

(MARSHALLS DELEGATIONS ASKS UN FOR INDEPENDENCE)

UNITED NATIONS, NEW YORK JULY 1 (MNS) --DURING THE MORNING SESSION OF WEDNESDAY'S (THURSDAY, SAIPAN TIME) UN TRUSTEESHIP COUNCIL MEETING, THE UNITED STATES, AS ADMINISTERING AUTHORITY OF THE TRUST TERRITORY OF THE PACIFIC ISLANDS, WAS FIRED UPON FROM BOTH SIDES OF THE AISLE.

ACCORDING TO A REPORT RELAYED TO SAIPAN VIA PEACESAT SETELLITE, THE MARSHALLS POLITICAL STATUS COMMISSION, LED BY SPOKESMAN TONY DEBRUM, CHARGED THE UNITED STATES WITH ATTEMPTING TO COLONIZE THE MARSHALLS BY INSISTING ON A POLICY OF MICRONESIAN UNITY.

THE SECOND GROUP OF PETITIONERS, REPRESENTING THE INTERNATIONAL LEAGUE FOR HUMAN RIGHTS, ALSO DENOUNCED THE U. S. AS COLONIALISTS FOR PURSUING A POLICY OF MICRONESIAN FRAGMENTATION.

THE THIRD PETITIONER, HIGH CHIEF IBEDUL OF PALAU, REPRESENTING THE SAVE PALAU ORGANIZATION, ADDED TO THE CONFUSION BY DENOUNCING THE UNITED STATES BOTH FOR NOT DOING ENOUGH FOR THE ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT OF PALAU ON THE ONE HAND AND FOR PROMOTING THE HUGE SUPERPORT PROJECT ON THE OTHER.

THE OTHER SCHEDULED PETITIONERS, THE PALAU POLITICAL STATUS COMMISSION, DID NOT APPEAR, AS THEIR CHAIRMAN, SENATOR ROMAN IMETUCL OF THE CONGRESS OF MICRONESIA HAD NOT YET ARRIVED IN NEW YORK. THEY WILL PRESENT THEIR PETITION TOMORROW WHETHER IMETUCL ARRIVES OR NOT.

DEBRUM, IN HIS OPENING STATEMENT, ASKED FOR THE BLESSINGS OF THE UNITED NATIONS ON THE MARSHALLESE EFFORTS FOR INDEPENDENCE. HE CALLED THE DRAFT COMPACT A BREACH OF THE TRUSTEESHIP AGREEMENT AND A GROSS VIOLATION OF THE BASIC PRINCIPLE OF SELF-DETERMINATION. HE SAID THE COMPACT WOULD "CONTINUE THE COLONIAL STRANGLEHOLD" THE U. S. MAINTAINS OVER THE MARSHALLS.

DEBRUM CONTINUALLY REFERRED TO A "SO-CALLED UNIFIED MICRONESIA" AND HE SAID THERE IS NO LOGICAL REASON FOR THE MARSHALLESE TO GIVE UP THEIR RIGHT TO GOVERN THEMSELVES TO A GROUP OF OTHER ISLAND PEOPLE, THE NEAREST OF WHOM LIVE 800 MILES AWAY. HE STATED THAT MICRONESIAN UNITY IS AND ALWAYS HAS BEEN A MYTH ADVANCED BY "OUR SO-CALLED BENEFACTORS IN ORDER TO KEEP US DEPENDENT." HE SAID THAT THIS MYTH HAS BEEN ACCEPTED BY "SOME OF OUR BROTHERS IN THE CAROLINES WHO SEE IT AS A MEANS OF ENJOYING THE U. S. DOLE SYSTEM."

THE MARSHALLS POLITICAL STATUS COMMISSION SPOKESMAN ALSO DENOUNCED THE DRAFT CONSTITUTION OF THE FEDERATED STATES OF MICRONESIA, AND SAID THE MARSHALLESE DELEGATION TO THE CONCON DID NOT REPRESENT THE MARSHALLESE PEOPLE AND WAS ONLY A SMALL MINORITY WHO "SAW THE CONVENTION AS A STEPPING STONE TO FAME AND GLORY."

