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SECSTATE PASS TO DEPT INT/SEC INTERIOR/DOIA OSN
AMEMBASSY CANBERRA FOR PAC. ISL. MONTHLY
(U.S.-MICRONESIA TO HOLD STATUS TALKS?)

SAIPAN, MAR. 7 (MNS)--THE FOLLOWING LETTER FROM U.S.
SECRETARY OF STATE CYRUS VANCE AND INTERIOR SECRETARY CECIL
ANDRUS, ADDRESSED TO SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
BETHWEL HENRY AND PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE TOSIWO NAKAYAMA,
CONGRESS OF MICRONESIA, AND TO THE SPEAKER OF EACH DISTRICT
LEGISLATURE OF THE TRUST TERRITORY WAS RECEIVED DURING THE
WEEKEND. IT STATES:

"WE WISH TO ASSURE YOU OF OUR INTEREST IN CLOSE U.S.
RELATIONS WITH MICRONESIA AND OUR CONFIDENCE THAT WE CAN
NEGOTIATE AN AGREEMENT ON THE FUTURE STATUS OF MICRONESIA THAT
WILL SERVE THE INTERESTS OF THE PEOPLE OF MICRONESIA AND THE
UNITED STATES.

"OUR GOVERNMENT IS PRESENTLY CONDUCTING A THOROUGH AND
WIDE-RANGING REVIEW OF ITS POSITION ON MICRONESIA. WE EXPECT
TO COMPLETE THIS STUDY BY EARLY SPRING. WE SHOULD LIKE THEREFORE,
TO PROPOSE THAT REPRESENTATIVES OF MICRONESIA MEET WITH
REPRESENTATIVES OF THE UNITED STATES IN LATE APRIL OR EARLY MAY
FOR A FULL DISCUSSION OF OUR RELATIONSHIP AND OF HOW WE MIGHT
BEST PROCEED WITH DETAILED NEGOTIATIONS ON THE FUTURE STATUS
OF MICRONESIA.

"WE ASK EACH OF YOU TO WHOM THIS LETTER IS ADDRESSED TO
ADVISE US, EITHER IN A COORDINATED REPLY OR SEPARATELY, OF THE
NAMES OF THOSE FROM MICRONESIA WHO WOULD ATTEND THIS MEETING.
THE EXACT DATES AND LOCATION OF THE MEETING WILL THEN BE DECIDED
UPON BY YOUR REPRESENTATIVES AND THE U.S. REPRESENTATIVES.

"WE LOOK FORWARD TO YOUR EARLY RESPONSE AND TO A FRUITFUL
DISCUSSION OF THESE ISSUES WHICH ARE SO IMPORTANT BOTH TO
MICRONESIA AND TO THE UNITED STATES."

THE PRECEEDING WAS A LETTER FROM SECRETARY OF STATE VANCE
AND SECRETARY OF INTERIOR ANDRUS TO VARIOUS MICRONESIAN POLITICAL
LEADERS RELATING TO FUTURE POLITICAL STATUS.
(SUPERPORT HEARINGS SCHEDULED)

SAIPAN, MAR. 7 (MNS)--UNITED STATES SENATOR HENRY M.
JACKSON HAS INVITED THE MEMBERS OF THE PALAU DISTRICT LEGISLATURE
TO PARTICIPATE IN HIS COMMITTEE'S HEARINGS ON THE PROPOSED
SUPERTANKER PORT FOR PALAU. THE MICRONESIAN NEWS SERVICE HAS
LEARNED.

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THE HEARINGS WILL BEGIN IN WASHINGTON, D.C. MARCH 24TH. SENATOR JACKSON HEADS THE U.S. SENATE COMMITTEE ON ENERGY AND NATURAL RESOURCES, FORMERLY THE COMMITTEE ON INTERIOR AND INSULAR AFFAIRS. THE PALAU LEGISLATURE HAS ORGANIZED A GROUP THAT WILL TRAVEL TO WASHINGTON TO PRESENT ITS VIEWS ON THE ISSUE.

