

# MARIANAS VARIETY NEWS & VIEWS

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Number of critical signs were taped along the beach road of Saipan.

## STATUS NEGOTIATION BEGINS

### PARTIES DEMONSTRATE

### SESSION OPENS

SAIPAN - The American delegation headed by Ambassador Haydn Williams arrived on Saipan last Monday (Dec. 2) for the Fifth Round of the Marianas Status Negotiation.

The delegation was greeted and welcomed by the Marianas Status Commission (MPSC) along with the High Commissioner and

estimated crowd of 400 people, including a group organized by the members of the Status Commission. The group sang and cheered "We Want Commonwealth," "God Bless America," "America or Die" and "Tinian Loves America."

However, it was noticed that several members of

*Con't on page 11*

SAIPAN - The Royal Taga Hotel was the scene yesterday for the official opening remarks between the Marianas Political Status Commission (MPSC) and the United States delegation which arrived on Saipan, this past Monday. A crowd approximated at 150 settled into the dining room to hear Ambassador Haydn Williams, head of the U.S. delegation, and Senator Edward Pangelinan, Chairman of the Marianas Commission present speeches outlining the intent of the past and present negotiations to determine the future political status of the Marianas.

Following an invocation by Father Arnold, a local Catholic priest, Sen. Edward Pangelinan introduced Ambassador Williams who then spoke first.

Almost half of Williams'

speech dealt with the history of why and how the current status negotiations were begun. He pointed out that it was in "1950 when the Marianas House of Council and House of Commissioners forwarded a petition stating that the Mariana Islands District of the TTPI wished to be incorporated into the U.S. as an American possession or territory." He noted the desire for a separate political status did not go unnoticed. However, "it was not until the spring of 1972, some 22 years after the first petition, that the U.S. finally acceded to a formal request to enter into talks with the Marianas separate" from the other districts.

Williams speaking of the present MPSC emphasized

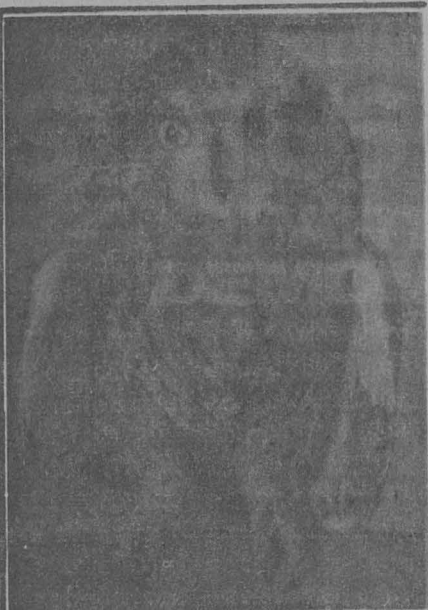
*Con't on page 6*

## DISPENSARIES PROJECT DRAGGING

SAIPAN - The 38 unit Trust Territory prefabricated dispensary project which was first funded in November of 1971 and scheduled for completion in November of 1975 is way behind construction

schedule according to TT officials at Headquarters Health Services and Public Works. So far only 5 of the planned 38 units have been completed since Sept. 1973, the time when the contractor was given the go ahead sign; another 33, scattered over all the six districts, must be finished in the next 11 months to fulfill the contract deadline. Numerous problems including competition between districts as to which islands should receive priority to obtain the dispensaries, a year's delay in funding imposed by ex-President Nixon, delayed leasing of a mother ship to carry construction materials to the outer-islands, delay in getting land certification for building sites, a defunct Transpac not delivering

*Con't on page 12*



An owl on Saipan  
See Story on page 5



Demonstrators waving signs welcoming the U.S. Delegation when arrived on Saipan.

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## SALII STATEMENT ON PUBLIC LAND ISSUE

SAIPAN -- (COM RELEASE)-- Senator Lazarus Salii, chairman of the Congress of Micronesia's Joint Committee on Future Status, issued a statement Thursday clarifying statements by U.S. Ambassador Franklin H. Williams which implied that details of U.S. Public Land Policy had been endorsed by his committee during recent negotiations.

Salii said the U.S. Land Policy, which has now become the basis of a Department of Interior plan to return Micronesian public lands by an order of the Secretary of Interior, was never agreed to by his committee, despite statements to the contrary by Williams.

Salii noted, however, that during the last full round of negotiations the Joint Committee did endorse "in principle" the U.S. commitment to return the lands back to their rightful owners. During informal discussions with Williams, continued Salii, "we made clear our preference to return the lands by enabling legislation adopted by the Congress of Micronesia. We also informed Williams that if the lands had to be returned by executive order, then we must be permitted to participate in the drafting process and the final document must be endorsed by our Joint Committee on Future Status."

"The reason for this," explained Salii, "is the fact that the United States has attached eight conditions they feel must be met before the lands can be returned to the people of Micronesia."

Agreements were reached on only half of these eight conditions, he said, and these were included in the Congress' land bill. Opposition to the remaining four con-

ditions were the basis of the veto of the bill by the Interior Department, he said.

"As early as November 1973, the Joint Committee responded to the U.S. Policy Statement on the Return of Public Lands saying the conditions set forth by the U.S. would be 'generally acceptable' to our delegation, but only if certain issues were satisfactorily resolved."

These issues, according to Salii, included eminent domain powers, military land, military retention lands, lands now leased by the Trust Territory Government, and provisions concerning land negotiations in the future."

"The transcripts of the seventh round of talks show the Joint Committee named these issues as problems to be resolved. To say this was an endorsement is wrong," Salii said.

Concerning eminent domain, Salii said the transcripts show that although Micronesia recognizes the U.S. will have this power by virtue of the trusteeship agreement, he said Micronesia's desire "is to see the return of all public lands to the districts and have the power of eminent domain curtailed and used only by the districts themselves as a last resort, and not by the Trust Territory Government."

Salii said military lands also present a major problem.

