

(UCA OBJECTS PLEBISCITE NEGATIVE WORDING) 1975

SAIPAN, MAY 2 (MS)---THE UNITED CAROLINIAN ASSOCIATION (UCA) HAS CHARGED THAT THE WORDING IN THE BALLOT FOR THE JUNE 17 PLEBISCITE IN THE NORTHERN MARIANAS "CONTAINS INTERNALLY INCONSISTENT, MISLEADING AND EVEN BIASED LANGUAGE."

IN A LETTER TO INTERIOR SECRETARY ROGERS C.B. MORTON DATED MAY 1, UCA CHARGED THAT THE "NO" LANGUAGE IN THE BALLOT "UNNECESSARILY INJECTS BIAS AND EMOTION INTO THE VOTE."

"MANY PEOPLE HERE CONTEND THAT THE REFERENCE IN THE "NO" BALLOT TO 'OTHER DISTRICT' HAS BEEN INSERTED, NOT TO ASSIST VOTERS TO UNDERSTAND THE ISSUE BEFORE THEM, BUT TO ENCOURAGE THEM TO CAST 'YES' BALLOTS FOR EMOTIONAL REASONS, WHICH ALMOST WARRANT THE LABEL "RACISM," THE LETTER READS.

POINTING TO THE FACT THAT THE "COVENANT IS AT ISSUE, NOT THE COMMONWEALTH CONCEPT," UCA CHARGED THAT THE "NO" PHRASEOLOGY WILL CONFUSE VOTERS. IT STATED THAT SOME PEOPLE ARE FOR COMMONWEALTH BUT DISAPPROVE SOME SPECIFIC TERMS SET FORTH IN THE COVENANT.

ACCORDING TO THE PLEBISCITE PROCLAMATION ISSUED BY MORTON ON APRIL 11, THE WORDING IN THE BALLOT READS:

"YES-I VOTE FOR COMMONWEALTH AS SET FORTH IN THE COVENANT TO ESTABLISH A COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS IN POLITICAL UNION WITH THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA.

NO-I VOTE AGAINST COMMONWEALTH IN POLITICAL UNION WITH THE UNITED STATES AS SET FORTH IN THE COVENANT, RECOGNIZING THAT, IF COMMONWEALTH IS REJECTED, THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS WILL REMAIN AS A DISTRICT OF THE TRUST TERRITORY WITH THE RIGHT TO PARTICIPATE WITH THE OTHER DISTRICTS IN THE DETERMINATION OF AN ALTERNATIVE FUTURE POLITICAL STATUS."

UCA REQUESTED MORTON TO DELETE ALL OF THE LANGUAGE IN THE "NO" BALLOT SO THAT IT WOULD READ: "NO- I VOTE AGAINST COMMONWEALTH IN POLITICAL UNION WITH THE UNITED STATES AS SET FORTH IN THE COVENANT."

UCA INFORMED MORTON THAT UNLESS SUCH A CHANGE IS MADE "THERE CAN BE NO FAIR AND IMPARTIAL PLEBISCITE" IN THE MARIANAS.

(LAW DAY AWARD)

SAIPAN, MAY 2 (MNS)---LAW DAY WAS RECOGNIZED THROUGHOUT THE TRUST TERRITORY THURSDAY (MAY 1). THE OBSERVANCE, WHICH COINCIDES WITH LAW DAY IN THE UNITED STATES, WAS PROCLAIMED BY HIGH COMMISSIONER EDWARD E. JOHNSTON WITH THE THEME-- "MICRONESIA'S GOAL--JUSTICE THROUGH LAW." SPECIAL CEREMONIES MARKING THE OCCASION WERE HELD IN SEVERAL DISTRICTS.

IN TRUK, DURING A SPECIAL CEREMONY AT THE DISTRICT ADMINISTRATORS OFFICE, CHIEF OF POLICE FRANK NIFON WAS PRESENTED WITH THE 1975 ATTORNEY GENERAL'S AWARD "IN RECOGNITION OF DEDICATED SERVICE TO THE PEOPLE OF THE TRUST TERRITORY OF THE PACIFIC ISLANDS IN THE CAUSE OF JUSTICE, IN PROMOTION OF RULE OF LAW AND IN PROTECTION OF THE RIGHTS OF THE PEOPLE UNDER THE BILL OF RIGHTS."

"THE AWARD IS GIVEN EACH YEAR TO AN INDIVIDUAL MAKING AN OUTSTANDING CONTRIBUTION TO THE CAUSE OF JUSTICE." ACCORDING TO MIYAMOTO IN A LETTER TO NIFON.

