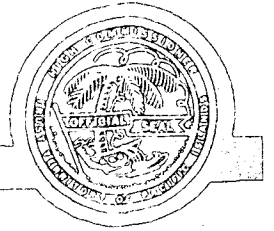


PRESS RELEASE



TRUST TERRITORY OF THE PACIFIC ISLANDS

Office of the High Commissioner

Saipan, Mariana Islands

96950

RELEASE: 116-66

Marianas

GIRL SCOUT PROGRAM -- HOW CAN I HELP?

Truk

Saipan, Mariana Islands, Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands, July 25 . . . The arrival of Miss Jean Hoff to coordinate the Trust Territory Girl Scout Program has opened a "wider world" to many Micronesian girls through the Girl Scout Program. In the more than fifty years of its existence, Girl Scouting has spread to the 37 full members of the World Association of Girl Scouts and Girl Guides and to the 31 countries which are tenderfoot members. The Conference of the World Association will be held in Tokyo in October of this year, with representatives of the 68 countries present. A statement on the beginning of Girl Scouting in Micronesia will be presented as part of the report of the Girl Scouts of the USA.

Ponape

Marshalls

Yap

In Micronesia at present, there are 408 girls registered with a total of 75 adults to give support and leadership to their program. The Marianas District has 3 troops on Saipan, one on Rota, and a request for help in setting up the program in Tinian. The Marshalls have 3 troops on Ebeye, 3 on Majuro, and 7 on Kwajalein, with 1 beginning on Arno. Truk District has 1 troop with 20 girls and 7 adults newly organized on Moen.

Palau

MORE

COPY LBJ LIBRARY

Through the services of the Girl Scout Coordinator now in the Trust Territory, training courses for leaders and guidance in organizing troops are available in the districts. Make your requests now for her services, since she will soon be making a trip to all districts.

Girl Scouting has thrived for over 50 years in many different countries and cultures, indicating common values that extend beyond race, creed or culture. The benefits which can be available to girls of our islands through the program are many and varied, and include:

1. A sense of "belonging" to a world-wide movement, with common bonds between Sister Scouts in 68 other countries, which develops appreciation for the value of their own heritage along with an understanding of other cultures.
2. Citizenship through the responsibility for managing their own troop through voting, making decisions, electing patrol leaders, all under the guidance of an adult leader. Girls who are helped to learn citizenship through a group experience today will be better able to take responsibility for their community when they become adults. Girls, too, need to keep pace with boys in learning and education if they are to make wives and mothers of the future.
3. Learning of skills in homemaking, health and sanitation, arts, games, simple First Aid, and out-of-doors activities.

MORE

4. Service to others puts into practice the skills learned in the troop meetings. Girl Scouts find many ways to help in their communities. They may serve as health aides, help with pre-schoolers, assist with a library, put on a demonstration of skills learned and teach others these skills.

Adults, too, may gain from the program through the training provided for leadership and committee work as well as through the great satisfaction of helping girls grow and develop their individual abilities. The support of mothers and fathers and community-interested people is needed in order to provide the Girl Scout Program for our girls. Each of us must ask the question: "How can I help?"

#

PIO/2148