



Department of State

TELEGRAM

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FM HICOMTERPACIS SAIPAN MARIANA ISLANDS
TO ALDISTADS TERPACIS
TT LNO GUAM MARIANA ISLANDS
TT LNO KWAJALEIN MARSHALL ISLANDS
COMNAV MARIANAS GUAM MARIANA ISLANDS
CINCPACREP GUAM/TTPI GUAM MARIANA ISLANDS
CINCPAC HONOLULU HI
INTELLIGENCE CENTER PACIFIC (IPAC)
NAVINSERVO GUAM MARIANA ISLANDS
COMTWELVE SAN FRANCISCO CA
RUEHC /SECSTATE WASHINGTON DC
SECDEF WASHINGTON DC
JCS WASHINGTON DC
CNO WASHINGTON DC
CINCPACFLT MAKALAPA HI
CINCPACAF HICKAM AFB HI
CGFMFPAC CAMP H M SMITH HI
COMCBPAC PEARL HARBOR HI
NAVFACENGCMMHQ ALEXANDRIA VA
CCGDFOURTEEN HONOLULU HI

1. *Biden Meets with
++ Cabinet*
2. *Palacios & Pasa
(Best Hcom)*
3. *Distad Rda Delivers
State of the Union
Message*
4. *Resolution Proposed
Yap as New Capital*
5. *Pasa & Palacios
Speech*

PACNAV FACENGCMM PEARL HARBOR HI
SAMTEC VANDENBERG AFB CA
FCDNA-LGA KIRTLAND AFB NM
CDRUSAGO MAKIMINATO JAPAN//TTPI-LNO//
AMEMB CANBERRA AS
RUEHKO /AMEMB TOKYO JA
CDRBMDS COM HUNTSVILLE AL//BMD SC-RO //
COMCOGARD MARSEC GUAM MARIANA ISLANDS

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COMTWELVE PASS INFO FOR AMB WILLIAMS

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SECSTATE PASS TO DEPT INT/SEC INTERIOR/DOIA OSN
AMEMBASSY CANBERRA FOR PAC. ISL. MONTHLY
(ZEDER MEETS WITH TT CABINET)

SAIPAN, JAN. 20 (MNS)---DIRECTOR OF TERRITORIAL AFFAIRS
FRFD M. ZEDER ATTENDED THE WEEKLY CABINET MEETING TUESDAY
WITH HIGH COMMISSIONER JOHNSTON AND HIS STAFF AND TOLD THEM
THAT OPEN COMMUNICATIONS BETWEEN TTPI AND WASHINGTON IS
IMPORTANT "NOT FOR THE PURPOSE OF CRITICIZING PAST PERFORMANCES

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RUT FOR GETTING ON WITH THE JOB AHEAD OF US."

ZEDER TOLD THE CABINET MEMBERS THAT HE WAS "PROUD AND
PLEASED AT THE PROGRESS MADE HERE IN THE PAST FEW MONTHS" AND
SAID THAT HE REGRETTED THE PRESS COVERAGE OF HIS RECENT REPORT
WHICH HE SAID "DID NOT ACCURATELY REFLECT THE PURPOSE OF THE
EXERCISE."

HE SAID THE BALANCE OF THE REPORT WAS ON "ACTIONS TAKEN,
ACTIONS PENDING TO SOLVE PROBLEMS" AND CALLED ON THE CABINET
MEMBERS TO ADDRESS THEMSELVES TO THE "MULTITUDE OF THINGS THAT
NEED TO BE DONE" IN THE FUTURE AND NOT DWELL ON RECRIMINATIONS
ABOUT THE PAST.

THE RECENTLY APPOINTED DIRECTOR OF TERRITORIAL AFFAIRS
SAID THAT THE MAIN EMPHASIS FOR THE FUTURE WOULD BE TO ACHIEVE
ECONOMIC SELF SUFFICIENCY FOR MICRONESIA AND THAT HE COULD
ENVISION THE TIME "WHEN THESE ISLANDS WILL BE ABLE TO ACHIEVE
A STANDARD OF LIVING AND AN OPPORTUNITY FOR GROWTH THEY
DESERVE -- BUT ONLY BY A GREAT EFFORT ON YOUR PART."

