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 PIT UZYUN RUHGSAA 05 01 2000310-UUUU--RUHGSUU.
 ZNR UUUUU
 P 240818Z JUL 76
 FM DISTAD POWNTE CAROLINE ISLANDS
 TO ZEN/RECOMTLR PACIS SAIPAN MARIANAS ISLANDS
 ZEN/ALDISTADS TERPACIS
 ZEN/TT LNO GUAM MARIANAS ISLANDS
 TT LNO KWAJALEIN MARSHALL ISLANDS
 COMNAV MARIANAS GUAM MARIANAS ISLANDS
 CINCPACREP GUAM/TIPI GUAM MARIANAS ISLANDS
 CINCPAC HONOLULU HI
 INTELLIGENCE CENTER PACIFIC (IPAC) HI
 NAVINVSERVO GUAM MARIANAS ISLANDS
 CONTWELVE SAN FRANCISCO CA
 SECSTATE WASHINGTON DC
 SECDEF WASHINGTON DC
 JCS WASHINGTON DC
 CNO WASHINGTON DC
 CINCPACFLT MAKALAPA HI
 CINCPACAF HICKAM AFB HI
 CGFMFPAC CAMP H B SMITH HI
 COMCBPAC PEARL HARBOR HI
 NAVFACENGCUMHQ ALEXANDRIA VA
 PACNAVFACENSCOM PEARL HARBOR HI
 FCDNA-LGA KIRTLAND AFB TX
 COMDT COGARD WASHINGTON DC
 CCGD FOURTEEN HONOLULU HI
 COMCOGARD MAR SEC GUAM MARIANAS ISLANDS
 OICC MARIANAS GUAM MARIANAS ISLANDS
 CDRUSAGO MAKIMINATO JAPAN//TIPI-LNO//
 CDRBNDSCOM HUNTSMVILLE AL//MED SC-RO//
 AMEMB CANBERRA AS
 AMEMB TOKYO JA
 USMISSION TO USUN NEW YORK NY
 BT

ACTION.....PID
 INFO.....D/PA
 INFO.....BD
 INFO.....D/RD
 INFO.....EXXX D/TC
 INFO.....SA RC
 INFO.....NAVY LNO
 INFO.....STATUS LNO
 INFO.....AHC
 INFO.....IC

File
July 24, 1976

ACTION

UNCLAS
 CONTWELVE PASS INFO FOR AMB WILLIAMS
 SECSTATE PASS TO DEPT INT/SEC INTERIOR/DOIA OSN
 AMEMBASSY CANBERRA FOR PAC ISL MONTHLY.
 (BALOS WANTS INDEPENDENCE)

KOLONIA, PONAPE, JULY 24, (COM)--MARSHALLS REP. ATAJI BALOS MADE AN IMPASSIONED PLEA FOR INDEPENDENCE FROM THE UNITED STATES, IN A SPEECH IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE CONGRESS OF MICRONESIA SATURDAY.

BALOS, WHO REPRESENTS THE EXILED ISLANDS OF KWAJALEIN, BIKINI AND ENIWETAK IN THE CONGRESS OF MICRONESIA, SAID HE WAS "SADDERED BECAUSE THE PRINCIPLES OF FREEDOM AND LIBERTY DO NOT APPLY TO THE PEOPLE OF THE TRUST TERRITORY, ESPECIALLY THE MARSHALL ISLANDS."

BALOS ALSO SAID HE WAS "GREATLY DISTURBED" BECAUSE THERE HAS BEEN NO PRODUCTIVE ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT IN THE ISLANDS AFTER 30 YEARS OF U.S. RULE.

"WE ARE NOW BEING ASKED TO ACCEPT THE DRAFT COMPACT OF FREE ASSOCIATION," WHICH HE SAID WILL PLACE THE ISLANDS OF MICRONESIA UNDER AMERICAN SOVEREIGNTY FOR THE "LIFE OF THE AGREEMENT."