"The transcripts reveal that we objected to U.S. Public Land Policy over this issue because the U.S. proposed to return public lands only after prospective landowners agree to accommodate future U.S. Military land requirements if they should arise.

"Our position was then and still is today that approval of U.S. military

land needs in advance should not be a precondition for the return of our lands," Salii declared.

"In short," continued Salii, "these are the two major reasons for the veto of Congress' bill to return public lands."

The Congress included these provisions in its land bill, which would have given more power to the districts themselves, instead of to the Congress or to the Trust Territory Government. This apparently did not suit U.S. interests. The U.S. insists that these eight conditions, or "strings," be attached to the lands before they are returned to our people."

Salii added that four conditions outlined by the U.S. in order to return the lands were agreed to by the Joint Committee and included in the vetoed land bill.

He said the Department of

Interior's plan to return the lands by executive action now instead of waiting for the Congress of Micronesia to convene next month and possibly adopt a new land bill agreeable to both sides contradict statements made by Ambassador Williams during their last full round of negotiations. Salii said Ambassador Williams went on record during the talks saying the United States would be "very flexible with respect to implementation" of returning Micronesian public lands back to the districts.

"Ambassador Williams' words directly contradict the Department of Interior's actions today," noted Salii.

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### DINNER SPECIALS at the SAIPAN CONTINENTAL

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# Borja & Dela Cruz - New MLSC Attorneys

SAIPAN - Two young enterprising Saipan men have recently completed law school in the United States and are now working for the Marianas Legal Services Corporation.

Jesse C. Borja and Jose Dela Cruz both joined MLSC in August after graduating from Georgetown University Law School in Washington, D.C. and the University of California at Berkley Law School, respectively.

Borja, 26, is married to the former Mary Ann Pangelinan. They have two young children. Borja attended high school at Mt. Carmel where he was president of the Student Council his Junior and Senior years, Editor of the Mt. Carmel Herald, a member of the Yearbook staff, and a member of the basketball team. During the summer

of 1965 he worked for William Nabors, an attorney in private practice on Saipan.

Borja gives the Sisters of Mt. Carmel School credit for helping him get a scholarship to Rockhurst College in Kansas City in 1967. While majoring in Political Science and



Jesse C. Borja

history there, he was chosen for membership in Alpha-Sigma-Nu Fraternity, a Jesuit National Honor Society and Phi-Sigma-Tau, the National Honor Society for Philosophy. Following graduation from Rockhurst, Borja applied for admission to several law schools but he particularly wanted to attend Georgetown University where he eventually enrolled.

Every summer during the three years of law school, Borja worked for MLSC. In

addition, he helped to open the Palau MLSC office with Sam Withers, a former MLSC attorney.

At present, Borja, between handling land and domestic cases, acts as a general counsel to the Tinian Municipal Council which is currently involved in the disputed land return issue and the status talks.

Jose Dela Cruz, a bachelor, has a history similar to that of his second cousin, Borja. He graduated from Father Duenas Memorial School in Guam where he was President of the National Honor Society and salutatorian of his class. He relates he got interested in the law profession through association with some attorneys on Guam and by listening to court proceedings. Another reason he states for pursuing law school was that the major he graduated with from college-political science-was not in demand. Thirdly, he points out, "law is one area which is really important for Micronesia especially in reference to political status."

The soft spoken attorney attended Chaminade College in Hawaii for his first three years of undergraduate work and finished his senior year at the University of Guam. Dela Cruz then applied and was accepted at the University of California at Berkley. He, like Borja, worked with MLSC the summer before and after his first year of law school. He noted that Dan MacMeekin, an MLSC attorney, was very helpful in preparing him for what to expect in law school.

Dela Cruz pointed out some of the difficulties he has encountered since arriving back on Saipan and beginning work. Initially, he said, he felt like a stranger returning home since the past 11 years have been spent in Guam, Hawaii, and Cali-

fornia in various educational settings. Western habits of living, recreation, etc., adopted in these settings are unfamiliar to Saipan culture so he felt the transition back home to be demanding. He adds that this time a-



Joe Cruz

way was very valuable though because he feels he has a much better cultural perspective now. Another difficulty was that occasionally he finds his client's case may involve a relative. If the attorney-client relationship is affected, he said the case can usually be handled by another attorney in the office.

Dela Cruz has become involved in the controversial Continental Hotel case as well as many land cases since becoming a MLS attorney.

David Allen, directing attorney for the Marianas District MLS office, noted that since the arrival of the two new attorneys the case load per month, has doubled at MLSC. Borja accurately noted his work as "hectic" since he is so busy. Often, Saipan residents seeking legal aid will specifically request representation from either of the two local men, stated Allen. One of the long term objectives of the MLSC is to staff each district office with Micronesian attorneys. The Marianas can be proud to have two well qualified Micronesians serving them in this capacity.

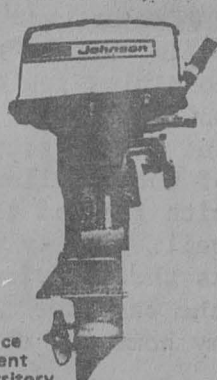
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## EDITORIAL VARIETY

Is there land for sale in the Marianas? What about the price? Will the HiCom continue to approve the leasing of beach land for hotel establishments? How big is the Military retention land and how much is the U.S. requirement for land in the Marianas?

Add all of that plus the land which is held in trust by the Administering Authority (public land) which is not yours yet, but under a promise that it will be yours, then the result will be that you own only a shack which, built on homestead property, may be with or without title of yours to it.

The present land situation in the Marianas, with all involved factors that will come, may well end when the people lose control over their own land, or at least the majority of the land will be controlled or owned by others.

Two weeks ago, during the workshop hours of the Pacific Legislator Conference, the Samoan Delegation was delighted to inform us that "The Samoan people own 95% of their land." The proud delegates stated that, "Our status, you can call it an Unincorporated Territory, an Unorganized Territory, but one thing, God Bless Us, we own our land, we are a small nation and if we do not own our land what would be our status."

