

UNITY MEETING IN PALAU

1975

KOROR, FEB. 25 (APIS)---THE ROYAL PALAUAN HOTEL IN KOROR WAS THE SCENE SUNDAY OF ONE OF THE LARGEST PUBLIC CEREMONIES HELD IN PALAU DISTRICT FOR MANY YEARS. THE OCCASION WAS A HUGE BANQUET FEAST AND PUBLIC MEETING BASED ON THE ANNOUNCED THEME OF "LET UNION ABIDE." AMONG THE HONORED GUESTS WERE HIGH COMMISSIONER EDWARD E. JOHNSTON AND FOURTEEN MEMBERS OF THE CONGRESS OF MICRONESIA. File

THE CEREMONY WAS OPENED WITH WELCOMING ADDRESSES BY HIGH CHIEF IRIDUL AND HIGH CHIEF REMLAI. IN HIS REMARKS, CHIEF IRIDUL SOUNDED A NOTE OF CAUTION ABOUT THE FUTURE OF PALAU. SAID IRIDUL, "WE CANNOT SELL OUR LIVES OR OUR BIRTHRIGHT." HE EXPRESSED CONCERN OVER PALAUANS LOSING "OUR PARADISE" BECAUSE "WE DO NOT SEEM TO BE MAKING THE BLUEPRINT" FOR THE FUTURE. HE REGRETTED THAT "NOT ALL PLANS FOR THE FUTURE ARE KNOWN TO US IN PALAU" AND CALLED FOR A "UNITED EFFORT" TO CHART THE FUTURE COURSE OF ALL MICRONESIA.

HIGH COMMISSIONER JOHNSTON ALSO SPOKE ON THE THEME OF UNITY. JOHNSTON REMARKED THAT WHILE HE WAS THE "ONLY SPEAKER WHO WAS NOT A VOTING CITIZEN OF MICRONESIA" HE EXPRESSED HIS HOPE THAT THE MEETING IN PALAU WOULD CONTRIBUTE TOWARDS THE MICRONESIAN GOAL OF UNITY. HE ADDED OF THAT GOAL WOULD DEPEND UPON THE DESIRES OF THE MICRONESIAN PEOPLE. JOHNSTON WAS FOLLOWED ON THE ROSTRUM BY THE CON LEADERSHIP.

WHILE NOTING THAT RECENT EVENTS "ADDED TO THE GENERAL FEELING THAT MICRONESIA IS BECOMING LESS, RATHER THAN MORE, UNIFIED," SENATE PRESIDENT TOSHO NAMAYAMA PLEDGED THAT THE CON "WILL DO WHAT EVER IS NECESSARY TO MAKE MICRONESIAN UNITY A REALITY." SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE BETHWEL HENRY CALLED UNITY A "ROAD NOT EASY TO TRAVEL BUT WORTHWHILE."

IN ADDITION TO THE CON LEADERSHIP, CONGRESSIONAL DELEGATES, REPRESENTING EACH OF THE TRUST TERRITORY'S SIX DISTRICTS, WERE ASKED TO SPEAK ABOUT MICRONESIAN UNITY ON BEHALF OF THEIR DISTRICTS.

THE FIRST SUCH SPEAKER WAS REP. JOSE MAFNAS, MARIANAS, WHO MADE THE STRONGEST PLEA OF THE EVENING FOR UNITY. MAFNAS CALLED THE UNITY MEETING A "SOLEM OCCASION" AND TOLD THE CROWD OF ALMOST ONE THOUSAND PERSONS THAT THE SIGNING OF THE MARIANAS COVENANT "IS NOT NECESSARILY THE WISHES OF YOUR FELLOW MICRONESIANS IN THE MARIANAS." HE SAID THAT HE AND FELLOW MARIANAS REPRESENTATIVES OSCAR RASA ARE BUILDING A "STRONG MOVEMENT" WITH "STRONG SUPPORT" AGAINST THE COVENANT. MAFNAS SAID HE WANTED TO BE IDENTIFIED AS A MICRONESIAN FIRST AND AS A CHAMORRO SECOND. HE STATED THAT MICRONESIAN IDENTITY "MUST BE PRESERVED AT ALL COSTS."

SEN. PETRUS TUN, YAP, SUGGESTED THAT THERE BE ADDITIONAL ASSEMBLIES ON THE SUBJECT OF UNITY IN OTHER DISTRICTS. HE INDIRECTLY SUGGESTED THAT THE NEXT SUCH MEETING BE HELD IN THE MARSHALLS IN ORDER TO MAINTAIN, WHAT HE CALLED, "THE MOMENTUM OF UNITY."

SEN. NICK BOSSY, TRUK, CONTINUED THE THEME SAYING THE THIRTY YEARS "MARRIAGE" OF THE TRUST TERRITORY HAS BEEN STRENGTHENED BY THE "BIRTH" OF THE CONGRESS OF MICRONESIA. HE SAID, "LET US REMAIN MARRIED."

