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CORRELATE PASS INFO FOR AVJ WILLIAMS
 SECSTATE PASS TO DEPT INT/SEC INTERIO/DOIA GSN
 AMEMBASSY GADARUA FOR PAC ISLANDS
 (MICRONESIA) STATUS NEGOTIATIONS TO RESUME NEXT MONTH
 SAIPAN APRIL 66 (MNS) --- SENATOR CAZARUS SALII, CHAIRMAN
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Best Copy Available

STATE A/GC/IN/ DATE 600

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OF THE CONGRESS OF MICRONESIA JOINT COMMITTEE ON FUTURE STATUS, SAID TODAY (APRIL 26) THAT IT IS PLANNED THAT AN ANNUAL ROUND OF NEGOTIATIONS WITH THE UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT TO COMPLETE THE DRAFT COMPACT OF FREE ASSOCIATION WOULD TAKE PLACE NEXT MONTH.

SENATOR SALII MADE THE ANNOUNCEMENT IN A STATEMENT GIVEN TO TRUST TERRITORY CABINET OFFICERS DURING THE WEEKLY MEETING WITH ACTING HIGH COMMISSIONER PETER T. COLEMAN.

"LAST WEEK, AMBASSADOR FRANKLIN HAYLEN WILLIAMS HELD THREE MEETINGS WITH THE LEADERSHIP OF THE CONGRESS OF MICRONESIA. BOTH SIDES AGREED THEY WOULD SEEK TO HOLD A FORMAL ROUND OF NEGOTIATIONS TO COMPLETE THE DRAFT COMPACT OF FREE ASSOCIATION BEFORE THE FORMAL NEGOTIATIONS BEGIN. REPRESENTATIVES FROM BOTH SIDES EXPECT TO HOLD ONE OR TWO MEETINGS TO PREPARE FOR THE FORMAL MEETING. BOTH SIDES EXPECT THE DOCUMENT CAN BE COMPLETED IN TIME FOR IT TO BE CONSIDERED BY THE SPECIAL SESSION OF THE CONGRESS OF MICRONESIA THIS COMING JULY," SALII SAID.

SALII FURTHER EXPLAINED THAT IF THE CONGRESS OF MICRONESIA APPROVES THE COMPLETED DRAFT COMPACT IN JULY, IT WILL BE PLACED ON THE BALLOT IN NOVEMBER FOR DECISION BY THE MICRONESIAN ELECTORATE. GENERAL ELECTIONS FOR MEMBERS OF THE CONGRESS OF MICRONESIA WILL ALSO TAKE PLACE AT THE SAME TIME.

"IF THE MICRONESIAN PEOPLE APPROVE IT, WE WILL THEN TRY TO GET IT TO THE U.S. CONGRESS FOR CONSIDERATION AND WE HOPE THAT THE U.S. CONGRESS WILL ACT ON IT BEFORE JANUARY OF NEXT YEAR," SALII SAID.

"IF THE PEOPLE REJECT THE DRAFT COMPACT IN NOVEMBER, THEY WILL HAVE ANOTHER CHANCE TO DETERMINE THEIR FUTURE STATUS IN JULY OF 1977 WHEN THE DRAFT CONSTITUTION COMES UP FOR THEIR CONSIDERATION," SALII EXPLAINED. HE DID NOT EXPLAIN WHAT WOULD HAPPEN IF THE SPECIAL SESSION OF THE CONGRESS OF MICRONESIA WERE TO REJECT THE DOCUMENT THIS COMING JULY. HE ELABORATED ON THE "FUNDAMENTAL CONFLICTS" THAT ARE SAID TO EXIST BETWEEN THE DRAFT COMPACT OF FREE ASSOCIATION AND THE PROPOSED CONSTITUTION FOR THE FEDERATED STATES OF MICRONESIA. (ADMIRALTY AND MARITIME BILL VETCED)

SAIPAN, APRIL 26, (MNS)--ACTING TRUST TERRITORY HIGH COMMISSIONER PETER T. COLEMAN TUESDAY (APRIL 27) VETCED HOUSE BILL NO. 6904 AMENDING A CERTAIN SECTION OF THE TRUST TERRITORY CODE OF ADMIRALTY AND MARITIME AFFAIRS.

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