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TRUST TERRITORY HEADQUARTERS

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PACIFIC ROOT CROPS FIELD TRAINING AND INTERCHANGE IN PALAU

SAIPAN, M.I. (September 22)...The East West Center will hold its second agricultural interchange project in the Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands, September 25 through October 15, at Koror, Palau, Western Caroline Islands. This program, PACIFIC ROOT CROPS FIELD TRAINING AND INTERCHANGE, will be hosted by the Acting District Administrator of Palau District, Takeo Yano, and the Agriculture staff at Koror, according to Mr. Paul L. Winsor, Assistant Commissioner for Resources and Development. Messrs. Bert Ogata, Palau District Agriculturist, and Morris Klare, District Extension Supervisor, have arranged for hotel accommodations, local transportation, meeting facilities, field demonstrations and field trips. The Assistant Commissioner for Resources and Development and Director of Agriculture Manuel Sproat will be attending the seminar from Headquarters, with Staff Entomologist Robert P. Owen and Plant Pathologist Doliver Zaizer participating. Each district Agriculture Department will be represented by the District Agriculturist or his representative plus three Agriculturists - two of which will be from the Agriculture Department and one agriculturist from the farming group of the district.

Dr. Horace F. Clay, Program Director for the Institute for Technical Interchange, East-West Center, will be in charge of this

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program. East-West Center is also providing special agriculture technicians who will act as resource persons at the interchange. These include Messrs. Edward Fukunaga, Yukio Nakagawa and Francis Bowers who are connected with the University of Hawaii Agriculture Research Station.

The objectives of the program are to assemble information pertaining to root crops (Alocasia, Colocasia, Xanthosoma, Cyrtosperma, yam, sweet potato, cassava and arrowroot) of the Trust Territory; to stimulate interest among Micronesian growers, agricultural extension agencies, agriculturists, teachers and others in root crops and in methods of agricultural extension for development of these root crops. Discussions and demonstrations on fertilizer application and use of herbicides, fungicides and insecticides on root crops will be part of the program.

The first agricultural interchange project jointly sponsored by the East-West Center and the Trust Territory Government was the Coconut Seminar held in July 1964 at Ponape in the Eastern Caroline Islands.

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