

(CONGRESS REPORT)

1975

SAIPAN, JAN. 14 (MNS)---SENATE PRESIDENT TOSIWO NAKAYAMA K(TRUK) WAS RE-ELECTED TO HIS POST TUESDAY MORNING (JAN. 14) BY A UNANIMOUS VOTE IN THE SENATE.

SENATOR LAZARUS SALII (PALAU) WAS ELECTED VICE PRESIDENT AND AMBILOS IEHSI (PONAPE) WAS CHOSEN FLOOR LEADER.

PRESIDENT NAKAYAMA APPOINTED THE CHAIRMEN, VICE CHAIRMEN, AND MEMBERS OF THE FIVE STANDING SENATE COMMITTEES. THEY ARE: WAYS AND MEANS CHAIRMAN BAILEY OLTER (PONAPE), VICE CHAIRMAN JOHN MANGEFEL (YAP); RESOURCES AND DEVELOPMENT CHAIRMAN AMATA KARUA (MARSHALLS), VICE CHAIRMAN JOHN MANGEFEL; JUDICIARY AND GOVERNMENT OPERATIONS CHAIRMAN LAZARUS SALII, VICE CHAIRMAN OLYMPIO BORJA (MARIANAS); HEALTH CHAIRMAN ROMAN TMETUOHL (PALAU), VICE CHAIRMAN OLYMPIO BORJA; EDUCATION AND SOCIAL AFFAIRS CHAIRMAN PETRUS TUN (YAP), VICE CHAIRMAN WILFRED KENDALL (MARSHALLS).

Handwritten notes: "F15" circled, and "11" written vertically.

AFTER THE SENATE WAS ORGANIZED AND HAD SO INFORMED THE HOUSE AND THE HIGH COMMISSIONER, SEN. MANGEFEL RESIGNED FROM THE CREDENTIALS COMMITTEE, WHICH IS DECIDING WHETHER OR NOT TO SEAT NEWLY ELECTED SENATOR NICK BOSSY OF TRUK. SEN. MANGEFEL STATED THAT IT WOULD BE A "CONFLICT OF INTEREST" FOR HIM TO SERVE ON THE COMMITTEE BECAUSE OF HIS RESPECT AND PERSONAL FEELING FOR FORMER SENATOR ANDON AMARAICH OF TRUK. AMARAICH IS CHALLENGING THE ELECTION BECAUSE OF "SERIOUS IRREGULARITIES AND VIOLATIONS OF ELECTION LAWS IN THE 1974 GENERAL ELECTION FOR MEMBERS OF THE CONGRESS OF MICRONESIA IN THE TRUK DISTRICT."

PRESIDENT NAKAYAMA ACCEPTED MANGEFEL'S RESIGNATION AND REPLACED HIM IN THE CREDENTIALS COMMITTEE WITH HIS COLLEAGUE FROM YAP SEN. PETRUS TUN. MEMBERS OF THE COMMITTEE INVESTIGATING ANDON AMARAICH'S CHARGES ARE: OLYMPIO BORJA (CHAIRMAN), KENDALL, TUN, AND TMETUOHL.

DURING THE MORNING SESSION ELEVEN BILLS WERE INTRODUCED. THEY ARE: A BILL PROVIDING FOR THE REAPPORTIONMENT OF THE HOUSE, (SB6-1); A MEASURE AMENDING THE TT CODE TO PROVIDE FOR THE CONGRESS'S ADVISE AND CONSENT OF DISTRICT COURT JUDGES, (SB6-2); A BILL ENABLING A DISTAD REPRESENTATIVE TO APPROVE A MUNICIPAL ORDINANCE, (SB6-3); A BILL REGARDING THE RIGHTS OF CHILDREN BORN OUT OF WEDLOCK, (SB6-4); TO AMEND THE TT CODE TO REQUIRE THE INVESTMENT OF SOCIAL SECURITY TRUST FUNDS WITHIN MICRONESIA AS MUCH AS POSSIBLE, (SB-5); A MEASURE AMENDING THE USURY LAWS OF THE TT TO REFLECT CHANGES IN THE PRIME INTEREST RATE, (SB-6); A BILL APPROPRIATING \$150,000 FOR DISTRICT MUSEUMS, (SB-7); TO EXEMPT WAGES OF U.S. CITIZENS EARNED IN THE T.T. FROM THE MICRONESIAN INCOME TAX WHEN AND IF THE U.S. INCOME TAX ON THOSE WAGES IS PAID INTO THE GENERAL FUND OF THE CONGRESS OF MICRONESIA, (SB6-8); A MEASURE IMPOSING A GRADUATED INCOME TAX WAGES IN THE TT (SB6-9); A BILL TO ESTABLISH A LIMITED MORATORIUM ON SALARY INCREASES FOR TT EMPLOYEES, (SB6-10); A BILL APPROPRIATING \$45,900 FOR DEFRAYING THE OPERATION AND CONTINGENT EXPENSES OF THE ADMINISTRATION OF THE T.T. PERSONNEL BOARD, (SB6-11);

