

HIGHLIGHTS



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NEWS OF MICRONESIA

TRUST TERRITORY OF THE PACIFIC ISLANDS

FEBRUARY 12, 1968

NORWOOD TO TESTIFY ON BUDGET

High Commissioner W. R. Norwood will leave for Washington, D.C., February 16, to testify on the Trust Territory's proposed \$34 million budget for fiscal year 1969. He will appear before the U. S. Senate and House Subcommittees on Appropriations February 20 and 21.

Mr. Norwood will be accompanied by Assistant Commissioner for Administration Joseph F. Screen and two members of the Congress of Micronesia. Senate President John O. Ngiraked (Palau) and Chairman of the House Appropriations Committee Raymond Setik (Truk) were invited by the High Commissioner to observe the budget hearings.

Approximately \$12,600,000 of the proposed budget is earmarked for capital improvements, \$541,000 for the operation of the Office of the High Commissioner and the Office of the Chief Justice; \$10,122,000 for Community Services (public health, education, and community development); Public Affairs, \$499,000; Resources and Development, \$2,122,000; local judiciaries, \$880,000; Public Works operations and maintenance,

Transportation and Communications, \$5,336,000; and Administration, \$2,650,000.

Mr. Norwood is scheduled to return to Headquarters the first week of March.



The Honorable John O. Ngiraked

CONTINENTAL PROPOSES JET FLIGHTS FROM TT TO HONOLULU

Continental Airlines will assume responsibility for Trust Territory air service on May 16.

Route rights in this region will be awarded by CAB at the conclusion of the Pacific Islands local service investigation. In the meantime, High Commissioner W.R. Norwood has requested that the Civil Aeronautics Board (CAB) grant temporary exemptions to Continental to operate jet service from Honolulu to the Marshalls, and from Saipan to an Asiatic mainline connection at Okinawa.

In a message to CAB, Washington, D.C., the High Commissioner said in part, "As Chief Executive of the Territory for the United States, I vehemently urge granting of the exemptions sought by Continental. They are consistent with



The Honorable Raymond Setik

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Jet Flights from TT... and vital to the improvement of the economic vitality of this important trust assumed by the United States. The exemptions are crucial to the realization of the basic public convenience and necessity level of air service required by the franchise agreement entered into as of January 17, 1968 between the Government of the Trust Territory and Continental Airlines and scheduled to be operative on May 16, 1968. Such exemptions will eliminate costly back-hauls now discouraging air traffic, facilitate the administrative operations of the United States in the region, accommodate the development of a tourist industry in a vast area of the world where there is none now, enable the use of modern and fast airline equipment, and prospectively lead to reduction of air fares in this region. We recognize that such exemptions are temporary, pending decisions by the CAB in the Pacific Islands local service investigation; and we do not seek to prejudge that case. In view of probable awarding of route rights by CAB in this region in the next year or two, after ample hearings for all, we respectfully request CAB follow precedent in issuance of Order E-15515, July 7, 1960, when Pan American's request for this service was granted without delay or receipt of objections. Improved air service for Trust Territory has already been unduly delayed, and should not be further procrastinated by the months of intensive hearings implicit in the local service investigation."

Continental Vice President Harvey Wexler responded last week by saying, "I arrived at the office this morning (January 29) elated when I read your cable to the CAB. There is no doubt in my mind that will clinch it...I am confident that Continental's operation to and within the Trust Territory will be characterized by the utmost cooperation between ourselves and your office, and this view is shared throughout the company, and by all that are affiliated with us."

Pan American World Airways and Northwest Airlines are opposing in some cases, and otherwise seeking to restrict, the extended services for Micronesia sought by Continental in the proceedings before the CAB now underway.

MEDICAL CONFERENCE OPENS IN PALAU

The Trust Territory's Annual Medical Conference opened today in Palau District and will continue through February 24.

Participants include consultants from the University of Hawaii School of Public Health and East West Center, as well as medical officers from the six districts of the Territory.

Specialists in gynecology, obstetrics, pediatrics, psychiatry and internal medicine will brief the Territory's medical officers on the most up-to-date practices. The School of Public Health team will assist in establishing a training program for Peace Corps Volunteers and health aides.

In conjunction with the conference, the Micronesia Medical Association will meet to review public health conditions in the Territory.

Topics for discussion during the conference cover mental health, cancer detection and therapy, general medical problems, internal medicine and family planning.

