

(TRUK LEGISLATURE APPROVES AIRPORT RESOLUTION)

TRUK, JULY 16 (MNS)---THE TRUK DISTRICT LEGISLATURE THURSDAY (JULY 15) ADOPTED A RESOLUTION APPROVING THE PROPOSED AIRPORT EXTENSION AND LAYOUT PLAN FOR THE TRUK INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT, ACCORDING TO NOHA RUBEN, TRUK PUBLIC INFORMATION OFFICER.

DISTRICT ADMINISTRATOR MITARO DANIS SAID OF THE LEGISLATURE'S ACTION: "THIS WILL BENEFIT THE WHOLE TRUK DISTRICT GREATLY."

LAST YEAR THE LEGISLATURE REFUSED TO APPROVE THE PROPOSED AIRPORT EXTENSION DESPITE STRONG SUPPORT BY LOCAL BUSINESSMEN, THE MOEN MUNICIPAL COUNCIL, MAGISTRATES AND THE DISTRICT ADMINISTRATION.

ACCORDING TO THE RESOLUTION, THE PRIMARY REASON WHY THE LEGISLATURE DID NOT APPROVE THE RESOLUTION LAST YEAR IS BECAUSE THEY FELT THE "TRUST TERRITORY GOVERNMENT DID NOT SERIOUSLY CONSIDER THE WELFARE AND OPPOSITION OF THE RESIDENTS OF IRAS VILLAGE TO THE PLANS."

"THE LEGISLATURE EXPECTS THE ADMINISTRATION TO PROVIDE ASSISTANCE TO THE RESIDENTS IN ORDER TO COMPENSATE FOR THE DISRUPTION OF THEIR LIVES THAT WILL INEVITABLY BE CAUSED BY THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE PROPOSED AIRPORT PLANS," THE RESOLUTION SAYS.

IT WENT ON TO SAY THAT DURING THE LATTER PART OF LAST YEAR, THE TRUK GOVERNMENT, THROUGH THE DISTRICT ADMINISTRATOR OF TRUK DISTRICT HAD ATTEMPTED TO RESOLVE THE OPPOSITION THROUGH COMMITMENTS TO THE ADJACENT RESIDENTS WHICH INCLUDE THE PROVISION OF WATER, BENJOS, AND MARINA, AND TO RENEGOTIATE INDEFINITE USE AGREEMENTS OF THE AIRPORT LAND AT A FUTURE DATE.

ACCORDING TO RUBEN, A LIST OF DEMANDS WAS SUBMITTED TO THE DISTRICT ADMINISTRATOR BY THE PEOPLE OF IRAS. THEY INCLUDED, AMONG OTHERS, HOUSING, FREE WATER LINE, EXEMPTION FROM FUTURE PROPERTY TAXES, COLLECTING AIRCRAFT LANDING FEES, ESTABLISHING THREE PUBLIC SWIMMING POOLS, AND RENEGOTIATION OF LAND LEASE AGREEMENTS.

DISTRICT ADMINISTRATOR DANIS REJECTED SOME OF THE DEMANDS. HOWEVER, HE AGREED TO PROVIDE PUBLIC TOILETS, ACCESS TO SHORELINE WHEN THE AIRPORT IS NOT IN USE, PROVIDING ACCESS TO POWER, SEWER, MARINA FOR SMALL BOATS, EMPLOYMENT IN THE CONSTRUCTION OF THE AIRPORT PROVIDED THAT THEY HAVE SOME QUALIFICATIONS, AND COMPENSATION FOR PROPERTY DAMAGED DURING CONSTRUCTION OF THE AIRPORT.

WITH THESE COMMITMENTS, REPORTED RUBEN, THE DISTRICT LAWMAKERS FOUND IT FAIR ENOUGH TO APPROVE THE PROPOSED AIRPORT PLANS.

