

(US REJECTS MARSHALLS BID FOR SEPARATE STATUS)

SAIPAN, JUNE 25 (MNS) --- U.S. AMBASSADOR FRANKLIN HAYDN WILLIAMS, HEAD OF THE AMERICAN DELEGATION TO THE MICRONESIAN STATUS NEGOTIATIONS, HAS REJECTED A REQUEST BY THE MARSHALL ISLANDS POLITICAL STATUS COMMISSION TO HOLD SEPARATE STATUS TALKS WITH THE UNITED STATES.

AMBASSADOR WILLIAMS RESPONSE WAS CONTAINED IN A LETTER SENT TO MARSHALL ISLANDS NITIJELA (LEGISLATURE) SPEAKER ATLAN ANIEN LAST WEEK. WILLIAMS WAS RESPONDING TO TWO RESOLUTIONS APPROVED BY THE NITIJELA: ONE, AUTHORIZING THE MARSHALLS STATUS COMMISSION TO NEGOTIATE A SEPARATE POLITICAL STATUS WITH THE U.S. (RESOLUTION NO. 44) AND THE OTHER INFORMING THE U.S. THAT THE PEOPLE WANT TO CONDUCT SEPARATE NEGOTIATIONS (RESOLUTION NO. 45).

"THE U.S. POSITION ON THE FUTURE POLITICAL STATUS OF THE MARSHALLS HAS NOT CHANGED," WROTE AMBASSADOR WILLIAMS. "IT INTENDS TO GIVE THE PEOPLE OF THE MARSHALLS AND THE PEOPLE OF THE CAROLINES THE OPPORTUNITY TO EXPRESS FREELY AND SIMULTANEOUSLY THEIR APPROVAL OR DISAPPROVAL OF A NEGOTIATED FUTURE STATUS AGREEMENT, BE IT FREE ASSOCIATION OR SOME OTHER ALTERNATIVE."

"UNDER THIS PLANNED PROCEDURE," CONTINUED THE AMBASSADOR, "THE PEOPLE OF THE MARSHALLS WILL BE FREE TO EXERCISE FULLY THEIR INHERENT RIGHT OF SELF-DETERMINATION. UNTIL THIS DEMOCRATIC PROCESS HAS BEEN COMPLETED ASSURING THE PEOPLE OF PALAU, YAP, TRUK, PONAPE, KUSAIE AND THE MARSHALLS A FREEDOM OF CHOICE AS TO THEIR FUTURE POLITICAL STATUS, THE U.S. INTENDS TO WORK ONLY WITHIN THE ALREADY ESTABLISHED FRAMEWORK FOR CONSIDERING FUTURE POLITICAL STATUS MATTERS AFFECTING THE CAROLINES AND THE MARSHALL ISLANDS. IN THIS REGARD, I WOULD LIKE TO DRAW THE NITIJELA'S ATTENTION TO THE REVISED COMPACT OF FREE ASSOCIATION WHICH WAS INITIALED BY BOTH PARTIES ON JUNE 2, 1976."

THE AMBASSADOR SAID HE BELIEVES THE INITIALED COMPACT OF FREE ASSOCIATION "MAY BE OF SPECIAL INTEREST AND SIGNIFICANCE" TO THE MARSHALLS DISTRICT.

WITH REGARD TO THE POLITICAL ASPIRATIONS OF THE MARSHALLESE PEOPLE, THE U.S. AMBASSADOR SAID THAT HE UNDERSTANDS THE CONCERN OF THE NITIJELA WHICH CLAIMS THAT THE DRAFT CONSTITUTION FOR THE FEDERATED STATES OF MICRONESIA "FALLS SHORT OF MEETING THEIR EXPECTATIONS." HE ADDED THAT THE OTHER DISTRICTS HAVE INDICATED THE SAME CONCERN TO THE U.S. GOVERNMENT.

