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(CONGRESS REQUEST SPECIAL SESSION)

SAIPAN, MAY 6 (MNS)---THE CONGRESS OF MICRONESIA LEADERSHIP HAS FORMALLY REQUESTED THE HIGH COMMISSIONER TO CALL A SPECIAL SESSION ON SAIPAN TO CONSIDER CERTAIN LEGISLATIVE MATTERS.

IN A LETTER TO HIGH COMMISSIONER EDWARD E. JOHNSTON, SENATE PRESIDENT TOSIVO NAKAYAMA ASKED THAT A SPECIAL SESSION BE HELD FOR A PERIOD OF TEN DAYS BEGINNING JUNE 19-28. THE DECISION TO CALL A SPECIAL SESSION WAS MADE WHEN THE LEADERSHIP MET ON PONAPE LAST WEEK TO REVIEW ACTIONS TAKEN ON LEGISLATIVE MEASURES ENACTED DURING THE LAST REGULAR SESSION.

NAKAYAMA ASKED THE HICOM TO CALL A SPECIAL SESSION TO CONSIDER THE FOLLOWING:

- LEGISLATION ON BASE SALARY SCHEDULE FOR EMPLOYEES OF THE TRUST TERRITORY GOVERNMENT;
- APPROPRIATION OF FUNDS FOR THE COMPREHENSIVE AND BALANCED DEVELOPMENTAL POLICY;
- SUPPLEMENTAL APPROPRIATION FOR THE OPERATION AND CONTINGENT EXPENSES OF THE CONGRESS OF MICRONESIA;
- ALL LEGISLATIVE MEASURES ENACTED BY THE FIRST REGULAR SESSION OF THE SIXTH CONGRESS OF MICRONESIA AND VETOED BY THE HIGH COMMISSIONER;
- LEGISLATION AFFECTING THE FUTURE POLITICAL STATUS OF MICRONESIA;
- APPROPRIATION OF FUNDS FOR THE REFERENDUM ON POLITICAL STATUS THROUGHOUT MICRONESIA; AND
- LEGISLATION AFFECTING THE MICRONESIAN CONSTITUTIONAL CONVENTION, INCLUDING AMENDMENTS TO EXISTING LAWS.

NAKAYAMA URGED THE HICOM TO CALL FOR THE SPECIAL SESSION AT THE "EARLIEST POSSIBLE TIME" TO ALLOW THE COMMITTEES OF THE CONGRESS TO MEET PRIOR TO THE SESSION TO HOLD PUBLIC HEARINGS ON LEGISLATIVE MATTERS TO FACILITATE THE WORK OF THE CONGRESS DURING THE SESSION.

(PLEBISCITE REGISTRATION BEGINS IN MARIANAS)

SAIPAN, MAY 6 (MNS)---REGISTRATION FOR THE JUNE 16 PLEBISCITE BEGINS TUESDAY (MAY 6) ON SAIPAN, ROTA AND TINIAN, ACCORDING TO N. NEIMAN CRALEY, JR., ASSISTANT TO THE PLEBISCITE COMMISSIONER.

ACCORDING TO A STORY CARRIED ON TUESDAY'S PACIFIC DAILY NEWS, (PDM), VOTER REGISTRATION WILL TAKE PLACE IN ALL ELEVEN VILLAGES ON SAIPAN INCLUDING ROTA AND TINIAN. THE REGISTRATION BEGINS AT 8 A.M. TO 4 P.M. AT THE DISTRICT ADMINISTRATION OFFICE AND FROM 11 A.M. TO 9 P.M. AT THE DISTRICT LOCATIONS FROM TUESDAY UNTIL FRIDAY OF NEXT WEEK (MAY 16).

TO BE ELIGIBLE TO VOTE, EACH VOTER MUST REGISTER BEFORE MAY 16, EVEN IF THE VOTER VOTED IN THE LAST CONGRESS OF MICRONESIA GENERAL ELECTION, OR IN THE DISTRICT AND MUNICIPAL ELECTION, CRALEY SAID.

POLITICAL OBSERVERS ARE CONCERNED THAT WITH SUCH A SHORT PERIOD OF TIME ALLOTTED FOR REGISTRATION, MAY ELIGIBLE VOTERS WILL NOT REGISTER, AND THERE WILL BE SOME VOTERS WHO WILL NOT REGISTER BECAUSE THEY VOTED IN THE LAST ELECTIONS AND THINK THEY DON'T HAVE TO RE-REGISTER, PDM INDICATED.

TO ALLEVIATE THE SITUATION, THERE WILL BE A REGISTRATION CAMPAIGN IN THE FORM OF ANNOUNCEMENTS ON RADIO

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AND TELEVISION REMINDING THE PEOPLE IN ENGLISH, CAROLINIAN AND CHAMORRO THAT THEY MUST REGISTER BY MAY 16 TO VOTE IN THE JUNE 17 PLEBISCITE.

JOAQUIN TORRES, MARIANAS ELECTION COORDINATOR WILL COORDINATE THE PLEBISCITE ELECTION UNDER THE SUPERVISION OF PLEBISCITE COMMISSIONER ERMIL D. CANHAM.

(ALL USERS: PLEASE CREDIT CONGRESS OF MICRONESIA)
(GUERRERO ADDRESSES MCAADO CONFERENCE)

SAIPAN, MAY 6 (CONGRESS RELEASE)---CONGRESSMAN HERMAN R. GUERRERO TOLD THE DIRECTORS OF MICRONESIA'S COMMUNITY ACTION AGENCIES THAT THE CONGRESS OF MICRONESIA STANDS READY TO ASSIST THE AGENCY'S PROGRAMS THAT ARE MOST BENEFICIAL FOR THE POOR PEOPLE OF MICRONESIA.