IN CLOSING, ZEDER PLEDGED THE "FULL AND TOTAL COOPERATION
OF WASHINGTON" IN PROGRAMS FOR ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT. HE SAID
THAT WASHINGTON UNDERSTANDS THE PROBLEMS HERE AND "WISHES TO

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MAINTAIN GOOD COMMUNICATIONS WITH THE TT AND TO MAINTAIN AN
OPEN ATTITUDE OF DISCUSSING OUR PROBLEMS IN ORDER TO GET ON
WITH THE JOB AHEAD OF US."

(PALACIOS AND RASA BLAST HICOM)

SAIPAN, JAN. 20 (MNS)---TWO SPEECHES CRITICAL OF HIGH

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COMMISSIONER EDWARD E. JOHNSTON'S ADMINISTRATION WERE DELIVERED TUESDAY MORNING IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE CONGRESS OF MICRONESIA.

ONE WAS BY REPRESENTATIVE OSCAR C. RASA FROM THE MARIANAS, WHO SHARPLY CRITICIZED THE HIGH COMMISSIONER FOR "INCOMPETENCE" IN HIS JOB AND THE PLACING OF "UNQUALIFIED" MICRONESIANS IN THE TOP LEVEL POSITIONS OF THE TRUST TERRITORY GOVERNMENT.

THE OTHER WAS A LETTER WRITTEN BY FRESHMAN CONGRESSMAN HERMAN T. PALACIOS ALSO FROM THE MARIANAS TO FRED M. ZEDER, DIRECTOR, OFFICE OF TERRITORIAL AFFAIRS AT THE DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR CONCERNING IT BUDGET CUTS MADE BY THE U.S. CONGRESS WHICH CAN BE ATTRIBUTED TO THE "SORRY STATE OF AFFAIRS" REVEALED BY THE ZEDER TASK FOR REPORT ON THE ADMINISTRATION OF THE TT (FOR DETAILED

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COVERAGE OF BOTH STATEMENTS, SEE FOLLOWING STORIES.)

TRUK CONGRESSMAN LAMBER AAFIN THEN SAID HE BELIEVES THERE IS AN "IN HOUSE FIGHT" BETWEEN HIGH COMMISSIONER JOHNSTON AND ZEDER. IF THERE ARE PROBLEMS BETWEEN THE TWO, ZEDER "SHOULD ASK HIM (JOHNSTON) TO STEP ASIDE AND GIVE HIM THE APPROPRIATE AND FAIR ADVISE INSTEAD OF GOING TO THE PRESS AND TELLING THE WHOLE WORLD ABOUT IT. TO DO THAT, "AAFIN TOLD MNS AFTERWARD, "WOULD NOT SOLVE ANYTHING."

IN OTHER BUSINESS, MARIANAS CONGRESSMAN HERMAN R. GUERRERO MADE A MOTION TO WITHDRAW TWO BILLS HE "INADVERTENTLY INTRODUCED" FRIDAY (16.) WHICH HE CLAIMS HE DID WITHOUT "THOROUGH STUDY." THE BILLS WERE: A MEASURE TO RAISE MOTOR VEHICLE OPERATORS LICENSE FEES FROM \$1.50 A YEAR TO \$3, (HB 6-366); AND A BILL TO LEGALIZE SLOT MACHINES IN THE TRUST TERRITORY (HB 6-369).

CONGRESSMAN POLYCARP BASILIUS OF PALAU, CHAIRMAN OF THE JUDICIARY AND GOVERNMENTAL RELATIONS COMMITTEE TO WHICH THE BILL WAS REFERRED, SUGGESTED THAT THE COMMITTEE SHOULD STUDY THE MEASURES SINCE THEY HAD ALREADY BEEN

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INTRODUCED, AND AS SUCH, THE BILLS ARE THE PROPERTY OF
THE HOUSE. A SHORT RECESS WAS CALLED AND THEN THE HOUSE
VOTED TO FILE BOTH BILLS.

GUERRERO SAID AFTERWARD THAT HE MIGHT INTRODUCE THE
SAME BILLS AGAIN AFTER HE MAKES FURTHER STUDIES.

IN THE SENATE, A BILL TO MAKE A TECHNICAL CORRECTION
IN PUBLIC LAW 6-8 (SB 6-217) PASSED SECOND READING AND
WAS SENT TO THE HOUSE FOR FURTHER CONSIDERATION. THE
MEASURE RELATES TO MICRONESIA'S ANNUAL CONTRIBUTION TO
THE SOUTH PACIFIC COMMISSION. THE BILL, SIGNED LAST
YEAR BY THE HIGH COMMISSIONER, REFERRED TO THE SOUTH
PACIFIC COMMISSION AS THE SOUTH PACIFIC "CONFERENCE."
THE BILL IS TO AMEND THE LAW TO THE PROPER FORM.

