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Marianas Variety
News & Views

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WHEELER ASKED TO RESIGN

Saipan-Mr. James R. Wheeler, Trust Territory Director of Public Works turned in a letter of resignation Monday (June 2) according to the High Commissioner's office. No action has been taken on the request, stated Peter T. Coleman, Deputy High Commissioner.

Last week, the HiCom's office acknowledged that Wheeler had been "relieved" of his duties as Contract Officer of the TT but it was indicated that he would continue his other administrative duties.

Observers feel his resignation is directly related to the heated controversy over the TT Dispensary Project funded by Hill-Burton Funds.

In January, Wheeler, signed an amendment to the TT dispensary contract which allowed D. R. Kinkaid, the contractor, to receive the full contract price of $1.6 million for erecting only 19 of the 38 originally agreed upon dispensaries. Kinkaid was contracted in September 1973 to erect the 38 unit health care facilities. As of December 1974 after already receiving $1.2 million, he had built only 5 units.

Since December, another 6-8 units have been subcontracted but Kinkaid has not paid the subcontractors.

Although the Attorney General's (AG) office and Wheeler's subordinates denied any previous knowledge of the January amendment, it has been learned that Chuck Wheeler, former AG Contract attorney had reviewed the amendment and found no reason for Wheeler not to sign it. Chuck Wheeler was lost at sea in late January and is presumed dead.

Con't on page 11

Saipan's new sport, water skiing , recently became the most attractive challenge for some of the island youth, who formed the Saipan Water Ski Club on their own. In this picture, two of the members demonstrate their skills in the Saipan reef waters.

Tinian Council Election:
3 Parties, 9 Candidates On Ballot

Saipan- An official ballot for the upcoming General Election of Councilmen for the Tinian Municipal Council has been issued with three different lists of candidates appearing under three named political parties. The election will be held June 8, 1975.

Former Mayor of Tinian, Antonio S. Borja, is the single candidate running under the political party called the "Public Party", a new party listing.

Four candidates of the "Commonwealth Party", a new name replacing that of the Popular Party, are: Alfonso S. Borja, Harry L. Cruz, Sylvestre T. Cruz and Leonardo F. Diaz, all of which are presently members of the Tinian Municipal Council.

The third party whose name remained unchanged is the "Territorial Party", although two new candidates are listed on the ballot, Francisco Cabrera, and Martin San Nicholas. The other two Territorial candidates are Estevan King and Francisco Hocog.

The Tinian Municipal Council is composed of seven councilmen elected to serve for a period of two years. However, in past elections, candidates were running only on the ticket of two parties, and Territorial Party and the Popular Party.

In other news concerning the upcoming election, Mayor of Tinian, Felipe Mendiola, recently issued a statement concerning the resolution passed against him last week by the Tinian Municipal Council. The resolution states that the Mayor is "deeply involved in business venture with Japanese interests on the islands of Saipan, Rota, and particularly the island of Tinian," and condemns Mendiola for "his personal interest, selfishness, and conflict of interest." According to Mendiola, the resolution "was an attempt to cover up unpaid debts now

Con't on page 11

MDL CHARTER AMMENDMENTS BILL VETOED

Saipan-In a veto message date June 3, the Deputy High Commissioner Peter T. Coleman, notified the Marianas District Administrator that he had inconsistencies in two proposed amendments to the Legislature charter which had been passed during the last session.

The two bills reflected recent legislation to make the district legislature full time instead of part time.

One of the bills, Act No. 113-1975 would have increased the membership of the legislature by one to a total of seventeen, by increasing the membership representing Tinian from one to two. But, according to the Deputy High Commissioner, the lawmakers did not amend section 2 of the same charter which states.. "The Mariana Islands District Legislature.. be composed of sixteen (16) Representatiyes chosen every four years...". The proposed amendment would only affect sections 3 and 4.

Act No. 119-1975, the second amendment to the Charter proposed by the Legislature would provide the legislature with one regular session to be held annually rather than twice as the present Charter provides. And the Legislature would have the power to set the terms

Con't on page 11

PAC
NEWSPAPER
STACKS

KENDAL TOLD U.N. COUNCIL....

U.N.-(COM RELEASE)-If the position of the people of Micronesia, expressed in the forthcoming referendum on July 12, is different from that of the Congress of Micronesia concerning unity, political status negotiations, the compact of free association and the authority to the Congress to negotiate, then "the Congress must heed the wishes of the people," Senator Wilfred Kendall told the Trusteeship Council Tuesday, June 3rd.

Senator Kendall's remarks, which were included in his closing statements, were in reference to questions posed by members of the Council asking what the affect of the referendum would be.

With reference to the stalled status negotiations for Micronesia, Kendall noted Ambassador White's statement on behalf of the United States that it was willing to begin negotiating again and said that this was inconsistent with information from Ambassador Franklin Haydn Williams that the funds proposed under the rejected Title 4 of the Compact were the best which the U.S. was prepared to offer.

"If this were still the case," he said, "then there is surely nothing to negotiate" and he added that the burden rests with the U.S. to indicate that resuming negotiations would prove meaningful.

"This sort of offer to renegotiate has not yet been made to us. If and when it is made, we're quite ready to resume the negotiations but not before," Kendall said.

In regard to the charge of bad faith on the part of the U.S., a charge refuted by Ambassador White, the Marshall's Senator said that by taking actions to separate the Marianas from the rest of Micronesia "in short to fly in the face of right and the dignity of the Micronesian people in order that all interest might best be served, is to us, bad faith.

On the issue of the return of public lands to Micronesia, Senator Kendall provided additional information requested by Council members. He provided extensive background on the areas of disagreement between the Congress of Micronesia and the United States.

The United States, he said, intends to return these lands on its terms and not on those of the people of Micronesia expressed through the Congress and we can, as the saying goes, "take it or leave it."

Senator Kendall then discussed the Marianas separation stating that the Congress had always recognized the people of the Marianas have the right to self-determination, but also that the Congress was duty bound to promote the unity of Micronesia.

The United States, however, said Kendall saw the opportunity to achieve its desire in Micronesia, absolute, political and military control at a lesser cost and with a greater degree of security in the Marianas than would be possible with regard to the remainder of Micronesia. And, he added, that the U.S. only agreed to unilateral termination of the Compact after it had accepted the offer of separate Marianas talks.

In connection with this, Kendall said that despite the fact that the U.S. has made "detailed contingency plans for the separation of the Marianas, no plans have been made for the moving of the capital of Micronesia," an effort he estimated to cost $75 million.

