

(NORMAR FOLLOWUP)

SAIPAN, MARCH 7 (MNS)---THE M/V NORMAR, DRIFTING AT SEA SINCE SUNDAY, MARCH 5, AFTER SHE ENCOUNTERED ENGINE DIFFICULTIES, HAS BEEN LOCATED APPROXIMATELY 185 MILES SOUTHWEST OF SAIPAN ACCORDING TO LR. CDR. ALAN R. PENDLETON, CINCPACREP GUAM/TTPI. AFTER RADIO CONTACT WAS MADE WITH THE NORMAR WEDNESDAY MORNING, A DILLINGHAM TUG, THE NAHOE, WAS SENT TO TOW HER IN. THE TUG ENCOUNTERED RADIO TROUBLES HERSELF AND RETURN TO GUAM. THE VESSEL LEFT GUAM AGAIN WEDNESDAY NIGHT HOPEFULLY TO RENDEZVOUS WITH THE NORMAR AROUND 6:00 P.M. THURSDAY (MARCH 7). ACCORDING TO A SPOKESMAN FROM SAIPAN SHIPPING, THE NORMAR WILL BE TOWED BACK TO GUAM FOR REPAIRS.

THE NORMAR WAS ON A REGULAR RUN FROM GUAM TO ROTA, TINIAN AND SAIPAN WHEN THE ENGINE TROUBLE DEVELOPED NEAR TINIAN. THERE ARE APPROXIMATELY 27 PERSONS ABOARD THE VESSEL. THE U.S. MILITARY'S AIR SEA RESCUE CENTER ON GUAM HAS BEEN COOPERATING IN LOCATING THE SHIP AND GUIDING THE TUG BOAT TO HER.

(INFLATION INCREASES GOVERNMENT COSTS)

SAIPAN, MARCH 7 (MNS)---IT WOULD COST 93 MILLION DOLLARS THIS YEAR TO BUY WHAT 60 MILLION DOLLARS WAS ABLE TO BUY IN THE WAY OF GOVERNMENT GOODS AND SERVICES IN 1971, ACCORDING TO FIGURES RELEASED THIS WEEK BY THE TRUST TERRITORY PROGRAM AND BUDGET OFFICE. INFLATION, IN OTHER WORDS, HAS INCREASED THE COST OF DOING THE GOVERNMENT'S BUSINESS ALONG WITH EVERYTHING ELSE.

PROGRAM AND BUDGET OFFICER WILLIAM D. OYLER SAID THURSDAY (MARCH 7) ON SAIPAN THAT THE TRUST TERRITORY HAS SEEN AN OVERALL INFLATION RATE OF 55 PER CENT DURING THE PERIOD FROM 1971 TO 1974, AND THE RATE HAS INCREASED DURING EACH OF THOSE YEARS. IN FACT, OYLER SAID SOME OF THE SHARPEST INCREASES IN COSTS HAVE OCCURRED DURING THE CURRENT FISCAL YEAR. FOOD PRICES, FOR EXAMPLE, HAVE INCREASED AN AVERAGE OF 50 PER CENT SINCE JULY 1, 1973, FUEL PRICES HAVE GONE UP DRAMATICALLY DURING THAT SAME PERIOD, IN SOME CASES NEARLY 100 PER CENT, AND THE INCREASE IN PRICES FOR NINE MAJOR CONSTRUCTION MATERIAL ITEMS HAVE RANGED FROM 15 PER CENT TO 170 PER CENT.

"WHAT THIS MEANS," SAID OYLER, "IS THAT OUR FISCAL YEAR 1974 BUDGET CEILING WOULD HAVE TO BE 93 MILLION DOLLARS TO BUY WHAT 60 MILLION DOLLARS WAS ABLE TO BUY IN FY 1971. OR STATED ANOTHER WAY, THE 60 MILLION DOLLARS AUTHORIZED FOR THE TT BUDGET IN FY 1971 HAS ERODED DOWN TO 39 MILLION DOLLARS TODAY."

