## PRESS RELEASE

## TRUST TERRITORY OF THE PACIFIC ISLANDS

Office of the High Commissioner Saipan, Mariana Islands

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RELEASE: 221-66

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TT LETS CONTRACTS FOR PRE-ENGINEERING SURVEYS

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Saipan, Mariana Islands, Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands, Dec. 21 . . . In preparation for anticipated increase in construction activities in the Territory during the coming year, the Trust Territory Government had contracted several firms to conduct pre-engineering studies in various districts, according to Assistant Commissioner for Administration Joseph F. Screen who also serves as Contracting Officer for the High Commissioner.

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Russell Smith of Austin, Smith and Associates, Inc., a Honolulu engineering firm, has just completed a pre-engineering survey on sewerage and total water resources on Saipan and Moen, Truk, including possible sites for the proposed new Truk Hospital. The Austin-Smith firm specializes in engineering for water, sewerage, and roads.

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A similar contract has been let to Edward Eardley, a consulting engineer, who will survey electric power requirements on Saipan, Yap and Truk. Mr. Eardley had done similar surveys for Guam, American Samoa, and the Virgin Islands.

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Mr. Screen said the preliminary engineering surveys in these areas of needs are being undertaken to determine the total requirements and

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the magnitude of costs for proper planning and budgeting purposes within the capital improvement .program being contemplated for next year.

Also, as a result of a recent engineering report from Ponage, the Trust Territory Government has let a six-month contract with a Honolulu dredging firm to furnish a dredge captain and a leverman to supervise the dredging operation in Ponage District.

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