

1975

FATS

(VIETNAMESE MILITARY DEPENDENTS TO ARRIVE SAIPAN)

SAIPAN, APR. 23 (MNS)---A FLIGHT OF 56 AMERICAN MILITARY DEPENDENTS OF VIETNAMESE ANCESTRY WILL BE ARRIVING ON SAIPAN THURSDAY MORNING, AT 6:25 (APRIL 24), ON A SPECIAL FLIGHT FROM SINGAPORE, ACCORDING TO DEPUTY HIGH COMMISSIONER PETER T. COLEMAN.

THE DEPENDENTS WILL BE STAYING ON SAIPAN FROM ONE TO TWO WEEKS FOR PROCESSING BEFORE DEPARTING FOR THEIR HOMES IN THE UNITED STATES MAINLAND.

DAN AKIMOTO, MARIANAS DEPUTY DISTRICT ADMINISTRATOR IS COORDINATING THEIR ARRIVAL WITH COMMUNITY LEADERS. AT PRESENT THERE ARE NO PLANS FOR FURTHER VIETNAMESE REFUGEES TO COME TO THE TRUST TERRITORY. SHOULD THAT SITUATION CHANGE, THE PUBLIC WILL BE INFORMED, COLEMAN SAID.

(TENORIO ASKS FOR RENEGOTIATIONS)

SAIPAN, APR. 23 (MNS)---MARIANAS SENATOR PEDRO A. TENORIO SENT A MESSAGE TO WASHINGTON THIS WEEK "TO FIND OUT ANSWERS FROM THE UNITED STATES WHETHER CERTAIN ISSUES IN THE COVENANT COULD BE RE-NEGOTIATED AS CLAIMED BY OPPONENTS OF THE COVENANT."

IN A DISPATCH TO PRESIDENT GERALD FORD, CONGRESSMAN PHILIP BURTON, INTERIOR SECRETARY ROBERTS C.B. MORTON AND AMBASSADOR FRANKLIN HAYDEN WILLIAMS, SENATOR TENORIO STATES THAT "THE MARIANAS PEOPLE WANT TO KNOW BEFORE THE PLEBISCITE" WHETHER THESE ITEMS IN THE COVENANT COULD BE RE-NEGOTIATED:

- "U.S. MINIMUM WAGE, MPSC REQUESTED THIS, CAN IT BE RE-NEGOTIATED?;
- "INCLUDE PROVISIONS IN (THE) COVENANT TO PROVIDE FAST AND FULL WAR CLAIMS COMPENSATION TO MARIANAS BEFORE THE NEW MARIANAS GOVERNMENT (IS) FORMED;
- "ELIMINATE U.S. EMINENT DOMAIN AUTHORITY OVER THE MARIANAS;
- "GUARANTEE IN COVENANT JOB PREFERENCE FOR MARIANAS PEOPLE BEFORE AND AFTER TRUSTEESHIP AGREEMENT TERMINATION;
- "GUARANTEE IN COVENANT MARIANAS VOTING REPRESENTATIVE IN U.S. CONGRESS;
- "MORE WRITTEN ASSURANCE AND GUARANTEE IN COVENANT THAN PRESENT PROVISIONS FOR FINANCIAL SUPPORT;
- "INCLUDE IN COVENANT PRECISE LANGUAGE TO ASSURE THAT CAROLINIANS ARE GUARANTEED TO OWN OR PURCHASE LANDS IN THE MARIANAS;
- "LIMIT U.S. CONSTITUTIONAL POWER AND MAKE MARIANAS CONSTITUTION SUPREME LAW OF THE LAND IN THE MARIANAS;
- "RE-NEGOTIATE LAND LEASE PRICES AND LEASE PERIODS;
- "LIMIT ENTRY OF OTHER U.S. CITIZENS TO ESTABLISH PERMANENT RESIDENCY IN (THE) MARIANAS;
- "UNILATERAL TERMINATION OF POLITICAL RELATIONSHIP, MARIANAS OPTION TO SEVERE RELATIONSHIP AT ANYTIME; AND
- "INCREASE COVENANT APPROVAL IN PLEBISCITE TO SIXTY-SIX AND TWO-THIRDS PERCENT RATHER THAN FIFTY-FIVE PERCENT."

