

(PULUWAT SAILORS ARRIVE ON SAIPAN)

SAIPAN, JUNE 18 (MNS)---MICRONESIA'S BICENTENNIAL GIFT TO THE UNITED STATES WILL BE A PULUWAT SAILING CANOE.

JOHN SABLAN, IT EXECUTIVE OFFICER WHO IS COORDINATING THE SCHEDULE WITH THE BICENTENNIAL COMMITTEE IN THE U. S., AND THE TRUK DISTRICT ADMINISTRATION, SAID THAT PRESENT PLAN CALLS FOR A PULUWAT SAILING CANOE WITH PANDANUS SAILS MANNED BY FIVE SAILORS TO SAIL UP THE HUDSON RIVER AS PART OF THE "OPERATION SAIL" ON JULY 4TH ALONG WITH OTHER WATER CRAFTS FROM DIFFERENT NATIONS.

THE PULUWAT SAILORS ARRIVED ON SAIPAN FRIDAY MORNING (JUNE 18) ABOARD A U. S. NAVY TUG USS MOLALA. THE CREW IS HEADED BY PULUWAT CHIEF MANUPI RAPUNG, 51. OTHER MEMBERS OF THE CREW ARE: OILUK IKALUR, TRADITIONAL NAVIGATOR; FATIN LUKEI, SEAMAN; PIALUK IKEA, SEAMAN; AND SOUR PEIN, SEAMAN/ INTERPRETER. SABLAN MET WITH THEM FRIDAY AFTERNOON TO WORK OUT THEIR SCHEDULES.

THE 26-FOOT LONG CANOE IS STILL ON THE NAVY SHIP AND WILL BE UNLOADED ON GUAM SOMETIME NEXT WEEK.

THE SAILORS WILL BE ON SAIPAN UNTIL JUNE 29 WHEN THEY WILL LEAVE FOR NEW YORK VIA CONTINENTAL AIR MICRONESIA THROUGH THE EASTERN DISTRICTS. SABLAN SAID ARRANGEMENTS HAVE BEEN MADE TO HAVE SOMEBODY MEET THE CREW ON EACH STOP ENROUTE TO NEW YORK.

FOOD AND LODGING EXPENSES WILL BE BORNE BY THE U. S. BICENTENNIAL COMMITTEE. THE CREWMEN ARE PRESENTLY STAYING AT THE MARIANAS HOTEL.

AFTER THE CEREMONIES ON JULY 4TH, THE CANOE WILL BE DONATED TO THE SMITHSONIAN INSTITUTE IN WASHINGTON D. C., FOR DISPLAY.

SABLAN IS MAKING THE ARRANGEMENTS FOR THE CANOE TO BE AIRLIFTED TO NEW YORK.

THE CANOE WILL SAIL UP THE HUDSON RIVER AGAINST THE TIDE AND CURRENTS ALONG WITH THE OTHER SHIPS. IT IS ESTIMATED THAT 21 U. S. WARSHIPS AND 34 NAVAL VESSELS FROM 26 FOREIGN NATIONS AND ANOTHER 225 SAILING SHIPS FROM 30 NATIONS WILL PARTICIPATE.

AN ESTIMATED 10 MILLION PEOPLE WILL VIEW THE EVENT EITHER FROM THE SHORE OR AS PART OF NATIONAL TELEVISION AUDIENCE.

PULUWAT ATOLL IS ABOUT 185 MILES WEST OF MOEN ISLAND, TRUK DISTRICT CENTER.

(TAKESY GIVEN STATUS COMMISSION POST)

SAIPAN, JUNE 18 (CONGRESS RELEASE)--- ANDON AMARAICH, CHAIRMAN OF THE COMMISSION ON FUTURE STATUS AND TRANSITION, HAS ANNOUNCED THE APPOINTMENT OF ASTERIO TAKESY AS ACTING ADMINISTRATIVE DIRECTOR FOR THE NEW COMMISSION.

THE APPOINTMENT OF TAKESY, WHO PRESENTLY SERVES AS CHIEF CLERK OF THE HOUSE REPRESENTATIVES OF THE CONGRESS OF MICRONESIA, BECAME EFFECTIVE JUNE 4.