SERIES DATA ON HOW PRICES HAVE RISEN IN SUCH AREAS AS MICRONESIAN EXPATRIATE PERSONNEL COSTS, NON-LABOR COSTS FOR CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PROJECTS, FOOD, FUEL AND OTHER ITEMS WERE WEIGHTED IN PROPORTION TO THESE ITEMS' SHARE OF THE TOTAL TTPI BUDGET. THE FIGURE WERE REQUESTED TO SUPPORT A REQUEST TO THE UNITED STATES CONGRESS FOR AN INCREASE IN THE AUTHORIZED CEILING FOR THE TRUST TERRITORY BUDGET, WHICH HAS REMAINED AT 60 MILLION DOLLARS SINCE FISCAL YEAR 1971.

HEARINGS INTO THE NEW FIVE-YEAR BUDGET PLAN FOR THE TRUST TERRITORY ARE CURRENTLY BEING HELD ON SAIPAN BEFORE THE JOINT COMMITTEE ON PROGRAM AND BUDGET PLANNING OF THE CONGRESS OF MICRONESIA, AND INFLATION IS A MAJOR CONCERN OF THESE MEETINGS AS WELL. THE HEARINGS, WHICH MAY LAST INTO THE WEEKEND ACCORDING TO OYLER, ARE LOOKING INTO THE BUDGET PLANS OF EACH OF THE SIX DISTRICTS, AS WELL AS THE VARIOUS DEPARTMENTS AND AGENCIES OF THE HEADQUARTERS GOVERNMENT. SEVERAL MEMBERS OF THE CONGRESS WHO ARE NOT MEMBERS OF THE JOINT COMMITTEE ARE ALSO PARTICIPATING IN THE HEARINGS, OYLER SAID. REPRESENTATIVE RAYMOND SETIK (TRUK) IS THE CHAIRMAN OF THE JOINT COMMITTEE ON PROGRAM AND BUDGET PLANNING.

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(CALL USERS PLEASE CREDIT CONGRESS OF MICRONESIA)
(REVENUE SHARING BILL DEFERRED)

SAIPAN, MARCH 7 (CONGRESS RELEASE) --- EFFORTS TO PASS LEGISLATION TO RETURN 50 PER CENT OF ALL TAX REVENUE COLLECTED IN THE TRUST TERRITORY TO THE DISTRICT OF ITS ORIGIN HAVE AGAIN FAILED TO PASS THE CONGRESS OF MICRONESIA, AND THE FAILURE MAY HAVE EFFECTS ON MICRONESIAN UNITY.

REPEATED ATTEMPTS BY MARSHALLS REPRESENTATIVE CHARLES DOMNICK TO BRING A REVENUE SHARING MEASURE TO VOTE, HOUSE BILL 229, WERE DEFEATED THREE TIMES IN THREE DAYS. THIS HAD THE EFFECT OF KILLING THE MEASURE WITH ONLY ONE DAY REMAINING IN THE 50-DAY SESSION THAT JUST CONCLUDED ON SAIPAN.

AFTER A 10 TO 10 VOTE DEFEATED A NOTION TO BRING THE MEASURE TO THE FLOOR FRIDAY, MARSHALLS REPRESENTATIVE ATAJI BALOS READ ALOUD A LETTER FROM THE MARSHALL ISLANDS LEGISLATURE INDICATING THAT IF THE CONGRESS OF MICRONESIA FAILS TO ENACT REVENUE SHARING LEGISLATION, THEY WOULD BEGIN SEPARATE FUTURE NEGOTIATIONS WITH THE UNITED STATES. THE MARSHALLS LEGISLATURE ESTABLISHED A POLITICAL STATUS COMMISSION IN JUNE 1973.

REVENUE SHARING LEGISLATION HAS BEEN AN IMPORTANT ISSUE IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVE SINCE IT WAS FIRST PROPOSED AFTER THE CONGRESS OF MICRONESIA ENACTED ITS FIRST INCOME TAX LAW IN 1971. REVENUES FROM THE MARSHALL ISLANDS DISTRICT, INCLUDING TAXES FROM THE KWAJALEIN MISSILE RANGE, GENERATE MORE THAN 50 PER CENT OF THE TERRITORY'S TOTAL TAXES COLLECTED IN ALL SIX DISTRICTS.

