RELEASE: 134-66

COPY LBJ LIBRAR

TEMPORARY FREEZE ON HIRING ANNOUNCED BY HIGH COMMISSIONER

Saipan, Mariana Islands, Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands, Aug. 25 . . . A freeze on hiring has been placed in effect at Headquarters effective August 15 and on all hiring for the Trust Territory effective August 26, according to an announcement by High Commissioner W.R. Norwood.

The freeze is due to the fact that the financial situation for the Trust Territory is extremely critical under current ceiling limitations, Legislation currently pending before the Congress of the United States should result in raising the ceiling limitation for this fiscal year. If the U.S. Congress approves and the ceiling is raised, it is possible that additional funds will become available to the Territory within the next two or three months.

Mr. Norwood further stated: "At this time I am not asking you to take reduction in force action. Economies will be effected through normal attrition. In addition, you are expected to exercise all economy measures within your control to further alleviate the situation in your area of responsibility."

###

PIO/2148