The fact is that the Samoan people are the luckiest among the Guamanians, Hawaiians, and the Puerto Ricans. Still the people of the Marianas have the chance to be as lucky as the Samoans are.

## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Dear Editor;

I heard that in a most recent congressional election, Precinct A (Marianas) elected a new member to the House of Representatives of the Congress of Micronesia. Would you please jot down some of his personal achievements like academic backgrounds and public services? This question could be of great interest to the people in that district.

Thank you.

J.S. Demapan  
Michigan '75 (Ann Arbor)

## A Personal View

BY: JON A. ANDERSON

"America or Die," read one of the signs at the airport this past Monday, a sentiment that sounded a bit like Patrick Henry's patriotic cry. It was one of dozens of pro-U.S., pro-commonwealth signs and banners greeting Ambassador Williams and his delegation as they arrived for another, possibly conclusive, round of Marianas Status Negotiations.

The demonstration was a trifle contrived, but apparently sincere. Several hundred people came out in response to appeals on the radio, and Tinian's Joe Cruz had rehearsed a group of young girls in the performance of several songs and cheers--COMMONWEALTH, COMMONWEALTH, YEA COMMONWEALTH, and so forth. These were accompanied by flag waving and calisthenics as the Americans looked on. Ambassador Williams and the others seemed quite pleased with the welcome. They shook hands, talked and laughed with the wellwishers as the party broke up.

As a relatively uninvolved American, I witnessed this scene with somewhat mixed emotions. I cannot help feeling that the people of the Marianas are painfully naive about the United States, looking upon commonwealth status as some sort of panacea for the problems of their district, especially the economic problems. I'm told that one politician during the recent election campaign even went so far as to promise his constituents a guaranteed income level of \$8,000 a year as soon as these islands become part of the U.S. How sadly disappointed those who believe this sort of rhetoric will be when it doesn't come true. There are millions of families in the United States for whom an annual income of \$8,000 is simply a dream. Becoming part of America will not automatically put more food on the table, provide more or better jobs, or in any way insure the future economic prosperity of these islands.

But there is also a part of me that reacts with a sort of surprised pleasure to the sight of people so obviously friendly toward the U.S. I am, like many Americans, a frequent critic of our governmental and social structures. I recognize much that is wrong with our way of life. Yet I am generally glad to be an American, and like most of my fellow citizens would welcome anyone who wishes to join the American political family.

I do not know what the future holds for the Marianas. It is likely that commonwealth will be a mixed bag, both blessing and curse. Certainly a big military base on Tinian will produce both good and bad effects. But if the people of the Marianas, in a free expression of their collective will, choose to link their future with that of the United States, I cannot but wish them well. It may not be the right choice for them, but it is their choice, and once they have it I only hope for the best for the people of these islands that have been my home for the past four years.

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# OWL CAPTURED AT KAGMAN

SAIPAN - An owl, one of the rare birds which most people have heard about but have never seen, was caught on Nov. 30, 1974 near Marine Beach, in the Kagman Area.

This owl is believed to be the burrowing owl, one of the 123 species that forms the family strigidae. It can easily be recognized by its large, broad head, with a ruff (facial disk) of feathers around the eyes. Unlike most birds, the burrowing owl has very large eyes that point forward, enabling them to watch an object with both eyes at the same time. Like man, they have binocular vision, but unlike man, they cannot move their eyes in their sockets, so to see a moving object they have to move their heads.

The burrowing owl has a short, thick body, with a strong hooked beak, and powerful feet with sharp claws. They often seem larger than they really are because of their soft and fluffy feathers. The plumage is also colored so that the bird blends with its surrounding, thus camouflaging itself.

They are considered to be good hunters and have the ability to fly fairly well and almost noiselessly. Due to their extremely sensitive eyes they can see to hunt both day and night.

They usually live alone and hunt for food at dawn or dusk, or on moonlit nights. They have better ears than any other bird, although each ear is shaped differently than the other and they are hidden in the head feathers. When an owl is listening from its hunting place, it spreads out its fluffy feathers and skin which covers its ears, thus forming a large funnel that can collect even the faintest sound. After it locates the prey by sound it attacks swiftly and directly on

noiseless wings and captures its prey with its talons.

They are among the most useful birds to people, especially farmers, for they destroy harmful rodents such as mice, rats and moles.

The owl is not a good nest builder, and for that reason it usually nests on crude structures in hollow



trees, caverns and underground burrows.

The owl usually lays three or four eggs, but in rare cases, some owls have been known to lay from two to twelve eggs. The eggs are nearly round in shape and are white tinged with blue.

Both the male and female parents help care for the nest. The owls, busily protecting their nursery, will bravely defend their nest against any intruder, including man. Young (nesting) owls are very attractive because of their thick white down that covers their body.

The burrowing owl, like other owls, are sometimes heard but never seen. It sounds like a barking dog in the distance - whoo, hoo-hoo, whoo, whoo - when ever these sounds are heard, superstitious people think that they mean death or disaster is near.