Kendall then asked the Trusteeship Council's assistance in getting the U.S. agreement toward the establishment of Saipan's capital hill as a Micronesian capital territory to remain subject to the laws of Micronesia and not of the separate Marianas government.

Despite the pending separation however, Kendall pointed out that "we were pleased to note that the U.S. position to have the termination of the Trusteeship Agreement for all districts at the same time in the Security Council was unchanged."

In response to earlier questions concerning the foreign affairs responsibilities of the United States for Micronesia under the proposed compact, Kendall explained that while the Micronesian government had the right to approve some international treaties, he said this is not particularly with reference to multilateral treaties which would have important effects on Micronesia.

An example of this, he noted, was in connection with the international Conference on the Law of the Sea. United States and Micronesian positions on this issue differed, he said, and the U.S. acting for Micronesia including any agreement on control of tuna resources for example, would be "fundamentally and totally inconsistent with our own interests and destructive of our rights."

In concluding his remarks, the Marshalls senator said he had often thought about a statue which stands in the Council chamber which represents colonial people who are striving for self-determination.

He offered the hope that with increasing cooperation of the United States and the Council's assistance the people of Micronesia would achieve self-determination but warned the Council that without that assistance and cooperation, Micronesia must remain like that statue, a frozen symbol of what can be, but is not.

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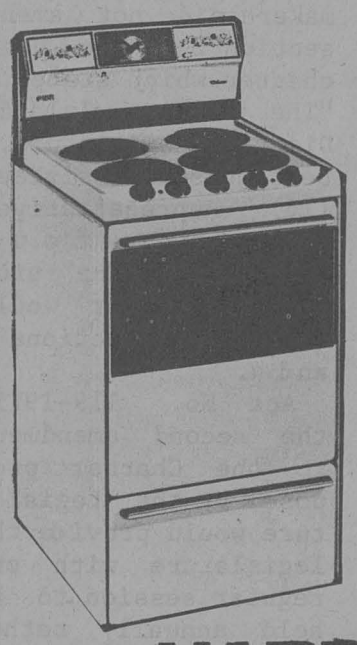

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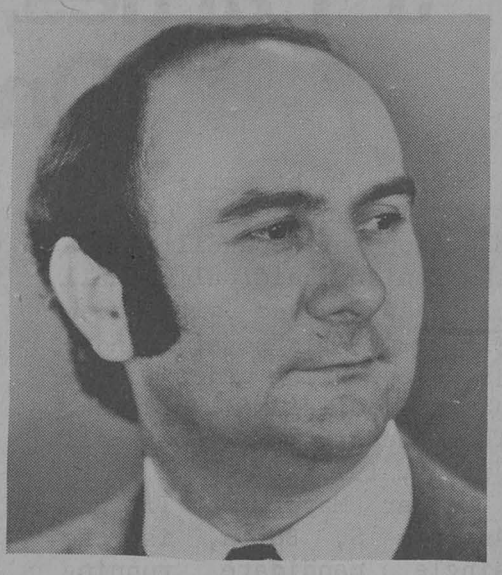
O'Shea Named Hotel Manager

SAIPAN-John M. O'Shea has been appointed General Manager of the Saipan Beach Inter-Continental Inn, according to Mr. Paul Sheeline, Chairman of the Board of Inter-Continental Hotels (ICH). Prior to his assignment to Saipan, Mr. O'Shea was General Manager of the Hotel Tahara's Inter-Continental, Tahiti.

The Inter-Continental Inn is now in the final stage of construction and is expected to be open in the early part of 1976.

Mr. O'Shea joined the ICH as Assistant Manager of the Dublin Inter-Continental in 1964, before which he had held managerial positions with the Hilton International and the Holiday Inn. He has worked in Europe, Canada, Jamaica, and Pakistan to name a few of the locations of his past experience. He was born in England and studied in London, Paris and Rome. He speaks fluent English, French and Italian.



JOHN M. O'SHEA

U.N. TO OBSERVE PLEBISCITE

U.N. (MNS)---The Trusteeship Council Wednesday of last week voted by a margin of 4-1 to send a visiting mission to observe the Marianas plebiscite on June 17.

Only the Soviet Union voted against the resolution. Their representative, Ivan Neklessa stated that the Soviet delegation considers such actions of the United States to be what he called "contrary to the decisions of the Security Council and of the Trusteeship Council."

Therefore, he said, "We are against any actions separating the Marianas from the rest of the territory."

The Trusteeship Council was responding to the invitation from the United States to dispatch a mission to observe the plebiscite.

The mission will be composed of representatives from Australia, France and the United Kingdom. They will observe the plebiscite including the campaign and polling arrangements, the casting of ballots, the closure of voting, the counting of ballots and the declaration of the results.

At the same time, they intend to obtain first hand information concerning the political, economic and social developments in the Mariana Islands District and submit a report on its observations to the Trusteeship Council.

In other business, the Trusteeship Council voted unanimously to send a Visiting Mission to the Trust Territory next year, 1976, for a period of six weeks.

The Visiting Mission will investigate and report as fully as possible on steps taken toward the realization of UN charter objectives especially questions regarding future status.

The Trusteeship Council will be taking up the matter of Papua-New Guinea Thursday and Friday, New York time before their special mission departs for Saipan on Sunday of this week.

Incentive Awards To Three TT Employees

SAIPAN (MNS)---Three employees of the Trust Territory Government received Incentive Awards from Deputy High Commissioner Peter T. Coleman in a special ceremony at his office on Friday, (May 2).

They are Daniel Ogomuro, Francisco B. Manibusan and Jesus Tenorio, all from Saipan.

The three were selected by the Headquarters Incentive Awards Committee as the recipients of this year's awards because of their superior performances in the Government.

Ogomuro, an equipment operator at the Communications Division, has performed major mechanical repairs, expert adjustments and replacements of worn out parts, which requires a skilled mechanic.

As a result, the work of the ground maintenance crew for the Kagman antenna field has been able to continue without interruption.

In view of his superior performance, Ogomuro was awarded $175 with a recommendation by the Incentive Awards Committee that the Division of Communications re-evaluate his duties and responsibilities for a possible reclassification.

The other recipients were Francisco B. Manibusan and Jesus Tenorio, also from the Division of Communications. Each received $150 in recognition of their outstanding communications work. Both work as maintenance men at the Kagman relay station.