DEPARTING FROM HIS PREPARED TEXT, SEN. AMBILOS IENSI, PONAPE, URGED THE DELEGATES TO GO TO THEIR PEOPLE AND "PREACH UNITY". IENSI CONCLUDED HIS REMARKS BY EXCLAIMING THAT "THE FIRST FIRE OF UNITY HAS BEEN IGNITED HERE IN KOROR, PALAU DISTRICT."

A NOTE OF MODERATION WAS EXPRESSED BY REP. ATAJI BALOS, MARSHALLS, AFTER EMPHASIZING HIS SUPPORT FOR THE CONCEPT OF UNITY. BALOS SAID THAT UNITY "SHOULD ABIDE IN AN ACCEPTABLE FORM" WHICH WOULD BE "APPROPRIATE FOR THE PEOPLE OF MY

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DISTRICT." HE CONCLUDED BY STATING THAT "UNITY MUST BE BASED ON THE MUTUAL UNDERSTANDING OF EACH OTHER'S NEEDS."

THE FINAL SPEAKER, REP. ISIDORO RUDINOK OF THE HOST DISTRICT, REFERRED TO THE MONUMENTS IN PALAU OF THOSE WHO DIED TO BRING FREEDOM TO HIS PEOPLE. RUDINOK SAID THAT MICRONESIANS MUST HAVE THAT FREEDOM NOW TO DETERMINE WHAT KIND OF WAY OF LIFE THEY WILL HAVE IN THE FUTURE.

THE SPEECHES WERE FOLLOWED BY A FEAST OF PALAUAN, MICRONESIAN AND INTERNATIONAL FOODS INCLUDING PIT ROASTED PIG AND TUNA. ENTERTAINMENT FOR THE BANQUET WAS PROVIDED BY THE SCHOOL OF PACIFIC TROUPE WHO PERFORMED TRADITIONAL DANCES OF EACH OF THE DISTRICTS, MEMBERS OF THE MICRONESIAN OCCUPATIONAL CENTER AND THE ROYAL PALAUAN HOTEL BAND.

EARLIER IN THE DAY, THE VISITORS WERE HOSTED TO A PICNIC ON THE ROCK ISLAND OF NGERENEYAU, LOCATED THIRTY-FIVE NAUTICAL MILES SOUTHWEST OF KOROR.

HIGH COMMISSIONER JOHNSTON INSPECTED THE MARICULTURE CENTER AND OTHER DISTRICT PROJECTS BEFORE RETURNING TO SAIPAN ON MONDAY (FEB. 24).

(CONGRESS IN LAST WEEK OF SESSION)

SAIPAN, FEB. 23 (MHS)---AS THE CONGRESS OF MICRONESIA BEGAN ITS LAST WEEK OF THE CURRENT 50-DAY SESSION, BOTH HOUSES ARE STILL CREEPING THROUGH THEIR BUSINESS AT A SNAIL'S PACE. ALTHOUGH APPROXIMATELY 600 MEASURES, (459 OF WHICH ARE BILLS HAVE BEEN INTRODUCED ON THE HOUSE AND SENATE FLOORS), LESS THAN TEN BILLS HAVE BEEN SENT TO THE HIGH COMMISSIONER FOR FURTHER ACTION.

THE SENATE CONTINUED TO DEAL WITH THE PASSING AND FILING OF ITS BILLS ON SECOND AND FINAL READING TUESDAY (FEB. 25). TWO BILLS WERE FILED AND TWO PASSED DURING THE MORNING SESSION. THE SENATORS ALSO ADOPTED ONE SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION.

THE MAIN TOPIC OF DEBATE IN THE SENATE DURING THE MORNING SESSION WAS DISCUSSION ON A BILL TO PROVIDE \$139,500 FOR MICRONESIAN REPRESENTATION AT THE UN LAW OF THE SEA CONFERENCE, (SB 6-77). THIS AMOUNT WOULD BE FOR EXPENSES FOR THE UPCOMING FISCAL YEAR. THE CONFERENCE IS TO BEGIN ON MARCH 17 IN GENEVA. THE BILL PASSED WITH SEN. TMETUOHL AND SALII VOTING NO. EXPLAINING HIS VOTE, SEN. TMETUOHL STATED HE DID NOT WANT TO SEE A PRECEDENT SET OF HIRING A NON-CONGRESS MEMBER AS A CONGRESS COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN.

ALTHOUGH THE BILL IS ONLY TO APPROPRIATE MONEY FOR A MICRONESIAN DELEGATION, AND A BILL HAD ALREADY BEEN PASSED AND SENT TO THE HOUSE REGARDING THE COMPOSITION OF THE DELEGATION, MUCH OF THE DEBATE CENTERED AROUND THE MAKE-UP OF THE DELEGATION. SEN. SALII PROPOSED THAT THE DELEGATION BE COMPOSED OF ONE NON-CONGRESS MEMBER, THAT IS, FORMER SENATOR ANDON AMARAICH, AND ONE REPRESENTATIVE FROM THE EXECUTIVE BRANCH OF THE TT GOVERNMENT ALONG WITH SUPPORTING STAFF. MARSHALLS SEN. ANATA KABUA STATED THAT HE AGREED WITH THAT SUGGESTION.