"THE FOUNDATION OF JUSTICE IS BEING BUILT BY YOU AND OTHER DEDICATED INDIVIDUALS WILL FOREVER BE THE BASIS FOR GROWTH OF THE RULE OF LAW IN THE IT," THE READS. "FRANK NIFON IS RUNNING THE BEST POLICE DEPARTMENT IN THE TERRITORY," HE ADDED.

NIFON IS THE FOURTH CHIEF OF POLICE TO RECEIVE THE AG'S AWARD. OTHERS INCLUDE JUDGES, PROSECUTORS AND PUBLIC DEFENDERS.

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LAST YEAR'S RECIPIENT WAS PRESIDING JUDGE SOUKICHI  
FRITZ OF TRUK.

(TT PARTICIPATE IN EROS WORKSHOP)

SAIPAN, MAU A2 (MNS) ---DIRECTOR OF RESOURCES AND DEVELOPMENT, EUSEBIO RECHUCHER, ANNOUNCES THE ACCEPTANCE OF JESUS B. PANGELINAN AND RAMON I. KAILEO, LAND MANAGEMENT SPECIALISTS OF THE DIVISION OF LANDS AND SURVEYS, TO THE 4TH INTERNATIONAL REMOTE SENSING WORKSHOP AT THE EROS (EARTH RESOURCES OBSERVATION SYSTEM) DATA CENTER, SIOUX FALLS, SOUTH DAKOTA FROM MAY 9 TO MAY 30, 1975.

THE COURSE WILL EMPHASIZE THE PRACTICAL USES OF LANSAT (FORMERLY KNOWN AS ERTS OR EARTH RESOURCES TECHNOLOGY SATELLITE) AND OTHER REMOTE SENSOR DATA FOR THE STUDY AND EVALUATION OF RESOURCES USE AND ENVIRONMENT PLANNING, AND WILL INCLUDE WORKSHOPS ON THE INTERPRETATION OF REMOTE SENSING DATA. SEVERAL OF THESE WORKSHOPS WILL EMPHASIZE PARTICULAR DISCIPLINES, SUCH AS GEOLOGY, AGRICULTURE AND FORESTRY, UTILIZING AN INTER-DISCIPLINARY (TEAM) APPROACH.

FOLLOWING THE BASIC COURSE, PANGELINAN AND KAPILEO WILL TRAVEL TO MENLO PARK, CALIFORNIA, FOR A MONTH'S FIELDWORK IN REMOTE SENSING INTERPRETATION. SUBSEQUENT TO THE COURSE, KAPILEO AND PANGELINAN WILL GO TO MOUNTAIN VIEW, CALIFORNIA FOR DIRECT INSTRUCTION IN THE OPERATION OF THE MULTISPECTRAL VIEWER MACHINE RECENTLY PURCHASED BY THE TRUST TERRITORY FROM EROS FUNDS FOR PHOTO INTERPRETATION. THEY ANTICIPATE RETURN TO SAIPAN AROUND THE FIRST WEEK OF JULY.

(ALL USERS: PLEASE CREDIT CONGRESS OF MICRONESIA)  
(TT DELEGATION TO ADB RETURNS)

SAIPAN, MAY 2 (CONGRESS RELEASE)---THE MICRONESIAN DELEGATION TO THE 8TH ANNUAL MEETING OF THE BOARD OF GOVERNORS OF THE ASIAN DEVELOPMENT BANK HELD IN MANILA LAST WEEKEND (APRIL 24-26) HAS RETURNED TO THE TRUST TERRITORY.

THE DELEGATION WAS HEADED BY JOSE PEREZ, PRESIDENT OF THE MICRONESIA DEVELOPMENT BANK, AND INCLUDED REPRESENTATIVE ISIDORO RUDIMCH (PALAU). THEY PARTICIPATED IN THE MEETINGS AS OFFICIAL OBSERVERS.

THE ASIAN DEVELOPMENT BANK IS A UNITED NATIONS SPONSORED ORGANIZATION WITH A WIDE RANGE OF PROGRAMS THAT INCLUDE ASSISTANCE IN PLANNING, FINANCING, SUPPLYING TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE IN CARRYING OUT IMPORTANT DEVELOPMENTAL PROJECTS TO MEMBER NATIONS TO BOOST THE AREA'S OVERALL ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT.

