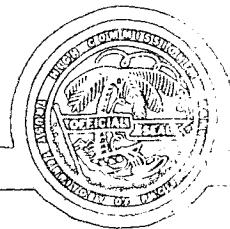


PRESS RELEASE



TRUST TERRITORY OF THE PACIFIC ISLANDS

Office of the High Commissioner Saipan, Mariana Islands.

96950

RELEASE: 62-67

Marianas

TYPHOON BULLETIN 5

Truk

Ponape

Marshalls

Yap

Palau

Saipan, Mariana Islands, Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands,
Mar. 10 . . . The port of Palau nestles in Koror gazing out at green islets slumbering on the glinting blue waters of the Pacific. The geographical description of the port is serene, everything else about it pulsates with action. The three ships at anchor, M/V Palau Islander, M/V Pater Elias, and M/V Ran Annim are not pleasure craft, they are the lifeline of Micronesia. The port is playing a chief part in healing the wounds inflicted by deadly Typhoon Sally, the 90-mile per hour island wrecker of March 2. The Pater Elias, a chartered ship flying the flag of Liberia, was diverted from Guam and was the first ship to arrive in the Port of Palau following the disaster. Her cargo was staple food commodities. The Palau Islander arrived a day later loaded to capacity with typhoon relief cargo--lumber, corrugated iron roofing, hand tools, electrical materials, nails, cement, tents and kerosene refrigerators. Enroute to Koror, the ship had called at Yap long enough to load a line-truck needed to repair the crippled power lines of the district center.

The M/V

Truk Islander is scheduled to arrive March 11 with additional construction materials.

MORE

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Over 100 men from the villages on Koror and Babelthuap were waiting when the first Micronesian Line ship appeared on the horizon.

"The performance of the Trust Territory's transportation system in this emergency has set a standard for excellence," said Palau District Administrator Boyd MacKenzie. "The clean-up, patch-up stage of our recovery is well underway. With the emergency cargo arriving we have begun major repairs to school water and power systems, government buildings and houses." The decisive ship movements were coordinated by Acting High Commissioner Martin P. Mangan who flew to Koror 3 hours after learning of the crisis.

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