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RELEASE: 49-67

HOSPITAL WARD BUILT IN TRUK

Saipan, Mariana Islands, Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands, Feb. 28 . . A need for better hospital facilities was filled quickly last week. Trukese construction workers pitched in and erected a \$12,000 isolation ward--in just 13 days.

The new isolation ward is next to the hospital on Moen, the capital of Truk. It was made specifically to accommodate patients suffering from contagious or highly infectious diseases.

The building has two special care rooms and two wards that can house 22 patients, who were transferred from the hospital the day after completion. The ward has separate bathrooms and showers, nurses' quarters, a nurses' and doctors' station, and a utility room and storeroom.

The building is 22 by 96 feet. The exterior is finished with corrugated metal and the interior with masonite and has glass louvered windows.

Construction superintendent for the job was Thomas E. Tavaras. Public Works Department, headed by Milton Burmeister, was responsible for supervision of the construction.

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Of the new hospital ward, Adrian Knyff, Chief of Construction for the Trust Territory, said: "This proves that Micronesian tradesmen are capable of good quality and fast work whenever required."

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