DURING SATURDAYS SESSION AFTER A SECRET BALLOT, REPRESENTATIVE DOMNICK SUCCEEDED IN PLACING THE MEASURE ON THE BILL CALANDER, BUT BEFORE A VOTE COULD BE TAKEN, OPPONENTS OF THE MEASURE MOVED FOR A RECESS UNTIL SUNDAY. THAT MOTION WAS CARRIED BY VOICE VOTE.

BEFORE ADJOURNMENT, HOWEVER, TRUK REPRESENTATIVE RAYMOND SETIK SPOKE AGAINST THE REVENUE SHARING PROPOSAL, AT LEAST AT THE PRESENT TIME. NOTING THAT HIS COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS HAS VIEWED "WITH GREAT CONCERN" THE AUDIT REPORT OF THE OPERATIONS OF THE DISTRICT LEGISLATURES, SETIK SAID "IT IS CLEARLY TOO EARLY TO SUDDENTLY BURDEN THEM WITH ADDITIONAL FISCAL RESPONSIBILITIES." SETIK ADDED THAT THE DISTRICT LEGISLATURES SHOULD SEEK OTHER POTENTIAL AREAS OF LOCAL TAXATION, AND AS THEY INCREASED THEIR ABILITY TO HANDLE THE FUNDS, "THIS CONGRESS WILL BE ABLE TO FAVORABLY CONSIDER SUCH LEGISLATION."

PALAU REPRESENTATIVE POLYCARP BASILIUS, HOWEVER, URGED THE HOUSE TO PASS THE BILL, SAYING THE MARSHALLS DISTRICT HAS BEEN ASKING FOR THE REVENUE SHARING BILL TO PASS THE CONGRESS FOR THE PAST THREE YEARS. "I DON'T WANT TO FAIL TO LISTEN TO THE REQUEST MADE BY THE PEOPLE OF THE MARSHALLS," HE SAID. "I URGE THAT THE MEMBERS OF THE HOUSE SUPPORT THE PASSAGE OF THIS BILL TO SATISFY ONE OF OUR DISTRICTS WHICH, IN TURN, I THINK WILL HELP TO DEVELOP THEIR ISLANDS MORE EFFICIENTLY AND MUCH FASTER."

ATTEMPTS ON THE THIRD STRAIGHT DAY TO HAVE THE BILL VOTED UPON PROVED EQUALLY FRUSTRATING FOR THE MARSHALLS DELEGATES, HOWEVER.

TRUK REPRESENTATIVE SASAUO HARUO SUGGESTED INSTEAD OF TAKING ACTION ON THE BILL, THAT A SPECIAL COMMITTEE TO STUDY THE PROPOSED BILL SHOULD BE APPOINTED. HARUO SAID HE WOULD SUPPORT THE BILL, IF HEARINGS AND TESTIMONY CLEARLY SHOWED THAT A MAJORITY IN THE SIX DISTRICTS FAVORED THE BILL, ADDING HE FELT IT WOULD NOT BE IN ANYONE'S INTERESTS TO YIELD TO PRESSURE FROM ONE OR TWO DISTRICTS TO ENACT LEGISLATION WHICH WOULD AFFECT ALL DISTRICTS. "BUT TO CONTINUE TO DEBATE THIS ISSUE," HE SAID, "IS TO ENCOURAGE A DISUNITY WHICH IS BOUND TO ENGULF US AND MAY DO UNTOLD HARM TO OUR ASPIRATIONS FOR FUTURE SELF-GOVERNMENT AND SELF-DETERMINATION."

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BEFORE THE BILL COULD BE BROUGHT TO A VOTE, YAP CONGRESSMAN LUKE THAN MOVED TO DEFER ACTION UNTIL THE END OF THE DAY'S CALENDAR, A THIRD SECRET VOTE WAS CALLED, AND THE MOTION TO DEFER ACTION CARRIED. ACCORDING TO DOMNICK, THE MOVE WAS A WAY TO SIDE-STEP THE ISSUE SINCE THERE WAS ONLY ONE DAY REMAINING IN THE SESSION.

