

Micronesian News Service
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PACNAVACENCOM MAKALAPA HI

COMDT COGARD WASHINGTON DC

FCDNA-LGA KIRTLAND AFB NM

AMEMB CANBERRA AS

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CDRBMDS COM HUNTSVILLE AL//BMD SC-RO//

COMCOGARD MARSEC GUAM MARIANAS ISLANDS

US MISSION TO UN NEWYORK NY

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SECSTATE PASS TO DEPT INT/SEC INTERIOR/DOTA/OMSN

SECSTATE PASS TO HOUSE INTERIOR COMMITTEE

AMEMBASSY CANBERRA FOR PAC. ISL. MONTHLY

17 (WINKEL PLEASED WITH COM SESSION)

18 SAIPAN, SEPT. 23 (MNS)---High Commissioner Adrian P.

19 Winkel said Friday (Sept. 23) he was "very pleased" with the

20 results of the recent Congress of Micronesia Special Session

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1 in Ponape which turned out a several pieces of "significant
2 legislation" in a short period of time.

3 Winkel made his assessment in a press conference held at his
4 office. The Special Session, he said, was "fruitful and
5 productive."

6 The High Commissioner also said he was pleased with the report
7 of the Joint Committee on Program and Budget Planning submitted
8 recently for determining that there are still "unmet education and
9 health needs" in Micronesia.

10 "While I don't consider it to be certainly a repudiation of
11 that premise of the five year indicative plan that too much has
12 been expended on these matters and that reductions should be made
13 so that funds can be shifted to economic development, I do consider
14 it as a recognition of the position I've taken since I came,"
15 Winkel told the press.

16 With respect to the budget, Winkel said the Congress of
17 Micronesia and the Executive Branch have agreed on the total
18 ceiling of \$112 million for Fiscal Year 1979 budget as far as
19 operations and Capital Improvement projects (CIP) are concerned.
20 He said the only area he disagreed with the JCPBP is in the

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1 allocation of the \$52 million operations funds. Presently, \$33
2 million goes to the district and \$19 stays at Headquarters for
3 operations.

4 However, according to the High Commissioner, the Joint
5 Committee on Program and Budget Planning recommends that \$3 million
6 more be allocated to the districts, leaving only \$16 million for
7 Headquarters operations.

8 "I did not feel that the Committee (JCPBP) provided data
9 sufficient to base such a transfer particularly when we consider
10 that \$33 million is directly allocated to the districts and
11 controlled by them," the High Commissioner pointed out. Secondly,
12 a greater portion of "categorical grant need programs" totalling
13 more than \$20 million is expended and administered by the
14 districts, according to Winkel. Moreover, of the \$19 million
15 allocated for Headquarters operations, half of that is expended
16 in the districts in various ways, he added.

17 "The fact of the matter," Winkel pointed out, "is that the
18 total amount controlled and/or expended in the districts would
19 run close to approximately \$50 million." He said that is a
20 "conservative figure" because federal programs runs over \$20

1 million.

2 "I just did not feel that reducing the Headquarters budget
3 under those circumstances in order to provide each district with
4 an additional \$500,000, if it was allocated among them equally,
5 would have enough of an impact to be significant within the
6 context of the framework of decentralization," High Commissioner
7 Winkel emphasized.

8 His recommendation to the Interior Department is that the
9 present allocation be continued.

10 The 62-year old chief executive of the TT Government said
11 he was "very pleased" with the "openness of the relationship"
12 the Executive Branch had with the Congress during the recent
13 session.

14 The Congress of Micronesia's action in passing the tax
15 legislation and delaying passage of the economic incentives act
16 was "correct" administratively and financially.

17 "If those two acts had been passed, it's a certainty we
18 would have been confronted with a substantial increase in cost and
19 administration," Winkel added. Also, there was a "likelihood" that
20 the Administration would have been faced with a substantial

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1 decrease in revenue.

2 With respect to the Economic Development Loan Fund (EDLF),
3 the HiCom said his office is drafting guidelines that would be
4 followed in administration of the loans. The draft will be
5 submitted to the Interior Department for approval. The EDLF loan
6 has been frozen for more than two years by the Office of
7 Territorial Affairs after it had been reported that there was a
8 high delinquency rate on borrowers.

9 Winkel, who is leaving for Washington tomorrow (Sept. 24) for
10 the budget presentation, said he will discuss other matters such
11 as the "serious problems" in Ebeye and Bikini in the Marshalls,
12 EDLF, and the Deputy High Commissioner's position.

13 The High Commissioner, who returned last week from touring the
14 Marshall Islands, said that there "must be an improvement in
15 conditions in Ebeye" because of the high number of people,
16 approximately 8,000, that are staying on such a small atoll. The
17 only "significant improvement" that could be accomplished is
18 through an "overall coordinated program" like a master plan type
19 of approach. There has been some thought given to moving some
20 people to other islands out of Ebeye.

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1 Regarding the Deputy High Commissioner's position, Winkel
2 said he would "neither repudiate nor confirm" whether he will
3 nominate Acting Deputy High Commissioner Juan A. Sablan to the
4 position. However, he said, "I think the period of uncertainty
5 about the Deputy High Commissioner's position has probably gone
6 on long enough. I would hope that that would be resolved soon."