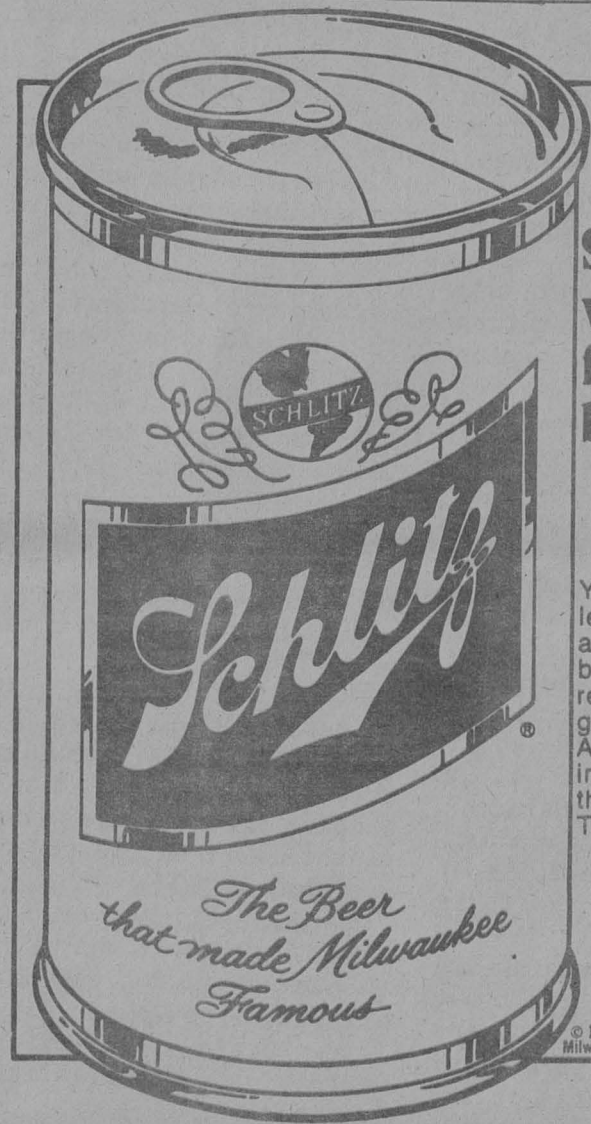
Many legends about owls have long been told orally

from generation to generation by the people of the Marianas. Some say that the very presence of this bird means that a curse has been set upon them. Others superstitiously believed that when the owl makes that strange whoo, hoo-hoo sound anywhere it means that somewhere close to that area there is a pregnant lady. Some claim that owls don't exist because they are really ghosts. However, most of the senior citizens seriously argue that the owl although already caught and seen by many people, should be approached cautiously because it has so many untold and unexplainable powers.



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## Session opens...

*Con't from page 1*  
that "one would search in vain far and wide from one end of the earth to the other to find a more democratically selected and representative negotiation delegation than the one that has been representing the 14,000 people of the Northern Marianas in these talks."

Since Sen. Pangelinan lost his seat to Pete A. Tenorio in the November COM election, he will lose the chairmanship of the MPSC but local observers report ways are being considered to keep him on the Commission. Surprisingly at the Monday meeting of the Chamber of Commerce, Pangelinan and three other Popular Party members joined that group's membership. At the same meeting, he was elected as president for a one year term, an office that could potentially make him the private business sectors representative to the negotiation talks. Wednesday morning, (Dec. 4) home made signs were visible on many office doors as well as business establishments denouncing Pangelinan's participation in the status talks.

The Ambassador continued his speech by stating that since the opening negotiations at Mt. Carmel Auditorium on Dec. 13, 1972, "We have reached agreement in principle in a number of important areas," which include: "political union with the U.S. under American sovereignty"; "opportunity of becoming American citizens...or if they choose... Nationals ...."; self-government for the Northern Marianas (election of a governor, legislative bodies, courts); "the Northern Marianas will be responsible for planning its own economic future, the pace and the nature of its economic growth, its land use, the allocation of its financial resources and

the establishment of development goals and priorities..."; "all public lands now held in trust for the people by the Administering Authority will be turned over to the Marianas to be controlled in accordance with local laws and policies"; and contribution by the Marianas to national defense requirements of the U.S. which include "making some of its land available for defense purposes (7,207 hectares on Tinian, 72 hectares in Tanapag Harbor



Ambassador  
F. Haydn Williams.

area, 196 hectares south of Isley, and the use of the uninhabited island of Farallon de Medinilla)."

Williams noted that particular attention would be given in this negotiation round to "the method of acquisition and the price to be paid for lands to be used by the federal government for defense purposes" and "to further exchanges on the subject of transition and the approval process and timetable."

Before ending his speech, Williams added that "continuous consultation and keeping the people informed are both essential if we are to be successful."

Sen. Pangelinan, as current Chairman of the MPSC then gave his own speech.

First he reviewed the four "basic motivations underlying separate status negotiations for the

Marianas"; 1) "the people of the Marianas do not want the Trusteeship Agreement to go on indefinitely," 2) "We feel that the Marianas people are ready for self-government..."; 3) "due to the "high" value which we place on the freedoms and democratic form of government which mark the American political system," and desire for this form of government and 4) in anticipation of problems of this century and the next, "this Commission is charged with the responsibility for designing a relationship with the United States which offers support and security for our people, as well as opportunity for development and self-government."

Reiterating Williams, the second part of Pangelinan's speech dealt mainly with how the commission "has tried to keep the people fully informed" - a sore subject for many local leaders who

charge that not enough is known about the Negotiations. Pangelinan noted that "the Commission met yesterday with the Marianas District Legislature (MDL) and discussed the draft status agreement and the outstanding issues."



Chairman  
Edward Pangelinan

Continuing, the ex-Senator similarly reviewed the categories of provisions under the proposed status as Williams had

*Con't on page 7*

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# Session Opening Statements...

Con't from page 6

stated.

Two timely statements included under his review of the political relationship were 1) "The United States will have sovereignty in the Northern Marianas, and applicable federal law will be the supreme law..". Also, "the United States will have full authority with respect to defense and foreign affairs, and will consider the advice of the Northern Marianas on matters of concern to it."

He further stated in his review, "Laws providing federal programs and services are specifically made applicable to the Northern Marianas."

The attorney dwelled a lot on how US laws were considered applicable in the draft. He noted that "...We have agreed that the Northern Marianas will be outside the U.S. customs Territory and that our products will enter the customs Territory free of U.S. Duty." Application of the U.S. income tax laws have not been determined he stated but "all federal taxes collected here will automatically be returned to the local government," and that imposing local taxes as well as rebating of taxes will be handled at the local level.

The very sensitive issue of land was also discussed by Pangelinan who stated that the Commission could not agree to sell land to the U.S. for defense purposes, but that "we have proposed instead a 50 year lease with an option to renew for an additional 50 years." Furthermore he stated that land arrangement price is estimated to provide approximately \$1.0 to \$2.5 million/year.