Attending the presentation ceremony were, in addition to Deputy High Commissioner Coleman, the Chairman of the Headquarters Incentive Awards Committee Jonathan Koshiba and the Chief of Communications Division, Victorino C. Borja.

SAIPAN WATER WASTED

SAIPAN - Officials from the District Department of Public Works are perplexed about the vast quantities of water wastage on the island. In an interview, Mr. John Pangelinan, Administrative Officer for the department, and Mr. Joe Sablan, the Public Utilities Officer declared that even in these days when water is turned on only during the day, they are astounded at the daily consumption which has considerably increased proportionately from the amount consumed during the rainy season.

During the past few months, due to the long dry spell here, water has been turned off daily from 10:00 in the evening till 5:30 in the morning. Production in these "dry months" declined to 1.9 million gallons per day, compared to the 2.4 to 2.7 million gallons per day in the rainy season. Daily, the consumption exceeds the production so that reserves have to be used for supplying the people water. However, Pangelinan commented, this wastage has been occurring for quite a long time. Previously, it was thought that this may have been caused by faulty water pipes, but after most of the secondary lines had been replaced, no noticeable decrease in wastage was found.

To fight the problem, a monthly campaign has recently been launched, especially from this month. This will be an effort to curb wastage by checking leaky pipes, consumers who use water excessively or just leave faucets running. These will be warned to either take corrective action about fixing up leaks or to stop wasting, whatever the case may be. If, it is found that these warnings are ignored, then services to these people may be discontinued. The main suspects among the wasters, Pangelinan disclosed, are those who pay a flat rate for their utilities. These often waste large quantities of water, knowing that they do not have to pay for the excess amounts.

Along with the above check-ups, the officials disclosed their plans to ask the public's cooperation in reporting any such wastages that they may witness. They have also asked for the public to cut down on using water for washing cars, watering lawns and wetting the roads in efforts to prevent dust from flying. There have been cases where people have been taking water from fire hydrants for use on farms etc.

According to the Department spokesmen, the most common form of wastage is leaks. A leak which is 1/32 of an inch wastes about 25 gallons of water in 24 hours; a 1/16" leak would waste 100 gallons in 24 hours, and a 1/8" leak would waste 400 gallons per day. Even a "drop leakage" of 1/32" in half the houses on Saipan would waste a colossal amount. According to their reports, an allotment of 150 gallons of water per person has been made in the U.S. On Saipan however, the amount would be extravagant, as just 50-60 gallons per person would suffice per day. And yet, Pangelinan noted, records show that the consumption here is even higher than in the U.S. Worst of all, this consumption seems to be absurdly increasing.

The two spokesmen concluded that a press release is currently being prepared to give the people here an idea as to what the present water situation on the island really is. Plans are also being made to find new water sources to supplement the present ones, but nothing definite has been proposed. Fortunately, at the moment the power situation is well in hand, though the public is asked to conserve as much as possible.

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Meklessa Oppose Marianas Seperation

U.N., (MNS) --- Ivan Meklessa, Soviet Union delegate to the Trusteeship Council, said Monday (June 2) that the Soviet Union opposes and "condemns" the separation of the Marianas from the rest of Micronesia.

He told the Council members that the future status of Micronesia can only be dealt with by the Security Council and therefore the Soviet Union protests against the sending of an observation team to Saipan to oversee the plebiscite.

In his general remarks, Meklessa noted that this was the 30th anniversary of the vicotry over facism and Japanese militarism which he said, brought freedom to many countries and marked the downfall of colonial systems throughout the world, and that the direct colony system has disappeared, a system, fostered the struggle for national liberation.

After reviewing the historical progress of the trusteeship system, Meklessa said that the Soviet Union should "point out with regret" that the goal of the United Nations for self-government and independence for Micronesia is far from being achieved.

The Soviet representative said that the plan for self-government was moving at a very slow pace and he placed the blame on the administering authority, the United States, for actions which were contrary to the principles of the United Nations by trying to convert Micronesia into a "military depot."

The Soviet representative said that the Soviet Union recognizes that the people of Micronesia have been attempting to put an end to the Trusteeship and place themselves into a self-governing state. He urged that the Micronesians be given the power to run their affairs and noted that they have made achievements toward that end but they have met with resistance from the United States government; the United States had made an effort to maintain full power in foreign relations and foreign trade and have claimed exclusive rights for the establishment of military bases in Micronesia.

Meklessa derided the United States for linking a security agreement with the proposed compact of free association.

Meklessa charged that while the Congress of Micronesia has attempted to conclude the relationship, the United States proposed conditions which were unacceptable to the people of Micronesia and at the same time continued to hold separate negotiations with the Marianas.

He said that the Soviet Union feels that this effort to dismember Micronesia is in opposition to the wishes of the General Assembly and the Trusteeship Council. He emphasized that the Soviet Union cannot accept this action, and stated firmly that "We protest against the idea of sending a special mission to the Marianas to observe the plebiscite."

Meklessa then quoted from several Congress of Micronesia resolutions which opposed separate negotiations and said that the Soviet Union states "in strongest possible terms its irrevocable opposition and condemnation of the separation."

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Interior Plans TT Investigation

WASHINGTON, (MNS)--- The Interior Department has notified Congress that the department is organizing a "Task Force on the Trust Territory (TT) of the Pacific Islands" to carry out the deeper investigation of U.S. programs in Micronesia requested by the Senate Interior Committee three months ago, according to a Gannett News Service story out of Washington.

"The task force will have wide-ranging duties and will be made up of representatives from the Office of Program and Budget, Office of Management, Bureau of Reclamation and Offices of Audit and Investigation," Emmett M. Rice, former acting director of territories, said in a May 8 letter to Sen. Henry M. Jackson, D-Wash., made public this week.

Rice said Fred M. Zeder, the new director of territorial affairs, will head the force and make his first trip to the islands in his new job late this month. Rice is expected to be Zeder's deputy. Other agencies of the federal government also may join the effort to examine the situation in Micronesia, Rice wrote Jackson.

Six areas the task force is to look into. Rice said, are: capital-improvement or public-works program; plans for the next five years of public-works projects; contracting procedures; acquisition of excess foreign property, including surplus U.S. military equipment; record keeping and money-management systems and methods of training Micronesians to manage their government.

The task force is a response from Interior to the request made in mid-February at Senate Interior Committee "oversight" hearings into TT operations.