DURING MORE DEBATE ON THE MATTER, WAYS AND MEANS (M&M) CHAIRMAN BAILEY OLIVER (PORAPE) REPORTED THAT THE COMMITTEE RECOMMENDED HIRING FORMER SEN. ANDON AMARAICH OF TRUK AS THE DELEGATION CHAIRMAN BECAUSE HE HAS "MORE INFORMATION AND EXPERTISE ON THE MATTER THAN ANY CONGRESSMAN AND ANY OTHER MICRONESIAN."

TRUK SEN. NICK BOSSY, WHOSE ELECTION WAS UNSUCCESSFULLY CHALLENGED BY HIS OPPONENT AMARAICH, OBJECTED TO THE HIRING OF AMARAICH AS DELEGATION CHAIRMAN, SAYING THAT THERE WAS "NO NEED." SEN. BOSSY SAID THAT HE WOULD LIKE TO SEE A MEMBER OF CONGRESS CHAIR THE DELEGATION.

MARIANAS SEN. BORJA RAISED THE LEGAL QUESTION WHETHER, ACCORDING TO SECTION 20 OF SECRETARIAL ORDER 2018, THE FORMER SENATOR COULD LEGALLY RECEIVE MONEY FROM THE CONGRESS. THE

SECTION STATED THAT A FORMER CONGRESSMAN CANNOT BE HIRED BY THE CONGRESS UNTIL ONE YEAR AFTER HIS TERM OF OFFICE HAS EXPIRED.

SENATE PRESIDENT TOSIO NAKAYAMA STRESSED THE IMPORTANCE OF THE LAW OF THE SEA CONFERENCE. HE TOLD THE SENATORS THAT MICRONESIA HAD AN OFFICIAL OBSERVER STATUS AND THAT MICRONESIA COULD ARGUE ITS CASE ON THE FLOOR OF THE CONFERENCE AND PARTICIPATE AS FULL MEMBERS. IT IS THE POSITION OF THE PRESIDING OFFICERS, HE NOTED, THAT MICRONESIA SHOULD SEND A REPRESENTATIVE WHO HAS ALREADY GAINED RAPPORT WITH THE OTHER MEMBERS OF THE CONFERENCE AND WHO HAS HAD THE EXPERIENCE OF BEING AT THE CONFERENCE.

"THIS IS ONE OF THE MOST IMPORTANT PRIORITIES, HE CONTINUED. "IF WE DON'T MAKE OUR CASE KNOWN NOW, WE'LL NEVER HAVE ANOTHER CHANCE TO PRESENT IT," THE PRESIDENT URGED.

YAP SENATOR JOHN MANGFEL CALLED TO THE ATTENTION OF THE SENATORS SUCH PROPOSED EXPENSES AS AIRFREIGHT FOR FIVE TYPEWRITERS TO THE GENEVA AND POSSIBLY A CARACAS, VENEZUELA, CONFERENCE. HE STATED, HOWEVER, THAT THE MONEY TO BE SPENT ON THESE CONFERENCES WOULD BE "A DROP IN THE BUCKET" IF MICRONESIA GETS ITS RIGHTS IN THE SEA.

IN OTHER FLOOR ACTION IN THE SENATE A BILL ESTABLISHING A MORTGAGE LAW AND FORECLOSURE PROCEEDINGS (SB 6-32) PASSED WITH SEN. MANGFEL VOTING AGAINST. THE RESOURCES AND DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE AMENDED THE BILL AFTER SEN. MANGFEL OBJECTED TO ITS WORTH FOR ALL THE DISTRICTS, ESPECIALLY YAP. APPARENTLY, HE WAS NOT MOLLIFIED BY THE AMENDMENT.

THE SUBJECTS OF TWO FILED BILLS, EXPLAINED THE JUDICIARY AND GOVERNMENTAL OPERATIONS (J&GO) COMMITTEE REPORTS, ARE BEING DEALT WITH IN TWO OTHER BILLS, WHICH TREAT THOSE SUBJECTS BETTER. J&GO CHAIRMAN LAZARUS SALII (PALAU) EXPLAINED TO THE SENATORS THAT IT IS THE POLICY OF THAT COMMITTEE NOT TO ACT ON A BILL, WHEN THE SUBJECT IS BEING CONSIDERED BY ANOTHER COMMITTEE. THE TWO FILED BILLS, ARE: TO GRANT CERTAIN EMERGENCY POWERS TO DISTRICT ADMINISTRATORS TO PROVIDE FOR THE CONTROL OF PRICES ON STAPLE ITEMS, (SB 6-15); AND A BILL WHOSE INTENT IS TO PERMIT PERSONS FORMERLY CITIZENS OF THE TRUST TERRITORY BUT WHO HAVE BEEN NATURALIZED AS CITIZENS OF ANOTHER COUNTRY, TO OWN LAND IN THE TT, (SB 6-128).

