

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
TRUST TERRITORY HEADQUARTERS

APRIL 1, 1966
RELEASE:48-66

INTERIM COMMITTEE OF CONGRESS OF MICRONESIA IN SESSION

SAIPAN, MARIANA ISLANDS, TRUST TERRITORY OF THE PACIFIC ISLANDS, (APRIL 1)...Winding up its fifth consecutive day of conference today, the Interim Committee of the General Assembly, Congress of Micronesia, is expected to continue its meeting until April 6, according to Chairman Bethwel Henry of Ponape.

Originally scheduled to meet for a week, the Committee has been instructed by Acting Speaker Petrus Mailo to meet for an additional week to consider proposed territorial election law, possible amendments to the Assembly Rules of Procedure, territorial transportation problems, and replacement program.

During the course of this week's meeting, the Committee has discussed staffing needs of the Congress, bills vetoed by the High Commissioner, and has made analysis of Secretarial Order No. 2882 for recommending possible amendments. The Secretarial Order is the basic document which created the Congress of Micronesia.

The Committee has been concentrating most of its efforts this week in analyzing the effect of three tax measures adopted during the last session of the Congress. In this regard, the Committee invited members of the administration to testify as to problems and difficulties

(MORE)

encountered in the implementation of these laws. On the basis of testimonies, the committee has tentatively agreed to recommend to the General Assembly certain amendments to the laws - to clarify the language of the law and the methods of tax collection.

Members of the Committee are: Bethwel Henry, Chairman, Ponape; Juan A. Sablan, Marianas; Atlan Anien, Marshalls; Lazarus Salii, Palau; Olter Paul, Ponape; Mitaro Danis, Truk; Luke M. Tman, Yap; Acting Speaker of the General Assembly Petrus Mailo and Tosiwo Nakayama, President of the House of Delegates, ex-officio members.

Legislative Counsel Kaleb Udui is sitting with the Committee.