TWO JOINT RESOLUTIONS WERE ADOPTED IN THE SENATE.
THEY BOTH CONVEYING SYMPATHY AND CONDOLENCES TO THE
FAMILIES OF THE LATE MONSIGNOR JOSE A. LEON GUERRERO
(HJR 6-116) OF SAIPAN WHO DIED LATE IN DECEMBER 1975 AND
THE LATE W. SCOTT WILSON, (HFR 6-117) A WORLD-RECOGNIZED
AUTHORITY ON MICRONESIAN ANTHROPOLOGY. WILSON WAS A
FORMER CHAIRMAN OF THE ANTHROPOLOGY DEPARTMENT AND

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PROFESSOR AT THE UNIVERSITY OF GUAM.

THE FOLLOWING BILLS WERE INTRODUCED IN THE SENATE:
TO APPROPRIATE \$553,400 FOR THE OPERATING AND CONTINGENT
EXPENSES OF THE SENATE FOR FISCAL YEAR 1977, (SB 6-262);
TO EARMARK \$763,506 FOR THE OPERATING AND CONTINGENT
EXPENSES OF THE OFFICE OF THE LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL (SB 6-260);
TO SET ASIDE \$250,000 TO DEFRAY THE COST AND CONTINGENT
EXPENSES IN THE HOLDING OF THE MICRONESIAN OLYMPIC GAMES
IN THE SUMMER OF 1976 IN PONAPE DISTRICT, (SB 6-259); TO
APPROPRIATE \$775,370 FOR THE OPERATING AND CONTINGENT
EXPENSES OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, (HB 6-258); A
MEASURE TO ALLOW LAND COMMISSIONS TO LEASE AMENDED
CERTIFICATES OF TITLE TO CORRECT ERRORS MADE IN THE
PREPARATION OF THE ORIGINAL CERTIFICATES, (SB6-257)-- A
SIMILAR BILL WAS OFFERED IN THE HOUSE (HB 6-395)---AND A

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BILL TO CREATE A MANPOWER EVALUATION COUNCIL (SB 6-256).
EIGHT BILLS AND TWO JOINT RESOLUTIONS WERE OFFERED
IN THE HOUSE. THE BILLS WOULD: PROVIDE FOR DISTRICT
OFFICIALS TO REPORT QUARTERLY TO THE DISTRICT DELEGATIONS
ON APPROPRIATIONS MADE BY THE CONGRESS OF MICRONESIA

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PCDNA-LGA KIRTLAND AFB NM
CDRUSAGO MAKIMINATO JAPAN//TTPI-LNO//
AMEMB CANBERRA AS
RUEHKO /AMEMB TOKYO JA
CDRBMDSCOM HUNTSVILLE AL//BMD SC-RO //
COMCOGARD MARSEC GUAM MARIANA ISLANDS

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(HR 6-393); TRANSFER TO AND CONFER UPON THE MICRONESIAN

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DEVELOPMENT BANK ALL PROPERTY, ASSETS, LIABILITIES, RECORDS AND UNEXPENDED BALANCES OF FUNDS AVAILABLE IN THE PRODUCTION DEVELOPMENT FUND, MARINE RESOURCES DEVELOPMENT FUND, AND AGRICULTURE DEVELOPMENT FUND; TRANSFER THE FUNCTIONS AND POWERS IN THE ADMINISTRATION OF THESE FUNDS FROM THE HIGH COMMISSIONER AND THE DIRECTOR OF THE DEPARTMENT OF RESOURCES AND DEVELOPMENT AND TO THE BANK (HR6-396); APPROPRIATE \$147,000 TO PURCHASE THREE SCHOOL

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RUSES FOR USE ON MOEN AND DUBLON ISLAND IN TRUK DISTRICT, (HR 6-394); TO ESTABLISH A TRUST TERRITORY TRANSPORTATION ADVISORY BOARD AND APPROPRIATE \$9,000 TO DEFRAY THE EXPENSES OF THE SAID AUTHORITY (HS 6-397); DEFINE A NONCITIZEN FOR THE PURPOSES OF THE FOREIGN INVESTORS BUSINESS PERMIT ACT (HB 6-398); RAISE THE ANNUAL LICENSE FEES TO BE PAID BY IMPORTERS, EXPORTERS, BANKS, SECURITIES DEALERS, INSURANCE COMPANIES, INSURANCE BROKERS, INSURANCE AGENTS, AND PUBLIC UTILITIES (HB 6-399); AND CREATE A DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE AND TAXATION (HB 6-400).