Another important statement made concerning land use was that "it has been agreed that the local government will be able to prevent persons who are

not of Northern Marianas descent from owning land." An issue which Pangelinan termed "critical" and which is not yet resolved is "the manner in which the U.S. will exercise and the extent to which it will possess the power of eminent domain." Eminent domain would allow condemnation of private property by the U.S. government for a specified use.

Budget assistance under the draft was guaranteed by the U.S. at a level of \$13.5 million (in constant 1975 dollars) for each of seven fiscal years, and thereafter until Congress acts to change the level of support. "In addition the federal programs and services to be available to the Northern Marianas is valued at \$3.0 million annually. Also taxes estimated at \$3.0 million a year collected from the U.S. military personnel (when Tinian base is fully operational) will be returned to the local government.

Before concluding his speech Pangelinan addressed the U.S. delegation as to three problems not directly related to the Status Negotiations but of concern to the people of the Marianas - problems related to war claims, return of public lands, and the subject of homesteading on Tinian.

After Pangelinan's speech, Williams was asked to comment on this last section concerning the three problems stated above. He stated that these problems were not within the responsibilities of his negotiation work. He noted however that these issues are gaining more attention by other government departments in order to solve these sensitive matters. On Wed. (Nov. 4), the MPSC met with the DistAd and High Commissioner Johnston concerning the subject of homesteading on Tinian.

A public announcement is expected soon on "specific and constructive decisions arrived at" in this meeting.

Pedro A. Tenorio, who replaces Pangelinan in the COM Senate next term, expressed general "pleasure" with Ambassador Williams' speech and deemed Pangelinan's speech as "appropriate." He further noted the financial arrangement under the status as being a "substantial increase from the present budget ceiling" and that "it provided a large amount for long range planning and protected the Marianas from inflation." Tenorio noted with pleasure that neither of the two speakers said anything about signing the status agreement in December "which shows their sensitivity to the political environment. The idea of rushing into it has been dispelled."

The crowd gathered to

hear the speeches consisted mainly of older people, especially women, and senior students from Mt. Carmel School. No demonstrations or protests were observed as compared to the "pro-Commonwealth" display at the airport Monday when the U.S. delegation arrived.

A closed session between the two delegations was held at the Municipal Legislature in the afternoon.

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## SIX PERMITS APPROVED

SAIPAN - (M N S)---Six business permits were issued last week by the High Commissioner, according to the weekly report on foreign business activity from the Economic Development Division, Department of Resources and Development.

The permits were issued automatically under Public Law 5-85, which requires Micronesian citizens married to non-Micronesians doing business in the Trust Territory to comply with the foreign business law.

The following businesses have been issued permits: Anthony Nagel, General Manager and owner of Cottage Industries Associates to engage in the manufacture, purchase, wholesale, and retail of furniture, handicrafts, and related products in the Marshall Islands District;

Maria Villagomez Pangelinan-owner of Pangelinan's Enterprises-to operate a general merchandise retail store on Susupe Village, Saipan

Mariana Islands;

Manahane Construction Company-to engage in the construction of commercial buildings in the Marianas District,--Ana C. Manahane, owner;

Younis Art Studio-to publish the Marianas Variety News and Views, Saipan's weekly newspaper; to provide general printing services including graphic design and photography; and to operate an art gallery in the Mariana Islands District. Owners are Maria Paz Younis and her husband, Abed Younis who is the manager and director of the business;

Micronesian Importer and Construction Company-to engage in construction activities and sale of general building materials in the Mariana Islands District; Francisco C. Castro-owner and Manuel S. Eugenio, co-owner and manager;

and Pangelinan Brothers Enterprises--Shoe Land-to operate a dress and shoe shop and to engage in any lawful act or business

## LIMITING OF FUEL MAY BE PRACTICAL

SAIPAN - In an effort to minimize wastage, the Mobil Company is asking Saipan's community to conserve fuel. According to the Acting Manager of the Saipan branch, Mr. Joe M. Taitano, the limiting of sales may have to be practiced. Mr. Taitano is the Company's Area West Supervisor - in charge of Mobil stations in all the six districts. Due to the energy crises, he explained, fuel is becoming more valuable, and each one of us must recognize its value and try to avoid wasting.

Fuel for Mobil in Micronesia is supplied by their tanker, the Halikulani, which comes to the district centers once in every month. It is loaded

in the Philippines with 30,000 barrels of fuel which it offloads in Palau and Yap. The ship then refills its tanks in Guam before returning to the rest of the Trust Territory.

Last month the company delivered 140,000 gallons of bulk fuel, 429,000 gallons of diesel fuel and 20,000 gallons of jet fuel to its customers here. Their prices for motor gasoline to private gas stations are 48.6¢ per gallon, after tax and delivery charges have been added. The price of gasoline at most gas stations here are 59.9¢ per gallon, which gives the stations a profit of 11.3¢ per gallon, which Mr. Taitano feels is fair enough.