ONE SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION WAS ADOPTED BY THE MEMBERS. IT REQUESTS THE MICON TO INVITE A TEAM OF EXPERTS FROM JAPAN TO PROPOSE PROJECTS THAT THE JAPANESE AND TT GOVERNMENTS AND PRIVATE BUSINESSMEN COULD PARTICIPATE IN TO CONTRIBUTE TO THE ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT OF MICRONESIA. THE RESOLUTION ALSO DIRECTS THE CONGRESS PRESIDING OFFICERS TO APPOINT A SPECIAL COMMITTEE TO WORK WITH THE JAPAN DELEGATION, (SJR 6-33).

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, A BILL APPROPRIATING \$400,000 TO PURCHASE SCHOOL BUSES FOR PALAU, POUAPE, TRUK, MARSHALLS AND YAP DISTRICTS (HB 6-8) PASSED SECOND READING AND WILL BE TRANSMITTED TO THE SENATE FOR FURTHER ACTIONS. THE BILL, ORIGINALLY ASKED FOR \$316,000 BUT THE APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE MADE SEVERAL AMENDMENTS TO THE BILL TO INCLUDE SEVERAL MORE BUSES. IN A ROLL CALL VOTE, POUAPE REPRESENTATIVE RESIO MOSES CAST THE ONE NEGATIVE VOTE.

THE HOUSE ALSO ADOPTED ONE SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION, FILED A HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION AND ADOPTED THREE OTHERS, FILED UPON THE RECOMMENDATION OF THE HOUSE COMMITTEE ON RESOURCES AND DEVELOPMENT IS A RESOLUTION TO REQUEST THE COPRA STABILIZATION BOARD (CSB) TO INCREASE THE PRICE OF COPRA BROUGHT IN FROM THE OUTER ISLANDS BY 50 CENTS PER BAG TO EQUALIZE PRICES BETWEEN THE DISTRICT CENTERS AND THE OUTLYING ISLANDS, (HJR 6-37).

ACCORDING TO THE RESOURCES AND DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE THAT STUDIED THE RESOLUTION, THE CSB RECENTLY VOTED TO DO PRECISELY WHAT THE RESOLUTION REQUESTS. THE COMMITTEE "DOES NOT SUPPORT THE RESOLUTION, OR THE INCREASE, BECAUSE OF ITS DISCRIMINATORY

IMPACT," THE REPORT STATED. IT FURTHER STATED THAT COPRA PRODUCERS LIVING NEAR THE DISTRICT CENTER OFTEN "SPEND MORE MONEY TO SHIP THEIR COPRA TO THE DISTRICT CENTER THAN DO OUTER ISLANDERS" BECAUSE PRODUCERS SHIP THEIR COPRA BY OUTBOARD MOTOR BOAT AND PAY EXORBITANT FUEL PRICES. THE COMMITTEE RECOMMENDS THAT THE BOARD STUDY THE POSSIBILITY OF SUBSIDIZING ALL FREIGHT COSTS, BOTH DISTRICT CENTER AND OUTER ISLANDS INVOLVED IN TRANSPORTING COPRA TO THE DOCK AREA IN THE DISTRICT CENTER.

THE OTHER RESOLUTIONS THAT WERE ADOPTED ARE: REQUESTING THE U.S. CONGRESS TO AMEND THE LEGISLATION ESTABLISHING THE ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT LOAN FUND, SO AS TO PERMIT THE FUNDS TO BE ADMINISTERED BY THE BANK OF MICRONESIA, (SJR 6-3); REQUESTING THE DIRECTOR OF THE DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION AND COMMUNICATIONS TO CONDUCT A STUDY REGARDING THE FEASIBILITY OF ESTABLISHING ONE OR MORE TRANSSHIPMENT PORTS IN MICRONESIA, (HJR 6-49); AND A RESOLUTION REQUESTING THE HICOM TO TAKE ACTION IN IMPLEMENTING PLANS AND RECOMMENDATIONS FOR CONSTRUCTION OF ADDITIONAL FACILITIES FOR THE COMMUNITY COLLEGE OF MICRONESIA, (HJR 6-34).

THE HOUSE RESOLUTION ADOPTED IS EXPRESSING SINCERE APPRECIATION AND THANKS TO THE DIRECTOR, STAFF AND STUDENTS OF THE MICRONESIAN OCCUPATIONAL CENTER FOR THEIR PAST AND CONTINUED COOPERATION AND SUPPORT TO DISTRICT PROGRAMS AND PROJECTS IN THE PALAU DISTRICT, (HR 6-10).

DURING MONDAY EVENING'S (FEB. 24) SESSION THE FOLLOWING BILLS WERE INTRODUCED: PROVIDE \$50,000 TO MAKE A VISUAL RECORD OF YAPSESE CULTURE DURING 1976-77, (SB 6-177); AMENDING SECTIONS OF THE TT CODE TO PROVIDE A TEN PERCENT DIFFERENTIAL TO COOPERATING TEACHERS AND SUPERVISORS OF COOPERATING TEACHERS, (SB 6-178); AMENDING SECTIONS OF THE TT CODE REGARDING SANITARY CONDITIONS AND REGULATIONS OF PROPERTY AND PUBLIC PLACES, (SB 6-179); AND A BILL TO AMEND SECTIONS OF PUBLIC LAW 5-60 RELATING TO THE MICRONESIAN CONCON SESSION, (SB 6-180).

