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Trust Territory Headquarters, Saipan Information Office -- Phone No. 2148

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Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands, Saipan, Mariana Islands. March 19, 1963—M/V PACIFIC ISLANDER, a new addition to the Trust Territory fleet, arrived at her home port in Saipan early Monday morning, March 18, 1963. The newly acquired vessel is en route on her maiden voyage to the Eastern Carolines—Truk and Ponape—and the Marshalls. Among the first passengers of the PACIFIC ISLANDER from Guam to Saipan included Trust Territory Attorney General Robert K. Shoecraft and Mrs. John M. Spivey, wife of the Trust Territory Executive Officer, and daughter.

On Monday afternoon (March 18) High Commissioner and Mrs. M. W. Goding held an open house aboard the vessel. Some 200 people toured the new ship.

The PACIFIC ISLANDER is captained by Joseph LABLANC and has some 45 crew members. The vessel has 15 two-berth cabins, 1 single-berth cabin and 4 four-berth cabins. An additional two-berth cabin will be modified later which will provide space for a total of 49 cabin passengers.