

(CAB HEARINGS CONTINUE)

SAIPAN, MARCH 18 (MNS)---HEARINGS INTO THE SAIPAN/JAPAN AIRLINE ROUTE MOVED INTO THEIR SECOND WEEK ON SAIPAN MONDAY (MARCH 18), WITH TESTIMONY CONTINUING ON PHASE ONE OF THE PROCEEDINGS, AN EXAMINATION OF THE CONDUCT OF THE AIRLINES IN ATTEMPTING TO WIN LOCAL SUPPORT FOR THEIR APPLICATIONS.

WITNESSES CALLED BY THE BUREAU OF ENFORCEMENT OF THE CIVIL AERONAUTICS BOARD (CAB) TESTIFIED ALL LAST WEEK, AND ARE EXPECTED TO CONTINUE ON THE WITNESS STAND THROUGH MOST OF THIS WEEK AS WELL, AS THE BUREAU TRIES TO DETERMINE WHETHER REPRESENTATIVES OF PAN AMERICAN WORLD AIRWAYS AND CONTINENTAL AIR MICRONESIA DID ANYTHING TO VIOLATE CAB RULES OF PROCEDURE AS THEY LOBBIED FOR MICRONESIAN SUPPORT.

MEMBERS OF THE CONGRESS OF MICRONESIA, THE TINIAN MUNICIPAL COUNCIL, AND LOCAL LEADERS FROM TRUK DISTRICT HAVE ALL TESTIFIED, AND WITNESSES FROM PALAU, AS WELL AS ADDITIONAL WITNESSES FROM THE MARIANAS, ARE EXPECTED TO BE CALLED THIS WEEK. AN EARLY WITNESS MONDAY WAS GUAM LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR KURT MOYLAN, WHO TESTIFIED CONCERNING A CHARGE HE MADE IN WASHINGTON LAST YEAR THAT HE HAD BEEN UNDULY PRESSURED BY AN OFFICIAL OF CONTINENTAL AIRLINES.

MOYLAN, WHO APPEARED BEFORE THE CAB LAST NOVEMBER ON BEHALF OF GUAM'S POSITION SUPPORTING PAN AMERICAN FOR THE ROUTE, SAID HE FELT A CONTINENTAL OFFICIAL HAD TRIED TO PREVENT HIM FROM TESTIFYING. ON CROSS-EXAMINATION THIS WAS DETERMINED TO BE A FEELING OF THE LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR'S BASED ON THE STATEMENT OF A THIRD PARTY, NOT ON ANYTHING DIRECTLY SAID TO MOYLAN BY ANY AIRLINE OFFICIAL.

THIS TYPE OF GIVE-AND-TAKE BETWEEN LAWYERS FOR THE VARIOUS PARTIES AND WITNESSES HAS CHARACTERIZED THE HEARING SO FAR. IT IS LEADING TO A LENGTHY AND INCREASINGLY COMPLICATED BODY OF OFFICIAL TESTIMONY, PROLONGING THE CURRENT PROCEEDING, AND PROVING SOMEWHAT CONFUSING TO MANY OBSERVERS. ONLY AFTER THE CURRENT PHASE IS COMPLETED, POSSIBLY BY THE END OF THIS WEEK, WILL THE BOARD BE ABLE TO MOVE INTO THE SECOND PHASE OF THE HEARINGS, WHICH WILL EXAMINE THE TRUE FEELINGS OF THE MICRONESIANS REGARDING THE ROUTE AWARD.

TESTIMONY IS BEING GIVEN BEFORE CIVIL AERONAUTICS BOARD ADMINISTRATIVE LAW JUDGE GREER MURPHY. THE HEARINGS BEGAN ON MARCH 11, AND ARE EXPECTED TO LAST UNTIL SOMETIME IN APRIL. THE HEARINGS ARE TAKING PLACE IN THE SUSUPE CHAMBERS OF THE TRUST TERRITORY HIGH COURT, AND ARE OPEN TO THE PUBLIC.

(TEN MORE BILLS REACH HICOM)

SAIPAN, MARCH 18 (MNS)---TEN ADDITIONAL BILLS HAVE REACHED THE DESK OF TRUST TERRITORY HIGH COMMISSIONER EDWARD E. JOHNSTON FROM THOSE PASSED BY THE RECENT SESSION OF THE CONGRESS OF MICRONESIA. THIRTY-ONE OF THE 46 BILLS HAVE NOW BEEN OFFICIALLY TRANSMITTED, ACCORDING TO H. NEIMAN CRALEY, JR., THE HIGH COMMISSIONER'S SPECIAL ASSISTANT FOR LEGISLATIVE AFFAIRS.