AMARAICH STATED THAT THE APPOINTMENT WAS MADE POSSIBLE THROUGH THE COOPERATION OF THE LEADERSHIP OF THE CONGRESS OF MICRONESIA. AMARAICH SAID THE CONGRESS LEADERSHIP INVITED HIM TO SAIPAN EARLIER THIS MONTH TO DISCUSS IMMEDIATE STAFFING REQUIREMENTS OF THE NEW COMMISSION. HE SAID THE NEW COMMISSION AND THE LEADERSHIP REACHED AN AGREEMENT WHEREBY STAFF MEMBERS OF THE CONGRESS WILL BE MADE AVAILABLE TO THE COMMISSION HAS BEEN RECRUITED.

AMARAICH EXPRESSED FULL CONFIDENCE IN MR. TAKESY, ADDING THAT HIS VAST EXPERIENCE IN HIS PRESENT POSITION AND AS ASSISTANT EXECUTIVE SECRETARY FOR THE RECENTLY CONCLUDED MICRONESIAN CONSTITUTIONAL CONVENTION WILL BE "EXTREMELY USEFUL IN THE PERFORMANCE OF HIS NEW FUNCTIONS AS ACTING ADMINISTRATIVE DIRECTOR FOR THE COMMISSION.

"THE COMMISSION IS VERY GRATEFUL TO THE CONGRESS OF MICRONESIA FOR THESE SERVICES WHICH THE COMMISSION NEEDS VERY BADLY AT THE OUTSET OF ITS WORK," CHAIRMAN AMARAICH SAID. HE ADDED THAT THE COMMISSION IS "VERY PLEASED TO HAVE MR. TAKESY PERFORM THIS VERY IMPORTANT FUNCTIONS FOR THE COMMISSION."

AMARAICH SAID TAKESY'S IMMEDIATE TASKS INCLUDE THE SETTING UP OF AN OFFICE FOR THE COMMISSION, ADMINISTRATION OF THE COMMISSION'S FUNDS, COORDINATION OF MEETINGS AND TRAVEL FOR COMMISSION MEMBERS, ASSISTING IN THE SCREENING AND RECRUITMENT OF ADMINISTRATIVE STAFF, COMPILING DOCUMENTS AND OTHER REFERENCE MATERIALS FOR THE COMMISSION, DEVELOPMENT OF AN ADMINISTRATIVE MANUAL AND SUPERVISION OF ADMINISTRATIVE STAFF.

TAKESY WILL ALSO ASSIST IN THE DEVELOPMENT OF A PROPOSED BUDGET FOR THE COMMISSION WHICH MUST BE PRESENTED TO THE SPECIAL SESSION OF THE CONGRESS OF MICRONESIA WHICH

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WILL MEET ON PONAPE, JULY 19 TO AUGUST 2.

THE NEW COMMISSION ON STATUS AND TRANSITION WAS CREATED BY THE CONGRESS OF MICRONESIA DURING ITS 1976 REGULAR SESSION WHEN IT ENACTED PUBLIC LAW NO. 6087, WHICH WAS SIGNED INTO LAW ON AUGUST 7, 1976.

TAKESY WILL CONTINUE IN HIS REGULAR POSITION AS CHIEF CLERK FOR THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES WHILE PERFORMING THIS ADDITIONAL DUTY FOR THE COMMISSION, AMARAICH STATED.

(SHODA APPOINTED MARIANAS AIRPORT MANAGER)

SAIPAN, JUNE 18 (MNS)---CARLOS SHODA HAS BEEN APPOINTED MANAGER OF ALL AIRPORTS IN THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS, IT WAS ANNOUNCED THIS WEEK BY JOSE R. CRUZ, CHAIRMAN OF THE MARIANAS AIRPORT AUTHORITY.

SHODA'S APPOINTMENT WILL TAKE EFFECT JULY 1. HIS PROMOTION WAS APPROVED BY THE AIRPORT AUTHORITY'S BOARD OF DIRECTORS DURING THEIR JUNE MONTHLY MEETING.

THE AIRPORT MANAGER HAS BEEN SERVING AS AN ASSISTANT TO OUTGOING MANAGER JIM MELLUS DURING THE PAST ONE YEAR. MELLUS WILL SERVE AS AN ADVISOR TO SHODA FOR THE NEXT SIX MONTHS.

THE BOARD ALSO ANNOUNCES THAT PLANS ARE NOW BEING FINALIZED FOR THE OFFICIAL OPENING CEREMONY OF THE NEW SAIPAN INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT SCHEDULED FOR JULY 17 AT 10 A.M.