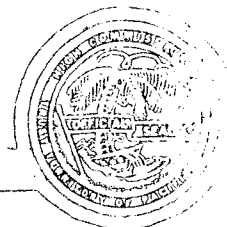


PRESS RELEASE



TRUST TERRITORY OF THE PACIFIC ISLANDS

Office of the High Commissioner

Saipan, Mariana Islands

96950

RELEASE: 58-67

Marshall Islands

TYPHOON BULLETIN # 4

Truk

Saipan, Mariana Islands, Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands, Mar. 9 . . . Aimeliik, usually a village of 29 houses, now has 6. As District Administrator Boyd MacKenzie continued his survey of Babelthuap's coastal villages, he found that, along with private dwellings and three public school classrooms, Typhoon Sally had eradicated the basis of Aimeliik's cash economy--gardens and fruit trees. Fishing and farming and the marketing of betelnut, coconuts, papayas, and limes to Koror sustains the village. Now there is nothing to market. The precious trees are uprooted and garden plants lie crushed and withered.

Ponape

Hammers are swinging in a cooperative house-raising effort. As each house reaches a livable stage, the workmen move to the next most desperate site, leaving lighter building chores to the women. Salvaging food to sustain the laborers is also left to the women. The diet is limited to cassava and coconuts and there are no second helpings. No one complains, everyone works with an urgency rebuilding their homes and putting their village in order.

Yap

Mrs. Omia Ngiradechebaet's first-grade classroom was demolished. She is uncertain when school would be resumed for the 82 elementary students. The half-hungry children lacked concentration and most of them did not have adequate clothing.

Palau

MORE

Returning to Koror, District Administrator MacKenzie conferred with Red Cross Field Director Milton J. Whitten concerning Aimeliik's plight. Whitten dispatched rice, fish, milk and clothing. Relief of the food stringency will release fishermen for heavy reconstruction work in the village. Fishing the disturbed waters following the typhoon has added little to the precarious food supply.

Trust Territory Sanitary Engineer Melvin Koizumi has instructed village leaders in preventative sanitation. All drinking water must be boiled due to refuse contaminating water storage areas. Chemicals have been distributed to abate the threat of flies and mosquitoes spreading disease. Every means available to the Trust Territory Government is being utilized to bring emergency relief, assist in renovating what remains and cooperate in planning the restoration of Palau.

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WINHAI/PIO/2148