AMONG THE RECENT BILLS RECEIVED IS THE IMPORTANT CONSTITUTIONAL CONVENTION BILL, SENATE BILL 38, WHICH WAS ORIGINALLY INTRODUCED MORE THAN A YEAR AGO BY SENATOR LAZARUS SALII, CHAIRMAN OF THE JOINT COMMITTEE ON FUTURE STATUS. THIS BILL PROVIDES FOR A SPECIAL ELECTION IN JUNE TO SELECT DELEGATES TO A CONSTITUTIONAL CONVENTION, WHICH WOULD CONVENE AT SOME LATER DATE NOT YET SPECIFIED, ON SAIPAN, FOR THE PURPOSE OF DRAFTING A CONSTITUTION AND FRAMEWORK FOR THE FUTURE GOVERNMENT OF MICRONESIA. THE HICOM AND HIS STAFF HAVE UNTIL APRIL 12 TO CONSIDER THIS BILL BEFORE ACTION MUST BE TAKEN ON IT.

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ALSO DUE FOR ACTION ON OR BEFORE APRIL 12 ARE TWO ADMINISTRATION-SPONSORED BILLS, ONE PROVIDING FOR CERTAIN AMENDMENTS TO THE TT MERIT SYSTEM ACT (SB 152), AND ANOTHER APPROPRIATING FUNDS TO DEFRAY EXPENSES OF ADMINISTERING THE NOVEMBER, 1974 GENERAL ELECTION FOR MEMBERS OF THE CONGRESS OF MICRONESIA (SB 221).

THE OTHER SEVEN BILLS RECEIVED BY THE HICOM MUST BE ACTED UPON ON OR BEFORE APRIL 13. THEY INCLUDE:

AN APPROPRIATION TO ESTABLISH AN AGRICULTURAL LOAN FUND FOR TT FARMERS (HB 140), INTRODUCED BY CONGRESSMAN PEDRO P. TENORIO (MARIANAS); A BILL PROVIDING FOR CERTAIN IMMUNITIES TO INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS (HB 219), OFFERED BY CONGRESSMAN SASAUO HARUO (TRUK); A NATURALIZATION MEASURE, MAKING ESTAFANIA RIOS OF SAIPAN ELIGIBLE TO BECOME A CITIZEN OF THE TRUST TERRITORY (SB 58), OFFERED BY SENATOR OLYMPIO T. BORYA (MARIANAS); A BILL PROVIDING FOR EXPIRATION OF PERMITS TO HIRE NON-RESIDENT WORKERS (SB 103), ALSO AUTHORED BY SENATOR BORJA; AND AN ADMINISTRATION BILL ESTABLISHING THE TRUST TERRITORY PLANNING OFFICE WITHIN THE OFFICE OF THE HIGH COMMISSIONER (SB 240).

OTHERS ARE: A BILL ELIMINATING THE PRESENT INCOME TAX DEDUCTION FOR PERSONS EARNING OVER FIVE THOUSAND DOLLARS A YEAR, INTRODUCED BY SENATOR AMBILOS IEHSI (PONAPE) (SB 291); AND FINALLY A BILL RELATING TO BENEFITS AND COMPENSATION FOR THE RADIATION FALLOUT VICTIMS OF RONGELAP AND UTIRIK (SB 340), ALSO INTRODUCED BY SENATOR BORJA.

(SAIPAN'S WATER SHORTAGE SEVERE)

SAIPAN, MARCH 18 (MNS)---SAIPAN AUTHORITIES HAVE AGAIN BEEN FORCED TO EXTEND THE HOURS DURING WHICH WATER SUPPLIES ARE SHUT OFF, DUE TO AN EXTENDED DRY PERIOD AND CONTINUING HIGH LOSSES OF FRESH WATER IN THE DISTRIBUTION SYSTEM.

ACCORDING TO A REPORT BROADCAST MONDAY (MARCH 18) BY KJQR RADIO NEWS, THE SAIPAN UTILITY AGENCY HAS BEEN FORCED TO CLOSE FOUR DEEP WELLS ON THE ISLAND BECAUSE THE WATER TABLE IS SO LOW THEY ARE GETTING NO USABLE WATER FROM THEM, AND ANOTHER DEEP WELL IS NEARLY EMPTY. AN AGENCY SPOKESMAN SAID THAT DESPITE THE HEAVY RAIN OF THE PAST FEW DAYS, THE WATER PROBLEMS ARE EXPECTED TO CONTINUE.

IT HAS NOW BEEN NEARLY TWO YEARS SINCE SAIPAN WAS WITHOUT "WATER HOURS." CURRENTLY, MOST ISLAND USERS HAVE WATER DURING THE DAYLIGHT HOURS, BUT IT IS TURNED OFF AT NIGHT UNTIL THE FOLLOWING MORNING. THESE HOURS WILL BE EXTENDED EVEN FURTHER UNLESS WATER IS CONSERVED, THE UTILITIES SPOKESMAN TOLD THE RADIO NEWS REPORTER.

HE REPORTED THAT SAIPAN HAS BEEN EXPERIENCING AN EXCEPTIONALLY LONG PERIOD OF LITTLE RAINFALL, BUT THAT THE WATER SYSTEM IS STILL PRODUCING ENOUGH FRESH WATER TO SERVE THE PRESENT POPULATION, AND TO BUILD UP A STORAGE RESERVE, IF IT WERE NOT FOR LEAKAGE AND WASTAGE. AT PRESENT, HOWEVER, NEARLY ALL OF THE WATER PRODUCED GOES INTO THE DISTRIBUTION SYSTEM, WITH LITTLE LEFT OVER FOR STORAGE. SAIPAN UTILITY AGENCY OFFICIALS ESTIMATE THAT BETWEEN THREE-QUARTERS OF A MILLION AND A MILLION GALLONS OF WATER A DAY ARE LOST THROUGH LEAKING PIPES AND THROUGH DELIBERATE WASTING.