FOLLOWING THE UNFAVORABLE VOTE, DOMNICK ANGRILY TOLD HIS COLLEAGUES: "I WOULD LIKE TO EXPRESS MY SINCERE GRATITUDE TO THE OTHER DELEGATIONS WHO SUPPORTED US, AND I WOULD ALSO LIKE TO THANK THE REST OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES FOR MAKING THE DECISION THAT WOULD HAVE HAUNTED EVERY LEADER IN THE MARSHALLS WHO IS WORKING ON THE SEPARATION MOVEMENT. YOU HAVE MADE UP OUR MINDS," DECLARED DOMNICK, "AND WE WOULD LIKE TO THANK YOU FOR THAT."

MARSHALLS CONGRESSMAN ATAJI BALOS SUPPORTED DOMNICK'S STATEMENT INDICATING HE FELT IT "IS VERY SAD TO SEE THE CONGRESS TURN DOWN THE DESIRES AND THE WISHES OF OUR BROTHERS AND SISTERS OF OTHER DISTRICTS."

MARSHALL'S CONGRESSMAN JOHN HEINE ALSO CONCURRED, INDICATING HE WANTED IT TO BE ON RECORD THAT "TODAY IT IS GOING TO BE VERY BAD AND SAD, EVEN IN THE HISTORY OF OUR ISLANDS IN THE MARSHALLS. I KNOW," HE SAID, "THE DIRECTION TO WHICH WE WILL BE MOVING WILL BE A VERY DRASTIC ONE."

HOUSE FLOOR LEADER EKPAP SILK OF THE MARSHALLS ALSO ENDORSED HIS DELEGATION'S POSITION AND THANKED MEMBERS OF THE MARIANAS AND PALAU DELEGATIONS WHO SUPPORTED THE MEASURE.

(ALL USERS PLEASE CREDIT CONGRESS OF MICRONESIA)
(REP. TENORIO SPEECH)

SAIPAN, MARCH 7 (CONGRESS RELEASE)---MARIANAS REPRESENTATIVE PEDRO TENORIO SUBMITTED REMARKS INTO THE JOURNAL OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES SHORTLY BEFORE THE CONGRESS ADJOURNED EARLY TUESDAY MORNING CONCERNING FOUR IMPORTANT AREAS OF DEVELOPMENT HE FEELS REQUIRE DECISIVE ACTION BEFORE THE LAST SESSION OF THE CONGRESS, INCLUDING MICRONESIA'S ECONOMY, GOVERNMENT PAY PLAN, ADMINISTRATION, AND EDUCATIONAL SYSTEM.

CONCERNING THE ECONOMY, TENORIO CALLED INTERIOR SECRETARY ROGERS MORTON'S RECENT ANNOUNCEMENT REGARDING THE LIFTING OF FOREIGN INVESTMENT RESTRICTIONS AS "A STEP FORWARD WHICH HAS LONG BEEN DESIRED BY THE CONGRESS AND PEOPLE OF MICRONESIA," ADDING HOWEVER, "IN MOVING FORWARD, MICRONESIA MUST ALSO MOVE CAUTIOUSLY.

"FOR NEARLY 30 YEARS, WE HAVE BEEN LIVING IN AN ECONOMIC LIMBO," TENORIO SAID. "OUR DEVELOPMENT HAS BEEN SLOW AND WE HAVE OFTEN FELT THAT ONE REASON FOR THIS WAS BECAUSE ONLY AMERICAN INVESTORS WERE PERMITTED TO COME INTO MICRONESIA. WE KNOW NOW THAT ON APRIL 1ST, THIS RESTRICTION WILL BE LIFTED AND WE MICRONESIANS WILL ASSUME A MAJOR RESPONSIBILITY WITH REGARD TO THE DEVELOPMENT OF OUR ECONOMY."

TENORIO CAUTIONED, HOWEVER, THAT THE DANGERS INVOLVED IN DOING BUSINESS WITH OUTSIDER "CANNOT BE MINIMIZED." "WE SHOULD NOT", HE SAID, "LET THIS PUT US ON THE DEFENSIVE."