"I AM NOT ENDORSING RE-NEGOTIATION OF THE ISSUES CONTAINED IN THE TELEGRAM," TENORIO TOLD THE MICRONESIAN NEWS SERVICE. "THE PURPOSE OF THE TELEGRAM IS TO SET THE RECORD STRAIGHT THAT THOSE ISSUES HAVE ALREADY BEEN NEGOTIATED AND TO LET THE GENERAL PUBLIC KNOW THAT THE OPPONENTS OF THE COVENANT CANNOT RE-NEGOTIATE THEM NOR WILL THE U.S. ALLOW RE-NEGOTIATIONS ON THOSE PROVISIONS," TENORIO STRESSED.

(CALL USERS: PLEASE CREDIT CONGRESS OF MICRONESIA)
(TT BUDGET HEARINGS BEGINS)

SAIPAN, APRIL 23 (CONGRESS RELEASE)---THE CONGRESS OF MICRONESIA'S JOINT COMMITTEE ON PROGRAM AND BUDGET PLANNING IS HOLDING HEARINGS ON SAIPAN CONCERNING THE TRUST TERRITORY BUDGET.

THE COMMITTEE STARTED ITS HEARINGS MONDAY (APRIL 21) REGARDING THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE NEW FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT SYSTEM AND EXPANDED USE OF THE AUTOMATIC DATA PROCESSING SYSTEM. THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT SYSTEM WILL REQUIRE MORE MONEY THAN IS PRESENTLY AVAILABLE.

ANOTHER AREA WHICH THE COMMITTEE IS CONSIDERING CONCERNS HOUSE BILL 97, CREATING A COMPREHENSIVE ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT PLAN FOR MICRONESIA. THE SPOKESMAN SAID THE JOINT COMMITTEE ON PROGRAM AND BUDGET PLANNING IS RESPONSIBLE FOR DEVELOPING THE PLAN IF THE BILL IS APPROVED BY THE HIGH COMMISSIONER. THE COMMITTEE IS SOLICITING DISTRICT INPUT FROM ALL DISTRICT ADMINISTRATORS.

ALSO UNDER CONSIDERATION BY THE COMMITTEE IS THE DESIGN OF THE MICRONESIAN PRINCESS. THE SPOKESMAN INDICATED THAT THERE ARE PROBLEMS WITH THE VESSEL, NOW IN USE IN THE DISTRICTS, AND THE COMMITTEE IS SOLICITING EXPERTISE FROM U.S. DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION PEOPLE ON THE MOST PRACTICAL DESIGN FOR THE REMAINING SHIPS THAT CAN WORK BETTER IN THE DISTRICTS.

AMONG OTHER THINGS, THE COMMITTEE IS HOLDING HEARINGS ON THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE PROGRAM FOR FISCAL YEAR 1976 AND IS ALSO DISCUSSING CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PROJECTS PRIORITIES FOR THAT YEAR. THE SPOKESMAN NOTED THAT THE T.T.'S FISCAL YEAR BUDGET FOR 1975 SUFFERED PROBLEMS SUCH AS OVER SPENDING, AND THE COMMITTEE IS INTERESTED IN FINDING OUT HOW THIS PROBLEM COULD BE AVOIDED FROM OCCURRING IN THE FUTURE.

THE COMMITTEE WILL ALSO BE GOING PRELIMINARY REVIEW WITH ALL DISTRICT OFFICIALS ON THE 1977 FISCAL YEAR BUDGET. A FULL HEARING HAS TENTATIVELY BEEN SET CONCERNING THE FISCAL YEAR 1977 BUDGET FOR THIS COMING SUMMER ON SAIPAN.

(R AND D COMMITTEE HEARING IN TRUK)

TRUK, APR. 23 (MUE)--- THE HOUSE COMMITTEE ON RESOURCES AND DEVELOPMENT CHAIRED BY TRUK CONGRESSMAN SASANO HARUO COMPLETED ITS THREE-DAY VISIT TO TRUK MONDAY, (APRIL 21). ACCORDING TO PUBLIC INFORMATION OFFICER ROMA RUBEN, THE COMMITTEE CONDUCTED A SERIES OF MEETINGS WITH DISTRICT GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS, LEGISLATORS, MUNICIPAL LEADERS, LOCAL BUSINESSMEN, CONTRACTORS, MEMBERS OF THE CHAMBER OF COMMERCE AND THE GENERAL PUBLIC.

