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TRUST TERRITORY HEADQUARTERS

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NEW MICRONESIAN MEMBERS OF THE COPRA
STABILIZATION BOARD SELECTED

SAIPAN, M.I. (August 31).....Oscar Debrum of the Marshalls and Juan S.N. Pangelinan of Saipan have been appointed as new Micronesian members of the Copra Stabilization Board, according to an announcement by High Commissioner M. W. Goding.

Their one-year tenure begins with the scheduled September 20 meeting of the Board. According to Headquarters Economic Development Officer George Taggart, Chairman of the Copra Stabilization Board, the following items are tentatively slated for discussion and consideration: (1) Marketing of copra by a Micronesian firm as proposed by the Congress of Micronesia in its Assembly Joint Resolution No. 33 which has been codified as Resolution No. 1-42; (2) export tax on copra; and (3) payment from the Copra Stabilization Funds of per diem and travel costs for the two Micronesian members of the Board.

Debrum is the Social Development Officer for the Marshalls, the major copra producing district in the Territory. Pangelinan is a businessman in Saipan and is well familiar with copra production in the Northern Mariana Islands.

Last Tax Measure Signed Into Law/Page 2

respectively, will not become effective until July 1, 1966. Section 3 of this law, providing for a levy of an export tax on scrap metals, becomes effective on October 1, 1965.

Half of the revenues derived from Public Laws 1-10 and 1-13 will be returned to the district governments where the taxes are collected for appropriation by the respective district legislatures. Public Law 1-9, levying a tax of 5¢ per gallon on motor vehicle fuel, provides that 4¢ of that revenue is to be allocated to the districts where the tax is collected. The revenues from this tax are to be earmarked for the construction and maintenance of public roads and highways. The remaining 1¢ is to be deposited in the territorial treasury.

Of the 15 bills passed by the First Congress of Micronesia, thirteen of them have already been signed into laws. The High Commissioner has withheld his approval on two bills, one of which called for the approval by the Congress of Micronesia and District Legislature concerned of foreign economic enterprises chartered by the High Commissioner to operate in the Territory. The other bill proposed the review of "district budgets" by the district legislatures prior to submission by the District Administrators to the High Commissioner.