NOTING THAT MICRONESIA HAS LIMITED FINANCIAL RESOURCES AND THAT ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT IS VIRTUALLY IMPOSSIBLE WITHOUT INCOMING CAPITAL, TENORIO SAID GREAT CARE MUST BE TAKEN TO INSURE THAT SUCH VENTURES ARE BENEFICIAL TO THE DEVELOPMENT OF OUR ISLANDS AND TO THE BENEFIT OF MICRONESIAN CITIZENS.

TENORIO MAINTAINED THAT WITH PROGRESS AND CAUTION IN MIND, THE CONGRESS MUST ENACT LEGISLATION TO STRENGTHEN CONTROLS ON FOREIGN INVESTMENT AND AT THE SAME TIME HAVE ENOUGH FLEXIBILITY TO ENCOURAGE IT.

"SUCH LAWS MUST BE STRONG, BUT IF TOO STRINGENT, IT WILL CREATE THE OPPOSITE EFFECT BY DRIVING INVESTORS AWAY AND MAKING US COME FULL CIRCLE BACK TO ECONOMIC STAGNATION."

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TURNING TO DOMESTIC ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT, THE MARIANAS REPRESENTATIVE SAID HE FELT IT WAS ALSO THE DUTY OF THE CONGRESS AND DISTRICT LEGISLATURES TO EXPLORE OTHER WAYS TO STIMULATE THEIR LOCAL ECONOMIES, NAMELY, THROUGH APPROPRIATIONS. HE SAID DIVERSIFICATION WAS REQUIRED SO THAT MICRONESIA WOULD NOT BECOME SOLELY DEPENDENT ON TOURISM, YET AT THE SAME TIME, EMPHASIZED IT CANNOT BE IGNORED AS A "POTENTIAL FORCE" IN MICRONESIA'S ECONOMY.

"WHILE TOURISM IS STILL IN THE INFANCY STAGES, IT WILL UNDOUBTEDLY EXPAND TO THE POINT WHERE IT WILL BECOME A MAJOR SOURCE OF REVENUE," HE SAID. NOTING IT MAY BE BOTH DESIRABLE AND PRODUCTIVE TO APPROPRIATE FUNDS TO IMPROVE SCENIC AREAS OF INTEREST, CULTURAL CENTERS AND MUSEUMS FOR TOURISTS, TENORIO SAID THIS "CARE AND FEEDING" OF TOURISM DESERVES CONSIDERATION.

AN AREA RELATED TO MICRONESIA'S ECONOMY WHICH TENORIO FELT DISCRIMINATED AGAINST LOWER PAID WORKERS WAS THE GOVERNMENT PAY PLAN. HE SAID STEPS MUST BE TAKEN TO CORRECT THE INCONSISTENCIES AND INADEQUACIES OF THE LOWER LEVELS IN FACE OF RISING COSTS OF LIVING, ALTHOUGH IN THEORY THE SYSTEM SUPPOSEDLY ERASES DISCRIMINATION BY PROVIDING A SINGLE BASE SALARY FOR ALL GOVERNMENT EMPLOYEES, MICRONESIANS AND EXPATRIATES ALIKE.

REPRESENTATIVE TENORIO SAID HE FEELS THE ADMINISTRATION HAS "MADE GREAT STRIDES FORWARD" IN THE PAST FIVE YEARS AT THE URGING OF THE CONGRESS IN COMMUNICATION, AGRICULTURAL DEVELOPMENT, GOVERNMENT-RUN SEA TRANSPORTATION AND OTHER AREAS, ADDING HOWEVER, HE WOULD LIKE TO SEE INCREASED DIALOGUE AND AGREEMENT BETWEEN PROGRAM MANAGERS AND THE CONGRESS, WHICH WOULD SPEED PROGRESS AND EFFICIENCY. TENORIO ALSO SAID HIGH COMMISSIONER JOHNSTON HAS DONE "AN ADMIRABLE JOB, CONSIDERING THE CONSTRAINTS OF HIS POSITION."