7 Winkel also said he is giving "careful consideration" to
8 other appointive positions in the Executive Branch.

9 Concerning the on-going audit being conducted by the
10 Personnel Department on all positions in Headquarters, Winkel
11 assured that the audit is only an attempt to measure "job content"
12 and would be a very helpful "management tool" to be used in making
13 decisions. The report will be completed by early January.

14 Asked whether he will submit a reorganization plan on the
15 Executive Branch to the Congress of Micronesia next regular
16 session, Winkel replied: "Oh yes. Absolutely."

17 (DEPUTY DOTA ADDRESSES PONAPE LEGISLATURE)

18 PONAPE, SEPTEMBER 23 (MNS)---The Ponape District Legislature,
19 which has been meeting in Kolonia, the district center, since
20 September 13, was addressed Thursday morning (Sept. 22) by

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1 George R. Milner, Deputy Director of the Office of Territorial
2 Affairs.

3 Milner has been in Micronesia since September 6 on a re-
4 orientation tour. The Deputy DOTA told the Ponape legislature
5 that the decision-making authority on Micronesia is vested in
6 the HiCom and the districts, according to Halvorsen Johnny,
7 Manager of Radio Station WSZD on Ponape.

8 Milner said that the purpose of his visit to Micronesia
9 is to obtain a first-hand view of what is going on in the T.T.
10 so that his office in Washington can do a better job for the
11 people of Micronesia.

12 The Deputy DOTA said it is impossible to sit back in
13 Washington and make decisions for Micronesia.

14 Milner told the Ponape legislature that his trip has
15 given him the opportunity to view developments in Micronesia
16 in a much clearer perspective after eight years of being away
17 from the Interior Department. He served during the 1960s in a
18 similar capacity.

19 He assured the Ponape legislature that his office stands
20 ready to offer assistance in any way it can, Johnny reported.

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1 The present session of the Ponape legislature will last
2 for 40 consecutive calendar days, Johnny concluded.
3 (T.T. OFFICIALS ATTEND SOUTH PACIFIC CONFERENCE)

4 SAIPAN, SEPTEMBER 23 (MNS)---Three top executive officials
5 from the Trust Territory government have departed T.T. to
6 attend the 17th South Pacific Conference which will be held
7 in Pago Pago, American Samoa, September 24-30.

8 These officials are: Dwight Heine, Special Consultant
9 to the HiCom; Clarence Takeuchi, Assistant Special Consultant;
10 and Resio Moses, Ponape DistAd.

11 The conference will discuss the Pacific approach to rural
12 development, appropriate technology for development, education
13 for rural life, and employment creation in rural sectors.

14 Representatives from twenty-nine (29) island nations in
15 the Pacific will attend the conference.

16 The first South Pacific Conference was held at Nasinu,
17 Fiji, in 1950.

18 (INDO PACIFIC AIRCRAFT LANDS IN KOSRAE)

19 SAIPAN, SEPTEMBER 23 (MNS)---A nine-passenger aircraft
20 successfully landed and took off from Kosrae District last

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1 week ferrying passengers and mail to Majuro and Ponape.

2 The STOL (short take-off or landing) aircraft, owned
3 by Indo Pacific, landed in Kosrae last week on a trial basis
4 and later flew District Administrator James K. Pualoa, his
5 wife, and Congressman Kasuo Isisake to Majuro. The flight
6 time between Kosrae and Majuro was four hours.

7 "It was a very enjoyable ride," Pualoa told the
8 Micronesian News Service this week.

9 The plane landed at the Tafunsak emergency airstrip,
10 the same landing strip where the Pacific Missionary Aviation
11 aircraft crashed two months ago. No one was killed in that
12 accident although one passenger suffered minor injuries.

13 Following the accident, PMA suspended its flight to
14 Kosrae which originated in Ponape district, a distance of
15 about 347 miles. The PMA said it was suspending its flights
16 to Kosrae until conditions at the emergency airstrip were
17 improved.

18 The Indo Pacific Corporation had indicated its interest
19 in starting a route service between Kosrae, the Marshalls and
20 Ponape.

1 (BALLENDORF: NEW CCM DIRECTOR)

2 SAIPAN, SEPTEMBER 23 (MNS)---Dr. Dirk Ballendorf,
3 presently the Director for the Office of Higher Education in
4 the State of Pennsylvania, has accepted the job as Director of
5 the Community College of Micronesia (CCM), according to word
6 received on Saipan from Fort Mason, California.

7 Ballendorf, 38, was formerly a Peace Corps staff member
8 in Micronesia. He has visited Micronesia on numerous
9 occasions since his initial tour with Peace Corps/Micronesia
10 in 1966-68.

11 He has written several articles of human and historic
12 interest on Micronesia.

13 Ballendorf received his doctorate degree (Ph.D.) in
14 Economics and Social Science from Harvard University in 1973.
15 He also earned a Masters Degree in Administration and Planning
16 from Howard University in Washington, D.C. in 1965.

17 He is presently working on travel plans to Micronesia
18 and the date of his arrival in Micronesia is yet to be
19 determined.

20 The CCM directorship has been vacant since last November

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1 when Daro Weital was elected to the Congress of Micronesia.

2 Community College of Micronesia is the only college in

3 the entire T.T.

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