DEBRUM ENDED HIS PRESENTATION WITH A PLEA FOR SEPARATION OF THE MARSHALLS FROM THE REST OF THE TRUST TERRITORY AND FOR SEPARATE STATUS NEGOTIATIONS WITH THE UNITED STATES.

ATTORNEY GEORGE ALLEN, LEGAL COUNSEL TO THE MARSHALLESE DELEGATION, SPOKE NEXT, CONFINING HIS REMARKS TO THE SUBJECT OF THE KWAJALEIN MISSILE RANGE. HE ACCUSED THE UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY OF PRACTICING APARTHEID AND RACIAL DISCRIMINATION AND URGED THE IMMEDIATE INTEGRATION OF KWAJALEIN.

REPRESENTATIVE ATAJI BALOS OF THE MARSHALLS, SPOKE ON BEHALF OF THE PEOPLE OF BIKINI ATOLL AND ASKED THE TRUSTEESHIP COUNCIL TO USE ITS GOOD OFFICES TO FIND A THIRD PARTY TO SURVEY THE NORTHERN MARSHALL ISLANDS FOR RADIATION. HE SAID THE UNITED STATES SHOULD BE CENSURED BY THE UNITED NATIONS FOR THE ABUSE OF THE BIKINI PEOPLE.

MUCH OF THE SHARP EDGE OF DEBRUM'S REMARKS WAS WORN DOWN IN THE AFTERNOON SESSION AS THE RESULT OF KNOWLEDGEABLE QUESTIONING BY REPRESENTATIVES OF THE UNITED KINGDOM, FRANCE AND THE SOVIET UNION.

WHEN ASKED WHAT WAS THE MARSHALLESE OBJECTION TO THE DRAFT COMPACT OF FREE ASSOCIATION DEBRUM ALLOWED THAT THE MARSHALLESE WOULD SEEK A FREE ASSOCIATION RELATIONSHIP WITH THE UNITED STATES UNDER CERTAIN CIRCUMSTANCES. THESE INCLUDED: 1) THE MARSHALLS WOULD HAVE TO HAVE A SEPARATE IDENTITY; 2) THE UNITED STATES SHOULD NOT TRY TO LIMIT THE MARSHALLS' SELF-GOVERNMENT BY RETAINING CERTAIN ECONOMIC RIGHTS SUCH AS THOSE OVER MARINE RESOURCES; 3) THE LAND LEASES FOR KWAJALEIN AND ELSEWHERE WOULD HAVE TO BE RENEGOTIATED TO TAKE INTO ACCOUNT THE RIGHTS OF THE MARSHALLESE PEOPLE, AND 4) THE MARSHALLS WOULD HAVE TO HAVE THE RIGHT OF UNILATERAL TERMINATION OF ANY AGREEMENT.

DEBRUM SAID THE MARSHALLS WOULD LIKE TO REMAIN FRIENDS WITH THE PEOPLE OF THE CAROLINES BUT "JUST BECAUSE WE ARE FRIENDS DOESN'T MEAN WE HAVE TO GET MARRIED." HE ADDED THAT THEY WOULD ACCEPT COOPERATION IN ECONOMIC ACTIVITIES, TRANSPORTATION, AND COMMUNICATION BUT THEY WILL NEVER ACCEPT A MICRONESIAN GOVERNMENT.

DEBRUM REPORTEDLY HAS MADE A FORMAL REQUEST TO THE SUBCOMMITTEE OF THE U. S. HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES TO HOLD FORMAL HEARINGS IN THE MARSHALLS ON THE SUBJECTS RAISED BY THE MARSHALLESE DELEGATION TO THE TRUSTEESHIP COUNCIL MEETING: THAT IS, SEPARATE NEGOTIATIONS, RACIAL DISCRIMINATION AND RELATED MATTERS.

REPORTS FROM WASHINGTON INDICATE THAT THE HEARINGS WILL BE HELD IN MAJURO AND ON KWAJALEIN BEGINNING ON OR ABOUT JULY 14 AND WILL BE CHAIRED BY REPRESENTATIVE PATSY T. WINK OF HAWAII, A CANDIDATE FOR THE U. S. SENATE SEAT BEING VACATED BY THE RETIREMENT OF SENATOR HIRAM L. FONG.