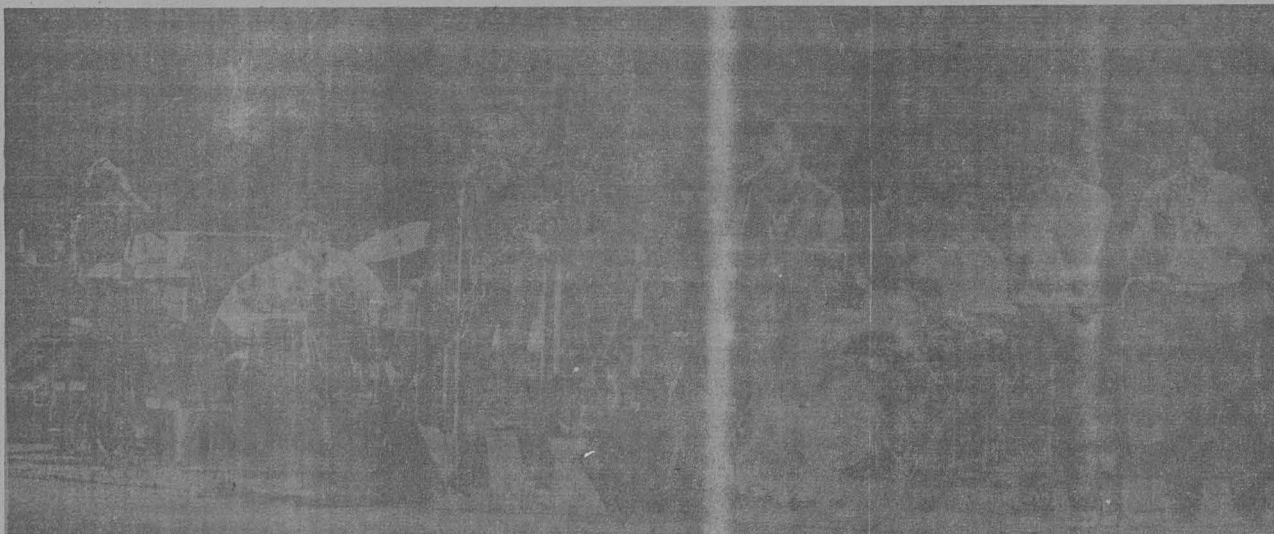
However, if the margin of profit is noticed to be too high, then the Mobil Company reserves the right to counsel the stations on decreasing the prices.

Although the Mobil branches in the Trust Territory have not received any notices of fuel price increase or decrease from their Guam branch, in the face of this energy crises another increase may soon become inevitable unless conservation is practiced by all.

activity which a citizen of the TT may perform under the laws. Owners are Senator Edward Dlg. Pangelinan, his brothers Pedro and Gonzalo Pangelinan.

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## Book Review

POLITICAL DEVELOPMENT IN MICRONESIA.

Daniel Hughes and Sherwood Lingenfelter, ed. Ohio State University Press 1974, \$15.00 @.

This most recent effort at describing Micronesia for the benefit of the American Administration has several elements to recommend it.

The 330 page book, a series of sixteen essays divided into three general topics (Colonial inputs, traditional perspectives and speculations about the future), attempts to provide the insights into various aspects of Micronesian history and culture which, the authors feel, should form a considerable part of any decision about the Territory's political future. There will, of course, be considerable academic criticisms of the material considering that it is primarily anthropologists writing about political science.

Perhaps the most important theme to filter out of the various contributions could be boiled down to one statement: Traditional leadership is alive and well in Micronesia and many of the democratic institutions imposed by the administration under the Trusteeship are superficially understood on the one hand and on the other have been admirably contorted to serve the ends of traditional culture. Perhaps there would be some value to a rereading of Prospero and Caliban.

Strongly, though subtly, critical of America's attempt to introduce western-style democratic institutions on local 'monarchical' hierarchies and systems, the editors describe the US administration as purely colonial, that is, an attempt to govern in such a way that the result is a "linked relationship" between Micronesia and the United States. Fortunately, the essays are devoid of ideological language common in other writings of a more popular nature.

Admiration for traditional systems is repeatedly expressed by the authors as they describe local reactions and adaptations to the new institutions pushed by the government: municipal chartering, district legislatures, etc, which were often, in the absence of direct supervisions by the officials, simply used as additional vehicles for the traditional leadership to maintain authority in new circumstances.

In the light of recent renewed interest in Micronesian traditional leadership as expressed by the Congress of Micronesia and administration funding of the Truk traditional leaders meeting and their active participation in the meetings, interested readers would do well to give these essays careful attention.

Slightly pretentious in its objective of providing decision makers with background material, the major criticism of the book, in my opinion is that the majority of the material is sadly outdated when attempts are made to describe current events. (Singleton's article on education, for example).

Although no sides are taken concerning political alternatives, Professor Meller's essay puts Micronesian events into the larger Pacific perspective, something often overlooked in discussions of the political future.

Professor Moos describes the economic re-invasion of the Japanese, almost a redundancy to those of us living currently in the islands.

Eugene Mihaly makes a very cogent plea for the demilitarization of the Pacific area and especially these Micronesian islands, citing the cultural disintegration which could take place with such a small indigenous population faced with well organized highly technological, youthful military populations on the islands. He compares the potential with earlier arrivals of "Bibles, booze, syphilis and smallpox."

Perhaps the strongest suggestion of criticism is that of Leonard Mason discussing the question of Micronesian unity. He used the analogy of a package containing many different items and tied with a string to hold them all together. If the string, (wants, needs and controls imposed from outside Micronesia) breaks, it is possible that all of the contents might be lost. The lack of adequate economic development is considered one of the prime problems.

While not the ultimate authority in Micronesian analysis, POLITICAL DEVELOPMENT IN MICRONESIA does offer some valuable insights and food for thought, disturbing though it might be to the serious student (non-micronesian) of Micronesian affairs. The Micronesians probably knew it all the time.

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## Demonstration...

*Con't from page 1*

the MPSC were not present at the reception ceremony. Those not present were identified as Territorials not in favor of the demonstrations and the reception ceremony..

After the U.S. delegation had been presented with flower leis and had greeted other members of MPSC, they witnessed a brief program of songs and cheers, as young girls waving American flags performed under the direction of Mr. Jose R. Cruz of Tinian, a member of the MPSC.