THE FOLLOWING TWO SENATE JOINT RESOLUTIONS WERE INTRODUCED: TO COMMEND THE REV. EDMUND KALAU, HIS MISSION AND ITS SUPPORTERS FOR INSTITUTING THE AIR SERVICE BETWEEN YAP ISLAND AND ULITHI ATOLL, (SJR 6-36); AND RELATIVE TO THE SOCIAL, ECONOMIC AND POLITICAL DEVELOPMENT OF THE TT, (SJR 6-30). (SEE FOLLOWING STORY FOR FURTHER COVERAGE OF THIS IMPORTANT RESOLUTION INTRODUCED BY SEN. MANGEFEL.)

INTRODUCED TUESDAY MORNING ARE: A MEASURE TO PROVIDE TEN PERCENT DIFFERENTIAL TO COOPERATING TEACHERS AND SUPERVISORS OF COOPERATING TEACHERS, (HB 6-277); APPROPRIATE \$50,000 TO PURCHASE A FIRE TRUCK FOR ROTA PUBLIC SAFETY SUBSTATION, (HB 6-278); AND A BILL TO AUTHORIZE AND DIRECT THE HICOM AND THE COMMITTEE ON THE CODE TO PROVIDE FOR THE COMPILATION, REVISION, CODIFICATION AND PUBLICATIONS OF THE PUBLIC LAWS AND STATUTES OF THE TRUST TERRITORY, INCLUDING SUPPLEMENTS AND SESSION LAWS AND; TO APPROPRIATE \$40,000 FOR ITS PURPOSE, (HB 6-279). THE JOINT RESOLUTION EXPRESSES APPRECIATION TO JOSEPH R. SMITH, FOR HIS SERVICES TO THE PEOPLE OF MICRONESIA, AND URGING CONTINENTAL AIR LINES, INC., TO RETAIN HIM AS MANAGER OF PUBLIC AFFAIRS AND GOVERNMENTAL RELATIONS OF AIR MICRONESIA, INC., (HJR 6-82).

THE FOLLOWING BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS WERE INTRODUCED MONDAY (FEB. 24). THE BILLS INCLUDE: A BILL TO ESTABLISH A RETIREMENT SYSTEM FOR TT GOVERNMENT EMPLOYEES, (HB 6-273); APPROPRIATE \$511,000 FOR CERTAIN PUBLIC PROJECTS IN TRUK DISTRICT, (HB 6-274); A NATURALIZATION MEASURE, (HB 6-275); AND A BILL TO ESTABLISH STANDARDS OF SANITATION TO SERVICE ESTABLISHMENTS, PROPERTY, SCHOOLS, HOSPITALS, LICENSING PEST CONTROL OPERATORS AND REVOCATION OR SUSPENSION OF LICENSE, (HB 6-276). 13694

THE JOINT RESOLUTIONS ARE: EXPRESSING SORROW AND EXTENDING DEEPEST SYMPATHIES AND CONDOLENCES TO THE FAMILY OF THE LATE ASSISTANT ATTORNEY GENERAL, CHARLES R. WHEELER, OF THE OFFICE OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL, (HJR 6-78); DIRECTING THE JOINT COMMITTEE

ON PROGRAM AND BUDGET PLANNING TO MAKE A THOROUGH INVESTIGATION OF THE STATUS OF ALL FUNDS APPROPRIATED BY THE CONGRESS FOR PROJECTS ON KUSAIE, (HJR 6-79); CONGRATULATING LYLE L. RICHMOND, JR., UPON HIS APPOINTMENT AS ATTORNEY GENERAL OF AMERICAN SAMOA, (HJR 6-80); AND URGING THE RUCOM TO SUPPORT THE ACCEPTANCE OF THE SITE SELECTION FOR THE KUSAIE AIRPORT AND HARBOR COMPLEX AT OKAT, KUSAIE ISLAND, (HJR 6-81).

THE HOUSE RESOLUTIONS ARE: TO DIRECT THE TRUK DISTAD AND DIRECTOR OF HEALTH SERVICES TO PROVIDE, TO PERSONS WHO HAVE BEEN BROUGHT TO THE DISTRICT CENTER FOR HOSPITALIZATION, FOOD OR CASH AFTER THEY HAVE BEEN DISCHARGED FROM THE HOSPITAL AND ARE AWAITING TRANSPORTATION BACK TO THEIR HOME ISLANDS, (HR 6-16); DIRECTING THE TRUK DISTAD TO CONDUCT A FEASIBILITY STUDY ON THE CONSTRUCTION OF DOCK ON PULUWAT ISLAND, AND SUBMIT A REPORT TO THE CONGRESS, (HR 6-17); AND REQUESTING THE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT TO ESTABLISH A COMPREHENSIVE EVALUATION SYSTEM FOR TEACHERS IN MICRONESIAN SCHOOLS, (HR 6-18).

BOTH HOUSES WILL MEET AT 10:00 A.M. WEDNESDAY (FEB. 26).