THE JOINT RESOLUTIONS WERE: TO DESIGNATE YAP DISTRICT AS THE LOCATION OF A PERMANENT CAPITAL OF THE FUTURE GOVERNMENT OF MICRONESIA (SEE SEPARATE STORY) HJR 6-125); AND TO REQUEST THE GOVERNMENT OF JAPAN TO COMPENSATE MICRONESIAN CITIZENS AND THEIR HEIRS OF MICRONESIAN CITIZENS FOR WAGES, INJURIES AND DEATHS RESULTING FROM SERVICE BY MICRONESIAN CITIZENS IN THE JAPANESE MILITARY SERVICE DURING WORLD WAR II (HJR 6-126).

(DYSTAD ADA DELIVERS STATE OF DISTRICT MESSAGE)

SAIPAN, JAN. 20 (MNS)--- DISTRICT ADMINISTRATOR

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FRANCISCO C. ADA DELIVERED HIS STATE OF THE DISTRICT MESSAGE TO THE FOURTH MARIANA ISLANDS DISTRICT LEGISLATURE MONDAY (JAN. 20) WITH ELEGANCE, AND ALSO WITH A CERTAIN NOTE OF POSSIBLE "FAREWELL".

ADA SAID, "IT NOW DAWNS UPON ME, THAT YOU MAY FIND

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SOMEONE OTHER THAN MYSELF ADDRESSING YOU NEXT YEAR, IF THE TREND OF OUR POLITICAL ASPIRATIONS MATERIALIZE. NEVERTHELESS, THE SEVEN YEARS BEING YOUR CHIEF EXECUTIVE IN OUR DISTRICT GOVERNMENT, AND MY ASSOCIATION WITH YOU, THE CHALLENGES OF THE OFFICE AND DEMANDS WHICH WERE BESTOWED UPON THIS OFFICE SHALL FOREVER BE REGARDED BY MYSELF AS REWARDING PERSONAL EXPERIENCES AND GRATIFICATION."

DISTAD ADA IN HIS MESSAGE CALLED THE YEAR 1975 AN "EXCITING YEAR, ...PERHAPS ONE OF THE MOST PROSPEROUS WHEN COMPARED TO PREVIOUS YEARS." ENUMERATING THE HIGHLIGHTS OF 1975, ADA NOTED THE MARIANAS POLITICAL DEVELOPMENT AND ADVANCEMENT WHICH "... AFTER A SERIES OF STATUS NEGOTIATIONS, CULMINATED IN THE SIGNING OF THE AGREEMENT REACHED BETWEEN THE DELEGATIONS OF THE UNITED STATES AND THE MARIANAS DISTRICT... THE COVENANT TO

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ESTABLISH A COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANAS."

INCLUDED IN THIS POLITICAL ADVANCEMENT WAS THE "ESTABLISHMENT OF FULL-TIME STATUS TO MEMBERS OF THE MARIANAS DISTRICT LEGISLATURE...A CONCEPT HEAVILY SUPPORTED IN VIEW OF THE ESSENTIAL ROLE THIS BODY WILL PLAY IN THE NEW GOVERNMENT OF THE MARIANAS, AND ALSO THAT THE MEMBERS (LEGISLATORS) COULD DECIDE IN WHICH BRANCH OF THE GOVERNMENT THEY WOULD PREFER TO DEVOTE THEIR CAREERS."

MENTIONING THE DRAFT CONSTITUTION FOR THE FUTURE FEDERATED STATES OF MICRONESIA, ADA HOPED THAT INSPITE OF THE POLITICAL DIFFERENCES THERE WOULD BE MUTUAL CONTINUING COOPERATION AND ASSISTANT BETWEEN THE MARIANAS AND MICRONESIAN..."SUCH FRIENDSHIP SHOULD BE ETERNALLY CARRIED ON."

