RELEASE: 113-66

CONTEST WINNERS VISIT SAIPAN

Saipan, Mariana Islands, Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands, July 19 . . . Three Marshall Islands High School students have a new awareness of the subject on which they wrote prize-winning essays - "The Meaning of Freedom in Micronesia."

Isaac Jorlang, Majuro, Marshall Islands; Davin Palsis, Kusaie, Ponape; and Bacilio Sablan, Saipan, are ending the second week of their expense-free visit to the provisional capital of Micronesia.

The contest was originated by the Reverend Donald S. Daughtry, editor of the Marshall Islands Journal, as a creative stimulus in the intellectual, political and cultural experience of the people of the Marshalls District. Funds were contributed by Nike-X Project employees, Yokwe Yuk Women's Club, Bell Telephone Laboratories, Kwajalein; Marshall Islands Congress and Marshalls District Administration employees, Majuro.

The essayists maintained a rapid-paced schedule of meeting with Headquarters, District and Congress of Micronesia dignitaries, including two visits with High Commissioner William R. Norwood. Marianas District Administrator Peter T. Coleman explained government at the

MORE

district level and hosted a tour of historical landmarks in Saipan. Vicente D. Sablan, Mayor of the Municipality of Saipan, devoted an afternoon to briefing the students on municipal government and the history of Saipan.

A taped radio interview, including a reading of the winning essays, will be distributed to all district broadcast centers in the Territory.

Robert E. Burns, Deputy Peace Corps Director for the Trust Territory and the winners discussed the Peace Corps' plans for their respective districts, and the reaction of high school students to the program.

Activities included observation of the Congress of Micronesia in action, visits to local schools and churches, a wedding fandango and scenic tours of the island.

###

PIO/2148