Coconut Market Seminar Held In Manila

SAIPAN-A market seminar on coconut products was held from May 6th to 17th 1975 in the Philippines where the Northern Marianas was represented by the Hon. Jesus V. DL. Guerrero. The objectives of the seminar, according to the draft report, were to further the development of markets for coconut products, and to enable representatives of foreign countries to gain a better appreciation of modern marketing and sales promotion techniques; to asses the scope for undertaking end-use research and product development; to consider appropriate machinery and measures for market development programs, and to evaluate and appraise the problem areas in the marketing of coconut produce.

Guerrero's ten-day trip was financed by the Hold-Over Committee of the Marianas Islands District Legislature (MIDL). The seminar was organized jointly by the International Trade Center (UNCTAD/GATT) and the Asian Coconut Community (ACC) in cooperation of the Philippine Coconut Authority (PCA) and the United Coconut Association of the Philippines (UCAP), the seminar being financed by the United Nations Development Programme.

In his letter to the members of the MIDL, Guerrero explained that while in Manila, he had met with Mr. Charlie See, Director of beauty contest world-wide, and had discussed the possibility of the Northern Marianas participating in the international beauty contest such as Miss Universe, Miss Asia, Queen of the Pacific and International Queen of the Year, adding that such participations, while at small cost to the Government of the Northern Marianas, would give our islands world recognition in the area of tourism promotion.

He continued that he had also spent some time with the Overseas Employment Development Board and the Department of Labour-Philippines, specifically for information concerning the recruitment of Philippino workers for some of the people here.

The draft report of the seminar on coconut products (Guerrero's main reason for going) indicated that participants had come from India, Indonesia, Philippines, Malaysia, Sri Lanka (Ceylon), Thailand and Western Samoa, with observers from Papua New Guinea, Tonga, Micronesia, the Solomon Islands Protectorate and the Marshalls. Five International Consultants/Lecturers and two representatives from the International Trade Center and the UNCTAD Secretariat, together with the Director of ACC comprised the Seminar staff.

The seminar also discussed coconut in the world market, its recent trends, the market situation, potential, development and opportunities for copra, coconut oil, dessicated coconut and the numerous coconut products in detail. Discussions were held for market development and promotion programme on all coconut products. Increasing coconut productivity was recognized as essential to the orderly development of the coconut industry.

Other such essentials discussed at the conclusion of the seminar were of improving the capabilities of producing/exporting countries; reducing transport costs and improving shipping facilities of these products, researches on new end-uses for coconut products; and lastly, for carrying out surveys of markets for new coconut bi-products.

CETA Trainee Completed Class

SAIPAN-A completion ceremony was held for the Comprehensive Employment and Training Act (CETA) class on Friday, May 23rd.

Mistress of Ceremony on Friday was Rose Arriola. Speeches were made by a few guests including DistAd Francisco Ada, and Director of Personnel Podis Pedrus among others. The trainees received their completion certificates and brought the ceremony to an end after dedicating a song to their teachers. Refreshments were then served to all present.

According to the Instructor, Ms. Cheryl Spock, the girls are mostly high-school dropouts and this training may bring them back into society again. She added that this was not a graduation ceremony since there had not been enough training for the girls. Both the 3-month time limits as well as the funds alotted had run out, thus the training classes had to be given completion certificates. However, she concluded, authorities have been approached for more funds to complete the training, and should such financial help be received, training will resume until such time as the girls are ready for graduation.

The group of twelve were divided into two classes, the clerical training class whose trainees were Merced B. Aldan, Rosa L. Arriola, Annuncia Q. Babauta, Marina L. Kaipat, Balbina N. Kintaro, Vicenta T. Lisua and Ramona T. Taisakan under Instructor Cheryl B. Spock; and the shell-handicraft class roll whose trainees were Linda A. Aguon, Ana F. Babauta, Delores S. Celis, Carmen C. Lizama and Magdalena Sn. Lizama under Instructor Lois Dambacher. The program has been under the direct supervision of Ms. Dulce G. Pangelinan, the Marianas District training Officer.

The twelve graduates along with their two instructors are pictured after receiving their diplomas.

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PUBLIC NOTICE

In accordance with Public Law 93-203 Comprehensive Employment and Training Act (CETA) the Office of the High Commissioner announces a modification of the FY 1975 CETA plan to add $17,815 for a new total of approximately $348,000. The revised enrollment and funding allocations are as follows:

Enrollment	From	To	Through
Classroom Training	236	404	9/30/75
On-the-job Training	202	31	"
Work Experience	219	224	"
Total	657	659	"
Expenditures			
Classroom Training	$119,000	$198,000	9/30/75
On-the-job Training	84,000	25,000	"
Work Experience	94,000	115,000	"
Service to Participants	$330,000	$348,000	"

Reduced enrollment will enable us to concentrate on fewer planned enrollees for a longer period of time. FY 1976 funds will be used to develop additional classroom training and work experience for new participants.

The Grant Modification is available for examination at the Headquarters Training Division, Department of Personnel and each District Personnel Office on regular working days between the hours of 7:30 - 16:30. Interested parties may submit written comments within 30 days of this publication to Honorable Edward E. Johnston, High Commissioner, Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands, Saipan, Mariana Islands, 96950 or Mr. William J. Haltigan, Assistant Regional Director for Manpower, U.S. Department of Labor, 450 Golden Gate Avenue, San Francisco, California 94102.

EDITORIAL VARIETY

Talking about military plans and what will be ahead on that matter. We realize that the situation now creates a new development. Earlier, in order to bring the negotiations to a faster move, the U.S. rushed to kill the growing opposition of military bases on Tinian by announcing that the Pentagon has no plans for immediate military installation in the Marianas, and in that announcement there was no time mention as to how long that delay will last. In other words, that delay of military plans could be for one week, one or two months or for couple of years. However, this delay could fit into the new developments the U.S. and the Pentagon are facing, the pull out of the military from Thailand, Philippines, Japan and others. For that reason the Pentagon plans for Tinian have to be changed, and of course the delay will turn to immediate action to build up the base on Tinian in order to accommodate the pull out from Thailand and other countries. However, all of that strategy was expected. The point is how this would be guaranteed without problems. It's to assure the passage and the approval of the Covenant of the Marianas Commonwealth. The earlier announcement to delay military plans changed the focus of discussion to other matters, the delay strategy is working in fact.

****

To consider another development which may not include in the U.S. military plans is the situation with the Vietnam refugees presently on Guam, like, one campaigner on Saipan the other day mentioned. The Marianas may well be another type of a base to accommodate the waiting refugees on Guam. However, this possibly will be considered in the U.S. plans if the commonwealth is approved, it's just like the saying "To hit two birds in one shot".