IN A RELATED DEVELOPMENT, THREE MEMBERS OF THE PALAU LEGISLATURE WERE ON SAIPAN OVER THE WEEKEND TO BRIEF PALAUANS ON SAIPAN ON STEPS THAT HAVE BEEN TAKEN REGARDING THE PROPOSED SUPERPORT. THE GROUP INCLUDED LEGISLATORS NGIRATKEL ETPISON, MASAICHI ETIGERNGEL, AND TOSIWO NAKAMURA.

THE GROUP WAS JOINED BY FIVE IRANIANS WHO, ALONG WITH THE PALAU LEGISLATORS, EXPLAINED THE VARIOUS STEPS LEADING TO THE ESTABLISHMENT OF A SUPERPORT IN PALAU.

THE PALAU LEGISLATORS ALSO INDICATED IN THE SAIPAN MEETING THAT TWO GROUPS WILL BE TRAVELLING THIS SPRING TO INSPECT PORT AND OIL FACILITIES IN SINGAPORE AND JAPAN TO SEE WHAT IMPLICATIONS THEY MIGHT HAVE FOR THE PROPOSED PALAU SUPERPORT. THE PALAU LEGISLATURE IS FUNDING THE TWO TRIPS, IT WAS INDICATED. (MANGEFEL DISAPPOINTED ON COM SESSION)

YAP, MAR. 7 (MNS) -- A VERY DISAPPOINTED SENATOR JOHN MANGEFEL ARRIVED HOME (YAP) LAST WEEK AFTER THE CONCLUSION OF THE FIRST REGULAR SESSION OF THE SEVENTH CONGRESS OF MICRONESIA ON SAIPAN. SENATOR MANGEFEL TOOK ISSUE WITH THE CONGRESS FOR IT'S "LACK OF ABILITY" TO SERVE THE PEOPLE.

THE FLAMBOYANT SENATOR WHO IS KNOWN FOR HIS ABILITY TO INTRODUCE TONGUE-IN-CHECK MEASURES TO DELIVER HIS MESSAGES, DECLARED THAT THE SEVENTH CONGRESS OF MICRONESIA SPENT MOST OF ITS VALUABLE TIME FIGHTING THE U.S. AND IGNORING THOSE APPROACHES WHICH WILL TAKE MICRONESIA TOWARD SOUND ECONOMIC STABILITY. "THIS IS A BATTLE WHICH WE (THE CONGRESS OF MICRONESIA), WILL NEVER WIN," MANGEFEL SAID.

THE YAPSESE SENATOR PREFACED HIS REMARKS BY CITING AN EXAMPLE IN WHICH THE CONGRESS VOTED TO OVERRIDE TWO MEASURES VETOED BY ACTING HIGH COMMISSIONER J. BOYD MACKENZIE. THEY ARE THE 200-MILE ECONOMIC ZONE FOR MICRONESIA AND A BILL REQUIRING RECONFIRMATION OF PERSONS APPOINTED BY AND WITH THE ADVICE AND CONSENT OF THE CONGRESS OF MICRONESIA WHENEVER A NEW HIGH COMMISSIONER TAKES OFFICE. BOTH MEASURES HAVE BEEN REPASSED AND SENT TO INTERIOR SECRETARY CECIL ANDRUS FOR FINAL DISPOSITION. SENATOR MANGEFEL WONDERED WHY THE CONGRESS OF MICRONESIA

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IS SO CONCERNED OVER THE HIGH COMMISSIONERS VETO WHICH MIGHT STIR VERBAL ARGUMENTS BETWEEN THEM AND THE UUKS. GOVERNMENT WHILE AT THE SAME TIME IT IGNORES THE NEEDS OF THE PEOPLE OF MICRONESIA. "SUCH NEEDS," ACCORDING TO THE SENATOR, "ARE THOSE WITHIN THE SCOPE OF ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND UNITY AMONG THE MICRONESIAN PEOPLE."