Dr. William A. Peck, Assistant Commissioner for Health Services, said that it is hoped with the help of the visiting psychiatrist a mental health program can be instituted.

CONGRESS CLERKS TRAIN IN HAWAII

The Hawaii State Legislature will serve as the training ground for two chief clerks of the Congress of Micronesia. In Honolulu for the six-month on-the-job training program, sponsored jointly by the East-West Center and the Trust Territory Government, are Victorio Uherbelau (Palau), chief Senate clerk, and Carl Heine (Marshalls), chief House clerk.

Uherbelau, who earned a bachelor's degree from the University of Hawaii as a Center student, will be working with Seichi Hirai, chief clerk of the Hawaii Senate.

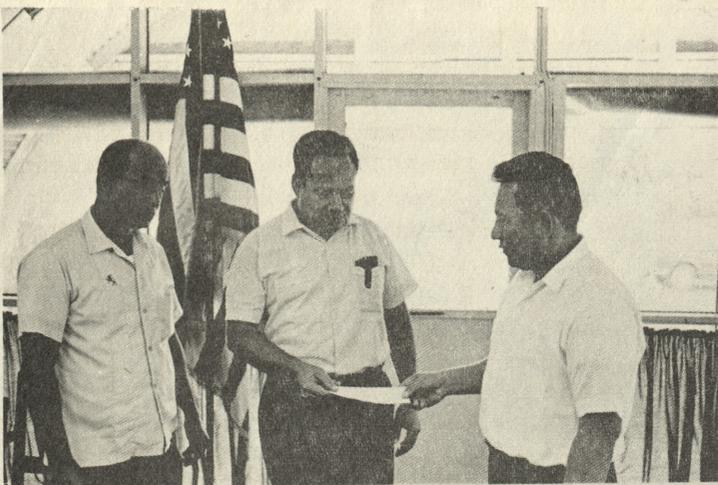
Heine, a graduate of Pacific University in Oregon, will work with Shigeto Kanemoto, chief clerk of the House.

The training program is planned to offer participants thorough familiarity with the entire legislative process from the introduction of bills to the maintenance of records. Although the Legislature does not go into session until later in the month, Uherbelau and Heine began working with the State clerks February 5.

The program is the result of a request from the Congress of Micronesia, which has steadily accumulated a greater workload as it prepares to go into its fourth session in July.

PEACE CORPS HEALTH TEAM ATTENDS CONFERENCE

Four staff members from Peace Corps Professional Support, International Health Program, School of Public Health, University of Hawaii, spent two weeks in Saipan meeting with Assistant Commissioner for Health Services Dr. William A. Peck and members of the Peace Corps staff concerning the Peace Corps' role in the Territory's public health program during 1968-1970.



The Honorable Vicente N. Santos (right), President of the Mariana Islands District Legislature, presented a \$40,000 check to Marianas District Administrator Peter T. Coleman on February 2, to fund the construction of the San Vicente Village water system. Mayor of the Municipality of Saipan Vicente D. Sablan looks on approvingly. Funds for the cost of extending water facilities to San Vicente Village were originally appropriated by the Legislature on March 6, 1967, in the amount of \$25,000 with an additional \$15,000 appropriated on September 14, 1967. The District Administrator, in cooperation with the Mayor of Saipan have undertaken the construction of this water system. Technical assistance and guidance for the project have been provided by the Trust Territory Public Works, Engineering, and Budget & Finance Departments. (Photo courtesy Marianas Bulletin)



Mariana Islands District Administrator Peter T. Coleman gave his annual State of the District Message at the opening of the District Legislature January 5. (Photo courtesy Marianas Bulletin)

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Peace Corps...

The team is now in Palau attending the Annual Medical Conference. The visitors are Richard J. Cardines, M.D., M.P.H., Public Health Director; Miss Joyce Simon, R. N., M.P.H., Program Coordinator Micronesia; Robert Griffin, M.P.H., Public Health Administrator; and Robert Utzinger, M.P.H., Peace Corps Health Training Director.

The team will return to Honolulu when the conference adjourns.

NINE RECEIVE CASH AWARDS

Nine employees of the Trust Territory Government last week received monetary awards from High Commissioner W. R. Norwood for outstanding performances during the past year. Seven of the employees are located at Trust Territory Headquarters in Saipan, one in Kwajalein and one in Truk.

E. E. Blankenfeld of the Headquarters Public Works staff, and Jules M. Henricksen, Property and Supply procurement officer, both received outstanding service awards of \$500 each in recognition of their accomplishments. Mr. Blankenfeld's efforts in connection with rehabilitation work following three major typhoons which hit the Territory in 1967 were particularly noted.