(CALL USERS; PLEASE CREDIT CONGRESS OF MICRONESIA)
(SENATE RESOLUTION WELCOMES DISNEY ENTERPRISES)

SAIPAN, FEB. 25 (CONGRESS RELEASE)---THE MONDAY EVENING (FEB. 24) SESSION OF THE MICRONESIAN SENATE WENT BY RATHER BRIEFLY AND WAS PERHAPS ONLY REMARKABLE FOR THE INTRODUCTION OF A SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION CALLING UPON WALT DISNEY-RELATED ENTERPRISES TO TAKE OVER DEVELOPMENT OF MICRONESIA.

THE RESOLUTION IS SPONSORED BY SENATOR JOHN MANGEFEL, A MEMBER OF CONGRESS KNOWN FOR HIS GREAT SENSE OF HUMOR.

THE RESOLUTION, CITED THE WALT DISNEY CORPORATION AS BEING WELL KNOWN FOR ITS FAMOUS TOURIST ATTRACTIONS OF DISNEYLAND IN CALIFORNIA AND DISNEYWORLD IN FLORIDA. IT ALSO CITED THAT DISNEYLAND CORPORATION PROVIDES ITS STOCKHOLDERS WITH A LOT OF MONEY AND A LOT OF GOOD "PUBLIC ENTERTAINMENT FROM FACILITIES WHICH ARE ENVIRONMENTALLY APPROPRIATE, IN THAT THEY PROMOTE CLEAN AIR, CLEAN WATER AND CLEAN FUN..." UNLIKE THE POORLY DEVELOPED TRUST TERRITORY WHICH HAS "POLLUTED LAGOONS AND WATERWAYS, RAUCOUS PLACES OF ENTERTAINMENT WHICH DO NOT CATER TO FAMILIES..." IF SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 6-39 IS ADOPTED BY THE CONGRESS, IT WILL ALSO INVITE DISNEY CHARACTERS TO COME TO MICRONESIA AND TAKE OVER VARIOUS POSITIONS IN THE GOVERNMENT. THE RESOLUTION INVITES THE FOLLOWING WONDERFUL CHARACTERS FROM DISNEYLAND:

MICKY MOUSE, WHO WILL SERVE AS HIGH COMMISSIONER; DONALD DUCK, DEPUTY HIGH COMMISSIONER; MOUSEKETEERS AS MEMBERS OF THE CONGRESS OF MICRONESIA; GOOFY AS ATTORNEY GENERAL; PLUTO AS SUPERINTENDENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY; SCROOGE MCDUCK AS DIRECTOR OF RESOURCES AND DEVELOPMENT; CAPTAIN HOOK AS CHIEF OF TRANSPORTATION; PORKY PIG AS CHIEF OF AGRICULTURE; (NO CHANGE FOR CHIEF OF MARINE RESOURCES); HUEY, LOUIE AND DEWEY DUCK WILL WORK IN THE COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT DIVISION; MARY POPPINS AS CHIEF OF PUBLIC INFORMATION OFFICE; SNOW WHITE AS OFFICIAL TT HOSTESS; AND, THE SEVEN DWARFS WHO WILL EACH SERVE IN THE POSITIONS OF THE FUTURE SEVEN DISTRICT ADMINISTRATORS WHEN KUSAIE BECOMES A SEPARATE DISTRICT IN 1977.

THE RESOLUTION WAS REFERRED TO THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON RESOURCES AND DEVELOPMENT FOR CONSIDERATION.

(JAPANESE FISHING VESSEL SINKS)

TRUK, FEB. 25 (MNS)---A JAPANESE FISHING VESSEL, SANMI MARU NO. 11, OWNED BY THE TOYOMIKA COMPANY IN TOKYO, JAPAN, WAS REPORTED STRANDED ON FANANU ISLAND'S REEF, ONE OF THE ISLANDS IN THE KALL ISLANDS AREA OF TRUK DISTRICT, ACCORDING TO TRUK'S PUBLIC INFORMATION OFFICER, NOHA RUBEN. THE INCIDENT TOOK PLACE ABOUT TWO WEEKS AGO THURSDAY (FEB. 13).

ACCORDING TO INFORMATION RECEIVED LAST WEEK BY THE TRUK DISTRICT OFFICE, ALL 13 CREW MEMBERS WERE ALRIGHT, BUT ATTEMPTS TO REFLOAT THE BOAT HAD BEEN IMPOSSIBLE. BOAT MASTER TADAO HONDA AND THE OTHER CREW MEMBERS HAD TO ABANDON THE BOAT, AND THEY ARE NOW BEING TAKEN CARE OF BY THE CHIEF MAGISTRATE AND THE ISLANDERS OF FANANU.

THE APPARENT CAUSE OF THE TRAGEDY IS STILL UNKNOWN, AND IT IS ANTICIPATED THAT AS SOON AS THE CREW ARRIVES ON MOEN, TRUK'S DISTRICT CENTER, THEN THAT INFORMATION WILL BE BROUGHT TO LIGHT.

