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1974

Marianas

(DEDICATION CEREMONIES FOR ROTA AIRPORT)

SAIPAN, MARCH 15 (MNS)---DEDICATION CEREMONIES
THE COMPLETION OF WORK ON ROTA AIRPORT WERE HELD THURSDAY
(MAR. 14), ACCORDING TO A SPOKESMAN FOR THE TRANSPORTATION
AND COMMUNICATIONS DEPARTMENT.

ON HAND TO WITNESS THE SPECIAL CEREMONIES WERE GOVERNMENT
OFFICIALS FROM THE HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENTS OF TRANSPORTATION
AND COMMUNICATIONS AND PUBLIC WORKS WHO WERE INVOLVED IN
THE PLANNING, COORDINATION AND INSPECTION ASPECTS OF THE
PROJECT. ALSO DEPUTY DISTAD OF THE MARIANAS, DAN E. AKIMOTO,
PARTICIPATED IN THE CEREMONIES ON BEHALF OF THE MARIANAS
DISTRICT ADMINISTRATION. BECAUSE OF BAD WEATHER, DIGNITARIES
FROM COMNAVAMARIANAS WERE UNABLE TO ATTEND THE CEREMONIES.

SPEAKERS DURING THE CEREMONIES APPLAUDED THE REHABILITATION
AS A "MAJOR STEP TOWARD THE DEVELOPMENT OF ROTA'S GROWING
AGRICULTURE PROGRAM." THEY ALL AGREED THAT WITH THE COMPLETION
OF THE 5,000-FOOT RUNWAY, AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTS FROM ROTA
CAN READILY REACH MARKETS ON GUAM OR SAIPAN.

ACCORDING TO THE SPOKESMAN, THE PROJECT WAS SLOWED BY
ABOUT A 14-DAY LAYOFF DUE TO A FUEL SHORTAGE DURING DECEMBER

AND JANUARY, AND MORE TIME WAS LOST WHEN FOUR WORLD WAS II
BOMBS WERE DISCOVERED IN THE CONSTRUCTION AREA.

A 12-MAN SEABEE TEAM, WHICH HAS BEEN RESPONSIBLE FOR
THE PROJECT, IS EXPECTED TO COMPLETE THE FINAL WORK ON THE
FULL LENGTH OF THE STRIP IN ABOUT A WEEK, IT WAS REPORTED.
THE TEAM, HEADED BY POLC JOHN PARAMETER, HAS BEEN WORKING
ON THE PROJECT SINCE DECEMBER OF LAST YEAR.