"IF INDEED THERE ARE DEFICIENCIES IN THE PRESENT CONSTITUTION," WILLIAMS TOLD ANIEN, "THEIR CORRECTION IS NOT A FUTURE POLITICAL STATUS MATTER BUT RATHER AN INTERNAL POLITICAL CONSIDERATION THAT SHOULD BE ADDRESSED AS SUCH BY THOSE CONCERNED WITH SUCH ISSUES."

AMBASSADOR WILLIAMS ASSURED THE NITIJELA THAT THE UNITED STATES WILL "WORK COOPERATIVELY" WITH THE PEOPLE OF THE MARSHALLS DISTRICT AND THE OTHER DISTRICTS TOWARD THEIR GOAL OF SELF-DETERMINATION, SELF-GOVERNMENT AND A FUTURE POLITICAL STATUS WHICH IS CONSISTENT WITH THE SOVEREIGN WILL OF ALL THE PEOPLE OF THE MARSHALLS AND THE CAROLINES -- "A FUTURE STATUS, WHICH WILL AT THE SAME TIME RESPECT AND PROTECT THE UNIQUE CULTURE, CUSTOMS AND TRADITIONS OF ALL THE PEOPLES OF MICRONESIA."

THIS WEEK AN ORGANIZATION IN THE MARSHALLS, CALLING ITSELF "VOICE OF MARSHALLESE" SENT A CABLE TO THE UNITED NATIONS TRUSTEESHIP COUNCIL PROTESTING THE MARSHALLS POLITICAL STATUS COMMISSION'S CALL FOR MARSHALLESE INDEPENDENCE.

TWO MEMBERS OF THE MARSHALLS STATUS COMMISSION ARE PRESENTLY IN NEW YORK TO APPEAR BEFORE THE UN TRUSTEESHIP COUNCIL HEARINGS AS "PETITIONERS." THEY ARE SENATOR AMATA KABUA, CHAIRMAN, AND TONY DEBRUM, VICE-CHAIRMAN, THEY ARE SCHEDULED TO DELIVER A SPEECH SOMETIME NEXT WEEK. THE UN COUNCIL HEARINGS BEGIN ON TUESDAY (JUNE 29).

THE TELEGRAM SENT BY THE "VOICE OF MARSHALLESE" SAYS A "SUBSTANTIAL NUMBER" OF MARSHALLESE PEOPLE OPPOSE THE COMMISSION'S STAND AGAINST THE NEW MICRONESIAN CONSTITUTION AND AGAINST MICRONESIAN UNITY.

THE PALAU DISTRICT POLITICAL STATUS COMMISSION IS ALSO SENDING ITS 10 MEMBERS TO THE UN HEARINGS TO APPEAR AS "PETITIONERS" CONCERNING THE FUTURE POLITICAL STATUS. PALAU SENATOR ROMAN IMETUHL, COMMISSION'S CHAIRMAN, IS SCHEDULED TO ADDRESS THE COUNCIL.

June 1976
11

(PACIFIC MEDICAL PAVILION PROPOSAL UNDERWAY)

SAIPAN, JUNE 25 (MNS)---INITIAL NEGOTIATIONS TO OBTAIN A JOINT LOAN FOR A PROPOSED PACIFIC MEDICAL PAVILION ON SAIPAN IS NOW UNDERWAY, ACCORDING TO THIS WEEK'S ISSUE OF THE MARIANAS VARIETY NEWS AND VIEWS, SAIPAN'S WEEKLY NEWSPAPER.

THE MEDICAL PAVILION WAS FIRST SUGGESTED BY DIRECTOR OF THE OFFICE OF TERRITORIAL AFFAIRS FRED M. ZEDER, AND IS ESTIMATED TO COST ABOUT \$1.5 MILLION. SOURCES SAY IT WOULD BE BACKED FINANCIALLY BY THE MICRONESIA DEVELOPMENT BANK AND CHASE MANHATTAN, THE VARIETY REPORTED.