"HOW CAN WE OVERRIDE THE HIGH COMMISSIONER'S VETO WHILE THERE IS NO UNITY AMONG US?" ASKED THE DISAPPOINTED SENATOR. MANGEFEL DNVSPMGAT THE CONGRESS OF MICRONESIA MUST HAVE ONE VOICE TO FIGHT UNITEDLY. OTHERWISE, THE CONGRESS OF MICRONESIA WILL BE "LAUGHED AT."

THE YAPESE LAWMAKER THEN OFFERED AN APPROACH TO A SOLUTION. FIRST, IS TO FIND OUT WHETHER MICRONESIA IS UNITED OR NOT. "IF WE FIND NO SOLUTION TO A MICRONESIAN UNITY THEN IT WOULD BE MUCH BETTER TO ABOLISH THE CONGRESS OF MICRONESIA AND ALLOW EACH OF THE DISTRICTS TO NEGOTIATE ON THEIR OWN LIKE BUILDING HOUSE ON THE WATER WITH NO SOLID FOUNDATION MANGEFEL SAID. HE ADDED: "THAT IS WHY OTHER DISTRICTS HAVE LOST FAITH IN THE CONGRESS OF MICRONESIA."

HE EXPRESSED HIS FEELING THAT NOTHING WAS DONE TO IMPROVE THE MICRONEDWEN ECONOMY DURING THE RECENT SESSION.

IN THE AREA OF POLITICAL STATUS, MANGEFEL CHARGED THAT THE CONGRESS OF MICRONESIA HAS SPENT TOO MUCH MONEY "YEAR IN--YEAR OUT" IN DEALING WITH QUESTION. HE SAID IF THAT MONEY WERE UTILIZED TO DEVELOP THE ECONOMY OF MICRONESIA "IT WILL PRODUCE" POSITIVE RESULTS. NINE YEARS OF NEGOTIATIONS WITH NO RESULTS



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AND ENORMOUS SPENDING IS "JUST TOO MUCH", CONCLUDED SENATOR JOHN HANGEFEL.

(MARIANAS CONSTITUTION APPROVED)

SAIPAN, MAR. 7 (MNS)---AN OVERWHELMING MAJORITY OF THE PEOPLE OF THE NORTHERN MARIANAS WHO VOTED IN SUNDAY'S REFERENDUM APPROVED THE DRAFT CONSTITUTION OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANAS.

RESIDENT COMMISSIONER ERWIN D. CANHAM REPORTED AN AFFIRMATIVE VOTE OF 93.3 PERCENT. HE ADDED THKT APPROXIMATELY 58 PERCENT OF THE VOTERS TURNED OUT ON SUNDAY OUT OF THE 6,554 REGISTERED VOTERS IN THE NORTHERN MARIANAS.

"THE ENDORSEMENT OF THE CONSTITUTION BY THE PEOPLE OF THE NORTHERN MARIANAS IS EMPHATIC AND VERY GRATIFYING. THE TURNOUT OF APPROXIMATELY 58 PERCENT, CANHAM SAID "IS GOOD SINCE THE ISSUES OF THE CONSTITUTION WERE ALREADY VOTED IN THE COVENANT AND THERE WERE NO POLITIVAL PARTIES INVOLVED."

"I HAVE TRANSMITTED THE CEBPINBLTO THE AMERICAN GOVERNMENT AND WILL CARRY THE SIGNED COPY OF THE CONSTITUTION TO THE U.S. THIS WEEK," HE SAID. CANHAM AND BUDGET OFFICER IGNACIO SABLAN ARE LEAVING THIS WEEK FOR BUDGET HEARINGS IN WASHINGTON. CANHAM SAID THE NUMBER OF VOTERS OPPOSING THE CONSTITUTION CAME TO 258, WITH 19 OF THE VOTES VOIDED.