THE MARSHALLESE CONGRESSMAN SAID THAT NOW, ON THE 200TH ANNIVERSARY OF AMERICAN INDEPENDENCE, THE "TRUE STORY BEHIND THE MICRONESIAN STATUS NEGOTIATIONS MUST BE TOLD." BALOS SAID THE UNITED STATES HAS NEVER GIVEN MICRONESIA A PLEDGE OF FINANCIAL

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AID FOR AN INDEPENDENT MICRONESIA, DESPITE THE PROMISED OPTION OF INDEPENDENCE UNDER THE UNITED NATIONS TRUSTEESHIP AGREEMENT.

"INSTEAD," HE SAID, "WE HAVE ONLY BEEN PROMISED FROM THE UNITED STATES ONLY IF WE GIVE AMERICA SOME OF OUR LANDS FOR MILITARY PURPOSES UNDER THE SO-CALLED FREE ASSOCIATION PROPOSAL."

"WE HAVE BEEN PROMISED FINANCIAL AID ONLY IF WE ALLOW THE UNITED STATES TO CONTROL OUR FOREIGN AFFAIRS," BALOS DECLARED, "AND WE HAVE BEEN PROMISED DOLLARS ONLY IF WE FORBID OTHER NATIONS FROM DOING WHAT THE UNITED STATES WANTS TO DO IN OUR ISLANDS---THAT IS, DOMINATE US MILITARILY."

BALOS SAID THE SITUATION, ESPECIALLY ON THE 200TH BIRTHDAY OF AMERICA'S INDEPENDENCE WAS "HYPOCRITICAL AND CONTRADICTION" IN THE SENSE THAT "REAL FREEDOM OF CHOICE DOES NOT EXIST" FOR THE PEOPLE OF MICRONESIA.

"AS LONG AS WE DO NOT HAVE AN ECONOMY, AND AS LONG AS THE UNITED STATES CONTROLS OUR POLITICAL DEVELOPMENT, WE HAVE NO REAL FREEDOM OF CHOICE."

"TO MAKE MATTERS WORSE," HE CONTINUED, "THE BASIC UNDERLYING PRINCIPLE THROUGHOUT THESE NEGOTIATIONS HAS BEEN THIS: THE CLOSER THE RELATIONSHIP (WITH THE U.S.), THE MORE FINANCIAL AID WE WILL RECEIVE."

"AS FOR MYSELF," BALOS DECLARED, "I MUST REJECT THE OUTCOME OF SUCH NEGOTIATIONS. THIS KIND OF RELATIONSHIP CAN ONLY LEAD TO A KIND OF POLITICAL AND ECONOMIC STRAIGHT-JACKET FROM WHICH THE PEOPLE OF MICRONESIA CAN NEVER ESCAPE."

BALOS DECLARED THAT ANY FUTURE STATUS AGREEMENT WITH ANY OTHER NATION OF THE WORLD WHERE MICRONESIA MUST GIVE UP ITS SOVEREIGNTY FOR ANY LENGTH OF TIME---AS PROPOSED BY FREE ASSOCIATION---WILL, IN HIS WORDS, "CRUSH OUR ABILITY TO REMAIN A PEACEFUL AND NEUTRAL PEOPLE."

"I WANT PEACE FOR MY PEOPLE," BALOS CONTINUED. "IF THE UNITED STATES WANTS ANYTHING FROM US, SUCH AS OUR LANDS, THE U.S. MUST DEAL WITH US ON AN EQUAL BASIS---AN EQUAL AND SOVEREIGN NATION."

"AS FOR ME, I CHOOSE INDEPENDENCE. I CHOOSE EQUALITY AMONG THE NATIONS OF THE WORLD," HE SAID, "JUST AS THE UNITED STATES DID 200 YEARS AGO WHEN IT DECLARED ITS OWN INDEPENDENCE."

THE MARSHALLS CONGRESSMAN SAID THIS MONTH, WHILE AMERICA CELEBRATES ITS INDEPENDENCE ANNIVERSARY, THE PEOPLE OF BIKINI REMAIN EXILES...THEIR HOME ISLANDS REMAIN POISONED BY RADIOACTIVE MATERIALS." HE SAID THEIR HOME NOW IS AN ISOLATED ISLAND LESS THAN ONE-SQUARE MILE IN SIZE WITH NO PROTECTIVE LAGOON.