(PALAU REFERENDUM BILL SIGNED INTO LAW)

KOROR, JULY 16 (MNS)---PALAU DISTRICT ADMINISTRATOR THOMAS O. REMENGESAU HAS SIGNED INTO LAW A MEASURE FOR A GENERAL REFERENDUM THROUGHOUT THE PALAU DISTRICT WITH RESPECT TO ITS FUTURE POLITICAL STATUS, ACCORDING TO DAVID NGIRMIKOL, PALAU PUBLIC INFORMATION OFFICER.

THE LAW DIRECTS THE ELECTION COMMISSIONER (IN THIS CASE THE DISTRICT ADMINISTRATOR), IN CONSULTATION WITH THE PALAU POLITICAL STATUS COMMISSION TO ISSUE A PROCLAMATION DECLARING A GENERAL REFERENDUM FOR PALAU DISTRICT BE HELD NOT LATER THAN SEPTEMBER 25, 1976.

IT WILL REQUIRE THE VOTERS TO VOTE EITHER YES OR NO ON THE QUESTION OF WHETHER PALAU SHOULD CONDUCT SEPARATE POLITICAL STATUS TALKS WITH THE UNITED STATES.

IN A LETTER TO SADANG SILMAI, SPEAKER OF THE PALAU LEGISLATURE, REMENGESAU RECALLED THAT IN THE JULY 8, 1975, TERRITORY-WIDE GENERAL REFERENDUM, ONLY 53 PERCENT OF THE REGISTERED VOTERS IN PALAU WENT TO THE POLLS AND BY THEIR LACK OF INTEREST CAST "A DARK SHADOW ON THE QUESTION OF THE FUTURE POLITICAL STATUS FOR THE PALAU DISTRICT."

REMENGESAU ADDED THAT THE FORTHCOMING REFERENDUM "MUST NOT EXPERIENCE THE SAME MISFORTUNE AS PALAU CAN NO LONGER BE SUBJECTED TO POLITICAL DISUNITY."

THE DISTRICT ADMINISTRATOR POINTED OUT THAT A "CONCERTED EFFORT" ON THE PART OF THE LEGISLATURE AND THE POLITICAL STATUS COMMISSION MUST BE EXERTED SO AS TO REACH "EVERY FACET" IN THE COMMUNITY "SO THAT AT LEAST 80 PERCENT" OF THE REGISTERED VOTERS WILL BE ABLE TO GO TO THE POLLS FOR THIS "HISTORIC OCCASION."

"I ASK EVERYONE OF YOU TO PERSONALLY ENCOURAGE YOUR CONSTITUENTS TO GO TO THE POLLS AND CAST THEIR VOTES DURING THIS REFERENDUM SO THAT THE MOST OFTEN ASKED QUESTION MAY BE SUFFICIENTLY ANSWERED," REMENGESAU CONCLUDED IN HIS LETTER TO SPEAKER SILMAI.

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(TUNA PURSE-SEINING SURVEY TO BE MADE)  
HONOLULU, JULY 16 (MNS)---THE PACIFIC TUNA DEVELOPMENT FOUNDATION (PTDF) WILL CONDUCT A THREE-VESSEL TUNA PURSE-SEINE FISHING SURVEY IN THE WESTERN AND CENTRAL PACIFIC OCEAN DURING THE PERIOD JULY - OCTOBER, 1976. THE SURVEY WILL DETERMINE THE ECONOMIC VIABILITY OF UNITED STATES-STYLE PURSE-SEINING FOR SKIPJACK TUNA IN THE ISLAND AREAS, ACCORDING TO ANDREW GEREKAS, PRESIDENT OF THE PACIFIC TUNA DEVELOPMENT FOUNDATION.

THE PTDF HAS CHARTERED THESE MODERN PURSE-SEINERS TO INVESTIGATE THE STILL LATENT SKIPJACK TUNA RESOURCE IN THE CENTRAL AND WESTERN PACIFIC AND TO SURVEY FISHING CONDITIONS THERE. INFORMATION GAINED FROM THIS SURVEY WILL BE MADE AVAILABLE FOLLOWING THE COMPLETION OF THE PROJECT.

