

MDL ACTIONS

During its recent session, the M.D.L. focused most of its attention to Tinian and the status talks. Of those resolutions and bills passed by the M.D.L. relating to these topics, only three (3) directly concerned the MPSC: related to political education, reports to the MDL, and an authorization of \$50,000 to fund the MPSC. Other bills related to development of Tinian: repairing the dock, building an incinerator, providing "block making machine, provide water and power at "Tinian airport", and requesting an expeditious issuance of homestead permits to applicants on Tinian. It would appear that the MDL is attempting to placate the Tinianese and to make up for past neglect, and that the MDL has realized that Tinian will be the primary source of local income to the Commonwealth.

Carlos Shota, a former COM member, was recently appointed to fill a MDL vacancy. He is part Japanese and had increased his contacts with Japanese businessmen since his COM election defeat. He at one time was a strong supporter of the USG, mostly as a counter to the COM. Today, however, he is ^{disillusioned} ~~dissolutioned~~ with the USG (perhaps a psychological projection of his own self-disappointment and frustration). He is an articulate spokesman and may prove to be either an able supporter or opponent of the Commonwealth talks, depending on how his attitudes shape-up in the near future.

OMSN has no other information relative to individual actions in the M.D.L.

Attached is a brief summary of resolutions and bills relating to political status issues.