In the early hours of the following day, many Saipanese were surprised to see and read the many scattered signs along the main roads of Saipan. The signs, taped to many buildings and trees, were written in a handwriting proclaiming;

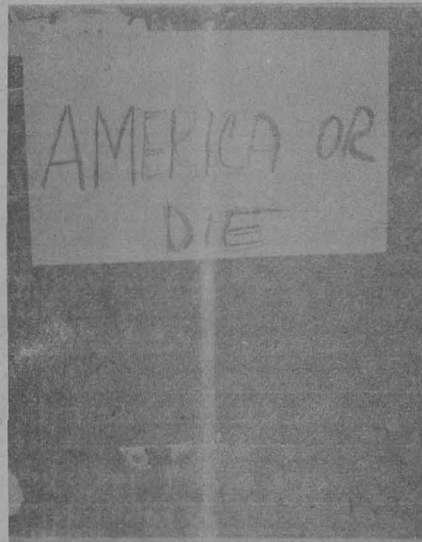
*"Williams stop making Empty Promises."*

*"Williams head of the Mafia."*

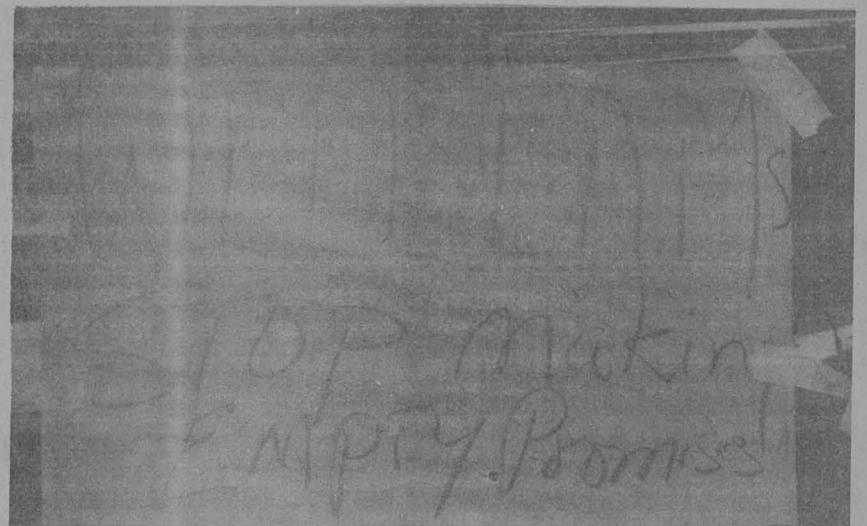
*"Vice chairman Santos, Stop Bargaining for your case."*

Local observers believe that the signs were a response to the demonstrations at the airport.

The identification of the group responsible for the signs was difficult since they were put up the night before, but sources indicated that Territorial Party supporters were involved. Even though the majority of the signs were collected by Popular Party members by nine o'clock that same morning, the news about them had already spread to the individuals they were aimed against.



*Airport demonstrator*



*The critical signs were spotted the following day.*

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## Dispensaries dragging...

Con't from page 1

goods to the district centers, fuel crisis, a leaking landing craft, inability of landing craft to get cargo ashore, and a Philippine government requirement that their ships be drydocked every two years have plagued the project and made it a sore topic of discussion among officials involved.

The portable health units, mainly designed for use in the outer islands to provide out-patient health care service, were funded by the U.S. Congress under the Hill-Burton Construction Act and the TT Capital Improvement Funds.

When questioned about the dispensary project, mixed reactions were received from the TT Headquarters Health Services program manager, and the Public Works contract officer. Frantz Reksid, a Health Services official originally in charge of the Hill-Burton project, refused to discuss the matter, saying that the project was in the middle of its completion and discussing it would only make the department look bad. Roy Phlak, the design-engineer at Public Works who designed the dispensaries reacted very hostilely when questioned and hung up on the reporter.

However, Greg Calvo, the Health Services official now in charge of the project, and Mr. James R. Wheeler, Chief of TT Public Works, were both informative as to the current status of the 1.6 million dollar project.

The plight of the dragging project came to surface when some observers in Yap reported that the prefab construction material earmarked for certain outer islands in Yap and chartered on the ship, MV Maleka Kawere were unable to land via their shallow draft land craft (LCM). Furthermore, the observers noted that there

was controversy among the islanders as to which islands should receive priority in obtaining a dispensary unit. Ultimately the materials were returned to the docks in Yap for storage until the ship, now in drydock in Manila, returns (expected in late December, according to Wheeler, the contract Officer) and the problem of landing materials is solved.

"The project had a late start from the beginning," admits Wheeler. Although it was first approved in November of 1971, it was not until June 1973 that the bid for the project was awarded to D.R. Kinkaid Inc. from Honolulu. Since that firm had the lowest bid between it and American International Constructors (Seattle), the only other bidder, Kinkaid Inc. won the bid.

Wheeler pointed out that Kinkaid spent over 2 months in the Philippines securing a mother ship to transport materials from the district centers to the outer-islands. That ship has now been recalled for drydocking, after giving only a little over a years worth of service in the project. Furthermore, the landing craft being hauled by the mother ship has not only suffered leaks but in Wolei Atoll, Yap District, it was found to be of no service since it was unable to land cargo to certain islands in low or high tied.

When Calvo was questioned as to whether a different building site (island) may have to be selected due to inability to land cargo, he replied, "No, they'll just figure out another way to get it there." Apparently, the islands being chosen for dispensary sites were the subject of contention and competition among the district centers for many months, according to a

Public Works official who stated that the final choice of sites was left up to Health Services. Health Services explained that the decision was left to the District Directors of Health Service in conjunction with the ability of the site to obtain a certification by land management that the land would be available for public use. According to some local observers in Yap District, some islands most in need of dispensaries were the last in priority to receive them. Mr. Calvo, however, interjected that those islands which are certified but are not receiving a dispensary under this phase of the project will get a unit under phase II of the project. Phase II is expected to begin sometime after November 1975, the deadline for the first phase.

Calvo also pointed out the importance that land certification played in the project. For example, Truk District, the most populous of the six districts, was originally allotted 9 dispensaries but because they could only obtain land certification for 4 sites, then they will only get 4 dispensaries. A Health Services official remarked that most everyone involved with the project is "fed-up" with it and "everybody is disgusted with D.R. Kinkaid." Wheeler declined to comment on Kinkaid's competence as a contractor but did say that "if he (Kinkaid) continues to follow present procedures, he can't possibly meet the present contract deadline of Nov. 1975.

One alternative which the contract officer is considering to accelerate the completion of the dispensaries is to subcontract the project. Wheeler says he is waiting for Kinkaid to approach him regarding this; Health Education and Welfare Department must

then give their approval before subcontracting can begin. Dr. Carlos Camacho, Marianas Director of Public Health Services, had raised questions earlier concerning subcontracting of the Garapan Dispensary - the only one funded for the Marianas District. He complains that the unit was funded over two years ago but there still has not been any construction.