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ELECTION CONCEHERON MUNICIPALIDAD TINIAN

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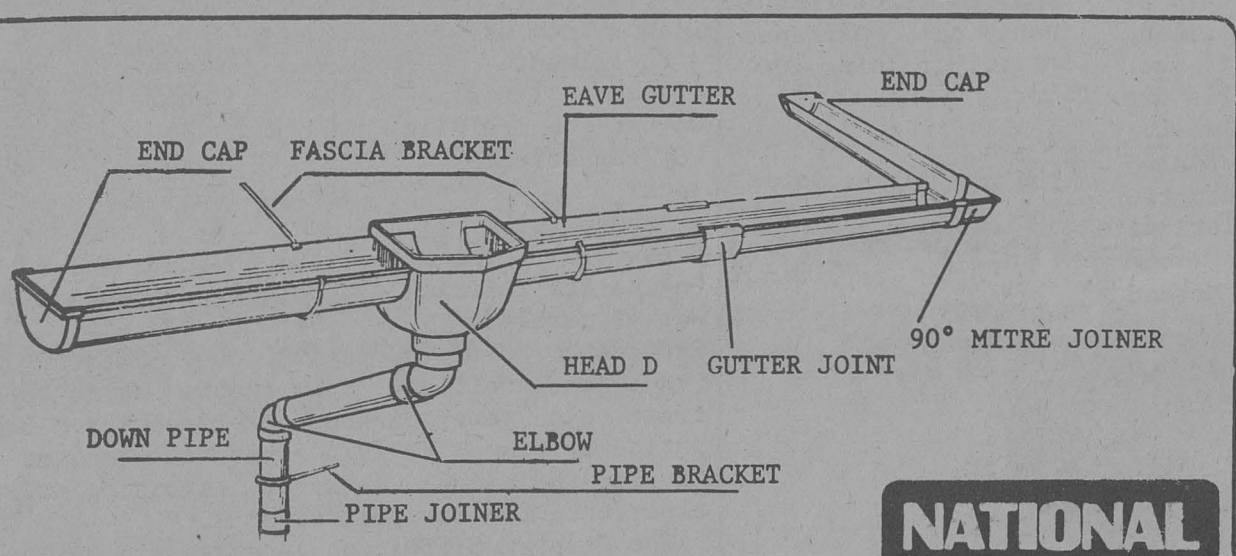

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Rasa, "No Fair Plebiscite"

SAIPAN, (COM RELEASE)--Marianas Congressman Oscar Cruz Rasa said Thursday there will be "no fair plebiscite election" in the Northern Marianas June 17, because in his opinion the Office of the Marianas Plebiscite Commissioner, headed by Erwin Canham, is presenting Canham's "personal views and personal speculation" to local voters instead of objective political education.

Canham, appointed by President Ford to supervise the Marianas plebiscite, began a political education program regarding the proposed Commonwealth Covenant early this week--just two weeks before the plebiscite.

However, after reviewing the materials now being distributed and heard on local radio and television, Rasa said that the Plebiscite Commissioner's political education programs are "definitely in favor" of the proposed Covenant. Rasa stated that "Question and Answer" booklets produced by Canham "attempt to water down sensitive issues instead of presenting the alternatives fairly to the Marianas people."

"I want my people to have a fair plebiscite," Rasa said. "My people must get a fair chance in a fair election to select a better commonwealth that better protects the needs and interests of the Marianas people."

"Canham's political education materials are all in favor of the covenant," Rasa charged.

Rasa said he based his charges on responses to certain well-publicized questions about the Covenant, such as "What are the advantages and disadvantages of Commonwealth?" "Only advantages are listed," said Rasa.

"Not one disadvantages was given in response to the question."

Regarding other questions that mention "eminent domain" or control of land by the United States, Rasa said the concept of "eminent domain" and its dangers are nowhere in the question and answer materials.

"The people are only told they can go to court if the United States wants to take their lands," he said. "The people are not even told that U.S. federal courts, not Marianas courts, will have final authority over the decisions made by the Marianas courts."

Rasa also said another "very important effect" of the June 17 plebiscite is the planned issuance of a Secretarial Order if the covenant is approved.

"if 55% of our people vote, 'yes'," said Rasa, "a Secretarial Order will separate the Marianas as early as July, immediately after the plebiscite. But nowhere--let me repeat: nowhere--is this fact being mentioned in the Plebiscite Commissioner's political education program."

Rasa said both groups, the pro-covenant and anti-covenant supporters "deserve to know about the potential problems that could be created if the Marianas is separated in July, and if the U.S. Congress rejects the covenant and tells the Marianas it must rejoin the other districts a few months later."

Quoting from the Plebiscite Commissioner's explanation of what may happen if the U.S. Congress rejects the covenant, Rasa said Canham only says: "..things would go on as they are now."

"This is not true. We will be separate, and then we will be told to rejoin the districts--even if it is against the wishes of the majority as expressed in the plebiscite," Rasa declared.

Rasa also stated that Canham flatly stated that the United States "does not have any present plans to build a military base on Tinian", in his programs, adding:

"I wonder if Mr. Canham is aware of statements made by Ambassador Williams to the people of Tinian two years

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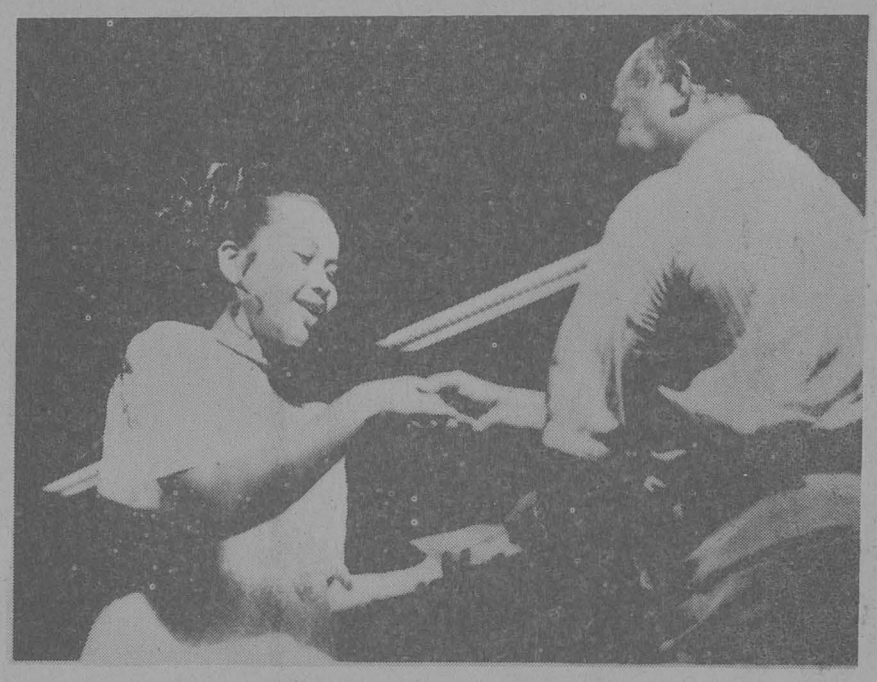
The Graduation