REP. GUERRERO WAS A GUEST SPEAKER TUESDAY (MAY 6) AT A CONFERENCE OF MICRONESIAN COMMUNITY ACTION AGENCY DIRECTORS NOW UNDERWAY AT SAIPAN'S CONTINENTAL HOTEL.

THE MARIANAS CONGRESSMAN, WHO JUST RETURNED FROM A TOUR OF THE UNITED STATES UNDER A STATE DEPARTMENT LEADERSHIP GRANT, BRIEFED THE GROUP CONCERNING "HOW THE CONGRESS OF MICRONESIA VIEWS COMMUNITY ACTION PROGRAMS IN MICRONESIA."

GUERRERO SAID THAT A FEW YEARS AGO WHEN MICRONESIA'S CAA PROGRAMS NEARLY SUFFERED A FINANCIAL DEATH BECAUSE OF FORMER PRESIDENT NIXON'S DECISION TO DISMANTLE THE OFFICE OF ECONOMIC OPPORTUNITY'S ANTI-POVERTY PROGRAMS IN THE UNITED STATES, THE CONGRESS OF MICRONESIA WAS WILLING TO FINANCE THE PROGRAM DESPITE ITS BUDGETARY CONSTRAINTS.

GUERRERO SAID THAT CONGRESS, HOWEVER, CHOOSE AT THAT TIME NOT TO FINANCE THE PROGRAM BECAUSE WASHINGTON HAD ASSURED THE CONGRESS THAT FUNDING WILL CONTINUE UNDER A DIFFERENT AGENCY FOR MICRONESIA'S CAA PROGRAMS. HE NOTED THAT THE CONGRESS OF MICRONESIA WAS RESPONSIVE IN ITS ACTION TO THE EXTENT THAT IT ADOPTED RESOLUTIONS URGING THE U.S. CONGRESS AND THE ADMINISTRATION TO ENSURE CONTINUED FINANCIAL SUPPORT OF MICRONESIA'S CAA PROGRAMS.

THE MARIANAS CONGRESSMAN SAID HE WAS GRATEFUL THAT ALTHOUGH FORMER PRESIDENT NIXON WAS SUCCESSFUL IN TERMINATING MANY OEO PROGRAMS, MICRONESIA'S CAA PROGRAMS ARE STILL BEING FUNDED BY THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT ALTHOUGH FROM A DIFFERENT AGENCY.

WHEN NIXON WAS DISMANTLING OEO PROGRAMS IN THE UNITED STATES, THE MORALE OF MICRONESIAN CAA STAFF THROUGHOUT THE IT WAS DEMORALIZED TO THE POINT WHERE MANY CAA EMPLOYEES RESIGNED, WHICH CAUSED SOME TEMPORARY INEFFECTIVENESS OF THE PROGRAM IN MICRONESIA. GUERRERO SAID SUCH DEMORALIZATION COINCIDED WITH THE NEED TO LOOK TOWARD LOCAL GOVERNMENT INSTITUTIONS AND LEGISLATURES WHERE MONEY COULD BE OBTAINED FOR THE PROGRAM'S SURVIVAL.

GUERRERO CONCLUDED THAT THE CONGRESS OF MICRONESIA WOULD SUPPORT COMMUNITY ACTION PROGRAMS AND THEIR NEEDS AND POSSIBLY FINANCE THESE PROGRAMS IF CAA AGAIN ENCOUNTERS BUDGETARY PROBLEMS IF THESE PROGRAMS ARE RESPONSIVE TO THE NEEDS OF THE PEOPLE OF MICRONESIA.

THE MICRONESIAN COMMUNITY ACTION AGENCY ORGANIZATION'S CONFERENCE WILL RUN FOR ABOUT TWO DAYS.

(MS KASELEHLIA UP FOR CONTRACT)

SAIPAN, MAY 6 (MNS)---TRANSPORTATION DIVISION OF THE DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION AND COMMUNICATIONS IS SEEKING TO CONTRACT THE OPERATION OF THE MS KASELEHLIA TO INTERESTED COMPANIES FOR A PERIOD OF ONE YEAR BEGINNING JULY 1, 1975 TO JUNE 30, 1976.

ACCORDING TO A SPOKESMAN FOR THE TRANSPORTATION DIVISION, THE VESSEL CONTRACT WOULD BE SUBJECT TO RENEGOTIATION AND RENEWABLE AFTER THE EXPIRATION DATE OF THE FIRST YEAR BARE-BOAT CHARTER AGREEMENT. THE VESSEL IS SCHEDULED TO RETURN TO PONAPE FROM DRYDOCK SOON, THE SPOKESMAN SAID.

THE KASELEHLIA WILL BE OPERATING IN THE PONAPE DISTRICT TO PERFORM FIELD TRIP SERVICES TO THE OUTER ISLANDS IN PONAPE AS WELL AS ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES AND OTHER EMERGENCY SERVICES AS MAYBE AUTHORIZED AND DIRECTED BY THE DISTRICT ADMINISTRATOR.

BECAUSE THE VESSEL WILL BE OPERATED IN PONAPE DISTRICT, PRIME CONSIDERATION WILL BE GIVEN TO INTERESTED COMPANIES SITUATED IN PONAPE, THE SPOKESMAN ADDED.

PROPOSALS PRIMARILY WITHIN PONAPE DISTRICT FROM INTERESTED COMPANIES TO OPERATE THE VESSEL WILL BE ACCEPTED UNTIL JUNE 15, 1975. FULL DETAILS MAY BE OBTAINED BY WRITING TO THE CHIEF OF TRANSPORTATION DIVISION, TTPI, SAIPAN, MARIANA ISLANDS 96950.

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