"THERE IS NO IMMEDIATE REMEDY IN SIGHT FOR THIS PROBLEM," THE RADIO REPORT SAID. A PROJECT TO REPLACE OLD AND LEAKING PIPES WILL TAKE UP TO SIX MONTHS MORE TO COMPLETE.

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(COLEMAN ADDRESSES NURSING SCHOOL GRADUATION)

SAIPAN, MARCH 18 (MNS)---DEPUTY HIGH COMMISSIONER PETER T. COLEMAN ADDRESSED 19 GRADUATE NURSES IN CEREMONIES HELD AT THE TRUST TERRITORY NURSING SCHOOL SUNDAY (MARCH 17).

IN ADDITION TO COLEMAN AND DR. MASAO KUMANGAI, TT DIRECTOR OF HEALTH SERVICES, OTHER GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS AND NURSING SCHOOL STAFF ATTENDED THE GRADUATION CEREMONIES IN WHICH THE 19 NURSES RECEIVED ASSOCIATE OF SCIENCE DEGREES, MAJORING IN NURSING.

AWARDING THE DEGREES TO THE GRADUATING STUDENTS WAS DR. MARYLY VAN LEER PECK, WHO IS DEAN OF THE COLLEGE OF BUSINESS AND APPLIED TECHNOLOGY AT THE UNIVERSITY OF GUAM.

IN HIS ADDRESS TO THE NURSES, COLEMAN CONGRATULATED THEM FOR HAVING ACHIEVED A NOBLE PROFESSION, AND STRESSED THE IMPORTANT ROLE THAT NURSES PLAY IN THE LIVES OF THE PEOPLE OF MICRONESIA.

CONCLUDING HIS REMARKS, COLEMAN DISCUSSED THE DIFFICULTIES THE NURSES WILL FACE IN THEIR DEDICATED PROFESSION. "WE ALL KNOW THAT YOU WILL FACE ALL OF THESE DIFFICULTIES IN YOUR WORK, BUT WE ARE NOT WORRIED BECAUSE YOUR TRAINING HERE IN THE TT SCHOOL OF NURSING, HAS PREPARED YOU WELL TO MEET THEM," THE DEPUTY HICOM TOLD THE GRADUATING STUDENTS.

"...WE KNOW THAT IT IS ONLY YOU WHO ARE IN THE MEDICAL PROFESSION WHO CAN TRULY EXPERIENCE THE DEEP SATISFACTION THAT ONLY COMES WHEN A LIFE IS SAVED OR A SICKNESS IS HEALED. WE DO NOT BEGRUDGE THIS BECAUSE IT IS YOUR DUE," COLEMAN SAID.

GRADUATING STUDENTS FROM THE MARSHALLS WERE CARMEN ALIK AND KALEP KALEP. FROM PALAU DISTRICT, MAGDALENA BREL, FRANCIS KIEP, MRS. SUSAN SABLAN AND FELICIANA MISECH.

FROM YAP DISTRICT: VERONICA GURWAN, MELCHIOR PALUWMAI AND MANUEL PEKAICHENG. GRADUATING FROM THE MARIANAS WERE ANA CASTRO, CARMEN KAIPAT AND DOLORES RASA.

FROM TRUK: NATILDE SAM, MANUEL UNWECH AND HARRIS YLEIZAH. FOUR STUDENTS GRADUATED FROM THE PONAPE DISTRICT: PAUL SKILLING, ELSYNER SOLOMON, AIMINA TARA AND MILDRED TOSIE.

(CARDWELL VISITS TT HEADQUARTERS)

SAIPAN, MARCH 18 (MNS)---BUDGET EXAMINER LARRY CARDWELL FROM THE INTERIOR DEPARTMENT CAME TO THE TRUST TERRITORY HEADQUARTERS ON SAIPAN LAST WEEK FOR A DAY OF ORIENTATION AND EXAMINATION OF THE TT FIVE-YEAR BUDGET PLAN, WHICH WAS RECENTLY SUBMITTED TO WASHINGTON.

WHILE ON SAIPAN CARDWELL ALSO MET WITH THE DIRECTOR OF FINANCE AND DISCUSSED THE FINANCIAL ASPECTS OF THE WAR DAMAGE CLAIMS AGREEMENT AND OTHER RELATED MATTERS, ACCORDING TO A BUDGET OFFICE SPOKESMAN.

CARDWELL TRAVELED TO MICRONESIA WITH NORMAN ROSS OF THE WHITE HOUSE DOMESTIC COUNCIL, WHO REMAINED ON GUAM FOR THE PURPOSE OF DISCUSSING INVESTMENT WITH GOVERNMENT OF GUAM OFFICIALS.