IN THE AREA OF DEVELOPMENT AND ADVANCEMENT IN EDUCATION, ADA NOTED THE FOLLOWING: COMPLETION OF 12 CLASSROOMS--2 ON ROTA, ONE ON TINIAN AND THE REST ON SAIPAN; 20 TEACHERS ARE ON EDUCATIONAL LEAVE ATTENDING COLLEGE; 180 SCHOOL PERSONNEL AND OTHER INTERESTED INDIVIDUALS

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ENROLLED IN THE UNIVERSITY OF GUAM OFF-CAMPUS PROGRAM DURING THE SUMMER OF 1975. THERE ARE ABOUT 220 MARIANAS STUDENTS ATTENDING POST-SECONDARY EDUCATION ABROAD; THREE STUDENTS HAVE RETURNED WITH MASTER'S DEGREES, TWELVE WITH BACHELORS, TWO WITH ASSOCIATE DEGREES AND TWO GRADUATED FROM LAW SCHOOLS.

EDUCATIONAL CURRICULUM DEVELOPMENT HAS COME OUT WITH TWO 4TH GRADE SOCIAL STUDY BOOKS: OUR MARIANAS, 352 PAGES (TEACHER'S EDITION) THE MARIANAS ALBUM, 166 PAGES (STUDENT BOOK). THE MICRONESIAN CULTURAL AND LANGUAGE PROJECT BEGUN IN SAIPAN TWO YEARS AGO HAS EXTENDED TO INCLUDE TINIAN AND ROTA SCHOOLS. THE MARIANAS BILINGUAL PROGRAMS IN MARIANAS DISTRICT HAVE MADE GREAT ADVANCES.

TURNING TO THE NEED FOR MARIANAS YOUTH, ADA INCLUDED THE CONSTRUCTION OF YOUTH RECREATIONAL SUB-CENTERS ON SAIPAN, TINIAN AND ROTA MADE POSSIBLE THROUGH THE LEGISLATURE AND THE CONGRESS OF MICRONESIA FUNDS; AND THE ESTABLISHMENT OF THE MARIANAS SPORTS COUNCIL.

SPEAKING OF GENERAL ECONOMIC ACCOMPLISHMENTS, ADA SAID THE MARIANAS DISTRICT "HAS MADE VERY SIGNIFICANT

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ACHIEVEMENTS." IN AGRICULTURE, HE NOTED AN INCREASE IN PRODUCTION FOR BOTH DOMESTIC AND EXPORT CONSUMPTION. DOMESTIC SALES AMOUNTED TO NEARLY \$481,000 AND EXPORT SALES WERE CLOSE TO MILLION DOLLARS IN REVENUE.

A TRIAL SHIPMENT OF WATERMELONS FROM TINIAN TO SAN FRANCISCO HAS BEEN INITIATED, AND THERE MAY BE A POSSIBILITY OF MARKETING MARIANAS AGRICULTURE PRODUCE TO JAPAN; AND MAJOR DEVELOPMENT IN DAIRY MILK PRODUCTION AT TINIAN.

IN THE AREA OF TOURISM INDUSTRY, ADA POINTED OUT THE FOLLOWING: THE "SOFT" OPENING OF THE SAIPAN INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT; AN ADDITIONAL 200 FIRST-CLASS HOTEL ROOMS FOR SAIPAN INTER-CONTINENTAL HOTEL UNDER CONSTRUCTION TO BE COMPLETED IN JULY; A GROUND BREAKING CEREMONY FOR THE CONSTRUCTION OF A MULTI-PURPOSE BUILDING COMPLEX WHICH WILL COST ABOUT \$6 MILLION SPONSORED BY THE REPUBLIC OF NAURU; AND

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THE GRAND OPENING OF THE TOWN HOUSE SHOPPING CENTER,
IN THE AREANOF THE DISTRICT'S INFRASTRUCTURE AND LAND
PROGRAMS, ADA NOTED THE FOLLOWING: A FLOATING STEAM POWER
PLANT ON LOAN FROM THE U.S. ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS WHICH
CAN SUPPLY POWER TO SAIPAN FOR THE NEXT FIVE YEARS.

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AMEMB CANBERRA AS
RUEHKO /AMEMB TOKYO JA
CDRBMDSCOM HUNTSVILLE AL//BMD SC-RO //
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THE SUGAR KING SUBDIVISION AT GARAPAN HAS 120 USABLE LOTS

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READY TO BE HOMESTEADED; 160 LOTS NEXT TO SUGAR KING ARE BEING DESIGNED FOR SEPARATE PEDESTRIAN WALKWAYS, FOR AUTO TRAFFIC, AND FOR PARKS AND PLAYGROUND AREAS. THERE WILL BE PUBLIC LANDS AVAILABLE FOR THE DEVELOPMENT OF AN ESTIMATED 250 ADDITIONAL RESIDENTIAL LOTS IN THE GARAPAN AREA. SOME 160 LOTS WILL BE ISSUED IN TINIAN SOON. THE TENETO VILLAGE HOMESTEAD SUB-DIVISION IN ROTA WAS COMPLETED, AND PERMITS HAVE ALREADY BEING ISSUED.