PUBLIC INFORMATION OFFICER RUBEN REPORTED THAT AT PRESENT, THE TRUK FISHING AUTHORITY IS BUSY CONTACTING THE VESSEL OWNER, TOYOMEKA COMPANY IN TOKYO, FOR THE ARRANGEMENT OF TRANSPORTATION FOR THE THIRTEEN STRANDED CREW MEMBERS.

INCIDENTALLY, SANMI MARU NO. 11 IS THE SECOND VICTIM OF THE MONTH OF FEBRUARY AFTER THE MV LAURABATA, OWNED BY CONGRESSMAN RAYMOND SETIK, SANK 45 MILES WEST OF THE TRUK LAGOON DUE TO ROUGH SEAS. ALL CREW MEMBERS AND PASSENGERS WERE RESCUED FROM THE LAURABATA BEFORE THE SHIP SANK.

(DELINQUENCY PREVENTION FUNDS THREATENED)

SAIPAN, FEB. 25 (NNS)---THE DIVISION OF COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT ANNOUNCED THIS WEEK THAT NO FUNDS ARE BEING SOUGHT BY THE ADMINISTRATION IN WASHINGTON TO FUND THE JUVENILE JUSTICE AND DELINQUENCY PREVENTION ACT OF 1974. THIS LAW INCLUDES PARTICIPATION BY THE TRUST TERRITORY AND ALLOCATES A MINIMUM OF \$50,000 TO BE SPENT FOR PROGRAMS AIMED AT PREVENTING JUVENILE DELINQUENCY IN MICRONESIA.

THE LOSS OF THESE FUNDS WOULD COME AT A PARTICULARLY BAD TIME BECAUSE THEY WERE TO REPLACE AN ANNUAL GRANT ASSISTANCE FROM THE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH, EDUCATION AND WELFARE (HEW) WHICH ALSO HAVE BEEN CUT OUT THIS YEAR. THE NEW FUNDS HAVE BEEN USED TO HELP PALAU, TRUK AND YAP TO ORGANIZE LOCAL YOUTH SERVICES AGENCIES AND COMMISSIONS DURING THE PAST THREE YEARS.

A SPOKESMAN IN COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT SAID THAT IF FEDERAL FUNDS CEASE TO BE AVAILABLE, IT IS NOT CLEAR HOW THE PRESENT YOUTH SERVICES PROGRAM CAN BE CONTINUED.

(CALL USERS: PLEASE CREDIT CONGRESS OF MICRONESIA)
(PALAU FESTIVITIES)

SAIPAN, FEB. 25 (CONGRESS RELEASE)---"LET UNION ABIDE" WAS THE THEME OF MEETINGS AND FESTIVITIES IN PALAU DISTRICT THIS PAST WEEKEND ATTENDED BY THE PRESIDING OFFICERS AND THE MEMBERS OF THE CONGRESS OF MICRONESIA AT THE INVITATION OF PALAUAN HIGH CHIEFS IBEJUL AND REKLAI.

IN THEIR FEBRUARY 13 LETTER OF INVITATION, THE TWO HIGH CHIEFS WROTE OF NEED TO "RE-DEDICATE OURSELVES" TO NATIONAL GOALS AND TO "FURTHER THIS END, THE PEOPLE...OF PALAU SHALL HOLD A DAY OF FESTIVITIES IN KORON ON THE THEME: "MICRONESIAN UNITY", ON FEBRUARY 23, 1975.

THE FESTIVITIES, TO WHICH THE HIGH COMMISSIONER AND KEY ADMINISTRATION STAFF WERE ALSO INVITED, INCLUDED AN EVENING RECEPTION ON SATURDAY (FEB. 22), A TRIP TO THE ROCK ISLANDS SUNDAY MORNING (FEB. 23), AND A MICRONESIAN FEAST WITH TRADITIONAL DANCING SUNDAY EVENING AT THE ROYAL PALAUAN HOTEL.

AT THE SUNDAY EVENING GATHERING AT WHICH ONE OBSERVER ESTIMATED SOME 900 PEOPLE ATTENDED, HIGH CHIEF IBEJUL, ACTING HIGH CHIEF REKLAI, AND DISTRICT ADMINISTRATOR THOMAS REMENGESAU DELIVERED REMARKS ON THE THEME OF UNITY.

ALSO ADDRESSING THE GATHERING WERE HIGH COMMISSIONER EDWARD E. JOHNSTON, SENATE PRESIDENT TOSIMO NAKAYAMA, AND SPEAKER BETHVEL HENRY, AS WELL AS MEMBERS OF THE CONGRESS OF MICRONESIA REPRESENTING ALL SIX CONGRESSIONAL DELEGATIONS.

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IN HIS SPEECH, HIGH CHIEF IBEDUL FIRST TALKED OF THE BEAUTY AND BOUNTY OF HIS DISTRICT, SAYING THAT HE WAS NOT "SELLING" PALAU, BUT POINTING OUT "WHAT WE HAVE, WHAT WE TREASURE, WHAT WE DEPEND ON, AND WHAT WE ARE PROTECTING FOR POSTERITY. WE CANNOT SELL OUR LIVES--OUR BIRTH-RIGHTS," HE SAID.