"WHILE AMERICA CELEBRATES," HE CONTINUED, "THE PEOPLE OF ENIWETAK ALSO REMAIN EXILES...THEY STILL WAIT FOR AMERICA TO BEGIN TO CLEAN UP THE RADIOACTIVE WASTE FROM ATOMIC AND NUCLEAR TESTS WHICH HAS ALSO POISONED THEIR ISLANDS."

AND WHILE AMERICA CELEBRATES, THE PEOPLE OF KWAJALEIN ALSO REMAIN EXILES WHILE THEIR BEAUTIFUL LAGOON IS USED AS A TARGET FOR MISSILES FROM THE UNITED STATES."

BALOS SAID AS LONG AS THIS IS THE CASE, HE DOES NOT BELIEVE THAT ANY AGREEMENT WITH A NATION "WHICH HAS SO ABUSED ITS SCARED TRUST OVER THESE ISLANDS, WILL PROTECT OUR PEOPLE IN THE FUTURE."

"TO THOSE WHO MAY DISAGREE WITH ME, I SAY LOOK AT THE MARSHALLESE H-BOMB VICTIMS OF RONGELAP AND UTIRIK," BALOS DECLARED. "I SAY TELL ALL THESE UNFORTUNATE MARSHALLESE EXILES THAT THEIR HOMES, THEIR LIVES, THEIR LANDS AND WELFARE WILL BE PROTECTED BY THE AMERICAN MILITARY."

BALOS SAID HE REALIZED SOME PEOPLE IN MICRONESIA MAY BE AFRAID OF INDEPENDENCE. HOWEVER, HE SAID TIME MUST BE TAKEN TO CONSIDER THE GREAT POTENTIAL THE ISLANDS REALLY POSSESS.

"WE MUST ASK OURSELVES WHY OTHER NATIONS OF THE WORLD SEND THEIR SHIPS TO TAKE FISH FROM OUR WATERS. WHILE THE GREAT FISHING NATIONS OF THE WORLD SUCH AS JAPAN AND CHINA PAY OTHER COUNTRIES FOR THE RIGHT TO FISH IN THEIR WATERS." BALOS SAID IT IS "UNFAIR THAT OUTSIDERS ARE PERMITTED TO FISH IN OUR OCEAN FOR FREE."

BALOS SAID JAPAN PAYS THE FORMER TRUST TERRITORY OF NEW GUINEA OVER FIVE MILLION DOLLARS EVERY YEAR TO FISH IN THEIR WATERS.

"WHY NOT US TOO?" HE ASKED. "WHY DOES THE UNITED STATES PERMIT THESE NATIONS TO FISH FOR FREE IN OUR WATERS? IS THIS THE KIND OF PROTECTION FOR OUR RESOURCES THE UNITED STATES SWORE TO UPHOLD UNDER THE UNITED NATIONS TRUSTEESHIP AGREEMENT."

BALOS SAID THE PEOPLE OF MICRONESIA "MUST REALIZE THAT OUR SEAS ARE HEAVY WITH THE PROMISE OF THE FUTURE."

HE SAID REPEATED WARNINGS FROM THE U.S. THAT MICRONESIA'S ECONOMY IS "BANKRUPT" ARE MISLEADING.

"OUR SEAS ARE RICH WITH TUNA, AND RICH WITH MINERALS. YET, WE ARE BEING TOLD WE CANNOT SUPPORT OURSELVES." THE MARSHALLS CONGRESSMAN CHARGED THAT THIS WAS BEING DONE "SO THAT OUTSIDERS ALONE CAN REAP THE BENEFITS FROM MICRONESIA'S SEAS."

"IF THE NATIONS OF THE WORLD LOOK TO OUR SEAS FOR FOOD, THEN WE SHOULD BE TREATED NO DIFFERENTLY THAN THOSE WHO RECEIVE PAYMENT FOR GRANTING FISHING RIGHTS TO OTHER NATIONS," HE SAID.