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DISTAD ADA CONCLUDED HIS STATE OF THE DISTRICT MESSAGE SAYING, "OUR ACCOMPLISHMENTS IN THE 1975 SHOULD MAKE US REAFFIRM OUR DESIRES TO WORK MUTUALLY FOR THE IMPROVEMENT AND DEVELOPMENT OF OUR DISTRICT. WE HAVE ENDLESS WORK AND PROBLEMS STILL AHEAD OF US. MY REPORT TO THE LEGISLATURE, I HOPE, WILL CONVEY THE MESSAGE THAT WITHOUT MUTUAL COOPERATION, THE FULL BENEFITS OF ACCOMPLISHMENTS WOULD BE HARD TO ACHIEVE."

(RESOLUTION PROPOSES YAP FOR MICRO CAPITAL)

SAIPAN, JAN. 20 (MNS)---A RESOLUTION TO DESIGNATE YAP DISTRICT AS THE LOCATION OF THE PERMANENT CAPITAL OF THE NEW GOVERNMENT OF MICRONESIA WAS INTRODUCED TUESDAY BY HOUSE FLOOR LEADER, REPRESENTATIVE LUKE TMAN OF YAP, IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE CONGRESS OF MICRONESIA.

TWO SIMILAR MEASURES TO DESIGNATE PALAU AND PONAPE AS PERMANENT CAPITAL LOCATIONS WERE INTRODUCED RESPECTIVELY EARLIER LAST WEEK BY REPRESENTATIVES KUNIWO NAKAMURA OF PALAU AND RAYMOND SETIK OF TRUK.

POINTING OUT THE "THE CENTRAL GOVERNMENT OF THE FEDERATED STATES OF MICRONESIA IS TO BE SMALL AND WEAK,"

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THE RESOLUTION INDICATES THAT YAP WOULD BE COMPATIBLE WITH A "SMALL AND WEAK" CENTRAL GOVERNMENT SINCE IT TOO IS "SMALL AND WEAK."

THE RESOLUTION (HJR 6-125) POINTED OUT THAT IT IS LIKELY THAT THE MARIANA ISLANDS DISTRICT WILL SEPARATE FROM THE

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REST OF MICRONESIA, AND IT IS NECESSARY TO ESTABLISH A PERMANENT CAPITAL IN ONE OF THE OTHER DISTRICTS.

THE LEADERS AND PEOPLE OF YAP, ACCORDING TO TMAN'S RESOLUTION, WOULD WELCOME HAVING THE PERMANENT CAPITAL IN YAP. IT FURTHER STATES THAT THERE IS A SUITABLE AMOUNT OF LAND AVAILABLE FOR THE LOCATION OF THE PERMANENT CAPITAL.

THE RESOLUTION WAS REFERRED TO THE COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS FOR FURTHER STUDY.

(ALL USERS, PLEASE CREDIT THE CONGRESS OF MICRONESIA)
(RASA AND PALACIOS SPEECH)

SAIPAN, JANUARY 20 (CONGRESS RELEASE)---HIGH COMMISSIONER EDWARD E. JOHNSTON WAS SEVERELY CRITICIZED TUESDAY (JAN. 20) BY TWO MARIANAS CONGRESSMEN.

REP. OSCAR RASA'S CRITICISMS PERTAINED TO CERTAIN AREAS IN THE HICOM'S STATE OF THE TERRITORY ADDRESS INCLUDING "HARASSMENT"

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OF CRITICS AND HIS MICRONIZATION PROGRAM. HE WAS FOLLOWED BY REP. HERMAN T. PALACIOS WHO SPECIFICALLY CRITICIZED JOHNSTON ON A NEWS ACCOUNT ABOUT "MISMANAGEMENT" OF THE TT GOVERNMENT.

IN A SPEECH BEFORE THE HOUSE, CONGRESSMAN RASA SAID HE DOES NOT CONSIDER "MICRONIZATION OF THE EXECUTIVE BRANCH" A SUCCESSFUL PROGRAM. "MICRONESIANS HAVE BEEN GIVEN JOBS FOR WHICH THEY ARE NOT QUALIFIED...IT ONLY MAKES THE HICOM LOOK GOOD."

