

1975
TRUK CONCON DELEGATES VISITS OUTER ISLANDS)

FILE

TRUK, MAR. 13 (MNS)---AN EXTENSIVE FACT-FINDING TRIP WAS CONDUCTED BY THE TRUK CONSTITUTIONAL CONVENTION, (CONCON) DELEGATION LAST WEEK, IN THE LAGOON ISLANDS IN TRUK DISTRICT INCLUDING THE OUTER ISLANDS OF FAICHUK, TRUK PUBLIC INFORMATION OFFICER NOMA RUBEN REPORTED. THE TRUK DELEGATION WILL CONTINUE ITS TRIP UNTIL ALL THE OUTER ISLANDS IN THE DISTRICT HAVE BEEN VISITED, ACCORDING TO RUBEN.

DELEGATION CHAIRMAN CHUTOMU NIWES INDICATED THAT THE PURPOSE OF THE FACT-FINDING TRIP IS TO OBTAIN DIRECT INPUT FROM THE TRUK COMMUNITY LEADERS, AS WELL AS FROM THOSE ON THE GRASS ROOTS LEVEL, REGARDING WHAT TYPE OF CONSTITUTION MICRONESIA SHOULD HAVE.

A DRAFT OF A PROPOSED CONSTITUTION MADE BY THE TRUK DELEGATION MEMBERS SET UP GUIDELINES FOR DISCUSSION IN EACH MEETING WITH THE LOCAL PEOPLE. THE PROPOSED CONSTITUTION CONTAINS A PREAMBLE WHICH PROVIDES JUSTICE, DOMESTIC TRANQUILITY, DEFENSE, GENERAL WELFARE AND LIBERTY FOR THE PEOPLE IN THE NEW GOVERNMENT. IT ALSO PROVIDE THREE BRANCHES OF GOVERNMENT; A BI-CAMERAL CONGRESS, A PRESIDENT, AND A JUDICIARY SYSTEM--EACH WITH SPECIFIC DUTIES AND POWER, BASED ON A DEMOCRATIC FORM OF GOVERNMENT.

TAXES AND REVENUES, AGE FOR ELIGIBLE VOTERS, PENAL SYSTEM, WHO SHALL HOLD PUBLIC OFFICE, CITIZENSHIP, NATIONAL LANGUAGE, AND THE PROPOSED SITE OF THE NEW CAPITAL OF MICRONESIA ARE ALSO INCLUDED IN THE PROPOSED DRAFT CONSTITUTION, RUBEN INDICATED.

THE CONCON DELEGATES FOUND OUT DURING ONE OF THEIR VISITS TO THE OUTER ISLANDS THAT SOME OF THE LEADERS URGED THAT A CONSTITUTION BE DRAFTED TO FIT A SOCIALISTIC TYPE OF GOVERNMENT, WHICH WOULD RESTRICT INDIVIDUALS FROM OWNING BIG BUSINESSES OR PRIVATE VESSELS, ETC.

CONGRESS OF MICRONESIA PRESIDENT TOSIWO NAKAYAMA, ALSO A MEMBER OF THE TRUK CONCON DELEGATION, ASKED DURING THE FEFAN MEETING WHAT TYPE OF LEGISLATIVE BODY THE PEOPLE PREFERRED OTHER THAN THE CONGRESS OF MICRONESIA.

SOME OF THE LEADERS PREFERRED A UNICAMERAL LEGISLATURE TO MAKE UP THE CONGRESS OF MICRONESIA, OTHERS FAVORED THE PRESENT BICAMERAL SYSTEM, WHERE ONE HOUSE WILL COMPRISE OF ELECTED MEMBERS, AND THE OTHER HOUSE BE COMPOSED OF TRADITIONAL LEADERS, RUBEN POINTED OUT.

THE THREE ISLAND LEADERS OF TISIS, PAREM, AND FEFAN AGREED THAT A HIGHER-LEGISLATIVE-BODY, LIKE THE CONGRESS OF MICRONESIA, IS NECESSARY TO MAINTAIN A SENSE OF UNITY AMONG THE DISTRICTS, RUBEN INDICATED.

REGARDING THE SELECTION OF CHIEF EXECUTIVE, SOME OF THE LEADERS WANTED A COUNCIL OF SIX ELECTED MEMBERS ONE FROM EACH DISTRICT WHILE OTHERS WANTED ONE PERSON WHO WOULD BE APPOINTED BY THE CONGRESS TO HEAD THE PROPOSED GOVERNMENT.

REGARDING THE QUESTION OF CHIEF EXECUTIVE, SENATORS OR CONGRESSMEN, SEVERAL PEOPLE FEEL THAT ONLY MICRONESIAN CITIZENS CAN RUN FOR THESE OFFICES PRECLUDING NATURALIZED AND NON-CITIZENS.