THE HOUSE SESSION TUESDAY MORNING (JAN. 14) WAS BRIEF. ORAL REPORTS BY COMMITTEES TO ADVISE THE SENATE AND THE HIGH COMMISSIONER THAT THE HOUSE WAS READY TO TRANSACT BUSINESS WERE HEARD.

THE HOUSE MEMBERS ALSO RECEIVED A DELEGATION OF THREE SENATORS INFORMING THE HOUSE THAT THE SENATE WAS DULY ORGANIZED AND READY TO TRANSACT BUSINESS. THEY WERE SENS. JOHN MANGEFEL (YAP) CHAIRMAN, PEDRO A. TENORIO (MARIANAS) AND WILFRED KENDALL (MARSHALLS).

SPEAKER HENRY THEY APPOINTED SIX MEMBERS, ONE FROM EACH DISTRICT, TO THE SPECIAL COMMITTEE ON CREDENTIALS TO FURTHER INVESTIGATE THE CREDENTIALS OF THREE MEMBERS-ELECT AND REPORT THEIR FINDINGS TO THE HOUSE WITHIN THREE DAYS.

THE MEMBERS ARE: CONGRESSMEN JOAB SIGRAH (PONAPE), SASAUO HARUO (TRUK), ATAJI BALOS (MARSHALLS), JOSE P. MAFNAS (MARIANAS),

Handwritten number: 2072

ISIDORO RUDIMCH (PALAU), AND JOHN HALIELGAM (YAP).
TRUK REPRESENTATIVE SASAHO HARUO GAVE A SPEECH ON MICRONESIA'S ECONOMY (SEE FOLLOWING STORY).

FIVE BILLS AND ONE HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION WERE INTRODUCED DURING THE MORNING SESSION. THEY ARE: A BILL AMENDING CERTAIN SECTIONS OF THE TT CODE TO INCREASE SOCIAL SECURITY BENEFITS TO \$24 MONTHLY. (HB 6-1); A MEASURE TO PROVIDE FOR A COMPREHENSIVE AND BALANCED DEVELOPMENTAL POLICY FOR MICRONESIA AND APPROPRIATE \$100,000 TO CARRY OUT THE PURPOSES OF THIS ACT, (HB 6-2); A BILL TO PROVIDE \$11,000 AS A SUPPLEMENTAL APPROPRIATION FOR THE OPERATION AND CONTINGENT EXPENSES OF THE REVENUE DIVISION, DEPARTMENT OF FINANCE, FOR FISCAL YEAR 1975 (HB 6-3); TO EARMARK \$174,641 FOR THE OPERATING EXPENSES OF THE SOCIAL SECURITY OFFICE FOR FISCAL YEAR 1975, (HB 6-4); AND A BILL APPROPRIATING \$297,400 TO DEFRAY THE OPERATION AND CONTINGENT EXPENSES OF THE REVENUE DIVISION, DEPARTMENT OF FINANCE FOR FISCAL YEAR 1975, (HB 6-5).

THE RESOLUTION IS FOR THE TWO HOUSES OF CONGRESS TO MEET IN A JOINT SESSION NEXT WEEK ON MONDAY (JAN. 20) OUTSIDE THE HOUSE CHAMBER FOR THE PURPOSE OF HAVING THE HONORABLE EDWARD E. JOHNSTON, TRUST TERRITORY HIGH COMMISSIONER, PRESENT THE STATE OF THE TERRITORY MESSAGE, (HJR6-1).