BALOS SAID THIS CAN BE DONE "ONLY IF WE ARE AN INDEPENDENT PEOPLE." HE SAID THE INCOME FROM GRANTING THESE FISHING RIGHTS COULD BE USED TO BUILD A FISHING INDUSTRY SO THAT SOMEDAY MICRONESIA CAN EXPORT FRESH FISH AND CANNED TUNA, INSTEAD OF, AS HE PUT IT: "BUYING OUR OWN FISH IN SOMEONE ELSE'S CANS"

BALOS DESCRIBED MICRONESIAN CONTROL OVER ITS OCEAN RESOURCES AND LAW OF THE SEA OF "PARAMOUNT IMPORTANCE FOR ALL ISLANDS OF THE PACIFIC."

"NO MATTER WHAT HAPPENS TO UNITY OR POLITICAL STATUS IN MICRONESIA, LAW OF THE SEA IS ONE AREA WHERE WE MUST WORK TOGETHER TO PROTECT OUR COMMON INTERESTS, WE DO NOT, WE MAY SOMEDAY FIND OURSELVES COMPETING AGAINST OURSELVES TO SELL FISHING RIGHTS TO OTHER NATIONS. WE MUST PROTECT OUR OCEAN IN THE SAME MANNER THAT WE WOULD PROTECT OUR SMALL ISLANDS," HE DECLARED.

BALOS SAID HE IS CONVINCED THAT IN "OUR AFFAIRS WITH OTHER NATIONS, INCLUDING THE UNITED STATES, WE MUST STEER FOR DEEP WATERS. WE MUST AVOID AGREEMENTS THAT COMPROMISE OUR FREEDOM AND OUR LIBERTY."

"WHEN I WAS A SMALL CHILD, I WAS TAUGHT THAT WHEN GOD CREATED THE UNIVERSE, HE INTENDED FOR EVERY MAN TO BE MASTER OF HIS OWN HOUSE," BALOS SAID. BALOS POINTED OUT THAT THIS PRINCIPLE WAS RECOGNIZED WHEN MICRONESIA BECAME A TRUST TERRITORY UNDER THE UNITED NATIONS.

"BUT I DARE TO SAY THAT THIS PRINCIPLE HAS NOT BEEN RECOGNIZED BY THE GOVERNMENT OF THE UNITED STATES. TODAY, THREE ENTIRE ISLAND POPULATIONS REMAIN EXILED IN THE MARSHALL ISLANDS. THREE DECADES OF ABUSE IS ENOUGH."

BALOS SAID: "WE WOULD BE TREATED MORE HUMANLY, MORE EQUALLY IF WE ARE A SOVEREIGN AND INDEPENDENT PEOPLE."
(ONE MORE BILL GOES TO HICOM)

KOLONIA PONAPE, JULY 24, (MNS)---A BILL DESCRIBING THAT DOCUMENTARY EVIDENCE IS REQUIRED TO SUPPORT THE OBLIGATION OF FUNDS AVAILABLE TO THE TRUST TERRITORY (HB 505) PASSED THE SENATE OF THE CONGRESS OF MICRONESIA AND WILL BE TRANSMITTED TO THE HIGH COMMISSIONER FOR HIS ACTION.

THE BILL WAS THE SECOND MEASURE TO PASS THE CONGRESS AND BE SENT TO THE HIGH COMMISSIONER DURING THIS SPECIAL SESSION.

THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON JUDICIARY AND GOVERNMENTAL OPERATIONS HEADED BY PALAU SENATOR LAZARUS SALII WHICH CONSIDERED THE BILL STATED THAT "...A LARGE PART OF THE FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT PROBLEMS OF THE TRUST TERRITORY EXECUTIVE BRANCH STEM FROM THE SYSTEM BY WHICH THE TRUST TERRITORY INCURS OBLIGATION."

THE TRUST TERRITORY GOVERNMENT RECENTLY IMPLEMENTED THE NEW FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT SYSTEM, WHICH IS UNDER THE GUIDANCE OF ACTING TT DIRECTOR OF FINANCE TERRY L. GARRETT.

