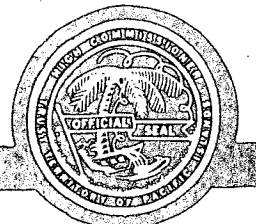


# PRESS RELEASE



## TRUST TERRITORY OF THE PACIFIC ISLANDS

Office of the High Commissioner

Saipan, Mariana Islands

96950

RELEASE: 219-66

Marianas

### COOPERATIVE OFFICERS HOLD FIRST CONFERENCE

Saipan, Mariana Islands, Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands, Dec. 20 . . . "Altogether successful" was the verdict placed upon the first Cooperative Officers' Conference held on Saipan during the week of December 12-16 by Headquarters Cooperative Officer Samuel Mitchell. The conference concluded Friday, December 16.

Truk

Attending the conference were representatives from all districts, including:

Ponape

Marianas Olympio T. Borja, District Economic Development Officer  
David Q. Maratita, Assistant District Economic Development Officer

Marshalls

Marshalls Kenji Jack, Treasurer, Marshalls District Legislature  
Palau Salvador Ongtung, Acting Economic Development Officer;  
Francis S. White, Cooperative Officer

Yap

Ponape Kasiano Joseph, District Cooperative Services Advisor  
Mortimer D. Colodny, Cooperative Officer

Truk Paulino Maipo, Senior Administrative Clerk;  
Charles M. Sicard, Cooperative Officer

Palau

Yap Andrew Ruepong, Economic Division Advisor

Also attending were Peace Corps Volunteers Alan Bluestone and John Gage who are presently stationed in Chalan Kanoa, Saipan.

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The conference was called to consider ways and means of improving the effectiveness of the ~~small~~ business advice and cooperative programs in the Trust Territory, and how to utilize Peace Corps Volunteers in these programs most effectively.

On opening day, High Commissioner William R. Norwood, Assistant Commissioner for Resources and Development Paul L. Winsor, and Deputy Assistant Commissioner for Resources and Development Eusebio Rechucher, addressed the conference.

The conferees expressed a desire to hold a similar conference within one year in one of the districts.

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