COMMISSIONER JOHNSTON, CARPENTER SAID: "WE WISH TO COMMED BILL ALLEN AND THE TERRITORIAL HOUSING COMMISSION, NOT ONLY FOR THEIR COMPREHENSIVE FIRST ANNUAL REPORT, BUT ALSO FOR THEIR TIRELESS EFFORTS SINCE THE INCEPTION OF THE COMMISSION." ALLEN IS CHAIRMAN OF THE NEWLY CREATED TERRITORIAL HOUSING COMMISSION, AND ALSO CHIEF OF THE COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT DIVISION.

"WE ALSO WANT TO ACKNOWLEDGE," CARPENTER SAID, "THE EFFORTS OF ALL THE DISTRICT HOUSING COMMISSIONERS AND THEIR STAFFS."

ACCORDING TO THE DIRECTOR OF TERRITORIAL AFFAIRS, THE FIRST REPORT OF THE TERRITORIAL HOUSING COMMISSION INDICATES HEALTHY PROGRESS TOWARD DEVELOPING A HOUSING PROGRAM FOR THE TRUST TERRITORY. "WE ARE HOPEFUL THAT EXPANDED FUNDING SOURCES WILL EVENTUALLY PROVIDE A MEANS FOR DECENT HOUSING FOR MANY MORE FAMILIES IN MICRONESIA," CARPENTER SAID.

(IT ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION BOARD BULLETIN)

SAIPAN, MAR. 1 (MNS)---THE TRUST TERRITORY ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION BOARD HAS RELEASED ANOTHER EDITION OF ITS QUARTERLY BULLENTIN WITH ARTICLES COVERING THE MOST IMPORTANT ASPECTS OF ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH IN MICRONESIA.

AMONG OTHER THINGS, THE BULLETIN LABLES "THE USE OF EXPLOSIVES IN FISHING" AS ONE OF THE MOST DANGEROUS ENVIRONMENTAL EVEMIES, ADDING THAT IT NOT ONLY DESTROYS CORAL REEFS BUT ALSO CAN CAUSE CRIPPLING OR DEATH TO THE FISHERMEN USING THEM.

"ASIDE FROM BEING ILLEGAL TO USE EXPLOSIVES FOR FISHING IN MICRONESIA--AND THE FACT THAT USERS ARE SUBJECT TO CRIMINAL PROSECUTION--EXPLOSIVED AND BLEACH SERIOUSLY DAMAGES OR DESTORY

LARGE AREAS OF LIVING CORAL AND OTHER ORGANISMS WHICH ARE VITAL TO THE PRODUCTIVITY OF A CORAL REEF," THE BULLETIN SAYS.

IT POINTS OUT THAT THE DESTRUCTION OF LIVING CORAL ELIMINATES THE HABITATS FOR THE FISH AND SHELLFISH WHICH ABOUND ON A HEALTHY REEF, AND ALSO DESTROYS THE IMPORTANT ORGANISMS IN THE FOOD-CHAIN UPON WHICH THESE VERY FISH AND SHELLFISH DEPEND.

THE BULLETIN NOTES THE "MURKY WATERS OF MICRONESIA," SAYING THAT "TURBIDITY AND SILTATION" IS A FORM OF WATER POLLUTION WHICH IS PRESENT IN EVERY DISTRICT BUT SELDOM RECOGNIZED AS A POLLUTION PROBLEM. THE BULLETIN EXPLAINS THAT THIS CONDITION RESULTS FROM SOIL AND OTHER MATERIALS GETTING INTO THE WATER WHERE THEY ARE SUSPENDED FOR A TIME AND THEN SINK TO THE BOTTOM--TO SMOTHER LIVING ORGANISMS.

ACCORDING TO THE BULLETIN, TURBIDITY AND SILTATION-PRODUCING ACTIVITIES ARE MANY, INCLUDING DREDGING, LANDFILL OPERATIONS--WITHOUT THE BENEFIT OF RETAINING WALLS--BLASTING AND IMPROPER AGRICULTURAL AND CONSTRUCTION OPERATIONS WHICH CAUSE SOIL EROSION.

SIMILARLY, THE BULLETIN ASSERTS THAT WITHOUT AN "ADEQUATE SUPPLY OF CLEAN WATER, FREE OF HARMFUL ORGANISMS, THE PROGRESS OF MAKING LIFE BETTER FOR ALL MICRONESIANS WOULD BE TREMENDOUSLY HINDERED." IT POINTS OUT THAT THE MOST COMMON WATER-BORNE DISEASES ARE THOSE OF THE INTESTINAL TRACT, INCLUDING TYPHOID FEVER, PARATYPHOID, INFECTIONOUS HEPATITIS AND CHOLERA.

THE BULLETIN URGES PRIVATE AND GOVERNMENT AGENCIES TO TAKE SPECIAL CARE TO AVOID POLLUTION THAT IS DESTRUCTIVE TO FOOD SOURCES IN MICRONESIA, NOTHING THAT THE "DESTRUCTION OF SOME 6,000 TARO PLANTS AMOUNTING TO 6,000 ON MOEN ISLAND IN TRUK DISTRICT BY OIL DISCHARGED FROM THE LOCAL POWER PLANT SHOULD NOT HAVE HAPPENED.

