

(COVENANT DEADLINE EXTENDED)

SAIPAN, DEC. 3 (MNS)---ACCORDING TO WORD RECEIVED FROM WASHINGTON, THE DEADLINE FOR THE SUBMISSION OF THE SENATE FOREIGN RELATIONS AND ARMED SERVICES COMMITTEES REPORTS ON THE MARIANAS COVENANT HAS NOW BEEN EXTENDED UNTIL JANUARY 27, 1976.

MARIANAS SENATOR PEDRO A. TENORIO SAID IN A PRESS RELEASE WEDNESDAY THAT IT IS POSSIBLE THAT THE COVENANT MAY BE BROUGHT TO THE SENATE FLOOR IMMEDIATELY AFTER THE TWO COMMITTEES ISSUE THEIR REPORTS.

"DELAY IS A LONG WAY FROM DEFEAT OF THE COVENANT," TENORIO SAID, ADDING, "AND I AM HOPEFUL THAT THE TWO MONTHS DELAY WILL RESOLVE MOST OF THE SERIOUS QUESTIONS ON THE COVENANT RAISED BY OPPOSING SENATORS.

"IT IS MY HOPE THAT THE MARIANAS PEOPLE WILL UNDERSTAND THAT A DELAY IS NOTHING UNUSUAL ABOUT THE U. S. CONGRESS AND THAT IT IS THE PREROGATIVE OF THE CONGRESS OF THE UNITED STATES TO ACT ON ANY MEASURE BEFORE IT AT ITS OWN PACE AND DISCRETION," HE CONTINUED.

TENORIO, A MEMBER OF THE MARIANAS POLITICAL STATUS COMMISSION, SAID THAT THE REASONS FOR THE SHORT DELAY ARE LEGITIMATE. HOWEVER, HE SAID, "I HOPE THAT THE SENATE WILL NOT UNDULY DELAY ACTION ON THE COVENANT TO AN INDEFINITE PERIOD WHICH WILL SUBJECT THE MARIANAS PEOPLE TO A STATE OF LIMBO AND UNCERTAINTIES ON THEIR POLITICAL STATUS FUTURE."

CONCLUDING, TENORIO DECLARED: "THE PEOPLE OF THE MARIANAS ARE ENTITLED TO KNOW WITHIN A REASONABLE TIME WHETHER OR NOT THEIR CHOICE FOR SELF-GOVERNMENT AND SELF-DETERMINATION PROVIDED THEM AS THEIR RIGHTS UNDER THE U. N. TRUSTEESHIP AGREEMENT WILL BE RESPECTED BY THE UNITED STATES SENATE."

(PALACIOS WINS ELECTION FOR CON SEAT)

SAIPAN, DEC. 3 (MNS)---UNOFFICIAL ELECTION RESULTS FOR THE VACANT CONGRESS OF MICRONESIA HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVE'S SEAT FROM THE MARIANAS DISTRICT SHOWS THAT HERMAN T. PALACIOS, A SAIPAN BUSINESSMAN, WON BY AN 82 VOTE MARGIN OVER DAVID S. MARATITA.

THE ELECTION WAS HELD TUESDAY TO FILL THE UNEXPIRED TERM OF FORMER REPRESENTATIVE JOSE P. MAFNAS WHO RESIGNED THIS YEAR IN MAY TO ACCEPT HIS PRESENT POSITION AS MARIANAS CHIEF OF POLICE.

IN A THREE-WAY RACE, PALACIOS RECEIVED 592 VOTES, MARATITA, 107 AND RAMON DIAZ, 51.

PALACIOS, 33, RECEIVED 31% VOTES FROM SAN ANTONIO VILLAGE TO MARATITA'S 107. PALACIOS ALSO OUTPOLLED MARATITA 101-55 IN CHALAN KANGA AND 132-67 ON TINIAN.

