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TRUST TERRITORY HEADQUARTERS

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GODING SAYS FREE-ENTRY BILL "WOULD HAVE SIGNIFICANT EFFECT."

SAIPAN, MARIANA ISLANDS, TRUST TERRITORY OF THE PACIFIC ISLANDS, (APRIL 21)...The passage of a bill to permit citizens of the Trust Territory to enter the United States freely "would have a significant effect upon economic growth and development in the Territory", is the opinion of High Commissioner M. W. Goding.

The bill, introduced in the U.S. Congress by Rep. Emanuel Celler (Democrat-New York), chairman of the House Judiciary Committee, would, if enacted, require only a valid identity certificate from the High Commissioner for entry by Trust Territory citizens. The bill has been referred to a committee for study.

"If the bill becomes law", Mr. Goding said, "Trust Territory citizens would be able to visit, study, live and work in the United States, thus gaining much meaningful experience which could be applied to their home islands. Extensive training in various industrial skills is needed by the people of the Trust Territory now, but such training is difficult to accomplish under provisions of the Immigration and Nationality Act."

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The Celler bill, which would amend the Immigration and Naturalization Act, would not extend to citizens of the Trust Territory the privilege of counting residency requirements for naturalization. It would, however, provide that Trust Territory citizens entering the United States under the bill would be eligible to petition for U. S. naturalization upon completion of certain physical and residence requirements.

Secretary of the Interior Stewart L. Udall, in support of the Celler bill, has said that its passage would bring many benefits not now enjoyed by Trust Territory citizens. He noted that its passage would permit students to move freely to seek education in U. S. schools and better equip the people of the Trust Territory to exercise an educated choice as to their future.

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