RASA CHARGED THAT THE HIGH COMMISSIONER IS "INCOMPETENT." "MICRONESIANS ARE BEING GIVEN TOP GOVERNMENT JOBS," RASA SAID. BUT THE "FINAL POWER...RESTS SOLELY WITH THE HICOM...THERE'S NO REAL TRANSFER OF POWER FROM THE HICOM TO MICRONESIAN."

RASA POINTED OUT THAT GIVING PEOPLE A TITLE WITHOUT "THE POWER TO INFLUENCE DECISIONS IS ANY AN EMPTY EXERCISE."

CONGRESSMAN RASA SAID HE WAS CONCERNED WITH THE HICOM'S CONSTANT REFERENCE TO "VICIOUS BUT DEDICATED MALCONTENTS" IN HIS STATE OF THE TERRITORY MESSAGE. HE SAID ALTHOUGH THE HICOM DID NOT MENTION NAMES, SOME VERY DISTINGUISHED PEOPLE "WOULD SEEMINGLY FALL INTO THE CATEGORY" WHICH INCLUDES SENATOR HENRY JACKSON, AND STAFF OF THE DEPARTMENT IF THE

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INTERIOR.

ACCORDING TO RASA, THE STAFF REPORT OF SEN. JACKSON'S COMMITTEE IS "IN FACT AN INVESTIGATION OF A SERIES OF MISTAKES AND MISMANAGEMENT" OF THE TT GOVERNMENT.

THE MARIANAS CONGRESSMAN NOTED THAT SOME TIME AGO, THE MARIANA ISLANDS DISTRICT LEGISLATURE ADOPTED A RESOLUTION CALLING FOR THE REMOVAL OF THE HICOM. HE SAID THOSE LEGISLATORS WHO WERE AT THAT TIME EMPLOYED BY THE GOVERNMENT "WERE THREATENED AND INFORMED THAT IF THEY SUPPORTED ANY SIMILAR MEASURES IN THE FUTURE, ADMINISTRATIVE REPRISALS WOULD BE TAKEN AGAINST THEM."

RASA ALSO MENTIONED THE CASE OF ROBERT ST. PIERRE, FORMER CHIEF OF PUBLIC DEFENDER FOR THE TRUST TERRITORY, WHO WAS "HARASSED AND INTIMIDATED NOT BECAUSE OF THE WAY HE PERFORMED HIS JOB, BUT SOLELY BECAUSE HE ACCUSED THE HICOM OF USING "INTIMIDATION APPARATUS" AGAINST ANYONE WHO OPPOSES HIM.

"WE HAVE BEEN PLACED IN AN ENVIRONMENT OF SUPPRESSION AND FEAR," RASA SAID, "WHICH IS TOTALLY INCOMPATIBLE WITH DEMOCRACY."

"AMERICA IS A GREAT NATION NOT BECAUSE OF ITS RISING GROSS NATIONAL PRODUCT NOR BECAUSE OF ITS ADVANCED TECHNOLOGY," SAID RASA. "IT IS GREAT BECAUSE IT TOLERATES AND ENCOURAGES DIVERSE

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OPINIONS."

THE OTHER MARIANAS REPRESENTATIVE WHO COMMENTED ON THE HIGH COMMISSIONER'S PERFORMANCE WAS NEWLY-SEATED CONGRESSMAN HERMAN T. PAMVMO READING ALOUD A LETTER HE HAD WRITTEN TO MR. FRED M

ZEDER, DIRECTOR OF THE OFFICE OF TERRITORIAL AFFAIRS, PALACIOS SAID HE WAS BOTH "APPALLED AND APPREHENSIVE" ON READING A RECENT NEWS ACCOUNT CONCERNING ALLEGED WASTED AND MISMANAGEMENT IN THE TRUST TERRITORY.

REP. PALACIOS SAID THAT IT WAS "DIFFICULT TO SEE" HOW THE HIGH COMMISSIONER COULD AVOID BEING HELD ACCOUNTABLE, AND THAT HE DOUBTED THE STATEMENT THAT "JOHNSTON WAS IN NO DANGER OF BEING REPLACED" COULD BE ATTRIBUTED TO ZEDER, IMPLYING IT WAS A CONCLUSION OF THE NEWS WRITER.