MARATITA, ORIGINALLY FROM ROTA, CARRIED THAT ISLAND HEAVILY 252-34. HE ALSO OUTPOLLED PALACIOS IN ABSENTEE BALLOTS 29-24.

DIAZ, A LOCAL BUSINESSMAN, COLLECTED 28 VOTES IN SAN ANTONIO, 17 IN CHALAN KANGA, THREE FROM ROTA AND TINIAN.

THE RESULTS ARE STILL UNOFFICIAL UNTIL CERTIFIED BY MARIANAS DISTRICT ADMINISTRATOR FRANCISCO C. ADA.

PALACIOS IS OWNER OF DA PLACE, A POPULAR NIGHT SPOT ON SAIPAN, AND OPERATES A BOAT, FISHING AND FARMING BUSINESS. MARATITA IS THE MARIANAS DISTRICT PUBLIC AFFAIRS OFFICER.

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(REMEGESAU REFUSES REPLACEMENT BID)

KOROR, DEC. 3 (PNS)---PALAU DISTRICT ADMINISTRATOR THOMAS O. REMEGESAU HAS REFUSED TO ACT ON A REQUEST FROM THE SPEAKER OF THE PALAU LEGISLATURE TO APPOINT LEGISLATORS TO FILL THE SEATS OF JOHN NGIRAKED AND TOSIMO NAKAMURA, ACCORDING TO WEDNESDAY'S PACIFIC DAILY NEWS (PDN).

IN A LETTER TO REMEGESAU THE SPEAKER DECLARED THE SEATS VACANT BECAUSE OF THE LEGISLATOR'S REFUSAL TO ATTEND THE SESSION. BOTH NGIRAKED AND NAKAMURA ARE MEMBERS OF THE PROGRESSIVE PARTY.

SPEAKER SADANG SILMAI ALSO ISSUED LETTERS TO EIGHT OTHER PROGRESSIVE AND ONE INDEPENDENT WHO HAVE BEEN BOYCOTTING THE LEGISLATURE SINCE ITS THIRD DAY OF SESSION, STATING THAT THEIR SEATS, TOO, WOULD BE DECLARED VACANT IF THEY DID NOT RETURN TO THE LEGISLATIVE HALL BY NEXT MONDAY.

THE PROGRESSIVES, LED BY NGIRAKED, HAVE BEEN BOYCOTTING THE LEGISLATURE SINCE NOVEMBER 29 AND ARE DEMANDING CERTAIN CHANGES IN COMMITTEE ON JUDICIARY AND GOVERNMENTAL AFFAIRS CHAIRED BY LEGISLATOR BALERIO PEDRO OF ANGAUR AND THAT THE COMMITTEE ON HEALTH, EDUCATION AND WELFARE BE GIVEN TO DR. ROBLD STEEL OF MENCHELONG.

FORMER SPEAKER ITELBANG LUII IS THE PRESENT CHAIRMAN OF THE JGA COMMITTEE WHILE FORMER CONGRESS OF MICRONESIA REPRESENTATIVE TIMOTHY OLKERIIL CHAIRS THE NEW COMMITTEE.

THE PDN STORY ALSO STATED THAT THE PROGRESSIVES ADDED AN ADDITIONAL DEMAND THAT JOHNSON TORIBIOM, A LIBERAL PARTY MEMBER AND FLOOR LEADER, TRADE POSITIONS WITH GEORGE NGIRARSAOL, ALSO A LIBERAL AND CHAIRMAN OF THE RESOURCES AND DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE.

IN ANSWER TO THE SPEAKER'S LETTER, REMEGESAU SAID THAT THE SECTION OF THE LAW ALLOWING THE DISTAD TO APPOINT NEW MEMBERS OF THE LEGISLATURE IS MEANT TO BE USED ONLY IF MEMBERS ARE PHYSICALLY OR MENTALLY INCAPACITATED AND UNABLE TO ATTEND SESSIONS.