ACCORDING TO HARUO, THE COMMITTEE'S VISIT WAS TO OBTAIN THE GENERAL CONSENSUS OF THE PEOPLE IN EACH DISTRICT CONCERNING CERTAIN PROPOSED LEGISLATION FOR THE CONGRESS OF MICRONESIA TO CONSIDER AT ITS NEXT REGULAR SESSION. THEY INCLUDE: A PRICE CONTROL BILL; A MEASURE TO ESTABLISH A MORTGAGE LAW AND PROVIDING FOR PROCEEDINGS OF FORECLOSURE; A BILL TO RAISE THE USURY LIMIT; AND A MEASURE TO PROVIDE FOR A COMPREHENSIVE AND BALANCED DEVELOPMENTAL POLICY FOR MICRONESIA. THE COMMITTEE ALSO INVESTIGATED THE TRANSHIPMENT PORT PROPOSAL FOR TRUK AND GOVERNMENT CONTRACT PROCEDURES.

REGARDING THE PRICE CONTROL BILL, THE COMMITTEE WAS TOLD THAT THE MEASURE IS NOT NECESSARY EXCEPT WHEN SHIPMENTS OF COMMODITIES ARE LONG OVERDUE AND THE DEMAND BECOMES HIGH. FLOOR LEADER FERMIN LIKICHE OF THE TRUK DISTRICT LEGISLATURE

9226

(TDL) SPOKE IN FAVOR OF THE PRICE CONTROL BILL SAYING THAT "THE LOCAL MERCHANTS' PRICES ARE JUST TOO HIGH AND THERE'S NO WAY TO CONTROL THEM."

SPEAKER KOICHI SANA SUGGESTED THAT A THOROUGH STUDY OF EXISTING MARKED UP PRICES IN THE BUSINESS ESTABLISHMENTS SHOULD BE UNDERTAKEN FIRST BEFORE SUCH LEGISLATION IS TO BE ENACTED.

THE MORTGAGE BILL DID NOT RECEIVE ANY OPPOSITION. HOWEVER, THE COMMITTEE LEARNED THAT THE RISK OF MORTGAGING LAND IN TRUK IS NO GREATER THAN THE IDEA OF SELLING LANDS WHICH HAPPENS TO BE A COMMON PRACTICE IN TRUK, RUBEN POINTED OUT.

A PROPOSED BILL TO RAISE THE USURY LIMIT IN THE TRUST TERRITORY FROM 12 PERCENT PER YEAR TO 15 PERCENT PER YEAR RECEIVED DIFFERENT RESPONSES. THOSE WHO FAVOR THE INCREASE BELIEVE THAT THE PRIME RATE IN THE TT IS QUITE LOW COMPARED TO GUAM AND THE UNITED STATES. THEY CONTENDED THAT RAISING THE USURY LIMIT WOULD MAKE IT POSSIBLE FOR THE BANKS TO GET LOANS OUTSIDE THE TT.

THOSE WHO DISAGREED ARGUED THAT LOCAL DEPOSITS AT THE BANKS IN THE DISTRICTS ARE SUFFICIENT AND THAT OUTSIDE LOANS ARE NOT NEEDED.

DURING A MEETING WITH THE LOCAL CONTRACTORS AND GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS CONCERNING CONTRACTING PROCEDURES, CONTRACTORS COMPLAINED THAT THE PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT HAS AWARDED CONTRACTS WITHOUT SUFFICIENT INFORMATION ABOUT THE PROJECT. OTHERS COMPLAINED THAT THERE IS NO CONTRACTING PROCEDURE SET BY THE GOVERNMENT.

CONCERNING THE PROPOSED TRANSHIPMENT PORT FOR TRUK, THE COMMITTEE WAS INFORMED THAT TRUK IS WILLING TO ACCEPT THE PROPOSAL. ARRANGEMENTS HAVE BEEN MADE TO RELOCATE THE PRESENT PUBLIC WORKS OFFICE BUILDING TO ANOTHER SITE.

THE COMMITTEE HAS VISITED THE OTHER DISTRICTS PRIOR TO THEIR VISIT IN TRUK. OTHER MEMBERS OF THE COMMITTEE THAT VISITED TRUK ARE YAP CONGRESSMAN JOHN HAGLELGAM AND CONGRESS ATTORNEY DANA SMITH.

(ALL USERS: PLEASE CREDIT CONGRESS OF MICRONESIA)

(COM DELEGATIONS TO ATTEND ADB MEETING)

SAIPAN, APRIL 23 (CONGRESS RELEASE)---A MICRONESIAN DELEGATION FROM THE CONGRESS OF MICRONESIA LEFT THE TRUST TERRITORY WEDNESDAY (APRIL 23) FOR MANILA, PHILIPPINES TO ATTEND THE ANNUAL MEETING OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE ASIAN DEVELOPMENT BANK (ADB). THE MEETING WILL RUN FROM APRIL 24 TO APRIL 26.