THE REFERENDUM ON THE CONSTITUTION WAS THE SEVENTH OF TEN STEPS SET BY FORMER AMBASSADOR FRANKLIN HAYDN WILLIAMS LEWING TOWARD FULL-FLEDGED COMMONWEALTH GOVERNMENT. THE NEXT STEP WILL BE APPROVAL OF THE CONSTITUTION BY U.S. GOVERNMENT PROBABLY LATER THIS YEAR. THE U.S. CONGRESS WILL BE GIVEN THE OPPORTUNITY TO REVIEW THE CONSTITUTIONKKVH

FOLLOWING THAT WILL BE THE ELECTION AND INSTALLATION OF THE COMMONWEALTH GOVERNMENT UNDER THE NEW CONSTITUTION, POSSIBLY DURING THE LATTER PART OF THIS YEAR.

(THOUSANDS ATTENDED YAP DAY CELEBRATION)

YAP, MARCH 7 (MNS)---MORE THAN HALF OF THE POPULATION OF YAP PROPER SHOWED UP FOR THE ANNUAL XNUVYMF13)3?4-589, #3)S .-4:# 1ST, ACCORDING TO YAP PUBLIC INFORMATION OFFICER WILLIE GORONGFEL. GAMES, FEASTS AND DANCES WERE AMONG THE MAIN ATTPACTIONS OF THE DAY'U EVENTS.

THE DAY BEGAN WITH A MARCH OF ELDERS INVOLVED IN THE OLD AGE PROGRAM DRESSED IN COLORFUL OLD YAPESE ATTIRE. THE GROUP MARCHED FROM THE OLD AGE PROGGAM SITE TO THE CELEBRATION GROUND

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BY THE HOSPITAL WHERE THE CROWD WAS WAITING. THE SAME GROUP OF YAPESE OLD MEN AND WOMEN ALSO OPENED THE CEREMONIES WITH THEIR PROGRAM WHICH INCLUDED CHANTS USED BY THE YAPESE WHEN THEY QUARRIED STONE MONEY FROM PALAU, SONGS FOR SOCIAL DRINKING, AND OTHER OLD YAPESE CHANTS. STUDENTS FROM THE VARIOUS SCHOOLS ALSO PARTICIPATED IN LOCAL GAMES AND DANCES WITH THE SUPERVISION OF THE OLD AGE PEOPLE. THESE INCLUDED CHILDREN'S CLAPPING CHANTS, FOLK DANCES AND PULLING OF A STONE MONEY ACCOMPANIED BY CHANTS DESIGNED FOR THAT TYPE OF WORK.

THERE WERE MANY BOOTHS SET UP IN THE FIELD WHERE A VARIETY OF LOCAL DELICACIES WERE ON SALE. THERE WERE ALL KINDS OF LOCAL FOOD AS WELL AS OTHER YAPESE TRADITION ITEMS SUCH AS LOCALLY WOVEN LEIS AND BASKETS OF BETEL NUTS.

SPEAKER OF THE YAP DISTRICT LEGISLATURE JOACHIM FALMOG AND DISTRICT ADMINISTRATOR EDMUND GILMAR DELIVERED REMARKS DURING THE CELEBRATION. BOTH REMARKS REFLECTED THE PURPOSE OF THE OCCASION. THEY REMINDED THE CROWD THAT YAP DAY WAS DESIGNED TO REFLECT THE OLD YAPESE CUSTOMS AND SULTURES AND TO OBSERVE THE REAL LIFE OF THE YAPESE PEOPLE.

GILMAR STATED THAT IN THE PAST A GREAT DEAL OF EMPHASIS WAS PLACED ON OBSERVING EITHER TERRITORY-WIDE OR INTERNATIONAL HOLIDAYS'. BOTH EXPRESSED WILLINGNESS TO SOLICIT THE SUPPORT OF THE YAPESE PEOPLE IN PRESERVING THIS DAY FOR THE YAPESE PEOPLE.