PALAU REPRESENTATIVE ISIDORO RUDIMCH, A MEMBER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES COMMITTEE ON RESOURCES AND DEVELOPMENT, WHO ALSO ATTENDED THE MEETING, SAID THAT MICRONESIA'S PROSPECTIVE MEMBERSHIP IN THE ADB MIGHT RESULT IN A GOOD SOURCE OF DEVELOPMENT FUNDS WHICH COULD BE USED FOR SPECIFIC DEVELOPMENTAL PROJECTS IN THE TRUST TERRITORY. IN THIS CONNECTION, IT WAS NOTED THAT TRUST TERRITORY GOVERNMENT EXPENDITURES FOR CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PROJECTS DO NOT NECESSARILY RESULT IN ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT FOR MICRONESIA.

RUDIMCH SAID LEGISLATION WILL SOON BE INTRODUCED IN THE UNITED STATES CONGRESS WHICH IF ENACTED WOULD PAVE THE WAY FOR MICRONESIA'S MEMBERSHIP IN THE ADB, AND GUARANTEE LOANS MADE TO THE TRUST TERRITORY. "MICRONESIA'S MEMBERSHIP IN THE ASIAN DEVELOPMENT BANK IS VERY IMPORTANT," SAID CONGRESSMAN RUDIMCH,

"IN VIEW OF THE FINANCIAL AND TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE THAT IS AVAILABLE TO MEMBER COUNTRIES."

ACCORDING TO CONGRESS STAFF ATTORNEY DAN W. SMITH, WHO ACCOMPANIED PEREZ AND RUDINCH TO THE CONFERENCE, THE ASIAN DEVELOPMENT BANK'S PLANS FOR EXPANSION OF MEMBERSHIP INCLUDE THE PEOPLES REPUBLIC OF CHINA, AND MANY PACIFIC ISLAND NATIONS. ADB'S WORK ACTIVITY WILL INCLUDE RECONSTRUCTION OF WAR-TORN AREAS OF INDOCHINA, AGRICULTURAL PROJECTS, AND LOANS TO THE LEAST DEVELOPED COUNTRIES IN THE REGION, INCLUDING PACIFIC ISLAND NATIONS.

(VIETNAMESE REFUGEES DEPART SAIPAN)  
SAIPAN, MAY 2(MNS)---THE 56 VIETNAMESE REFUGEES, WHO HAD ARRIVED IN SAIPAN LAST WEEK FROM SINGAPORE, DEPARTED FOR GUAM FRIDAY (MAY 2) , ON A SPECIAL AIR MICRONESIA FLIGHT. AT GUAM, THE REFUGEES WERE MET BY AN OFFICIAL OF THE INTERGOVERNMENTAL COMMITTEE FOR EUROPEAN MIGRANTS, AN ORGANIZATION BASED IN GENEVA, SWITZERLAND, WHO WILL HANDLE FURTHER PROCESSING AND RELOCATIONS OF THE REFUGEES.

TRUST TERRITORY GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS, BOTH AT HEADQUARTERS AND IN THE MARIANAS DISTRICT, INDICATED THAT THEY HAD NO INFORMATION AS TO FURTHER EVACUATION PLANS FOR THE REFUGEES.

CAPTAIN PHAM QUANG TAM, THE GROUP LEADER OF THE REFUGEES INDICATED THAT THEY WERE VERY PLEASED AND HAPPY WITH THE KINDNESS AND COURTESIES SHOWN THE REFUGEES BY THE GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS AND PEOPLES OF SAIPAN, AND ASKED THAT THEIR DEEPEST APPRECIATION AND GRATITUDE BE EXPRESSED TO ALL THE PEOPLE OF SAIPAN. HE ALSO ASKED THAT A SPECIAL AND WARM THANKS BE EXTENDED TO THE SAIPAN CHAMBER OF COMMERCE, WHOSE GIFT TO THE REFUGEES WAS MOST WARMLY APPRECIATED BY THE REFUGEES.

DISTRICT ADMINISTRATOR FRANCISCO C. ADA AND DEPUTY HIGH COMMISSIONER PETER T. COLEMAN ADDED THEIR APPRECIATION AND COMMENDATION TO ALL THE VARIOUS PERSONNEL, WHO WORKED ALONG AND IRREGULAR HOURS TO HANDLE THIS VIETNAMESE REFUGEE INFLUX, ESPECIALLY IMMIGRATION, QUARANTINE, CUSTOMS, HEALTH SERVICES, POLICE, AIR MICRONESIA AND CONTINENTAL HOTEL PERSONNEL AND THE SIX LOCAL-RESIDENTS VIETNAMESE LADIES, WHO SERVED AS INTERPRETERS THROUGHOUT THE OPERATIONS.