PALACIOS COMMENTED: "TRULY ASTOUNDING: THE WEASEL OBSERVED

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IN THE HEN HOUSE RED-PAWED BUT FONDLY ABSOLVED AND GIVEN ASSURANCE
OF LICENSE TO CARRY ON."

PALACIOS SAID AS A BUSINESSMAN HIMSELF, HE KNEW THAT IT IS
FOOLISH TO ENTRUST A BUSINESS TO, WHAT HE CALLED, "PROVEN,
UNREPENTANT MISMANAGEMENT."

"TO DO SO WOULD BE FOOLHARDY IN THE EXTREME," SAID PALACIOS,

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FM HICOMTERPACIS SAIRAN MARIANA ISLANDS
TO ALDISTADS TERPACIS
TT LNO GUAM MARIANA ISLANDS
TT LNO KWAJALEIN MARSHALL ISLANDS
COMNAV Marianas GUAM MARIANA ISLANDS
CINCPACREP GUAM/TTPI GUAM MARIANA ISLANDS
CINCPAC HONOLULU HI
INTELLIGENCE CENTER PACIFIC (IPAC)
NAVINSERVO GUAM MARIANA ISLANDS
COMTWELVE SAN FRANCISCO CA
RUEHC /SECSTATE WASHINGTON DC
SECDEF WASHINGTON DC
JCS WASHINGTON DC
CNO WASHINGTON DC
CINCPACFLT MAKALAPA HI
CINCPACAF HICKAM AFB HI
CGFMFPAC CAMP H M SMITH HI
COMCBPAC PEARL HARBOR HI
NAVFACENGCOMHQ ALEXANDRIA VA
CCGDFOURTEEN HONOLULU HI

PACNAVACENGCOM PEARL HARBOR HI
SAMTEC VANDENBERG AFB CA
FCDNA-LGA KIRTLAND AFB NM
CDRUSAGO MAKIMINATO JAPAN//TTPI-LNO//
AMEMB CANBERRA AS
RUEHKO /AMEMB TOKYO JA
CDRBMDSCOM HUNTSVILLE AL//BMD SC-RD //
COMCOGARD MARSEC GUAM MARIANA ISLANDS

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FINAL SECTION OF 04
"AN ABDICATION OF RESPONSIBILITY AND AN INVITATION TO BAKRUPTCY."

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PALACIOS ADDED THAT HE FELT THAT ZEDER, A BUSINESSMAN OF VAST EXPERIENCE HIMSELF, WOULD NOT TOLERATE MISMANAGEMENT AND WASTE BY AN INCOMPETENT MANAGER ONCE THE FACTS BECOME KNOWN TO HIM.

PALACIOS ALSO TOOK ISSUE TO THE FACT THAT HIGH COMMISSIONER JOHNSTON ACCEPTED NO BLAME FOR THESE PROBLEMS. "HE HOLDS THE REPORT-HENCE THE CHARGES-UNFAIR TO MICRONESIANS AND THE GOVERNMENT OF THE TRUST TERRITORY...SUGGESTING THAT...HE IS NOT PART OF THE

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RESPONSIBILITY..."

PALACIOS CONTINUED: "SINCE THE GOVERNMENT OF THE UNITED STATES IS WELL AWARE THAT WE, THE PEOPLE OF THE TRUST TERRITORY, HAVE NO VOICE IN THE SELECTION OF HIGH COMMISSIONERS, WE BEG OF YOU THAT THEIR SINS NOT BE VISITED UPON US."

PALACIOS ALSO SAID HE FELT THE RECENT CUTS IN THE BUDGET OF THE TRUST TERRITORY COULD BE THE RESULT OF THE "SORRY STATE OF AFFAIRS REVEALED BY THE REPORT."

PALACIOS ASKED ZEDER IF IT IS FAIR TO PENALIZE MICRONESIA FOR THE WRONGDOINGS OF THOSE PLACED IN AUTHORITY IN MICRONESIA, OVER WHICH MICRONESIANS HAVE NO CONTROL. HE ALSO ASKED IF THE "SHORTCOMINGS OF THE ADMINISTRATION, THE OFFICE OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL AND THE COURTS, SHOULD BE CHARGED TO OUR PEOPLE WHOSE ONLY ROLE IS TO OBEY?"

THE FRESHMAN CONGRESSMAN SAID HE WAS SURE MR. ZEDER IS IN "COMPLETE AGREEMENT" THAT THESE CONDITIONS "CRY OUT FOR CORRECTION.

FOT

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