MAIN EVENTS IN THE AFTERNOON INCLUDED TWO BASEBALL GAMES PLAYED BY FOUR TEAMS AND A MEN'S SITTING DANCE ALSO PERFORMED BY THE OLD AGE PROGRAM PARTICIPANTS. EVENING ENTERTAINMENT WAS TOPPED BY EXOTIC MUSIC PLAYED BY A LOCAL BAND FOLLOWED BY FREE MOVIES PROVIDED BY THE COAST GUARD STATION IN YAP.

YAP DISTRICT DAY WAS ABOLISHED BY THE YAP DISTRICT LEGISLATURE TO HONOR YAPESE CULTURE AND CUSTOMS AS WELL AS THE TRADITIONAL YAPESE WAY OF LIFE.

LEGISLATURE'S SOCIAL COMMITTEE HEARINGS BEGIN)

SAIPAN, MAR. 7 (MNSJLAAAPUBLIC HEARINGS BEGAN THIS WEEK ON SAIPAN FOR ALL NORTHERN MARIANAS CITIZENS WHO WERE FORCED TO JOIN THE JAPANESE IMPERIAL ARMY DURING WORLD WAR II, ACCORDING TO A RELEASE FROM THE NORTHERN MARIANAS LEGISLATURE. THE HEARINGS ARE CONDUCTED BY THE SOCIAL COMMITTEE CHAIRED BY SENATOR JACK VILLANUEVA.

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THOSE PERSONS WHO SERVED IN THE ARMY WERE ALSO TAKEN TO GUAM, THE SOLOMON ISLANDS, NEW GUINEA, INDONESIA AND OTHER AREAS IN THE PACIFIC WHILE SERVING IN THE IMPERIAL ARMY, SENATOR VILLANUE SAID.

THE COMMITTEE IS MANDATED BY A RESOLUTION ADOPTED DURING THE RECENTLY CONCLUDED SESSION OF THE LEGISLATURE TO SEEK, AMONG OTHER THINGS, COMPENSATION FOR ALL NORTHERN MARIANAS CITIZENS WHO WERE DRAFTED INTO THE ARMY "UNDER THREAT OF DEATH TO THEMSELVES OR THEIR FAMILIES....#". CLAIMS WERE FILED UNDER THE MICRONESIAN CLAIMS ACT OF 1971.

FOC COMPENSATION FOR SERVICE IN THE JAPANESE IMPERIAL ARMY, ACCORDING TO THE RESOLUTION. "BUT ALL THESE CLAIMS WERE DENIED ON THE BASIS THAT THE MICRONESIAN CLAIMS ACT OF 1971 DID NOT INCLUDE SERVICE IN THE JAPANESE ARMY," THE RESOLUTION POINTED OUT.

"...TO ALLOW THIS SITUATION TO GO UNCORRECTED WOULD BE AN INJUSTICE" ON THE PART OF THOSE WHO SERVED IN THE JAPANESE ARMY, CLAIMS THE RESOLUTION. THE COMMITTEE IS FURTHER MANDATED TO SEEK COMPENSATION FROM THE GOVERNMENT OF JAPAN.

PUBLIC HEARINGS ON SAIPAN WILL CONCLUDE ON FRIDAY (MARCH 11). THE COMMITTEE WILL HOLD SIMILAR HEARINGS ON TINIAN MARCH 14 TO 15; AND ON ROTA FROM MARCH 17 TO 19TH, SENATOR VILLANUEVA SAID. (EAST-WEST CENTER ALUMNI REUNION)

SAIPAN, MAR. 7 (MNS)---THE FIRST ANNUAL EAST-WEST CENTER SAID.

ALUMNI REUNION CONVENTION WILL BE HELD AT THE EASTWEST CENTER IN HONOLULU FROM JULY 7-9 THIS YEAR, ACCORDING TO DR. JAI HO YOU, EWC ALUMNI OFFICER, WHO VISITED THE TRUST TERRITORY LAST

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