"WE KNOW, TOO WELL, HOW PALAU HAS BEEN BLUE-PRINTED AS A FUTURE TOURIST LAND, OR AS PORT FOR SUPER-TANKERS, OR A MILITARY RETENTION AREA" HE RELATED, BUT THAT ALL THIS WAS DONE "BEFORE WE SAW THE REALIZATION OF OUR LONG FOUGHT FOR DREAM, THE RETURN OF OUR LAND! ALL THESE WERE DONE IN SAIPAN, IN JAPAN, OR IN WASHINGTON WITHOUT OUR PEOPLE'S FULL KNOWLEDGE AND PARTICIPATION."

HE NOTED THAT SUCH ACTIONS CONCERNED HIM, AND THAT "WE DO NOT SEEM TO MAKE THE BLUE-PRINT FOR OURSELVES; WE DO NOT SEEM TO HAVE DEVELOPMENTS FALLING IN LINE WITH SOME UNIFIED AND COORDINATED PLAN FOR OUR FUTURE; WE DO NOT SEEM TO BE COHESIVELY UNITED, AND UNITED ON A CLEAR GROUND."

HIGH CHIEF IBEDUL THEN CONCLUDED BY SAYING THAT MICRONESIANS NEED TO BE MORE "SELF-POSSESSED AND SELF-RELIANT". HE SAID THAT MICRONESIANS DID NOT HAVE TO DEVELOP ACCORDING TO PLANS BEYOND THEIR CONTROLS AND THAT "WE NEED NOT LOSE WHAT WE HAVE IN ORDER TO SHARE WHAT WE HAVE WITH OTHERS," AND ADDED THAT THERE WAS NEED FOR A UNITED FRONT BEFORE THERE WAS FURTHER "FRAGMENTATION".

"A HOUSE DIVIDED AGAINST ITSELF CANNOT STAND; A NATION DIVIDED AGAINST ITSELF CANNOT ENDURE," HE ENDED.

IN HIS REMARKS, SENATE PRESIDENT TOSIWO NAKAYAMA, RECALLED THAT IN THE PAST, THE VERY EXISTENCE OF THE CONGRESS OF MICRONESIA "COMPOSED OF ELECTED MICRONESIANS FROM THE VARIOUS DISTRICTS...SAID MORE THAN ANY SPEECH ABOUT UNITY."

BUT BECAUSE OF VARIOUS INFLUENCES, HE NOTED THAT THERE HAVE BEEN RECENTLY MANY PUBLIC STATEMENTS WHICH SOME PEOPLE SEE AS "SUPPORTING DISUNITY IN OUR ISLANDS."

HE STATED THAT IT WAS HIS OPINION THAT THOSE WHO SPOKE IN FAVOR OF UNITY, AND THOSE WHO SPOKE OF PROBLEMS WHICH MUST BE SOLVED BEFORE UNITY CAN BECOME A REALITY ARE ALL SPEAKING OF THE SAME MATTER AND WORKING "TOWARD THE SAME GOAL."

HE INDICATED THAT AS IN THE PAST, THE CONGRESS WOULD CONTINUE TO WORK FOR MICRONESIAN UNITY IN ORDER TO MAKE IT "NOT JUST A WELL KNOWN PHRASE, BUT A REALITY."

SPEAKER BETHWEL HENRY ADDRESSED THE SPECIAL DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES OF MICRONESIAN LEADERS TO LOOK AHEAD AND PLAN AHEAD FOR THEIR PEOPLE NOTING THAT "THE CARRYING OUT OF ACTUAL PLANS...CAN OFTEN BE LIKE A RIDE ON A BUMPY ROAD FULL OF PITFALLS AND DETOURS."

"THE UNITY OF MICRONESIA, WHICH IS THE VERY COMMENDABLE THEME OF THIS MEETING IN PALAU, IS LIKE A ROAD WHICH MAY NOT ALWAYS BE EASY TO TRAVEL, BUT WHICH IS WORTH TRAVELLING, BECAUSE AT ITS END, WE WILL FIND DIVERSITY, BEAUTY, AND STRENGTH," HE SAID.

HE SAID THAT SUCH INSTITUTIONS AS THE CONGRESS AND THE CONSTITUTIONAL CONVENTION, AND PAST MEETINGS OF MICRONESIAN TRADITIONAL CHIEFS WERE WAYS BY WHICH SOLUTIONS FOR CURRENT PROBLEMS COULD BE FOUND, CONCLUDING THAT THE PALAU MEETING "IS A SIGN THAT THE PEOPLE, LIKE THE OTHER PEOPLE OF MICRONESIA ARE READY TO MAKE THAT JOURNEY TOWARD UNITY, TOWARD A NEW POLITICAL STATUS, AND TOWARD A NEW GOVERNMENT."

FOLLOWING THE SPEECHES, MICRONESIAN SONGS AND DANCES WERE PERFORMED UNTIL 10 P.M., AND THE FOLLOWING MORNING (FEB. 24) MEMBERS OF CONGRESS AND THE ADMINISTRATION RETURNED TO SAIPAN ON AIR MICRONESIA.