SALII'S COMMITTEE REPORTED THAT THE NEED TO RESOLVE THE FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT PROBLEMS OF THE TRUST TERRITORY EXECUTIVE BRANCH IS "COMPELLING."

"NO AMOUNT SHALL BE RECORDED AS AN OBLIGATION OF THE TRUST TERRITORY...UNLESS IT IS SUPPORTED BY CERTAIN DOCUMENTARY EVIDENCE," THE COMMITTEE POINTED OUT.

THE BILL WAS AUTHORIZED BY YAP CONGRESSMAN LUKE M. TMAN DURING THE REGULAR SESSION OF THE CONGRESS ON SAIPAN EARLIER THIS YEAR.

THE OTHER BILL PASSED BY THE SENATE AND SENT BACK TO THE HOUSE WITH AMENDMENTS WAS A MEASURE WHICH WOULD "PROVIDE A WORKABLE MORTGAGE LAW SYSTEM FOR THE TRUST TERRITORY, WHILE RETAINING THE OWNERSHIP OF LAND IN THE HANDS OF MICRONESIANS," (HB 6-473). IF THE HOUSE AGREES WITH THE SENATE AMENDMENTS, THE BILL WILL GO TO THE HIGH COMMISSIONER. IF NOT, A CONFERENCE COMMITTEE CONSISTING OF MEMBERS FROM BOTH THE SENATE AND HOUSE WILL BE FORMED TO IRON OUT THEIR DIFFERENCES.

IN THE HOUSE, MARSHALL REPRESENTATIVE ATAJI BALOS TOOK THE FLOOR OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES AND SUGGESTED THAT MICRONESIA SHOULD CONSIDER INDEPENDENCE AS ITS FUTURE POLITICAL STATUS (SEE PRECEDING STORY).

IN OTHER BUSINESS, A BILL TO ESTABLISH A COMMITTEE ON POLITICAL EDUCATION PROGRAMS AND APPROPRIATE \$45,000 FOR ITS FUNCTIONS WAS RECOMMITTED TO THE COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION AND SOCIAL MATTERS CHAIRED BY REP. JOAB SIGRAH OF PONAPE. THE BILL WAS UP FOR RECONSIDERATION OF THE HOUSE. THE BILL WAS RECOMMITTED AFTER CONGRESSMEN LAMBERT AAFIN AND JOHN HAGLELGAM SUBMITTED LENGTHY AMENDMENTS.

PALAU REP. KUNIWO NAKAMURA ALSO SPOKE AGAINST THE BILL. SAYING THAT WHILE HE AGREES WITH THE INTENT OF THE MEASURE, HE FELT THAT SINCE THE BILL WAS DEFEATED IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES IN ITS REGULAR SESSION IN JANUARY OF THIS YEAR A LOT OF THINGS HAVE HAPPENED.

"PASSAGE OF THIS BILL IN ITS PRESENT FORM IS LIKE PUTTING THE CART BEFORE THE HORSE," NAKAMURA ARGUED. "I DON'T THINK WE ARE DOING JUSTICE TO OUR PEOPLE" SINCE THE DRAFT COMPACT OF FREE ASSOCIATION HAVE NOT YET BEEN COMPLETED. HE FURTHER SAID CREATION ADMINISTRATION'S EDUCATION FOR SELF-GOVERNMENT PROGRAMS (ESG).

THE BILL PROVIDES THAT THE COMMISSION SHOULD BE CREATED AND MEMBERS APPOINTED WITHIN 30 DAYS AFTER BEING SIGNED INTO LAW, EXPLAINED NAKAMURA. AND SINCE SOME MEMBERS OF CONGRESS OF MICRONESIA MIGHT EVENTUALLY BE APPOINTED TO THE COMMISSION, AND SINCE THIS IS AN ELECTION YEAR AND SOME MEMBERS "COULD BE DEFEATED" DURING THE ELECTION, THE PALAU CONGRESSMAN SUGGESTED THAT THE CONGRESS "SHOULD WAIT UNTIL NEXT YEAR."

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