SAIPAN-In graduation ceremonies this year, 208 students from the 12th grade and 245 9th graders received their diplomas over the week-end. Of this total, a majority of the seniors, 178 in number, graduated from the Marianas High School with 30 from Mount Carmel School. The 9th grade students were all graduates from Hopwood Jr. High.

Ceremonies were held separately for each school. The 178 graduates from the Marianas High received their diplomas on the evening of Friday, May 30th, those from the Hopwood Jr. High received theirs the next day, Saturday, May 31st as both ceremonies were held at the Chalan Kanoa School auditorium. The thirty Mt. Carmel graduates had their ceremony at the Mt. Carmel Church on Tuesday, June 3rd. The rest of the school students left for summer vacations after graduation ceremonies for the senior classes had been completed.



One of the 245 Hopwood graduates receiving her diploma from Mr. Ramarui.

The Mt. Carmel graduates listening to their last high school speeches towards the end of the ceremony. Sister Bernadette Prochaska, Superintendent of Catholic Schools for the Guam Diocese officiated as Guest Speaker.

Lighted candles in the hands of the 178 graduating seniors from Marianas High School. Guest Speaker for the occassion was Mr. Isaac Calvo, Acting District Director of Education.

The graduating class of Hopwood Jr. High listen to a speech given by TT Director of Education David Ramarui.

PHOTOS BY: MICRONESIAN PHOTO SERVICE

Rasa...

Con't from page 6

ago," Rasa asked. Rasa said on June 2, 1973, Williams told the Tinian people that "as early as 1975, planning could begin on the first phase of a $144.6 million military base on Tinian where 2,600 military and civilian personnel would be located, excluding dependents."

Rasa said it is now obvious that these plans have been temporarily postponed, "But we have Ambassador Williams' own words that such plans do exist. Obviously, somebody is lying," Rasa stated.

Concerning the recently complete registration of voters for the plebiscite and decisions being made regarding who may vote, Rasa accused the Plebiscite Commissioner of "looking the other way" while certain voters are being intimidated and "forced to sign affidavits pledging not to vote."

Rasa said people that were duly registered and meet all residency requirements have been "forced" to agree in writing not to vote by members of the Marianas Status Commission and District Legislature.

Rasa also charged that places for voter registration on the island of Rota were closed "prematurely", as much as four or five hours before the scheduled closing hour. He also said in pro-covenant areas on Rota, voter registration was conducted house-to-house, unlike the rest of the district where voters registered in village meeting halls.

Concerning registration of TT citizens who are now "permanent residents" on Guam, Rasa pointed out that a Trust Territory Attorney General ruled five years ago that such individuals cannot participate in TT elections.

Rasa said appointments to the Plebiscite Registration Board were made by Canham, and that two-thirds of its members are known to be active supporters of commonwealth.

The Marianas Congressman added that the chairman of the Registration Board began disqualifying certain voters "prematurely" at the registration places, which resulted in "scaring prospective voters away," Rasa stated.

Rasa also accused the Marianas Status Commission, of which he is a members of "telling certain voters not to register, and intimidating people from other idstricts that did register.

Rasa said in view of the rushed timing of the plebiscite, the lack of objective political education, and the refusal by the Secretary of Interior to change the wording of the "no" ballot, "The results of the plebiscite cannot possibly reflect the true aspirations of the Marianas people."

Rasa said, "As long as the Plebiscite is controlled by the U.S. executive branch, supervised by hand-picked appointees, and as long as the judges who decide who may vote are appointees of the Department of Interior, my people cannot have a fair and impartial election."

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Saipan Nurse Works at Tent City

Lillian and Elizabeth were part of an American Red Cross team of senior and junior nursing students and faculty volunteers from the University of Guam who were recruited by Red Cross nursing staff to work with Army public health nurses for two weeks at "Tent City," a refugee camp housing as many as 38,000 Vietnamese on Guam. The ten students and three faculty sponsors assisted the Army by surveying the blocks of tents sheltering refugees for possible illness and medical need.

"My reaction to the evacuees, 'Tent City,' etc., was initially one of being overwhelmed at the enormity of the entire undertaking," wrote one student in her report on the Project. "But after going through the tents, meeting the people (both evacuees and military and other personnel) and observing the environment, I was positively reinforced and enthusiastic about 'doing my thing' to try and be of help..."

Communication was frequently difficult for the nursing students. Many Vietnamese family members speak little or no English. The students spoke no Vietnamese and for some English is a second language. Lillian Perez is Guamanian. Her partner in the survey, Elizabeth Torres, is from Saipan. Polite nods and giggles were exchanged as Lillian and Elizabeth used sign language and a list of Vietnamese words to communicate and assess the needs of the family.

"The students learned to communicate, to evaluate, to make decisions, and to teach hygiene," explained faculty sponsor Sally Tsuda, describing the project. Each completed a paper on her impressions of the experience. On graduation from the University of Guam, the students will have an A.A. degree and are eligible for examination to become registered nurses.

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Ambassador White & HiCom UN Closing Remarks

U.N.-(MNS)-U.S. Delegate Ambassador Barbara White told the Trusteeship Council in her closing remarks Tuesday (June 3) that difficulties in the negotiations with the other districts are substantial, but pledged that the United States will do its part to see that negotiations resume and progress rapidly.

The main body of Ambassador White's remarks addressed the level of U.S. assistance, Micronesian unity and progress toward self-government.

She stated that the United States considered these three issues of great importance to the present administration of the Trust Territory and to future political status.

In regard to the level of U.S. assistance, Ambassador White spoke to the question of whether increased U.S. economic assistance would help or hinder prospects for eventual self-reliance and self-government.

