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TRUST TERRITORY HEADQUARTERS

JULY 16, 1965
RELEASE: 82-65

CONGRESS OF MICRONESIA ENDS FIRST WEEK

SAIPAN, M.I. (July 16)...The Congress of Micronesia ended its historic first week today in the provisional capital of Micronesia, Saipan, Mariana Islands. Its members have organized, elected officers and committees, and introduced numerous bills and resolutions.

The House of Delegates of the Congress was called to order at 10:00 a.m. July 12, by High Commissioner M. W. Goding. John O. Ngiraked of Palau was elected Provisional President. The actual organization of the House of Delegates did not take place until the afternoon of July 14. The delay was caused by a committee hearing on the credentials of one of its delegate-elects from the Marianas, Jose R. Cruz. After Mr. Cruz's credentials were accepted and he was sworn in, the House recessed to a closed caucus to elect its officers. The caucus continued until the afternoon of July 14 when the following officers were elected: Tosiwo Nakayama, Truk, President; and Bailey Olter, Ponape, Vice President.

Committees of the House are as follows:

WAYS AND MEANS - Amata Kabua, Chairman, Marshalls; Dr. Isaac Lanwi, Marshalls; Bailey Olter, Ponape; Eliuel Pretrick, Ponape; Tosiwo Nakayama, Truk; Andon Amaraich, Truk; Francis Nuuan, Yap;

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Joseph Tamag, Yap; Roman Tmetuchl, Palau; John O. Ngiraked, Palau; Olympio T. Borja, Marianas; and Jose R. Cruz, Marianas.

RESOURCES AND DEVELOPMENT - Olympio T. Borja, Chairman, Marianas; Tosiwo Nakayama, Truk; Francis Nuuan, Yap; and Amata Kabua, Marshalls.

EDUCATION, HEALTH, AND SOCIAL MATTERS - Roman Tmetuchl, Chairman, Palau; Eliuel Pretrick, Ponape, Joseph Tamag, Yap; and Isaac Lanwi, Marshalls.

JUDICIARY AND GOVERNMENTAL RELATIONS - Jose R. Cruz, Chairman, Marianas; Bailey Oltor, Ponape; Andon Amaraich, Truk; and John O. Ngiraked, Palau.

Among the 21 resolutions introduced in the House were those calling for the establishment of a junior college within the Trust Territory and for the Trust Territory government to provide a qualified legal officer for each district.

Among the 17 bills introduced, one called for control of temporary foreign labor brought into the Territory. Another would require Micronesian approval prior to any foreign enterprise receiving a charter from the High Commissioner to conduct business in the Trust Territory.

The General Assembly of the Congress was called to order by Richard F. Taitano, Deputy High Commissioner of the Trust Territory at 10:00 a.m., July 12. The Oath of Office was administered by Mariana Islands District Court Presiding Judge Ignacio Benavente. The General Assembly officers are: Dwight Heine, Marshalls, Speaker; Petrus Mailo, Truk, Vice Speaker; and Bethwel Henry, Ponape, Legislative Secretary.

Its committees are:

APPROPRIATIONS - Juan Sablan, Chairman, Marianas; Mitaro Danis, Truk;

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Bethwel Henry, Ponape; Namu Hermios, Marshalls; Smart Lampson, Truk;
Sadang Ngiraetherang, Palau; Chutomu Nimwes, Truk; Henry Samuel, Marshalls;
and Luke Tman, Yap.

WAYS AND MEANS - Lazarus Salii, Chairman, Palau; Atlan Anien, Marshalls;
Soukichi Fritz, Truk; Petrus Mailo, Truk; Manuel Muna, Marianas; Elias
Robert, Ponape; and John Rugulmar, Yap.

RESOURCES AND DEVELOPMENT - Jacob Sawaichi, Chairman, Palau; Atlan
Anien, Marshalls; Max Iriarte, Ponape; Smart Lampson, Truk; Petrus Mailo,
Truk; Benjamin Manglona, Marianas; and Manuel Muna, Marianas.

EDUCATION, HEALTH AND SOCIAL MATTERS - Olter Paul, Chairman, Ponape;
Sadang Ngiraetherang, Palau; Chutomu Nimwes, Truk; Elias Robert, Ponape;
John Rugulmar, Yap; and Henry Samuel, Marshalls.

JUDICIARY AND GOVERNMENTAL RELATIONS - Luke Tman, Chairman, Yap;
Mitaro Danis, Truk; Soukichi Fritz, Truk; Bethwel Henry, Ponape; Namu
Hermios, Marshalls; Max Iriarte, Ponape; and Benjamin T. Manglona, Marianas.

Among the first week's 23 resolutions introduced in the General
Assembly were those which called for an accelerated hospital program and
review of the Trust Territory budget.

The 17 bills introduced covered a wide variety of subjects. One would
require Trust Territory government employees to declare names of companies
in which they hold financial interest. Another would require review of
preliminary district budgets by district legislatures prior to their
submission to the High Commissioner by the district administration.

The first joint session of the new Congress, which met at 2:00 p.m.
Monday, July 12 in the Theatre Building of the Trust Territory Headquarters,

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attracted several hundred guests and spectators. High Commissioner of the Trust Territory, M. W. Goding, delivered his "State of the Territory" message at this joint session.

Guest speakers were John A. Carver, Jr., Under Secretary of the U.S. Department of the Interior, under whose administrative jurisdiction the Trust Territory operates; and two members of the Committee on Territorial and Insular Affairs, U.S. House of Representatives - Rep. Rogers C. B. Morton (R., Md.) and Rep. W. Neiman Craley (D., Pa.).

A two-week pre-Congress session was conducted by the Institute of Technical Interchange, East-West Center, University of Hawaii, represented by Dr. Y. Baron Goto. This field training was to help the new legislators acquaint themselves with legislative procedures and to give advice on techniques of holding a Congress. Working with the Congressmen were: Dr. Norman Meller, Professor of Political Science, University of Hawaii; Mr. Tom Dinell, Director/Researcher, Legislative Reference Bureau, University of Hawaii; and Thomas P. Gill, former member of the U.S. House of Representatives, now Director of the Hawaii State Office of Economic Opportunity.

The Administration of the Trust Territory is readying several bills for presentation to the Congress. It is expected that High Commissioner M. W. Goding will present the Trust Territory fiscal year 1966 budget to a joint session of the Congress next week.

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