THE MICRONESIAN DELEGATION WILL ATTEND ADB'S ANNUAL BOARD MEETING AS OFFICIAL OBSERVERS PENDING MEMBERSHIP IN THE BANK.

ATTENDING THE ADB'S MEETING ARE: SENATOR AMATA KABUA OF THE MARSHALLS, WHO WILL PARTICIPATE AS A MEMBER OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF MICRONESIA'S DEVELOPMENT BANK AND AS CHAIRMAN OF THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON RESOURCES AND DEVELOPMENT; SENATOR JOHN MANGEFEL AND CONGRESSMAN ISIDORO RUDINCH, WHO WILL ATTEND AS MEMBERS OF THE JOINT COMMITTEE ON RESOURCES AND DEVELOPMENT OF THE CONGRESS. THEY WILL BE ACCOMPANIED BY CONGRESS STAFF-ATTORNEY DANA SMITH, AND A REPRESENTATIVE FROM THE ADMINISTRATION.

ACCORDING TO A DELEGATION SPOKESMAN, THE MICRONESIAN DELEGATION WILL OBTAIN INFORMATION ABOUT CAPITALIZATION AND DEVELOPMENT LOAN PROCEDURES FOR THE MICRONESIAN DEVELOPMENT BANK DURING ADB'S ANNUAL BOARD MEETING. THEY WILL REQUEST TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE FOR THE FORMATION OF MICRONESIA'S DEVELOPMENT BANK.

14268

(SPECIAL EDUCATION AMENDMENT OFFERED)
 SAIPAN, APR. 23 (MNS)---THE TRUST TERRITORY DEPARTMENT OF
 EDUCATION HAS PUT TOGETHER AN AMENDMENT TO THE STATE PLAN
 DOCUMENT SUBMITTED TO WASHINGTON, D.C., UNDER PL 91-230 IN
 JUNE OF 1972, AS REQUIRED BY THE EDUCATION FOR THE HANDICAPPED
 ACT, ACCORDING TO IT DIRECTOR OF EDUCATION DAVID RAMARULLI.
 COPIES OF THE AMENDED DOCUMENT ARE BEING SENT TO ALL DISTRICT
 DEPARTMENTS OF EDUCATION FOR THE CONVENIENCE OF THE DISTRICT
 OFFICIALS AND ANY OTHER PRIVATE CITIZENS WHO MIGHT BE INTERESTED
 IN REVIEWING AND OR COMMENTING ON IT.
 ANY INTERESTED INDIVIDUAL IS WELCOME TO CONTACT THE DISTRICT
 DIRECTOR OF EDUCATION IN THE DISTRICT AND OBTAIN A COPY. FOR
 INTERESTED INDIVIDUALS AT THE HEADQUARTERS, PLEASE CONTACT THE
 SPECIAL EDUCATION COORDINATOR IN THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION,
 TELEPHONE NUMBER 9428, FOR DRAFT COPIES.
 IN ORDER TO ALLOW SUFFICIENT TIME TO INCORPORATE COMMENTS
 AND/OR CONCERNS IN THE FINAL DOCUMENT ALL COMMENTS AND/OR
 REACTIONS SHOULD BE IN THE OFFICE NO LATER THAN APRIL 30TH.
 THE FINAL DOCUMENT WILL HAVE TO BE IN THE MAIL NO LATER
 THAN MAY 10TH.

THE DELEGATION WILL ALSO RECRUIT EXPERT PERSONNEL FROM
 AFB TO ASSIST IN GETTING MICRONESIA'S DEVELOPMENT BANK IN
 OPERATION BY THE END OF THIS YEAR. THE SPOKESMAN SAID THAT
 THE DELEGATION WILL ASK AFB TO SEND SOME TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE
 TO MICRONESIA TO HELP TRAIN MICRONESIAN PERSONNEL IN THE
 FORMATIVE STAGE OF THE BANK SUCH AS TRAINING MICRONESIANS TO
 HANDLE SUCH THINGS AS DEVELOPMENT LOAN PROCEDURES; DEVELOPING
 BANK POLICY AND FORMS; FORMULATION OF BY-LAWS AND RULES AND
 REGULATIONS IN ORDER TO GET THE BANK IN OPERATIONS.