BOTH HOUSES WILL CONVENE AT 10:00 A.M. WEDNESDAY (JAN. 15).

(ALL USERS: PLEASE CREDIT CONGRESS OF MICRONESIA)
(HARUO ON ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT).

SAIPAN, JAN. 14 (CONGRESS RELEASE)---MICRONESIA'S ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT A TOPIC WHICH HAS DOMINATED MANY CONGRESS OF MICRONESIA SESSIONS IN THE PAST, WAS THE SUBJECT OF THE FIRST SPEECH DELIVERED IN THE JUST-CONVENED SIXTH CONGRESS TUESDAY.

REPRESENTATIVE SASAHO HARUO OF TRUK, CHAIRMAN OF THE JOINT COMMITTEE ON RESOURCES AND DEVELOPMENT, ANNOUNCED IN A PREPARED STATEMENT THAT "THE FUTURE OF MICRONESIA DEPENDS ON OUR ABILITY TO PLAN FOR OUR ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT."

IN THIS REGARD, HARUO SAID A NEW PHILOSOPHY OF ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT APPEARS TO HAVE BEEN REACHED BETWEEN THE LEGISLATIVE AND EXECUTIVE BRANCHES OF THE TRUST TERRITORY GOVERNMENT, A PLAN WHICH HE SAID "ENVISIONS A JOINT EFFORT AND TOTAL COOPERATION" BETWEEN THE TWO BRANCHES.

HARUO, WHO ALSO CHAIRS THE HOUSE COMMITTEE ON RESOURCES AND DEVELOPMENT, REPORTED TO HIS COLLEAGUES THAT INTERNAL ORGANIZATIONS THROUGHOUT THE WORLD ARE NOW UNDERSTANDING AND SYMPATHIZING WITH THE DEVELOPMENT NEEDS OF THE TRUST TERRITORY. HE SAID UNITED NATIONS ORGANIZATIONS SUCH AS THE 'UN'S DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM AND THE ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COMMISSION FOR ASIA AND THE PACIFIC, ALONG WITH THE ASIAN DEVELOPMENT BANK AND SOUTH PACIFIC COMMISSION ARE BECOMING "MORE RESPONSIVE TO THE NEEDS OF THE TRUST TERRITORY." HOWEVER, HARUO NOTED THE U.S. CONGRESS HAS NOT TAKEN THE "NECESSARY INITIATIVE" IN SPONSORING LEGISLATION REQUIRED FOR MICRONESIA'S MEMBERSHIP IN THE ASIAN DEVELOPMENT BANK AS A FULL MEMBER.

"SPONSORING LEGISLATION HAS FAILED TO PASS THE U.S. CONGRESS," HE NOTED.

HARUO ALSO OUTLINED MANY ECONOMIC RELATED PROBLEM AREAS WHICH HE SAID WOULD BE IMPORTANT FOR THE CONGRESS TO CONSIDER IN THE 50-DAY SESSION. THESE AREAS INCLUDE: AGRICULTURE, FISHERIES DEVELOPMENT, SHIPPING AND TRANSPORTATION, FOR THE FORMATION OF A MICRONESIA DEVELOPMENT BANK. HARUO SAID VARIOUS REPORTS DEALING

WITH MOST OF THESE AREAS WILL BE SUBMITTED TO THE CONGRESS BY HIS COMMITTEE FOR ITS CONSIDERATION DURING THE SESSION.

(CALL USERS PLEASE CREDIT THE CONGRESS OF MICRONESIA)
(MOSES' AUSTRALIA TRIP)

SAIPAN, JAN. 14 (CONGRESS RELEASE)---THE GOVERNMENT OF AUSTRALIA HAS EXPRESSED A WILLINGNESS TO OFFER EDUCATIONAL AND TECHNICAL TRAINING PROGRAMS TO THE TRUST TERRITORY, ACCORDING TO REPRESENTATIVE PESIO MOSES OF PONAPE WHO RECENTLY CONCLUDED A VISIT TO THAT COUNTRY.