TURNING TO EDUCATION, THE MARIANAS CONGRESSMAN SAID SOME IMPROVEMENTS HAVE BEEN MADE, BUT EMPHASIZED THAT CURRICULUM DEVELOPMENT, TEACHER TRAINING, AND FACILITIES NEED STILL MORE IMPROVEMENT. MENTIONING THAT MANY STUDIES OF MICRONESIA'S EDUCATIONAL SYSTEM HAVE BEEN IN THE PAST, TENORIO SAID "WHAT IS NEEDED NOW, IS TO PUT ALL OF THE REPORTS TOGETHER, AND THEN CARRY OUT THESE RECOMMENDATIONS." THIS COULD PRODUCE A "COMPREHENSIVE, MICRONESIAN-ORIENTED EDUCATIONAL SYSTEM, WITH THE CAPACITY AND QUALITY TO SERVE OUR NEEDS NOW AND IN THE FUTURE," THE CONGRESSMAN FROM THE MARIANAS CONCLUDED.

(ALL USERS PLEASE CREDIT CONGRESS OF MICRONESIA)
(TUN ON FUTURE GOVERNMENT)

SAIPAN, MARCH 7 (CONGRESS RELEASE)---DURING THE FINAL HOURS OF THE LAST DAY OF THE SESSION, SENATOR PETRUS TUN OF YAP SUBMITTED INTO THE SENATE JOURNAL A STATEMENT TO LET THE RECORD SHOW THAT NOT EVERYBODY IN THE FIFTH CONGRESS SUPPORTS THE ARGUMENTS WHICH HAVE BEEN USED FOR A LOOSE FEDERATION ARRANGEMENT.

THE YAP SENATOR STATED THAT WHILE HE DOES NOT FAVOR ONE OR THE OTHER--LOOSE FEDERATION OR A STRONG CENTRAL GOVERNMENT--HE ALSO DOES NOT AGREE WITH THE RATIONALE USED IN SUPPORT OF A LOOSE FEDERATION ARRANGEMENT.

IN HIS STATEMENT, SENATOR TUN ASKED HIS COLLEAGUES TO PRETEND THAT THEY ARE ALL MANY YEARS IN THE FUTURE AND ARE READING A HISTORY BOOK ABOUT MICRONESIA. THE HISTORY BOOK READS:

"THE LEADERS...WERE THOROUGHLY FAMILIAR WITH A CENTRAL GOVERNMENT...THEY AGREED THAT THE NEW NATION MUST HAVE A COMMON GOVERNMENT, BUT THEY DISAGREED THEN...ABOUT THE KIND OF GOVERNMENT IT SHOULD BE, AND, ABOVE ALL, ABOUT THE AMOUNT OF POWER IT SHOULD HAVE. ONE GROUP OF LEADERS...WANTED A STRONG GOVERNMENT WITH THE POWER TO REGULATE TRADE, CONTROL FINANCE, DISPOSE OF...LANDS, CHECK STATE LEGISLATIVE MAJORITIES, AND INTERVENE WITHIN THE STATES TO MAINTAIN ORDER...BUT SUCH LEADERS WERE IN THE MINORITY.

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THEY WERE OPPOSED BY MOST OF THE MEN WHO HAD BEEN AGGRESSIVE... LEADERS, MEN WHO HAD DENIED THE AUTHORITY OF AMERICA OVER MICRONESIA AND WHO HAD INSISTED THAT EACH... LEGISLATURE WAS SUPREME WITHIN ITS OWN DOMAIN."

THE PASSAGE, SAID TUN, "IS NOT FROM ANY FUTURE HISTORY BOOK ON MICRONESIA, BUT A PASSAGE FROM A BOOK, DESCRIBING HOW THE ARTICLES OF CONFEDERATION CAME ABOUT IN THE UNITED STATES." HE NOTED "IT IS CLEAR THAT THE DEBATE OVER THE QUESTION OF WHAT FORM MICRONESIA'S GOVERNMENT IN THE FUTURE SHALL TAKE, IS FOLLOWING THIS COURSE" AND UNDOUBTEDLY MUCH WILL BE HEARD DURING THE CONSTITUTIONAL CONVENTION.