A local contractor from Saipan, who asked not to be identified, said he had heard no bad comments about Kinkaid. A business compatriot added that Kinkaid has had experience with TT contracts as he built the Samoan houses on Saipan as well as the buildings for the present School of Nursing. The contractor added that "TT Public Works often accepts contracts from the lowest bidder because they feel they can save money; However, these bidders usually end up behind schedule and their quality is often substandard because of their haste to complete the project by the contract deadline."

Calvo mentioned that some furnishings such as cabinets and beds of the dispensaries are already substandard from what the contract requires. Wheeler denies any knowledge of this.

No representative of Mr. Kinkaid was available to comment on the project or its problems.

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# PROJECT TO CLEAR POWER LINES

SAIPAN - Along the power poles over the hills of Saipan, a clearing project was begun several weeks ago by Marianas District Public Works. Areas of about 10 ft. to 12 ft. in width were cleared of all obstacles and hazards surrounding transmission lines and power poles.

According to a spokesman from the power distribution section of the Public Utilities office, there are a lot of boondocks (between villages) with high trees and branches which are continually leaning on the highlines. Their contact with the highlines may bring about power outages in whole areas, and so a constant trimming of the



overlapping branches has to be maintained.

The Public Works men doing the clearing are now working on areas under feeder 4, namely: North of the Power Plant to San Roque, which includes Capital Hill and Kagman.

For clearing such areas the Power Plant has to shut off the feeder by a sectional switch, which means that area where work is being done will be out of power temporarily.

Just recently, all of feeders 1 and 3, areas from South of the Power Plant to the Coast Guard Station, were cleaned and the transmission lines cleared.

Besides experiencing outages due to obstacles already mentioned, other hazards include lightning, and broken insulators on the highlines. Faulty transformers also contribute to intermittent power failures. With so many natural complications to overcome, the power distribution section of Public Utilities seeks the cooperation of the public in conservation of power to assure the entire island a lasting supply.

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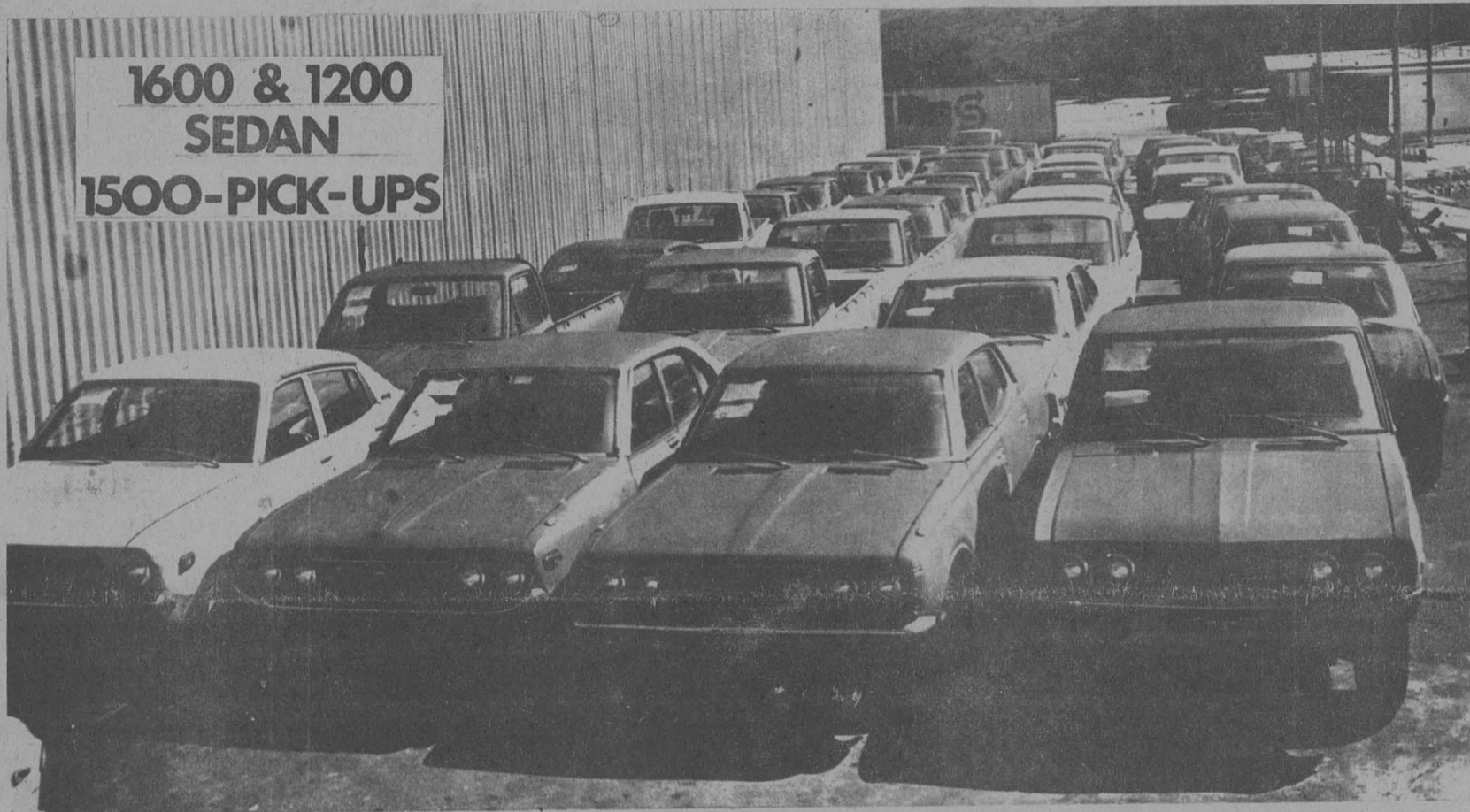
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