MOSES, WHO ACCEPTED AN INVITATION FROM THE AUSTRALIAN DEPARTMENT OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS TO TOUR THAT COUNTRY IN NOVEMBER 1974, SAID A QUESTION THAT WAS FREQUENTLY ASKED DURING HIS VISIT WAS: "WHAT CAN THE AUSTRALIAN GOVERNMENT DO FOR MICRONESIA?"

MOSES SAID ALTHOUGH HE INFORMED AUSTRALIAN OFFICIALS THAT HE WAS IN NO POSITION TO SPEAK OFFICIALLY ON BEHALF OF MICRONESIA OR THE TRUST TERRITORY GOVERNMENT, HE DID INDICATE THAT THERE WAS A NEED FOR MORE TRAINING PROGRAMS FOR MICRONESIANS, PARTICULARLY IN THE AREA OF EDUCATION AND TECHNICAL TRAINING PROGRAMS.

THE PONAPE REPRESENTATIVE SAID AUSTRALIANS ARE INTERESTED IN BECOMING MORE INVOLVED IN PACIFIC ISLAND AFFAIRS, AND THEN SUGGESTED FOREIGN AID COULD BE MADE AVAILABLE TO MICRONESIA IN THE FUTURE.

MOSES SAID HE WAS VERY IMPRESSED WITH THE COURTESY AND ATTENTION EXTENDED BY AUSTRALIAN GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS DURING THE VISIT. HE SAID HIS ITINERARY INCLUDED VISITS TO THE MAJOR CITIES IN AUSTRALIA, MEETINGS WITH KEY STATE AND FEDERAL LEADERS IN THE AUSTRALIAN GOVERNMENT AND VISITS TO AGRICULTURAL AREAS, FISHING PROJECTS, PROCESSING PLANTS, CATTLE FARMS AND OTHER PROJECTS.

MOSES WAS ACCOMPANIED ON HIS TOUR BY PALAU DEPUTY DISTRICT ADMINISTRATOR HARUO REMILIUK. IT IS BELIEVED THEIR TRIP WAS THE FIRST TIME MICRONESIANS HAVE VISITED A COUNTRY OTHER THAN THE UNITED STATES AS AN OFFICIAL GUEST OF A FOREIGN GOVERNMENT.

(HUD OFFICIALS VISIT TT)

SAIPAN, JAN. (MNS)---THREE OFFICIALS OF THE US DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT (HUD) ARRIVED SAIPAN TUESDAY (JAN. 14) FOR MEETING WITH TT GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS ON MATTERS RELATING TO HOUSING AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT NEEDS IN THE TRUST TERRITORY.

THE GROUP INCLUDED DR. ELIZABETH TAPSCOTT FROM HUD REGION 9 OFFICE IN SAN FRANCISCO AND ALVIN PANG AND ROBERT NUI FROM THE HAWAII HUD OFFICE.

IN THEIR MEETING WITH TT OFFICIALS, THE THREE REVIEWED PROGRAMS OF THE TT HOUSING COMMISSION AND THE DISTRICT HOUSING AUTHORITIES. THEY SAID "HUD IS DEFINITELY READY TO HELP THE TRUST TERRITORY IN PUTTING TOGETHER AN APPLICATION FOR ASSISTANCE THAT MEETS THE TT'S CAPABILITIES." DR. TAPSCOTT TOLD THE TT OFFICIALS THAT A PREVIOUS APPLICATION FOR HUD ASSISTANCE WAS NOT ACTED UPON BECAUSE THE ^{PRESENT} LAW DOES ~~NOT~~ NOT INCLUDE THE TRUST TERRITORY. HOWEVER, SHE INFORMED THEM THAT THE PRESENT LAW ^{DOES} ~~DOES~~ ADEQUATELY PROVIDE FOR TRUST TERRITORY PARTICIPATION THIS FISCAL YEAR.

THE GROUP IS SCHEDULED TO VISIT GUAM AND AMERICAN SAMOA AFTER THEY LEAVE THE TRUST TERRITORY.