THE PROPOSITION SOUNDED ALMOST UNREAL WHEN FIRST MENTIONED BY ZEDER. BUT IT MAY SOON BECOME A REALITY WHEN EVERY PART OF THE PLAN IS FINALIZED. THE PACIFIC MEDICAL PAVILION WILL BE LOCATED ON THE BACK SIDE OF THE ISLAND OF SAIPAN ON A PRIVATE PROPERTY CLOSE TO SAN VICENTE VILLAGE, ACCORDING TO THE VARIETY STORY.

THE PROJECT, THE FIRST OF ITS KIND WITHIN THE PACIFIC REGION, WILL INCLUDE A PRIVATE DIAGNOSTIC CLINIC WITH 50 BEDS WHICH WOULD BE DEVOTED PRIMARILY TO BUSINESS EXECUTIVES.

IT WOULD BE STAFFED BY A CORE OF DOCTORS FROM PITTSBURGH, PENNSYLVANIA. SOURCES SAY THE RESIDENT DOCTORS WOULD BE ABLE TO SPEAK BOTH ENGLISH AND JAPANESE.

THE PROPOSED MEDICAL PAVILION WILL INCLUDE TENNIS COURTS, A SWIMMING POOL, AND A PITCH AND PUTT GOLF COURSE IN ADDITION TO A CABLE CAR WHICH WILL RUN FROM THE FACILITY DOWN TO THE BEACH. PLANS FOR THE PROPOSAL WILL BE COMPLETED BY EARLY JULY, THE VARIETY REPORTED.

(PCV'S HELPING NEW FINANCE SYSTEM)

SAIPAN, JUNE 25 (MNS)---A GROUP OF PEACE CORPS VOLUNTEERS HAS ARRIVED AT THE TRUST TERRITORY HEADQUARTERS ON SAIPAN TO ASSIST IN THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE AUTOMATED DATA INPUT ASPECT OF THE NEW FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT SYSTEM PRESENTLY BEING DEVELOPED FOR THE TRUST TERRITORY, ACCORDING TO TRUST TERRITORY ACTING DIRECTOR OF FINANCE TERRY L. GARRETT.

THESE VOLUNTEERS, ONE FROM EACH DISTRICTS OF PALAU, TRUK, PONAPE, AND THE MARSHALLS STARTED WORKING AT THE ACCOUNTING OFFICE AT HEADQUARTERS MONDAY (JUNE 21) AND WILL BE WORKING THERE UNTIL THE LAST WEEK OF JULY, GARRETT SAID.

FOUR PEACE CORPS VOLUNTEERS FROM THE GOVERNMENT OF THE NORTHERN MARIANAS ARE ALSO TAKING PART IN THIS PROGRAM.

THE VOLUNTEERS WILL RETURN TO THEIR RESPECTIVE DISTRICT AND START THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE NEW FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT SYSTEM. ACCORDING TO GARRETT, THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE PROGRAM IN THE DISTRICTS WILL COMMENCE IN OCTOBER 1976 AND WILL BE COMPLETED BY MARCH OF NEXT YEAR.

THEY WILL BE PROVIDING ASSISTANCE AND WORKING WITH THE ACCOUNTANTS IN THEIR RESPECTIVE DISTRICT FINANCE OFFICES. THESE VOLUNTEERS, ACCORDING TO THE ACTING DIRECTOR, ARE RECENT GRADUATES IN ACCOUNTING AND COMPUTER SCIENCE IN THE UNITED STATES, AND HAVE BEEN IN THE DISTRICTS SINCE JANUARY OF THIS YEAR.

GARRETT SAID THAT ADDITIONAL VOLUNTEERS ARE BEING RECRUITED AND WILL BE ARRIVING IN THE TRUST TERRITORY IN LATE JULY (THIS YEAR) SO THAT THERE WILL BE TWO VOLUNTEERS SERVING EACH OF THE DISTRICTS OF MICRONESIA IN THE NEW FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT SYSTEM.