She stated that U.S. assistance in 1974 came to $644 per person in the Trust Territory and that this amount, represented more than the per capita income of 70 developing nations.

However, she cautioned, she was not suggesting that this measure of assistance had brought Micronesia to the desired level of development.

She said the proper allocation of this assistance involved value judgements on the part of Micronesians concerning the extent and manner in which Micronesians should forsake traditional ways.

Ambassador White said that the United States long had a policy of encouraging unity and cited as an example the creation of the Congress of Micronesia, the central administration of the Trust Territory, the unified school system and the teaching of English throughout.

Concerning self-government, the United States delegate noted that the Constitutional Convention will be an important step.

While recognizing the reservations in some quarters concerning the separate agreement with the Marianas and the present difficulties in the compact negotiations, she offered once again an invitation to the rest of Micronesia to resume negotiations.

Said Ambassador White, "We are ready as soon as the Micronesians are."

High Commissioner Edward E. Johnston followed Ambassador White in making a brief closing statement. Johnston addressed himself primarily to the questions that have been raised during the course of the hearings, including employment opportunities for Micronesians, foreign business permits and the use of the veto by the High Commissioner.

On the latter topic, Johnston said the problems result from the fact that the High Commissioner is, on the one hand, the presidentally appointed representative of the administering authority and therefore his decisions must reflect and be consistent with the laws and the policies of the United States.

On the other hand, Johnston said, the High Commissioner is the chief executive officer of the Trust Territory and is responsible for maintaining the concept of the separation of powers and to act in what he believes to be the best interests of the Micronesian people.

Johnston said that a High Commissioner is not and cannot be, in the interest of good government, a rubber stamp for the legislative branch. Just as the High Commissioner is not infallible Johnston said, the legislative branch is likewise not infallible.

He said the general policy is not to veto legislation that is purely internal in nature. But he said, there are occassions when legislation is passed by the Congress which usurps the prerogative of the other branches of government or is legislation which would set a precedent which would clearly not be in the long range interest of the Micronesian people.

Johnston said that he has always endeavored the use of veto power judiciously and that there have been cases when he had extreme doubts about some pieces of legislations but because of strong feelings within the Congress of Micronesia he allows such measures to become law without his signature.

High Commissioner Johnston concluded his remarks by saying "The High Commissioner looks forward, as do all of you, to the day when the questions of future status are settle, when a constitution is prepared and approved, when elections are held and the office of the Chief Executive of Micronesia is occupied, as it should be, by an elected Micronesian."

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Saipan Rotarians Elect Officers

SAIPAN - Prominent Saipan businessman, David M. Sablan-founder and first president of the Rotary Club of Saipan, was installed as the club's eighth president at a colorful, formal installation banquet held Friday, May 30 at the Continental Hotel.

Other newly installed officers, who will assume the leadership of Rotary on July 1, are: Frederick F. Rayment, vice president; Leonard Sine, treasurer, and Herman T. Guerrero, secretary.

The current club president, Elias Okamura, will automatically become a member of the Board of Directors next year. Other new directors are: John Chatfield, Enrique de Jesus, and Bienvenido G. Tapang.

Sablan agreed to serve again as Rotary president when it was learned that the vice president Pedro Igitol, would be unable to serve because he will be attending school off island for another six months. Sablan was club president at the time of typhoon Jean. He spearheaded the club's "Project Assiste" at that time to help local islanders recover and rebuild after the devastation of the great storm.

The Saipan Rotary Club has agreed to sponsor this year's Liberation Day Celebration which will be held over the Fourth of July weekend. Twenty-five percent of the club's profit from the Liberation Day events, as well as all of its other fund-raising projects during the year, will go toward the Saipan Scholarship Fund and the local Red Cross. An "advance" check for $1,000 was turned over to Mayor Vicente N. Sablan some months ago.

CABLE TV FOR PALAU

KOROR, (MNS)-For the first time, the people of Palau can expect to be watching television in their homes within the next few months, according to Palau District Information Officer David Ngirmidol.

The newly created corporation called Micronesian National Communication Network, Ltd., (MNSN) which is owned by five Palauans will run and operate a Cable Television in Palau.

Final agreement has been reached with the Palau District Administrator and the District Director of Public Works, David Shay, over the "Perpetual easement right in certain strips of land across the length and breath of Koror Municipality, to erect, maintain, repair, rebuild, operate and patrol all electric power transmission line structures, wires, cable, and any necessary appurtenances."

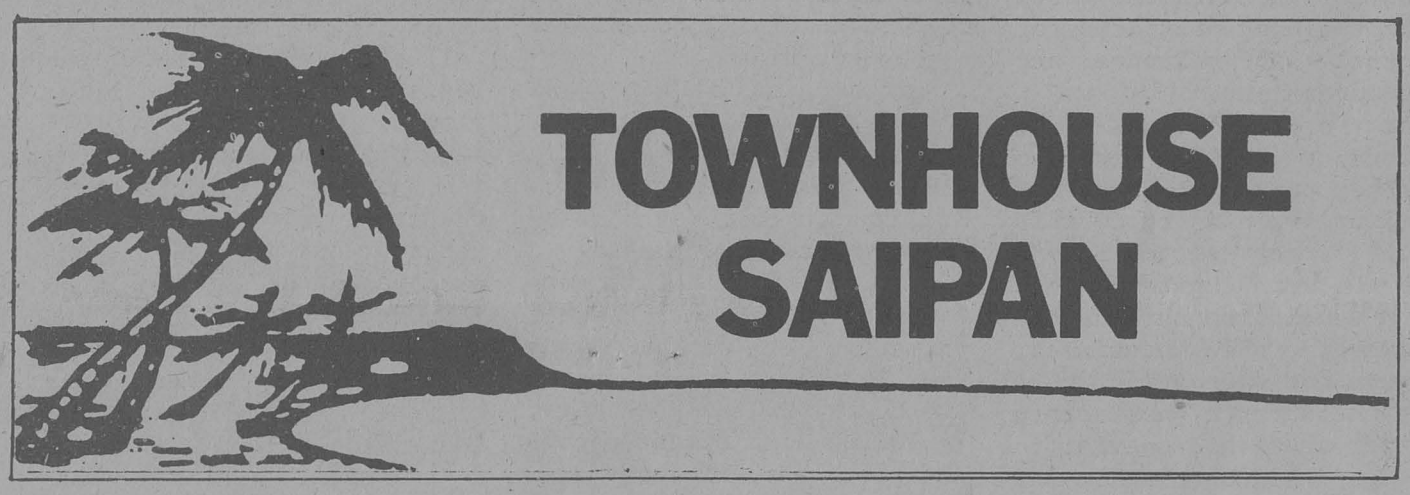
Hashida Kebekol, Secretary of MNSN said that the main lines could be installed within a month and it is speculated that by October of this year the station will go on the air.