SENATOR TUN SAID HE ADMITS THAT THE TRUST TERRITORY GOVERNMENT IS "TOO STRONG AND AT TIMES EVEN DICTORIAL." HE SAID IT IS NOT A "GENUINE" MICRONESIAN GOVERNMENT ALTHOUGH IT MAY EXIST FOR THE PEOPLE, BUT "UNFORTUNATELY" NOT FOR THE MICRONESIAN PEOPLE WHO ARE BEING GOVERNED. HE POINTED OUT THAT IT IS ESSENTIALLY AN "EXTENSION" OF THE DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR OF THE UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT.

TUN ALSO SAID THAT THE PRESENT GOVERNMENT IS A PART-MICRONESIAN, PART-INTERIOR DEPARTMENT CREATURE WHICH IS ALSO INFLUENCED BY THE DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE AND STATE DEPARTMENT. HE SAID MICRONESIANS LIVE UNDER A RATHER COMPLICATED GOVERNMENTAL "CREATURE," AND ARE OVER-GOVERNED YET UNDER-REPRESENTED: TREATED PATERNALLY AND YET ARE ASKED TO SEEK SELF-RELIANCE; COMPRISE ABOUT 100,000 PEOPLE AND YET HAVE A HUGE BUREAUCRACY WHICH "SMOTHERS" AND "MUFFLES" ANY ATTEMPT TO MAKE THE GOVERNMENT RESPONSIVE TO THE PEOPLE.

THE YAP SENATOR ASKED: "IF THIS SITUATION HOLDS TRUE UNDER THE ADMINISTERING AUTHORITY, WHAT EVIDENCE DO WE HAVE THAT IT WILL ALSO HOLD TRUE UNDER A MICRONESIAN GOVERNMENT?" HE ALSO ASKED: "ARE WE TO ASSUME THAT ONCE WE MICRONESIANS HAVE COMPLETE CONTROL, WE ARE GOING TO IMITATE THE UNFORKABLE EXAMPLE THAT CAME BEFORE US?" TUN NOTED THAT "THOSE WHO FAVOR LOOSE FEDERATION APPARENTLY THINK SO; HOWEVER, THIS PREMISE CANNOT BE PROVED."

SENATOR TUN ASKED "IF MICRONESIA WERE TO HAVE A STRONG CENTRAL GOVERNMENT WITH POWERS AND RESPONSIBILITIES DELINEATED BY A MICRONESIAN CONSTITUTION, HOW DO WE KNOW THAT SUCH A CENTRAL GOVERNMENT WILL DICTATE TO THE DISTRICT GOVERNMENTS AS THE PRESENT ONE DOES?" HE CONTINUED: "WHY SHOULD WE SAY THAT WE DON'T WANT OUR FUTURE GOVERNMENT TO BE LIKE THIS ONE, WHEN THIS ONE IS NOT OUR GOVERNMENT?"

TUN ALSO SPOKE ON A RATIONALE USED BY VARIOUS MEMBERS OF CONGRESS TO SUPPORT THE CONCEPT OF A LOOSE FEDERATION ARRANGEMENT AND WHICH IS CENTERED AROUND AND CAPITALIZES UPON WHICH SUCH THINGS AS CULTURAL DIFFERENCES, WHICH HE NOTED HAVE BEEN LEBELED AS "FACTS AND REALITIES" OF LIFE AND SEEM TO BE SO IMPORTANT AS TO MERIT THE "SACRIFICE OF MICRONESIAN UNITY."

THE SENATOR FURTHER POINTED OUT THAT THERE ARE MANY COUNTRIES THROUGHOUT THE WORLD WHICH CONTAIN, UNDER A CENTRAL GOVERNMENT, DIVERSE PEOPLES WITH DIVERSE LANGUAGES.

IN HIS REMARKS, THE SENATOR ALSO DREW ATTENTION TO THE SEA. HE SAID THIS YEAR, THE SEA HAS BECOME "A VERY POLITICAL ENTITY". HE NOTED THAT DEPENDING UPON WHOM YOU LISTEN TO, THE OCEAN EITHER GIVES A SENSE OF MICRONESIAN UNITY AND COMMON PURPOSES, OR MAKES NATURAL EACH OF THE DISTRICT'S PHYSICAL AND POLITICAL SEPARATIONS.