ALTHOUGH THE PROJECT IS NOT PLANNED PRIMARILY AS A RESEARCH EFFORT, EACH VESSEL WILL CARRY A SCIENTIFIC OBSERVER. THE OBSERVERS WILL MAKE A DETERMINED EFFORT TO GATHER INFORMATION WHICH WILL BE A VALUABLE GUIDE TO FUTURE DEVELOPMENT. NORMAL DAILY LOG RECORDS WILL BE EXPANDED TO INCLUDE TUNA TAGGING, LENGTH FREQUENCIES, BIRD CONCENTRATIONS AND IDENTIFICATION, TUNA BLOOD SAMPLES, ETC.

THE SURVEY IS ONE OF A NUMBER OF PTDF PROJECTS PLANNED OR IN PROGRESS TO FURTHER DEVELOP THE PACIFIC ISLAND AREA THROUGH DEVELOPMENT OF TUNA FISHING. THE PTDF IS A NON-PROFIT ORGANIZATION COMMITTED TO AID, ENCOURAGE, PROMOTE AND SUPPORT THE DISCOVERY, CONSERVATION, DEVELOPMENT AND HARVEST OF THE TUNA RESOURCES OF THE CENTRAL, SOUTH AND WESTERN PACIFIC OCEAN. IT CONSISTS OF GOVERNMENT REPRESENTATIVES FROM THE TRUST TERRITORY, GUAM, AMERICAN SAMOA, AND HAWAII AND REPRESENTATIVES FROM THE UNITED STATES TUNA INDUSTRY, BOAT OWNERS, PROCESSORS, AND FISHERMEN'S UNION.

THE THREE VESSELS UNDERTAKING THE PTDF PURSE-SEINING SURVEY WILL BE THE APOLLO, THE ZAPATA PATHFINDER, AND THE MARY ELIZABETH. EACH VESSEL IS THE HIGH-CLASS AND EXPERIENCED IN ADVANCED PURSE-SEINING TECHNIQUES. THE APOLLO CARRIES A HELICOPTER AND THE ZAPATA PATHFINDER A SEAPLANE. WHILE THE

MARY ELIZABETH DOES NOT HAVE AIR SUPPORT. THEY WILL BE

ACCOMPANIED ON PART OF THE SURVEY BY THE NATIONAL MARINE FISHERIES SERVICE VESSEL, THE TOWNSEND CROWMELL.

THE VESSELS WILL UTILIZE GUAM FOR FUEL AND SUPPLIES AND WILL COMMENCE FISHING IN MID JULY 1976. THEY ARE SCHEDULED TO OPERATE PRIMARILY SOUTH OF GUAM AND NOT VENTURE TOO FAR NORTH BECAUSE OF THE TYPHOON SEAS. THEY WILL CONTINUE FISHING UNTIL THEY HAVE COMPLETED 80 DAYS OF OPERATION. WEATHER CONDITIONS AND TUNA AVAILABILITY WILL DETERMINE VESSEL MOVEMENTS AND AT TIMES THEY MAY BE OPERATING AMONG THE ISLANDS WITHIN THE DEFINED AREA.

(ASSISTANT SOLICITOR FOR TERRITORIES TOURING IT)

SAIPAN, JULY 16 (MNS)---ASSISTANT SOLICITOR FOR TERRITORIES BREWSTER CHAPMAN JR, U. S. DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR, IS CURRENTLY TOURING THE TRUST TERRITORY MEETING WITH VARIOUS GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS AND ATTORNEYS IN THE DISTRICTS.

A SPOKESMAN FOR THE TRUST TERRITORY ATTORNEY GENERAL'S OFFICE SAID CHAPMAN VISITED THE TRUST TERRITORY AT THE INVITATION OF THEIR OFFICE.

CHAPMAN, WHO HAS BEEN IN HIS POSITION SINCE 1967, IS RESPONSIBLE FOR THE LEGAL PROBLEMS FOR THE TERRITORIES OF THE UNITED STATES AND FOR MICRONESIA.

CHAPMAN IS NOT NEW TO MICRONESIA, HOWEVER. HE PARTICIPATED IN THE INVASIONS OF KWAJALEIN, ENWEI AK IN THE MARSHALLS DISTRICT AND GUAM DURING WORLD WAR II. HE RETIRED FROM THE U. S. MARINE CORPS AS A MAJOR.

