

(MURRAY URGES CLOSE MICRONESIA LINKS WITH MARIANAS)

SAIPAN, JUNE 24 (MNS)---JAMES MURRAY, CHAIRMAN OF THE UNITED NATIONS VISITING MISSION REMINDED THE PEOPLE OF THE MARIANAS THAT WHATEVER THE FINAL POLITICAL ARRANGEMENTS THEY HAVE CHOSEN, "IT IS ONLY SENSIBLE THAT THE CLOSEST LINKS BE MAINTAINED WITH THE REST OF MICRONESIA."

MURRAY MADE THE STATEMENT FRIDAY NIGHT IN A RADIO AND TELEVISION ADDRESS BEFORE THE UN MISSION LEFT FOR NEW YORK. THE U.N. DELEGATES WERE ON SAIPAN AT THE INVITATION OF THE ADMINISTERING AUTHORITY AND UNDER THE DIRECTION OF THE TRUSTEESHIP COUNCIL TO OBSERVE THE JUNE 17 PLEBISCITE ON COMMONWEALTH.

MURRAY EXPLAINED THAT THE TRUSTEESHIP COUNCIL ATTACHES IMPORTANCE TO THE "BENEFITS - POLITICAL, ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL - TO BE DERIVED FROM THE CLOSEST CO-OPERATION ..."

MURRAY SAID THAT HE CANNOT INDICATE WHAT THEIR FINDINGS ARE YET. THERE ARE TWO REASONS FOR THIS, HE EXPLAINED. FIRST, IS THAT THEY WISH TO "REFLECT ON IT ALL" BEFORE ANY JUDGEMENT IS TO BE MADE. AND SECONDLY, "IT WOULD BE WRONG TO DISCUSS OUR VIEWS PUBLICLY BEFORE WE HAVE COMMUNICATED THEM TO THE TRUSTEESHIP COUNCIL AND THE ADMINISTERING POWER."

THE UN MISSION CHAIRMAN SAID THE REPORT WILL BE COMMUNICATED TO THE COUNCIL "WITHOUT REASONABLE DELAY."

"SOME OF YOU ON BOTH SIDES WILL NO DOUBT FIND SOMETHING IN IT WITH WHICH YOU DISAGREE. BUT PLEASE REMEMBER THAT THE OTHER MAN HAS A POINT OF VIEW TOO. WE VERY MUCH HOPE THAT YOUR CONCLUSION WILL BE THAT WE DID INDEED DO OUR BEST TO BE OBJECTIVE," MURRAY EXPLAINED.

HE EXPRESSED GRATITUDE TO ERWIN D. CANHAM, PLEBISCITE COMMISSIONER AND HIS STAFF FOR PROVIDING THEM WITH THE INFORMATION ABOUT THE PLEBISCITE.

CONCLUDING, MURRAY SAID: "YOU HAVE BEAUTIFUL ISLANDS. I KNOW THAT YOU WON'T SPOIL THEM OR LET ANYONE ELSE SPOIL THEM."

"I HOPE YOU WILL FIND WAYS FORWARD WHICH EQUALLY WILL PRESERVE WHAT IS BEST IN YOUR LOCAL TRADITIONS, WILL ENABLE VISITORS FROM ABROAD TO ENJOY YOUR BEACHES AND YOUR HILLS, AND WILL PROVIDE FOR THE SENSIBLE DEVELOPMENT OF YOUR OWN NATURAL RESOURCES. WE ARE DETERMINED TO FIND SOME REASON FOR COMING BACK SOON."

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