The facility will have five channel color capability with initial programming which includes four and half hours of telecasting daily from 6 p.m. to 10:30 p.m.

The station will emphasize educational as well as entertainment programs. The TV station will provide television sets and will service and repair them at a cost of $15 to $20 per month.

It is anticipated that 257 individual houses in Koror will rent or own television sets during the first year and the number will increase thereafter. Long range plans include extension of the TV services to Babelthuap island.

The owners and members of the Board of Directors of the MNSN are: High Chief Ibedul Yutaka Gibbon, President; Harvey Kloulubak, Vice-President; Hashida Kebekol, Secretary; Mitsuo Solang, Treasurer and Johnson Toribiong, Corporation Attorney.



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Wheeler to resign...

Con't from page 1

It is said that the money given to Kinkaid came out of the TT budget. Hill-Burton officials are said to be refusing to pay the entire contract amount for only half the work. The TT may be forced to fund the rest of the unpaid contract.

Reliable sources stated that the AG's office is seriously considering litigation in the case.

The controversy comes at a time when the U.S. Interior Department has announced they plan to carry out a deeper investigation of capital improvement projects in Micronesia as requested by the Senate Interior Subcommittee. Contracting procedures will be one specific area under security.

Even Congress of Micronesia (COM) members are also "amazed" that such an agreement was allowed to take place.

In a May 30 letter to Attorney General Richard Miyamoto, Congressman Herman R. Guerrero (Marianas) called for a "thorough Investigation of both civil and criminal liabilities of all parties involved." Guerrero demanded that "full disclosure should be made to the COM and the citizens of the TT. Secreting information you will gather or that is now in your possession only serves to cover up this incident and protect parties who may be guilty of wrong doing or, at least, incompetence."

Guerrero, the Vice Chairman of the Committee on Health Affairs noted that "debacles of this magnitude will affect the future ability of the TT government to obtain much needed special grant funds from the U.S. Congress. It is imperitive that a satisfactory resolution of this matter be found. It has been reported that officials in Washington, D.C. informed Deputy Attorney General Mamour Nakamura that federal funds would not pay the full cost of the contract if only half the number of dispensaries are to be constructed. If this results, the TT Government or the Congress of Micronesia may be required to pay for the cost of this mistake.

Tinian Election...

Con't from page 1

owed by four past and present Municipal officials to the Municipality of Tinian."

Councilmen Harry Cruz, Sylvestre Cruz, Leonardo Diaz, and former Mayor of Tinian Antonio Borja each borrowed $1,500 from the Municipal Government and each signed a promissory note to pay back the money before the end of 1974 Fiscal Year, Mendiola indicated. To date, the $6,000 debt has not been paid, he said.

The Tinian Mayor has asked the Marianas District Attorney on Saipan to determine if the borrowers should be disqualified from running in the upcoming election. According to Mayor Mendiola, the Marianas District Legislative Liaison officer, Jack Torres, has already indicated that the four councilmen should be disqualified because the Tinian Municipal Charter forbids persons who owe money to the Municipality from running for an election.

MDL Charter...

Con't from page 1

of the session. But section 2, Article II of the Charter, unamended by the proposed legislation, would still read "The legislature shall be considered as constantly in session from the date convened, but no session of the Legislature shall exceed thirty (30) calendar days." It appears, then, that the legislature would have to limit its sessions to one thirty day period each year in spite of declaring itself in full time activity as they are presently as approved by the District Administrator, unless this section 2 is amended.

The two acts had been approved by the District Administrator in earlier date and sent for final action to the Deputy High Commissioner.

In his veto message, Mr. Coleman expressed his hope that the District Legislature "will correct these legal inconsistencies when it meets again."

The MIDL in its last session of January has already voted $8000 annual salaries for the legislators at the same time that it become a full time lawmaking body. This action has been approved by DistAd Ada. In this case unless the legislation is corrected, it appears that the legislative would be returned to its original schedule of two 30 day session annually while receiving compensation for full time activity.

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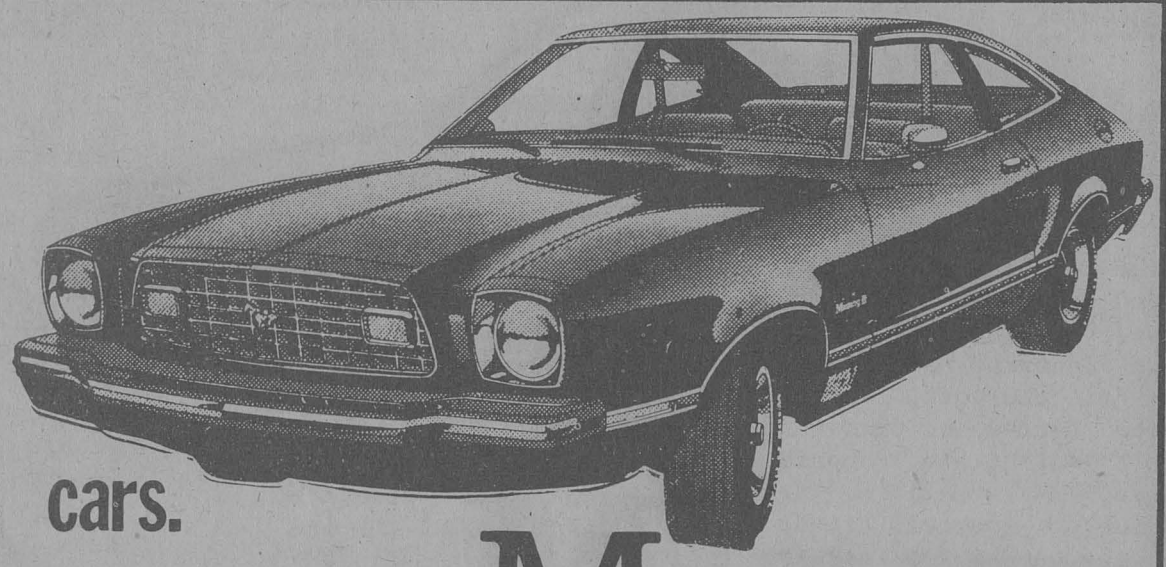

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