THE PALAUAN DELEGATION ALSO PLAN TO TAKE THEIR CASE TO THE U. S. CONGRESS AND A MEETING ALREADY HAS BEEN ARRANGED BY THEM WITH REPRESENTATIVE PHILLIP BURTON OF CALIFORNIA FOR FRIDAY, JULY 2 IN WASHINGTON D. C.

UTILIZING THE SERVICES OF A NEW YORK PUBLIC RELATIONS FIRM, THE MARSHALLESE DELEGATION GENERATED SIGNIFICANT MEDIA EXPOSURE IN NEW YORK. WEARING LARGE YELLOW AND BLACK BUTTONS EMBLAZONED WITH THEIR BATTLE SLOGAN, "FREE THE MARSHALL ISLANDS," THE DELEGATION HELD SEVERAL PRESS CONFERENCES RESULTING IN BOTH LOCAL AND WIRE NEWS STORIES AS WELL AS AN APPEARANCE ON THE NATIONWIDE ABC TELEVISION SHOW, "GOOD MORNING, AMERICA."

IN ADDITION TO THE PALAUAN PETITION, TOMORROW'S AGENDA WILL INCLUDE THE QUESTIONING OF THE REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ADMINISTERING AUTHORITY AND THE REPRESENTATIVES OF THE CONGRESS OF MICRONESIA IN REGARD TO THE ISSUES RAISED THUS FAR IN THE SESSION.

(CANHAM VETOES CONCON BILL)

SAIPAN, JULY 1 (MNS)---ERWIN D. CANHAM, NORTHERN MARIANAS RESIDENT COMMISSIONER HAS VETOED FOR THE SECOND TIME A BILL WHICH WOULD PROVIDE FOR A CONSTITUTIONAL CONVENTION FOR THE MARIANAS. ACTION ON THE BILL CAME ON WEDNESDAY (JUNE 30).

IN A LETTER TO LEGISLATURE SPEAKER VICENTE N. SANTOS, CANHAM SAID HE DISAPPROVED THE LATEST CONCON BILL BECAUSE THE LEGISLATURE "HAS ABANDONED THE RECOGNITION OF MINORITY RIGHTS..."

THE RESIDENT COMMISSIONER VETOED THE FIRST CONCON BILL JUNE 23 BECAUSE THE METHOD OF SELECTION OF THREE DELEGATES OF "CAROLINIAN ANCESTRY" RAISES LEGAL PROBLEMS AND CONSTITUTIONAL QUESTIONS. HE SAID HE FELT A "RESPONSIBILITY TO SEE THAT THE MINORITY IS REPRESENTED IN SO VITAL A MATTER AS THE CONSTITUTIONAL CONVENTION."

THE LATEST CONCON BILL THAT WAS REJECTED WAS PASSED UNANIMOUSLY BY THE LEGISLATURE SOMETIME IN JUNE DESPITE CANHAM'S EFFORTS TO PERSUADE THEM TO ENACT A MEASURE CALLING FOR A COMBINATION OF DISTRICT AND AT-LARGE DELEGATE ELECTION. THAT BILL CALLS FOR DELEGATES TO BE ELECTED AT LARGE.

CANHAM SAID THAT WHILE THE LEGISLATURE "HAD NO INTENTION TO DISCRIMINATE AGAINST A MINORITY" IN PASSING THAT BILL, THE BILL SHOULD INCLUDE A "WORKABLE METHOD OF MINORITY REPRESENTATION."

HE ADDED THAT HE WILL BE GLAD TO DISCUSS WITH THE LEGISLATURE SOME WAYS WHICH THESE MINORITY RIGHTS CAN BE SAFEGUARDED.

"I DO NOT SEEK TO INVAD E YOUR PREROGATIVE IN ANY WAY," CANHAM EXPLAINED, "BUT IT IS A WELL-ESTABLISHED AND CONSTRUCTIVE PROCEDURE FOR LEGISLATIVE AND EXECUTIVE ARMS OF GOVERNMENT TO HAVE FRANK AND FREE EXCHANGE OF VIEWS WITHOUT DIFFICULTY ON EITHER SIDE."