MOST OF THE PEOPLE AGREED THAT ENGLISH WILL BE THE NATIONAL LANGUAGE, AND CHOSE TRUK DISTRICT AS THE SITE OF THE NEW CAPITAL OF MICRONESIA BECAUSE OF ITS REMOTENESS AND PRODUCTIVITY, ACCORDING TO RUBEN.

THE TRUK CONCON DELEGATION HOPES TO VISIT NANOWEAS AND MOEN BEFORE RESUMING ITS TRIP TO THE OUTER ISLANDS.

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(CALL USERS: PLEASE CREDIT CONGRESS OF MICRONESIA)
(MICRONESIAN DELEGATION TO GENEVA)

SAIPAN, MAR. 13 (CONGRESS RELEASE)---A MICRONESIAN DELEGATION TO THE UNITED NATIONS SPONSORED LAW OF THE SEA CONFERENCE WILL LEAVE THE TRUST TERRITORY THIS WEEKEND TO ATTEND THE LAW OF THE SEA CONFERENCE IN GENEVA, SWITZERLAND.

THE MICRONESIAN DELEGATION, CHAIRED BY MARSHALLS REPRESENTATIVE CHARLES DOWNICK WILL ATTEND THE THIRD SESSION OF THE INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE AT THE SPECIAL INVITATION OF THE UNITED NATIONS GENERAL ASSEMBLY. ABOUT 150 NATIONS ARE EXPECTED TO ATTEND THE CONFERENCE WHICH WILL RUN FROM MARCH 17 TO MAY 10.

MICRONESIA WAS A PART OF THE AMERICAN DELEGATION DURING THE CARACAS CONFERENCE LAST SUMMER. HOWEVER, CONGRESS HAS SINCE CONCLUDED THAT MICRONESIA'S INTERESTS CAN BEST BE PROTECTED IF MICRONESIA REPRESENTS ITSELF. AS A CONSEQUENCE, THE DELEGATION HAS OBTAINED OFFICIAL OBSERVER STATUS OF THE GENEVA CONFERENCE.

AS A RESULT, DURING THE FORTHCOMING GENEVA CONFERENCE, MICRONESIA WILL HAVE FULL PARTICIPATION IN THE MEETINGS BUT WILL NOT HAVE A VOTE SINCE VOTING RIGHTS ARE RESERVED TO FULL SOVEREIGN STATES. OTHER OFFICIAL OBSERVERS INCLUDE PAPUA-NEW GUINEA, THE COOK ISLANDS, AND SEVERAL TERRITORIES IN THE CARIBBEAN AREA.

A DELEGATION SPOKESMAN SAID IT IS HOPED THAT AGREEMENTS REACHED IN THIS SESSION OF THE CONFERENCE WILL ENABLE SIGNING OF LAW OF THE SEA TREATY WHICH MEETS SOME OR ALL OF THE LAW OF THE SEA INTERESTS AS EXPRESSED IN MICRONESIA'S PRELIMINARY POSITION PAPER OF MAY OF 1973.

THE CONGRESS' PRELIMINARY POSITION CLAIMS FULL JURISDICTION OVER ALL WATERS WITHIN THE MICRONESIAN ARCHIPELAGO AND RESOURCE JURISDICTION OVER A 200-MILE ZONE AROUND THE ARCHIPELAGO.

THE MICRONESIAN DELEGATION SPOKESMAN SAID JAPAN ALONE TAKES ABOUT 30,000 TONS OF SKIPJACK FROM MICRONESIAN WATERS VALUED AT ABOUT \$50-MILLION PER YEAR. THIS IS WHY MICRONESIA HAS SOUGHT TO PARTICIPATE IN THIS AND PREVIOUS CONFERENCES TO PROTECT ITS OCEAN RESOURCES FROM EXPLOITATION BY DEVELOPED COUNTRIES WITH LARGE FISHING FLEETS SUCH AS JAPAN AND THE UNITED STATES.

OTHER MEMBERS OF THE DELEGATION ARE: REPRESENTATIVE RESIO NOSES, VICE-CHAIRMAN; REPRESENTATIVE LUKE TWAN, MEMBER, AND SENATOR NICK BOSSY, MEMBER. THE DELEGATION WILL BE ACCOMPANIED BY COUNSELS-FREDRICK-L. RAMP AND FREDERICK S. WYLE IN ADDITION TO FORMER SENATOR ANDON AMARAICH OF TRUK, SPECIAL CONSULTANT; HOUSE CLERK ASTERIO TAKESY AND TOKIE IKSL, THE DELEGATION'S STENOGRAPHER.

