

THE SUBCOMMITTEE, CHAIRED BY REP. PHILIP BURTON, (D-CALIF), WHICH GENERALLY PREVAILS IN THE FULL INTERIOR COMMITTEE, APPROVED ANOTHER \$15 MILLION FOR MICRONESIA FOR THE CURRENT FISCAL YEAR--RAISING THE AUTHORIZATION CEILING FROM \$60 MILLION TO \$75 MILLION.

IT ALSO APPROVED BURTON'S BILL TO PROVIDE \$3 MILLION TO THE PEOPLE DISPALCED FROM BIKINI DURING THE NUCLEAR TESTING AFTER WORLD WAR II AND ACCEPTED AND BILL THE SENATE PASSED LAST WEEK TO GIVE \$1.5 MILLION TO THE NORTHERN MARIANAS FOR COSTS FOR TRANSITION TO THE PROPOSED COMMONWEALTH STATUS.

THE SENATE BILL HOLD THE TRANSITION MONEY FOR RELEASE AFTER CONGRESS APPROVES THE COMMONWEALTH COVENANT. BURTON SAID HE DIDN'T LIKE THIS DELAY, BUT DISLIKE IT LESS THAN MAKING THE MONEY SEEM CONDITIONAL ON APPROVAL BY THE PEOPLE OF THE MARIANAS IN THE PLEBISCITE.

THE INTERIOR DEPARTMENT IS ASKING \$80 MILLION FOR MICRONESIA IN THE COMING FISCAL YEAR, BUT THE SUBCOMMITTEE DID NOT ACT ON THAT REQUEST ON TUESDAY (MARCH 25).

REP. BURTON ALSO EXTRACTED FROM TRUST TERRITORY HIGH COMMISSIONER EDWARD E. JOHNSTON A PROMISE THAT HE WOULD NOT INTERFERE WITH, OR LET ANY OF HIS SUBORDINATES TRY TO INFLUENCE, THE JUNE PLEBISCITE IN WHICH CITIZENS OF THE NORTHERN MARIANAS WILL VOTE ON WHETHER TO ENTER A COMMONWEALTH RELATIONSHIP WITH THE U.S.

JOHNSTON SAID THAT HE WAS PLEASED TO MAKE IT A MATTER OF RECORD THAT HE HAS NO PLANS TO GET INVOLVED IN THE PLEBISCITE AND THAT HE HAS STEERED CLEAR OF ANY INVOLVMENT IN THE STATUS PROCEEDINGS.

(MEDICAL SEMINAR RESUMED IN PALAU)

KOROR, MARCH 26 (MNS)---MEDICAL OFFICERS THROUGHOUT MICRONESIA RESUMED ITS WEEK-LONG SEMINAR TUESDAY (MAR. 25), IN KOROR, ACCORDING TO PALAU PUBLIC INFORMATION OFFICER DAVID NGERMIDOL. THE SEMINAR IS BEING HELD AT THE McDONALD MEMORIAL HOSPITAL CONFERENCE ROOM.

THE SEMINAR DREW PARTICIPANTS FROM THE TT HEADQUARTERS AND CONSULTANTS FROM AUSTRALIA.

PALAU DISTRICT DIRECTOR OF HEALTH SERVICES DR. MINORU UKI GAVE THE WELCOMING REMARKS, FOLLOWED BY HIGH CHIEF IBEDUL; KOROR MAYOR RUBASH FRITZ; DISTRICT ADMINISTRATOR THOMAS G. REMENGESAU, AND TRUST TERRITORY DIRECTOR OF HEALTH SERVICES DR. WASAO KUMAGAI. "WE ARE PRIVILEGED TO HOST THIS SEMINAR AS IT IS OCCASSIONAL FOR US TO HOST SUCH AN IMPORTANT SEMINAR," DR. UKI SAID.

CHIEF IBEDUL YUTARA GIBSON AND MAYOR RUBASH FRITZ ALSO WELCOMED AND THE SEMINAR PARTICIPANTS ON BEHALF OF THE PEOPLE OF PALAU INDICATING THAT THE SEMINAR IS VERY IMPORTANT, AND THAT