CHAPMAN RECEIVED HIS LAW DEGREE FROM GEORGETOWN UNIVERSITY LAW SCHOOL IN WASHINGTON D. C. IN 1949 WITH HONORS.

AFTER SERVING FOR A YEAR AS LAW CLERK TO UNITED STATES CIRCUIT COURT JUDGE BENNETT CHAPMAN CLARK, CHAPMAN CONDUCTED PRIVATE PRACTICE IN WASHINGTON D. C. FOR 10 YEARS BEFORE JOINING THE OFFICE OF THE SOLICITOR AT THE DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR.

HE CAME TO SAIPAN JULY SIX. HE THEN WENT TO PALAU FOR THREE DAYS (JULY 12-14) AND WAS IN YAP FROM JULY 14-16. SATURDAY (JULY 17), HE WILL GO TO TRUK AND THEN TO PONAPE TO OBSERVE THE SPECIAL SESSION OF THE CONGRESS OF MICRONESIA UNTIL JULY 20. HE WILL THEN GO TO MAJURO ON THE 20TH AND LEAVE FOR KWAJALEIN ON THE 22. JULY 23RD, CHAPMAN WILL LEAVE FOR HONOLULU.

(PUBLIC HEALTH ADVISOR JOINS HEALTH DEPT.)

SAIPAN, JULY 16 (MNS)---THE ACTING DIRECTOR OF HEALTH SERVICES, DR. ROBERT FISHER, ANNOUNCES THAT EDWARD G. FARMER, A PUBLIC HEALTH ADVISOR FROM ATLANTA GEORGIA, HAS ARRIVED IN SAIPAN TO WORK WITH THE COMMUNICABLE DISEASE CONTROL DIVISION OF THE DEPARTMENT OF THE HEALTH SERVICES.

FARMER AND HIS WIFE, MARGIE COME TO THE TRUST TERRITORY FROM ATLANTA, GEORGIA. HE WILL BE WORKING WITH THE HEALTH SERVICES FOR TWO YEARS.

IN OTHER NEWS, THE ACTING DIRECTOR ANNOUNCED ~~THAT A~~ WEEK-LONG CONFERENCE ON MANAGEMENT OF WATER PROGRAM IS BEING HELD IN SAIPAN THIS WEEK. REPRESENTATIVES FROM ALL THE DISTRICT HEALTH SERVICES AND PUBLIC WORKS PERSONNEL ATTENDED THE CONFERENCE.

AMONG THE MAIN SPEAKERS AT THE CONFERENCE INCLUDE: MS. EFFIE SPARLING, ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION BOARD LEGAL COUNSELLOR, CARL GALDSTEIN, FROM EPA, AND MR. JERRY MENEGAY FROM FINANCE/FEDERAL PROGRAM GRANTS FUNDS MANAGEMENT.

(NOTE TO EDITORS AND NEWS DIRECTORS: THIS NOTE WILL SERVE AS A REMINDER THAT BEGINNING NEXT WEEK ON MONDAY, JULY 19, YOU SHOULD BE RECEIVING MESSAGES FROM BOTH SAIPAN AND PONAPE AS THE CONGRESS OF MICRONESIA SPECIAL SESSION BEGINS. MICRONESIAN NEWS SERVICE BUREAU CHIEF FRANK S. ROSARIO AND INFORMATION SPECIALIST DERSON RAMON WILL COVER THE SESSION, AND WE URGE YOU TO CHECK YOUR SOURCE FOR MNS NEWS MORE THAN ONCE EACH DAY FOR ALL OF OUR RELEASE. IT IS LIKELY THAT THERE WILL BE STORIES FROM PONAPE DURING THE WEEKENDS, AND WE URGE YOU TO USE THESE AS SOON AS THEY ARE AVAILABLE TO ENSURE COMPLETE COVERAGE OF THIS MOST IMPORTANT CONGRESS SESSION).