(AIR MIKE EXPLAINS FARE HIKE)

SAIPAN, JULY 1 (MNS)---BECAUSE OF RAPIDLY RISING COSTS, CONTINENTAL AIR MICRONESIA HAS BEEN FORCED TO FILE A FARE INCREASE WITH THE U. S. CIVIL AERONAUTICS BOARD (CAB). CONTINENTAL IS PROPOSING TO INCREASE ALL ONE WAY FARES 7.5 PERCENT PLUS \$3 TO BE EFFECTIVE JULY 19, 1976. AIR FREIGHT RATES WILL NOT BE AFFECTED.

COSTS IN 1976 HAVE RISEN \$830,000 OVER 1975 COSTS AND THE AIRLINE FACES A LOSS OF \$293,000 UNLESS FARES ARE ADJUSTED. CONTINENTAL AIR MICRONESIA HAS LOST A TOTAL OF \$10.1 MILLION SINCE BEGINNING SERVICE IN 1968.

BARRIE DUGGAN, VICE-PRESIDENT AND GENERAL MANAGER FOR THE AIRLINE STATED THAT EVEN WITH THE PROPOSED INCREASE CONTINENTAL AIR MICRONESIAs FARES TO AND WITHIN THE TRUST TERRITORY WILL REMAIN AMONG THE LOWEST IN THE PACIFIC WHEN JUDGE ON A RATE PER MILE BASIS. A GOOD EXAMPLE IS THE GUAM/YAP RATE OF 17.6 CENTS PER MILE. THE SIMILAR DISTANCE TAIPEI/HONG KONG TRIP COSTS THE PASSENGER 22.1 CENTS PER MILE.

THIS WILL BE THE FIRST FARE INCREASE IN 18 MONTHS FOR CONTINENTAL AIR MICRONESIA AS FARES WERE LAST ADJUSTED IN JANUARY OF 1975. DURING THIS TIME, THERE HAVE BEEN AS MANY AS SIX FARE INCREASE BY OTHER INTERNATIONAL CARRIERS. CONTINENTAL AIR MICRONESIA DID NOT PARTICIPATE IN ANY OF THESE INCREASES.

(NEW MILITARY LIAISON OFFICER ARRIVES ON SAIPAN)

SAIPAN, JULY 1 (MNS)---THE NEW MILITARY LIAISON OFFICER FOR THE TRUST TERRITORY ARRIVED ON SAIPAN THIS WEEK TO TAKE UP HIS NEW DUTIES.

LIEUTENANT COMMANDER (LCDR) PATRICK H. ROTH ARRIVED FROM PHILADELPHIA, PENNSYLVANIA, WHERE HE WAS THE OPERATIONS OFFICER FOR THE USS TATTNALL, A GUIDED MISSILE DESTROYER HOMEPORTED THERE.

ROTH REPLACES LCDR JAMES BATEMAN, WHO HAS BEEN ON SAIPAN SINCE JUNE OF 1974. BATEMAN AND HIS FAMILY WILL LEAVE SAIPAN FOR HIS NEXT ASSIGNMENT WITH THE AMPHIBIOUS SQUADRON STAFF IN NORFOLK, VIRGINIA NEXT TUESDAY (JULY 6).

LCDR ROTH GRADUATED FROM ST. MARY'S COLLEGE IN MARYLAND IN 1964 WITH A B.A. DEGREE IN EDUCATION AND A MASTERS DEGREE IN PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION AT THE UNIVERSITY OF WASHINGTON IN SEATTLE IN 1972.

ROTH JOIN THE NAVY IN 1964 AND ATTENDED OFFICERS CANDIDATE SCHOOL. HE WAS COMMISSIONED A NAVY OFFICER IN 1965.

ROTH SAID HE PLANS TO TRAVEL THROUGHOUT THE TRUST TERRITORY ON AN ORIENTATION TOUR SOON.