HE ADDED THAT NGIRAKED AND NAKAMURA ARE ABLE TO ATTEND SESSION, BUT ARE NOT FOR POLITICAL REASONS.

(SUNYEN JAPANESE CARGOSHIP FOUND)

SAIPAN, DEC. 3 (MKS)---A 5,822 TON JAPANESE CARGO SHIP WHICH SANK DURING WORLD WAR II IN TRUK LAGOON WAS LOCATED RECENTLY BY TRUST TERRITORY EXPLOSIVE/DEMOLITION SPECIALIST, STEVE AIKEN.

THE 385 FOOT SHIP'S EXACT LOCATION IS ABOUT ONE HALF MILE SOUTHWEST OF DUBLON ISLAND AT THE DEPTH OF 236 FEET.

AIKEN SAID THE SAN FRANCISCO MARU MAY CONTAIN 300-500 TONS OF ORDNANCE, AIRCRAFT BOMBS, DEPTH CHARGES, MINES, TORPEDOS AND ARTILLERY AMMUNITION.

HE INDICATED THAT THERE IS A PROBABLE DANGER DUE TO "DETONATION ON ACCOUNT OF DETERIORATION; OR ANY HEAVY OBJECT DROPS INTO ONE OF THE HOLDS MAY RESULT IN DETONATION." BESIDES, HE SAID, "THE CURRENT MIGHT SPREAD THE ORDNANCE WHEN THEY BECOME LOOSE AND THE PEOPLE MIGHT FIND AND USE IT TO DYNAMITE FISH; THERE IS ALSO A DANGER OF POLLUTION DUE TO DETERIORATE PICRIC ACIDE EXPLOSIVE RELEASED INTO THE SURROUNDING WATER."

AIKEN ALSO POINTED OUT THAT SALVAGING THE ORDNANCE IS NOT FEASIBLE FROM A FINANCIAL STANDPOINT BECAUSE OF THE DEPTH. AMATEUR TOURIST DIVERS CANNOT REACH THAT DEPTH ALSO, HE SAID. HOWEVER, HE RECOMMENDS THAT THE SHIP SHOULD BE PLACED OFF LIMITS TO ANY UNAUTHORIZED DIVER.

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THE DEMOLITION EXPERT SAID THAT THERE ARE TWO JAPANESE LIGHT TANKS ON THE SHIP'S MAIN DECK. AIKEN SUGGESTED THAT THE TWO TANKS BE SALVAGED AND MOUNTED SOMEWHERE IN MOEN FOR TOURISTS' ATTRACTIONS.

AS FOR THE SAN FRANCISCO MARU, AIKEN SAID: "EITHER SHE BE SET UP AND DETONATED UNDER CONTROLLED CONDITIONS, OR BE IGNORED."

(VISITOR ENTRIES SHOW STRENGTH)

SAIPAN, DEC. 3 (MNS)---OCTOBER WAS A GOOD MONTH FOR VISITOR ENTRIES INTO MICRONESIA ACCORDING TO FIGURES RELEASED BY THE GOVERNMENT'S IMMIGRATION DIVISION. EACH OF THE SIX DISTRICTS SHOWED A GAIN OVER OCTOBER 1974. THE INCREASES WERE MARIANAS 7 PERCENT, TRUK 21 PERCENT, PONAPE, 26 PERCENT, MARSHALLS 35 PERCENT, YAP, 48 PERCENT AND PALAU 57 PERCENT. FOR MICRONESIA AS A WHOLE, OCTOBER'S 5,474 ENTRIES WAS SOME 15 PERCENT GREATER THAN OCTOBER LAST YEAR.

AS OF OCTOBER 31, 1975, THERE WERE 66,036 VISITOR ENTRIES INTO ALL OF MICRONESIA AS COMPARED WITH ONLY 61,067 FOR THE 12 MONTHS PRIOR.