HE POINTED OUT THAT THE JOINT COMMITTEE ON LAW OF THE SEA HAS ISSUED A FINE REPORT ON TRADITIONAL USE OF THE SEA. THE MAIN THRUST OF THE DOCUMENT, HE SAID, IS TO SHOW THAT BECAUSE OF THE SEA, MICRONESIANS DEVELOPED NAVIGATIONAL SKILLS WHICH ALLOWED THEM TO TRAVERSE IT, AND ALSO POLITICAL AND SOCIAL ORGANIZATIONS WHICH SPANNED ITS GREAT DISTANCES. HE NOTED THAT THIS IS USED AS A BASIS FOR THE MICRONESIAN POSITION AT THE LAW OF THE SEA

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CONFERENCE. HE SAID THOSE WHO USE THE "SEAS DIVIDES US THEORY" OUGHT TO HIDE COPIES OF THE REPORT.

SENATOR TUN ALSO MENTIONED THAT MAY PEOPLE OPPOSE A STRONG CENTRAL GOVERNMENT FOR FEAR IT WILL SELL OUT FOR A PRICE TO THE UNITED STATES MILITARY SOME OF THE DISTRICT LANDS, LIKE "SOME CUTPURSE WHO WOULD STEAL THE PENNIES OFF THE EYES OF A DEAR DECEASED RELATIVE." HE SAID THE ANALOGY IS THAT IF MICRONESIA HAS A STRONG CENTRAL GOVERNMENT, IT WILL BE LIKE THIS ONE WHICH WILL BE BAD, SO WE CANNOT HAVE THAT."

HE POINTED OUT THAT IT IS EASY FOR AN AMERICAN, WHO VALUES LAND MAINLY FOR ITS PURCHASE VALUE TO THINK ABOUT SOMEONE'S ANCESTRAL HERITAGE IN TERMS OF EMINENT DOMAIN OR MORATORIUMS. HE SAID HE SUBMITS THAT IT WOULD BE "EXTREMELY DIFFICULT FOR A MICRONESIAN, WHO UNDERSTANDS HIS OWN LAND VALUE BETTER THAN AN OUTSIDER, TO SELL OUT HIS BROTHER OR SISTER." IN FACT, HE SAID, THE REAL "PANDORA'S BOX MAY BE OPENED WHEN THE LAND IS RETURNED TO THE DISTRICTS WITH NO PREVISIONS MADE FOR INTERVENTION OF A NEUTRAL CENTRAL AUTHORITY."

RETURNING TO HIS ORIGINAL SOURCE, THE ARTICLES OF CONFEDERATION FOR THE UNITED STATES, HE SAID "THE LAST SENTENCE CONCERNED MEN WHO BELIEVES THAT ' IT GOES ON:

"EQUALLY IMPORTANT IN THEIR POLITICAL THOUGHT WAS THEIR DISTRUST OF POWERFUL GOVERNMENT AND OF MEN IN POLITICAL OFFICE. THEY BELIEVED THAT WHEN MEN GAINED POLITICAL POWER THEY INEVITABLY TRIED TO GAIN EVEN MORE POWER AND THAT IN DOING SO THEY OFTEN CORRUPTED GOVERNMENT AND SUBVERTED THE LIBERTIES OF THE PEOPLE."

SENATOR TUN SAID: "IT SEEMS TO ME THAT THIS FEAR COULD BE EQUALLY APPLIED AT THE STRONG CENTRAL GOVERNMENT, OR AT THE STRONG-AUTONOMOUS STATE LEVEL." HE NOTED THAT THE QUESTIONS AND ISSUES INVOLVED "WILL HAVE TO BE SETTLED BY THOSE ELECTED TO THE CONSTITUTIONAL CONVENTION. THOSE SETTLEMENTS WILL BE SUBJECT TO THE APPROVAL OF THE MAJORITY OF THE PEOPLE OF MICRO ESIA."

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