Four other Property and Supply employees who also received recognition are Mrs. Carmen M. Torres, Pedro S. Calvo, Jesus B. Pangelinan, and Joaquin L. G. Sablan. Mrs. Eugenia Cabrera Cepeda, Secretary in the Department of Public Works, was honored.



E.E. Blankenfeld, left received congratulations and a \$500 check from High Commissioner W. R. Norwood.

At Kwajalein, Mrs. Barbara McClellan was presented with an outstanding award by W. B. Ownbey, Liaison Officer, who represented the High Commissioner; and at Truk, Charles M. Sicard, cooperative officer, received an award for outstanding services.

"WHAT'S NEW" IN YAP

Yap has an independent newspaper. The first issue of Mogethin (What's New) came out January 26. World and local news is printed in English and Yapese. The twelve 10" x 14" pages were heavily illustrated with sketches by artist Gilmoon. It also carried several photographs.

To help the Mogethin get started, the Trust Territory Government will furnish paper in the same amount as for the publication of the Rai Review, the former District newsheet. In return, all Government announcements will be printed at no cost to the District Administration. In addition, copies will

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What's new...

be provided to all Government departments, offices, and the schools, according to Yap District Administrator James C. Flannery.

The journal is staffed by Aloysious Tuuth, managing editor; Gilmoon, artist; Arthur Moon, printer; Barbara Leegroy, typist; Juanita Worswick, Richard Mungwaath, Wilfred Gorongfel and Florencio Gibbons, reporters. Peace Corps Volunteers Tom Goltz, John Farrell, Frank Molinski, and George Dell serve as advisors.

The newspaper is printed weekly on the Good News Press, Colonia, Yap 96943.

Subscription rates: Air (outside the Trust Territory), \$12.50 per year; Surface, \$4.00 per year.

MICRONESIAN WEATHERMEN

Micronesians are playing an increasingly important role in the Environmental Science Services Administration's Weather Bureau program in the Trust Territory, according to the bureau's Pacific Regional Headquarters in Honolulu.

Primary weather stations located in the district centers of Koror, Yap, Truk, Ponape, and Majuro, as well as on the islands of Guam, Kwajalein, and Eniwetok have been supplemented during the past few years by a network of "Satellite" stations on the outer islands reporting surface weather conditions. This network comprises 15 stations, nine of which are now operated by Micronesian contract observers. The network was tripled last year with the opening of 10 stations utilizing the services of Peace Corps Volunteers. By the end of the year, the observing duties at six of these stations had been assumed by Micronesians on a fee basis (60¢ per observation taken and transmitted).

The oldest contract observer in point of service is Philip Motoichi, who began taking observations on Ulithi in February 1965. Other Micronesians presently serving as contract observers are: Pedro P. Castro (Pagan, Maria-

nas), Dehadin Ezekias (Nukuoro, Ponape), Morimats Kinzio (Woleai, Yap), McCall M. Lonno and Masayuki Skilling (Kusaie, Ponape), David Madaky (Kapingamarangi, Ponape), Sapuro Malon (Satawan, Truk), Pius Mangwewal (Ulithi, Yap), Harold Matthews (Utirik, Marshalls), and Michael Rasemai (Satawal, Yap). At several of these stations, other Micronesians are assisting in the observational program.

Peace Corps Volunteers are currently taking observations on Ebon, Mili, Sonsorol, and Tobi. The U. S. Coast Guard and the Trust Territory Administration operate stations on Saipan.

The Weather Bureau has plans for opening several additional synoptic stations in the Trust Territory during 1968.

IN BRIEF

The designation of Donald R. Tindal as Acting Attorney General will remain in effect until a permanent appointment to the position is made.

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Assistant Commissioner for Public Affairs N. Neiman Craley, Jr. has returned from a week in Ponape, where he met with the District Legislature during its ninth session.

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Personnel Officer Richard F. Kanost spent last week in Ponape assisting the District Personnel Officer.

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Dr. William V. Vitarelli spent a week in Saipan conferring with the High Commissioner and his staff on the progress of programs in Ebeye. In his absence, Ataji Balos was designated Acting Assistant District Administrator's Representative, Ebeye.

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W. M. Ownbey, Liaison Officer, Kwajalein, was in Saipan last week on official business.

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HIGHLIGHTS

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Air mail