THE BULLETIN ASSERTS THAT THE "OIL DRAINED FROM THE DITCHES AND SETTLED INTO THE TARO PATCHES NOT ONLY DESTROYED THE FOOD SOURCE AND INCOME FOR THE FAMILIES INVOLVED, BUT POSES A SERIOUS HEALTH HAZARD TO THE SANITATION OF WATER CATCHMENTS IN MICRONESIA, THE BULLETIN WARNS AGAINST "SOCIAL POLLUTION" IN MICRONESIA. IT POINTS OUT THAT "SOCIAL POLLUTION" INCLUDES DISEASES WHICH ARE SPREAD BY SEXUAL INTERCOURSE. THESE DISEASES ARE COMMONLY KNOWN AS VENERAL DISEASES (V.D.). ACCORDING TO THE BULLETIN, THIS TYPE OF DISEASE IS TRANSMITTED FROM PERSON TO PERSON. IT IS POINTED OUT THAT LAST YEAR ALONE, SOME 756 CASES OF GONORRHEA WERE REPORTED, DESPITE THE FACT THAT MEDICAL TREATMENT IS READILY AVAILABLE TO ERADICATE THE DISEASE.

"SHAME, LACK OF KNOWLEDGE, IGNORANCE, TRADITIONAL BELIEFS AND ATTITUDES ARE FACTORS WHICH SHOULD BE OVERCOME IN ORDER TO HAVE A HEALTHY ATTITUDE TOWARD SOCIAL DISEASES IN MICRONESIA," THE BULLETIN STATES. IT IS POINTED OUT THAT THIS IS ONE OF THE MANY PROBLEMS TOWARD WHICH PUBLIC HEALTH IS DIRECTING ATTENTION.

CONTRIBUTING MEMBERS TO THIS ISSUE OF THE BULLETIN INCLUDE PEACE CORPS COLUNTEER WILLIAM A. BREWER; MRS. MARGIE FALANRUU; DR. ROBERT FISHER, SEBASTIAN ONGESII; OMER E. ROLLER; WILFRED GILBERT; AND ISAMU ABRAHAM. ALL ARE WORKING IN FIELDS RELATING TO ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH IN MICRONESIA.

COPIES OF THE BULLETIN ARE GIVEN WIDE DISTRIBUTION THROUGHOUT MICRONESIA.

(WATER WORKS OPERATORS' COURSE)

SAIPAN, MARCH 1 (MS)--- A SPECIAL COURSE FOR WATER WORKS OPERATORS WHO OPERATE THE PUBLIC WATER SYSTEM SERVING THE DISTRICT CENTERS IN MICRONESIA IS SCHEDULED TO BE HELD APRIL 1ST THROUGH 26TH AT THE TT TRAINING CENTER ON SAIPAN.

ACCORDING TO YOICHI L. WONG, ACTING DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC WORKS

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THE COURSE IS JOINTLY SPONSORED BY THE WORLD HEALTH ORGANIZATION AND THE TRUST TERRITORY GOVERNMENT. FUNDS TO RUN THE TRAINING PROGRAM ARE PROVIDED BY A U.S. ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY TRAINING GRANT.

THE COURSE WILL BE CONDUCTED BY DR. N.U. RAO, DEPUTY DIRECTOR OF THE CENTRAL PUBLIC HEALTH ENGRINEERING INSTITUTE NAGPUR, INDIA. DR. RAO IS ON A SHORT-TERM LOAN TO W.H.O. AND IS BEING ASSIGNED BY THE ORGANIZATION TO TEACH THE COURSE.

DR. RAO WILL BE ASSISTED BY SEVERAL STAFF MEMBERS FROM THE HEADQUARTERS PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT, INCLUDING WILL GILBERT, SANITARY ENGINEER, AND ENGINEERING TECHNICIAN LOUIS F. IRVING. PERSONNEL FROM THE TT ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION BOARD WILL ALSO ASSIST IN THE TRAINING.

TWO WATER SYSTEM OPERATORS FRO EACH DISTRICT WILL PARTICIPATE IN THE COURSE. WHICH COVERS, AMONG OTHER THINGS, MODERN WATER SUPPLY TECHNOLOGY, INCLUDING BACTERIOLOGY, PUBLIC HEALTH SIGNIFICANCE, SOURCES OF SUPPLY, CHLORINATION, BOILER FEED WATER TREATMENT, FILTRATION, CROSS-CONNECTION CONTROL, AND RELATED SUBJECTS.

IN COMMENTING ON THE PROPOSED TRAINING PROGRAM, WONG SAID THAT THE "RATIONALE FOR HOLDING THE COURSE IS TO UPGRADE THE SKILLS OF THE MEN WHO OPERATE PUBLIC WATER SYSTEM IN MICRONESIA."

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