(BILLS RECEIVED)

SAIPAN, MAR. 13 (HNS)---SIXTEEN BILLS, MOST OF THEM APPROPRIATION MEASURES, WERE RECEIVED BY THE OFFICE OF THE HIGH COMMISSIONER THURSDAY, (MAR. 10). THE HIGH COMMISSIONER HAS 30 DAYS FROM THE DAY HE RECEIVED THE BILLS TO ACT ON THEM.

THE BILLS ARE: GRANTING THE TRADITIONAL CHIEFS WHO ARE DELEGATES TO THE CONSTITUTIONAL CONVENTION THE RIGHT TO VOTE, (SB 6-34);

- EARMARKING \$30,000 TO RE-ENGINE THE NS KASELEKLI, (SB 6-175);

- APPROPRIATING \$300,000 FOR STUDENT LOAN FUND AND \$100,000 FOR SCHOLARSHIPS, (SB 6-149);

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- TO AMEND PL 5-60, (CONCON LAW) TO EMPOWER THE PRE-CONVENTION COMMITTEE TO APPOINT A CREDENTIALS COMMITTEE AND PRESCRIBE ITS DUTIES, (SB 6-63);
- TO PROVIDE FOR ADVICE AND CONSENT OF DISTRICT COURT JUDGES BY THE CONGRESS OF MICRONESIA, (SB 6-2);
- TO PROVIDE FOR THE ORDERLY DISTRIBUTION OF MAIL TO THE OUTER ISLANDS OF MICRONESIA, (SB 6-84);
- A BILL TO REQUIRE THE CHIEF OF THE LABOR DIVISION TO MAINTAIN UP-TO-DATE INFORMATION ON LABOR IN THE TT INCLUDING PROGRAMS AND FACILITIES, APPLICABLE LEGISLATION AND STATISTICS, (SB 6-28);
- APPROPRIATE \$90,000 TO CONSTRUCT A SEAWALL ON KUTTU, MOOH AND PALABEUETS ISLANDS IN TRUK, (HB 6-132);
- APPROPRIATE \$52,000 FOR PUBLIC IMPROVEMENT PROJECTS AND PURCHASES FOR KUSAIE ISLAND, (HB 6-149);
- PROVIDE \$253,764 FOR THE CONTINGENT EXPENSES OF THE MICRONESIA CONSTITUTIONAL CONVENTION, AND FOR DISTRICT DELEGATIONS, (HB 6-197);
- APPROPRIATE \$671,223 FOR THE BUDGET OF THE LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL OFFICE, (HB 6-154);
- PROVIDE \$400,000 AS A GRANT TO THE MARSHALL ISLANDS DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY FOR COPRA DEVELOPMENT AND IMPROVEMENT PROJECTS, (HB 6-235);
- A BILL TO CREATE REVOLVING FUNDS IN EACH DISTRICT, AUTHORIZE THE COLLECTION OF LANDING FEES ON AIRCRAFT AND EARMARK LANDING FEES FOR AIRPORT MAINTENANCE, (HB 6-263);
- APPROPRIATE \$500,000 FOR THE EXPENSES OF THE SENATE, (HB 6-177);
- A MEASURE TO PROVIDE ACCOUNTING AND MANAGEMENT OF PUBLIC FUNDS, (HB 6-67);
- AND A BILL TO APPROPRIATE \$616,000 FOR THE OPERATIONS OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, (HB 6-173).

(WHALES FOUND ON ASOR)

YAP, MARCH 13 (MNS)---TWO WHALES WERE DISCOVERED RECENTLY ON THE NORTH EASTERN TIP OF ASOR ISLAND, IN ULITHI ATOLL, YAP DISTRICT. BOTH WHALES WERE WASHED ASHORE THE PREVIOUS DAY. ACCORDING TO OUTER ISLANDS HIGH SCHOOL (OIS) NEWS IN ULITHI.

THE MALE WHALE WAS MEASURED TO BE ABOUT 12 FEET THREE INCHES, WHILE THE FEMALE ON AT 18 FEET FOUR INCHES.

TWO BOATS FROM FALALOP AND ULITHI ATOLLS TOWED THE LIFELESS BODIES TO THE MOENOG ISLAND, WHERE THE MEAT WAS PREPARED AND DIVIDED AMONG THE PEOPLE OF BOTH ISLANDS AND ULITHI HIGH SCHOOL.

THE OLDER PEOPLE ENJOYED THE WHALE MEAT, WHILE THE YOUNGSTERS DIDN'T, THE ULITHI OIS NEWSPAPER POINTED OUT.