3074

(BUSINESS PERMITS ACTIVITY)

SAIPAN, JAN. 14. (MNS)---FOUR BUSINESS PERMITS WERE ISSUED BY HIGH COMMISSIONER EDWARD E. JOHNSTON LAST WEEK, ACCORDING TO A WEEKLY REPORT ON FOREIGN BUSINESS PERMIT ACTIVITY FROM THE ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT VISION, DEPARTMENT OF RESOURCES AND DEVELOPMENT.

ONE COMPANY WAS ISSUED A PERMIT UNDER PUBLIC LAW 5-85.

THE FIRM IS THE BOTTLING COMPANY OF MICRONESIA --TO BOTTLE AND DISTRIBUTE SOFTDRINKS AND CANNED COCA COLA PRODUCTS IN THE MARIANA ISLANDS DISTRICT. ITS LOCAL REPRESENTATIVE IS JOE SCREEN.

THREE PERMITS ISSUED UNDER PUBLIC LAW 30-59 WERE ISSUED TO: PAN AMERICAN WORLD AIRWAYS SAIPAN TICKET OFFICE--TO MAKE RESERVATIONS AND TO SELL TICKETS FOR INTERNATIONAL AIR TRANSPORTATION OF PASSENGERS AND CARGO IN THE MARIANA ISLANDS DISTRICT;

ORIPAC TRUST TERRITORIES, INC.--TO ENGAGE IN THE BUSINESS OF PAINTING AND DECORATING, CONTRACTING, INDUSTRIAL INSTALLATIONS, AND COMMERCIAL STRUCTURES IN THE MARIANA ISLANDS DISTRICT. ITS LOCAL AGENT IS JOSE AMAGSILA;

OVERSEAS CONSTRUCTION COMPANY--TO DO CONSTRUCTION WORK IN THE MARIANA ISLANDS DISTRICT. JUSTINO ARRIOLA IS THE COMPANY'S LOCAL REPRESENTATIVE.

(MDCA NOMINEES)

SAIPAN, JANUARY 14 (MNS)---HIGH COMMISSIONER EDWARD E. JOHNSTON HAS SENT TO THE CONGRESS OF MICRONESIA THE PROPOSED NAMES OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE MICRONESIAN COCONUT PROCESSING AUTHORITY.

THEY ARE: KUNAR ABNER FROM THE MARSHALLS; CATALINO SAM, PONAPE; KOICHI SAVA, TRUK; PETER SUGIYAMA, PALAU; AMBROSE DAVID MENGINEFEL, YAP; DAVID Q. MARAITIA, MARIANAS AND G. DUDLEY DAMBACHER, REPRESENTING THE DEPARTMENT OF RESOURCES AND DEVELOPMENT AT HEADQUARTERS.

ACCORDING TO THE HIGH COMMISSIONER'S LETTER, THE APPOINTEES FROM THE MARSHALLS, PONAPE, AND TRUK WILL SERVE FOR FOUR YEARS, WHILE THE MEMBERS FROM PALAU, YAP, AND THE MARIANAS DISTRICTS WILL EACH SERVE A TERM OF THREE YEARS. THE NOMINATIONS ARE SUBJECT TO APPROVAL BY THE CONGRESS OF MICRONESIA.

THE MICRONESIAN COCONUT PROCESSING AUTHORITY WAS CREATED BY PUBLIC LAW 5-72, AN ACT PASSED BY CONGRESS DURING THE SECOND REGULAR SESSION OF THE FIFTH CONGRESS IN 1974. THE PURPOSE OF THE ACT IS TO ENGAGE IN THE BUSINESS OF PROCESSING, MANUFACTURING AND SELLING PRODUCTS DERIVED FROM THE COCONUT TREE.

THE HIGH COMMISSIONER SAID, "WE URGE THE CONGRESS OF MICRONESIA TO ACT FAVORABLY ON THESE NOMINATIONS AS WE BELIEVE THAT THE WORK OF THIS AUTHORITY WILL CONTRIBUTE SIGNIFICANTLY TO THE OVER-ALL ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT OF MICRONESIA. THE DEPARTMENT OF RESOURCES AND DEVELOPMENT IS PREPARED TO PROVIDE ANY ADDITIONAL INFORMATION AND TO APPEAR ON BEHALF OF THESE NOMINEES."