FOR THE PAST TWELVE MONTHS ENDING OCTOBER 31ST, WHEN COMPARED WITH THE PRIOR TWELVE MONTHS, MICRONESIA'S GAIN WAS ABOUT 8 PERCENT. FIVE DISTRICTS ALSO SHOWED INCREASES FOR THE 12-MONTH PERIOD, WITH THE MARIANAS UP 6 PERCENT, YAP 9 PERCENT, PALAU 14 PERCENT, MARSHALLS 27 PERCENT, AND PONAPE 35 PERCENT. TRUK DISTRICT, WHICH RECORDED MORE THAN 500 CRUISE SHIP PASSENGERS IN 1974, HAD NONE IN 1975 AND SHOWED A 7 PERCENT FOR THE PAST YEAR.

INCREASES WERE REGISTERED FROM MICRONESIA'S TWO PRIMARY MARKET AREAS OF JAPAN AND THE UNITED STATES. FOR THE PAST TWELVE MONTHS, ENTRIES FROM JAPAN WERE UP SOME 4 PERCENT WHILE FROM THE UNITED STATES, INCLUDING GUAM, ENTRIES WERE 20 PERCENT HIGHER. OF THE TOTAL ENTRIES FOR THE PAST TWELVE MONTHS, 47 PERCENT CAME FROM JAPAN AND 45 PERCENT FROM THE UNITED STATES.

(DATELINE CEASE PUBLICATIONS)

GUAM, DEC. 3 (MNS)---GUAM'S AFTERNOON NEWSPAPER, PACIFIC DATELINE, PUBLISHED SINCE JULY 1970, DISCONTINUED PUBLICATION SATURDAY (NOV. 29). DATELINE IS A MEMBER OF THE GANNETT GROUP, AS IS THE PACIFIC DAILY NEWS.

ACCORDING TO ROBERT E. UDICK, PUBLISHER OF BOTH NEWSPAPERS, SOME FEATURES FORMERLY PRINTED IN THE PACIFIC DATELINE WILL BE IN THE PACIFIC DAILY NEWS.

"EXCELLENT TALENT AND GREAT EFFORT HAVE BEEN INVESTED IN THE PACIFIC DATELINE OVER A PERIOD OF FIVE YEARS," UDICK ANNOUNCED. "BUT THE ECONOMIC FACTS DEMONSTRATE THAT THE ISLAND IS JUST NOT THAT INTERESTED IN AN AFTERNOON NEWSPAPER."

"ECONOMIC AND OTHER BUSINESS REALITIES, ALONG WITH ENERGY AND NEWSPRINT PROBLEMS, HAVE LED TO THE RELUCTANT CONCLUSION THAT WE MUST CLOSE IT DOWN AS OF (SATURDAY)," UDICK STATED IN THE NEWSPAPER'S FINAL EDITION.

SOME EMPLOYEES OF DATELINE HAVE BEEN ABSORBED BY THE PACIFIC DAILY NEWS. THE PAPER'S EDITOR IS DR. TOM BRISLIN.

2 1/2 (DEPUTY LNO ARRIVED ON SAIPAN)

SAIPAN, DEC. 3 (MS)---THE NEW STATE DEPARTMENT DEPUTY STATUS LIAISON OFFICER, G. NICHOLAS MAUGER (PRONOUNCED MAJOR) ARRIVED ON SAIPAN TUESDAY (DEC. 2). HE REPLACES DAVID SCHIELE, WHO HAS BEEN ASSIGNED TO THE OFFICE OF MICRONESIAN STATUS NEGOTIATIONS (OMSN) IN WASHINGTON.

MAUGER IS A GRADUATE OF THE UNIVERSITY OF ARIZONA AND A CAREER U.S. FOREIGN SERVICE OFFICER. HE COMES TO THE TRUST TERRITORY FROM A BRIEF ASSIGNMENT WITH THE OMSN IN WASHINGTON.

HE AND HIS WIFE, JOANNE, ARE STAYING TEMPORARILY AT THE HAFADAI HOTEL.